GEOMETRIC APPLICATIONS OF BSTs

- 1d range search
- line segment intersection
- k-d trees
- context

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Overview

This lecture. Intersections among geometric objects.

Applications. CAD, games, movies, virtual reality, databases, GIS, ...

Efficient solutions. Binary search trees (and extensions).
Overview

This lecture. Only the tip of the iceberg.
GEOMETRIC APPLICATIONS OF BSTs

- 1d range search
- line segment intersection
- k-d trees
1d range search

Extension of ordered symbol table.
- Insert key–value pair.
- Search for key $k$.
- Delete key $k$ (and associated value).
- **Range search**: find all keys between $k_1$ and $k_2$.
- **Range count**: number of keys between $k_1$ and $k_2$.

**Application.** Database queries.

Geometric interpretation.
- Keys are point on a line.
- Find/count points in a given 1d interval.

```
• • • • • [ • • • • ] • • • • •
```

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

Suppose that the keys are stored in a sorted array of length $n$.
What is the worst-case running time for range search as a function of both $m$ and $n$?

A. $\Theta(\log m)$
B. $\Theta(\log n)$
C. $\Theta(\log n + m)$
D. $\Theta(m + n)$
1d range search: elementary implementations

Unordered list. Slow insert; slow range search.

Sorted array. Slow insert; fast range search.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>data structure</th>
<th>insert</th>
<th>range count</th>
<th>range search</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>unordered list</td>
<td>( n )</td>
<td>( n )</td>
<td>( n )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sorted array</td>
<td>( n )</td>
<td>( \log n )</td>
<td>( \log n + m )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>goal</td>
<td>( \log n )</td>
<td>( \log n )</td>
<td>( \log n + m )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\( m = \text{number of keys that match} \)
\( n = \text{number of keys} \)
1d range search: BST implementation

1d range search. Find all keys between $k_1$ and $k_2$.
- Recursively find all keys in left subtree (if any could fall in range).
- Check key in current node.
- Recursively find all keys in right subtree (if any could fall in range).

Proposition. Takes $\Theta(\log n + m)$ time in the worst case.

Pf. Nodes examined = \{ search path to $k_1$ \} $\cup$ \{ search path to $k_2$ \} $\cup$ \{ matches \}.

assuming BST is balanced
1d range search: summary of performance

Unordered list. Slow insert; slow range search.

Sorted array. Slow insert; fast range search.

BST. Fast insert; fast range search/count.

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<tr>
<td>unordered list</td>
<td>$n$</td>
<td>$n$</td>
<td>$n$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sorted array</td>
<td>$n$</td>
<td>log $n$</td>
<td>log $n + m$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>balanced BST</td>
<td>log $n$</td>
<td>log $n$</td>
<td>log $n + m$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

via rank() method

$m$ = number of keys that match
$n$ = number of keys
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Orthogonal line segment intersection

Given \( n \) horizontal and vertical line segments, find all intersections.

**Brute-force \( \Theta(n^2) \) algorithm.** Check all pairs of line segments for intersection.
Microprocessors and geometry

Early 1970s. microprocessor design became a geometric problem.
  • Very Large Scale Integration (VLSI).
  • Computer–Aided Design (CAD).

Design–rule checking.
  • Certain wires cannot intersect.
  • Certain spacing needed between different types of wires.
  • Debugging = line segment (or rectangle) intersection.
Orthogonal line segment intersection: sweep-line algorithm

**Non-degeneracy assumption.** All $x$- and $y$-coordinates are distinct.
Orthogonal line segment intersection: sweep-line algorithm

Sweep vertical line from left to right. \( [x\text{-coordinates define events} ] \)
- Horizontal segment (left endpoint): insert \( y \)-coordinate into BST.
- Horizontal segment (right endpoint): remove \( y \)-coordinate from BST.
- Vertical segment: range search for interval of \( y \)-endpoints.
Orthogonal line segment intersection: sweep-line analysis

**Proposition.** The sweep-line algorithm takes $\Theta(n \log n + m)$ time in the worst case to find all $m$ intersections among $n$ horizontal and vertical line segments.

**Pf.**
- Sort $x$-coordinates. \[ n \log n \]
- Insert $y$-coordinates into BST. \[ n \log n \]
- Delete $y$-coordinates from BST. \[ n \log n \]
- Range searches in BST. \[ n \log n + m \]

\[ (\log n + m_1) + (\log n + m_2) + (\log n + m_3) + \ldots \]

$n \log n$ and $m$ are incomparable (neither is a lower-order term)

**Bottom line.** Sweep line reduces 2d orthogonal line segment intersection to 1d range search.
The sweep-line algorithm is a powerful technique in computational geometry.

**Geometric intersection.**

- General line-segment intersection.
- Axis-aligned rectangle intersection.
- ...

**More problems.**

- Convex hull (Andrew’s algorithm).
- Voronoi diagram (Fortune’s algorithm).
- Rendering computer graphics (scanline algorithm).
- ...

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**Sweep-line algorithm: context**

The sweep-line algorithm is a powerful technique in computational geometry.
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Two-dimensional orthogonal range search

Extension of ordered symbol table to 2d keys.

- Insert a 2d key.
- Search for a 2d key.
- **2d orthogonal range search**: find all keys that lie in a 2d range.
- **2d orthogonal range count**: number of keys that lie in a 2d range.

Applications. Networking, circuit design, databases, ...

Geometric interpretation.

- Keys are point in the plane.
- Find/count points in a given \( h \times v \) rectangle.

\[ \text{rectangle is axis-aligned} \]
Use a tree to represent a recursive subdivision of 2d space.

**Grid.** Divide space uniformly into squares.

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

**2d tree.** Recursively divide space into two halfplanes.

**BSP tree.** Recursively divide space into two regions.
Space-partitioning trees: applications

Applications.
- Ray tracing.
- Flight simulators.
- N-body simulation.
- Collision detection.
- Astronomical databases.
- Nearest neighbor search.
- Adaptive mesh generation.
- 2d orthogonal range search.
- Accelerate rendering in Doom.
- Hidden surface removal and shadow casting.
2d tree construction

Recursively partition plane into two halfplanes.
Geometric applications of BSTs: quiz 2

Where to insert point K in the 2d tree below?

A. Left child of G.
B. Left child of J.
C. Right child of J.
D. Right child of I.
**2d tree implementation**

**Data structure.** BST, but alternate using $x$- and $y$-coordinates as key.

- Even levels: compare $x$-coordinates.
- Odd levels: compare $y$-coordinates.
**Goal.** Find all points in a query rectangle.
- Check if query rectangle contains point in node.
- Recursively search left/bottom and right/top subtrees.
- Optimization: prune subtree if it can’t contain a point in rectangle.
2d tree demo: range search

**Goal.** Find all points in a query rectangle.
- Check if query rectangle contains point in node.
- Recursively search left/bottom and right/top subtrees.
- Optimization: prune subtree if it can’t contain a point in rectangle.
Geometric applications of BSTs: quiz 4

Suppose we explore the right/top subtree before the left/bottom subtree in range search. What effect would it have on typical inputs?

A. Returns wrong answer.
B. Explores more nodes.
C. Both A and B.
D. Neither A nor B.
Range search in a 2d tree analysis

Typical case. $\Theta(\log n + m)$.

Worst case (assuming tree is balanced). $\Theta(\sqrt{n} + m)$. 

query rectangle
**Goal.** Find closest point to query point.
2d tree demo: nearest neighbor

- Check distance from point in node to query point.
- Recursively search left/bottom and right/top subtrees.
- Optimization 1: prune subtree if it can’t contain a closer point.
- Optimization 2: explore subtree toward the query point first.

query point

nearest neighbor = E
Suppose we always explore the left/bottom subtree before the right/top subtree in nearest-neighbor search. What effect will it have on typical inputs?

A. Returns wrong answer.
B. Explores more nodes.
C. Both A and B.
D. Neither A nor B.
Which of the following is a worst-case input for nearest-neighbor search?

A. 

B. 

C. 

D. 
Nearest neighbor search in a 2d tree analysis

Typical case. \( \Theta(\log n) \).

Worst case (even if tree is balanced). \( \Theta(n) \).
Q. How to implement a 2d-tree?
A. Explicit node data type for binary tree.

```java
private class KdTreeST<Valuel {
    private Node root;

    private class Node {
        private Point2D p;
        private Value val;

        private Node left, right;
        private Node parent;

        private RectHV rect;
        ...
    }
    ...
}
```

very useful for 2D range search and nearest neighbor search

each node stores a rectangle corresponding to subdivision of plane

see Assignment 4
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K-d tree

**K-d tree.** Recursively partition $k$-dimensional space into 2 halfspaces.

**Implementation.** BST, but cycle through dimensions à la 2d trees.

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

- Widely used.
- Adapts well to high-dimensional and clustered data.
- Discovered by an undergrad in an algorithms class!
Flocking birds

Q. Which “natural algorithm” do starlings, migrating geese, cranes, bait balls of fish, and flashing fireflies use to flock?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XH-groCeKbE
Flocking boids [Craig Reynolds, 1986]

**Boids.** Three simple rules lead to complex emergent flocking behavior:

- **Flock centering (cohesion):** move toward the center of mass of $k$ nearest boids.
- **Direction matching (alignment):** update velocity toward average velocity of $k$ nearest boids.
- **Collision avoidance (separation):** point away from $k$ nearest boids.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nbbd5uby0sY
N-body simulation

**Goal.** Simulate the motion of $n$ particles, mutually affected by gravity.

**Brute force.** For each pair of particles, compute force: $F = \frac{G m_1 m_2}{r^2}$

**Running time.** Time per step is $\Theta(n^2)$.
Appel’s algorithm for n-body simulation

Key idea. Suppose that a particle is in a galaxy far, far away from a cluster of particles.
- Treat the cluster of particles as a single aggregate particle.
- Compute force between particle and center of mass of aggregate.
Appel’s algorithm for n-body simulation

- Build 3d-tree with \( n \) particles as nodes.
- Store center-of-mass of subtree in each node.
- To compute total force acting on a particle, traverse tree, but stop as soon as distance from particle to subdivision is sufficiently large.

Impact. Running time per step is \( O(n \log n) \) \( \Rightarrow \) enables new research.
## Geometric applications of BSTs

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<th>example</th>
<th>solution</th>
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<td><em>binary search tree</em></td>
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<td>2d orthogonal line</td>
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<td>segment intersection</td>
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<td><em>(reduces to 1d range search)</em></td>
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