

COMPUTATIONAL GEOMETRY INTRODUCTION

PETR FELKEL

FEL CTU PRAGUE

felkel@fel.cvut.cz

https://cw.felk.cvut.cz/doku.php/courses/a4m39vg/start

Based on [Berg] and [Kolingerova]

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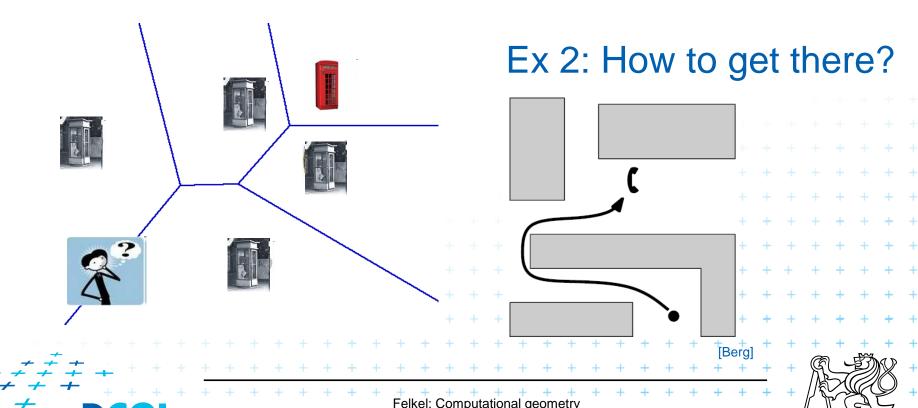
Computational Geometry

- 1. What is Computational Geometry (CG)?
- 2. Why to study CG and how?
- 3. Typical application domains
- 4. Typical tasks
- Complexity of algorithms
- 6. Programming techniques (paradigms) of CG
- 7. Robustness Issues
- 8. CGAL CG algorithm library intro
- 9. References and resources
- 10. Course summary



1. What is Computational Geometry?

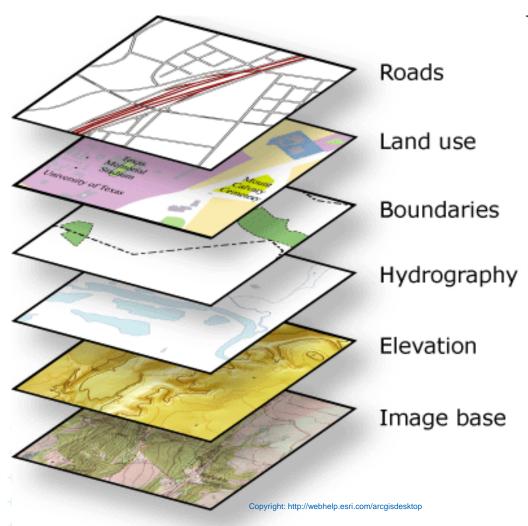
- CG Solves geometric problems that require clever geometric algorithms
- Ex 1: Where is the nearest phone, metro, pub,...?



1.1 What is Computational Geometry? (...)

Ex 3: Map overlay









1.2 What is Computational Geometry? (...)

Good solutions need both:

- Understanding of the geometric properties of the problem
- Proper applications of algorithmic techniques (paradigms) and data structures





1.3 What is Computational Geometry? (...)

- Computational geometry in 1975
 = systematic study of algorithms and data structures for geometric objects (points, lines, line segments, n-gons,...)
 with focus on exact algorithms that are asymptotically fast
 - "Born" in 1975 (Shamos), boom of papers in 90s
 (first papers sooner: 1850 Dirichlet, 1908 Voronoi,...)
 - Many problems can be formulated geometrically (e.g., range queries in databases)

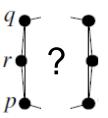


1.4 What is Computational Geometry? (...)

Problems:

- Degenerate cases (points on line, with same x,...)
 - Ignore them first, include later
- Robustness correct algorithm but not robust
 - Limited numerical precision of real arithmetic
 - Inconsistent eps tests (a=b, b=c, but a ≠ c)





Nowadays:

- focus on practical implementations
 - not just on asymptotically fastest algorithms
 - robust
- nearly correct result is better than nonsense or crash



2. Why to study computational geometry?

- Graphics- and Vision-engineer should know it ("Data structures and algorithms in nth-Dimension")
 - DSA, PRP, PAL
- Set of ready-to-use tools
- Cool ideas
- You will know new approaches to choose from



2.1 How to teach computational geometry?

- Typical "mathematician" method:
 - definition-theorem-proof
- Our "practical" approach:
 - practical algorithms and their complexity
 - practical programing using a geometric library
- Is it OK for you?



3. Typical application domains

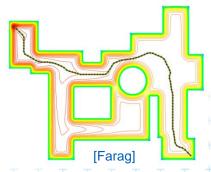
Computer graphics

- Collisions of objects
- Mouse localization
- Selection of objects in a region
- Visibility in 3D (hidden surface removal)
- Computation of shadows

Robotics

- Motion planning (find path environment with obstacles)
- Task planning (motion + planning order of subtasks)



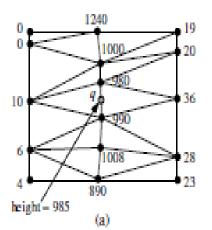


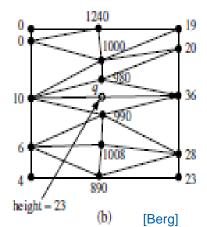


3.1 Typical application domains (...)

GIS

- How to store huge data and search them quickly
- Interpolation of heights
- Overlap of different data





- Extract information about regions or relations between data (pipes under the construction site, plants x average rainfall,...
- Detect bridges on crossings of roads and rivers...

CAD/CAM

- Intersections and unions of objects
- Visualization and tests without the need to build a prototype
- Manufacturability

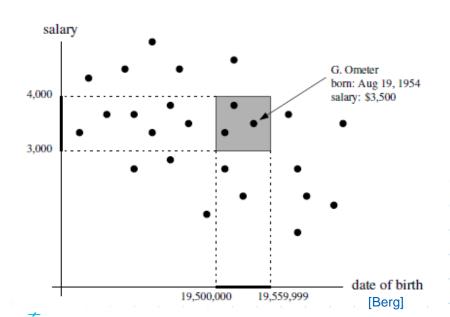


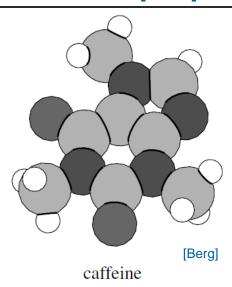


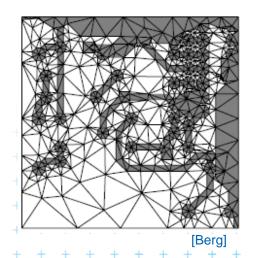
3.2 Typical application domains (...)

Other domains

- Molecular modeling
- DB search
- IC design



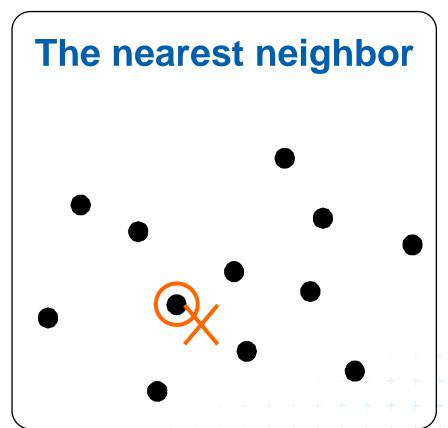


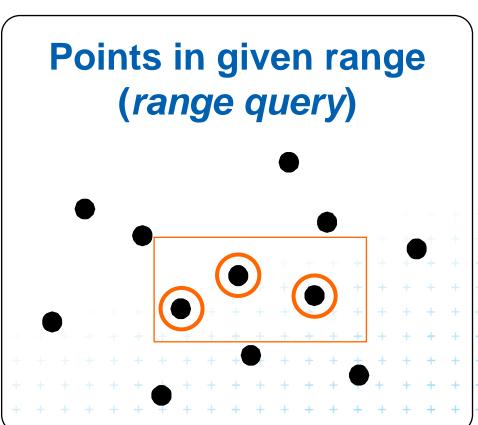




4. Typical tasks in CG

Geometric searching - fast location of :



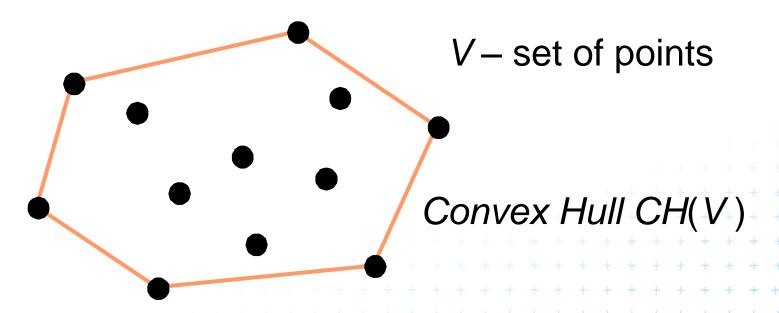






4.1 Typical tasks in CG

- Convex hull
 - = smallest enclosing convex polygon in E² or n-gon in E³ containing all the points

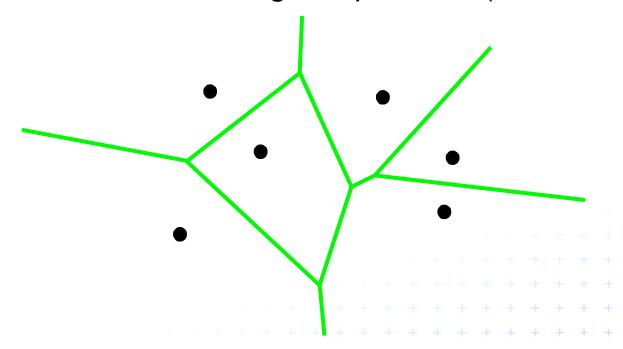




4.2 Typical tasks in CG

Voronoi diagrams

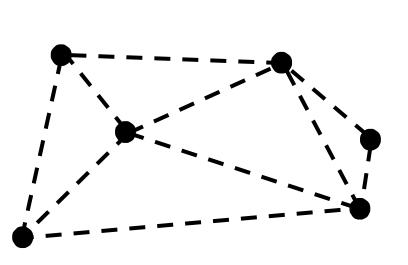
 Space (plane) partitioning into regions whose points are nearest to the given primitive (most usually a point)

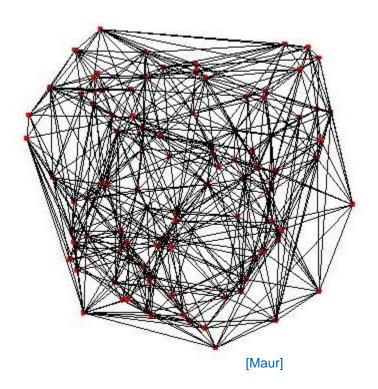




4.3 Typical tasks in CG

Planar triangulations and space tetrahedronization of given point set





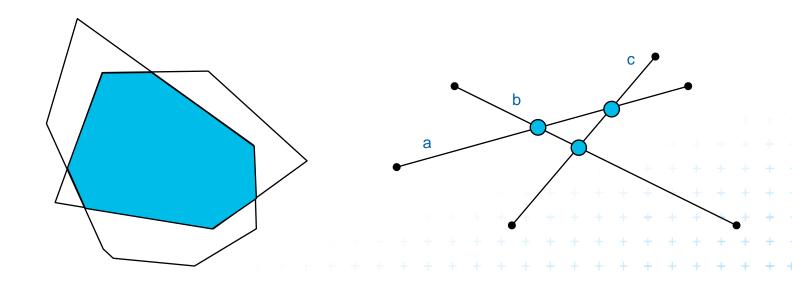




4.4 Typical tasks in CG

Intersection of objects

- Detection of common parts of objects
- Usually linear (line segments, polygons, n-gons,...)



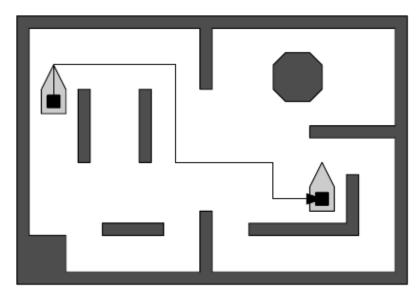




4.5 Typical tasks in CG

Motion planning

 Search for the shortest path between two points in the environment with obstacles



[Berg]





5. Complexity of algorithms and data struc.

We need a measure for comparison of algorithms

- Independent on computer HW and prog. language
- Dependent on the problem size n
- Describing the behavior of the algorithm for different data

Running time, preprocessing time, memory size

- Asymptotical analysis functions O(g(n)), O(g(n)), O(g(n))
- Measurement on real data

Differentiate:

- complexity of the algorithm (particular sort) and
- complexity of the problem (sorting)
 - given by number of edges, vertices, faces,... = problem size
 - less or equal to the complexity of the best algorithm





5.1 Complexity of algorithms

- Worst case behavior
 - Running time for the "worst" data
- Expected behavior (average)
 - expectation of the running time for problems of particular size and probability distribution of input data
 - Valid only if the probability distribution is the same as expected during the analysis
 - Typically much smaller than the worst case behavior
 - Ex.: Quick sort O(n²) worst and O(n logn) expected for standard data distribution





5.2 Complexity of algorithms

Amortized analysis

- Average over all operations single operation may be expensive, but in average over all is small
- guaranteed regardless of probability distribution which is taken into account in expected (average) behavior (valid for any distribution)
- Ex.: Number of all pop operations over n steps is O(n)
 - \Rightarrow average for single step is O(1)
 - Graham scan (lecture 4), computation of UHT (lecture 11),

. . .





6. Programming techniques (paradigms) of CG

3 phases of a geometric algorithm development

- 1. Design an algorithm while ignoring all degeneracies
- 2. Adjust the algorithm to be correct for degenerate cases
 - Degenerate input exists
 - Integrate special cases in general case
 - It is better than lot of case-switches (typical for beginners)
 - e.g.:

 lexicographic order for points on vertical lines
 or Symbolic perturbation schemes
- 3. Implement alg. 2 (use sw library)





6.1 Sorting

- A preprocessing step
- Simplifies the following processing steps
- Sort according to:
 - coordinates x, or y, ...,
 - lexicographically to [y, x],
 - angles around point
- $O(n \log n)$ time and O(n) space



6.2 Divide and Conquer (divide et impera)

Split the problem until it is solvable, merge results

```
DivideAndConquer(S)

1. If known solution then return it
2. else
3. Split input S to k distinct subsets S<sub>i</sub>
4. Foreach i call DivideAndConquer(S<sub>i</sub>)
5. Merge the results and return the solution
```

Prerequisite

- The input data set must be separable
- Solutions of subsets are independent
- The result can be obtained by merging of sub-results





6.3 Sweep algorithm...

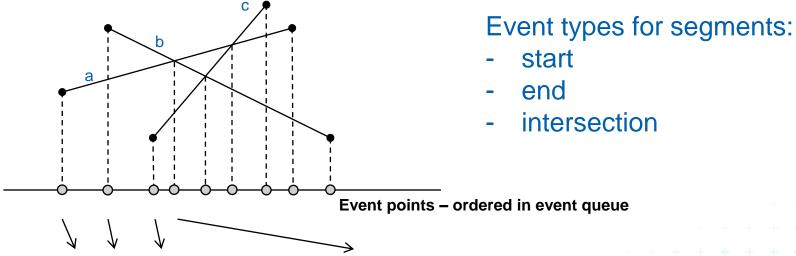
- Split the space by a hyperplane (2D: sweep line)
 - "Left" subspace solution known
 - "Right" subspace solution unknown
- Stop in event points and update the status
- Data structures:
 - Event points points, where to stop the sweep line and update the status, sorted
 - Status state of the algorithm in the current position of the sweep line
- Prerequisite:
 - Left subspace does not influence the right subspace





6.3 ... Sweep-line algorithm

Intersection of line segments



Status: {a}, {a,b}, {c,a,b}, {c,b,a}, ... - edges intersecting the sweep line

Principle:

- Before intersection, the segments become neighbors (⇒ we do not miss an intersection)
- Store segments in order they cross the sweep line
- Compute intersection of neighbors only



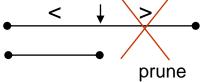
start

end

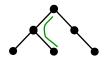
intersection

6.4 Prune and search

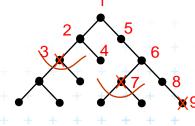
- Eliminate parts of the state space, where the solution clearly does not exist
 - Binary search



Search trees



Back-tracking (stop if solution worse than current optimum)

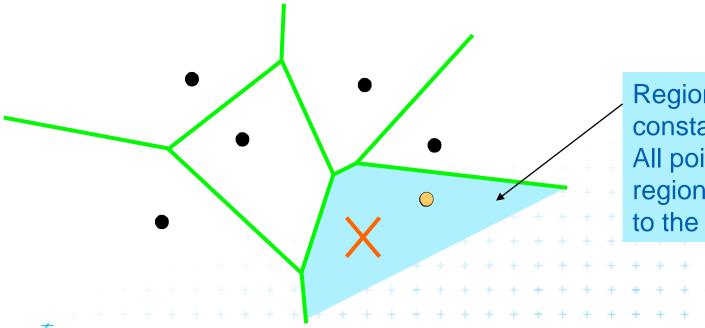






6.5 Locus approach

- Subdivide the search space into regions of constant answer
- Use point location to determine the region
 - Nearest neighbor search example

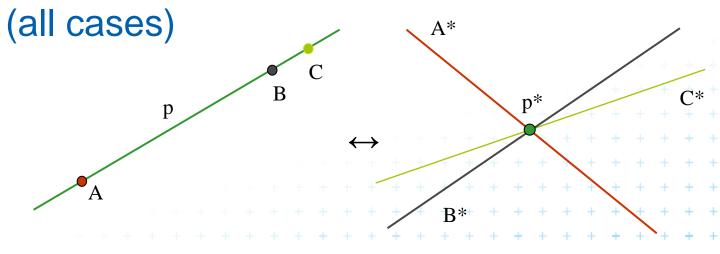


Region of the constant answer:
All points in this region are nearest to the yellow point



6.6 Dualisation

- Use geometry transform to change the problem into another that can be solved more easily
- Points → hyper planes
 - Preservation of incidence $(A \in p \land p^* \in A^*)$
- Ex. 2D: determine if 3 points lie on a common line

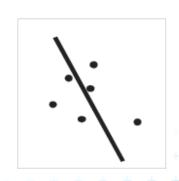






6.7 Combinatorial analysis

- = The branch of mathematics which studies the number of different ways of arranging things
- It limits the size of search space
- Ex. How many subdivisions of a point set can be done by a single line?





6.8 New trends in Computational geometry

- From 2D to 3D and more from mid 80s, from linear to curved objects
- Focus on line segments, triangles in E³ and hyper planes in E^d
- Strong influence of combinatorial geometry
- Randomized algorithms
- Space effective algorithms (in place, in situ, data stream algs.)
- Robust algorithms and handling of singularities
- Practical implementation in libraries (CGAL, ...)
- Approximate algorithms



7. Robustness issues

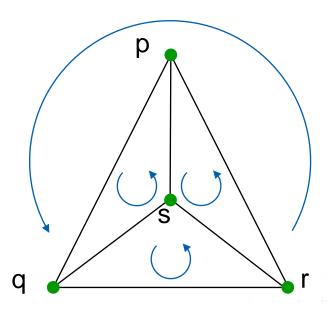
- Geometry in theory is exact
- Geometry with floating-point arithmetic is not exact
 - Limited numerical precision of real arithmetic
 - Numbers are rounded to nearest possible representation
 - Inconsistent *epsilon* tests $(a = b, b = c, \text{ but } a \neq c)$
- Naïve use of floating point arithmetic causes geometric algorithm to
 - Produce slightly or completely wrong output
 - Crash after invariant violation
 - Infinite loop





Geometry in theory is exact

- ccw(s,q,r) & ccw(p,s,r) & ccw(p,q,s) => ccw(p,q,r)



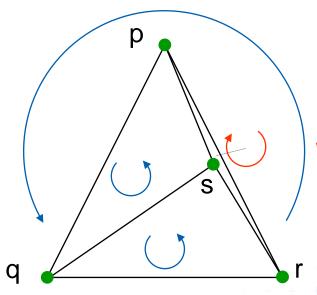
 Correctness proofs of algorithms rely on such theorems





Geometry with float. arithmetic is not exact

= ccw(s,q,r) & !ccw(p,s,r) & ccw(p,q,s) $\neq >$ ccw(p,q,r)



wrong result of the orientation predicate

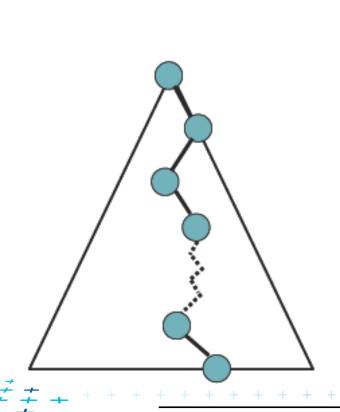
 Correctness proofs of algorithms rely on such theorems => such algorithms fail

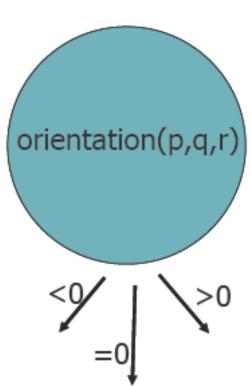




Exact Geometric Computing [Yap]

Make sure that the control flow in the implementation corresponds to the control flow with exact real arithmetic







Floating-point arithmetic is not exact

a) Limited precision of storage

quantization of mantissa

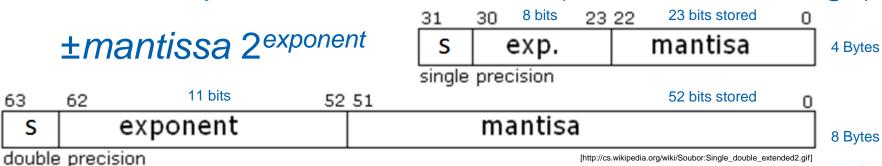
b) Limited precision of computations

- Losing lower bits during addition (aligning to the common exponent)
- Rounding of results after multiplications





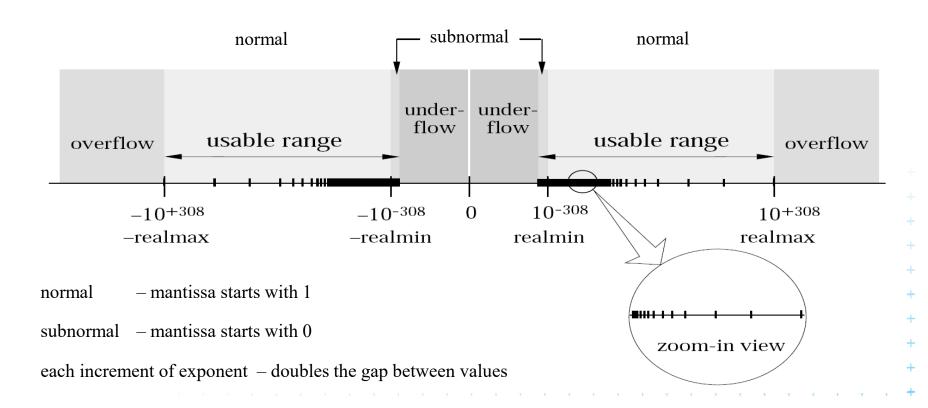
- a) Limited numerical precision of real numbers storage
- Numbers represented as normal (with 1 as first digit)



- The normal mantissa m is a 24-bit (53-bit) value whose most significant bit (MSB) is always 1 and is, therefore, not stored.
- Stored numbers are <u>rounded</u> to 24/53 bits mantissa
 - lower bits are lost



Floating Point Number Line





[https://courses.physics.illinois.edu/ds357/sp2020/notes/ref-4-fp.html]

"powers of 2" are stored exactly: 1, (357, 0.5,...) – up to the size of mantissa



Others NOT: 0.6 stored as 6.0000002384185791015625E-1

0x3F19999A = 001111111 00011001 10011001 10011010



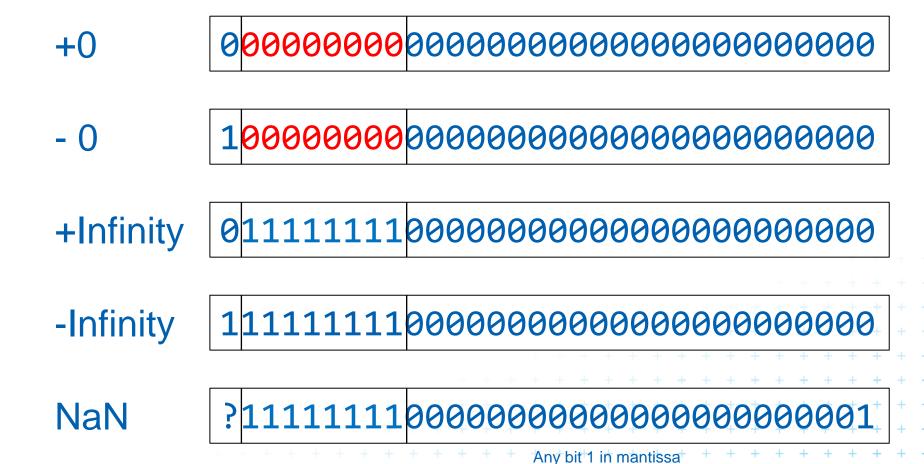
1.40129846432481707092372958329E-45 subnormal

0x00000001 = 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000001





Floating-point special values







b) Smaller numbers are shifted right during additions and subtractions to align the digits of the same order

The result is 11.5 instead of 11.4999992

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(0.500000774860382080078125 and 11.49999904632568359&75)

b) Smaller numbers are shifted right during additions and subtractions to align the digits of the same order Example for float:

Example for float

- $12 p \text{ for } p \sim 0.5 \text{ (near 0.5, such as 0.5+2^(-23), or 0.5000008)}$
 - Mantissa of p is shifted 4 bits right to align with 12
 four least significant bits (LSB) are lost
- = 24 p for $p \sim 0.5$ (near 0.5, such as 0.5+2^(-23), or 0.5000008)
 - Mantissa of p is shifted 5 bits right to align with 24 -> 5 LSB are lost

Try it on http://www.h-schmidt.net/FloatConverter/lEEE754.html or http://babbage.cs.qc.cuny.edu/lEEE-754/index.xhtml





Orientation predicate - definition

orientation
$$(p,q,r) = \text{sign} \left(\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & p_x & p_y \\ 1 & q_x & q_y \\ 1 & r_x & r_y \end{bmatrix} \right) =$$

$$= \text{sign} \left((p_x - r_x) (q_y - r_y) - (p_y - r_y) (q_x - r_x) \right),$$
where point $p = (p_x, p_y), \dots$

$$= \text{sign of the third coordinate of} = (\vec{u} \times \vec{v}),$$

Three points

- lie on common line
- form a left turn
- form a right turn = -1 (negative)

orientation(p, q, r) =

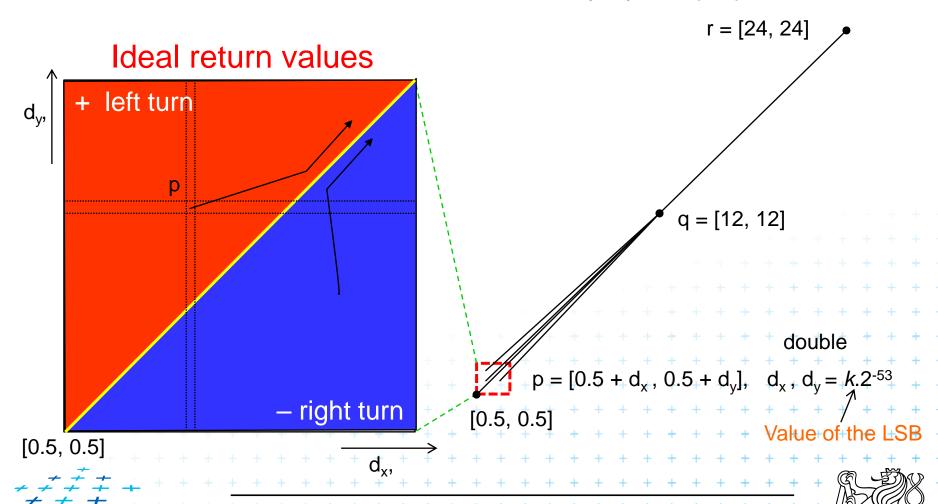
= +1 (positive)



Experiment with orientation predicate

Pivot r

orientation(p,q,r) = sign($(p_x-r_x)(q_y-r_y)-(p_y-r_y)(q_x-r_x)$)



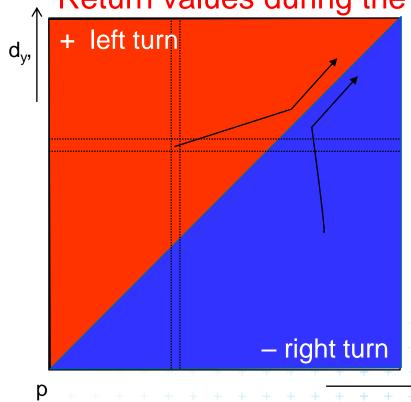
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Real results of orientation predicate

Pivot r

orientation(p,q,r) = sign($(p_x-r_x)(q_y-r_y)-(p_y-r_y)(q_x-r_x)$)

Return values during the experiment for exponent > -52



Where is the yellow line?

Input pts rounded – quantization

Robust predicate returns slightly non-zero values - OK

orientation $(p, q, r) \neq 0$

The input points do not lie on common line due to rounding before storage



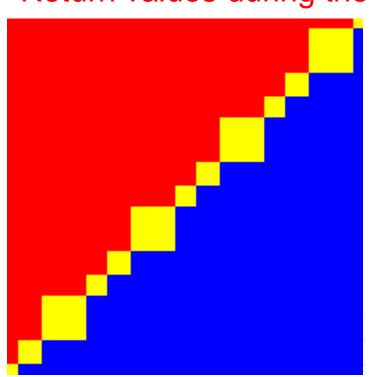


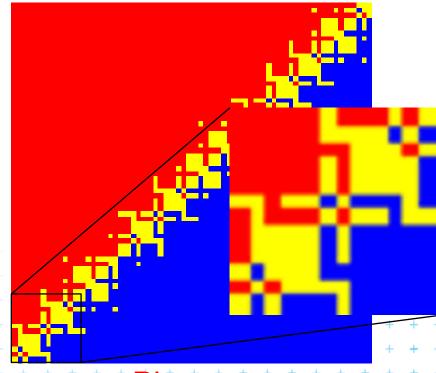
Real results of orientation predicate

Pivot r

orientation(p,q,r) = sign($(p_x-r_x)(q_y-r_y)-(p_y-r_y)(q_x-r_x)$)

Return values during the experiment for exponent -52





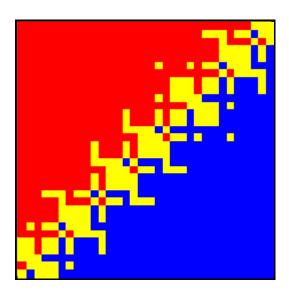
Pivot r 24

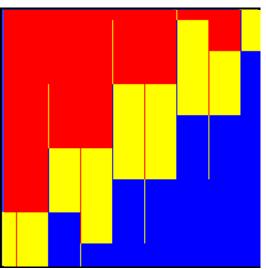
Pivot p

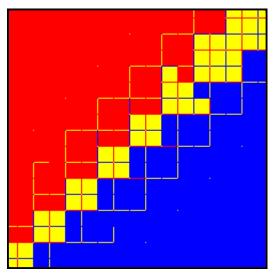


Floating point orientation predicate double exp=-53

Pivot p



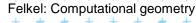




```
p: \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ 0.5 \end{pmatrix}
q: \begin{pmatrix} 12 \\ 12 \end{pmatrix}
r: \begin{pmatrix} 24 \\ 24 \end{pmatrix}
(a)
```

[Kettner] with correct coolors

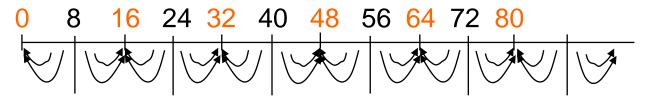




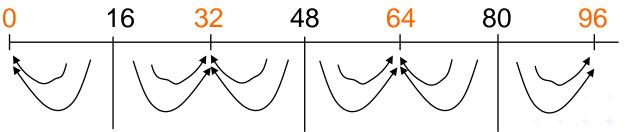


Errors from shift ~0.5 right in subtraction

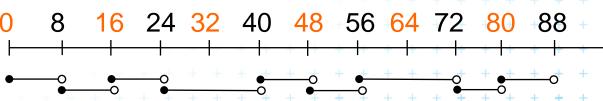
4 bits shift => 2⁴ values rounded to the same value



5 bits shift => 2⁵ values rounded to the same value



Combined intervals of size 8, 16, 24,...



These intervals match the size of rectangular areas of the same value



Orientation predicate – pivot selection

orientation
$$(p, q, r) = \text{sign} \left(\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & p_x & p_y \\ 1 & q_x & q_y \\ 1 & r_x & r_y \end{bmatrix} \right) =$$

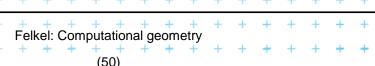
The formula depends on the selection of the pivot, pivot point = row to be subtracted from other rows

$$p: = \left[sign\left((q_x - p_x)(r_y - p_y) - (q_y - p_y)(r_x - p_x) \right) - (q_y - p_y)(r_x - p_x) \right]$$

$$q: = sign\left((r_x - q_x)(p_y - q_y) - (r_y - q_y)(p_x - q_x) \right)$$

$$r: = sign\left((p_x - r_x)(q_y - r_y) - (p_y - r_y)(q_x - r_x) \right)$$

Which pivot is the worst?
$$p_x = 0.5$$
, $q_x = 12$, $r_x = 24$

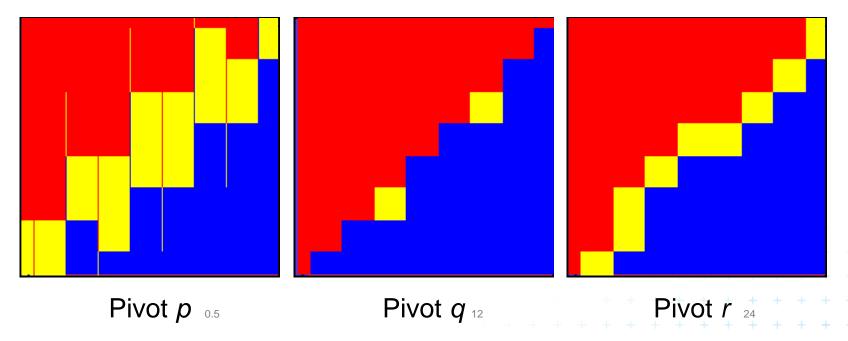




Little improvement - selection of the pivot

(b) double exp=-53

Pivot – subtracted from the rows in the matrix

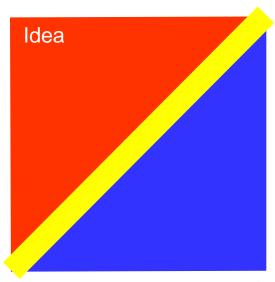


=> Pivot q (point with middle x or y coord.) is the best But it is typically not used – pivot search is too complicated in comparison to the predicate itself

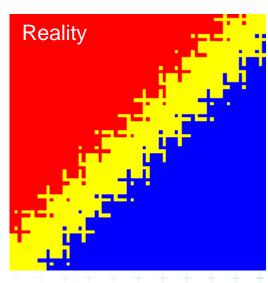
+ + DCGI

Epsilon tweaking – is the wrong approach

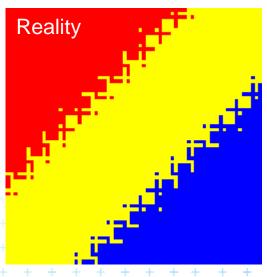
- Use tolerance $\varepsilon = 0.00005$ to 0.0001 for float
- Points are declared collinear if float_orient returns
 a value ≤ ε
 0.5+2^(-23), the smallest repr. value 0.500 000 06



Idea: boundary for ε



Boundary for ε = 0.00005



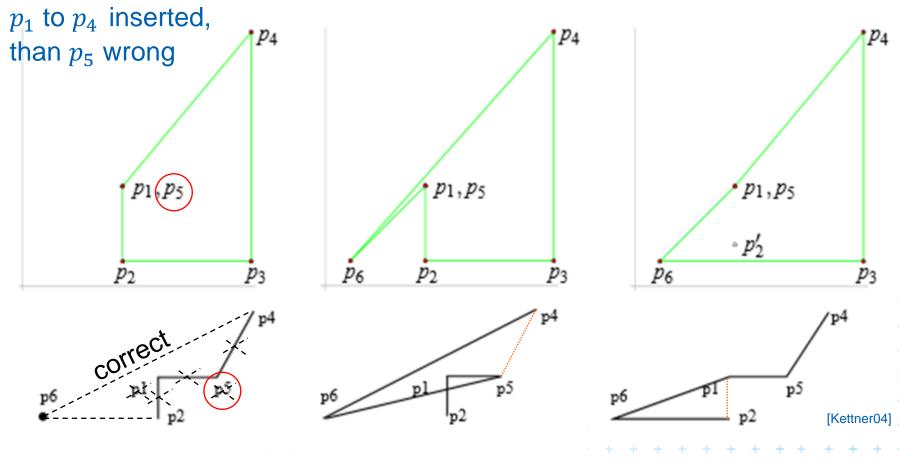
Boundary for $\varepsilon = 0.0001$

Boundary is fractured as before, but brighter





Consequences in convex hull algorithm



 p_5 erroneously inserted a) p_6 sees p_4p_5 first b) p_6 sees p_1p_2 first

Inserting p_6

 $=> forms p_4 p_6 p_5 + + + + => forms p_1 p_6 p_2$



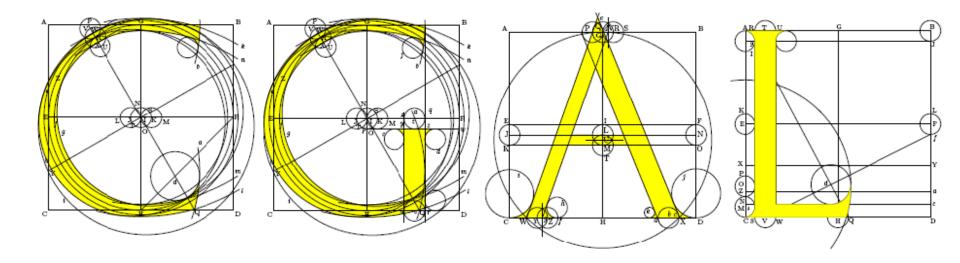
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Solution

- Use predicates, that always return the correct result -> Shewchuk, YAP, LEDA or CGAL
- Change the algorithm to cope with floating point predicates but still return something meaningful (hard to define)
- 3. Perturb the input so that the floating point implementation gives the correct result on it



8. CGAL



Computational Geometry Algorithms Library

Slides from [siggraph2008-CGAL-course]





CGAL

Large library of geometric algorithms

- Robust code, huge amount of algorithms
- Users can concentrate on their own domain

Open source project

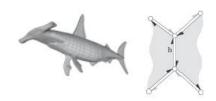
- Institutional members
 (Inria, MPI, Tel-Aviv U, Utrecht U, Groningen U, ETHZ, Geometry Factory, FU Berlin, Forth, U Athens)
- 500,000 lines of C++ code
- 10,000 downloads/year (+ Linux distributions)
- 20 active developers
- 12 months release cycle





CGAL algorithms and data structures





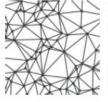




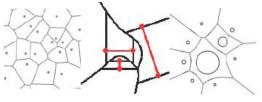


Polyhedral Surface















Triangulations

Voronoi Diagrams

Mesh Generation















Subdivision Simplification

Parametrisation Streamlines

Ridge Detection

Neighbor Kinetic Search Datastructures











PCA



distance



Lower Envelope

Arrangement

Intersection Minkowski Detection

Sum

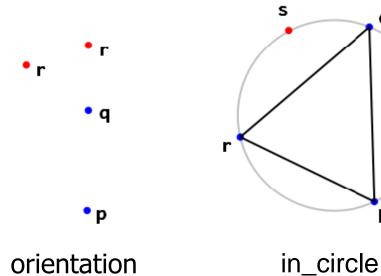
[siggraph2008-CGAL-course]





Exact geometric computing

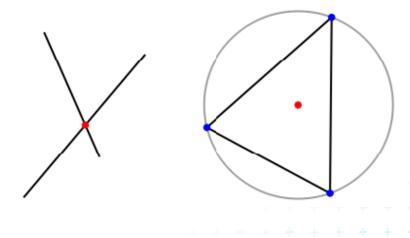
Predicates



Use the input points
May be computed precisely

⇒ Shewchuk

Constructions



intersection

circumcenter

Create new points
Error increases each multiplication

⇒ double the precision





CGAL Geometric Kernel (see [Hert] for details)

Encapsulates

- the representation of geometric objects
- and the geometric operations and predicates on these objects

CGAL provides kernels for

- Points, Predicates, and Exactness
- Number Types
- Cartesian Representation
- Homogeneous Representation





Points, predicates, and Exactness

```
#include "tutorial.h"
#include <CGAL/Point_2.h>
#include <CGAL/predicates_on_points_2.h>
#include <iostream>
int main() {
   Point p( 0.1, 0.2);
   Point q( 1.3, 1.7);
   Point r( 2.2, 6.8);
    switch ( CGAL::orientation( p, q, r)) {
        case CGAL::LEFTTURN:
                                std::cout << "Left turn.\n"; break;</pre>
                               std::cout << "Right turn.\n"; break;
        case CGAL::RIGHTTURN:
                               std::cout << "Collinear.\n"; break;</pre>
        case CGAL::COLLINEAR:
   return 0;
```

DCGI

Number Types

- Builtin: double, float, int, long, ...
- CGAL: Filtered_exact, Interval_nt, ...
- Precission slow-down
- LEDA: leda_integer, leda_rational, leda_real, . . .
- Gmpz: CGAL::Gmpz
- others are easy to integrate

Coordinate Representations

- Cartesian p = (x, y): CGAL::Cartesian<Field_type>
- Homogeneous $p = (\frac{x}{w}, \frac{y}{w})$: CGAL::Homogeneous<Ring_type>



Cartesian with double

```
#include <CGAL/Cartesian.h>
#include <CGAL/Point_2.h>
```

```
int main() {
    CGAL::Point_2 < CGAL::Cartesian < double > p( 0.1, 0.2);
}
```



Cartesian with double

```
#include <CGAL/Cartesian.h>
#include <CGAL/Point_2.h>
typedef CGAL::Cartesian<double>
                                         Rep;
typedef CGAL::Point_2<Rep>
                                         Point;
int main()
    Point p( 0.1, 0.2);
               doubles
```



Cartesian with Filtered exact and leda real

```
#include <CGAL/Cartesian.h>
#include <CGAL/Arithmetic_filter.h>
#include <CGAL/leda_real.h>
#include <CGAL/Point_2.h>
                                                    Number type
typedef CGAL::Filtered_exact<double, leda_real>
typedef CGAL::Cartesian<NT>
                                                     Rep;←
typedef CGAL::Point_2<Rep>
                                                     Point;
int main()
           p(0.1, 0.2);
    Point
                                        A two-line declaration
                                           changes the
                                     precision of all computations
          Filtered exact doubles
```



Exact orientation test – homogeneous rep.

```
#include <CGAL/Homogeneous.h>
#include <CGAL/Point_2.h>
#include <CGAL/predicates_on_points_2.h>
#include <iostream>
typedef CGAL::Homogeneous<long>
                                          Rep;
typedef CGAL::Point_2<Rep>
                                          Point;
int main() {
                                             A single-line declaration
    Point p( 1, 2, 10);
                                                  changes the
    Point q( 13, 17, 10);
                                           precision of all computations
    Point r( 22, 68, 10);
    switch ( CGAL::orientation( p, q, r)) {
                                std::cout << "Left turn.\n";</pre>
        case CGAL::LEFTTURN:
                                                                break;
                                std::cout << "Right turn.\n"; break;</pre>
        case CGAL::RIGHTTURN:
                                std::cout << "Collinear.\n"; break;</pre>
        case CGAL::COLLINEAR:
             Homogeneous points
```



9 References – for the lectures

- Mark de Berg, Otfried Cheong, Marc van Kreveld, Mark Overmars: Computational Geometry: Algorithms and Applications, Springer-Verlag, 3rd rev. ed. 2008. 386 pages, 370 fig. ISBN: 978-3-540-77973-5 http://www.cs.uu.nl/geobook/
- David Mount: Computational Geometry Lecture Notes for Spring 2020, **University of Maryland** http://www.cs.umd.edu/class/spring2020/cmsc754/Lects/cmsc754-spring2020-lects.pdf
- Franko P. Preparata, Michael Ian Shamos: Computational Geometry. An Introduction. Berlin, Springer-Verlag, 1985
- Joseph O'Rourke: .: Computational Geometry in C, Cambridge University Press, 1993, ISBN 0-521-44592-2 http://maven.smith.edu/~orourke/books/compgeom.html
- Ivana Kolingerová: Aplikovaná výpočetní geometrie, Přednášky, MFF UK 2008
- Kettner et al. Classroom Examples of Robustness Problems in Geometric Computations, CGTA 2006,

http://www.mpi-inf.mpg.de/~kettner/pub/nonrobust cgta 06.pdf



9.1 References – CGAL

CGAL

- www.cgal.org
- Kettner, L.: Tutorial I: Programming with CGAL
- Alliez, Fabri, Fogel: Computational Geometry Algorithms Library, SIGGRAPH 2008
- Susan Hert, Michael Hoffmann, Lutz Kettner, Sylvain Pion, and Michael Seel. An adaptable and extensible geometry kernel. Computational Geometry: Theory and Applications, 38:16-36, 2007.

[doi:10.1016/j.comgeo.2006.11.004]



9.2 Useful geometric tools

- OpenSCAD The Programmers Solid 3D CAD Modeler, http://www.openscad.org/
- J.R. Shewchuk Adaptive Precision Floating-Point Arithmetic and Fast Robust Predicates, Effective implementation of Orientation and InCircle predicates http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~quake/robust.html
- OpenMESH A generic and efficient polygon mesh data structure, https://www.openmesh.org/
- VCG Library The Visualization and Computer Graphics Library, http://vcg.isti.cnr.it/vcglib/
- MeshLab A processing system for 3D triangular meshes https://sourceforge.net/projects/meshlab/?source=navbar





9.3 Collections of geometry resources

- N. Amenta, Directory of Computational Geometry Software, http://www.geom.umn.edu/software/cglist/.
- D. Eppstein, Geometry in Action, http://www.ics.uci.edu/~eppstein/geom.html.
- Jeff Erickson, Computational Geometry Pages, http://compgeom.cs.uiuc.edu/~jeffe/compgeom/



10. Computational geom. course summary

- Gives an overview of geometric algorithms
- Explains their complexity and limitations
- Different algorithms for different data
- We focus on
 - discrete algorithms and precise numbers and predicates
 - principles more than on precise mathematical proofs
 - practical experiences with geometric sw



