## Computational Geometry

Lecture 7:<br>Voronoi Diagrams<br>The Post-Office Problem

Part I:
The Post-Office Problem

## The Post-Office Problem



## The Post-Office Problem



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## The Post-Office Problem

| $\substack{h(p, q) \\ =\{x:\|x p\|<\|x q\|\}}$ |
| :--- |
| $h(q, p)$ |

## The Post-Office Problem

$(p, q) /=\left\{x \in \mathbb{R}^{2}:|x p|=|x q|\right\}$

| $h(p, q)$ |
| :--- |
| $=\{x:\|x p\|<\|x q\|\}$ |$\quad$| $h(q, p)$ |
| :--- |
| $=\{x:\|x q\|<\|x p\|\}$ |

The Post-Office Problem


## The Post-Office Problem

$$
P=\left\{p_{1}, p_{2}, \ldots, p_{n}\right\}
$$

## The Post-Office Problem



## The Post-Office Problem



## The Post-Office Problem



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## The Post-Office Problem



## The Post-Office Problem

Tasks: 1) Define Voronoi cells, edges and vertices!
2) Are Voronoi cells convex?


## Computational Geometry

Lecture 7:<br>Voronoi Diagrams<br>The Post-Office Problem

Part II:<br>The Voronoi Diagram

## The Voronoi Diagram

Let $P$ be a set of points in the plane and let $p, p^{\prime}, p^{\prime \prime} \in P$.

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$\mathcal{V}(\{p\})=$

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$\mathcal{V}(\{p\})=\mathcal{V}(p)=\left\{x \in \mathbb{R}^{2}:|x p|<|x q|\right.$ for all $\left.q \in P \backslash\{p\}\right\}$

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\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{V}(\{p\})=\mathcal{V}(p) & =\left\{x \in \mathbb{R}^{2}:|x p|<|x q| \text { for all } q \in P \backslash\{p\}\right\} \\
& =\bigcap_{q \neq p} h(p, q)
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[Voronoi edge]
$\mathcal{V}\left(\left\{p, p^{\prime}\right\}\right)$
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$\operatorname{Vor}(P)$

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& =\quad \partial \mathcal{V}(p) \cap \partial \mathcal{V}\left(p^{\prime}\right)
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\end{aligned}
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$\operatorname{Vor}(P) \longmapsto$ subdivision of $\mathbb{R}^{2}$
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[Voronoi diagram]
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$\operatorname{Vor}(P) \longmapsto$ subdivision of $\mathbb{R}^{2}$ geometric graph

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## Computational Geometry

Lecture 7:<br>Voronoi Diagrams<br>The Post-Office Problem

## Part III:

Shape and Complexity

## Overall Shape of $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$

Theorem. Let $P \subset \mathbb{R}^{2}$ be a set of $n$ pts (called sites). If all sites are collinear, $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$ consists of $n-1$ parallel lines. Otherwise, $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$ is connected and its edges are line segments or half-lines.

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Proof.

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- Assume that $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$ contains an edge $e$ that is a full line, say, $e=b(p, q)$.



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Let $r \in P$ be not collinear with $p$ and $q$. Then $e^{\prime}=b(q, r)$ is not parallel to $e$.

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Let $r \in P$ be not collinear with $p$ and $q$. Then $e^{\prime}=b(q, r)$ is not parallel to $e$. $\Rightarrow e \cap h(r, q)$ is closer to $r$ than to $p$ and $q$.

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Let $r \in P$ be not collinear with $p$ and $q$. Then $e^{\prime}=b(q, r)$ is not parallel to $e$. $\Rightarrow e \cap h(r, q)$ is closer to $r$ than to $p$ and $q$. $\Rightarrow e$ is bounded on at least one side.

## Complexity

# Task: $\quad$ Construct a set $P$ of sites such that $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$ has a cell of linear complexity! 

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Theorem. Given a set $P \subset \mathbb{R}^{2}$ of $n$ sites, $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$ consists of at most vertices and edges.

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Theorem. Given a set $P \subset \mathbb{R}^{2}$ of $n$ sites, $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$ consists of at most $2 n-5$ vertices and $3 n-6$ edges.

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Euler


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Theorem. Given a set $P \subset \mathbb{R}^{2}$ of $n$ sites, $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$ consists of at most $2 n-5$ vertices and $3 n-6$ edges.
Proof. Problem: unbounded edges!
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## Characterization of Voronoi vtc and edges

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\exists x \in b\left(p, p^{\prime}\right): C_{P}(x) \cap P=\left\{p, p^{\prime}\right\}
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## Computational Geometry

Lecture 7:<br>Voronoi Diagrams<br>The Post-Office Problem

Part IV:<br>The Beachline

## Computation

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Problem: We don't know all defining sites yet:(

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Observation. $\beta$ is $x$-monotone.


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Lemma. The Voronoi vtc correspond 1:1 to circle events.

## Computational Geometry

Lecture 7:<br>Voronoi Diagrams<br>The Post-Office Problem

Part V:<br>Fortune's Sweep

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## Handling Events

HandleSiteEvent(point $p$ )


HandleCircleEvent(arc $\alpha$ )

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## Handling Events

## HandleSiteEvent(point $p$ )



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- Split $\alpha$ into $\alpha_{0}$ and $\alpha_{2}$. In $\mathcal{T}$ : Let $\alpha_{1}$ be the new arc of $p$.

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$\square$ Check $\left\langle\cdot, \alpha_{0}, \alpha_{1}\right\rangle$ and $\left\langle\alpha_{1}, \alpha_{2}, \cdot\right\rangle$ for circle events.


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## Running Time?

VoronoiDiagram $\left(P \subset \mathbb{R}^{2}\right)$
$\mathcal{Q} \leftarrow$ new PriorityQueue $(P) \quad / /$ site events sorted by $y$-coord. $\mathcal{T} \leftarrow$ new BalancedBinarySearchTree() // sweep status ( $\beta$ )
$\mathcal{D} \leftarrow$ new $\operatorname{DCEL}() \quad / /$ to-be $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$
while not $\mathcal{Q}$. empty() do
$p \leftarrow \mathcal{Q}$.ExtractMax()
if $p$ site event then
HandleSiteEvent $(p)$
else
$\alpha \leftarrow \operatorname{arc}$ on $\beta$ that will disappear HandleCircleEvent $(\alpha)$
treat remaining int. nodes of $\mathcal{T}$ ( $\equiv$ unbnd. edges of $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$ ) return $\mathcal{D}$

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$\alpha \leftarrow \operatorname{arc}$ on $\beta$ that will disappear HandleCircleEvent $(\alpha)$ at most $2 n-5$ such events
treat remaining int. nodes of $\mathcal{T}$ ( $\equiv$ unbnd. edges of $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$ ) return $\mathcal{D}$

## Summary

Theorem. Given a set $P$ of $n$ pts in the plane, Fortune's sweep computes $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$ in $O(n \log n)$ time and $O(n)$ space.

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## Steven Fortune Bell Labs

Steven Fortune. A sweepline algorithm for Voronoi diagrams. Proc. 2nd Annual ACM Symposium on Computational Geometry. Yorktown Heights, NY, pp. 313-322. 1986.

