

# Improving Optimal Triangulation of Saddle Surfaces

*Computational Geometric Learning supported by FET-Open grant*

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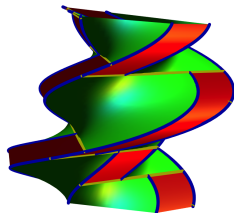
Freie Universität Berlin

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# Motivation

- ▶ Using Taylor expansion every smooth surface is, locally, approximated by a quadratic patch
- ▶ Using Euclidean motions, the quadratic patches can be transformed to graphs of bi-variate polynomials
- ▶ So, let's approximate quadratic *graphs*!

$$\{ (x, y, z) : z = F(x, y) \}$$



Introduction

Interpolating Approximation

Non-interpolating Approximation

# Vertical Distance

- ▶ We are interested, w.l.o.g, in a neighborhood of the origin
- ▶ In this case the normal points upwards, and the following can approximate the Hausdorff distance

## Definition (Vertical Distance)

Given two domains  $D_1, D_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  and two graphs  $f: D_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $g: D_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  then the *vertical distance* is

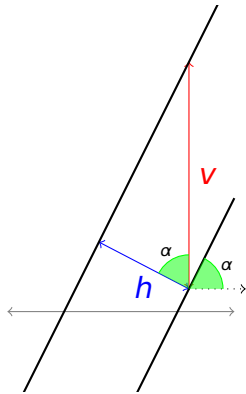
$$\text{dist}_V(f, g) = \max_{(x,y) \in D_1 \cap D_2} |f(x, y) - g(x, y)|.$$

# Some Properties of V-Dist

## Lemma

Let  $A, B \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  be two sets such that their projection to the plane is identical. Then the following holds

$$\text{dist}_H(A, B) \leq \text{dist}_V(A, B)$$



## Lemma (Every two points are the same)

*For every point  $p \in S$ , there exists an affine transformation  $\mathcal{T}_p : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  which satisfies the following:*

- ▶  $\mathcal{T}_p(p) = \vec{0}$
- ▶  $\mathcal{T}_p(S) = \tilde{S}$  which is a quadratic graph given by a polynomial of the form  $\tilde{F}(x, y) = a_1x^2 + 2a_2xy + a_3y^2$
- ▶  $\forall q, r \in \mathbb{R}^3$  which lie on a vertical line we have

$$|q - r| = |\mathcal{T}_p(q) - \mathcal{T}_p(r)|.$$

## Lemma

*Given two points  $p, q$  on a quadratic graph  $S$  then*

$$\text{dist}_V(\ell_{pq}, S) = \frac{1}{4} |\tilde{F}(p_x - q_x, p_y - q_y)|$$

*where:*

- ▶  $\ell_{pq}$  is the line segment connecting  $p$  and  $q$
- ▶  $\tilde{F}(x, y)$  is the bi-variate polynomial
- ▶  $V\text{-dist}$  is attained at the midpoint

For the sake of simplicity, from now on  $S = \{ (x, y, z) : z = xy \}$

## Goal

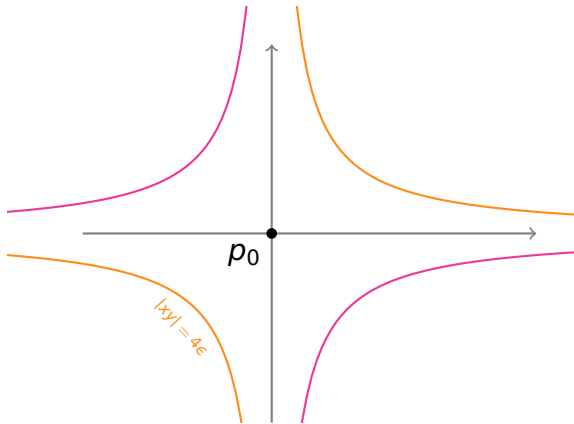
Find a triangle  $T$  with vertices  $p_0, p_1, p_2 \in S$  of *maximal area* such that

$$\text{dist}_V(T, S) \leq \epsilon$$

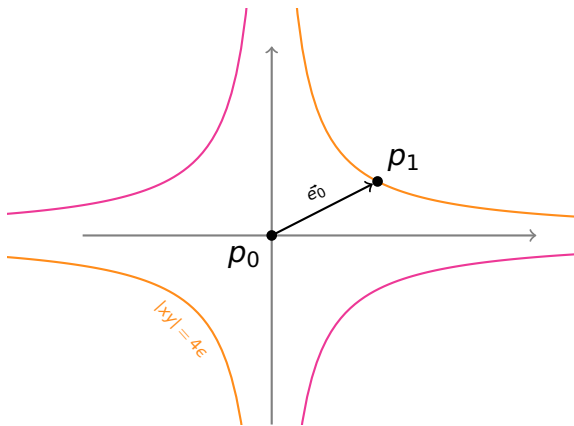
for some  $\epsilon > 0$ .



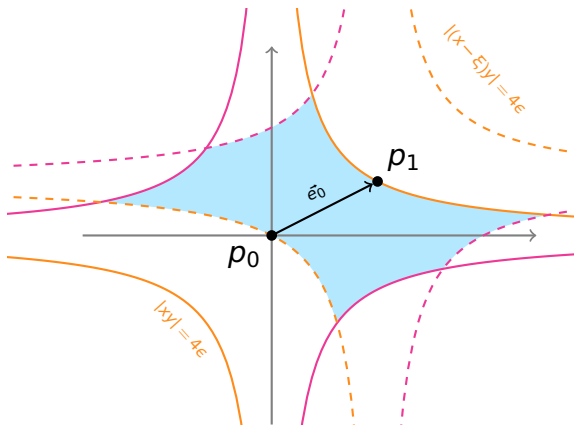
# Optimize the Area of Planar Triangles



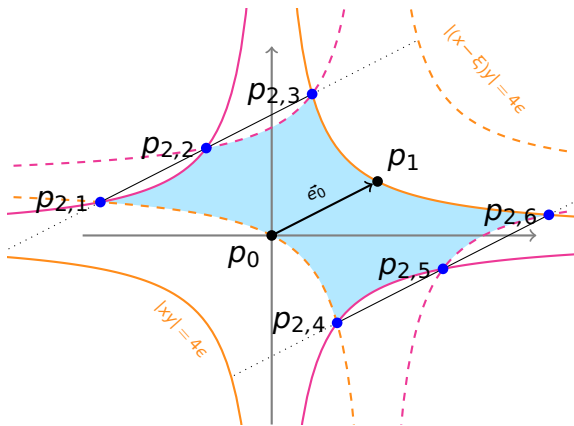
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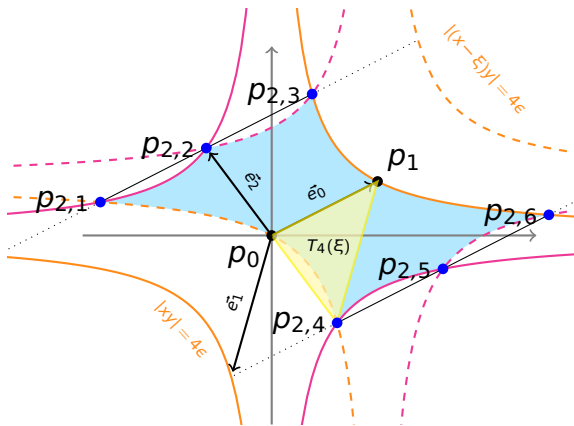
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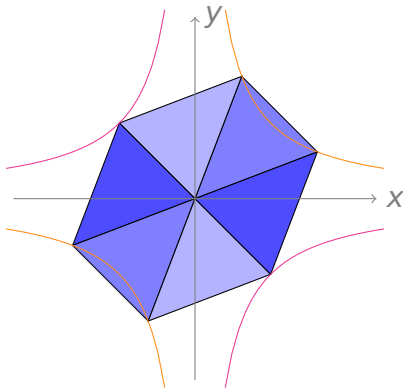


# Optimize the Area of Planar Triangles



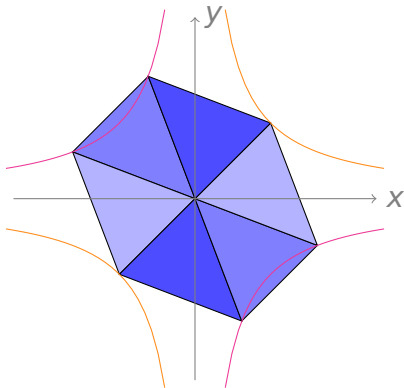
# Optimize the Shape of Planar Triangles

Once optimizing the shape of the triangles of maximal area we obtain the following:



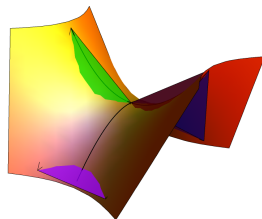
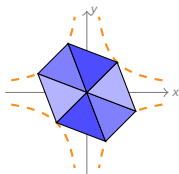
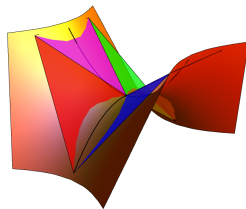
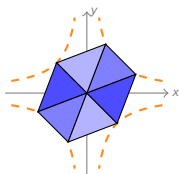
# Optimize the Shape of Planar Triangles

Once optimizing the shape of the triangles of maximal area we obtain the following:



# Triangulate the Saddle

Project the planar triangulation to the surface





# Can We Do Better?

## What do we have?

Given an  $\epsilon > 0$  and a saddle surface  $S$ , we can find a family  $\mathcal{T}$  of triangles which interpolate the surface and

- ▶ have maximal area,
- ▶ optimal shape and
- ▶ maintain  $\text{dist}_V(S, T) = \epsilon$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{T}$ .

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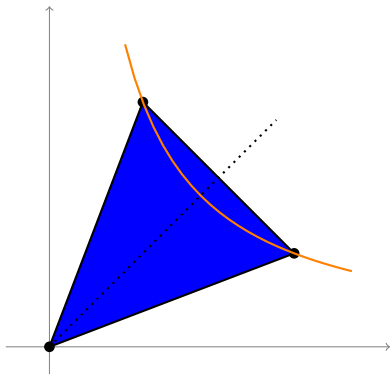
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- ▶ maintain  $\text{dist}_V(S, T) = \epsilon$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{T}$ .

## Question. . .

Can this be improved by allowing *non-interpolating* triangles?

## Fact

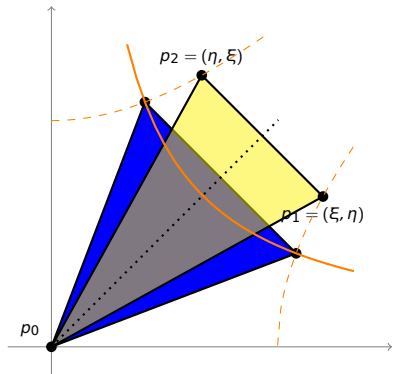
The area of the (interpolating) optimal triangles in the plane is  $2\sqrt{5}\epsilon$ .



# In the Plane

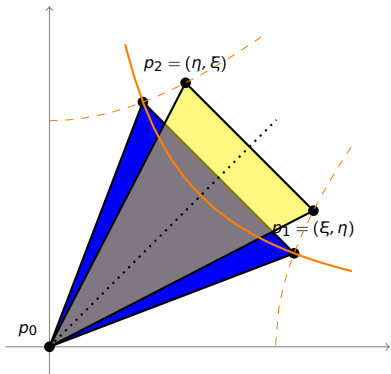
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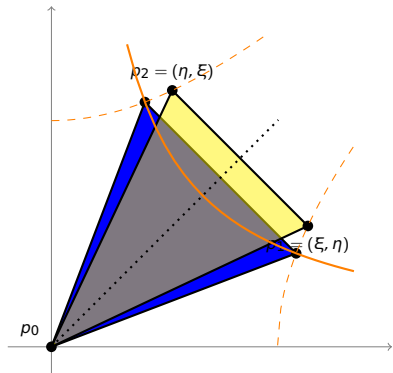
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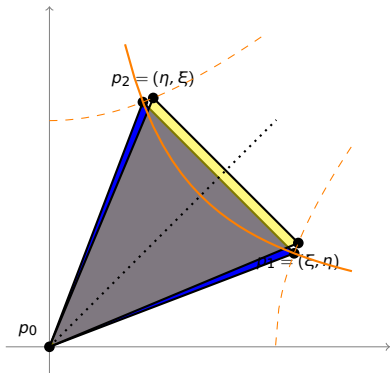
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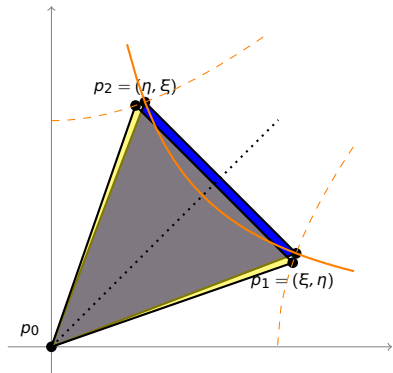
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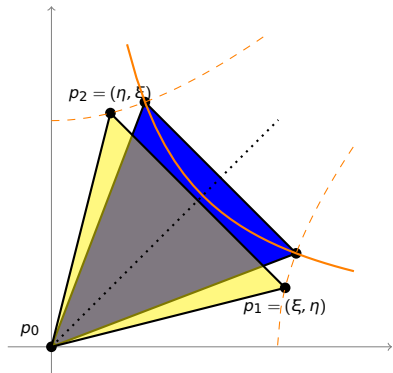
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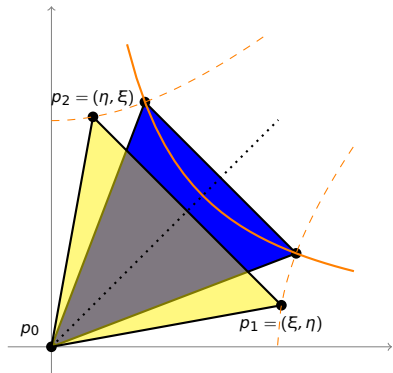
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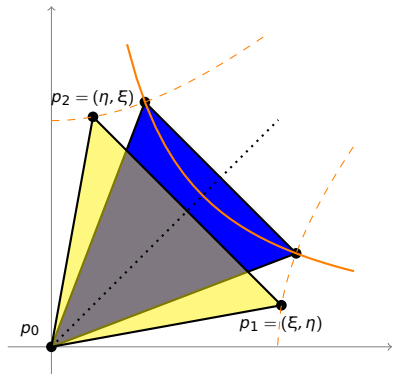
- Obtain one parameter family of area preserving triangles



## Fact

The area of the (interpolating) optimal triangles in the plane is  $2\sqrt{5}\epsilon$ .

- Obtain one parameter family of area preserving triangles
- How should they be lifted?

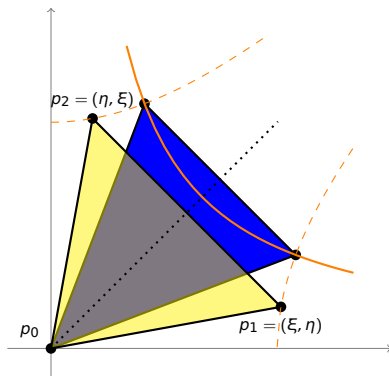


# Vertical Perturbed Projection

- Find vertical lifting  $P_i(\xi, \eta)$  of  $p_i(\xi, \eta)$  such that

$$\text{dist}_V(S, \Delta P(\xi, \eta))$$

will be minimized



# Vertical Perturbed Projection

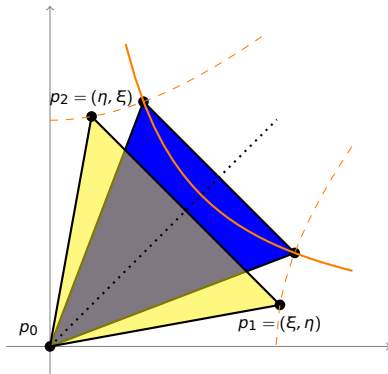
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$$S_\alpha = \{ (x, y, z) : z = xy + \alpha \}$$



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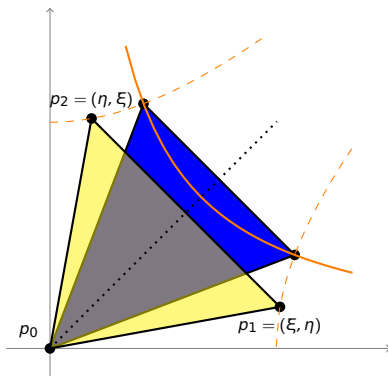
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- Vertical distance is attained at midpoints



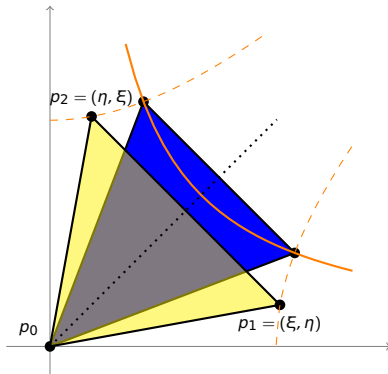
# Vertical Perturbed Projection (Cont.)

- Vertical distances from edges to  $S$  are

$$\frac{\xi\eta}{4} + \alpha > 0$$

$$\frac{1}{4}(\xi - \eta)^2 - \alpha > 0$$

and has to be the same



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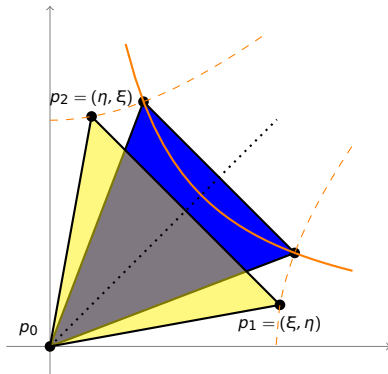
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- Therefore

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{8}(\xi^2 - 3\xi\eta + \eta^2)$$



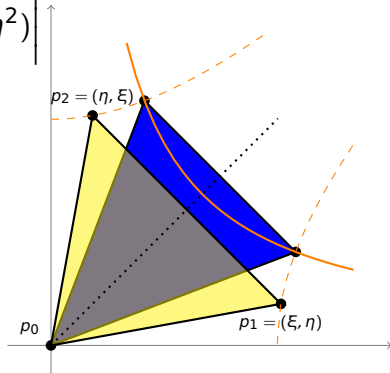


## Vertical Perturbed Projection (Cont.)

- The vertical distance is

$$\text{dist}_V(S, \Delta P_\alpha(\xi)) = \left| \frac{1}{8}(\xi^2 - \xi\eta + \eta^2) \right|$$

and its minimum can be found



## Vertical Perturbed Projection (Cont.)

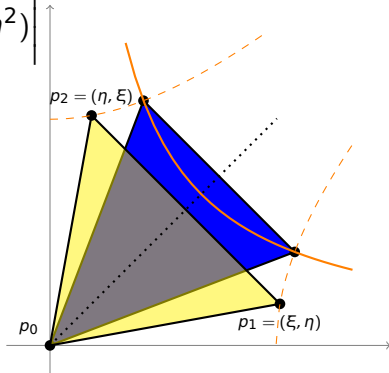
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- ▶ Min is attained for

$$\xi_0 = \sqrt{2\sqrt{5}\epsilon \frac{2 + \sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}}}$$



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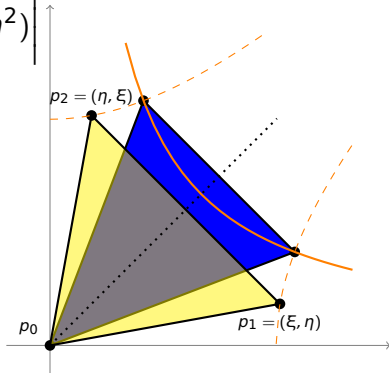
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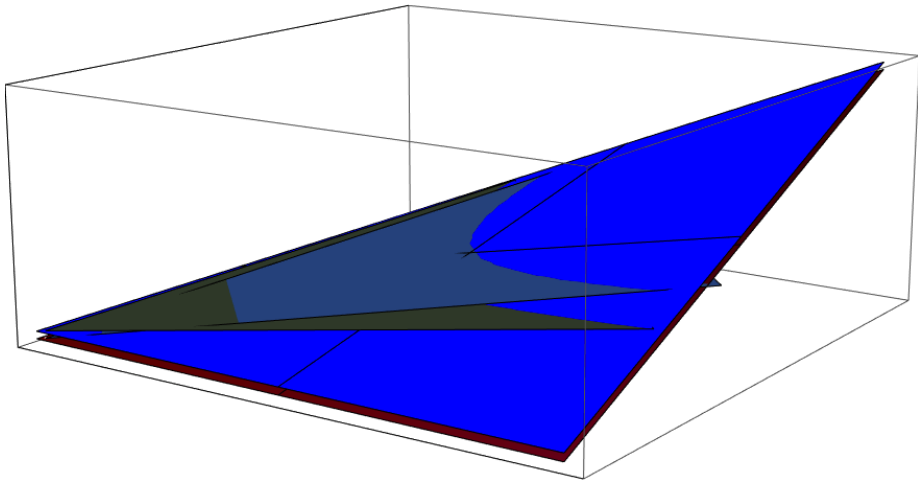
- ▶ And in this case

$$\text{dist}_V(S, \Delta P_\alpha(\xi_0)) = \frac{\sqrt{15}}{4}\epsilon \approx 0.968246\epsilon$$



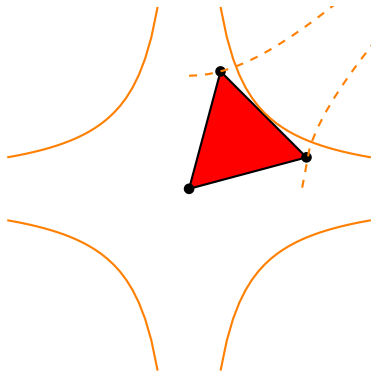
## Picture in Space

We can finally plot a non-interpolating optimal triangle which approximates a saddle surface



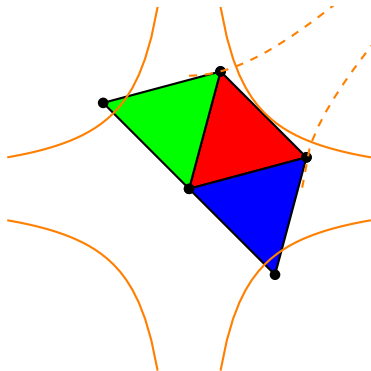
# The Planar Super-Optimal Triangle

- Note the tangency property



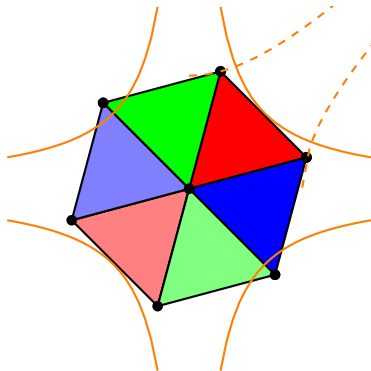
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- ▶ Note the tangency property
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Thank you for your attention!

