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# APPLIED aspects of COMPUTATIONAL GEOMETRY

Arrangements, 2D

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# Overview

- **Part I**, A first tour of “solving it with arrangements”:  
The minimum area triangle problem
  - duality, dcel, incremental construction, zone
- **Part II**, Generalizations
  - transformations
  - different types of arrangements
  - alternative representation
  - construction by sweeping
  - other substructures: complexity and algorithms

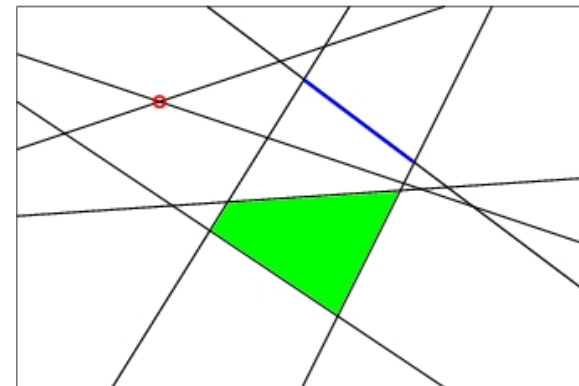
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# Background

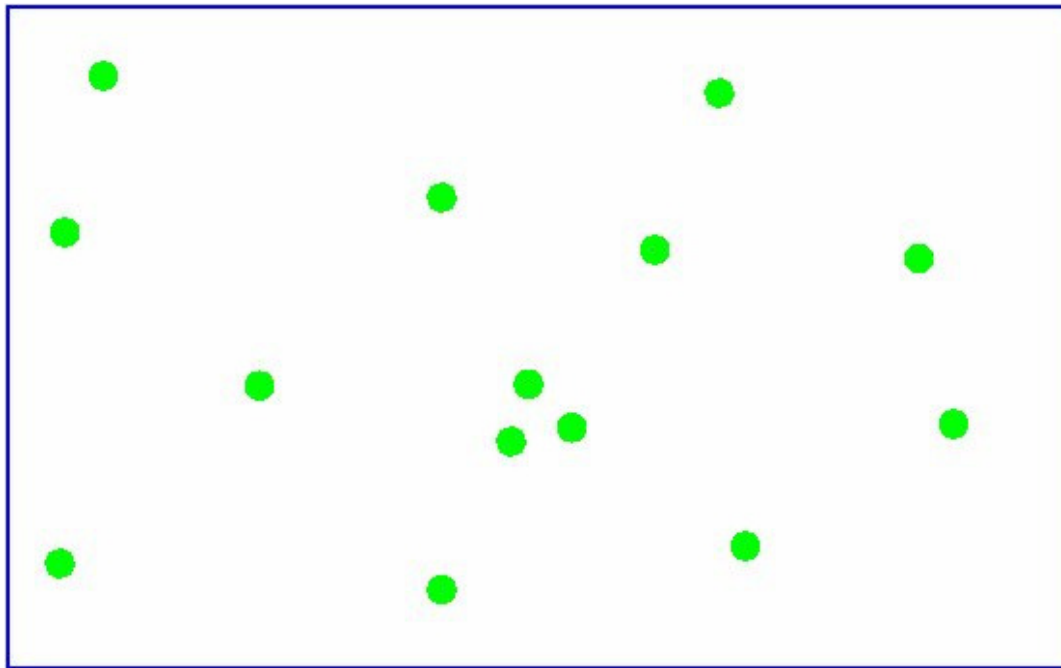
- Lines, segments, and rays
- A tale of two paradigms:  
sweep vs. incremental
- Arrangements of lines:
  - the shape and complexity of a face
  - the complexity of the entire arrangements is  $\theta(n^2)$



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## Reminder: Minimum area triangle

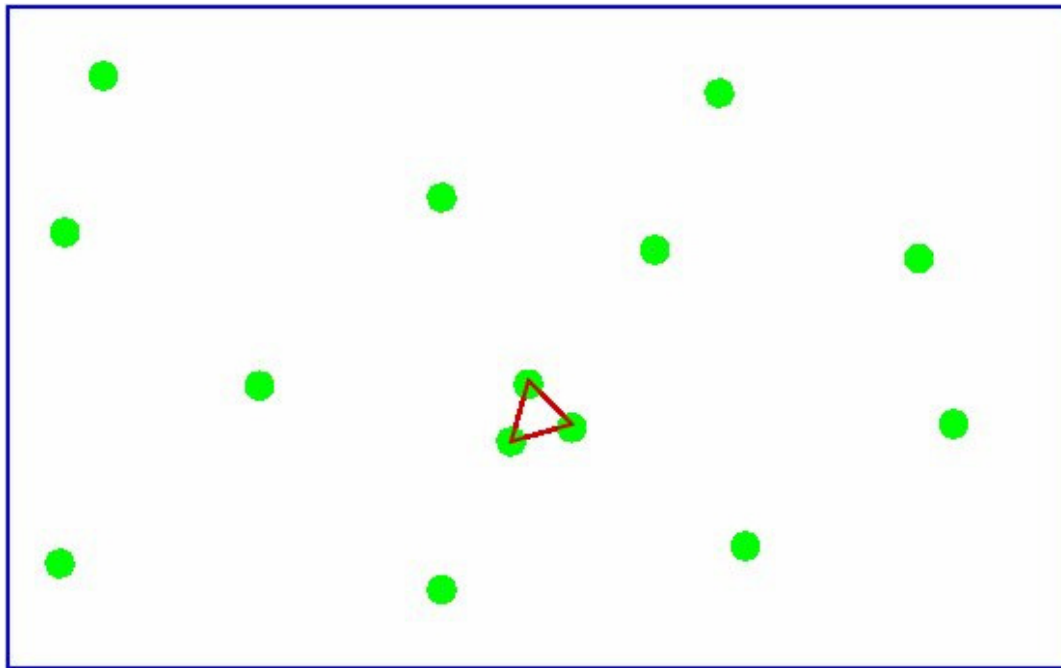
- find the three of the given set of  $n$  points  $P = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n\}$  that define the minimum area triangle



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# Reminder: Minimum area triangle

- find the three of the given set of  $n$  points  $P = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n\}$  that define the minimum area triangle
- a naïve algorithm requires  $O(n^3)$  time



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# The transformation: Duality

## Primal plane

- the point  $p := (a, b)$
- the line  $l := (y = cx + d)$

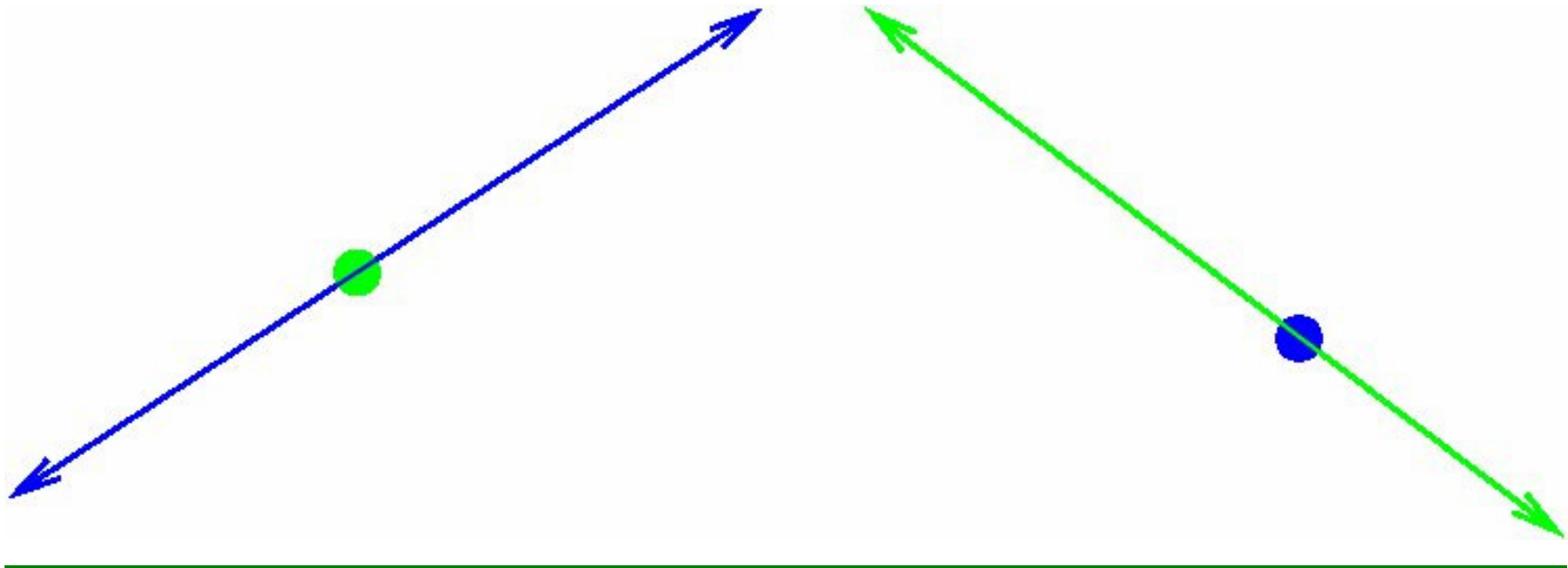
## Dual Plane

- the line  $p^* := (y = ax - b)$
- the point  $l^* := (c, -d)$

this duality transform does not handle vertical lines

# Properties of this duality transform

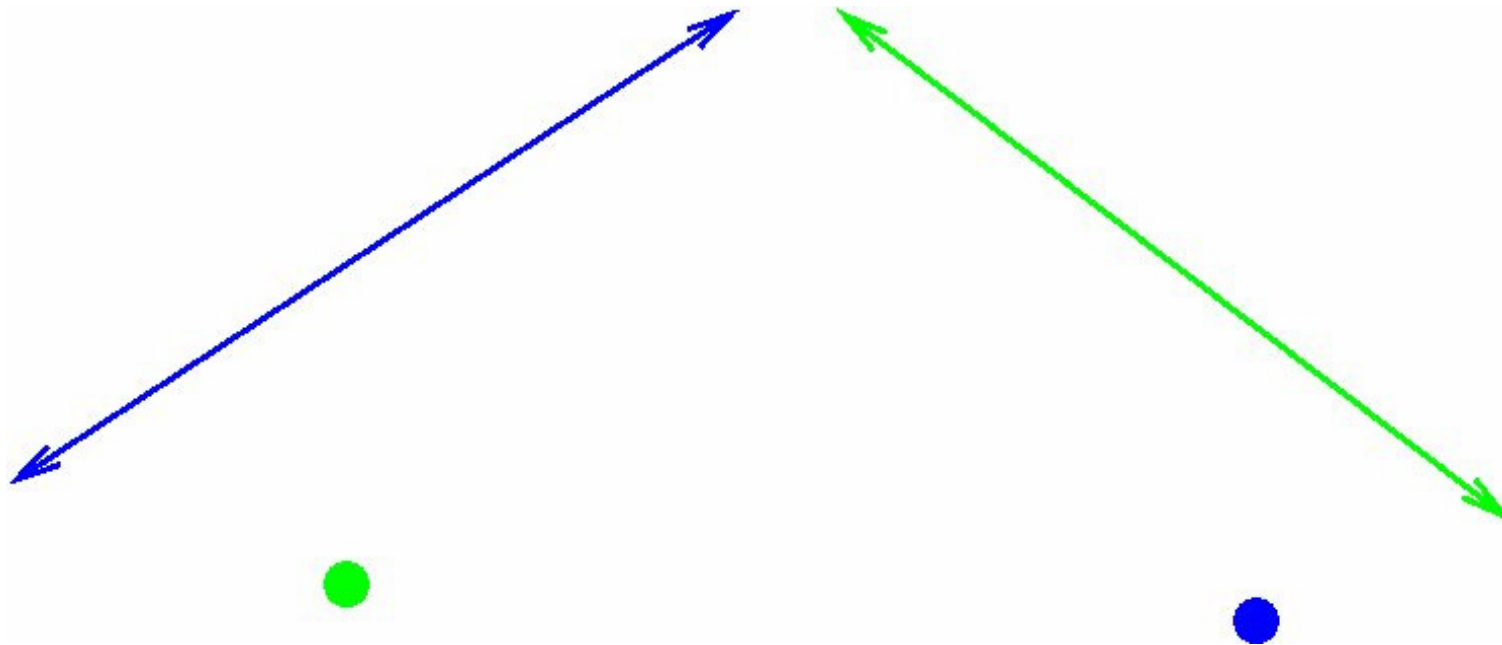
- preserves incidence





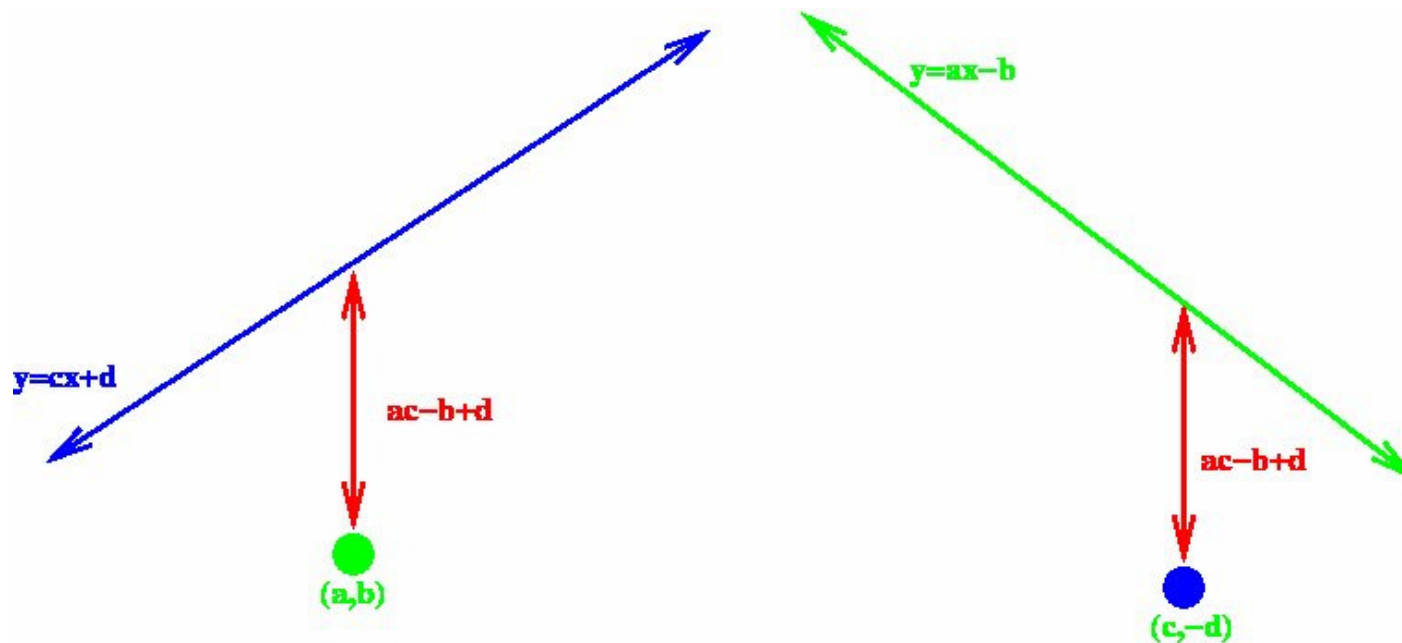
# Properties of this duality transform

- preserves incidence
- preserves above/below relation



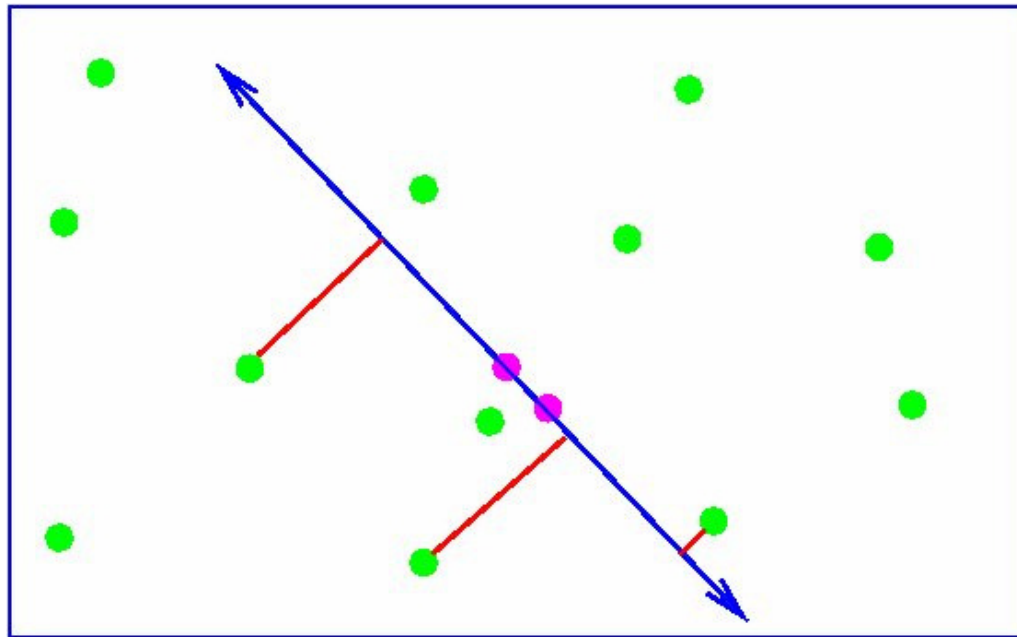
# Properties of this duality transform

- preserves incidence
- preserves above/below relation
- preserves the vertical distance between a line and a point



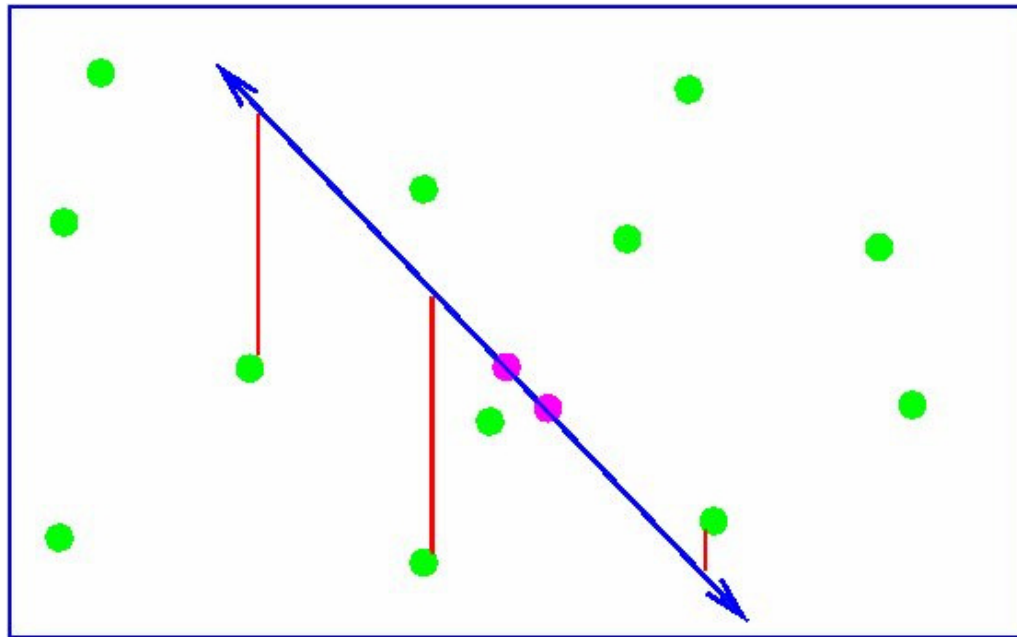
# Minimum area triangle for a fixed pair

- fix a pair of input points  $p_i, p_j$
- which point  $p_k$  of  $P$  defines the smallest area triangle with  $p_i, p_j$ ?



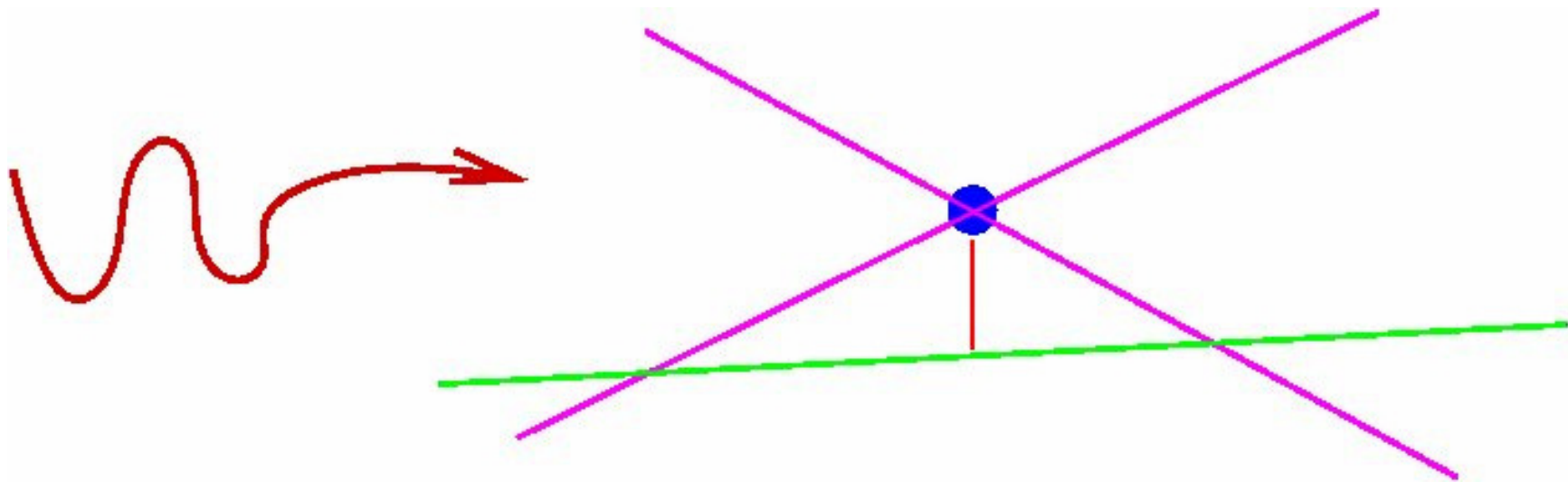
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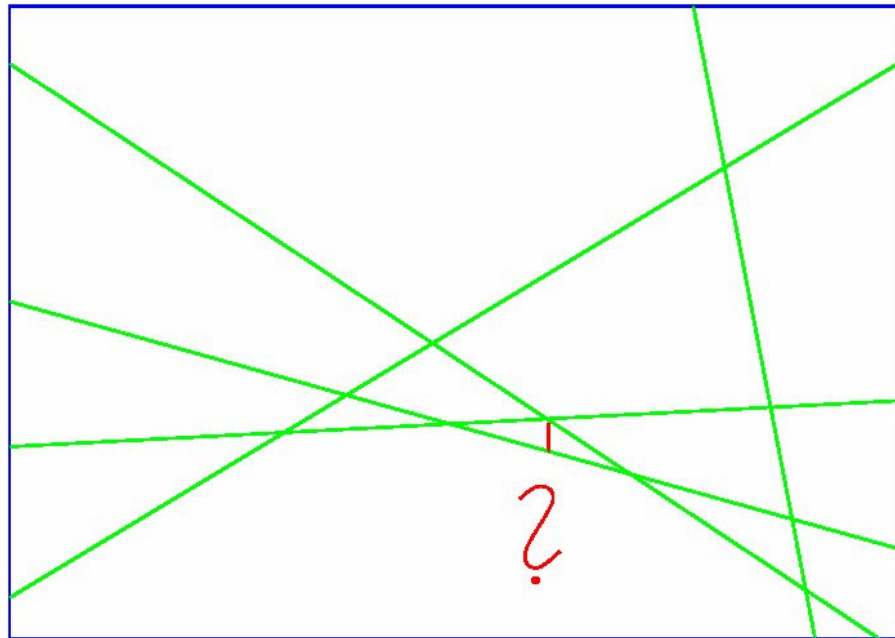
## In the dual...

- in an arrangement of  $n$  lines  $P^* = \{p^*_1, p^*_2, \dots, p^*_n\}$ , for each vertex find the vertically closest line



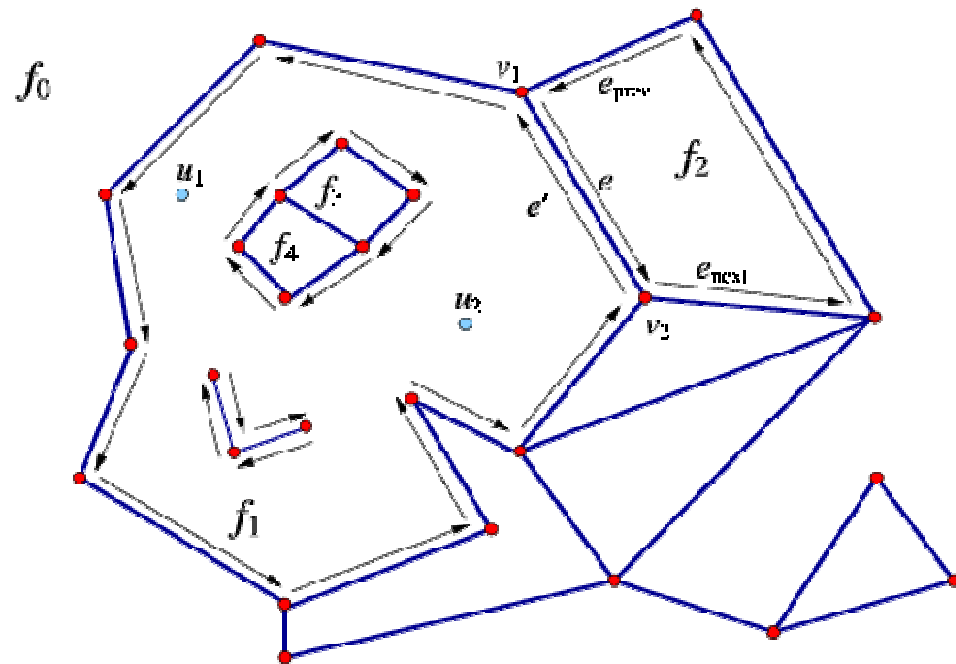
# Interim summary

- our problem: given an arrangement of  $n$  lines find the vertex and the line that induce the smallest vertical distance



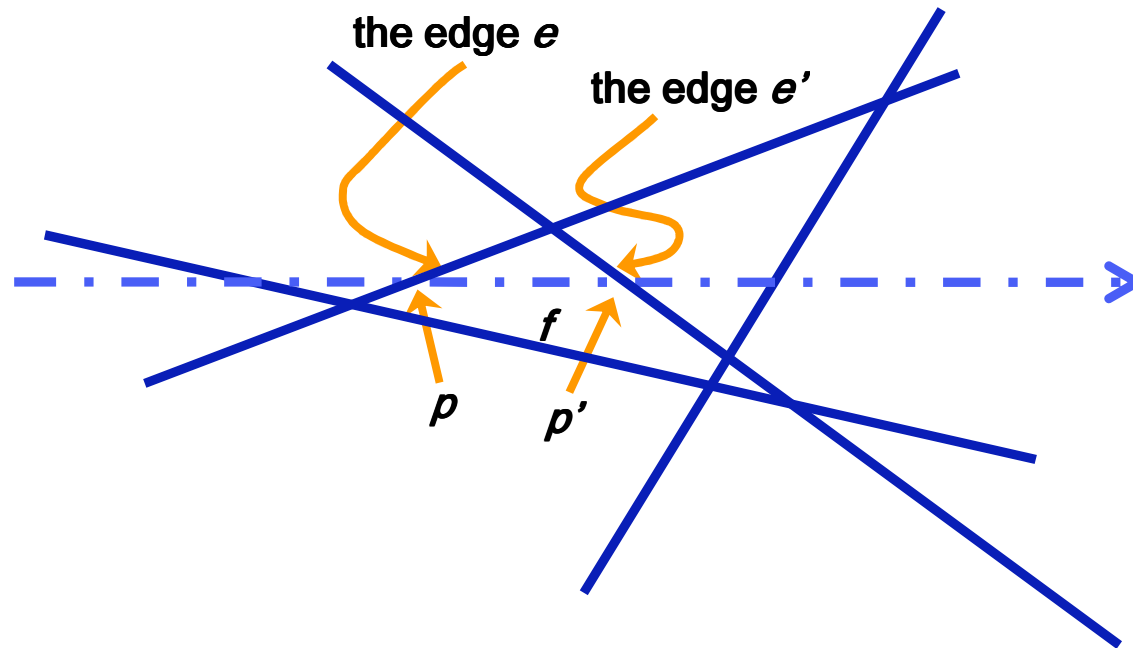
# Representing the arrangement I: Dcel

- vertices, half-edges, and faces
- halfedges:
  - twin
  - previous
  - next
- CCBs: inner and outer



# Incremental construction

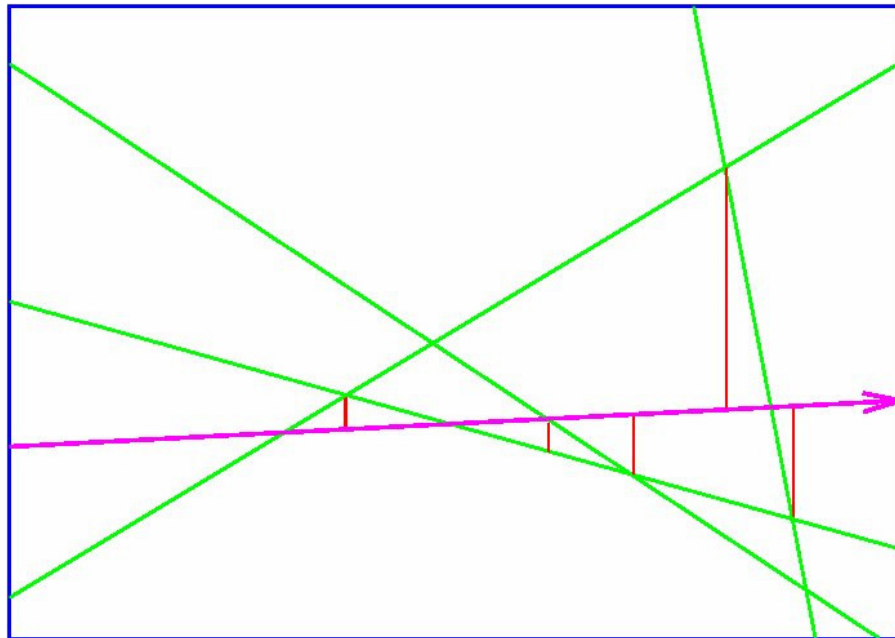
- recall the **general position assumption**
- computing a bounding box
- inserting the  $i$ -th line





# Searching for the minimum area triangle

- line by line, going over all the relevant vertices



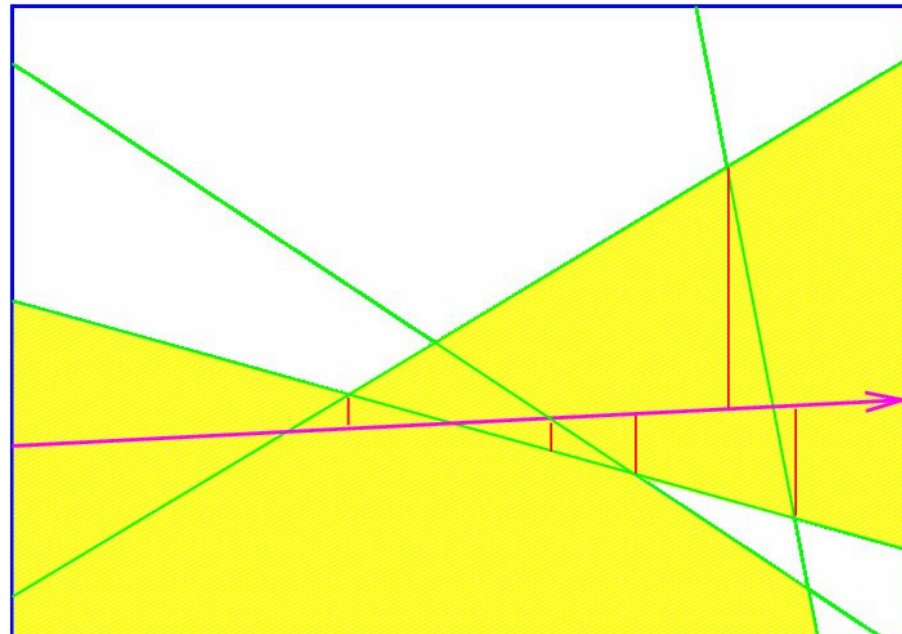
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# How much time does it take?

- computing the bounding box
  - naively  $O(n^2)$ ; can be done in  $O(n \log n)$
- finding where to insert line  $i$ 
  - simple,  $O(i)$
- inserting line  $i$ 
  - $O(\text{zone complexity})$
- searching for the minimum area triangle for one line
  - $O(\text{zone complexity})$

# The zone of a curve

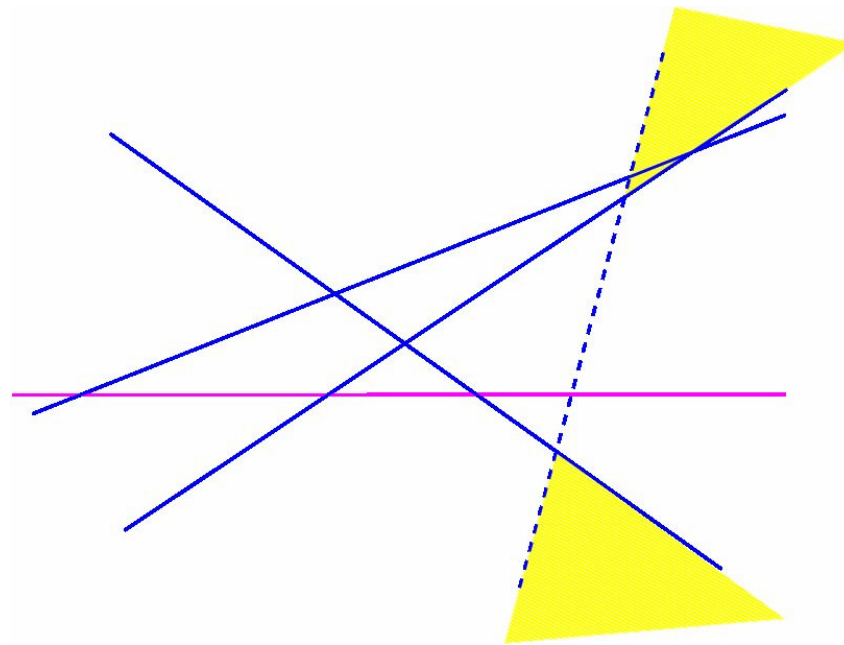
- the zone of a curve  $\gamma$  in an arrangement  $A$  is the collection of faces of  $A$  intersected by  $\gamma$
- the complexity of the zone is the overall complexity of cells of various dimensions in the closure of the zone
- we need: the complexity of the zone of a line in an arrangement of  $i$  lines



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# Zone theorem

- theorem: the complexity of the zone of a line in an arrangement of  $i$  lines is  $O(i)$
- proof:



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## How much time does it take?

- computing the bounding box
    - naively  $O(n^2)$ ; can be done in  $O(n \log n)$ , exercise
  - finding where to insert line  $i$ 
    - simple,  $O(i)$
  - inserting line  $i$ 
    - $O(\text{zone complexity}) = O(i)$
  - searching for the minimum area triangle for one line
    - $O(\text{zone complexity}) = O(i)$
  - *Overall  $O(n^2)$  time*
-

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## Summary, a tour of “solving it with arrangements”: the minimum area triangle

- transforming to arrangements, **duality**
- combinatorial analysis **zone theorem**
- design of data structures: **Dcel /**  
algorithms: **incremental**
- implementation

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# Minimum area triangle, notes

- the solution to the minimum-area-triangle problem [Chazelle-Guibas-Lee 84]
- the solution for any fixed dimension (minimum volume simplex) appears in Edelsbrunner's book (1987)
- the efficiency of the solution in any dimension relies on a hyperplane zone theorem [Edelsbrunner-Seidel-Sharir 93]
- no better solution is known to the problem; related to the so-called 3-sum hard problems
- see also Ch 8 of the book *Computational Geometry* by de Berg et al, for the incremental construction of arrgs of lines

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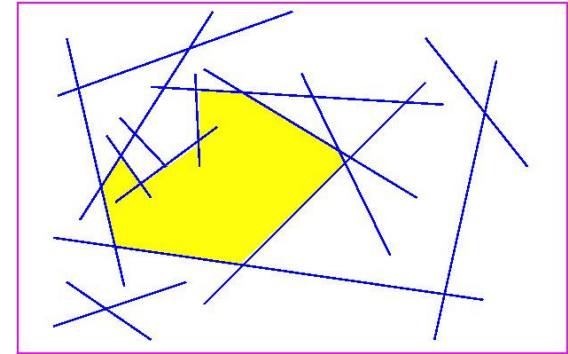
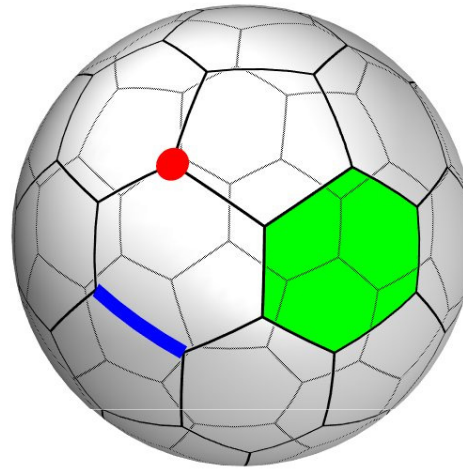
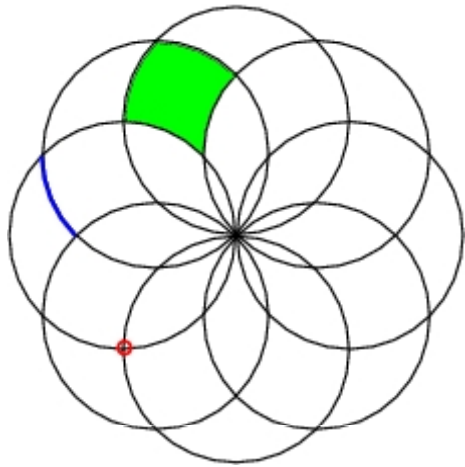


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# Transformation to arrangements

- various dualities, Plücker coordinates, the locus method (configuration space, Minkowski sums), and numerous other
- we will see a few more later in the course

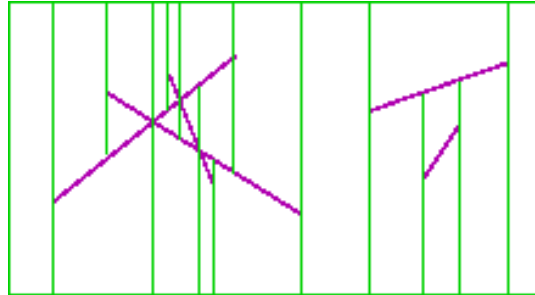
# Variety of 2D arrangements



- major complications
  - faces can have convoluted shapes
  - the algebra becomes more involved

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# Vertical decomposition



- the complexity in the plane  $O(\text{arrg-complexity})$ 
    - $n$  interior-pairwise-disjoint segments in a bounding box
      - at most  $3n+1$  trapezoids
  - extends to higher dimensions and “well-behaved” surfaces
  - partial decomposition
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# Construction by sweeping

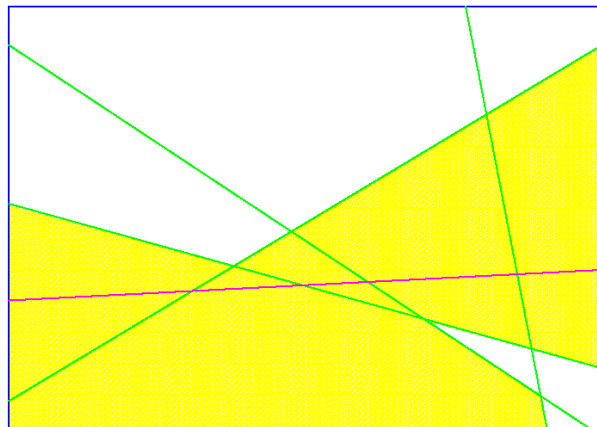
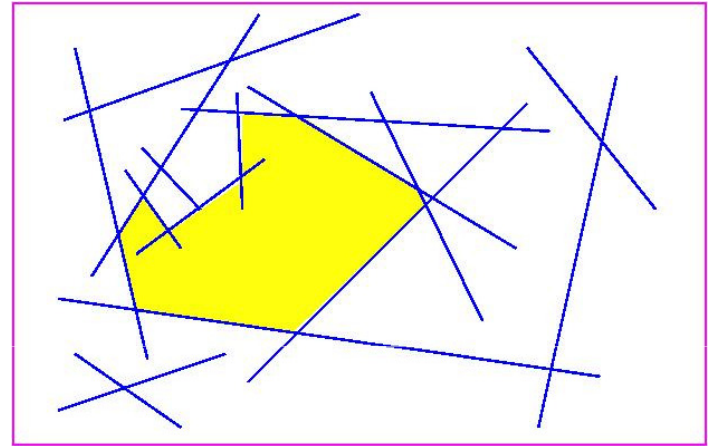
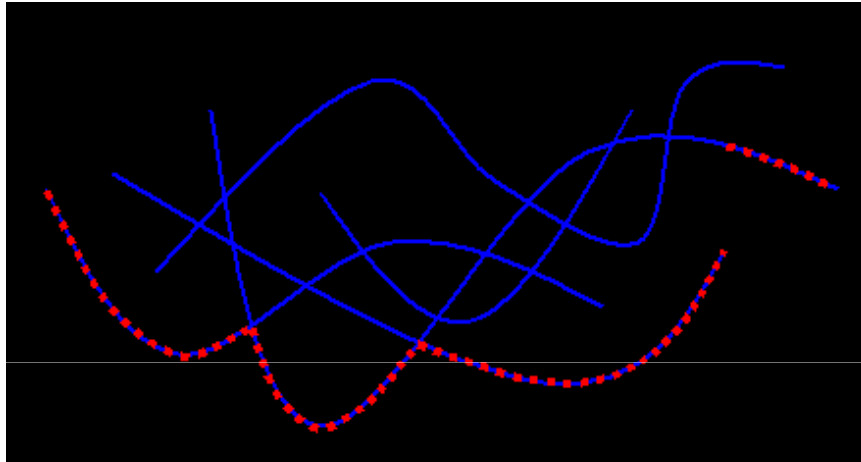
- sweeping a vertical line
- **status line**: intersecting curves in order
- events: endpoints and intersection points
- **event queue**
- complexity for arrg of n “well-behaved” curves:  $O(\text{arrg-complexity} \times \log n)$
- a possible by-product within the same running time: the vertical decomposition

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# Sweep vs. incremental construction

- efficiency (in theory) for line arrangement
- what about other types of arrangements?
  - the sweep has the same complexity for  $n$  “well-behaved” curves (constant # of pairwise intersections):  $O(\text{arrg-complexity} \times \log n)$
  - for incremental construction:  
zone theorem for curves?

# Substructures: envelope, single face, zone



# Davenport-Schinzel sequences

- $n, s$  positive integers
- $U = \langle u_1, \dots, u_m \rangle$  a seq of integers
- $U$  is called an  $(n, s)$  DS sequence if
  - $\forall i \ 1 \leq i \leq n$
  - $\forall i < m, u_i \neq u_{i+1}$
  - there do not exist  $s+2$  indices  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_{s+2}$  so that  $u_{i_1} = u_{i_3} = \dots = j$  and  $u_{i_2} = u_{i_4} = \dots = k$  for two distinct numbers  $1 \leq j, k \leq n$   
(we call it DS Seq of order  $s$  on  $n$  symbols, or  $DS(n, s)$  for short)
- $\lambda_s(n) = \max \{ |U| \mid U \text{ is a } DS(n, s) \}$

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# Lower envelopes

- $F = \{f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n\}$  : a set of continuous function defined over an interval  $I$ , every pair intersect in at most  $s$  points
- $m$ : the minimal number of subintervals such that over each of them the lower envelopes is uniquely defined by a function of  $F$  with index  $u_i$
- let  $U(f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n) = \langle u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m \rangle$



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## DS sequences and envelopes

- claim 1:  $U(f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n)$  is a  $DS(n, s)$
- Claim 1': for every  $DS(n, s)$   $U$ , there exist functions  $g_1, \dots, g_n$  such that  $U(g_1, \dots, g_n) = U$

for functions  $f_i$  partially denied over  $I$

- claim 2:  $U(f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n)$  is a  $DS(n, s+2)$
- Claim 2': for every  $DS(n, s+2)$   $U$ , there exist partially defined functions  $g_1, \dots, g_n$  such that  $U(g_1, \dots, g_n) = U$

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# The maximum complexity of envelopes

namely the maximum value of  $\lambda_s(n)$  (or  $\lambda_{s+2}(n)$ )

$$\lambda_1(n) = n$$

$$\lambda_2(n) = 2n-1$$

$$\lambda_3(n) = \text{take I: } O(n \log n)$$

$$\lambda_s(n) = \text{take I: } O(n \log^* n)$$

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# The maximum complexity of envelopes

namely the maximum value of  $\lambda_s(n)$  (or  $\lambda_{s+2}(n)$ )

$$\lambda_1(n) = n$$

$$\lambda_2(n) = 2n-1$$

$$\lambda_3(n) = \theta(n\alpha(n))$$

$$\lambda_s(n) = \text{see references}$$

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# Constructing envelopes

- divide & conquer
- Hershberger's improvement

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## The complexity of a single face

- with some care show that the appearance of curves along a CCB of the marked face constitute a DS sequence
- The complexity of a face in an arrg where each pair of curves intersect at most  $s$  times is
  - $O(\lambda_s(n))$  for unbounded curves,
  - $O(\lambda_{s+2}(n))$  for bounded curves,
  - $O(\lambda_{s+1}(n))$  for curves bounded on one side

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## Constructing a single face

- deterministic algorithm,  $O(\lambda_{s+2}(n) \log^2 n)$  time
  - randomized algorithms, expected  $O(\lambda_{s+2}(n) \log n)$  time
  - $\lambda_{s+2}(n)$  replaced by  $\lambda_s(n)$  for unbounded curves
- 
- for bounded curves: the complexity and construction of the zone follows

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# Operations on arrangements

- traversals
- point location
- overlay
  - Boolean operations

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# What of it is in arrangements?

almost everything:

- different families of curves (in the form of traits classes)
  - Dcel and traversals
  - point location: simple, walk-along-a-line, RIC-based, landmarks
  - incremental and zone construction
  - vertical decomposition
  - envelopes
  - overlay
  - Boolean operations
  - all extended to a families of parametric surfaces
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# References

- [Sharir -Agarwal '95]  
*Davenport-Schinzel Sequences and Their Geometric Applications, Cambridge U Press*
- [Halperin '04]  
Arrangements (Ch 24), in *CRC Handbook on Discrete and Computational Geometry*
- [Agarwal-Sharir '00]  
Chapters 1&2 in *NH Handbook of Computational Geometry*



THE END