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# Computational Geometry

## Chapter 4: Voronoi Diagrams

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Prof. Dr. Sándor Fekete

Algorithms Division  
Department of Computer Science  
TU Braunschweig



- 1. Introduction and Motivation**
- 2. Definitions**
- 3. Representing planar partitions**
- 4. Properties**
- 5. Fortune's algorithm**
- 6. Variations**
- 7. The Voronoi game**
- 8. Summary and conclusions**

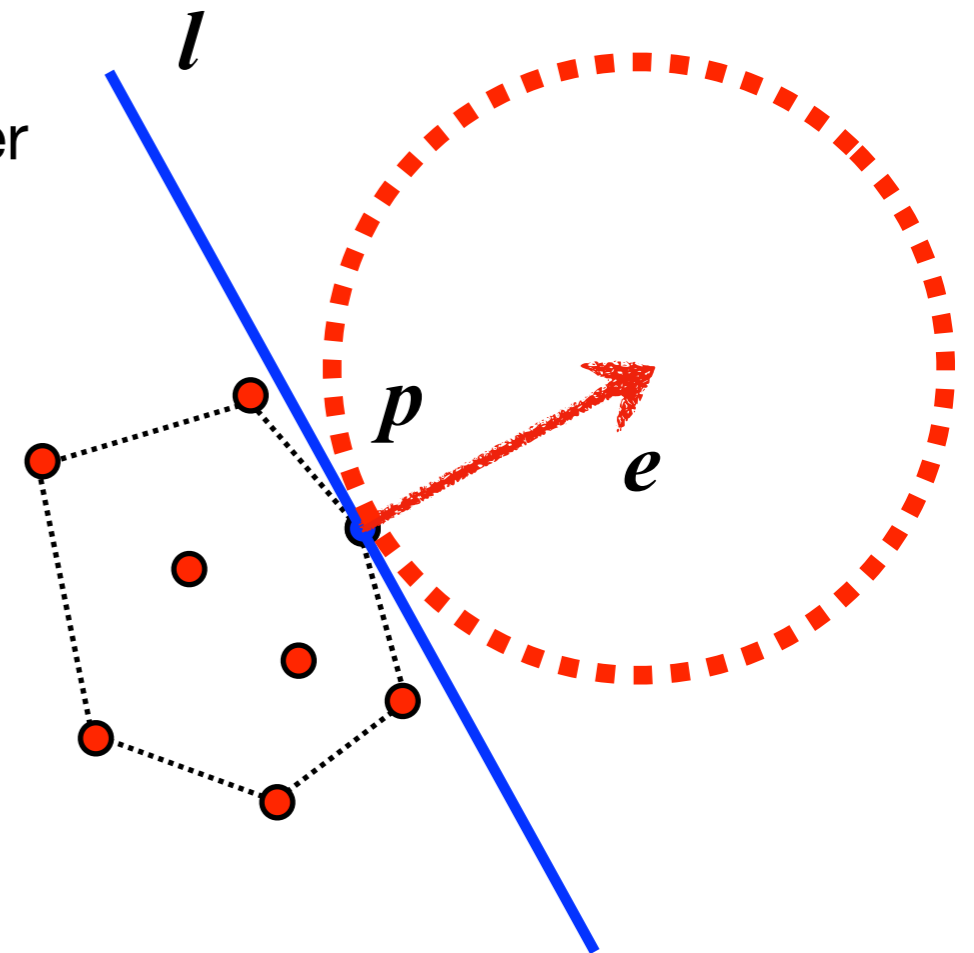
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**Lemma 4.13**

$p \in \mathcal{P}$  lies on boundary of  $\text{conv}(\mathcal{P}) \Leftrightarrow V(p)$  unbounded.

**Corollary 4.14:**

Computing the Voronoi diagram for  $n$  points has a lower bound of  $\Omega(n \log n)$ .





VIRONOI MAN

## Approach:

- Consider a moving „frontier“ between resolved and unresolved part.

## Crucial issue:

- $p \in \mathcal{P}$  below  $\ell$  can influence  $Vor(p)$  above  $\ell$ .

## Observation:

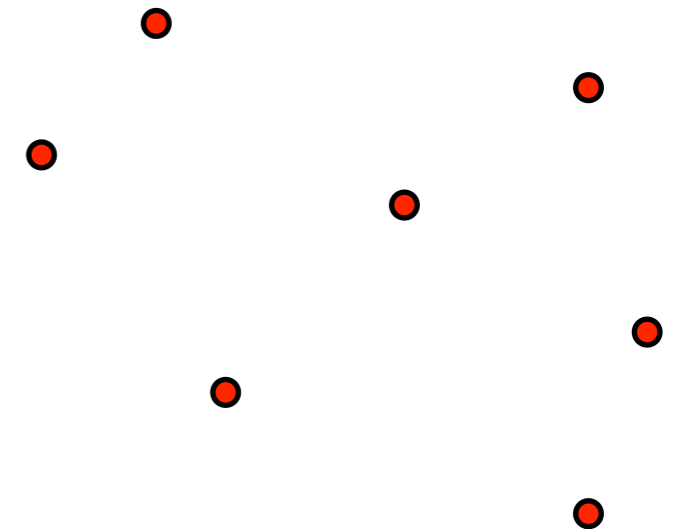
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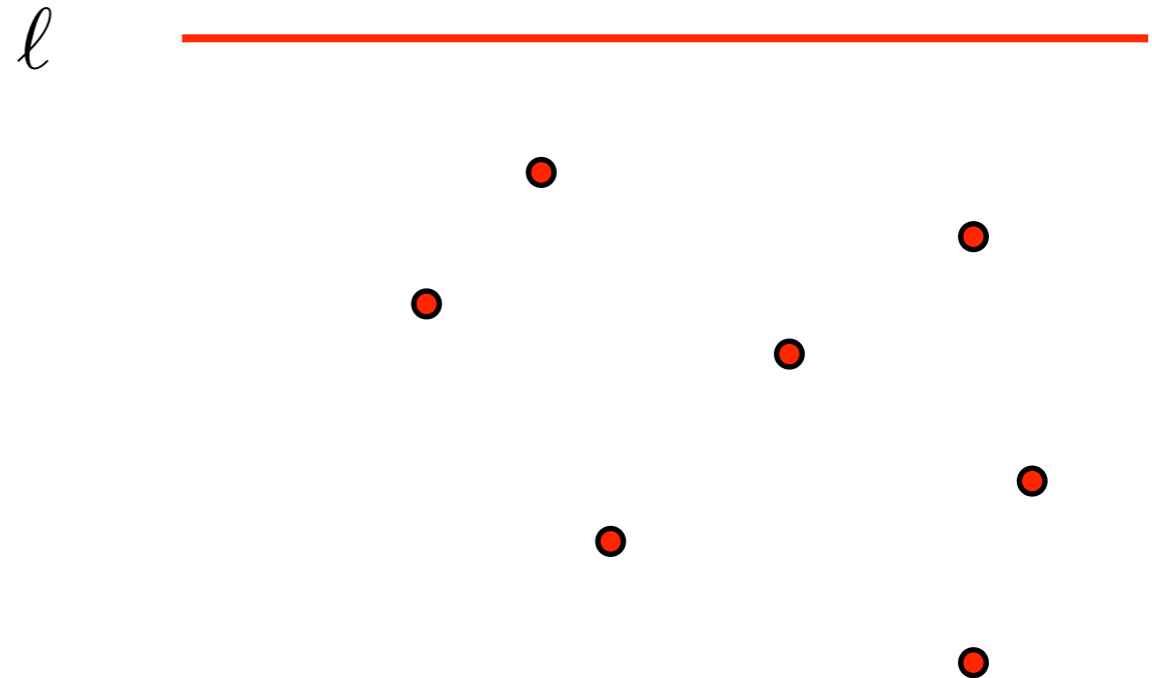
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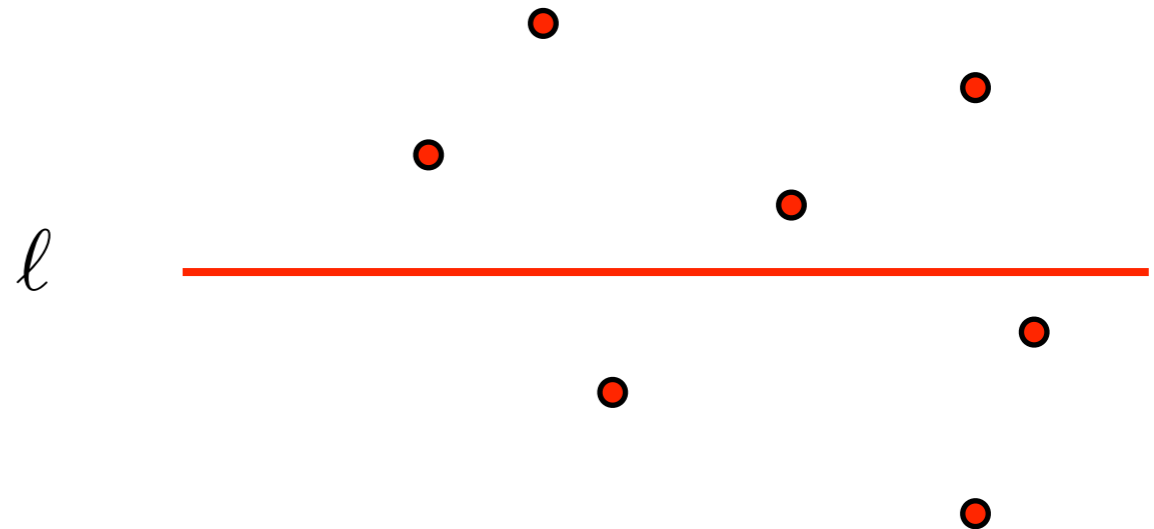


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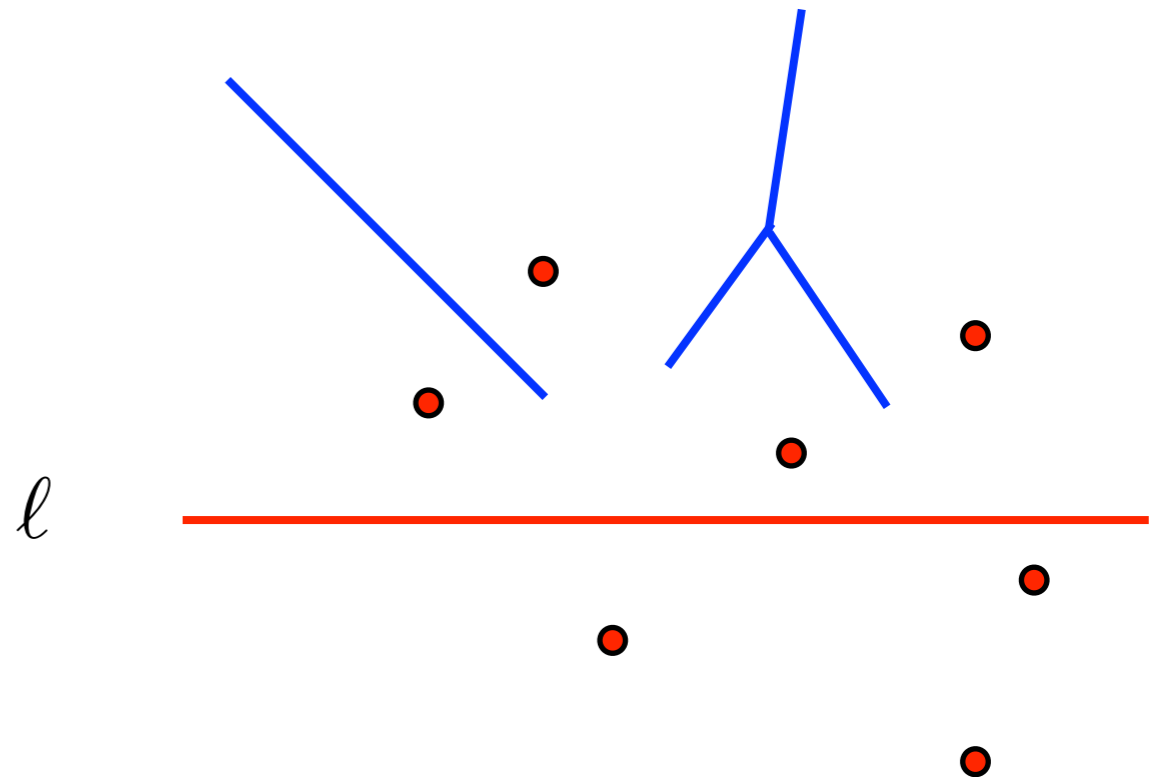
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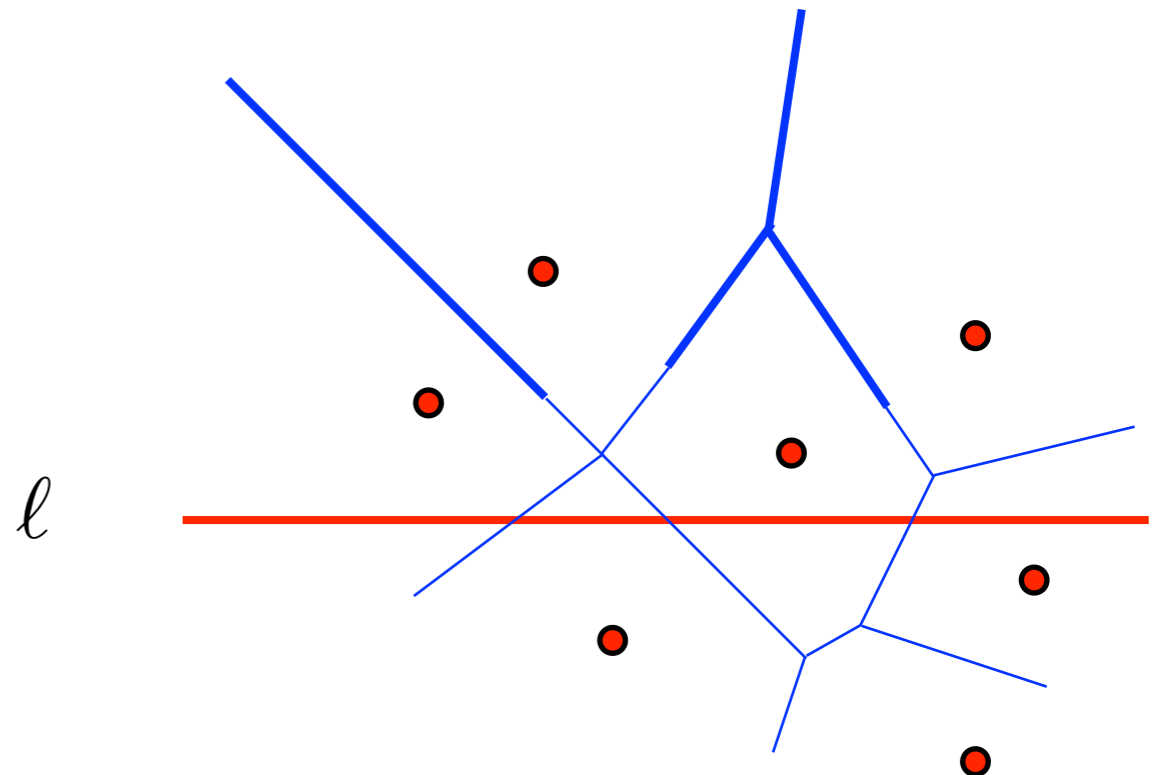
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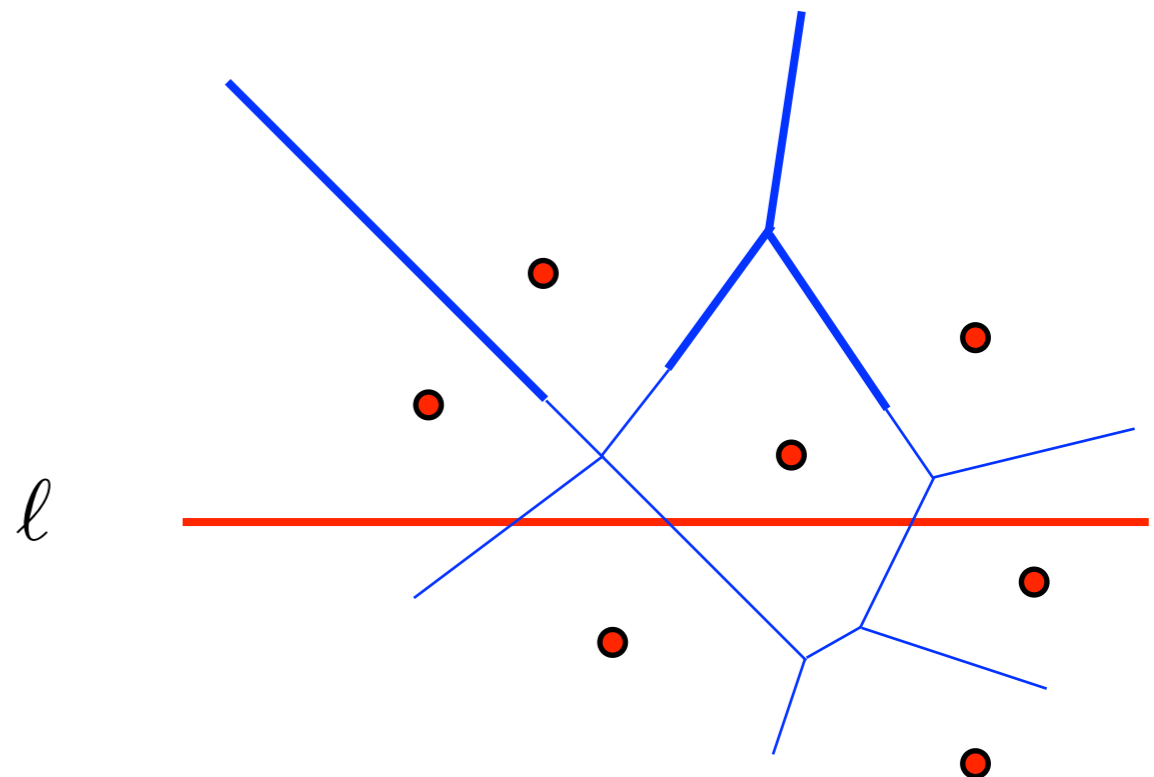
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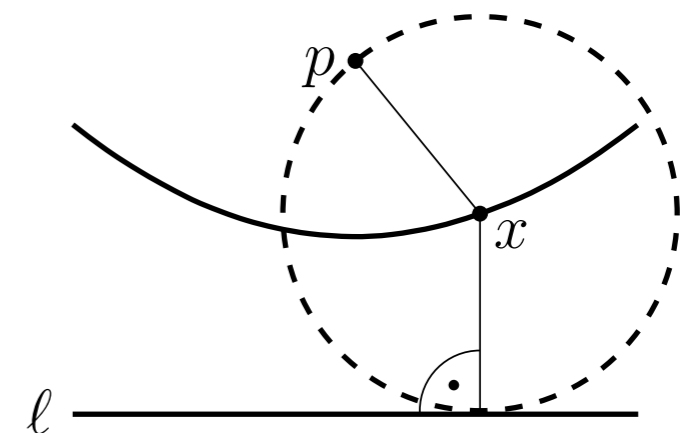
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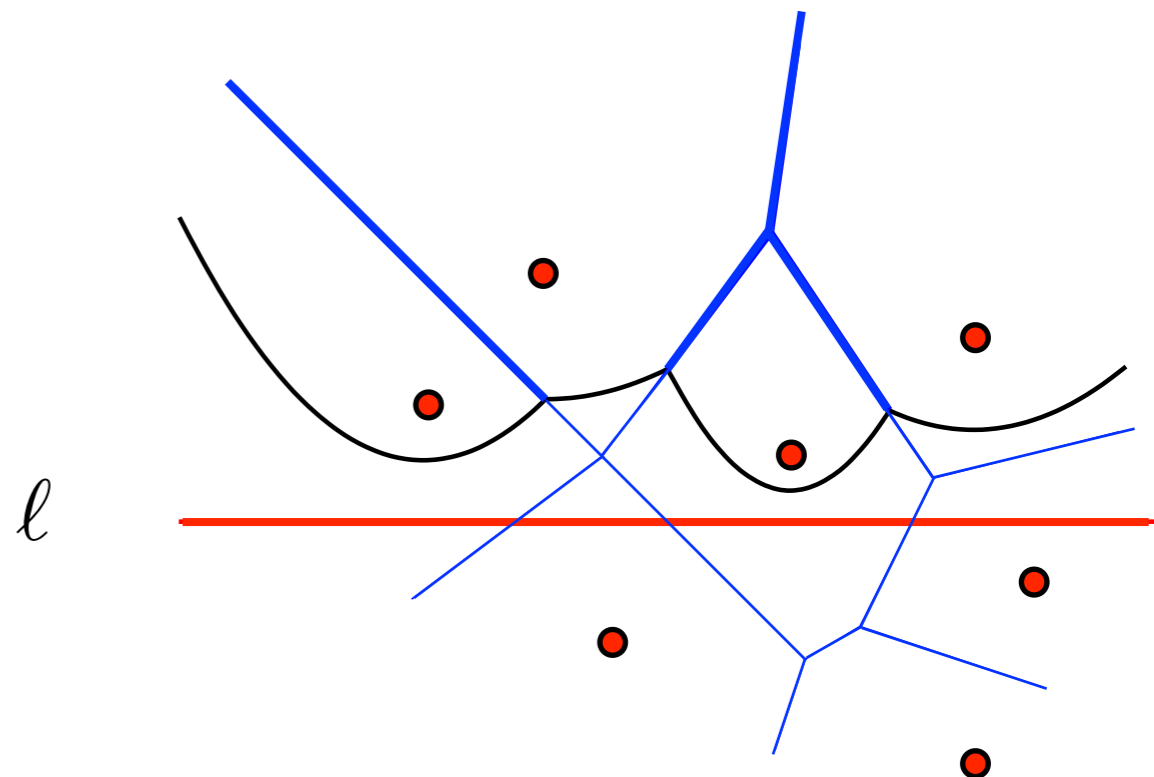


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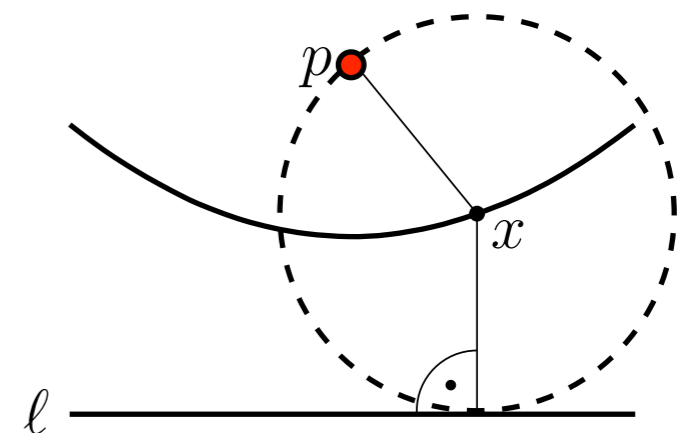
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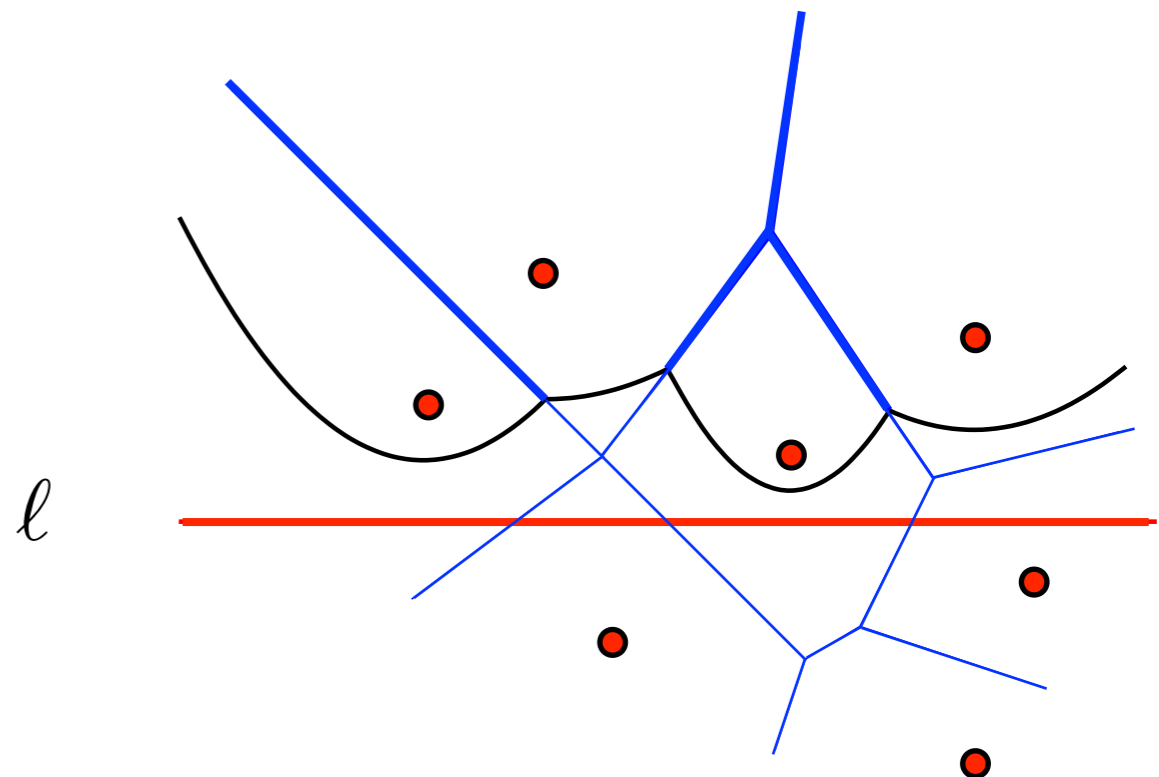


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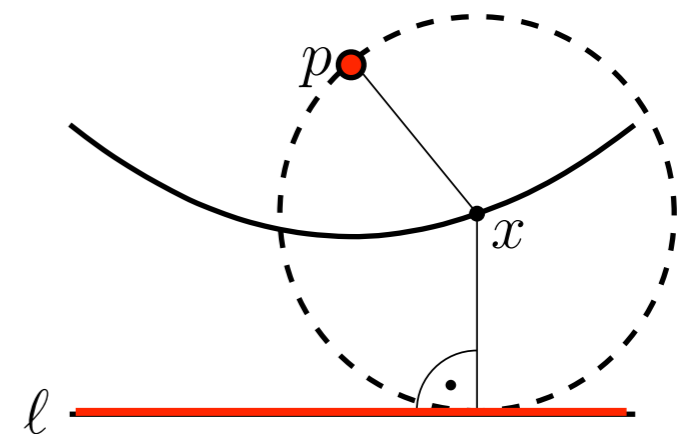
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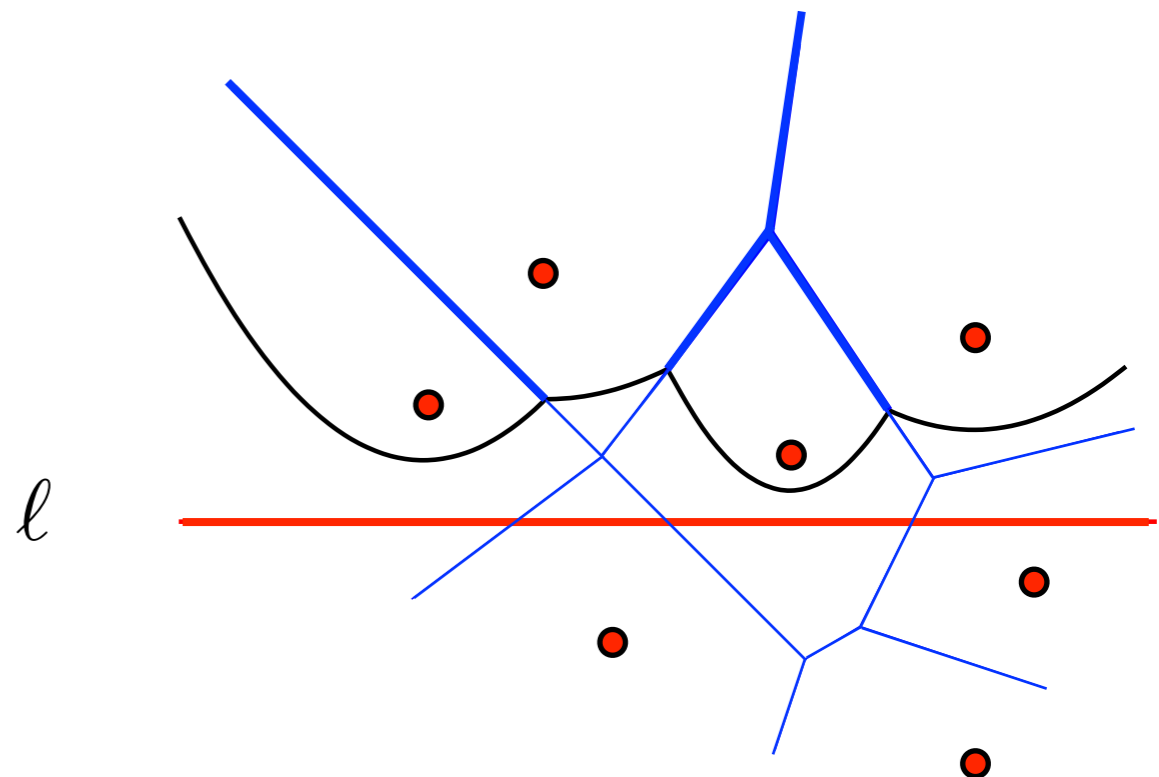


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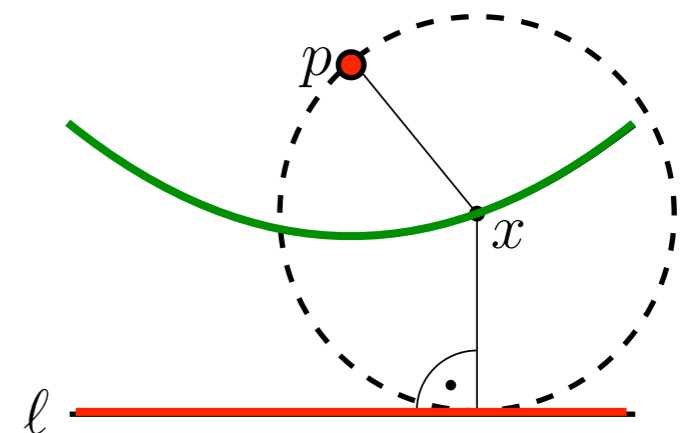
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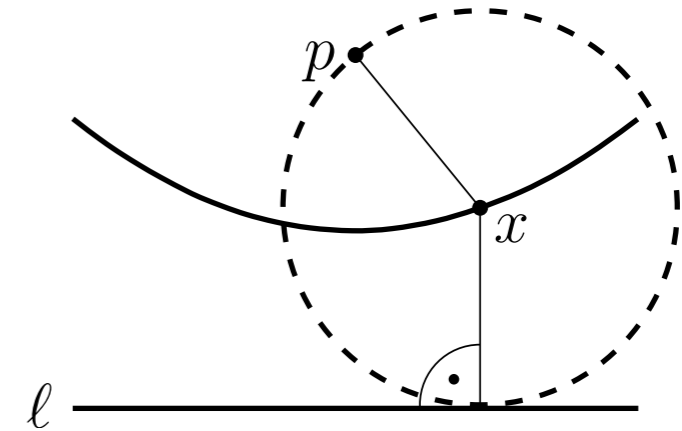


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$$\{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid d(x, p) = d(x, \ell)\}$$

## Theorem 4.15:

The curve is a parabola (with *focus*  $p$  and *directrix*  $\ell$ ).



## Proof:

Consider  $p=(0,s)$  and  $X=(x,0)$ .

Then  $C=(x,y)$  with

$$d_1^2 = x^2 + (y - s)^2$$

$$d_2^2 = y^2$$

So

$$y = \frac{1}{2s}x^2 + \frac{s}{2}$$

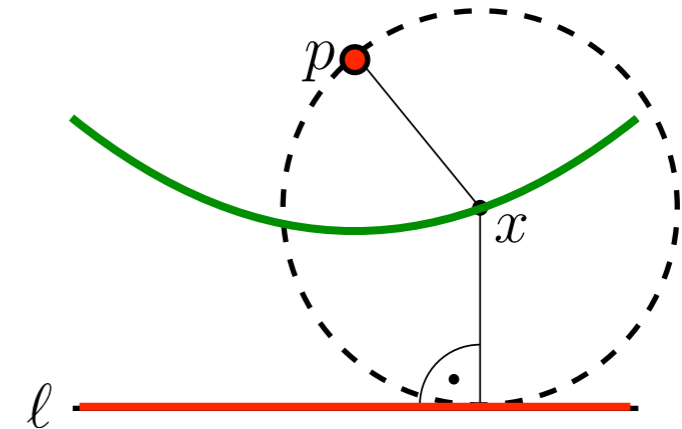


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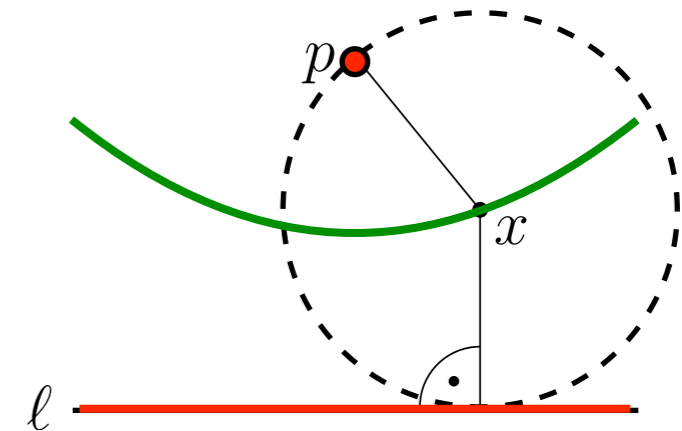
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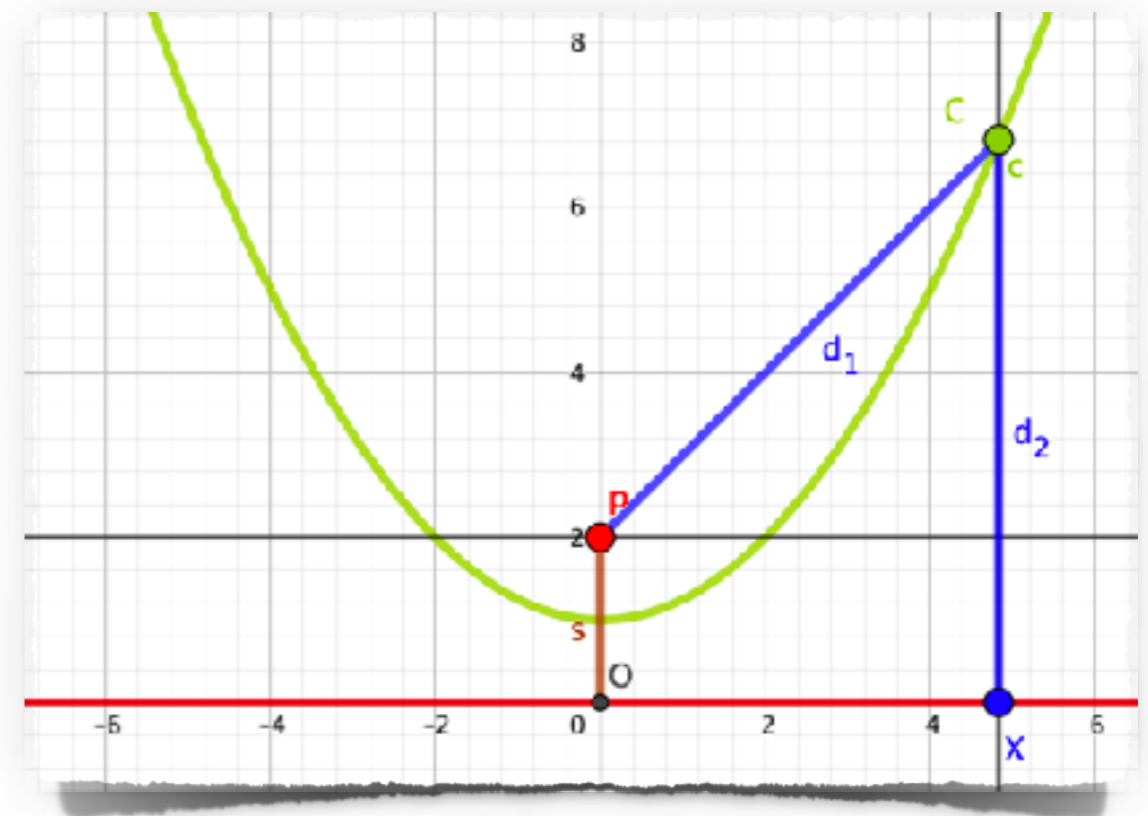
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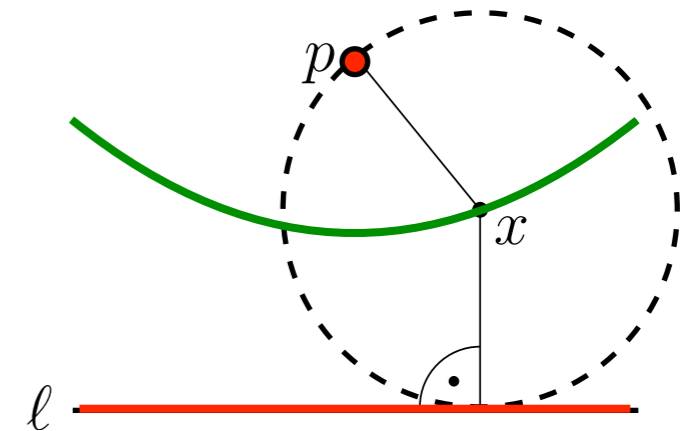


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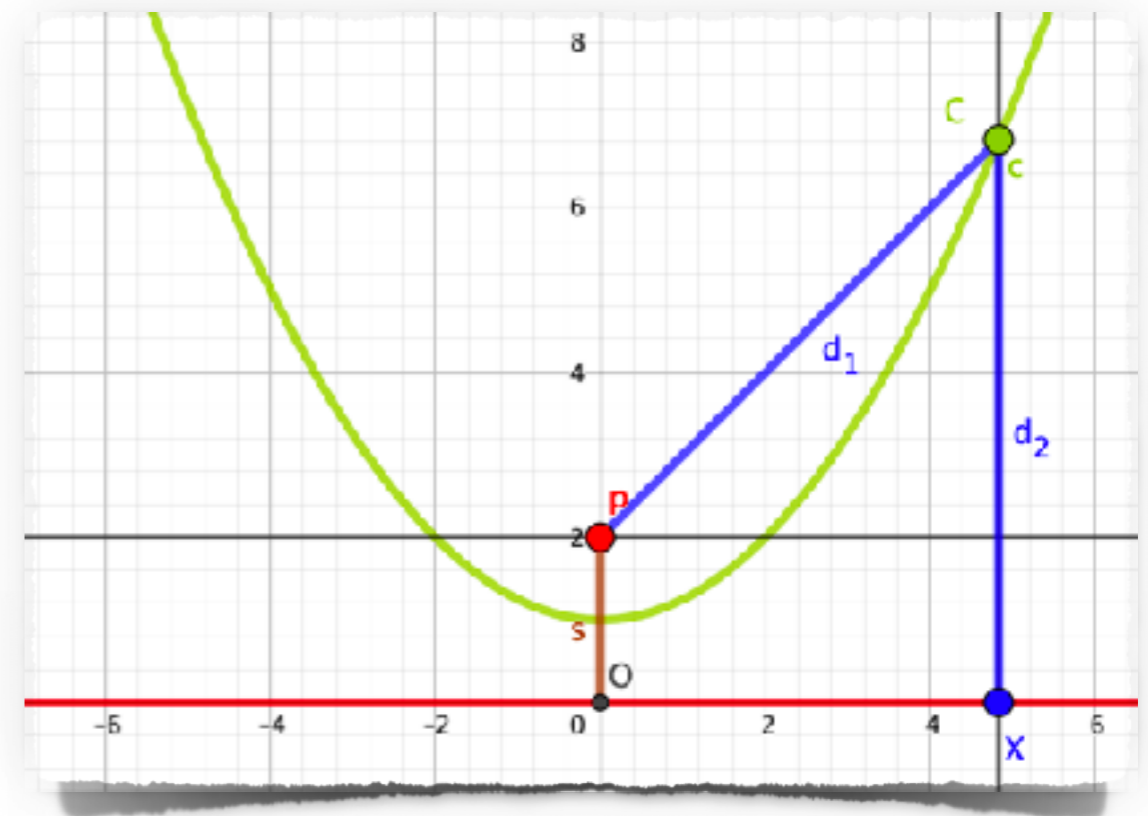
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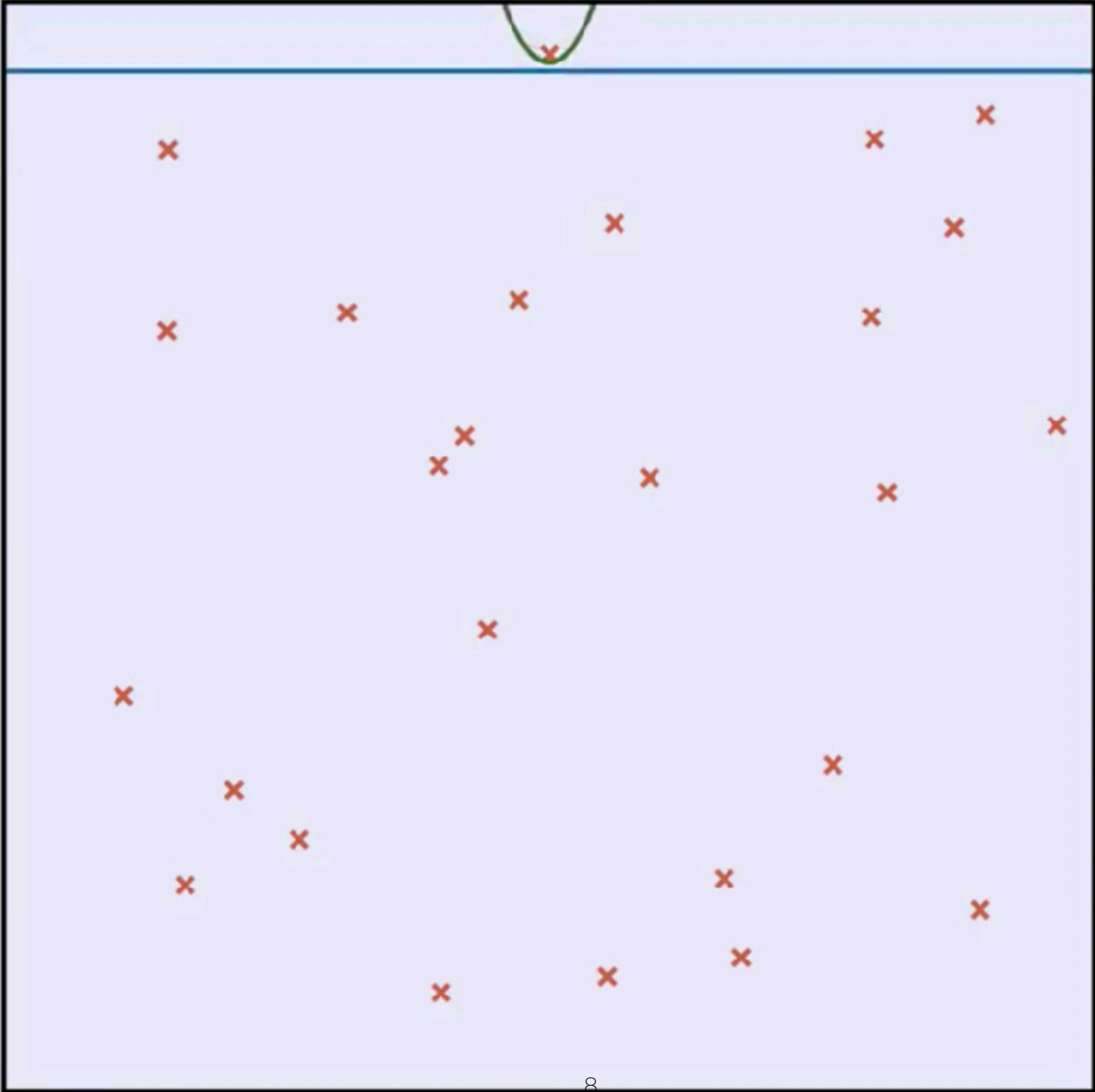
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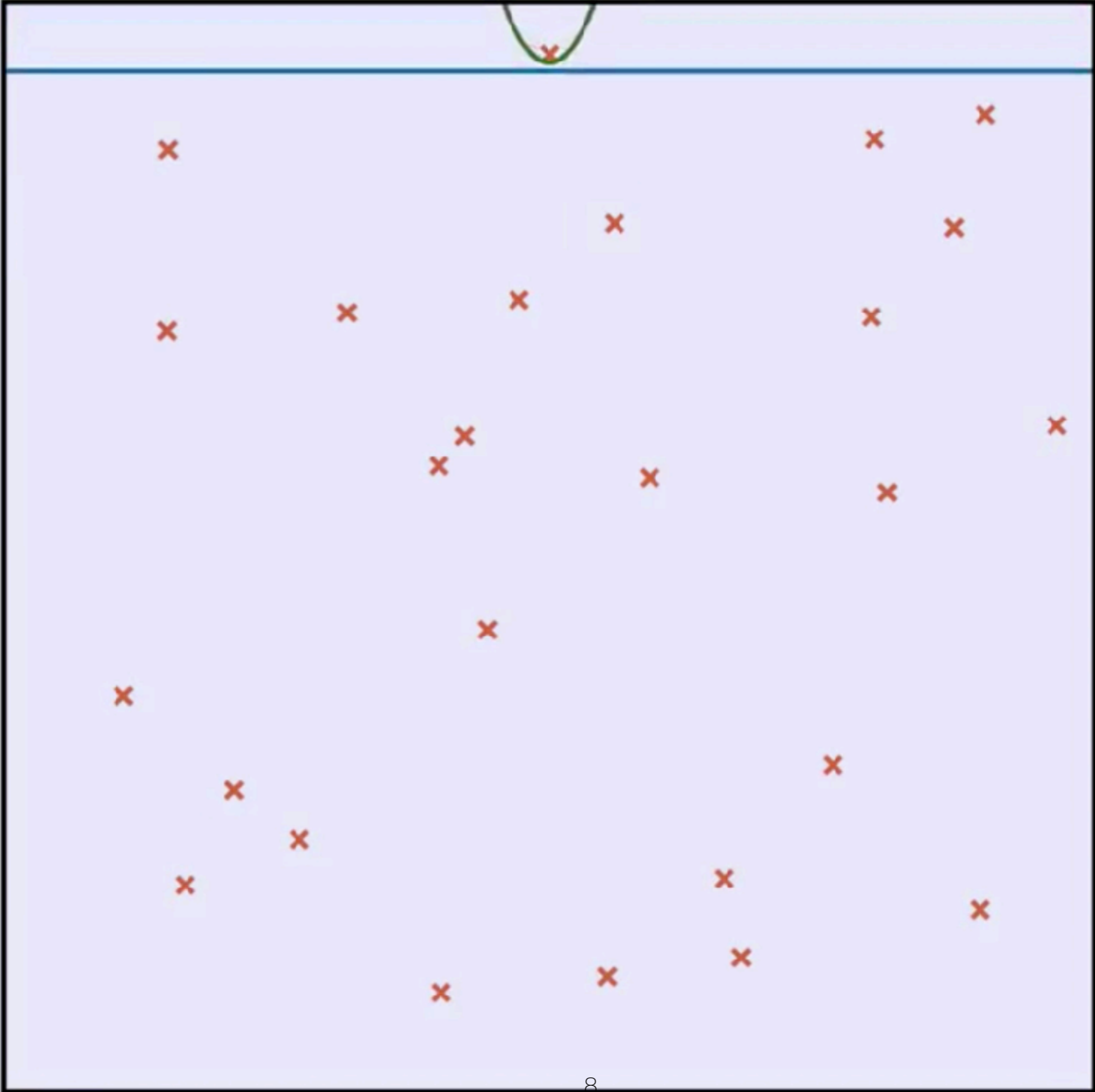
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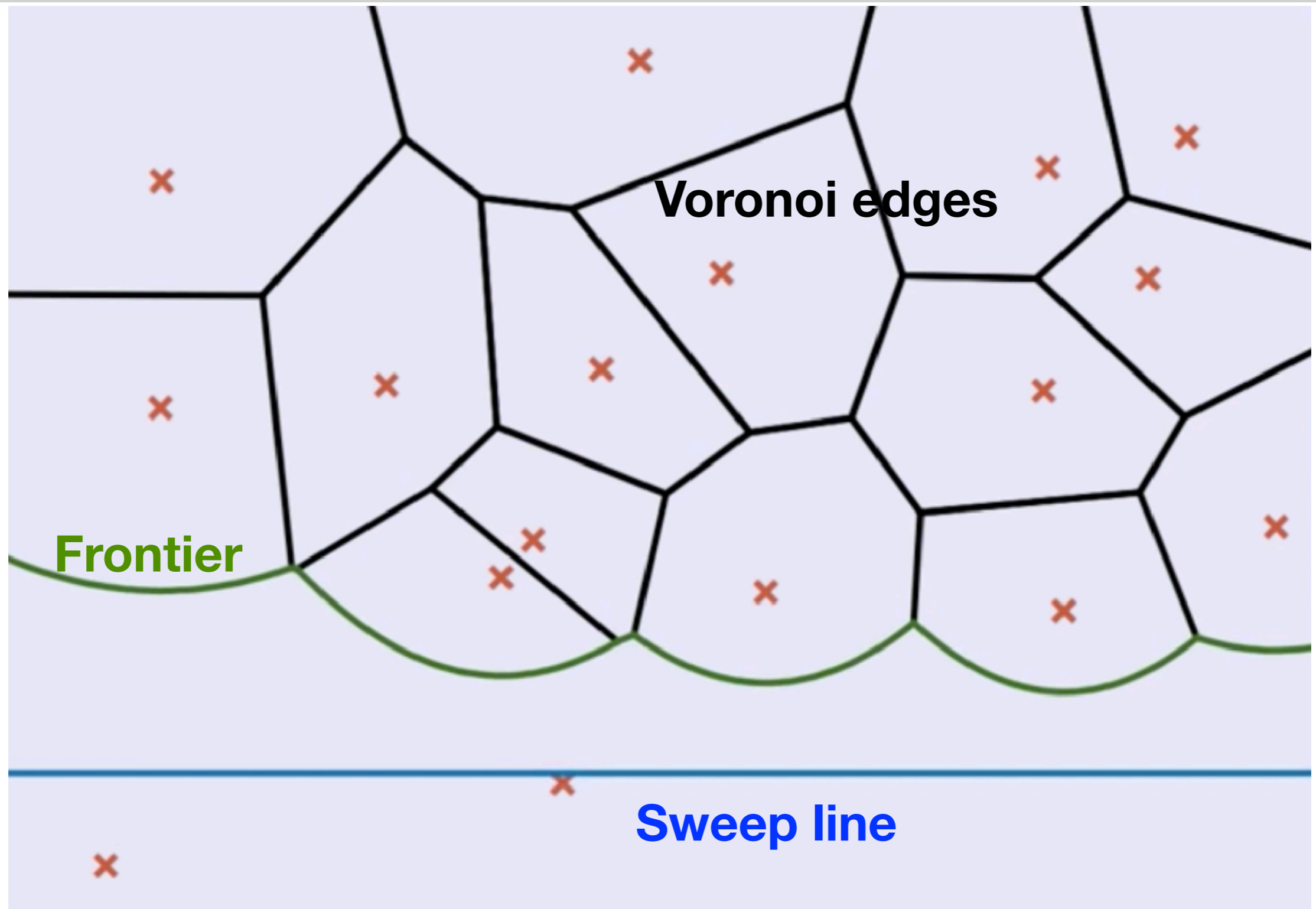
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Frontier

Voronoi edges

Sweep line



**Voronoi edges**

**Frontier**

**Sweep line**

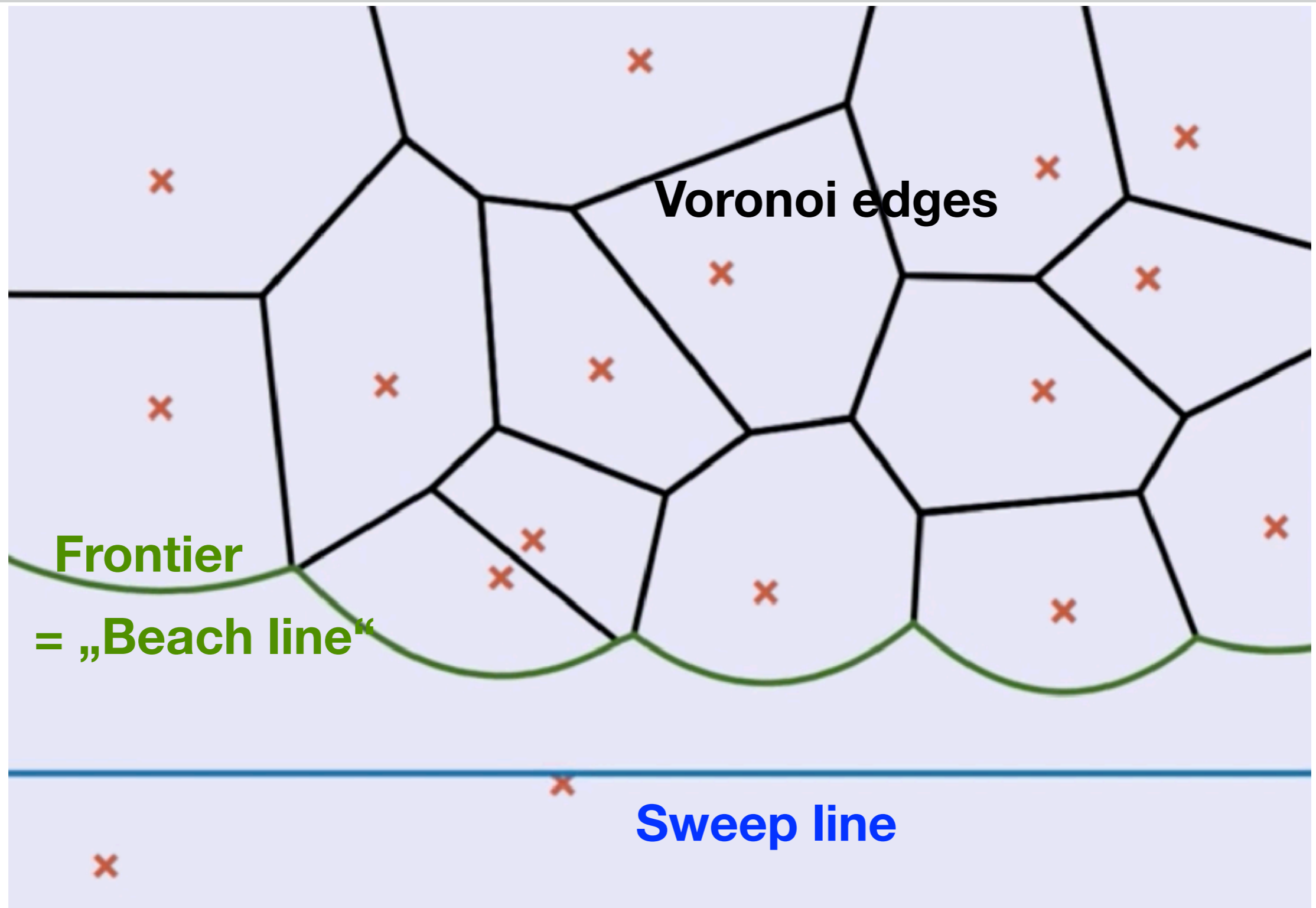




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Frontier  
= „Beach line“

Sweep line





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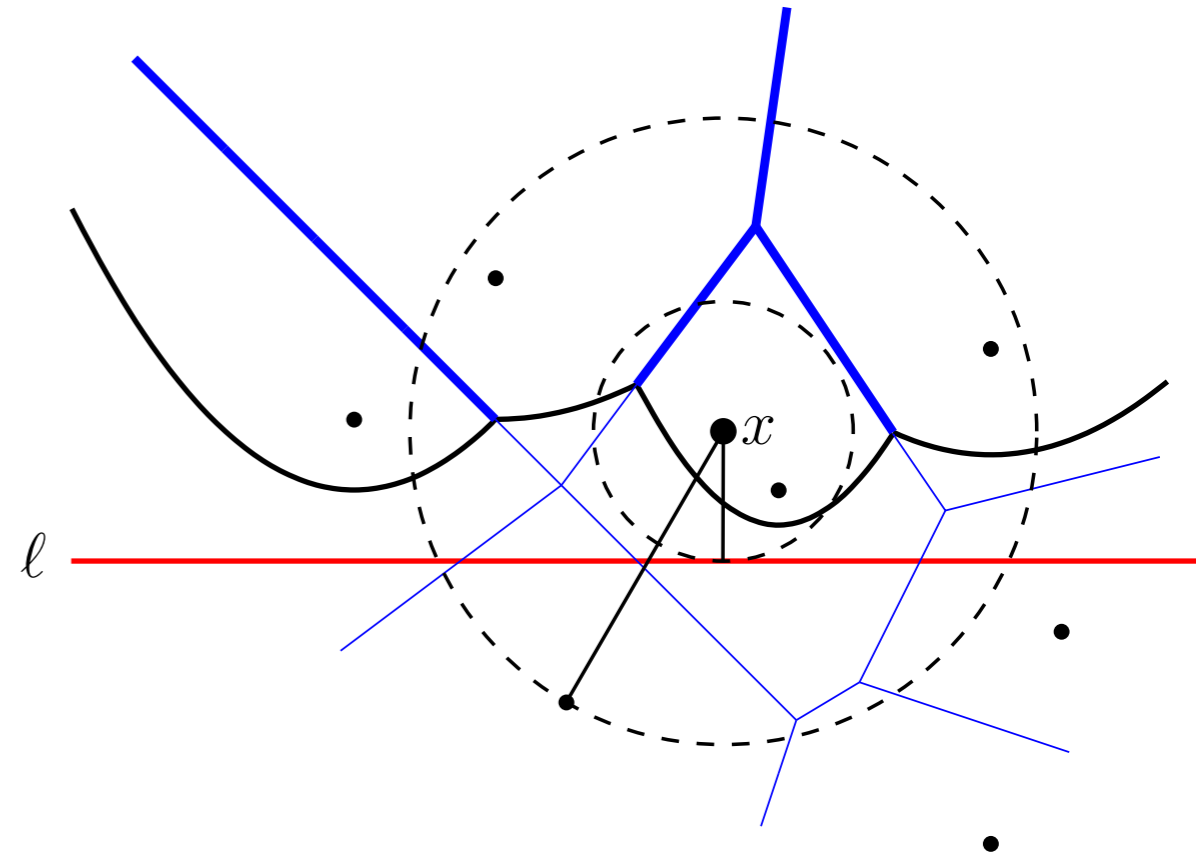
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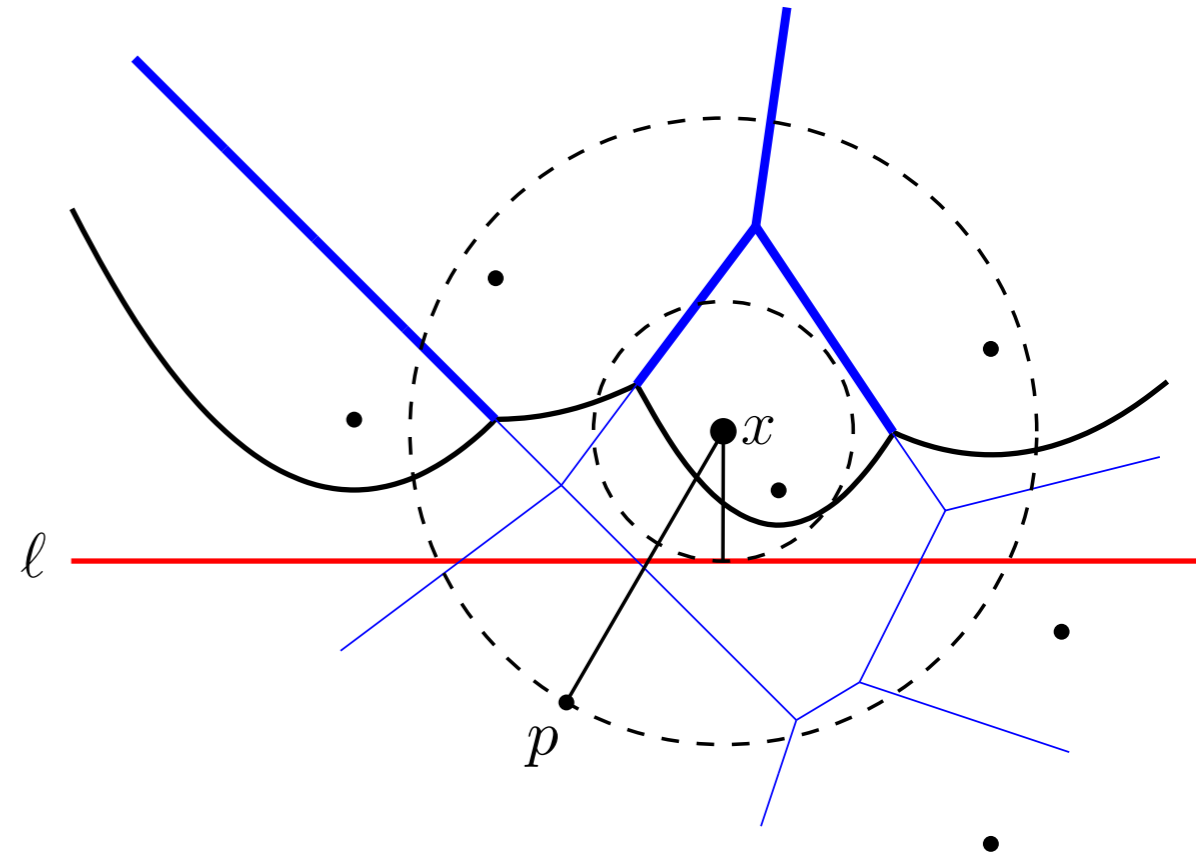
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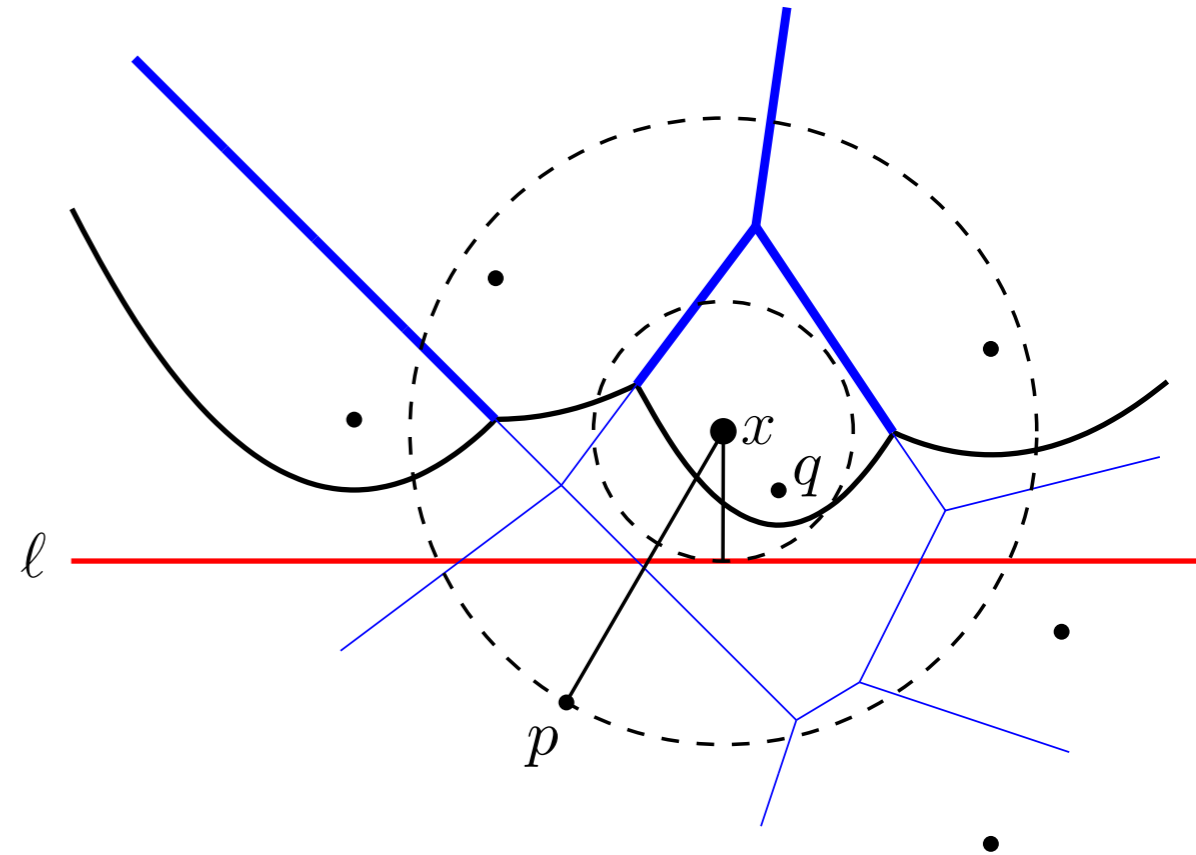
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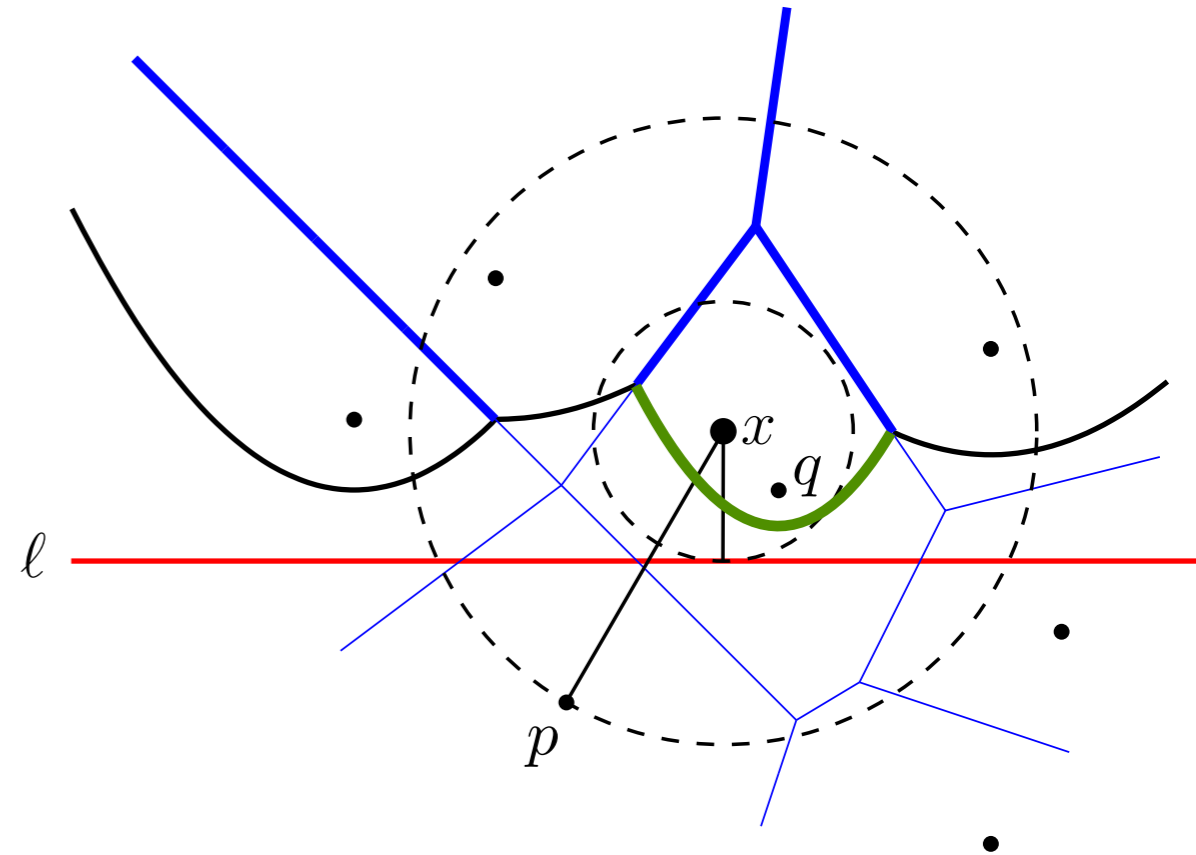
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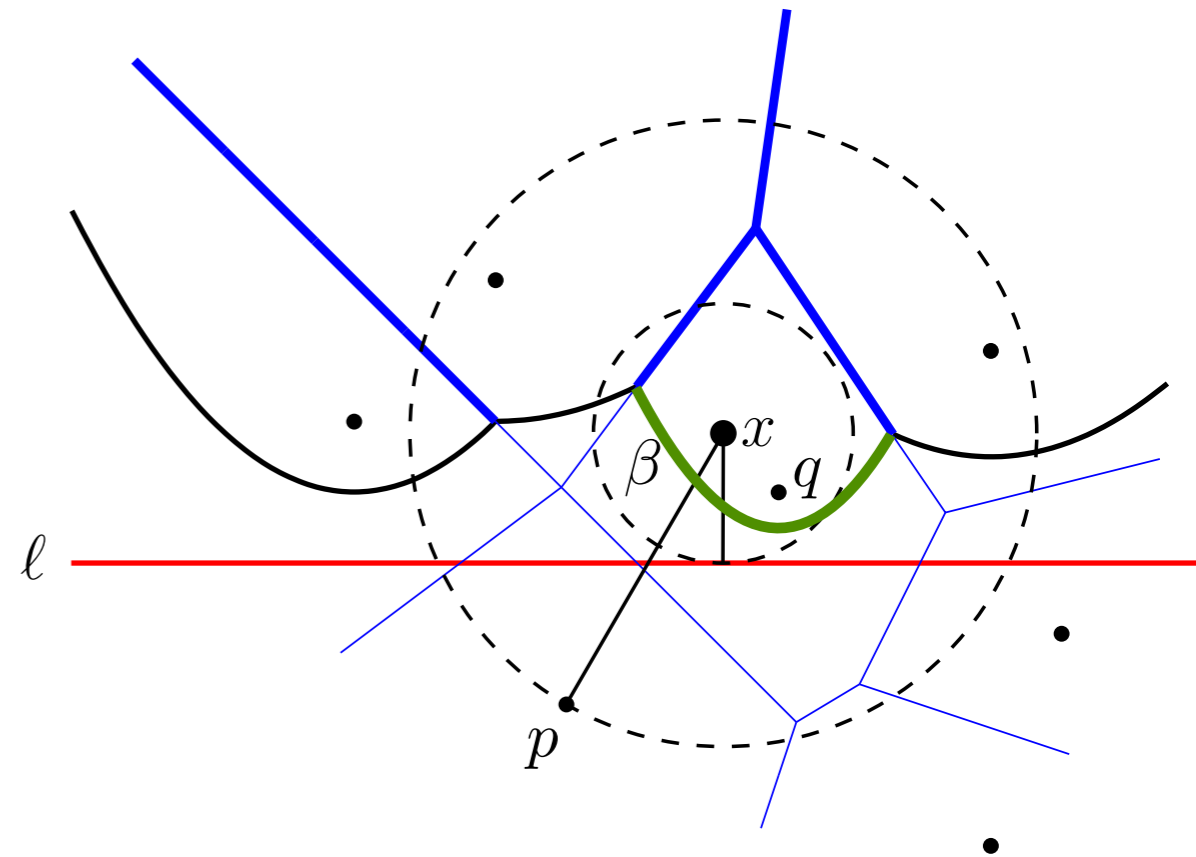
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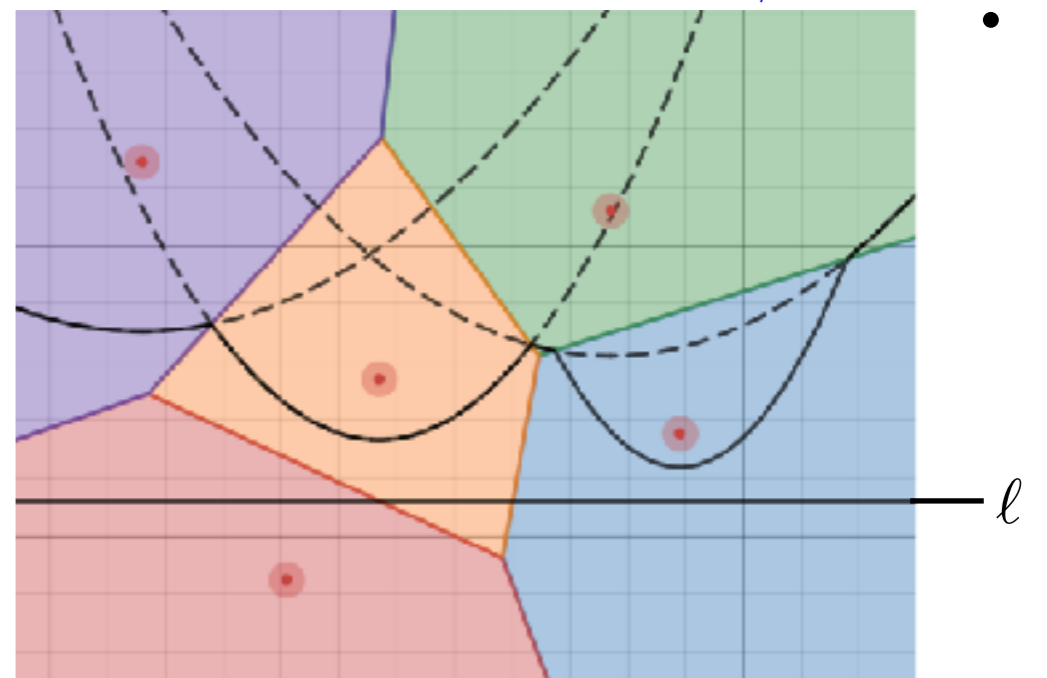
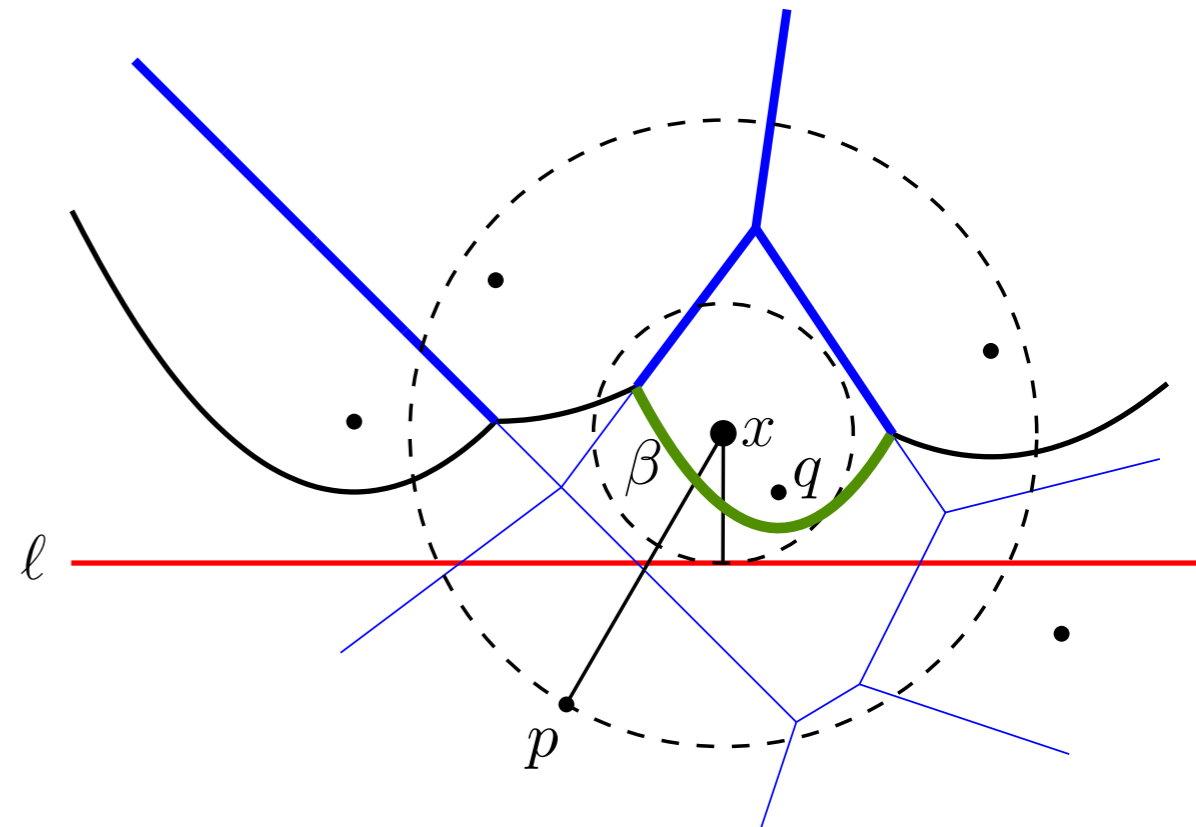
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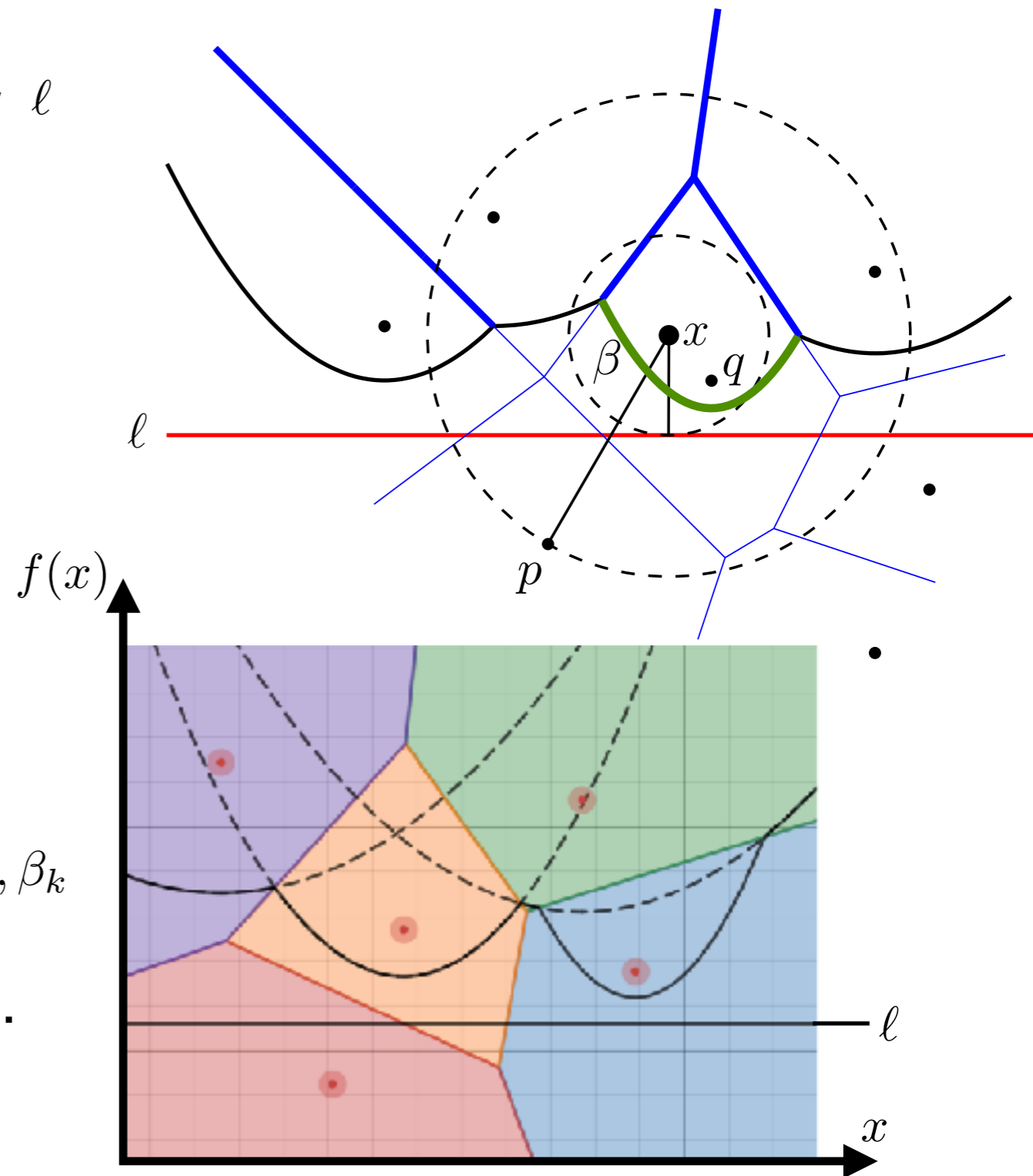
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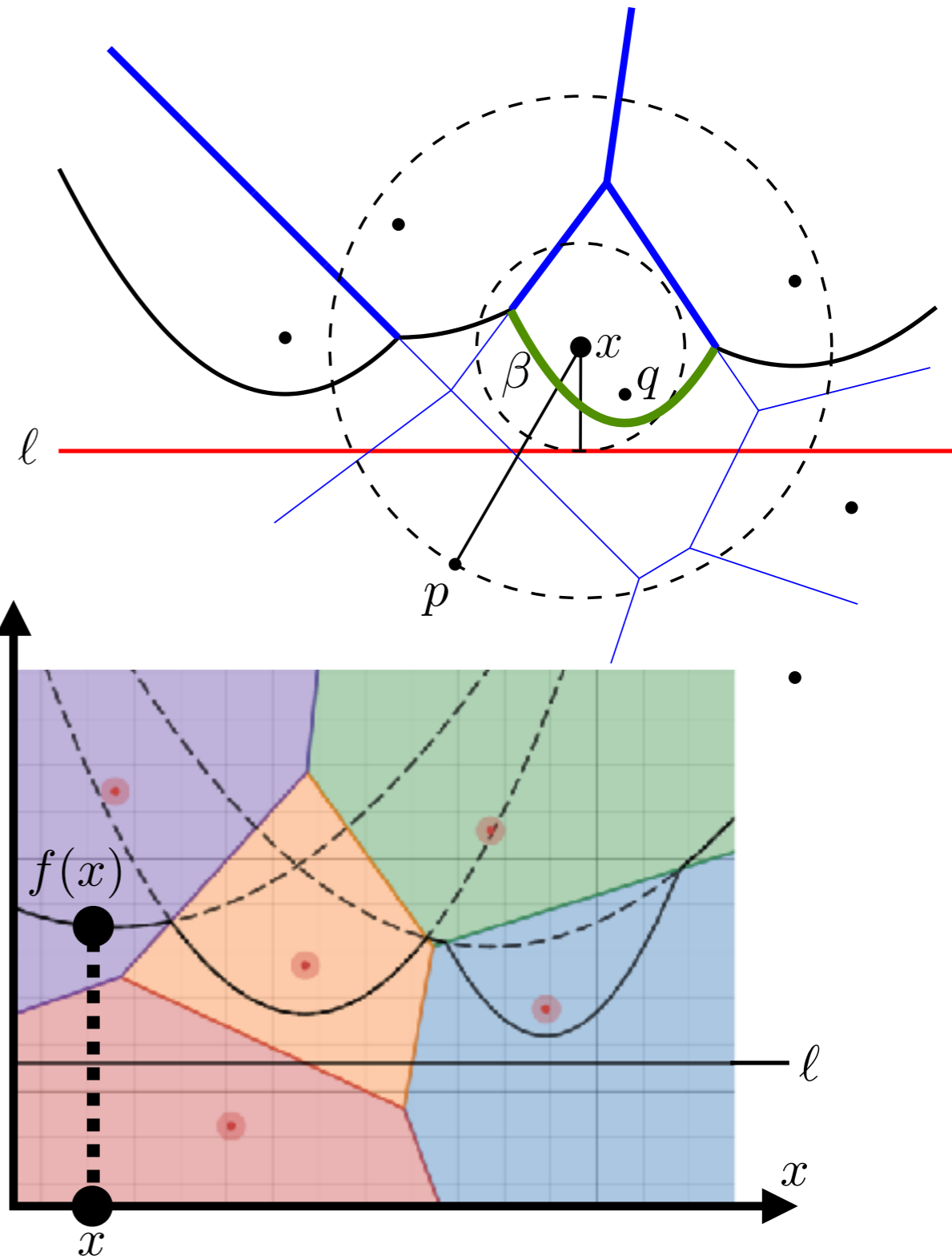
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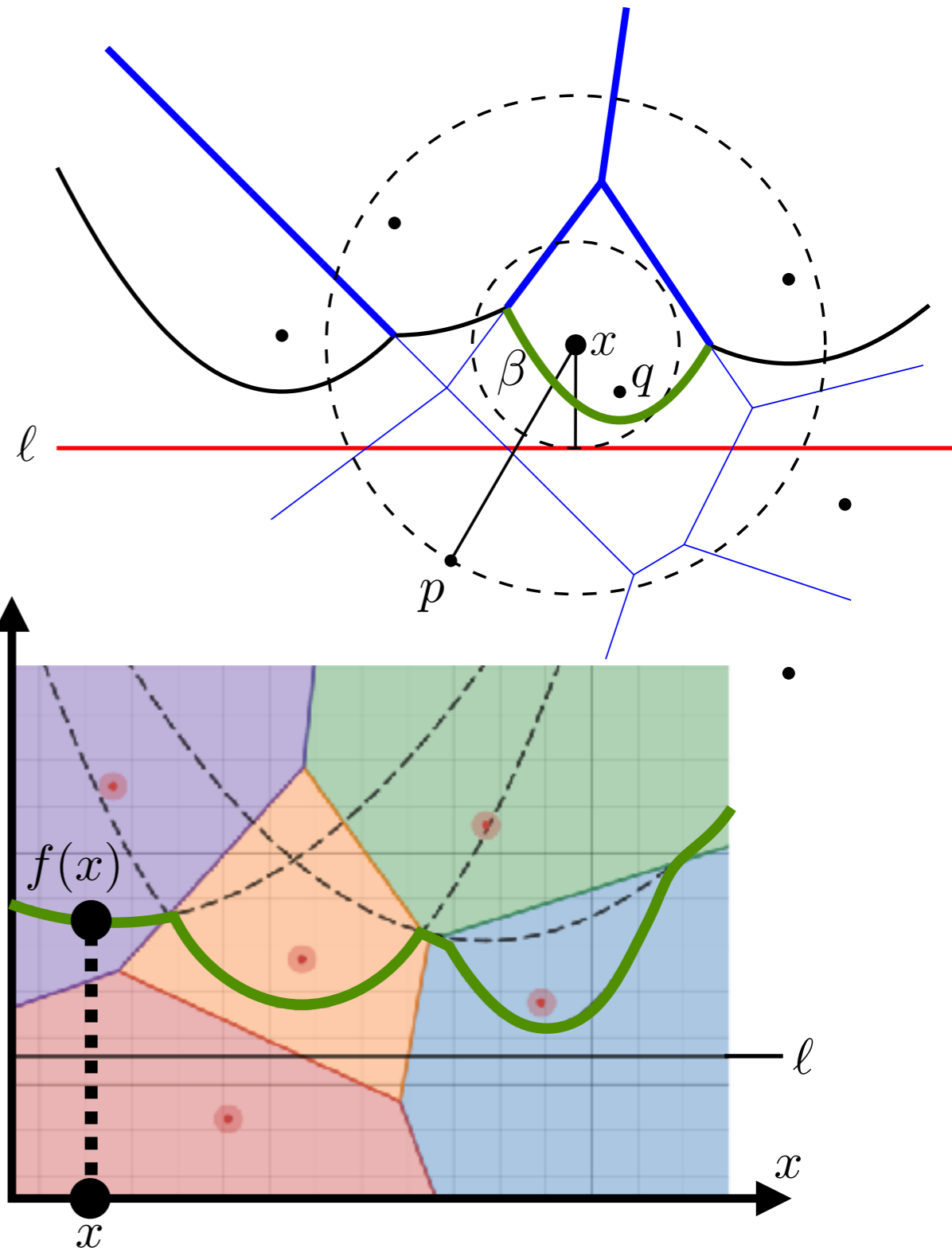
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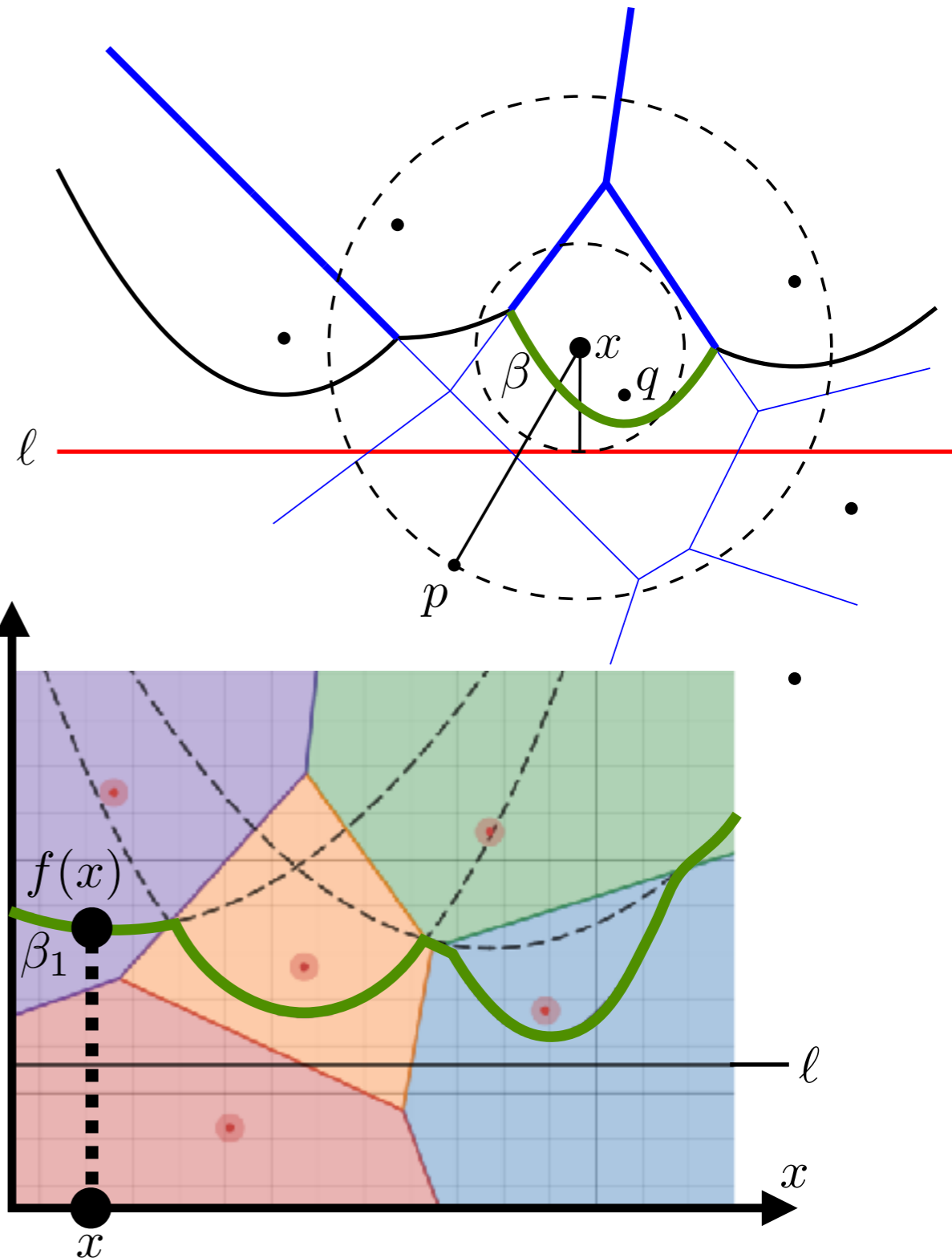
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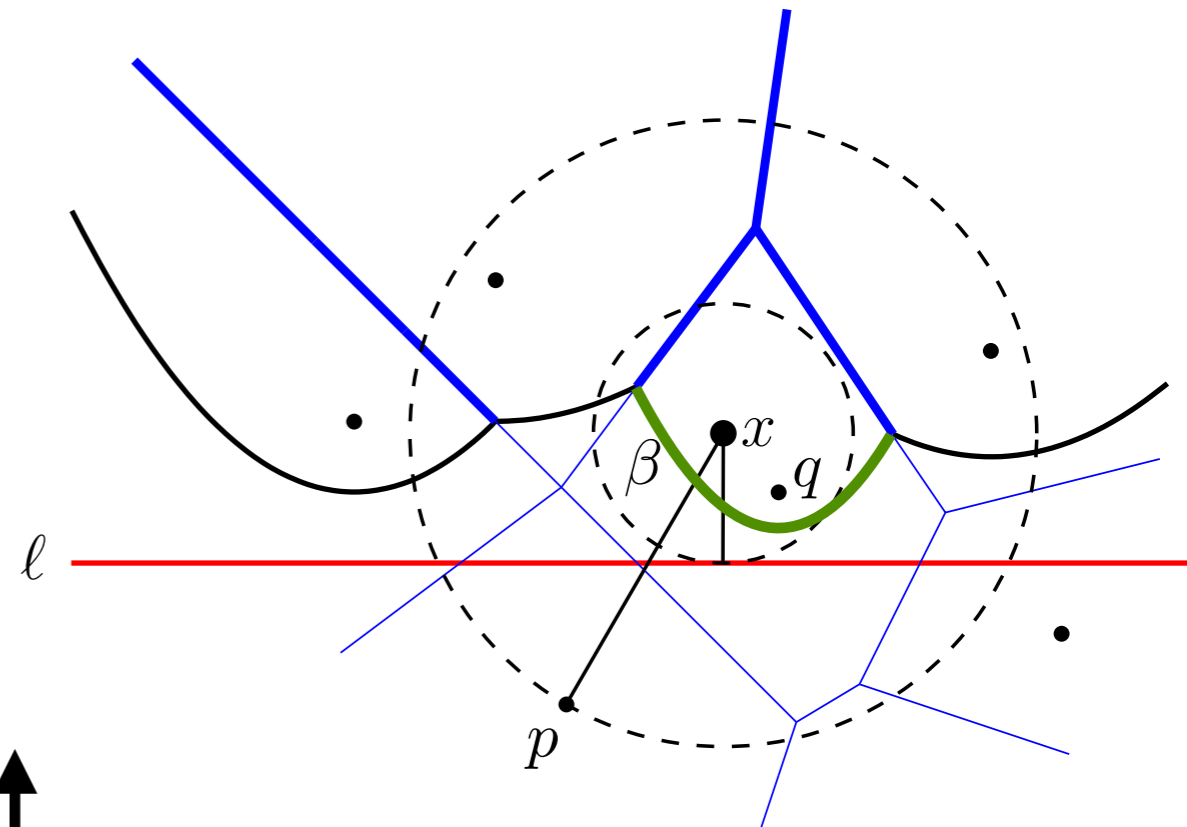
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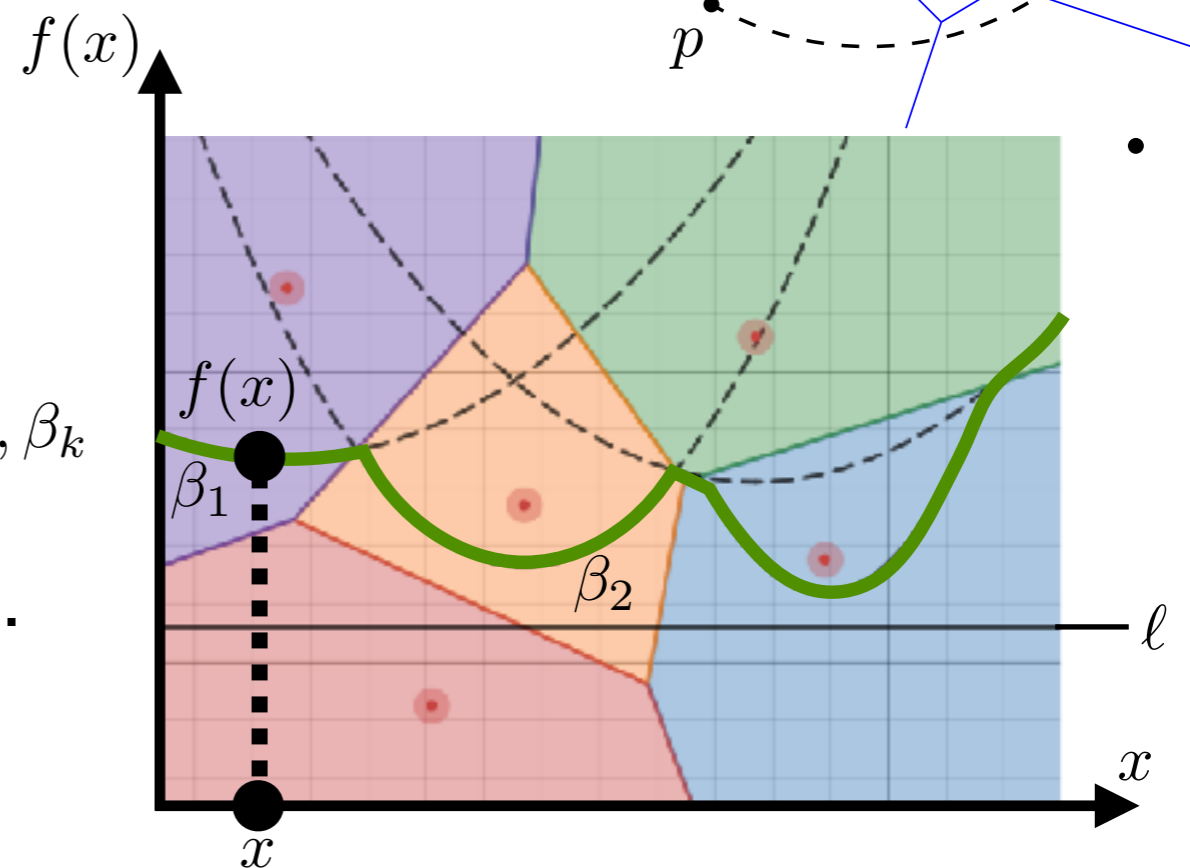


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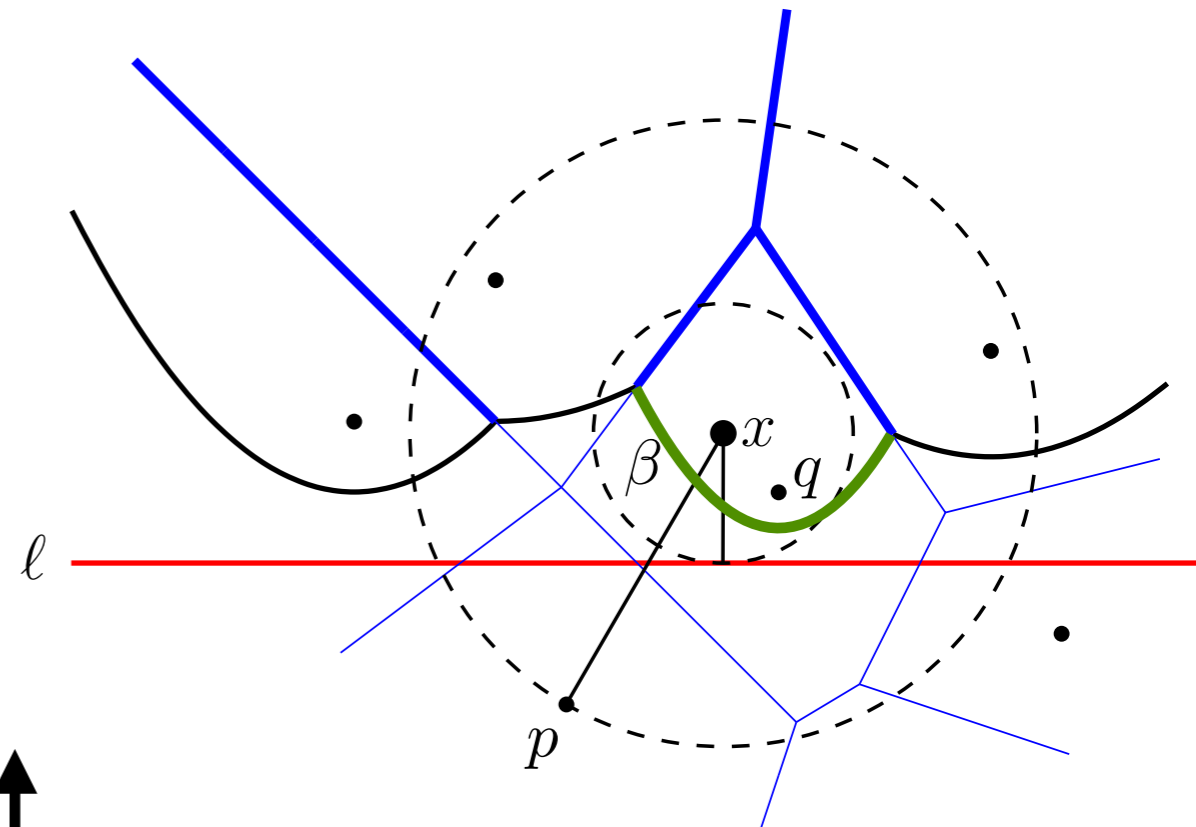
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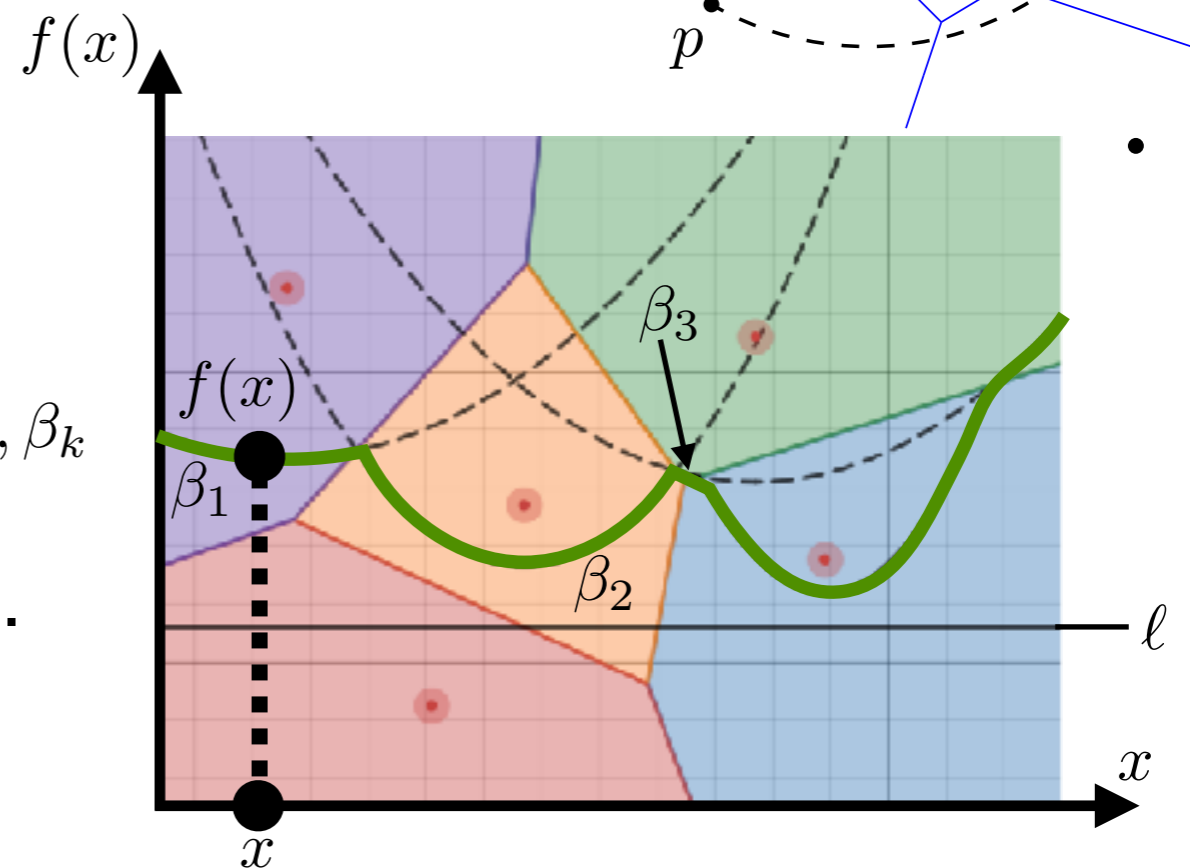


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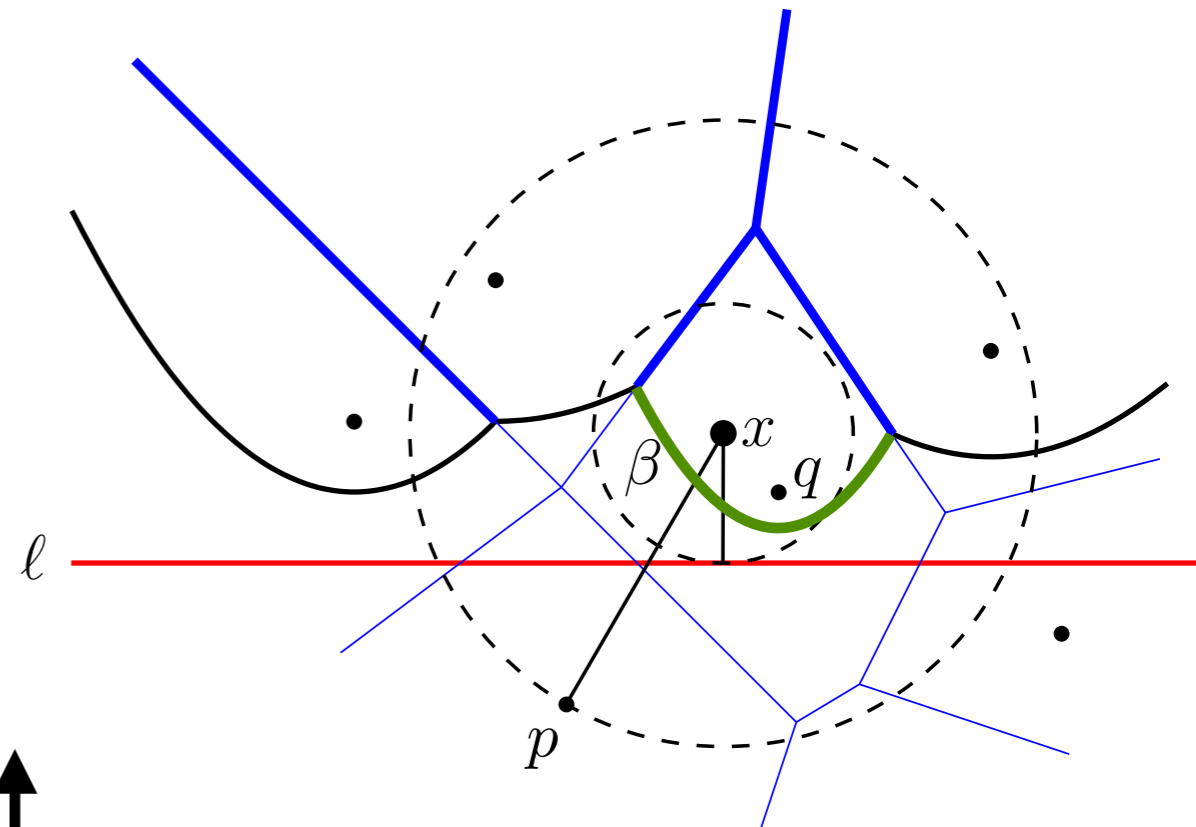
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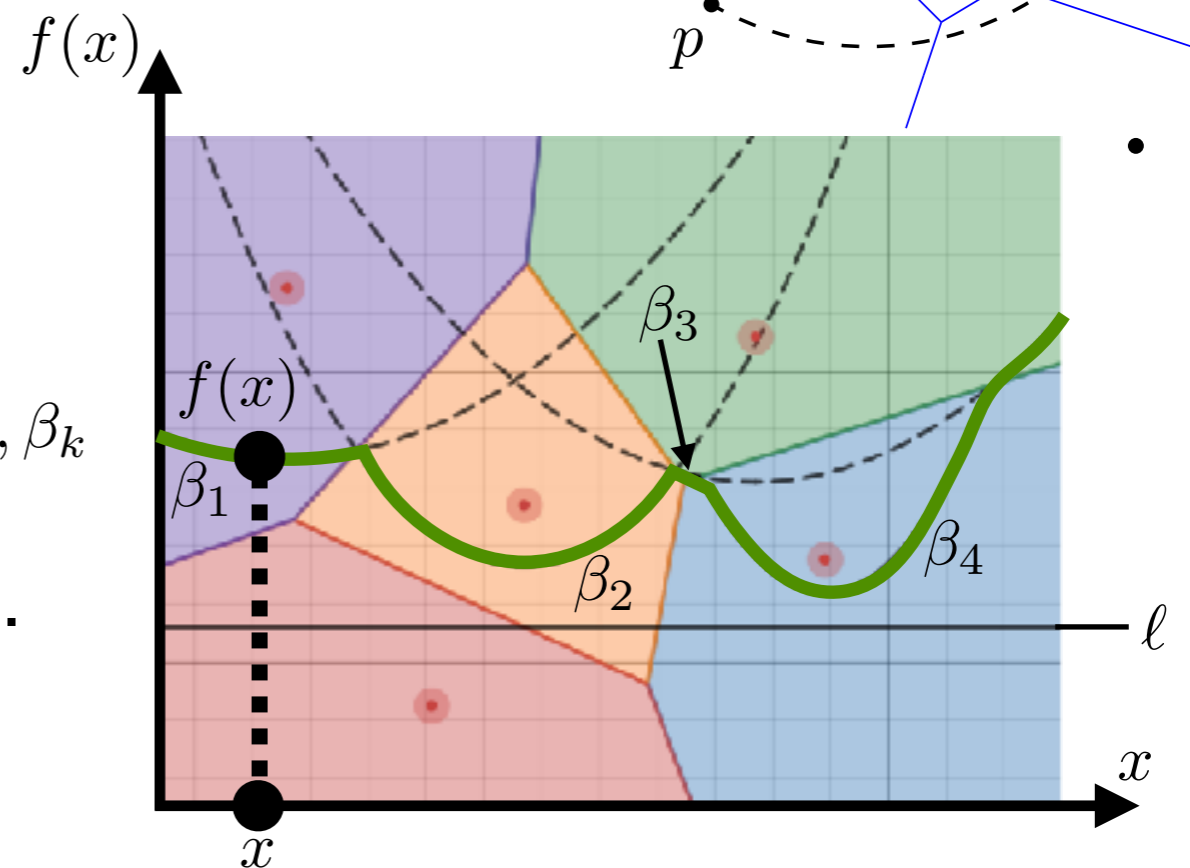


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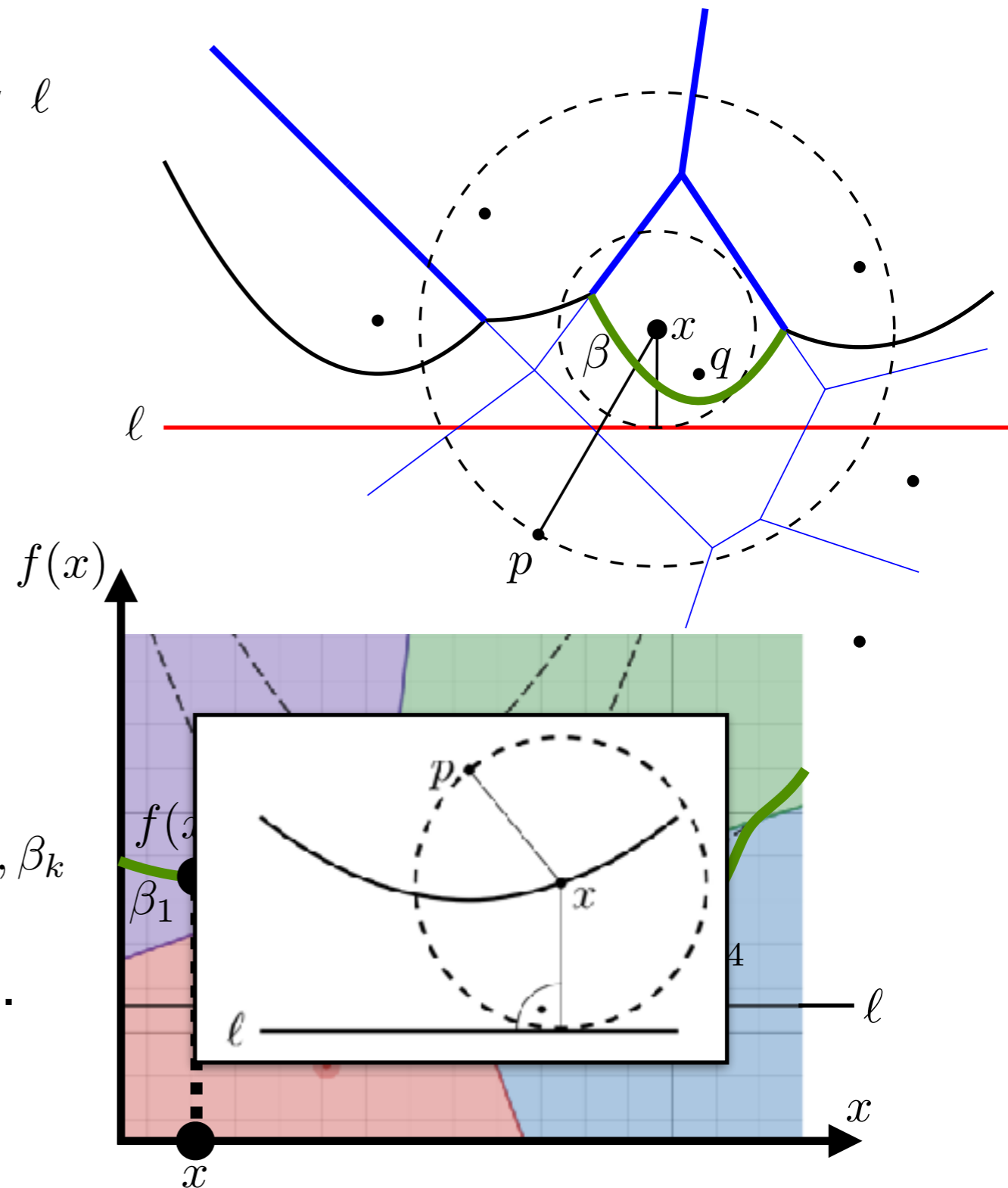
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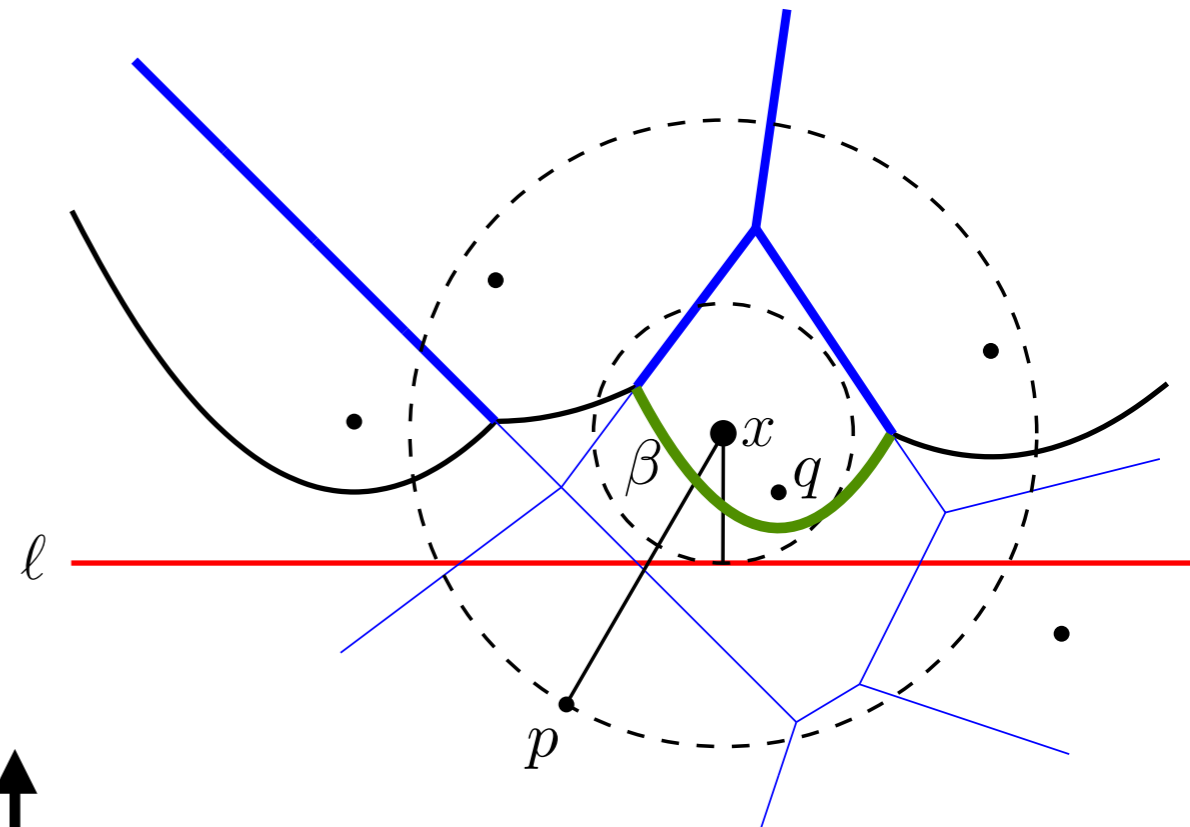
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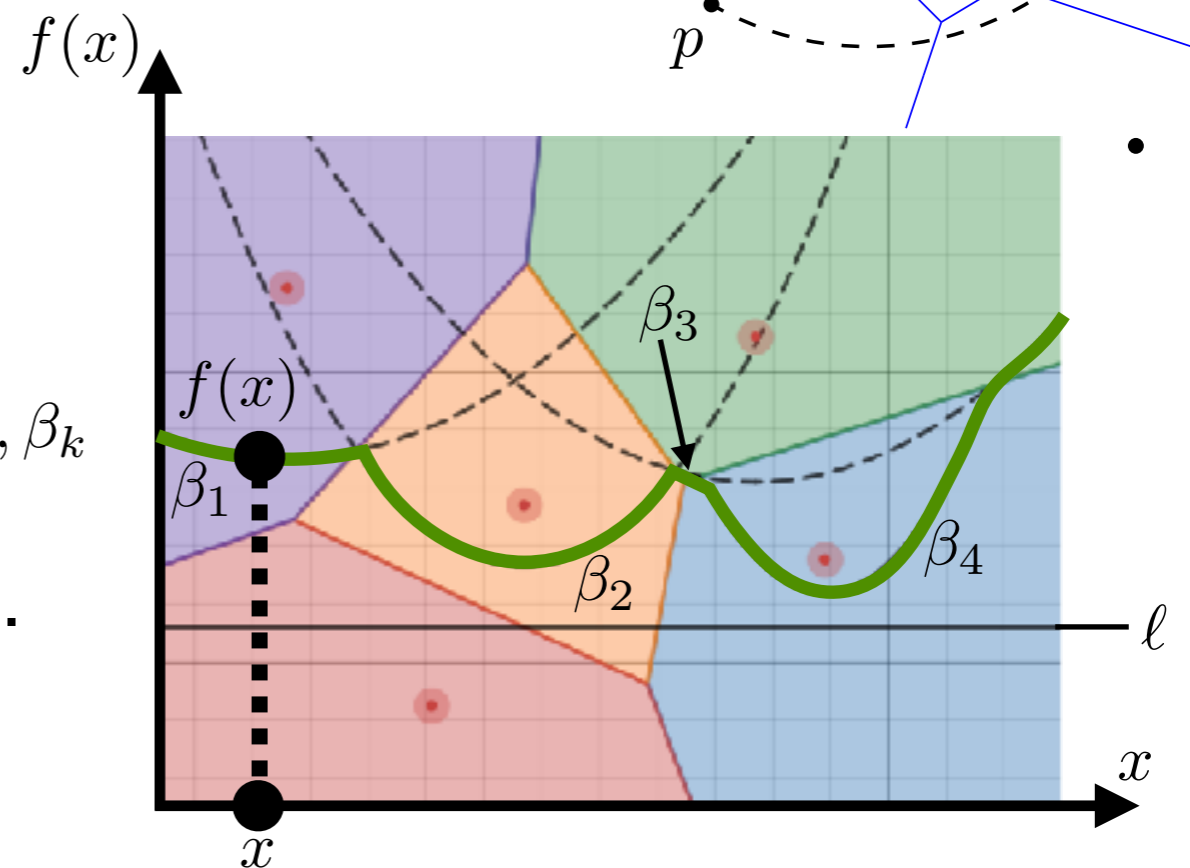


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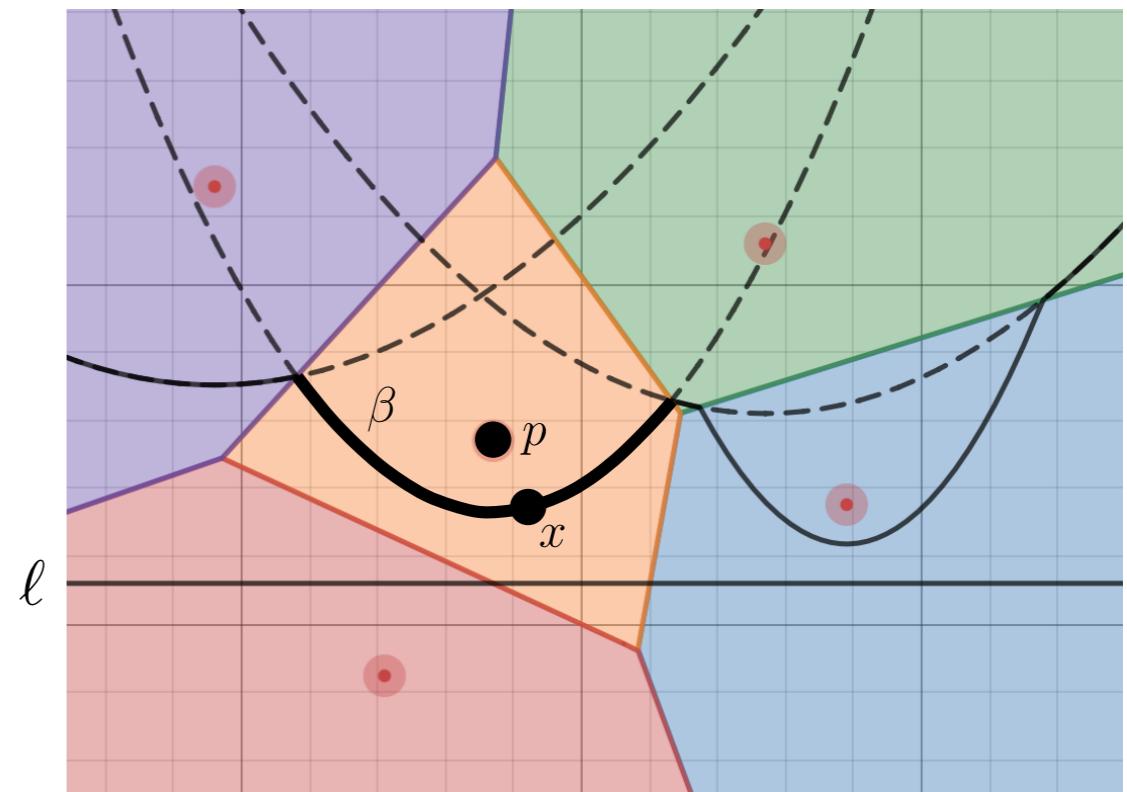
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## Corollary 4.16

Intersection points of adjacent arcs lie on Voronoi edges.

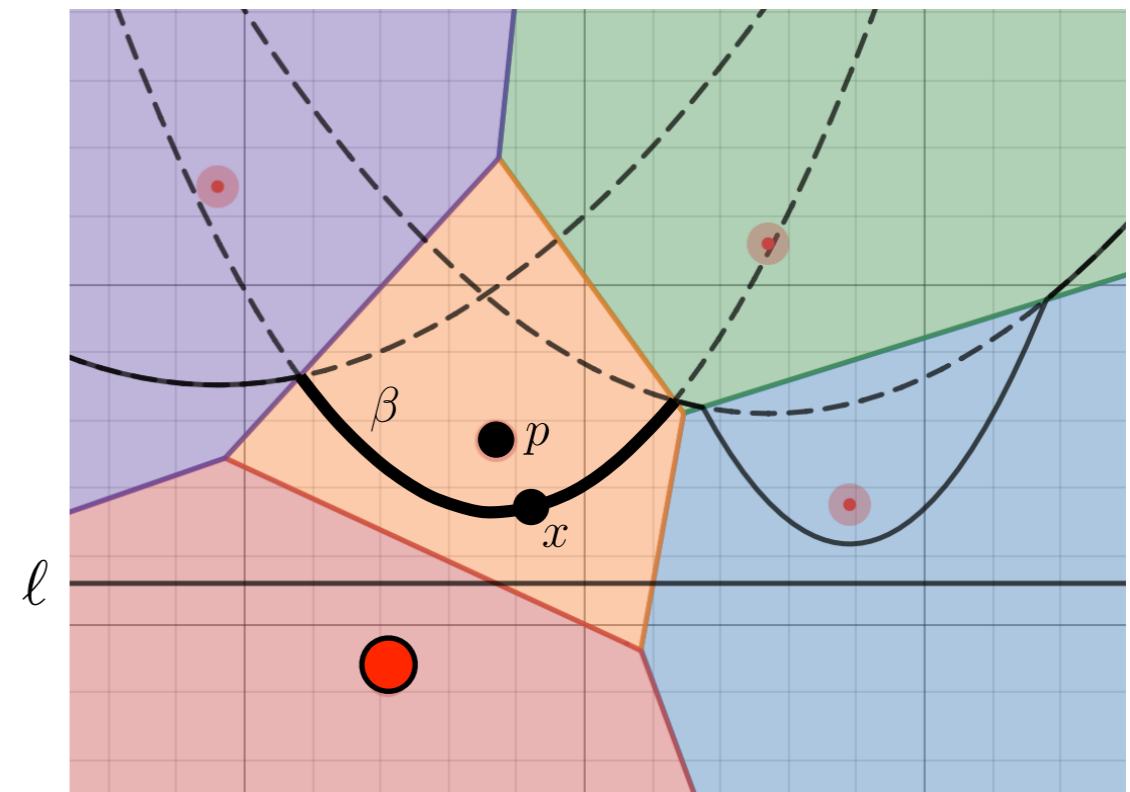
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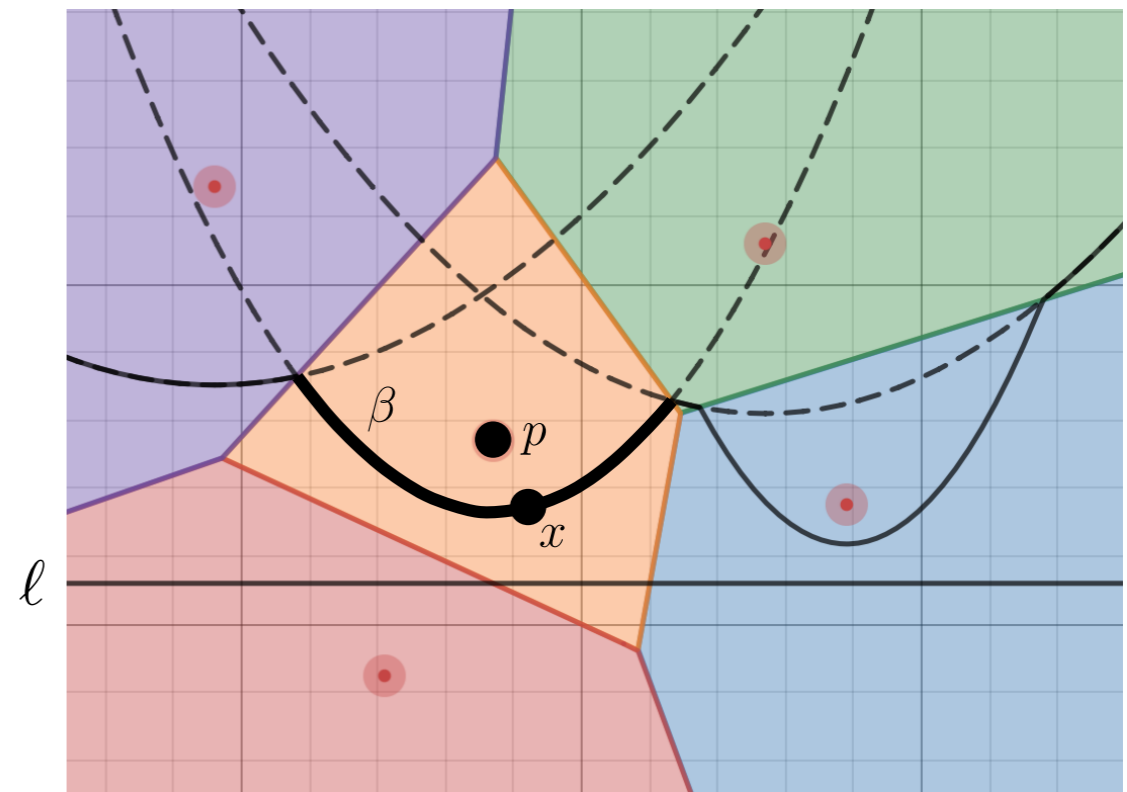
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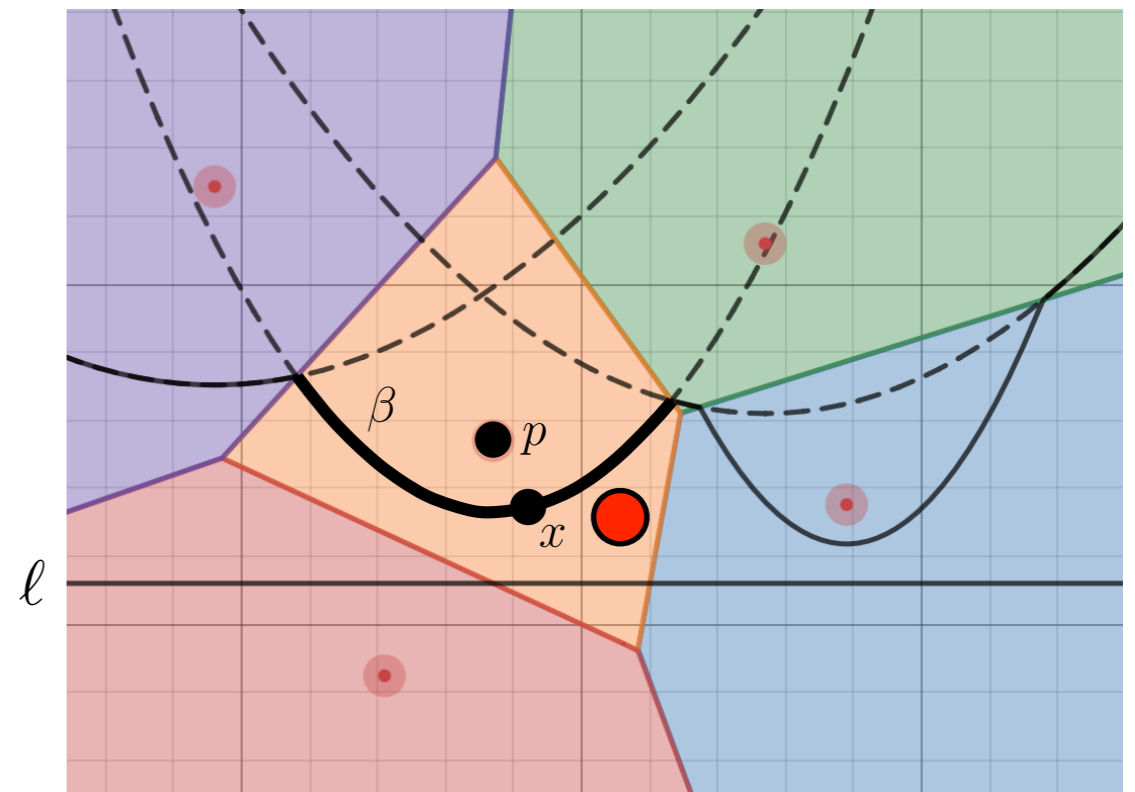
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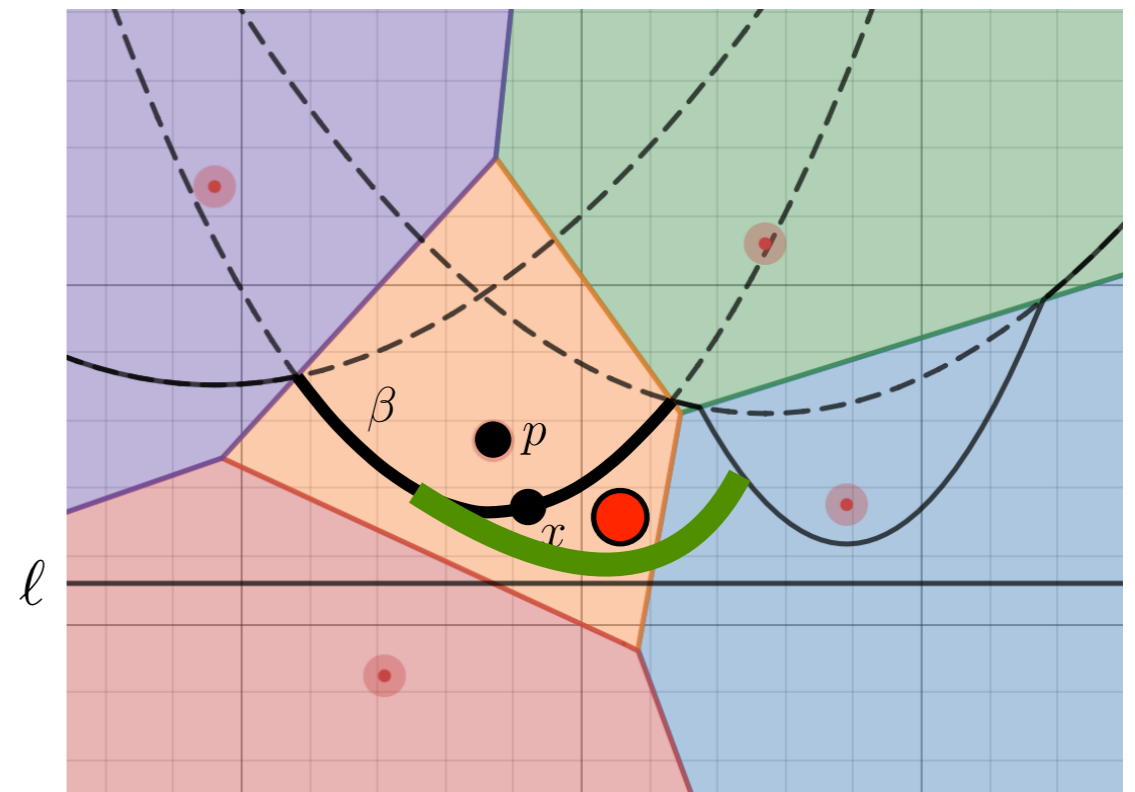
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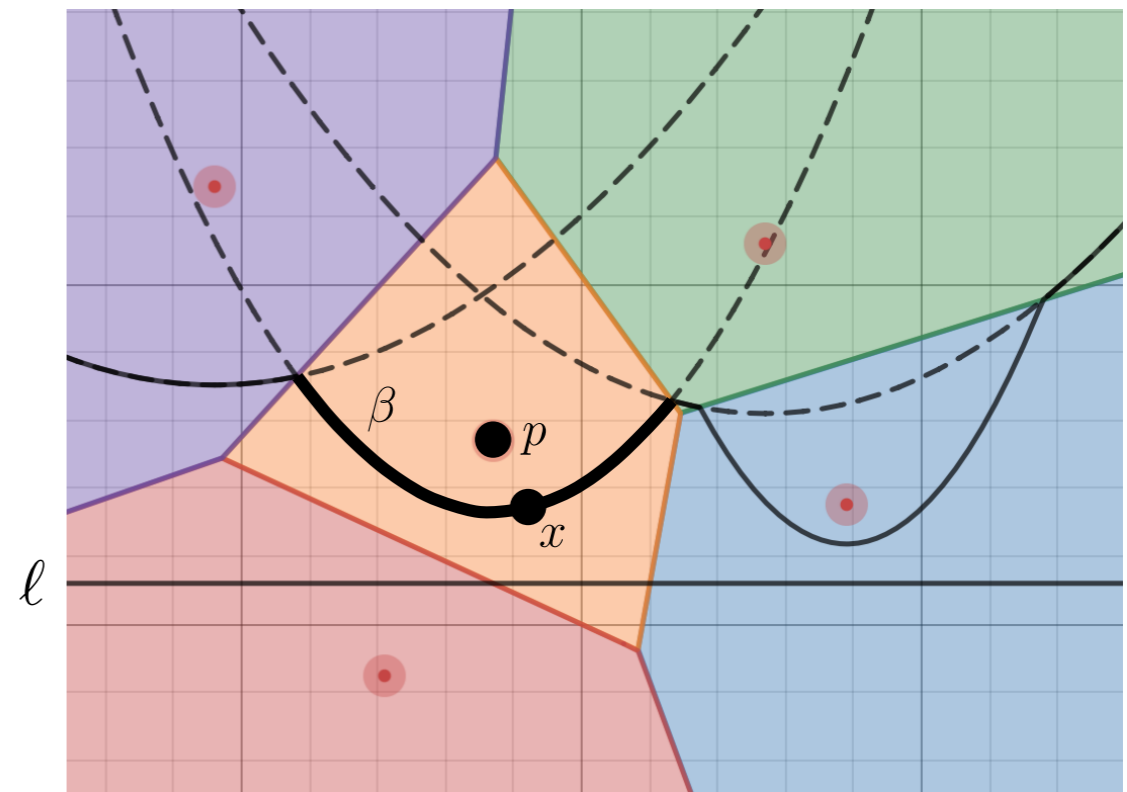
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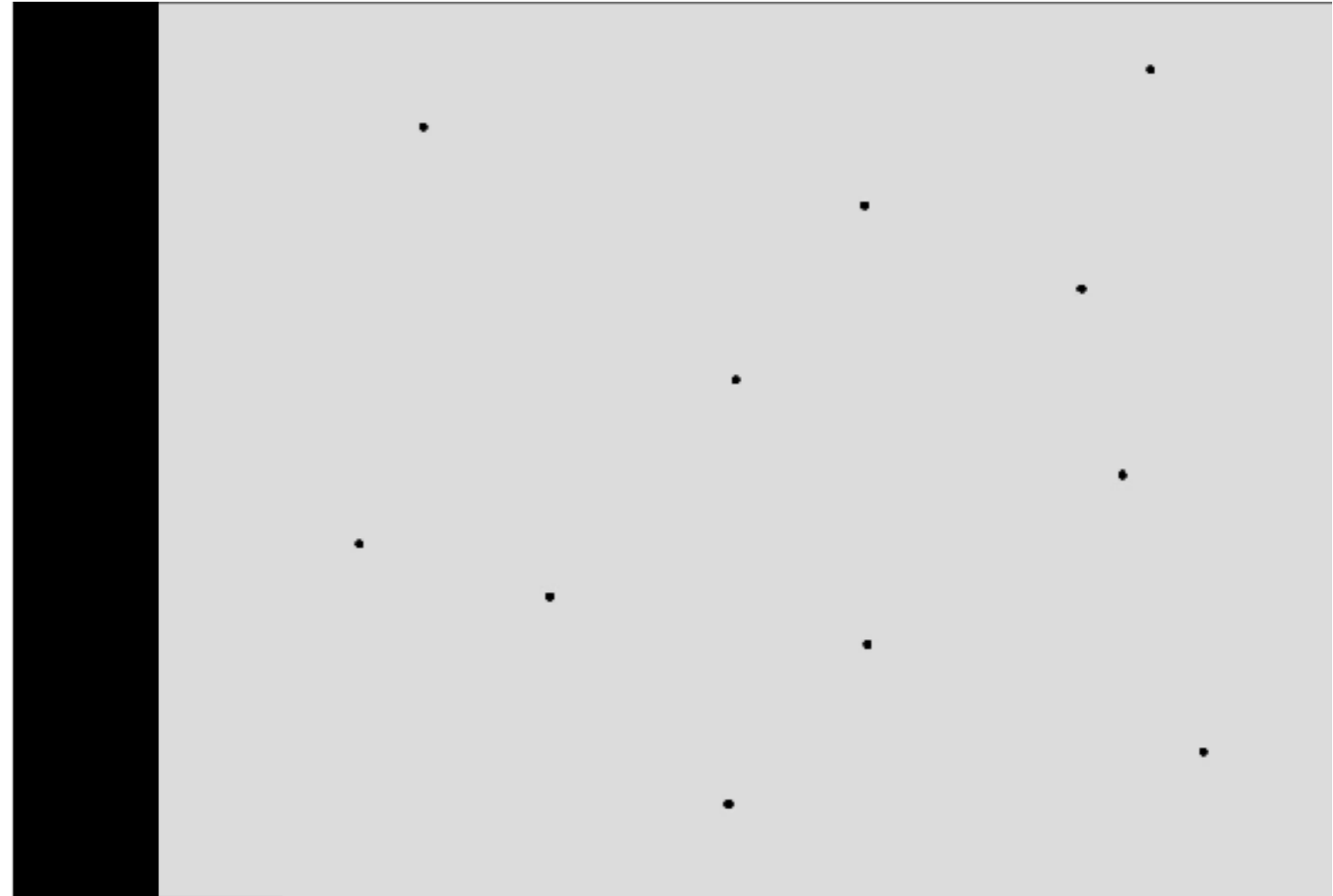
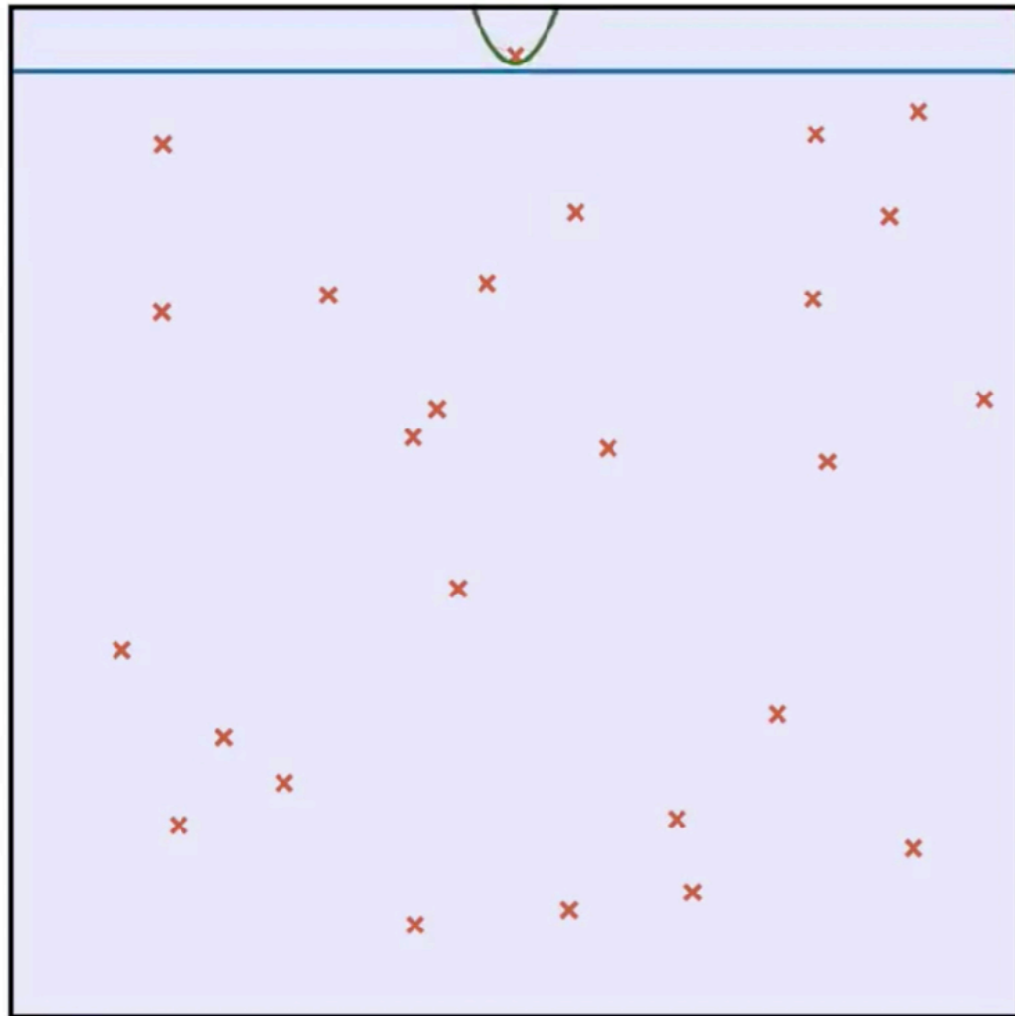


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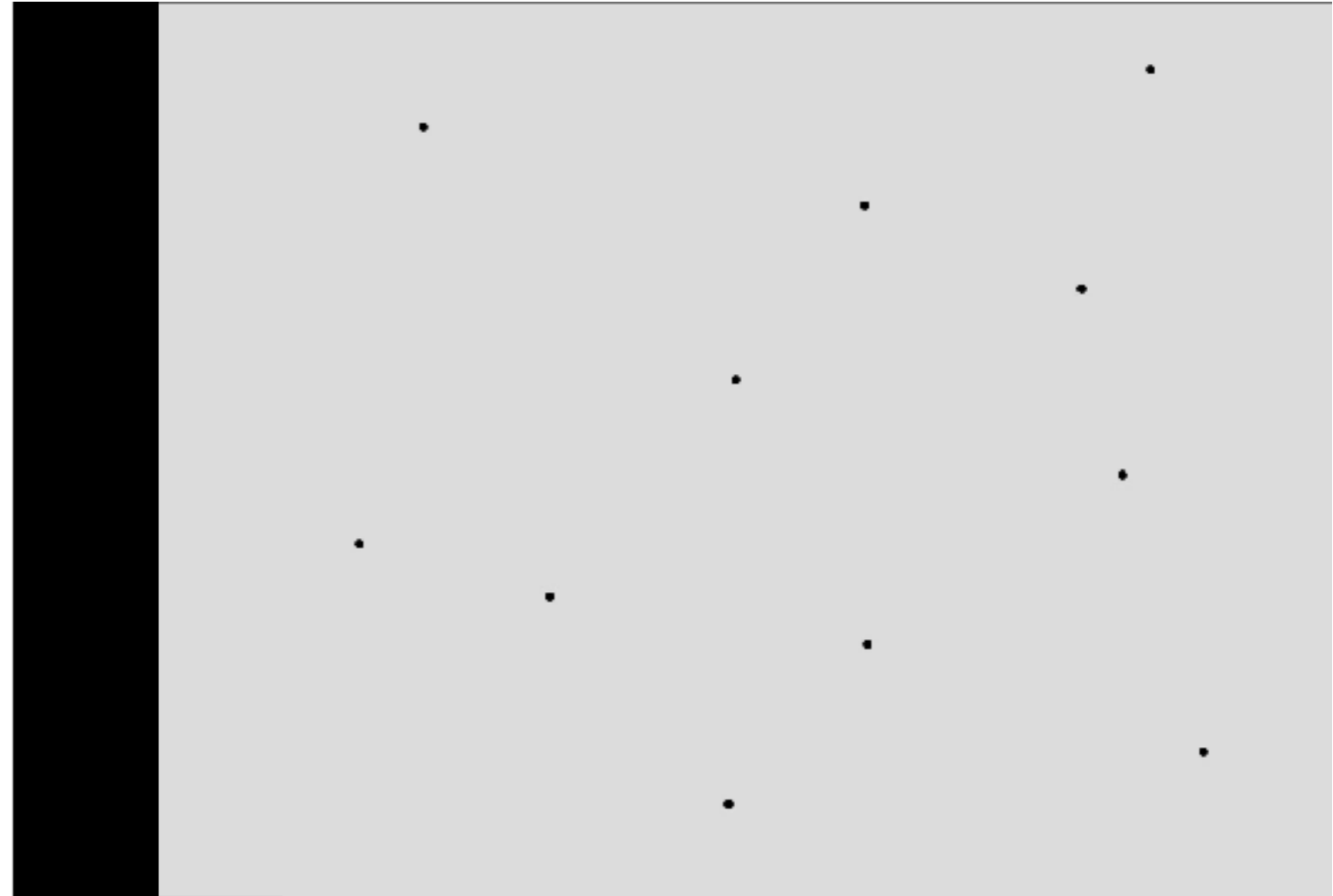
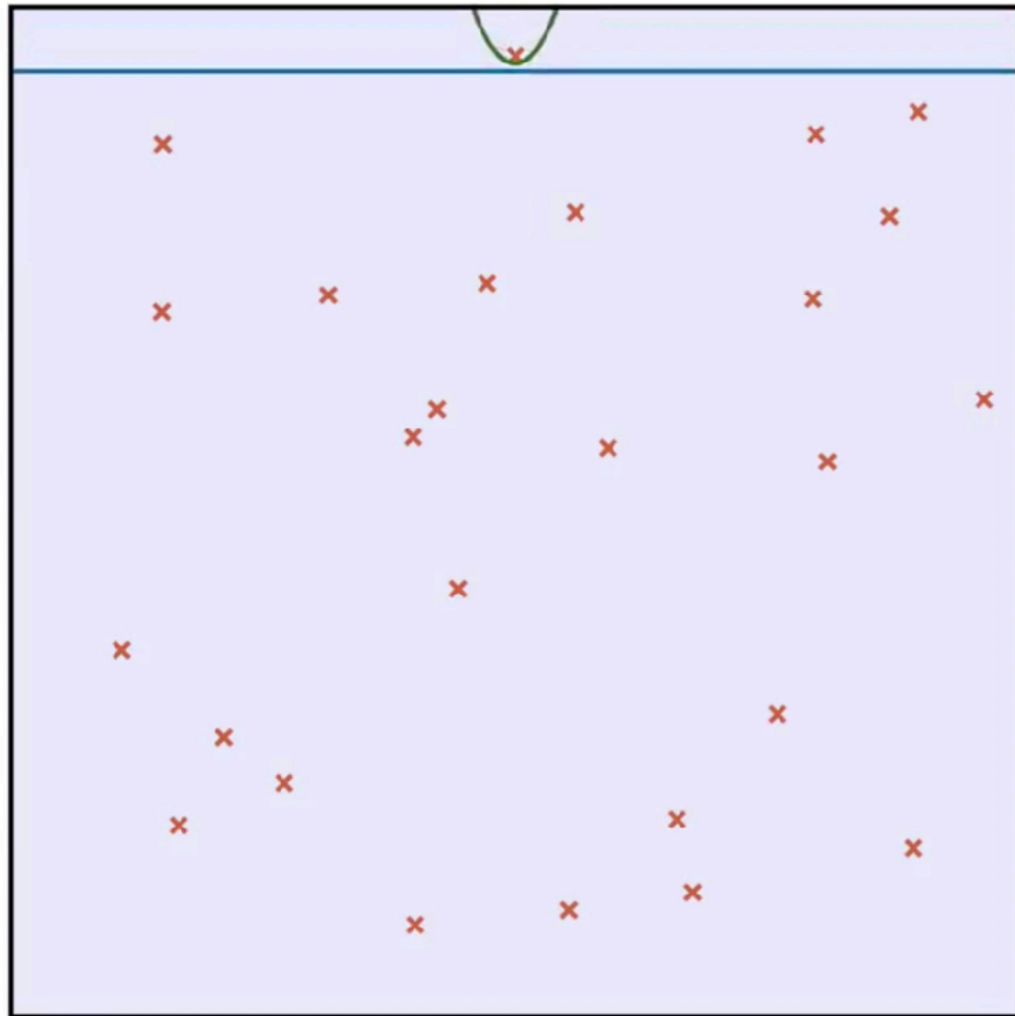
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- Discretization

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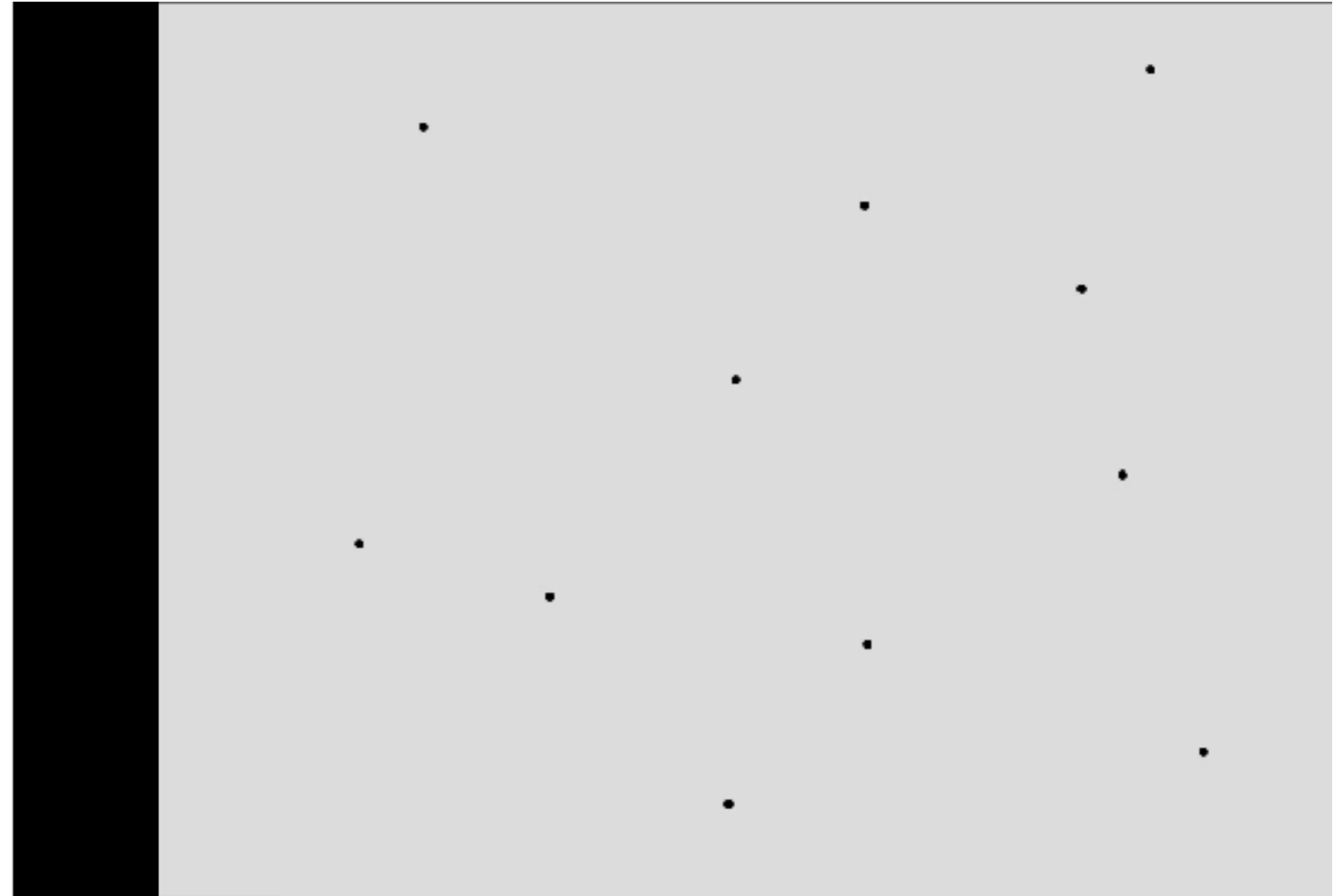
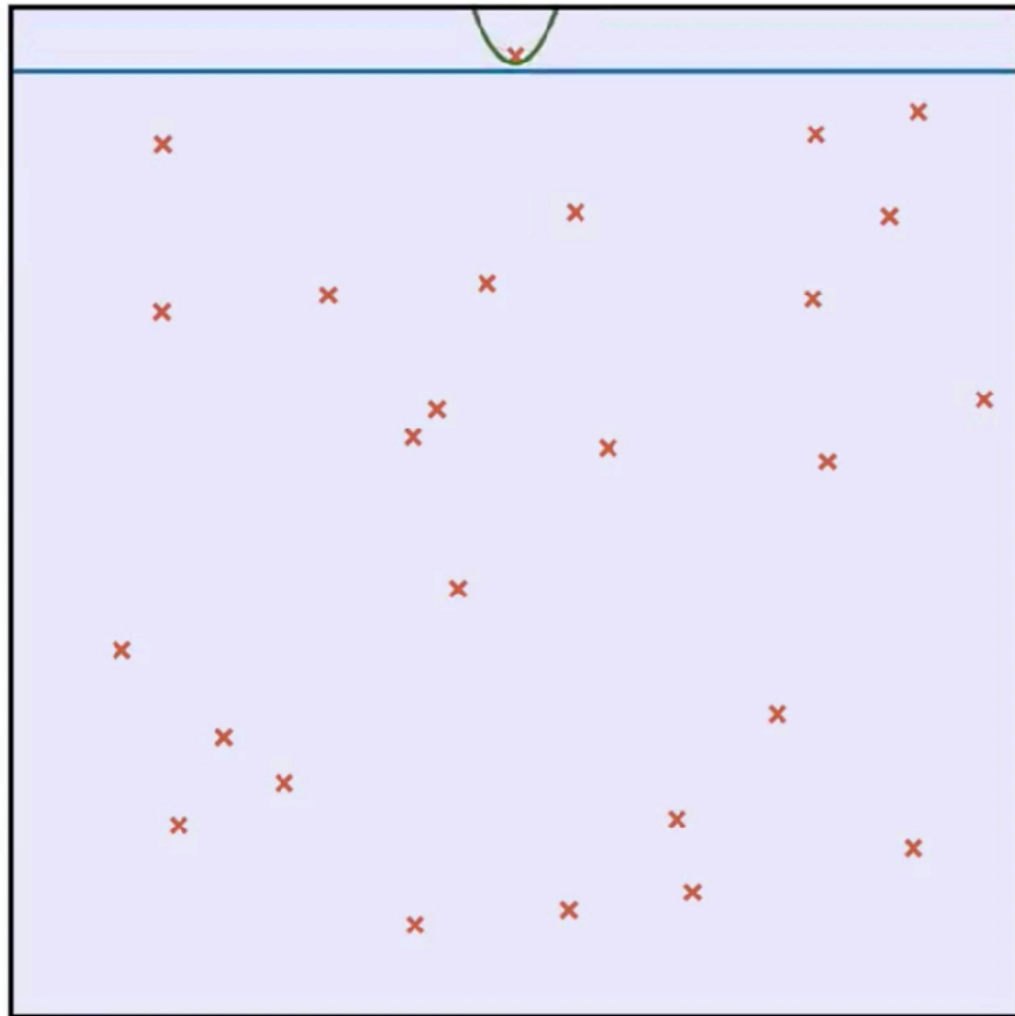
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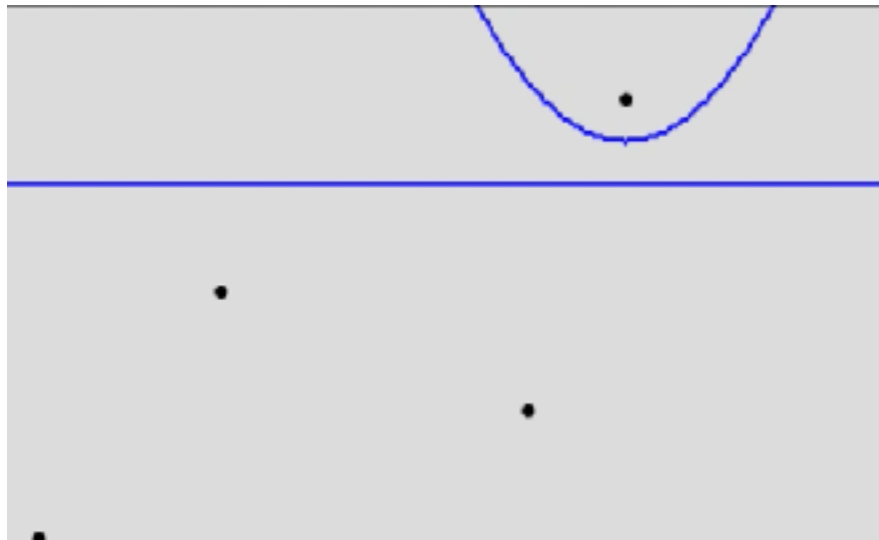
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New parabolic arcs can only occur at point events.

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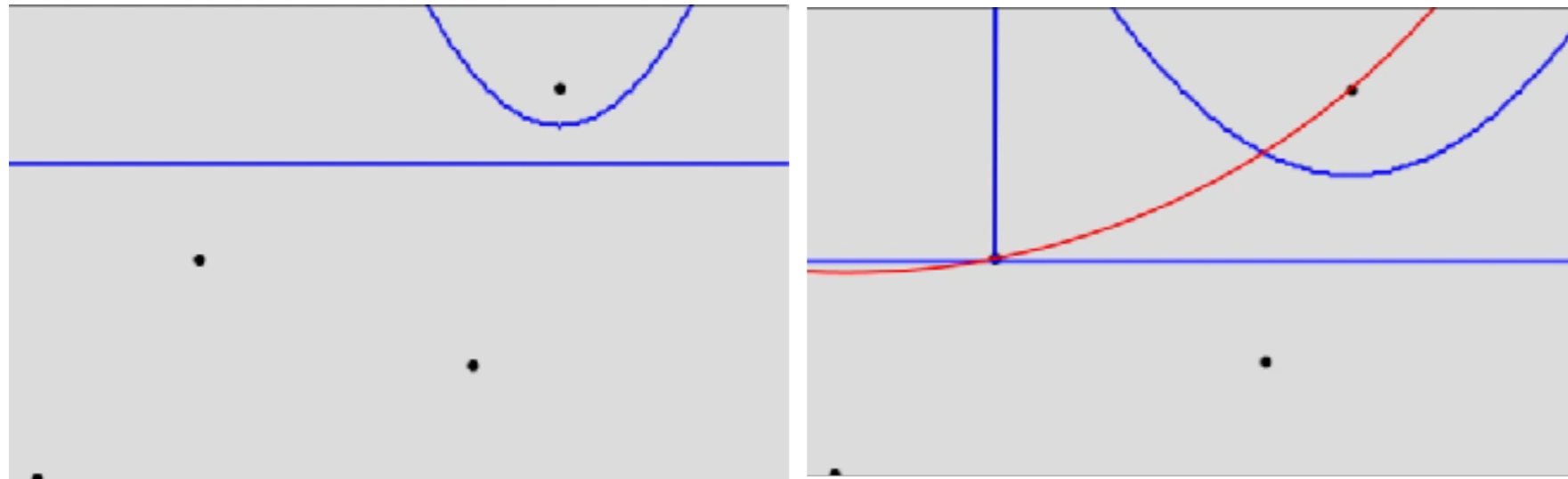
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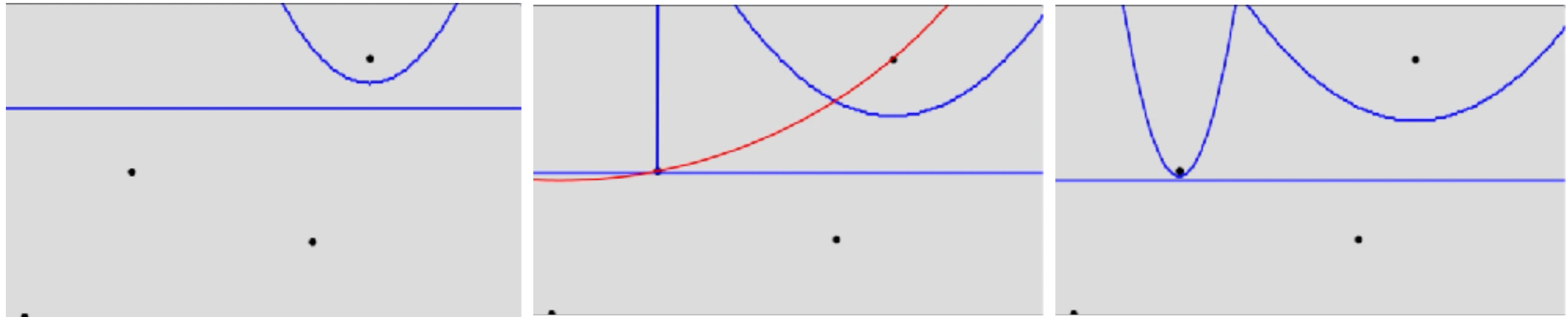
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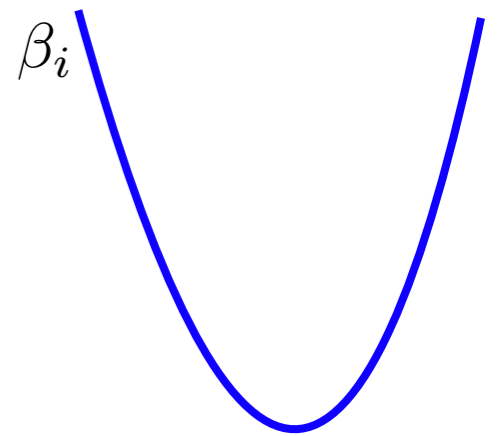
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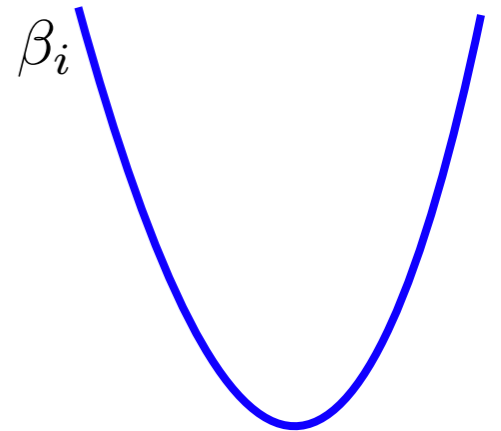


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- In general, parabolas correspond to sites, so:
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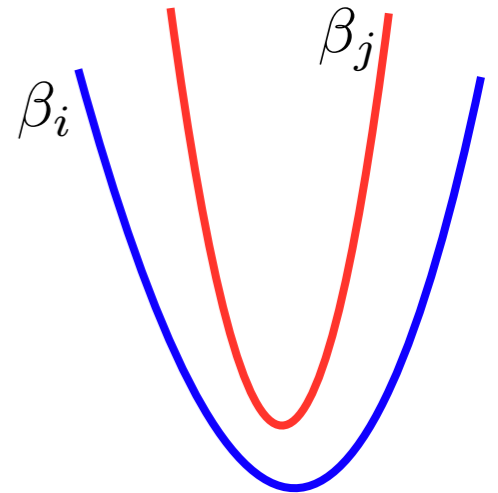


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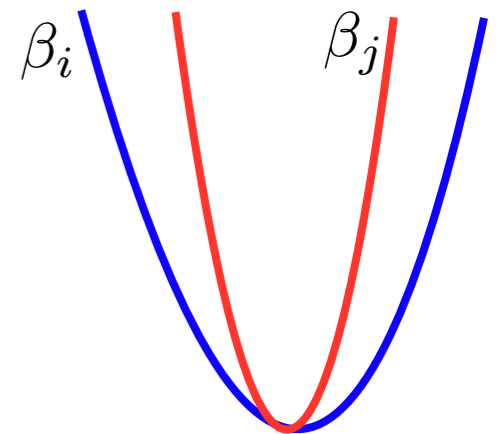


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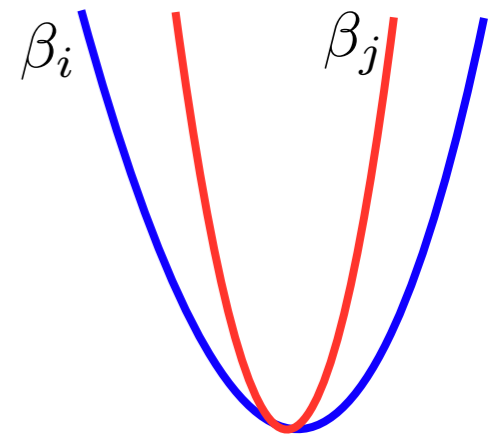


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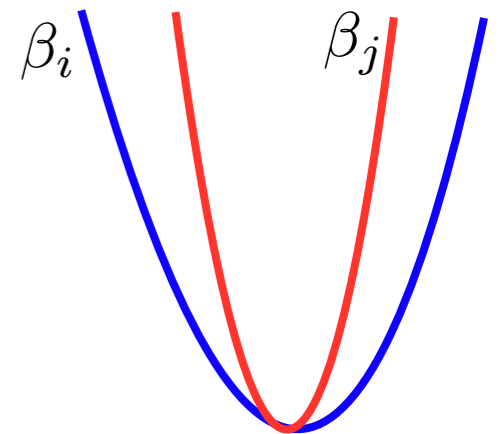


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- $l.y := y$ -coordinate of  $l$  at „piercing event“.  
 $\Rightarrow$  At moment  $l.y$ : One joint point



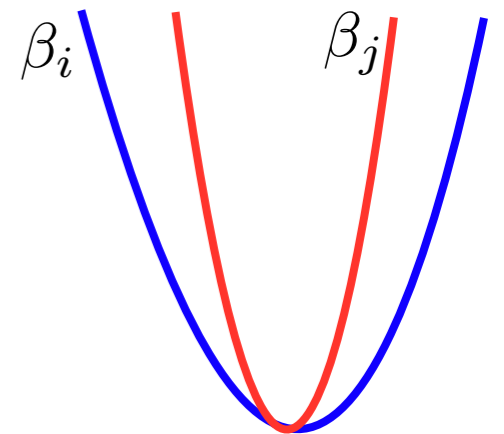


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- Option 1:  $\beta_j$  pierces  $\beta_i$  (defined by  $p_i \in \mathcal{P}$ ).  
 $\Rightarrow \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : \beta_i(x) \leq \beta_j(x) (\star)$
- $l.y := y$ -coordinate of  $l$  at „piercing event“.  
 $\Rightarrow$  At moment  $l.y$ : One joint point
- $p_i.y \neq p_j.y$ , otherwise  
 contradiction to  $(\star)$

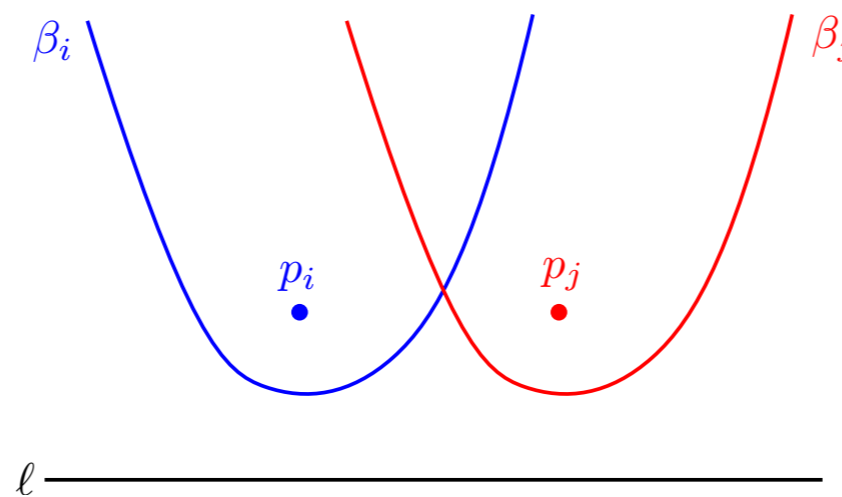
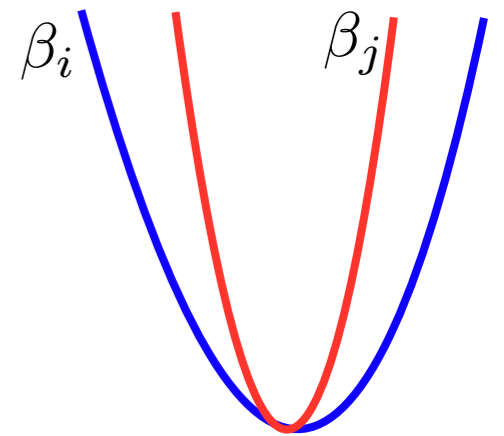


## Lemma 4.17

New parabolic arcs can only occur at point events.

### Proof:

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 ⇒  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} : \beta_i(x) \leq \beta_j(x)$  (\*)
- $l.y := y$ -coordinate of  $l$  at „piercing event“.  
 ⇒ At moment  $l.y$ : One joint point
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## Lemma 4.17

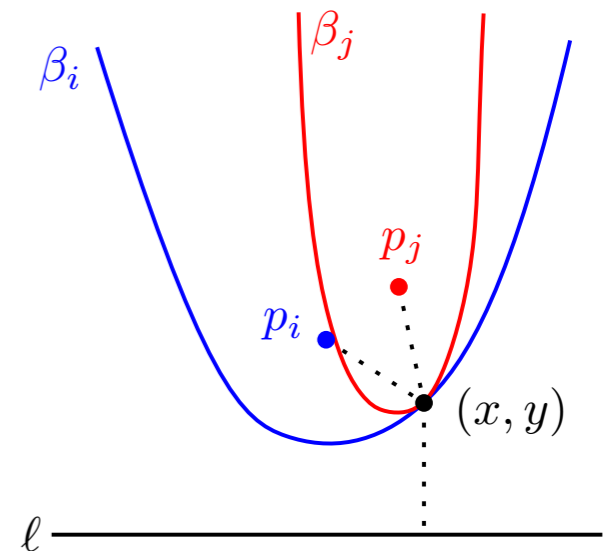
New parabolic arcs on the beach line can only occur by point events.

**Proof (cont.):**

## Lemma 4.17

New parabolic arcs on the beach line can only occur by point events.

**Proof (cont.):**



## Lemma 4.17

New parabolic arcs on the beach line can only occur by point events.

### Proof (cont.):

- Equation for  $\beta_j$ :

$$(\ell \cdot y - y)^2 = (p_j \cdot x - x)^2 + (p_j \cdot x - y)^2$$

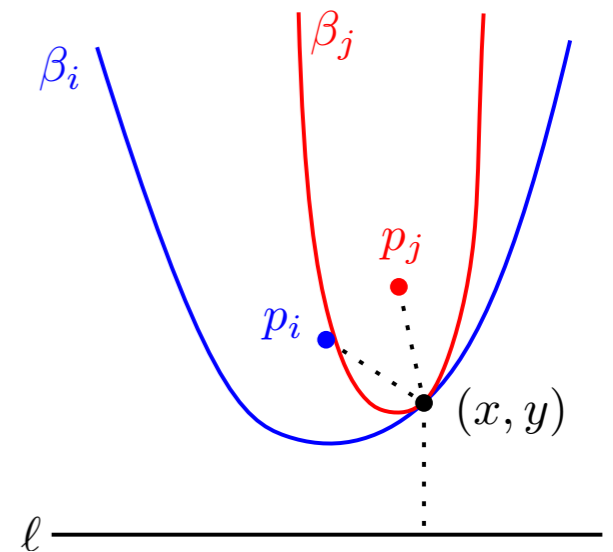
$$\Leftrightarrow \ell \cdot y^2 - 2 \cdot \ell \cdot y \cdot y + y^2$$

$$= p_j \cdot x^2 - 2 \cdot x \cdot p_j \cdot x + x^2 + p_j \cdot y^2 - 2 \cdot y \cdot p_j \cdot y + y^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow y \cdot 2 (p_j \cdot y - \ell \cdot y)$$

$$= x^2 - 2 \cdot x \cdot p_j \cdot x + p_j \cdot x^2 + p_j \cdot y^2 - \ell \cdot y^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow y = \frac{x^2 - 2 \cdot x \cdot p_j \cdot x + p_j \cdot x^2 + p_j \cdot y^2 - \ell \cdot y^2}{2 (p_j \cdot y - \ell \cdot y)}$$



## Lemma 4.17

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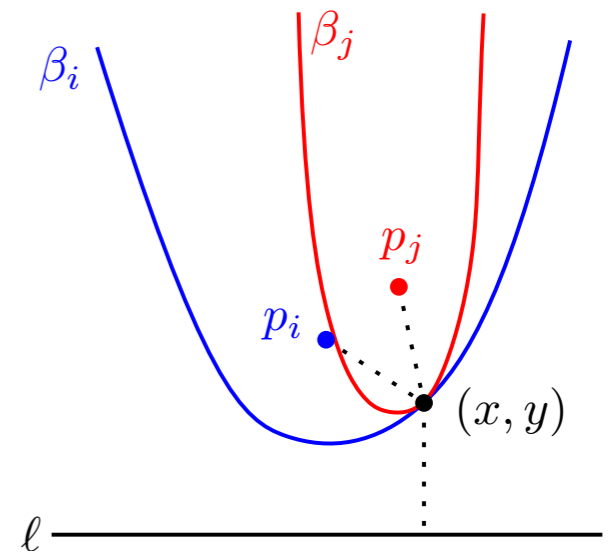
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- Analogously for  $\beta_i$

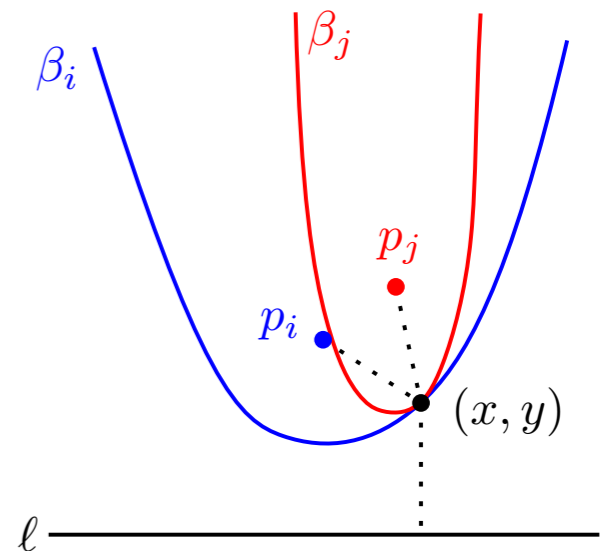


## Lemma 4.17

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Analogously for  $\beta_i$

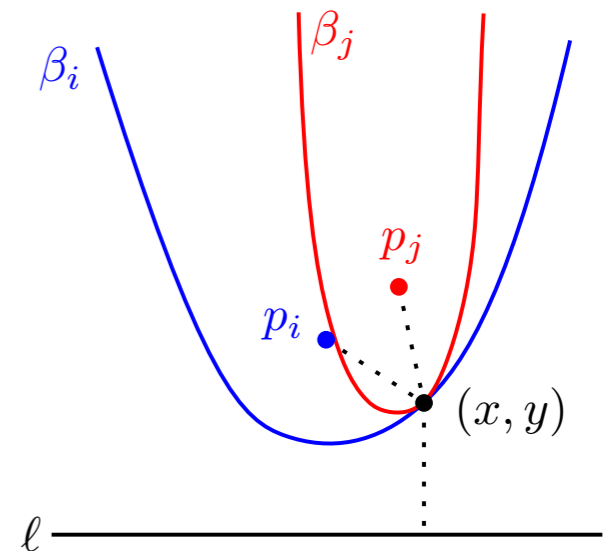


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**Lemma 4.17**

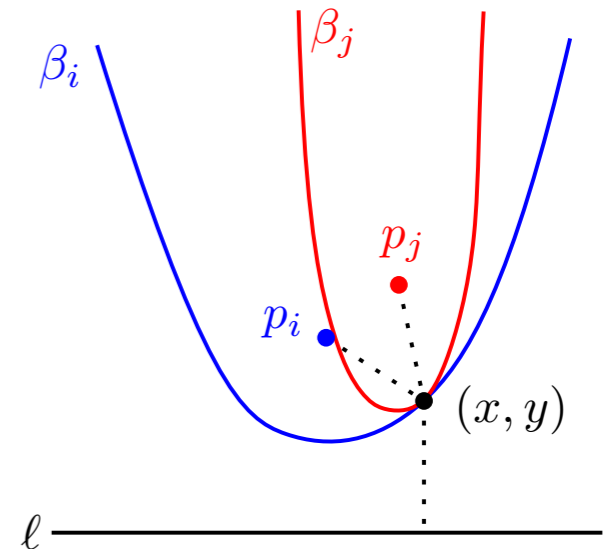
New parabolic arcs on the beach line can only occur by point events.

**Proof:**

- Analogously for  $\beta_i$

- Equate:

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow & \frac{x^2 - 2 \cdot x \cdot p_j \cdot x + p_j \cdot x^2 + p_j \cdot y^2 - \ell \cdot y^2}{2(p_j \cdot y - \ell \cdot y)} \\ = & \frac{x^2 - 2 \cdot x \cdot p_i \cdot x + p_i \cdot x^2 + p_i \cdot y^2 - \ell \cdot y^2}{2(p_i \cdot y - \ell \cdot y)} \end{aligned}$$



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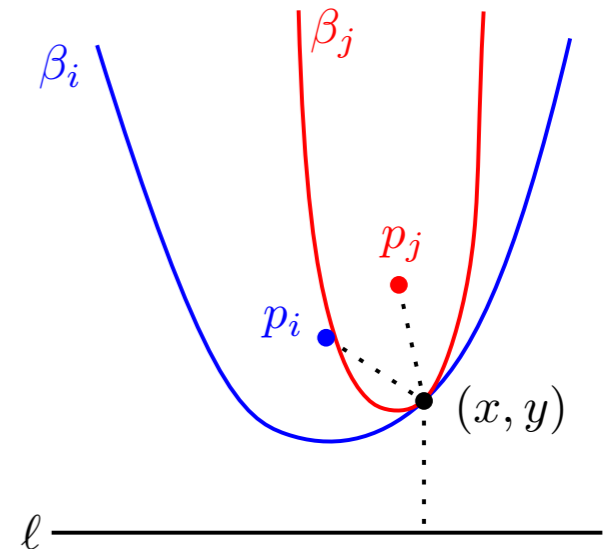
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- $p_j \cdot y \neq p_i \cdot y$  and  $p_i \cdot y, p_j \cdot y > \ell \cdot y$

$$\Rightarrow \exists c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R} : 1 \cdot x^2 + c_1 \cdot x + c_2 = 0 \text{ with } c_2 \neq 0$$



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### Proof:

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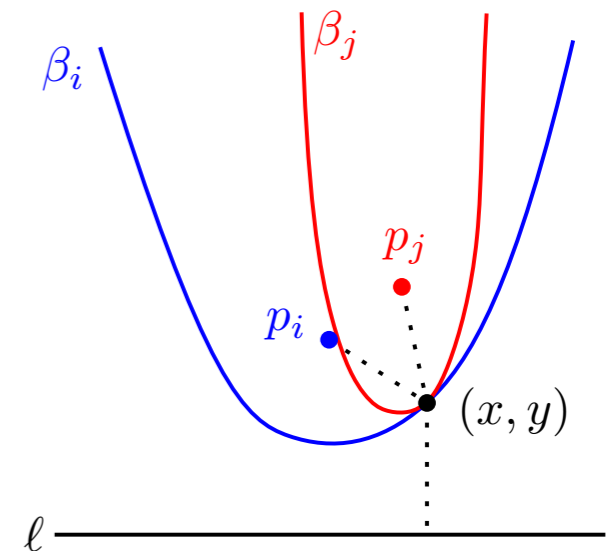
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$\Rightarrow$  Two intersection points ⚡



## Lemma 4.17

New parabolic arcs on the beach line can only occur by point events.

**Proof:**

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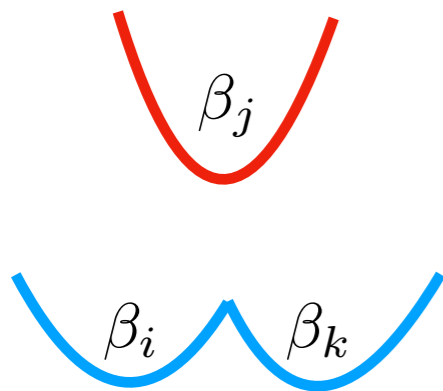
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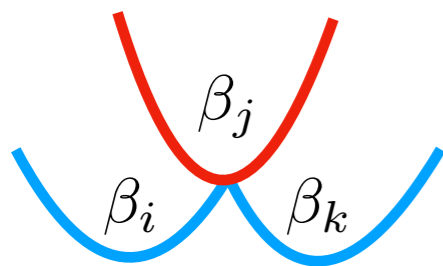
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-

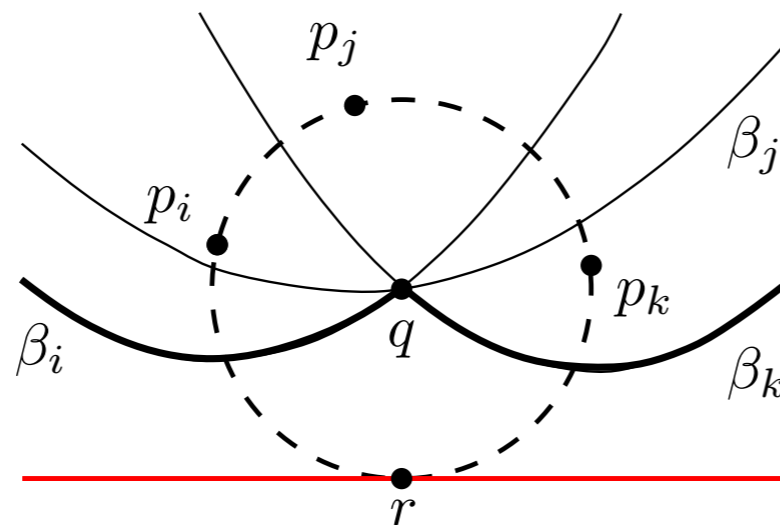
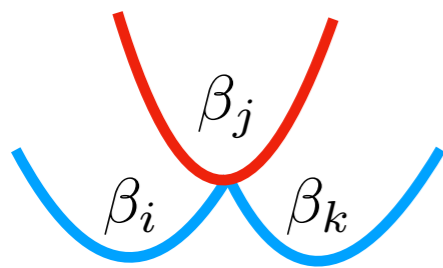


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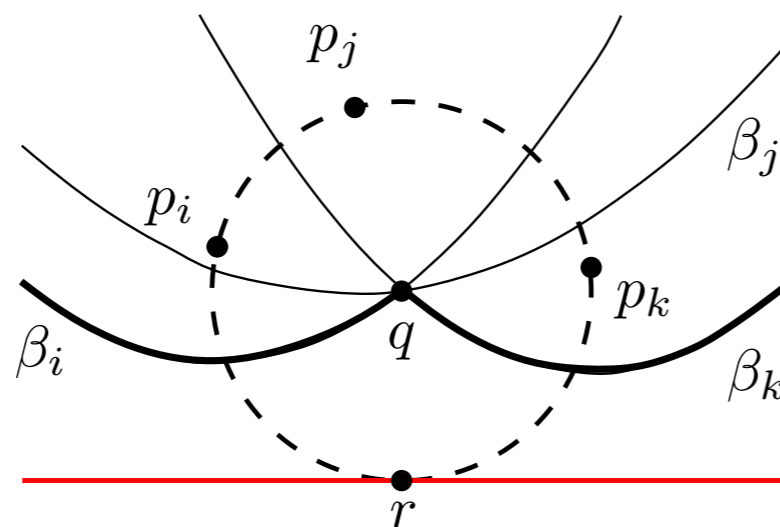
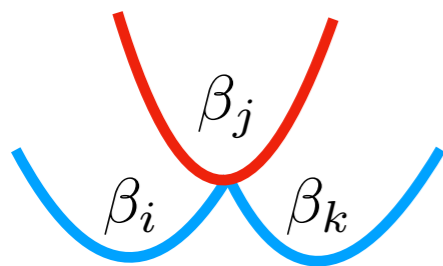


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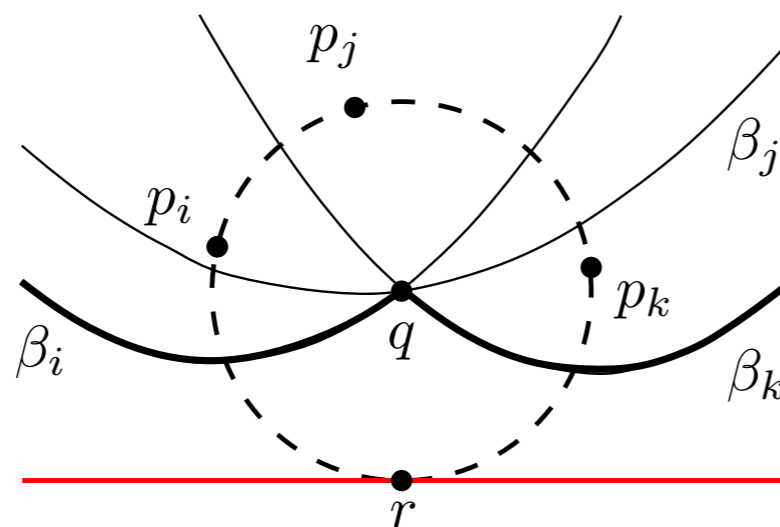
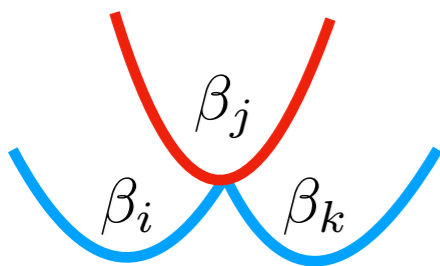


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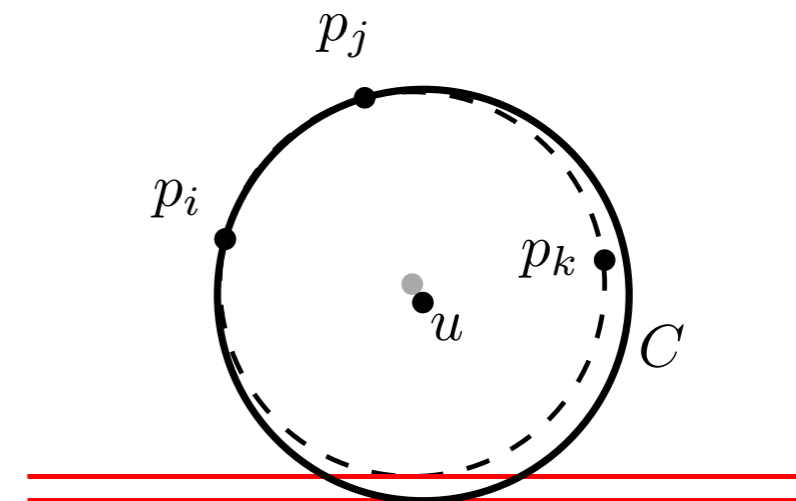
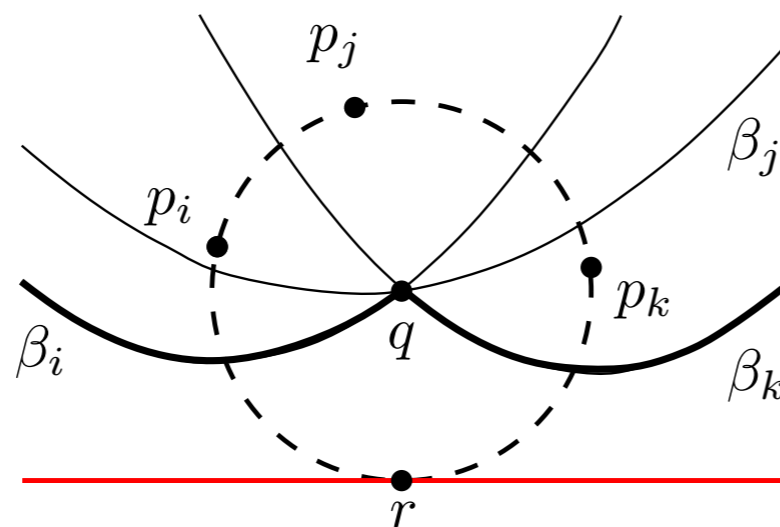
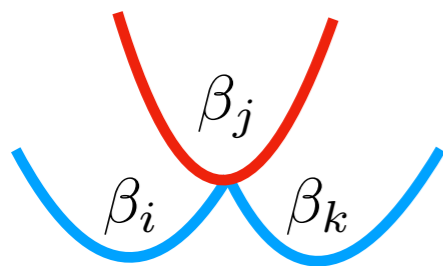


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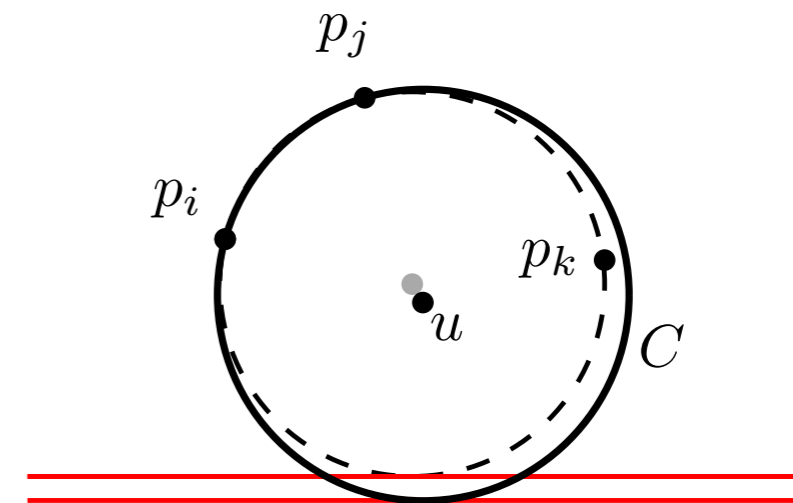
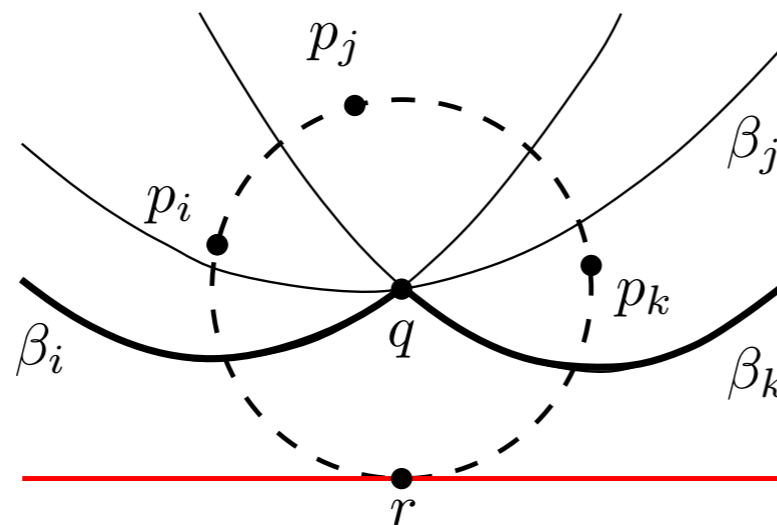
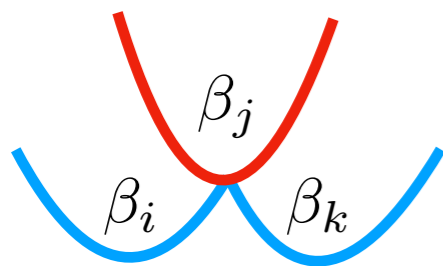


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- $p_k \in C^\circ$ 
  - $\Rightarrow d(u, p_k) < d(u, p_i), d(q, p_j)$  ⚡

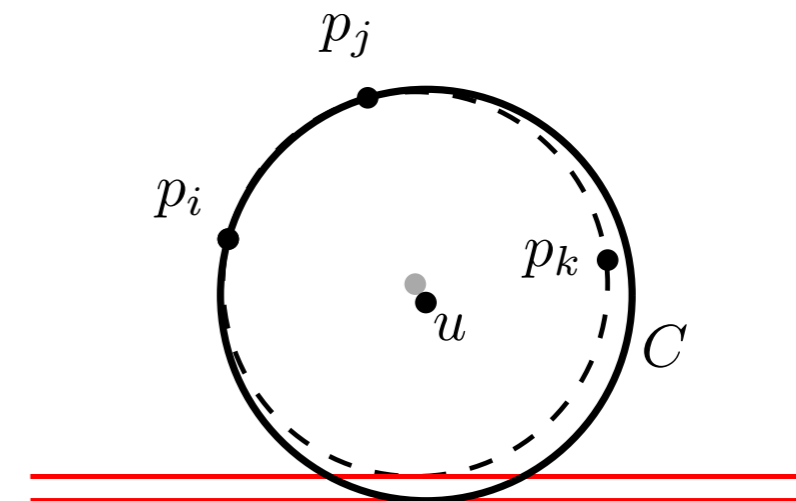
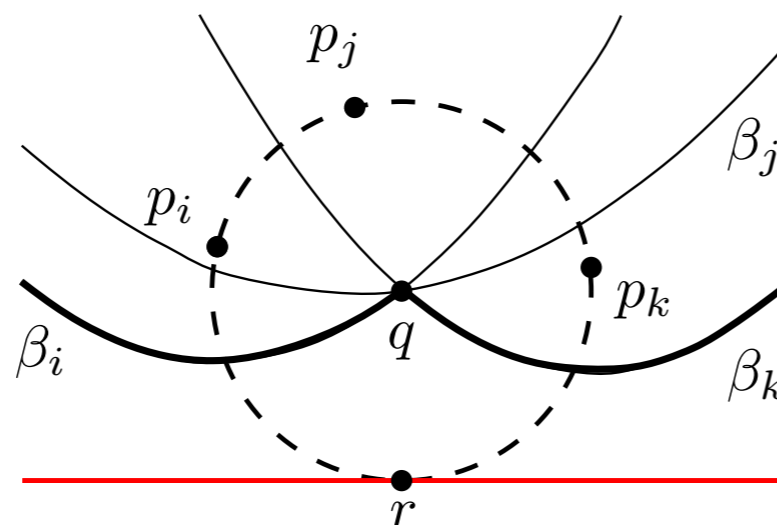
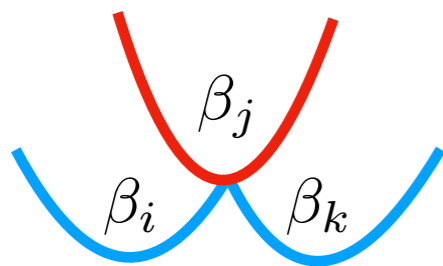


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## Lemma 4.18

The beach line has at most  $2n - 1$  parabolic arcs.



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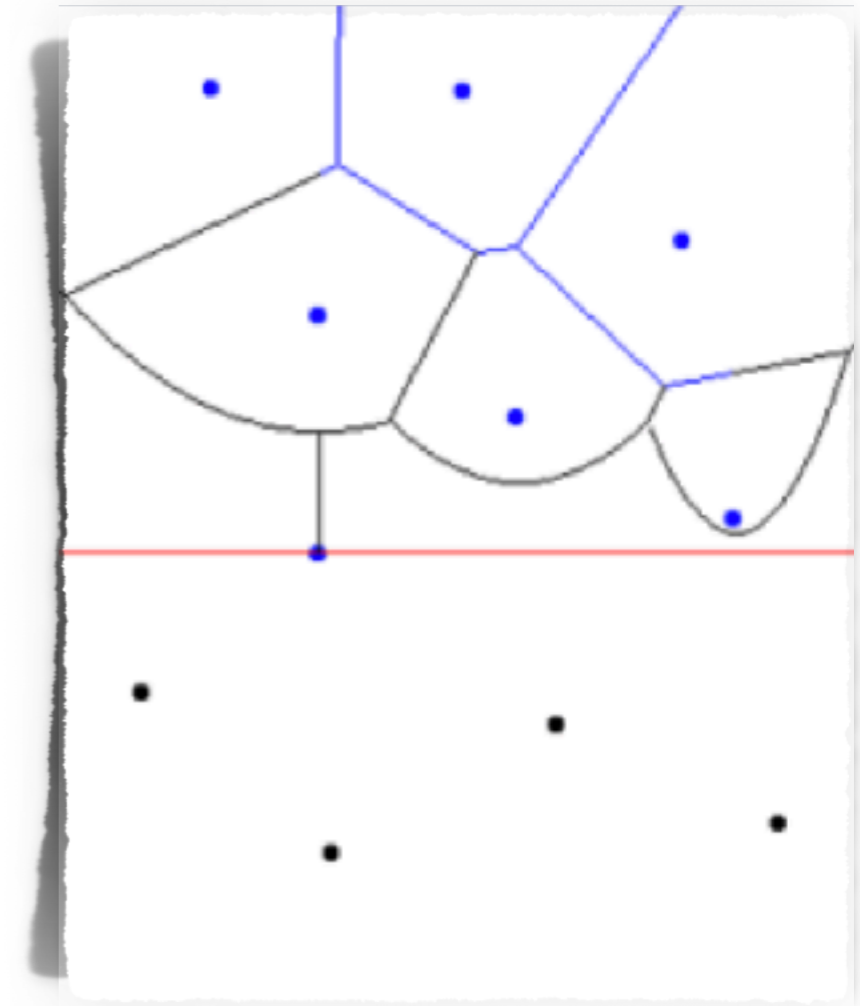
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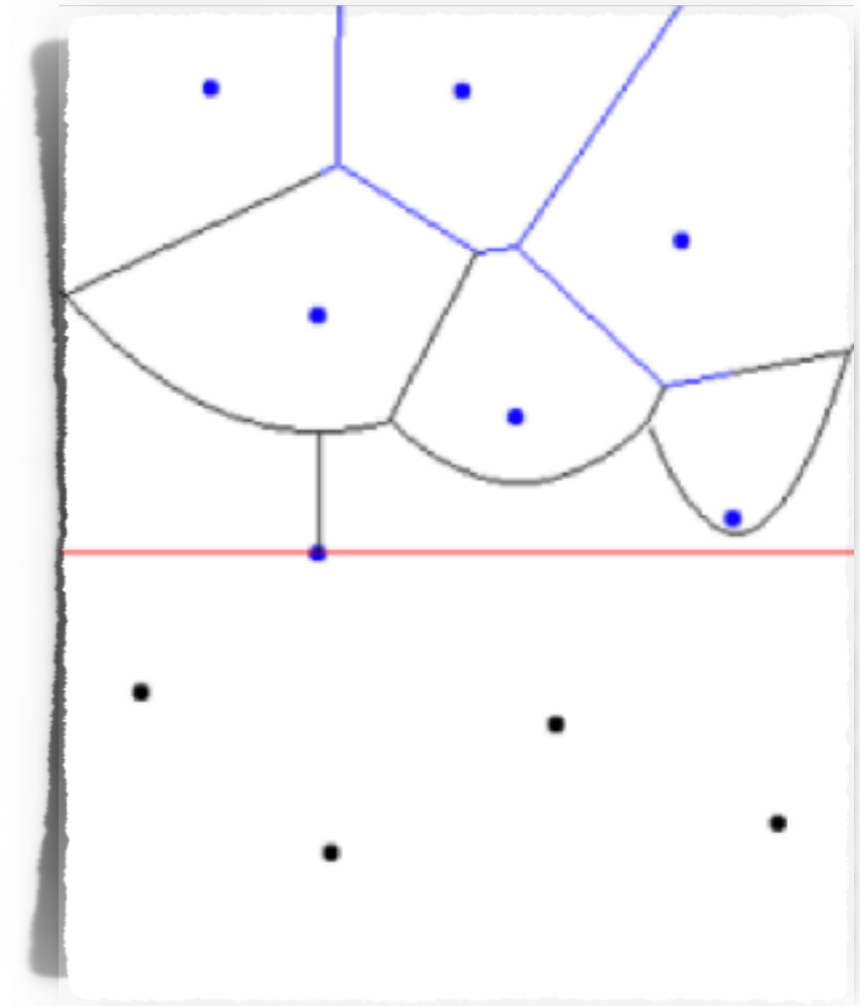


## Lemma 4.18

The beach line has at most  $2n - 1$  parabolic arcs.

### Proof:

- Each  $p \in \mathcal{P}$  generates a new parabolic arc.
- Each new arc (with the exception of the first arc) can split at most one other arc into two pieces.

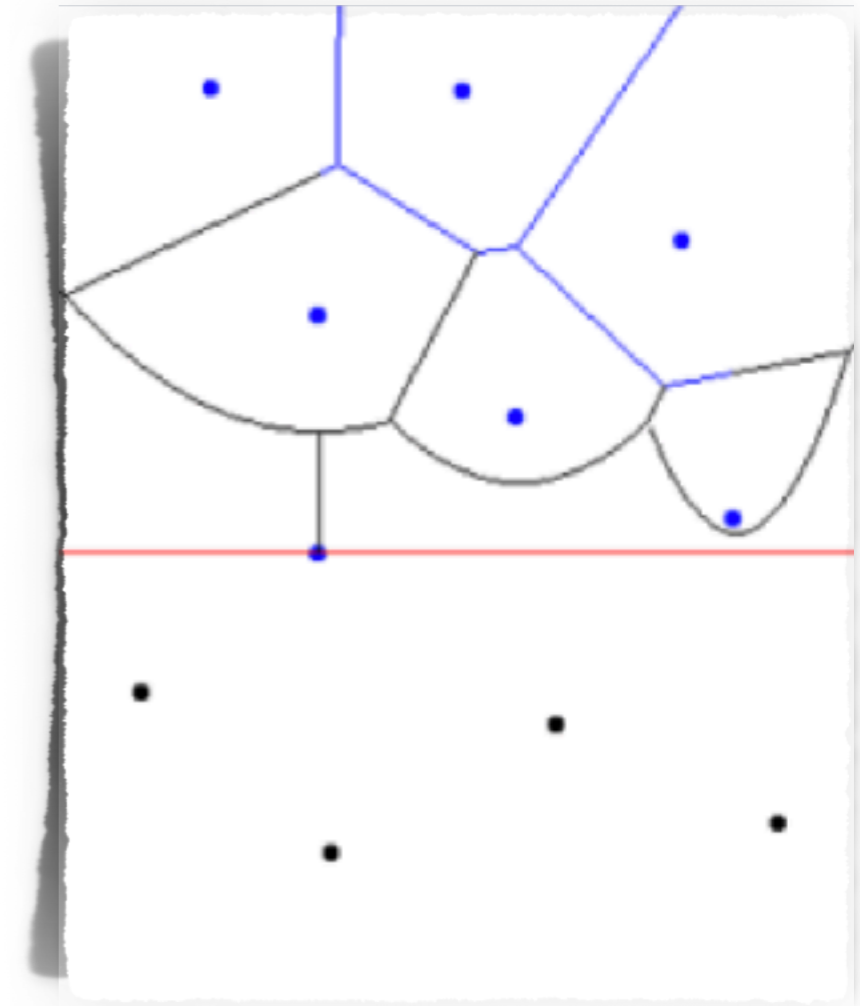


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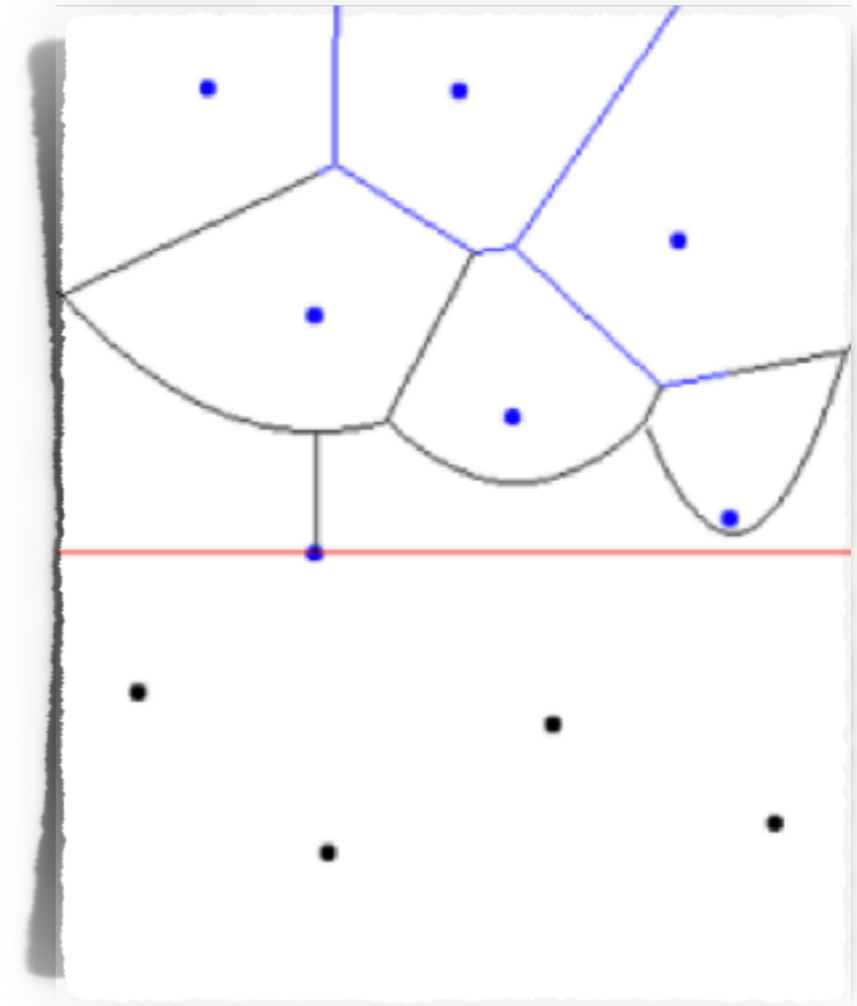


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## Lemma 4.17

New parabolic arcs on the beach line can only occur by point events.

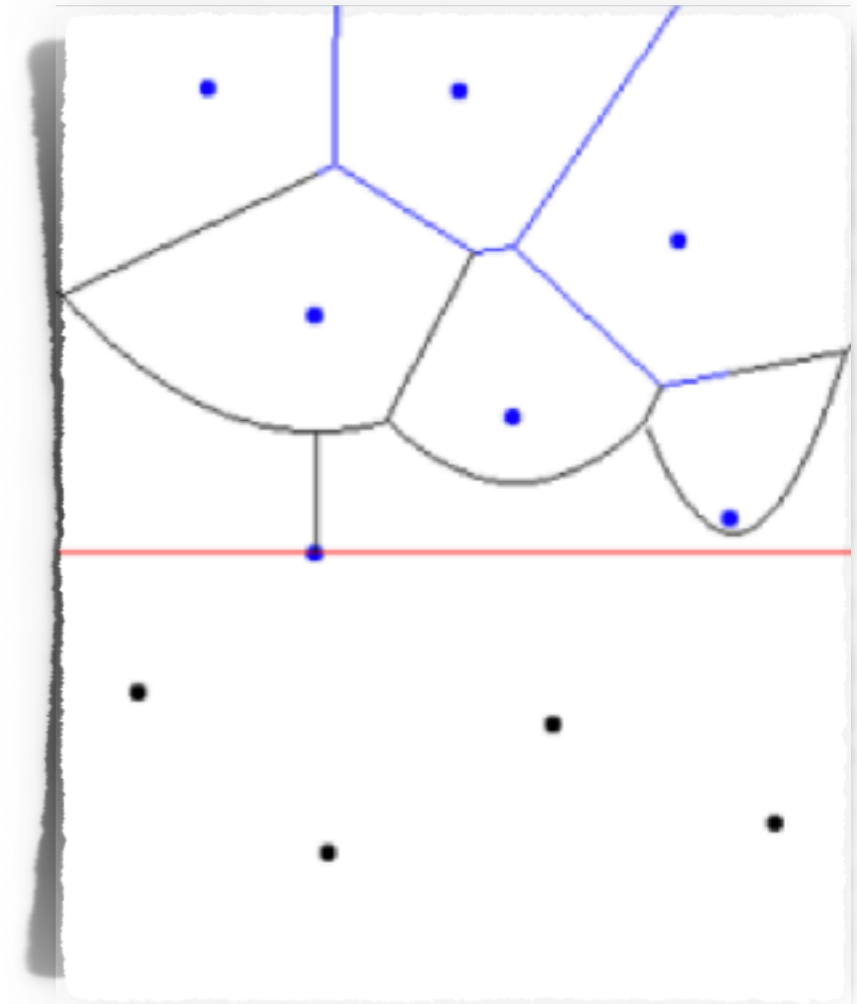
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□



## Lemma 4.17

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**Observation:**

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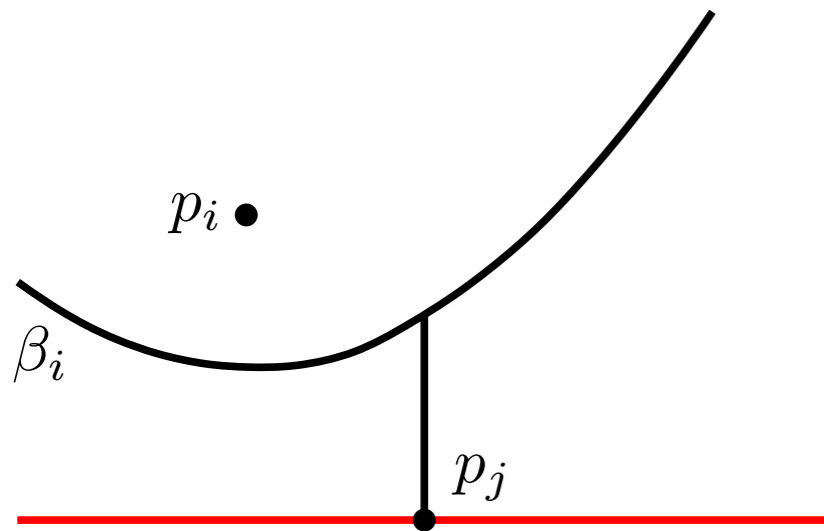
- Point event  $p_j \rightarrow \geq 1$  Voronoi edges are discovered.

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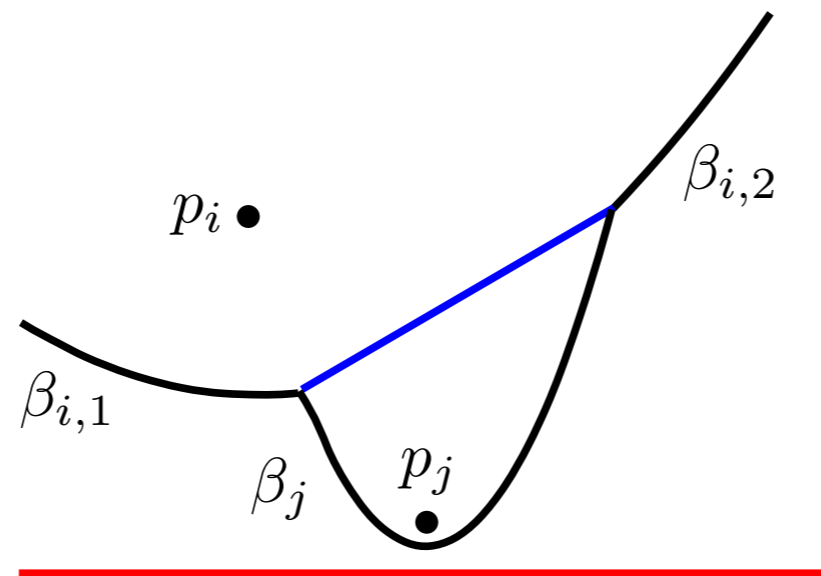
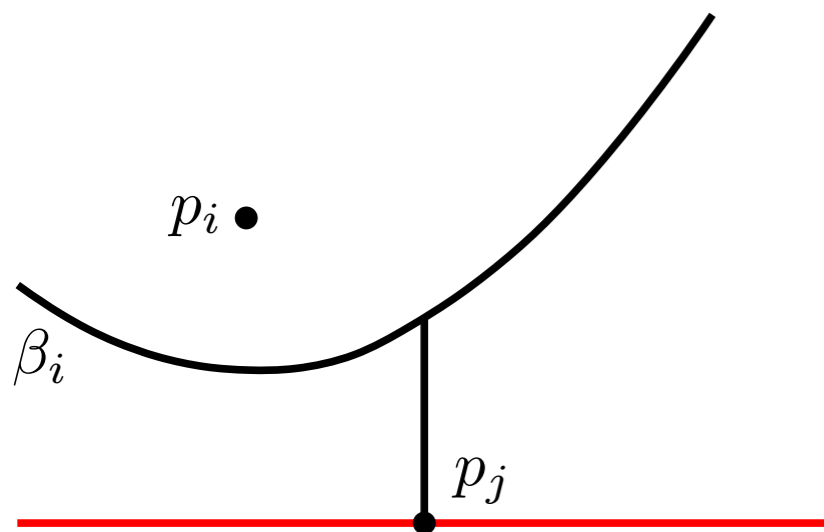
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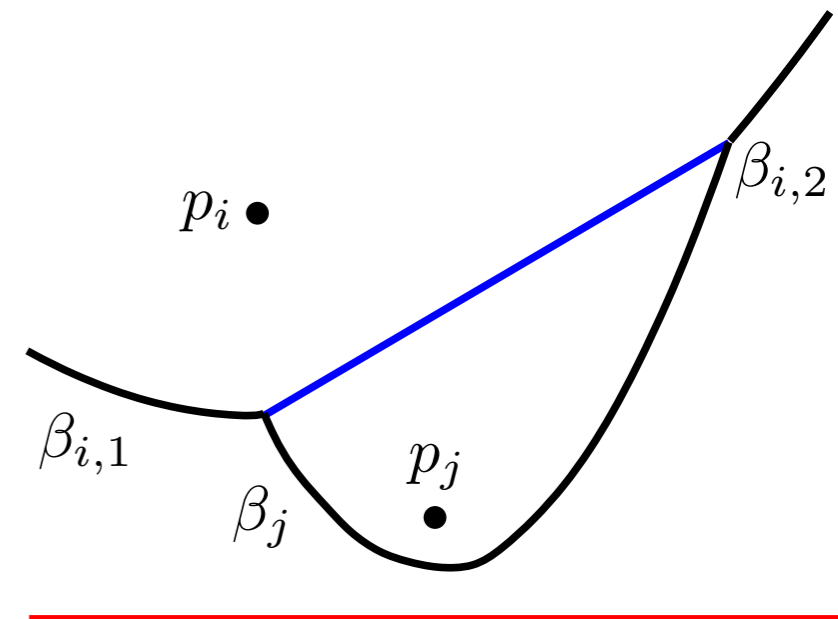
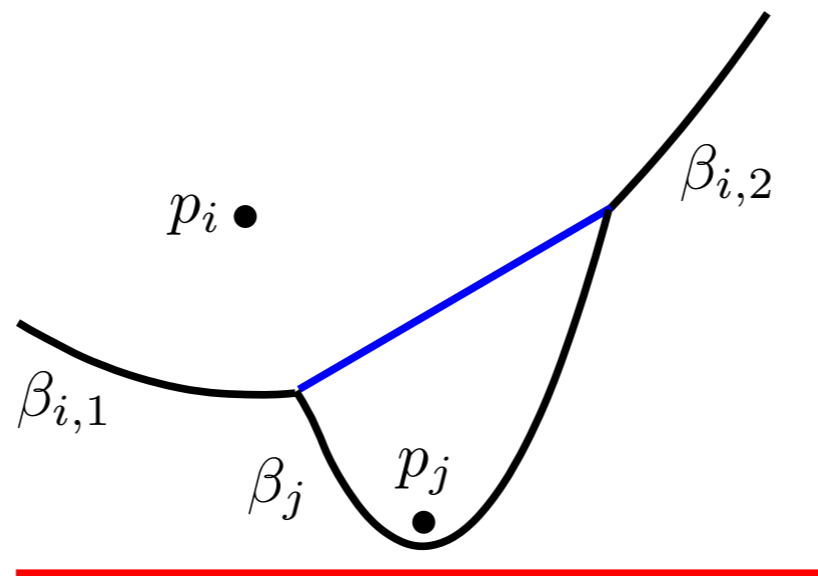
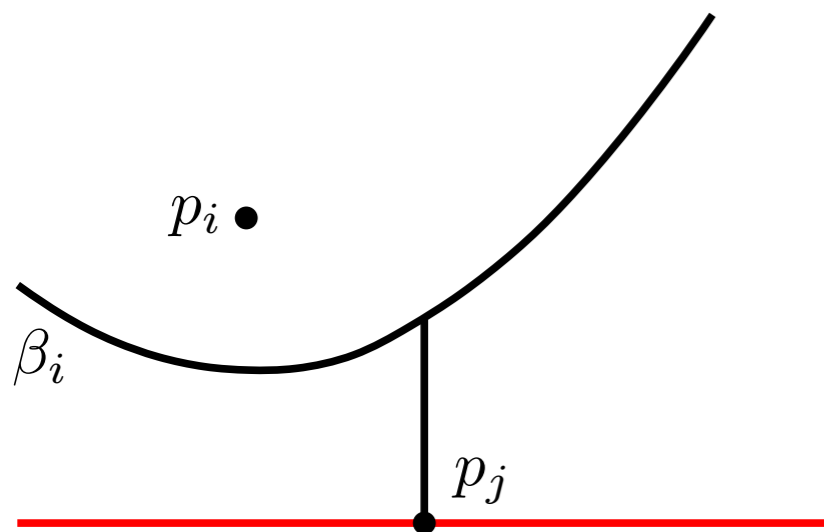
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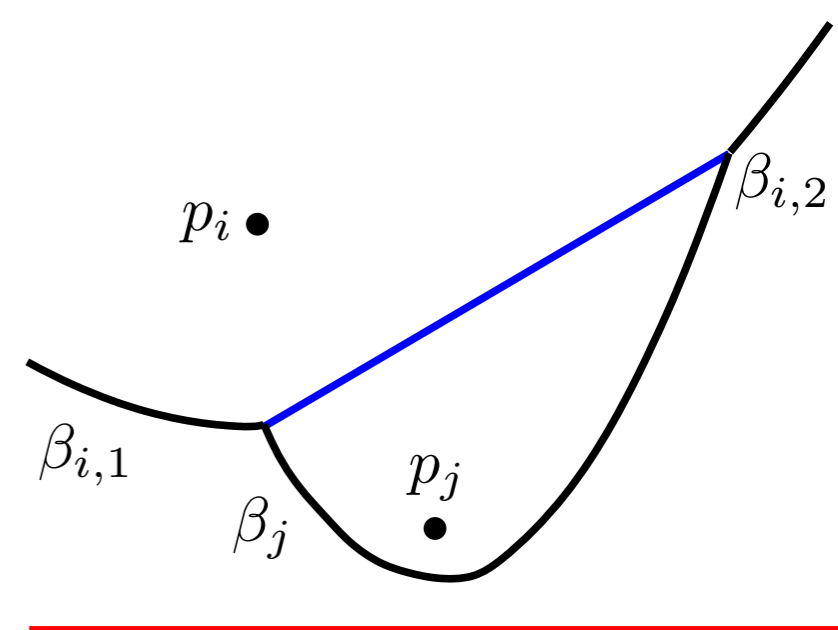
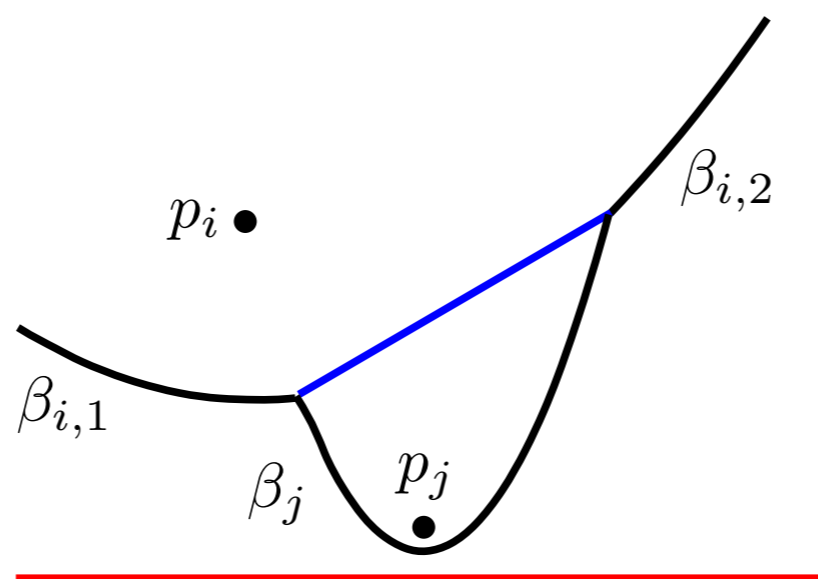
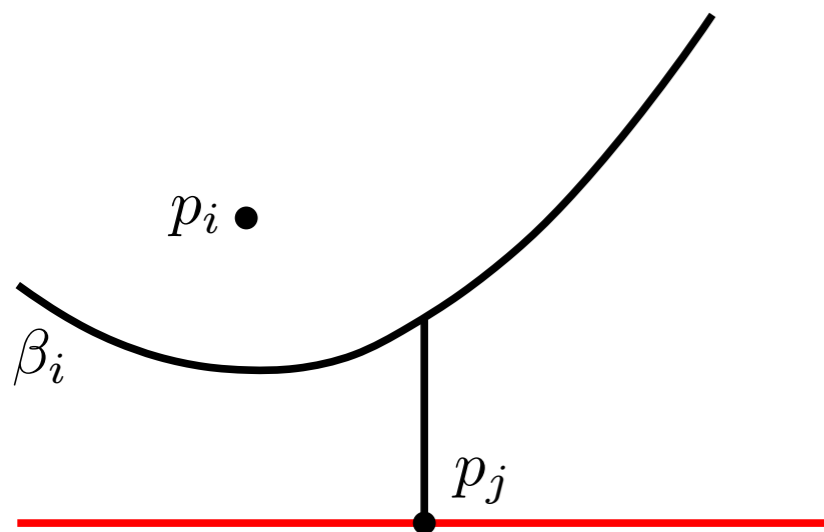
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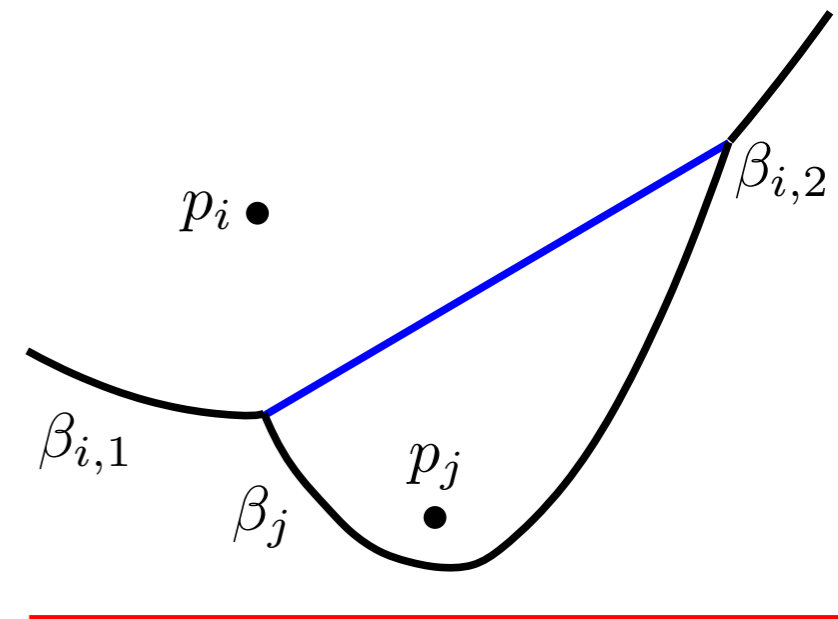
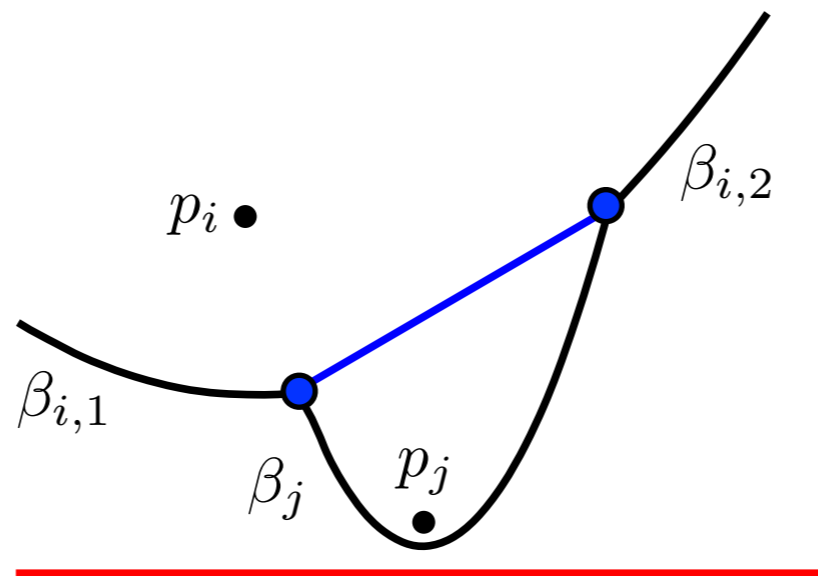
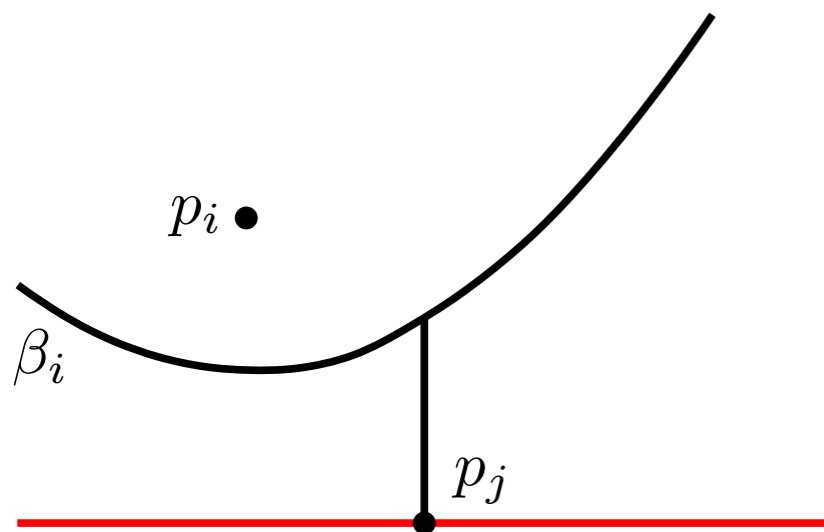
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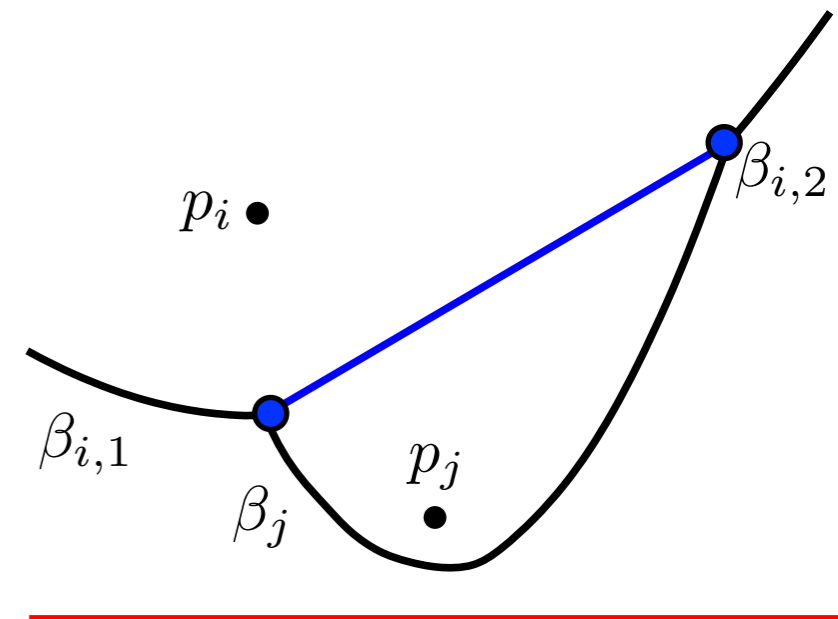
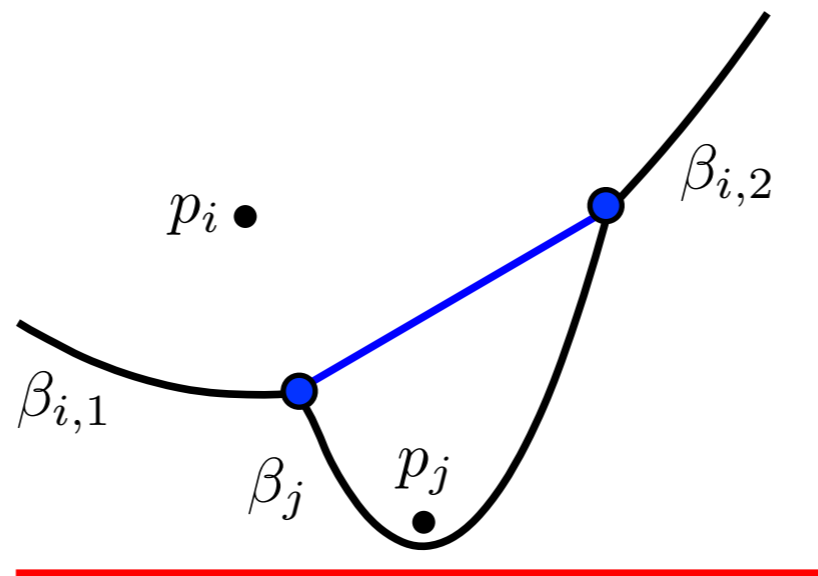
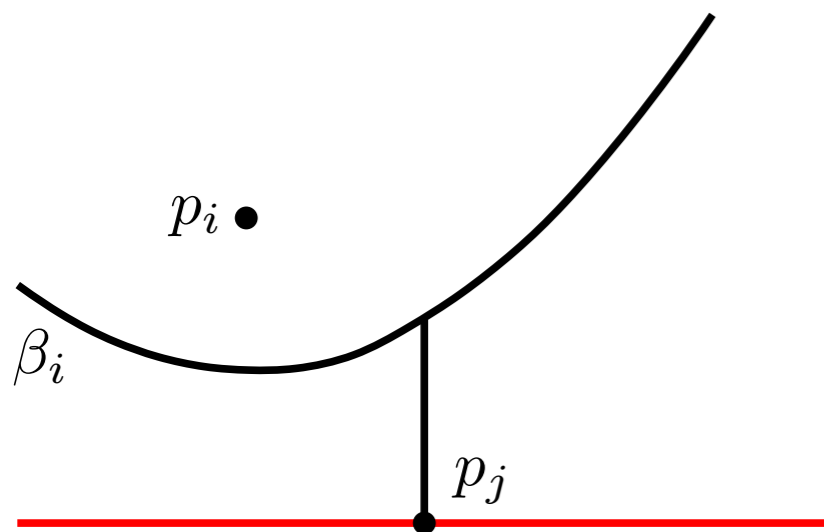
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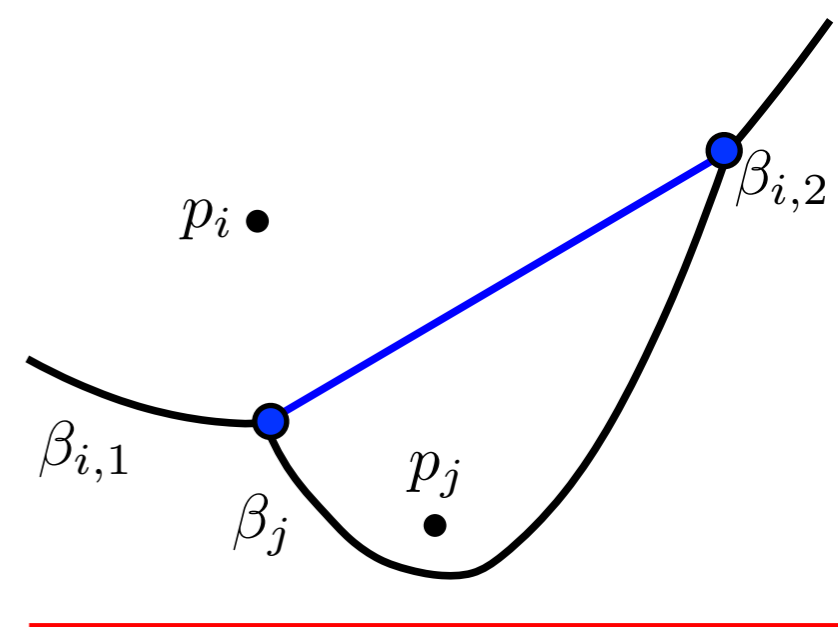
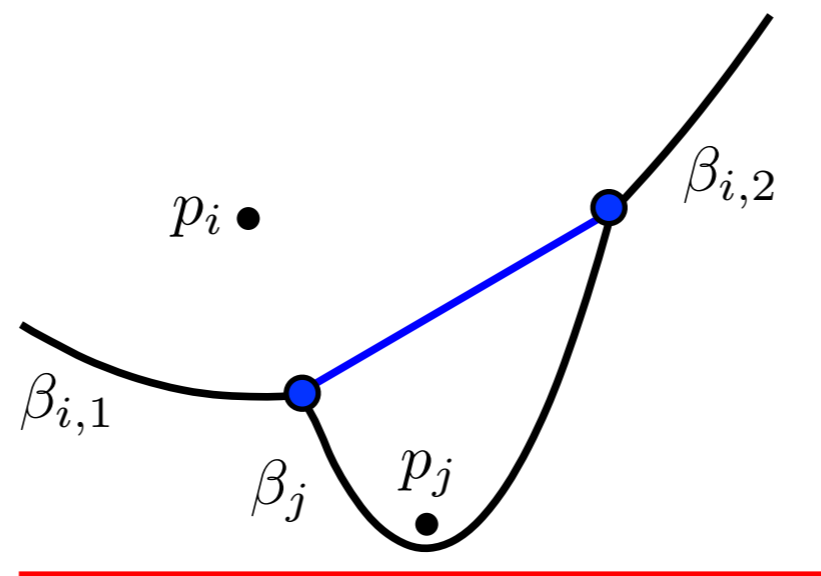
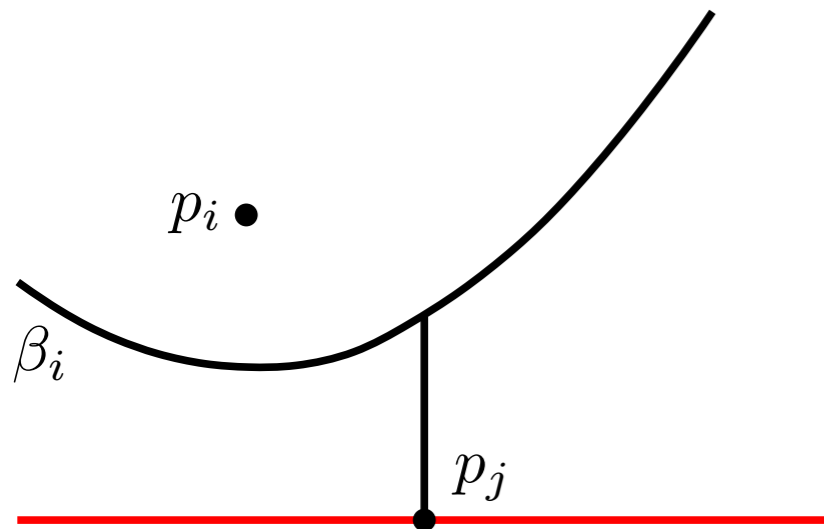


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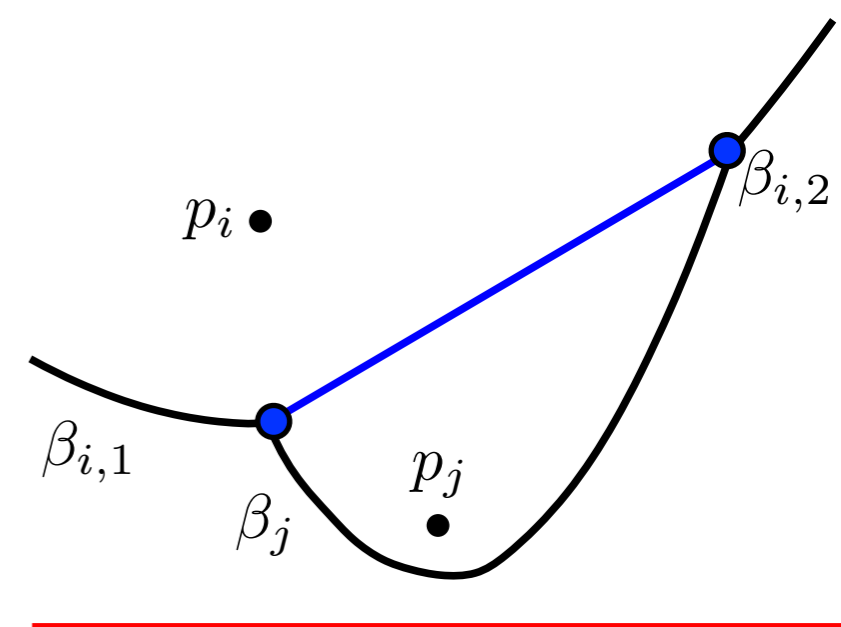
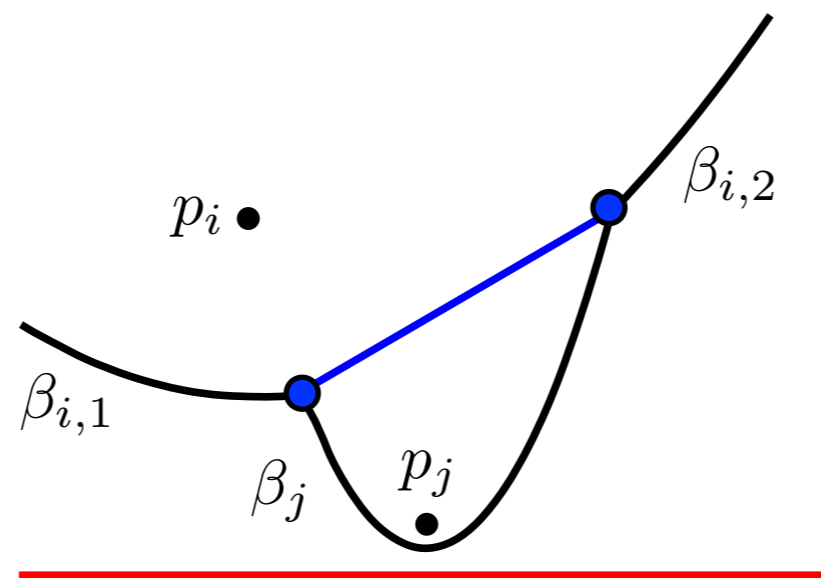
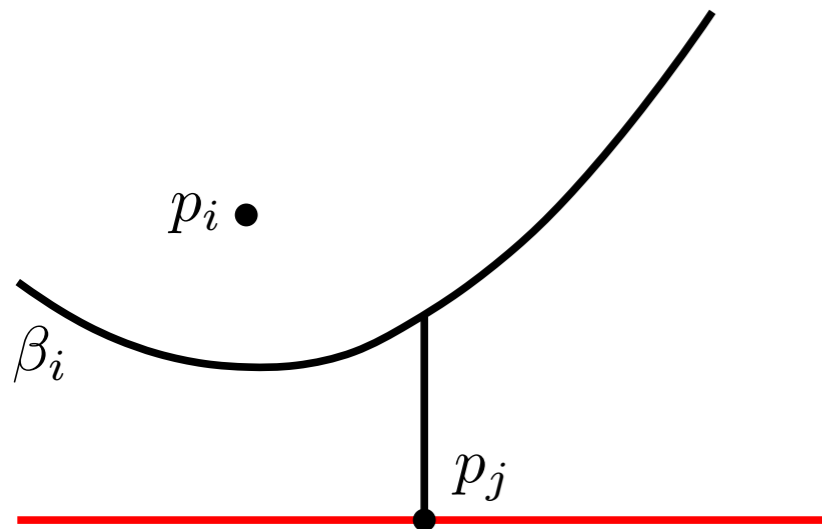
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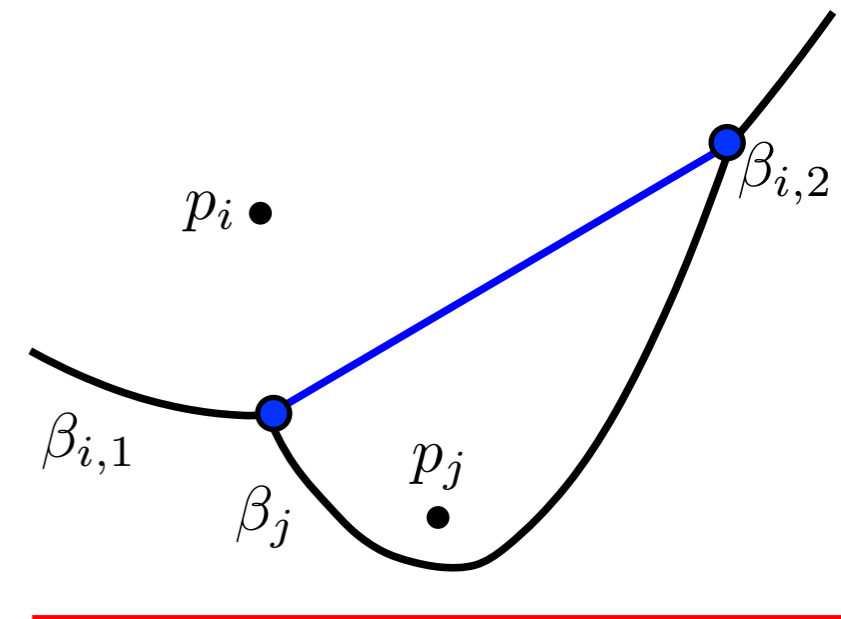
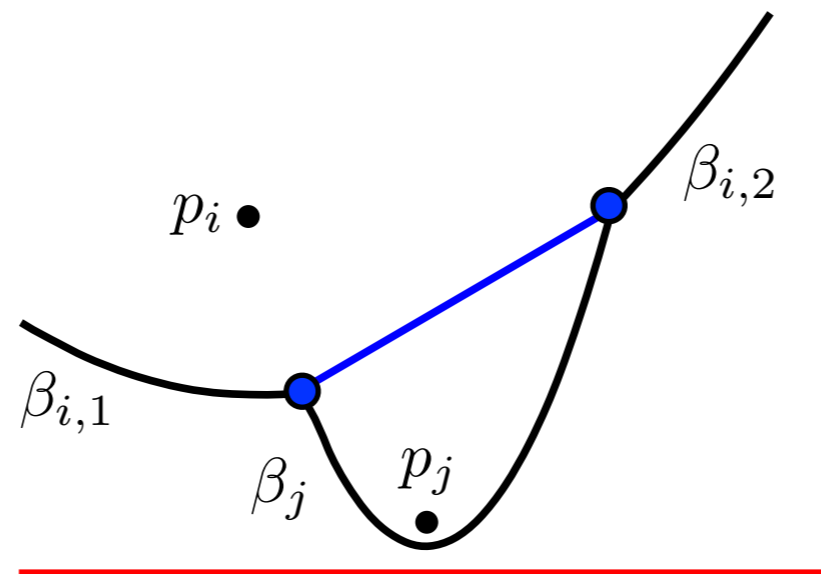
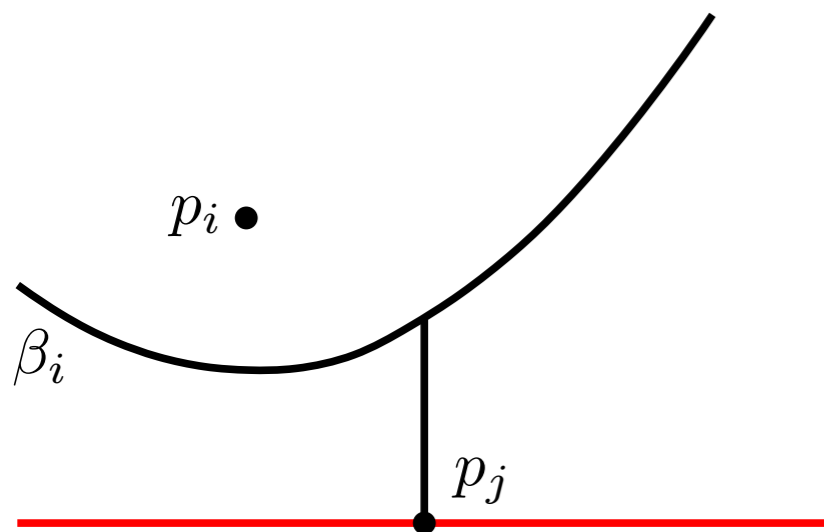
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- Edge i.g. not connected to already computed part of  $Vor(\mathcal{P})$



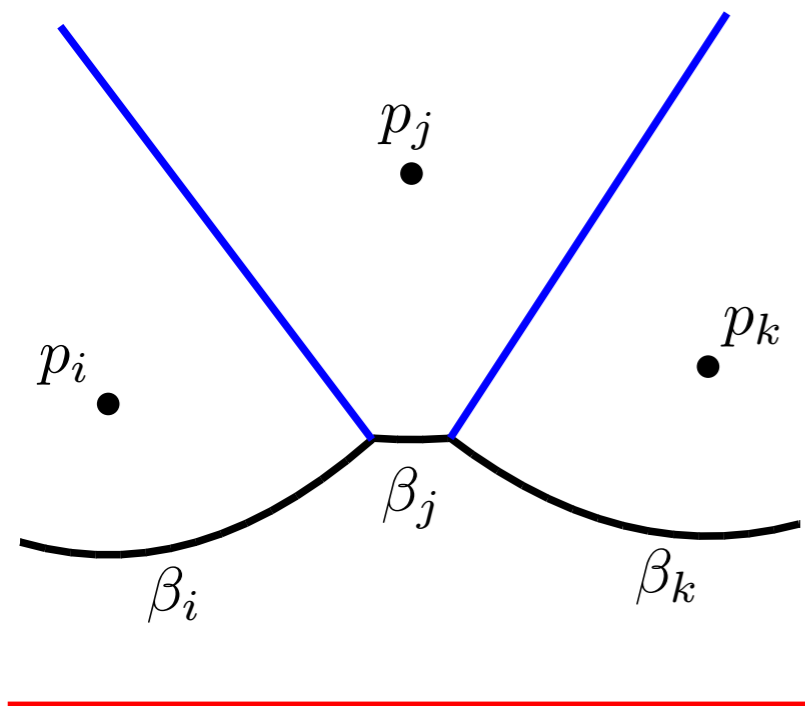
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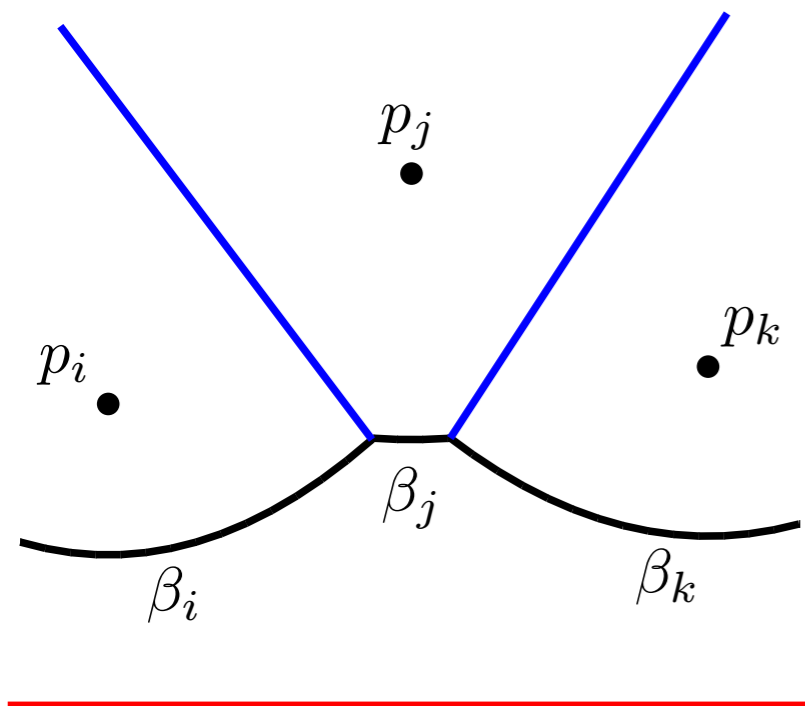
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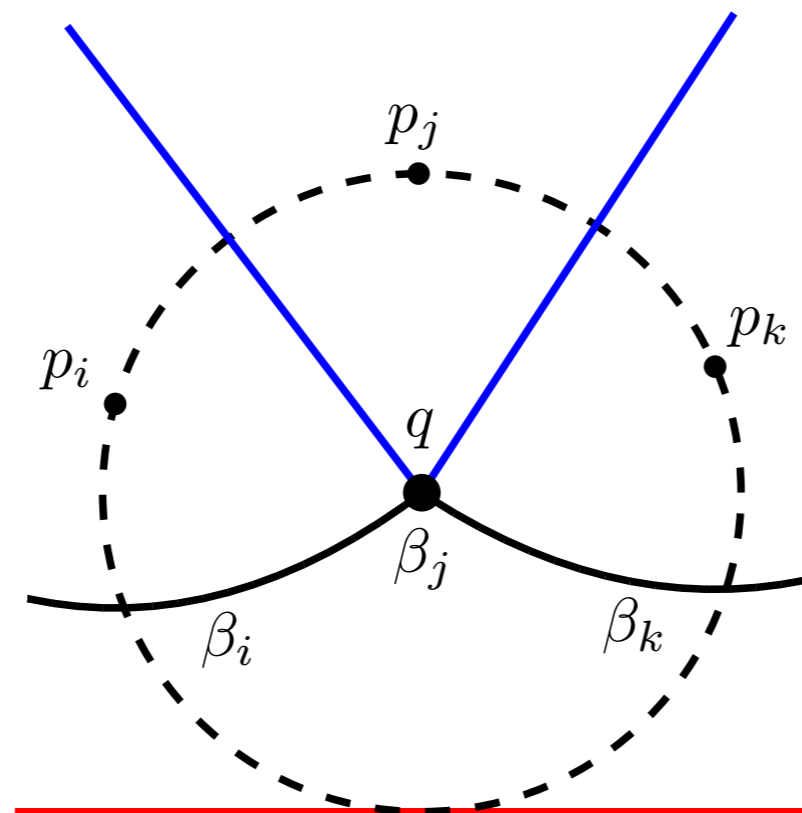
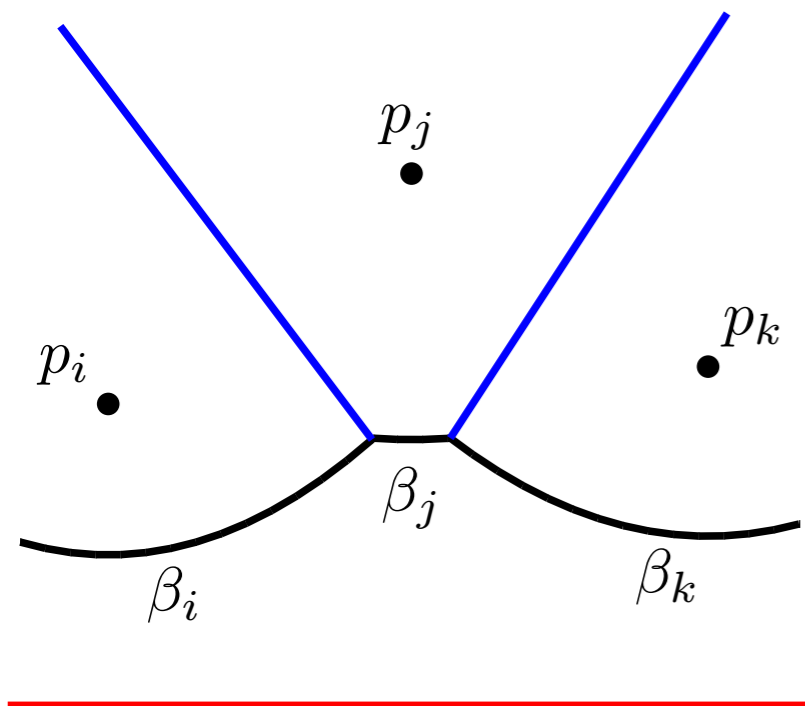
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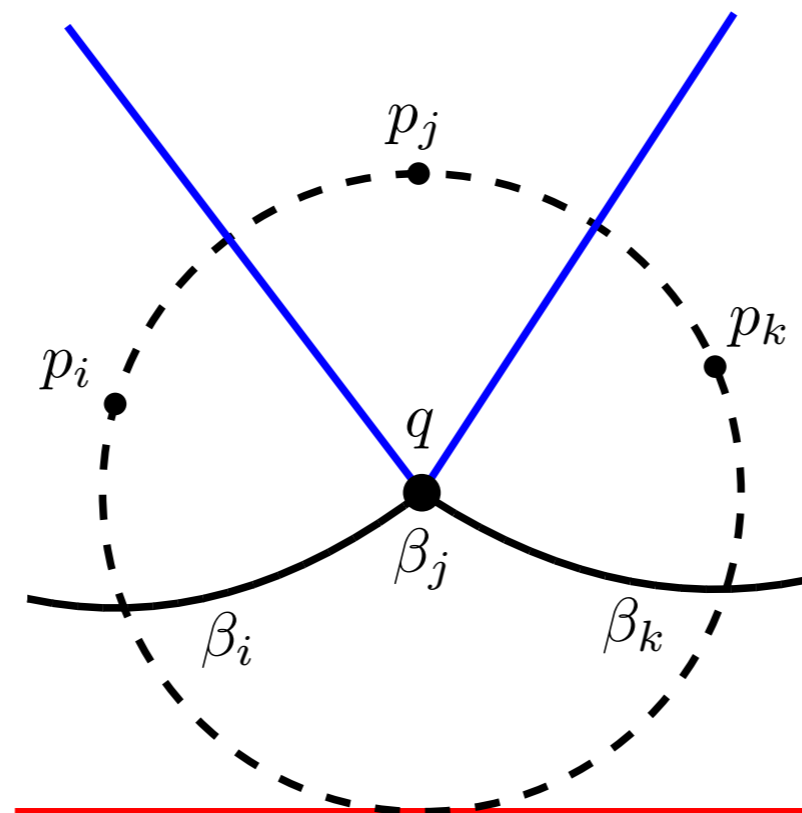
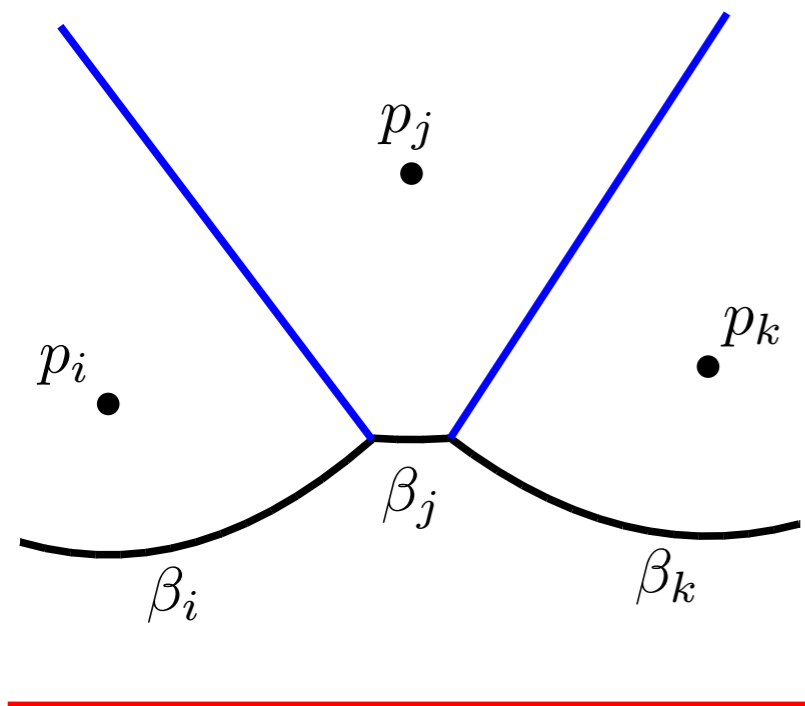
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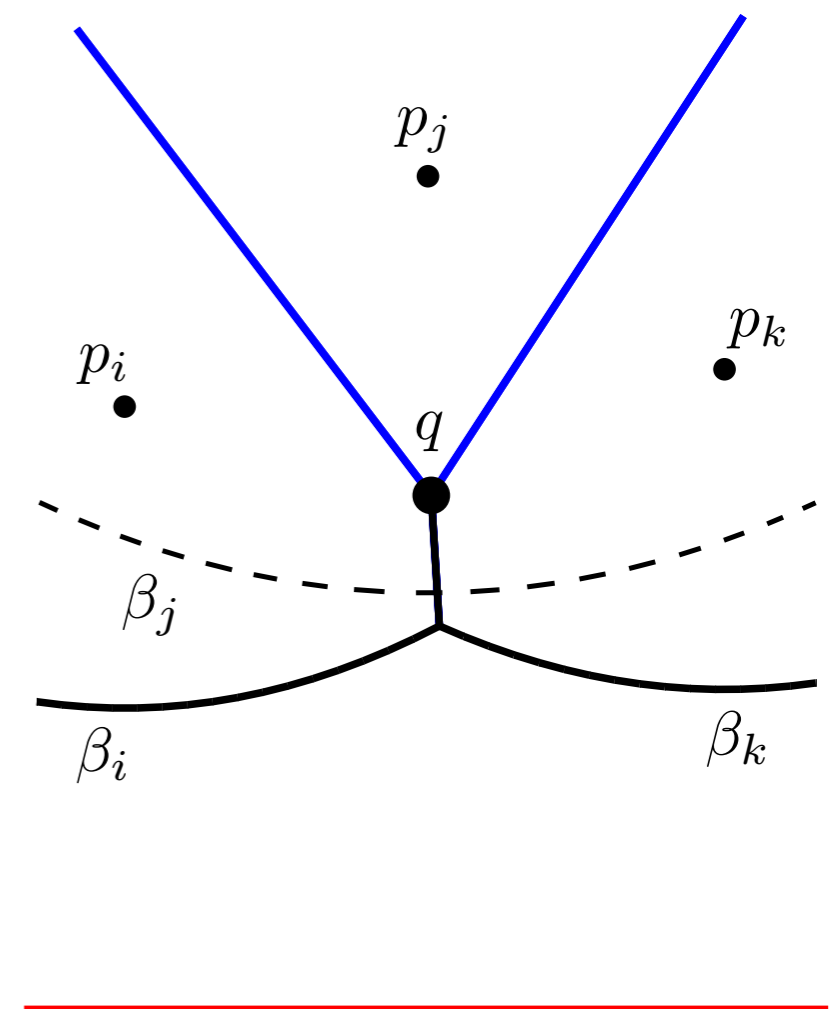
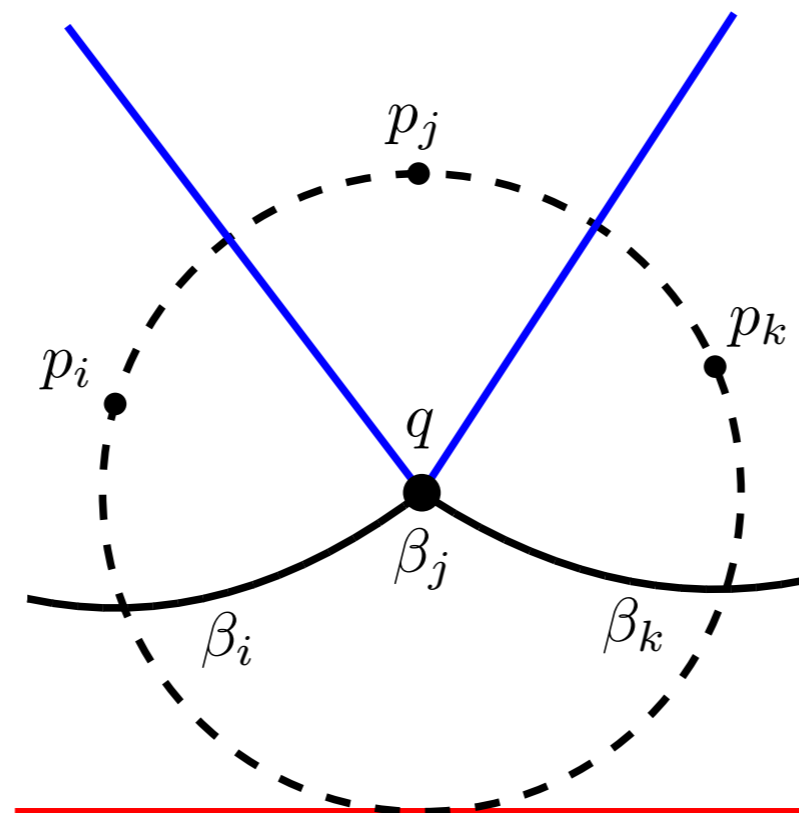
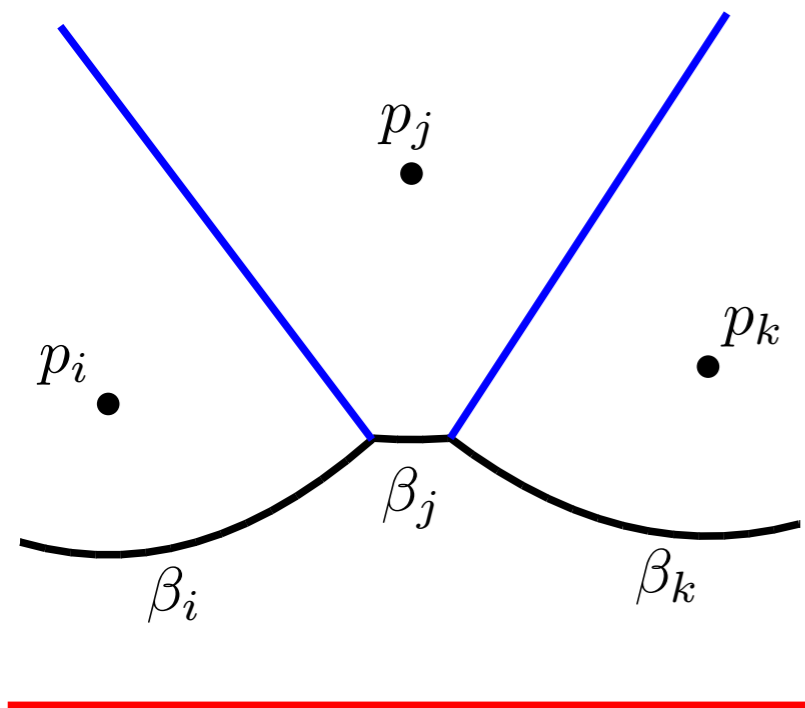
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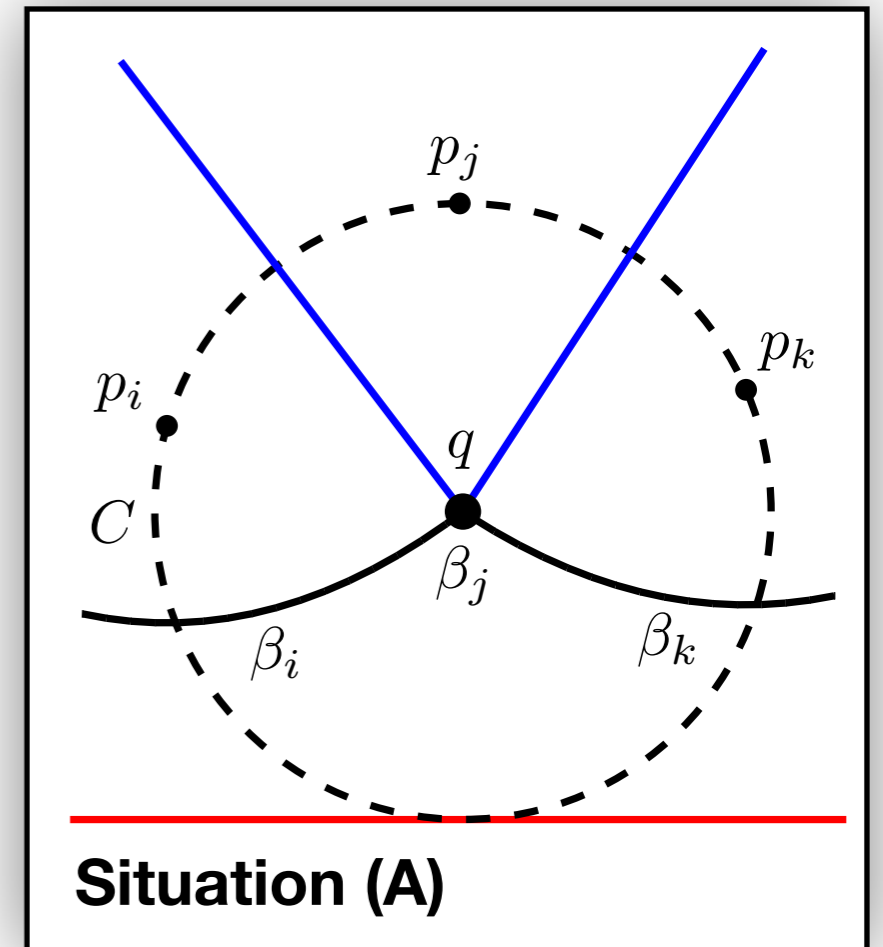


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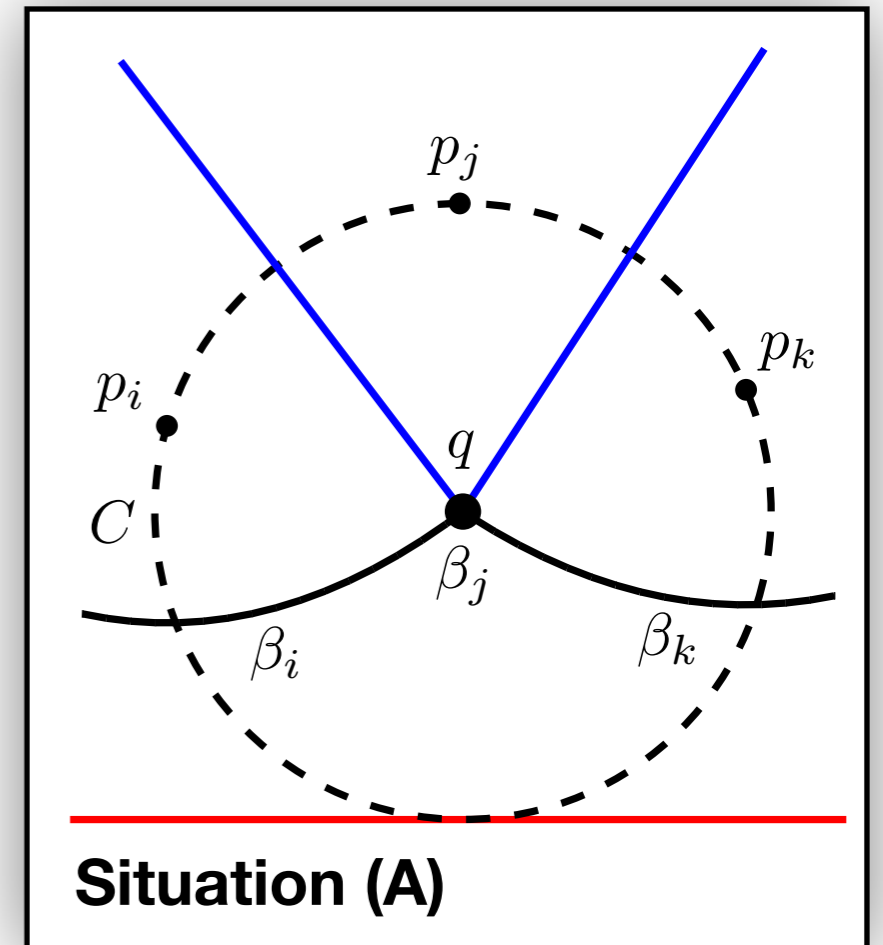
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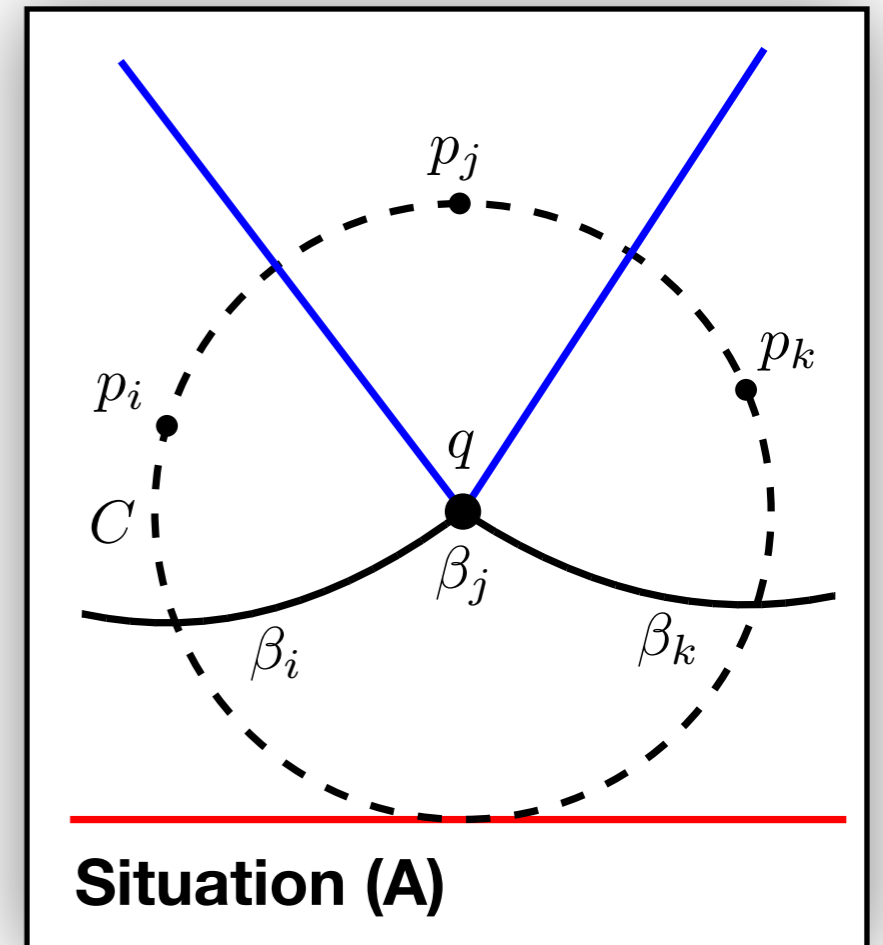


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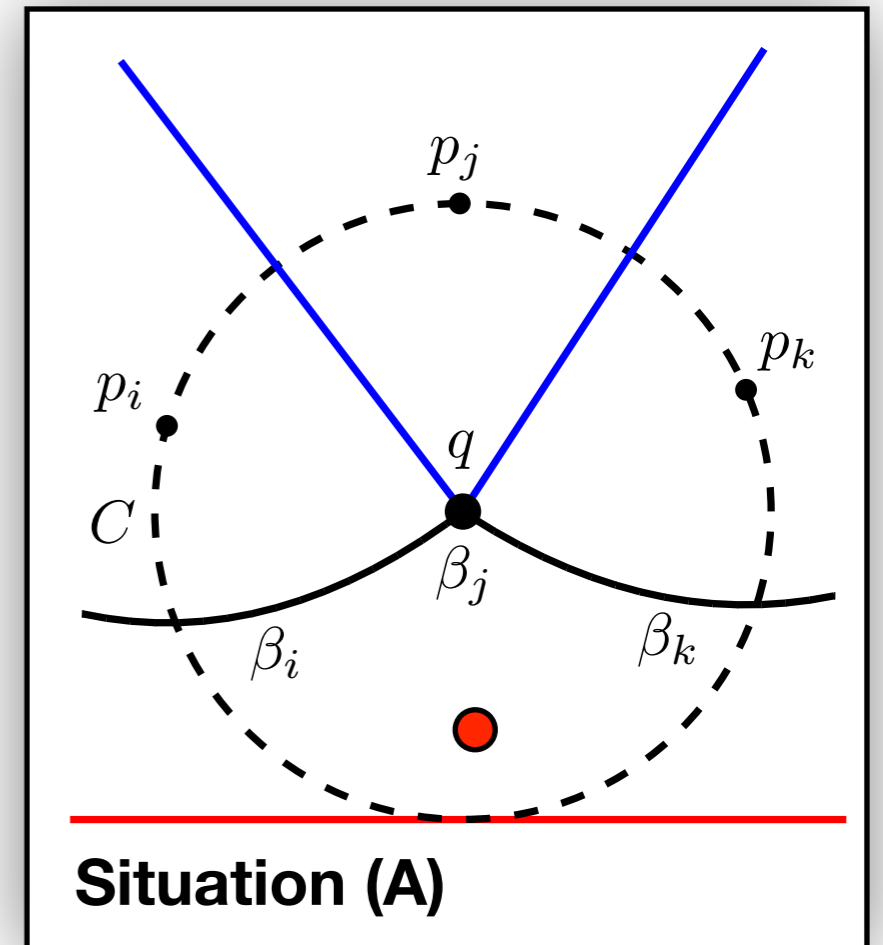


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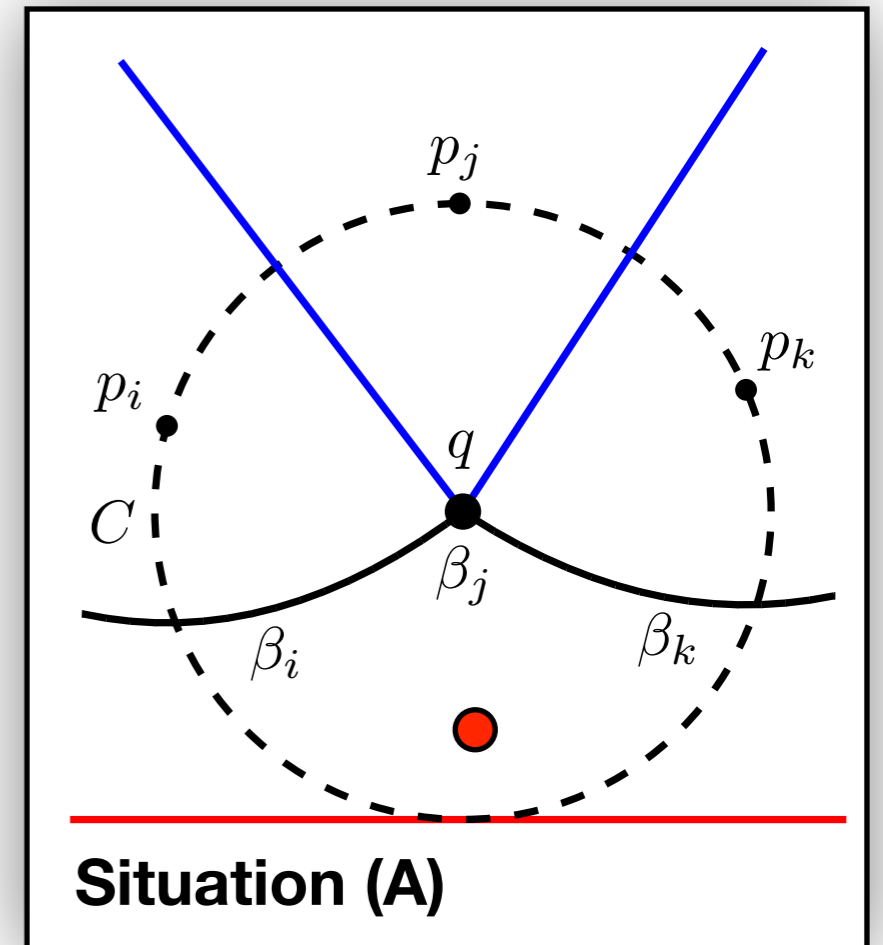


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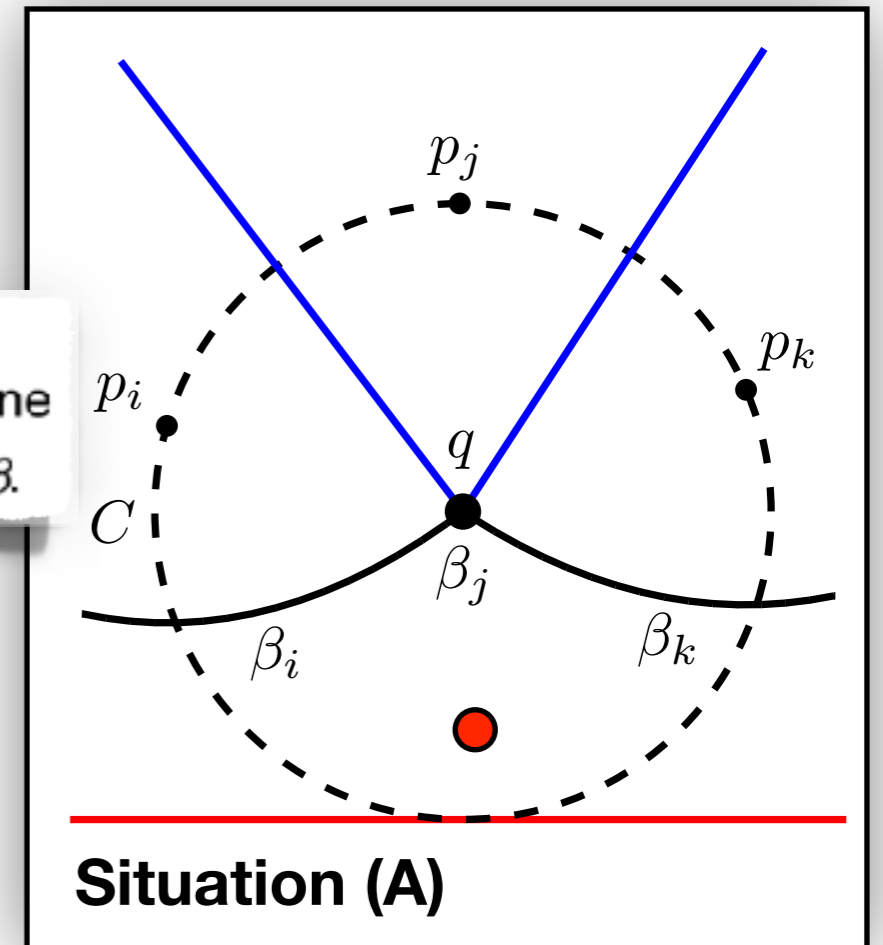
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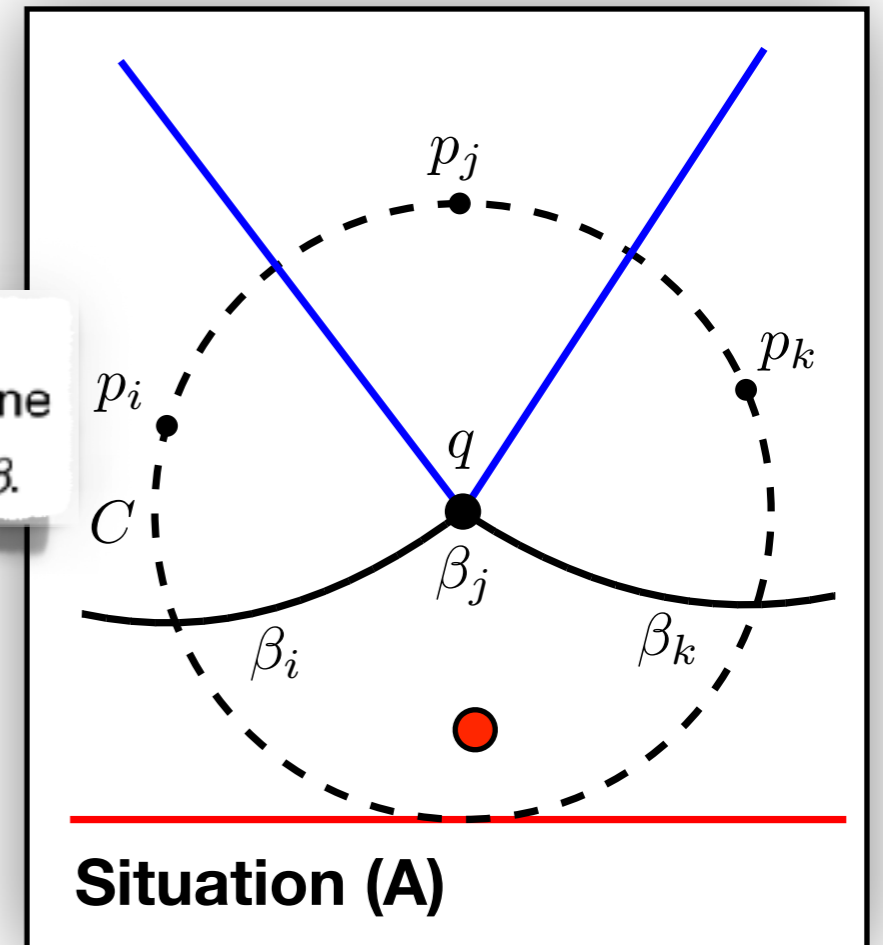
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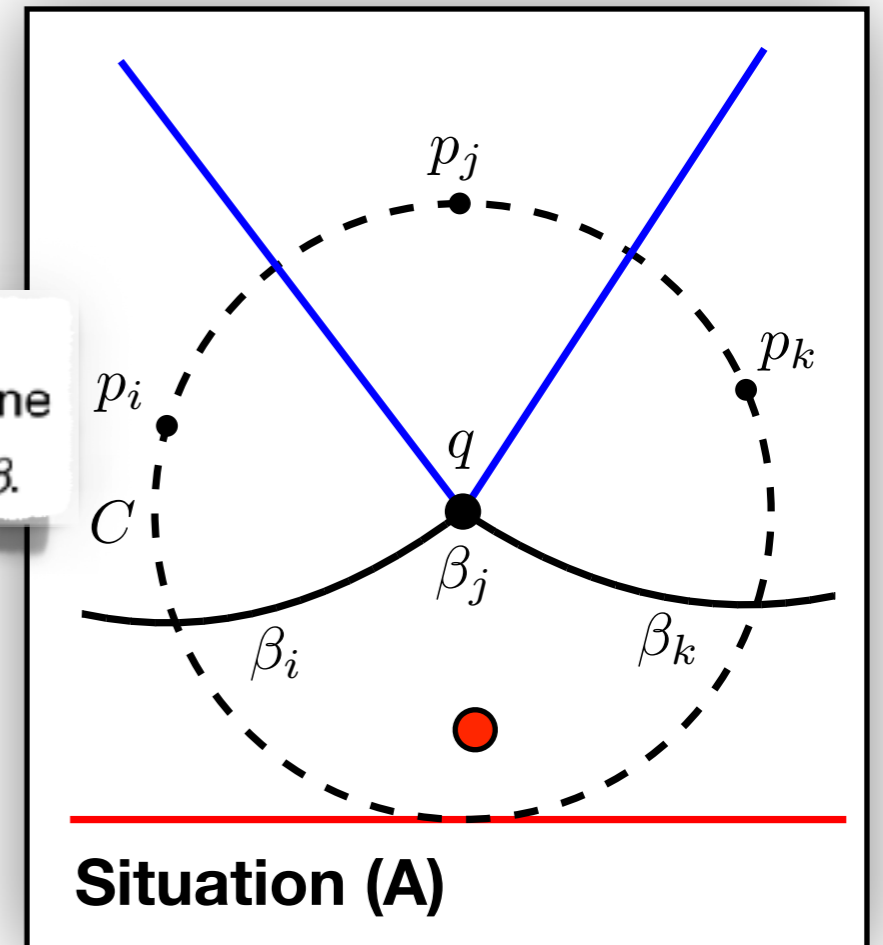
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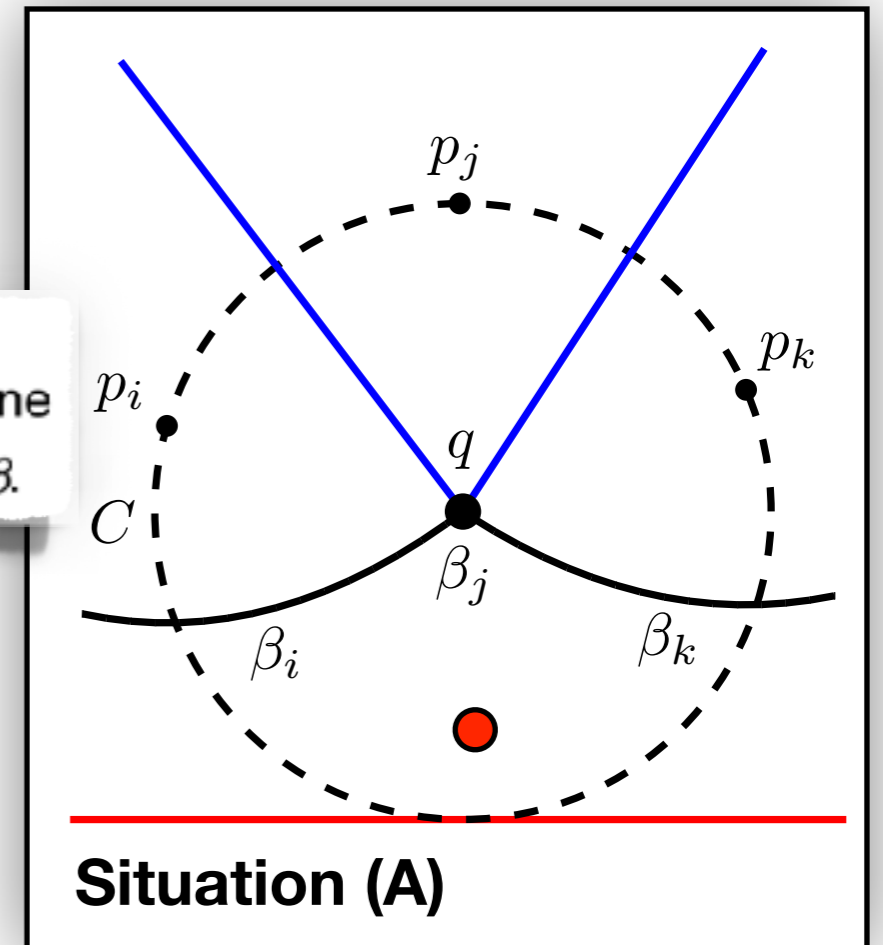
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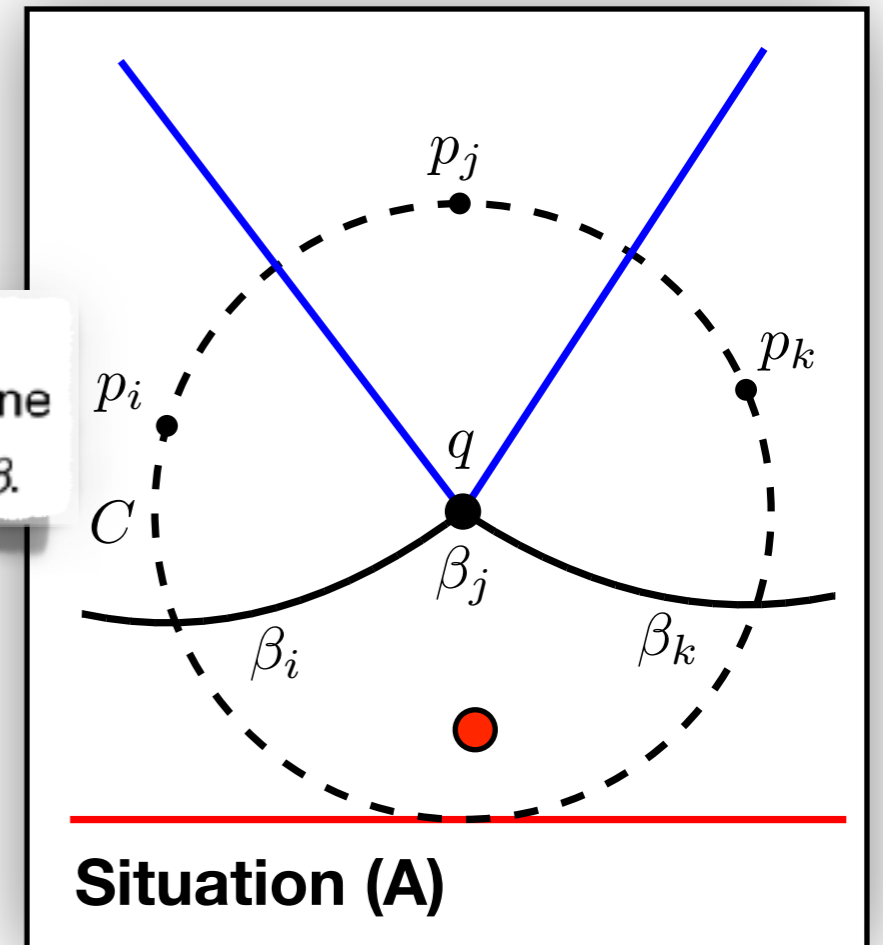
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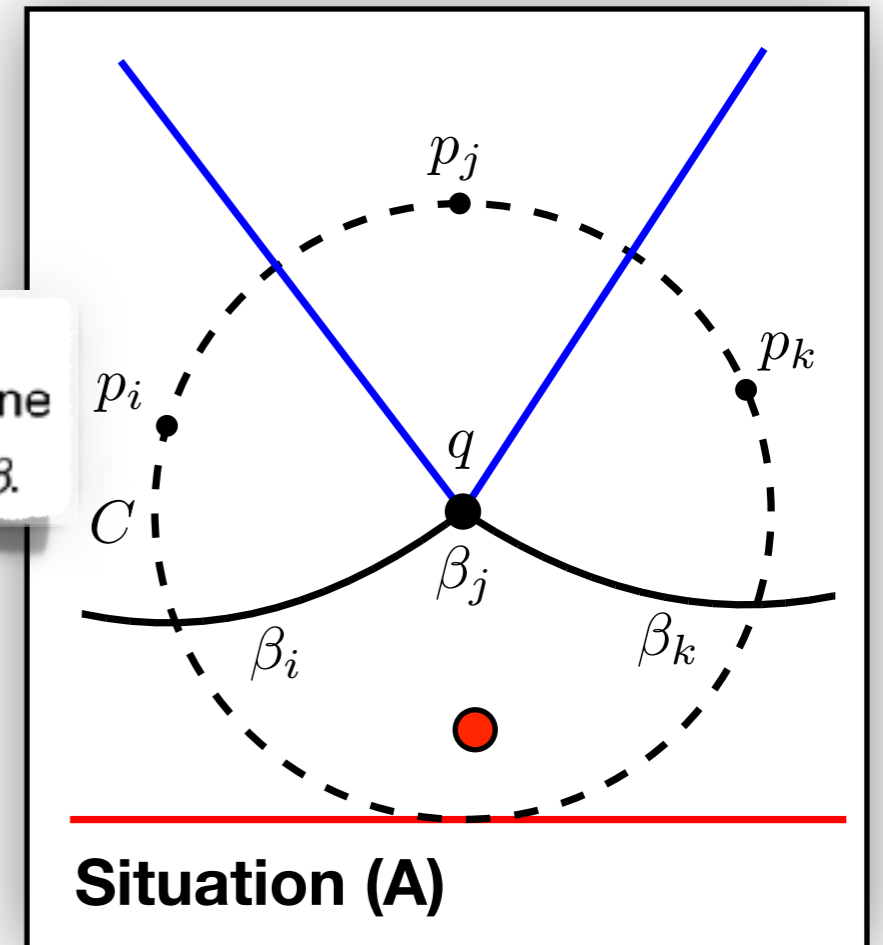
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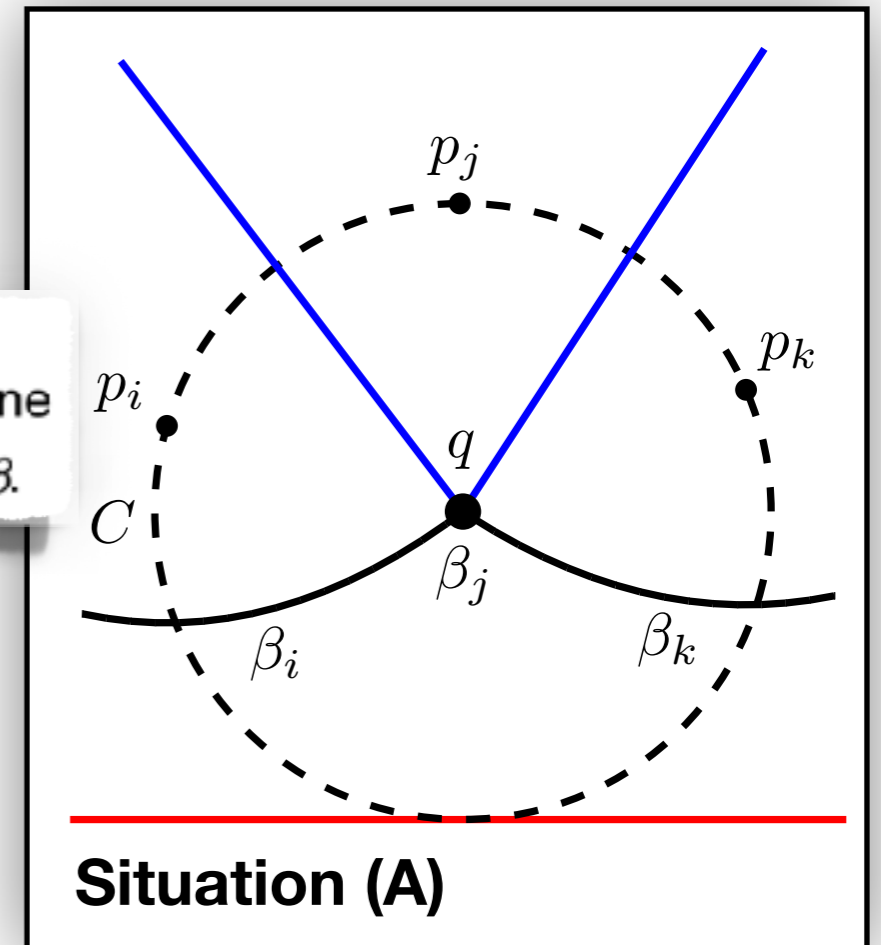
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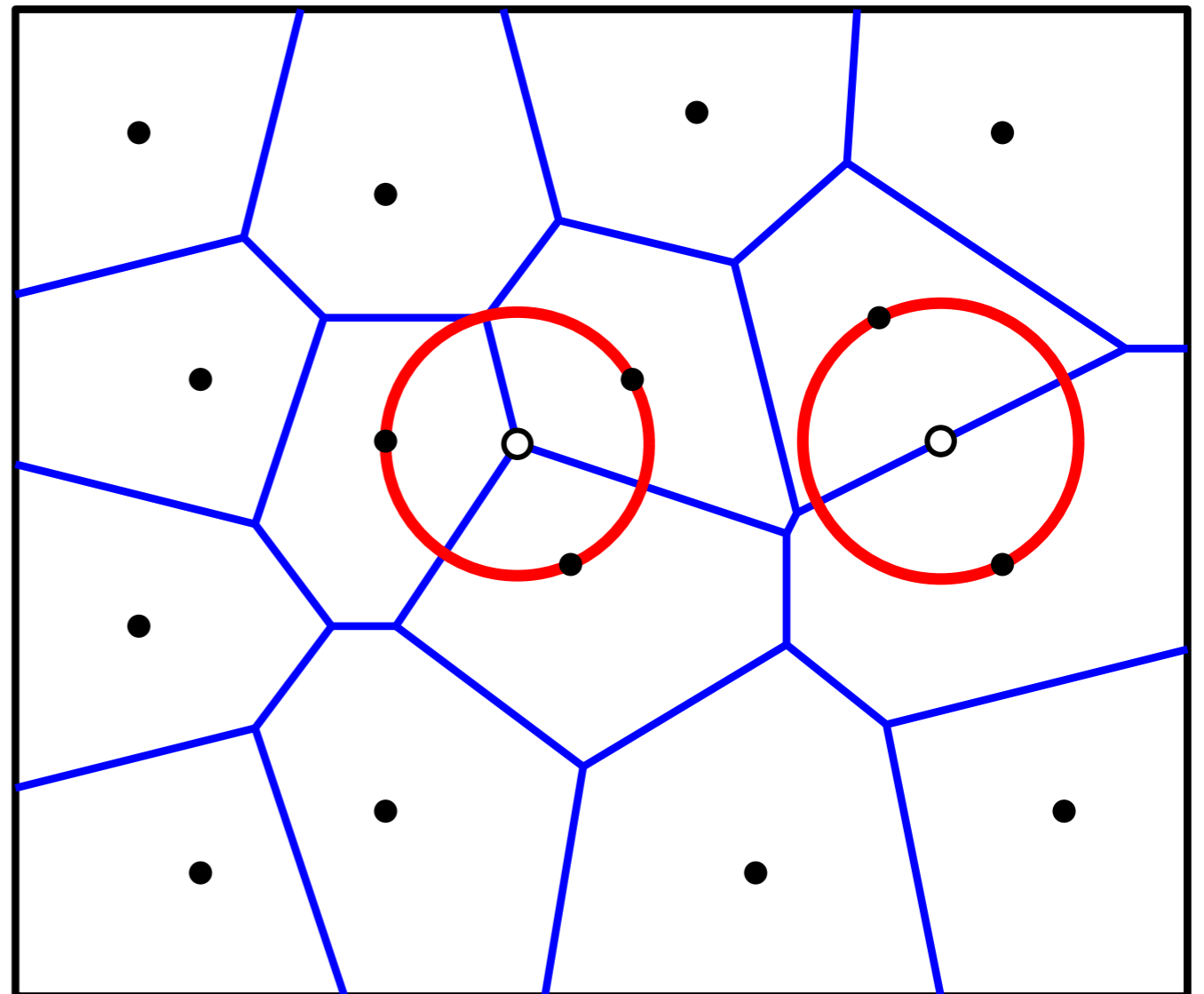


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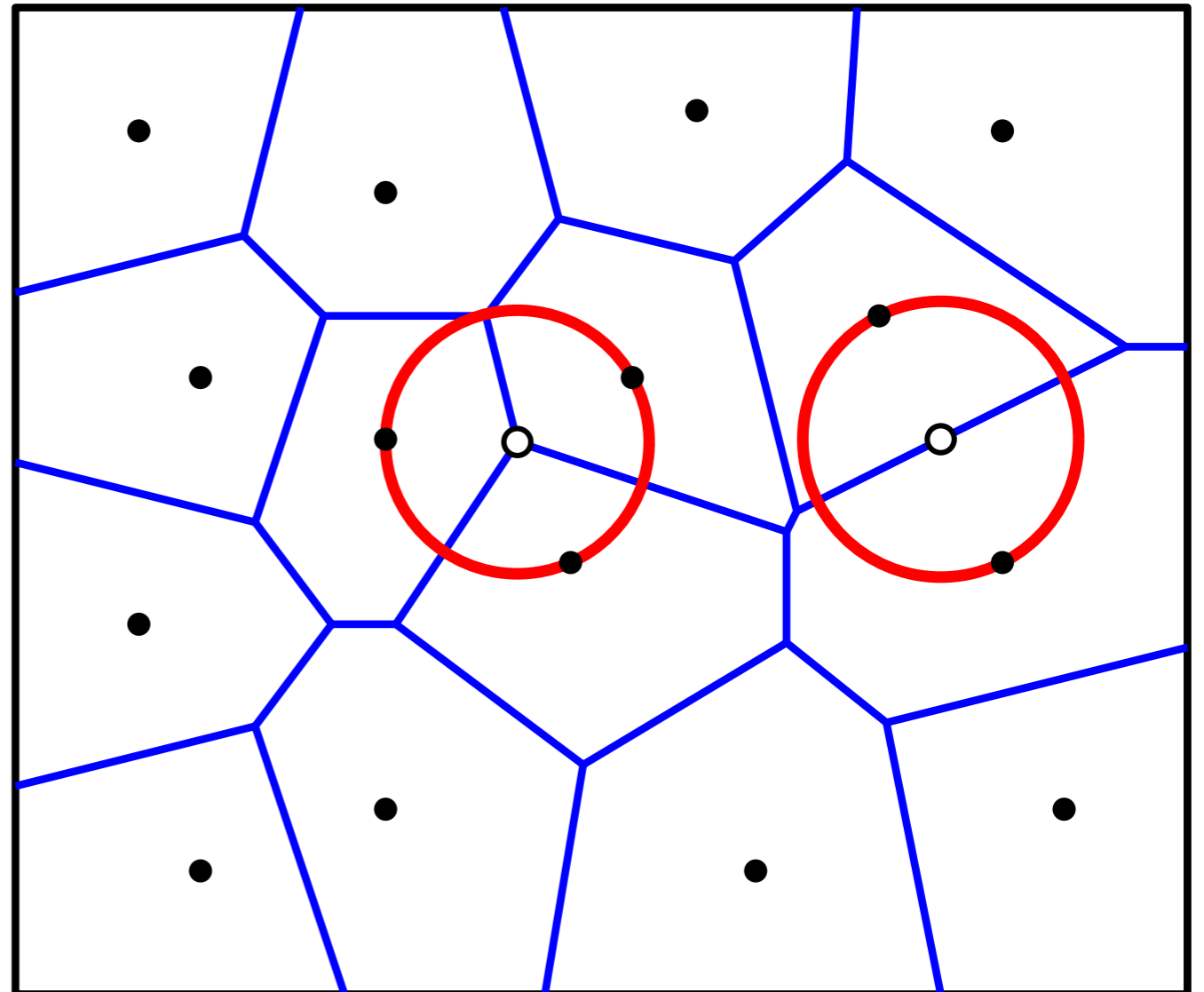


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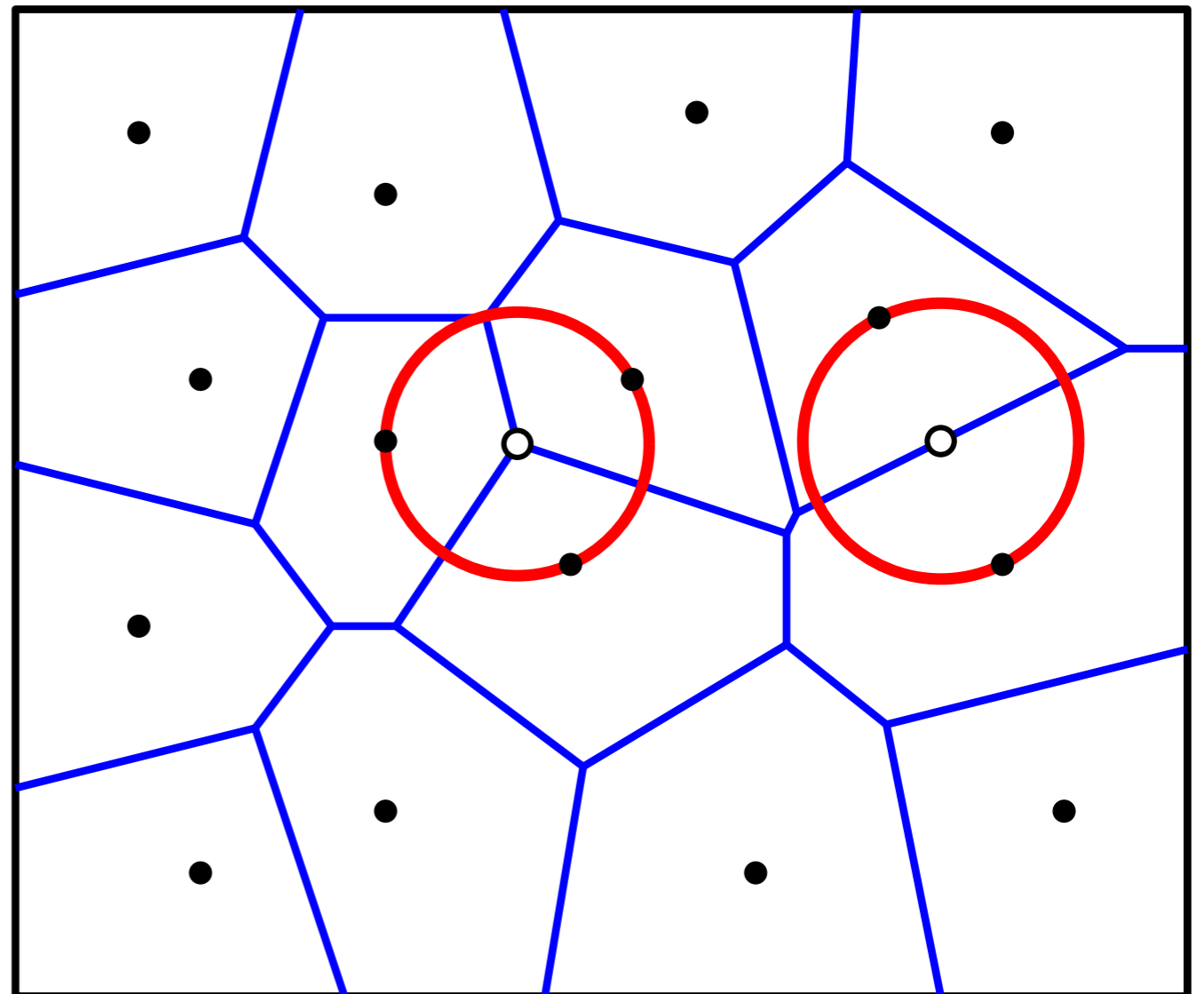
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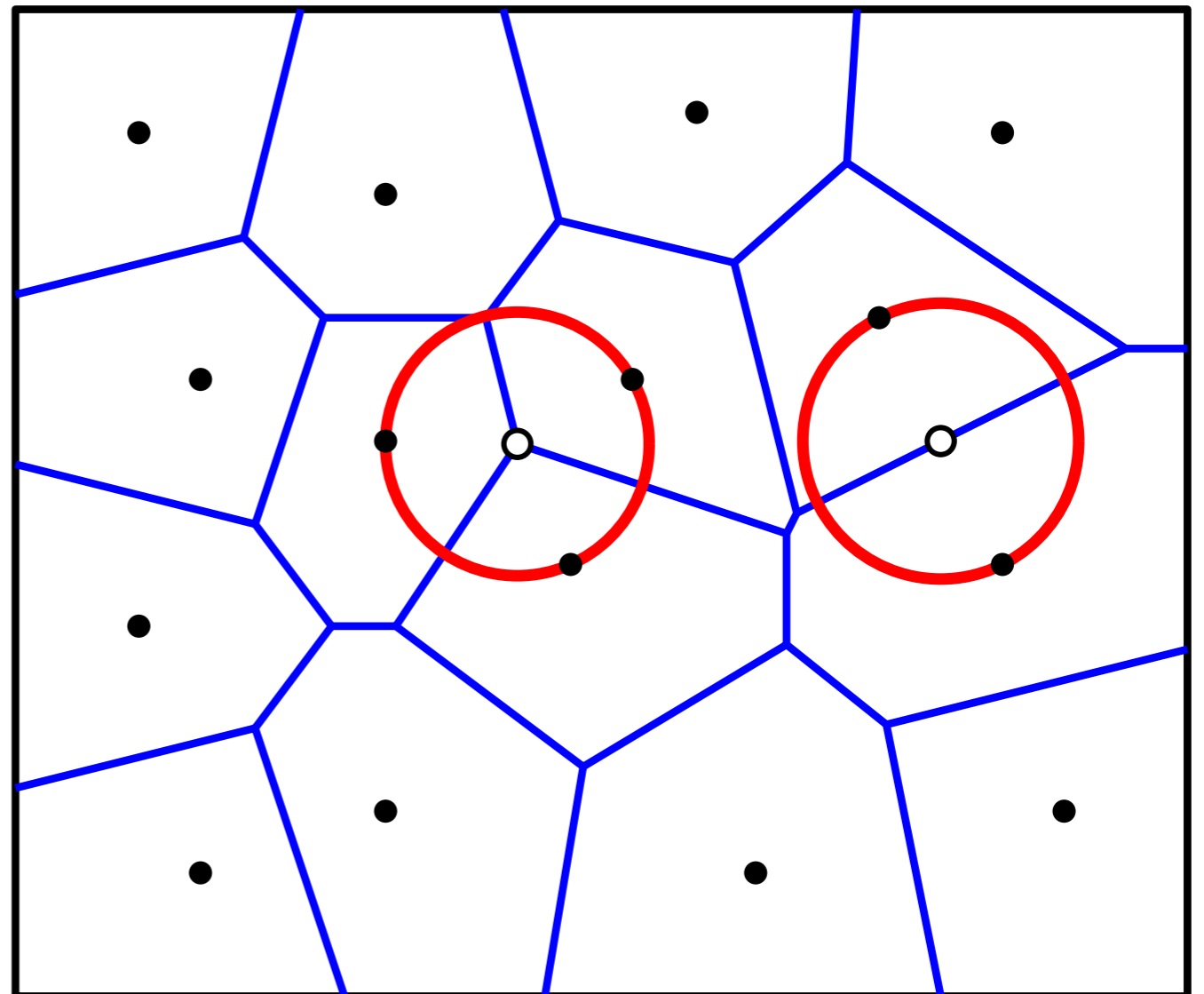
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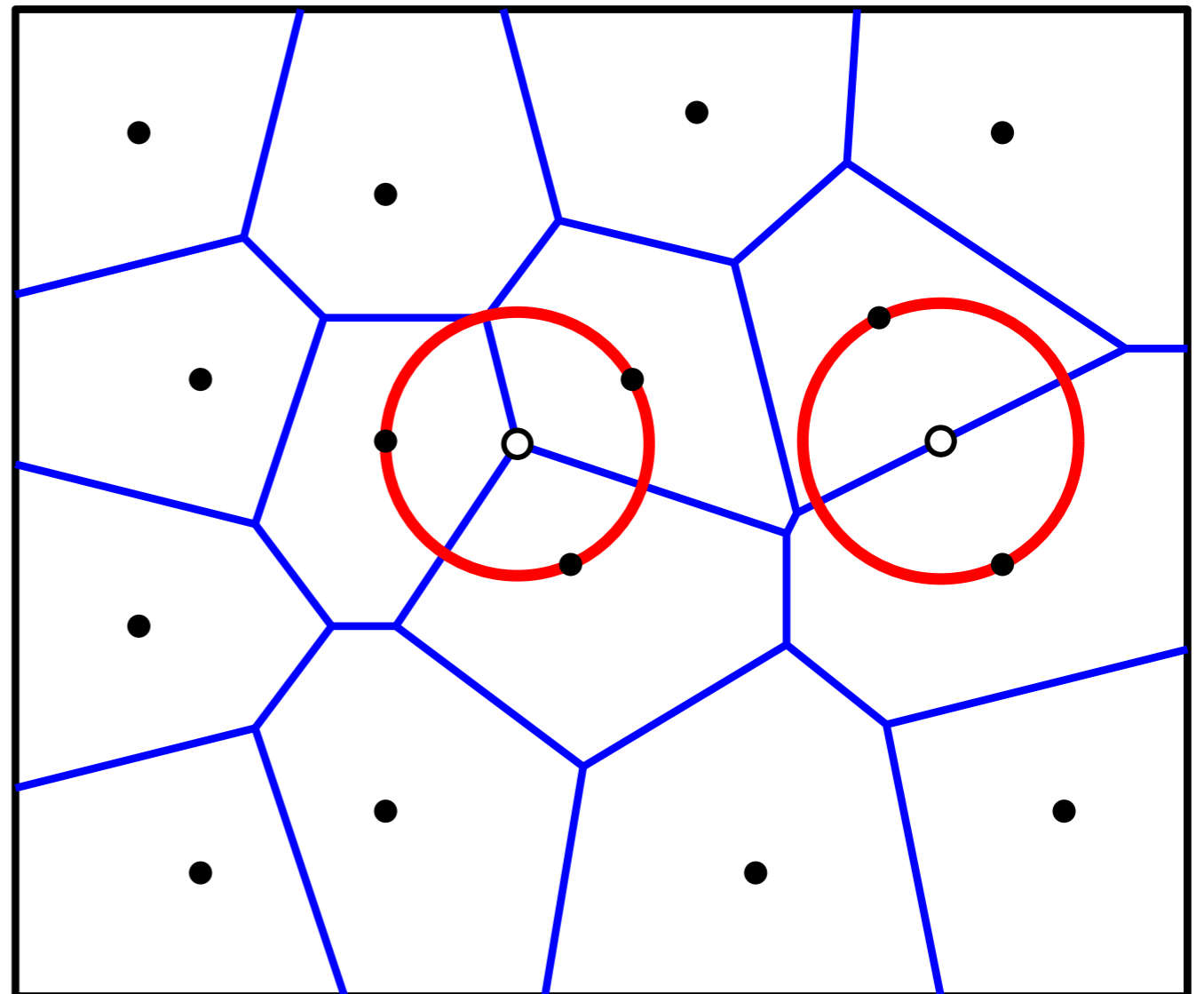
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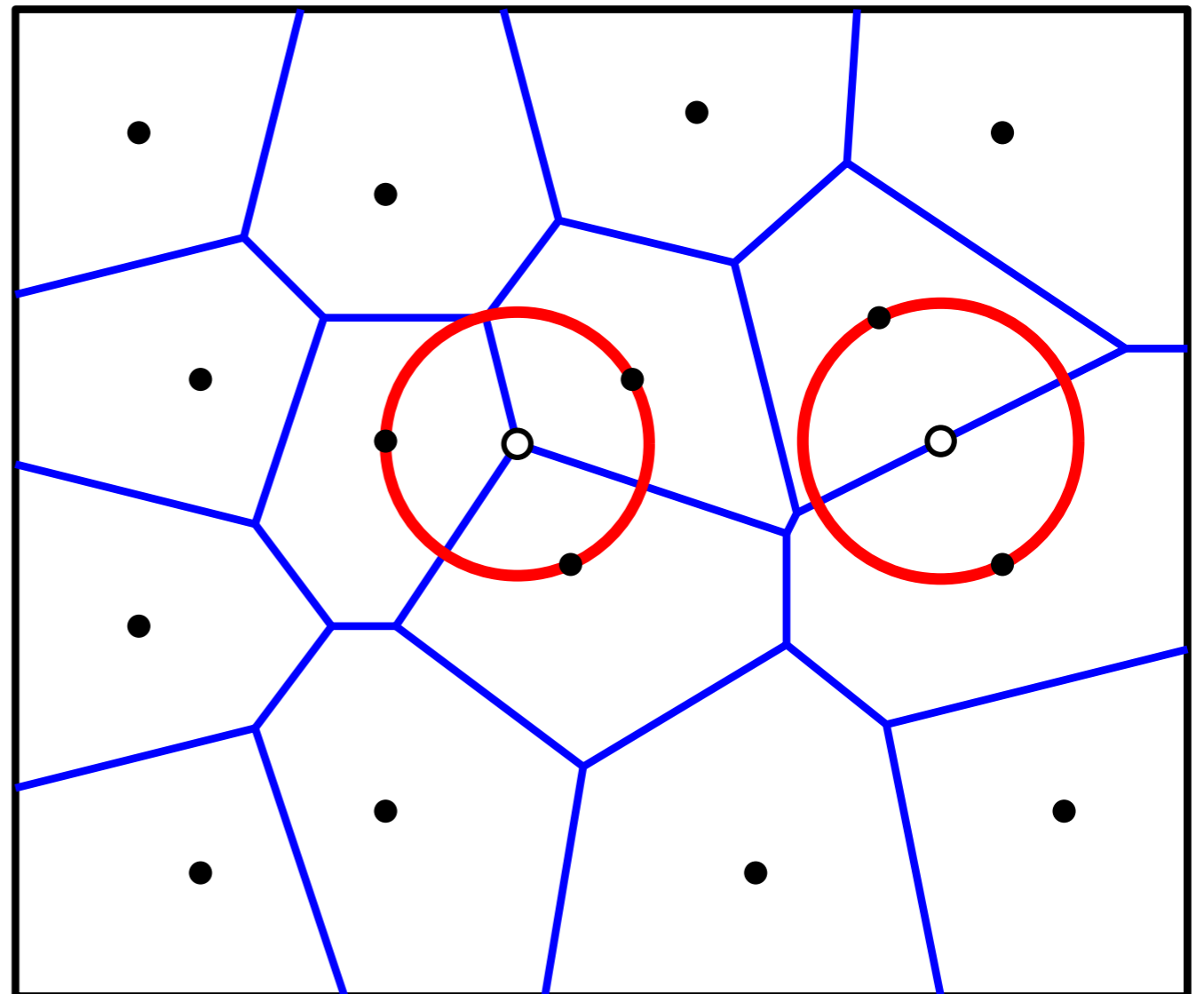
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## Proof:

Straightforward, because nearest neighbor to center lies on circle.



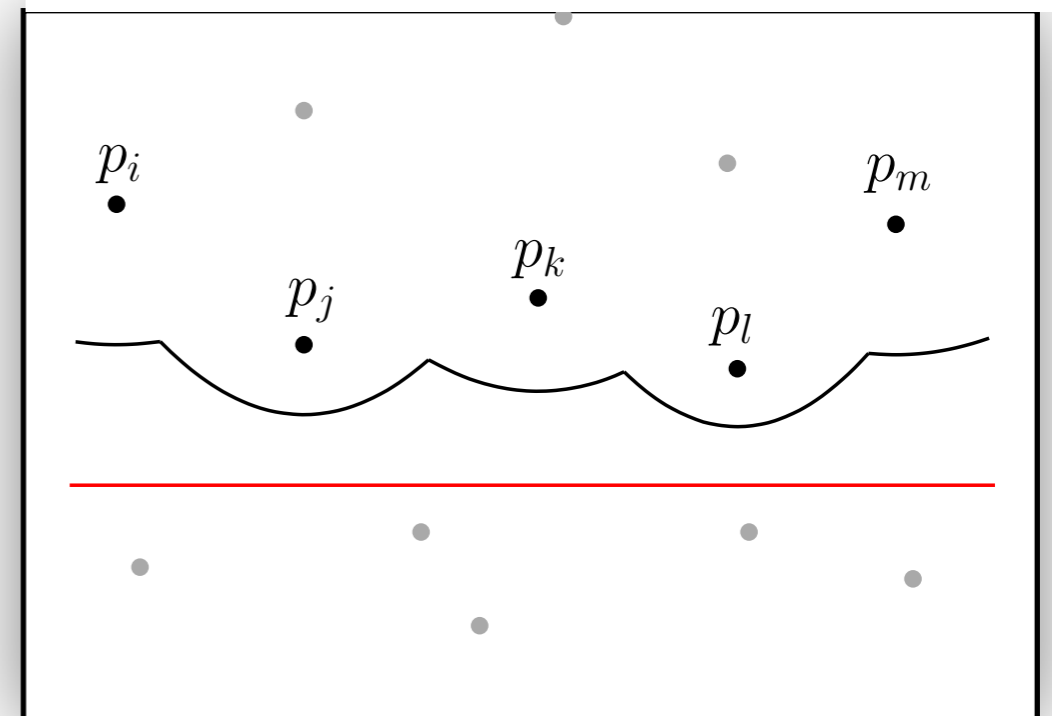
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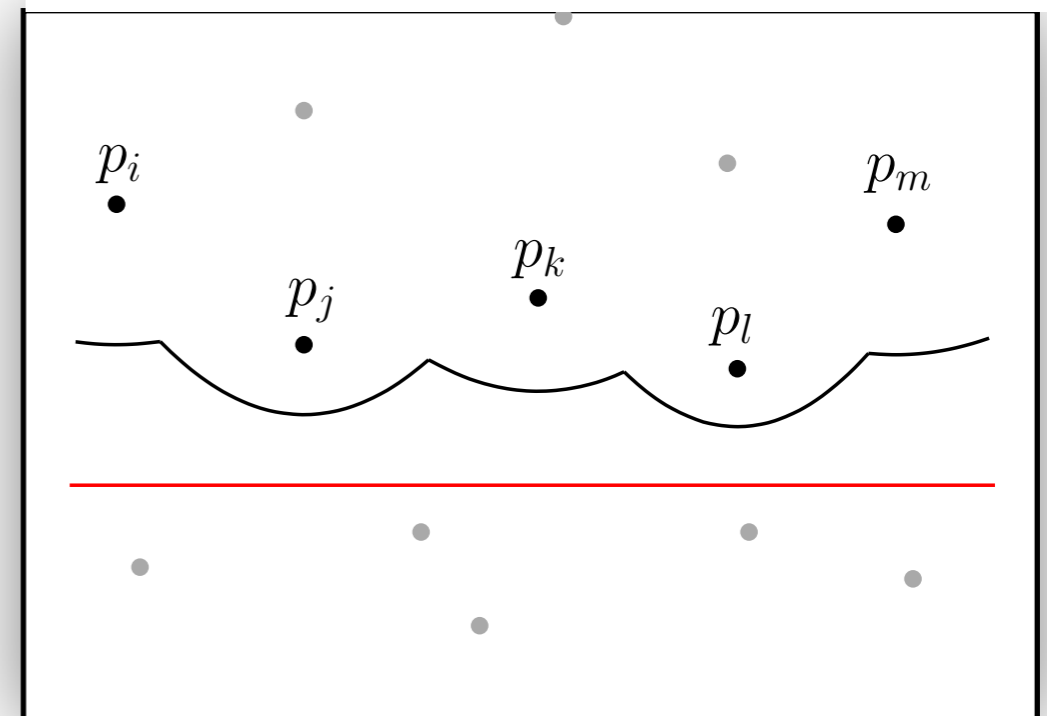
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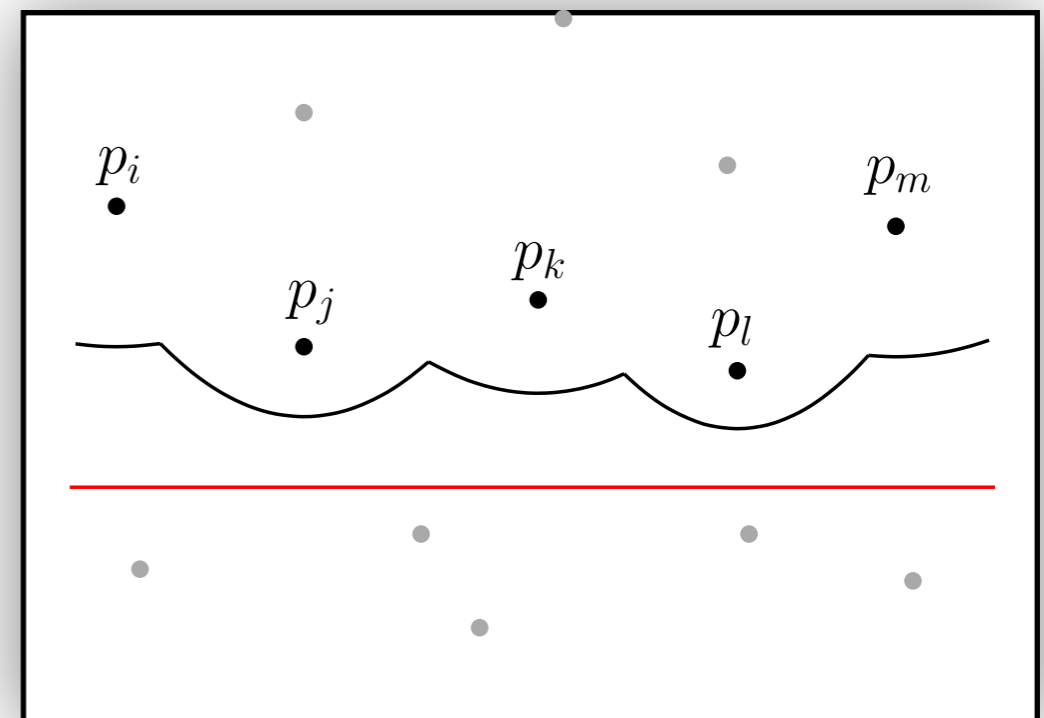
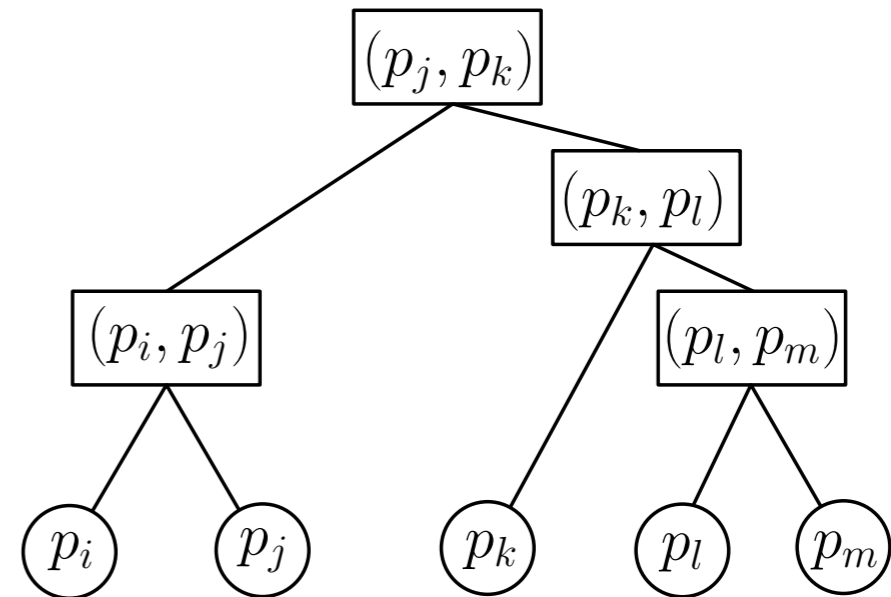
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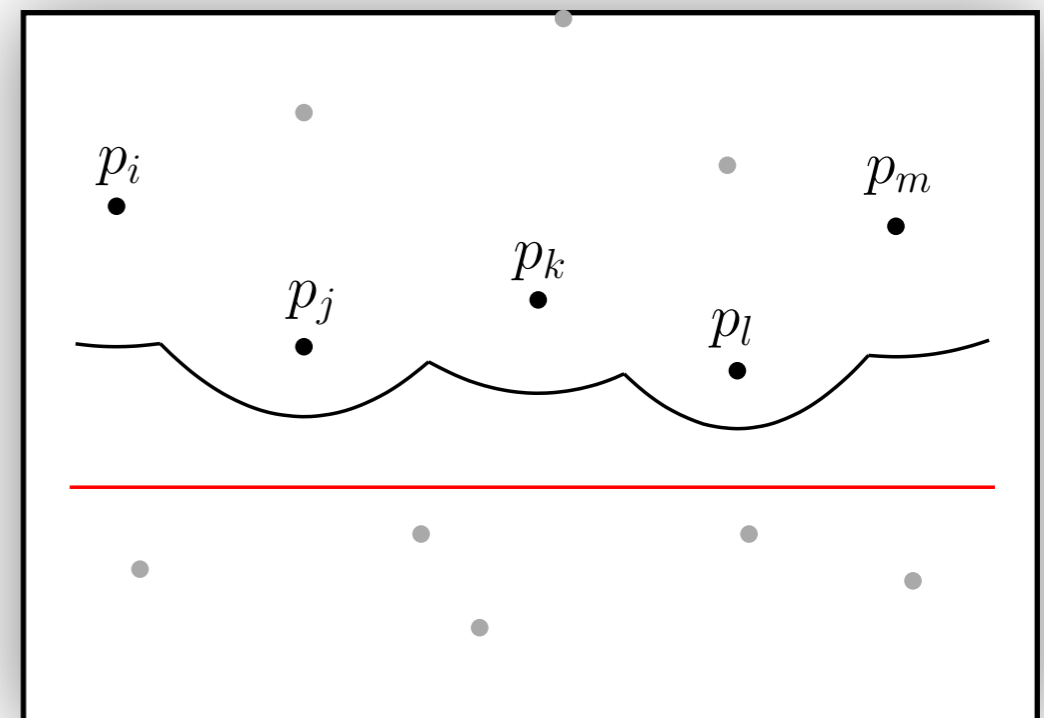
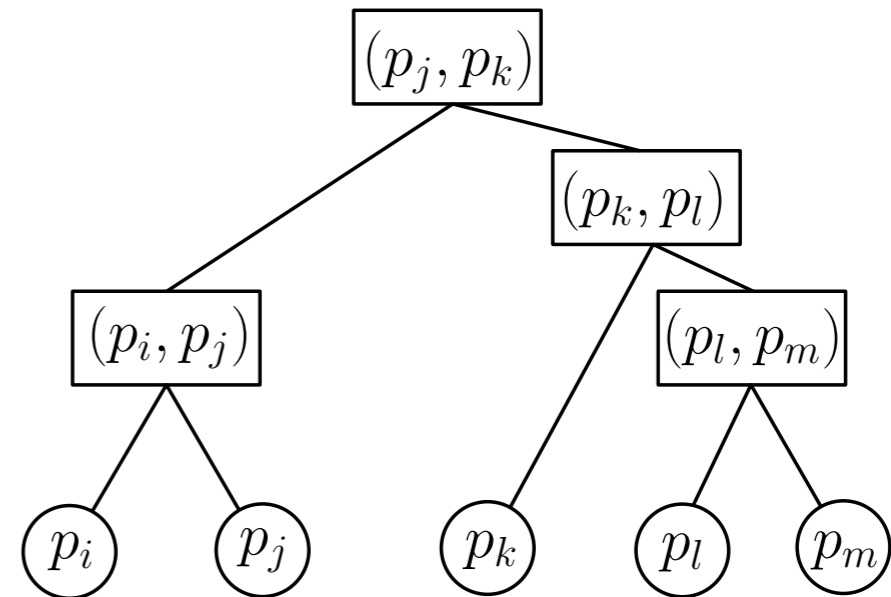
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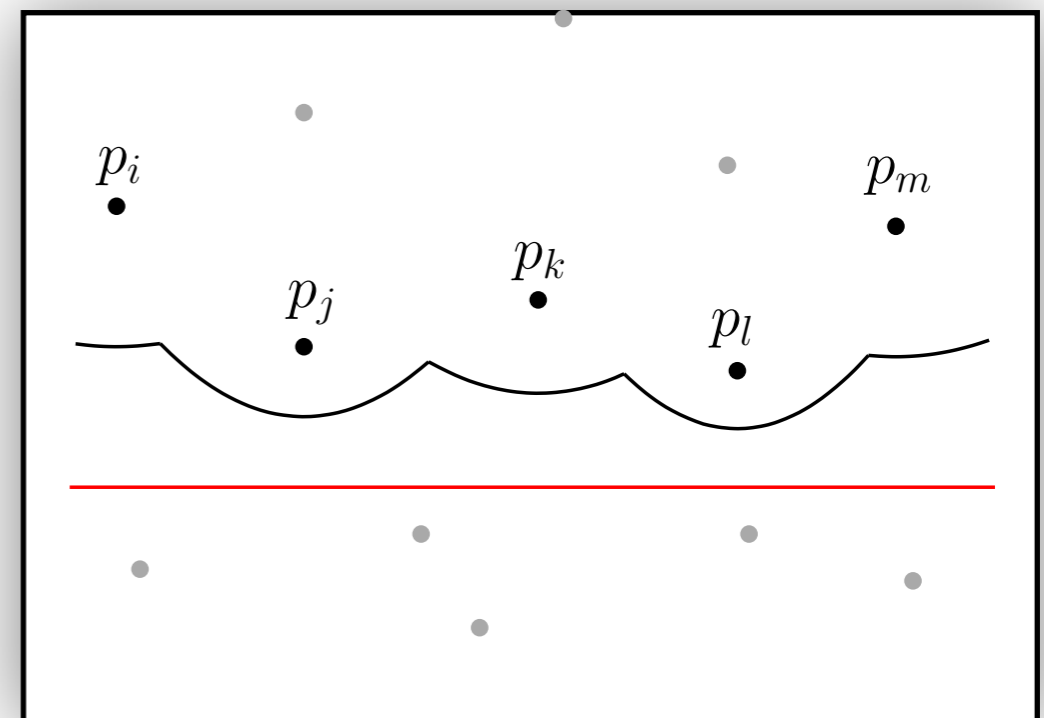
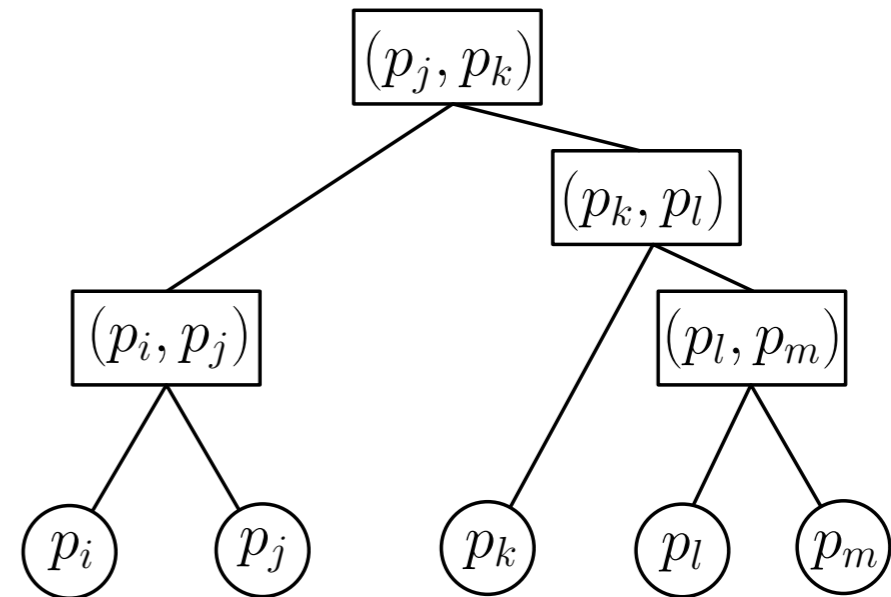
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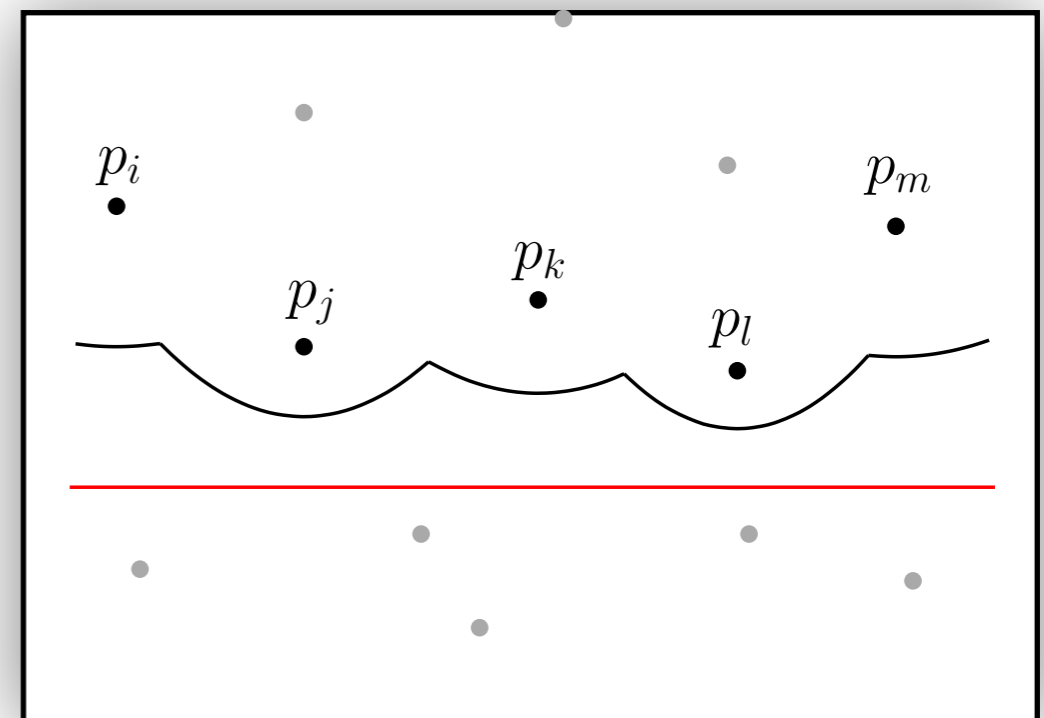
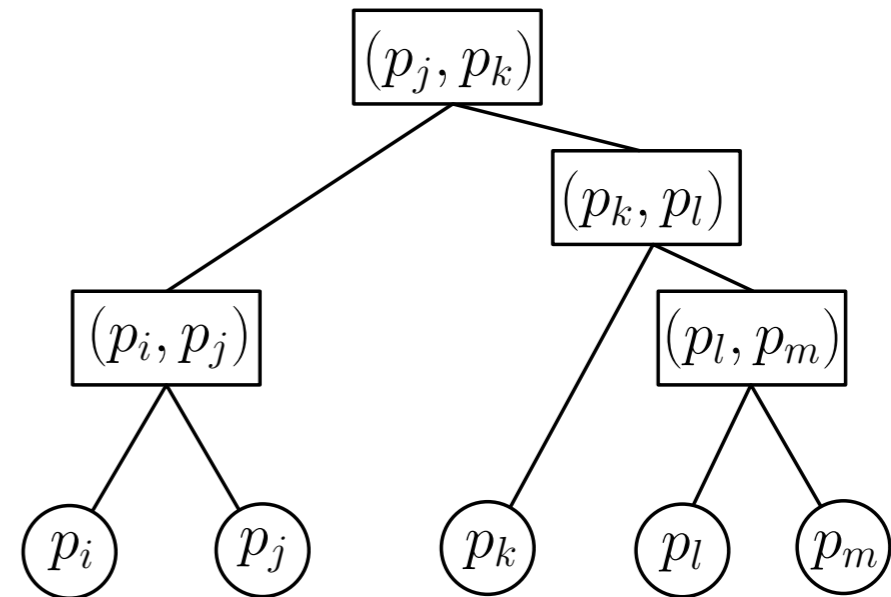
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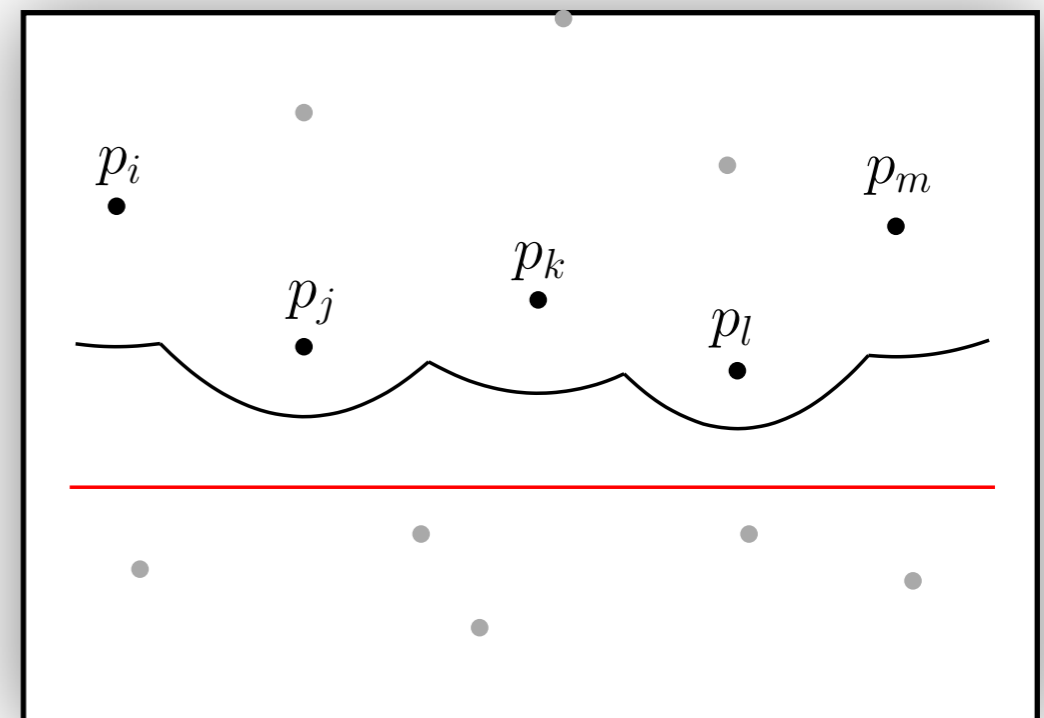
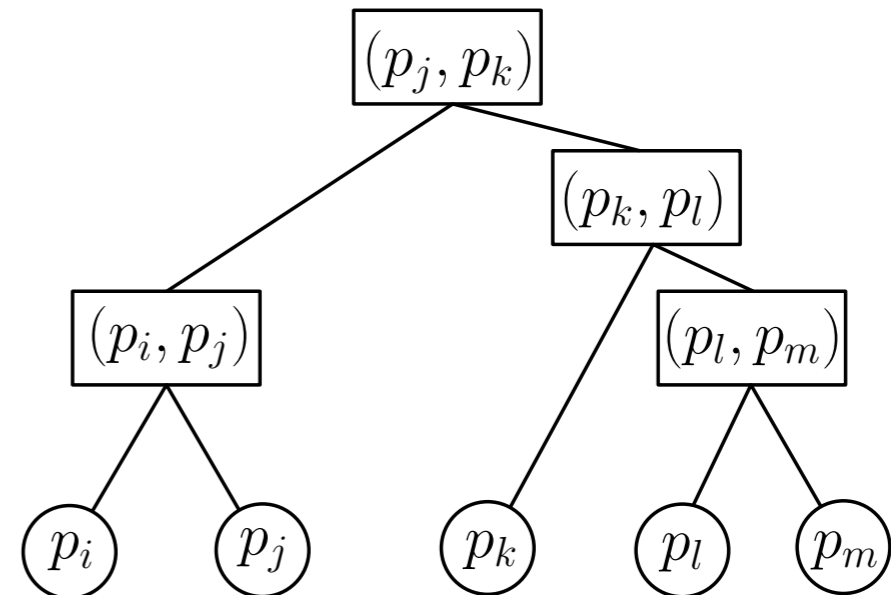
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## Storing Events:

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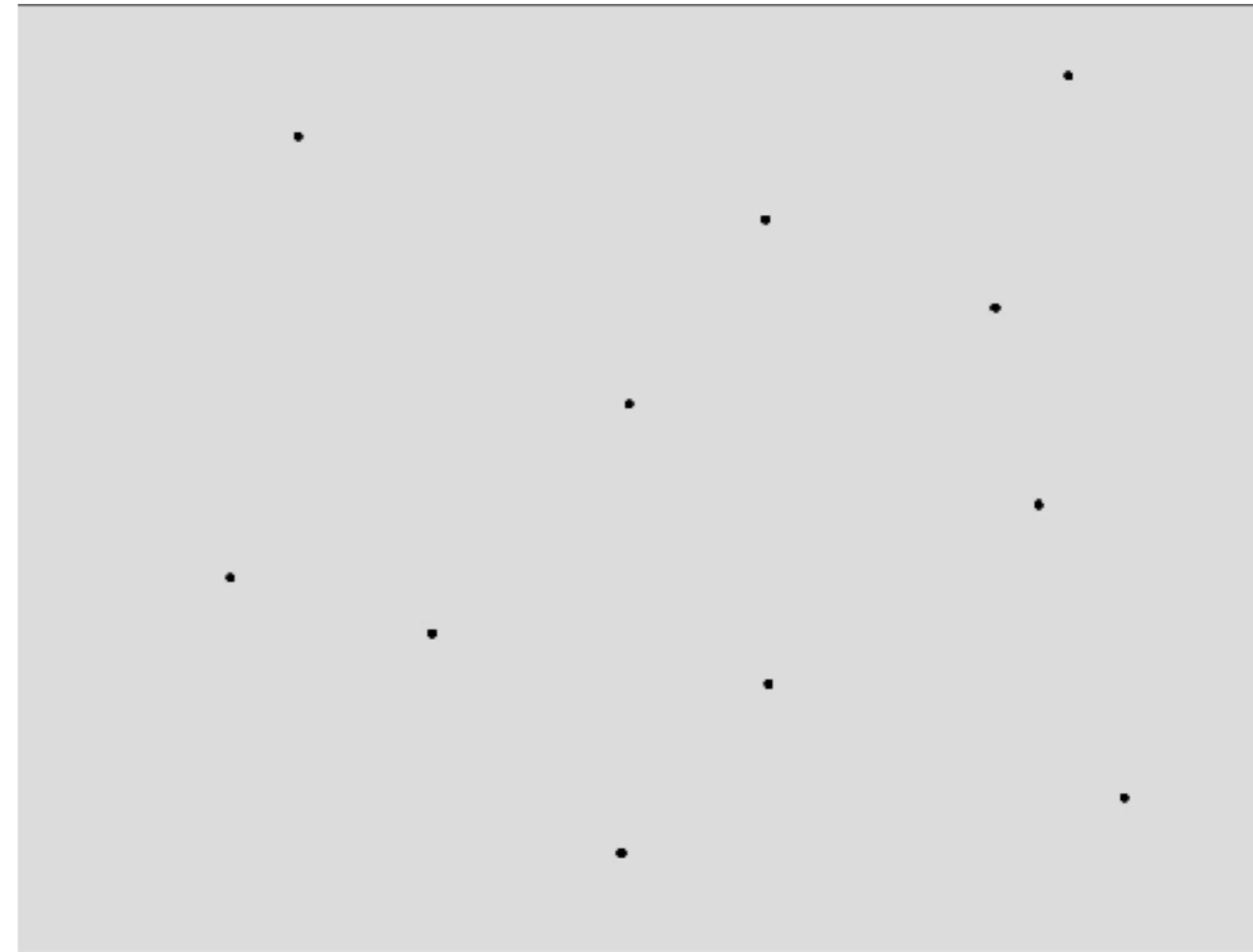


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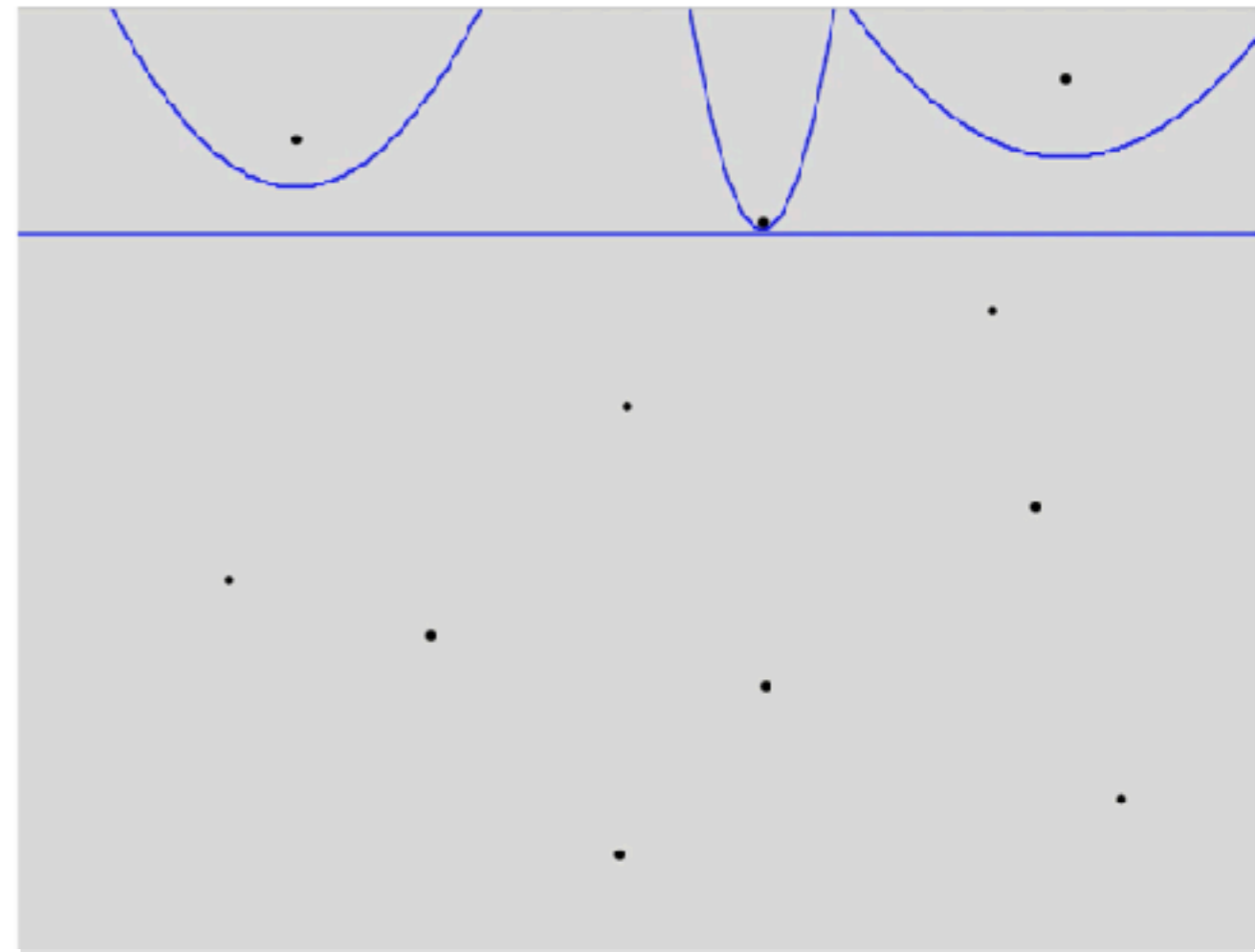
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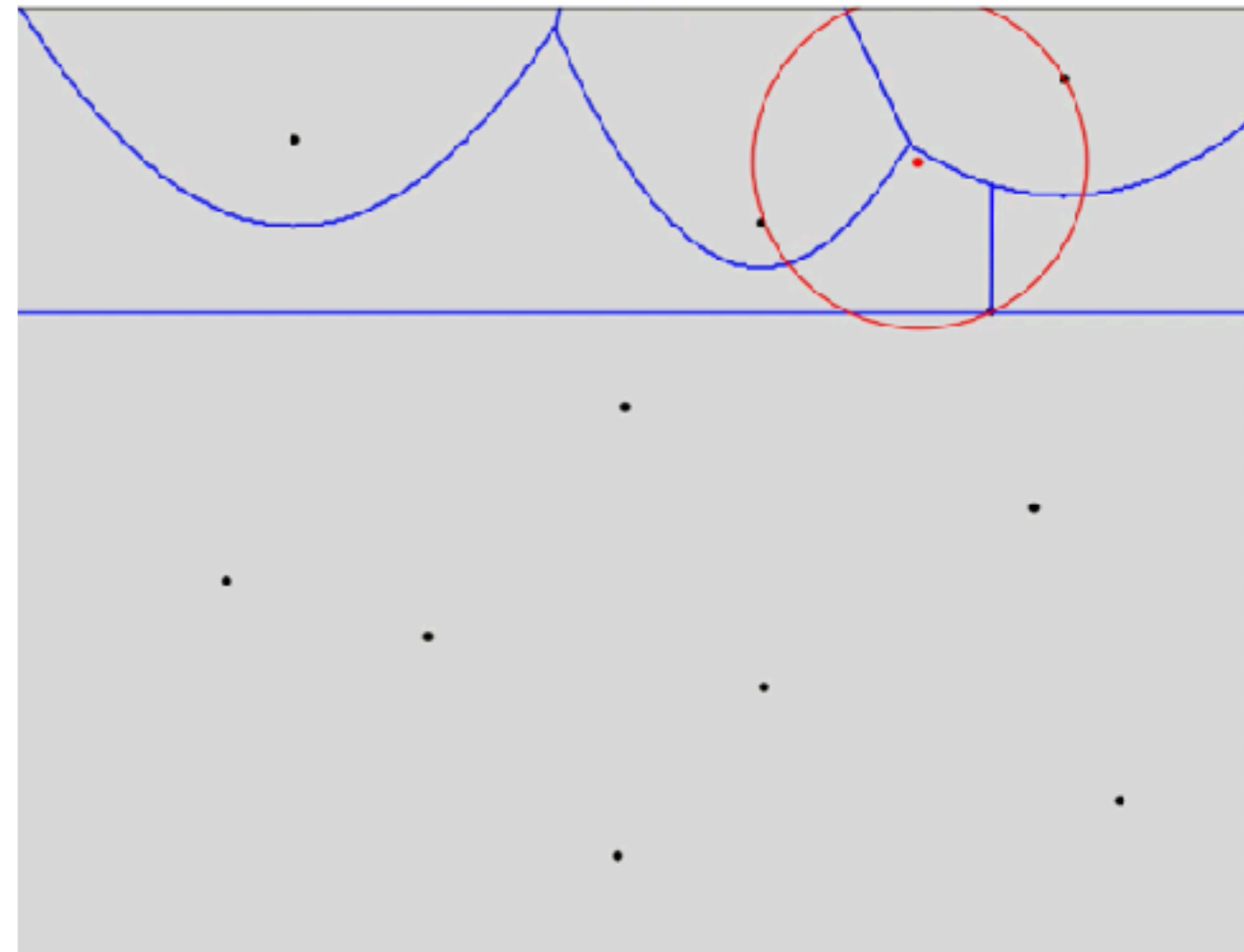
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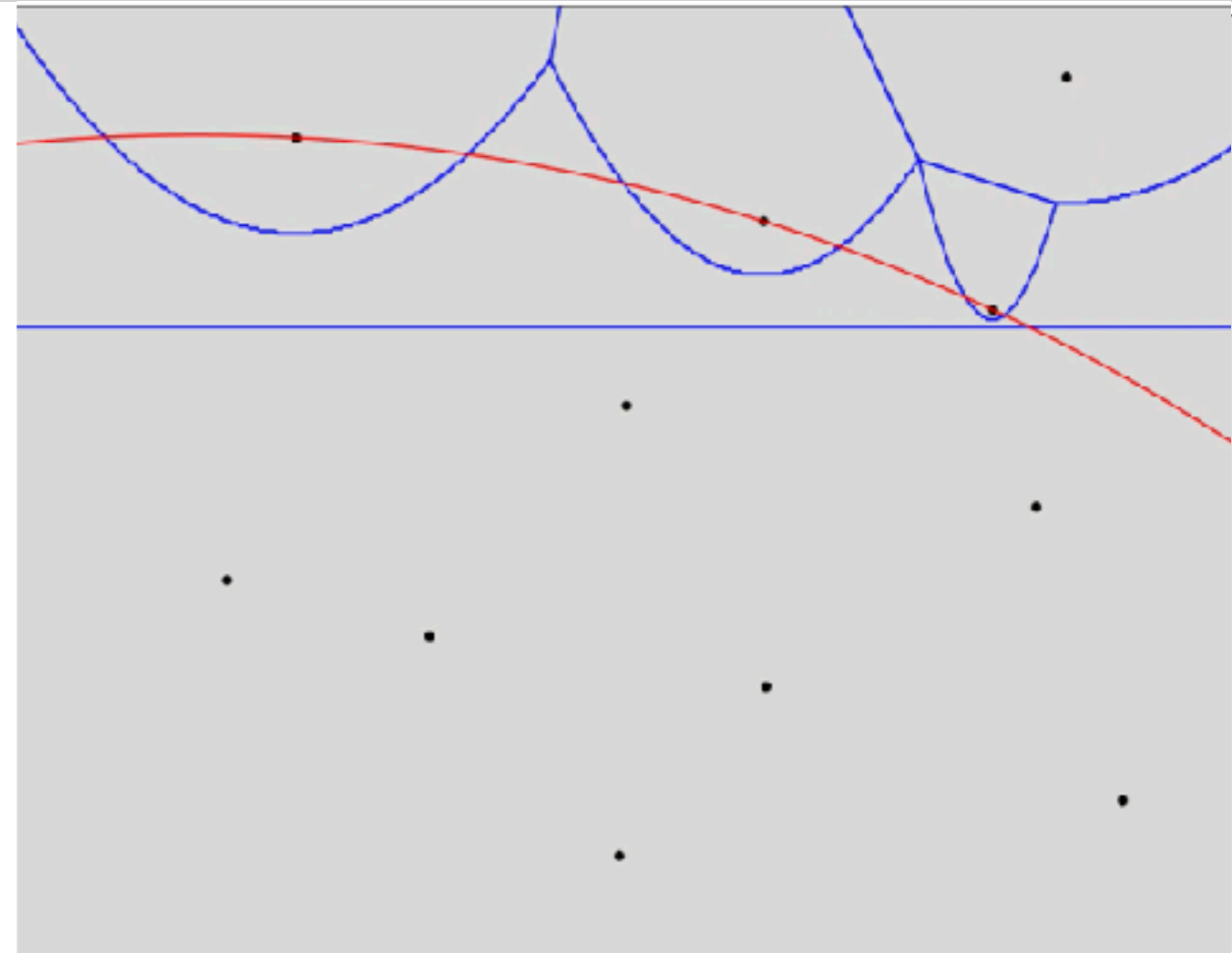
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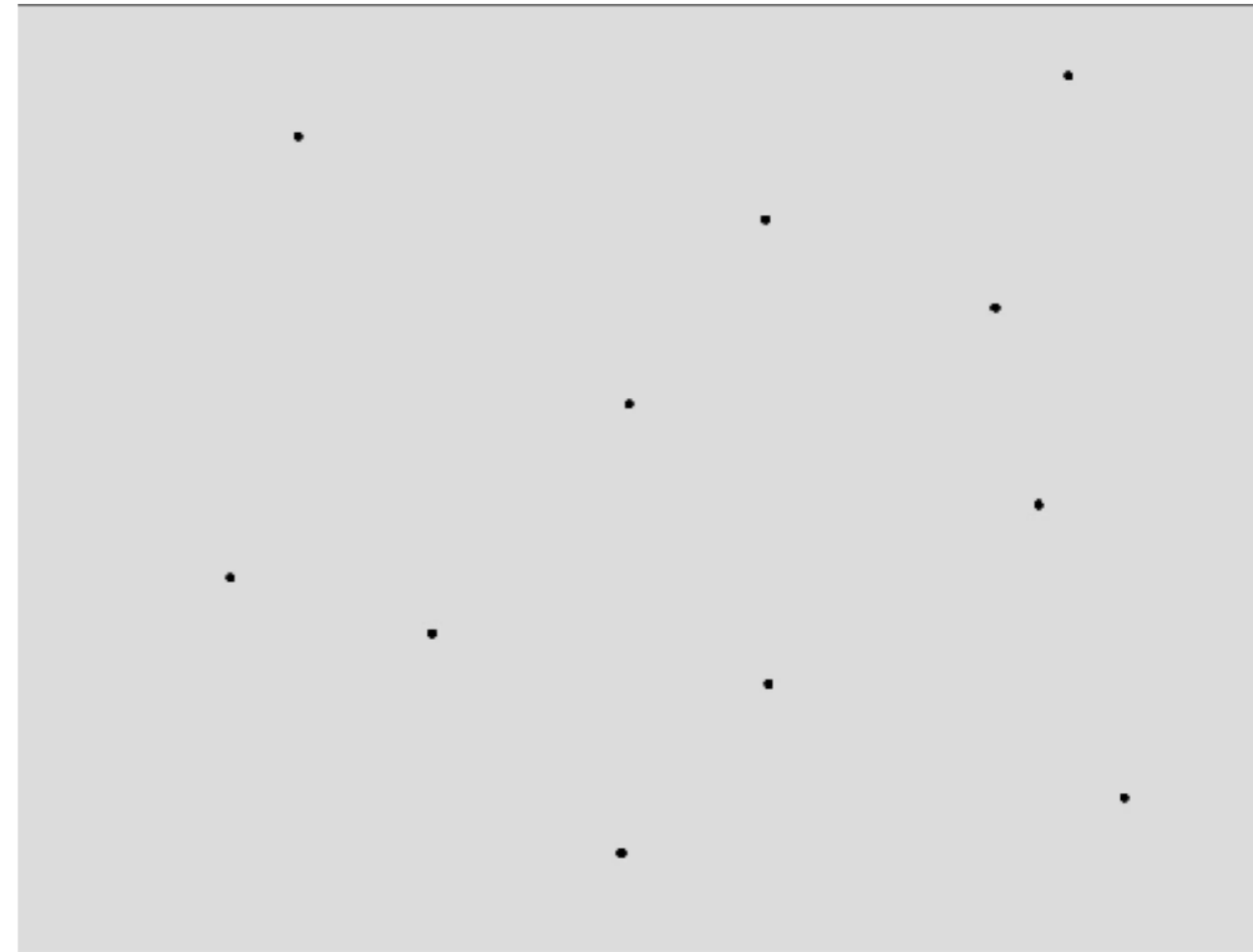
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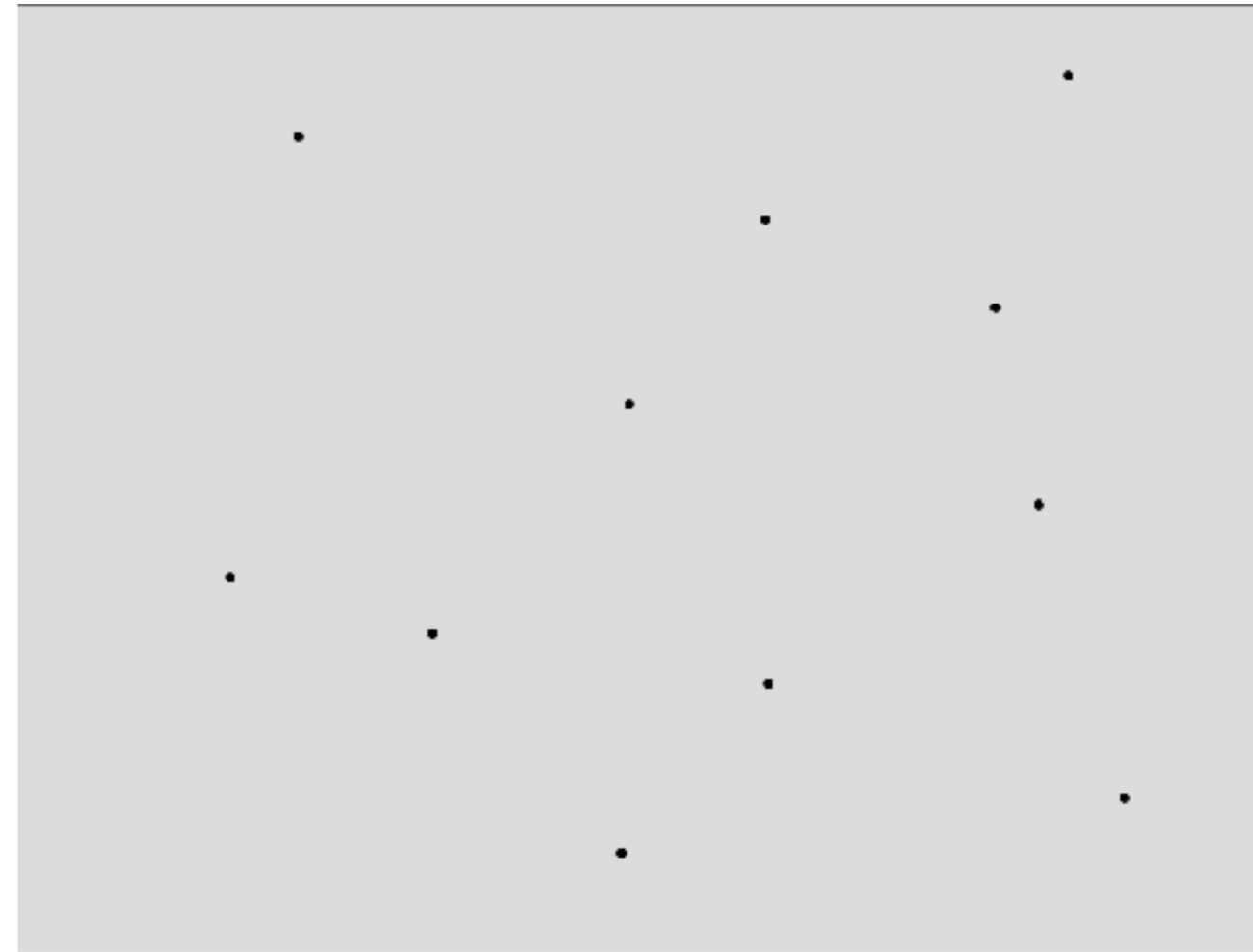
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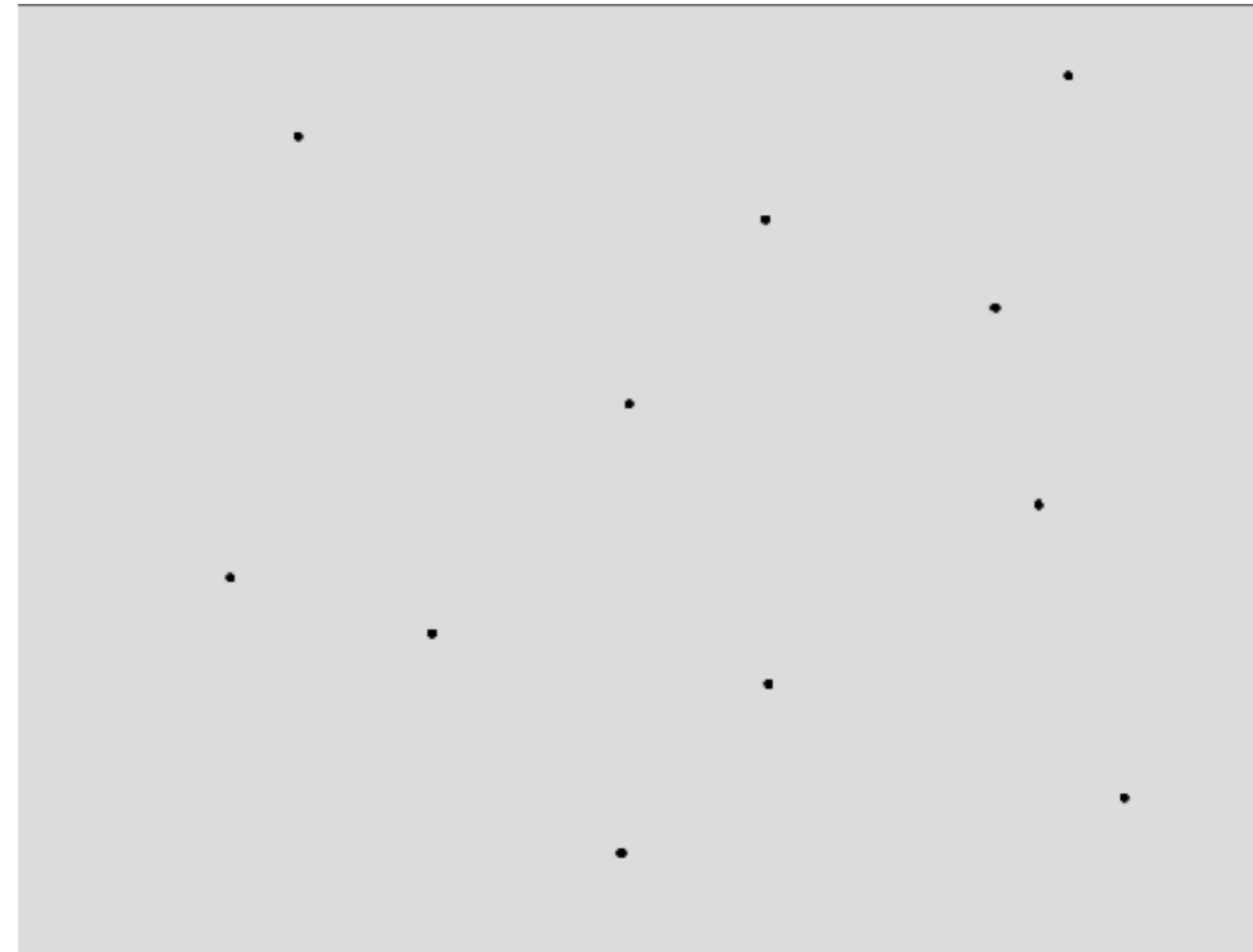
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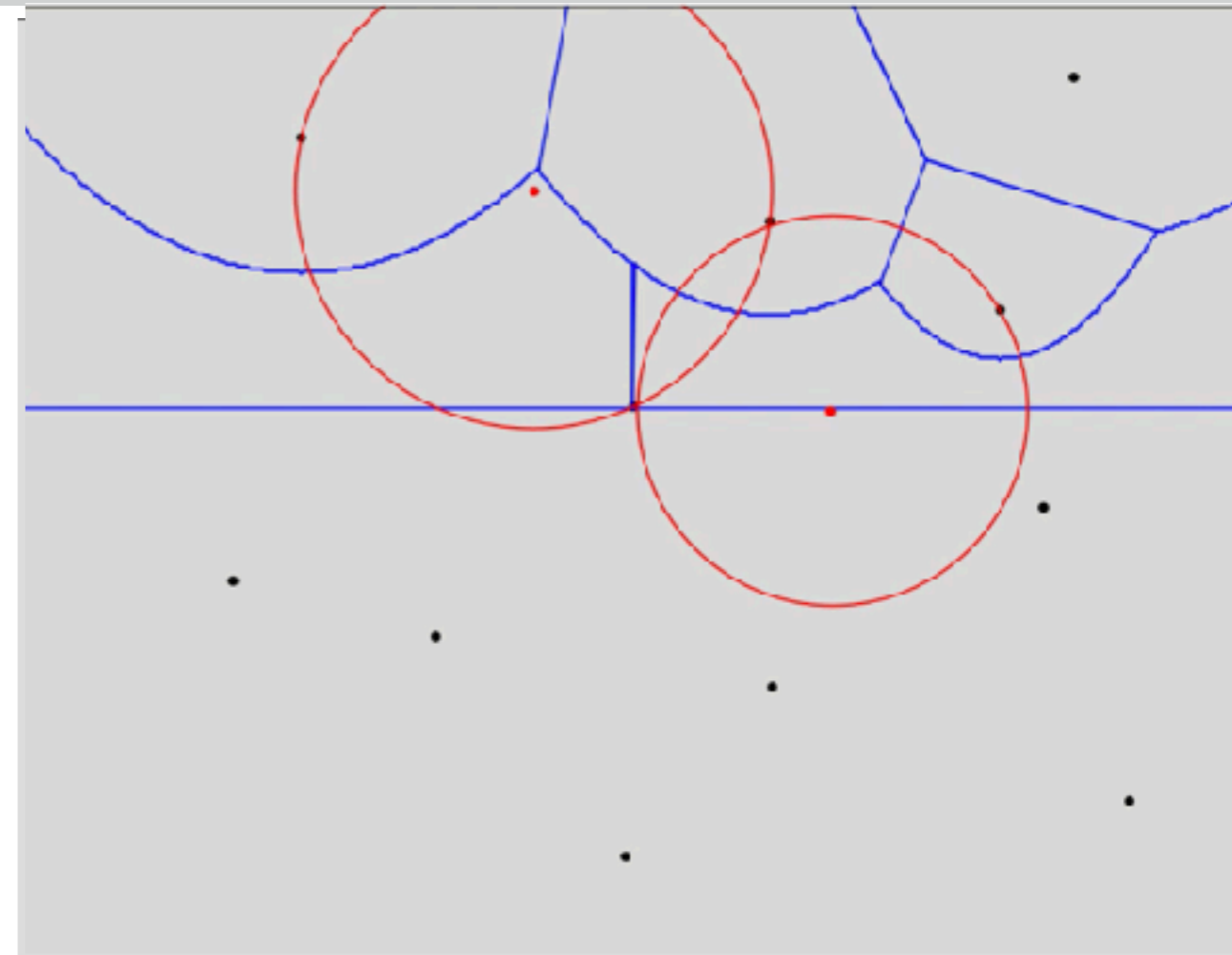
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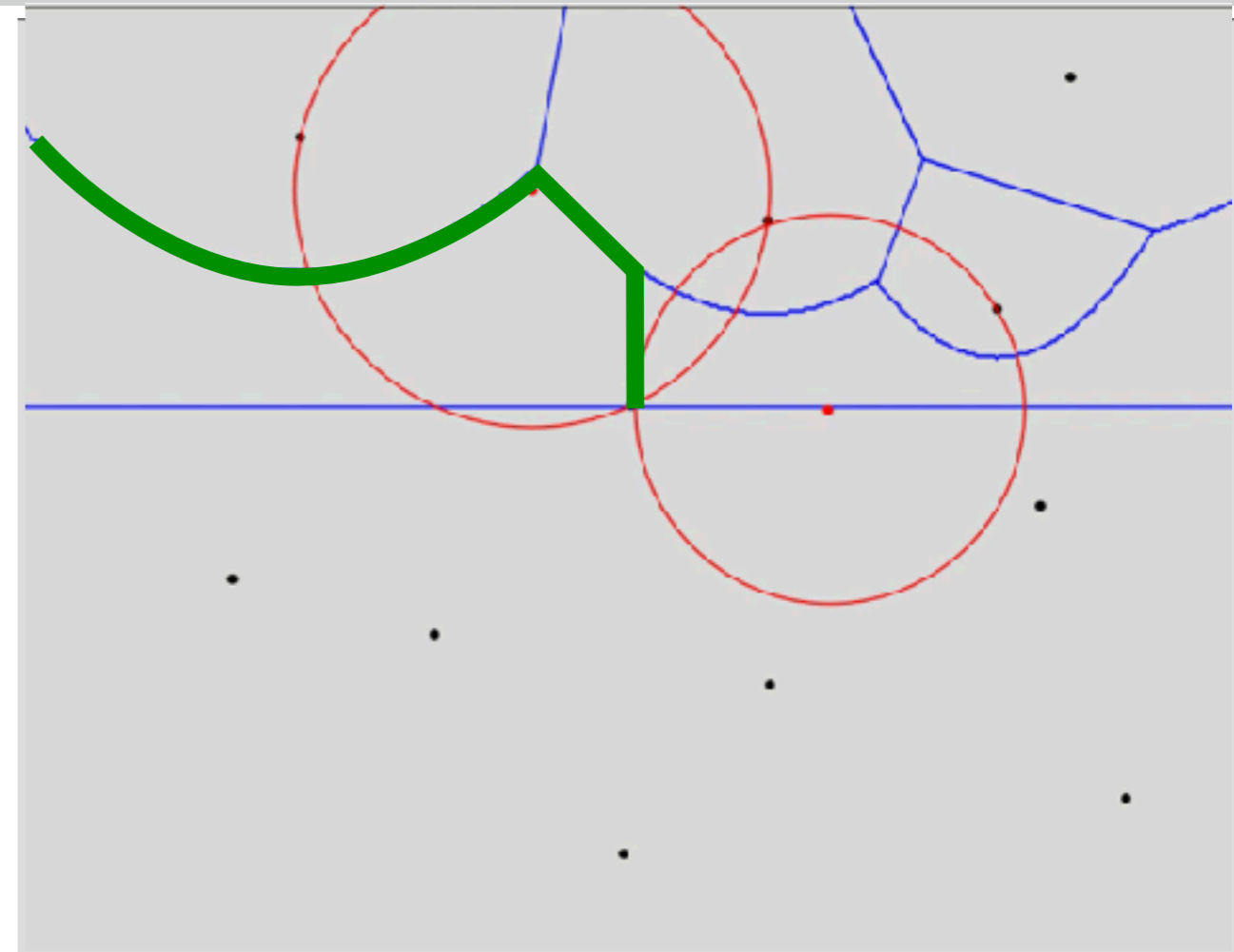
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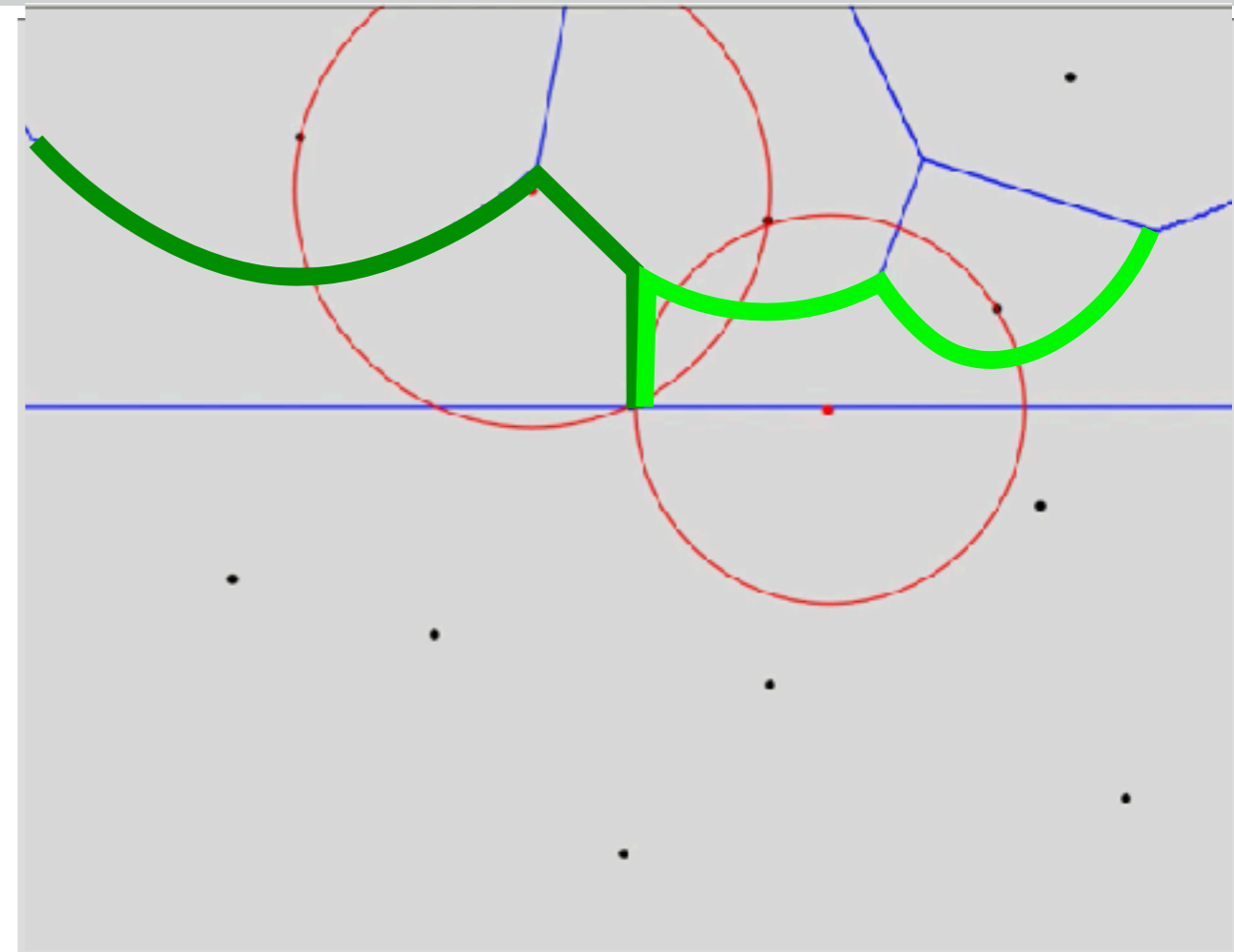
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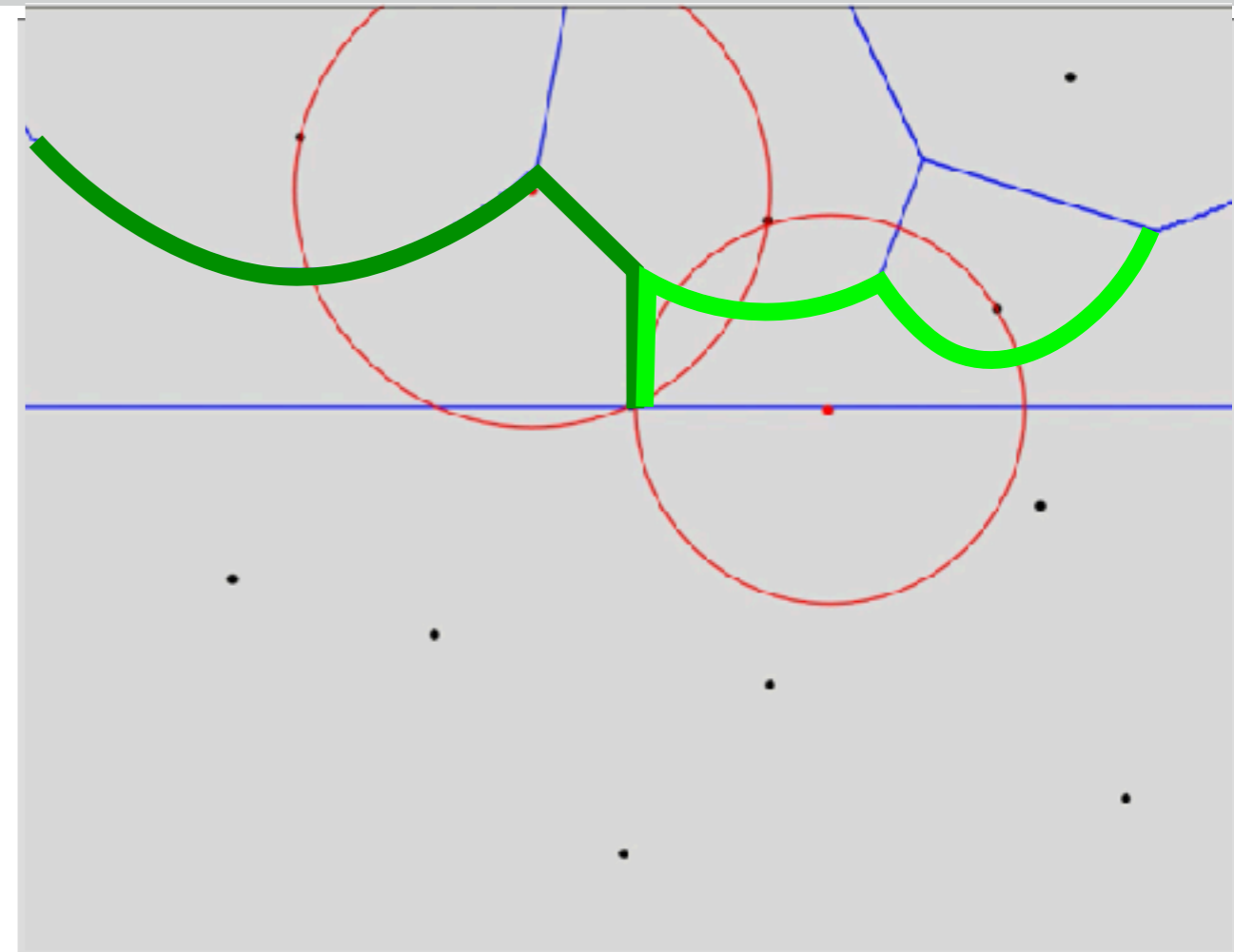
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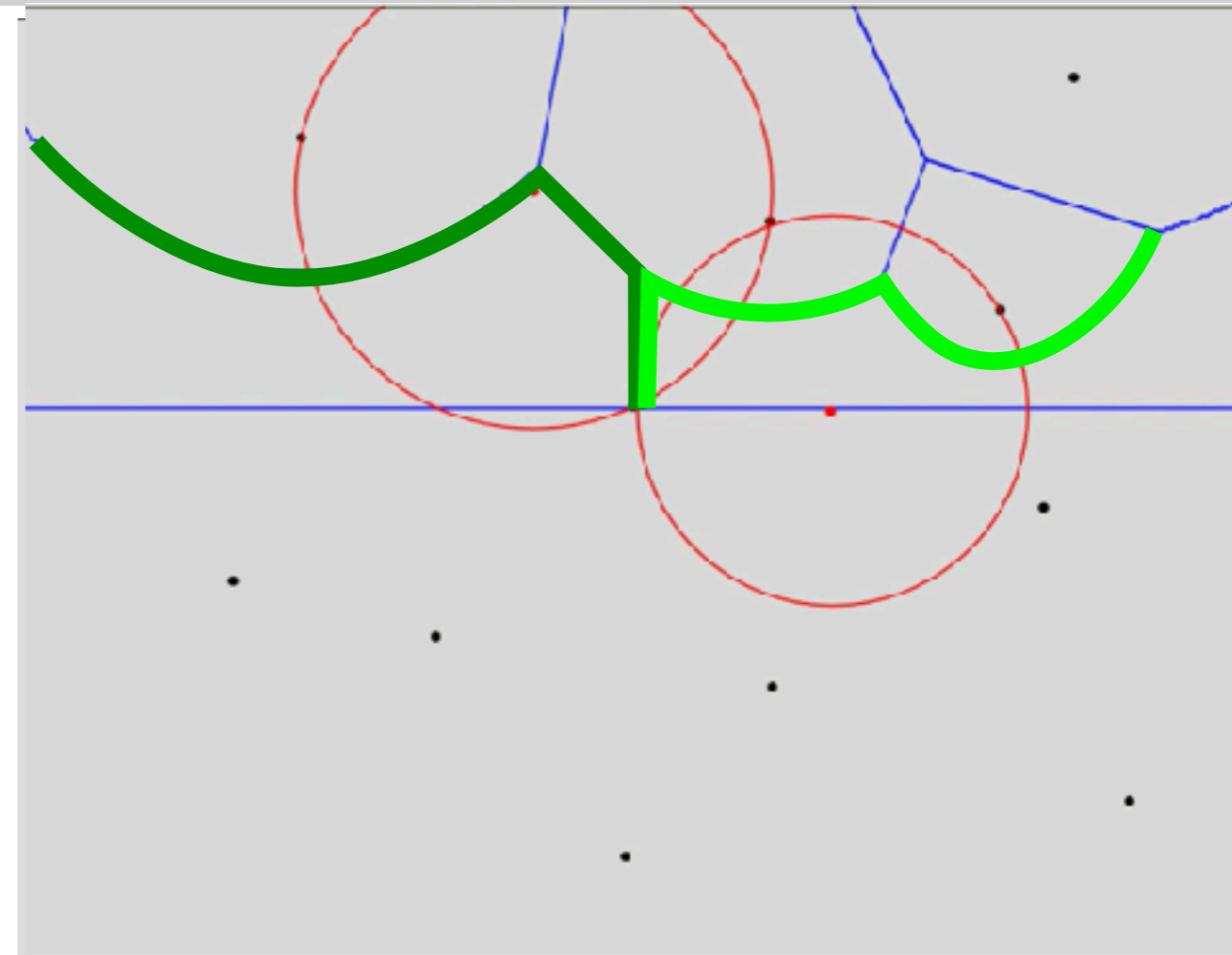
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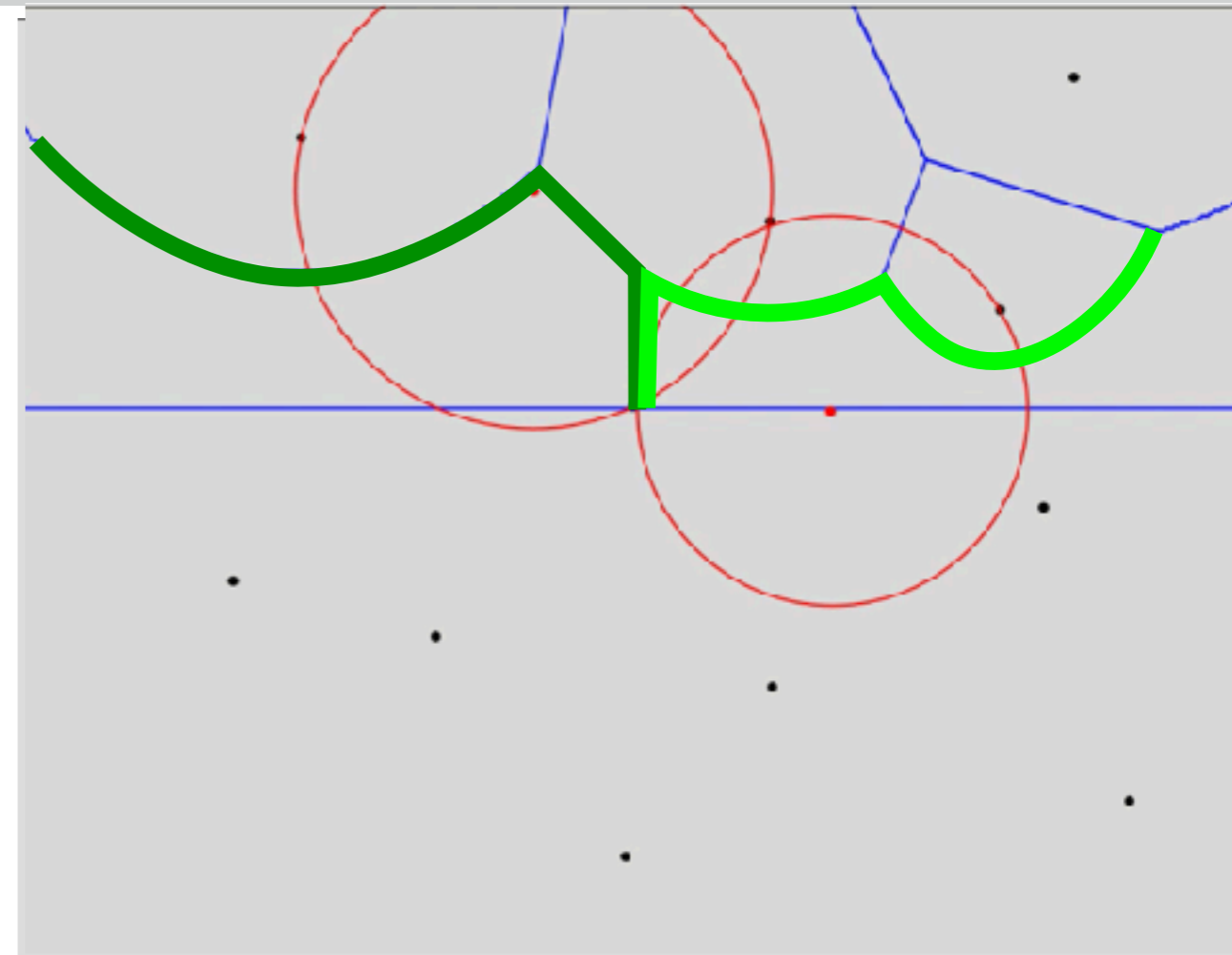


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Circle events  $C$  .

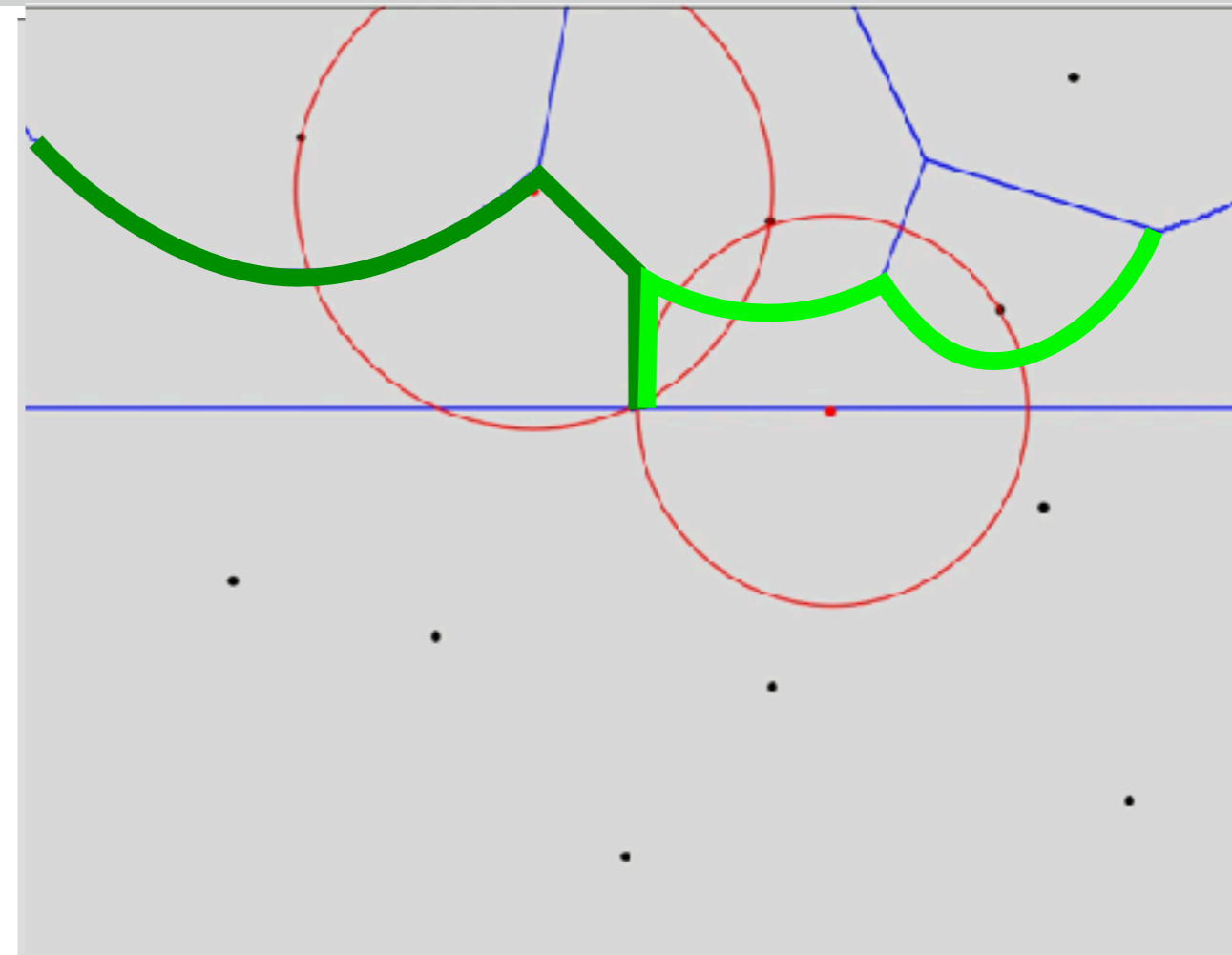


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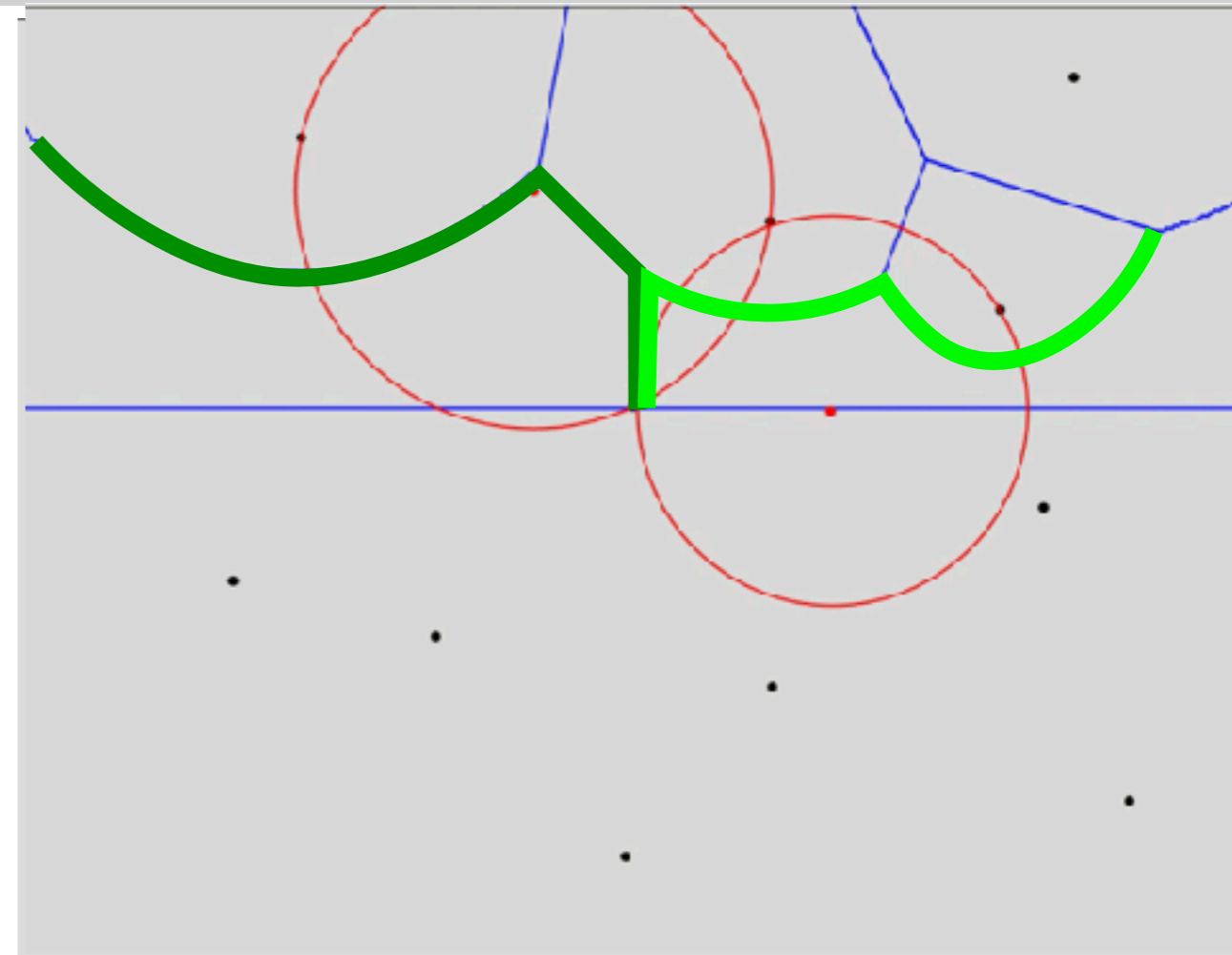


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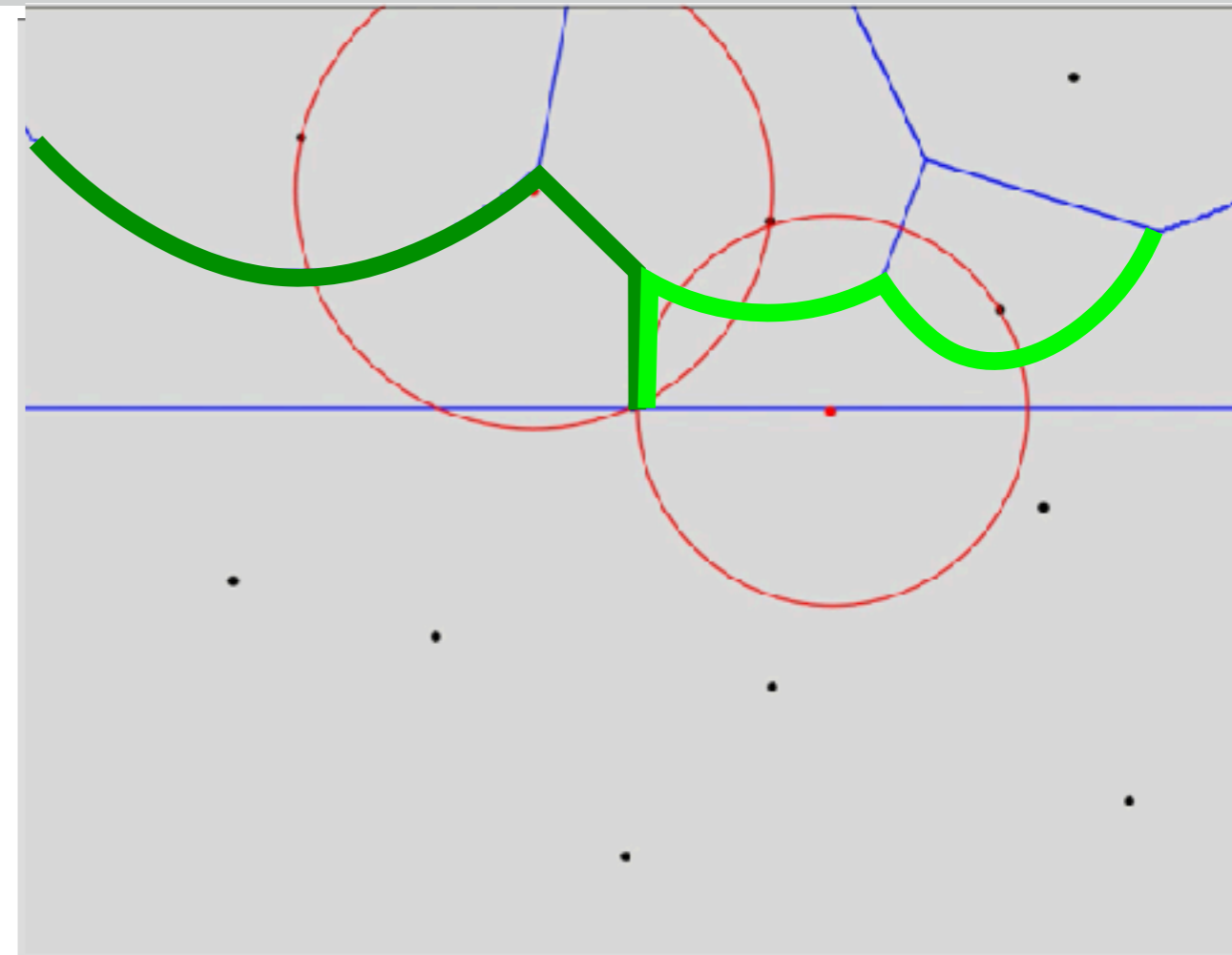
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- Leaf  $b \in B$  points to circle event  $C \in Q$  for which arc  $\beta$  of  $b$  may disappear.





## Observation 1:



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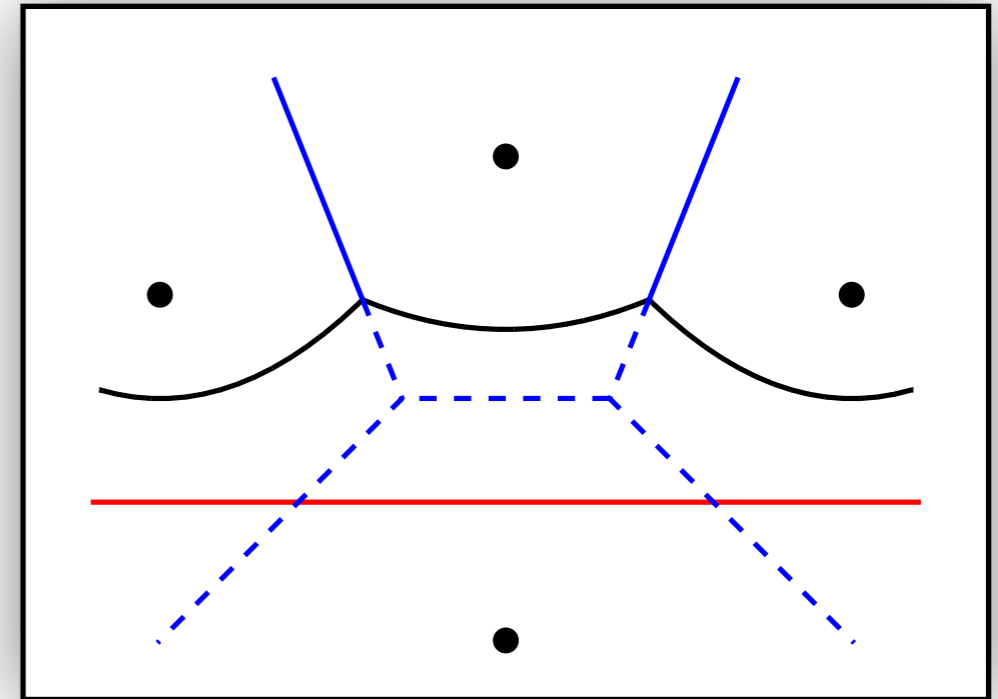
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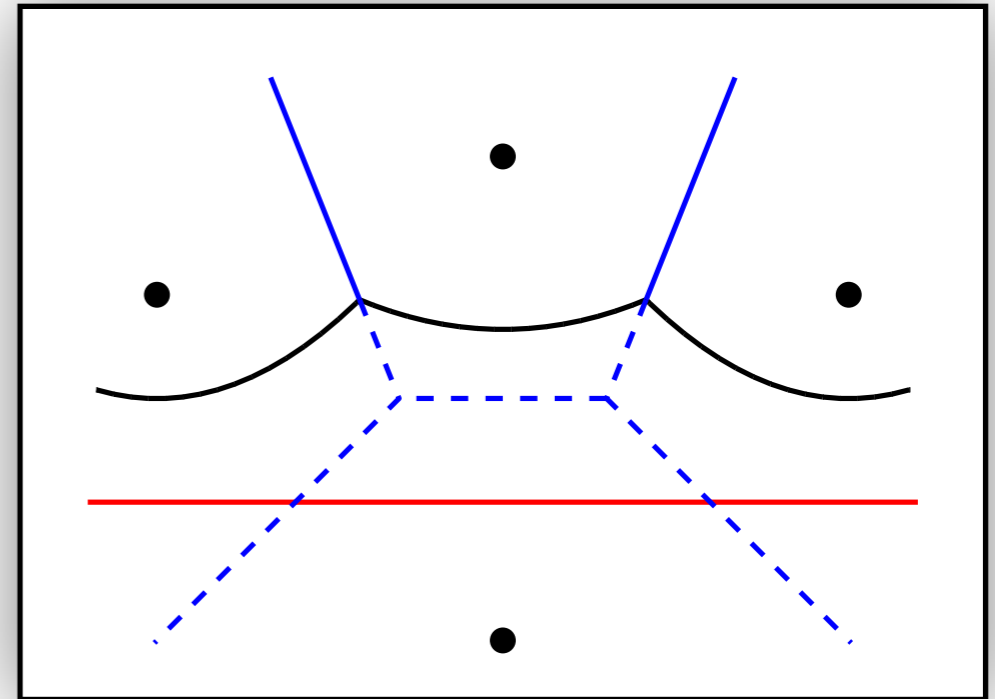
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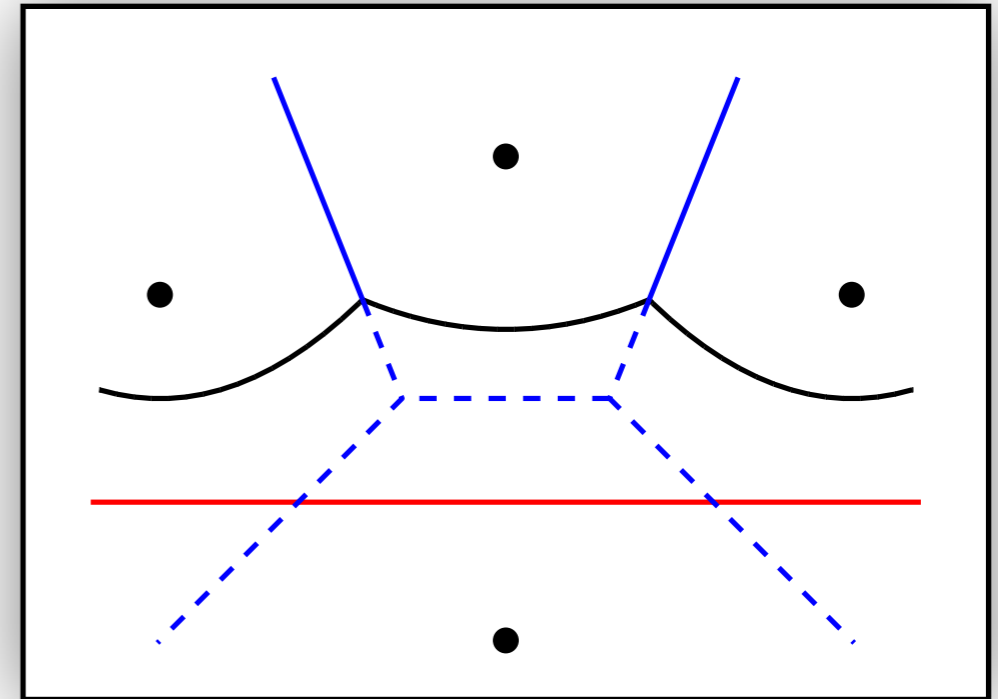
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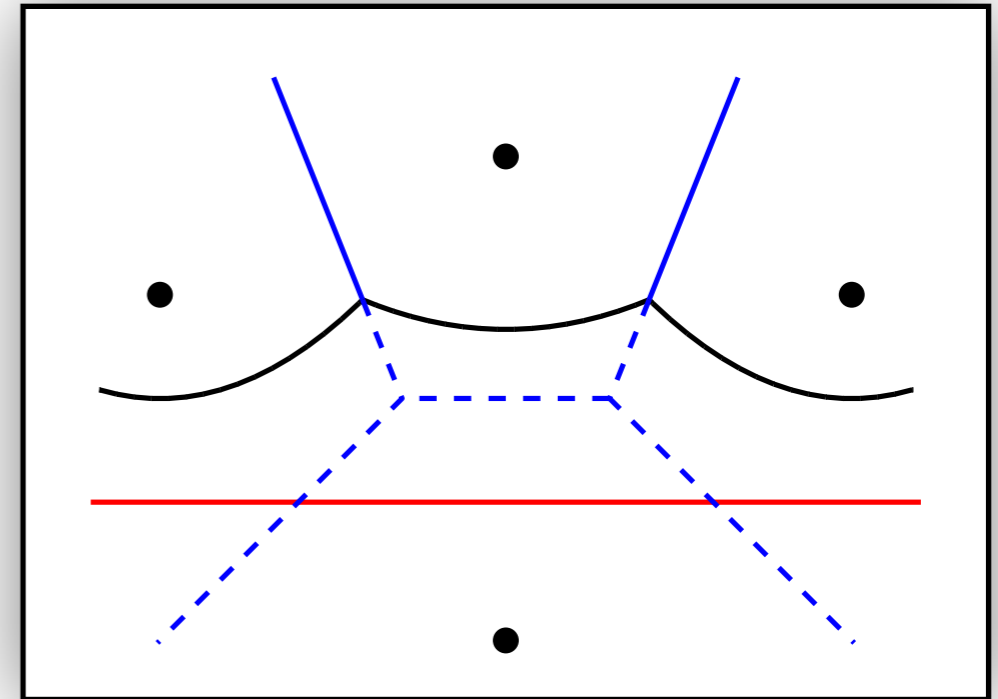


## Observation 2:



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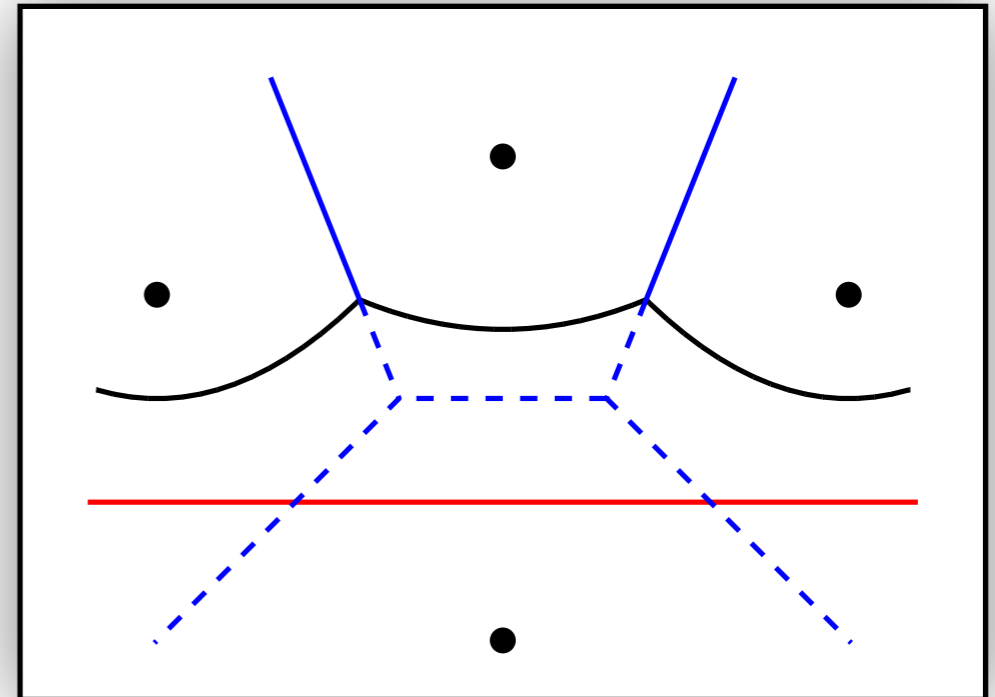


## Observation 2:

- Triple of adjacent arcs do not always define a circle event.

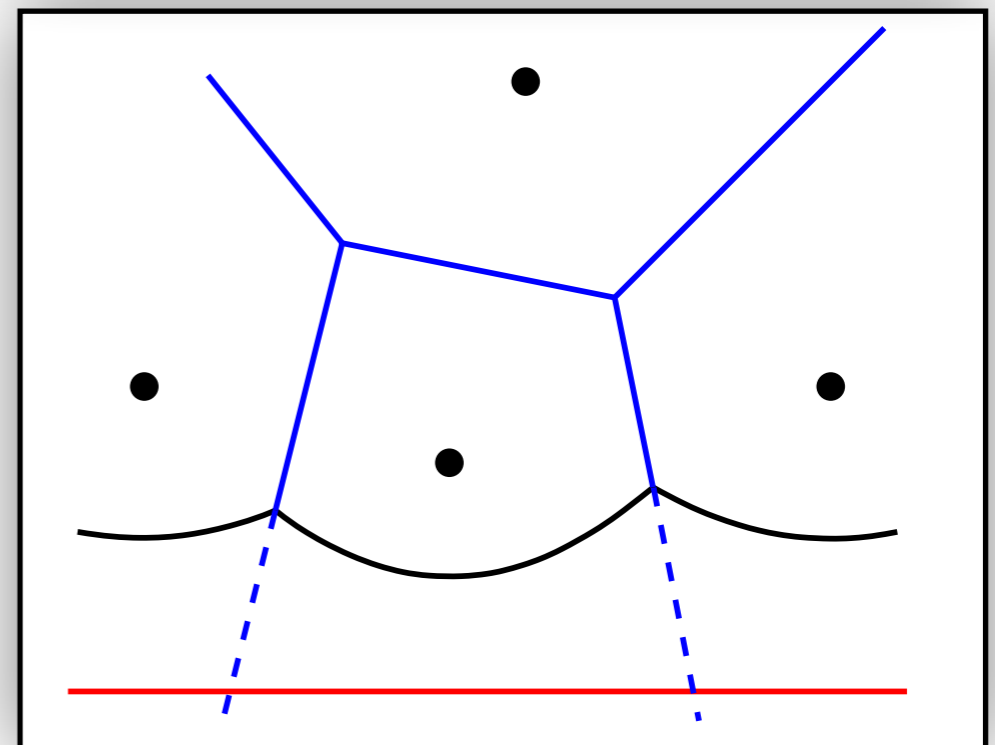
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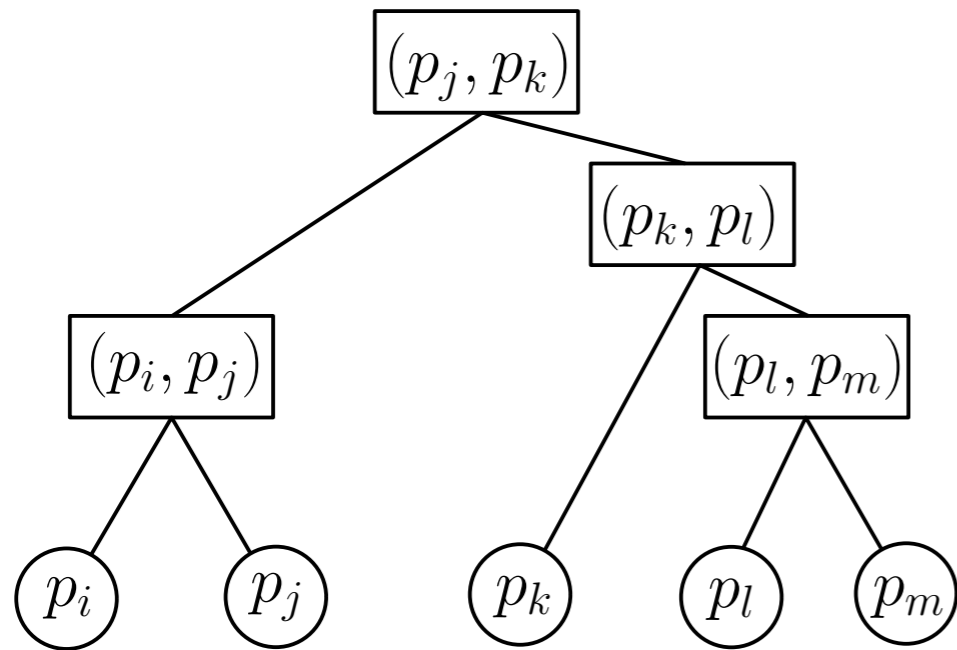


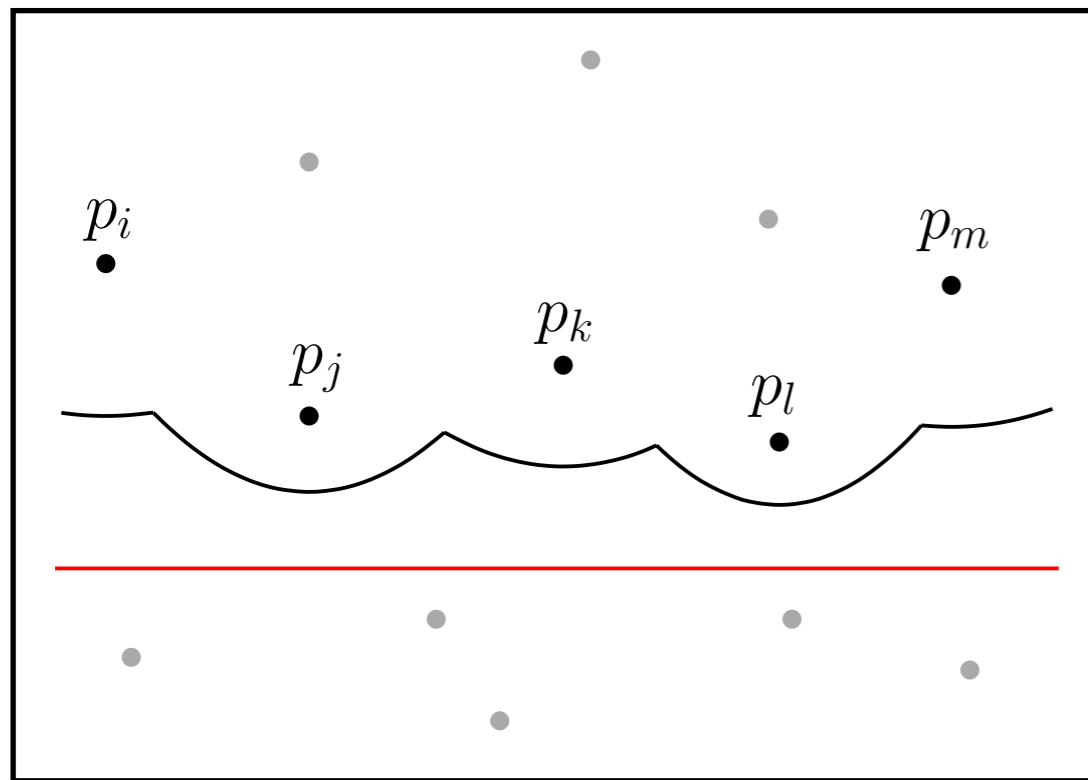
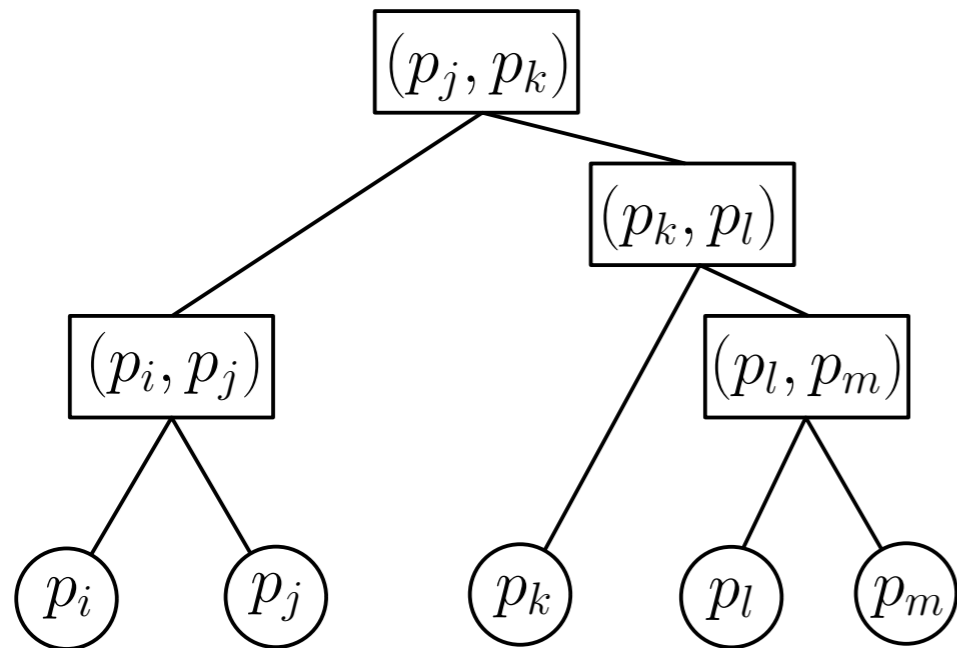
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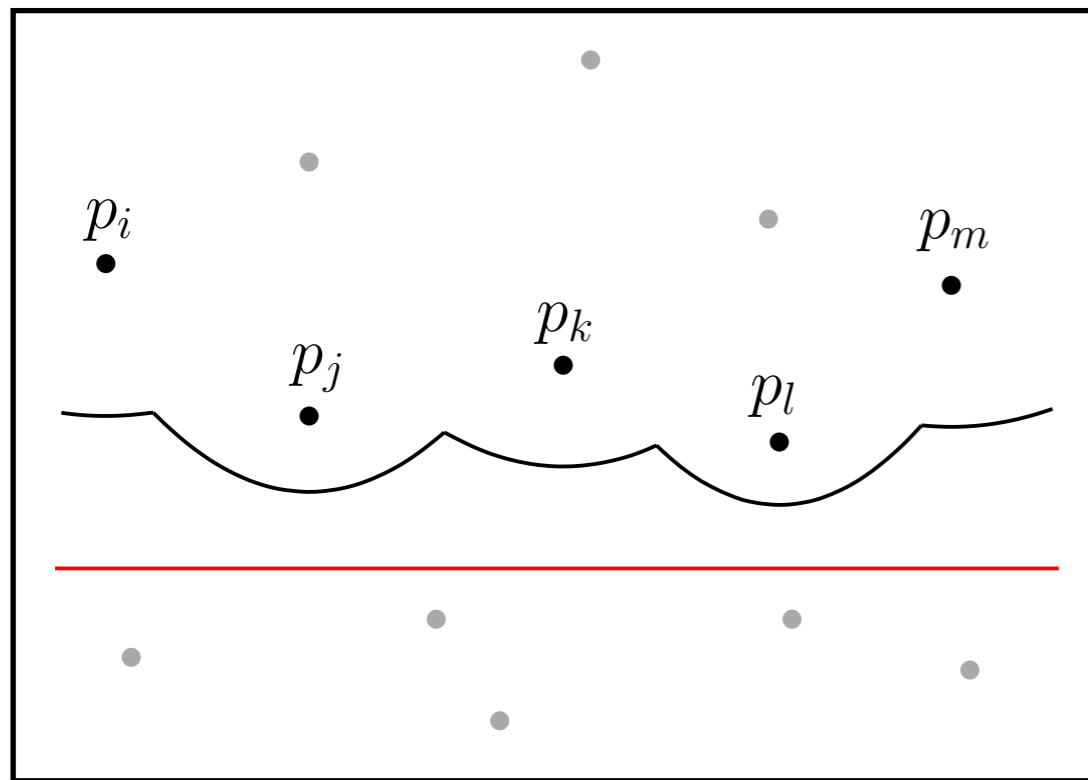
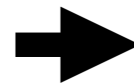
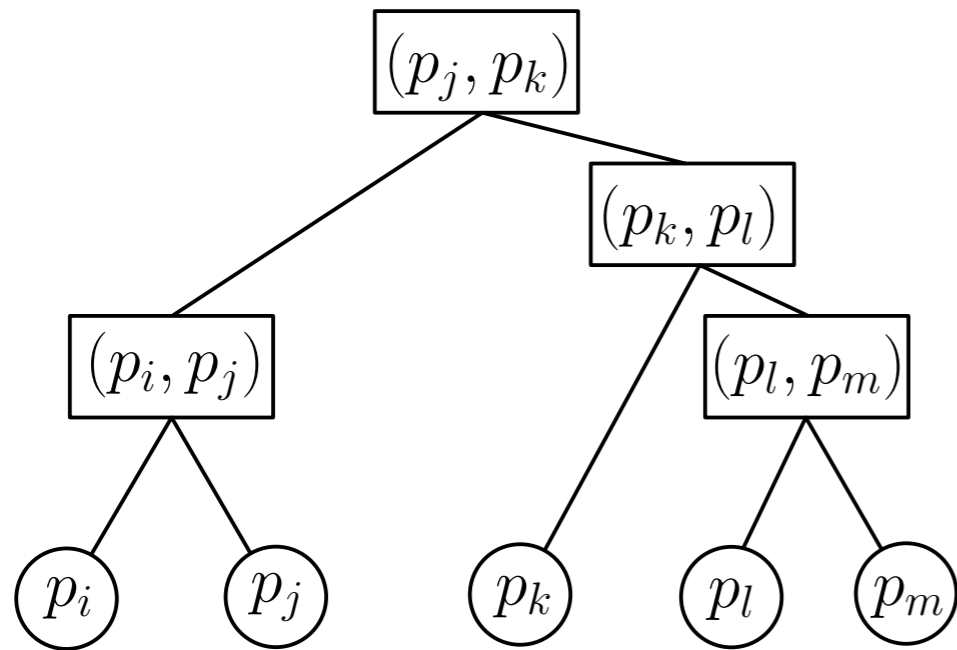
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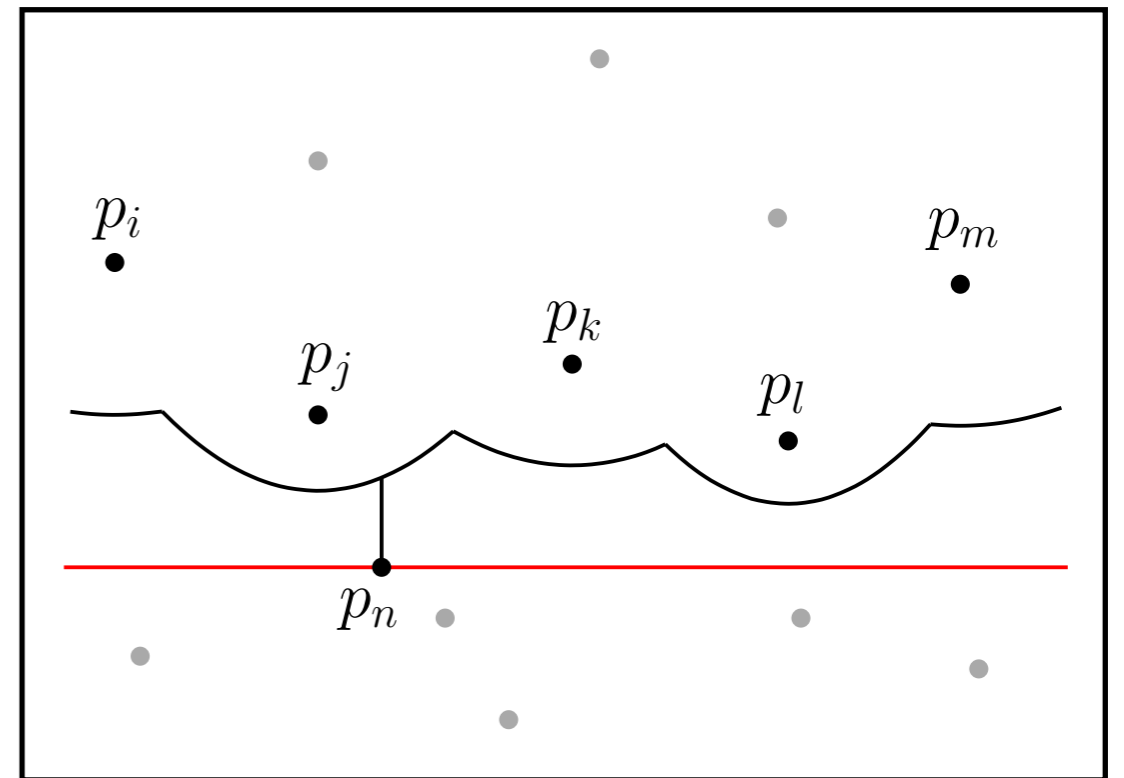
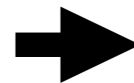
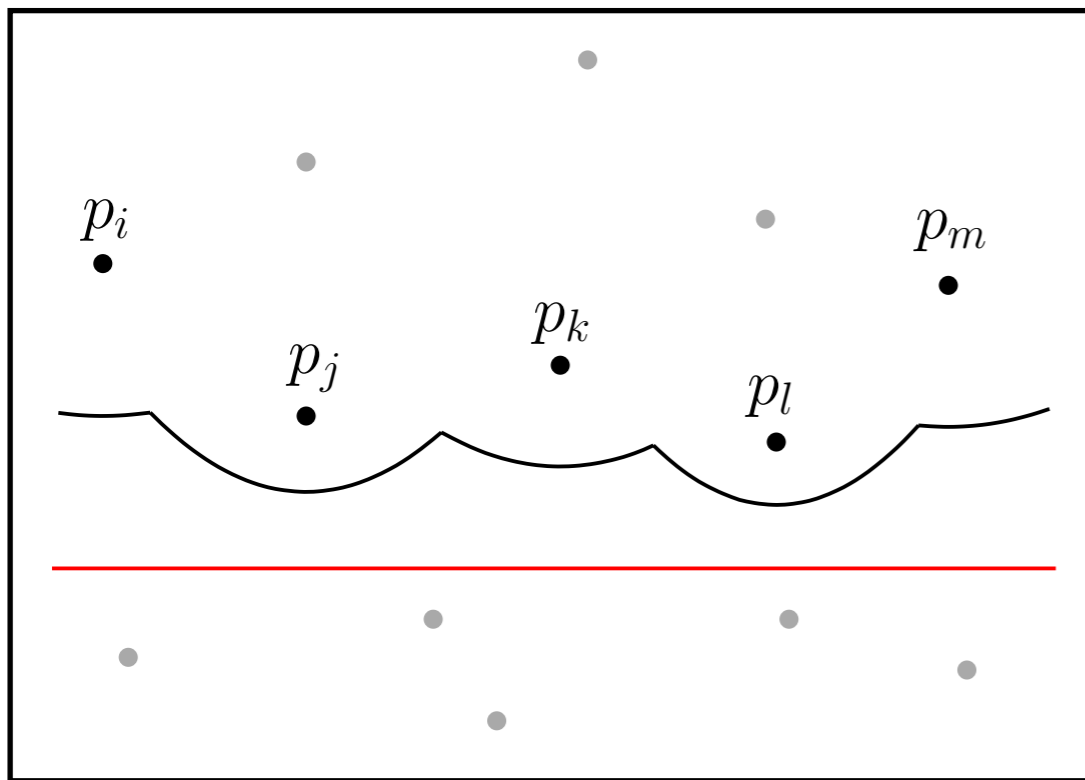
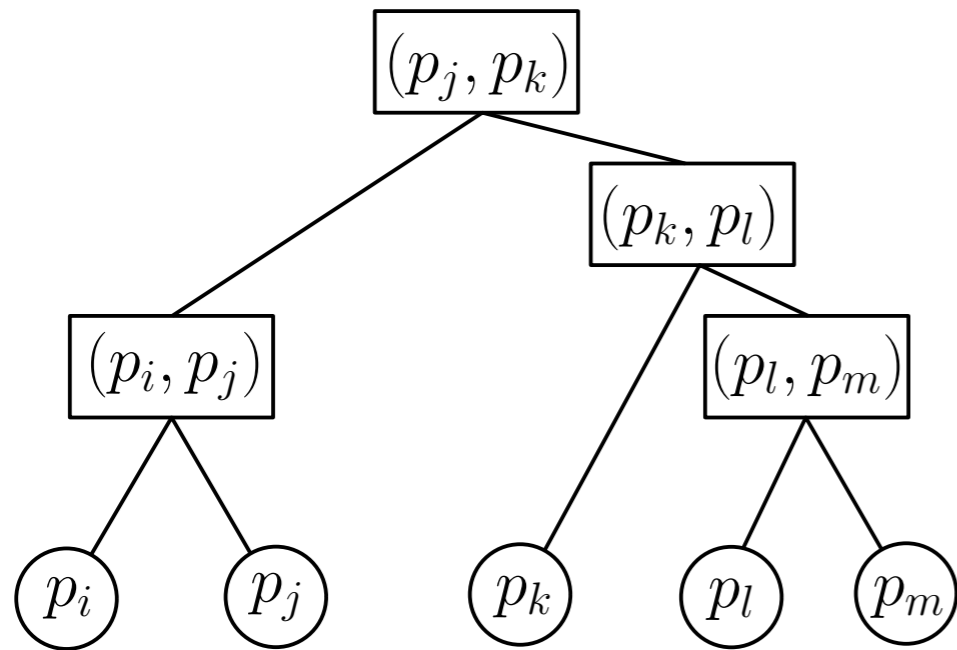


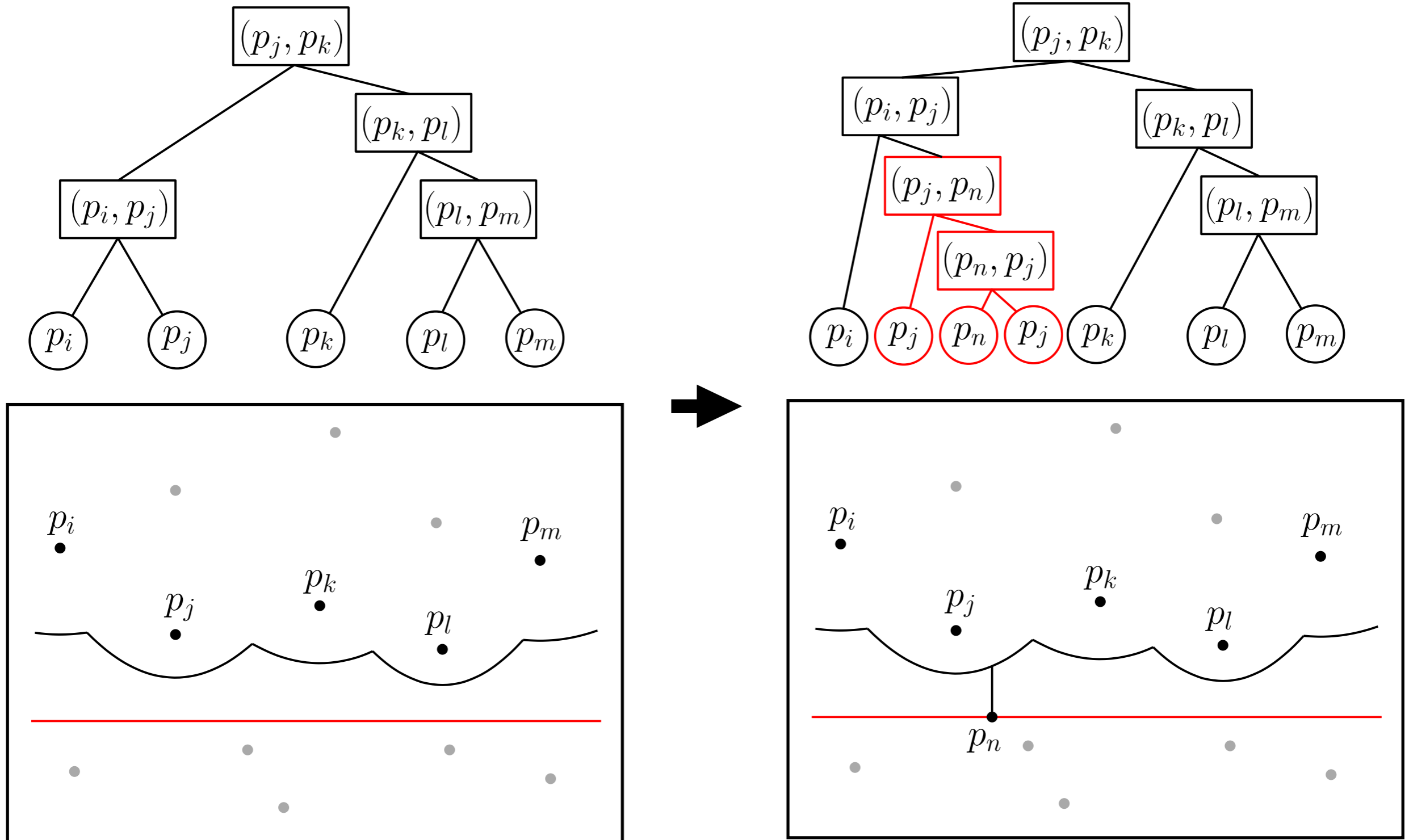
















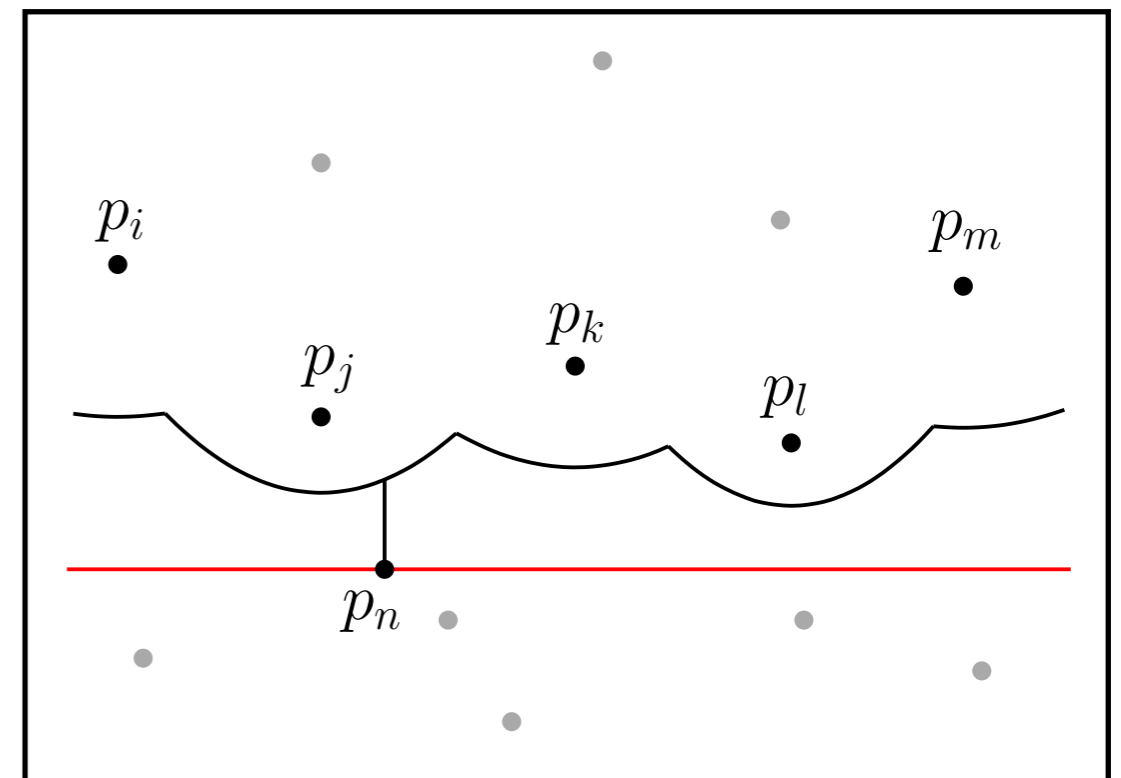
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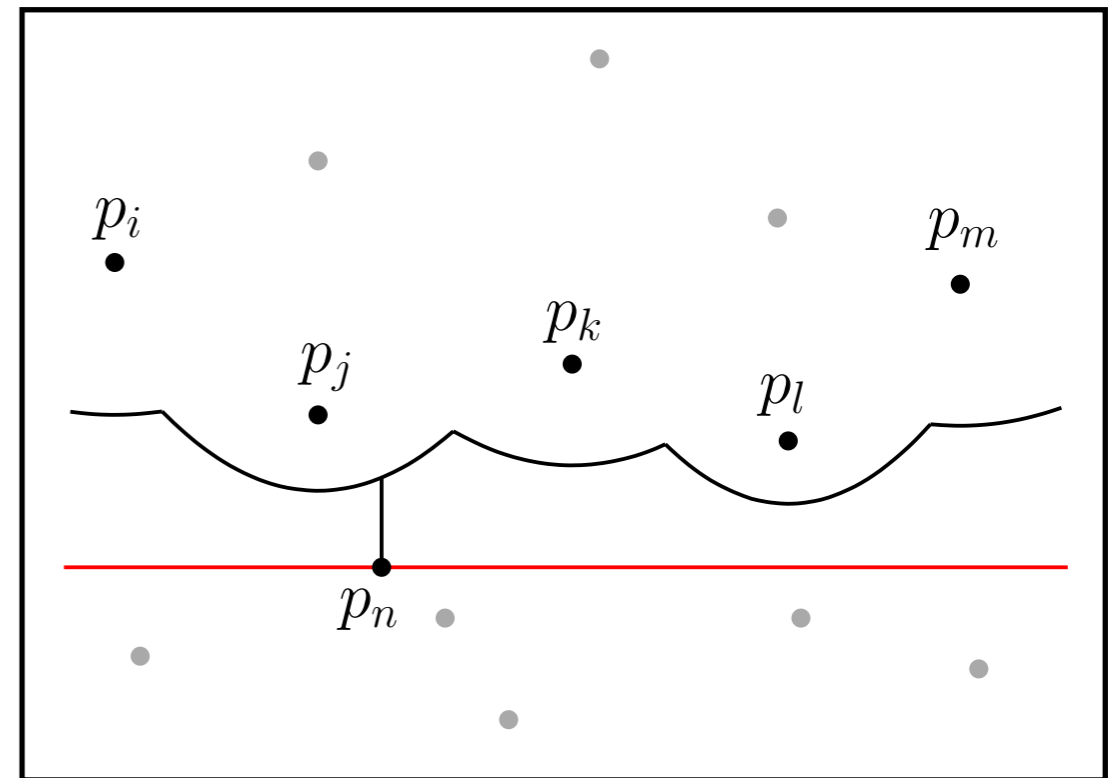
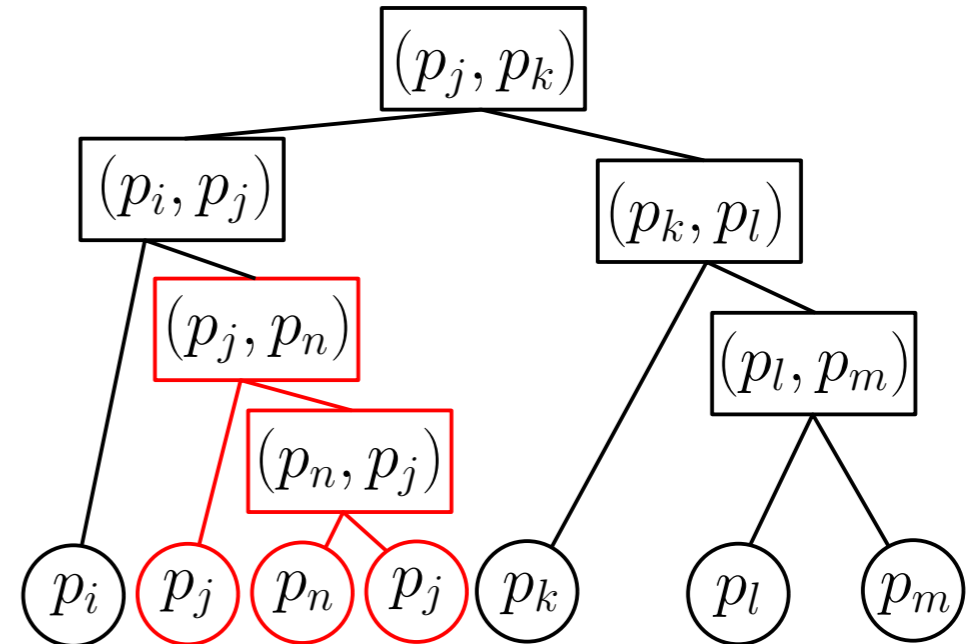
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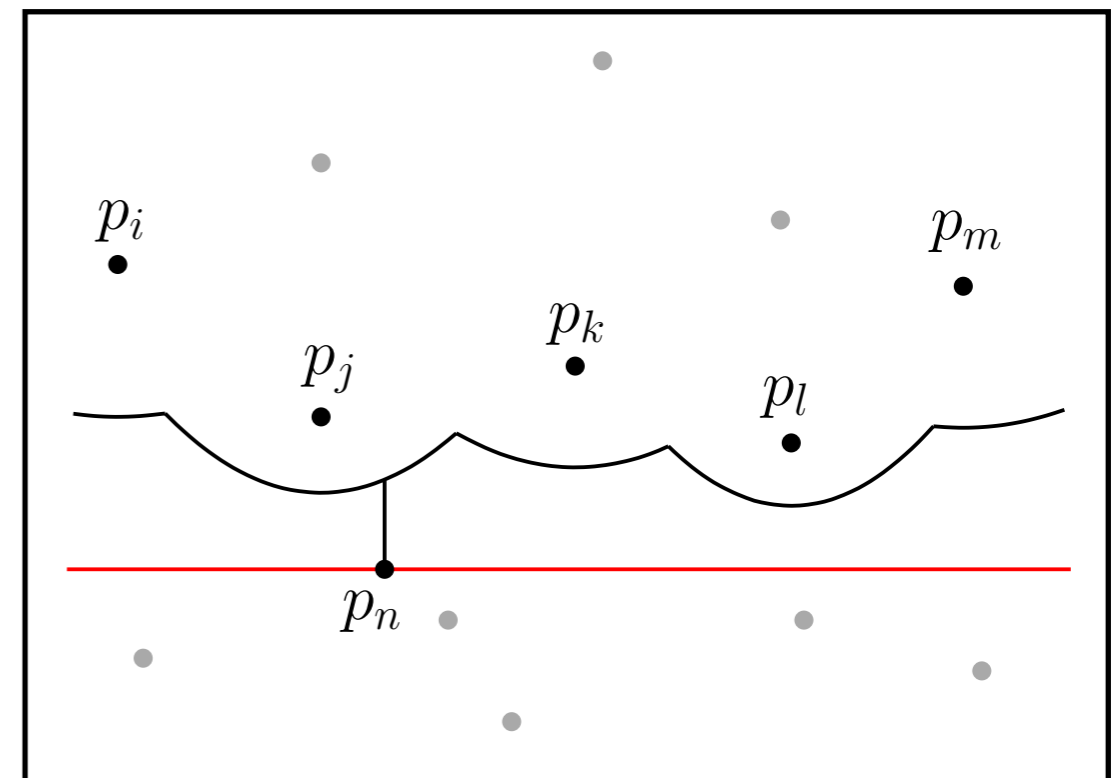
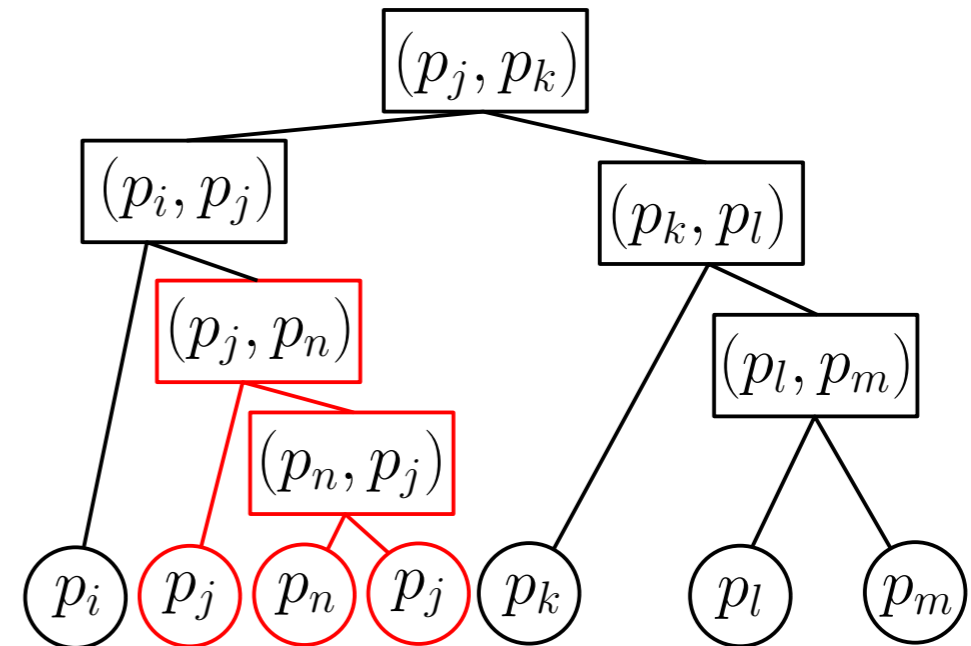
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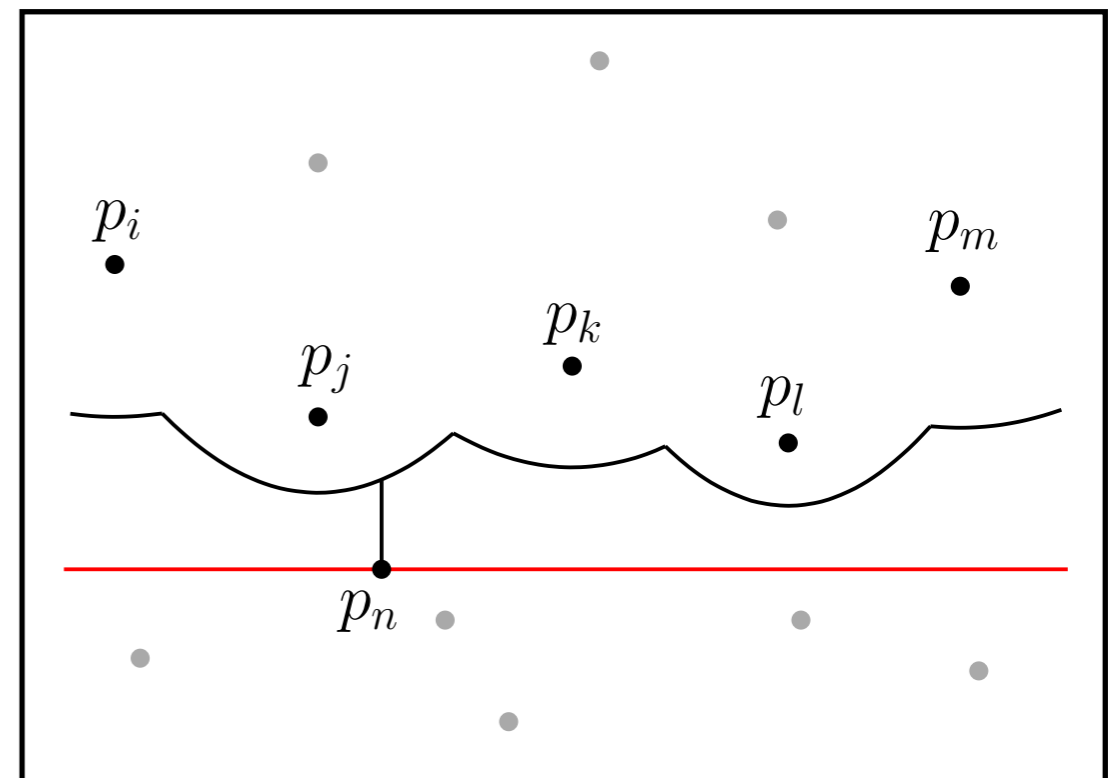
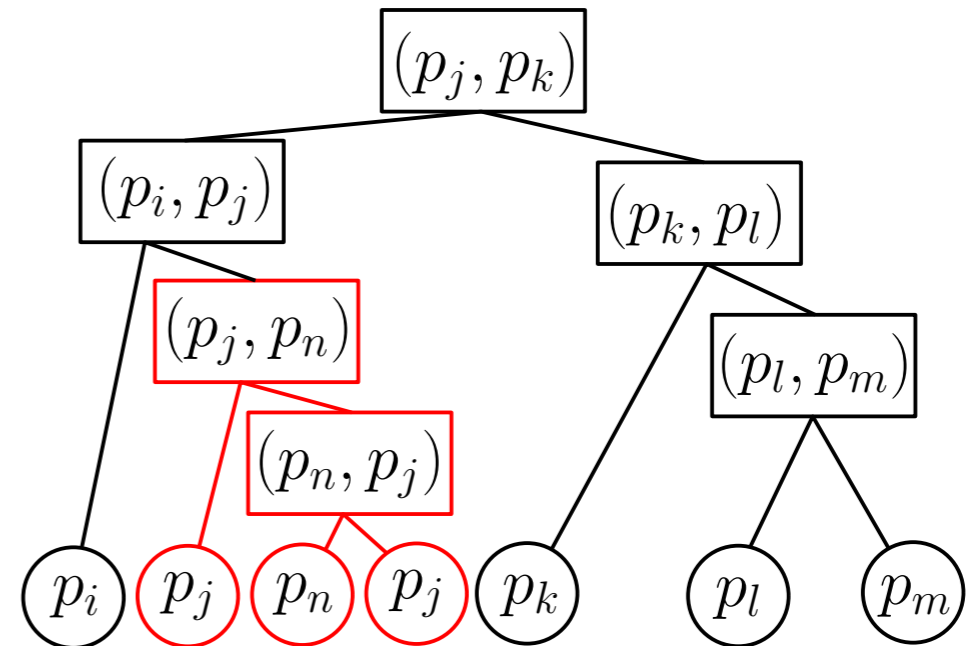
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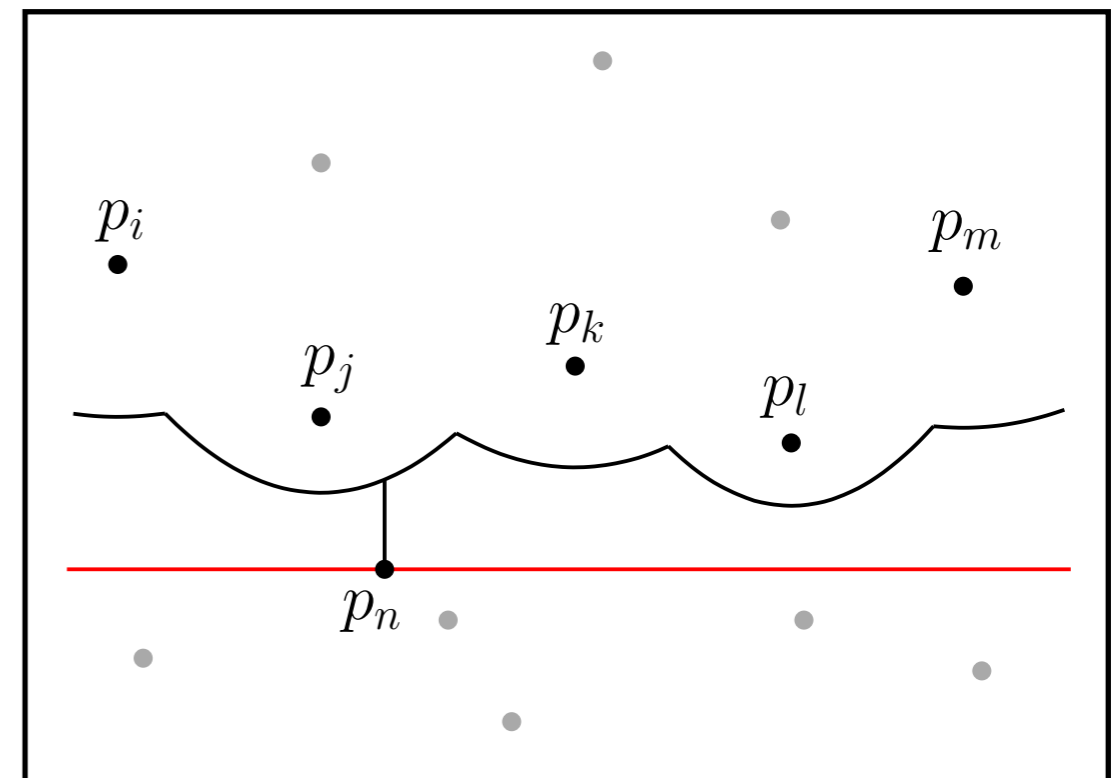
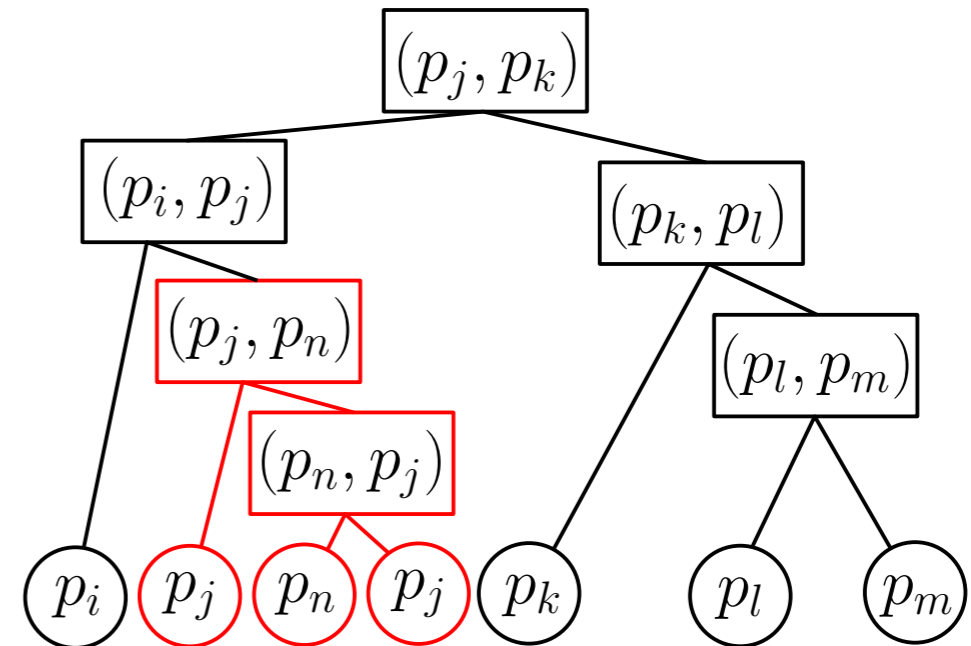
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- Defined by point  $p_n$
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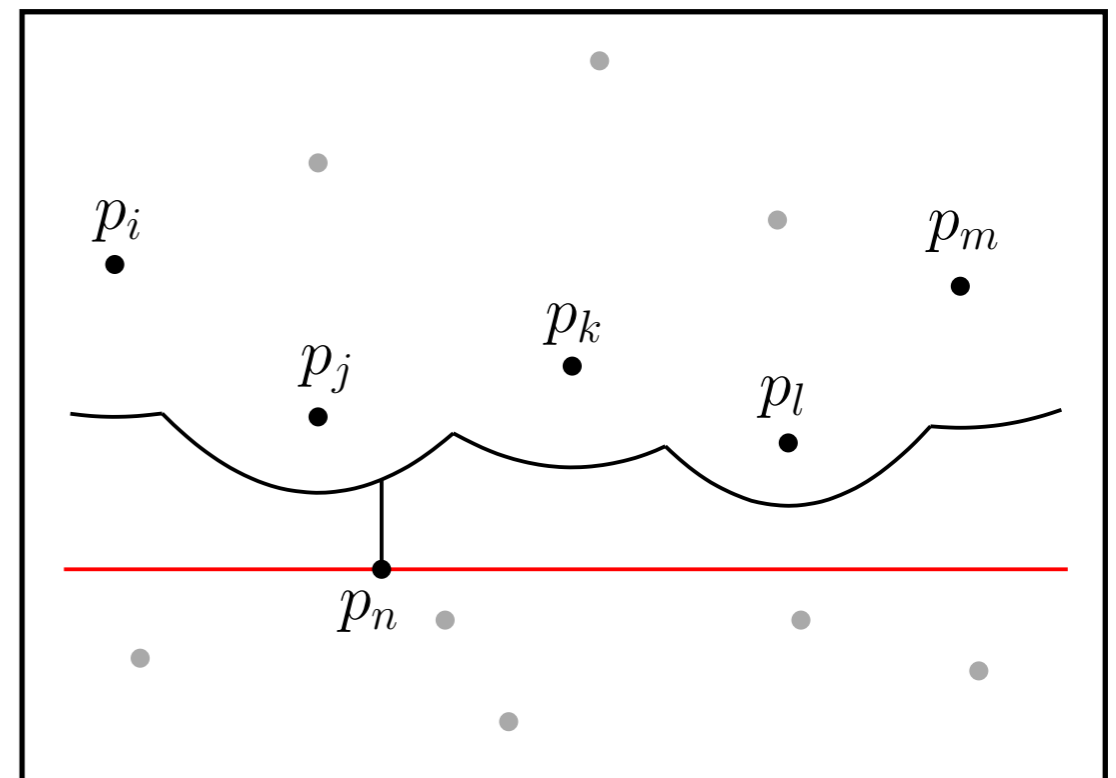
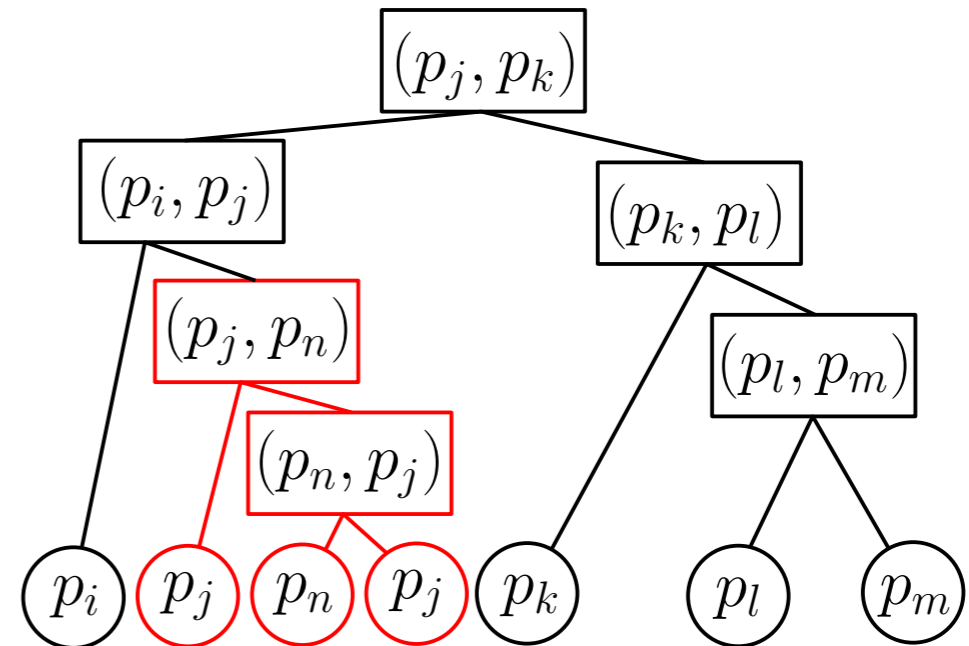
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(Special case:  $p_n$  below arc intersection)





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(Special case:  $p_n$  below arc intersection)
- Splitting:  $\beta \rightarrow \beta_1, \beta_n, \beta_2$   
(rebalancing if necessary)





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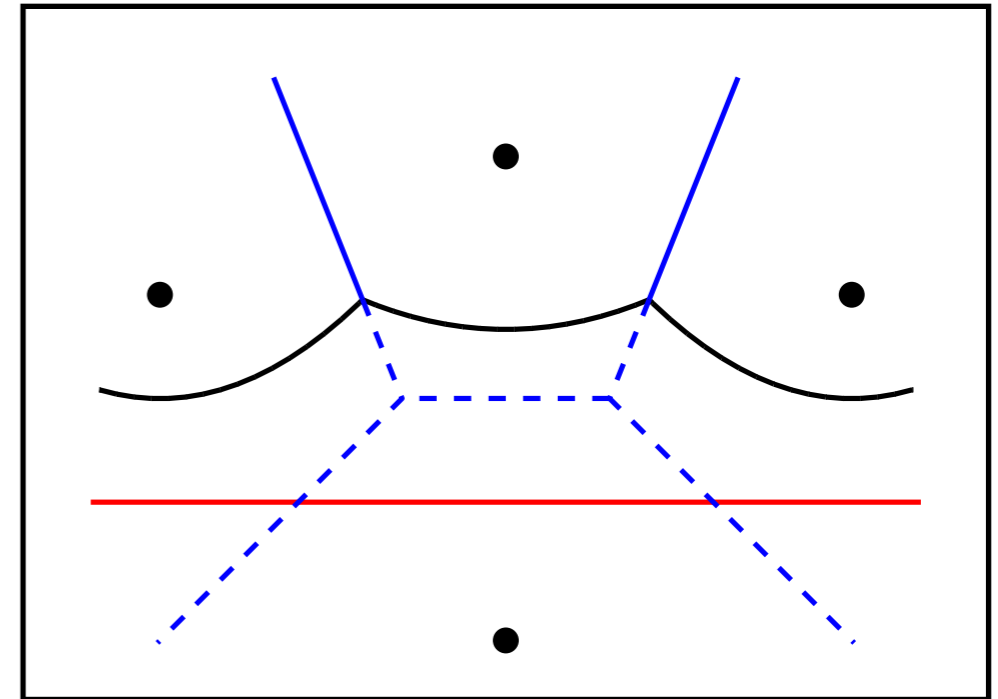
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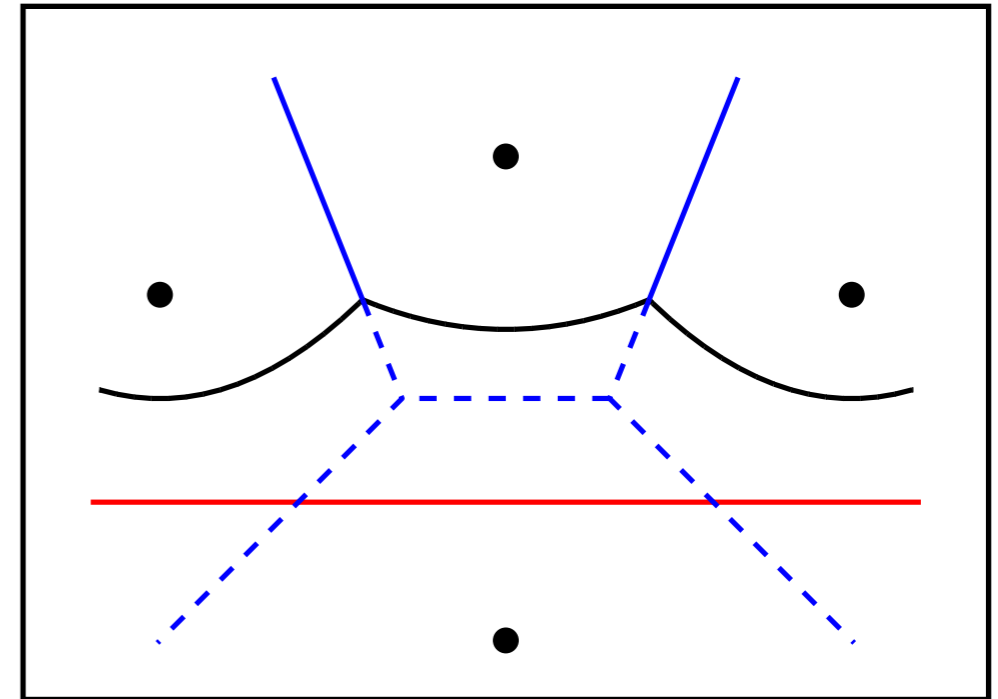
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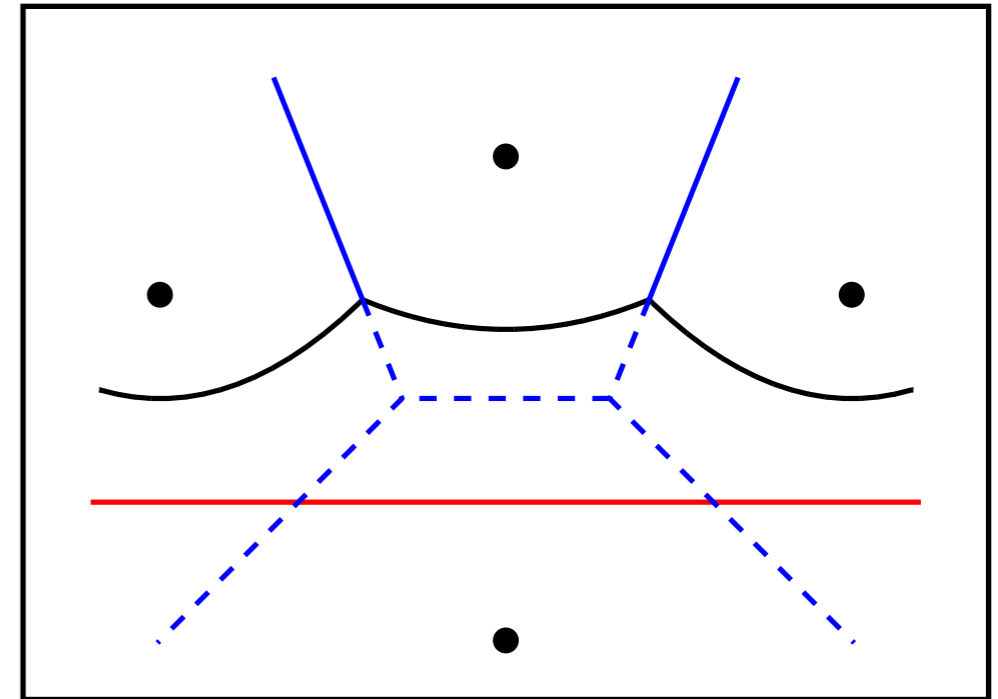
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- Possibly deletion of circle events (e.g., defined by  $(\beta_i, \beta_j, \beta_k)$ ).



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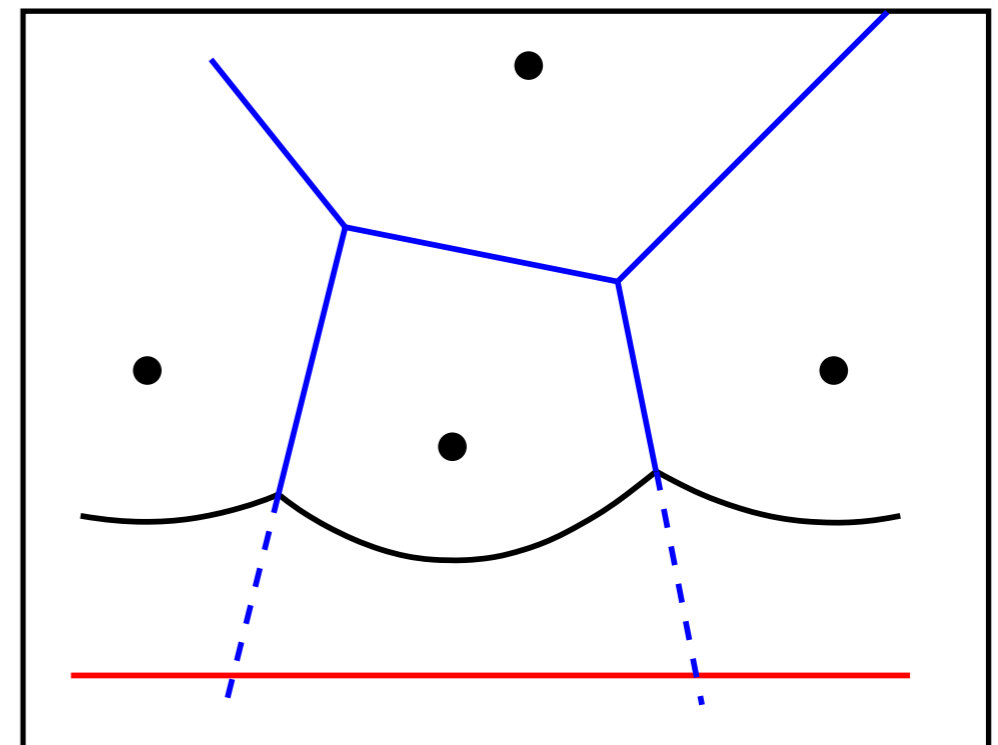
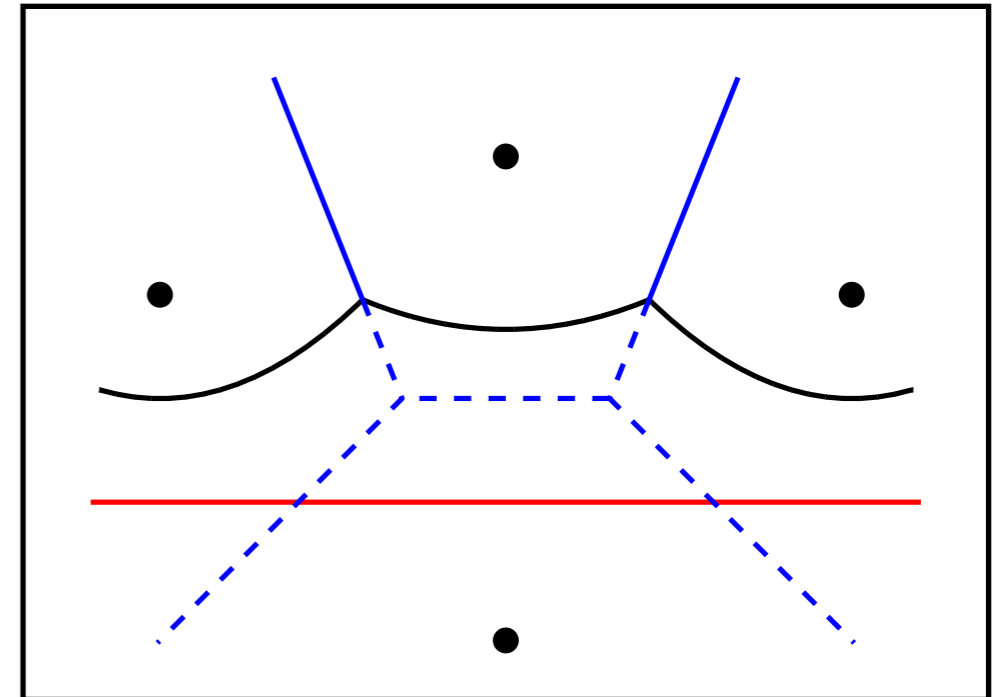
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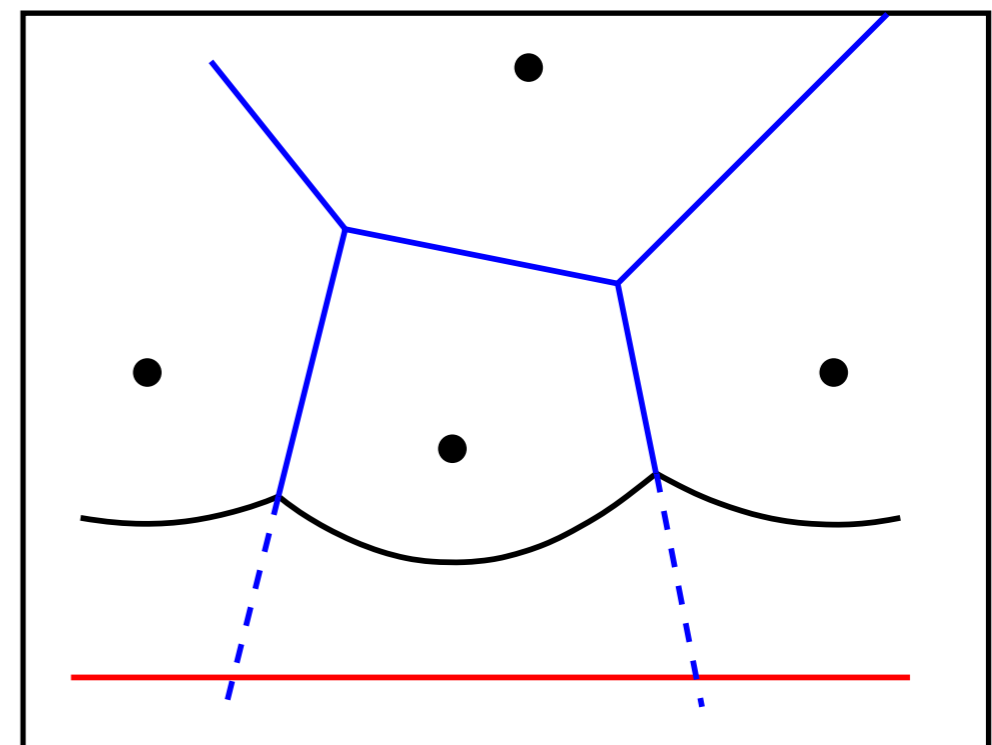
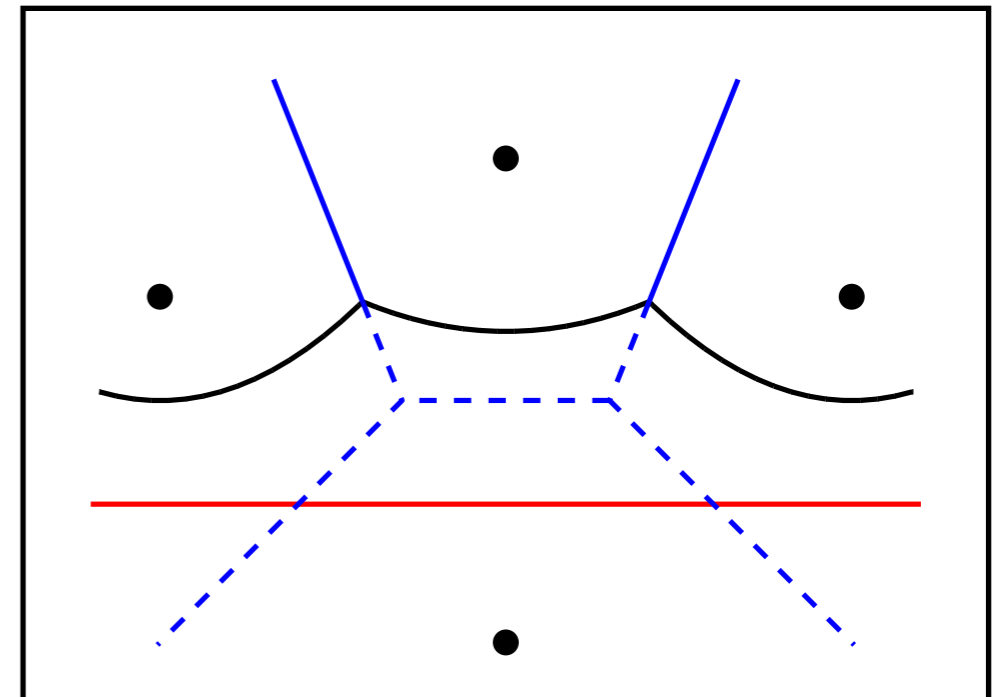
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- Test all newly adjacent triples.



## Generating circle events:

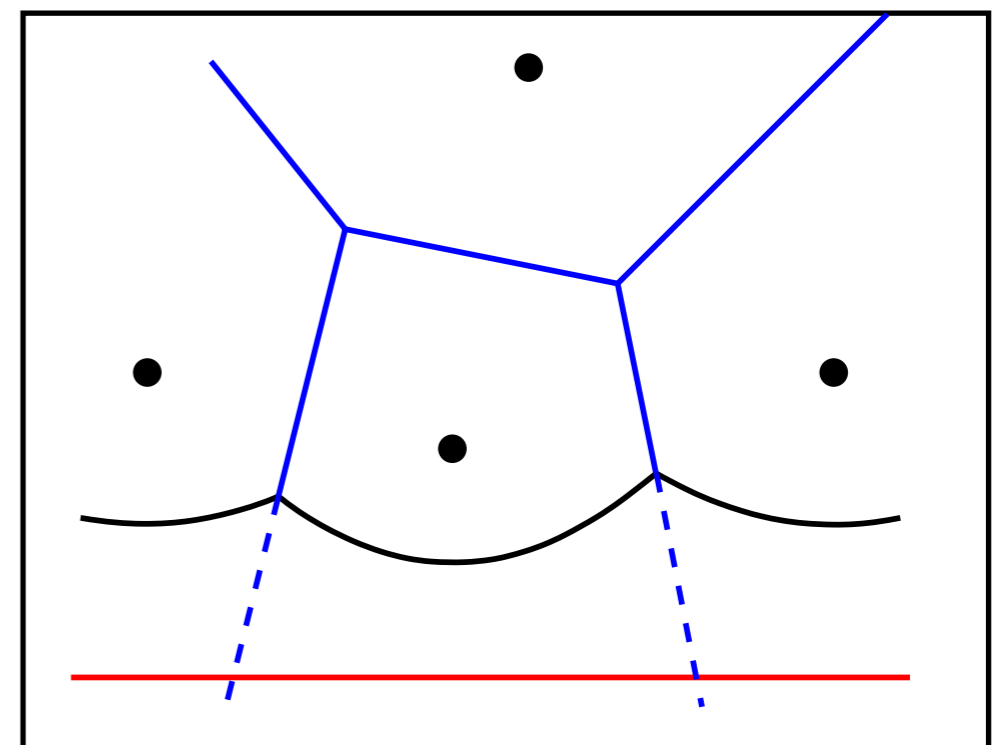
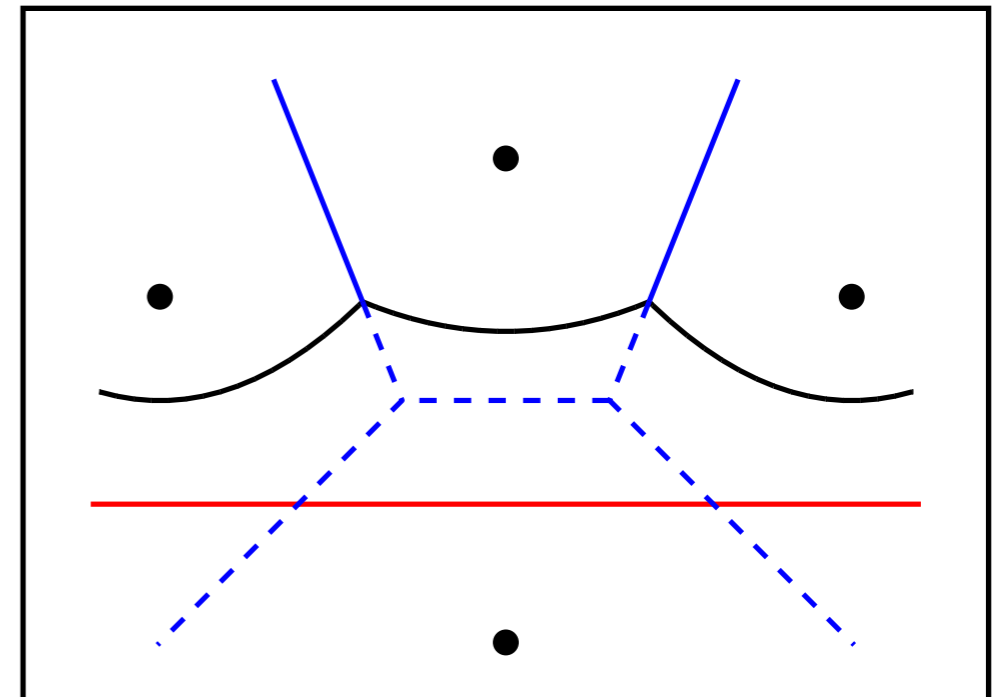
- Before insertion of  $\beta_n$  (defined by  $p_n$ ):

$\dots \beta_i \beta_j \beta_k \beta_l \dots$

- After insertion:

$\dots \beta_i \beta_{j,1} \beta_n \beta_{j,2} \beta_k \beta_l \dots$

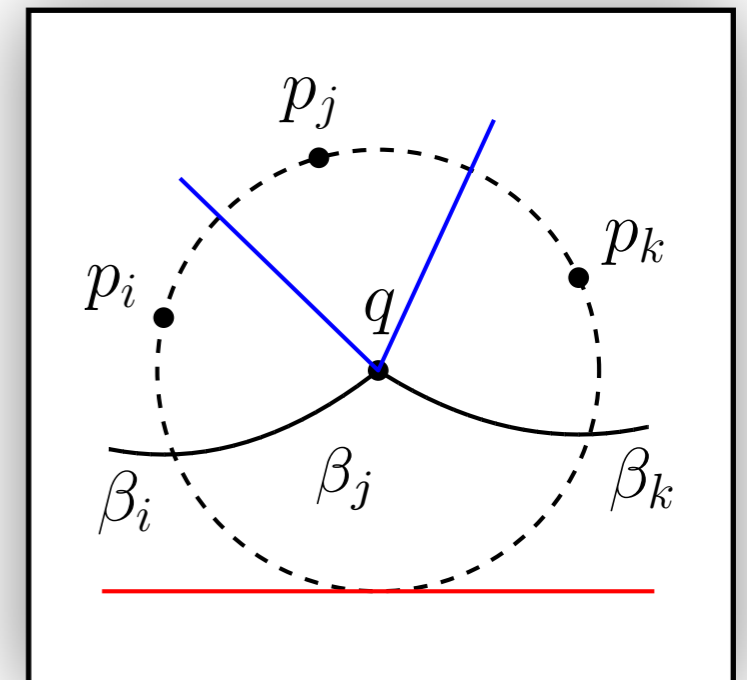
- Possibly deletion of circle events (e.g., defined by  $(\beta_i, \beta_j, \beta_k)$ ).
- Test all newly adjacent triples.
- Insert new events into  $Q$ .





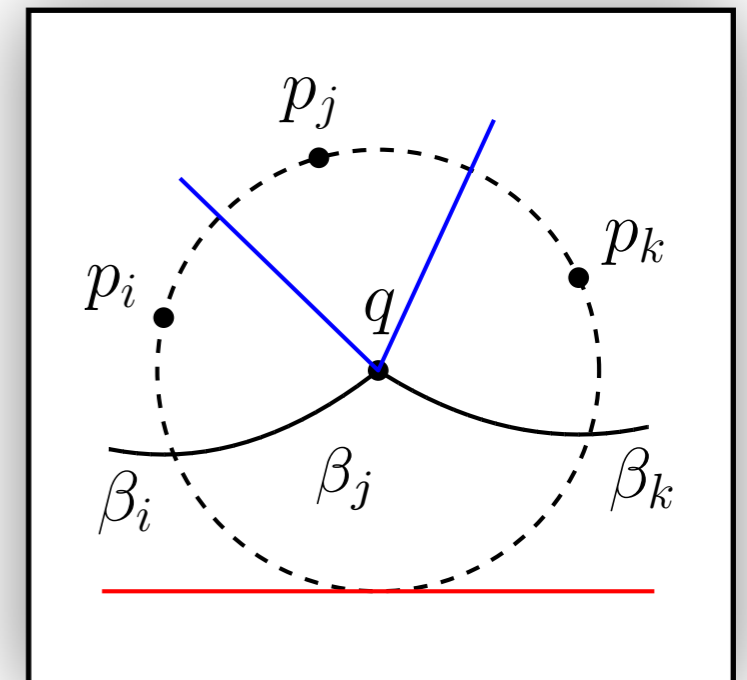
## Updates

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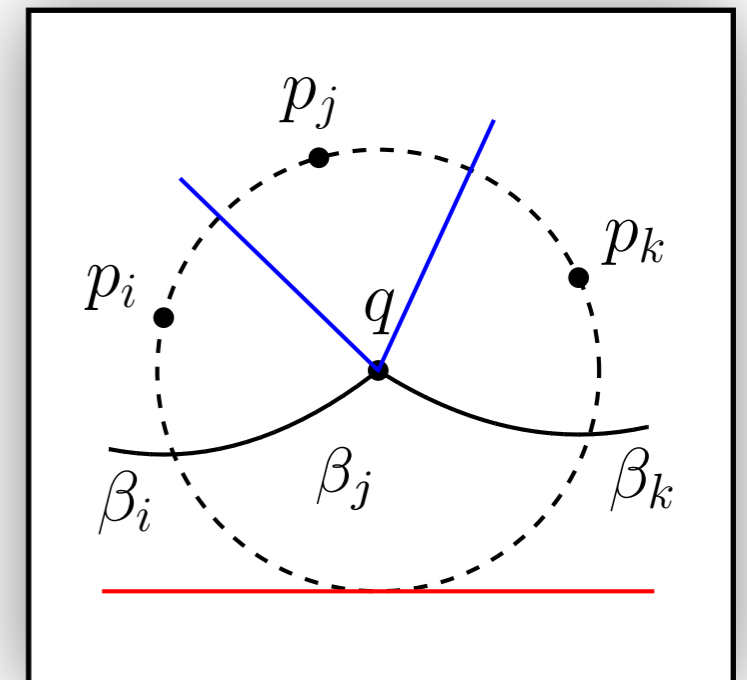
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- Delete  $\beta_j$  from  $B$ .



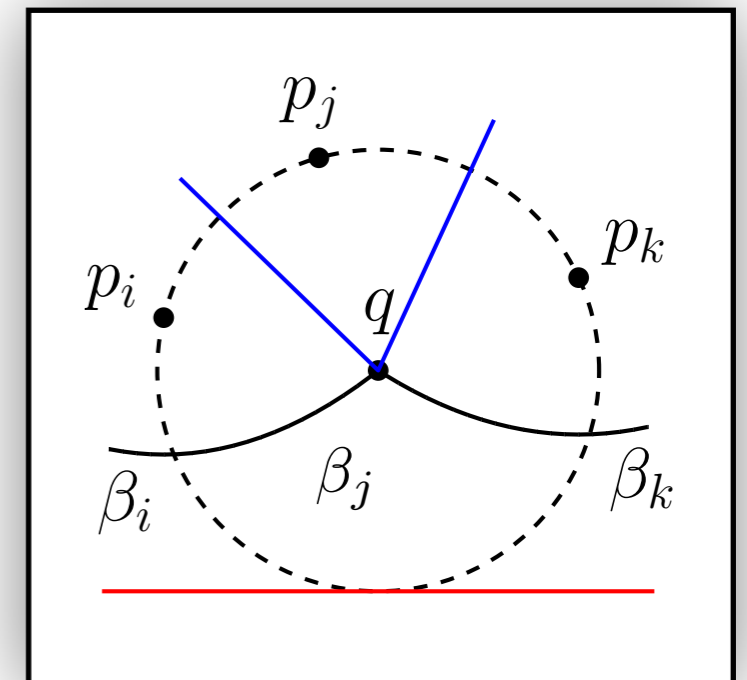
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- Delete  $\beta_j$  from  $B$ .  
→ Rebalance if necessary



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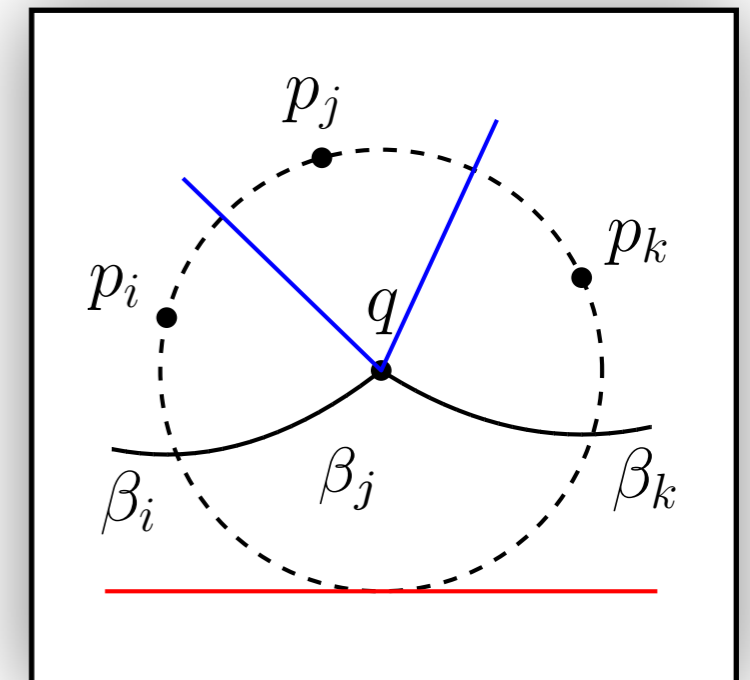
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## Updates

- Delete  $\beta_j$  from  $B$ .  
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- Delete circle events defined by  $\beta_j$
- New adjacent triples  
→ Possibly insert new circle events





**Lemma 4.21**

Voronoi vertices  $q \in Vor(\mathcal{P})$   
correspond to circle events.

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**Proof:**

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Voronoi vertices  $q \in \text{Vor}(\mathcal{P})$   
correspond to circle events.

**Proof:**

- Theorem 4.20  $\Rightarrow \exists p_i, p_j, p_k \in \mathcal{P} :$

$$p_i, p_j, p_k \in \partial C$$

$$C \cap \mathcal{P} = \{p_i, p_j, p_k\}$$

for circle  $C$  with center  $q$   
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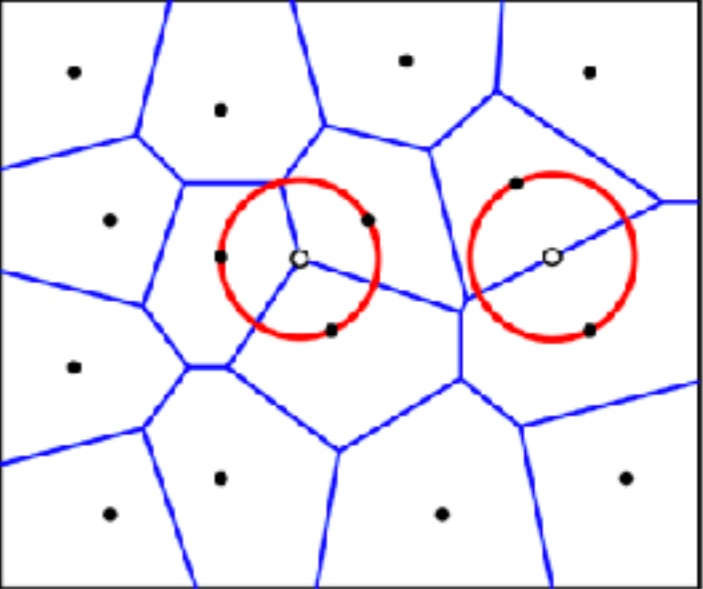
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**Theorem 4.20:**

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 $\Downarrow$   
 Largest circle  $C$  with  $\mathcal{P} \cap C^\circ = \emptyset$  and center  $x$  has three points on its boundary and

2.  $p_i, p_j \in \mathcal{P}$  define Voronoi edge  $e \subseteq B(p_i, p_j)$   
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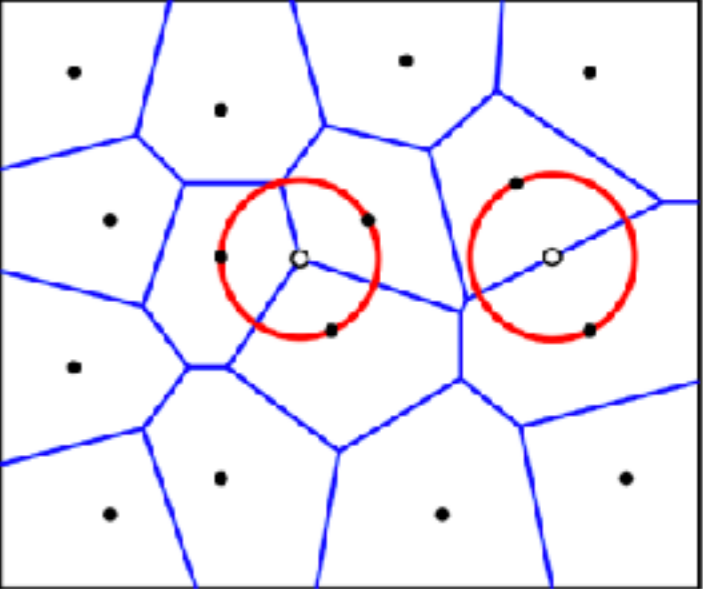
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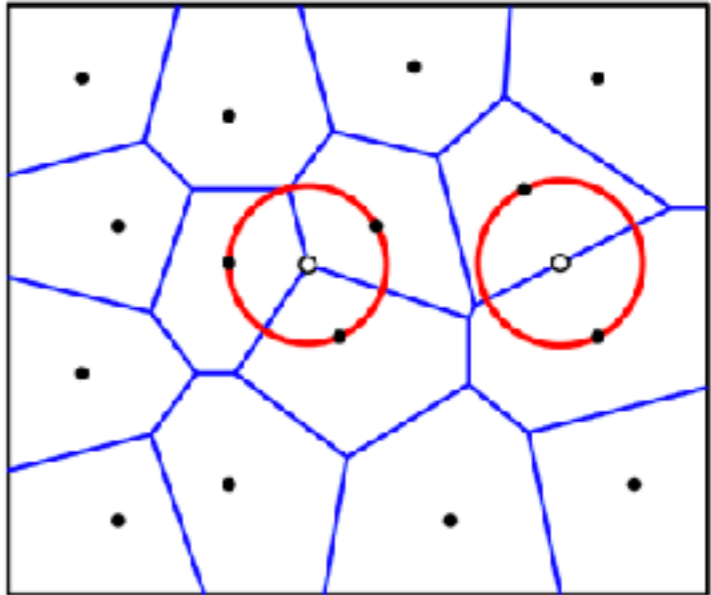
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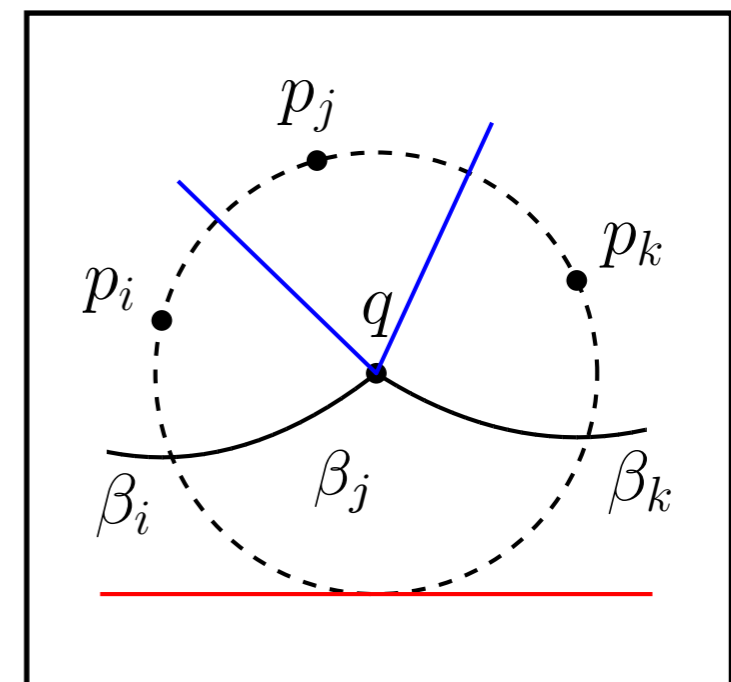
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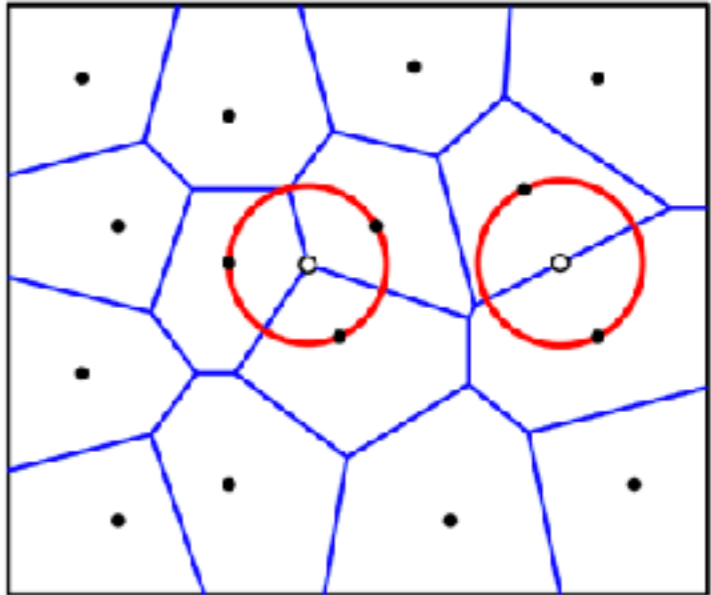
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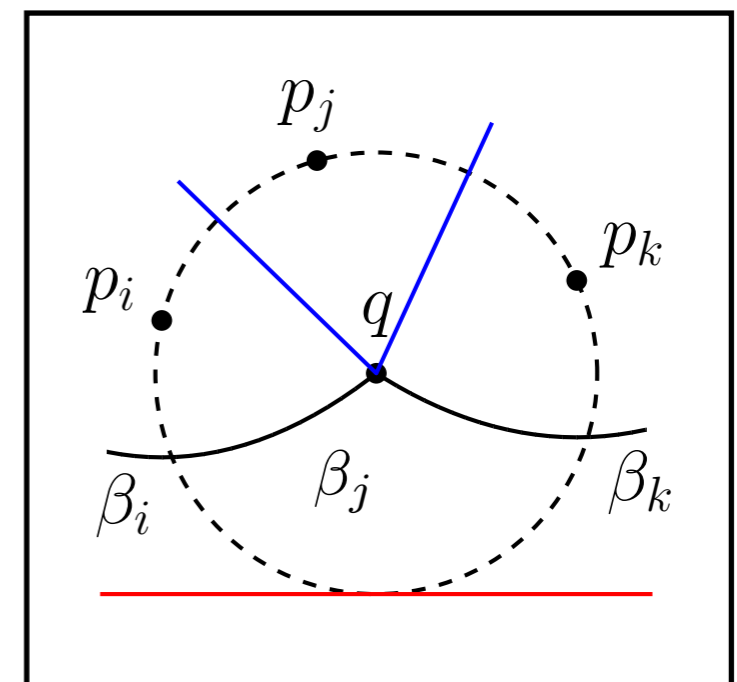
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□



## Goal



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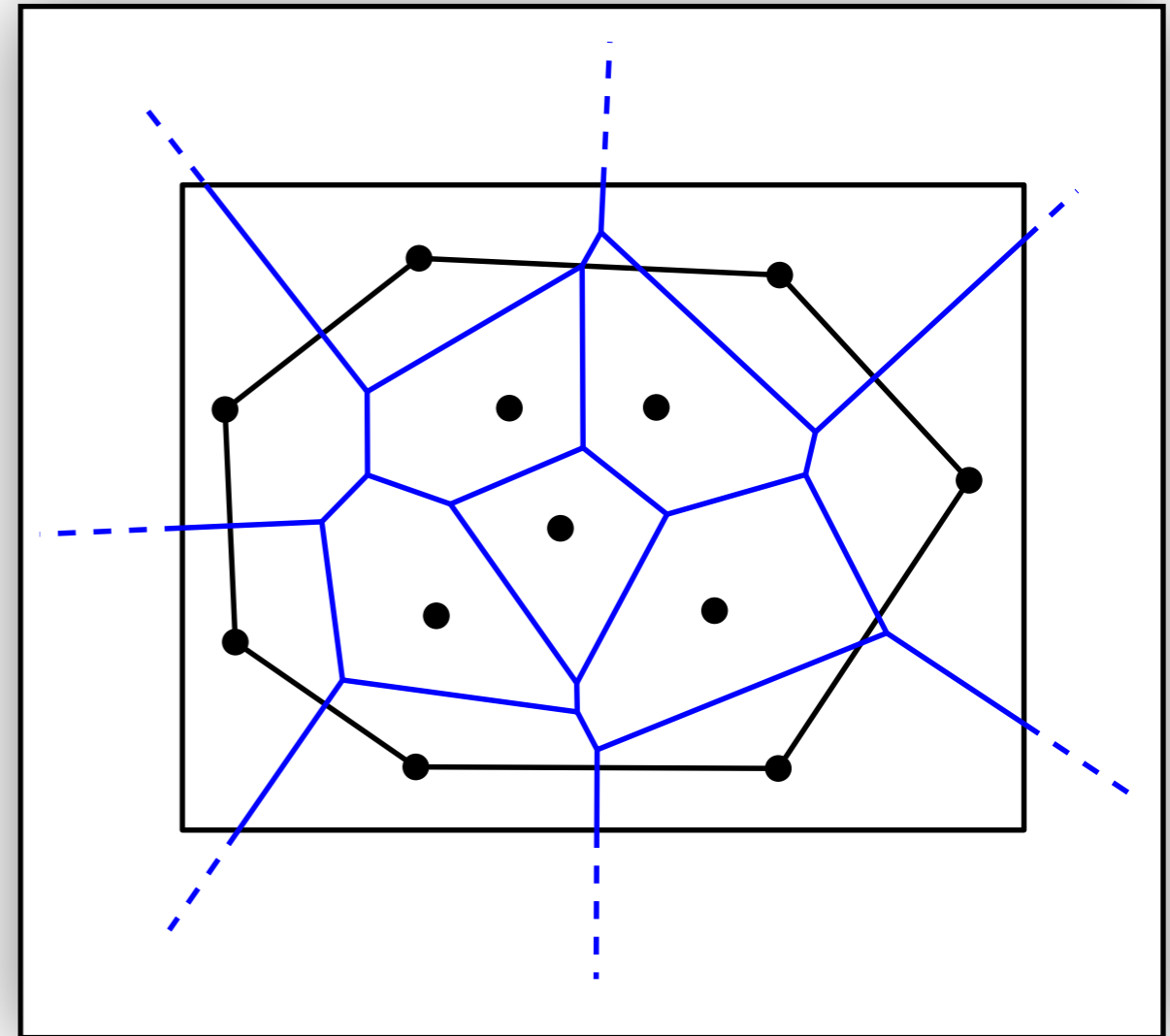
- Voronoi diagram: DCEL.

## Goal

- Voronoi diagram: DCEL.
- Necessary: bounding box

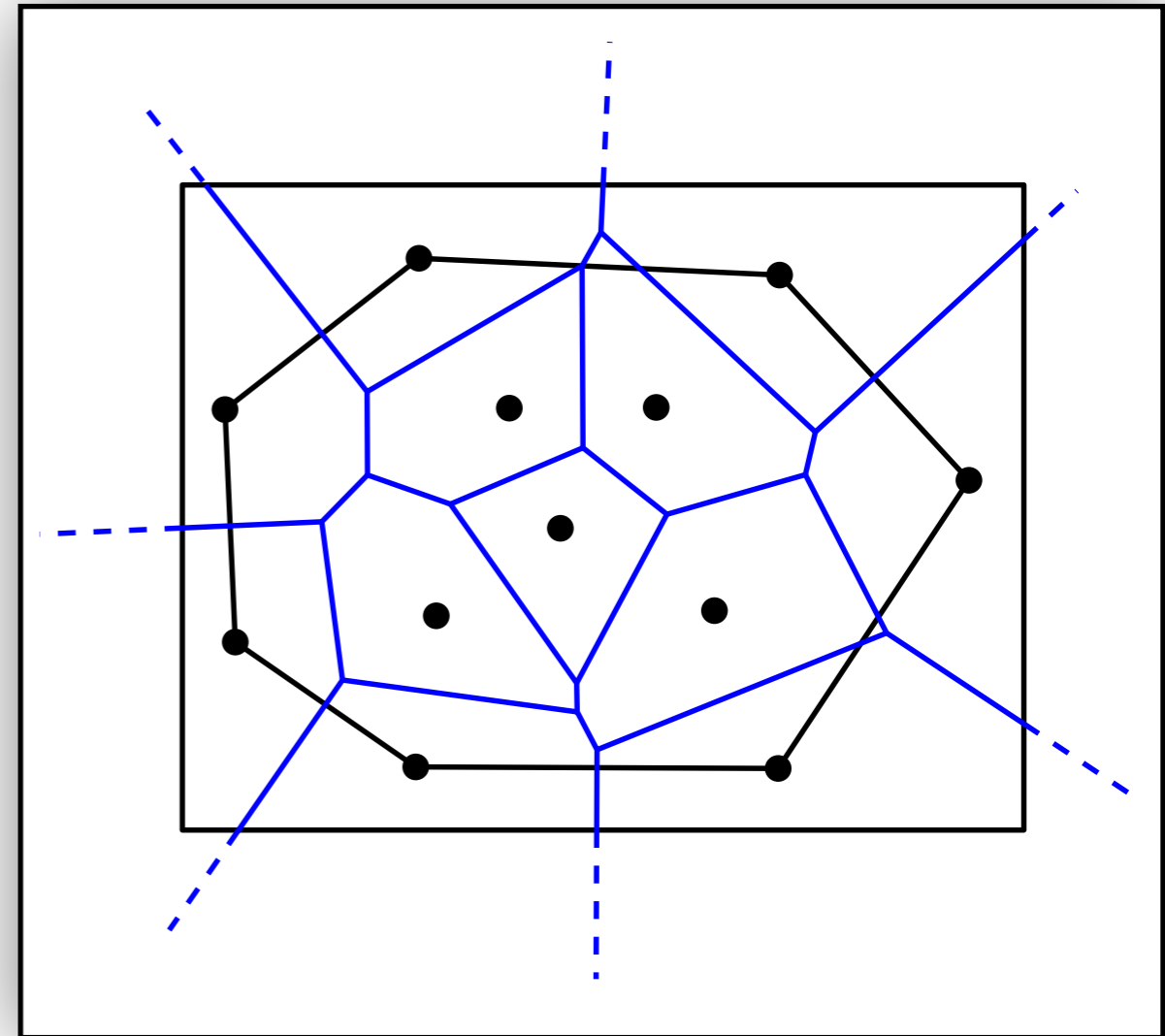
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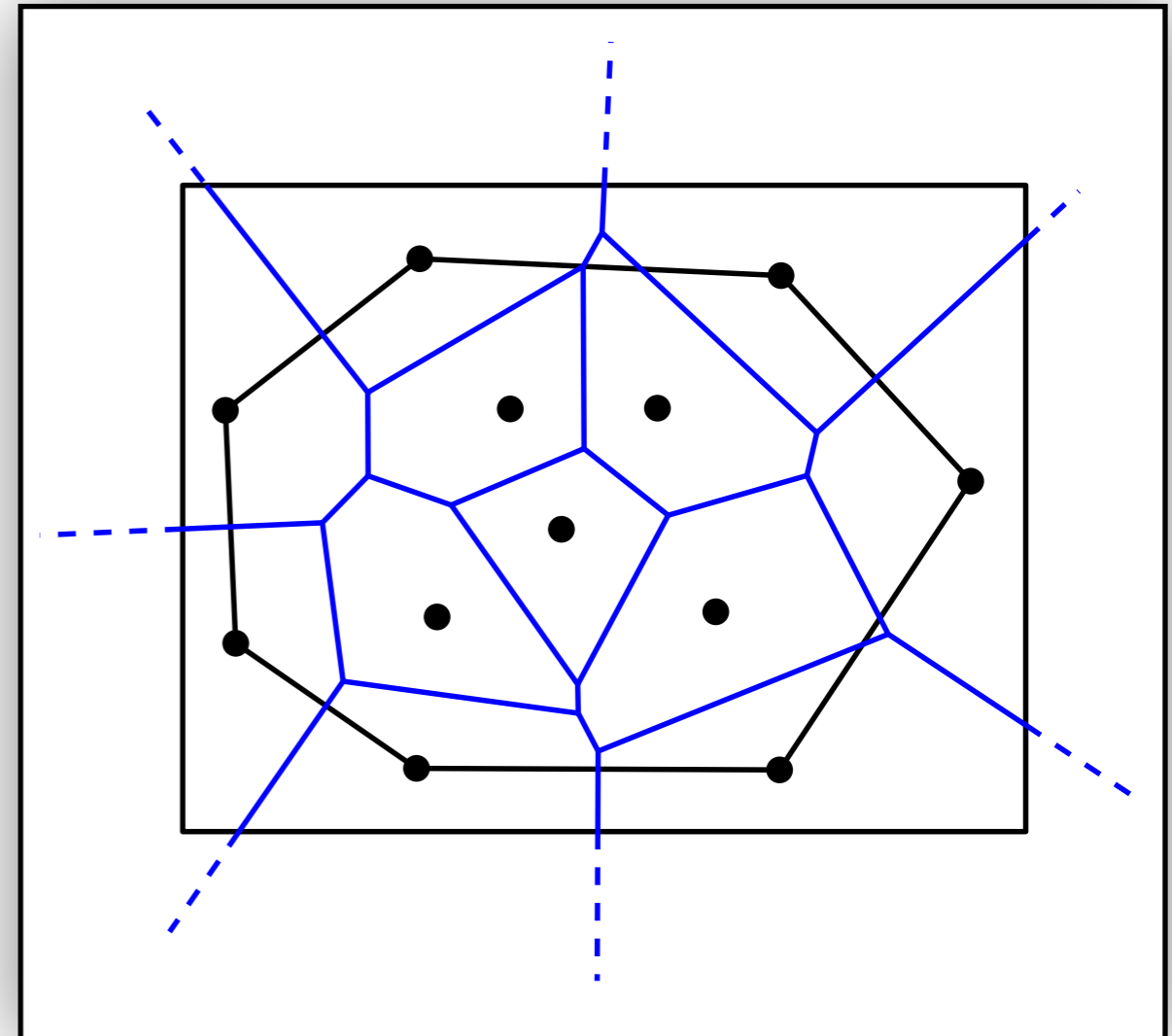
## Goal

- Voronoi diagram: DCEL.
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- Possible: Voronoi vertices outside  $\text{conv}(\mathcal{P})$ .



## Goal

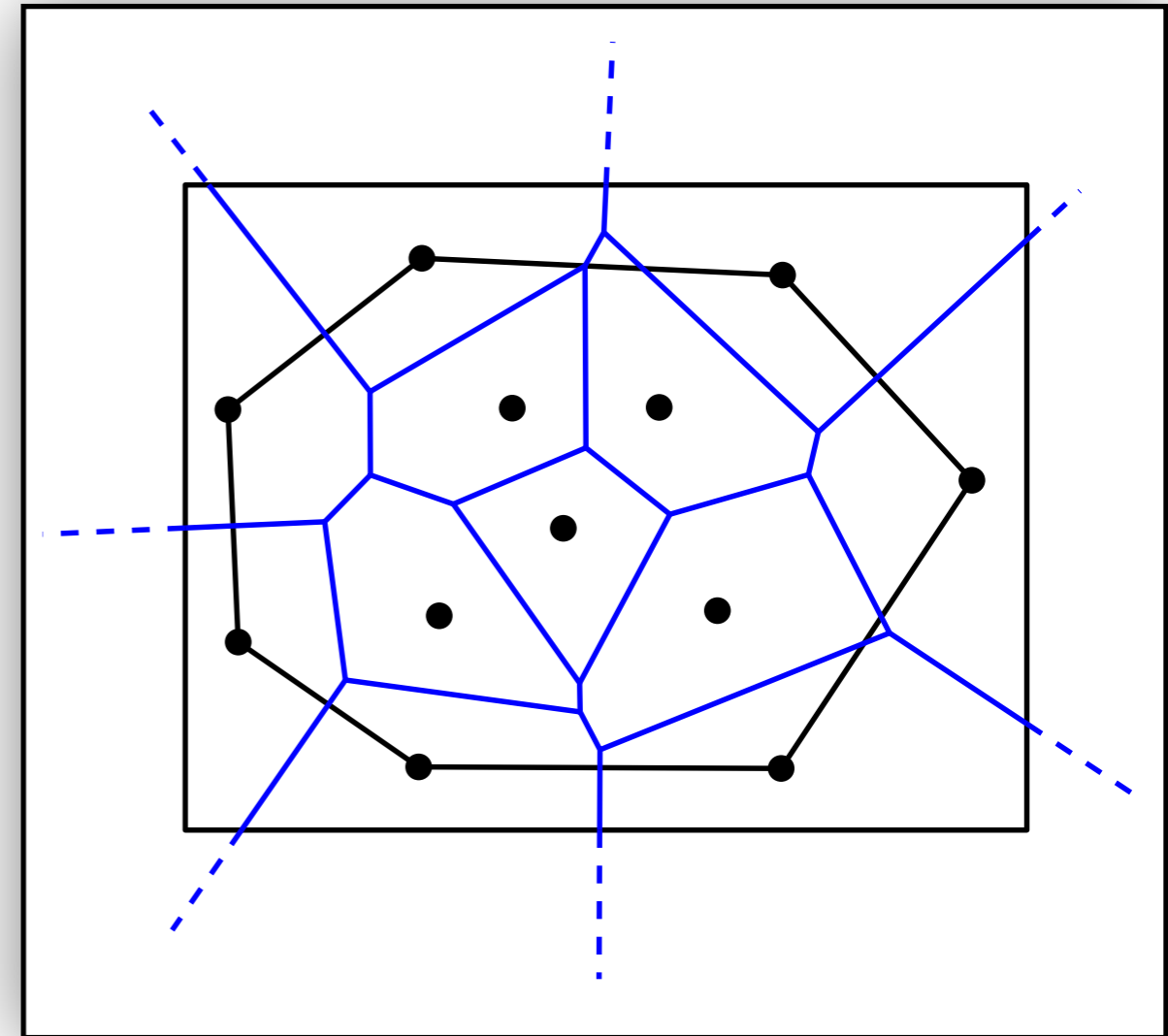
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- Preprocessing:  $\text{conv}(\mathcal{P})$  + topologically enclosing box  $\rightarrow$  outer face.





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- Constructing  $\text{Vor}(\mathcal{P})$ : second run





## Constructing the DCEL:



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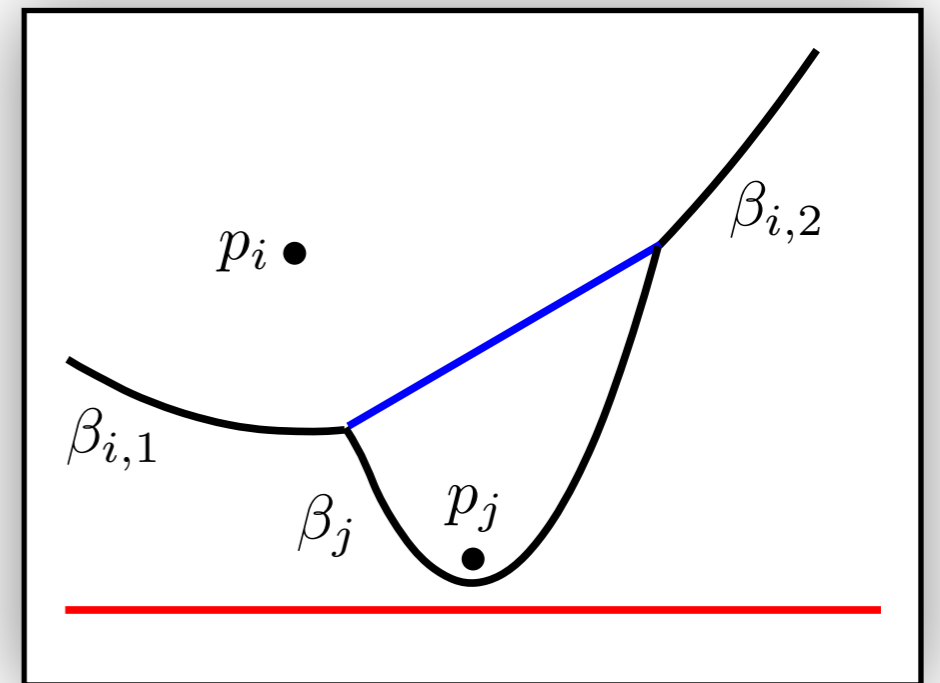
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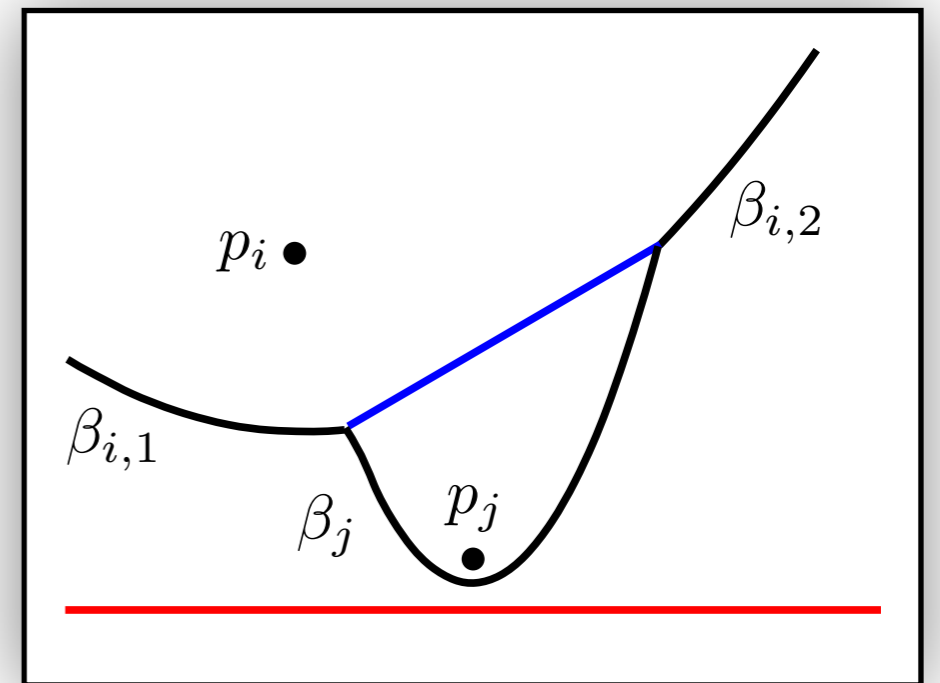
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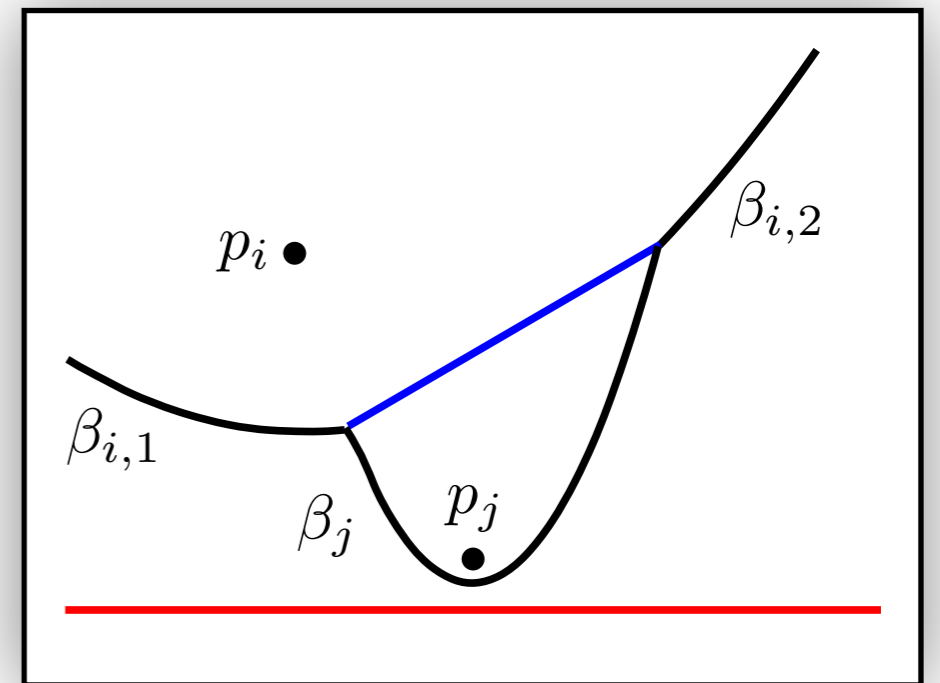
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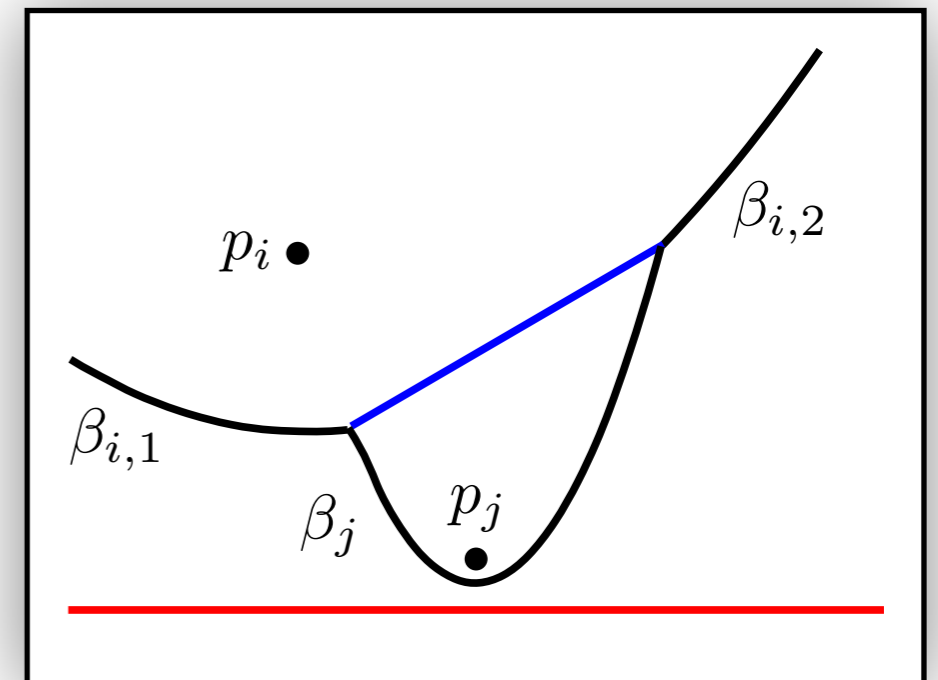
- Initially: Construct all regions
- Point event: Generate  $e \subset B(p_i, p_j)$  (first without end points)
  - $e$  separates regions for  $p_i, p_j$ .





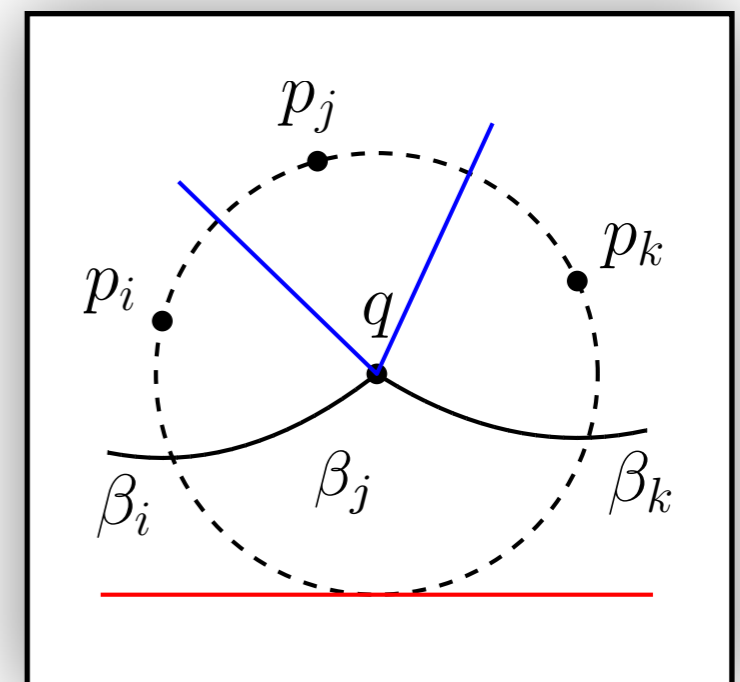
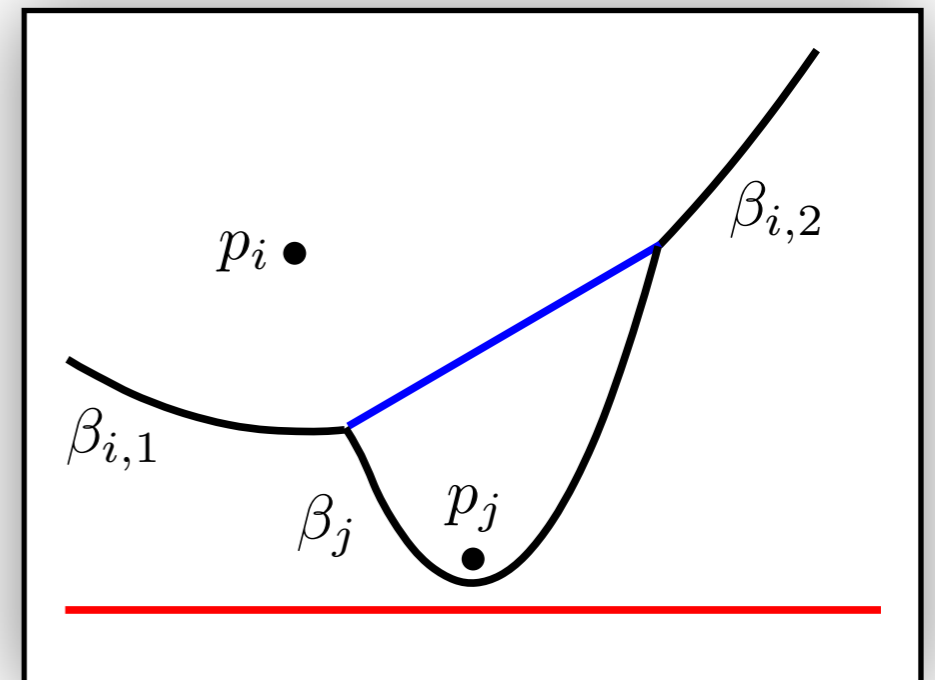
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- Circle event: Merge  $e_1 \subset B(p_i, p_j), e_2 \subset B(p_j, p_k)$  at  $q$ .



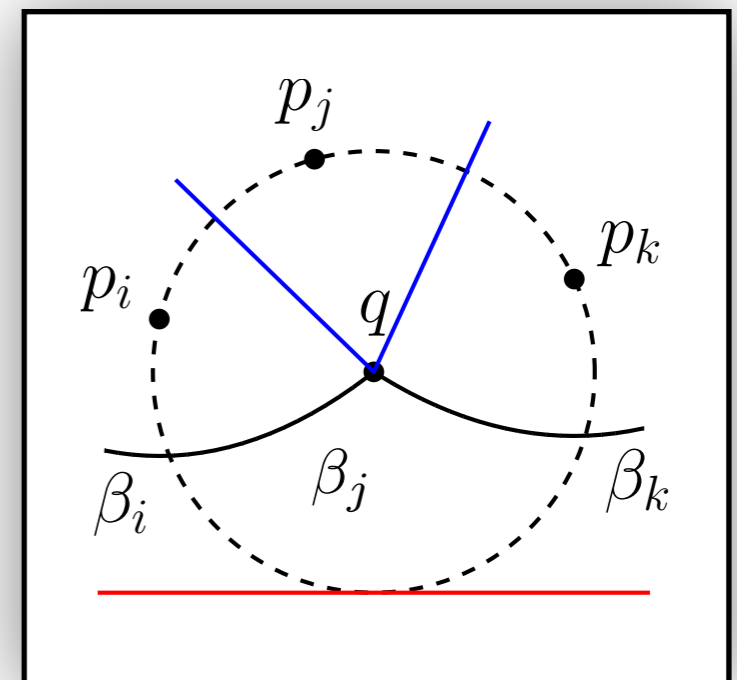
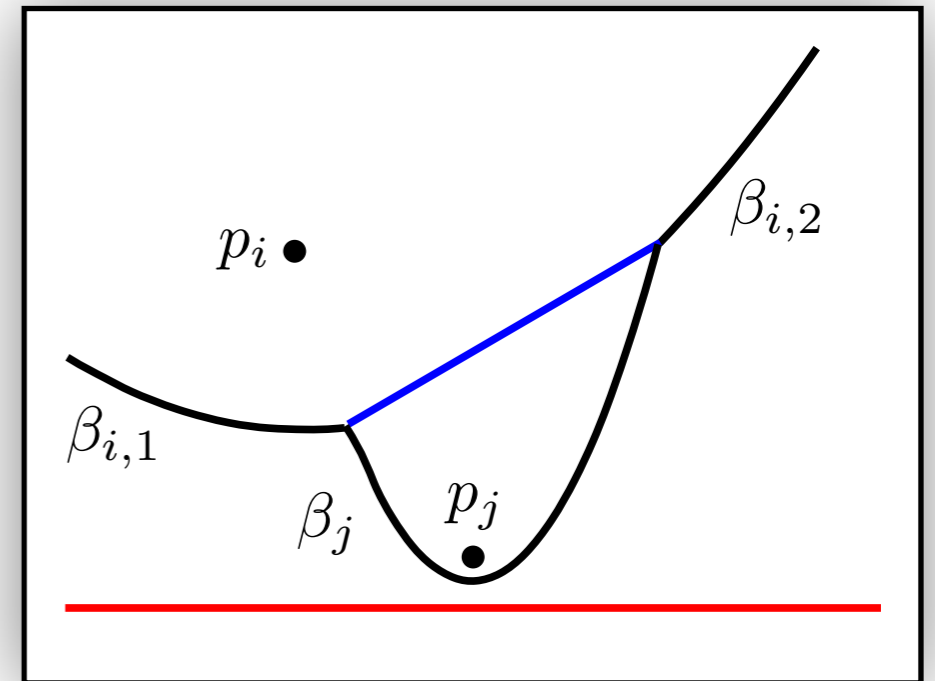
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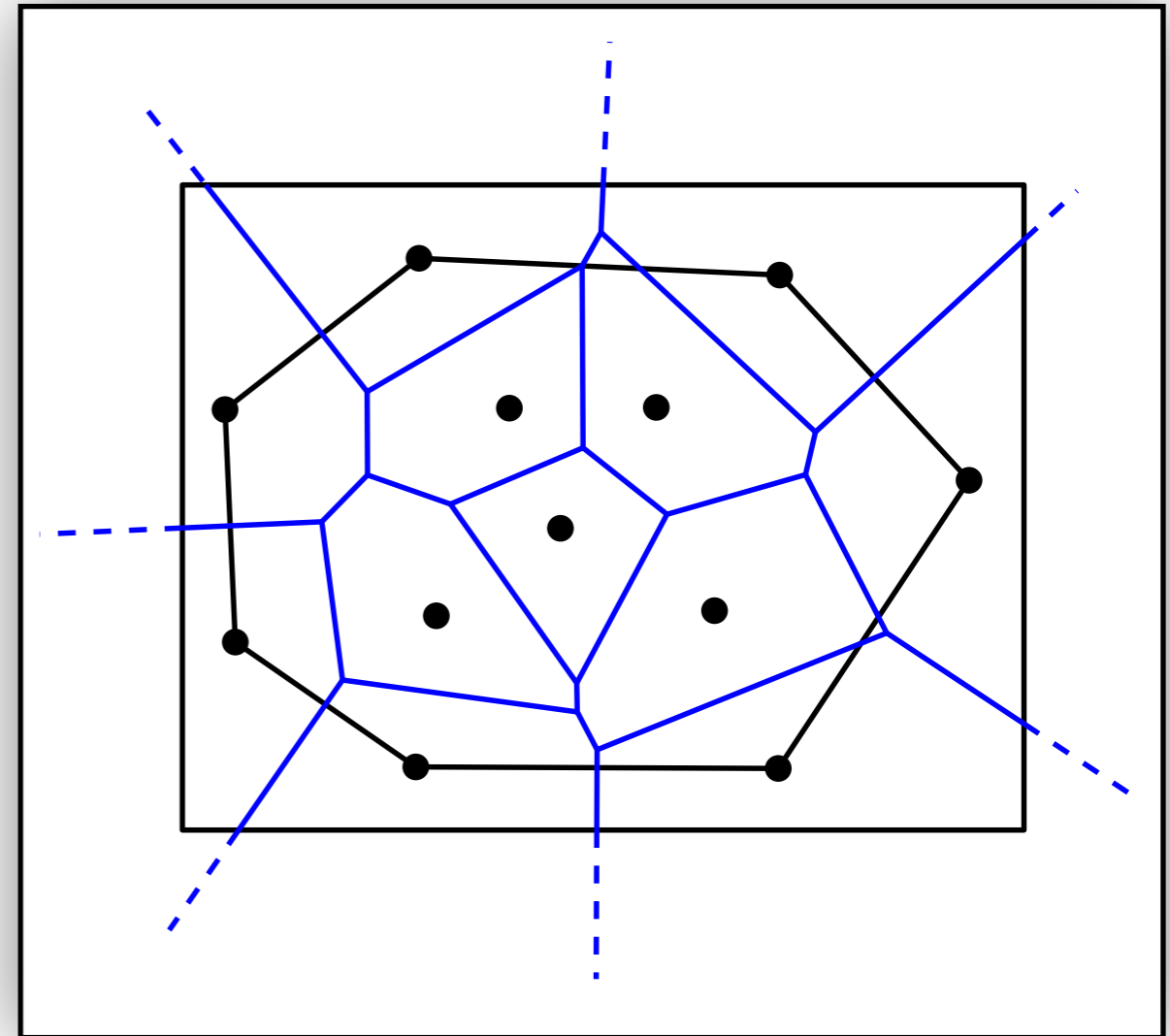
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 → new edge  $e_3 \subset B(p_i, p_k)$  incident to  $q$ .





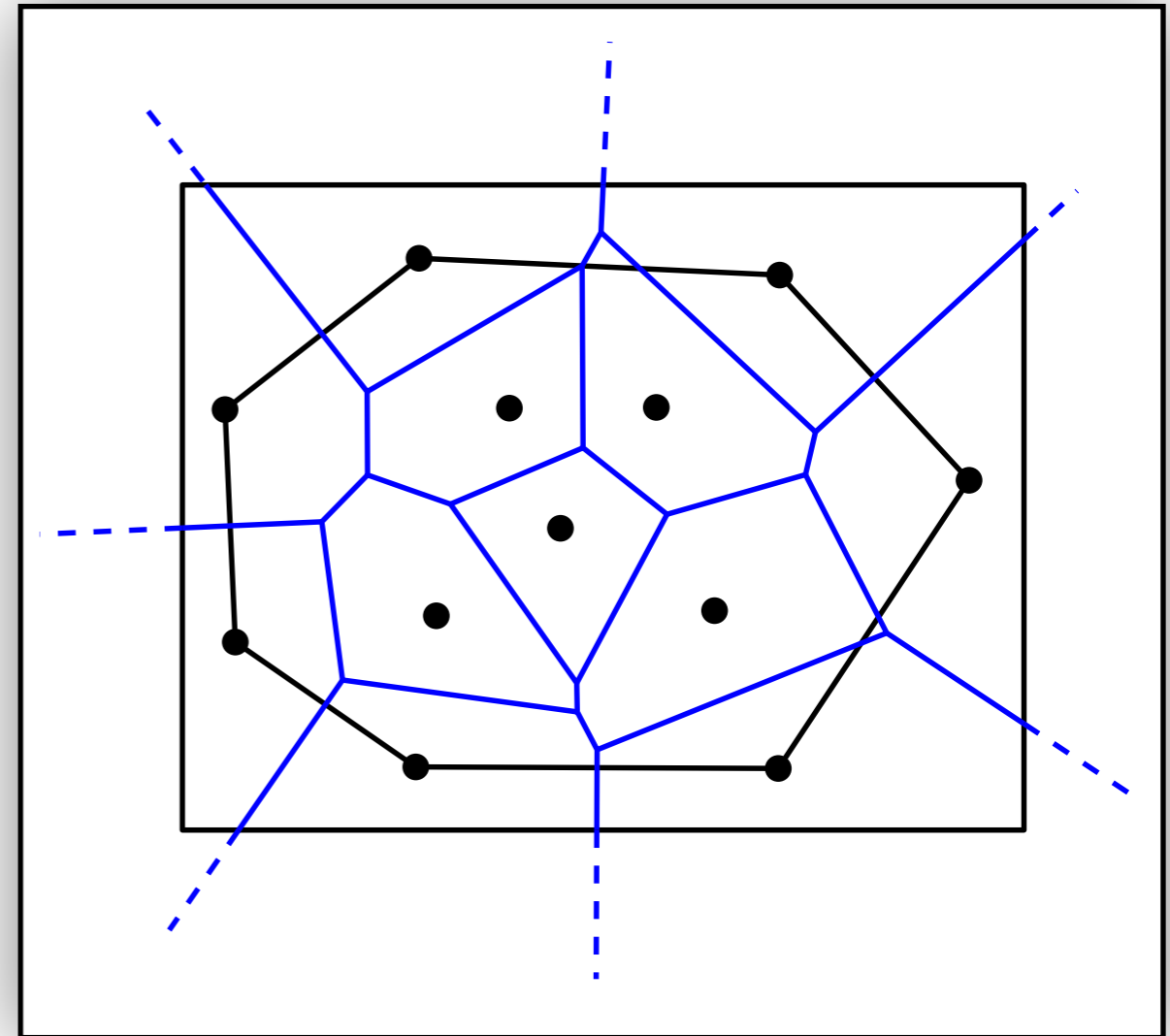
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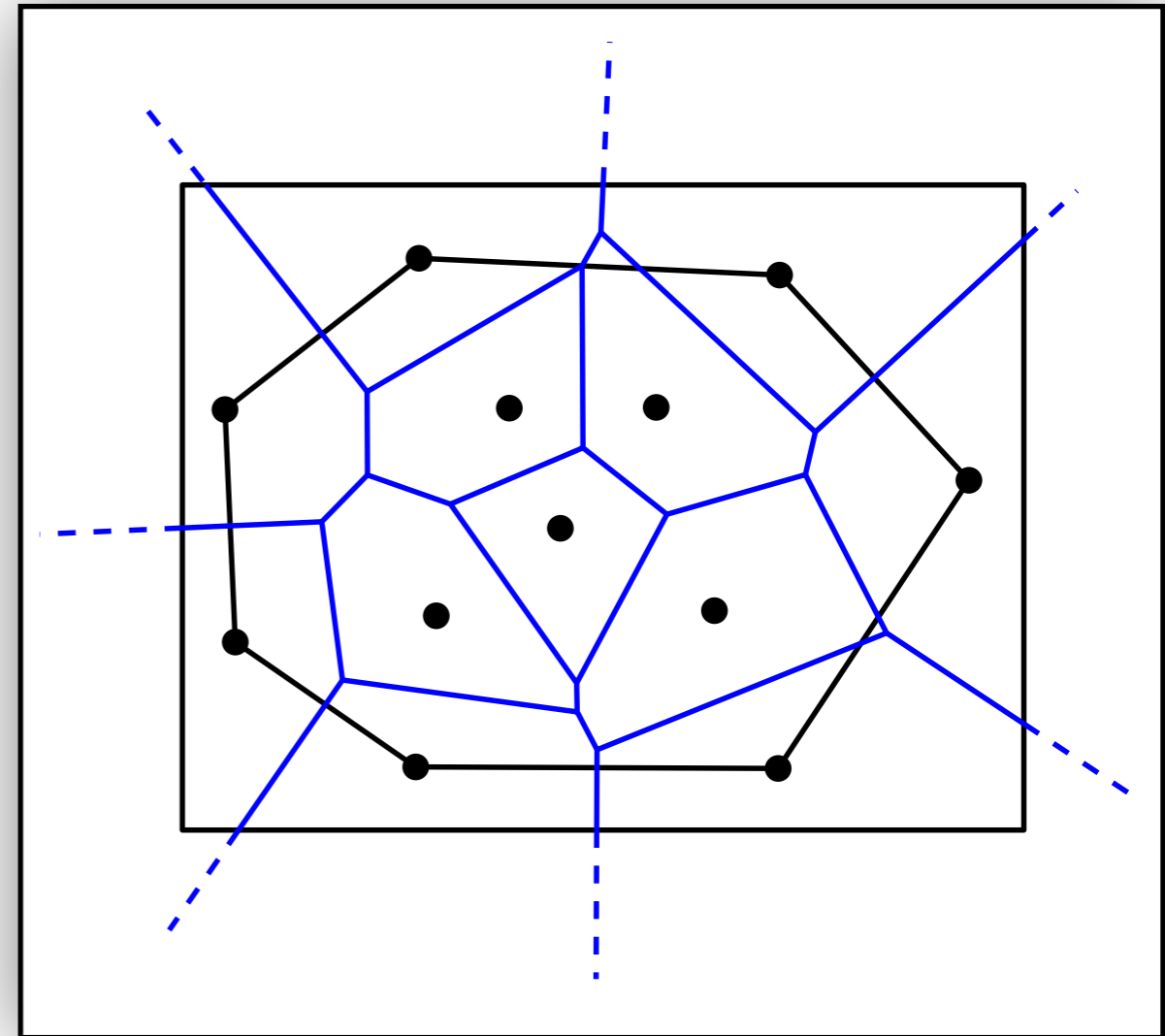
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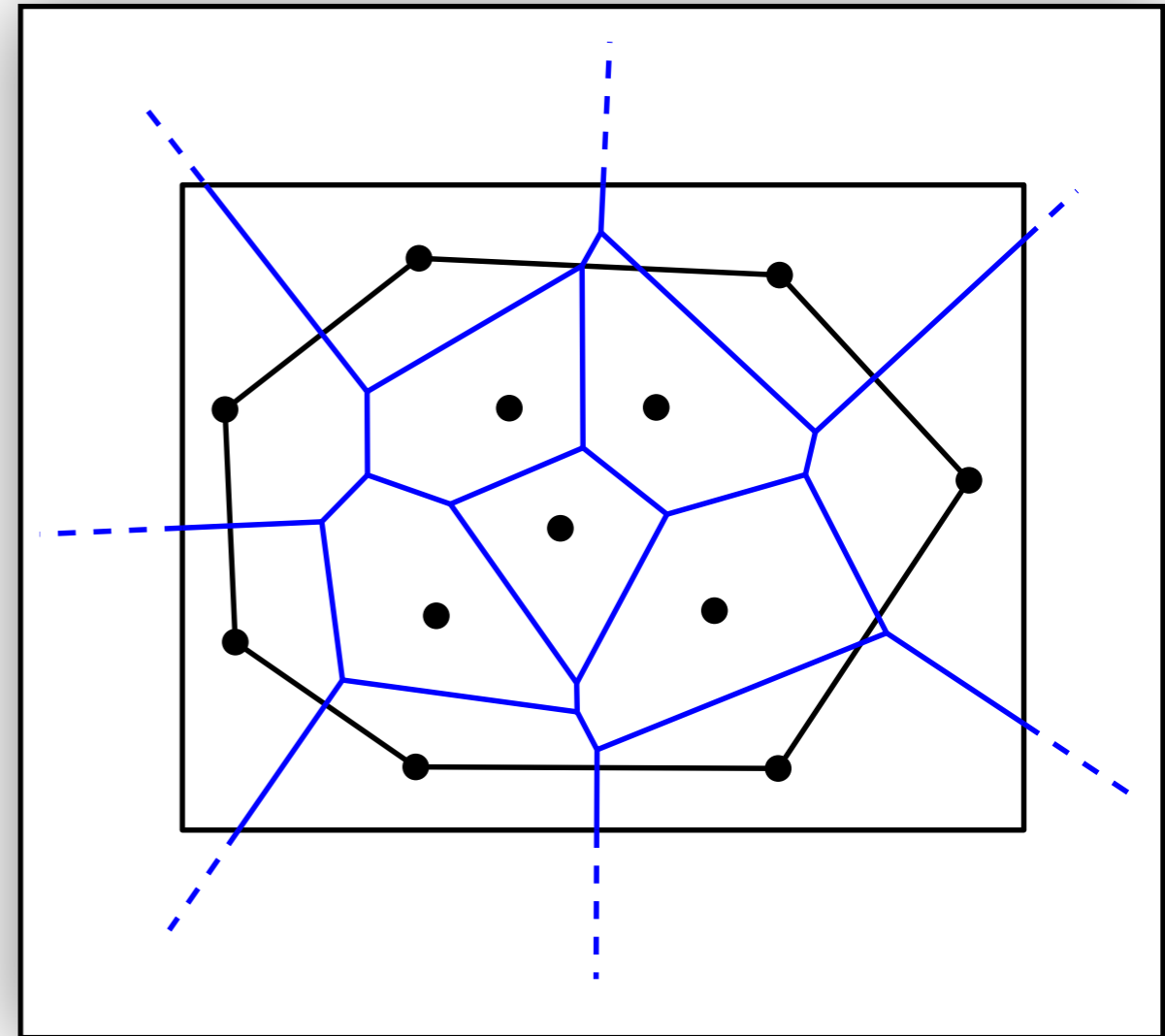
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## Unbounded edges:

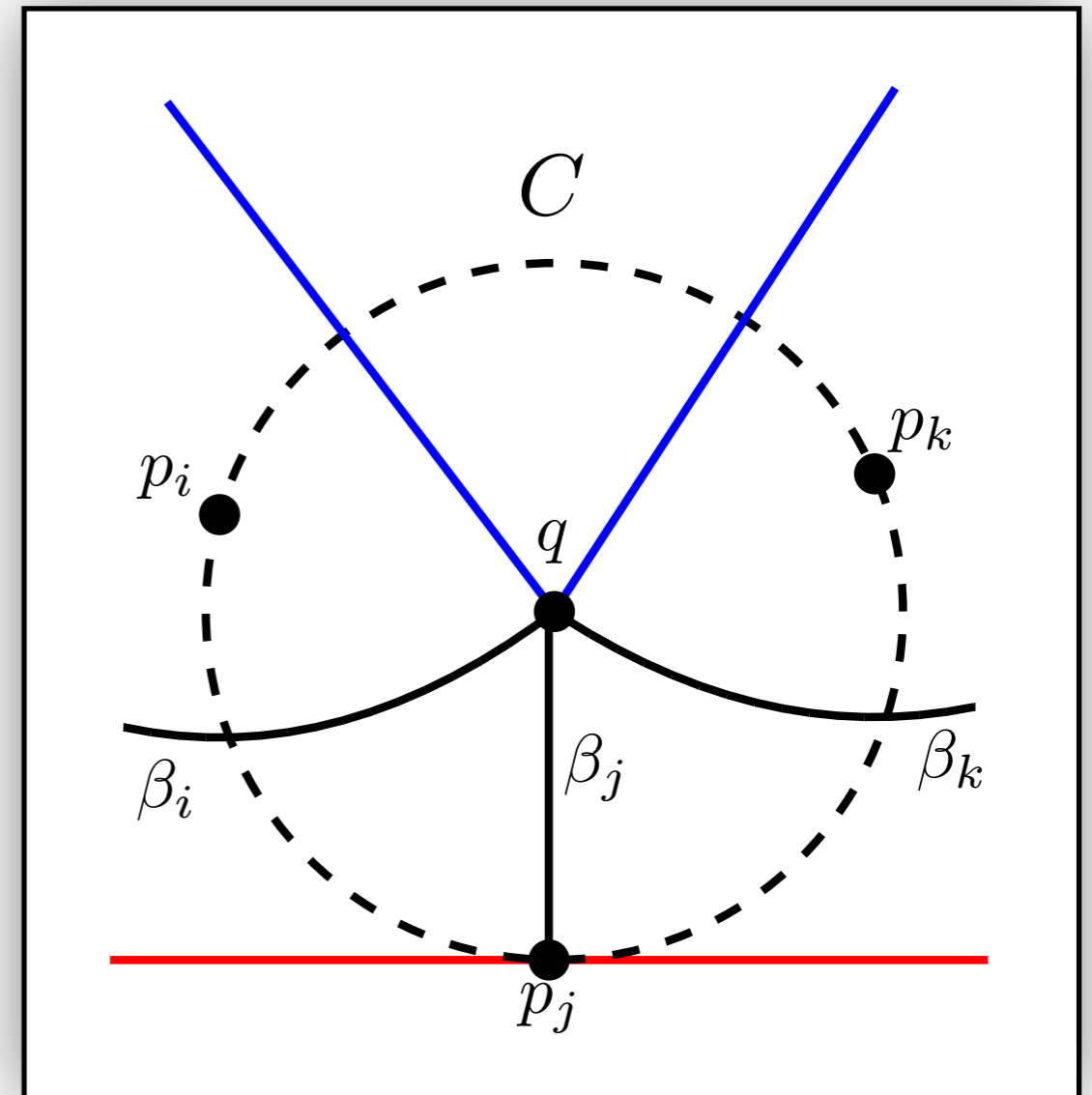
- After last event in  $Q$ :  $|B| \geq 2$
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- Connect such edges with the bounding box.





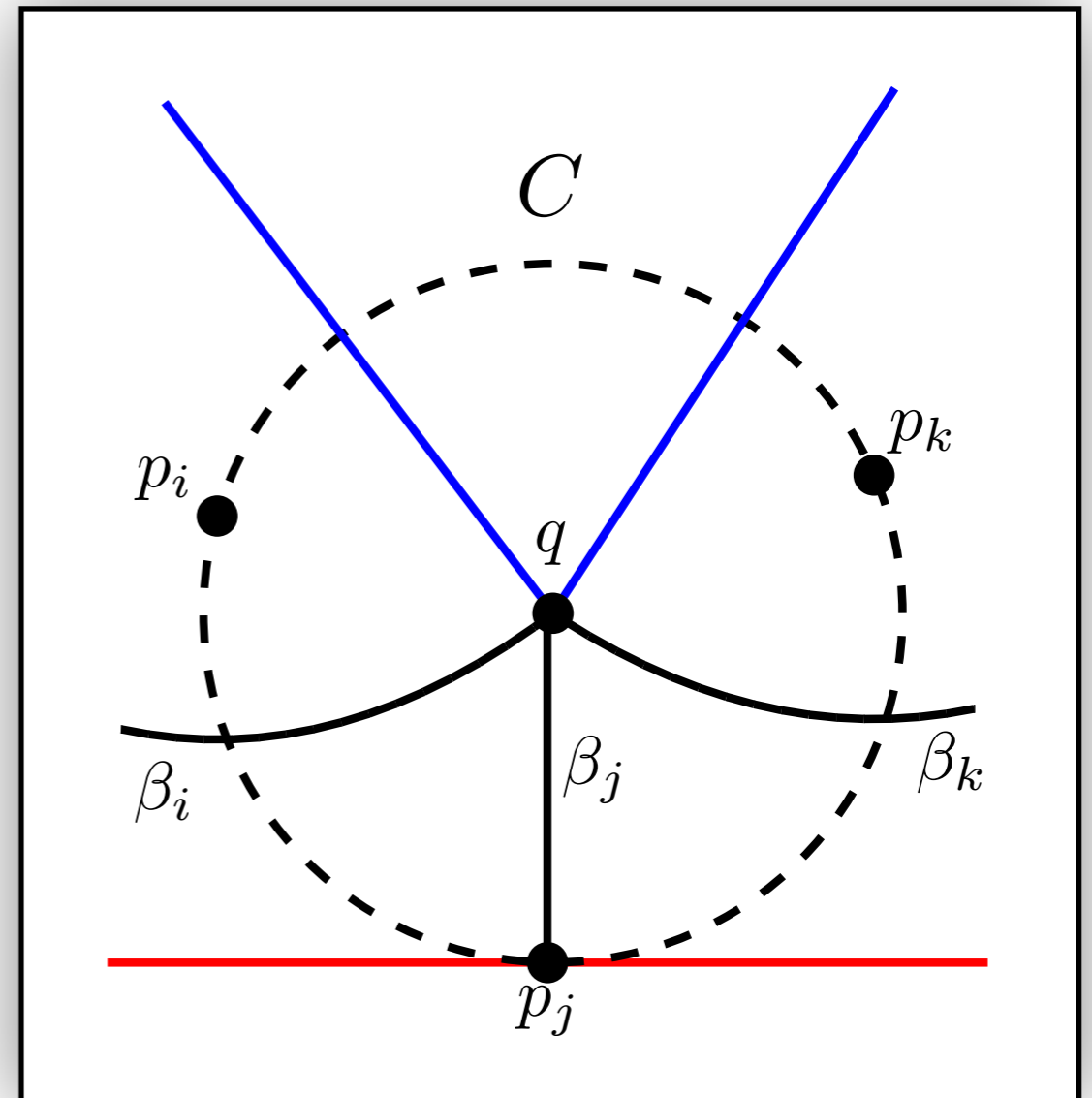
**Degenerate situation:**

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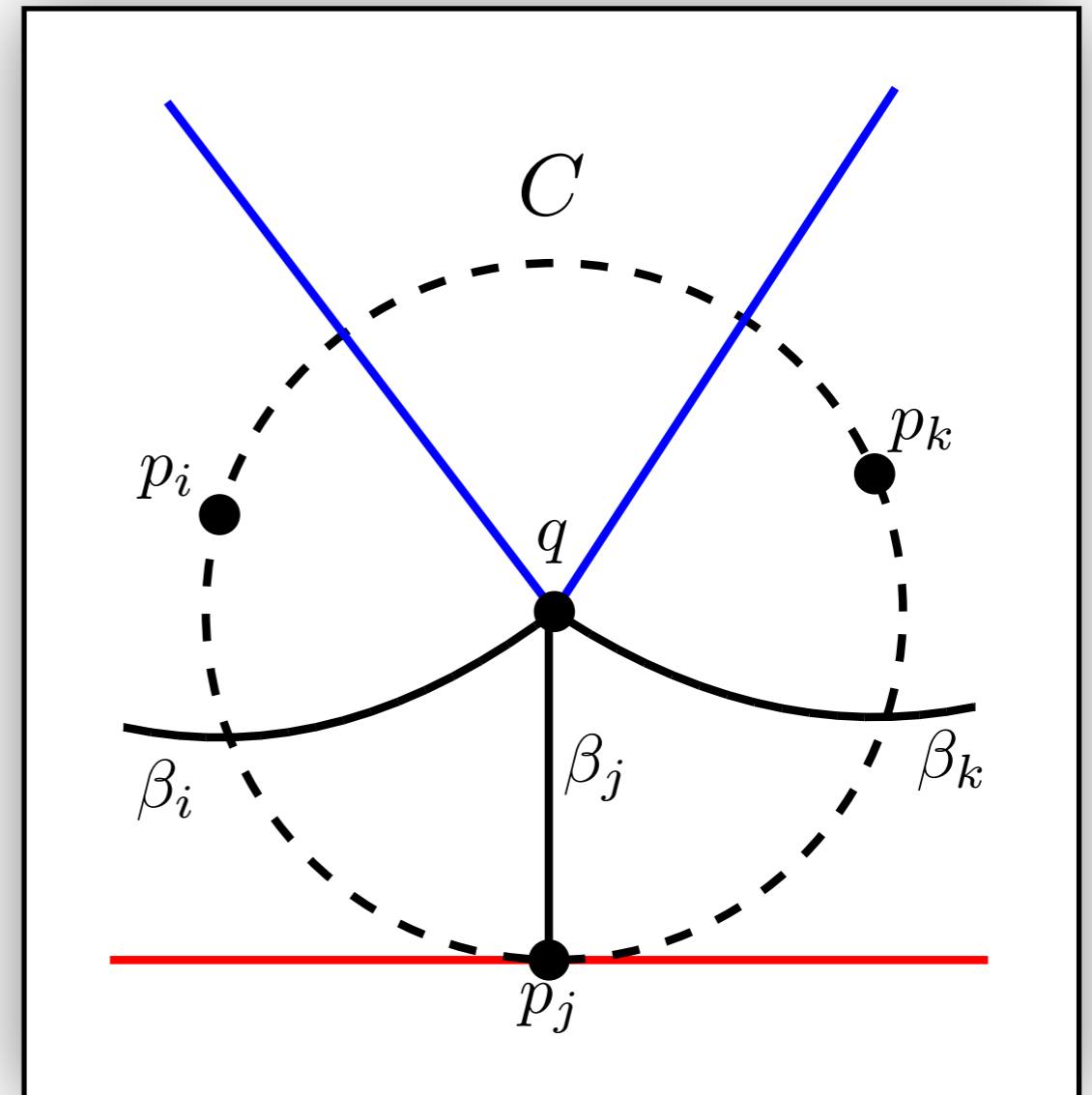
## Degenerate situation:

- Point event  $p_j$  below  $q$ .



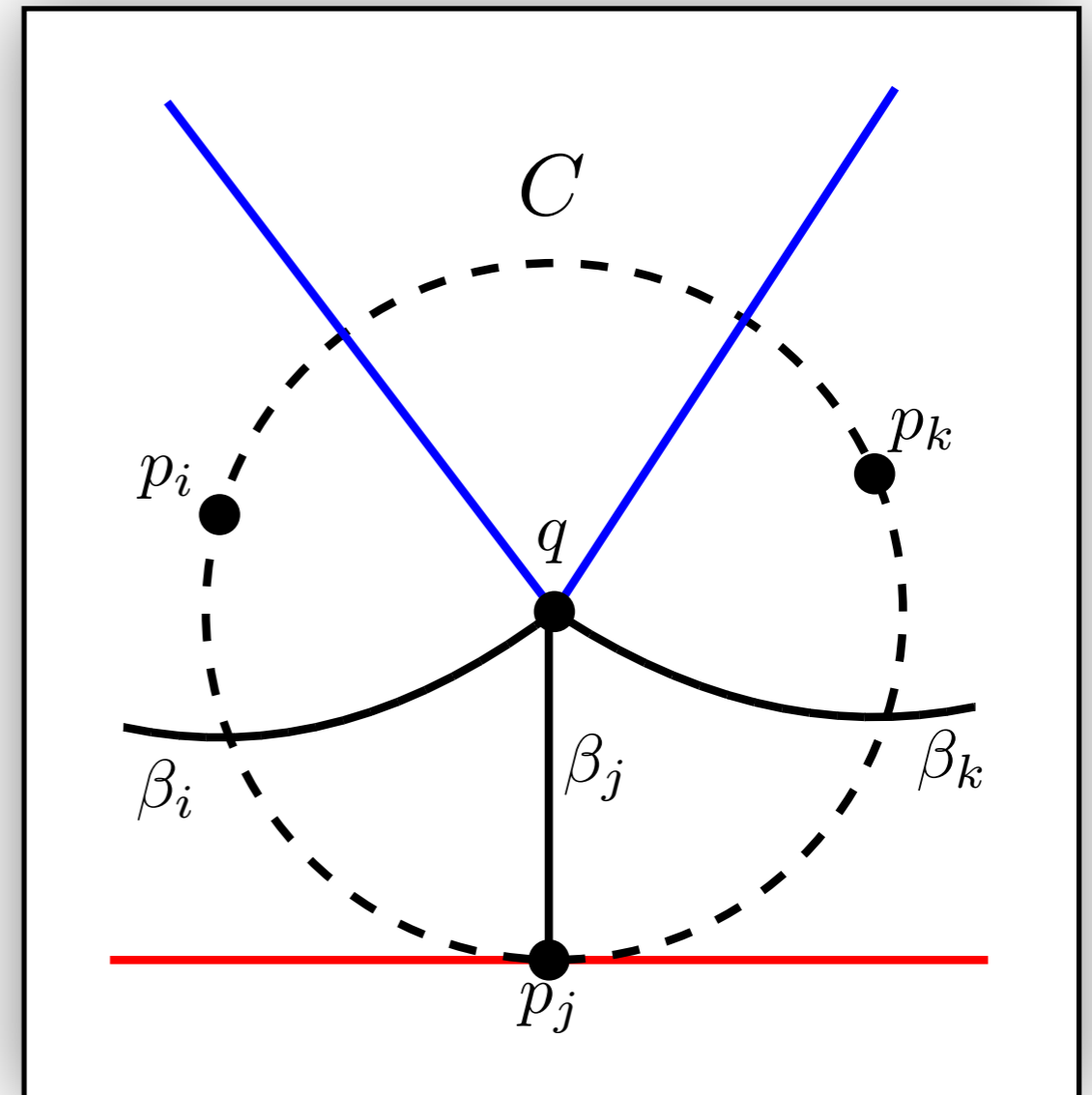
## Degenerate situation:

- Point event  $p_j$  below  $q$ .  
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of  $C := \bigcirc(p_i, p_j, p_k)$



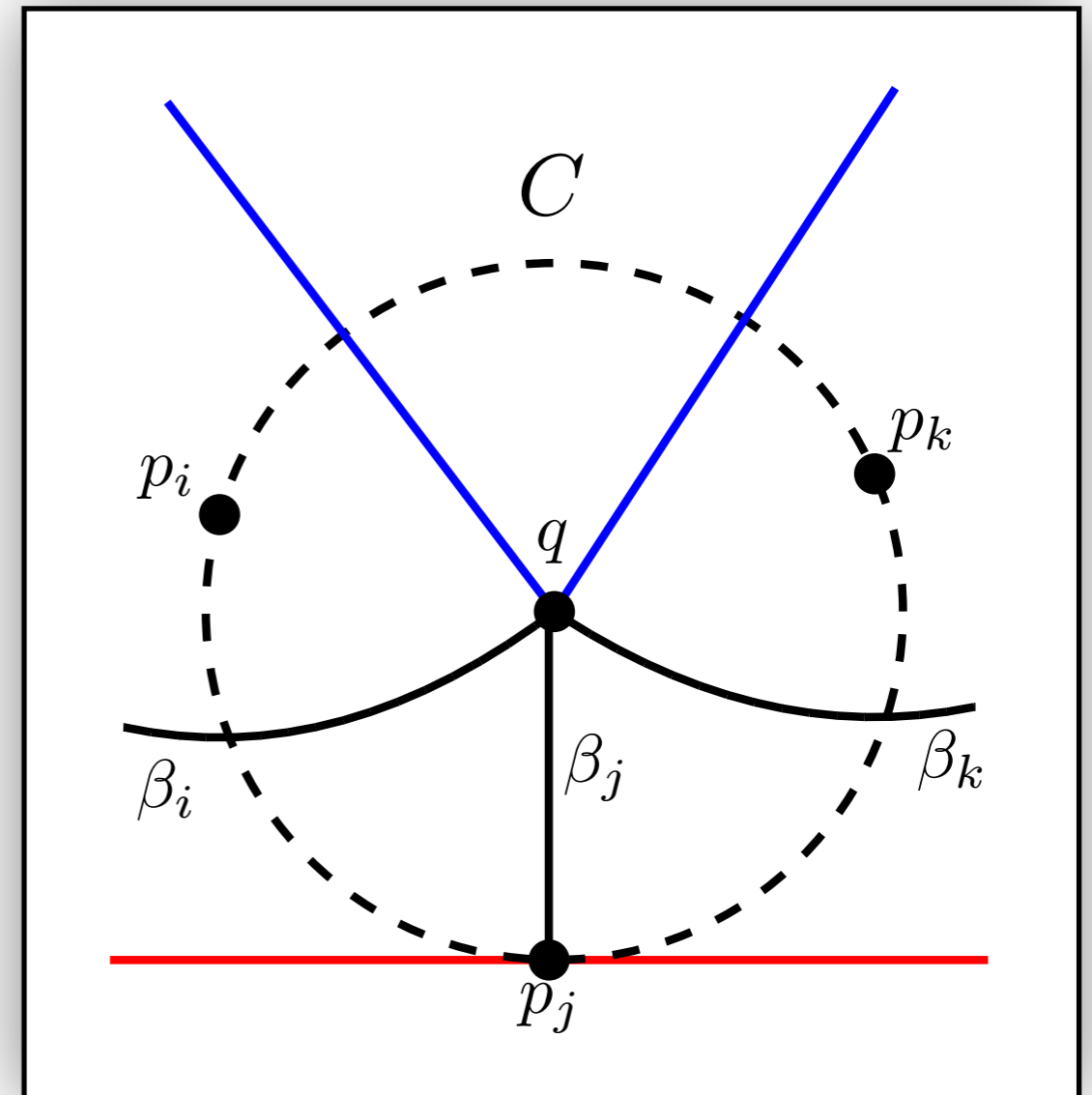
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- Generate Voronoi vertex  $q$ .







**Algorithm 1:** Computation of  $V^*(S)$ .

**Input:**  $S$  is a set of  $n \geq 1$  points with unique bottommost point.

**Output:** The bisectors and vertices of  $V^*$ .

**Data structures:**  $Q$ : a priority queue of points in the plane, ordered lexicographically. Each point is labeled as a site, or labeled as the intersection of a pair of boundaries of a single region.  $Q$  may contain duplicate instances of the same point with distinct labels; the ordering of duplicates is irrelevant.  
 $L$ : a sequence  $(r_1, c_1, r_2, \dots, r_k)$  of regions (labeled by site) and boundaries (labeled by a pair of sites). Note that a region can appear many times on  $L$ .

1. initialize  $Q$  with all sites
2.  $p \leftarrow \text{extract\_min}(Q)$
3.  $L \leftarrow$  the list containing  $R_p$ .
4. **while**  $Q$  is not empty **begin**
5.    $p \leftarrow \text{extract\_min}(Q)$
6.   **case**
7.     $p$  is a site:
8.     Find an occurrence of a region  $R_q^*$  on  $L$  containing  $p$ .
9.     Create bisector  $B_{pq}^*$ .
10.    Update list  $L$  so that it contains  $\dots, R_q^*, C_{pq}^-, R_p^*, C_{pq}^+, R_q^*, \dots$  in place of  $R_q^*$ .
11.    Delete from  $Q$  the intersection between the left and right boundary of  $R_q^*$ , if any.
12.    Insert into  $Q$  the intersection between  $C_{pq}^-$  and its neighbor to the left on  $L$ , if any, and the intersection between  $C_{pq}^+$  and its neighbor to the right, if any.
13.     $p$  is an intersection:
14.     Let  $p$  be the intersection of boundaries  $C_{qr}$  and  $C_{rs}$ .
15.     Create the bisector  $B_{qs}^*$ .
16.     Update list  $L$  so it contains  $C_{qs} = C_{qs}^-$  or  $C_{qs}^+$ , as appropriate, instead of  $C_{qr}, R_r^*, C_{rs}$ .
17.     Delete from  $Q$  any intersection between  $C_{qr}$  and its neighbor to the left and between  $C_{rs}$  and its neighbor to the right.
18.     Insert any intersections between  $C_{qs}$  and its neighbors to the left or right into  $Q$ .
19.     Mark  $p$  as a vertex and as an endpoint of  $B_{qr}^*, B_{rs}^*$ , and  $B_{qs}^*$ .
20. **end**

Fig. 2.4. Algorithm 1: computation of  $V^*(s)$ .



- $x$ -structure  $B$ , event queue  $Q$ : cost of  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$  per operation

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- $x$ -structure  $B$ , event queue  $Q$ : cost of  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$  per operation
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### Theorem 4.23

Fortune's algorithm computes the Voronoi diagram of  $n$  points in time  $\Theta(n \log n)$ .

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### Theorem 4.23

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**THEOREM 2.8.** *Algorithm 1 can be implemented to run in time  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$  and space  $\mathcal{O}(n)$ .*



Steven Fortune

4. Dezember 2020 um 14:48

Aw: Computational Geometry - video message?

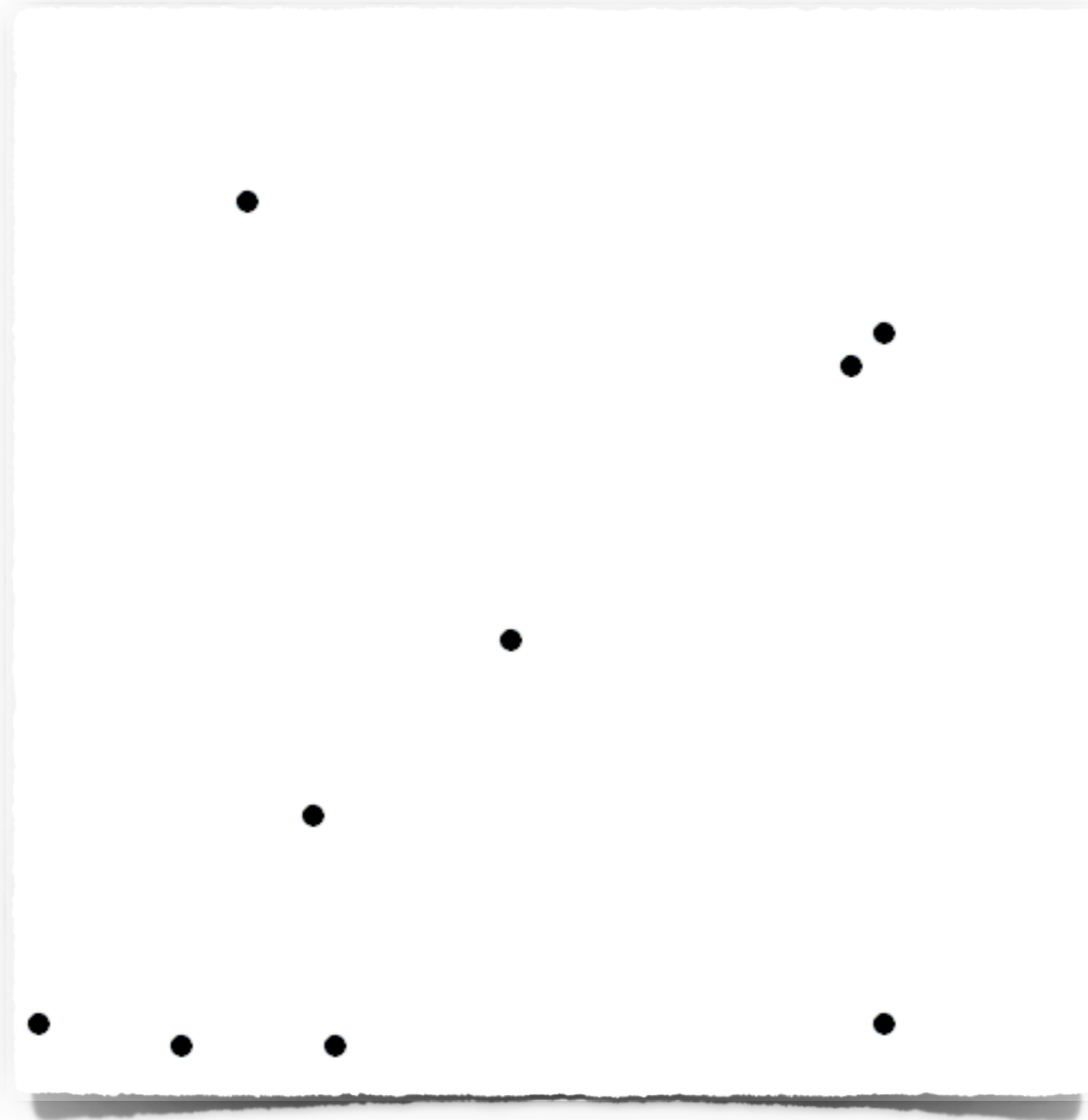
An: Sándor Fekete,

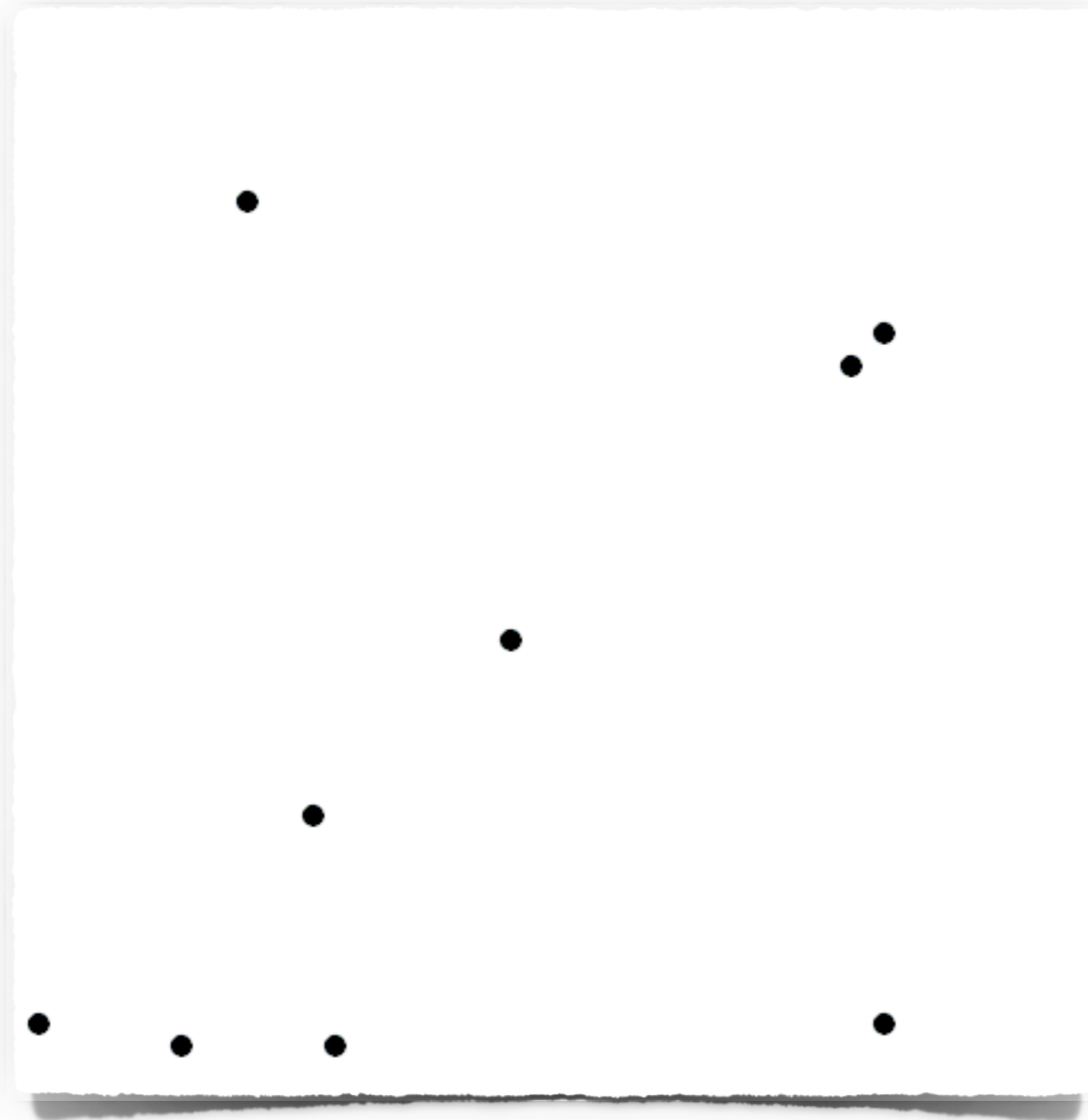
Umgeleitet von: [fekete@tu-braunschweig.de](mailto:fekete@tu-braunschweig.de)

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The ways I know:

1. original paper, transforming the plane
2. beach line (maintaining the "known" part of the VD)
3. sweep line maintains the top of circles
4. in 3d, sweep a plane at 45 degrees to xy, watch it intersect 45 degree cones centered at sites





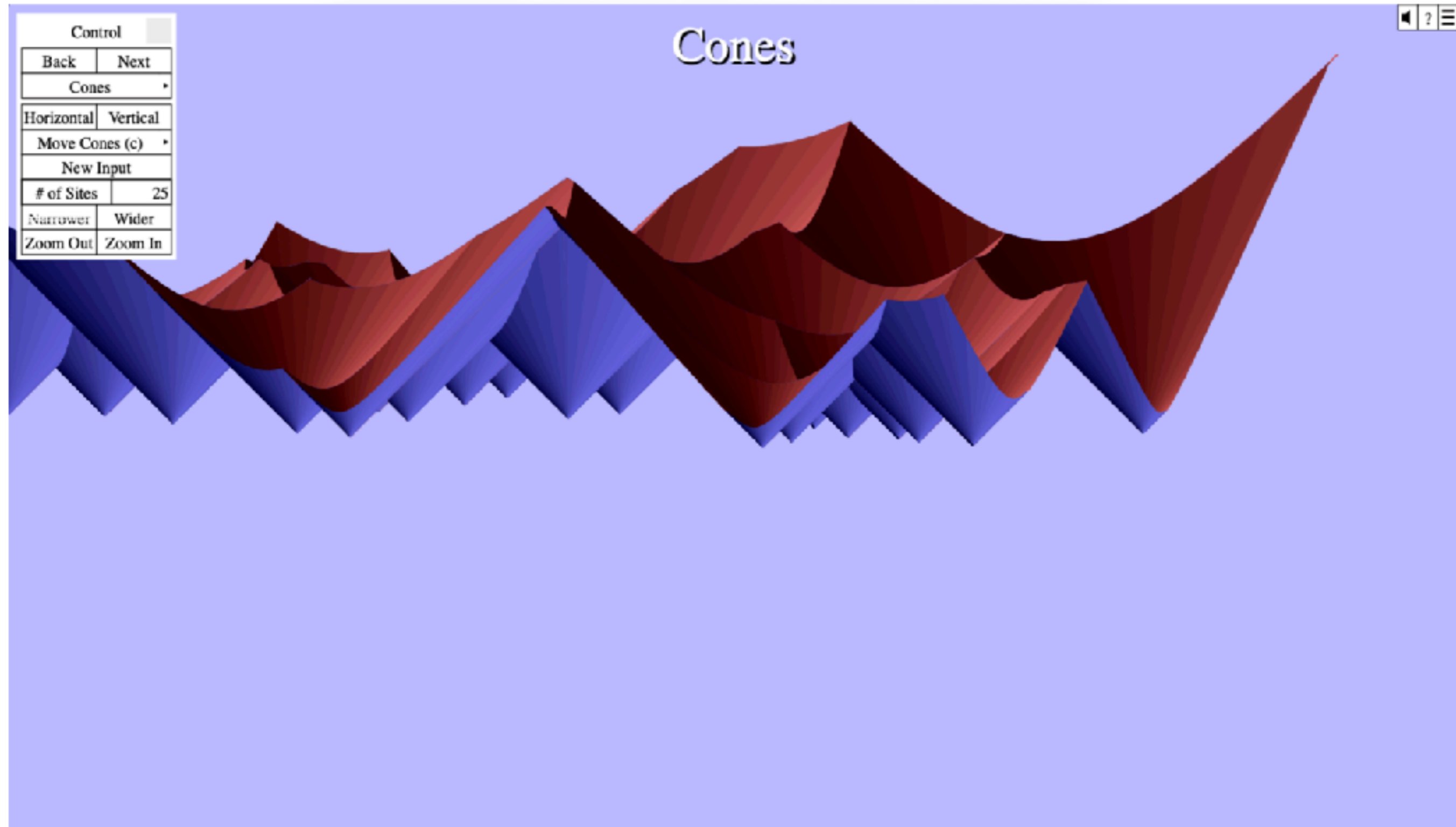
# Sweep Plane

Control	
Back	Next
Sweep Plane ▾	
Backward	Forward
Reset	Finish
Slow	Fast
Horizontal	Vertical
Move Cones (c) ▾	
New Input	
# of Sites	25
Beachline Info	
Narrower	Wider
Zoom Out	Zoom In

BEACHLINE

## Cones

Control	
Back	Next
Cones ▾	
Horizontal	Vertical
Move Cones (c) ▾	
New Input	
# of Sites	25
Narrower	Wider
Zoom Out	Zoom In





# Sweep Plane

Control	
Back	Next
Sweep Plane ▾	
Backward	Forward
Reset	Finish
Slow	Fast
Horizontal	Vertical
Move Cones (c) ▾	
New Input	
# of Sites	25
<input type="checkbox"/> Beachline Info	
Narrower	Wider
Zoom Out	Zoom In



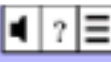
BEACHLINE

**Sweep Plane**

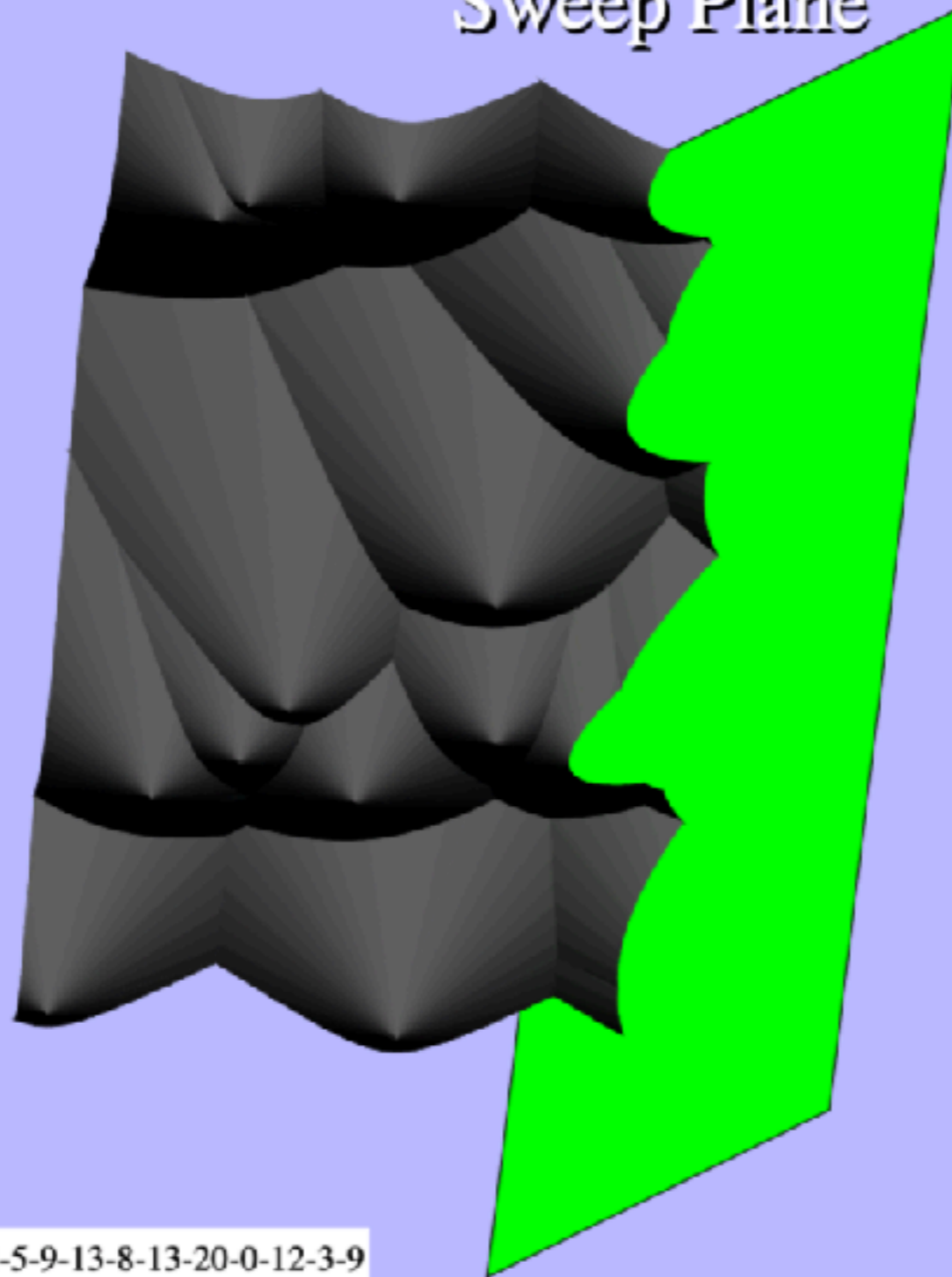
Control	
Back	Next
Sweep Plane ▾	
Backward	Forward
Reset	Finish
Slow	Fast
Horizontal	Vertical
Move Cones (c) ▾	
New Input	
# of Sites	25
<input type="checkbox"/> Beachline Info	
Narrower	Wider
Zoom Out	Zoom In

BEACHLINE: 6-2-24-20-6





## Sweep Plane



Control	
Back	Next
Sweep Plane ▾	
Backward	Forward
Reset	Finish
Slow	Fast
Horizontal	Vertical
Move Cones (c) ▾	
New Input	
# of Sites	25
Beachline Info	
Narrower	Wider
Zoom Out	Zoom In

BEACHLINE: 9-16-15-22-1-15-18-5-9-13-8-13-20-0-12-3-9



1. Introduction and Motivation
2. Definitions
3. Representing planar partitions
4. Properties
5. Fortune's algorithm
6. Variations
7. The Voronoi Game
8. Summary and conclusions

**Thank you for today!**

