


# CMPUT 403: Geometry



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February 16, 2016

# Points


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```
typedef complex<double> point; //#include <complex>  
point p(1.0, 5.7);  
p.real(); // x component  
p.imag(); // y component
```

## Helpful operations

```
point p, q;  
p+q; // exactly what you expect  
p *= polar(1, theta); //rotate p by theta radians  
abs(p-q); //distance between p and q  
arg(p); //angle from positive x-axis, measured in (-pi, pi]
```

**One Annoyance:** we can't update the x and y components without creating a new point.

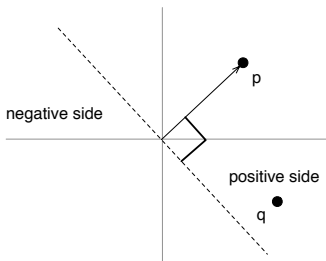


## Dot Product

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$$p \circ q = p_x \cdot q_x + p_y \cdot q_y = \|p\| \cdot \|q\| \cdot \cos \theta$$

```
double dot(point p, point q) { return real(p*conj(q)); }
```



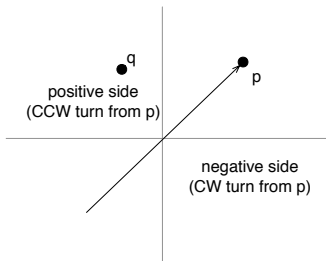
- $p \circ q = 0$  if  $p \perp q$  (or one of them is 0)
- $p \circ p = \|p\|^2$
- $p \circ q > 0$ :  $q$  lies in the *same* general direction as  $p$
- $p \circ q < 0$ :  $q$  lies in the *opposite* general direction as  $p$

# Cross Product

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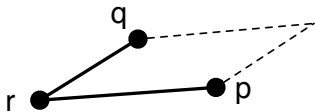
$$p \times q = p_x \cdot q_y - p_y \cdot q_x = \|p\| \cdot \|q\| \cdot \sin \theta$$

```
double cross(point p, point q) { return imag(p*conj(q)); }
```

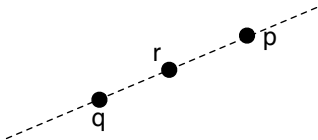


- $p \times q = 0$  if  $p$  and  $q$  are collinear with 0 (or one of them is 0)
- $p \times q > 0$ :  $\angle(p, q)$  is *counterclockwise*
- $p \times q < 0$ :  $\angle(p, q)$  is *clockwise*

$\frac{1}{2}|(p - r) \times (q - r)|$  is the **area** of the triangle with corners  $p, q, r$ .



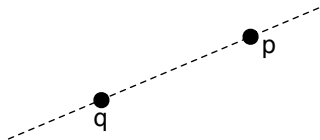
**Tip:**  $p$  lies on the line passing through points  $q$  and  $r$  if and only if  $(q - p) \times (r - p) = 0$ .



**Additionally:** if  $p$  lies on this line then it **lies between**  $q$  and  $r$  if and only if  $(q - p) \circ (r - p) \leq 0$ .

Parametric representation of a line passing through  $p$  and  $q$ :

$$r(t) = (1 - t) \cdot p + t \cdot q, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}$$



Note  $r(0) = p$  and  $r(1) = q$ .

The **line segment** connecting  $p$  and  $q$  is parameterized this way, with the restriction  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ .

Given two lines passing through  $p, q$  and  $p', q'$  respectively, compute their intersection point (if any).

Solve  $(1 - t) \cdot p + t \cdot q = (1 - t')p' + t' \cdot q'$  for  $t, t' \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} q_x - p_x & p'_x - q'_x \\ q_y - p_y & p'_y - q'_y \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} t \\ t' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} p'_x - p_x \\ p'_y - p_y \end{bmatrix}$$

Use **Cramer's rule**: for  $A \cdot x = b$  we have

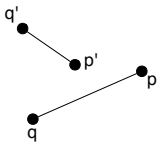
$$x_i = \frac{\det A_i}{\det A}$$

Where  $A_i$  is the matrix obtained by replacing column  $i$  of  $A$  with  $b$ .

**Tip:**  $\det \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = ad - bc$ .

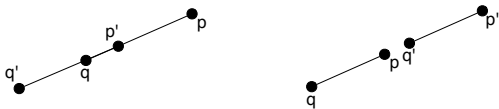
$\det A = 0$  means the lines are parallel.

Computing the intersection of two **line segments**.



- If the infinite lines intersect (i.e. not parallel), get values  $t, t'$ .
- Ensure  $0 \leq t \leq 1$  and  $0 \leq t' \leq 1$ .

**If lines are colinear:**



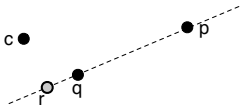
- If  $p = p'$  and  $q = q'$  or vice versa, they overlap.
- Else if a point is in the interior of the other segment, they overlap.
- Else if the segments share a point, they touch only at that point.
- Else they do not touch.



## Closest point on a line.

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Given a line passing through  $p, q$  and another point  $c$ , find the point  $r$  on the line  $\overline{pq}$  nearest to  $c$ .



Minimize  $\|(1 - t)p + t \cdot q - c\|^2$  over  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  (avoids the square root).

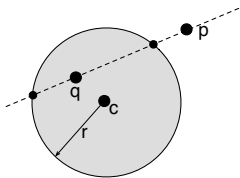
Expanding, this is just minimizing some quadratic:

$$a \cdot t^2 + b \cdot t + c$$

**Tip:** the minimum is at  $-\frac{b}{2a}$ . If  $a = 0$ , then  $p = q$ .

## Line-Circle Intersection

A line  $\overline{pq}$  and a circle  $(r, c)$  (radius/center point) does the line puncture the circle?



Solve  $\|(1 - t) \cdot p + t \cdot q - c\|^2 = r^2$  for  $t$ .

Rearrange:  $a \cdot t^2 + b \cdot t + c = 0$ .  $a = 0$  means  $p = q$ .

**Tip:** Use the **quadratic formula**

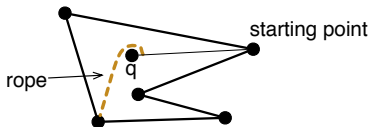
$$\frac{-b \pm \sqrt{\Delta}}{2a} \quad \text{where} \quad \Delta = b^2 - 4ac.$$

$\Delta < 0$ : line misses,  $\Delta = 0$ : line tangent,  $\Delta > 0$ : line punctures.

## Point $q$ in Polygon $P : p_1, \dots, p_n$ ?

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**Intuition:** walk about the polygon with a rope taut with “post”  $q$ .



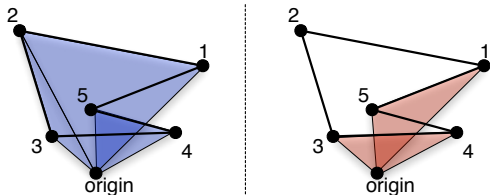
If  $q$  is inside, the rope wraps around once. If  $q$  is outside, the rope doesn't wrap around.

```
double delta = 0;
for (int i = 0, j = n-1; i < n; j = i++)
    delta += arg((p[i]-q) / (p[j]-q)); //change in angle
return fabs(delta) > 1; //|delta| be 0 or 2*pi
```

Have to add a bit more to check if  $q$  lies on the boundary.

## Area of a Polygon $P : p_1, \dots, p_n$

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**blue triangle:** count the area **positively** (CCW turn about origin)  
**red triangle:** count the area **negatively** (CW turn about origin)

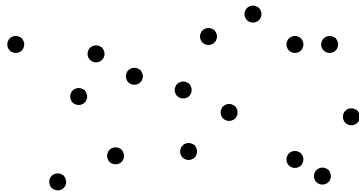
```
double area = 0;
for (int i = 0, j = n-1; i < n; j = i++)
    //signed area of triangle [origin, p[i-1], p[i]]
    area += cross(p[i], p[j])*0.5;
return fabs(area);
```

Points outside are “cancelled”, points inside are counted +1 times (after cancelling). The net sum is the area of  $P$ .

## Convex Hull

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Given points  $p_1, \dots, p_n$ , what is their *convex hull*?

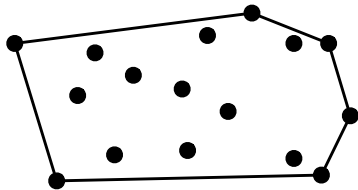


**Output:** The points on the convex hull in CCW order.

# Convex Hull

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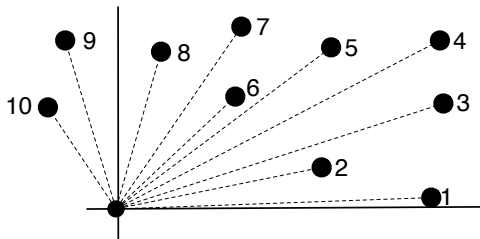


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## Convex Hull

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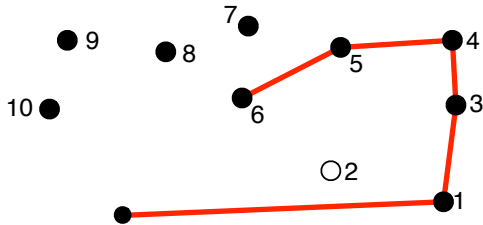
The bottom-most point must be on the convex hull. If there are many, choose the leftmost. Suppose this point is  $(0,0)$  by shifting all points if needed.



Sort all other points by their angle with the positive  $x$ -axis. To check if  $p_i < p_j$  according to this order, just check  $p_i \times p_j > 0$ .

The origin and the first point after sorting are on the hull for sure.

Build up the hull one point at a time: add the points in the sorted order.

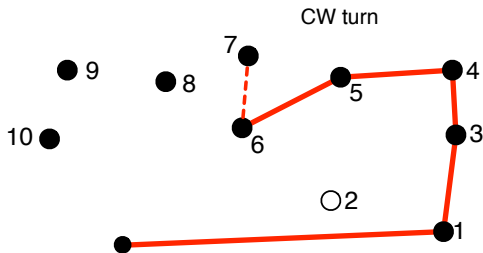


If one creates a clockwise turn with the previous two on the hull, then pop the end of the current hull.



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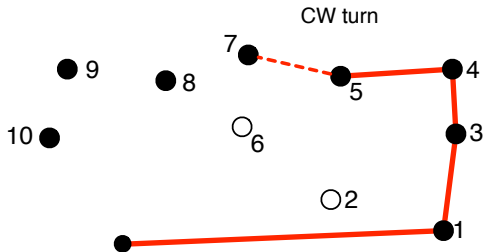
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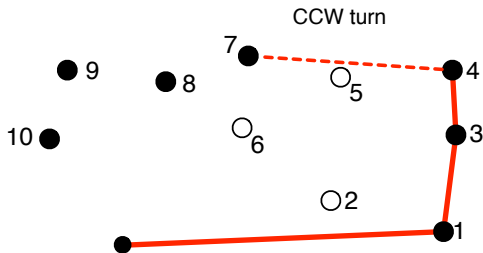
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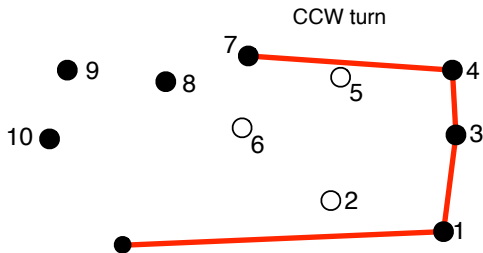
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```

bool cmp(point a, point b) { return cross(a, b) > 0; }

point p[MAXN], hull[MAXN];
//Assume p[n-1] is the lowest point (breaking ties by
//taking leftmost) and no 3 points are collinear

for (int i = 0; i < n-1; ++i) p[i] -= p[n-1];
sort(p, p+n-1, cmp); //sort by angle from x-axis

hull[0] = point(0,0);
hull[1] = p[0];
int hs = 2;

for (int i = 1; i < n-1; ++i) {
    while (cross(hull[hs-1]-hull[hs-2], p[i]-hull[hs-2]) < 0)
        --hs;
    hull[hs++] = p[i];
}
for (int i = 0; i < hs; ++i) hull[i] += p[n-1];

```

Running time:  $O(n \log n)$

## Tips

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Never use `float`, not enough precision. Use `double`.

Sometimes values that should be equal aren't quite due to floating point errors.

Use the following for safer comparisons.

```
#define EPS 1e-8
double a, b;
if (fabs(a-b) < EPS) ... //check if a == b
if (a + EPS < b) ... //check if a < b
if (a < b + EPS) ... //check if a <= b
```

Can there be 3 collinear points? Can points be equal? How can you deal with this?

## Missing Topics

Voronoi diagrams/Delaunay triangulations, 3D convex hull, closest pair of points, furthest pair of points, triangulating a polygon.

## Next Time

Number Theory

## To Come

- Combinatorics and Arithmetic
- String Processing
- Matchings and Network Flow

## Possible Misc. Topics

Probability, counting MSTs, edge colourings, voronoi diagrams, simplex for linear programming, Nim + extensions, matroids.