

# Veni, Vidi, Voronoi: Attacking Viruses using spherical Voronoi diagrams in Python

Tyler Reddy

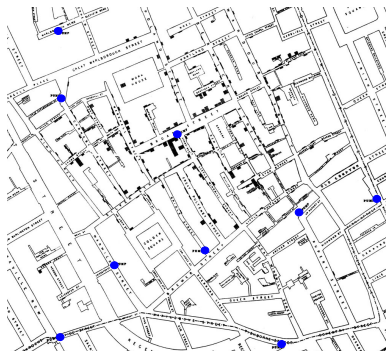
SBCB Unit, Department of Biochemistry, University of Oxford

PyData London

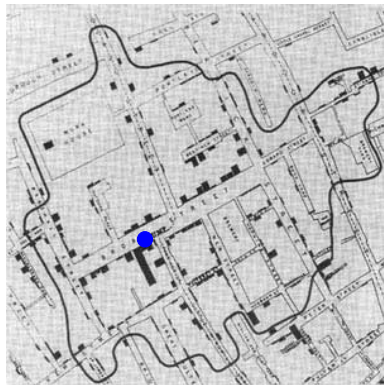
June 20 2015; 10:00 - 10:40 am

Room LG6

## (Planar) Voronoi Diagrams



Original Soho Cholera Outbreak  
Map, Dr. John Snow, 1854



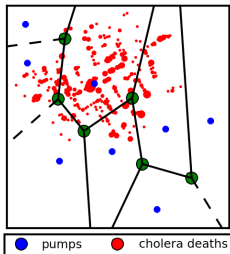
Walking time-based Voronoi  
Diagram

Fundamental concept: visual assessment of **generator** (pump) proximity

# Planar Voronoi Diagrams in Python

```
1 #example of using Python to produce a planar Voronoi diagram
2 import scipy.spatial
3 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
4 import cPickle as pickle
5 %matplotlib inline
6
7 #load data modified from Robin Wilson's (University of Southampton) blog
8 array_pump_coords = pickle.load(open('array_pump_coords.p','rb'))
9 array_cholera_data = pickle.load(open('array_cholera_data.p','rb'))
10
11 #plot
12 figure_voronoi = plt.figure()
13 ax = figure_voronoi.add_subplot('111')
14 vor = scipy.spatial.Voronoi(array_pump_coords)
15 voronoi_figure = scipy.spatial.voronoi_plot_2d(vor, ax = ax)
16 ax.scatter(array_cholera_data[:,0], array_cholera_data[:,1], s = array_cholera_data[:,2] * 2,
17           c = 'red', edgecolor='none') #scale scatter point area by number of fatalities
```

1854 Cholera Voronoi Diagram



## Some Voronoi algorithms in the plane

Authors	Year	Citations	Paradigm	Performance
Shamos and Hoey	1975	1101	divide-and-conquer	$O(n \log n)$
Green and Sibson	1978	861	incremental	$O(n^2)$
Guibas and Stolfi	1985	1506	quad-edge data structure	$O(n \log n)$
Fortune	1987	1402	sweepline	$O(n \log n)$

scipy uses Qhull library to compute the Voronoi Diagram via the Delaunay Triangulation

# Computational Geometry Concepts 1: The Convex Hull

## Convex Hull Algorithms

Paradigm	2D Complexity	3D Complexity
Incremental	$O(n^2)$	$O(n^2)^*$
Gift-wrapping	$O(nh)$	$O(nf)$
Graham scan	$O(n \log n)$	N/A
divide-and-conquer (recursion)	$O(n \log n)$	$O(n \log n)^*$

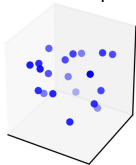
\*4D and up:  $\Omega(n^{d/2})$

\*often implemented because of conceptual simplicity

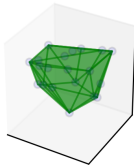
## 3D Hulls (in Python)

```
1 # 20 random points in 3-D
2 points_3D = np.random.rand(20, 3)
3 hull_3D = ConvexHull(points_3D)
4 hull_facets = hull_3D.points[hull_3D.simplices]
5 #plotting code excluded
```

Random 3D points



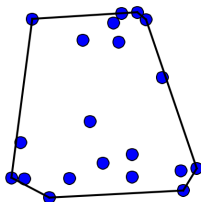
3D Convex Hull



## 2D Hulls (in Python)

```
1 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
2 import numpy as np
3 from scipy.spatial import ConvexHull,
4 convex_hull_plot_2d
5 # 20 random points in 2-D:
6 points = np.random.rand(20, 2)
7 hull = ConvexHull(points)
8 convex_hull_plot_2d(hull)
```

2D convex hull



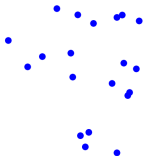
# Computational Geometry Concepts 2: Triangulations

2D Definition: Subdivision of plane that maximizes number of non-intersecting edges connecting the point set.

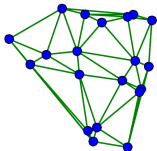
- ▶ Using Euler's Formula:  $t = 2k + h - 2$ , where  $k$  and  $h$  are for interior and hull points, respectively, and  $t$  is the number of triangles for the planar point set.
- ▶ Number of distinct triangulations of a planar point set:  $30^n$  maximum (Sharir *et al.*, 2009)
- ▶ **Delaunay Triangulations** (i.e., terrain reconstruction on Earth's surface with limited altitude samples)
- ▶ **Delaunay Triangulation** definition: a triangulation that has only legal edges and is the fattest of all possible triangulations of the planar point set. [Can build with edge flipping to remove illegal edges]
- ▶ Alternatively, a **Delaunay Triangulation** of a point set is one that excludes all points from the circumcircles of the constituent triangles.
- ▶ Minimum weight triangulation reduces the amount of wire needed in a network.

```
1 import numpy as np
2 from scipy.spatial import Delaunay
3
4 #20 random 2D points:
5 points = np.random.rand(20,2)
6 tri = Delaunay(points)
```

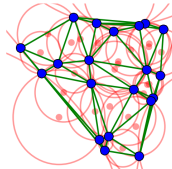
Random Points



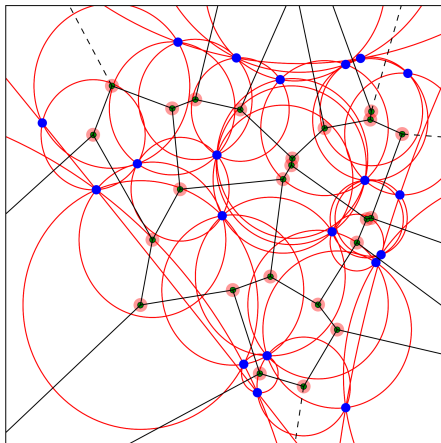
Delaunay Triangulation



With Circumcircles



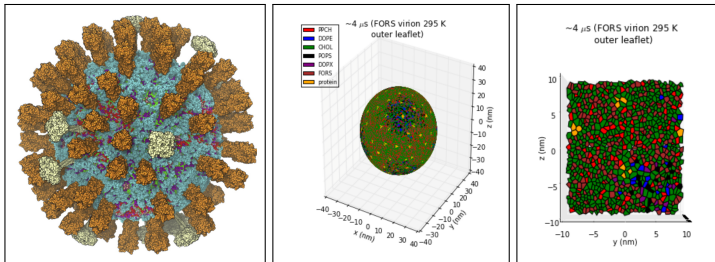
## Delaunay to Voronoi



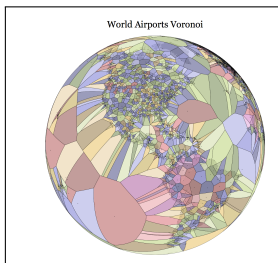
- ▶ Delaunay was a Ph.D. student of Voronoi at Kiev University
- ▶ There are deep, beautiful connections between Delaunay triangulations, Voronoi diagrams, and the convex hull

# Applications of Spherical Voronoi Diagrams

## Computational Virology



## Geographic Analysis



- ▶ Jason Davies – London
  - ▶ Javascript
  - ▶ Closed Source?
  - ▶ Interactive visualization rather than data input / output
- 
- ▶ Search and Rescue
  - ▶ Airspace territory assignment / interception
  - ▶ Global Epidemiology
  - ▶ Telecommunicatios

# Python Spherical Voronoi: Heterogeneous Resources

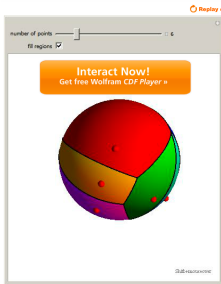
## Primary Literature – Spherical Voronoi Algorithms

Authors	Year	Citations	Paradigm	Performance
Augenbaum	1985	89	progressive insertion	$O(n^2)$
Renka	1997	146	incremental	$O(n \log n)$
Gold and Mostafavi	2000	33	point-line model	?
Na <i>et al.</i>	2002	50	stereographic projection	$O(n \log n)$
Chen <i>et al.</i>	2003	34	spherical mesh	?
Caroll <i>et al.</i>	2009	3	incremental	?
Dinis and Mamede	2010	3	sweep line	$O(n \log n)$

Attempted to implement for a few months – no success.

## Closed Source Example

### Voronoi Diagram on a Sphere



This Demonstration generates the Voronoi diagram on the unit sphere. This is done using the fact that the Voronoi vertices are the unit normals to the faces of the convex hull. To move the points, hold the Shift key and mouseover the 3D graphic.

## stackoverflow

▲ Quoting from this reference: <http://www.qhull.org/html/qdelaun.htm>

1 ▼ To compute the Delaunay triangulation of points on a sphere, compute their convex hull. If the sphere is the unit sphere at the origin, the facet normals are the Voronoi vertices of the input.

share edit flag

answered Apr 1 '13 at 5:35  
Felpe G. Nievinski  
96 • 5

Generally, the convex hull is different problem than the Delaunay triangulation. But QHull's algorithm for the convex hull delivers also the Delaunay triangulation which is dual to the Voronoi diagram. – math Jul 15 '13 at 13:07



The internet 'suggests' computing the convex hull, which is equivalent to the Delaunay Triangulation on the sphere, and then taking the normals to the faces of the convex hull to obtain the Voronoi vertices.



# Python Spherical Voronoi: Implementation

GitHub: [https://github.com/tylerjereddy/py\\_sphere\\_Voronoi](https://github.com/tylerjereddy/py_sphere_Voronoi)

Docs: [http://py-sphere-voronoi.readthedocs.org/en/latest/voronoi\\_utility.html](http://py-sphere-voronoi.readthedocs.org/en/latest/voronoi_utility.html)

## Voronoi Diagrams on a Spherical Surface

```
class voronoi_utility.Voronoi_Sphere_Surface(points, sphere_radius=None,
sphere_center_origin_offset_vector=None) [source]
```

Voronoi diagrams on the surface of a sphere.

Parameters: **points** : array, shape (npoints, 3)

Coordinates of points used to construct a Voronoi diagram on the surface of a sphere.

**sphere\_radius** : float

Radius of the sphere (providing radius is more accurate than forcing an estimate). Default: None (force estimation).

**sphere\_center\_origin\_offset\_vector** : array, shape (3,)

A 1D numpy array that can be subtracted from the generators (original data points) to translate the center of the sphere back to the origin. Default: None assumes already centered at origin.

### Methods

`deelaunay_triangulation_spherical_surface()` [source]

Deelaunay tessellation of the points on the surface of the sphere. This is simply the 3D convex hull of the points. Returns a shape (N,3,3) array of points representing the vertices of the Deelaunay triangulation on the sphere (i.e., N three-dimensional triangle vertex arrays).

`voronoi_region_surface_areas_spherical_surface()` [source]

Returns a dictionary with the estimated surface areas of the Voronoi region polygons corresponding to each generator (original data point) index. Attempts to calculate the spherical surface area but falls back to a planar estimate if the spherical excess is  $\leq 0$ . An example dictionary entry: `{generator_index : surface_area, ...}`.

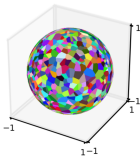
`voronoi_region_vertices_spherical_surface()` [source]

Returns a dictionary with the sorted (non-intersecting) polygon vertices for the Voronoi regions associated with each generator (original data point) index. A dictionary entry would be structured as follows: `{generator_index : array_polygon_vertices, ...}`.

### Examples

Produce a Voronoi diagram for a pseudo-random set of points on the unit sphere:

```
>>> import matplotlib
>>> import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
>>> import matplotlib.colors as colors
>>> from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import Axes3D
>>> from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d.art3d import Poly3DCollection
>>> import numpy as np
>>> import scipy as sp
>>> import voronoi_utility
>>> #Plots down the pseudo random number generator (prng) object to avoid certain pathological generat
>>> prng = sp.random.RandomState(117) #Otherwise, would need to filter the random data to ensure Vor
>>> #Produce 1000 random points on the unit sphere using the above seed
>>> #random_coordinate_array = voronoi_utility.generate_random_array_spherical_generators(1000,1.0,pr
>>> #Produce the Voronoi diagram data
>>> voronoi_instance = voronoi_utility.Voronoi_Sphere_Surface(random_coordinate_array,1.0)
>>> dictionary_voronoi_polygon_vertices = voronoi_instance.voronoi_region_vertices_spherical_surface
>>> #Plot the Voronoi diagram
>>> fig = plt.figure()
>>> fig.set_size_inches(2,2)
>>> ax = fig.add_subplot(111, projection='3d')
>>> for generator_index, voronoi_region in dictionary_voronoi_polygon_vertices.iteritems():
...     random_color = colors.rgb2hex(sp.rand(3))
...     #Fill in the Voronoi region (polygon) that contains the generator:
...     polygon = Poly3DCollection([voronoi_region],alpha=1.0)
...     polygon.set_color(random_color)
...     ax.add_collection3d(polygon)
>>> ax.set_xlim(-1,1);ax.set_ylim(-1,1);ax.set_zlim(-1,1);
(-1, 1)
(-1, 1)
(-1, 1)
>>> ax.set_xticks([-1,1]);ax.set_yticks([-1,1]);ax.set_zticks([-1,1]);
[matplotlib.axis.XTick object at 0x..., matplotlib.axis.XTick object at 0x...]
[matplotlib.axis.XTick object at 0x..., matplotlib.axis.XTick object at 0x...]
[matplotlib.axis.XTick object at 0x..., matplotlib.axis.XTick object at 0x...]
>>> plt.tick_params(axis='both', which='major', labelsize=6)
```

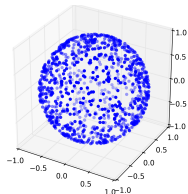


## Spherical Voronoi Algorithm Stage 1: Random points on unit sphere

---

```
1 #step 1: generate pseudo-random set of points on the unit sphere
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3 from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import Axes3D
4 %matplotlib inline
5 import numpy as np
6 import scipy as sp
7 import voronoi_utility
8
9 #pin down the pseudo random number generator (prng) object to avoid certain pathological generator sets
10 #otherwise, would need to filter the random data to ensure Voronoi diagram is possible
11 prng = np.random.RandomState(117)
12 #produce 1000 random points on the unit sphere using the above seed
13 random_coordinate_array = voronoi_utility.generate_random_array_spherical_generators(1000,1.0,prng)
14
15 #examine the random coordinates on the unit sphere by visual inspection:
16 fig_random_coords_unit_sphere = plt.figure()
17 ax = fig_random_coords_unit_sphere.add_subplot('111',projection='3d')
18 ax.scatter(random_coordinate_array[... ,0],random_coordinate_array[... ,1],random_coordinate_array[... ,2],
19           edgecolors='none')
20 ax.set_xlim(-1,1); ax.set_ylim(-1,1); ax.set_zlim(-1,1)
21 fig_random_coords_unit_sphere.set_size_inches(5,5)
22 fig_random_coords_unit_sphere.savefig('spherical_algorithm_stage_1.png', dpi = 300)
```

---

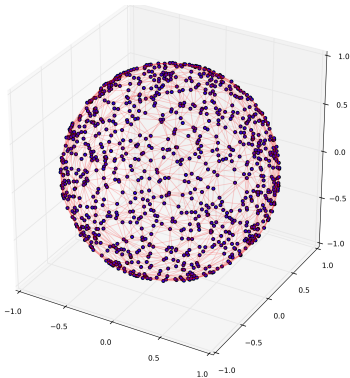


## Spherical Voronoi Algorithm Stage 2: Delaunay triangulation

---

```
1 #step 2: produce Delaunay triangulation coordinates
2 hull_instance = sp.spatial.ConvexHull(random_coordinate_array)
3 list_points_vertices_Delaunay_triangulation = []
4 for simplex in hull_instance.simplices: #for each simplex (triangle) of the convex hull
5     convex_hull_triangular_facet_vertex_coordinates = hull_instance.points[simplex]
6     list_points_vertices_Delaunay_triangulation.append(convex_hull_triangular_facet_vertex_coordinates)
7 array_points_vertices_Delaunay_triangulation = np.array(list_points_vertices_Delaunay_triangulation)
8 #the above should be a shape (N,3,3) numpy array of the Delaunay triangle vertex coordinates
9 #on the surface of the sphere.
10
11 #plotting code omitted for clarity
```

---



generators

Delaunay

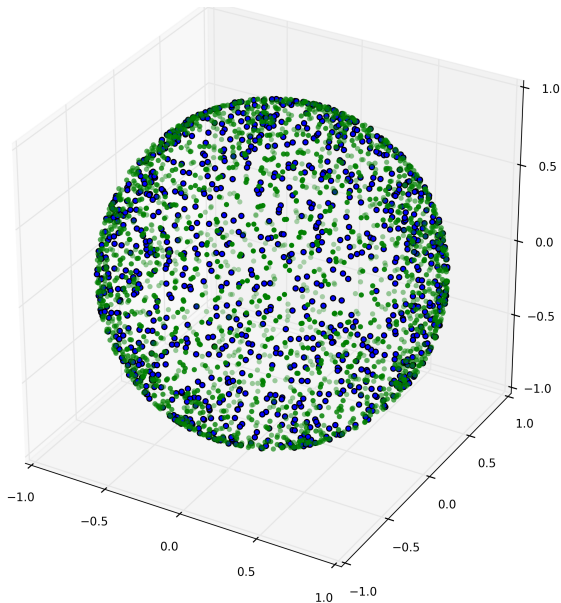
## Spherical Voronoi Algorithm Stage 3: Voronoi Vertices

---

```
1  #step 3: produce an array of Voronoi vertices
2  facet_coordinate_array_Delaunay_triangulation = array_points_vertices_Delaunay_triangulation
3  facet_normals_array = np.cross(facet_coordinate_array_Delaunay_triangulation[... ,1,...] -
4      facet_coordinate_array_Delaunay_triangulation[... ,0,...],
5      facet_coordinate_array_Delaunay_triangulation[... ,2,...]
6      - facet_coordinate_array_Delaunay_triangulation[... ,0,...])
7  facet_normal_magnitudes = np.linalg.norm(facet_normals_array,axis=1)
8  facet_normal_unit_vector_array = facet_normals_array / np.column_stack((facet_normal_magnitudes,
9      facet_normal_magnitudes,facet_normal_magnitudes))
10 #try to ensure that facet normal faces the correct direction (i.e., out of sphere)
11 triangle_centroid_array = np.average(facet_coordinate_array_Delaunay_triangulation,axis=1)
12 #normalize the triangle_centroid to unit sphere distance for the purposes of the following directionality
13 #check
14 array_triangle_centroid_spherical_coords =
15 voronoi_utility.convert_cartesian_array_to_spherical_array(triangle_centroid_array)
16 array_triangle_centroid_spherical_coords[... ,0] = 1.0
17 triangle_centroid_array =
18 voronoi_utility.convert_spherical_array_to_cartesian_array(array_triangle_centroid_spherical_coords)
19 #the Euclidean distance between the triangle centroid and the facet normal should be smaller than the
20 #sphere centroid to facet normal distance, otherwise, need to invert the vector
21 triangle_to_normal_distance_array = np.linalg.norm(triangle_centroid_array
22     - facet_normal_unit_vector_array,axis=1)
23 sphere_radius = 1. ; sphere_centroid = np.average(random_coordinate_array, axis = 0)
24 sphere_centroid_to_normal_distance_array = np.linalg.norm(sphere_centroid
25     - facet_normal_unit_vector_array,axis=1)
26 delta_value_array = sphere_centroid_to_normal_distance_array - triangle_to_normal_distance_array
27 #need to rotate the vector so that it faces out of the circle
28 facet_normal_unit_vector_array[delta_value_array < -0.1] *= -1.0
29 facet_normal_unit_vector_array *= sphere_radius #adjust for radius of sphere
30 array_Voronoi_vertices = facet_normal_unit_vector_array
```

---

## Spherical Voronoi Algorithm Stage 3: Voronoi Vertices



generators

Voronoi

Vertices

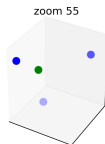
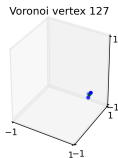
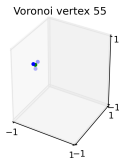
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### Challenges:

- ▶ Associate vertices with generators
- ▶ Order polygon vertices in close proximity
- ▶ Problems with missing vertices and self-intersection
- ▶ Am I missing something here?

## Spherical Voronoi Algorithm Stage 4a: Voronoi vertex generator associations

```
1 #step 4a: For all Voronoi vertices, determine the full set of generators for which they form part
2 #of the Voronoi polygon
3
4 #I already have the Voronoi vertices and the generators, so work based off a distance matrix
5 #between them
6 distance_matrix_Voronoi_vertices_to_generators =
7     sp.spatial.distance.cdist(array_Voronoi_vertices,random_coordinate_array)
8
9 #now, each row of the above distance array corresponds to a single Voronoi vertex, with each
10 #column of that row representing the distance to the respective generator point
11 #if we iterate through each of the rows and determine the indices of the minimum distances, we
12 #obtain the indices of the generators for which that voronoi vertex is a polygon vertex
13 generator_Voronoi_region_dictionary = {} #store the indices of the generators for which a given
14 #Voronoi vertex is also a polygon vertex
15 for Voronoi_point_index, Voronoi_point_distance_array in enumerate(distance_matrix_
16 Voronoi_vertices_to_generators):
17     Voronoi_point_distance_array = np.around(Voronoi_point_distance_array,decimals=3)
18     indices_of_generators_for_which_this_Voronoi_point_is_a_polygon_vertex =
19     np.where(Voronoi_point_distance_array == Voronoi_point_distance_array.min())[0]
20     assert indices_of_generators_for_which_this_Voronoi_point_is_a_polygon_vertex.size >= 3,
21     "By definition, a Voronoi vertex must be equidistant to at least 3 generators."
22     generator_Voronoi_region_dictionary[Voronoi_point_index] =
23         indices_of_generators_for_which_this_Voronoi_point_is_a_polygon_vertex
24 #so dictionary looks like 0: array(12,17,27), ...
```

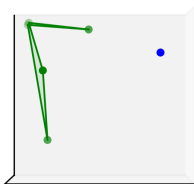


generators  
Voronoi  
Vertices

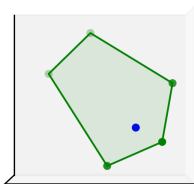
## Spherical Voronoi Algorithm Stage 4b: Collect unsorted polygon vertices

```
1 #step 4b: collect the Voronoi point indices forming the polygon for each generator index
2 from collections import defaultdict
3 dictionary_Voronoi_point_indices_for_each_generator = defaultdict(list)
4 for Voronoi_point_index, indices_of_generators_for_which_this_Voronoi_point_is_a_polygon_vertex in
5 generator_Voronoi_region_dictionary.iteritems():
6     for generator_index in indices_of_generators_for_which_this_Voronoi_point_is_a_polygon_vertex:
7         dictionary_Voronoi_point_indices_for_each_generator[generator_index].append(Voronoi_point_index)
8 #dictionary should have format: {generator_index: [list_of_Voronoi_indices_forming_polygon_vertices]}
```

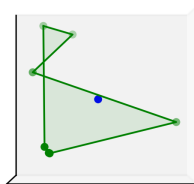
generator index 773



generator index 380



generator index 978



generators

Voronoi Vertices

## Spherical Voronoi Algorithm Stage 4c: Sort Voronoi Region Vertices

---

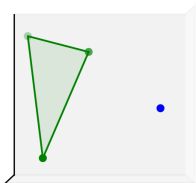
```
1  #step 4c: sort voronoi region (polygon) vertices
2  dictionary_sorted_Voronoi_point_coordinates_for_each_generator = {}
3
4  def sort_voronoi_coords(voronoi_vertex_array, projection_start_index, projection_end_index, test_index):
5      #trying to project to 2D for edge ordering, and then restore to 3D after:
6      polygon_hull_object = sp.spatial.ConvexHull(voronoi_vertex_array[... ,projection_start_index:
7          projection_end_index])
8      point_indices_ordered_vertex_array = polygon_hull_object.vertices
9      current_array_Voronoi_vertices = voronoi_vertex_array[point_indices_ordered_vertex_array]
10     voronoi_utility.test_polygon_for_self_intersection(current_array_Voronoi_vertices[... ,test_index:])
11     return current_array_Voronoi_vertices
12
13 for generator_index, list_unsorted_Voronoi_region_vertices in dictionary_Voronoi_point_indices_for_each_
14 generator.iteritems():
15     current_array_Voronoi_vertices = array_Voronoi_vertices[list_unsorted_Voronoi_region_vertices]
16     if current_array_Voronoi_vertices.shape[0] > 3:
17         try:
18             current_array_Voronoi_vertices = sort_voronoi_coords(current_array_Voronoi_vertices, 0,
19                 2, 1,)
20         except voronoi_utility.IntersectionError: #try a different sorting / projection
21             current_array_Voronoi_vertices = sort_voronoi_coords(current_array_Voronoi_vertices, 1,
22                 current_array_Voronoi_vertices.shape[0] + 2, 1)
23     assert current_array_Voronoi_vertices.shape[0] >= 3, "Polygon has >= 3 vertices."
24     dictionary_sorted_Voronoi_point_coordinates_for_each_generator[generator_index] = current_array_
25 Voronoi_vertices
```

---

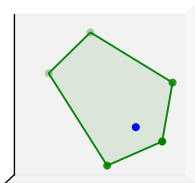


## Spherical Voronoi Algorithm Stage 4c: Sort Voronoi Region Vertices

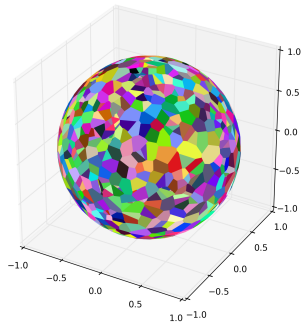
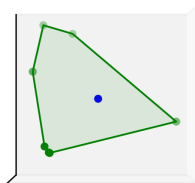
generator index 773



generator index 380



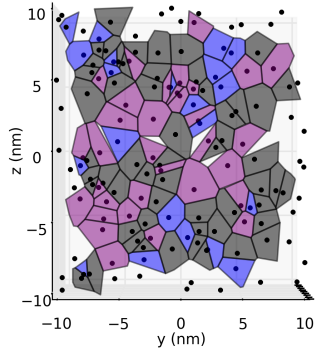
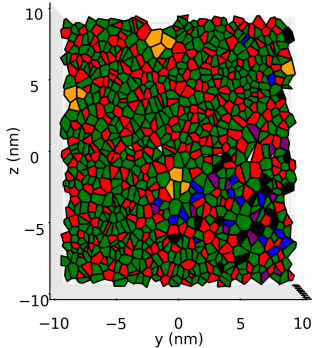
generator index 978



- ▶ generally  $> 95\%$  surface area reconstitution
- ▶ generators outside of assigned Voronoi regions
- ▶ residual cases of polygon self-intersection
- ▶ floating point instability
- ▶ surface area – planar only

# Example Results and Problems

Variable sensitivity to blank space problem



Spherical Polygon Area Calculation Unstable

$$S = [\theta - (n - 2)\pi]R^2$$

# Conclusions

- ▶ ultimately have the spherical Voronoi vertices – challenge seems to be rebuilding the Voronoi regions
- ▶ perhaps someday spherical Voronoi will be available in `scipy.spatial`

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