

Delaunay Triangulation

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Delaunay Triangulation

This chapter discusses Delaunay triangulations and their implementation. To get familiar with the idea, we initially implement the clearer algorithm of de Berg et al. (2008), and then later we consider those ideas discussed by the more recent book of Cheng et al. (2013). To implement these algorithms, we will need to first discuss some data structures.

1.1 Directed Acyclic Graphs

We start with a discussion of graphs and, in particular, directed acyclic graphs. We start by making some definitions, following the descriptions provided by Cormen et al. (2022, Appendix B.4) and Deo (2018) and Mehta (2018).

Definition 1.1 (Directed graph). Let $G = (V, E)$ be some graph with *vertex set* V and *edge set* E . This graph is a *directed graph* if the elements of E , called *edges*, are ordered pairs rather than unordered pairs, i.e. $(u, v) \in E$ and $(v, u) \in E$ represent different edges in the graph, where $u, v \in V$. We may call a directed graph a *digraph* for short. ■

Definition 1.2 (Acyclic graph). Let $G = (V, E)$ be a directed graph. A sequence (v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k) of vertices with $u = v_0$, $u' = v_k$, and $(v_{i-1}, v_i) \in E$ for $i = 1, \dots, k$ is called a *path* of length k from the vertex u to the vertex u' . If $v_0 = v_k$ and the path contains at least one edge, then we call the path a *cycle*, and the cycle is *simple* if the vertices v_1, \dots, v_k are distinct. If G contains no simple cycles, then the graph is *acyclic*. ■

Note that the restriction to simple paths in the above definition for an acyclic graph does not permit non-simple cycles, since any directed graph with a cycle necessarily contains a simple cycle. For example, consider the cycle $C = (2, 3, 6, 9, 11, 12, 6, 3, 2)$. This is not simple since the vertices are not all unique after $v_0 = 2$, but we can take a subset of this cycle between an element and its next occurrence, such as $C' = (6, 9, 11, 12, 6)$, to obtain a simple cycle.

Definition 1.3 (Directed acyclic graph). A *directed acyclic graph*, or *DAG*, is a graph $G = (V, E)$ is a directed graph that is acyclic.

1. If we define the *out-degree* of a given node $v \in V$ to be the number of edges leaving v , i.e. the number of elements in the set $\{u \in V : (v, u) \in E\}$, and the *in-degree* to similarly be the number of elements in the set $\{u \in V : (u, v) \in E\}$, then the *degree* of v is defined to be its in-degree plus its out-degree. The degree of v is denoted $\deg v$.

2. If a node $v \in V$ has degree 0, it is called a *leaf node*.
3. The *children* of a node v are the nodes that v connects to, i.e. the set $\{u \in V : (v, u) \in E\}$.
4. If the DAG has a single *root*, meaning a unique node from which every other node can be reached (also called the upper-most node), then we may call the DAG a *rooted DAG*. ■

For our application, we are primarily interested in the use of DAGs for point location. We will return to DAGs once we have introduced the Delaunay triangulation, and make their importance clear. We use `SimpleGraphs.jl` (Scheinerman, 2014) to implement DAGs in JULIA (Bezanson et al., 2017).

1.2 Triangulations

To introduce the Delaunay triangulation, we need to first introduce triangulations. We follow the description given by de Berg et al. (2008).

Definition 1.4 (Maximal planar subdivision). A *maximal planar subdivision* is a subdivision of the plane together with some vertex set V and edge set E such that no edge connecting two vertices can be added without destroying the subdivision's planarity. ■

Definition 1.5 (Triangulation). Let $P = \{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$ be a set of points in the plane. A *triangulation* of P is a maximal planar subdivision whose vertex set is P . ■

An important measure to keep track of in a triangulation is the angle-vector.

Definition 1.6 (Angle-vector). Let \mathcal{T} be a triangulation of P , and suppose it has m triangles. Sort the $3m$ angles of the triangles of \mathcal{T} in ascending order, so that $\alpha_1 \dots, \alpha_{3m}$ denotes the resulting sequence of angles with $\alpha_i \leq \alpha_j$ for $i < j$. The *angle-vector* of \mathcal{T} is denoted $A(\mathcal{T}) = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{3m})$. If we have two triangulations \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{T}' of P , then we say that the angle-vector of \mathcal{T} is larger than the angle-vector of \mathcal{T}' if $A(\mathcal{T})$ is lexicographically larger¹ than $A(\mathcal{T}')$, or, in other words, if there exists an $i \in \{1, \dots, 3m\}$ such that

$$\alpha_j = \alpha'_j, \text{ for all } j < i, \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_i > \alpha'_i.$$

In this case, we write $A(\mathcal{T}) > A(\mathcal{T}')$. ■

We are interested in finding the triangulation which maximises the smallest angle, meaning one that maximises the angle-vector.

Definition 1.7 (Angle-optimal triangulation). A triangulation \mathcal{T} of a set P is called *angle-optimal* if $A(\mathcal{T}) \geq A(\mathcal{T}')$ for all triangulations \mathcal{T}' of P . ■

A fundamental concept in the development of Delaunay triangulation algorithms is the idea of an illegal edge, with the idea that we can “flip” edges in a triangulation to continually increase the angle-vector. Such a flip is called a *Lawson flip* (Cheng et al., 2013). The edge is illegal if we can increase the smallest angle, locally, by flipping that edge.

¹A vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$ is said to be lexicographically positive if there is some index $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that $x_j = 0$ for $j < i$, and $x_i > 0$. We say that \mathbf{x} is lexicographically greater than \mathbf{y} if $\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}$ is lexicographically positive. This is a total ordering on vectors.

Definition 1.8 (Illegal edge). Suppose we have a triangulation \mathcal{T} of P , and let $e = \overline{p_i p_j}$ be an edge of \mathcal{T} . This edge will be incident to two triangles $p_i p_j p_k$ and $p_i p_j p_\ell$.² Provided these two triangles form a convex quadrilateral, we can obtain a new triangulation \mathcal{T}' by removing $\overline{p_i p_j}$ from \mathcal{T} and inserting $\overline{p_k p_\ell}$ instead. This is called an *edge flip*. If $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_6$ are the six angles defined by the two triangles, and $\alpha'_1, \dots, \alpha'_6$ are those by the new triangles in \mathcal{T}' , then these are the only differences between $A(\mathcal{T})$ and $A(\mathcal{T}')$; see Figure 1.1. If

$$\min_{i=1}^6 \alpha_i < \min_{i=1}^6 \alpha'_i,$$

then we call the edge $e = \overline{p_i p_j}$ an *illegal edge*. ■

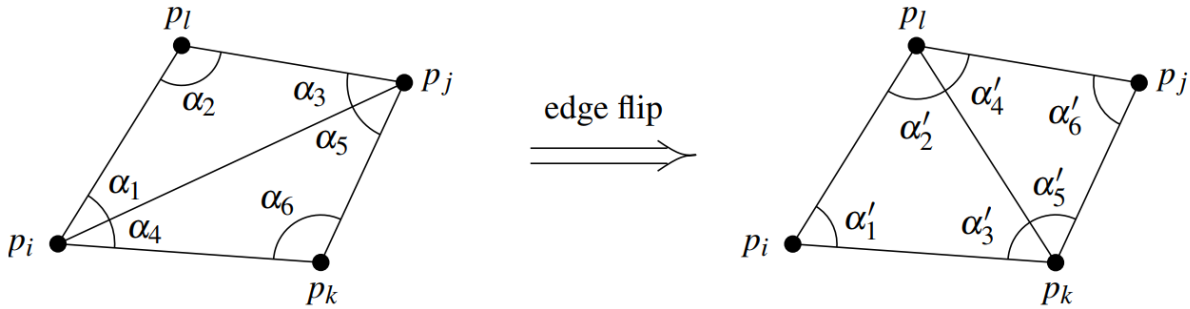
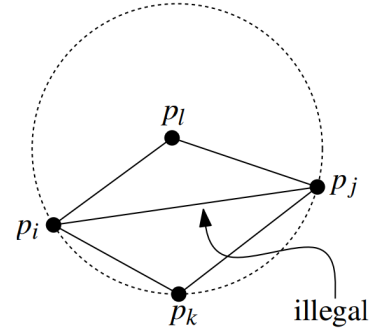


Figure 1.1: Flipping an edge.

The next lemma will give us a nice test later for checking whether a triangulation is a Delaunay triangulation, without having to compute any angles.

Lemma 1.1 (Illegal edge criterion). Let edge $\overline{p_i p_j}$ be incident to triangles $p_i p_j p_k$ and $p_i p_j p_\ell$, and let C be the circle through p_i, p_j , and p_k . The edge $\overline{p_i p_j}$ is illegal if and only if the point p_ℓ lies in the interior of C . Furthermore, if the points p_i, p_j, p_k , and p_ℓ form a convex quadrilateral and do not lie on a common circle, then exactly one of $\overline{p_i p_j}$ and $\overline{p_k p_\ell}$ is an illegal edge. ■



Definition 1.9 (Legal triangulation). A *legal triangulation* is a triangulation with no illegal edges. ■

Since legalising an edge increases the angle-vector, any angle-optimal triangulation cannot have any illegal edges. In particular, any angle-optimal triangulation is a legal triangulation.

1.3 The Delaunay Triangulation

Now let us introduce the Delaunay triangulation. Some of this material borrows from Cheng et al. (2013), avoiding some of the links with Voronoi tessellations made in the description of Delaunay triangulations by de Berg et al. (2008). We assume that the

²Unless e is an edge of the convex hull of P , in which case it is incident to only a single triangle.

points in our point sets are in *general position*, meaning no four points in the point set are on a circle.

Definition 1.10 (Delaunay triangulation). Let P be a finite point set. A triangle $p_i p_j p_k$ is *Delaunay* if $p_i, p_j, p_k \in S$ and its open circumcircle, i.e. the interior of the circle through p_i, p_j, p_k , contains no points in P . An edge is *Delaunay* if its vertices are in P and it has at least one empty open circumcircle. A *Delaunay triangulation* of P , denoted $\mathcal{DT}(P)$, is a triangulation of P in which every triangle is Delaunay.

We note that this definition is equivalent to the definition in de Berg et al. (2008), thanks to de Berg et al. (2008, Theorem 9.7). Remarkably, this open circumcircle property is enough to give the following theorem.

Theorem 1.1 (Legal triangulations are Delaunay). *Let P be a set of points in the plane. A triangulation \mathcal{T} of P is legal if and only if $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{DT}(P)$.*

Not only are all legal triangulations Delaunay triangulations, but the Delaunay triangulation is the triangulation that maximises the minimum angle.

Theorem 1.2 (Delaunay triangulations maximise the angle-vector). *Let P be a set of points in the plane. Any angle-optimal triangulation of P is a Delaunay triangulation of P . Furthermore, any Delaunay triangulation of P maximises the minimum angle over all triangulations of P .*

1.4 Data Structures for Delaunay Triangulations

We maintain a set of data structures for our Delaunay triangulations. There may be some differences across different algorithms, but here we will describe the set of data structures common to all. To assist in our discussion, we use the triangulation in Figure 1.3 as an example. In what follows, triangles are represented as tuples $T = (i, j, k)$, abbreviated as T_{ijk} , and T is treated as being equivalent to (j, k, i) and (k, i, j) . In these tuples, the indices refer to the index of the point, e.g. T_{ijk} means the triangle going from p_i to p_j to p_k , in that order. All triangles are treated as being positively oriented. Points are treated as tuples of coordinates, and the i th point will be denoted $p_i = (x_i, y_i)$. Collections of triangles will be sets, meaning a hash map that stores only the keys rather than any values, and collections of points will be vectors. Edges are treated as tuples (i, j) , abbreviated e_{ij} , and collections of edges will also be sets. Just like with triangles, e_{ij} refers to the edge from p_i to p_j (with orientation). For example, the set of triangles in Figure 1.3 is $\mathcal{T} = \{T_{154}, T_{135}, T_{146}, T_{163}, T_{362}, T_{325}\}$, the set of points is $\mathcal{P} = [p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6]$, and e.g. the edges of T_{154} are e_{15} , e_{54} , and e_{41} . We may also denote by \mathcal{V} the set of vertices, e.g. in Figure 1.3 we have $\mathcal{V} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

1.4.1 The adjacent map

It turns out to be important to find, given some oriented edge (u, v) , a vertex w for which $(u, v, w) \in \mathcal{T}$, with \mathcal{T} denoting the set of triangles, is a positively oriented triangle. For example, in Figure 1.3 the vertex w associated with the edge $(3, 2)$ is $w = 5$, as $(3, 2, 5)$ is positively oriented. Note that the edge in the other direction, $(2, 3)$, would be associated with $w = 6$ instead. We define an adjacent map \mathcal{A} such that $\mathcal{A}(u, v) = w$, where (u, v, w) is a positively oriented triangle in \mathcal{T} , or $\mathcal{A}(u, v) = \partial$ whenever (u, v) is

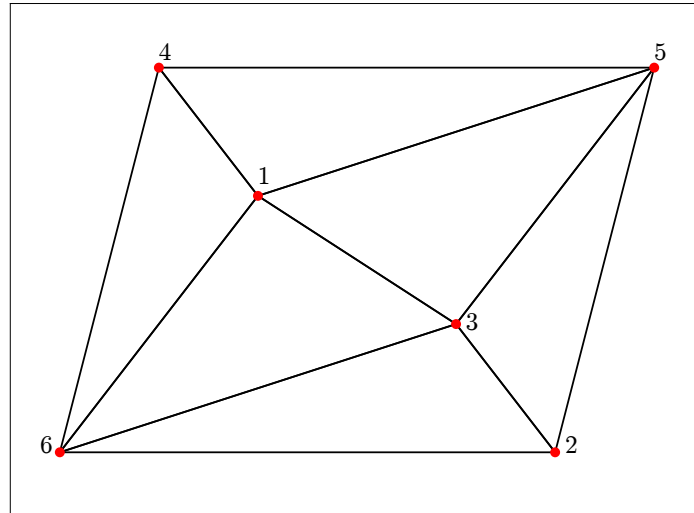


Figure 1.3: An example triangulation.

either a boundary edge. If (u, v) is not an edge in the triangulation, we return $\mathcal{A}(u, v) = \emptyset$. For example, $\mathcal{A}(6, 2) = 3$ but $\mathcal{A}(2, 6) = \partial$ in Figure 1.3, and $\mathcal{A}(4, 2) = \emptyset$. We may also write $\mathcal{A}(e_{uv}) = \mathcal{A}(u, v)$.

We represent adjacent maps as dictionaries mapping edges to vertices, being careful with inserting and deleting edges as we update our triangulations. To accommodate returning \emptyset whenever (u, v) is not an edge, we use what is known as a `DefaultDict`, a dictionary with an extra feature that returns a default value \emptyset whenever it is called at a key that does not exist. We use `DataStructures.jl`'s implementation of the `DefaultDict` (Lin, 2013).

1.4.2 The adjacent-to-vertex map

A second data structure, less important than the adjacent map, is a map which takes vertices w to all edges (u, v) such that (u, v, w) is a positively oriented triangle. In particular, w maps to all (u, v) for which $\mathcal{A}(u, v) = w$. This is called the adjacent-to-vertex map, and motivated by the above relationship with the adjacent map we denote it by \mathcal{A}^{-1} so that

$$\mathcal{A}^{-1}(w) = \{(u, v) : \mathcal{A}(u, v) = w\}.$$

For example, in Figure 1.3, we have $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(1) = \{(5, 4), (4, 6), (6, 3), (3, 5)\}$ and $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(5) = \{(4, 1), (1, 3), (3, 2)\}$. Notice that we can also use this map to obtain the boundary of the triangulation, using the fact that $\mathcal{A}(u, v) = \partial$ whenever (u, v) is a boundary edge. In Figure 1.3, we find that $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial) = \{(5, 2), (2, 6), (6, 4), (4, 5)\}$. We may also write $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(w) = \{(e_{uv} : \mathcal{A}(e_{uv}) = w)\}$.

We represent the adjacent-to-vertex map as a dictionary that maps a vertex to a set of edges, again being careful with inserting and deleting edges as we update our triangulations, and being especially careful of tracking boundary edges so that we can easily obtain the boundary later.

1.4.3 Graph representation of a triangulation

When we have a triangulation, we may need to know the neighbours of a point in the triangulation, where we define the neighbourhood $\mathcal{N}(i)$ of a point i to be the set of all points j such that (i, j) is an edge in the triangulation. For example, $\mathcal{N}(1) = \{4, 5, 6, 3\}$ in Figure 1.3 and $\mathcal{N}(6) = \{4, 1, 3, 2\}$. This is an example of an undirected graph, and to implement it we will use `SimpleGraphs.jl` (Scheinerman, 2014).

1.5 Operations on Delaunay Triangulations

The methods we use for computing Delaunay triangulations rely on several individual operations. To simplify the discussion, we will start by discussing these operations first, and then later we will put everything together to discuss actual algorithms for computing Delaunay triangulations. Note also that some of these algorithms may be updated slightly later for specific algorithms, e.g. Algorithm 16 is later modified to Algorithm 22 when discussing the Bowyer-Watson algorithm in Section 1.6.2.

1.5.1 Useful subroutines

We list below some common subroutines that we will need. We will frequently need to test if an edge is on the boundary, and so Algorithm 1 is used to test this.

Algorithm 1 Testing if an edge is a boundary edge.

Inputs:

- An edge e_{ij} to test and an adjacent map \mathcal{A} .

Outputs:

- Returns `true` if e_{ij} is a boundary edge, and `false` otherwise.

```
1: function ISBOUNDARYEDGE( $i, j, \mathcal{A}$ ) return  $\mathcal{A}(e_{ij}) == \partial$ 
2: end function
```

We will also often need to rotate a triangle based on some Boolean values. This is useful for example if we have an edge e_{uv} that we want to perform some function on, and we have a Boolean telling us what edge this is. Instead of writing different functions for each possible edge, we can just rotate the triangle into a standard configuration so that the first two vertices give this edge e_{uv} . Algorithm 2 does this rotation.

Another task that we often need to perform is that of checking if an edge actually exists in the triangulation. This test is done in Algorithm 3.

A key predicate needed in computing triangulations is that of testing whether a point is in a given circle. We define this in Algorithm 4. The definition of this predicate in Algorithm 4 is that given by Cheng et al. (2013, Eq. 3.4), although we compute the sign of the given determinant exactly using `ExactPredicates.jl` (Lairez, 2019).

We use a predicate `IsInTriangle` in Algorithm 5 to determine if a point is inside a given triangle T_{ijk} . In this predicate, we decide if a point is inside T_{ijk} by seeing if it is to the left of all the edges e_{ij} , e_{jk} , and e_{ki} of T_{ijk} (noting that T_{ijk} is positively oriented). If it is to the left of all these edges, then indeed p_r is inside T_{ijk} or on one of the edges. The predicate we use for determining if a point p_r is to the left of an edge e_{ij} is given by `IsLeftOfLine` in Algorithm 7 below, making use of `IsOriented` in Algorithm 6. This predicate first considers the cases for the edges on the super triangle (defined in de Berg's

Algorithm 2 Rotating a triangle based on Boolean values.

Inputs:

- A triangle T_{ijk} to rotate.
- Booleans b_{ij} , b_{jk} , and b_{ki} such that only one is true.

Outputs:

- The true Boolean's subscripts define the first two vertices, e.g. if b_{jk} is the true value then the function returns T_{jki} .

```

1: function ROTATETRIANGLE( $b_{ij}$ ,  $b_{jk}$ ,  $b_{ki}$ ,  $i$ ,  $j$ ,  $k$ )
2:    $b_{ij}$  && return  $T_{ijk}$ 
3:    $b_{jk}$  && return  $T_{jki}$ 
4:    $b_{ki}$  && return  $T_{kij}$ 
5: end function

```

Algorithm 3 Testing if an edge exists.

Inputs:

- An edge e_{ij} to test and an adjacent map \mathcal{A} .

Outputs:

- Returns **true** if e_{ij} exists, and **false** otherwise.

```

1: function EDGEEXISTS( $i$ ,  $j$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$ ) return  $\mathcal{A}(e_{ij}) \neq \emptyset$ 
2: end function

```

Algorithm 4 Testing if a point is in a circle.

Inputs:

- A point p_ℓ .
- A point set \mathcal{P} and points p_i , p_j , p_k .

Outputs:

- Returns 1 if p_ℓ is in the circle C_{ijk} through p_i , p_j , and p_k , 0 if p_ℓ is on C_{ijk} , and -1 if p_ℓ is outside C_{ijk} .

```

1: function ISINCIRCLE( $\mathcal{P}$ ,  $i$ ,  $j$ ,  $k$ ,  $\ell$ )
2:    $a_x, a_y = \mathcal{P}(i)$  ▷  $\mathcal{P}(i)$  returns the  $i$ th point  $p_i$  in the point set  $\mathcal{P}$ ,
3:    $b_x, b_y = \mathcal{P}(j)$  ▷ and  $a_x, a_y = \mathcal{P}(i)$  returns the  $x$ - and  $y$ -coordinates of  $p_i$ .
4:    $c_x, c_y = \mathcal{P}(k)$ 
5:    $d_x, d_y = \mathcal{P}(\ell)$ 
6:    $\Delta = \begin{vmatrix} a_x - d_x & a_y - d_y & (a_x - d_x)^2 + (a_y - d_y)^2 \\ b_x - d_x & b_y - d_y & (b_x - d_x)^2 + (b_y - d_y)^2 \\ c_x - d_x & c_y - d_y & (c_x - d_x)^2 + (c_y - d_y)^2 \end{vmatrix}$ 
7:   return  $\text{sgn}(\Delta)$ 
8: end function

```

method, Section 1.6.1), and then computes a determinant Δ that is given by Cheng et al. (2013, Equation 3.2). $\text{sgn}(\Delta) = 1$ means the point is to the left, $\text{sgn}(\Delta) = 0$ means the point is on the line, and $\text{sgn}(\Delta) = -1$ means the point is to the right. We compute the sign of Δ exactly using `ExactPredicates.jl` (Lairez, 2019).

If we know that a point is on the edge of a triangle, but we do not what edge it is on, we use Algorithm 8 to return this edge.

Algorithm 5 Testing if a point is in a triangle.

Inputs:

- A triangle T_{ijk} .
- A point set \mathcal{P} .
- A query point p_r .

Outputs:

- Returns 1 if p_r is inside T_{ijk} , 0 if p_r is on T_{ijk} , and -1 if p_r is outside T_{ijk} .
- ```

1: function ISINTRIANGLE(i, j, k, \mathcal{P}, r)
2: ($T_{ijk} == T_{-1,-2,-3}$) && return 1 ▷ All points are inside the super triangle.
3: $\ell_{ij} = \text{IsLeftOfLine}(\mathcal{P}, i, j, r)$
4: $\ell_{jk} = \text{IsLeftOfLine}(\mathcal{P}, j, k, r)$
5: $\ell_{ki} = \text{IsLeftOfLine}(\mathcal{P}, k, i, r)$
6: ($\ell_{ij} == 0 \mid \mid \ell_{jk} == 0 \mid \mid \ell_{ki} == 0$) && return 0 ▷ Point is on an edge.
7: ($\ell_{ij} == 1 \ \&\& \ \ell_{jk} == 1 \ \&\& \ \ell_{ki} == 1$) && return 1 ▷ Point is in the interior.
8: return -1 ▷ Point is in the exterior.
9: end function

```
- 

---

**Algorithm 6** Orientation of points.

---

**Inputs:**

- Three points  $a, b, c$ .

**Outputs:**

- Returns 1 if the points  $a, b, c$  are positively oriented,  $-1$  if negatively oriented, and 0 if the points are collinear. Alternatively, returns 1 if  $c$  is left of the line  $\overrightarrow{ab}$ ,  $-1$  if  $c$  is right of  $\overrightarrow{ab}$ , and 0 if the points are collinear.

```

1: function ISORIENTED(a, b, c)
2: $a_x, a_y = a$
3: $b_x, b_y = b$
4: $c_x, c_y = c$
5: $\Delta = \begin{vmatrix} a_x - c_x & a_y - c_y \\ b_x - c_x & b_y - c_y \end{vmatrix}$
6: return $\text{sgn}(\Delta)$
7: end function

```

---

### 1.5.2 Adding a triangle

Let us first discuss the problem of adding a triangle into an existing triangulation. We discuss this by way of example. Figure 1.4 shows a series of (not necessarily Delaunay) triangulations. Figure 1.4a is the initial triangulation, Figure 1.4b shows the triangulation with a new triangle added into the interior, Figure 1.4c adds a new triangle onto a single boundary edge, and Figure 1.4d adds a new triangle onto two boundary edges. The goal in this section is to describe the procedure for adding these new triangles, and in particular the updating of the data structures in response to these new triangles, especially for dealing with the boundary edges.

Let us first discuss the addition of the triangle  $T_{137}$  into the triangulation. We would first update the adjacent map  $\mathcal{A}$  so that  $\mathcal{A}(e_{13}) = 7$ ,  $\mathcal{A}(e_{37}) = 1$ , and  $\mathcal{A}(e_{71}) = 3$ . Next, the adjacent-to-vertex map  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$  must be updated so that  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(1)$  now has  $e_{37}$  added into it,  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(3)$  now includes  $e_{71}$ , and  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(7)$  now includes  $e_{13}$ . Next, we update the graph  $\mathcal{N}$

---

**Algorithm 7** Testing if a point is to the left of a line.

---

**Inputs:**

- A line  $L_{ij}$  through  $p_i$  and  $p_j$ , and a query point  $p_k$ .
- A point set  $\mathcal{P}$ .

**Outputs:**

- Returns 1 if  $p_k$  is to the left of  $L_{ij}$ , 0 if  $p_k$  is on  $L_{ij}$ , and  $-1$  if  $p_k$  is to the right of  $L_{ij}$ .

```

1: function ISLEFTOFLINE(\mathcal{P}, i, j, k)
2: ($i == -1 \ \&\& \ j == -3$) &\& return -1
3: ($i == -1 \ \&\& \ j == -2$) &\& return 1
4: ($i == -3 \ \&\& \ j == -1$) &\& return 1
5: ($i == -3 \ \&\& \ j == -2$) &\& return -1
6: ($i == -2 \ \&\& \ j == -3$) &\& return 1
7: ($i == -2 \ \&\& \ j == -1$) &\& return -1
8: return IsOriented($\mathcal{P}(i), \mathcal{P}(j), \mathcal{P}(k)$)
9: end function

```

---



---

**Algorithm 8** Finding what edge of a triangle a point is on.

---

**Inputs:**

- A point  $p_r$  that is on the edge of a triangle  $T_{ijk}$ .
- A point set  $\mathcal{P}$ .

**Outputs:**

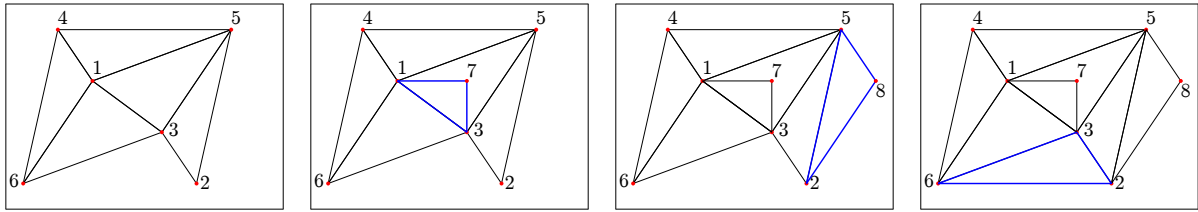
- Returns the edge of  $T_{ijk}$  that the point  $p_r$  is on.

```

1: function FINDEDGE(T_{ijk}, \mathcal{P}, r)
2: IsLeftOfLine(\mathcal{P}, i, j, r) == 0 &\& return e_{ij}
3: IsLeftOfLine(\mathcal{P}, j, k, r) == 0 &\& return e_{jk}
4: IsLeftOfLine(\mathcal{P}, k, i, r) == 0 &\& return e_{ki}
5: end function

```

---



(a) Initial triangulation. (b) Interior addition. (c) Single boundary addition. (d) Double boundary addition.

Figure 1.4: Examples of adding triangles to an existing triangulation. The triangles shown in blue are the new triangles being added.

so that  $\mathcal{N}(1)$  includes 3 and 7,  $\mathcal{N}(3)$  now includes 1 and 7, and  $\mathcal{N}(7)$  now includes 1 and 3. Note that some of these neighbourhood connections may already be included, but our representation of  $\mathcal{N}$  as an undirected graph will handle any duplicates by ignoring them. For this simple case, then, the procedure for adding a triangle  $T_{ijk}$  is:

- 1:  $\text{push!}(\mathcal{T}, T_{ijk})$
- 2:  $\mathcal{A}(e_{ij}) = k$
- 3:  $\mathcal{A}(e_{jk}) = i$

- 4:  $\mathcal{A}(e_{ki}) = j$
- 5:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(i), e_{jk})$
- 6:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(j), e_{ki})$
- 7:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(k), e_{ij})$
- 8:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{N}(k), i, j)$  ▷ This also does e.g.  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{N}(i), k)$  as  $\mathcal{N}$  is undirected.
- 9:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{N}(i), j)$

Now consider Figure 1.4c where we are adding  $T_{528}$ . Firstly, note that we can identify that this triangle is being added onto a boundary edge since  $\mathcal{A}(e_{52}) = \partial$ . Once we have identified that an edge of the triangle to be added forms part of the boundary, we need to also confirm that the other edges form part of the boundary – if  $p_8$  were inside  $T_{325}$ , then  $e_{58}$  and  $e_{82}$  would not be boundary edges, but  $e_{52}$  would still be a boundary edge. Thankfully, since we only work with positively oriented triangles in all these codes, there is no actual need to check this. Now, with the addition of these triangle, we apply the same procedure as before. In addition, we must set  $\mathcal{A}(e_{58}) = \partial$  and  $\mathcal{A}(e_{82}) = \partial$ , and also  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$  must now include  $e_{58}$  and  $e_{82}$  and exclude  $e_{52}$ . So, assuming the single boundary edge is  $e_{ij}$ , the code for adding a triangle  $T_{ijk}$  that has a single boundary edge is:

- 1:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{T}, T_{ijk})$
- 2:  $\mathcal{A}(e_{ij}) = k$
- 3:  $\mathcal{A}(e_{jk}) = i$
- 4:  $\mathcal{A}(e_{ki}) = j$
- 5:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(i), e_{jk})$
- 6:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(j), e_{ki})$
- 7:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(k), e_{ij})$
- 8:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{N}(k), i, j)$
- 9:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{N}(i), j)$
- 10:  $\mathcal{A}(e_{ik}) = \partial$
- 11:  $\mathcal{A}(e_{kj}) = \partial$
- 12:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{ik}, e_{kj})$
- 13:  $\text{delete}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{ij})$

Now let us finally consider the case in Figure 1.4d where we are adding  $T_{623}$ . In this case, we once again do the same updates as before. For the boundary updates, noting that  $\mathcal{A}(e_{23}) = \mathcal{A}(e_{36}) = \partial$ , we set  $\mathcal{A}(e_{26}) = \partial$  and remove  $e_{23}$  and  $e_{36}$  from  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$ , respectively. Moreover, we now include  $e_{26}$  in  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$ . Notice that while the triangle is  $T_{623}$  the relevant boundary edge is  $e_{26}$ , reversing the orientation of the edge  $e_{62}$  of  $T_{623}$ . So, letting  $e_{jk}$  and  $e_{ki}$  be the previous boundary edges and  $e_{ij}$  the new boundary edge, the procedure for adding a triangle  $T_{ij}$  that has two boundary edges is:

- 1:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{T}, T_{ijk})$
- 2:  $\mathcal{A}(e_{ij}) = k$
- 3:  $\mathcal{A}(e_{jk}) = i$
- 4:  $\mathcal{A}(e_{ki}) = j$
- 5:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(i), e_{jk})$
- 6:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(j), e_{ki})$
- 7:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(k), e_{ij})$
- 8:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{N}(k), i, j)$
- 9:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{N}(i), j)$
- 10:  $\mathcal{A}(e_{ji}) = \partial$

11:  $\text{push}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{ji})$   
 12:  $\text{delete}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{jk}, e_{ki})$

There is another special case to consider, which is the addition of a triangle with three boundary edges. In this case, the triangulation we are adding onto must be empty. So, for a triangle  $T_{ijk}$ , we just add it as normal but also set  $\mathcal{A}(e_{kj}) = \mathcal{A}(e_{ji}) = \mathcal{A}(e_{ik}) = \partial$  and push  $e_{kj}$ ,  $e_{ji}$ , and  $e_{ik}$  into  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$ . Algorithm 9 gives a complete description of our algorithm with this special case considered, with an empty triangulation detected by checking if  $|\mathcal{T}| = 1$  after  $T_{ijk}$  is added. Note that Algorithm 9 also adds boundary points into  $\mathcal{N}(\partial)$ .

### 1.5.3 Deleting a triangle

The next problem is that of deleting a triangle. Ideally, the deletion of  $T_{ijk}$  should be the inverse of adding  $T_{ijk}$ . With this goal in mind, let us work through the examples in Figure 1.4. To start simple, though, we will follow the order in Figure 1.5.

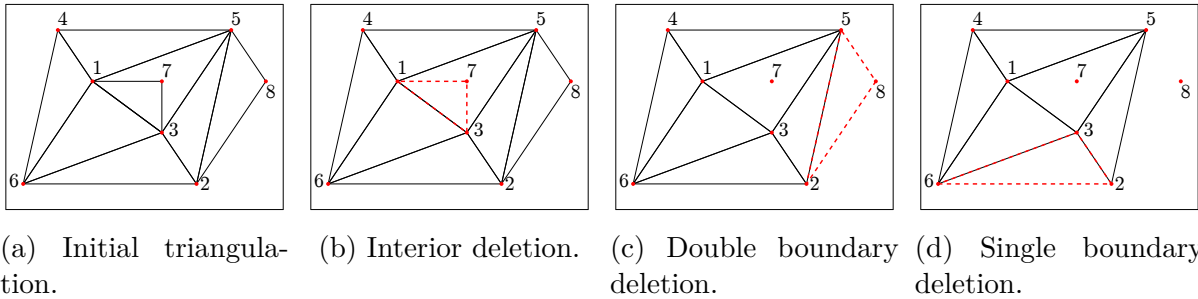


Figure 1.5: Examples of deleting triangles to an existing triangulation. The triangles shown in red are the triangles being deleted.

Let us start by discussing Figure 1.5b where we are deleting  $T_{137}$ . This case of an interior deletion is simple. First, we must delete the keys  $e_{13}$ ,  $e_{37}$ , and  $e_{71}$  from  $\mathcal{A}$ . Similarly, we remove  $e_{13}$ ,  $e_{37}$ , and  $e_{71}$  from  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(7)$ ,  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(1)$ , and  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(3)$ , respectively. Next, we delete 1 and 3 from  $\mathcal{N}(7)$ . For the neighbourhoods of 1 and 3, we do not delete 3 from  $\mathcal{N}(1)$  or 1 from  $\mathcal{N}(3)$  as we know that the other edge  $e_{31}$  does exist in  $\mathcal{A}$ . So, we have the following procedure for deleting a triangle with no boundary edges:

```

1: $\text{delete}!(\mathcal{T}, T_{ijk})$
2: $\text{delete}!(\mathcal{A}, e_{ij}, e_{jk}, e_{ki})$
3: $\text{delete}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(i), e_{jk})$
4: $\text{delete}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(j), e_{ki})$
5: $\text{delete}!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(k), e_{ij})$
6: $v_{ji} = \mathcal{A}(e_{ji}) \neq \emptyset$
7: $v_{ik} = \mathcal{A}(e_{ik}) \neq \emptyset$
8: $v_{kj} = \mathcal{A}(e_{kj}) \neq \emptyset$
9: $!v_{ji} \ \&\& \ \text{delete}!(\mathcal{N}(i), j)$
10: $!v_{ik} \ \&\& \ \text{delete}!(\mathcal{N}(k), i)$
11: $!v_{kj} \ \&\& \ \text{delete}!(\mathcal{N}(j), k)$

```

The next step is to consider deleting the triangle with two boundary edges, as indicated in Figure 1.5c where we are deleting  $T_{528}$ . In this case, we can do the same deletions as before. The only new thing to note is that, as  $e_{58}$  and  $e_{82}$  are both boundary edges,

---

**Algorithm 9** Adding a triangle into an existing triangulation.

---

**Inputs:**

- A triangle  $T_{ijk}$  to be added into a triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ .
- The adjacent map  $\mathcal{A}$ , the adjacent-to-vertex map  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , and the graph  $\mathcal{N}$ .

**Outputs:**

- An updated triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  that now includes  $T_{ijk}$ .

```

1: function ADDTRIANGLE($i, j, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
2: push!(\mathcal{T}, T_{ijk})
3: $b_{ij} = \text{IsBoundaryEdge}(i, j, \mathcal{A})$
4: $b_{jk} = \text{IsBoundaryEdge}(j, k, \mathcal{A})$
5: $b_{ki} = \text{IsBoundaryEdge}(k, i, \mathcal{A})$
6: $m = b_{ij} + b_{jk} + b_{ki}$ ▷ Number of boundary edges.
7: $\mathcal{A}(e_{ij}) = k$
8: $\mathcal{A}(e_{jk}) = i$
9: $\mathcal{A}(e_{ki}) = j$
10: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(i), e_{jk}$)
11: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(j), e_{ki}$)
12: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(k), e_{ij}$)
13: push!($\mathcal{N}(k), i, j$)
14: push!($\mathcal{N}(i), j$)
15: $m == 1 \ \&\& \ \text{AddBoundaryEdgesSingle}(i, j, k, b_{ij}, b_{jk}, b_{ki}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N})$
16: $m == 2 \ \&\& \ \text{AddBoundaryEdgesDouble}(i, j, k, b_{ij}, b_{jk}, b_{ki}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N})$
17: $|\mathcal{T}| == 1 \ \&\& \ \text{AddBoundaryEdgesTriple}(i, j, k, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N})$
18: end function
19: function ADDBOUNDARYEDGESINGLE($i, j, k, b_{ij}, b_{jk}, b_{ki}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
20: $u, v, w = \text{RotateTriangle}(b_{ij}, b_{jk}, b_{ki}, i, j, k)$
21: $\mathcal{A}(e_{uw}) = \partial$
22: $\mathcal{A}(e_{wv}) = \partial$
23: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{uw}, e_{wv}$)
24: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{uv}$)
25: push!($\mathcal{N}(\partial), w$)
26: end function
27: function ADDBOUNDARYEDGESDOUBLE($i, j, k, b_{ij}, b_{jk}, b_{ki}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
28: $u, v, w = \text{RotateTriangle}(!b_{ij}, !b_{jk}, !b_{ki}, i, j, k)$
29: $\mathcal{A}(e_{vu}) = \partial$
30: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{vu}$)
31: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{vw}, e_{wu}$)
32: delete!($\mathcal{N}(\partial), w$)
33: end function
34: function ADDBOUNDARYEDGESTRIANGLE($i, j, k, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
35: $\mathcal{A}(e_{ji}) = \partial$
36: $\mathcal{A}(e_{ik}) = \partial$
37: $\mathcal{A}(e_{kj}) = \partial$
38: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{ji}, e_{ik}, e_{kj}$)
39: push!($\mathcal{N}(\partial), i, j, k$)
40: end function

```

---

deleting them must leave the other edge as a boundary edge, namely  $e_{52}$ . So, we must set  $\mathcal{A}(e_{52}) = \partial$  and push  $e_{52}$  into  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$ . Next, we delete  $\mathcal{A}(e_{58})$  and  $\mathcal{A}(e_{82})$ , and remove  $e_{58}$  and  $e_{82}$  from  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$ . Note that in the case of a boundary edge, the edge will exist. For example, if  $e_{ji}$  is a boundary edge, then  $v_{ji}$  will be true in Line 6 above, and so we will not delete  $j$  from the neighbourhood of  $i$  in Line 9, when really it should be deleted. So, assuming that  $e_{ik}$  and  $e_{kj}$  are the two boundary edges, so that  $e_{ij}$  is the new boundary edge, we obtain the following procedure for deleting a triangle with two boundary edges:

```

1: delete!(\mathcal{T} , T_{ijk})
2: delete!(\mathcal{A} , e_{ij} , e_{jk} , e_{ki})
3: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(i)$, e_{jk})
4: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(j)$, e_{ki})
5: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(k)$, e_{ij})
6: delete!($\mathcal{N}(j)$, k)
7: delete!($\mathcal{N}(k)$, i)
8: delete!(\mathcal{A} , e_{ik} , e_{kj})
9: $\mathcal{A}(e_{ij}) = \partial$
10: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$, e_{ij})
11: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$, e_{ik} , e_{kj})

```

Now we discuss the last case in Figure 1.5d where we are deleting the triangle  $T_{623}$  that has a single boundary edge. Here, we again apply the same procedure for deleting a triangle as before, but we need to take care of the single boundary edge  $e_{26}$  and how it gets converted into the boundary edges  $e_{23}$  and  $e_{36}$ . So, we delete  $\mathcal{A}(e_{26})$  and delete  $e_{26}$  from  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$ . Next, we set  $\mathcal{A}(e_{23}) = \partial$  and  $\mathcal{A}(e_{36}) = \partial$  and add  $e_{23}$  and  $e_{36}$  to  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$ . So, assuming that  $e_{ik}$  is the current boundary edge so that the new boundary edges to be added are  $e_{ij}$  and  $e_{jk}$ :

```

1: delete!(\mathcal{T} , T_{ijk})
2: delete!(\mathcal{A} , e_{ij} , e_{jk} , e_{ki})
3: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(i)$, e_{jk})
4: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(j)$, e_{ki})
5: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(k)$, e_{ij})
6: delete!($\mathcal{N}(k)$, i)
7: delete!(\mathcal{A} , e_{ik})
8: $\mathcal{A}(e_{ij}) = \partial$
9: $\mathcal{A}(e_{jk}) = \partial$
10: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$, e_{ij} , e_{jk})
11: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$, e_{ik})

```

We note that there is also the case of deleting a triangle with three boundary edges, in which the case the entire triangulation is that triangle. Keeping this special case in mind, we obtain Algorithm 10. Note that `IsBoundaryEdge` and `RotateTriangle` in Algorithm 10 were defined in Algorithm 9. The `protect_boundary` keyword in Algorithm 10 is in case we do not want to delete any boundary edges, for example when splitting a triangle as discussed in the next section. Note that Algorithm 10 also adds boundary points into  $\mathcal{N}(\partial)$ .

---

**Algorithm 10** Deleting a triangle from an existing triangulation.

---

**Inputs:**

- A triangle  $T_{ijk}$  to be added into a triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  and the adjacent map  $\mathcal{A}$ , the adjacent-to-vertex map  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , and the graph  $\mathcal{N}$ .

**Outputs:**

- An updated triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  that now excludes  $T_{ijk}$ .

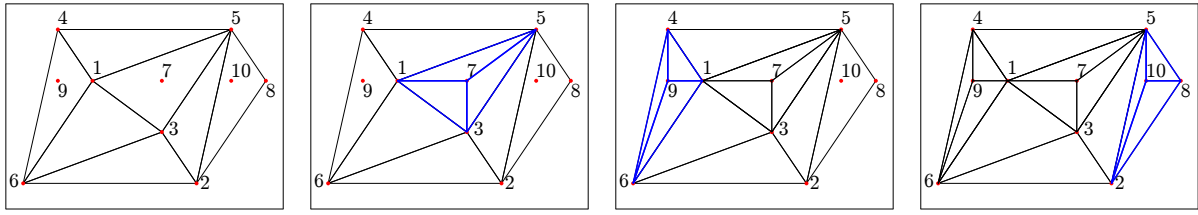
```

1: function DELETETRIANGLE($i, j, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$; protect_boundary = false)
2: delete!(\mathcal{T}, T_{ijk})
3: delete!($\mathcal{A}, e_{ij}, e_{jk}, e_{ki}$)
4: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(i), e_{jk}$)
5: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(j), e_{ki}$)
6: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(k), e_{ij}$)
7: $b_{ji} = \text{IsBoundaryEdge}(j, i, \mathcal{A})$
8: $b_{ik} = \text{IsBoundaryEdge}(i, k, \mathcal{A})$
9: $b_{kj} = \text{IsBoundaryEdge}(k, j, \mathcal{A})$
10: $m = !\text{protect_boundary} ? b_{ji} + b_{ik} + b_{kj} : 0$ ▷ Number of boundary edges.
11: for $e_{rs} \in \{e_{ji}, e_{ik}, e_{kj}\}$ do
12: $v_{rs} = \text{EdgeExists}(r, s, \mathcal{A})$
13: $p_{rs} = v_{rs} \ \&\& \ !b_{rs}$ ▷ Only protect e_{rs} if it exists and is not a boundary edge.
14: $!p_{rs} \ \&\& \ \text{delete}!(\mathcal{N}(r), s)$
15: end for
16: $m == 1 \ \&\& \ \text{DeleteBoundaryEdgesSingle}(i, j, k, b_{ji}, b_{ik}, b_{kj}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N})$
17: $m == 2 \ \&\& \ \text{DeleteBoundaryEdgesDouble}(i, j, k, b_{ji}, b_{ik}, b_{kj}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N})$
18: $m == 3 \ \&\& \ \text{DeleteBoundaryEdgesTriple}(i, j, k, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N})$
19: end function
20: function DELETEBOUNDARYEDGESINGLE($i, j, k, b_{ji}, b_{ik}, b_{kj}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
21: $u, v, w = \text{RotateTriangle}(b_{ji}, b_{kj}, b_{ik}, i, j, k)$
22: delete!(\mathcal{A}, e_{vu})
23: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{vu}$)
24: $\mathcal{A}(e_{vw}) = \partial$
25: $\mathcal{A}(e_{wu}) = \partial$
26: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{vw}, e_{wu}$)
27: push!($\mathcal{N}(\partial), w$)
28: end function
29: function DELETEBOUNDARYEDGESDOUBLE($i, j, k, b_{ji}, b_{ik}, b_{kj}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
30: $u, v, w = \text{RotateTriangle}(b_{ji}, b_{kj}, b_{ik}, i, j, k)$
31: delete!($\mathcal{A}, e_{uw}, e_{wv}$)
32: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{uw}, e_{wv}$)
33: $\mathcal{A}(e_{uv}) = \partial$
34: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{uv}$)
35: delete!($\mathcal{N}(\partial), w$)
36: end function
37: function DELETEBOUNDARYEDGESTRIPE($i, j, k, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
38: delete!($\mathcal{A}, e_{kj}, e_{ji}, e_{ik}$)
39: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{kj}, e_{ji}, e_{ik}$)
40: delete!($\mathcal{N}(\partial), i, j, k$)
41: end function

```

---





(a) Initial triangulation. (b) Splitting of  $T_{135}$  about  $p_7$ . (c) Splitting of  $T_{614}$  about  $p_9$ . (d) Splitting of  $T_{528}$  about  $p_{10}$ .

Figure 1.6: Examples of splitting triangles in the interior in an existing triangulation. The triangles shown in blue are new triangles added after splitting.

### 1.5.4 Splitting a triangle in the interior

Now we consider the problem of splitting a triangle in the interior. This means taking some triangle  $T_{ijk}$  and a point  $p_r$  in its interior. We then subdivide  $T_{ijk}$  into the three triangles  $T_{ijr}$ ,  $T_{jkr}$ , and  $T_{kir}$ . Figure 1.6 shows some examples of these subdivisions. Provided our algorithms for deleting a triangle and adding a triangle are working correctly, then this should be as simple as deleting the triangle  $T_{ijk}$  and then adding the triangles  $T_{ijr}$ ,  $T_{jkr}$ , and  $T_{kir}$ . There is one problem, though. Consider Figure 1.6c. If we delete  $T_{614}$  and then add  $T_{469}$  first, then there is a hole defined by the vertices  $(p_4, p_9, p_6, p_1)$  which causes issues later when updating the boundary accordingly. To remedy this, we introduce into Algorithm 10 a keyword `protect_boundary` that will allow for the boundary edges to be protected, noting that splitting a triangle into three will never change the boundary. Keeping this in mind, we obtain Algorithm 11 for splitting a triangle.

---

**Algorithm 11** Splitting a triangle in the interior.

---

**Inputs:**

- A triangle  $T_{ijk}$  and a point  $p_r$  in  $T_{ijk}$ 's interior that will be used to subdivide  $T_{ijk}$  into three triangles.
- An existing triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ , the adjacent map  $\mathcal{A}$ , the adjacent-to-vertex map  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , and the graph  $\mathcal{N}$ .

**Outputs:**

- An updated triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  that has now split  $T_{ijk}$  into the three triangles  $T_{ijr}$ ,  $T_{jkr}$ ,  $T_{kir}$ .

```

1: function SPLITTRIANGLE($i, j, k, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
2: DeleteTriangle($i, j, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$; protect_boundary = true)
3: AddTriangle($i, j, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
4: AddTriangle($j, k, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
5: AddTriangle($k, i, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
6: end function

```

---

### 1.5.5 Flipping an edge

An important operation to perform on a triangulation is that of flipping an edge, with the aim of making it a legal edge (as discussed in the next section). If we have an edge  $e_{ij}$  that is incident to the triangles  $T_{ikj}$  and  $T_{ijl}$ , then an edge flip of  $e_{ij}$  means replacing the edge  $e_{ij}$  (and  $e_{ji}$ ) with  $e_{kl}$  (and  $e_{lk}$ ), which also means replacing  $T_{ikj}$  and  $T_{ijl}$  with

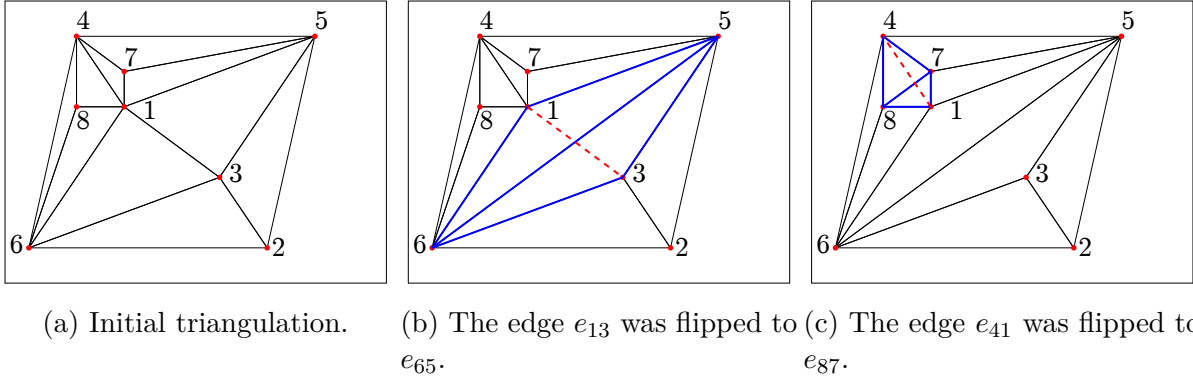


Figure 1.7: Examples of edge flipping. In the last two figures, the blue triangles are the new triangles and the red dashed line shows the position of the original edge prior to flipping.

$T_{\ell kj}$  and  $T_{\ell ik}$ . Examples of some edge flips are shown in Figure 1.7. Note that this flip only makes sense if the quadrilateral defined by  $(p_i, p_k, p_j, p_\ell)$  is convex, else the new edge will cross another and force the triangulation to no longer be planar. An edge flip can be implemented with two `DeleteTriangles` and `AddTriangles`, making sure we use the `protect_boundary` keyword in Algorithm 10 as in Algorithm 11, noting that we will never flip a boundary edge. The algorithm that we end up with is given in Algorithm 12.

---

**Algorithm 12** Flipping an edge.

---

**Inputs:**

- An edge  $e_{ij}$  to be flipped, assuming  $(p_i, p_k, p_j, p_\ell)$  is a convex quadrilateral, where  $\ell = \mathcal{A}(e_{ij})$  and  $k = \mathcal{A}(e_{ji})$ .
- An existing triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ , the adjacent map  $\mathcal{A}$ , the adjacent-to-vertex map  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , and the graph  $\mathcal{N}$ .

**Outputs:**

- An updated triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  that has now flipped  $e_{ij}$ .

```

1: function FLIPEDGE($i, j, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
2: $\ell = \mathcal{A}(e_{ij})$
3: $k = \mathcal{A}(e_{ji})$
4: DeleteTriangle($i, k, j, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$; protect_boundary = true)
5: DeleteTriangle($i, j, \ell, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$; protect_boundary = true)
6: AddTriangle($\ell, k, j, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
7: AddTriangle($\ell, i, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
8: end function

```

---

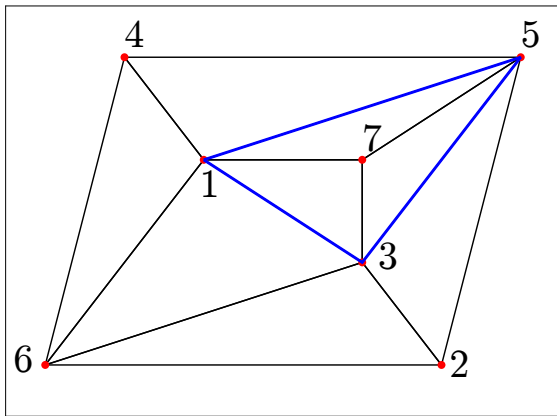
### 1.5.6 Legalising an edge

When we split a triangle into three, edges in the triangulation may no longer be Delaunay, i.e. no longer legal. Suppose we have split some triangle  $T_{ijk}$  into three around a point  $p_r$ , subdividing  $T_{ijk}$  into  $T_{ijr}$ ,  $T_{jkr}$ , and  $T_{kir}$ . It is not difficult to see that the edges  $e_{ri}$ ,  $e_{rj}$ , and  $e_{rk}$  are all legal. To see this, note that  $T_{ijk}$  is Delaunay prior to the addition of  $p_r$ . Therefore, the open circumcircle  $C$  of  $T_{ijk}$  contains no other points in its interior. We can shrink  $C$  to find a circle  $C'$  touching both  $i$  and  $r$ , and since  $C' \subset C$  we see that  $C'$

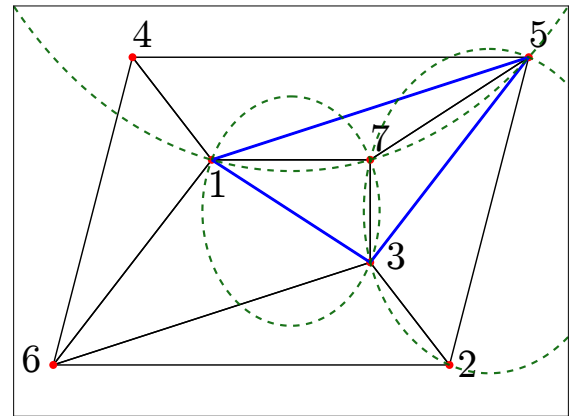
will also contain no points in its interior. In particular, after the addition of  $r$ , the edge  $e_{ri}$  will be legal. We can apply the same ideas to the edges  $e_{rj}$  and  $e_{rk}$ . Thus, all the new edges that are introduced upon splitting a triangle are legal.

To understand what edges could become illegal after adding  $p_r$ , we need to understand what can cause a previous legal edge  $e_{ij}$  to become illegal. Let  $T_{ijk}$  and  $T_{jil}$  be the edges that  $e_{ij}$  is incident to (if  $e_{ij}$  is a boundary edge so that there is only one incident triangle, it is legal as it forms part of the convex hull – unless  $p_r$  is added outside of the domain; we consider this later). The only way for  $e_{ij}$  to be illegal is if one of  $T_{ijk}$  and  $T_{jil}$  has changed. To understand why it cannot be any other triangle, see that if the modification of some other triangle were to somehow affect whether or not  $e_{ij}$  is legal, this would imply that its open circumdisk touches both  $p_i$  and  $p_j$ . But, if this triangle is not  $T_{ijk}$  or  $T_{jil}$ , this circumdisk would have to contain either  $p_k$  or  $p_l$ , meaning these triangles are not Delaunay. Thus, we need only consider the triangles incident to an edge to detect whether it is now illegal.

Now let us bring this back to the problem of legalising an edge. The above discussion tells us that, in the case of the new triangle in Figure 1.8, we need only consider legalising the edges  $e_{13}$ ,  $e_{35}$ , and  $e_{51}$ . These edges are highlighted in Figure 1.8a. The check for whether the edges are illegal relies on Lemma 1.1. In particular, we can check if the edge  $e_{ij}$ , incident to triangles  $T_{ijk}$  and  $T_{jil}$ , is illegal by checking if  $p_l$  is inside the circle touching  $p_i$ ,  $p_j$ , and  $p_k$ , using a predicate `IsInCircle` to do this check. This predicate was defined in Algorithm 4. If  $p_l$  is inside this circle, the edge is illegal. In the case of Figure 1.8a, letting  $C_{ijk}$  be the circle through  $p_i$ ,  $p_j$ , and  $p_k$ , we need to check if  $p_6$  is inside the circle  $C_{137}$  for  $e_{13}$ , if  $p_2$  is inside the circle  $C_{357}$  for  $e_{35}$ , and if  $p_4$  is inside the circle  $C_{517}$  for  $e_{51}$ . We show these circles in Figure 1.8b. We see in Figure 1.8b that the edge  $e_{13}$  is legal as  $p_6$  is not inside  $C_{137}$ ; the edge  $e_{35}$  is legal since  $p_2$  is not in the interior of  $C_{357}$ , although  $p_2$  is circular with  $p_3$ ,  $p_5$ , and  $p_7$ , which is not a problem; the edge  $e_{51}$  is illegal as  $p_4$  is inside  $C_{517}$ .



(a) The addition of the point 7 splits the triangle  $T_{135}$  into  $T_{137}$ ,  $T_{357}$ , and  $T_{175}$ . The blue edges shown need to be checked in case they are now illegal.



(b) The circles  $C_{137}$ ,  $C_{357}$ , and  $C_{517}$  used to test whether the edges  $(1,3)$ ,  $(3,5)$ , and  $(5,1)$  are illegal, respectively.

Figure 1.8: Legalising a triangle after splitting.

We now need to legalise the edge  $e_{51}$ . This is done by flipping the edge  $e_{51}$  to become  $e_{41}$ , using Algorithm 12. Once we have flipped this edge, we know that we will have the

new triangles  $T_{417}$  and  $T_{547}$ , deleting  $T_{175}$  and  $T_{415}$ . We therefore need to ensure that the edges  $e_{54}$  and  $e_{41}$  are still legal, so we apply the same flipping process. This leads to the recursive algorithm in Algorithm 13 for legalising an edge through edge flipping.

---

**Algorithm 13** Legalising an edge.

---

**Inputs:**

- An edge  $e_{ij}$  to legalise after a point  $p_r$  was added into  $T_{ijk}$  following an application of Algorithm 11.
- An existing triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ , the adjacent map  $\mathcal{A}$ , the adjacent-to-vertex map  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , the graph  $\mathcal{N}$ , and the point set  $\mathcal{P}$ .

**Outputs:**

- An updated triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  such that  $e_{ij}$  is now legal.

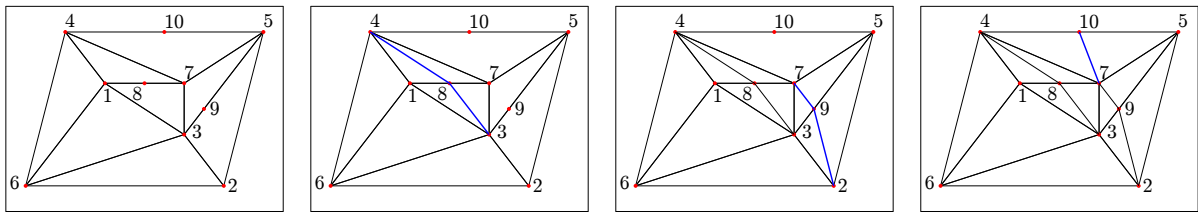
```

1: procedure LEGALISEEDGE($i, j, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}$)
2: if IsLegal($i, j, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{P}$) then
3: $\ell = \mathcal{A}(e_{ji})$
4: FlipEdge($i, j, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
5: LegaliseEdge($i, \ell, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}$)
6: LegaliseEdge($\ell, j, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}$)
7: end if
8: end procedure
9: procedure ISLEGAL($i, j, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{P}$)
10: $k = \mathcal{A}(e_{ij})$
11: $\ell = \mathcal{A}(e_{ji})$
12: $e = \text{IsInCircle}(\mathcal{P}, i, j, k, \ell)$
13: return $e \geq 0$
14: end procedure

```

---

### 1.5.7 Splitting an edge



(a) Original triangulation. (b) Splitting the edge  $e_{17}$  at  $p_8$ . (c) Splitting the edge  $e_{35}$  at  $p_9$ . (d) Splitting the edge  $e_{45}$  at  $p_{10}$ .

Figure 1.9: Examples of splitting an edge. In each figure, the new edges are shown in blue.

When we add points into an existing triangulation, issues may arise if the point to be added is on an edge of another triangle. One algorithm we implement adds points and then splits triangles in the interior using Algorithm 11, but this fails in this case. When a point is on the edge, we instead make new triangles by drawing edges to the adjacent vertices. Examples of this splitting are shown in Figure 1.9, which shows the two different cases. In Figure 1.9b we are splitting an interior edge  $e_{17}$  at a point  $p_8$ ,

and this does not introduce any new boundary edges. Similarly, Figure 1.9c shows the splitting of the interior edge  $e_{35}$  at a point  $p_9$ . The next case in Figure 1.9d shows the splitting of the boundary edge  $e_{54}$  at a point  $p_{10}$ , and this introduces the new boundary edges  $e_{4,10}$  and  $e_{10,5}$ , deleting the previous boundary edge  $e_{45}$ . Notice in this splitting that there are two views that we could take. The first view is that the edge  $e_{ij}$  is split in both directions, for example the splitting of  $e_{17}$  at  $p_8$  in Figure 1.9b connects  $p_8$  to both  $p_3$  and  $p_4$ . An alternative view is that the splitting only goes to the adjacent vertex, so that  $e_{17}$  in Figure 1.9b would only be split so that  $p_8$  connects to  $p_4$ , and we would have to split  $e_{71}$  to get the connection with  $p_3$ . This latter view will be the simplest to work with, both for debugging and for dealing with boundary edges, and so this is the view that we take.

Let us start by discussing the splitting of an interior edge, using Figure 1.9b as an example. Here,  $p_{17}$  is split at  $p_8$ , and this introduces the new triangles  $T_{184}$ ,  $T_{874}$ ,  $T_{138}$ , and  $T_{837}$ , deleting the previous triangles  $T_{174}$  and  $T_{137}$  in the process. As mentioned, though, we will only consider the new connection with the adjacent vertex  $p_4$ . We can therefore represent this splitting using one `DeleteTriangles` and two `AddTriangles`, using the following procedure for splitting an interior edge  $e_{ij}$  about a point  $p_r$ :

- 1:  $k = \mathcal{A}(e_{ij})$ .
- 2: `DeleteTriangle( $i, j, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$ ; protect_boundary = true)`
- 3: `AddTriangle( $i, r, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$ )`
- 4: `AddTriangle( $r, j, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$ )`

The `protect_boundary = true` case is needed when the edge is part of a boundary triangle, as in Figure 1.9c, since the order in which we add triangles may introduce holes in the domain temporarily; this is the same issue we had when developing Algorithm 11. This procedure could be called on  $e_{ji}$  to get the splitting in the other direction.

Now let us consider the case of a boundary edge as in Figure 1.9d. Here, the edge  $e_{54}$  is being split at  $p_{10}$ , deleting the triangle  $T_{547}$  and introducing the two new triangles  $T_{7,5,10}$  and  $T_{10,4,7}$ . We can apply the same procedure as above, but we have to be careful with the boundary edge, ensuring we delete  $e_{45}$  and instead replace it with  $e_{4,10}$  and  $e_{10,5}$ . This is as simple as changing the `protect_boundary` argument above to depend on the boundary status of  $e_{ji}$ :

- 1:  $k = \mathcal{A}(e_{ij})$ .
- 2: `DeleteTriangle( $i, j, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$ ; protect_boundary = !IsBoundaryEdge( $j, i, \mathcal{A}$ ))`
- 3: `AddTriangle( $i, r, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$ )`
- 4: `AddTriangle( $r, j, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$ )`

Remember that `IsBoundaryEdge` is defined in Algorithm 1. To summarise, Algorithm 14 gives the algorithm for splitting an edge.

### 1.5.8 Point location by walking

Point location is a common problem in computational geometry, and is an essential feature of many Delaunay triangulation algorithms. While we will discuss many methods for point location, we delay the discussion of these methods until we discuss the specific algorithms. Here we discuss a method that works independent of a specific algorithm. The problem is this: *Given a Delaunay triangulation  $\mathcal{DT}(\mathcal{P})$  of a point set  $\mathcal{P}$ , and a point  $q \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , what triangle  $T \in \mathcal{DT}(\mathcal{P})$  contains the point  $q$ ?* The solution we present to

**Algorithm 14** Splitting an edge.**Inputs:**

- An edge  $e_{ij}$  to split at a point  $p_r$ .
- An existing triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ , the adjacent map  $\mathcal{A}$ , the adjacent-to-vertex map  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , and the graph  $\mathcal{N}$ .

**Outputs:**

- An updated triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  such that  $e_{ij}$  is now split at  $p_r$ .

```

1: function SPLITEDGE($i, j, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
2: $k = \mathcal{A}(e_{ij})$.
3: DeleteTriangle($i, j, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$; protect_boundary = !IsBoundaryEdge(j, i, \mathcal{A}))
4: AddTriangle($i, r, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
5: AddTriangle($r, j, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
6: end function

```

this is the jump-and-march algorithm of Mücke et al. (1999), a specific case of what are known as *walking algorithms* like those discussed by Devillers et al. (2002). We discuss the algorithm by Mücke et al. (1999) as it requires minimal setup and is conceptually simple, and is already in common use for example in the Triangle software (Shewchuk, 1996). An orthogonal walk may be of interest as we use exact arithmetic for our geometric predicates, as recommended by Devillers et al. (2002), but we do not consider it here.

The essence of the jump-and-march algorithm is as follows: If  $\mathcal{P} = \{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$  and the query point is  $q$ , then:

1. Select  $m$  points  $(s_1, \dots, s_m)$  at random and without replacement from  $\mathcal{P}$ , where  $m = \mathcal{O}(n^{1/3})$ .
2. Set  $j = \operatorname{argmin}_{j=1}^m d(s_j, q)$ , where  $d(x, y)$  is the Euclidean distance between points  $x$  and  $y$ , and set  $p = s_j$ .
3. Locate the triangle  $T \in \mathcal{DT}(\mathcal{P})$  containing  $q$  by traversing all triangles intersected by the line segment  $\overline{pq}$ .

The runtime of this algorithm for randomly distributed points is  $\mathcal{O}(n^{1/3})$  (Devroye et al., 1998). We simply use  $m = \lceil n^{1/3} \rceil$ , although a choice like  $m = \lceil 0.45n^{1/3} \rceil$  may be reasonable for uniformly distributed point sets (Shewchuk, 1996). Algorithm 15 gives an implementation of the first two steps of this procedure. In Algorithm 15 it is important to note that we are actually sampling with replacement, but provided  $m$  is much smaller than  $n$  this will not be too impactful on the algorithm. In particular, if there are  $n$  total points to choose from and we select  $m$  points from them, the probability that all the points are unique is

$$\frac{n(n-1) \cdots (n-m+1)}{n^m} = \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{n^m \Gamma(n-m+1)} \sim 1 - \frac{1}{2n^{1/3}} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{n^{2/3}}\right) \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty,$$

where  $m = n^{1/3}$ . This approximation  $1 - 1/2n^{1/3}$  appears to have around 10% relative error to the true value for  $n \approx 10$ , and around 2.8% near  $n = 100$ . So, the probability of there being any duplicates is approximately  $1/2n^{1/3}$ , so the tradeoff in avoiding allocations from having to check for duplicates is worth it for large enough  $n$ .

---

**Algorithm 15** Selecting an initial point for the jump-and-march algorithm.

---

**Inputs:**

- A query point  $q$ , a point set  $\mathcal{P}$ , and a number of points  $m$  to sample.

**Outputs:**

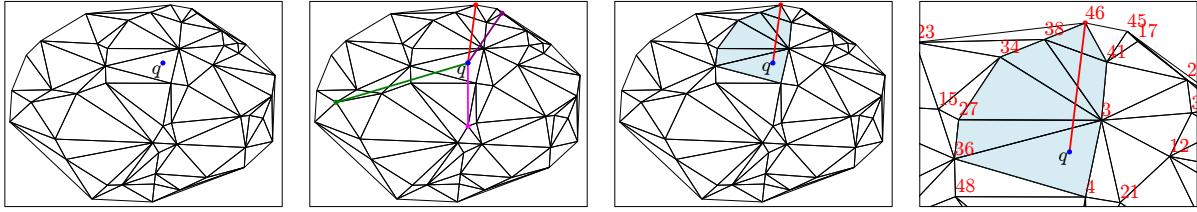
- A vertex  $k$  to start marching from.

```

1: function SELECTINITIALPOINT($\mathcal{P}, q; m = \lceil m^{1/3} \rceil$)
2: $\delta^2 = \infty$ ▷ Initialise distance at infinity.
3: $k = 0$ ▷ Initialise index for the loop.
4: $n = |\mathcal{P}|$
5: for $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ do
6: $i = \text{rand}(\{1, \dots, n\})$
7: $p_i = \mathcal{P}(i)$
8: $d^2 = (p_{i,x} - q_x)^2 + (p_{i,y} - q_y)^2$
9: if $d^2 < \delta^2$ then
10: $\delta^2 = d^2$
11: $k = i$
12: end if
13: end for
14: return k
15: end function

```

---



(a) An initial triangulation and a query point  $q$ . (b) Randomly selected points  $s_i$  and line segments  $\overrightarrow{s_i q}$ . (c) The triangles stepped over are shown in blue. (d) Zoomed in and annotated version of (c).

Figure 1.10: An example of point location by walking.

To give an example of this method of point location, Figure 1.10a shows an initial triangulation and some point  $q$  inside the triangulation. This triangulation has  $n = 50$  points, so we select  $m = \lceil n^{1/3} \rceil = 4$  vertices at random, giving four line segments to test as shown in Figure 1.10b. The red line segment has the smallest length of the four, and so we start the point location at the red vertex. We then step over triangles starting from this red vertex until we reach  $q$ , stepping over all the triangles shown in blue in Figure 1.10c.

To discuss the implementation of this algorithm, let us consider Figure 1.10d. The walk starts at  $p_{46}$ , but to determine where to go we need to first find the triangle to start in. To find this triangle, first remember that  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(46)$  will give us all edges  $e_{uv}$  such that  $T_{u,v,46}$  is a positively oriented triangle, so we can loop over the elements of  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(46)$ . Suppose the first triangle we try is  $T_{23,38,46}$ . Since the edge  $e_{23,28}$  does not intersect  $\overrightarrow{p_{46}q}$ , where  $s = p_{46}$ , we need to rotate to another triangle. The idea is to rotate around until the orientations become opposite, so the next edge we try is  $e_{38,41}$ . In this case we find that the line does indeed intersect this edge, so we can start the straight line search.



We traverse the triangles, keeping the edge's endpoints on each side of the line, until we eventually find an edge that switches the orientation of the edge relative to  $q$ .

The ideas above can be formalised with the following algorithm, following the implementation of Devillers et al. (2002). Algorithm 16 shows the procedure for finding the triangle containing  $q$  after we have already selected a vertex  $k$  (thus  $p = p_k$ ) to start from, using say Algorithm 15. Lines 2–5 select the initial triangle by randomly selecting an edge from  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(k)$ . The way we step across these neighbouring triangles depends on the orientation of  $p_j$  relative to  $\vec{pq}$ . Figure 1.11 shows how this is done. If we have selected an edge  $e_{ij}$ , so that  $T_{ijk}$  is positively oriented where  $p = p_k$ , and if  $p_j$  is to the left of  $\vec{pq}$ , then we will rotate around the neighbouring triangles clockwise until  $p_i$  is now to the right of  $\vec{pq}$ , at which point  $\vec{pq}$  must intersect the new  $e_{ij}$ . These steps are shown in Figure 1.11a–1.11c. Similarly, if  $p_j$  is to the right, then we will need to rotate counter-clockwise until  $p_j$  is to the left of  $\vec{pq}$ , as shown in Figure 1.11d–1.11f. This initialisation step is executed in Lines 6–22 of Algorithm 16. Lines 11 and 19 are needed in the rare case that we rotate onto a boundary edge, and so we simply restart the algorithm at the other vertex, and similarly for Line 27.

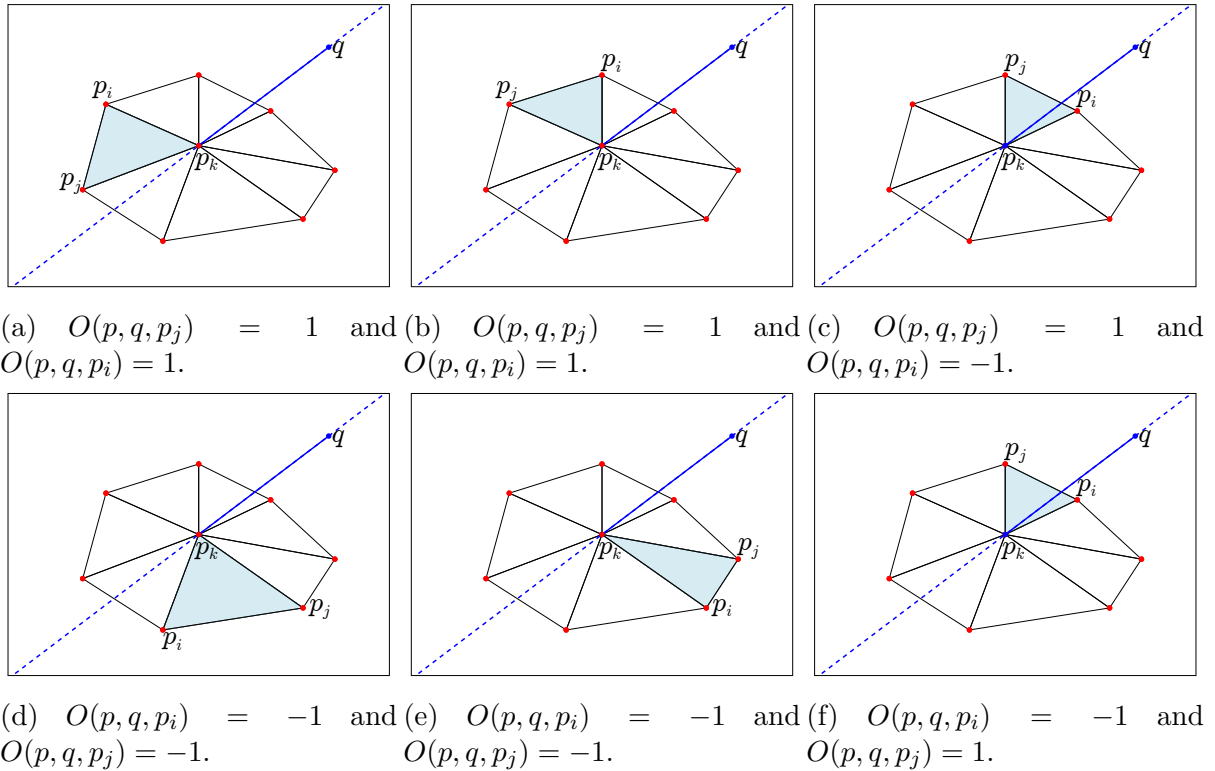


Figure 1.11: Example of finding the initial triangle for stepping towards  $q$  from  $p_k = p$ . The top row shows the case where we search clockwise as  $p_j$  is left of  $\vec{pq}$ , and the bottom row shows the case where we search counterclockwise as  $p_j$  is right of  $\vec{pq}$ . The thick blue line is the line segment  $\vec{pq}$  and the dashed line is the line through  $s$  and  $q$ . In each subcaption,  $O(a, b, c)$  is an abbreviation of  $\text{IsOriented}(a, b, c)$ .

Once the initialisation step is complete and we have an edge  $e_{ij}$  that  $\vec{pq}$  intersects, the straight walk part of the algorithm begins. In Lines 23 and 24, we swap  $i$  and  $j$  so that  $p_i$  is to the left of  $\vec{pq}$  and  $p_j$  is to the right of  $\vec{pq}$ . Lines 26–35 are what determines the next edge to cross from  $e_{ij}$ . We first find the triangle  $T_{ijk}$  that has  $e_{ij}$  as its edge by getting  $k = \mathcal{A}(e_{ij})$ . If this point  $p_k$  is to the right of  $\vec{pq}$ , then we need to swap  $j$  and  $k$



---

**Algorithm 16** Point location with the jump-and-march algorithm.

---

**Inputs:**

- A vertex  $k$  to start the walk at and a query point  $q$ . See also Algorithm 15 for choosing this vertex  $k$  randomly.
- An adjacent map  $\mathcal{A}$ , adjacent-to-vertex map  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , and point set  $\mathcal{P}$ .

**Outputs:**

- A triangle  $T_{ijk}$  that contains  $q$  in its interior.

```

1: function JUMPANDMARCH($k, q, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{P}$)
2: $p = \mathcal{P}(k)$
3: $e_{ij} = \text{rand}(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(k))$ ▷ A random triangle neighbouring p .
4: $p_i = \mathcal{P}(i)$
5: $p_j = \mathcal{P}(j)$
6: if IsOriented(p, q, p_j) == 1 then
7: while IsOriented(p, q, p_i) == 1 do
8: $j = i$
9: $p_j = p_i$
10: $i = \mathcal{A}(e_{ik})$
11: $i == \partial$ && return JumpAndMarch($j, q, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{P}$)
12: $p_i = \mathcal{P}(i)$
13: end while
14: else ▷ IsOriented(p, q, p_j) ≤ 0.
15: while IsOriented(p, q, p_j) == -1 do
16: $i = j$
17: $p_i = p_j$
18: $j = \mathcal{A}(e_{kj})$
19: $j == \partial$ && return JumpAndMarch($i, q, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{P}$)
20: $p_j = \mathcal{P}(j)$
21: end while
22: end if
23: $i, j = j, i$ ▷ p_i is left of \vec{pq} , p_j is right of \vec{pq} .
24: $p_i, p_j = p_j, p_i$
25: while IsOriented(p_i, p_j, q) == 1 do
26: $k = \mathcal{A}(e_{ij})$
27: $k == \partial$ && return JumpAndMarch($i, q, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{P}$)
28: $p_k = \mathcal{P}(k)$
29: if IsOriented(p, q, p_k) == -1 then
30: $j = k$
31: $p_j = p_k$
32: else
33: $i = k$
34: $p_i = p_k$
35: end if
36: end while
37: $k = \mathcal{A}(e_{ji})$ ▷ Positively oriented triangle.
38: return T_{jik}
39: end function

```

---

since we know that  $p_j$  is to the right of  $\vec{pq}$ , and this is checked in Lines 29–31. Similarly, Lines 33 and 34 handle the case where  $p_k$  is to the left of  $\vec{pq}$ . The core part of this loop is the termination condition in Line 25, which says that we stop traversing the edges once  $q$  is to the left of the edge  $e_{ij}$ . To understand this, consider for example Figure 1.11c. In this setting,  $q$  is to the right of  $e_{ij}$ , so we need to keep searching. As soon as  $e_{ij}$  is moved to the right of  $q$ , though, we will have passed the triangle that  $q$  is in, meaning we have arrived at it. Hence, we stop the loop once  $q$  is to the left of  $e_{ij}$ . The final line in Line 36 just updates the found triangle so that it is positively oriented.

### 1.5.9 Triangulating convex polygons

We start by discussing a method for triangulating convex polygons. This will be useful later when we discuss the problem of deleting triangles. We follow the discuss of Cheng et al. (2013) who give an algorithm for the original algorithm by Chew (1990).

## 1.6 Algorithms for Computing the Delaunay Triangulation

Now let us give some algorithms for computing the Delaunay triangulation. We give two separate methods.

### 1.6.1 de Berg’s randomised incremental insertion algorithm

The first algorithm we consider is the algorithm described by de Berg et al. (1999). The algorithm is a randomised incremental insertion method, where we start with an initial triangle and then insert new points in a random order. When a new point is added, `SplitTriangle` (or `SplitEdge`, if the new point is on the edge of an existing triangle) is used to define new triangles, and then `LegaliseEdge` is used to make all the edges legal, thus making the triangulation Delaunay. This is done until all the points have been sorted.

#### Super triangle

The first issue to deal with is the initial triangle. Following de Berg et al. (1999), we surround the points in a *super triangle*, a triangle that contains all the points in the point set  $\mathcal{P}$ . While we could handle this triangle’s vertices symbolically, for simplicity we will actually define specific coordinates for this super triangle. Let the super triangle be  $T_{-1,-2,-3}$  with vertices at  $p_{-1}$ ,  $p_{-2}$ , and  $p_{-3}$ . If we have  $n$  points,  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$ , to be added, each with coordinates  $p_i = (x_i, y_i)$ , then we define

$$x^m = \min_{i=1}^n x_i, \quad x^M = \max_{i=1}^n x_i, \quad y^m = \min_{i=1}^n y_i, \quad y^M = \max_{i=1}^n y_i.$$

With these definitions, we define a bounding box  $[x^m, x^M] \times [y^m, y^M]$  for the point set. The centroid of this bounding box is at  $(x^c, y^c) = [(x^m + x^M)/2, (y^m + y^M)/2]$ . If we define  $\delta = \max\{x^M - x^m, y^M - y^m\}$ , then we define

$$p_{-1} = (x^c + M\delta, y^c - \delta), \quad p_{-2} = (x^c, y^c + M\delta), \quad p_{-3} = (x^c - M\delta, y^c - \delta), \quad (1.1)$$

where  $M = 27.39$ ; this value  $M$  is just a shift that pushes the super triangle further from the point set. These coordinates will be large enough so that, when they are removed, the Delaunay triangulation of the original point set is obtained.

### Point location

The second issue is that of point location: when we add a new point  $p_r$ , we need to know what triangle it is on (or what edge it is on) in order to know what triangle we need to split. This can be done by using a *history graph*, which is a directed acyclic graph (DAG) that tracks how the triangles in the algorithm have been split and what triangles they became. To understand how this might work, consider Figure 1.6. In Figure 1.6b, we have split the triangle  $T_{135}$  into the three triangles  $T_{137}$ ,  $T_{357}$ , and  $T_{517}$ . Our DAG would thus have the nodes  $T_{135}$ ,  $T_{137}$ ,  $T_{357}$ , and  $T_{517}$ , and the node  $T_{137}$  would have the out-neighbours  $T_{137}$ ,  $T_{357}$ , and  $T_{517}$ . This is useful since if we know that a point is inside  $T_{137}$ , and since  $T_{137}$ ,  $T_{357}$ , and  $T_{517}$  are all contained inside  $T_{137}$ , we could then search for the point inside these smaller triangles. Therefore, we can add some additional lines of code to Algorithm 11 for updating a given history graph  $\mathcal{G}$ . In particular, we define the following new method for Algorithm 11:

```

1: function SPLITTRIANGLE($i, j, k, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{G}$)
2: SplitTriangle($i, j, k, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
3: AddNode($\mathcal{G}, T_{ijr}, T_{jkr}, T_{kir}$)
4: AddEdge($\mathcal{G}, T_{ijk}, T_{ijr}, T_{jkr}, T_{kir}$)
5: end function
```

Here,  $\text{AddNode}(\mathcal{G}, T_1, T_2, \dots)$  adds the nodes  $T_1, T_2, \dots$  into the graph  $\mathcal{G}$ , and  $\text{AddEdge}(\mathcal{G}, T, V_1, V_2, \dots)$  adds the nodes  $V_1, V_2, \dots$  into the set of out-neighbours of  $T$ .

We can apply similar ideas to  $\text{AddTriangle}$ ,  $\text{FlipEdge}$  and  $\text{SplitEdge}$ , as given below.

```

1: function ADDTRIANGLE($i, j, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{G}$)
2: AddTriangle($i, j, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
3: AddNode(\mathcal{G}, T_{ijk})
4: end function

1: function FLIPEDGE($i, j, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{G}$)
2: FlipEdge($i, j, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
3: $\ell = \mathcal{A}(e_{ij})$
4: $k = \mathcal{A}(e_{ji})$
5: AddNode($\mathcal{G}, T_{\ell kj}, T_{\ell ik}$)
6: AddEdge($\mathcal{G}, T_{ikj}, T_{\ell kj}, T_{\ell ik}$)
7: AddEdge($\mathcal{G}, T_{ij\ell}, T_{\ell kj}, T_{\ell ik}$)
8: end function

1: function SPLITEDGE($i, j, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{G}$)
2: SplitEdge($i, j, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
3: AddNode($\mathcal{G}, T_{irk}, T_{rjk}$)
4: AddEdge($\mathcal{G}, T_{ijk}, T_{irk}, T_{rjk}$)
5: end function
```

We also define a method for  $\text{LegaliseEdge}$  that includes the argument  $\mathcal{G}$  and makes use of the new  $\text{FlipEdge}$  that now includes an argument  $\mathcal{G}$ .

Now let us describe how we use all these ideas for point location. Since  $\mathcal{G}$  is acyclic, there are no loops, and so we can search down the graph, noting that the leaf nodes of

the graph are the current triangles in the triangulation, and these leaf nodes have out degree 0. So, we can recursively search down the DAG until finding a leaf node with out degree 0. We will know once we have reached this node that we have found the triangle in the current triangulation that contains the point  $p_r$ , as long as we only go down nodes that contain the point  $p_r$  already. This is summarised in Algorithm 17. We note that this procedure could be improved for example with the work of Kolingerová and Žalik (2002) who make greater use of the geometric information available from the history provided from the DAG.

---

**Algorithm 17** Finding which triangle contains a point using the history graph.

---

**Inputs:**

- A point  $p_r$ .
- The history graph  $\mathcal{G}$ , the point set  $\mathcal{P}$ , and an initial node  $T_{ijk}$ .

**Outputs:**

- The triangle  $T$  in the current triangulation that contains  $p_r$ , and a flag  $q$  such that  $q = 1$  if  $p_r$  is in the interior of  $T$ , or  $q = 0$  if  $p_r$  is on an edge of  $T$ .

```

1: function LOCATETRIANGLE($\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{P}, r, i, j, k$)
2: $\mathcal{O} = \text{OutNeighbours}(\mathcal{G}, T_{ijk})$ \triangleright OutNeighbours gets the set of out neighbours
3: $\mathcal{O} == \emptyset$ && return $T_{ijk}, \text{IsInTriangle}(i, j, k, \mathcal{P}, r)$
4: for $V_{abc} \in \mathcal{O}$ do \triangleright There will be 3 triangles in \mathcal{O} at most
5: $\text{IsInTriangle}(a, b, c, \mathcal{P}, r) \geq 0$ && return $\text{LocateTriangle}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{P}, r, a, b, c)$
6: end for
7: end function

```

---

## The algorithm

Now we can give the algorithm itself. This algorithm is given in Algorithm 18. The algorithm starts by computing the coordinates of the super triangle's vertices, and then initialises all the data structures based on this super triangle. A random insertion order is then obtained by selecting a random permutation of the indices  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ . With this insertion order, we then loop over each index and add points to the triangulation one at a time, first finding the triangle that contains the point and splitting the triangle (and edge) about the point  $p_r$ . At the end of the  $r$ th loop, we have the Delaunay triangulation of  $\{p_{-1}, p_{-2}, p_{-3}, p_{v_1}, p_{v_2}, \dots, p_{v_r}\}$ . When we have added all  $n$  points, the function `RemoveSuperTriangle` in Algorithm 19 is used to delete all triangles that have one of the super triangle's coordinates as one of its vertices. This is done by looping over all the edges  $e_{uv}$  such that  $T_{uvw} \in \mathcal{T}$ , where  $w \in \{-1, -2, -3\}$ , making use of the adjacent-to-vertex map. In this function, we avoid the use of `DeleteTriangle` to avoid issues with boundary edges, noting that a primary task of this function is to repair the convex hull from the original super triangle's boundary. The final result is thus  $\mathcal{DT}(\{p_1, \dots, p_n\})$ .

### 1.6.2 Bowyer-Watson algorithm

We now discuss the Bowyer-Watson algorithm, introduced by Bowyer (1981) and Watson (1981). This algorithm works similarly to de Berg's method, with points being inserted one at a time, but the way the triangulation is updated following the insertion of a point is different. In this method, when a point is added into the triangulation we delete all

---

**Algorithm 18** Computing the Delaunay triangulation with de Berg's algorithm.

---

**Inputs:**

- A point set  $\mathcal{P} = [p_1, \dots, p_n]$ .

**Outputs:**

- A Delaunay triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  with adjacent map  $\mathcal{A}$ , adjacent-to-vertex map  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , graph  $\mathcal{N}$ , and history graph  $\mathcal{G}$ .

```

1: function DELAUNAYTRIANGULATIONBERG(\mathcal{P})
2: Compute the coordinates p_{-1}, p_{-2}, p_{-3} of the super triangle $T_{-1,-2,-3}$ using (1.1).
3: Initialise $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$, and \mathcal{G} as empty data structures.
4: AddTriangle($-1, -2, -3, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{G}$)
5: Generate a permutation $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ of $\{1, \dots, n\}$. ▷ Randomised insertion order.
6: for $r \in \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ do
7: $T_{ijk}, q = \text{LocateTriangle}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{P}, r, T_{-1,-2,-3})$
8: if $q == 1$ then ▷ p_r is in the interior of T_{ijk}
9: SplitTriangle($i, j, k, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{G}$)
10: LegaliseEdge($i, j, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{G}$)
11: LegaliseEdge($j, k, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{G}$)
12: LegaliseEdge($k, i, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{G}$)
13: else if $q == 0$ then ▷ p_r is on an edge of T_{ijk}
14: $e_{ij} = \text{FindEdge}(T_{ijk}, \mathcal{P}, r)$ ▷ p_r is on the edge e_{ij} of T_{ijk}
15: $k = \mathcal{A}(e_{ij})$
16: $\ell = \mathcal{A}(e_{ji})$
17: SplitEdge($i, j, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{G}$)
18: if !IsBoundaryEdge(j, i, \mathcal{A}) then
19: SplitEdge($j, i, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{G}$)
20: end if
21: LegaliseEdge($i, \ell, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{G}$)
22: LegaliseEdge($\ell, j, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{G}$)
23: LegaliseEdge($j, k, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{G}$)
24: LegaliseEdge($k, i, r, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{G}$)
25: end if
26: end for
27: RemoveSuperTriangle($\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
28: return $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{G}$
29: end function

```

---

the triangles whose circumdisks contain the point, thus evacuating a polygonal cavity in the triangulation. The triangulation is then repaired by connecting the boundaries of this polygonal cavity to the new point. Figure 1.3 gives an example of the procedure, with Figure 1.12a showing the existing triangulation and the point  $p_{11}$  to be added. We first find all triangles whose open circumdisks contain  $p_{11}$ , as these triangles are no longer Delaunay. We show these triangles in blue in Figure 1.12b. These triangles all need to be deleted, evacuating the blue polygonal cavity from Figure 1.12b; note that the guarantee that this blue region is a polygonal cavity is given by Proposition 1.1. With this region now deleted, we connect the vertices of the polygonal cavity to the new point  $p_{11}$ . These new edges are shown in blue in Figure 1.12c. The two propositions below guarantee that the evacuated cavities are star-shaped, allowing us to guarantee that all triangles

---

**Algorithm 19** Removing the super triangle from Algorithm 18.

---

**Inputs:**

- A triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ , adjacent map  $\mathcal{A}$ , adjacent-to-vertex map  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , and graph  $\mathcal{N}$ .

**Outputs:**

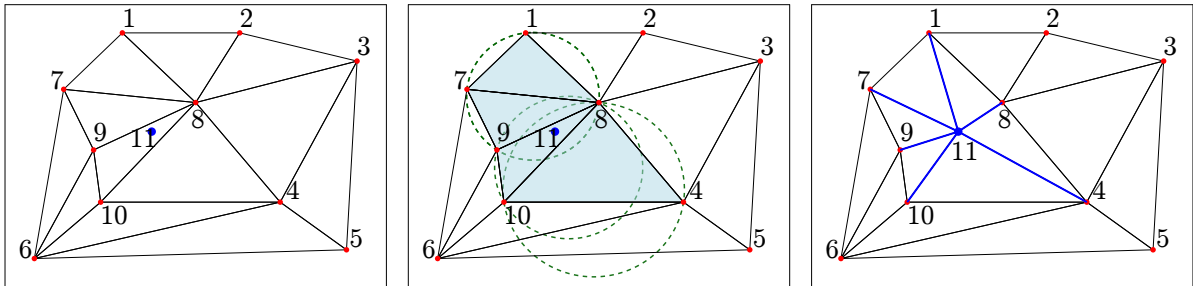
- An updated triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  with the super triangle removed.

```

1: function REMOVESUPERTRIANGLE($\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$)
2: for $w \in \{-1, -2, -3\}$ do
3: for $e_{uv} \in \mathcal{A}^{-1}(w)$ do
4: delete!($\mathcal{A}, e_{wu}, e_{wv}, e_{uw}, e_{vw}$)
5: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(u), e_{vw}$)
6: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(v), e_{wu}$)
7: if $u \geq 1$ && $v \geq 1$ then▷ A boundary edge must have two positive indices.
8: $\mathcal{A}(e_{uv}) = \partial$
9: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{uv}$)
10: end if
11: delete!(\mathcal{T}, T_{uvw})
12: end for
13: delete!(\mathcal{N}, w)
14: delete!(\mathcal{A}^{-1}, w)
15: end for
16: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{-1,-3}, e_{-3,-2}, e_{-2,-1}$)
17: end function

```

---



(a) A point to be added. (b) Triangles that are no longer Delaunay. (c) Updated triangulation with  $p_{11}$  now included.

Figure 1.12: Process for inserting a vertex inside a triangulation with the Bowyer-Watson algorithm. In (a), the point  $p_{11}$  marked in blue is to be added. In (b), we locate all triangles whose open circumdisk contains  $p_{11}$  and mark them in blue. These triangles are no longer Delaunay. (c) This is the updated triangulation, with new edges shown in blue. This figure is based on Cheng et al. (2013, Figure 3.3).

whose open circumdisks contains the point to be added will be found by looking across neighbouring triangles, and that the new added triangles are all Delaunay; see Cheng et al. (2013, Proposition 3.1, Proposition 3.2).

*Proposition 1.1* (Star-shaped cavity). Let  $u$  be a point to be added inside an existing Delaunay triangulation. The union of the triangles whose open circumdisks contain  $u$  is a connected star-shaped polygon, meaning that for every point  $p$  in the polygon, the polygon includes the line segment  $pu$ . ■

*Proposition 1.2* (The new edges are Delaunay). Let  $u$  be a point to be added inside an existing Delaunay triangulation. Let  $T$  be a triangle that is deleted because its open circumdisk contains  $u$ . Let  $w$  be a vertex of  $T$ . Then the edge  $uw$  is strongly Delaunay. ■

### Point insertion

Let us first discuss the problem of inserting points into an existing triangulation. As we discussed above, the method for adding a point is to remove all triangles whose open circumdisks contain the new point, and then to connect the vertices of the resulting evacuated polygonal cavity to the new point. How do we do this? The idea is to use a depth-first search, as we now explain using Figure 1.12.

The first step in the procedure is to delete  $T_{9,10,8}$ , as this is the triangle that  $p_{11}$  is inside of. We next search for more non-Delaunay triangles by walking over the neighbouring triangles. For example, if we walk across  $e_{10,8}$  into  $T_{8,10,4}$ , we find that the circumdisk of  $T_{8,10,4}$  contains  $p_{11}$ , and so we delete  $T_{8,10,4}$  also. When we continue and walk over  $e_{48}$  and  $e_{10,4}$ , we find that the triangles  $T_{8,4,3}$  and  $T_{10,6,4}$  do not contain  $p_{11}$  in their respective circumdisks. Therefore, the boundary of the evacuated polygonal cavity must contain  $e_{4,8}$  and  $e_{10,4}$ . We would then apply the same procedure to the edges  $e_{9,10}$  and  $e_{8,9}$  to identify the remaining edges of the polygonal cavity's boundary. We formalise this procedure in Algorithm 20, with the procedure used for searching through the cavity given by Algorithm 21. Note that Line 4 of Algorithm 21 first checks if the edge is a boundary edge, noting that a boundary edge, provided we have reached such an edge while traversing the cavity, will necessarily form the boundary of the polygonal cavity.

---

**Algorithm 20** Inserting a vertex inside a triangulation with the Bowyer-Watson method.

---

**Inputs:**

- A vertex  $r$  to be added, known to be inside the triangle  $T_{ijk}$ .
- An existing triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ , the adjacent map  $\mathcal{A}$ , the adjacent-to-vertex map  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , the graph  $\mathcal{N}$ , and the point set  $\mathcal{P}$ .

**Outputs:**

- An updated triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  that now has  $u$  added into it.

```

1: procedure ADDPOINTBOWYER($r, i, j, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}$)
2: DeleteTriangle($i, j, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$; protect_boundary = true)
3: DigCavity($r, i, j, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}$) ▷ Identify other deleted triangles and
4: DigCavity($r, j, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}$) ▷ insert new triangles.
5: DigCavity($r, k, i, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}$)
6: end procedure

```

---

The above discussion is only valid if the point to be added is inside the existing triangulation. What if we are adding a point outside of the triangulation? Following Cheng et al. (2013, Section 3.4), the solution is to imagine that each boundary edge has a third vertex at infinity, called a *ghost vertex*, and the resulting triangle is called a *ghost triangle*. The two edges that adjoin the ghost vertex are called *ghost edges*. With our existing data structures, notice that we can easily represent the ghost vertex by  $\partial$ , for example  $\mathcal{A}(e_{ij}) = \partial$  could instead be interpreted as the ghost triangle  $T_{ij\partial}$  rather than simply saying that  $e_{ij}$  is a boundary edge (note that Cheng et al. (2013) use  $g$  to denote a ghost vertex). One additional feature that we do need to add into our data structures is the addition of the ghost edges into the adjacent and adjacent-to-vertex maps, i.e. edges



---

**Algorithm 21** Digging the cavities for the Bowyer-Watson method.

---

**Inputs:**

- A vertex  $r$  being added via Algorithm 20, and an edge  $e_{ij}$  to traverse for evacuating the polygonal cavity.
- An existing triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ , the adjacent map  $\mathcal{A}$ , the adjacent-to-vertex map  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , the graph  $\mathcal{N}$ , and the point set  $\mathcal{P}$ .

**Outputs:**

- An updated triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  that has now evacuated more of the polygonal cavity from Algorithm 20, or added a triangle onto the boundary of the cavity.

```

1: procedure DIGCAVITY($r, i, j, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}$)
2: $\ell = \mathcal{A}(e_{ji})$ $\triangleright T_{jil}$ is the triangle on the other side of the edge (i, j) from r
3: $\ell == \emptyset$ && return \triangleright The triangle has already been deleted in this case.
4: $\delta = \ell \neq \partial$ && IsInCircle($\mathcal{P}, r, i, j, \ell$)
5: if $\delta == 1$ then
6: DeleteTriangle($j, i, \ell, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$; protect_boundary = true)
7: DigCavity($r, i, \ell, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}$) \triangleright Recursively identify more deleted
8: DigCavity($r, \ell, j, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}$) \triangleright triangles and insert new triangles.
9: else $\triangleright e_{ij}$ is an edge of the polygonal cavity in this case.
10: AddTriangle($r, i, j, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}$)
11: end if
12: end procedure

```

---

of the form  $e_{ij}$  where  $i = \partial$  or  $j = \partial$ . With this update, we note that  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$  will now truly be inverses of each other. We also now include  $\partial$  in  $\mathcal{N}$ .

### Ghost triangles

The issues arising from this notion of a ghost triangle require a detailed discussion. In particular, we need to address the following issues:

1. Given a ghost triangle  $T_{ij\partial}$ , how can we define its circumdisk?
2. Given a ghost triangle  $T_{ij\partial}$ , what does it mean for a point  $p$  to be in the circumdisk of  $T_{ij\partial}$ ?
3. How can we modify our existing algorithms so that the ghost edges and ghost triangles are explicitly added into  $\mathcal{T}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , and  $\mathcal{N}$ ?
4. Given a point that is outside of the triangulation, how do we decide, out of all ghost triangles, what ghost triangle has  $p$  in inside it?
5. What changes need to be made to Algorithm 21 so that it now works for points outside the triangulation?
6. Once a triangulation has been computed, how can we efficiently remove all ghost edges and ghost triangles? This will mostly be needed for visualisation purposes – once this information has been removed, we would have to re-add it if we need to do any more with the triangulation.



**Circumdisk of a ghost triangle** Let us first consider the issue of defining a ghost triangle's circumdisk. Take some ghost triangle  $T_{ij\partial}$ , and let  $C_{ij\partial}$  be a circle through  $p_i$ ,  $p_j$ , and  $p_\partial$ , with  $p_\partial$  denoting the ghost vertex. Since the ghost vertex is at infinity, this circle has infinite radius, meaning  $C_{ij\partial}$  is a line. This line is the line  $\ell_{ij}$  through  $p_i$  and  $p_j$ ; note that this is a line not a line segment. With this definition, Algorithm 4 for `IsInCircle` is modified as follows, making use of Algorithm 7 to see if a point is to the left of a given line:

```

1: function ISINCIRCLE(\mathcal{P} , i , j , k , ℓ)
2: if $i == \partial$ then
3: return IsInOuterHalfPlane(\mathcal{P} , j , k , ℓ)
4: else if $j == \partial$ then
5: return IsInOuterHalfPlane(\mathcal{P} , k , i , ℓ)
6: else if $k == \partial$ then
7: return IsInOuterHalfPlane(\mathcal{P} , i , j , ℓ)
8: end if
9: $a_x, a_y = \mathcal{P}(i)$ $\triangleright \mathcal{P}(i)$ returns the i th point p_i in the point set \mathcal{P} ,
10: $b_x, b_y = \mathcal{P}(j)$ \triangleright and $a_x, a_y = \mathcal{P}(i)$ returns the x - and y -coordinates of p_i .
11: $c_x, c_y = \mathcal{P}(k)$
12: $d_x, d_y = \mathcal{P}(\ell)$
13: $\Delta = \begin{vmatrix} a_x - d_x & a_y - d_y & (a_x - d_x)^2 + (a_y - d_y)^2 \\ b_x - d_x & b_y - d_y & (b_x - d_x)^2 + (b_y - d_y)^2 \\ c_x - d_x & c_y - d_y & (c_x - d_x)^2 + (c_y - d_y)^2 \end{vmatrix}$
14: return $\text{sgn}(\Delta)$
15: end function
16: function ISINOUTERHALFPLANE(\mathcal{P} , v , w , ℓ) $\triangleright u == \partial$.
17: $e = \text{IsLeftOfLine}(\mathcal{P}, v, w, \ell)$
18: if $e == 0$ then
19: $b = \text{PointOnSegment}(\mathcal{P}, \ell, v, w)$
20: if $b == 1$ then
21: return b
22: else
23: return -1
24: end if
25: else
26: return e
27: end if
28: end function

```

The function `PointOnSegment`( $\mathcal{P}$ ,  $u$ ,  $v$ ,  $w$ ), assuming that the points  $p_u$ ,  $p_v$ , and  $p_w$  are collinear, returns 1 if  $p_u$  on the open edge  $e_{vw}$ , 0 if  $p_u = p_v$  or  $p_u = p_w$ , and  $-1$  otherwise. This is implemented using `sameside` from `ExactPredicates.jl` (Lairez, 2019).

Now we can address the issue of defining what it means for a point to be inside a ghost triangle's circumdisk. Since the ghost vertex will be to the left of  $e_{ij}$ , or to the left of  $\ell_{ij}$ , we can interpret the inside of the circumdisk as being the set of points to the left of  $\ell_{ij}$ . Thus, a point  $p$  will be inside the circumdisk of  $T_{ij\partial}$  if it is to the left of  $\ell_{ij}$ .

**Updating ghost triangles in the triangulation** The next issue to consider is the modification of our existing algorithms so that we explicitly represent the ghost edges and ghost triangles in  $\mathcal{T}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , and  $\mathcal{N}$ . The two algorithms to consider in detail are

AddTriangle and DeleteTriangle. In the case of AddTriangle, the functions that need to be considered for the ghost triangles are the AddBoundaryEdges function. Whenever we update the adjacent and adjacent-to-vertex maps with the new boundaries, we just need to extend them so that we also add in the ghost triangles appropriately. For example, AddBoundaryEdgesSingle in Algorithm 9 becomes:

```

1: function ADDBOUNDARYEDGESINGLE($i, j, k, b_{ij}, b_{jk}, b_{ki}, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$; update_ghost_edges
 = false)
2: $u, v, w = \text{RotateTriangle}(b_{ij}, b_{jk}, b_{ki}, i, j, k)$
3: $\mathcal{A}(e_{uw}) = \partial$
4: $\mathcal{A}(e_{vw}) = \partial$
5: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{uw}, e_{vw}$)
6: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{uv}$)
7: push!($\mathcal{N}(\partial), w$) $\triangleright u$ and v are already in $\mathcal{N}(\partial)$.
8: if update_ghost_edges then \triangleright Add $T_{uw\partial}$ and $T_{vw\partial}$ and delete $T_{uv\partial}$.
9: $\mathcal{A}(e_{w\partial}) = u$
10: $\mathcal{A}(e_{\partial u}) = w$
11: $\mathcal{A}(e_{v\partial}) = w$
12: $\mathcal{A}(e_{\partial w}) = v$
13: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(u), e_{w\partial}$)
14: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(w), e_{\partial u}, e_{v\partial}$)
15: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(v), e_{\partial w}$)
16: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(u), e_{v\partial}$)
17: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(v), e_{\partial u}$)
18: push!($\mathcal{T}, T_{uw\partial}, T_{vw\partial}$)
19: delete!($\mathcal{T}, T_{uv\partial}$)
20: end if
21: end function

```

The function now includes  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  in its arguments. Moreover, we include the keyword update\_ghost\_edges in case we do not have to consider ghost nodes at all, which would be useful if we are applying de Berg's method of Algorithm 18 which still uses AddTriangle. This keyword update\_ghost\_edges is also put into the new AddTriangle. Note also in this code that we simplify in some cases, for example in Line 7 we only add  $w$  to  $\mathcal{N}(\partial)$  rather than  $u, v$ , and  $w$ , since  $u$  and  $v$  are already boundary edges prior to the addition of  $T_{ijk}$ . We also do not need to delete any edges from  $\mathcal{A}$  in this function since the previous ghost edges,  $e_{v\partial}$  and  $e_{\partial u}$ , still exist from the new ghost triangles  $T_{uw\partial}$  and  $T_{vw\partial}$ . Applying similar ideas for the cases of two and three boundary edges, we obtain the following new forms for AddBoundaryEdgesDouble and BoundaryEdgesTriple:

```

1: function ADDBOUNDARYEDGESDOUBLE($i, j, k, b_{ij}, b_{jk}, b_{ki}, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$; update_ghost_edges
 = false)
2: $u, v, w = \text{RotateTriangle}(!b_{ij}, !b_{jk}, !b_{ki}, i, j, k)$
3: $\mathcal{A}(e_{vu}) = \partial$
4: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{vu}$)
5: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial), e_{vw}, e_{wu}$)
6: delete!($\mathcal{N}(\partial), w$) $\triangleright e_{w\partial}$ was removed; u and v are still in $\mathcal{N}(\partial)$, though.
7: if update_ghost_edges then \triangleright Add $T_{vu\partial}$ and delete $T_{vw\partial}$ and $T_{wu\partial}$.
8: $\mathcal{A}(e_{u\partial}) = v$
9: $\mathcal{A}(e_{\partial v}) = u$

```

```

10: delete!(\mathcal{A} , $e_{w\partial}$, $e_{\partial w}$) \triangleright This ghost edge $e_{w\partial}$ is now obstructed by e_{vu} .
11: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(v)$, $e_{u\partial}$)
12: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(u)$, $e_{\partial v}$)
13: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(u)$, $e_{\partial w}$)
14: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(v)$, $e_{w\partial}$)
15: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(w)$, $e_{u\partial}$, $e_{\partial v}$)
16: push!(\mathcal{T} , $T_{vu\partial}$)
17: delete!(\mathcal{T} , $T_{vw\partial}$, $T_{wu\partial}$)
18: end if
19: end function

1: function AddBoundaryEdgesTriple(i , j , k , \mathcal{T} , \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{A}^{-1} , \mathcal{N} ; update_ghost_edges =
 false)
2: $\mathcal{A}(e_{ji}) = \partial$
3: $\mathcal{A}(e_{ik}) = \partial$
4: $\mathcal{A}(e_{kj}) = \partial$
5: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$, e_{ji} , e_{ik} , e_{kj})
6: push!($\mathcal{N}(\partial)$, i , j , k)
7: if update_ghost_edges then \triangleright Add $T_{ik\partial}$, $T_{kj\partial}$, and $T_{ji\partial}$.
8: $\mathcal{A}(e_{i\partial}) = j$
9: $\mathcal{A}(e_{\partial j}) = i$
10: $\mathcal{A}(e_{j\partial}) = k$
11: $\mathcal{A}(e_{\partial k}) = j$
12: $\mathcal{A}(e_{k\partial}) = i$
13: $\mathcal{A}(e_{\partial i}) = k$
14: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(i)$, $e_{\partial j}$, $e_{k\partial}$)
15: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(j)$, $e_{i\partial}$, $e_{\partial k}$)
16: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(k)$, $e_{j\partial}$, $e_{\partial i}$)
17: push!(\mathcal{T} , $T_{ji\partial}$, $T_{ik\partial}$, $T_{kj\partial}$)
18: end if
19: end function

```

The ideas used for extending the AddBoundaryEdges functions can be used to extend the DeleteBoundaryEdges functions. Adding a keyword update\_ghost\_edges to DeleteTriangle, we now define the new methods for DeleteBoundaryEdges.

```

1: function DeleteBoundaryEdgesSingle(i , j , k , b_{ji} , b_{ik} , b_{kj} , \mathcal{T} , \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{A}^{-1} , \mathcal{N} ; update_ghost_edges
 = false)
2: $u, v, w = \text{RotateTriangle}(b_{ji}, b_{kj}, b_{ik}, i, j, k)$
3: delete!(\mathcal{A} , e_{vu})
4: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$, e_{vu})
5: $\mathcal{A}(e_{vw}) = \partial$
6: $\mathcal{A}(e_{wu}) = \partial$
7: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$, e_{vw} , e_{wu})
8: push!($\mathcal{N}(\partial)$, w)
9: if update_ghost_edges then \triangleright Add $T_{vw\partial}$ and $T_{wu\partial}$ and delete $T_{vu\partial}$.
10: $\mathcal{A}(e_{w\partial}) = v$
11: $\mathcal{A}(e_{\partial v}) = w$
12: $\mathcal{A}(e_{u\partial}) = w$
13: $\mathcal{A}(e_{\partial w}) = u$

```

```

14: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(v)$, $e_{u\partial}$)
15: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(u)$, $e_{\partial v}$)
16: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(v)$, e_{∂})
17: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(w)$, $e_{\partial v}$, $e_{u\partial}$)
18: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(u)$, $e_{\partial w}$)
19: push!(\mathcal{T} , $T_{vw\partial}$, $T_{wu\partial}$)
20: delete!(\mathcal{T} , $T_{vu\partial}$)
21: end if
22: end function

1: function DELETEBOUNDARYEDGESDOUBLE($i, j, k, b_{ji}, b_{ik}, b_{kj}, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$; update_ghost_edges
 = false)
2: $u, v, w = \text{RotateTriangle}(b_{ji}, b_{kj}, b_{ik}, i, j, k)$
3: delete!(\mathcal{A} , e_{uw} , e_{wv})
4: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$, e_{uw} , e_{wv})
5: $\mathcal{A}(e_{uv}) = \partial$
6: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$, e_{uv})
7: delete!($\mathcal{N}(\partial)$, w)
8: if update_ghost_edges then ▷ Add $T_{uv\partial}$ and delete $T_{uw\partial}$ and $T_{wv\partial}$.
9: $\mathcal{A}(e_{v\partial}) = u$
10: $\mathcal{A}(e_{\partial u}) = v$
11: delete!(\mathcal{A} , $e_{w\partial}$, $e_{\partial w}$)
12: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(u)$, $e_{w\partial}$)
13: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(v)$, $e_{\partial w}$)
14: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(w)$, $e_{\partial u}$, $e_{v\partial}$)
15: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(u)$, $e_{v\partial}$)
16: push!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(v)$, $e_{\partial u}$)
17: push!(\mathcal{T} , $T_{uv\partial}$)
18: delete!(\mathcal{T} , $T_{uw\partial}$, $T_{wv\partial}$)
19: end if
20: end function

1: function DELETEBOUNDARYEDGESTRIANGLE($i, j, k, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}$; update_ghost_edges =
 false)
2: delete!(\mathcal{A} , e_{kj} , e_{ji} , e_{ik})
3: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$, e_{kj} , e_{ji} , e_{ik})
4: delete!($\mathcal{N}(\partial)$, i, j, k)
5: if update_ghost_edges then ▷ Delete $T_{ji\partial}$, $T_{kj\partial}$, and $T_{ik\partial}$.
6: delete!(\mathcal{A} , $e_{i\partial}$, $e_{\partial j}$, $e_{j\partial}$, $e_{\partial k}$, $e_{k\partial}$, $e_{\partial i}$)
7: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(j)$, $e_{i\partial}$, $e_{\partial k}$)
8: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(i)$, $e_{\partial j}$, $e_{k\partial}$)
9: delete!($\mathcal{A}^{-1}(k)$, $e_{j\partial}$, $e_{\partial i}$)
10: delete!(\mathcal{T} , $T_{ji\partial}$, $T_{kj\partial}$, $T_{ik\partial}$)
11: end if
12: end function

```

**Point location** The next problem to address is that of point location. That is, if we have a point outside of the triangulation, then what ghost triangle should we say the point lives in? To answer this question, we imagine that there is some central point  $p_c$  that all ghost edges go through. For example,  $p_c$  should be the centroid of  $\mathcal{P}$ . We illustrate this

in Figure 1.13, where we see that this choice partitions the exterior of the triangulation into separate regions for each ghost triangle. This way, we can now uniquely define the space that each ghost triangle occupies. For example, in Figure 1.13 we see that the point  $q$  is in the triangle  $T_{9,10,\partial}$  as  $q$  is to the left of  $e_{9,10}$ ,  $e_{c,10}$ , and  $e_{9,c}$ , where  $c$  refers to  $p_c$ .

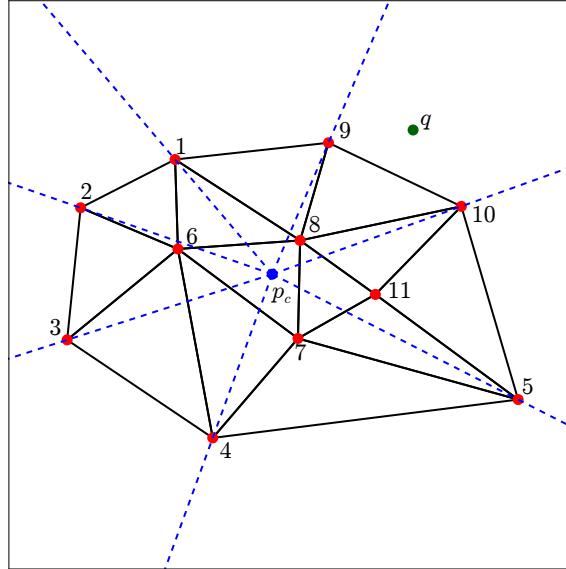


Figure 1.13: Representation of ghost triangles. The blue point  $p_c$  is at the centroid of the points, and the blue dashed lines show how the ghost edges are interpreted; the actual ghost edges are those that extend outwards from the triangulation, but we connect to the centroid to illustrate their interpretation. The point  $q$  is an example point that we see lies in  $T_{9,10,\partial}$ .

To start, let us address the computation of this point  $p_c$ . Suppose that  $\mathcal{P} = \{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$ , so that

$$p_c = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i, y_i). \quad (1.2)$$

The issue with this definition is that our triangulations are built incrementally, meaning that the  $p_c$  should only use as many points as is currently in the triangulation anyway. So,  $p_c$  should need to be updated as we build the triangulation. One other feature of interest is that we will typically need to be access  $p_c$  whenever an algorithm attempts to access  $\mathcal{P}(\partial)$ . So, should we just add an extra element to  $\mathcal{P}$  and let it be indexed via  $\partial$ ? This is one solution, but it may cause issues with how we enumerate our points in code and we would have to change a lot of algorithms to work with it. Therefore, we will instead define a mutable point  $(p_{c,x}, p_{c,y})$  that we update whenever we add or remove a point, and this point can be represented as a constant so that we do not need to add it to  $\mathcal{P}$  nor do we have to modify any of our existing functions, allowing  $\mathcal{P}(\partial)$  to be mapped to  $p_c$  without actually storing  $p_c$  in  $\mathcal{P}$ . The mutable point  $(p_{c,x}, p_{c,y})$  in JULIA is represented as a mutable `Tuple` using `MutableNamedTuples.jl` (Protter, 2021). Notice, though, that (1.2) would slow down the algorithm significantly if we had to constantly re-sum all the terms, so we need a method for computing  $p_c^{n+1}$  given  $p_c^n$  and a new point  $p_{n+1} = (x_{n+1}, y_{n+1})$ , where  $p_c^m = m^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^m (x_i, y_i)$ . In fact, computing  $p_c^m$  takes  $m + 1$  operations to compute, and if we have  $n$  points in our final triangulation we will have computed  $p_c^1, p_c^2, \dots, p_c^n$ , thus taking  $\sum_{m=1}^n (m + 1) = n(n + 3)/2 = \mathcal{O}(n^2)$  time to compute.

Since our algorithm for computing the triangulation takes  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$  to compute (Cheng et al., 2013, Theorem 3.7), we will have completely dominated the triangulation time by computing this simple expression (1.2). To avoid this cost, notice that

$$(n+1)p_c^{n+1} = \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} (x_i, y_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i, y_i) + (x_{n+1}, y_{n+1}) = np_c^n + (x_{n+1}, y_{n+1}),$$

so  $p_c^{n+1} = (n+1)^{-1}(np_c^n + p_{n+1})$ . Notice that the inverse of this formula,  $p_c^n = n^{-1}[(n+1)p_c^{n+1} - p_{n+1}]$ , could be used for updating  $p_c$  after deleting a point (as we discuss later). Thus, computing  $p_c$  over the cost of a single triangulation takes only  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  time.

Now let us ensure we can correctly identify if a point is in a given ghost triangle; later we will discuss modifications to Algorithm 16. Since our method for seeing if a point is in a triangle just makes use of `IsLeftOfLine`, we only have to modify Algorithm 7. See that if we want to see if a point is to the left of  $e_{i\partial}$ , then this is the same as seeing if a point is to the left of  $e_{ci}$ . Similarly, to see if a point is to the left of  $e_{\partial j}$ , we just see if it is to the left of  $e_{jc}$ . Since  $p_c$  is accessed through  $\mathcal{P}(\partial)$ , we see that the coordinates of the edge have simply been swapped in these ghost edge cases, with the ghost vertex at infinity moved to the vertex. We thus obtain the following modification to `IsLeftOfLine`, which automatically makes `IsInTriangle` work also:

```

1: function ISLEFTOFLINE(\mathcal{P} , i , j , k)
2: ($i == -1$ && $j == -3$) && return -1
3: ($i == -1$ && $j == -2$) && return 1
4: ($i == -3$ && $j == -1$) && return 1
5: ($i == -3$ && $j == -2$) && return -1
6: ($i == -2$ && $j == -3$) && return 1
7: ($i == -2$ && $j == -1$) && return -1
8: if $i == \partial$ || $j == \partial$ then
9: $j, i = i, j$ ▷ Swap i and j .
10: end if
11: return IsOriented($\mathcal{P}(i)$, $\mathcal{P}(j)$, $\mathcal{P}(k)$) ▷ $\mathcal{P}(\partial)$ will get mapped to p_c .
12: end function

```

Notice that we only had to add an extra case to this code, amounting to only three lines in Lines 8–10, to make these predicates `IsLeftOfLine` and `IsInTriangle` work.

Now let us discuss how we can modify Algorithm 16 so that we can correctly work with ghost triangles. The main issue in this case is that the point location algorithm makes the assumption that we will eventually reach an edge that goes beyond  $q$ , as this is when the orientation of the points will swap so that the condition in Line 25 in Algorithm 16 becomes false. Moreover, the selection of the initial triangle needs to be modified for the case where a point is outside the triangulation.

To discuss our solution to this problem, let us first give the modified form of Algorithm 16 and then we will discuss all the new components.

This new algorithm is given in Algorithm 22. The first modification is Line 2 which checks if the initial vertex  $p_k$  is a boundary point, or if the triangulation contains ghost triangles. The function `IsBoundaryPoint` checks if  $p_k$  is a boundary point, defined by:

```

1: function ISBOUNDARYPOINT(u , \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{N})
2: if $\partial \in \mathcal{N}$ then ▷ More efficient method if the triangulation has ghost triangles.
3: return $u \in \mathcal{N}(\partial)$
4: else ▷ If the triangulation has no ghost triangles.

```

---

**Algorithm 22** Point location with the jump-and-march algorithm, updated to work with ghost triangles.

---

**Inputs:**

- A vertex  $k$  to start the walk at and a query point  $q$ . See also Algorithm 15 for choosing this vertex  $k$  randomly.
- An adjacent map  $\mathcal{A}$ , adjacent-to-vertex map  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , and point set  $\mathcal{P}$ .

**Outputs:**

- A triangle  $T_{ijk}$  that contains  $q$  in its interior.

```

1: function JUMPANDMARCH($k, q, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{P}$)
2: if !IsBoundaryPoint($k, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{N}$) || !HasGhostTriangles($\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}$) then
3: $p, e_{ij}, p_i, p_j = \text{SelectInitialTriangle}(q, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{N}, k, \mathcal{P})$
4: else
5: $e_{ij}, e_{\text{edge}}, e_{\text{tri}} = \text{CheckInteriorEdgeIntersections}(q, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{N}, k, \mathcal{P})$
6: if e_{tri} then
7: return T_{ijk}
8: else if ! e_{edge} then
9: $e_{ij} = \text{StraightLineSearchGhostTriangles}(q, \mathcal{A}, k, \mathcal{P})$
10: return $T_{ij\partial}$
11: end if
12: $p, p_i, p_j = \mathcal{P}(k), \mathcal{P}(i), \mathcal{P}(j)$
13: end if
14: while IsOriented(p_i, p_j, q) == 1 do
15: $k = \mathcal{A}(e_{ij})$
16: if $k == \partial$ then
17: if HasGhostTriangles($\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}$) then
18: $e_{i'j'} = \text{StraightLineSearchGhostTriangles}(q, \mathcal{A}, i, \mathcal{P})$
19: return $T_{i'j'\partial}$
20: else
21: return JumpAndMarch($i, q, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}^{-1}, \mathcal{P}$)
22: end if
23: end if
24: $p_k = \mathcal{P}(k)$
25: if IsOriented(p, q, p_k) == -1 then
26: $j = k$
27: $p_j = p_k$
28: else
29: $i = k$
30: $p_i = p_k$
31: end if
32: end while
33: $k = \mathcal{A}(e_{ji})$
34: return T_{jik}
35: end function

```

---

```

5: for $v \in \mathcal{N}(u)$ do ▷ Try and find a boundary edge with u as an endpoint.
6: IsBoundaryEdge(u, v, \mathcal{A}) && return true
7: end for

```

---



```

8: return false
9: end if
10: end function

```

The function `HasGhostTriangles` checks if the triangulation contains ghost triangles, and is defined by:

```

1: function HASGHOSTTRIANGLES(\mathcal{A} , \mathcal{A}^{-1})
2: $e_{uv} = \text{iterate}(\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial))$ ▷ Pick some edge from $\mathcal{A}^{-1}(\partial)$.
3: return EdgeExists($e_{v\partial}$, \mathcal{A}) ▷ If e_{uv} and $e_{v\partial}$ exist, then $T_{uv\partial}$ exists.
4: end function

```

We need these checks because the behaviour will depend on whether or not a triangulation has ghost triangles; triangulations computed using the Bowyer-Watson algorithm will, but those with de Berg's method will not. If the triangulation does have ghost edges, then the behaviour for a boundary point differs from that for an interior point, with the latter case being identical to the case where a triangulation has no ghost triangles. The function `SelectInitialTriangle` in Line 3 is simply Lines 2–24 from the original algorithm in Algorithm 16.

Lines 5–13 now consider the case where the triangulation has ghost triangles and the initial vertex is on the boundary. The first step when starting from the boundary is to see if the point is in the interior of the triangulation or in the exterior, since if it is in the interior then we can just find some initial edge and use Algorithm 16 as usual. We do this check in Line 5 using the `CheckInteriorEdgeIntersections` function, which returns  $e_{ij}$ ,  $e_{\text{edge}}$ , and  $e_{\text{tri}}$ . This edge  $e_{ij}$  will be the interior edge that the line  $\overrightarrow{p_k q}$  intersects, or  $e_{\emptyset\emptyset}$  (an empty edge) if no such edge exists;  $e_{\text{edge}}$  is a Boolean that will records whether or not  $\overrightarrow{p_k q}$  intersects an interior edge, i.e.  $!e_{\text{edge}}$  would mean that  $q$  is outside of the triangulation;  $e_{\text{tri}}$  is a Boolean that records whether or not the point  $q$  is in one of the solid triangles (a non-ghost triangle) neighbouring  $p_k$ , so that  $T_{ijk}$  contains  $q$ , as we return in Line 7. If  $!e_{\text{edge}}$  is true, then we compute a boundary edge  $e_{ij}$  such that the ghost triangle  $T_{ij\partial}$  contains  $q$ , done using the function `StraightLineSearchGhostTriangles` which does the equivalent of Algorithm 16 except for ghost triangles. If  $e_{\text{tri}}$  and  $!e_{\text{edge}}$  are both false, then we just compute the initial points in Line 12 and proceed as usual, since  $q$  is in the interior. This function `CheckInteriorEdgeIntersections` in Line 5 is defined as follows:

```

1: function CHECKINTERIOREGEINTERSECTIONS(q , \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{N} , k , \mathcal{P})
2: $p = \mathcal{P}(k)$
3: $i = \mathcal{A}(e_{k\partial})$ ▷ This is to the left of p .
4: $p_i = \mathcal{P}(i)$
5: $o_1 = \text{IsOriented}(p, q, p_i)$ ▷ $o_1 = 1$ if p_i is left of \overrightarrow{pq} .
6: for $r \in \{1, \dots, |\mathcal{N}(k)| - 2\}$ do ▷ $|\mathcal{N}(k)|$ neighbours, two are ∂ and i .
7: $j = \mathcal{A}(e_{ki})$
8: $p_j = \mathcal{P}(j)$
9: $o_2 = \text{IsOriented}(p, q, p_j)$ ▷ $o_2 = 1$ if p_j is left of \overrightarrow{pq} .
10: if $o_1 o_2 == -1$ then ▷ Possible intersection.
11: if SegmentsMeet(p, q, p_i, p_j) == 1 then ▷ Do \overrightarrow{pq} and $\overrightarrow{p_i p_j}$ intersect?
12: return e_{ji} , true, false ▷ Switch i and j so that p_i is left of \overrightarrow{pq} .
13: else if IsOriented(p_j, p, q) == 1 && IsOriented(p, p_i, q) == 1 then
14: return e_{ij} , false, true ▷ No intersection, but is inside T_{ijk} .
15: else
16: return $e_{\emptyset\emptyset}$, false, false

```



```

17: end if
18: end if
19: $o_1, i, p_i = o_2, j, p$
20: end for
21: return $e_{\emptyset\emptyset}$, false, false
22: end function

```

This function starts by taking the point  $p_i$  that is to the left of the point  $p_k$ , as done in Lines 2–4. We then see in Line 5 if  $p_i$  is to the left of  $\overrightarrow{pq}$ . Then, looping over the  $|\mathcal{N}(k) - 2|$  remaining neighbours of  $p_k$ , we rotate right around  $p_k$  until we find an edge  $e_{ij}$  such that  $p_i$  is left of  $\overrightarrow{pq}$  and  $p_j$  is right of  $\overrightarrow{pq}$ , or vice versa. This case means that  $o_1 o_2 = -1$ , as we test in Line 10. If  $o_1 o_2 = -1$  is true, then there are two cases:

1. First, the edge  $e_{ij}$  may actually intersect  $\overrightarrow{pq}$ , in which case we can start the straight line search from this edge  $e_{ij}$ . This test is done using `SegmentsMeet`, which is the function `meet` from `ExactPredicates.jl` (Lairez, 2019), and returns 1 if the two open line segments intersect in a single point, 0 if the two closed line segments intersect in one or several points, and  $-1$  otherwise.
2. The second case is that the edge  $e_{ij}$  does not intersect  $\overrightarrow{pq}$ , which could mean that  $q$  is on the other side of  $p$  away from  $e_{ij}$ , or  $q$  is on the same side as  $p$  but still away from  $e_{ij}$ , meaning it must be inside the triangle  $T_{ijk}$ . To differentiate between these two cases, we first see if  $q$  is left of  $e_{jk}$  and left of  $e_{ki}$ , as we test in Line 13, as this implies that  $q$  must be inside  $T_{ijk}$ . If this test is not true, then this failure along with the first case's failure imply that  $q$  is away from  $p_k$  relative to the edge  $e_{ij}$ , which must mean that  $q$  is outside of the triangulation as  $p_k$  is a boundary point, and so we return in Line 16.

If we never find an intersection or a triangle containing  $q$ , then the point  $q$  must be outside of the triangulation, and so we return in Line 21.

Next, the function for jumping over ghost triangles `StraightLineSearchGhostTriangles` in Line 9 of Algorithm 22 is defined by:

```

1: function STRAIGHTLINESEARCHGHOSTTRIANGLES($q, \mathcal{A}, k, \mathcal{P}$)
2: $p_c = \mathcal{P}(\partial)$ ▷ This is the centroid of \mathcal{P} , recall.
3: $i = k$
4: $p_i = \mathcal{P}(k)$
5: $o_{ciq} = \text{IsOriented}(p_c, p_i, q)$
6: if $o_{ciq} == 1$ then ▷ q is left of the ghost edge through p_k , so rotate left.
7: $j = \mathcal{A}(e_{i\partial})$
8: $p_j = \mathcal{P}(j)$
9: while $\text{IsOriented}(p_c, p_j, q) == 1$ do ▷ Until we find an intersection.
10: $i = j$
11: $p_i = p_j$
12: $j = \mathcal{A}(e_{i\partial})$
13: $p_j = \mathcal{P}(j)$
14: end while
15: return e_{ji} ▷ Swap the orientation so that e_{ij} is a boundary edge.
16: else ▷ q is right of the ghost edge through p_k , so rotate right.
17: $j = \mathcal{A}(e_{\partial i})$
18: $p_j = \mathcal{P}(j)$

```

```

19: while IsOriented(p_c, p_j, q) == -1 do
20: $i = j$
21: $p_i = p_j$
22: $j = \mathcal{A}(e_{\partial i})$
23: $p_j = \mathcal{P}(j)$
24: end while
25: return e_{ij}
26: end if
27: end function

```

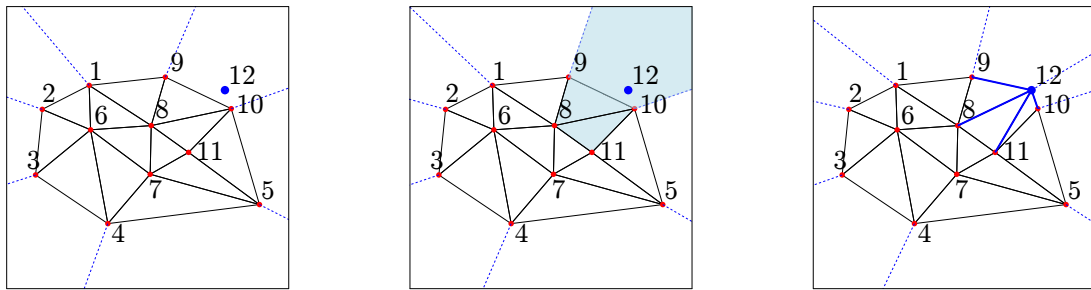
This function follows a very similar idea to that of a straight line search that we use in Algorithm 16. We first determine if  $q$  is left or right of the ghost edge through  $p_k$ , remembering that the ghost edge is interpreted as passing through the centroid  $p_c$  and the boundary point. If  $q$  is left of this ghost edge, then we should rotate left around the boundary until we get a ghost edge that goes past  $q$ , as this will tell us that we have passed a ghost triangle containing  $q$ . This left rotation is done in Lines 6–15, and Line 9 is what tells us to stop rotating. Lines 16–26 performs the right rotation. In this function, we only return a boundary edge  $e_{ij}$  since the third vertex of the ghost triangle will simply be  $\partial$ .

The remainder of Algorithm 22 is mostly unchanged, except we need to check for the case where our straight line search takes us into a boundary edge, in which case the point  $q$  is outside of the triangulation. We check this in Line 16, where we perform a straight line search over the ghost triangles once we go past such an edge.

### Adding a point outside of the triangulation

Now that we have an understanding of ghost triangles, we can consider what happens when we try to add a point outside of a triangulation. We recall that a point  $p$  is inside the circumdisk of a ghost triangle  $T_{ij\partial}$  if  $p$  is to the left of the line  $\ell_{ij}$ . So, there are two cases where a ghost triangle  $T_{ij\partial}$  needs to be deleted after the insertion of a point  $p$ , meaning  $e_{ij}$  is no longer a boundary edge. Following Cheng et al. (2013, Section 3.4), the first case is where  $p$  is to the left of  $\ell_{ij}$  away from the triangulation, and the second case is where  $p$  is on  $e_{ij}$ , in which case we should split edge into two boundary edges and also contain with  $\mathcal{A}(e_{ji})$  (similar to Algorithm 18’s method for handling collinear points). We call the union of the set of points left of  $\ell_{ij}$  and those on  $e_{ij}$  the *outer halfplane* of  $e_{ij}$ ; note that the outer halfplane is neither open nor closed.

Figure 1.14 illustrates what happens when we add a point outside of the boundary. It turns out that with the modifications to our existing algorithms, Algorithm 20 works with no changes.



(a) A point to be added. (b) Triangles that are no longer Delaunay. The unbounded triangle is the ghost triangle. (c) Updated triangulation with Delaunay. The unbounded triangle now includes  $p_{12}$ .

Figure 1.14: Process for inserting a vertex into a triangulation with the Bowyer-Watson algorithm. In (a), the point  $p_{12}$  marked in blue is to be added. In (b), we locate all triangles whose open circumdisk contains  $p_{12}$  and mark them in blue. These triangles are no longer Delaunay. The ghost triangle  $T_{9,10,\partial}$ , represented by the unbounded triangle, has  $p_{12}$  in its open circumdisk as it is left of  $e_{9,10}$ . (c) This is the updated triangulation, with new edges shown in blue. In each figure, the dashed lines are to be interpreted as the ghost edges.

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