AN ALGORITHM TO FIND THE INTERSECTION OF TWO CONVEX POLYGONS

BY ARMIDO R. DIDONATO
STRATEGIC AND SPACE SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT

SEPTEMBER 1993

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FOREWORD

The work described in this report was performed in the Space and Surface Systems Division of the Strategic and Space Systems Department at the request of the Cruise Missile Weapon Systems Division (L10) of the Strike Systems Department. A description of the analysis and software developed to find the intersection of two convex polygons is given.

The intersection of convex polygons was required by Sibille Tallant of L11 during her study to determine operating areas for strikes against multiple targets. This algorithm is used in a strike analysis tool that she developed called STANT. The author has benefited from numerous discussions with her on the application of the algorithm and is appreciative of her thorough review of this report. Mrs. Tallant also produced the drawings that appear in this document.

Approved by:

R. L. SCHMIDT, Head
Strategic and Space Systems Department
ABSTRACT

An algorithm is given that finds the intersection of two convex polygons. It is coded in Fortran for the IBM PC desktop computer. The program is robust and fast. It has been used successfully in targeting applications that require a rapid determination of the common intersection of more than 100 convex polygons each specified by more than 150 vertices.
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I. INTRODUCTION

This report describes an algorithm, INTSEC, that determines the region of intersection, INTX, of two convex closed polygons. We shall refer to the entire PC Fortran code for INTSEC by the name FINTX. The code is robust; it will always find INTX, except in cases where the single precision arithmetic of the PC cannot resolve or distinguish between different points (a double precision version of the code that provides greater resolution is also available). FINTX is also fast. In a recent application, using an IBM compatible 486-66 DX2 desktop computer, FINTX found the common intersection of 172 polygons each with 180 vertices in 6.9 seconds. Examples using FINTX are given in the appendix.

INTSEC has important applications in computer graphics, computer chip design, and targeting studies. For example in targeting, INTSEC is useful in generating an operating area against several targets. Some papers studied on the intersection problem are given in references [1], [3], [4], [5], [6]. None of these papers gave sufficient detail of the actual implementation of their algorithms to evaluate their speed. For example, an algorithm may be carried out in a small number of steps but if each step is expensive time-wise, as in computing arctangents, its efficiency is reduced. No remarks were found concerning robustness of their algorithms.

The only requirement of the two given polygons, in addition to being closed and convex, is that they be positively oriented (PO). A simple polygon P is positively oriented (PO) if its vertices are ordered with the interior of P on the left as the boundary of P is traversed in the direction of increasing indices k of the vertices $p_k$, $k = 1, 2, N$. If left is replaced by right then P is negatively oriented (NO). The two polygons are denoted by XY and UV, where XY is specified by its vertices $z_i$ with coordinates $(x_i, y_i)$, $i = 1, 2, ..., NX$. Similarly, UV is specified by its vertices $w_j$ with coordinates $(u_j, v_j)$, $j = 1, 2, ..., NU$. Since the polygons are closed $(x_1, y_1) = (x_{NX}, y_{NX})$ and $(u_1, v_1) = (u_{NU}, v_{NU})$. In our procedure we also include $(x_{NX+1}, y_{NX+1}) = (x_2, y_2)$ and $(u_{NU+1}, v_{NU+1}) = (u_2, v_2)$. In the remainder of this report this fact will not be referred to explicitly.

Note that INTX is also convex and is completely determined by its vertices. It can have at most KK of them with $KK \leq NX1 + NU1$, where

$$\text{NX1} = NX - 1 \geq 3, \quad \text{NU1} = NU - 1 \geq 3.$$  

The vertices will be ordered so that INTX is PO with the first vertex taken as the one that has the smallest ordinate. If more than one such vertex exists, then the one of that set that has the minimum abscissa is taken as the first vertex.

INTSEC is made up of three basic algorithms (A, B, C) and some auxiliary algorithms. Algorithm A establishes if a given vertex $w$ of UV is either inside XY, outside XY, or on its boundary, $\partial XY$. It also determines if a given vertex $z$ of XY is inside UV, outside UV, or on its boundary, $\partial UV$. 

---

**NOTES**

- The first vertex of INTX is taken as the one with the smallest ordinate.
- If more than one vertex has the same ordinate, the one with the minimum abscissa is taken as the first vertex.
- The algorithm is robust, always finding INTX except in cases where single precision arithmetic cannot resolve or distinguish between points.
- The double precision version provides greater resolution.
- INTSEC is fast, finding the intersection of 172 polygons each with 180 vertices in 6.9 seconds.
- Applications include computer graphics, computer chip design, and targeting studies.
- References [1], [3], [4], [5], [6] are cited, but they lack detail of actual implementation.
- The only requirement is that the polygons are closed and convex, positively oriented (PO).
- The vertices are ordered in the direction of increasing indices, or as right if left is replaced.
- INTX is convex and determined by its vertices, with at most $KK$ vertices where $KK \leq NX1 + NU1$.
- The first vertex is determined by the smallest ordinate, or minimum abscissa if ties occur.
Algorithm B finds the first intersection of $\delta XY$ and $\delta UV$ that has not been found by A. Algorithm C finds all the remaining vertices of $\text{INT}X$ not found by A. A vertex of $\text{INT}X$, which is not a vertex of either $XY$ or $UV$, is found by C at the intersection of a line segment (edge) of $XY$ and a line segment (edge) of $UV$, where a line segment (edge) is specified by the coordinates of its end points.

For easy reference, we list here the names of the routines associated with the algorithms mentioned above. They will be discussed in the order listed.

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No proofs are given in this paper.

**II. SUBROUTINE XINT, MASTER ROUTINE (PART 1)**

The first part of the master or executive routine XINT is described here. Before proceeding, some notation is introduced. A given polygon $P$ may be defined by the sequence of its vertices $\{p_k\}$, $k = 1, 2, ..., N$, where $P$ is generated by taking the $p_k$ in increasing order of the subscripts. The statements $q$ is in $P$, $q$ is contained in $P$, or $q \in P$ means $q$ is located inside $P$ or on its boundary, $\partial P$. As noted earlier we refer to $XY$ by its vertices $\{x_j\}$, $i = 1, 2, ..., NX$ or simply by $\{x\}$. Similarly, $UV$ is defined by $\{w\}$, or $\{w_j\}$, $j = 1, 2, ..., NU$. Note that $XY$ has $NX1 = NX - 1$ distinct vertices and $UV$ has $NU1 = NU - 1$ such points. No preliminary processing of $XY$ or $UV$ is necessary.

XINT begins by calling the Fortran function $\text{ITR}(u, v, NX1, X, Y)$, which is based on a part of algorithm A, to find if the vertex $w = (u, v)$ of $UV$ is contained in $XY$, where $X$ and $Y$ are arrays containing the $x$ and $y$ coordinates, respectively, of $\{x\}$. $\text{ITR}(u, v, NX1, X, Y)$ can take one of three values that is stored in $Lw$. If $Lw = 1$, then $w$ is in $XY$ but it does not coincide with a vertex of $XY$. If $Lw = 0$, then $w$ coincides with a vertex of $XY$. If $Lw = -1$, then $w$ is not in $XY$. XINT determines $Lw$ for each $w$ in $UV$. If $\text{ITR}$ finds $NU1$ vertices of $UV$ in $XY$, then $\text{INTX}$ has been found, namely $\text{INTX} = UV$. If this is not the case, XINT calls $\text{ITR}(x, y, NU1, U, V)$ to find if the vertex $z = (x, y)$ of $XY$ is contained in $UV$, where $U$ and $V$ contain the coordinates of the $\{w\}$. The result from $\text{ITR}(x, y, NU1, U, V)$ is stored in $Lz$. $Lz$ takes one of the three values $(1, 0, or -1)$ with meanings analogous to those for $Lw$. XINT determines $Lz$ for each $z$ in $XY$. If $NX1$ vertices of $XY$ are found in $UV$ by $\text{ITR}$, then $\text{INTX} = XY$. The abscissas and ordinates of the vertices belonging to $\text{INTX}$ found by $\text{ITR}$ are stored in the arrays $WW$ and $ZZ$, respectively. In order to avoid duplications, if $Lz = 0$ then the coordinates of the vertex are not saved, since they have already been found by $Lw = 0, w = s$ and
stored in WW and ZZ. At this point, we assume that WW and ZZ each contain K1 elements, with
0 ≤ K1 < NX1 + NU1. We use WW(K) and ZZ(K) to denote the Kth element of these arrays.

XINT now calls FST, which is based on algorithm B. FST searches for the first intersection
point c of ∂XY and ∂UV that is not a vertex of either of the polygons. Let s1s2 denote the directed line
segment from end point s1 to end point s2. The search for c begins with directed edges s1s2 and w1w2.
If their intersection produces c an exit occurs, otherwise the search continues by looking for a smallest j
such that wjw_{j+1}, 2 ≤ j ≤ NU1, intersects s1s2. If no c is found, the procedure is repeated with j = 1
and with s1s2 replaced by s_is_{i+1}, i = 2. The entire procedure is continued by incrementing j through
its range for each i < NX1 until c is found for the smallest values of j and i. If no c is found then INTX
has zero area and an exit is made. If c exists for some smallest i = n and j = m, this implies that there
is an edge of XY, s_n s_{n+1}, and an edge of UV, w_mw_{m+1}, that intersect at c. Recall that c is not
a vertex of XY or UV. The vertices of XY and UV are then reordered by the auxiliary routine SORT
such that the sequences {s} and {w} are rotated as shown:

\{s_n, s_{n+1}, ..., s_{NX1}, s_1, ..., s_n\} \rightarrow \{s_1, s_2, ..., s_{NX1}\}
\{w_m, w_{m+1}, ..., w_{NU1}, w_1, ..., w_m\} \rightarrow \{w_1, w_2, ..., w_{NU1}\}.

More details on FST are given in Section IV.

After finding c XINT calls SOLV, which is based on algorithm C. SOLV finds the remaining
intersection points that make up INTX by moving around ∂XY and ∂UV and systematically finding
the missing points. The details of this search by SOLV are given in Section V. After all vertices of
INTX have been found, the routine HULL, given in [2], is used to reorder the points as described in
Section I and to store their coordinates in new output arrays W and Z. Then a final search is made in
W and Z for any successive duplicate points; if any exist, only one set of such points is retained. The
arrays W and Z hold the coordinates of the ordered vertices of INTX.

An example of how INTSEC operates is shown by Figure 1.
Points a, b are found in that order by ITR. Then point c is found by FST. Note that since c is found by FST, the points of UV are reordered by SORT such that

\[ w_2 \rightarrow w_1, \ w_3 \rightarrow w_2, \ w_4 \rightarrow w_3, \ w_1 \rightarrow w_4, \ w_2 \rightarrow w_5, \]

or as stated above

\[ (w_2, w_3, w_4, w_1, w_2) \rightarrow (w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4, w_5). \]

Then SOLV is called to find the remaining points d, e, f of INTX. HULL is then used to reorder the points of INTX yielding INTX = \{a, c, b, d, e, f, a\}.

The remainder of XINT will be described in Section VI. The order with which the array elements of XY and UV are presented to SOLV for finding the intersection points of the edges of XY and UV that have not been obtained by ITR is discussed.

### III. FUNCTION ITR: ALGORITHM A

Given a Po polygon P specified by its vertices \{p_1, p_2, ..., p_j, ..., p_N\} and a point q, ITR determines if q \in P with q \neq p_j for each j, if q = p_j for some j, or if q is outside P. From ITR a parameter Lq is assigned a value 1, 0, -1, accordingly. The evaluation of Lq by algorithm A depends strongly on the following:

Let \( \Delta \) denote a triangle. Then S(\( \Delta \)), or S for short, has the properties that |S| is twice the area of \( \Delta \) and can be given in terms of the Cartesian coordinates (\( \xi, \eta \)) of the vertices of \( \Delta \). Specifying \( \Delta \) by

\[ \{p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4\} \text{ with } p_j = [\xi(j), \eta(j)], \]

\[ S = [\xi(2) - \xi(1)] [\eta(3) - \eta(1)] + [\xi(3) - \xi(1)] [\eta(1) - \eta(2)]. \]  \( \text{(1)} \)

If \( \Delta \) is Po then \( S > 0 \), and if \( \Delta \) is No then \( S < 0 \); \( S = 0 \) implies the vertices are collinear.

Again, we have for a Po polygon P and a point q, with N_1 = N - 1:

- a) L_q = 1. \ q \in P, but not at a vertex of P.
- b) L_q = 0. \ q = p_j for some j = 1, 2, ..., N_1.
- c) L_q = -1. \ q \notin P.

Let \( q = (x, y) \). Algorithm A, using ITR, begins by checking to see if q = p_1. If so, then L_q = 0 and an exit from ITR occurs. Otherwise, it keeps the line segment q_p_1 fixed and proceeds counterclockwise around P looking at the sequence of triangles \( \Delta_j = \{q, p_1, p_j, q\}, j = 2, 3, ..., N_1 \). Starting with j = 2, the quantity

\[ S(\Delta_j) = [\xi(1) - x] [\eta(j) - y] + [\xi(j) - x] [y - \eta(1)] \]

is evaluated to determine the orientation of \( \Delta_j \). For simplicity in notation let S(\( \Delta_j \)) = S_j. If for each j \( S_j > 0 \), then q is not in P and L_q = -1. If there exists an integer k such that 2 \leq k < N_1 and \( S_k \leq 0 \), then an additional new triangle, \( \overline{\Delta} \), is considered. It is defined by its sequence of vertices \( (q, p_{k-1}, p_k, q) \) and its orientation is determined by

\[ S(\overline{\Delta}) = \overline{S}_{k-1} = [\xi(k - 1) - x] [\eta(k) - y] + [\xi(k) - x] [y - \eta(k - 1)]. \]  \( \text{(3)} \)
Using these concepts we summarise the results of the various possibilities.

- If \( q = p_1 \), then \( L_q = 0 \).
- If \( S_j > 0 \) for each \( j \), then \( L_q = -1 \).
- If \( S_k \leq 0 \) and \( S_{k-1} < 0 \), then \( L_q = -1 \).
- If \( S_k < 0 \) and \( S_{k-1} \geq 0 \), then \( L_q = 1 \).
- If \( S_k = 0 \) and \( S_{k-1} > 0 \), then \( L_q = 1 \).
- If \( S_k = 0 \) and \( S_{k-1} = 0 \), then \( L_q = 0 \).

**IV. SUBROUTINE FST: ALGORITHM B (with SORT)**

Subroutine FST finds the first intersection \( c \) of an edge of \( XY \) with an edge of \( UV \) that is not at an end point of either edge. The procedure begins by looking for the first intersection of the \( i \)th edge \( z_i, z_{i+1}, i = 1 \), of \( XY \) and at edges \( w_j, w_{j+1}, \) for increasing \( j, j = 1, 2, ..., \) \( N_U \) 1 of \( UV \). If one is not found, then \( i \) is incremented by 1 and the process is repeated. If for \( i = N_X \) no intersection has been found, then \( INT_X \) has area 0 and an exit is made from \( XINT \). Thus, let \( c = (\xi, \eta) \) denote the intersection point of the \( i \)th edge of \( XY \) with the \( j \)th edge of \( UV \), where the end points of the \( i \)th edge have coordinates \( (x(i), y(i)), (x(i+1), y(i+1)) \), and the end points of the \( j \)th edge have coordinates \( (u(j), v(j)), (u(j+1), v(j+1)) \). Then the equations to be satisfied are

\[
D_x \eta - D_y \xi = B
\]
\[
D_u \eta - D_v \xi = C,
\]

where

\[
D_x = x(i+1) - x(i) \\
D_y = y(i+1) - y(i) \\
D_u = u(j+1) - u(j) \\
D_v = v(j+1) - v(j)
\]
\[
B = y(i) x(i+1) - x(i) y(i+1) \\
C = v(j) u(j+1) - u(j) v(j+1)
\]

\[
\xi = \frac{C D_x - B D_u}{DE} \\
\eta = \frac{C D_y - B D_v}{DE}
\]

\[
DEL = D_y D_u - D_x D_v.
\]

Now, let

\[
T = |D_x D_u| + |D_y D_v|.
\]

If \( |DEL| \leq T E, E = \epsilon/4 = 1.25 \times 10^{-7} \), then the two edges under consideration are numerically parallel and cannot yield \( c \). Hence, assume that \( |DEL| > T E \). We check to see if \( (\xi, \eta) \) is contained in the rectangle \( R(\epsilon) \) specified by the inequalities

\[
X_{mn} - \epsilon |X_{mn}| \leq \xi \leq X_{mx} + \epsilon |X_{mx}| \\
Y_{mn} - \epsilon |Y_{mn}| \leq \eta \leq Y_{mx} + \epsilon |Y_{mx}|
\]

where

\[
X_{mn} \equiv \max\{\min(x(i), x(i+1)), \min(u(j), u(j+1))\} \\
X_{mx} \equiv \min\{\max(x(i), x(i+1)), \max(u(j), u(j+1))\} \\
Y_{mn} \equiv \min\{\max(y(i), y(i+1)), \min(v(j), v(j+1))\} \\
Y_{mx} \equiv \max\{\min(y(i), y(i+1)), \max(v(j), v(j+1))\}.
\]
The value of $\epsilon$ is chosen as a small multiple of the smallest positive single precision number in the IBM PC for which $1 + \epsilon > 1$. Figure 2 shows $R(0)$.

![Figure 2. Rectangle $R(0)$](image)

SUBROUTINE SORT - CALLED BY XNIT

If $(\xi, \eta)$ is in $R(\epsilon)$ then it is accepted as the first intersection point, provided it does not coincide with an end point of either edge which can occur in spite of the fact that such points have already been found by ITR. Assuming $c$ has been found, the polygons are reordered by the SORT routine. This routine is most easily described by simply listing its few lines of Fortran code, which is done below for the XY polygon. Suppose $x_{k+1}$ denotes the XY edge of the intersection. SORT stores $x(k)$ in $x(1)$ as the first element of the sequence, $x(k+1)$ in $x(2)$, etc., as described earlier. Similarly, the $y(i)$ are reordered in the same way. Hence if $X$ and $Y$ are the arrays to be reordered, then SORT requires as input $NX1$, $X$, $Y$, and $k$. The algorithm is given by

```fortran
SUBROUTINE SORT(NX1, X, Y, k)
(DIMENSION STATEMENT FOR X, Y, XI, YI)
DO 5 M = 1, k - 1
   X1(M) = X(M) ! X1 AND Y1 ARE TEMPORARY STORAGE ARRAYS
5    Y1(M) = Y(M) ! WITH THE SAME DIMENSIONS AS X AND Y.
   L = 0
DO 10 M = k, NX1
   L = L + 1
   X(L) = X(M)
10  Y(L) = Y(M)
N2 = NX1 - k + 1
DO 15 M = 1, k - 1
   X(N2 + M) = X1(M)
15  Y(N2 + M) = Y1(M)
X(NX1 + 1) = X(1)
Y(NX1 + 1) = Y(1)
X(NX1 + 2) = X(2)
Y(NX1 + 2) = Y(2)
END
```
V. SUBROUTINE SOLV: ALGORITHM C

After using FST, XINT calls SOLV in order to find the remaining intersection points of INTX. SOLV takes as input the coordinates of the end points of a directed edge of XY and the end points of a directed edge of UV and determines if the two lines cross. The coordinates of the intersection point are given as output and a parameter MO is assigned one of the output values: 1, 2, 3. If MO = 1, then the lines do not cross. If MO = 2, then the lines cross inside their end points and the intersection point is accepted as a new point of INTX. If MO = 3, then the two edges overlap and the crossing point coincides with at least one of the four end points that has already been found by ITR. The procedure to determine the crossing point is the same as described for FST and the same equations hold.

Of course once MO returns a value, XINT must determine how to proceed and not miss any remaining intersection points. If MO = 3, then we have found a previous intersection point, so we treat it as a crossing point, as if MO = 2, but do not store it in our INTX arrays WW and ZZ. Hence, it is sufficient to have a way of proceeding in the two different situations MO = 1 and MO = 2. The procedures are described in Section VI with the use of the function INT.

VI. SUBROUTINE XINT ( PART 2)

In this section we describe how the remaining points of INTX are determined by using, in addition to MO, two parameters DEL and IDEL. DEL, as given by (4), is used whenever MO = 2. Its sign determines whether, for the next cycle, the j index associated with UV should be incremented or whether the i index associated with XY should be incremented. Also, when MO = 2 IDEL is set to \( \text{DEL}/|\text{DEL}| \). It is used when MO = 1 and its sign determines whether j or i should be incremented for the next cycle.

We begin here with the assumption that the first intersection point c has been found by FST and the XY and UV arrays have been reordered by SORT as described above. SOLV is called with input coordinates \((x_i, y_i)\) of vertex \(z_i\) and \((u_j, v_j)\) of \(w_j\) starting with \(i = j = 1\). Its outputs are MO = 2, the coordinates of the intersection point c, and DEL. We assume for the first intersection point c that DEL > 0. Thus the angle with vertex at c, measured in a counterclockwise direction from the line segment \(cw_2\) to the line segment \(cz_2\), is positive. This means that at least a part of \(z_1z_2\) will belong to INTX, so we increment the index j. Thus in the next cycle SOLV will be called to decide if \(z_1z_2\) and \(w_2w_3\) have an intersection point. However before the call is made, INT is called to see if starting with \(z_2\) a successive set of points \(Z = \{z_2, z_3, ..., z_m\}\) have already been found by ITR (see below for a description of the function INT). If this is not the case then SOLV considers \(z_1z_2\) and \(w_2w_3\) for the next crossing. Otherwise the set Z is not empty for some m such that \(2 \leq m \leq \text{NX1}\) and i is set to m. Then SOLV considers \(z_mz_{m+1}\) and \(w_2w_3\) for the next intersection. The parameter IDEL is set to one.
If on the other hand DEL < 0, then the roles of the XY and UV edges are interchanged and IDEL = -1.

The role of IDEL comes into play if the output from SOLV at some stage gives MO = 1, which implies that the XY and UV edges under consideration do not cross. In this case, if IDEL = 1 then j is incremented by one, and if IDEL = -1 then i is incremented by one. No consideration is given to points previously found by ITR as was done with the Z sequence when MO = 2.

If MO = 3, then SOLV has obtained a value for DEL that is numerically zero. Thus the two edges under consideration are parallel and overlap; if they do not overlap then MO = 1 and XINT proceeds as described in the preceding paragraph. In case of overlap, the end points of the overlap belonging to INTX have already been obtained by ITR. The indices are advanced as described for MO = 2.

FUNCTION INT – CALLED BY XINT

The function INT(x, y, k) is used to determine if x is one of the first k elements of the WW array and if y is one of the first k elements of the array ZZ. If both conditions are true then INT \neq 0; otherwise INT = 0. INT is called by XINT with k = KI, the number of vertices of INTX found by ITR, (see page 3), i.e., it examines x and y against the elements of WW and ZZ, which are the arrays containing the coordinates of the intersection points obtained by ITR.
REFERENCES


APPENDIX

EXAMPLES USING FINTX, BASED ON INTSEC
EXAMPLES USING FINTX, BASED ON INTSEC

Here we give some examples of convex polygons XY and UV for which the intersection INTX is determined using the Lahey Fortran code, FINTX, based on the INTSEC algorithm. A figure is given for each example showing the geometry of XY and UV. The format of the examples is explained below.

I,X,Y specify the ith vertex and its (x,y) coordinates. In Example 2, the first line refers to x(1) = 8.0, y(1) = 0.0; J,U,V specify the jth vertex and its (u,v) coordinates. In Example 2, the sixth line refers to u(2) = 4.0, v(2) = 2.0.

The next group of data is the result of using ITR. It specifies the vertices of UV contained in XY followed by the vertices of XY contained in UV. In Example 2, the ninth line indicates that [u(2), v(2)] or w2 is contained in XY and is stored as the first element in WW and ZZ. Note LW = 1. Line 10 indicates that the first vertex of XY, z1, is contained in UV and its coordinates are stored in the second element of the arrays WW and ZZ. Note LZ = 1.

FST refers to the algorithm that determines the first intersection point of INTX not found by ITR. In Example 2, P and Q refer to the x and y coordinates of this intersection point, which is noted on the figure by c, i.e., P = x = 6.50, Q = y = 2.0.

Next MO,I,J,P,Q,DEL are given. They refer to input to and output from SOLV. On line 14 of Example 2, the input is x(3), y(3), u(2), v(2), the output is MO = 2, the coordinates of the intersection point x = P = 6.00 and y = Q = 0.0, and DEL = 32. Hence for Example 2, SOLV yields the result that the line segment z3z4 of XY and w2w3 of UV have an intersection point x = 6.00, y = 0.0. The fact that DEL > 0 means that J will be increased by one for the next cycle that can be seen in line 15. But I is also incremented by one, since z4 is an element found by ITR at x(4) = x(1) = 8.00, y(4) = y(1) = 0.0.

Finally, INTX is given in terms of the coordinates of its vertices that are stored in the arrays W and Z. For Example 2, there are four distinct points (vertices of INTX), the first of which is stored in W(1) = 6.00, Z(1) = 0.0, as shown on line 17.
### EXAMPLE 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>I, X, Y</th>
<th>J, U, V</th>
<th>FST, P, Q</th>
<th>MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL</th>
<th>JJ, W, Z</th>
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<tr>
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### EXAMPLE 2

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<th>JJ, W, Z</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>6.5000000</td>
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<td>6.0000000</td>
<td>6.000000</td>
</tr>
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<td>8.000000</td>
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<td>11.00000</td>
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A-4
### EXAMPLE 3

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<tr>
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<td>5.000000</td>
</tr>
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<td>2.000000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J, U, V</td>
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<td>11.000000</td>
<td>5.000000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J, K, W, Z, Z, L, W</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>4.000000</td>
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<tr>
<td>FST, P, Q</td>
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<td>5.000000</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

| MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL | 2 | 1 | 1 | 7.500000 | 5.000000 | -56.0 |
| MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL | 2 | 4 | 3 | 9.000000 | 2.000000 | 28.0 |
| MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL | 2 | 4 | 4 | 7.500000 | 5.000000 | -56.0 |

### EXAMPLE 4

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<td>6.000000</td>
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<td>0.000000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I, X, Y</td>
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<td>0.000000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J, U, V</td>
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<td>10.000000</td>
<td>4.000000</td>
</tr>
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<td>5.000000</td>
<td>4.000000</td>
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<tr>
<td>J, U, V</td>
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<td>9.000000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J, U, V</td>
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<td>10.000000</td>
<td>4.500000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J, K, W, Z, Z, L, W</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5.000000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J, K, W, Z, Z, L, W</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.000000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FST, P, Q</td>
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<td>4.000000</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL | 2 | 1 | 1 | 6.666667 | 4.000000 | -30.0 |
| MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL | 2 | 2 | 3 | 0.000000 | 0.000000 | -36.0 |
| MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0.000000 | 0.000000 | -32.0 |
| MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL | 2 | 4 | 3 | 7.058824 | 2.823529 | 68.0 |
| MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL | 2 | 4 | 4 | 6.666667 | 4.000000 | -30.0 |

| JJ, W, Z | 1 | 0.000000 | 0.000000 |
| JJ, W, Z | 2 | 7.058824 | 2.823529 |
| JJ, W, Z | 3 | 6.666667 | 4.000000 |
| JJ, W, Z | 4 | 5.000000 | 4.000000 |
EXAMPLE 5

I, X, Y 1 8.000000 0.000000
I, X, Y 2 6.000000 6.000000
I, X, Y 3 0.000000 0.000000
I, X, Y 4 8.000000 0.000000
J, U, V 1 11.000000 4.000000
J, U, V 2 4.000000 4.000000
J, U, V 3 2.000000 2.000000
J, U, V 4 11.000000 4.000000
J, K, W, Z, Z, L, W 3 2 2.000000 2.000000 1
FST, P, Q 6.666667 4.000000
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 1 1 6.666667 4.000000 -42.0
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 2 2 3 2.000000 2.000000 -42.0
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 1 3 3
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 2 4 3 6.665517 3.103448 58.0
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 2 4 4 6.666667 4.000000 -42.0
J, J, W, Z 1 2.000000 2.000000
J, J, W, Z 2 6.665517 3.103448
J, J, W, Z 3 6.666667 4.000000
J, J, W, Z 4 4.000000 4.000000

EXAMPLE 6

I, X, Y 1 10.000000 0.000000
I, X, Y 2 5.000000 5.000000
I, X, Y 3 0.000000 0.000000
I, X, Y 4 10.000000 0.000000
J, U, V 1 10.000000 2.000000
J, U, V 2 5.000000 5.000000
J, U, V 3 2.000000 2.000000
J, U, V 4 10.000000 2.000000
J, K, W, Z, Z, L, W 2 1 5.000000 5.000000 0
J, K, W, Z, Z, L, W 3 2 2.000000 2.000000 1
FST, P, Q 8.000000 2.000000
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 2 1 1 8.000000 2.000000 40.0
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 2 2 2 5.000000 5.000000 40.0
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 3 2 3 5.000000 5.000000 0.0
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 1 3 4
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 2 4 4 8.000000 2.000000 40.0
J, J, W, Z 1 2.000000 2.000000
J, J, W, Z 2 8.000000 2.000000
J, J, W, Z 3 5.000000 5.000000
EXAMPLE 7

\[ \begin{align*}
I, X, Y & \quad 1 \quad 8.000000 \quad 0.000000 \\
I, X, Y & \quad 2 \quad 8.000000 \quad 5.000000 \\
I, X, Y & \quad 3 \quad 0.000000 \quad 0.000000 \\
I, X, Y & \quad 4 \quad 8.000000 \quad 0.000000 \\
J, U, V & \quad 1 \quad 0.000000 \quad 3.000000 \\
J, U, V & \quad 2 \quad 8.000000 \quad 1.000000 \\
J, U, V & \quad 3 \quad 3.000000 \quad 5.000000 \\
J, U, V & \quad 4 \quad 0.000000 \quad 3.000000 \\
J, K, W, Z, L, W & \quad 3 \quad 1 \quad 3.000000 \quad 5.000000 \quad 0
\end{align*} \]

FST, P, Q \quad 6.666667 \quad 1.333333

MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL \quad 2 \quad 1 \quad 1 \quad 6.666667 \quad 1.333333 \quad 30.0

MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad 3.000000 \quad 5.000000 \quad 37.0

MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 3.000000 \quad 5.000000 \quad 9.0

MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad 4 \quad 1.565217 \quad 2.608696 \quad -46.0

MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL \quad 1 \quad 3 \quad 4

MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL \quad 2 \quad 4 \quad 4 \quad 6.666667 \quad 1.333333 \quad 30.0

JJ, W, Z \quad 1 \quad 6.666667 \quad 1.333333

JJ, W, Z \quad 2 \quad 3.000000 \quad 5.000000

JJ, W, Z \quad 3 \quad 1.565217 \quad 2.608696

EXAMPLE 8

\[ \begin{align*}
I, X, Y & \quad 1 \quad 8.000000 \quad 0.000000 \\
I, X, Y & \quad 2 \quad 4.000000 \quad 4.000000 \\
I, X, Y & \quad 3 \quad 0.000000 \quad 0.000000 \\
I, X, Y & \quad 4 \quad 8.000000 \quad 0.000000 \\
J, U, V & \quad 1 \quad 3.000000 \quad -2.000000 \\
J, U, V & \quad 2 \quad 7.000000 \quad 3.000000 \\
J, U, V & \quad 3 \quad 1.000000 \quad 3.000000 \\
J, U, V & \quad 4 \quad 3.000000 \quad -2.000000 \\
FST, P, Q \quad 6.111111 \quad 1.688889
\end{align*} \]

MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL \quad 2 \quad 1 \quad 1 \quad 6.111111 \quad 1.688889 \quad 36.0

MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL \quad 2 \quad 1 \quad 2 \quad 5.000000 \quad 3.000000 \quad -24.0

MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad 3.000000 \quad 3.000000 \quad 24.0

MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 1.571429 \quad 1.571429 \quad -28.0

MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 3 \quad 2.200000 \quad 0.000000 \quad 40.0

MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 4 \quad 4.600000 \quad 0.000000 \quad -40.0

MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL \quad 2 \quad 4 \quad 4 \quad 6.111111 \quad 1.688889 \quad 36.0

JJ, W, Z \quad 1 \quad 2.200000 \quad 0.000000

JJ, W, Z \quad 2 \quad 4.600000 \quad 0.000000

JJ, W, Z \quad 3 \quad 6.111111 \quad 1.688889

JJ, W, Z \quad 4 \quad 5.000000 \quad 3.000000

JJ, W, Z \quad 5 \quad 3.000000 \quad 3.000000

JJ, W, Z \quad 6 \quad 1.571429 \quad 1.571429
EXAMPLE 9

\[
\begin{align*}
I, X, Y & 1 \quad 0.000000 & 0.000000 \\
I, X, Y & 2 \quad 8.000000 & 0.000000 \\
I, X, Y & 3 \quad 6.000000 & 4.000000 \\
I, X, Y & 4 \quad 0.000000 & 0.000000 \\
J, U, V & 1 \quad 6.000000 & -2.000000 \\
J, U, V & 2 \quad 8.000000 & 4.000000 \\
J, U, V & 3 \quad 0.000000 & 0.000000 \\
J, U, V & 4 \quad 6.000000 & -2.000000 \\
J, K, W, W, Z, Z, L W & 2 \quad 1 \quad 6.000000 & 4.000000 & 0 \\
J, K, W, W, Z, Z, L W & 3 \quad 2 \quad 0.000000 & 0.000000 & 0 \\
F S T, P, Q & 6.000000 & 0.000000 \\
M O, I, J, P, Q, D E L & 2 \quad 1 \quad 1 \quad 6.000000 & 0.000000 & -48.0 \\
M O, I, J, P, Q, D E L & 1 \quad 2 \quad 3 \\
M O, I, J, P, Q, D E L & 2 \quad 3 \quad 3 \quad 0.000000 & 0.000000 & -36.0 \\
M O, I, J, P, Q, D E L & 2 \quad 4 \quad 3 \quad 0.000000 & 0.000000 & 16.0 \\
M O, I, J, P, Q, D E L & 2 \quad 4 \quad 4 \quad 6.000000 & 0.000000 & -48.0 \\
J J, W, Z & 1 \quad 0.000000 & 0.000000 \\
J J, W, Z & 2 \quad 6.000000 & 0.000000 \\
J J, W, Z & 3 \quad 6.000000 & 4.000000 \\
\end{align*}
\]

EXAMPLE 10

\[
\begin{align*}
I, X, Y & 1 \quad 4.000000 & 1.000000 \\
I, X, Y & 2 \quad 8.000000 & 5.000000 \\
I, X, Y & 3 \quad 0.000000 & 5.000000 \\
I, X, Y & 4 \quad 4.000000 & 1.000000 \\
J, U, V & 1 \quad 7.000000 & 0.000000 \\
J, U, V & 2 \quad 4.000000 & 4.000000 \\
J, U, V & 3 \quad 2.000000 & 0.000000 \\
J, U, V & 4 \quad 7.000000 & 0.000000 \\
J, K, W, W, Z, Z, L W & 2 \quad 1 \quad 4.000000 & 4.000000 & 1 \\
I, K, W, W, Z, Z, L Z & 1 \quad 2 \quad 4.000000 & 1.000000 & 1 \\
F S T, P, Q & 5.285714 & 2.285714 \\
M O, I, J, P, Q, D E L & 2 \quad 1 \quad 1 \quad 5.285714 & 2.285714 & -28.0 \\
M O, I, J, P, Q, D E L & 1 \quad 2 \quad 2 \\
M O, I, J, P, Q, D E L & 2 \quad 3 \quad 2 \quad 3.000000 & 2.000000 & 24.0 \\
M O, I, J, P, Q, D E L & 1 \quad 4 \quad 3 \\
M O, I, J, P, Q, D E L & 2 \quad 4 \quad 4 \quad 5.285714 & 2.285714 & -28.0 \\
J J, W, Z & 1 \quad 4.000000 & 1.000000 \\
J J, W, Z & 2 \quad 5.285714 & 2.285714 \\
J J, W, Z & 3 \quad 4.000000 & 4.000000 \\
J J, W, Z & 4 \quad 3.000000 & 2.000000 \\
\end{align*}
\]
### EXAMPLE 11

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<tr>
<td>I, X, Y</td>
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<tr>
<td>I, X, Y</td>
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<td>0.000000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J, U, V</td>
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<tr>
<td>J, U, V</td>
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<td>5.000000</td>
<td>2.000000</td>
</tr>
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<td>J, U, V</td>
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<td>6.000000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J, U, V</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.000000</td>
<td>-2.000000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| I, K, W, Z, Z, L, Z | 1 | 1 | 0.000000 | 0.000000 | 1 |
| I, K, W, Z, Z, L, Z | 4 | 2 | 0.000000 | 3.000000 | 1 |

FST, P, Q 2.500000 0.000000

MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 2 1 1 2.500000 0.000000 -20.0
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 2 2 1 4.303839 1.515152 33.0
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 2 2 2 3.823529 2.911176 -17.0
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 2 3 2 2.045455 4.506563 22.0
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 2 5 3 0.000000 0.000000 40.0
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 2 5 4 2.500000 0.000000 -20.0

J, K, W, Z 1 0.000000 0.000000
J, K, W, Z 2 2.500000 0.000000
J, K, W, Z 3 4.303839 1.515152
J, K, W, Z 4 3.823529 2.911176
J, K, W, Z 5 2.045455 4.506563
J, K, W, Z 6 0.000000 3.000000

### EXAMPLE 12

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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>-2.000000</td>
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J, K, W, Z, L, W 2 1 5.000000 2.000000 0
I, K, W, Z, Z, L, Z 1 2 0.000000 0.000000 1
I, K, W, Z, Z, L, Z 5 3 0.000000 3.000000 1

FST, P, Q 2.500000 0.000000

MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 2 1 1 2.500000 0.000000 -20.0
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 2 2 2 5.000000 2.000000 -10.0
MO, I, J, P, Q, DEL 2 3 2 5.000000 2.000000 -7.0
EXAMPLE 13

I,X,Y 1 0.000000 0.000000
I,X,Y 2 6.000000 0.000000
I,X,Y 3 0.000000 6.000000
I,X,Y 4 0.000000 0.000000
J,U,V 1 1.000000 3.000000
J,U,V 2 2.000000 1.000000
J,U,V 3 3.000000 1.000000
J,U,V 4 4.000000 2.000000
J,U,V 5 3.000000 5.000000
J,U,V 6 1.000000 3.000000
J,K,WW,ZZ,LW 1 1 1.000000 3.000000 1
J,K,WW,ZZ,LW 2 2 2.000000 1.000000 1
J,K,WW,ZZ,LW 3 3 3.000000 1.000000 1
J,K,WW,ZZ,LW 4 4 4.000000 2.000000 1
FST, P,Q 2.000000 4.000000
MO, I,J,P,Q,DEL 2 1 1 2.000000 4.000000 -24.0
MO, I,J,P,Q,DEL 1 2 5
MO, I,J,P,Q,DEL 1 3 5
MO, I,J,P,Q,DEL 2 4 5 4.000000 2.000000 12.0
MO, I,J,P,Q,DEL 2 4 6 2.000000 4.000000 -24.0
J,J,W,Z 1 2.000000 1.000000
J,J,W,Z 2 3.000000 1.000000
J,J,W,Z 3 4.000000 2.000000
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<td>WASHINGTON DC 20361-1014</td>
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An Algorithm to Find the Intersection of Two Convex Polygons

**Authors**
Armido R. DiDonato

**Performing Organization**
Naval Surface Warfare Center
Dahlgren Division (Code K104)
Dahlgren, VA 22448-5000

**Abstract**
An algorithm is given that finds the intersection of two convex polygons. It is coded in Fortran for the IBM PC desktop computer. The program is robust and fast. It has been used successfully in targeting applications that require a rapid determination of the common intersection of more than 100 convex polygons, each specified by more than 150 vertices.
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