

Geometric Algorithms

- Lecturer : John Bourke
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- Each week : 1 algorithm
(+ exercise on board together at end
, if possible)
- Interconnected : eg sweepline algorithm in WZ
is used in many later
algorithms
- E-learning course (see learning materials
for link)
- Upload notes weekly to IS
- Book : Computational geometry
by de Berg
- Exam at end.

List of algorithms

Convex hull

Line intersection (sweepline)

Map overlay

Polygon triangulation

Half-plane intersection

Linear programming

Orthogonal range searching

Point location

Voronoi diagrams (Post-office problem)

Delaunay triangulation

Lecture 1 - Convex hull in the plane

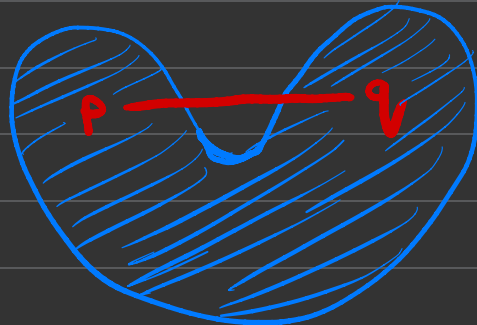
- $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ (the plane) is convex if for all $p, q \in K$, the line segment \vec{pq} is also in K .

(Note \vec{pq} contains points of form $r = p + \lambda(q-p)$ for $\lambda \in [0, 1]$.)

Convex :



Non-convex :



Convex Hull

Let $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$.

$CH(P) :=$ smallest convex set containing P
convex hull

We have obvious formula

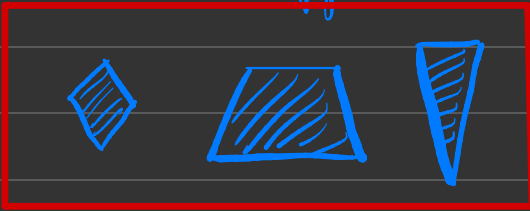
$$CH(P) = \bigcap_{\substack{K \text{ convex} \\ P \subseteq K}} K \quad - \text{ie. intersection of all convex sets containing } P$$

but not computationally useful
since can be infinitely many convex sets containing P .

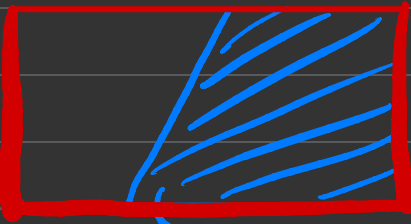
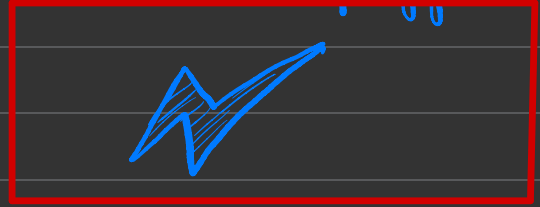
Goal : compute $CH(P)$ for P finite

P finite $\Rightarrow CH(P)$ a convex polygon :
ie. bounded by finitely many straight-line segments.

Convex Polygons



Non-convex polygons



half-plane : points on
one side of a straight
line

For P finite,
 $CH(P) = \bigcap H$

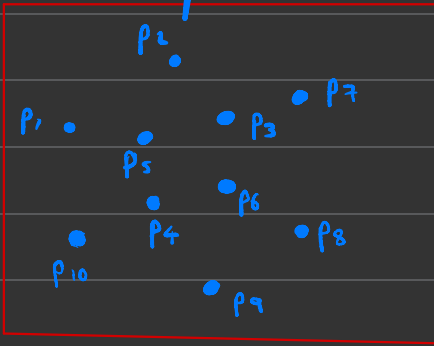
$P \subseteq H$ a half-plane
containing 2 points of P

Goal: compute $CH(P)$ for P finite

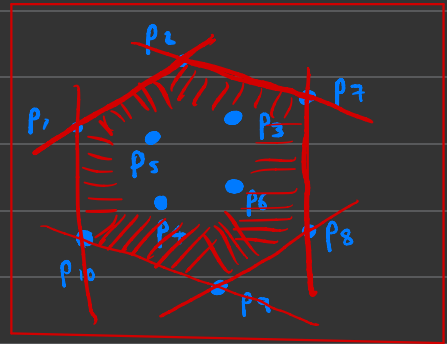
For P finite, $CH(P) = \bigcap H$

$P \subseteq H$ a half-plane
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Example: P



$CH(P)$

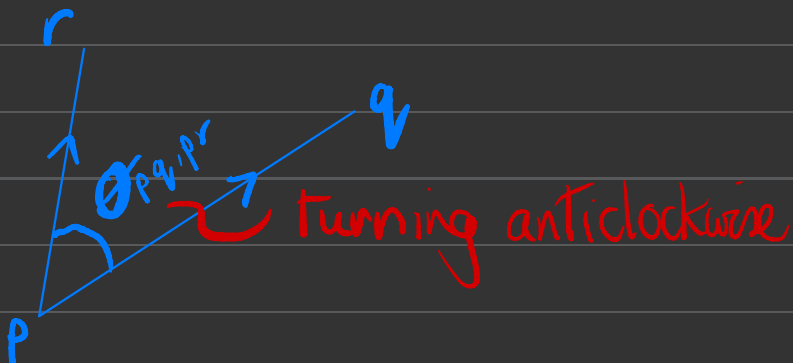


Idea for simple algorithm:

- search for directed line segments \vec{pq} on convex hull in clockwise order -
eg. $\vec{P_1 P_2}, \vec{P_2 P_7}, \dots$
- a directed line segment will lie on $CH(P)$ if no point of P lies to its left.

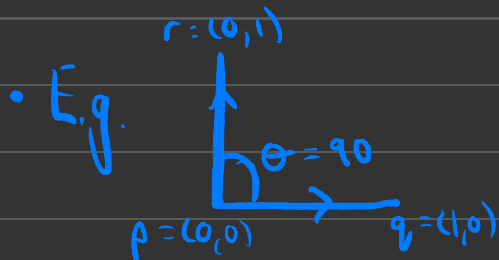
When does point r lie to left of \vec{pq} ?

Consider



• Then r lies to left of $\vec{pq} \Leftrightarrow$
 $0 < \theta_{\vec{pq}, \vec{pr}} < 180^\circ$

• This happens $\Leftrightarrow \det \begin{pmatrix} q_x - p_x & r_x - p_x \\ q_y - p_y & r_y - p_y \end{pmatrix} > 0$



$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = 1 > 0$$

So constant time operation to check if r lies to left of \vec{pq} .

Algorithm : Slow Convex Hull (P)

- For each $p, q \in P$, test if no other point of P lies to left of \vec{pq} .

- If so, add \vec{pq} to list L .

- Sort clockwise (can be done in Time $O(n \log n)$ where n is no of pts)

Complexity

- $n(n-1)$ distinct pairs of points.

- For each such pair, check $n-2$ pts (if they lie to left)

So complexity

$$O(n(n-1)(n-2) + n \log n) = \underline{O(n^3)}.$$

Faster algorithm : Graham's scan $O(n \log n)$

- Order points of P lexicographically : (left to right, top to bottom)
i.e. $p < q \Leftrightarrow p_x < q_x$ or $(p_x = q_x \ \& \ p_y > q_y)$

- Obtain ordered sequence $p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_n$.



- p_1, p_n lie on convex hull.

- Convex hull splits in 2 parts :
upper hull & lower hull.

Goal : search for upper hull,
then lower hull.

Finding upper hull

• $d_1 := \text{upper hull for } \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_i\}$

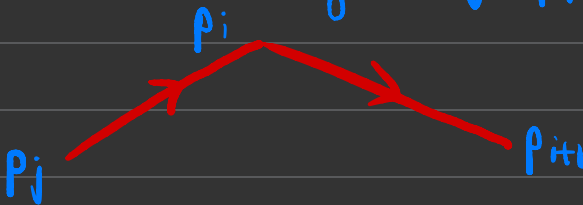
• $d_2 = \{p_1, p_2\}$.

• Given d_i construct d_{i+1}

- add p_{i+1} which must belong to d_{i+1} .

- consider last 3 pts (p_j, p_i, p_{i+1}) in d_{i+1} .

Say they form a right turn if p_{i+1} lies to the right of $\overrightarrow{p_j p_i}$ (ie. $\det(\) < 0$)



- If they form a right turn, we stop.

Finding upper hull ctd

- If not, delete middle of 3 pts p_i from \mathcal{A}_{i+1} (eg. $p_j - p_i - p_{i+1}$)

- Then look at last 3 pts in \mathcal{A}_{i+1} & repeat this step until:

- last 3 pts form a right turn or only 2 pts remain.

- In this way, obtain $\mathcal{A}_{upper} = \mathcal{A}_n$.

End of algorithm

- \mathcal{K}_{lower} is calculated similarly:
ie. calc. lower hulls of
 $\{p_{n-1}, p_n\}, \{p_{n-2}, p_{n-1}, p_n\}, \dots, \{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$
- Finally append \mathcal{K}_{lower} to \mathcal{K}_{upper}
(firstly delete p_1, p_n from \mathcal{K}_{lower})

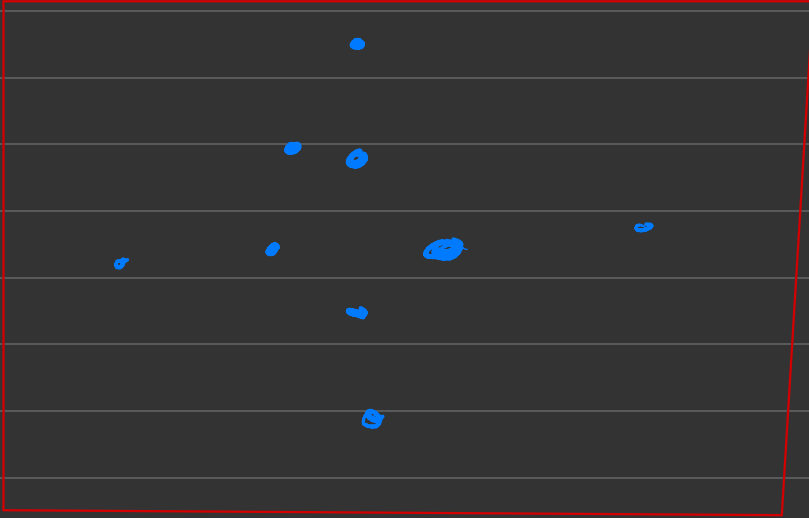
Time Complexity $O(n \log n)$

- Order n pts lexicographically - Takes $O(n \log n)$ eg. mergesort
- On upper hull, constant time to add/remove a pt.
- Each pt added & removed at most once - at most $2n$ actions
- On lower hull, also $2n$.
- Append lists: n

$$O(5n + n \log n) = \underline{O(n \log n)}$$

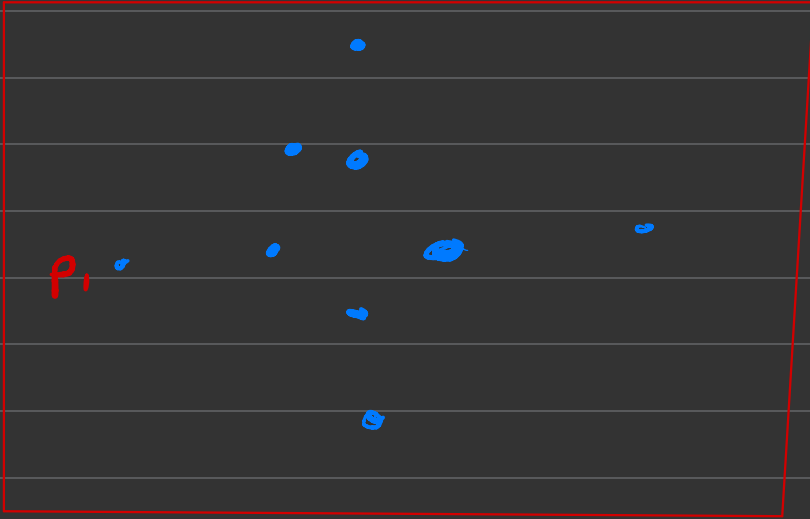
Another algorithm : Gift wrapping

- Useful if know in advance, no. of pts on convex hull $\leq k$, where k is small compared to n .



Another algorithm : Gift wrapping

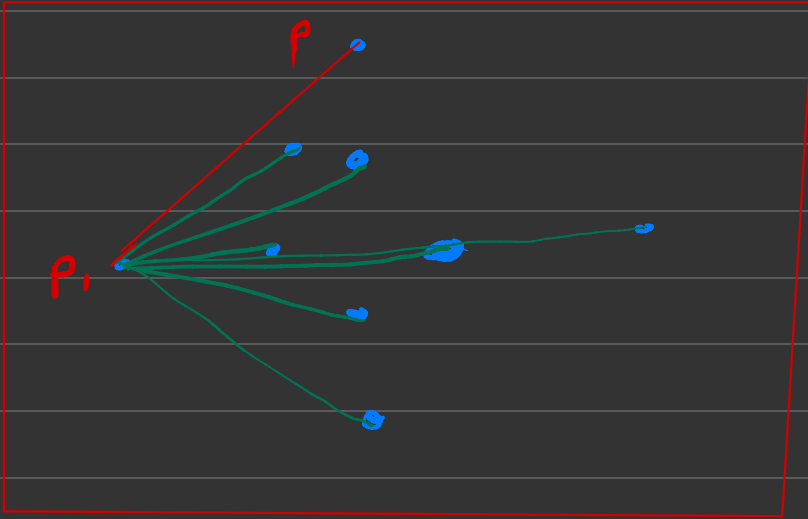
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- Find leftmost point p_1 .

Another algorithm : Gift wrapping

- Useful if know in advance, no. of pts on convex hull $\leq k$, where k is small compared to n .



- Find leftmost point p_1 .
- Draw lines to other pts, & choose one of greatest slope. Endpoint p_2 .

Another algorithm: Gift wrapping

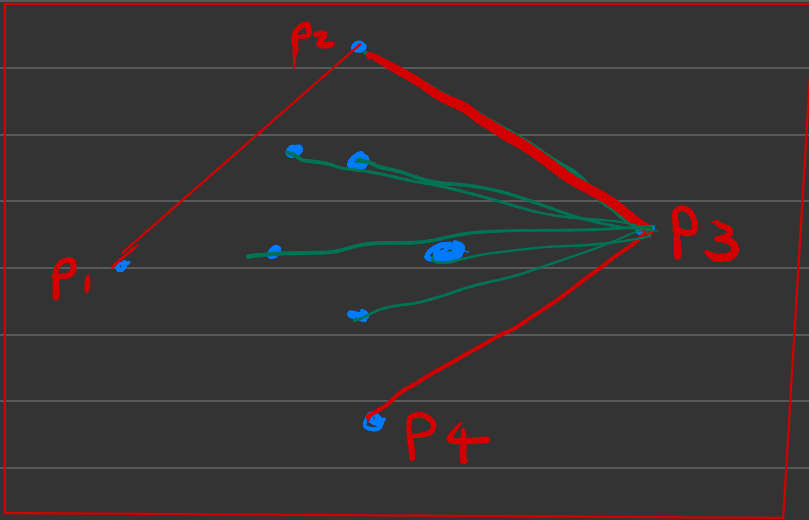
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- Find leftmost point P_1 .
- Draw lines to other pts, & choose one of greatest slope. Endpoint P_2 .
- Draw lines to remaining pts & choose P_3 so $\angle P_1P_2P_3$ is largest.

Another algorithm: Gift wrapping

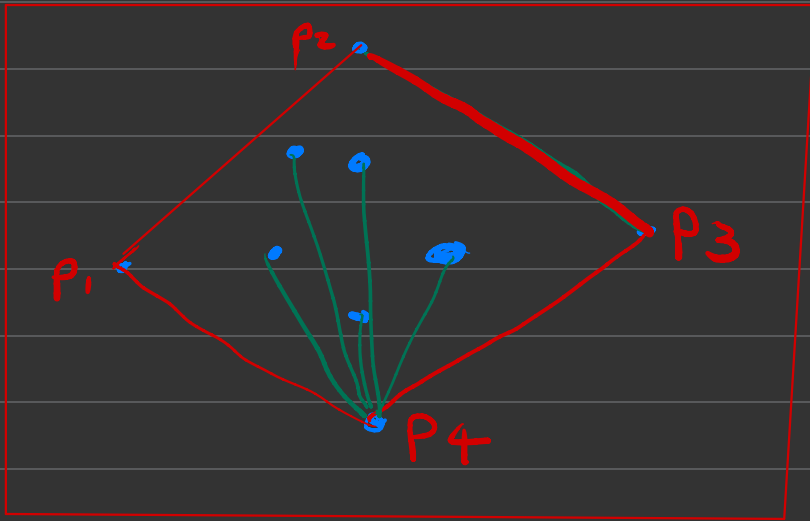
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- Repeat until return to p_1 .

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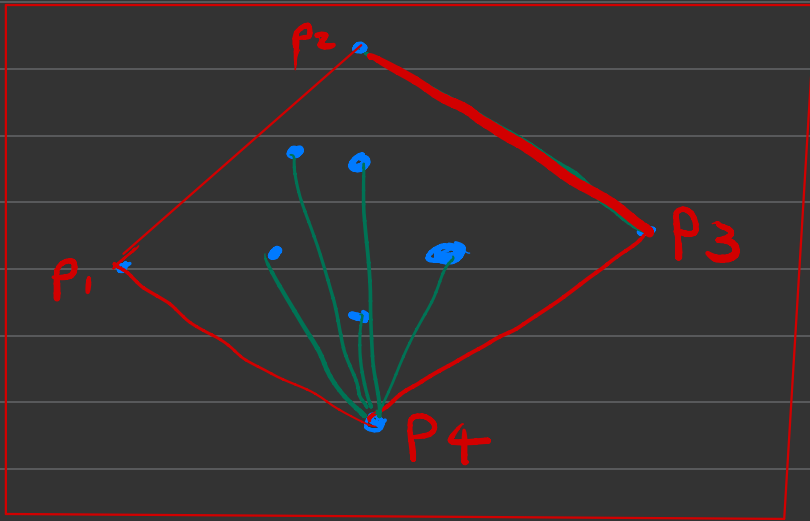
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- Repeat until return to p_1 .
- Complexity $O(kn)$

Exercise

- Apply Graham's scan to calc. convex hull of

