

Convex Points Thm Known as Happy Ending Thm

Exposition by William Gasarch

December 12, 2024

Convex Sets And Convex Hulls

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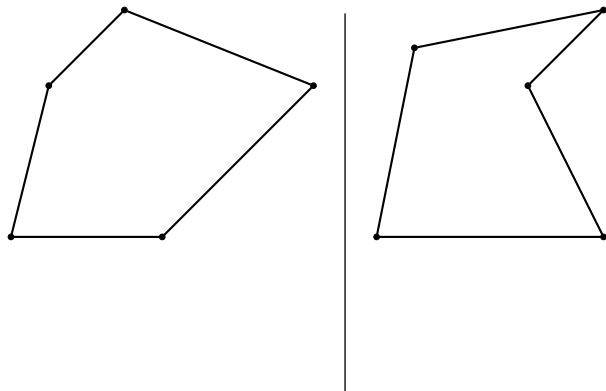
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Convex and Non-Convex Sets on Next Slide.

Convex Set / Non-Convex Set



Left Region is Convex. Right Region is Not Convex.

Definition of A Convex Hull

Def Let $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ (it will always be a finite set). The **Convex Hull of X** is the smallest convex set that contains all the points in X .

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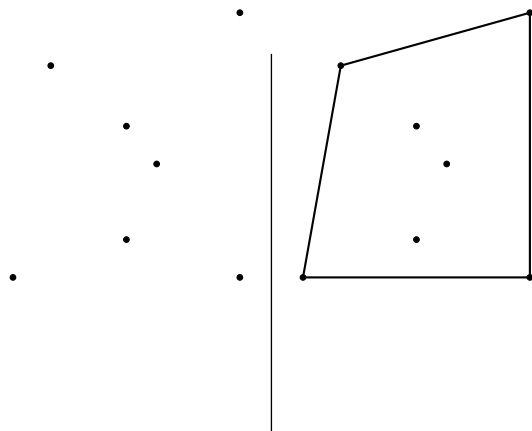
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An Example is on Next Slide.

Size of a Convex Hull

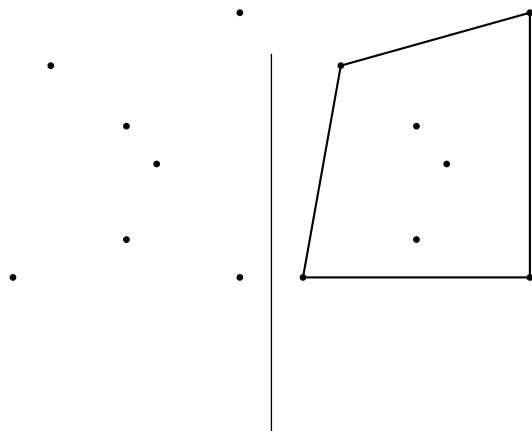
Def The **Size of a Convex Hull** is how many sides it has.

Example of A Convex Hull



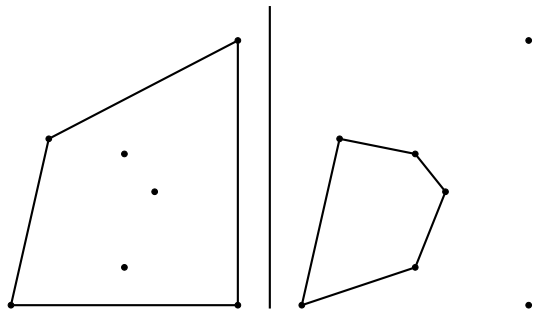
Region In Right Picture is Convex Hull of Points in Left Picture.

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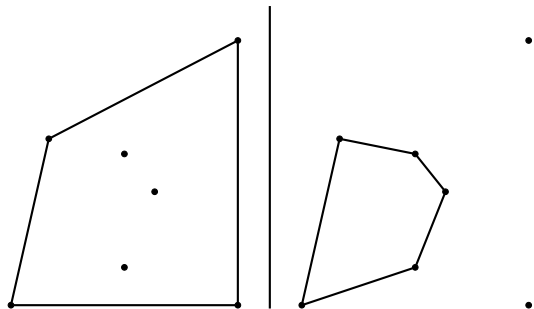


Region In Right Picture is Convex Hull of Points in Left Picture.
RHS is a convex hull of size 4.

Convex Hull Not the Largest Convex Hull

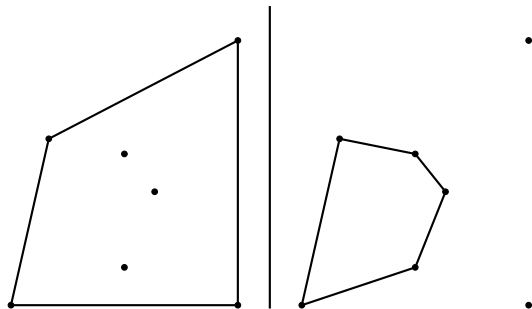


Convex Hull Not the Largest Convex Hull



LHS: 7 points have a convex hull of size 4.

Convex Hull Not the Largest Convex Hull



LHS: 7 points have a convex hull of size 4.

RHS: 5 of those 7 point have a convex hull of size 5.

We Want Large Convex Hulls

Concrete Examples

Given n Points in \mathbb{R}^2 Want Large Convex Hull

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Answer on Next Slides.

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Hence $f(4) \geq 5$.

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We do example on the next page.

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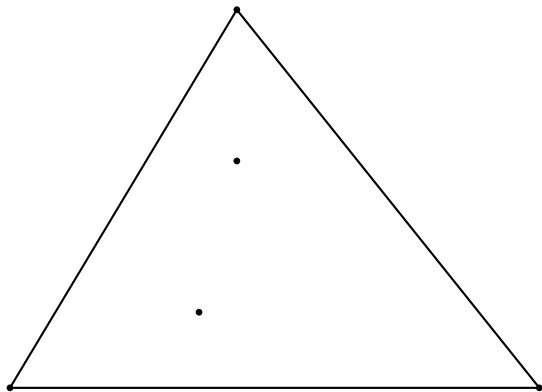
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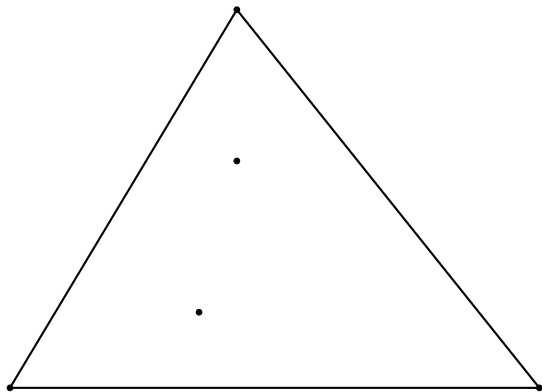
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General proof left to the reader.

Two Points Inside a 3-gon

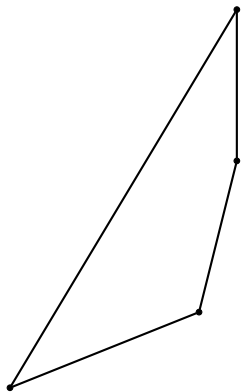


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See Next Slide for the Amazing 4-Gon!

The Amazing 4-Gon



We Want Large Convex Hulls For General k

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Proof Using $R_4(5, k)$

Recall Let $n = R_4(5, k)$. Then for all COL: $\binom{[n]}{4} \rightarrow [2]$ there is EITHER a RED homog set of size 5 or a BLUE homog set of size k .

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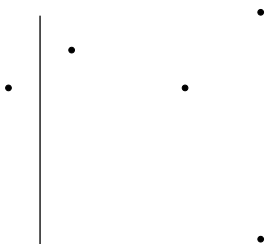
Given $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$, $|X| = n$, define the following coloring:
Let $Z \in \binom{X}{4}$.

$$\text{COL}(Z) = \begin{cases} \text{CONV} & \text{if } Z \text{ forms a convex quadrilateral} \\ \text{NOTCONV} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Example Of the Coloring



Colored CONV.



Colored NOTCONV.

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1) $|H| = 5$ with COL restricted to $\binom{H}{4}$ is the constant NOTCONV.

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Exercise Show that if every 4-subset of H is a convex 4-gon then H is a convex hull of size k .

Proof Using $R_3(k, k)$

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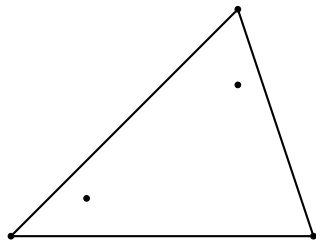
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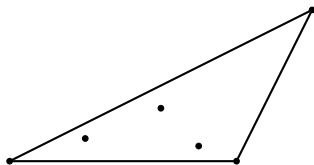
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$$\text{COL}(Z) = \begin{cases} \text{EVEN} & \text{if the num of points of } X \text{ in triangle } Z \text{ is even} \\ \text{ODD} & \text{if the num of points of } X \text{ in triangle } Z \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

Example of The Coloring



Colored EVEN.



Colored ODD.

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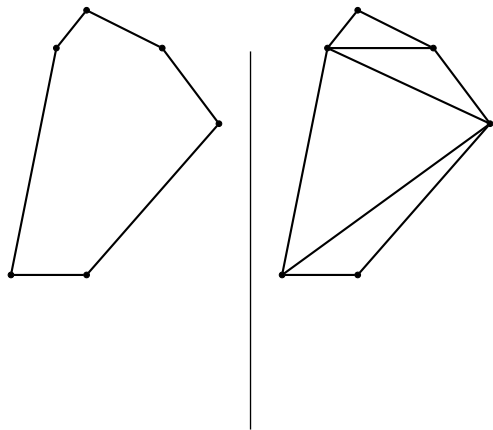
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We Proof there are no points of H in the convex hull of H and hence we have a convex hull of size k .

Convex Hull of H and its Triangulation

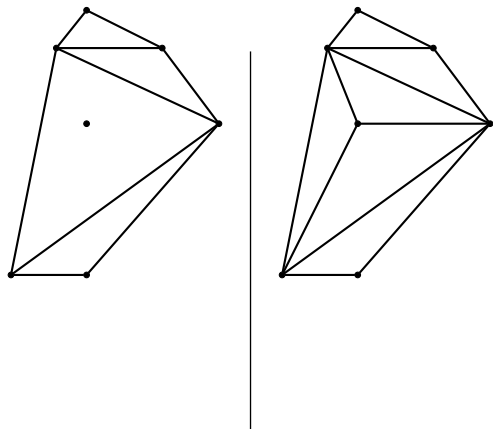


Convex Hull of H .

Triangulation.

We need to prove that there are no points of H in the convex hull.

Assume There is a Point of H in the Convex Hull

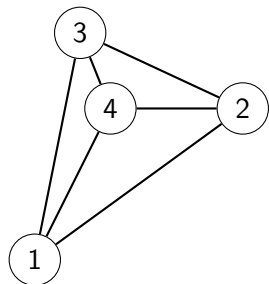


Which \triangle point is in.

More Triangulation.

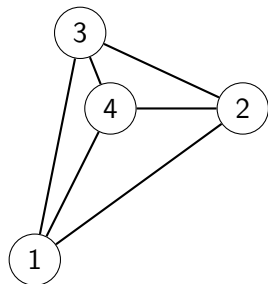
Need just the new point and its neighbors, and need labels.

Parity Argument



All these points are in H .

Parity Argument



All these points are in H . Assume all \triangle colored EVEN.

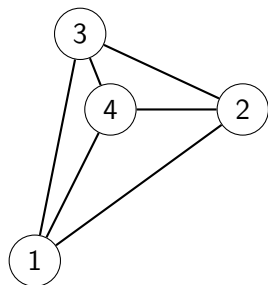
1 – 2 – 4 has an even number of points

2 – 3 – 4 has an even number of points

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Parity Argument



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$1 - 2 - 4$ has an even number of points

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$1 - 2 - 3$ has an even number of points.

Not possible. $1 - 2 - 3$ has the points of $1 - 2 - 4$ AND $2 - 3 - 4$ AND $1 - 3 - 4$ AND the point 4. That's Odd!

Third Proof

The Third Proof will be on the HW

APPLICATION?

Vote

We used Ramsey Theory to prove the following:

Thm $(\forall k)(\exists n)(\forall X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n)(\exists Y \subseteq X)$ such that $|Y| = k$ and the convex hull of Y has size k .

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- 2) "Application"

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- 1) Application.
- 2) “Application”
- 3) ““Application””

A Bit More History

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Erdős and Szekeres were unaware of Ramsey's work and independently discovered and proved Ramsey's Theorem (for hypergraphs) to solve Esther Klein's Convex Set Problem.

Calling the proof **an application of Ramsey Theory** is a bit odd since it is really **one of the two reasons Ramsey Theory was invented** (the other was Ramsey's problem in logic).