

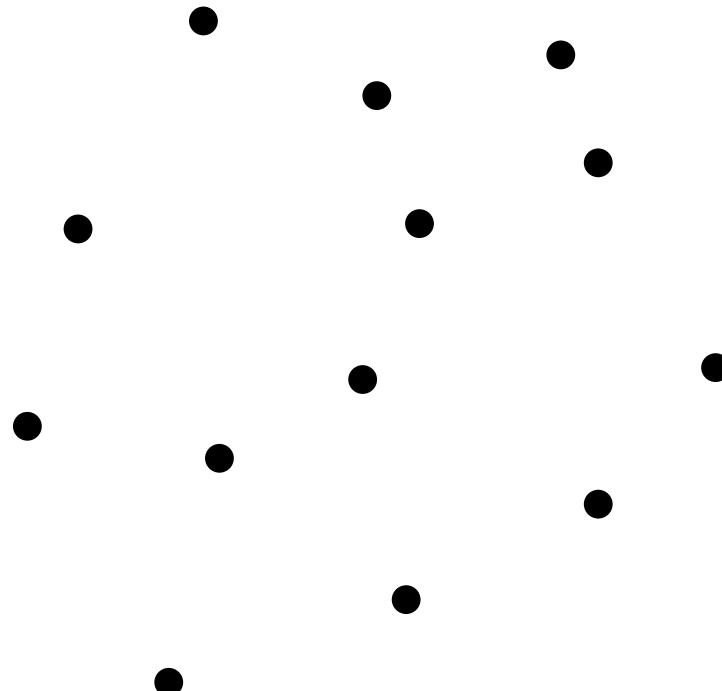
# Most General Position

joint work with

Jan Kynčl, Alexander Pilz, André Schulz

supported by the EuroGIGA project of the European Science Foundation

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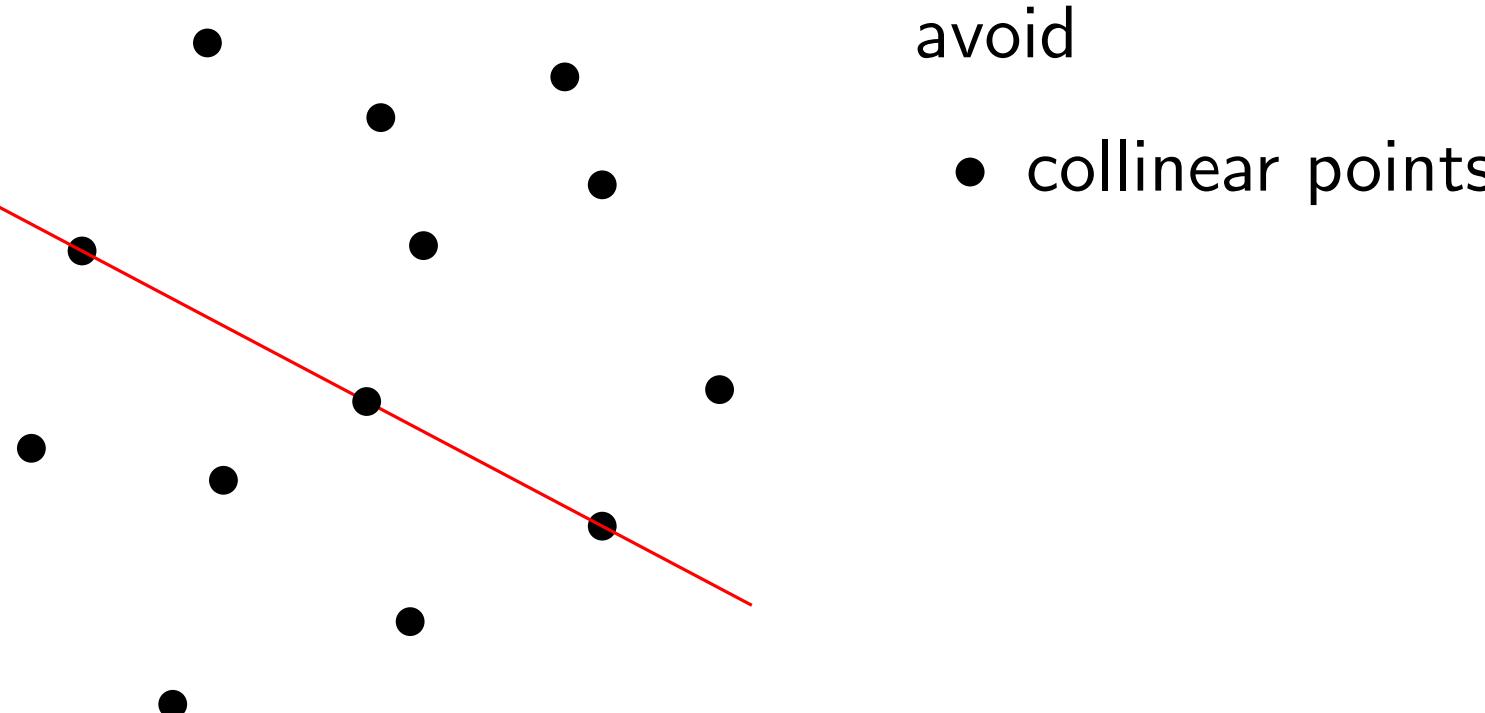
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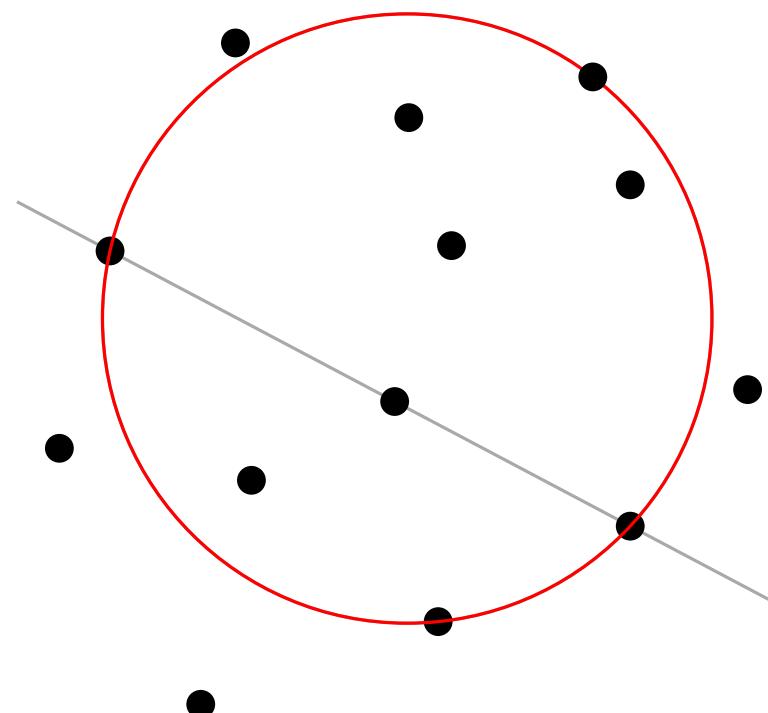
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avoid

- collinear points
- cocircular points



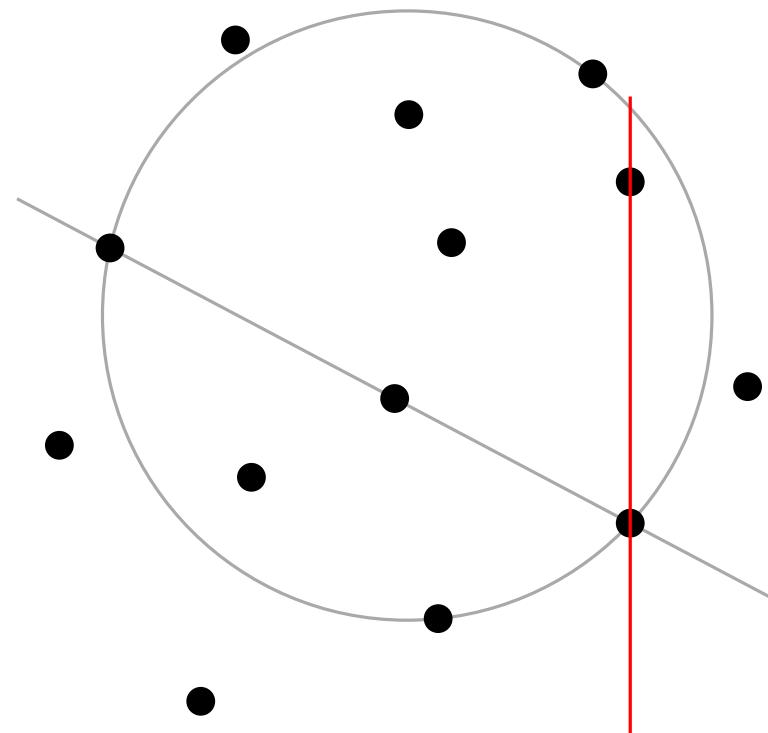
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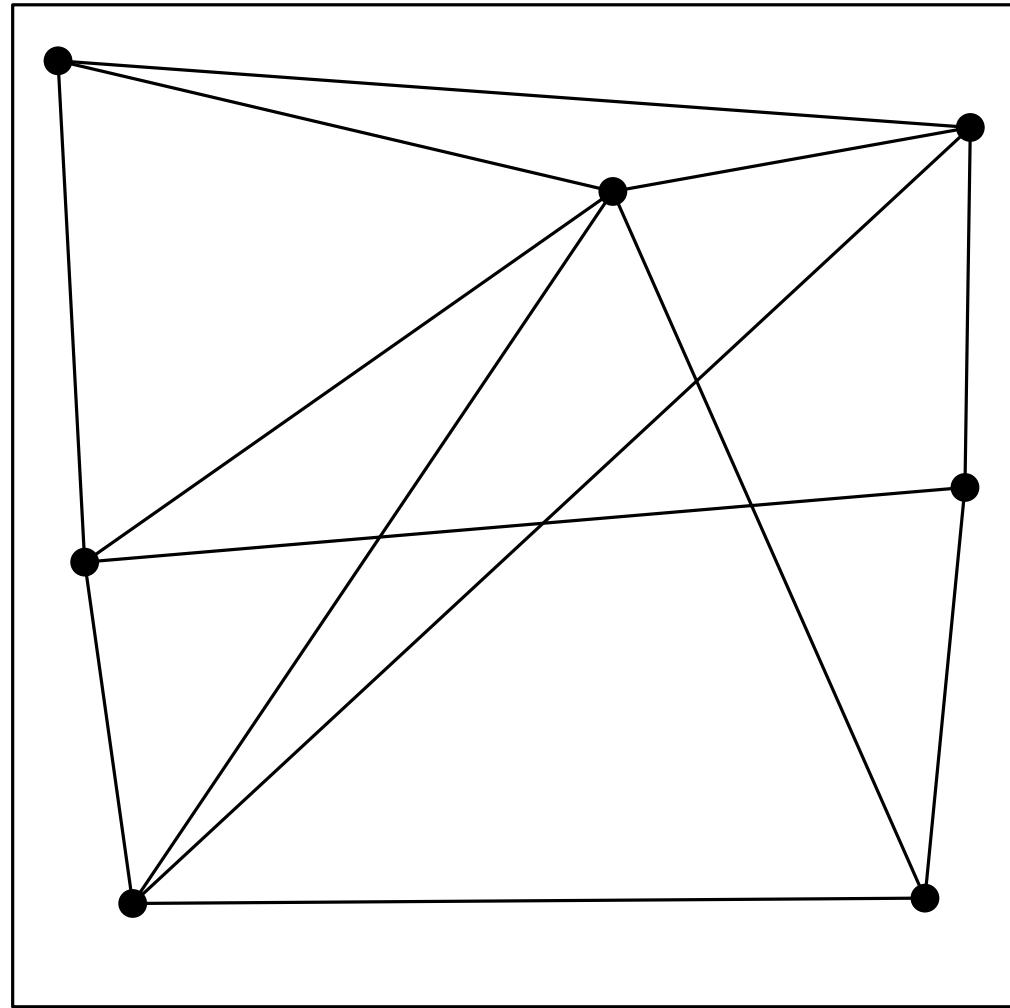


avoid

- collinear points
- cocircular points
- points with the same  $x$ -coordinate

# Good Drawings

Find a (nonplanar) straight-line drawing of a given graph.

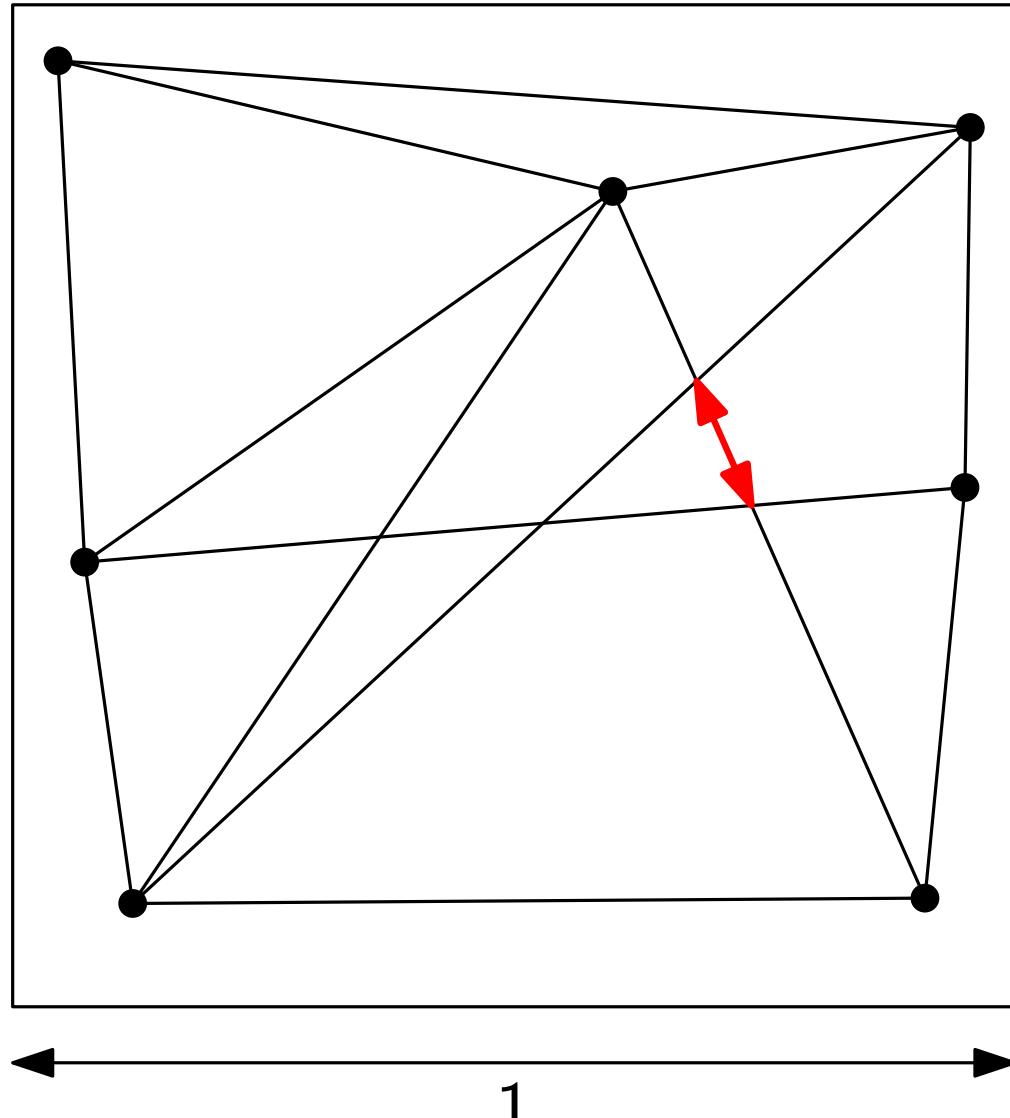


1

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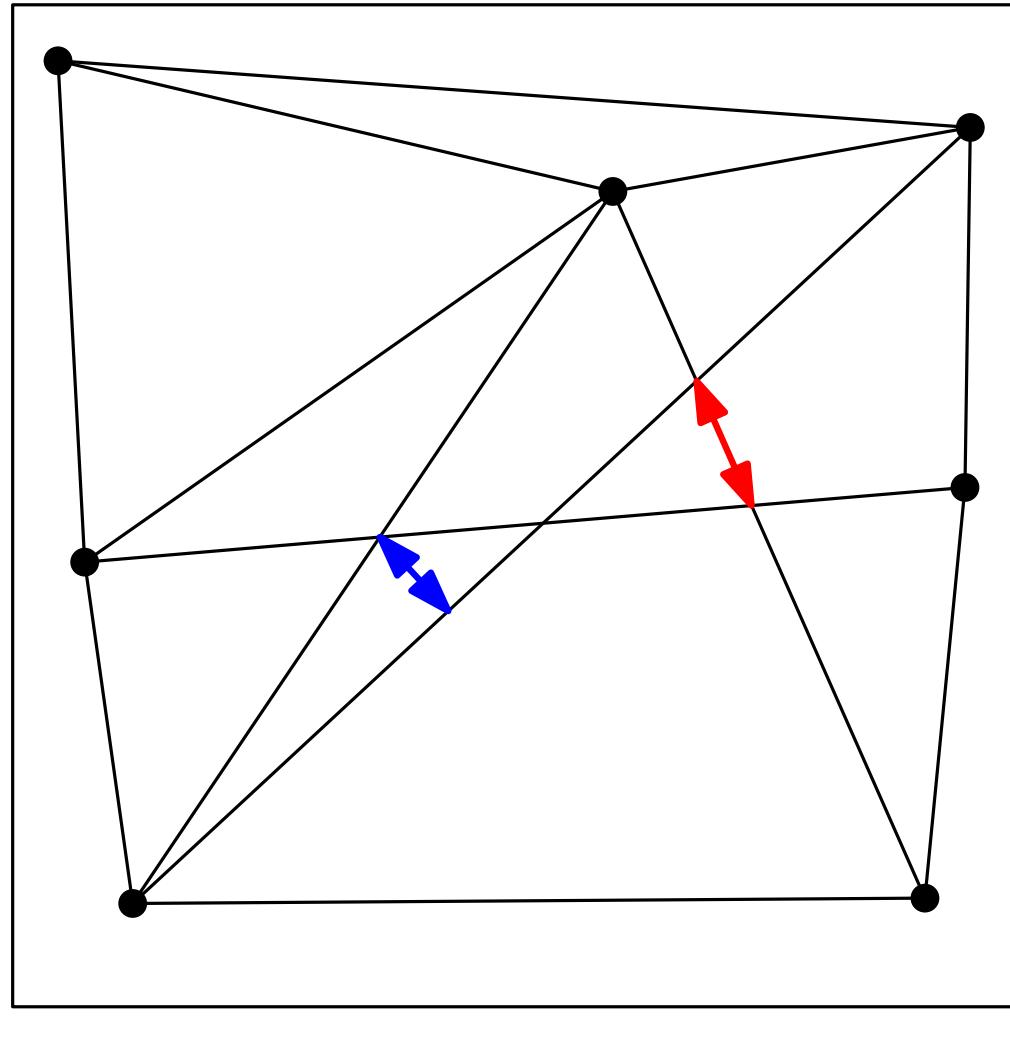


Maximize  $\varepsilon =$

- the shortest edge

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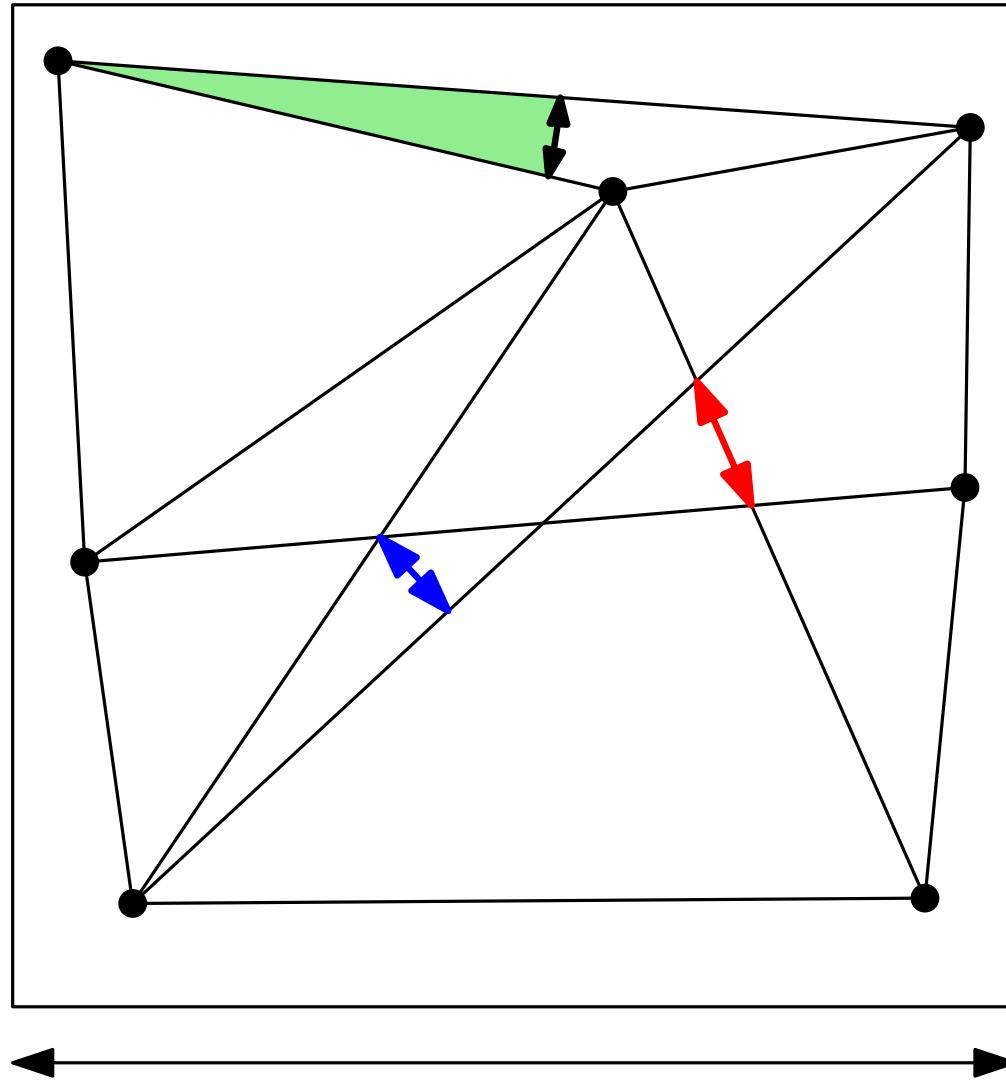
1

Maximize  $\varepsilon =$

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- the smallest feature distance

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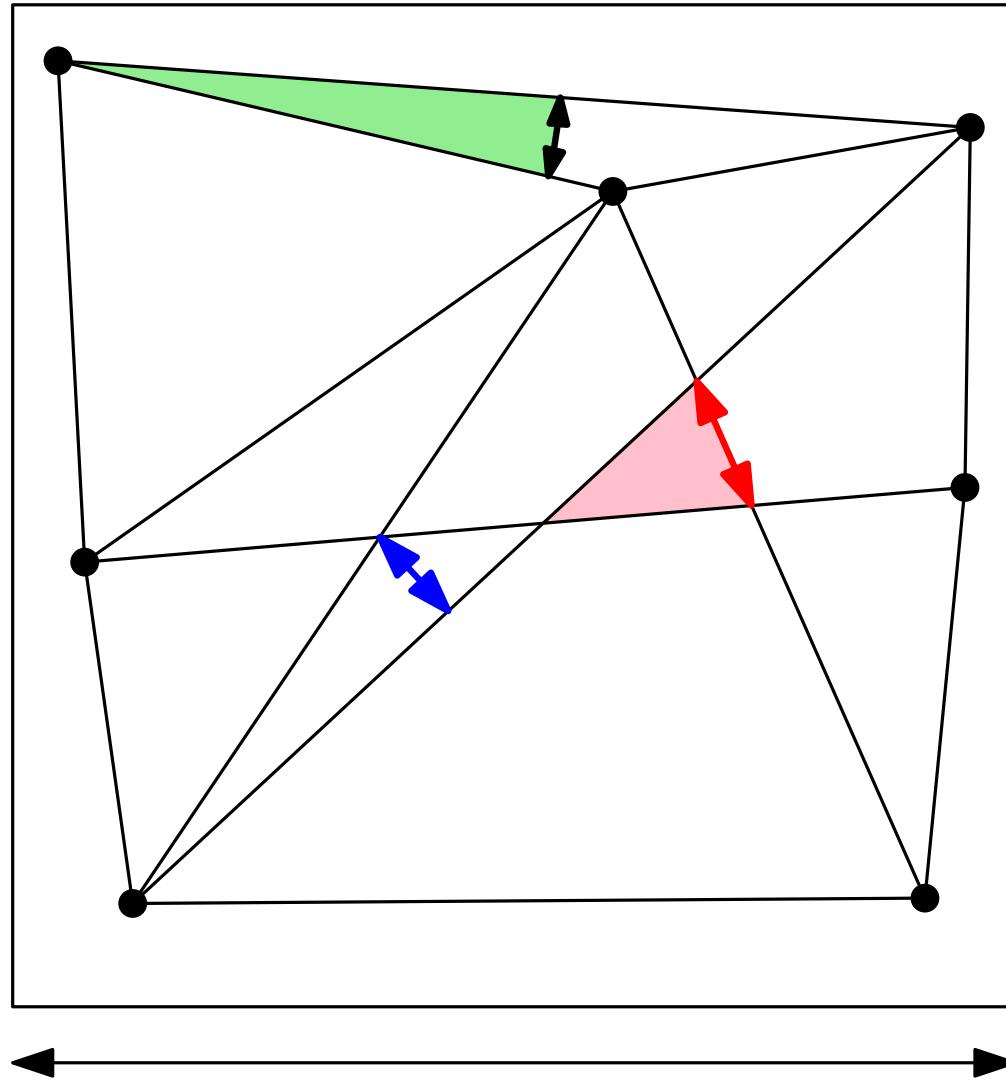


Maximize  $\varepsilon =$

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# Good Drawings

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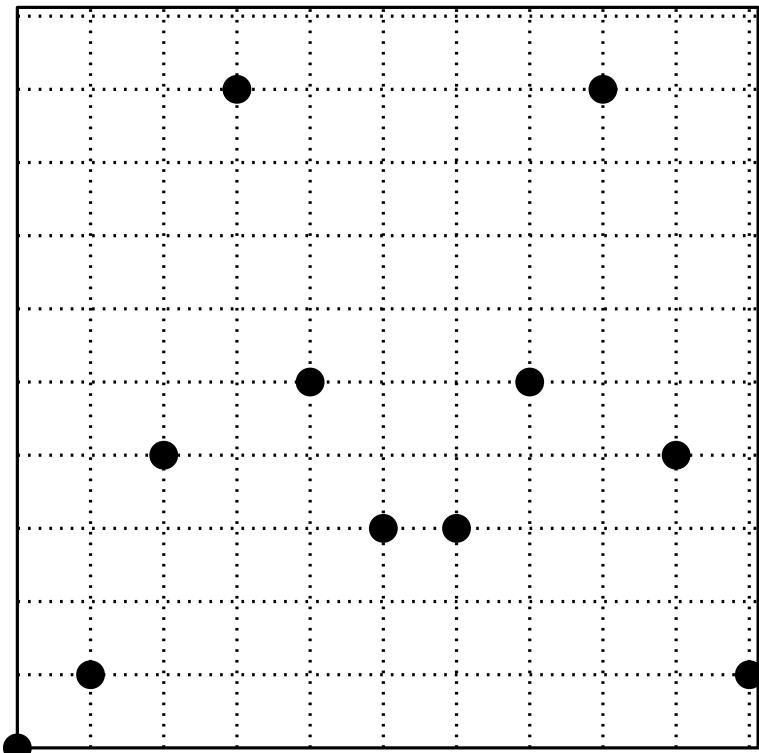
Maximize  $\varepsilon =$

- the shortest edge
- the smallest feature distance
- the smallest angle
- the smallest face area
- ...

<http://userpage.fu-berlin.de/~uibyo/geometrica/>

# Related Problem: The Moment Curve

Draw  $n$  points in general position, with small coordinates



Example:  $p = 11$

$$P_i := \begin{pmatrix} i \\ i^2 \bmod p \end{pmatrix}, i = 0, \dots, p-1 \\ (p \text{ prime})$$

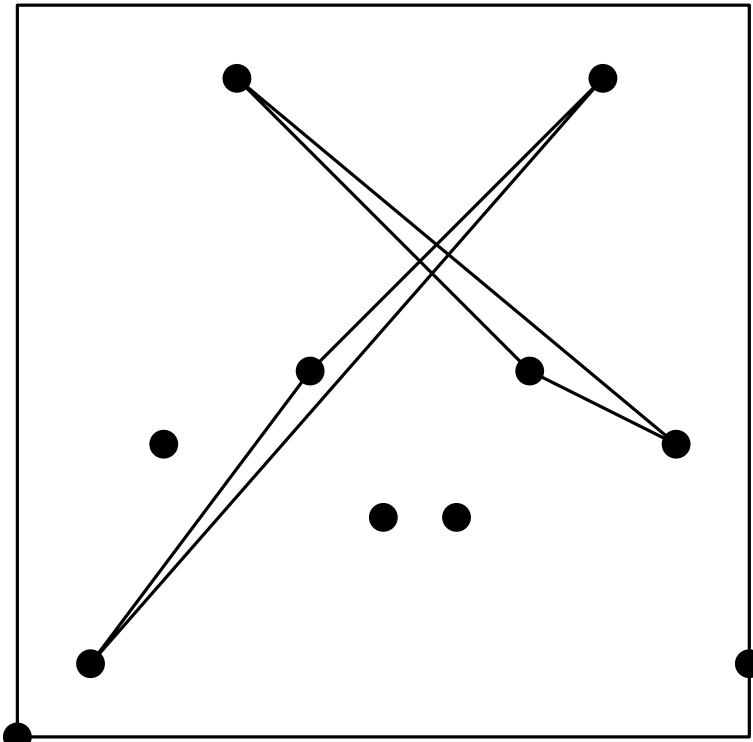
$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & i & i^2 \bmod p \\ 1 & j & j^2 \bmod p \\ 1 & k & k^2 \bmod p \end{vmatrix} \\ \equiv (j-i)(k-i)(k-j) \bmod p \\ \not\equiv 0 \bmod p$$

Application:  
Perturbation techniques for  
geometric algorithms  
[ Emiris & Canny 1995, Seidel 1998 ]

# Related Problem: Heilbronn's Problem



Place  $n$  points in the unit square and maximize the  
smallest triangle area  $\Delta_{\min}$

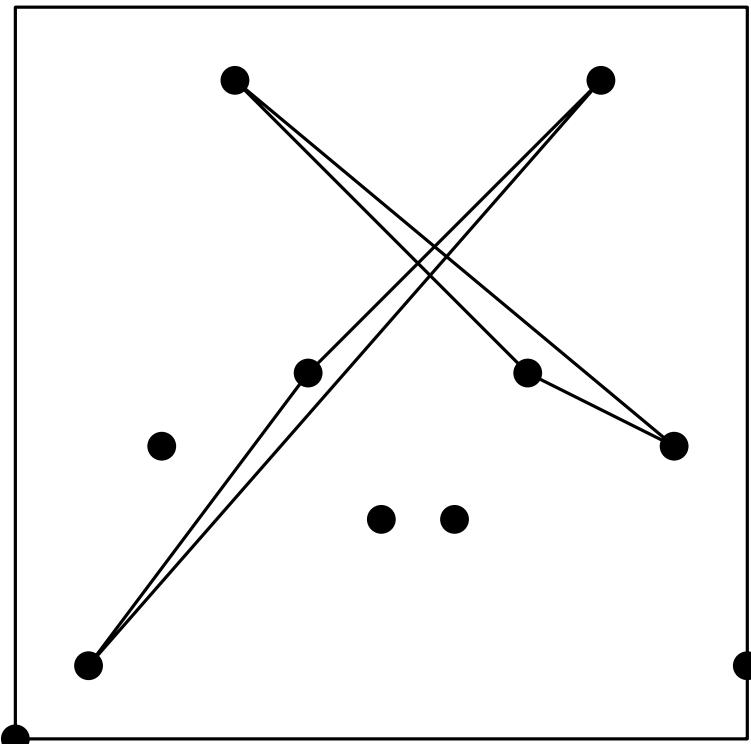


$$\Delta_{\min} \geq \Omega(1/n^2)$$

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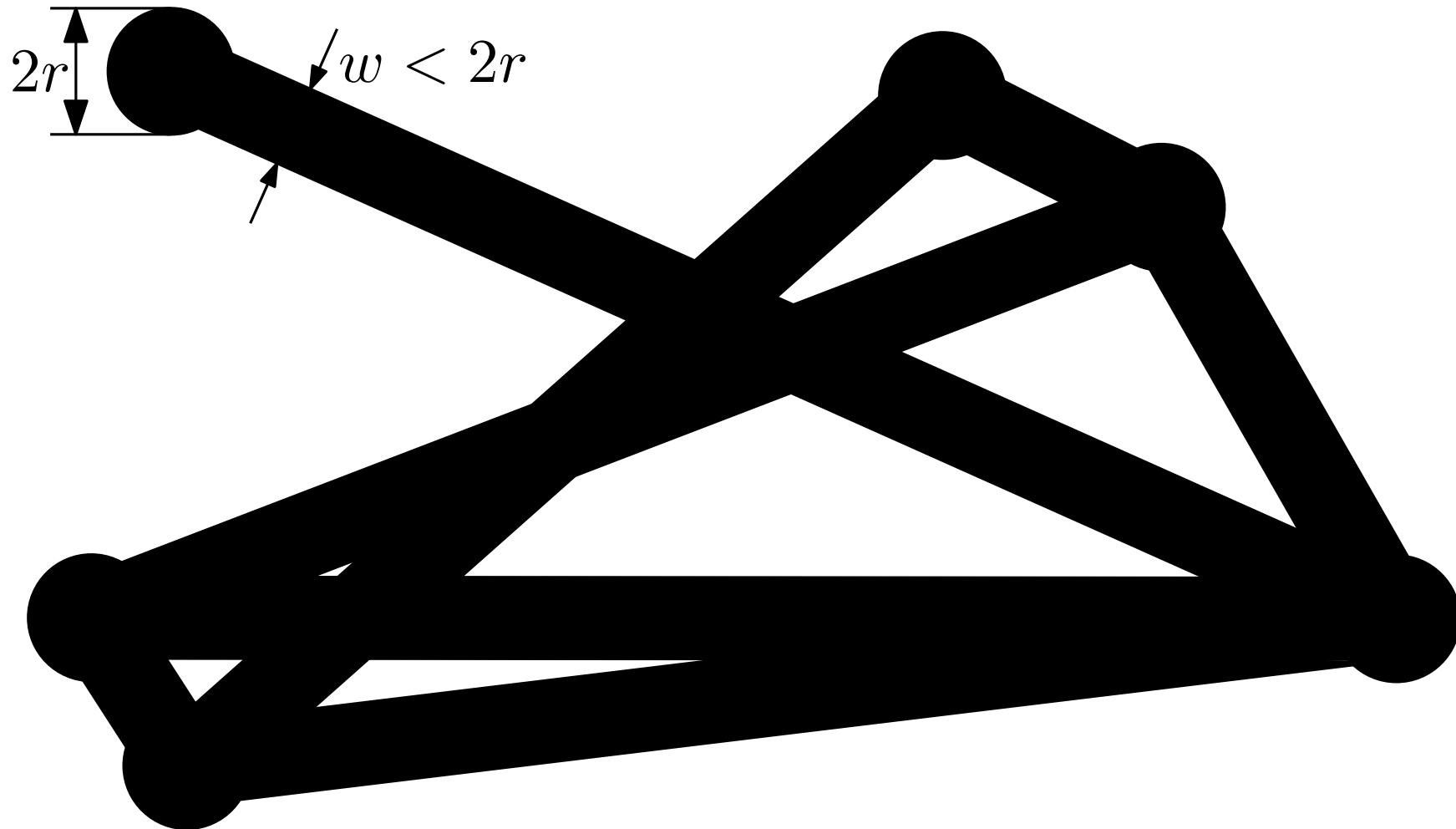
$$\Delta_{\min} \geq \Omega(1/n^2)$$

$$\frac{\ln n}{n^2} \leq \Delta_{\min} \leq \frac{1}{n^{8/7-\varepsilon}}$$

[Komlós, Pintz & Szemerédi 1981,1982]

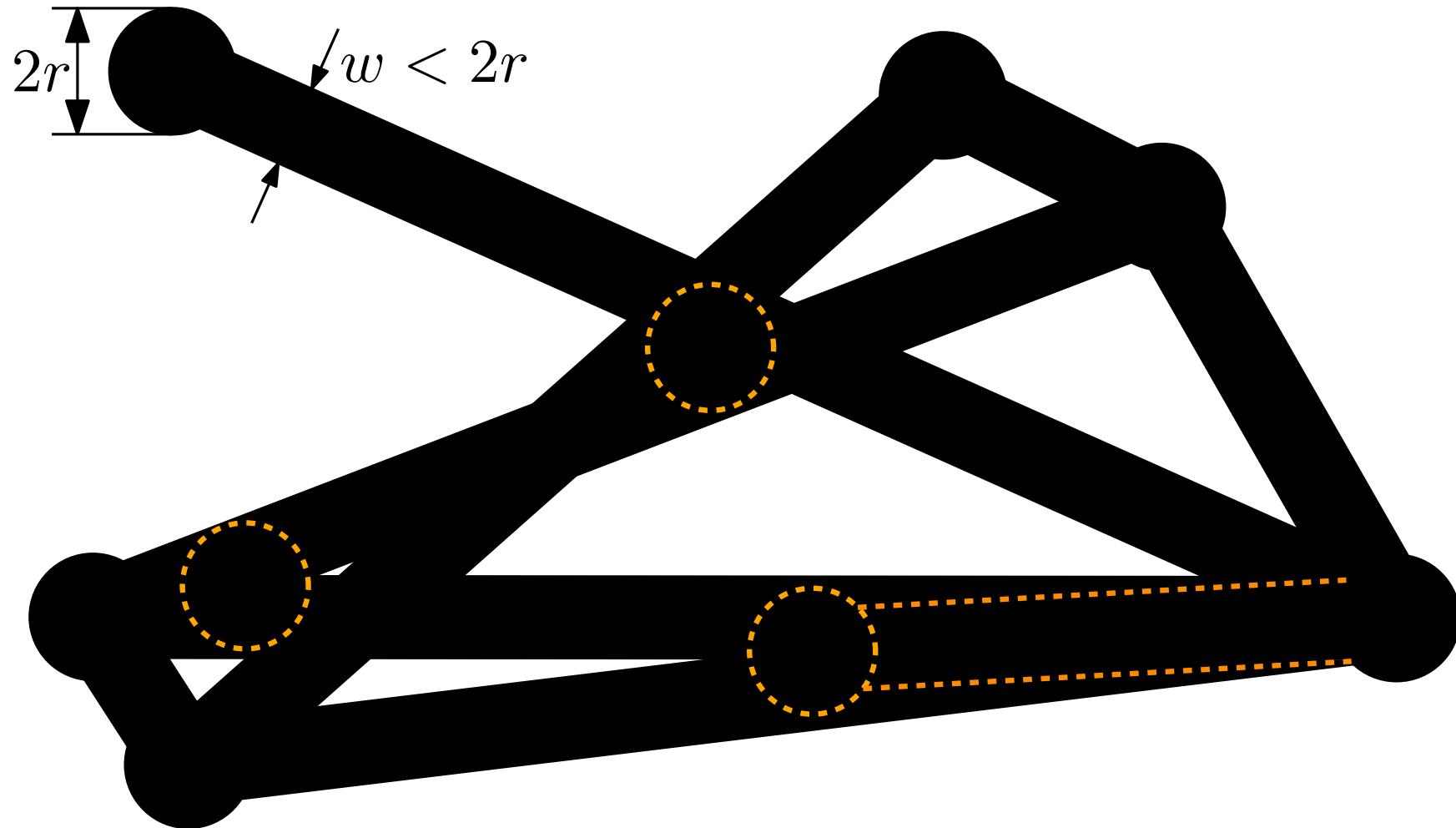
# Related Problem: Bold Drawings

[ van Kreveld 2009 ]



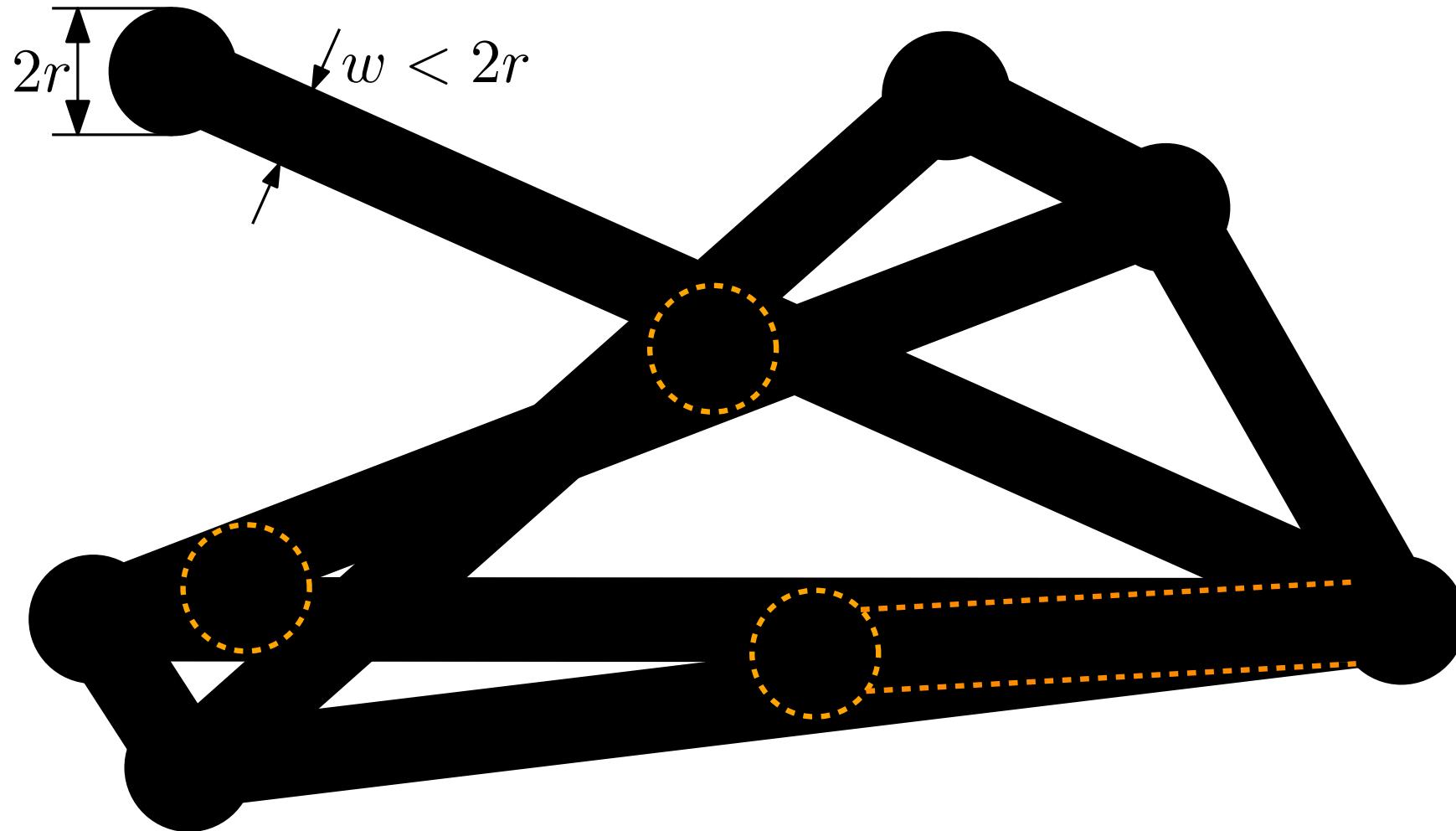
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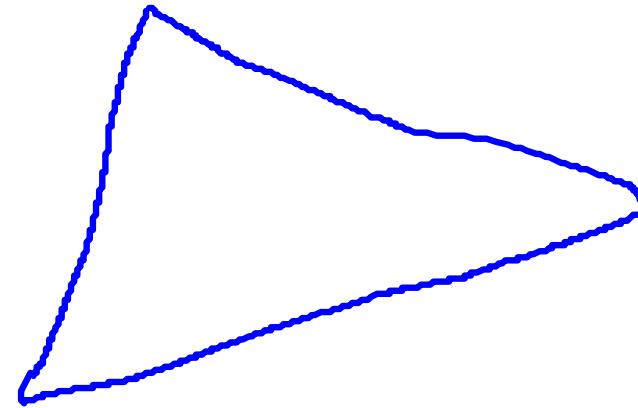
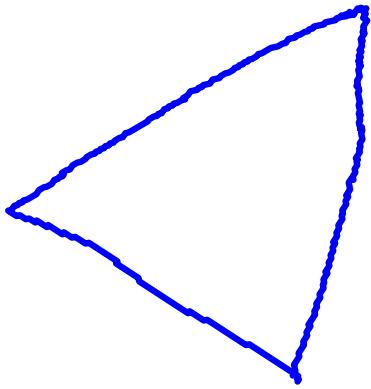


[ Pach 2011 ] If  $w < r$  then bold drawings of every  $K_n$  exist.

# Related Problem: The General Triangle



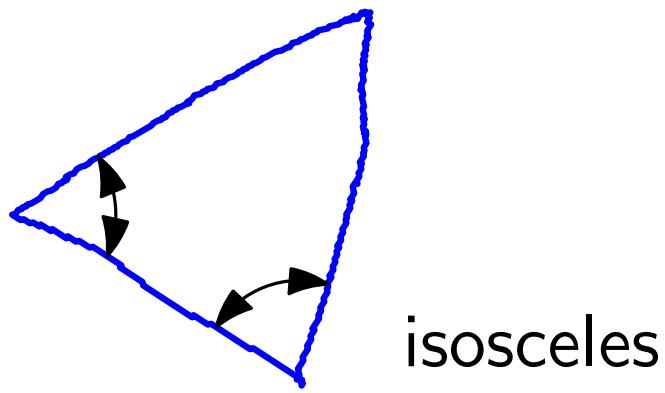
Freie Universität Berlin



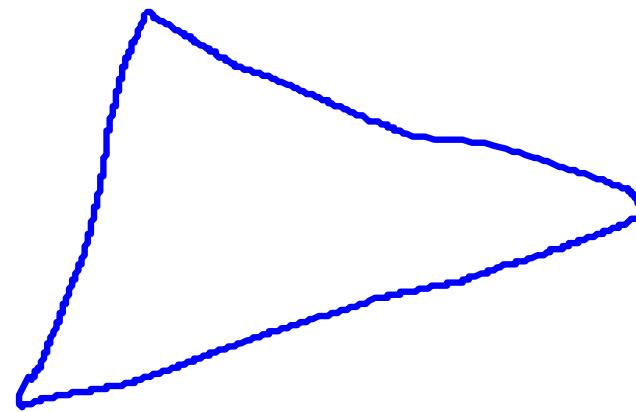
# Related Problem: The General Triangle



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isosceles

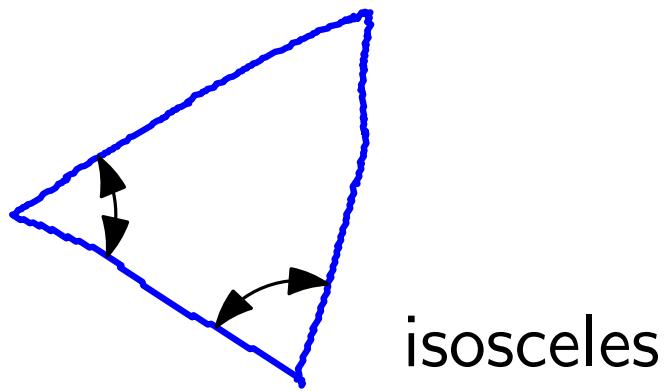


Most general position

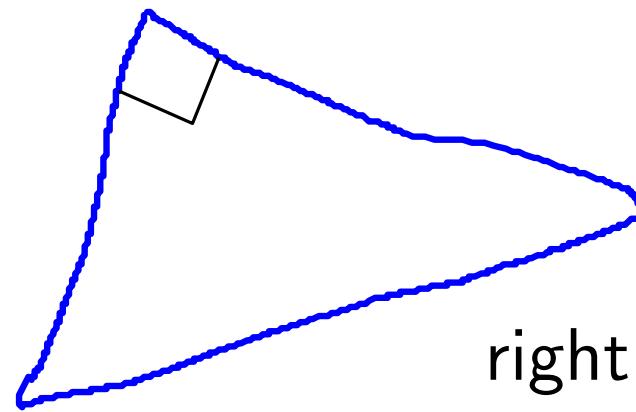
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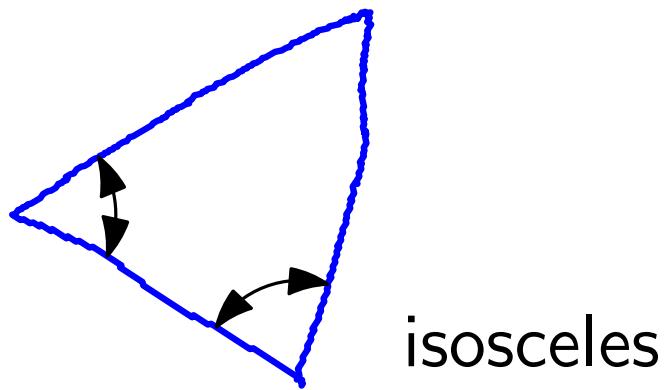


isosceles

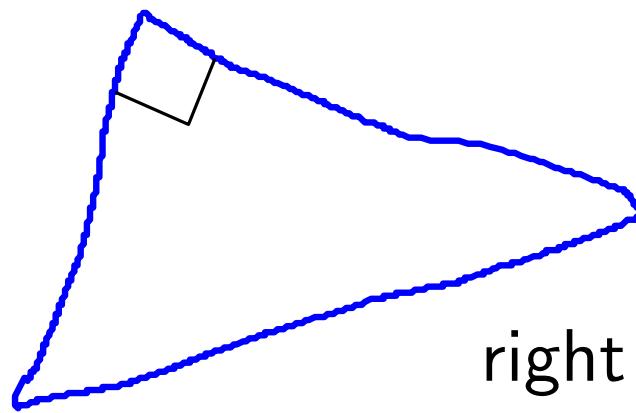


right

# Related Problem: The General Triangle



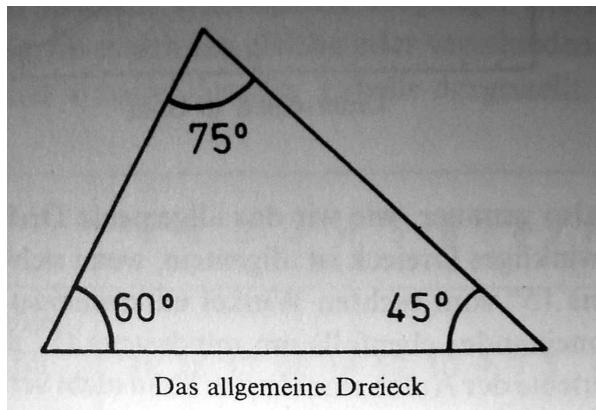
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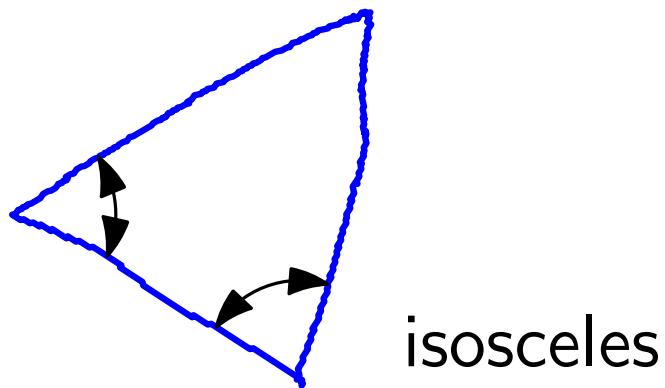
Theorem. There is a unique (up to similarity) general triangle. Its angles are  $45^\circ$ ,  $60^\circ$ , and  $75^\circ$ .

[ B. Tergan, Das allgemeine Dreieck, *J. Math. Did.* 1, 1980 ]

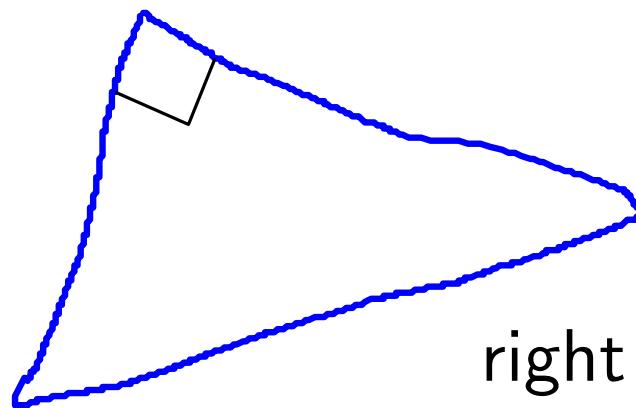


Das allgemeine Dreieck

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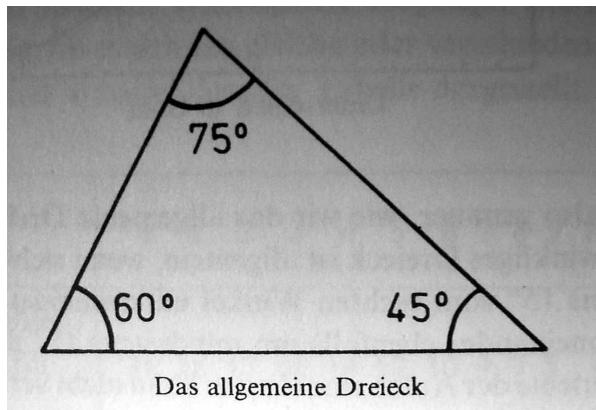
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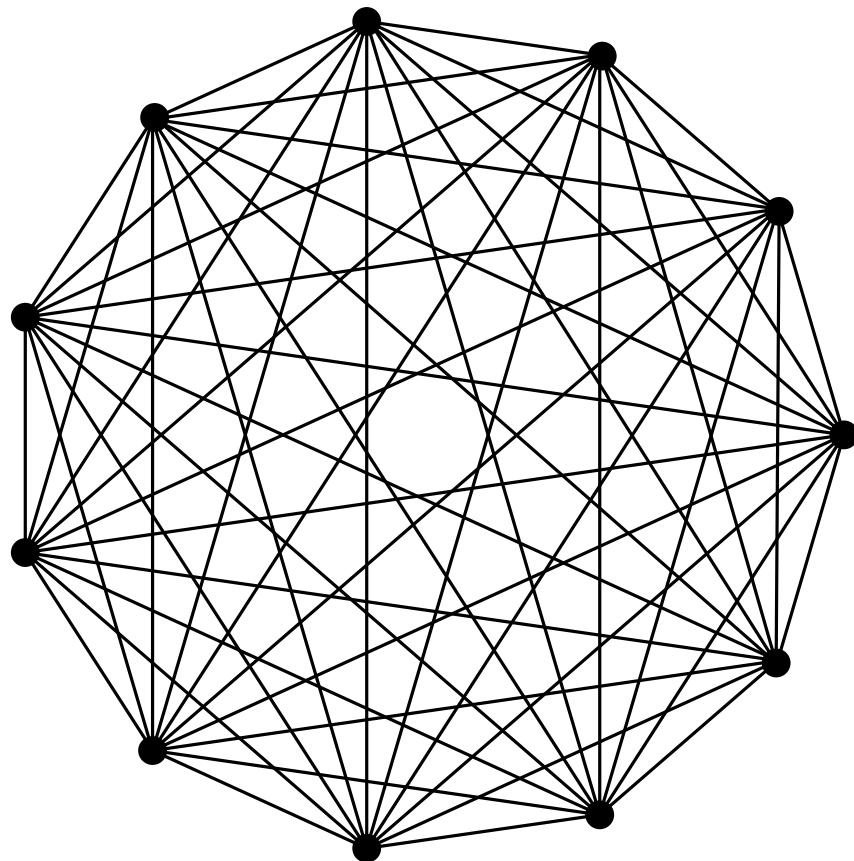
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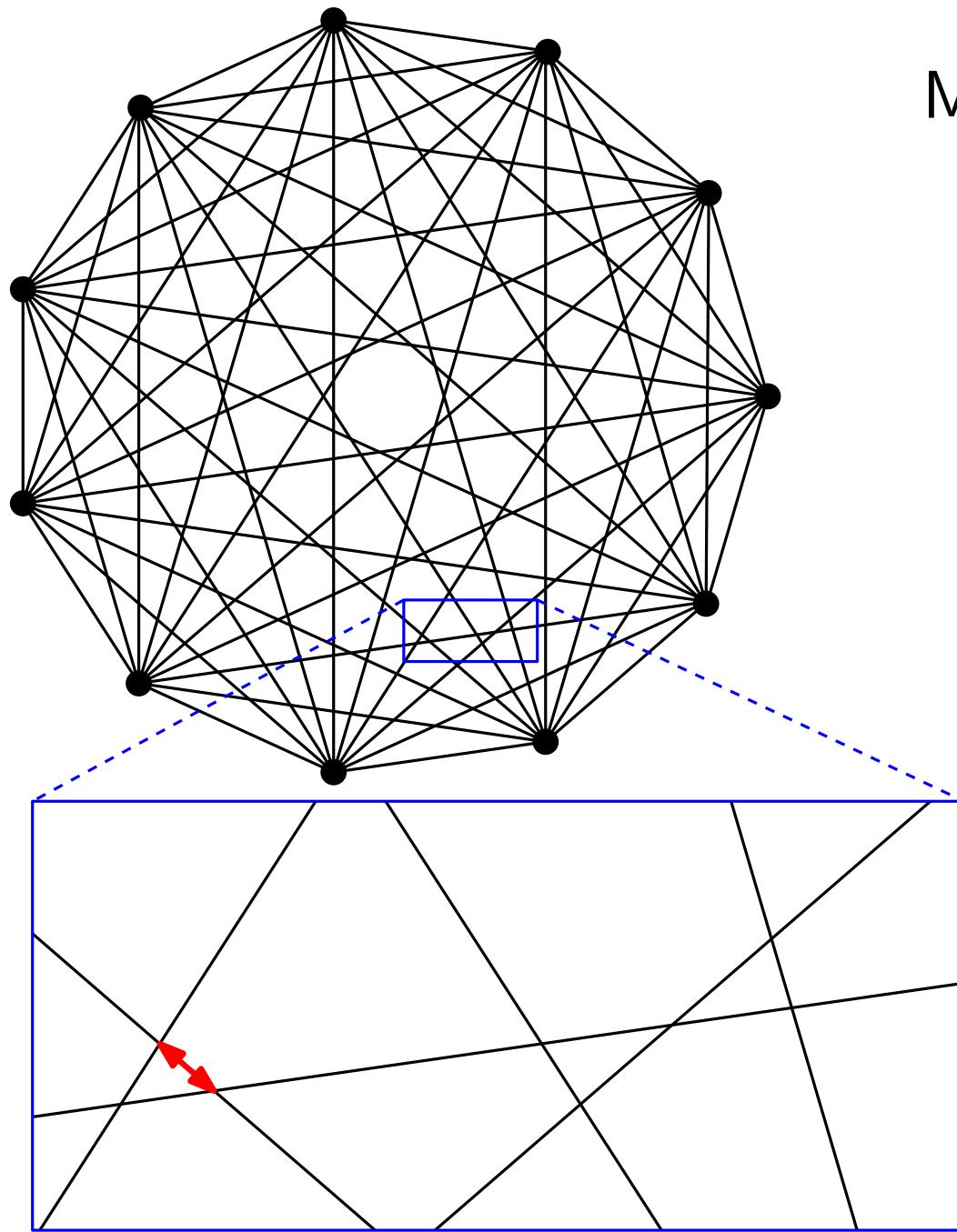


G. A. Jürgen, Das allgemeinste Dreieck, *Praxis d. Math.* 23, 1981.  
F. U. M. Weg, Das allgemeine Viereck, 1984.

# Drawing $K_n$

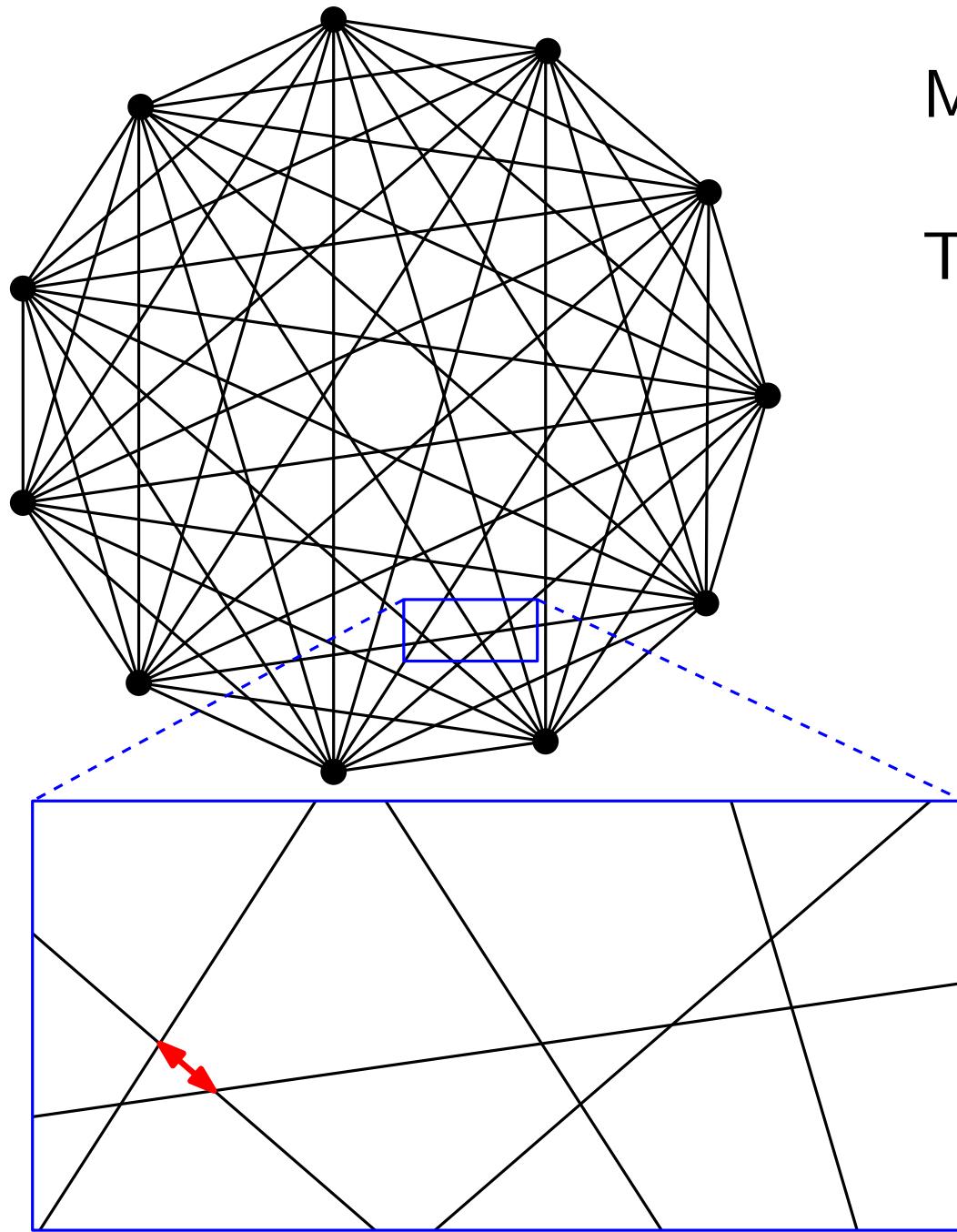


# Drawing $K_n$



Most general position

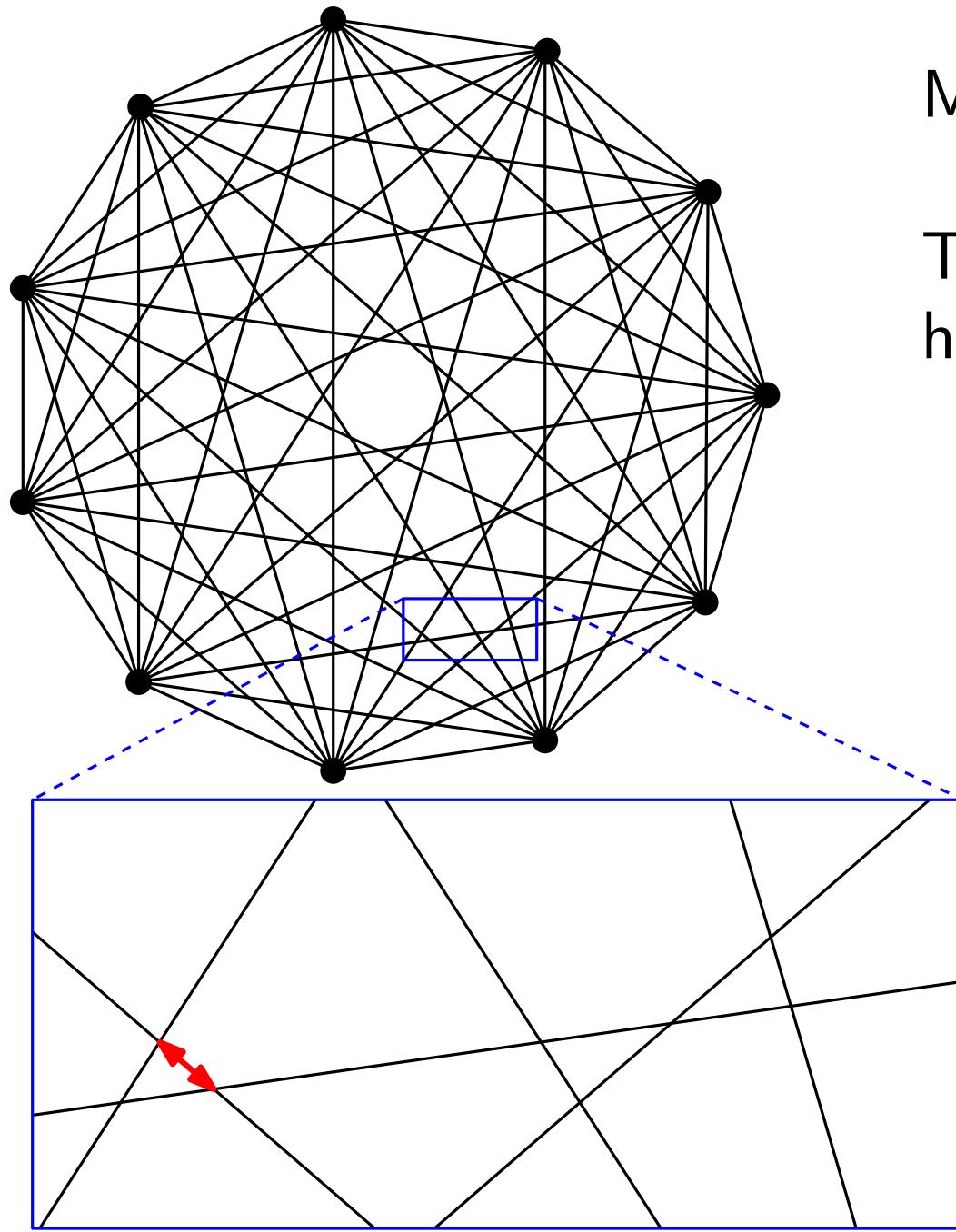
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Maximize the shortest edge!

The regular  $n$ -gon ( $n$  odd)

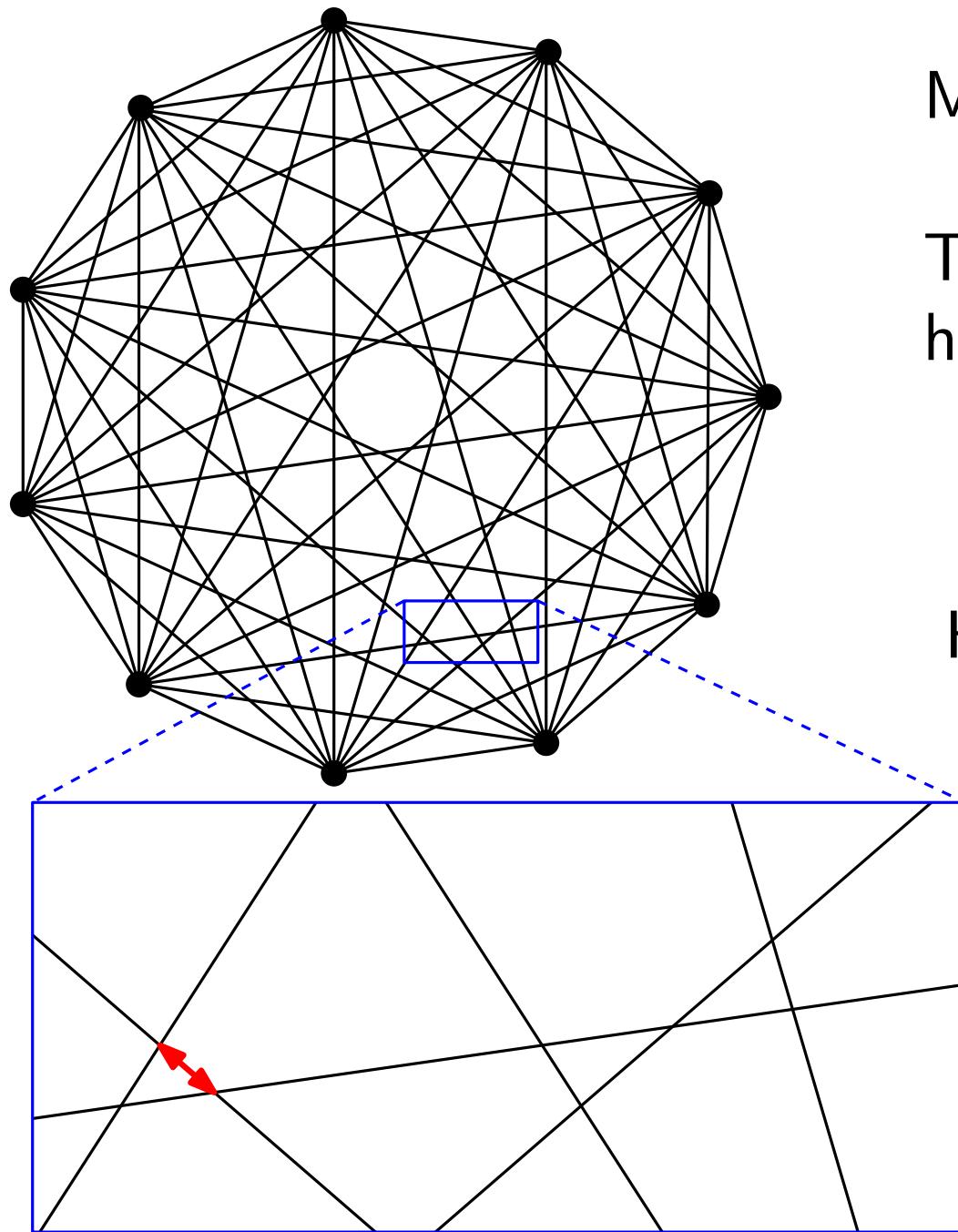
# Drawing $K_n$



Maximize the shortest edge!

The regular  $n$ -gon ( $n$  odd)  
has no triple diagonal crossings.  
[ Heineken 1962, Bol 1936 ]

# Drawing $K_n$

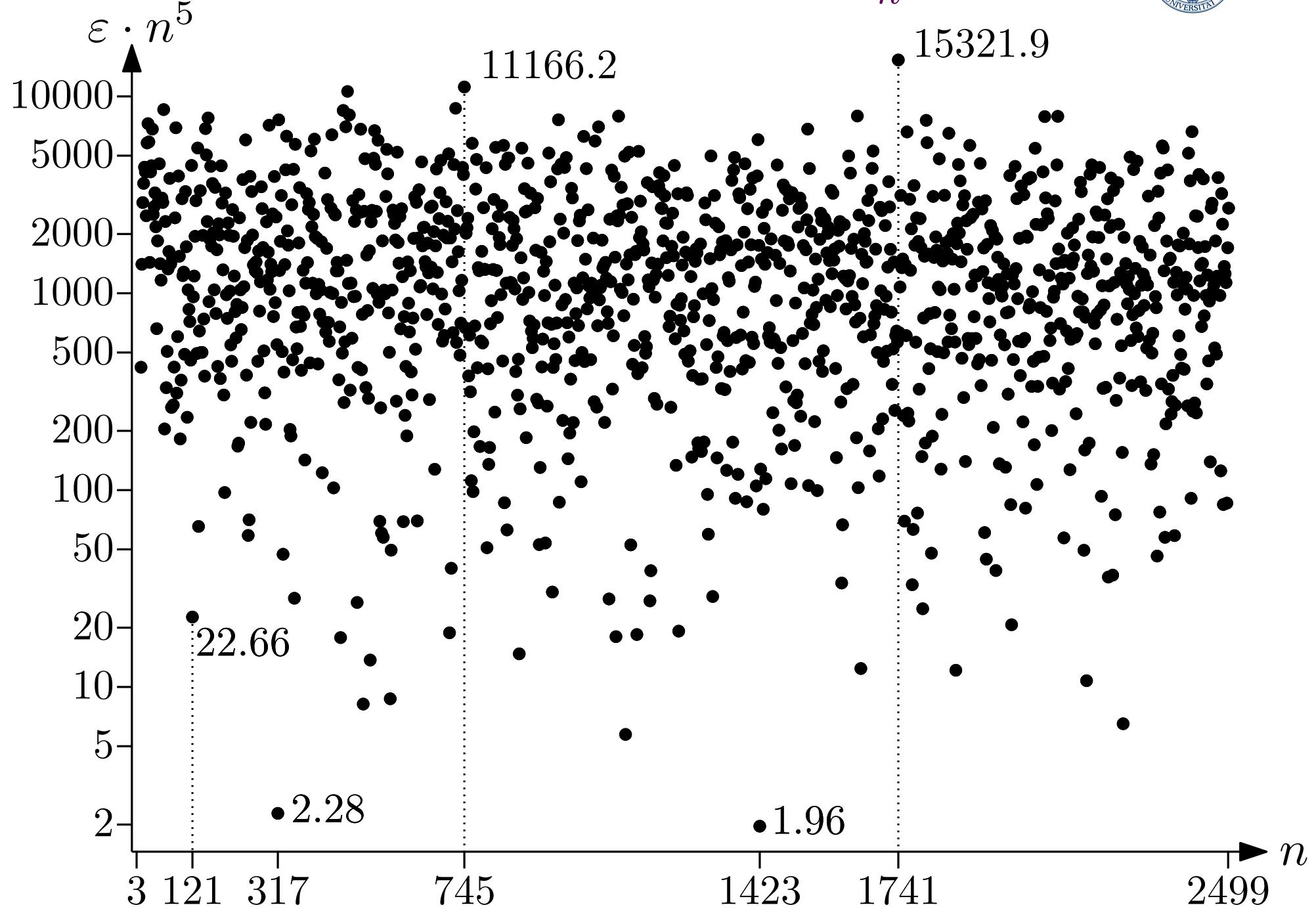


Maximize the shortest edge!

The regular  $n$ -gon ( $n$  odd)  
has no triple diagonal crossings.  
[ Heineken 1962, Bol 1936 ]

How long is the shortest edge?

# Shortest Edge in the Regular $K_n \approx \frac{1}{n^5}$



# No Triple Diagonal Intersections

The regular  $n$ -gon ( $n$  odd) has no triple diagonal crossings.

[ Heineken 1962, Bol 1936 ]

---

$z = e^{2\pi i/n}$ . Triple intersection of  $\overline{z^0, z^r}, \overline{z^s, z^t}, \overline{z^u, z^v} \implies$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & z^0 z^r & z^0 + z^r \\ 1 & z^s z^t & z^s + z^t \\ 1 & z^u z^v & z^u + z^v \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$\dots \implies F(z) = 0$  with

$$F(z) = (1 - z^t)(1 - z^s)(1 - z^{u+v-w}) - (1 - z^u)(1 - z^v)(1 - z^{s+t-r})$$

$z$  is primitive  $n$ -th root of unity  $\implies F(z^2) = 0 \implies \dots$

$$\dots \implies z^{u+v} = z^{s+t}$$

□

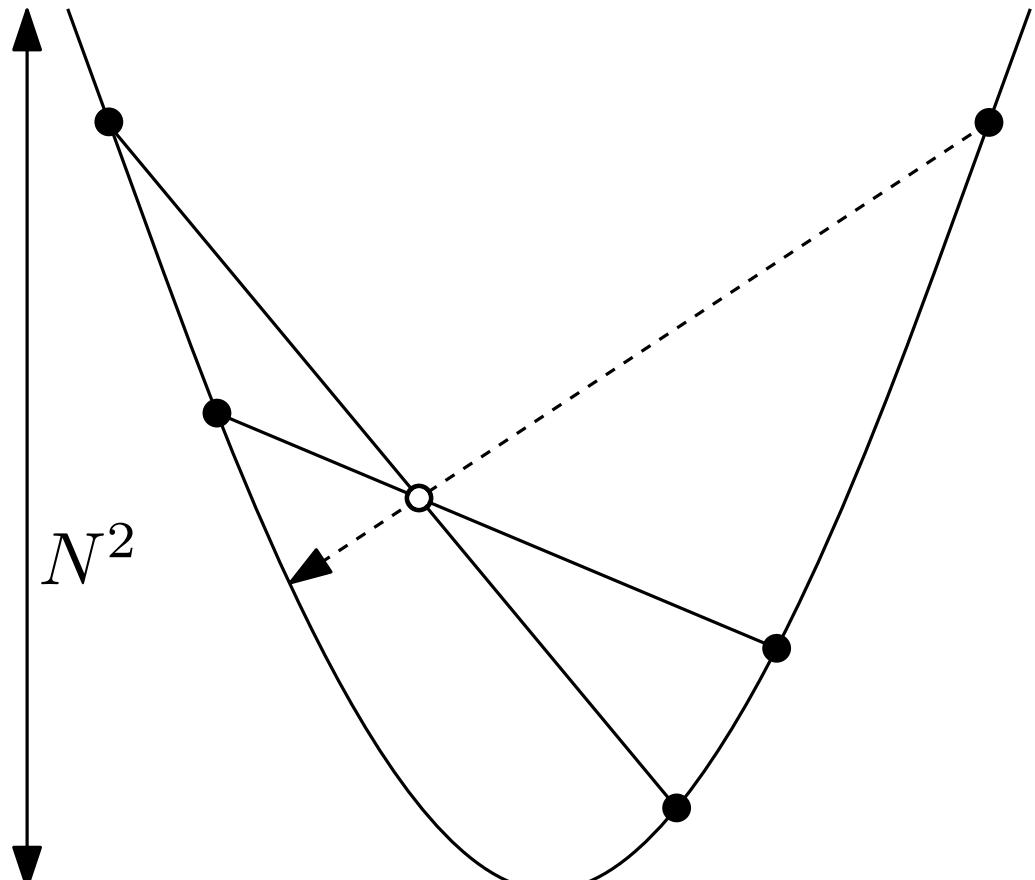
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Separation bounds give something like  $\varepsilon \geq 1/2^{O(n \log n)}$ .

# Incremental Construction



Add points one by one on the parabola  $\binom{i}{i^2}$ ,  $i = -N, \dots, N$

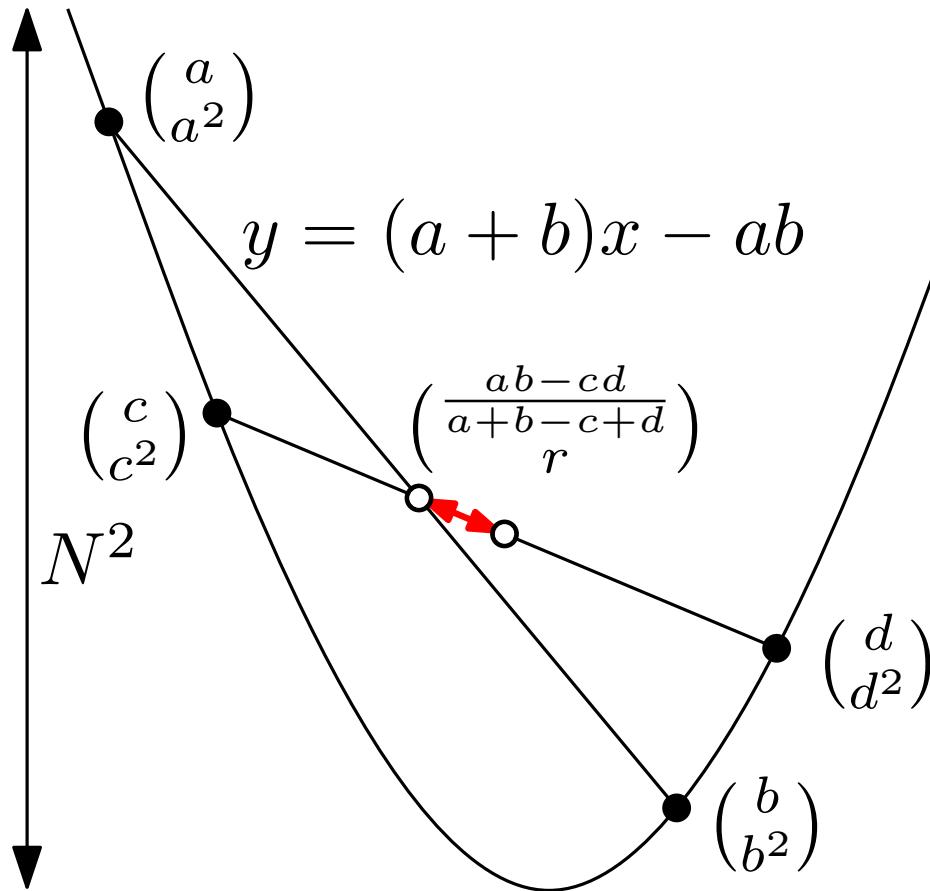


Every 5-tuple induces a  
“forbidden” placement for  
future points.

$N = n^5 \implies$  can place  $n$   
points without triple crossings

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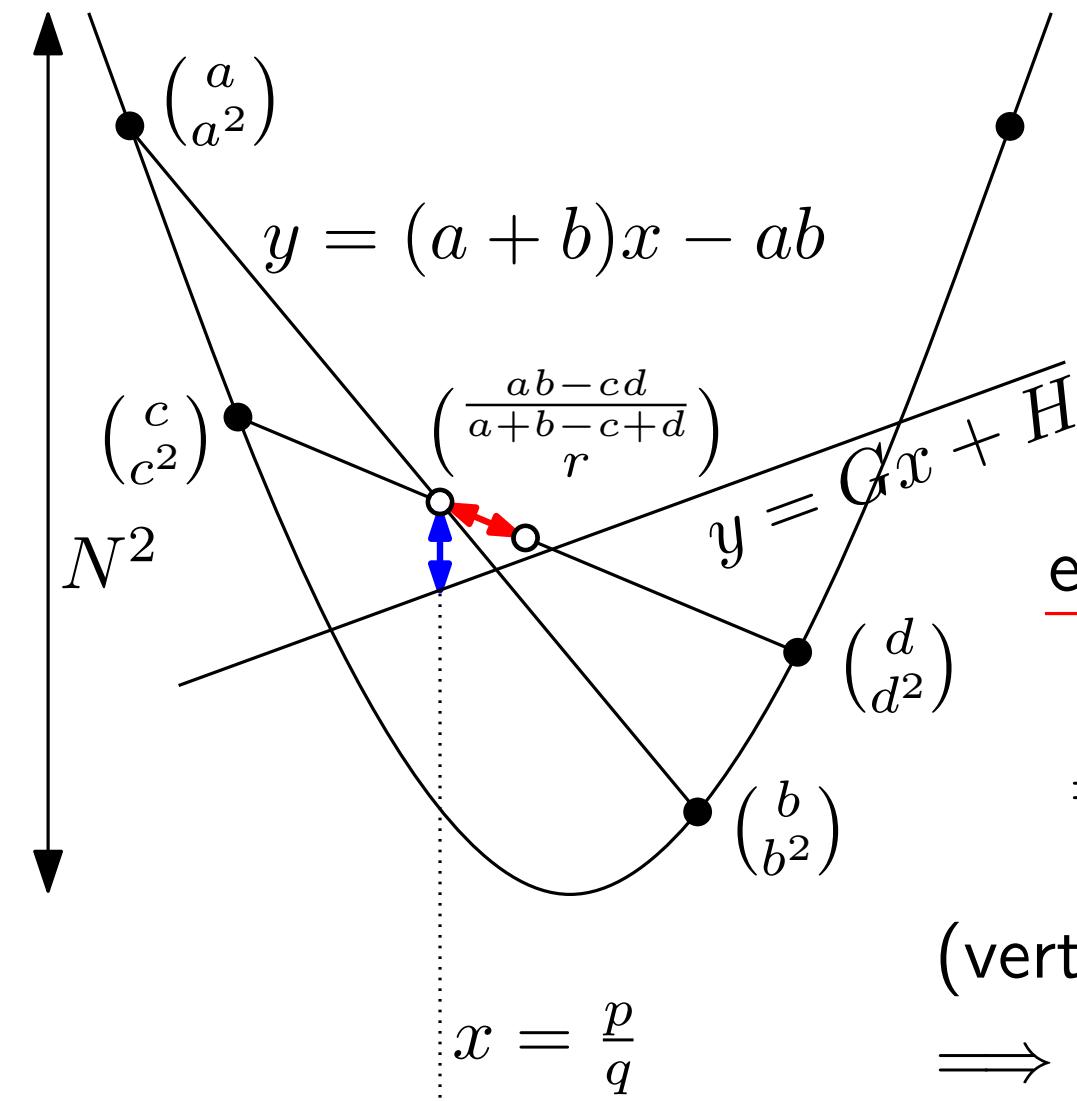
edge length  $\geq$  horizontal distance

$$\left| \frac{p}{q} - \frac{p'}{q'} \right| \geq \frac{1}{|qq'|} \geq \frac{1}{4N^2}$$

$\implies \geq \Omega(1/N^3)$  after scaling

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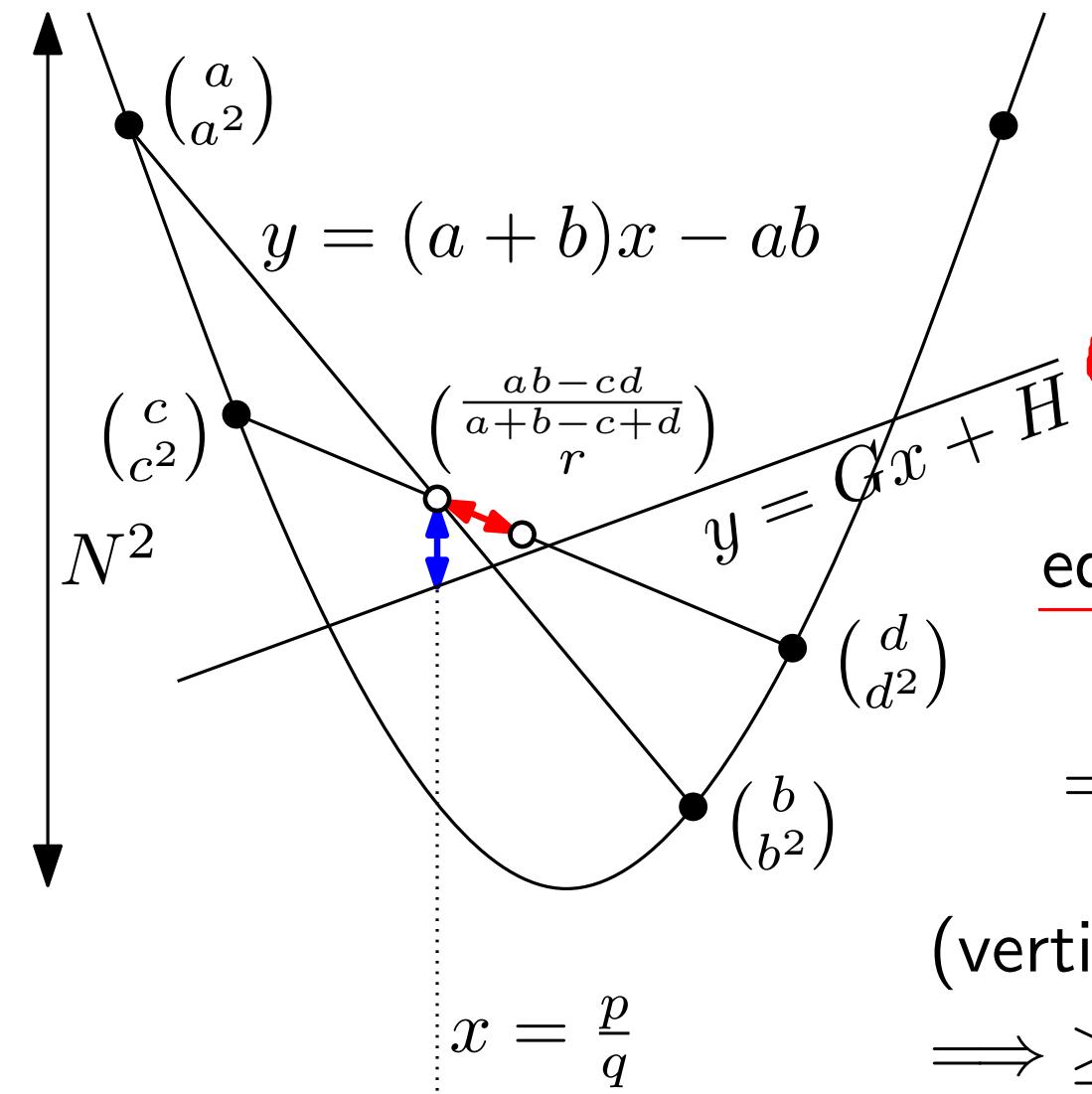
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(vertical) feature distance  $\geq \frac{1}{q} \geq \frac{1}{2N}$   
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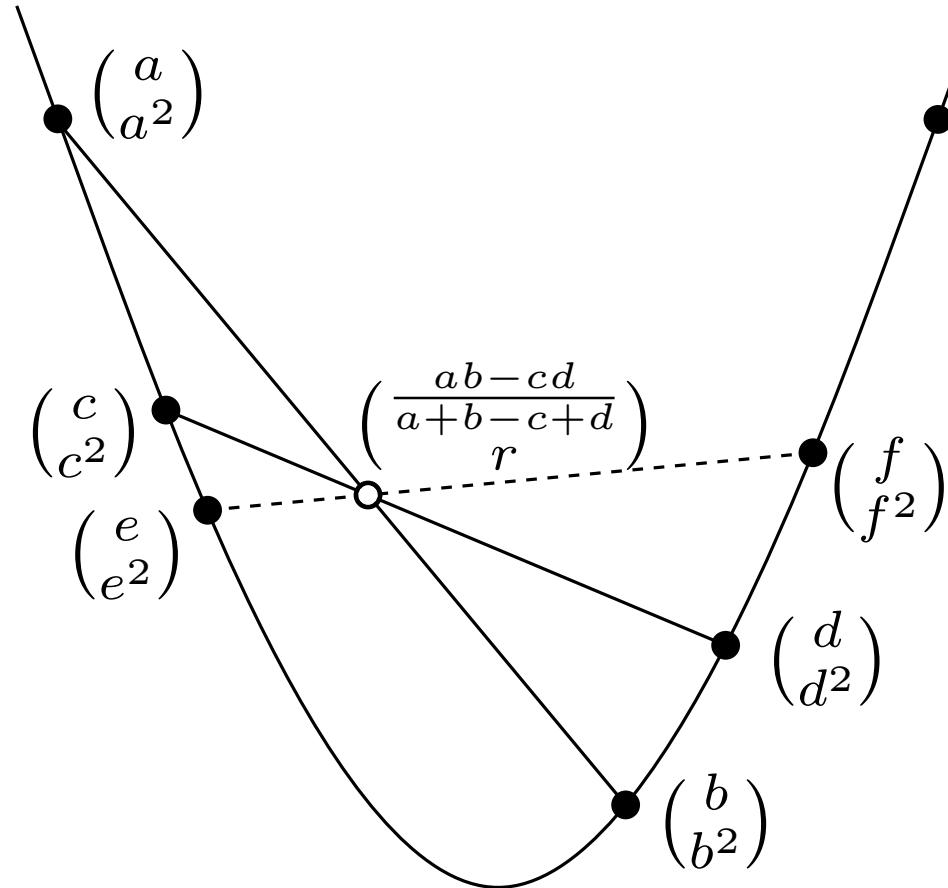
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# Incremental Construction

Add points one by one on the parabola  $\binom{i}{i^2}$ ,  $i = -N, \dots, N$



How many diagonals go through the point  $\binom{p/q}{r}$ ?

$$(e - \frac{p}{q})(f - \frac{p}{q}) = (a - \frac{p}{q})(b - \frac{p}{q})$$

$$(qe - p)(qf - p) = R \text{ (const.)}$$

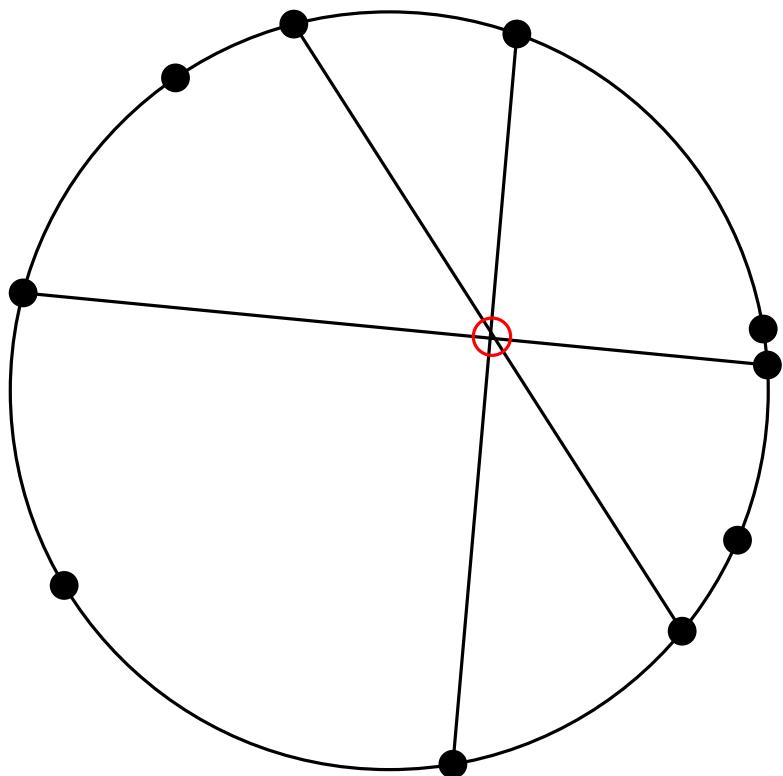
$$\begin{aligned} \# \text{ diagonals } & \overline{\binom{e}{e^2}, \binom{f}{f^2}} \\ & \leq \#(\text{divisors of } R) \\ & \leq N^{O(1/\log\log N)} \quad (R = O(N^2)) \end{aligned}$$

Every 4-tuple eliminates  $\leq N^{O(1/\log\log N)}$  possibilities.

$\implies N \geq n^4 \cdot N^{O(1/\log\log N)}$  is sufficient.

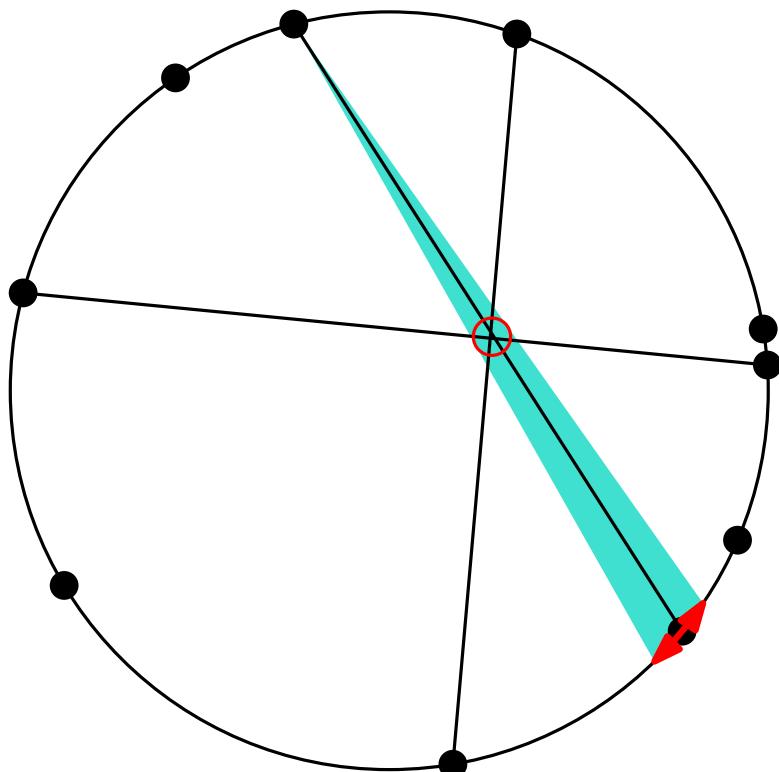
$\implies N := n^{4+O(1/\log\log n)} \implies \varepsilon = 1/n^{12+O(1/\log\log n)}$

# Randomized Construction



Place  $2n$  random points on the circle  
 $E[\# \text{ triplets of diagonals closer than } \varepsilon] \leq n$   
Remove  $\leq n$  “bad” points

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Remove  $\leq n$  “bad” points

$P[\text{a random triplet of diagonals is closer than } \varepsilon] \leq O(\varepsilon)$

Want:

$$E[\#\text{bad triplets}] = O(n^6) \cdot O(\varepsilon) \leq n \\ \implies \varepsilon = \text{const} \cdot \frac{1}{n^5}.$$

# Direct constructions?



Points  $\binom{i}{i^k}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ?  $k = 5$  works for  $n \leq 350$ .

Greedy algorithm on the parabola  $\binom{i}{i^2}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots$

Select  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 14, 16, 24, 27, 30, 33, 50, 55, 61, 75, 77, 102, 103, 106, 140, 144, 150, 189, 201, 229, 257, 259, 268, 309, 317, 338, 353, 357, 368, 412, 456, 471, 514, 560, 563, 566, 568, 580, 594, 646, 655, 739, 778, 831, 865, 895, 921, 937, 1019, 1038, 1079, 1147, 1185, 1195, 1235, 1352, 1412, 1439, 1440, 1488, 1511, 1529, 1536, 1551, 1562, 1586, 1619, 1788, 1791, 1851, 1930, 1990, 2052, 2057, 2169, 2187, 2198, 2234, 2237, 2342, 2444, 2450, 2518, 2603, 2695, 2723, 2726, 2771, 2841, 2959, 3080, 3113, 3262, 3277, 3285, 3286, 3413, 3444, 3652, 3666, 3731, 3772, 3817, 3991, 4041, 4051, 4216, 4217, 4225, 4236, 4478, 4572, 4582, 4872, 4909, 4945, 5013, 5254, 5274, 5303, 5415, 5498, 5543, 5572, 5608, 5613, 5722, 5786, 5794, 5820, 6273, 6321, 6387, 6506, 6669, 6687, 6879, 7061, 7170, 7199, 7473, 7520, 7566, 7596, 7608, 7609, 7692, 7753, 7832, 8016, 8221, 8248, 8694, 8811, 8956, 8967, 8975, 9003, 9148, 9180, 9198, 9354, 9387, 9418, 9572, 9638, 9754, 10092, 10109, 10112, 10126, 10168, 10196, 10333.$