

Graphs for Dynamic Computational Geometry

David Eppstein

Dept. of Information & Computer Science
University of California, Irvine

Some questions:

Many standard dynamic graph problems

(connectivity, shortest paths, planarity testing...)

But only one standard geometric graph problem

(Euclidean MST)

Where are the other interesting problems?

Euclidean MST defined on a complete graph
and is a subset of the Delaunay Triangulation

But complete graph \Rightarrow uninteresting algorithms
and DT can be complete for dimension ≥ 3

What other geometric graph structures can we use?

Outline

Euclidean MST

complete graph

Delaunay triangulation

Yao graph

bichromatic closest pair graph

Dynamic width

rotating caliper graph

Minimum diameter subset

lune graph

Circle packing for quad meshing

circle intersection graph

Robot motion planning

quadtrees dual graph

Kinetic connectivity of rectangles

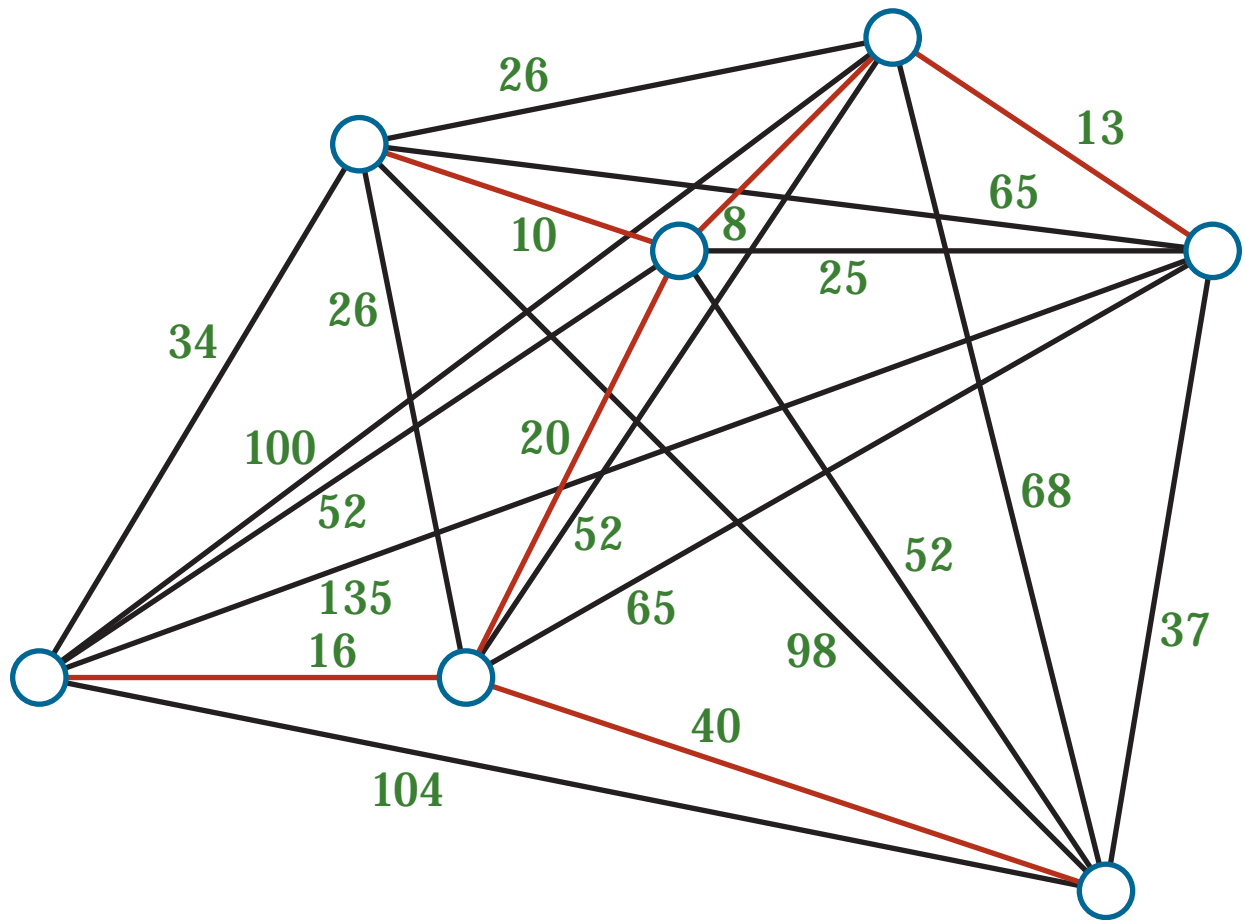
rectangle boundary graph

First, what is “Dynamic”?

- Dynamic graph: **edge** insert/delete
but in most geometric problems, edges are part
of solution technique **not part of problem**
- Dynamic geometry: **point** insert/delete
(discrete changes of point set
similar to graph **vertex** insert/delete)
- Parametric geometry:
points with static “**flight plans**”
describing **continuous** change of point set
- Kinetic geometry: **flight plan** insert/delete

Euclidean MST:

Minimum spanning tree of
complete Euclidean graph



(shown with squared edge lengths)

Dynamic MST in complete graph

Insert/delete vertex

$\Rightarrow \Theta(n)$ edges

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(n \log^4 n)$ time per update

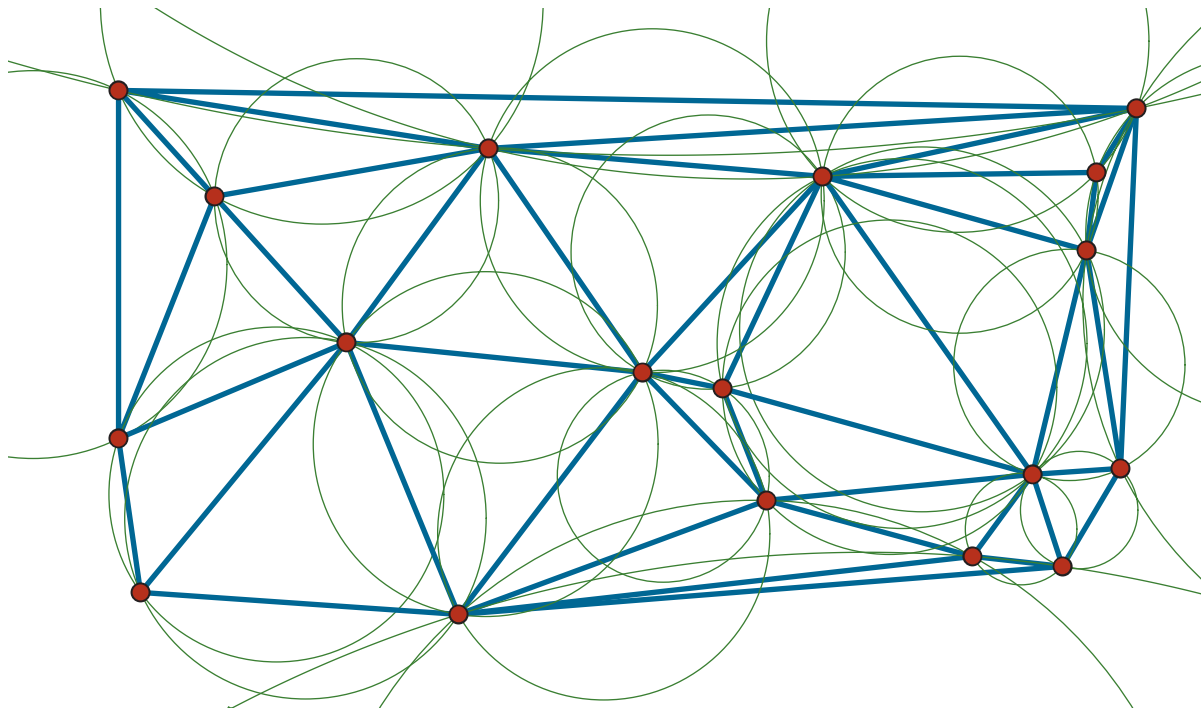
(in any dimension)

To do better:

need a sparse graph
that doesn't change much
and can be updated quickly

Delaunay Triangulation

Form edges for each chord of an empty circle



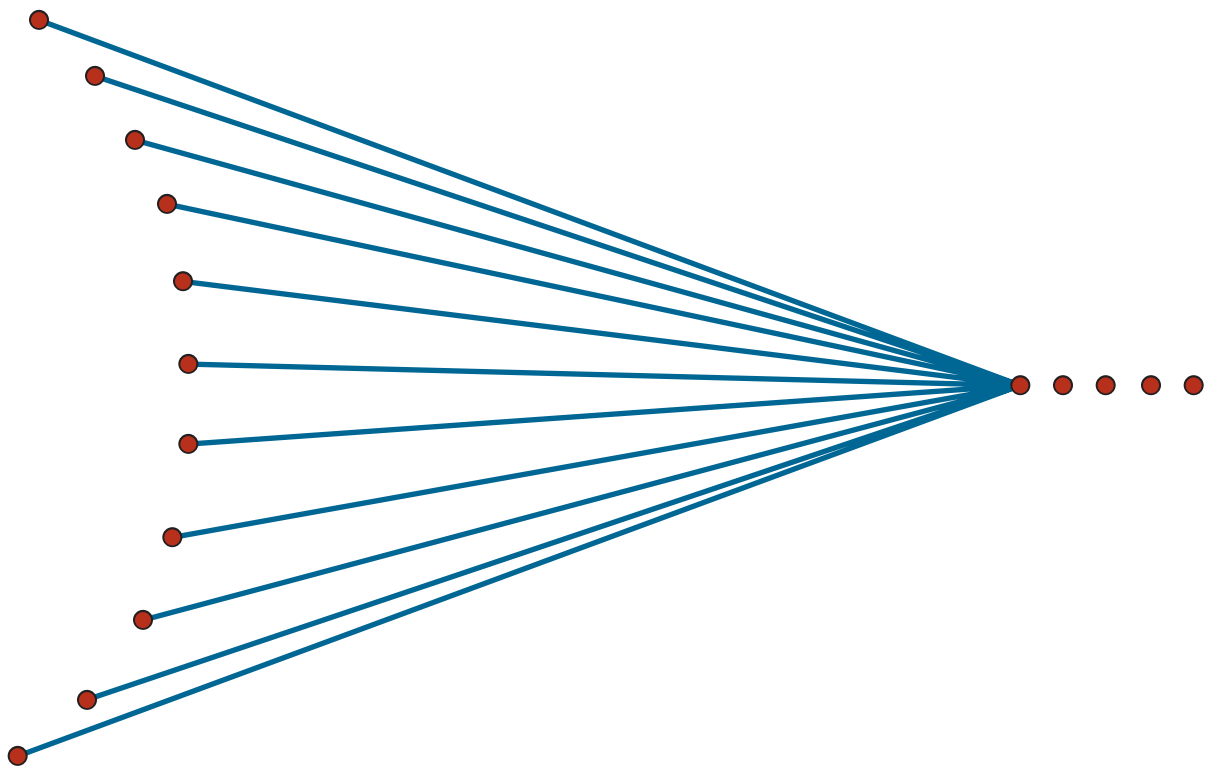
Contains Euclidean MST

For $d = 2$, planar $\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(n)$ edges

For $d \geq 3$ can be a complete graph
e.g., points (t, t^2, t^3)

The **Problem** with Delaunay

One insertion can change $\Theta(n)$ edges



So unusable for dynamic algorithms?

Average Case Delaunay

If all insertion orders **equally likely**
then **expected change** = $\mathcal{O}(1)$

Proof:

$$E[\# \text{ edge insertions}] = \text{avg degree}$$
$$\# \text{ deletions} = \# \text{ insertions} + \Delta(\# \text{ edges})$$

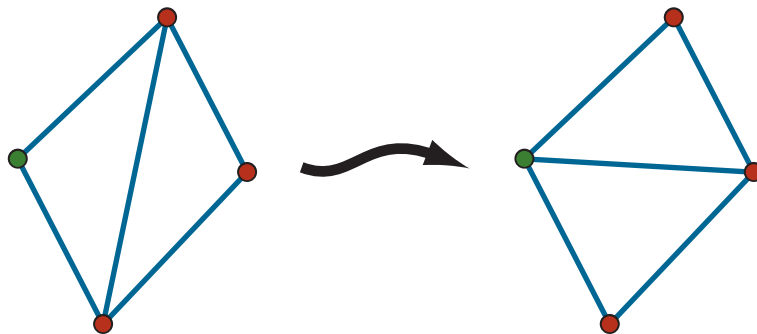
The Δ terms **telescope**

Similarly, if all points equally likely to be deleted,
expected change = $\mathcal{O}(1)$

Average Case **Delaunay** continued: How to insert a **new point**

Find triangle containing **new point**
(dynamic planar **point location**)

Flip adjacent diagonals
until locally Delaunay

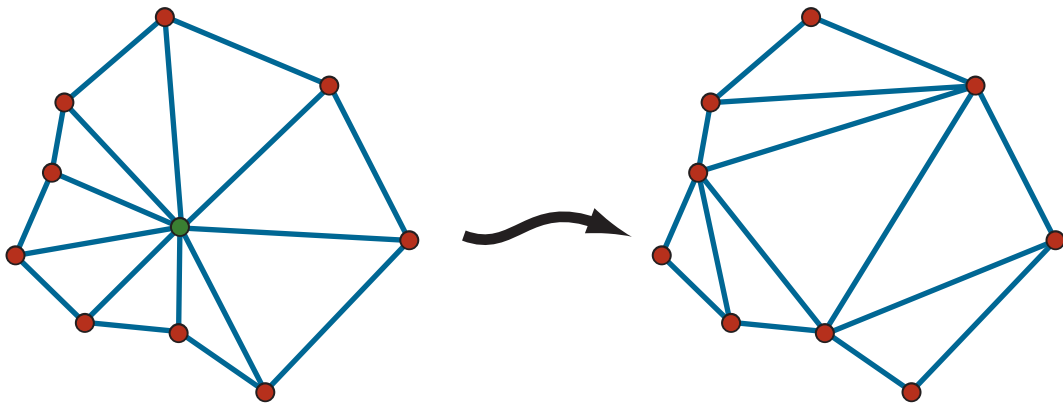


Time = $\mathcal{O}(\log n + \# \text{ changes})$

Average Case Delaunay continued: How to delete a point

Remove deleted point

Retriangulate resulting hole



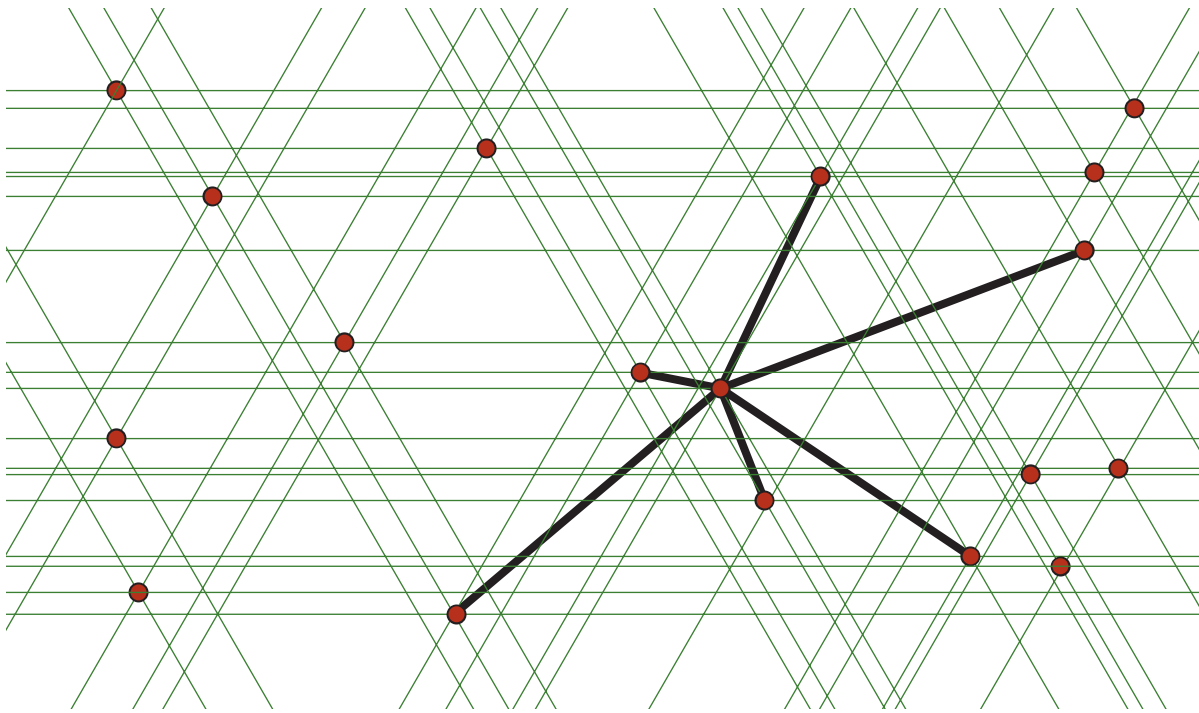
Time = $\mathcal{O}(\# \text{ changes})$

Incremental/Offline MST: Yao graph

Lemma: If $(u, v) \in \text{MST}$, then v must be nearest neighbor in any 60° wedge from u

Proof: Nearer neighbor w would also be nearer to v , allowing **shortcut $u-w-v$**

Yao graph: connect vertex to neighbors from each of six 60° wedges



Sequence dependence for Yao graph

Graph defined above contains MST
but may still change too much

Modification: connect each vertex to
nearest previously inserted neighbors

Still contains MST

Six = $\mathcal{O}(1)$ new edges per insertion

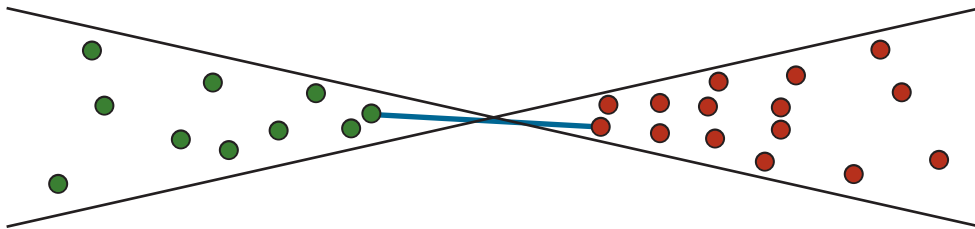
$\mathcal{O}(\log^2 n)$ time (from nearest neighbor queries)

Fully dynamic MST

Key insight:

[Agarwal, Edelsbrunner, Schwarzkopf, Welzl 1990]

Let (u, v) be an edge in the MST
and let W be a *double wedge*
with sufficiently small angle ($< 19.08^\circ$)
containing u and v in opposite wedges

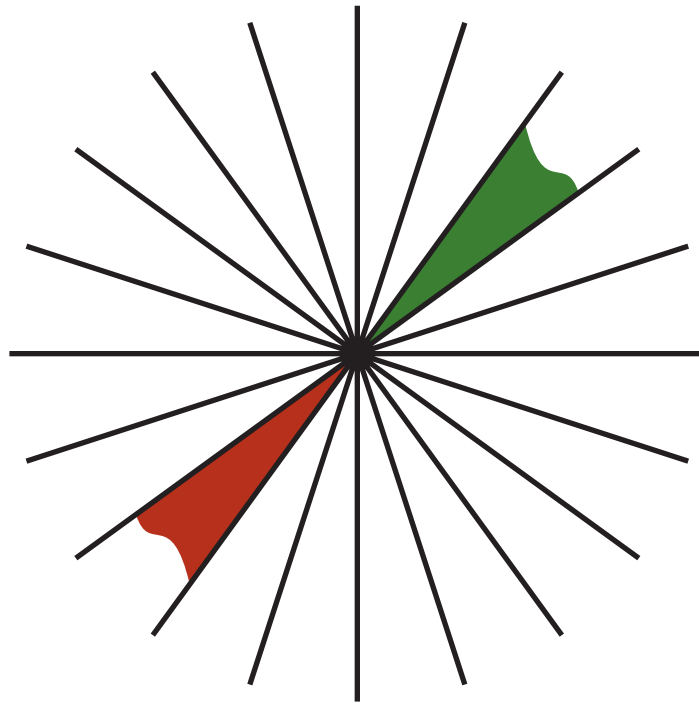


Then (u, v) is the *closest pair*
of points from opposite wedges
if not, we could find *shortcut* $u-u'-v'-v$

So, to *solve MST*, find set of double wedges
containing all edges of *complete graph*

Bichromatic Closest Pair Graph: Step I

Find $\mathcal{O}(1)$ double wedges
with small angles

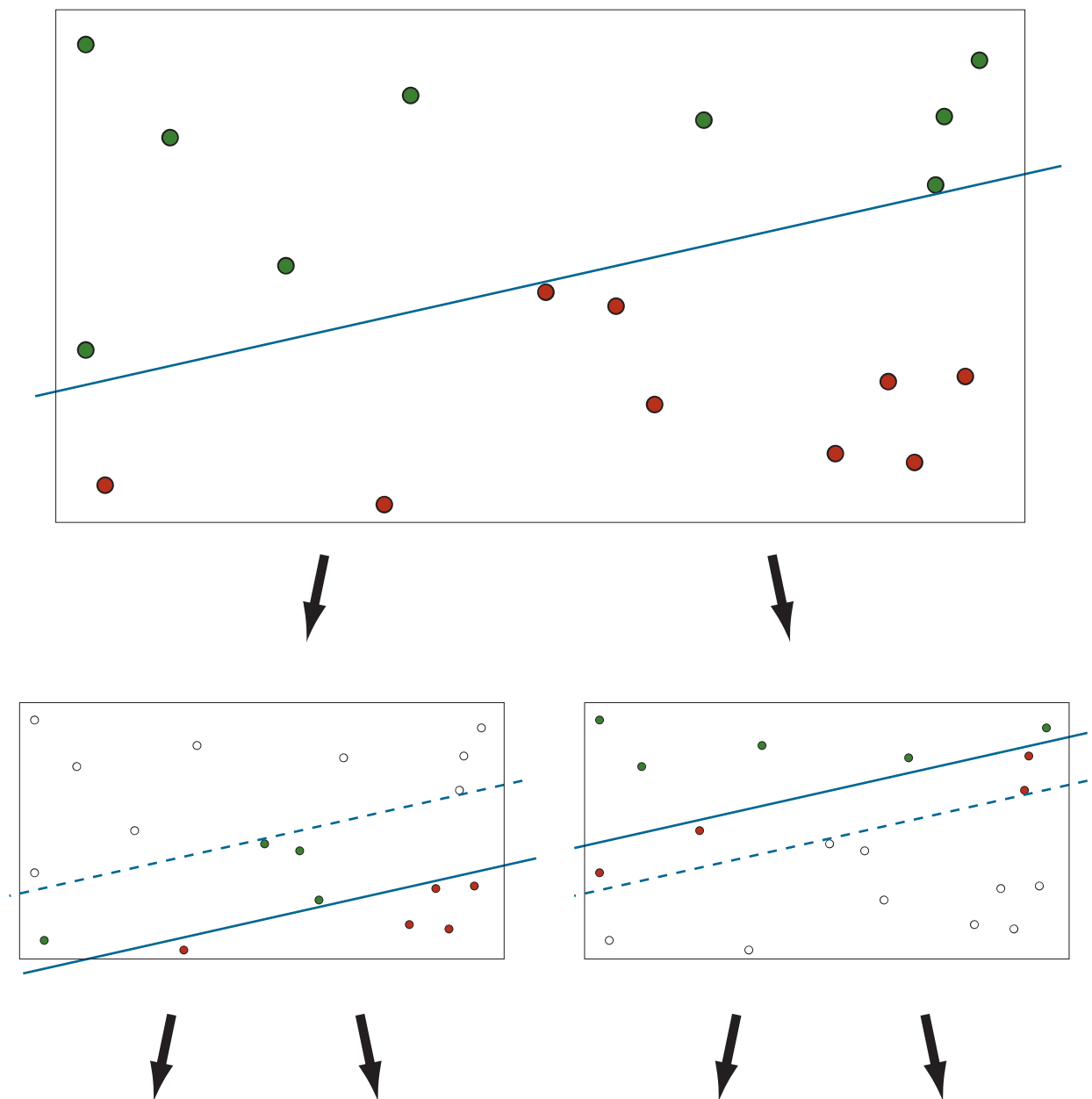


Such that any edge is contained in a **translate** of
one of the double wedges

Then, for each double wedge. . .

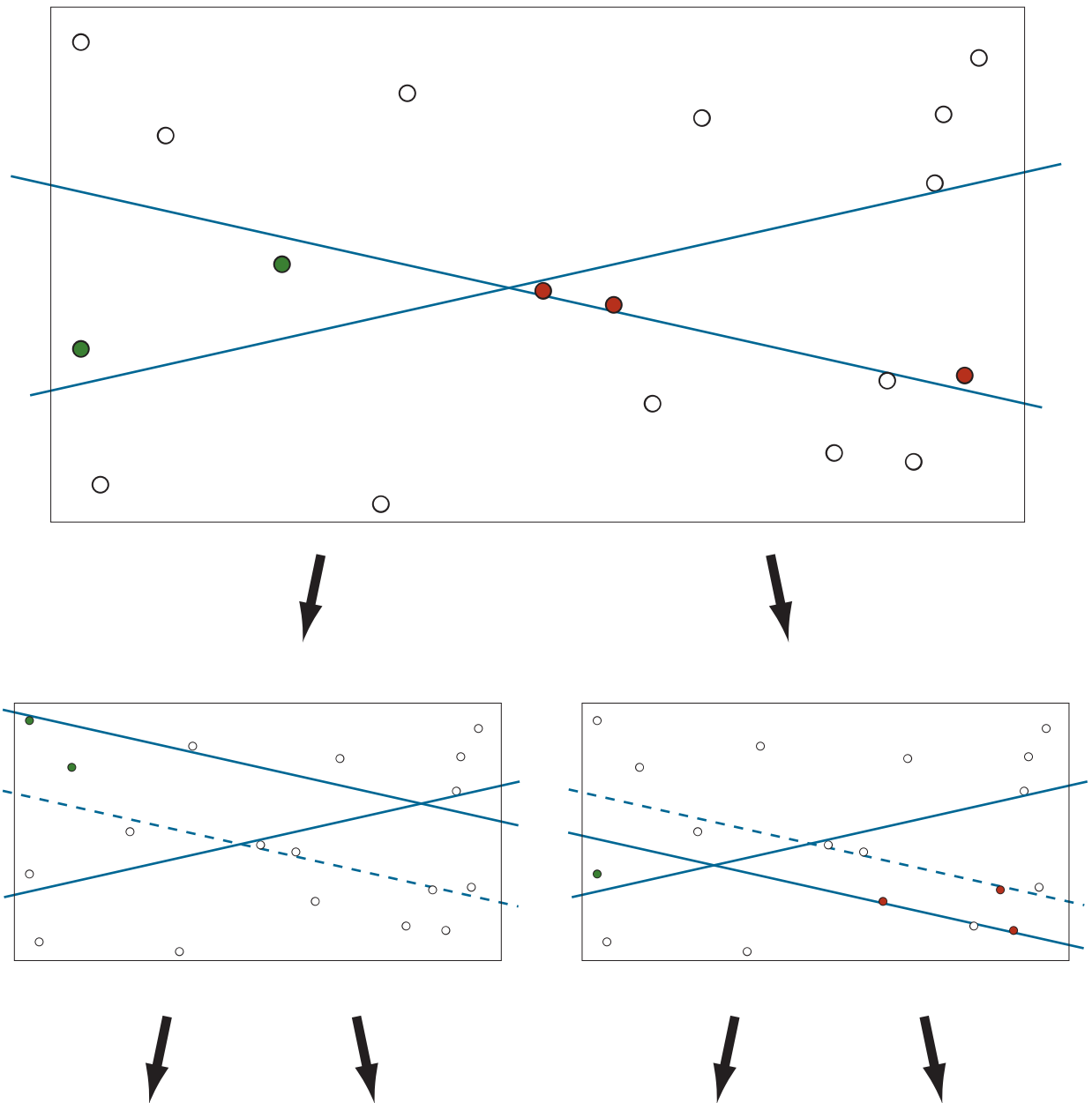
Bichromatic Closest Pair Graph: Step II

Recursively subdivide parallel to wedge boundary



Bichromatic Closest Pair Graph: Step III

Recursively subdivide parallel to other boundary



Bichromatic Closest Pair Graph: Analysis

d stages of recursive subdivision
 $\log_2 n$ **levels** of recursion per stage

$\mathcal{O}(n \log^{d-1} n)$ subproblems
 \Rightarrow graph with $\mathcal{O}(n \log^{d-1} n)$ edges

Each point in $\mathcal{O}(\log^d n)$ subproblems
 \Rightarrow **few graph changes** per update

How to maintain BCP Graph?

Data structure for nearest neighbor queries

$\mathcal{O}(n^{1-\frac{2}{\lceil d/2 \rceil + 1} + \epsilon})$ per operation

[Agarwal and Matoušek 1992]

Data structure for bichromatic closest pairs

$\mathcal{O}(\log^2 n)$ nearest neighbor ops per update

[Eppstein 1992]

Maintenance of recursive subdivision:

Weight-balanced trees

Rebuild when tree grows too unbalanced

Total: $\mathcal{O}(n^{1-\frac{2}{\lceil d/2 \rceil + 1} + \epsilon})$ per update

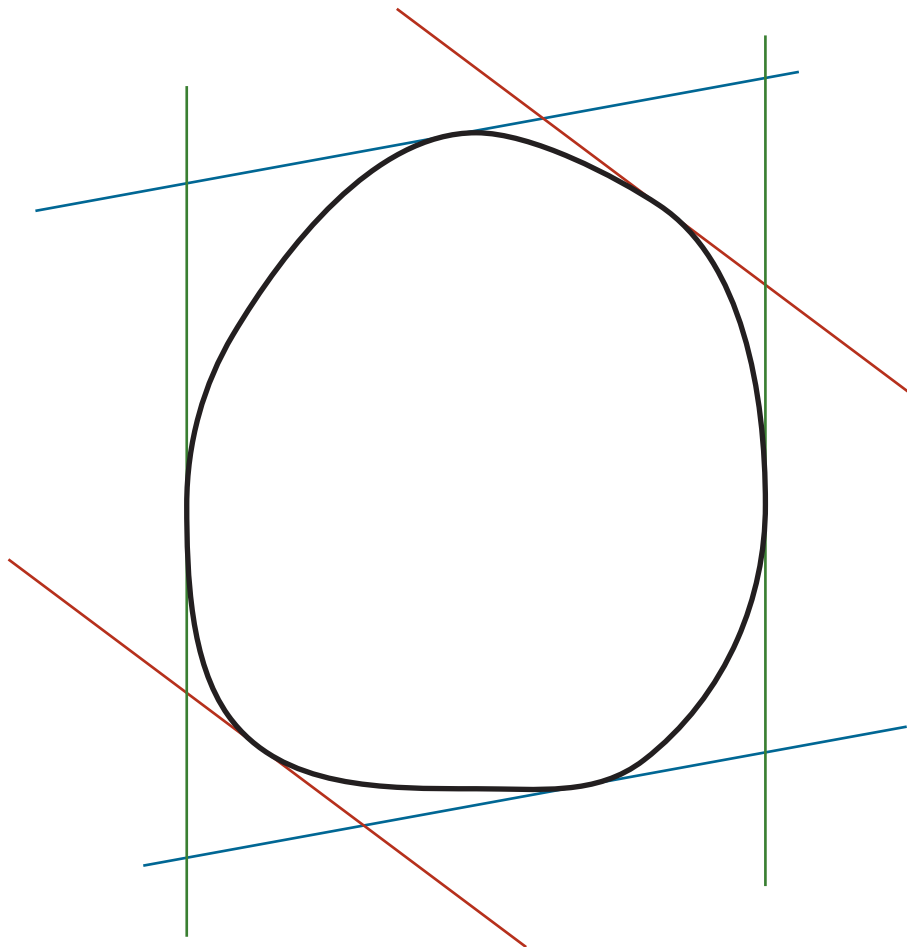
$\mathcal{O}(n^\epsilon)$ for $d = 2$

$\mathcal{O}(n^{1/3+\epsilon})$ for $d = 3$ or $d = 4$

$\mathcal{O}(n^{1/2+\epsilon})$ for $d = 5$ or $d = 6 \dots$

Diameter and Width

Convex body has two **parallel tangents** for any slope



Diam = **max** distance between parallel tangents

Width = **min** distance between parallel tangents

Diameter and Width Algorithms

Computable in $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ time

(“Rotating caliper algorithm”):

[Toussaint 1983]

Build **convex hull**

Find vertical parallel tangents

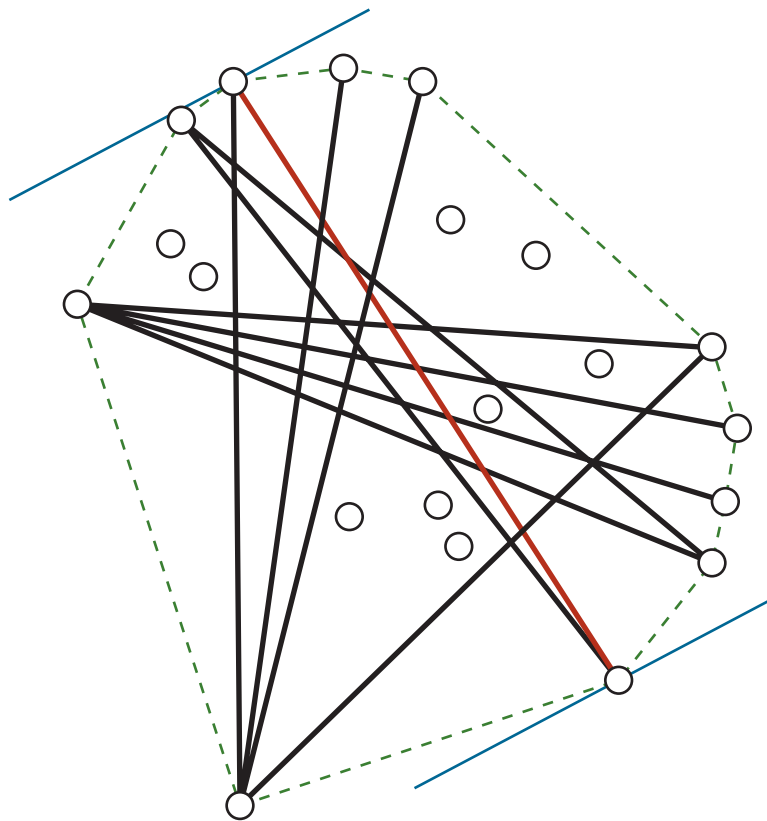
Repeatedly advance one of two tangent points
around hull until vertical again

Dynamic diameter **similar to BCP**

Dynamic width?

Rotating Caliper Graph

Connect **convex hull** vertices by an **edge** whenever they are the contact points of two **parallel tangents**



Forms a **thrackle** (all edges cross)
with **one edge per hull vertex**
making an **odd cycle with side branches**

Average Case Dynamic Width

[Eppstein 1993]

Maintain:

Average-case-efficient **dynamic convex hull**

Rotating Caliper Graph

Priority queue of vertices and opposite edges
(adjacent neighbors of the same vertex)

Expect $\mathcal{O}(1)$ **change** to graph
(because it's sparse)

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\log n)$ **expected time** per update

Incremental or Decremental Width

[Eppstein 1999]

Maintain:

Dynamic **convex hull**

Pointer hull vertex \rightarrow **best opposite edge**

Data structure for finding best edge

$\mathcal{O}(n^\epsilon)$ per update

similar to **nearest neighbor structure**

Priority queue of vertex-edge pairs

$\mathcal{O}(n^\epsilon)$ time **per hull change**

For insertions only (or deletions only)

total hull change over all updates = $\mathcal{O}(n)$

so $\mathcal{O}(n^\epsilon)$ **amortized** time per update

Minimum-diameter k -point subset

[Eppstein and Erickson 1992]

Static problem: given n points
choose a subset of k points
w/min diameter among all such subsets

Main content of paper:

$\mathcal{O}(n/k)$ subproblems of $\mathcal{O}(k)$ points each
Transforms $nf(n)$ time $\Rightarrow nf(k)$

So, assume $k = \Theta(n)$

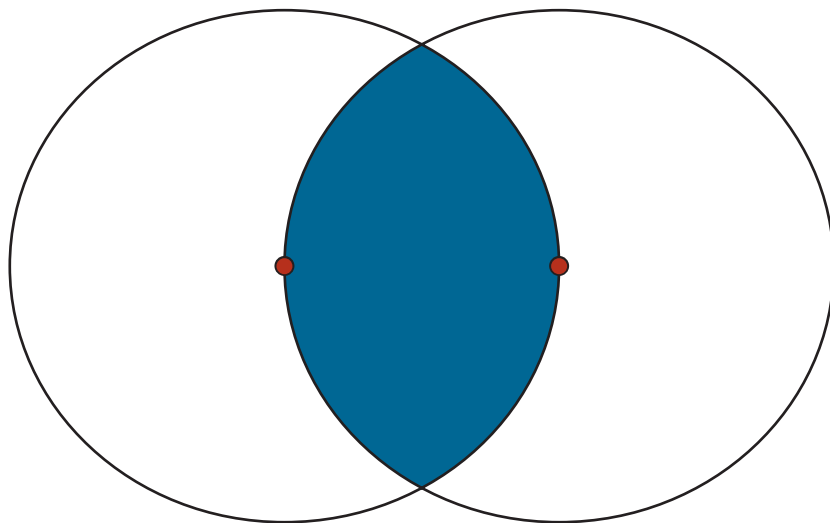
Binary search among all pairwise distances
calling **Test**(v, D) for each vertex

Test(v, D):

is there a **D -lune** of v containing
a k -point subset with diameter $\leq D$?

Diameter and Lunes

lune = intersection of two circles
each circle center on the other circle



D -lune of v : circle radius is D , one center on v

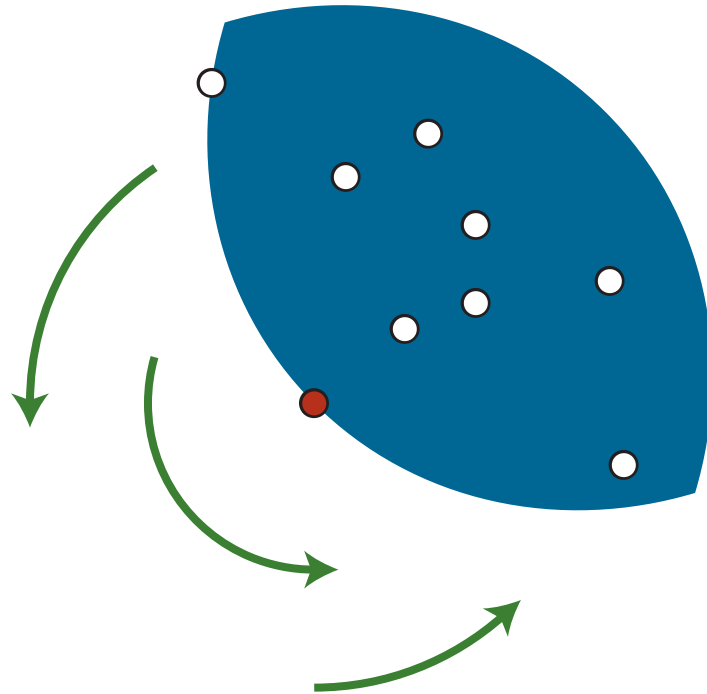
If $\text{diam}(S) = uv$, $|uv| \leq D$ then $S \subset$ a **D -lune** of v

So $\text{Test}(v, D)$ **suitable for use in binary search**

Static to Dynamic Transformation

To test **all** D -lunes of v :

Rotate D -lune around v

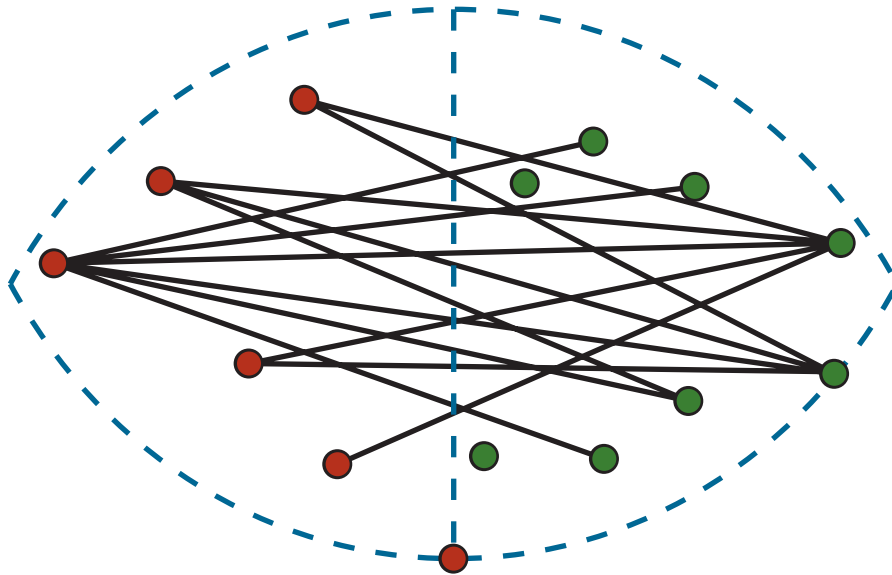


Maintain **dynamic set of points** in lune

Maintain **maximum subset** w/ $\text{diam} \leq D$

Lune Graph

Form set of edges w/length $> D$



Max subset w/diam $\leq D$ is **max independent set**

Bipartite \Rightarrow **solve by matching**

Update by single alternating path search

Data structure for finding graph neighbors

(**circular hull**, Hershberger and Suri 1989)

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ time per update

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(n^2 \log n)$ per test

New Randomized Improvement

Let $D = \infty$

For each v in **random** order:

If $\text{Test}(v, D - \epsilon)$ returns true:

Binary search among all distances
for min D : $\text{Test}(v, D)$ returns true

Binary search happens only for $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$ points
(**in expectation**)

Remaining points only have one call to Test

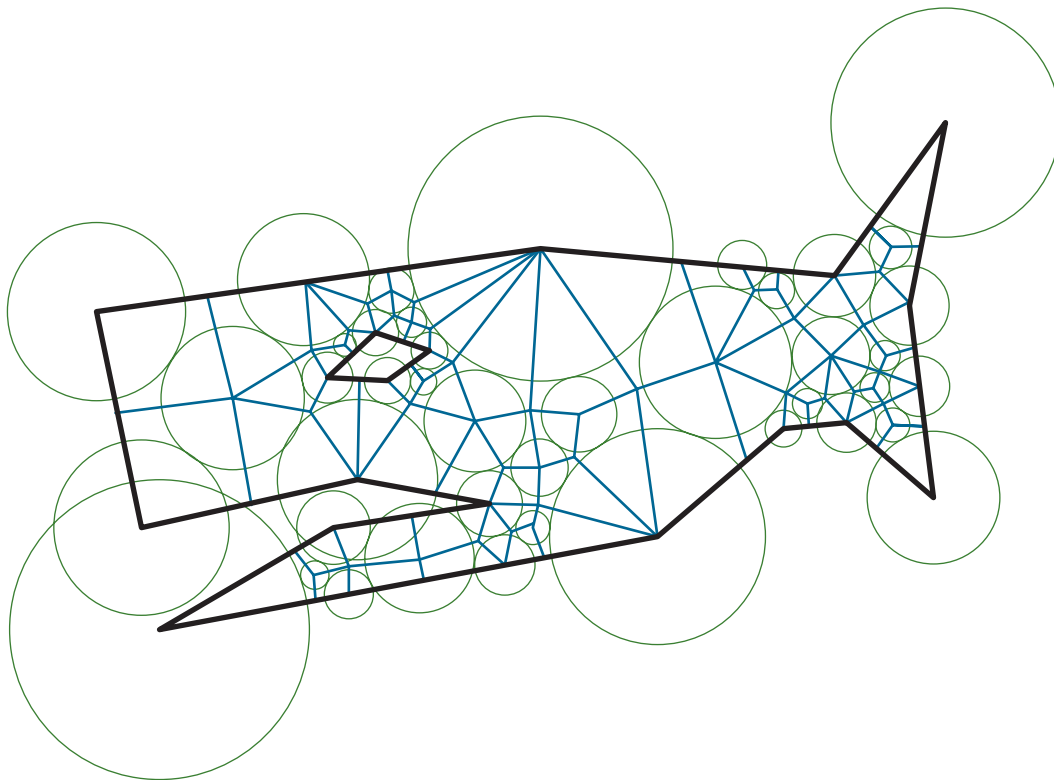
Total expected time $\mathcal{O}(n^3 \log n) \Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(nk^2 \log k)$

(Matches result of [\[Bhattacharya and ElGindy 1997\]](#)
but with a much simpler algorithm)

Circle Packing

Given polygon (with holes)

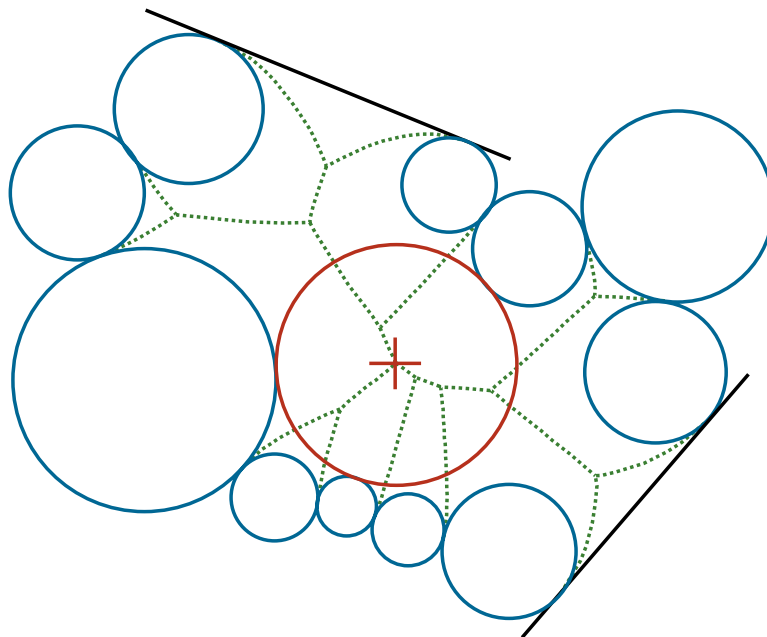
Place circles so gaps have ≤ 4 arcs



Useful for **nonobtuse triangulation** [Bern et al 1994]
quadrilateral mesh generation [Bern and Eppstein 1997]

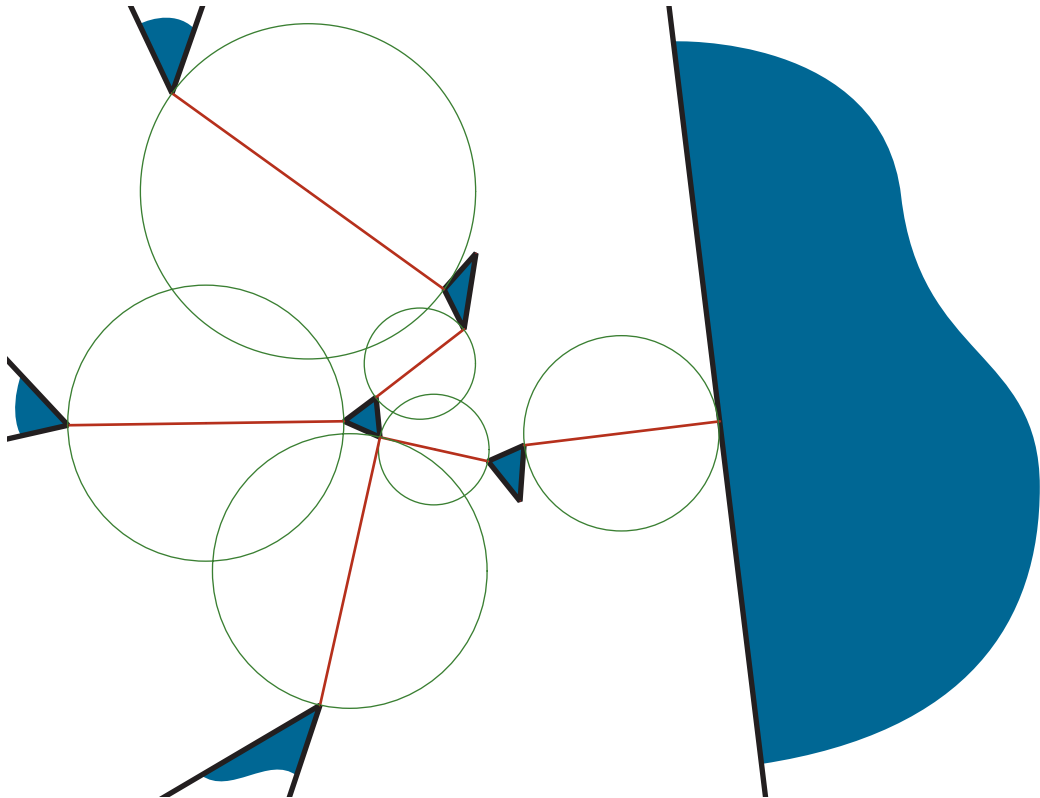
Circle Packing Steps

- **Protect vertices**
by placing 1 or 2 nearby circles
- **Connect boundary components**
so interior becomes simply-connected
- Repeatedly **subdivide interior** into simpler pieces
by centering circles on medial axis



To Connect Boundary Components

- Compute **minimum spanning tree**
(using medial axis)
- Form **diameter circles**



- **Shrink overlapping circles**

Neighborhood Graph

[Miller, Teng, Vavasis 1991]

Any point in the plane $\in \mathcal{O}(1)$ circles

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(1)$ **larger** circles cross any circle

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(n)$ crossing pairs

List all crossings in $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ time
using geometric separator divide-and-conquer

[Eppstein, Miller, Teng 1993]

Circle Packing Analysis

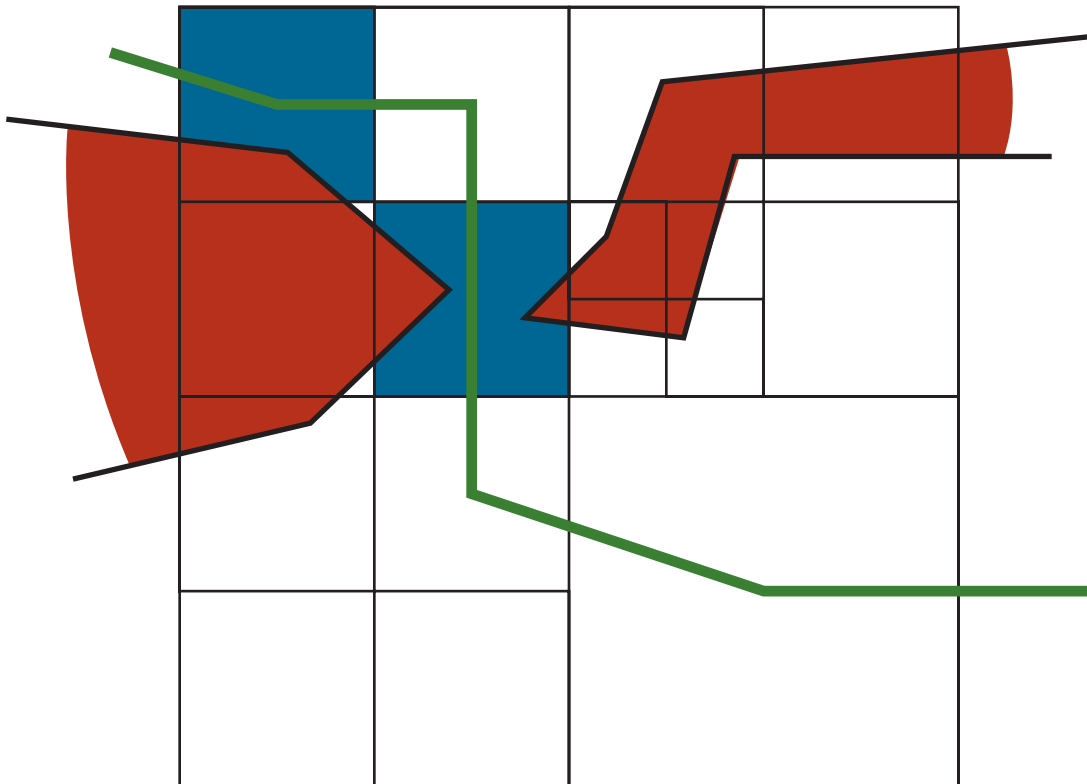
- $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ to find MST
- $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ to compute intersection graph
- $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$ per shrinkage operation
- $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ to finish the packing

Robot Motion Planning

[Barbehenn and Hutchinson 1995]

Problem: find path of robot through configuration space, avoiding obstacles

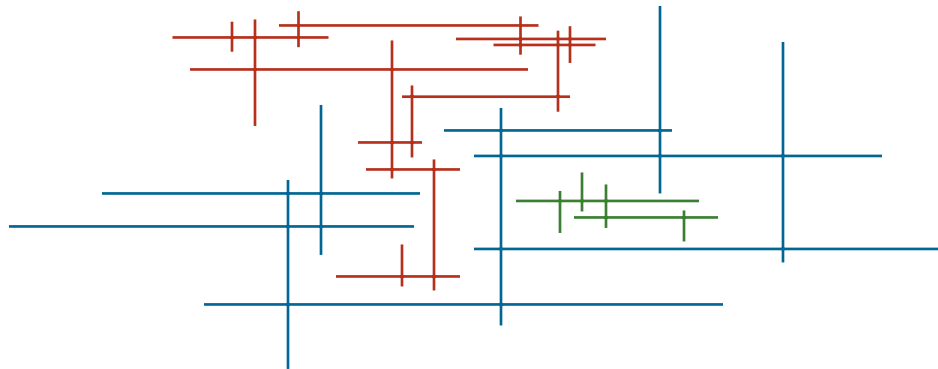
Solution idea: build quadtree over space
classify squares as **open**, **blocked**, **unknown**
find path through unblocked squares
refine unknown squares in path



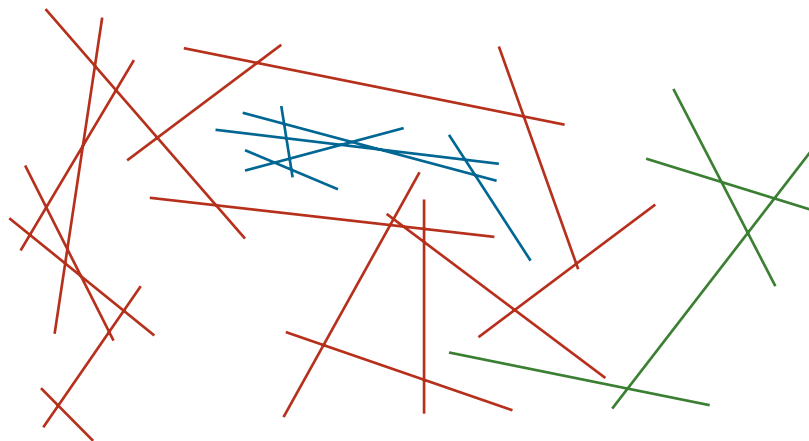
Incremental Connectivity of Line Segments

[Agarwal and van Kreveld 1993]

Axis-aligned segments: $\mathcal{O}(\log^2 n)$

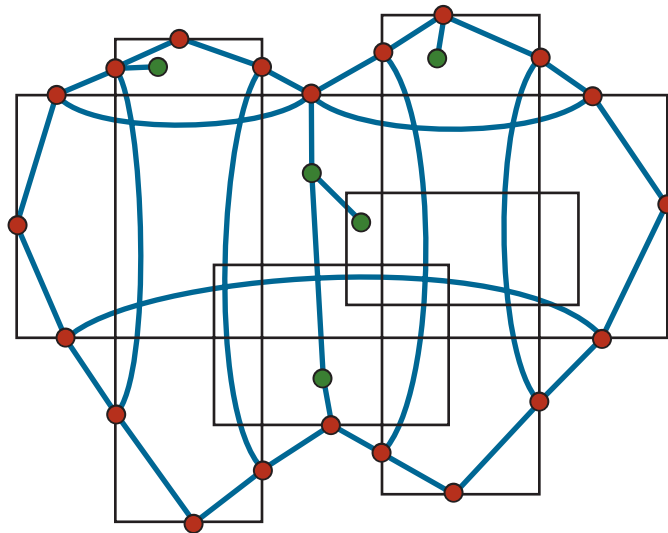


Unaligned segments: $\mathcal{O}(n^{1/3+\epsilon})$



Kinetic Connectivity of Rectangles

[Hershberger and Suri 1999]



Graph w/ vertex per **rectangle** or **boundary segment**

Edges:

- Adjacent segments of union
- Adjacent segments of same rectangle
- Rectangle to one boundary segment
- Rectangle to the rectangle that contains its top left corner

Some Open Problems

MST of dynamic point set with arbitrary distance function in $\mathcal{O}(n \log^{\mathcal{O}(1)})$ space and update time

Polylogarithmic 2d Euclidean MST

Fully dynamic width

Derandomize min diameter subset improvement

Min diameter subset for $d \geq 3$

Kinetic Euclidean MST

(needs nonlinear kinetic graph algorithm)