

Project 4: Convex Hull (170 pts)

Due at 11:59pm

Tuesday, Apr 10

1. Project Overview

In this project, you are asked to implement Graham's scan and Jarvis' march to construct the convex hull of an input set of points in the plane, and compare their execution times. For a description of the algorithm, please refer to the lecture notes "convex-hull.pptx" on Monday Mar 19th.

We make the following two assumptions:

- a) *All the input points have **integral** coordinates ranging between -50 and 50 .*
- b) *The input points may have **duplicates**.*

In a), integral coordinates are assumed to avoid issues with floating-point arithmetic. The rectangular range $[-50, 50] \times [-50, 50]$ is big enough to contain 10,201 points with integral coordinates. In b), duplicates may appear since the input points will be either generated as pseudo-random points or read from an input file.

The classes `PureStack` and `ArrayBasedStack` were from one of the lectures and should **not** be modified. Also, **no** need to modify the classes `Segment` and `Plot`.

1.1 Point Class

The `Point` class implements the `Comparable` interface. Its `compareTo()` method compares the y -coordinates of two points first, and then their x -coordinates only in case of a tie.

1.2 PointAngleComparator Class

Point comparison can be also done using an object of the `PolarAngleComparator` class, which you are required to implement. The polar angle is with respect to a reference point stored in the instance variable `referencePoint`. The `compare()` method in this class must be implemented **using cross and dot products** not any trigonometric or square root functions. You need to handle a special situation where multiple points have the same polar angle. Please read the Javadoc for the `compare()` method carefully.

The class `PolarAngleComparator` has a second instance variable `flag` used for breaking a tie between two points which have the same polar angle with respect to `referencePoint`. When `flag == true`, the point **closer** to `referencePoint` is considered "smaller"; when `flag ==`

false, the **further** point is considered “smaller”. The two values of flag will be set for Graham’s scan and Jarvis’ march, respectively.

2. ConvexHull Class

Convex hull construction is implemented by the abstract class ConvexHull, which has two constructors:

```
public ConvexHull(Point[] pts) throws IllegalArgumentException
public ConvexHull(String inputFileName) throws FileNotFoundException,
                                           InputMismatchException
```

The first constructor takes an array pts[] of points and copy them over to the array points[]. The array pts[] may consist of random points, or more precisely, points whose coordinates are pseudo-random numbers within the range $[-50, 50] \times [-50, 50]$. (Random point generation is described in Section 6.)

The second constructor reads points from an input file of integers. Every pair of integers represents the x and y -coordinates of a point. A FileNotFoundException will be thrown if no file with the inputFileName exists, and an InputMismatchException will be thrown if the file consists of an odd number of integers. (There is **no need** to check if the input file contains unneeded characters like letters since they can be taken care of by the hasNextInt() and nextInt() methods of a Scanner object.)

For example, suppose a file points.txt has the following content:

```
0 0 -3 -9 0 -10
8 4 3 3
-6 3
-2 1
10 5
-7 -10
5 -2
7 3 10 5
-7 -10 0 8
-1 -6
-10 0
5 5
```

There are 34 integers in the file. A constructor call ConvexHull(“points.txt”) will initialize the array points[] to store 17 points below (aligned with five points per row just for display clarity here):

```
(0, 0)   (-3, -9)  (0, -10)  (8, 4)   (3, 3)
(-6, 3)  (-2, 1)   (10, 5)   (-7, -10) (5, -2)
(7, 3)   (10, 5)   (-7, -10) (0, 8)   (-1, -6)
(-10, 0) (5, 5)
```

Note that the points $(-7, -10)$ and $(10, 5)$ each appears twice in the input, and thus their second appearances are duplicates. The 15 distinct points are plotted in Fig.1 using Mathematica.

There is a non-negligible chance that duplicates occur among the input points, whether they are from the input file or randomly generated from the range $[-50, 50] \times [-50, 50]$. For a fair comparison between Graham's scan and Jarvis' march, both assuming their input points to be distinct, all the duplicates should be eliminated before the convex hull construction. This is done by the constructors via calling the method `removeDuplicates()`.

The method `removeDuplicates()` performs quicksort on all the points by **y-coordinate**. After the sorting, equal points will appear next to each other in `points[]`. The method creates an object of the class `QuickSortPoints` to carry out quicksort using a provided `Comparator<Point>` object, which invokes the `compareTo()` method in the class `Point`. After the sorting, identical points will appear together, and duplicates will be easily removed. Distinct points are then saved to the array `pointsNoDuplicate[]` with the element at index 0 assigned to `lowestPoint`.

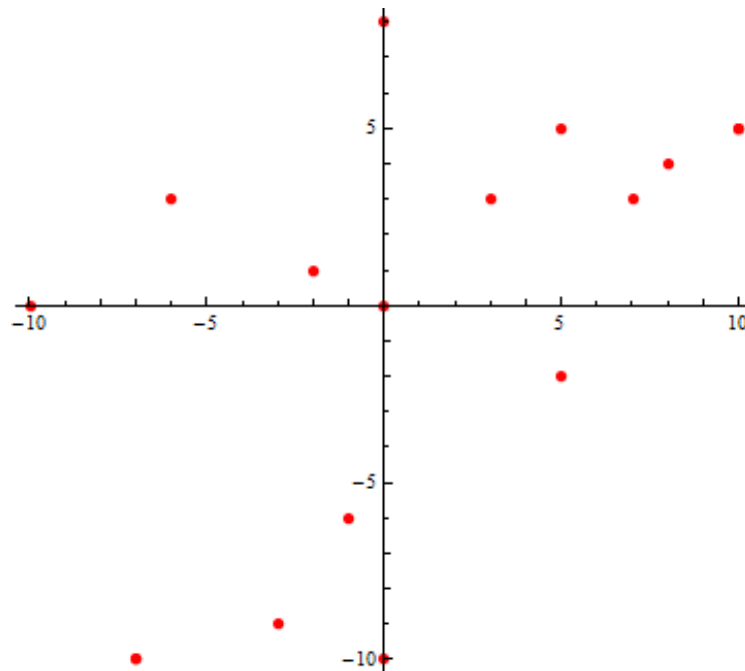


Fig. 1. Input set of 15 different points.

In the previous example, quicksort produces the following sequence:

| | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|
| $(-7, -10)$ | $(-7, -10)$ | $(0, -10)$ | $(-3, -9)$ | $(-1, -6)$ |
| $(5, -2)$ | $(-10, 0)$ | $(0, 0)$ | $(-2, 1)$ | $(-6, 3)$ |
| $(3, 3)$ | $(7, 3)$ | $(8, 4)$ | $(5, 5)$ | $(10, 5)$ |
| $(10, 5)$ | $(0, 8)$ | | | |

The two (-7, -10)s appear together, so do the two (10, 5)s. After removal of duplicates, the remaining points are copied over to the array `pointsNoDuplicate[]`:

| | | | | |
|-----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| (-7, -10) | (0, -10) | (-3, -9) | (-1, -6) | (5, -2) |
| (-10, 0) | (0, 0) | (-2, 1) | (-6, 3) | (3, 3) |
| (7, 3) | (8, 4) | (5, 5) | (10, 5) | (0, 8) |

The variable `lowestPoint` is set to (-7, -10).

The array `pointsNoDuplicate[]` will be the input of a convex hull algorithm. The class `ConvexHull` has an abstract method `constructHull()` which will be implemented by its subclasses to carry out convex hull construction using either Graham's scan or Jarvis' march.

```
public abstract void constructHull();
```

The vertices of the constructed convex hull will be stored in the array `hullVertices[]` in counterclockwise order starting with `lowestPoint`.

3. Convex Hull Construction

Two algorithms, Graham's scan and Jarvis' march, are respectively implemented by the subclasses `GrahamScan` and `JarvisMarch` of the abstract class `ConvexHull`. Both subclasses must handle the **special case** of one or two points only in the array `pointsNoDuplicates[]`, where the corresponding convex hull is the sole point or the segment connecting the two points.

3.1. Graham's scan

The class `GrahamScan` sorts all the points in `points[]` by polar angle with respect to `lowestPoint`. Point comparison is done using a `Comparator<Point>` object generated by the constructor call `PolarAngleComparator(lowestPoint, true)`. The second argument `true` ensures that points with the same polar angle are ordered in **increasing** distance. (In case your previous implementation did not work well, this is a chance to make it up.) The `compare()` method must be implemented using cross and dot products not any trigonometric or square root functions. (Please read the Javadoc for the `compare()` method carefully.)

Point sorting above is carried out by quicksort as follows. Create an object of the `QuickSortPoint` class and have it call the `quicksort()` method using the `PolarAngleComparator` object mentioned in the above paragraph. The comparator uses `lowestPoint` as the reference point. Note that quicksort has the expected running time $O(n \log n)$ and the worst-case running time $O(n^2)$, which will respectively be the expected and worst-case running times for this implementation of Graham's scan for convex hull construction.

Sorting is performed within the method `setUpScan()`. In the array `pointsNoDuplicate[]`, (-1, -6) and (5, -2) have the same polar angle with respect to (-7, -10). That (-1, -6) appears before (5, -2) is because it is closer to (-7, -10).

Graham's scan is performed within the method `constructHull()` on the array `pointsNoDuplicate[]` using a private stack `vertexStack`. As the scan terminates, the vertices of the constructed convex hull are on `vertexStack`. Pop them out one by one and store them in a new array `hullVertices[]`, starting at the **highest** index. When the stack becomes empty, the elements in the array, in increasing index, are the hull vertices in counterclockwise order.

3.2. Jarvis' March

This algorithm of the gift wrapping style is implemented in the class `JarvisMarch`. There are three private instance variables.

```
private Point highestPoint;  
private PureStack<Point> leftChain;  
private PureStack<Point> rightChain;
```

The algorithm builds the right chain from `lowestestPoint` to `highestPoint` and then the left chain from `highestPoint` downward to `lowestPoint`. Two stacks, `leftChain` and `rightChain`, are used respectively to store the chains during the construction. The convex hull vertices on the stacks are later merged into the array `hullVertices[]`.

The convex hull construction is described with more details in the PowerPoint notes "convex hull.pptx". At each step, the method

```
private Point nextVertex(Point v)
```

determines, given the current vertex `v`, the next vertex to be the point which has the smallest polar angle with respect to `v`. In the situation where multiple points attain the smallest polar angle, the one that is the **furthest from** `v` is the next vertex. Hence, the comparator used in this construction step should be generated by the call `PolarAngleComparator(v, false)`.

4. Display the Convex Hull

The constructed convex hull will be displayed using Java graphics package `Swing`. The display will help you visually check that the constructed convex hull. The fully implemented class `Plot` is for this purpose. A few things about the implementation to note below:

- The `JFrame` class is a top level container that embodies the concept of a "window". It allows you to create an actual window with customized attributes like size, font, color, etc. It can display one or more `JPanel` objects in the same time.
- `JPanel` is for painting and drawing, and must be added to the `JFrame` to create the display. A `JPanel` represents some area in a `JFrame` in which controls such as buttons and textfields and visuals such as figures, pictures, and text can appear.

- The `Graphics` class may be thought of like a pen that does the actual drawing. The class is abstract and often used to specify a parameter of some method (in particular, `paint()`). This parameter is then downcast to a subclass such as `Graphics2D` for calling the latter's utility methods.
- The `paint()` method is called automatically when a window is created. It must be overridden to display your drawings.

The outputs by the two convex hull algorithms are displayed in separate windows. For display, a separate thread is created inside the method `myFrame()` in the class `Plot`.

Please do **not** modify the `Plot` class for better display unless you understand what is going on there. (Anyway, the quality of display will never match that created by software like Mathematica or Matlab.)

The class `Segments` has been implemented for creating specific line segments to connect the input points so you can see the correctness of the sorting result.

The output of each algorithm can be displayed by calling the partially implemented method `draw()` in the `ConvexHull` class, **only after** `constructHull()` is called, via the statement below:

```
Plot.myFrame(pointsNoDuplicate, segments, getClass().getName());
```

where the first two parameters have types `Point[]` and `Segment[]`, respectively. The call `getClass().getName()` simply returns the name of the convex hull algorithm used. From `hullVertices[]` you will generate the edges of the convex hull as line segments and store them in the array `segments[]`. This can be done by iterating through the elements in the array in one loop. Do not forget to generate a segment connecting the last element with the first point at index 0, that is, `lowestPoint`.

For the example in Section 2, the array `segments[]` contains 5 segments below (where each element is shown as a pair of points):

```
((-7, -10), (0, -10))
((0, -10), (10, 5))
((10, 5), (0, 8))
((0, 8), (-10, 0))
((-10, 0), (-7, -10))
```

Fig. 2 displays the convex hull constructed over `pointsNoDuplicate[]` for the same earlier example.

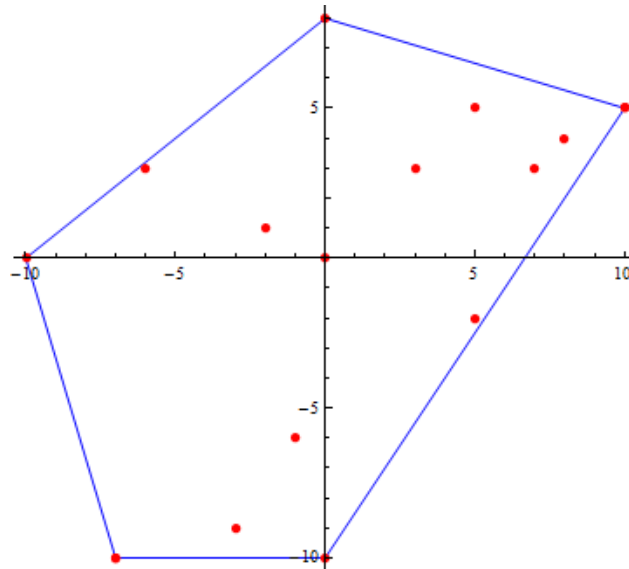


Fig. 2. Convex hull of the input points shown in Fig. 1.

5. Comparing Convex Hull Algorithms

The class `CompareHullAlgorithms` executes Graham's scan and Jarvis' march on points randomly generated or read from files. If the input points are not from an existing file, its `main()` method calls the method `generateRandomPoints()` to supply an array of random points. Over each input set of points, the method compares the execution times of these algorithms in multiple rounds. Each round proceeds as follows:

- Create an array of randomly generated integers, if needed.
- For each of `GrahamScan` and `JarvisMarch`, create an object from the above array or an input file.
- Have the two created objects call the `construcHull()` method and store the results in `hullVertices[]`.

Below is a sample execution sequence with running times. Use the `stats()` method to create a row for each sorting algorithm in the table.

Comparison between Convex Hull Algorithms

Trial 1: 1

Enter number of random points: 1000

| algorithm | size | time (ns) |
|---------------|------|-----------|
| ----- | | |
| Graham's Scan | 1000 | 884260 |
| Jarvis' March | 1000 | 1096228 |
| ----- | | |

Trial 1: 1

Enter number of random points: 500

| algorithm | size | time (ns) |
|---------------|------|-----------|
| ----- | | |
| Graham's Scan | 500 | 524578 |
| Jarvis' March | 500 | 791930 |
| ----- | | |

Trial 3: 2

Points from a file

File name: points.txt

| algorithm | size | time (ns) |
|---------------|------|-----------|
| ----- | | |
| Graham's Scan | 17 | 23955 |
| Jarvis' March | 17 | 12991 |
| ----- | | |

6. Random Point Generation

To test your code, you may generate random points within the range $[-50, 50] \times [-50, 50]$. Such a point has its x - and y -coordinates generated separately as pseudo-random numbers within the range $[-50, 50]$. You already had experience with random number generation from Project 1. Import the Java package `java.util.Random`. Next, declare and initiate a `Random` object like below

```
Random generator = new Random();
```

Then, the expression

```
generator.nextInt(101) - 50
```

will generate a pseudo-random number between -50 and 50 every time it is executed.

7. Submission

Write your classes in the `edu.iastate.cs228.hw4` package. ***Turn in the zip file not your class files.*** Please follow the guideline posted under Documents & Links on Blackboard Learn.

You are not required to submit any JUnit test cases. Nevertheless, you are encouraged to write JUnit tests for your code. Since these tests will not be submitted, feel free to share them with other students.

Include the Javadoc tag `@author` in every class source file you have made changes to. Your zip file should be named `Firstname_Lastname_HW4.zip`.