

# *Advanced Algorithm Design and Analysis (Lecture 9)*

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# Computational geometry

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- Main goals of the lecture:
  - *to understand how the **basic geometric operations** are performed;*
  - *to understand the basic idea of the **sweeping** algorithm design **technique**;*
  - *to understand and be able to analyze the **Graham's scan** and the sweeping-line algorithm to determine whether any pair of line segments intersect. .*

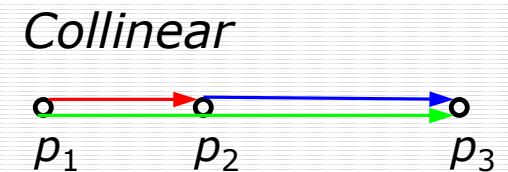
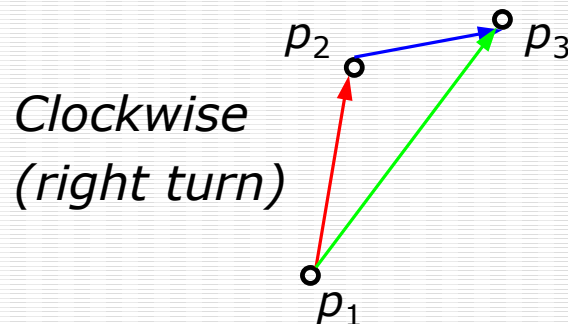
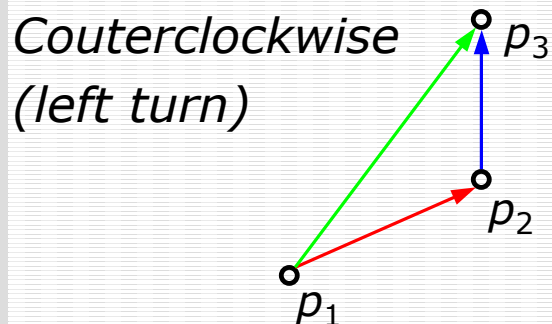
# Computational geometry

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- *Computational geometry:*
  - Algorithmic basis for many scientific and engineering disciplines:
    - Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
    - Robotics
    - Computer graphics
    - Computer vision
    - Computer Aided Design/Manufacturing (CAD/CAM),
    - VLSI design, etc.
  - The term first appeared in the 70's.
  - We will deal with *points* and *line segments* in 2D space.

# Basic problems: Orientation

- How to find "orientation" of two line segments?
  - Three points:  $p_1(x_1, y_1)$ ,  $p_2(x_2, y_2)$ ,  $p_3(x_3, y_3)$
  - Is segment  $(p_1, p_3)$  **clockwise** or **counterclockwise** from  $(p_1, p_2)$ ?
  - Equivalent to: Going from segment  $(p_1, p_2)$  to  $(p_2, p_3)$  do we make a **right** or a **left** turn?



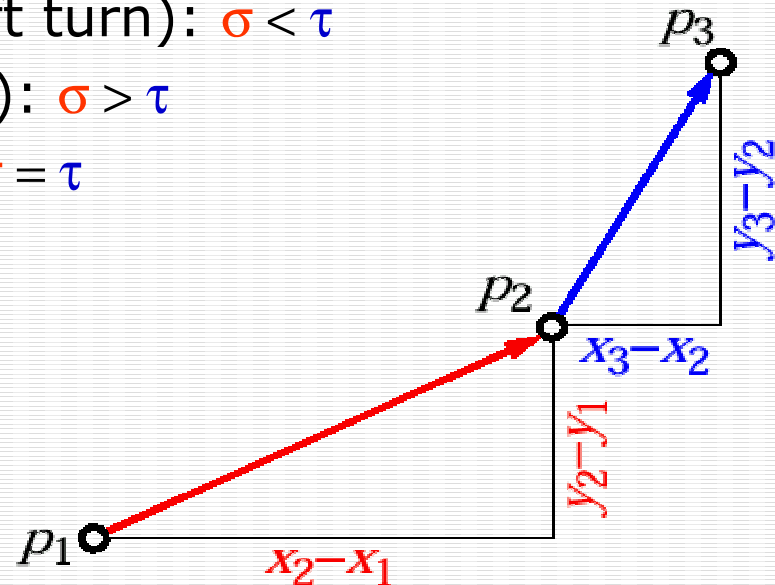
# Computing the orientation

## ■ *Orientation the standard way:*

- slope of segment  $(p_1, p_2)$ :  $\sigma = (y_2 - y_1) / (x_2 - x_1)$
- slope of segment  $(p_2, p_3)$ :  $\tau = (y_3 - y_2) / (x_3 - x_2)$

## ■ *How do you compute then the orientation?*

- counterclockwise (left turn):  $\sigma < \tau$
- clockwise (right turn):  $\sigma > \tau$
- collinear (no turn):  $\sigma = \tau$



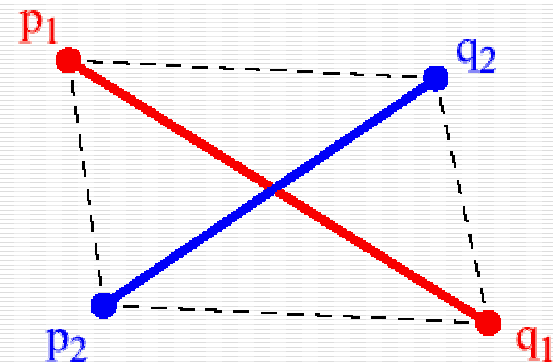
# Cross product

- *Finding orientation without division (to avoid numerical problems)*
  - $(y_2 - y_1)(x_3 - x_2) - (y_3 - y_2)(x_2 - x_1) = ?$ 
    - Positive – clockwise
    - Negative – counterclockwise
    - Zero – collinear
  - This is (almost) a **cross product** of two vectors

$$(x_2 - x_1, y_2 - y_1) \times (x_3 - x_2, y_3 - y_2) = \det \begin{pmatrix} x_2 - x_1 & x_3 - x_2 \\ y_2 - y_1 & y_3 - y_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

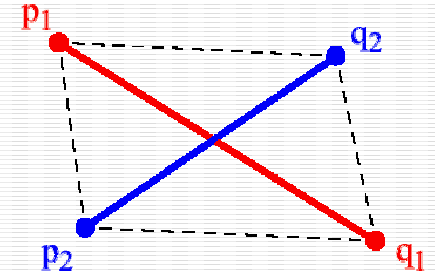
# Intersection of two segments

- *How do we test whether two line segments intersect?*
  - *What would be the standard way?*
  - *What are the problems?*



# Intersection and orientation

- *We can use just cross products to check for intersection!*
  - Two segments  $(p_1, q_1)$  and  $(p_2, q_2)$  intersect *if and only if* one of the two is satisfied:
    - General case:
      - $(p_1, q_1, p_2)$  and  $(p_1, q_1, q_2)$  have different orientations **and**
      - $(p_2, q_2, p_1)$  and  $(p_2, q_2, q_1)$  have different orientations
    - Special case
      - $(p_1, q_1, p_2)$ ,  $(p_1, q_1, q_2)$ ,  $(p_2, q_2, p_1)$ , and  $(p_2, q_2, q_1)$  are all collinear **and**
      - the x-projections of  $(p_1, q_1)$  and  $(p_2, q_2)$  intersect
      - the y-projections of  $(p_1, q_1)$  and  $(p_2, q_2)$  intersect

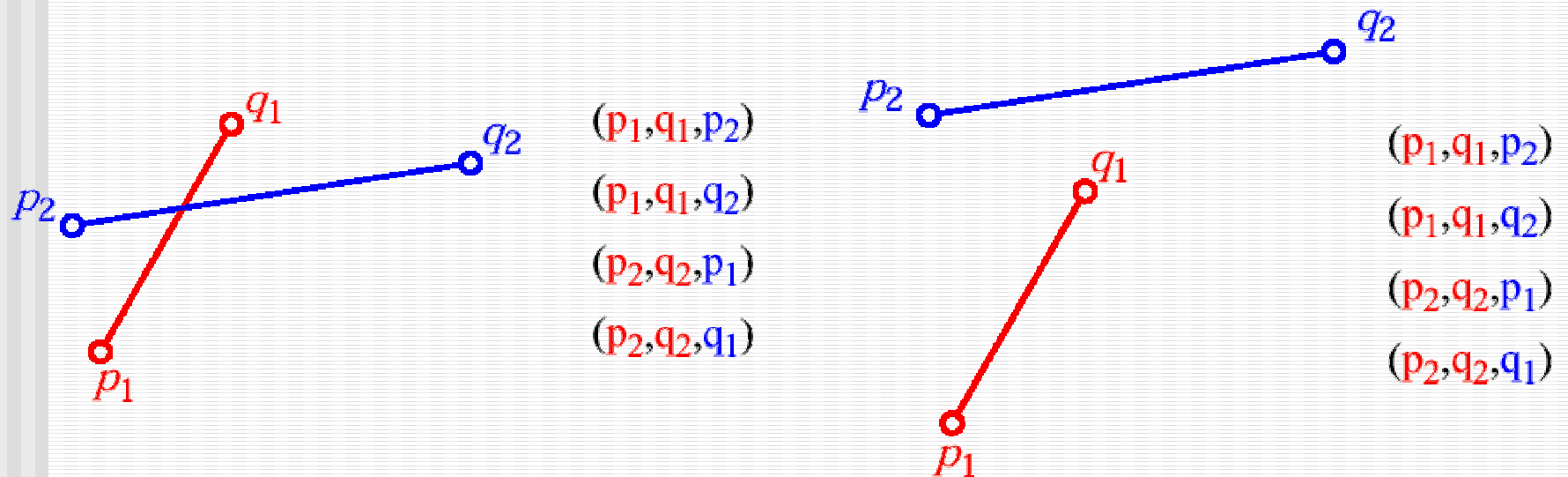




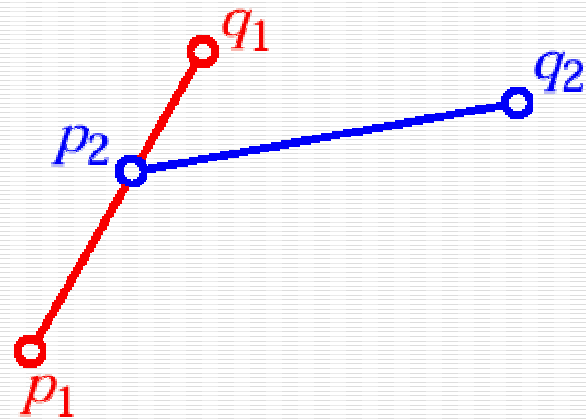
# Orientation examples

## ■ General case:

- $(p_1, q_1, p_2)$  and  $(p_1, q_1, q_2)$  have different orientations **and**
- $(p_2, q_2, p_1)$  and  $(p_2, q_2, q_1)$  have different orientations



# Orientation Examples (2)

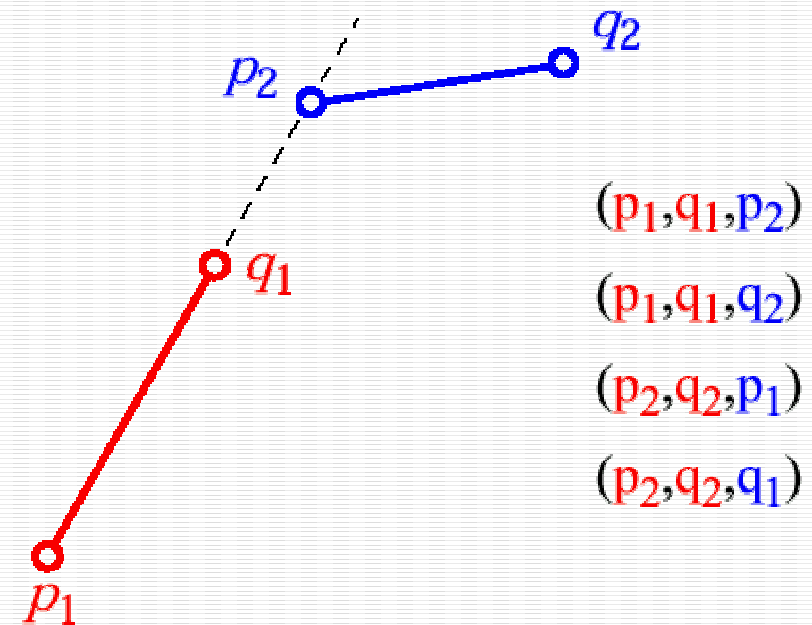


$(p_1, q_1, p_2)$

$(p_1, q_1, q_2)$

$(p_2, q_2, p_1)$

$(p_2, q_2, q_1)$



$(p_1, q_1, p_2)$

$(p_1, q_1, q_2)$

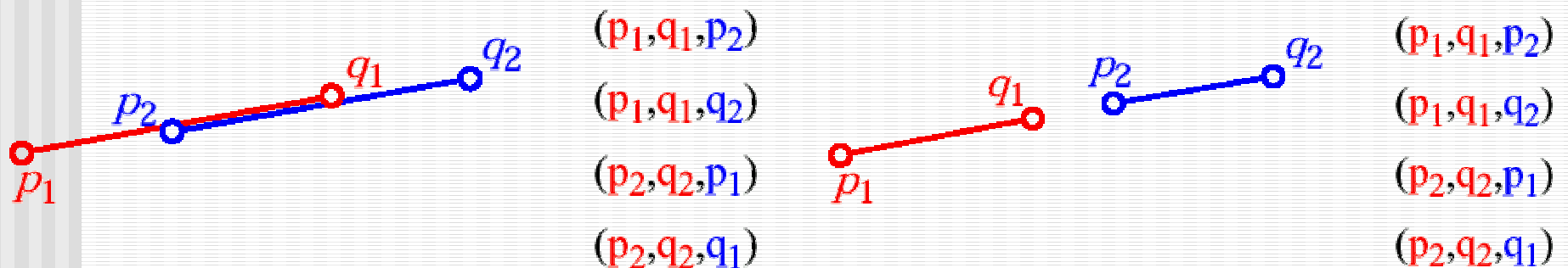
$(p_2, q_2, p_1)$

$(p_2, q_2, q_1)$

# Orientation Examples (3)

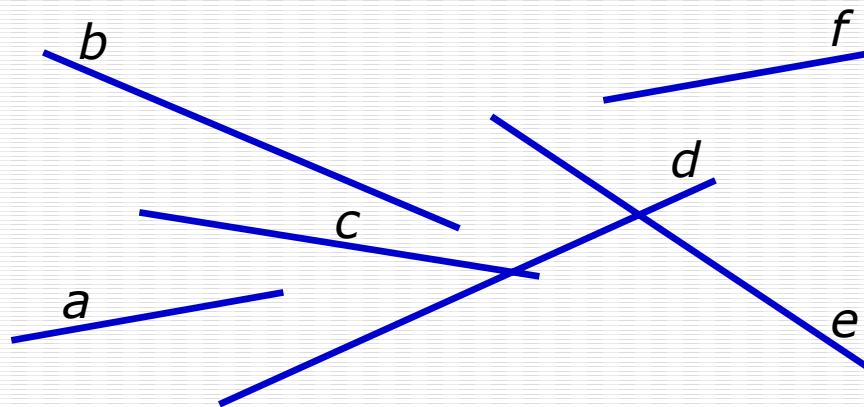
## ■ Special case

- $(p_1, q_1, p_2)$ ,  $(p_1, q_1, q_2)$ ,  $(p_2, q_2, p_1)$ , and  $(p_2, q_2, q_1)$  are all collinear **and**
- the x-projections of  $(p_1, q_1)$  and  $(p_2, q_2)$  intersect
- the y-projections of  $(p_1, q_1)$  and  $(p_2, q_2)$  intersect



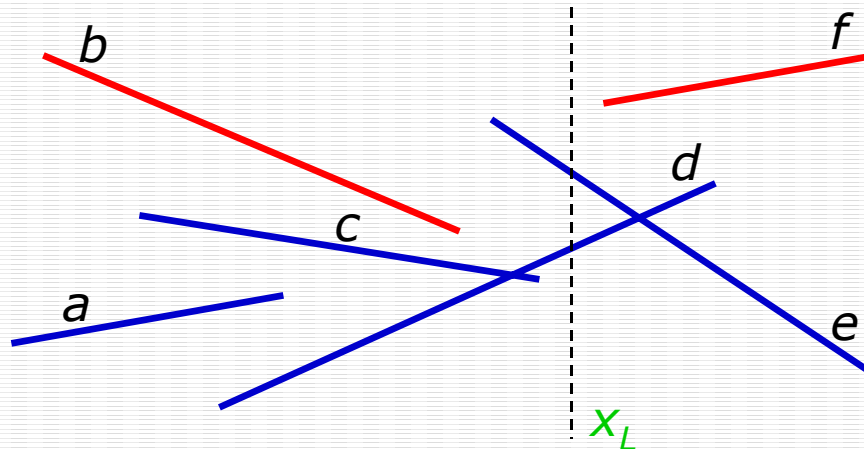
# Determining Intersections

- *Given a set of  $n$  segments, determine whether any two line segments intersect*
  - Note: not asking to report all intersections, just true or false.
  - *What would be the brute force algorithm and what is its worst-case complexity?*



# Observations

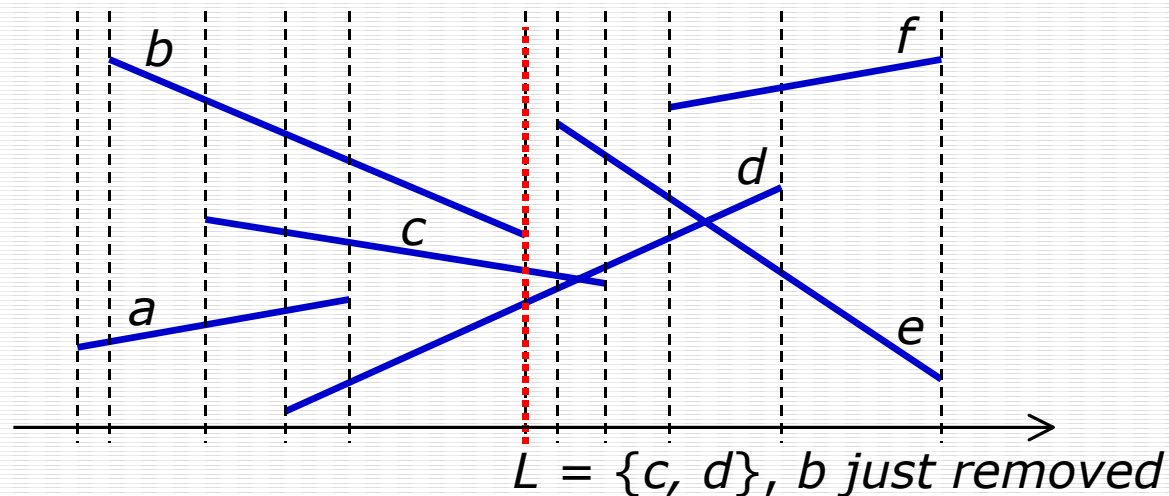
- *Helpful observation:*
  - *Two segments definitely **do not** intersect if their projections to the  $x$  axis do not intersect*
  - *In other words: If segments intersect, there is some  $x_L$  such that line  $x = x_L$  intersects both segments*



# Sweeping technique

- A powerful algorithm design technique: **sweeping**.

- Two sets of data are maintained:
  - **sweep-line status**: the set of segments intersecting the sweep line  $L$
  - **event-point schedule**: where updates to  $L$  are required



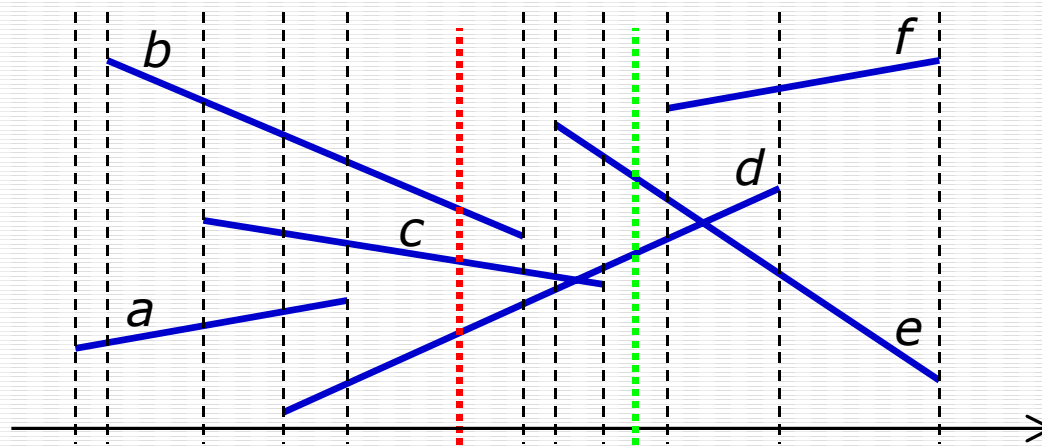
# Plane-sweeping algorithm

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- *Skeleton of the algorithm:*
  - Each segment end point is an event point
  - At an event point, update the status of the sweep line and perform intersection tests
    - left end point: a new segment is added to the status of  $L$  and it's tested against the rest
    - right end point: it's deleted from the status of  $L$
- *Analysis:*
  - *What is the worst-case complexity?*
  - *Worst-case example?*

# Improving the algorithm

- *More useful observations:*
  - *For a specific position of the sweep line, there is an **order of** segments in the y-axis;*
  - *If segments intersect - there is a position of the sweep-line such that two segments are **adjacent** in this order;*
  - *Order does not change in-between event points*





# Sweep-line status DS

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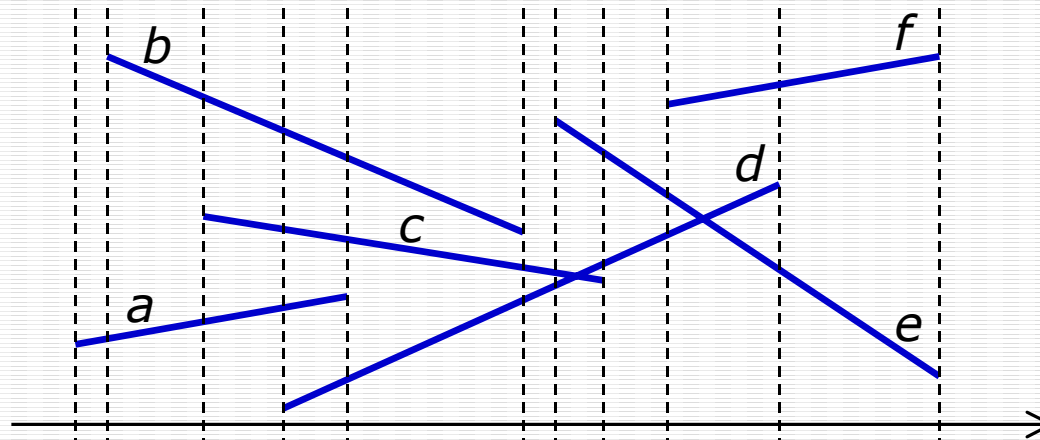
- *Sweep-line status data structure:*
  - Operations:
    - Insert
    - Delete
    - Below (Predecessor)
    - Above (Successor)
  - Balanced binary search tree  $T$  (e.g., Red-Black)
    - The up-to-down order of segments on the line  $L \Leftrightarrow$  the left-to-right order of in-order traversal of  $T$
  - *How do you do comparison?*

# Pseudo Code

**AnySegmentsIntersect** (S)

```
01  $T \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
02 sort the left and right end points of the segments
   in S from left to right, breaking ties by putting
   left end points first
03 for each point p in the sorted list of end points do
04     if p is the left end point of a segment s then
05         Insert(T,s)
06         if (Above(T,s) exists and intersects s) or
           (Below(T,s) exists and intersects s) then
07             return TRUE
08     if p is the right end point of a segment s then
09         if both Above(T,s) and Below(T,s) exist and
           Above(T,s) intersects Below(T,s) then
10             return TRUE
11         Delete(T,s)
12 return FALSE
```

# Example



- *Which comparisons are done in each step?*
- *At which event the intersection is discovered?  
What if sweeping is from right to left?*

# Analysis, Assumptions

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- *Running time:*

- Sorting the segments:  $O(n \log n)$
- The loop is executed once for every end point ( $2n$ ) taking each time  $O(\log n)$  (e.g., red-black tree operation)
- The total running time is  $O(n \log n)$

- *Simplifying assumptions:*

- At most two segments intersect at one point
- No vertical segments

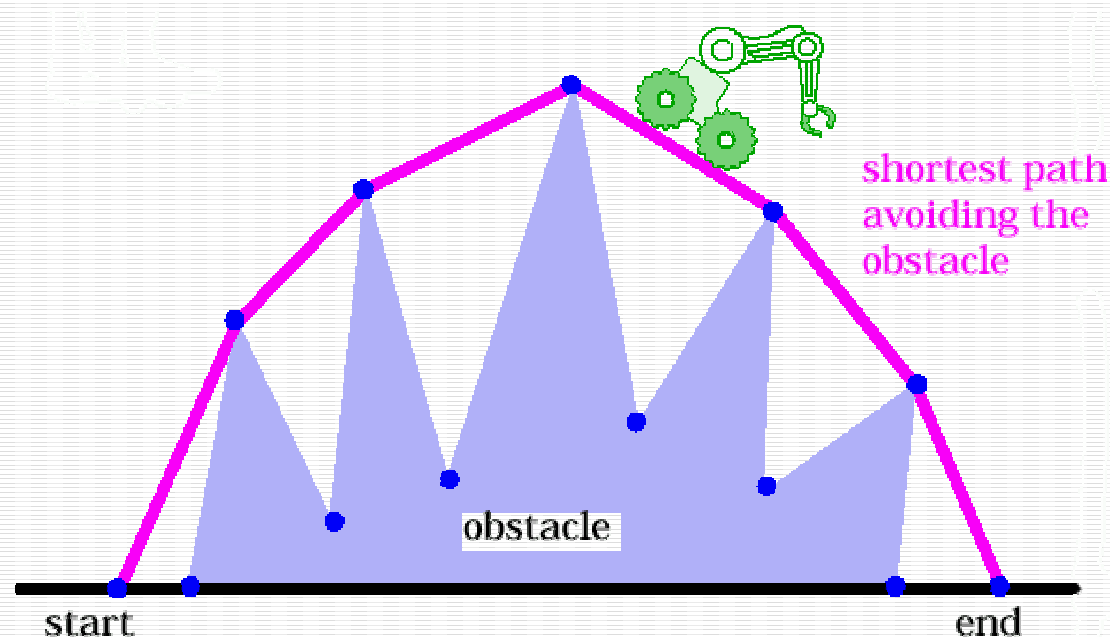
# Sweeping technique principles

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- *Principles of sweeping technique:*
  - Define events and their order
  - If all the events can be determined in advance
    - sort the events
  - Else use the *priority queue* to manage the events
  - See which operations have to be performed with the sweep-line status at each event point
  - Choose a data-structure for the sweep-line status to efficiently support those operations

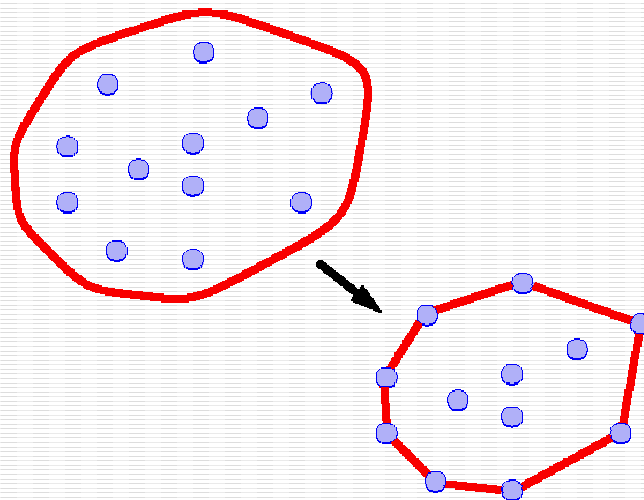
# Robot motion planning

- *In motion planning for robots, sometimes there is a need to compute convex hulls.*



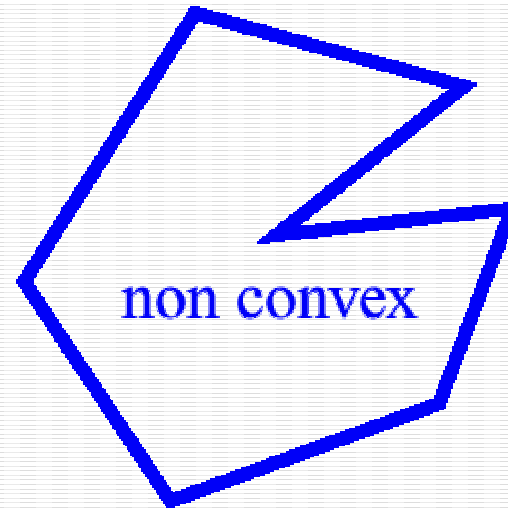
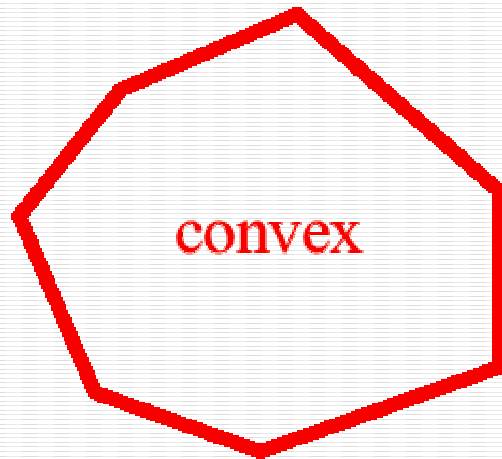
# Convex hull problem

- *Convex hull problem:*
  - Let  $S$  be a set of  $n$  points in the plane. Compute the convex hull of these points.
  - *Intuition:* rubber band stretched around the pegs
  - *Formal definition:* the **convex hull** of  $S$  is the smallest convex polygon that contains all the points of  $S$



# What is convex

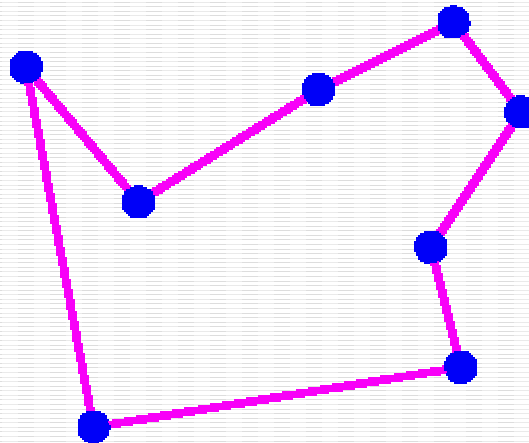
- A polygon  $P$  is said to be **convex** if:
  - $P$  is non-intersecting; and
  - for any two points  $p$  and  $q$  on the boundary of  $P$ , segment  $(p,q)$  lies entirely inside  $P$





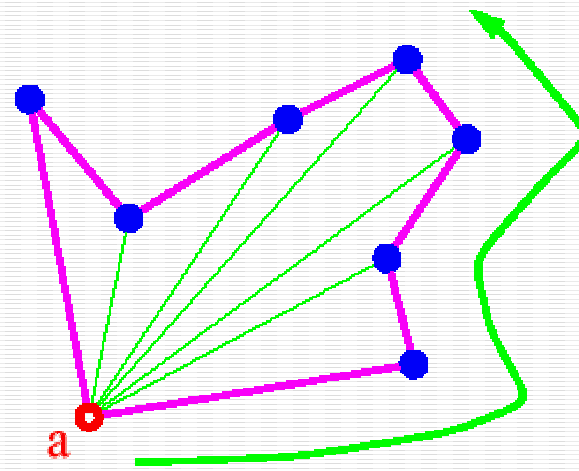
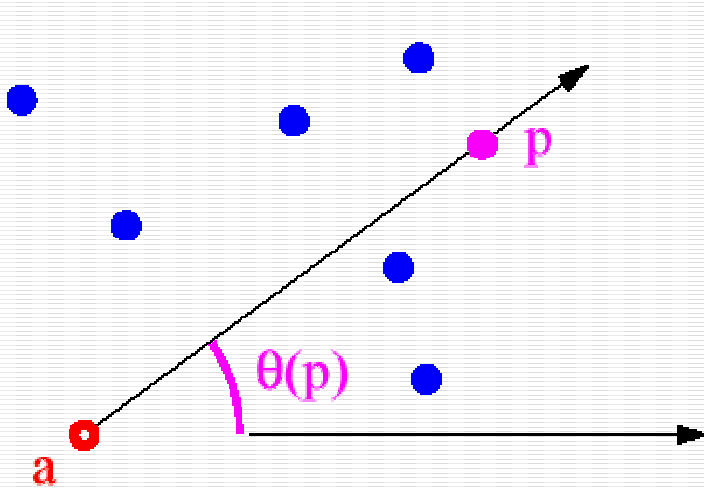
# Graham Scan

- ***Graham Scan algorithm.***
  - *Phase 1:* Solve the problem of finding the non-crossing closed path visiting all points



# Finding non-crossing path

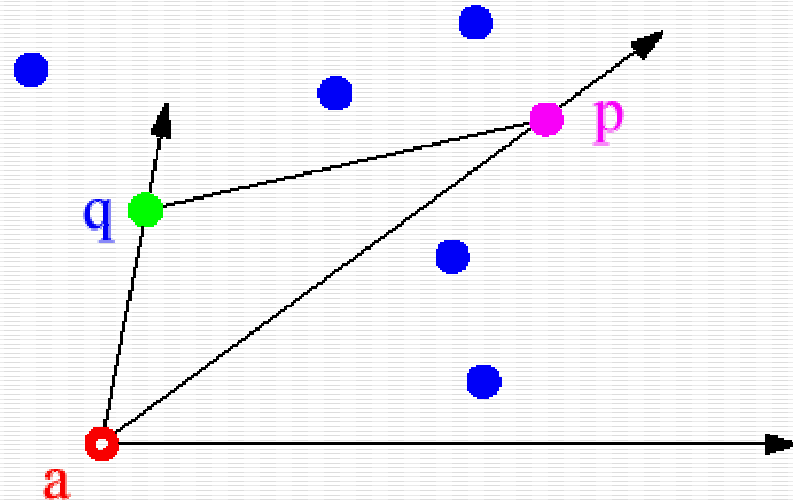
- *How do we find such a non-crossing path:*
  - Pick the bottommost point **a** as the anchor point
  - For each point  $p$ , compute the angle  $\theta(p)$  of the segment  $(a,p)$  with respect to the x-axis.
  - Traversing the points by **increasing angle** yields a simple closed path



# Sorting by angle

- *How do we sort by increasing angle?*
  - *Observation:* We do not need to compute the actual angle!
  - We just need to compare them for sorting

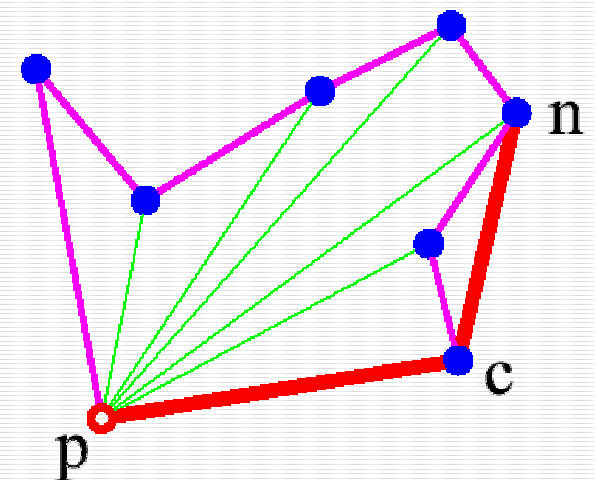
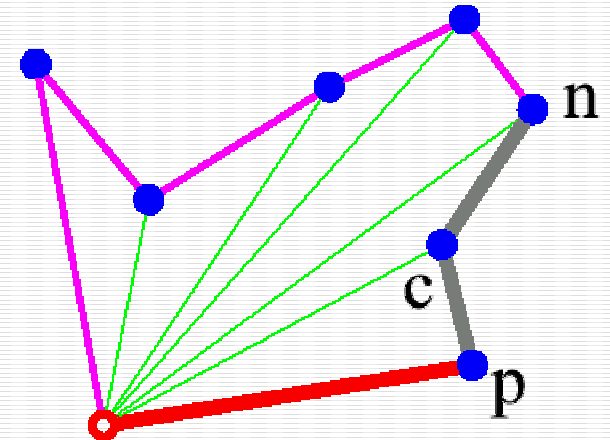
$\theta(p) < \theta(q) \Leftrightarrow$   
 $\text{orientation}(a, p, q) =$   
counterclockwise



# Rotational sweeping

## ■ *Phase 2 of Graham Scan:* **Rotational sweeping**

- The anchor point and the first point in the polar-angle order have to be in the hull
- Traverse points in the sorted order:
  - Before including the next point  $n$  check if the new added segment makes a right turn
  - If not, keep discarding the previous point ( $c$ ) until the right turn is made



# Implementation and analysis

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- *Implementation:*

- *Stack to store vertices of the convex hull*

- *Analysis:*

- Phase 1:  $O(n \log n)$ 
    - points are sorted by angle around the anchor
  - Phase 2:  $O(n)$ 
    - each point is pushed into the stack once
    - each point is removed from the stack at most once
  - Total time complexity  $O(n \log n)$