

An aerial photograph of the Saarland University campus, showing several large, modern buildings with flat roofs and extensive greenery. The text is overlaid on the image.

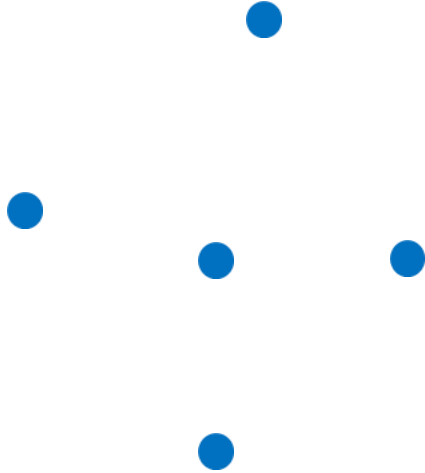
# Counting and Estimating Planar Structures

**Raimund Seidel**

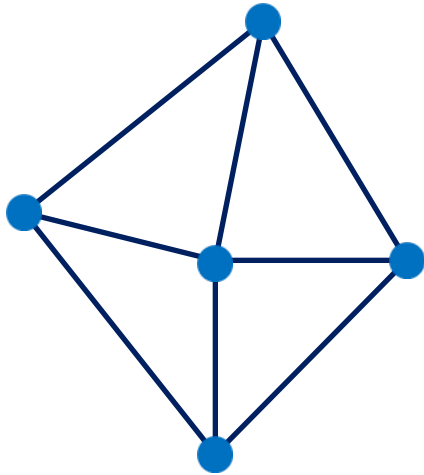
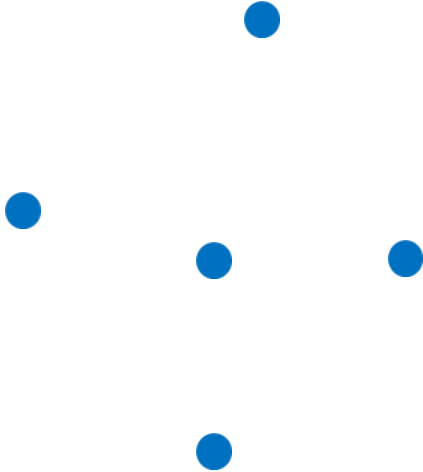
**Saarland University**

**Saarbrücken Informatik Campus**

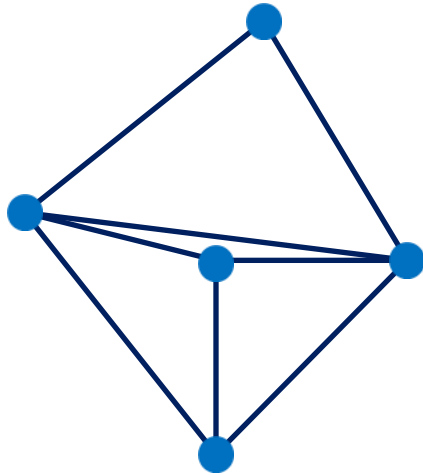
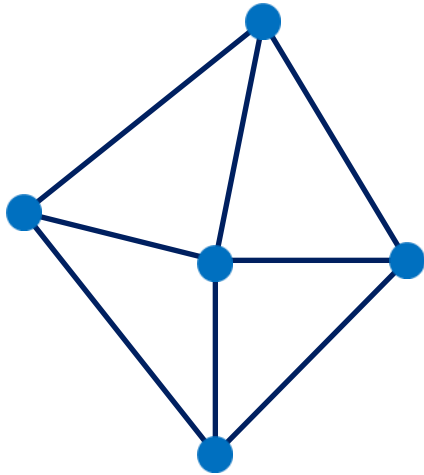
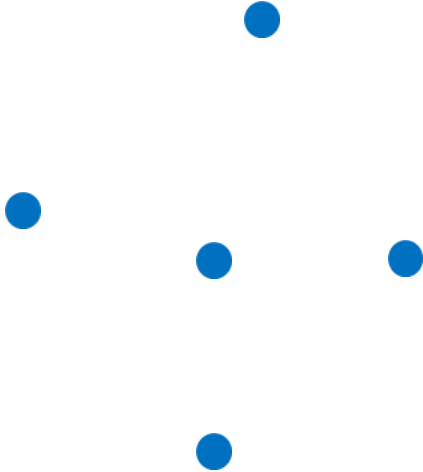
S



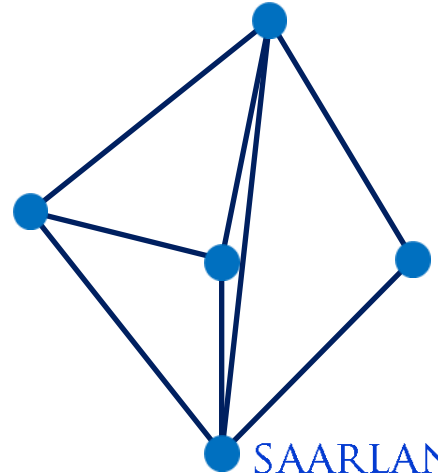
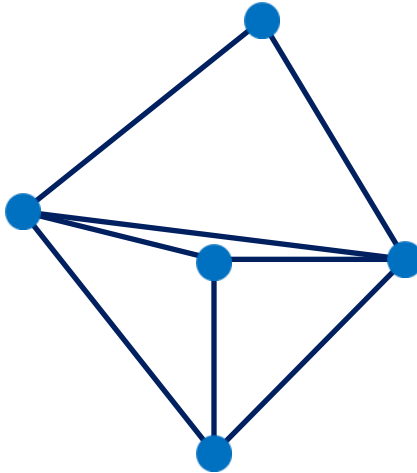
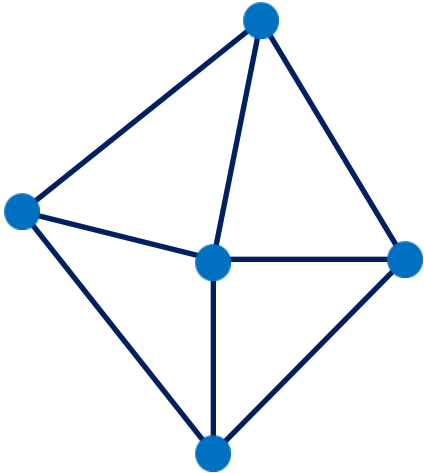
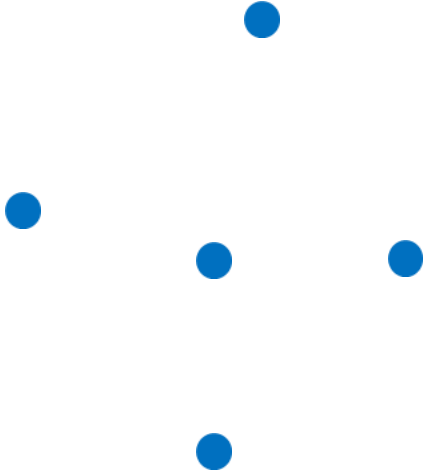
S



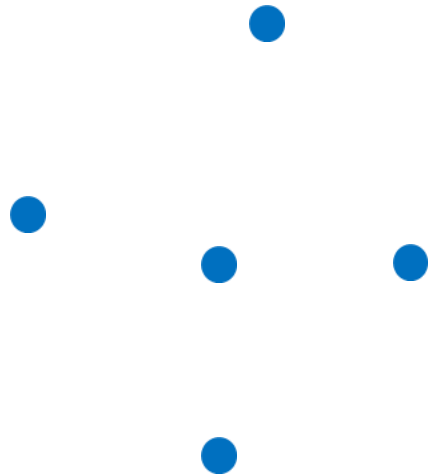
S



S

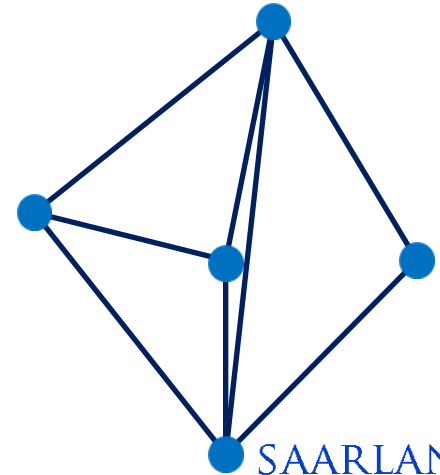
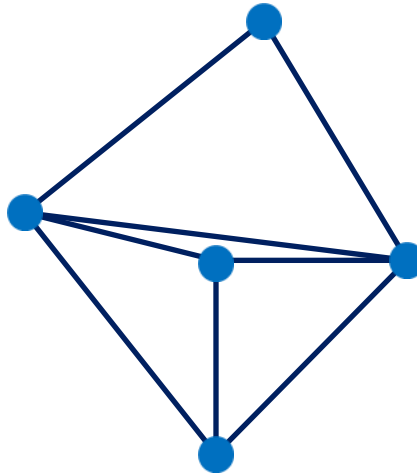
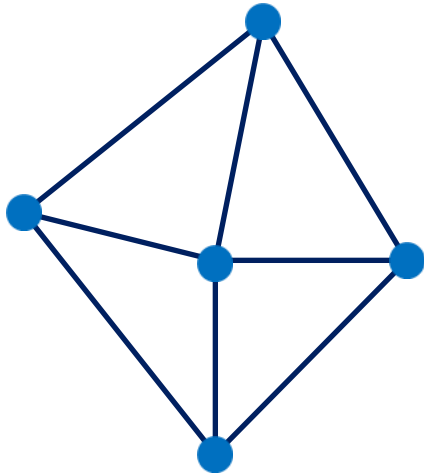


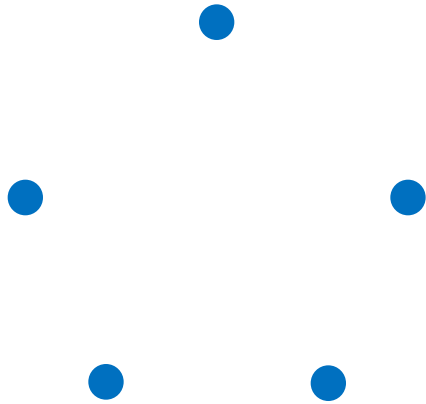
S

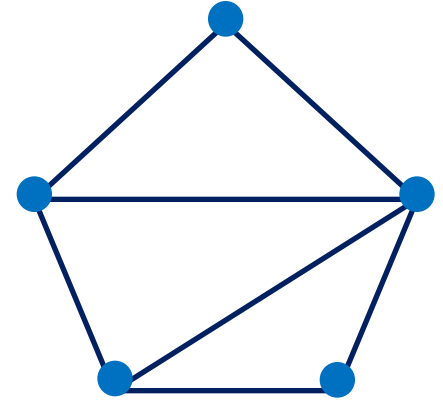
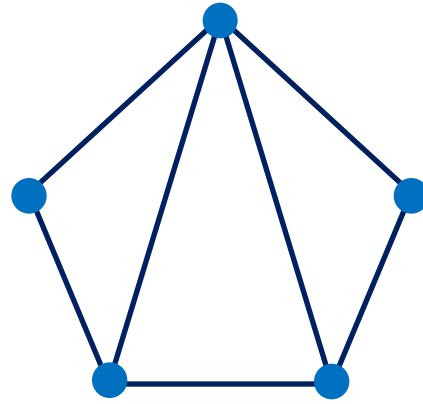
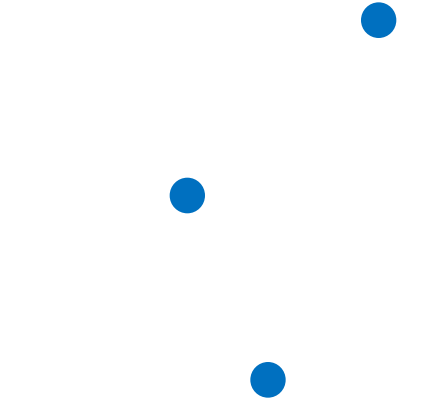


$$\text{tr}(S) = \# \text{ triangulations of } S$$

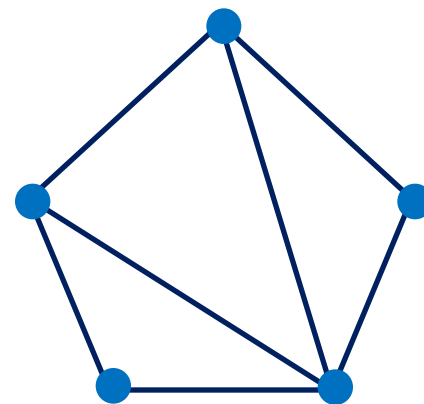
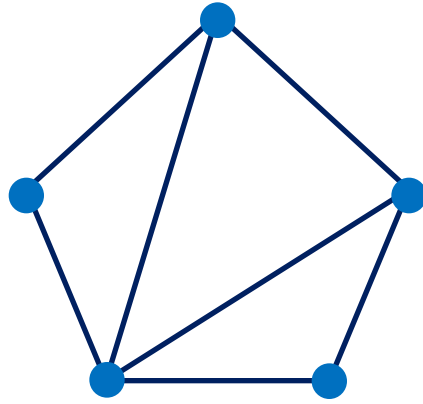
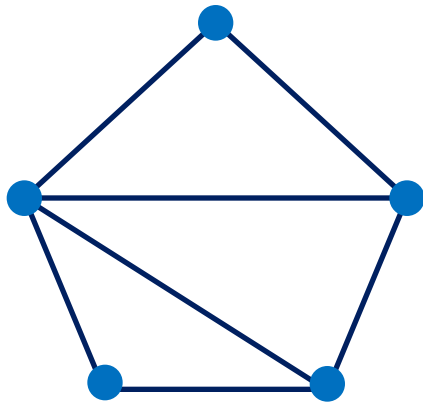
$$\text{tr}(S) = 3$$







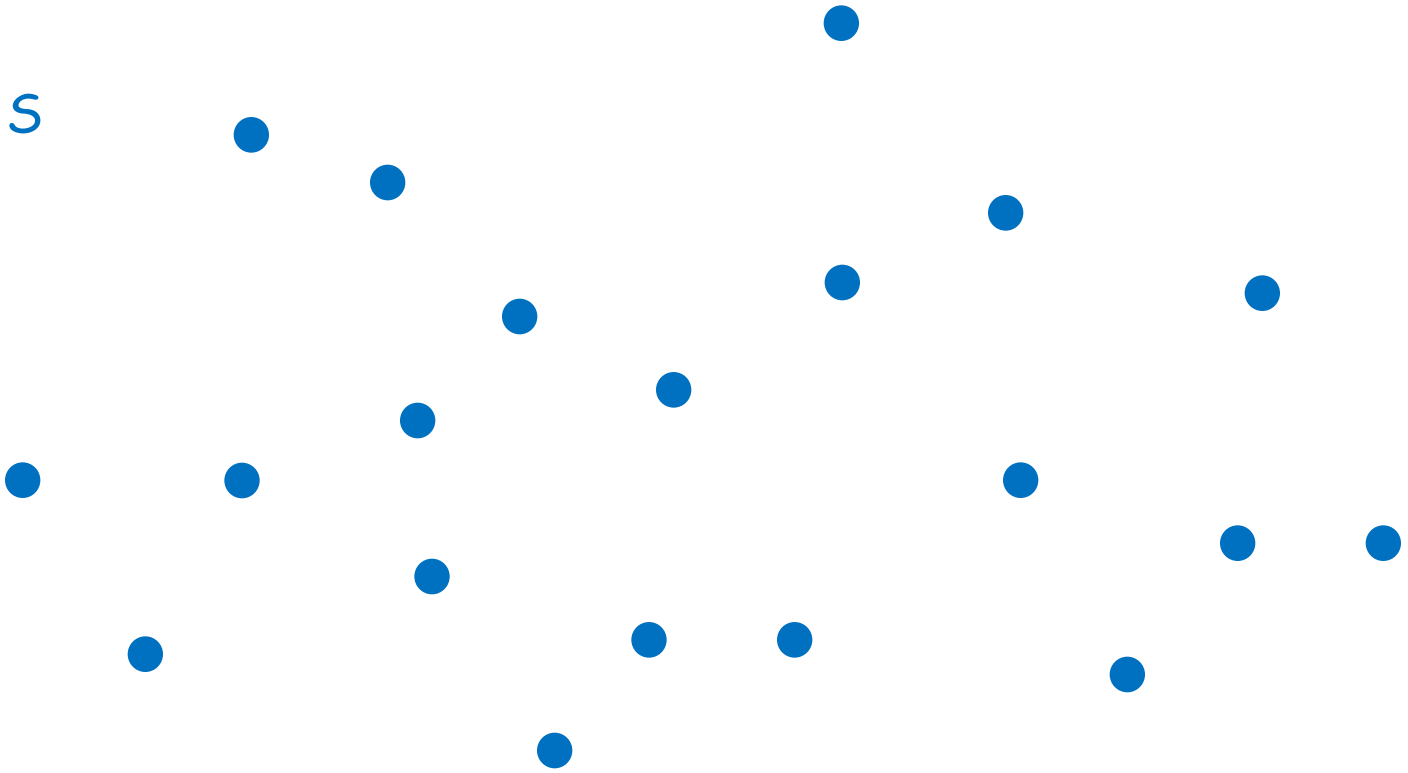
$$\text{tr}(S) = 5$$





$$\text{tr}(S) = ?$$

S



$\text{tr}(S) = \# \text{ triangulations of } S$

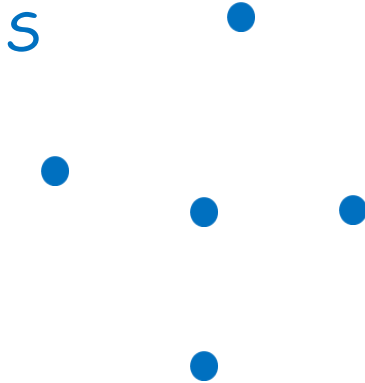
$$\text{Tr}(n) = \max\{ \text{tr}(S) : |S|=n \}$$

$$\text{tr}(n) = \min\{ \text{tr}(S) : |S|=n \}$$

## Questions:

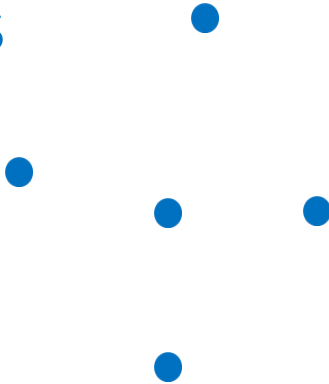
- Bounds for  $\text{Tr}(n)$
- Bounds for  $\text{tr}(n)$
- Computing  $\text{tr}(S)$
- Approximating/Estimating  $\text{tr}(S)$
- Enumerating all triangulations of  $S$
- random sampling a triangulation of  $S$

$hc(S) = \#$  non-crossing straight-edge  
hamiltonian cycles on  $S$

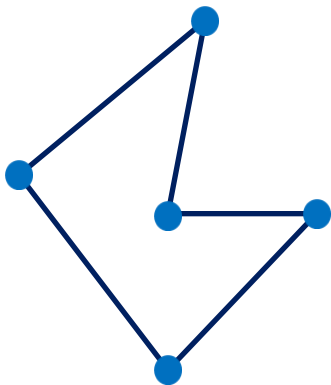


$hc(S) = \#$  non-crossing straight-edge  
hamiltonian cycles on  $S$

$S$

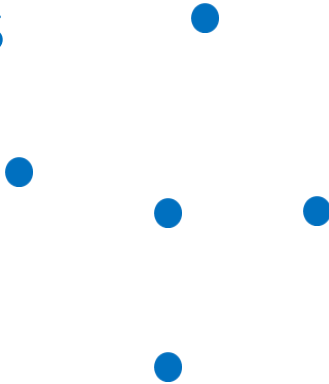


$hc(S) = ?$

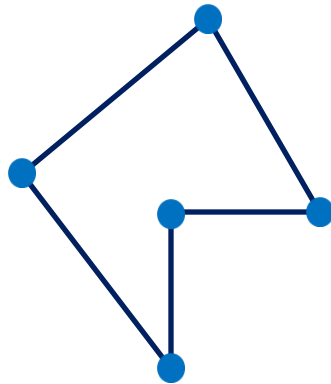
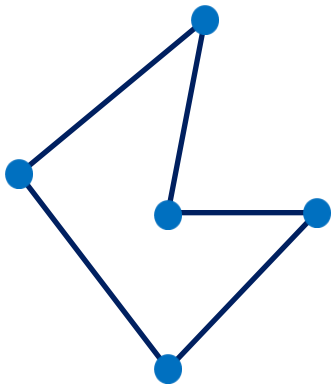


$hc(S) = \#$  non-crossing straight-edge  
hamiltonian cycles on  $S$

$S$

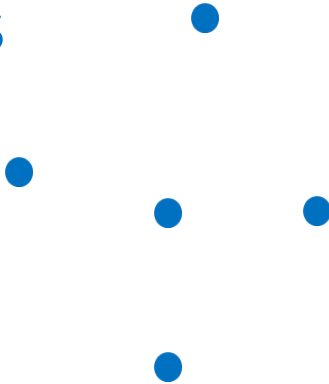


$hc(S) = ?$

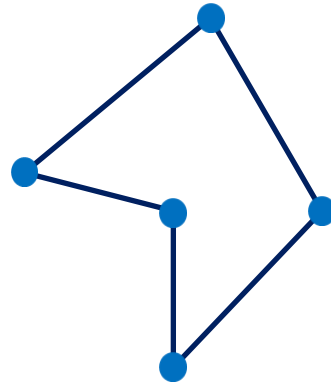
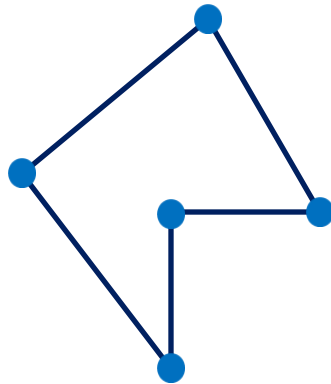
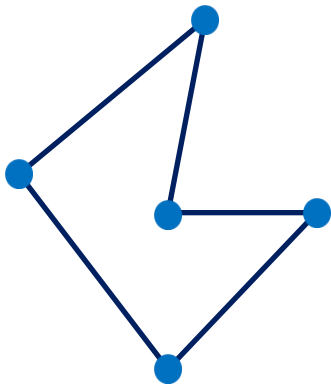


$hc(S) = \#$  non-crossing straight-edge hamiltonian cycles on  $S$

$S$

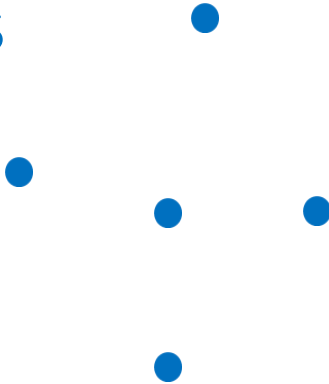


$hc(S) = ?$

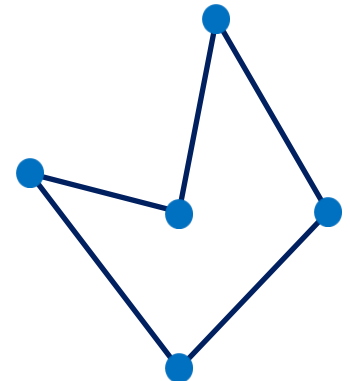
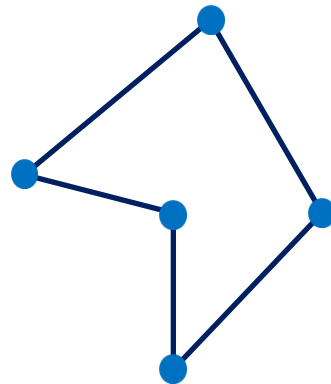
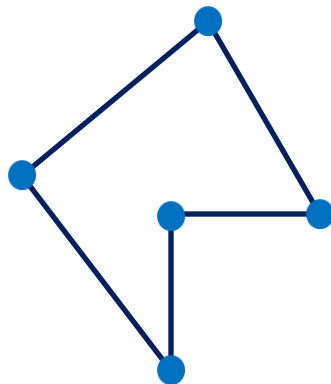
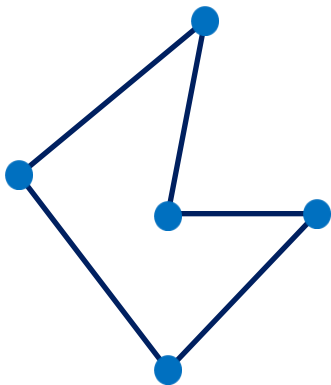


$hc(S) = \#$  non-crossing straight-edge hamiltonian cycles on  $S$

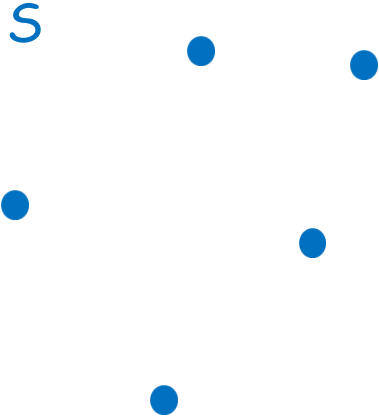
$S$



$hc(S) = 4$



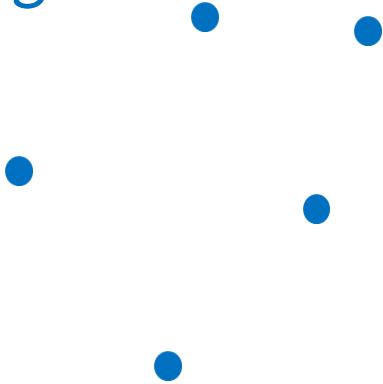
$hc(S) = \#$  non-crossing straight-edge  
hamiltonian cycles on  $S$



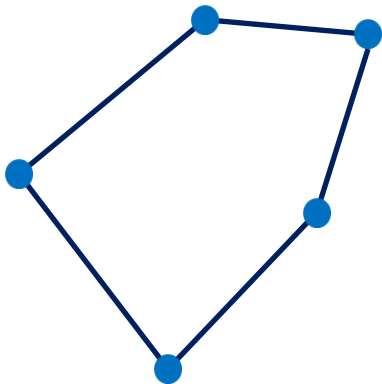


$hc(S) = \#$  non-crossing straight-edge  
hamiltonian cycles on  $S$

$S$



$$hc(S) = 1$$



$hc(S) = \#$  non-crossing straight-edge hamiltonian cycles on  $S$   
„plane“

$hc(S) = \#$  plane hamiltonian cycles on  $S$

$$Hc(n) = \max\{ hc(S) : |S|=n \}$$

$$hc(n) = \min\{ hc(S) : |S|=n \}$$

$hc(S) = \#$  plane hamiltonian cycles on  $S$

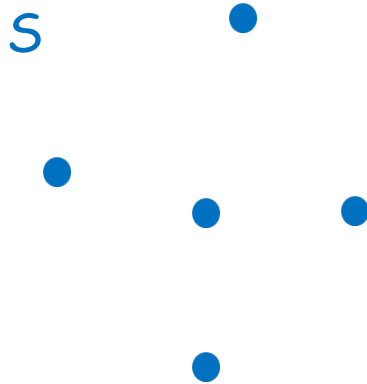
$$Hc(n) = \max\{ hc(S) : |S|=n \}$$

$$hc(n) = \min\{ hc(S) : |S|=n \}$$

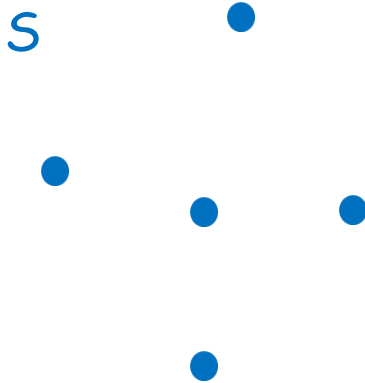
## Questions:

- Bounds for  $Hc(n)$
- Bounds for  $hc(n)$
- Computing  $hc(S)$
- Approximating/Estimating  $hc(S)$
- Enumerating plane hamiltonian cycles on  $S$
- random sampling a plane hamiltonian cycle on  $S$

$\text{pm}(S) = \# \text{ plane maximum matchings on } S$



$\text{pm}(S) = \# \text{ plane maximum matchings on } S$

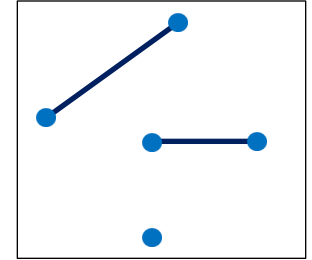
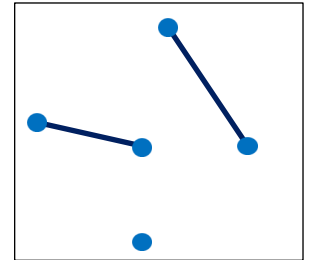
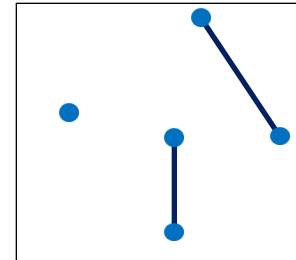
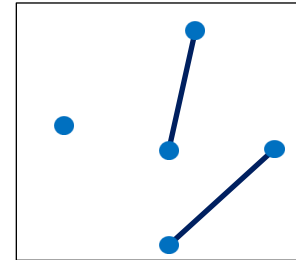
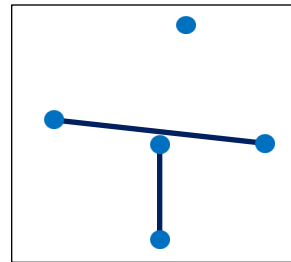
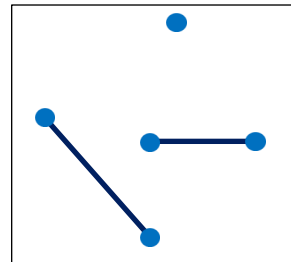
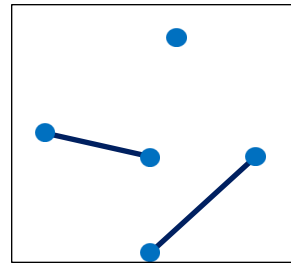
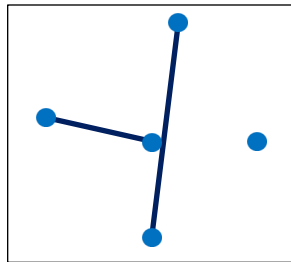
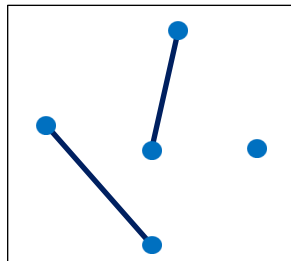
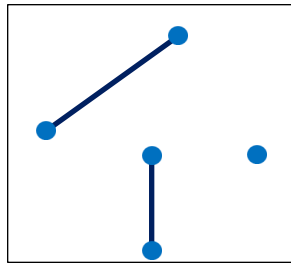
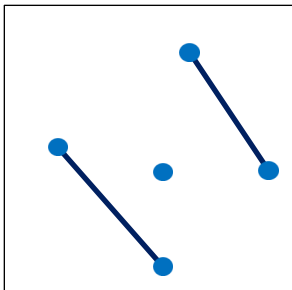
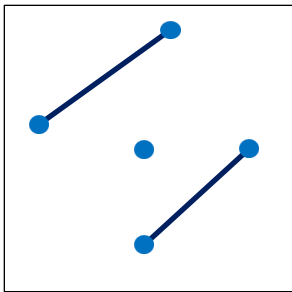


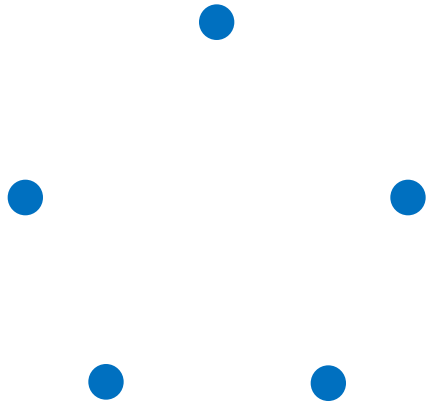
$$\text{pm}(S) = 12$$

$\text{pm}(S) = \# \text{ plane maximum matchings on } S$

$S$

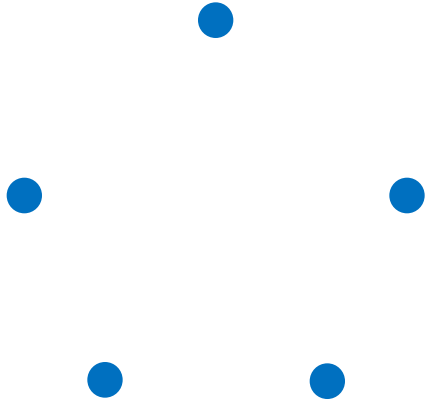
$\text{pm}(S) = 12$



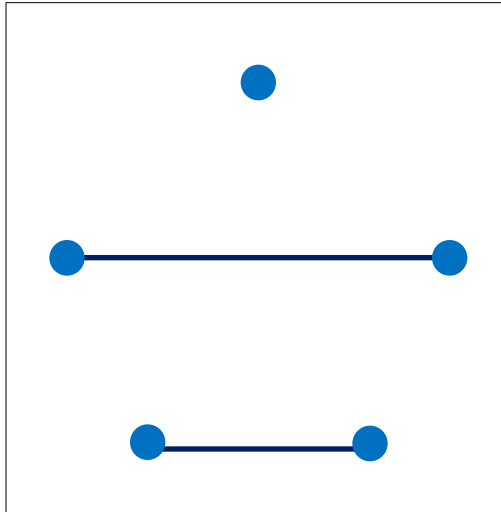
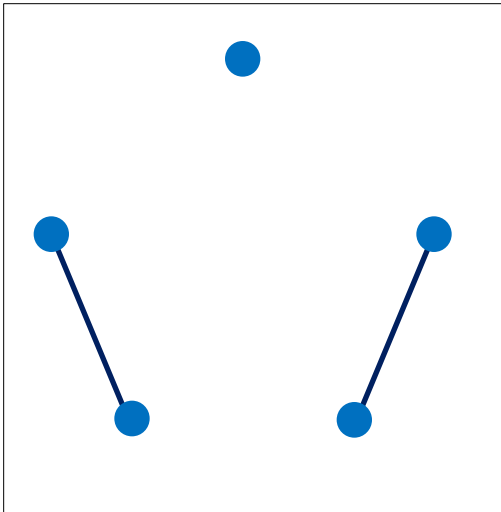


$$\text{pm}(S) = ?$$





$$\text{pm}(S) = 10$$



$\text{pm}(S) = \# \text{ plane maximum matchings on } S$

$$Pm(n) = \max\{ \text{pm}(S) : |S|=n \}$$

$$\text{pm}(n) = \min\{ \text{pm}(S) : |S|=n \}$$

## Questions:

- Bounds for  $Pm(n)$
- Bounds for  $\text{pm}(n)$
- Computing  $\text{pm}(S)$
- Approximating/Estimating  $\text{pm}(S)$
- Enumerating plane maximum matchings on  $S$
- random sampling a plane maximum matching on  $S$

# Other classes of “plane structures” on $S$ :

- plane spanning trees
- plane cycle covers
- plane graphs
- plane convex covers
- ...

$xx(S) = \# \text{ plane } xxxxx \text{ on } S$

$$Xx(n) = \max\{ xx(S) : |S|=n \}$$

$$xx(n) = \min\{ xx(S) : |S|=n \}$$

## Questions:

- Bounds for  $Xx(n)$
- Bounds for  $xx(n)$
- Computing  $xx(S)$
- Approximating/Estimating  $xx(S)$
- Enumerating plane  $xxxxx$  on  $S$
- random sampling a plane  $xxxxx$  on  $S$

Inspite of decades of research each problem is  
either

trivial

or

not answered satisfactorily.

# Triangulations

$\text{tr}(S) = \#$  triangulations of  $S$

$$\text{Tr}(n) = \max\{ \text{tr}(S) : |S|=n \}$$

$$\text{tr}(n) = \min\{ \text{tr}(S) : |S|=n \}$$

## Questions:

- Bounds for  $\text{Tr}(n)$
- Bounds for  $\text{tr}(n)$
- Computing  $\text{tr}(S)$
- Approximating/Estimating  $\text{tr}(S)$
- Enumerating all triangulations of  $S$
- random sampling a triangulation of  $S$

$$\Omega(2.43^n) \leq \text{tr}(S) \leq O(30^n) \quad n=|S|$$

Aichholzer, Hackl, Vogtenhuber, Huemer, Hurtado, Krasser,  
McCabe, Seidel, Sharir, Sheffer, Noy, Flajolet, ...  
Ajtai, Chvátal, Newborn, Szemerédi, Smith, Seidel, Santos,  
Sharir, Welzl, Sheffer, Dumitrescu, Schulz, Toth, ...

$$\Omega(8.65^n) \leq \text{Tr}(n) \leq O(30^n)$$

$$\Omega(2.43^n) \leq \text{tr}(n) \leq O(3.464^n)$$

McCabe, Seidel, EuroCG2003

$\text{tr}(h,m) = \min\{ \text{tr}(S) \mid S \text{ has } h \text{ extreme points and } m \text{ "interior" points} \}$

**Theorem 1:**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}(h,m) &\geq \lambda \cdot (30/11)^h \cdot (11/5)^m \\ &\geq \lambda \cdot 2.7272^h \cdot 2.2^m \end{aligned} \quad \lambda \geq 0.0414$$

**Theorem 2:** For every fixed  $h$ :

$$\text{tr}(h,m) \geq \Omega(2.63^m)$$



# Computing $\text{tr}(S)$

enumeration via reverse search  $\Omega(\text{tr}(S)) \geq \Omega(2.43^n)$   
(Avis, Fukuda, Bespamyatnikh)

divide-and-conquer using „triangulation paths“ ???  
(Aichholzer)

dynamic programming ???  
(Ray, Seidel)

sweep using „triangulation paths“ ???  
(Alvarez, Bringmann, Ray)

dynamic programming using „onion structure“  $O(3.1414^n)$   
(Alvarez, Bringmann, Curticapean, Ray)

via reduction to path counting in DAGs  $O(2^n n^2)$   
(Alvarez, S.)

Today:  $O(2^n n^2)$  algorithm

via reduction to path counting in DAGs

“aggregative” ... substantially faster than enumeration

$$\text{tr}(S) \geq \Omega(2.43^n)$$

Today:  $O(2^n n^2)$  algorithm

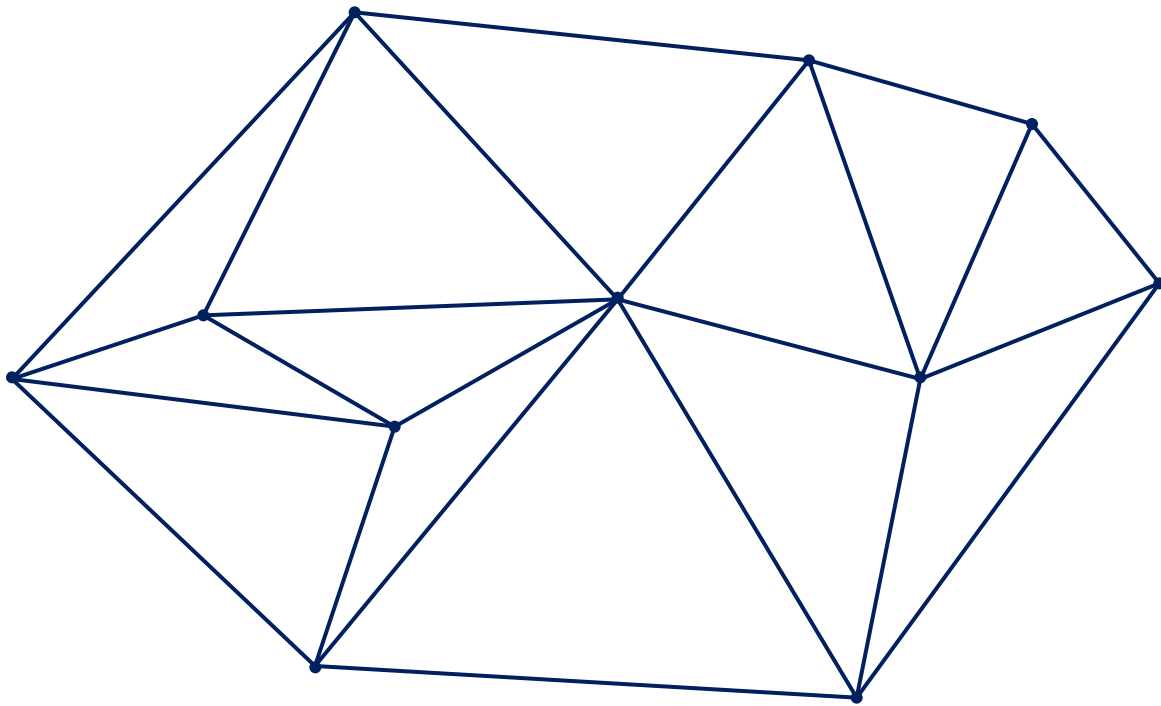
via reduction to path counting in DAGs

“aggregative” ... substantially faster than enumeration

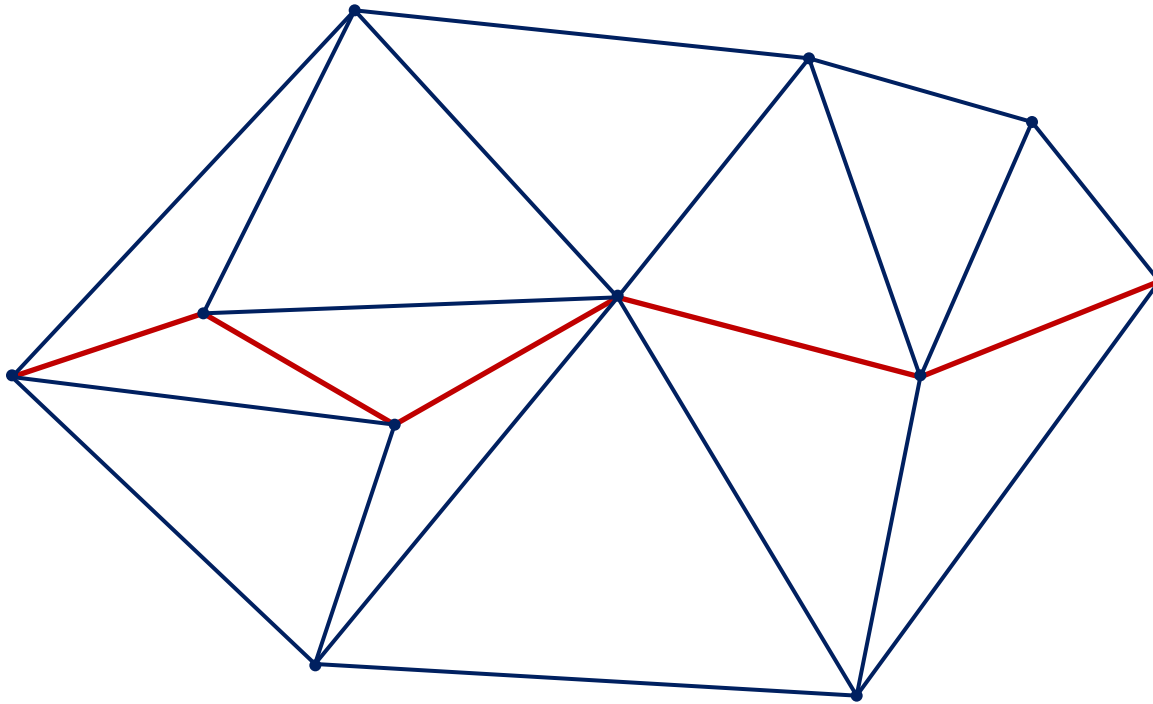
$$\text{tr}(S) \geq \Omega(2.43^n)$$

Exponential space usage:  $O(2^n n)$

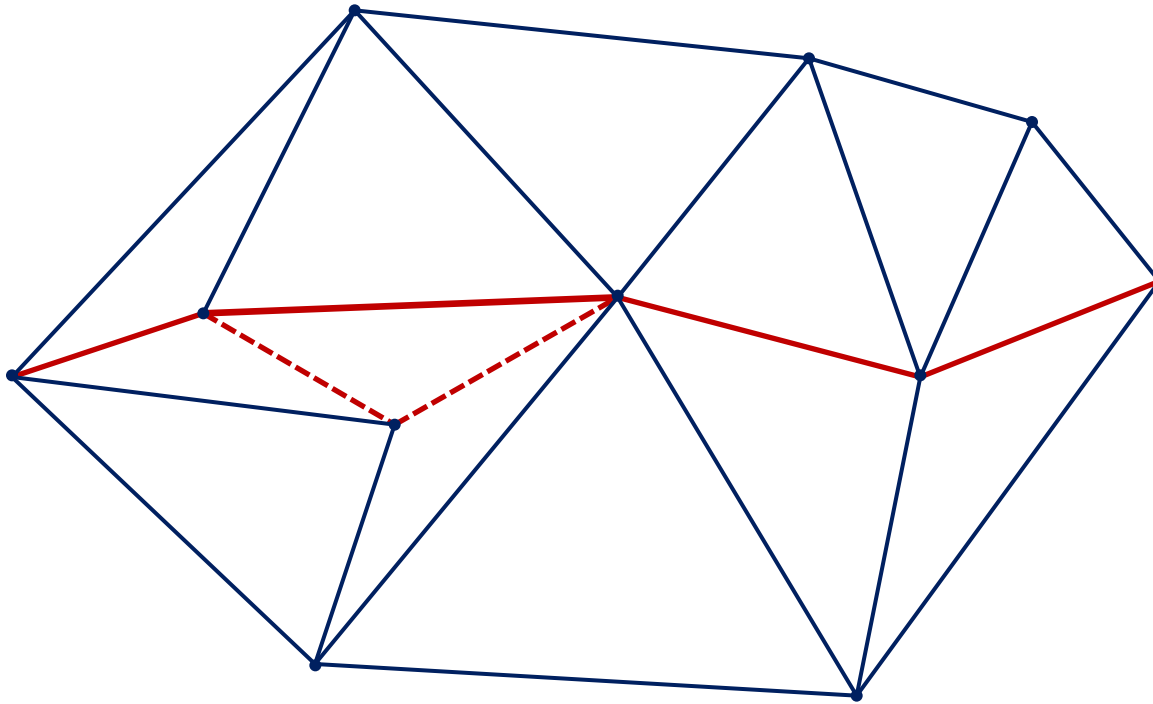




monotone chain

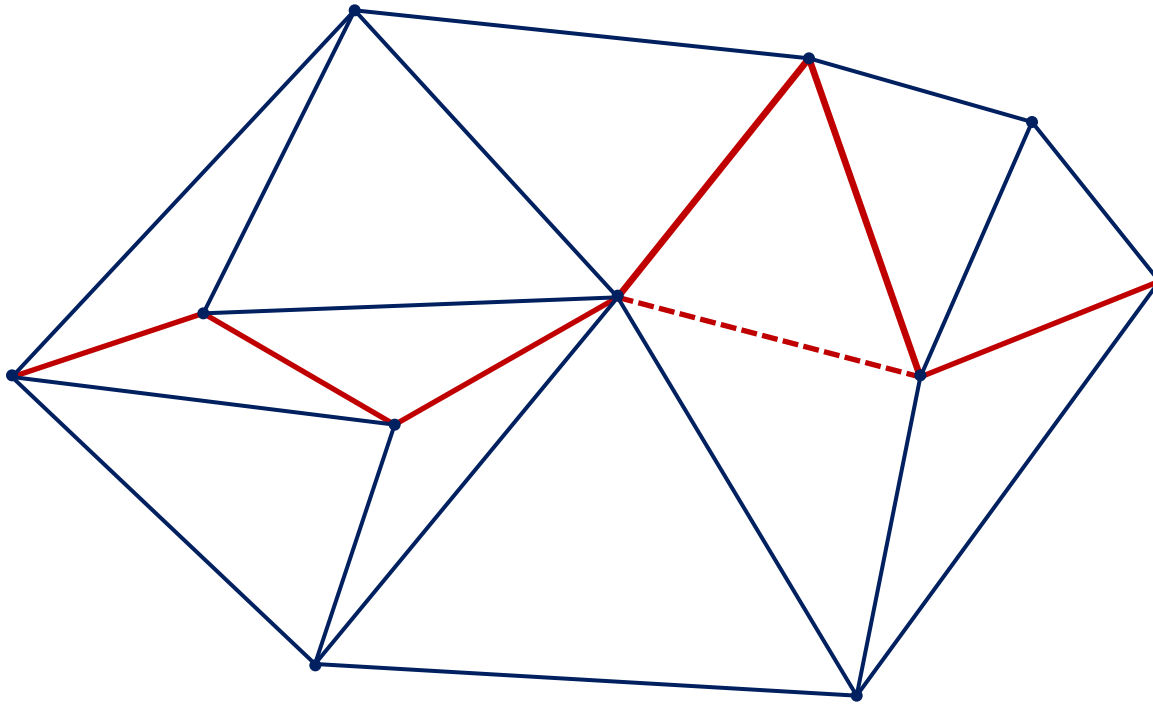


**advance**  
(losing a vertex)

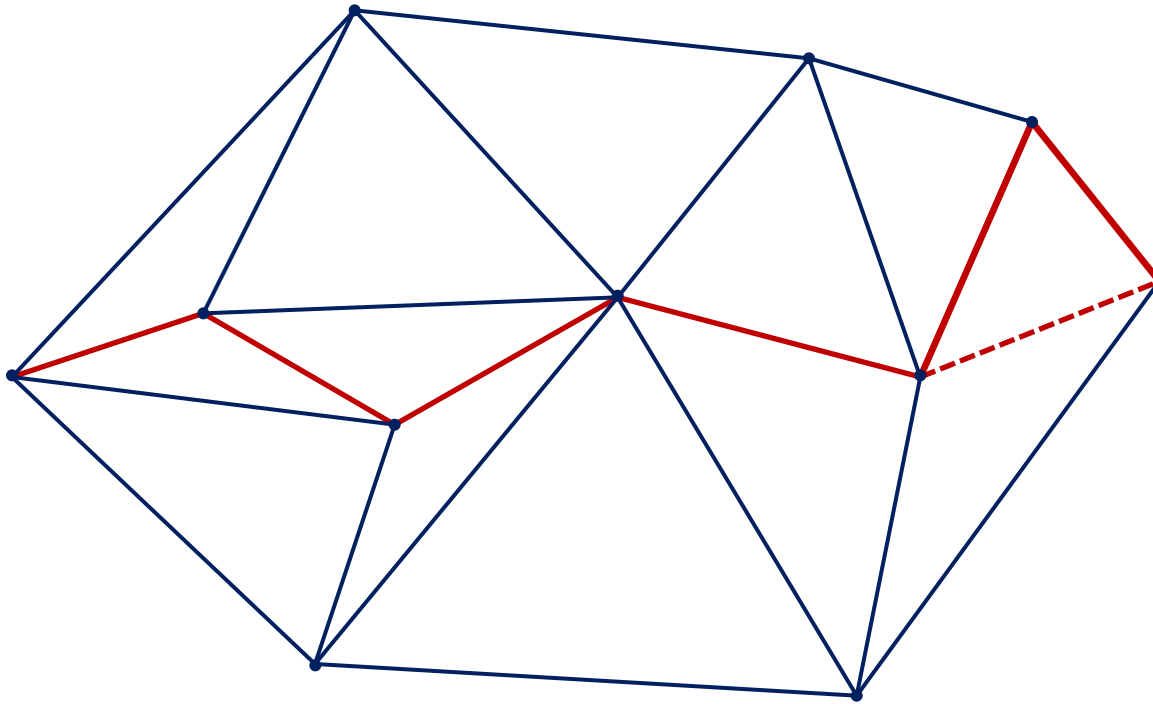




**advance**  
(winning a vertex)



**advance**  
(winning a vertex)



## Claim:

For every monotone chain  $C$  in a triangulation there is an advance.

## Claim:

For every monotone chain  $C$  in a triangulation there is an advance,

unless  $C$  is the chain formed by the upper hull.

## Claim:

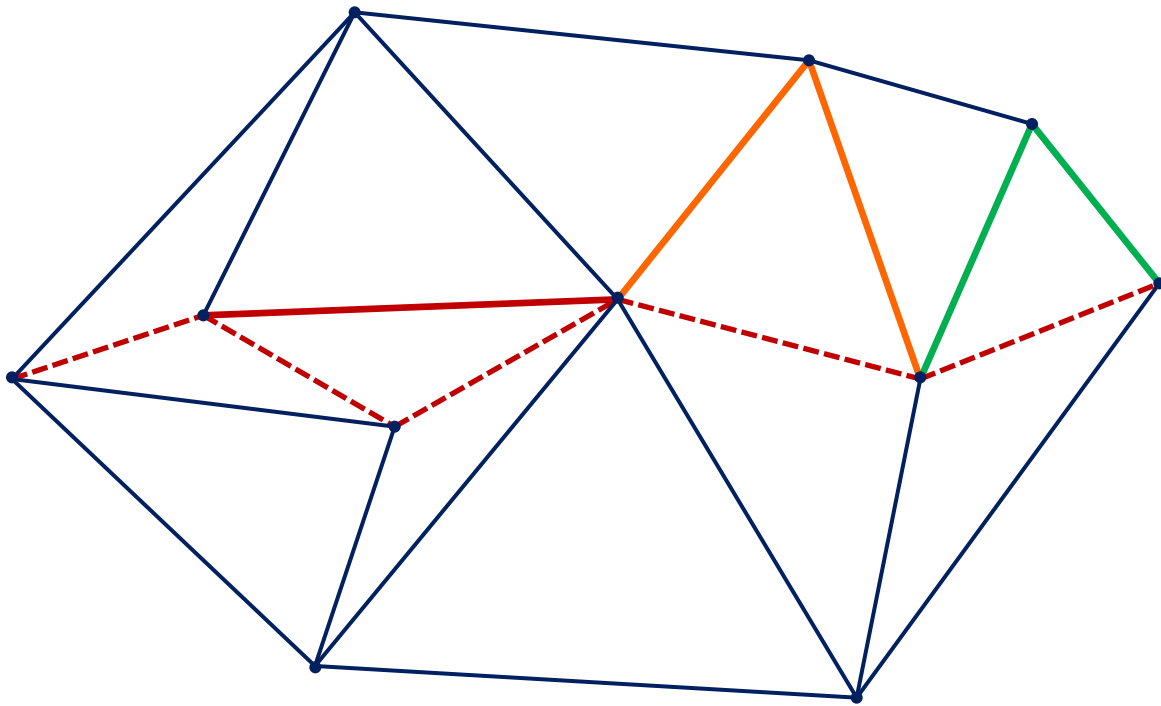
For every monotone chain  $C$  in a triangulation there is an advance,

unless  $C$  is the chain formed by the upper hull.

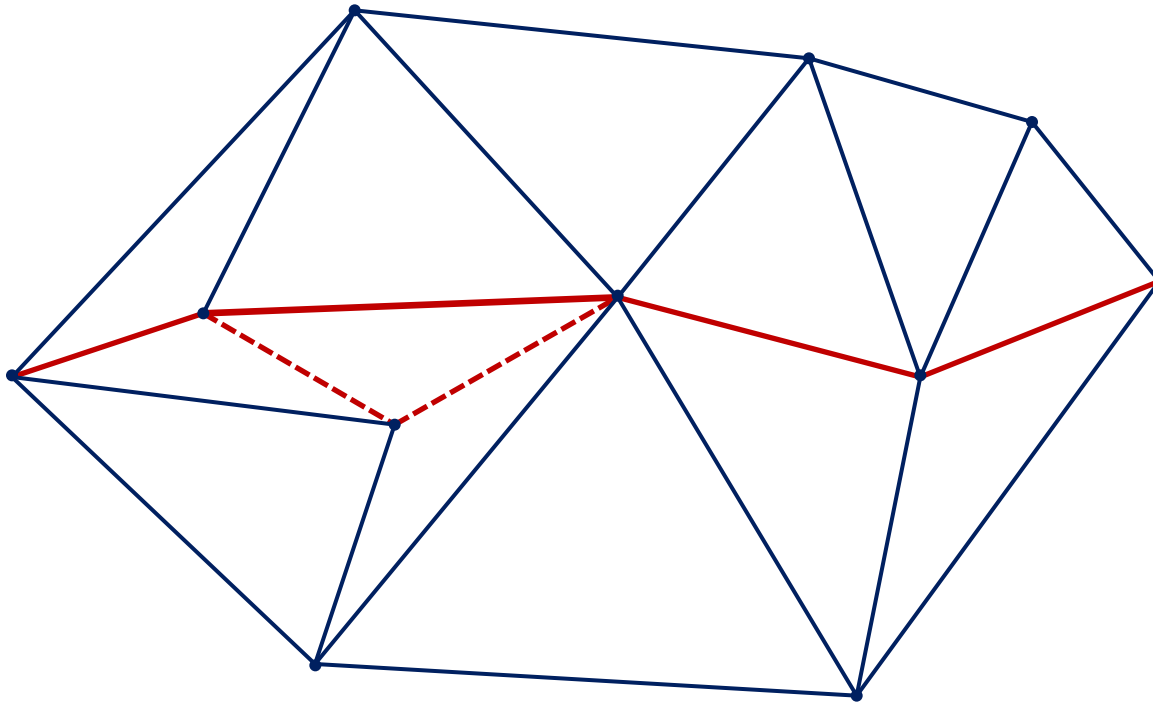
## Corollary:

For every monotone chain  $C$  in a triangulation there is a **leftmost** advance,

unless  $C$  is the chain formed by the upper hull.



# leftmost advance



# Leftmost advancing monotone chain sweep of a triangulation $T$

Sequence  $C_0, C_1, \dots, C_t$  of monotone chains of  $T$  such that

$C_0$  is the lower convex hull

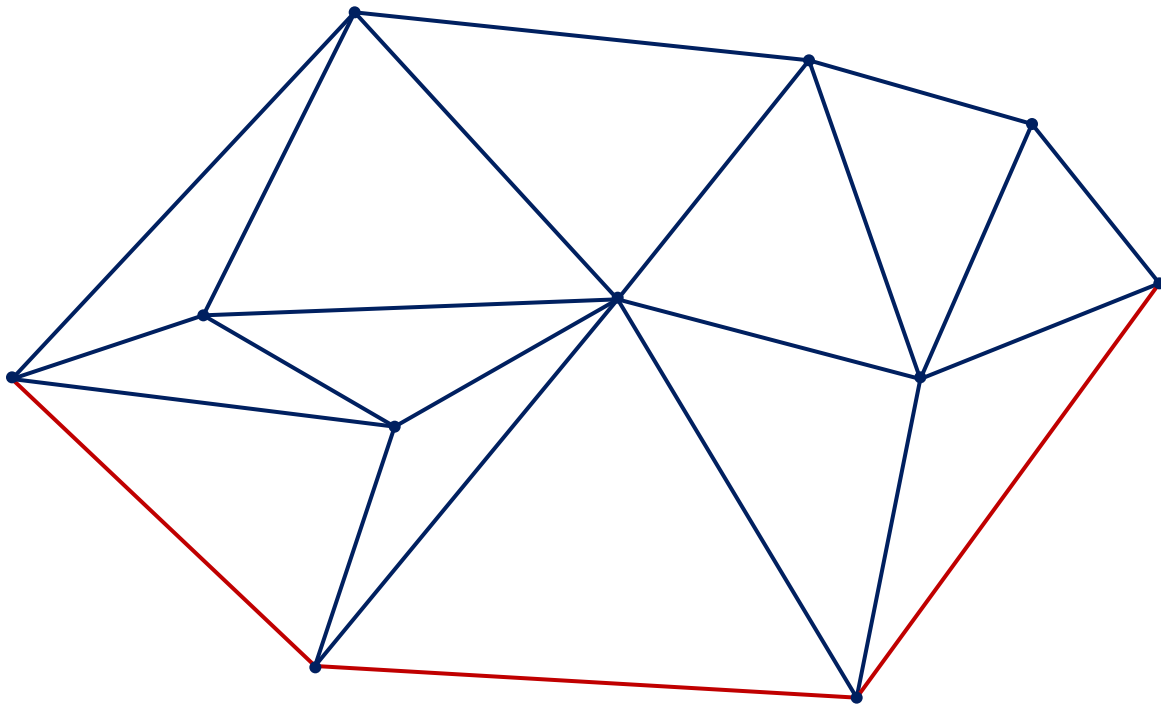
$C_t$  is the upper convex hull

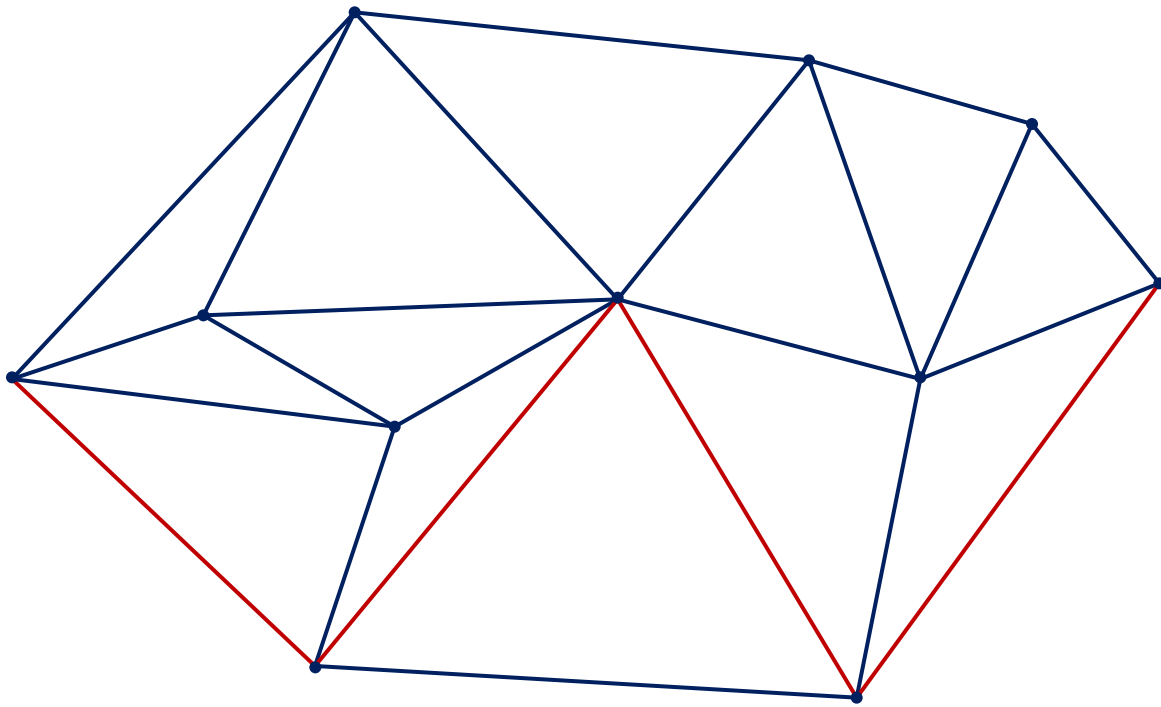
$C_{i+1}$  obtained from  $C_i$  by a leftmost advance

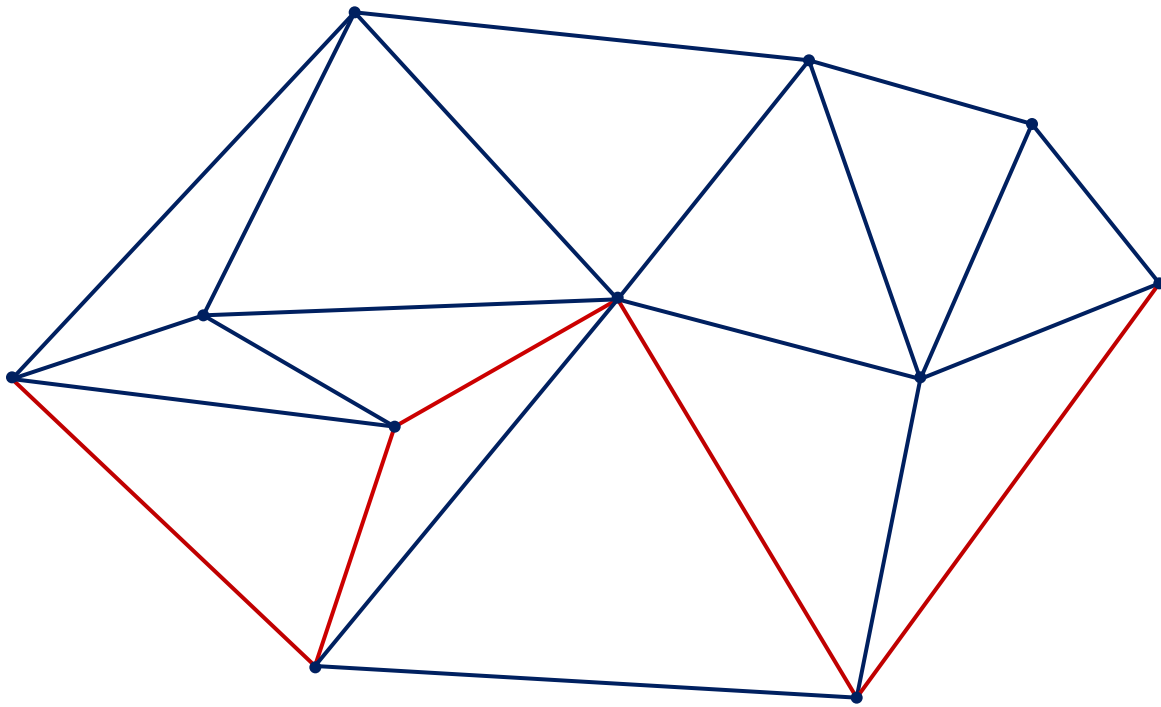
## Claim:

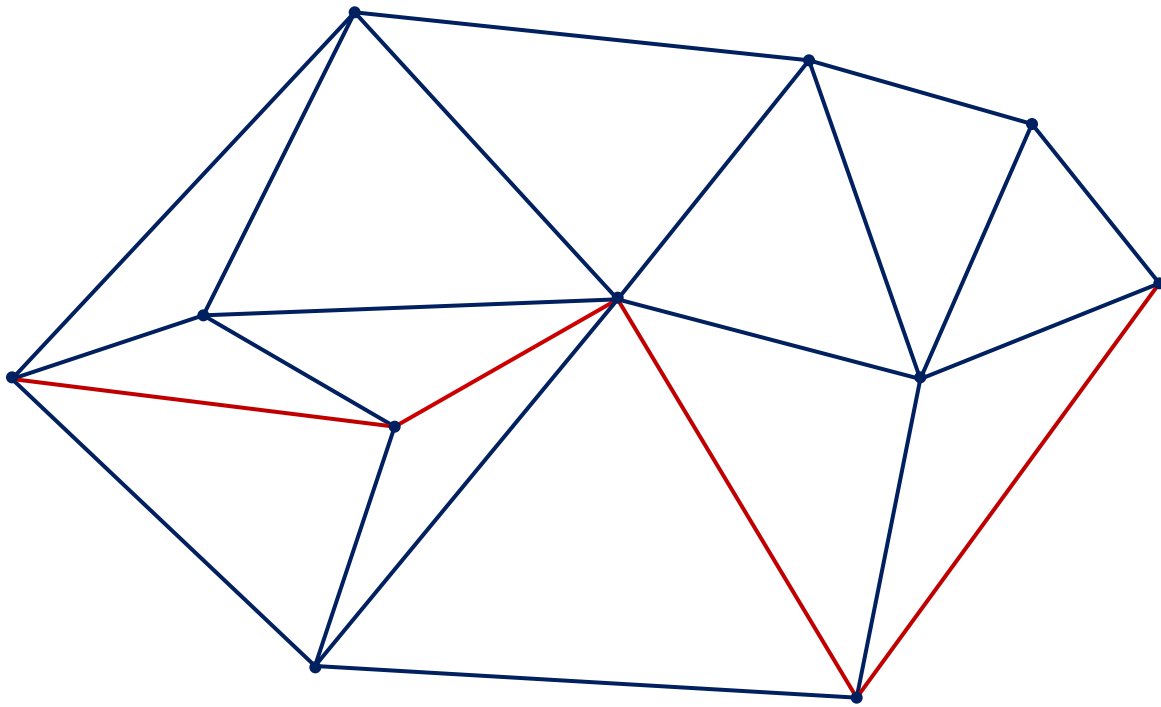
Every triangulation has a unique leftmost advancing sweep.

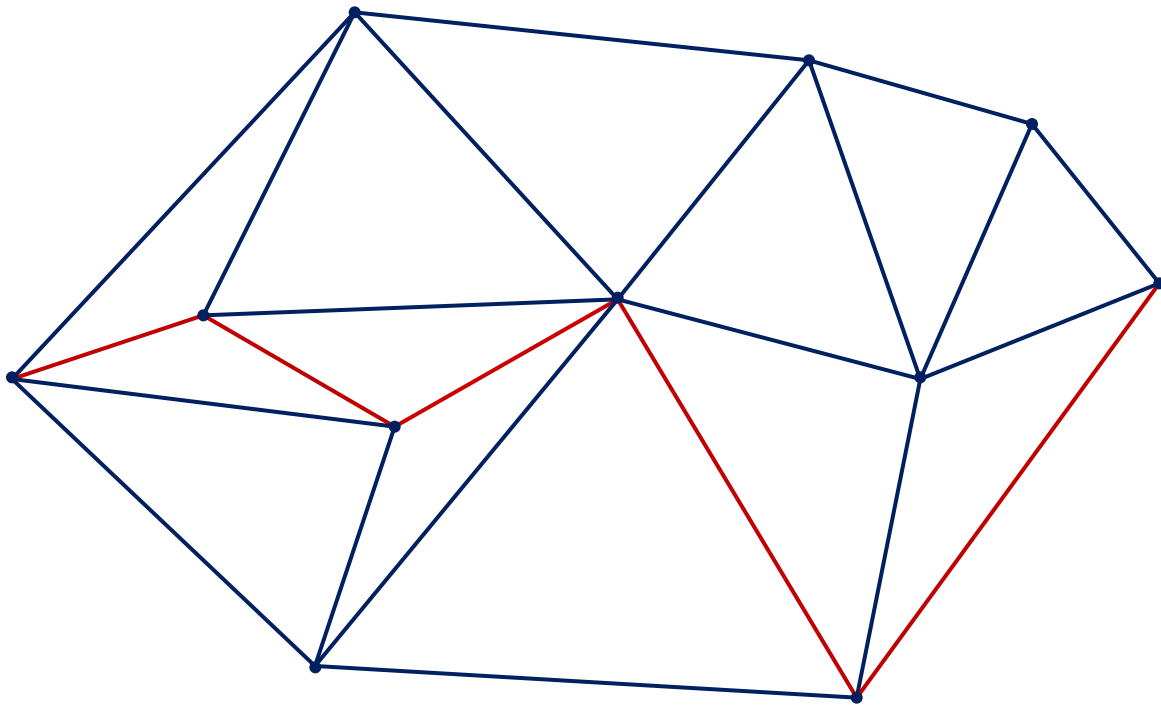


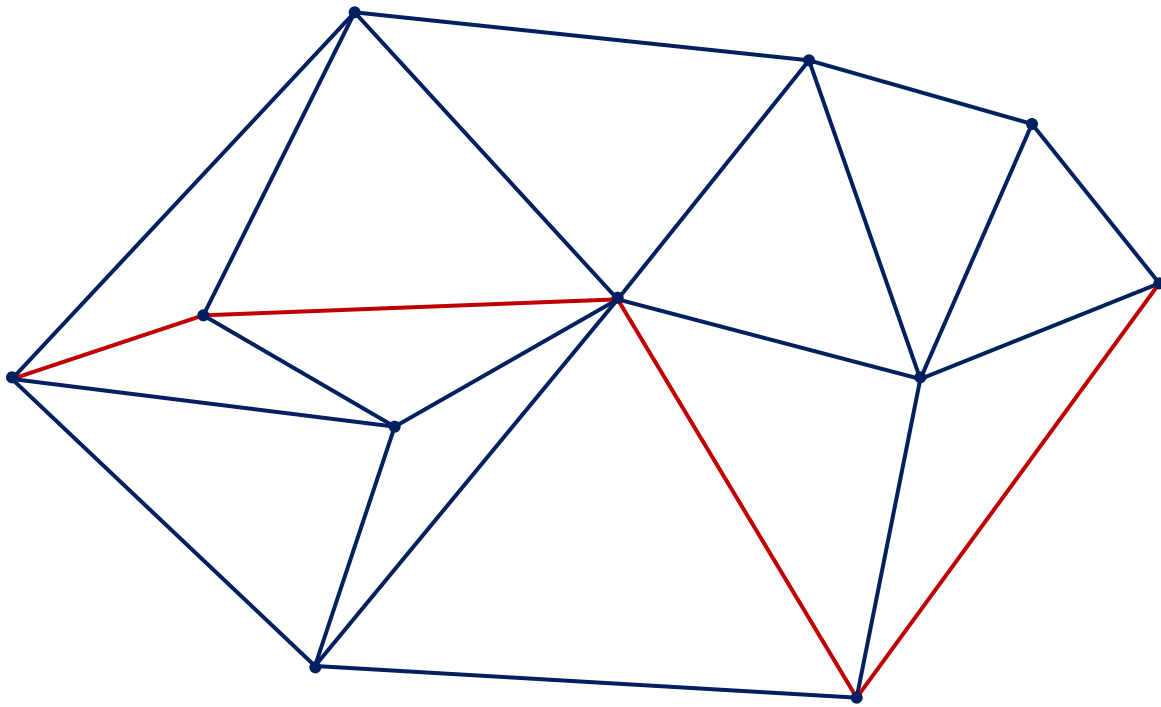


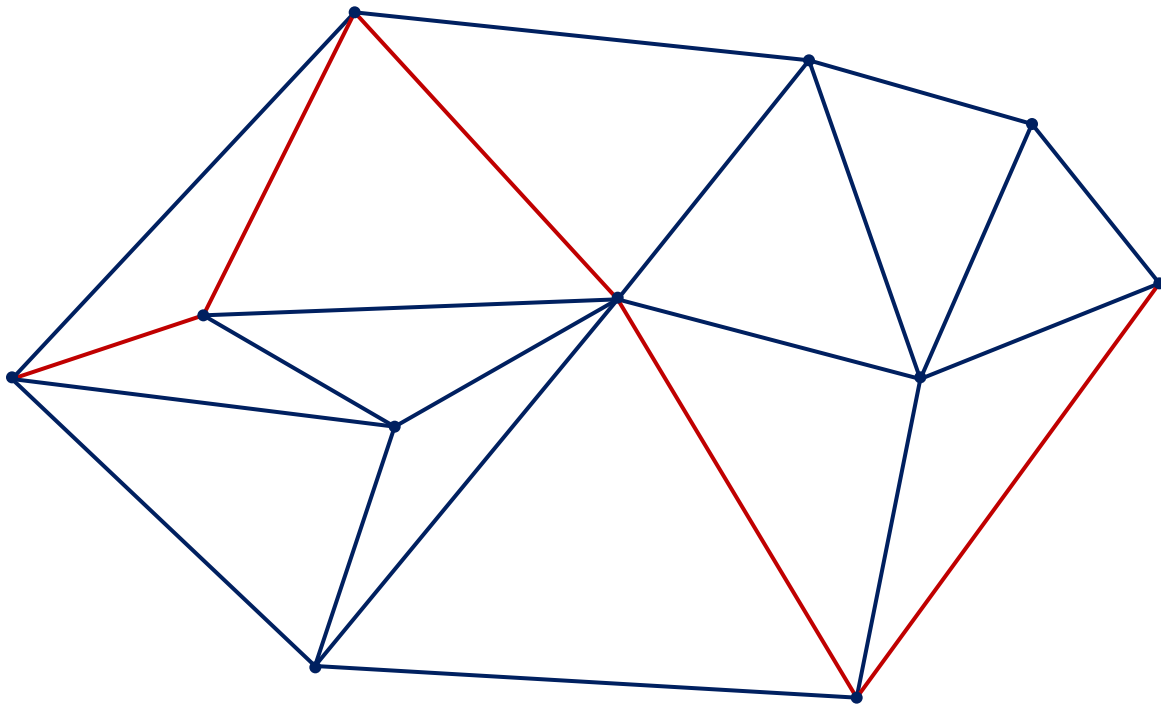


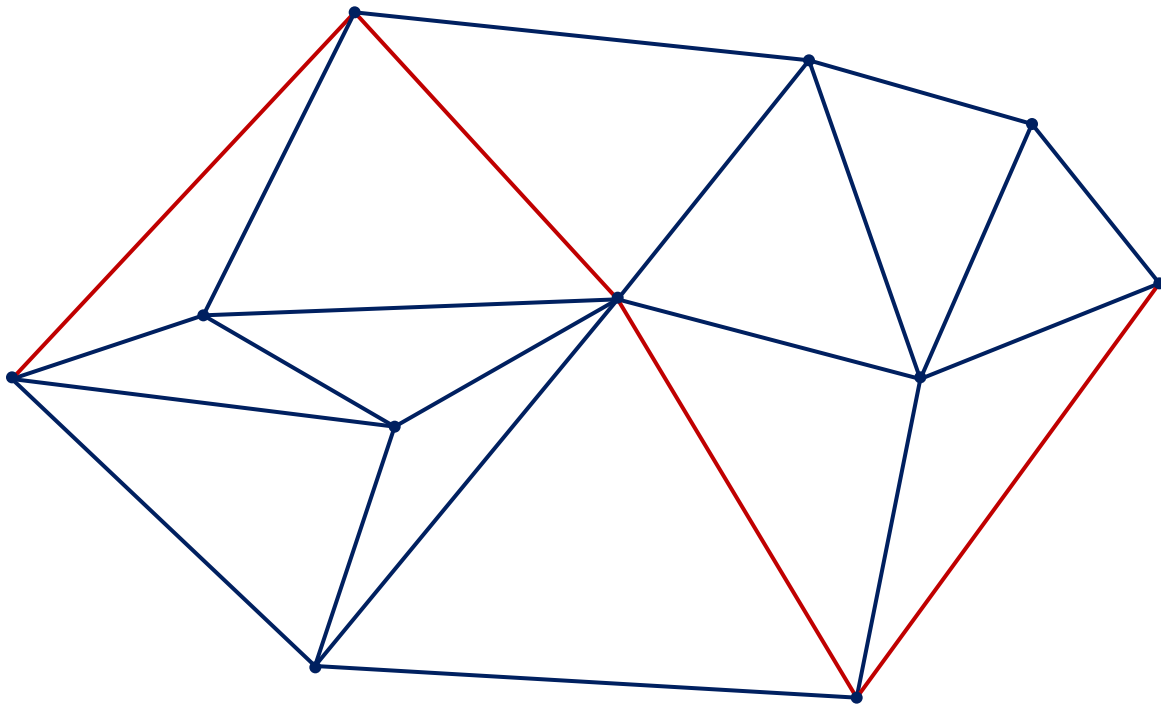




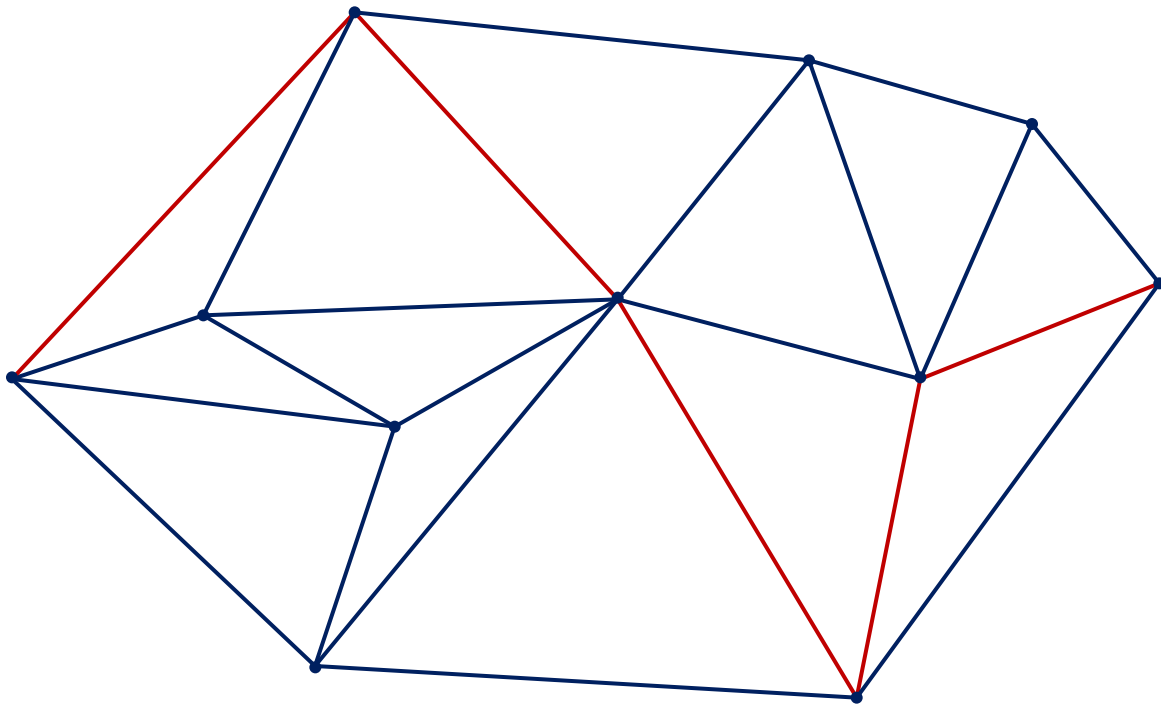


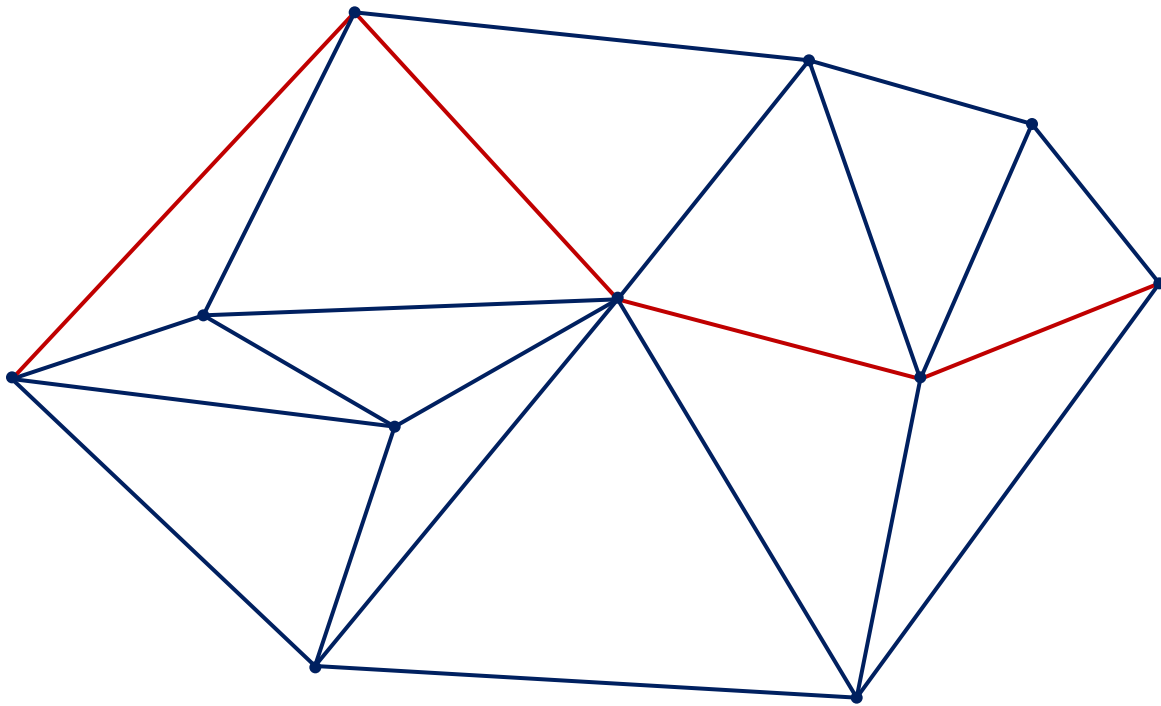


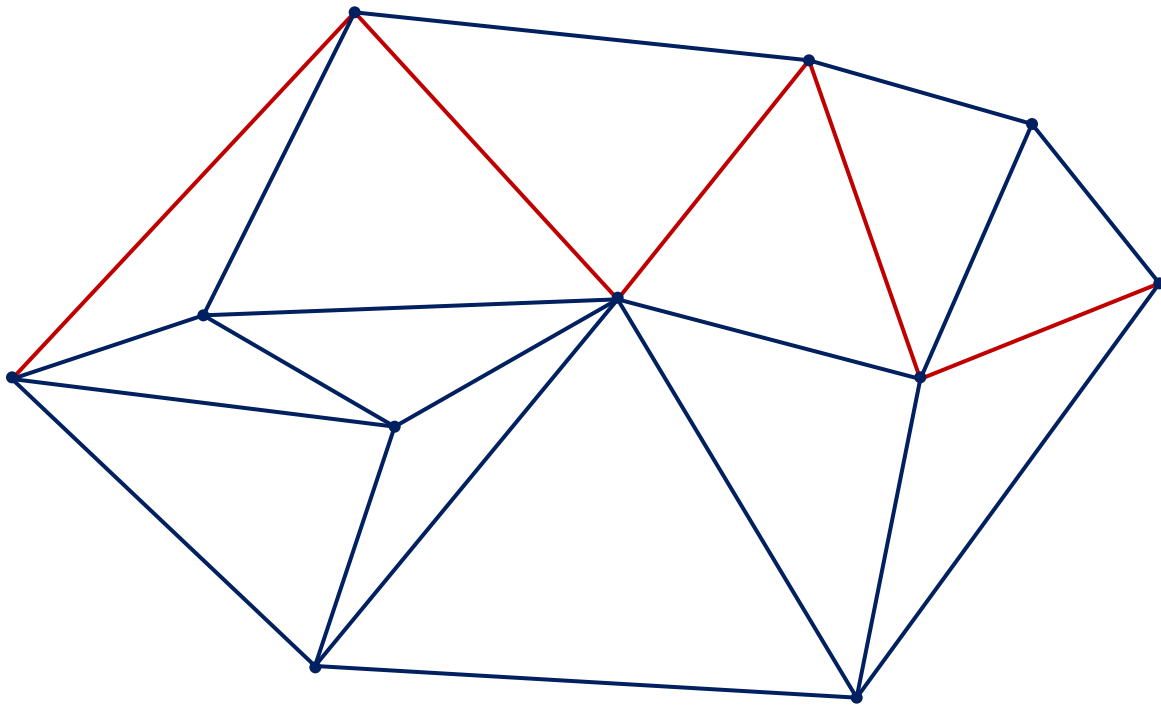


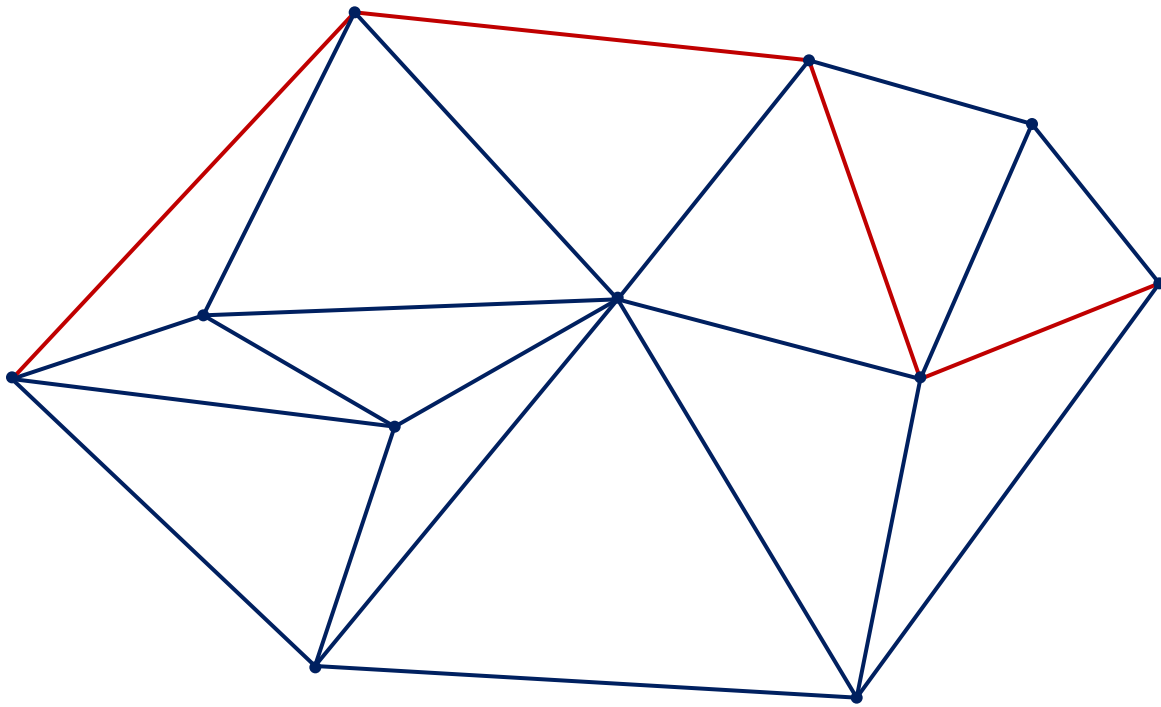


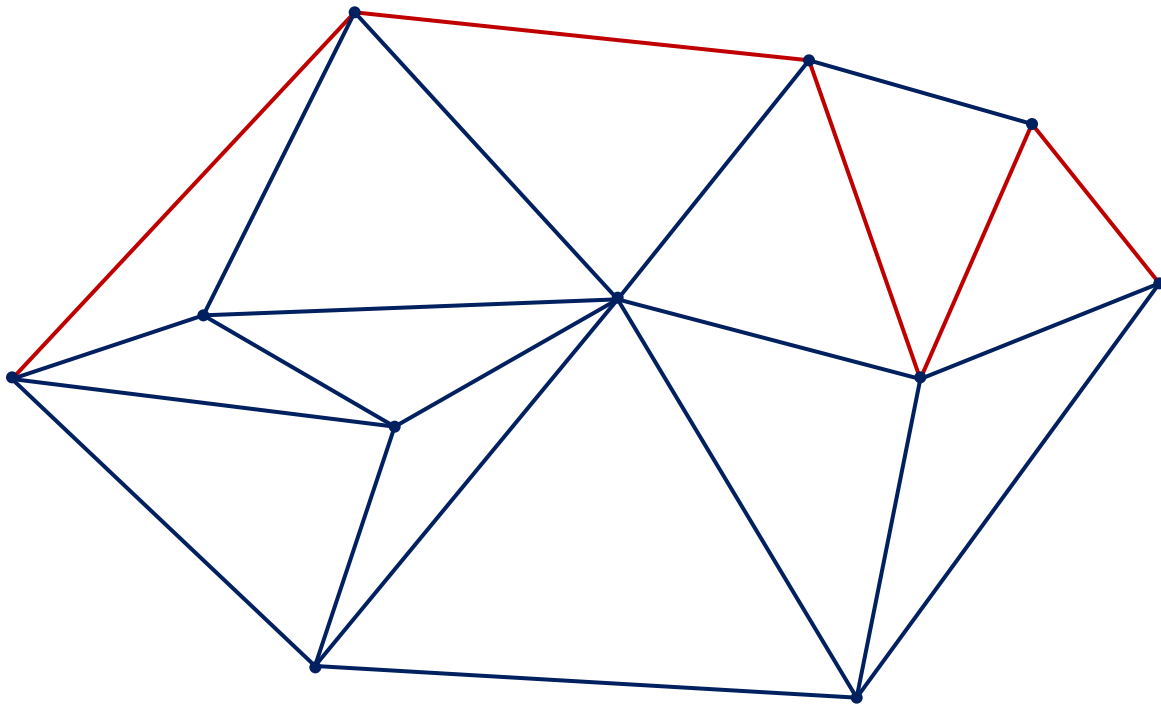


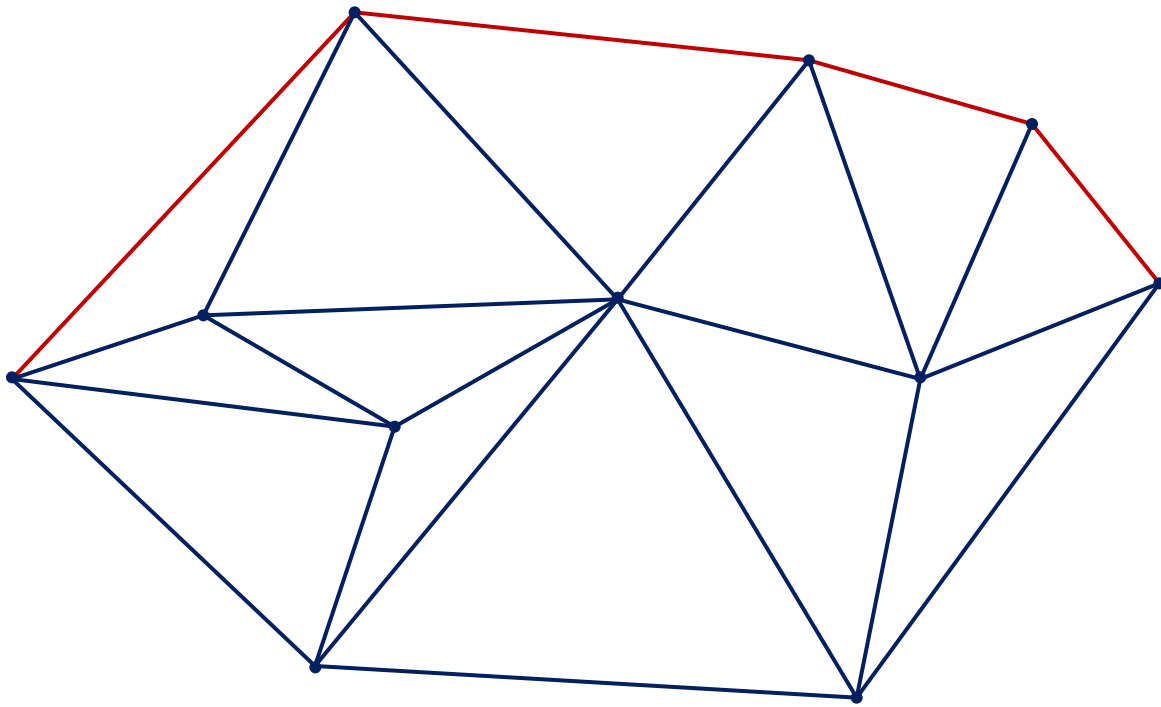












# Leftmost advancing monotone chain sweep of a triangulation $T$

Sequence  $C_0, C_1, \dots, C_t$  of monotone chains of  $T$  such that

$C_0$  is the lower convex hull

$C_t$  is the upper convex hull

$C_{i+1}$  obtained from  $C_i$  by a leftmost advance

## Claim:

Every triangulation has a unique leftmost advancing sweep.

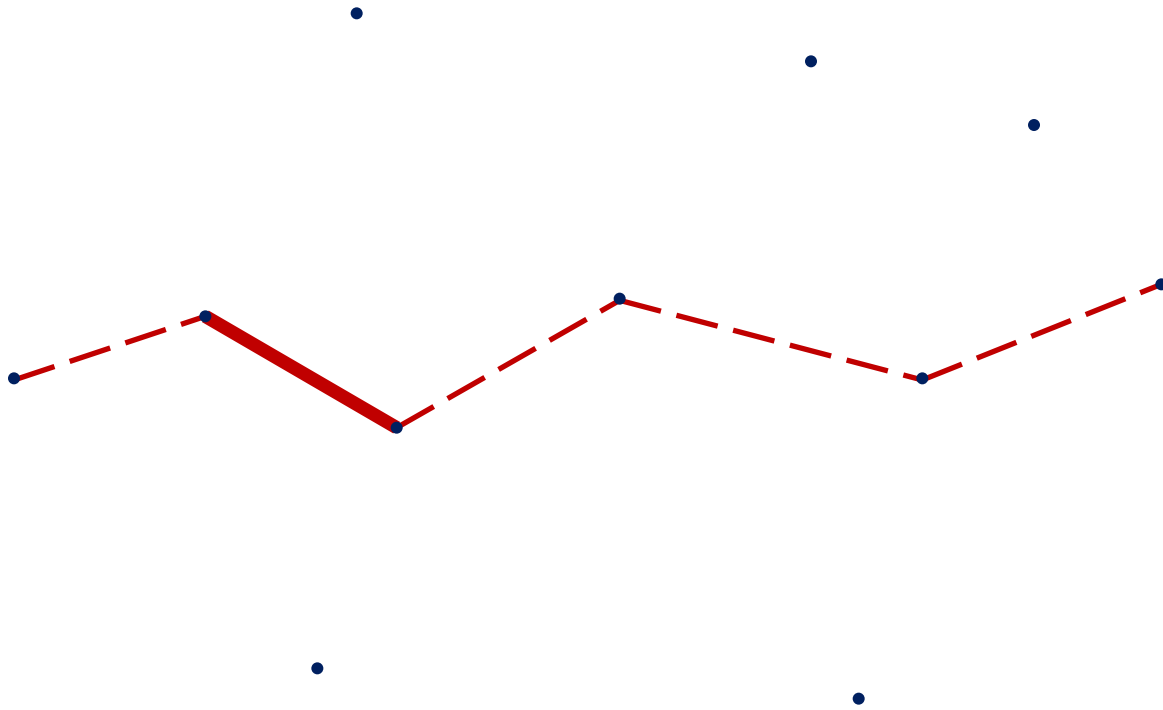
S





S

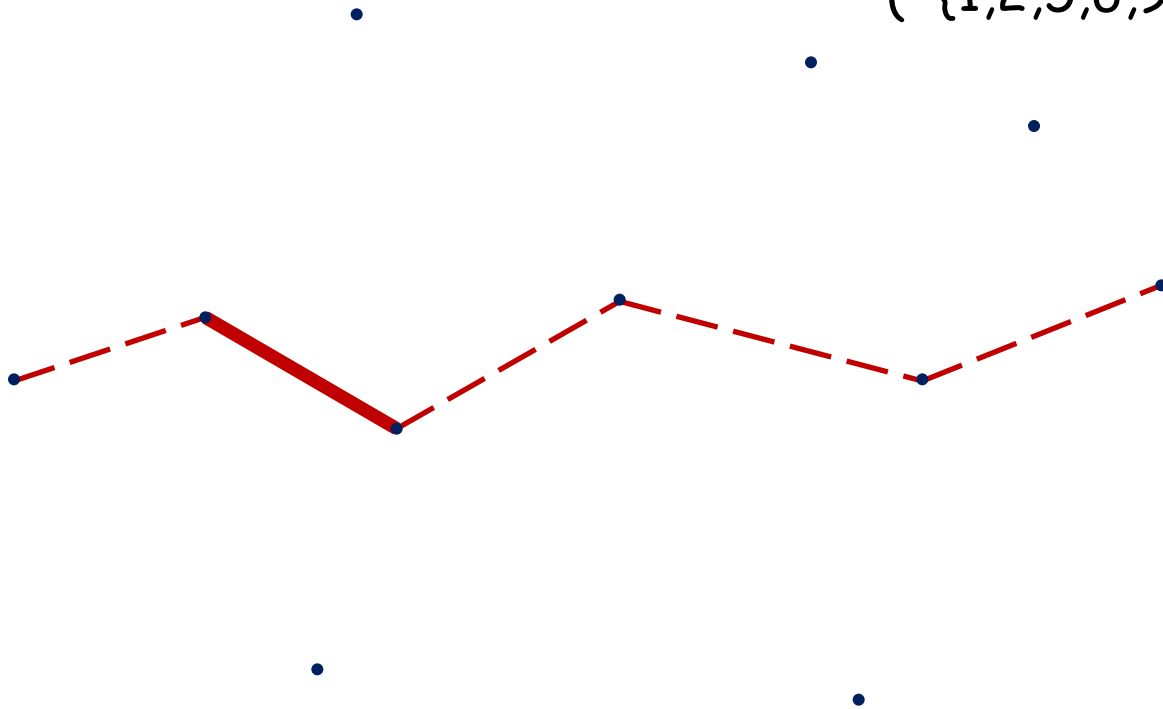
marked monotone chain of S



S

marked monotone chain of S

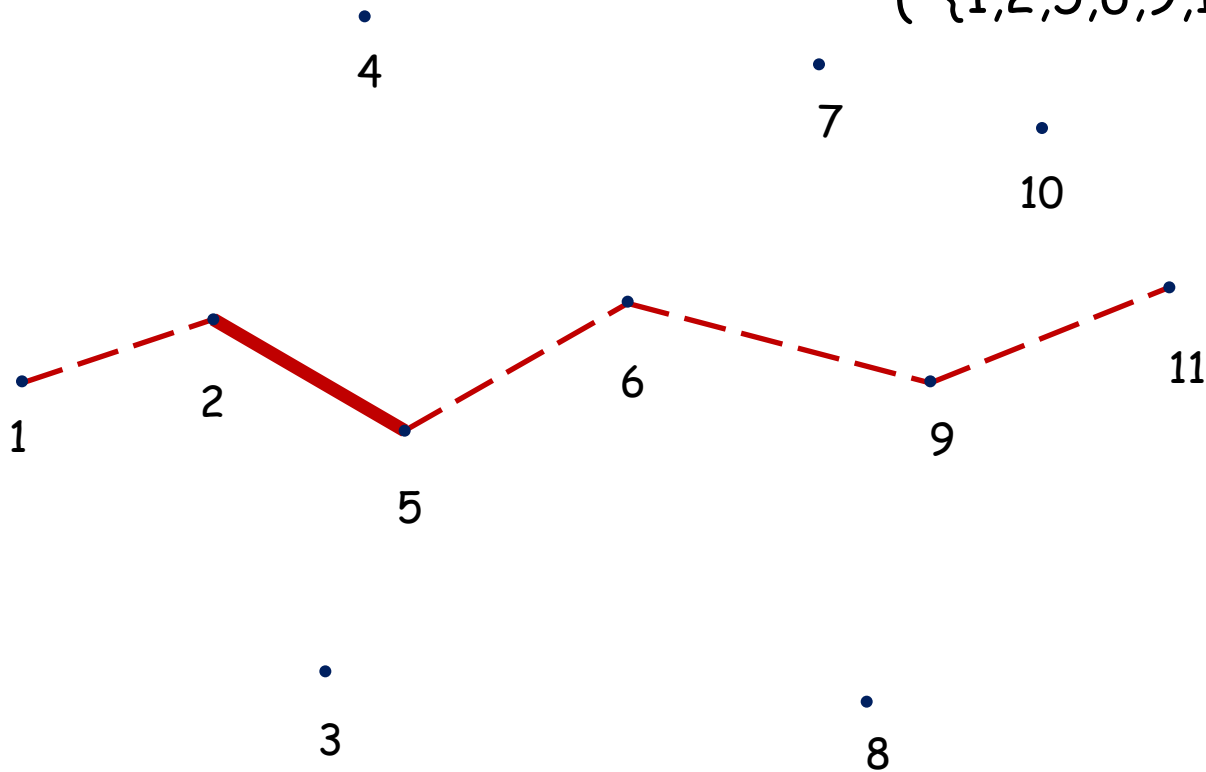
( {1,2,5,6,9,11} , 2 )



S

marked monotone chain of S

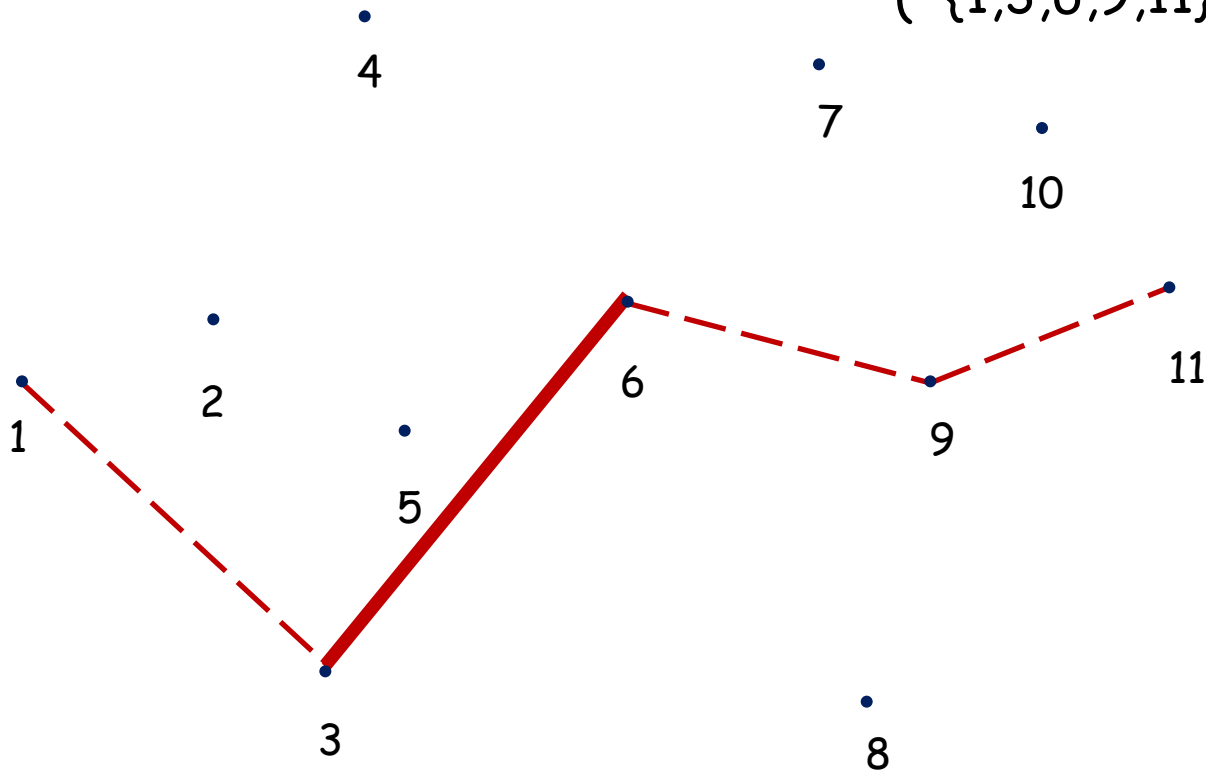
( {1,2,5,6,9,11} , 2 )



S

marked monotone chain of S

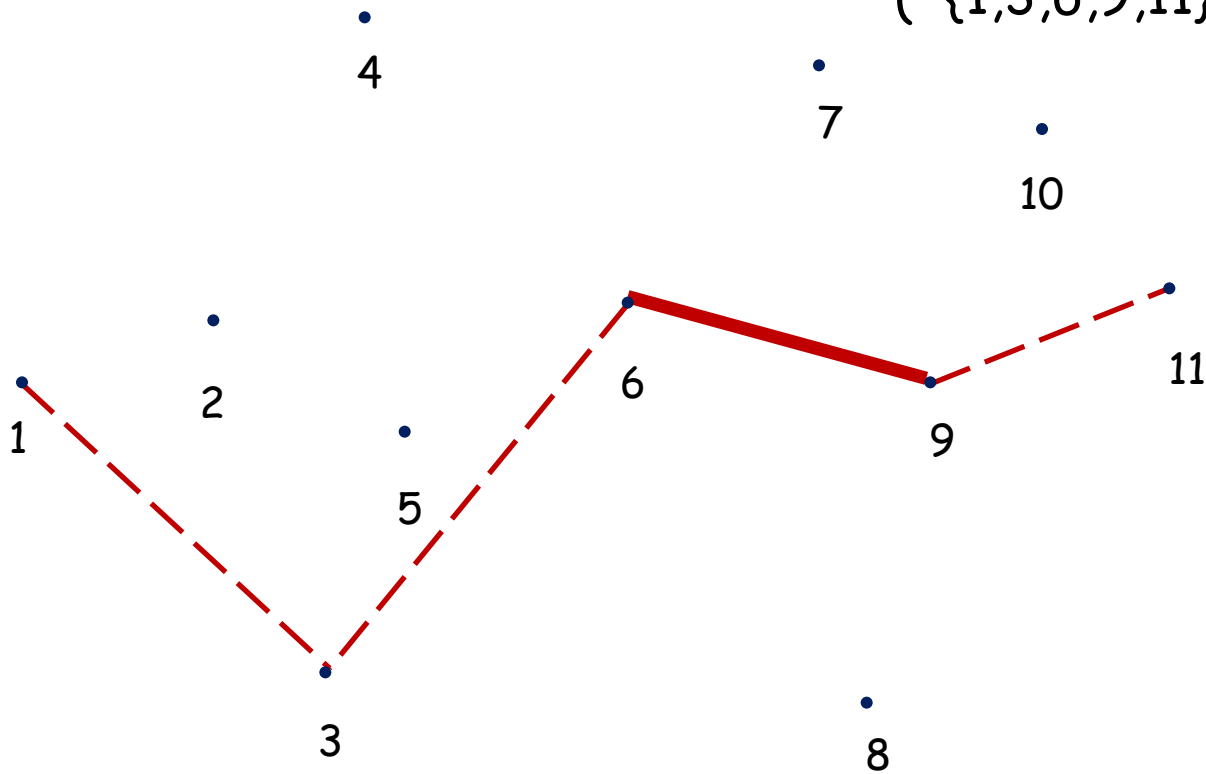
( {1,3,6,9,11} , 2 )



S

marked monotone chain of S

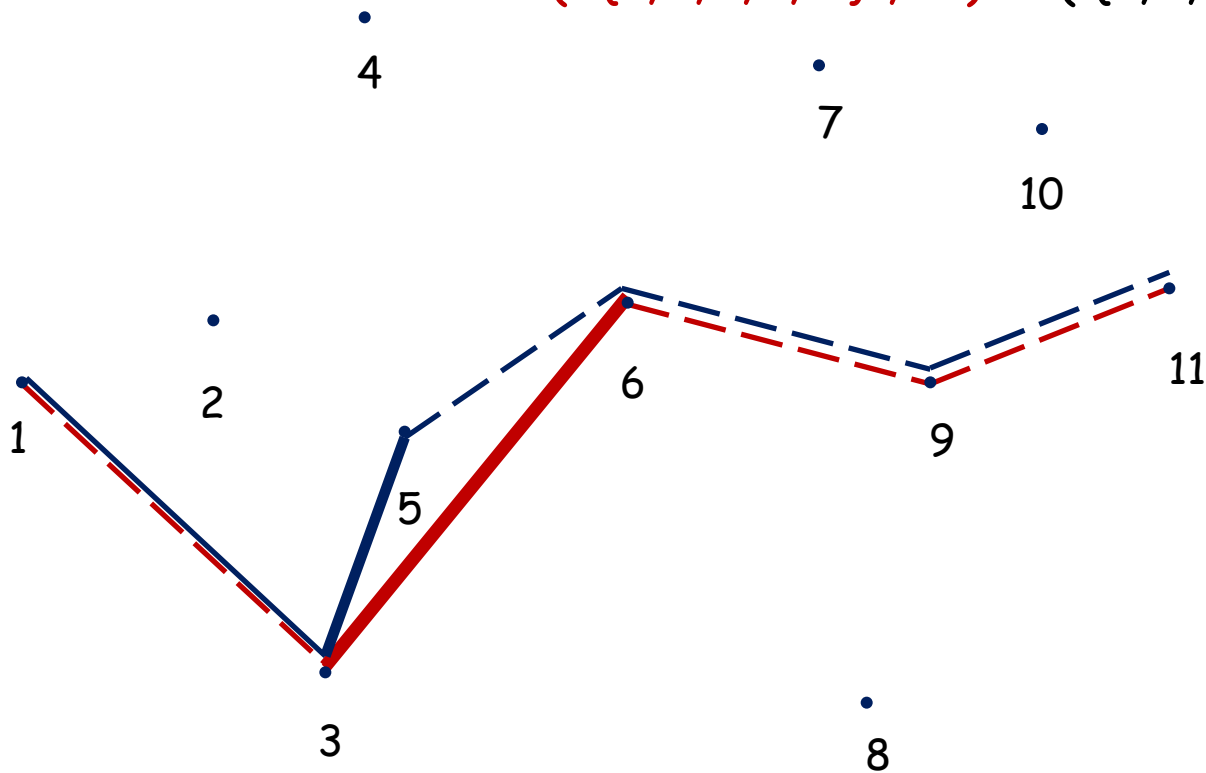
( {1,3,6,9,11} , 3 )



# Successor relation $\prec$ on marked chains

marked monotone chain of  $S$

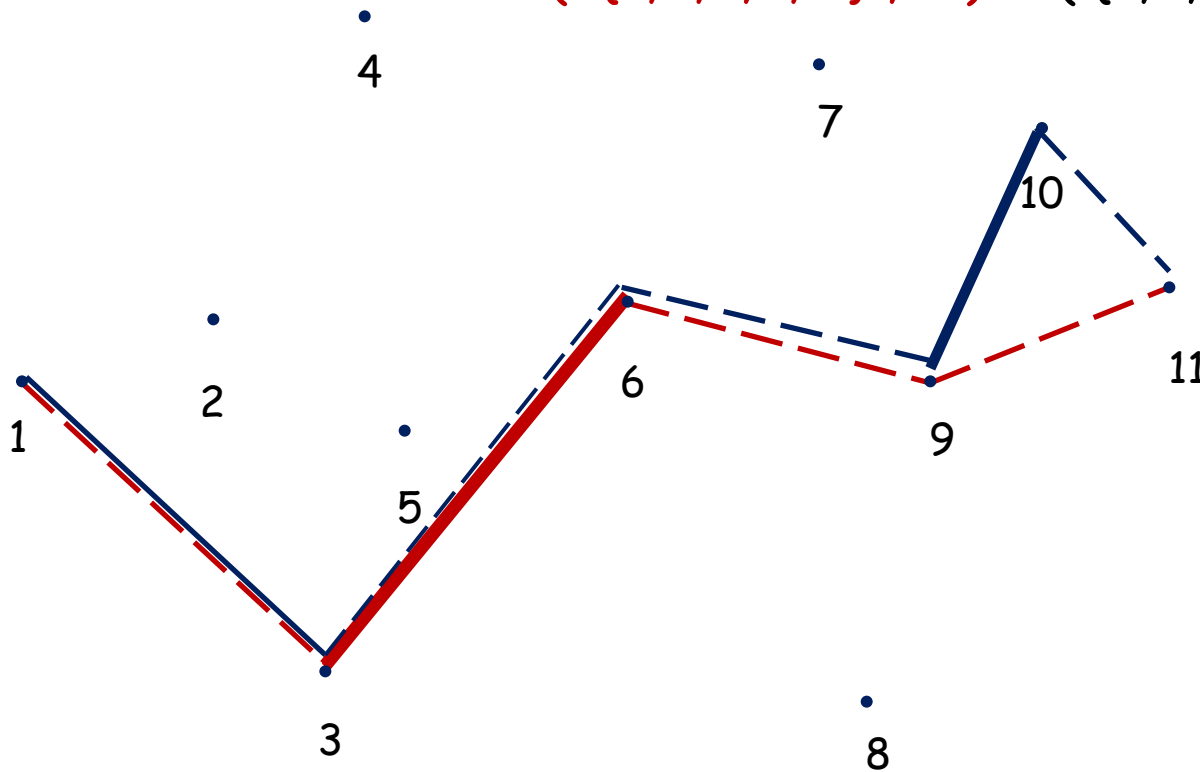
$$(\{1,3,6,9,11\}, 2) \prec (\{1,3,5,8,9,11\}, 2)$$



# Successor relation $\prec$ on marked chains

marked monotone chain of  $S$

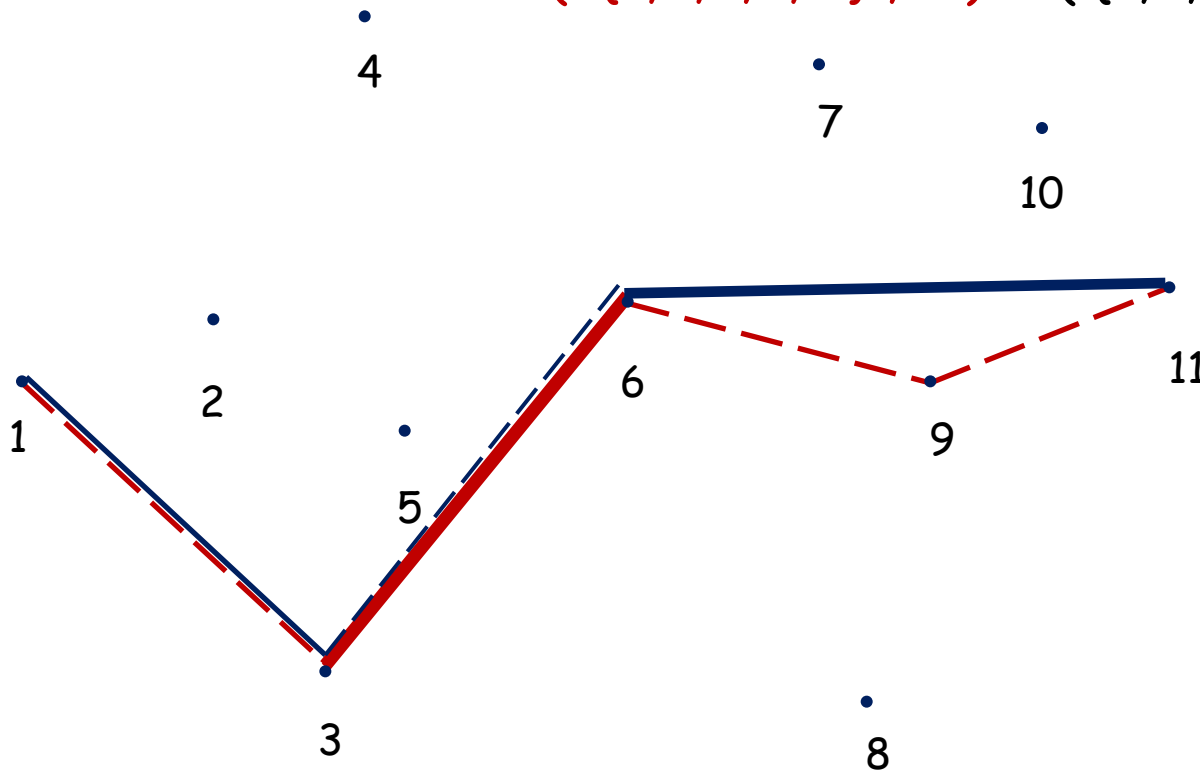
$$(\{1,3,6,9,11\}, 2) \prec (\{1,3,6,9,10,11\}, 4)$$



# Successor relation $\prec$ on marked chains

marked monotone chain of  $S$

$$(\{1,3,6,9,11\}, 2) \prec (\{1,3,6,11\}, 3)$$

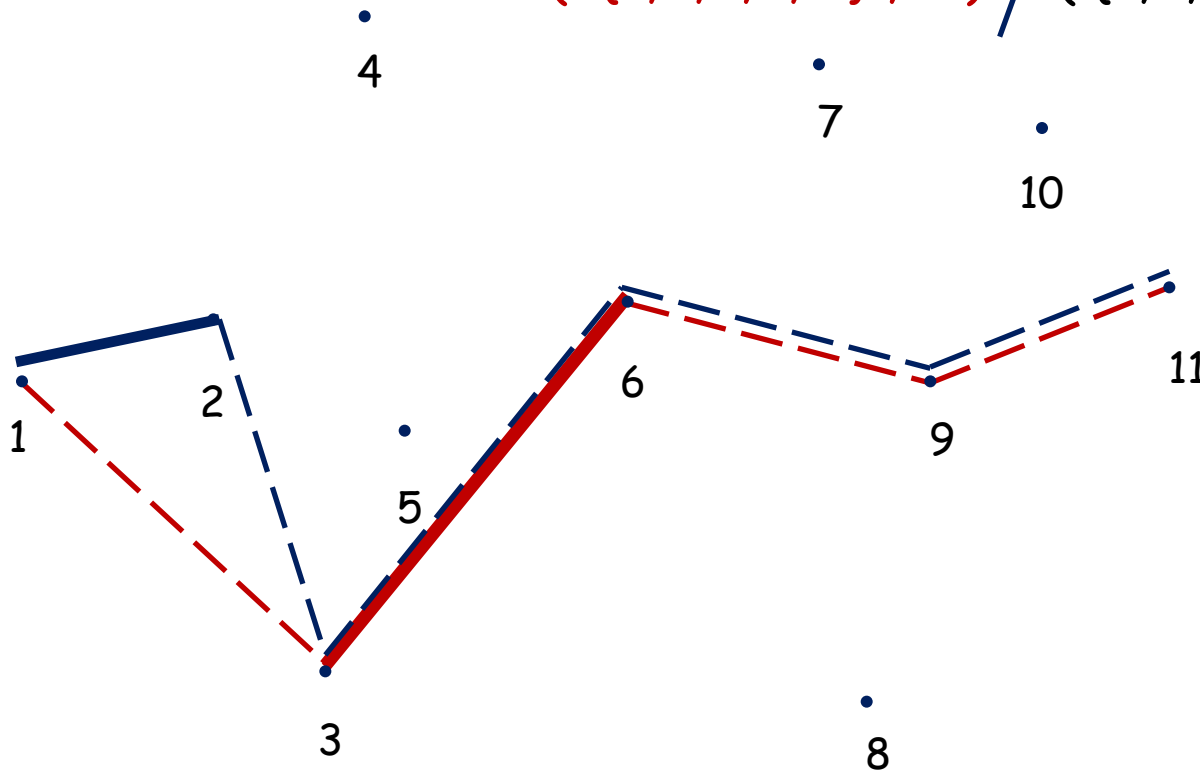




# Successor relation $\prec$ on marked chains

marked monotone chain of  $S$

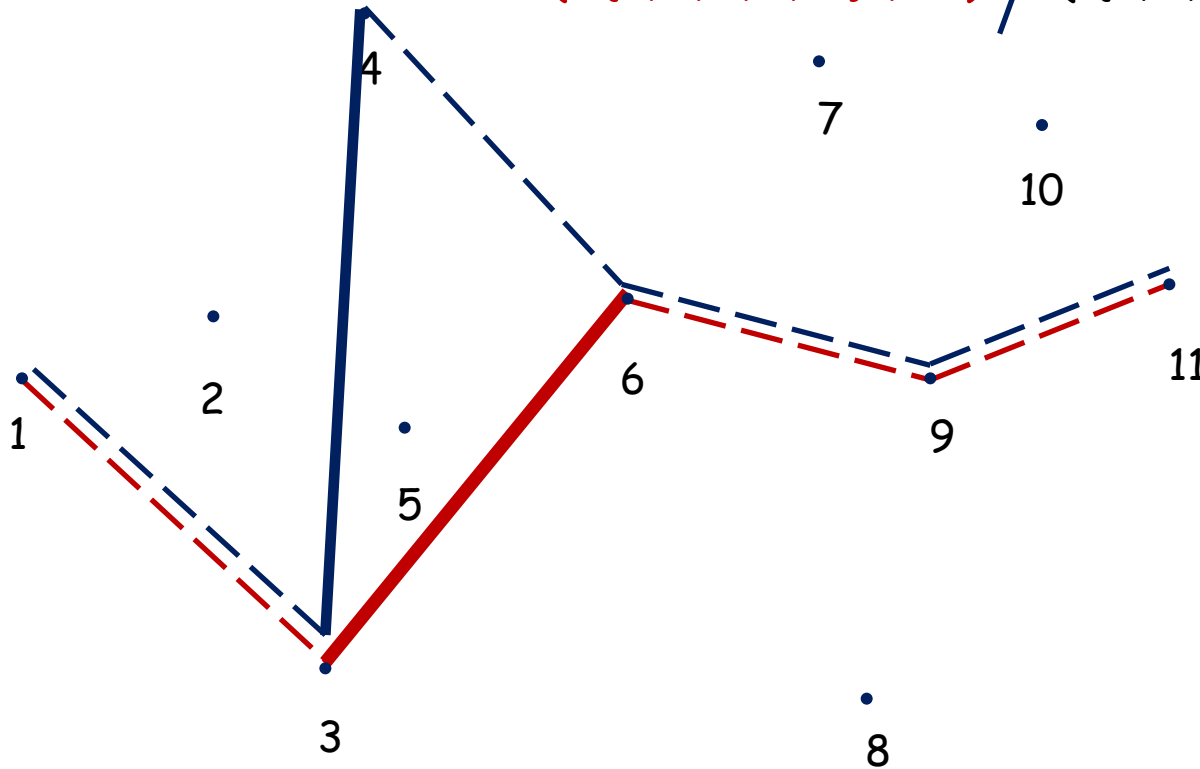
$$(\{1,3,6,9,11\}, 2) \not\prec (\{1,2,3,6,9,11\}, 2)$$



# Successor relation $\prec$ on marked chains

marked monotone chain of  $S$

$(\{1,3,6,9,11\}, 2) \not\prec (\{1,3,4,6,9,11\}, 2)$



Successor relation  $\prec$  on marked chains

## Intuition:

$(C, k)$  is to mean that  $C$  arose in a leftmost advancing sweep, by an advance that created the  $k$ -th edge of  $C$

the next advance must not happen to the left of the  $k$ -th edge (otherwise  $C$  would not have arisen through a leftmost advance!)

$(C, k) \prec (C', k')$  means that in a leftmost advancing sweep of some triangulation  $C'$  could have been created by an advance from  $C$

## $G(S)$ Marked monotone chain graph of $S$

directed acyclic graph

nodes are the marked monotone chains of  $S$

arc from  $(C, k)$  to  $(C', k')$  iff  $(C, k) \prec (C', k')$

$L \subset S$  set of points of  $S$  on the lower hull

$U \subset S$  set of points of  $S$  on the upper hull

### Theorem:

The paths in  $G(S)$  from  $(L, 1)$  to  $(U, k)$ , for any  $k$ , correspond 1 to 1 with the triangulations of  $S$ .

## $G(S)$ Marked monotone chain graph of $S$

directed acyclic graph

nodes are the marked monotone chains of  $S$

arc from  $(C, k)$  to  $(C', k')$  iff  $(C, k) \prec (C', k')$

$L \subset S$  set of points of  $S$  on the lower hull

$U \subset S$  set of points of  $S$  on the upper hull

### Theorem:

The paths in  $G(S)$  from  $(L, 1)$  to  $TOP$ , correspond 1 to 1 with the triangulations of  $S$ ,

where  $TOP$  is an additional vertex of  $G(S)$  with arcs leading into it from  $(U, k)$  for every  $k$ .

## Theorem:

The paths in  $G(S)$  from  $(L, 1)$  to  $TOP$ , correspond 1 to 1 with the triangulations of  $S$ .

## Corollary:

The number of triangulations of  $S$  can be determined by computing the number of paths in  $G(S)$  from  $(L, 1)$  to  $TOP$ .

Since  $G(S)$  is a DAG this can be done  
in time linear in the size of  $G(S)$ , which is  $O(2^n n^2)$   
and in space linear in the number of vertices of  $G(S)$ ,  
which is  $O(n 2^n)$ .

# Implementation

# Implementation

can handle random point sets up to size 50, which was out of reach before



# Implementation

can handle random point sets up to size 50, which was out of reach before

comparatively slow on some point sets, e.g. convex position

# Implementation

can handle random point sets up to size 50, which was out of reach before

comparatively slow on some point sets, e.g. convex position

**Very space intensive!!**

128 Gbyte main memory machine

do not store entire  $G(S)$

run algorithm several times on the same input,  
count modulo different primes, and use Chinese  
Remaindering

# Easy Generalizations

Count triangulations of  $S$  that are constrained to contain certain edges.

# Easy Generalizations

Count triangulations of  $S$  that are constrained to contain certain edges.

Truly uniform random generation of triangulations of a given set  $S$ .

# Easy Generalizations

Count triangulations of  $S$  that are constrained to contain certain edges.

Truly uniform random generation of triangulations of a given set  $S$ .

Fast unbiased estimation of  $\text{tr}(S)$ .

# Truly uniform random generation of a triangulation of $S$

## 1. Preprocessing:

Generate  $G(S)$

with each node  $v$  store

$p(v) = \#$ paths from source to  $v$

with each node  $v$  store the prefix sums of the sequence of  $p(u_1), \dots, p(u_k)$ ,

where  $u_1, \dots, u_k$  are the predecessor of  $v$  in  $G(S)$

store  $Z = p(\text{TOP}) = \text{tr}(S)$

## 2. Sampling:

Generate a random number  $Y$  in  $\{1, \dots, Z\}$

Using the info computed in 1. determine the  $Y$ 'th source-sink path in  $G(S)$  (in reverse order)

# Truly uniform random generation of a triangulation of $S$

## Theorem:

After preprocessing that takes time  $O(2^n n^2)$  and uses space  $O(2^n n^2)$ , triangulations of  $S$  can be generated truly uniformly at random in time  $O(n \log n)$  per sample.

# Truly uniform random generation of a triangulation of $S$

## Theorem:

After preprocessing that takes time  $O(2^n n^2)$  and uses space  $O(2^n n^2)$ , triangulations of  $S$  can be generated truly uniformly at random in time  $O(n \log n)$  per sample.

Why is this useful ???



# Estimating the proportion of triangulations of $S$ that are **regular**

# Estimating the proportion of triangulations of $S$ that are regular

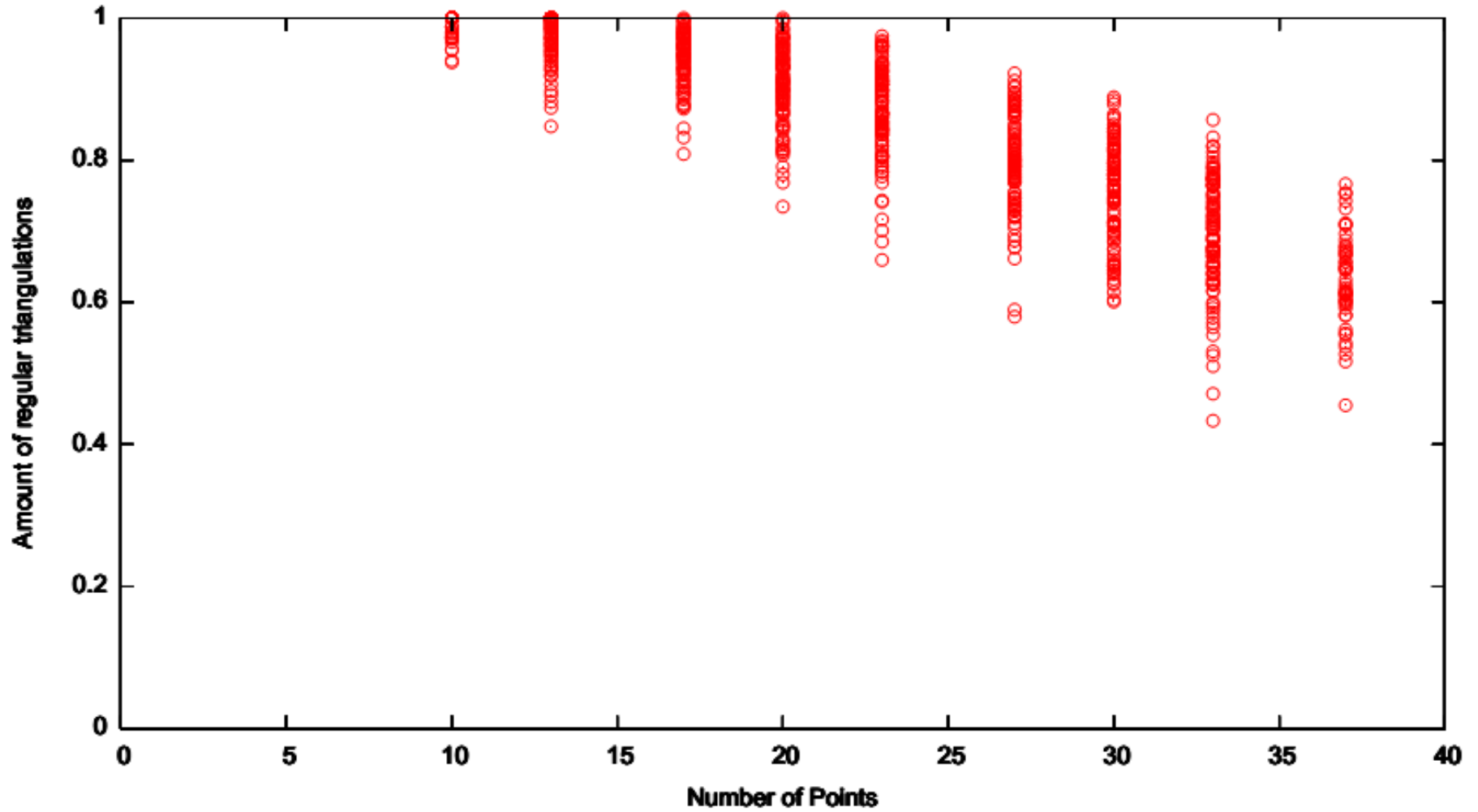
triangulation  $T$  of  $S$  is **regular** means

$S$  can be lifted to a set  $S'$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  so that  $T$  is the projection of the lower convex hull of  $S'$

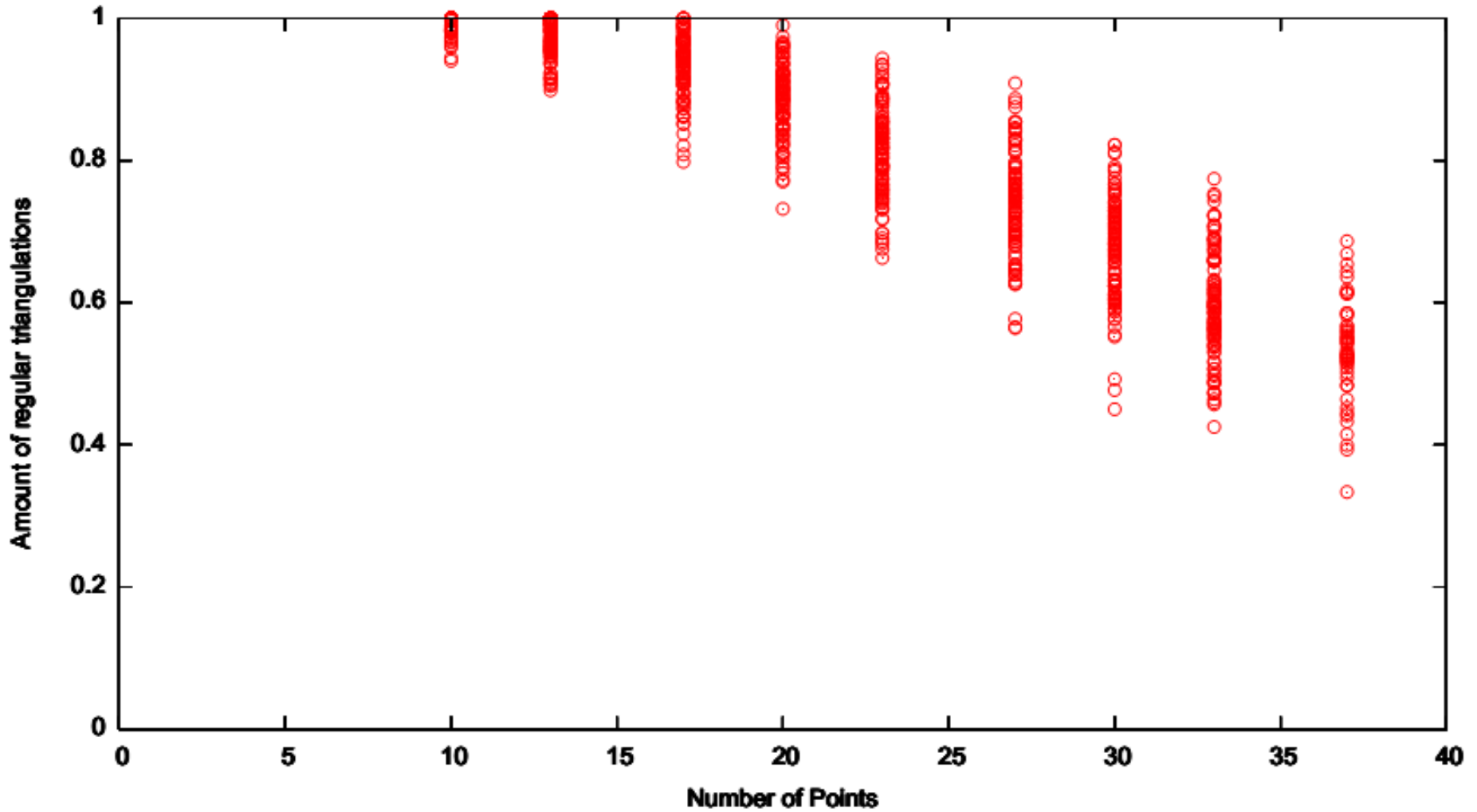
Regularity of a triangulation can be tested by checking a certain derived LP for feasibility.

Estimate the proportion of the triangulations of  $S$  that are regular by repeated random sampling and testing.

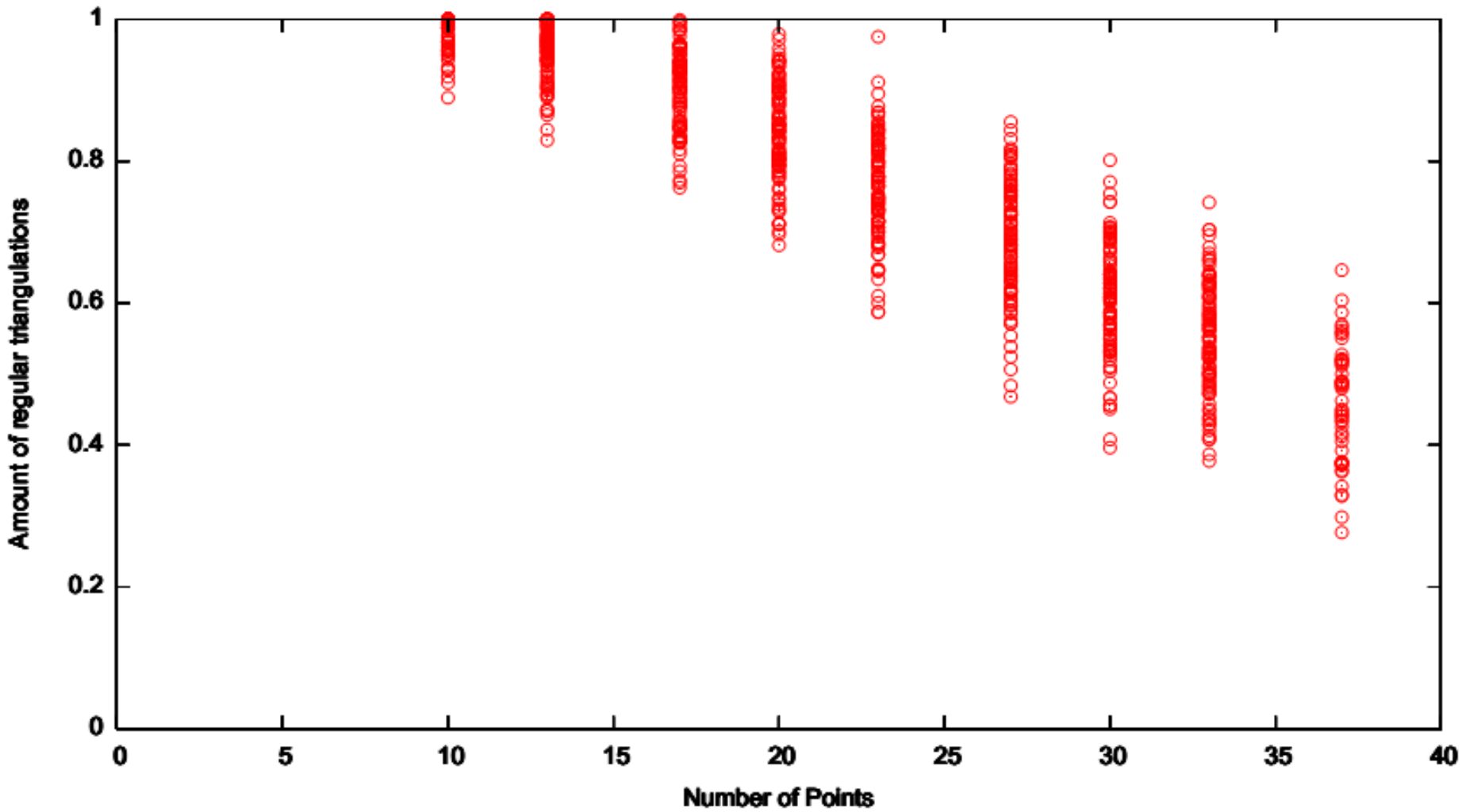
10,000 random triangulations of 100 sets of (10, 13, 17, 20, 23, 27, 30, 33, 37\*) random points in a circle



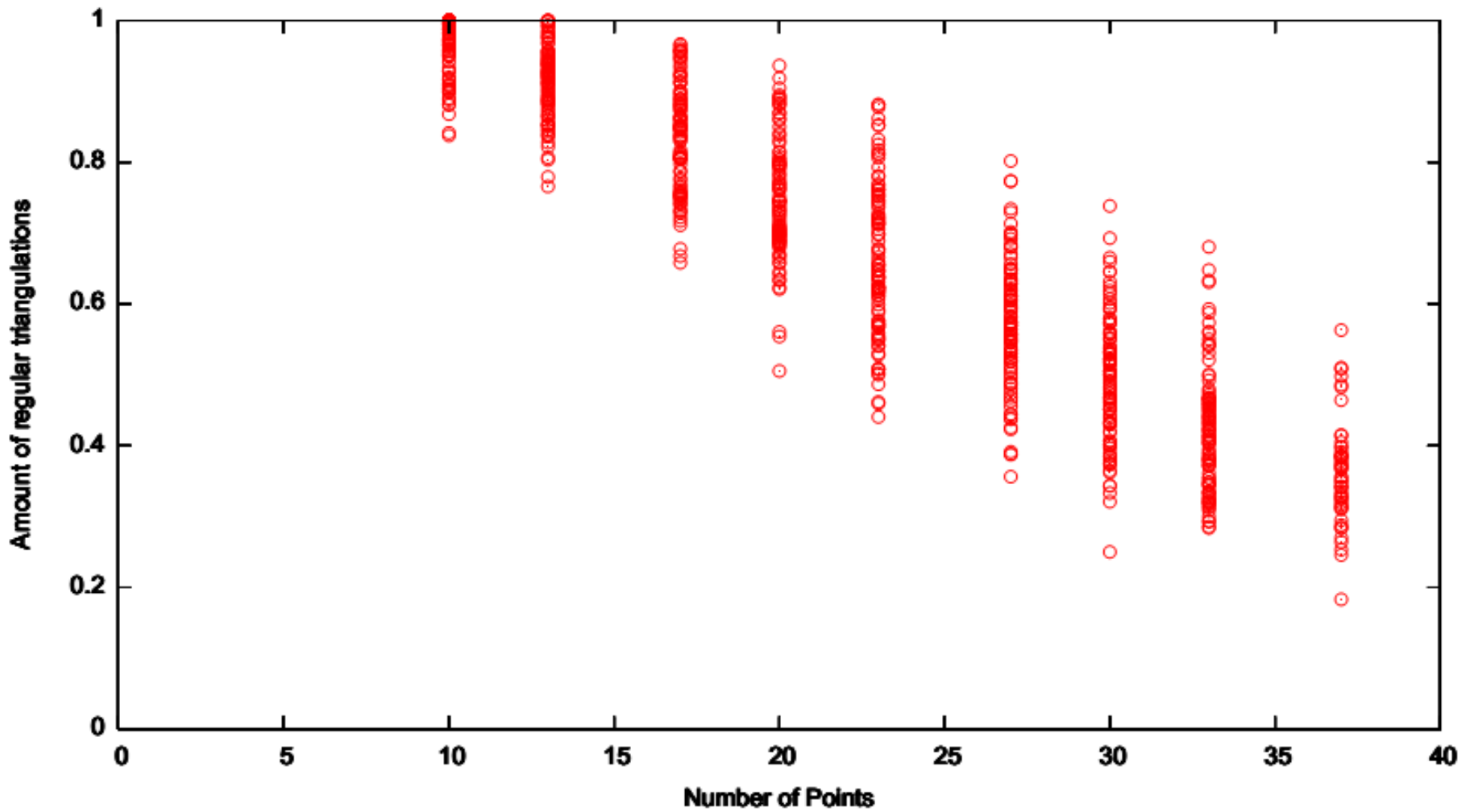
10,000 random triangulations of 100 sets of (10, 13, 17, 20, 23, 27, 30, 33, 37\*) random points in an hexagon



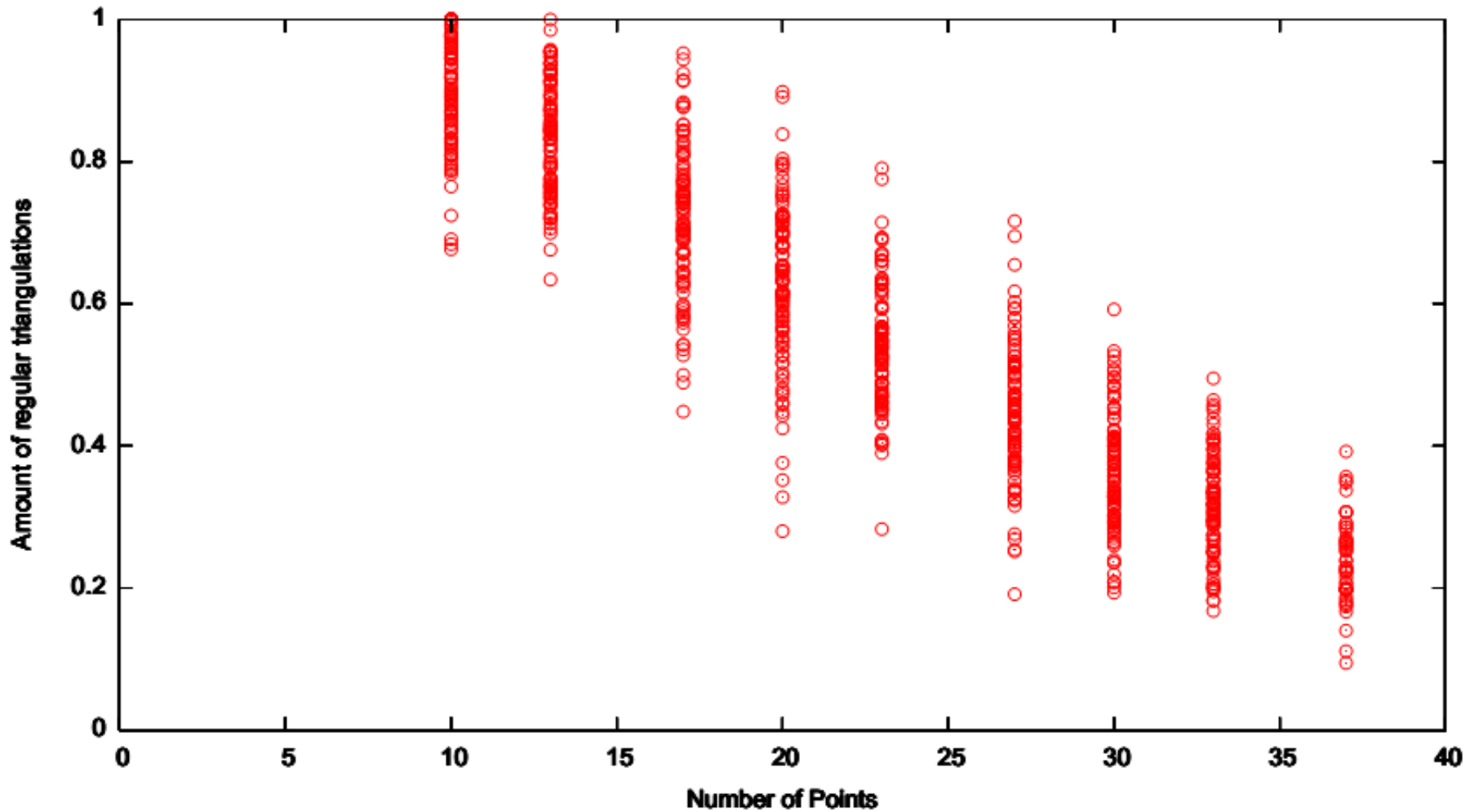
10,000 random triangulations of 100 sets of (10, 13, 17, 20, 23, 27, 30, 33, 37\*) random points in a pentagon



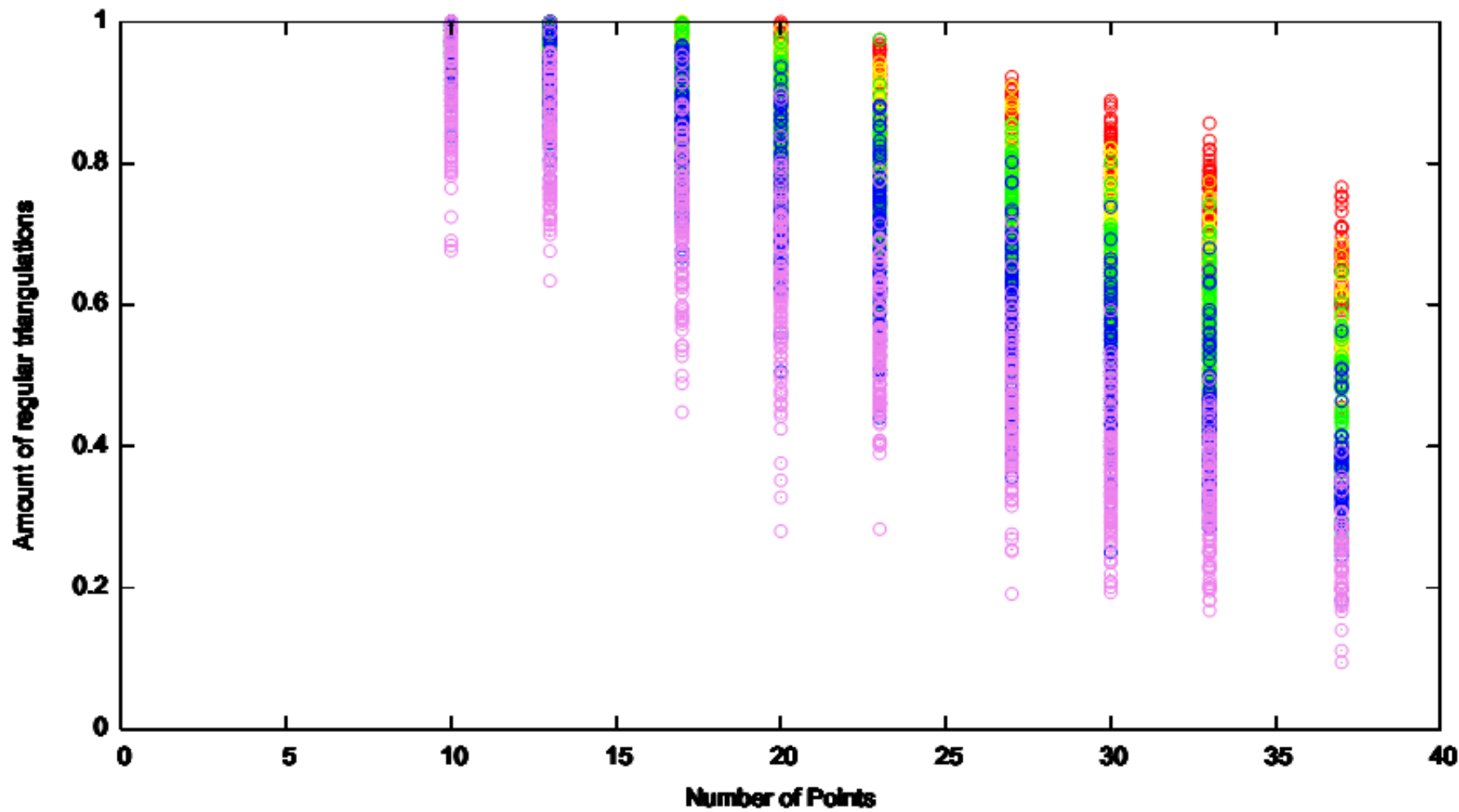
10,000 random triangulations of 100 sets of (10, 13, 17, 20, 23, 27, 30, 33, 37\*) random points in a square



10,000 random triangulations of 100 sets of (10, 13, 17, 20, 23, 27, 30, 33, 37\*) random points in a triangle



10,000 random triangulations of 100 sets of (10, 13, 17, 20, 23, 27, 30, 33, 37\*) random points in different domains





# Easy Generalizations

Count triangulations of  $S$  that are constrained to contain certain edges.

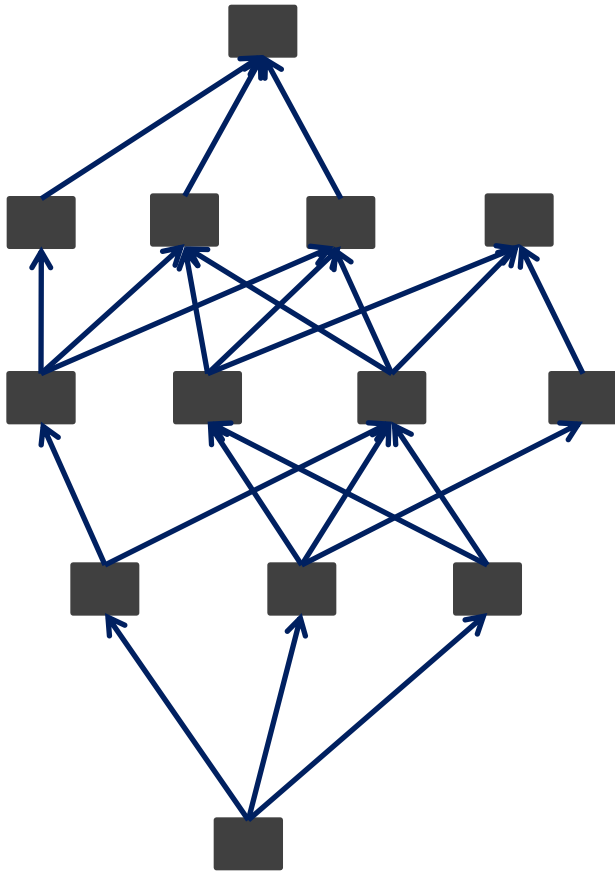
Truly uniform random generation of triangulations of a given set  $S$ .

Fast unbiased estimation of  $\text{tr}(S)$ .

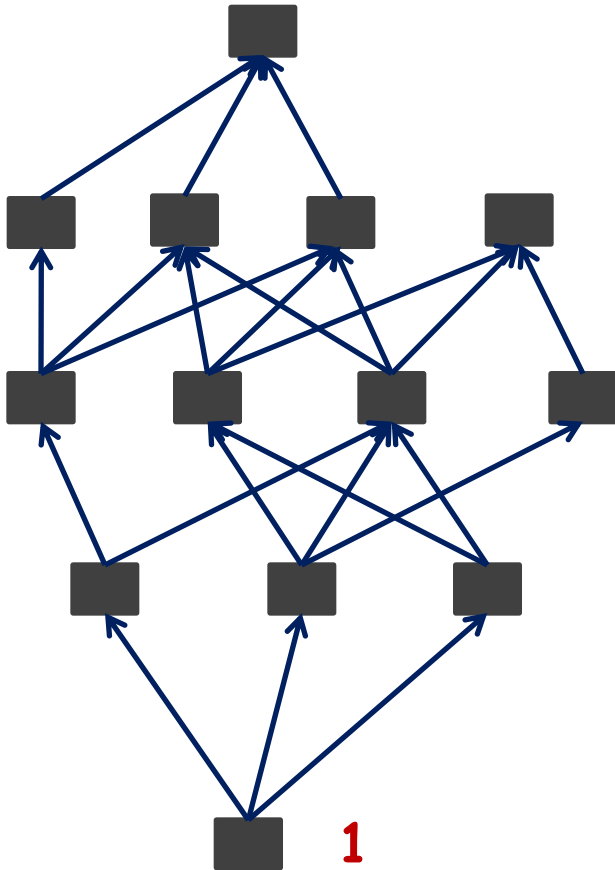
# Fast unbiased estimation of $\text{tr}(S)$

.

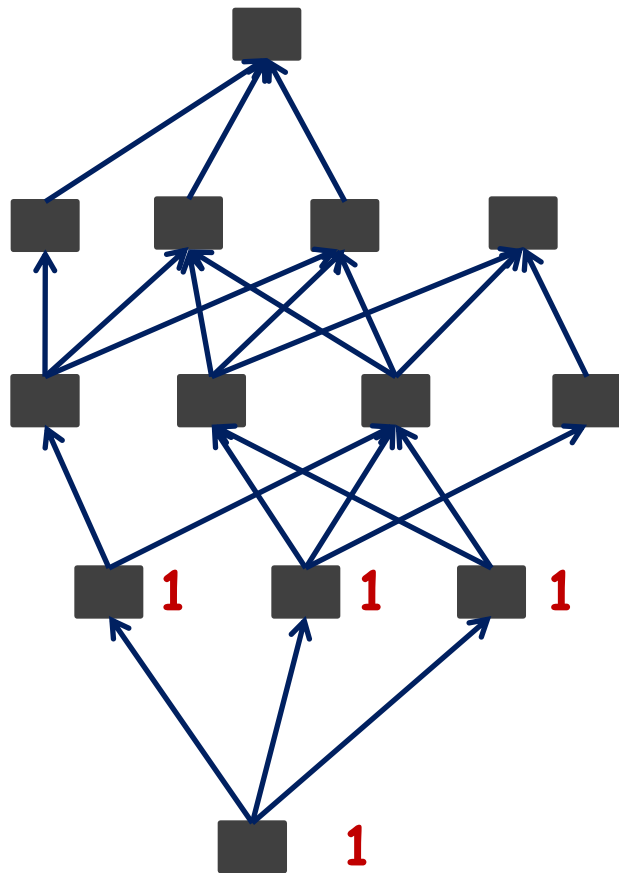
# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG



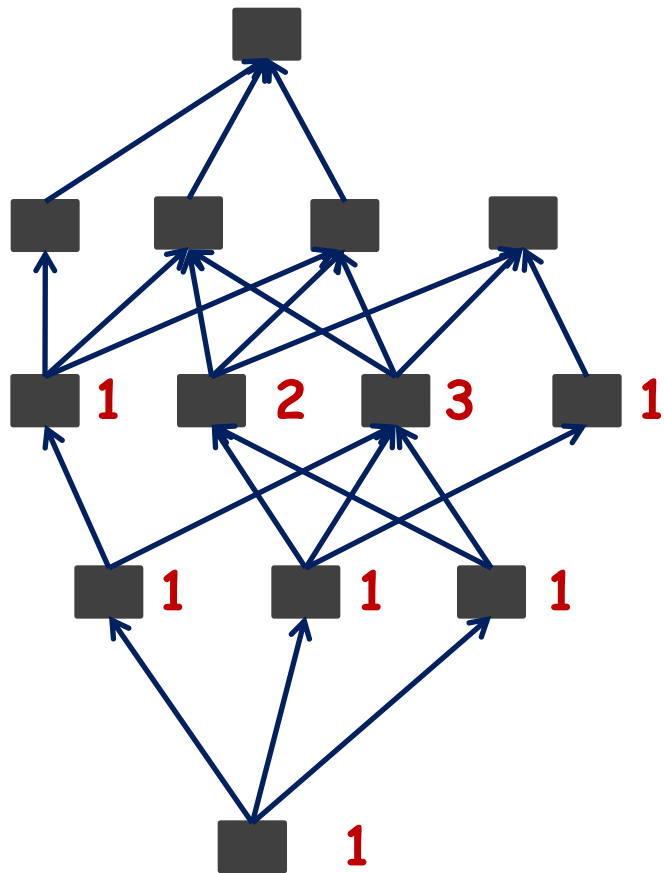
# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG



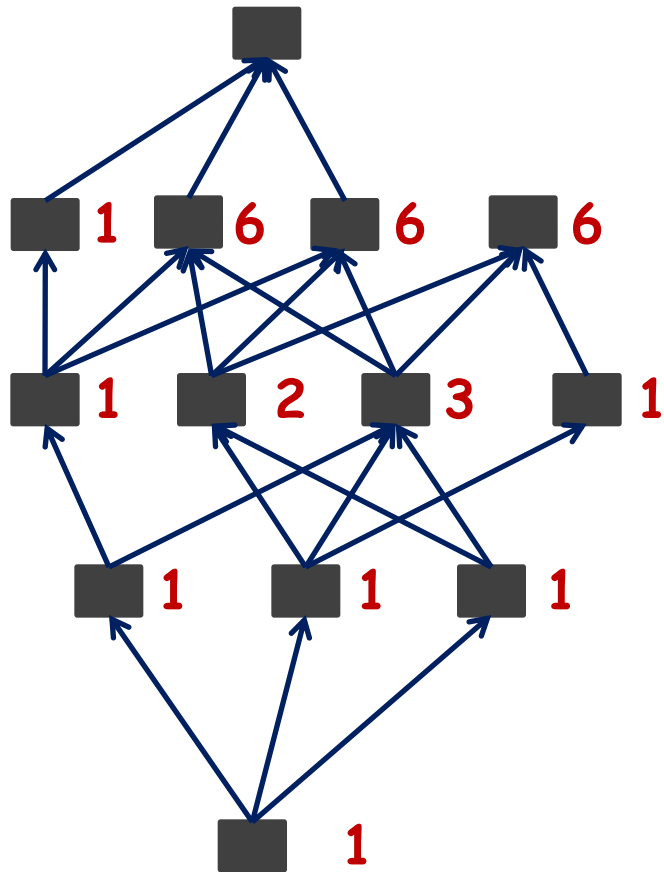
# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG



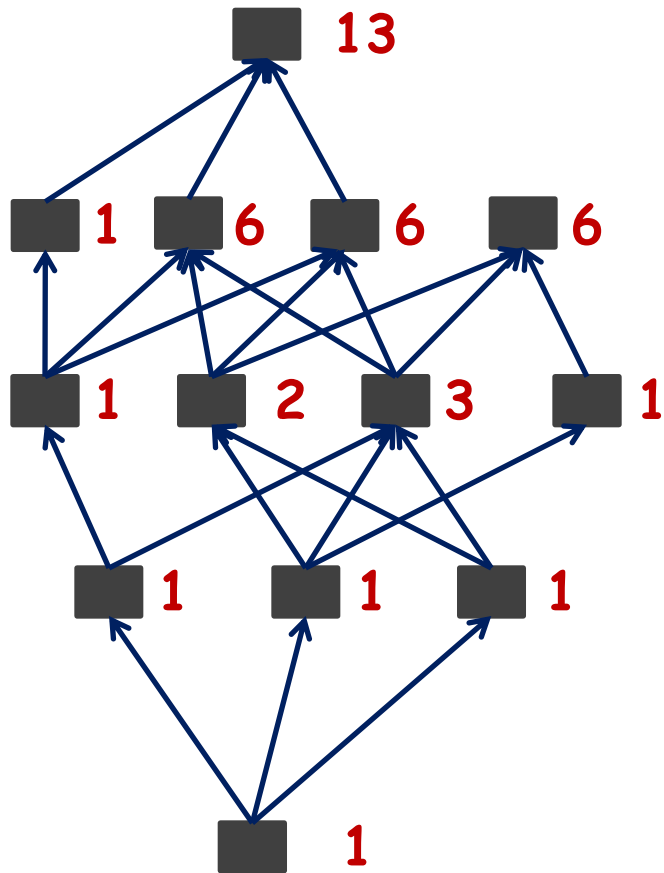
# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG



# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG

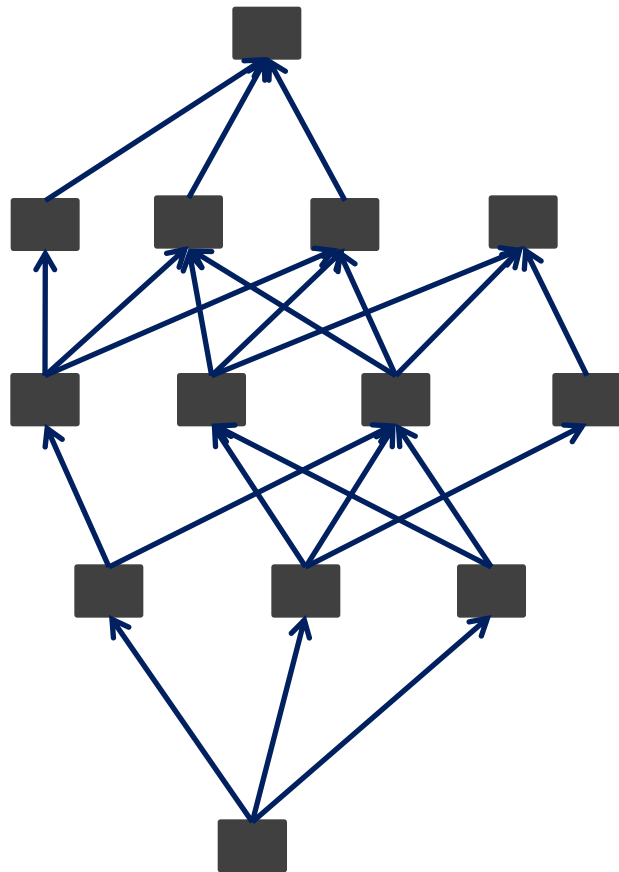


# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG



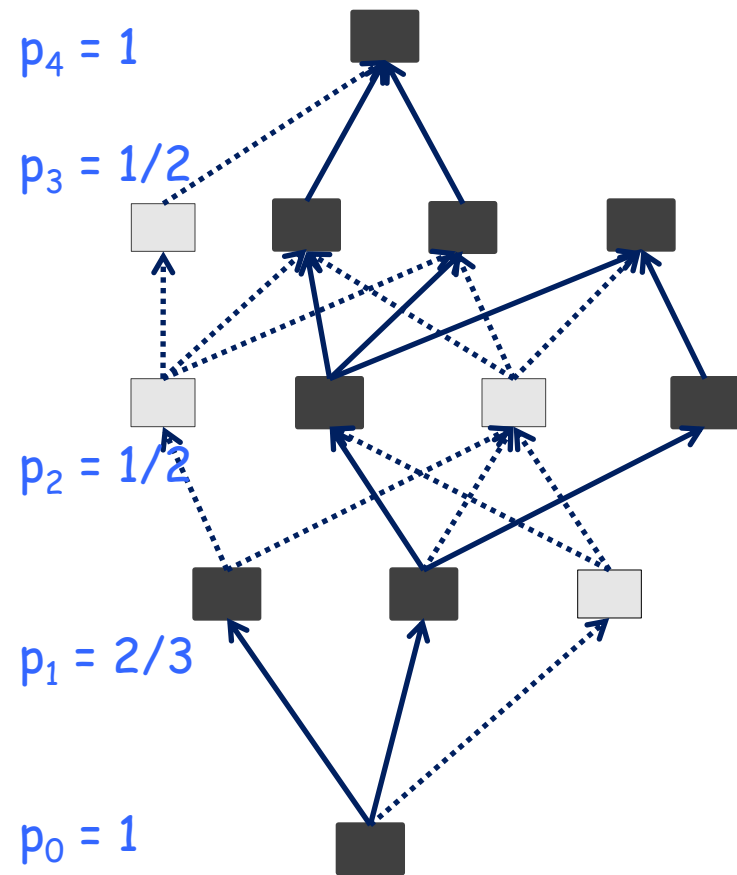


# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG



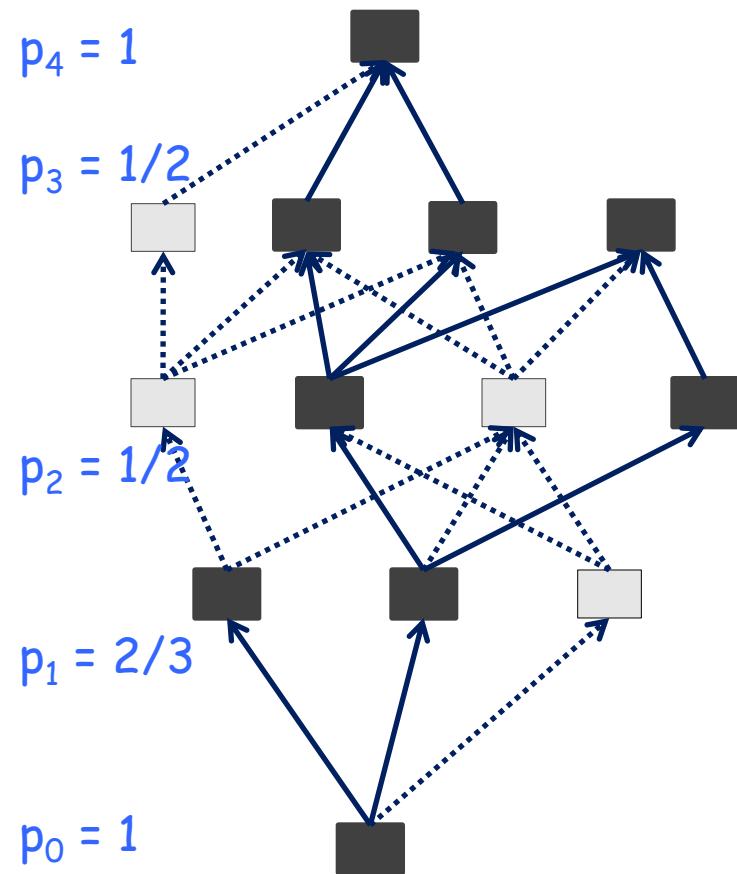
on level  $i$  keep each node  
independently with probability  $p_i$

# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG



on level  $i$  keep each node independently with probability  $p_i$

# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG



on level  $i$  keep each node independently with probability  $p_i$

$X$  = # surviving source-sink paths

$X_w = 1$  iff path  $w$  survives, 0 otherwise.

$$X = \sum_w X_w$$

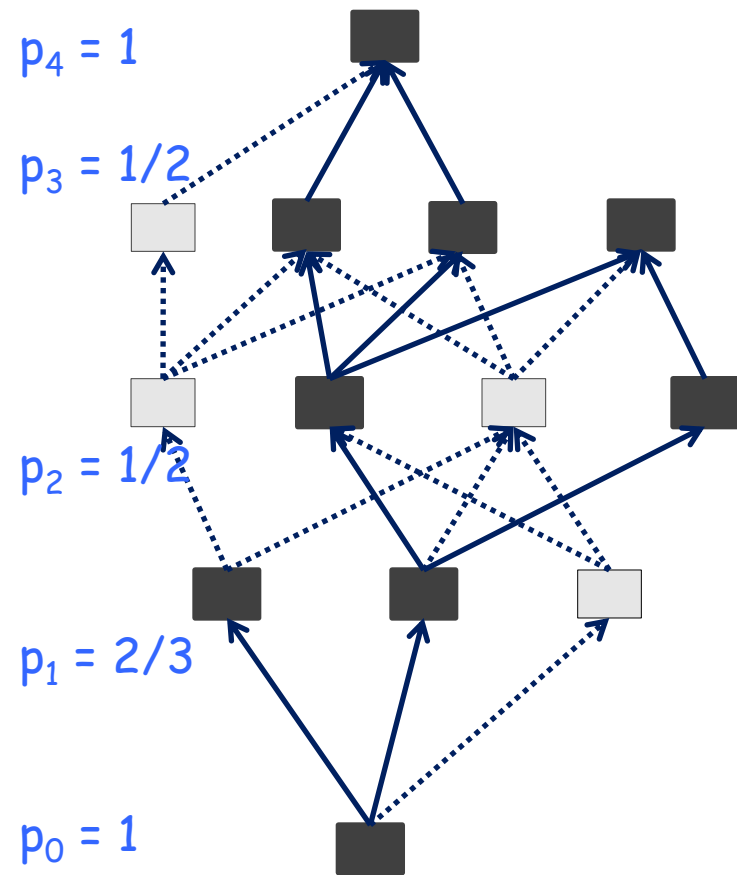
$$Ex[X] = \sum_w Ex[X_w]$$

$$Ex[X_w] = \Pr(\text{path } w \text{ survives}) = \prod_i p_i = P$$

$$Ex[X] = \sum_w P = Z P$$

where  $Z$  total # of paths

# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG



$$Z = \text{Ex}[X] / P$$

on level  $i$  keep each node independently with probability  $p_i$

$X$  = # surviving source-sink paths

$X_w = 1$  iff path  $w$  survives, 0 otherwise.

$$X = \sum_w X_w$$

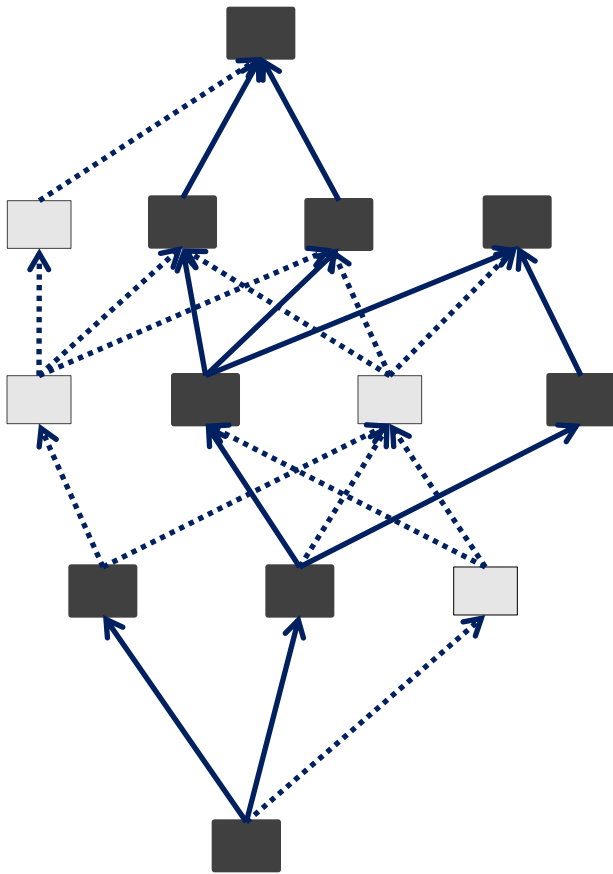
$$\text{Ex}[X] = \sum_w \text{Ex}[X_w]$$

$$\text{Ex}[X_w] = \Pr(\text{path } w \text{ survives}) = \prod_i p_i = P$$

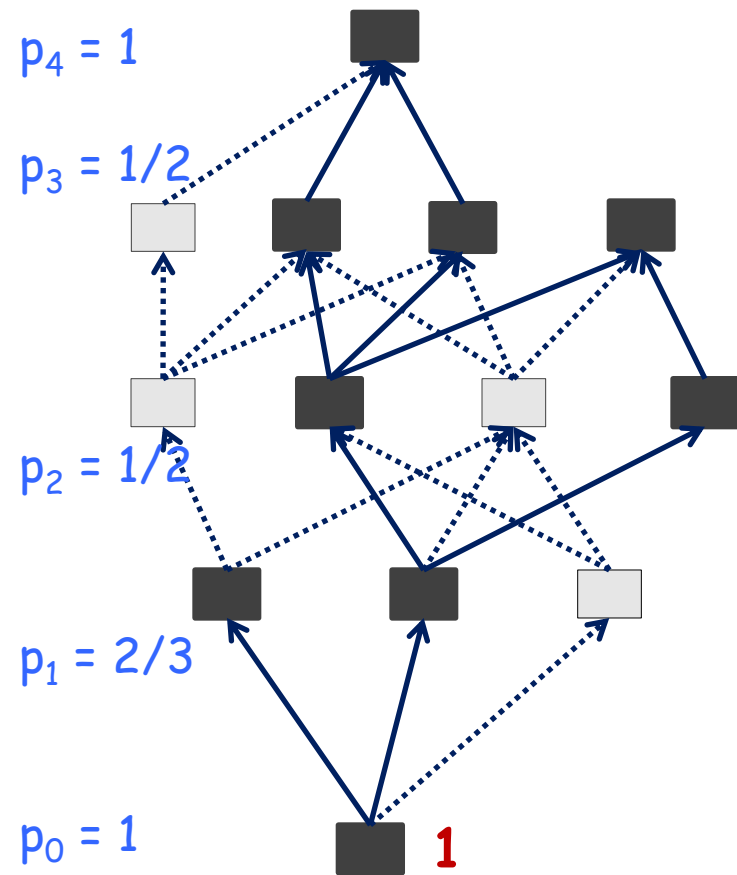
$$\text{Ex}[X] = \sum_w P = Z P$$

where  $Z$  total # of paths

# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG



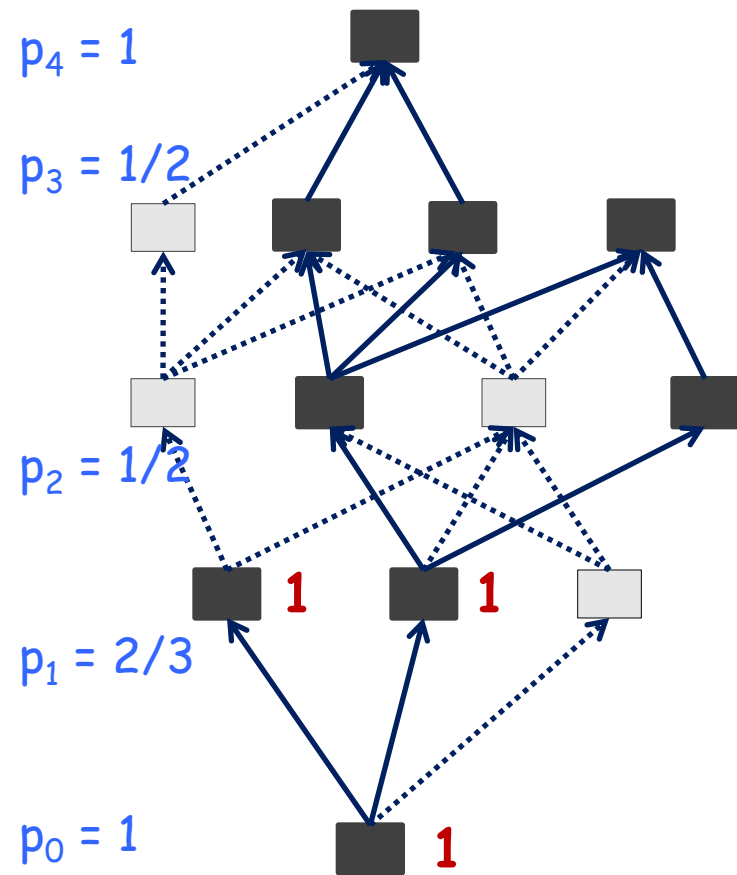
# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG



$$Z = \text{Ex}[X] / P$$

$$P = \prod_i p_i$$

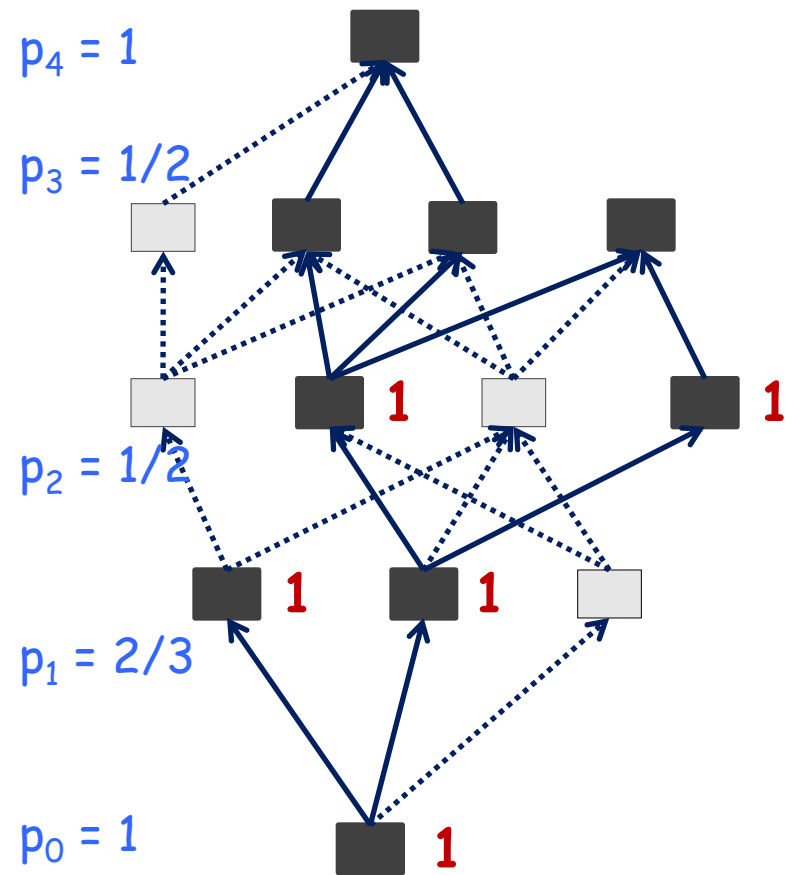
# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG



$$Z = \text{Ex}[X] / P$$

$$P = \prod_i p_i$$

# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG

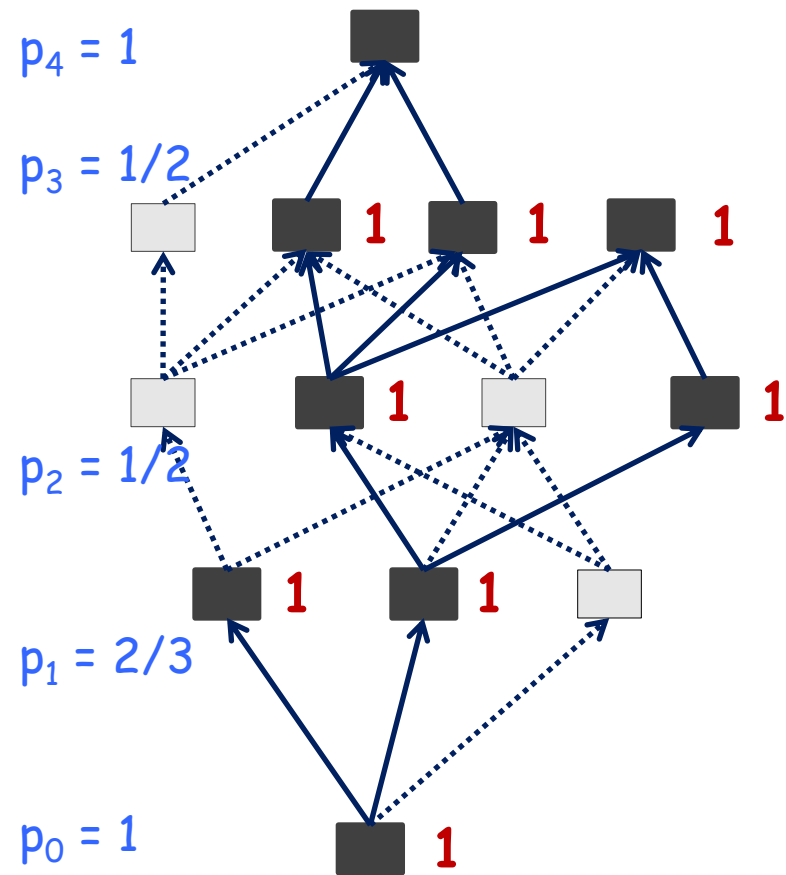


$$Z = \text{Ex}[X] / P$$

$$P = \prod_i p_i$$



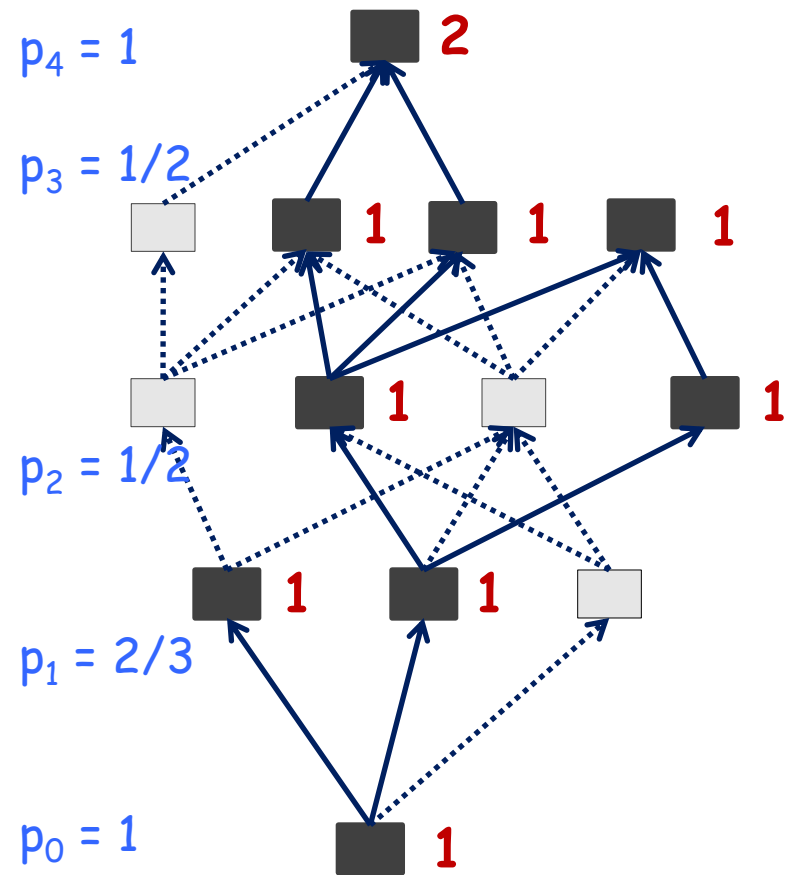
# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG



$$Z = \text{Ex}[X] / P$$

$$P = \prod_i p_i$$

# Estimating the number of source-sink paths in a graded DAG



$$Z = \text{Ex}[X] / P$$

$$P = \prod_i p_i = 1/6$$

$$\text{Estimate for } Z: 2 / (1/6) = 12$$

How good is this estimator  $Y = X/P$ ?

$Y$  is unbiased  $E[Y] = Z$  (the true number of paths)

# How good is this estimator $Y = X/P$ ?

$Y$  is unbiased  $E[Y] = Z$  (the true number of paths)

so far no good concentration results for  $Y$

$$\Pr( | Y - E[Y] | < c E[Y] ) < ???$$

# How good is this estimator $Y = X/P$ ?

$Y$  is unbiased  $E[Y] = Z$  (the true number of paths)

so far no good concentration results for  $Y$

$$\Pr(|Y - E[Y]| < c E[Y]) < ???$$

$$\Pr(|Y - E[Y]| < c E[Y]) < M / c^2$$

path coupling coefficient  $M = \left( \sum_{w,v} 1/p^{C(w,v)} \right) / Z^2 - 1$

$C(w,v) = \#$  of common vertices of paths  $w$  and  $v$

each  $p_i = p$



50 random points



50 random points

27 hours computing time using  
128 GB main memory



50 random points

27 hours computing time using  
128 GB main memory

147019897942999105259582587551602 triangulations

1.470198...  $ee_{32}$



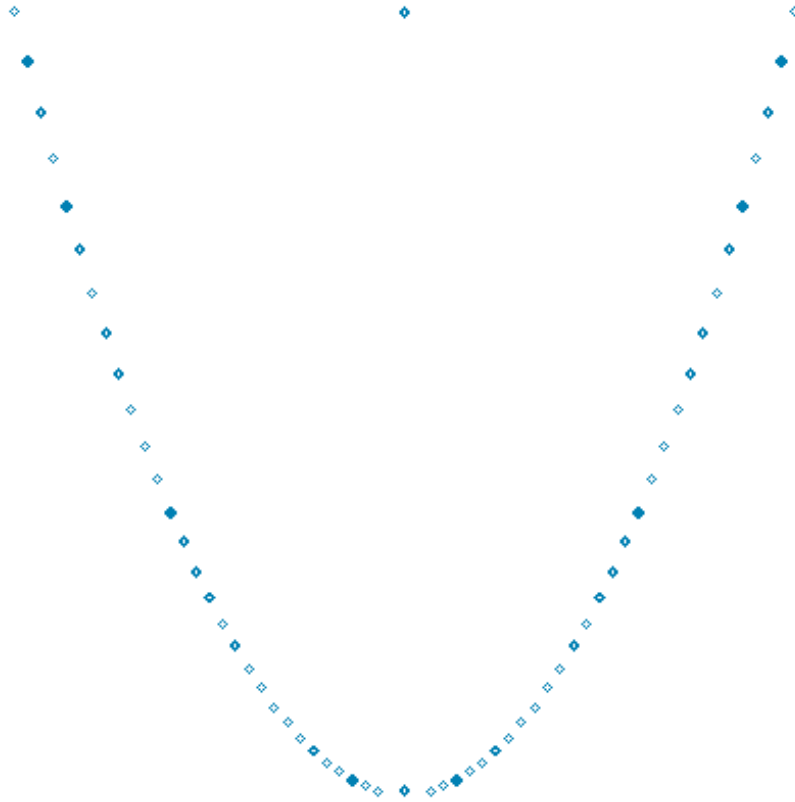


50 random points

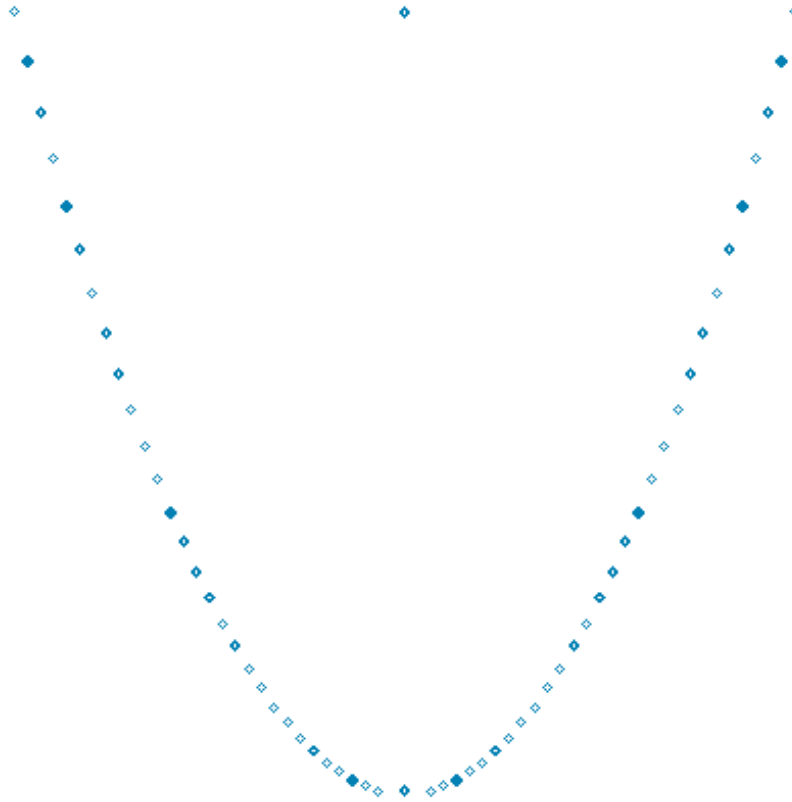
27 hours computing time using  
128 GB main memory

147019897942999105259582587551602 triangulations

1.470198...  $ee_{32}$



„Double circle“ of 60 points



„Double circle“ of 60 points

$$\sum_{0 \leq i \leq h} \binom{h}{i} (-1)^{h-i} C(h+i-2)$$

triangulations, where  $h=n/2$ ,

$$C(k) = \frac{1}{k+1} \binom{2k}{k}$$

14604850160876548964047140550 triangulations

1.46048... ee\_28



„Double chain“ of 60 points





„Double chain“ of 60 points

$$C(h-2)^2 \binom{2h-2}{h-1}$$

triangulations, where  $h=n/2$ ,

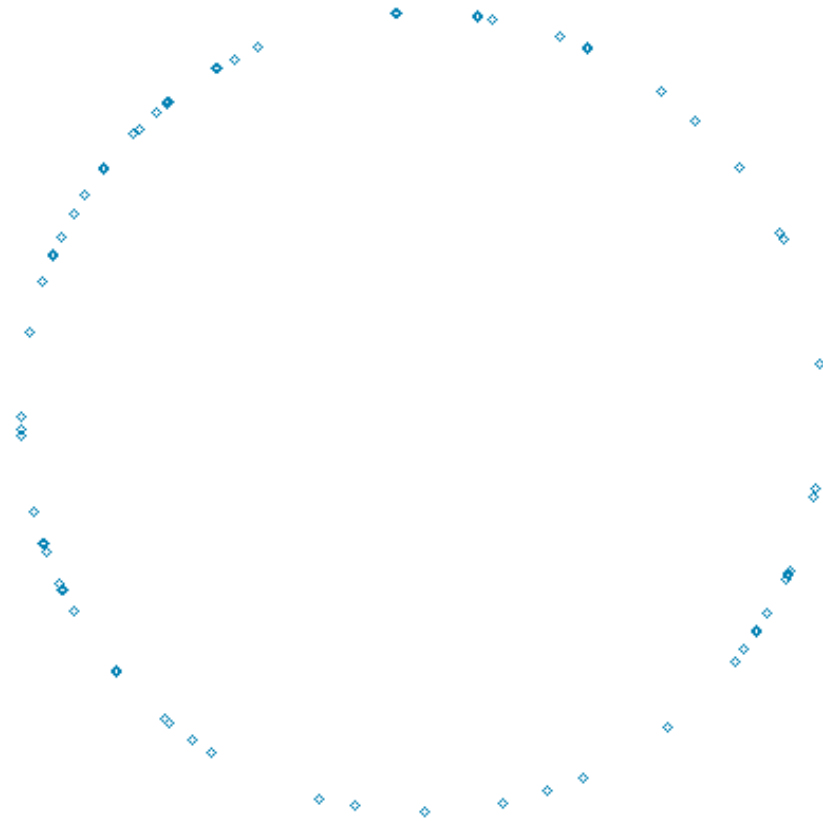
$$C(k) = \frac{1}{k+1} \binom{2k}{k}$$



2091568719875615350546749361163020010918784000 triang.s

2.09156... ee\_45

60 points in convex position



60 points in convex position

$C(n-2)$  triangulations, where

$$C(k) = \frac{1}{k+1} \binom{2k}{k}$$

104088460289122304033498318812080 triangulations

1.040884...  $ee_{32}$

# Problems

- Find useful bounds for the path coupling coefficient for the DAGs arising in triangulation counting for
  - (i) general point sets
  - (ii) special classes of point sets



# Problems

- Find useful bounds for the path coupling coefficient for the DAGs arising in triangulation counting for
  - (i) general point sets
  - (ii) special classes of point sets
  
- Design a non-averaging strategy for obtaining a guaranteed approximator from the path counting estimator for
  - (i) general point sets
  - (ii) special classes of point sets

# Problems

- Design efficient methods or heuristics recognizing dead end nodes in the DAGs arising in triangulation counting.

(recognize marked sweep chains that cannot be completed to a triangulation)

# Problems

- Design efficient methods or heuristics recognizing dead end nodes in the DAGs arising in triangulation counting.

(recognize marked sweep chains that cannot be completed to a triangulation)

- Find other counting problems for which DAG path estimation can be profitably employed. (matching?)

# Problems

- Design efficient methods or heuristics recognizing dead end nodes in the DAGs arising in triangulation counting.

(recognize marked sweep chains that cannot be completed to a triangulation)

- Find other counting problems for which DAG path estimation can be profitably employed. (matching?)
- Where else has DAG path estimation been used, and under what name?

# Easy Generalizations

Count triangulations of  $S$  that are constrained to contain certain edges.

Truly uniform random generation of triangulations of a given set  $S$ .

Fast unbiased estimation of  $\text{tr}(S)$ .

# Not so easy Generalizations

Counting non-crossing matchings, plane geometric graphs, spanning cycles, ....

**Manuel Wettstein**, MSc Thesis, ETH, April 2013  
SOCG 2014

# Not so easy Generalizations

Counting non-crossing matchings, plane geometric graphs, spanning cycles, ....

**Manuel Wettstein**, MSc Thesis, ETH, April 2013  
SOCG 2014

Talk this Friday at 10:30

