

Computational Geometry

Tutorial #3 — Farthest Pairs

Farthest point pairs

What we know

Exercise 3 (Farthest Point Pairs).

(5+10 points)

Given a set \mathcal{P} of n points in the Euclidean plane, two points $p, q \in \mathcal{P}$ are a *farthest pair* in \mathcal{P} if

$$\forall u, v \in \mathcal{P} : |p - q| \geq |u - v|.$$

The Euclidean distance between p and q is then also called the *diameter* of \mathcal{P} .

- a) Prove that all farthest pairs in \mathcal{P} are vertices of the convex hull $\text{conv}(\mathcal{P})$.
- b) Design an $\mathcal{O}(n)$ algorithm that approximates the diameter of \mathcal{P} up to a constant factor. Argue its correctness, approximation factor, and runtime!

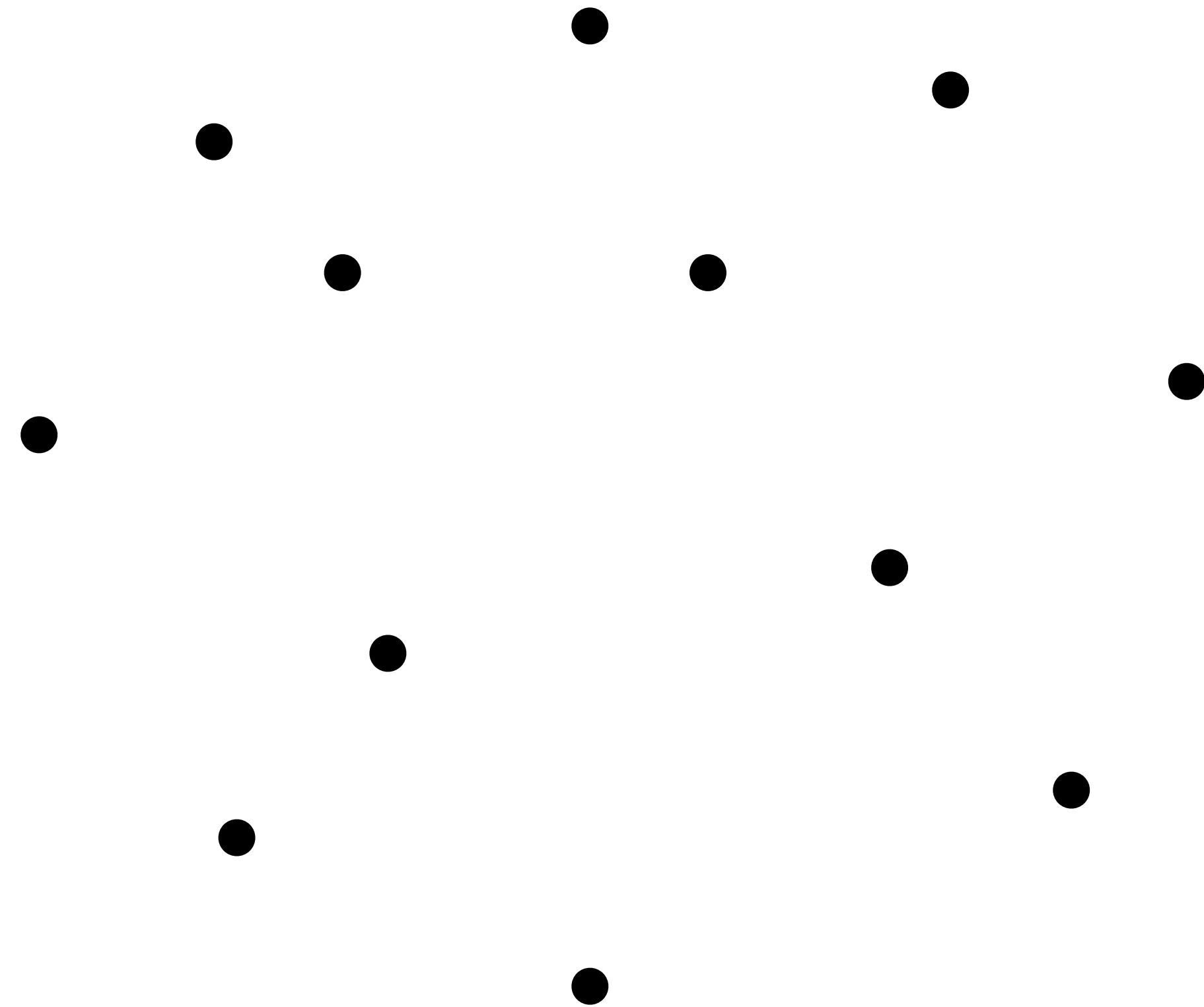
- We will assume that **a)** is true — Discussion next week :)
- An exact $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ time algorithm is trivial — can we do better?

Farthest point pairs

Convex hull

Let \mathcal{P} be set of n points in the Euclidean plane \mathbb{R}^2 , in general position*.

Lemma E3.1 All farthest pairs of \mathcal{P} consist of two vertices of the convex hull $\text{conv}(\mathcal{P})$.



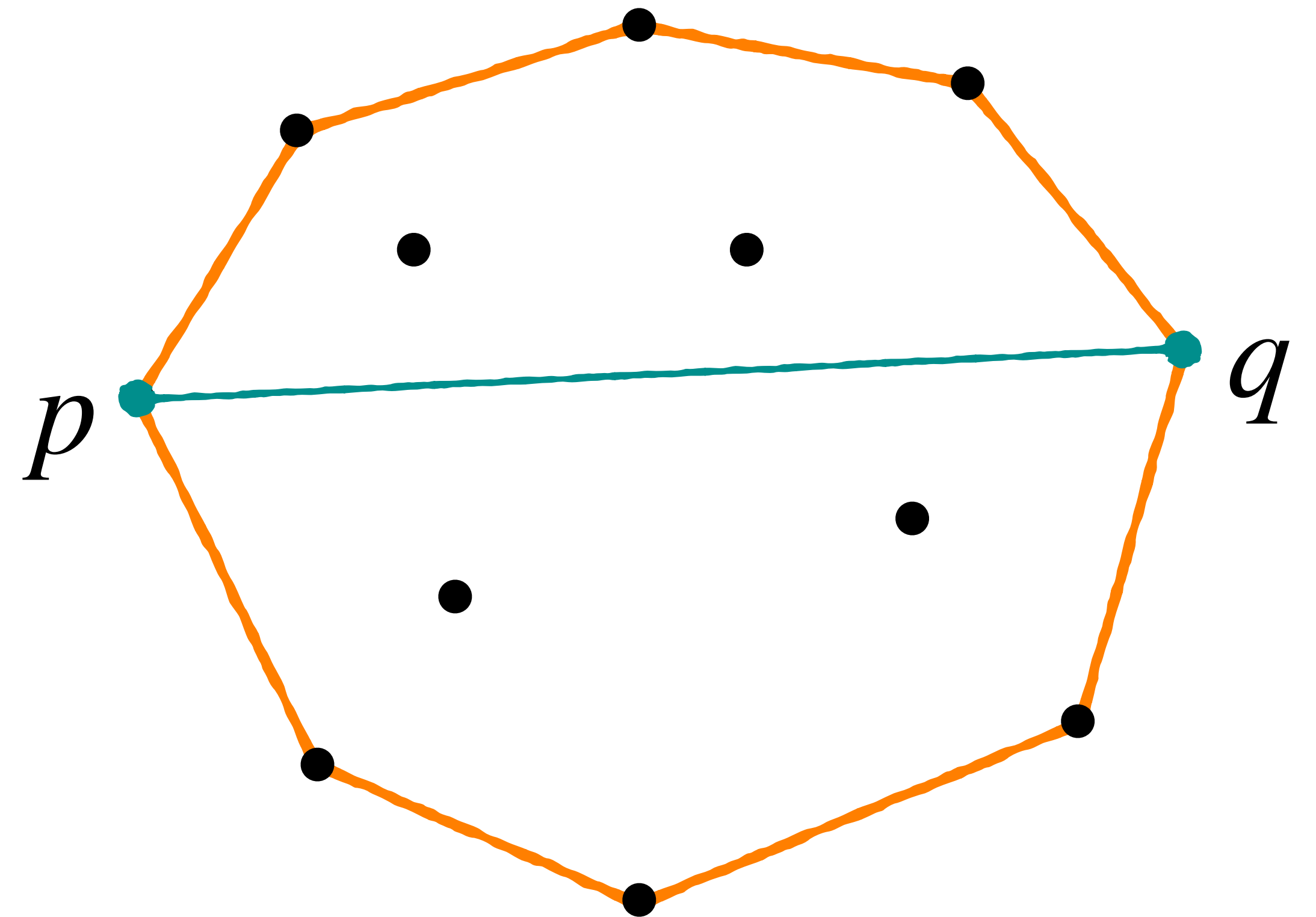
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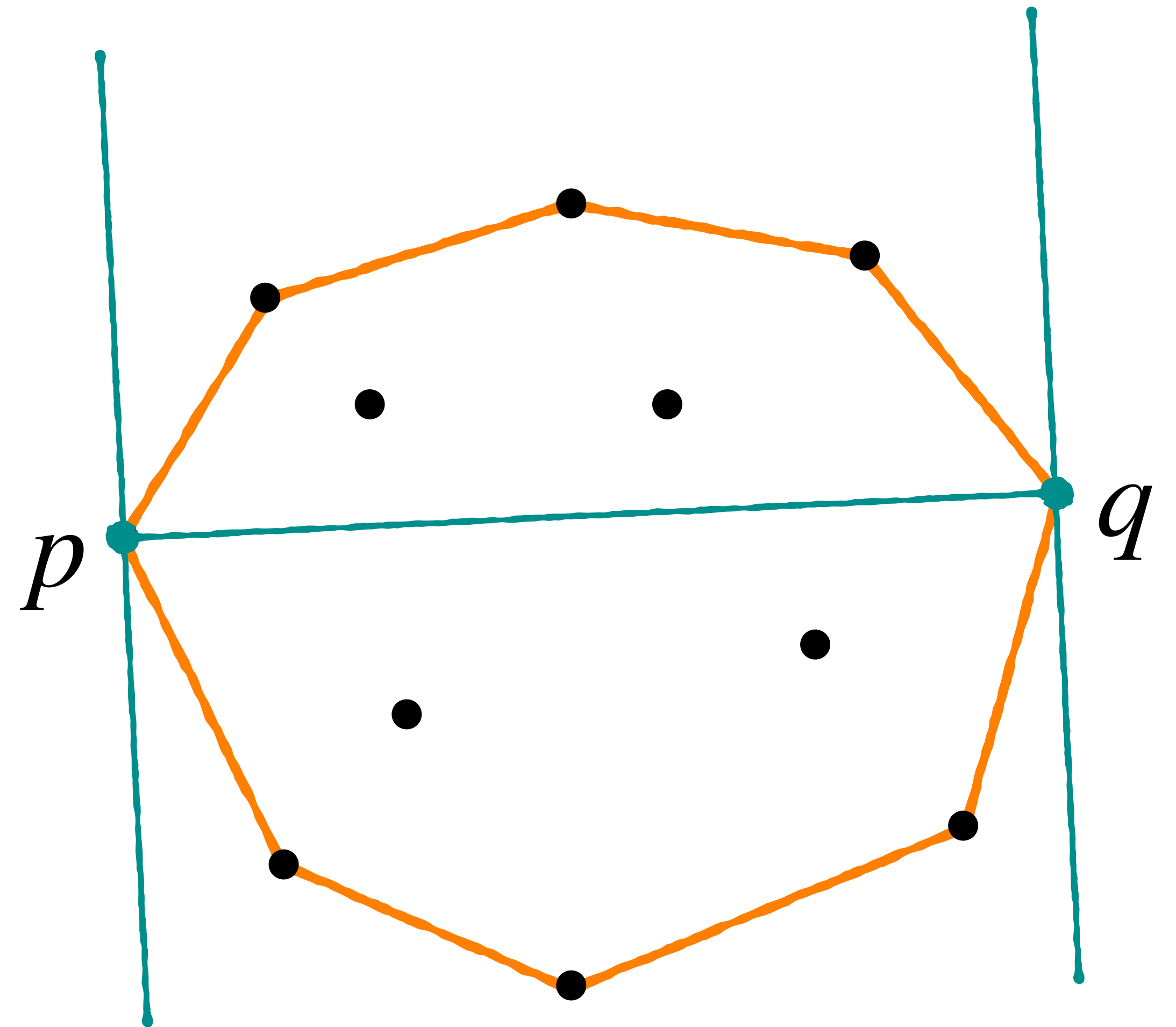
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Antipodal pairs

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Definition. Two points $p, q \in \mathcal{P}$ are **antipodal** if there exist parallel **supporting lines** through them which touch, but do not cut the convex hull.



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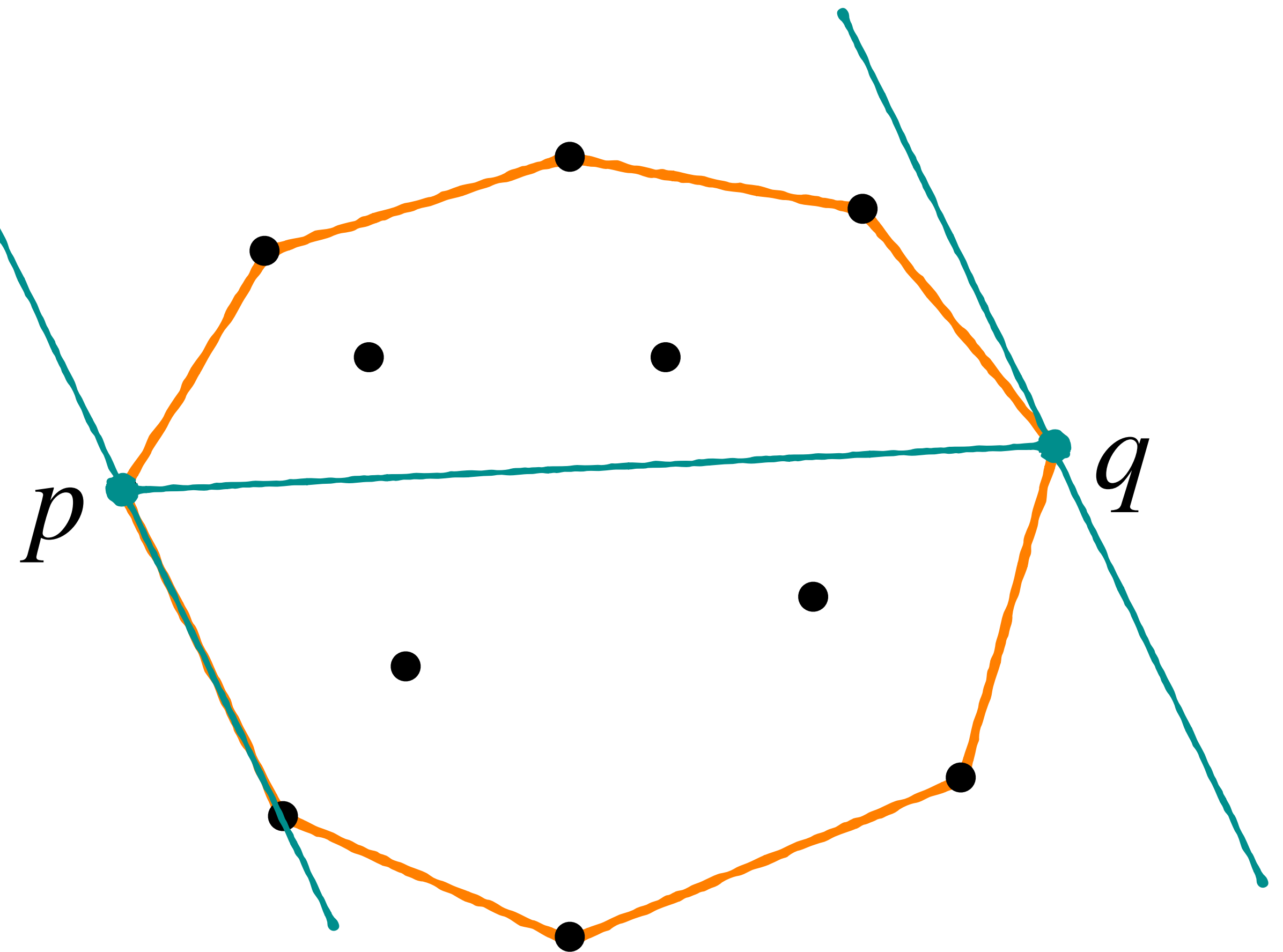
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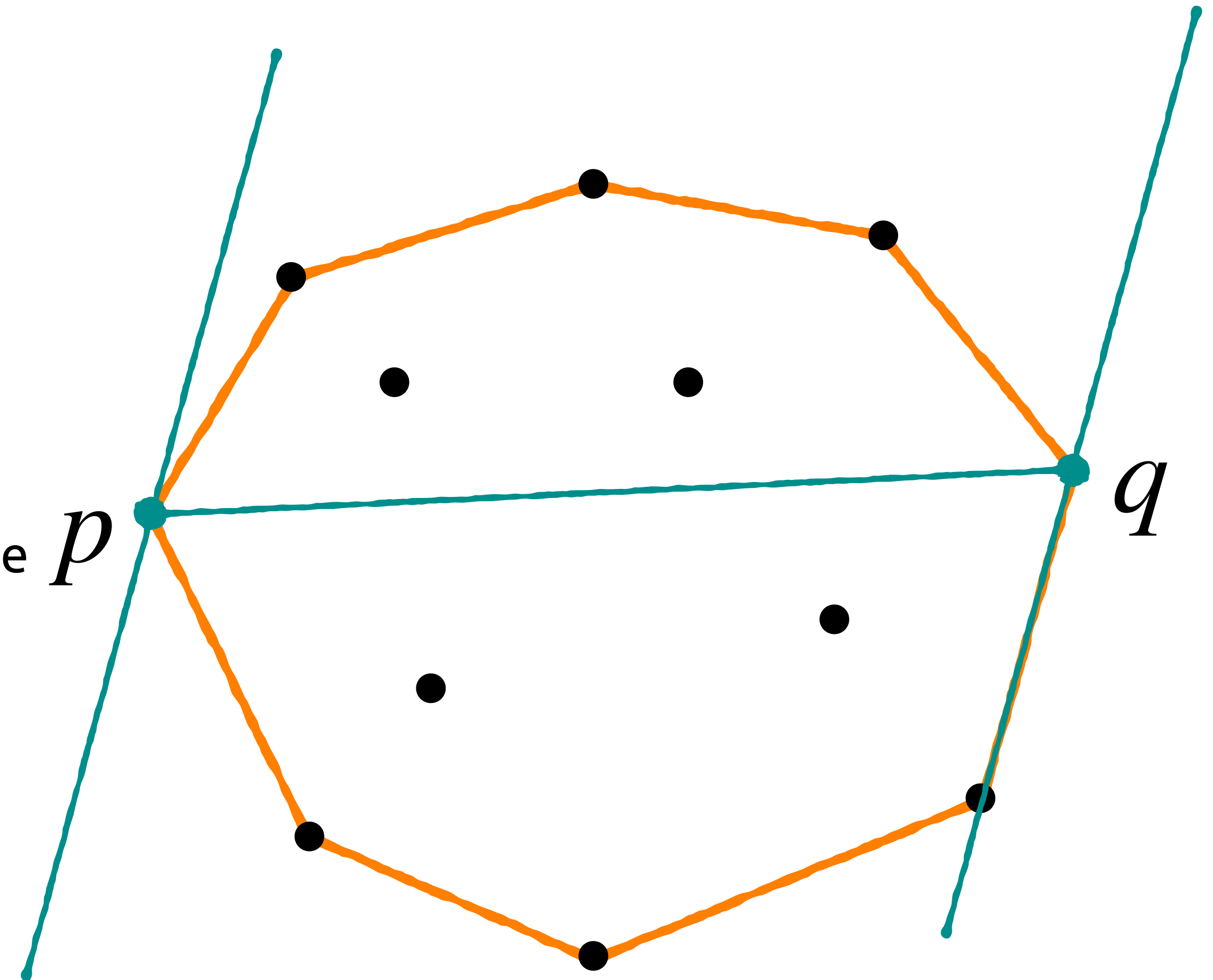
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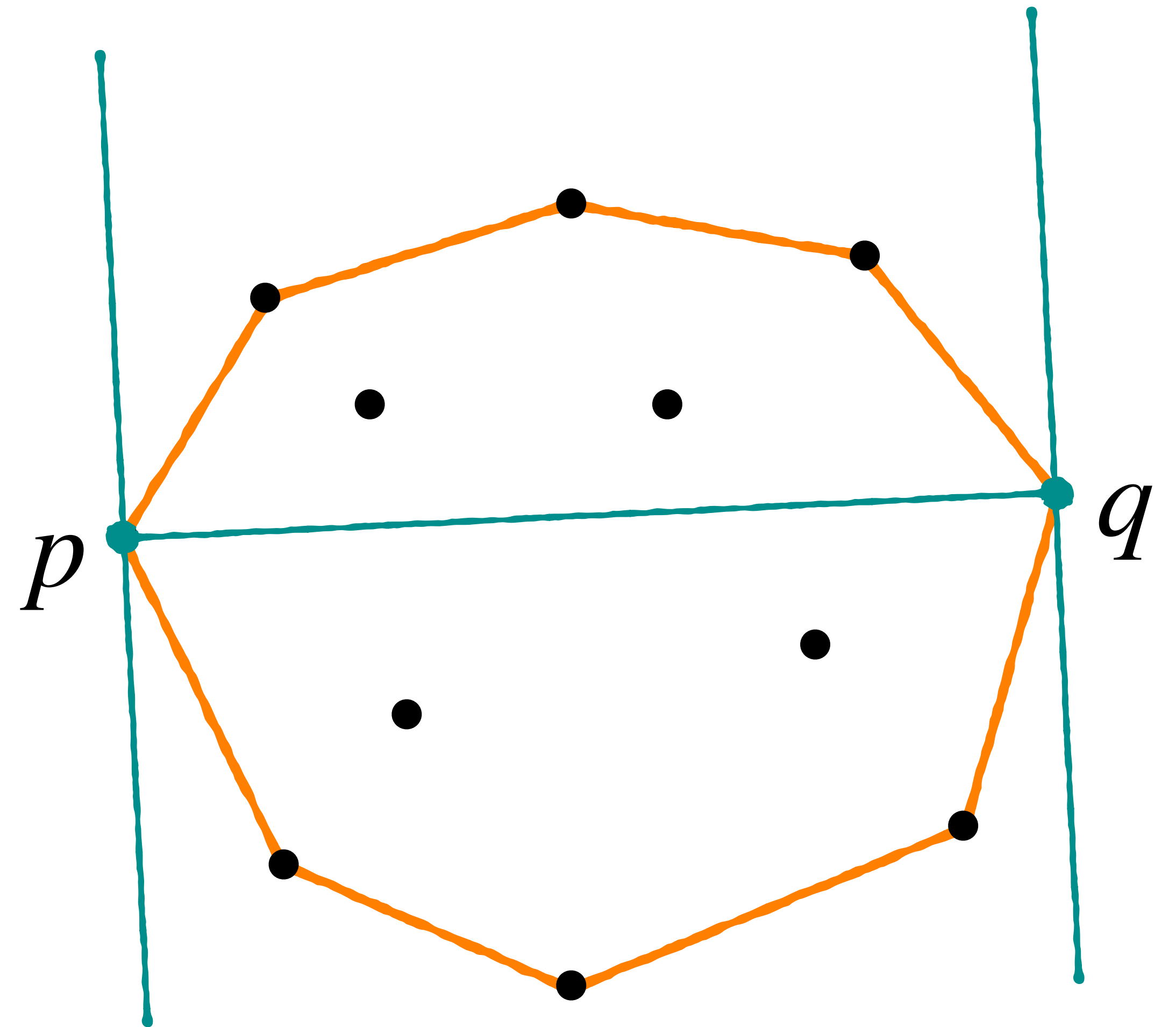
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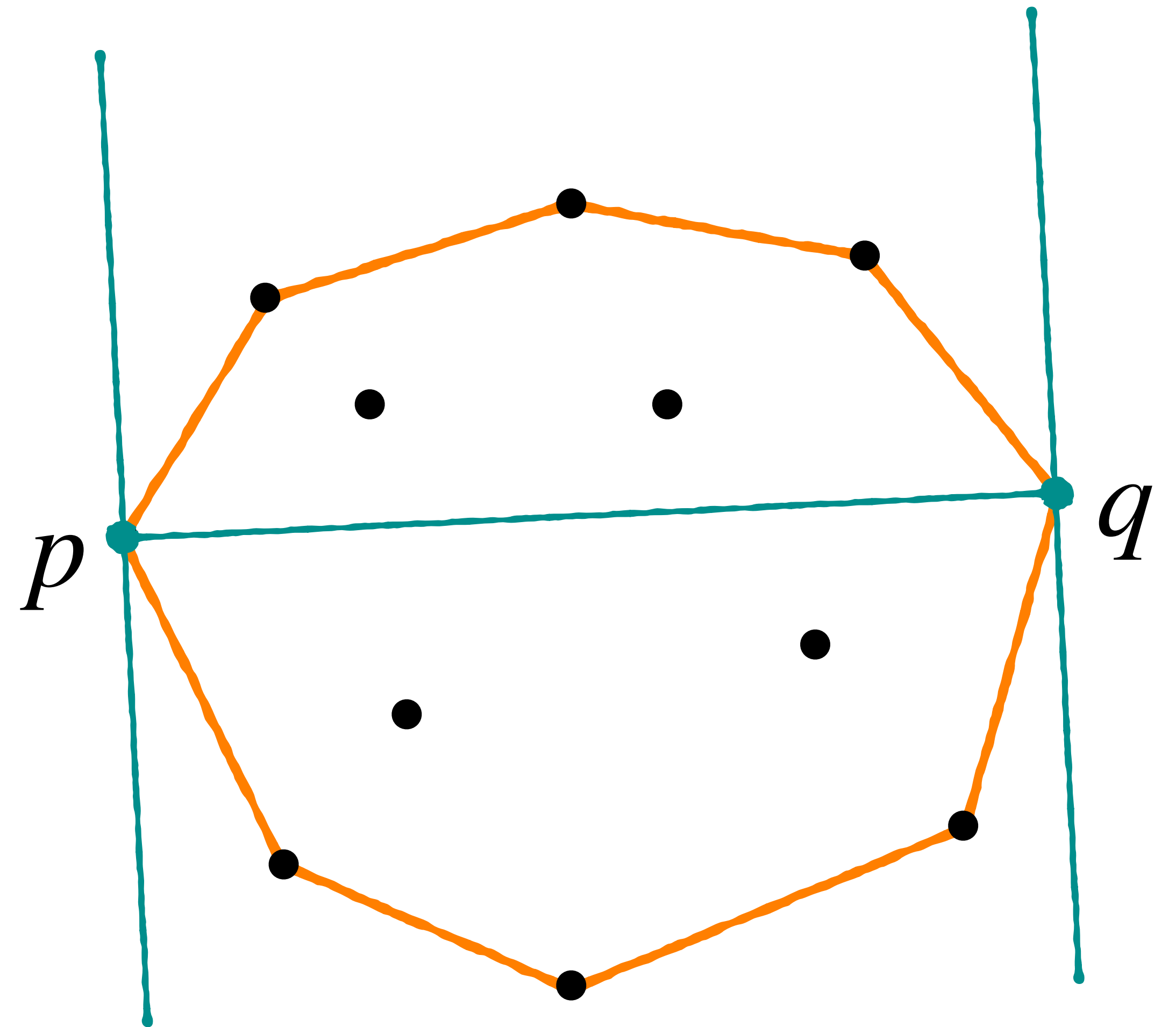
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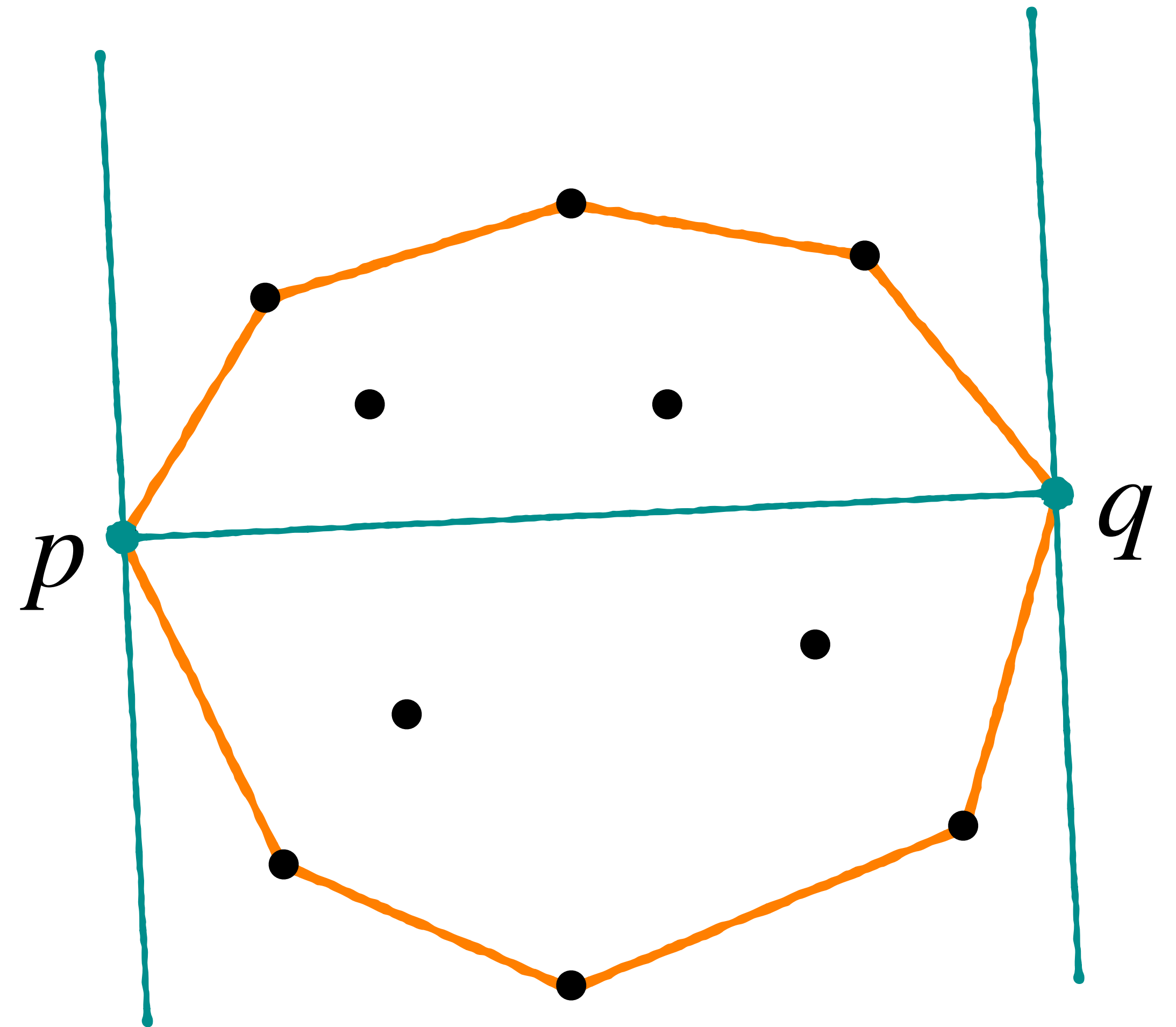
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Take 10 minutes to think about this and discuss :)



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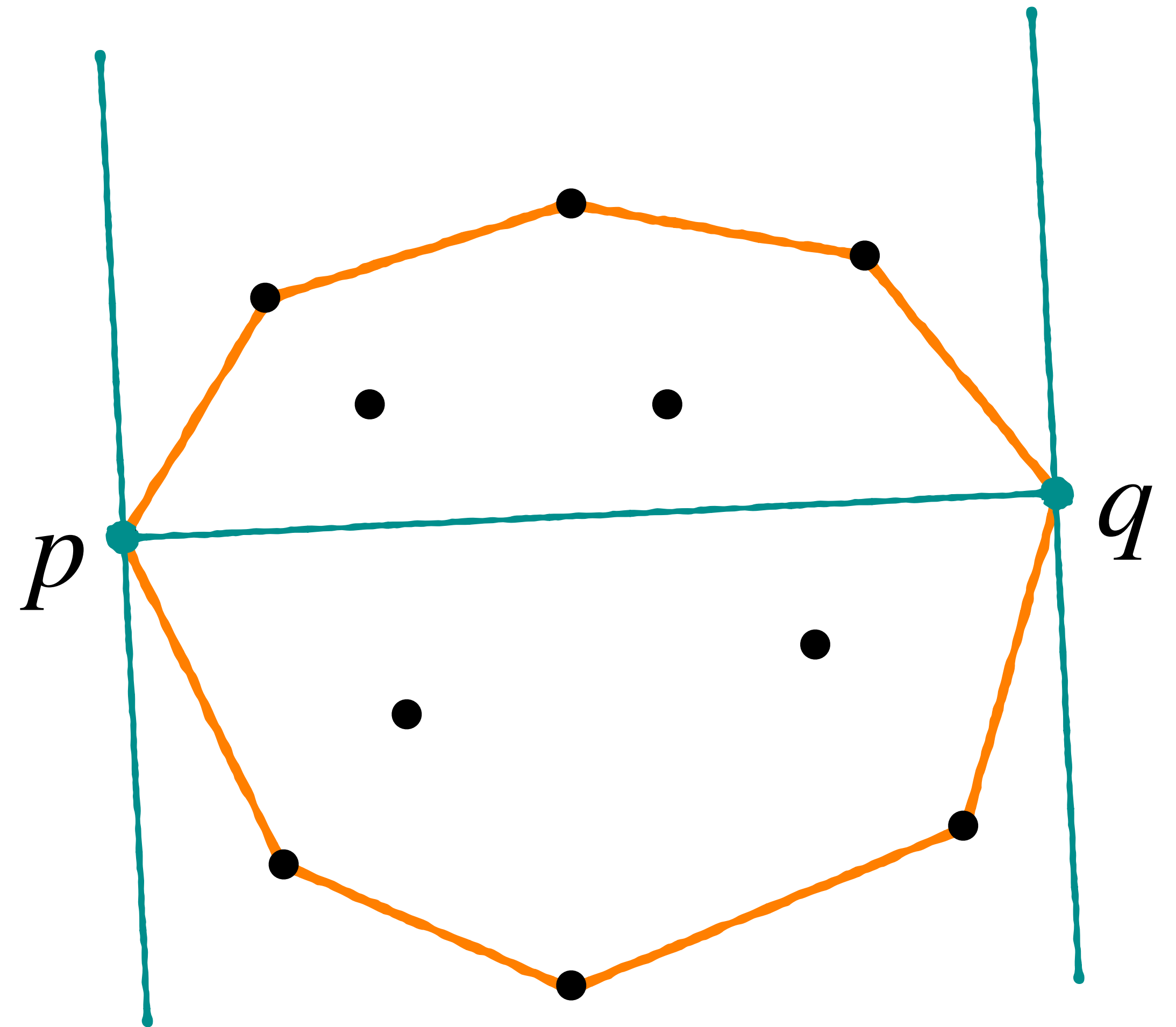
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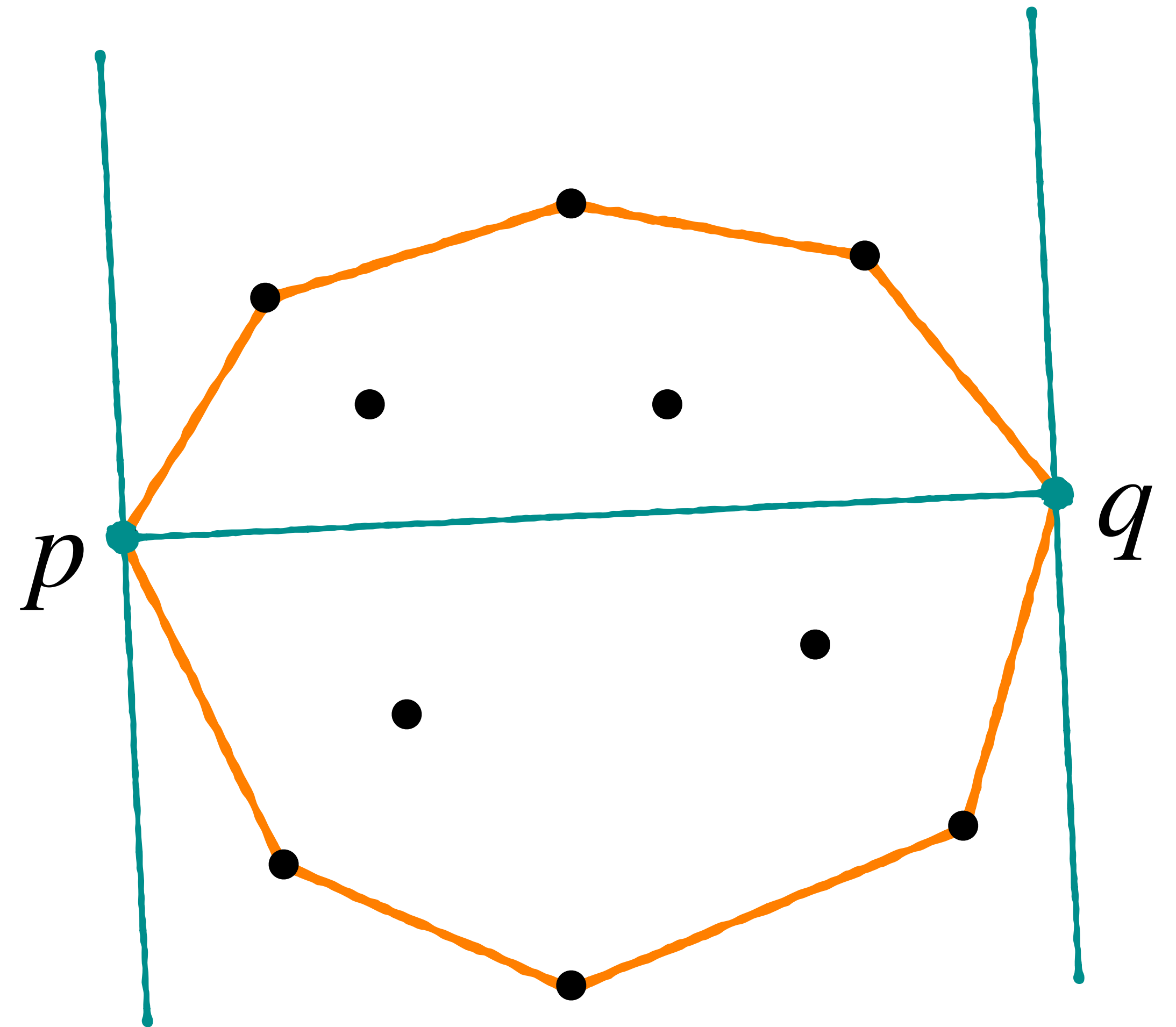
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Lemma E3.3 There are $\mathcal{O}(n)$ antipodal pairs in \mathcal{P} .



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Michael Shamos, 1978

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Idea: Compute the convex hull of \mathcal{P} , then enumerate **all** antipodal pairs and track the farthest by “rotating” parallel supporting lines around the hull, like calipers.



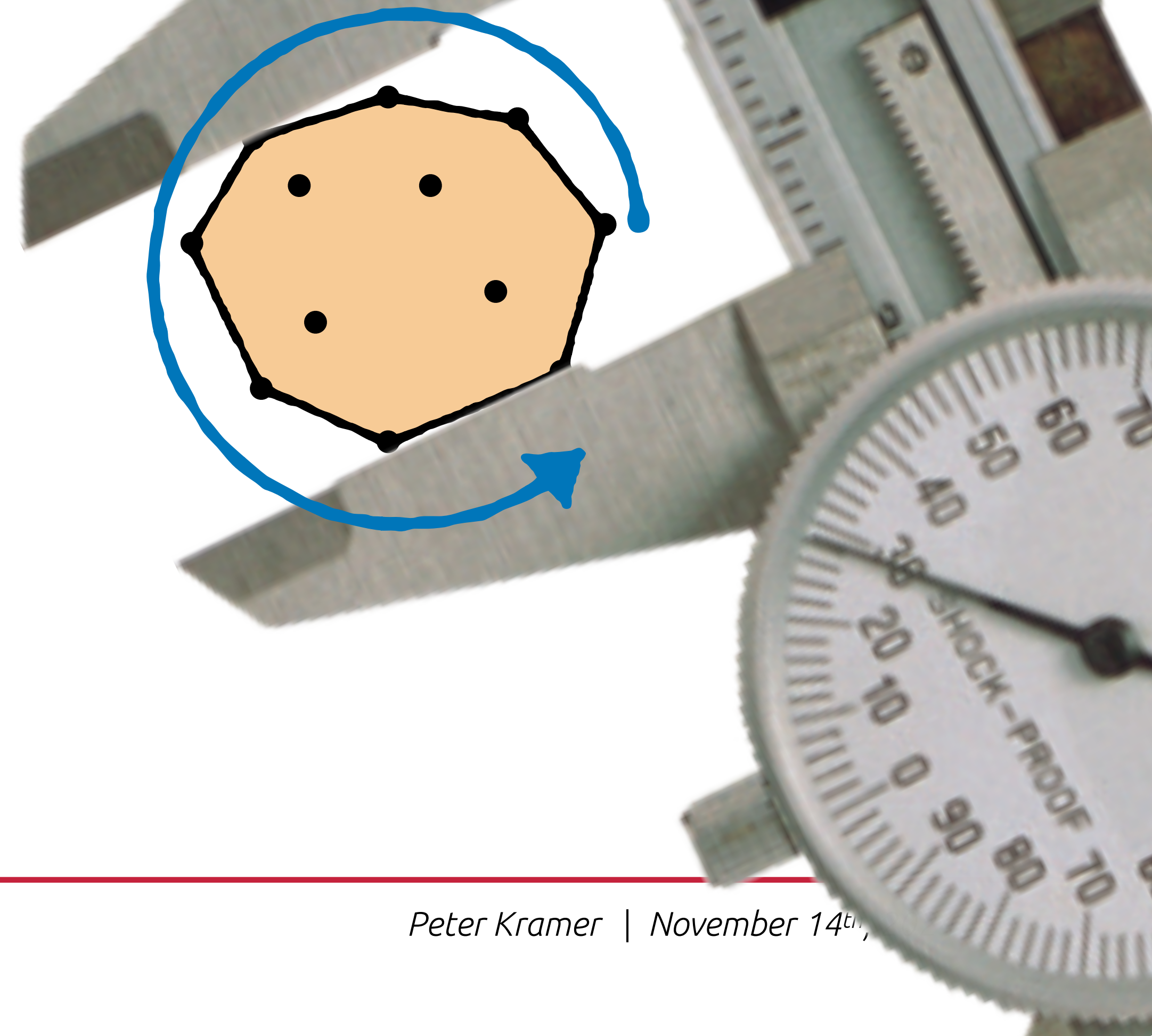
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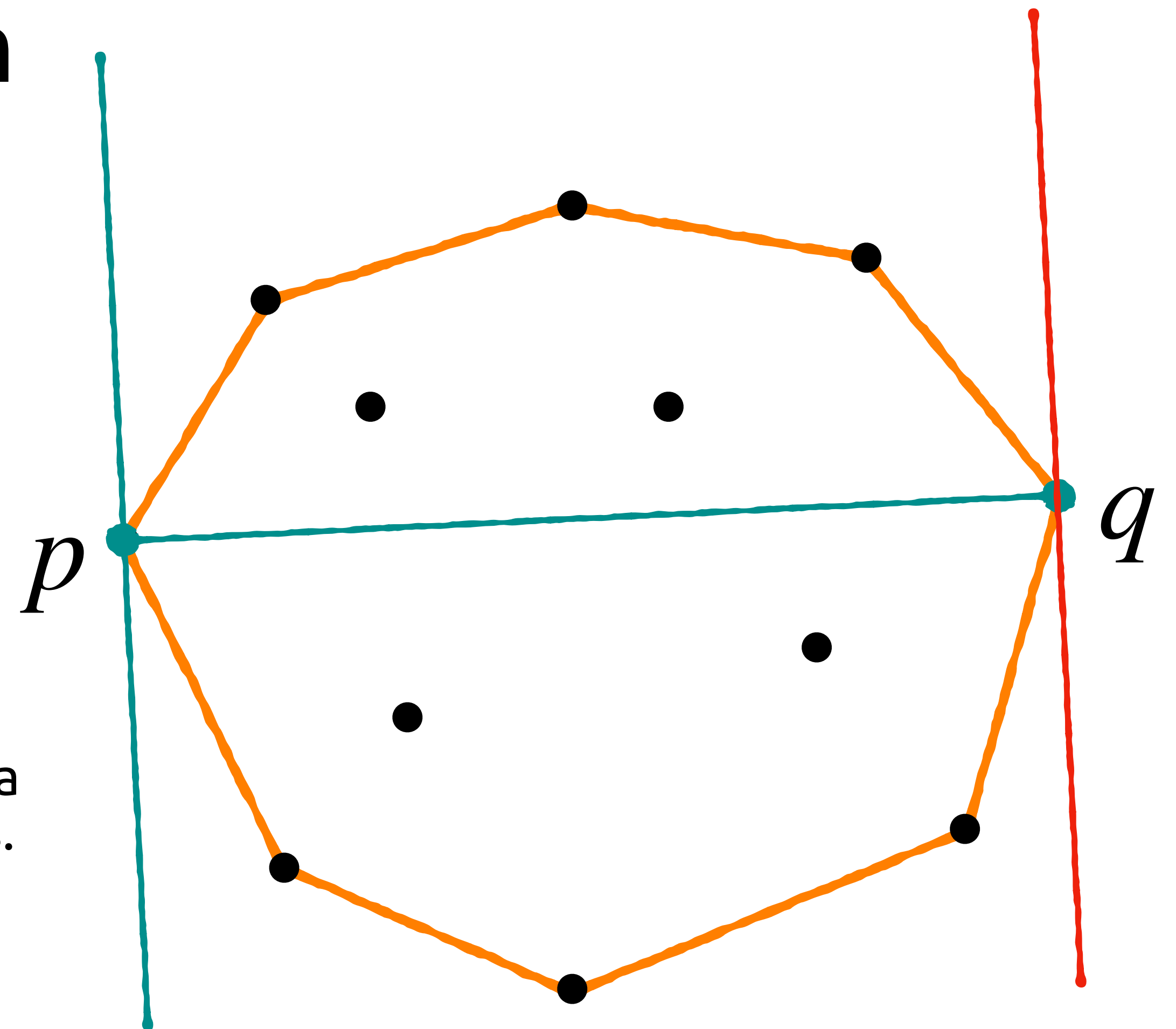
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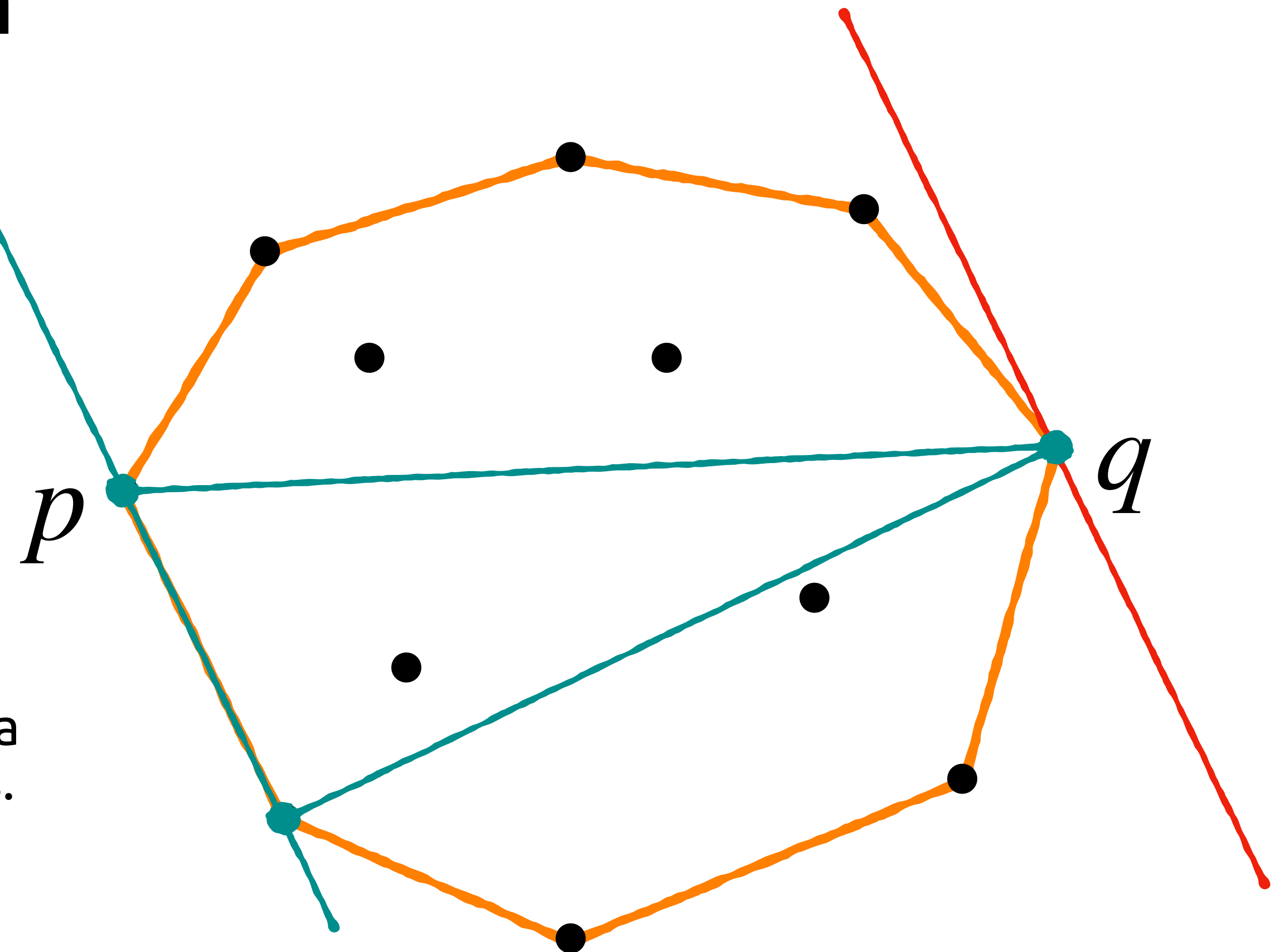
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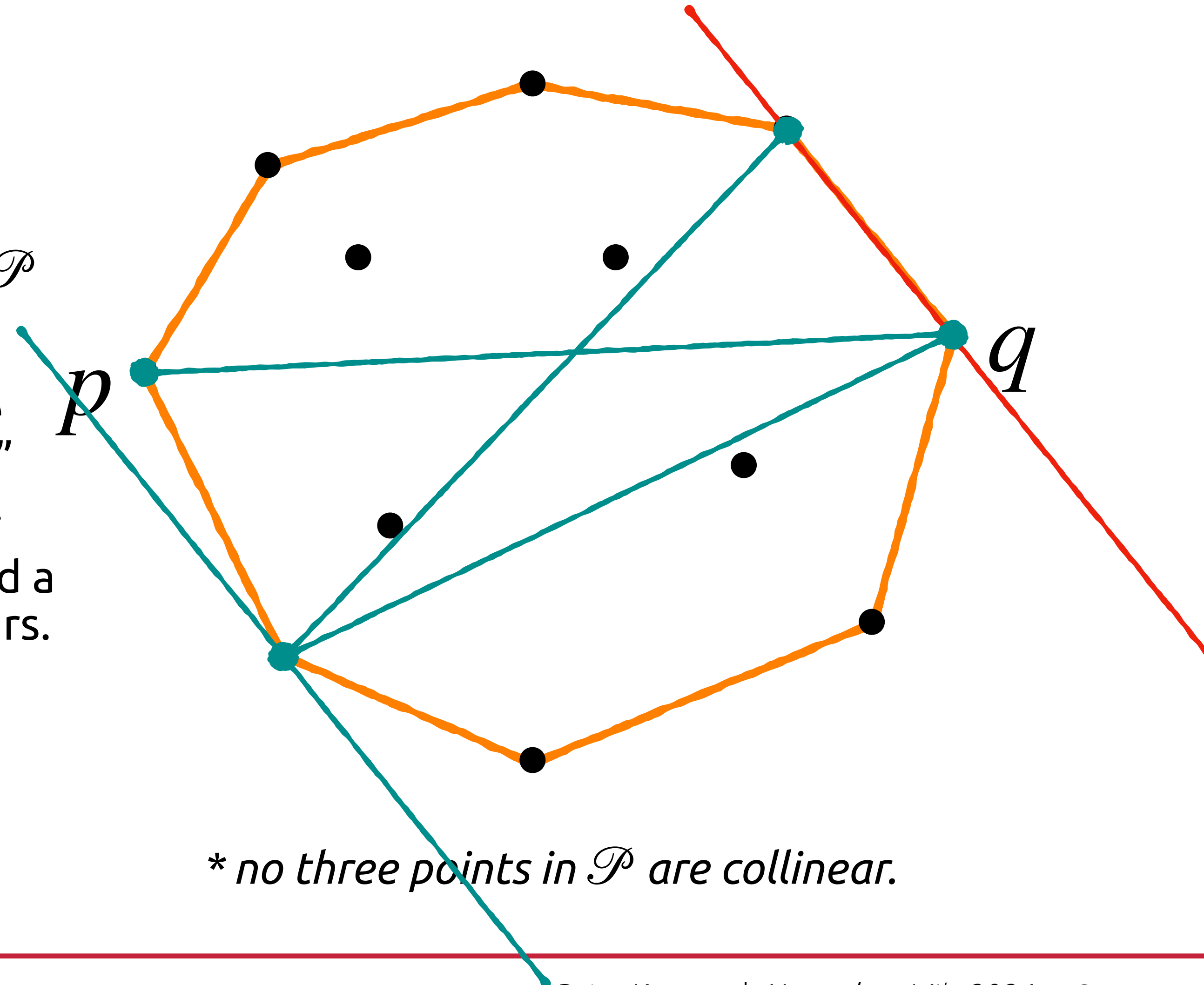
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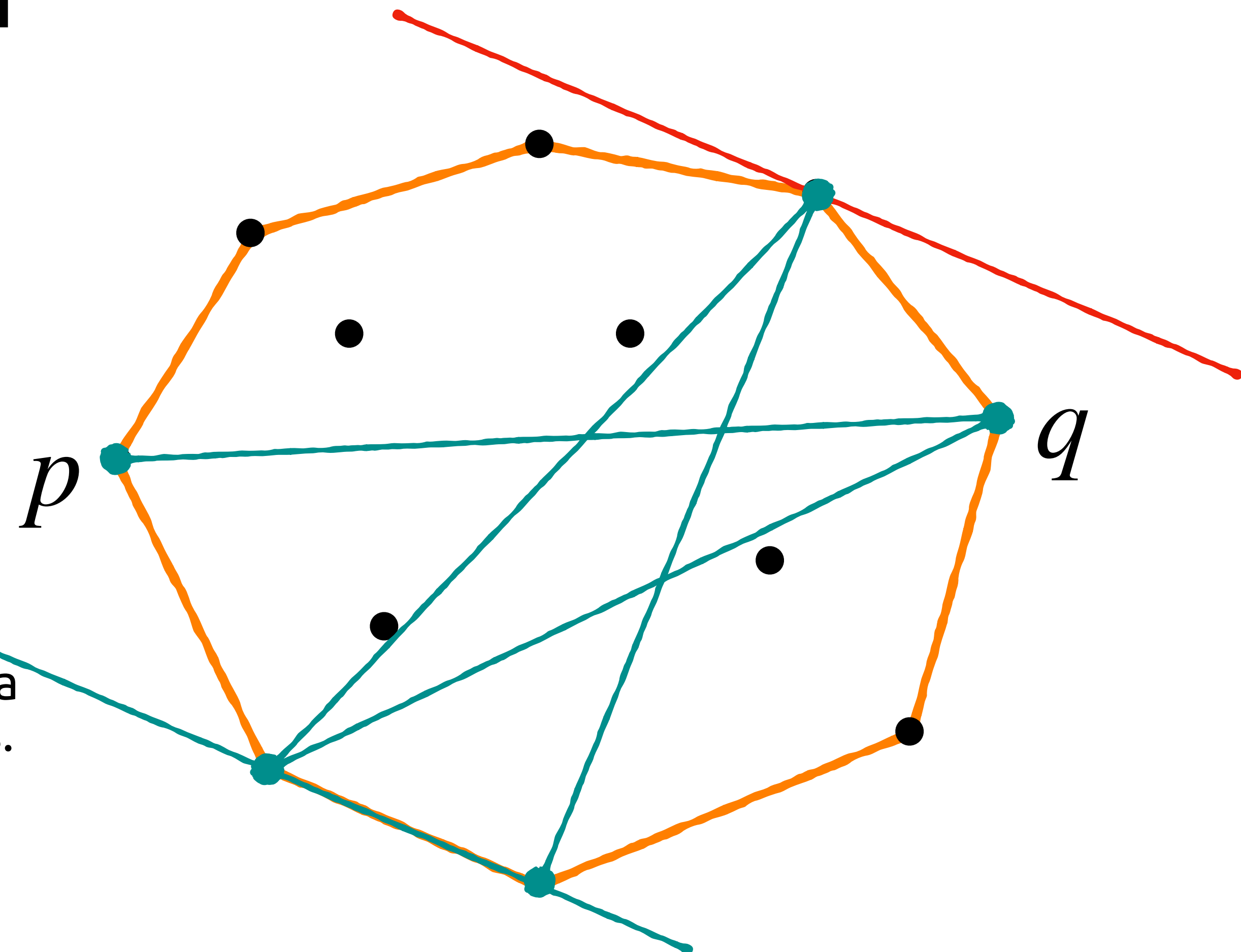
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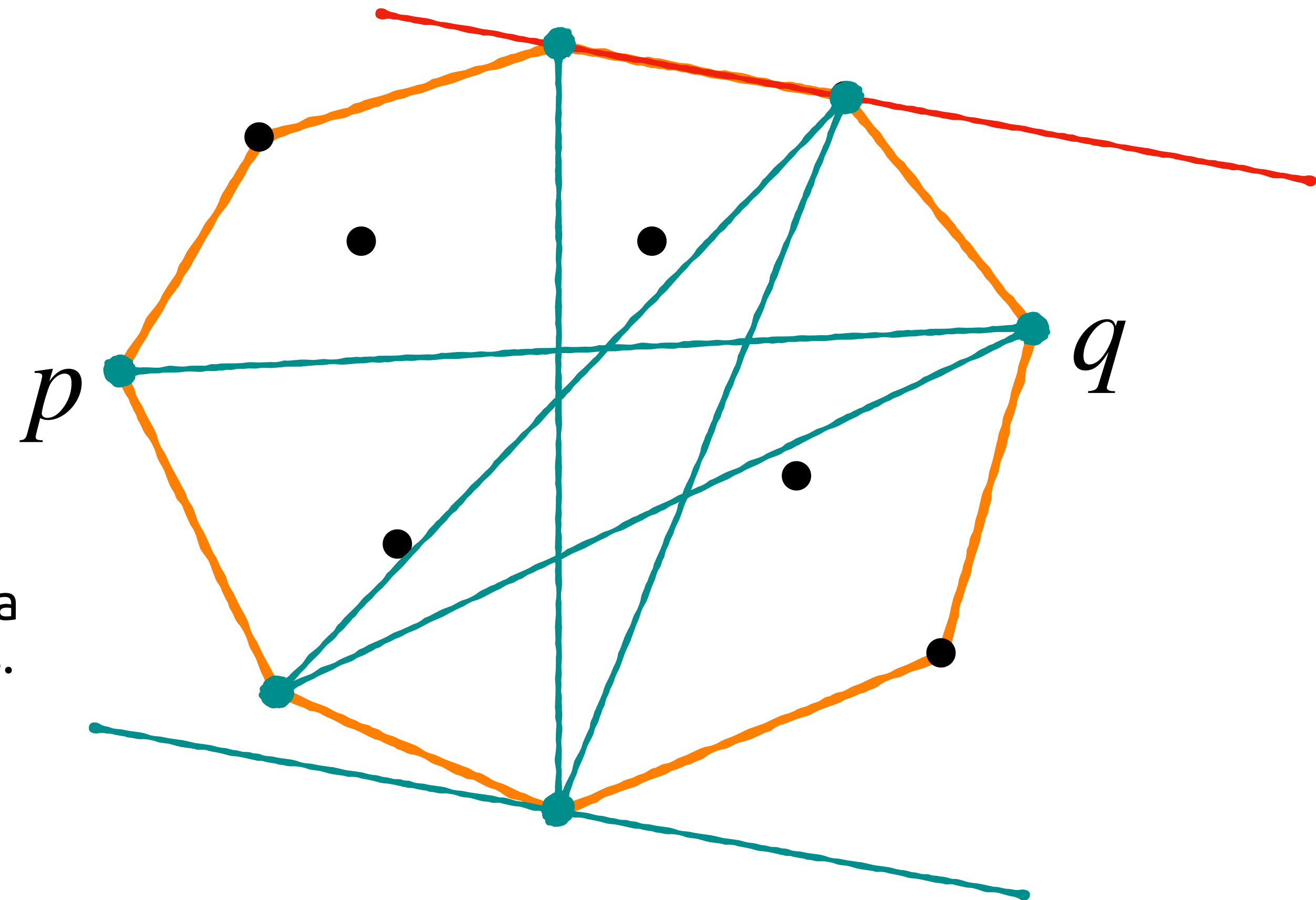
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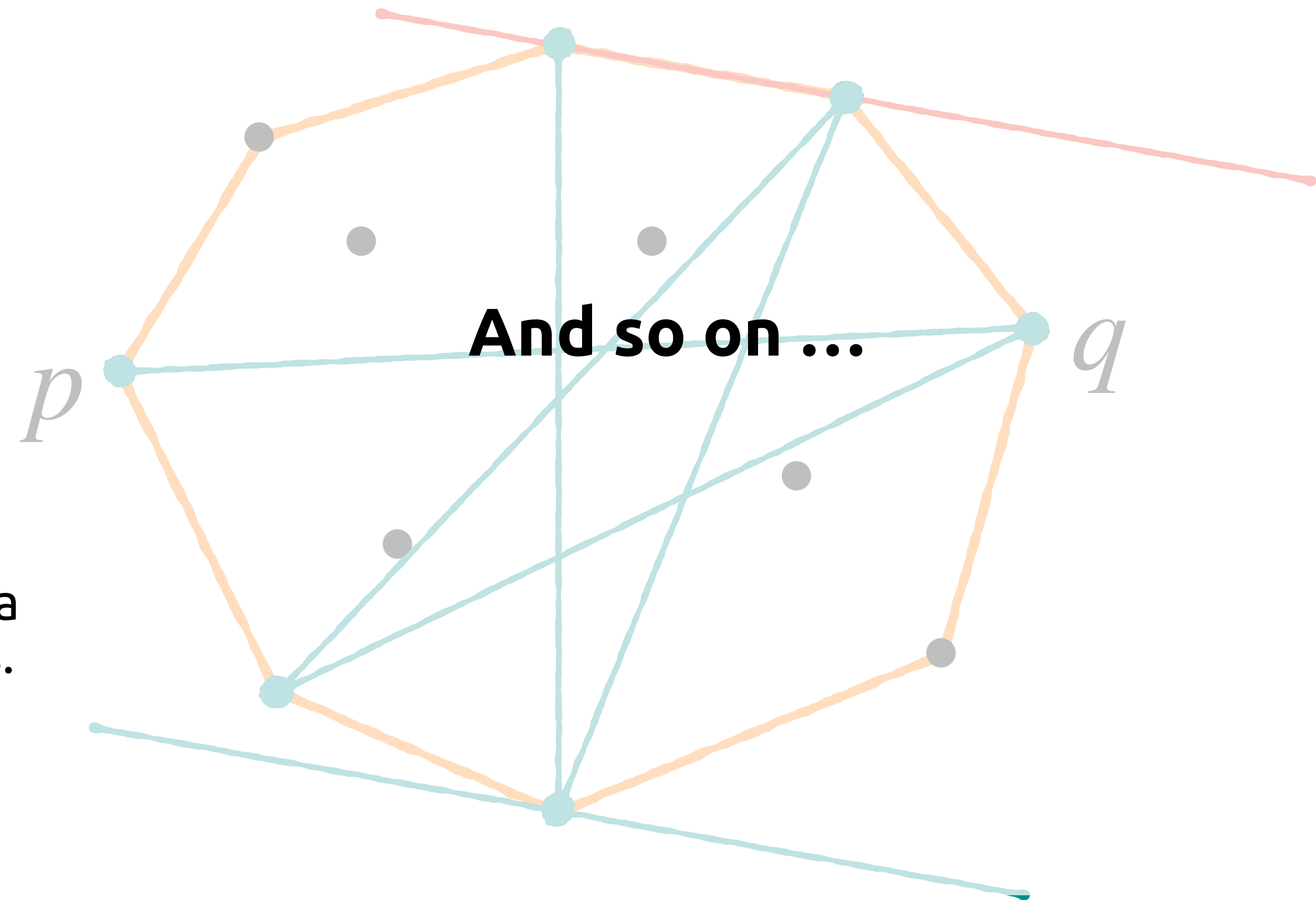
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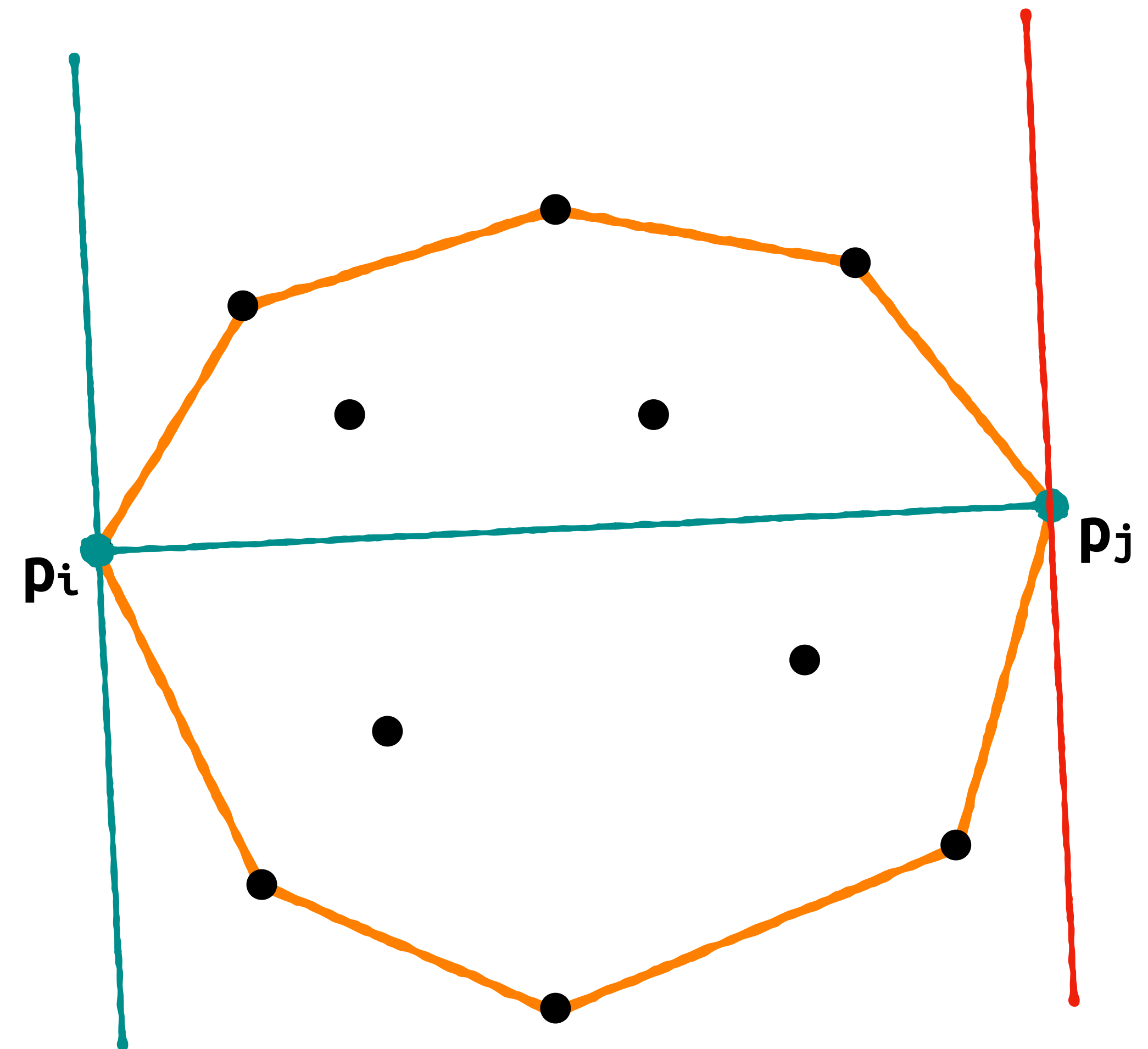
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  find first (i,j) such that (pi,pj) is antipodal  
  let diameter = 0  
  while (j != n) {  
    // Which edge do we hit?  
    if A(Δ(pi, pi+1, pj+1)) > A(Δ(pi, pi+1, pj)) {  
      ++j  
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    // pi,pj is a farthest pair!  
    diameter = max(diameter, d(pi,pj))  
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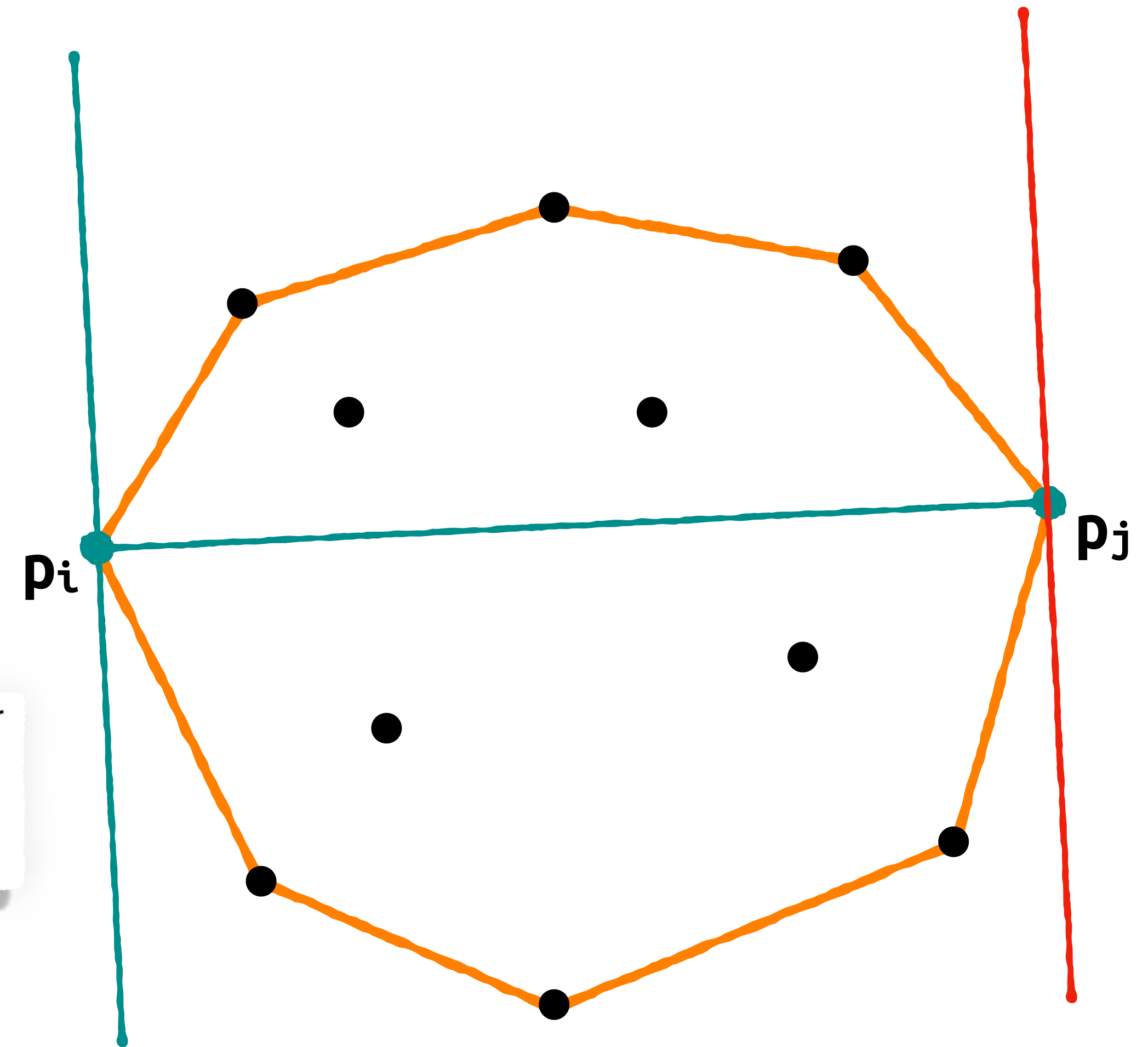
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$A(\Delta(p, q, r)) > 0 \Leftrightarrow p, q, r$ oriented in counterclockwise (CCW) order

• $A(\Delta(p, q, r)) \begin{cases} > 0 \\ = 0 \\ < 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow p, q, r \begin{cases} \text{Left turn} \\ \text{collinear} \\ \text{Right turn} \end{cases}$



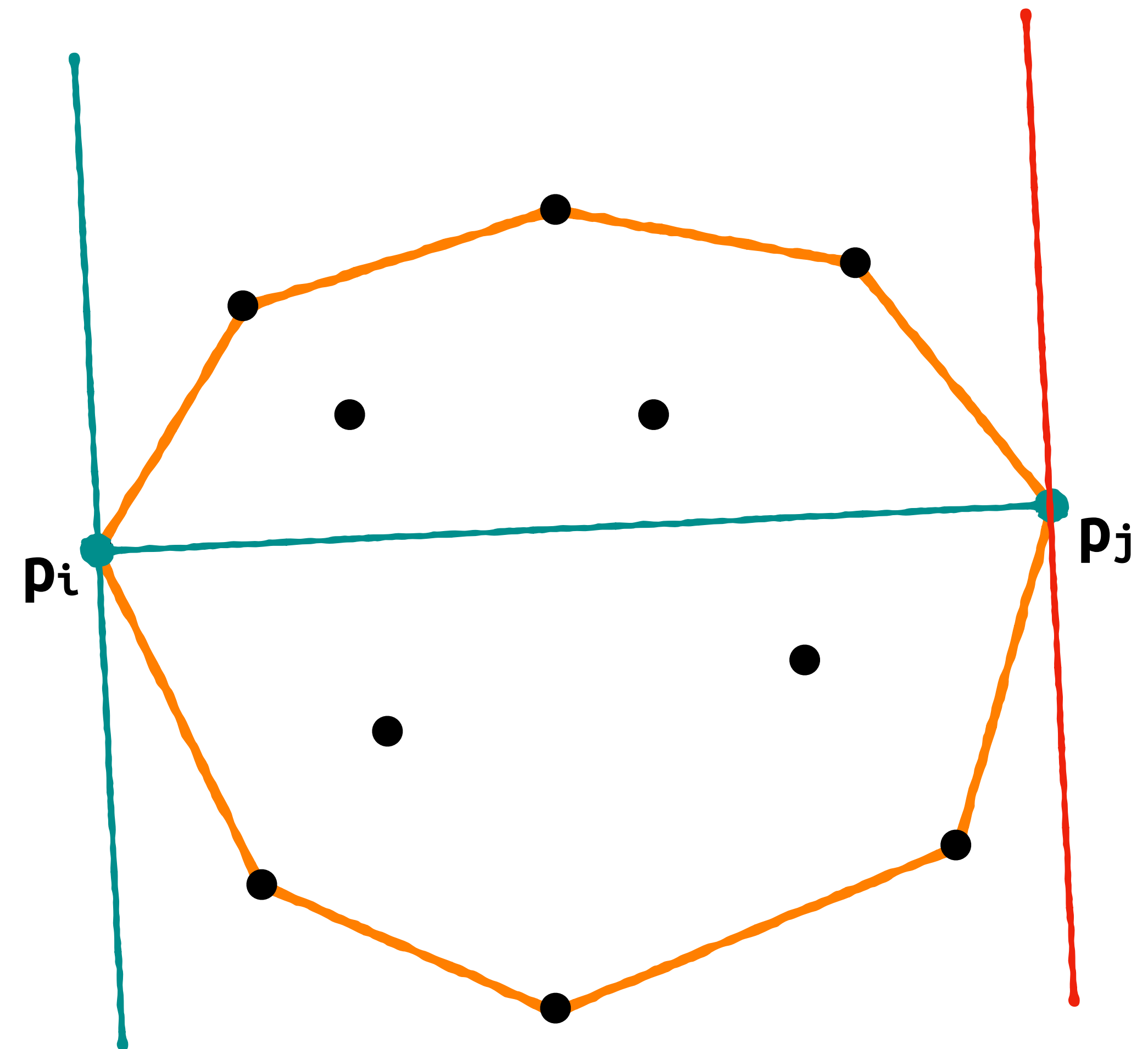
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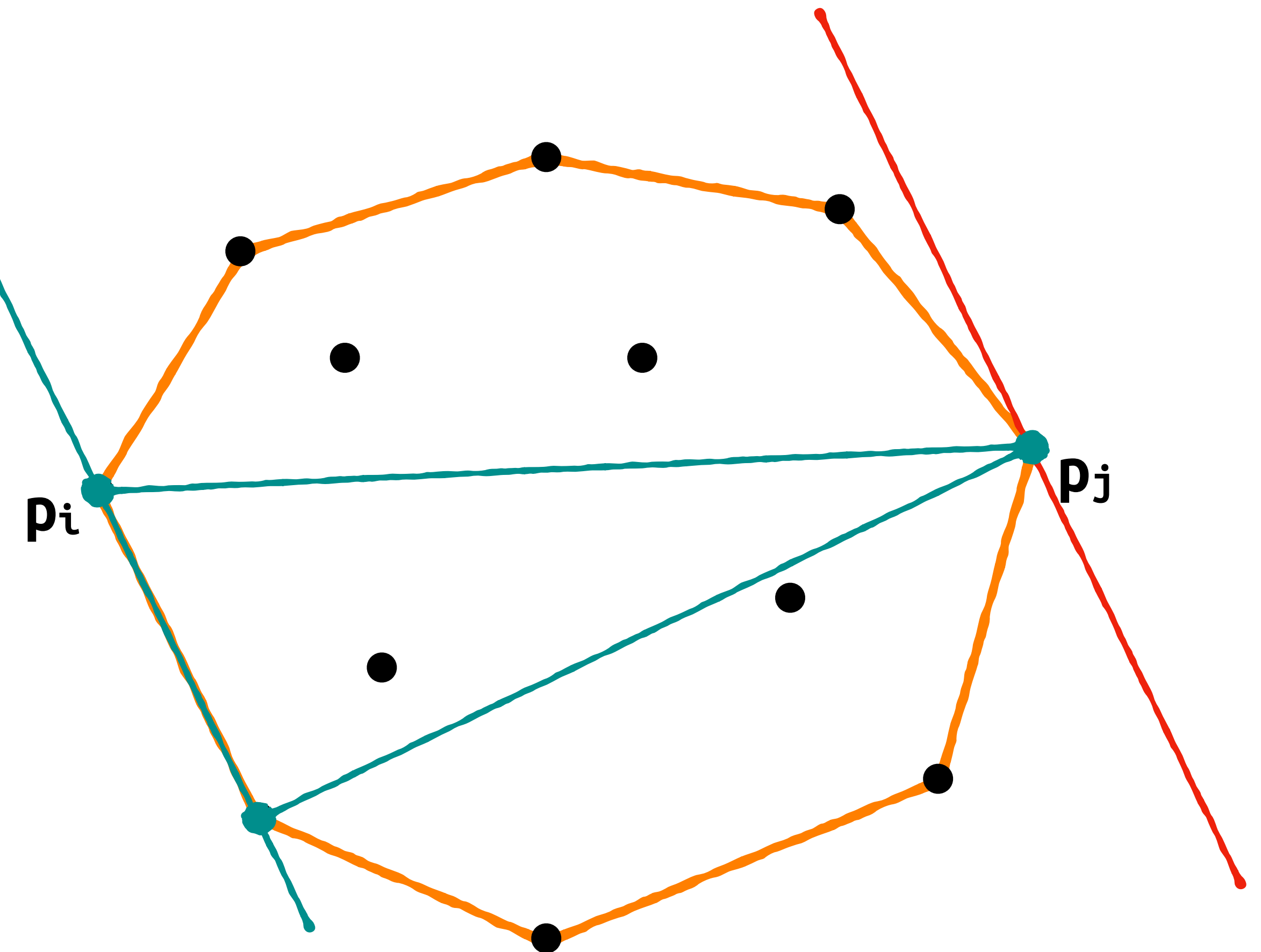
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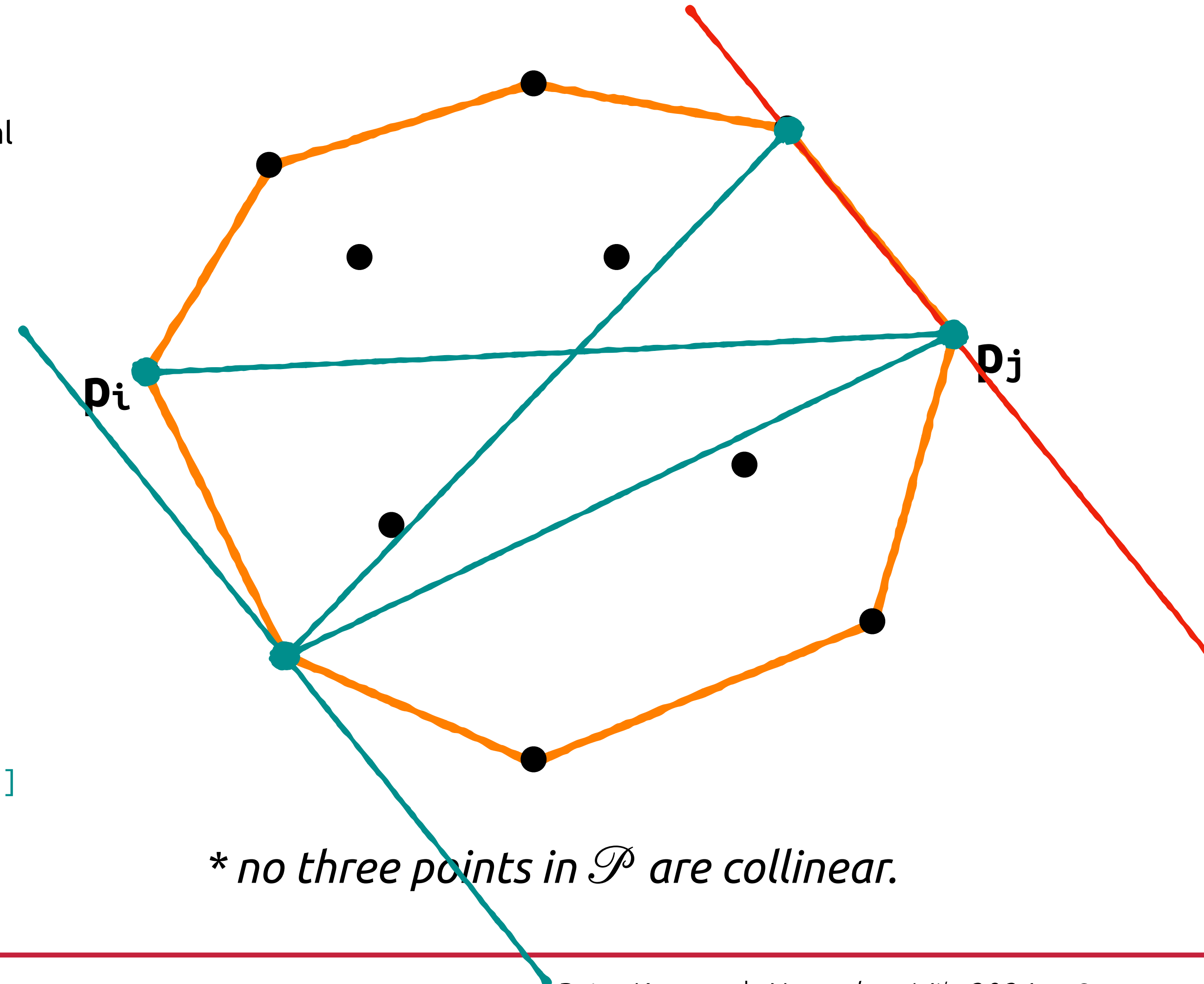
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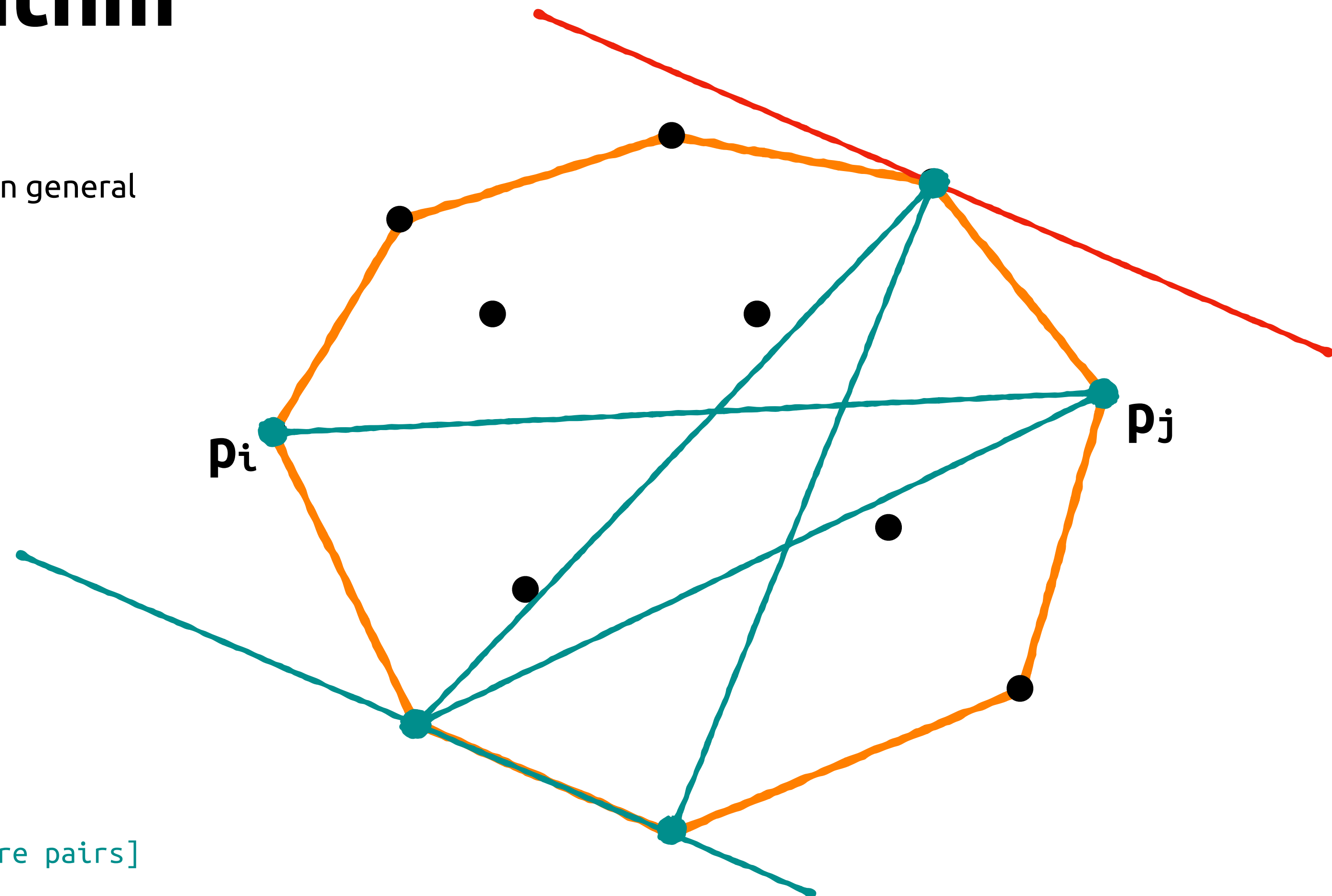
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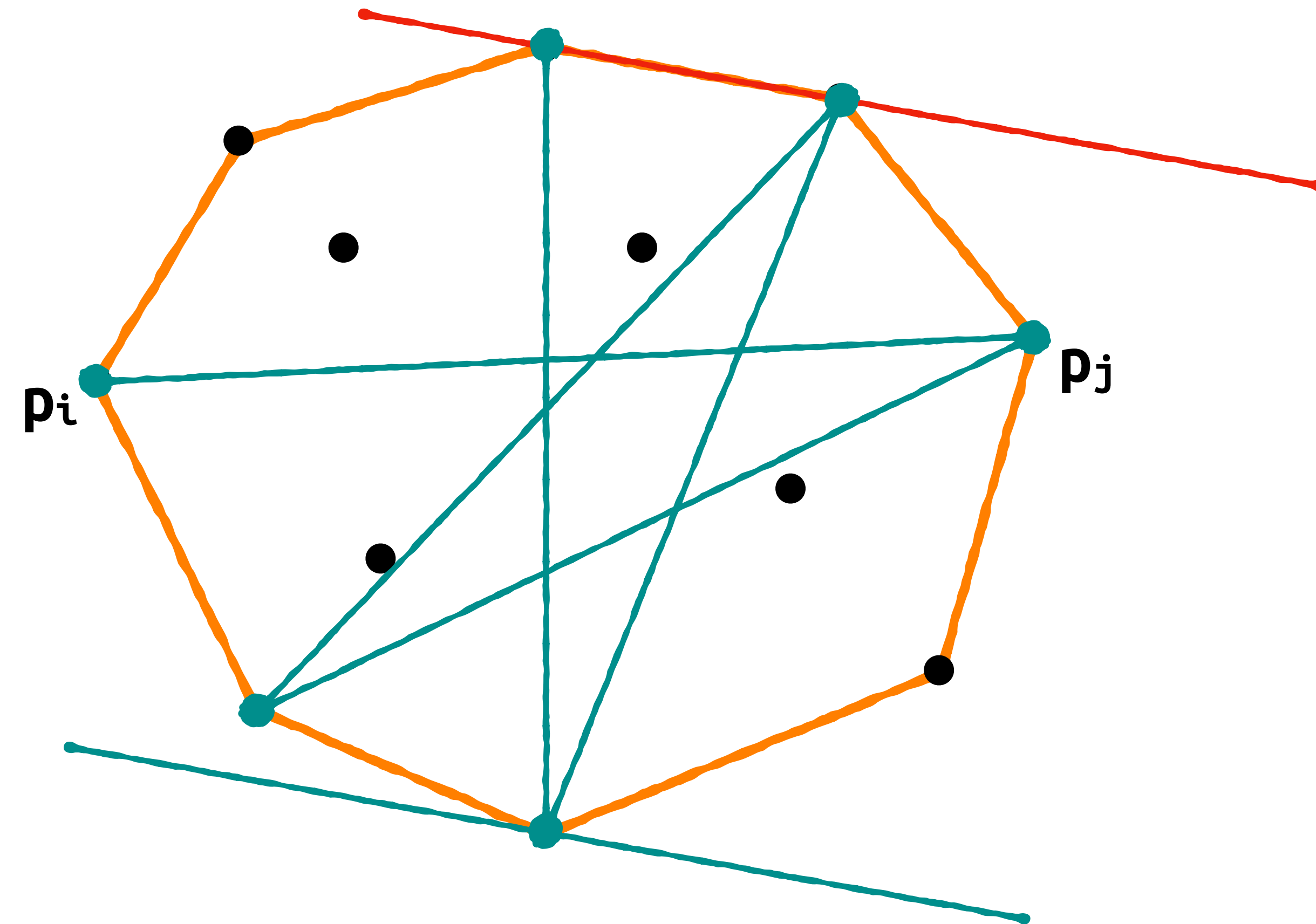
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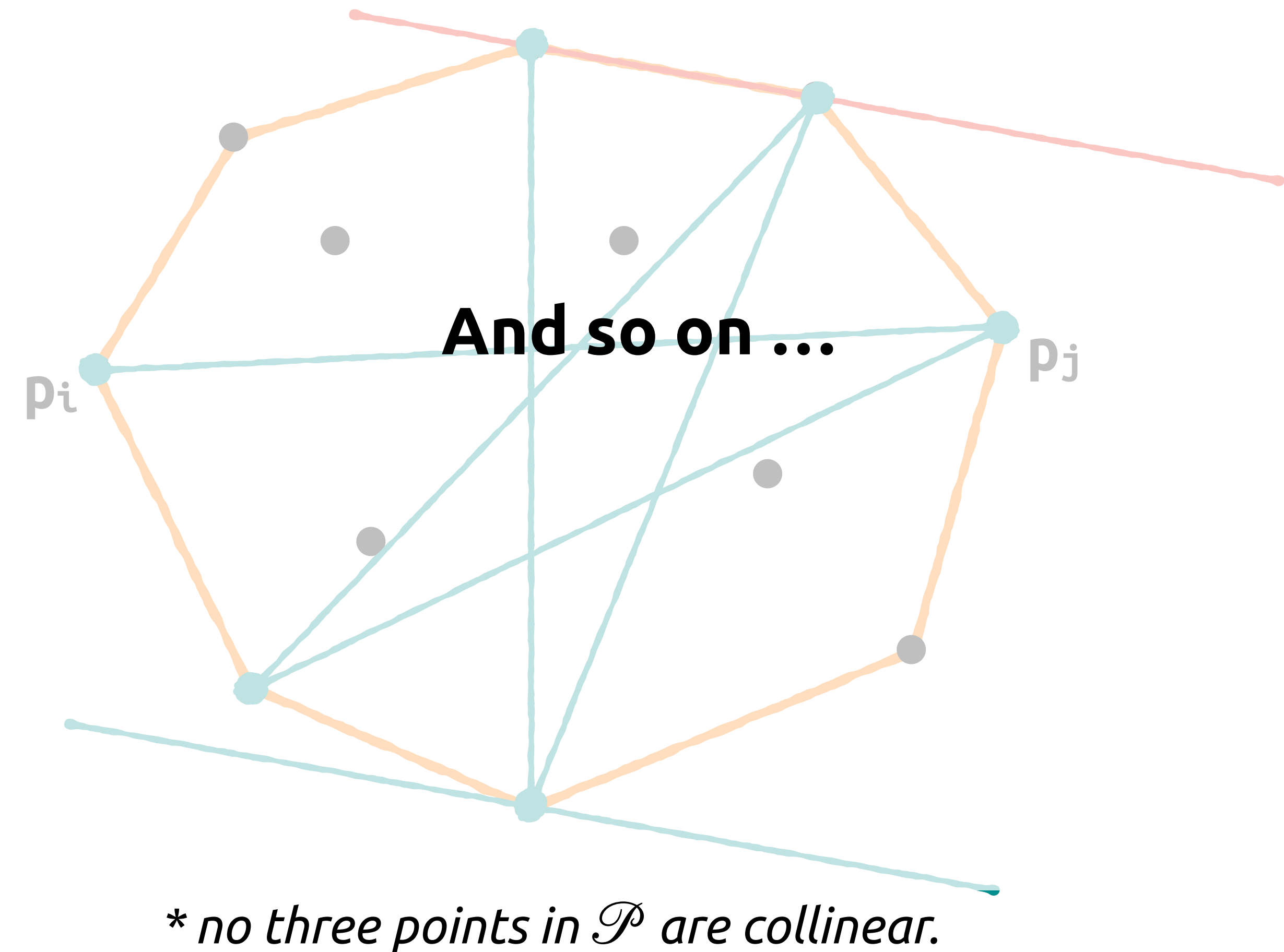
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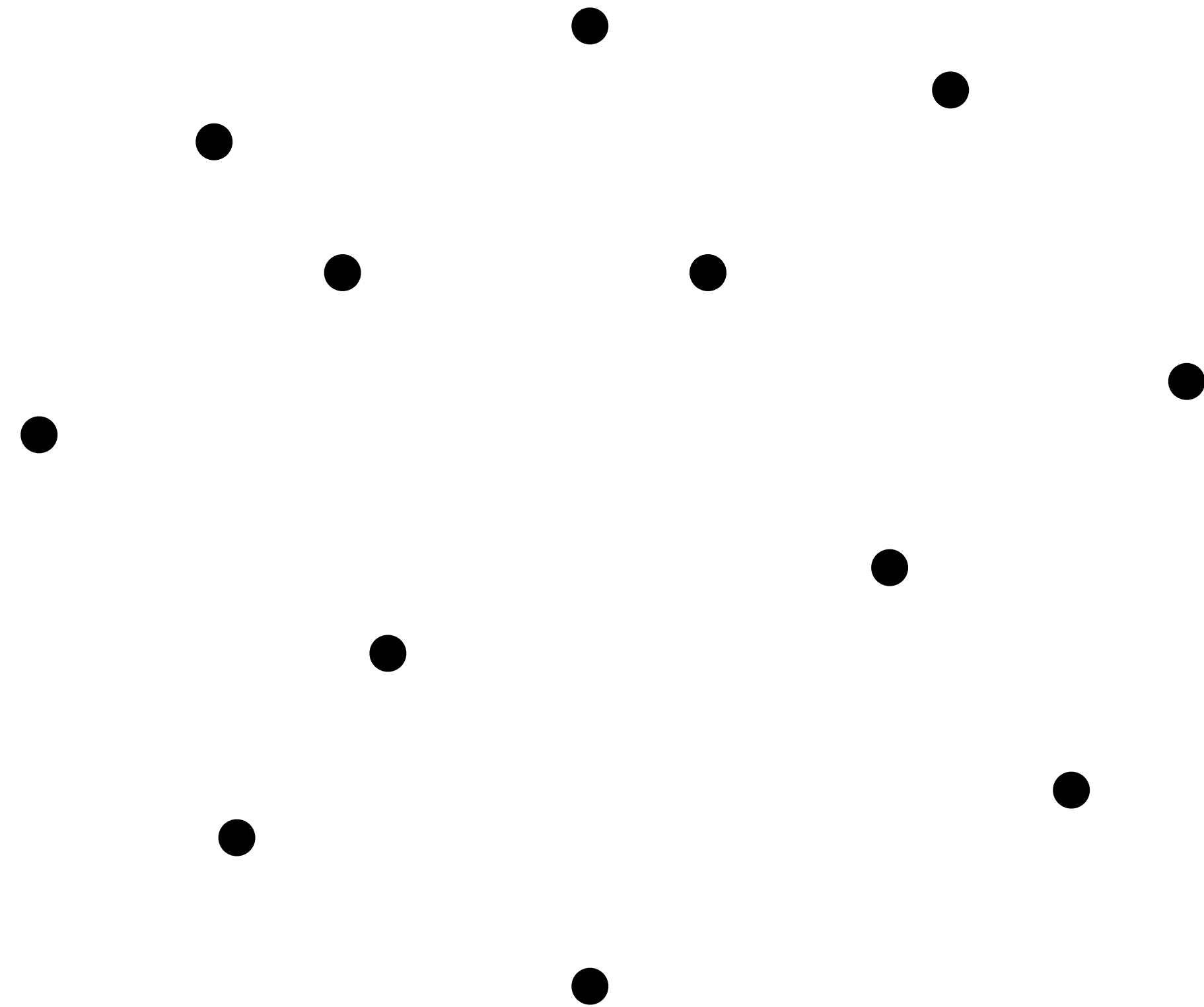


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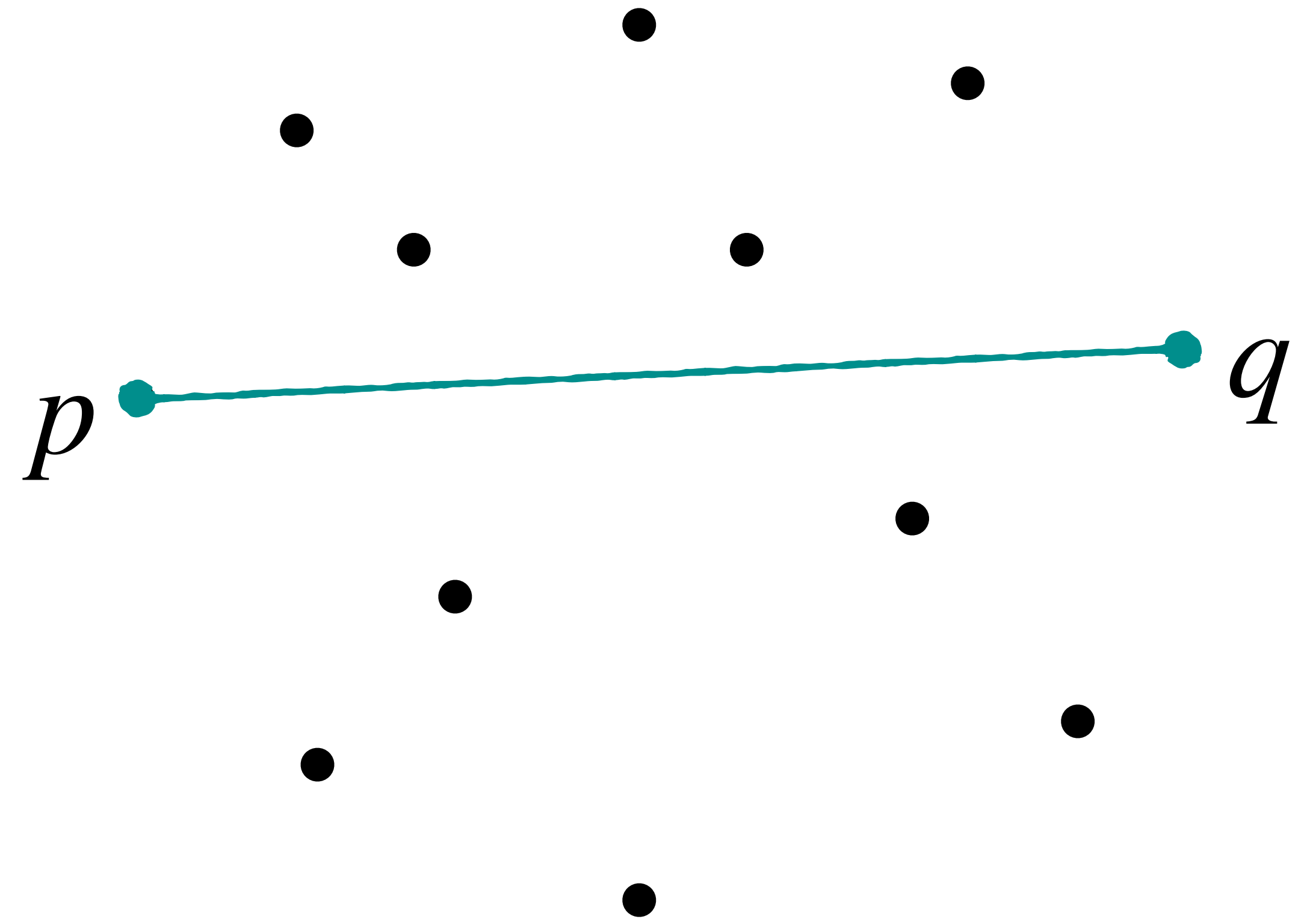
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Let \mathcal{P} be set of n points in the Euclidean plane \mathbb{R}^2 , in general position*.

Theorem E3.4 All farthest pairs and the diameter of \mathcal{P} can be computed in $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$.



* no three points in \mathcal{P} are collinear.

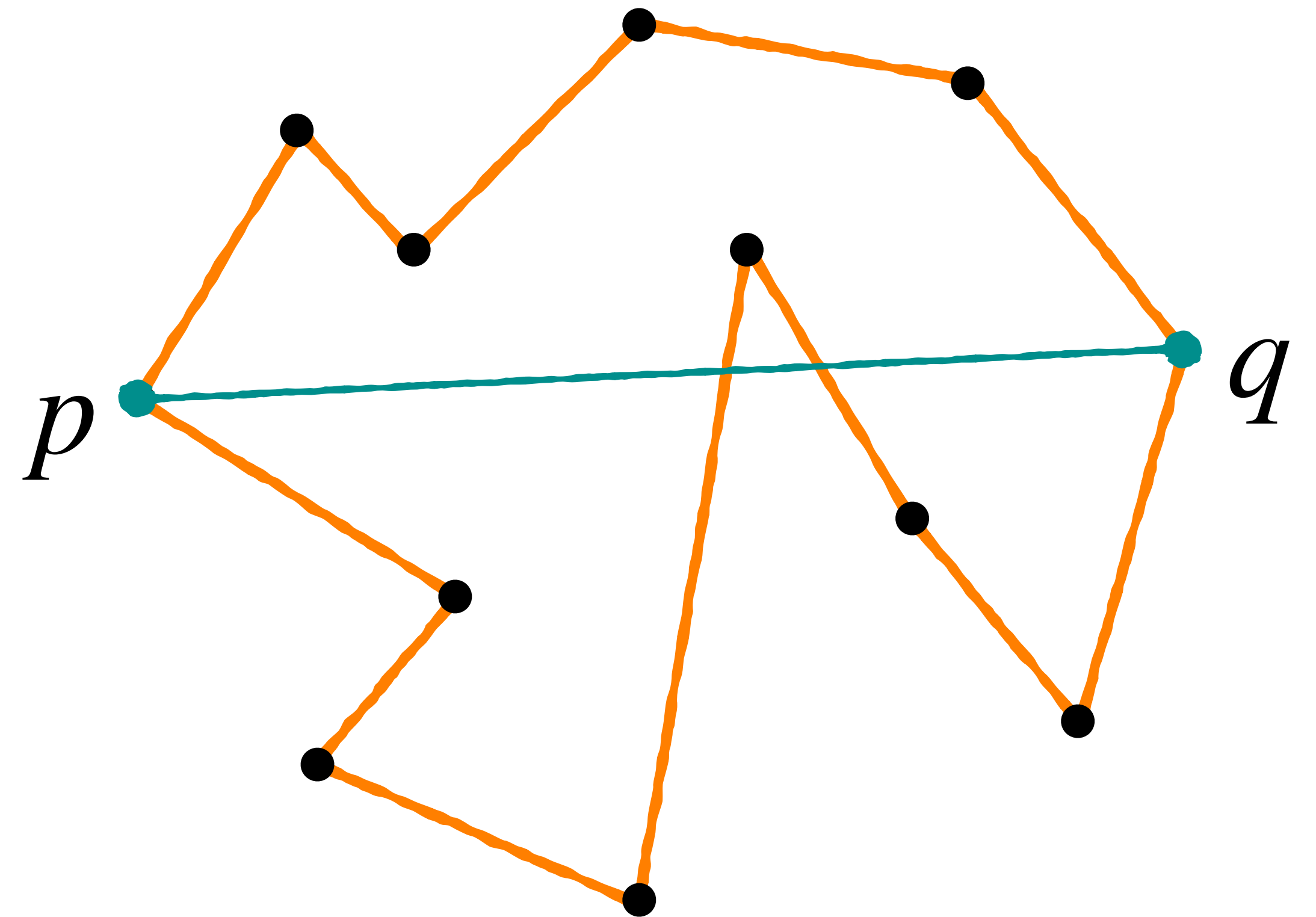
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Theorem E3.5 All farthest pairs and the diameter of an n -vertex simple polygon P can be computed in ...?



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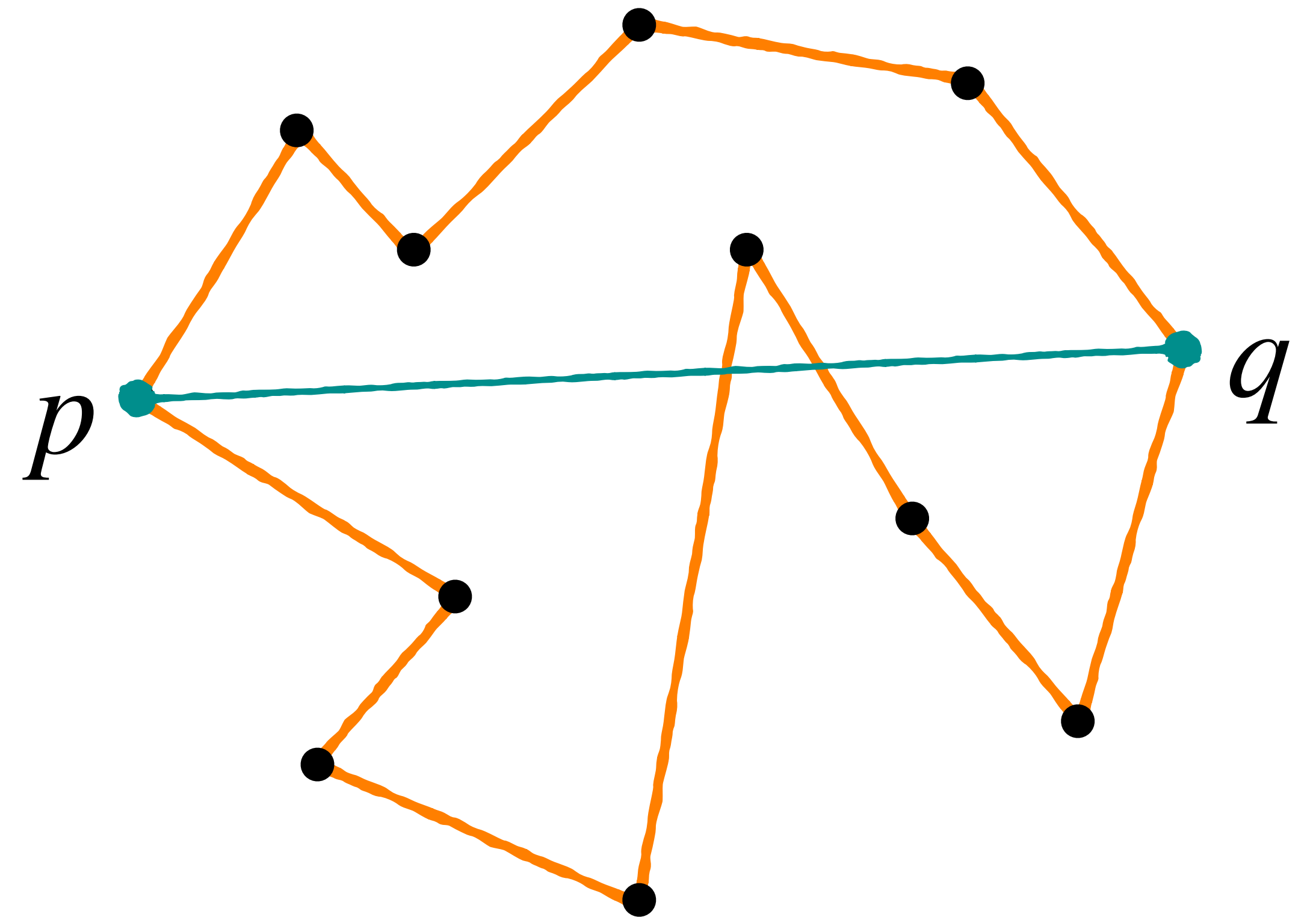
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Farthest point pairs

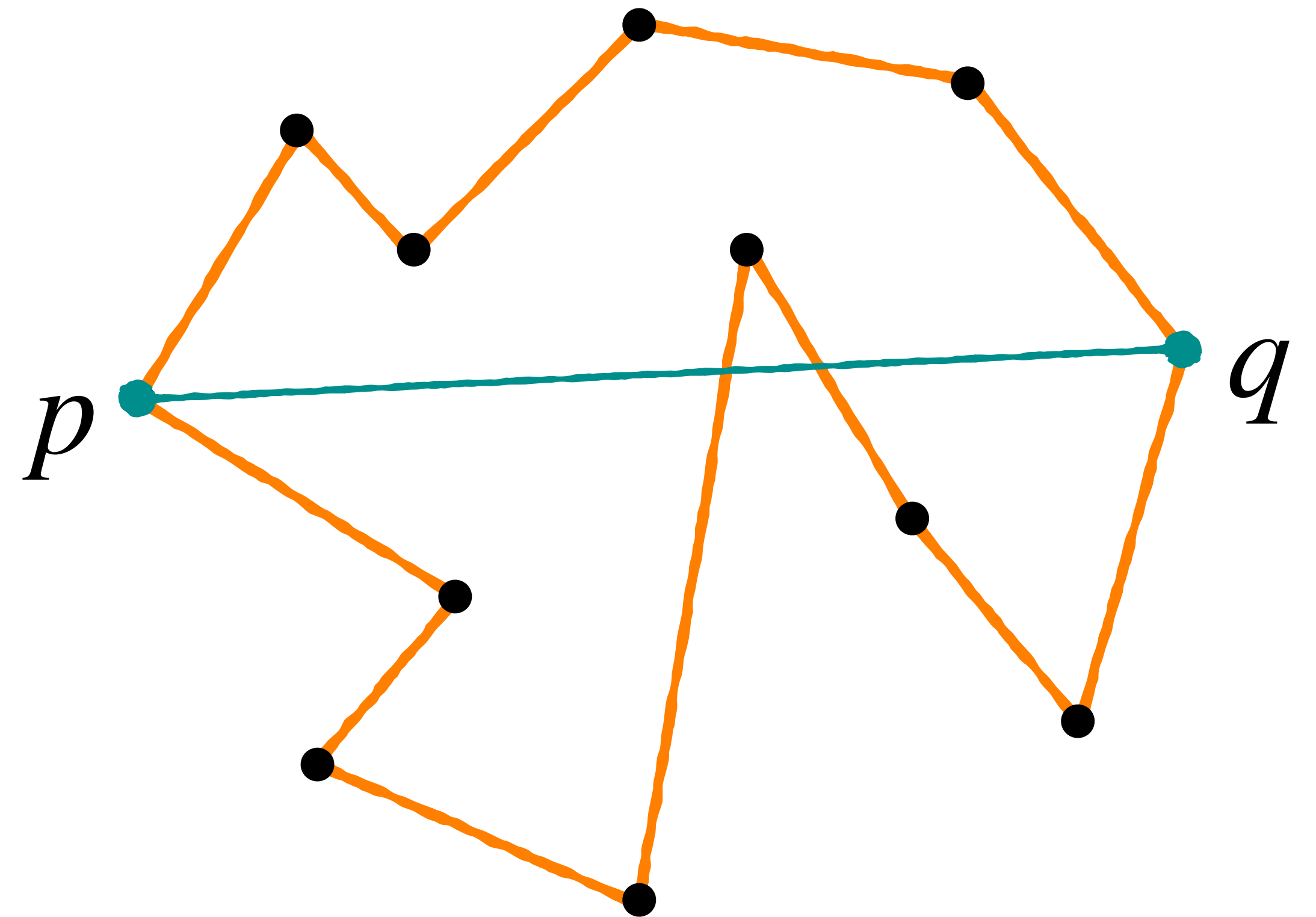
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Theorem E3.5 All farthest pairs and the diameter of an n -vertex simple polygon P can be computed in $\mathcal{O}(n)$.

Reason: Convex hull of P in $\mathcal{O}(n)$, not $\Omega(n \log n)$.



* no three points in \mathcal{P} are collinear.

Rotating Calipers Algorithm

Michael Shamos, 1978

Distances [\[edit \]](#)

- Diameter (maximum width) of a convex polygon^{[6][7]}
- Width (minimum width) of a convex polygon^[8]
- Maximum distance between two convex polygons^{[9][10]}
- Minimum distance between two convex polygons^{[11][12]}
- Widest empty (or separating) strip between two convex polygons (a simplified low-dimensional variant of a problem arising in [support vector machine](#) based machine learning)
- Grenander distance between two convex polygons^[13]
- Optimal strip separation (used in medical imaging and solid modeling)^[14]

Bounding boxes [\[edit \]](#)

- Minimum area [oriented bounding box](#)
- Minimum perimeter [oriented bounding box](#)

Triangulations [\[edit \]](#)

- Onion [triangulations](#)
- Spiral [triangulations](#)
- [Quadrangulation](#)
- Nice triangulation
- Art gallery problem
- Wedge placement optimization problem^[15]

Multi-polygon operations [\[edit \]](#)

- Union of two convex polygons
- Common tangents to two convex polygons
- Intersection of two convex polygons^[16]
- [Critical support lines](#) of two convex polygons
- Vector sums (or Minkowski sum) of two convex polygons^[17]
- Convex hull of two convex polygons

Traversals [\[edit \]](#)

- Shortest transversals^{[18][19]}
- Thinnest-strip transversals^[20]

Others [\[edit \]](#)

- Non parametric decision rules for machine learned classification^[21]
- Aperture angle optimizations for visibility problems in computer vision^[22]
- Finding longest cells in millions of biological cells^[23]
- Comparing precision of two people at firing range
- Classify sections of brain from scan images



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Homework Sheet #2

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Exercise 1 (Geometric Predicates). (5 points)

Using only the leftTurn and rightTurn predicates from Lecture 1, design a geometric predicate that decides whether a given line segment \overline{pq} intersects a counterclockwise triangle $\triangle(u, v, w)$:

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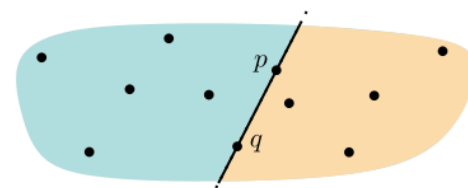
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Exercise 2 (Partitioning Points). (15 points)

Consider a set \mathcal{P} in the Euclidean plane \mathbb{R}^2 in general position according to Definition E1.

a) Prove that there exist points $p, q \in \mathcal{P}$ that divide \mathcal{P} evenly based on left-/rightTurn:

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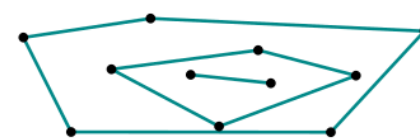
b) Design an algorithm that finds p and q in $\mathcal{O}(n)$ time for $n = |\mathcal{P}|$.

(Hint: Start with b), a good correctness proof can also give you a constructive proof of existence.)

Exercise 3 (Convex layers). (10 points)

The *convex layers* of a finite point set \mathcal{P} in the plane correspond to a decomposition of \mathcal{P} into nested, convex polygons (*layers*). The outermost layer L_0 consists exactly of the extremal points defining $\text{conv}(\mathcal{P})$. The next layer is recursively defined as points defining $\text{conv}(\mathcal{P} \setminus L_0)$, meaning

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Design an algorithm which computes the convex layers of n points in $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ time. Briefly argue its runtime and correctness.

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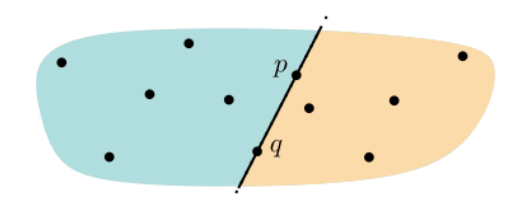
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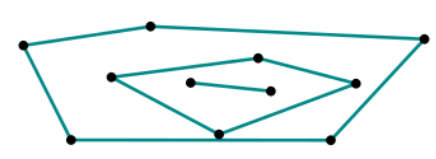
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Two weeks!

Due 28.11.2024
Discussion 05.12.2024

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- You may change homework partners at any time. Grading is tracked individually, not by group.
- A total of **70 points across all sheets** is sufficient for the coursework / Studienleistung.
- **So far: 35 points, this sheet: 30 points**

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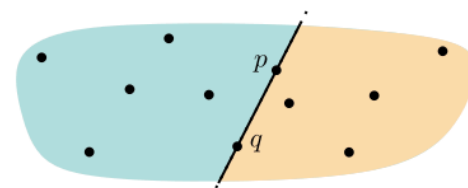
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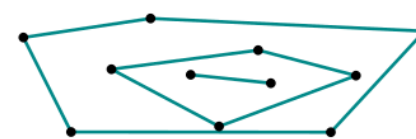
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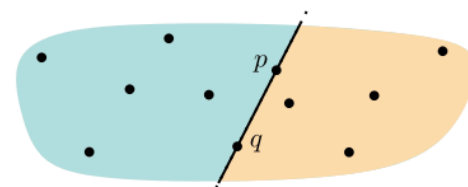
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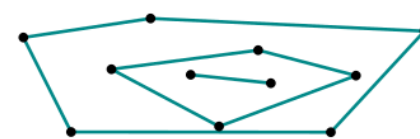
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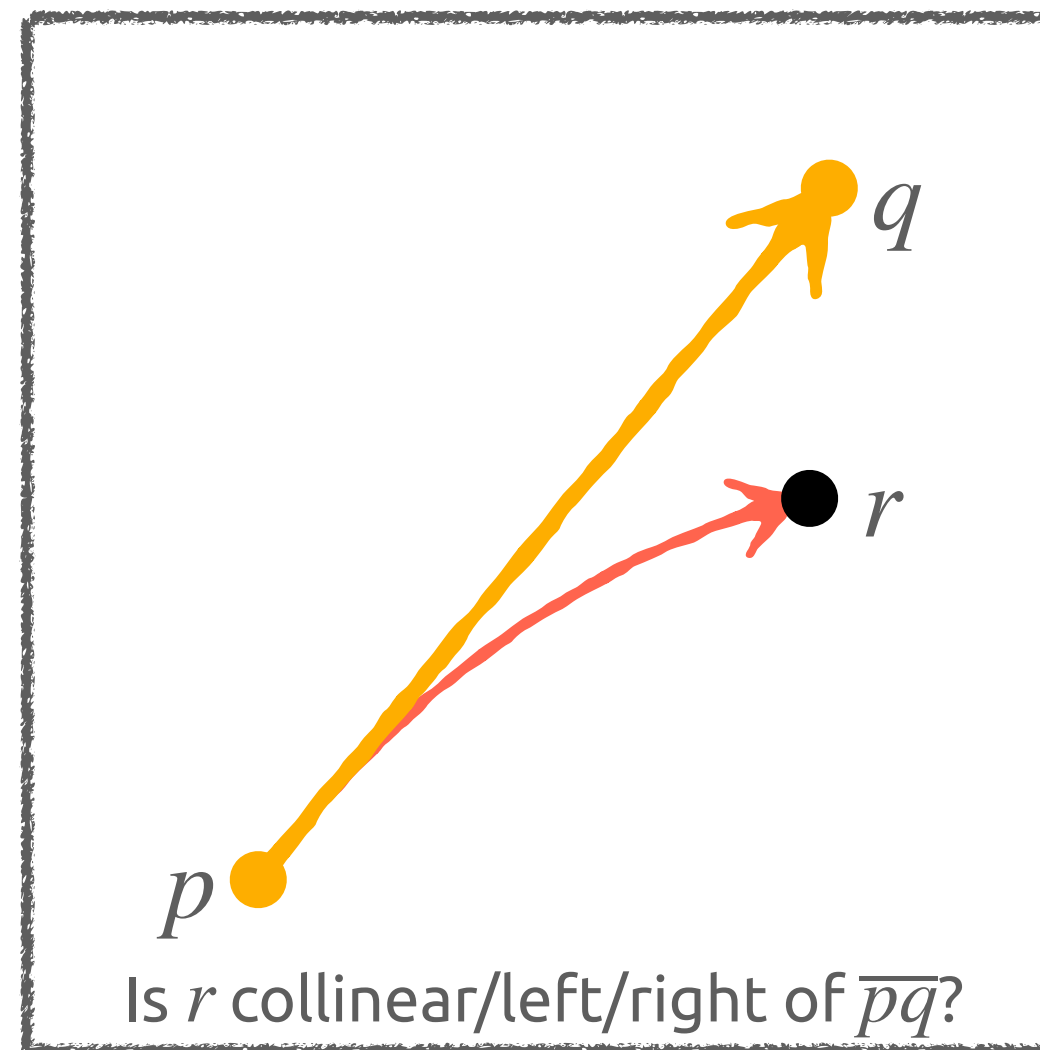
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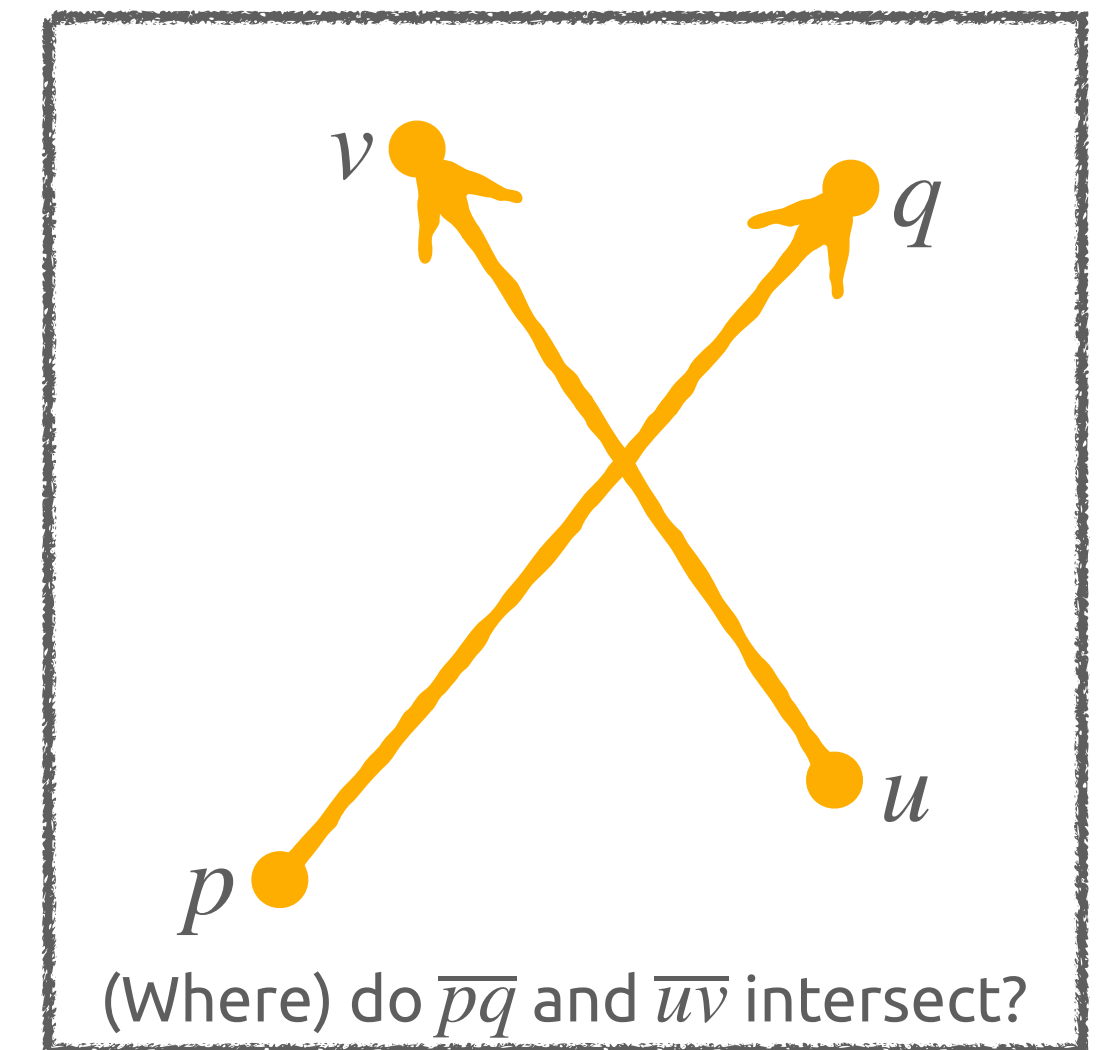
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Point-Line Test



Intersection Test



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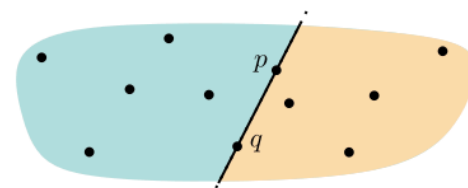
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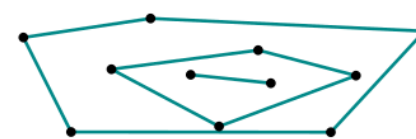
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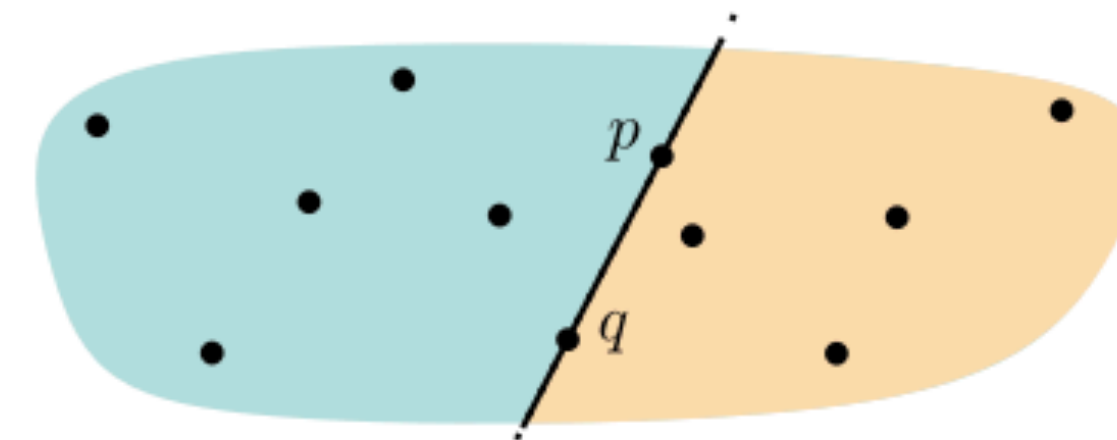
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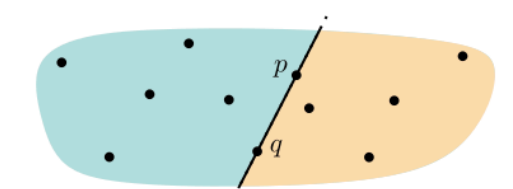
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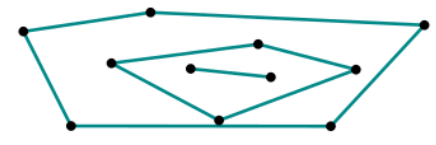
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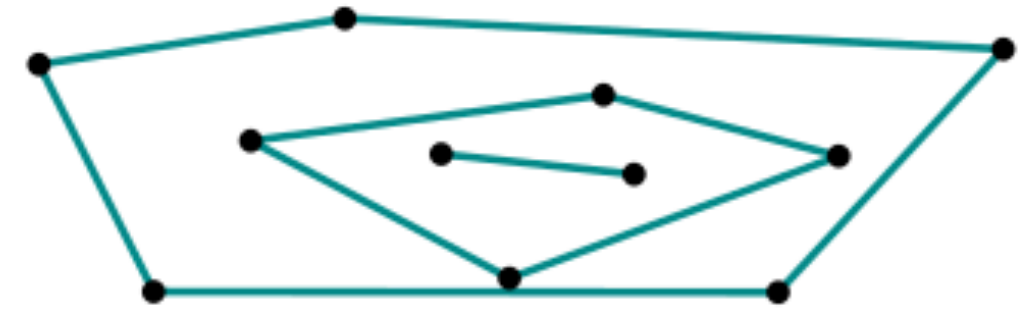
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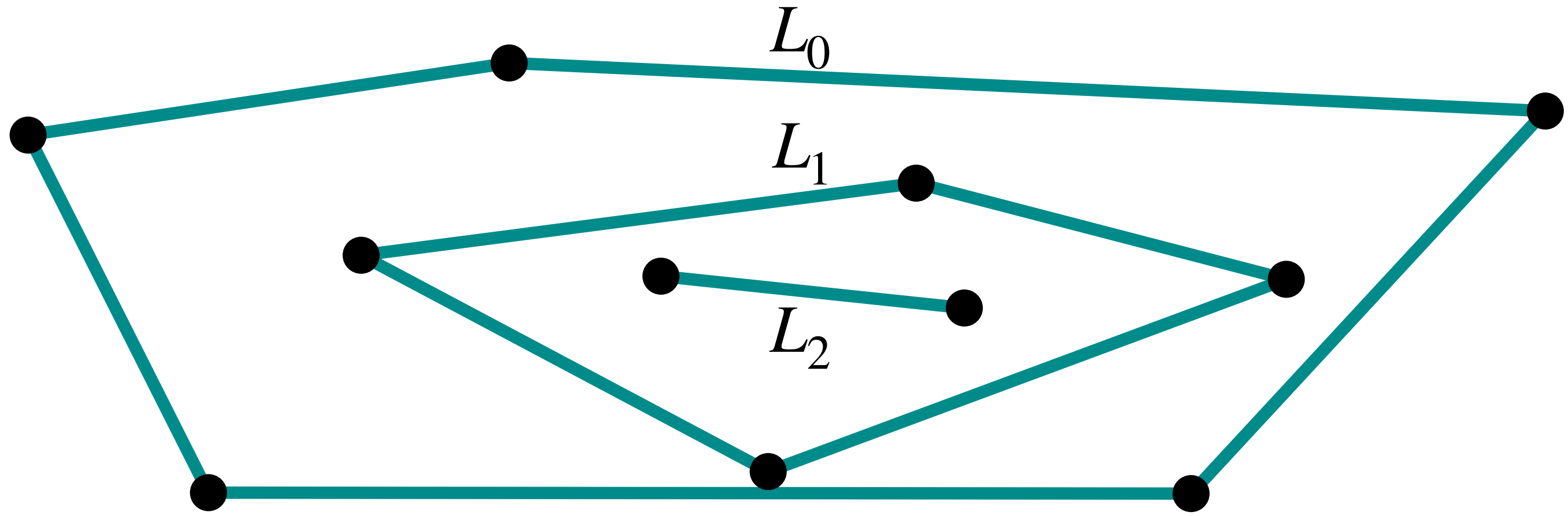
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Thank you.