

# Minkowski Sums

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## Outline:

I. Definition

II. C-obstacles

III. Complexity of the sum of two convex polygons

IV. Computation

V. Non-convex robot or obstacle

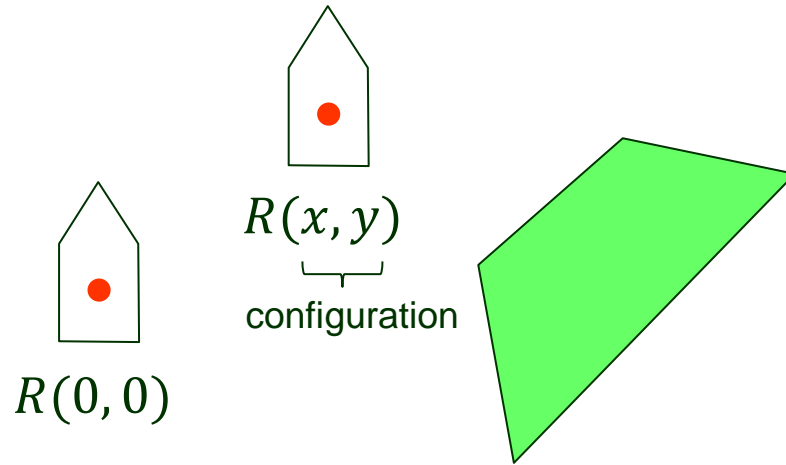
VI. Translational motion planning

# C-obstacle for a Translational Robot

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Robot  $R$

Obstacle  $P$



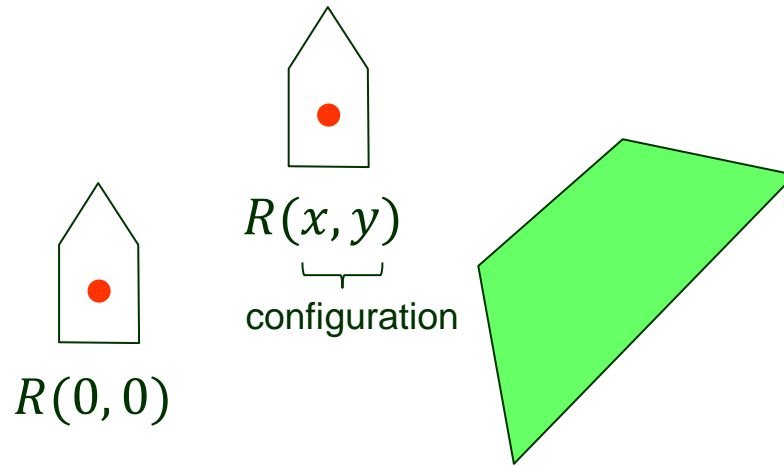
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$$CP = \{(x, y) \mid R(x, y) \cap P \neq \emptyset\}$$

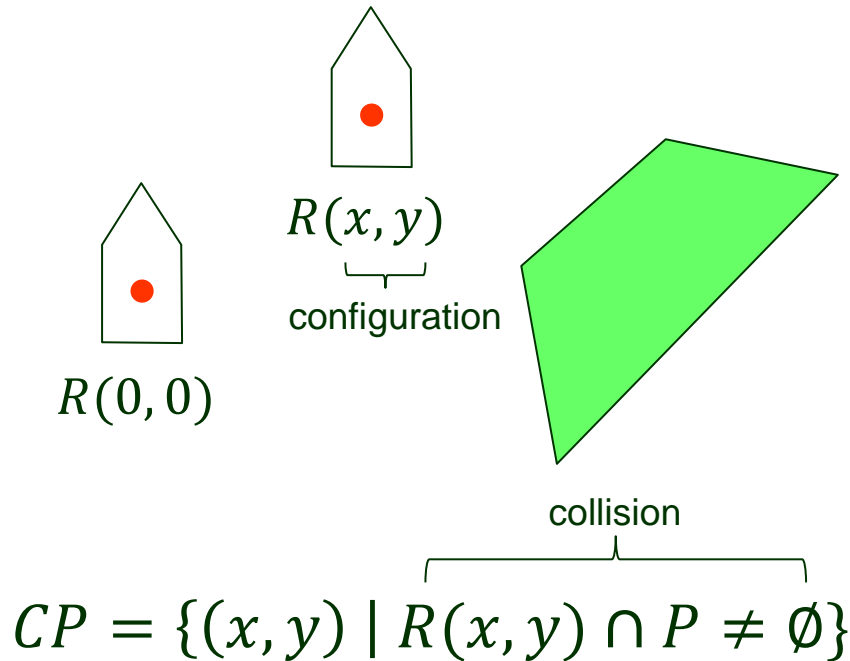
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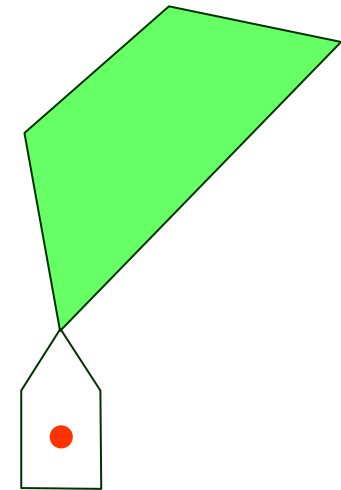
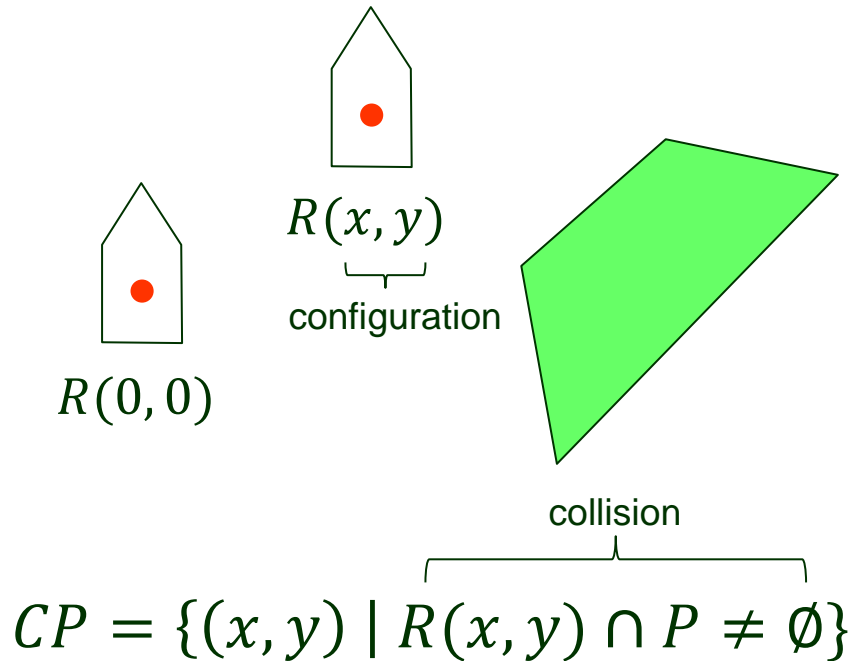


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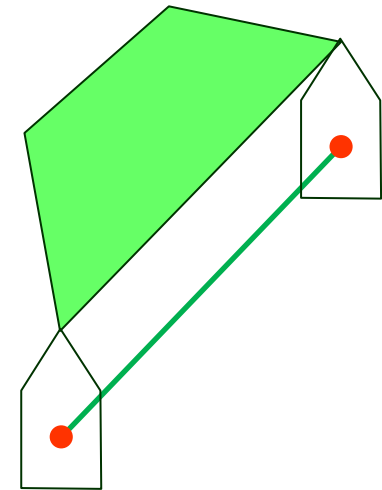
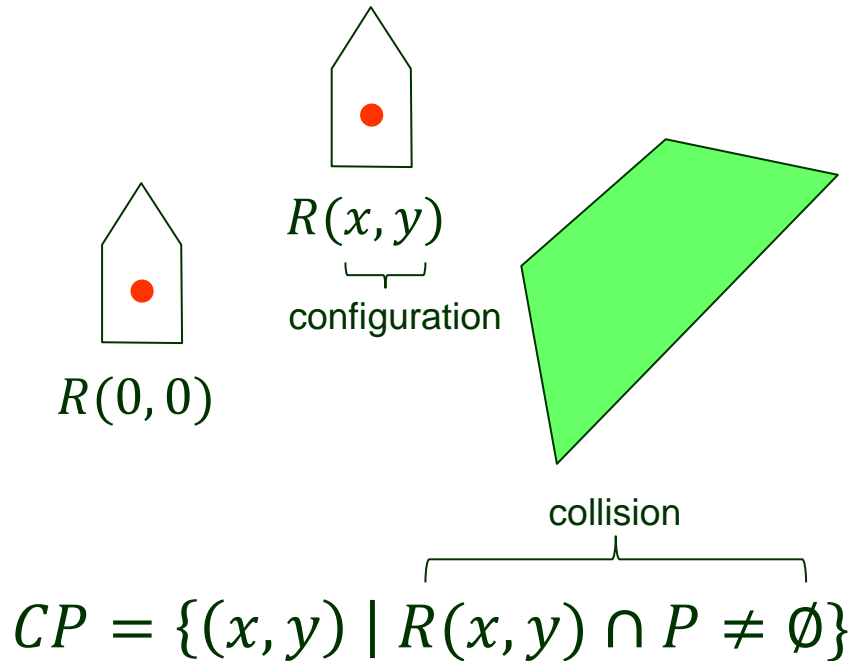


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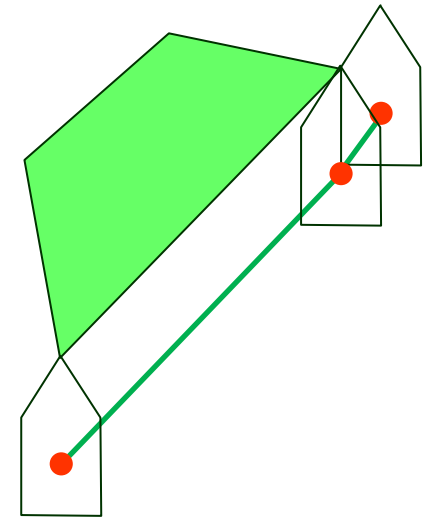
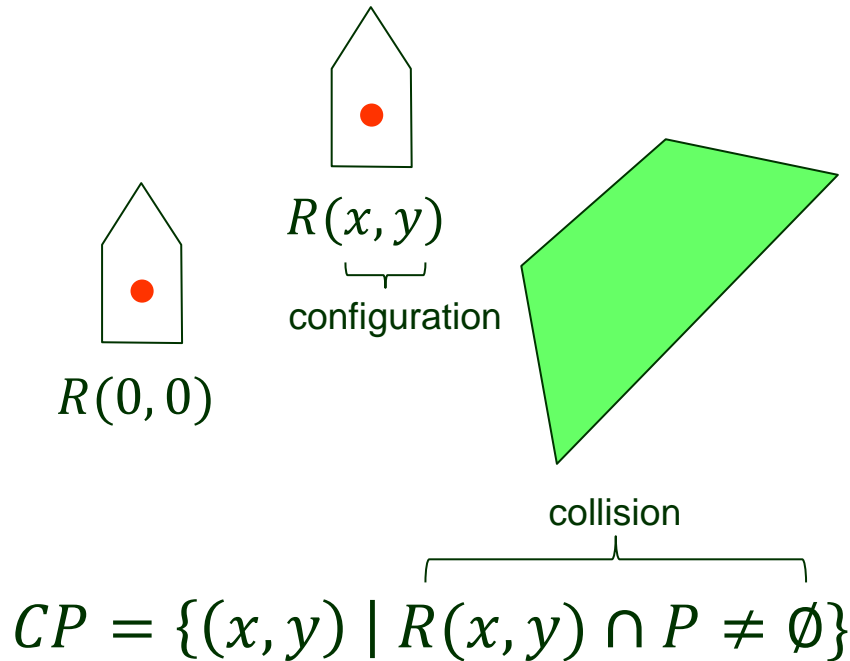


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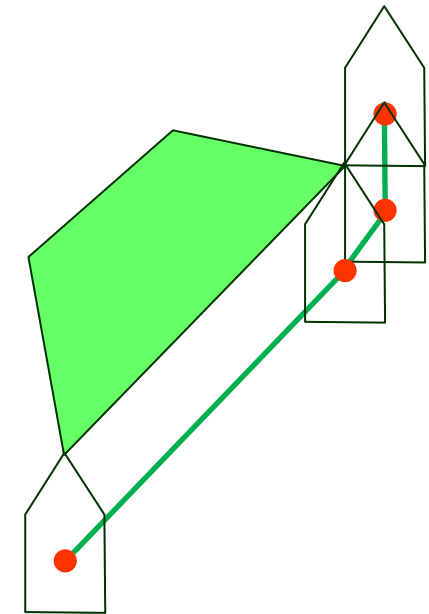
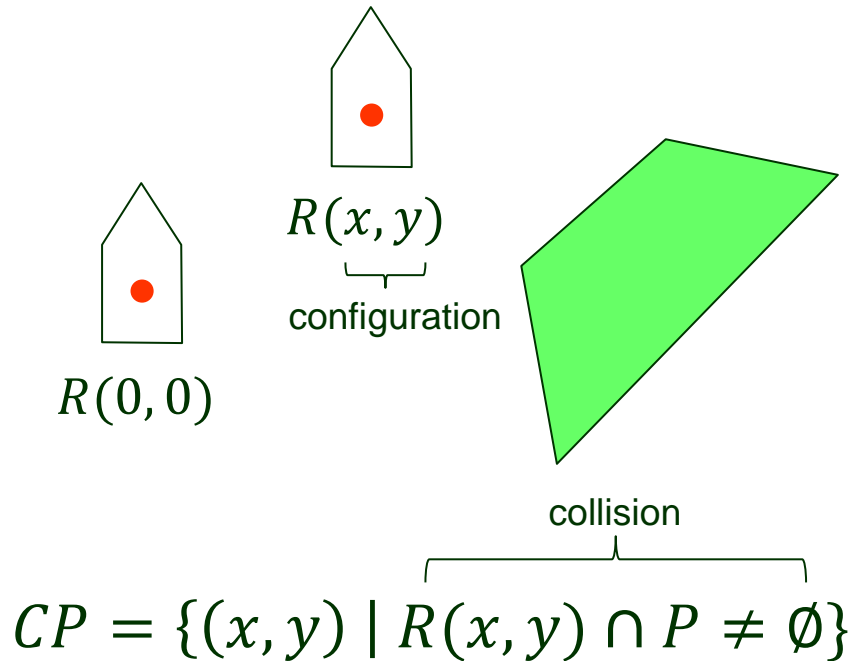


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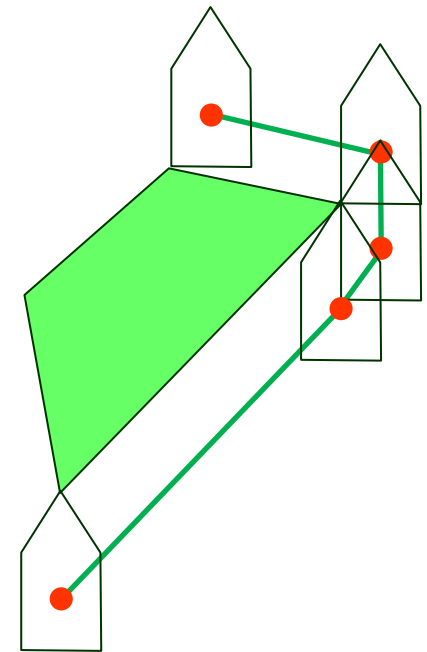
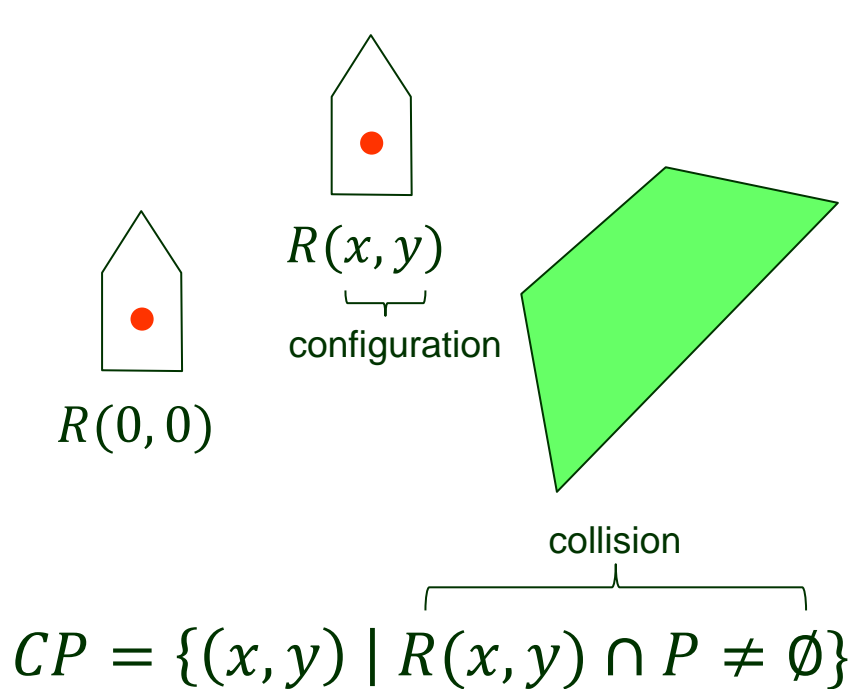


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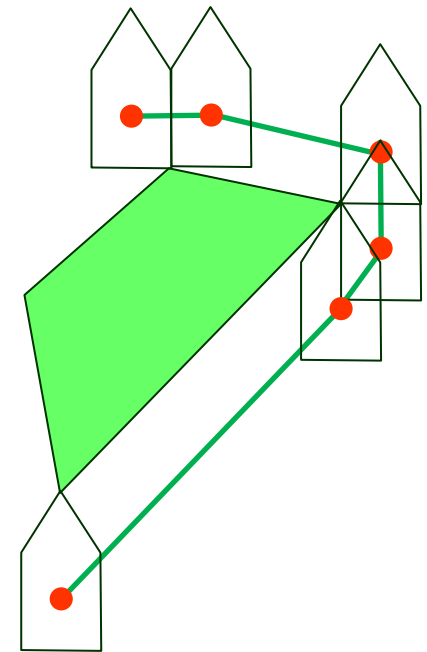
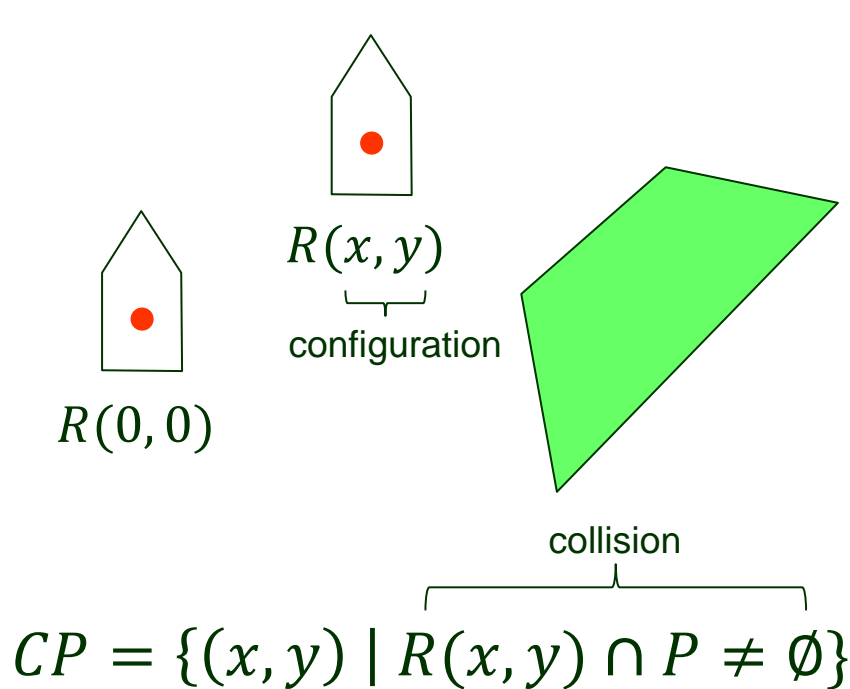


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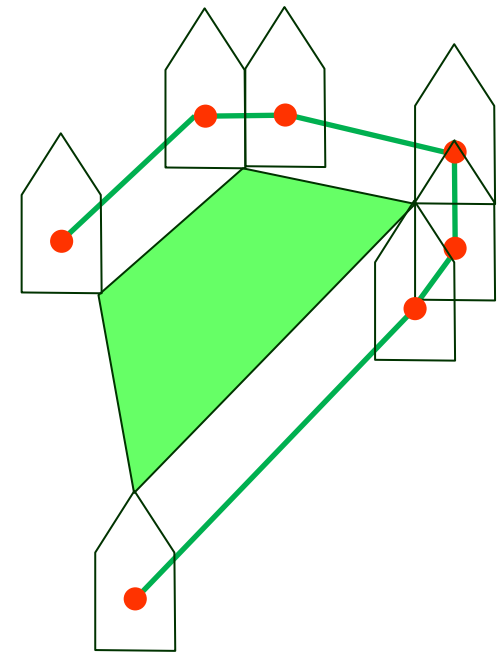
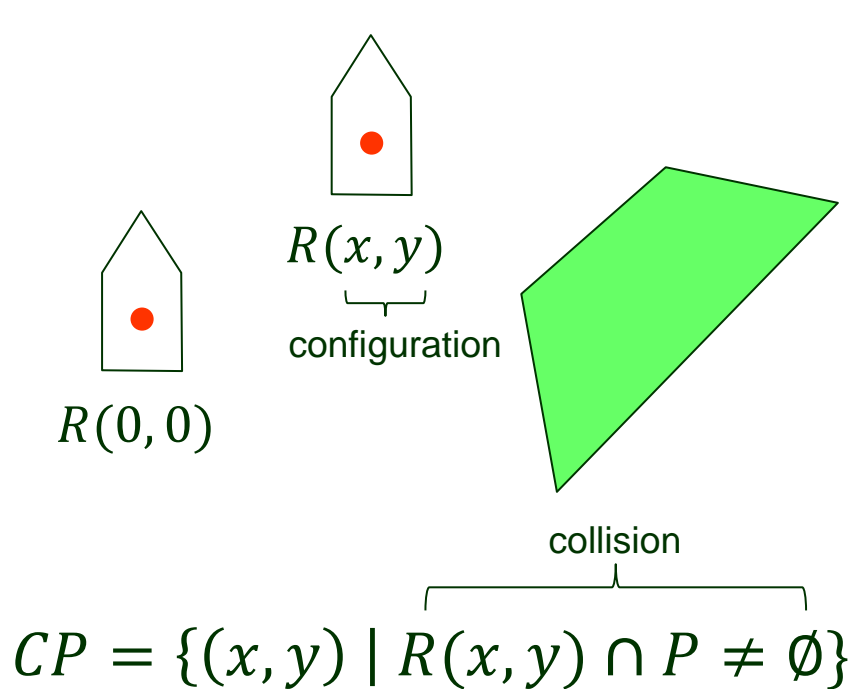


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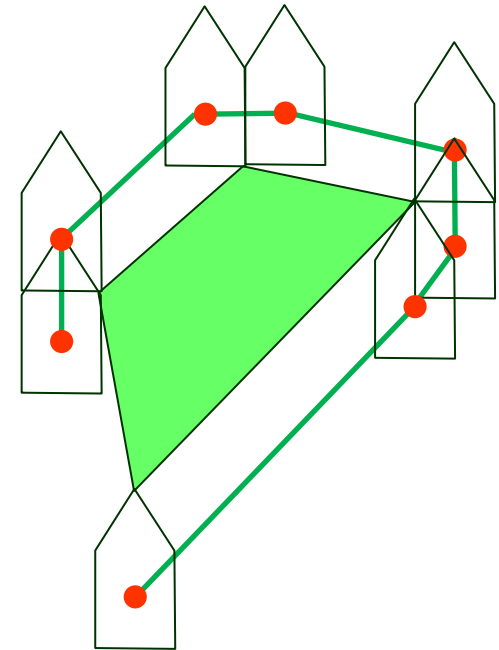
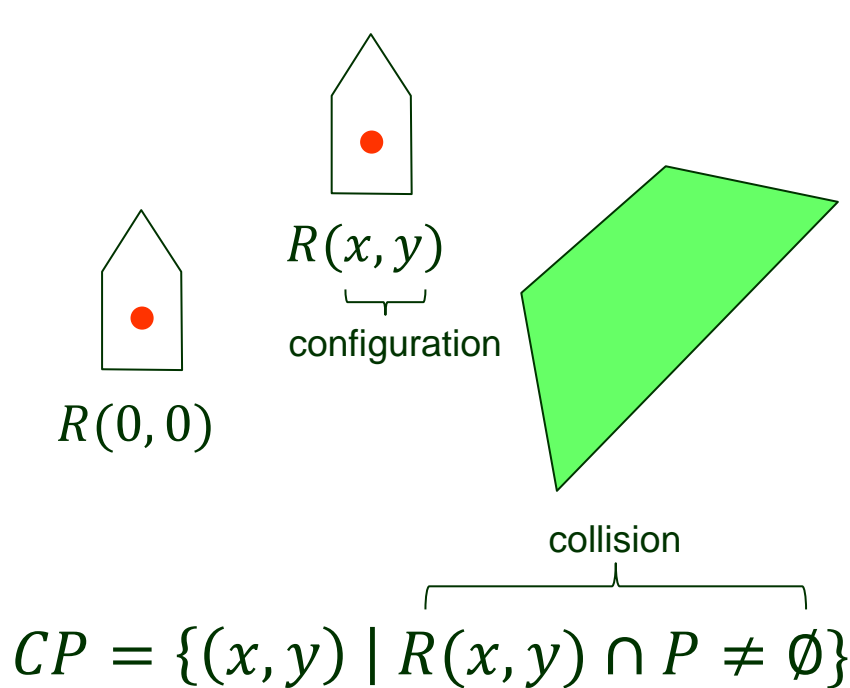


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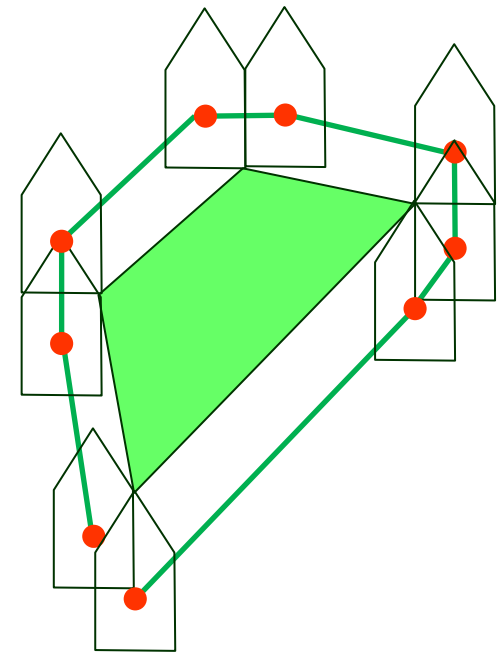
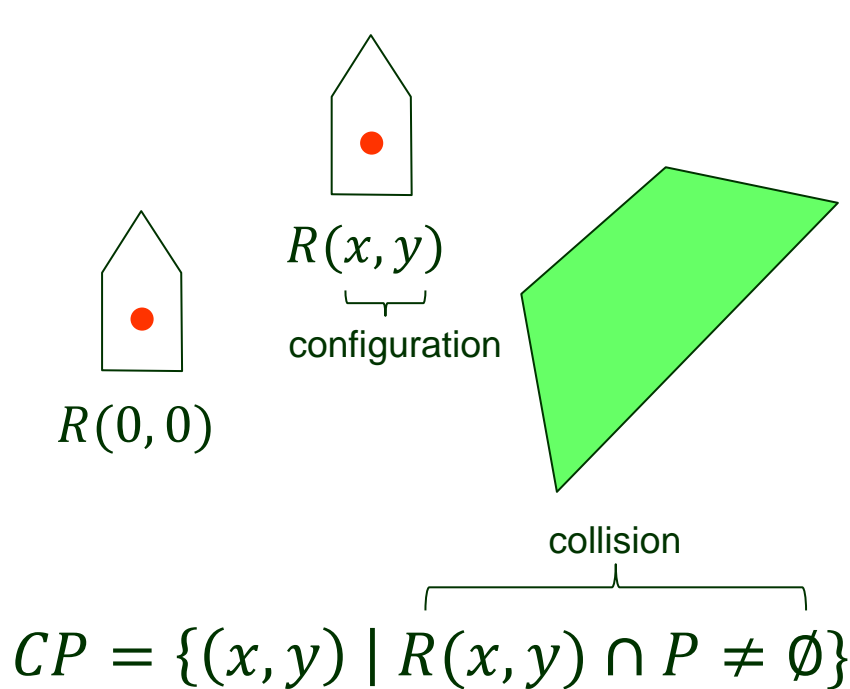


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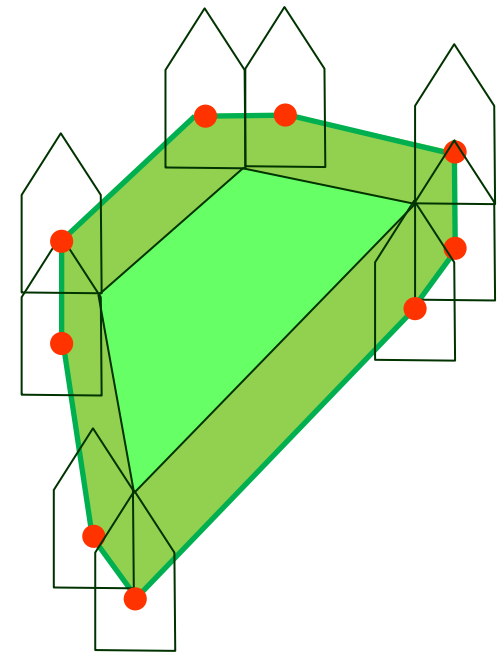
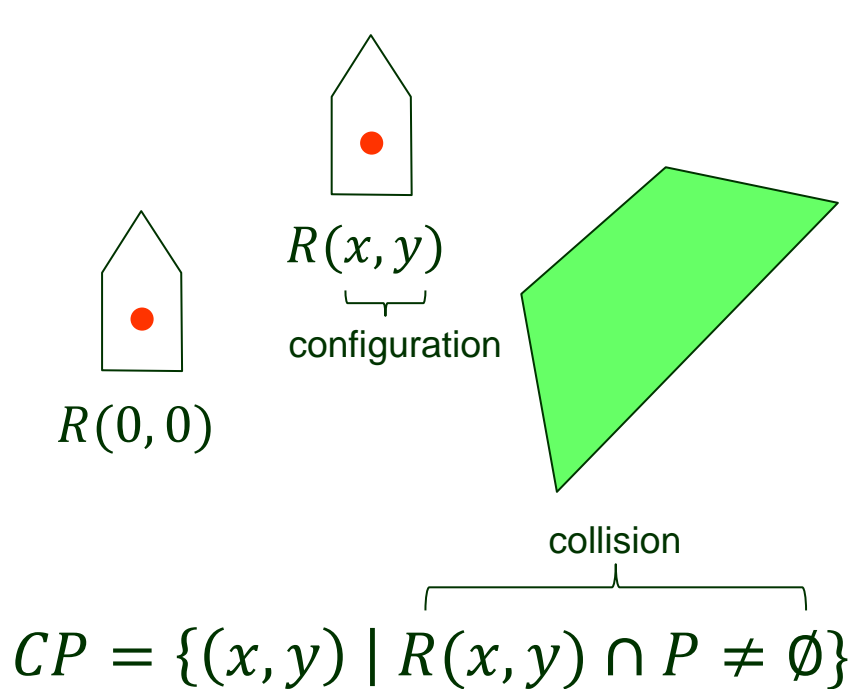


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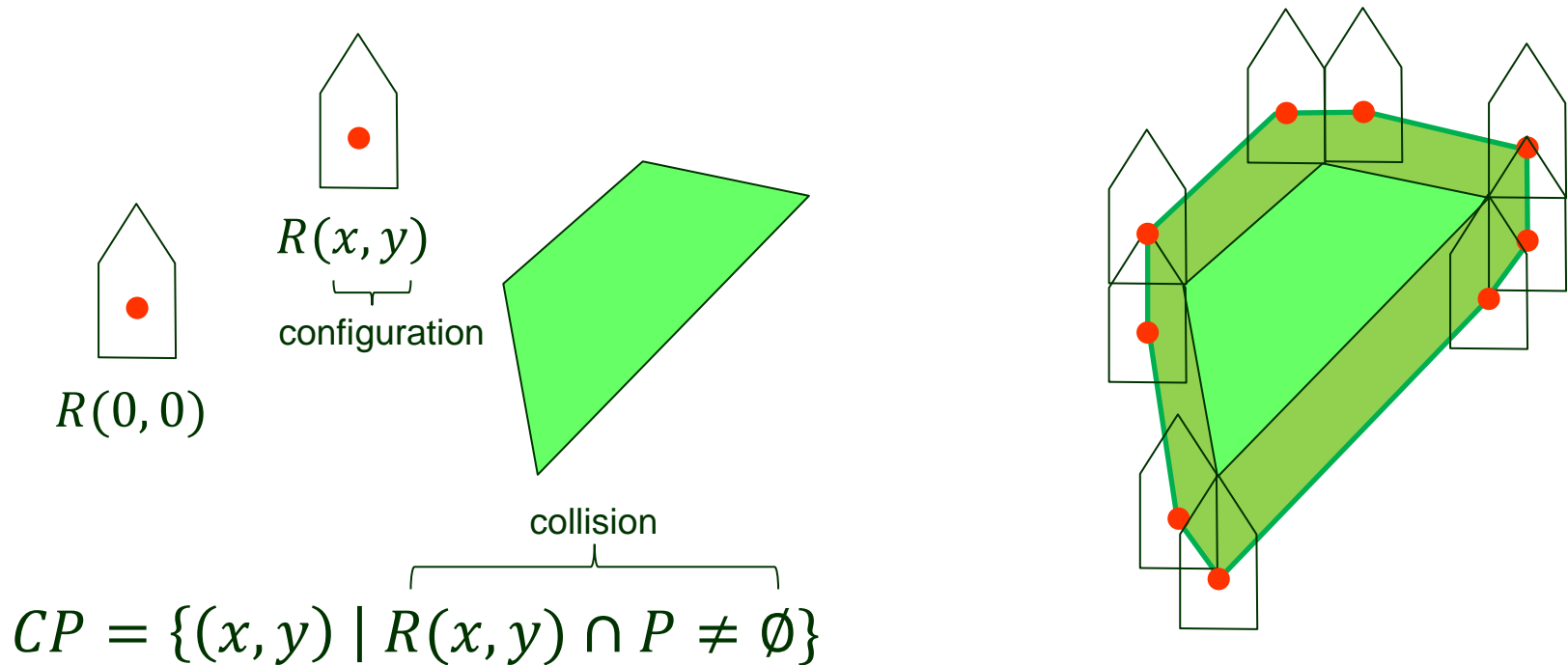


# C-obstacle for a Translational Robot

Robot  $R$

Obstacle  $P$

C-obstacle  $CP$



The boundary of  $CP$  is traced out by the reference point of  $R$  as it slides along the boundary of  $P$ .

# I. Minkowski Sum

---

Hermann Minkowski (1864-1909) – Albert Einstein was his former student.



Two sets  $S_1, S_2 \in \mathbb{R}^2$

$$S_1 \oplus S_2 = \{p + q \mid p \in S_1, q \in S_2\}$$



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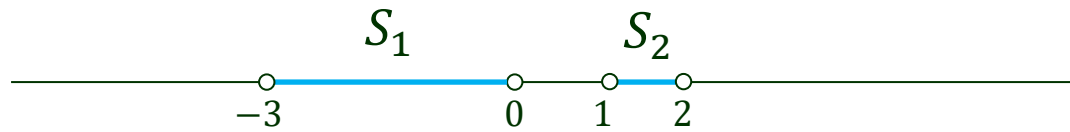
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# Minkowski Sum of 1D Sets

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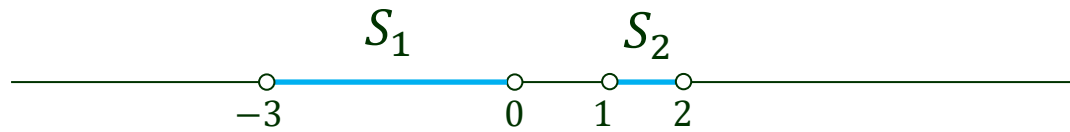
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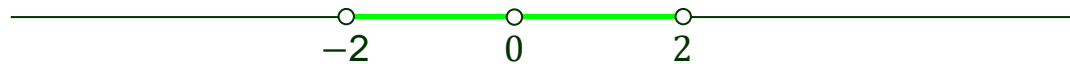
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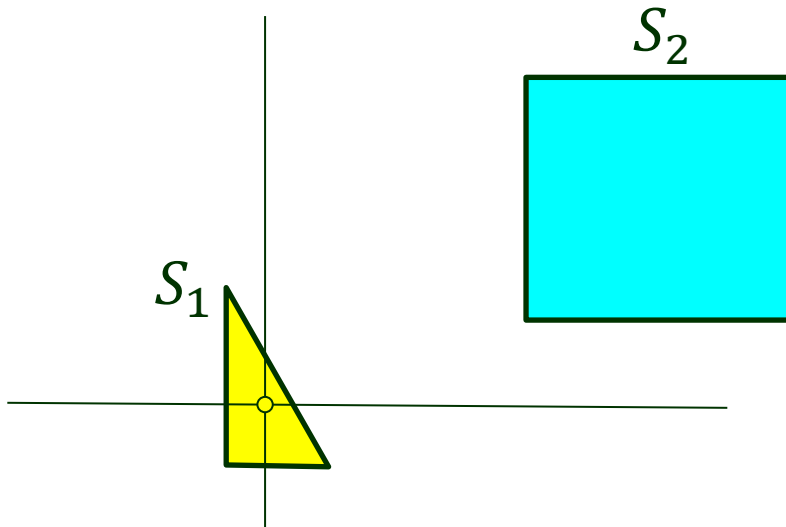
$$S_1 \oplus S_2$$



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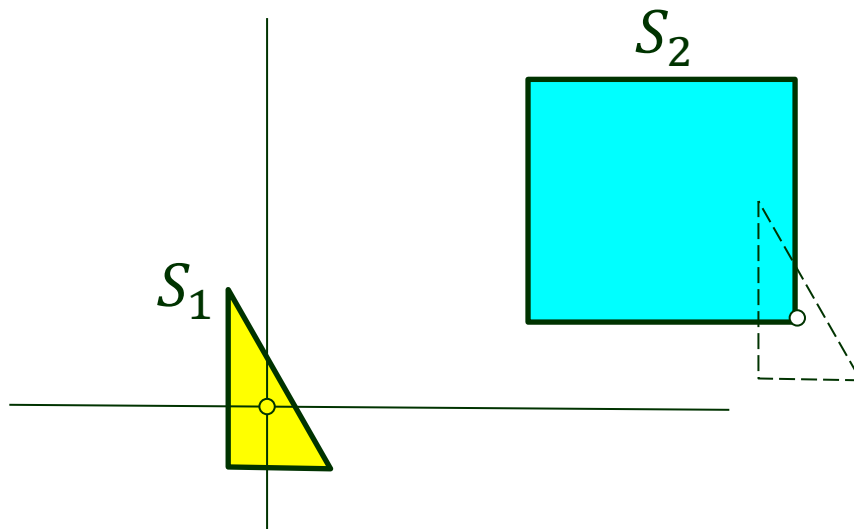
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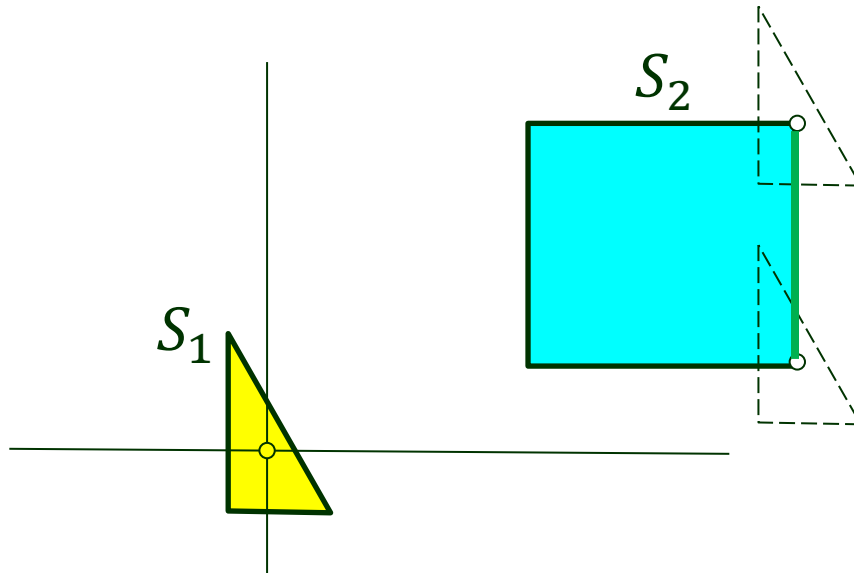
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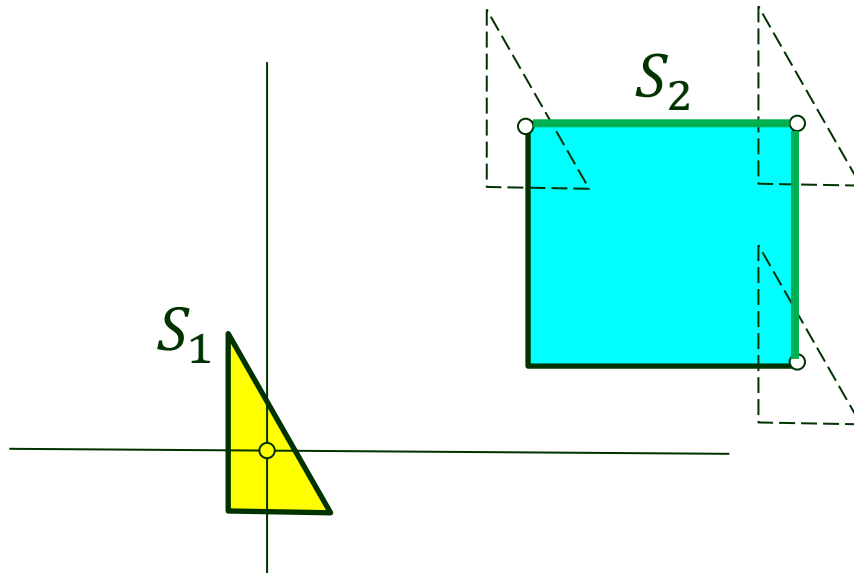




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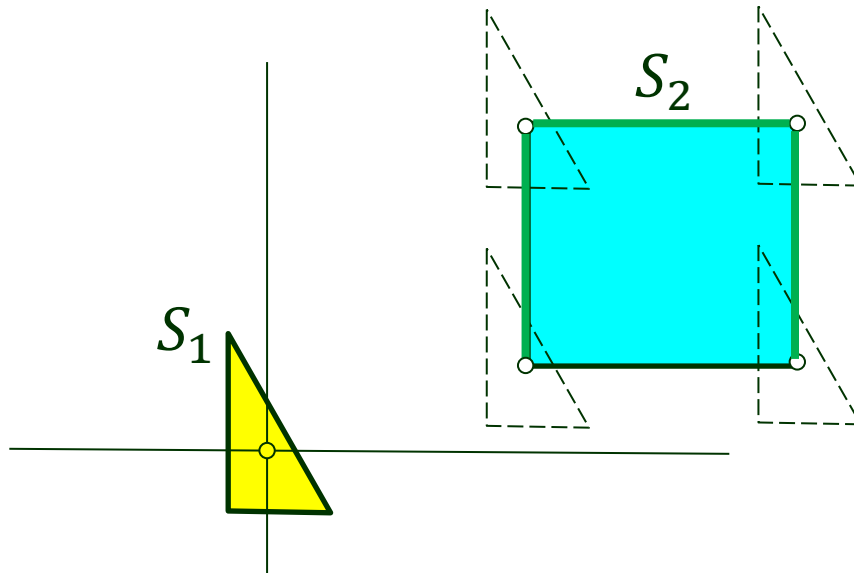
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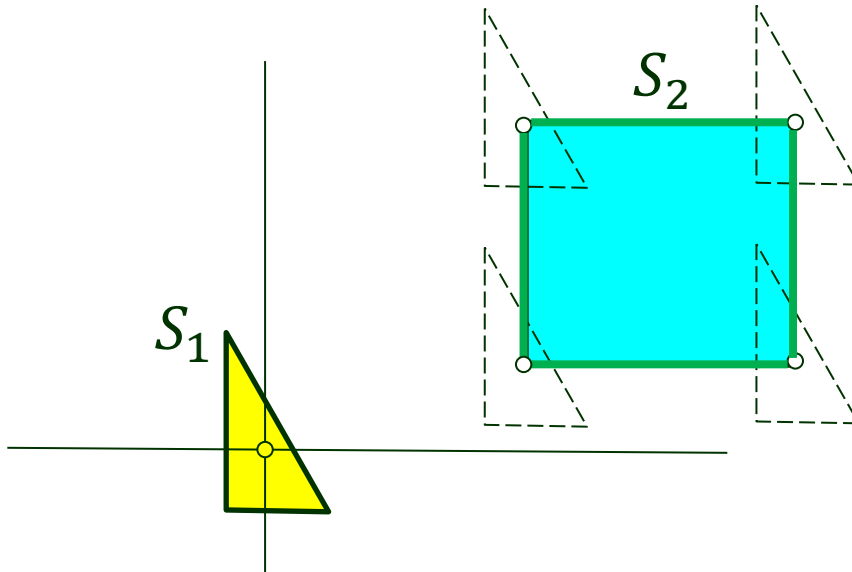
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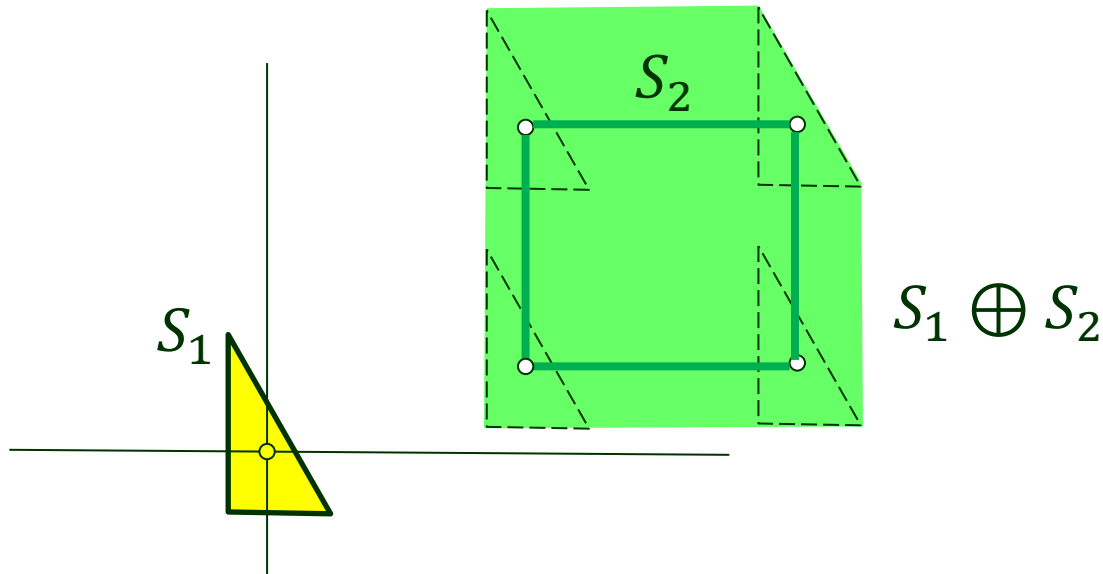
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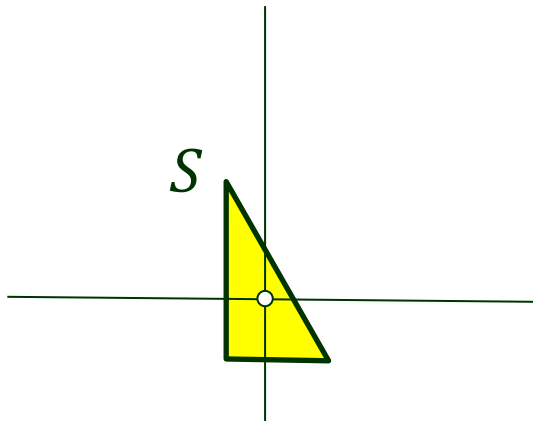
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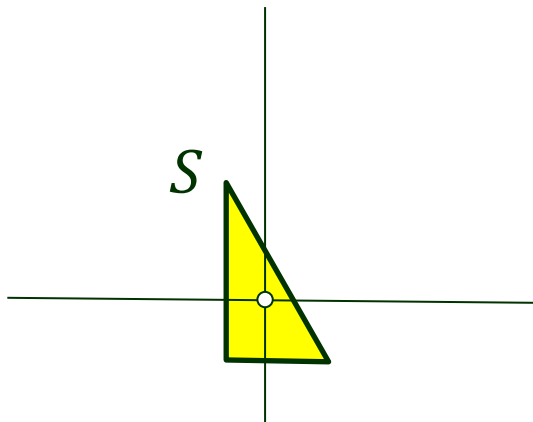
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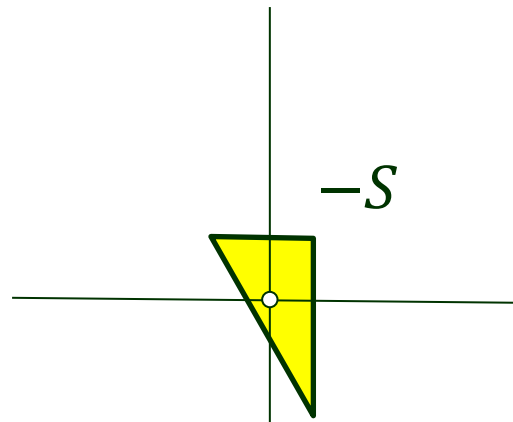
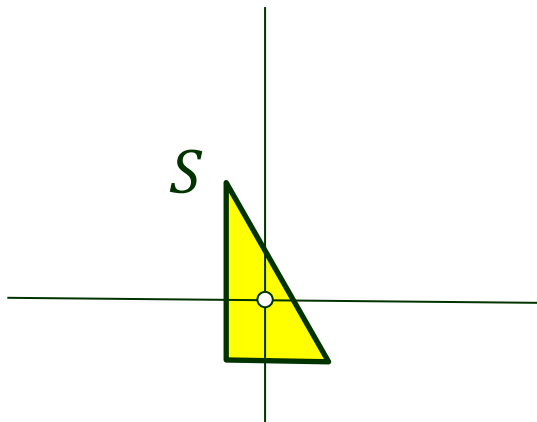
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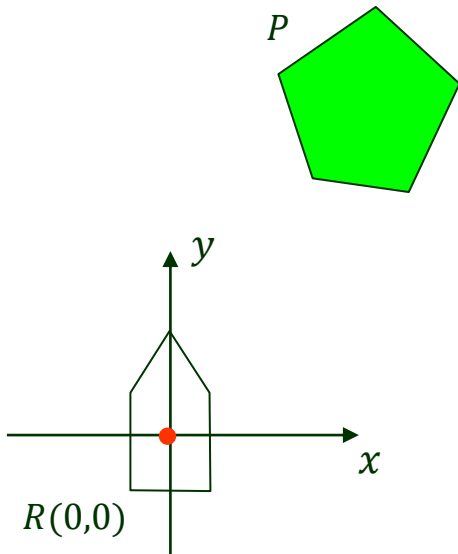
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## II. Formula for C-obstacle

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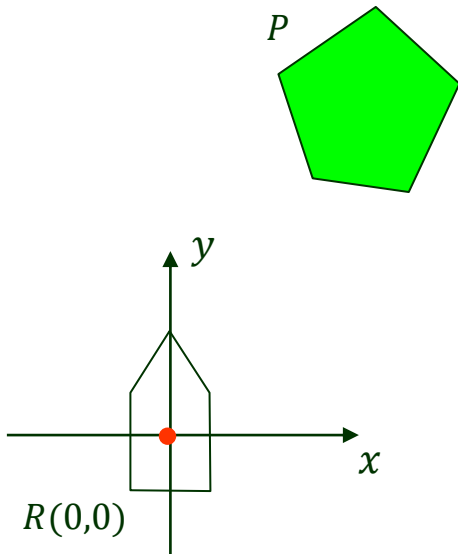
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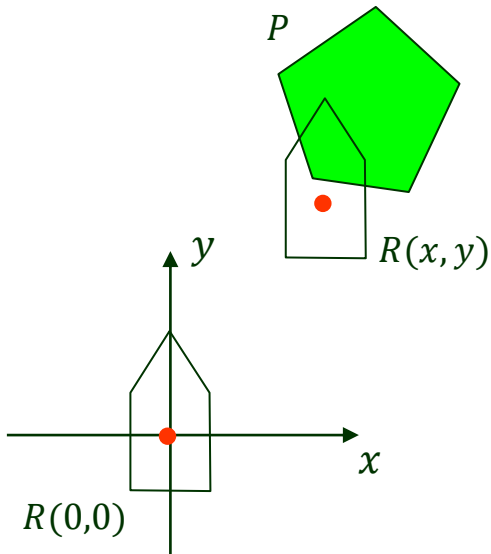


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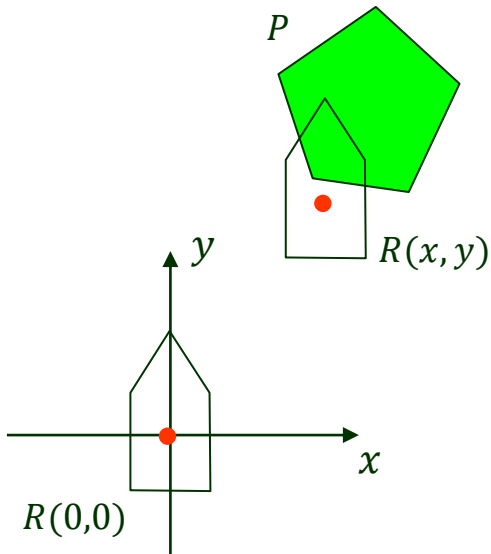
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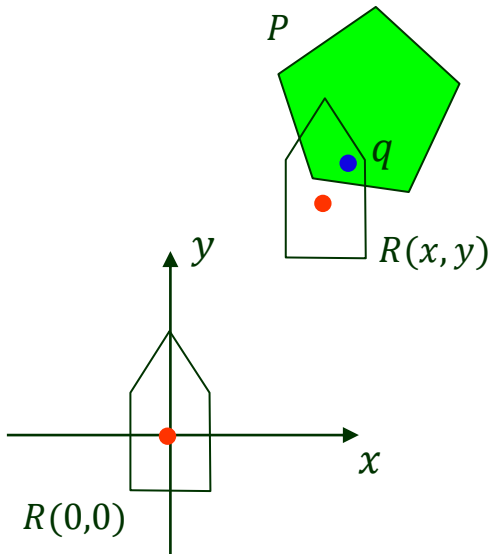
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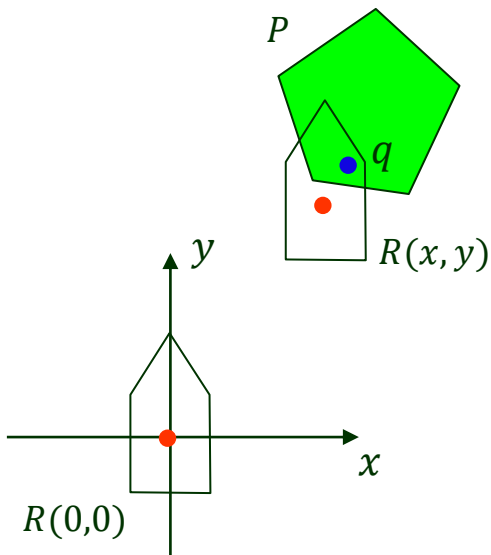
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$$q \in R(x, y)$$



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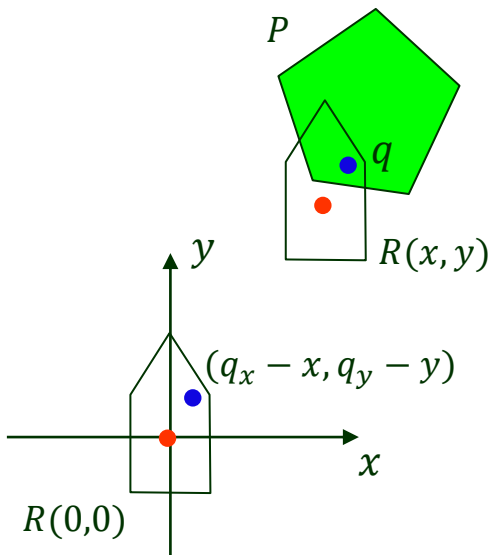
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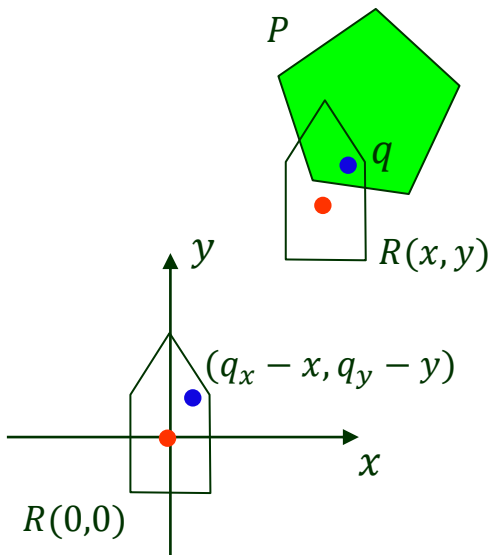
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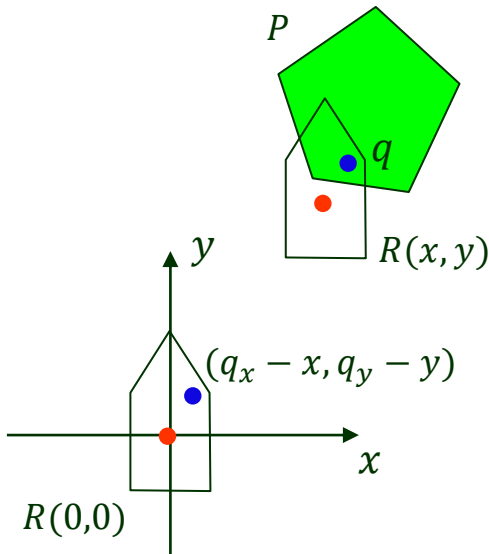
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$$q \in P \quad \Downarrow$$

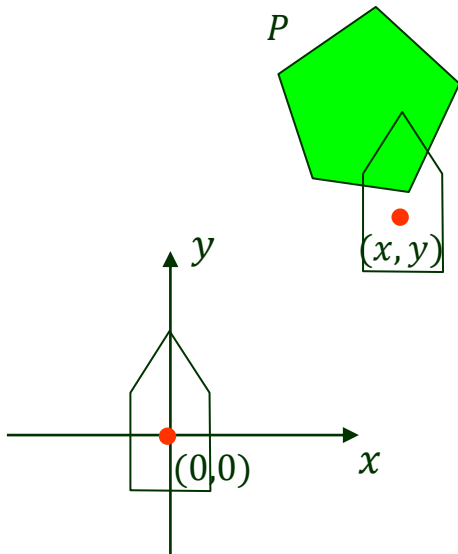
$$q + (-q_x + x, -q_y + y) = (x, y) \in P \oplus (-R(0,0))$$



# Proof (cont'd)

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( $\Leftarrow$ ) Let  $(x, y) \in P \oplus (-R(0,0))$ .



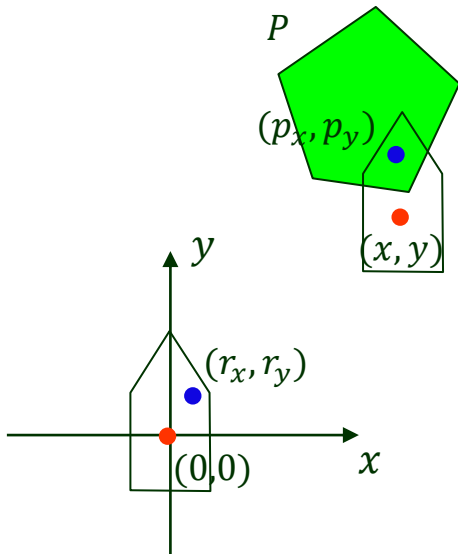
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There exists  $(r_x, r_y) \in R(0,0)$  and  $(p_x, p_y) \in P$  such that

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# Proof (cont'd)

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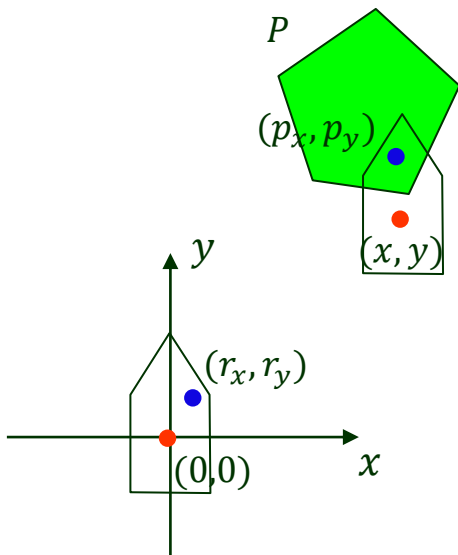
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$$p_x = r_x + x \text{ and } p_y = r_y + y$$



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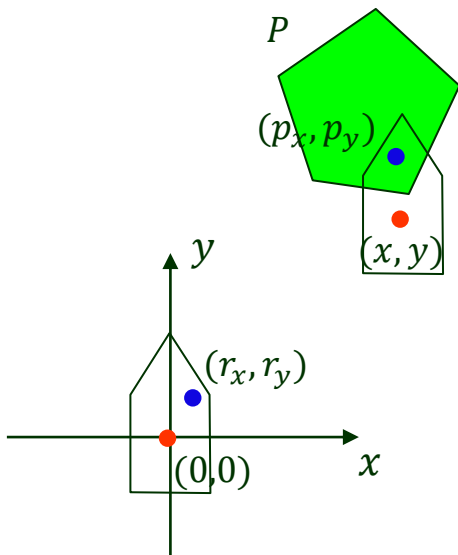


$$p_x = r_x + x \text{ and } p_y = r_y + y$$



$$(r_x, r_y) \in R(0,0)$$

$$(p_x, p_y) \in P(x, y)$$



# Proof (cont'd)

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Let  $(x, y) \in P \oplus (-R(0,0))$ .

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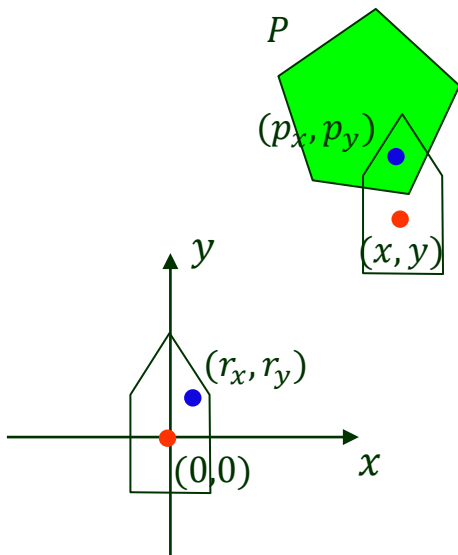
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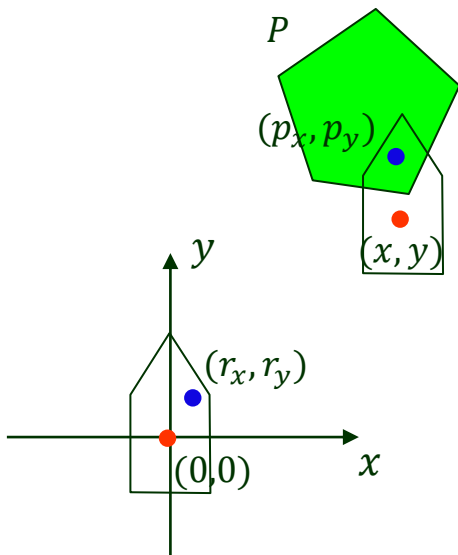


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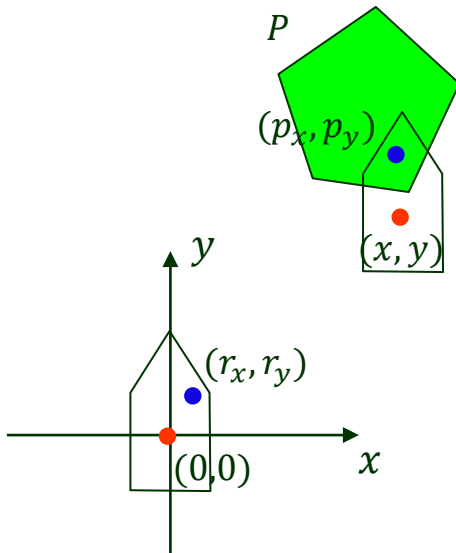


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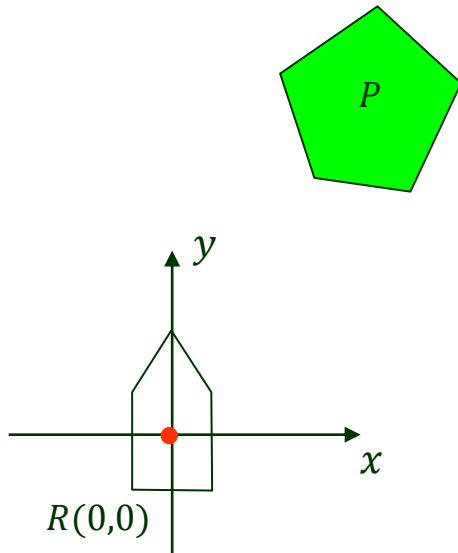


# Verification via an Example

---

Two equivalent ways of C-obstacle construction:

Straightforward

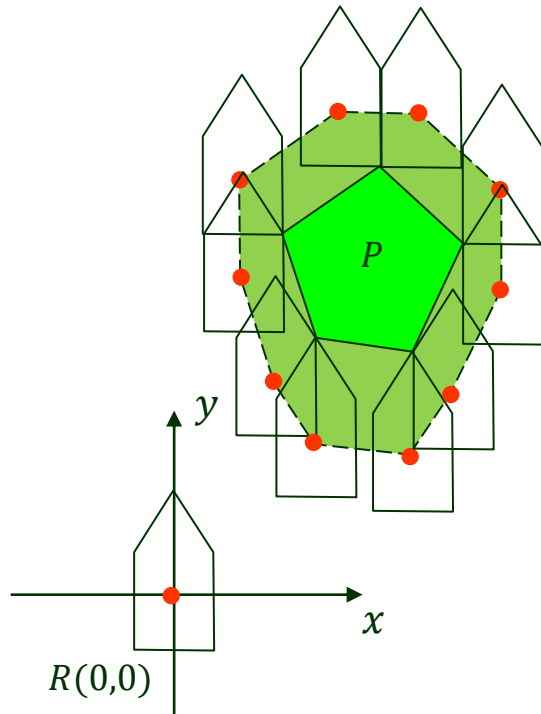


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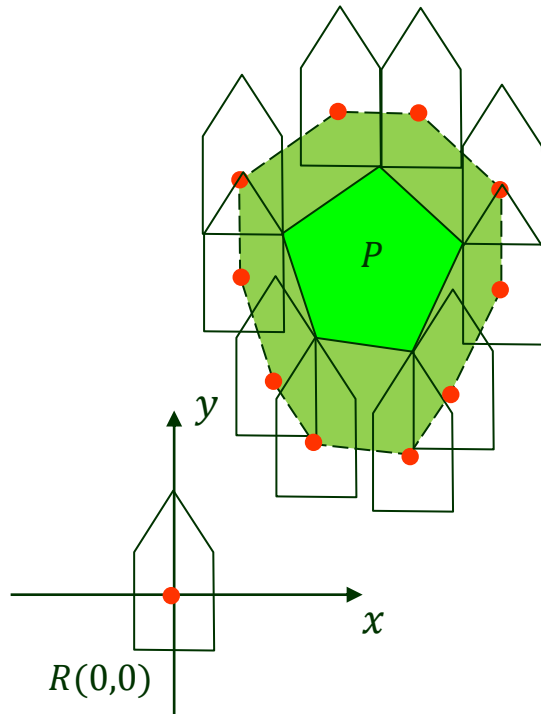
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Two equivalent ways of C-obstacle construction:

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via Minkowski sum

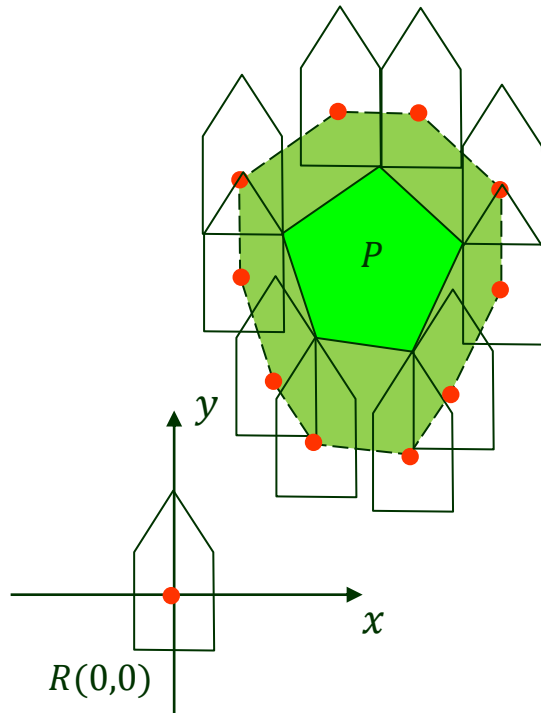
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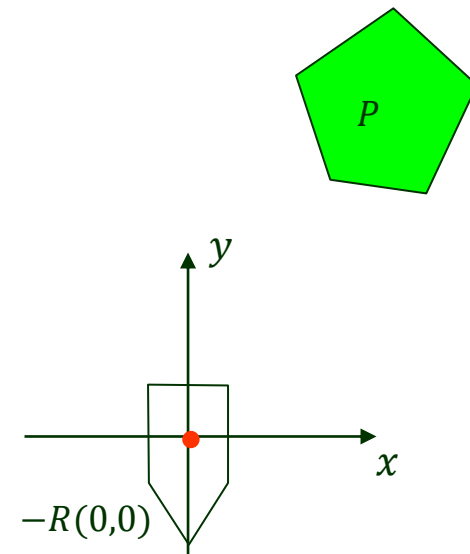
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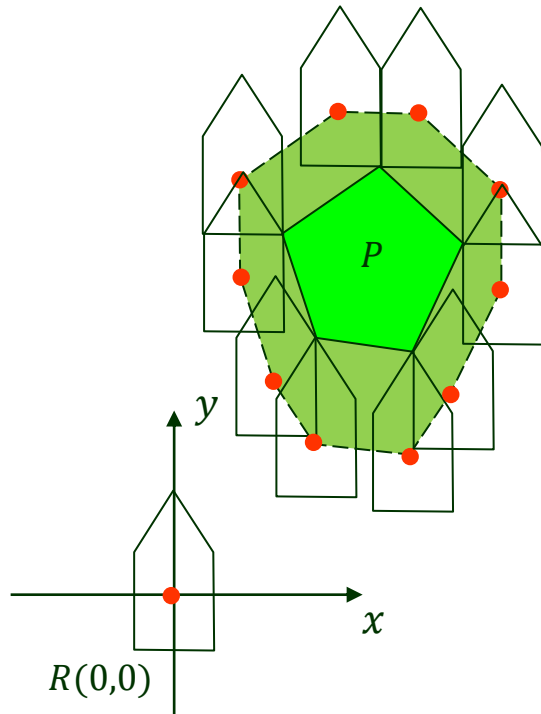
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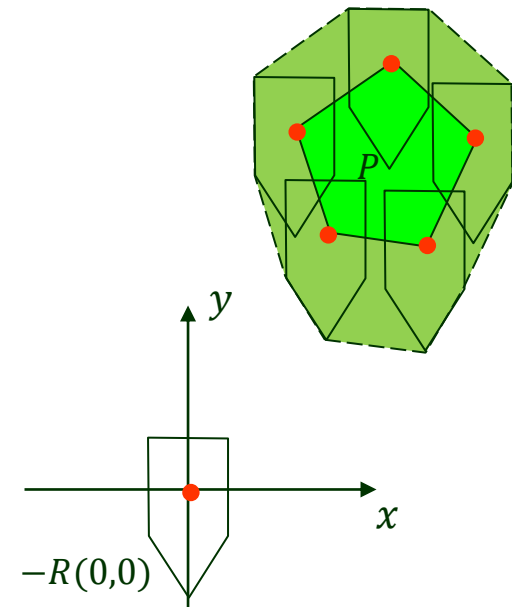
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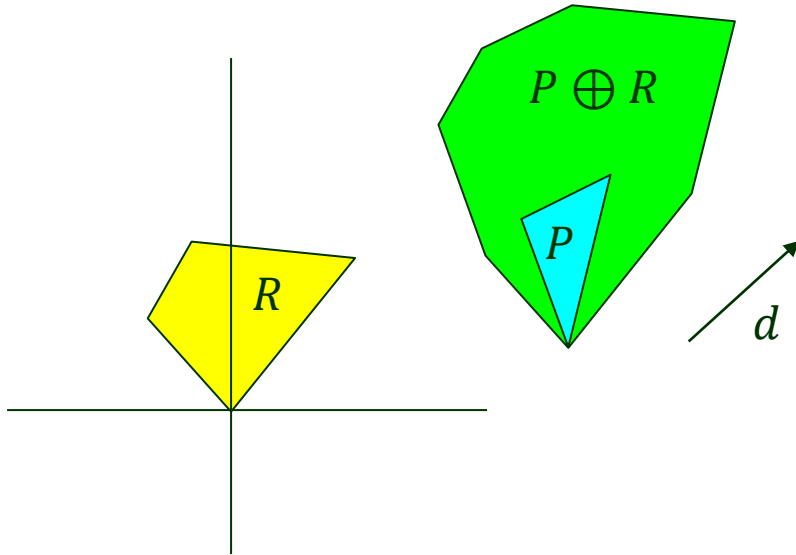
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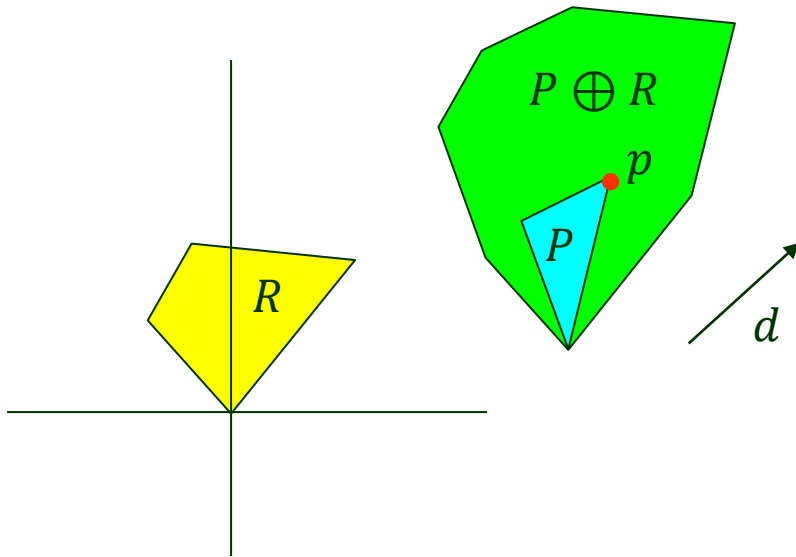
# III. Extreme Points

Two polygons  $P$  and  $R$ .



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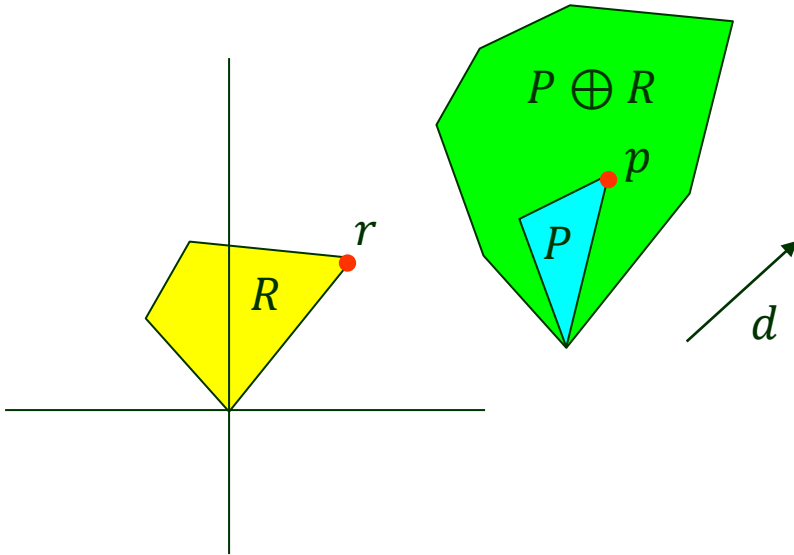


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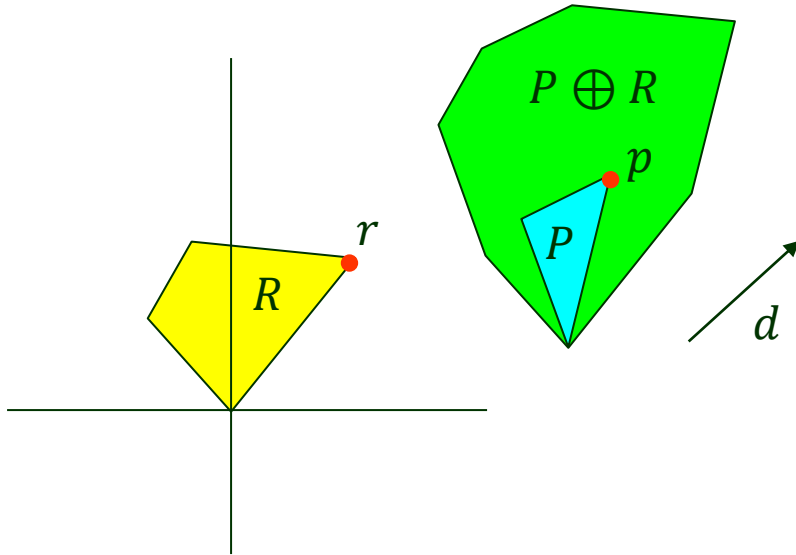


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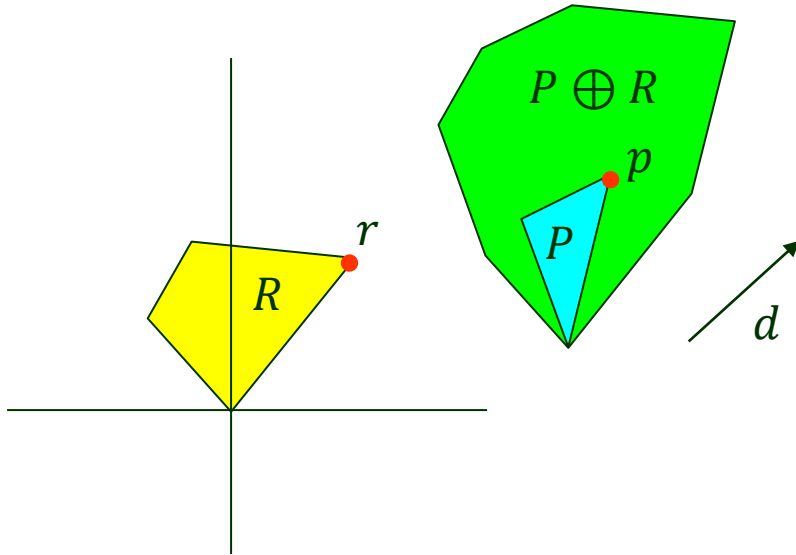
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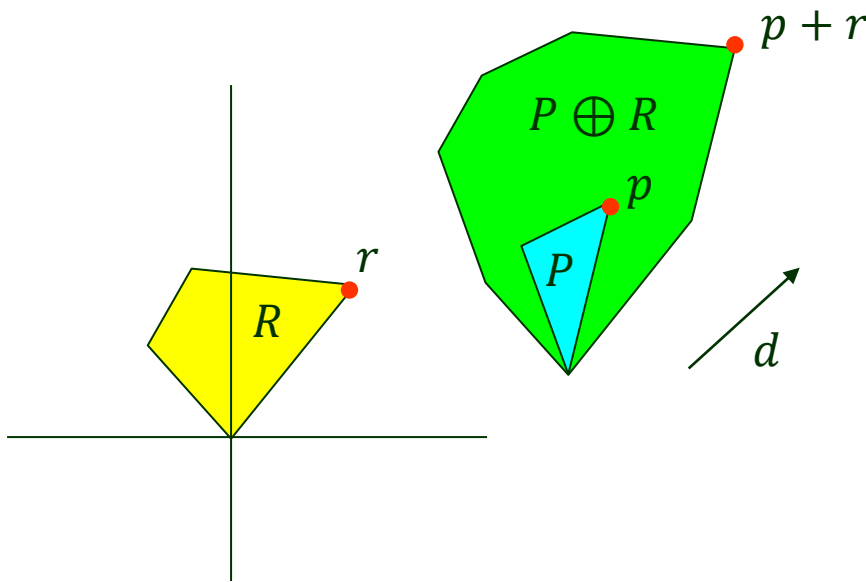
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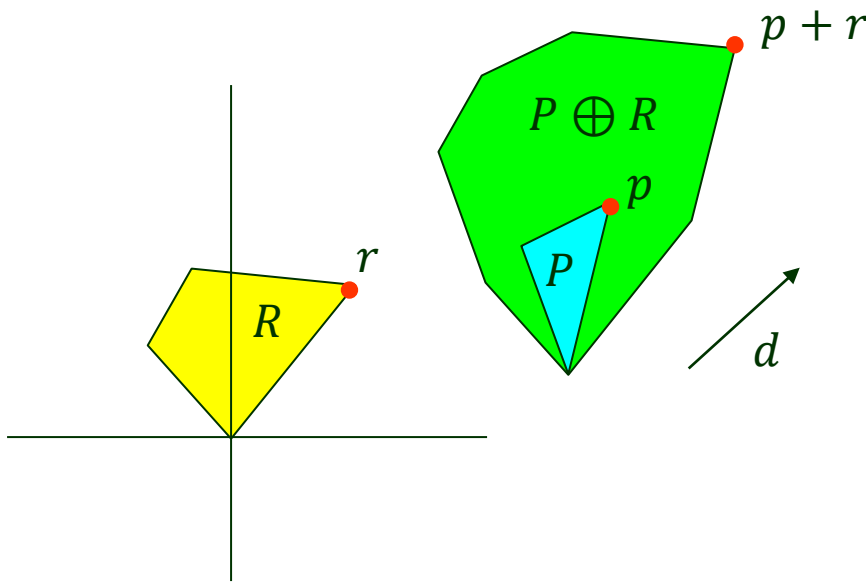
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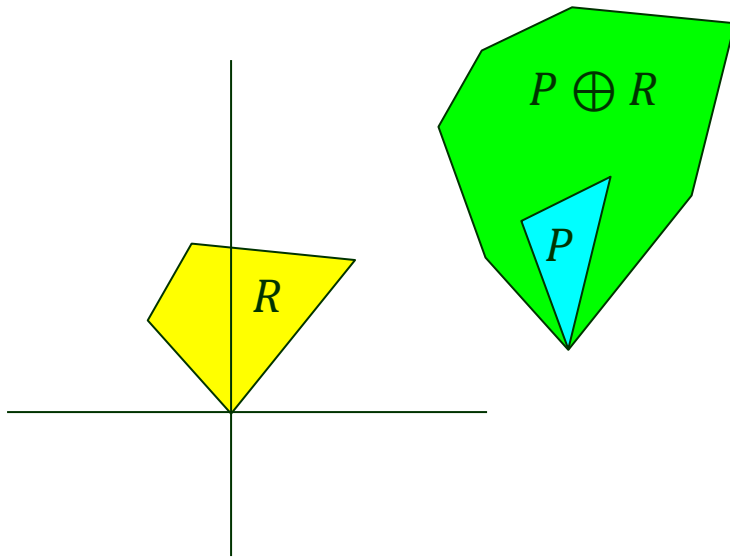
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An extreme point in the direction  $d$  on  $P \oplus R$  is the sum of two extreme points in  $d$  on  $P$  and  $R$ , respectively.

# Minkowski Sum of Convex Polygons

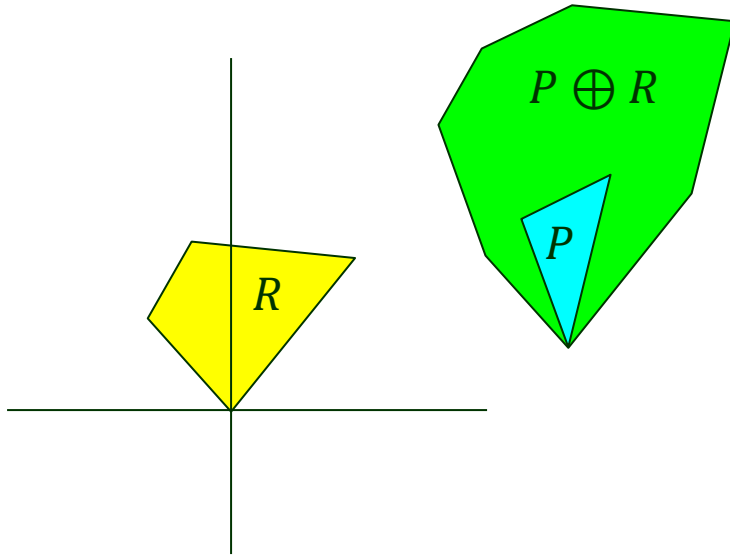
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**Theorem 2** Let  $P$  and  $R$  be two convex polygons with  $n$  and  $m$  edges, respectively. Then  $P \oplus R$  is a convex polygon with  $\leq n + m$  edges.

# Complexity of Minkowski Sum

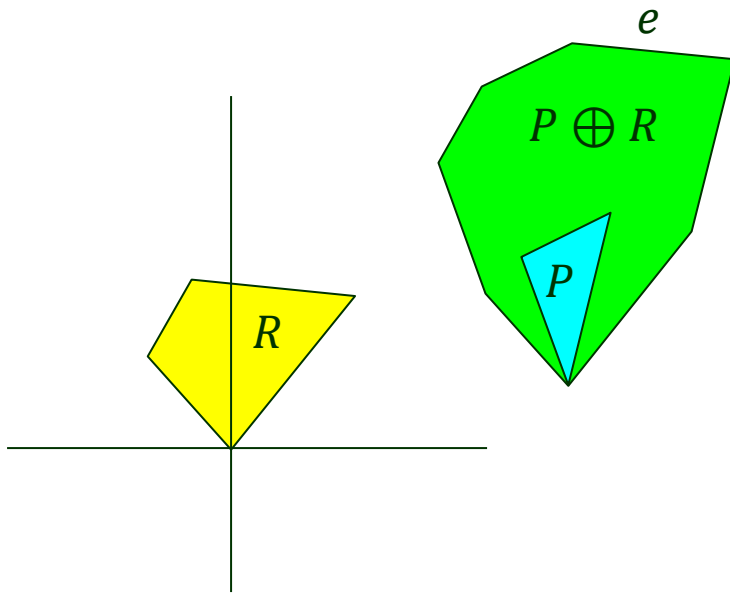
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**Proof** Convexity of the Minkowski sum of two convex sets follows from the definition.

# Complexity of Minkowski Sum

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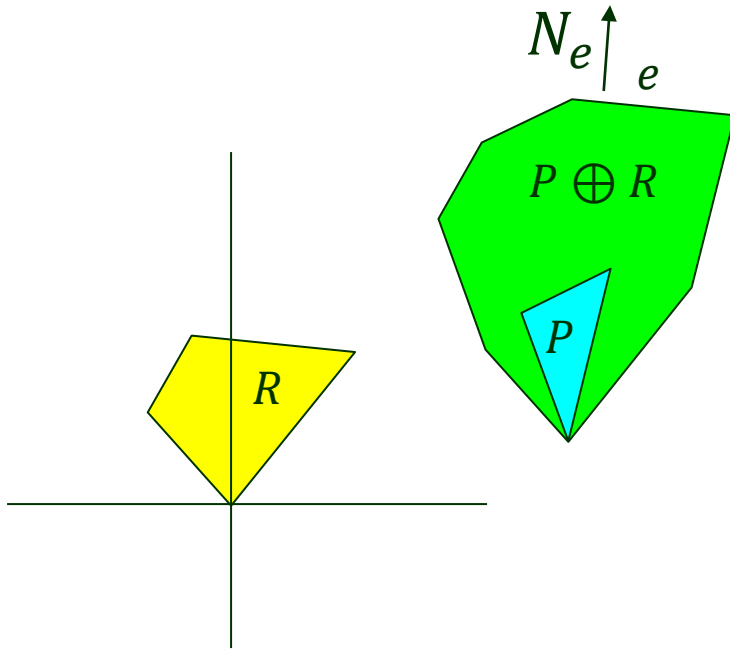
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To bound the complexity, consider an edge  $e$  of  $P \oplus R$ .



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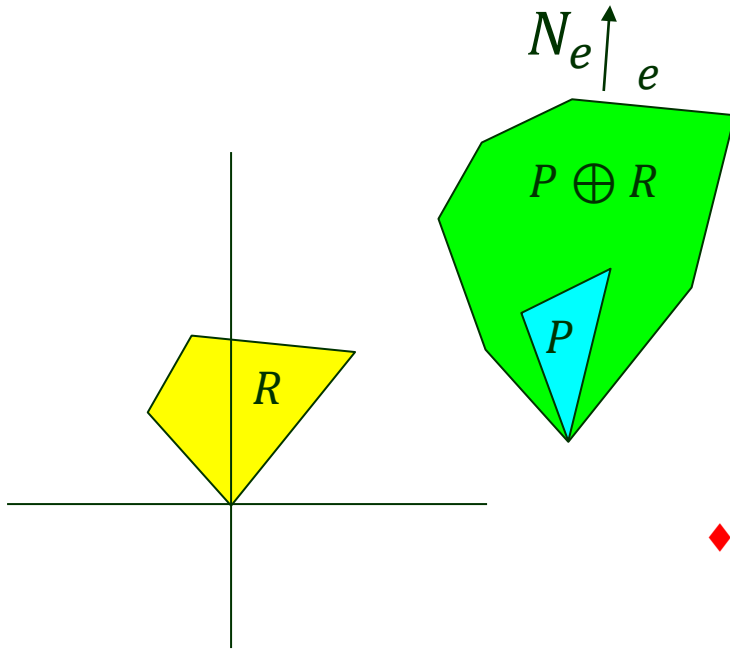
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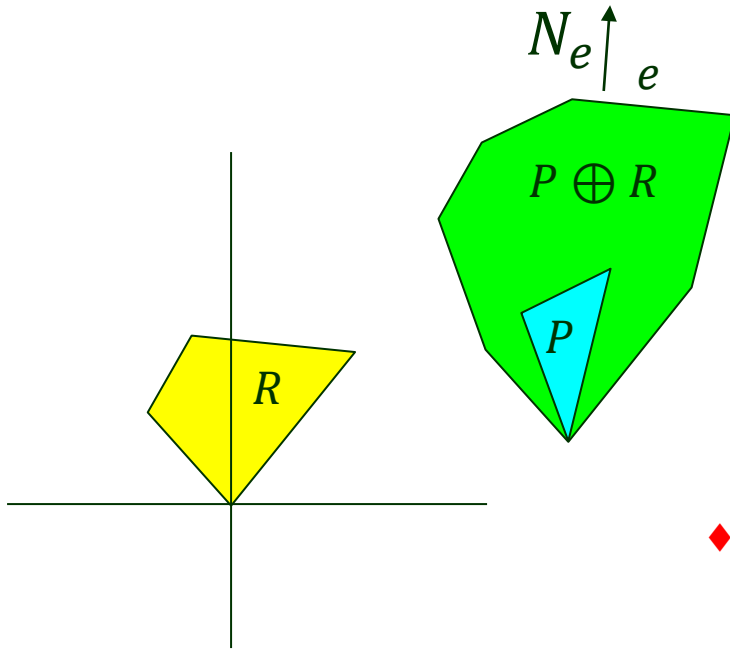
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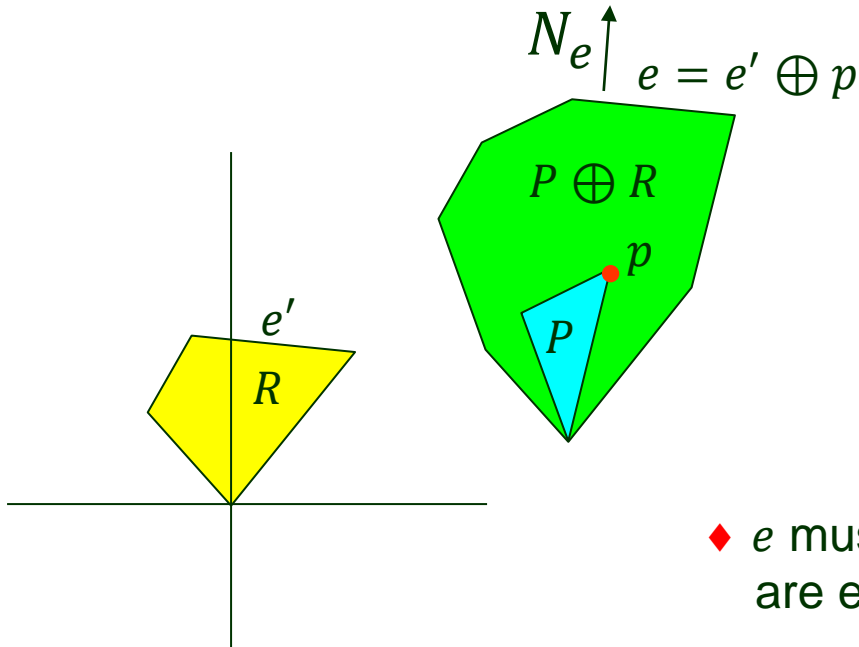
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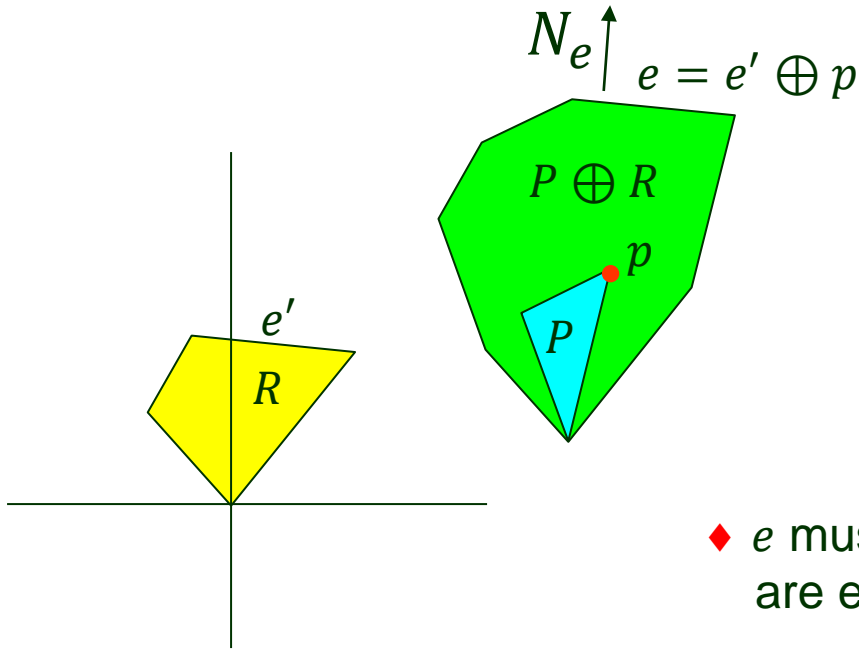
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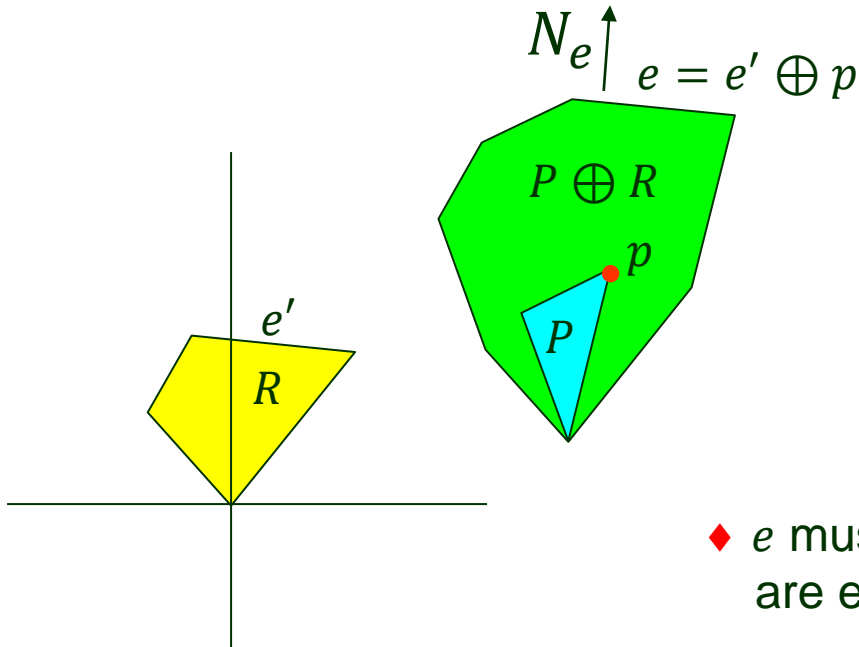
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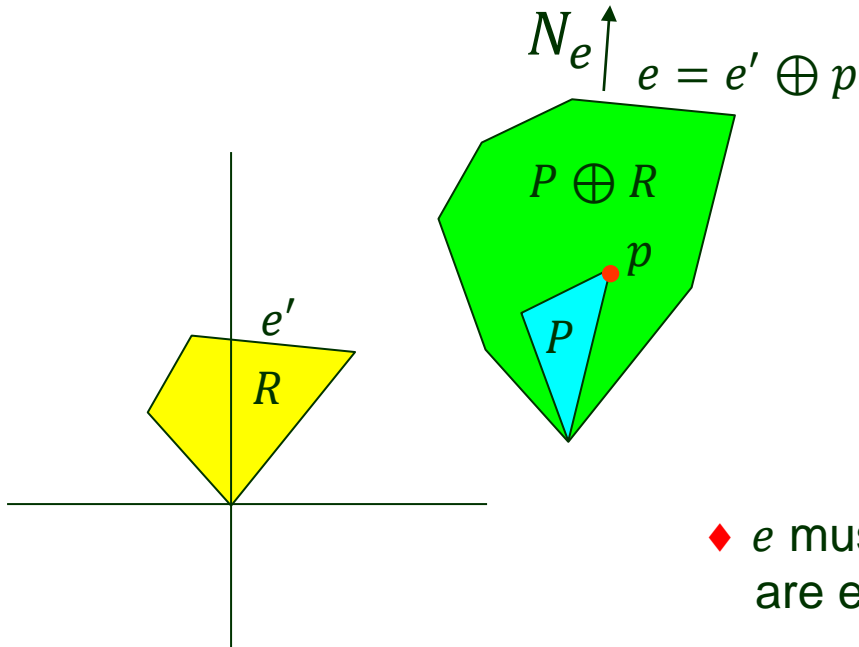
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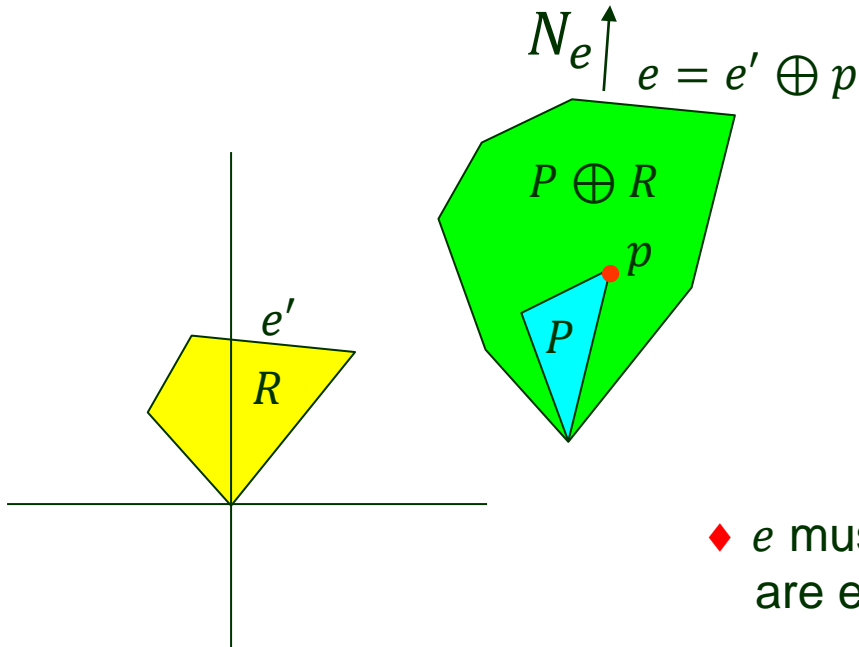
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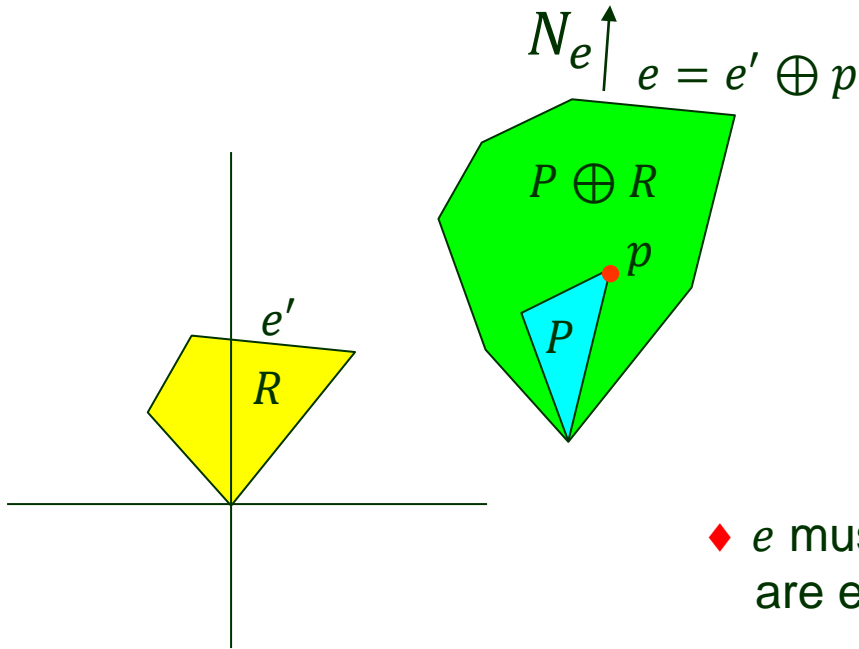
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The upper bound  $n + m$  is achieved if  $P$  and  $R$  have no parallel edges.

## IV. Computation of the Minkowski Sum

---

Compute  $P \oplus R$  when  $P$  and  $R$  are convex.

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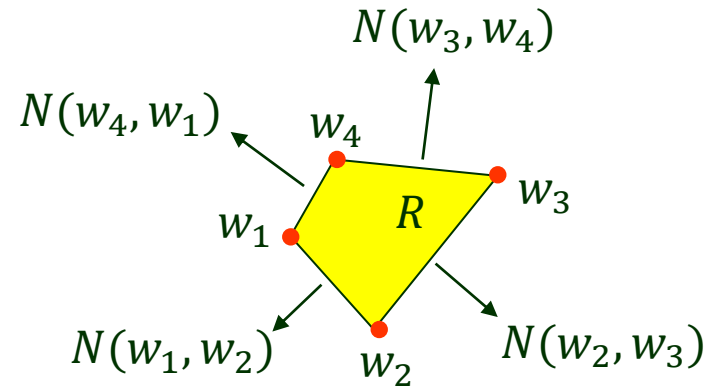
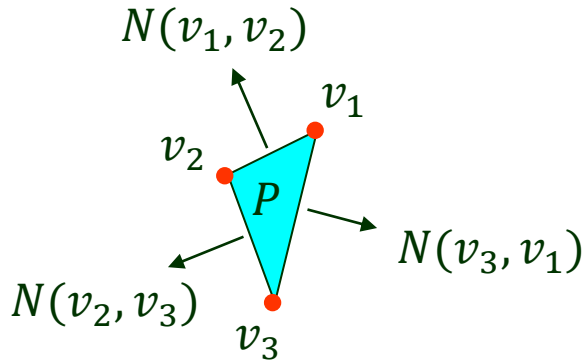
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$$O(nm(\log n + \log m))$$

# Faster Computation

---

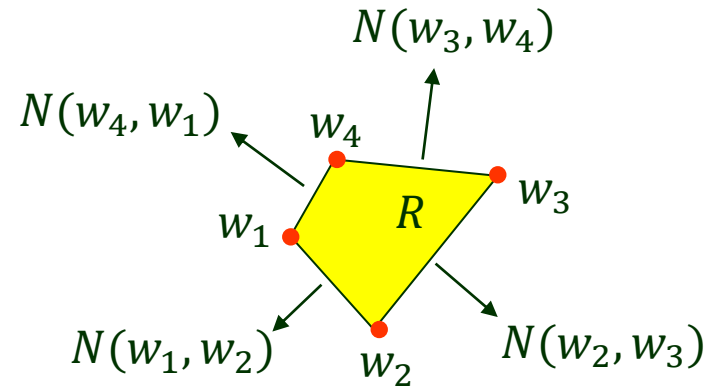
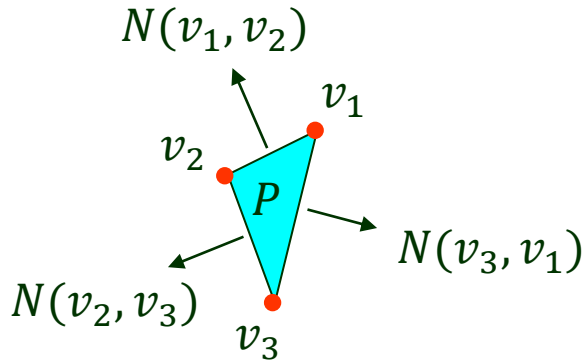
**Idea:** Look at a pair of vertices that are extreme in the same direction.



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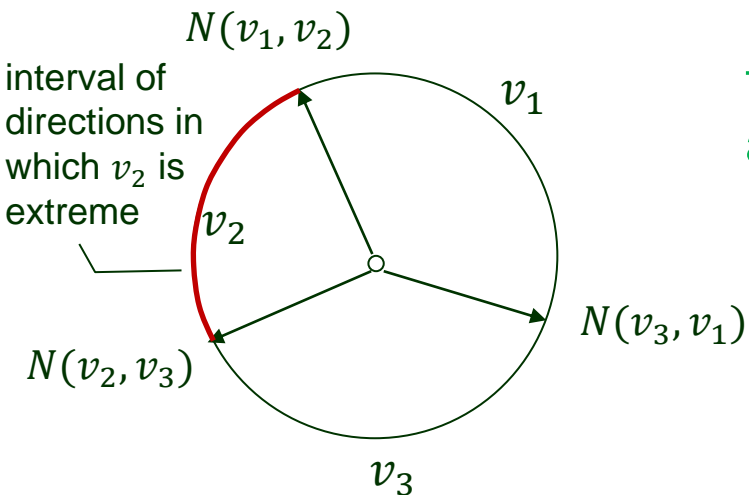
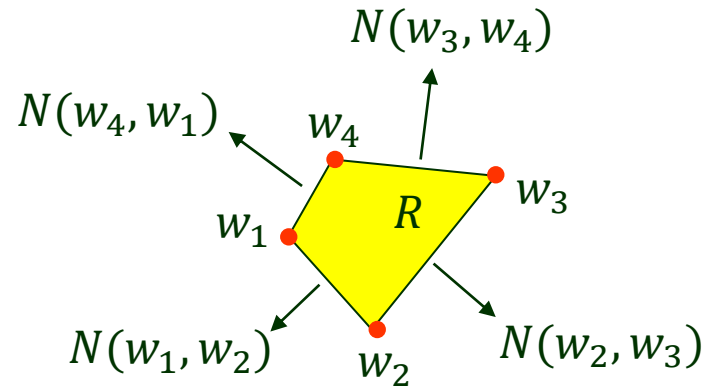
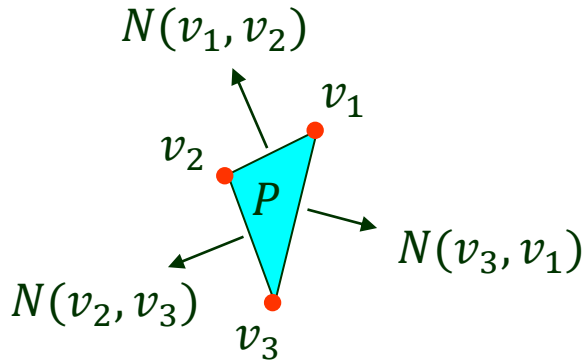


Represent all  
the directions by  
a unit circle.



# Faster Computation

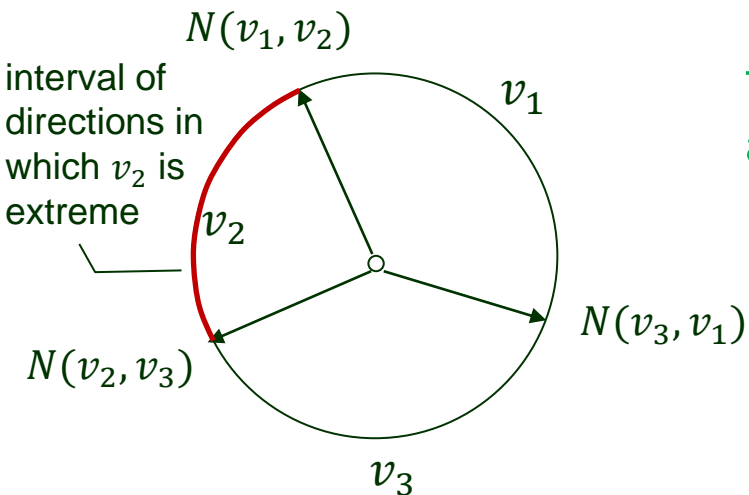
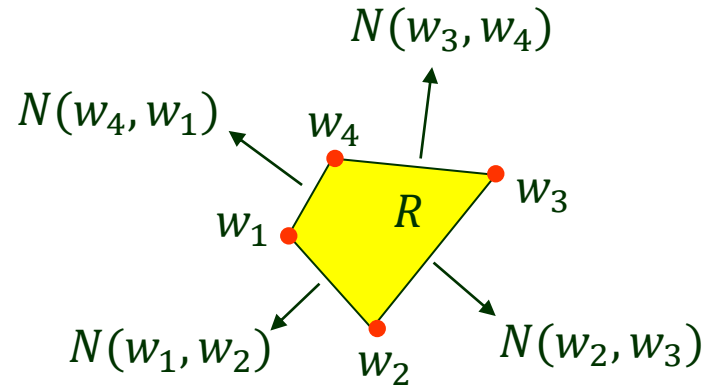
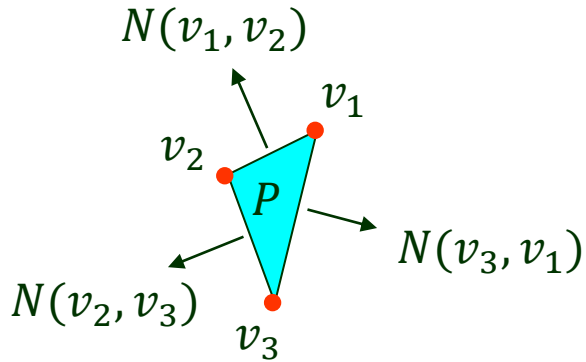
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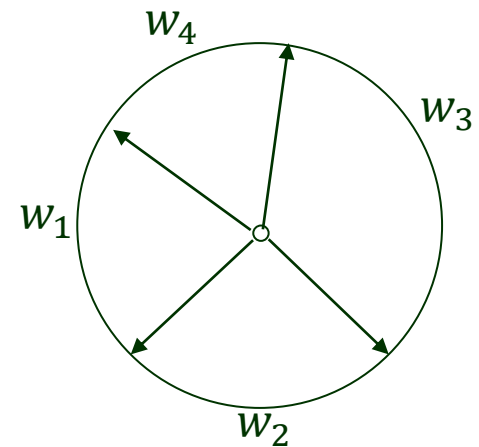
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**Idea:** Look at a pair of vertices that are extreme in the same direction.



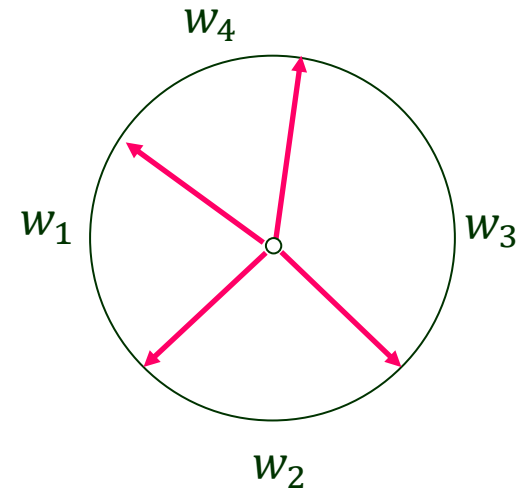
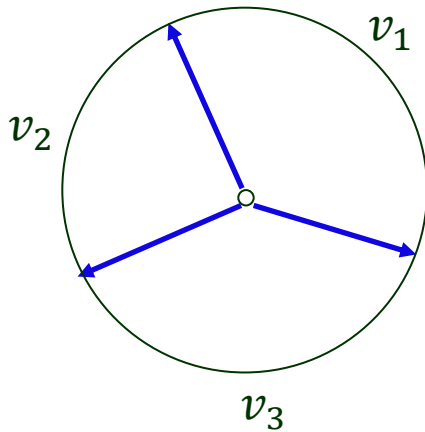
Represent all the directions by a unit circle.



# Extreme Pairs

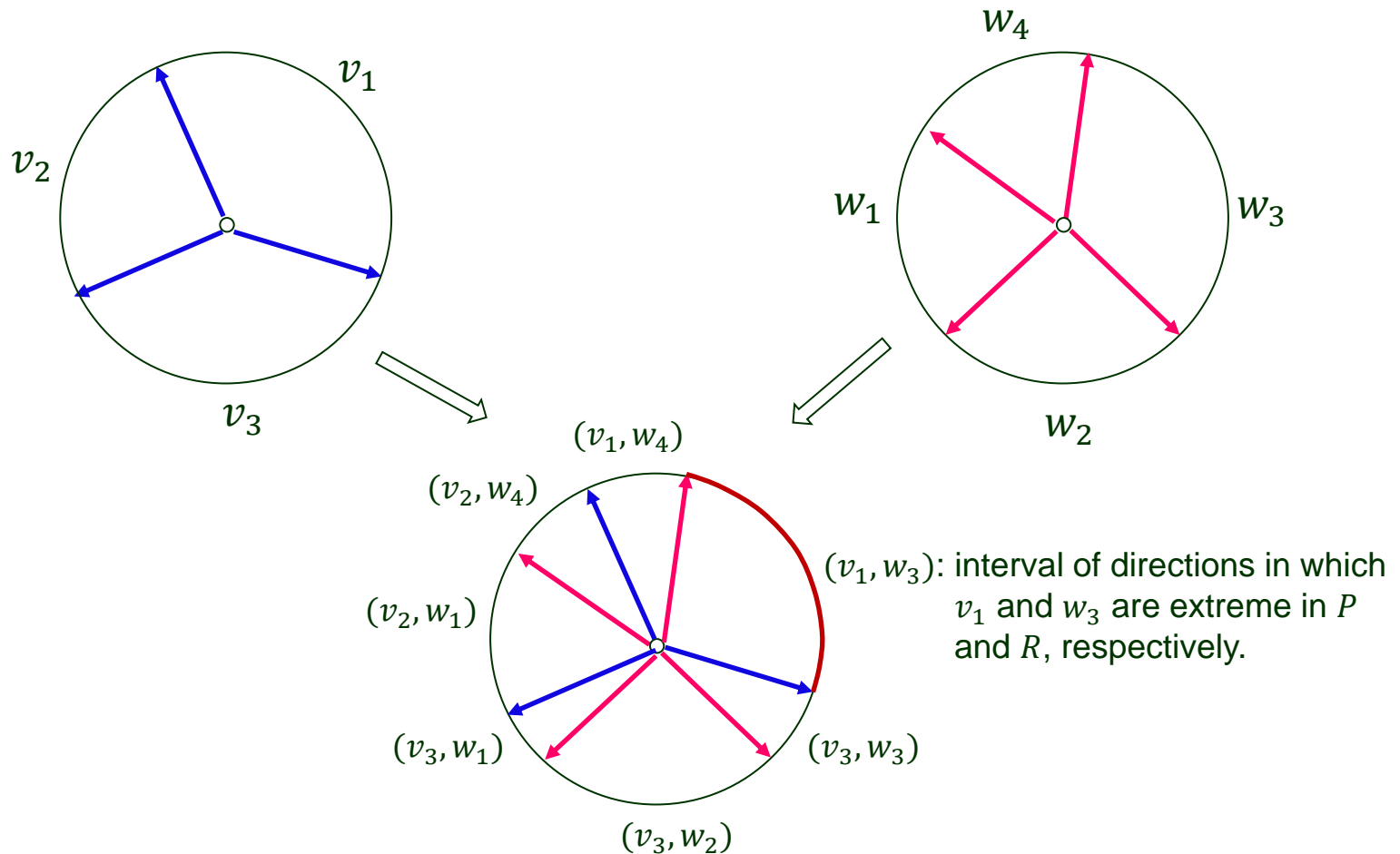
---

Superpose the two partitioning.



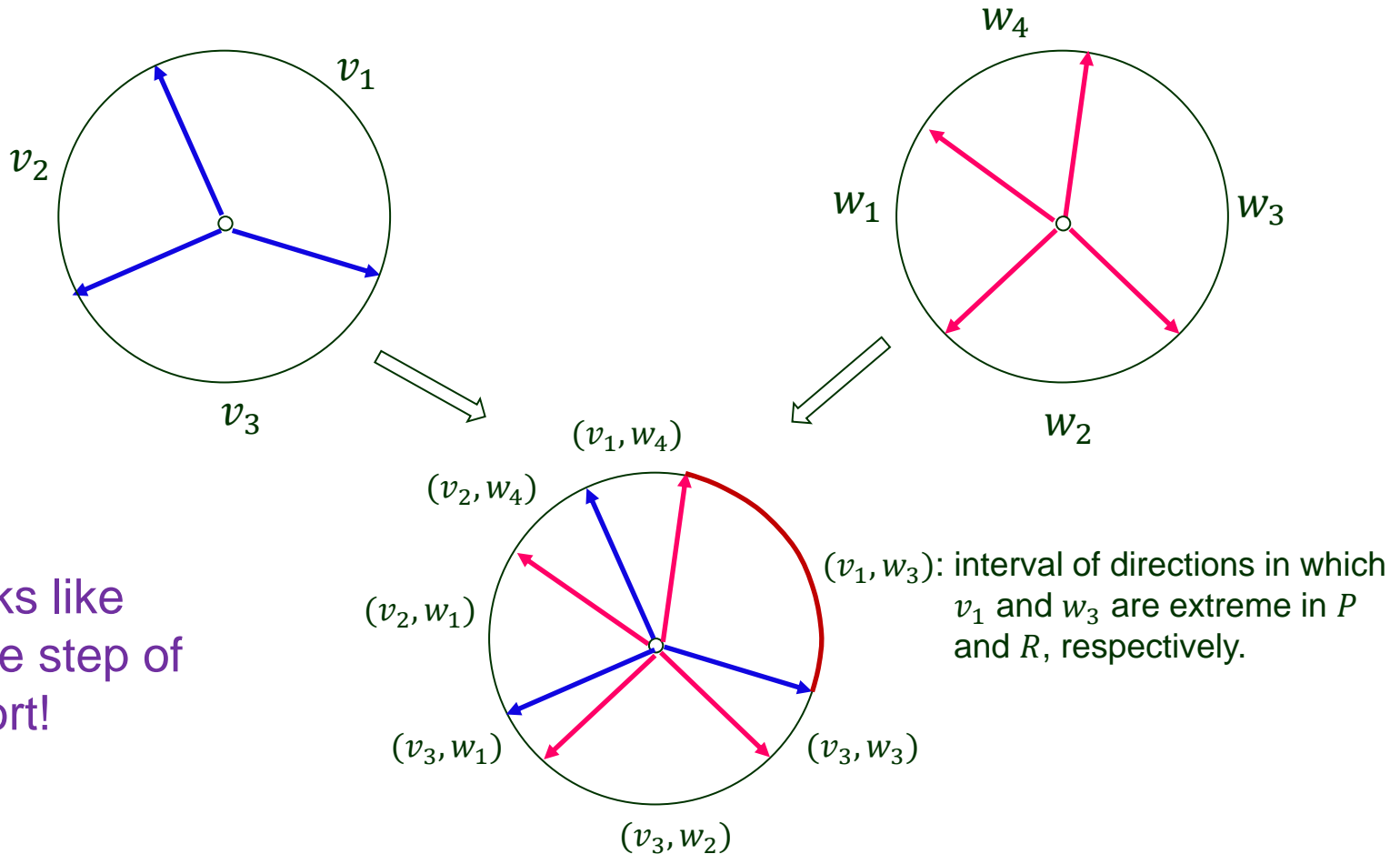
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Superpose the two partitioning.



This works like  
the merge step of  
merge sort!

# The Algorithm

---

MinkowskiSum( $P$ ,  $R$ )

//  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  in counterclock-  
// wise order with  $v_1$  and  $w_1$  having the  
// smallest  $y$ -coordinate

1.  $i \leftarrow 1; j \leftarrow 1$
2.  $v_{n+1} \leftarrow v_1; v_{n+2} \leftarrow v_2; w_{m+1} \leftarrow w_1; w_{m+2} \leftarrow w_2$
3. repeat
4.     add  $v_i + w_j$  as a vertex to  $P \oplus R$
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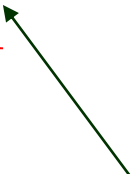
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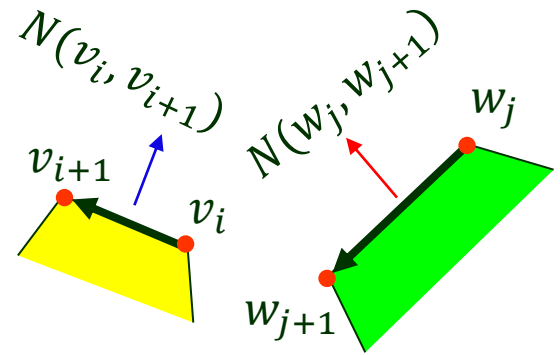
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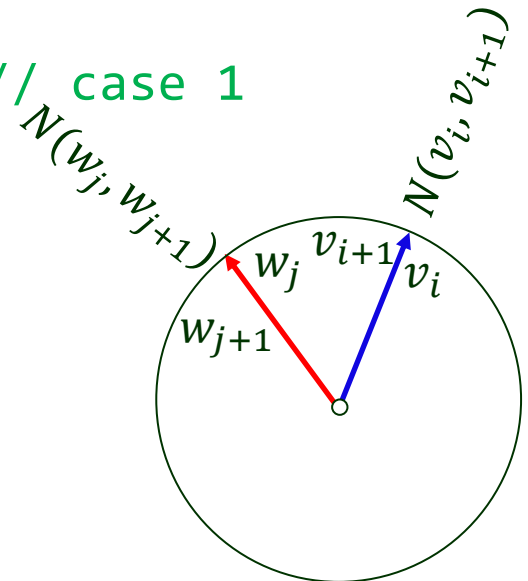
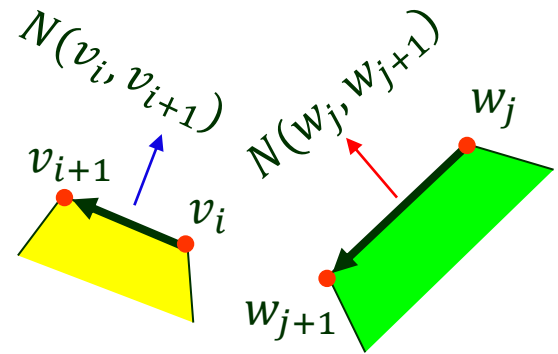
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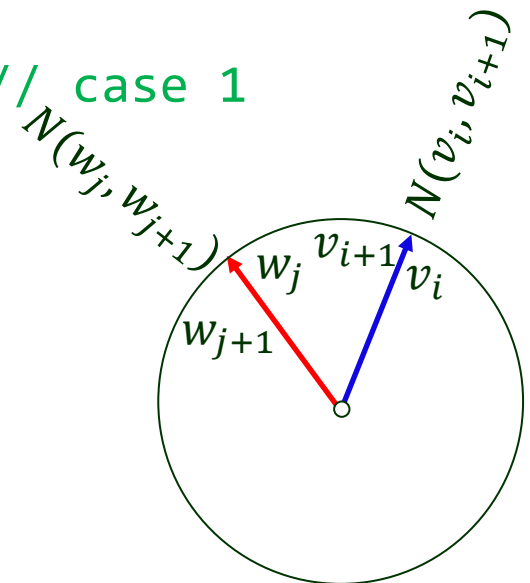
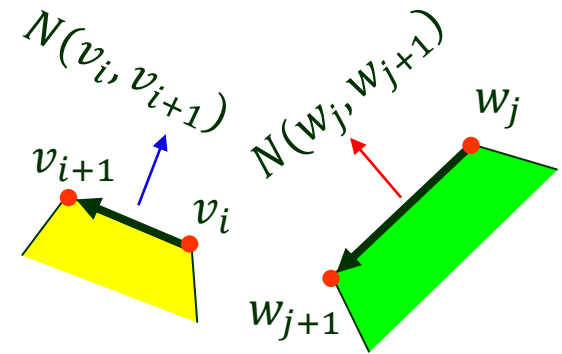
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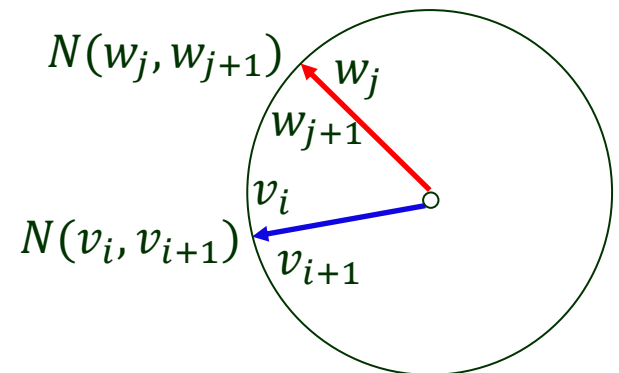


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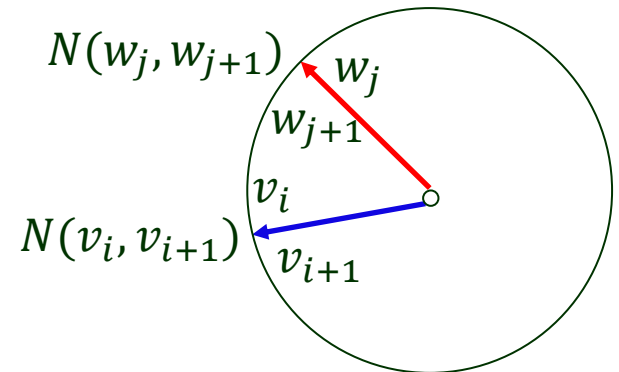


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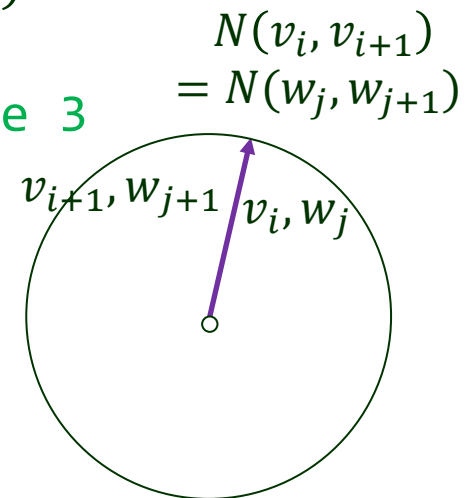
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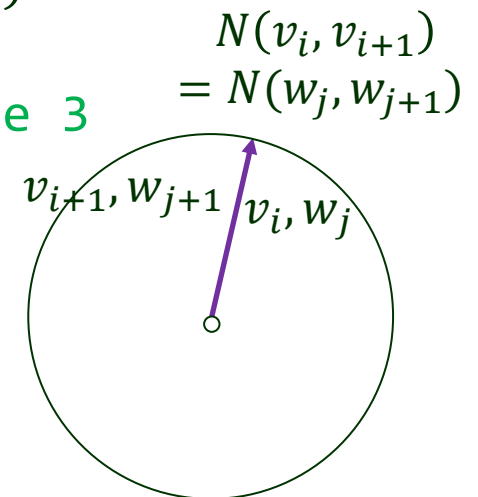


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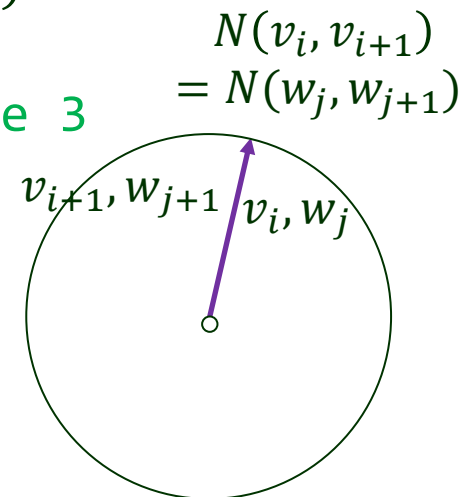
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Running time  $O(n + m)$



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Triangulate whichever is nonconvex.



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Make use of the following equality for three sets  $S_1, S_2$  and  $S_3$ :

$$S_1 \oplus (S_2 \cup S_3) = (S_1 \oplus S_2) \cup (S_1 \oplus S_3)$$

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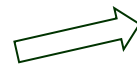
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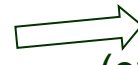


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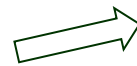


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Complexity  $O(n)$

# Computing the Forbidden C-Space

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Divide-and-conquer

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# Time Complexity for Path Planning

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**Theorem 3**  $C_{free}$  can be computed in time  $O(n \log^2 n)$ .



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Total preprocessing time:

$$O(n \log^2 n + n \log n) = O(n \log^2 n)$$

# Time Complexity for Path Planning

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**Theorem 3**  $C_{free}$  can be computed in time  $O(n \log^2 n)$ .

Next, compute a trapezoidal map of  $C_{free}$  in  $O(n \log n)$  expected time.

Total preprocessing time:

$$O(n \log^2 n + n \log n) = O(n \log^2 n)$$

**Theorem 4** Translational motion planning for a convex robot of  $O(1)$  complexity among polygonal obstacles of  $O(n)$  total complexity can be solved in  $O(n)$  time with preprocessing in  $O(n \log^2 n)$  expected time.