

# Learning with Nets and Meshes

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Thanks to my collaborators:

Benoit Hudson

Gary Miller

Todd Phillips

Steve Oudot

# Point Clouds in low to medium dimensional ambient space.

Rule of thumb:  $d!$  or  $2^{d^2}$  is okay but  $n^d$  is *not*.

There are many geometric inference problems that could benefit from meshing.

4

Discretize Space

Approximate Functions

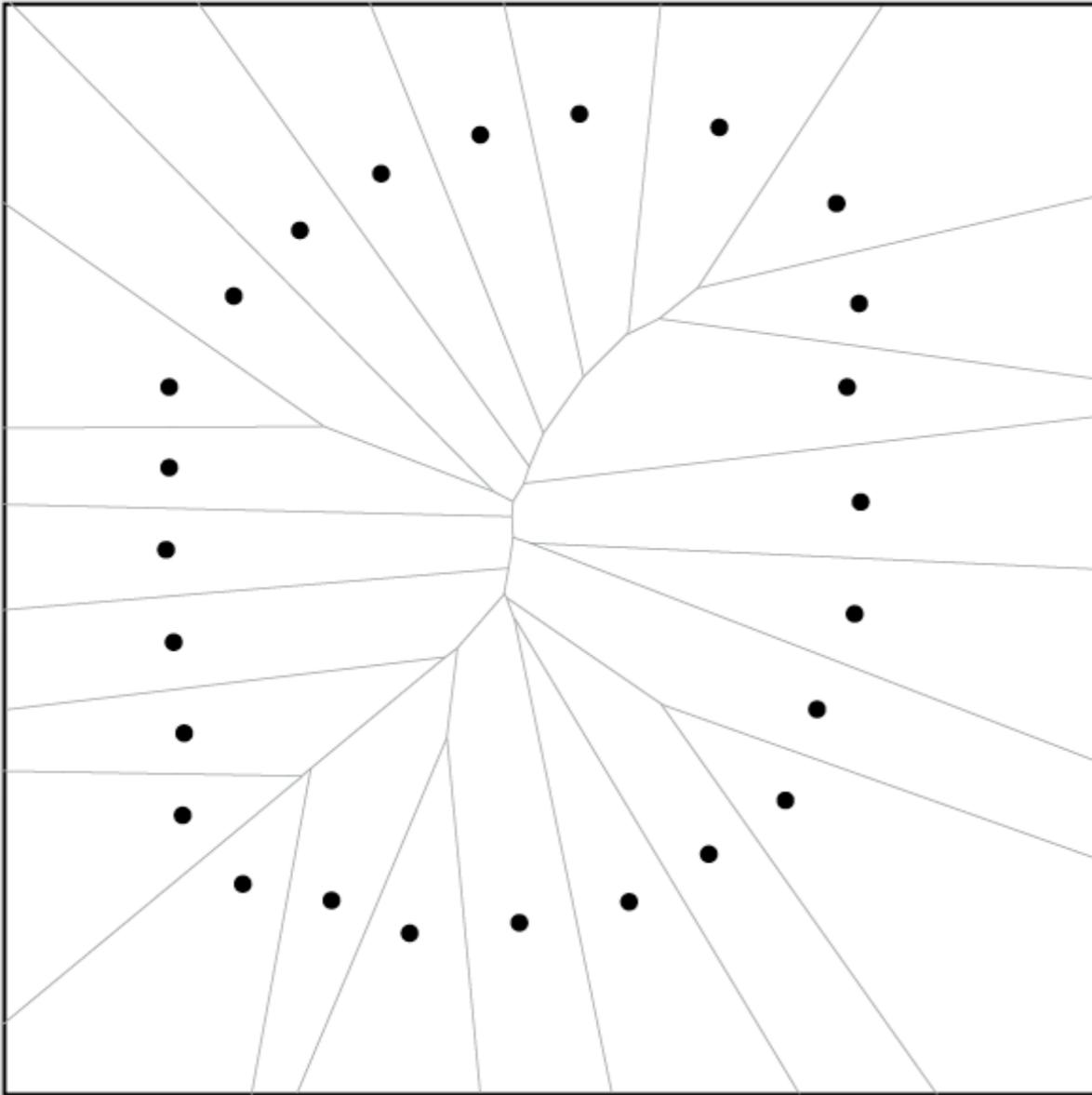
Adapt to density

Describe the space *around* the input.

# Meshing

Input:  $P \subset \mathbb{R}^d$   $n = |P|$

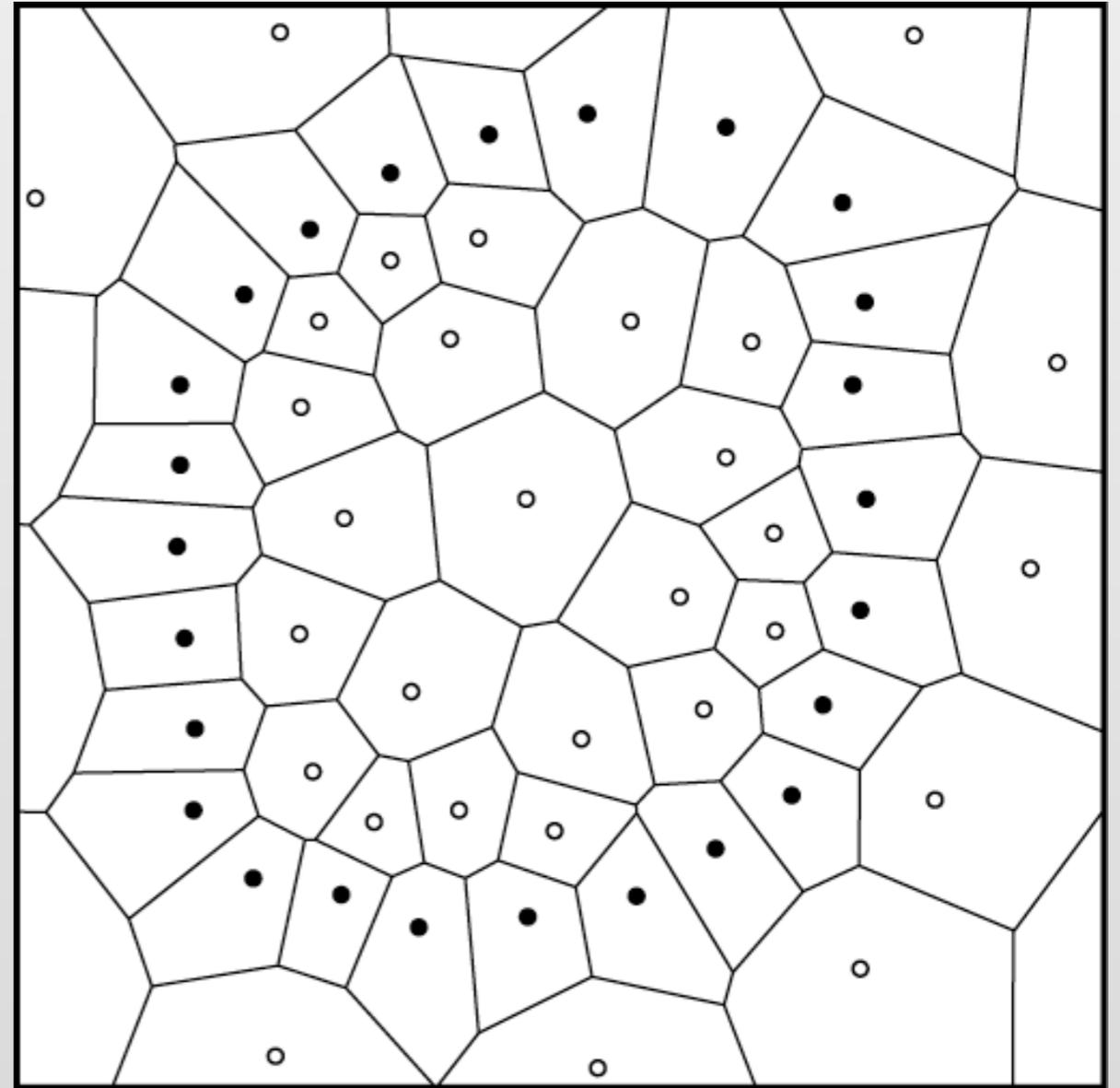
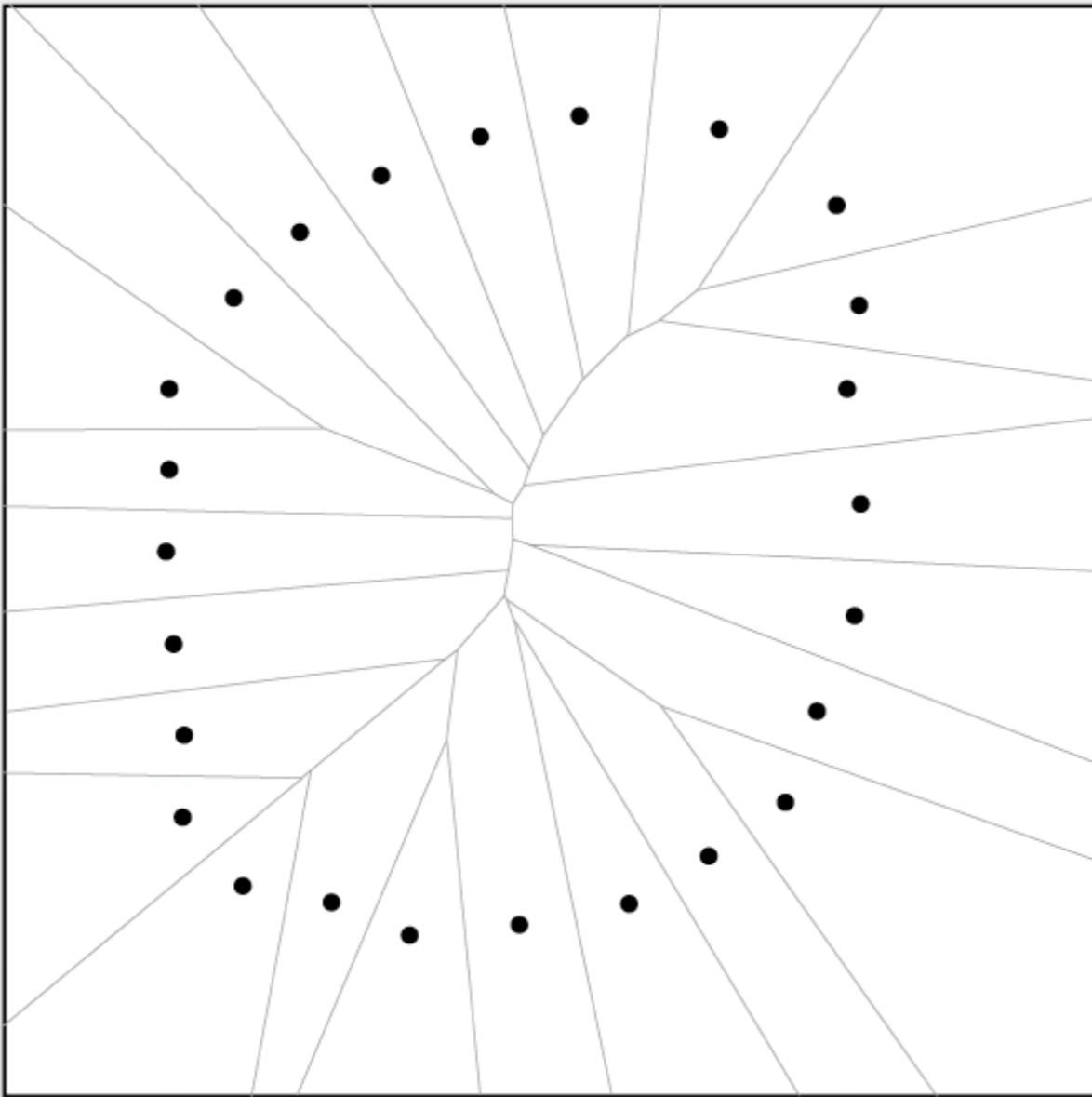
Output:  $M \supset P$  with a “nice” Voronoi diagram



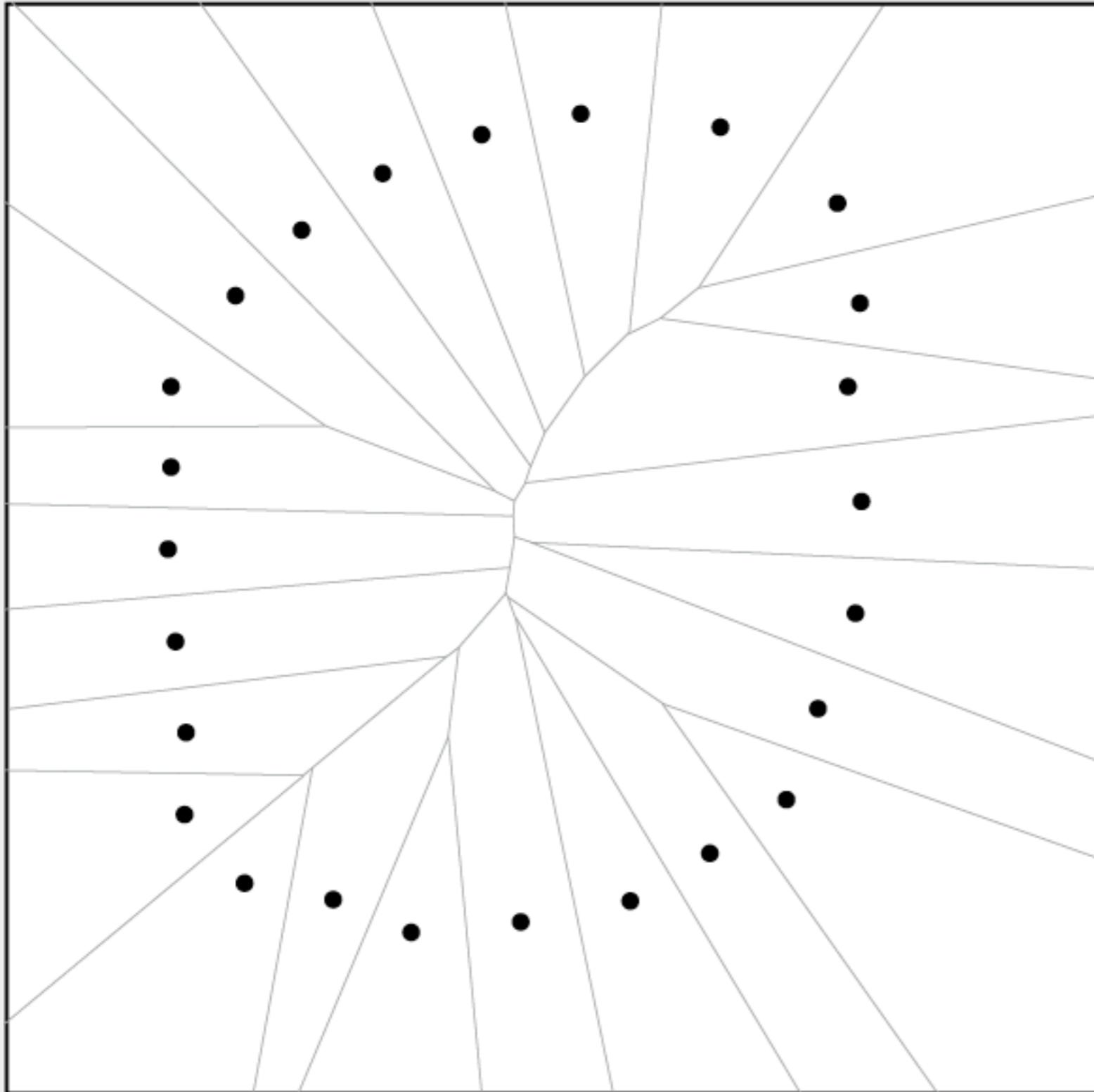
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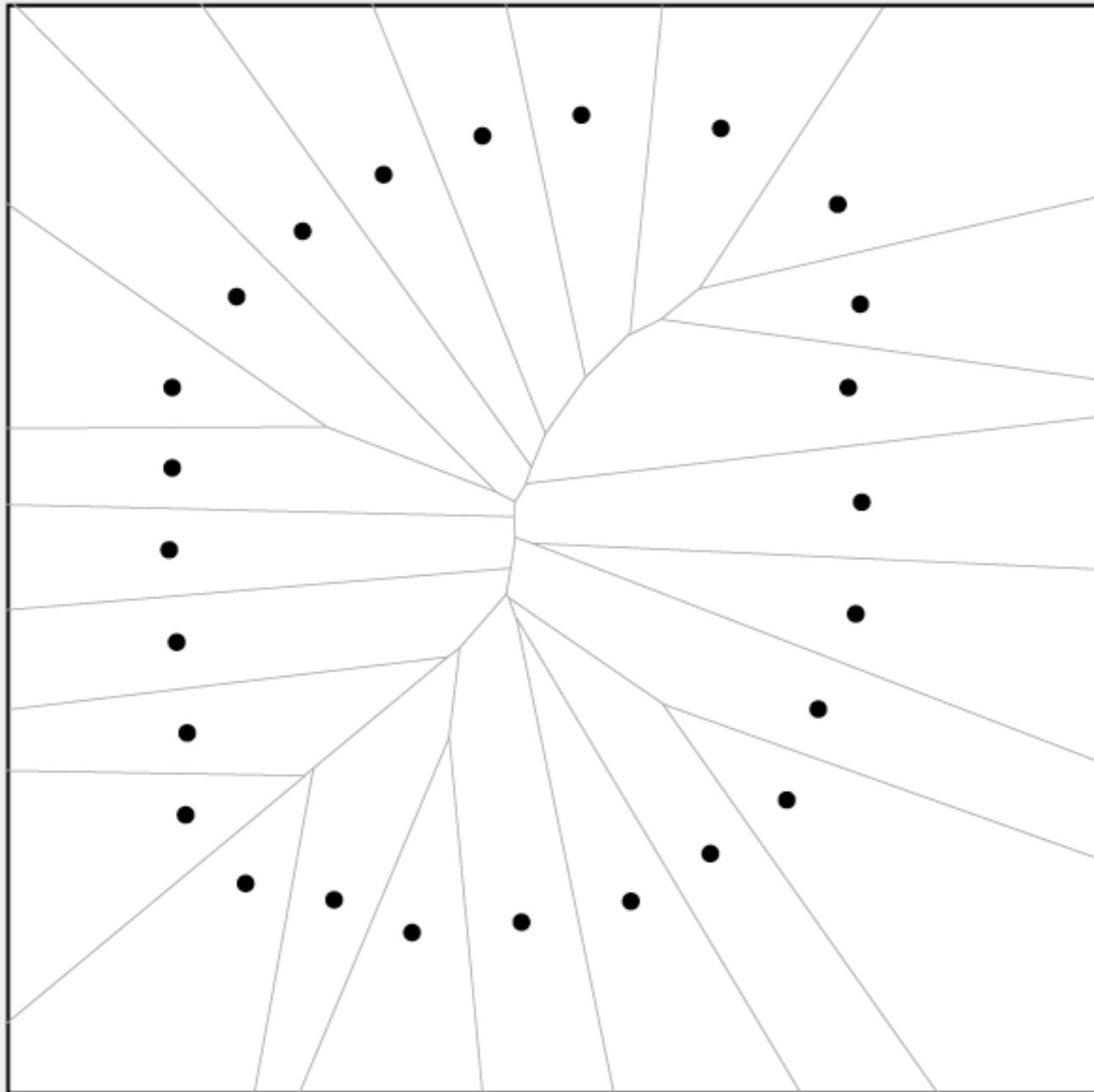
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# Points, offsets, homology, and persistence.

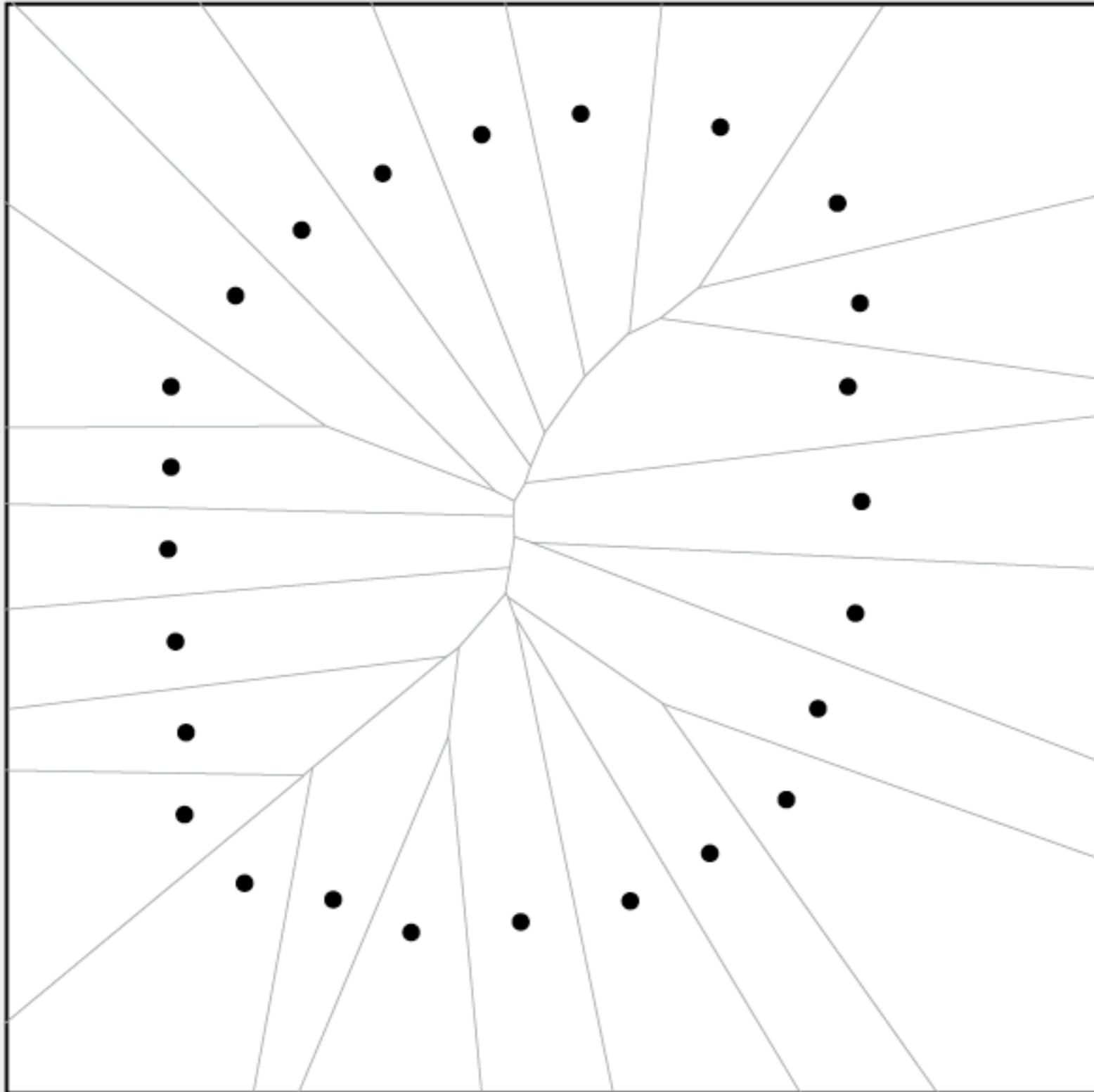


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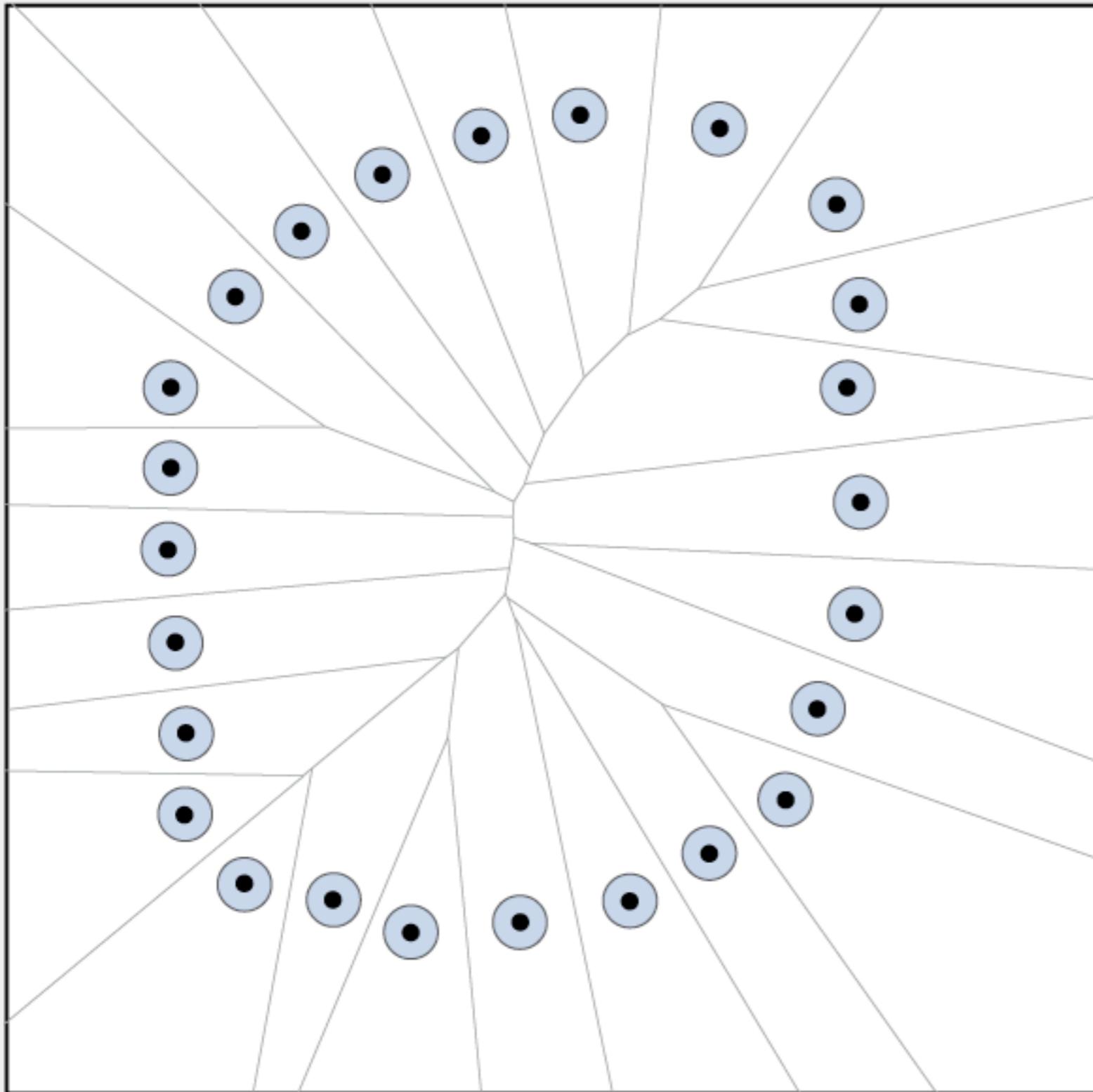
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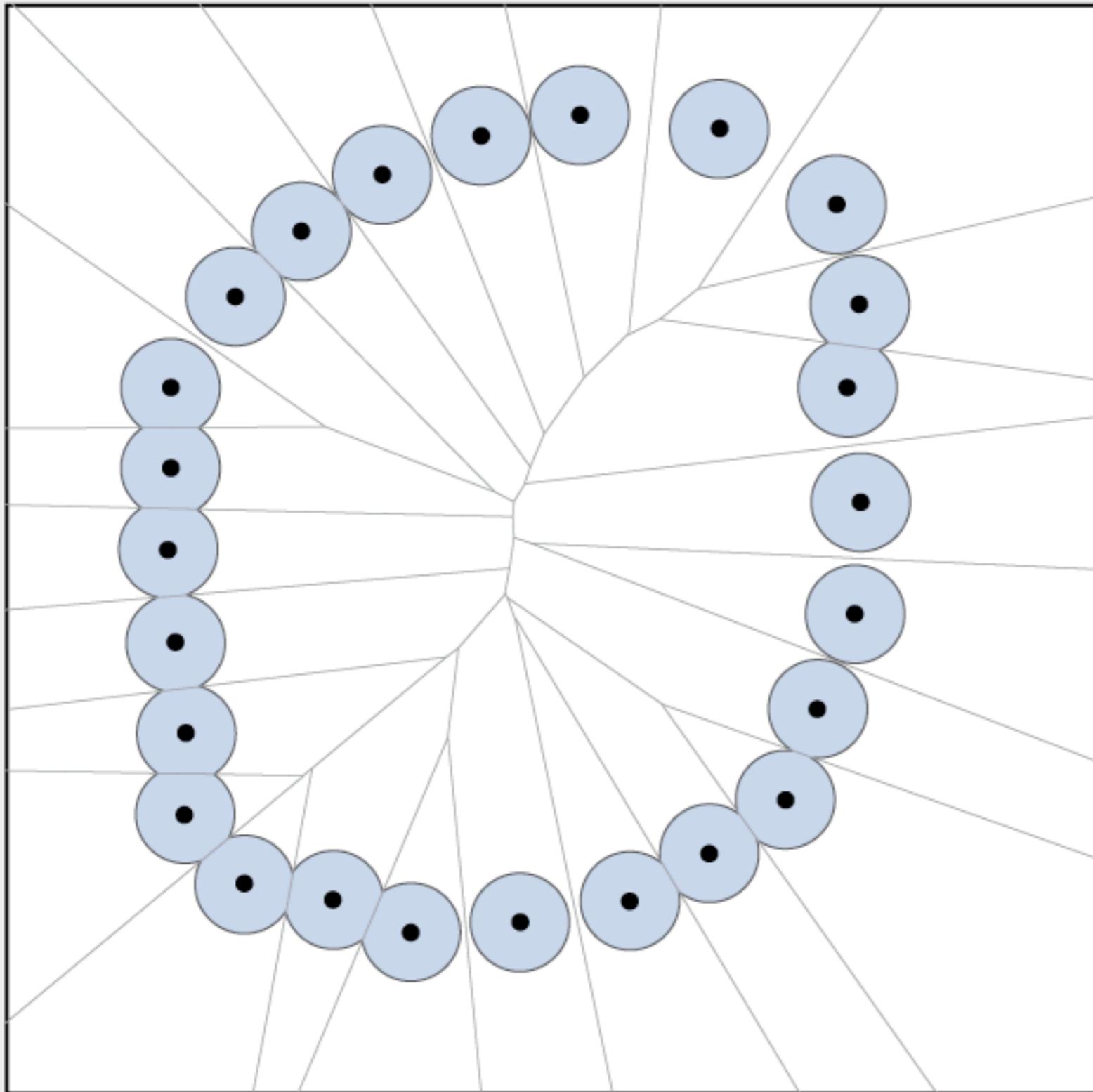
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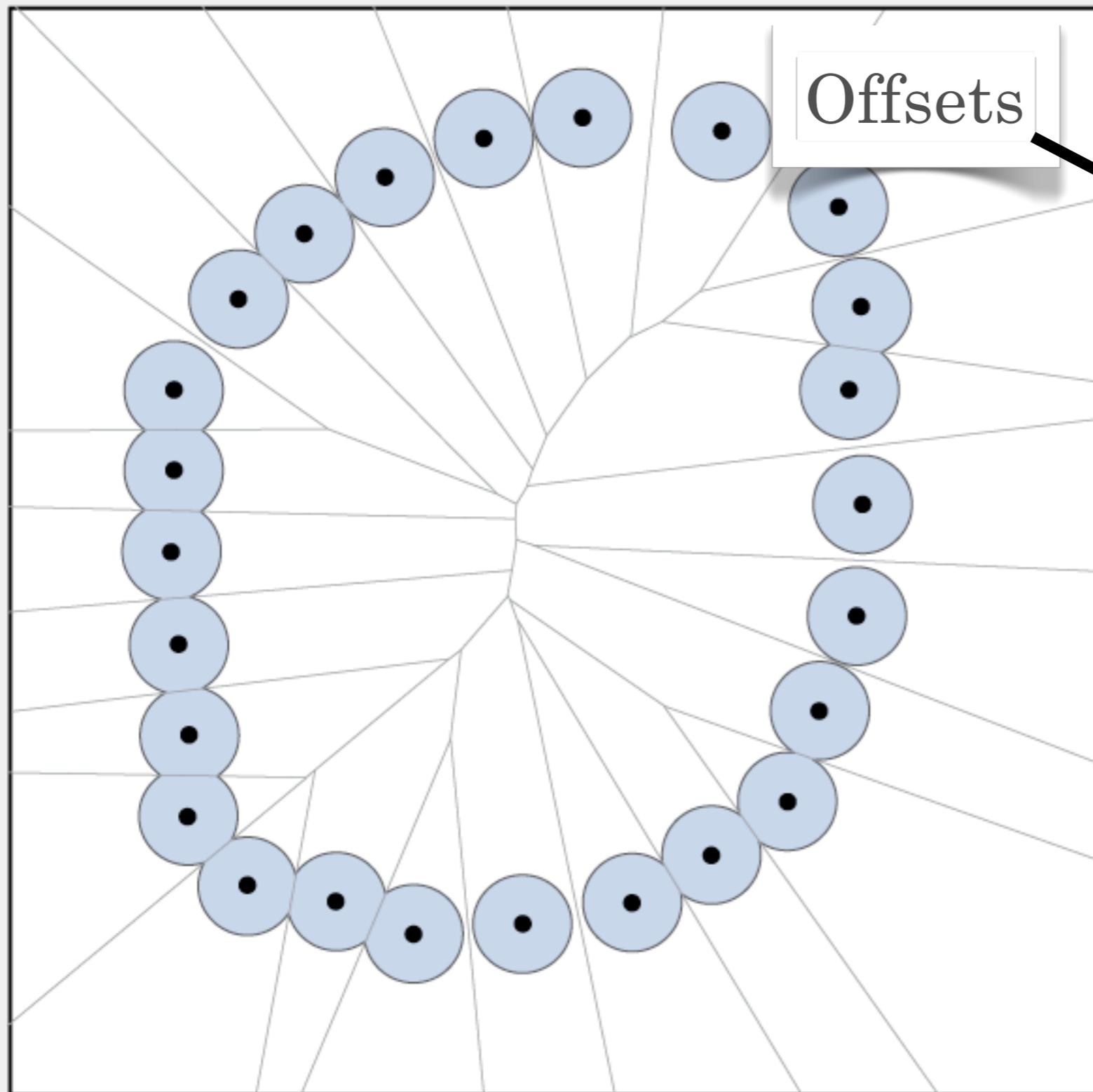
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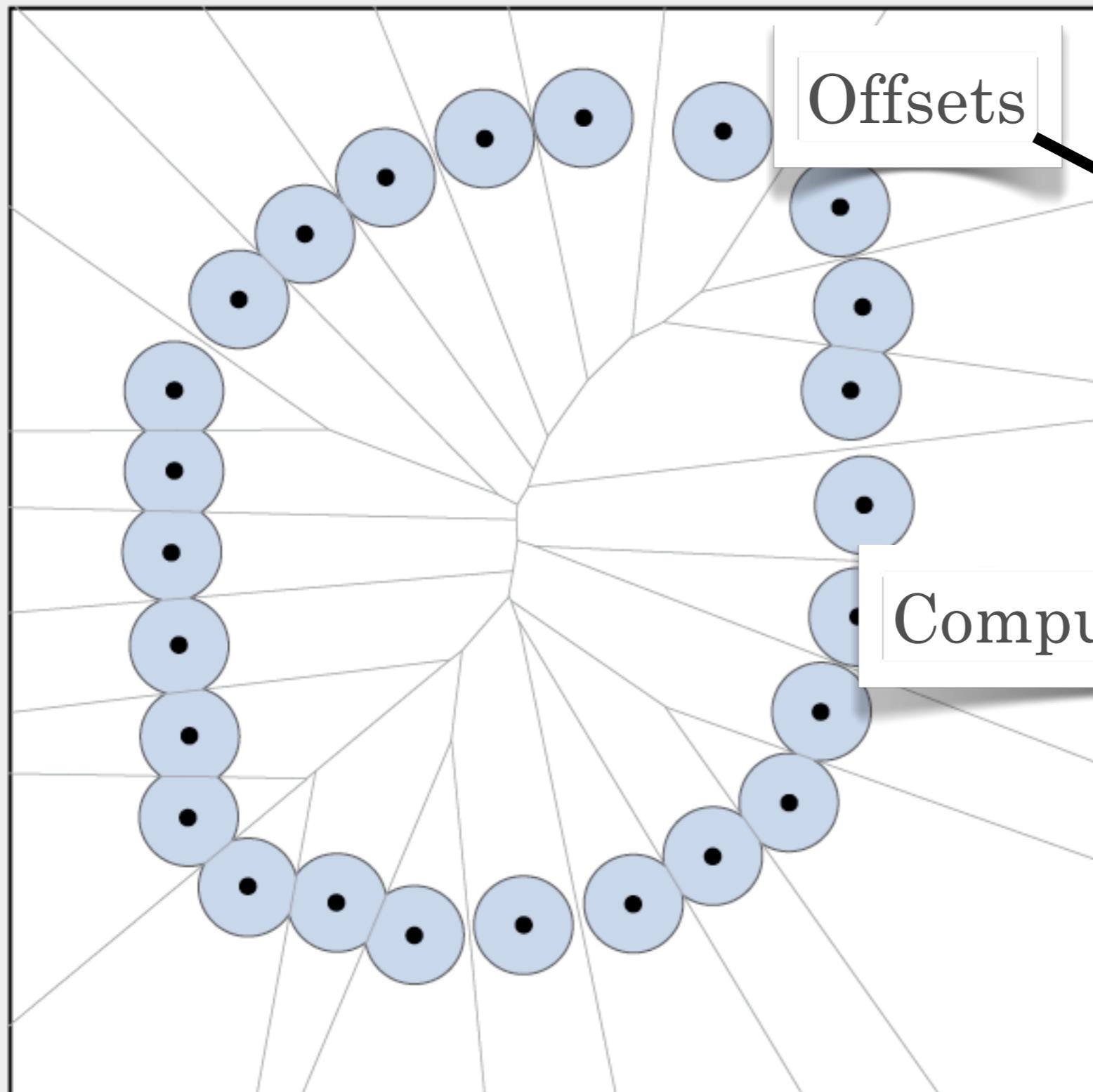
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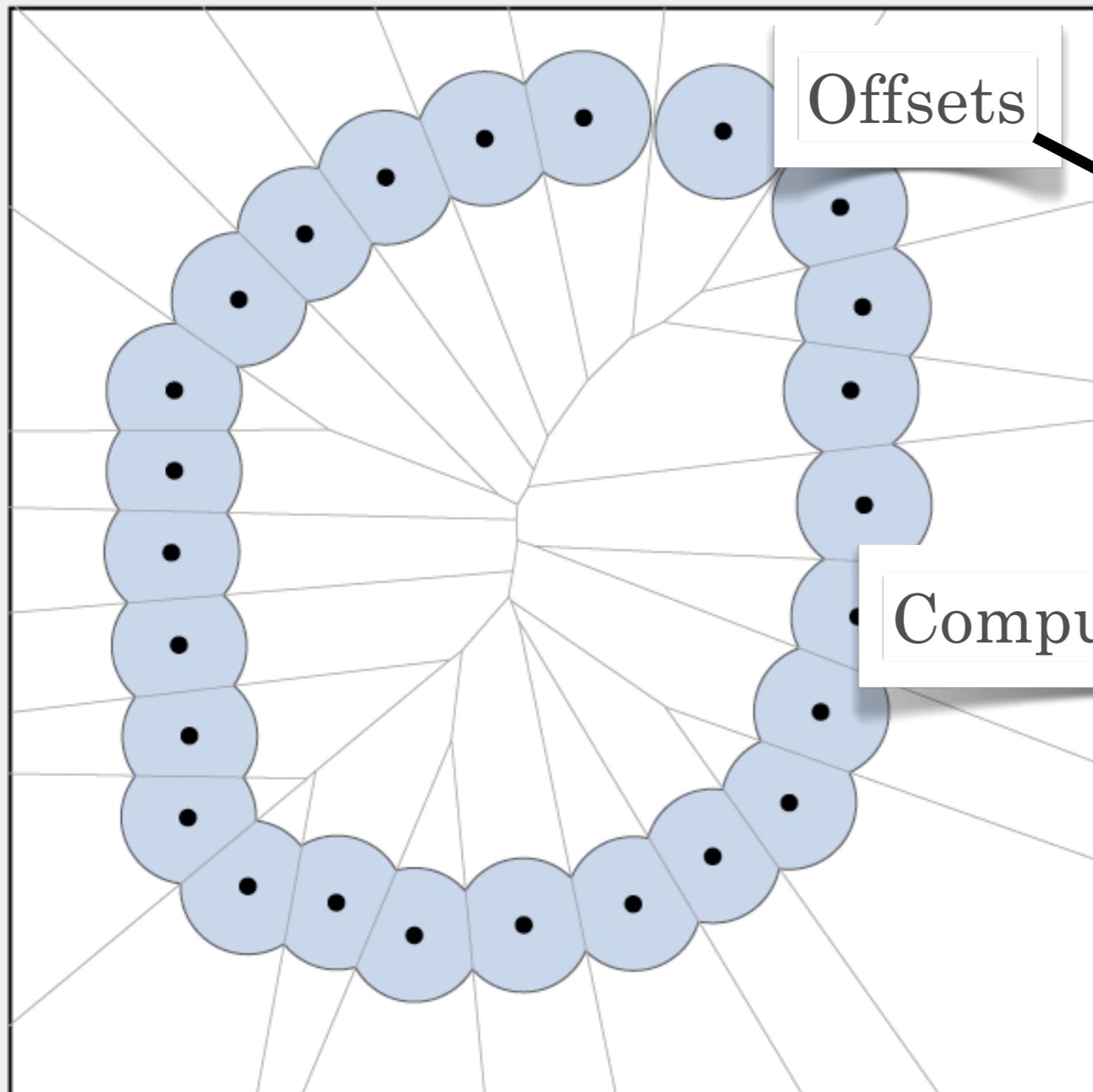


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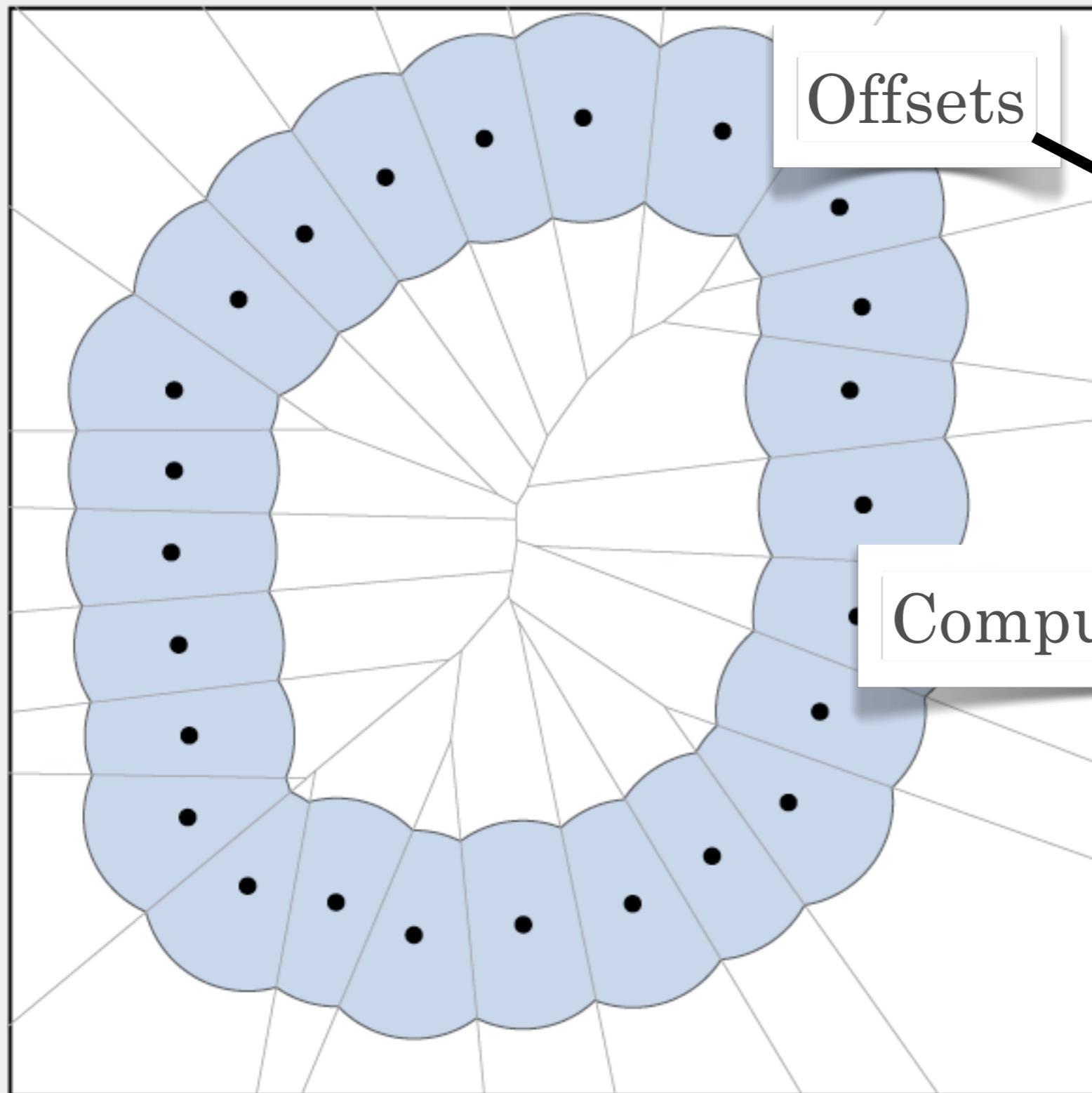
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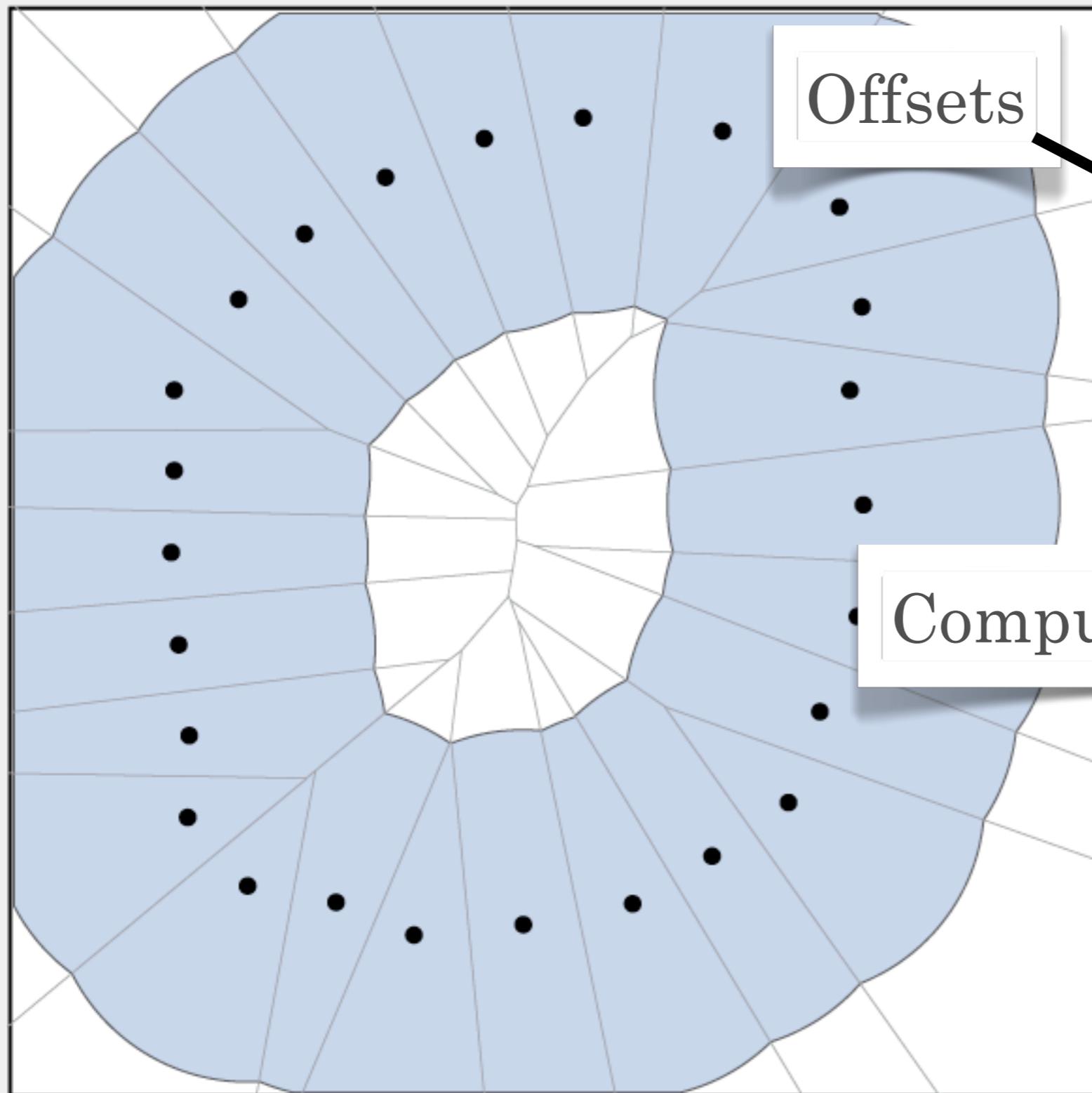


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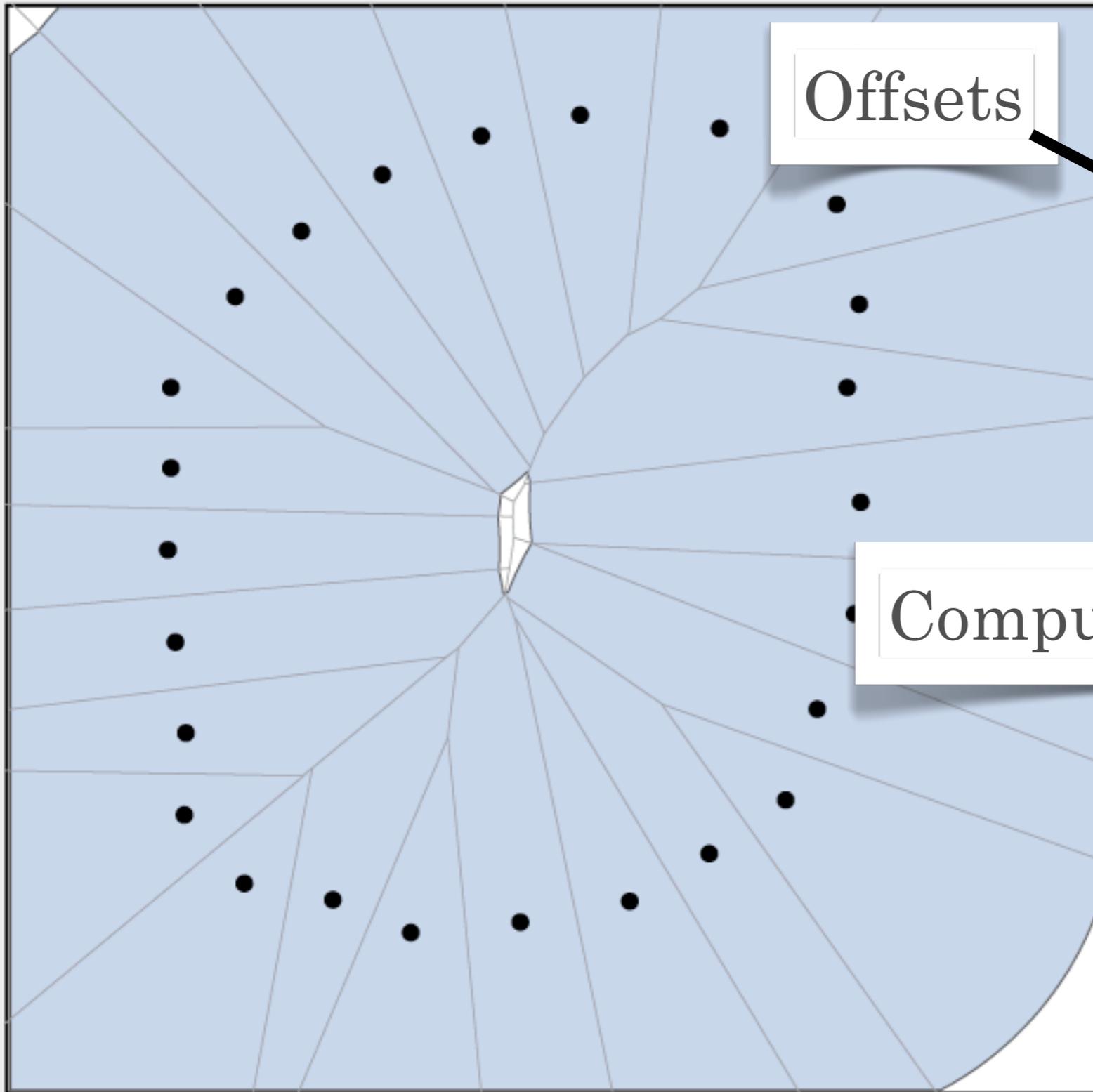
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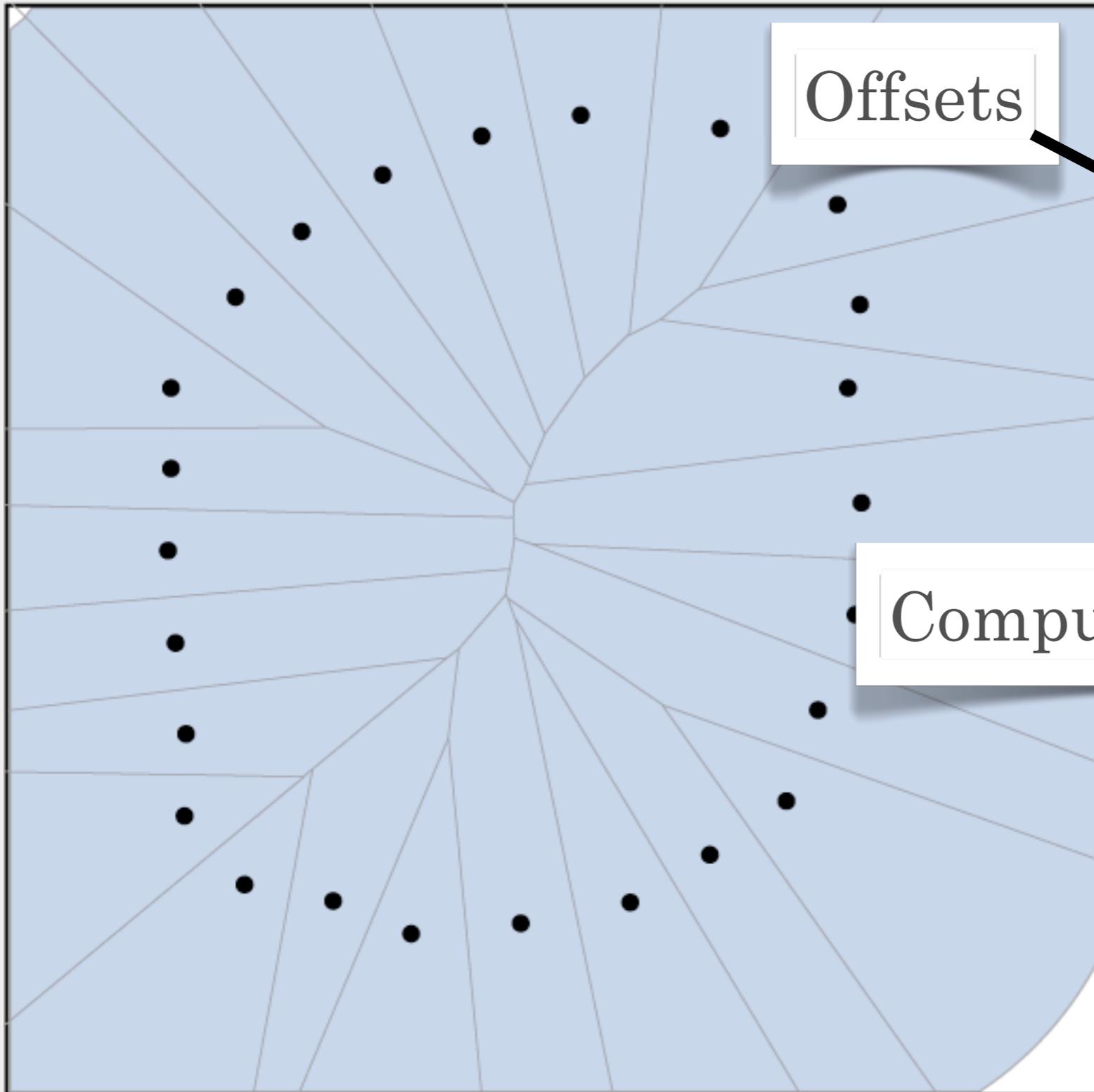
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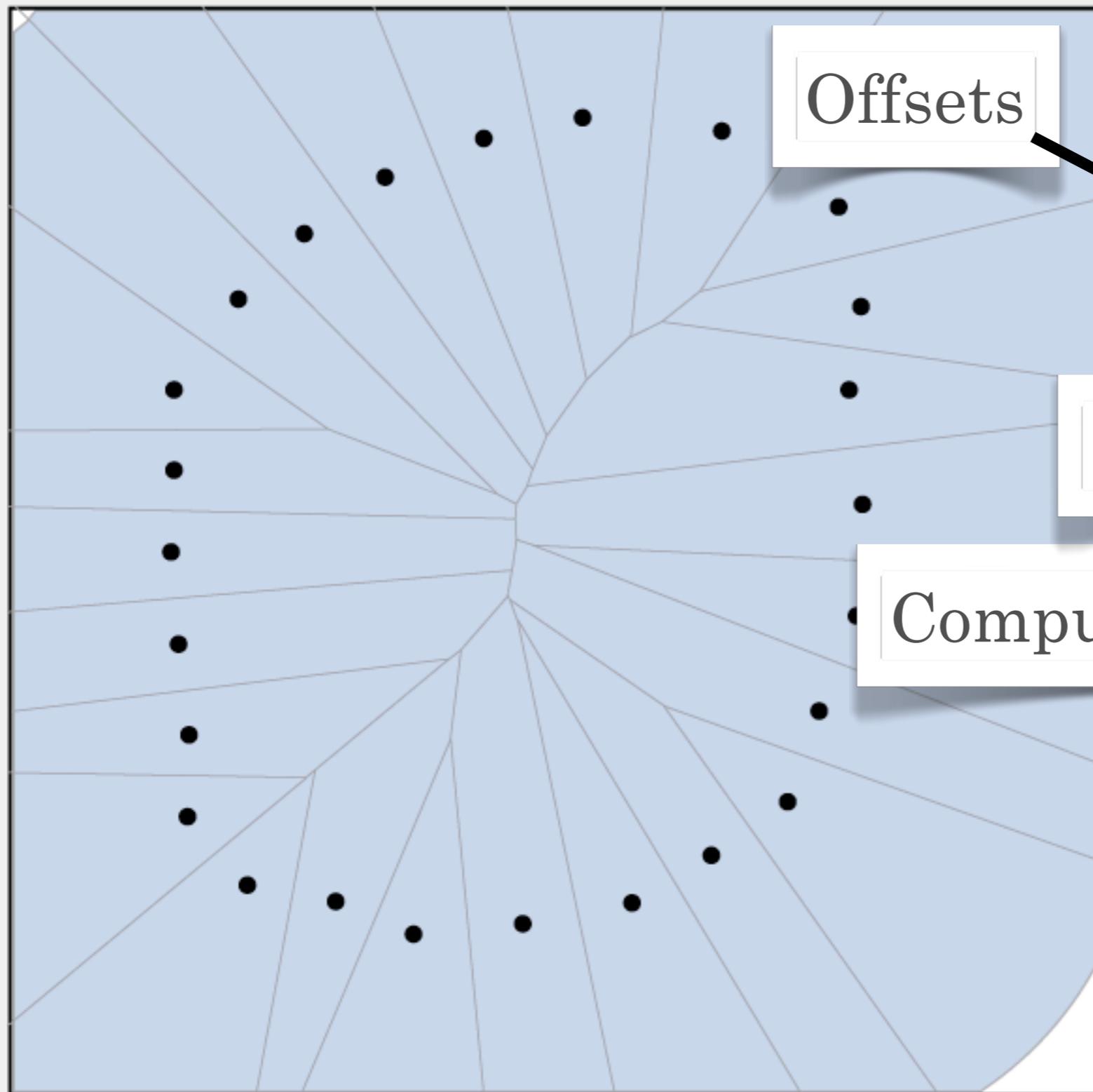
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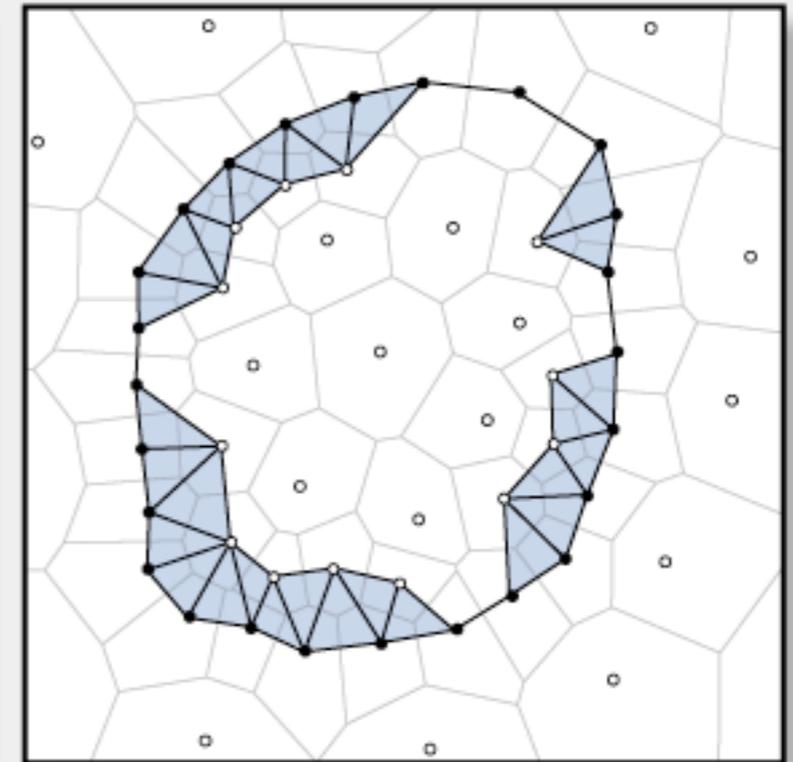
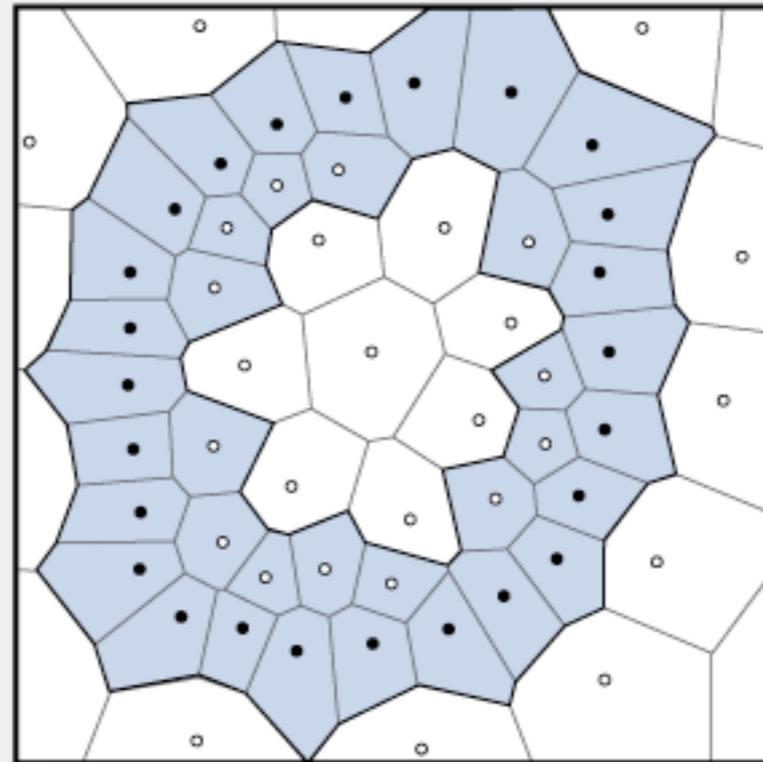
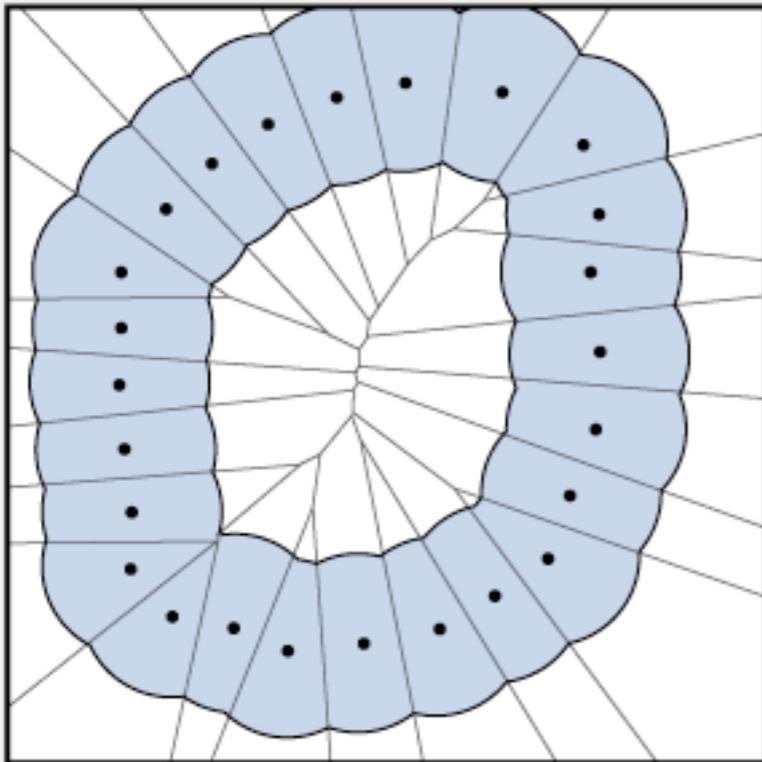
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**Persistent**

Compute the **Homology**

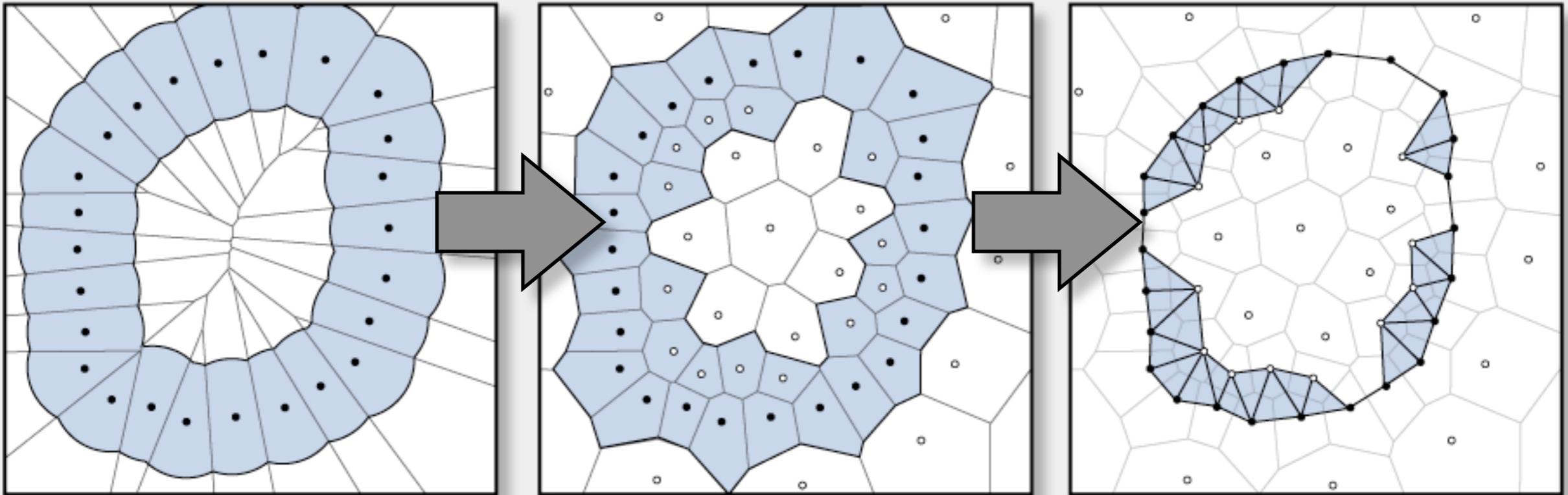
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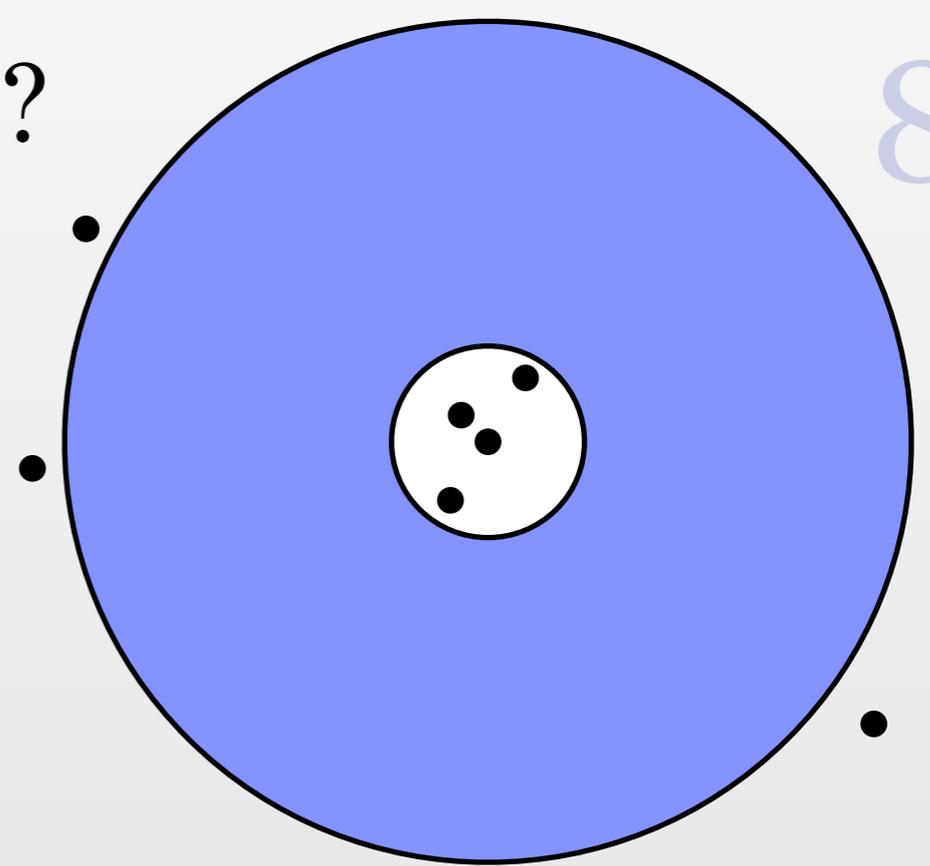
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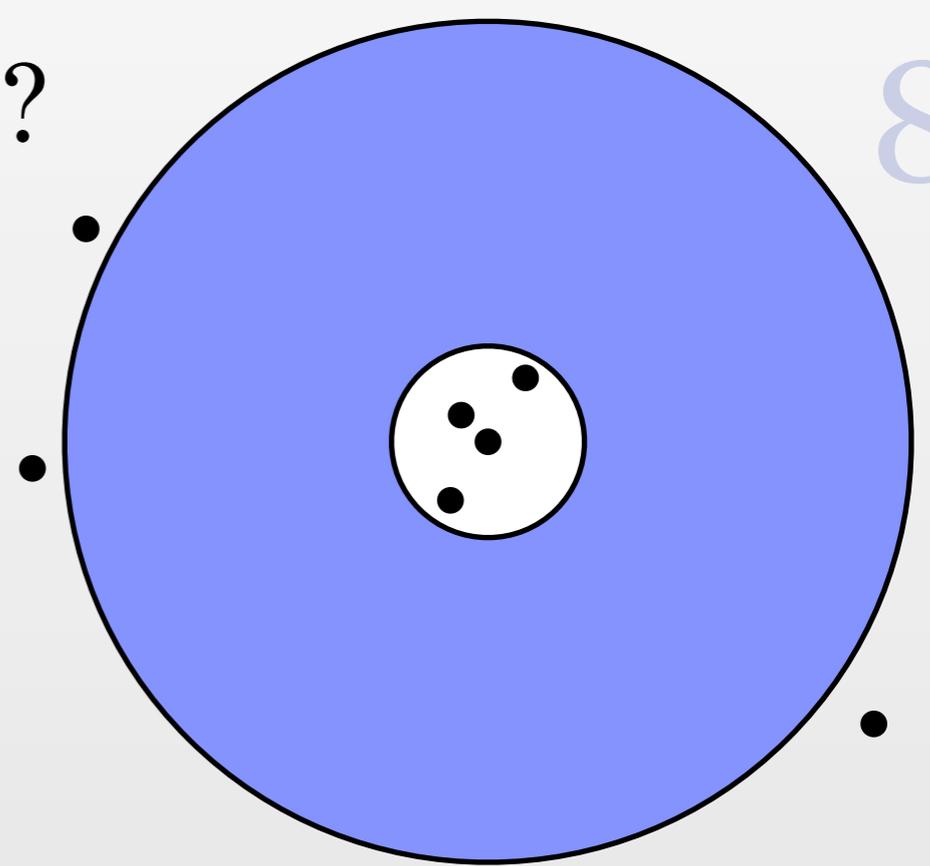
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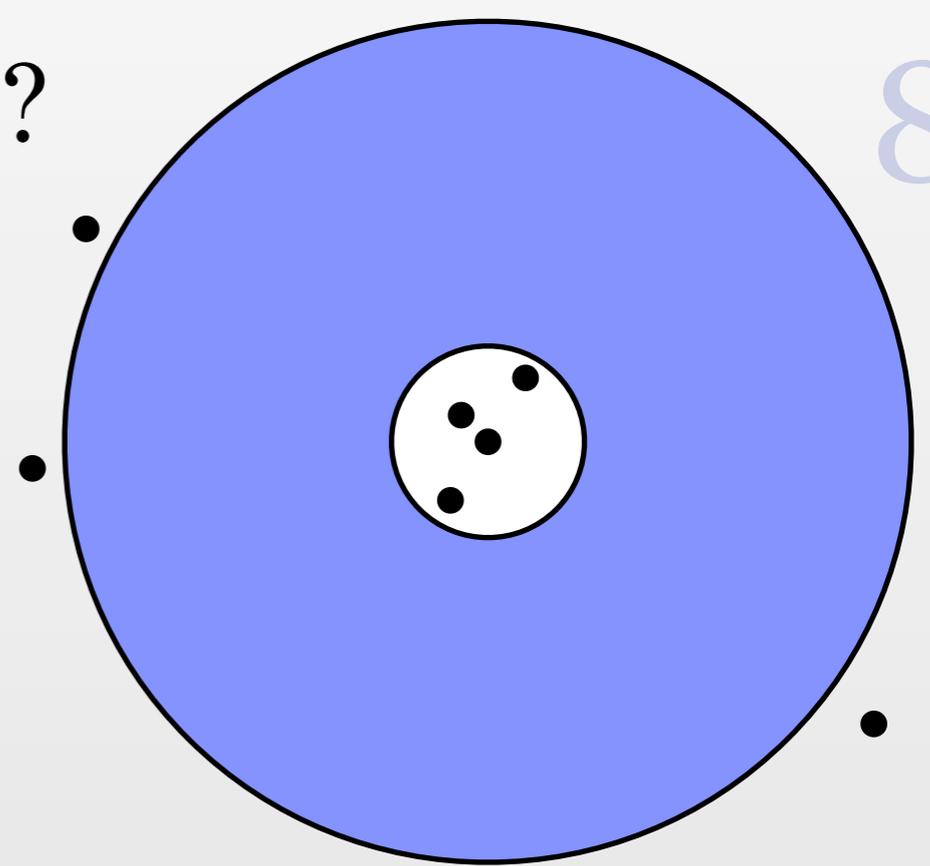


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How many simplices?

Only  $O(|M|)$  simplices.

Compare to  $|M|^{\lceil d/2 \rceil}$  for general Delaunay triangulations.

Constants depend on aspect ratio.

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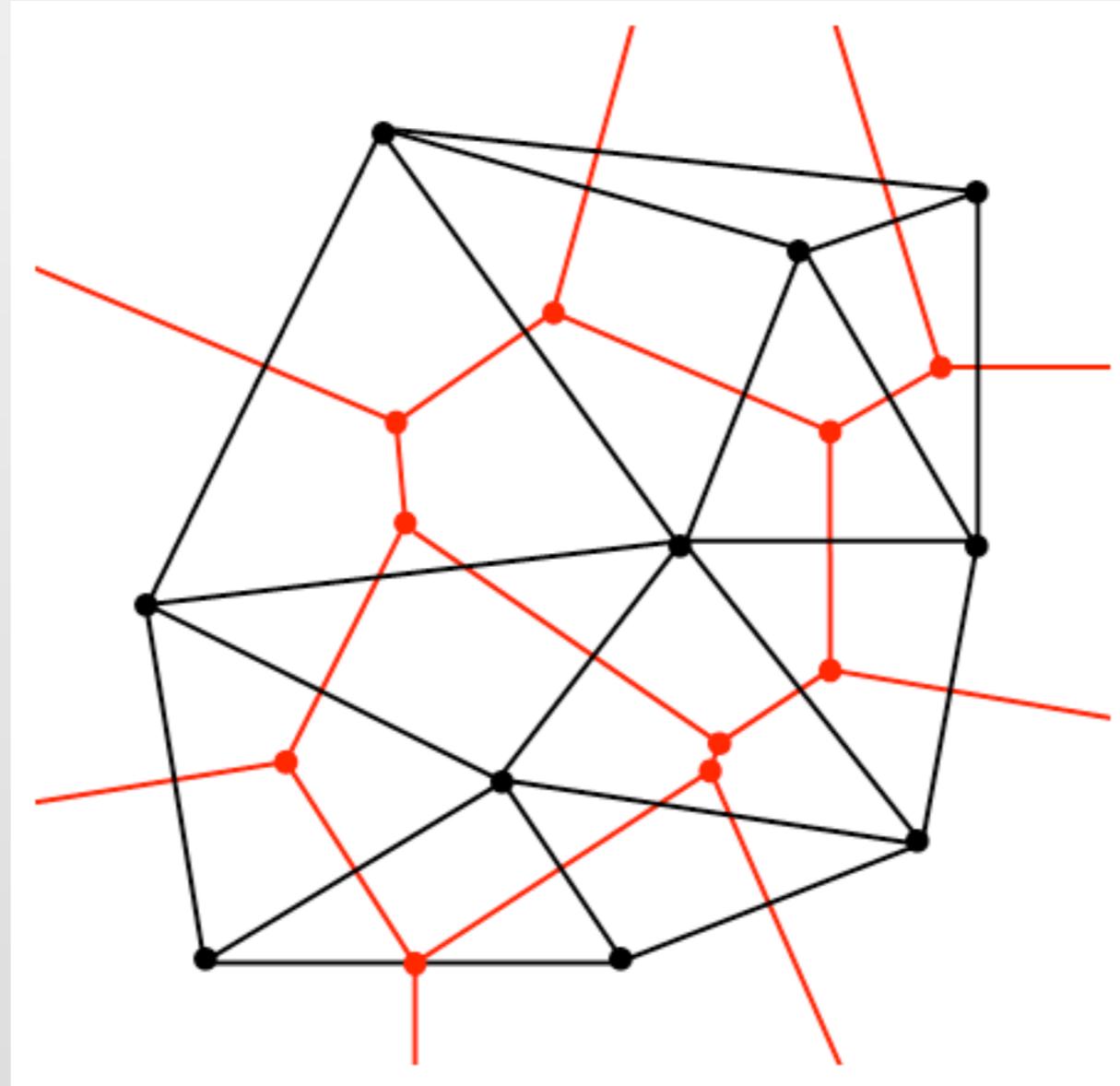
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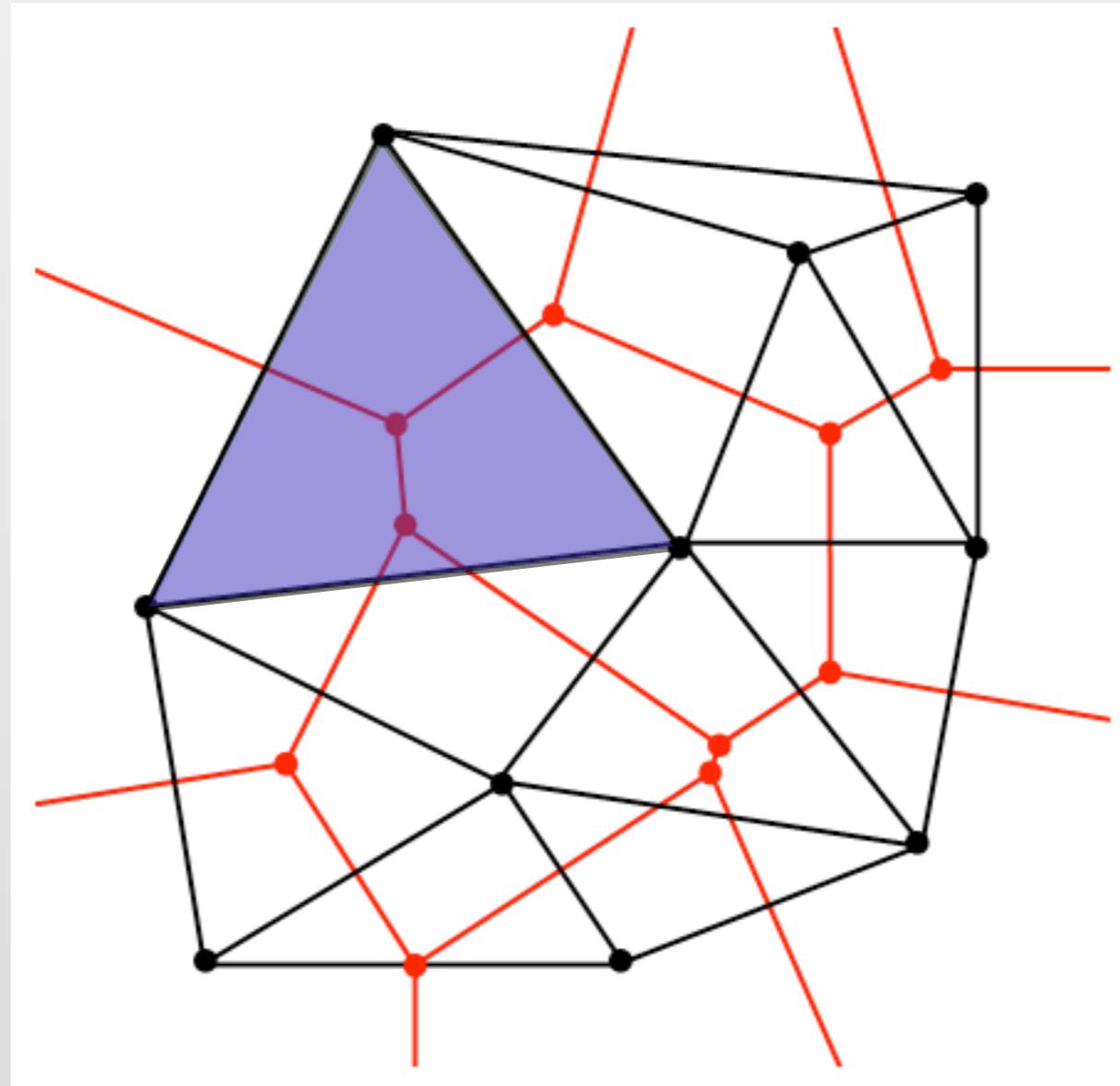
Compute a *hierarchical quality* mesh.

Finishing post-process.

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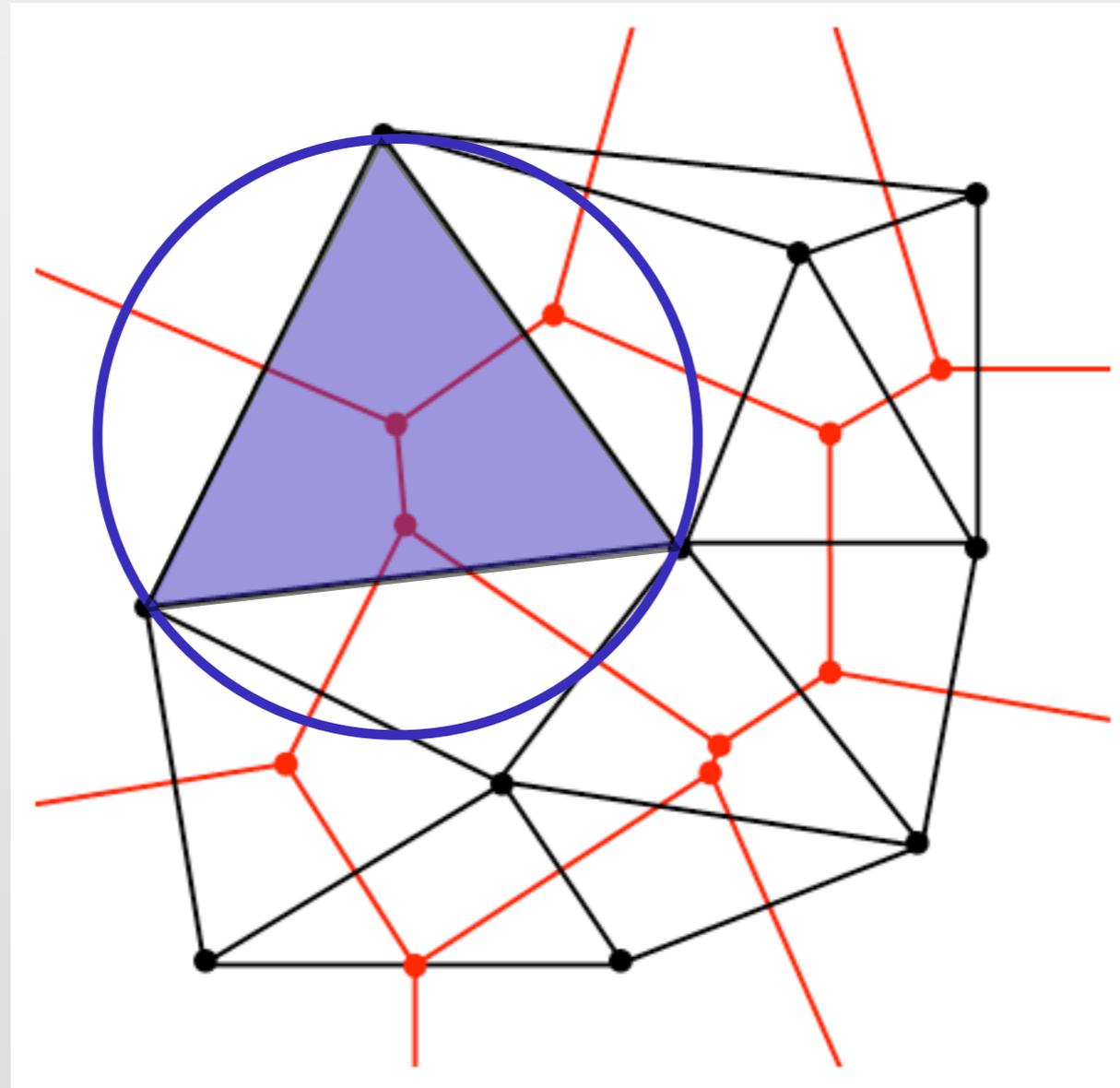


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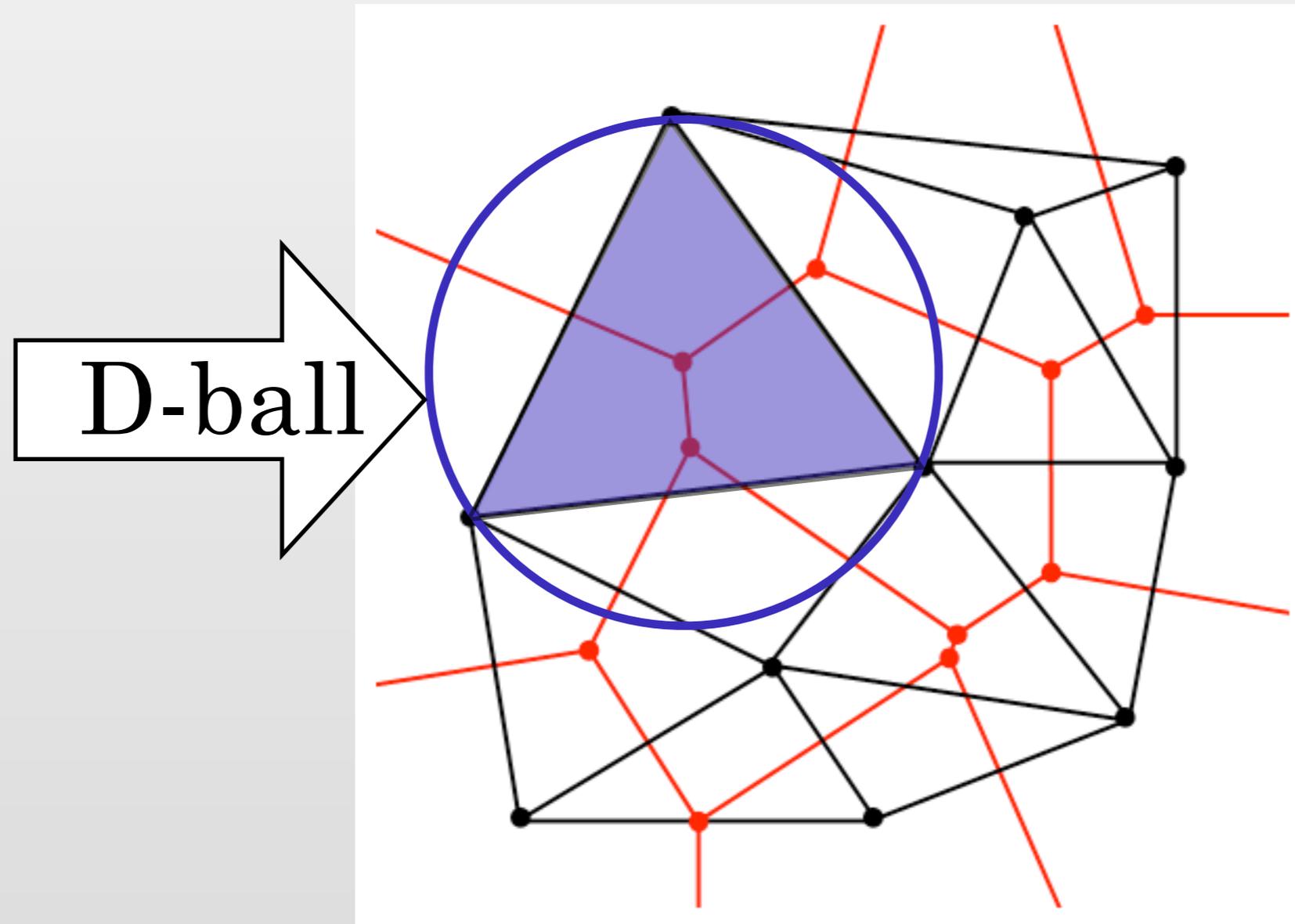


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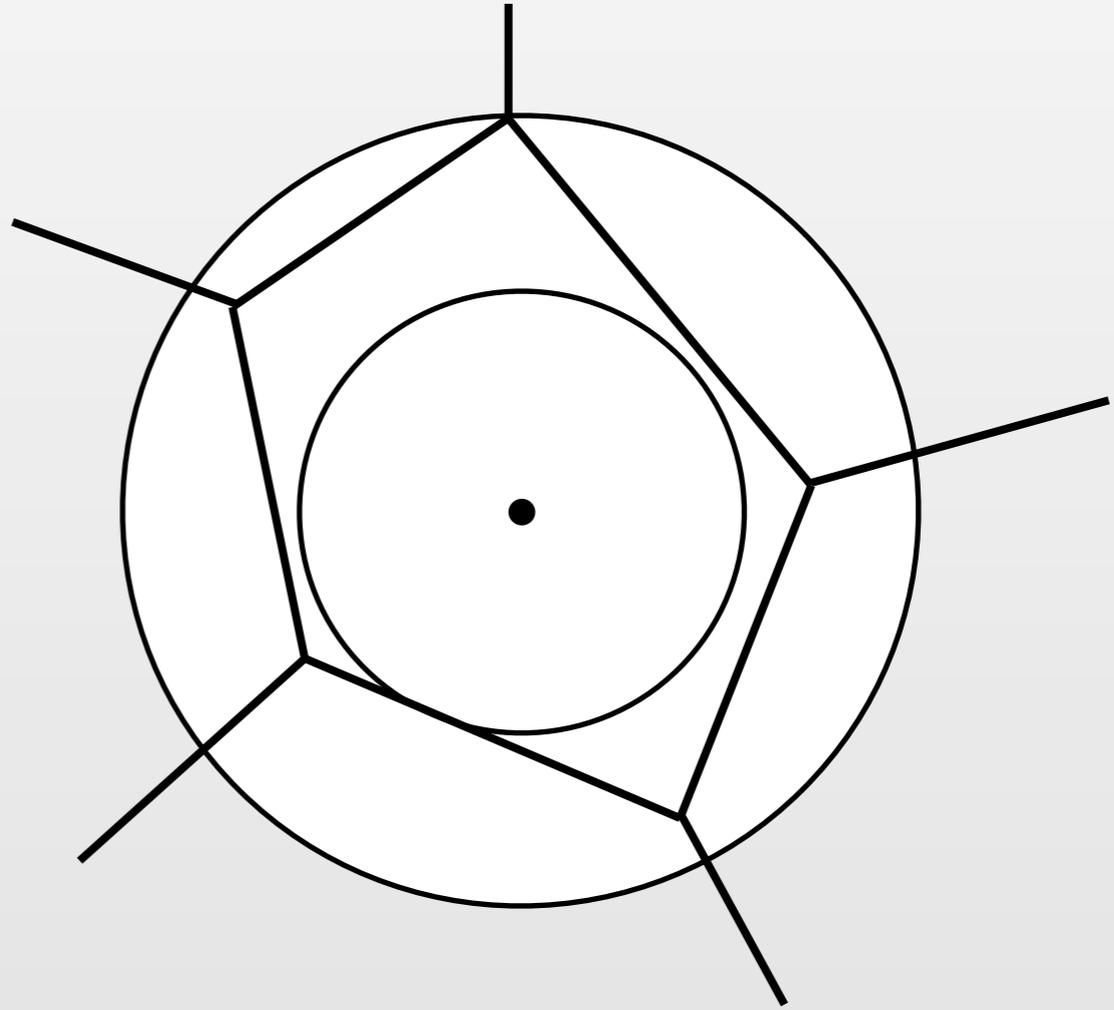
10

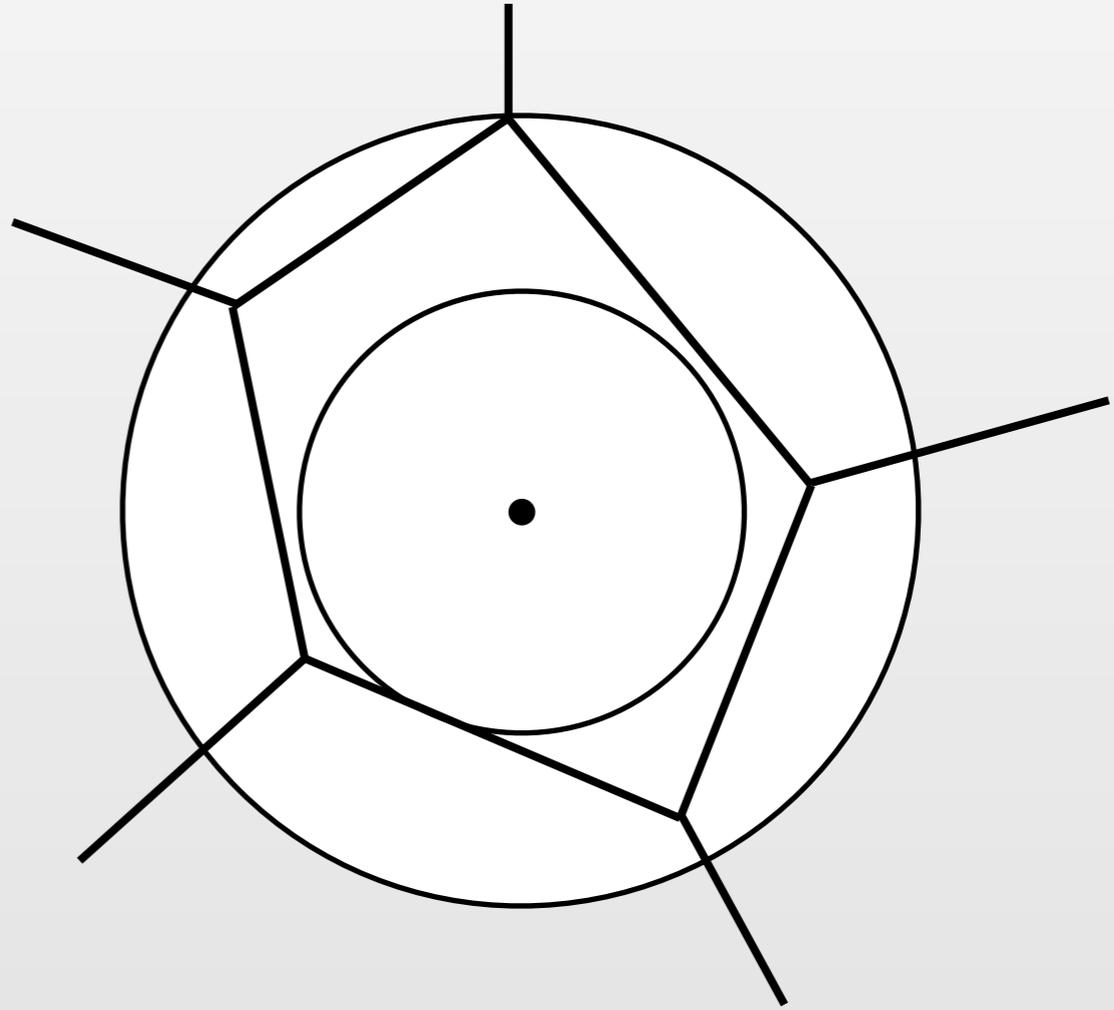


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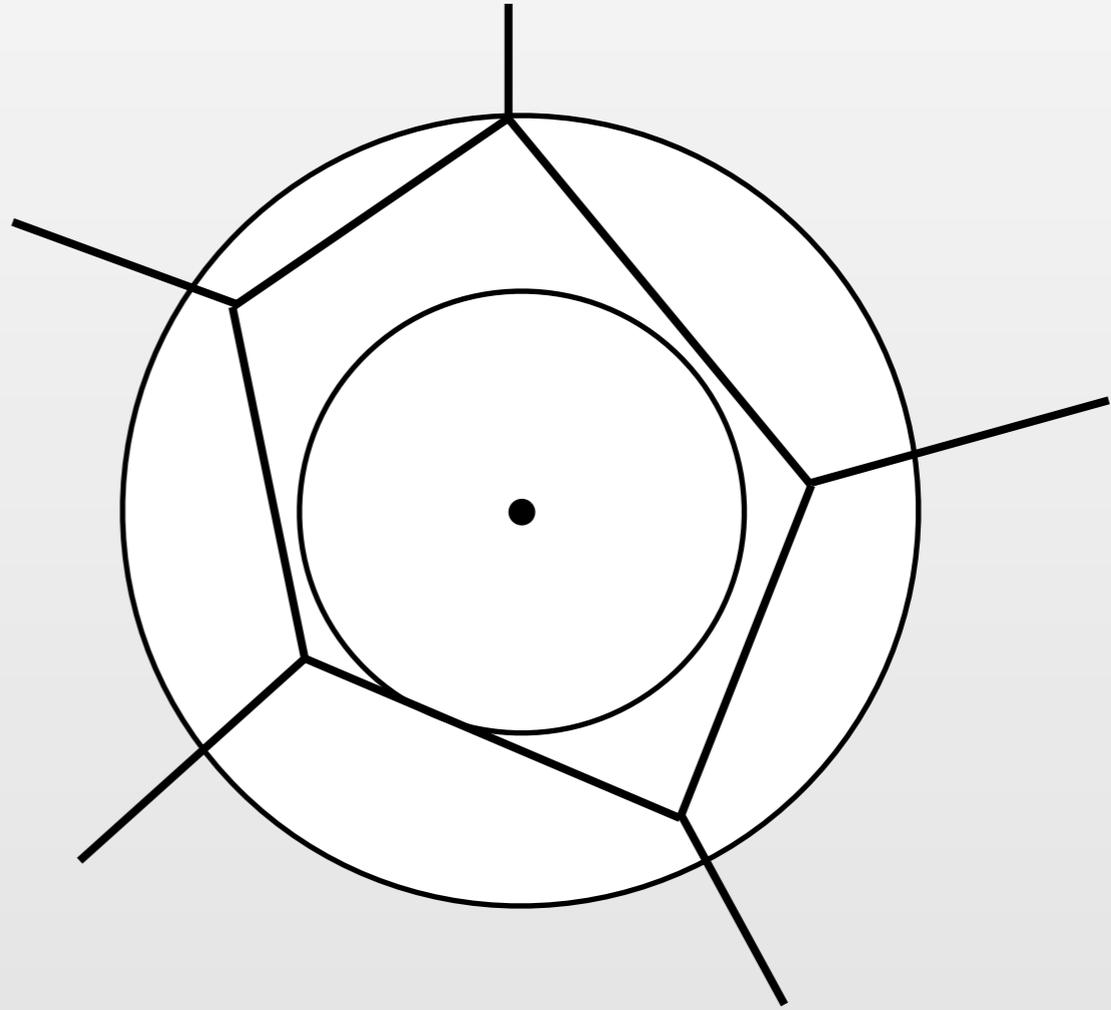


# Quality Meshes



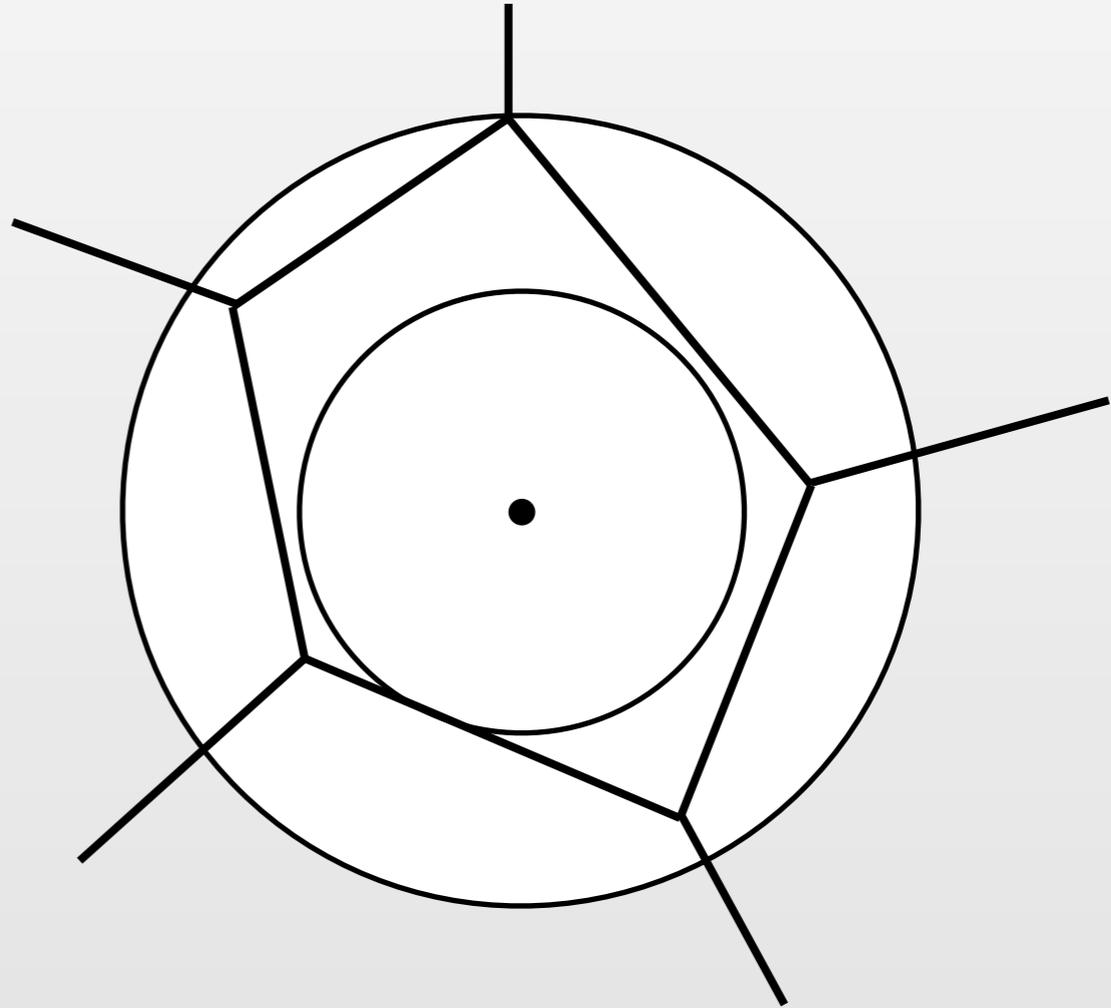


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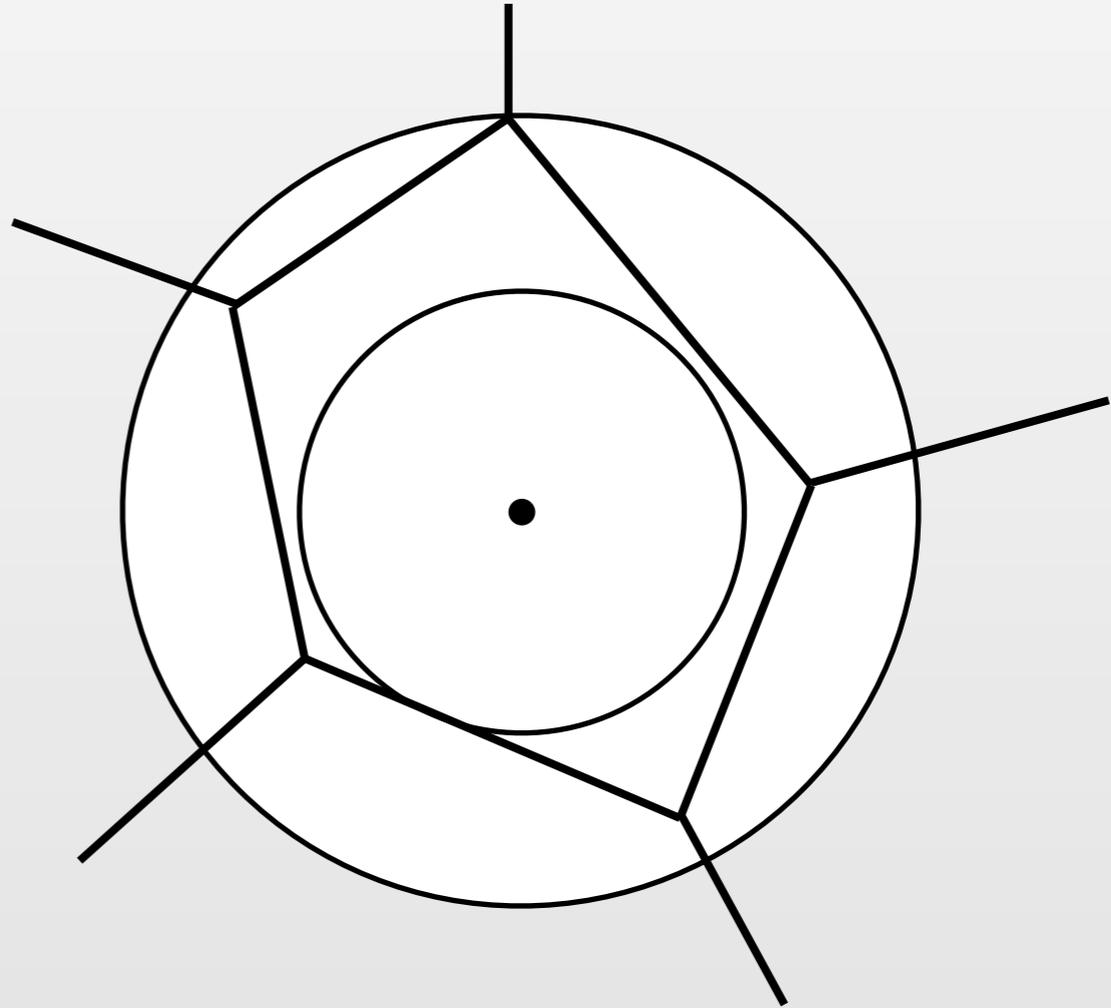
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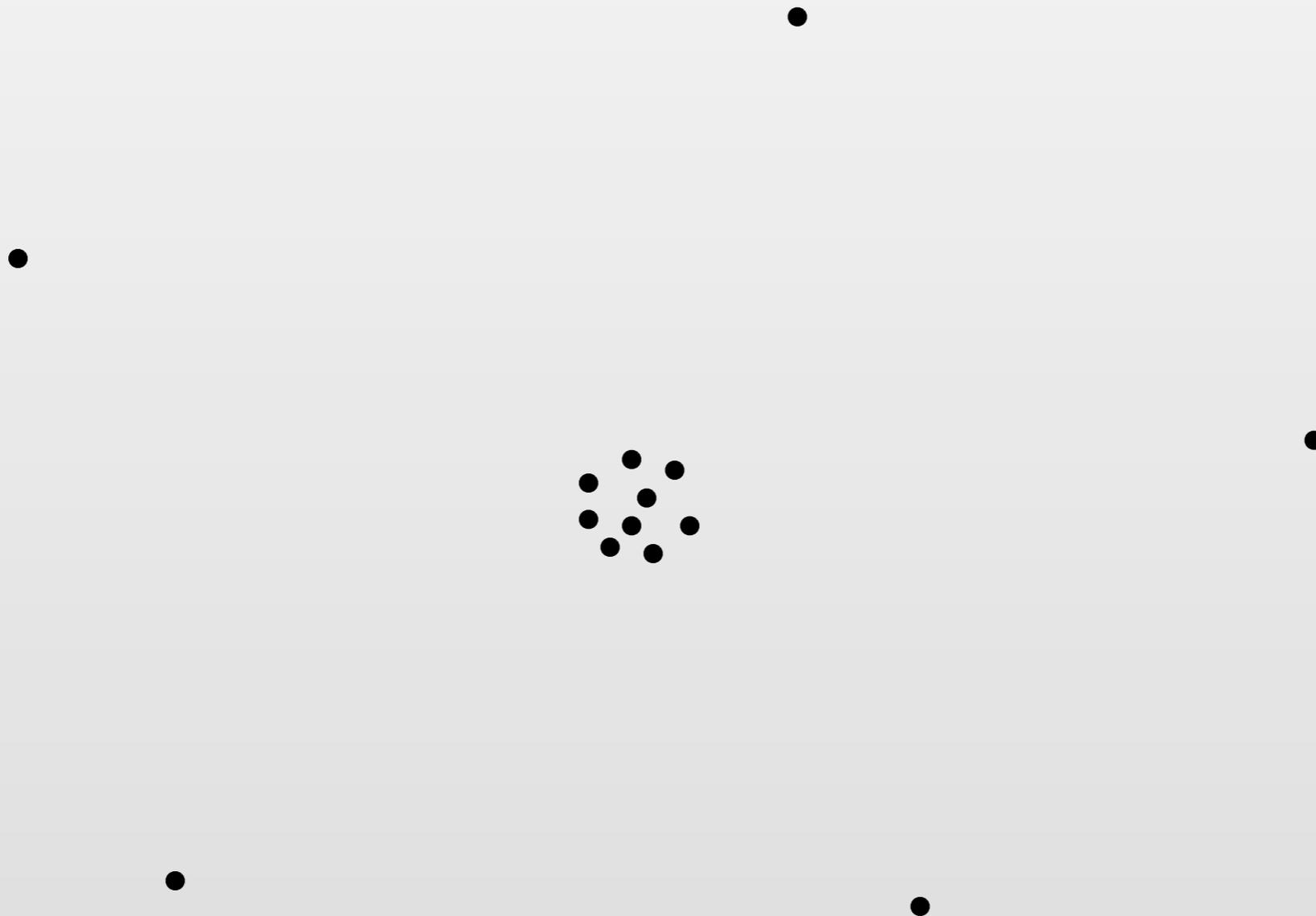
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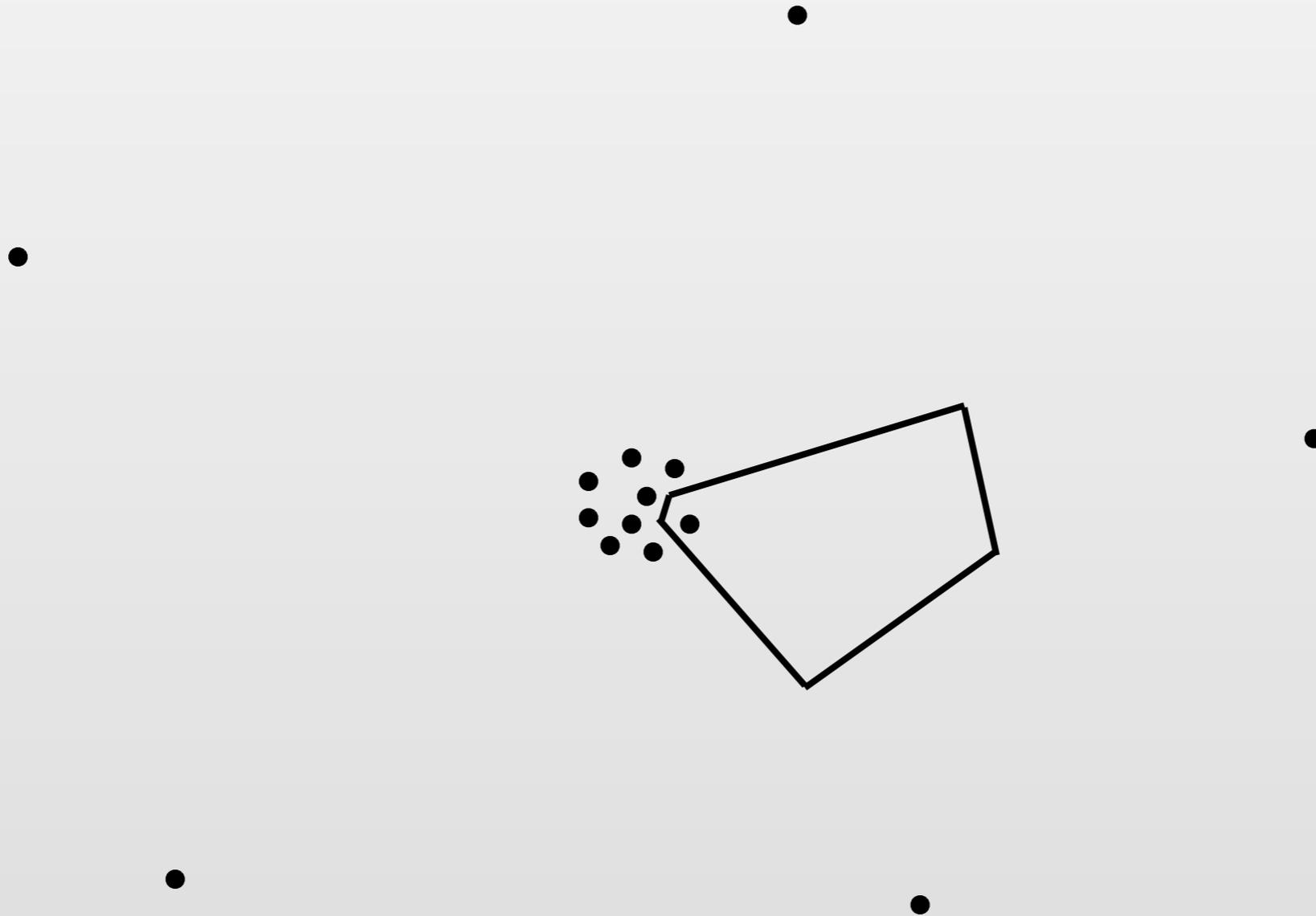
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Refine poor-quality cells by adding a Steiner point at its farthest vertex.

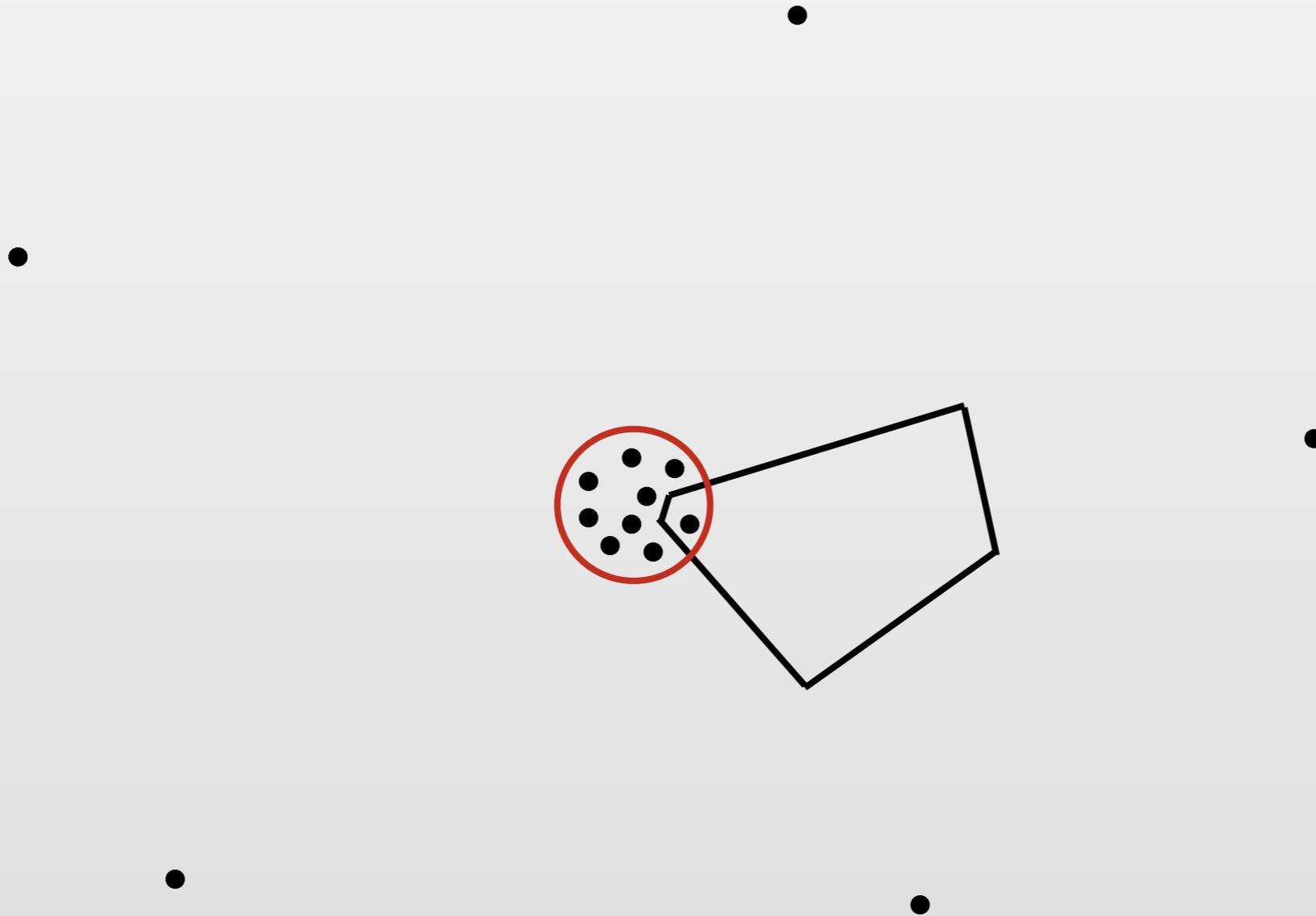
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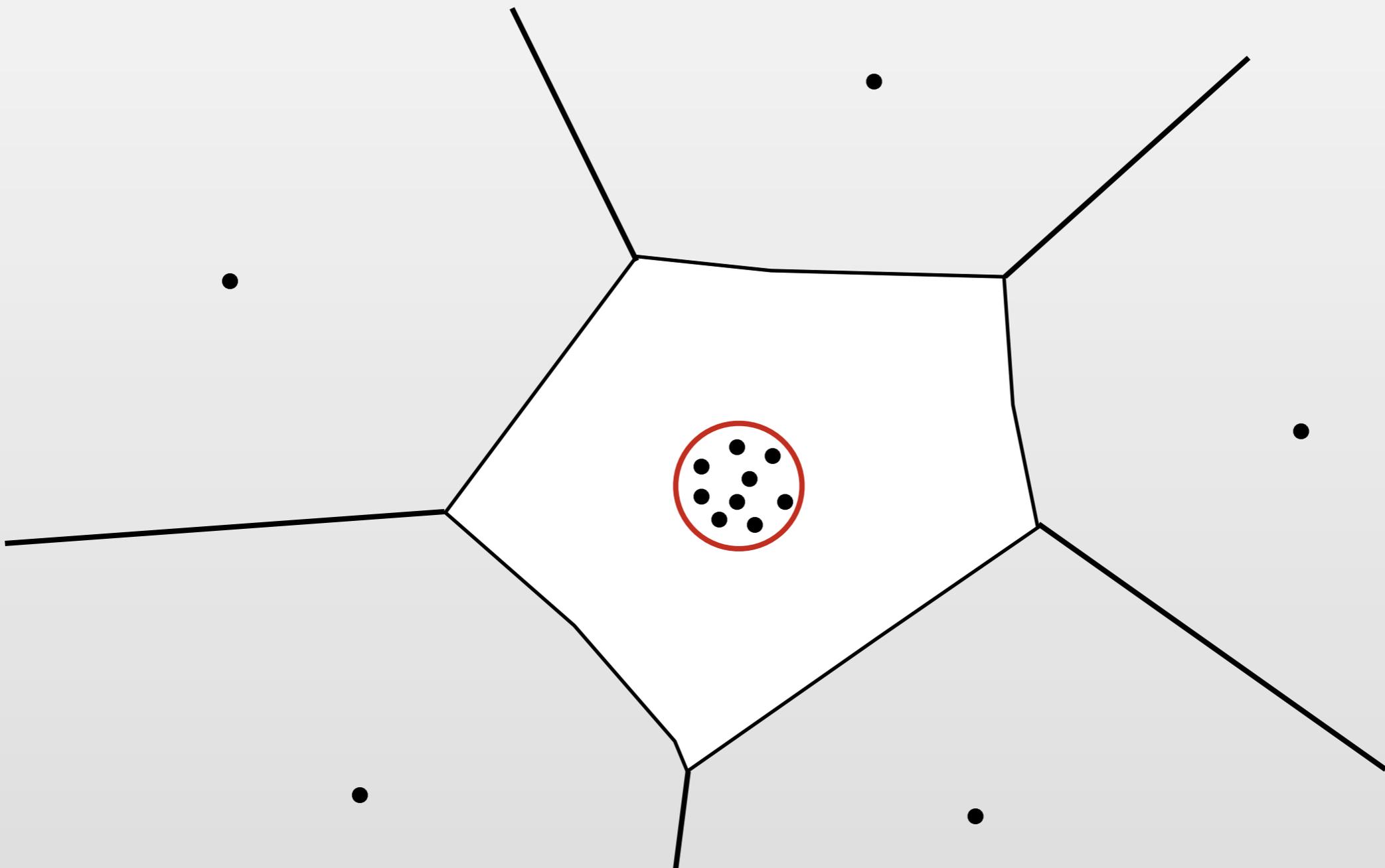
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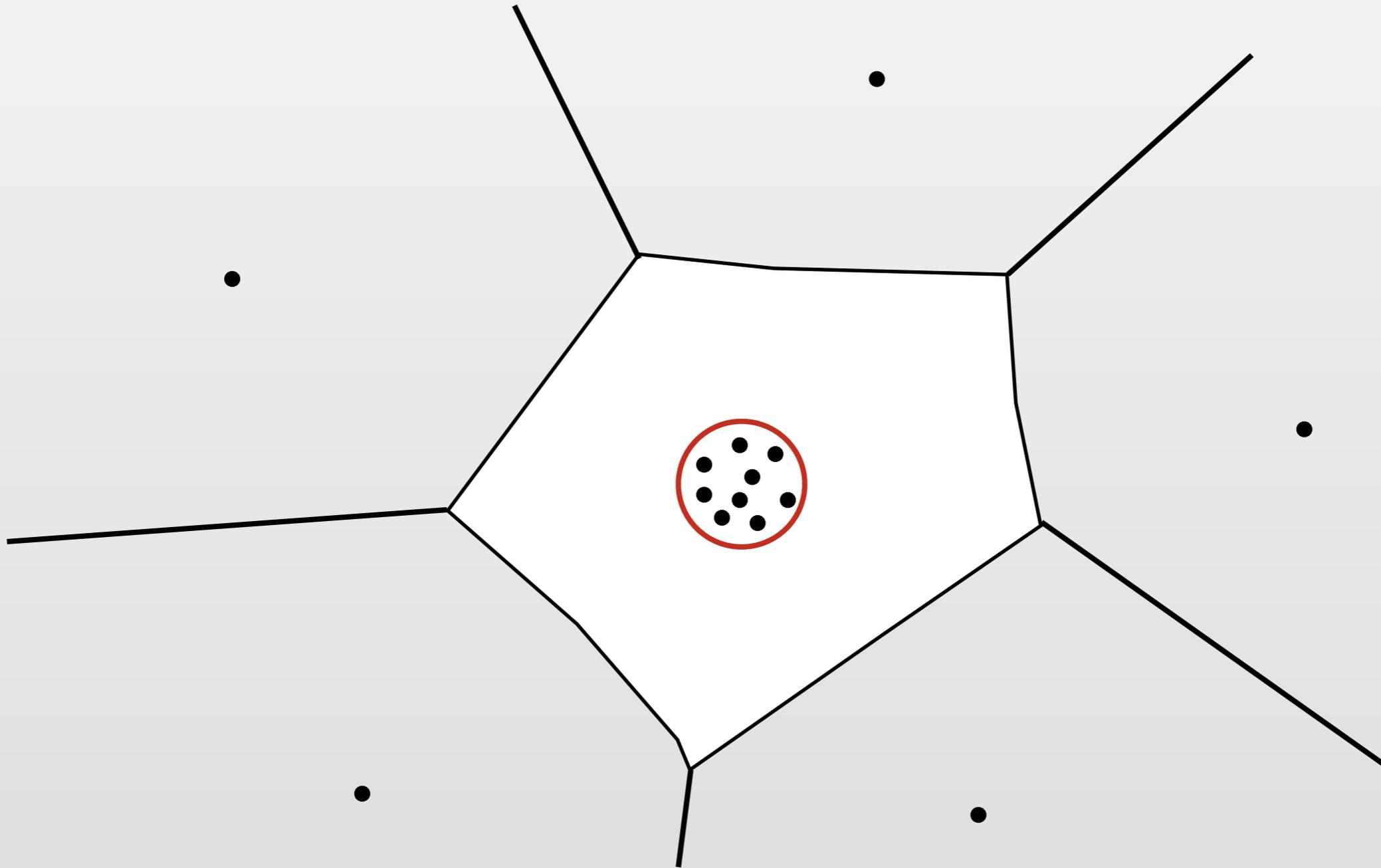


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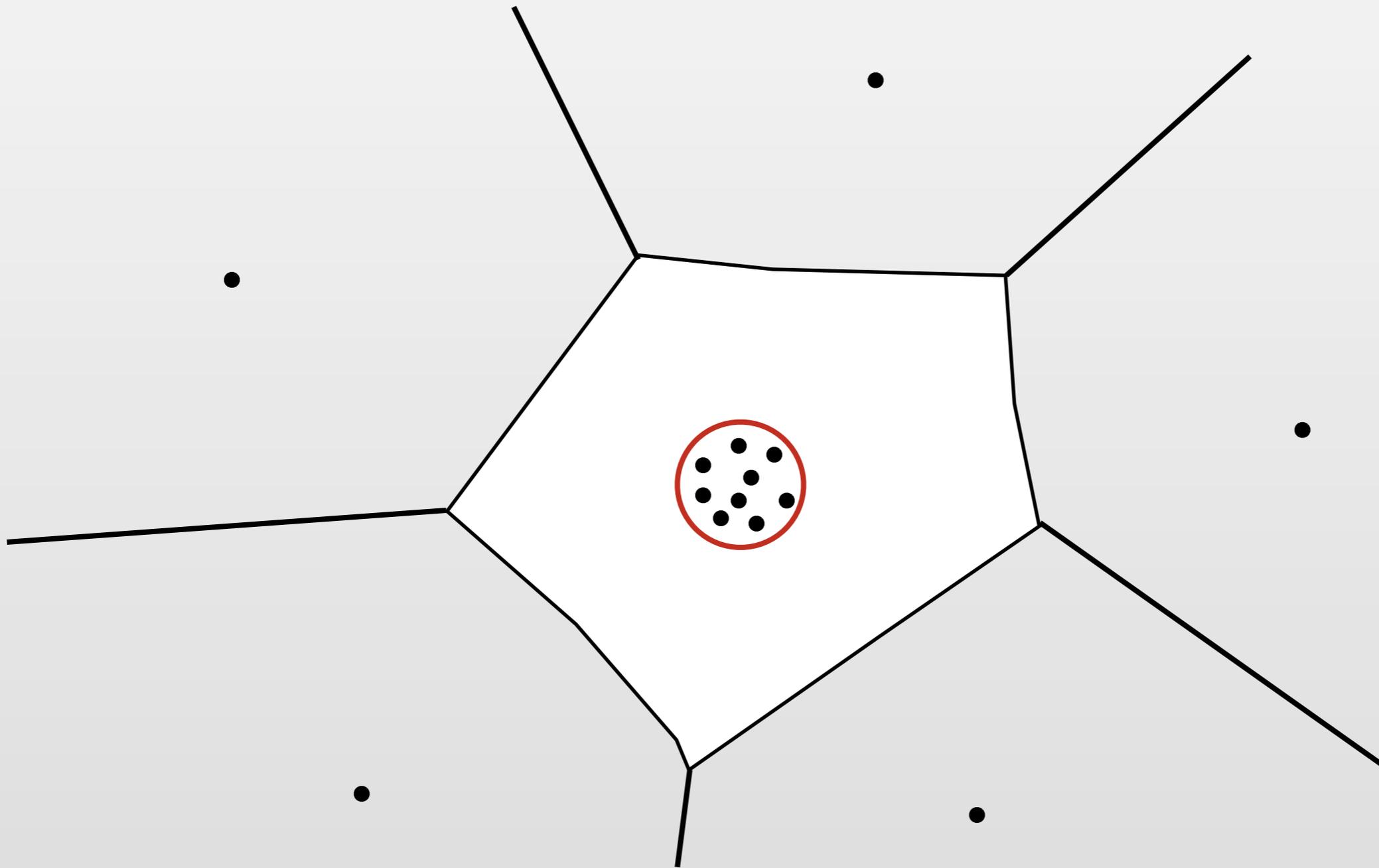
12



Inside the cage: Old definition of quality.

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12

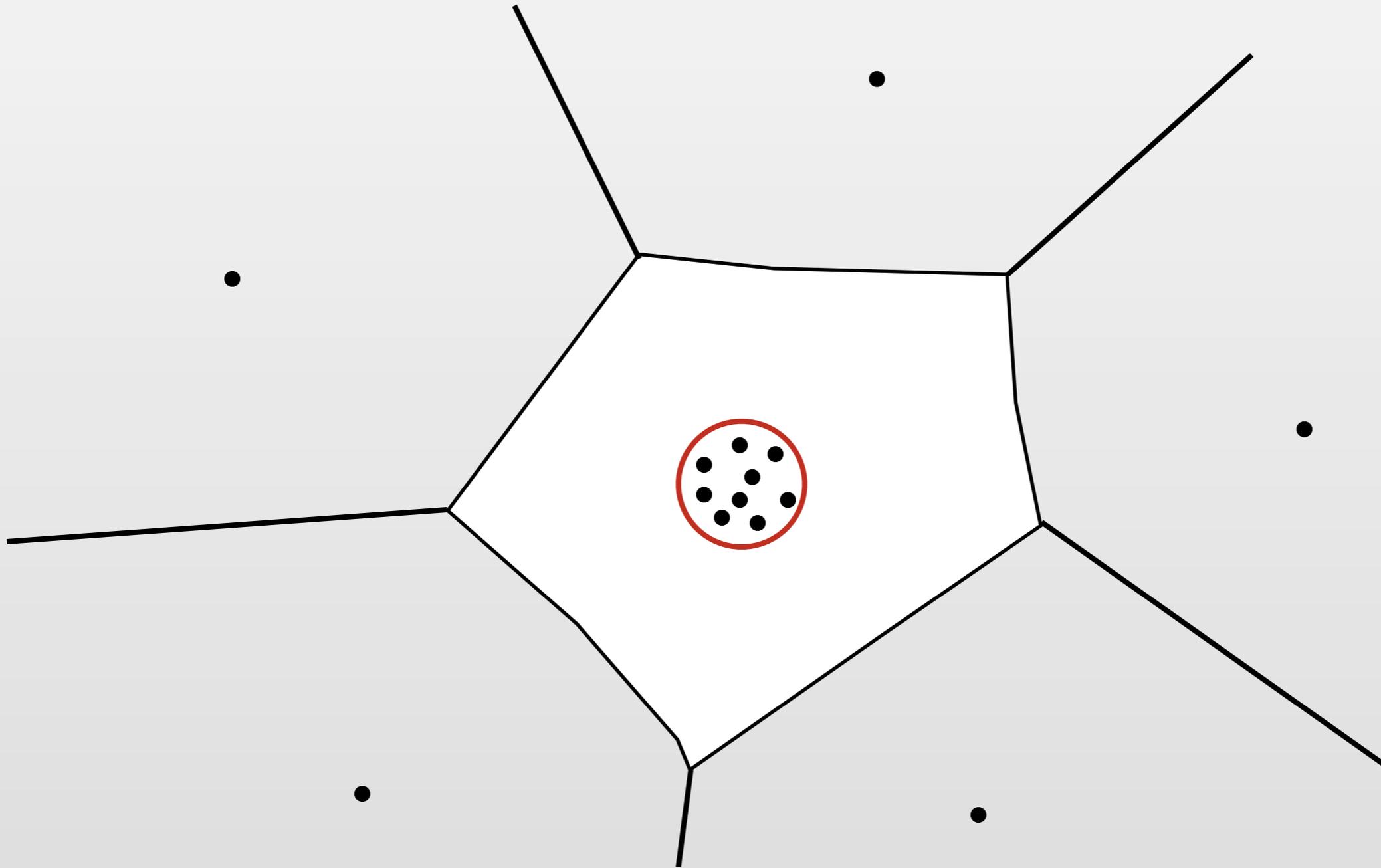


Inside the cage: Old definition of quality.

Outside: Treat the whole cage as a single object.

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All the same properties as quality meshes: ply, degree, etc.

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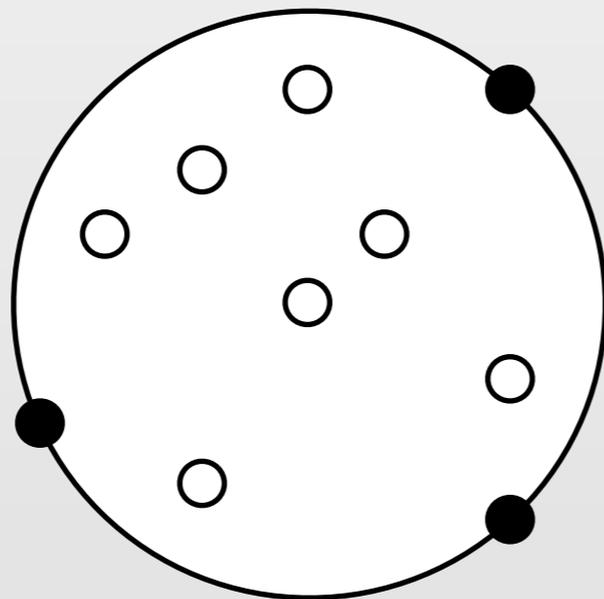
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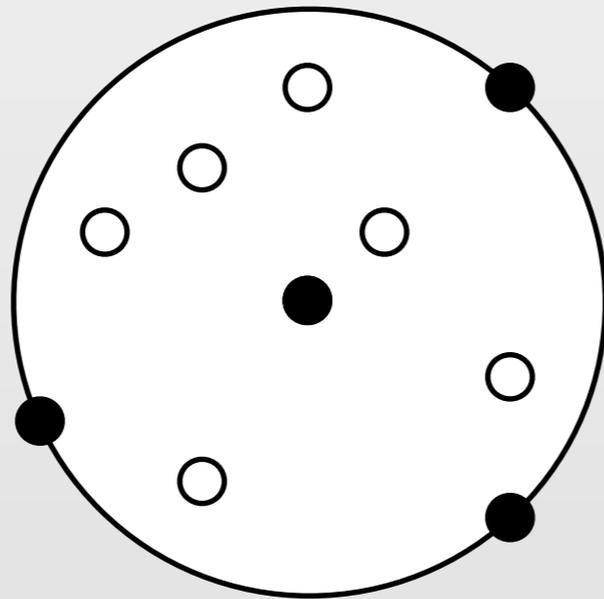
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This is how we avoid the worst-case Voronoi bounds.

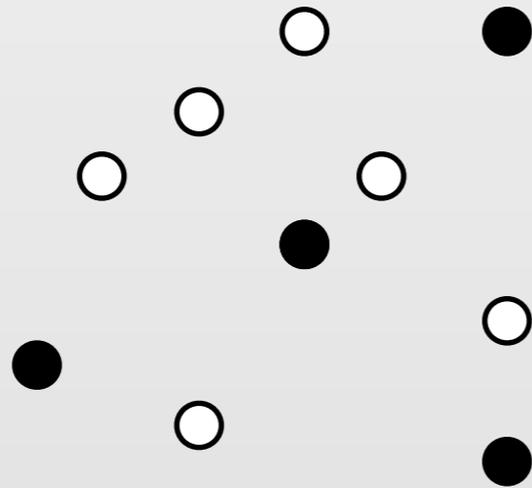
Idea: Store the uninserted points in the D-balls.  
When the balls change, make local updates.



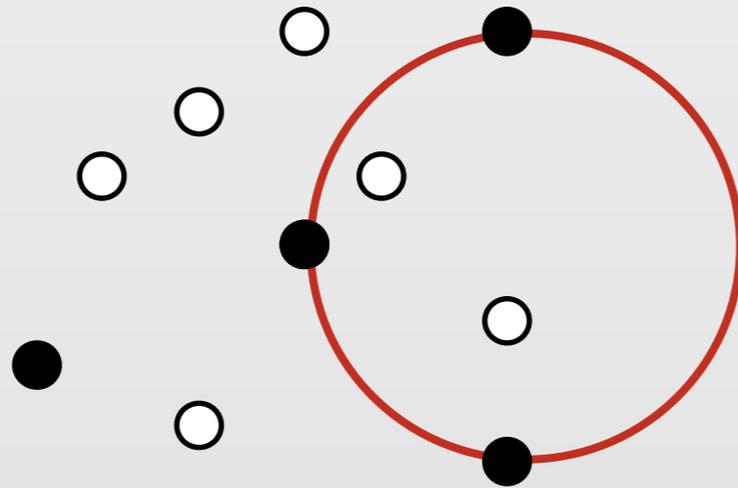
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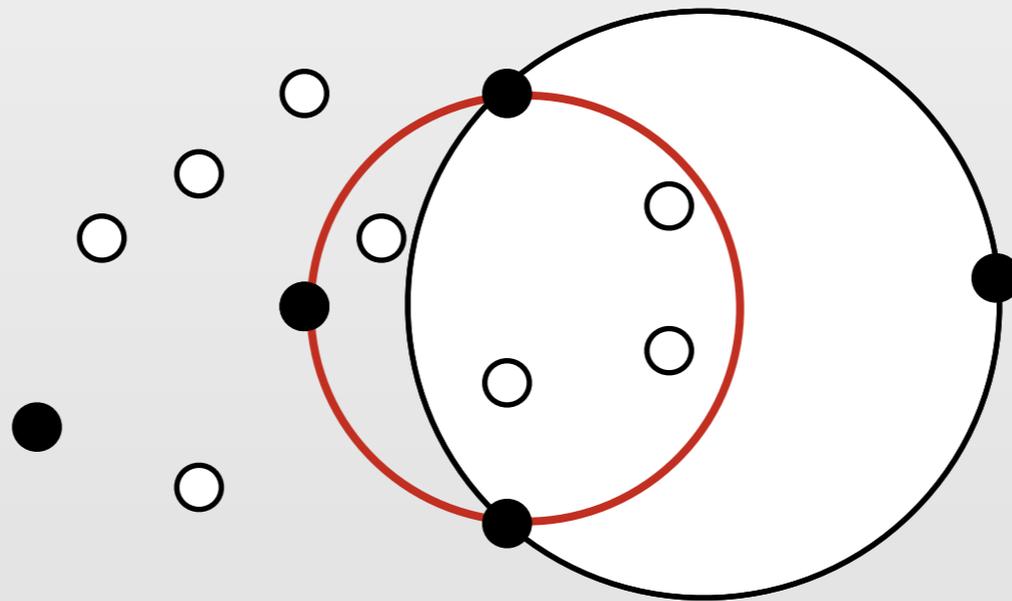
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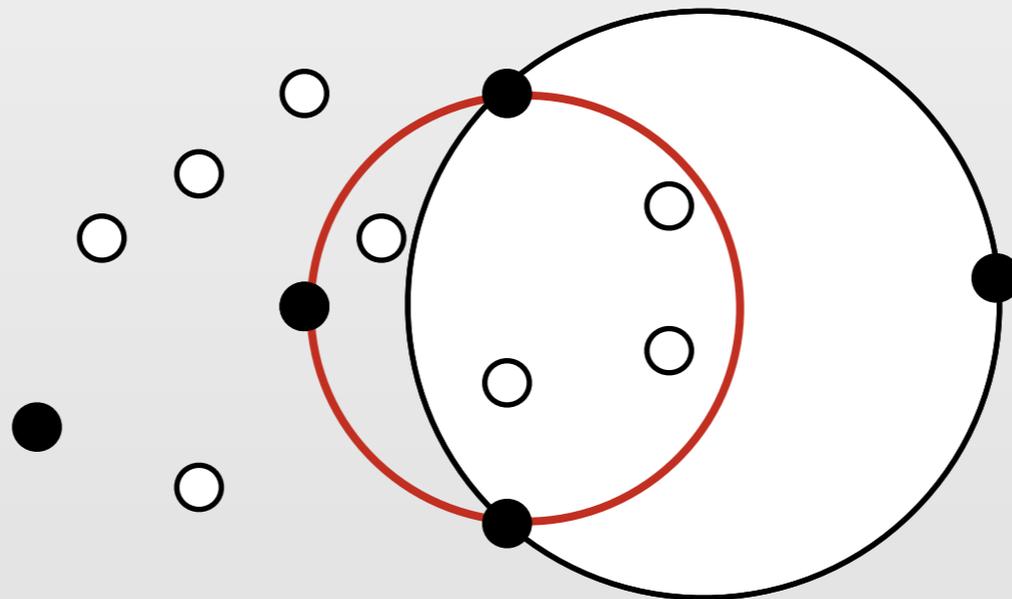
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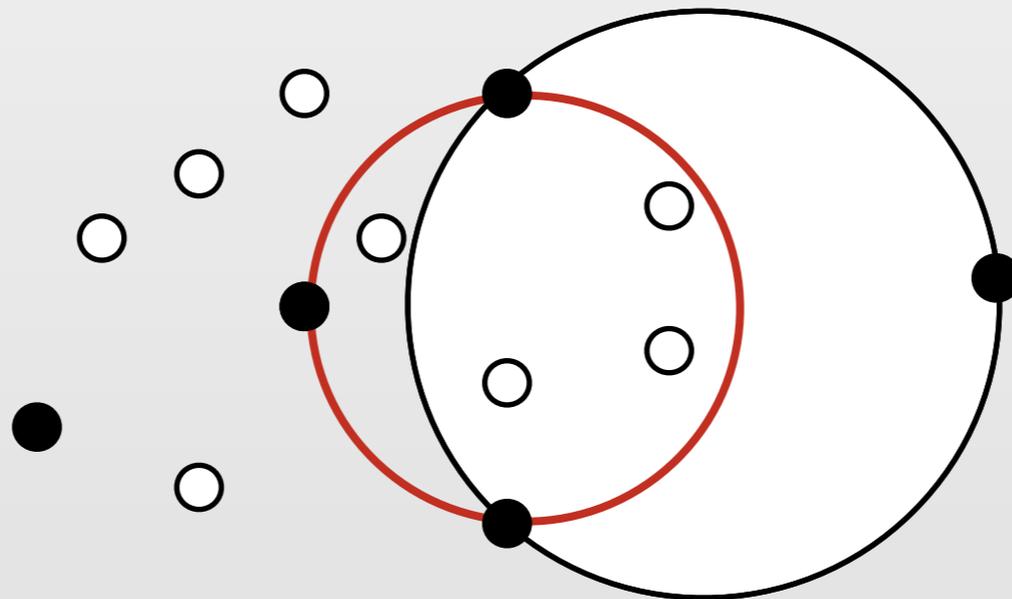


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Geometric Divide and Conquer:  $O(n \log \Delta)$

With hierarchical meshes, we can add inputs  
in any order!

15

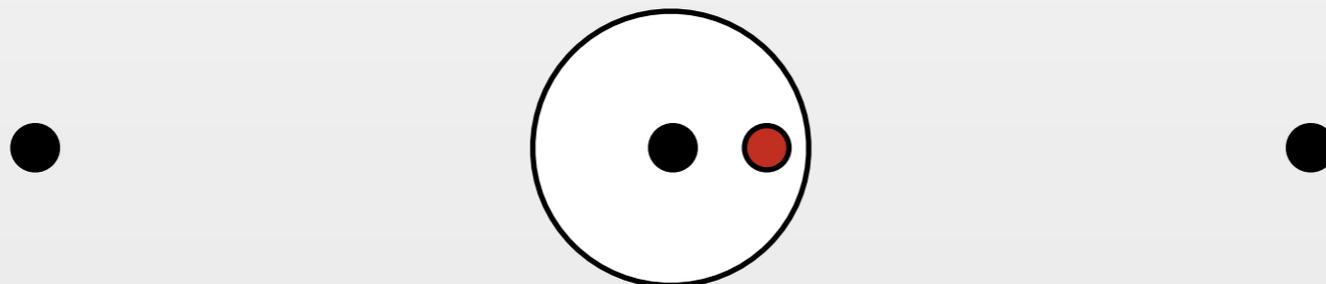


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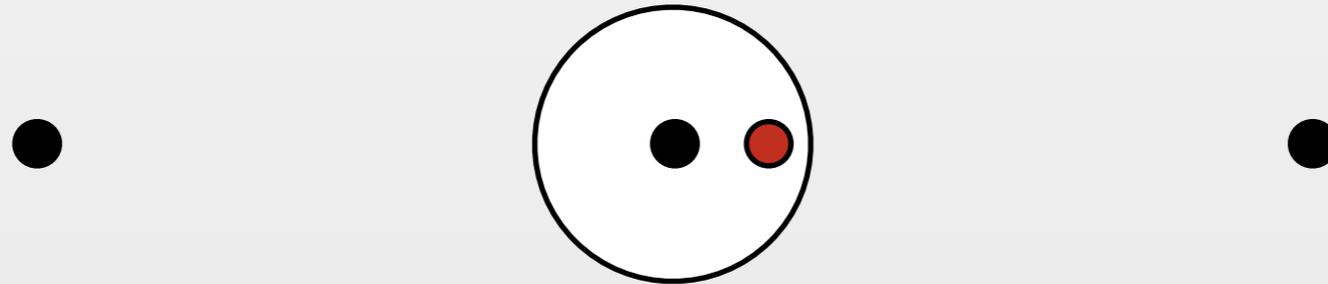
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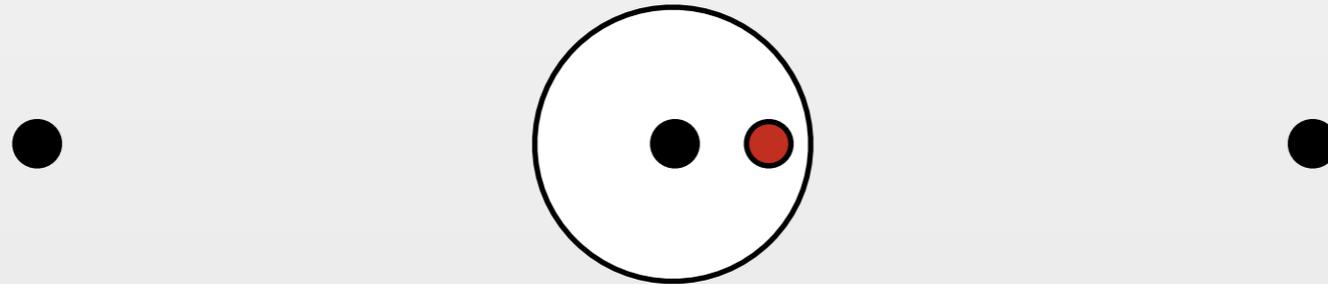
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Goal: Combinatorial Divide and Conquer

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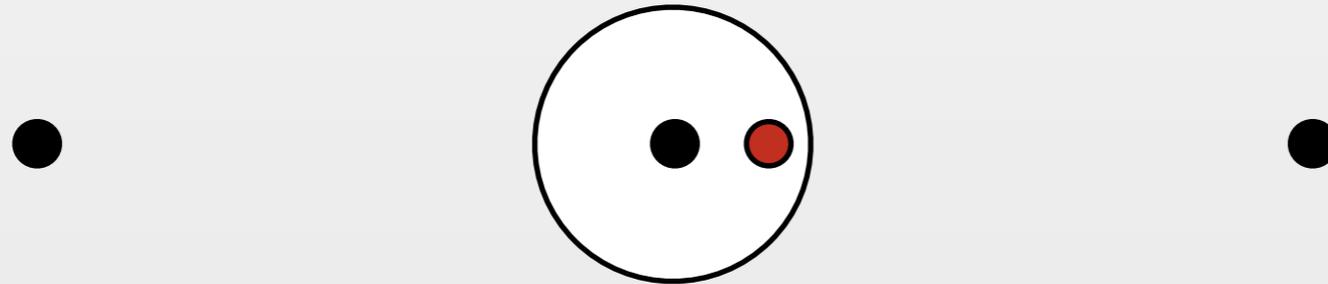


Goal: Combinatorial Divide and Conquer

Old: Progress was decreasing the radius by a factor of 2.

With hierarchical meshes, we can add inputs in any order!

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Goal: Combinatorial Divide and Conquer

Old: Progress was decreasing the radius by a factor of 2.

New: Decrease number of points in a ball by a factor of 2.

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**Theorem:** [Chazelle & Matousek 96] For  $\varepsilon, d$  fixed constants,  $\varepsilon$ -nets of size  $O(1)$  can be computed in  $O(n)$  deterministic time.

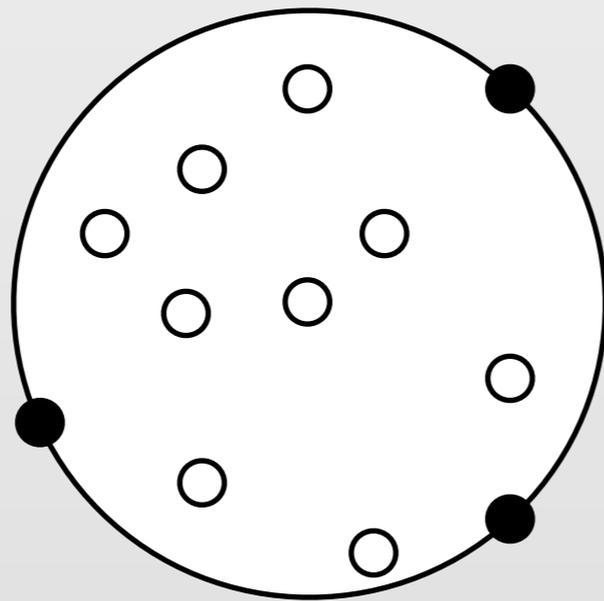
# Ordering the inputs

For each D-Ball, select a  $1/2d$ -net of the points it contains.

Take the union of these nets and call it a round.

Insert these.

Repeat.



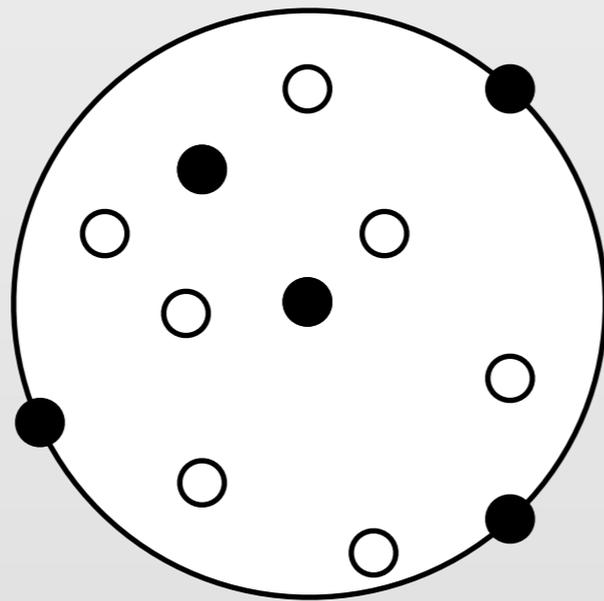
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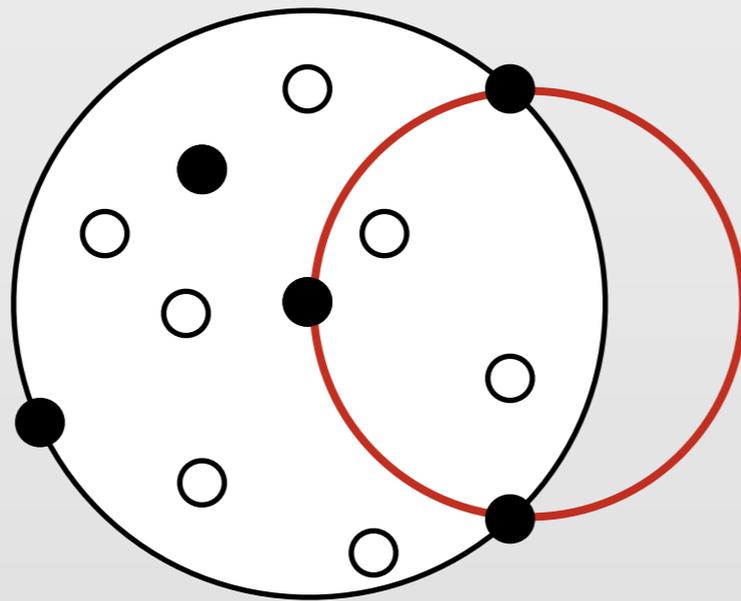


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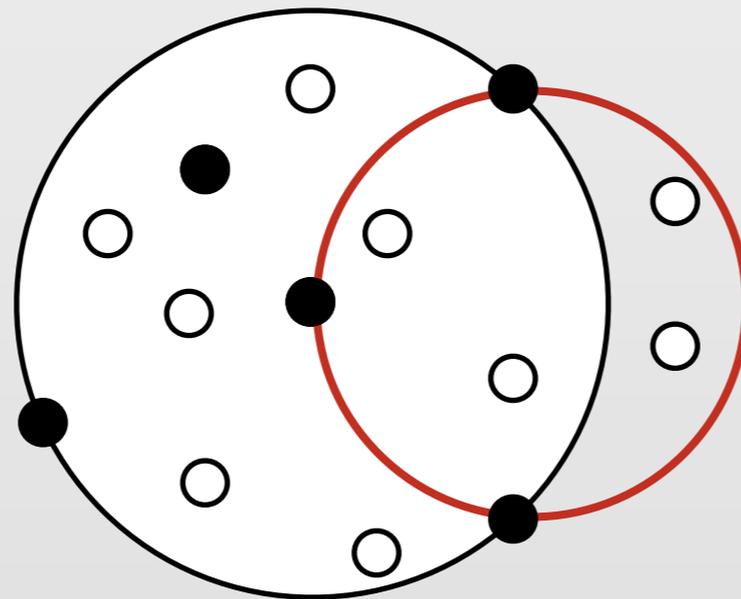
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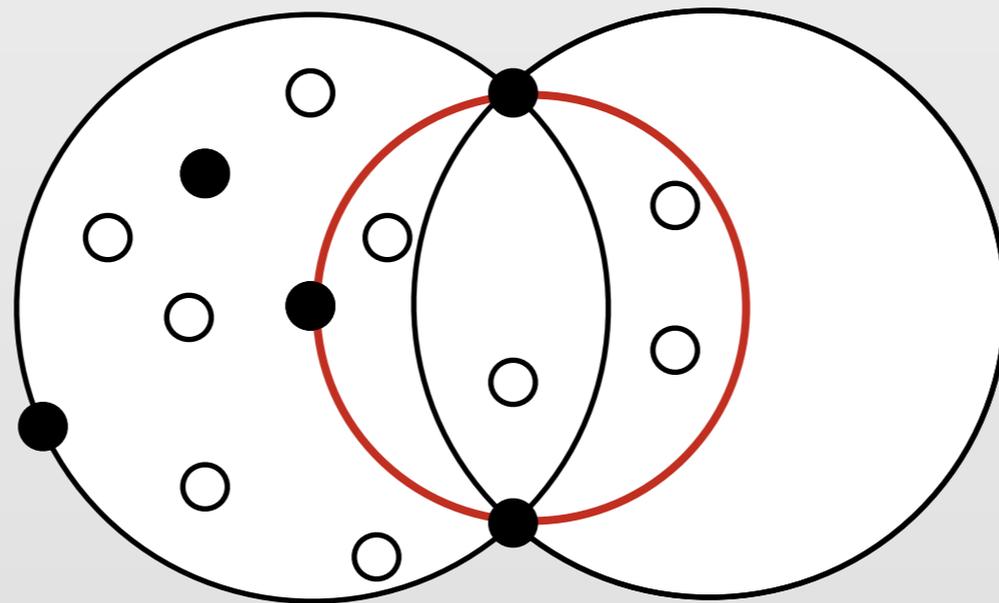


# Ordering the inputs

For each D-Ball, select a  $1/2d$ -net of the points it contains.  
Take the union of these nets and call it a round.

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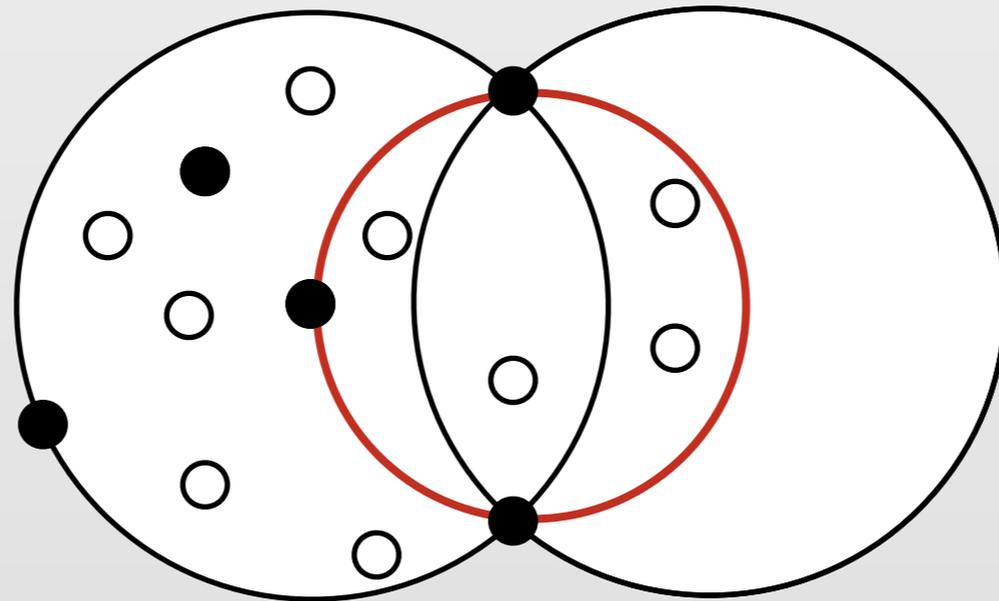


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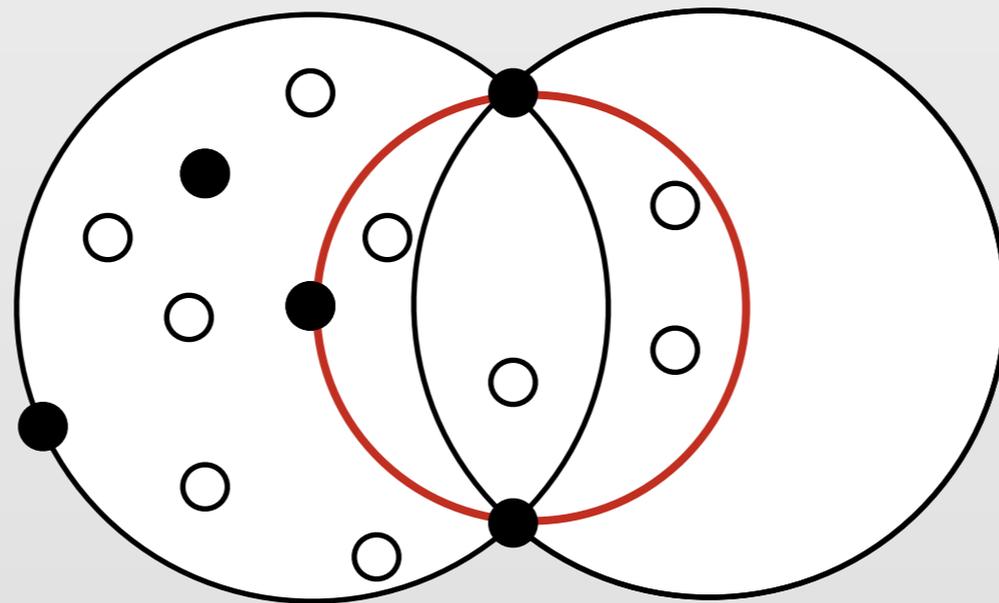
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$\log(n)$  Rounds

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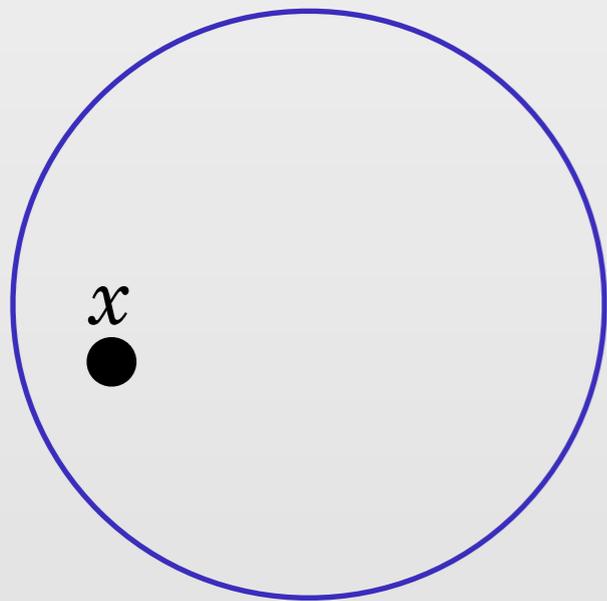
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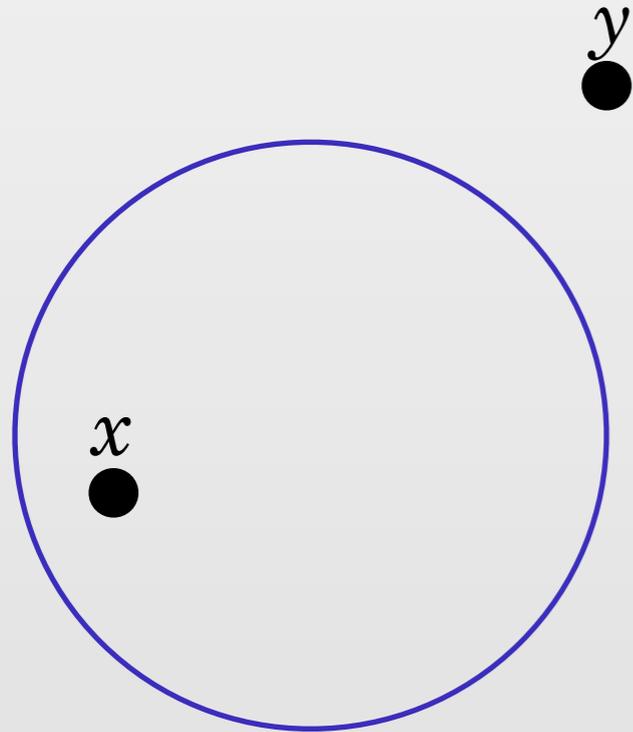
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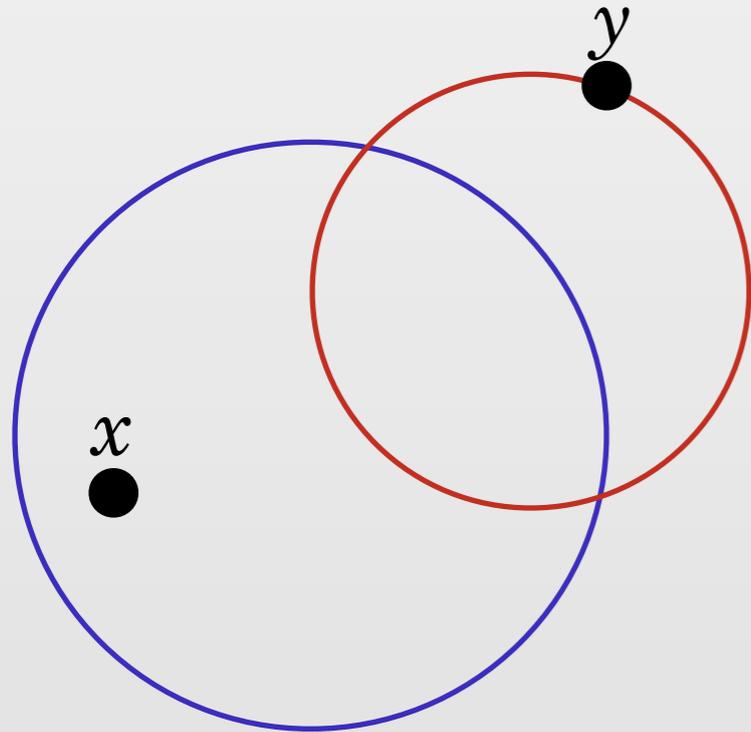
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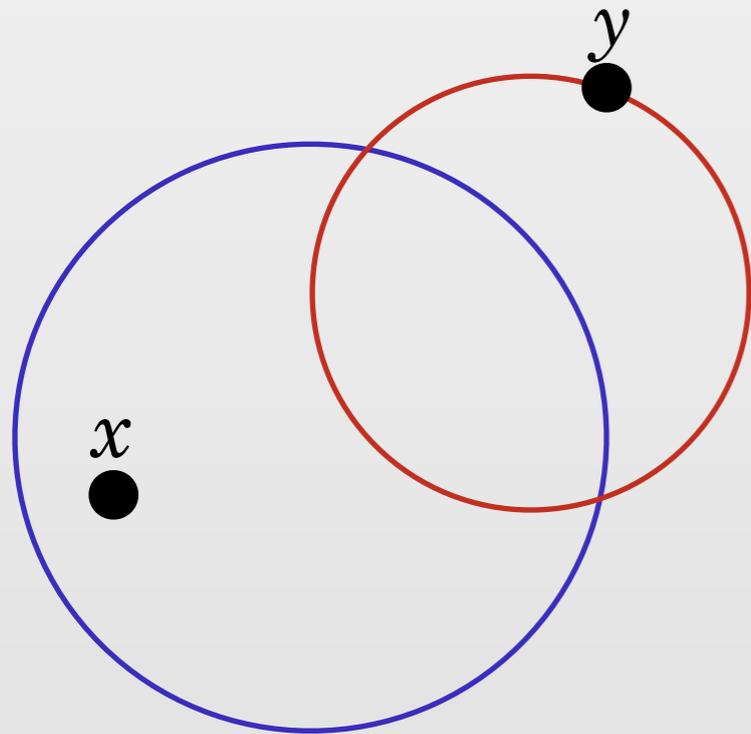
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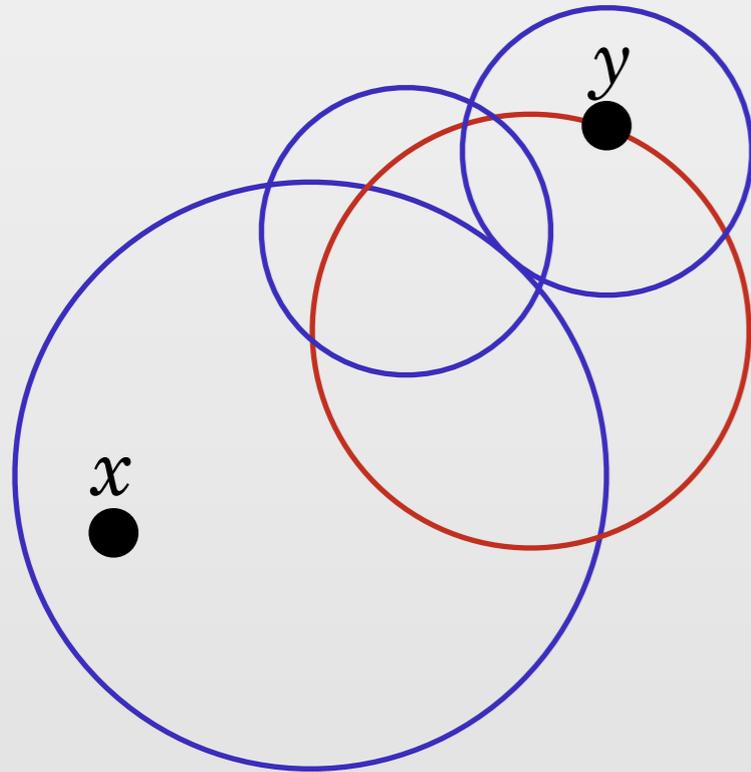


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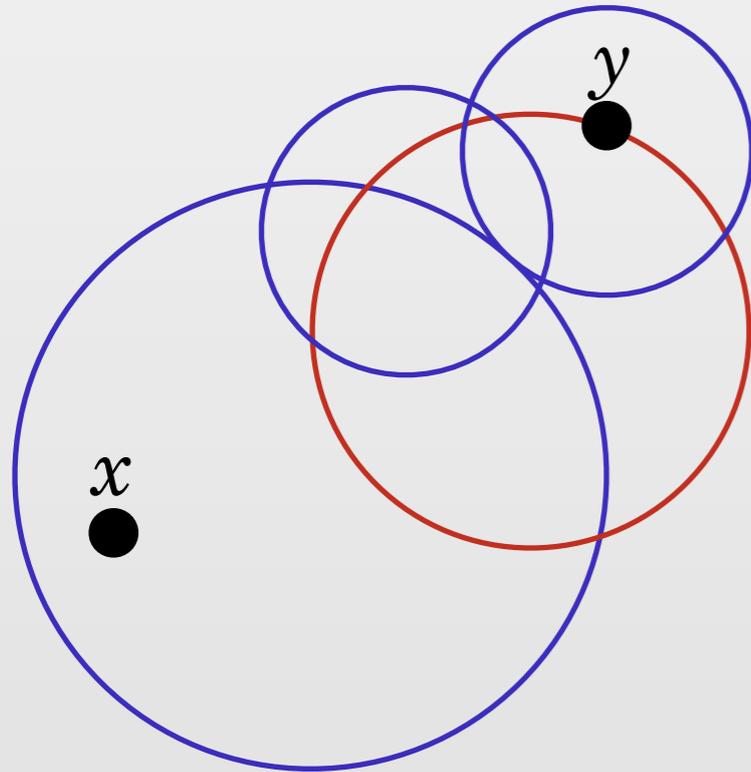


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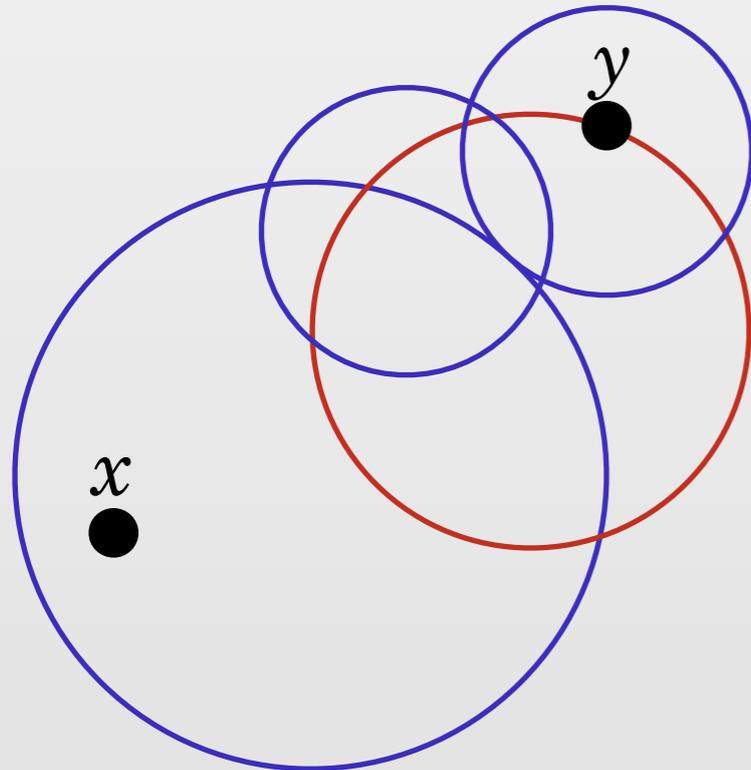
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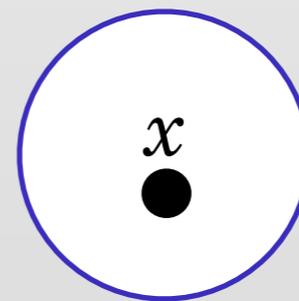
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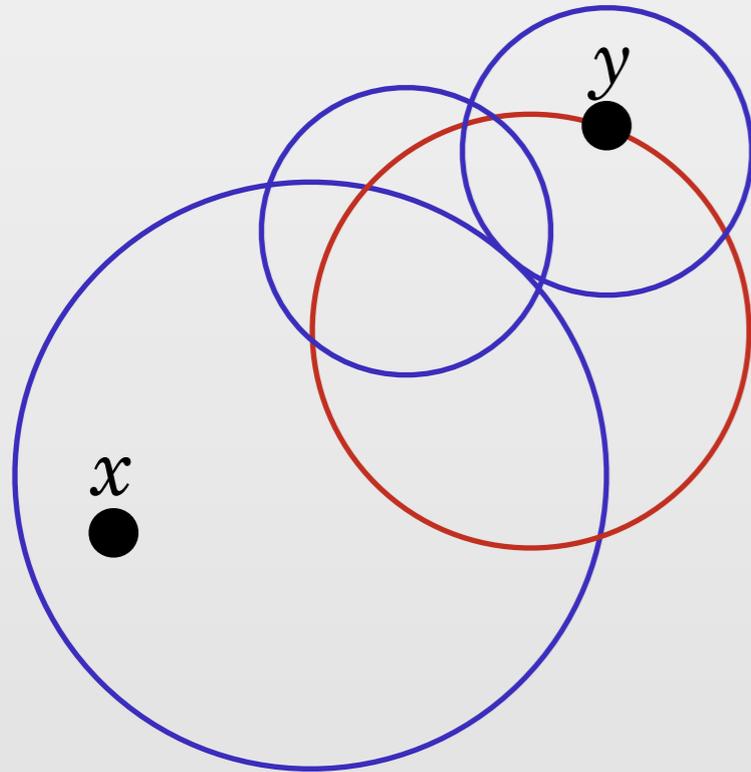
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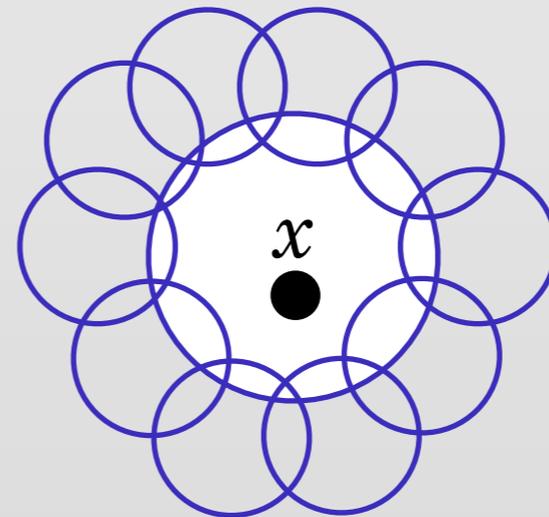
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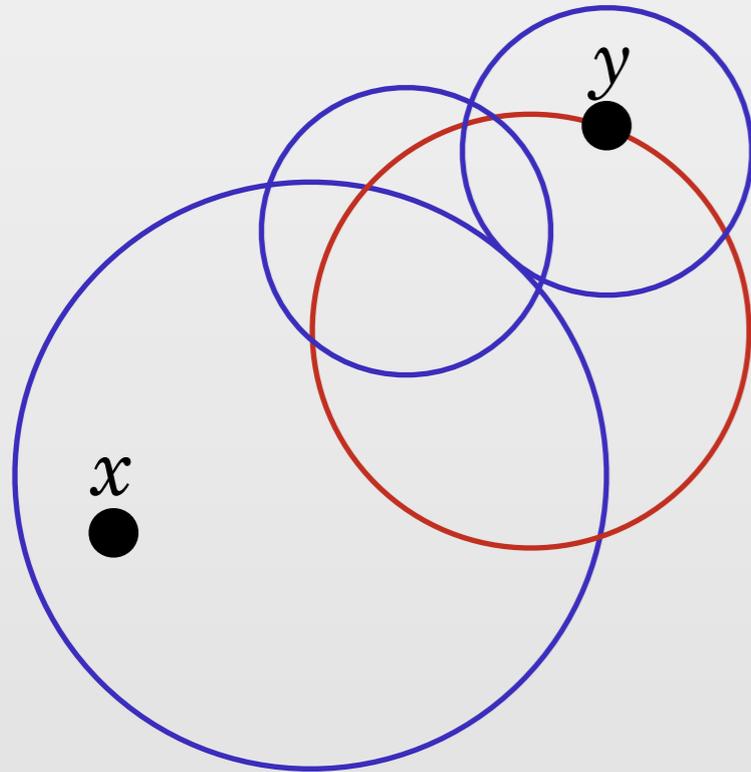
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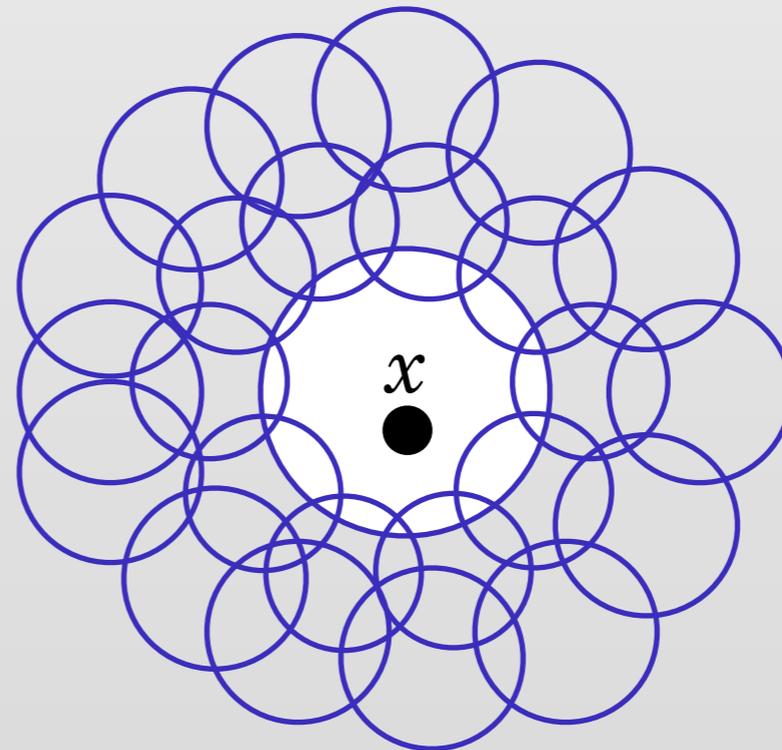
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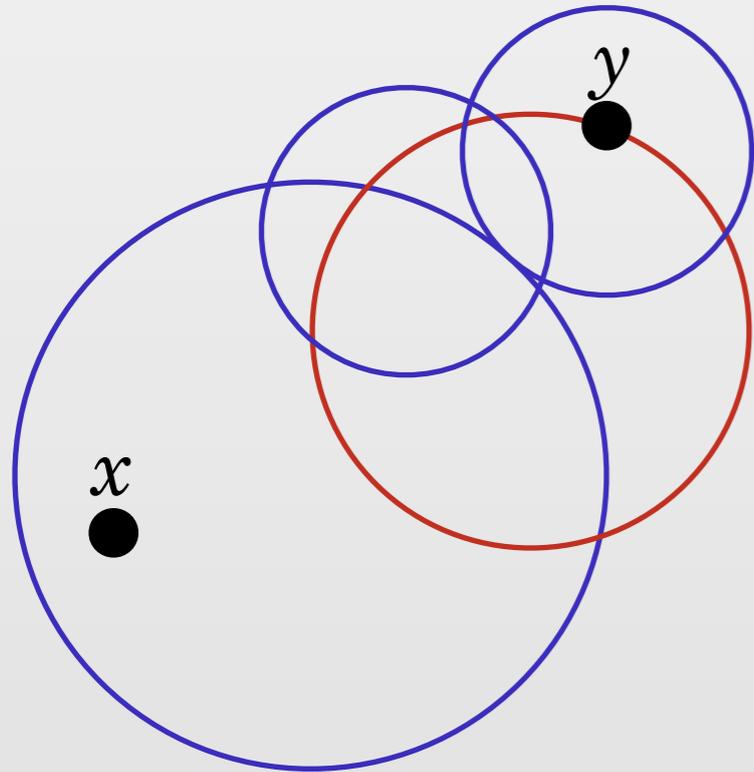
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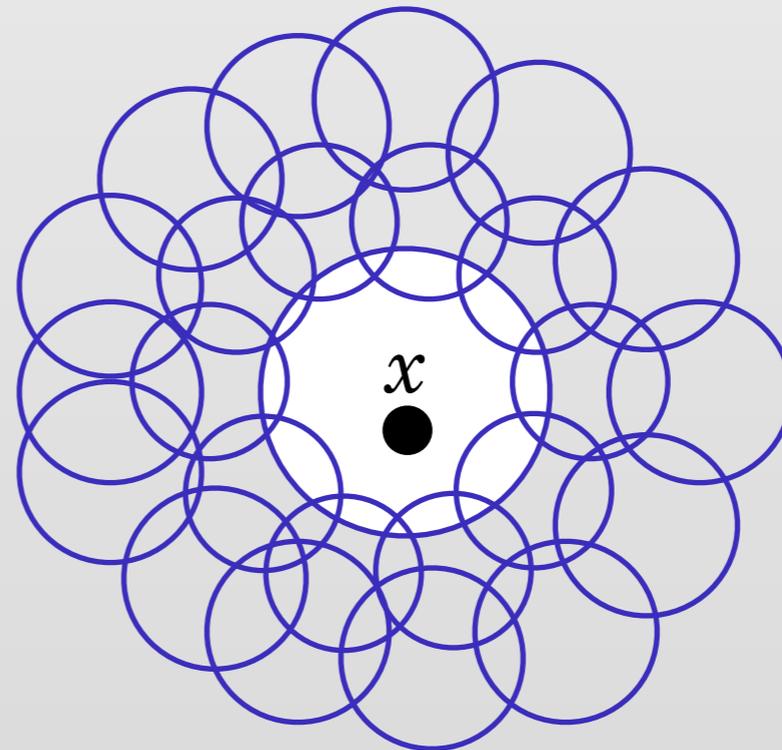
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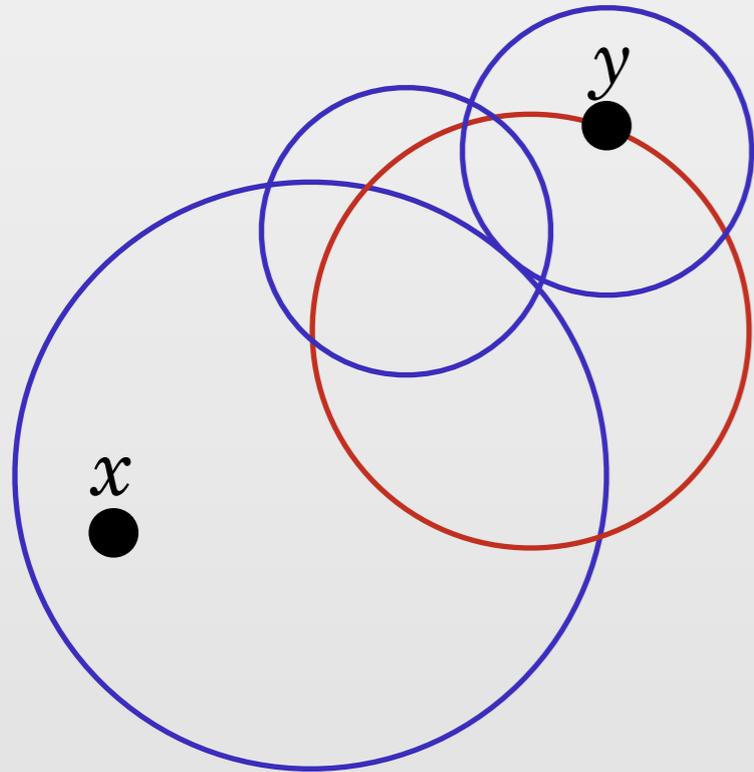
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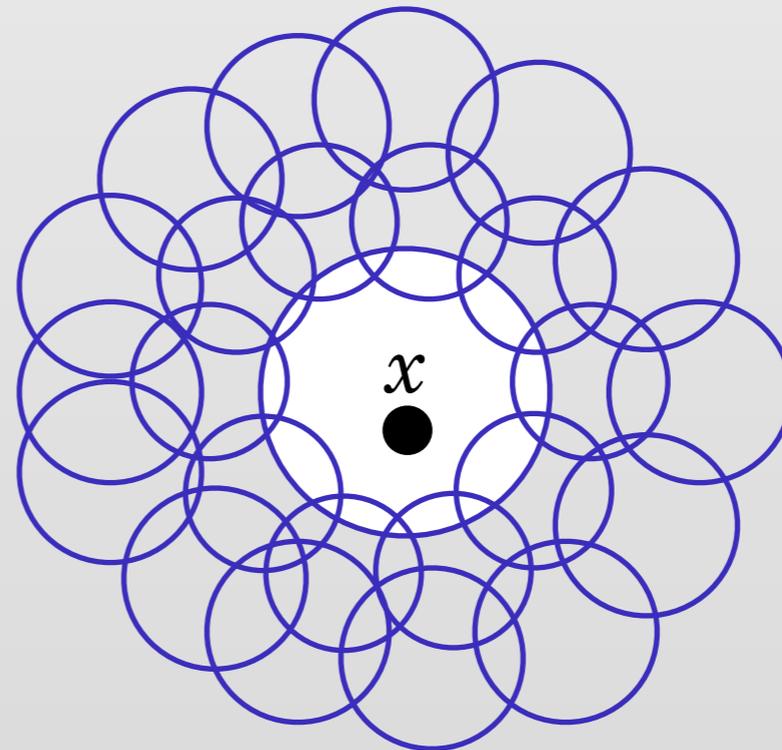


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$O(n)$  total work per round.



# Some Takeaways

Voronoi refinement meshes give structure to points, especially with respect to the ambient space.

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There are many possible new applications, waiting to be discovered (i.e. any time you would have used a Voronoi diagram).

Thanks.

