

# Geometric Algorithms

Types of data. Points, lines, planes, polygons, circles, ...  
 This lecture. Sets of N objects.

Geometric problems extend to higher dimensions.

- Good algorithms also extend to higher dimensions.
- Curse of dimensionality.

Basic problems.

- Range searching.
- Nearest neighbor.
- Finding intersections of geometric objects.

Reference: Chapters 26-27, Algorithms in C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Robert Sedgewick.

## 1D Range Search

# 7.3 Range Searching

Extension to symbol-table ADT with comparable keys.

- Insert key-value pair.
- Search for key k.
- How many records have keys between  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ ?
- Iterate over all records with keys between  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ .

Application: database queries.

```
insert B      B
insert D      B D
insert A      A B D
insert I      A B D I
insert H      A B D H I
insert F      A B D F H I
insert P      A B D F H I P
count G to K  2
search G to K H I
```

Geometric intuition.

- Keys are point on a line.
- How many points in a given interval?



## 1D Range Search Implementations

**Range search.** How many records have keys between  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ ?

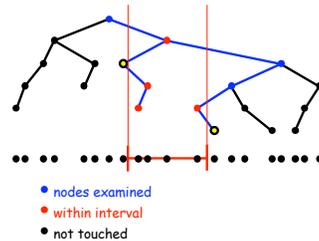
**Ordered array.** Slow insert, binary search for  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  to find range.

**Hash table.** No reasonable algorithm (key order lost in hash).

**BST.** In each node  $x$ , maintain number of nodes in tree rooted at  $x$ .  
Search for smallest element  $\geq k_1$  and largest element  $\leq k_2$ .

	insert	count	range
ordered array	N	log N	$R + \log N$
hash table	1	N	N
BST	log N	log N	$R + \log N$

$N$  = # records  
 $R$  = # records that match



5

## 2D Orthogonal Range Search

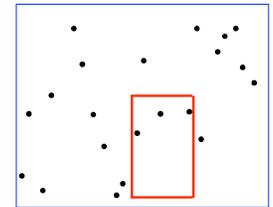
**Extension to symbol-table ADT with 2D keys.**

- Insert a 2D key.
- Search for a 2D key.
- Range search: find all keys that lie in a 2D range?
- Range count: how many keys lie in a 2D range?

**Applications:** networking, circuit design, databases.

**Geometric interpretation.**

- Keys are point in the plane.
- Find all points in a given  $h$ - $v$  rectangle?

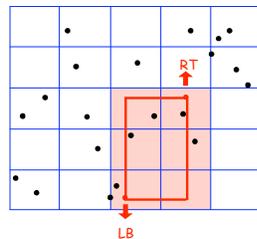


6

## 2D Orthogonal Range Search: Grid Implementation

**Grid implementation.** [Sedgwick 3.18]

- Divide space into  $M$ -by- $M$  grid of squares.
- Create linked list for each square.
- Use 2D array to directly access relevant square.
- Insert: insert  $(x, y)$  into corresponding grid square.
- Range search: examine only those grid squares that could have points in the rectangle.



7

## 2D Orthogonal Range Search: Grid Implementation Costs

**Space-time tradeoff.**

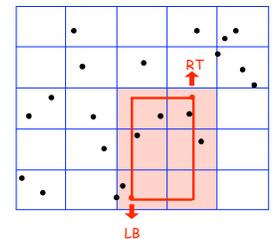
- Space:  $M^2 + N$ .
- Time:  $1 + N / M^2$  per grid cell examined on average.

**Choose grid square size to tune performance.**

- Too small: wastes space.
- Too large: too many points per grid square.
- Rule of thumb:  $\sqrt{N}$  by  $\sqrt{N}$  grid.

**Time costs.** [if points are evenly distributed]

- Initialize:  $O(N)$ .
- Insert:  $O(1)$ .
- Range:  $O(1)$  per point in range.



8

## Clustering

**Grid implementation.** Fast, simple solution for well-distributed points.  
**Problem.** Clustering is a well-known phenomenon in geometric data.



Ex: USA map data.

- 80,000 points, 20,000 grid squares.
- Half the grid squares are empty.
- Half the points have  $\geq 10$  others in same grid square.
- Ten percent have  $\geq 100$  others in same grid square.

Need data structure that **gracefully** adapts to data.

## Space Partitioning Trees

**Space partitioning tree.** Use a tree to represent the recursive hierarchical subdivision of d-dimensional space.

**BSP tree.** Recursively divide space into two regions.

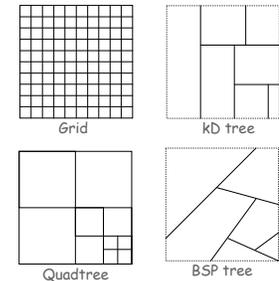
**Quadtree.** Recursively divide plane into four quadrants.

**Octree.** Recursively divide 3D space into eight octants.

**kD tree.** Recursively divide k-dimensional space into two half-spaces.

**Applications.**

- Ray tracing.
- Flight simulators.
- N-body simulation.
- Collision detection.
- Astronomical databases.
- Adaptive mesh generation.
- Accelerate rendering in Doom.
- Hidden surface removal and shadow casting.



9

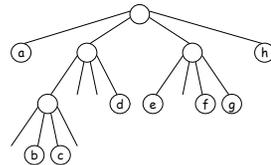
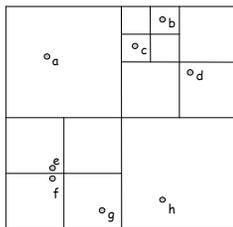
10

## Quad Trees

**Quad tree.** Recursively partition plane into 4 quadrants.

**Implementation:** 4-way tree.

```
public class QuadTree {
    Quad quad;
    Value value;
    QuadTree NW, NE, SW, SE;
}
```



Good **clustering** performance is a primary reason to choose quad trees over grid methods.

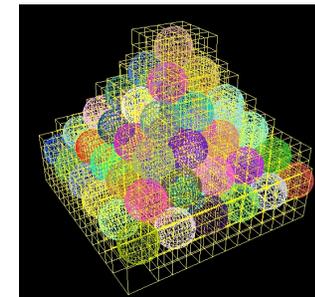
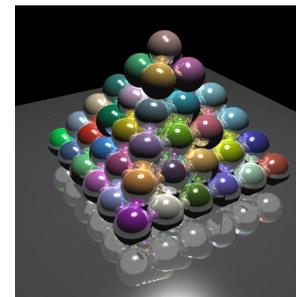
## Curse of Dimensionality

**Range search / nearest neighbor in k dimensions?**

**Main application.** Multi-dimensional databases.

**3D space.** Octrees: recursively divide 3D space into 8 octants.

**100D space.** Centrees: recursively divide into  $2^{100}$  centrantrants???



Raytracing with octrees  
<http://graphics.cs.ucdavis.edu/~gregorsk/graphics/275.html>

11

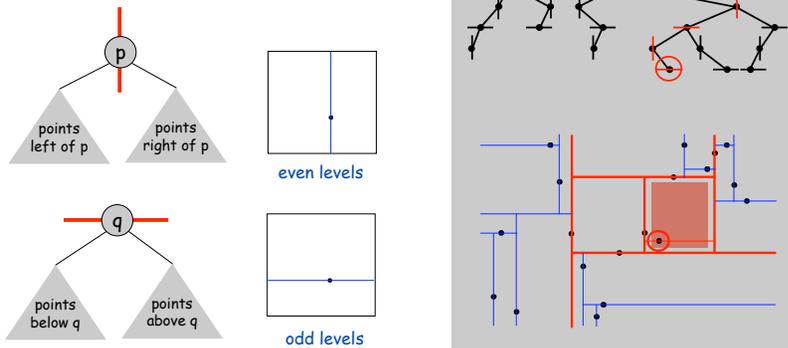
12

## 2D Trees

**2D tree.** Recursively partition plane into 2 halfplanes.

**Implementation:** BST, but alternate using x and y coordinates as key.

- Search gives rectangle containing point.
- Insert further subdivides the plane.

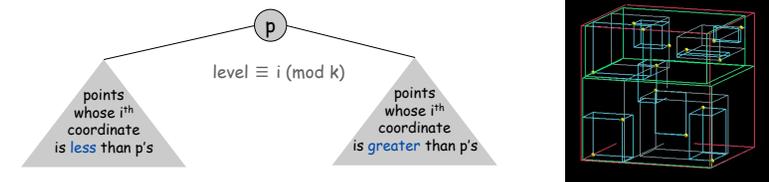


13

## kD Trees

**kD tree.** Recursively partition k-dimensional space into 2 halfspaces.

**Implementation:** BST, but cycle through dimensions ala 2D trees.



**Efficient, simple data structure for processing k-dimensional data.**

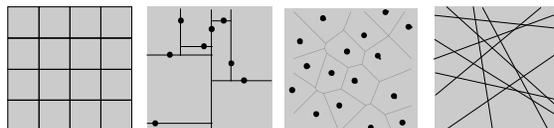
- Adapts well to clustered data.
- Adapts well to high dimensional data.
- Discovered by an undergrad in an algorithms class!

14

## Summary

**Basis of many geometric algorithms:** search in a planar subdivision.

	grid	2D tree	Voronoi diagram	intersecting lines
basis	$\sqrt{N}$ h-v lines	N points	N points	$\sqrt{N}$ lines
representation	2D array of N lists	N-node BST	N-node multilist	$\sim$ N-node BST
cells	$\sim$ N squares	N rectangles	N polygons	$\sim$ N triangles
search cost	1	log N	log N	log N
extend to kD?	too many cells	easy	cells too complicated	use (k-1)D hyperplane



15

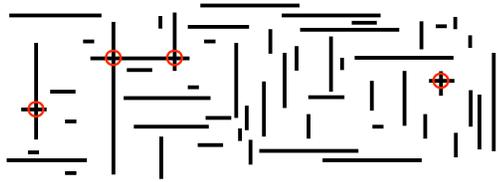
## 7.4 Geometric Intersection

## Geometric Intersection

**Problem.** Find all intersecting pairs among set of  $N$  geometric objects.

**Applications.** CAD, games, movies, virtual reality.

**Simple version:** 2D, all objects are horizontal or vertical **line segments**.



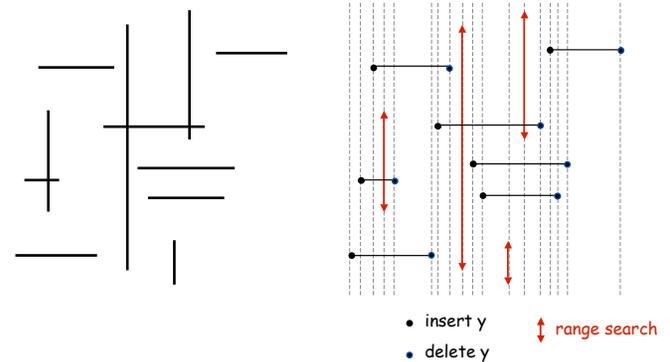
**Brute force.** Test all  $\Theta(N^2)$  pairs of line segments for intersection.

**Sweep line.** Efficient solution extends to 3D and general objects.

## Orthogonal Segment Intersection: Sweep Line Algorithm

**Sweep vertical line from left to right.**

- Event times:  $x$ -coordinates of h-v line segments.
- Left endpoint of h-segment: insert  $y$  coordinate into ST.
- Right endpoint of h-segment: remove  $y$  coordinate from ST.
- v-segment: range search for interval of  $y$  endpoints.



17

18

## Orthogonal Segment Intersection: Sweep Line Algorithm

**Sweep line:** reduces 2D orthogonal segment intersection problem to 1D range searching!

**Running time of sweep line algorithm.**

- |   |                   |  |
|---|-------------------|--|
| ▪ Put $x$ -coordinates on a PQ (or sort). | $O(N \log N)$     | $N = \# \text{ line segments}$<br>$R = \# \text{ intersections}$ |
| ▪ Insert $y$ -coordinate into ST.         | $O(N \log N)$     |  |
| ▪ Delete $y$ -coordinate from ST.         | $O(N \log N)$     |  |
| ▪ Range search.                           | $O(R + N \log N)$ |  |

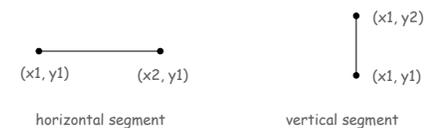
Efficiency relies on judicious use of data structures.

## Immutable H-V Segment ADT

```
public final class SegmentHV implements Comparable<SegmentHV> {
    public final int x1, y1;
    public final int x2, y2;

    public SegmentHV(int x1, int y1, int x2, int y2)
    public boolean isHorizontal() { ... }
    public boolean isVertical() { ... }
    public int compareTo(SegmentHV b) { ... }
    public String toString() { ... }
}
```

compare by  $y$ -coordinate;  
break ties by  $x$ -coordinate



19

20

## Sweep Line Event

```
public class Event implements Comparable<Event> {
    int time;
    SegmentHV segment;

    public Event(int time, SegmentHV segment) {
        this.time = time;
        this.segment = segment;
    }

    public int compareTo(Event b) {
        return a.time - b.time;
    }
}
```

21

## Sweep Line Algorithm: Initialize Events

```
// initialize events
MinPQ<Event> pq = new MinPQ<Event>();
for (int i = 0; i < N; i++) {
    if (segments[i].isVertical()) {
        Event e = new Event(segments[i].x1, segments[i]);
        pq.insert(e);
    }
    else if (segments[i].isHorizontal()) {
        Event e1 = new Event(segments[i].x1, segments[i]);
        Event e2 = new Event(segments[i].x2, segments[i]);
        pq.insert(e1);
        pq.insert(e2);
    }
}
```

22

## Sweep Line Algorithm: Simulate the Sweep Line

```
// simulate the sweep line
int INF = Integer.MAX_VALUE;
RangeSearch<SegmentHV> st = new RangeSearch<SegmentHV>();
while (!pq.isEmpty()) {
    Event e = pq.delMin();
    int sweep = e.time;
    SegmentHV segment = e.segment;

    if (segment.isVertical()) {
        SegmentHV seg1, seg2;
        seg1 = new SegmentHV(-INF, segment.y1, -INF, segment.y1);
        seg2 = new SegmentHV(+INF, segment.y2, +INF, segment.y2);
        Iterable<SegmentHV> list = st.range(seg1, seg2);
        for (SegmentHV seg : list)
            System.out.println(segment + " intersects " + seg);
    }

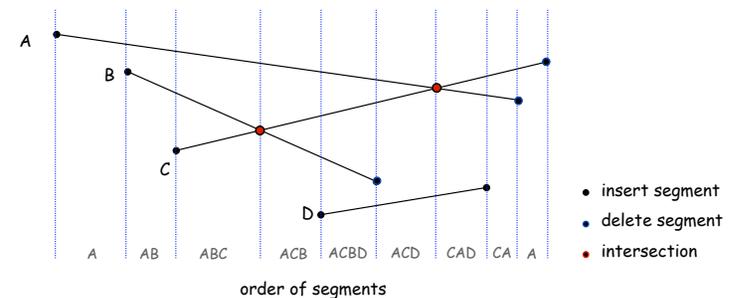
    else if (sweep == segment.x1) st.add(segment);
    else if (sweep == segment.x2) st.remove(segment);
}
```

23

## General Line Segment Intersection

Use horizontal sweep line moving from left to right.

- Maintain **order** of segments that intersect sweep line by y-coordinate.
- Intersections can only occur between adjacent segments.
- Add/delete line segment  $\Rightarrow$  one new pair of adjacent segments.
- Intersection  $\Rightarrow$  two new pairs of adjacent segments.



24

## Line Segment Intersection: Implementation

### Efficient implementation of sweep line algorithm.

- Maintain PQ of important x-coordinates: endpoints and **intersections**.
- Maintain ST of segments intersecting sweep line, sorted by y.
- $O(R \log N + N \log N)$ .

### Implementation issues.

- Degeneracy.
- Floating point precision.
- Use PQ since intersection events aren't known ahead of time.

## VLSI Rules Checking

---

25

Robert Sedgwick and Kevin Wayne · Copyright © 2005 · <http://www.Princeton.EDU/~cos226>

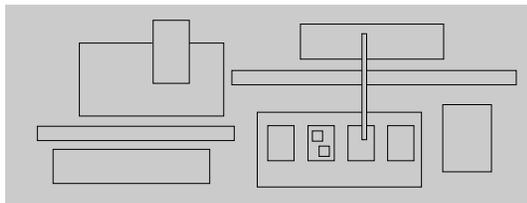
## Algorithms and Moore's Law

**Rectangle intersection.** Find all intersections among h-v **rectangles**.

**Application.** VLSI rules checking in microprocessor design.

**Early 1970s:** microprocessor design became a geometric problem.

- Very Large Scale Integration (VLSI).
- Computer-Aided Design (CAD).
- Design-rule checking.



27

## Algorithms and Moore's Law

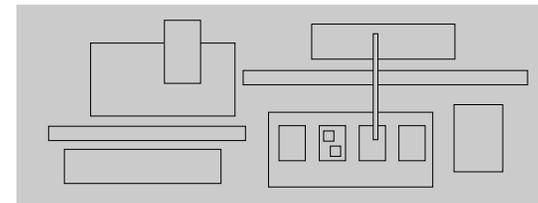
**"Moore's Law."** Processing power doubles every 18 months.

- 197x: need to check  $N$  rectangles.
- 197(x+1.5): need to check  $2N$  rectangles on a 2x-faster computer.

**Quadratic algorithm.** Compare each rectangle against all others.

- 197x: takes  $M$  days.
- 197(x+1.5): takes  $(4M)/2 = 2M$  days. (!)

**Need**  $O(N \log N)$  CAD algorithms to sustain Moore's Law.

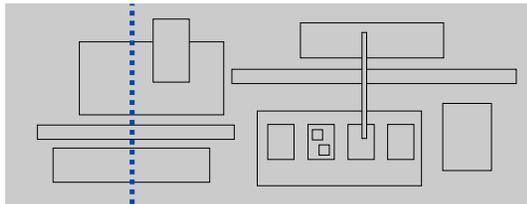


28

## VLSI Database Problem

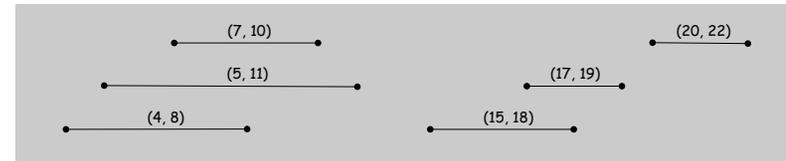
Move a vertical "sweep line" from left to right.

- Sweep line: sort rectangles by x-coordinate and process in this order, stopping on left and right endpoints.
- Maintain set of **intervals** intersecting sweep line.
- Key operation: given a new interval, does it intersect one in the set?



29

## Interval Search Trees



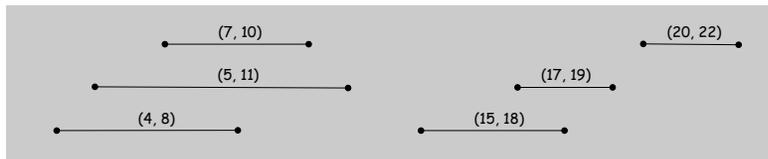
Support following operations.

- **Insert** an interval  $(lo, hi)$ .
- **Delete** the interval  $(lo, hi)$ .
- **Search** for an interval that intersects  $(lo, hi)$ .

**Non-degeneracy assumption.** No intervals have the same x-coordinate.

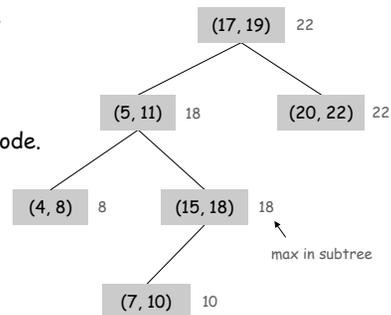
30

## Interval Search Trees



Interval tree implementation with BST.

- Each BST node stores one interval.
- BST nodes sorted on  $lo$  endpoint.
- **Additional info:** store and maintain max endpoint in subtree rooted at node.



32

## Finding an Intersecting Interval

**Search** for an interval that intersects  $(lo, hi)$ .

```
Node x = root;
while (x != null) {
  if (x.interval.intersects(lo, hi)) return x.interval;
  else if (x.left == null) x = x.right;
  else if (x.left.max < lo) x = x.right;
  else x = x.left;
}
return null;
```

**Case 1.** If search goes right, no overlap in left.

- $(x.left == null) \Rightarrow$  trivial.
- $(x.left.max < lo) \Rightarrow$  for any interval  $(a, b)$  in left subtree of  $x$ , we have  $b \leq \max < lo$ .



33

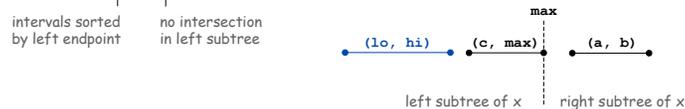
## Finding an Intersecting Interval

Search for an interval that intersects  $(lo, hi)$ .

```
Node x = root;
while (x != null) {
  if (x.interval.intersects(lo, hi)) return x.interval;
  else if (x.left == null) x = x.right;
  else if (x.left.max < lo) x = x.right;
  else x = x.left;
}
return null;
```

**Case 2.** If search goes left, then either (i) there is an intersection in left subtree or (ii) no intersections in either subtree.

**Pf.** Suppose no intersection in left. Then for any interval  $(a, b)$  in right subtree,  $a \geq c > hi \Rightarrow$  no intersection in right.



34

## Interval Search Tree: Analysis

**Implementation.** Use a balanced BST to guarantee performance.

can maintain auxiliary information using  $\log N$  extra work per op

Operation	Worst case
insert interval	$\log N$
delete interval	$\log N$
find an interval that intersects $(lo, hi)$	$\log N$
find all intervals that intersect $(lo, hi)$	$R \log N$

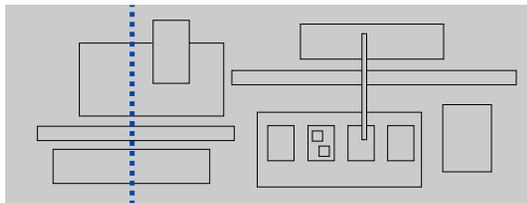
$N = \#$  intervals  
 $R = \#$  intersections

35

## VLSI Database Sweep Line Algorithm: Review

Move a vertical "sweep line" from left to right.

- Sweep line: sort rectangles by x-coordinates and process in this order.
- Store set of rectangles that intersect the sweep line in an interval search tree (using y-interval of rectangle).
- Left side: interval search for y-interval of rectangle, insert y-interval.
- Right side: delete y-interval.



36

## VLSI Database Problem: Sweep Line Algorithm

**Sweep line:** reduces 2D orthogonal rectangle intersection problem to 1D interval searching!

**Running time of sweep line algorithm.**

- Sort by x-coordinate.  $O(N \log N)$
- Insert y-interval into ST.  $O(N \log N)$
- Delete y-interval from ST.  $O(N \log N)$
- Interval search.  $O(R \log N)$

$N = \#$  line segments  
 $R = \#$  intersections

Efficiency relies on judicious **extension** of BST.

37