

# *Computational Geometry Algorithms Library*

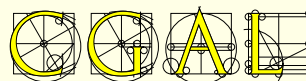
[www.cgal.org](http://www.cgal.org)

Monique Teillaud



# Overview

- The CGAL Open Source Project
- Structure of CGAL
- The Kernel
- Numerical Robustness
- Contents of the Basic Library
- Flexibility
- Work in Progress



# The Open Source Project

## Goals

- Promote the research in Computational Geometry (CG)
- *“make the large body of geometric algorithms developed in the field of CG available for industrial applications”*

⇒ **robust programs**

## Goals

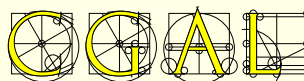
- Promote the research in Computational Geometry (CG)
- *“make the large body of geometric algorithms developed in the field of CG available for industrial applications”*

⇒ **robust programs**

### CG Impact Task Force Report, 1996

Among the key recommendations:

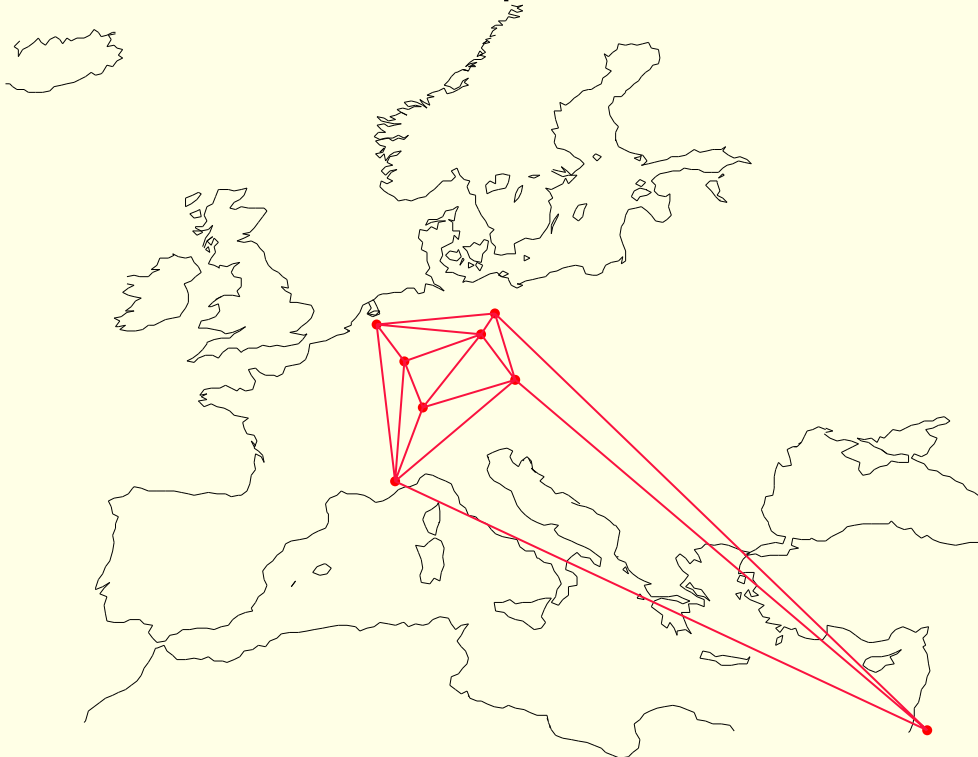
- Production and distribution of usable (and useful) geometric codes
- Reward structure for implementations in academia



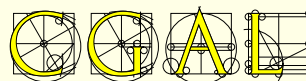
# History

Development started 1995

Consortium of 8 European sites



RISC Linz  
Utrecht University (XYZ Geobench)  
INRIA Sophia Antipolis (C++GAL)  
ETH Zürich (Plageo)  
MPI Saarbrücken (LEDA)  
Tel Aviv University  
Freie Universität Berlin  
Martin-Luther-Universität Halle



- Two ESPRIT LTR European Projects (1996-1999)
- Work continued after the end of European support in several sites.

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INRIAstartup

sells commercial licenses, support, customized developments



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INRIA startup

sells commercial licenses, support, customized developments

- November, 2003:

Release 3.0  
**Open Source Project**



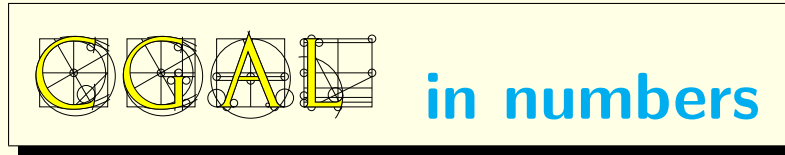
## License

- *kernel* under **LGPL**
- *basic library* under **QPL**
  - free use for OS code
  - commercial license needed otherwise

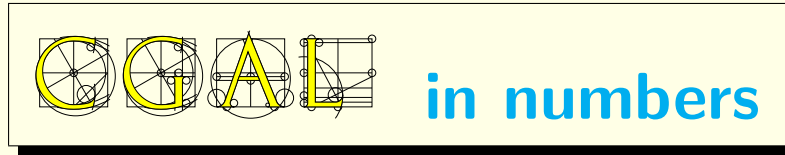
## License

- *kernel* under **LGPL**
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  - free use for OS code
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- A guarantee for CGAL users
- Allows CGAL to become a standard
- Opens CGAL for new **contributions**

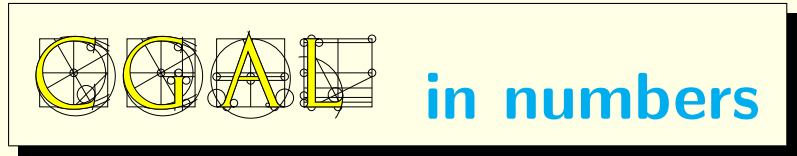




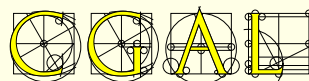
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- ~2000 pages manual



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- CGAL 2.4: 9300 downloads (18 months)
- CGAL 3.0.1: 6200 downloads (8 months)

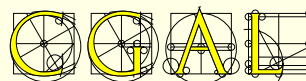


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- CGAL 2.4: 9300 downloads (18 months)
- CGAL 3.0.1: 6200 downloads (8 months)
- 4000 subscribers to the announcement list (7000 for gcc)
- 800 users registered on discussion list (600 in gcc-help)
- 50 developers registered on developer list



## Supported platforms

- Linux, Irix, Solaris, Windows
- Mac OS X (3.1)
- g++, SGI CC, SunProCC, VC7, Intel



## Development process

**Editorial Board** created in 2001.

- responsible for the **quality** of CGAL

New packages are **reviewed**.

→ helps authors to get **credit** for their work.



# Development process

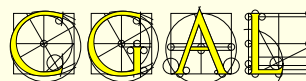
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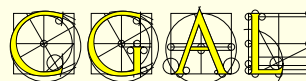
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→ helps authors to get **credit** for their work.

- decides about technical matters
- coordinates communication and promotion
- ...



Andreas Fabri (GEOMETRY FACTORY)  
Efi Fogel (Tel Aviv University)  
Bernd Gärtner (ETH Zürich)  
Michael Hoffmann (ETH Zürich)  
Menelaos Karavelas (University of Notre Dame, USA → Greece)  
Lutz Kettner (Max-Planck-Institut für Informatik)  
Sylvain Pion (INRIA Sophia Antipolis)  
Monique Teillaud (INRIA Sophia Antipolis)  
Remco Veltkamp (Utrecht University)  
Murielle Yvinec (INRIA Sophia Antipolis)



## Tools

- Own manual tools:  $\text{\LaTeX}$   $\longrightarrow$  ps, pdf, html
- CVS server for version management

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- 1-2 developers meetings per year, 1 week long
- 3 internal releases per week  
(1 per day before release)
- Automatic **test suites** running on all supported compilers/platforms



Credit

**Contributors keep their identity**

## Credit

### Contributors keep their identity

- up to 3.0.1: **names of authors** mentioned in the Preface
- 3.1 (soon) Names of authors appear at the beginning of each chapter.  
Section on history of the package at the end of each chapter
- CGAL developers listed on the “People” web page

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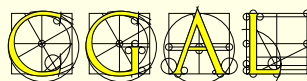
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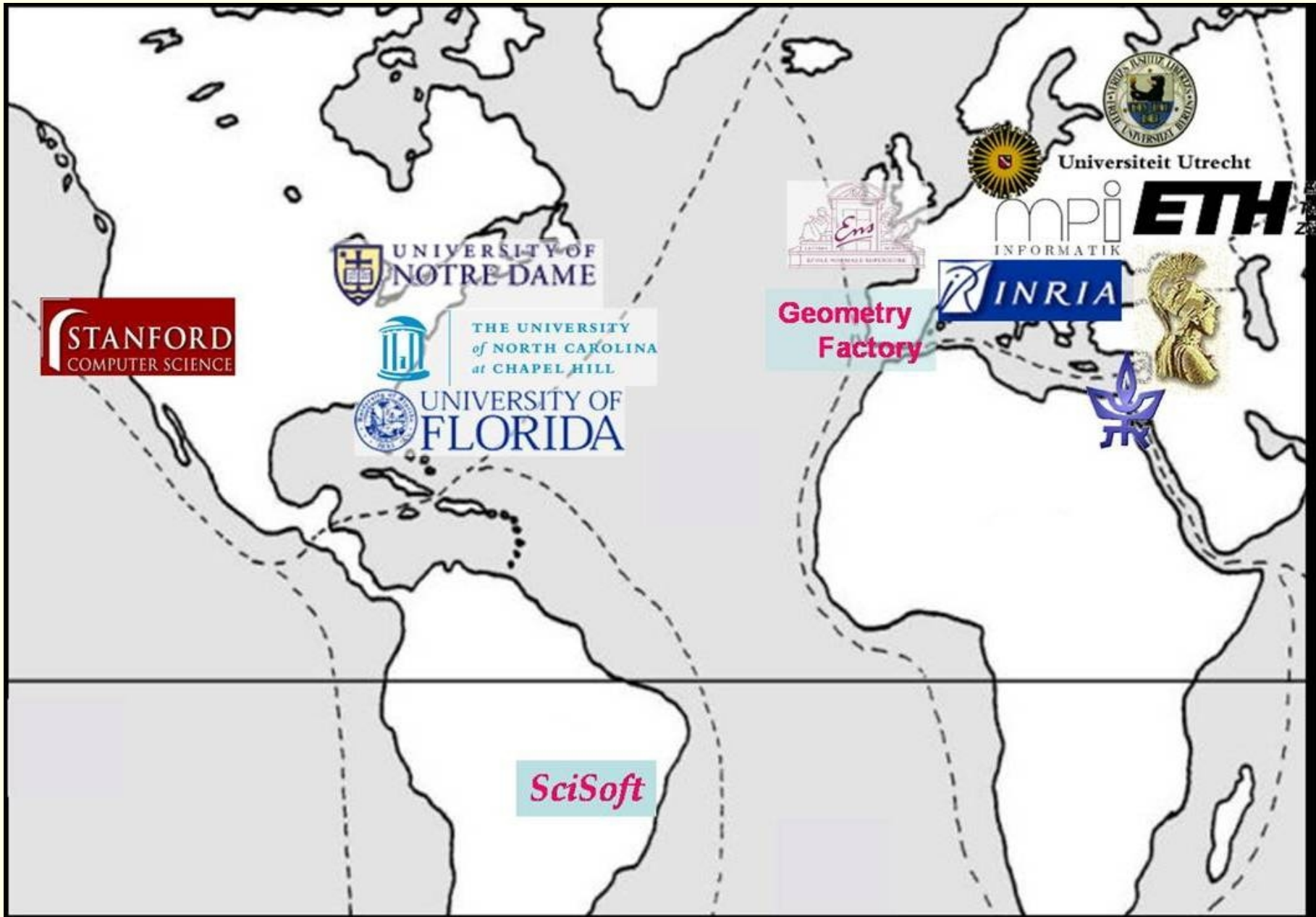


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- **Copyright** kept by the institution of the authors





## Users

### Projects using CGAL

Leonidas J. Guibas' and co-workers, Stanford University.

Tamal K. Dey's and co-workers, The Ohio State University.

Nina Amenta and co-workers, The University of Texas at Austin.

Xiangmin Jiao, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.  
(Surface Mesh Overlay)

Peter Coveney and co-workers, University of London.

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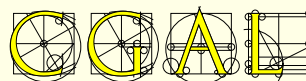
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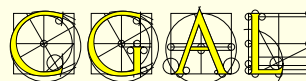
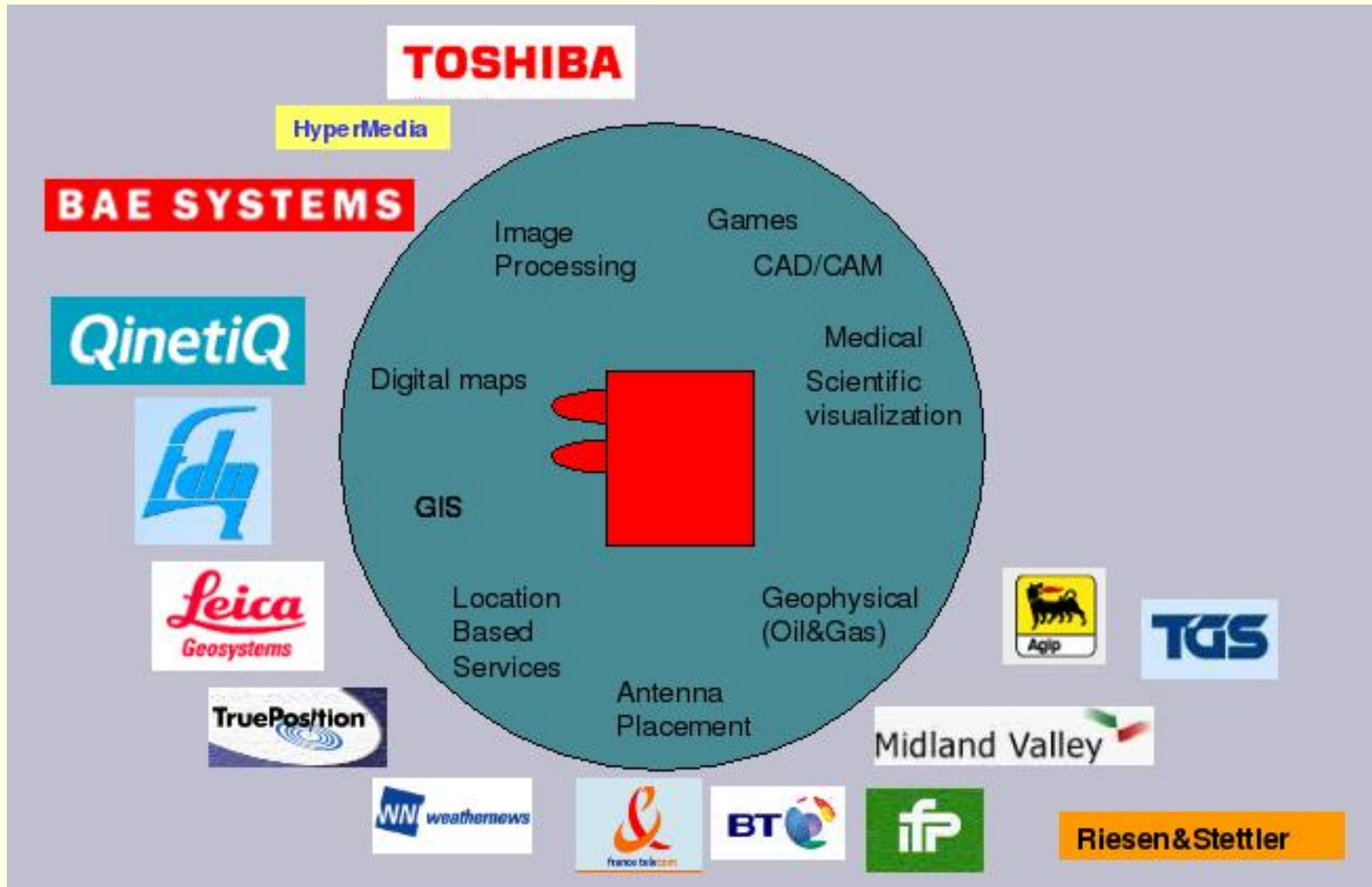
...

## Teaching

- Leo Guibas, Siu Wing Cheng, ...



# Commercial customers of Geometry Factory



# Structure of

## Basic Library

Algorithms and Data Structures

## Kernel

Geometric objects  
Geometric operations

## core library

configurations, assertions, ...

## Support Library

Visualization

File

I/O

NumberTypes

Generators

...



# The Kernel



## In the kernel

Elementary geometric objects

Elementary computations on them

### Primitives

#### 2D, 3D, dD

- Point
- Vector
- Triangle
- Iso\_rectangle
- Circle

...

### Predicates

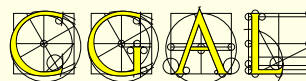
- comparison
- Orientation
- InSphere

...

### Constructions

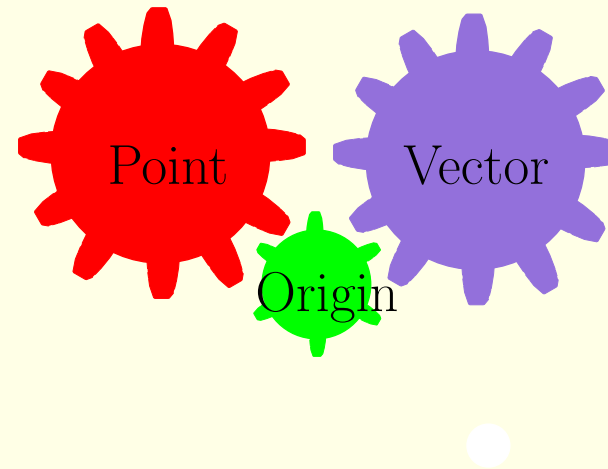
- intersection
- squared distance

...



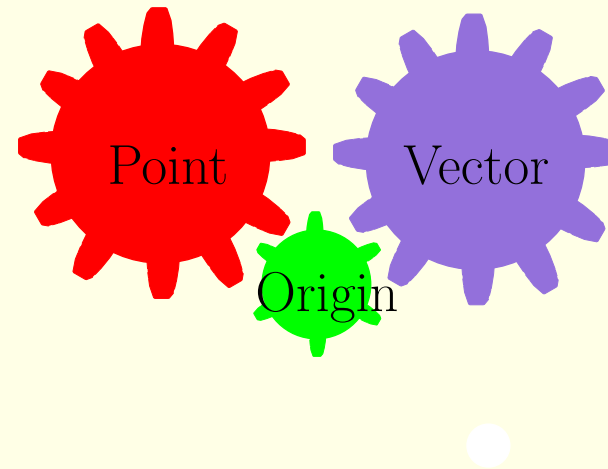
# Affine geometry

Point - Origin  $\rightarrow$  Vector  
Point - Point  $\rightarrow$  Vector  
Point + Vector  $\rightarrow$  Point



# Affine geometry

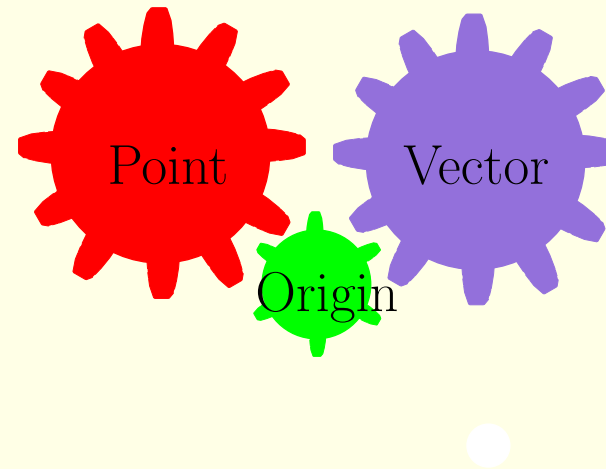
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Point + Point **illegal**

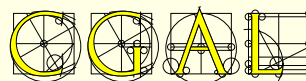
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Point + Point **illegal**

$$\text{midpoint}(a,b) = a + 1/2 \times (b-a)$$



# Kernels and Number Types

## Cartesian representation

$$\text{Point} \left| \begin{array}{l} x = \frac{hx}{hw} \\ y = \frac{hy}{hw} \end{array} \right.$$

## Homogeneous representation

$$\text{Point} \left| \begin{array}{l} hx \\ hy \\ hw \end{array} \right.$$

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Intersection of two lines

$$\begin{cases} a_1x + b_1y + c_1 = 0 \\ a_2x + b_2y + c_2 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} a_1hx + b_1hy + c_1hw = 0 \\ a_2hx + b_2hy + c_2hw = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$(x, y) = \left( \frac{\begin{vmatrix} b_1 & c_1 \\ b_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{vmatrix}}, -\frac{\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{vmatrix}} \right)$$

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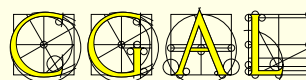
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## Field operations

## Ring operations



# C++ Templates

```
CGAL::Cartesian< FT >  
CGAL::Homogeneous< RT >
```

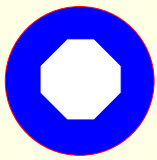
```
(CGAL::Simple_Cartesian)  
(CGAL::Simple_Homogeneous)
```



# C++ Templates

CGAL::Cartesian< FT >  
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Cartesian Kernels : Field type



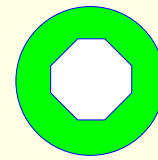
double



Quotient<Gmpz>



leda\_real



Homogeneous Kernels : Ring type



int



Gmpz

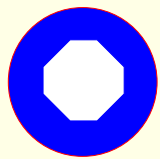


double

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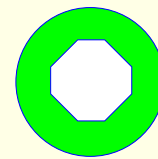
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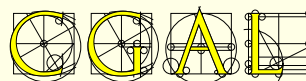
Gmpz



double

→ Flexibility

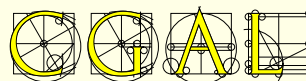
```
typedef double NumberType;  
typedef Cartesian< NumberType > Kernel;  
typedef Kernel::Point_2 Point;
```



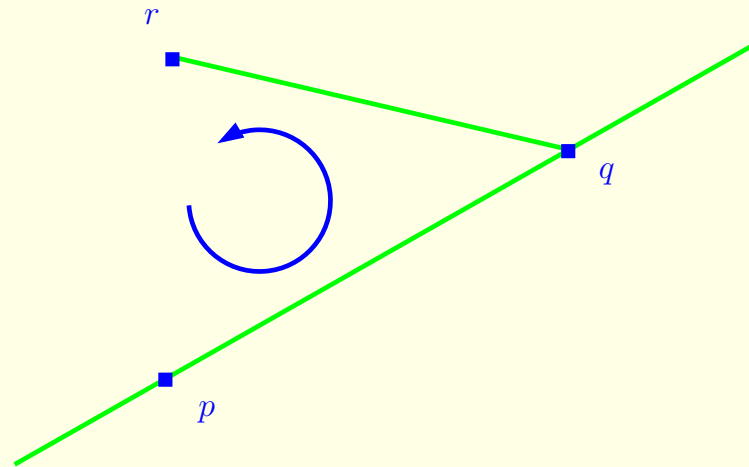
## Numerical Issues

```
typedef CGAL::Cartesian<NT> Kernel;  
NT sqrt2 = sqrt( NT(2) );  
  
Kernel::Point_2 p(0,0), q(sqrt2,sqrt2);  
Kernel::Circle_2 C(p,2);  
  
assert( C.has_on_boundary(q) );
```

OK if NT gives exact sqrt  
assertion violation otherwise



## Orientation of 2D points



$$\begin{aligned} \textit{orientation}(p, q, r) &= \textit{sign} \left( \det \begin{bmatrix} p_x & p_y & 1 \\ q_x & q_y & 1 \\ r_x & r_y & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) \\ &= \textit{sign}((q_x - p_x)(r_y - p_y) - (q_y - p_y)(r_x - p_x)) \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} p &= (0.5 + x.u, 0.5 + y.u) \\ 0 &\leq x, y < 256, \quad u = 2^{-53} \\ q &= (12, 12) \\ r &= (24, 24) \end{aligned}$$

$$p = (0.5 + x.u, 0.5 + y.u)$$
$$0 \leq x, y < 256, \quad u = 2^{-53}$$
$$q = (12, 12)$$
$$r = (24, 24)$$

*orientation*( $p, q, r$ )

evaluated with double

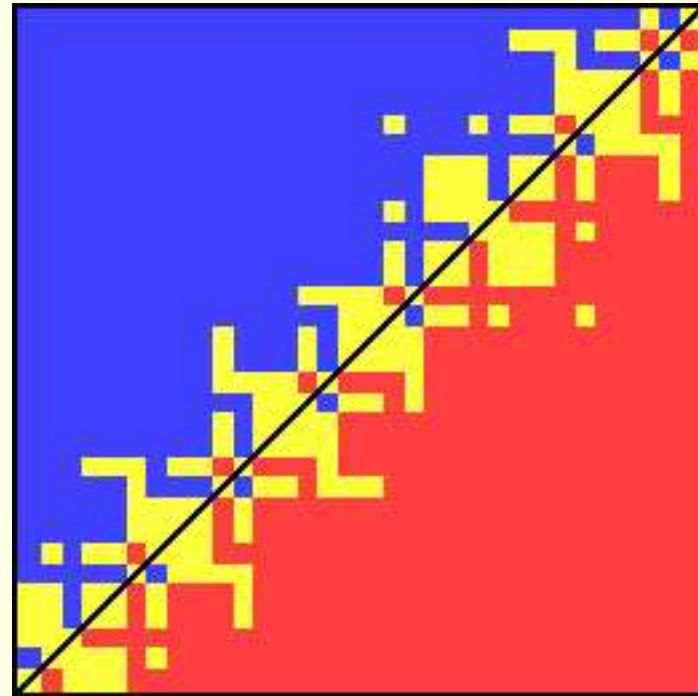
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evaluated with double

256 x 256 pixel image

**> 0**, **= 0**, **< 0**



$$p = (0.5 + x.u, 0.5 + y.u)$$

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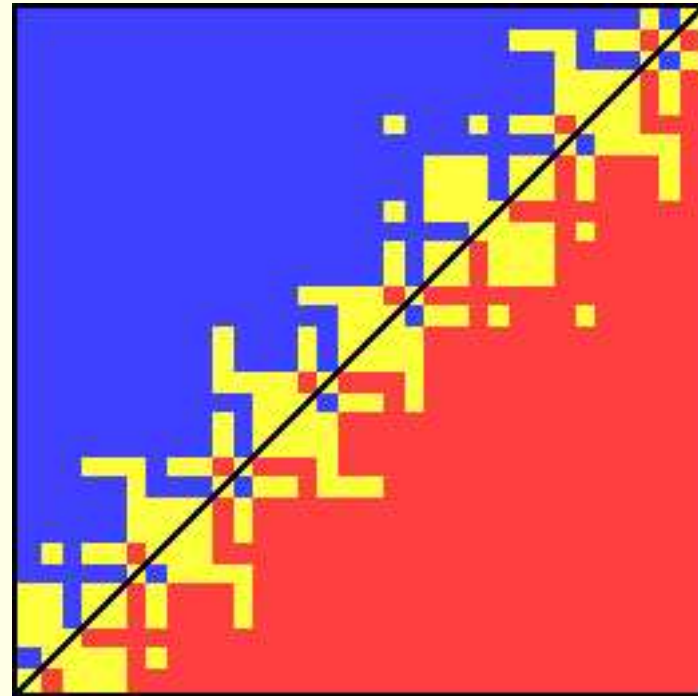
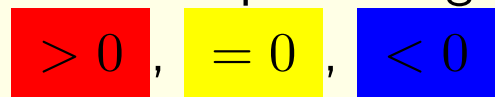
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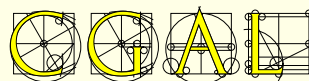
evaluated with double

256 x 256 pixel image



→ **inconsistencies** in predicate evaluations

[Kettner, Mehlhorn, Pion, Schirra, Yap, ESA'04]





# Numerical Robustness in

imprecise numerical evaluations

→ non-robustness

combinatorial result

imprecise numerical evaluations

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combinatorial result

## Exact Geometric Computation

imprecise numerical evaluations

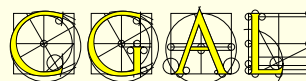
→ non-robustness

combinatorial result

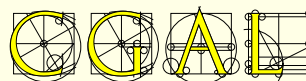
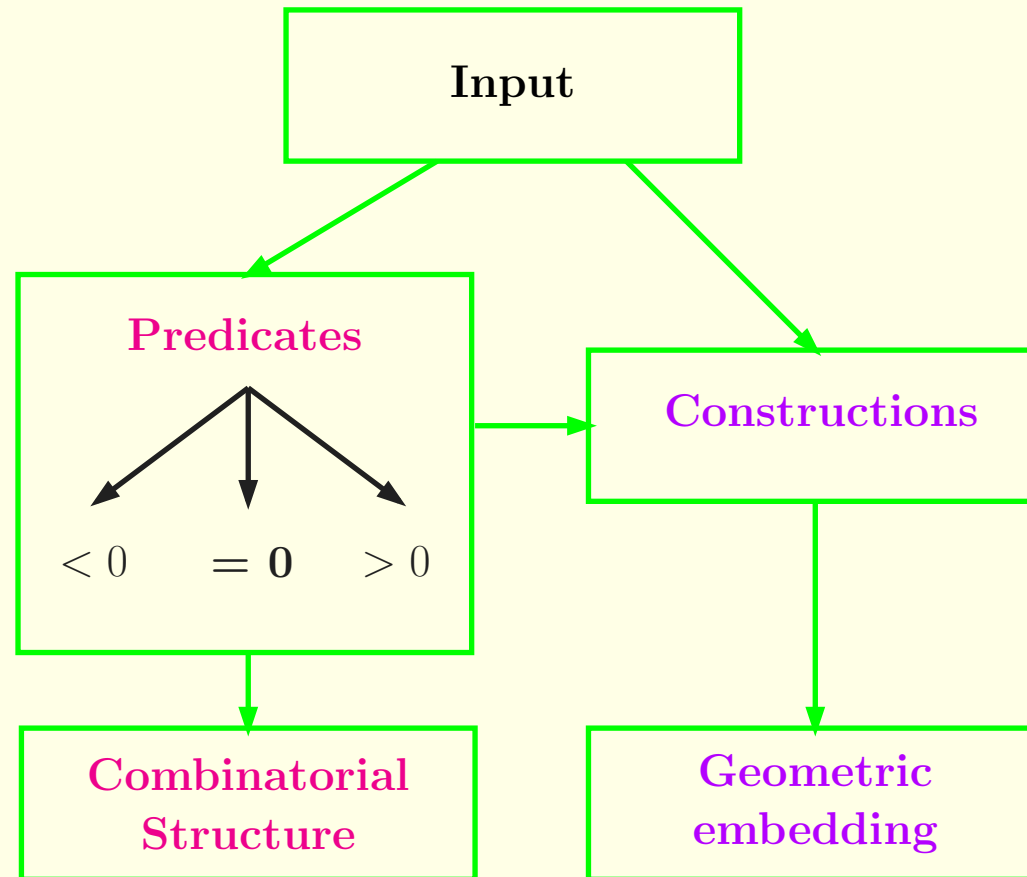
## Exact Geometric Computation

≠

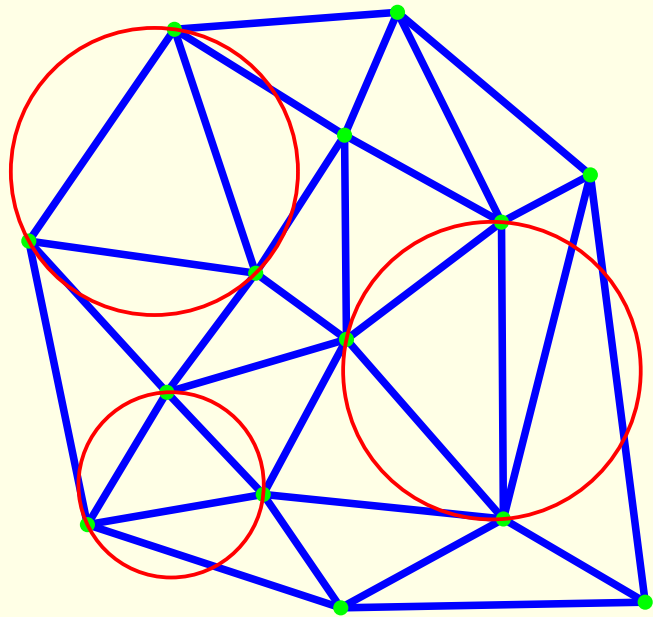
exact arithmetics



# Predicates and Constructions

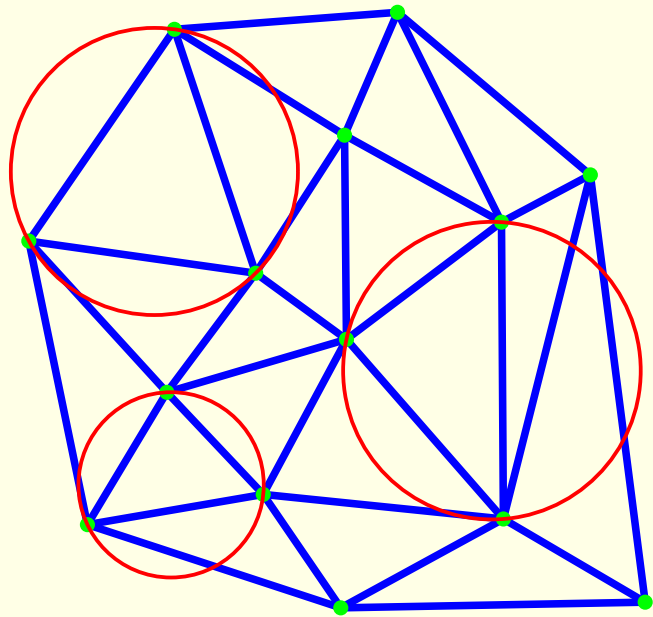


## Delaunay triangulation



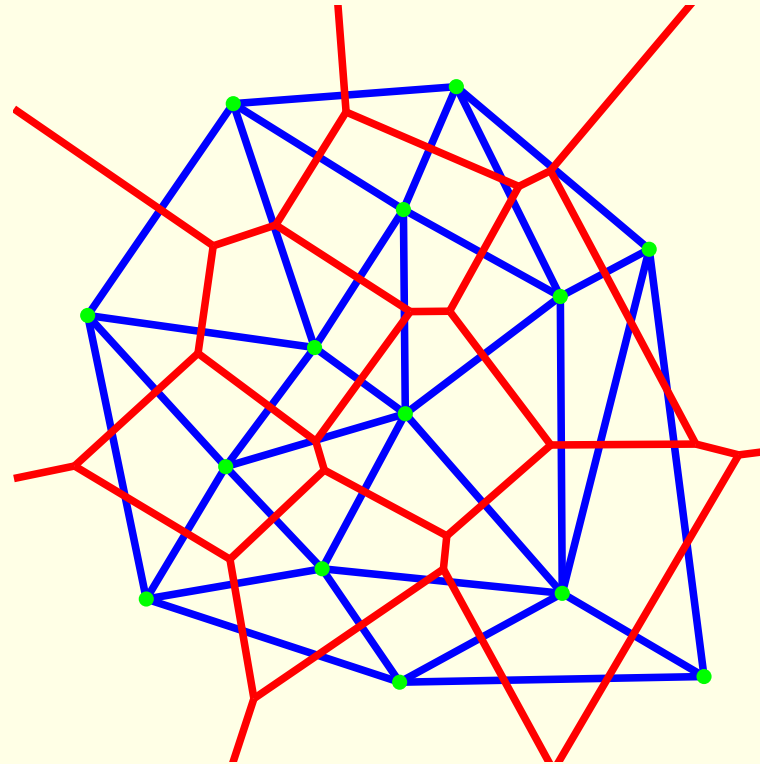
only **predicates** are used  
*orientation, in\_sphere*

## Delaunay triangulation



only **predicates** are used  
*orientation, in\_sphere*

## Voronoi diagram



**constructions** are needed  
*circumcenter*

## Arithmetic tools

- **Multiprecision integers**

Exact evaluation of signs / values of polynomial expressions with integer coefficients

**CGAL::MP\_Float, GMP::mpz\_t, LEDA::integer, ...**



## Arithmetic tools

- **Multiprecision integers**

Exact evaluation of signs / values of polynomial expressions with integer coefficients

CGAL::MP\_Float, GMP::mpz\_t, LEDA::integer, ...

- **Multiprecision floats**

idem, with float coefficients ( $n2^m, n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$ )

CGAL::MP\_Float, GMP::mpf\_t, LEDA::bigfloat, ...

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Exact evaluation of signs / values of polynomial expressions with integer coefficients

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CGAL::MP\_Float, GMP::mpf\_t, LEDA::bigfloat, ...

- **Multiprecision rationals**

Exact evaluation of signs / values of rational expressions

CGAL::Quotient< · >, GMP::mpq\_t, LEDA::rational, ...

## Arithmetic tools

- **Multiprecision integers**

Exact evaluation of signs / values of polynomial expressions with integer coefficients

**CGAL::MP\_Float, GMP::mpz\_t, LEDA::integer, ...**

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- **Multiprecision rationals**

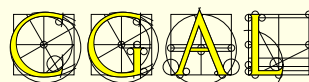
Exact evaluation of signs / values of rational expressions

**CGAL::Quotient< · >, GMP::mpq\_t, LEDA::rational, ...**

- **Algebraic numbers**

Exact comparison of roots of polynomials

**LEDA::real, Core::Expr** (work in progress in CGAL)



# Filtering Predicates

sign ( $P(x)$ ) ?

Approximate evaluation  $P^a(x)$   
+ Error  $\varepsilon$

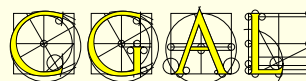
$|P^a(x)| > \varepsilon$   
?

y

n

sign ( $P(x)$ ) = sign ( $P^a(x)$ )

Exact computation



## Static filtering

Error bound precomputed

faster

## Static filtering

Error bound precomputed

faster

## Dynamic filtering

Interval arithmetic

more precise

Number types: **CGAL::Interval\_nt**, **MPFR/MPFI**, **boost::interval**

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**CGAL::Filtered\_kernel**  $\langle K \rangle$  kernel wrapper

[Pion]

Replaces predicates of **K** by filtered and exact predicates.  
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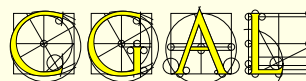
**CGAL::Filtered\_kernel**  $\langle K \rangle$  kernel wrapper

[Pion]

Replaces predicates of **K** by filtered and exact predicates.  
( exact predicates computed with MP\_Float )

Dynamic only in CGAL 3.0 (Static filters exist but undocumented)  
Static + Dynamic in CGAL 3.1

→ more generic generator also available for user's predicates





## Filtering Constructions

Number type `CGAL::Lazy_exact_nt < Exact_NT >`

[Pion]

Delays exact evaluation with `Exact_NT`:

- stores a **DAG** of the expression
- computes first an approximation with `Interval_nt`
- allows to control the relative precision of `to_double`

# Filtering Constructions

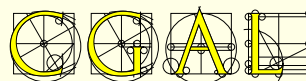
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**CGAL::Lazy\_kernel** in progress



## Predefined kernels

### Exact\_predicates\_exact\_constructions\_kernel

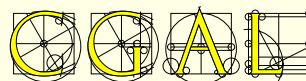
Filtered\_kernel< Cartesian< Lazy\_exact\_nt< Quotient< MP\_Float >>>>

### Exact\_predicates\_exact\_constructions\_kernel\_with\_sqrt

Filtered\_kernel< Cartesian< Core::Expr >>

### Exact\_predicates\_inexact\_constructions\_kernel

Filtered\_kernel< Cartesian< double >>



## Efficiency

### 3D Delaunay triangulation

CGAL-3.1-I-124

Pentium-M 1.7 GHz, 1GB  
g++ 3.3.2, -O2 -DNDEBUG

1.000.000 random points

Simple\_Cartesian< double > **48.1 sec**

Simple\_Cartesian< MP\_Float > **2980.2 sec**

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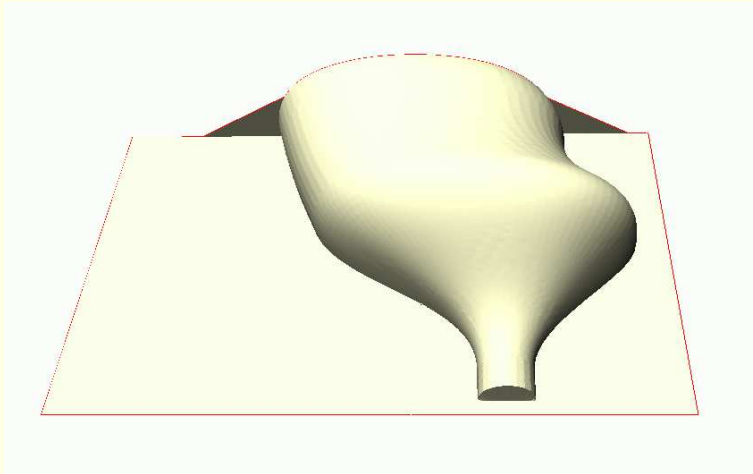
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49.787 points (Dassault Systèmes)

double **loop !**

exact and filtered < 8 sec

## Robustness of Delaunay triangulations

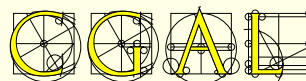
Kernel and arithmetics  $\longrightarrow$  Numerical robustness

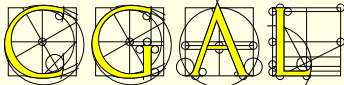
## Robustness of Delaunay triangulations

Kernel and arithmetics  $\longrightarrow$  Numerical robustness

Algorithms  $\longrightarrow$  explicit treatment of **degenerate cases**

Symbolic perturbation for 3D dynamic Delaunay triangulations  
[Devillers Teillaud SODA'03]



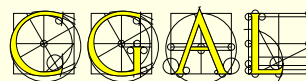
the  Contents of  
Basic Library



# Convex Hull

[MPI]

- 5 different algorithms in 2D
- 3 different algorithms in 3D



# Triangulations and related

[INRIA]

- 2D/3D Triangle/Tetrahedron based data-structure

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Delaunay hierarchy [Devillers '98 '02]
- 2D/3D Regular Triangulations  
(3D: dynamic in 3.1)
- 2D Constrained Delaunay Triangulation

# Triangulations and related

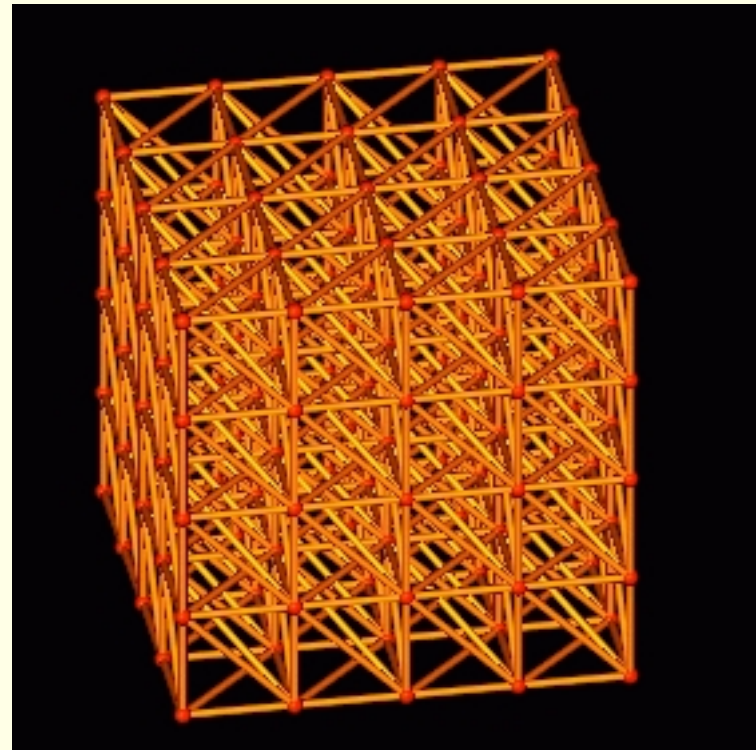
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- 2D Segment Voronoi Diagram  
(3.1 [Karavelas])
- 2D Meshes (3.1)

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# Polyhedra

[MPI]

- Half-edge data-structure

# Polyhedra

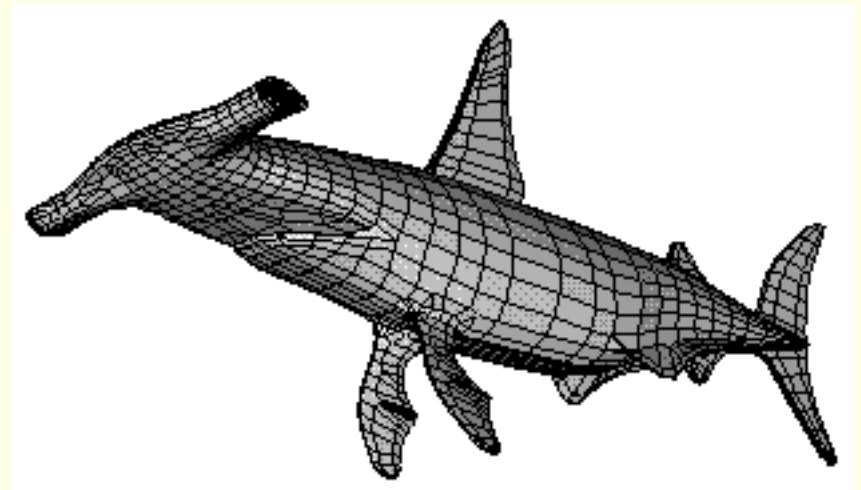
[MPI]

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# Polyhedra

[MPI]

- Half-edge data-structure
- Polyhedral surface  
(orientable 2-manifold with boundary)
- 2D Nef polygons
- 3D Nef polyhedra (3.1)

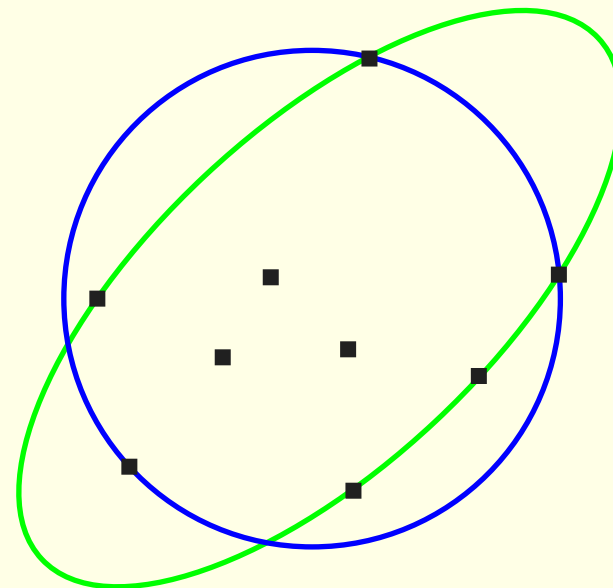




# Geometric Optimization

[ETH]

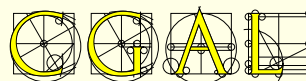
- Smallest enclosing circle and ellipse in 2D
- Smallest enclosing sphere in dD
- Largest empty rectangle
- . . . .



# Arrangements

[Tel-Aviv]

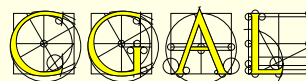
- Line segments or polylines
- Conic arcs with Leda or Core



# Search Structures

Arbitrary dimension

- Range-tree, Segment-tree, kD-tree
- Window query
- Approximate nearest neighbors
- . . . .



# Flexibility in the Basic Library

## “Traits” classes

convex\_hull\_2<InputIterator, OutputIterator, Traits>  
Polygon\_2<Traits, Container>  
Polyhedron\_3<Traits, HDS>  
Triangulation\_3<Traits, TDS>  
Min\_circle\_2<Traits>  
Range\_tree\_k<Traits>  
....

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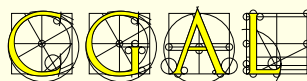
**Geometric traits classes** provide:  
Geometric objects + predicates + constructors

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....

**Geometric traits classes** provide:  
Geometric objects + predicates + constructors

- The **Kernel** can be used as a traits class for several algorithms
- Otherwise: **Default traits classes** provided
- The **user** can plug his own traits class



# Playing with traits classes

## Delaunay Triangulation

**Requirements** for a traits class:

- Point
- orientation test, in\_circle test

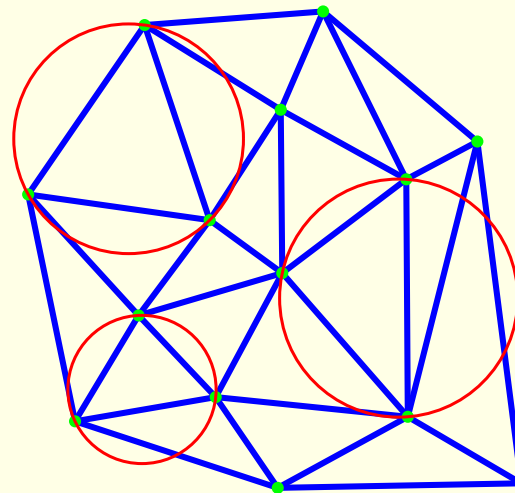


# Playing with traits classes

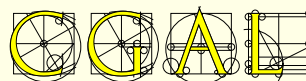
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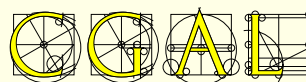
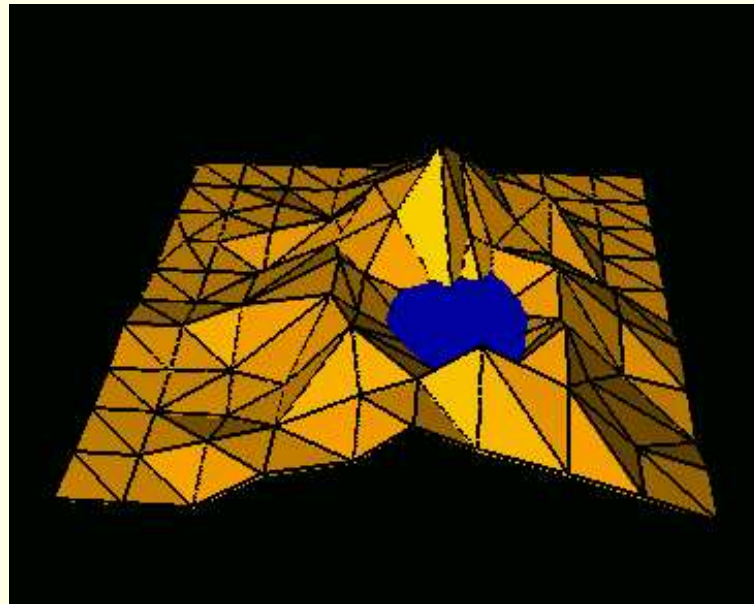
```
typedef CGAL::Exact_predicates_inexact_constructions_kernel K;  
typedef CGAL::Delaunay_triangulation_2< K > Delaunay;
```



- 3D points: coordinates  $(x, y, z)$
- orientation, in\_circle: on  $x$  and  $y$  coordinates

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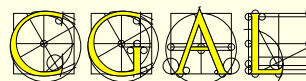
```
typedef CGAL::Exact_predicates_inexact_constructions_kernel K;  
typedef CGAL::Triangulation_euclidean_traits_xy_3< K > Traits;  
typedef CGAL::Delaunay_triangulation_2< Traits > Terrain;
```



## More flexibility

The user can add information in vertices and cells

...



# Work in Progress

# Kinetic Data Structures

[Russel Karavelas]

## **Kinetic Data Structures**

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## **Persistent Homology**

[Kettner Zomorodian]

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[Rineau Yvinec]

## 2D Interpolation

[Flötotto]

## Curved Kernel

Extension of the CGAL kernel

Algebraic issues

[Emiris Kakargias Pion Tsigaridas Teillaud SoCG'04]

. . .

