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### Exploring Topics of the Art Gallery Problem

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EXPLORING TOPICS OF THE ART  
GALLERY PROBLEM

INDEPENDENT STUDY THESIS

Presented in Partial Fulfillment of the  
Requirements for the Degree Bachelor of Arts in  
the Department of Mathematics and Computer  
Science at The College of Wooster

by  
Megan Vuich

The College of Wooster  
2019

**Advised by:**

Dr. Robert Kelvey



# Abstract

Created in the 1970's, the Art Gallery Problem seeks to answer the question of how many security guards are necessary to fully survey the floor plan of any building. These floor plans are modeled by polygons, with guards represented by points inside these shapes. Shortly after the creation of the problem, it was theorized that for guards whose positions were limited to the polygon's vertices,  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  guards are sufficient to watch any type of polygon, where  $n$  is the number of the polygon's vertices. Two proofs accompanied this theorem, drawing from concepts of computational geometry and graph theory.

This paper explains the Art Gallery Problem along with its two most famous proofs. Certain methods of polygon partitioning, which can be found in both proofs, are also discussed. Finally, extensions to the problem involving subsets of polygons and guards, such as mobile guards, orthogonal polygons, and polygons with holes, are briefly examined. The paper concludes with a cursory glance at extensions that have only begun to be considered.



# Acknowledgements

I would like to thank my advisor, Professor Kelvey, for his guidance and help throughout the whole process. I also want to thank the Wooster Math department, which is full of some of the most supportive teachers I have ever come across. It was a joy to be taught by them.

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# Chapter 1

## Defining the Problem

### 1.1 The Art Gallery Problem

Say you are approached by the curator of your local art gallery. He has an assignment for you: the gallery has recently been broken into, so it is your job to increase security. You must hire enough guards to station in the gallery so that every square foot of the floor plan can be watched by a guard. Of course, the gallery wants to minimize costs, so the less guards you need to hire, the better. What is the least number of guards you will need to guard the entire gallery, and where should they be stationed?

Depending on the details, this problem can become quite complicated. What does the floor plan look like? Are there pillars or large sculptures that can block the guards' view? Must the guards remain stationary, or are they allowed to patrol? Is the gallery on multiple floors, and how are these floors connected? Are there any any mirrors on the walls? Before we become overwhelmed, let's consider this problem in its simplest form: The Art Gallery



Problem, as originally posed by Victor Klee [11]:

**Proposition 1.** *Consider the floor plan of any art gallery. If guards can be stationed anywhere in the gallery at fixed posts, but with the ability to turn around, how many guards are needed for every point in the gallery to be watched by a guard?*

This problem first made its appearance in 1973 at a conference at Stanford University. Here, Vasek Chvátal, a mathematics professor, asked Victor Klee, another mathematician, for a challenging geometric problem. In response, Klee proposed the problem of finding the minimum number of guards sufficient to watch the interior of an art gallery room with  $n$  walls. Klee required that every guard must remain at a fixed post, the walls of the gallery must be straight, and every inch of wall space must be watched by at least one guard [8]. Chvátal would give his formal answer to the problem in 1975, in the form of his Watchman Theorem. In the following decades, many people would enjoy expanding this problem; some added more conditions to the guard's abilities, while others specified the shape of the rooms in question. Several new proofs of the original theorem were produced using areas of math outside of geometry. Even computer scientists spent time developing the problem as a way of studying partition algorithms [11]. It is no surprise that countless extensions of this problem are still being explored today.

## 1.2 Polygons

It can be reasonable to suggest that any floor plan can be modeled as a polygon.

It is usual practice to define polygons as a collection of vertices connected to each other by line segments, all lying in the Euclidean plane,  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . However, in consideration of this problem, we are also concerned with points inside the polygon, and not just its outline. Therefore, we will define a polygon as the closed region of a plane, bounded by the vertices and edges of the traditional definition.  $V$  is considered to be the set of all vertices in polygon  $P$ , so that  $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ . Likewise,  $E$  is the set of all edges found in  $P$ , where  $E = \{v_1v_2, v_2v_3, \dots, v_{n-1}v_n, v_nv_1\}$ . This collection of vertices and edges will be referred to as the boundary of polygon  $P$ , or  $\delta P$ . In set notation, this is:

$$\delta P = E \cup V$$

For a *simple polygon*, none of the line segments of  $E$  will cross over each other. It will be assumed that all polygons discussed in the following chapters will be simple (See fig. 1.1).

The boundary  $\delta P$  divides  $\mathbb{R}^2$  into two regions: an unbounded region called the *exterior* of the polygon, and the bounded region called the *interior* of the polygon [11]. This interior will be the second part of our polygon definition.

**Definition 1.** A **polygon  $P$**  with  $n$  sides is the boundary of  $P$ ,  $\delta P$ , and all points that lie inside of this boundary, also known as  $Int(P)$ . Hence,  $P = Int(P) \cup \delta P$ .

It is quite possible that a floor plan may need to be represented by multiple polygons. This could be necessary if the gallery consists of multiple stories of a building, or is contained in non-adjoining rooms (or adjoined rooms that are separated from closed and opaque doors, where guards cannot patrol between rooms).

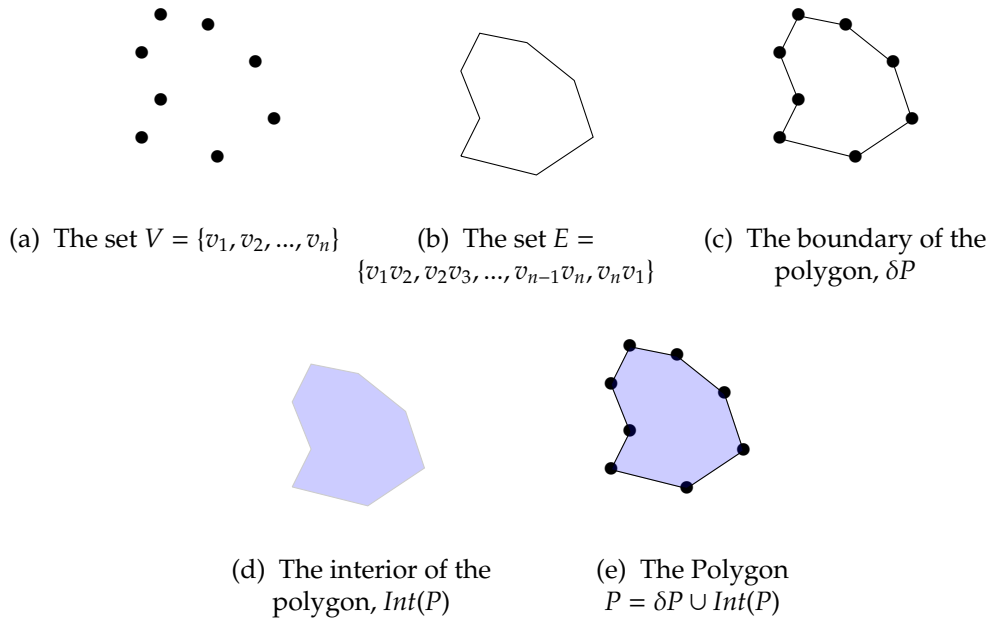


Figure 1.1: Parts of a Polygon

A Polygon as defined for use in the Art Gallery Problem; usually the interior is not included in this definition.

As one more requirement for the simple polygons that we will consider, we do not want more than two adjacent vertices of the polygon to be colinear, or lying on the same edge. Having nonadjacent colinear vertices would make polygon partitioning a more difficult process, and partitioning is essential to proofs that will be mentioned later.

### 1.3 Introduction to Graph Theory

Instead of using polygons, we can choose to describe art gallery floor plans as graphs.

A *graph* is a mathematical model that displays relationships between objects. In this case, our graphs would show points in the Euclidean plane (or

floor plan), with two points being related if a wall goes from one point to the other point.

**Definition 2** ([13]). A **graph** is a set of *nodes* or *vertices*, called  $V = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$ , and a set of edges  $E = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$ , where each edge is a line segment connecting two nodes in  $V$ . Two vertices that share an edge are said to be **adjacent**.

Art gallery graphs will always be simple graphs, meaning that any two vertices will only be connected by at most one edge, and no vertex is connected to itself by an edge (this is because we are assuming that all walls in the gallery are straight). These graphs will also be *connected graphs*, meaning that by traveling on the edges of the graph, any one vertex can be reached by any other vertex. To compare this with polygonal representations of floor plans, a graph is equivalent to the boundary  $\delta P$ .

Different graph terminology can correspond with different types of galleries. The most simple styles of one-room floor plans, where there are no pillars, sculptures, or any structures besides walls that can block one's view, can be represented by cycles. A *cycle* is a type of connected graph where each node is connected to exactly two other nodes, so that you can travel from any node back to itself by following edges, in a path that takes you to every other node in the graph.

Finally, the regions that are bounded by a graph's vertices and edges are called the *faces* of the graph. For simple floor plans, as considered in the original Art Gallery Theorem, each graph will only have two faces: the unbounded region outside the cycle, and the bounded region inside. These

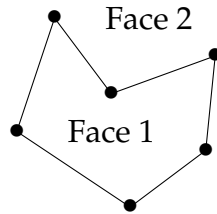


Figure 1.2: Representing the Floor Plan with a Graph

Graphs can also be used to represent gallery floor plans, with nodes and edges being equivalent to the vertices and edges of their polygonal counterparts. The face found inside the graph (Face 1) is also identical to the interior of its corresponding polygon.

faces are comparable to a polygon's exterior and interior (See fig. 1.2).

## 1.4 Guard's sight

Whether you use polygons or graphs to describe your gallery, the mathematical interpretations of their guards are identical. A guard can be shown as a point placed anywhere in the polygon or graph, including on the boundary of  $P$ , or on an edge or vertex of the graph  $G$ . These are assumed to be standing against the gallery's wall.

A guard's *sight* is any part of the floor plan that the guard can see from their position, allowing for the guard to turn in place. The extent of the guard's vision and the height of the walls is not taken into account; as long as there are no walls blocking their view, these guards' lines of sight go on indefinitely.

**Definition 3.** A guard  $g$ 's sight  $S$  is the set of all points  $s \in P$  such that the line segment between  $g$  and  $s$  lies completely in  $P$ .

The set  $S$  is therefore a subset of  $P$ , and the art gallery is completely guarded when the union of every guard's sight is equal to  $P$ .

The guards can be categorized by where they are located in the gallery. Generally, we consider three types of guards: *vertex guards*, *edge guards*, and *point guards*. Their names are self-explanatory; vertex guards can only be placed at the vertices of the polygon (or nodes of the graph), edge guards can be placed at any point of  $\delta P$ , and point guards can be placed anywhere in the polygon, in the interior as well as on the boundary.

Much of the work done on the Art Gallery Problem has only focused on vertex and edge guards, as there are less potential points of placement to consider. For example, the main theorem of the problem, identifying how many guards are sufficient to guard any general polygon, specifies that we are only considering vertex guards. You can see that vertex guards are types of edge guards, since the vertices of a polygon are elements of  $\delta P$ , and edge guards are types of point guards, as  $\delta P \subset P$ .

In some situations, it will take more vertex guards than general point guards to completely watch a polygon, as shown in Figure 1.3.

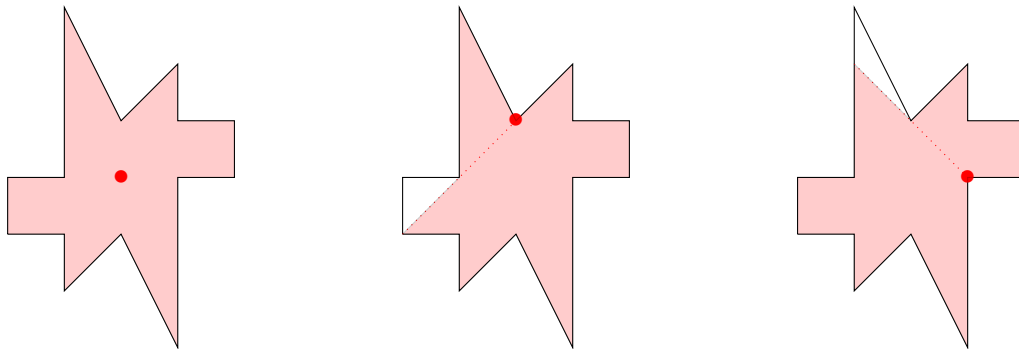


Figure 1.3: Point and Vertex Guards

This polygon only requires a single point guard to be fully covered, but more than one guard is needed if only vertex guards can be used.

A polygon is *convex* if for any two points contained in the polygon, the line

segment between these points lies completely in the polygon. From this definition, it quickly follows that any convex polygon needs only one guard to be thoroughly watched.

**Theorem 1** ([1]). *One guard is sufficient to guard any convex polygon  $P$ , and this guard can be placed at any point in  $P$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $P$  be a convex polygon. By definition of convexity, any two points in  $P$  have a line segment between them that lies entirely in  $P$ . Therefore, by placing a guard  $g$  at any point in  $P$ , every point in  $P$  is visible to  $g$ , by definition of  $g$ 's sight. Hence, one guard is always sufficient to watch convex polygons, when placed anywhere in the polygon.  $\square$

We will show in a later chapter that any non-convex polygon can be partitioned into several convex shapes: specifically, triangles.

## Conclusion

We now have all the basic knowledge required to dive into some theorems of the Art Gallery Problem, starting with the first and arguably most important, the Watchman Theorem. This provides a number for the guards that is sufficient to fully watch any simple polygon. This theorem is accompanied by two proofs, which both rely on concepts of polygons and graphs that we have reviewed in this chapter. Continuing further, we will explore how this theorem came to be, and how topics we have already covered paved the way for us to make such an all-encompassing statement about any floor plan.

## Chapter 2

# The Proofs by Chvátal and Fisk

As mentioned in the previous chapter, the Art Gallery Problem took shape when mathematician Vasek Chvátal requested a geometric problem from his colleague Victor Klee in 1973. It did not take Chvátal long to provide an answer to the problem, complete with a proof; his combinatorial theorem on the subject was published in 1975. A few years later, another mathematician named Steven Fisk outlined his own proof of Chvátal's theorem, so succinct that when it was published it only took up a single journal page [11].

Interestingly enough, these two proofs, both elegant in their own ways, rely on different areas of mathematics to prove the same theorem. In this chapter, the theorem to the Art Gallery Problem, in the form of Chvátal's Watchman Theorem, is presented, along with these two earliest proofs.

### 2.1 The Watchman Theorem

First, let us look at the Watchman Theorem that Chvátal produced in 1975.



**Theorem 2.** [Chvátal’s Watchman Theorem [11]]  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  vertex guards are occasionally necessary and always sufficient to watch an entire polygon with  $n$  edges.

It is important to note that Chvátal, and later Fisk, only considered vertex guards in this theorem; allowing for point guards or edge guards can sometimes result in the need for less guards (see Figure 1.3). Both mathematicians also implied that this theorem holds true for all simple polygons, but are in no way saying that subsets of simple polygons will require this same amount (subsets of simple polygons that require less than  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  guards will be discussed in later chapters).

## 2.2 Necessity and Sufficiency

Two key phrases from Chvátal’s Theorem are “occasionally necessary” and “always sufficient”. We will find these phrases in most theorems relating to the Art Gallery Problem.

**Definition 4.** An amount of guards in an art gallery is **necessary** if the gallery cannot be fully watched with one less guard.

**Definition 5.** An amount of guards is **sufficient** in an art gallery for a certain type of floor plan if all floor plans of this type can be fully watched by this number of guards.

Generally, we only need one example of a floor plan that *needs* a certain number of guards, while it must be proven that any arbitrary floor plan that fits the description of the theorem can be sufficiently watched with this

number of guards. The necessity example acts as a lower bound for the number of guards; for example, consider the most common floor plan used to show that  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  is the least number of guards needed for any simple polygon, Toussaint's Necessity Polygon (fig. 2.1).

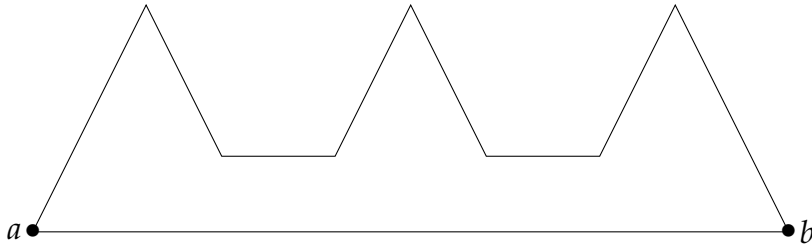


Figure 2.1: Toussaint's Necessity Polygon

This polygon needs  $\frac{n}{3}$  guards to be fully watched. This will hold even if more prongs are added to this polygon, as you would have to add three more sides to get another prong.

This comb-shaped polygon has nine walls and three prongs, and each prong must be watched by its own guard. One of the guards must also watch the base of the polygon, and so must be placed at either point  $a$  or  $b$ . Even so, a guard can only fully see one prong from either of these points. Therefore, this polygon requires  $\frac{n}{3}$  guards [1]. If we were to try to prove that less guards are needed for simple polygons, this floor plan would become a counterexample, and our proposed theorem would not hold.

## 2.3 Chvátal's Proof

Chvátal first assumed that any polygon can be partitioned into triangles, or *triangulated*. To do this, we would add internal diagonals between the vertices of the polygon, until no more can be added without diagonals or edges

crossing. This would result in a *triangulation* of the polygon.

**Definition 6.** An  $n$ -**triangulation** of an  $n$ -sided polygon  $P$  is a graph  $G$  with  $n$  vertices such that one of  $G$ 's faces is bound by  $P$ , and each of the remaining faces is bound by a triangle in the interior of  $P$  [4].

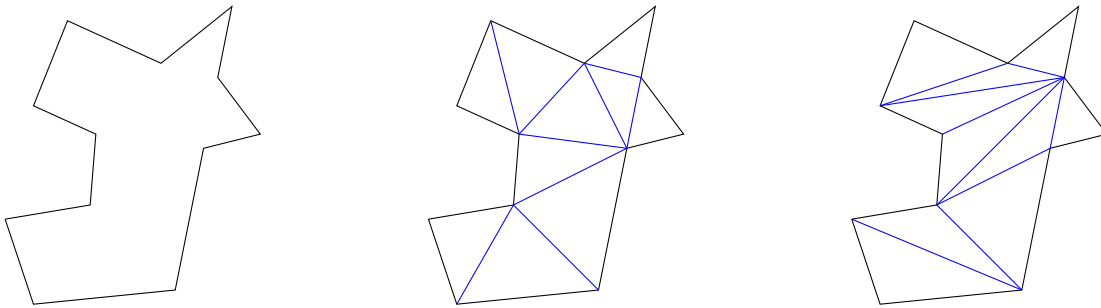


Figure 2.2:  $n$ -Triangulations of a Polygon

A polygon and two of its corresponding triangulations. Note that triangulations are not always unique.

Why Chvátal's assumption is correct, and how we could go about triangulating any polygon, will be discussed in the next chapter.

Chvátal was not just interested in any triangulation, however; he was specifically interested in fans.

**Definition 7.** A **fan** is a collection of triangles that share a vertex, called the *center* of the fan.

In the previous chapter it was proven that a guard placed at any point in a convex  $n$ -sided polygon will cause the polygon to be fully guarded (theorem 1). Because the center of a fan acts as a vertex for all triangles included in the fan, placing a guard at the center of the fan will cause the fan to be fully watched.

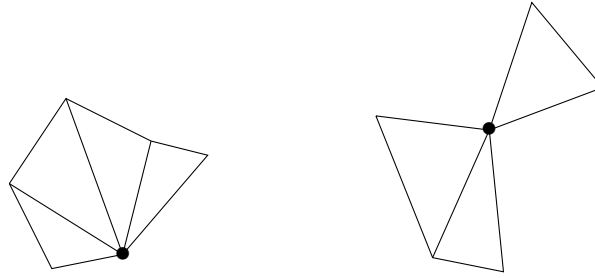


Figure 2.3: Examples of Fans

Chvátal wanted to show that any triangulation of a polygon can be partitioned into  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  fans. It would then follow that placing a guard at the center of each fan in the triangulation allows all the triangles to be watched, and therefore the whole polygon is watched by  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  guards [11].

Throughout the proofs of the following lemma and Chvátal's theorem, we will be considering an arbitrary polygon  $P$  with  $n \geq 6$  vertices, that is triangulated into graph  $G$ .  $P$  and  $G$  will have their vertices labelled  $0, 1, \dots, n - 1$ , in such a way that vertex  $i$  is always adjacent to the vertices  $i - 1$  and  $i + 1$ , and the vertex labelled  $0$  is adjacent to  $1$  and  $n - 1$ . One fan will be removed from  $G$ , creating two triangulations, where  $G'$  is the remaining portion of  $G$ , and  $G_f$  is the removed fan. *Removing* a fan means that we "cut"  $G$  at one of its diagonals, creating two distinct graphs that share at least one edge and two vertices (see fig. 2.4).

It will not do to simply remove a triangle from  $G$ ; two of the triangle's vertices will still be a part of  $G'$ . This means that two out of three times, the fan center that  $G_f$  was originally a part of will also be a vertex in  $G'$ , meaning that  $G'$  still has  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  fans.  $G_f$  is now considered its own fan, so combining these two graphs means that  $G$  has  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor + 1$  fans, which is more fans than we need.

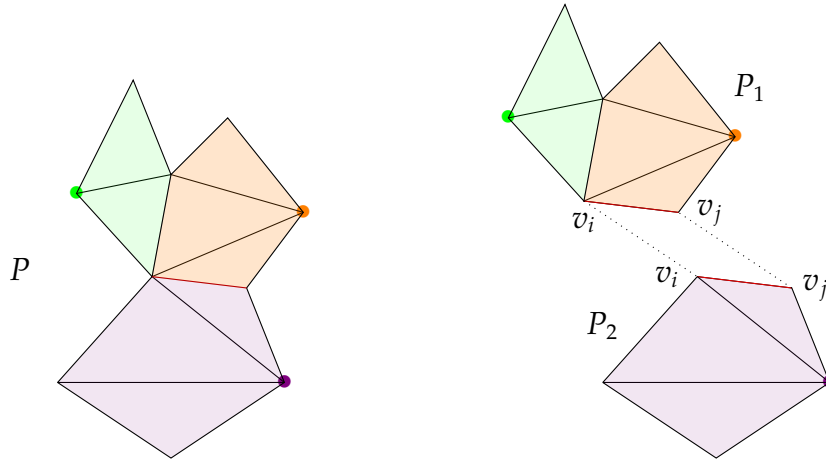


Figure 2.4: Cutting Polygons

When a polygon  $P$  is “cut” along one of its diagonals, we now recognize two triangulations  $P_1, P_2$  that both contain the vertices  $v_1, v_2$  and the edge between them. Though  $P_2$  has five vertices, we would say that we removed three vertices from  $P_1$ , as  $v_i$  and  $v_j$  are still vertices of  $P_1$ .

We want to remove one fan exactly, so at least three vertices must be removed from  $G$ . Therefore, we must find a diagonal in  $G$  that cuts off a minimum of four edges, or three vertices, so that  $G'$  has  $n - 3$  vertices or less. This results in a triangle being completely separate from  $G'$ . Because every triangle was a part of a fan in  $G$ , one of the removed triangle’s vertices would be the center of a fan. Removing the center from  $G'$  means it now has  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor - 1$  fans. On the other hand, we only want to remove one fan from  $G$ , so no more than five vertices should be cut off [11]. We will now prove that every polygon has a diagonal that allows us to do this.

**Lemma 1.** *For any  $n$ -triangulation with  $n \geq 6$ , there exists a diagonal  $d$  that cuts off exactly four, five, or six edges, or three, four, or five vertices, respectively.*

*Proof.* Let  $d$  be a diagonal of the triangulation  $G$  that cuts off a minimum number of edges, so long as  $d$  cuts off at least four edges. Let  $k$  be this

minimum number, so that  $k \geq 4$ . Also, let  $d$ 's endpoints be at 0 and  $k$ .

Because  $G$  is a triangulation,  $d$  is a part of the triangle  $(0, t, k)$ , where  $t$  is some vertex such that  $0 < t < k$  (see fig. 2.5). Then, the diagonal  $(0, t)$  cuts off  $t$  edges from  $G$ . By the minimality of  $d$ , no diagonal exists that cuts off 4, 5, ...,  $k - 1$  edges. Therefore, because  $t < k$ , it must follow that  $t \leq 3$ . Likewise, the diagonal  $(t, k)$  cuts off  $k - t$  edges, so  $k - t \leq 3$  by similar logic. It follows from these inequalities that  $k \leq 6$ .

Hence, there will always exist some diagonal  $d$  which cuts off exactly four, five, or six edges of  $G$ , when  $G$  has  $n \geq 6$  vertices.

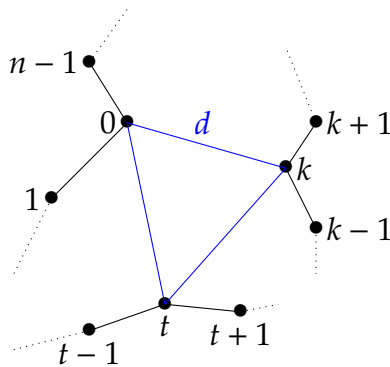


Figure 2.5: Diagonal  $d$  in an Arbitrary Polygon

In any triangulation, there will exist a diagonal  $d$  that cuts off four, five, or six edges (adapted from [11]).

□

**Theorem 3.** ([8]) *A triangulated polygon with  $n$  sides can be partitioned into  $m$  fans, where  $m \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$ .*

*Proof.* First, we will establish base cases for polygons with  $n = 3, 4, 5$  sides, since  $n \geq 3$  for all polygons. If vertex labels are not considered, there is only one way to triangulate three, four, or five-sided polygons, and these

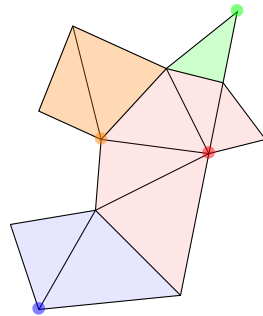


Figure 2.6: Fans of a Polygon

This twelve-sided polygon can be partitioned into four fans, meaning that four guards are sufficient for this particular polygon.

triangulations are fans themselves [8]. The theorem therefore holds for these polygons, as the number of fans in these polygons,  $m$ , is:

$$\left\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \right\rfloor = \left\lfloor \frac{3}{3} \right\rfloor = \left\lfloor \frac{4}{3} \right\rfloor = \left\lfloor \frac{5}{3} \right\rfloor = 1.$$

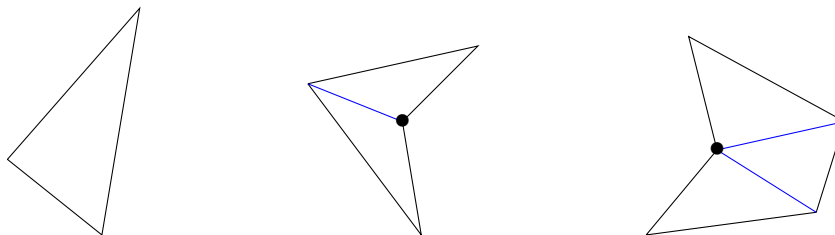


Figure 2.7: Single-Fanned Triangulations

Polygons with three, four, or five vertices and sides can always be triangulated into a single fan, whether they are convex or not.

Let us now assume an inductive hypothesis: any triangulation with  $n - 3$  or less vertices can be partitioned into  $\left\lfloor \frac{n-3}{3} \right\rfloor = \left\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \right\rfloor - 1$  fans, given that  $n \geq 6$ .

Given the previous lemma, we know that there is a diagonal in  $G$  that can partition  $G$  into  $G'$  and  $G_f$ , where  $G_f$  is a polygon with either five, six, or seven vertices, with  $k = 4, 5$ , or  $6$  being the number of edges that are now no longer a

part of  $G'$ . We will consider the cases for each value of  $k$ :

**Case 1.**  $k = 4$ .  $G_f$  would therefore have five vertices. As shown in the base cases, this polygon is always able to be triangulated into a single fan (See fig. 2.8). Hence,  $G$  can be partitioned into  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor - 1 + 1 = \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  fans [11].

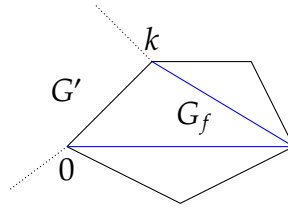


Figure 2.8:  $K = 4$

The polygon  $G_f$  can always be triangulated into one fan, no matter where the center of the fan is located.

**Case 2.**  $k = 5$ .  $G_f$  would then have six vertices. This only allows for  $t = 2$  or  $3$ , since  $k - t \leq 3$  and  $t \leq 3$ . We can assume without loss of generality that  $t = 2$ . We already know that the diagonals  $(0, t)$  and  $(t, k)$  exist in  $G_f$ , and we now have the the 4-vertex polygon, formed by vertices  $t = 2, 3, 4$ , and  $k = 5$ , to triangulate. There are two options remaining (See fig. 2.9):

**Case 2.1.** Let the diagonal  $(3, 5)$  be present in  $G_f$ . Then,  $G_f$  would have two fans, as there are no vertices in  $G_f$  that are found in all triangles present. Let  $T$  be the triangle that contains the vertices  $0, t = 2$ , and  $k = 5$ , and consider the triangulation  $G_T$  to be the union of  $G'$  and  $T$ .  $G_T$  has  $n - 3$  vertices, so by our hypothesis will have  $\lfloor \frac{n-3}{3} \rfloor = \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor - 1$  fans. Because one of the fans of  $G_T$  contains  $T$ , there must exist a fan center at one of the vertices of  $T$ , either  $0, 2$ , or  $5$ . If the fan is centered at vertex  $2$ , then it is only possible for  $T$  to be the



only triangle in the fan, and therefore, this fan can be centered at any of  $T$ 's vertices, so without loss of generality assume it is at 0 or 5.

**Case 2.1.1.** Let the fan center be at vertex 0. We could then add the triangle  $(0, 1, 2)$  to this fan, and  $G_T$  will still have  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor - 1$  fans. The remaining four-vertex polygon is triangulated into a single fan, so  $G$  has  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  fans in total.

**Case 2.1.2.** Let the fan center be at vertex 5. We could extend the fan to include the two triangles  $(3, 4, 5)$  and  $(2, 3, 5)$ , leaving the triangle  $(0, 1, 2)$  as its own fan. The number of fans in  $G$  would therefore total  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$ .

**Case 2.2.** Let the diagonal  $(2, 4)$  be present in  $G_f$ . Then,  $G_f$  can be considered a single fan with fan center at  $t = 2$ , since every triangle in  $G_f$  contains the vertex  $t = 2$ . Therefore,  $G$  can be partitioned into  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor - 1 + 1 = \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  fans.

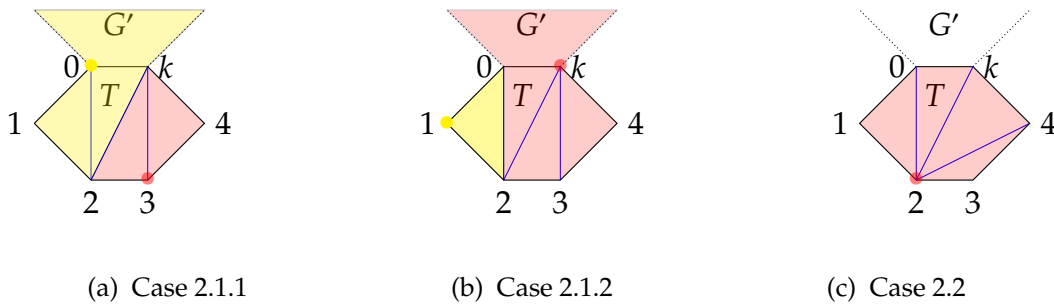


Figure 2.9:  $K = 5$

No matter where a center of a fan is placed,  $G_f$  can be partitioned into two fans or less, and if  $G_f$  has two fans, at least one can be considered as part of  $G'$  ([11]).

**Case 3.**  $k = 6$ , and  $G_f$  would have seven vertices. Because of the minimality of  $d$ , it is only possible for  $t = 3$ , otherwise there would exist a diagonal in  $G$  that cuts off four vertices and is not  $d$ .  $G_f$  is therefore composed of the triangle  $(0, t = 3, k = 6)$ , and two four-sided polygons  $(0, 1, 2, t)$  and  $(t, 4, 5, k)$ .

Without loss of generality, after triangulation two of the vertices of the triangle  $(0, t, k)$  will be fan centers, and  $T = (0, t, k)$  will be in one of these fans. It can be seen that at least one of these fans has a center at 0 or  $k$ , and can therefore be grouped into  $G'$ , as 0 and  $k$  are also vertices in  $G'$ . Four cases stem from this scenario, as there are two four-sided polygons with two ways of triangulating each of them.

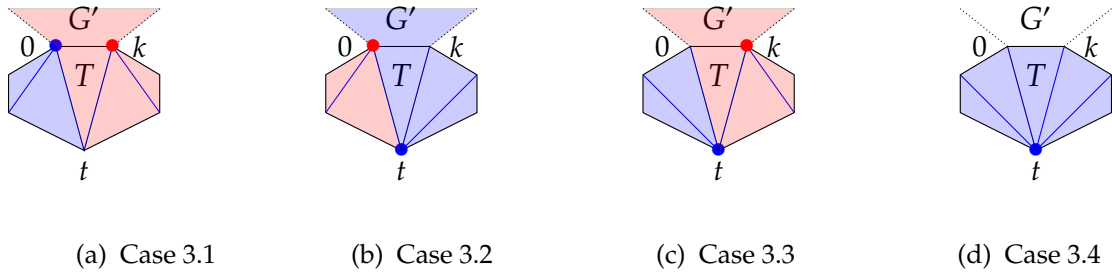


Figure 2.10:  $K = 6$

Given that the triangle  $T$  must exist in this manner, no matter how the 7-gon is triangulated, it can be partitioned into two or less fans. Because  $G'$  has  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor - 2$  fans, this results in the entire polygon having  $m \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  or less fans ([11]).

**Case 3.1.** The diagonals  $(0, 2)$  and  $(4, k)$  exist. Then, two fans can be made with centers at 0 and  $k$ . Without loss of generality, assume  $T$  is in the fan centered at  $k$ , and this fan can be added to  $G'$ . Hence,  $G'$  now has  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor - 1$  fans, and adding the remaining fan gives the entire polygon  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  fans.

**Case 3.2.** The diagonals  $(0, 2)$  and  $(t, 5)$  exist in  $G_f$ . Therefore, two

fans can be made from  $G_f$  with centers at 0 and  $t$ , and the fan centered at 0 can be added to  $G'$ . Then, the total number of fans in the polygon are the ones in  $G'$ ,  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor - 1$ , plus the remaining fan at  $t$ .

**Case 3.3.** The diagonals  $(1, t)$  and  $(4, k)$  exist in  $G_f$ . Then, two fans can be formed from  $G_f$ , centered at  $t$  and  $k$ . The fan centered at  $k$  can be included in  $G'$ , giving  $G'$   $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor - 1$  fans. With the remaining fan at  $t$ , the entire polygon  $P$  has  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  fans.

**Case 3.4.** The diagonals  $(1, t)$  and  $(t, 5)$  exist in  $G_f$ . Therefore,  $G_f$  can be considered a single fan centered at  $t$ . Since  $G'$  has at most  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor - 1$  fans by the inductive hypothesis, the largest possible number of fans  $P$  can contain is  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$ .

Therefore, given our inductive hypothesis and base cases, any triangulation with  $n$  vertices can be partitioned into  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  fans. If a guard is placed at each fan center in the triangulation, then it follows that the corresponding polygon can be fully watched with  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  vertex guards.  $\square$

## 2.4 Graph Coloring and Fisk's Proof

When Steve Fisk developed his proof of the Watchman Theorem a few years later, he used a concept called graph coloring, or specifically, vertex coloring. *Graph coloring*, or *vertex coloring*, is the process of assigning colors to the vertices of a graph so that no adjacent vertices share the same color. These colorings are not always unique, as shown in fig. 2.11.

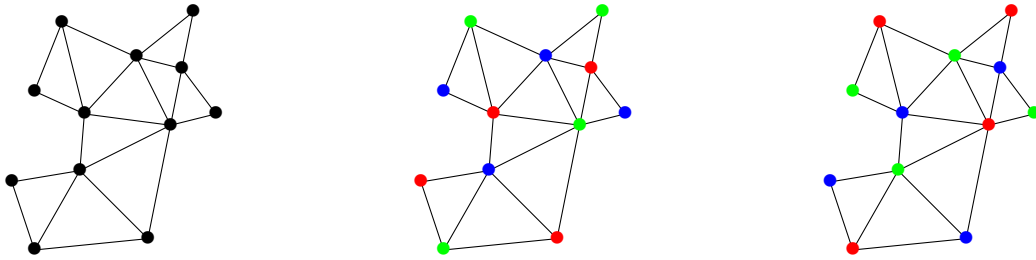


Figure 2.11: Graph Coloring

This graph is 3-colorable, since it is composed of  $K_3$  graphs. Placing a guard at every vertex colored with the least common color will result in the polygon being guarded by at most  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  guards.

**Definition 8.** A graph  $G$  is  $k$ -colorable if it requires at most  $k$  colors for its vertices to be properly colored. The *chromatic number* of  $G$  is the smallest value of  $k$  such that  $G$  is  $k$ -colorable [12].

Fisk also includes the use of triangulation in his proof. If we consider the graph of a triangle, this graph is said to be a *complete graph* on three vertices, as any vertex in this graph is adjacent to all other vertices of the graph. Generally, a complete graph on  $n$  vertices is labeled as  $K_n$ , so a triangle can be labeled as  $K_3$ .

**Proposition 2.** A complete graph  $K_n$  is  $n$ -colorable.

Since every two vertices in a complete graph are adjacent to each other, no two vertices in a complete graph can share the same color, meaning that the graph must be colored with a number of colors equal to the number of its vertices. It is therefore assumed that a triangulation, which is composed of multiple  $K_3$  graphs, has a coloring with three colors as well [5].

*Proof.* (Fisk's Watchman Proof, [5]) Let  $P$  be a simple polygon with  $n$  vertices, and  $G$  one of its corresponding triangulations. Let  $G$  be colored so that it only

uses colors 1, 2, and 3. The number of vertices with color 1, color 2, and color 3 will add up to  $n$ , by  $G$  being 3-colorable. Partitioning  $n$  into three groups will cause one of two things to happen; either each group has  $\frac{n}{3}$  items, or at least one group will have greater than  $\frac{n}{3}$  items, leading to one group having less than  $\frac{n}{3}$  items. Therefore, at least one color will appear less than or equal to  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  times in the coloring (we can consider the floor of this number since this number will always be an integer). Without loss of generality, let color 1 be the color for which this is the case, where  $m$  is the number of vertices colored color 1. It is known that every triangle in  $G$  will have a vertex with color 1, color 2, and color 3. Then, if a guard is placed at each vertex that has color 1, the polygon can be fully watched with  $m \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  guards.  $\square$

## Conclusion

In this chapter we have looked at the first theorem of the Art Gallery Problem, along with the two most well-known methods of proving it. Chvátal, the same mathematician who theorized the Watchman claim (theorem 2), showed that any polygon can be partitioned into fans of triangles, and any polygon with  $n$  vertices will have at most  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  fans, with one guard for each fan. Fisk conjectured that a triangulated polygon is three-colorable, and placing guards at the vertices of the least-occurring color results in  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  guards as well. Both of these proofs infer that any polygon can be transformed into a triangulation, but is this always true? Our next step is to explore this question, and if it is found to be true, to determine efficient ways of performing triangulation on any polygon.

# Chapter 3

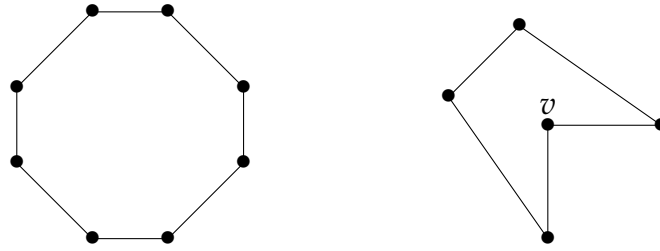
## Polygon Triangulation

In previous chapters, it was mentioned that both Chavátal's and Fisk's Watchman proofs assumed that any simple polygon can be triangulated. In this chapter, it will not only be shown why this assumption is correct, but several algorithms that can turn any simple polygon into a triangulation will also be presented.

### 3.1 Triangulation Existence Proof

First, we will show that it is possible to find a triangulation of any simple polygon  $P$ . This proof relies on the presence of convex vertices in the polygon; luckily, every polygon has at least one convex vertex.

**Definition 9.** The vertex  $v_c$  in the polygon  $P$  is a *convex vertex* if the interior angle formed by  $v_{c-1}$ ,  $v_c$ , and  $v_{c+1}$  is  $180^\circ$  or smaller.



(a) An example of a polygon with only convex vertices. It happens that all convex polygons will have only convex vertices.

(b) This polygon has one vertex that is not convex,  $v$ .

Figure 3.1: Convex Vertices

**Theorem 4.** Any  $n$ -sided polygon can be triangulated into  $n - 2$  triangles by adding  $n - 3$  diagonals to the polygon.

*Proof.* Consider a polygon with vertices  $n = 3$ . This is a triangle already, hence there is no triangulation required.

Now consider the inductive hypothesis that any polygon with  $n - 1$  vertices or less is able to be triangulated into  $n - 3$  triangles, given that  $n \geq 4$ .

Let's say we have a simple polygon  $P$  with  $n$  vertices. By definition, there must exist at least one convex vertex in this polygon. Label one of these vertices  $v_2$ , with its two neighbors  $v_1$  and  $v_3$ . Now, consider adding a diagonal  $d$  whose endpoints are  $v_1$  and  $v_3$  (See fig. 3.2).

**Case 1:  $d$  is completely internal.** The diagonal  $d$  lies entirely in the interior of  $P$ , so this diagonal can be added to the polygon.

The polygon is now separated into two smaller polygons,  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ , with  $P_2$  being the triangle with vertices  $v_1, v_2, v_3$ .  $P_2$  is already triangulated, and  $P_1$  now has  $n - 1$  vertices, since it no longer contains  $v_2$ . Therefore, by the inductive hypothesis,  $P_1$  can be triangulated into  $n - 3$  triangles. Considering

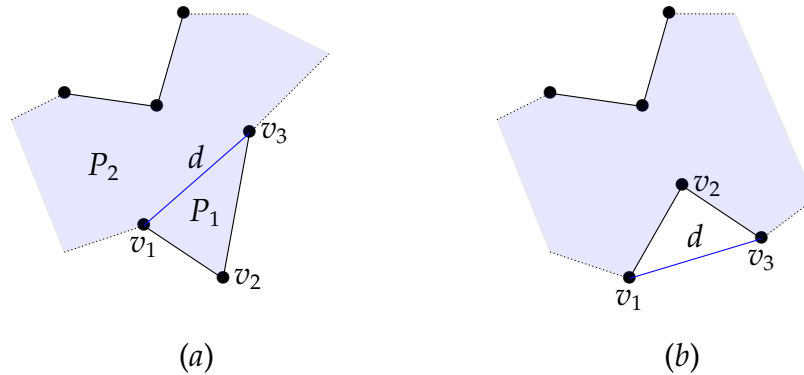


Figure 3.2: Internal or External Diagonals

(a) The diagonal  $d$  is internal, as it lies completely in the interior of polygon  $P$ . (b) For this polygon,  $v_2$  is not convex, making  $d$  external. A different diagonal will therefore be used to partition  $P$ .

$P_1$  and  $P_2$  together, it can be concluded that  $P$  can also be triangulated into  $n - 3 + 1 = n - 2$  triangles.

**Case 2:  $d$  is not internal.** Then, consider the vertex  $x$  that is not adjacent to  $v_2$ , but lies the closest distance to  $v_2$  (where  $x$  is not the same vertex as  $v_1$  or  $v_3$ ). Draw a diagonal from  $v_2$  to  $x$ .

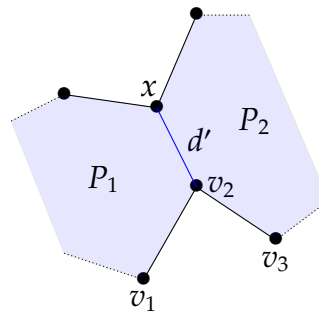


Figure 3.3: Partitioning from a Non-convex Vertex

Since  $v_2$  is not convex, the diagonal that partitions  $P$  into two smaller polygons must be drawn from the closest non-adjacent vertex to  $v_2$ , which is  $x$ .

The polygon  $P$  is now separated into smaller polygons  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ ,



assuming there are no holes in  $P$ . Without loss of generality, assume that  $v_1$  is a vertex of  $P_1$  only, and therefore  $v_3$  is a vertex of  $P_2$  only. Therefore, the number of vertices in  $P_1, P_2$  is less than or equal to  $n - 1$ , so by the inductive hypothesis they can both be triangulated. Hence,  $P$  can also be triangulated.

□

Now that it has been shown that any polygon can be triangulated, let's explore a method that can transform any simple polygon,  $P$ , into a triangulation. To better reference the individual vertices of the polygon and their proximity to each other, we will place  $P$  in the  $xy$ -coordinate plane. Then, every vertex  $v$  can be defined as a point in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ :

$$v = (x_v, y_v).$$

Let us also define a function  $h : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , that isolates the  $y$ -coordinate, also referred to as the height, of a vertex of  $P$ ,

$$h(v) = y_v.$$

Doing this allows us to order the vertices by the value of their respective  $y$ -coordinates; for any  $v_j \in V$ , there exists  $v_i, v_k \in V$  such that  $h(v_i) \leq h(v_j) \leq h(v_k)$ . Now, every polygon will have at least one maximum vertex, and at least one minimum vertex.

**Definition 10.** We call a vertex  $v_i$  in a polygon  $P$  **maximal** when  $h(v_i) \geq h(v)$  for all  $v \in V$ .

**Definition 11.** We call a vertex  $v_j$  in a polygon  $P$  **minimal** when  $h(v_j) \leq h(v)$  for all  $v \in V$ .

A method of triangulation that we will explore will require us to first transform a simple polygon into one or more *monotone polygons*, and then convert these monotone polygons into triangulations.

Now that we know it is possible to divide polygons into triangles, we can use several different algorithms that allow us to complete triangulation efficiently, or to even allow computers to do the work for us.

**Definition 12.** A polygon is *monotone* if, when placed on the x-y plane, the boundary of the polygon can be described as two chains of vertices and edges, such that the vertices of each chain can be labelled in such a way that the y-values of the vertices along each chain are strictly increasing or strictly decreasing [9].

## 3.2 Polygon Regularization

The process of converting a simple polygon into a monotone polygon is sometimes referred to as *polygon regularization*. Through this method, diagonals are added to the polygon to partition it into several smaller polygons, so that in the context of each polygon, each vertex besides the maximum and minimum vertices will be *regular*.

**Definition 13.** A vertex  $v$  of a polygon  $P$  is said to be a *regular vertex* if:

1.  $v$  is adjacent to a vertex  $u \in P$  such that  $h(v) < h(u)$ , given that  $v$  is not the maximum vertex of  $P$ , and,

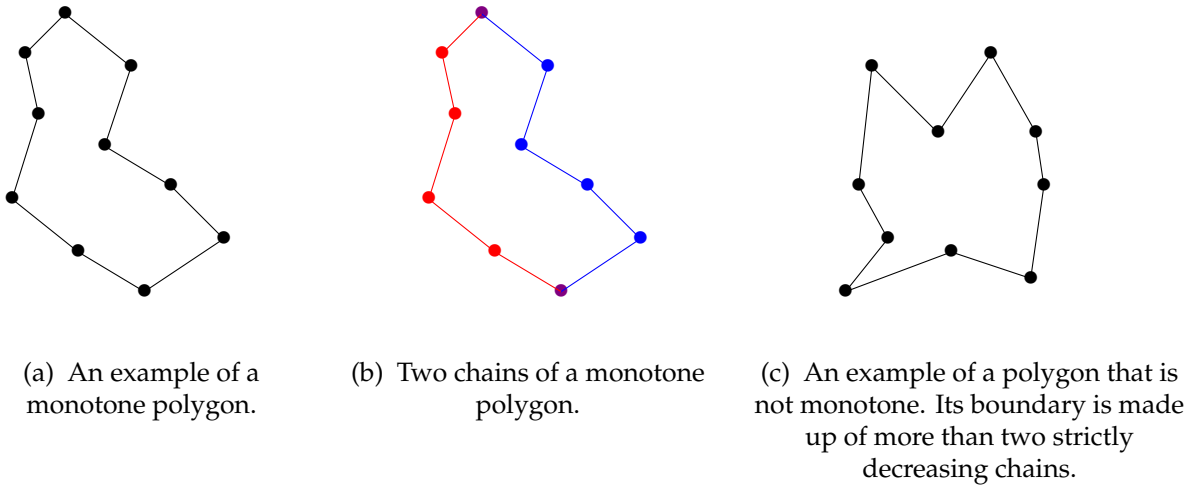


Figure 3.4: Monotone Polygons

For a polygon to be monotone, it must be possible to separate the vertices of the polygon into two chains, where the heights of the vertices in each chain are either always decreasing or always increasing.

2.  $v$  is adjacent to a vertex  $w \in P$  such that  $h(v) > h(w)$ , given that  $v$  is not the minimum vertex of  $P$ .

If all the vertices in a polygon are regular besides the maximum and minimum vertices, then there is no possibility of the polygon possessing *interior cusps*.

**Definition 14.** A vertex  $v_k$  of polygon  $P$  is an *interior cusp* of  $P$  if the interior angle of  $v_k$  is greater than  $180^\circ$ , and one of the following is true for the adjacent vertices of  $v_k$ ,  $v_{k-1}$  and  $v_{k+1}$ :

1.  $h(v_k) < h(v_{k-1})$  and  $h(v_k) < h(v_{k+1})$ .
2.  $h(v_k) > h(v_{k-1})$  and  $h(v_k) > h(v_{k+1})$ .

Figure 3.4c has two interior cusps, and the presence of these interior cusps causes this polygon to not be monotone.

**Theorem 5.** Let  $Q$  be an arbitrary simple polygon with  $n$  vertices,  $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n$ , appearing in clockwise order around the boundary of  $Q$ . Let  $q_1$  have the largest  $y$ -coordinate of the vertices of  $Q$  ( $h(q_1) > h(q_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ), and let  $q_k$  have the smallest  $y$ -coordinate of  $Q$ 's vertices ( $h(q_k) < h(q_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ).

Then, the following statements about  $Q$  are equivalent:

1. No vertex of  $Q$  is an interior cusp.
2.  $Q$  is monotone.
3. All vertices of  $Q$  are regular, excluding the maximum vertex and minimum vertex of  $Q$ .

*Proof.* (1  $\rightarrow$  2) Assume that  $Q$  is not monotone. Then, one of the two chains that form from  $q_1$  to  $q_k$  is not strictly decreasing.

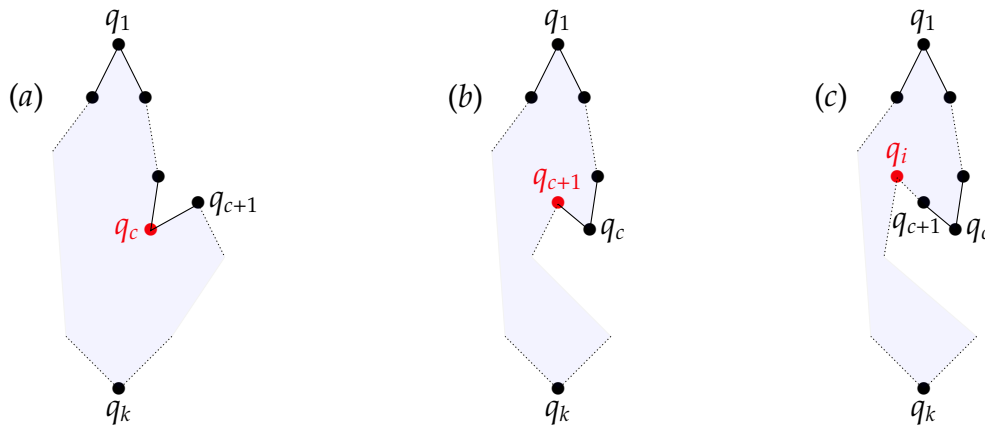


Figure 3.5: The Presence of Interior Cusps

(a) If  $q_{c+1}$  lies to the right of  $q_c$ , then the interior angle of  $q_c$  is greater than  $180^\circ$ , meaning that an interior cusp is at  $q_c$ . (b) With  $q_{c+1}$  to the left of  $q_c$ , if  $q_{c+2}$  has a smaller  $y$ -coordinate than  $q_{c+1}$ , an interior cusp is at  $q_{c+1}$ . (c) It follows that for some  $q_i$  between  $q_c$  and  $q_k$ , an interior cusp must exist at  $q_i$ , or else there cannot be a chain connecting  $q_1$  to  $q_k$  through  $q_c$ .

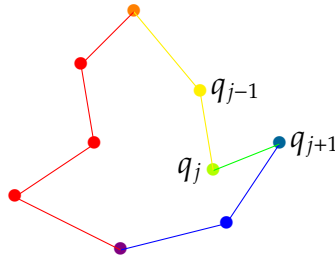
Let  $q_c$ , where  $1 < c < k$ , be the first vertex on this chain where  $h(q_{c+1}) > h(q_c)$ . To prevent  $q_c$  from being an interior cusp,  $q_{c+1}$  must lie to the left of  $q_c$ , otherwise the interior angle at  $q_c$  would be greater than  $180^\circ$ . Now, to prevent  $q_{c+1}$  from being an interior cusp,  $q_{c+2}$  must also have a greater  $y$ -coordinate than  $q_{c+1}$ , and so on. It must continue in this way until one of two things happens (see fig. 3.5):

1. There exists a vertex  $q_{c+j}$ , where  $c + j < k$ , such that  $h(q_{c+j}) > h(q_{c+j-1})$  which causes  $q_{c+j}$  to be an interior cusp.
2. The path will eventually need to connect to  $q_k$ , which has the lowest  $y$ -coordinate by definition. Therefore, if no interior cusp has been found in the vertices  $q_1$  to  $q_{k-2}$ , then  $q_{k-1}$  is an interior cusp, since  $h(q_k) < h(q_{k-1})$  and  $h(q_{k-1}) > h(q_{k-2})$ .

Then, an interior cusp has been found in  $Q$ . By contradiction,  $Q$  is therefore monotone [9].

(2  $\rightarrow$  3) Because  $Q$  is monotone, the boundary of  $Q$  can be divided into two chains, with vertices whose  $y$ -coordinates are in strictly decreasing order from  $q_1$  to  $q_k$ .

Assume that there exists a vertex in  $Q$ , besides  $q_1$  and  $q_k$ , that is not regular. Without loss of generality, let this vertex be  $q_j$ , where  $1 < j < k$ , and let  $h(q_{j-1})$  and  $h(q_{j+1})$  be greater than  $h(q_j)$ . If both  $q_{j-1}$  and  $q_{j+1}$  are included in the same chain, the chain would not be strictly decreasing. Therefore, partitioning the vertices of  $Q$  into strictly decreasing chains based on the vertices'  $y$ -coordinates would require at least four chains.



This would result in  $Q$  not being monotone, by definition. Therefore, by contradiction, all of  $Q$ 's vertices, excluding the maximum and minimum vertices, are regular.

(3  $\rightarrow$  1) Let the vertices of  $Q$  be regular, excluding vertices that are maximal or minimal,  $q_{max} = q_1$  and  $q_{min} = q_k$ . For all vertices besides  $q_{max}$  and  $q_{min}$ , by the definition of regular vertices, each vertex is adjacent to exactly one vertex with a greater  $y$ -coordinate value than itself, and exactly one vertex with a smaller  $y$ -coordinate value than itself. Therefore, no of these vertices can be interior cusps, by definition.

Consider the vertex  $q_{max}$ . By definition,  $h(q_{max}) > h(q)$ , for all vertices  $q \in Q$ . Therefore, the greatest interior angle that  $q_{max}$  could have is  $180^\circ$ , which disqualifies  $q_{max}$  from being an interior cusp. With similar logic,  $q_{min}$  cannot have an interior angle greater than  $180^\circ$ , so  $q_{min}$  cannot be an interior cusp.

Hence, if all the vertices of  $Q$  are regular, maximal, or minimal,  $Q$  cannot have an interior cusp. □

From the above theorem, we know that partitioning a simple polygon so that all of the polygon's original vertices are regular will result in several monotone polygons. The following list is one process of partitioning an arbitrary polygon with diagonals so that all the polygon's vertices, save its

maximal and minimal vertices, are regular in the context of the newly formed polygons [9]. We will use the non-monotone polygon from fig. 3.4c to illustrate the steps of this regularization, with each step shown in the figures 3.6 and 3.7.

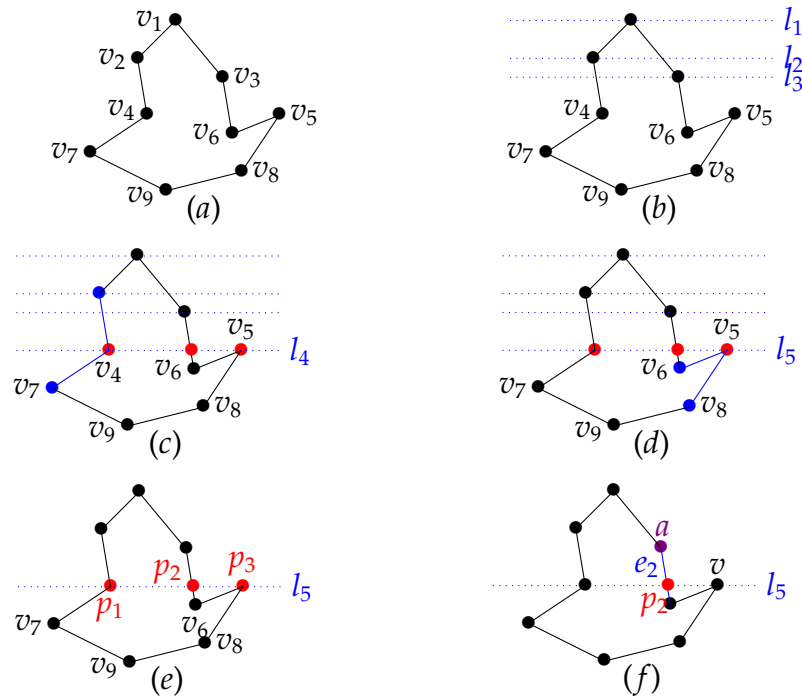


Figure 3.6: Regularization: Ordering and Checking Vertices

The vertices of a non-monotone polygon are ordered by height, and horizontal lines are drawn through each vertex of the polygon. If an  $l_i$  intersects the polygon's boundary more than two times, then  $v_i$  can potentially be a non-regular vertex. Above, the line that intersects  $v_4$  and  $v_5$  crosses  $P$ 's boundary three times. Since  $v_4$  is regular, we know that  $v_5$  must not be, so we continue through the algorithm in consideration of  $v_5$ .

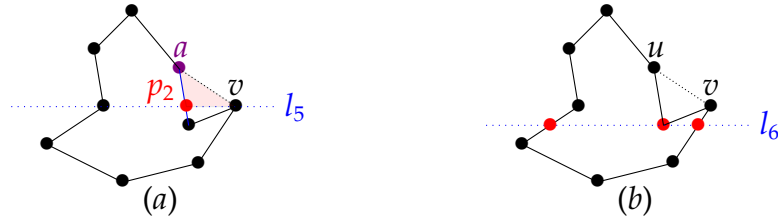
1. Sort vertices of polygon  $P$  by decreasing  $y$ -coordinates, resulting in

$$v_0, v_1, \dots, v_n.$$

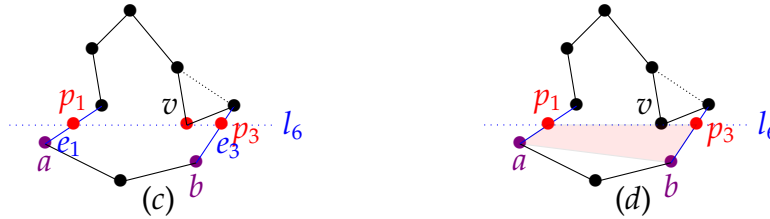
2. For each vertex, starting at  $v_0$ , draw a horizontal line  $l$  through  $v_i$ .
  - If  $l$  intersects  $P$ 's boundary one or two times, move on to the next vertex.
  - If not, check to see if  $v_i$  is regular. If it is, continue on to vertex  $v_{i+1}$ .
  - If  $v_i$  is not regular, label the points where the polygon's boundary intersects  $l$  as  $p_1, p_2, \dots$ . Note that there will exist a  $p_i$  such that  $v = p_i$ .
3. For all  $p_i$  on line  $l$ , if  $p_i$  does not lie on a vertex of the polygon, label the edge it lies on as  $e_i$ .
  - If  $v_i$  fails regularity by not having an adjacent vertex with a larger  $y$ -coordinate, mark the endpoint of  $e_{i-1}$  that lies above  $l$  as  $a$ , and the endpoint of  $e_{i+1}$  that lies above  $l$  as  $b$ , if these edges exist.
  - Otherwise, mark the endpoints of  $e_{i-1}$  and  $e_{i+1}$  that lie below  $l$  as  $a$  and  $b$ , respectively.
4. Consider the polygon  $P'$  with vertices  $p_{i-1}, v, p_{i+1}, a$ , and  $b$ , skipping the vertices that do not exist.
  - If the edge between  $a$  and  $b$  intersects edges of  $P$ , label the vertex of  $P$  that lies inside  $P'$ , and has the closest  $y$ -coordinate value to  $v$ , with  $u$ .
  - Otherwise, choose  $a$  or  $b$  to be marked as  $u$ .
5. Add an edge between  $v$  and  $u$  and return to step two, now considering the vertex  $v_{i+1}$ .
6. Once this process has been completed for  $v_n$ , remove all edges that were added in the previous steps that lie in  $P$ 's exterior.



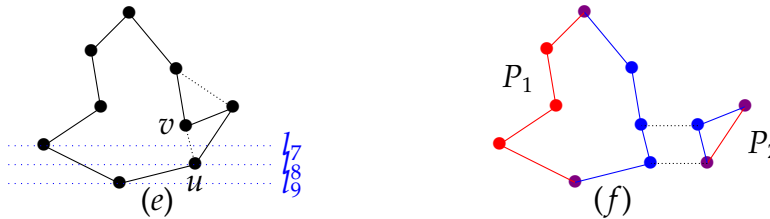
Figure 3.7f shows two polygons that result from regularizing the non-monotone polygon in fig. 3.4c (these polygons are not unique; the non-monotone polygon could have been partitioned in other ways which would result in different monotone polygons). It is shown that these polygons are monotone, as the boundary of each can be partitioned into two chains of vertices with strictly decreasing  $y$ -values (shown in red and blue). The resulting  $P_2$  happens to be a triangle and so is fully triangulated already. One way of triangulating a polygon with more than three vertices, like  $P_1$ , is shown in the next section.



- (a) The shaded region shows the polygon formed by  $p_2$ ,  $v$ , and  $a$ . (b) An external diagonal is added to  $P$ , so  $v_5$  is now a regular vertex. We move on to the non-regular  $v_6$ .



- (c)  $p_1$  and  $p_3$  are not vertices of  $P$ , so  $e_1, e_3, a$  and  $b$  are marked as shown. (d) A polygon of  $p_1, v, p_3, b$  and  $a$  is formed.



- (e) An interior diagonal between  $v$  and  $u$  (formerly  $b$ ) is created, making  $v_6$  regular. (f) The polygon is cut at the internal diagonal created, forming two monotone polygons.

Figure 3.7: Regularization: Remaining Iterations

The completion of the regularization process for the polygon in fig. 3.6. The process leaves us with two or more monotone polygons, which will then need to be triangulated.

### 3.3 Triangulation of Monotone Polygons

The next and final step will be to triangulate each of the monotone polygons formed through the regularization process. Several algorithms have been created that allow us to triangulate with ease; one of note was created in 1977 by Garey, Johnson, Preparata, and Tarjan [11].

This algorithm mentions reflex vertices; these are simply vertices that are not convex.

**Definition 15.** A vertex  $v$  in a polygon  $P$  is considered to be *reflexive* if the interior angle of  $v$  is greater than  $180^\circ$ .

---

**Algorithm 1:** Triangulation of a Monotone Polygon [11, 6]

---

```

1 Push  $p_0$ .
2 Push  $p_1$ .
3 for  $i = 2$  to  $n - 1$  do
4   if  $p_i$  is adjacent to  $v_0$  then
5     while  $t > 0$  do
6       Draw diagonal  $p_i \rightarrow v_t$ .
7       Pop.
8     end
9     Pop.
10    Push  $v_t$  (from when the while loop began).
11    Push  $p_i$ .
12  else if  $p_i$  is adjacent to  $v_t$  then
13    while  $t > 0$  and  $(v_{t-1}, v_t, p_i)$  is not reflex do
14      Draw diagonal  $p_i \rightarrow v_{t-1}$ .
15      Pop.
16    end
17    Push  $p_i$ .
18  end
19 end

```

---

We will demonstrate how this algorithm works on the polygon that was

regularized in the previous section: fig. 3.7. Because the result of that regularization was more than one monotone polygon, we will only use one of these as our example. For the sake of its usefulness, let's consider  $P_1$ , as  $P_2$  is already a triangle.

### A Triangulation Example

First, the vertices must again be ordered by the  $y$ -coordinate. Let  $p_0$  be the vertex with the greatest height, and  $p_{n-1}$  be the vertex with the smallest height (when  $n$  is the number of vertices in the polygon).

A *stack* is used in this algorithm to help keep track of vertices. Stacks are objects usually employed in computer programming; they are defined as ordered collections of items, and items can only be added or removed from the stack at one end, which is referred to as the *top of the stack*. The act of adding an item to the top of a stack is called *pushing* an item, and the act of removing an item from the top of the stack is called *poppping* the item. In this algorithm, the items of the stack will be vertices, with the vertex at the bottom of the stack labeled  $v_0$  and the vertex at the stack's top labeled  $v_t$ . In the following figures, the stacks will be represented as towers of vertices next to the polygons, with the top and bottom labeled with  $v_t$  and  $v_0$ , respectively. The vertices of the polygon will be added or removed from the stack, depending on their attributes.

We will run through the algorithm with each vertex  $p_i$ , paying careful attention to what vertices  $p_i$  is adjacent to, as well as whether or not  $p_i$  is reflexive. For the example polygon we used in the regularization algorithm,

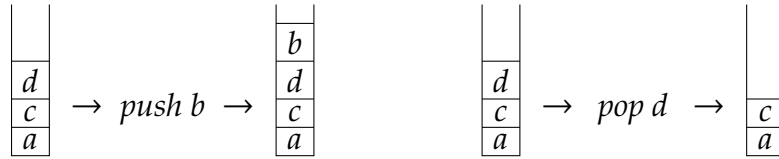


Figure 3.8: Stack Operations

An example stack showing how pushing an item onto the stack places the item at the stack's top. An item can only be popped if it is at the top of the stack; for example, if we wanted to pop  $a$ , we would first need to pop  $b$ ,  $d$ , and  $c$ , in that order.

we will first push  $p_0$  and  $p_1$  onto the stack (see fig. 3.9). Then, we will determine if  $p_2$  is adjacent to  $v_0$  or  $v_t$ , which refer to  $p_0$  and  $p_1$ , respectively. Since  $p_2$  is adjacent to  $p_0$ , the algorithm instructs that we draw a diagonal from  $p_1$  to  $p_2$ . Then, both  $p_0$  and  $p_1$  are removed from the stack, and  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are pushed onto the stack, with  $v_0$  referring to  $p_1$  now. We then consider  $p_3$ .

For each iteration of this algorithm,  $p_i$  will always be adjacent to  $v_0$ , for this particular polygon. We will now look at a different polygon where we have to consider  $p_i$  being adjacent to  $v_t$  instead.

### Another Triangulation Example

In fig. 3.10, we see that  $p_2$  is adjacent to  $v_t$ , which is  $p_1$ , during this iteration. Therefore, we consider the interior angle formed by the vertices  $p_0$ ,  $p_1$ , and  $p_2$ . Because this angle is reflexive, we simply push  $p_2$  onto the stack and move on to  $p_3$ . This vertex is adjacent to  $v_0$ . Therefore, as long as  $t \neq 0$ , we add a diagonal between  $v_t$  and  $p_3$ . We do this by adding diagonals between  $p_2$  and  $p_3$ , and between  $p_1$  and  $p_3$ , and remove  $p_2$  and  $p_1$  from the stack. Then, since  $v_t = v_0$ , we remove  $p_0$  from the stack and push  $p_2$ , as it was  $v_t$  at the beginning of this iteration, and  $p_3$  (fig. 3.10e).

We have come to the end of this iteration of the algorithm, so we start again in consideration of  $p_4$ . The vertex  $p_4$  is adjacent to  $p_2$ , which is  $v_0$  on the stack, and at the moment  $t = 1$ , since there are  $t + 1$  vertices on the stack. We will therefore draw a diagonal between  $p_4$  and  $p_3$ , and pop  $p_3$  from the stack. Now that  $t = 0$ , we will pop  $p_2$ , as it is the last vertex left on the stack, and push  $p_3$  and then  $p_4$ , so that  $p_3 = v_0$  and  $p_4 = v_t$ .

We now come to  $p_5$ , which is found to be adjacent to both  $v_0$  and  $v_t$ . This is usually a sign that the polygon has been fully triangulated, and in some cases a line is added to the algorithm to end the iteration early when this happens. In algorithm 1, one more iteration than necessary is allowed instead, which causes us to draw a superfluous line between vertices already connected by an edge. For our particular example, this extra diagonal is drawn between  $p_4$  and  $p_5$ , as this algorithm first considers if  $p_i$  is adjacent to  $v_0$ , then  $v_t$ . Either method results in a triangulated polygon; which algorithm to use is up to the user's discretion. O'Rourke, in his evaluation of this particular algorithm, mentions that it has an  $O(n)$  overall time complexity [11].

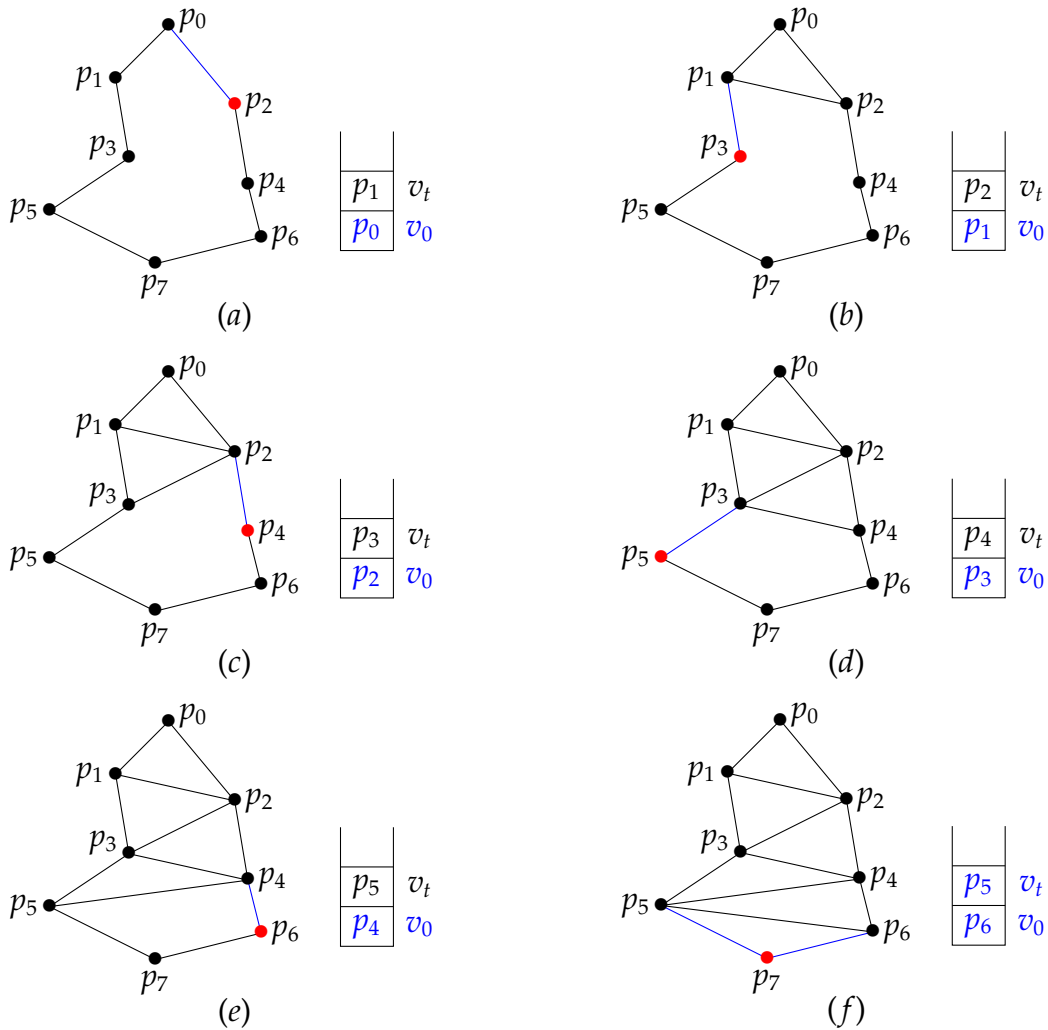


Figure 3.9: Triangulation: An Example

The first steps of the triangulation of the monotone polygon from fig. 3.7. For each iteration, we find that  $p_i$  is adjacent to  $v_0$ . To see the other case of the algorithm in action, check out fig. 3.10.

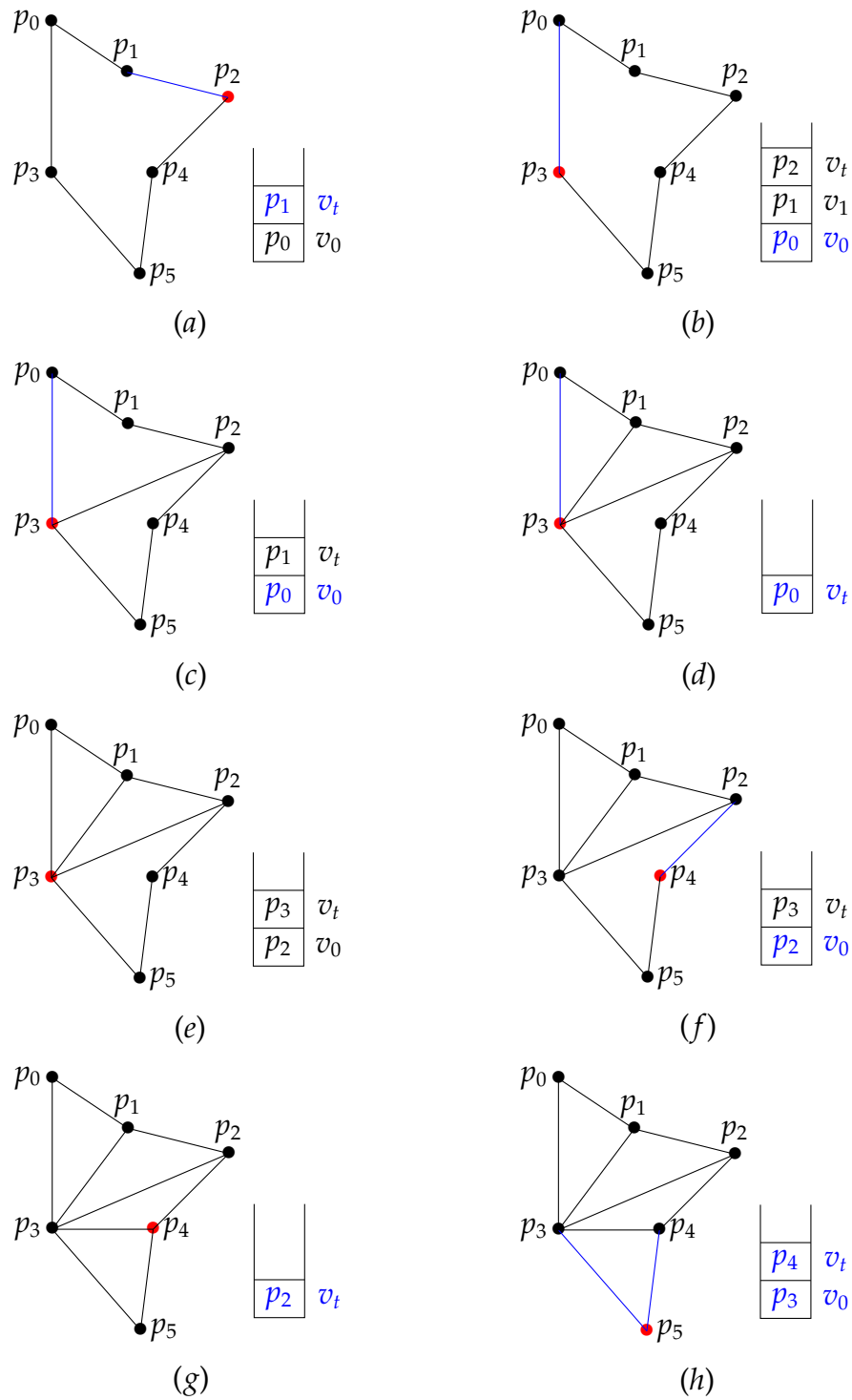


Figure 3.10: Triangulation: Another Example

Another example of the iterations of the triangulation algorithm with a monotone polygon. The iteration in consideration of  $p_5$  is not shown, as it only results in a superfluous diagonal between  $p_4$  and  $p_5$ .



## Conclusion

This chapter has shown that it is possible to turn any simple polygon into a collection of triangulations, and has provided methods for doing so. Using a two-step process, a simple polygon can first be transformed into a set of monotone polygons, and then each of these can be triangulated using an algorithm. Therefore, combined with the watchmen proofs from chapter 2, we have shown how any arbitrary polygon need only have  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  guards at most to be fully watched. However, not all polygons are the same - certain characteristics of different subsets of floor plans can cause the necessary number of guards to rise or fall. What aspects of a floor plan cause the needed number of guards to drop? What type of floor plans are the most difficult to watch? How can the guards' abilities affect the manpower required to fully watch a polygon? These questioned will be explored in the next chapter.

# Chapter 4

## Extensions of the Problem

Since the theorems for simple polygons in general have been copiously explored in the past decades, some have become curious about adding conditions to the Art Gallery Problem. By considering only certain subsets of floor plans or types of guards, new findings on lower sufficiency and necessity numbers specifically for these subsets have emerged. Some extensions have sought to make the problem more realistic, giving guards new abilities and focusing on floor plans that would not cause architects to recoil in horror. This chapter includes three extensions that take on this goal, and all three end up with results quite different from those for general polygons.

### 4.1 Polygons with Holes

Of course, one would expect art in an art gallery, and not all art can be hung on the walls. In cases where art galleries, or any floor plans, have sculptures, pillars, support walls, and other such features that can block one's view, we

consider the concept of polygons with holes.

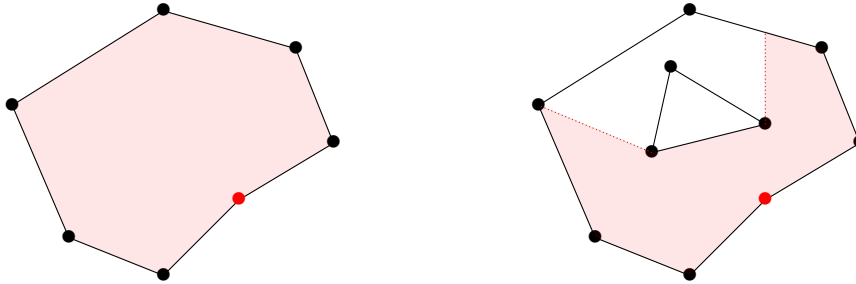


Figure 4.1: Holes in a Polygon

A polygon  $P$  is said to have holes when one or more polygons lie fully inside of  $P$ 's interior. The presence of holes in a polygon can restrict the sight of the polygon's guards, shown in red.

**Definition 16.** A *polygon with holes* can be considered a polygon  $P$  where all edges and vertices of one or more polygons  $H_1, H_2, \dots, H_n$  lie completely inside of  $P$ 's interior. The interiors of  $H_1, H_2, \dots, H_n$  are not considered to be part of the interior of  $P$ . A polygon without holes can be referred to as a *simply-connected* polygon.

Because of how we identify polygons at the beginning of chapter one (see fig. 1.1), a polygon  $P$  which shares one or more vertices with a hole  $H_i$  is still considered a polygon with holes; the nodes and vertices of  $H_i$  would not be considered as part of  $P$ 's boundary. This must be so as we have stated earlier that we are only considering simple polygons when contemplating the Art Gallery Problem. However, our definition of a polygon allows us to ignore a hole in a polygon  $P$  if there is an edge connecting a vertex of  $H_i$  to a vertex of  $P$  (see fig. 4.2). If  $H_i$  and  $P$  share an edge in this way, then the vertices and edges of  $H_i$  can instead be considered as part of the boundary of  $P$ .

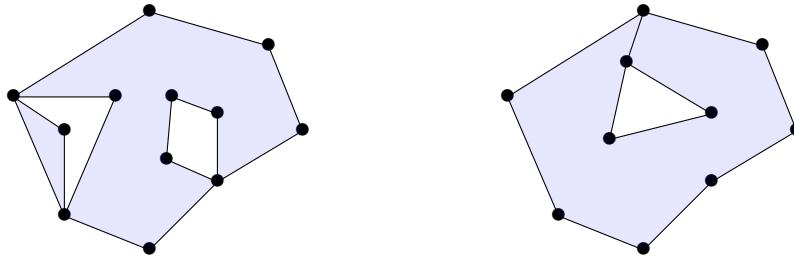


Figure 4.2: Holes Sharing Vertices or Edges

Polygons that lie inside polygon  $P$ , but share vertices with  $P$ , are still considered holes. However, if a potential hole and its polygon are connected by an edge, the vertices and edges of that hole can be considered as part of the  $P$ 's boundary.

In 1982, Joseph O'Rourke used this definition of simple polygons, and the concept of holes and polygons sharing edges, to show that simple polygons with holes can also be triangulated. The method of doing so is very similar to the triangulation existence proof found in theorem 4 of chapter three.

**Theorem 6.** *A polygon  $P$  with  $h$  holes and  $n$  vertices, where the vertices on the holes of  $P$  are included in  $n$ , can be triangulated.*

*Proof.* We will use induction in terms of the value  $h$ .

**Base Case:**  $h = 0$ . Theorem 4 states that any simple polygon without holes can be triangulated.

**Inductive Hypothesis:** A polygon with  $h' \leq h$  holes and  $n' < n$  vertices can be triangulated.

**Inductive Step:** Because it is impossible to form a planar polygon with only reflex vertices, there must exist a convex vertex  $v_2$  in  $P$ 's boundary with adjacent vertices  $v_1$  and  $v_3$ . Consider adding a diagonal  $d$  whose endpoints are  $v_1$  and  $v_3$ .

**Case 1:  $d$  is internal.** The diagonal  $d$  then partitions the polygon into two

polygons  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ , where  $n_1, n_2$  are the number of vertices for  $P_1, P_2$ , and  $h_1, h_2$  are the number of holes in  $P_1, P_2$ . It follows that  $n_1, n_2 < n$  and  $h_1, h_2 \leq h$ . By the inductive hypothesis,  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  can be triangulated.

**Case 2:  $d$  lies partially in the exterior.** Then, either  $v_2$  is reflexive, or  $v_2$  is convex, but there exists at least one vertex that lies closer to  $v_2$  than  $v_1$  and  $v_3$ . This vertex,  $x$ , is either on the boundary of  $P$ , or on the boundary of a hole.

**Case 2.1:  $x$  lies on  $\delta P$ .** By placing a diagonal from  $x$  to  $v_2$ ,  $P$  then has been partitioned into polygons  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ , where  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  are the number of vertices in  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  and  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  are the number of holes. By the inductive hypothesis, it is possible to triangulate  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ , and so  $P$  is able to be triangulated as well.

**Case 2.2:  $x$  lies on the boundary of a hole.** Then, consider the diagonal from  $x$  to  $v_2$ . With this diagonal,  $P$  has  $n + 2$  vertices (traveling along the boundary of  $P$  requires  $v_2$  and  $x$  to be passed over twice) and  $h - 1$  holes. Since  $P$  is still a polygon,  $P$  still has at least one convex vertex, so consider the placement of more diagonals until  $P$  satisfies the conditions for the inductive hypothesis, or  $h = 0$ . □

The number of triangles that result from partitioning a polygon with holes in such a way will vary from the number that a simply-connected polygon triangulation has. Remember that triangulations can be treated as graphs, so several results from graph theory are at our disposal: most notably, Euler's theorem.

**Theorem 7 (Euler's Theorem).** *For any planar triangulation  $T$ ,  $V - E + F = 2$ ,*

where  $V$  is the number of vertices in  $T$ ,  $E$  is the number of edges, and  $F$  is the number of faces, or enclosed regions, partitioned by  $T$ .

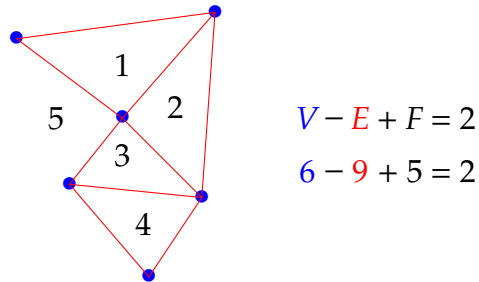


Figure 4.3: Euler's Theorem with Triangulations

An example of Euler's Theorem applied to a triangulation, though the theorem holds for any planar graph.

With this equation, we can find the number of triangles that a triangulation with  $n$  nodes and  $h$  holes will have. The number of triangles,  $t$ , will be  $t = F - 1 - h$ , since we cannot count the interiors of holes or the exterior of the polygon. Naturally,  $V = n$ , and  $E = \frac{3t+n}{2}$ , as we count each edge of each triangle and every boundary edge, then divide by two since we counted every edge twice.

$$\begin{aligned}
 V - E + F &= 2 \\
 n - \frac{3t+n}{2} + h + t + 1 &= 2 \\
 n - t + 2h &= 2 \\
 t &= n + 2h + 2
 \end{aligned}$$

O'Rourke argued that because a simply-connected polygon has  $n - 2$  triangles in its triangulation, and requires  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  guards, then for any polygon

with  $h$  holes and  $n + 2h - 2$  triangles in its triangulation, it is sufficient to have  $\lfloor \frac{n+2h}{3} \rfloor$  guards. However, no polygons have been found yet showing that  $\lfloor \frac{n+2h}{3} \rfloor$  vertex guards are necessary, leading some to believe that this number can be lowered.

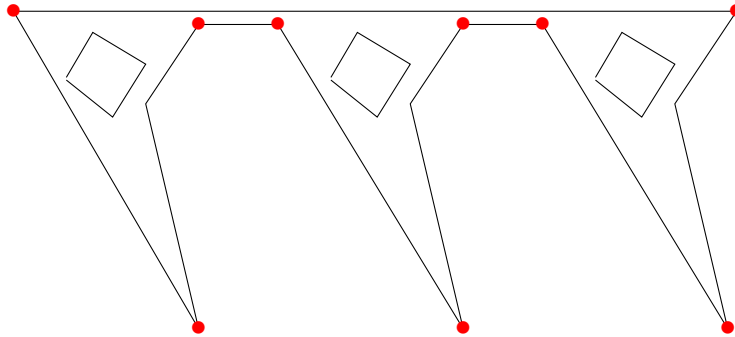


Figure 4.4: Necessity Polygon with Holes

An example of a polygon that requires  $\lfloor \frac{n+h}{3} \rfloor$  guards. This polygon has 24 vertices and 3 holes, and 9 guards are required for the polygon to be fully watched. This is true both in consideration of point guards and vertex guards.

In later years, mathematicians have found that  $\lfloor \frac{n+h}{3} \rfloor$  guards are sufficient and sometimes necessary for polygons with holes, when these guards are allowed to be placed anywhere in the polygon as opposed to only on the vertices (these are point guards, not necessarily vertex guards). Hoffman, Kaufmann, and Kriegel, who proved theorem 8 in 1991, conjecture that  $\lfloor \frac{n+h}{3} \rfloor$  vertex guards are needed for polygons with holes as well.

**Theorem 8.** ([7]) *It is sufficient and sometimes necessary to watch a polygon with  $n$  vertices and  $h$  holes with  $\lfloor \frac{n+h}{3} \rfloor$  point guards.*

## 4.2 Mobile Guards

It is reasonable to assume that the number of guards needed to watch any floor plan will be reduced if the amount of area each guard can watch is increased. To do this, we can assume that guards no longer have to remain stationary.

**Definition 17.** A guard is considered *mobile* if it is able to move along an edge or diagonal in a polygon. A *mobile guard* who is able to patrol along an edge  $e$  or a diagonal  $d$  can watch a point  $p$  in polygon  $P$  if  $p$  can be seen by some point on  $e$  or  $d$ .

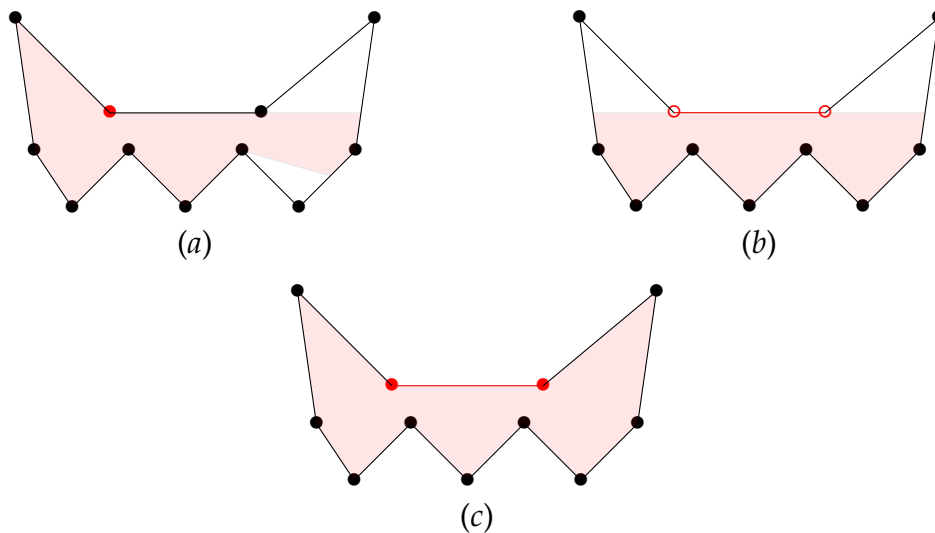


Figure 4.5: Two Types of Mobile Guards

(a) It is not possible for a single stationary guard to watch this entire polygon. (b) An open-edge mobile guard is able to watch all points in the polygon that can be seen from any point in its patrol path, excluding the endpoints. This results in the guard not being able to peek around corners. (c) A closed-edge mobile guard can see all points visible from any point on its patrol path, including the endpoints. As shown, one closed-edge mobile guard is sufficient to fully watch this polygon.

This classification of guards can be further divided by considering *open-edge mobile guards* and *closed-edge mobile guards*. The technicalities of



closed-edge mobile guards have been explored for almost as long as the art gallery problem has been around; the question of open-edge mobile guards was first introduced in 2011 by mathematician Viglietta [2].

**Definition 18.** A point  $p$  in polygon  $P$  can be seen by an *open-edge mobile guard* if  $p$  can be seen from some interior point on the edge or diagonal that the guard patrols. The endpoints of the edge or diagonal are included in a *closed-edge mobile guard's* patrol path.

Unlike other extensions of the art gallery problem, using triangulations in consideration of mobile guards is not as helpful as it is for vertex guards. By the definition of a guard's sight (as seen in definition 3), by placing a guard on an interior diagonal of a triangulation, we can only conclude that this guard can watch the two triangles that include this diagonal. Other methods must therefore be used to find the sufficient number of mobile guards for any polygon.

It is also important to make a distinction between edges and diagonals when it comes to a mobile guard's patrol path. A floor plan that requires its guards to patrol along walls will need more guards than a floor plan whose guards can patrol between any two vertices.

The difference between open and closed-edge mobile guards is equivalent to whether or not the guard can peek around the corners at the ends of their patrol route. Apparently, this ability has a sizable effect on a guard's effectiveness, as it has been found that open-edge mobile guards are only as useful as vertex guards.

**Theorem 9.** ([2]) *Any monotone polygon with  $n$  vertices is sufficiently watched by*

$\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  open-edge mobile guards, and sometimes this number is necessary.

The proof of this theorem is nearly identical to the theorem that a triangulated polygon can be partitioned into  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  fans; in fact, lemma 1 is explicitly used in this proof as well. Because we know that any polygon has a diagonal that cuts off exactly four, five, or six edges, we can first assume that a polygon with less than  $n$  vertices requires less than  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  open-edge mobile guards, and then prove that any polygon with five, six, or seven edges needs only one open-edge mobile guard. Using induction, we can then conclude that  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  is sufficient for any monotone polygon [2].

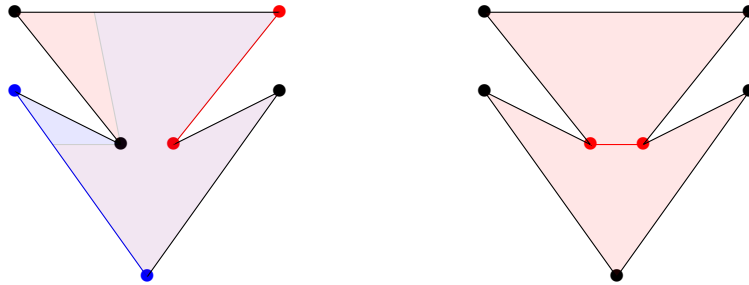


Figure 4.6: Closed-Edge Guards on Edges or Diagonals

A polygon with seven vertices that requires two edge guards but only one diagonal guard. This is therefore a necessity polygon for closed-edge mobile guards that are restricted to edges ( $\lfloor \frac{n+1}{4} \rfloor = \lfloor \frac{8}{4} \rfloor = 2$ ). Allowing guards to travel between non-adjacent vertices means that less guards are needed, which is the case in this example

$$\left( \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor = \lfloor \frac{7}{4} \rfloor = 1 \right).$$

Meanwhile, closed-edge mobile guards are generally more effective than their open counterparts.

**Theorem 10.** ([11]) *For any monotone polygon  $P$  with  $n$  vertices,  $\lfloor \frac{n+1}{4} \rfloor$  closed-edge mobile guards that patrol strictly on edges are always sufficient and sometimes necessary to watch  $P$ , while  $\lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$  closed-edge mobile guards that are allowed to travel*

between any two vertices are sufficient to guard  $P$ , and are also sometimes necessary.

A necessity polygon for theorem 10 was already shown in fig. 4.6, where the seven-vertex shape needs two edge guards when no diagonal guards are allowed, and one diagonal guard if that guard is allowed to patrol between any two vertices in the polygon.

### 4.3 Orthogonal Polygons

Although one can argue that art galleries have allowance to take on much more unique appearances, most galleries are structurally very similar to any other building - namely, they are rectangular. Most galleries have ninety degree corners and strictly parallel or perpendicular walls, just like the majority of floor plans you would come across. In the context of the Art Gallery Problem, we will represent these traditional floor plans with orthogonal polygons.

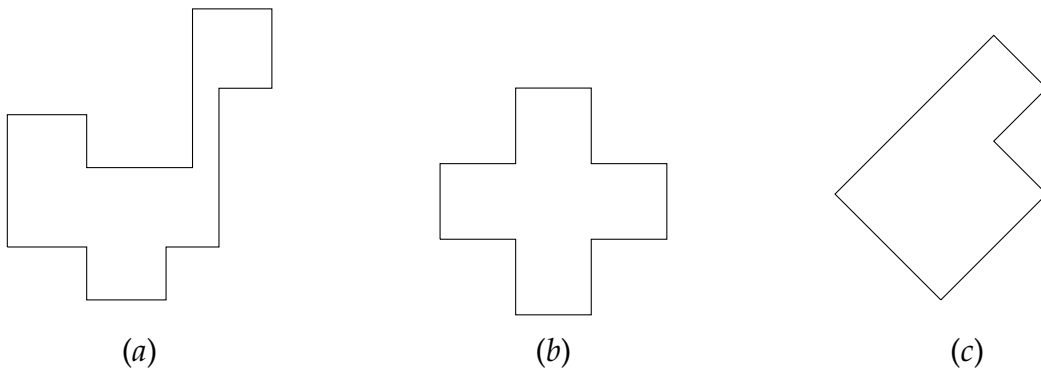


Figure 4.7: Examples of Orthogonal Polygons

All orthogonal polygons have right angles exclusively. The polygon in (c) can be rotated so that its edges are horizontal and vertical, making it orthogonal as well.

**Definition 19.** A polygon  $P$  is *orthogonal* if every interior angle of  $P$  is  $90^\circ$  or

$270^\circ$ . When placed in the  $xy$ -plane,  $P$  can be positioned so that all edges are horizontal or vertical. These polygons can also be referred to as *rectilinear* or *traditional*. It is always true that orthogonal polygons have an even number of vertices.

As shown in chapter 3, these types of polygons are still able to be triangulated, and like any other polygon,  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  guards are sufficient to fully watch any orthogonal polygon. However, it can be shown that we can do even better than that.

**Theorem 11.**  $\lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$  guards are always sufficient and sometimes necessary to fully watch any simple orthogonal polygon.

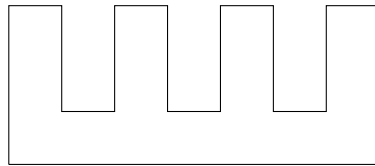


Figure 4.8: An Orthogonal Necessity Polygon

This comb-shaped polygon is an orthogonal interpretation of Toussaint's necessity polygon from chapter two. This polygon requires  $\lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$  guards, as it has sixteen vertices, and needs one guard to watch each of its four prongs [11].

The polygon in fig. 4.8 shows that  $\lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$  guards are necessary for some orthogonal polygons. Showing that this number is also sufficient for all polygons of this type is very similar to the proof of the Watchman theorem in chapter 2. However, instead of showing that these polygons can be triangulated, it is instead shown that any orthogonal polygon can be partitioned into convex quadrilaterals. If you thought the triangulation existence proof was tedious, you will not like this one any better; we will leave O'Rourke to explain the logic behind it in his 1988 book [11].

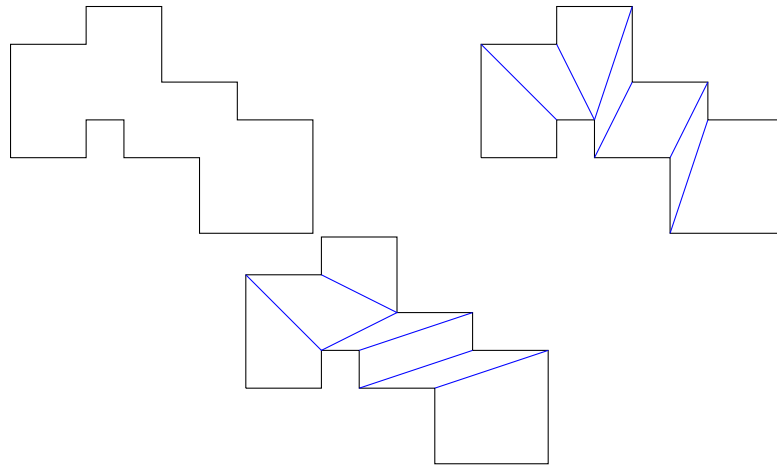


Figure 4.9: Convex Quadrilateralization

An example of an orthogonal polygon that has been partitioned into convex quadrilaterals. Convex quadrilateralization is not always unique.

Now that we can assume any orthogonal polygon can be convexly quadrilateralized, we will show that any orthogonal polygon can be fully watched by  $\lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$  guards. First, let us look at two small theorems that will aid us in this proof.

**Theorem 12.** *A convex quadrilateralization of a simple orthogonal polygon has  $\frac{n-2}{2}$  quadrilaterals.*

*Proof.* Let  $Q$  be a convex quadrilateralization of orthogonal polygon  $P$ . For each quadrilateral in  $Q$ , choose two non-adjacent vertices and draw a diagonal between them (this is always possible as the quadrilaterals are convex). Then, for each quadrilateral, there now exists two triangles, and we have transformed  $Q$  into a triangulation  $T$ . By a previous theorem, we know that every triangulation of a polygon with  $n$  vertices has  $n - 2$  triangles (see theorem 4). Therefore, because we used one quadrilateral of  $Q$  to form every two triangles in  $T$ , there are  $\frac{n-2}{2}$  convex quadrilaterals in  $Q$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 13.** *Two convex quadrilaterals within a quadrilateralized polygon  $P$  can share at most 2 vertices.*

*Proof.* Let  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  be distinct convex quadrilaterals.

**Case 1:** For the purpose of contradiction, assume that quadrilaterals  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  share four vertices. Then, it must be the case that  $Q_1 = Q_2$ , but  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  are distinct. Therefore, they cannot share four vertices.

**Case 2:** For contradiction, assume  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  share three vertices, and let these vertices be  $v_1, v_2$ , and  $v_3$ . Without loss of generality, assume  $v_2$  is adjacent to both  $v_1$  and  $v_3$ , and therefore  $v_1$  is not adjacent to  $v_3$  by definition. Because  $v_1, v_3 \in Q_1, Q_2$ , the line segment between  $v_1$  and  $v_3$  must lie completely inside  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$ , as these quadrilaterals are convex. This can only occur if the line segment lies completely on the boundary of  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$ , and  $v_2$  must lie on the boundary as well. However, this would make  $v_1, v_2$ , and  $v_3$  colinear, which is not allowed by our definition of polygons. Hence,  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  cannot share three vertices.

We can therefore conclude that  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  must share two vertices or less. □

To show that  $\lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$  are sufficient, we will adapt Fisk's proof from chapter two and use a little bit of induction to show that an orthogonal polygon is four-colorable, and then place guards at every instance of a vertex with a least-occurring color.

It is almost enough to simply say that a quadrilateralization is four-colorable by the Four Color Theorem. However, this theorem only states that any planar graph (as in any graph that can be drawn in such a way that its

edges do not cross over each other) can be colored with four colorings, but not every possible four-coloring can be used to position guards.

Note that because these quadrilaterals are convex, one guard placed at any point inside this shape causes it to be fully watched. This includes the vertices of the quadrilateral. However, it is possible to color a quadrilateralization with four colors, but in such a way where some quadrilaterals do not have vertices of all possible colors.

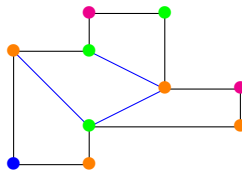


Figure 4.10: An Uncooperative Four-Coloring

This four-coloring of a quadrilateralization is not helpful for placing guards. Placing a guard at the blue or pink vertices results in the polygon not being fully guarded; placing guards at the green or orange vertices results in a number of guards greater than  $\lfloor \frac{10}{4} \rfloor = 2$ .

Therefore, we can show that it is possible to four-color a quadrilateralization so that each quadrilateral has one vertex of every color.

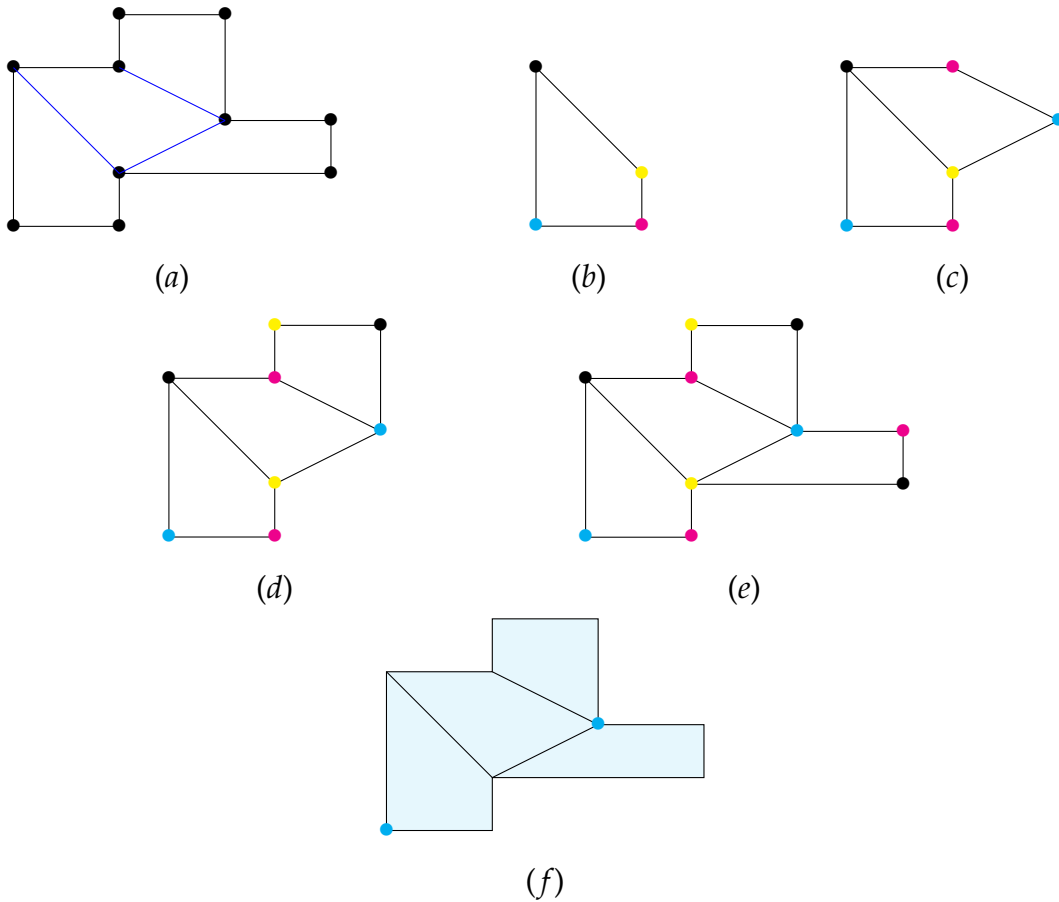


Figure 4.11: Coloring a Quadrilateralization

Using induction to four-color a quadrilateralization. Note that a four-coloring is not always unique, but it is required that each quadrilateral has a vertex of each of the four colors. In (e), both blue and yellow appear the least amount of times, so guards can be positioned at either color vertices (at blue in (f)) to have the polygon be fully watched.



First, we only consider one quadrilateral from the quadrilateralization. We then take four colors and assign each one to one of the vertices of the quadrilateral. Now, we are able to consider one of the quadrilaterals adjacent (sharing an edge) to this first one. We know that two of this second quadrilateral's vertices are shared with the first, so their colors are already determined. For the two remaining vertices, we color them with the two colors not used on this quadrilateral yet. Therefore, both quadrilaterals have all four colors on their vertices. In fig. 4.11, we see that quadrilateralizations with one quadrilateral require  $\lfloor \frac{4}{4} \rfloor = 1$  guard, as a quadrilateral is convex.

Assigning guards to the color that is least occurring in a vertex-colored quadrilateralization will result in it being fully watched. In the worst case, where  $n = 4$  and only one quadrilateral exists, the number of guards necessary is strictly  $\frac{n}{4}$ . However, in most situations quadrilaterals share vertices, so it is highly likely that guards are able to watch more than one quadrilateral at once, making the sufficiency number for any orthogonal polygon  $\lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$ .

## 4.4 Considering Multiple Extensions

The extensions mentioned in this chapter, and many more, can be considered simultaneous to each other. For example, we can think about orthogonal polygons that are surveyed with mobile guards exclusively.

**Theorem 14.** *A simple orthogonal polygon can be sufficiently watched with  $\lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$  open-edge mobile guards, or  $\lfloor \frac{3n+4}{16} \rfloor$  closed-edge mobile guards [2, 3].*

In fig. 4.12 we can see that each prong of the polygon must have its own

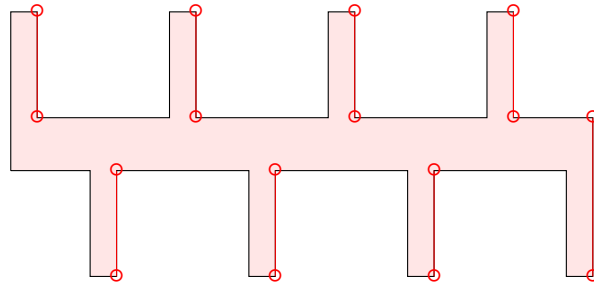


Figure 4.12: Open-Edge Mobile Guards on Orthogonal Polygons

A necessity polygon for open-edge mobile guards on orthogonal polygons. This polygon has 32 vertices, and must be watched by at least eight guards ( $\lfloor \frac{32}{4} \rfloor = 8$ ).

guard, since open-edge mobile guards are unable to peek around corners.

A useful property when placing open-edge mobile guards is that there are four types of edges in orthogonal polygons (considering the position of the polygon's interior in relation to these edges). Note that an edge can be horizontal or vertical; if an edge is horizontal, the interior of the polygon can exist above or below this edge. If the edge is vertical, the interior exists to the left or right of the edge. This gives us the four types of edges: upper, lower, right, and left. By the Pigeonhole Principle, at least one of these types must make up one fourth or less of the edges of the polygon (consider the contradiction of a polygon with  $n$  sides having all four types of edges occur more than  $\frac{n}{4}$  times at once). Placing open-edge mobile guards at the least-occurring type of edge of a polygon causes it to be fully watched. In fig. 4.12, each type of edge occurs eight times, so placing guards at any of the edge types will be sufficient (the figure shows the guards placed at all of the right edges).

Meanwhile, closed-edge mobile guards are more powerful as they are able

to peek around corners.

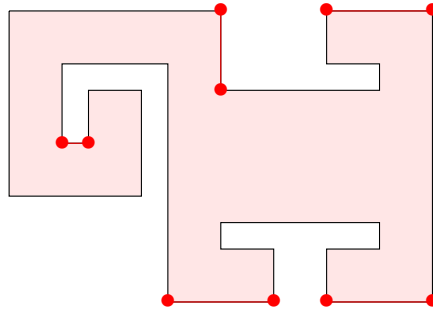


Figure 4.13: Closed-Edge Mobile Guards on Orthogonal Polygons

Here, an orthogonal with 26 vertices is fully watched by  $\lfloor \frac{3(26)+4}{16} \rfloor = \lfloor \frac{82}{16} \rfloor = 5$  closed-edge mobile guards.

For one more combination of extensions to mull over, let us examine orthogonal polygons with holes.

For many years after the creation of the Art Gallery Theorem, it was conjectured that if there are only one or two holes in an orthogonal polygon,  $\lfloor \frac{n+h}{4} \rfloor$  guards would still be sufficient, just as it would be for an orthogonal polygon without holes. In the 1990's, the mathematician Hoffman proved that this number held for any number of holes, so long as the guards were point guards [7].

The previous conjectures about vertex guards were replaced by a theorem in the 1980's, as they were proven true, but there is still little to be said about orthogonal polygons with more than two holes in general if we are restricted to vertex guards.

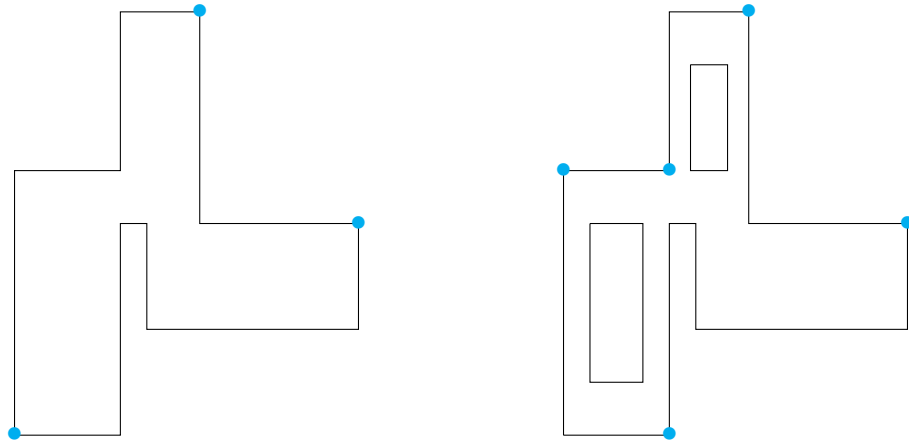


Figure 4.14: Orthogonal Polygons with Holes

The polygon on the left is sufficiently covered by  $\lfloor \frac{12}{4} \rfloor = 3$  guards. The polygon on the right, with two holes, can be sufficiently guarded with  $\lfloor \frac{n+h}{4} \rfloor$  guards ( $\lfloor \frac{20+2}{4} \rfloor = 5$  guards).

## Conclusion

Though a result has been found overall for the guarding of all general polygons, varied results can be discovered when one focuses on certain subsets of polygons or guards. In this chapter, we have shown the results for three of the more well-known extensions, though there are many more to examine. In the next chapter, we will quickly look over some more strange extensions, along with some developments of the problem that I wanted to personally look into.



## Chapter 5

# Stranger Extensions and Further Work

In the previous chapter, we looked at extensions with already existent results. The Art Gallery Problem is such a large topic, however, that there are still extensions of it that have yet to be considered. If I had more time to spend on this topic, the following are some of the extensions I would like to explore.

### 5.1 Adding Cameras to Galleries

In some cases, an art gallery may look into using technology to partially automate the gallery's security. If the gallery is willing to sacrifice a guard's ability to physically confront thieves, they may choose to swap guards for cameras.

We will also model cameras as points in the polygon; stationary, but able to rotate  $360^\circ$  just as with guards. The live feed from the camera can be viewed

from a device on a guard's person, or from control monitors, which are also points or locations inside the polygon. Control monitors will mainly be useful with mobile guards.

Now, assuming that the gallery wants at least one guard present to watch cameras, we can replace the rest of the guards with cameras if we want to.

**Proposition 3.** *For any simple polygon with  $n$  vertices, it is always sufficient and sometimes necessary for this polygon to be fully watched with one vertex guard with a monitor, and  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor - 1$  cameras.*

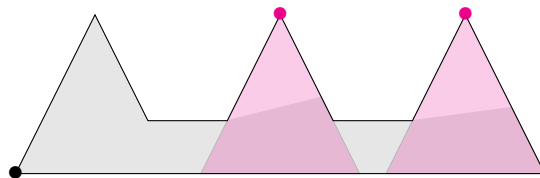


Figure 5.1: Toussaint's Polygon with Cameras

If the guard (shown in black) has access to the cameras (shown in magenta), then only this one guard is sufficient to watch this polygon.

In regards to non-stationary guards, if a mobile guard has a device on their person to watch cameras, he can see the camera's line of vision at any point in their patrol. If the camera's feed is viewed by a control monitor, then this monitor must exist on a point in a mobile guard's patrol, and the guard can only access the monitor when the guard is also at the control monitor's location.

It may be possible to get more interesting results from this extension by restricting the capabilities of the cameras. This can be done by limiting the number of cameras that can be accessed from a single control monitor or guard's device, or by establishing a maximum distance that a camera can be

from a control monitor in order to access its view (see fig. 5.2). For example, if there are five cameras in a floor plan, but a guard is only able to access the view of four from a control monitor, then more than one control monitor is required. Another solution would be for a guard to be used instead of the unaccessible camera.

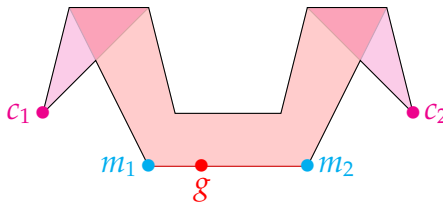


Figure 5.2: Cameras with Limited Range

Suppose that camera one ( $c_1$ ) can only be viewed by control monitor one ( $m_1$ ), and camera two can only be viewed by monitor two. Then, either a mobile guard can be placed so that it patrols between the two monitors (as shown in the above figure), or two vertex guards are placed at the monitor's positions.

Given more time, I would be interested in seeing how the above limitations would affect the number of sufficient or necessary guards, of both the vertex and mobile variety.

## 5.2 Mirrors

We can imagine that some walls of a gallery, or some edges of the polygon representing the floor plan, are mirrors (for simplicity's sake, any mirror we consider will make up an entire edge).

If a guard can see the two ends of a mirror, then the guard is able to see every point that the mirror reflects (acting as an open-edge mobile guard on the mirror's wall).



The tricky issue about considering mirrors is the angle of reflection. We will adhere to the rule that a mirror's angle of reflection always equals its angle of incidence.

**Definition 20.** A point  $p$  in a polygon can be watched by a guard  $g$  using a mirror on edge  $e$ , whose endpoints are  $e_1$  and  $e_2$ , when there exists a point  $m$  on the mirror such that line segments  $gm$  and  $pm$  can be drawn such that  $gm$  and  $pm$  are completely interior to the polygon, and the angle  $gme_1 = pme_2$ .

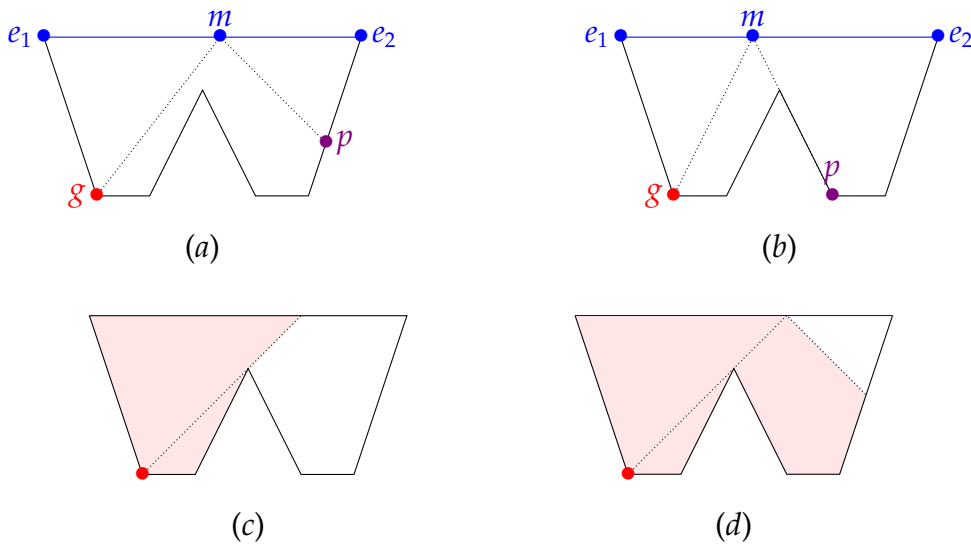


Figure 5.3: Mirrors in Galleries

In parts (a) and (b), the point  $p$  can be seen by the guard  $g$ , since the point  $m$  on the mirror is visible to  $g$ . Figure (c) shows the area of the polygon a vertex guard can see from a certain place; figure (d) shows the visible parts of the polygon for the same vertex guard if a mirror is placed on a certain edge.

When considering this type of problem, we will want to establish a few conditions for mirrors and the guards who use them. As stated before, we will only look at mirrors that span the entire edge they are attached to. Also, to ignore polygons with useless mirrors, at least one guard in each floor plan

must be able to see at least one point of the mirror (in a fully watched polygon, it follows that every point of the mirror can be seen by one or more guards, as its edge is a part of the polygon).

In fig. 5.3, the polygon can be fully watched by one guard if it is placed in a certain spot. Now, let's consider a variation of this polygon that must be guarded by more than one guard.

For Toussaint's necessity polygon, a guard placed at any vertex can only see one prong, meaning that each prong needs its own guard.

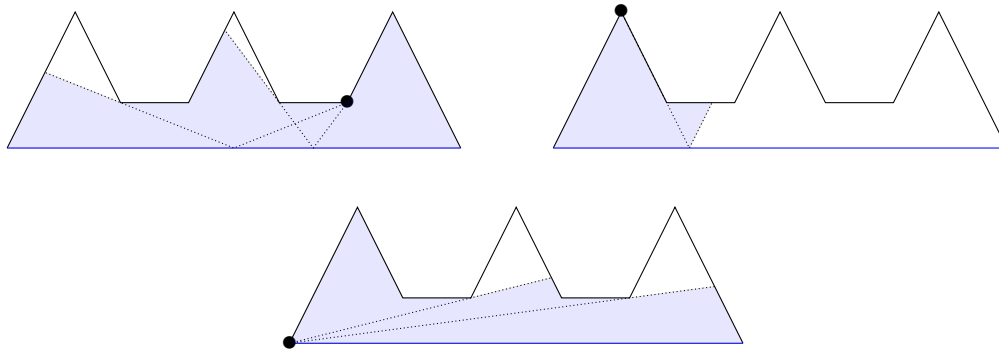


Figure 5.4: Toussaint's Polygon with a Mirror

Despite the presence of a mirror, any vertex guard in Toussaint's necessity polygon can watch only one prong of the polygon, though in some cases the mirror allows the guard to watch portions of the second and third prong.

Considering only one mirror in the same polygon, it is still only possible for a guard to fully watch one prong, although in some cases they can see parts of other prongs (see fig. 5.4). Therefore, the necessary number of guards is still  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$ , even with the presence of one mirror.

Because of this, we would like to make the following conjecture about the number of necessary vertex guards in a gallery with a single mirror:

**Conjecture 1.** For any simple  $n$ -sided polygon that has one edge which

functions as a mirror,  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  guards are always sufficient and sometimes necessary to fully guard the polygon.

We can use Toussaint's Necessity Polygon (fig. 5.4) as a necessity polygon for this case, as even with the presence of the mirror, three guards are still required to watch the nine-sided shape. In consideration of sufficiency, we already know that  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  vertex guards are sufficient to guard any simple polygon (theorem 2), so the presence of a mirror in the polygon is trivial.

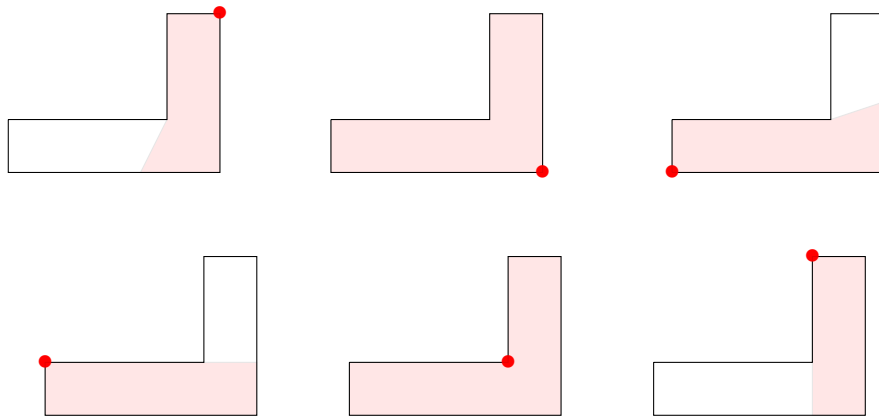


Figure 5.5: An Example of the View of Vertex Guards

The view of a single vertex guard at each vertex in an L-shaped polygon. The polygon is able to be fully-watched from two of the vertices.

If conjecture 1 is true, is there any point of using mirrors? Let us look at the polygon in fig. 5.5, fig. 5.6, and fig. 5.7, and consider the guard's sight for each vertex of the polygon (or edge, for open-edge mobile guards). For both vertex and open-edge mobile guards, there are six options for the guard's position, and one can notice that there are corresponding positions that cause the same portion of the polygon to be viewed. This follows from theorem 9 in chapter four that says vertex guards and open-edge mobile guards have the same power (as they have the same requirements for guards).

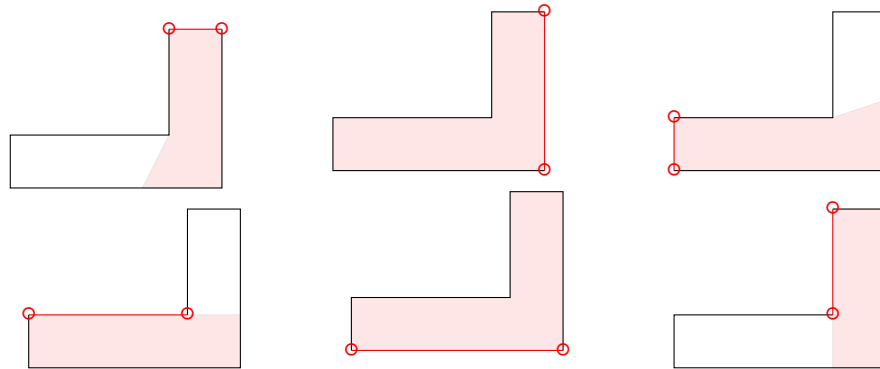


Figure 5.6: The View of Open-Edge Mobile Guards

The view of an open-edge mobile guard from each edge of an L-shaped polygon. The polygon is able to be fully watched by this guard from two of its edges. Comparing these polygons to those in fig. 5.5, we can see that the same portions of the polygons can be watched with vertex guards, and so corroborates the fact that  $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  of both vertex guards and open-edge mobile guards are sufficient for any general polygon.

Considering all positions for mirror guards, however, gives us more than six possibilities, as there are multiple options for placing a mirror that is viewable but non-adjacent to the guard. In some positions, this guard can see just as much as its corresponding vertex and open-edge mobile guard. However, when a mirror is placed on a certain edge, the guard can see a larger part of the polygon (the added area is shown in fig. 5.7 in blue). This leads us to believe that for any position of a vertex guard, there is an optimal position for a corresponding mirror that causes the guard to see more than without it.

**Conjecture 2.** In terms of the area that a guard can see, the power of the combination of a vertex guard and a mirror is greater than or equal to the power of a vertex guard or an open-edge mobile guard.

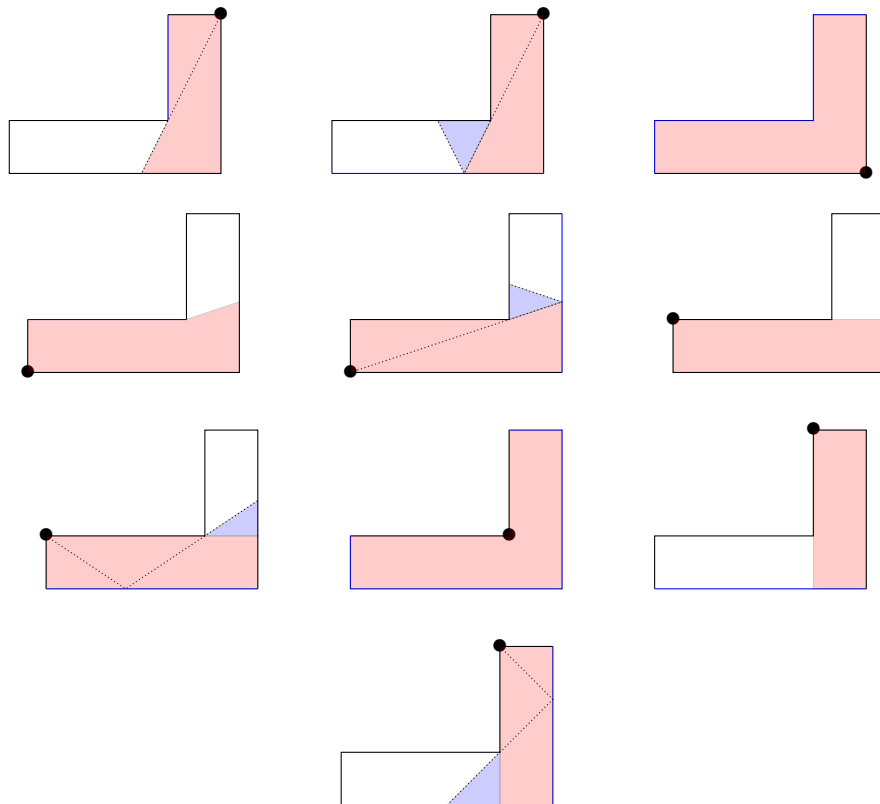


Figure 5.7: View of Vertex Guards with Mirrors

The view of a single vertex guard at each vertex in an L-shaped polygon, with the help of a single mirror. For each guard, there are two or more edges where a mirror can be placed so that it is not on an edge adjacent to the guard, and so that the guard can see at least one point of the mirror. Depending on where the mirror is positioned, the guard either sees as much as if they did not have a mirror, or an additional area of the polygon is added to their sight (pictured in blue).



Figure 5.8: Considering Edge Lengths with Mirrors

In the first image, one guard and one mirror are sufficient to fully watch the polygon. If some of the polygon's edges are lengthened, this is no longer the case.

Given more time, I would like to look into how to determine the optimal position for a mirror, given the position of a guard in a polygon. I would also be interested in finding out if there is a type of polygon where the presence of mirrors is most useful; that is, where mirrors add the most area to a guard's sight.

From the polygons earlier in this section, it would be reasonable to say that the length of the edges of the polygon can have a role in the efficacy of a mirror (see fig. 5.8). Looking further into this extension, it may be useful to place weights on the edges of polygons, or their respective graphs, to keep track of edge length.

### 5.3 Conclusion

Now we have briefly explained the Art Gallery Problem and some of its more well-known results. We have gone into detail about the Watchman theorem, and how the two most popular proofs of it work. Finally, we explored some extensions of the problem, both with results and without. As this chapter has shown, there are many more undiscovered topics in the Art Gallery Problem to interest us. We conclude by expressing excitement about what results may come from this problem in the future.

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