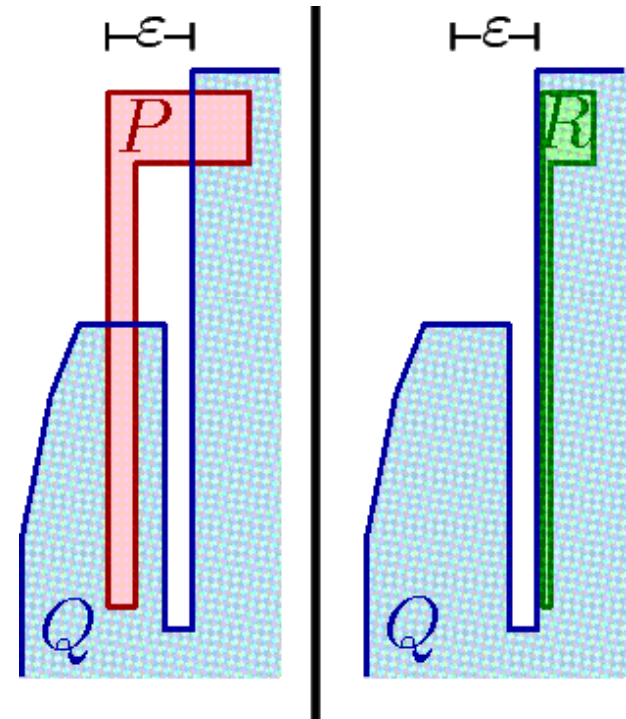


# Partial Matching between Surfaces Using Fréchet Distance

Carola Wenk

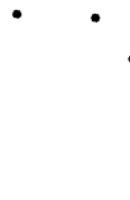
University of Texas at San Antonio

Joint work with Jessica Sherette

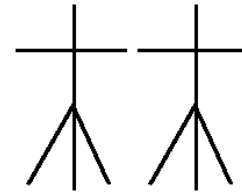


# Geometric Shape Matching

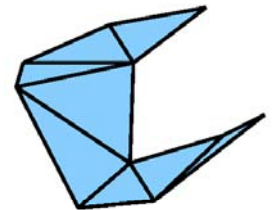
- Consider **geometric shapes** to be composed of a number of basic objects such as



points

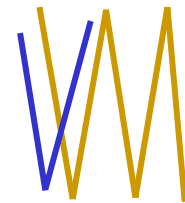
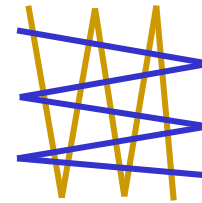
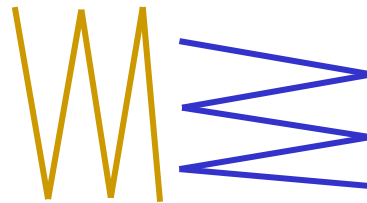


line segments



triangles

- How **similar** are two geometric shapes?



- Choice of distance measure
- Full or partial matching
- Exact or approximate matching
- Transformations (translations, rotations, scalings)

---

# Shape Matching - Applications

- Character Recognition
  - Fingerprint Identification
  - Molecule Docking, Drug Design
  - Image Interpretation and Segmentation
  - Quality Control of Workpieces
  - Robotics
  - Pose Determination of Satellites
  - Puzzling
  - ...
-

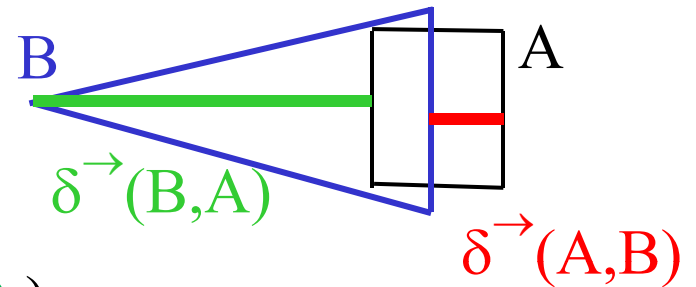
# Distance Measures

- Directed Hausdorff distance

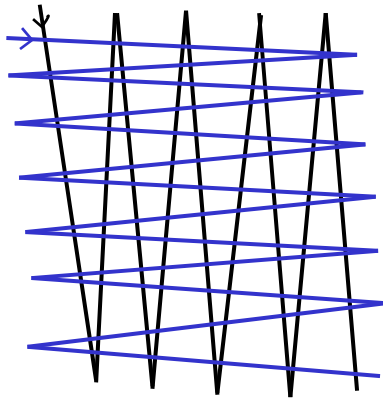
$$\delta^{\rightarrow}(A,B) = \max_{a \in A} \min_{b \in B} \| a-b \|$$

- Undirected Hausdorff-distance

$$\delta(A,B) = \max (\delta^{\rightarrow}(A,B) , \delta^{\rightarrow}(B,A) )$$



But:



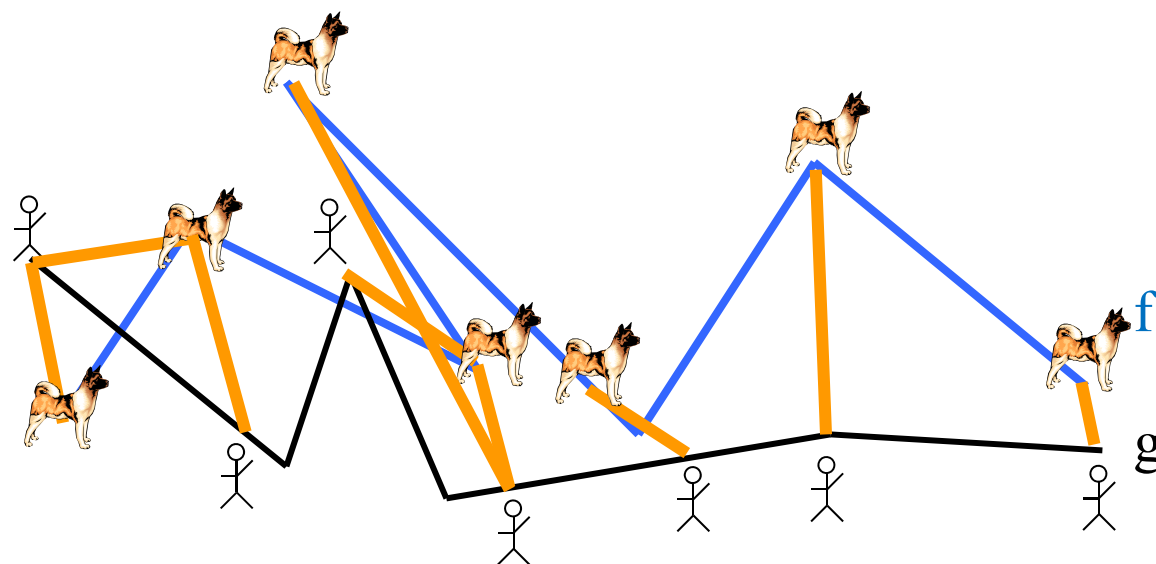
- Small Hausdorff distance
- When considered as curves the distance should be large
- The Fréchet distance is well-suited to compare continuous shapes.

# Fréchet Distance for Curves

$f, g: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$

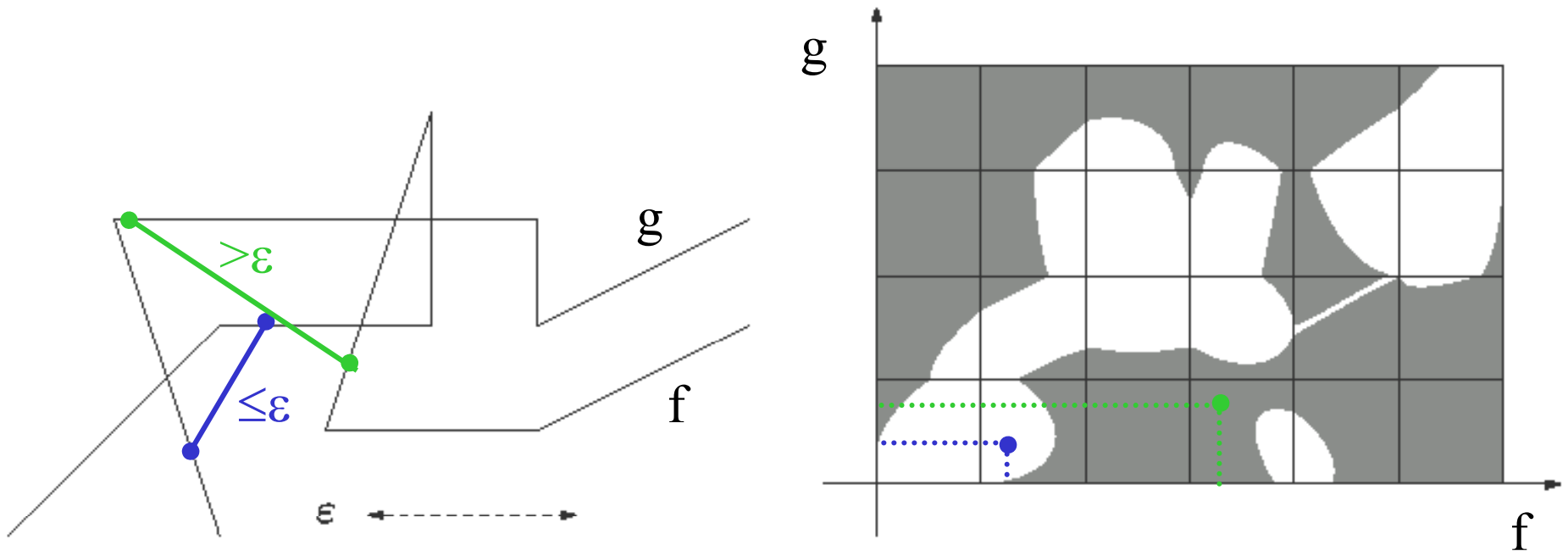
$$\delta_F(f, g) = \inf_{\sigma: [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]} \max_{t \in [0, 1]} \|f(t) - g(\sigma(t))\|$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  range over continuous monotone increasing reparameterizations only.



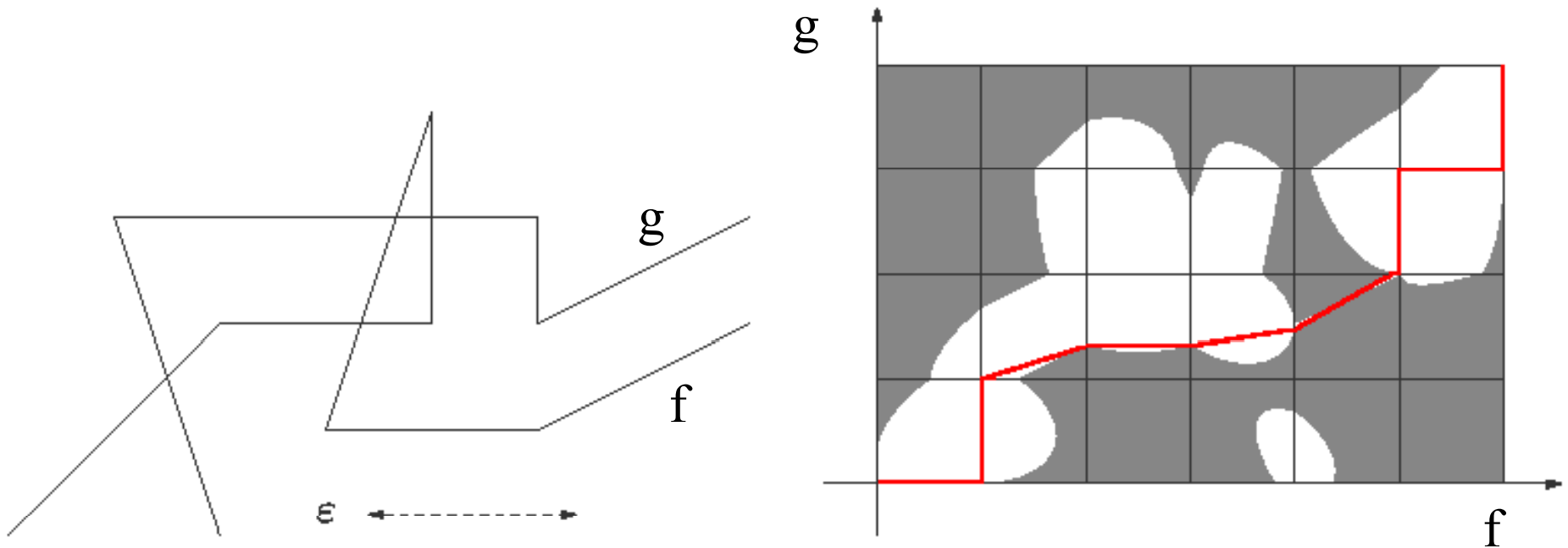
- Man and dog walk on one curve each
- They hold each other at a **leash**
- They are only allowed to go forward
- $\delta_F$  is the minimal possible leash length

# Free Space Diagram



- $F_\epsilon(f,g) = \{ (s,t) \in [0,1]^2 \mid \| f(s) - g(t) \| \leq \epsilon \}$  *white points*  
**free space** of  $f$  and  $g$

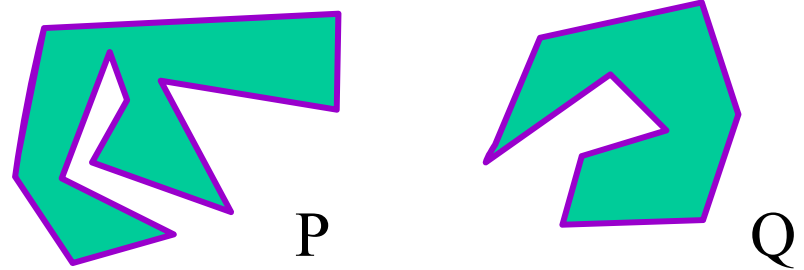
# Free Space Diagram



- $F_\epsilon(f,g) = \{ (s,t) \in [0,1]^2 \mid \| f(s) - g(t) \| \leq \epsilon \}$  *white points*  
**free space** of  $f$  and  $g$
- $\delta_F(f,g) \leq \epsilon$  iff there is a monotone path in the free space from  $(0,0)$  to  $(1,1)$
- Can be decided using DP in  $O(mn)$  time [AG95]

# Fréchet Distance for Surfaces

- **Given:** Two surfaces  
 $P, Q: [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$



- The Fréchet distance is defined as:

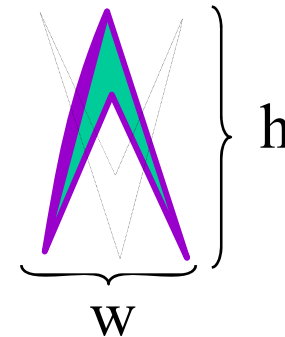
$$\delta_F(P, Q) = \inf_{\substack{\sigma: P \rightarrow Q \\ \sigma \text{ homeomorphism}}} \max_{t \in P} \|t - \sigma(t)\|$$

- Is  $\delta_F(P, Q) = \delta_F(\partial P, \partial Q)$ ?

No:

$$\delta_F(\partial P, \partial Q) \approx w/2$$

$$\delta_F(P, Q) \approx h/2$$





# Fréchet Distance for Surfaces

- **For piecewise linear surfaces:**

- [G98] • Computing  $\delta_F$  is NP-hard, even when one surface is a triangle, or when both surfaces are polygons with holes or terrains
- [BBS10]
- [AB09] •  $\delta_F$  is upper-semi-computable; it is unknown if it is computable

- **For simple polygons:**

- [BBW08] •  $\delta_F$  can be computed in polynomial time
- [SW12] • Partial  $\delta_F$  can be decided in polynomial time

- **For folded polygons:**

- [CDHSW11] •  $\delta_F$  can be approximated in polynomial time

[BBS10] K. Buchin, M. Buchin, A. Schulz, Fréchet distance for surfaces: Some simple hard cases, ESA: 63-74, 2010.

[SW12] J. Sherette, C. Wenk, Computing the Partial Fréchet Distance Between Polygons, SWAT, 2012.

[CDHSW11] A.F.Cook IV, A. Driemel, S. Har-Peled, J. Sherette, C. Wenk, Computing the Fréchet...Folded Polygons,WADS, 2011.

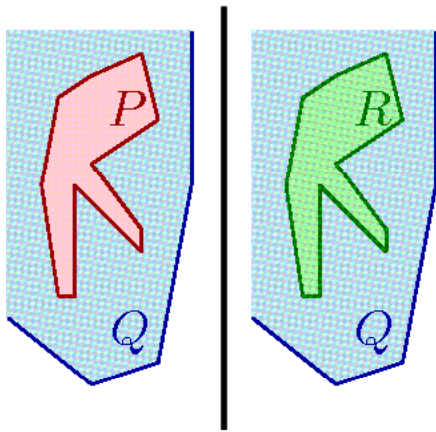
[BBW08] K. Buchin, M. Buchin, C. Wenk, Computing the Fréchet Distance Between Simple Polygons, CGTA 41: 2-20, 2008.

[G98] M. Godau, On the complexity of measuring the similarity..., Dissertation, Freie Universität Berlin, 1998.

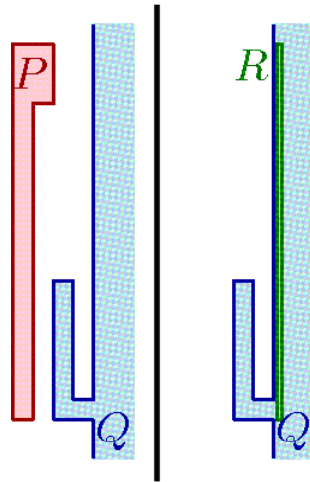
[AB09] H. Alt, M. Buchin, Can we compute the similarity between surfaces?, D&CG, to appear.

# Partial Fréchet Distance

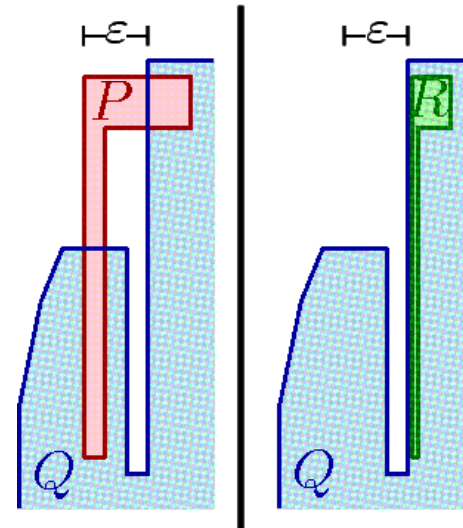
- **Given:** Two simple polygons  $P$ ,  $Q$  (coplanar, triangulated), and some  $\varepsilon > 0$ .
- **Task:** Decide whether there exists a simple polygon  $R \subseteq Q$  such that  $\delta_F(P, R) \leq \varepsilon$ .



- $P \subseteq Q$   
 $\Rightarrow R = P, \varepsilon = 0$



- $P \cap Q = \emptyset$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Similar to projecting  $P$  to  $\partial Q$

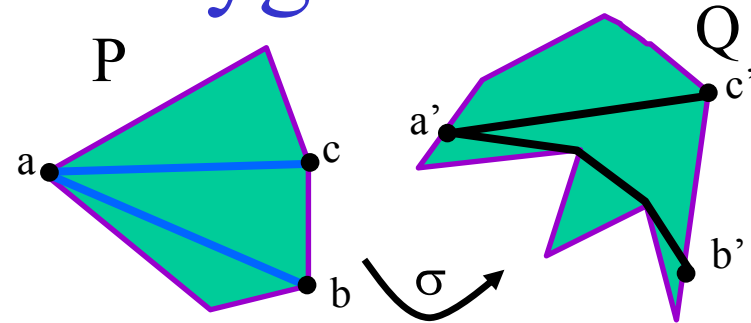


- Points in  $P \cap Q$  are not mapped straight down
- Mapping of points is not independent from other points

# Approach for Fréchet Distance between Simple Polygons

**Restrict the homeomorphisms:**

Map diagonals in P only to  
**shortest paths** in Q.



For  $\varepsilon > 0$ , find homeom. such that:

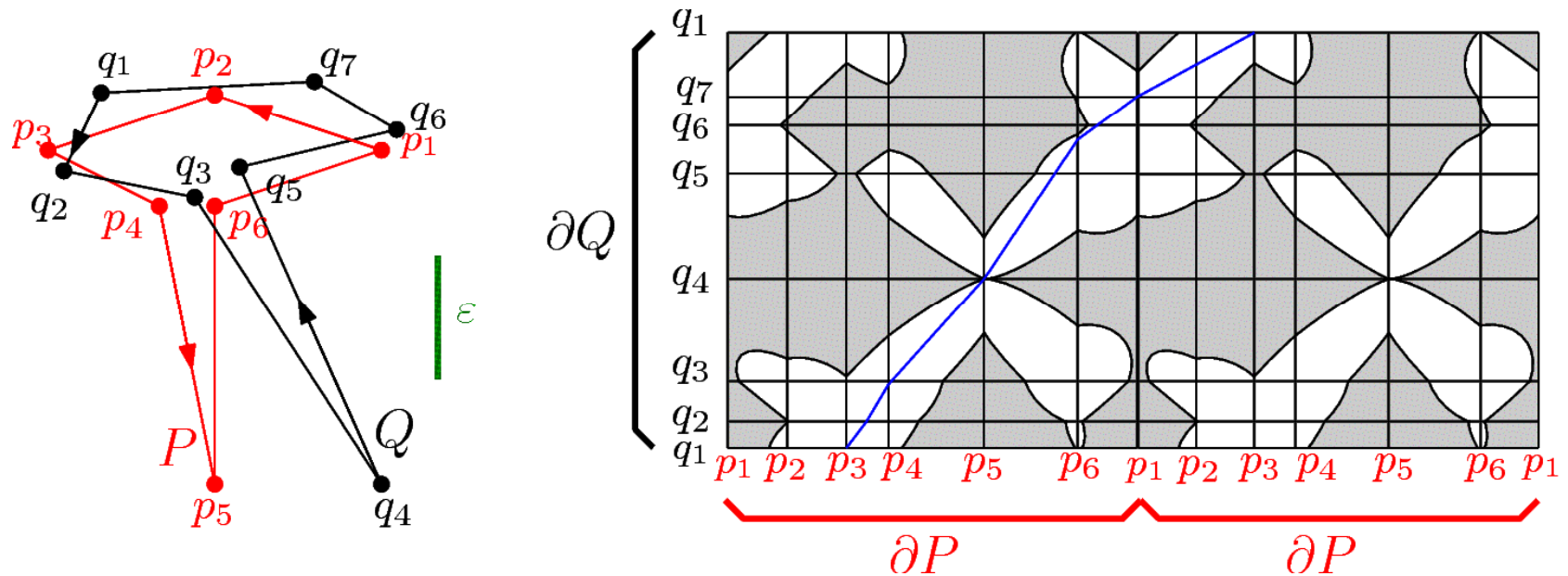
1.  $\delta_F(\partial P, \partial Q) \leq \varepsilon$   
(specifies mapping for diagonal endpoints)
2. Every diagonal D in P has distance  $\leq \varepsilon$  to corresponding shortest path in Q

➡ **Map boundary & check diagonals:**

Compute combinatorially equivalent mappings from  $\partial P$  to  $\partial Q$ , that also ensure small  $\delta_F$  between diagonals and shortest paths

This yields a polynomial-time algorithm.

# (Double) Free Space Diagram



- Free space diagram:  $\partial P \times \partial Q$
- Boundary mapping from  $\partial P$  to  $\partial Q$  corresponds to a monotone path from bottom to top (that maps all of  $P$ ).

# Approach for Partial Fréchet Distance between Simple Polygons

- Since we have to find  $R \subseteq Q$ , the boundary of  $R$  is not known.  
 $\Rightarrow$  Cannot just map boundaries anymore.
- We extend simple polygons approach in a different way:

## 1. Map boundary & check diagonals:

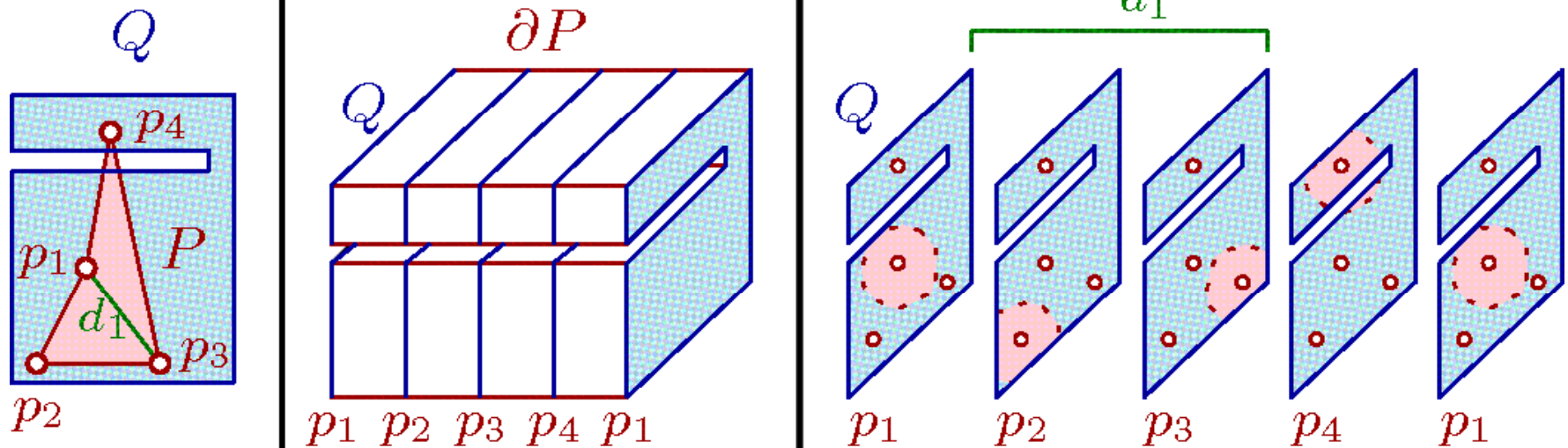
Compute combinatorially equivalent mappings from  $\partial P$  to  $\partial Q$   
**some closed curve in  $Q$** , that also ensure small  $\delta_F$  between  
diagonals and shortest paths .  
 $\Rightarrow (Q, \varepsilon)$ -valid set of neighborhoods

## 2. Construct $R$ from $(Q, \varepsilon)$ -valid set

Prove that a  $(Q, \varepsilon)$ -valid set of neighborhoods always contains a  
valid **simple** polygon  $R \subseteq Q$

---

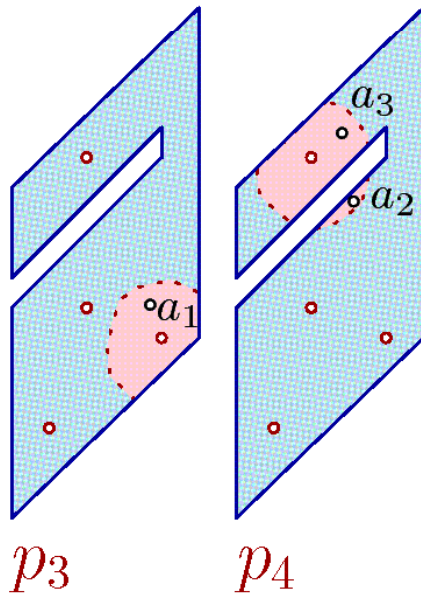
# 3D Free Space Diagram



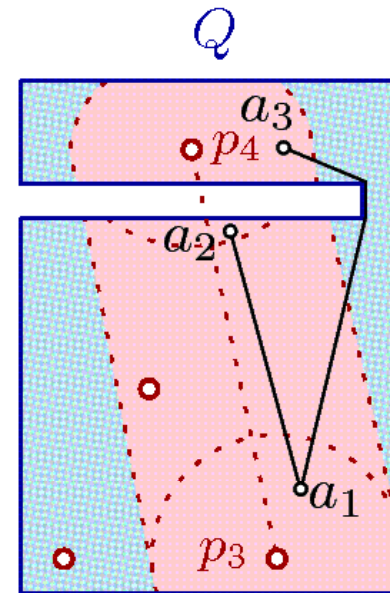
- Free space diagram:  $\partial P \times Q$
- Sequence of **slices**  $p_i \times Q$
- Boundary mapping from  $\partial P$  to closed curve in  $Q$  corresponds to a monotone path from first slice to last slice.
- Note: Path need only be monotone along  $P$ .

# Reachability

Pair of adjacent slices in free space diagram:

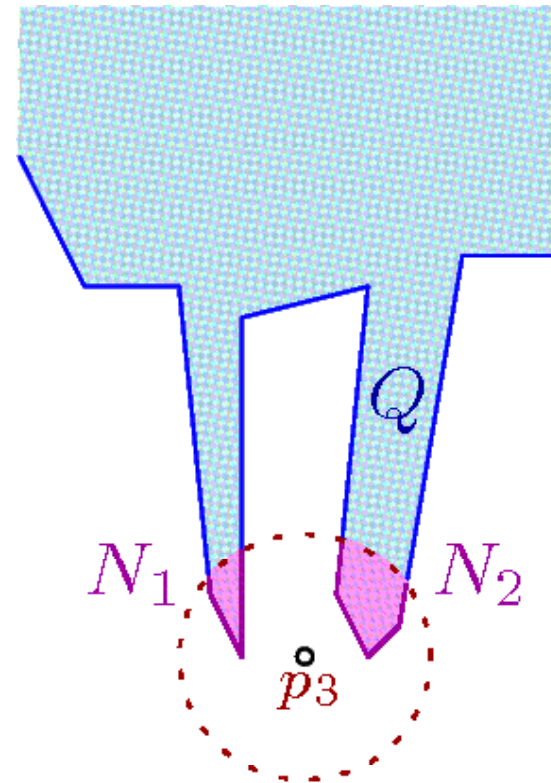
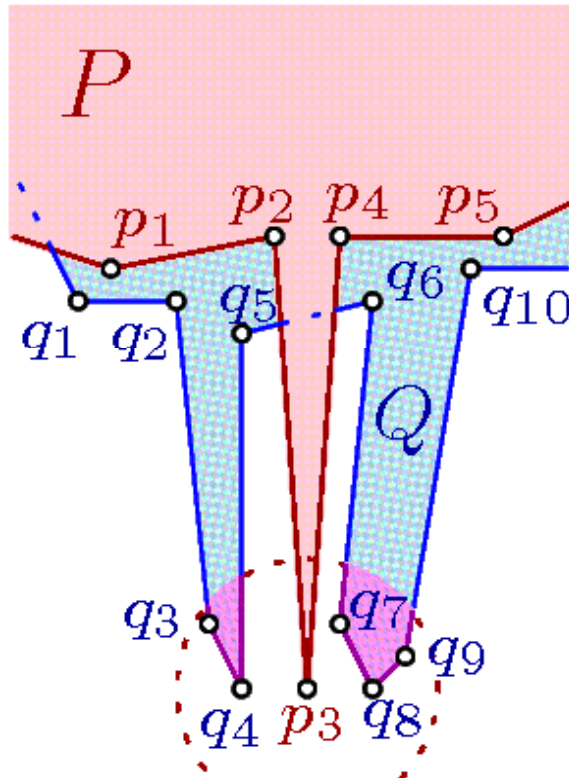


Scenario in Q:



- $a_2$  is **reachable** from  $a_1$  iff  $\delta_F(\overline{p_3 p_4}, \pi(a_1, a_2)) \leq \varepsilon$ , where  $\pi(a_1, a_2)$  is the shortest path in  $Q$  between  $a_1$  and  $a_2$ .
- $a_2$  is reachable from  $a_1$ , but  $a_3$  is not.

# Neighborhoods



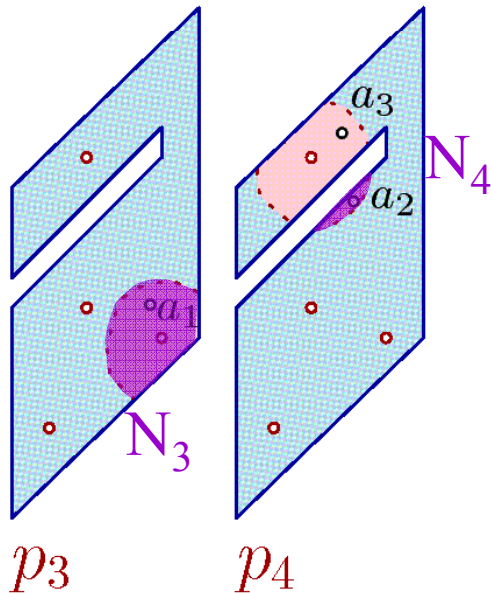
- $\epsilon$ -disk  $D_\epsilon(p_3)$ .
- Points in  $D_\epsilon(p_3) \cap Q$  can be mapped to  $p_3$ .

- **Neighborhood** of  $p_i$ :  
Maximal connected subset of  $D_\epsilon(p_i) \cap Q$

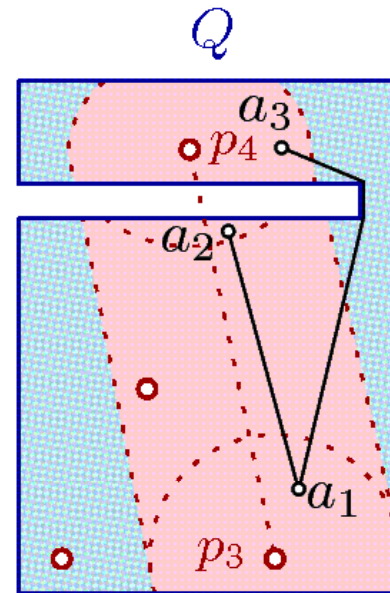


# Propagate Reachability

Pair of adjacent slices in free space diagram:



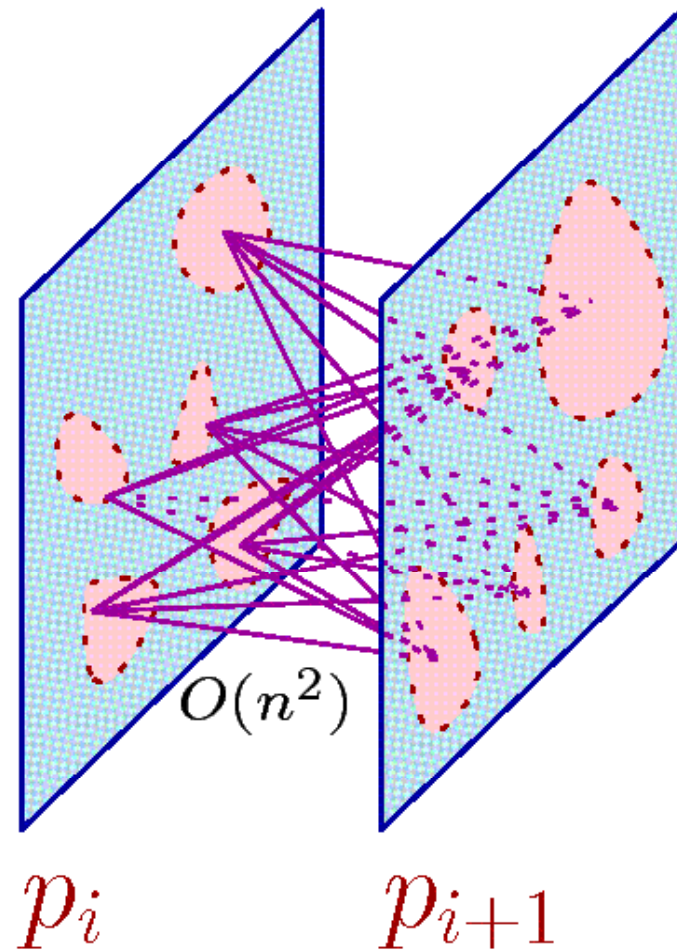
Scenario in  $Q$ :



- $a_2$  is **reachable** from  $a_1$  iff  $\delta_F(\overline{p_3 p_4}, \pi(a_1, a_2)) \leq \varepsilon$ , where  $\pi(a_1, a_2)$  is the shortest path in  $Q$  between  $a_1$  and  $a_2$ .
- All points in one **neighborhood** are reachable from all points in another **neighborhood**, if there exists one reachable pair of points.
- Compute reachability between two neighborhoods in  $O(n)$  time.

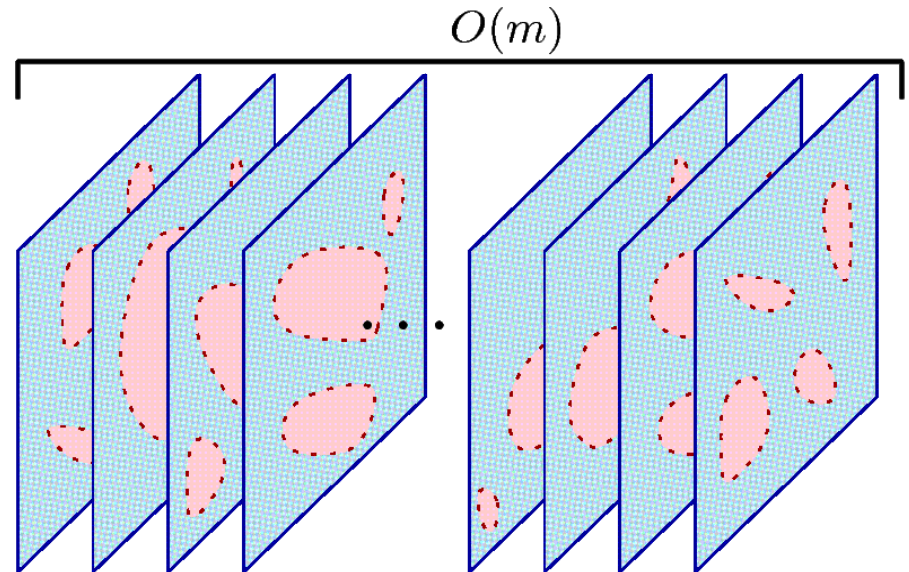
# Algorithm: Neighborhoods

- Each slice contains at most  $O(n)$  neighborhoods per point.
- There are  $O(n^2)$  pairs of neighborhoods to test reachability between, for each pair of slices.



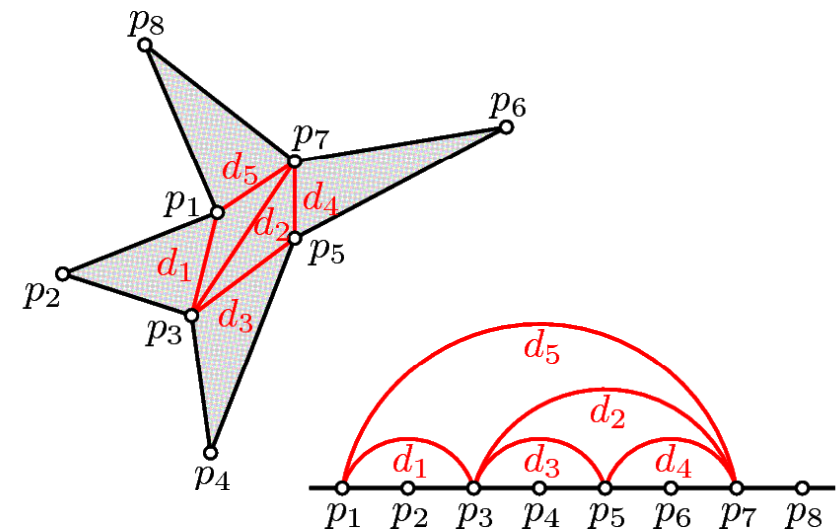
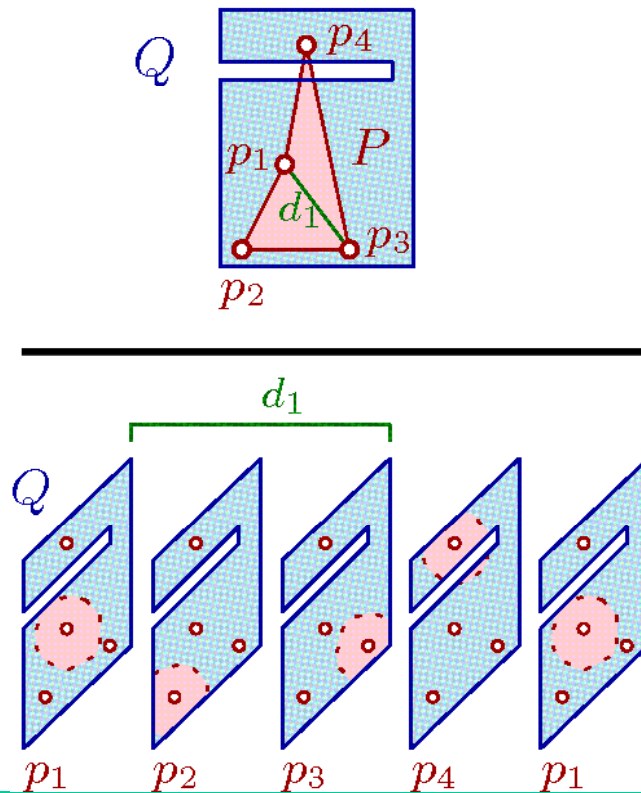
# Algorithm: Neighborhoods

- There are  $O(m)$  slices, where  $m=|P|$
- We can compute and propagate reachability through free space diagram in  $O(n^3 m)$  time
- $\Rightarrow$  Test whether a reachable path exists, and construct valid set of neighborhoods, in polynomial time.



# Slight Modification

- So far we have only mapped  $\partial P$ , but we have not considered the diagonals of  $P$  yet.
- Modify algorithm, by merging slices in a different order:
  - Locally from left to right
  - Merge in **diagonal-nesting-order**



---

# Approach for Partial Fréchet Distance between Simple Polygons

- Since we have to find  $R \subseteq Q$ , the boundary of  $R$  is not known.  
⇒ Simply mapping boundaries does not work.
- We extend simple polygons approach in a different way:

## 1. Map boundary & check diagonals:

Compute combinatorially equivalent mappings from  $\partial P$  to  $\partial Q$   
**some closed curve in  $Q$** , that also ensure small  $\delta_F$  between  
diagonals and shortest paths .  
⇒  $(Q, \varepsilon)$ -valid set of neighborhoods

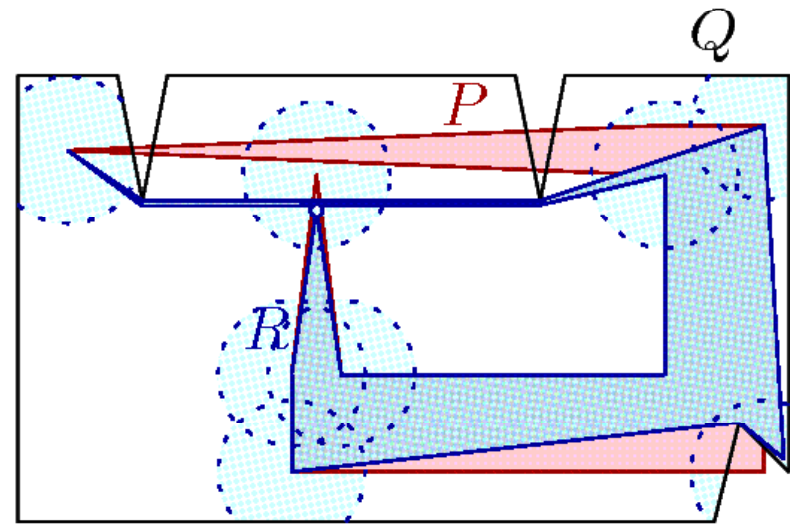
## 2. Construct $R$ from $(Q, \varepsilon)$ -valid set

Prove that a  $(Q, \varepsilon)$ -valid set of neighborhoods always contains a  
valid **simple** polygon  $R \subseteq Q$

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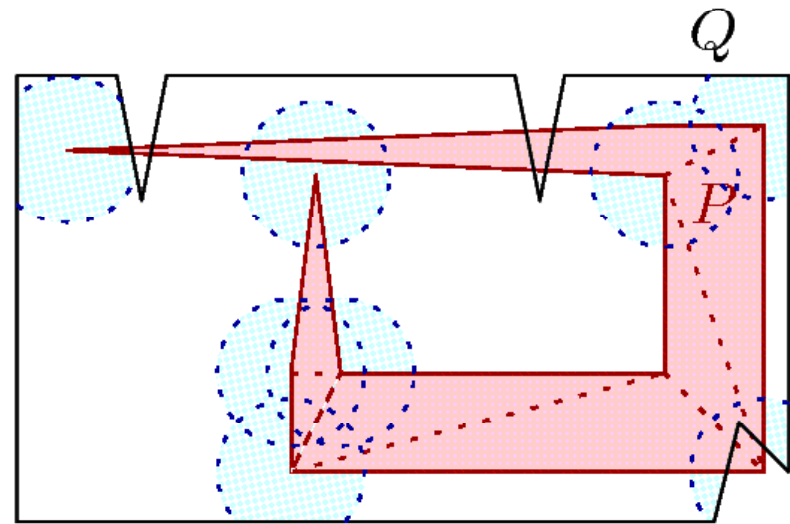
# Finding $R$

- A valid set of neighborhoods
- We want to compute a **simple** polygon  $R$  that maps every  $p_i$  to a point in its associated neighborhood.



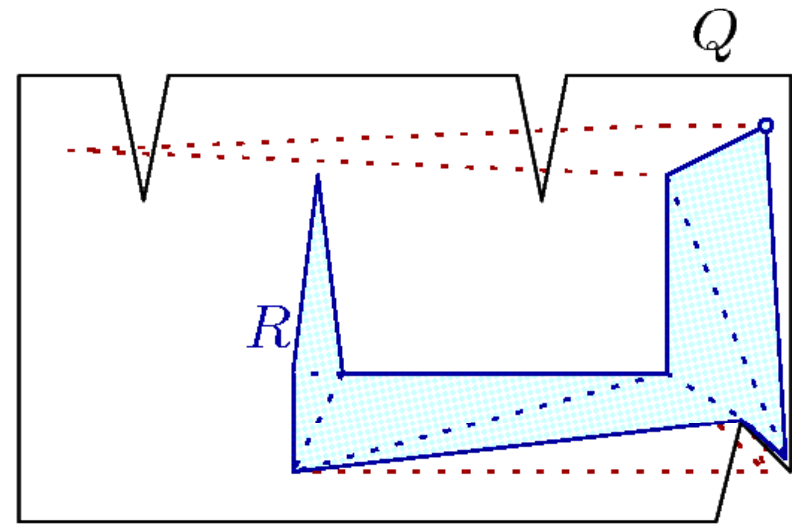
# Finding R

- We iteratively construct  $R$  by mapping each  $p_i$  to a point in its associated neighborhood.
- At each iteration:
  - We show that the points can be mapped to form a simple polygon.
  - We allow remapping points within their neighborhood.
  - By properties of the neighborhoods,  $\delta_F$  stays  $\leq \varepsilon$



# Finding R

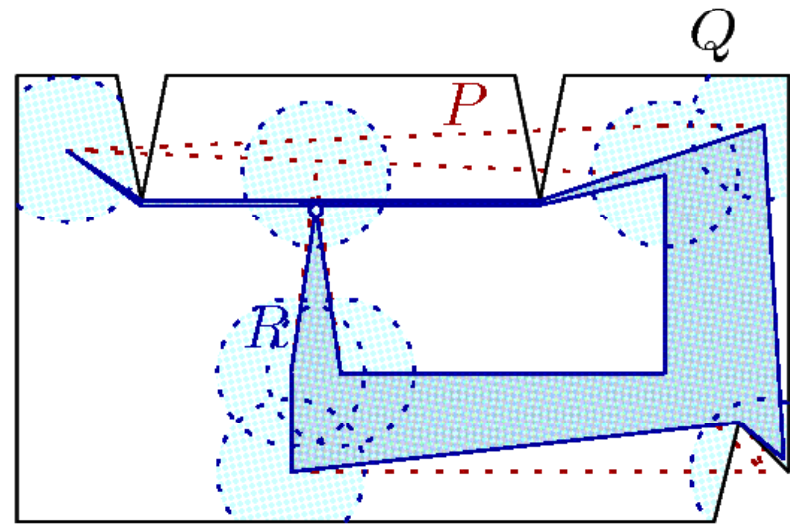
- Initially, choose one triangle in  $P$ .
- Map each point  $a$  in its associated neighborhood  $N_a$ .
- In each iterative step, add points which are connected to already mapped points.
- If the neighborhood does not contain the original point, map it inside  $Q$  and connect previous points with shortest paths.





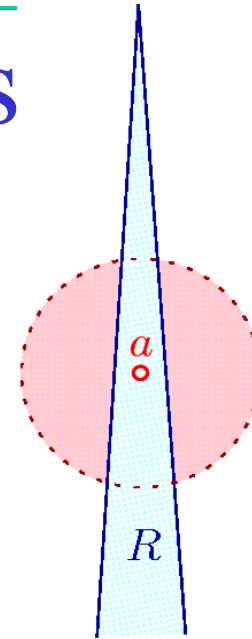
# Finding R

- If adding a point and a shortest path yields a self-intersection:
    - The neighborhood around a previous point is crossed.
    - We need to remap to a point below the shortest path.
- ⇒ In the end we have found a simple polygon **R**.
- ⇒ Vertices of **P** are mapped to points in associated neighborhoods.
- ⇒ Hence,  $\delta_F(\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{R}) \leq \varepsilon$ .

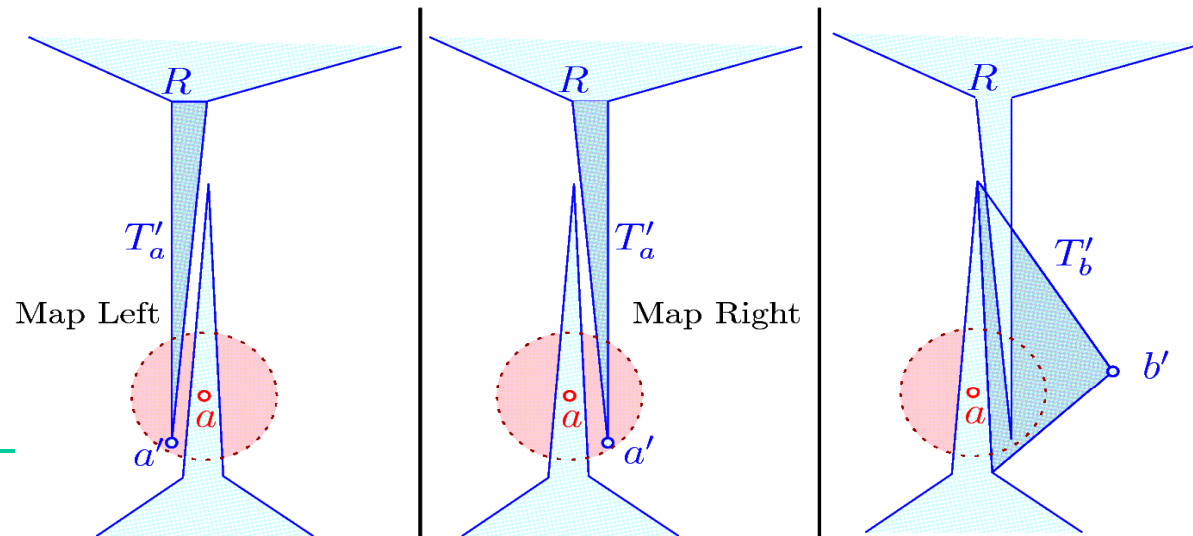


# Original Regions

- The neighborhoods of points can be split into multiple disjoint parts by  $R$ .
- We must choose one of these two regions to map  $a$  to.



- Unfortunately an arbitrary choice may be invalidated by a later mapping of  $R$ .



# Original Region

- The key idea is to map a point  $a'$  on the same side (relative to  $R$ ) as  $a$  is to the preimage of that portion of  $R$ .  
⇒ Original region

PREIMAGE:

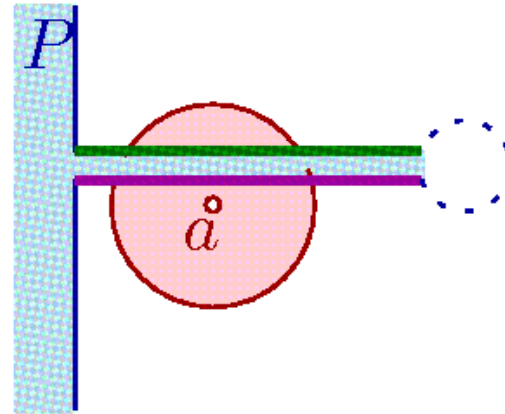
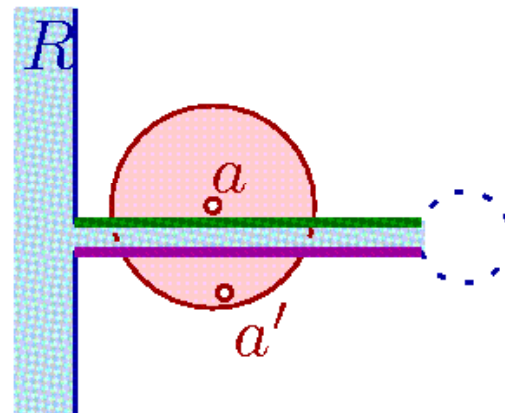


IMAGE:



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## Conclusions:

- We presented the first algorithm for computing partial FD between surfaces. This algorithm runs in polynomial time.
  - In the future it would be interesting to consider other variants of partial FD.
  - It would also be interesting to consider extending this algorithm other classes of surfaces
-