



# Clustering with Few Disks to Minimize the Sum of Radii

*(accepted at SoCG '24)*

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Lucas Meijer

*Inria*



 UNIVERSITÉ  
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# Introduction

# Clustering in the Plane

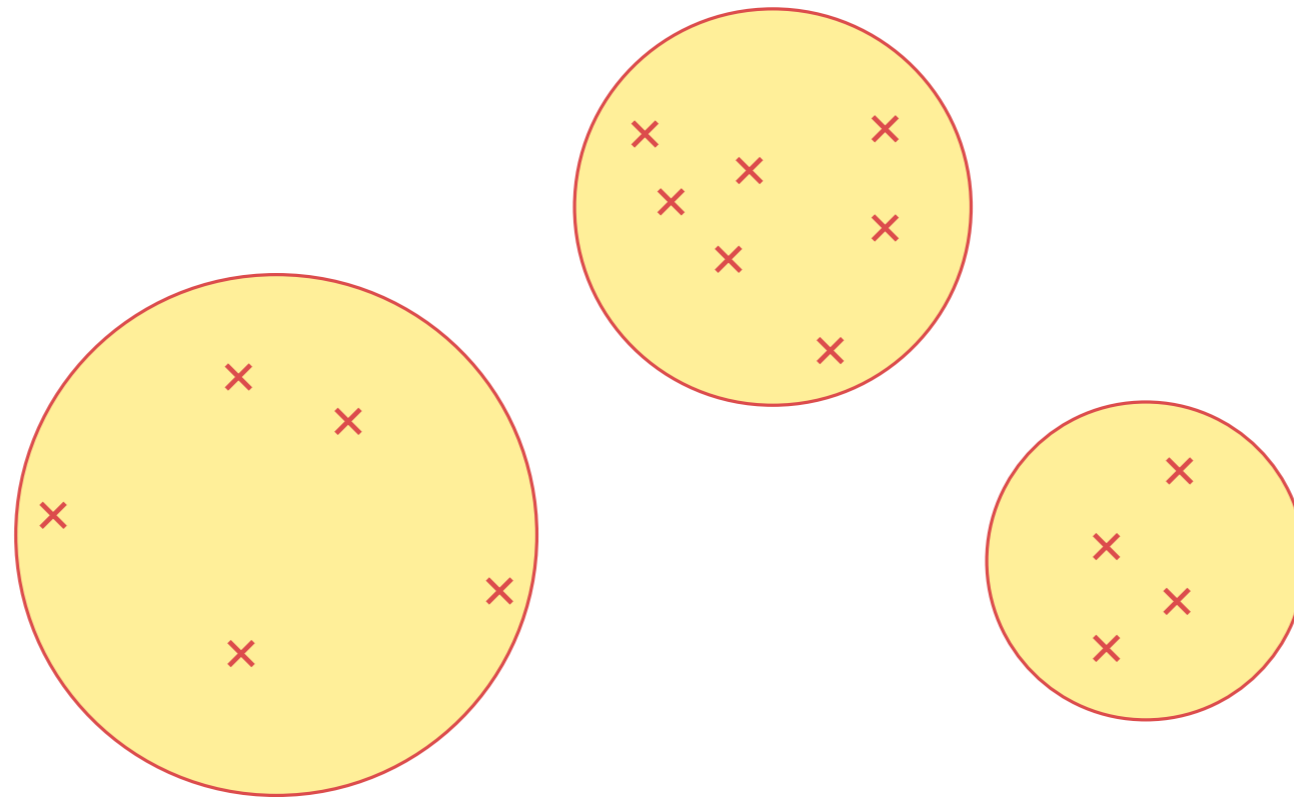
**Given:** Set of points  $P$  in the plane



# Clustering in the Plane

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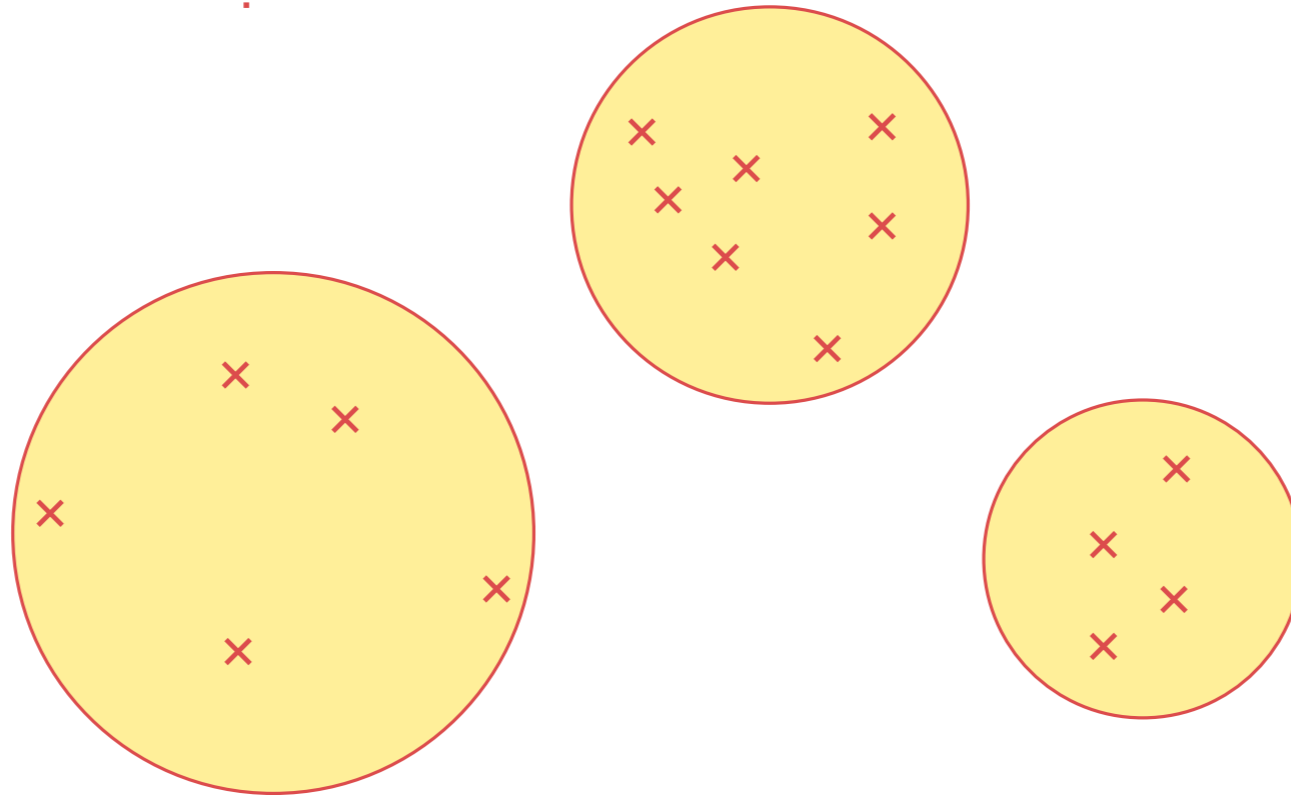
**Goal:** Cover  $P$  with  $k$  disks, minimizing the *objective*



# Clustering in the Plane

**Given:** Set of points  $P$  in the plane

**Goal:** Cover  $P$  with  $k$  disks, minimizing the objective



# Clustering in the Plane

## $k$ -Center

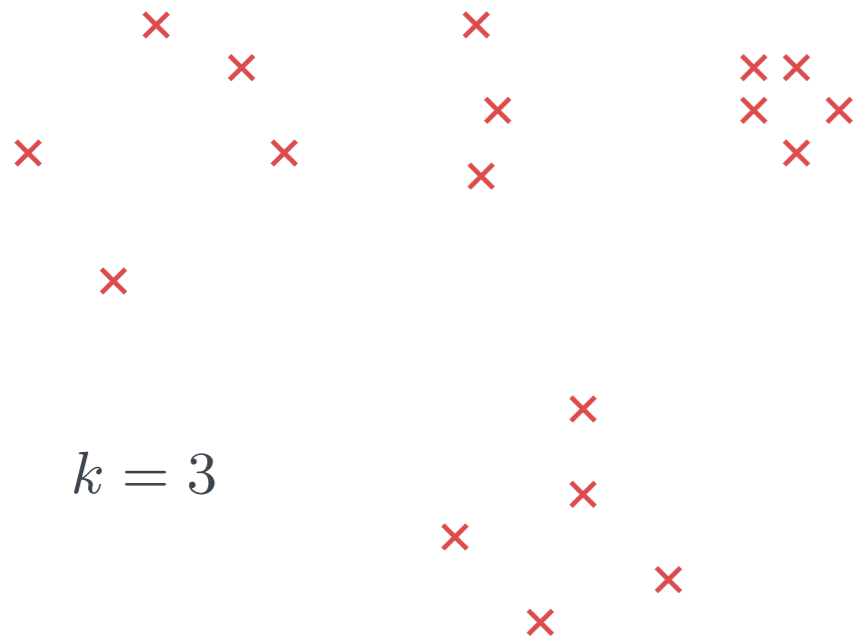
**Problem:** Find disks  $C_1, \dots, C_k$  covering  $P$  minimizing

$$\max_i r(C_i).$$

# Clustering in the Plane

## $k$ -Center

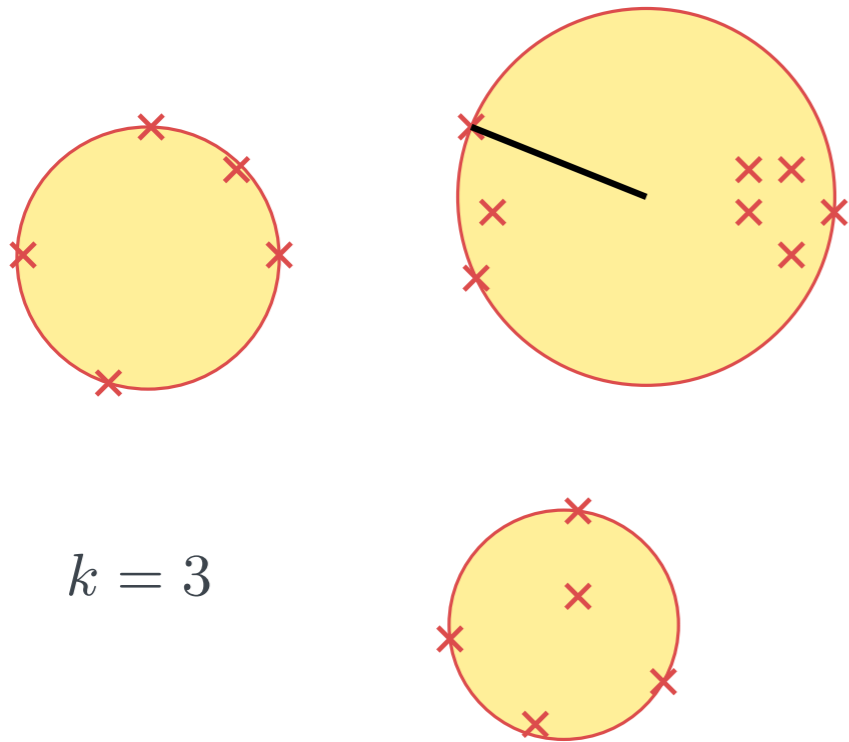
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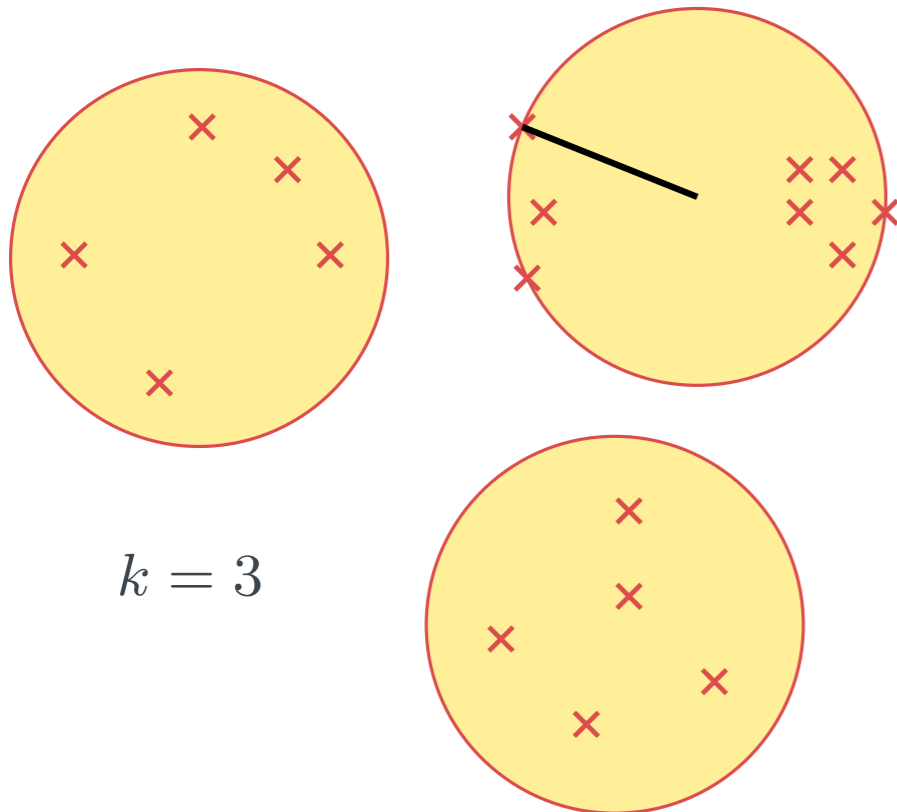




# Clustering in the Plane

## $k$ -Center

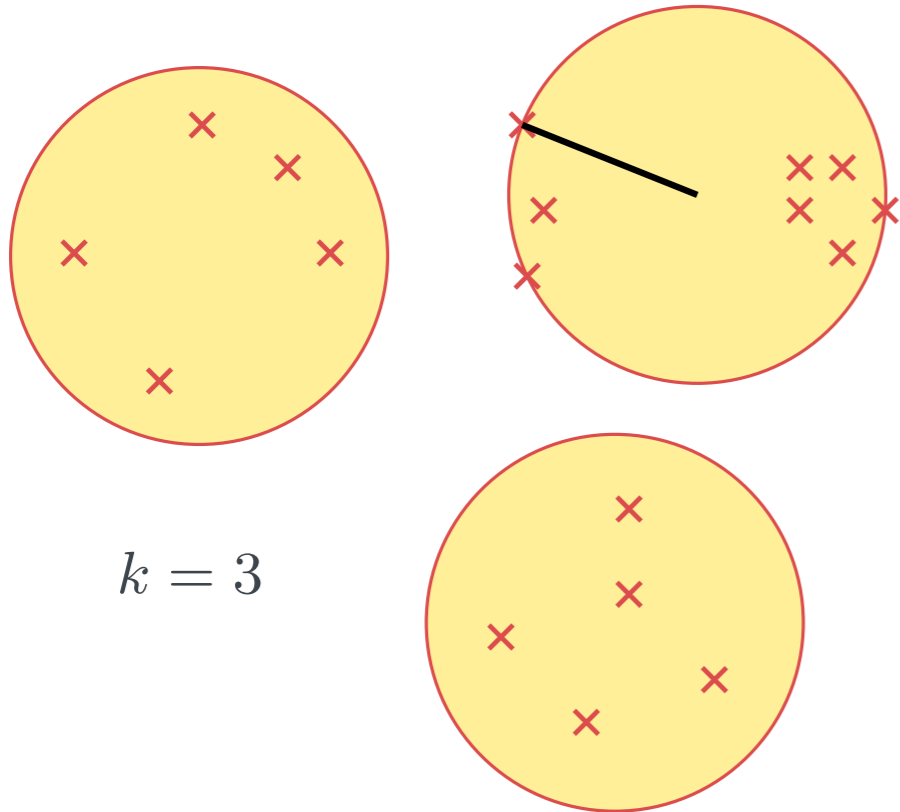
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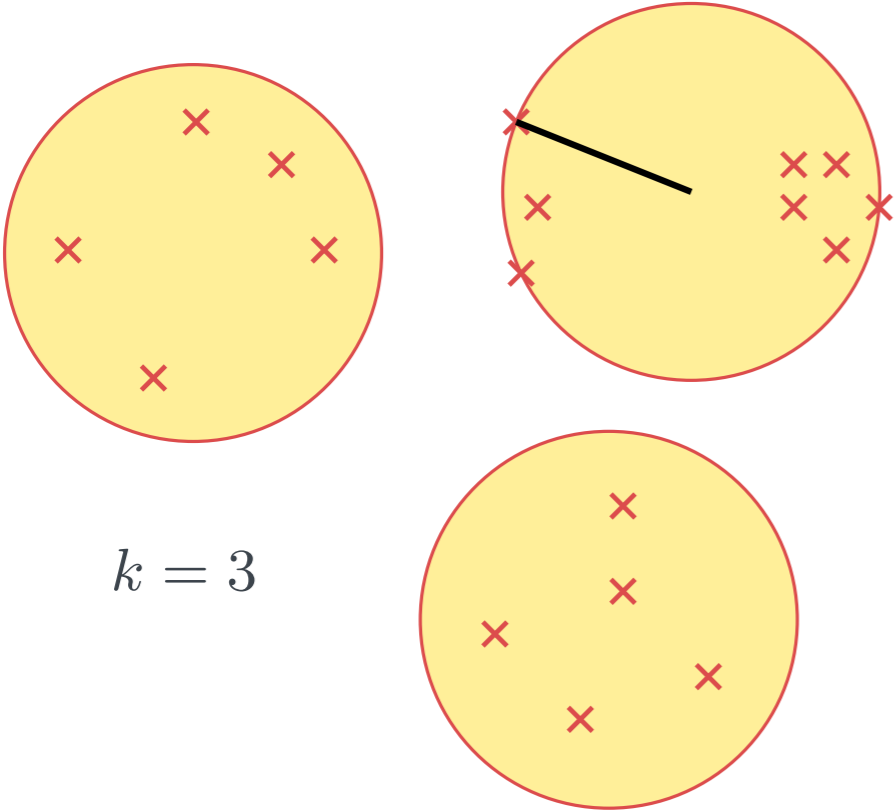
## $k$ -MinSumRadius

**Problem:** Find disks  $C_1, \dots, C_k$  covering  $P$  minimizing  $\sum_i r(C_i)$ .

# Clustering in the Plane

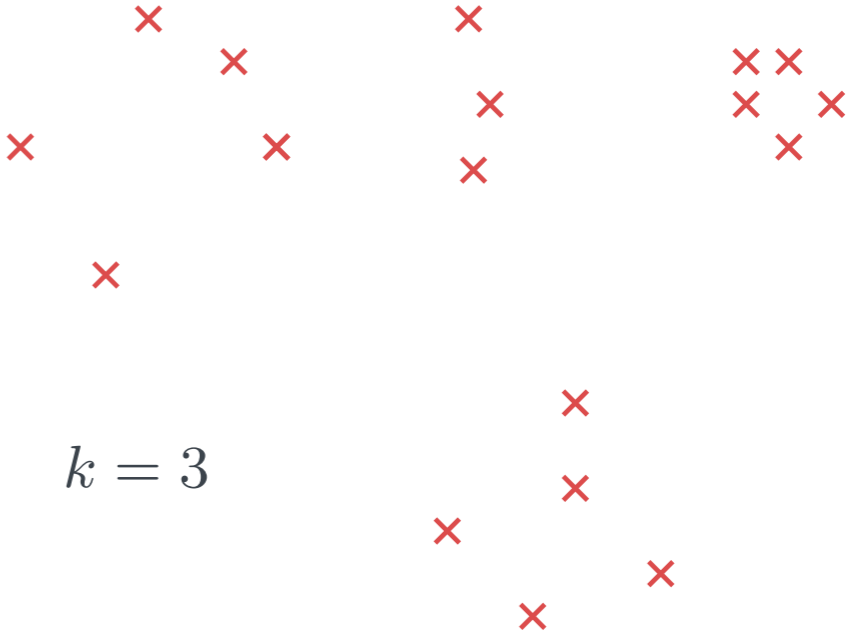
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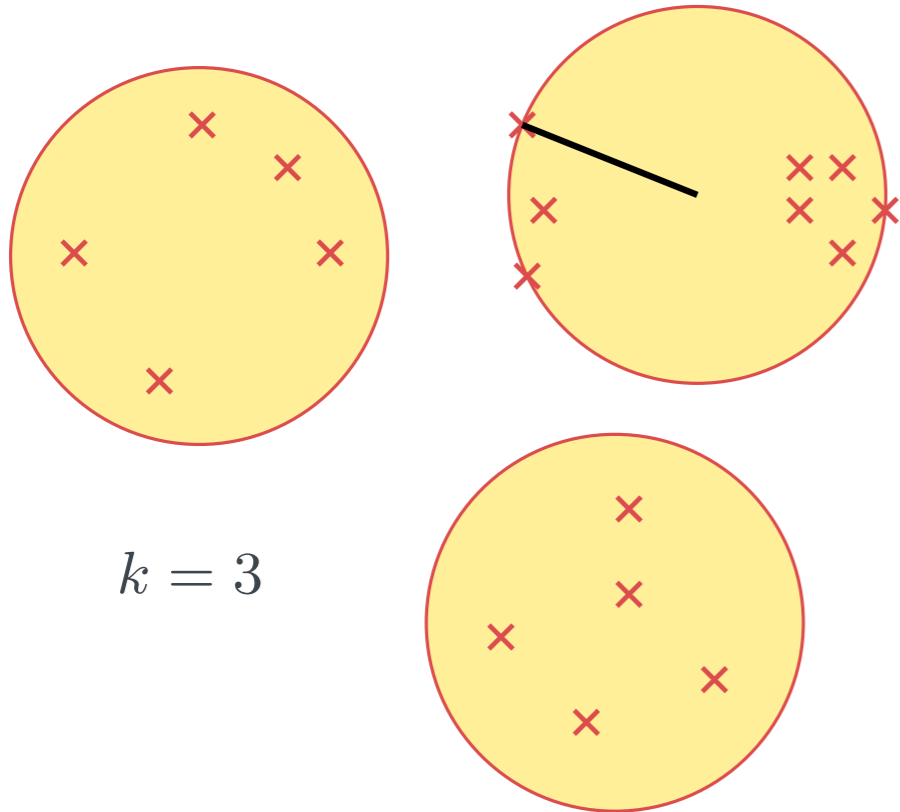
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# Clustering in the Plane

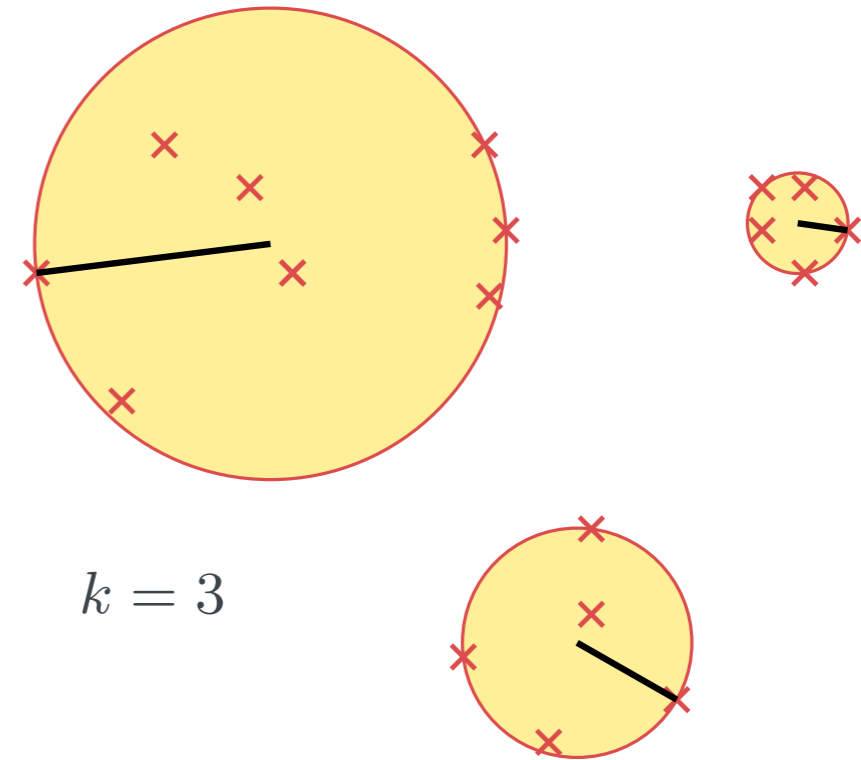
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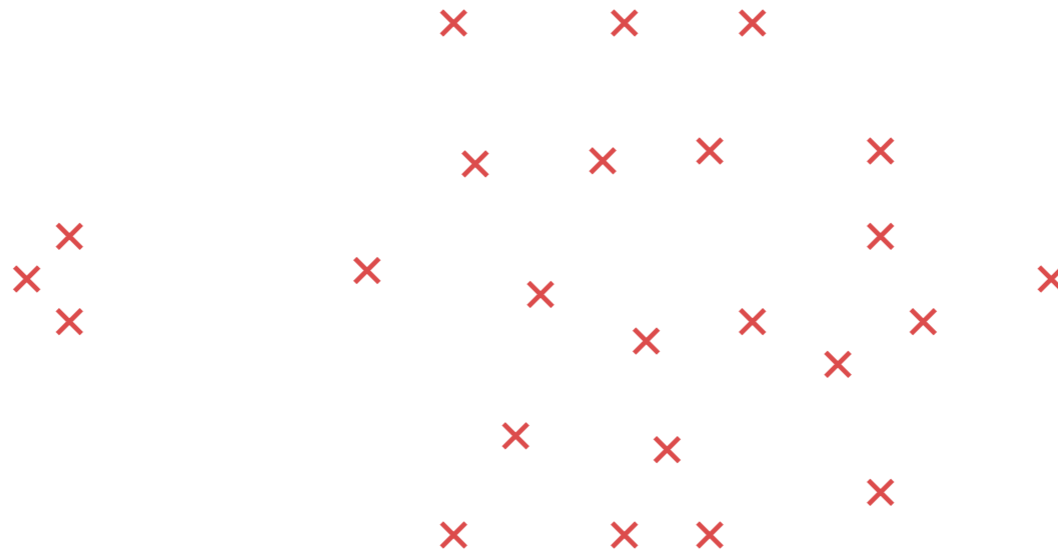
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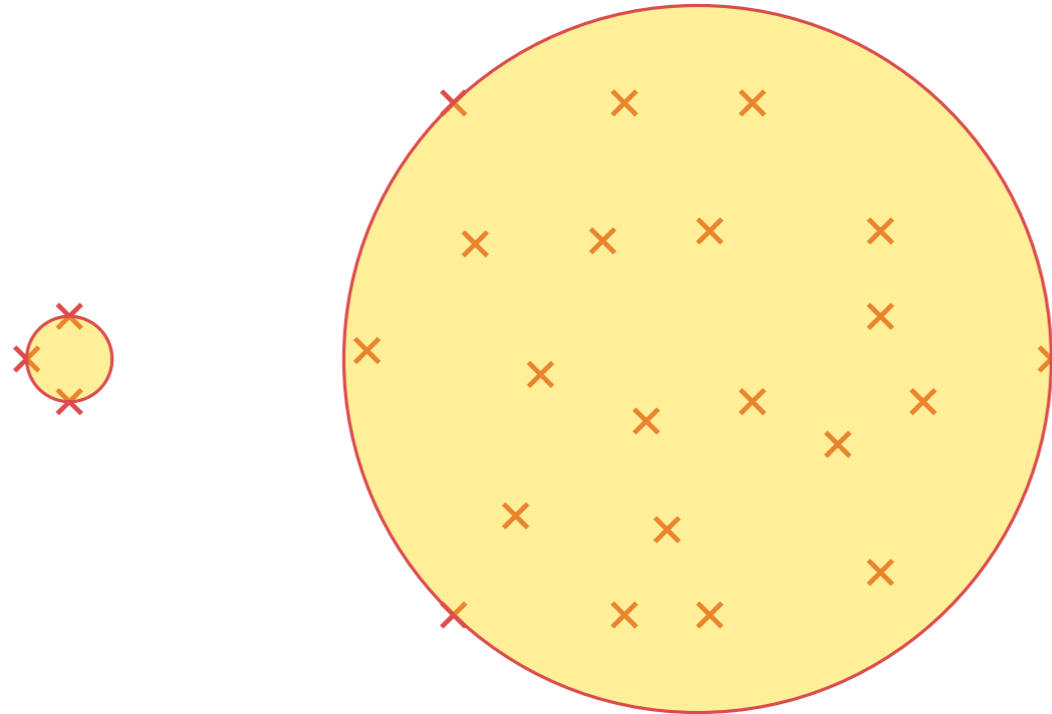
# Clustering in the Plane

## $k$ -Center vs. $k$ -MinSumRadius



# Clustering in the Plane

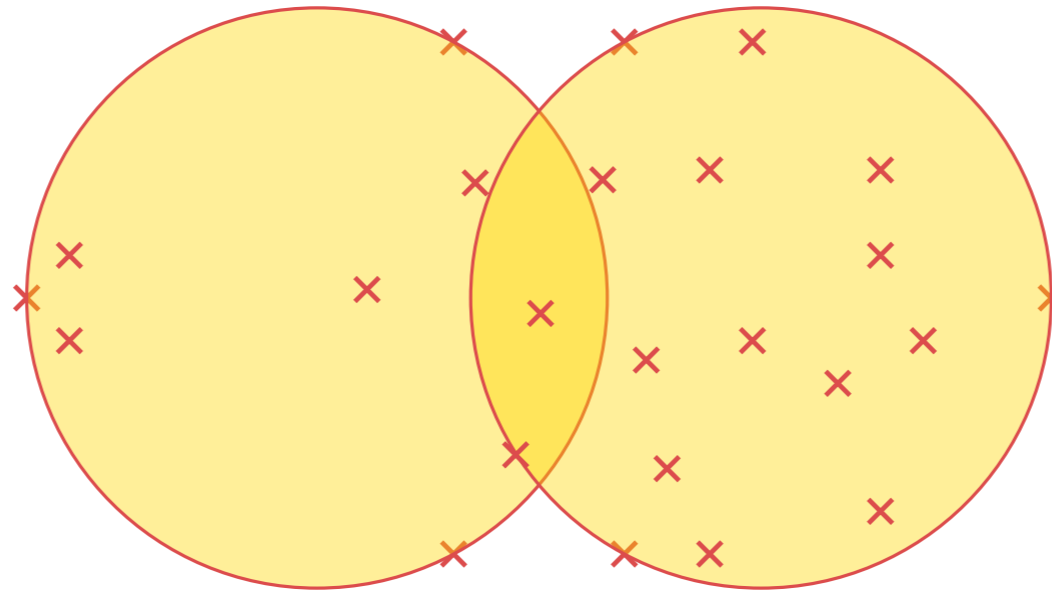
## $k$ -Center vs. $k$ -MinSumRadius



$k$ -MinSumRadius solution

# Clustering in the Plane

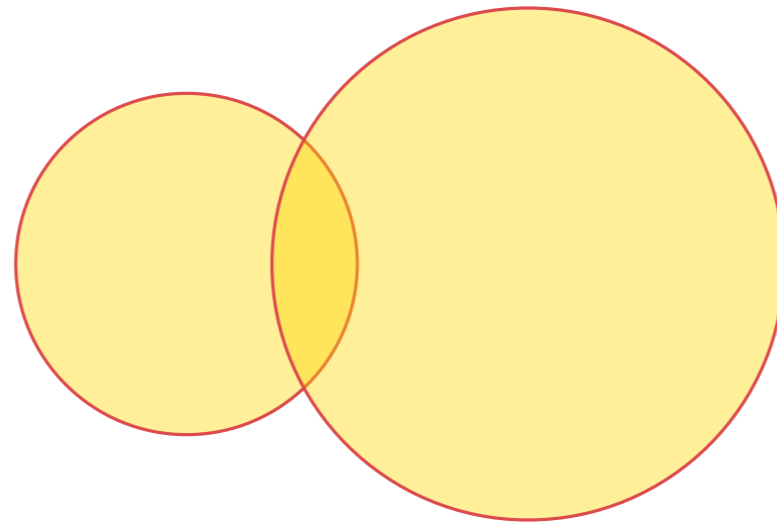
## $k$ -Center vs. $k$ -MinSumRadius



$k$ -Center solution

# Clustering in the Plane

## $k$ -Center vs. $k$ -MinSumRadius

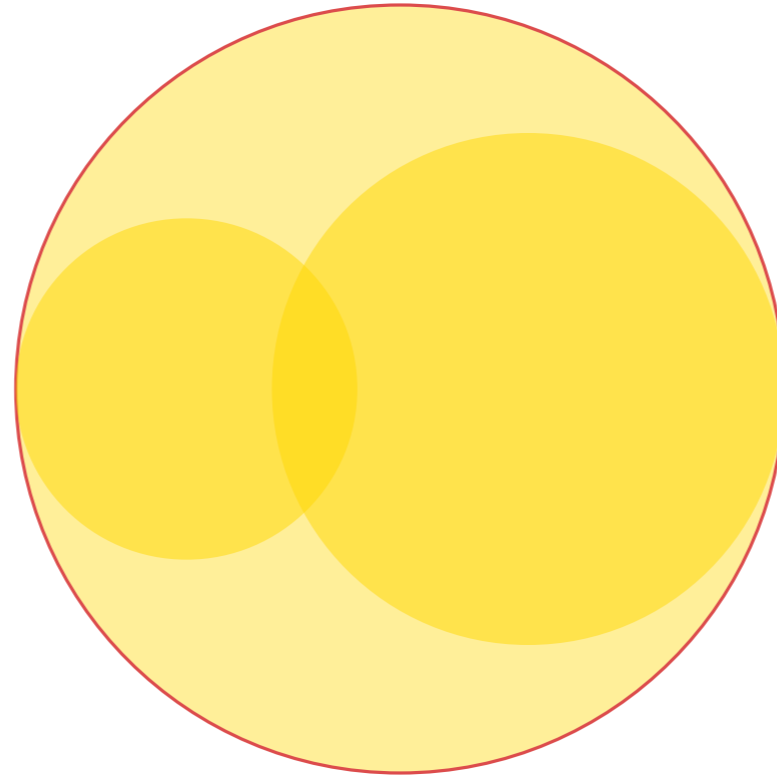


$k$ -MinSumRadius clusters do **not** intersect



# Clustering in the Plane

## $k$ -Center vs. $k$ -MinSumRadius



$k$ -MinSumRadius clusters do **not** intersect

# Clustering in the Plane

## $k$ -Center vs. $k$ -MinSumRadius

### $k$ -Center

NP-hard with  $k$  part of input  
[Megiddo, Supovit '84]

### $k$ -MinSumRadius

$\mathcal{O}(n^{881})$  algorithm [Gibson, Kanade,  
Krohn, Pirwani, Varadarajan '12]

# Clustering in the Plane

## $k$ -Center vs. $k$ -MinSumRadius

### $k$ -Center

NP-hard with  $k$  part of input  
[Megiddo, Supovit '84]

$k = 2$ :

near-quadratic:

- [Eppstein '92] [Katz, Sharir '93]  
[Agarwal, Sharir '94] [Jaromczyk,  
Kowaluk '94]

near-linear:

- [Sharir '96] [Eppstein '97] [Chan  
'99] [Wang '20] [Cho, Oh '20]

### $k$ -MinSumRadius

$\mathcal{O}(n^{881})$  algorithm [Gibson, Kanade,  
Krohn, Pirwani, Varadarajan '12]

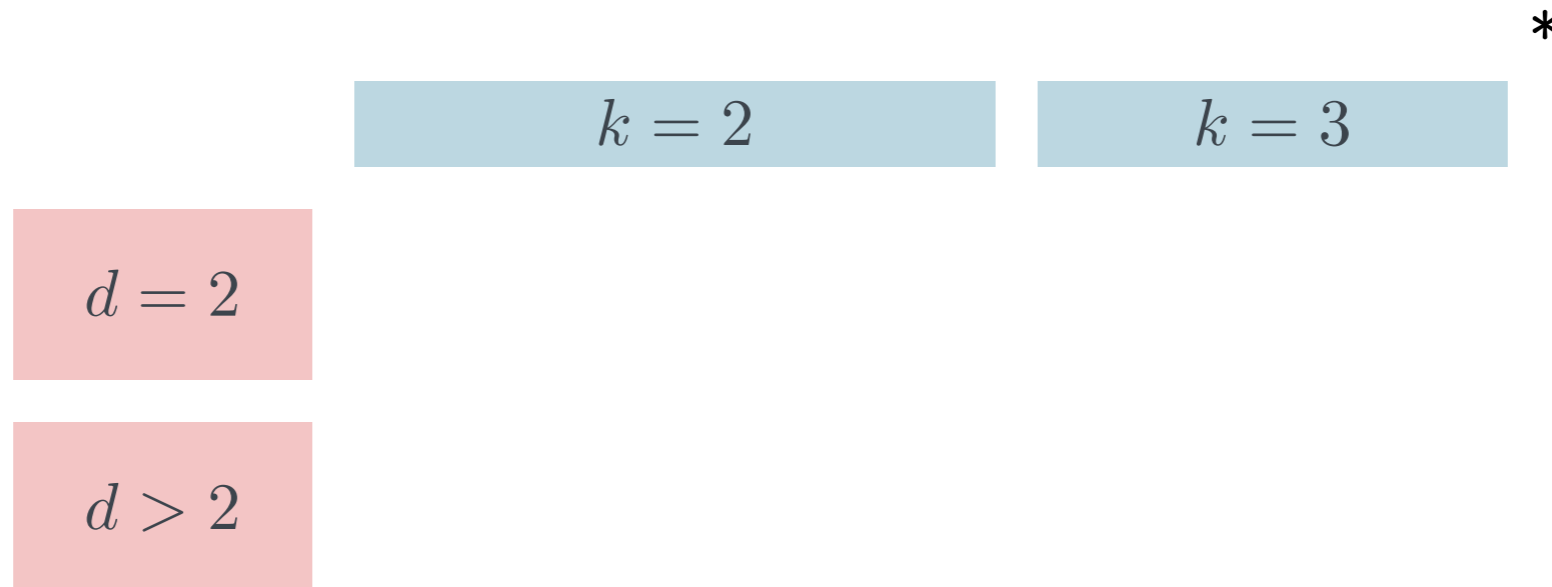
$k = 2$ :

$\mathcal{O}(n^2 \log^2 n)$  algorithm [Eppstein '92]

# Our Results

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## $k$ -MinSumRadius Algorithms



\* We omit  $\log \log$  factors here

# Our Results

## $k$ -MinSumRadius Algorithms

	$k = 2$	$k = 3$	*
$d = 2$	$\mathcal{O}(n \log^2 n)$		
$d > 2$			

\* We omit  $\log \log$  factors here

# Our Results

## $k$ -MinSumRadius Algorithms

	$k = 2$	$k = 3$
$d = 2$	$\mathcal{O}(n \log^2 n)$	$\mathcal{O}(n^2 \log^2 n)$
$d > 2$		

\*

# Our Results

## $k$ -MinSumRadius Algorithms

	$k = 2$	$k = 3$
$d = 2$	$\mathcal{O}(n \log^2 n)$	$\mathcal{O}(n^2 \log^2 n)$
$d > 2$	$\mathcal{O}(n^{1-1/(\lceil d/2 \rceil + 1) + \varepsilon})$	—

\*



# Our Results

## $k$ -MinSumRadius Algorithms

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→ All results rely on similar **structural lemmas!**

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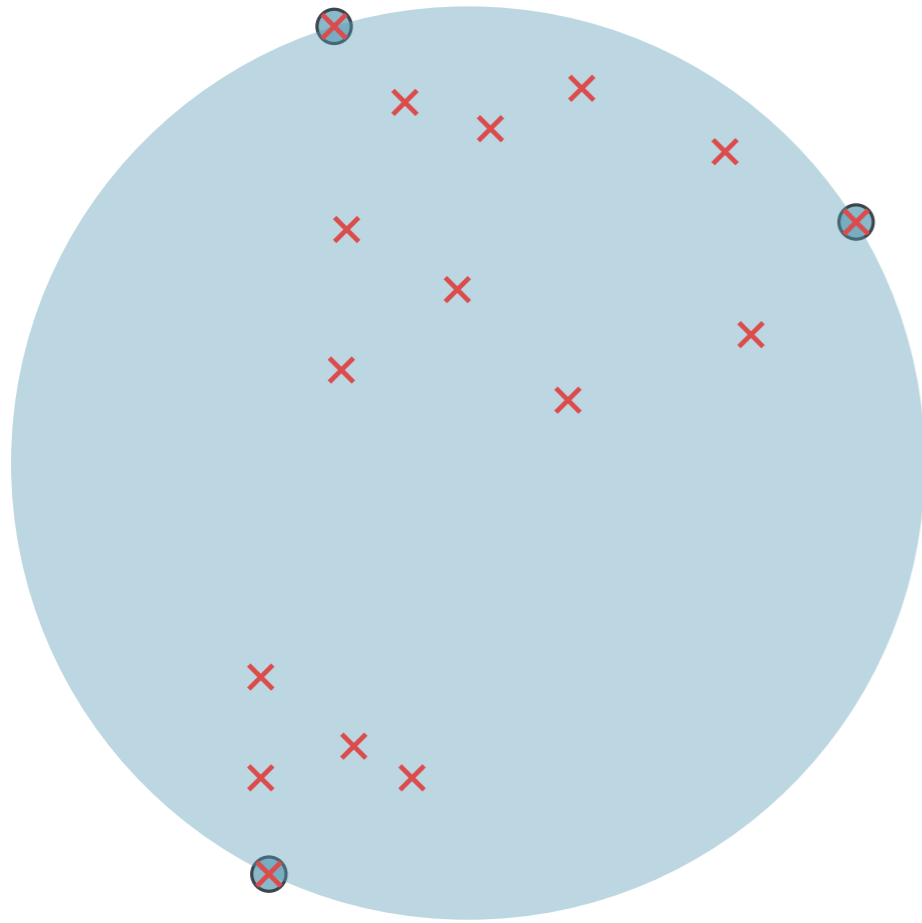
→ All results rely on similar **structural lemmas!**

# Structural Lemmas

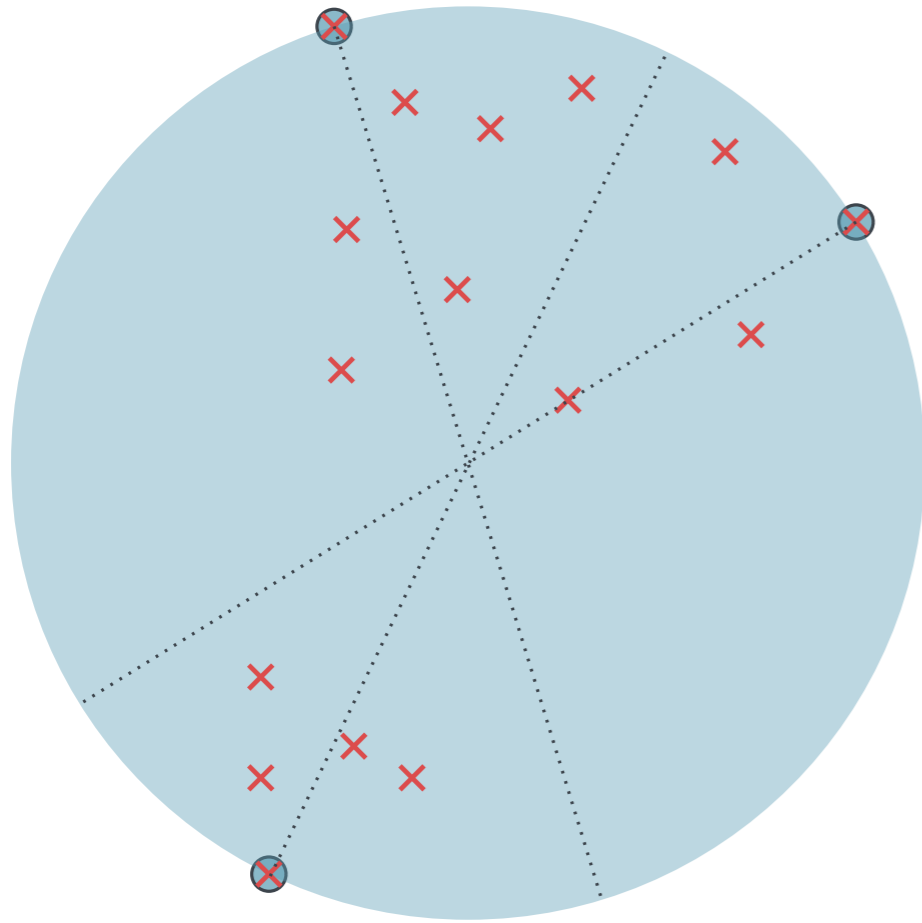
# Lemmas



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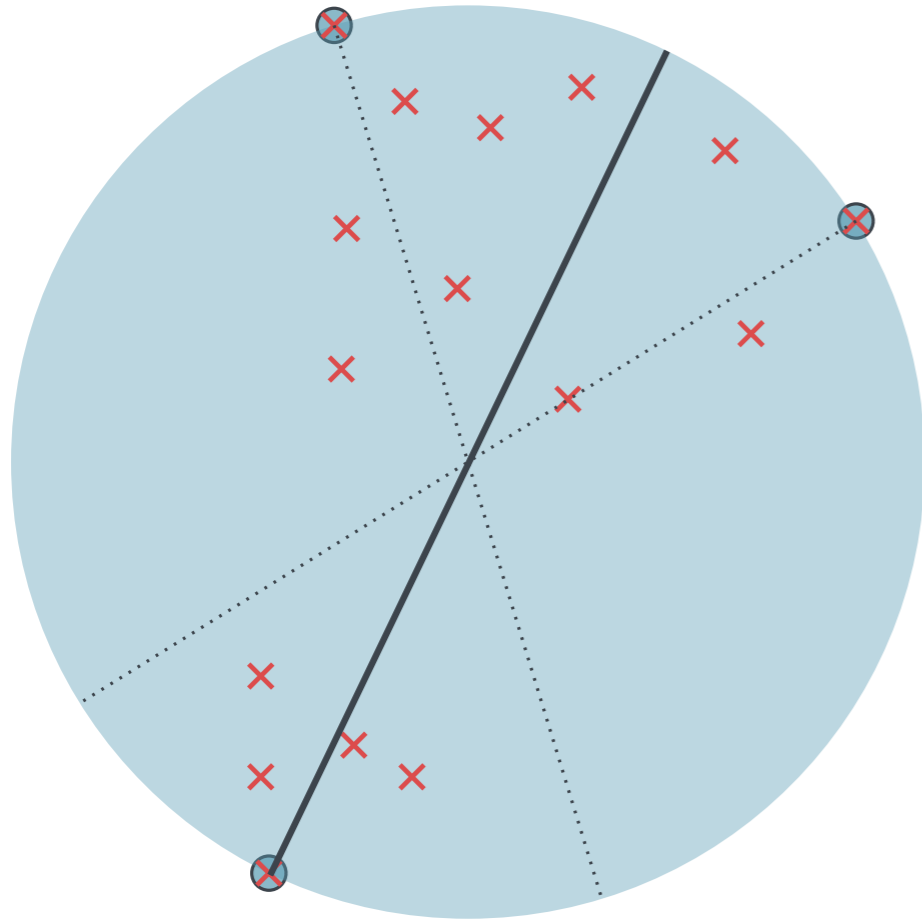


# Lemmas



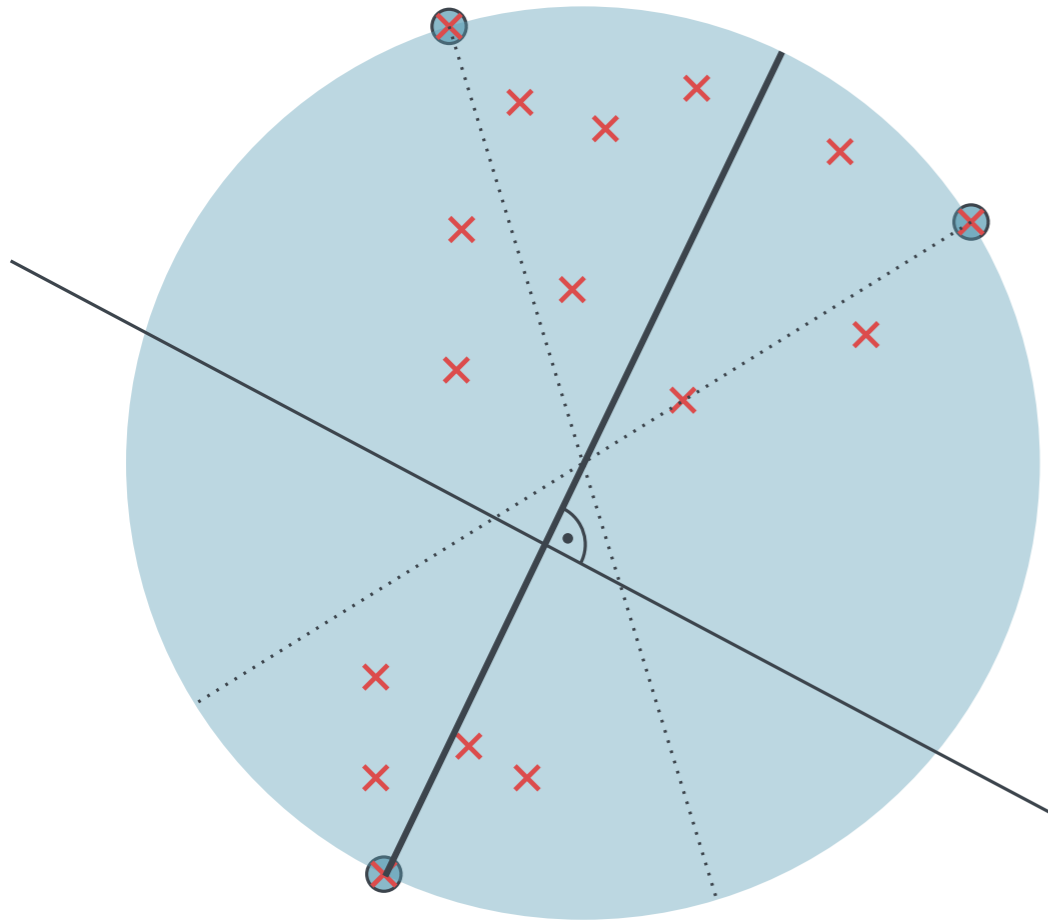
Minimum Enclosing Disk (MED)

# Lemmas



Minimum Enclosing Disk (MED)

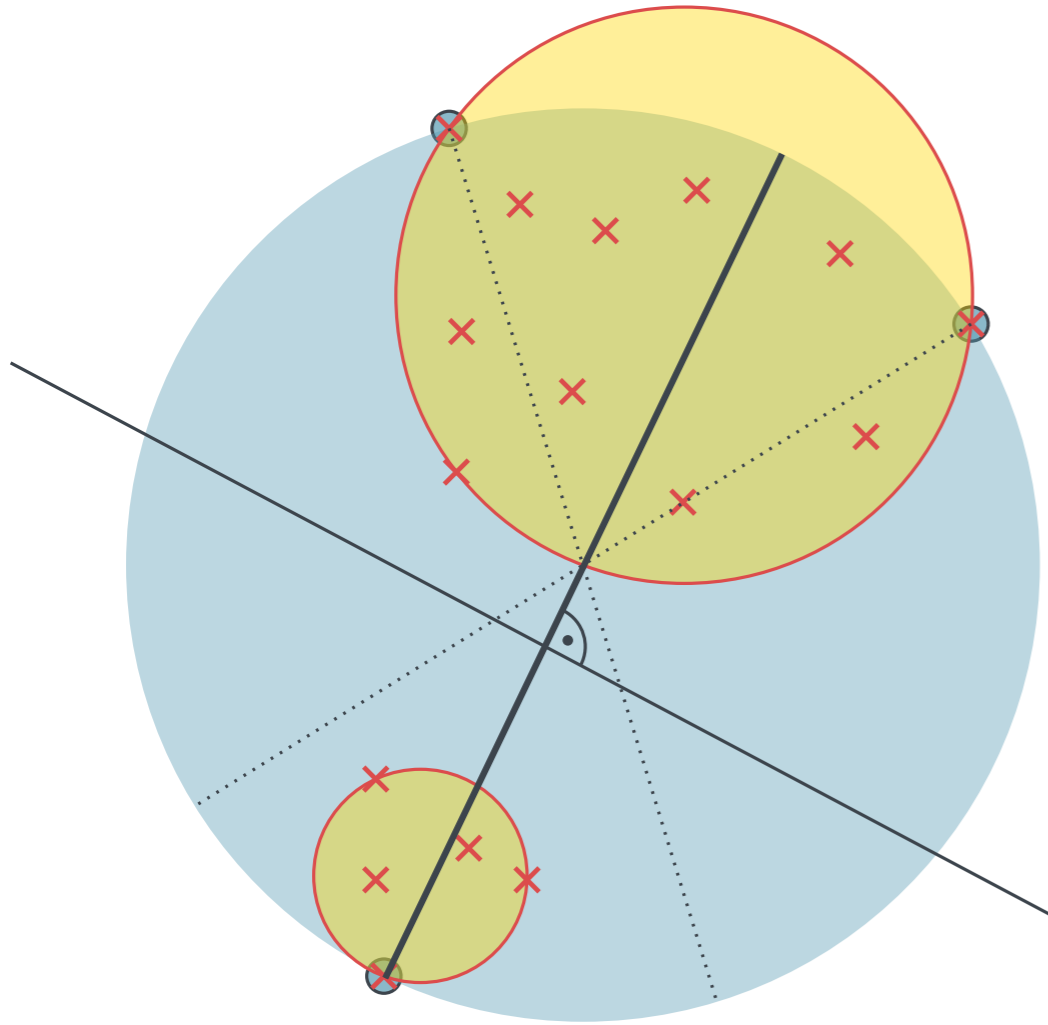
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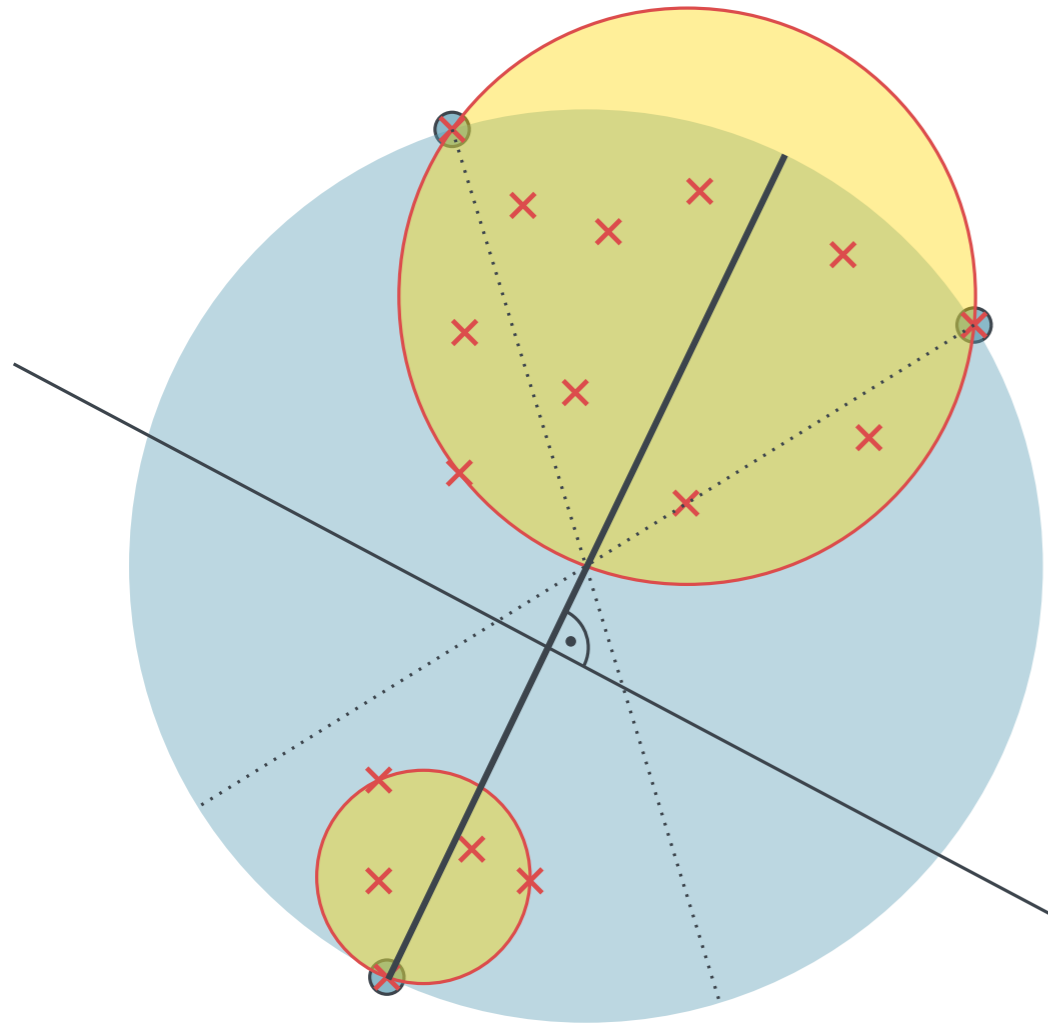


Minimum Enclosing Disk (MED)

# Lemmas

## Lemma

Given a 2-MinSumRadius instance, an orthogonal (—) to one of the diagonals (.....) separates the clusters in an optimal solution.



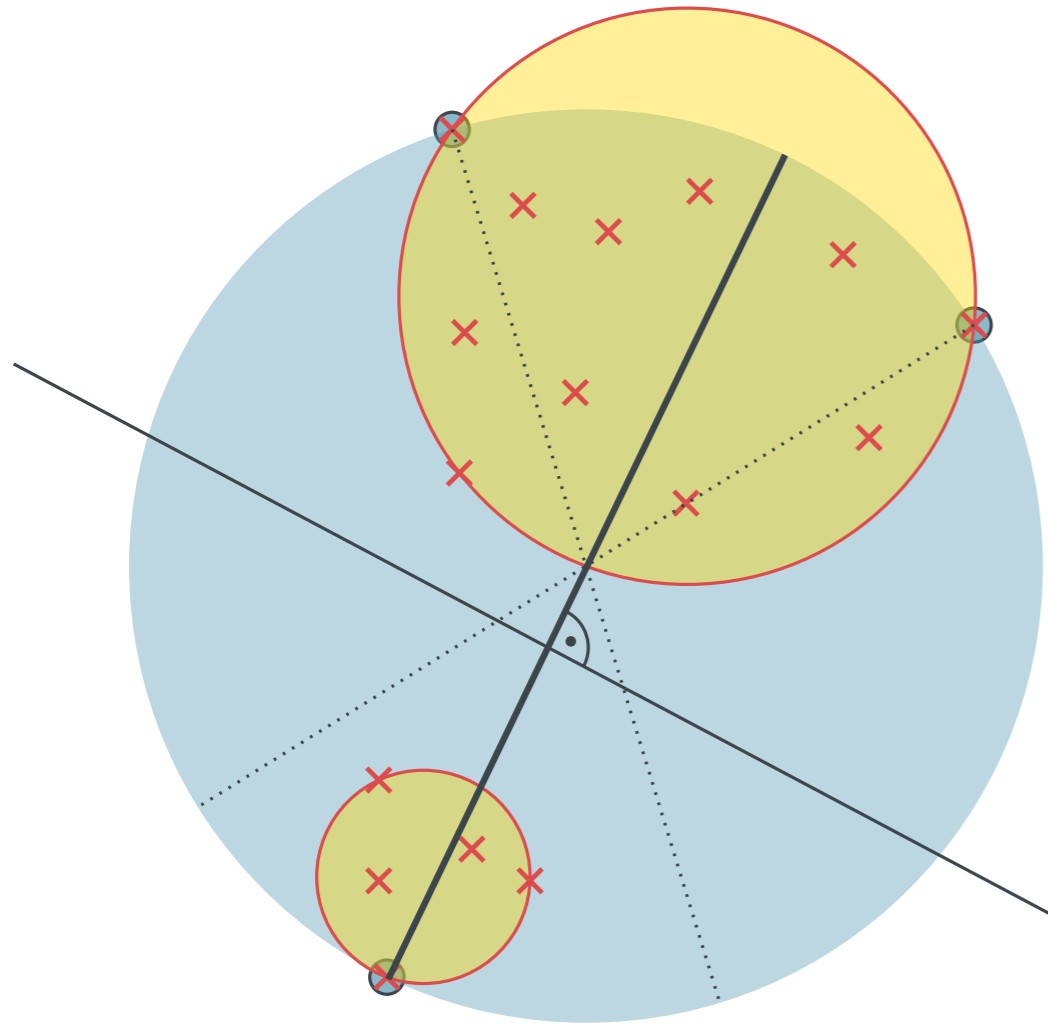
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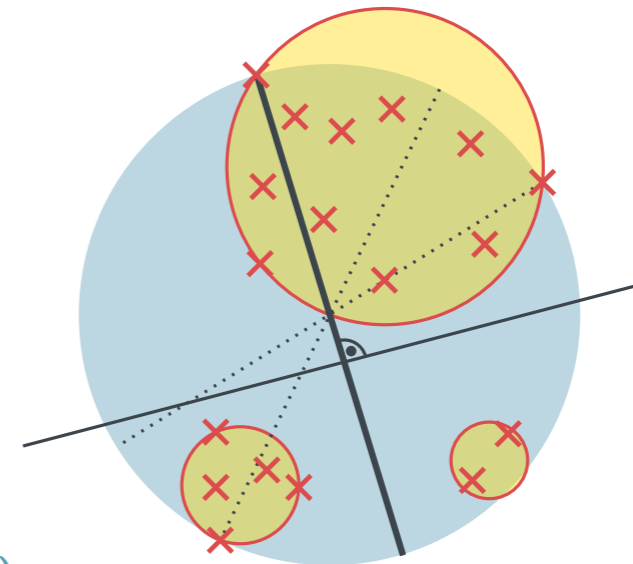
## Lemma

Given a <sup>3</sup>~~2~~-MinSumRadius instance, an orthogonal (—) to one of the diagonals (.....) separates the clusters in an optimal solution.

one cluster from the other two



Minimum Enclosing Disk (MED)

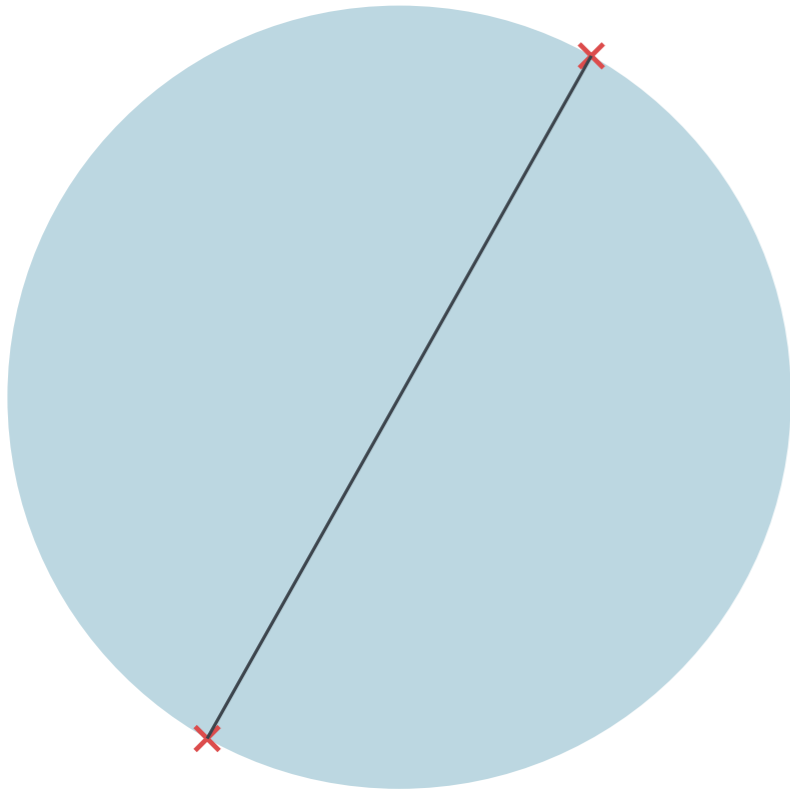


MinSumRadius Clustering in the Plane

# Proof Sketch

$$k = 2$$

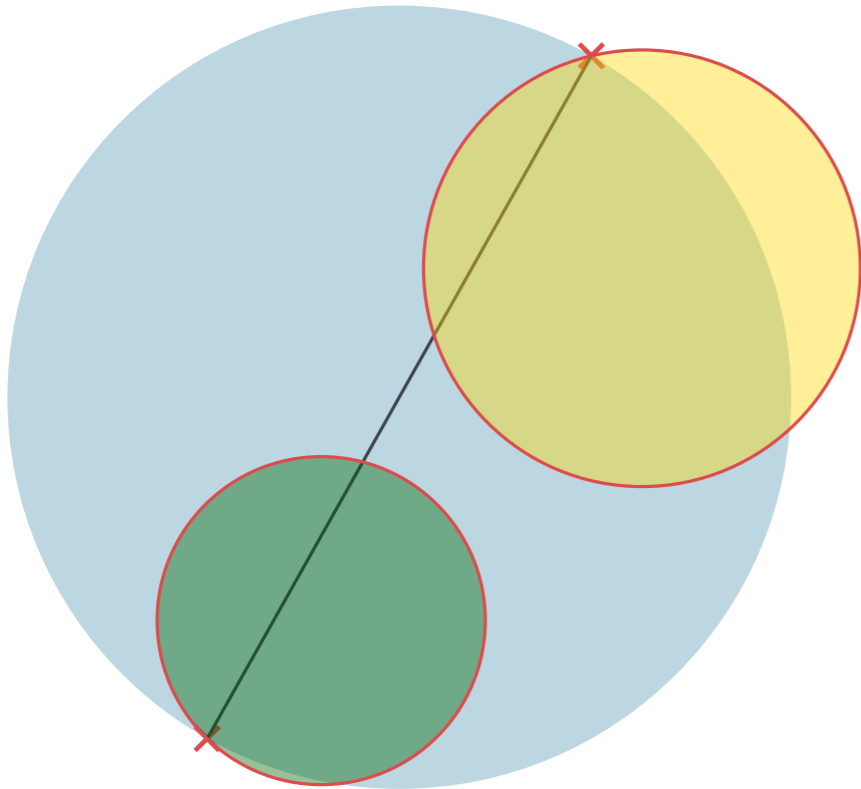
**Case 1:** two points define MED



# Proof Sketch

$$k = 2$$

**Case 1:** two points define MED

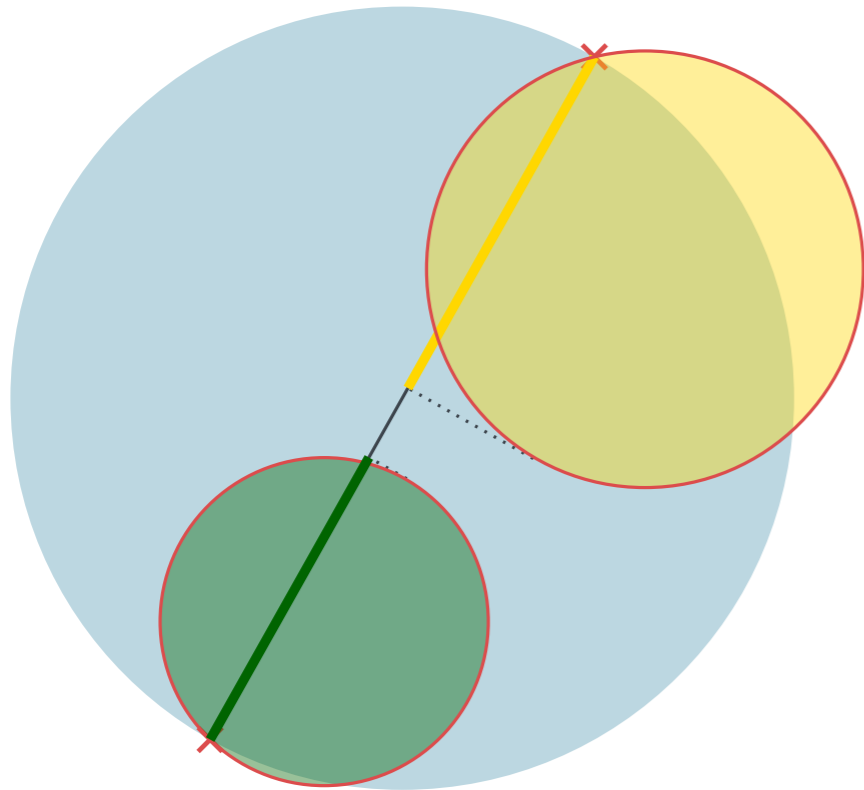


→ assume points are in different clusters

# Proof Sketch

$$k = 2$$

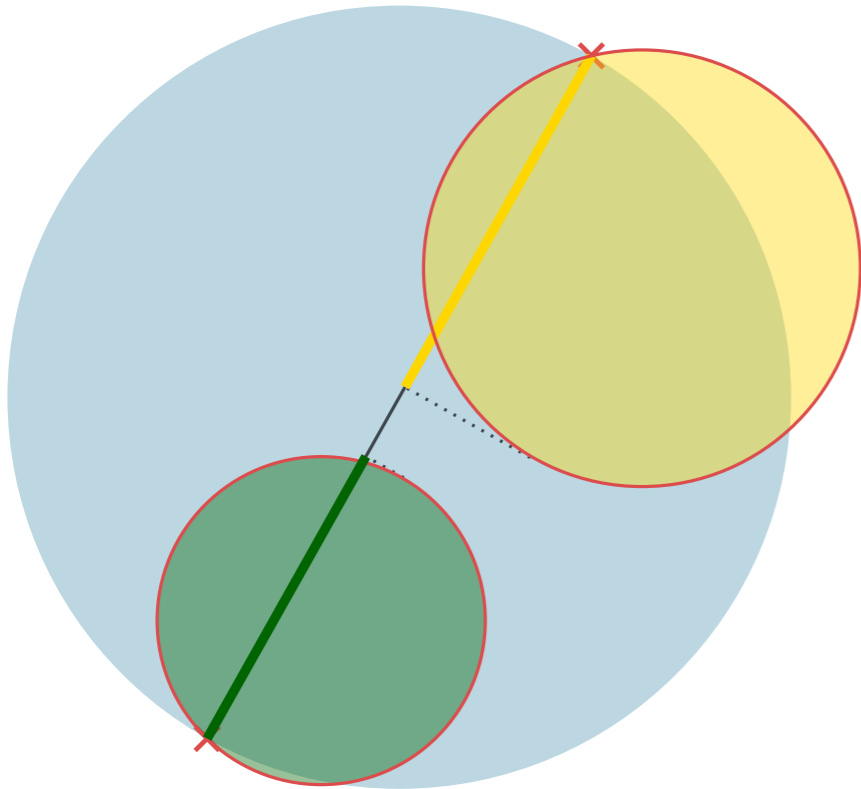
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# Proof Sketch

$$k = 2$$

**Case 1:** two points define MED

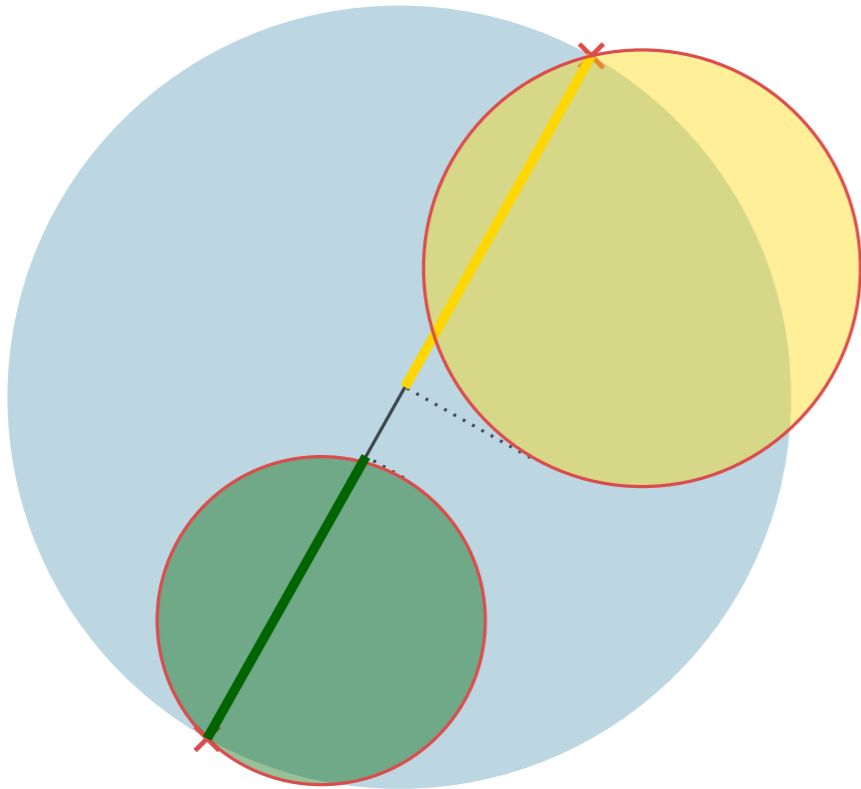


 and  intersect

# Proof Sketch

$$k = 2$$

**Case 1:** two points define MED



 and  intersect

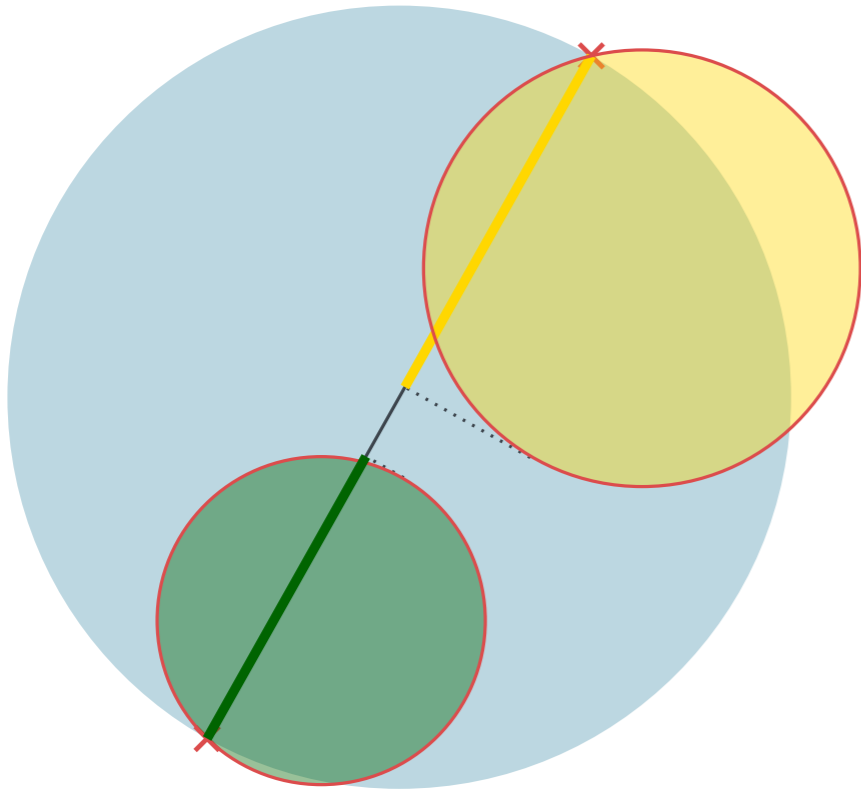
$$\implies \text{len}(\text{—}) + \text{len}(\text{—}) > \text{len}(\text{—}) \quad \text{⚡}$$



# Proof Sketch

$$k = 2$$

Case 1: two points define MED

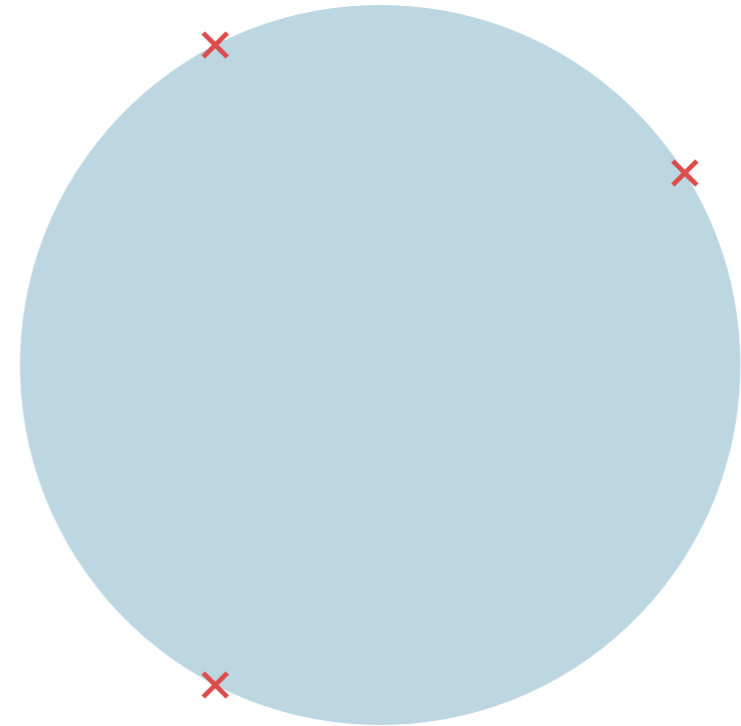


 and  intersect

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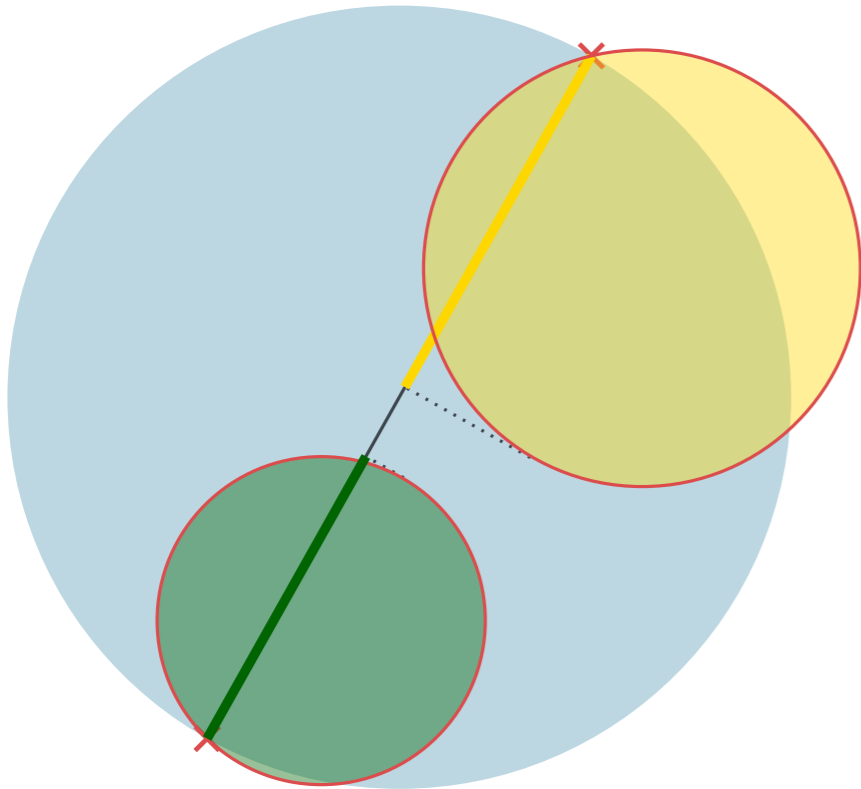
Case 2: three points define MED



# Proof Sketch

$$k = 2$$

Case 1: two points define MED

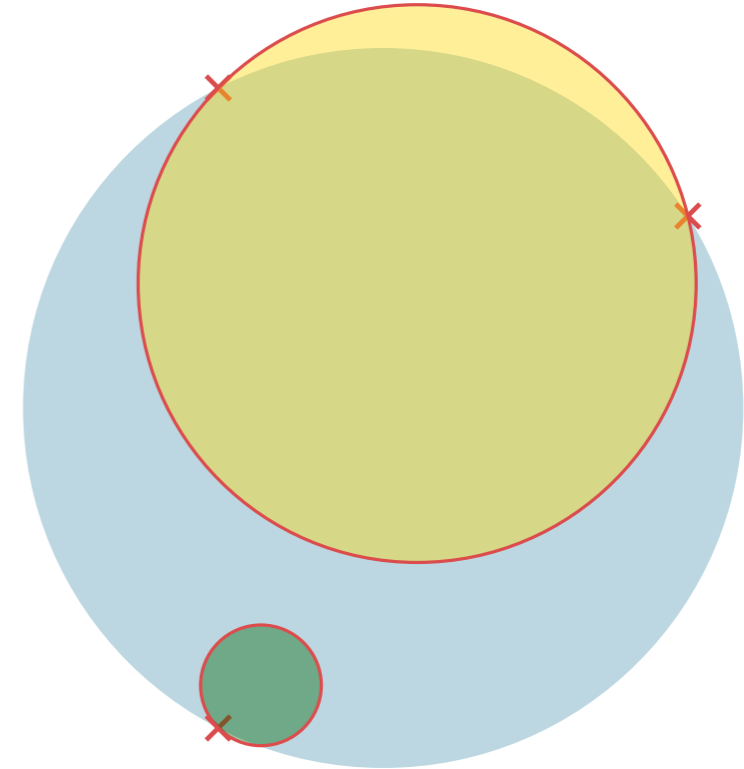


 and  intersect

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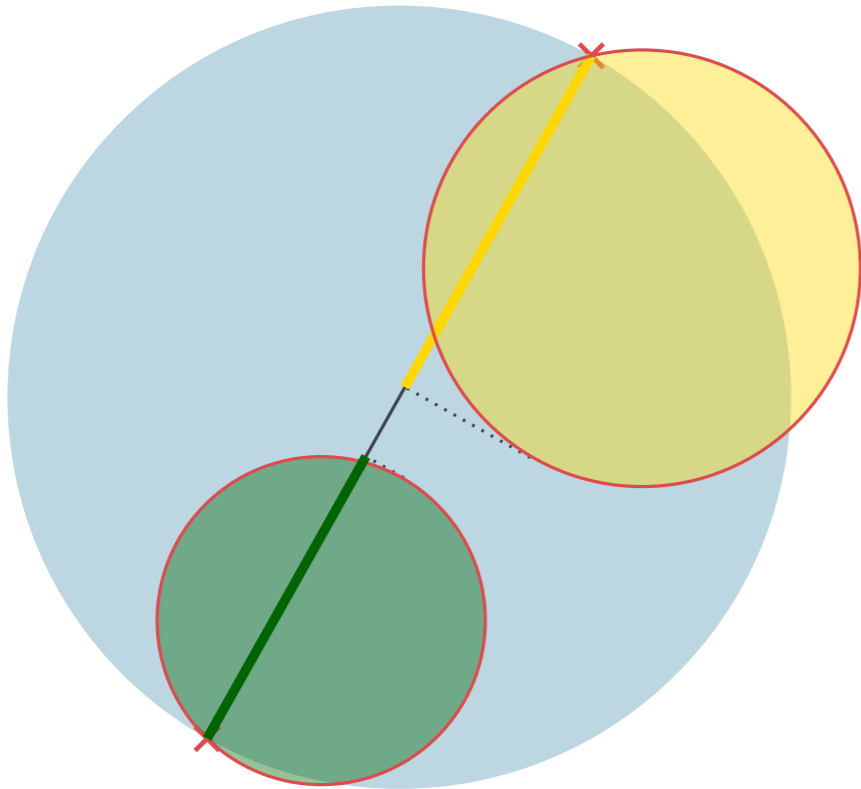
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# Proof Sketch

$$k = 2$$

Case 1: two points define MED

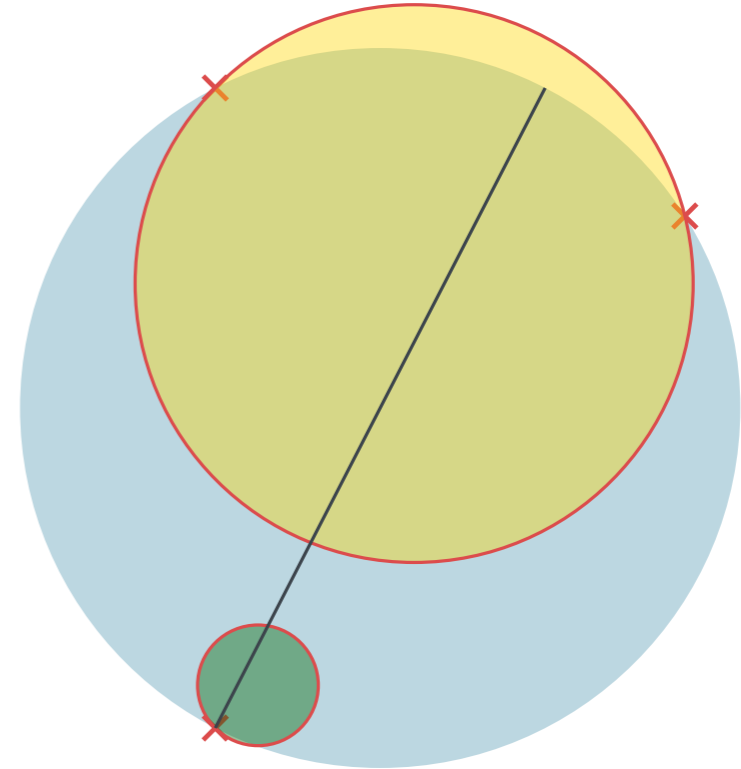


and intersect

$$\implies \text{len}(\text{—}) + \text{len}(\text{—}) > \text{len}(\text{—})$$



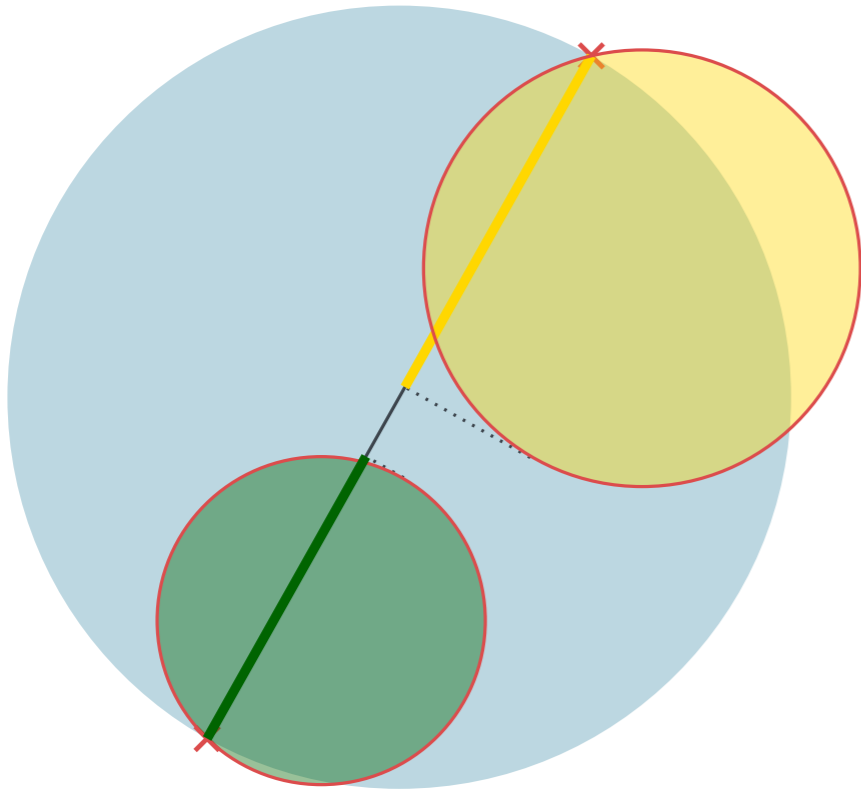
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$$k = 2$$

Case 1: two points define MED

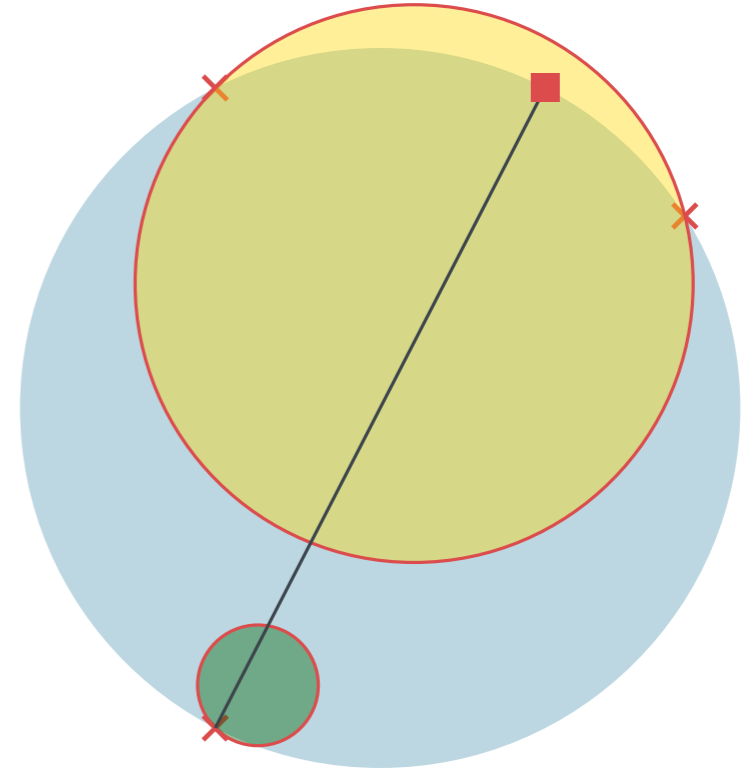


and intersect

$$\implies \text{len}(\text{---}) + \text{len}(\text{---}) > \text{len}(\text{---})$$



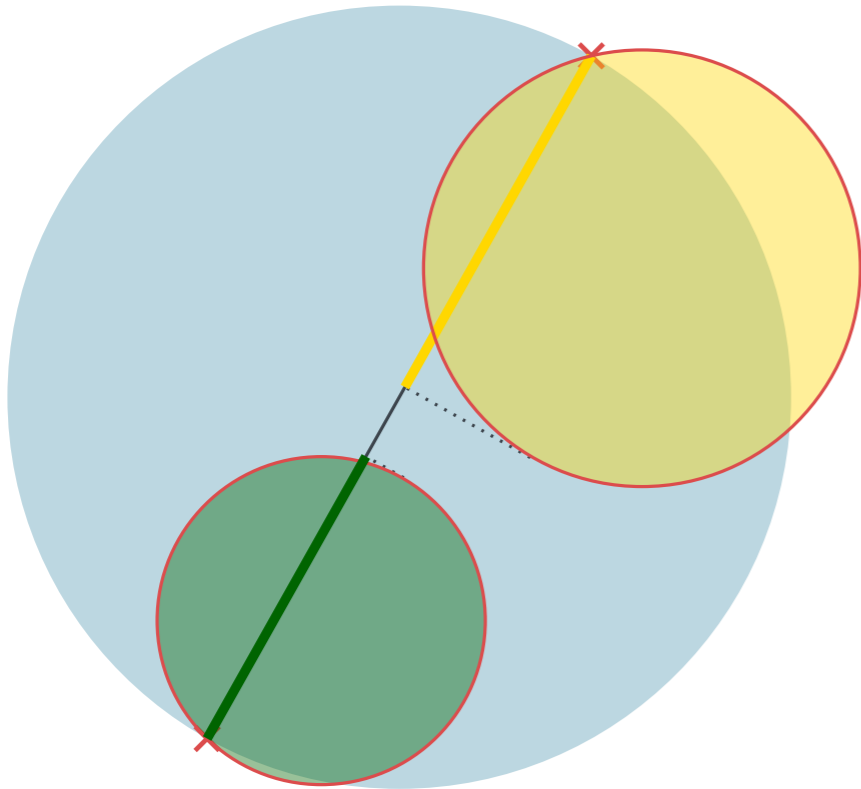
Case 2: three points define MED



# Proof Sketch

$$k = 2$$

Case 1: two points define MED

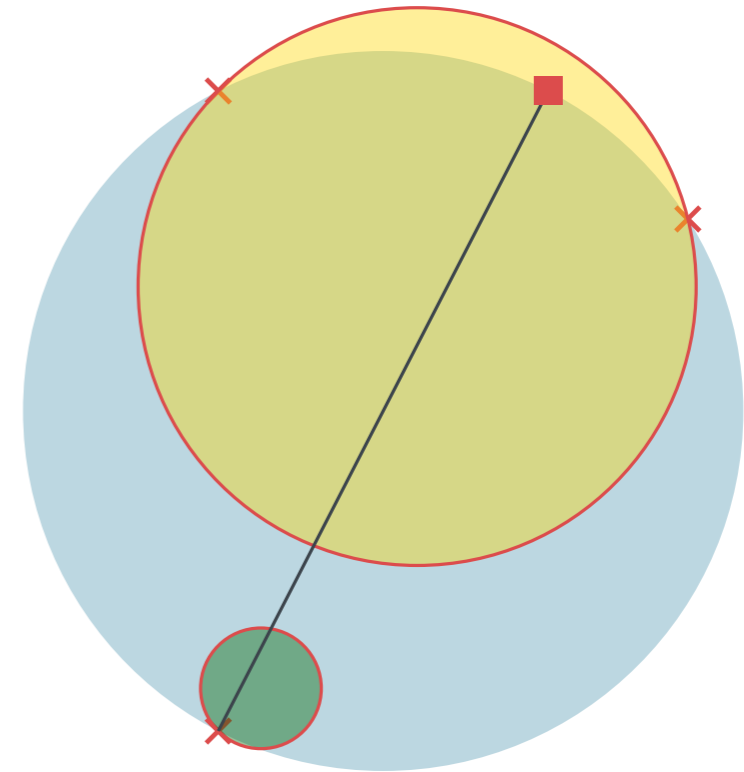


and intersect

$$\implies \text{len}(\text{green line}) + \text{len}(\text{yellow line}) > \text{len}(\text{dotted line})$$



Case 2: three points define MED



red square  $\in$  yellow circle  $\implies$  reduction to **Case 1**

# Algorithms

# Algorithm

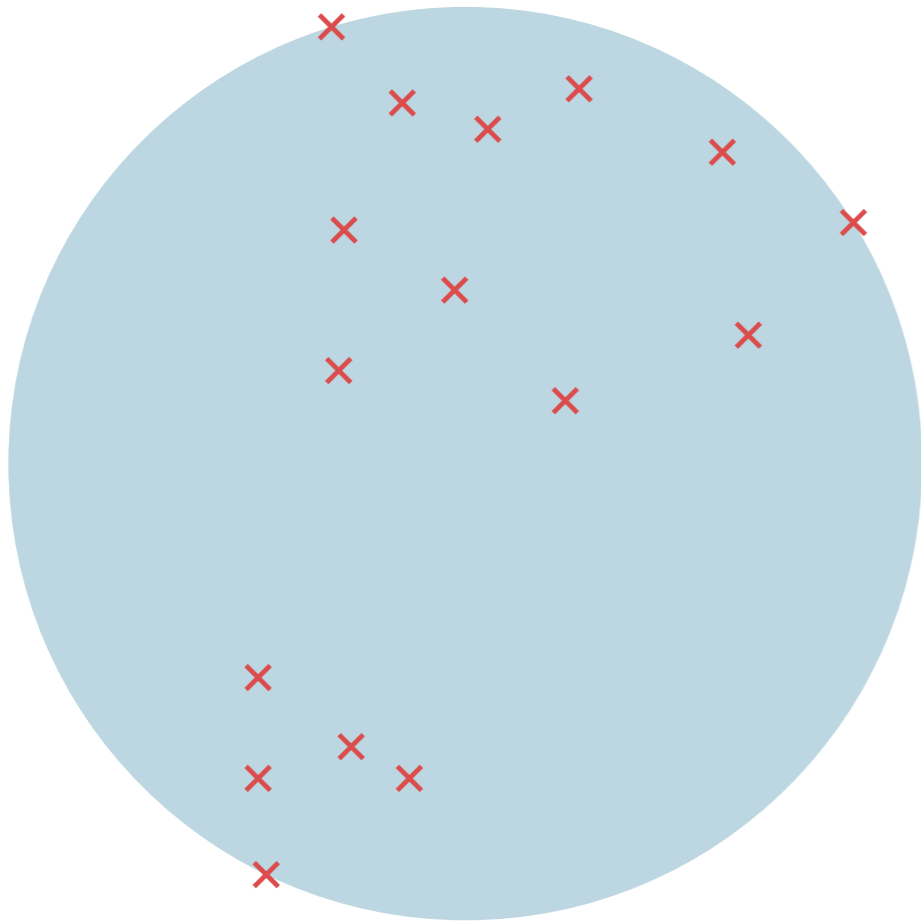
$$k = 2$$



**Running time:**

# Algorithm

$$k = 2$$



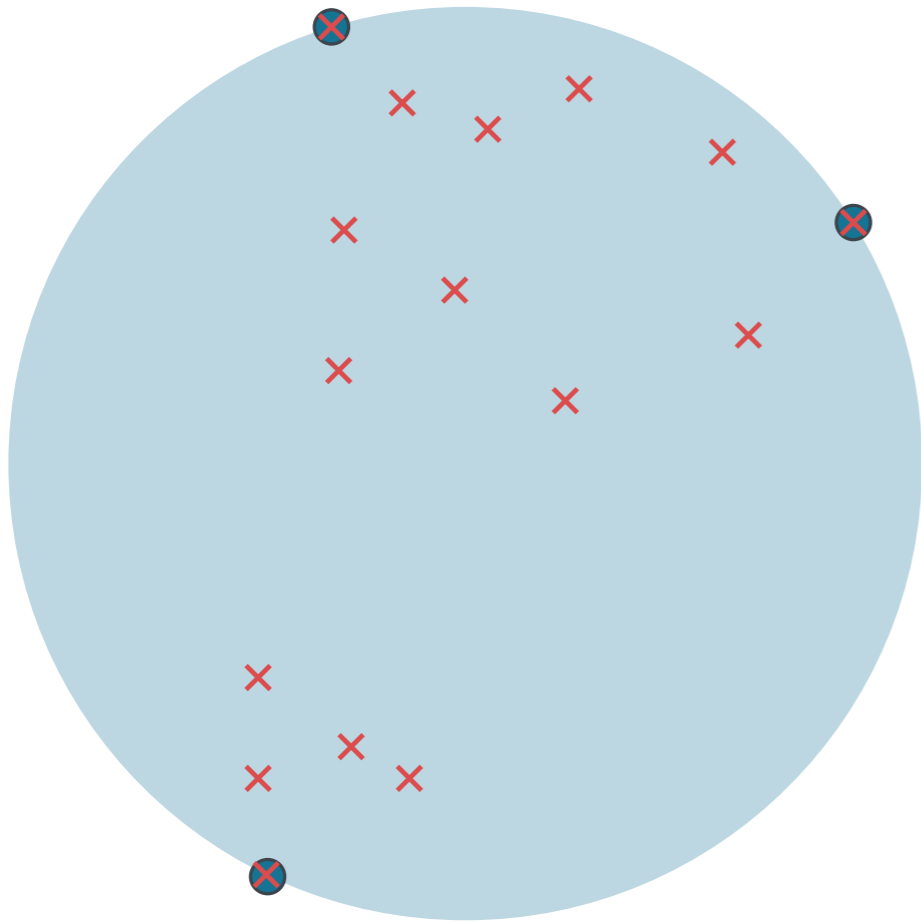
**Running time:**

$$O(n)$$



# Algorithm

$$k = 2$$

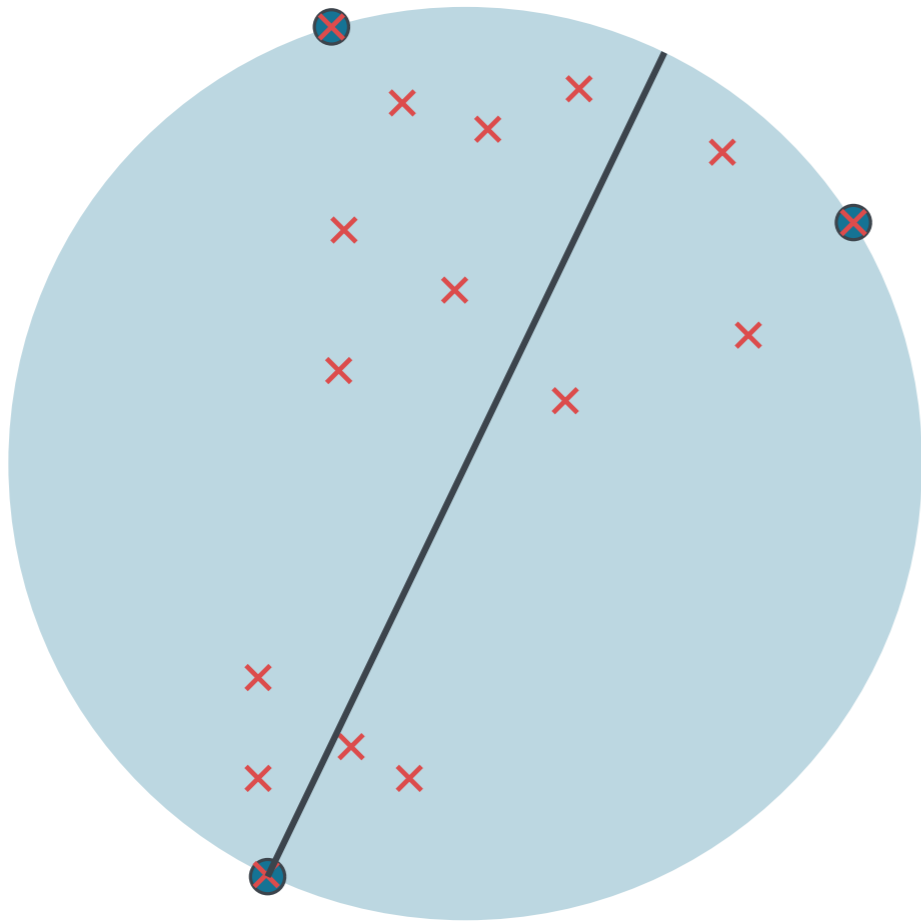


**Running time:**

$$O(n)$$

# Algorithm

$$k = 2$$

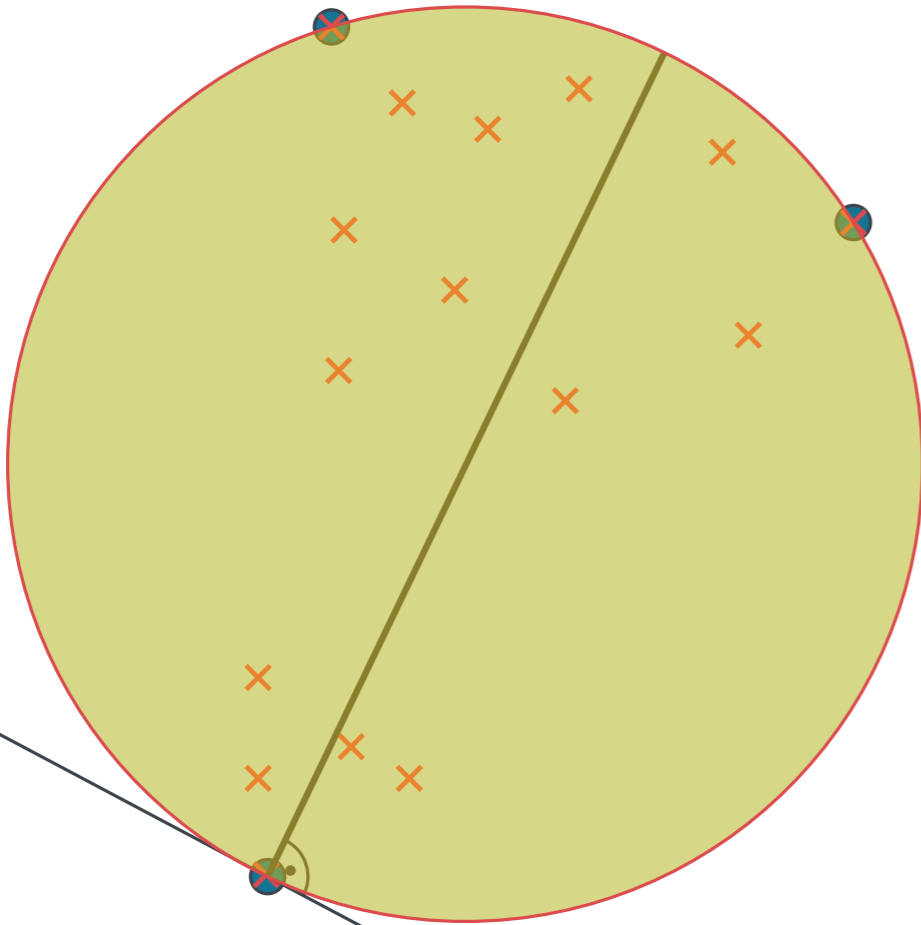


**Running time:**

$$O(n) + 3 \cdot$$

# Algorithm

$$k = 2$$

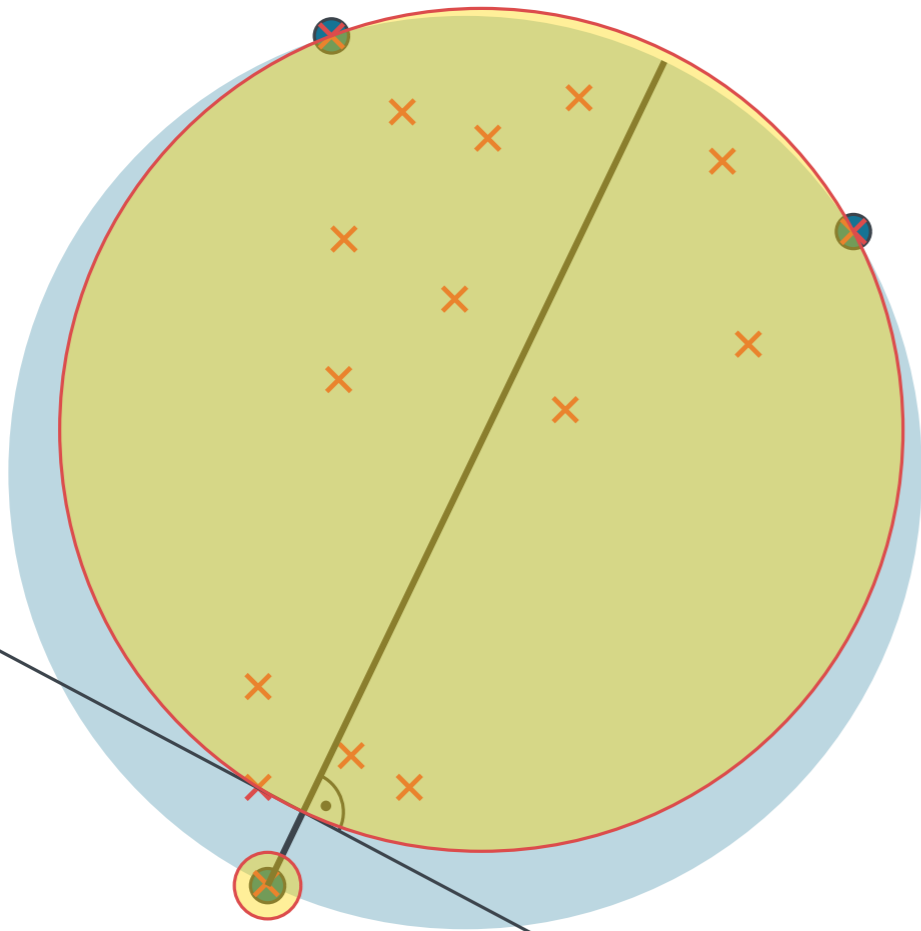


**Running time:**

$$O(n) + 3 \cdot$$

# Algorithm

$$k = 2$$

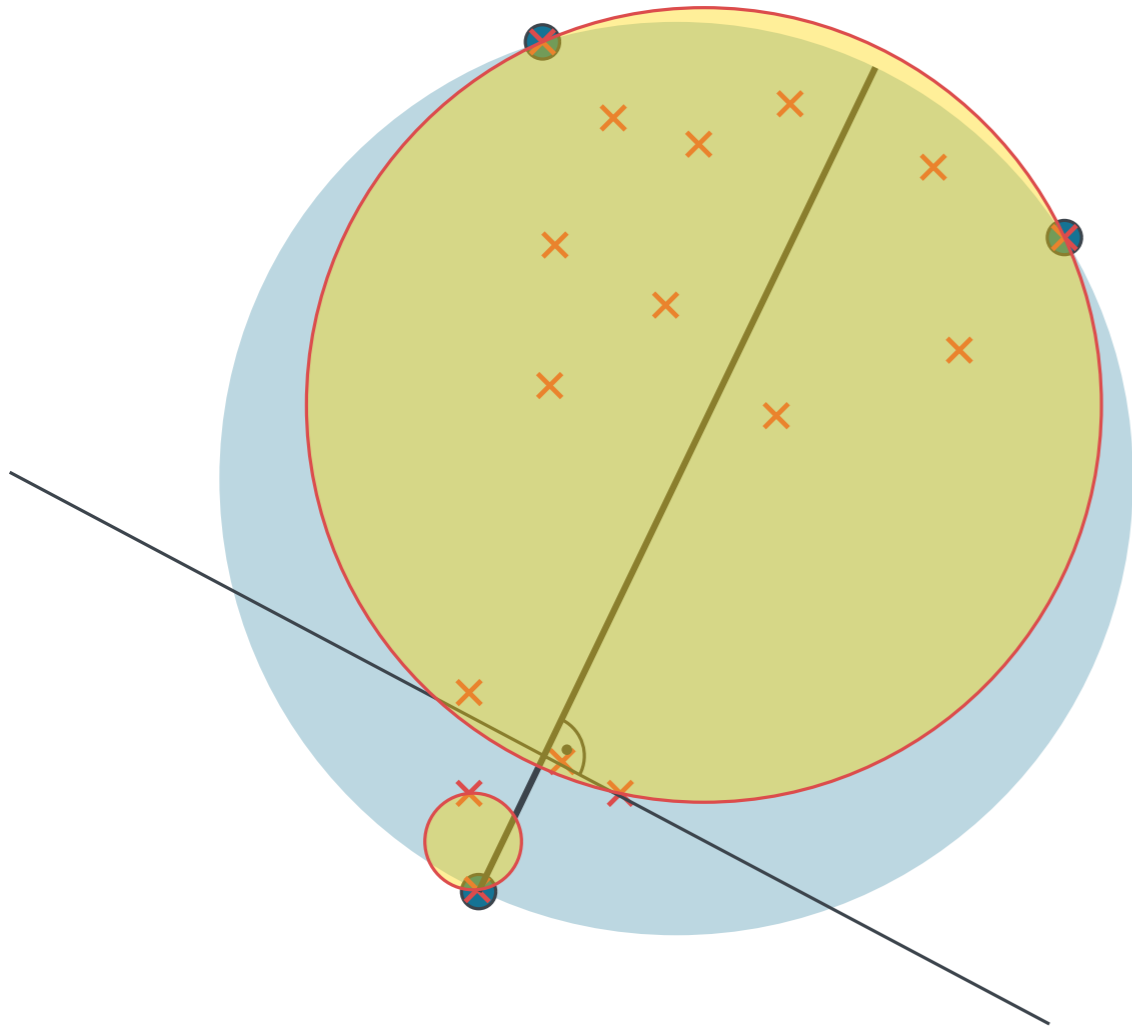


**Running time:**

$$O(n) + 3 \cdot$$

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$$k = 2$$

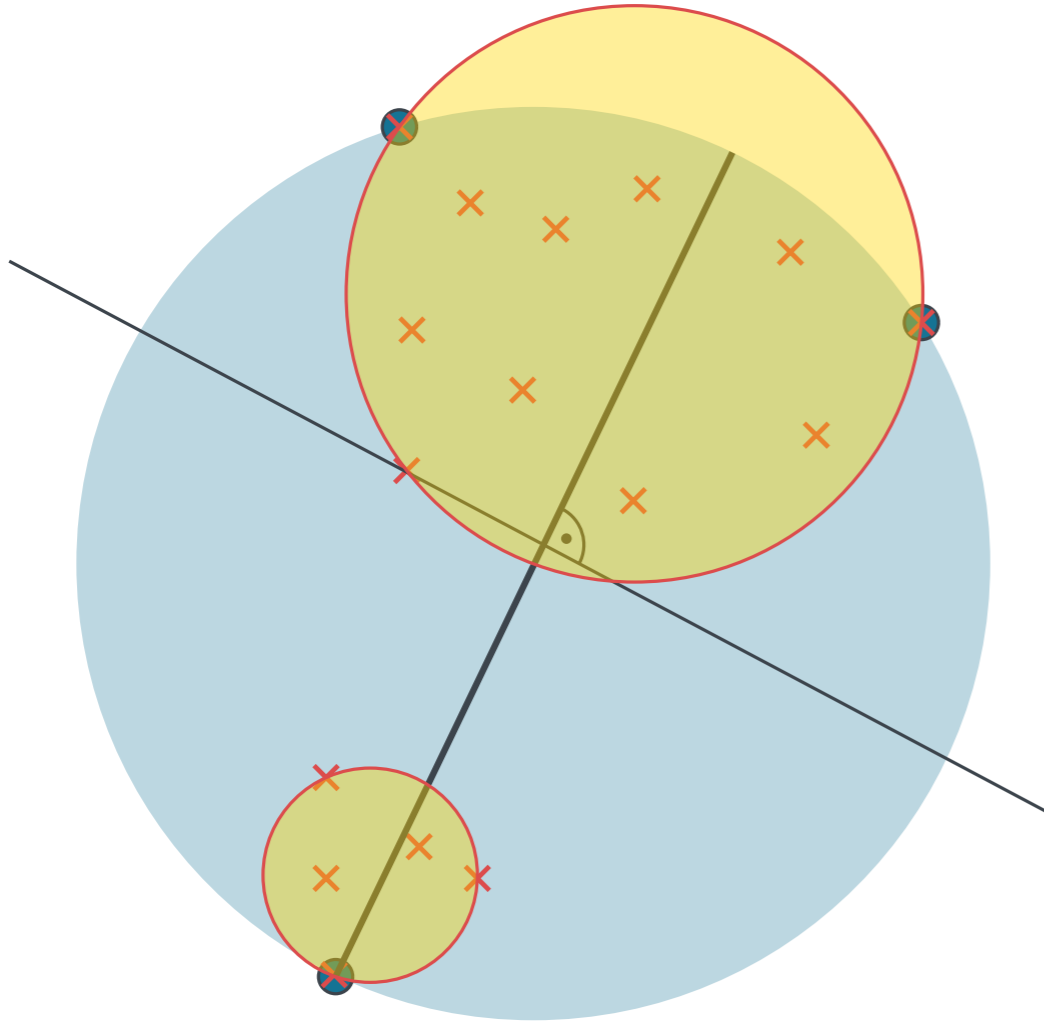


**Running time:**

$$O(n) + 3 \cdot$$

# Algorithm

$$k = 2$$

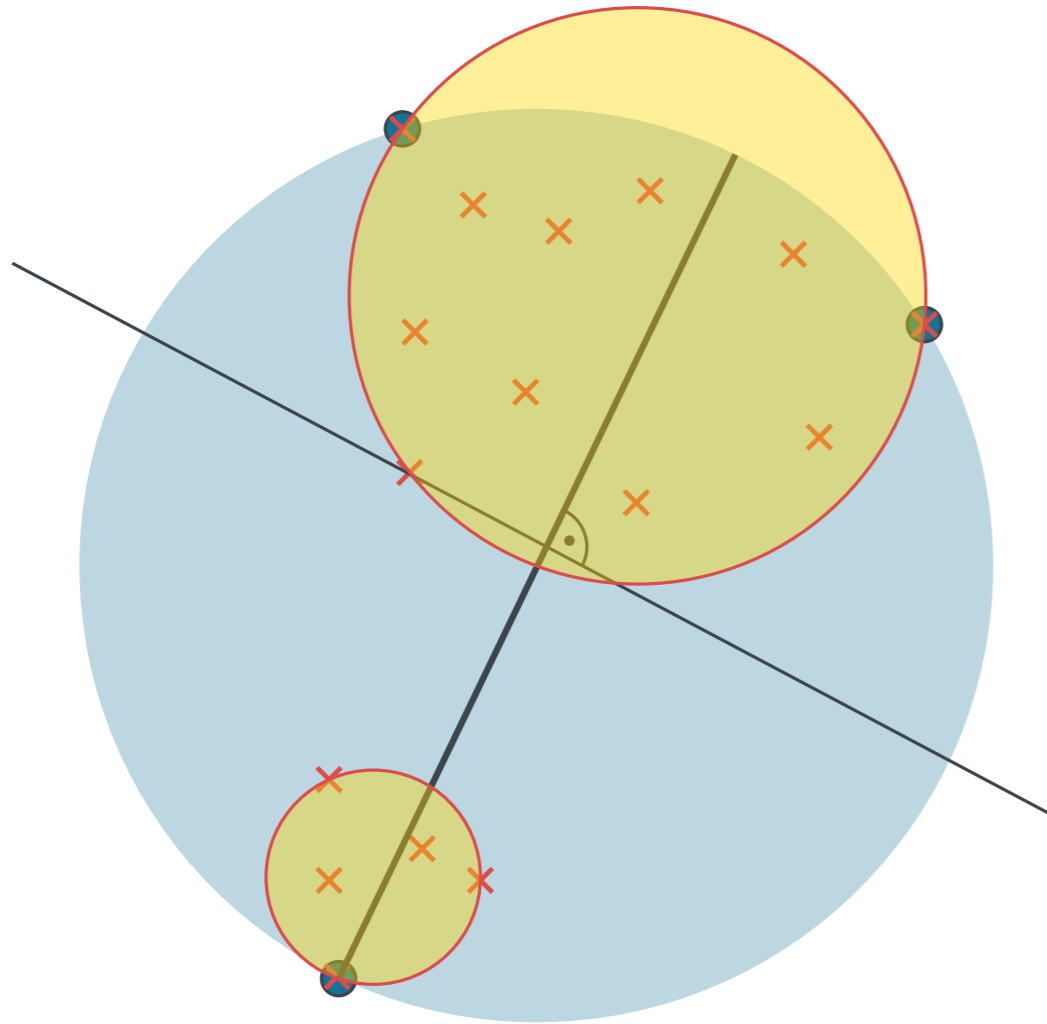


**Running time:**

$$O(n) + 3 \cdot n \cdot$$

# Algorithm

$$k = 2$$

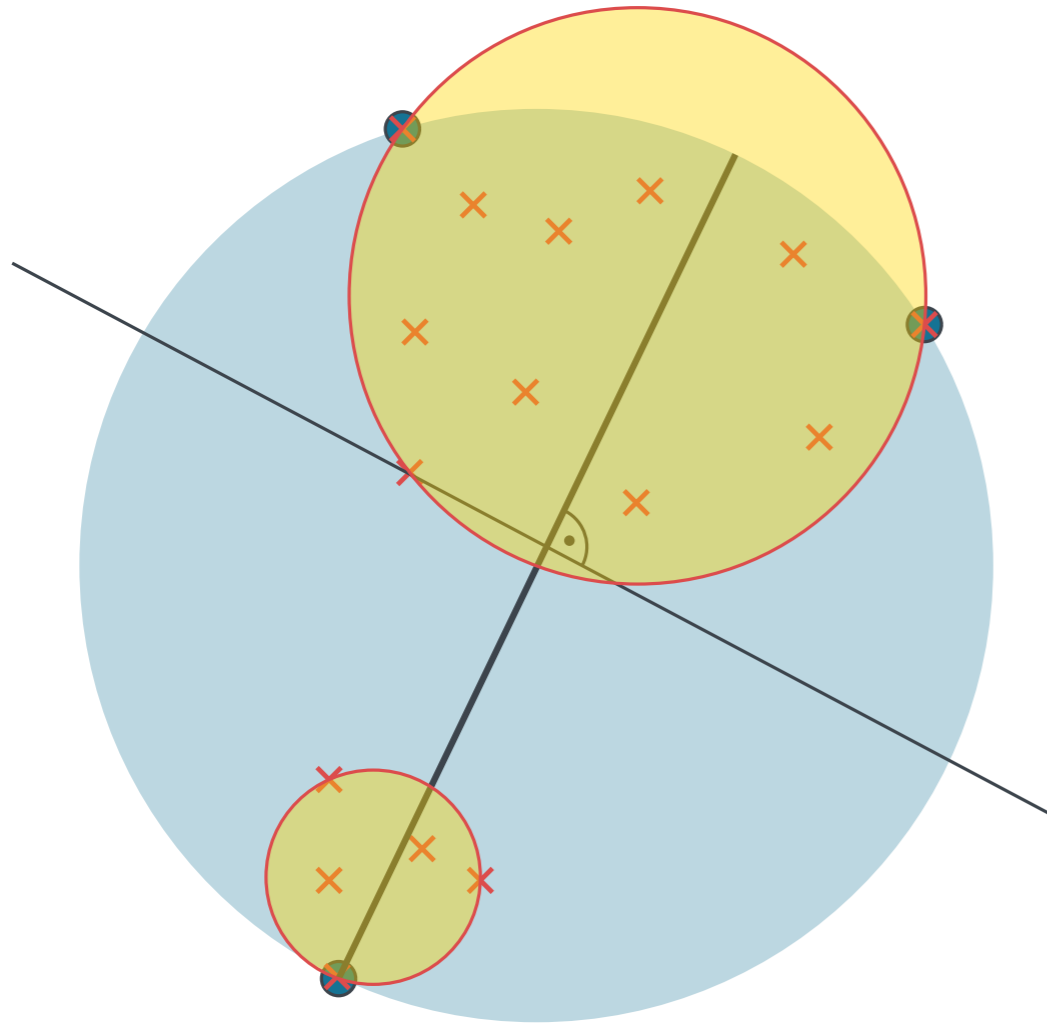


**Running time:**  
 $O(n) + 3 \cdot n \cdot O(\log^2 n)$

\*

# Algorithm

$$k = 2$$



**Running time:**

$$O(n) + 3 \cdot n \cdot O(\log^2 n)$$
$$=$$
$$O(n \cdot \log^2 n)$$

\*

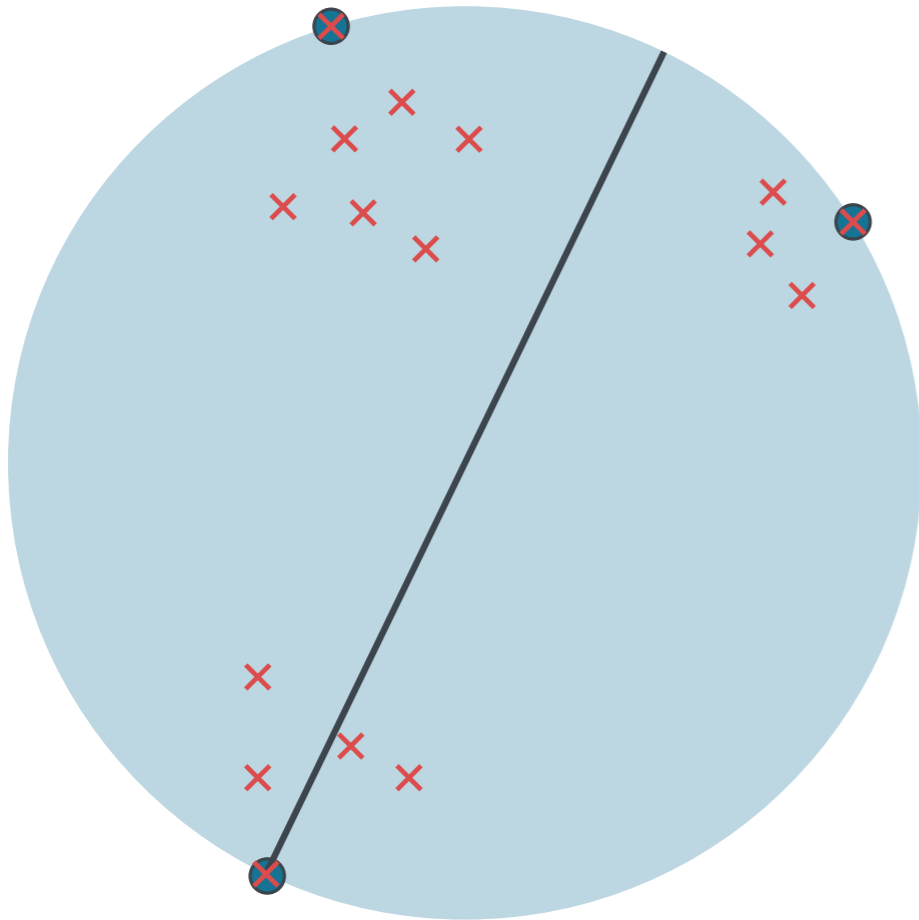


# Algorithm

$$k = 3$$

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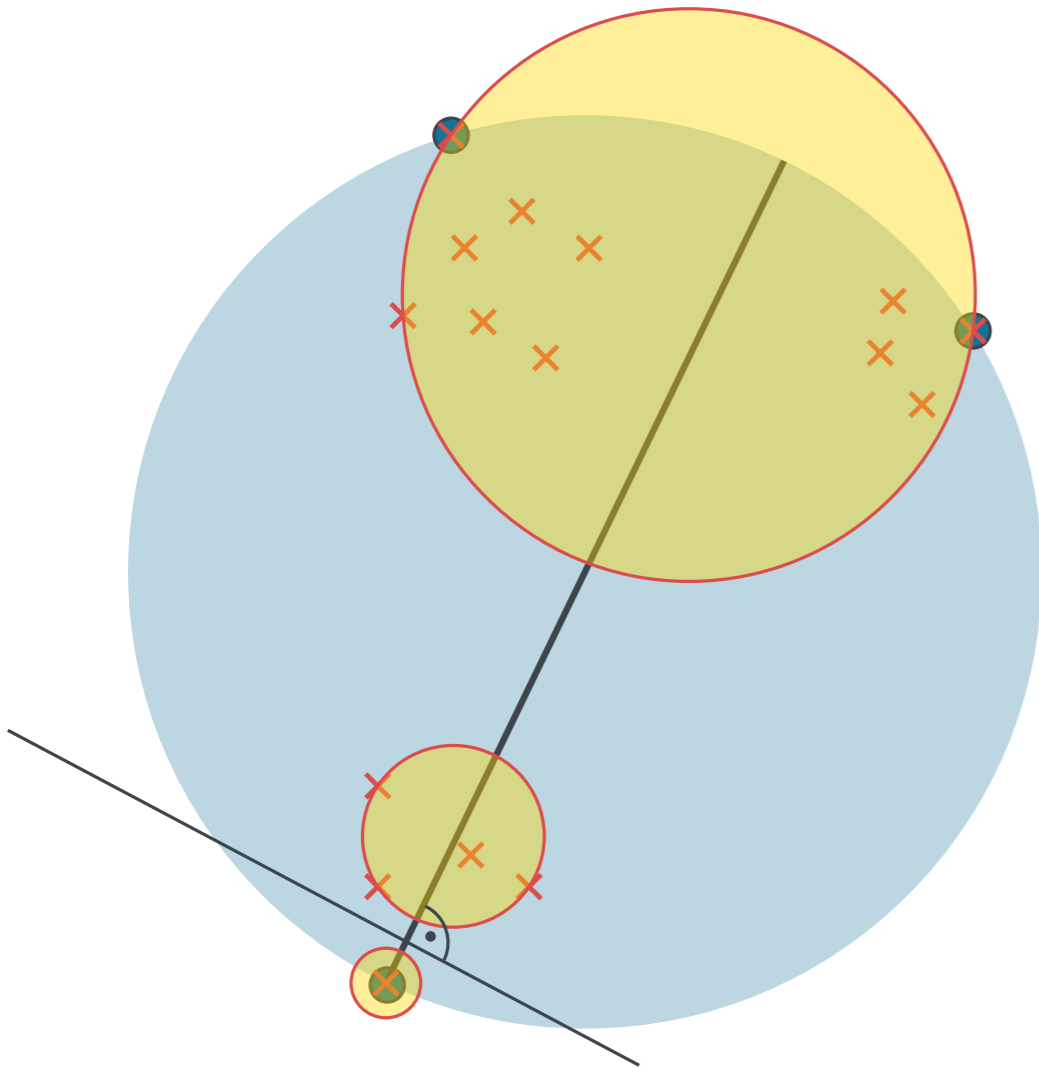


**Running time:**

$$O(n) + 3 \cdot n \cdot$$

# Algorithm

$$k = 3$$

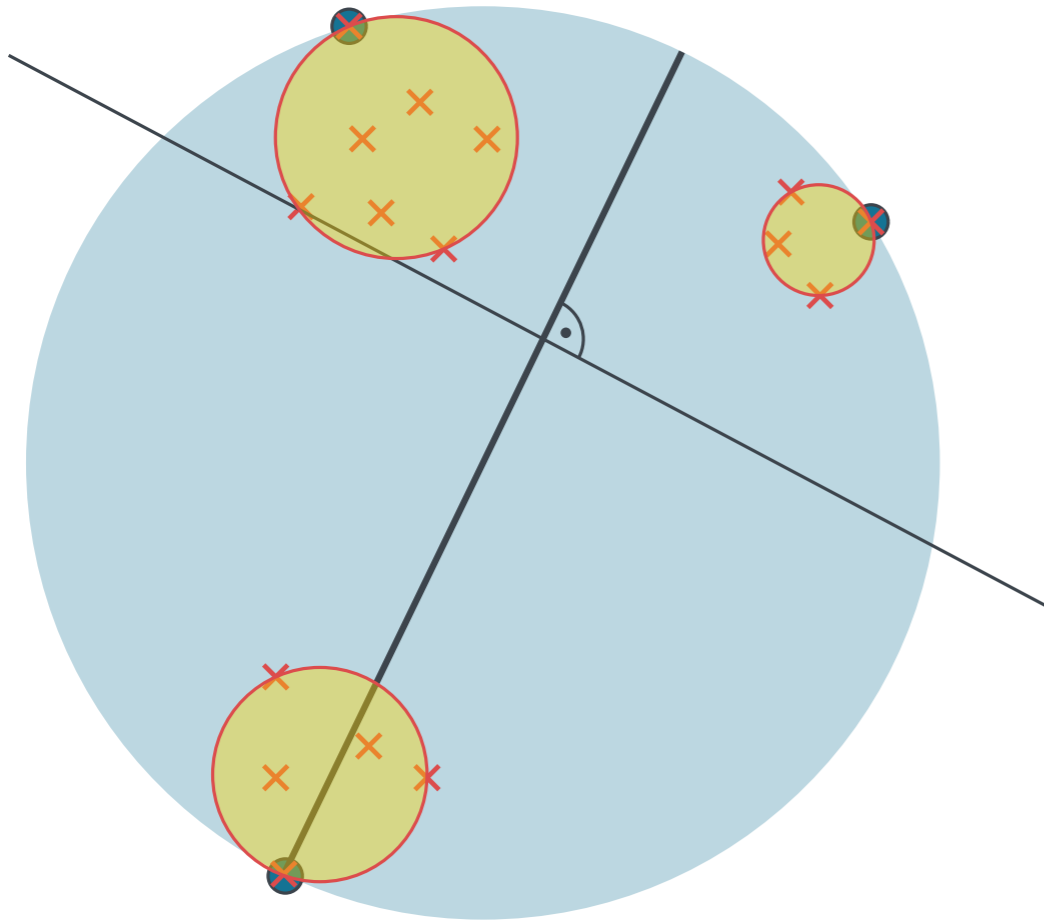


**Running time:**  
 $O(n) + 3 \cdot n \cdot (O(n) + O(n \log^2 n))$

\*

# Algorithm

$$k = 3$$

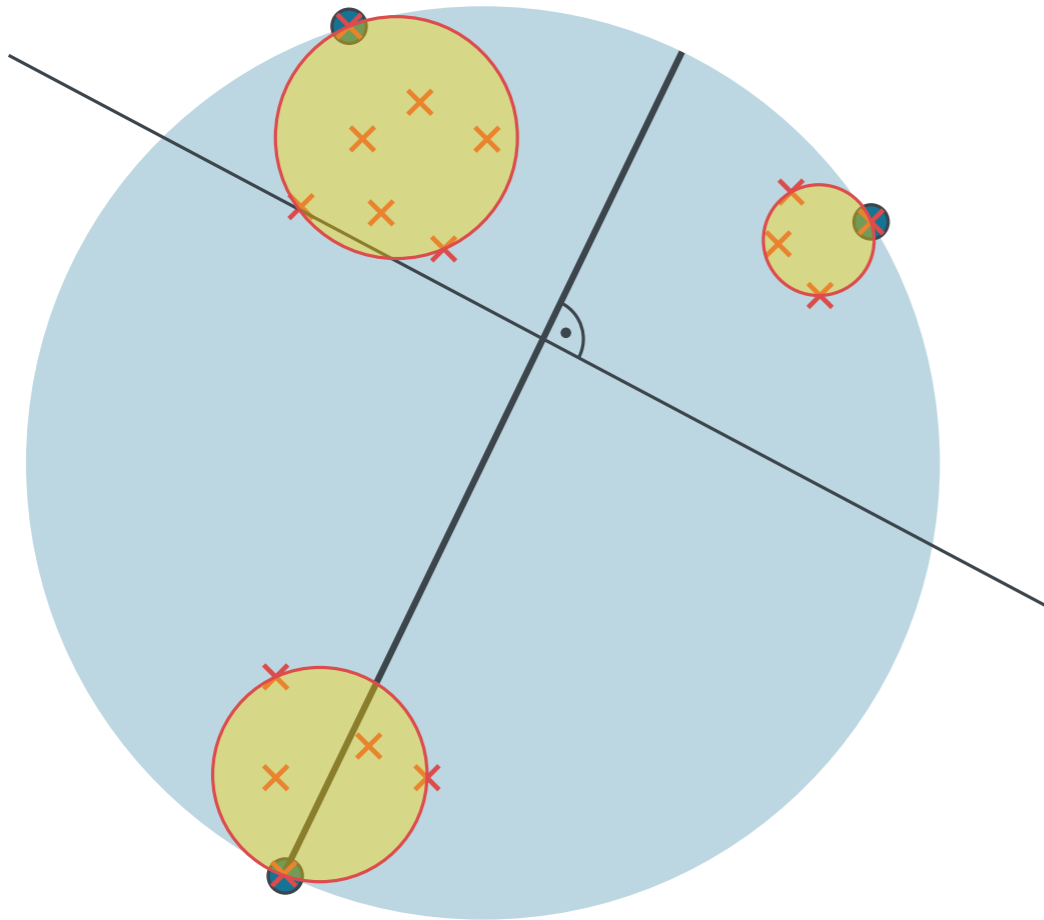


**Running time:**  
 $O(n) + 3 \cdot n \cdot (O(n) + O(n \log^2 n))$

\*

# Algorithm

$$k = 3$$



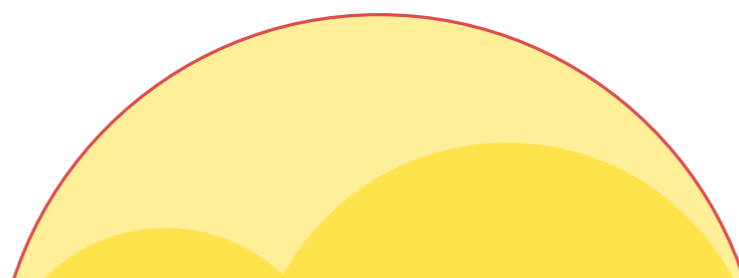
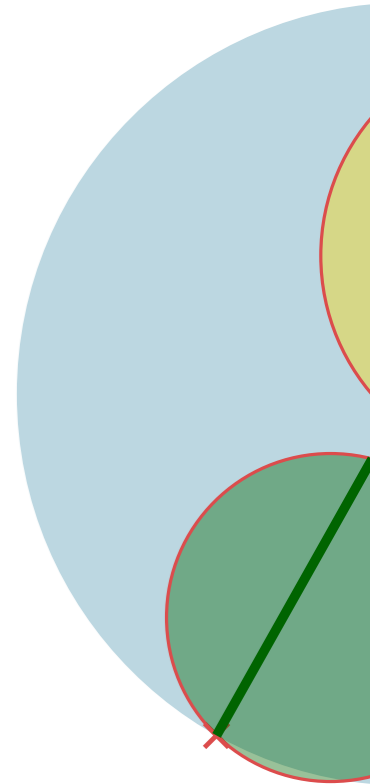
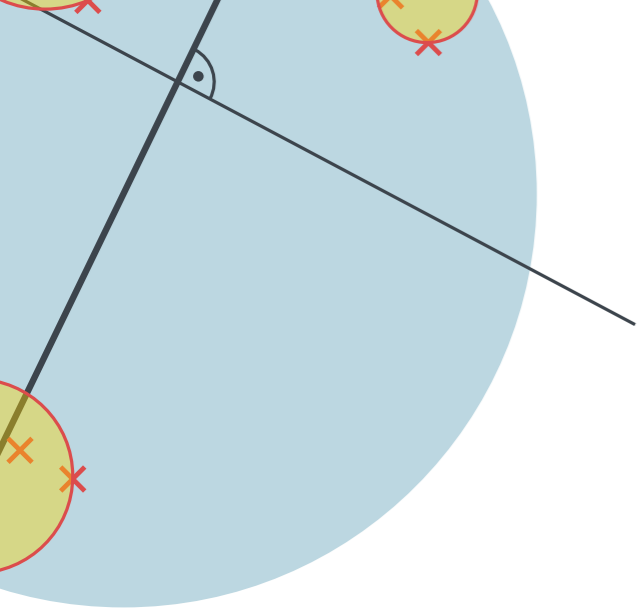
**Running time:**

$$O(n) + 3 \cdot n \cdot (O(n) + O(n \log^2 n))$$
$$=$$
$$O(n^2 \cdot \log^2 n)$$

\*

Thank You!

Questions?



Unofficial Paper Soundtrack:



**Full Circle**  
by **Half Moon Run**

André Nusser

MinSumRadius Clustering in the Plane