

Time-Space Trade-offs for Triangulating a Simple Polygon

Boris Aronov¹ Matias Korman² Simon Pratt³
André van Renssen^{4,5} Marcel Roeloffzen^{4,5}

¹New York University

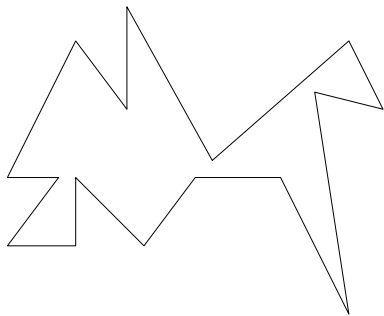
²Tohoku University

³University of Waterloo

⁴National Institute of Informatics

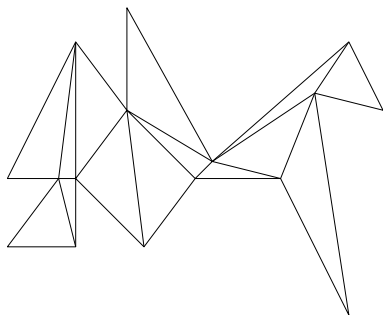
⁵JST, ERATO, Kawarabayashi Large Graph Project

Problem



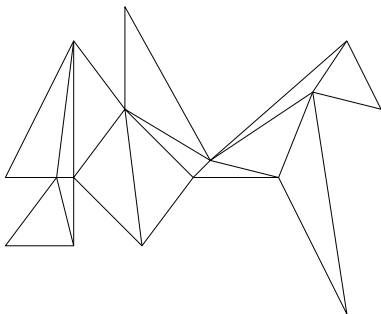
Given a simple polygon:

Problem



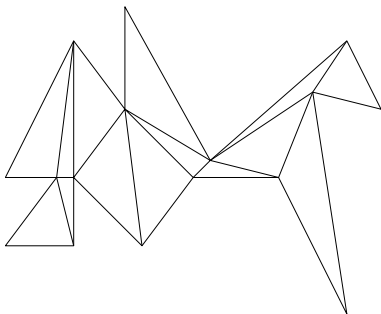
Given a simple polygon: **Triangulate!**

Why?



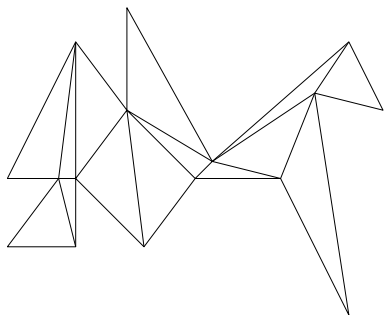
- Don't we already have Chazelle's $O(n)$ time algorithm?

Why?



- Don't we already have Chazelle's $O(n)$ time algorithm?
- Chazelle's algorithm uses $O(n)$ words of space
- **What if we only have $O(s < n)$ words of space?**

Why?



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- Chazelle's algorithm uses $O(n)$ words of space
- **What if we only have $O(s < n)$ words of space?**
- Ideally, we'd like a time-space trade-off

Model

s -Workspace Model:

- Also called constant workspace

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- Input is read-only, but we have random access

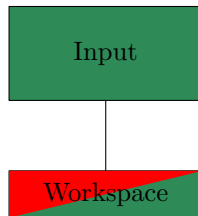


Input

Model

s -Workspace Model:

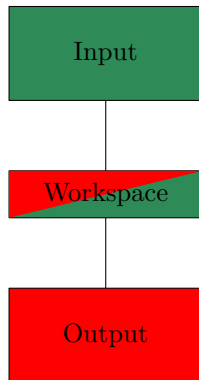
- Also called constant workspace
- Input is read-only, but we have random access
- $O(s)$ words of extra (read/write) space



Model

s -Workspace Model:

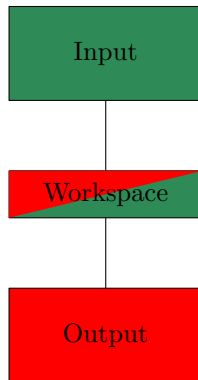
- Also called constant workspace
- Input is read-only, but we have random access
- $O(s)$ words of extra (read/write) space
- Output is write-only, no random access



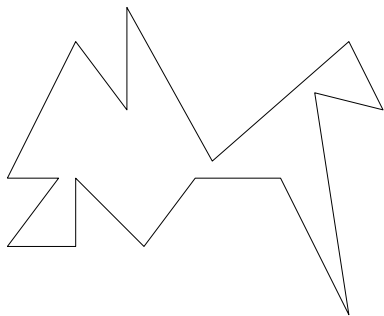
Model

s -Workspace Model:

- Also called constant workspace
- Input is read-only, but we have random access
- $O(s)$ words of extra (read/write) space
- Output is write-only, no random access
- Otherwise, normal word RAM

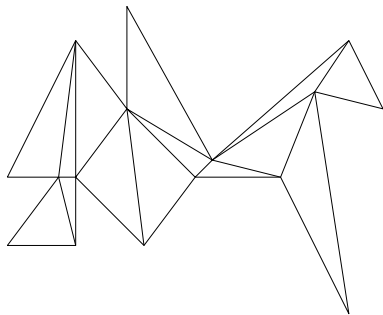


Problem



- Input:
 - A simple polygon
 - Given as vertices in clockwise order: $v_1 v_2, v_2 v_3, \dots, v_{n-1} v_n$

Problem



- **Input:**
 - A simple polygon
 - Given as vertices in clockwise order: $v_1 v_2, v_2 v_3, \dots, v_{n-1} v_n$
- **Output:**
 - A maximal set of straight, non-intersecting line segments between vertices of the input

Results

- $O(n^2/s + n \log s \log^5(n/s))$ expected time,
for $s \in O(n)$

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for $s \in O(n)$
- $O(n^2/s)$ expected time,
for “reasonable” $s \in O\left(\frac{n}{\log n \log^5 \log n}\right)$

Tool 1: Chazelle's Algorithm

- Triangulates a simple polygon
- $O(n)$ time
- $O(n)$ space

Credit: *Chazelle, 1991*

Tool 2: Memory-Constrained Triangulation

- Triangulates a simple polygon
- $O(n^2)$ time
- $O(1)$ space

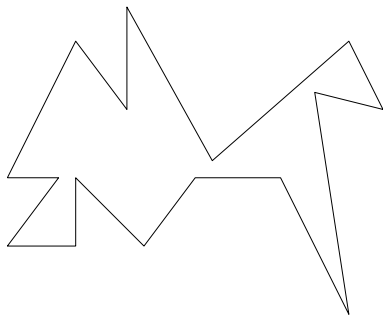
Credit: *Asano et al., 2013*

Tool 3: Har-Peled's Algorithm

- Finds the shortest path between two vertices within a simple polygon
- $O(n^2/s + n \log s \log^4(n/s))$ expected time
- $O(s)$ space

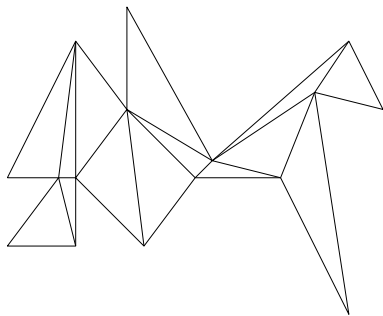
Credit: *Har-Peled, SoCG 2015, JoCG 2016*

Overview



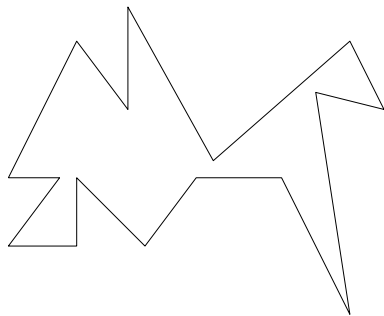
- If polygon fits in available memory:

Overview



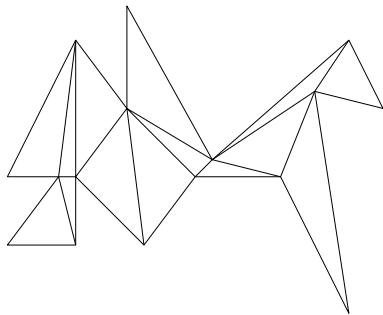
- If polygon fits in available memory: [Use Chazelle's algorithm](#)

Overview



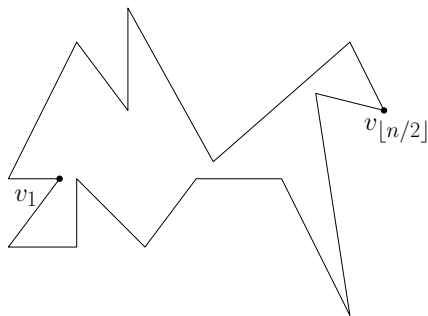
- If polygon fits in available memory: Use Chazelle's algorithm
- Else if s is constant:

Overview



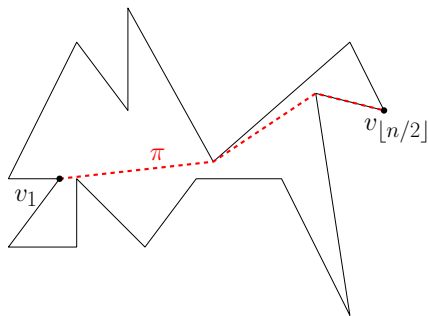
- If polygon fits in available memory: Use Chazelle's algorithm
- Else if s is constant: Use memory-constrained triangulation

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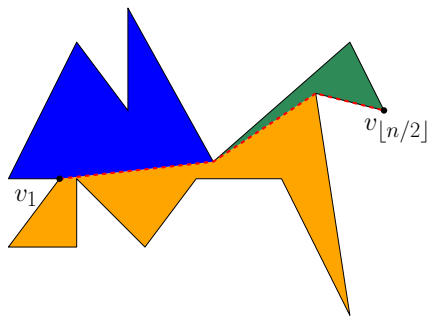
- If polygon fits in available memory: Use Chazelle's algorithm
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- Else:

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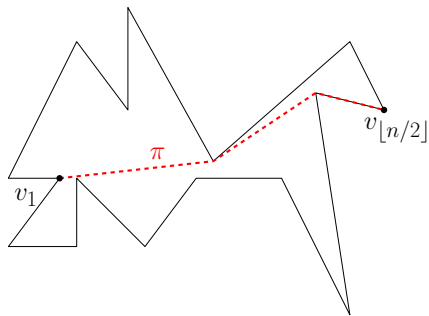
- If polygon fits in available memory: Use Chazelle's algorithm
- Else if s is constant: Use memory-constrained triangulation
- Else:
 - Use Har-Peled's algorithm to find geodesic from v_1 to $v_{[n/2]}$

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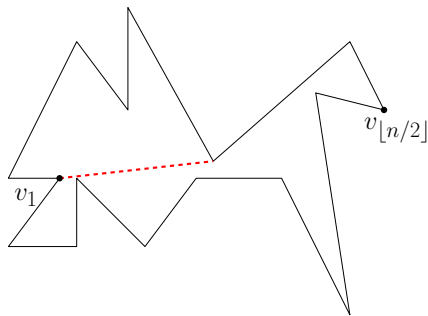
- If polygon fits in available memory: Use Chazelle's algorithm
- Else if s is constant: Use memory-constrained triangulation
- Else:
 - Use Har-Peled's algorithm to find geodesic from v_1 to $v_{[n/2]}$
 - Recurse on subpolygons induced by π , with smaller s

First Challenge



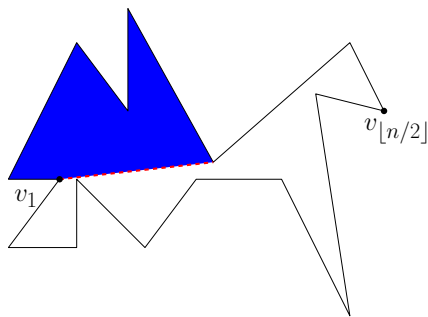
- Problem:
 - π might not fit into available memory

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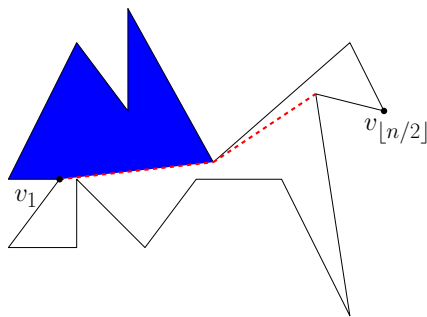
- Problem:
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- Solution:
 - “Pause” Har-Peled after each edge

First Challenge



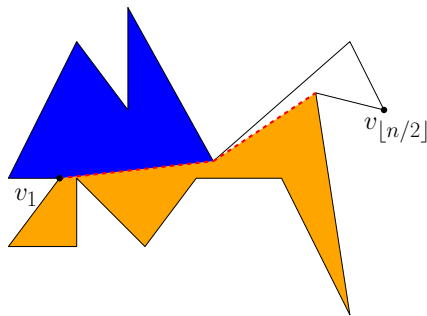
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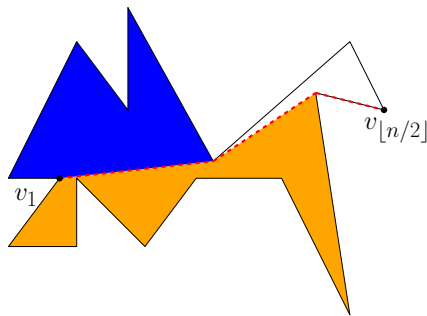
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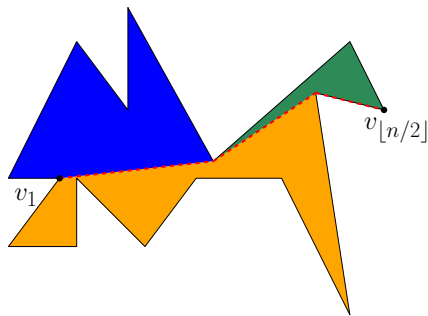
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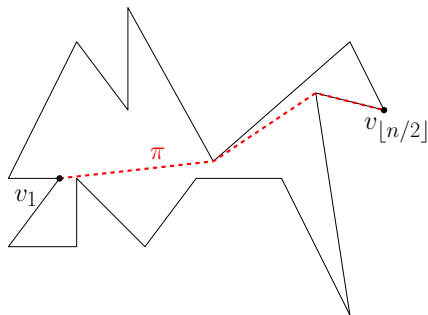
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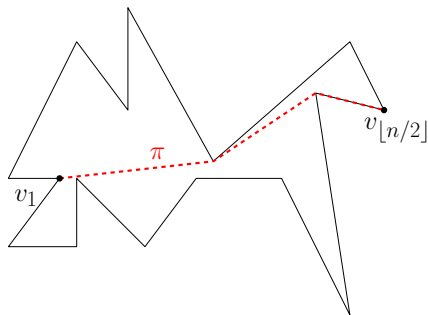
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Second Challenge



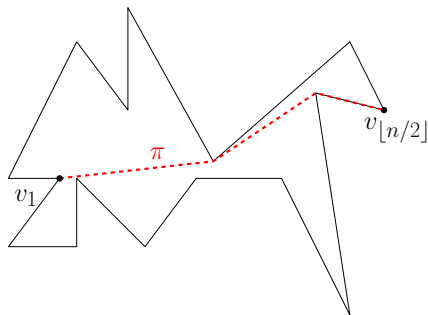
- Problem:
 - A subpolygon can be bounded by more than a single edge of π

Second Challenge



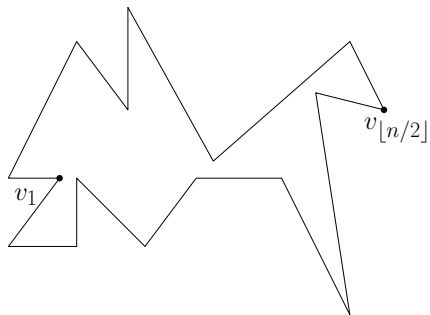
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 - We need to store a list of edges on π

Second Challenge

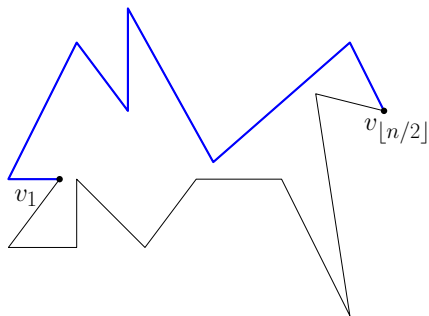


- Problem:
 - A subpolygon can be bounded by more than a single edge of π
 - We need to store a list of edges on π
 - This list of edges might not fit in memory

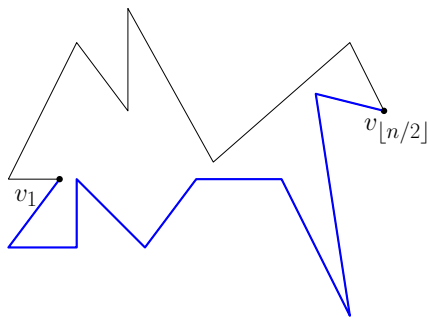
Alternating Diagonals



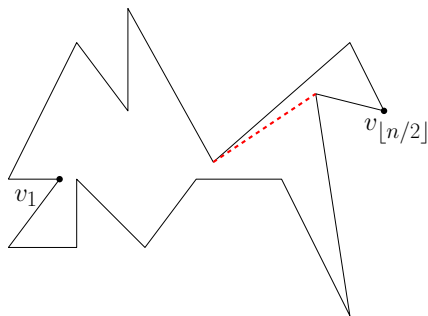
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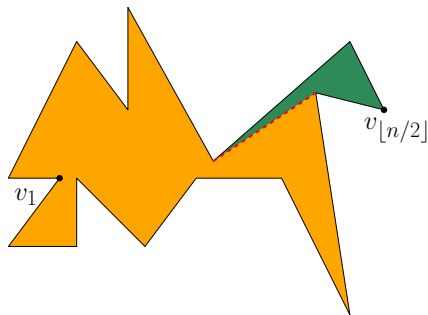
Alternating Diagonals



Alternating diagonal:

- An edge with one vertex on the “top” and one on the “bottom” of the polygon

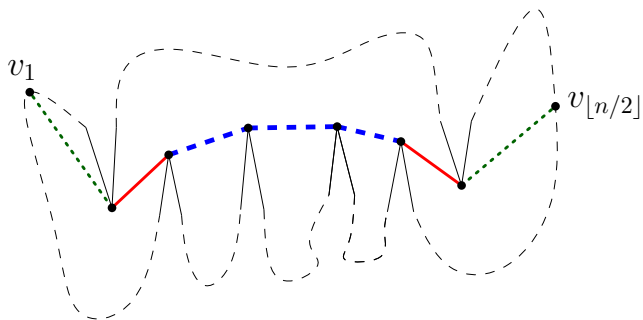
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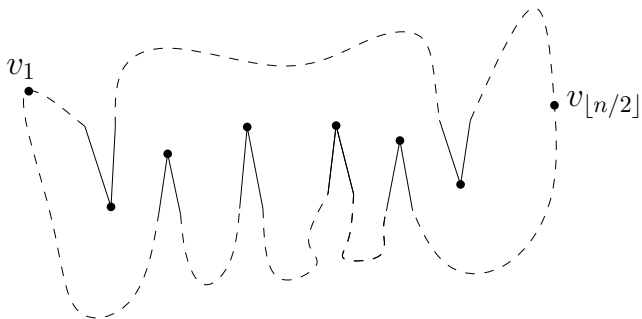
Alternating diagonal:

- An edge with one vertex on the “top” and one on the “bottom” of the polygon
- In other words, an edge which separates v_1 and $v_{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}$ into different induced subpolygons

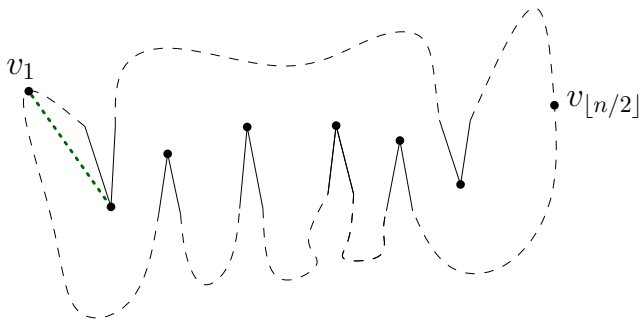
More Details



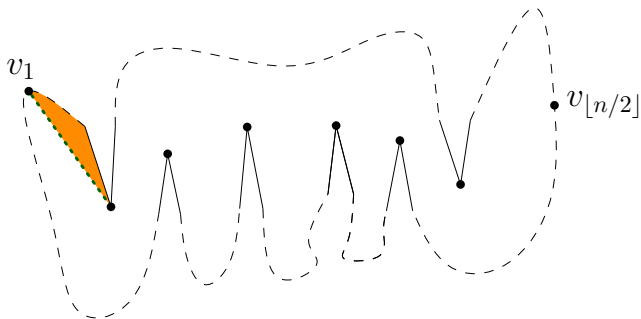
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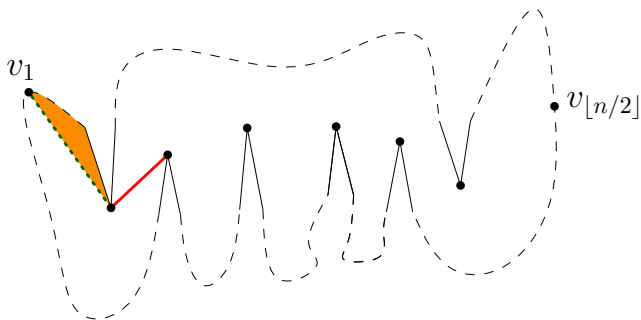
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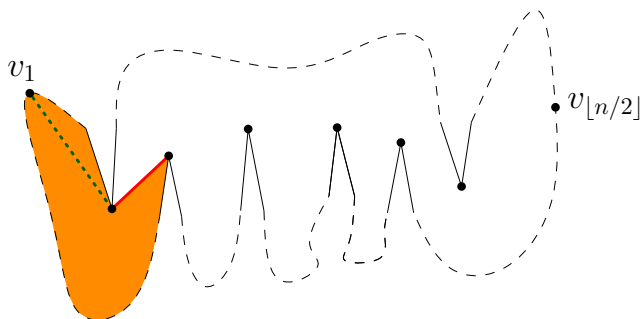


More Details



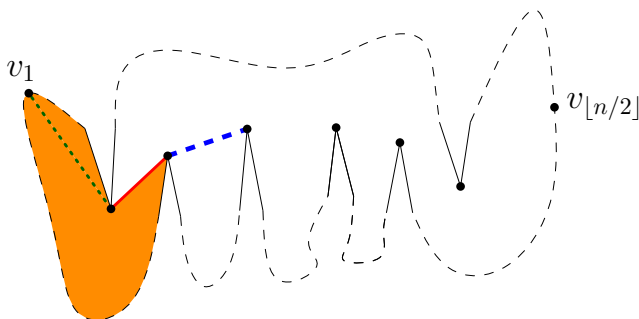
- Store:
 - Last alternating diagonal a_c

More Details



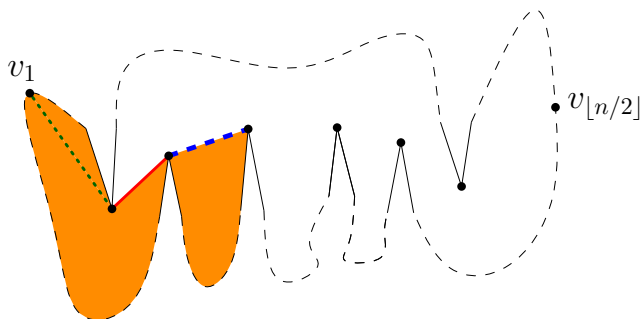
- Store:
 - Last alternating diagonal a_c
- Maintain invariant:
 - Subpolygon induced by a_c containing v_1 is triangulated

More Details



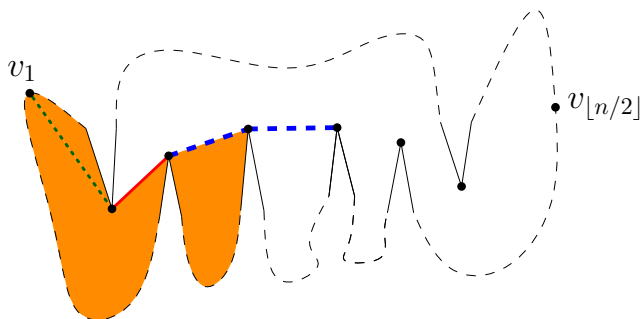
- Store:
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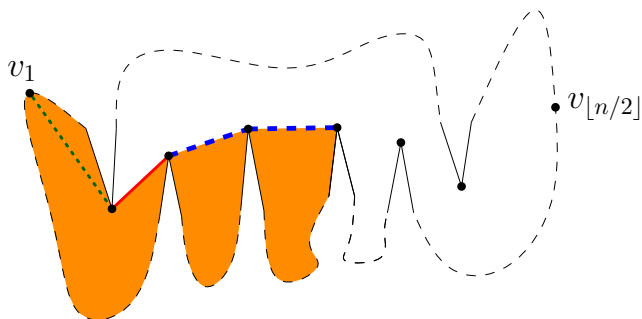
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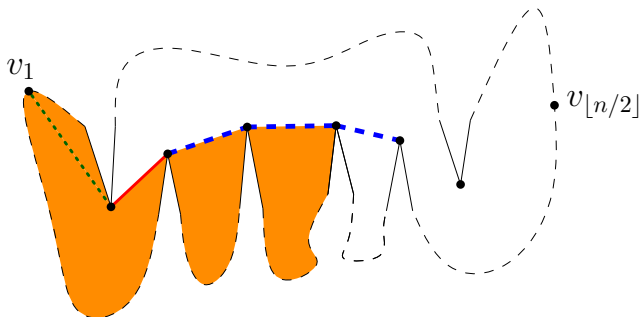
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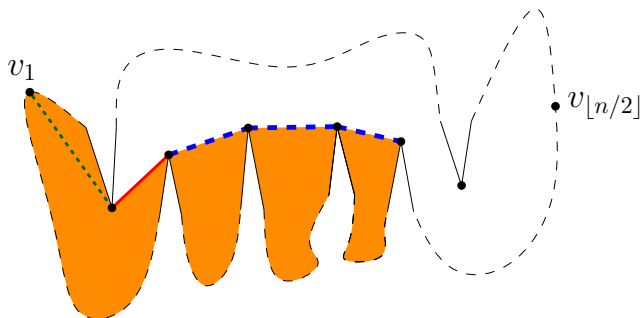
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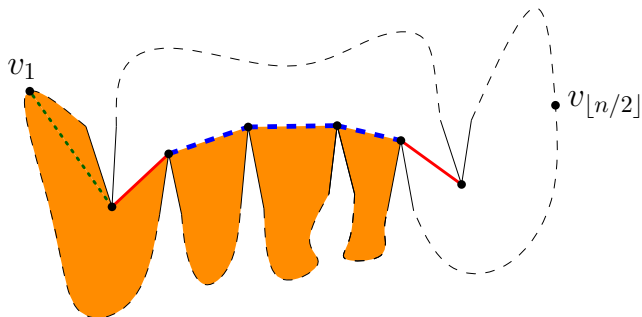
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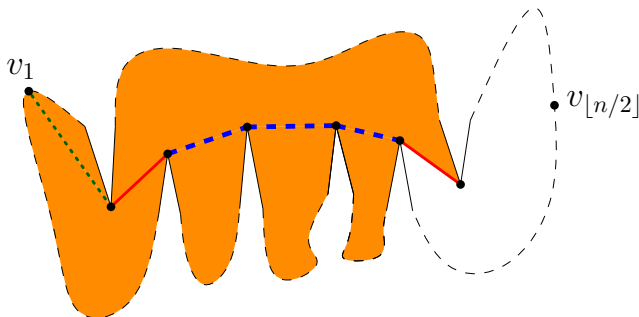
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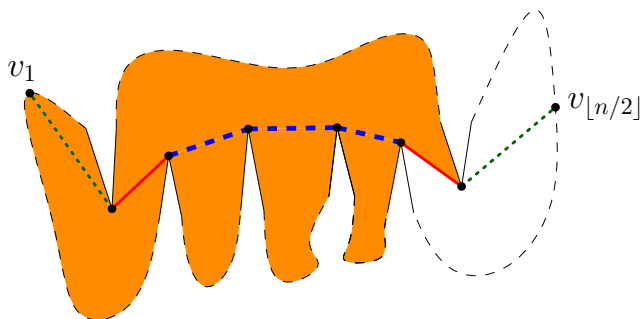
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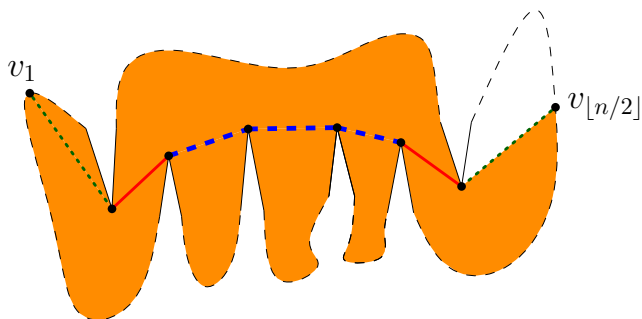
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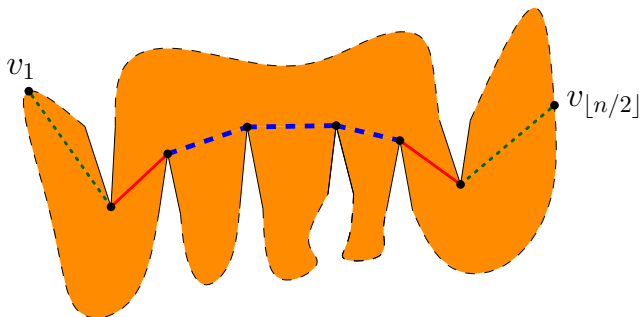
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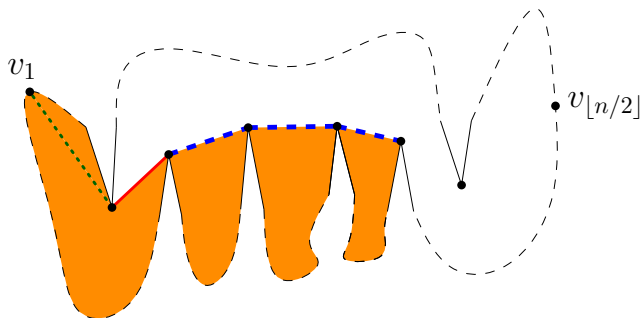
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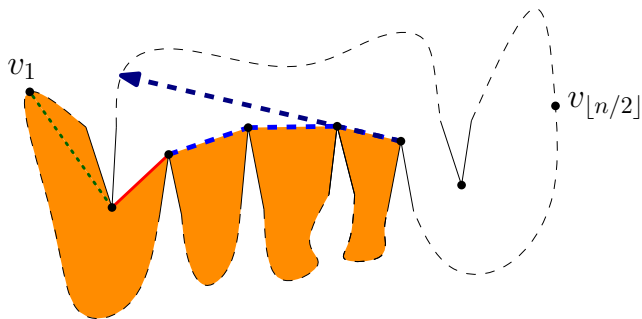
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Second Challenge



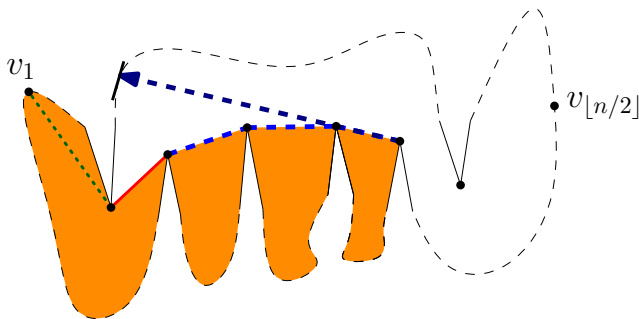
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 - There may be more edges between alternating diagonals than can fit in memory

Second Challenge



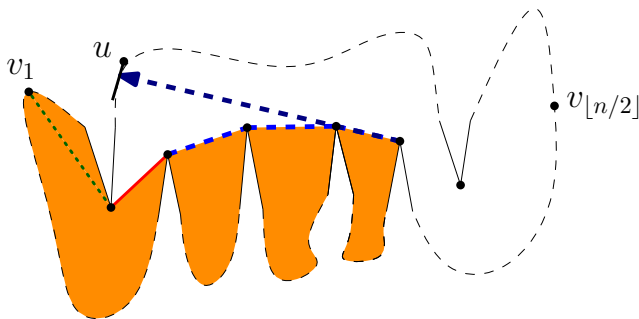
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- Solution:
 - Find an alternating diagonal (not on π)
 - $O(n)$ time, $O(1)$ extra space

Second Challenge



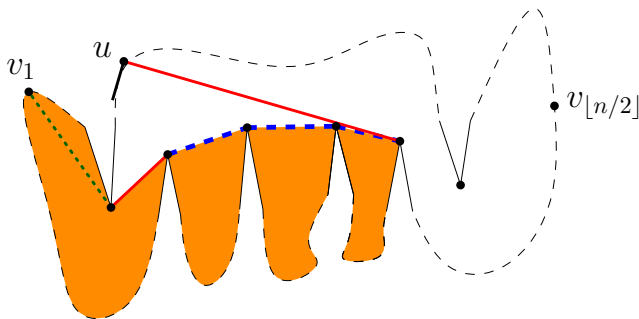
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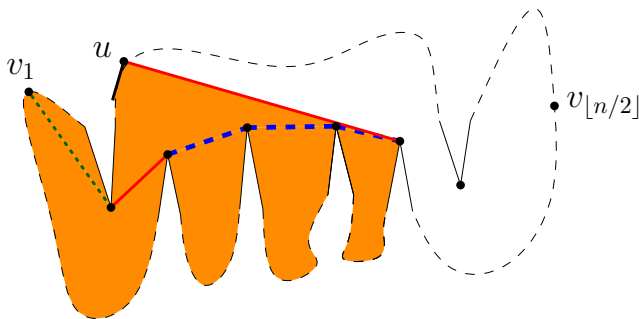
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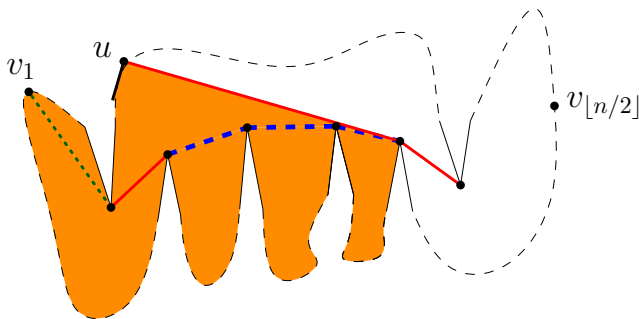
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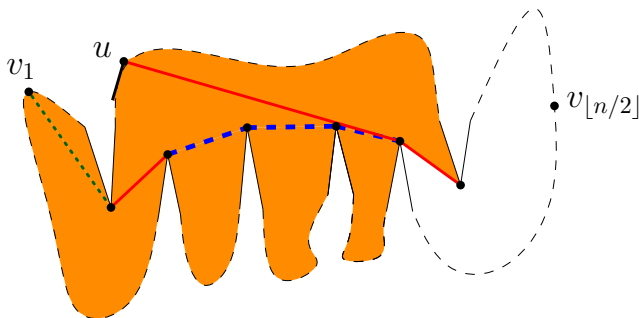
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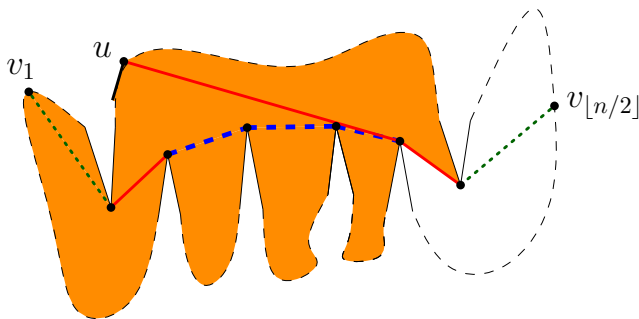
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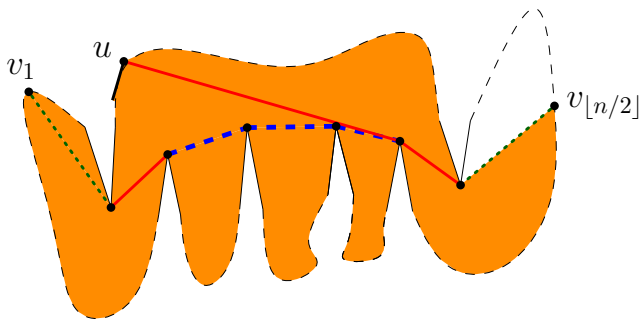
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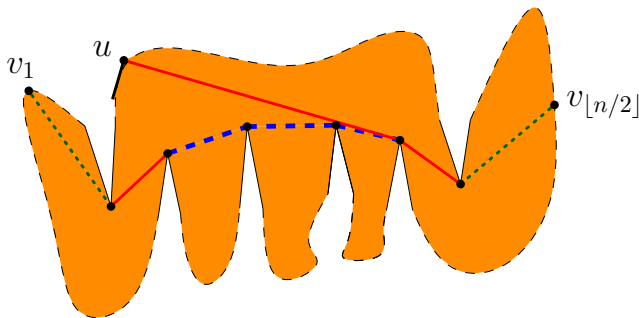
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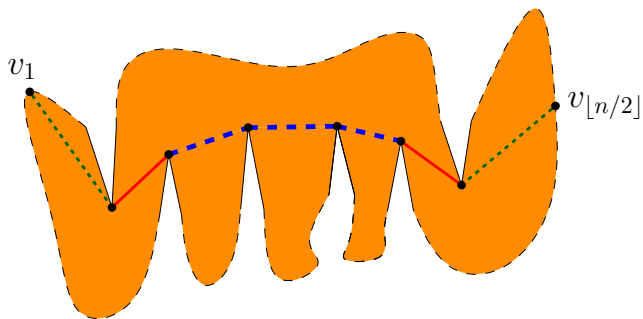
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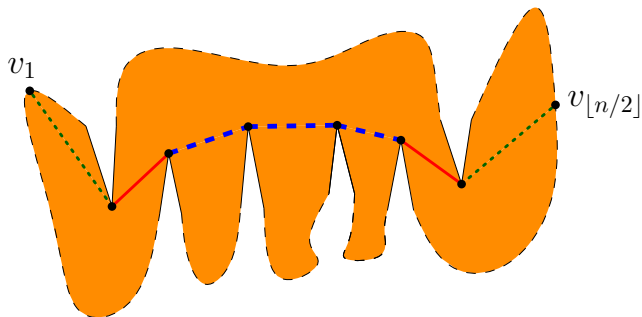
- Problem:
 - There may be more edges between alternating diagonals than can fit in memory
- Solution:
 - Find an alternating diagonal (not on π)
 - $O(n)$ time, $O(1)$ extra space

Efficiency: Overview



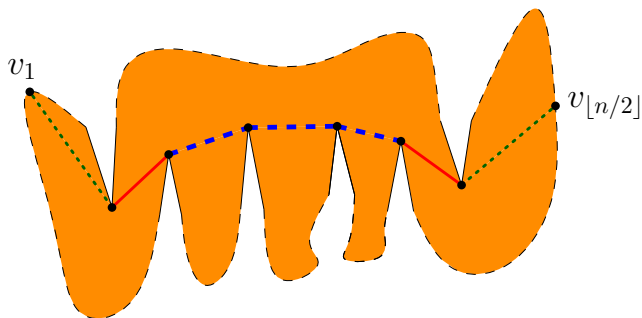
- SPACE: $O(s)$

Efficiency: Overview



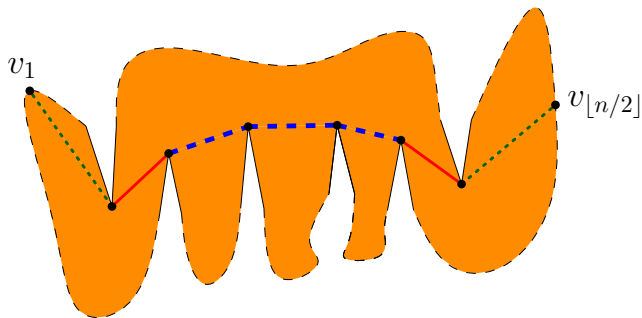
- SPACE: $O(s)$
 - Use a parameter τ to keep track of available space

Efficiency: Overview



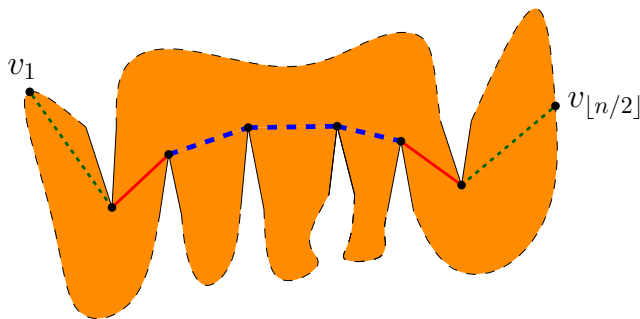
- SPACE: $O(s)$
 - Use a parameter τ to keep track of available space
 - Initially, $\tau = s$

Efficiency: Overview



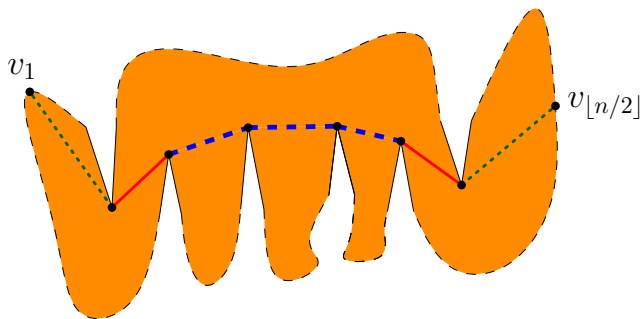
- SPACE: $O(s)$
 - Use a parameter τ to keep track of available space
 - Initially, $\tau = s$
 - τ shrinks by a constant factor at each level of recursion

Efficiency: Overview



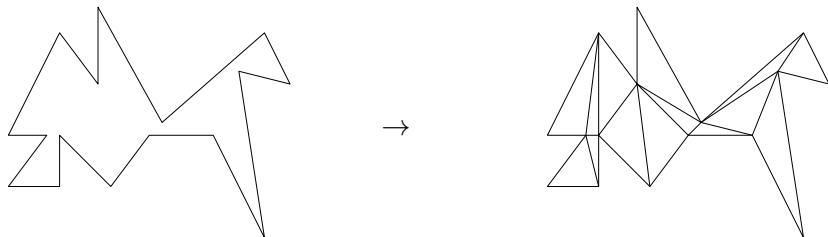
- SPACE: $O(s)$
 - Use a parameter τ to keep track of available space
 - Initially, $\tau = s$
 - τ shrinks by a constant factor at each level of recursion
- TIME: $O(n^2/s + n \log s \log^5(n/s))$ expected

Efficiency: Overview



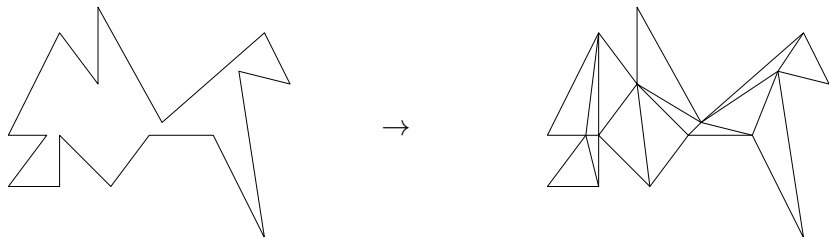
- SPACE: $O(s)$
 - Use a parameter τ to keep track of available space
 - Initially, $\tau = s$
 - τ shrinks by a constant factor at each level of recursion
- TIME: $O(n^2/s + n \log s \log^5(n/s))$ expected
 - Most work done in computing the geodesic

Conclusion



Using Chazelle's, Asano's, and Har-Peled's algorithms as building blocks.

Conclusion

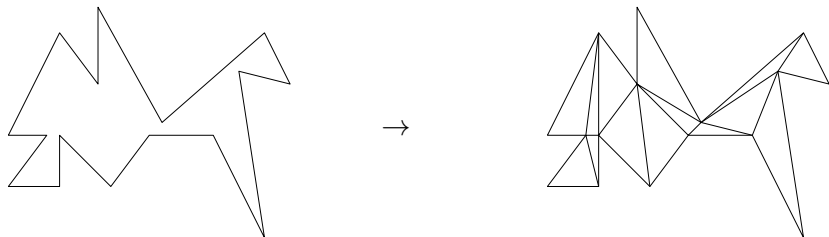


Using Chazelle's, Asano's, and Har-Peled's algorithms as building blocks.

Triangulate a polygon in:

- $O(s)$ space
- $O(n^2/s + n \log s \log^5(n/s))$ expected time, for $s \in O(n)$

Conclusion



Using Chazelle's, Asano's, and Har-Peled's algorithms as building blocks.

Triangulate a polygon in:

- $O(s)$ space
- $O(n^2/s + n \log s \log^5(n/s))$ expected time, for $s \in O(n)$
- $O(n^2/s)$ expected time, for "reasonable" $s \in O\left(\frac{n}{\log n \log^5 \log n}\right)$

References

- ① Tetsuo Asano, Kevin Buchin, Maike Buchin, Matias Korman, Wolfgang Mulzer, Günter Rote, André Schulz.
Memory-constrained algorithms for simple polygons. Journal of Computational Geometry, Volume 46, Issue 8, 2013, Pages 959–969.
- ② Bernard Chazelle. *Triangulating a simple polygon in linear time.* Journal of Discrete & Computational Geometry, Number 6, Issue 3, 2007, Pages 485–524.
- ③ Sariel Har-Peled. "Shortest path in a polygon using sublinear space." Journal of Computational Geometry, Volume 7, Number 2, 2016, Pages 19–45.