

# Geometric Search

range search  
intersections of geometric objects  
near-neighbor search  
point location

## Geometric search: overview

Types of data

- points, lines, planes; polygons, circles, ...

SETS of N objects

Problems extend to higher dimensions

- good algorithms also extend to higher dimensions

Higher level intrinsic structures arise (ex: convex hull)

Basic problems

- range search
- intersections
- near neighbor search

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## Range search (1D)

Useful extension to symbol-table ADT  
for records with numeric keys

- create
- insert
- search
- test if empty
- ➔ • range search: how many records have key values that fall within a given range?

Change semantics of search

- require initial call to range search (count items in successful search)
- return items in successive search calls

Typical client code:

```
cnt = STRange(L, R);
for (i = 0; i < cnt; i++)
{
    x = STsearch();
    /* process x */
}
```

Application: database queries

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```
ST.h
void STinit();
void STinsert(Item);
Item STsearch(); ← no arg
int STempty();
int STRange(Key, Key)
```

ST interface in C

```
insert B      B
insert D      BD
insert A      ABD
insert I      ABDEI
insert E      ABDEI
insert A      AABDEI
insert H      AABDEHI
insert F      AABDEFHI
range E to H  3
search       E
search       F
search       H
```

## Range search (1D) implementations

Ordered array

- slow insert
- binary search on both interval endpoints for range
- increment and test index for search

Hash table

- no reasonable algorithm (key order lost in hash)

BST

- search on both endpoints for range (need threads for fast search)

	insert	range	search
ordered array	N	lg N	1
hash table	1	N	N
BST	lg N	lg N	1

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## 1D range search BST implementation

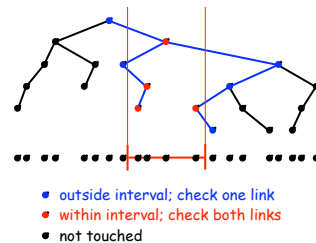
Recursively search all subtrees that **could have** keys in range

- if key at root is **within** range
  - increment global counter
  - search **both** subtrees
- if key at root is **left** of range, no need to search **left** subtree
- if key at root is **right** of range, no need to search **right** subtree

Slightly simpler logic:

- not left** implies within or right, so search **left**
- not right** implies within or left, so search **right**

```
int count;
int BSTRangeR(link h, Key L, Key R)
{
    int txL = (h->key >= L); // not left of range
    int txR = (h->key <= R); // not right of range
    if (txL && (h->l != z)) BSTRangeR(h->l);
    if (txL && txR) count++;
    if (txR && (h->r != z)) BSTRangeR(h->r);
}
int BSTRange(Key L, Key R)
{
    count = 0; BSTRangeR(head, L, R);
}
```



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## Range search (2D)

Useful extension to symbol-table ADT for records with 2-dimensional keys

- create**
- insert**
- search**
- test if empty**
- ➔ **range search:** how many records have key values that fall within a given range?

```
ST.h
void STinit();
void STinsert(Item);
Item STsearch();
int STempty();
int STRange(Key, Key)
```

ST interface in C

↑  
same as for 1D

Geometric interpretation

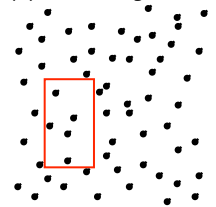
1D range search

- keys are points on the **line**
- how many points in a given **interval**?



2D range search

- keys are points in the **plane**
- how many points in a given **rectangle**?



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## 2D range search grid implementation

**init**

- divide space into  $G$ -by- $G$  squares
- create linked list for each square

**insert**

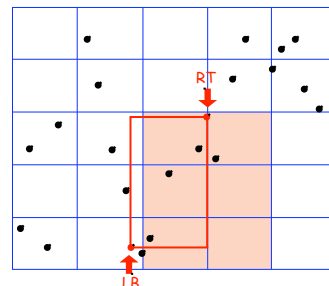
- use coordinates to index proper list
- add point to list

**range**

- use range coordinates to index squares that **could have** keys in range
- examine all records in all such squares
- if key **is** in the range, increment counter

```
typedef struct Node* link;
struct Node { Point p; link next; };
link grid[maxX/G][maxY/G];
int GRIDinit()
{
    int i, j;
    for (i = 0; i < maxX/G; i++)
        for (j = 0; j < maxY/G; j++)
            grid[i][j] = NULL;
}
int GRIDinsert(Point p)
{
    link t = malloc(sizeof *t);
    t->p = p;
    t->next = grid[p.x/G][p.y/G];
    grid[p.x/G][p.y/G] = t;
}
```

```
int count;
int GRIDrange(Point LB, Point RT)
{
    for (int i = LB.x/G; i <= RT.x/G; i++)
        for (int j = LB.y/G; j <= RT.y/G; j++)
            for (t = grid[i][j]; t != NULL; t = t->next)
                if (t->p.x >= LB.x &&
                    t->p.x <= RT.x &&
                    t->p.y >= LB.y &&
                    t->p.y <= RT.y) count++;
}
```



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## 2D range search grid implementation costs

Classic example (see Sedgewick Chapter 3)

- array:** constant-time access to list by indexing
- list:**  $O(N)$  space for sets of varying size (total size  $N$ )

Choose grid square size to tune performance

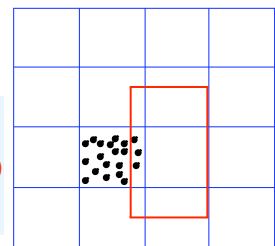
- too small: space, initialization cost too high
- too large: too many points per grid square
- rule of thumb:  $\sqrt{N}$  by  $\sqrt{N}$  grid ( $\sim N$  squares)

Time costs:

- initialize:**  $O(N)$  to initialize lists
- insert:**  $O(1)$  provided points evenly distributed
- range:**  $O(1)$  per point in range (same provision)

Simple, fast solution for well-distributed points  
BUT can be slow (points might all be in same square)

Need more flexible data structure

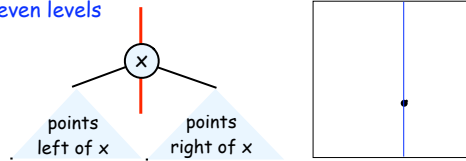


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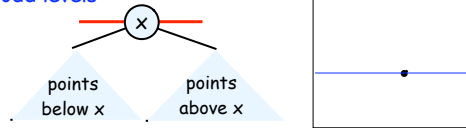
## 2D trees

Recursive search structure for 2D keys (points in the plane)  
 Standard BST, but alternate using x and y coordinates as key  
 Corresponds to **planar subdivision** useful for many geometric algorithms

even levels

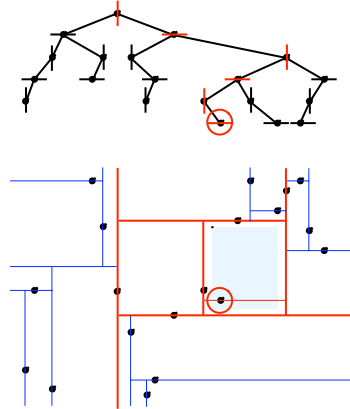


odd levels



**search** gives rectangle containing point  
**insert** further subdivides plane

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## Range search (2D) implementations

**Grid**

- clustering worst case

**kD tree**

- BST search for range  
 (need threads for fast search)

	insert	range	search
<b>random points</b>			
unordered array	1	N	N
kD tree	$\lg N$	$R + \lg N$	1
grid	1	R	1
<b>worst case points</b>			
kD tree	N	N	N
grid	1	N	N
<b>random order</b>			
grid	1	N	N
2D tree	$\lg N$	$R + \lg N$	1

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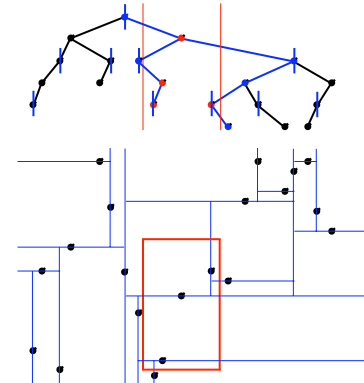
## 2D range search 2D tree implementation

Recursively search all subtrees that **could have** keys in range

- if key at root is **in** the range, increment counter
- at **even** level
  - if root's key is **left** of or **within** range, search **right** subtree
  - if root's key is **right** of or **within** range, search **left** subtree
- at **odd** level
  - if root's key is **above** or **within** range, search **lower** subtree
  - if root's key is **below** or **within** range, search **higher** subtree

```
int count;
int TDTranger(link h, Point LB, Point RT, int sw)
{
    int txL = (h->p.x >= LB.x); // not left
    int txR = (h->p.x <= RT.x); // not right
    int tyB = (h->p.y >= LB.y); // not below
    int tyT = (h->p.y <= RT.y); // not above
    t1 = sw ? txL : tyB; t2 = sw ? txR : tyT;
    if (t1 && (h->l != NULL))
        TDTranger(h->l LB, RT, !sw);
    if (txL && txR && tyB && tyT) count++;
    if (t2 && (h->r != NULL))
        TDTranger(h->r LB, RT, !sw);
}
int BSTRange(Key LB, Key RT)
{
    count = 0; BSTRanger(head, LB, RT, 0);
}
```

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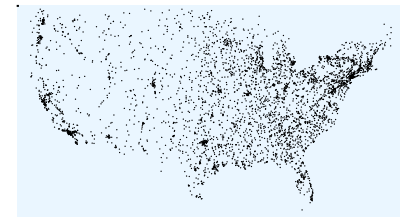


## Clustering

**Geometric data is seldom uniformly random**

**Example:** USA map data

- 80000 points, 20000 grid squares
- half the grid squares are empty
- half the points have >10 others in same grid square
- 10 percent have >99 others in same grid square



**Clustering is a well-known phenomenon even in random data**

**Problems worsen in higher dimensions**

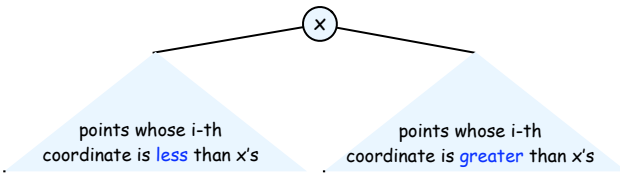
**Good clustering performance is a primary reason to choose kD trees over grid methods**

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## kD trees

Recursive search structure for **kD** keys (points in **k**-dimensional space)  
 Standard BST, but cycle through dimensions for key coordinates  
 Corresponds to **spatial subdivision** useful for many geometric algorithms

$\text{level} \equiv i \pmod{k}$



**search** gives kD parallelopiped containing point  
**insert** further subdivides space

Efficient, simple data structure for processing kD data

**Note:** 2D and kD trees were discovered by an undergraduate in an algorithms class!

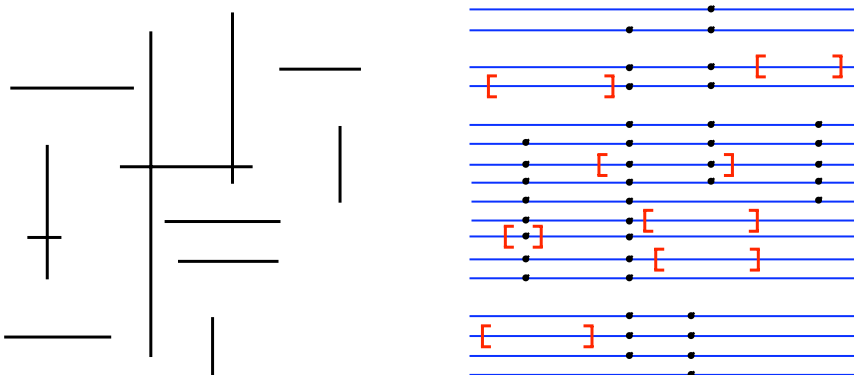
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## Fast algorithm for h-v line intersection

Use horizontal sweep line moving from top to bottom

- vertical** line segment in data is a **point** on the sweep line
- horizontal** line segment in data is an **interval** on the sweep line
- h-v intersection when points within interval

Reduces 2D h-v line intersection to 1D range searching (!)



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## Geometric intersection

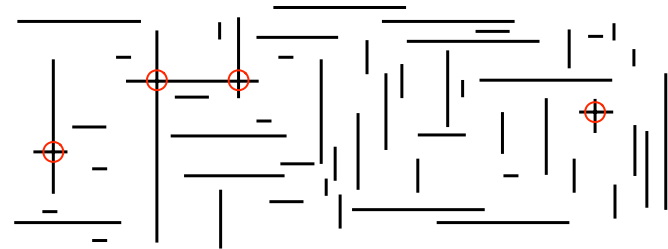
**Problem:** Find all intersecting pairs among a set of **N** geometric objects

**Applications:**

- CAD (stay tuned)
- games, movies, virtual reality

**Simplest version:**

- 2D
- all objects are horizontal or vertical line segments



Solution approach extends to 3D and general objects

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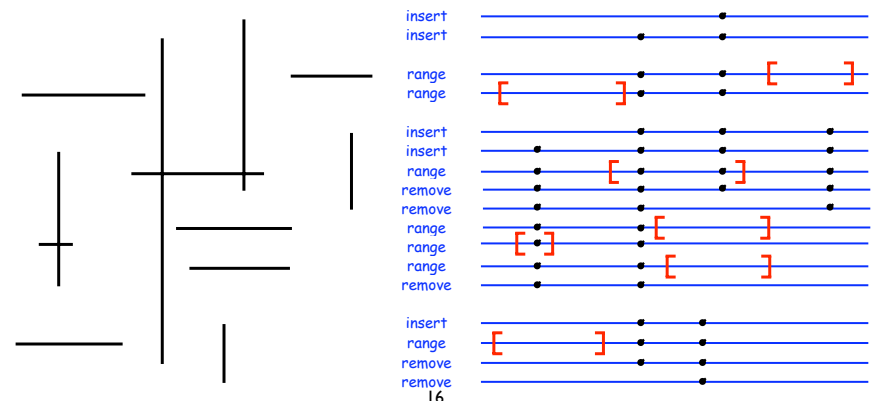
## Sweep-line h-v intersection implementation

Use **priority queue** ADT on **y** to simulate sweep line movement

Use **range search** ADT on **x** to simulate sweep line contents

Three types of events

- top of vertical:** **insert** **x** coordinate onto the sweep line
- bottom of vertical:** **remove** **x** coordinate from the sweep line
- horizontal:** **range search** on endpoints



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## Sweep-line h-v intersection implementation

Use **priority queue** ADT on y to simulate sweep line **movement**

Use **range search** ADT on x to simulate sweep line **contents**

```
PQinit(); STinit();
for (i = 0; i < N; i++)
    PQinsert(lines[i]);
while (!PQempty())
{
    t = PQdelmax();
    if (horizontal(t))
    {
        cnt = STrange(t.p0.x, t.p1.x);
        for (i = 0; i < cnt; i++)
            intersection(t, STsearch());
    }
    else if (top(t)) STinsert(t);
    else if (bottom(t)) STdelete(t);
}
```

Running time:

$O(N)$  insert and delmax ops for PQ

$O(N)$  insert, delete, and range ops for ST

Total:  $O(N \log N)$  ←  
(with suitable ADT implementations)

Same basic idea extends to handle arbitrary geometric shapes (!!)

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## Near neighbor search

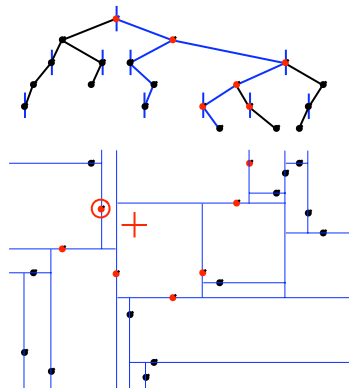
Another useful extension to symbol-table ADT  
for records with metric keys

- create
- insert
- test if empty
- ➔ • near neighbor search: which record has a key that is nearest to a given key?

Need concept of **distance** (not just less)

kD trees provide fast, elegant solution

- recursively search subtrees that could have near neighbor (may search both)
- $O(\log N)$  ?



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## Digression: algorithms and Moore's Law

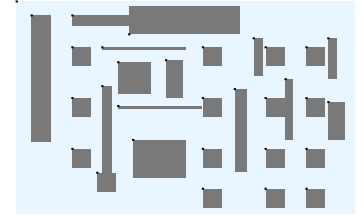
**Problem:** Find intersections in N h-v rectangles

**Solution:** Slight modification to sweep-line h-v line intersection algorithm

**Application:** microprocessor design

**early 1970s:** microprocessor design became a geometric problem

- Very Large Scale Integration
- Computer-Aided Design
- design-rule checking



**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**

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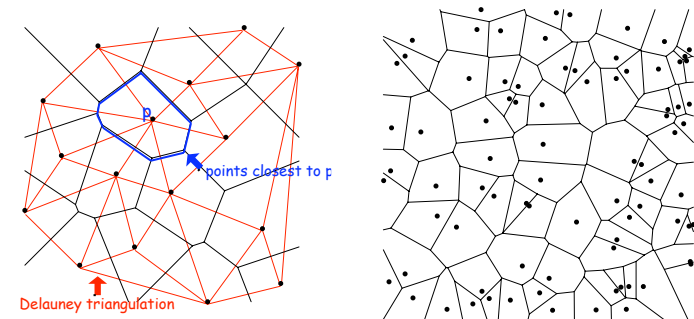
## Voronoi diagram

Ultimate near-neighbor search structure

**Voronoi region:** set of all points closest to a given point

**Voronoi diagram:** planar subdivision delineating Voronoi regions  
(note: Voronoi edges are perpendicular bisector segments)

**Delauney triangulation:** dual of Voronoi diagram (includes convex hull!!)  
edge p-q in Delauney iff p-q bisector segment in Voronoi



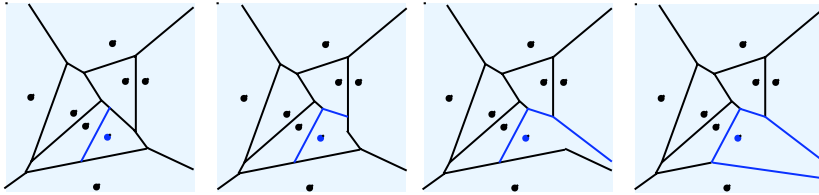
**Challenge:** compute the Voronoi

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## Adding a point to Voronoi diagram

Basis for incremental algorithms

Region containing point gives points to check to compute new Voronoi region boundaries



Main challenge in computing Voronoi: **representing it**

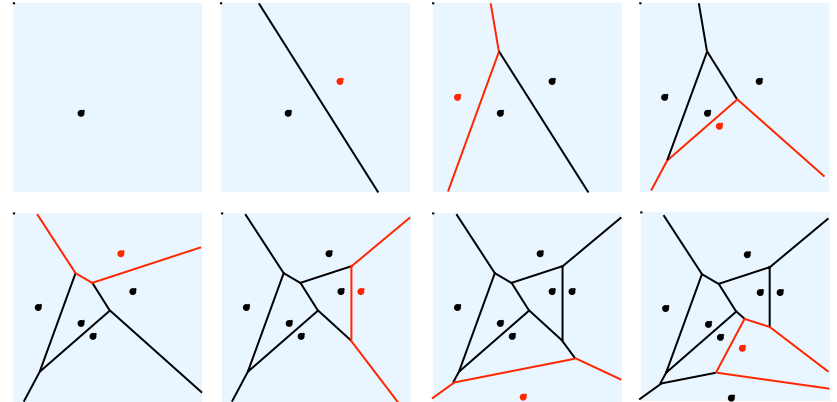
Use **multilist** associating each point with its Voronoi neighbors

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## Randomized incremental Voronoi algorithm

Add points (in random order)

- find region containing point ← use near-neighbor algorithm or (with work) Voronoi itself
- update neighbor regions, create region for new point



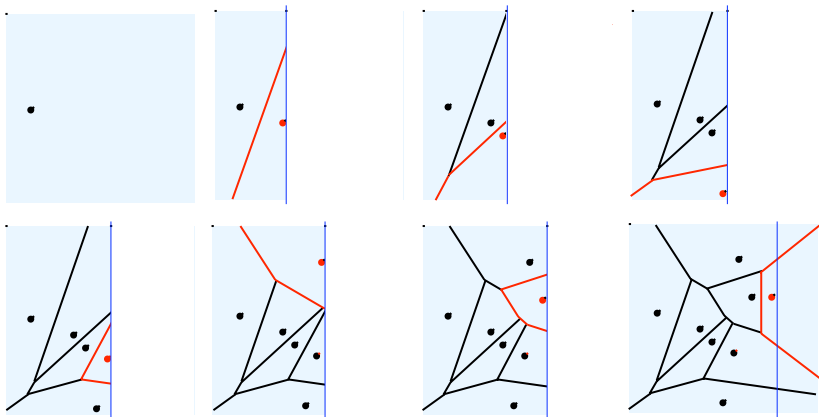
Running time:  $O(N \log N)$

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## Sweep-line Voronoi algorithm

Presort points on x-coordinate

Eliminates point location (as for convex hull)



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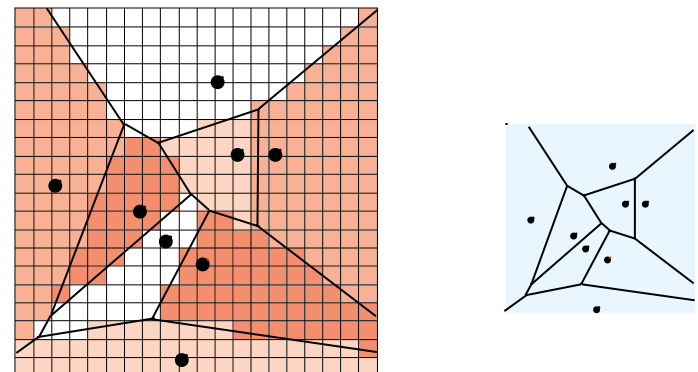
## Discretized Voronoi diagram

Use grid approach to answer near-neighbor queries in constant time

**Approach 1:** provide approximate answer (to within grid square size)

**Approach 2:** keep list of points to check in grid squares

Computation not difficult (move outward from points)



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## 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

