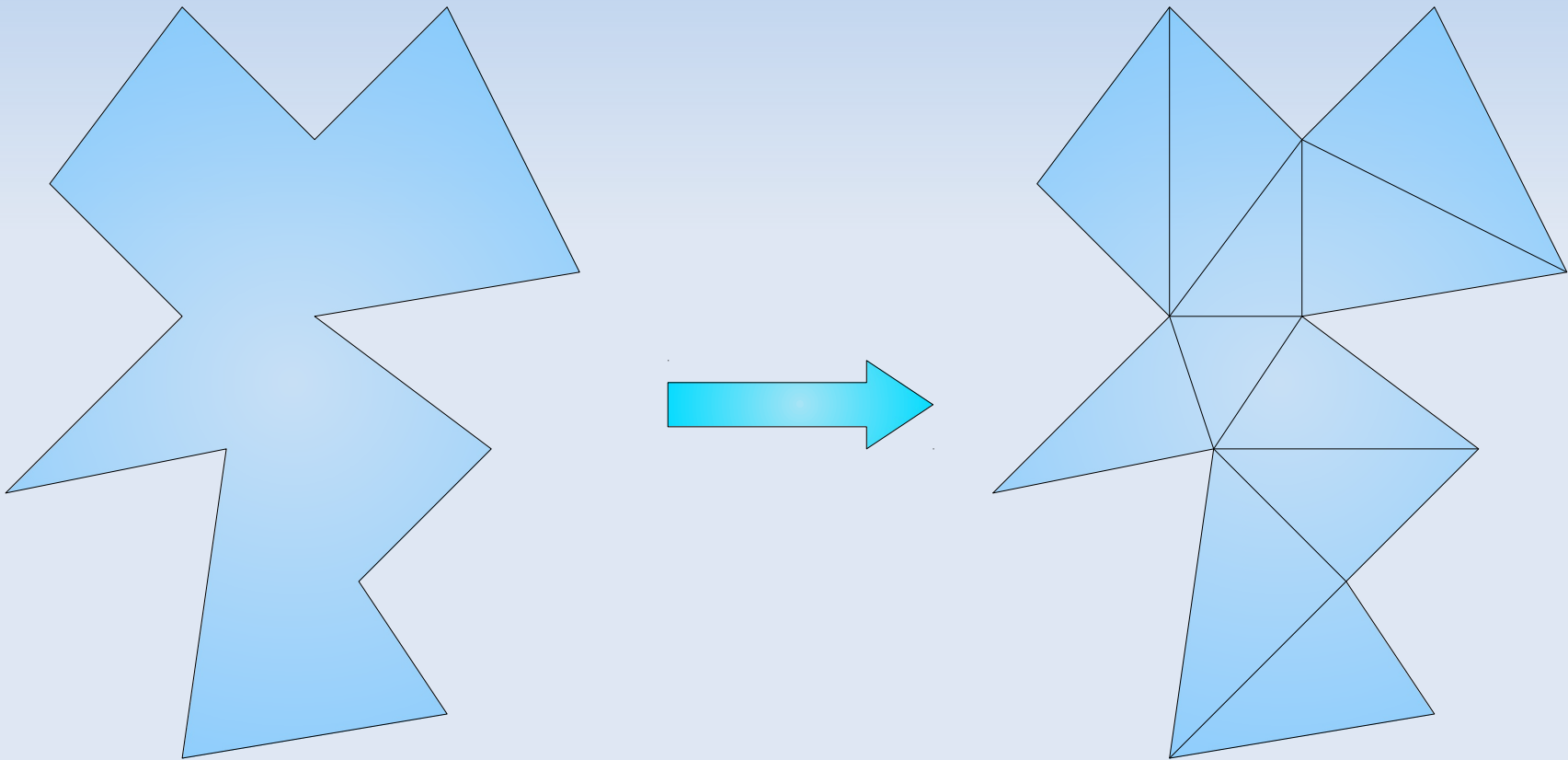


# Week 2 Polygon Triangulation



# What is a polygon?

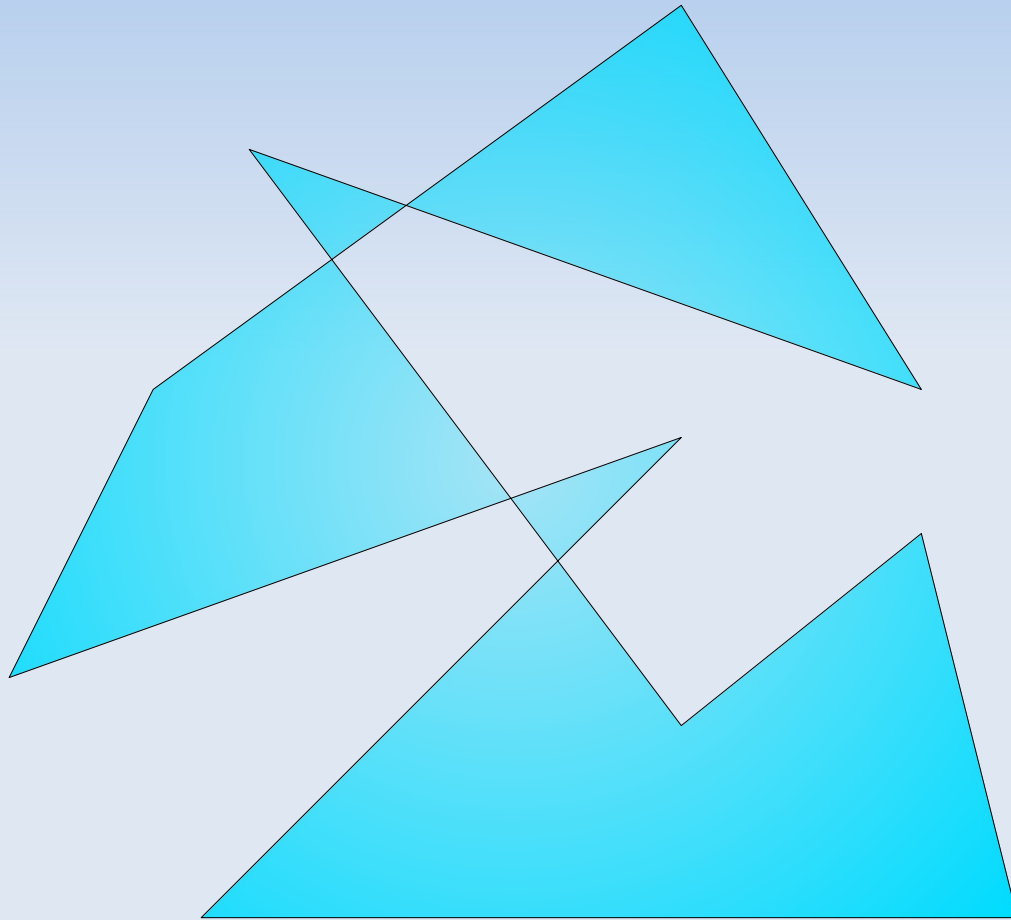
Last week

A **polygonal chain** is a connected series of line segments

A **closed polygonal chain** is a polygonal chain, such that there is also a line segment between the first and the last vertices

A **polygon** is a **2D** region bounded by a **closed polygonal chain**.

# Is this a polygon?



# Simple polygons

This is a polygon, but not a **simple** polygon!

Most people omit non-simple polygons

We will do the same

When we say polygon, we mean a simple polygon

# Formal definition

A **polygon** is the **region of a plane** bounded by a **finite** collection of **line segments** forming a **simple closed curve**.

The intersection of adjacent segments is the shared end point

Nonadjacent segments **do not** intersect

# Jordan Curve Theorem

*Every simple closed plane curve divides the plane into two components*

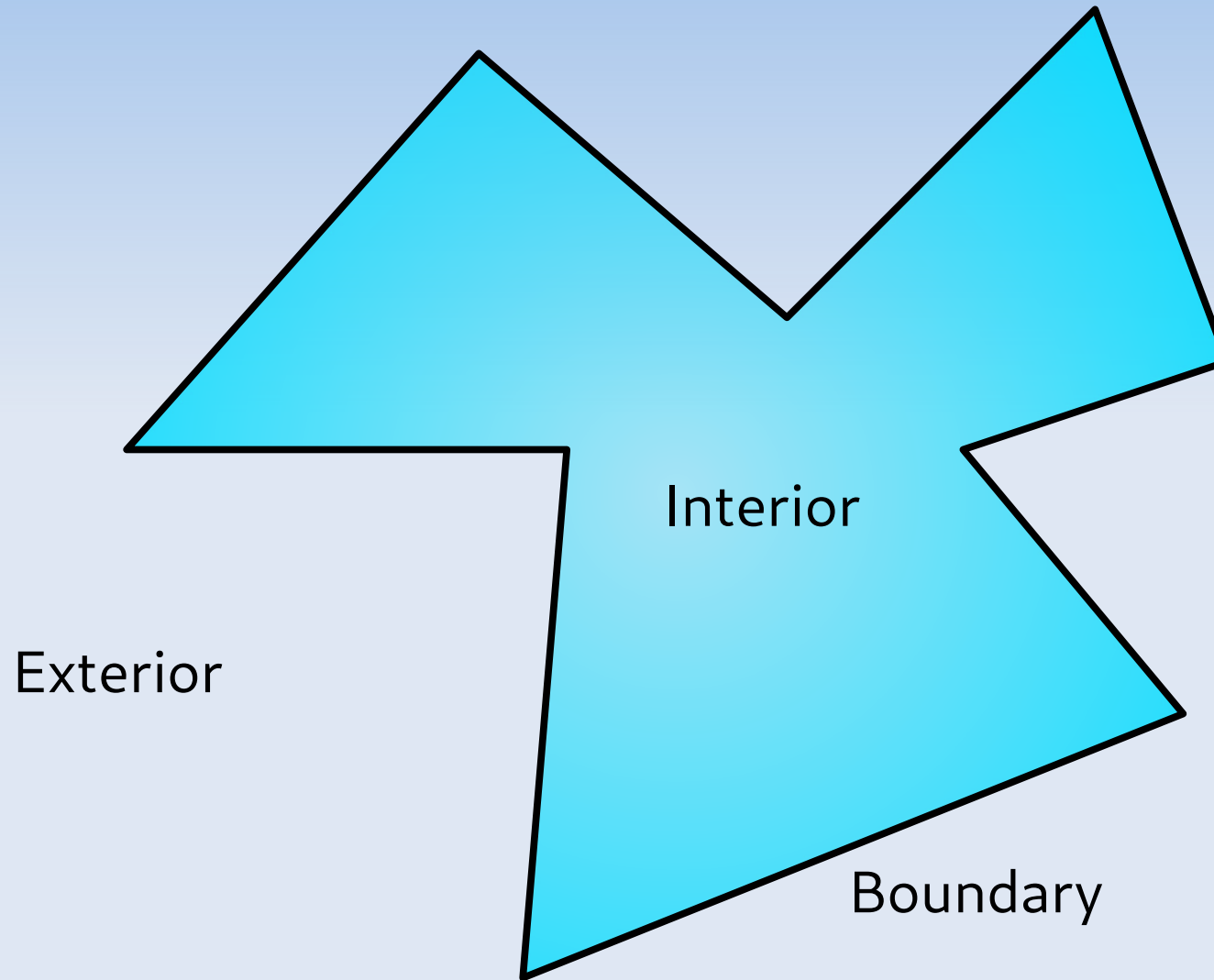
A closed polygonal chain  $P$  is a simple closed plane curve!

it divides the plane into two components

the chain is the **boundary**  $\partial P$

the components are the **interior** and **exterior** of  $P$

# Boundary, interior, exterior



Polygon = Boundary + Interior

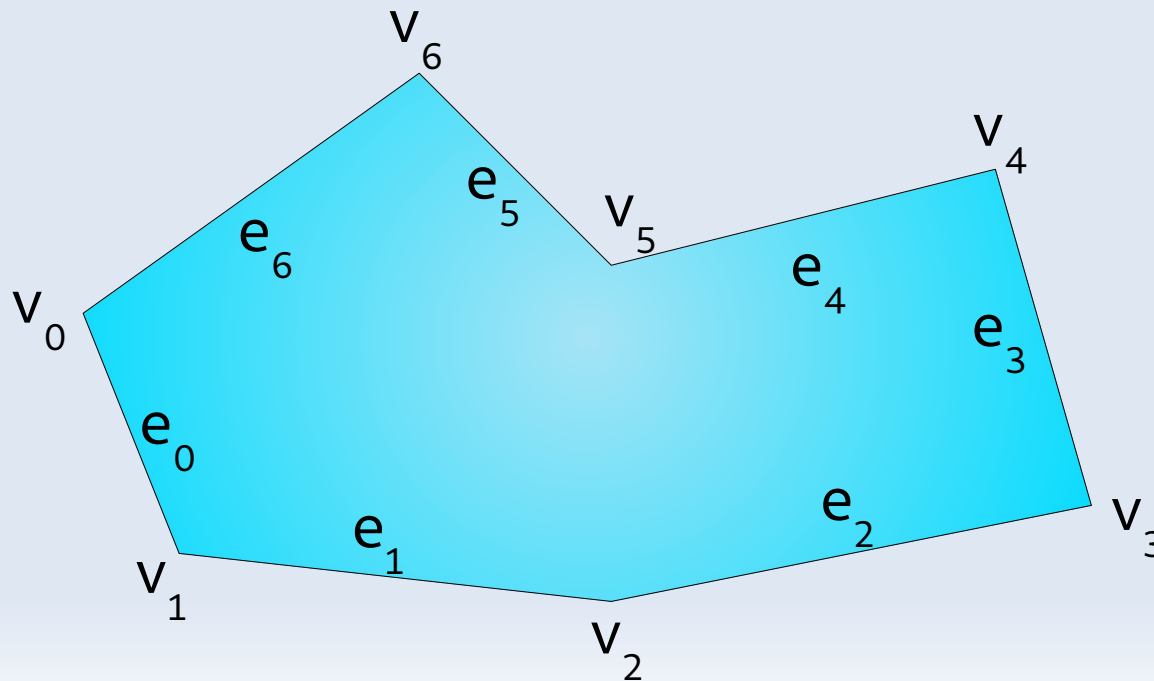
# Cyclic ordering of vertices and edges

A polygon defines a cycling order of its vertices

$$v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}$$

...and edges

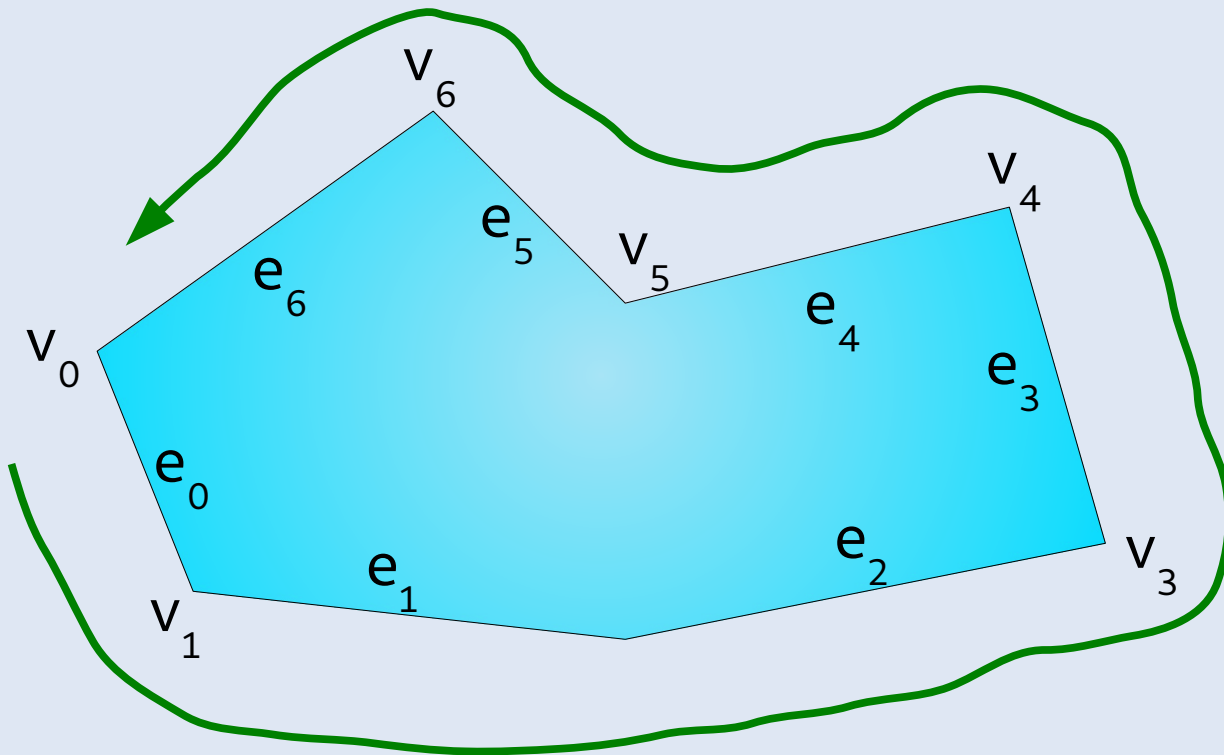
$$e_0 = v_0 v_1, e_1 = v_1 v_2, e_2 = v_2 v_3, \dots, e_{n-1} = v_{n-1} v_0$$





# Boundary Traversal

Visiting every vertex/edge in the given cyclic order is called a **boundary traversal**



# The Art Gallery Problem

Given an art gallery room whose floor plan can be modelled as a polygon with  $n$  vertices:

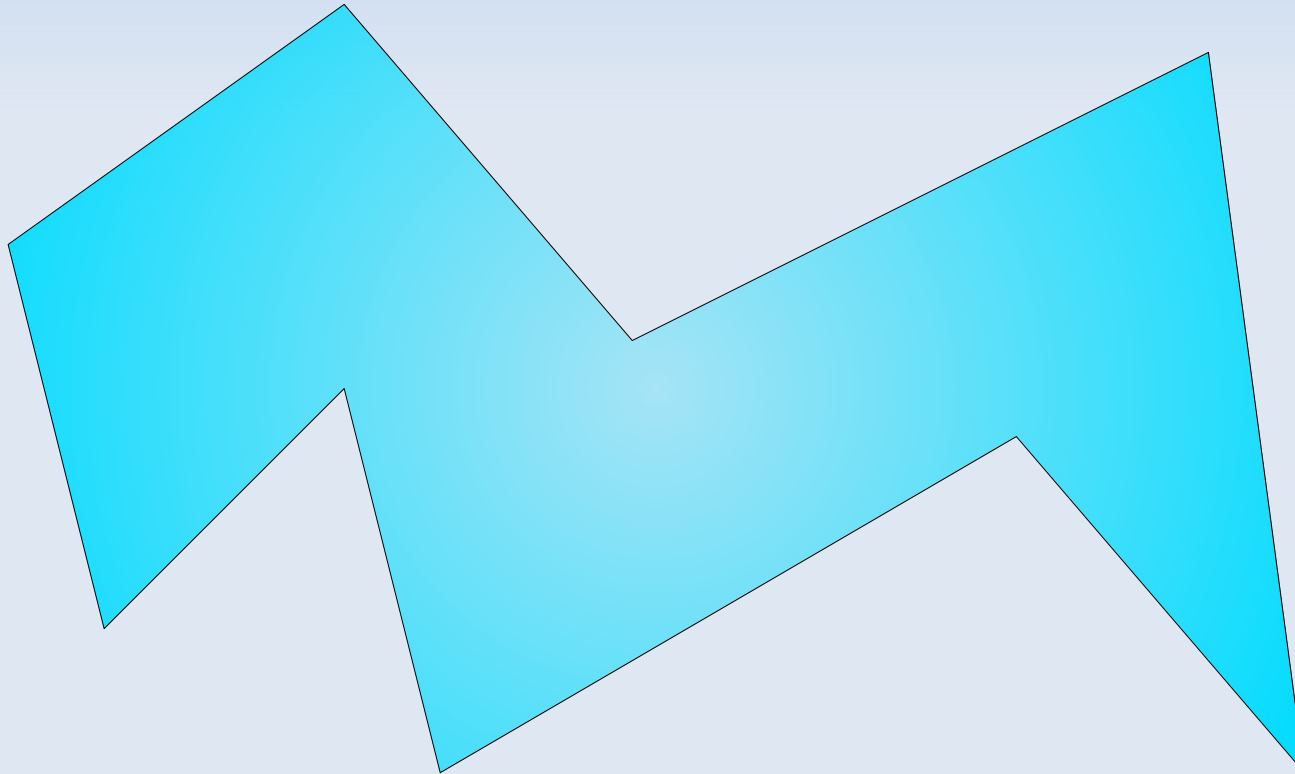
How many stationary guards do you need to secure the gallery?

Guards can see in  $360^\circ$

But not through walls!

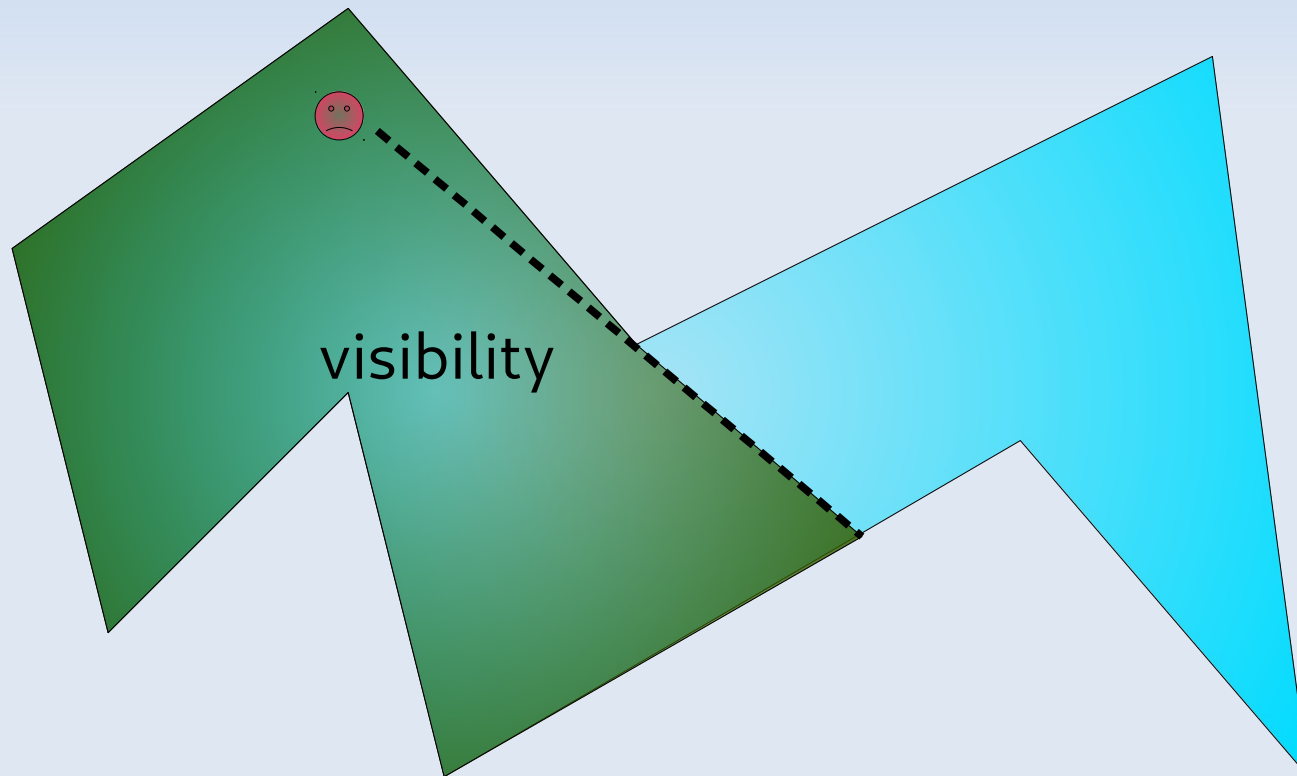
# Example

How many guards do you need?



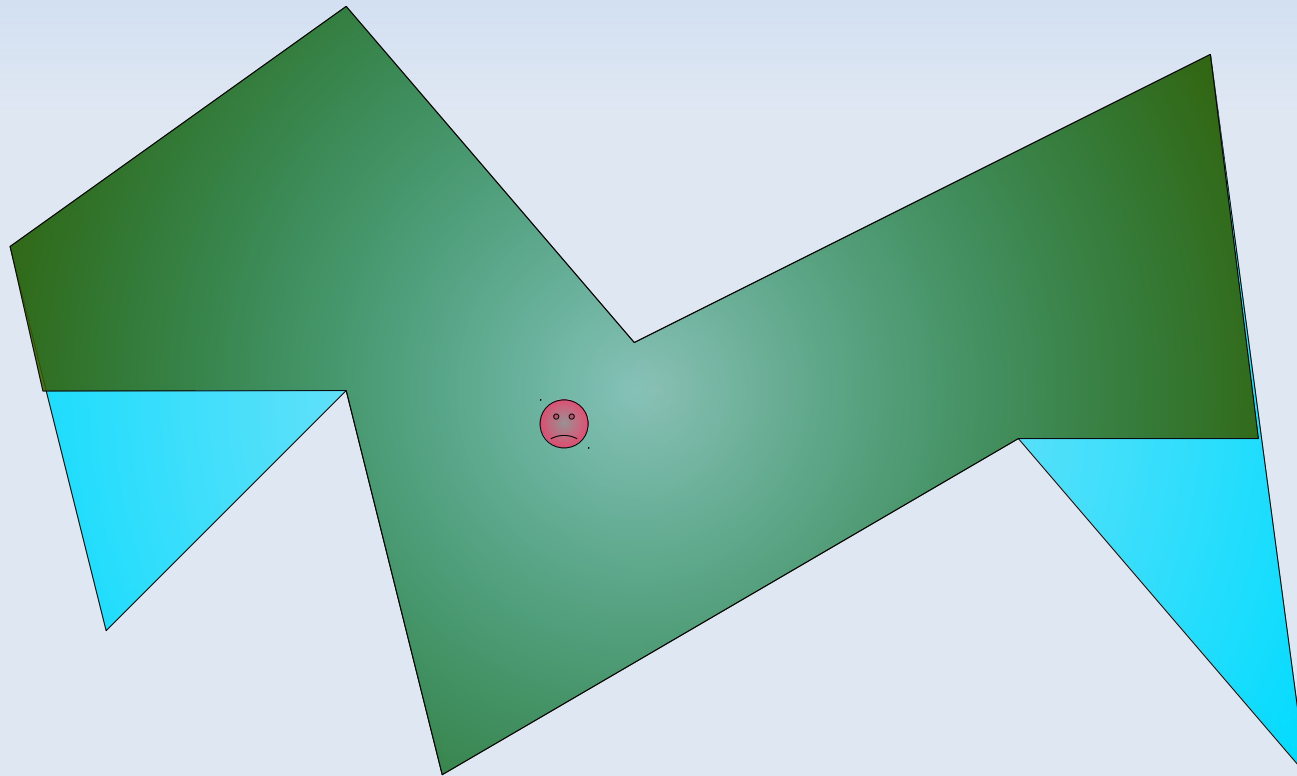
# Example

How many guards do you need?



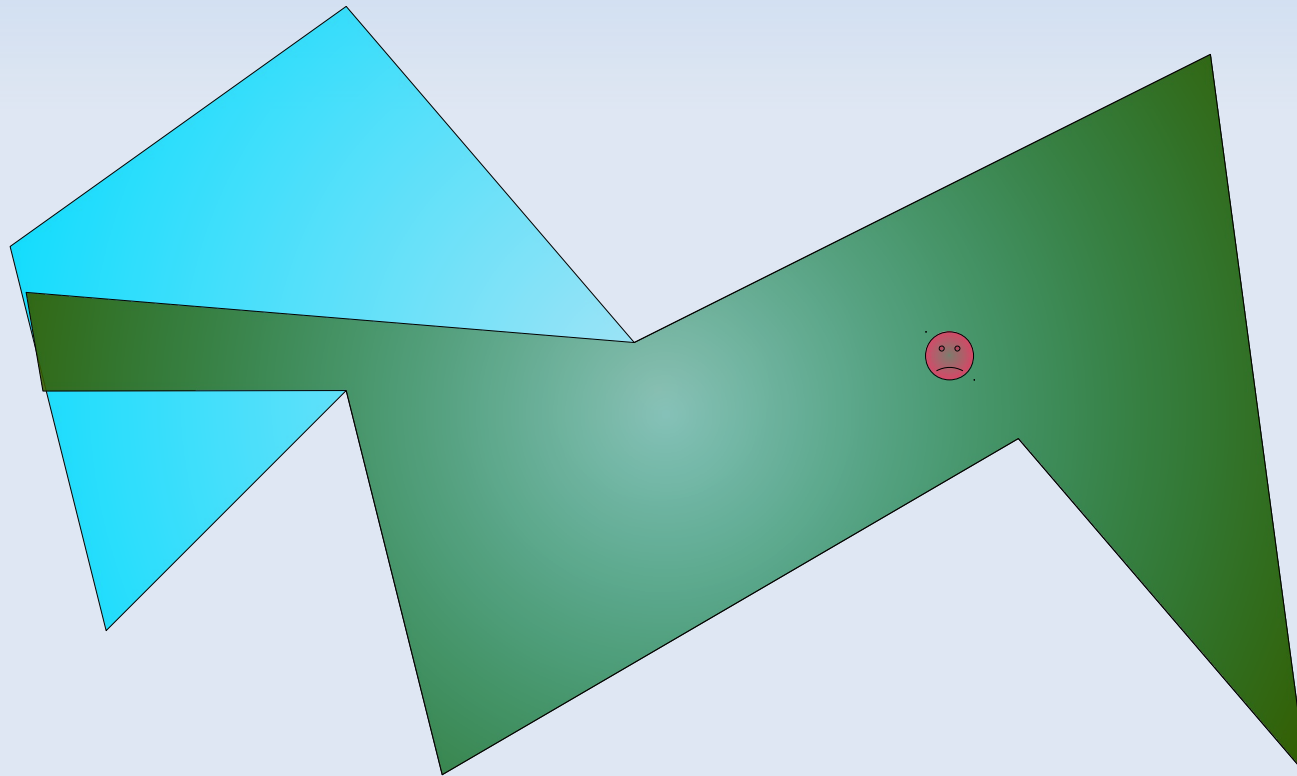
# Example

How many guards do you need?



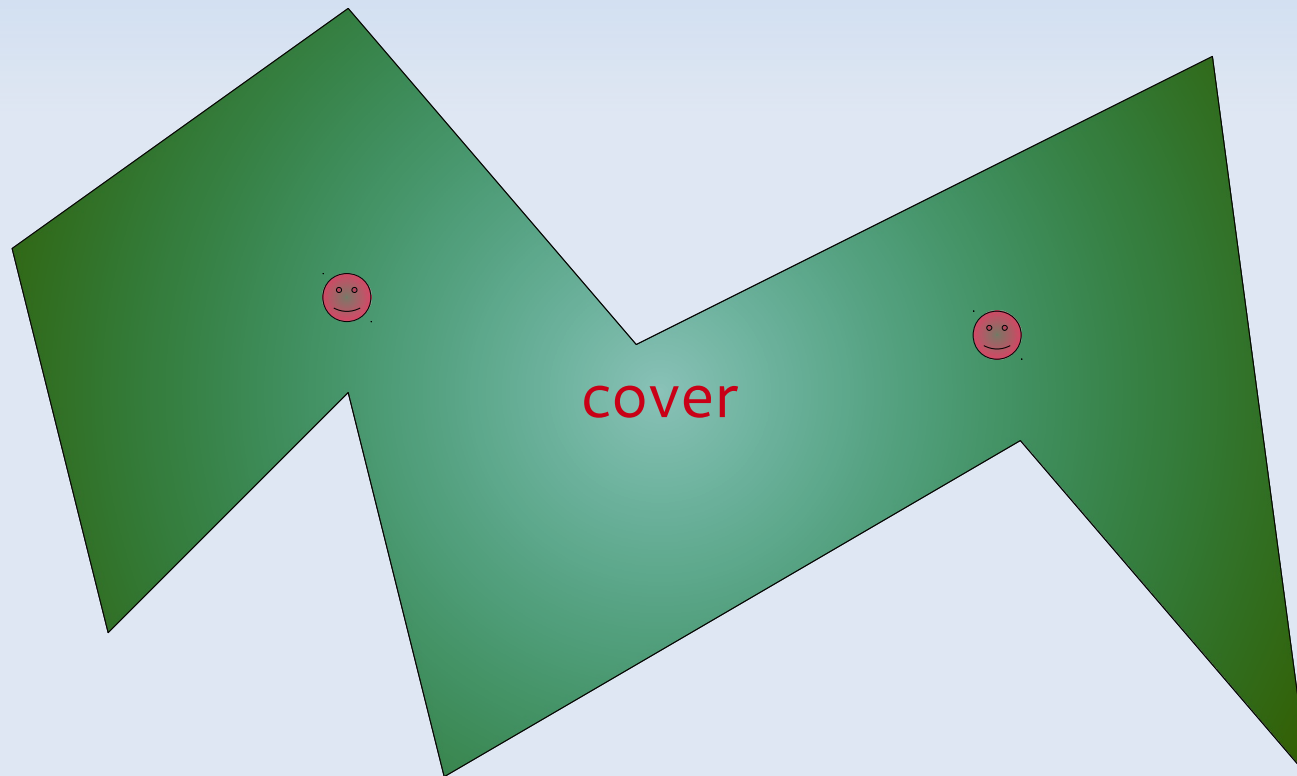
# Example

How many guards do you need?

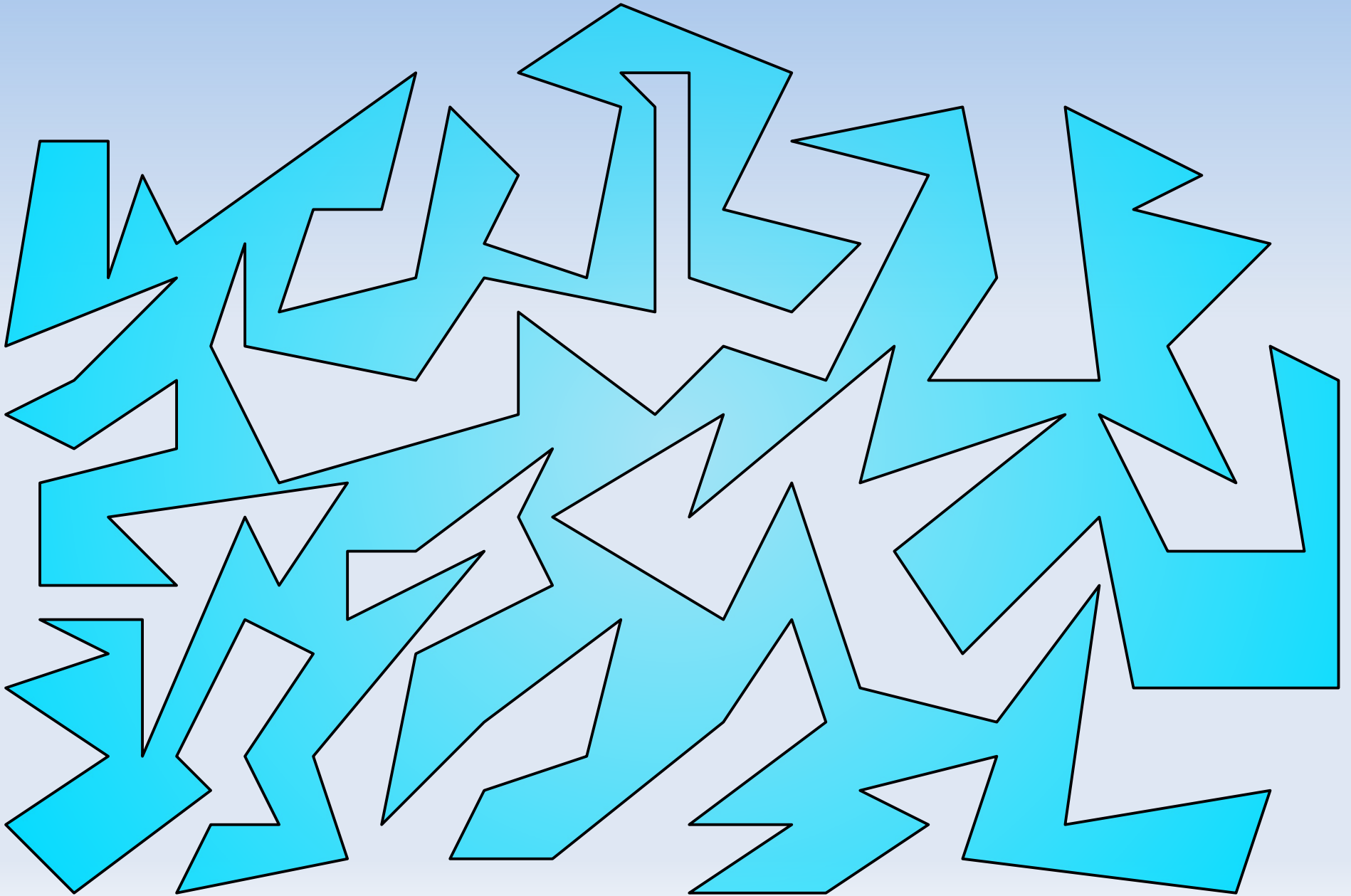


# Example

Two guards do the job!



# What now?!





# Formal definition

How many points do you need to cover a given polygon with  $n$  vertices?

How many points are sufficient to cover any polygon with  $n$  vertices?

# Max over min formulation

This is called a **max over min formulation** problem

Over all polygons of  $n$  vertices, find the **maximum** of **minimum** number of points needed to cover the polygon

Consider all polygons of  $n$  vertices

Compute the minimum number of points to cover each polygon

Calculate the maximum of these minimums

# Empirical Exploration

How many points do you need for  $n = 3$ ?

...for  $n = 4$ ?

...for  $n = 5$ ?

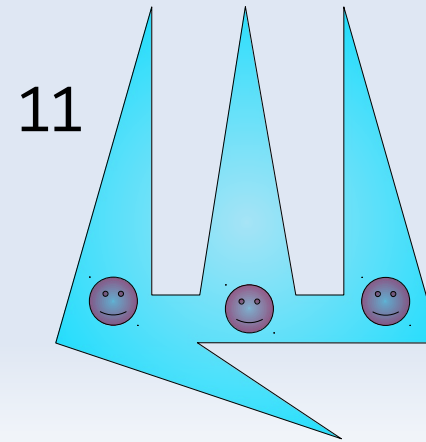
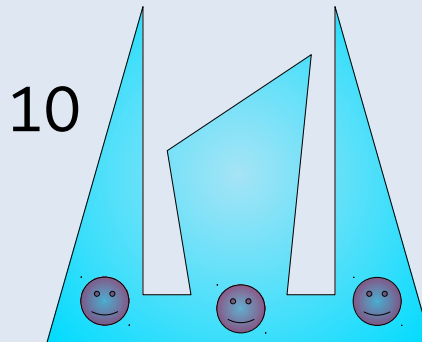
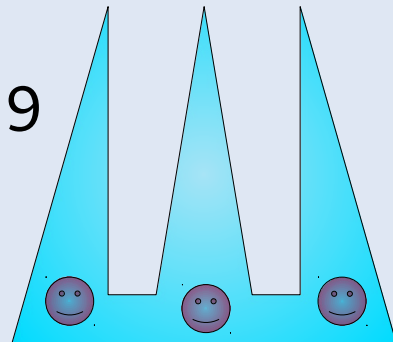
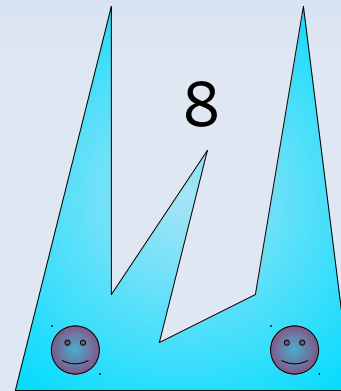
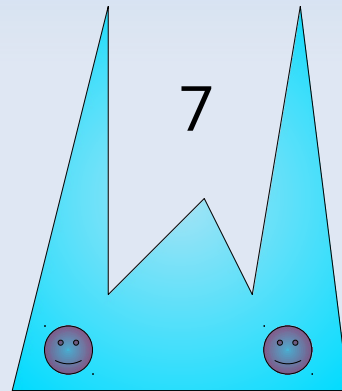
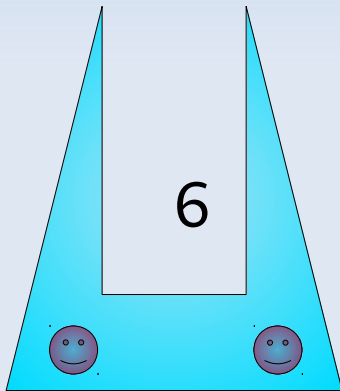
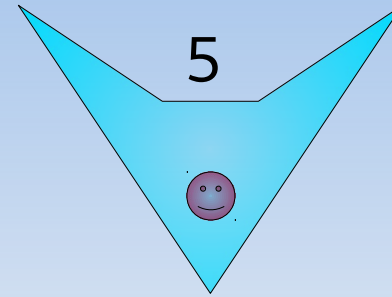
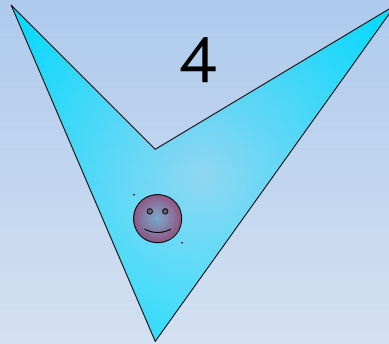
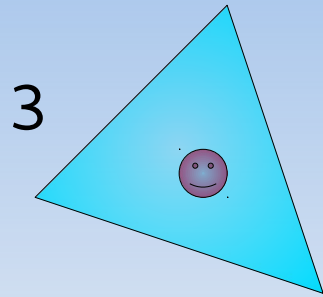
...for  $n = 6$ ?

...for  $n = 7$ ?

...for  $n = 8$ ?

...for  $n = 9$ ?

# Empirical Exploration



# Empirical Exploration

$$n = 3 \rightarrow p = 1$$

$$n = 4 \rightarrow p = 1$$

$$n = 5 \rightarrow p = 1$$

$$n = 6 \rightarrow p = 2$$

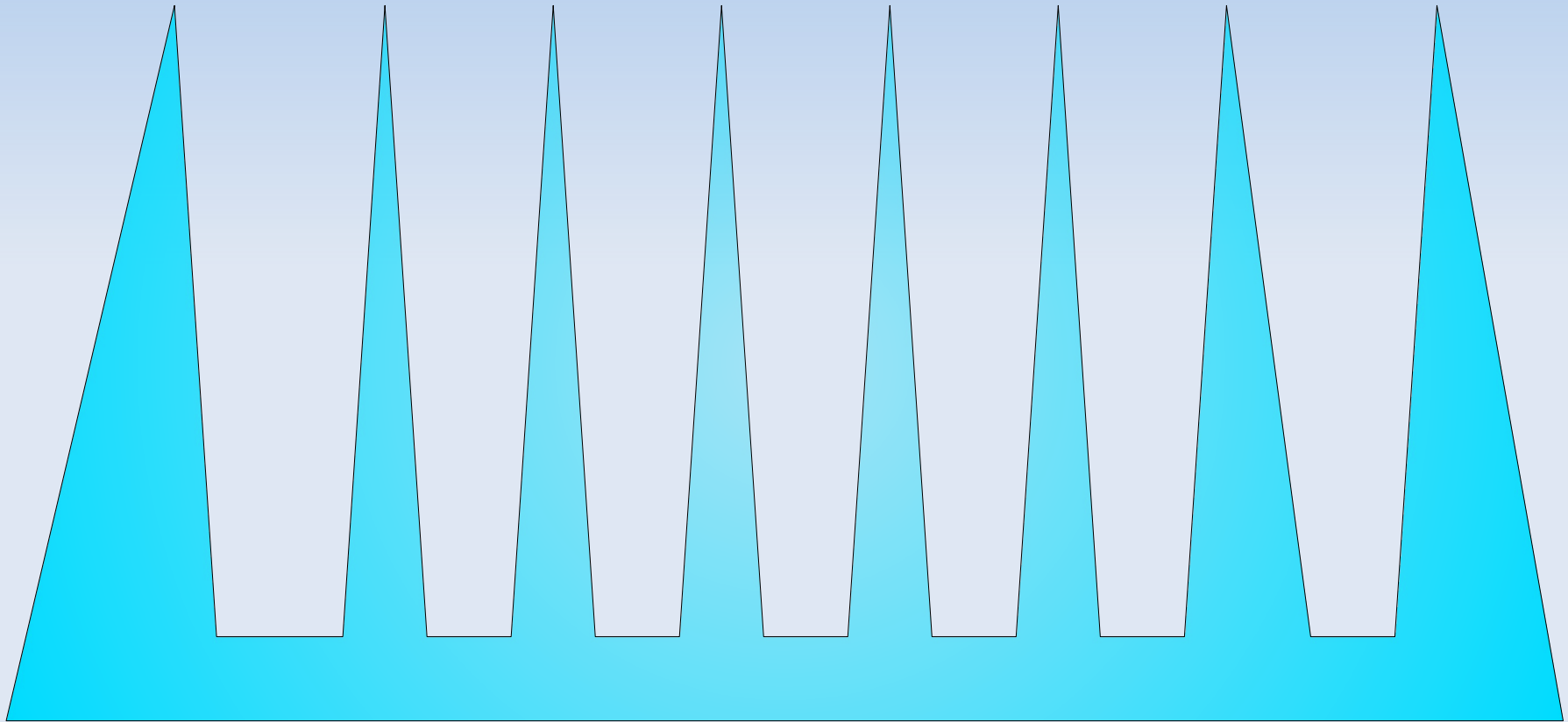
$$n = 7 \rightarrow p = 2$$

$$n = 8 \rightarrow p = 2$$

$$n = 9 \rightarrow p = 3$$

$$n \rightarrow p = \text{floor}(n/3)$$

# Necessity of $\text{floor}(n/3)$



each prong needs 1 guard

# Sufficiency

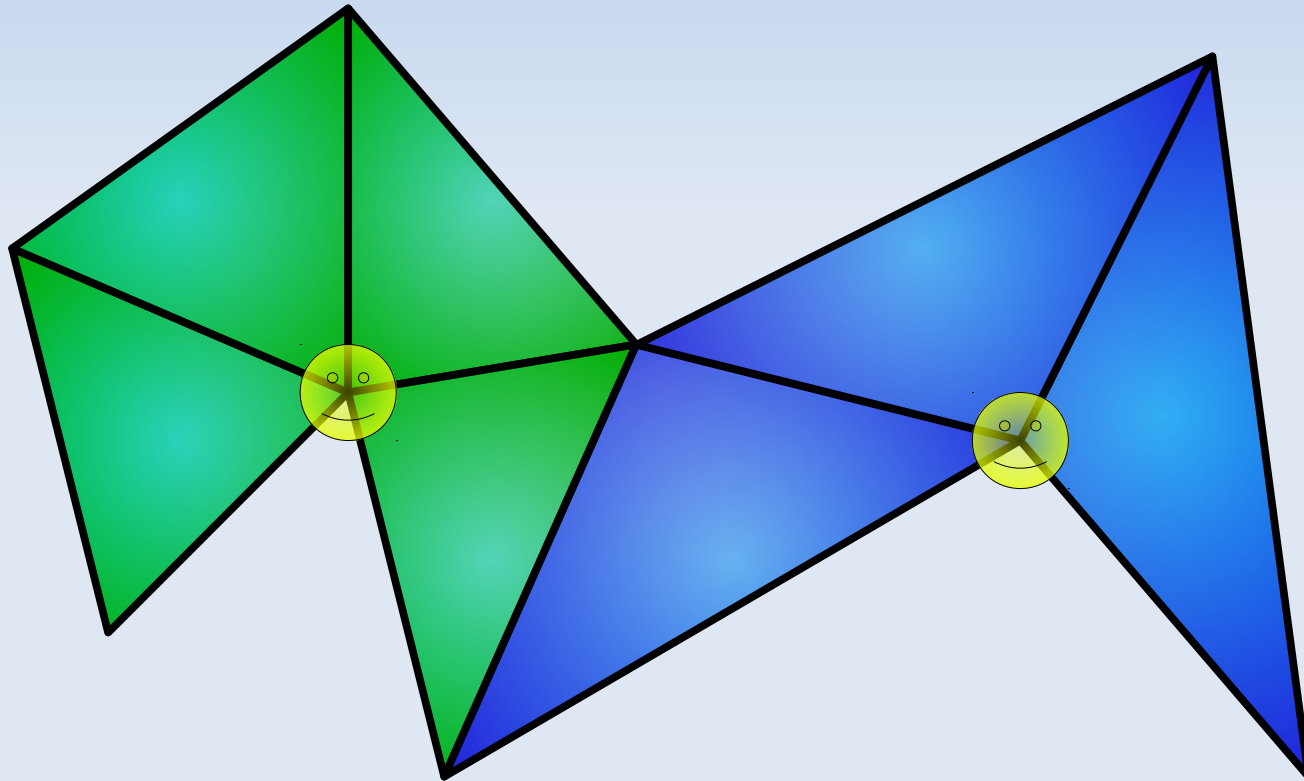
Fisk proved sufficiency via **partitioning** the polygon into triangles using **diagonals**

Each triangle can be covered by **one** guard

If  $k$  triangles share a vertex, a guard at this vertex covers all  $k$  triangles!

A **diagonal** of a polygon  $P$  is a **line segment** between two of its vertices which are **clearly visible** to each other.

# Example



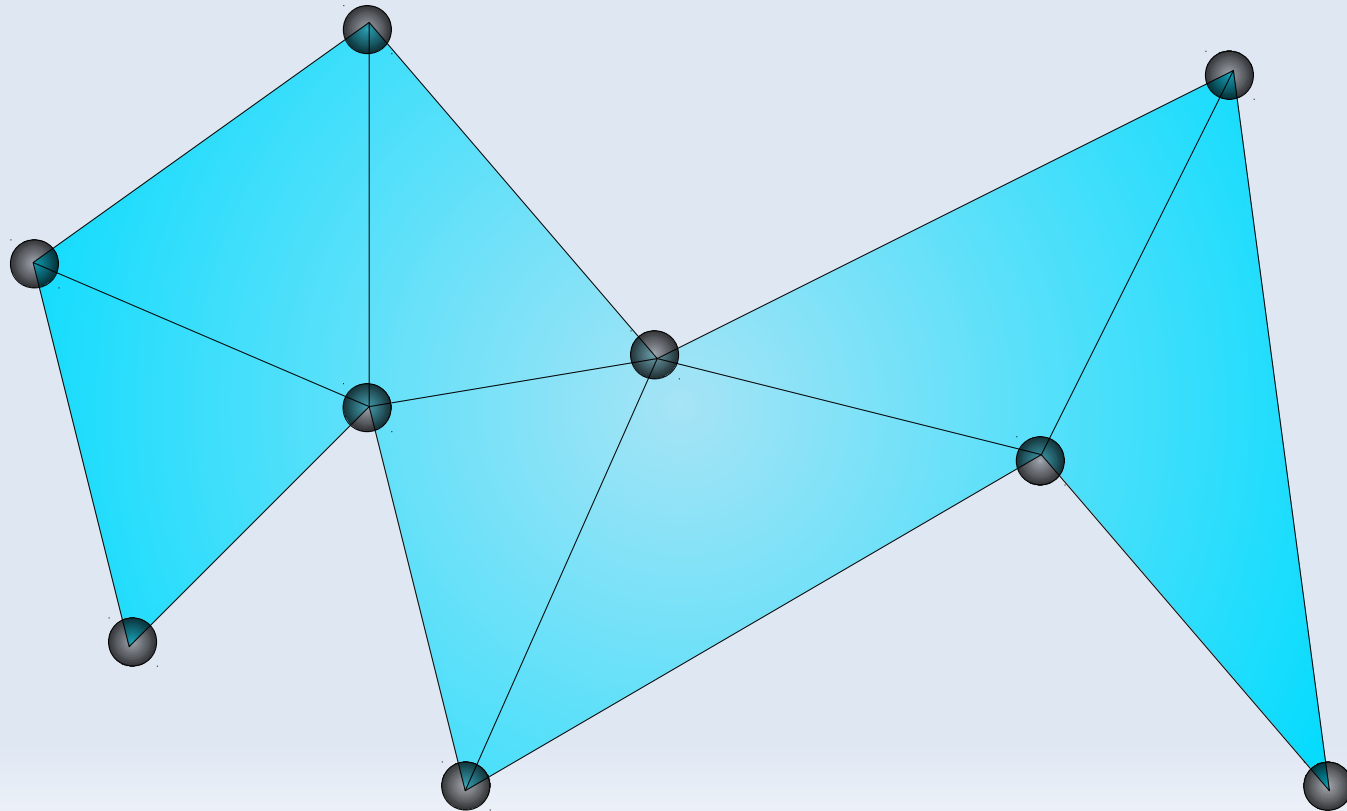


# Graph of Triangulation

Define a graph

nodes are the vertices of the polygon

arcs are the edges and the diagonals



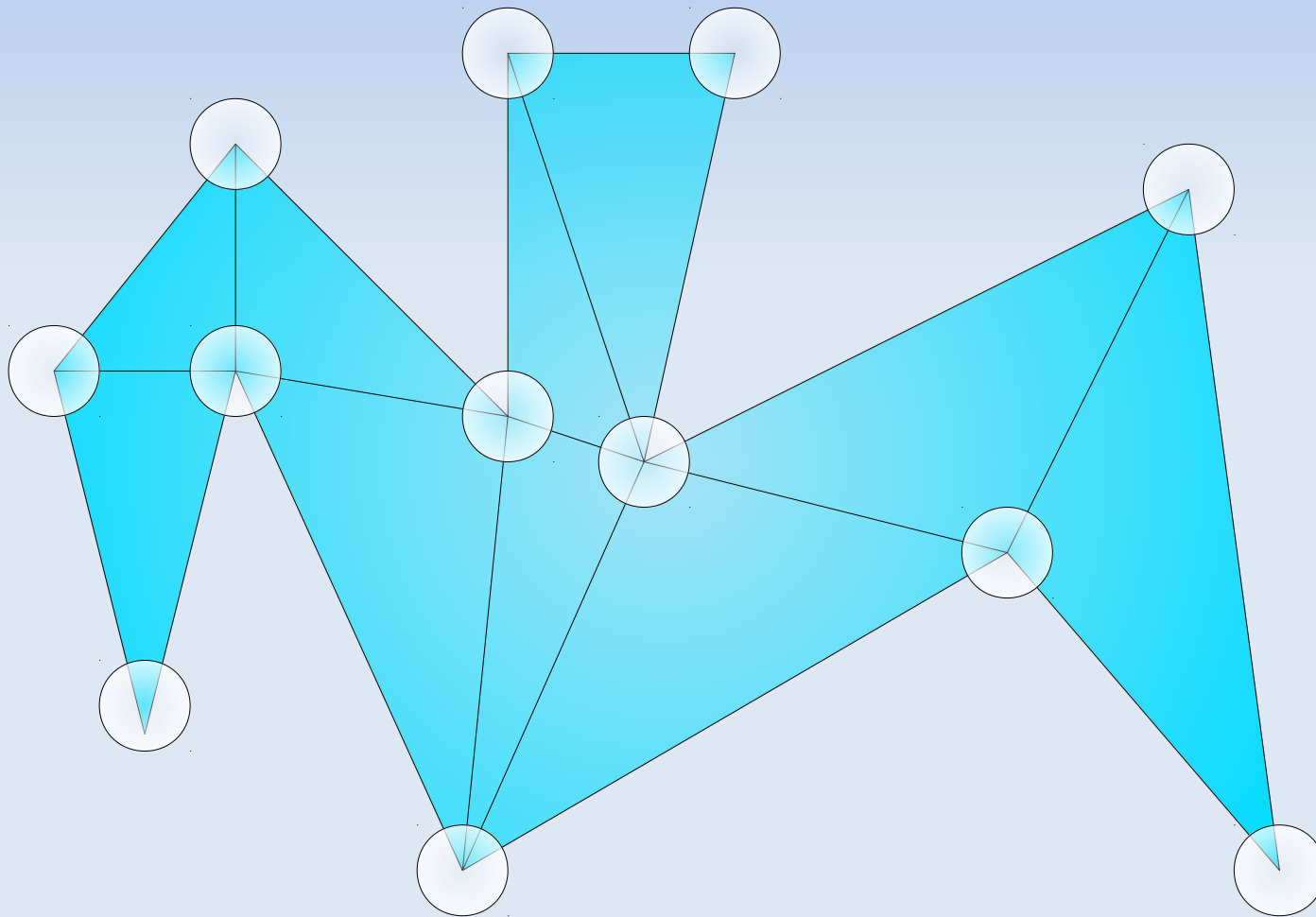
# Graph Coloring

Assign a **color** to each node, such that the **end nodes** of each edge is colored **differently**

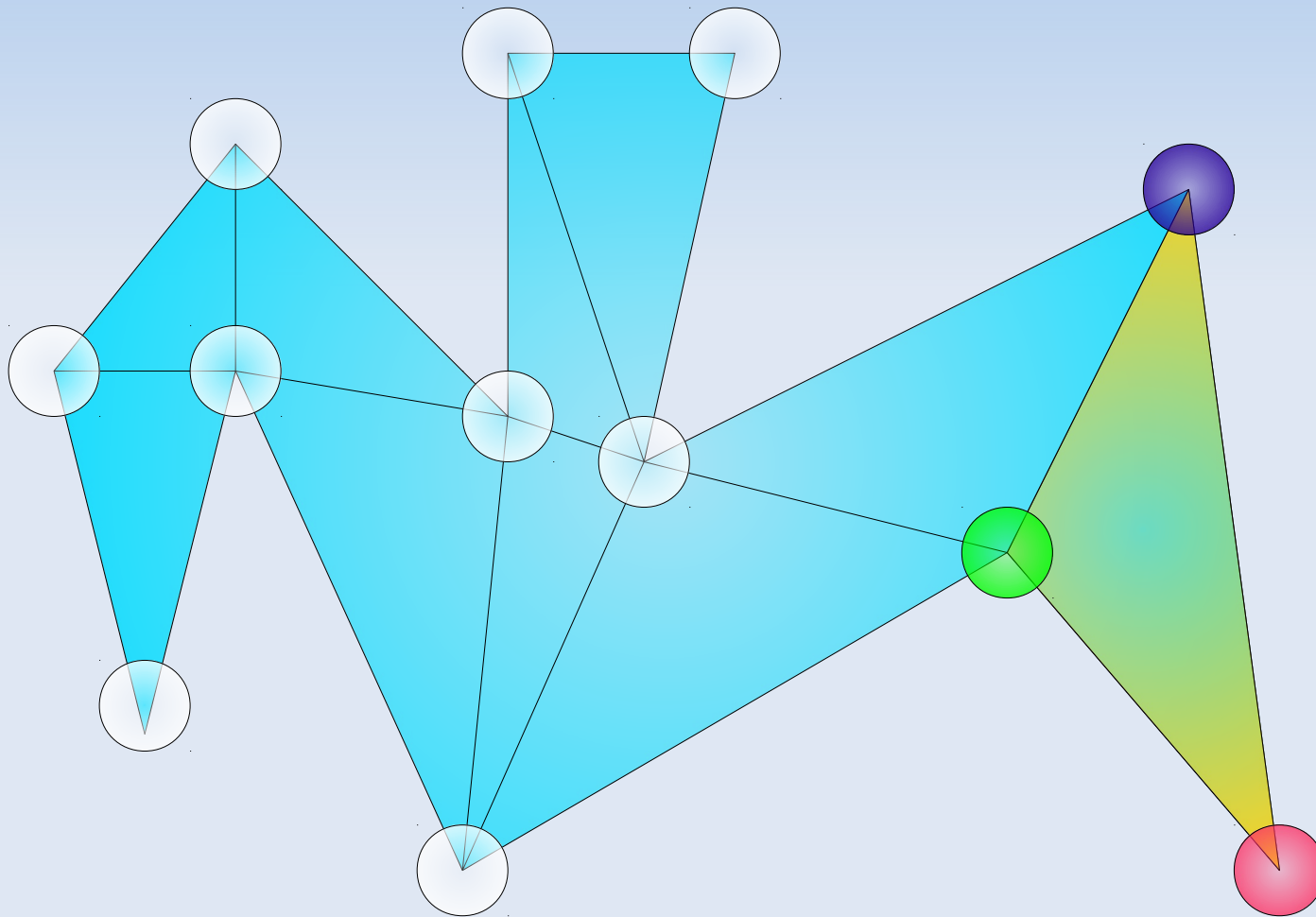
What is the **minimum** number of colors you need for a given graph  $G$ ?

Fisk showed that every **polygon graph** can be **3-colored!**

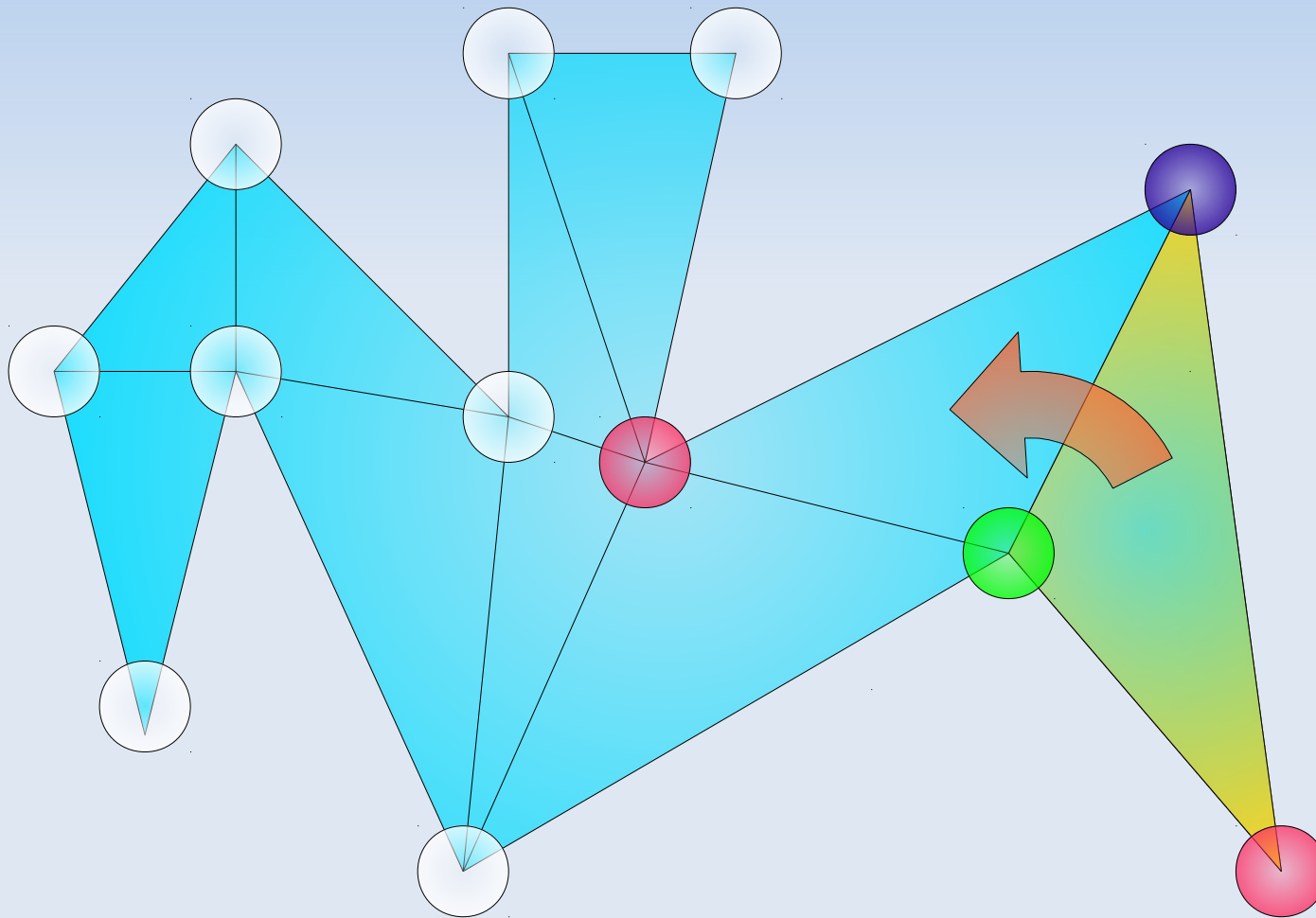
# Example



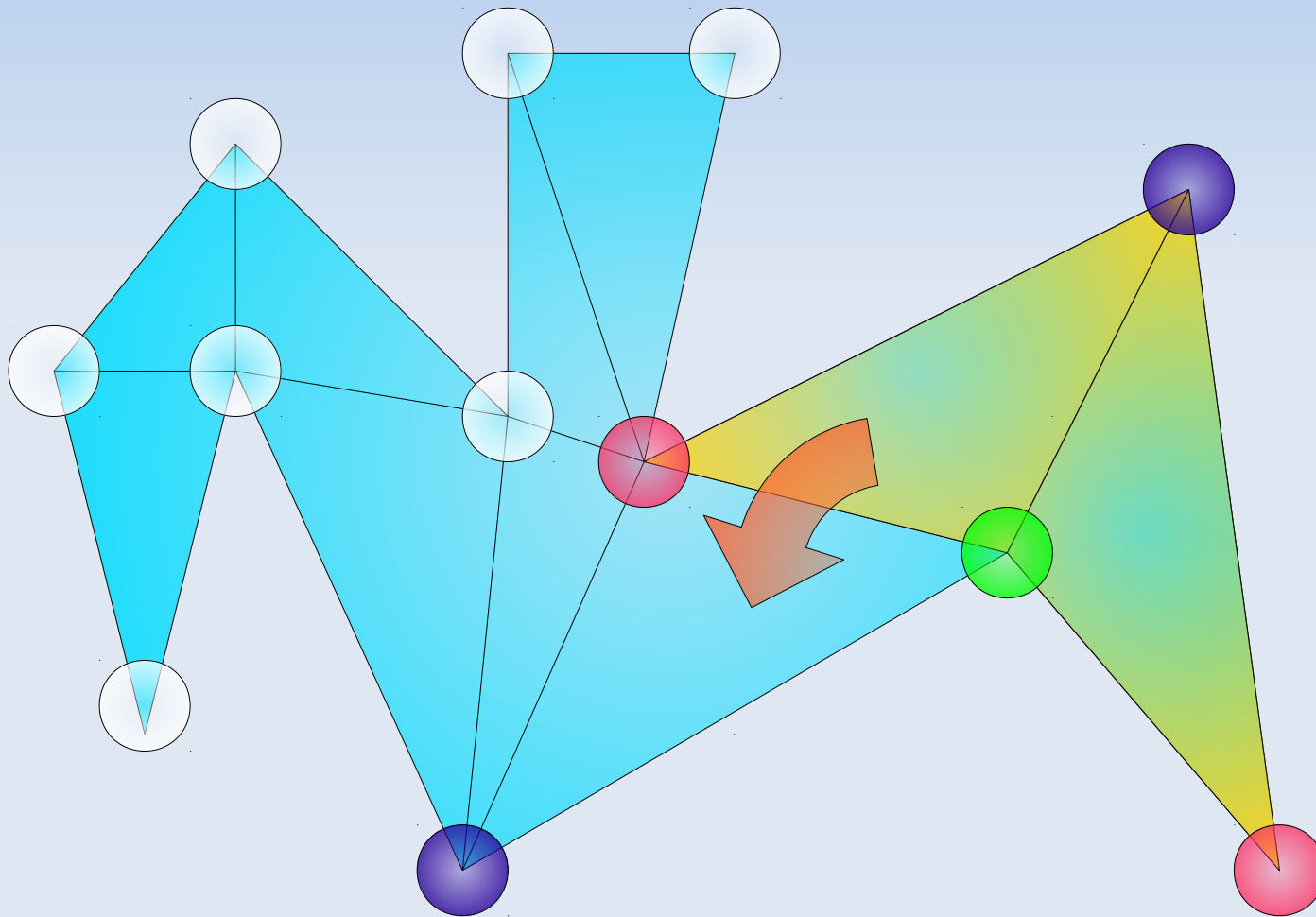
# Example



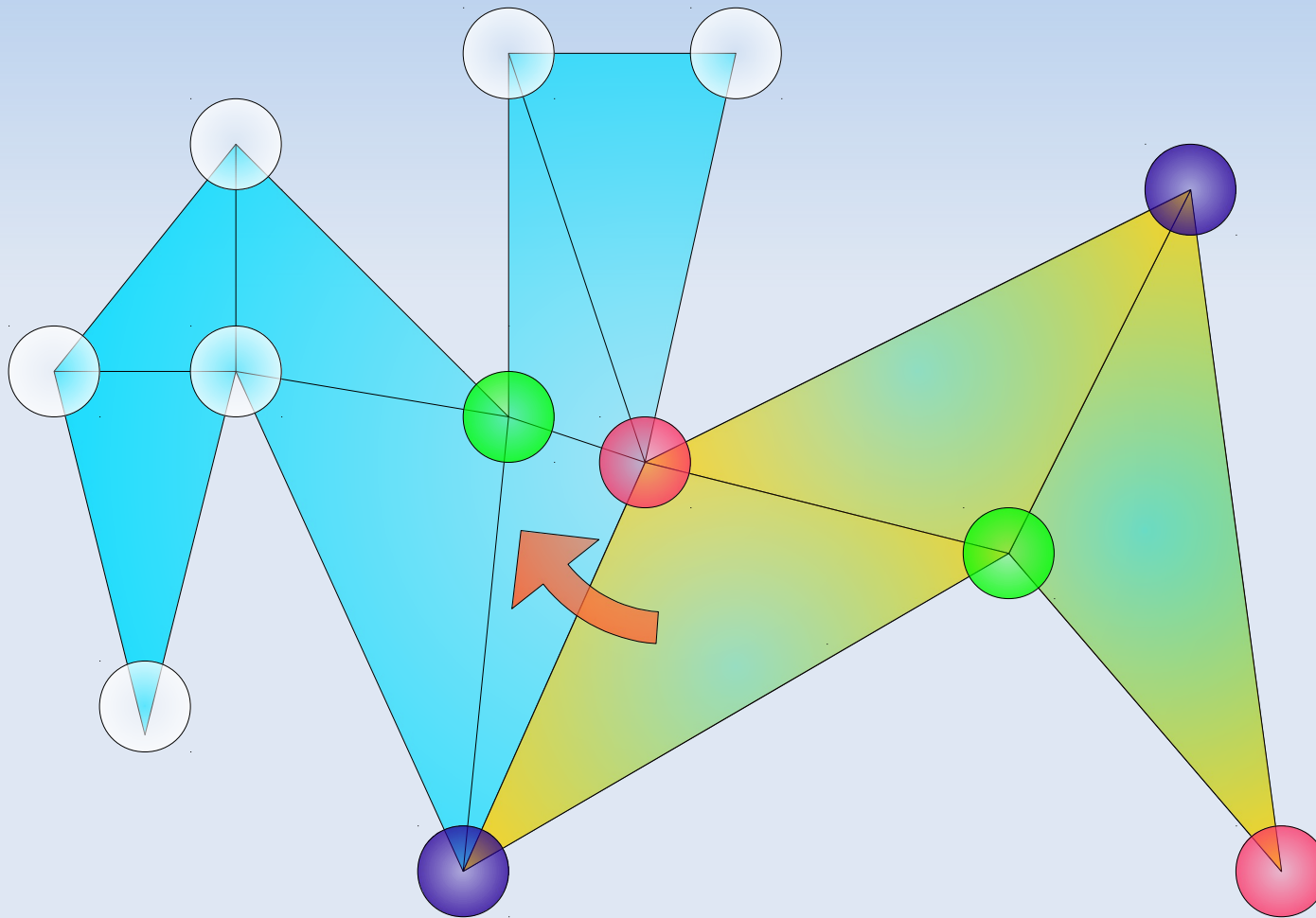
# Example



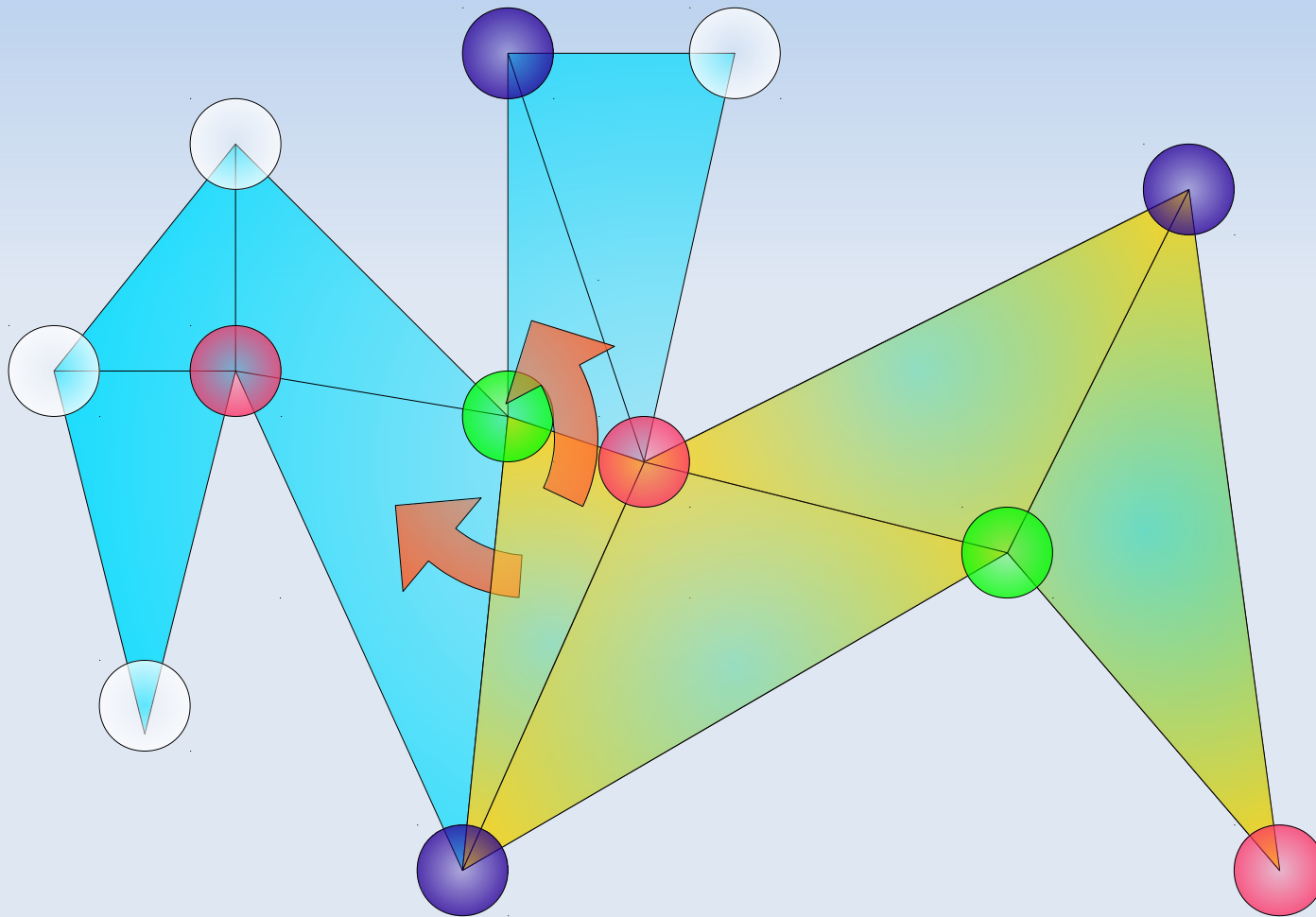
# Example



# Example

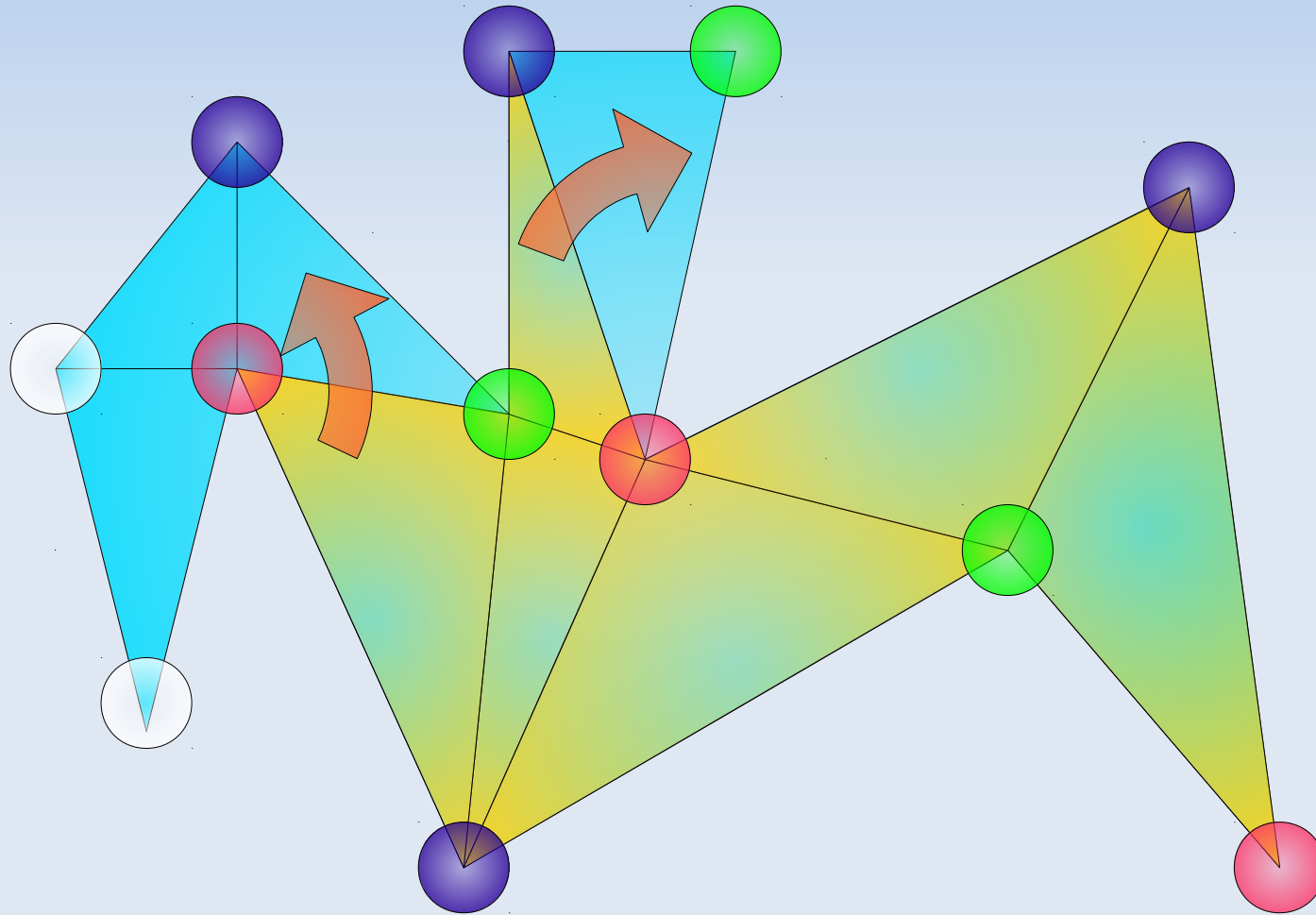


# Example

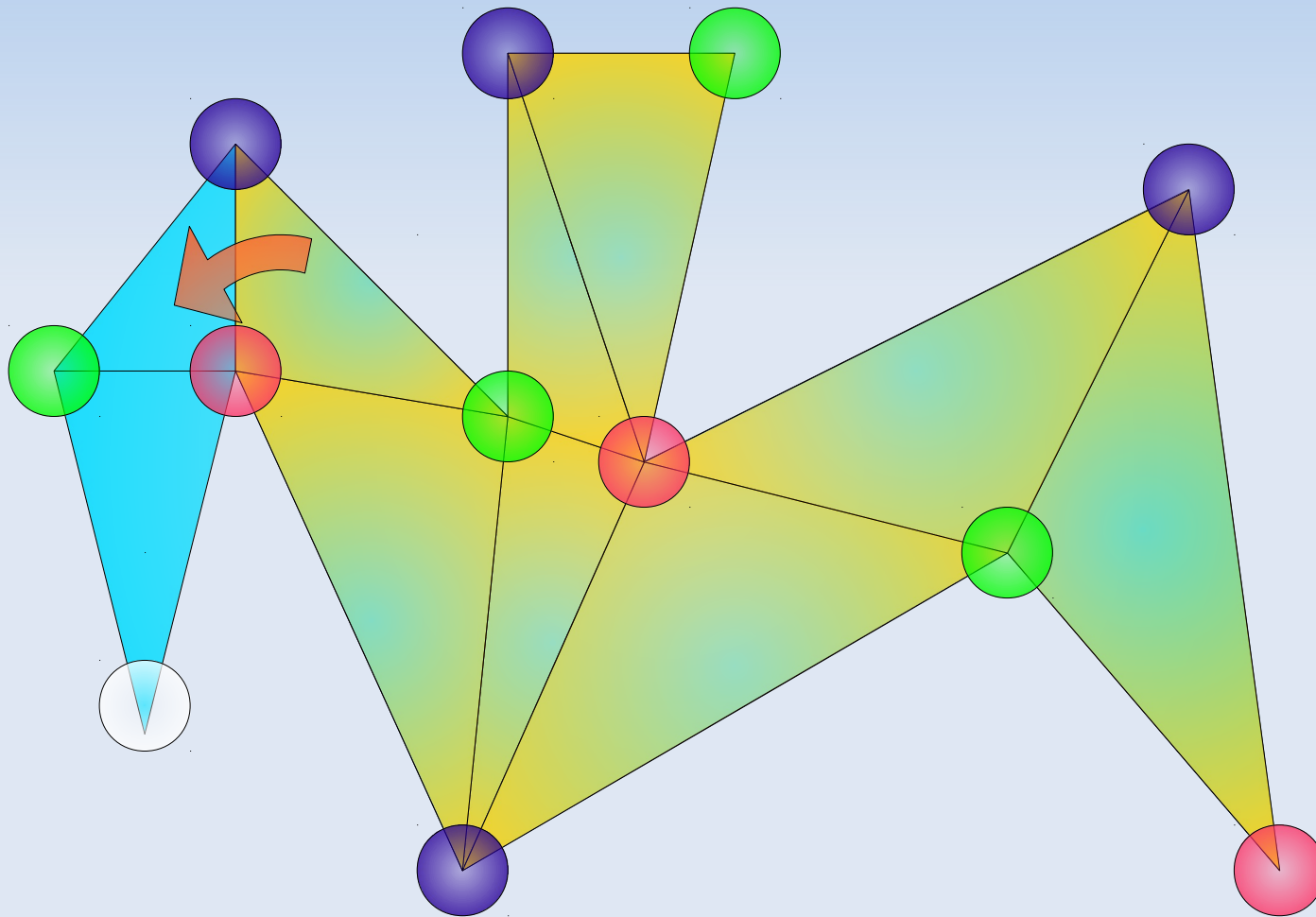




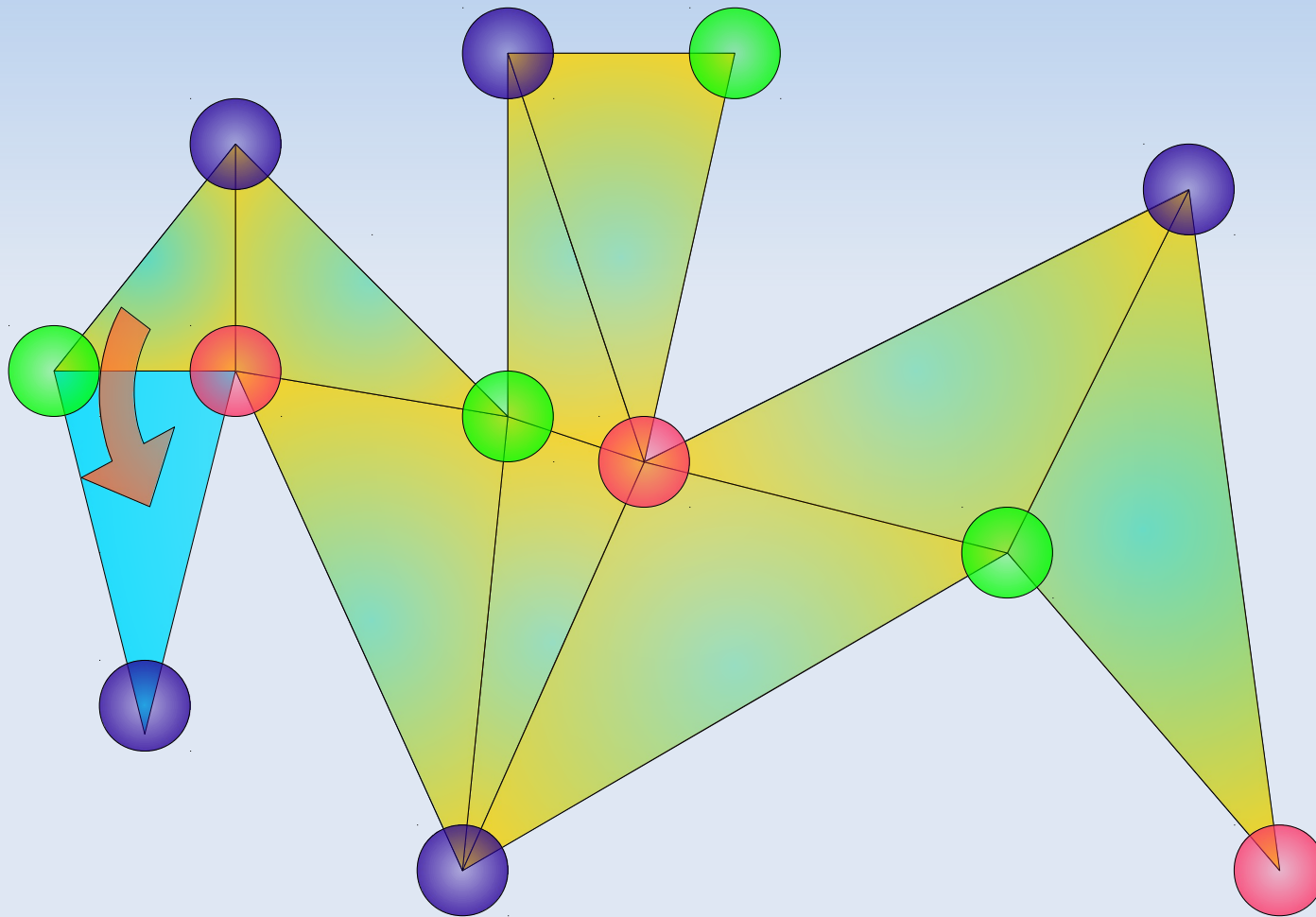
# Example



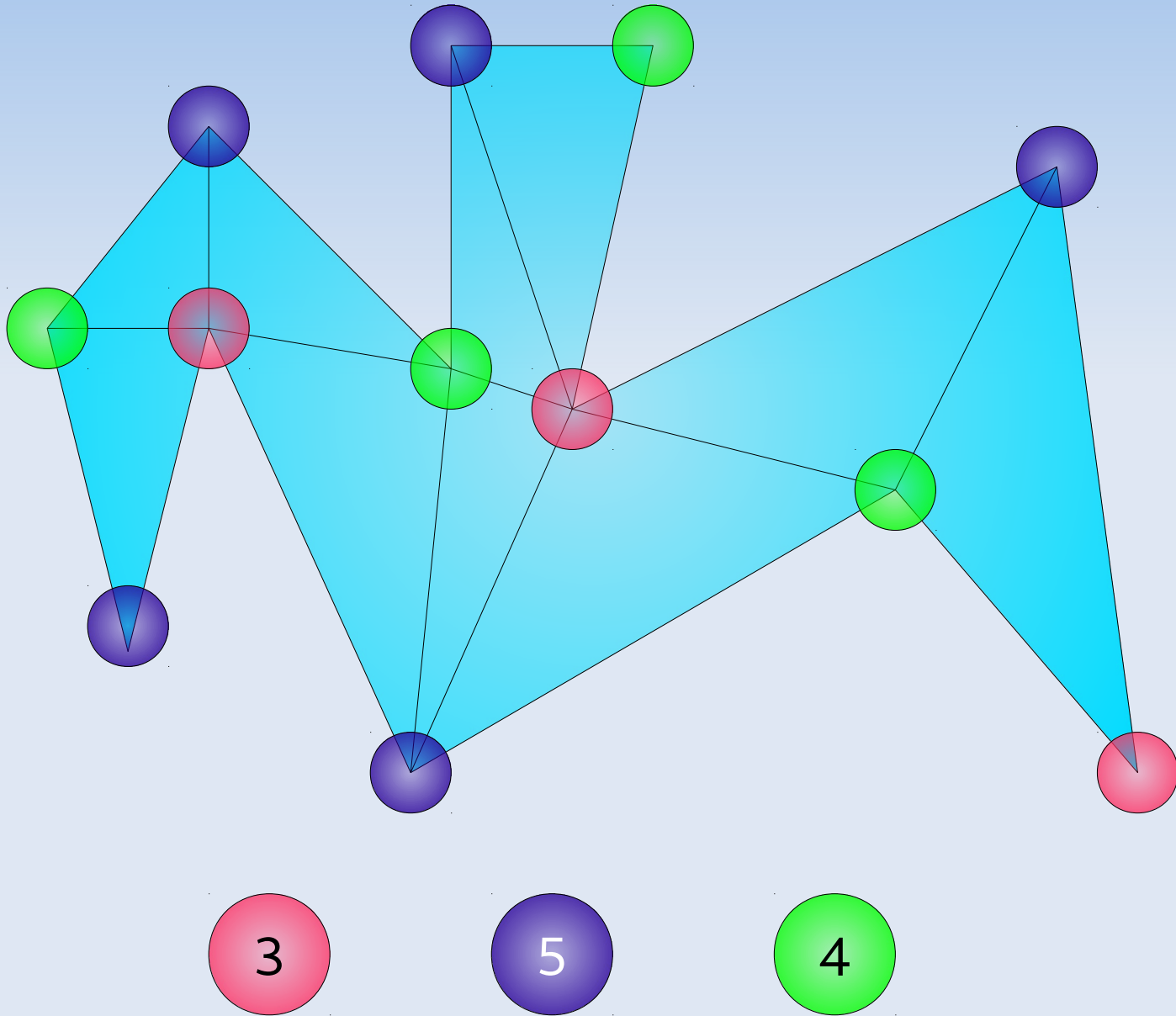
# Example



# Example

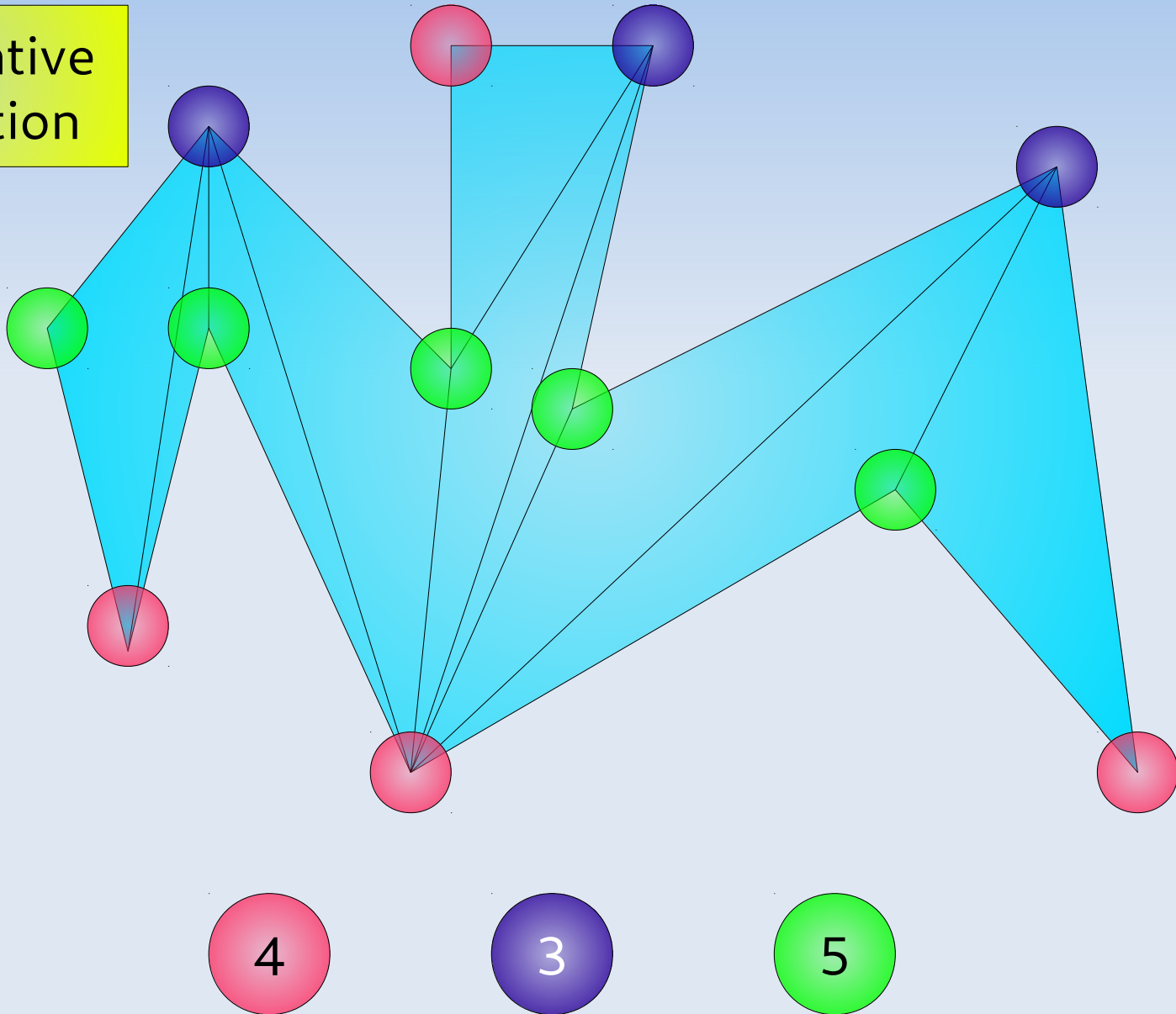


# Example



# Example

An alternative  
triangulation



# Pigeon Hole

$$r + g + b = 12$$

Pigeon-hole theorem

one of  $r, g, b$  must be  $\leq 4$       [ floor(12/3) ]

Place a guard at the vertices with that color!!!

Number of guards  $\leq 4$

Each triangle has its own guard!

# Triangulation Theory

Every polygon has a triangulation

Establish basic **properties** of triangulations

**Algorithms** for constructing triangulations

# Existence of a Diagonal

First show that

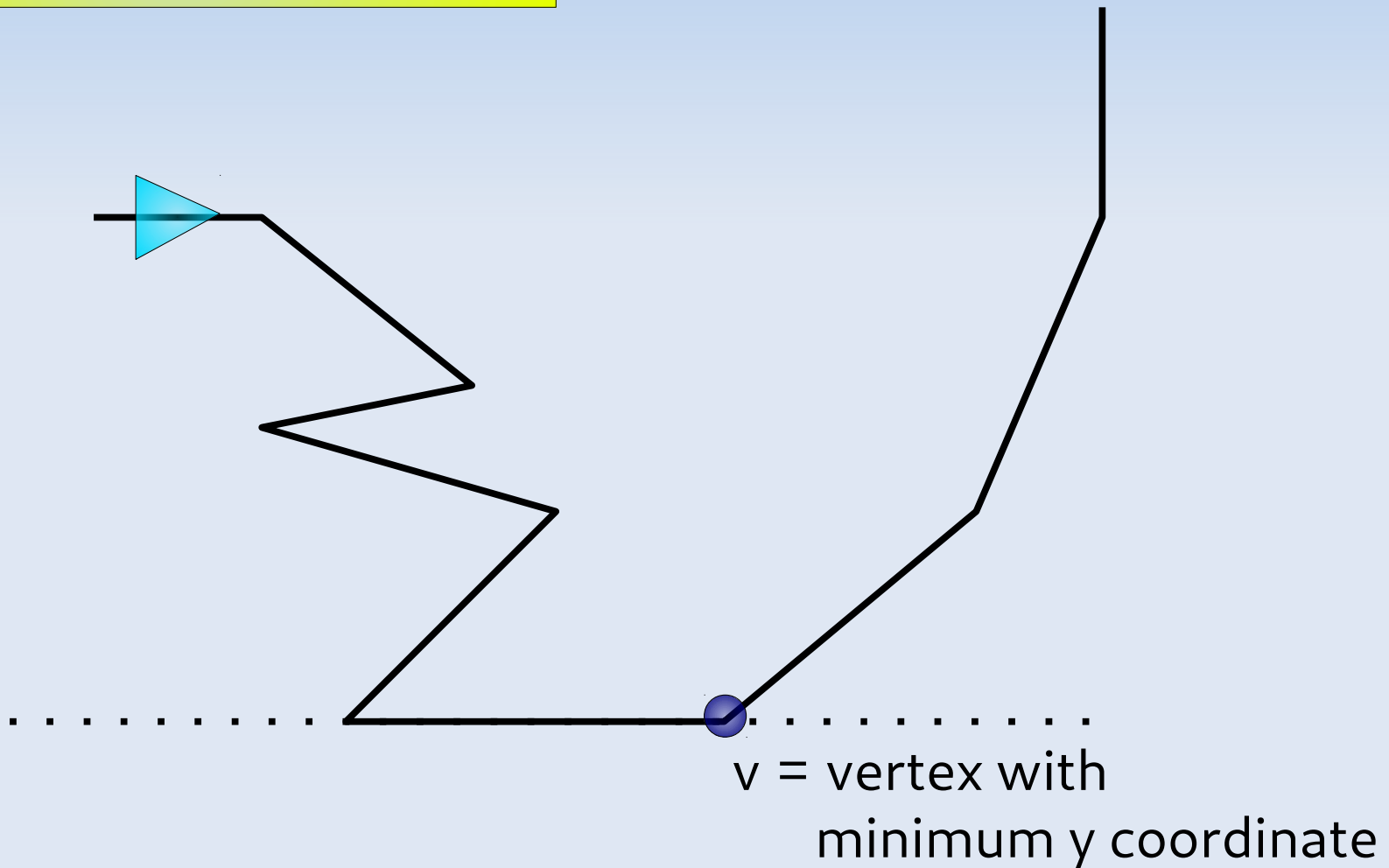
Every polygon must have at least one strictly convex vertex

A vertex with angle  $< 180$



# Existence of a Convex Vertex

a convex vertex is a **left** turn

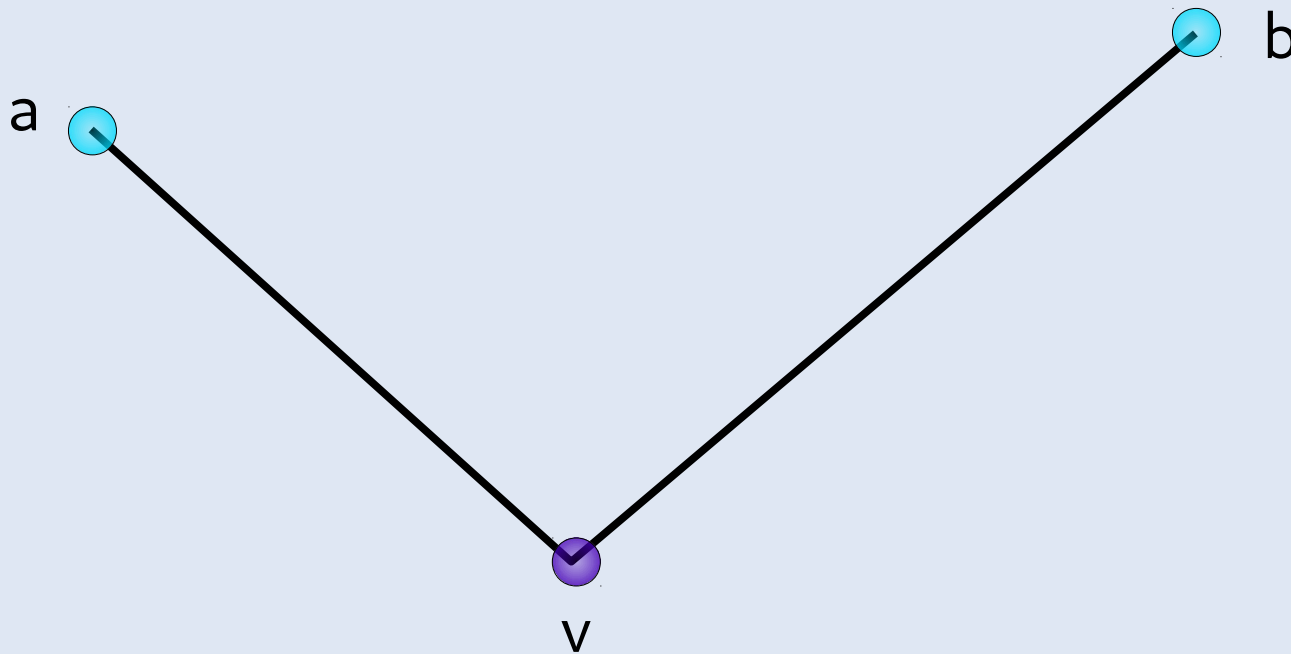


# Existence of a Diagonal

Every polygon of  $n \geq 4$  vertices has a diagonal

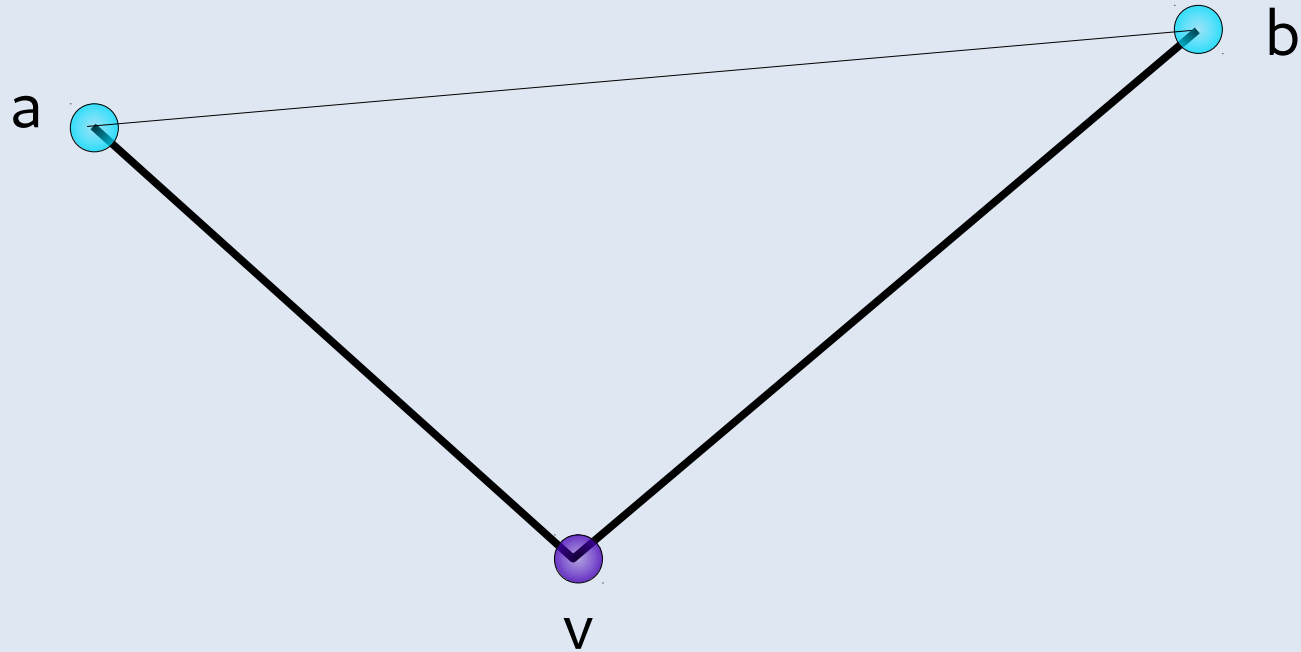
Let  $v$  be a **convex** vertex

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be the **adjacent** vertices



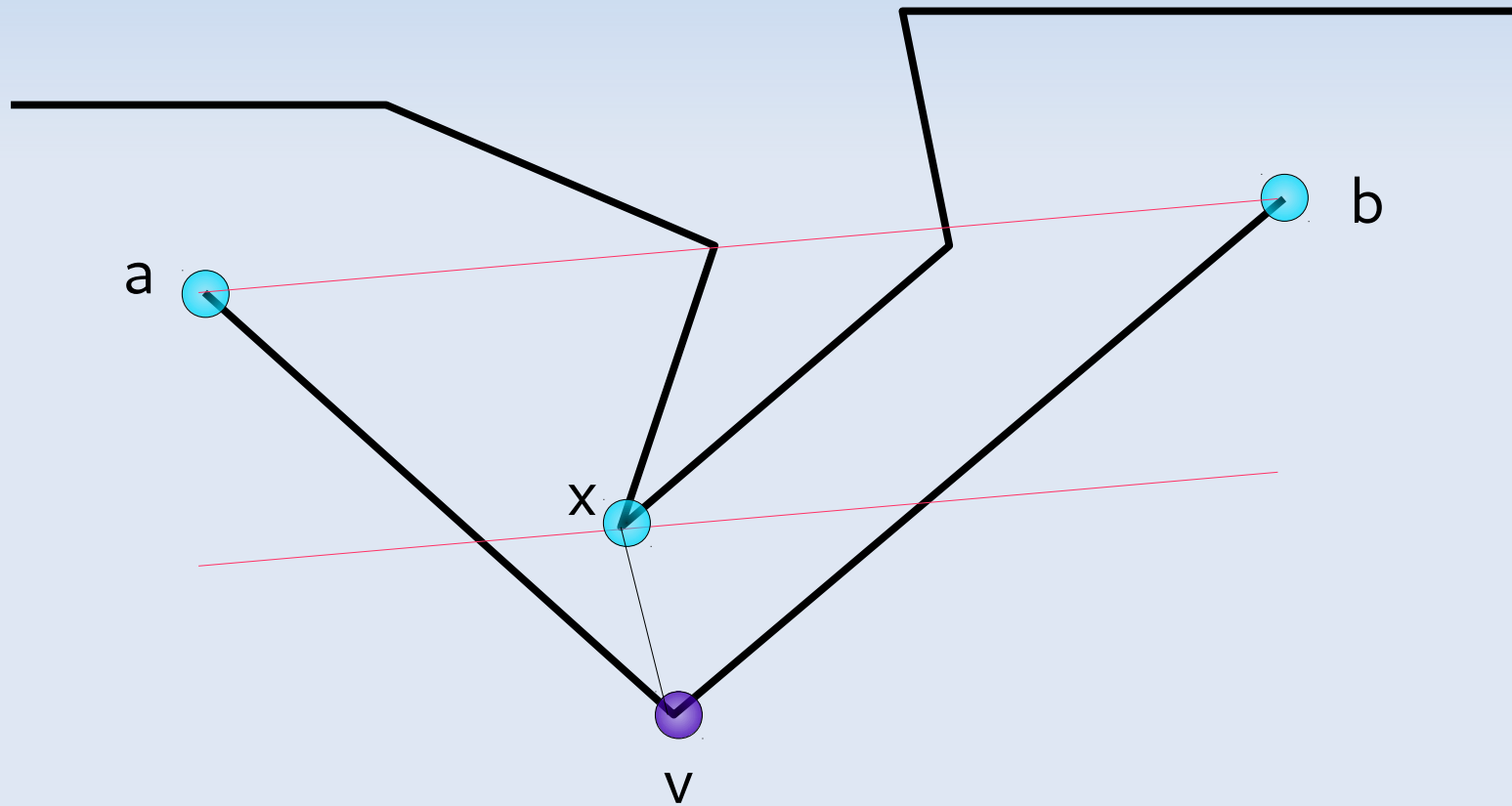
# Looking for a Diagonal

If  $ab$  is already a diagonal, we are done



# Looking for a Diagonal

If  $ab$  is not a diagonal, then  $xv$  is a diagonal



# Triangulation

## Theorem

Every polygon with  $n$  vertices may be partitioned into **triangles** by the addition of (zero or more) **diagonals**

# Proof

If  $n = 3$ , we are done

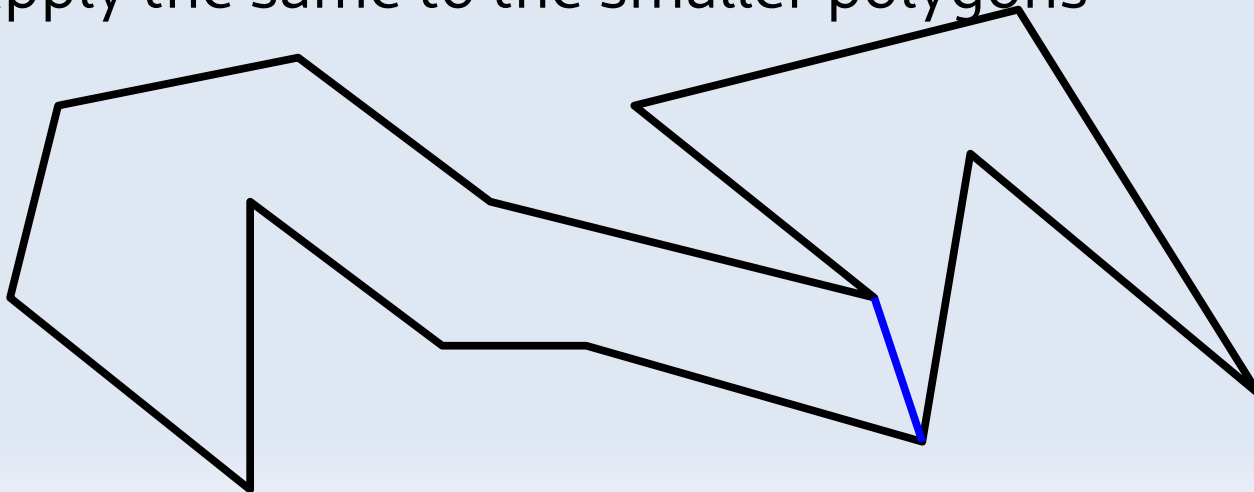
For  $n \geq 4$ ,

Let  $d = ab$  be a diagonal

We showed that  $d$  exists

$d$  partitions the polygon into two smaller polygons

Apply the same to the smaller polygons



# Properties of Triangulations

## Number of Diagonals

Given a **triangulation** of a polygon with  **$n$  vertices**

how many **diagonals** do exist?

how many **triangles** do exist?

## Sum of Angles

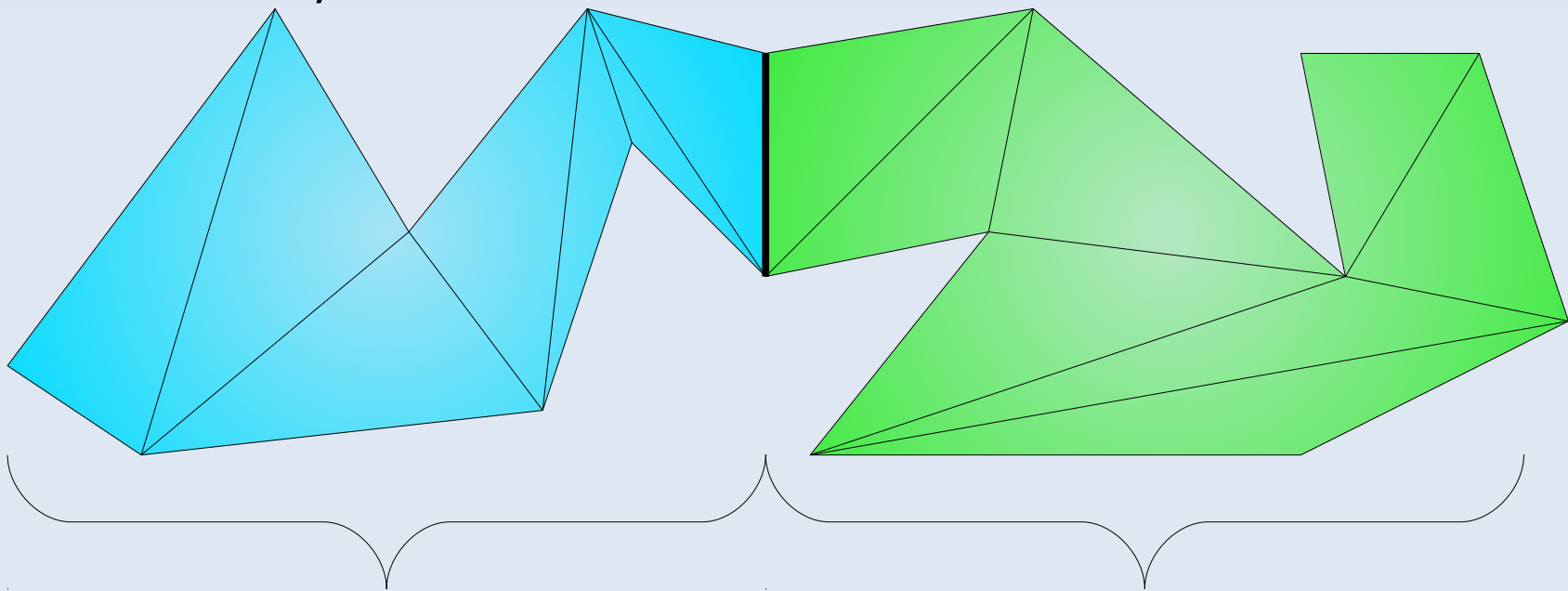
Given a polygon with  **$n$  vertices**, what is the **sum** of **internal angles**?

# Number of Diagonals & Triangles

Every triangulation of a polygon of  $n$  vertices has  $n-3$  diagonals and  $n-2$  triangles

Holds for  $n = 3$  ( 0 diagonals, 1 triangle )

For  $n \geq 4$ ,

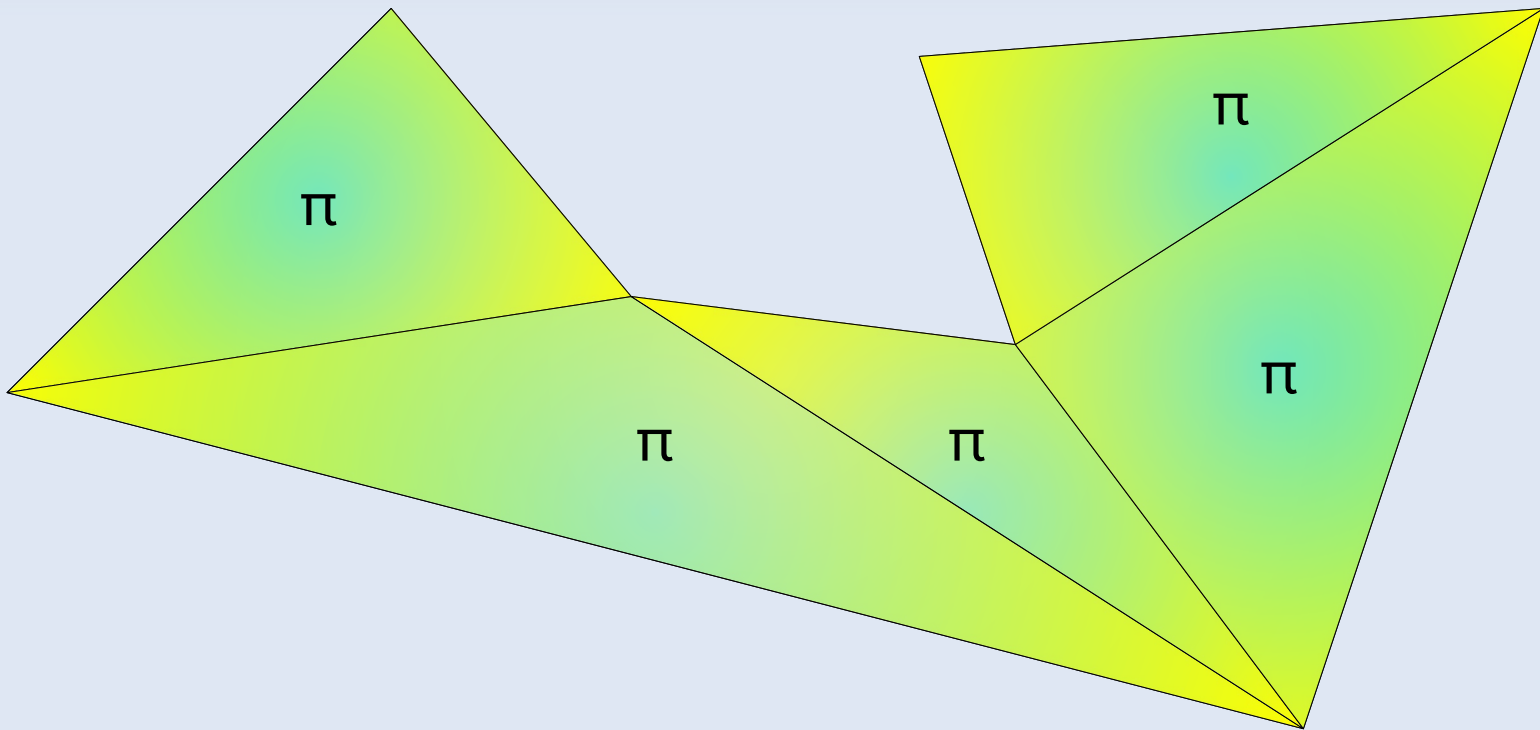


Vertices	$n_1$	+	$n_2$	= $n + 2$
Diagonals	$n_1 - 3$	+ 1 +	$n_2 - 3$	= $n - 3$
Triangles	$n_1 - 2$	+	$n_2 - 2$	= $n - 2$



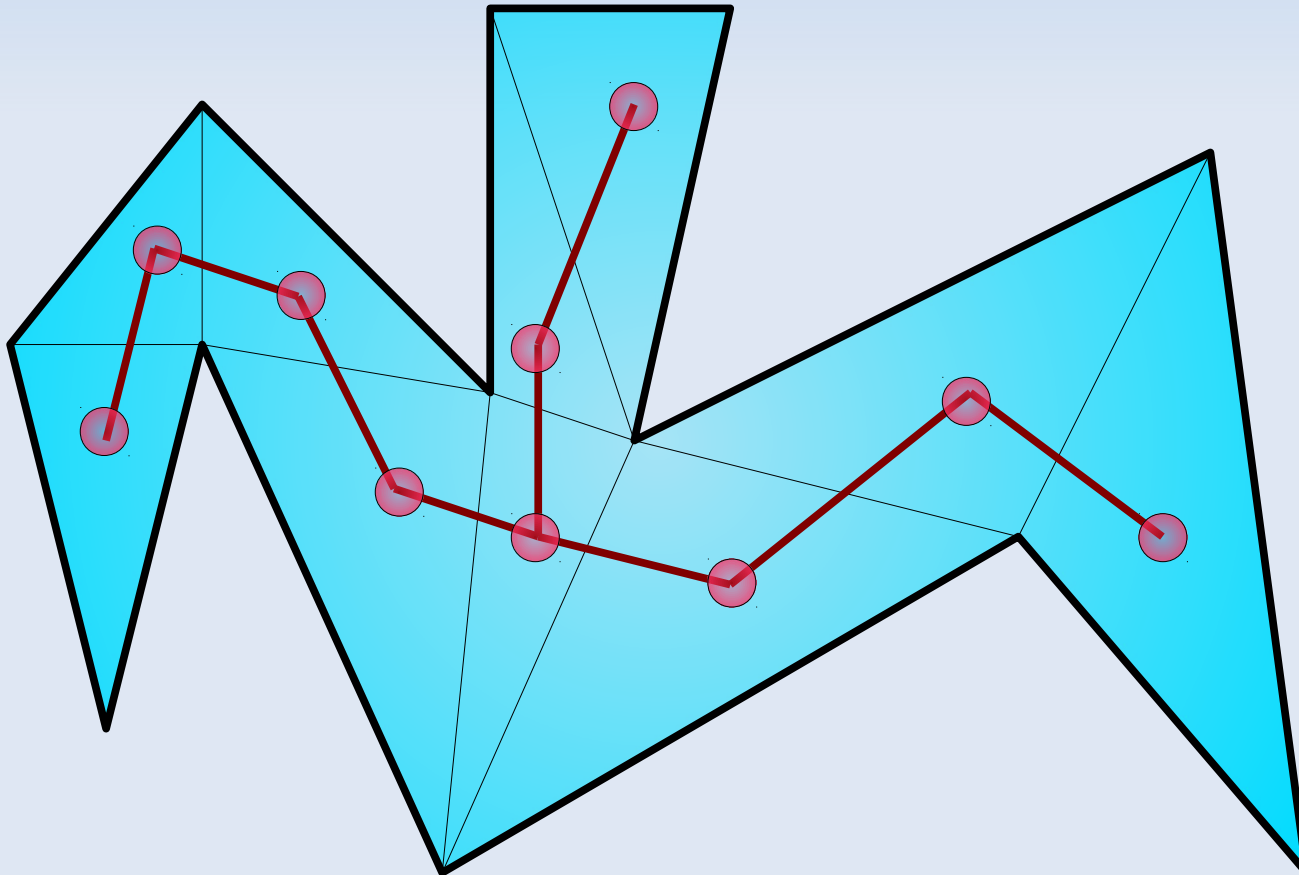
# Sum of Internal Angles

The sum of the **internal angles** of a polygon of  $n$  vertices is  $(n-2)\pi$



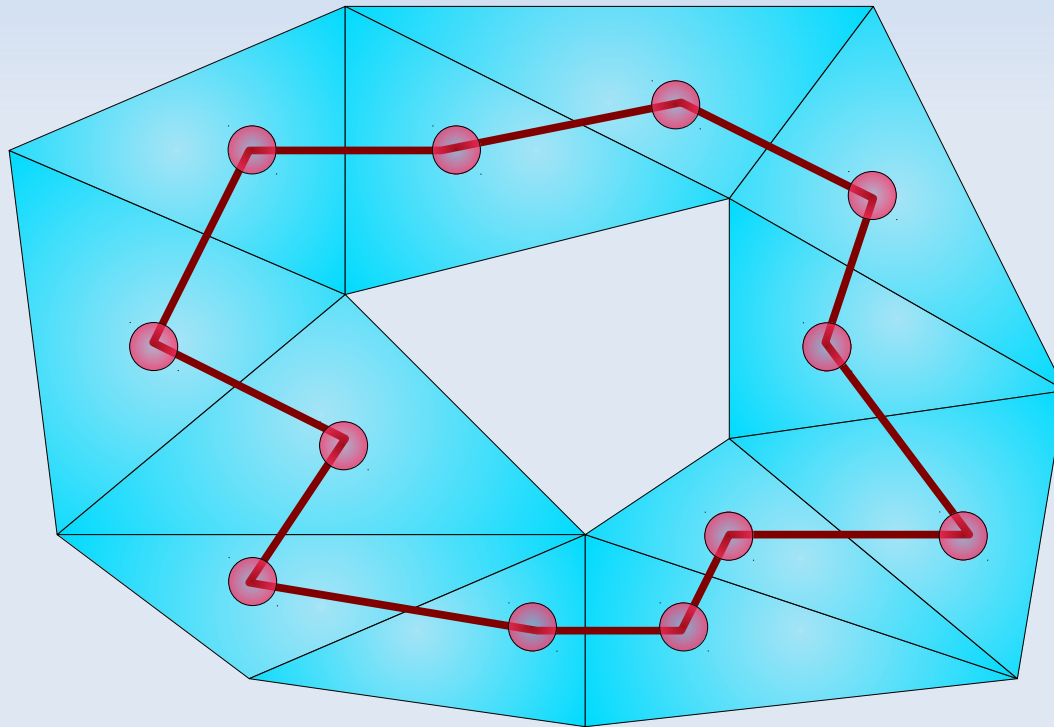
# Triangulation Dual

The **dual**  $T$  of a triangulation is a **tree**, with each node of **degree at most 3**



# Triangulation Dual

If  $T$  is not a tree, then a cycle must exist



But then the boundary is disconnected!

# Two Ears Theorem

Three **consecutive** vertices  $a, b, c$  of a polygon form an **ear** if  $ac$  is a **diagonal**

Theorem: Every polygon of  $n \geq 4$  vertices has at least two nonoverlapping ears.

Proof: The triangulation dual has **at least** two **leaves**!

Each leaf is an ear

# 3-coloring a Triangulation Graph

The **triangulation** graph of a polygon  $P$  of  $n$  vertices can be **3-colored**

Proof by induction

A triangle is 3-colorable

Assume **every** triangulation graph of  $n-1$  vertices is 3-colorable

By **Two Ears Theorem**, there is an ear  $abc$

Remove  $b$

Rest is 3-colorable

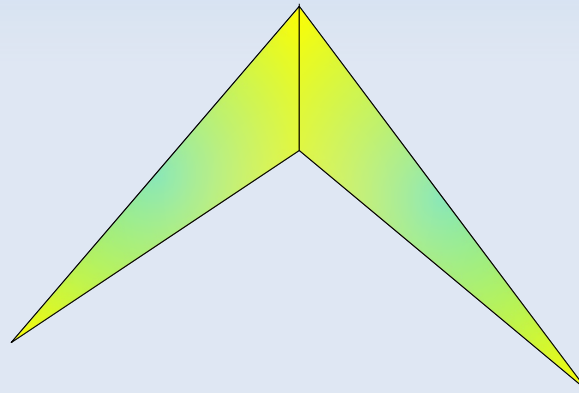
Color  $b$  according to  $a$  and  $c$

# End of Lecture

QUIZ TIME!!!

# QUIZ

Construct a polygon  $P$  with **at least 8 vertices** such that there is **only one** possible triangulation  
triangulate  $P$



An example with  
4 vertices

Make sure that your drawing is clear

Edges must be straight

Vertices must be emphasised