

# **Plane Geometry Algorithms**

# Geometry Algorithms

Show up every now and then

- 0-1 questions per contest

Almost always 2D (plane) geometry

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Almost always 2D (plane) geometry

- 3D algorithms “too hard”/specialized
- test cases easier to create
- diagrams easier to draw...

# Geometry Algorithms

Key challenges:

1. Remembering (or deriving) formulas

# Blast Zone

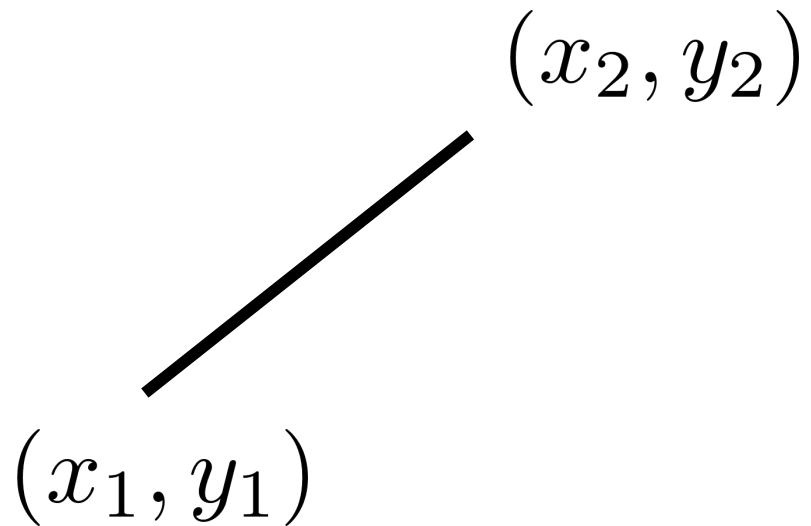
Given:

- list of points  $(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i)$
- epicenter  $(\mathbf{x}_c, \mathbf{y}_c)$
- radius  $\mathbf{r}$

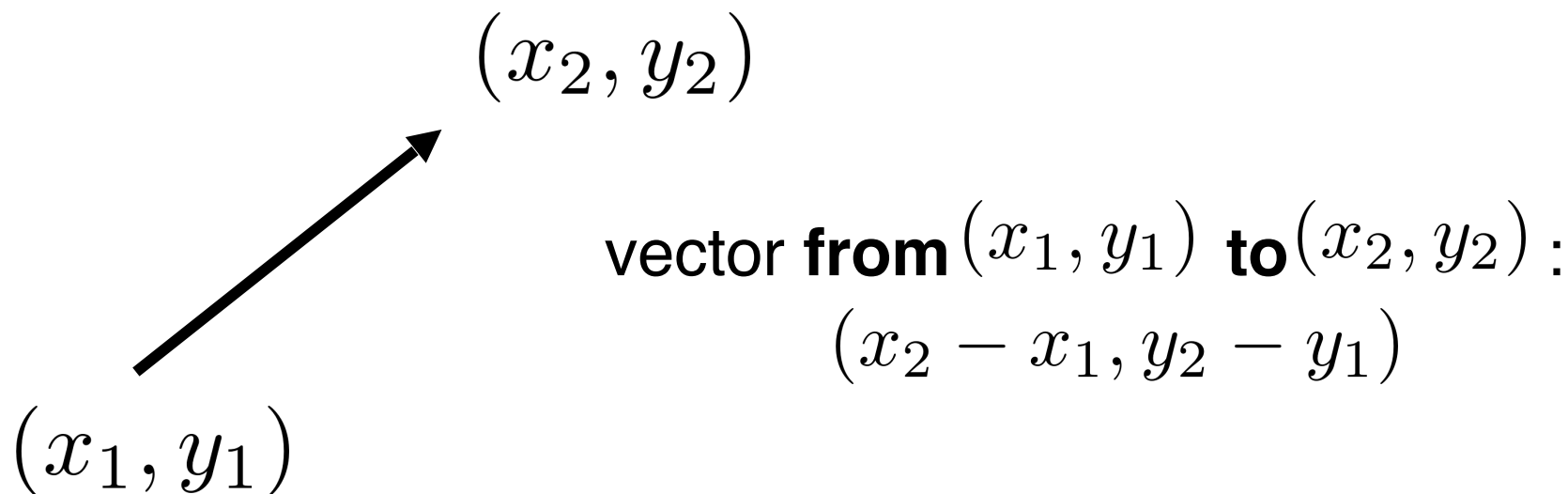
Count number of points distance  $\leq \mathbf{r}$  from epicenter

All inputs are ints between  $-2^{30}$  and  $2^{30}$

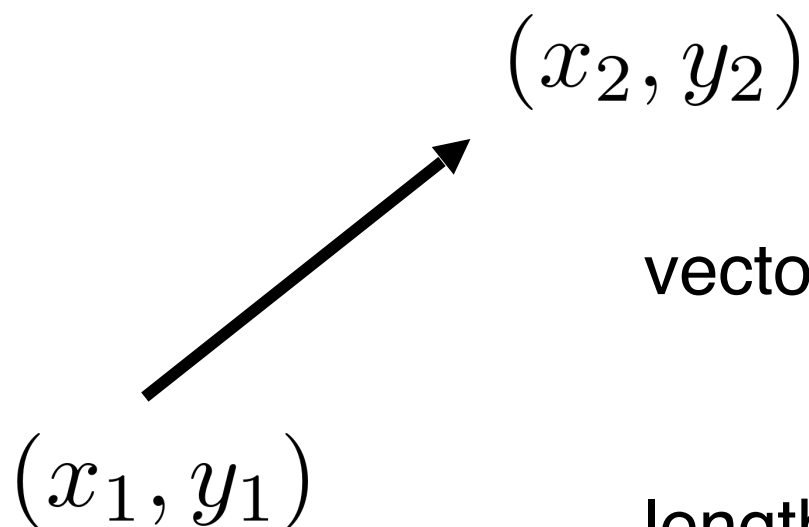
# Vectors and Distance



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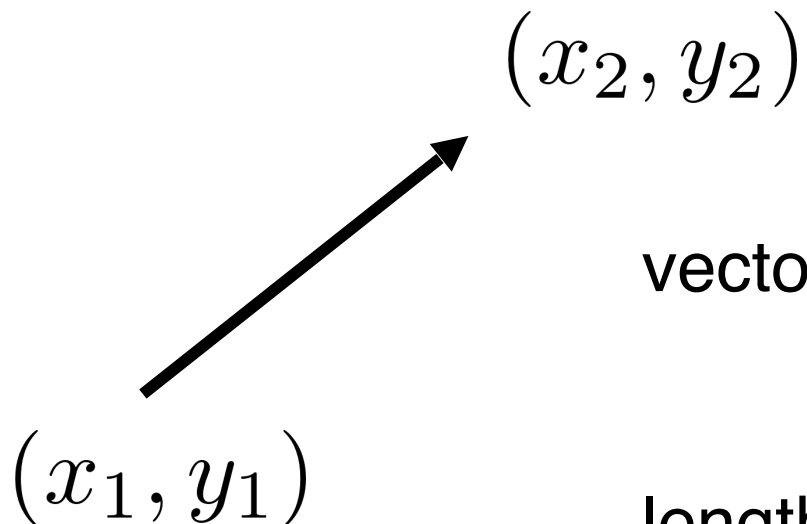
vector **from**  $(x_1, y_1)$  **to**  $(x_2, y_2)$  :  
 $(x_2 - x_1, y_2 - y_1)$

length of vectors:

$$\|(a, b)\| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$



# Vectors and Distance



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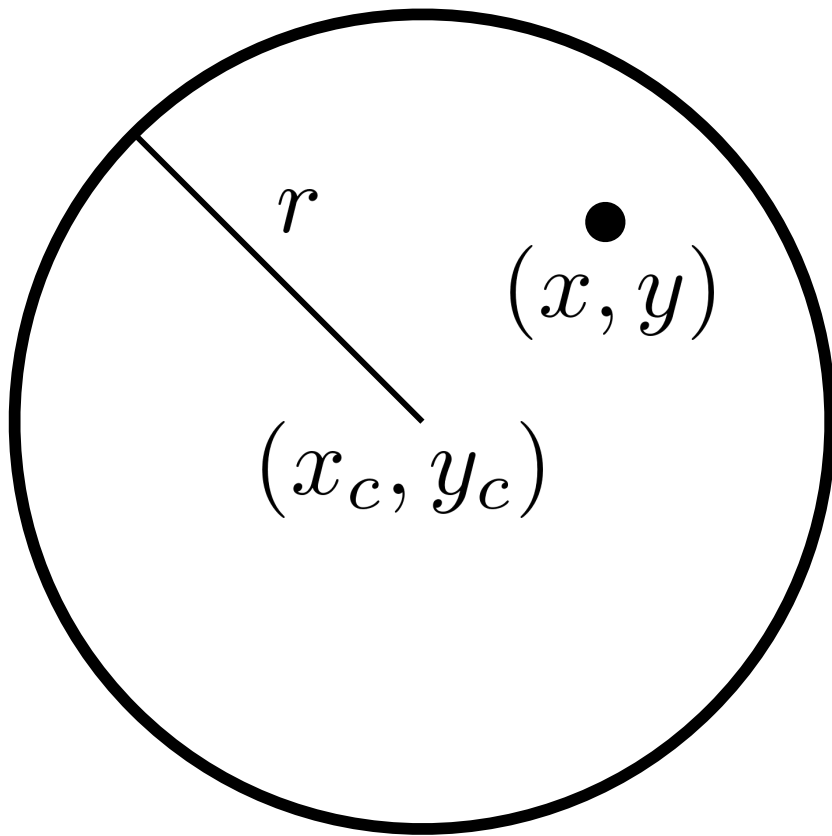
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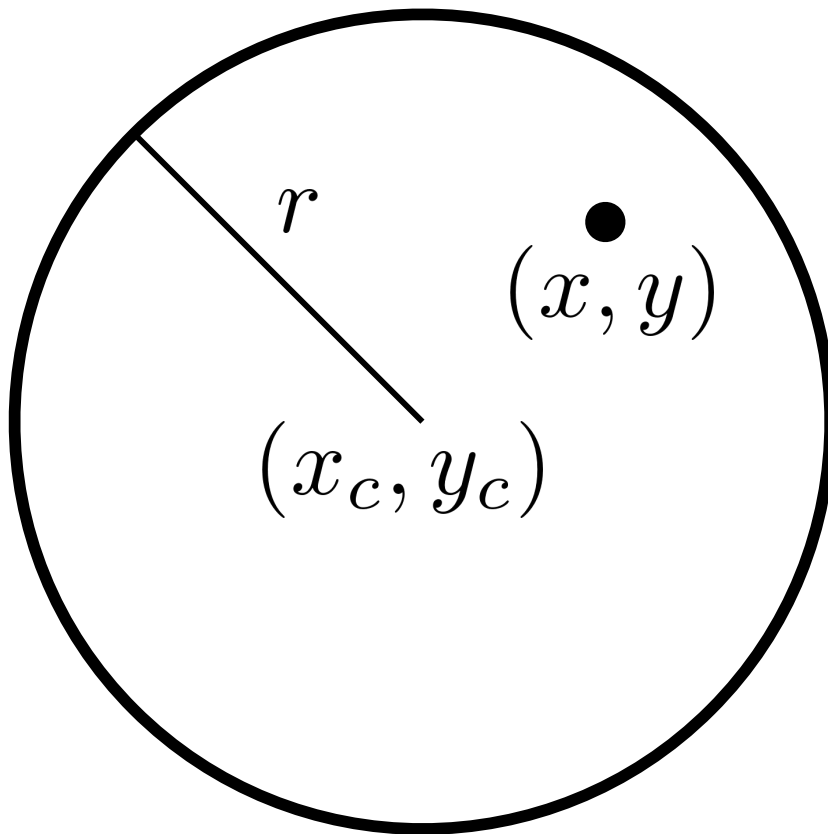
distance:

$$d = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$$

# Circle-Point Queries



# Circle-Point Queries



point inside circle if

$$\|(x, y) - (x_c, y_c)\| \leq r$$

$$\sqrt{(x - x_c)^2 + (y - y_c)^2} \leq r$$

# Blast Zone?

Given:

- list of points ( $\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i$ )
- epicenter ( $\mathbf{x}_c, \mathbf{y}_c$ )
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All inputs are ints between  $-2^{30}$  and  $2^{30}$

$O(\text{points})$  solution: loop over all points, and check if

$$\sqrt{(x_i - x_c)^2 + (y_i - y_c)^2} \leq r$$

# Geometry Algorithms

Key challenges:

1. Remembering (or deriving) formulas
2. Dealing with precision issues

# Two Kinds of Geometry Problems

Exact Arithmetic

Floating Point

- Inputs are doubles
- Problem statement says “answer is accepted if it is within [tolerance]”
- Problem statement says “answer will not change if inputs are slightly perturbed”

# Two Kinds of Geometry Problems

## Exact Arithmetic

- Pretty much **any** other situation
- Problem statements with “round the answer to **n** digits” are **not** safe for floating point!

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## Exact Arithmetic

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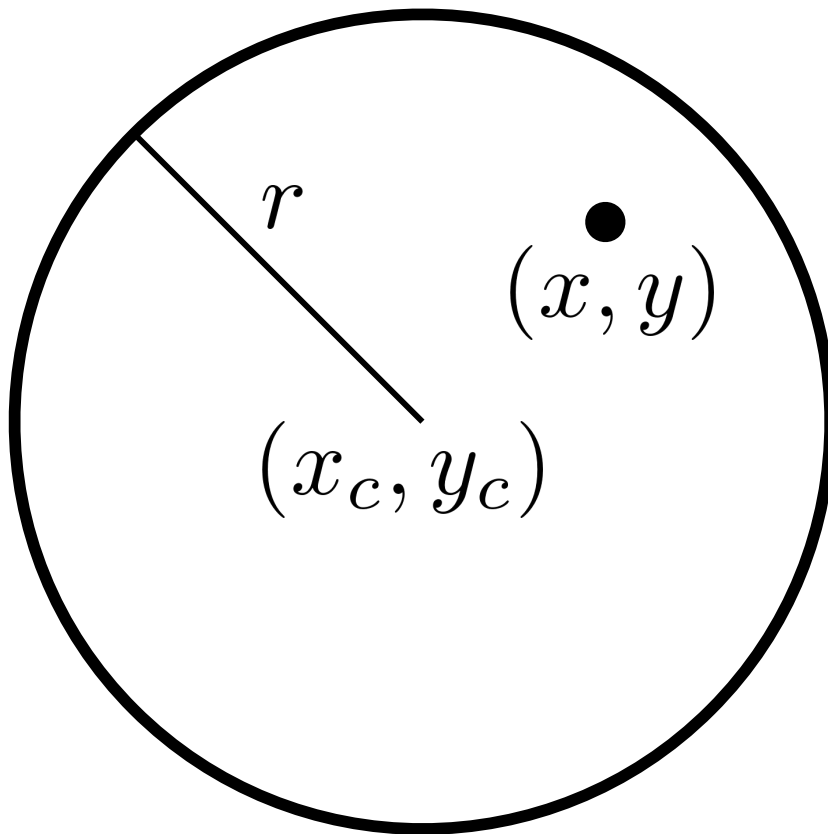
## Floating Point

- Inputs are doubles
- Problem statement says “answer is accepted if it is within [tolerance]”
- Problem statement says “answer will not change if inputs are slightly perturbed”

Incorrectly classifying the type of problem is a **fatal noob trap!!**



# Circle-Point Queries



point inside circle if

$$\|(x, y) - (x_c, y_c)\| \leq r$$

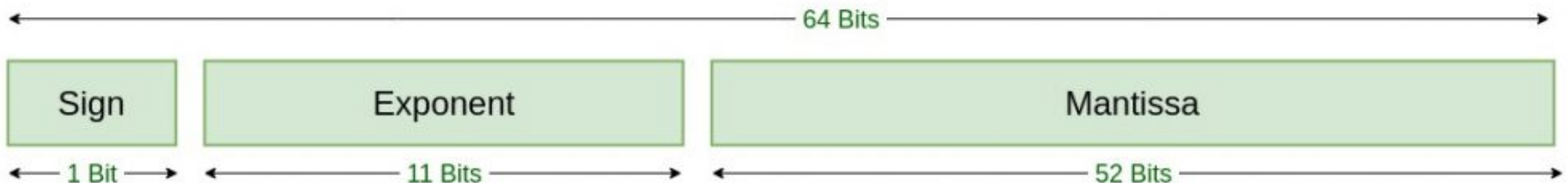
$$\sqrt{(x - x_c)^2 + (y - y_c)^2} \leq r$$

$$(x - x_c)^2 + (y - y_c)^2 \leq r^2$$

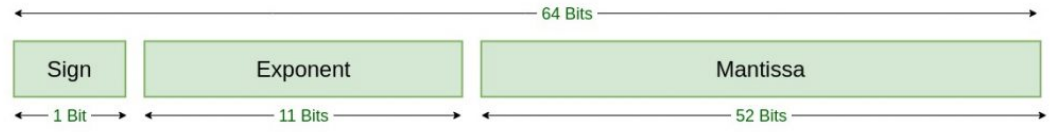
# Doubles or Ints?

IEEE floating point is complicated, but there are some basics you should know

Structure of a **double**:



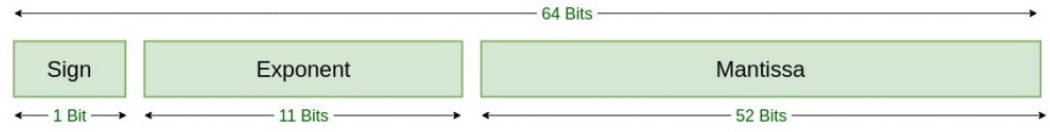
Double Precision  
IEEE 754 Floating-Point Standard



# IEEE Floating Point

Double Precision  
IEEE 754 Floating-Point Standard

Integers up to  $2^{52}$  (about 15 decimal digits)  
can be **exactly** represented

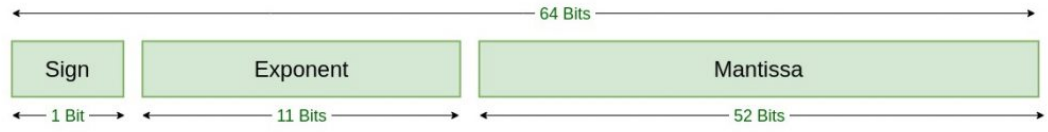


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Other numbers have up to **52 bits of precision**. This goes down as errors accumulate in intermediate calculations



# IEEE Floating Point

Double Precision  
IEEE 754 Floating-Point Standard

Integers up to  $2^{52}$  (about 15 decimal digits) can be **exactly** represented

Other numbers have up to **52 bits of precision**.  
This goes down as errors accumulate in intermediate calculations

When in doubt, use exact arithmetic. (And **never** use **floats...**)

# Blast Zone? Take II

Given:

- list of points  $(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i)$
- epicenter  $(\mathbf{x}_c, \mathbf{y}_c)$
- radius  $\mathbf{r}$

All inputs are ints between  $-2^{30}$  and  $2^{30}$

$O(\text{points})$  solution: loop over all points, and check if

$$(x_i - x_c)^2 + (y_i - y_c)^2 \leq r^2$$

ints or doubles?

# Geometry Algorithms

Key challenges:

1. Remembering (or deriving) formulas
2. Dealing with precision issues
3. Dealing with potential overflow

# Triangle Area

Signed area:

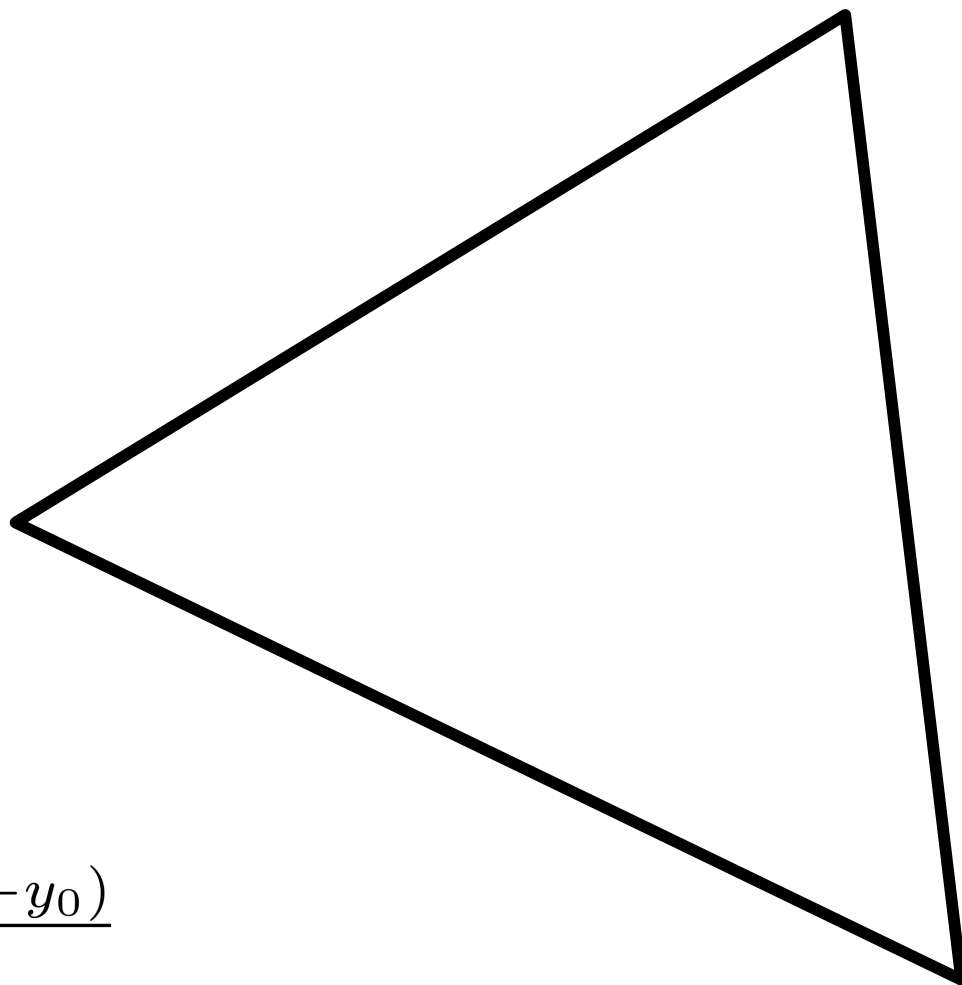
$$\frac{1}{2} \det \begin{bmatrix} x_1 - x_0 & x_2 - x_0 \\ y_1 - y_0 & y_2 - y_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$(x_0, y_0)$

$(x_2, y_2)$

$$= \frac{(x_1 - x_0)(y_2 - y_0) - (x_2 - x_0)(y_1 - y_0)}{2}$$

$(x_1, y_1)$





# Triangle Area

Signed area:

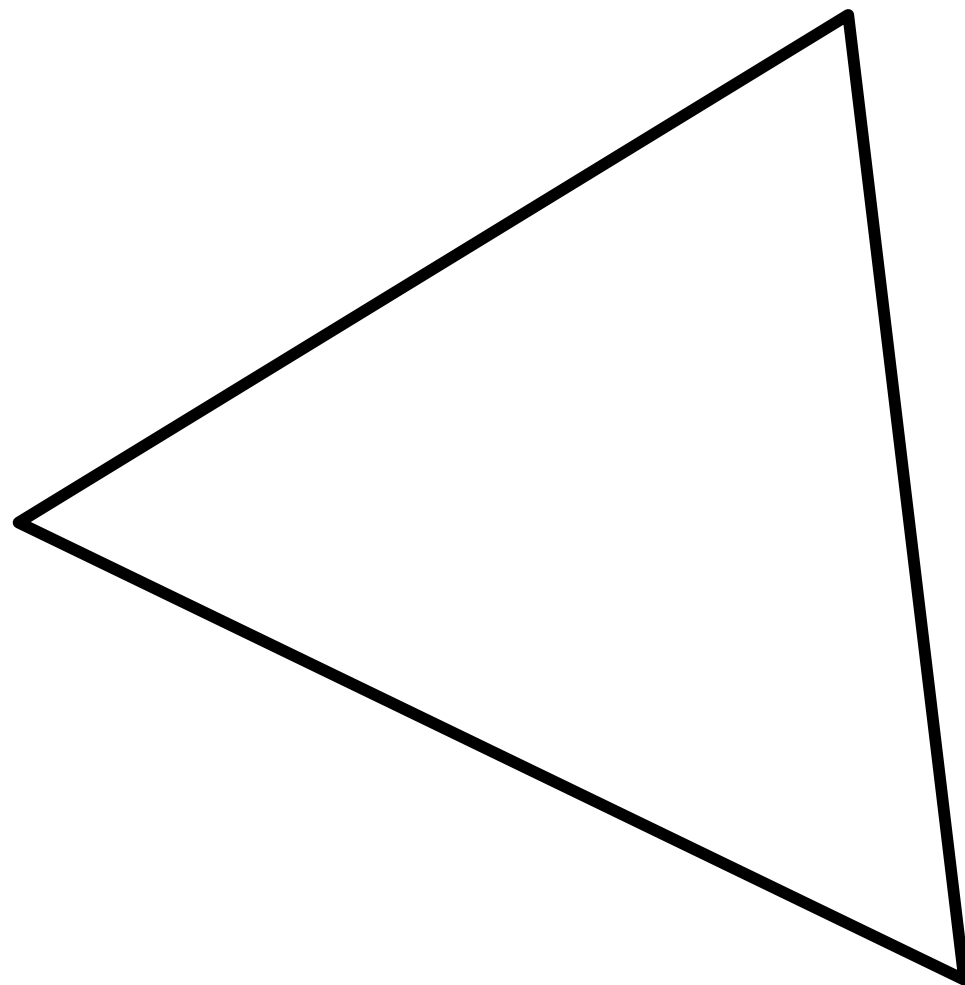
$$\frac{1}{2} \det \begin{bmatrix} x_1 - x_0 & x_2 - x_0 \\ y_1 - y_0 & y_2 - y_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Why **signed**?

$(x_0, y_0)$

$(x_2, y_2)$

$(x_1, y_1)$



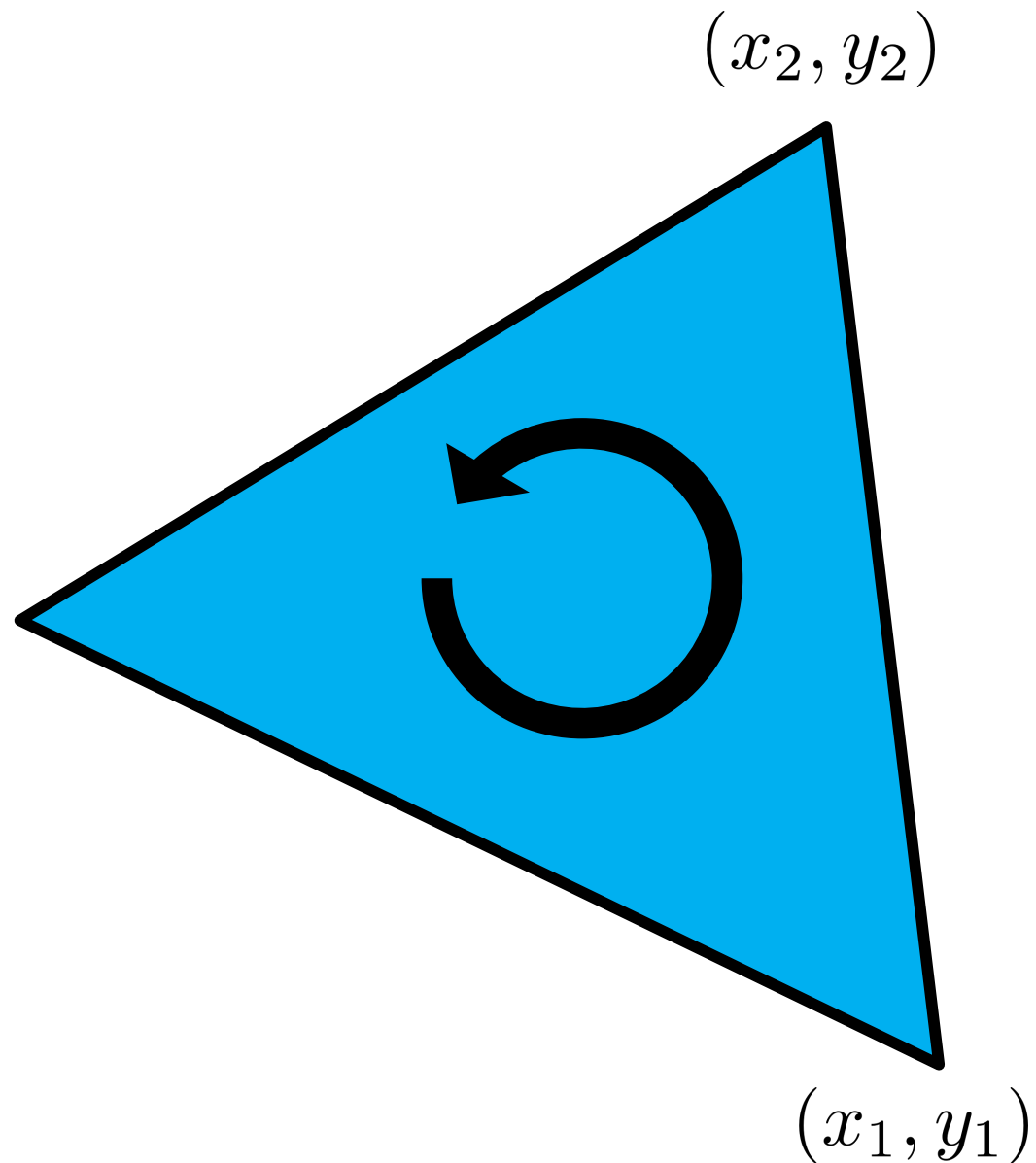
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# Triangle Area

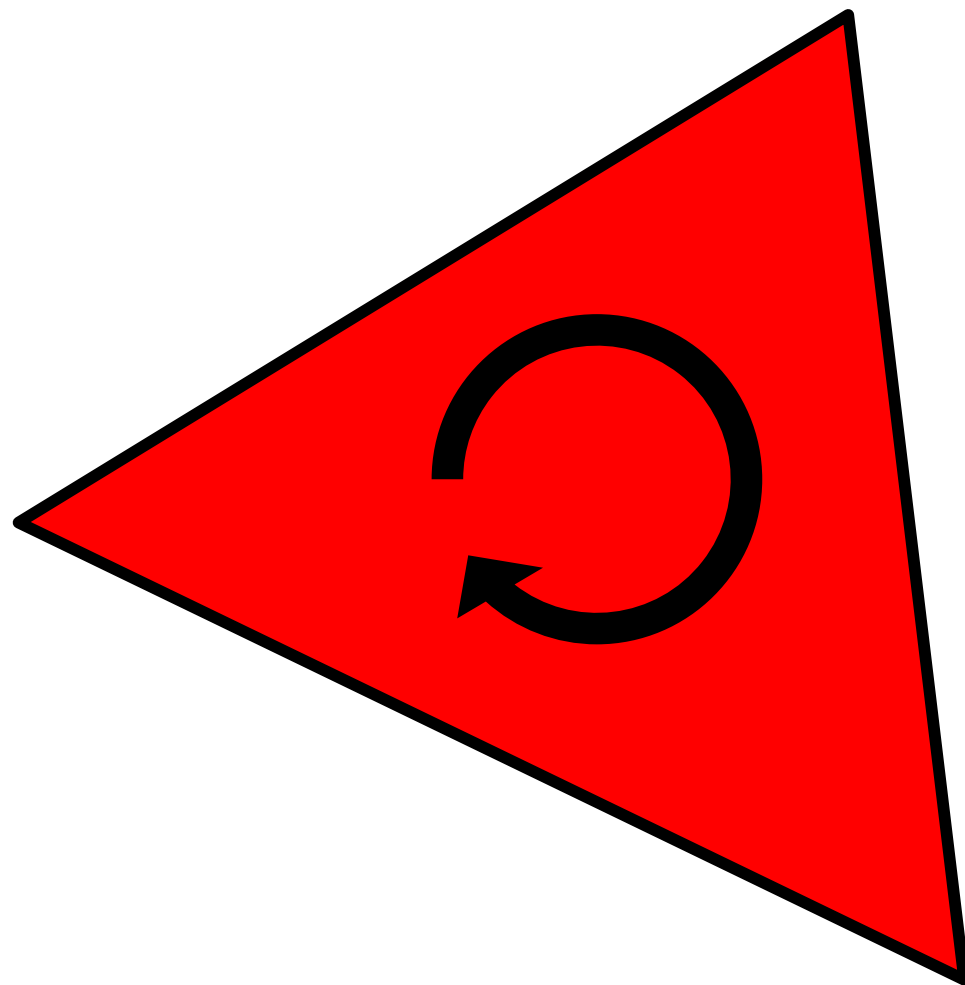
Signed area:

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Why **signed**?

$(x_0, y_0)$

$(x_1, y_1)$



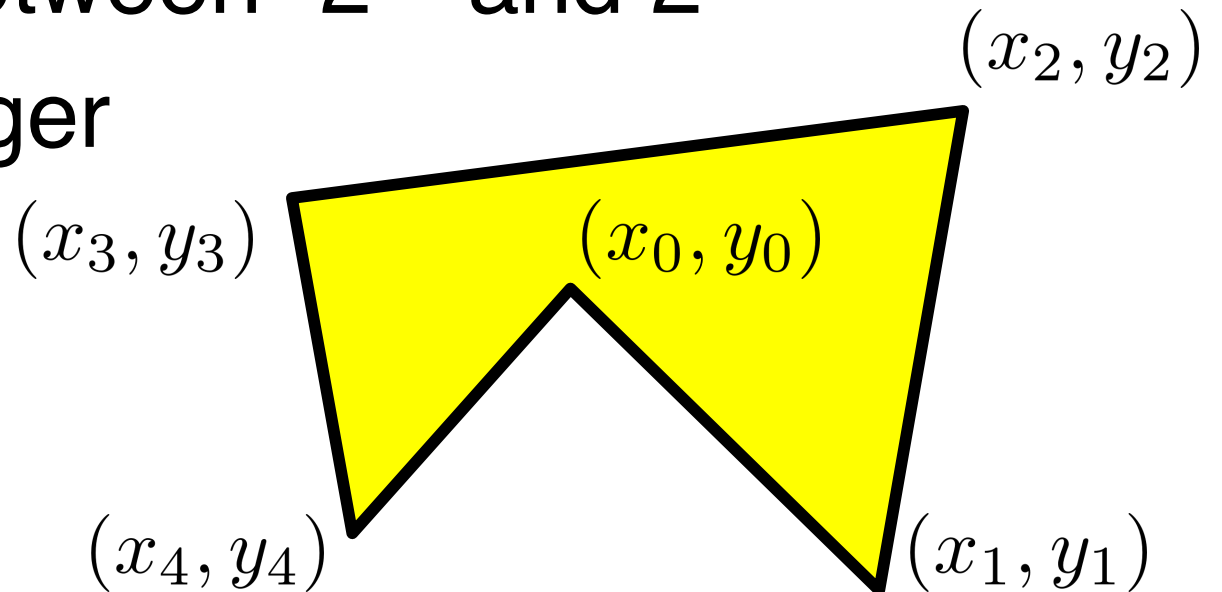
$(x_2, y_2)$

# Polygon Area

Given a list of integer points in the plane,  
calculate area of polygon

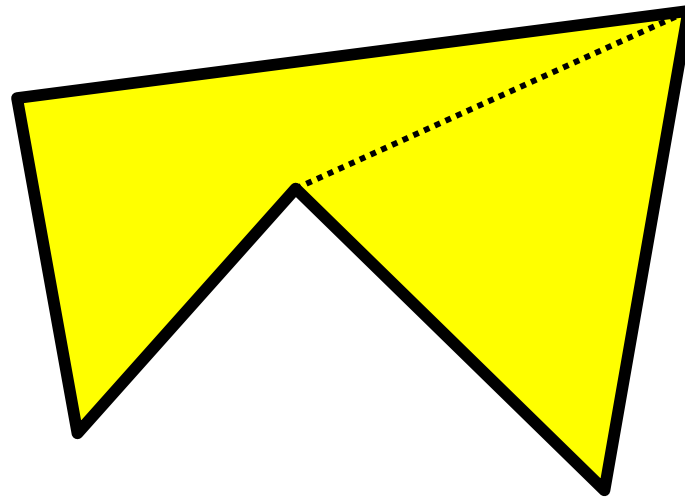
All input ints between  $-2^{15}$  and  $2^{15}$

Area is an integer



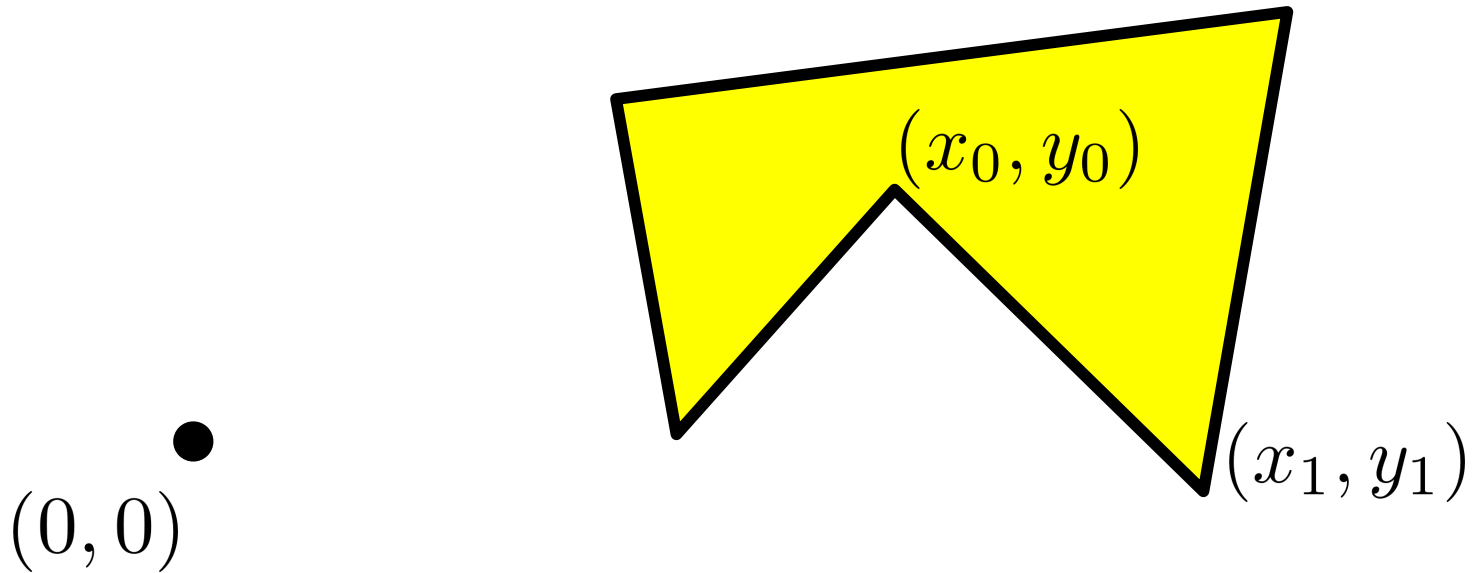
# Polygon Area

The hard way: divide and conquer “ear cutting”



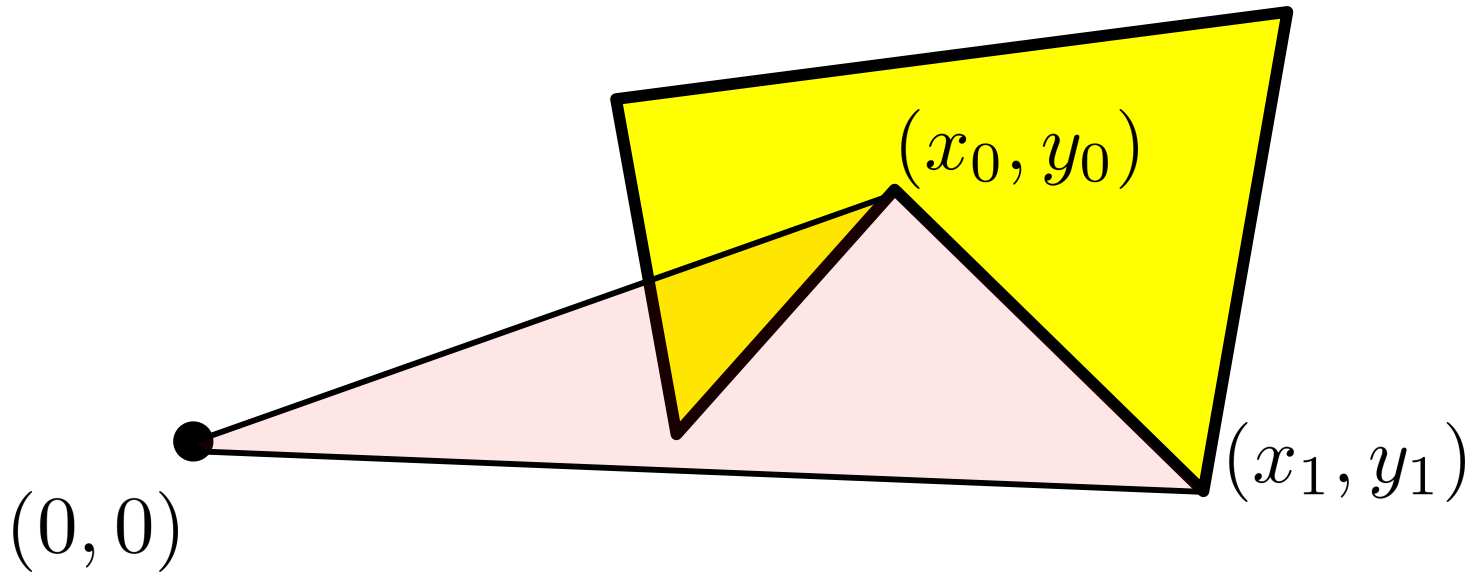
# Polygon Area

The easy way:



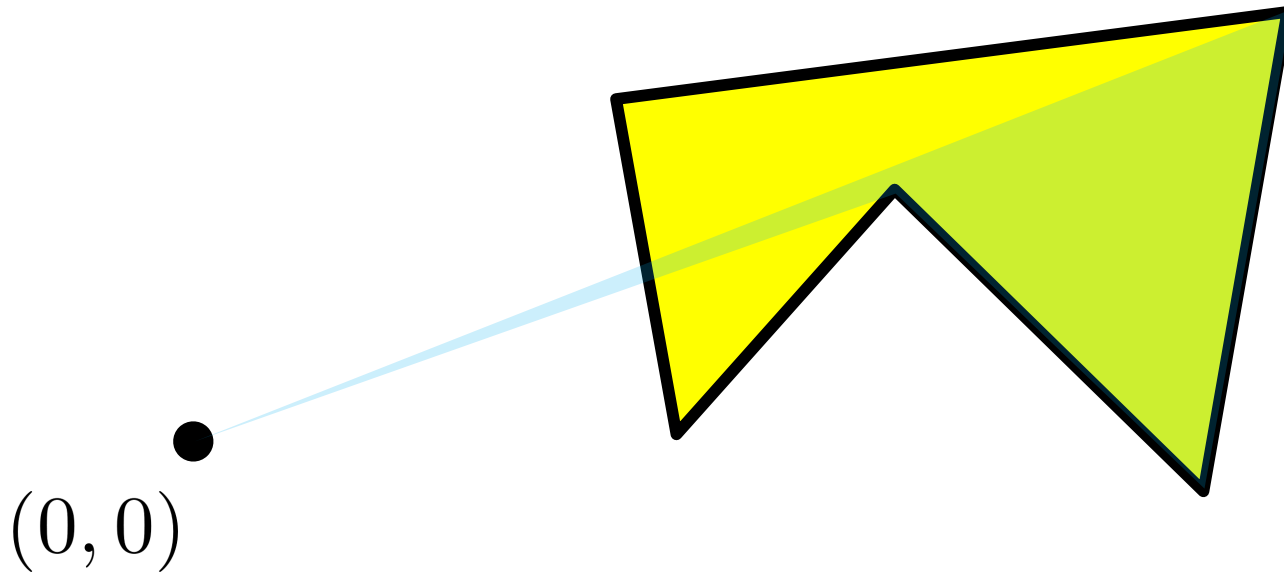
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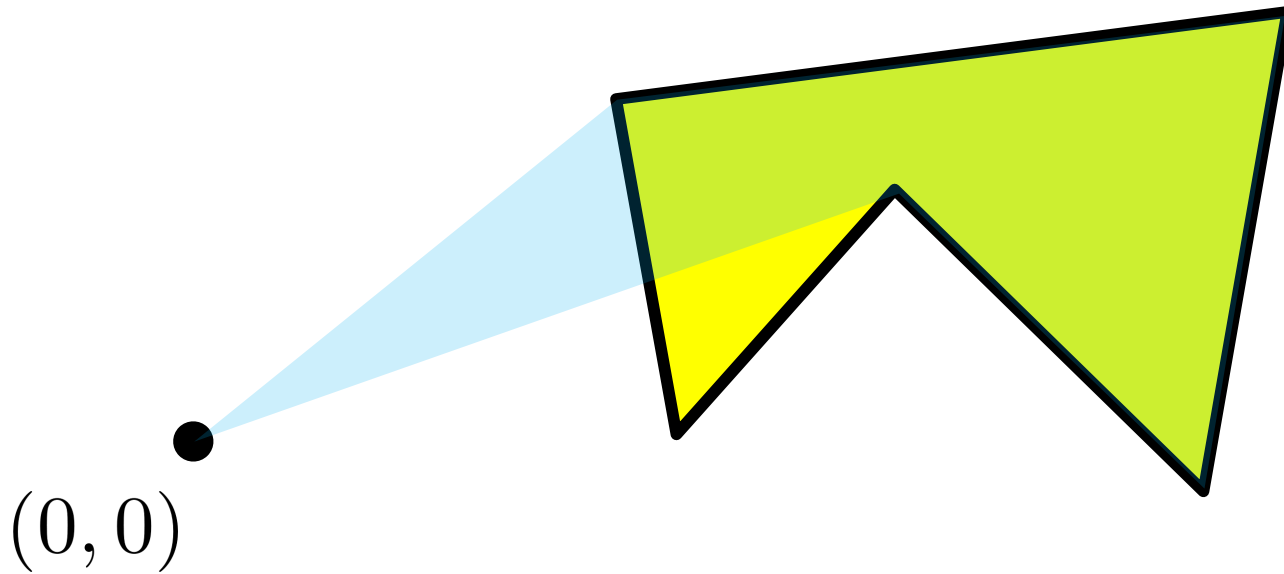
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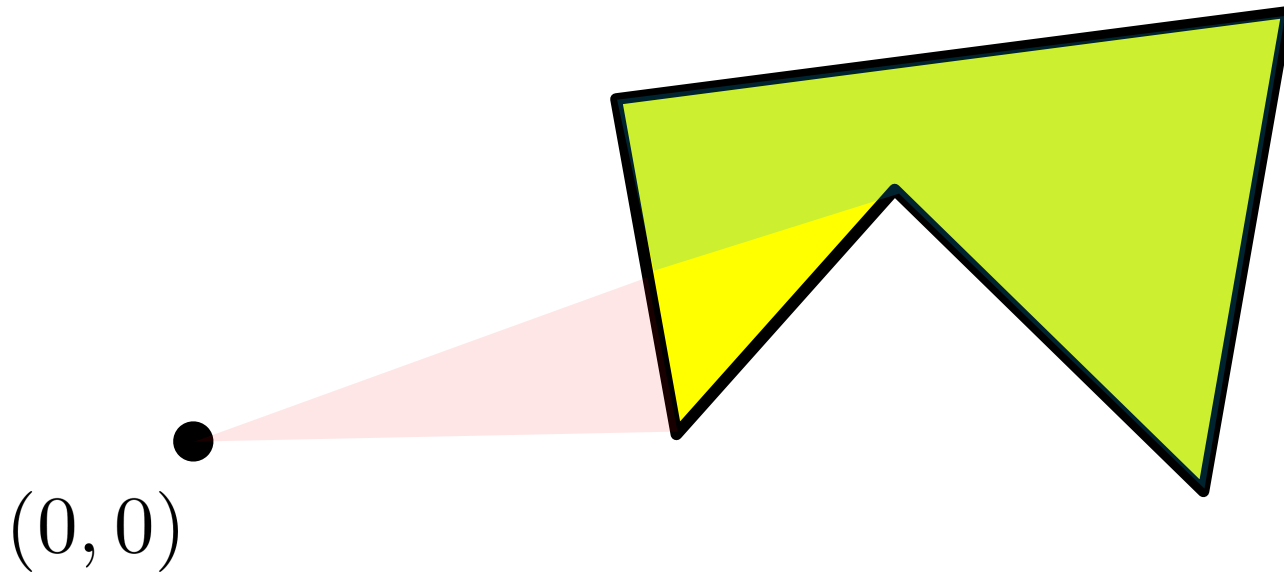
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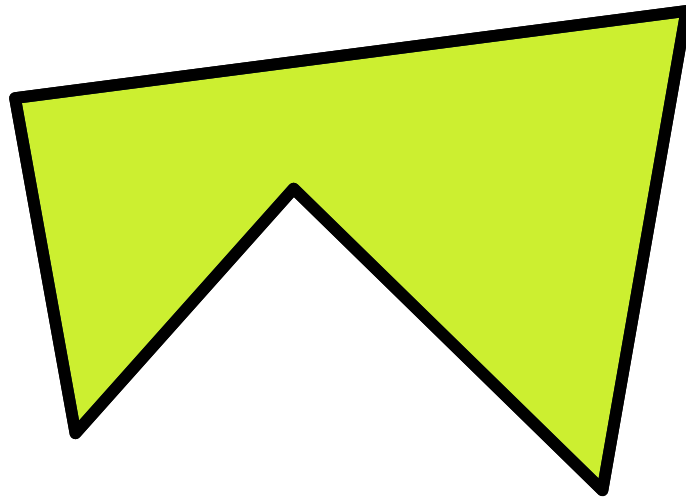
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# Polygon Area

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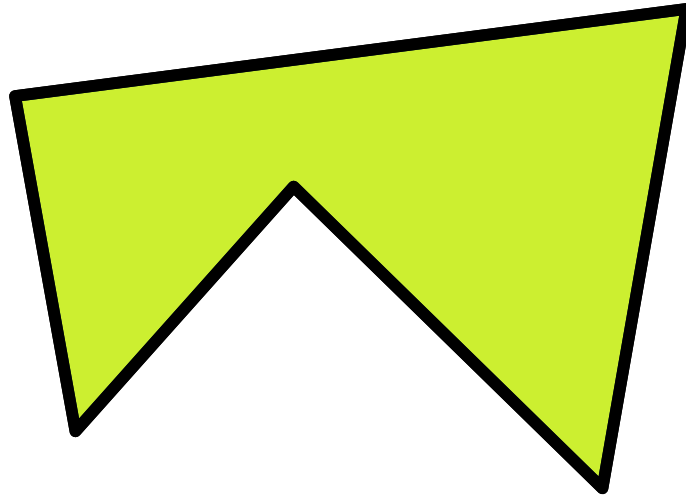
$(0, 0)$  ●



# Polygon Area

The easy way: “shoelace formula”

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum [(x_i - 0)(y_{i+1} - 0) - (x_{i+1} - 0)(y_i - 0)]$$

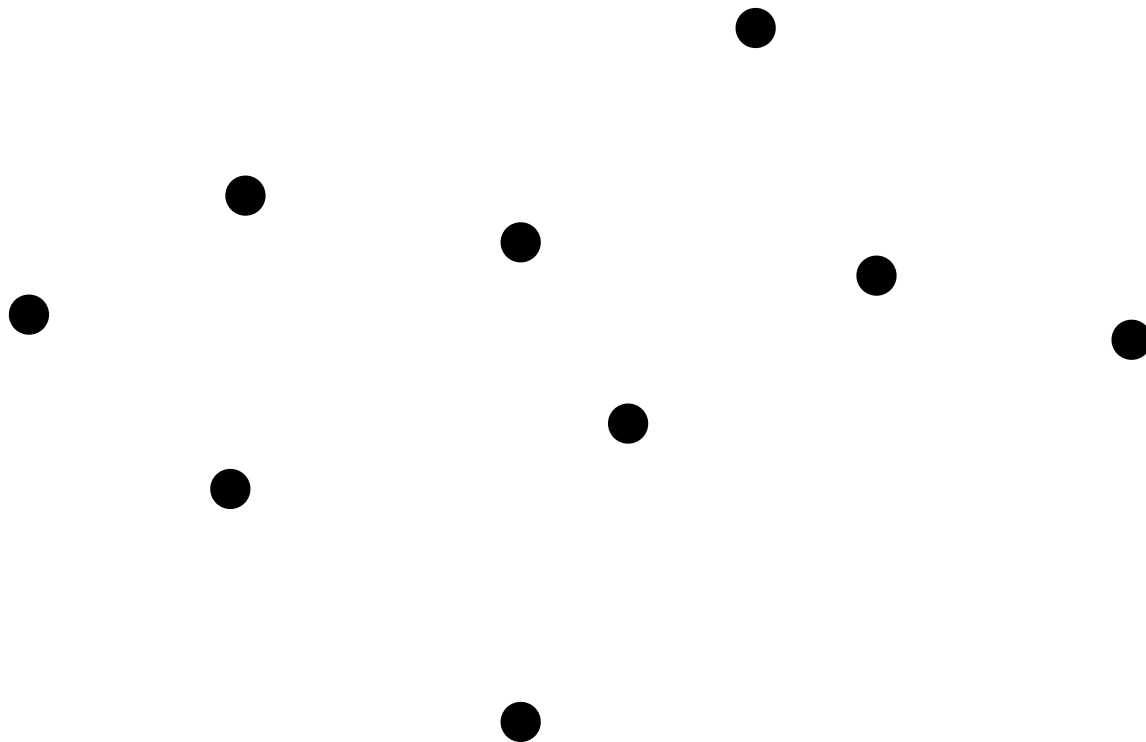


●  
(0, 0)

# Convex Hull

“Envelope” of set of points

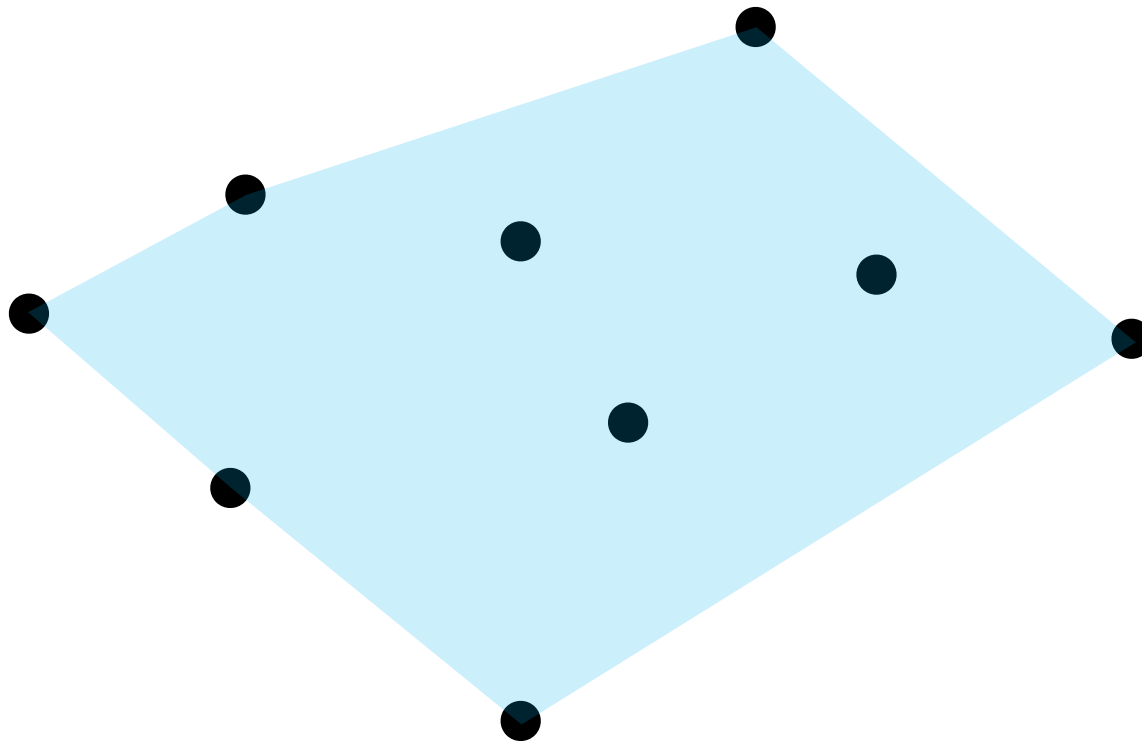
- rubber band analogy



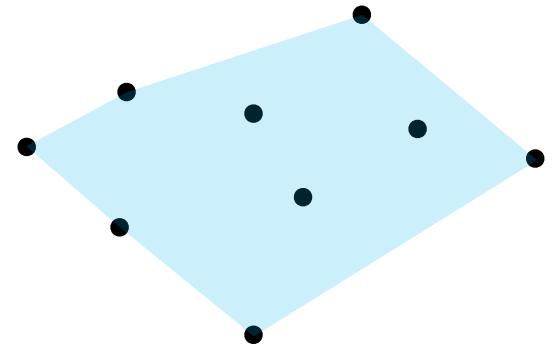
# Convex Hull

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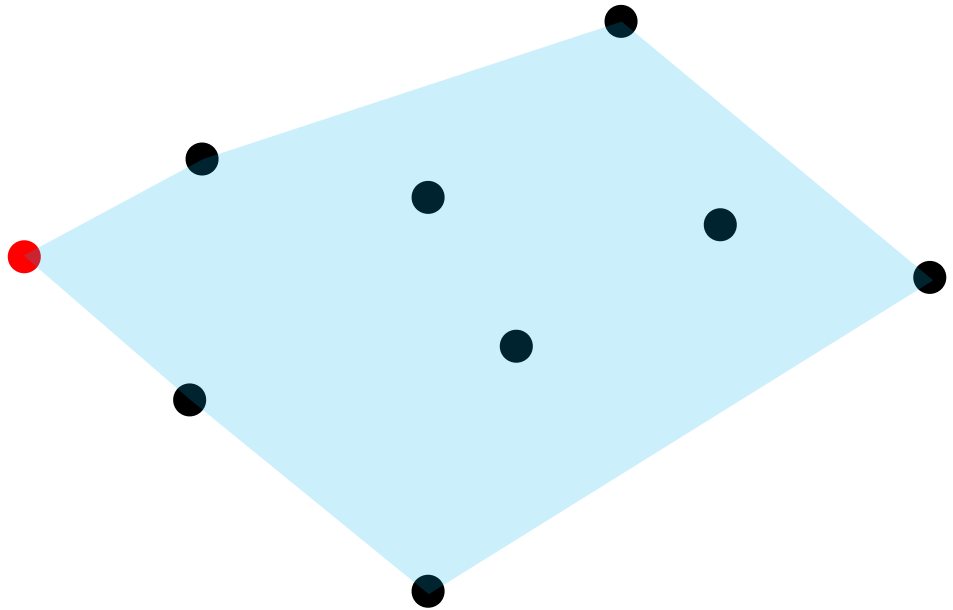
# Computing Convex Hull



1. Find one point on boundary
2. Until we have complete polygon, walk counterclockwise around boundary

# Computing Convex Hull

1. Find one point on boundary

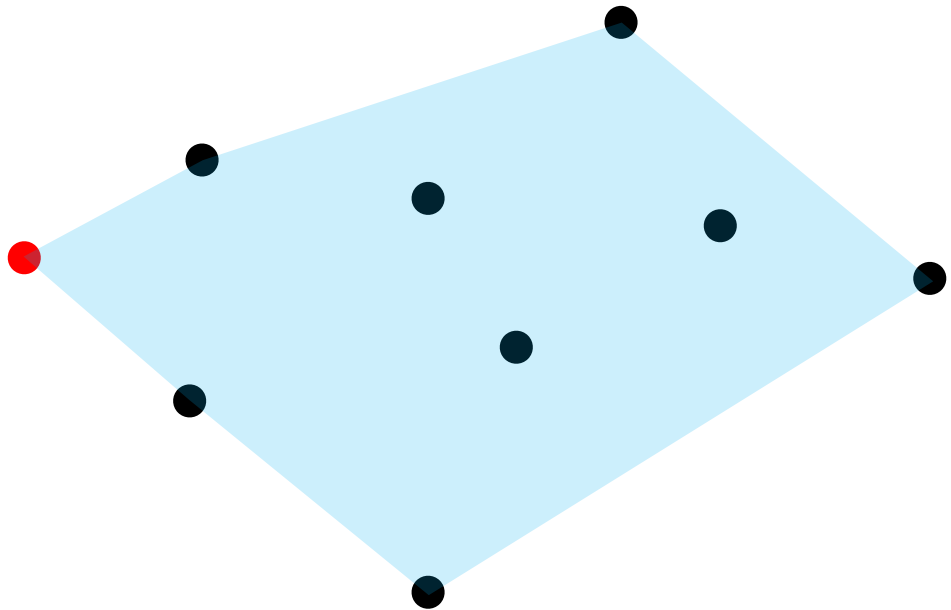




# Computing Convex Hull

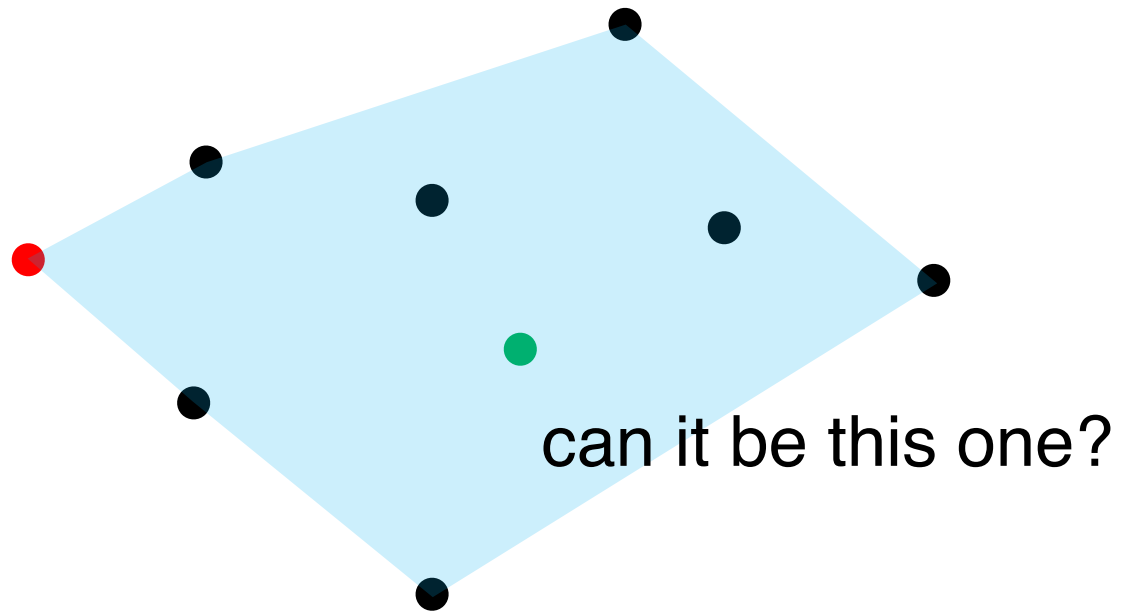
1. Find one point on boundary

- e.g. point with min x coord



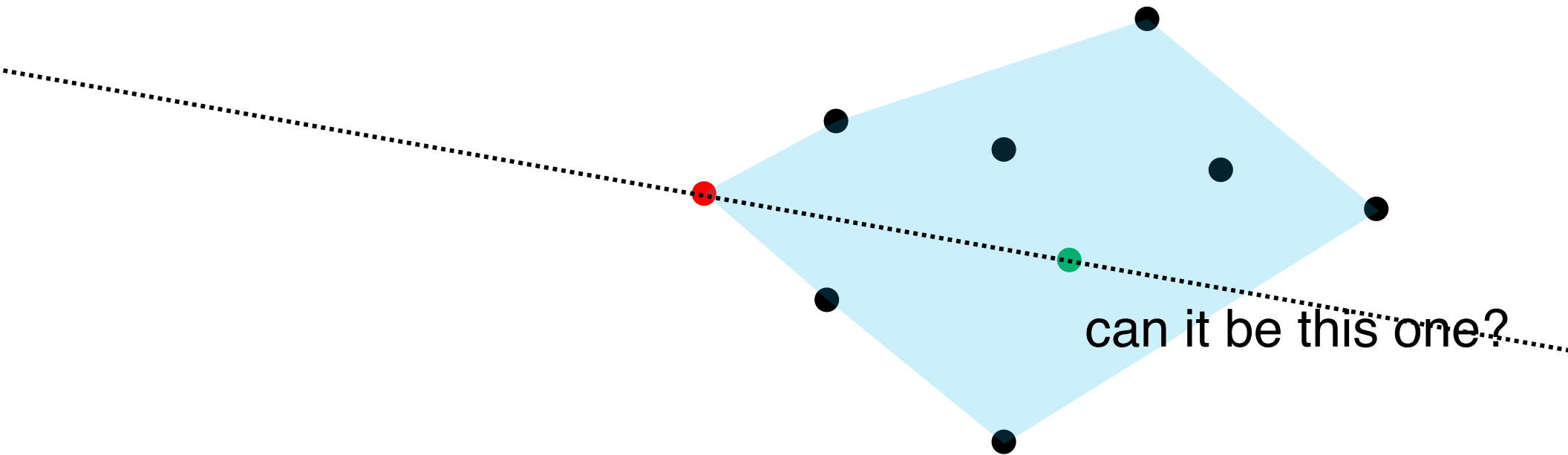
# Computing Convex Hull

How to find next boundary point?



# Computing Convex Hull

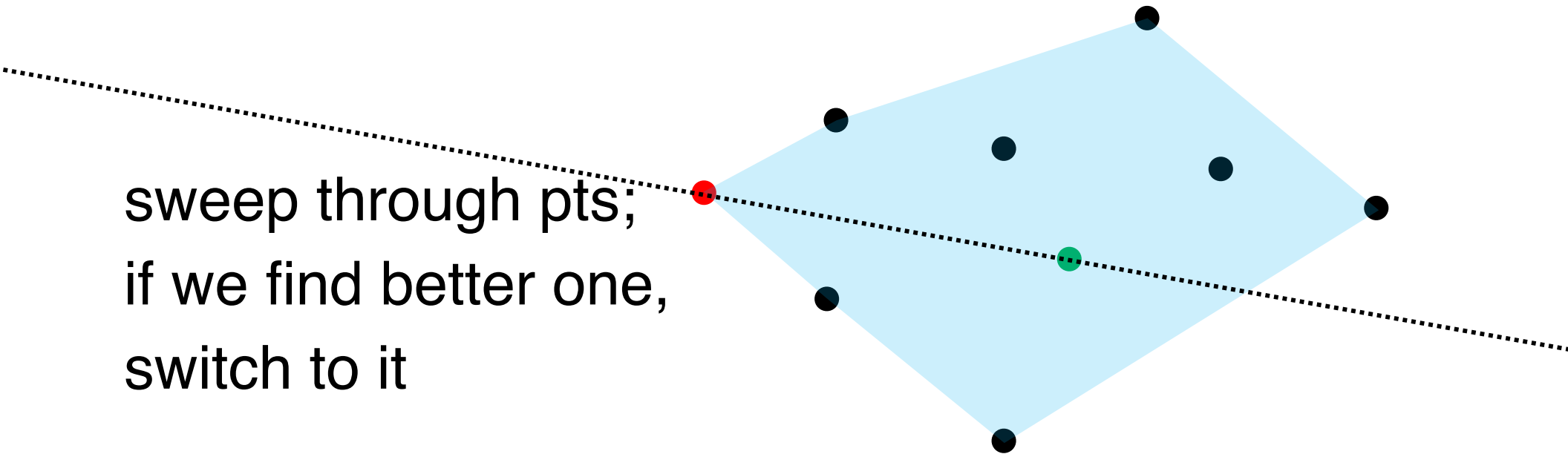
How to find next boundary point?



# Computing Convex Hull

How to find next boundary point?

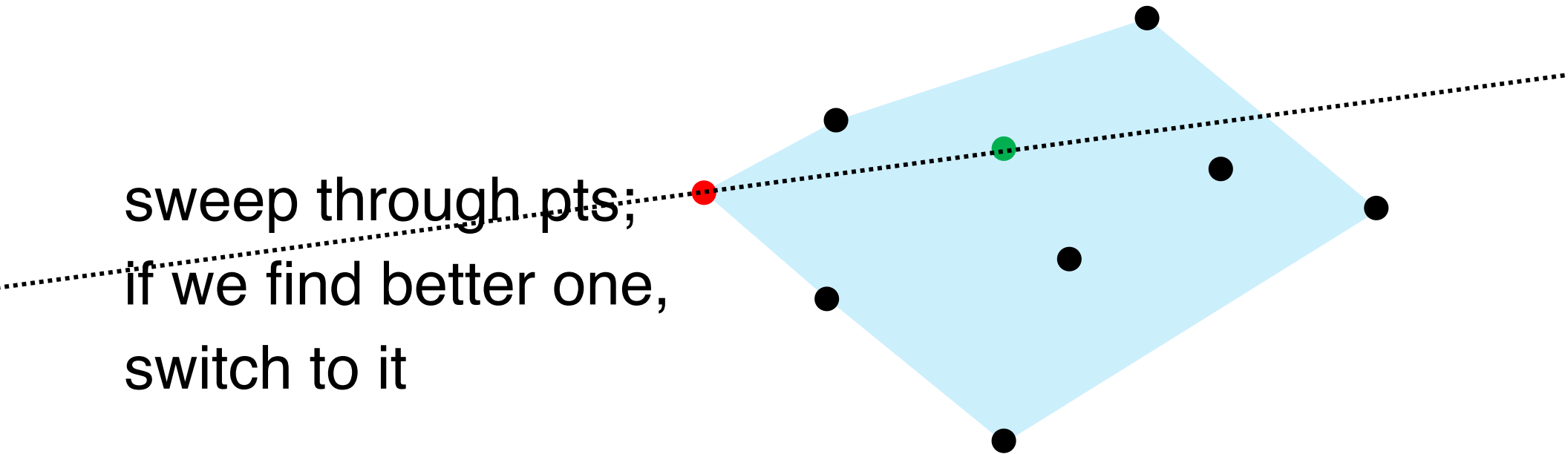
sweep through pts;  
if we find better one,  
switch to it



# Computing Convex Hull

How to find next boundary point?

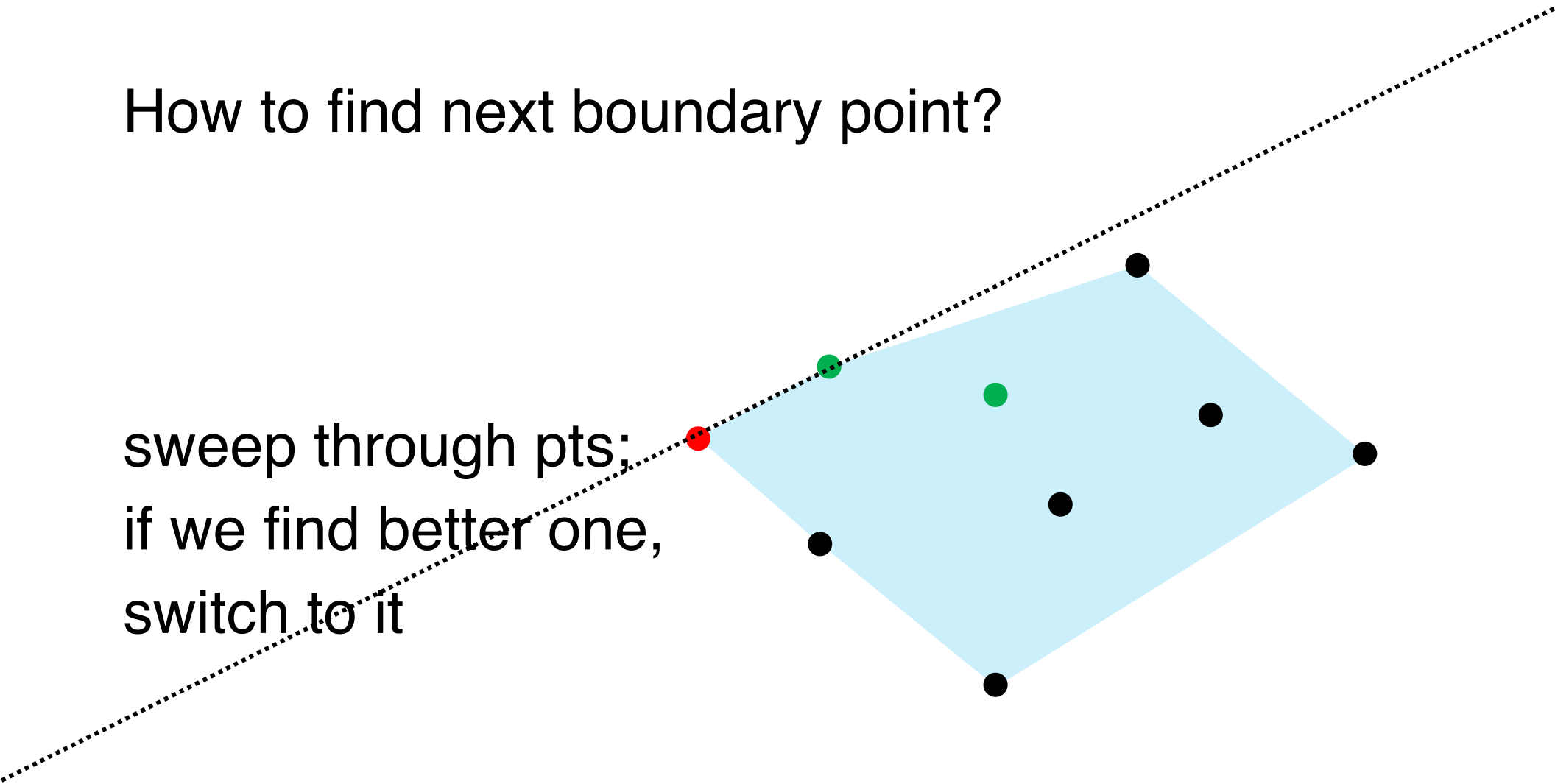
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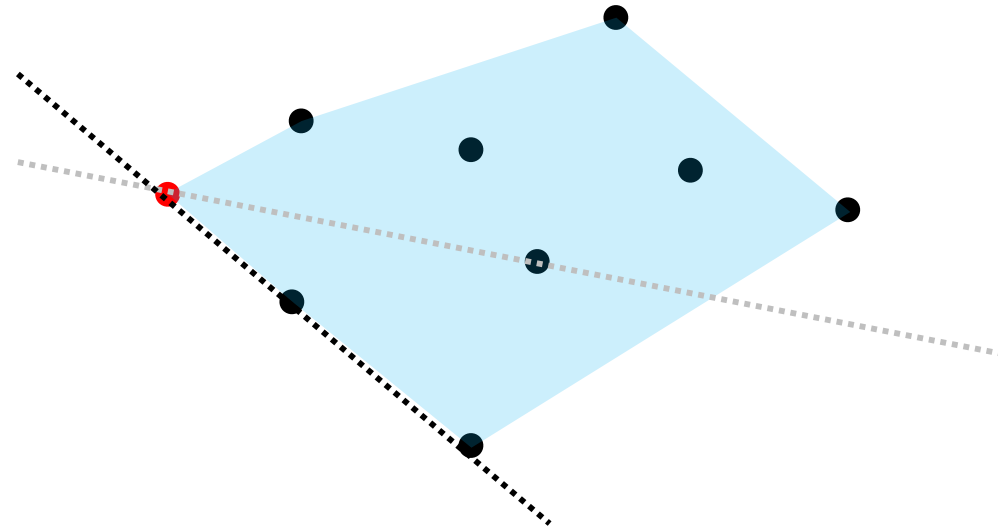
# Computing Convex Hull

How to find next boundary point?

sweep through pts;  
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switch to it



# Jarvis Marching



Pros:

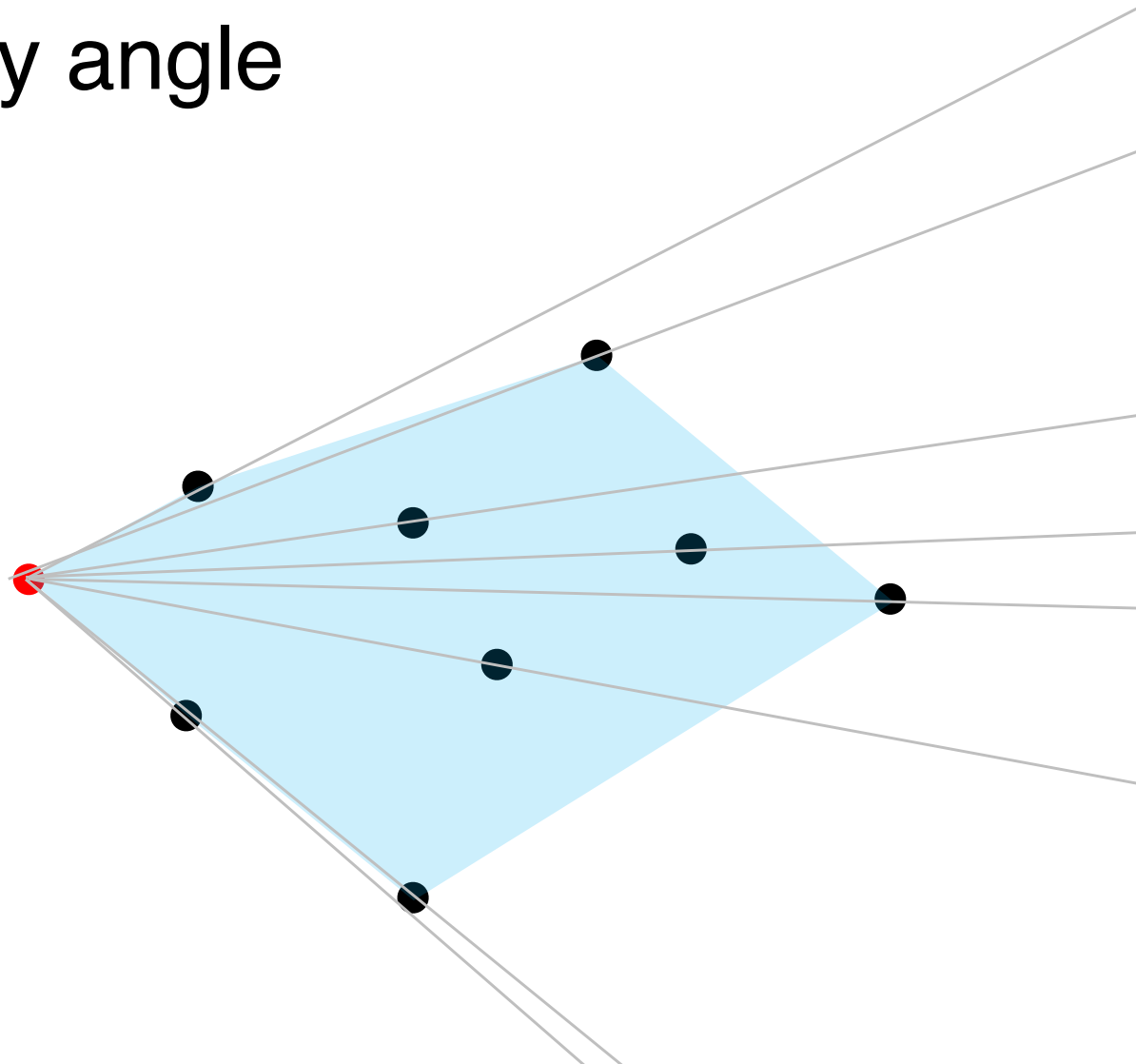
- Intuitive
- Easy to code

Cons:

- Doesn't work in 3D+
- $O(n^2)$

# Graham Scan

Idea: sort points by angle

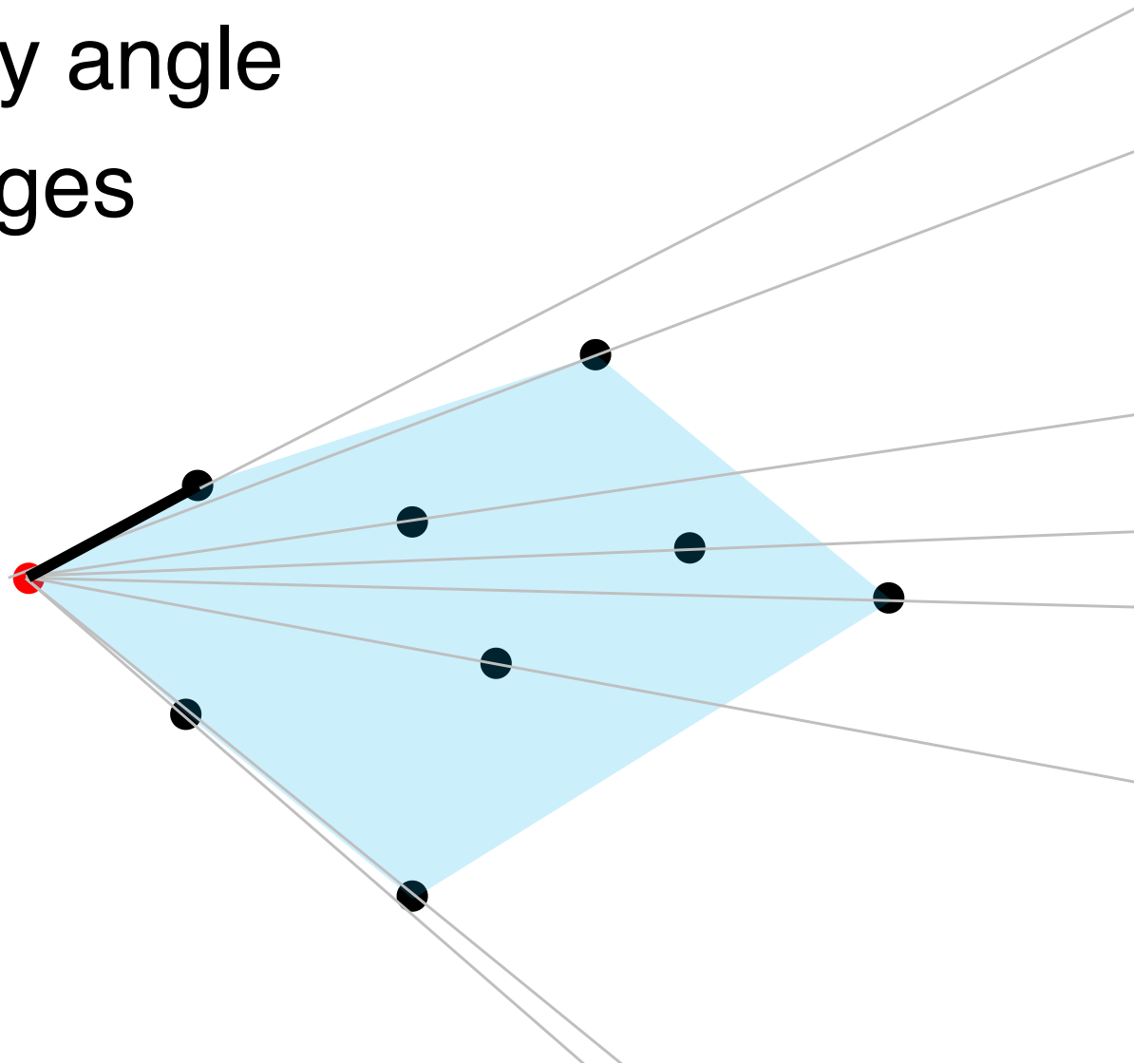




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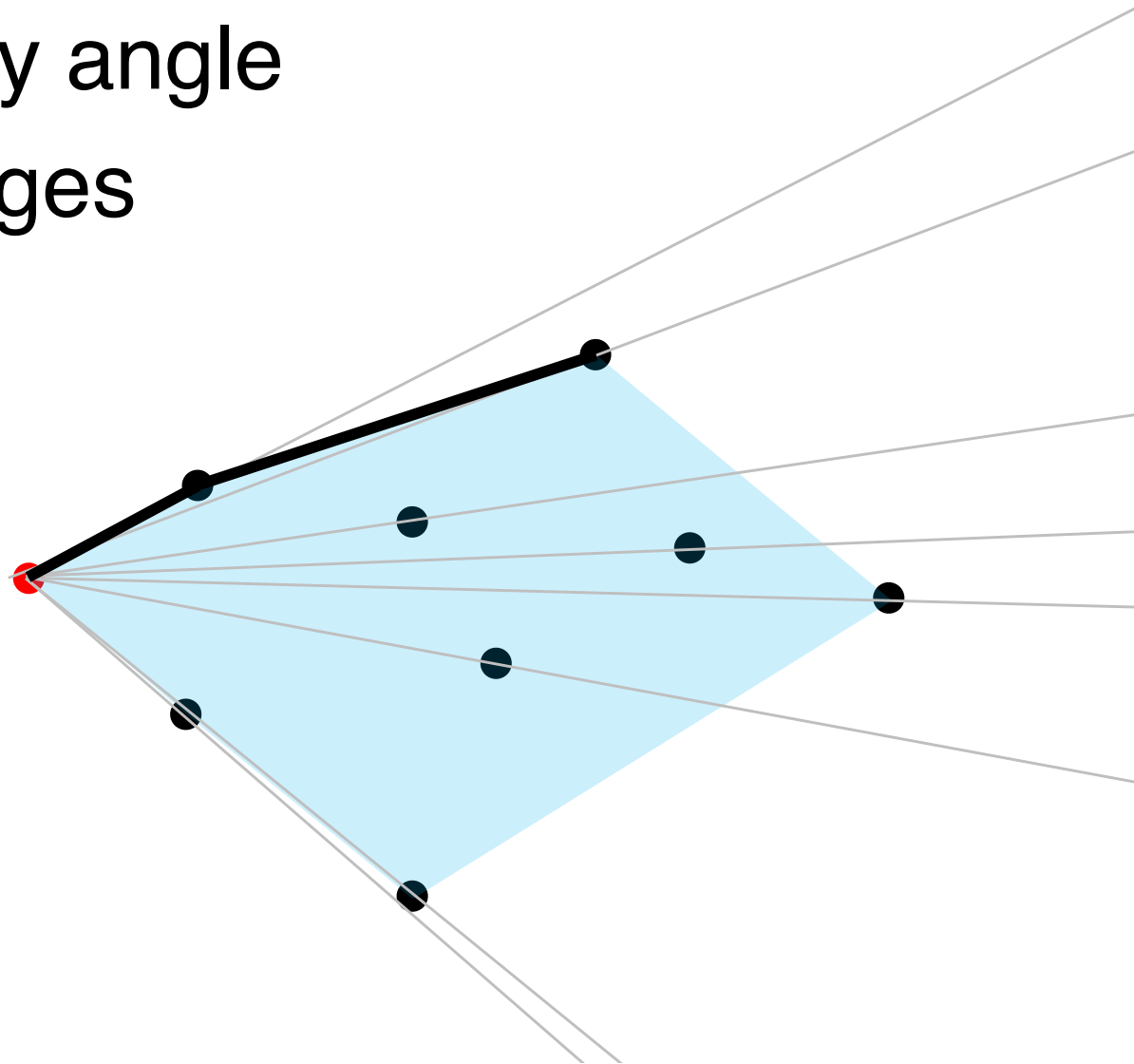
- Start adding edges



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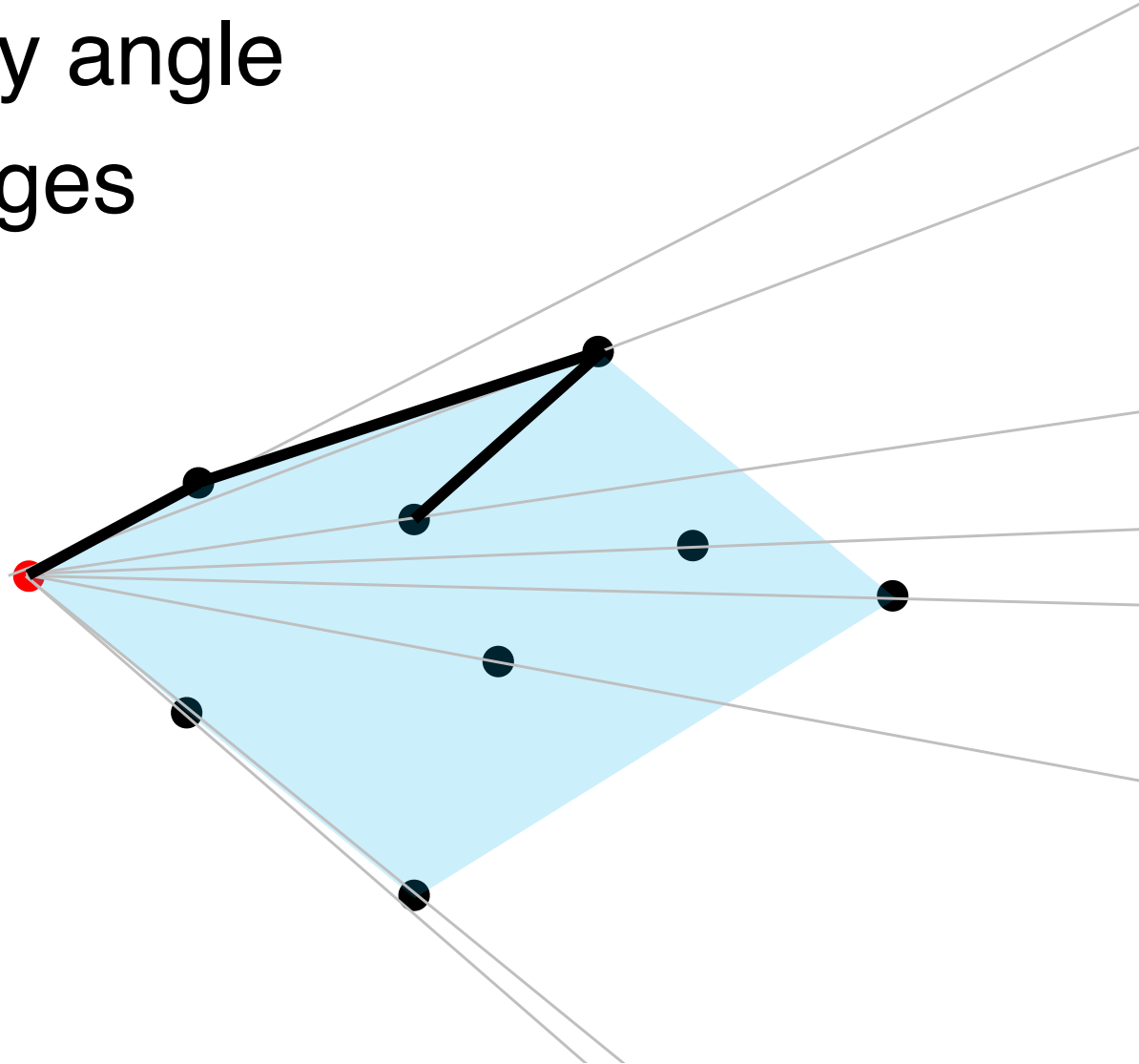
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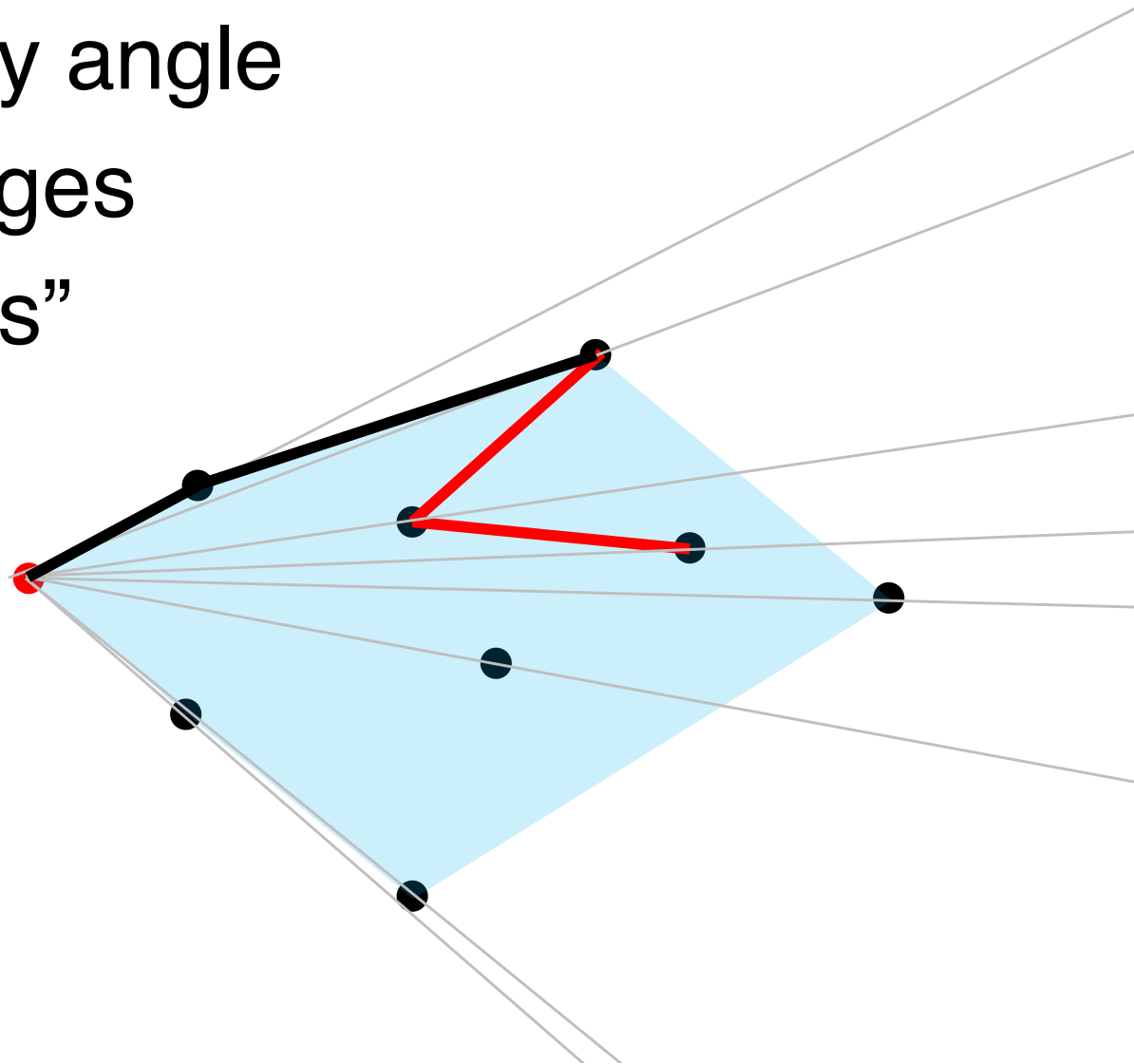
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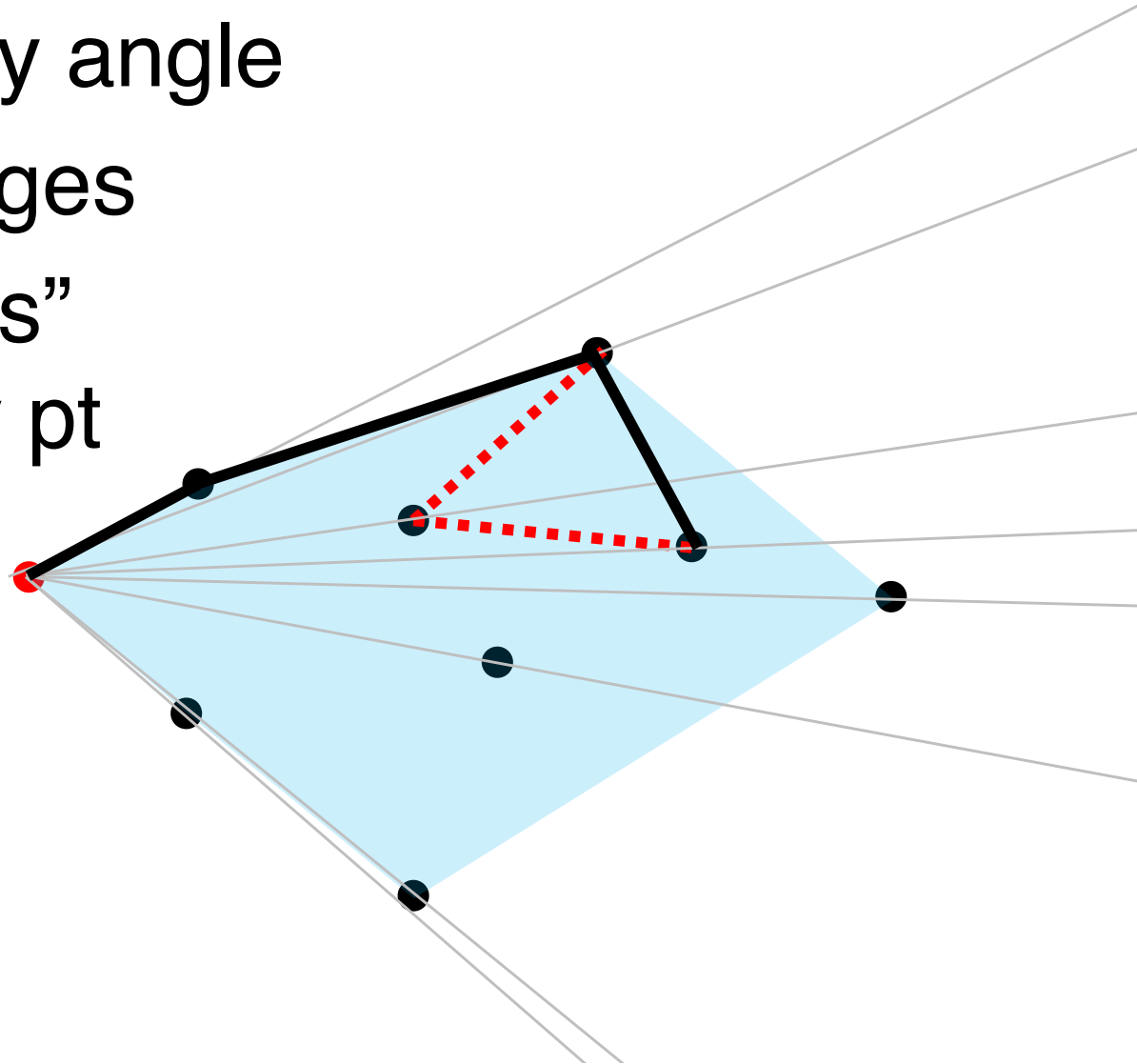
- Start adding edges
- Detect “left turns”



# Graham Scan

Idea: sort points by angle

- Start adding edges
- Detect “left turns” and delete prev pt
- Check again for a left turn

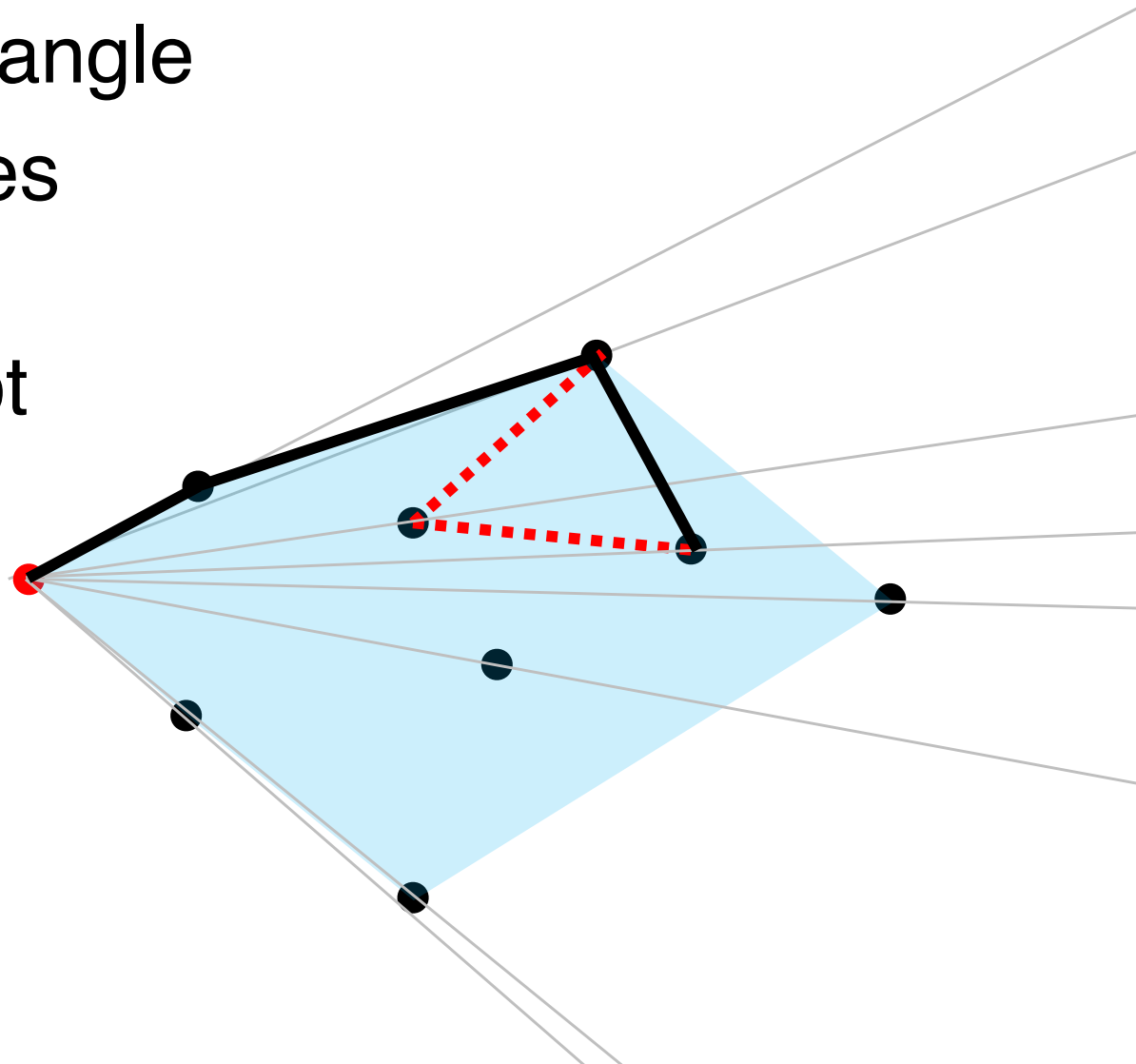


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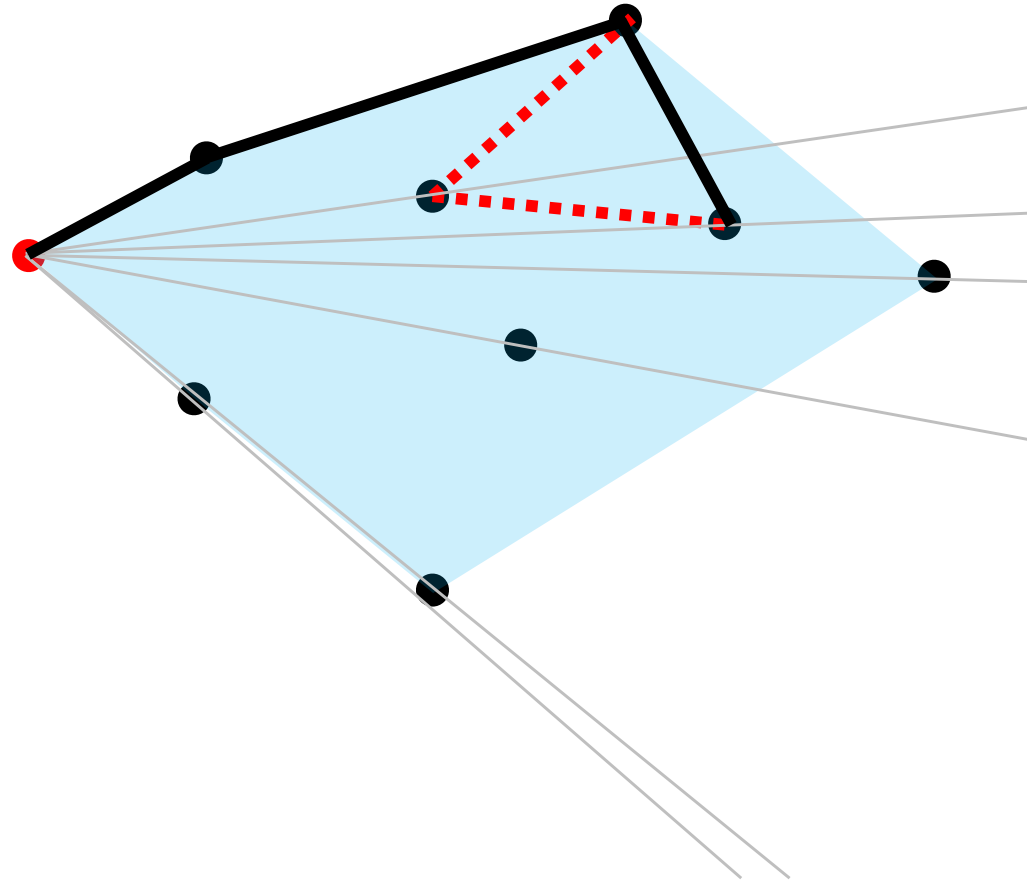
Idea: sort points by angle

- Start adding edges
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Now  $O(n \log n)$



# Graham Scan



Pros:

- Fast ( $O(n \log n)$ )

Cons:

- Still doesn't work in 3D+
- Numerical robustness issues if points are close to colinear