# COT 4521: INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTATIONAL GEOMETRY



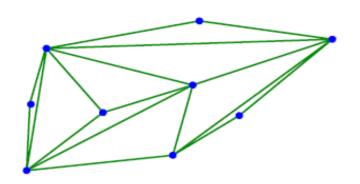
#### **Delaunay Triangulation**

Paul Rosen Assistant Professor University of South Florida

Some slides from Valentina Korzhova



# TRIANGULATION OF A POINT-SET

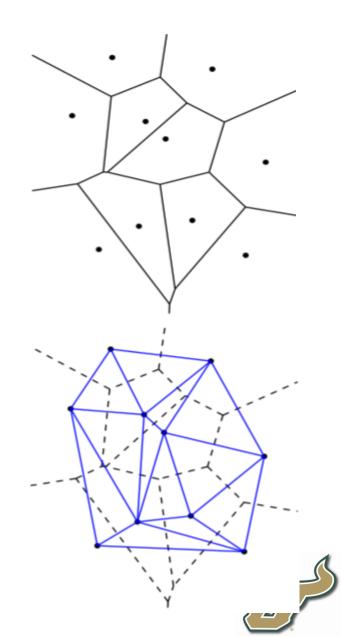


- DEFINITION (POINT-SET TRIANGULATION)
  - Given a set S of n points in  $R^2$ , a triangulation of S is a planar graph with vertex set S, such that all the bounded faces are triangles, and these faces form a partition of the convex hull CH(S) of S.



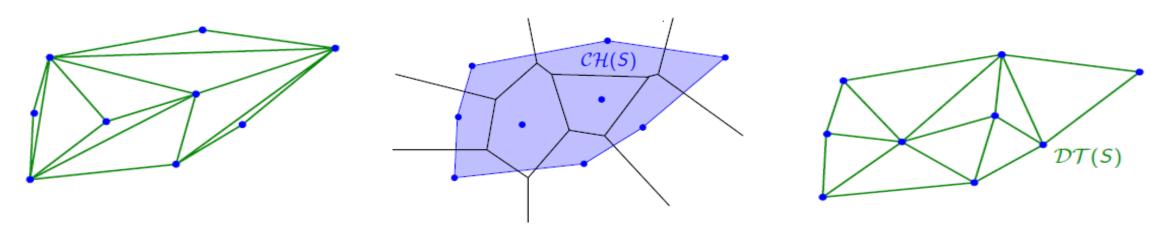
# **DELAUNAY TRIANGULATIONS**

- The Voronoi diagram Vor(P) is the subdivision of the plane into Voronoi cells V(p) for all  $p \in P$
- IN 1934 DELAUNAY PROVED THAT WHEN THE DUAL GRAPH IS DRAWN WITH STRAIGHT LINES, IT PRODUCES A PLANAR TRIANGULATION OF THE VORONOI SITES P, NOW CALLED THE DELAUNAY TRIANGULATION



# THE DELAUNAY TRIANGULATION

- THE DELAUNAY TRIANGULATION OF THE SAME SET.
- IT HAS MANY INTERESTING PROPERTIES.





# THE DELAUNAY TRIANGULATION

- LET S BE A SET OF N POINTS IN  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . WE ASSUME GENERAL POSITION IN THE SENSE THAT NO 4 POINTS IN S ARE COCIRCULAR. THE DELAUNAY TRIANGULATION DT OF S IS THE DUAL GRAPH OF THE VORONOI DIAGRAM OF S SUCH THAT:
  - Each vertex  $DT(s_i)$  is located at the corresponding site  $s_i$
  - The edges of DT(S) are straight line segments.



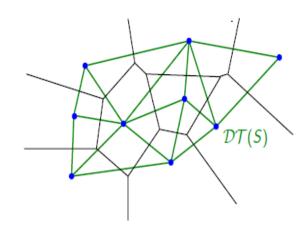
#### PROPERTIES OF DELAUNAY TRIANGULATIONS

- THE PLANAR VORONOI DIAGRAM AND THE DELAUNAY TRIANGULATION ARE DUALS IN A GRAPH THEORETICAL SENSE
  - Voronoi vertices correspond to Delaunay triangles
  - Node of DT(P) corresponds to Voronoi regions
  - Edges of both types correspond by definition.



# THE DELAUNAY TRIANGULATION

- DT OVER VD
  - Face of DT(S) ⇔ vertex of VD(S)
  - Node of DT(S) ⇔ sites of VD(S)
  - Edges of DT(S) ⇔ edges of VD(S)
  - Boundary of DT(S): convex hull
  - Interior of each DT(S) face do not contain any cite





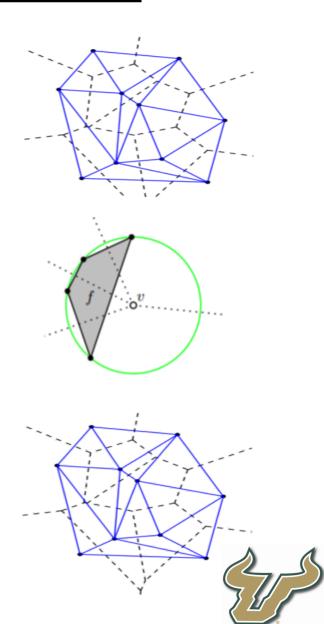
#### Properties of Delaunay Triangulations

- The duality immediately implies upper bounds of 3n-6 and of 2n-5 on the number of Delaunay edges and triangles, respectively.
- THE DELAUNAY TRIANGULATION AND ITS DUALITY TO VORONOI DIAGRAMS GENERALIZE TO HIGHER DIMENSIONS IN AN OBVIOUS WAY.



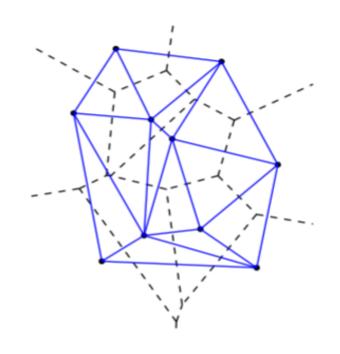
# Properties of Delaunay Triangulations

- DT(P) is the straight-line dual of VD(P). This is by definition.
- DT(P) is a triangulation if no four points of P are co-circular: Every face is a triangle. This is a Delaunay's theorem. The faces of DT(P) are called Delaunay triangles
- Each face (triangle) of DT(P) corresponds to a vertex of VD(P)
- Each edge of  $D\mathrm{T}(P)$  corresponds to an edge of  $V\mathrm{D}(P)$



## Properties of Delaunay Triangulations

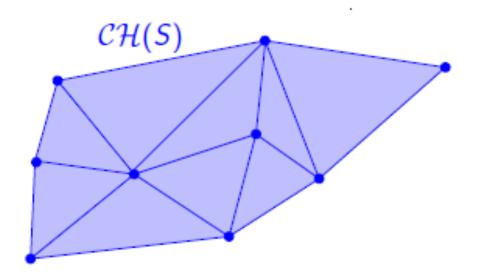
- EACH NODE OF DT(P) CORRESPONDS TO A REGION OF VD(P)
- The boundary of DT(P) is the convex hull of sites
- The interior of each (triangle) face of DT(P) contains no sites





# **CONVEX HULL**

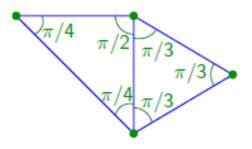
• The boundary of DT(S) is convex hull of the sites.





#### TRIANGULATION MAXIMIZING THE MINIMUM ANGLE

- Let T be a triangulation of S
- Angle sequence  $\theta(T)$ : Sequence of all the angles of the TRIANGLE OF T IN NON-DECREASING ORDER
- EXAMPLE: ANGLE SEQUENCE



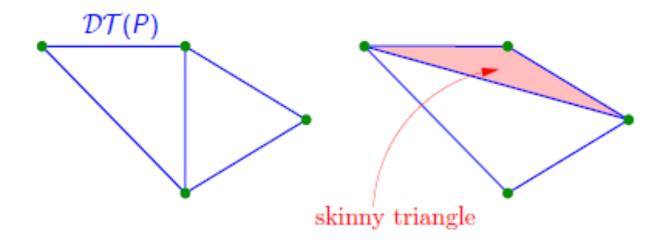
$$\Theta(\mathcal{T}) = (\pi/4, \pi/4, \pi/3, \pi/3, \pi/3, \pi/2)$$

- COMPARISON: LET  $\mathcal{T}$  AND  $\mathcal{T}'$  BE TWO TRIANGULATION OF S. WE COMPARE  $\Theta(\mathcal{T})$  and  $\theta(\mathcal{T}')$  IN LEXICOGRAPHICAL ORDER • EXAMPLE: $\{1,1,3,4,5\} < \{1,2,5,6,7\}$



#### OPTIMALITY OF THE DELAUNAY TRIANGULATION

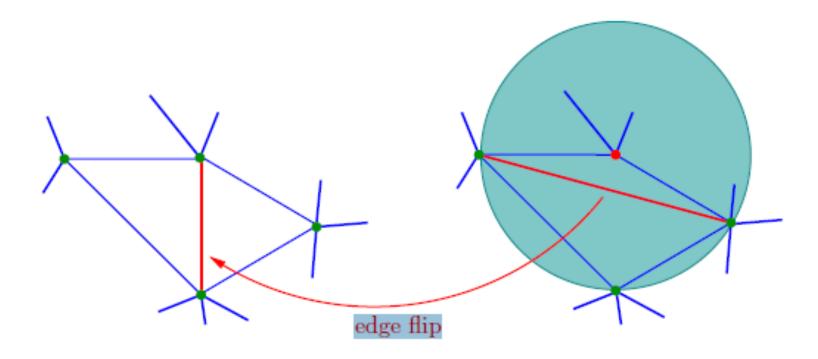
- THEOREM: LET S BE A SET OF POINTS IN GENERAL POSITION. THEN THE ANGLE SEQUENCE OF DT (S) IS MAXIMAL AMONG ALL TRIANGULATIONS OF S.
  - So the Delaunay triangulation maximizes the minimum angle.
  - Intuition: Avoids skinny triangles.





#### OPTIMALITY OF THE DELAUNAY TRIANGULATION

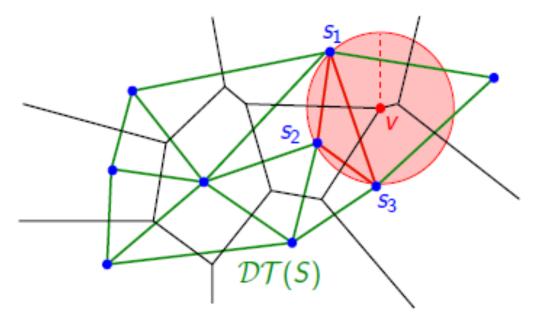
- PROOF: IDEA
  - Flip edges to ensure the circumcircle property.
  - It increases the angle sequence.





# CIRCUMCIRCLE PROPERTY

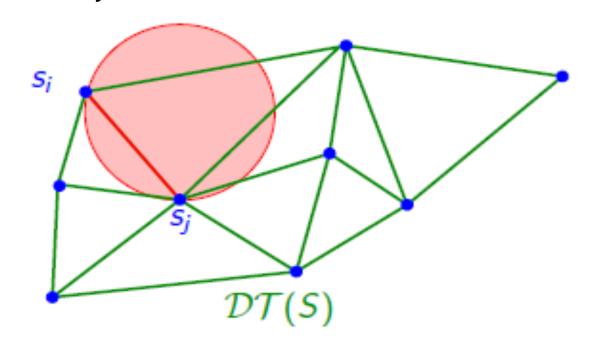
- PROPERTY (CIRCUMCIRCLE)
  - The circumcircle of any triangle in DT(S) is empty. (It contains no site  $s_i$  in its interior.)
- PROOF: LET  $s_1s_2s_3$  be a triangle in DT(S), let v be the corresponding Voronoi vertex. Property of Voronoi vertices: the circle centered at v through  $s_1s_2s_3$  is empty.





# EMPTY CIRCLE PROPERTY

- PROPERTY (EMPTY CIRCLE)
  - $(s_i s_j)$  is an edge of DT(S) iff there is an empty circle through  $s_i$  and  $s_j$ .

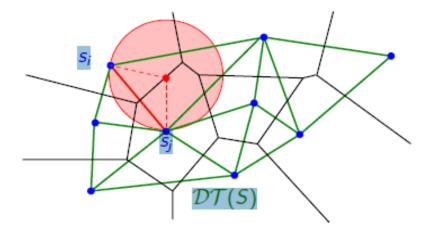




# EMPTY CIRCLE PROPERTY

#### • PROOF:

- If  $\overline{s_i, s_j}$  is a Delaunay edge then  $V(s_i)$  and  $V(s_j)$  share the positive edge  $e \in V(P)$ .
- Put the circle C(x) with the center x on the interior e with the radius equal to the distance to  $s_i$  or  $s_j$ . If circle is not empty then x would be in V(c), but we know that x is in  $V(s_i)$  or  $V(s_i)$





## **DELAUNAY-IZATION OF A TRIANGULATION**

- ANY TRIANGULATION OF THE CONVEX HULL CAN BE CONVERTED INTO A DELAUNAY TRIANGULATION BY REPEATEDLY TEST THE EMPTY CIRCLE PROPERTY.
- IF ANY EDGE "FAILS" THE TEST, IT IS SWAPPED WITH A NEW EDGE BETWEEN THE CONNECTING TRIANGLES

