

# Art Gallery Theorems and Algorithms

Daniel G. Aliaga

Computer Science Department  
Purdue University

## Art Gallery

- **Problem:** determine the minimum number of guards sufficient to cover the interior of an  $n$ -wall art gallery
  - Victor Klee, 1973
  - Vasek Chvatal, 1975

Main reference for this material:  
Art Gallery Theorems and Algorithms, Joseph O'Rourke, Oxford University Press, 1987

## Contents

- Interior Visibility
  - Art Gallery Problem
    - Overview
    - Fisk's Proof
    - Reflex Vertices
    - Convex Partitioning
    - Orthogonal Polygons
  - Mobile Guards
  - Miscellaneous Shapes
    - Star, Spiral, Monotone
- Exterior Visibility
  - Fortress Problem
  - Prison Yard Problem
- Minimal Guards

## Contents

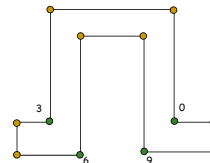
- Interior Visibility
  - Art Gallery Problem
    - Overview
    - Fisk's Proof
    - Reflex Vertices
    - Convex Partitioning
    - Orthogonal Polygons
  - Mobile Guards
  - Miscellaneous Shapes
    - Star, Spiral, Monotone
- Exterior Visibility
  - Fortress Problem
  - Prison Yard Problem
- Minimal Guards

## Definitions

- $P$  is a simple polygon (i.e., does not cross over itself)
- Point  $x \in P$  "covers" a point  $y \in P$  if  $xy \subseteq P$
- Let  $G(P)$  be the minimum number  $k$  of points of  $P$ , such that for any  $y \in P$ , some  $x=x_1 \dots x_k$  covers  $y$
- Let  $g(n)$  be the  $\max(G(P))$  over all polygons of  $n$  vertices
  - Thus,  $g(n)$  guards are occasionally necessary and always sufficient

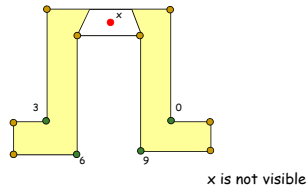
## Guard Placement

- 1. Can we just place one guard on every 3<sup>rd</sup> vertex?



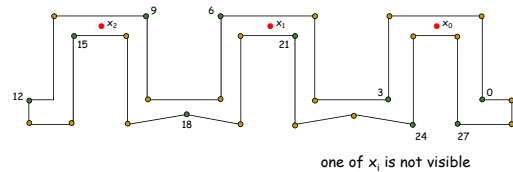
## Guard Placement

- 1. Can we just place one guard on every 3<sup>rd</sup> vertex? - No!



## Guard Placement

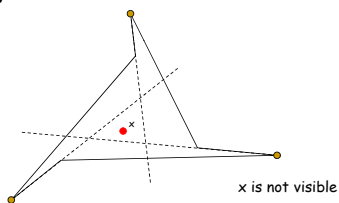
- 1. Can we just place one guard on every 3<sup>rd</sup> vertex? - No!



## Guard Placement

- 2. If guards placed so they can see all the walls, does that imply they can see all the interior?

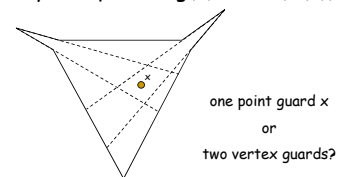
□ No!



## Guard Placement

- 3. If we restrict guards to vertices, is  $g_v(n) = g(n)$ ?

□ In general, yes, equal for  $g(n) = \max(G(P))$



## Art Gallery

- Theorem:**  $\lfloor n/3 \rfloor$  guards are occasionally necessary and always sufficient to cover a polygon of  $n$  vertices
  - "Chvatal's Art Gallery Theorem"
  - "Watchman Theorem"

## Fisk's Proof

- $g(n) = \lfloor n/3 \rfloor$ 
  - Published in 1978 (three years after Chvatal's original proof, but it is much more compact)
- Necessity**
  - $g(n) \geq \lfloor n/3 \rfloor$  are sometimes necessary
- Sufficiency**
  - $g(n) \leq \lfloor n/3 \rfloor$  are always sufficient

## Necessity: Base Cases

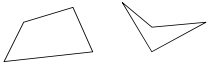
■ n=3



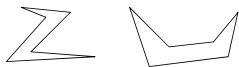
■ n=5



■ n=4

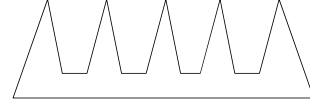


■ n=6



## Necessity: Base Cases

■  $n \geq 6$

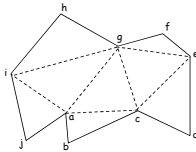


$$g(n) \geq \text{floor}(n/3)$$

## Sufficiency: Fisk's Proof

■ Step 1 of 3

- Triangulate the polygon P by adding only internal diagonals



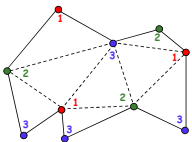
## Triangulation Theorem

- A polygon of n-vertices may be partitioned into n-2 triangles by the addition of n-3 internal diagonals

## Sufficiency: Fisk's Proof

■ Step 2 of 3

- Perform a 3-coloring of the triangulation graph
  - Using three colors, no two adjacent nodes have same color



## Four Color Theorem

- Problem stated in 1852 by Francis Guthrie and Augustus De Morgan
  - "Given a map on a flat plane, what is the minimum number of colors needed to color the different regions of the map in such a way that no two adjacent regions have the same color."

## Four Color Theorem

- Several attempted proofs and algorithms
  - Kempe (1879), Tait (1880), Birkhoff (1922), ...
- Appel and Haken - first complete proof (1976)
- Robertson, Sanders, Seymour, and Thomas - second more compact proof (1994)

## Four Color Theorem

- The proof creates a large number of cases (~1700 for Appel-Haken and ~600 for Robertson et al.)
- A computer is used to rigorously check the cases
- Solution is (still) controversial because of the use of a computer

## Sufficiency: Fisk's Proof

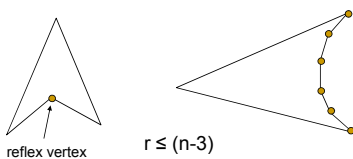
- Step 3 of 3
  - Note that one of three colors must be used no more than  $\lfloor n/3 \rfloor$  of the time
    - Let  $a, b, c$  be # of nodes of each color
    - $a \leq b \leq c$  and  $n = a + b + c$
    - If  $a > n/3$ , then  $(a+b+c) \geq n$
    - Thus  $a \leq \lfloor n/3 \rfloor$
    - Since each triangle is a complete graph, each triangle has a node of color 'a'
    - Since each triangle is convex and the triangles partition all of  $P$ , at most 'a' guards are necessary!

## Fisk's Proof

- Necessity
  - $g(n) \geq \lfloor n/3 \rfloor$  are sometimes necessary
- Sufficiency
  - $g(n) \leq \lfloor n/3 \rfloor$  are always sufficient
- Thus,  $g(n) = \lfloor n/3 \rfloor$
- $O(n \log n)$  overall algorithm

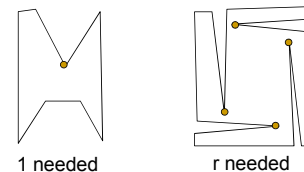
## Reflex Vertices

- We wish to investigate the art gallery question as a function of  $r$  (the number of reflex vertices of a polygon)



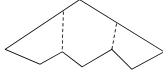
## Reflex Vertices

- Necessity
  - How many reflex-vertex guards are necessary?



## Reflex Vertices

- Necessity
  - $r$  guards are sometimes necessary
- Sufficiency
  - Place 1 guard at each reflex vertex
    - Proved via a convex partitioning of the polygon  $P$
    - Any polygon  $P$  can be partitioned into at most  $r+1$  convex pieces

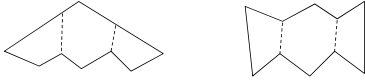


## Reflex Vertices

- Necessity
  - $r$  guards are sometimes necessary
- Sufficiency
  - Place 1 guard at each reflex vertex
- Theorem
  - $r$  guards are occasionally necessary and always sufficient to see the interior of a  $n$ -gon of  $r \geq 1$  reflex vertices

## Convex Partitioning

- Naïve Algorithm (Chazelle 1980)



- Because at most two reflex vertices can be resolved by a single cut, the minimum number of pieces is  $m = \text{ceil}(r/2) + 1$
- This approach achieves no more than  $r+1 \leq 2m$  in  $O(rn) = O(n^2)$  time

## Convex Partitioning

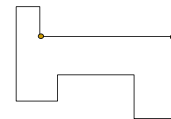
- A fast algorithm:  $O(n \log \log n)$ 
  - Any triangulation can be divided into  $2r+1$  convex pieces by removing diagonals

## Convex Partitioning

- Chazelle 1980
  - $O(n^3)$  optimal algorithm using dynamic programming
  - (description is 97 pages long)

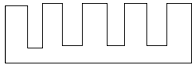
## Orthogonal Polygons

- Kahn, Klawe, Kleitman 1980
  - $\text{Floor}(n/4)$  guards are occasionally necessary and always sufficient
  - Based on convex quadrilateralization
    - Any orthogonal polygon  $P$  is convexly quadrilateralizable (theorem)



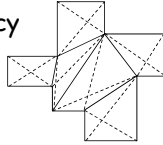
## Orthogonal Polygons

### Necessity



$$g(n) \geq \text{floor}(n/4)$$

### Sufficiency



Four-colorable, and thus:  
 $g(n) \leq \text{floor}(n/4)$

■ Theorem:  $g(n) = \text{floor}(n/4)$

## Orthogonal Polygons

### In an orthogonal polygon

- $n$  vertices
- $c$  interval vertices with  $\pi/2$
- $r$  interval vertices with  $3\pi/2$
- $n = c + r$
- sum of internal angles  $(n-2)\pi$
- yields  $n = 2r + 4$

■ Theorem restated as  $g(n) = \text{floor}(r/2) + 1$

## Quadrilateralization

### Sacks's Algorithm

- $O(n \log n)$

### Lubiw's Algorithm

- $O(n \log n)$

## Mobile Guards

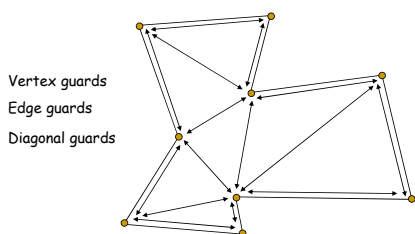
### Theorem

Shape	Stationary	Mobile
General	$\text{floor}(n/3)$	$\text{floor}(n/4)$
Orthogonal	$\text{floor}(n/4)$	$\text{floor}((3n+4)/16)$

- In general, only  $\frac{3}{4}$  as many mobile guards are needed as stationary guards

## Mobile Guards

### General Polygons



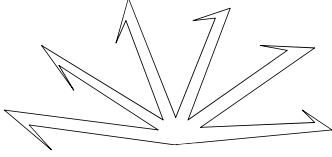
## Mobile Guards

### Goal of the proof

- Given a triangulation graph  $T$ 
  - Vertex guard = node
  - Edge guard = adjacent arc
  - Diagonal guard = any arc
- The analog of covering is domination
- A collection of guards  $C = \{g_1, \dots, g_k\}$  dominates triangulation graph  $T$  if every face has at least one of its three nodes in some  $g_i \in C$ .

## Mobile Guards

- Necessity



Polygon that requires  $\lfloor n/4 \rfloor$  edge, diagonal (or line) guards

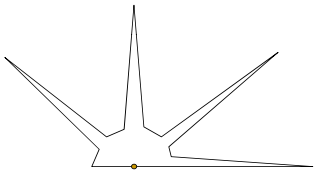
- Sufficiency: a little more complicated...

## Miscellaneous Shapes

- (General polygon, convex, orthogonal)
- Star, spiral, monotone

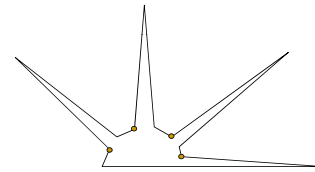
## Star Shape

- A star polygon  $P$  is a polygon that may be covered by a single point guard



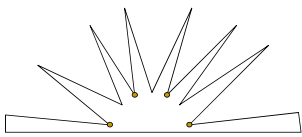
## Star Shape

- Toussaint's Theorem
  - A star polygon  $P$  requires  $\lfloor n/3 \rfloor$  vertex guards



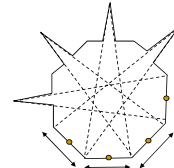
## Star Shape

- Toussaint's Theorem
  - A star polygon  $P$  requires  $\lfloor n/2 \rfloor + 1$  reflex guards



## Star Shape

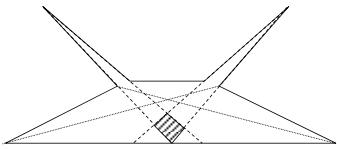
- Toussaint's Theorem
  - A star polygon  $P$  requires at least  $\lfloor n/5 \rfloor$  edge guards



## Star Shape

### ■ Toussaint's Theorem

- For a star polygon  $P$ 
  - Unrestricted patrol, one line guard is needed
  - Restricted to diagonal lines, two are needed



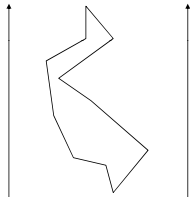
## Spiral Polygon

- A spiral polygon is a polygon with at most one chain of reflex vertices



## Monotone Polygon

- A polygon with no "doubling back" with respect to a line



## Spiral and Monotone Polygons

### ■ Aggarwal's Theorem

- $\lfloor n/3 \rfloor$  vertex guards are needed
- $\lfloor r/2 \rfloor + 1$  reflex-vertex guards are needed
- $\lfloor (n+2)/5 \rfloor$  diagonal guards are needed

## Contents

- Interior Visibility
  - Art Gallery Problem
    - Overview
    - Fisk's Proof
    - Reflex Vertices
    - Convex Partitioning
    - Orthogonal Polygons
  - Mobile Guards
  - Miscellaneous Shapes
    - Star, Spiral, Monotone
- ⇒ Exterior Visibility
  - Fortress Problem
  - Prison Yard Problem
- Minimal Guards

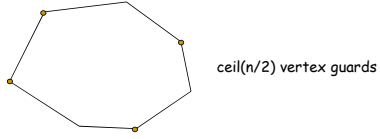
## Exterior Visibility

- "Fortress Problem"
- "Prison Yard Problem"

(independently stated by Derick Wood and Joseph Malkevitch, early 1980s)

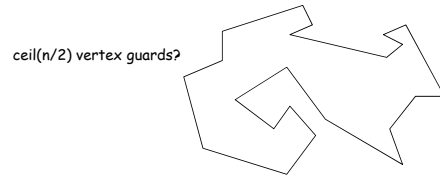
## Fortress Problem

- How many vertex guards are needed to see the exterior of a polygon  $P$ ?
- Simplex convex polygon



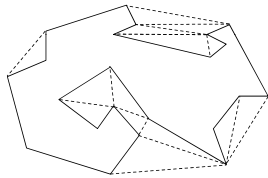
## Fortress Problem

- Arbitrary polygon



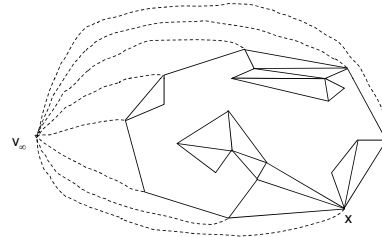
## Fortress Problem

- Arbitrary polygon



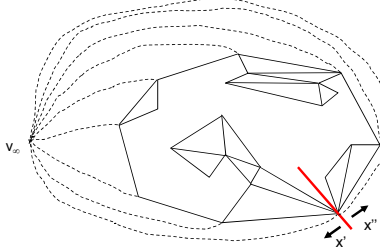
## Fortress Problem

- Arbitrary polygon



## Fortress Problem

- Arbitrary polygon



## Fortress Problem

- Arbitrary polygon
  - Three-color the resulting triangulation graph  $T$  (of  $n+2$  nodes)

## Fortress Problem

- Arbitrary polygon
  - If least frequently used color is red and  $v_\infty$  is **not** red then,
    - $\text{floor}((n+2)/3)$  vertex guards are needed

## Fortress Problem

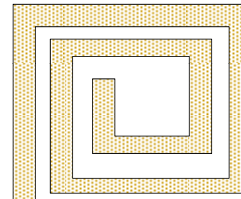
- Arbitrary polygon
  - If least frequently used color is red and  $v_\infty$  is red then,
    - No guard can be placed at  $v_\infty$  because it's not part of original polygon
    - Thus, place guards at second least frequently used color
    - $a \leq b \leq c$  and  $a + b + c = n + 2$
    - $a \geq 1$  and  $b + c \leq n + 1$
    - $b \leq \text{floor}((n+1)/2) = \text{ceil}(n/2)$  vertex guards are needed

## Fortress Problem

- Arbitrary polygon (Summary)
  - 1. Triangulate the convex hull of the polygon P
  - 2. Add edges from all exterior vertices to new vertex  $v_\infty$
  - 3. Split a vertex  $x$  into  $x'$  and  $x''$
  - 4. Open-up the convex hull, straighten the lines to  $v_\infty$  and form a triangulation graph T of  $(n+2)$  nodes
  - 5. Three-color graph T
  - 6. Use least or second least frequently used color
- At most  $\text{ceil}(n/2)$  vertex guards are needed

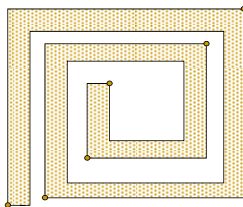
## Fortress Problem

- Orthogonal polygon



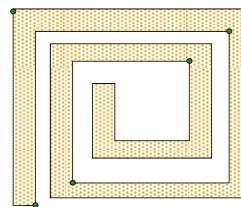
## Fortress Problem

- Orthogonal polygon



## Fortress Problem

- Orthogonal polygon

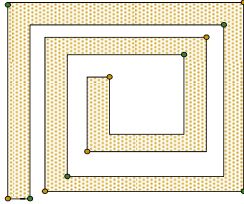


## Fortress Problem

### Orthogonal polygon

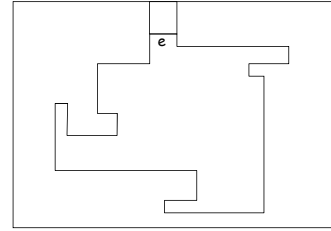
- Solution A
- Solution B

$\text{ceil}(n/4)+1$  vertex guards necessary



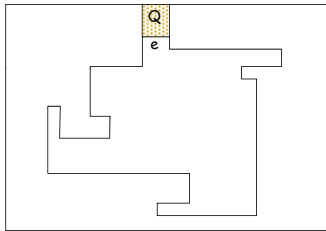
## Fortress Problem

### Orthogonal polygon



## Fortress Problem

### Orthogonal polygon



## Fortress Problem

### Orthogonal polygon

- Interior of new polygon  $P'$  coincides with the immediate exterior of  $P$ , except for  $Q$  which is exterior to both

## Fortress Problem

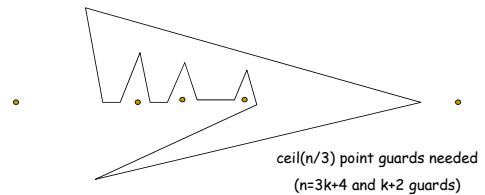
### Orthogonal polygon

- For  $P'$  of  $n+4$  vertices,  $\text{floor}(r/2)+1$  or  $\text{floor}((n+4)/4)$  vertex guards suffice to cover the interior
  - None of the new vertices of  $P'$  are reflex vertices
  - Need an additional one for  $Q$
- Thus,  $\text{floor}(n/4)+2$  vertex guards are sufficient
  - For  $n \bmod 4=0$ ,  $\text{ceil}(n/4)+1$

## Fortress Problem

### Guards in the plane

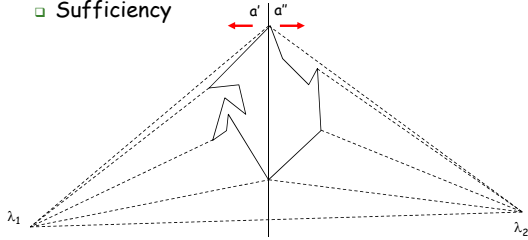
- Necessity



## Fortress Problem

- Guards in the plane

- Sufficiency



## Fortress Problem

- Guards in the plane

- New triangulated polygon  $P'$  of  $n+3$  vertices
    - $\text{floor}((n+3)/3) = \text{ceil}((n+1)/3)$  point guards

## Fortress Problem

- Guards in the plane

- More lengthy proof to remove "1/3 of a guard"
    - Add only 2 guards and 3-color triangulation
    - If even hull vertices, trivial
    - If odd hull vertices, need some extra work
  - Result:  $\text{ceil}(n/3)$  point guards are necessary to cover the exterior of a polygon  $P$  of  $n$  vertices
    - Nice duality with  $\text{floor}(n/3)$  for the interior

## Prison Yard Problem

- How many vertex guards are needed to simultaneously see the exterior and interior of polygon  $P$ ?

## Prison Yard Problem

- General Polygons

- Worst-case is a convex polygon
    - $\text{ceil}(n/2)$  vertex guards needed
  - Multiply-connected polygons
    - $\min(\text{ceil}(n/2), \text{floor}((n+\text{ceil}(h/2))/2), \text{floor}(2n/3))$

## Prison Yard Problem

- Orthogonal Polygons

- $\text{floor}((7n/16)+5)$  vertex guards are needed

## Fortress/Prison Yard Problem

Problem	Techniques	Guards	Time
<b>Fortress</b>			
<b>General</b>	Triangulation, 3-coloring	$\text{ceil}(n/2)$	$O(T)$
<b>Orthogonal</b>	L-shaped partition	$\text{ceil}(n/4)+1$	$O(T)$
<b>Prison Yard</b>			
<b>General</b>	Exterior	$\text{ceil}(n/2)+r$	$O(T)$
	Triangulation, 4-coloring	$\text{floor}((n+\text{cell}(h/2))/2)$	$O(n^2)$
	Triangulation, 4-coloring	$\text{floor}(2n/3)$	$O(n^2)$
	Exterior, triangulation, 3-coloring	$\text{floor}(2n/3+1)$	$O(T)$
<b>Orthogonal</b>	Exterior, quad., 4-coloring	$\text{floor}((7n/16)+5)$	$O(T)$

## Contents

- Interior Visibility
  - Art Gallery Problem
    - Overview
    - Fisk's Proof
    - Reflex Vertices
    - Convex Partitioning
    - Orthogonal Polygons
  - Mobile Guards
  - Miscellaneous Shapes
    - Star, Spiral, Monotone
- Exterior Visibility
  - Fortress Problem
  - Prison Yard Problem
- ⇒ ■ **Minimal Guards**

## Minimal Guard Coverage

- Seek the placement of a minimal number of guards that cover a polygon P
  - In general, a NP-complete problem

## Minimal Guard Coverage

Polygon	Cover		Partition	
	<i>w. Steiner</i>	<i>w/o Steiner</i>	<i>w. Steiner</i>	<i>w/o Steiner</i>
Simple Polygons	NP-hard	NP-complete	?	$O(n^2 \log n)$
Polygons with Holes	NP-hard	NP-complete	NP-hard	NP-complete