

Triangulating a Polygon

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9/23/08

Recall: $PSLG \equiv$ Planar Straight line graph.

Def (Simple) Polygonal chain is a $PSLG$ consisting of a simple cycle P .

Claim A Polygonal chain has a unique interior.

Def Polygon is Polygonal chain + interior

Triangulation: Addition of seg so that

1) Still $PSLG$

2) Interior is decomposed into triangles

Thm Every simple Polygon can be triangulated.

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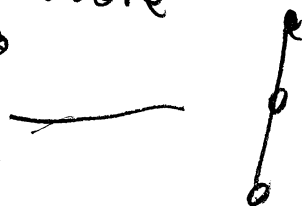
Pf Induct on # of seg or points n

base case: $n=3$

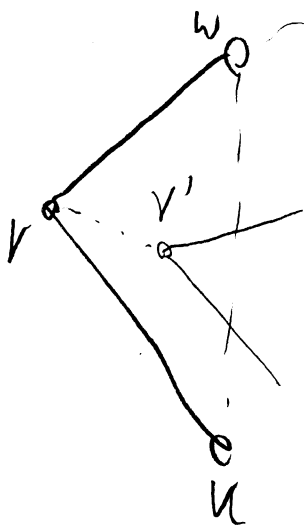


Assume no 180° angles

$n > 3$ true for $m < n$



Let v be left most point with neigs w & u



1) Case 1 $\text{Seg} = [w, u]$ is interior

w & u set two Poly $|P_1| = 3$ $|P_2| = n-1$

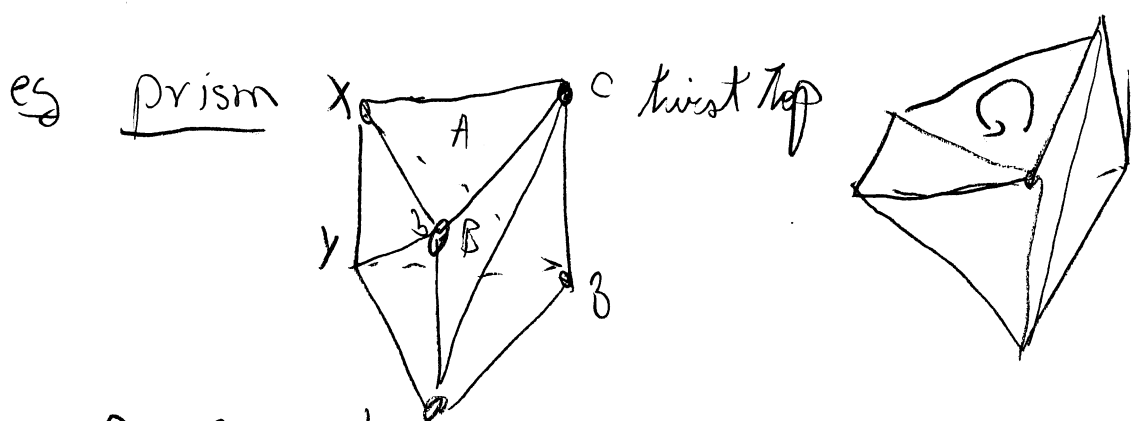
2) Case 2 $\exists$ point v' inter^{to} $\text{Tri} = [w, v, u]$

Let v' be left most such point

$\text{Seg} = [v, v']$ is inter

$|P_1| < n$ & $|P_2| < n$

Thm Not Every Simple polygonal surface^(Polytopes) in 3D can be decomposed in Tetrahedra



By Contra!
Consider Tet with face B

Missing vertex is x or y not z

not x since seg $[x, c]$ outside,
" y since seg $[y, c]$ outside,
In general prob is NP-Hard

Guarding A Polygon

Input: Polygon P

Output: Locations $p_1, \dots, p_k \in P$ (guards)

1) Guards cover P

2) k small.

Thm A polygon P with n vertices

$\lfloor n/3 \rfloor$ guards suffice and maybe necessary.

Necessary:

$P =$



$|P| = n$ Needs a guard per prong.

$\frac{7}{3}$ -guards Alg (P)

1) Tri P $\bar{P}$

2) 3-color $\bar{P}$

a) Construct geometric dual T (a tree)

b) 3Color $\bar{P}$ by traversing tris in an
inorder fashion.

3) Pick least used color.

Only non-linear time step is 1)

2D-Algorithm

6

Proof $\Rightarrow O(n^2)$

Known! $O(n)$ Chazelle

Today! $O(n \log n)$ (line sweep line)

This Class! $O(n \log^* n)$ Seidel (incremental randomized)

Def $\log^* n = \min_k \underbrace{\log \log \dots \log n}_k \leq 1$

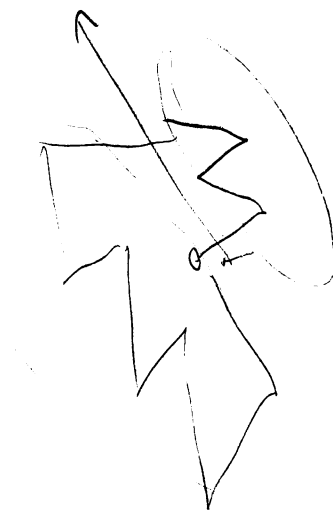
Prob. Give a $O(n)$ time alg to determine which side of an edge is interior/exterior of a simple poly.

Prob. test P is $\text{Int}(P)$ in $O(n)$ time.

3.14 $O(n \log n)$ OK

$O(n)$?

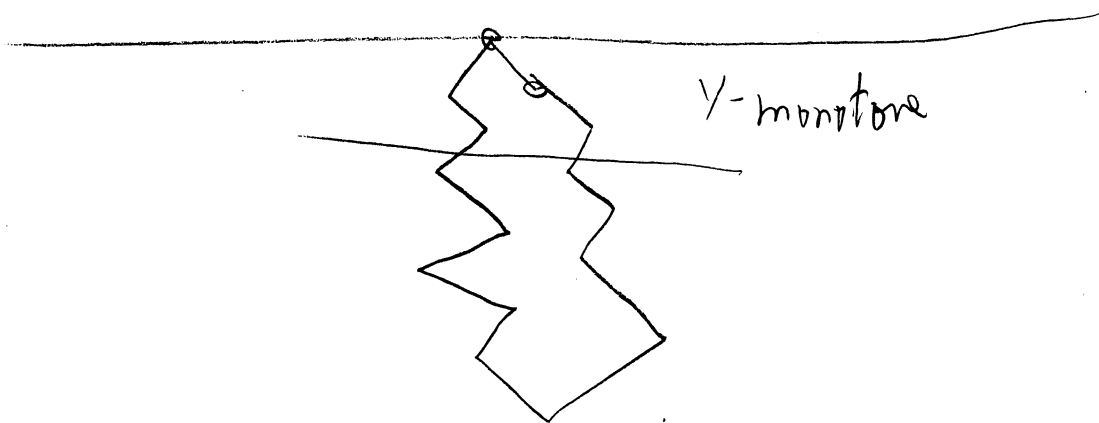
Trap $\Rightarrow$ Tri



Step 1 Partition into Monotone Polygons

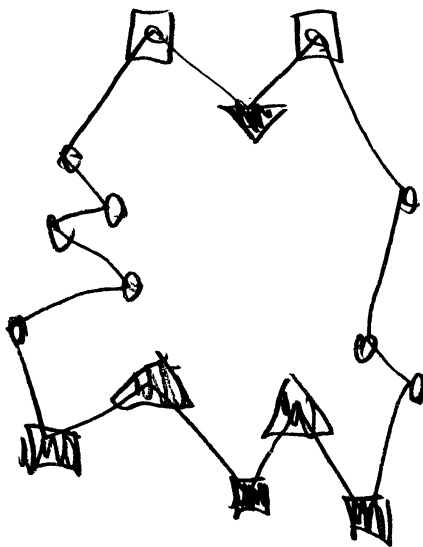
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Def P is Y -monotone if
Every horizontal line l
 $l \cap P$ is connected or empty



Alg type: line Sweep $O(n \log n)$ time

Def



$\square \equiv$ start vertex

$\blacksquare \equiv$ end

$\odot \equiv$ ref

$\blacktriangle \equiv$ split

$\blacktriangledown \equiv$ merge

8

Claim 3.4 P is y -monotone iff no split or merge vertices

$(\Rightarrow)$ easy 

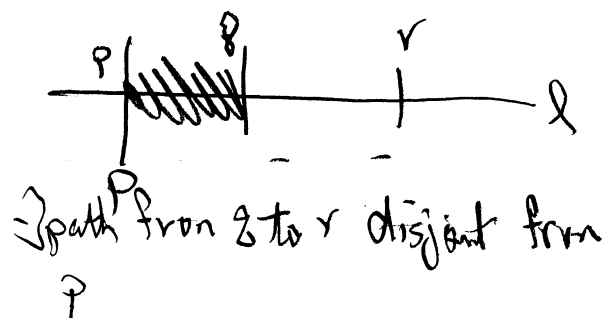
$(\Leftarrow)$

not mono $\Rightarrow \exists$ split or merge

$\exists l$ with at least 2 intervals

$\exists l'$ with one False

$\Rightarrow \exists l''$ sum of l and l'



Alg Line Sweep

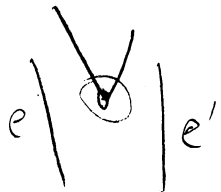
1) Events are endpoints

2) Dictionary

1) Even # of segments in pairs (intervals) ~~segments~~ ^{intervals}

2) each IS has a helper vertex

$help_x(e, e') =$ lowest vertex above l and between e & e'



3) Degeneracy: no horizontal seg.

Make Monotone (g : event)

Case (Start Vertex)

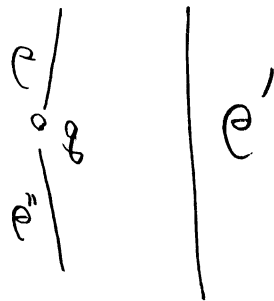
- 1) Add new interval
- 2) set $\text{helper} \leftarrow g_e$

Case (End Vertex)

- 1) if helper is a merge vertex then add (g, helper)
- 2) remove interval & helper.

Case (Regular)

- 1) add (g, helper)
- 2) replace e with e''
- 3) $\text{helper} \leftarrow g$



Case (Split)

- 1) add (g, helper)
- 2) "split" interval
- 3) $\text{helper} \leftarrow g$

Case (Merge)

1) $\text{add}(\text{help}_L, 8)$ $\text{add}(\text{help}_R, 8)$

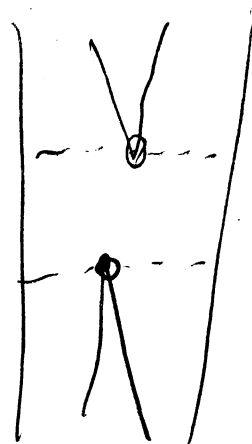
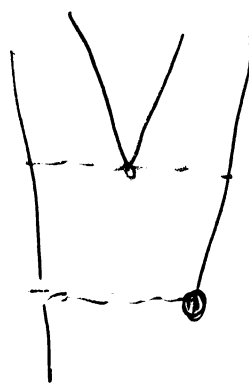
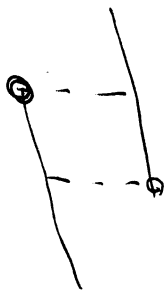
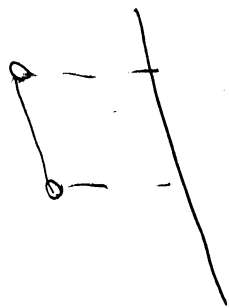
2) "Merge" intervals

3) $\text{help} \leftarrow 8$

Another View

- 1) Make Trapezoidal Decom (sweep line)
- 2) For each trap add a diagonal if possible

a) types of Traps



Triangulating a Monotone Poly

γ -monotone

$Q \equiv$ 2-sided queue

opts

1) push

2) pop

3) dequeue

dequeue

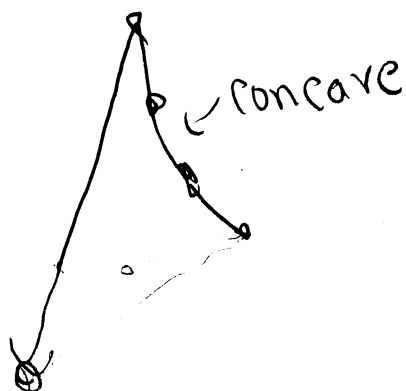
push
pop



Process points in decreasing γ -value.

maintain

This or Reflection



WLOG

Event g

Case (g in right chain)

1) Push g

2) Pop until chain is concave

Case (g in left chain)

1) Dequeue chain

$O(n)$

Each vertex push at most once.