Computational Geometry
Final Report
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"Art Gallery Theorems and Visibility Graphs"
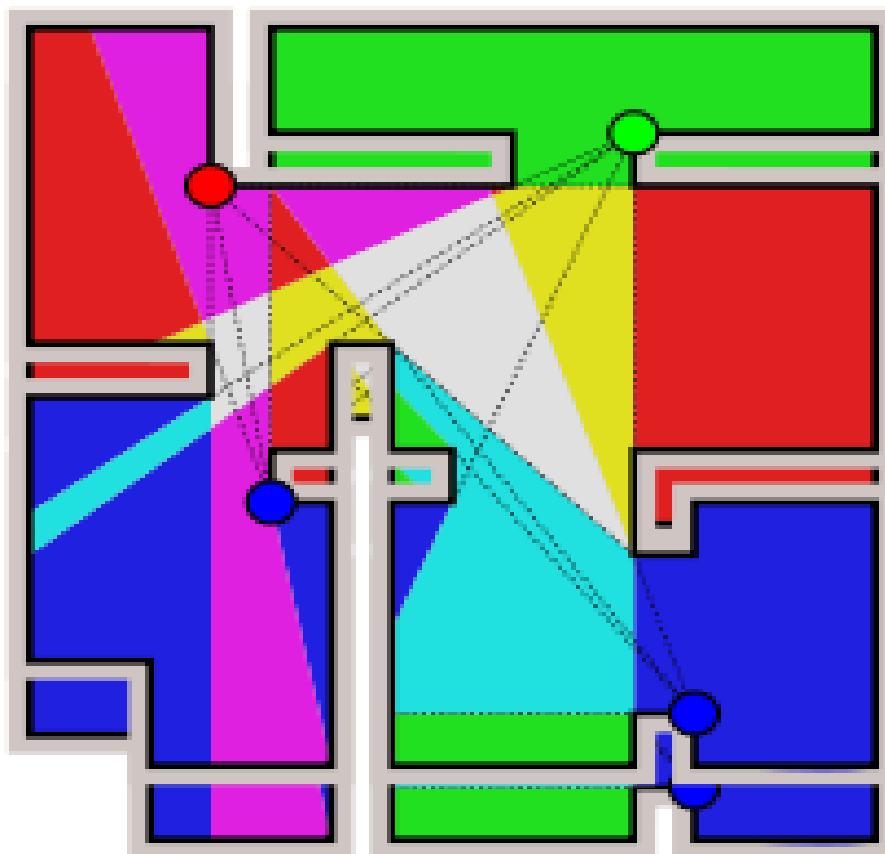
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1. Art Gallery Theorems

1.1 General

Definitions:

Art gallery theorem: A typical "art gallery theorem" provides combinatorial bounds on the number of **guards** needed to visually cover a polygonal region P (the art gallery) defined by n vertices.

Guard: A point, a line segment, or a line – a source of visibility of illumination.

Interior visibility: A guard $x \in P$ can see a point $y \in P$ if the segment xy is nowhere exterior to P: $xy \subseteq P$.

Exterior visibility: A guard x can see a point y outside P if the segment xy is nowhere interior to P; xy may intersect ∂P , the boundary of P.
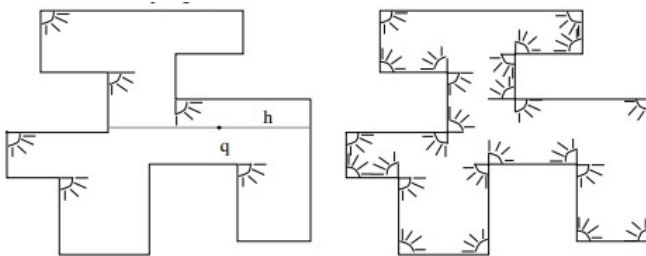

Figure 1.1 Illuminating a orthogonal polygon with orthogonal floodlights
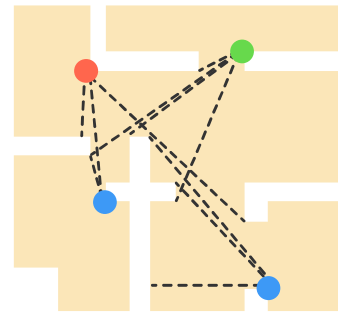

Figure 1.2 Point guards to guard a museum

1.2 Related Problems

The most general combinatorial results obtained to date are summarized in Figure 1.3. For some of the problems, a analysis is following next.

PROBLEM NAME	POLYGONS	INT/EXT	GUARD	NUMBER
Art gallery theorem	simple	interior	vertex	$\lfloor n/3 \rfloor$
Fortress problem	simple	exterior	point	$\lceil n/3 \rceil$
Prison yard problem	simple	int & ext	vertex	$\lceil n/2 \rceil$
Prison yard problem	orthogonal	int & ext	vertex	$[\lceil 5n/16 \rceil, \lfloor 5n/12 \rfloor + 1]$
Orthogonal polygons	simple orthogonal	interior	vertex	$\lfloor n/4 \rfloor$
Orthogonal with holes	orthogonal with h holes	interior	vertex	$[\lceil 2n/7 \rceil, \lfloor (17n-8)/52 \rfloor$
Orthogonal with holes	orthogonal with h holes	interior	vertex	$[\lfloor (n+h)/4 \rfloor, \lfloor (n+2h)/4 \rfloor]$
Polygons with holes	polygons with h holes	interior	point	$\lfloor (n+h)/3 \rfloor$

Figure 1.3 Table with problems related to art gallery theorems

1.2.1 Art gallery theorem

Definition: Any simple polygonal museum with n walls can be guarded by $\lfloor n/3 \rfloor$ at most guards.

S.Fisk (1978) Short Proof

- First, the polygon is triangulated (without adding extra vertices). It is known that vertices of the resulting triangulation graph may be 3-colored.

- Clearly, under a 3-coloring, every triangle must have all three colors.

- The vertices with any color form a valid guard set, because every triangle of the polygon is guarded by its vertex with same color.

- Since the three colors partition the n vertices of the polygon, the color with the fewest vertices defines a valid guard set at most $\lfloor n/3 \rfloor$ guards.
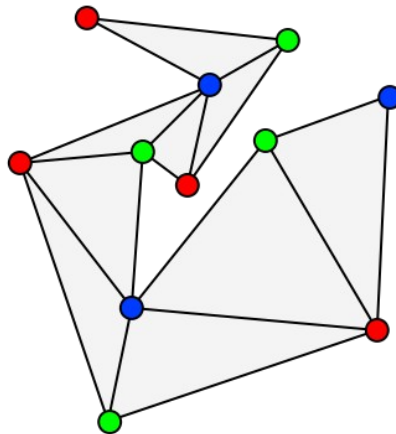

Figure 1.4 A 3-coloring of the vertices of a triangulated polygon. The blue vertices form a set of three guards, as few as is guaranteed by the art gallery theorem. However, this set is not optimal: the same polygon can be guarded by only two guards.

<u>S.Fisk (1978) Constructive Proof</u>

- Algorithm (or sequence of steps) that tells us exactly where to place the guards. To show that bound in the theorem is tight, consider the museum with 15 walls in the shape of a comb.
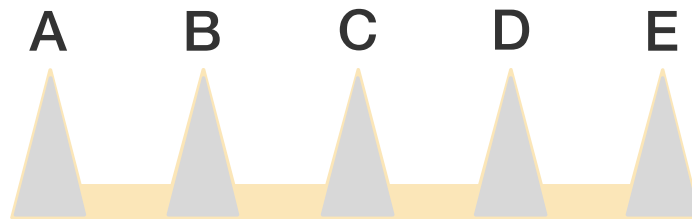

Figure 1.5 Museum in shape of a comb

- Then the guard for each point (A,B,C,D,E) must be stationed within the shaded triangle with related vertex (A,B,C,D,E).

- Since these triagles do not overlap, at least 5 guards are needed. But by the Art Gallery Theorem, $\left\lfloor \dfrac{15}{3} \right\rfloor = 5$ guards are also sufficient, which we can be observe by placing the guards at the lower left corner of each shaded triangle.

- In general, the comb museum layout gives an example of a museum with 3n walls that requires exactly $\left\lfloor \dfrac{3n}{3} \right\rfloor = n$ guards, which shows that the bound in the theorem is best possible.

1.2.2 Orthogonal Prison yard problem

In the prison yard problem, we are required to guard simaltaneously the interior and the exterior of a polygon. For arbitrary polygons this problem is closed. For orthogonal polygons, the problem reamins open. An upper bound was found by Hoffman & Krieger (1996), who showed that $\left\lfloor \dfrac{5n}{12} \right\rfloor + 2$ (resp. $\left\lfloor \dfrac{n+4}{3} \right\rfloor$) vertex guards (resp, point) guards are always sufficient to guard the interior and the exterior of an orthogonal polygon polygon with n vertices and holes.

This bound was obtained via the following graph-coloring theorem.via the following graph-coloring theorem. Every plane, bipartite, 2-connected graph has an even triangulation (all nodes have even degree) and therefore the resulting graph is 3-colorable.

They also conjecture:

Conjecture (HK93): There is a constant c such that any orthogonal prison yard can be guarded with $\left\lfloor \dfrac{5n}{16} \right\rfloor + c$ vertex guards.

This bound was subsequently improved to $\left\lfloor \dfrac{5n}{12} \right\rfloor + 1$ by Michael,Pinciu (2012).

Figure 1.6

A pyramid polygon with n = 24 vertices whose interior and exterior are covered by 8 guards. Repeating the pattern establishes a lower bound of 5n/16 + c on the orthogonal prison yard problem [HK93].
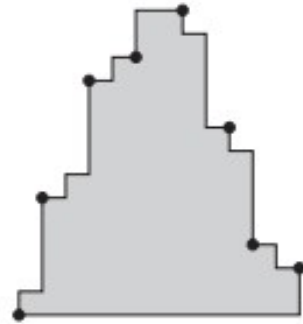
1.2.3 Orthogoanl polygons without holes

Theorem (Kahn,Klawe,Kleitman 1980): $\left\lfloor \dfrac{n}{4} \right\rfloor$ guards are sometimes necessary and always sufficient to cover the interior of an orthogonal polygon of n vertices.

Proof:

➤ Necessity is established by the orthogonal version of Chvatal's comb example: one guard is needed for each tong in Figure 1.7.

➤ For sufficiency, construct a graph G from a quadrilateralization of P by adding both diagonals to each quadrilateral, as illustrated in Figure 1.8. Although it is not immediately obvious, G is planar, and therefore 4-colorable. We can establish 4-colorability without invoking the Four Color Theorem as Follows.

   ○ Let Q be the dual of the quadrilateralization of P: each node of Q corresponds to a quadrilateral, and two nodes are connected by an arc if their quadrilaterals share a side. Then Q must be a tree, for if it contained a cycle, this would imply that P has a hole.

   ○ Now proceed by induction. Remove any leaf quadrilateral q, leaving the tree Q'. Since q has degree 1, it may be removed by cutting along a single diagonal d of quadrilateralization. Four-color Q' by the induction hypothesis, and reattach q to Q'. Two of q's vertices are assigned different colors at the reattachment points, the endpoint of d, and the other two vertices of q can be assigned the remaining colors.

Figure 1.7 Orthogonal polygon establishes [n/4] necessity.
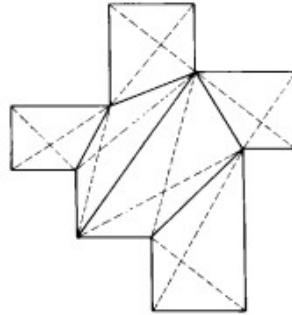

Figure 1.8 A 4-colorable graph derived from a quadrilateralization by adding all quadrilateral diagonals.

- ○ Since the quadrilaterals cover P and are convex placing guards at the vertices assigned the least frequently used color will cover the interior of P. As this color must be used no more than *[n/4]* times, the theorem is established. ▫

Note that the quadrilaterals clipped in this proof are "orthogonal ears"; thus every orthogonal polygon has at least two such ears.

1.2.4 Orthogonal polygons with h holes

➢ <u>Shermer's Conjecture I (1982)</u>: Any orthogonal polygon with n vertices and h holes can always be guarded by $\left\lfloor \dfrac{n+h}{4} \right\rfloor$ vertex guards.

➢ <u>Theorem O'Roorke (1987)</u>: Any orthogonal polygon with n vertices and h holes can always be guarded by $\left\lfloor \dfrac{n+2h}{4} \right\rfloor$ vertex guards.

➢ <u>Theorem Aggarwal (1984)</u>: Shermer's Conjecture is true for h=1,2

1.2.5 Polygons with h holes

J.Sidarto discovered the one-hole polygon shown in Figure 1.9.a. It has n=8 vertices, h=1 hole, and requires 3 guards. Note that 3> $\left\lfloor \dfrac{8}{3} \right\rfloor$. Shermer discovered the polygons in Figures 1.9.b and 1.9.c, which also have 8 vertices and requires 3 guards.

These one-hole examples can be extended to establish $\left\lfloor \dfrac{n+1}{3} \right\rfloor$ necessity for one hole: Figures 1.10a and 1.10.b show two examples for n=11, due, respectively, to Shermer and Delcher.

Finally, the examples can be extended to more than one hole: Figure 1.11 shows Shermer's method of stiching together copies of the basic one-hole example. The polygon shown has n=24 vertices, h=3 holes, and requires 9 guards. This example establishes $\left\lfloor \dfrac{n+h}{3} \right\rfloor$ necessity for h holes.
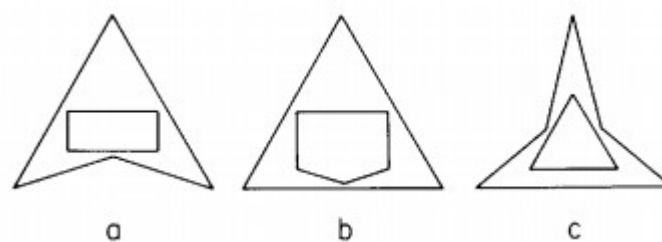

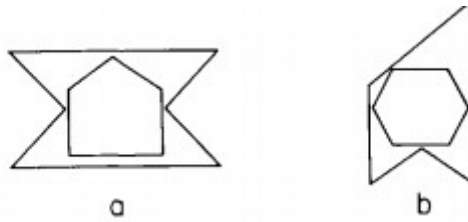*Figure 1.9 One hole polygons of 8 vertices that require 3 guards*

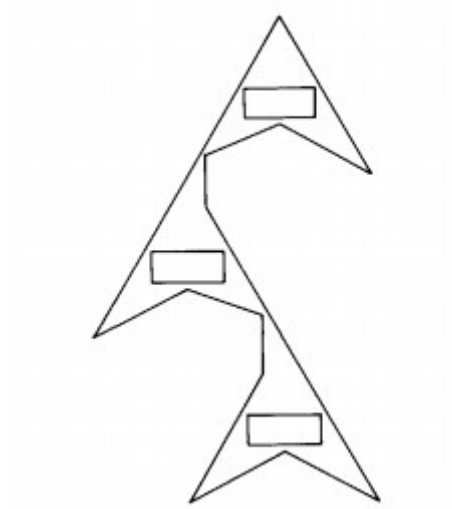*Figure 1.10 One-hole polygon of 11 vertices that require 4 guards*

Figure 1.11 A polygon of 24 vertices with 3 holes that requires 9 guards

The following theorem summarizes the implications of these examples:

➤ <u>Shermer's Conjecture II (1982)</u>: Any polygon with n vertices and h holes can be guarded by $\left\lfloor \dfrac{n+h}{3} \right\rfloor$ point guards.

2. Visibility graphs

2.1 General

Whereas art gallery theorems seek to encapsulate an environment's visibility into one function of n, the study of visibility graphs endeavors to uncover the more finegrained structure of visibility. The original impetus for their investigation came from pattern recognition, and its connection to shape continues to be one of its primary sources of motivation.

➢ *Visibility graph*: A graph with a node for each object, and arcs between objects that can see one another.
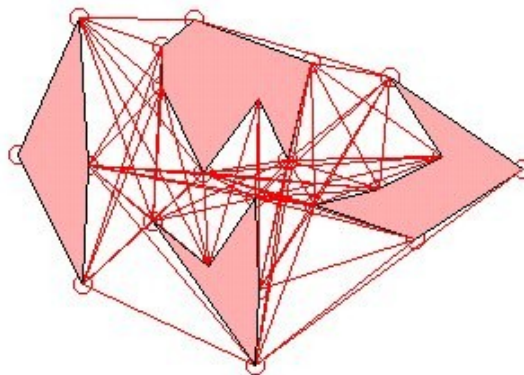
2.2 Obstructions to visibility

For polygon vertices, x sees y if xy is nowhere exterior to polygon, just as in art gallery visibility, this implies that polygon edges are part of the visibility graph. For segment endpoints x sees y if the closed segment xy intersects the union of all the segments either in just the two endpoints, or in the entire closed segment. This disallows grazing contact with a segment, but includes the segments themselves in the graph.

2.3 Goals

1. *Characterization*: asks for a precise delimiting of the class of graphs realizable by a certain class of geometric objects.

2. *Recognition*: asks for an algorithm to recognize when a graph is visibility graph

3. *Reconstruction*: asks for an algorithm that will take a visibility graph as input, and output a geometric realization.

4. *Counting*: concerned with the number of visibility graphs under various restrictions.
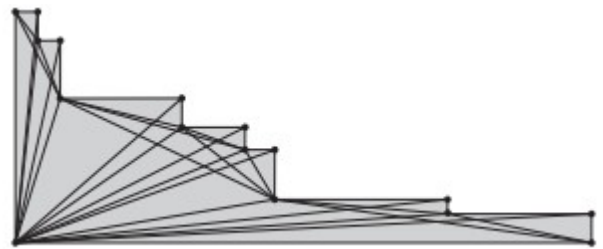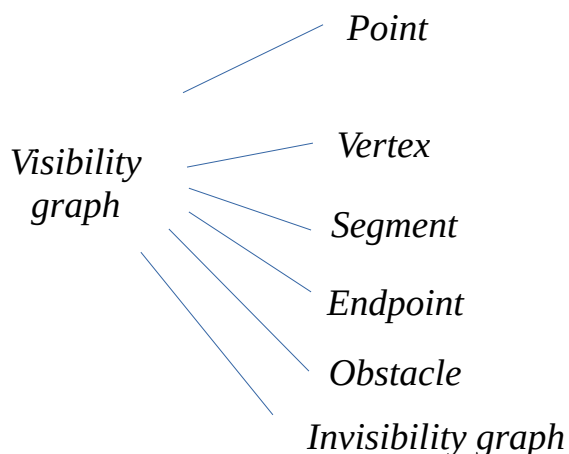
2.4 Types of visibility graphs

Point

Vertex

Visibility graph

Segment

Endpoint

Obstacle

Invisibility graph

Figure 2.1
A staircase polygon and its vertex visibility graph

2.5 Open problems

1. Given a visibility graph G and a Hamiltonian circuit C, construct in polynomial time a simple polygon such that its vertex visibility graph is G, with C corresponding to the polygon's boundary.

2. Given a visibility graph G of a simple polygon P, find the Hamiltionian cycle that corresponds to the boundary of P.

3. Develop an algorithm to recognize whether a polygon vertex visibility graph is planar. Necessary and sufficient conditions are known.