

# Computational Geometry

## Convex Hull or Mixing Things

### Lecture #1

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# Chair I

- b) Knowledge-Based Systems  
Prof. Dietmar Seipel
- c) Theoretical Comp. Science  
Prof. Christian Glaßer

a) Efficient Algorithms

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b) Knowledge-Based Systems

Prof. Dietmar Seipel

c) Theoretical Comp. Science

Prof. Christian Glaßer

## a) Efficient Algorithms



Alexander Wolff  
*Professor*



Philipp Kindermann  
*PostDoc*



Oksana Firman



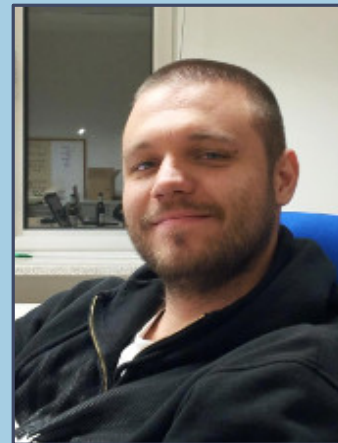
Steven Chaplick  
*PostDoc*



Thomas van Dijk  
*PostDoc*



Myroslav Kryven



André Löffler



Johannes Zink

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**My vision:**

- “hands-on”
- interactive

# Content

1. Convex Hull in 2D
2. Map Overlay
3. Polygon Triangulation
4. Linear Programming
5. Orthogonal Range Queries
6. Point Location
7. Voronoi Diagram
8. Delaunay Triangulation
9. Convex Hull in 3D
10. Motion Planning
11. Simplex Range Searching
12. Arrangements and Duality
13. Binary Space Partition
14. Randomized Triangulation

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**New!** Minimum  
Convex Partition

# Literature



M. de Berg, O. Cheong, M. van Kreveld, M. Overmars:  
Computational Geometry: Algorithms & Applications.  
Springer, 3rd edition, 2008

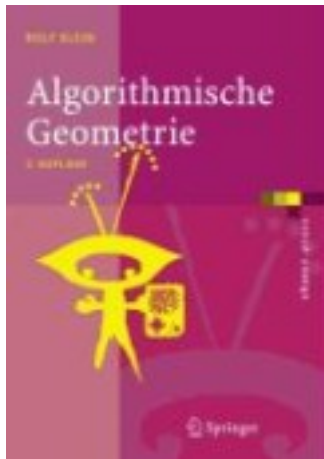
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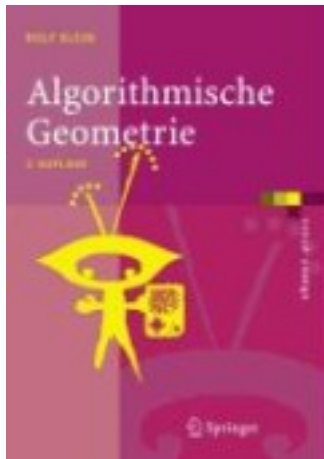


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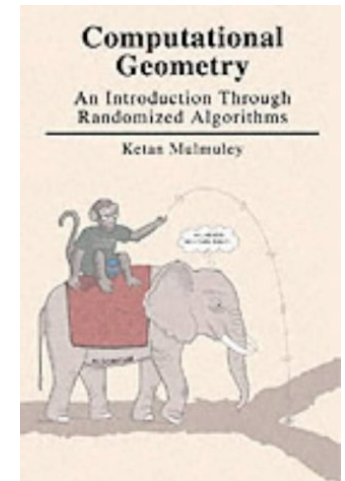
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Ketan Mulmuley:  
Computational Geometry: An Introduction Through  
Randomized Algorithms. Prentice Hall, 1st edition, 1993



Week 1

**Convex Hull**  
or:  
**Mixing Things**

[Comp. Geom A&A : Chapter 1, (see also Ch. 11)]

# Mixing Things

Given...

subst.	fract. $A$	fract. $B$
$s_1$	10 %	35 %
$s_2$	20 %	5 %
$s_3$	40 %	25 %

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Given...

subst.	fract. $A$	fract. $B$
$s_1$	10 %	35 %
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$q_1$	25 %	28 %
$q_2$	15 %	15 %

using  $s_1, s_2, s_3$  ?

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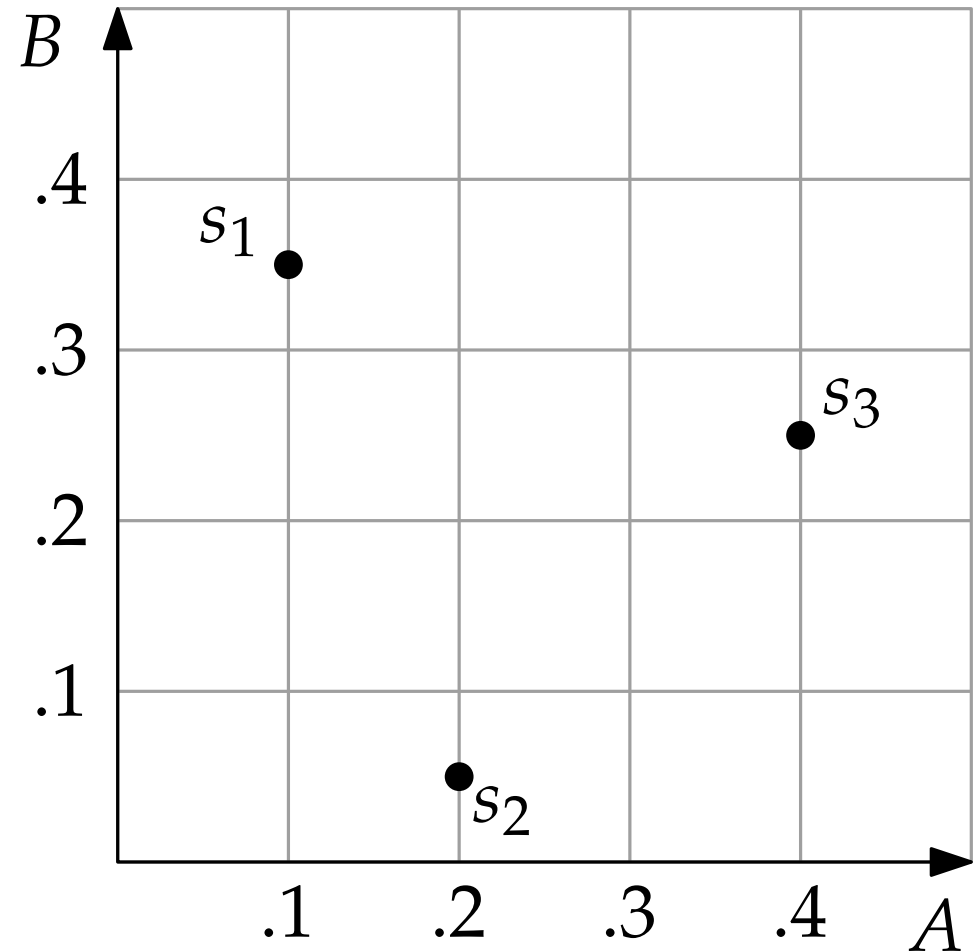
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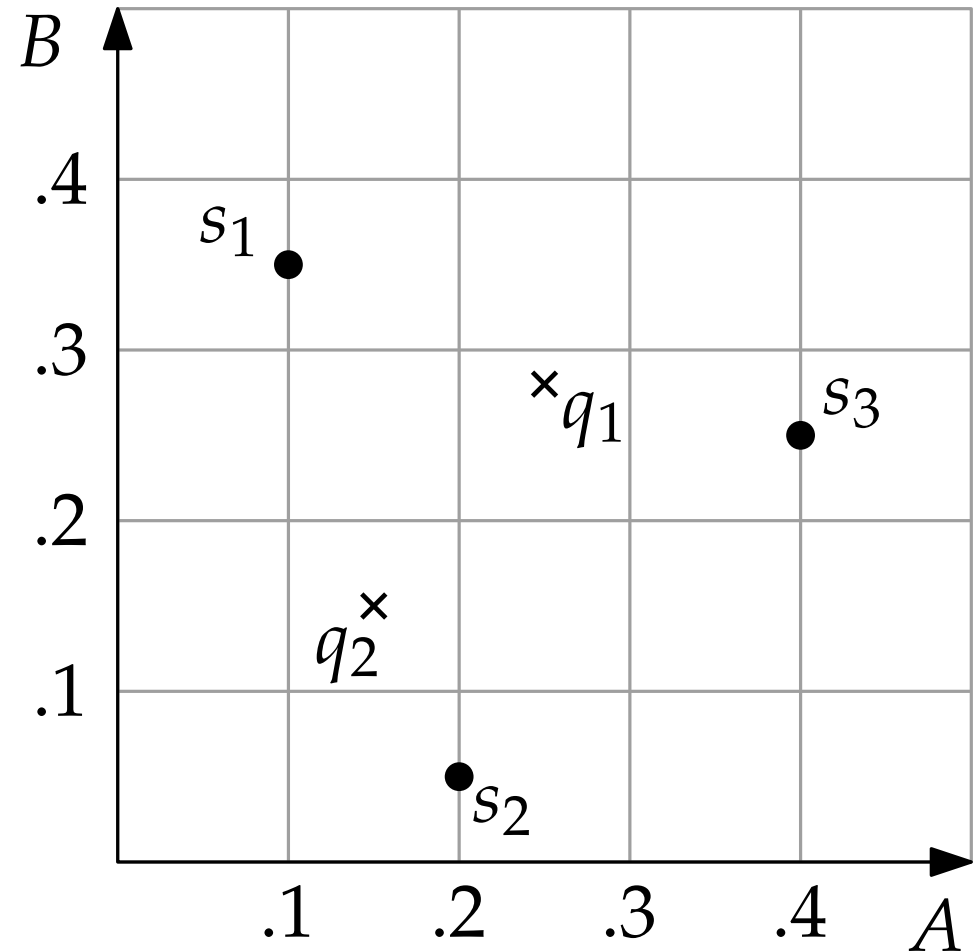
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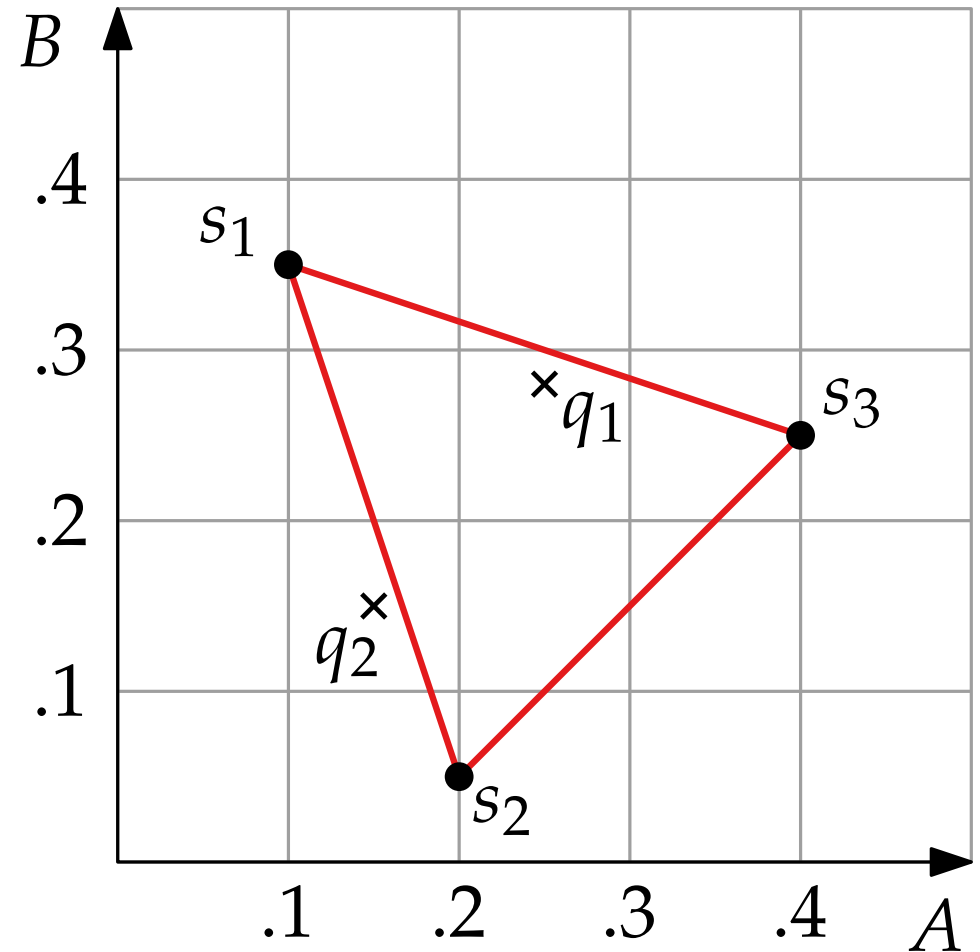
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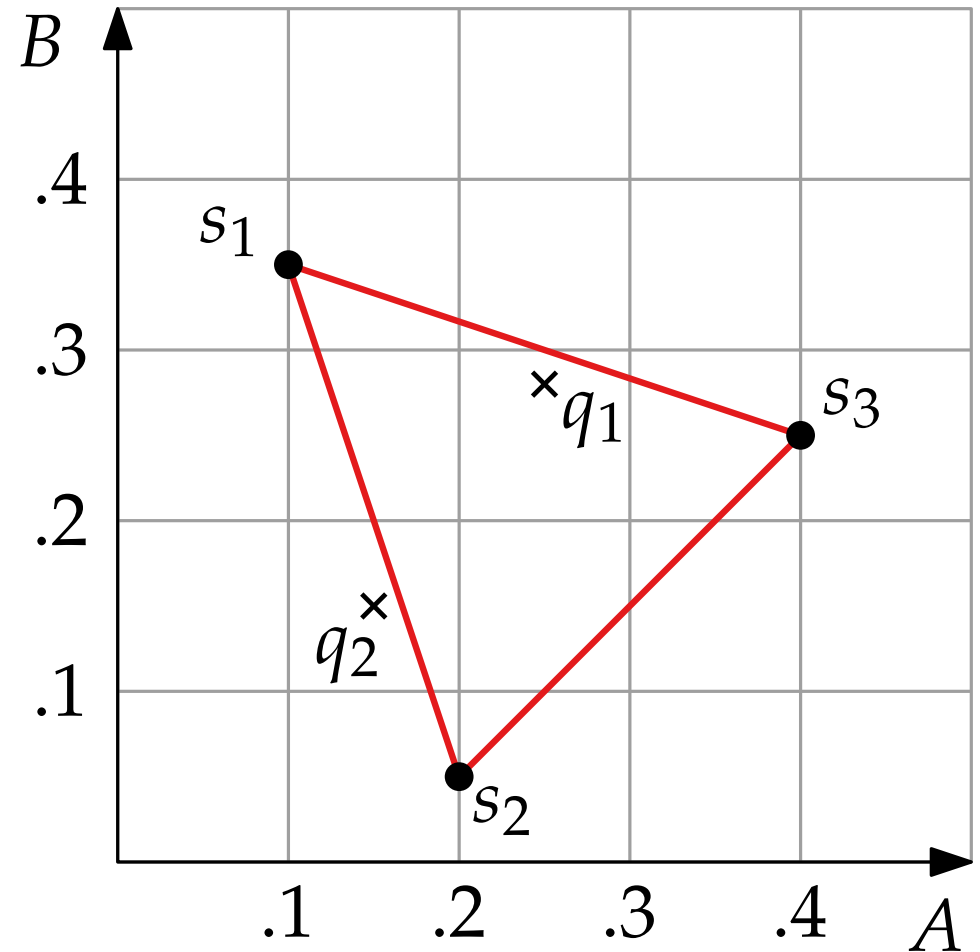
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**Observe:** Given a set  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  of substances, we can mix a substance  $q \in \mathbb{R}^2$  using the substances in  $S \iff$



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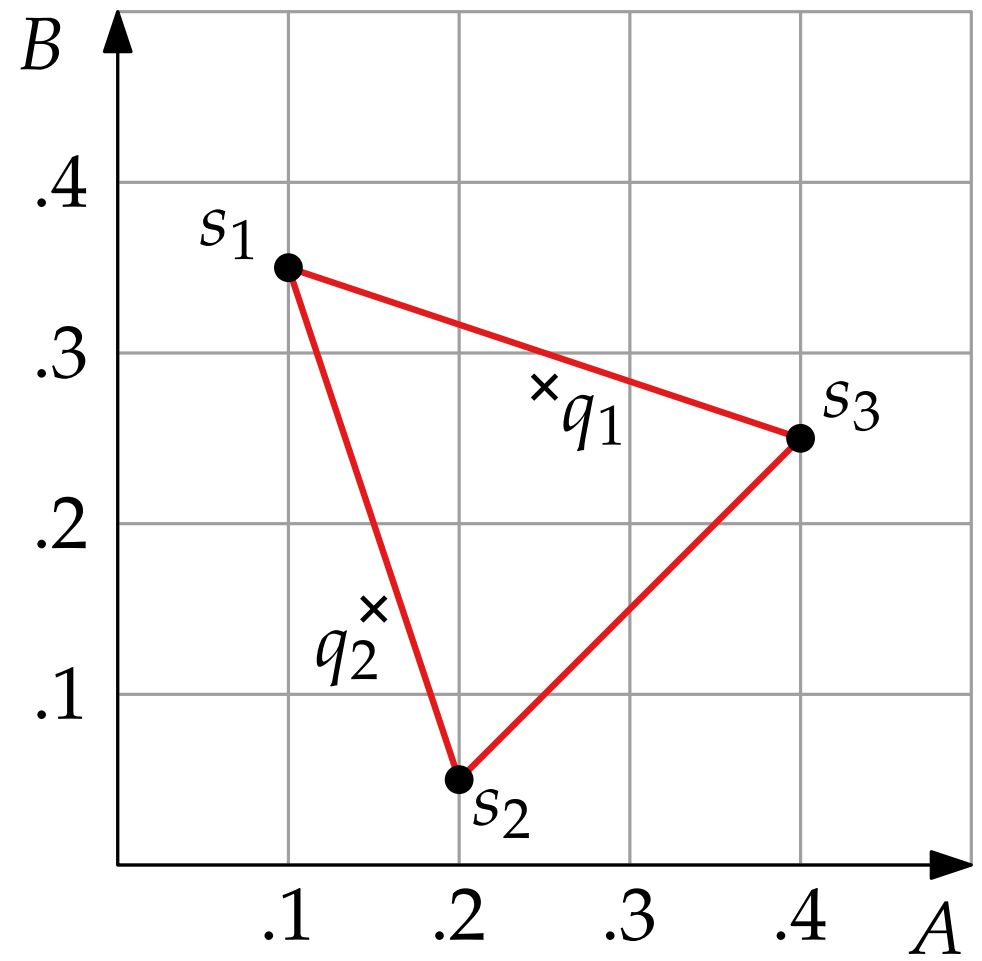
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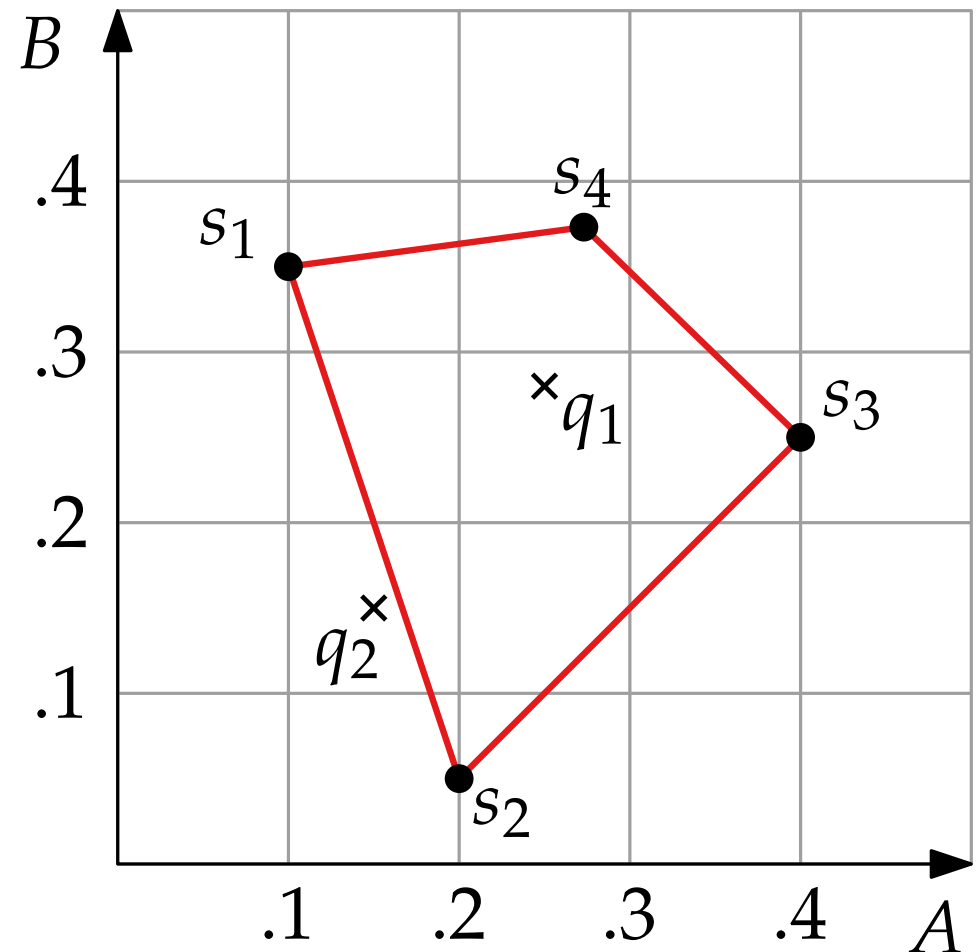
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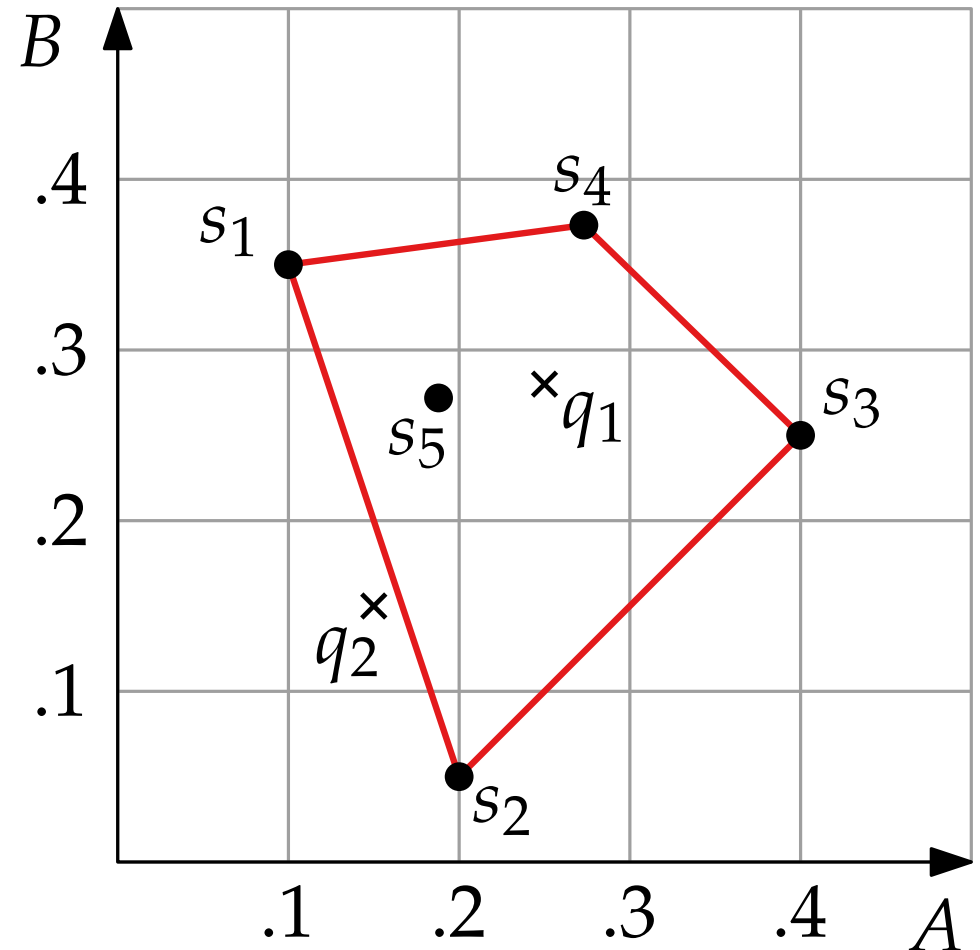
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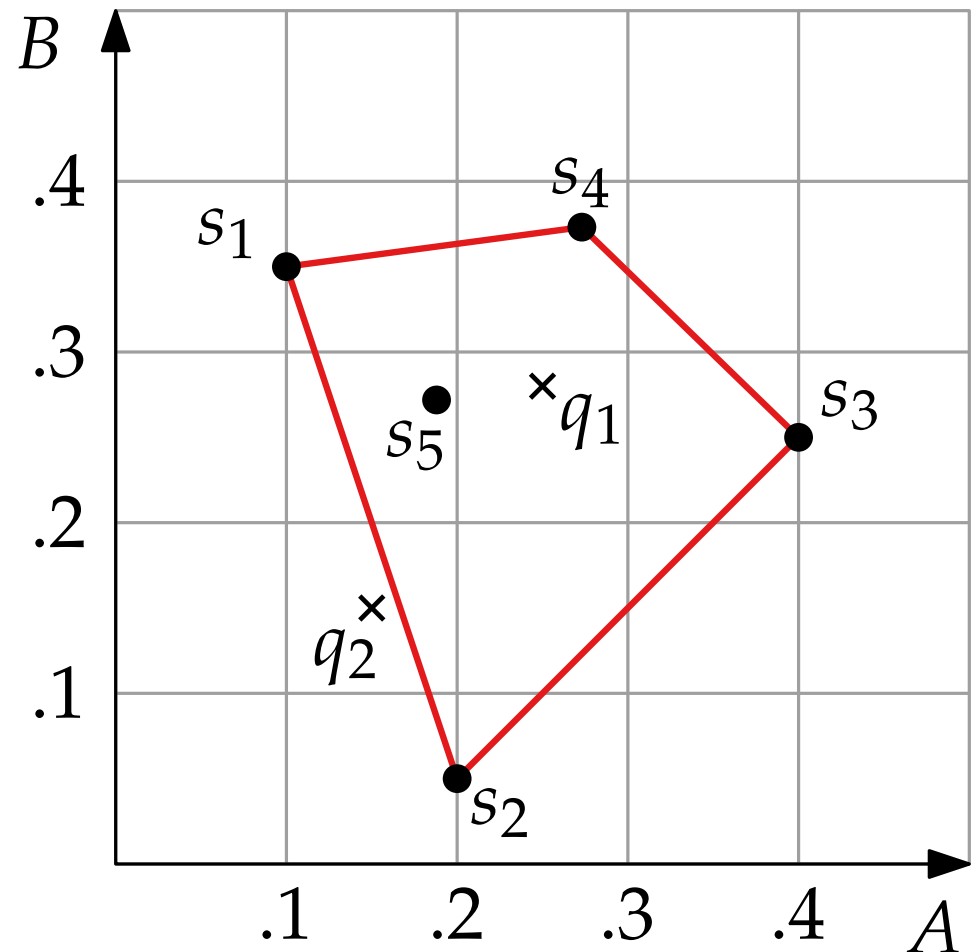
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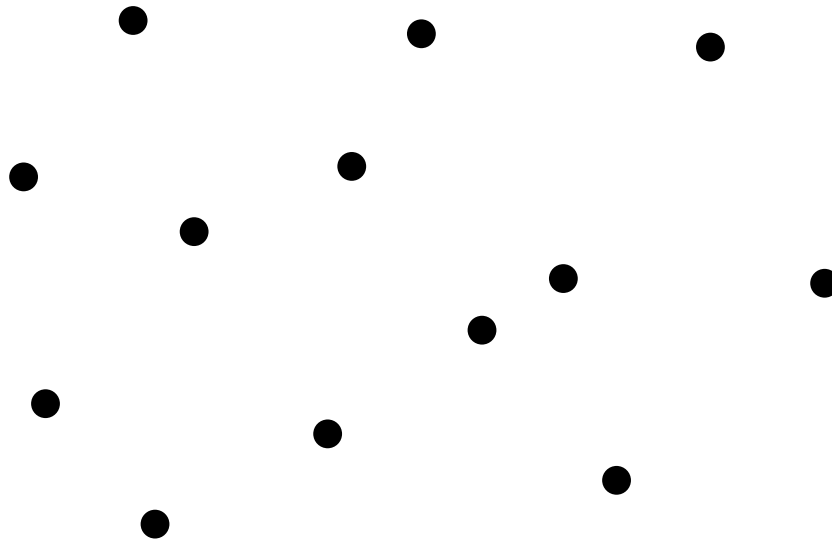
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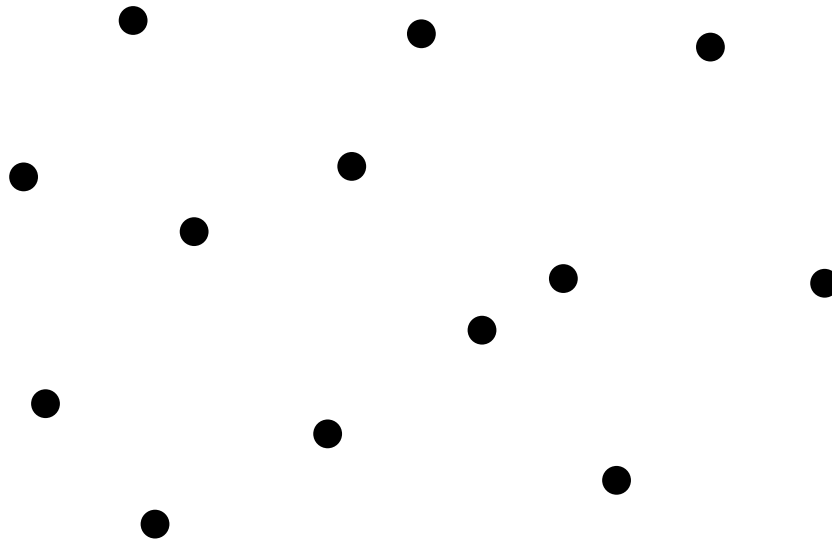
**Observe:** Given a set  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  of substances, we can mix a substance  $q \in \mathbb{R}^d$  using the substances in  $S \iff q \in \text{CH}(S)$ .

Formally...



Given  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ , how do we define the *convex hull*  $\text{CH}(S)$ ?

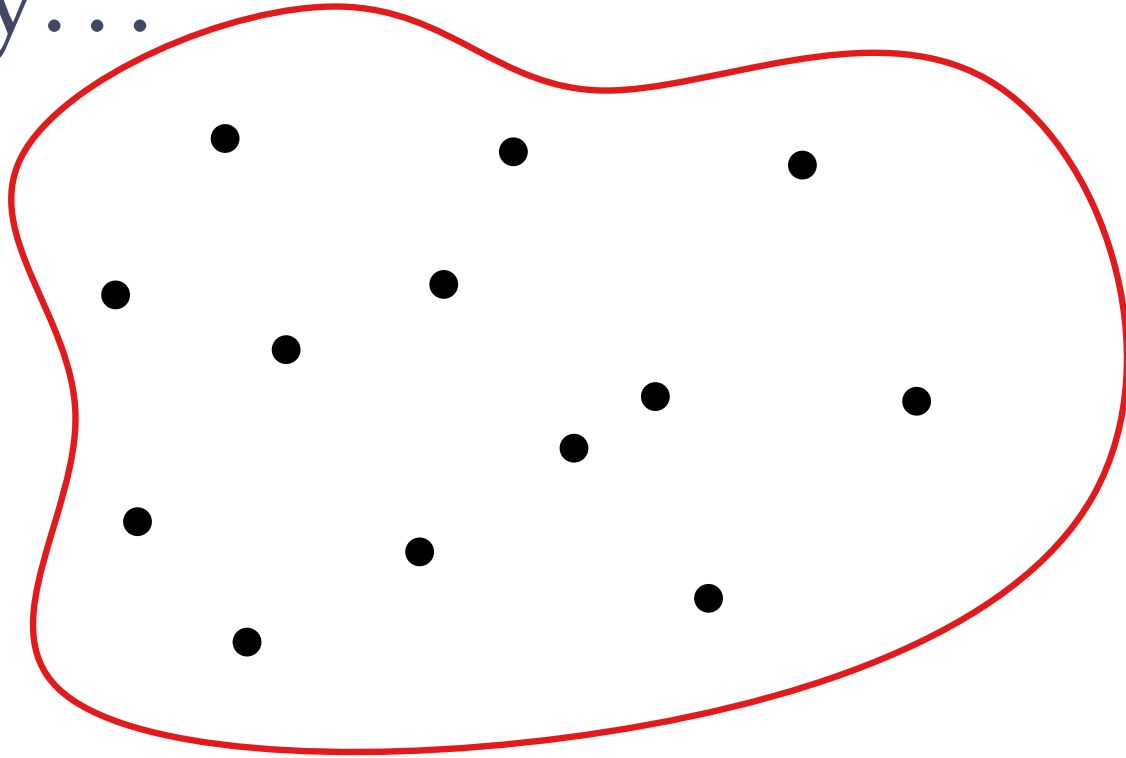
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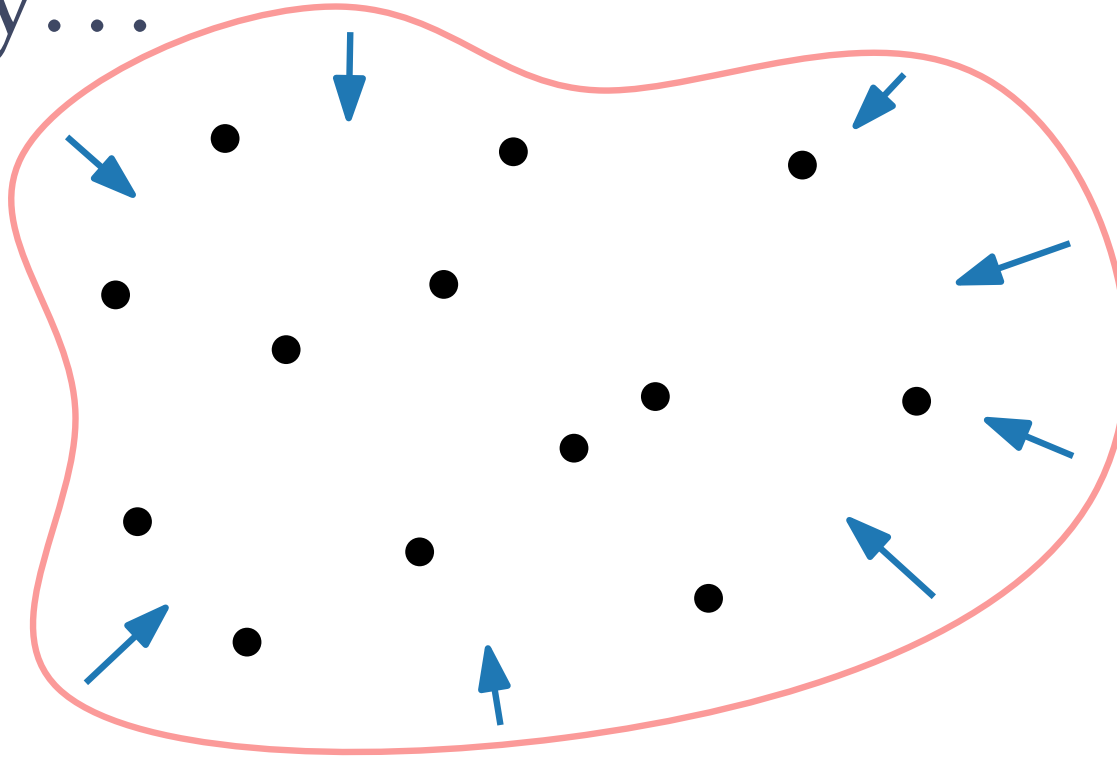
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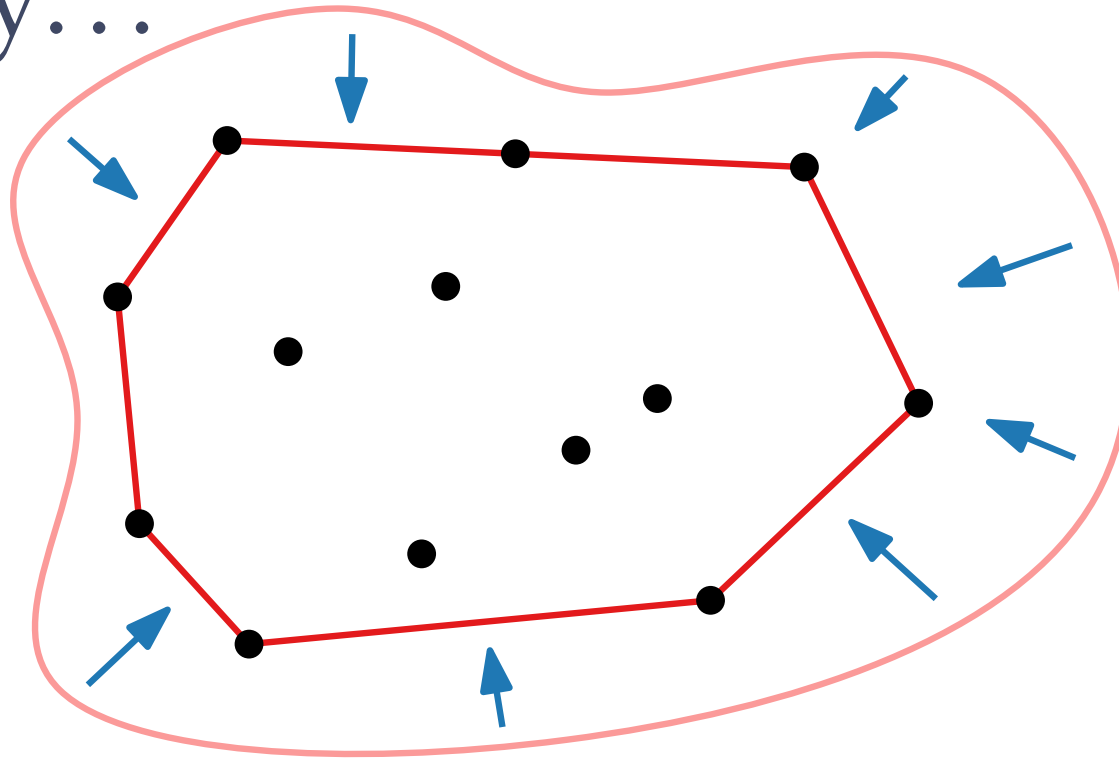


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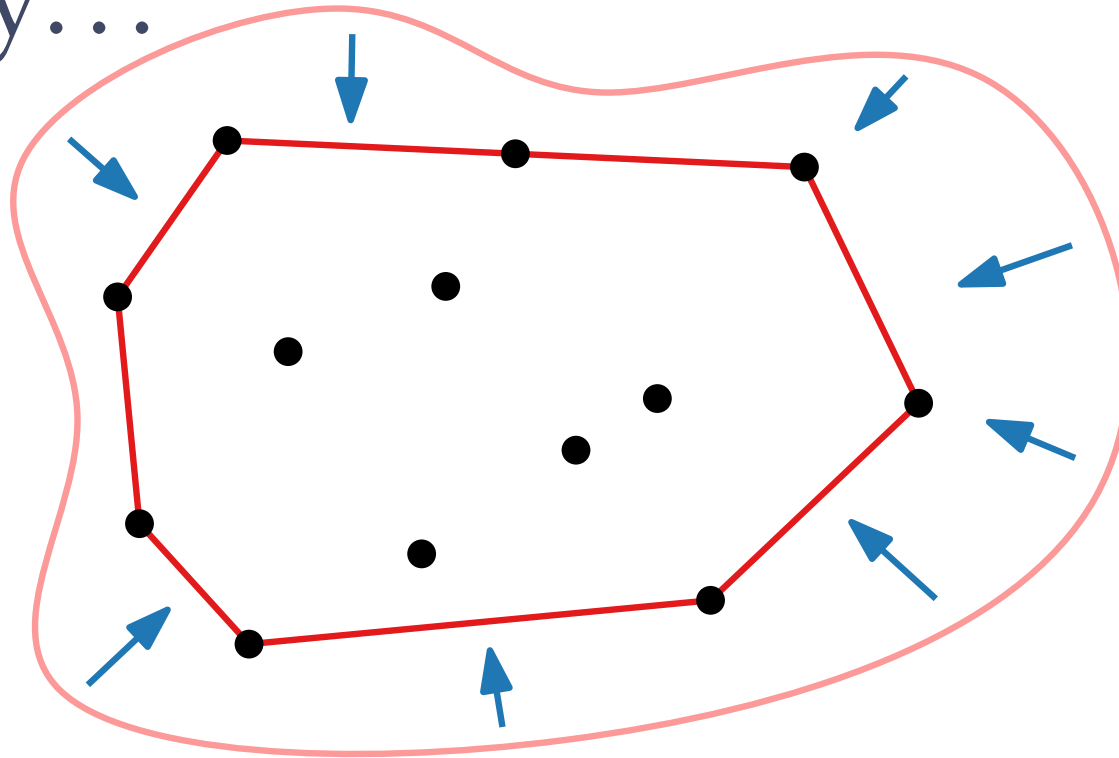
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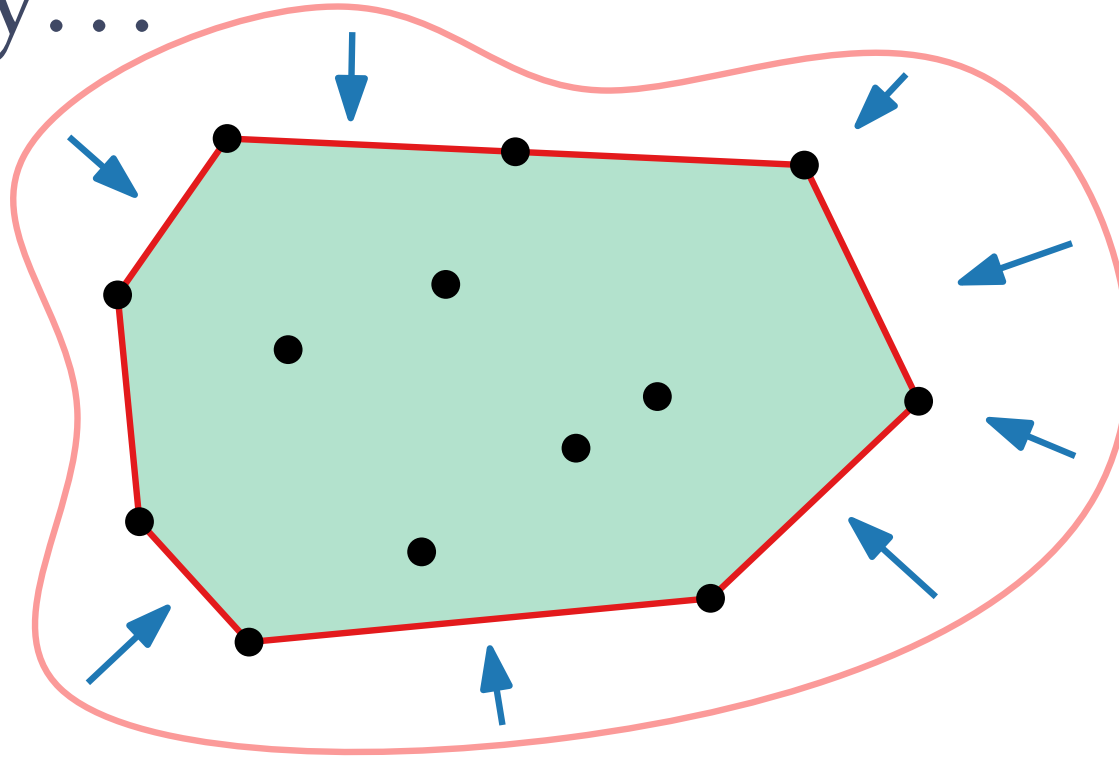
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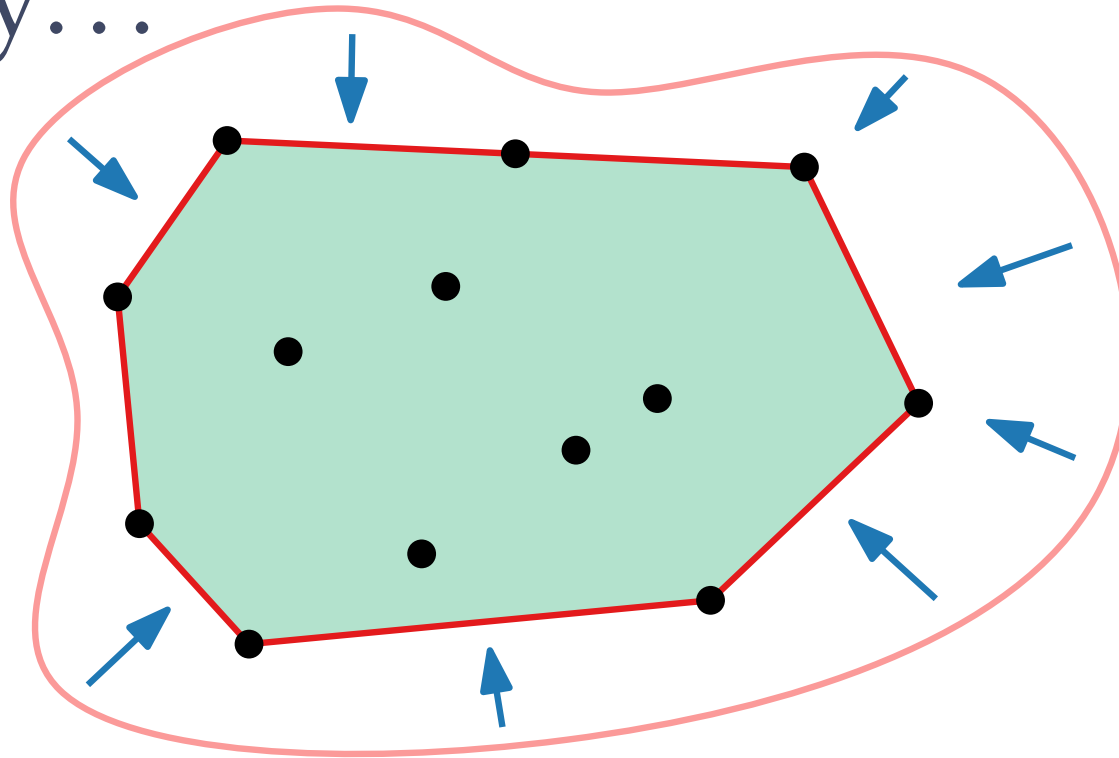
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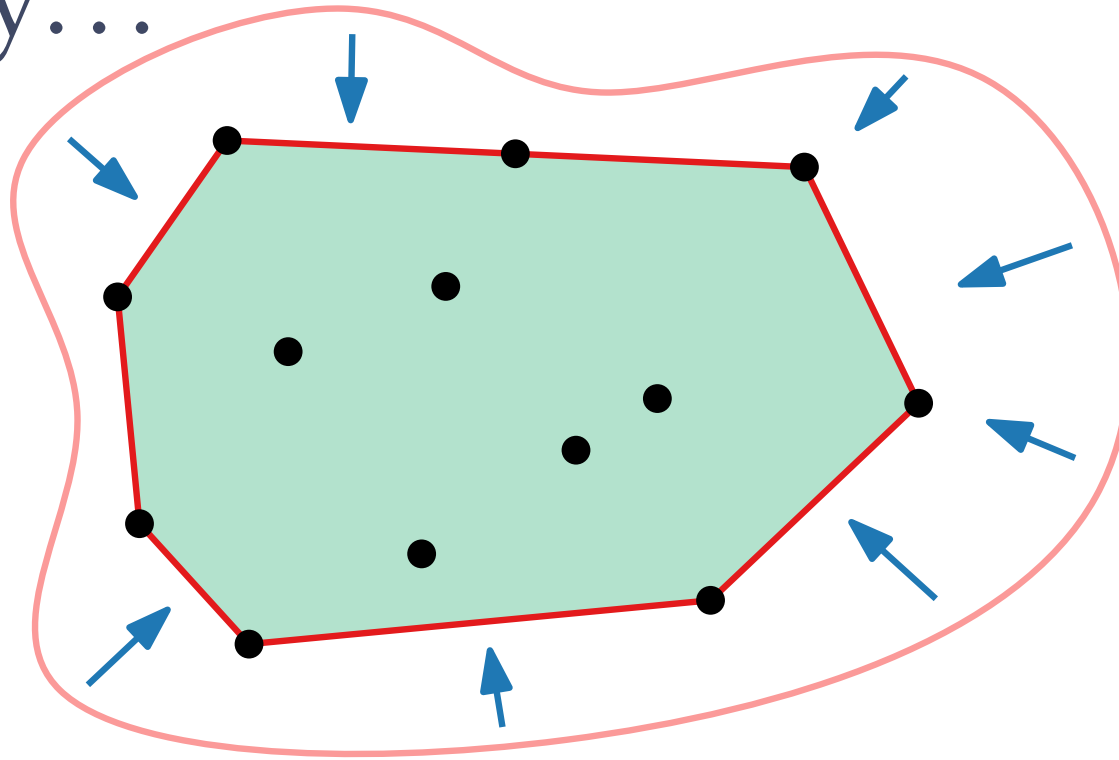


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Maths approach:

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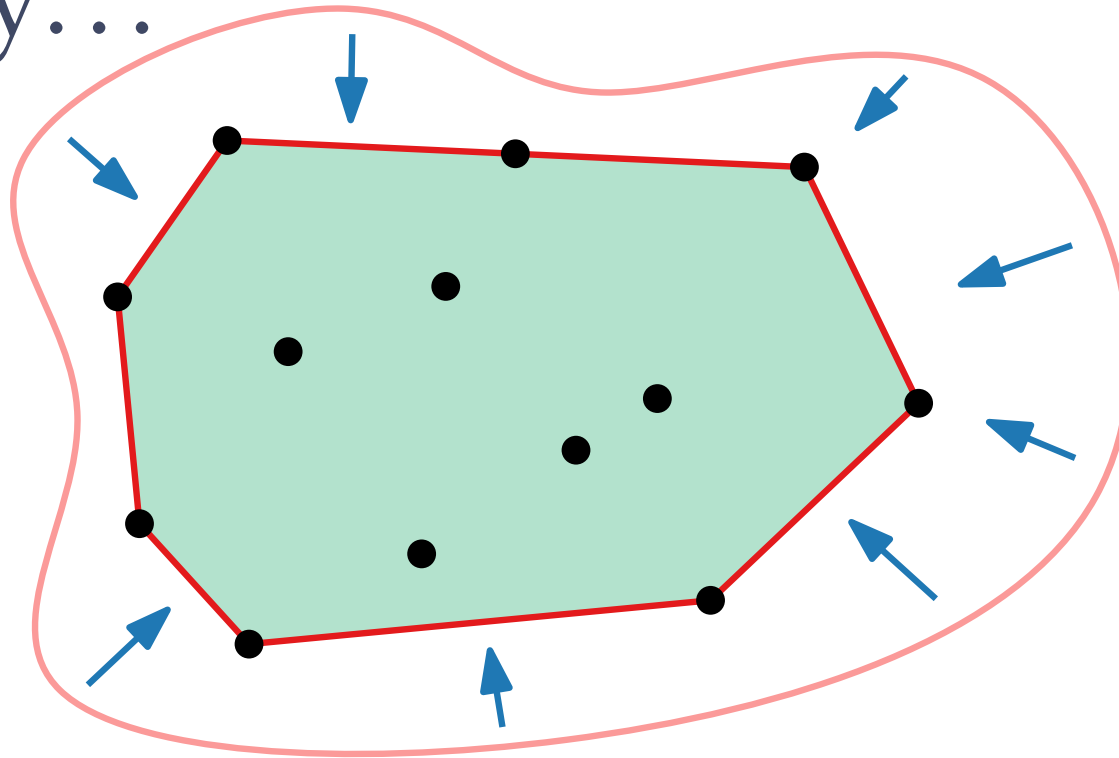


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Maths approach: – define *convex*

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Physics approach: – take (large enough) elastic **rope**  
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Maths approach: – define *convex*

– define  $\text{CH}(S) = \bigcap_{C \supseteq S: C \text{ convex}} C$

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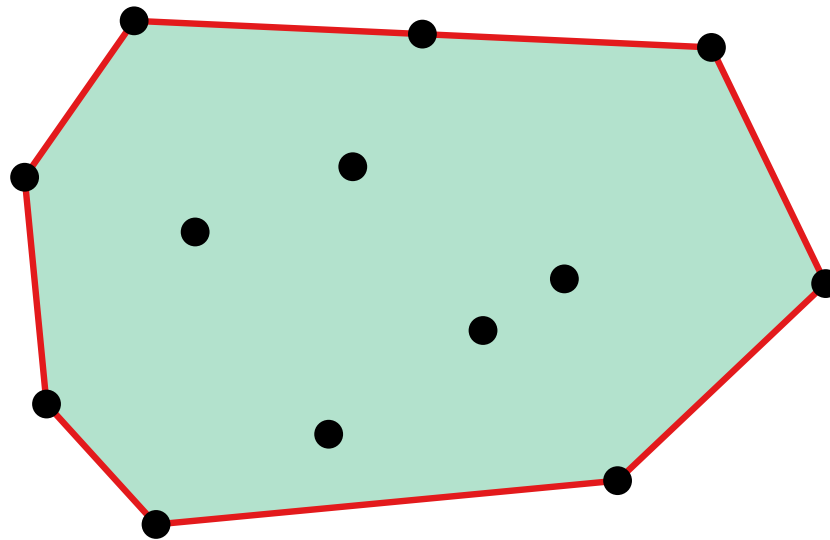


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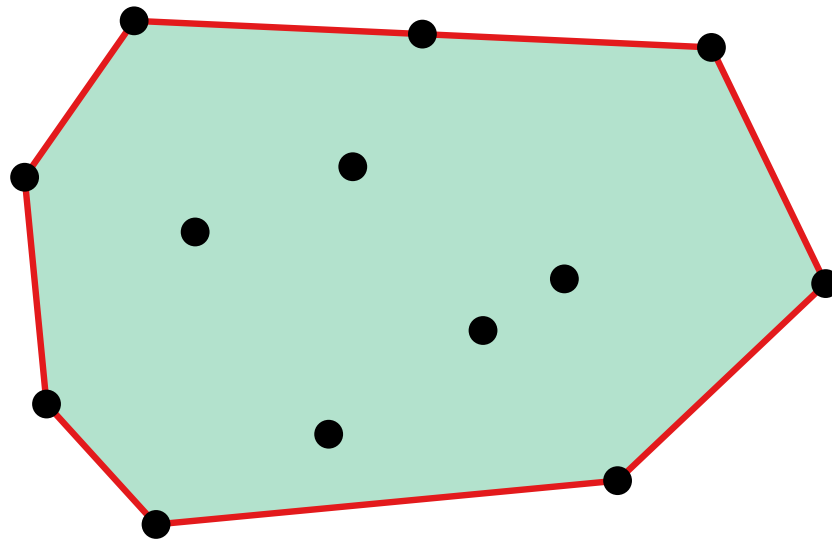
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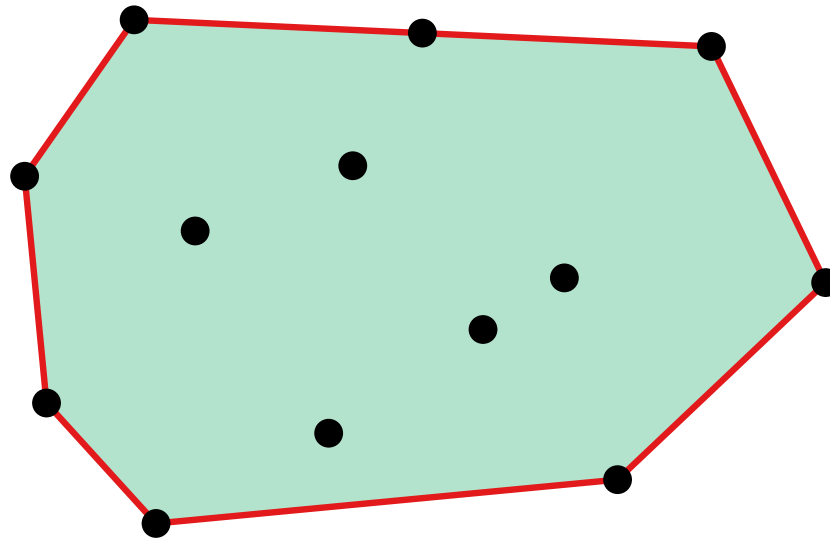
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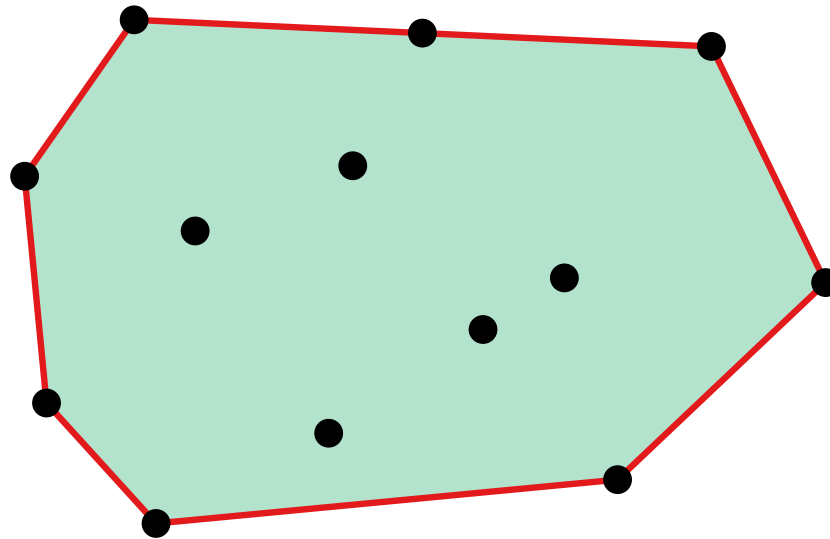
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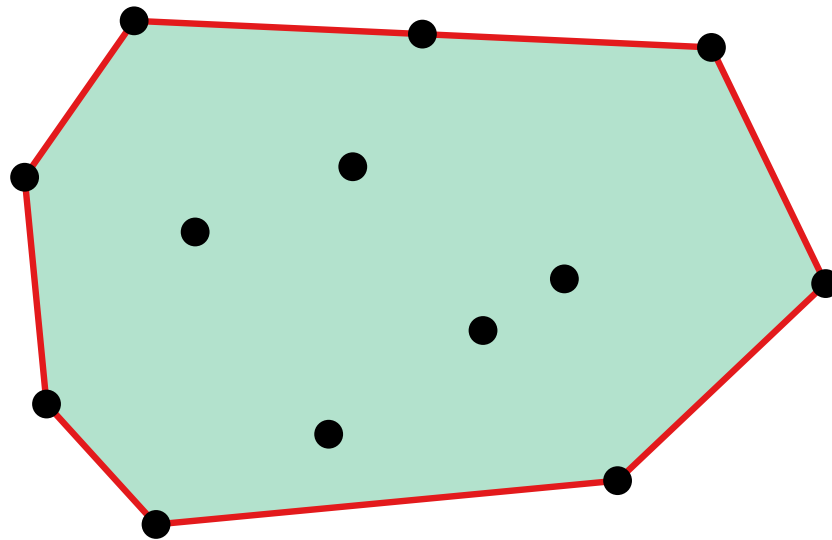
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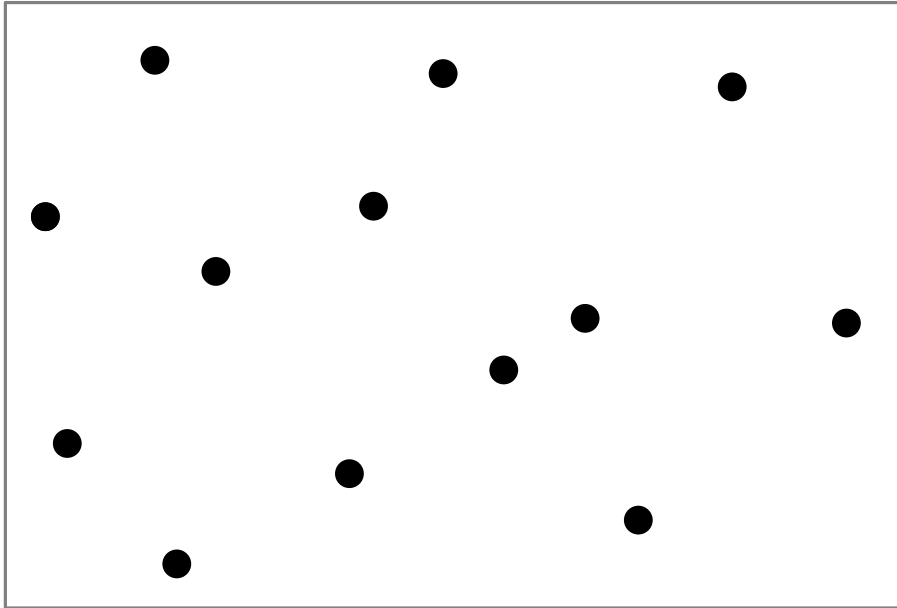
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**Claim:**

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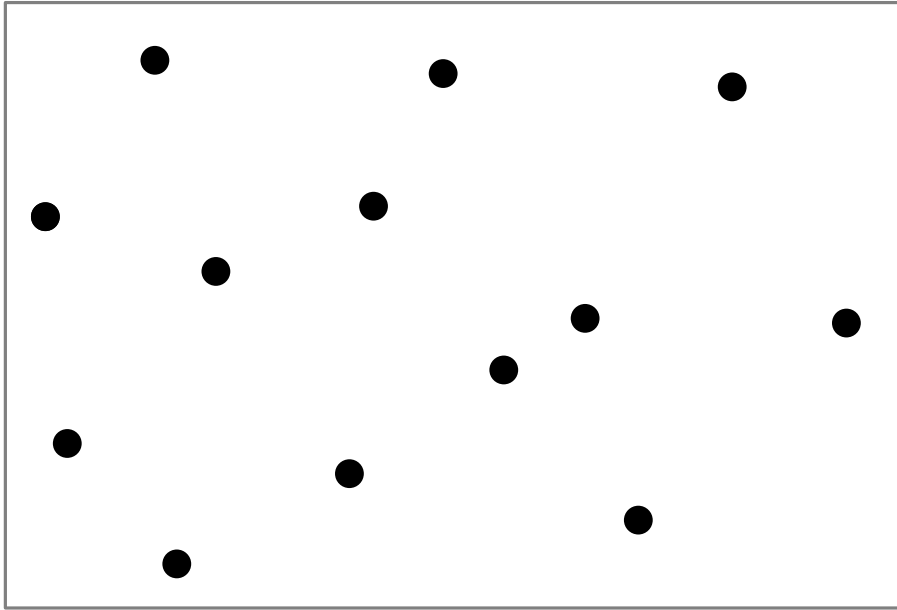
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**Input:** set  $S$  of  $n$  points in the plane, that is,  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^2$



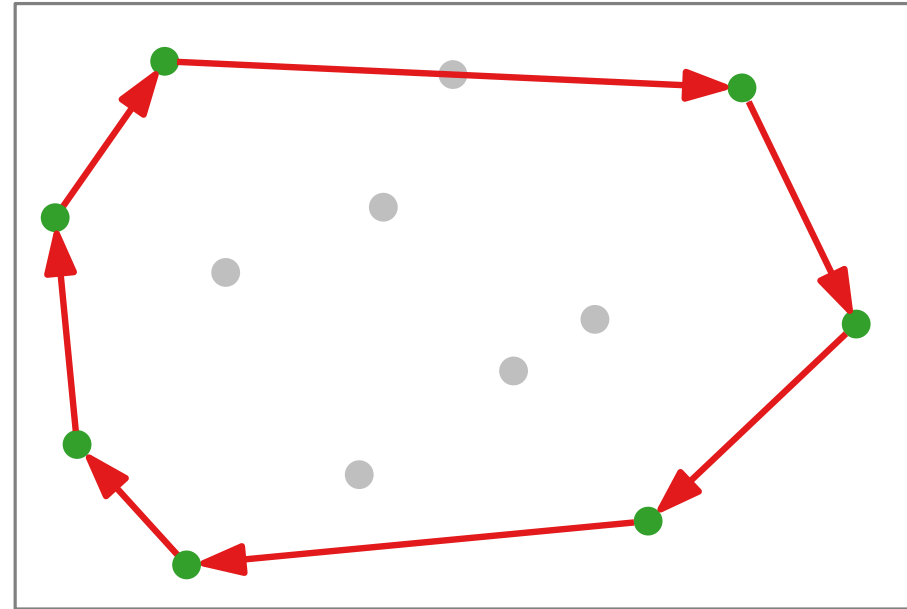
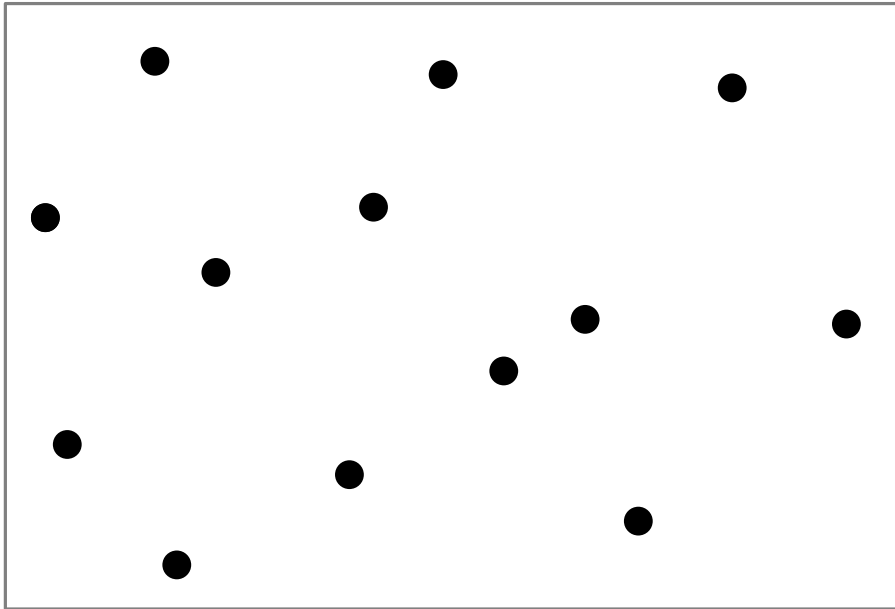
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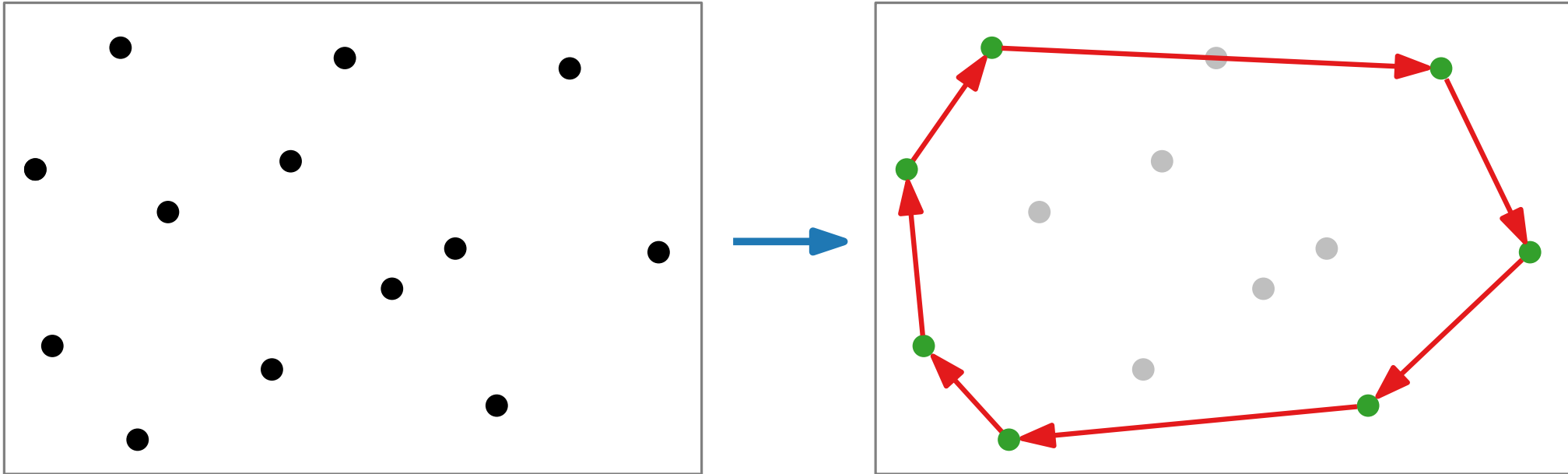
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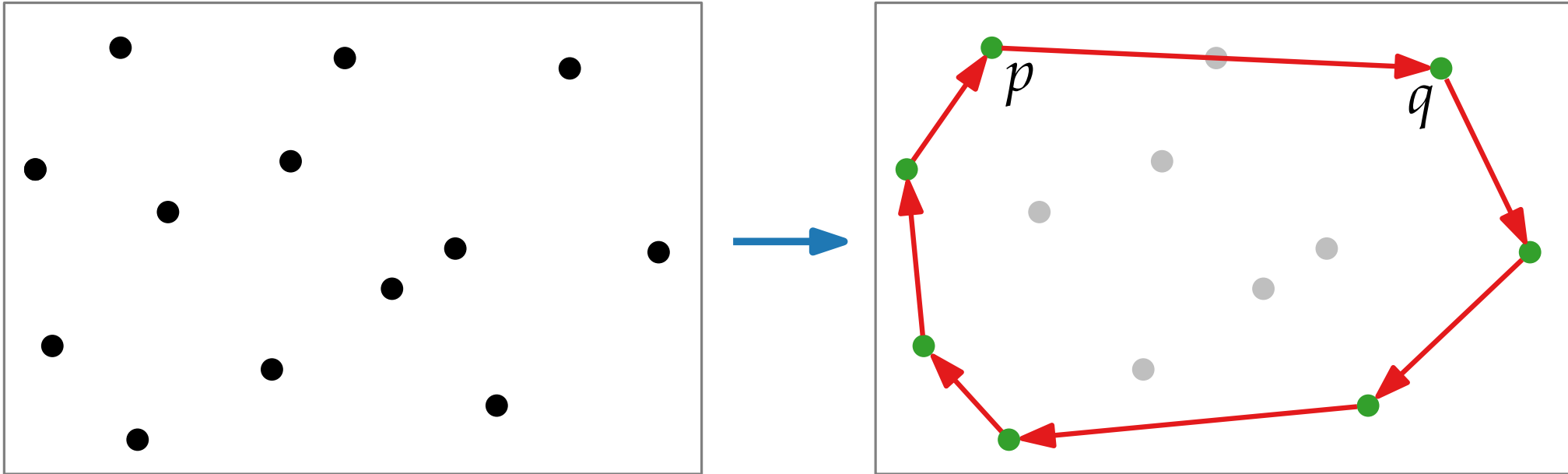
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**Output:** list of vertices of  $\text{CH}(S)$  in clockwise order

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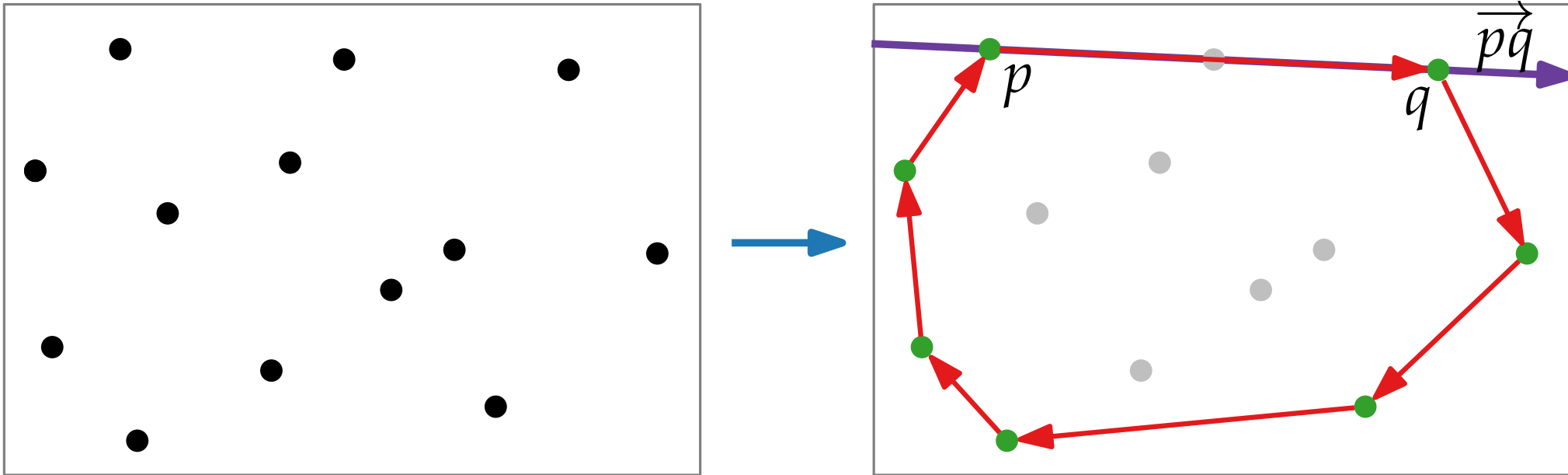


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**Observation.**  $(p, q)$  is an edge of  $\text{CH}(S) \iff$

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**Observation.**  $(p, q)$  is an edge of  $\text{CH}(S) \iff$   
 each point in  $S$  lies  
 – strictly to the right of the directed line  $\vec{pq}$  or  
 – on the line segment  $\overline{pq}$

# Finally, an Algorithm

FirstConvexHull( $S$ )

$E \leftarrow \emptyset$

**foreach**  $(p, q) \in S \times S$  with  $p \neq q$  **do**

$valid \leftarrow true$

**foreach**  $r \in S$  **do**

**if not** ( $r$  strictly right of  $\overrightarrow{pq}$  **or**  $r \in \overline{pq}$ ) **then**

$valid \leftarrow false$

**if**  $valid$  **then**

$E \leftarrow E \cup \{(p, q)\}$

from  $E$  construct sorted list  $L$  of vertices of CH( $S$ )

**return**  $L$

# Finally, an Algorithm

FirstConvexHull( $S$ )

$E \leftarrow \emptyset$

**foreach**  $(p, q) \in S \times S$  with  $p \neq q$  **do** // test:  $(p, q)$  edge of CH( $S$ )?

$valid \leftarrow true$

**foreach**  $r \in S$  **do**

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FirstConvexHull( $S$ )

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**foreach**  $(p, q) \in S \times S$  with  $p \neq q$  **do** // test:  $(p, q)$  edge of CH( $S$ )?

$valid \leftarrow true$

**foreach**  $r \in S$  **do**

**if not** ( $r$  strictly right of  $\overrightarrow{pq}$  **or**  $r \in \overline{pq}$ ) **then**

$valid \leftarrow false$

**if**  $valid$  **then**

$E \leftarrow E \cup \{(p, q)\}$

from  $E$  construct sorted list  $L$  of vertices of CH( $S$ )

**return**  $L$

# Finally, an Algorithm

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$r$  strictly right of  $\vec{pq}$



$x_r$	$y_r$	$1$	
$x_p$	$y_p$	$1$	$< 0$
$x_q$	$y_q$	$1$	

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$x_r$	$y_r$	1	< 0
$x_p$	$y_p$	1	
$x_q$	$y_q$	1	

Important:

Test takes  $O(1)$  time!



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$r$  strictly right of  $\overrightarrow{pq}$



$$\begin{vmatrix} x_r & y_r & 1 \\ x_p & y_p & 1 \\ x_q & y_q & 1 \end{vmatrix} < 0$$

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$r$  strictly right of  $\vec{pq}$



$x_r$	$y_r$	1		$< 0$
$x_p$	$y_p$	1		
$x_q$	$y_q$	1		

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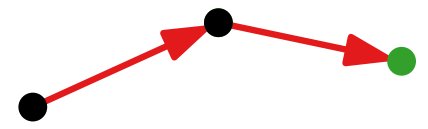
$r$  strictly right of  $\vec{pq}$



$x_r$	$y_r$	1	< 0
$x_p$	$y_p$	1	
$x_q$	$y_q$	1	

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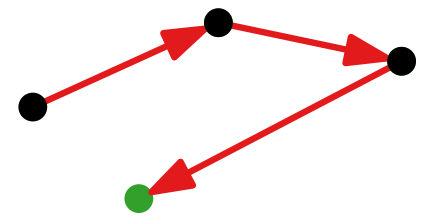
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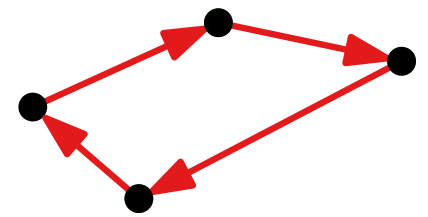
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$x_r$	$y_r$	1	< 0
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Important:

Test takes  $O(1)$  time!



# Running Time Analysis

FirstConvexHull( $S$ )

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$\Theta(1)$

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$\Theta(n)$

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from  $E$  construct sorted list  $L$  of vertices of  $CH(S)$

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# Running Time Analysis

FirstConvexHull( $S$ )

$E \leftarrow \emptyset$

**foreach**  $(p, q) \in S \times S$  with  $p \neq q$  **do**  $(n^2 - n) \cdot$

$valid \leftarrow true$

**foreach**  $r \in S$  **do**

**if not** ( $r$  strictly right of  $\overrightarrow{pq}$  or  $r \in \overline{pq}$ ) **then**

$valid \leftarrow false$

$\Theta(1)$

$\Theta(n)$

**if**  $valid$  **then**

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$\Theta(n)$

$\Theta(n^3)$

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$\Theta(1)$

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$\Theta(n^3)$

$O(n^2)$

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$\Theta(1)$

$\Theta(n)$

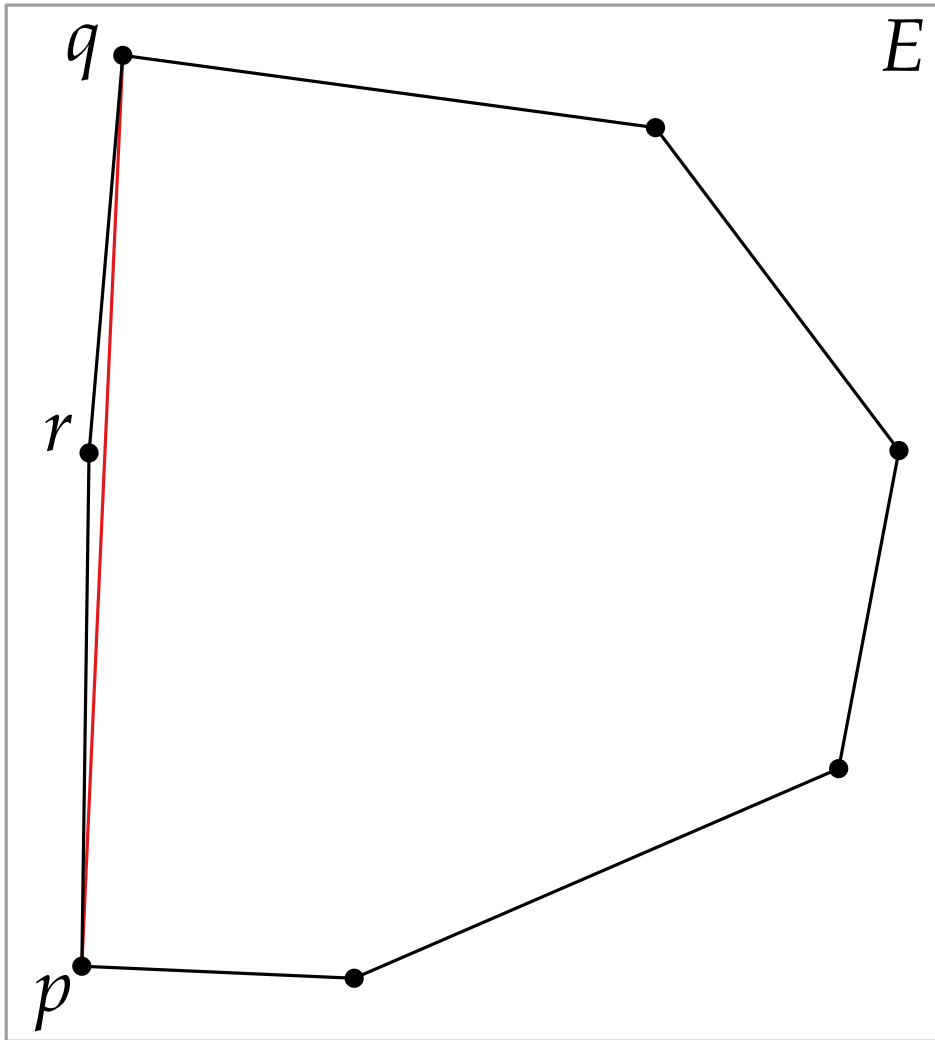
$\Theta(n^3)$

$O(n^2)$

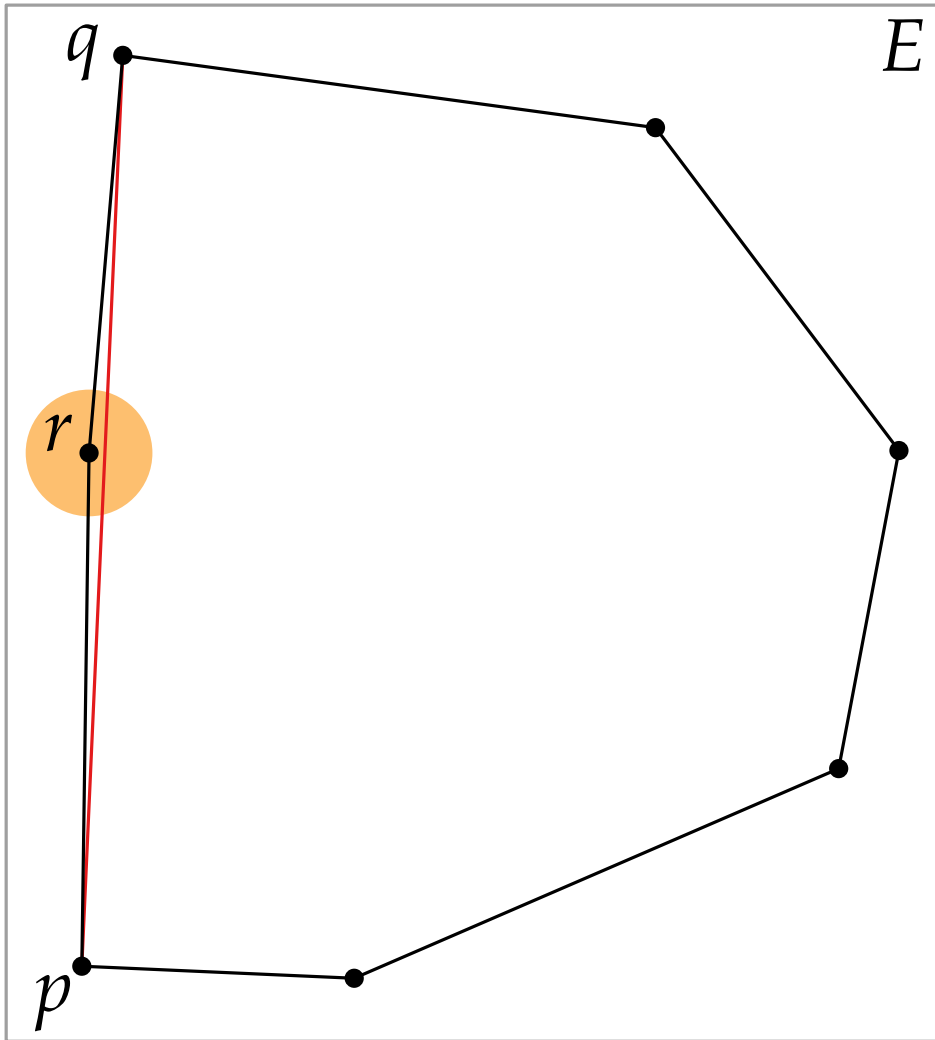
**Lemma.** We can compute the convex hull of  $n$  pts in the plane in  $\Theta(n^3)$  time.

**Discussion** **if not** ( $r$  strictly right of  $\overrightarrow{pq}$  **or**  $r \in \overline{pq}$ ) **then**  
└  $valid \leftarrow false$

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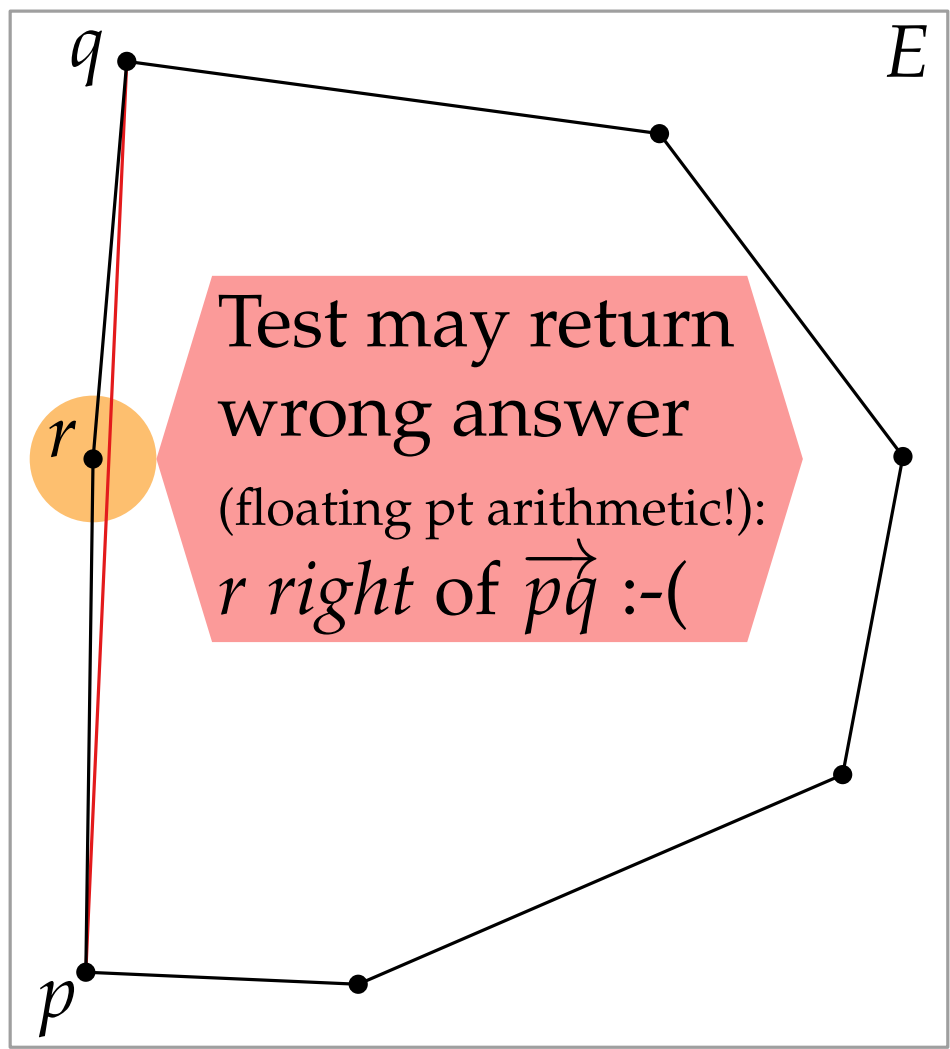


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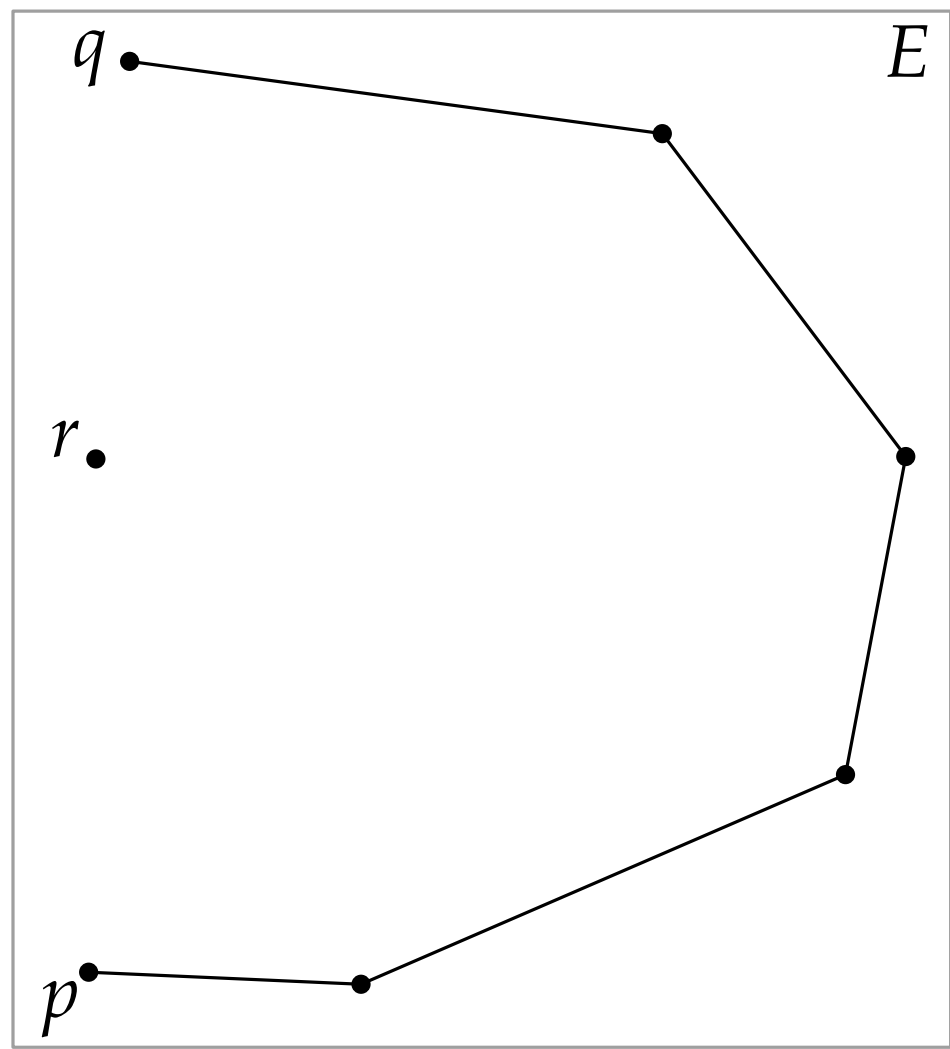
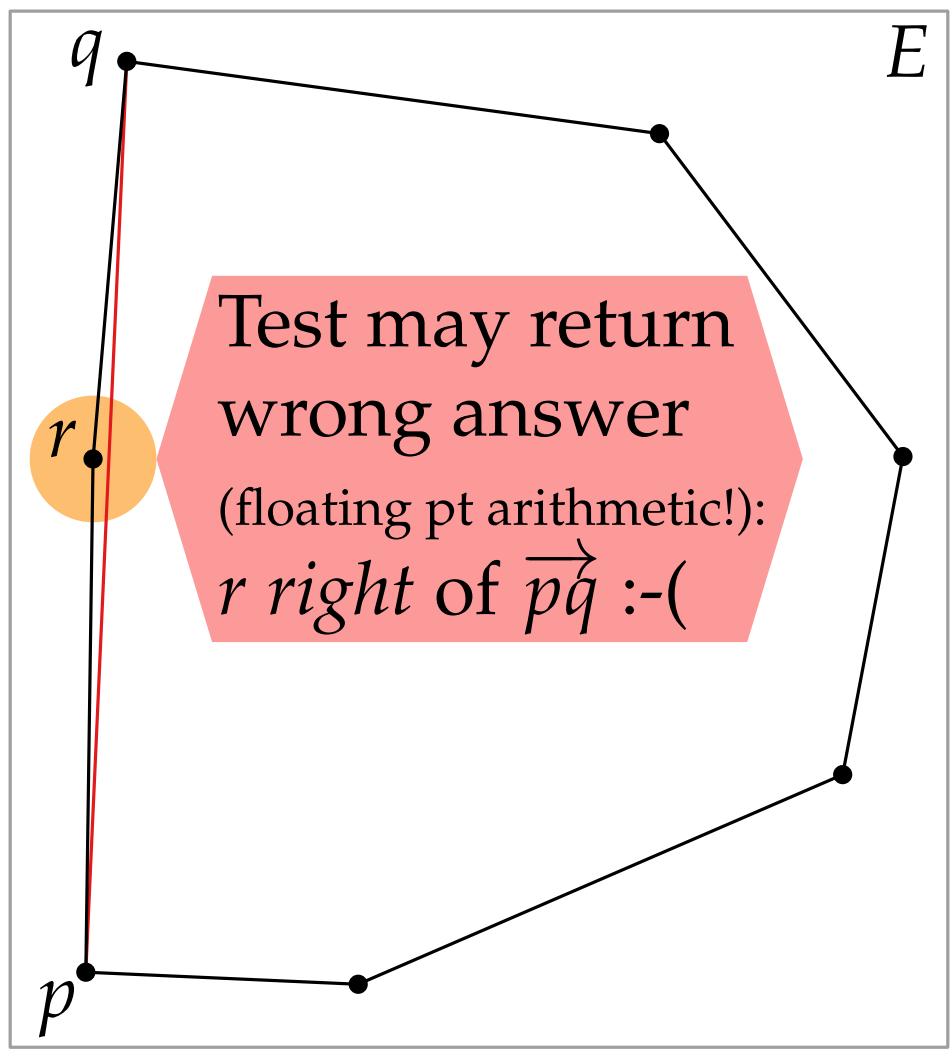




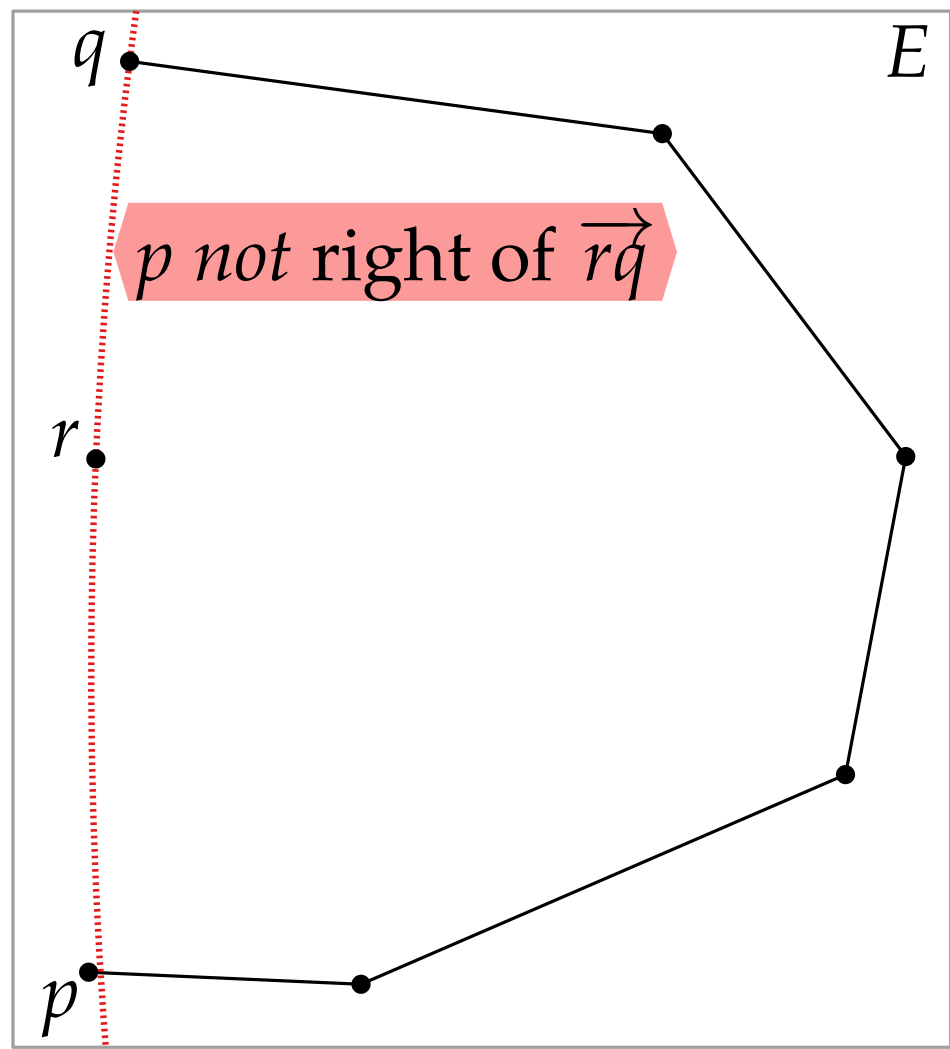
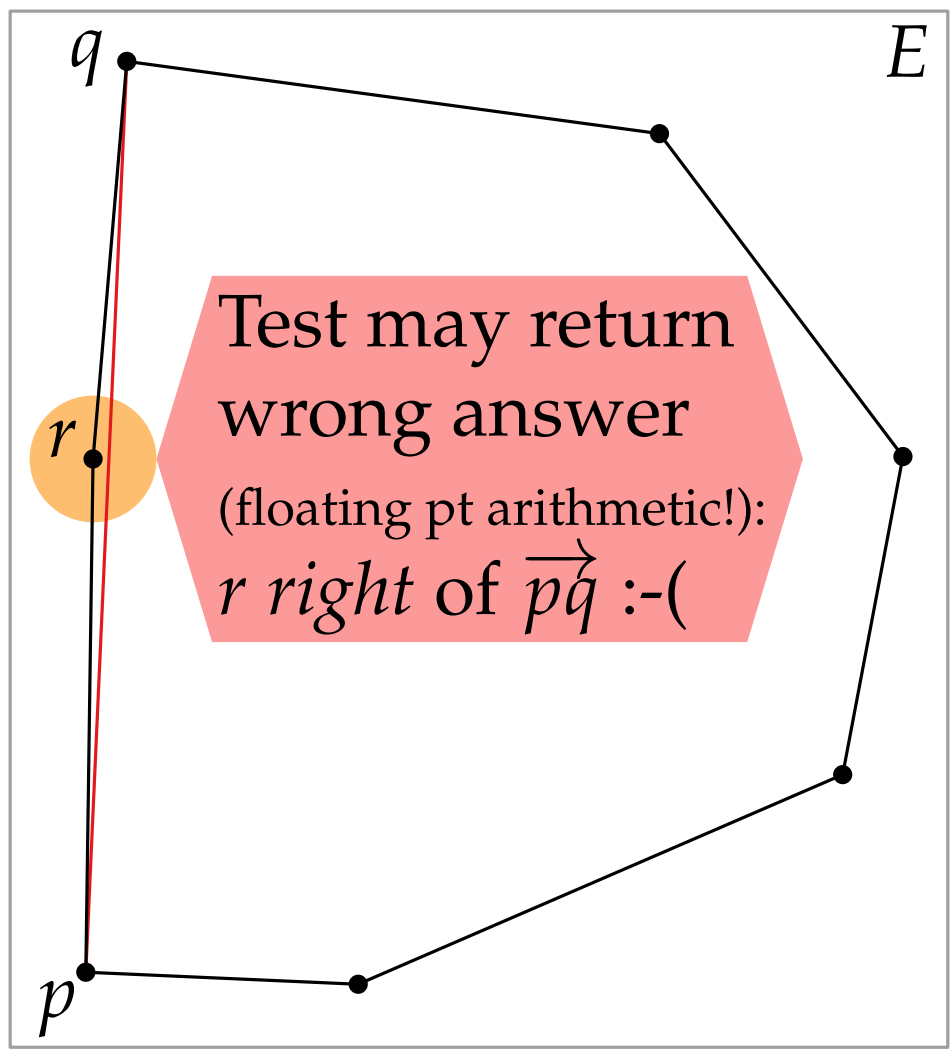
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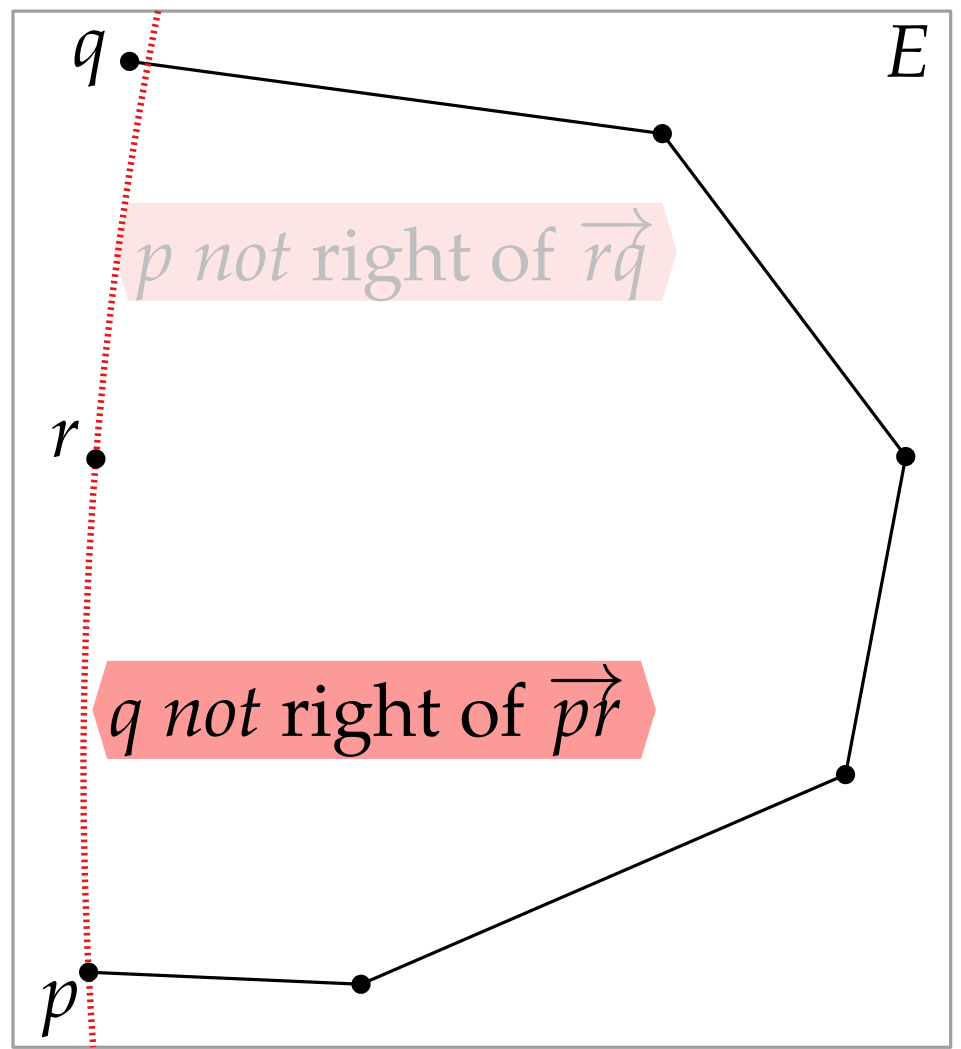
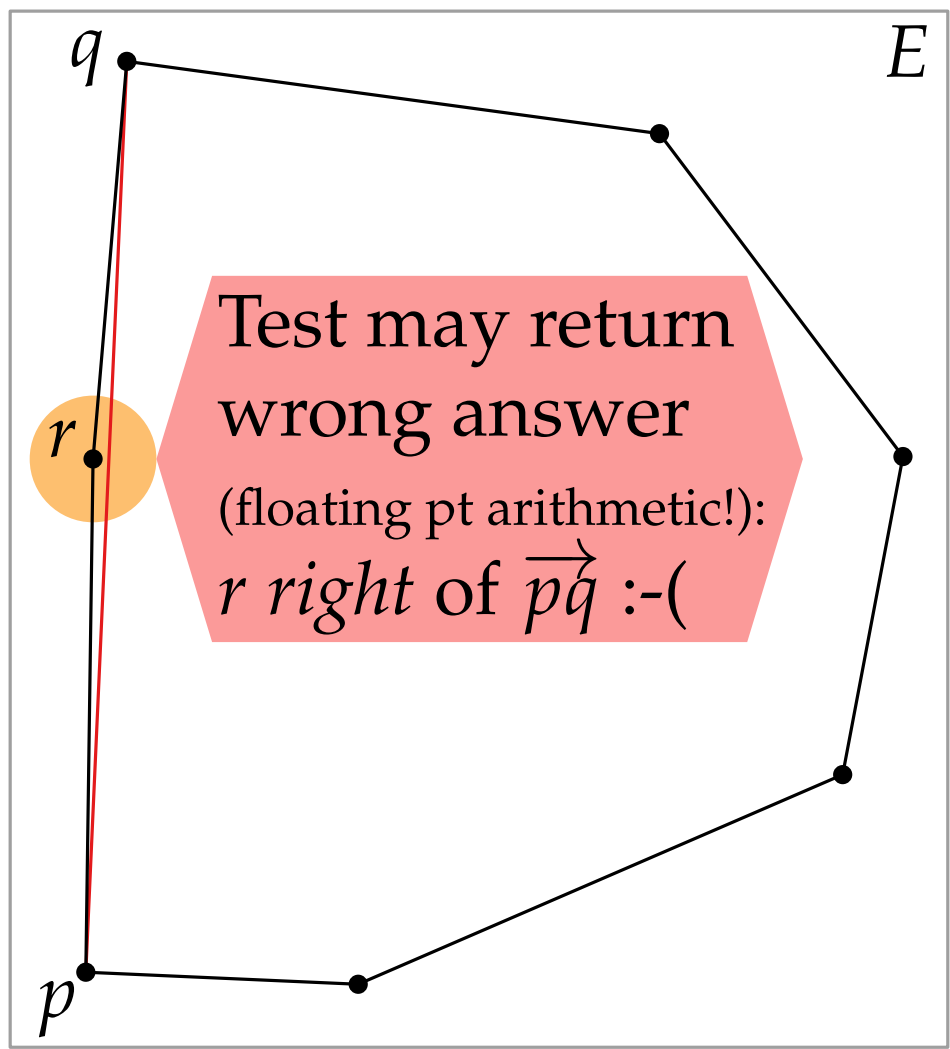
Discussion **if not** ( $r$  strictly right of  $\vec{pq}$  or  $r \in \overline{pq}$ ) **then**  
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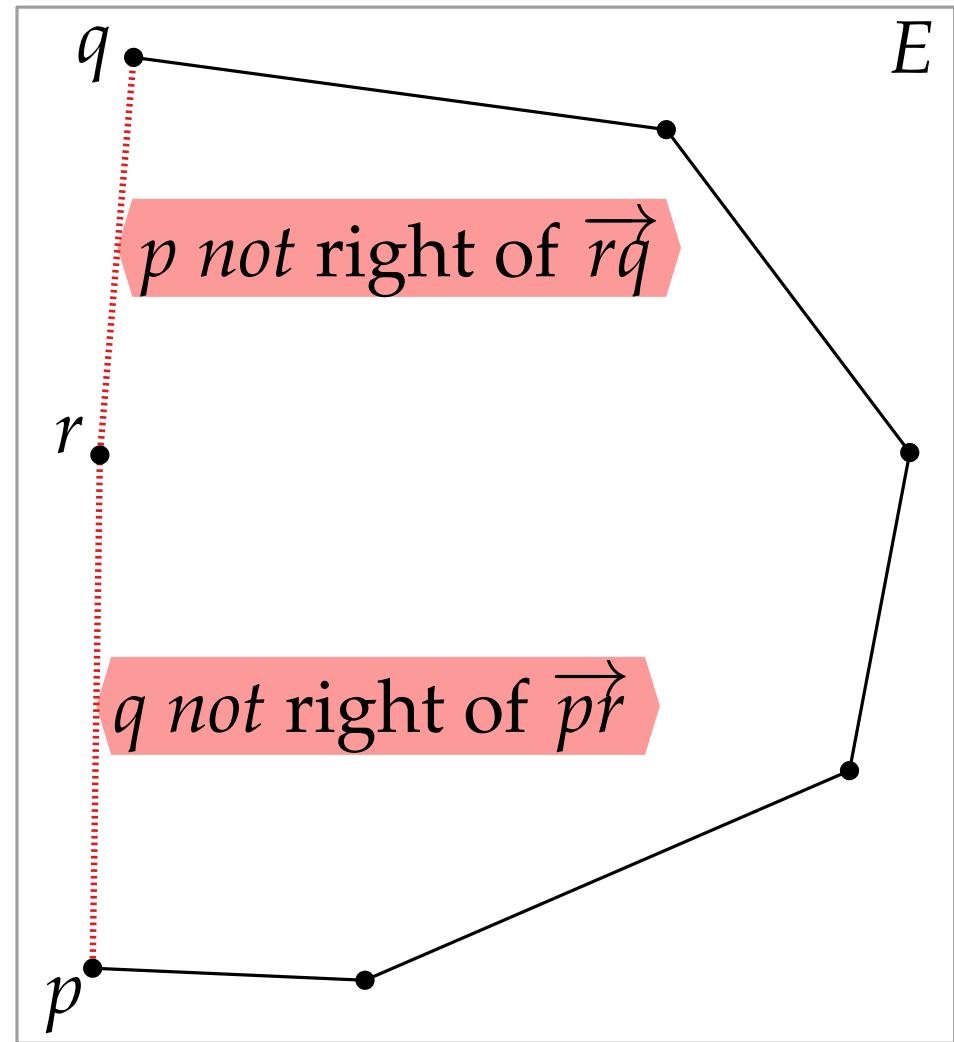
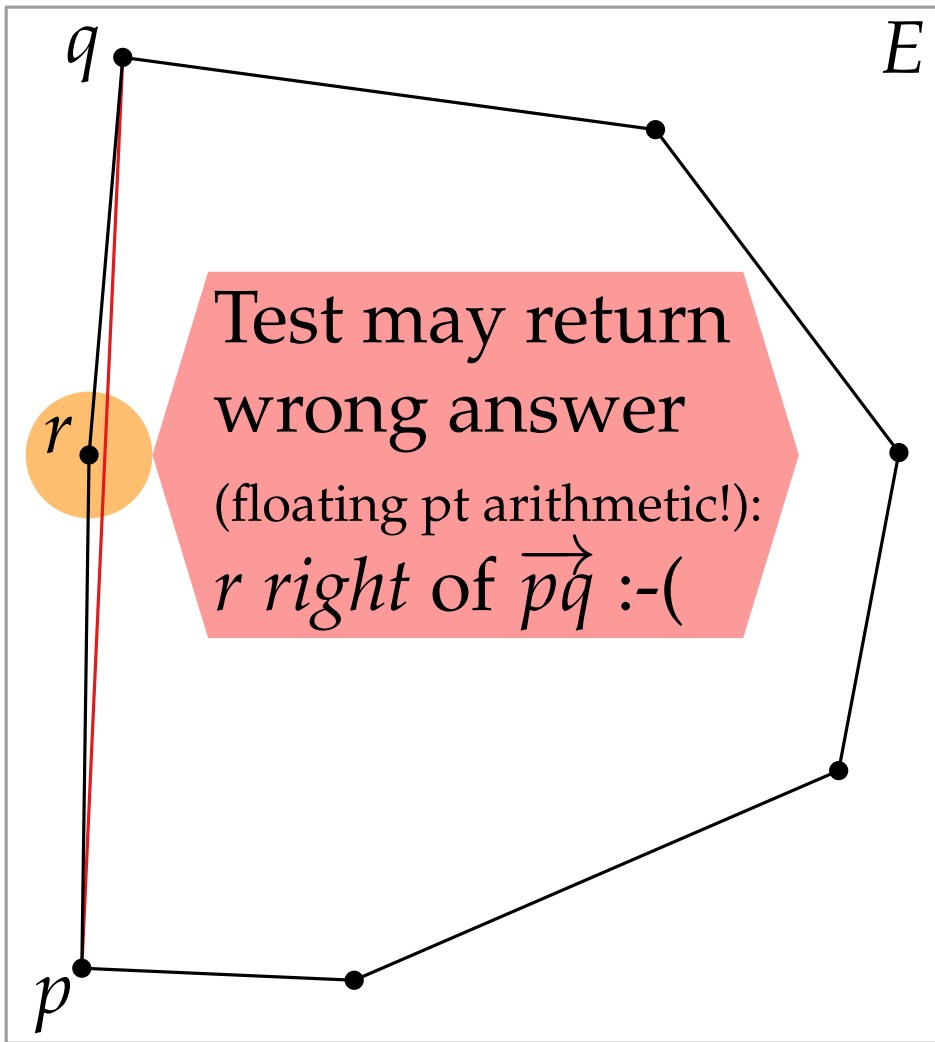
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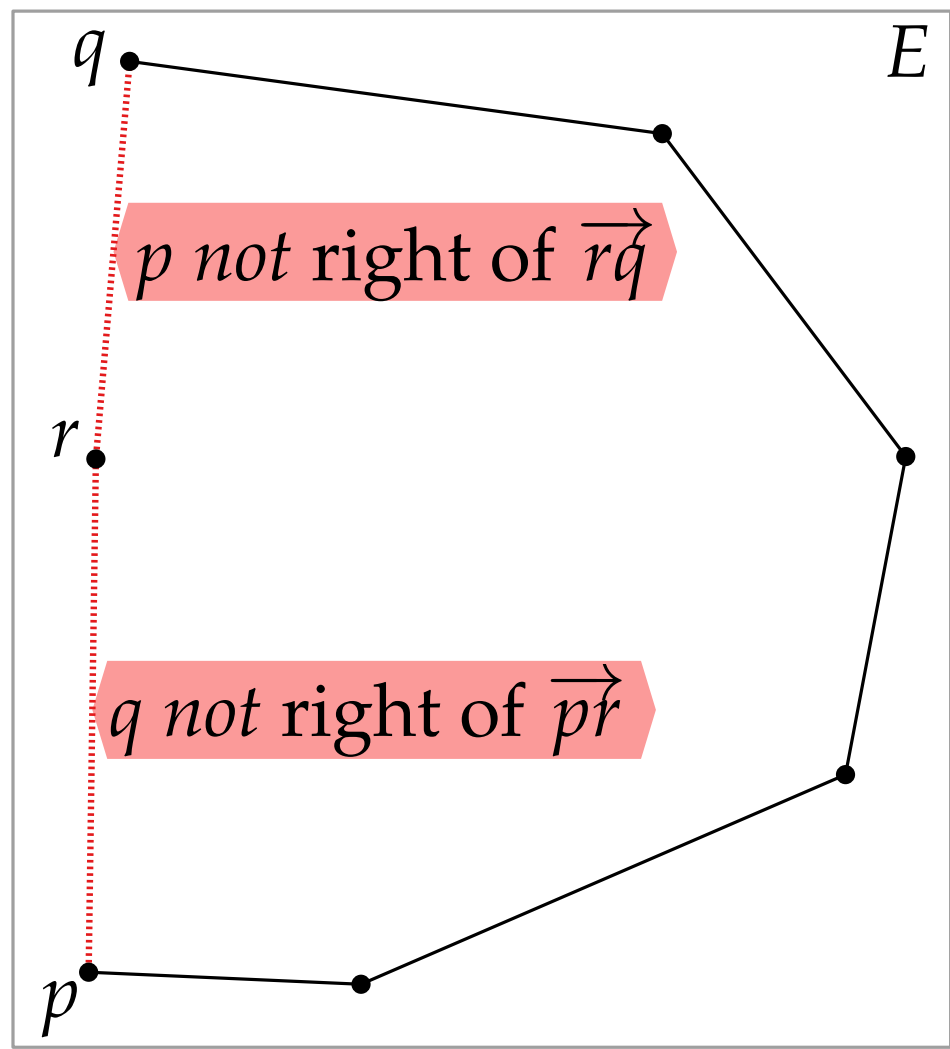
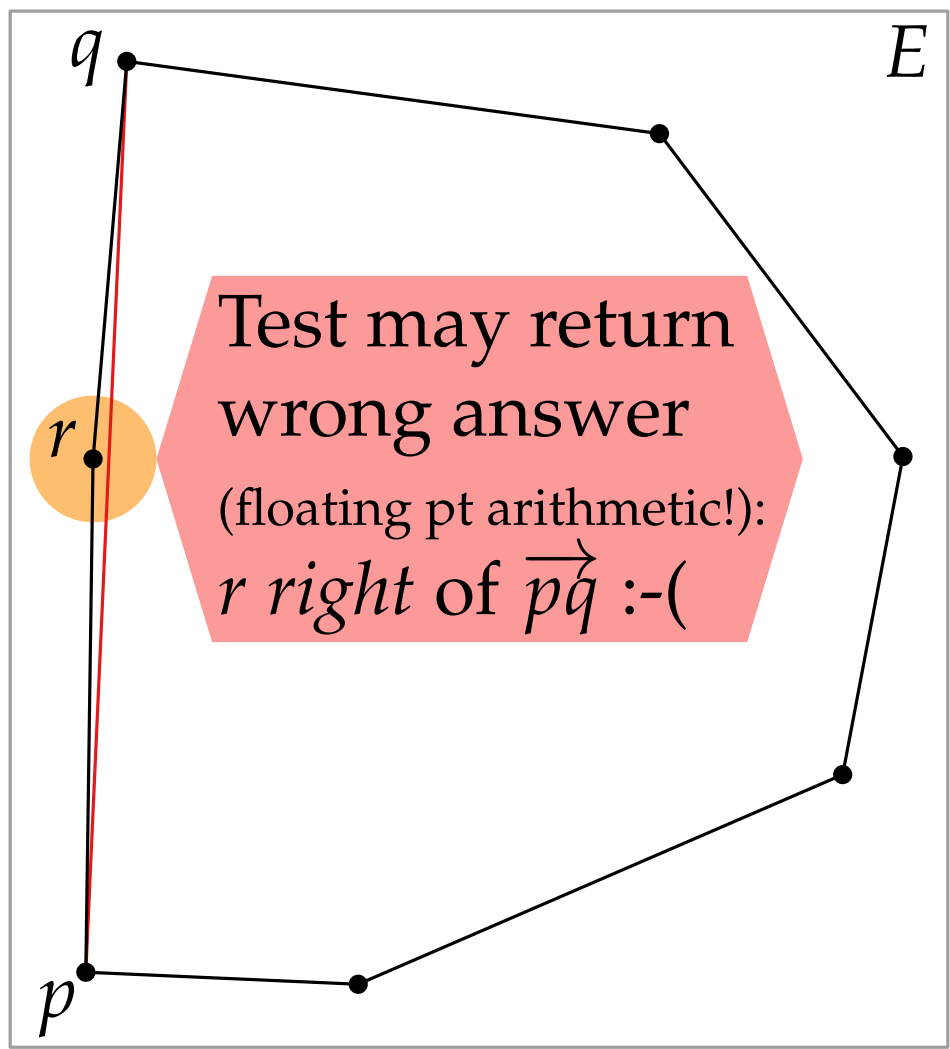
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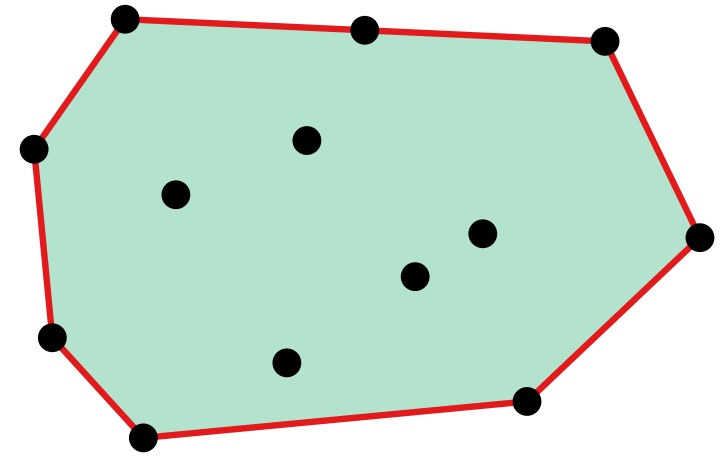


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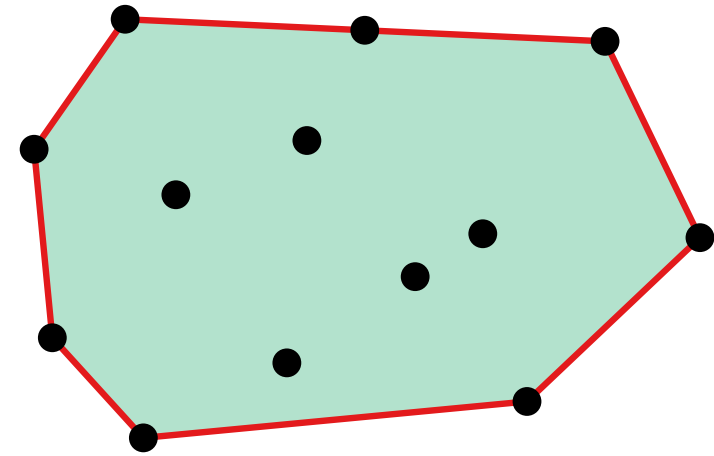
**Observation.** Algorithm FirstConvexHull is not *robust*.

# New Ideas (Graham Scan)



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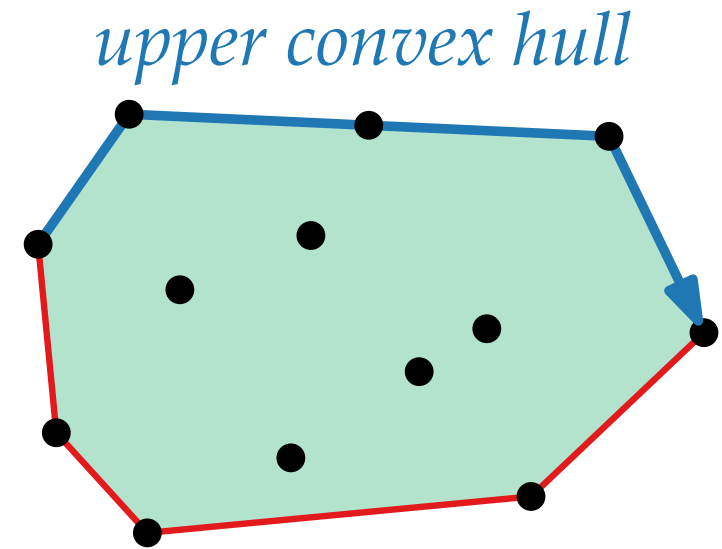
- split computation in two





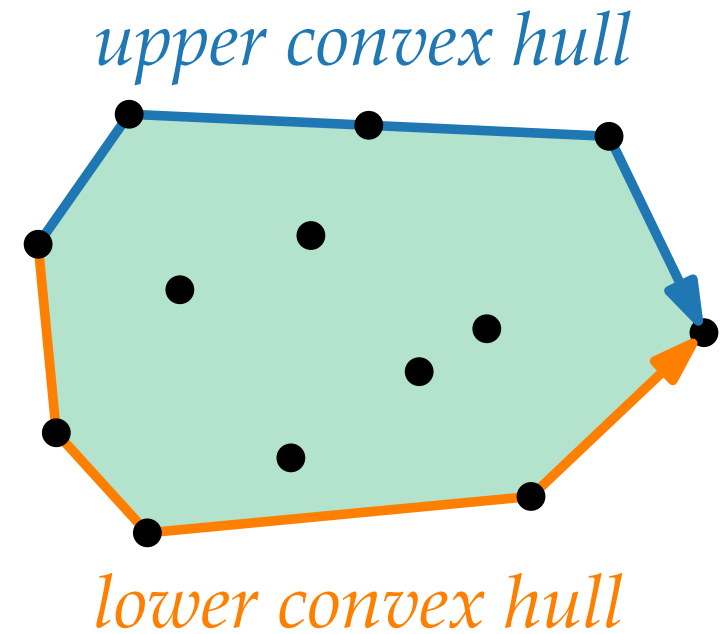
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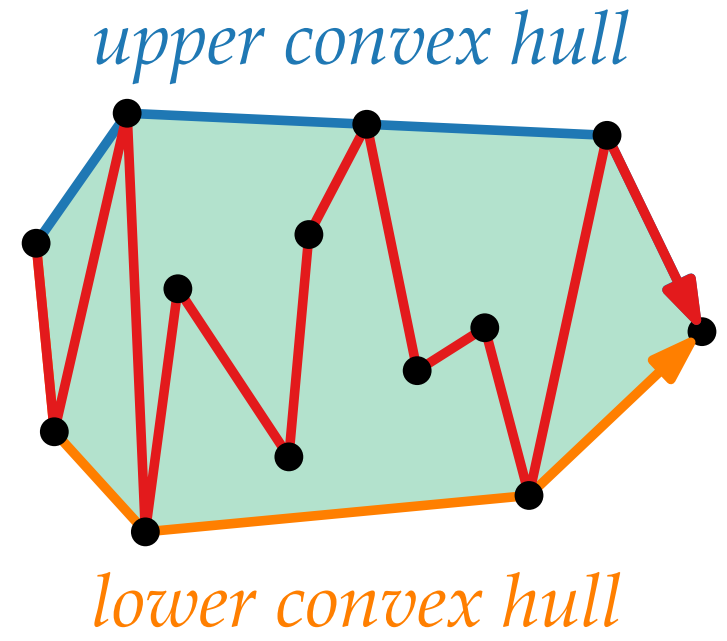
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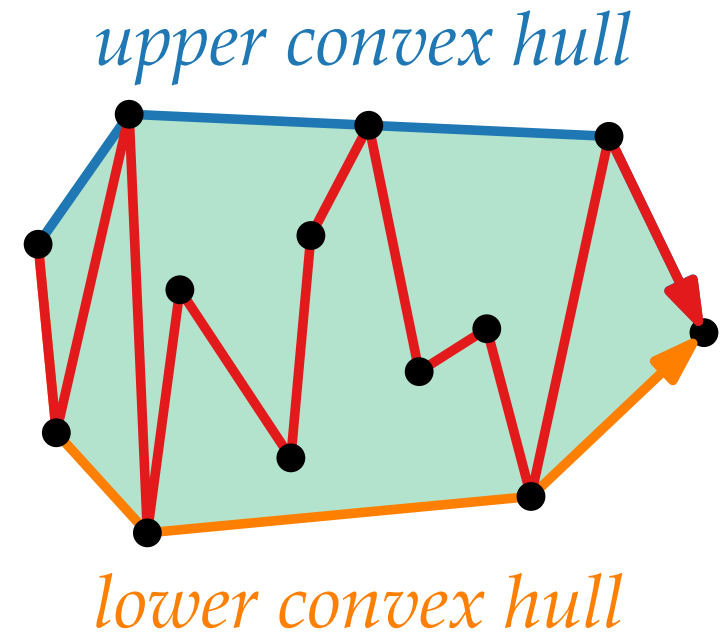
# New Ideas (Graham Scan)

- split computation in two
- bring pts in lexicographic order



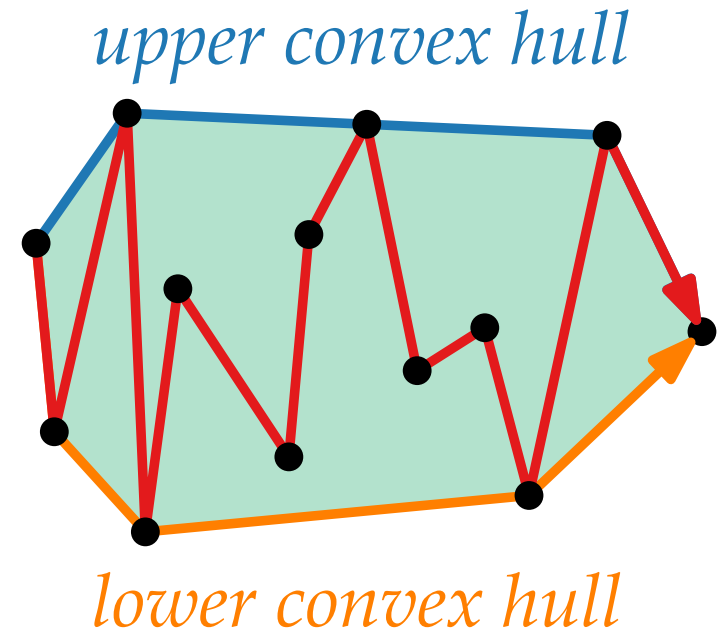
# New Ideas (Graham Scan)

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- proceed incrementally



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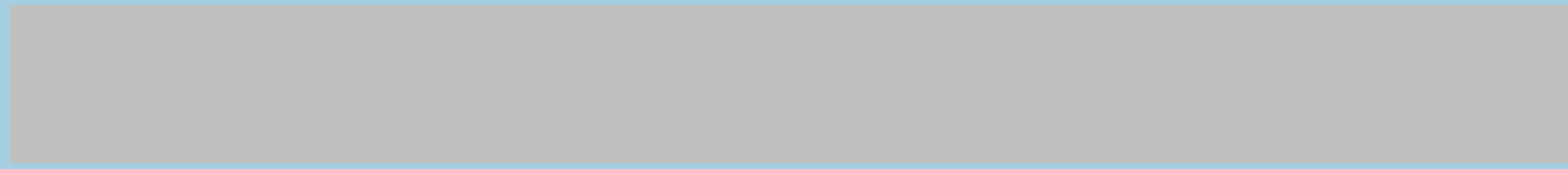
UpperConvexHull( $S$ : set of pts in the plane)

$\langle p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n \rangle \leftarrow$  sort  $S$  lexicographically

$L \leftarrow \langle p_1, p_2 \rangle$

**for**  $i \leftarrow 3$  **to**  $n$  **do**

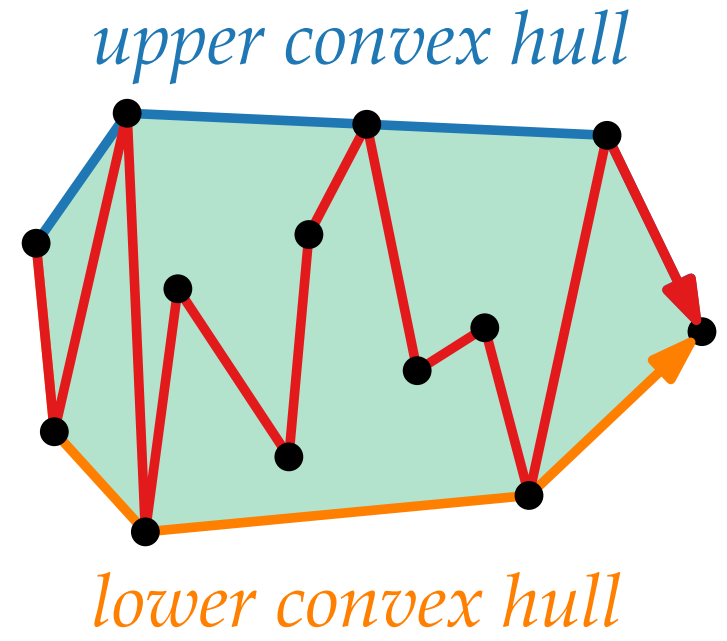
$L.append(p_i)$



**return**  $L$

# New Ideas (Graham Scan)

- split computation in two
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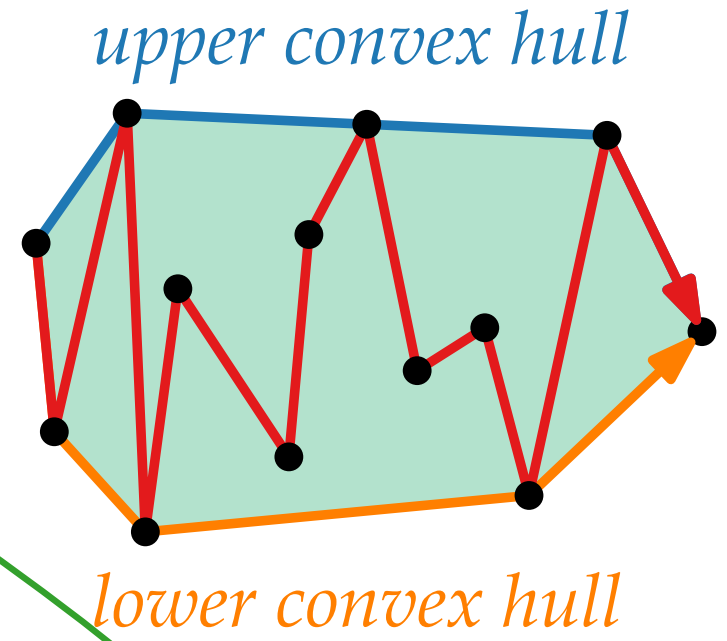
```

UpperConvexHull(S: set of pts in the plane)
  <p1, p2, ..., pn> ← sort S lexicographically
  L ← <p1, p2>
  for i ← 3 to n do
    L.append(pi)
  return L

```

# New Ideas (Graham Scan)

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- bring pts in lexicographic order
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**UpperConvexHull**( $S$ : set of pts in the plane)

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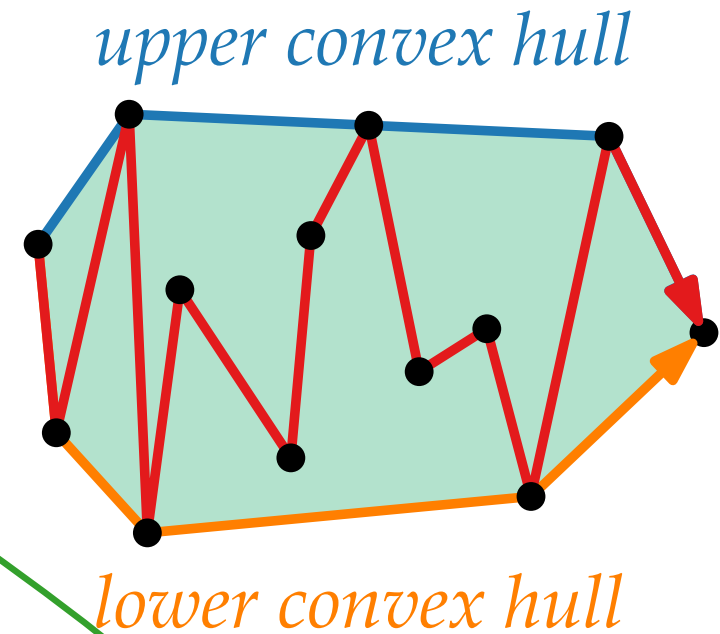
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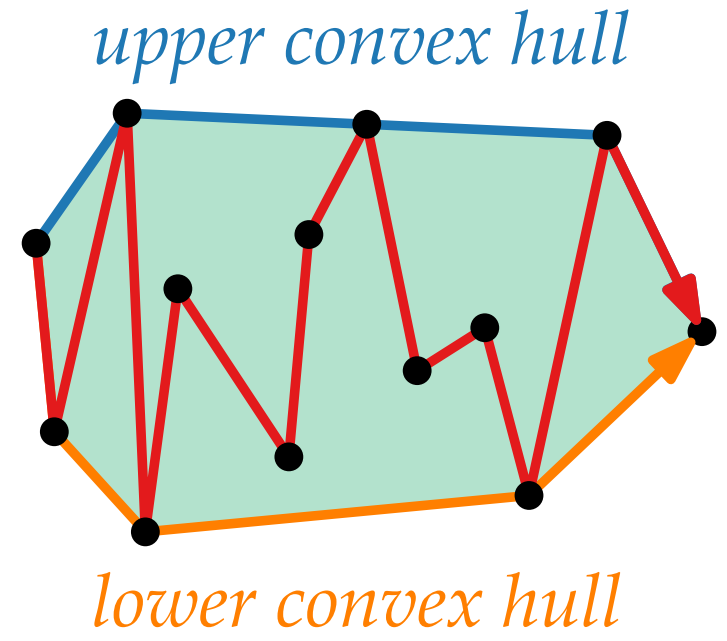
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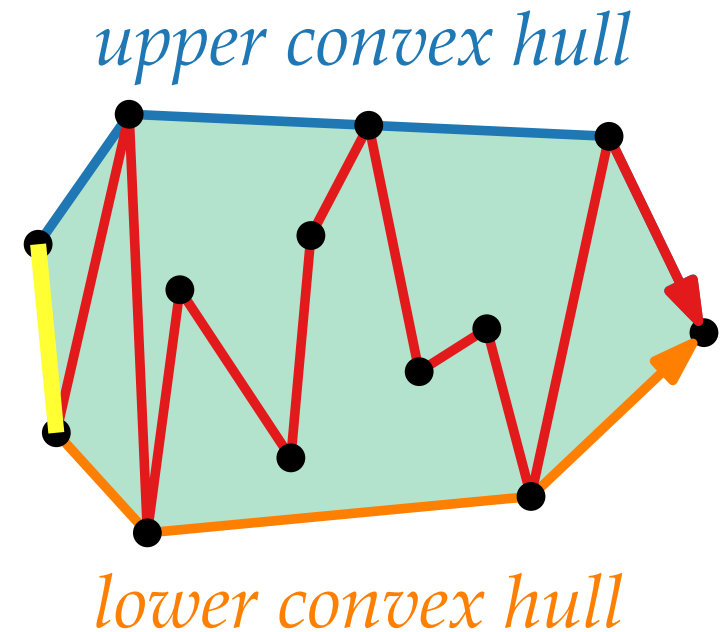
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UpperConvexHull(S: set of pts in the plane)
  <math>p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n</math>  $\leftarrow$  sort  $S$  lexicographically
   $L \leftarrow \langle p_1, p_2 \rangle$ 
  for  $i \leftarrow 3$  to  $n$  do // compute upper convex hull of  $\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_i\}$ 
     $L.append(p_i)$ 
  return  $L$ 

```

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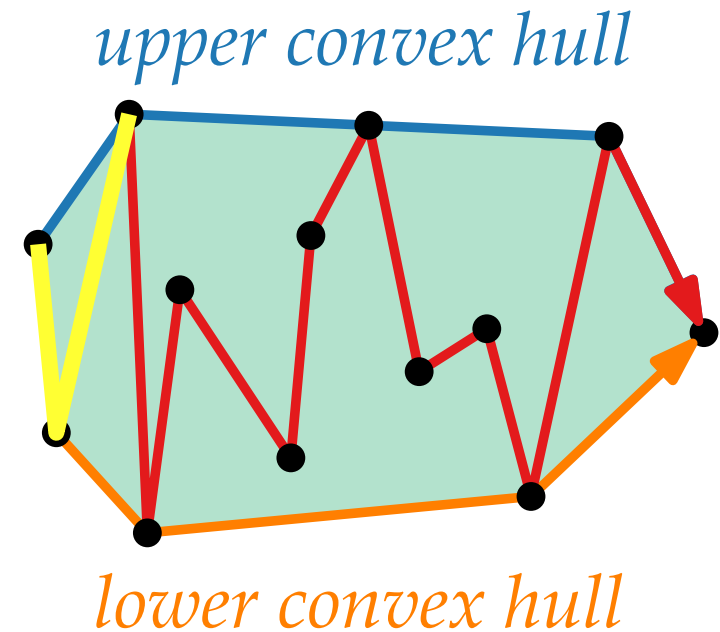
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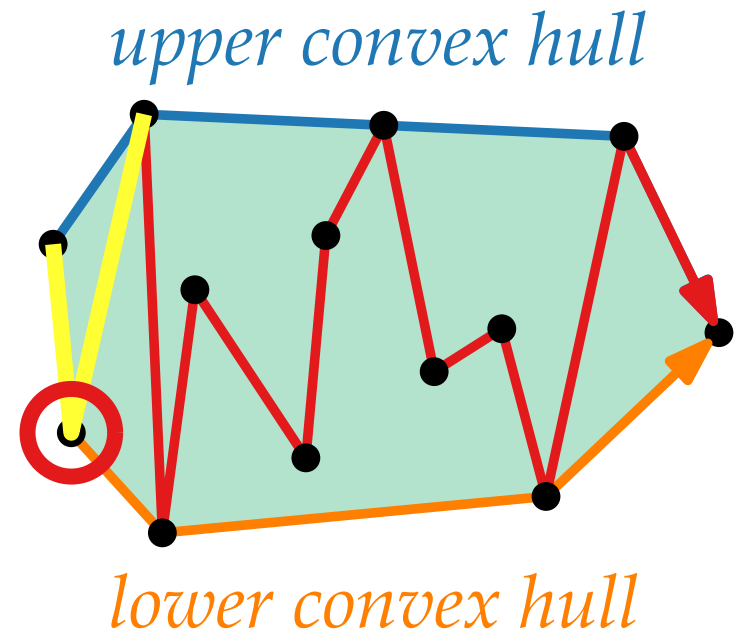
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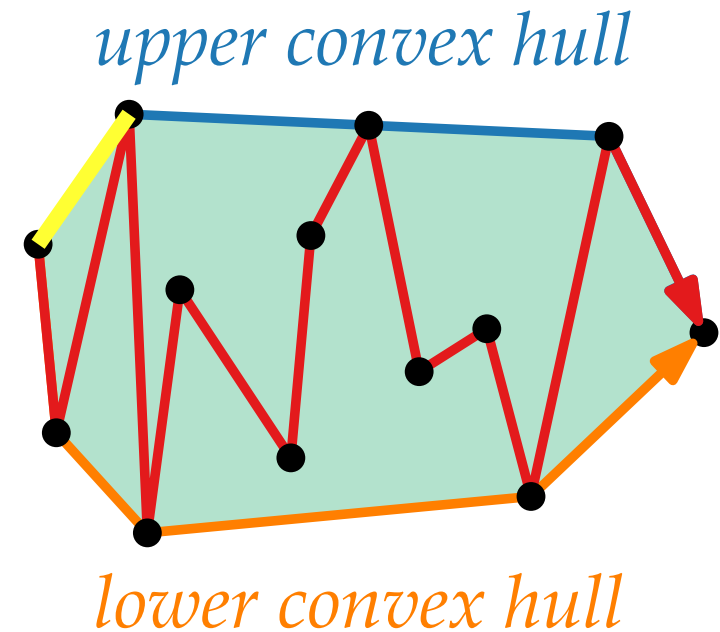
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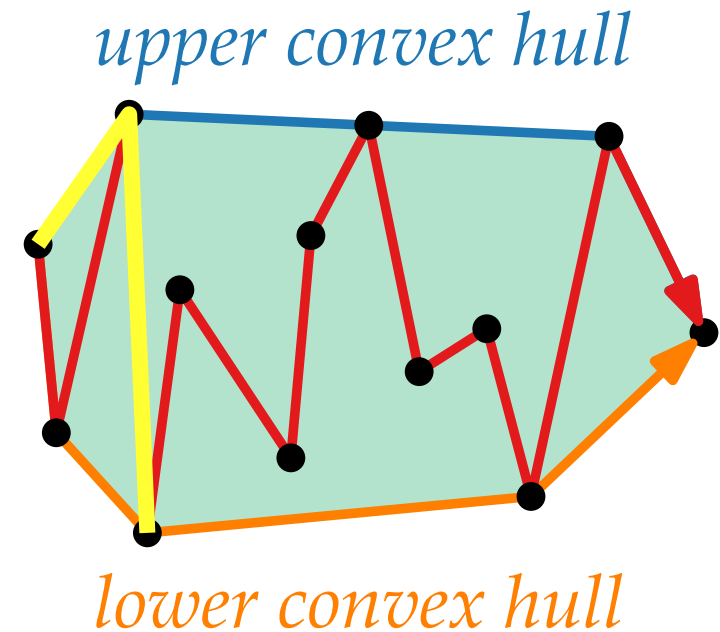
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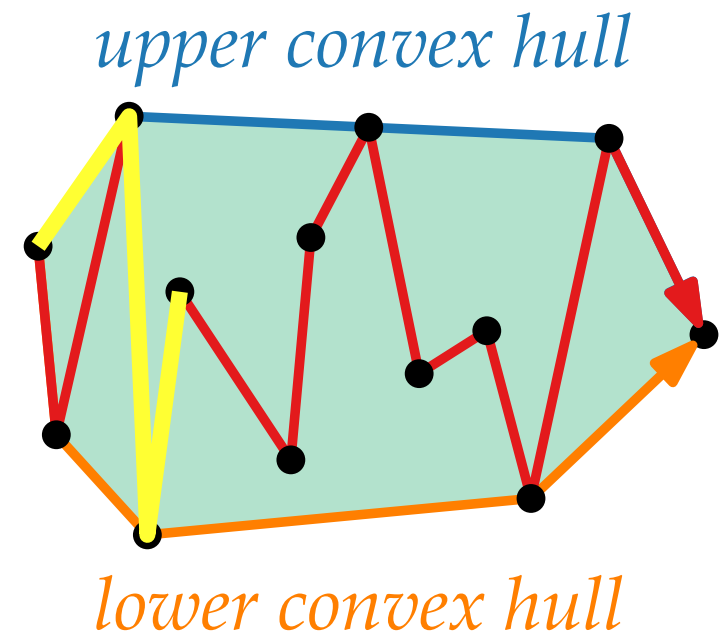
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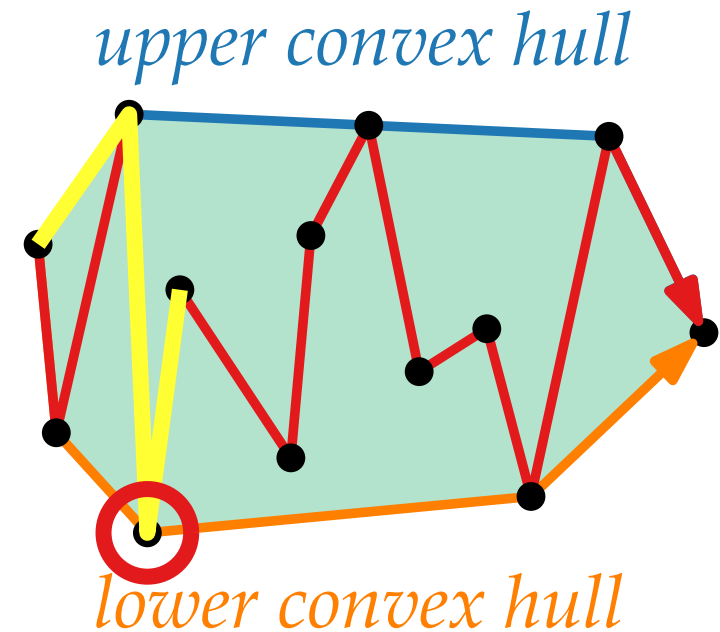
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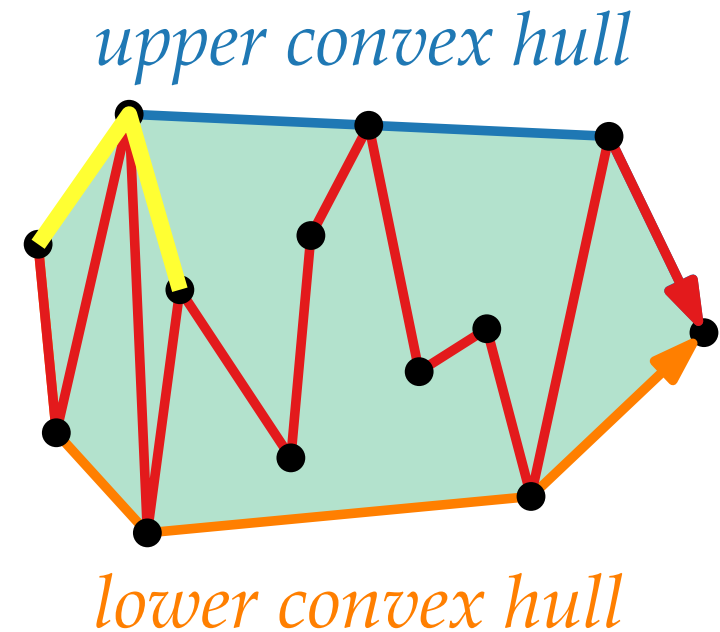
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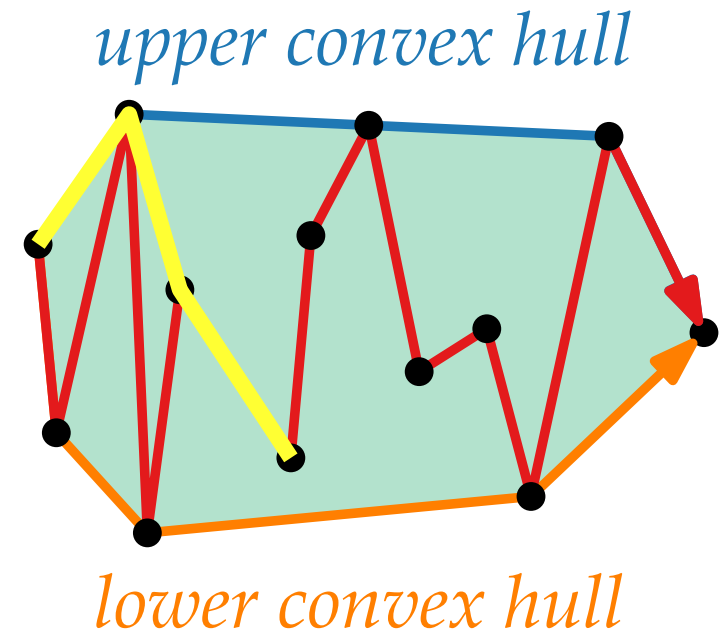
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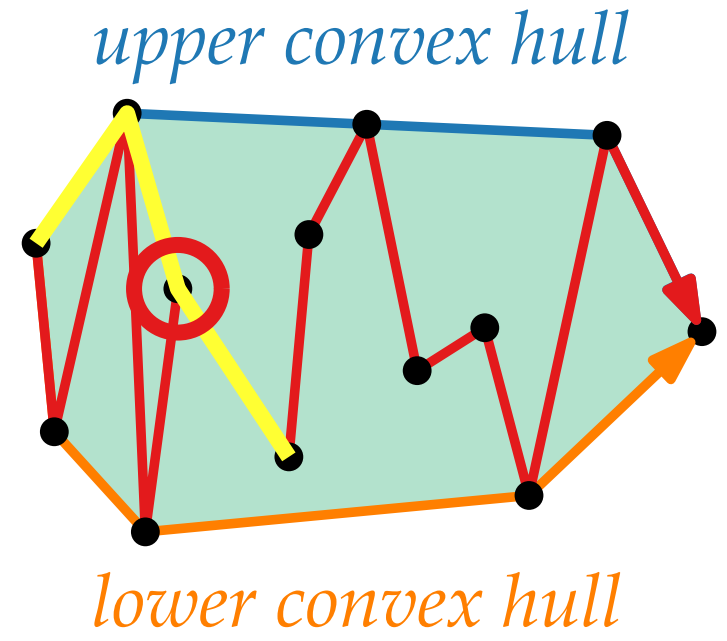
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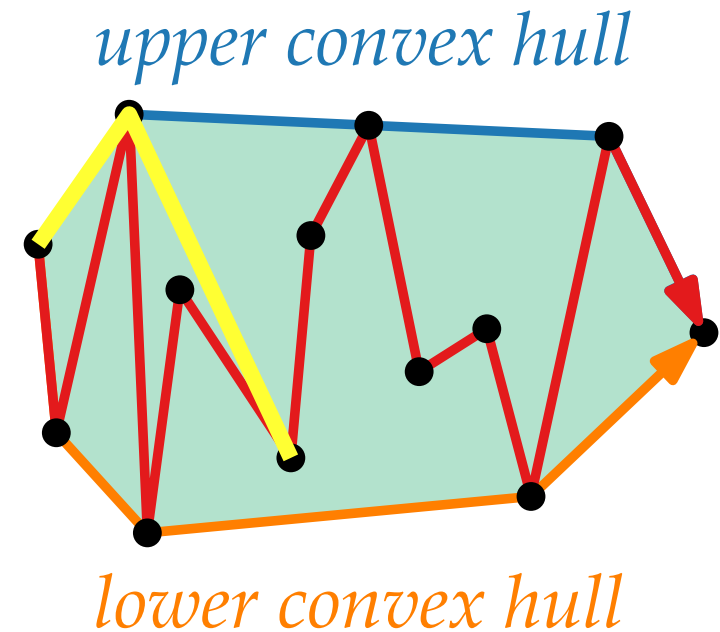
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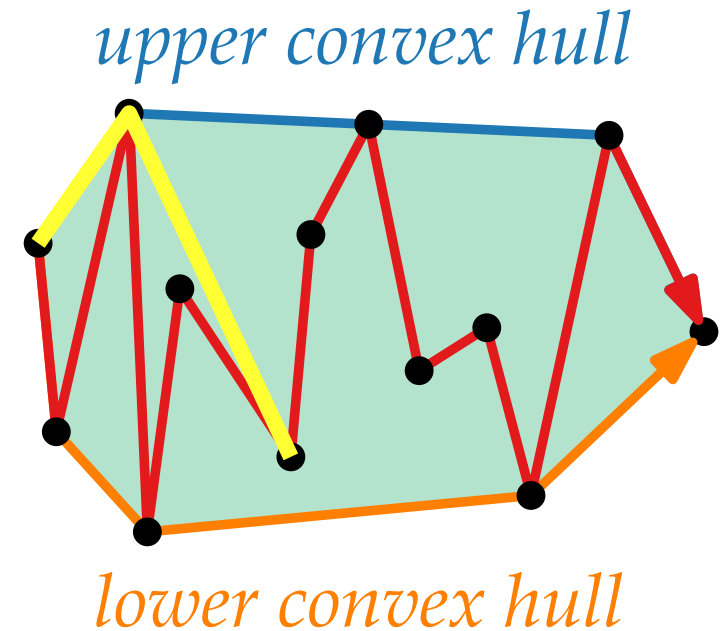
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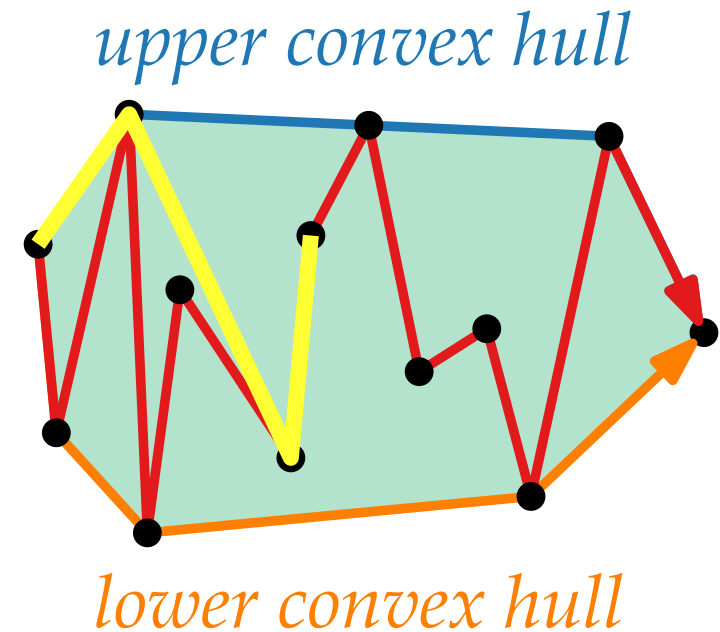
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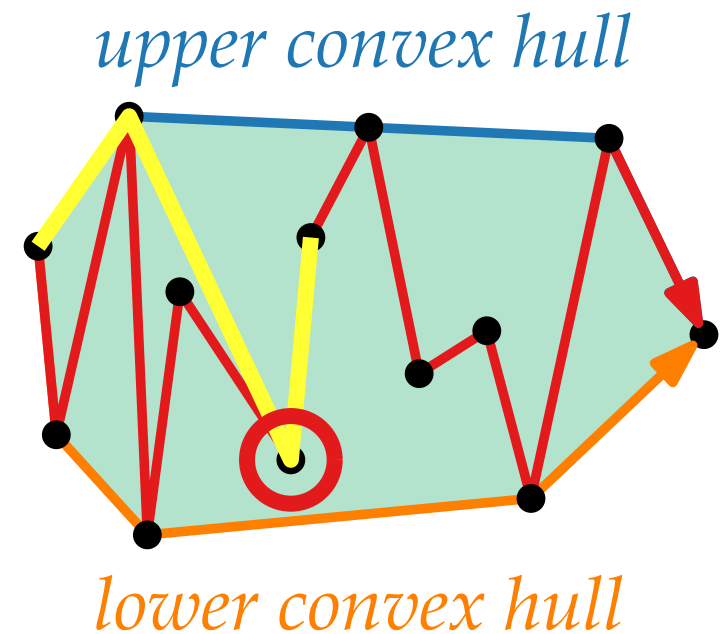
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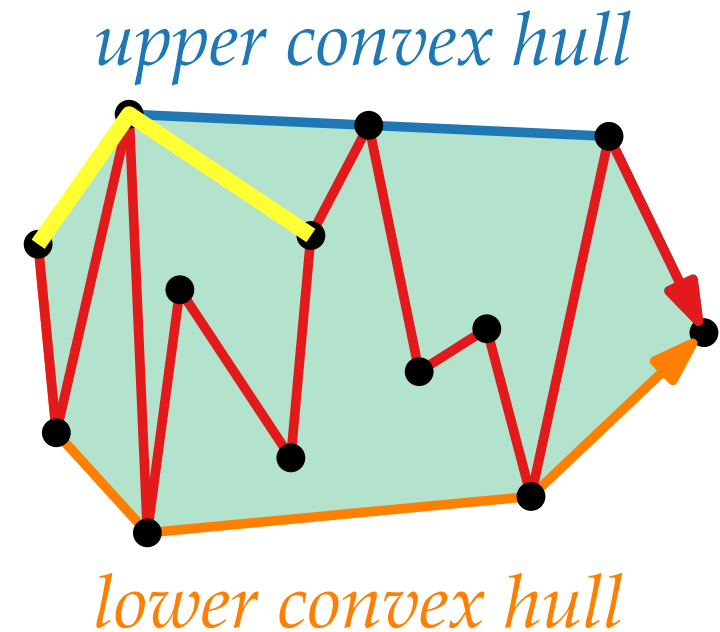
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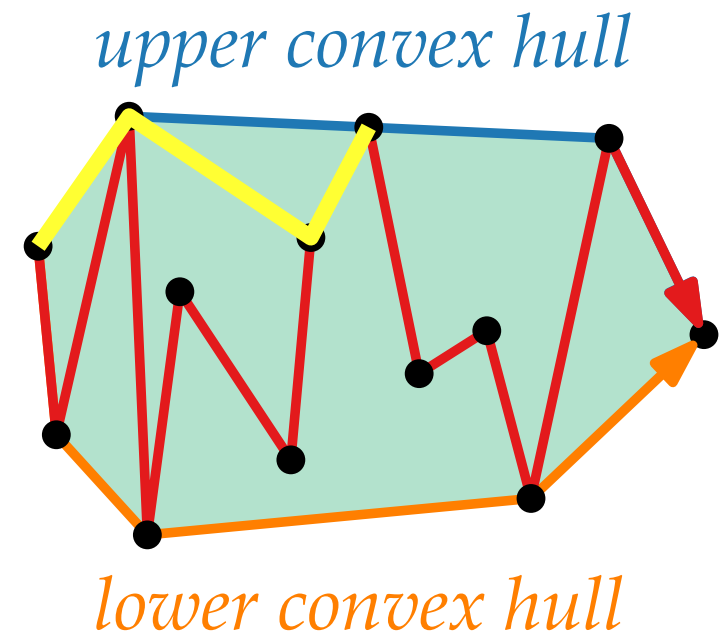
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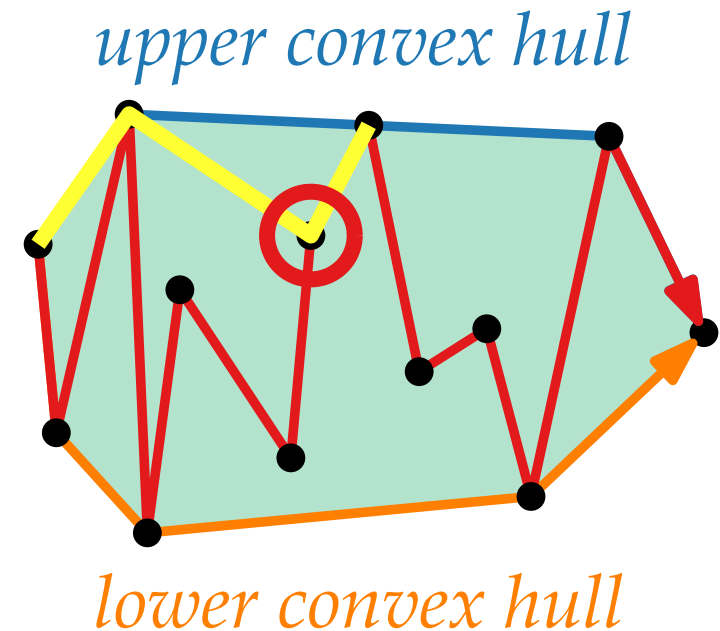
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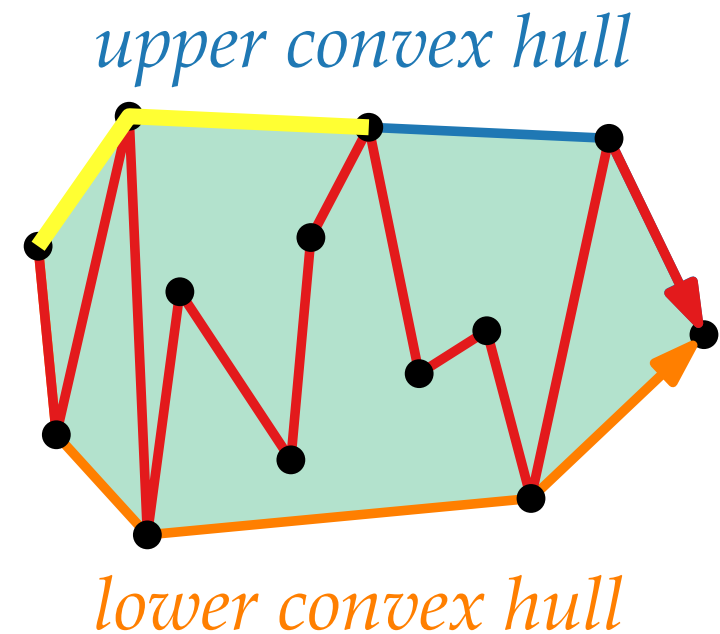
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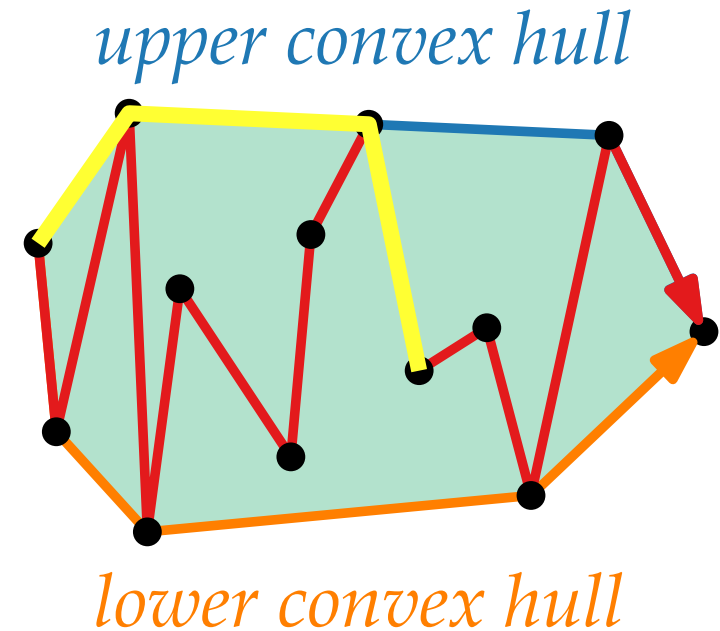
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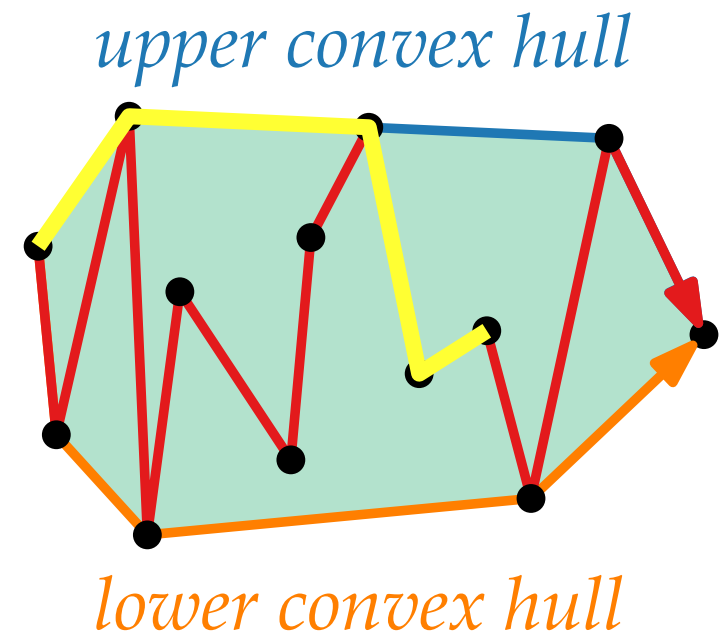
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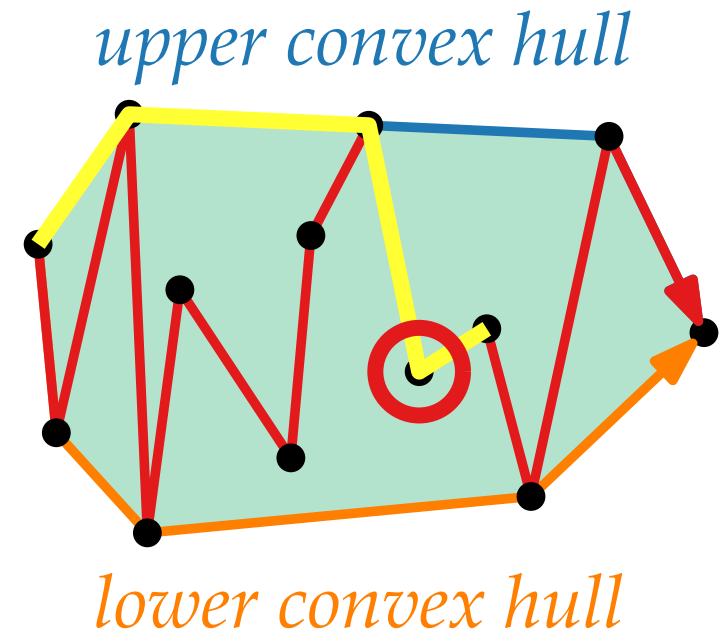
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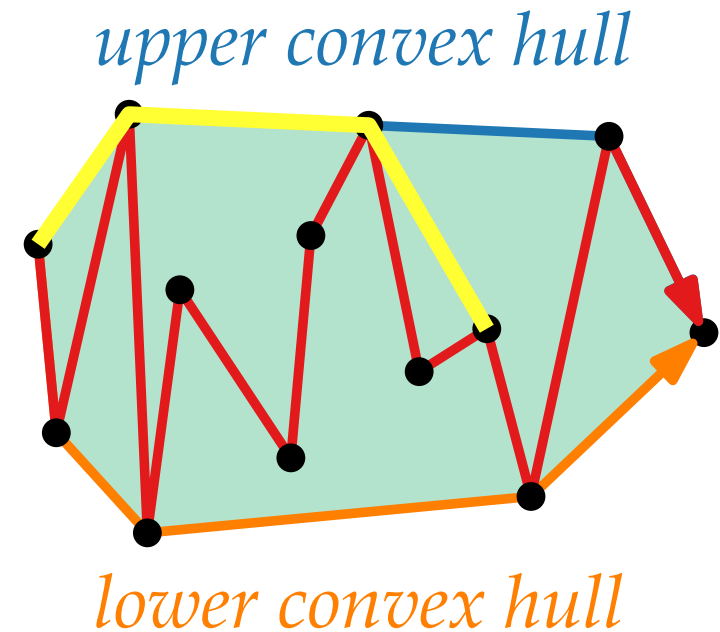
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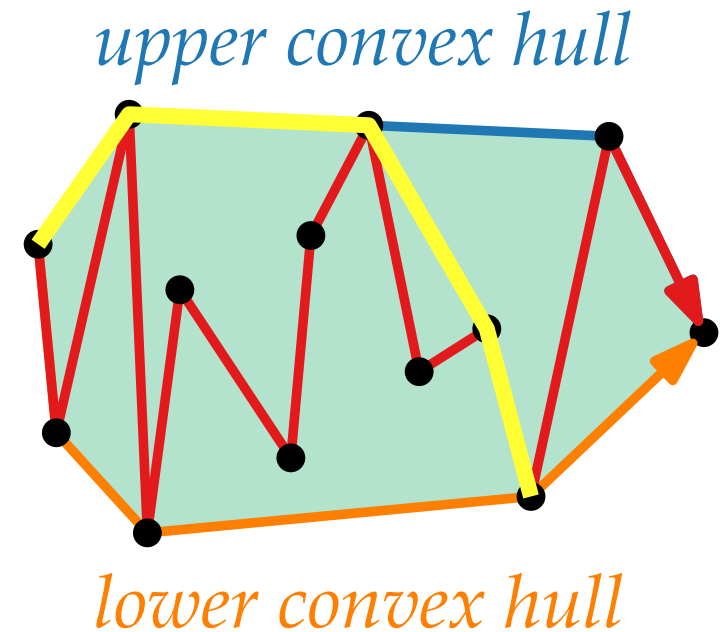
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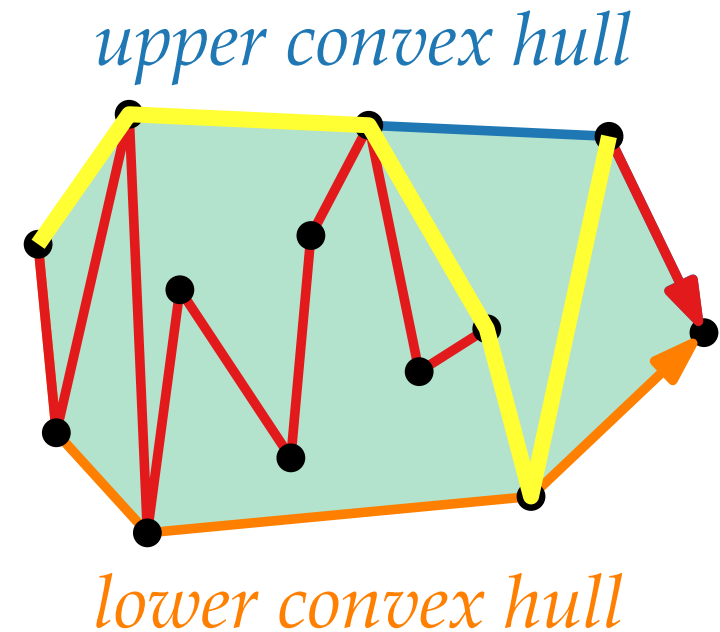
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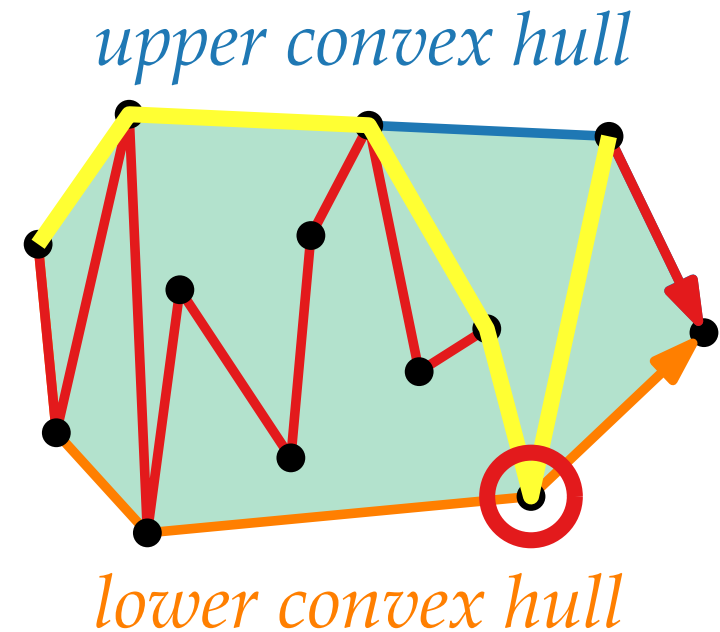
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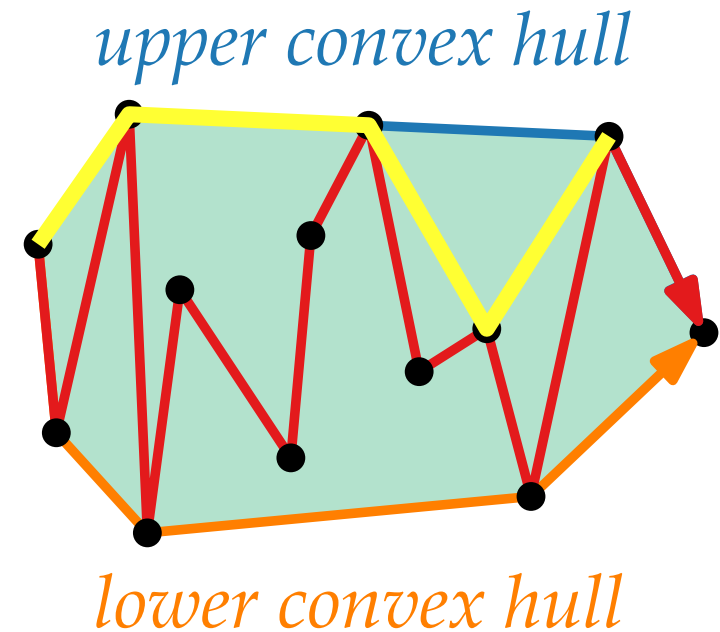
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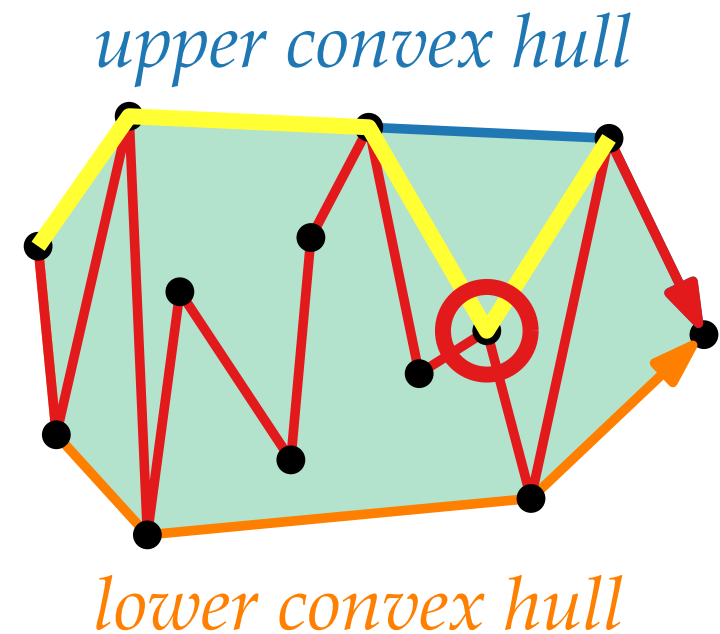
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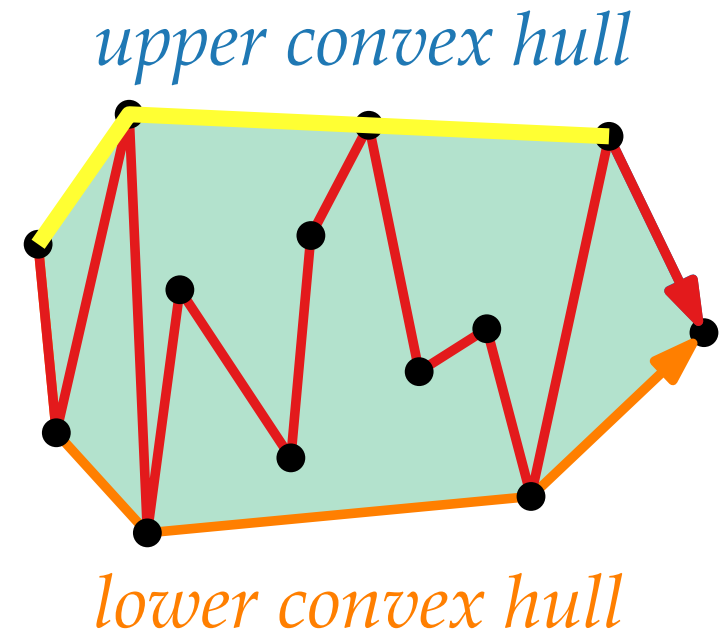
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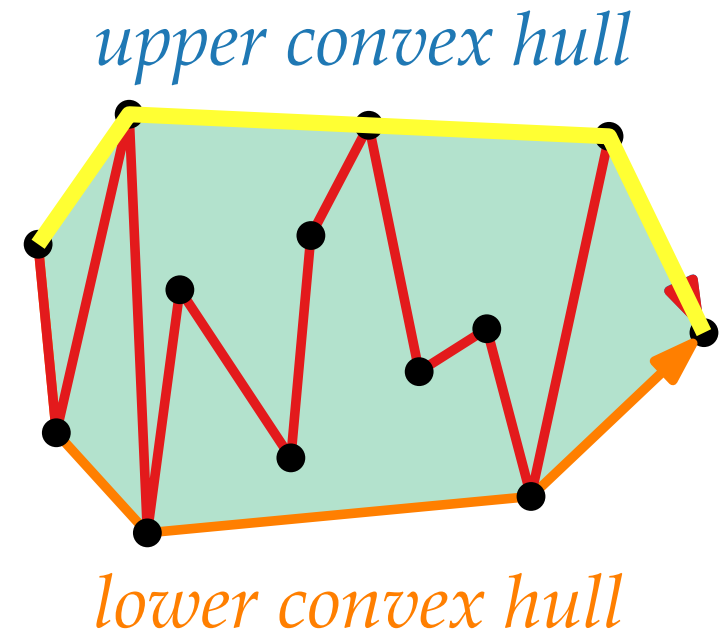
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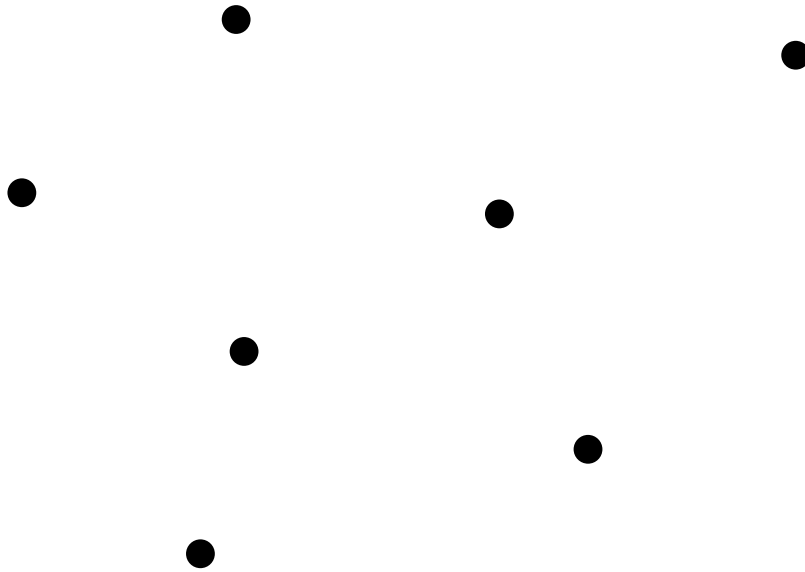
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**Theorem.** We can compute the convex hull of  $n$  pts in the plane in  $O(n \log n)$  time – in a robust way.



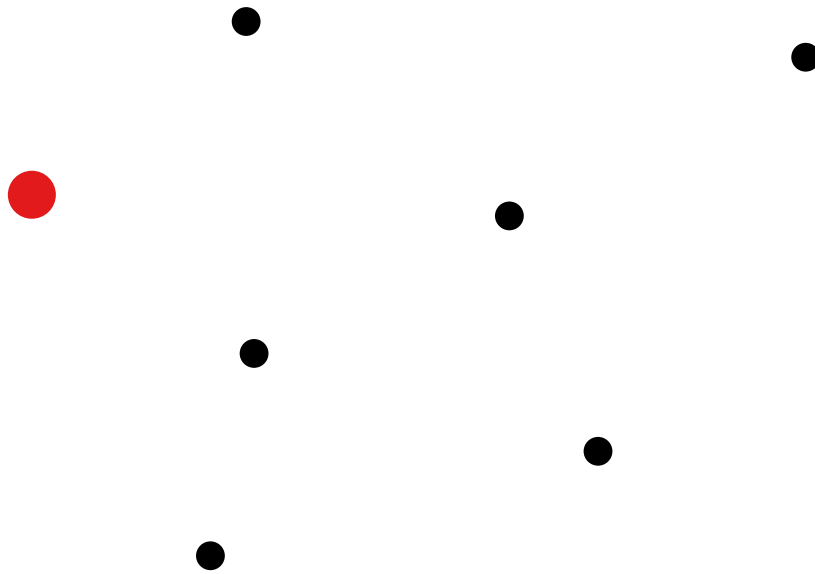
# Output-Sensitive Algorithms

- Jarvis' gift-wrapping algorithm (aka Jarvis' march)



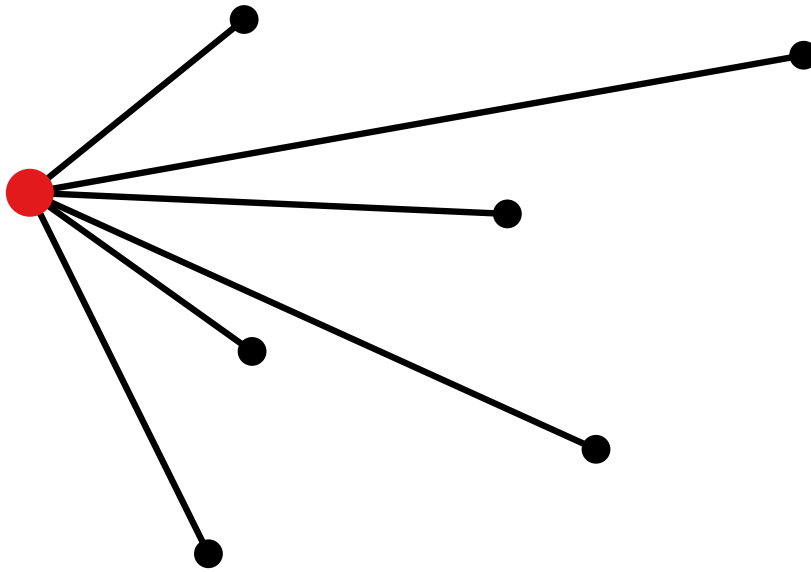
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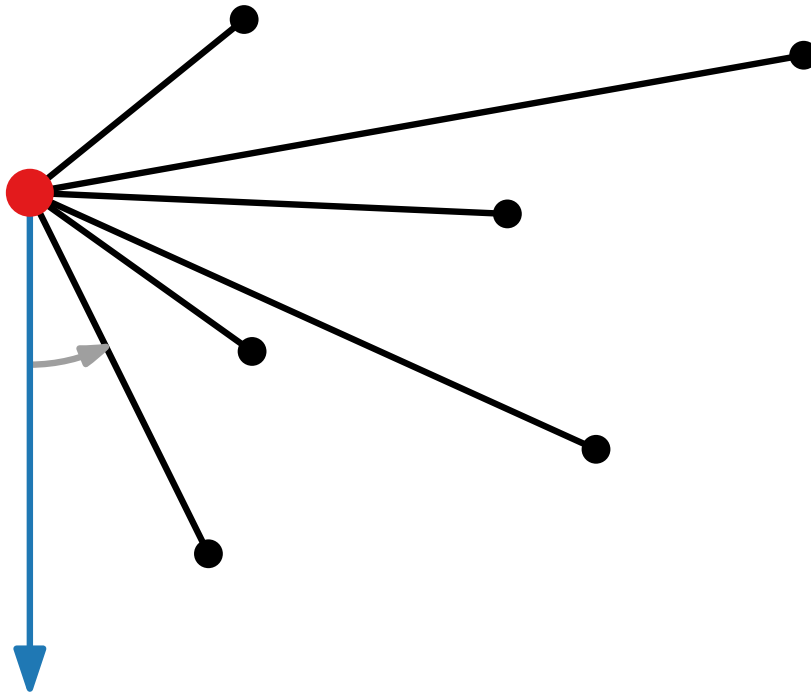
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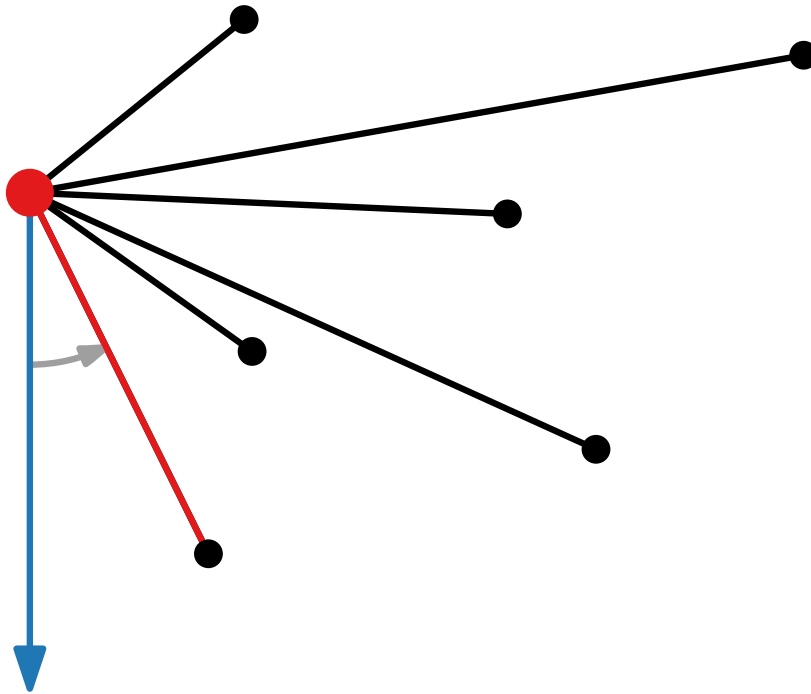
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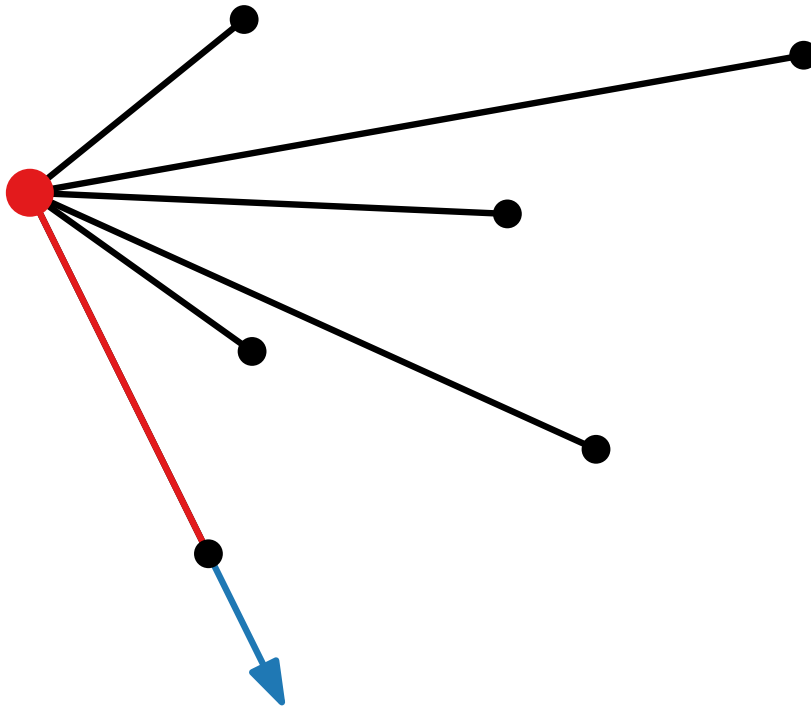
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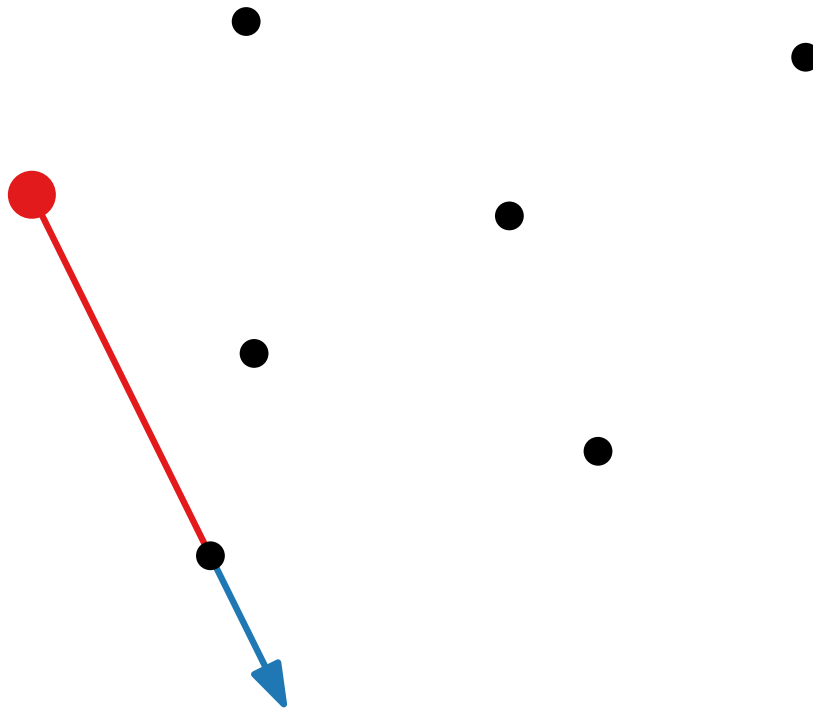
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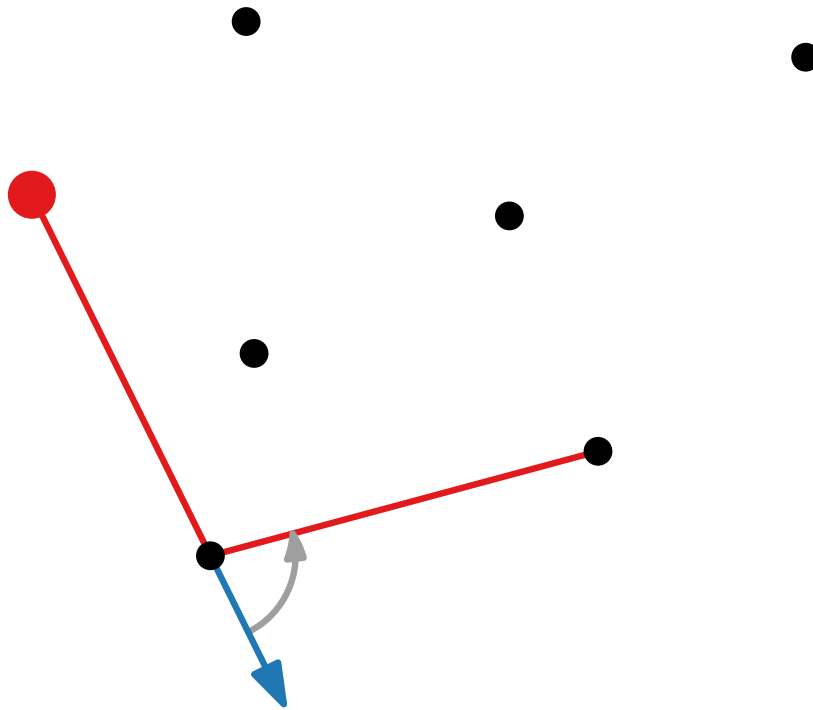
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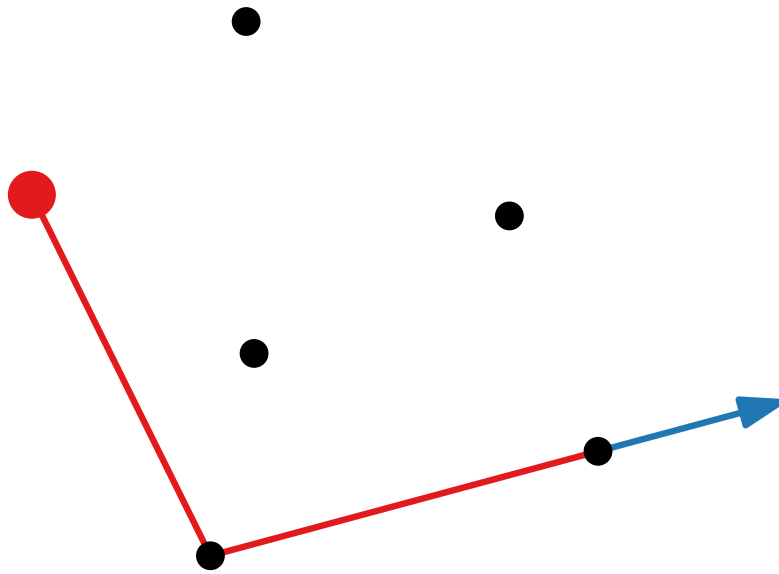
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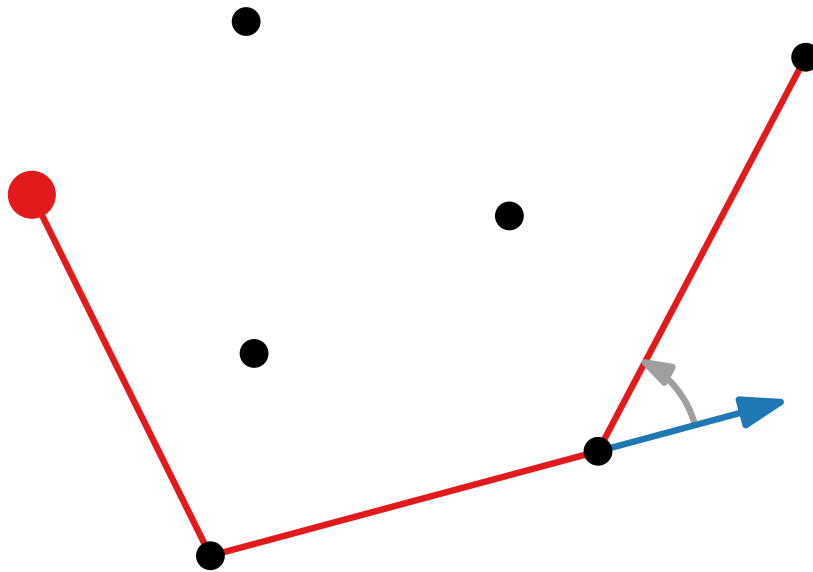
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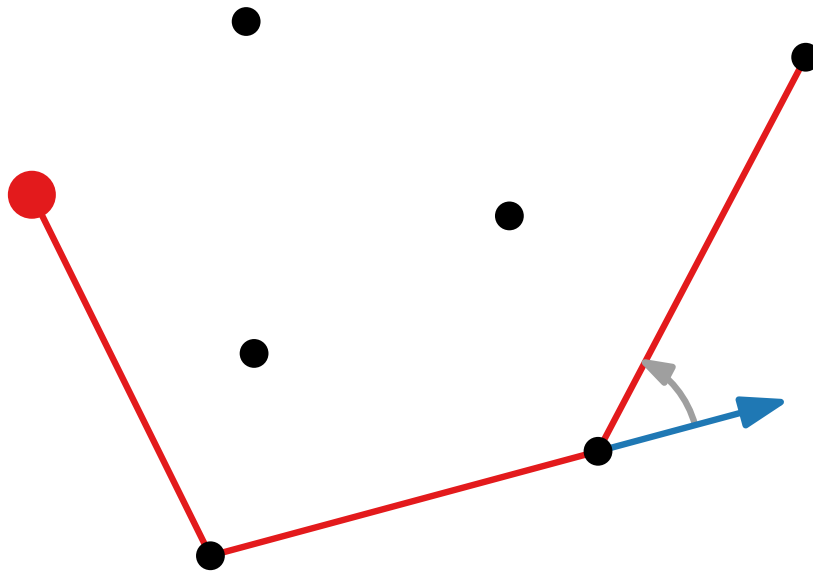
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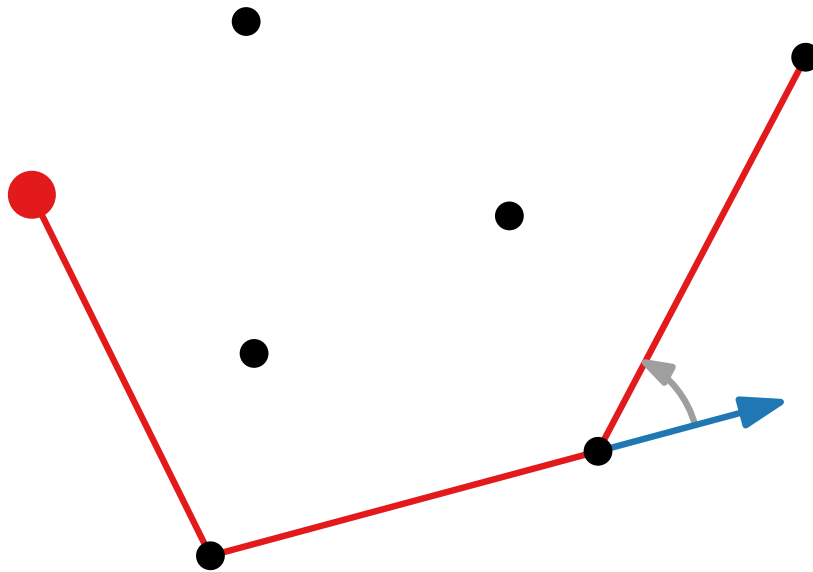
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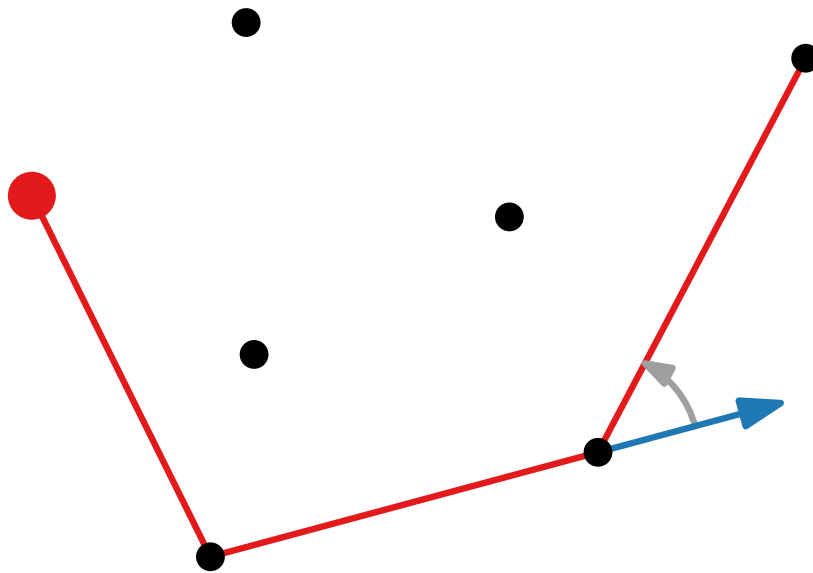
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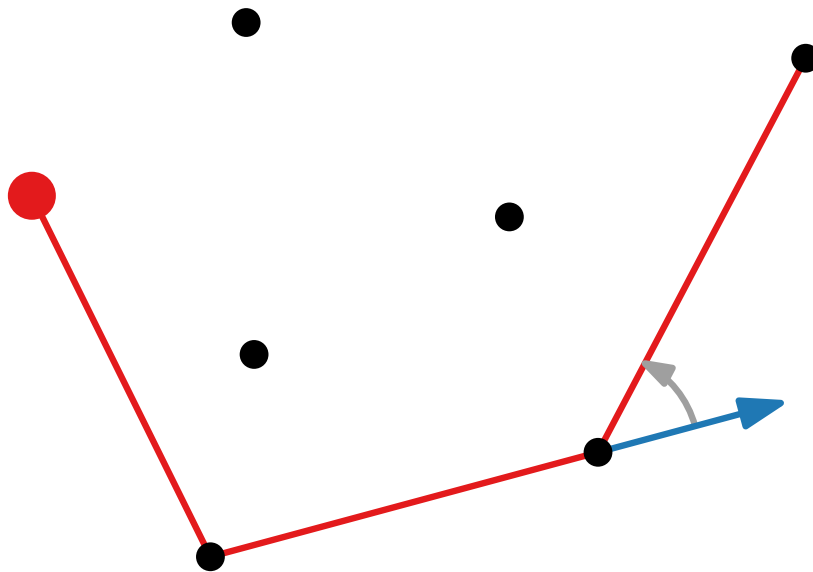


... where  $h = |\text{CH}(S)|$  = size of the output

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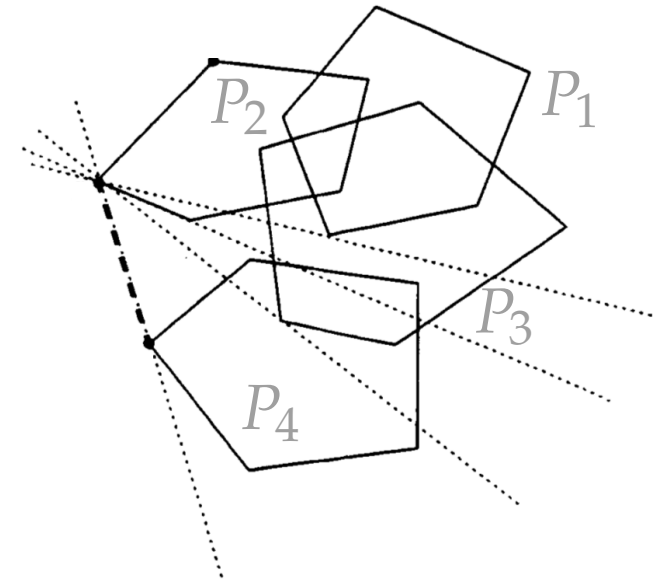


- Chan's exponential-search algorithm

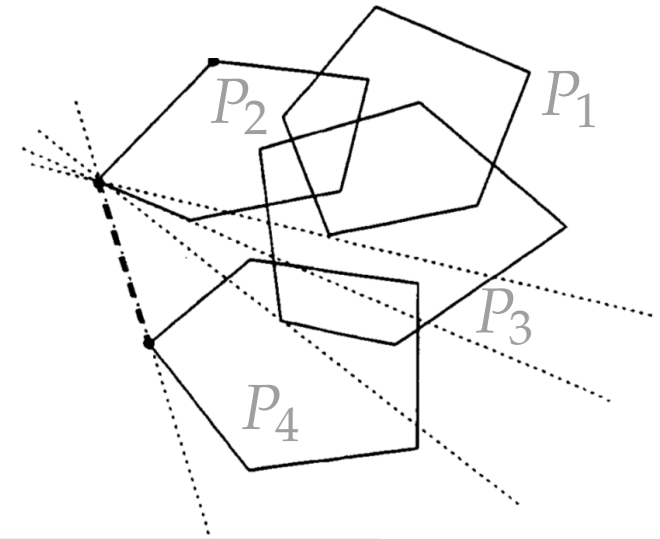
$O(n \log h)$

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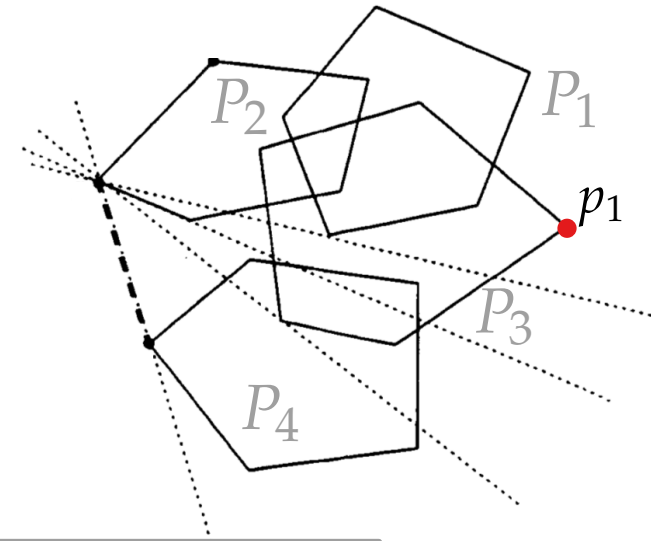


**Algorithm** Hull2D( $P, m, H$ ), where  $P \subset E^2$ ,  $3 \leq m \leq n$ , and  $H \geq 1$

1. partition  $P$  into subsets  $P_1, \dots, P_{\lceil n/m \rceil}$  each of size at most  $m$
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3.     compute  $\text{conv}(P_i)$  by Graham's scan and store its vertices in an array in ccw order     [in  $O(m \log m)$  time]
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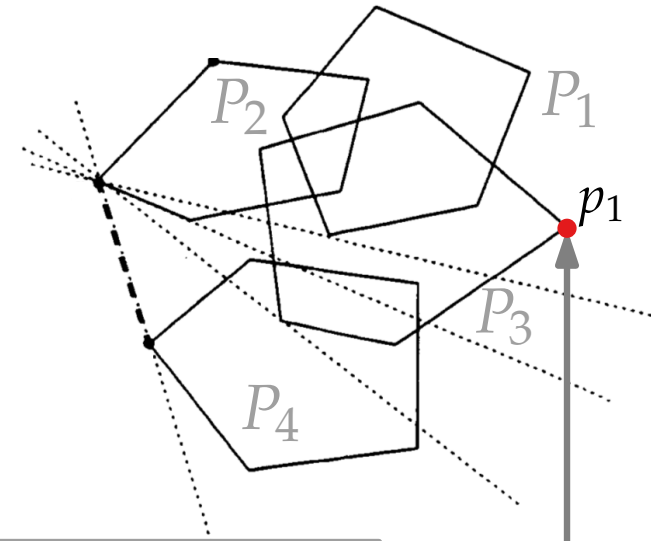
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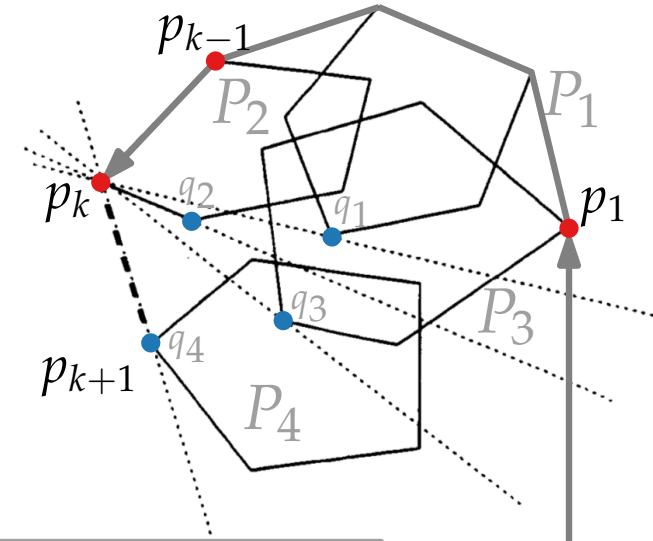


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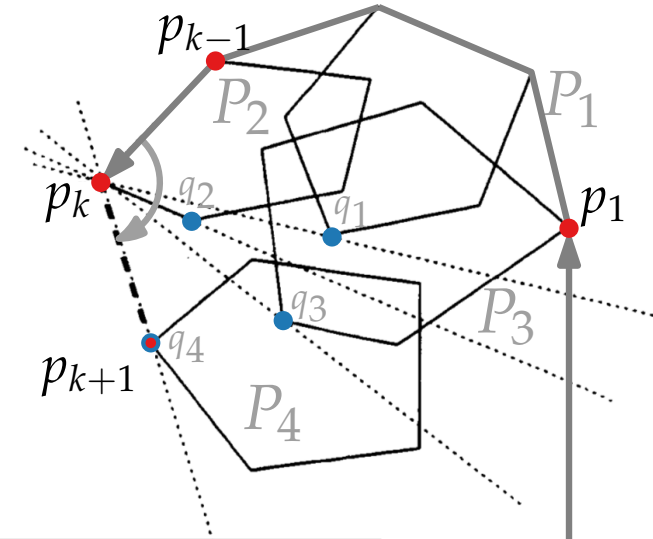
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8.         compute the point  $q_i \in P_i$  that maximizes  $\angle p_{k-1} p_k q_i$  ( $q_i \neq p_k$ ) by performing a binary search on the vertices of  $\text{conv}(P_i)$
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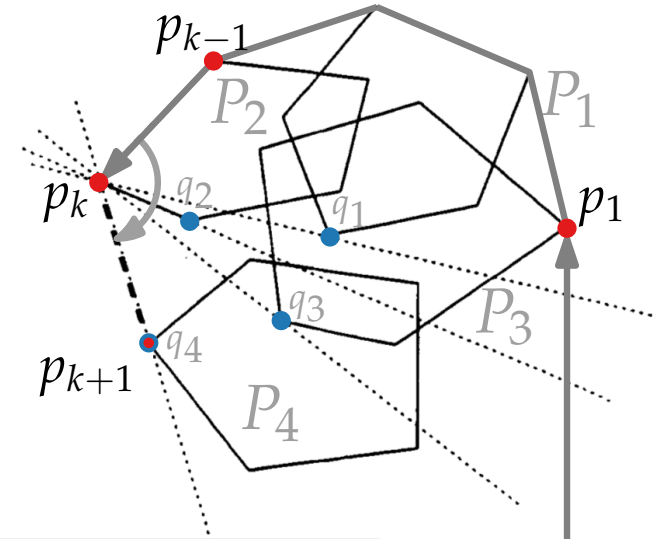
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# Chan's Algorithm

**Algorithm** Hull2D( $P$ ), where  $P \subset E^2$

1. for  $t = 1, 2, \dots$  do
2.    $L \leftarrow \text{Hull2D}(P, m, H)$ , where  $m = H = \min\{2^{2^t}, n\}$
3.   if  $L \neq \text{incomplete}$  then return  $L$



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# Chan's Algorithm

[Text copied on October 17, 2017 from:  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chan's\\_algorithm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chan's_algorithm)]

Initially, we assume that the value of  $h$  is known and make a parameter  $m = h$ . This assumption is not realistic, but we remove it later. The algorithm starts by arbitrarily partitioning  $P$  into at most  $1 + \frac{n}{m}$  subsets  $Q$  with at most  $m$  points each. Then, it computes the convex hull of each subset  $Q$  using an  $O(n \log n)$  algorithm – **Graham's scan**. Note that, as there are  $O(n/m)$  subsets of  $O(m)$  points each, this phase takes  $O(n/m) \cdot O(m \log m) = O(n \log m)$  time.

The second phase consists of executing the **Jarvis' march** algorithm and using the precomputed convex hulls to speed up the execution. At each step in Jarvis's march, we have a point  $p_i$  in the convex hull, and need to find a point  $p_{i+1} = f(p_i, P)$  such that all other points of  $P$  are to the right of the line  $p_i p_{i+1}$ . If we know the convex hull of a set  $Q$  of  $m$  points, then we can compute  $f(p_i, Q)$  in  $O(\log m)$  time, by using binary search. We can compute  $f(p_i, Q)$  for all the  $O(n/m)$  subsets  $Q$  in  $O(n/m \log m)$  time. Then, we can determine  $f(p_i, P)$  using the same technique as normally used in Jarvis's march, but only considering the points that are  $f(p_i, Q)$  for some subset  $Q$ . As Jarvis's march repeats this process  $O(h)$  times, the second phase also takes  $O(n \log m)$  time, and therefore  $O(n \log h)$  time if  $m = h$ .

By running the two phases described above, we can compute the convex hull of  $n$  points in  $O(n \log h)$  time, assuming that we know the value of  $h$ . If we make  $m < h$ , we can abort the execution after  $m + 1$  steps, therefore spending only  $O(n \log m)$  time (but not computing the convex hull). We can initially set  $m$  as a small constant (we use 2 for our analysis, but in practice numbers around 5 may work better), and increase the value of  $m$  until  $m > h$ , in which case we obtain the convex hull as a result.

If we increase the value of  $m$  too slowly, we may need to repeat the steps mentioned before too many times, and the execution time will be large. On the other hand, if we increase the value of  $m$  too quickly, we risk making  $m$  much larger than  $h$ , also increasing the execution time. Similar to strategy used by Chazelle and Matoušek's algorithm, Chan's algorithm squares the value of  $m$  at each iteration, and makes sure that  $m$  is never larger than  $n$ . In other words, at

iteration  $t$  (starting at 1), we have  $m = \min(n, 2^{2^t})$ . The total running time of the algorithm is

$$\sum_{t=1}^{\lceil \log \log h \rceil} O(n \log(2^{2^t})) = O(n) \sum_{t=1}^{\lceil \log \log h \rceil} O(2^t) = O(n \cdot 2^{1 + \lceil \log \log h \rceil}) = O(n \log h).$$

To generalize this construction for the 3-dimensional case, an  $O(n \log n)$  algorithm to compute the 3-dimensional convex hull should be used instead of Graham scan, and a 3-dimensional version of Jarvis's march needs to be used. The time complexity remains  $O(n \log h)$ .