

Fault tolerant spanners

Stav Ashur*

Sariel Har-Peled†

July 26, 2021

1. Introduction

Let \mathcal{F} be a family of regions in the plane, which we call the fault regions. For a fault region $F \in \mathcal{F}$ and a geometric graph G on a point set P , we define $G \ominus F$ to be the part of G that remains after the points of P that are contained in F , and all the edges of G that intersect F have been removed from the graph. For simplicity, we assume that a region fault F does not contain its boundary, i.e., only vertices and edges intersecting the interior of F will be affected.

Let \mathcal{L} be a family of regions in the plane, which we call the local regions. For a local region $L \in \mathcal{L}$ and a geometric graph G on a point set P , we define $G|_F$ to be the part of G contained in the interior of F , meaning only the vertices and edges that are fully contained in the interior of F .

Formally, given $G = (P, E)$:

$$G \ominus F = (p \setminus F, \{e \in E \mid e \cap F = \emptyset\})$$

$$G|_F = (p \cap F, \{e \in E \mid e \subseteq F\})$$

The problems:

1. Given a set P of points in \mathbb{R}^2 , and a family \mathcal{F} of regions, compute a graph G such that $G \ominus F$ is a t -spanner of P for any fault $F \in \mathcal{F}$
2. Given a set P of points in \mathbb{R}^2 , and a family \mathcal{L} of regions, compute a graph G such that $G|_F$ is a t -spanner for any local region $L \in \mathcal{L}$

.

*Department of Computer Science; University of Illinois; 201 N. Goodwin Avenue; Urbana, IL, 61801, USA; stava2@illinois.edu; <https://publish.illinois.edu/stav-ashur>.

†Department of Computer Science; University of Illinois; 201 N. Goodwin Avenue; Urbana, IL, 61801, USA; sariel@illinois.edu; <http://sarielhp.org/>. Work on this paper was partially supported by a NSF AF award CCF-1907400.

2. Complement of disk faults / disk local spanners

3. Convex faults / disk local spanners

Let \mathcal{F} be the set of convex regions, and $\varepsilon > 0$. We use the construction of Abam *et al.* [AdBFG09] in order to create a $(1 + \varepsilon)$ - \mathcal{F} tolerant spanner. In their paper, Abam *et al.* build a *semi separated pair decomposition* (SSPD), and add a set of carefully chosen edges between every two sets $A, B \subseteq P$ that compose a pair in the SSPD. Given a pair (A, B) , the algorithm partitions the larger set, w.l.o.g it is B , by shooting rays at fixed angular intervals from a disk that contains A , and then adds a planar set of edges E_i between the convex hulls of A and every part B of B , that has the following property:

For any half-plane H such that $A \cap H \neq \emptyset$ and $B \cap H \neq \emptyset$, there exists an edge $e \in E_i$ such that $e \subseteq H$. This property, together with the properties of the SSPD, makes the resulted graph an \mathcal{F} -fault tolerant spanner.

We notice, that a similar construction that chooses E_i to be the edges of the Delaunay triangulation with one end in A and the other in B has the same property. We now prove that for any disk $d \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$, and for any set P' of points we have that $\mathcal{DT}(P')|_d$ is connected. This is enough as half-planes can be simulated by complements of disks.

Claim 3.1. *For a set of points $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ and for any disk d , $\mathcal{DT}(P)|_d$ is connected.*

Proof: We prove a different claim that immediately implies the desired one. Let d be a disk with two points $p, q \in P$ on its boundary. Then there is a path between p and q in $\mathcal{DT}(P)|_d$. This is enough as for every two points p, q and a disk d containing them, we can get a disk d' that contains p and q on its boundary by moving the center of d in an arbitrary direction until either of them, say p is on the boundary, and then moving the center of the disk towards p while shrinking the size of the disk to maintain p on the boundary, until q as well is on the boundary.

We prove by induction over the number points in the interior of d .

$|d \cap (P \setminus \partial d)| = 0$: Then by construction of the Delaunay triangulation the edge $\{p, q\}$ is in $\mathcal{DT}(P)$ and is contained in the interior of D .

$|d \cap (P \setminus \partial d)| > 0$: Let $x \in P$ be a point in the interior of d . We move the center of d in the direction of p , shrinking d in the process, until we get a disk $d' \subseteq d$ such that x is on the boundary of d' . By induction there is a path between p and x in $\mathcal{DT}|_{d'}$, and since $\mathcal{DT}|_{d'} \subseteq \mathcal{DT}|_d$ we have that the same path exists in $\mathcal{DT}|_d$. The same proof gives us a path between x and q and thus we are done.

Since the triangulation is planar, all of the arguments from the original paper regarding the size of the spanner hold, and we get a $(1 + \varepsilon) - \mathcal{F}$ fault tolerant spanner of size $O(\varepsilon^{-3}n \log n)$ in $O(\varepsilon^{-2}n \log n)$ time.

4. Complement of convex faults / convex local spanners

Using the same argument, we can extend the result for the case where \mathcal{L} is the set of all scaled and translated copies, homothets, of a convex shape \mathcal{C} . While the Delaunay triangulation is not well defined for all convex shapes, the operation of creating edges between two points $p, q \in P$ such that there exist a homothet of \mathcal{C} that contains only p and q and no other point of P is always well defined, and gives us a graph known as the \mathcal{C} -Delaunay graph of P , and denoted $\mathcal{DG}_{\mathcal{C}}(P)$. The above proof applies almost verbatim for any convex \mathcal{C} , and proves the connectivity of $\mathcal{DG}_{\mathcal{C}}(P)$ for any $L \in \mathcal{L}$.

We need only to define a suitable shrinking operation for convex region towards a point, which is possible, for example, by parameterizing the curve defining the region and leaving the desired point in the same coordinate of the smaller curve. So, we get a $(1 + \varepsilon) - \mathcal{L}$ local spanner of size $O(\varepsilon^{-3}n \log n)$ in $O(\varepsilon^{-2}n \log n)$ time.

5. ε -shadow

In this section we consider a weaker form of fault tolerance. Given a family \mathcal{L} of shapes, we say that G is a $(\mathcal{L}, \varepsilon)$ -local spanner if for any $L \in \mathcal{L}$ we have that $G \mid_{L_\varepsilon}$, where L_ε is L rescaled by $(1 - \varepsilon)$, is a t -spanner. We call $L \setminus L_\varepsilon$ the *shadow* of L , and we say that a point p is *truly contained* in L w.r.t. ε , and denote $p \in_\varepsilon L$, if $p \in L_\varepsilon$.

5.1. Bounded aspect ratio rectangles

Let \mathcal{L} be the set of axis parallel rectangles with aspect ratio at most $1 < \alpha$. We repeatedly preform the algorithm for convex local spanners with rectangles of different aspect-ratio, where in the i -th iteration we use a rectangle with aspect ratio $(1 + \varepsilon)^i$, where $i \in \{0, \dots, \log_{1+\varepsilon}(\alpha)\}$.

Let r be a rectangle with aspect ratio α , and let (A, B) be a pair in an SSPD such that $A \cap r \neq \emptyset$, and $B \cap r \neq \emptyset$. We assume w.l.o.g that the height of r is 1, and its width is $\alpha' \in [1, \alpha]$.

Let $i \in \{0, \dots, \log_{1+\varepsilon}(\alpha)\}$ be an index for which $\alpha' \leq (1 + \varepsilon)^i \leq \frac{\alpha}{1 - \varepsilon}$ if such an index exists, then let r' be the rectangle with width α' and aspect ratio $(1 + \varepsilon)^i$, whose horizontal bisector coincides with that of r . Since $(1 + \varepsilon)^i \leq \frac{\alpha}{1 - \varepsilon}$, we have that $r \setminus r'$ is contained within the shadow of r , and therefore r' contains points of both A and B , from the correctness of the convex local spanner, we will have an edge between a point in $A \cap r'$ and a point in $B \cap r'$. As before, this, together with the properties of the SSPD, is enough to guarantee that the constructed graph is indeed a $(\mathcal{L}, \varepsilon)$ - t -spanner (for the appropriate choice of the parameter s of the SSPD).

We are left with proving that there exists an index $i \in \{0, \dots, \log_{1+\varepsilon}(\alpha)\}$ for which $\alpha' \leq (1 + \varepsilon)^i \leq \frac{\alpha}{1 - \varepsilon}$.

$$\alpha' \leq (1 + \varepsilon)^i \leq \frac{\alpha}{1 - \varepsilon}$$

$$\log_{1+\varepsilon}(\alpha') \leq i \leq \log_{1+\varepsilon} \left(\frac{\alpha}{1 - \varepsilon} \right)$$

$$\log_{1+\varepsilon}(\alpha') \leq i \leq \log_{1+\varepsilon}(\alpha) - \log_{1+\varepsilon}(1 - \varepsilon)$$

If $\log_{1+\varepsilon}(1 - \varepsilon) < -1$, then there must be an integer i with the required properties. We now notice that $(1 + \varepsilon)^{-1} = \frac{1}{1 + \varepsilon} > (1 - \varepsilon)$ [since $1 > (1 - \varepsilon)(1 + \varepsilon) = (1 - \varepsilon^2)$], and so i exists.

The size of the spanner is $\log_{1+\varepsilon}(\alpha)$ times the number of edges in a convex local spanner, and since $\log_{1+\varepsilon}(\alpha) = O\left(\frac{\log(\alpha)}{\varepsilon}\right)$, we have a spanner of size $O\left(\frac{\log(\alpha)}{\varepsilon(t-1)^{-3}}n \log n\right)$

5.2. QSPD

In order to construct local spanners for the family \mathcal{L} of axis parallel rectangles with ε -shadow, we describe a decomposition of the the point set $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ in to pairs of sets, a decomposition which we name a Quadrant Separated Pair Decomposition (QSPD). This decomposition gives us $O(n \log^{d-1} n)$ pairs (A_i, B_i) of subsets of P , with overall size $O(n \log^d n)$, such that the sets can be separated by d

orthogonal axis parallel hyperplanes, and for every two points $p, q \in P$, there exists a single pair (A_i, B_i) such that (w.l.o.g) $p \in A_i$, $q \in B_i$. For clarification, this separation in \mathbb{R}^d can be viewed as if one of the sets lies in the first quadrant of the plane (i.e. every point has positive x and y values), and the other is in the third quadrant (i.e. every point has negative x and y values), hence the name.

The construction of the decomposition can be described as a recursive process in which a call to the function with $p \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ of size n invokes a single call to a lower dimensional case, and two calls to d -dimensional cases, each with half of the points. The function goes as follows.

Given a set $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ and a coloring $c : P \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^k$ for some k , the function $f(P, c)$ finds a median of P w.r.t. the d -th dimension, and projects the points P onto a hyperplane h orthogonal to the same dimension passing through the median. Let the projected set of points be denoted P' , the $\frac{n}{2}$ points of P that lie above h be denoted P^+ , $P \setminus P^+$ be denoted P^- , and let c' be the coloring defined by $c'(p) = c(p) \oplus b$ where \oplus is the concatenation operator, and $b = 1$ if $p \in P^+$, and $p = 0$ otherwise.

The function then calls $f(P', c')$, $f(P^+, c^+)$, and $f(P^-, c^-)$, where c^+ and c^- are c limited to the set P^+ and P^- respectively.

In the case where $d = 1$, after finding the median w.r.t. the single dimension and defining c' , instead of invoking a lower dimensional call, the function creates 2^{d-1} pairs by taking all of the points with the same value $x \in \{0, 1\}^d$ under c' , and pairing that set with the set all of the points with value $y \in \{0, 1\}^d$ such that $\forall 1 \leq i \leq d : x^{(i)} \neq y^{(i)}$.

Claim 5.1. *The process described above creates a QSPD with size $O(n \log^d n)$ in $O_d(n \log^d n)$ time.*

Proof: By construction, each reported pair is separated by d orthogonal axis parallel hyperplanes, and any two points appear in opposing quadrants exactly once, as every recursive call which assigns different bits of the coloring to two points, separates these points in the next recursive calls.

The size of the structure is given by the following recursion formula:

$$S(n, d) = S(n, d-1) + 2S\left(\frac{n}{2}, d\right)$$

In the base case where $d = 1$, the formula is slightly different, as instead of recursing in a lower dimension it directly adds pairs. The formula is:

$$S(n, 1) = O(n) + 2S\left(\frac{n}{2}, 1\right)$$

which solves to $O_d(n \log n)$. This means that the general case is

$$S(n, d) = O(n \log^{d-1} n) + 2S\left(\frac{n}{2}, d\right)$$

which solves to $O(n \log^d n)$.

By using d sorted arrays, one for each dimension, we get that the same recursion formulas hold for the runtime of the algorithm. ■

5.3. Arbitrary rectangles

Let $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$. We first describe a subroutine for connecting two sets of points, A and B , where A is contained in Q^- , the negative quadrant of the plane (i.e., have a negative value x -coordinate and a negative value y -coordinate), and B is contained in Q^+ , the positive quadrant of the plane.

Our algorithm will connect every point in A to $O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2}\right)$ points in the positive quadrant, and after performing the same process for the points of the symmetrically defined B' , we will have that every rectangle that truly contains points from A and B will have an edge (a, b) with $a \in A$ and $b \in B$.

For every point $a = (x', y') \in A$ we define partition the positive quadrant into $O\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$ sets. We consider the following $\frac{1}{\varepsilon}$ horizontal stripes - $\forall j \in \{1, \dots, \frac{1}{\varepsilon}\}$:

$$H_j := \{(x, y) \mid 0 \leq x \leq x' + y', (j-1) \cdot \varepsilon y' < y \leq j \cdot \varepsilon y'\}$$

On top of these we add similarly built vertical stripes:

$$V_i := \{(x, y) \mid (j-1) \cdot \varepsilon x' < x \leq j \cdot \varepsilon x', 0 \leq y \leq x' + y'\}$$

These stripes create a grid which partitions the rectangle r whose opposite corners are $(0, 0)$ and $(|x'|, |y'|)$ into $\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}$ cells of width εx and height εy . Formally:

$$C_{i,j} := \{(x', y') \mid (i-1) \cdot \varepsilon x < x' \leq i \cdot \varepsilon x, (j-1) \cdot \varepsilon y < y' \leq j \cdot \varepsilon y\}$$

We now divide the parts of the stripes that lie outside of the rectangle r . The horizontal stripes are divided into cells of width $\varepsilon(x+y)$ and height εy , and the vertical stripes are divided into cells of width εy and height $\varepsilon(x+y)$. The extremal cell in each stripe may be smaller if x or y are not divisible by $\varepsilon(x+y)$. Formally:

$$C_{H_{i,j}} := \{(x', y') \mid x' + (i-1) \cdot \varepsilon(x+y) < x' \leq x' + i \cdot \varepsilon(x+y), (j-1) \cdot \varepsilon y < y' \leq j \cdot \varepsilon y\}$$

$$C_{V_{i,j}} := \{(x', y') \mid (i-1) \cdot \varepsilon x < x' \leq i \cdot \varepsilon x, y + (j-1) \cdot \varepsilon(x+y) < y' \leq y + j \cdot \varepsilon(x+y)\}$$

The entire construction can be seen in Figure 5.3. We can now describe the construction of our spanner. For $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ we create a QSPD of P , and for every pair (A, B) we add an edge between every point $a \in A$ (and later reverse the rolls inside the pair) to an arbitrary point of P in every cell $C_{i,j}$, to the leftmost point of P in every $C_{H_{i,j}}$, and to the bottom-most point of P in every $C_{V_{i,j}}$.

We now prove a lemma that summarizes the properties of the resulted graph, and which we will then use to prove that our construction produces an $(\mathcal{L}, \text{eps})$ -local t -spanner for the family of arbitrary axis parallel rectangles.

Claim 5.2. *For any two points $a, b \in P$ that are properly contained in an axis parallel rectangle r , and are not connected by an edge, there exists a point $b' \in r$ such that if w.l.o.g $\|b - b'\| \leq \|a - c\|$ then:*

1. $\|b - b'\| \leq 3\varepsilon\|a - b\|$, and
2. *there is an edge between a and b' .*

Additionally, the two closest points $p, q \in P$ are connected by an edge.

Proof: Let (A, B) be the unique pair of the QSPD such that w.l.o.g $a \in A$ and $b \in B$, $A \subseteq Q^-$, $B \subseteq Q^+$, and $\|b\|_1 \leq \|a\|_1$. We denote the absolute value of the coordinates of a point p by $p.x$ and $p.y$ for the x and y coordinates respectively. If $b.x \leq a.x$ and $b.y \leq a.y$, then by the construction, a is connected to a point b' in the cell $C_{i,j}$ containing b . Since the cell's dimensions are $\varepsilon \cdot a.x \times \varepsilon a.y$, we have that $C_{i,j} \subseteq r$, and also:

$$\|b - b'\| \leq \sqrt{(\varepsilon \cdot a.x)^2 + (\varepsilon \cdot a.y)^2} = \varepsilon \sqrt{a.x^2 + a.y^2} \leq \varepsilon(a.x + a.y) \leq 2\varepsilon\|a - b\|$$

regardless of the choice of b' , as $\|a - b\| \geq \|a - (0, 0)\| \geq \frac{a.x + a.y}{2}$.

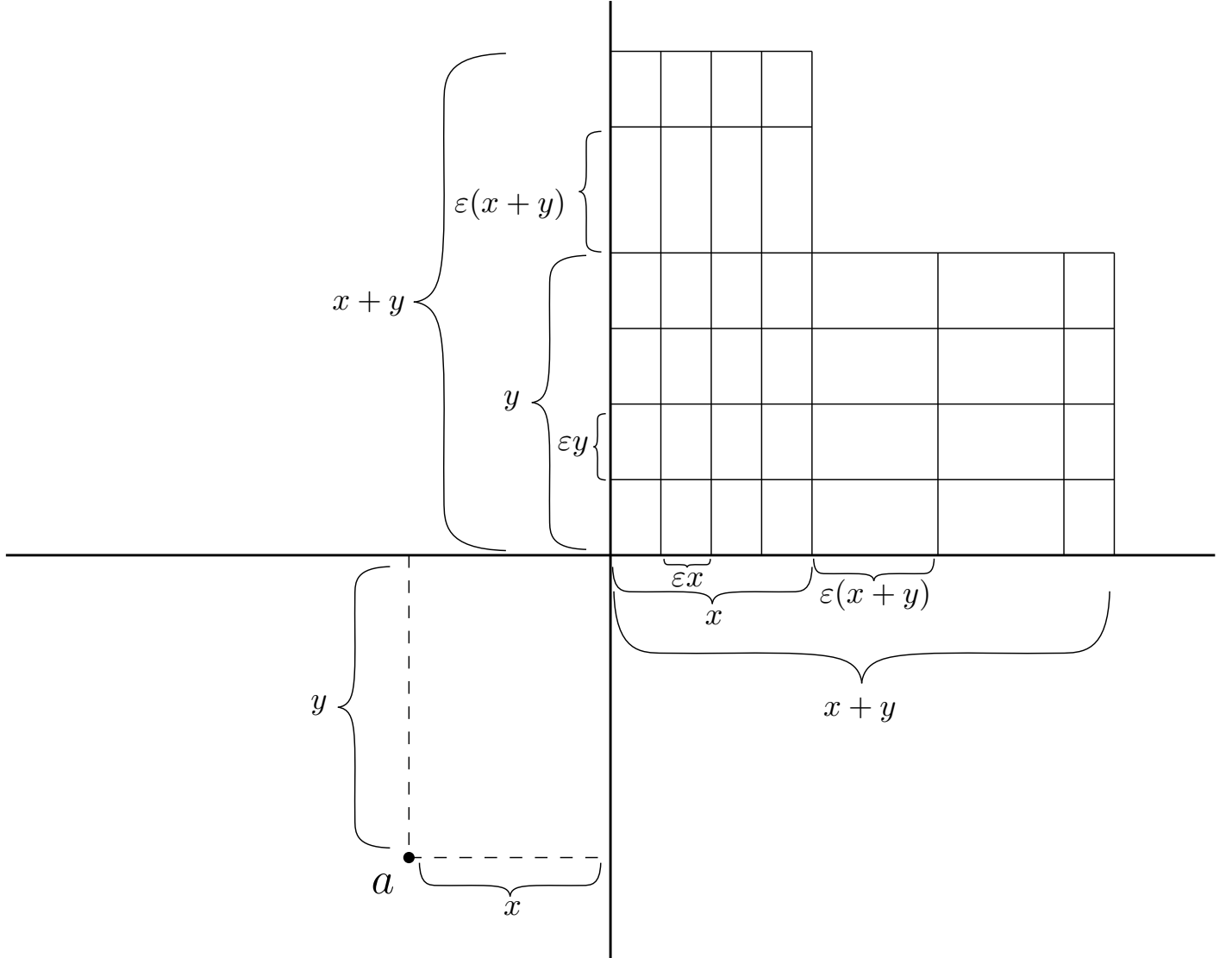


Figure 1: The construction of the grid for the arbitrary axis parallel rectangle local spanner.

If w.l.o.g $a.x \leq b.x$, then since $\|b\|_1 \leq \|a\|_1$ we know that $b.y \leq a.y$ meaning that b is contained in some cell $C_{H_{i,j}}$. Again, due to the dimensions of $C_{H_{i,j}}$ (which are $\varepsilon \cdot a.y \cdot (a.x + a.y)$) we have that b' , the leftmost point of P in $C_{H_{i,j}}$, is contained in r , and also:

$$\begin{aligned} \|b - b'\| &\leq \sqrt{(\varepsilon(a.x + a.y))^2 + (\varepsilon \cdot a.y)^2} \leq \sqrt{2(\varepsilon(a.x + a.y))^2} \\ &= \sqrt{2}\varepsilon(a.x + a.y) \leq \sqrt{8}\varepsilon\|a - b\| \end{aligned}$$

In order to prove the second property we only need to notice that if w.l.o.g $p \in Q^-$, $q \in Q^+$, and $\|q\|_1 \leq \|p\|_1$, we have that due to the dimensions of the cells we can see by similar calculations that for any $\varepsilon \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}}$ we have that q is the only point in its cell of the construction, since otherwise we get a point q' such that $\|q - q'\| \leq \|p - q\|$.

We are left with proving that for a suitable choice of parameters, this construction results in a $(\mathcal{L}, \varepsilon)$ local t -spanner.

Claim 5.3. *It is possible to construct a $(\mathcal{L}, \varepsilon')$ local $(1 + \varepsilon'')$ -spanner of size $O\left(\frac{1}{\min\{\varepsilon, \varepsilon'\}} n \log^2 n\right)$ in ??? time.*

Proof: Let $\varepsilon = \alpha \min\{\varepsilon', \varepsilon''\}$ for some $\alpha \leq \frac{1}{12}$. We build a spanner using ε as the parameter for the edge construction process. Due to the choice of ε we have that all of the properties proven in Claim 5.2 are apply. Also, since we have reduced the parameter ε by a factor of $\frac{1}{2}$ on top of the $\frac{1}{3}$ required to get $\|b - b'\| \leq \varepsilon\|b - a\|$, we have that there exists a rectangle $r' \subseteq r$ such that $b, b' \in_\varepsilon r'$. This means that we can recurse on pairs of points by their rank (in the set of pairs ordered by distance). In the base case we know from Claim 5.2 the points are connected by an edge, and for the recursion step we get that for two points $p, q \in P$ and a rectangle r such that $p, q \in_\varepsilon r$ we have a point $q' \in P$ such that:

1. $\|q - q'\| \leq \varepsilon\|p - q\|$,
2. there is an edge between p and q' , and
3. there exists a $1 + \varepsilon$ spanning path between q and q' ■

This gives us a path $p \rightarrow q' \rightarrow q$ of length at most

$$\|p - q'\| + (1 + \varepsilon)\|q - q'\| \leq \|p - q\| + (1 + \varepsilon)\varepsilon\|p - q\| \leq (1 + \varepsilon'')\|p - q\|$$

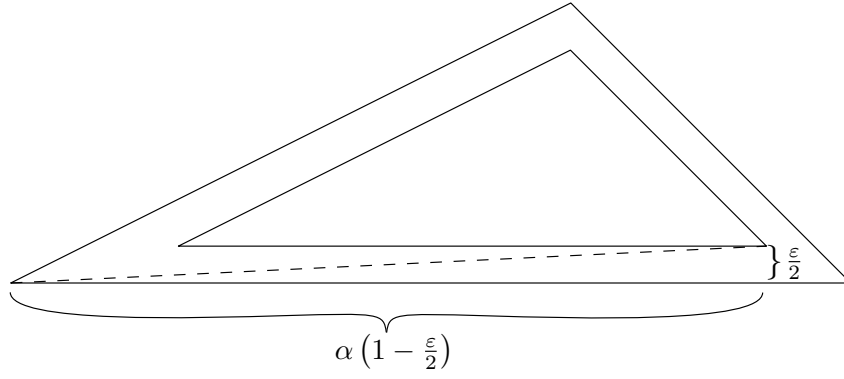
where the last transition is due to another factor of $\frac{1}{2}$ that was incorporated in α .

The number of edges is bounded by the size of the QSPD multiplied by $\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}$, since every occurrence of a point in the QSPD gives rise to $O\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$ edges by construction.

5.4. Bounded aspect ratio triangles

The aspect ratio of a triangle is defined as the length of its longest edge divided by its height as it is measured from that edge. Let \mathcal{L} be the set of all triangles with aspect ratio at most α for some $1 < \alpha$. We define a set of slopes, and for each subset of 3 slopes we run the convex region algorithm with \mathcal{L} as homothets of a triangle with edges of the 3 chosen slopes. As long as the fixed angular interval is smaller than $\varepsilon' = \arctan\left(\frac{\varepsilon/2}{\alpha(1-\varepsilon/2)}\right)$ (see Figure 5.4).

This construction creates $\frac{1}{\varepsilon'}$ different convex local spanners, and so we get a $(1 + \varepsilon)$ -local spanner for triangles with bounded aspect ratio in $O\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon'^3 \varepsilon^3} n \log n\right)$.



References

- [AdBFG09] Mohammad Ali Abam, Mark de Berg, Mohammad Farshi, and Joachim Gudmundsson. Region-fault tolerant geometric spanners. *Discret. Comput. Geom.*, 41(4):556–582, 2009.