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TRIANGULATIONS

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Based on [Berg] and [Mount]

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Talk overview

- Polygon triangulation
 - Monotone polygon triangulation
 - Monotonization of non-monotone polygon
- Delaunay triangulation (DT) of points
 - Input: set of 2D points
 - Properties
 - Incremental Algorithm
 - Relation of DT in 2D and lower envelope (CH) in 3D and relation of VD in 2D to upper envelope in 3D

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Polygon triangulation problem

- Triangulation (in general)
 - = subdividing a spatial domain into simplices
- Application
 - decomposition of complex shapes into simpler shapes
 - art gallery problem (how many cameras and where)
- We will discuss
 - a simple polygon triangulation
 - without demand on triangle shapes
- Complexity of polygon triangulation
 - O(n) alg. exists [Chazelle91], but it is too complicated

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= practical algorithms run in O(*n* log *n*)

Simple polygon

- = region enclosed by a closed polygonal chain that does not intersect itself
- Visible points
- = two points on the boundary are visible if the interior of the line segment joining them lies entirely in the interior of the polygon
- Diagonal
- = line segment joining any pair of visible vertices



- A polygonal chain C is strictly monotone with respect to line L, if any line orthogonal to L intersects C in at most one *point*
- A chain C is monotone with respect to line L, if any line orthogonal to L intersects C in at most one connected component (point, line segment,...)
- Polygon P is monotone with respect to line L, if its boundary (bnd(P), ∂P) can be split into two chains, each of which is monotone with respect to L



- Horizontally monotone polygon
 - = monotone with respect to x-axis
 - Can be tested in O(n)
 - Find leftmost and rightmost point in O(n)
 - Split boundary to upper and lower chain
 - Walk left to right, verifying that x-coord are nondecreasing



- Every simple polygon can be triangulated
- Simple polygon with n vertices consists of
 - exactly n-2 triangles
 - exactly n-3 diagonals
 - Each diagonal is added once
 > O(n) sweep line algorithm exist



Simple polygon triangulation

- Simple polygon can be triangulated in 2 steps:
 - 1. Partition the polygon into x-monotone pieces
 - 2. Triangulate all monotone pieces

(we will discuss the steps in the reversed order)



2. Triangulation of the monotone polygon

- Sweep left to right
- Triangulate everything you can by adding diagonals between visible points
- Remove triangulated region from further consideration - DONE



Triangulation of the monotone polygon



Main invariant

Main invariant

- Let v_i be the vertex being just processed
- The untriangulated region left of v_i consists of two x-monotone chains (upper and lower)
- Each chain has at least one edge
- If it has more than one edge
 - these edges form a reflex chain
 - = sequence of vertices with interior angle $\geq 180^{\circ}$
- Left vertex of the last added diagonal is u
- Vertices between u and v_i are waiting in the stack

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Initial invarian

Triangulation cases

- Case 1: v_i lies on the opposite chain
 - Add diagonals from next(u) to v_{i-1}
 - Set $u = v_{i-1}$. Last diagonal (invariant) is $v_i v_{i-1}$
- Case 2: v is on the same chain as v_{i-1}



1. Polygon subdivision into monotone pieces

X-monotonicity breaks the polygon in vertices with edges directed both left or both right





Data structures for subdivision

- Events
 - Endpoints of edges, known from the beginning
 - Can be stored in sorted list no priority queue
- Sweep status
 - List of edges intersecting sweep line (top to bottom)
 - Stored in O(log n) time dictionary (like balanced tree)
- Event processing
 - Six event types based on local structure of edges around vertex v



Helper – definition

 $helper(e_a)$

- = the rightmost vertically visible processed vertex
 - below edge e_a on polygonal chain between edges e_a & e_b

is visible to every point along the sweep line between $e_a \& e_b$



Helper

helper(e_a) is defined only for edges intersected by the sweep line



Six event types of vertex v

1. Split vertex

Find edge *e* above *v*,
 connect *e* with helper(e) by diagonal



е

- Add 2 new edges incident to v into SL status
- Set new helper(e) = helper(lower edge of these two) = v

2. Merge vertex

- Find two edges incident with v in SL status
- Delete both from SL status
- Let e is edge immediately above v
- Make helper(e) = v

(Interior angle >180° for both – split & merge vertices)

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Six event types of vertex v

3. Start vertex

- Both incident edges lie right from v
- But interior angle <180°
- Insert both edges to SL status
- Set helper(upper edge) = v

4. End vertex

- Both incident edges lie left from v
- But interior angle <180°
- Delete both edges from SL status
- No helper set we are out of the polygon

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Six event types of vertex v

- 5. Upper chain-vertex
 - one side is to the left, one side to the right, interior is below
 - replace the left edge with the right edge in SL status
 - Make v helper of the new (upper) edge
- 6. Lower chain-vertex
 - one side is to the left, one side to the right, interior is above
 - replace the left edge with the right edge in SL status

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- Make v helper of the edge e above







Polygon subdivision complexity

- Simple polygon with *n* vertices can be partitioned into x-monotone polygons in
 - $O(n \log n)$ time and
 - O(n) storage



Dual graph G for a Voronoi diagram





Delaunay graph and Delaunay triangulation

- Delaunay graph DG(P) has convex polygonal faces (with number of vertices ≥3, equal to the degree of Voronoi vertex)
- Delaunay triangulation DT(P)
 - = Delaunay graph for sites in general position
 - No four sites on a circle
 - Faces are triangles (Voronoi vertices have degree = 3)

[Berg]

- DT is unique (DG not! Can be triangulated differently)
- DG(P) sites not in general position
 - Triangulate larger faces such triangulation is not
 unique ______

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Delaunay triangulation properties 1/2

Circumcircle property

- The circumcircle of any triangle in DT is empty (no sites)
 Proof: It's center is the Voronoi vertex
- Three points *a,b,c* are vertices of the same face of DG(P) iff circle through *a,b,c* contains no point of P in its interior
- Empty circle property and legal edge
- Two points *a*,*b* form an edge of DG(P) it is a legal edge iff \exists closed disc with *a*,*b* on its boundary that contains no other point of *P* in its interior ... disc minimal diameter = dist(a,b)
- Closest pair property
- The closest pair of points in P are neighbors in DT(P)



Delaunay triangulation properties

- DT edges do not intersect
- Triangulation T is legal, iff T is a Delaunay triangulation (i.e., if it does not contain illegal edges)
- Edge that was legal before may become illegal if one of the triangles incident to it changes
- In convex quadrilateral abcd (abcd do not lie on common circle) exactly one of ac, bd is an illegal edge
 = principle of edge flip operation



2/2

Edge flip operation

Edge flip

= a local operation, that increases the angle vector

Given two adjacent triangles △abc and △cda such that their union forms a convex quadrilateral, the edge flip operation replaces the diagonal ac with bd.



Delaunay triangulation

- Let *T* be a triangulation with *m* triangles (and 3*m* angles)
- Angle-vector
 - = non-decreasing ordered sequence ($\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots, \alpha_{3m}$) angles of triangles, $\alpha_i \leq \alpha_j$, for i < j
- Delaunay triangulation has the lexicographically largest angle sequence
 - It maximizes the minimal angle (the first angle in angle-vector)
 - It maximizes the second minimal angle, ...
 - It maximizes all angles
 - It is an angle optimal triangulation



Respective Central Angle Theorem





Let C = circle,

- *l* =line intersecting *C* in points a, *b*
- p, q, r, s = points on the same side of l

p,q on C, r is in, s is out

Then for the angles holds: $\langle arb \rangle \langle apb = \langle aqb \rangle \langle asb$

http://www.mathopenref.com/arccentralangletheorem.html



Edge flip of illegal edge and angle vector

The minimum angle increases after the edge flip



Incremental algorithm principle

- Create a large triangle containing all points (to avoid problems with unbounded cells)
 - must be larger than the largest circle through 3 points
 - will be discarded at the end
- 2. Insert the points in random order
 - Find triangle with inserted point p
 - Add edges to its vertices
 (these new edges are correct)
 - Check correctness of the old edges (triangles)
 "around p" and legalize (flip) potentially illegal edges



Incremental algorithm in detail



Incremental algorithm – insertion of a point



Incremental algorithm – edge legalization

LegalizeEdge(p, ab, T)

Input: Edge *ab* being checked after insertion of point *p* to triangulation *T Output:* Delaunay triangulation of $p \cup T$

- 1. if(ab is edge on the exterior face) return
- 2. let *d* be the vertex to the right of edge *ab*
- 3. if(inCircle(*p*, *a*, *d*, *b*)) // *d* is in the circle around *pab* => *d* is illegal
- 4. Flip edge *ab* for *pd*
- 5. LegalizeEdge(*p*, *ad*, *T*)



Correctness of edge flip of illegal edge

- Assume point p is in C (it violates DT criteria for adb)
- adb was a triangle of DT => C was an empty circle
- Create circle C' trough point p, C' is inscribed to C, C'⊂ C

=> C' is also an empty circle

=> new edge *pd* is a Delaunay edge



DT- point insert and mesh legalization





















Correctness of the algorithm

- Every new edge (created due to insertion of p)
 - is incident to p
 - must be legal
 no need to test them
- Edge can only become illegal if one of its incident triangle changes
 - Algorithm tests any edge that may become illegal
 the algorithm is correct
- Every edge flip makes the angle-vector larger
 => algorithm can never get into infinite loop



- For finding a triangle $abc \in T$ containing p
 - Leaves for triangles
 - Internal nodes for destroyed triangles
 - Links to new triangles
- Search p: start in root (initial triangle)













InCircle test

- *a,b,c* are counterclockwise in the plane
- Test, if *d* lies to the left of the oriented circle through *a,b,c*



Creation of the initial triangle

- For given points set P
- Initial triangle $p_{-2}p_{-1}p_0$
 - Must contain all points of P
 - Must not be (none of its points) in any circle defined by non-collinear points of P
- *I*₋₂ = horizontal line above *P*
- I₋₁ = horizontal line below P



- p_{-2} = lies on I_{-2} as far left that p_{-2} lies outside every circle
- p_{-1} = lies on I_{-1} as far right that p_{-1} lies outside every circle defined by 3 non-collinear points of P



Complexity of incremental DT algorithm

- Delaunay triangulation of a set P in the plane can be computed in
 - O(n log n) expected time
 - using O(n) storage
- For details see [Berg, Section 9.4]



Delaunay triangulations and Convex hulls

- Delaunay triangulation in R^d can be computed as part of the convex hull in R^{d+1}
- 2D: Connection is the paraboloid: $z = x^2 + y^2$



Vertical projection of points to paraboloid

Vertical projection of 2D point to paraboloid in 3D

$$(x, y) \rightarrow (x, y, x^2 + y^2)$$

■ Lower convex hull = portion of CH visible from $z = -\infty$



Relation between CH and DT

- Delaunay condition (2D)
 Points *p*,*q*,*r* ∈ *S* form a Delaunay triangle iff the circumcircle of *p*,*q*,*r* is empty (contains no point)
- Convex hull condition (3D) Points $p',q',r' \in S'$ form a face of CH(S') iff the plane passing through p',q',r' is supporting S'
 - all other points lie to one side of the plane
 - plane passing through p',q',r' is supporting hyperplane of the convex hull CH(S')

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Relation between CH and DT



- 4 distinct points p,q,r,s in the plane, and let p', q', r', s' be their respective projections onto the paraboloid, z = x² + y²
- The point s lies within the circumcircle of pqr iff s' lies on the lower side of the plane passing through p', q', r'.



Tangent plane to paraboloid

- Non-vertical tangent plane through $(a, b, a^2 + b^2)$
- Paraboloid $z = x^2 + y^2$ Derivation at this point $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 2x$ $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = 2x$
- Evaluates to 2a and 2b
 Plane: $z = 2ax + 2by + \gamma$ $\gamma = -(a^2 + b^2)$ $a^2 + b^2 = 2a \cdot a + 2b \cdot b + \gamma$
- Tangent plane through point $(a, b, a^2 + b^2)$
 - $z = 2ax + 2by (a^2 + b^2)$

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Plane intersecting the paraboloid

- Non-vertical tangent plane through $(a, b, a^2 + b^2)$ $z = 2ax + 2by - (a^2 + b^2)$
- Shift this plane r^2 upwards -> secant plane intersects the paraboloid in an ellipse in 3D $z = 2ax + 2by - (a^2 + b^2) + r^2$
- Eliminate *z* (project to 2D) $z = x^2 + y^2$ $x^2 + y^2 = 2ax + 2by - (a^2 + b^2) + r^2$
- This is a circle projected to 2D with center (a, b):

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$$(x - a^2) + (y - b^2) = r$$

Tangent and secant planes



Secant plane defined by three points



Test inCircle – meaning in 3D

- Points *p*,*q*,*r* are counterclockwise in the plane
- Test, if s lies in the circumcircle of $\triangle pqr$ is equal to
 - = test, weather s' lies within a lower half space of the plane passing through p',q',r' (3D)
 - = test, if quadruple p',q',r',s' is positively oriented (3D)
 - = test, if s lies to the left of the oriented circle through abc
 (2D)

$$in(p,q,r,s) = det \begin{pmatrix} p_x & p_y & p_x^2 + p_y^2 & 1\\ q_x & q_y & q_x^2 + q_y^2 & 1\\ r_x & r_y & r_x^2 + r_y^2 & 1\\ s_x & s_y & s_x^2 + s_y^2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} > 0.$$

An the Voronoi diagram?

- VD and DT are dual structures
- Points and lines in the plane are dual to points and planes in 3D space
- VD of points in the plane can be transformed to intersection of halfspaces in 3D space



Voronoi diagram as upper envelope in R^{d+1}

- For each point p = (a, b) a tangent plane to the paraboloid is $z = 2ax + 2by - (a^2 + b^2) + r^2$
- $H^+(p)$ is the set of points above this plane

 $H^+(p) = \{(x, y, z) \mid z \ge 2ax + 2by - (a^2 + b^2) + r^2$



- VD of points in the plane can be computed as intersection of halfspaces $H^+(p_i)$
- This intersection of halfspaces = unbounded convex polyhedron = upper envelope of halfspaces H⁺(p.)

Voronoi diagram as upper envelope in 3D



Derivation of projected Voronoi edge

- 2 points: p = (a, b) and q = (c, d) in the plane $z = 2ax + 2by - (a^2 + b^2)$ Tangent planes $z = 2cx + 2dy - (c^2 + d^2)$ to paraboloid
- Intersect the planes, project onto xy (eliminate z) $x(2a-2c) + y(2b-2d) = (a^2 - c^2) + (b^2 - d^2)$
- This line passes through midpoint between p and q $\frac{a+c}{2}(2a-2c) + \frac{b+d}{2}(2b-2d) = (a^2-c^2) + (b^2-d^2)$ It is perpendicular bisector with slope $\frac{-(a-c)/(b-d)}{|Mount|}$ Felke: Computational geometry

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