

# Quasi-Polynomial Time Approximation Scheme for Sparse Subsets of Polygons

Sariel Har-Peled<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>UIUC, Illinois, USA, Earth, The Milky Way, This Universe (Hopefully)

# Part I

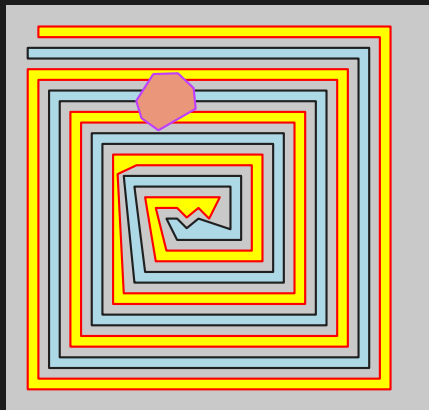
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## The problem & main result

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## 2: The problem

- $\mathcal{P}$ :  $m$  polygons in the plane.
- $n$ : Total complexity of  $\mathcal{P}$ .

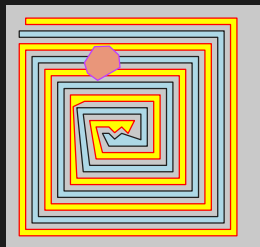


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Compute largest independent set of polygons in  $\mathcal{P}$ .

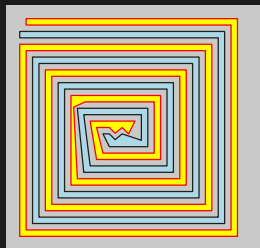
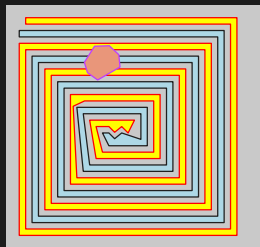


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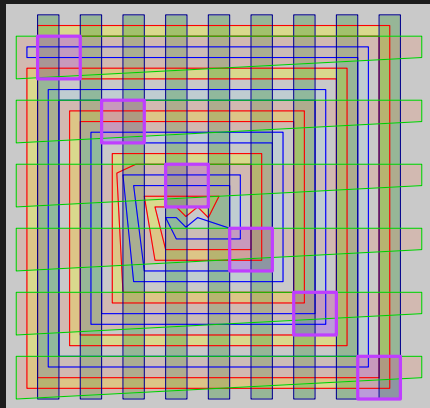
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### 3: The problem - another example



## 4: Main result

### Theorem

- $\mathcal{P}$ : set  $m$  simple weighted polygons.
- $n$ : total complexity.
- Compute an independent set weight  $\geq (1 - \epsilon)W_{\text{opt}}$ .
- $W_{\text{opt}}$ : maximum weight of optimal independent set.
- Running time:  $O(m^{\text{poly}(\log m, 1/\epsilon)} + m^{O(1)}n)$ .

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**Contribution:** Polygons of arbitrary complexity!

## Part II

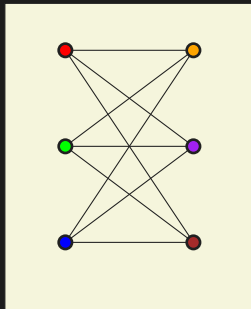
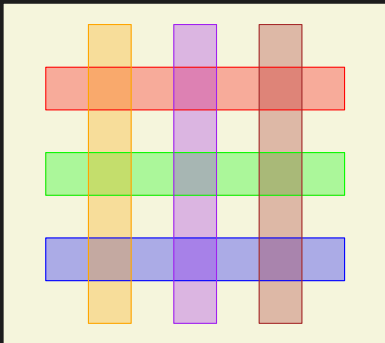
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# Background and previous work

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## 5: Intersection graph

Find independent set in the graph.



## 6: Computing independent set

What is known...

- **NP-Complete.**
- No  $|V|^{1-\epsilon}$ -approx if **NP**  $\neq$  **ZPP** [**Hastad, 1996**].
- Maximum degree of graph is  $\leq 3$ : no **PTAS** possible.

# 7: Geometric settings

What is known...

- **PTAS**es for fat objects (disks/squares).
  - [Chan, 2003, Erlebach, Jansen, and Seidel, 2005]:  
Quadtrees + random shifting
  - [Chan, 2003]: Uses planar separator (unweighted).
- Axis-parallel rectangles.
  - [Chalermsook and Chuzhoy, 2009]:  
 $O(\log \log n)$  approximation.
  - [Chan and Har-Peled, 2012]:  
 $O(\log n / \log \log n)$ -approx for weighted case.
- Pseudo-disks
  - [Chan and Har-Peled, 2012]:  
 $(1 - \epsilon)$ -approximation (**PTAS**).  
Local search + separator theorem.

# 8: Geometric settings

Continued...

- Line segments
  - **[Agarwal and Mustafa, 2006]**:  $O(\sqrt{n_{\text{opt}}})$ -approx. Dilworth's theorem.
  - **[Fox and Pach, 2011]**:  $n^\epsilon$ -approx.  
Idea: Large biclique if dense, and cheap separator if sparse.
- New results: **[Adamaszek and Wiese, 2013, 2014]**.
  - Good news:  $(1 - \epsilon)$ -approximation for rectangles.
  - Bad news: Running time  $n^{(\log n/\epsilon)^{O(1)}}$ .  
**QPTAS**: Quasi-polynomial time approximation scheme
  - Main idea: Cuttings + planar separator.

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## 9: Thinking about these complexity classes

<b>Polynomial time</b>	$\exp(O(\log n))$
<b>FPTAS</b>	$\exp(O(\log \frac{n}{\epsilon}))$
<b>PTAS</b>	$\exp(O(f(\epsilon) \log n))$
<b>QPTAS</b>	$\exp(f(\epsilon) \log^{O(1)} n)$
<b>ETH</b> Exponential Time Hypothesis	$3\text{SAT} \in \exp(n^{\Omega(1)})$
<b>EXP</b>	$\exp(n^{O(1)})$

# Part III

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## Main Result II

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**QPTAS** for sparse thingies

# 10: Main result II

## Theorem

- $\mathcal{P}$ : weighted set of  $m$  polygons.
- $n$ : total complexity
- every pair of polygons intersects  $O(1)$  times.
- $\Pi_{\mathcal{P}}$ : hereditary + sparse + mergeable property  
+ exponential time checkable.
- $W_{\text{opt}}$ : maximum weight of a set in  $\Pi_{\mathcal{P}}$ .
- $\implies$  **QPTAS** to compute a subset  $X \subseteq \mathcal{P}$   
 $X \in \Pi_{\mathcal{P}}$ , and  $\omega(X) \geq (1 - \varepsilon)W_{\text{opt}}$ ,

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# 11: Implications of Main Result II

$\mathcal{P}$ : Set of polygons/pseudo-disks.

**QPTAS** for  $(1 - \epsilon)$ -approx to heaviest subset  $\mathcal{O}$  of  $\mathcal{P}$  s.t.

- Pseudo-disks: every point covered  $\leq c$  times by  $\mathcal{O}$ ,  
 $c$  a constant.  
 $c = 1$ : Independent set.
- $G_{\mathcal{O}}$  is planar.
- $G_{\mathcal{O}}$  has low genus.
- $G_{\mathcal{O}}$  does not contain  $K_{s,t}$  as a subgraph.  $s$  and  $t$  constants.

Main point...

Independent set is just one possible sparse subset one can compute with these techniques.

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# Part IV

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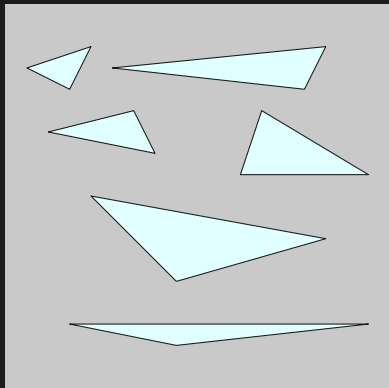
## Simple decompositions for polygons

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Deep in the technicalities zone

## 12: Vertical decomposition for triangles

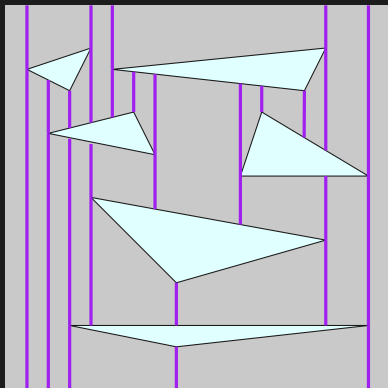
For disjoint triangles



- $m$  disjoint triangles.
- Rays up/down vertices. Get  $O(m)$  v-traps.
- Every trapezoid defined by 4 triangles.
- **Q:** How to do VD for polygons?

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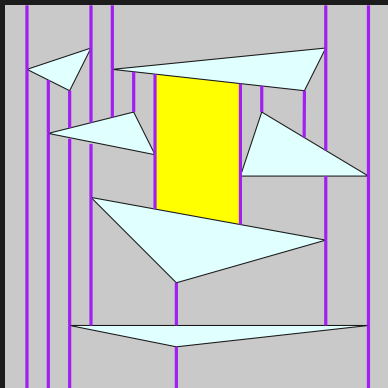
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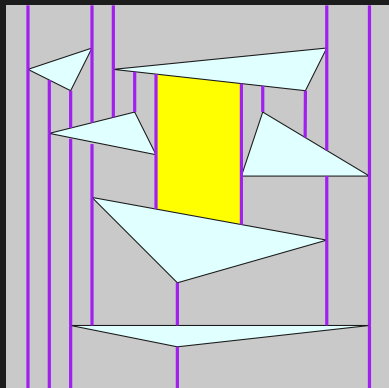


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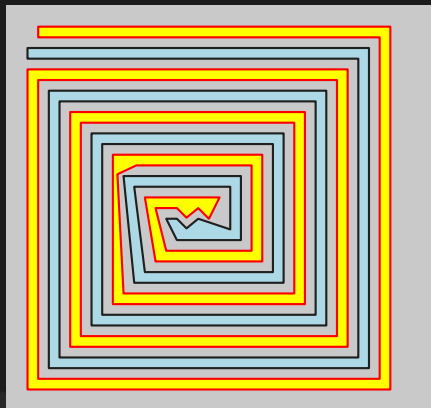
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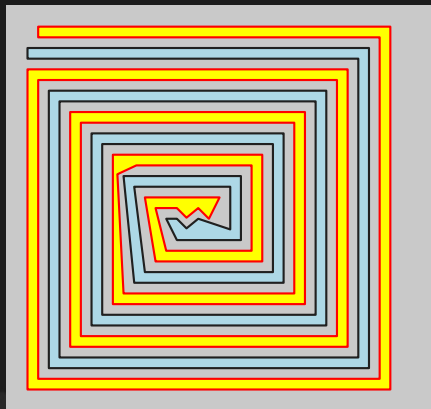
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- $m$  disjoint polygons.  
 $n$ : total complexity of polygons.
- Want:
  - Decomposition into  $O(m)$  cells.
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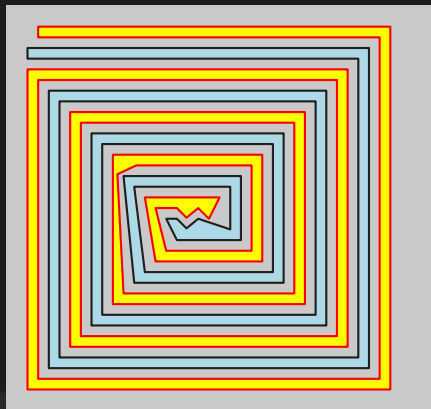
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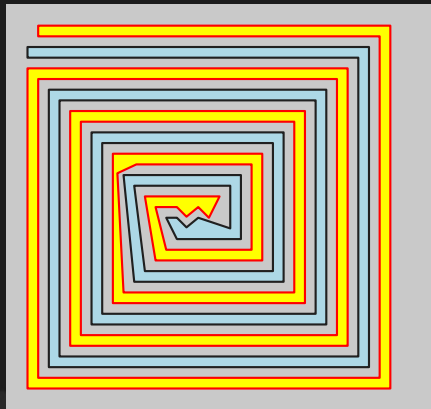
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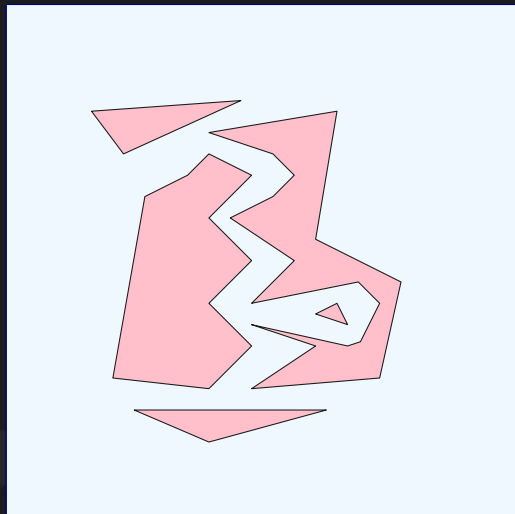
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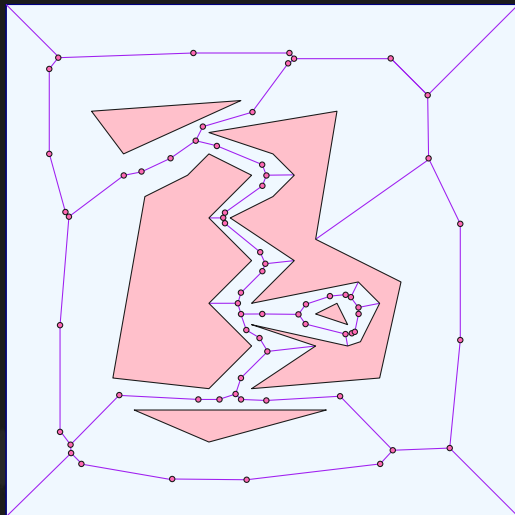
Breaking into cells for polygons



- $L_\infty$  medial axis. Deformation retract.
- Critical squares.
- Tendrils...
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- ...critical squares
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  - Def. by 4 polygons.
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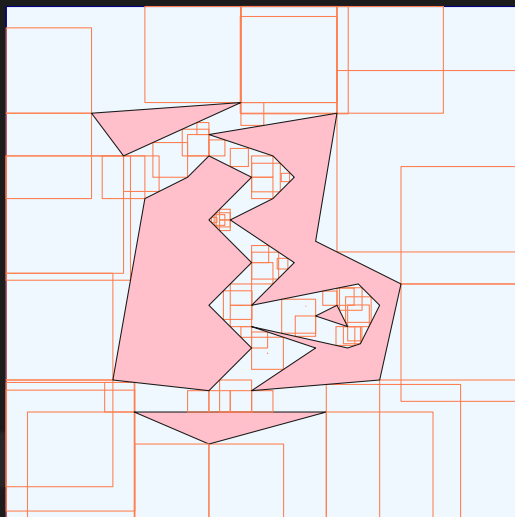
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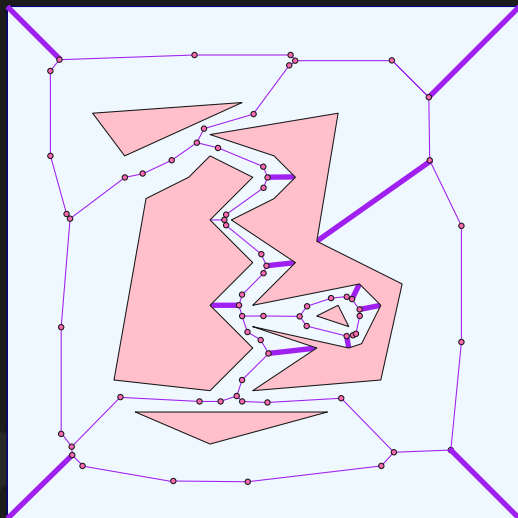


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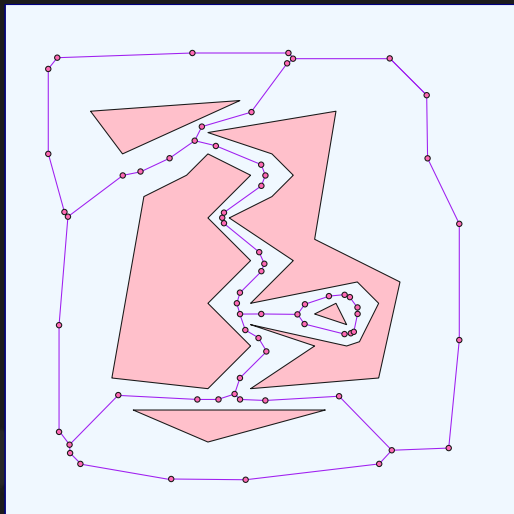
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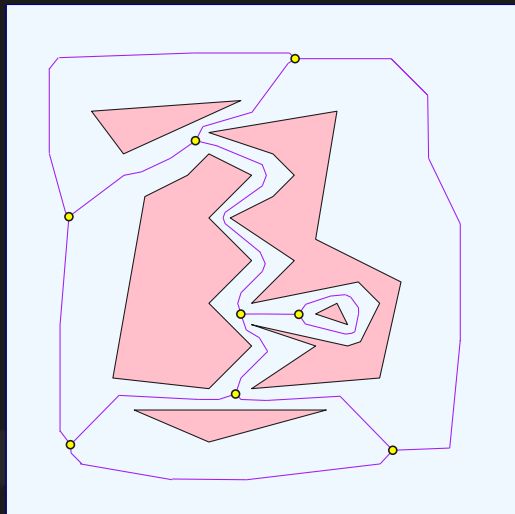
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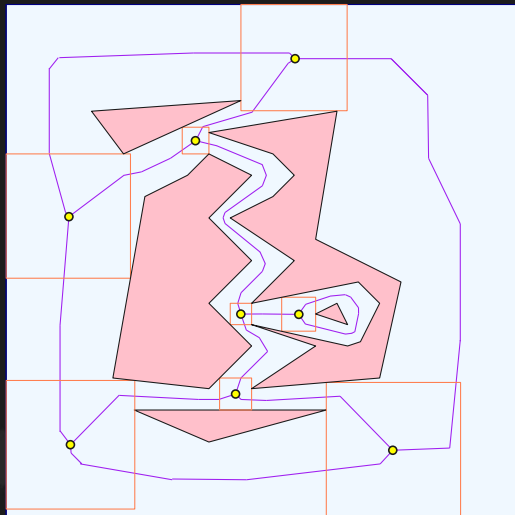
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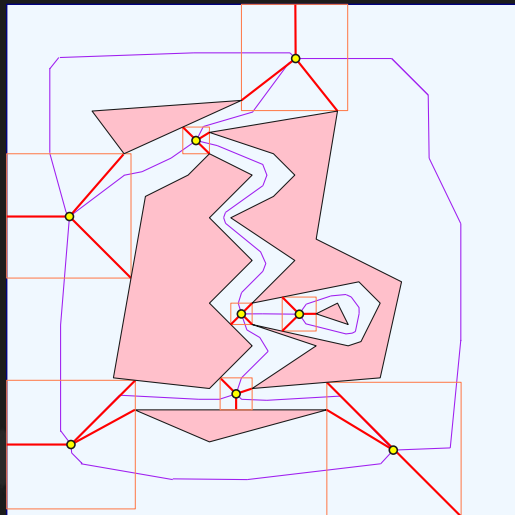
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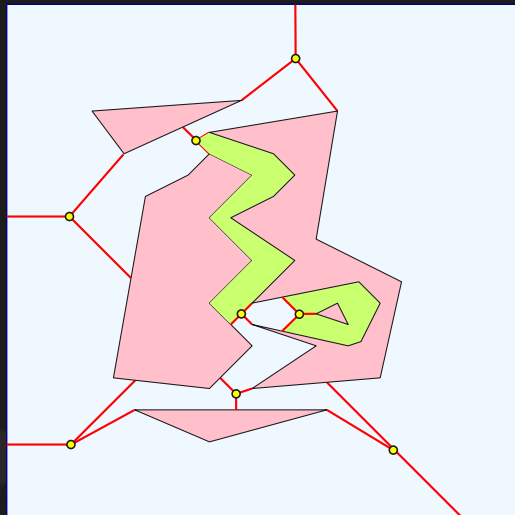
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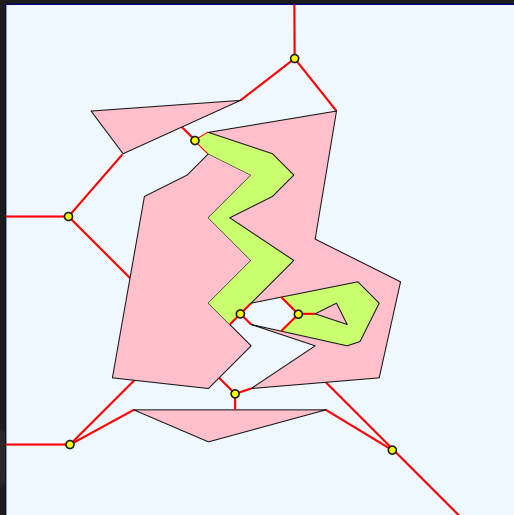
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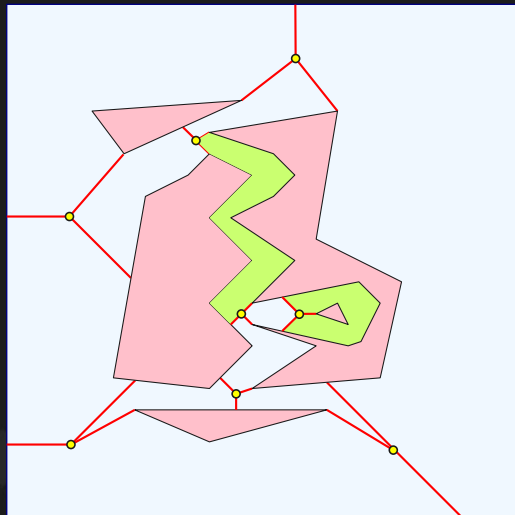
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# Part V

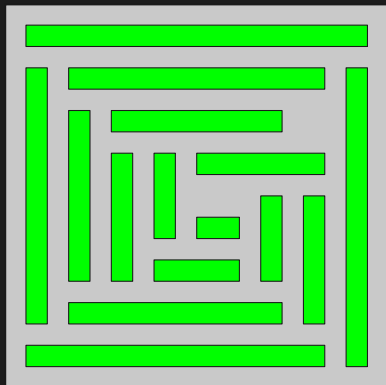
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## Cuttings

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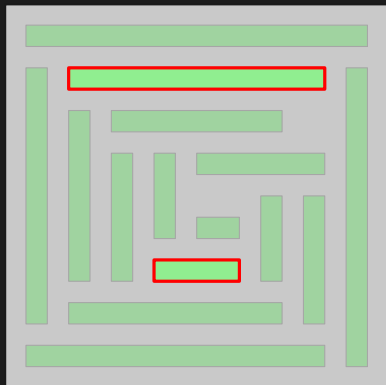
Deep in the technicalities zone

# 15: Cuttings



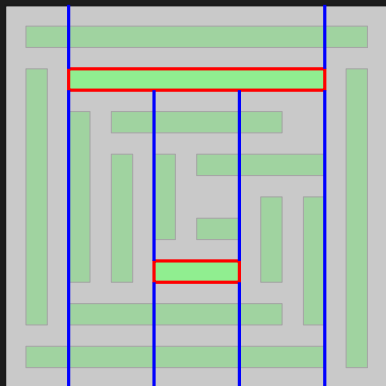
- $\mathcal{O}$ : Set of  $n$  disjoint axis-parallel rectangles.  
 $r$ : Parameter
- **$1/r$ -cutting**: Partition into cells, s.t. each cell intersects  $\leq n/r$  rects  $\mathcal{O}$ .
- **[Chazelle and Friedman, 1990]**  
 $1/r$ -cutting with  $O(r)$  cells.

# 15: Cuttings



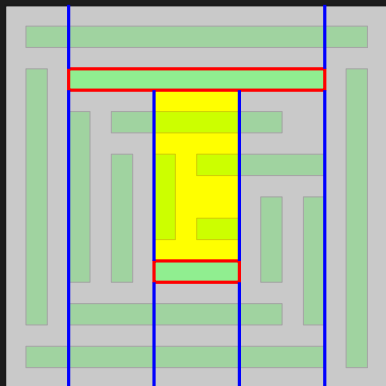
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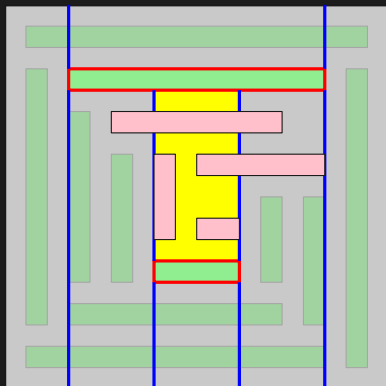
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## 16: Weak cuttings for polygons

### Lemma

$\mathcal{P}$ : disjoint weighted polygons

$W$ : total weight  $W$

$\implies$  compute  $1/r$ -cutting with  $O(r \log r)$  corridors.

- Proof is extension of previous proof.
- Might be slightly simpler.

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# Part VI

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## The Approximation Algorithm

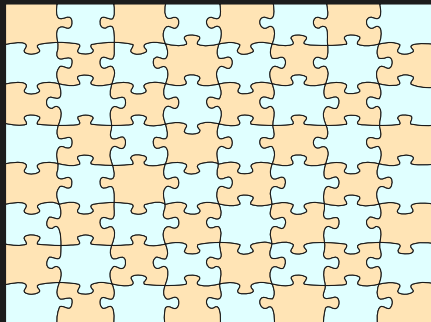
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A monstrous dynamic programming in action

## 17: Recursing on optimal solution

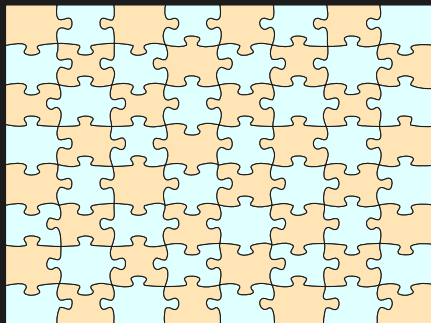
- $\mathcal{O}$ : Opt sol  $m = |\mathcal{O}|, r$ .
- $1/r$ -cutting, with  $\tilde{O}(r)$  cells.
- Tiles form a planar graph.
- tile intersects  $\leq \frac{m}{r}$  polys  $\in \mathcal{O}$ .
- Cycle separator  $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{r})$  edges.
- Separator intersects  $\tilde{O}((m/r)\sqrt{r}) = \tilde{O}(m/\sqrt{r})$ .
- Recurse: In : Out

## 17: Recursing on optimal solution



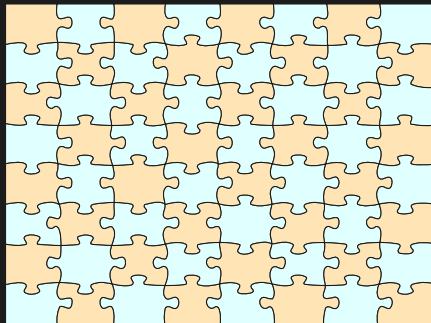
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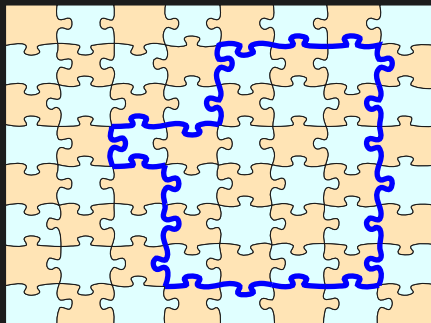
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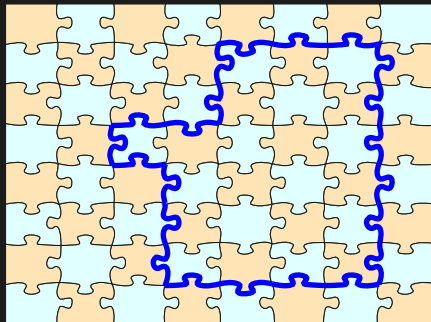
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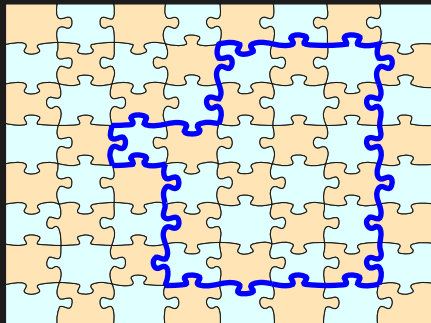
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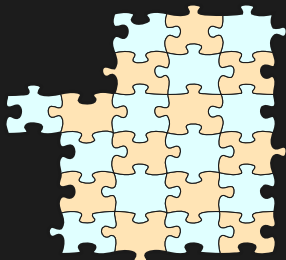


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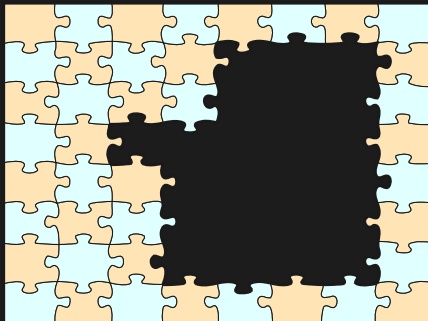
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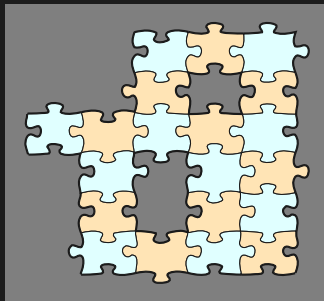
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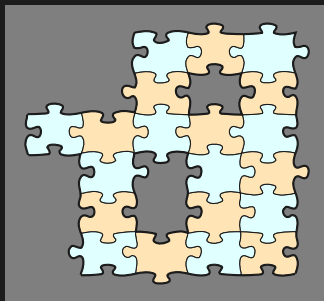
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## 18: How a subproblem looks like



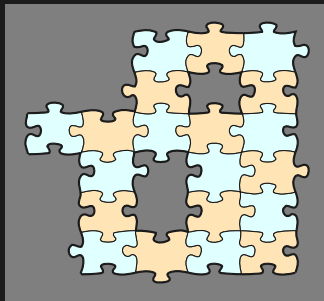
- $\mathcal{O}$ : Opt sol  $|\mathcal{O}| \leq m$ .
- Subproblem defined by  $O(\log m)$  cycles.
- Each cycle has  $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{r})$  "corridor" edges.

## 19: Guessing the separator



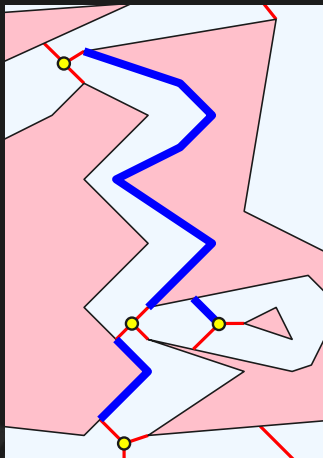
- $\mathcal{O}$ : Optimal solution  
 $r$ : Param (specified shortly).
- $m = |\mathcal{P}|$ .
- $m^{O(1)}$  possible edges.  
(cuttings+corridors decomposition)
- Separator has  $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{r})$  edges.
- $m^{\tilde{O}(\sqrt{r})}$  different subproblems in the root.
- Depth of recursion  $O(\log m)$ .
- $m^{\tilde{O}(\sqrt{r} \log m)}$  different subproblems overall.

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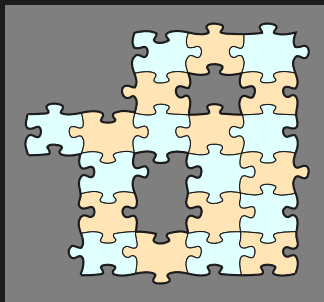
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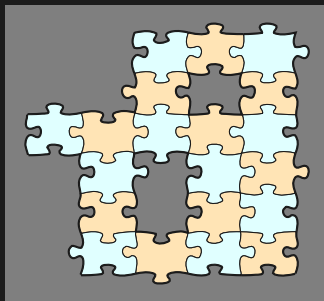
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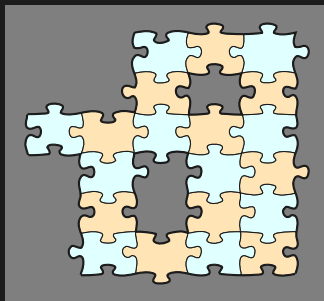


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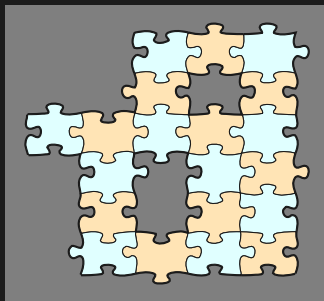
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## 20: What we lose in the recursion

- $|\mathcal{O}| \leq m$ .
  - Every level...  
Lose  $c\sqrt{\frac{\log r}{r}}$  fraction opt sol.
  - $\leq \log m$ : depth recursion.
  - Total loss:  $c\sqrt{\frac{\log r}{r}} \log m \leq \epsilon$ .
  - $r = O\left(\frac{\log^3 m}{\epsilon^2}\right) \implies (1 - \epsilon)$ -approximation.
  - $m = |\mathcal{P}|$ .
  - Running time  $m^{\tilde{O}(\sqrt{r} \log m)}$ .  
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# Part VII

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## Conclusions

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This too shell pass

# 21: Conclusions

- Framework of **[Adamaszek and Wiese, 2013, 2014]**.  
Insight: Using planar separator on cuttings.
- In this paper:
  - Extended framework...
  - Showed **QPTAS** for independent set of polygons of arbitrary complexity.
  - Showed techniques works for computing sparse subsets.
- Open questions for future research:
  - **PTAS?**
  - Better running time.



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