

Algorithms and Data Structures Lecture XIV



This Lecture

- Introduction to computational geometry
 - Algorithms
 - Points and lines in 2D space
 - *Line sweep* technique
 - Closest pair of points using divide-and-conquer
 - A peek at data structures for multidimensional range searching




Computational Geometry

- The term first appeared in the 70's
- Originally referred to computational aspects of solid/geometric modeling
- Later as the field of algorithm design and analysis of discrete geometry
- Algorithmic bases for many scientific & engineering disciplines
 - GIS, robotics, computer graphics, computer vision, CAD/CAM, VLSI design, etc.

Geometric Objects in Plane

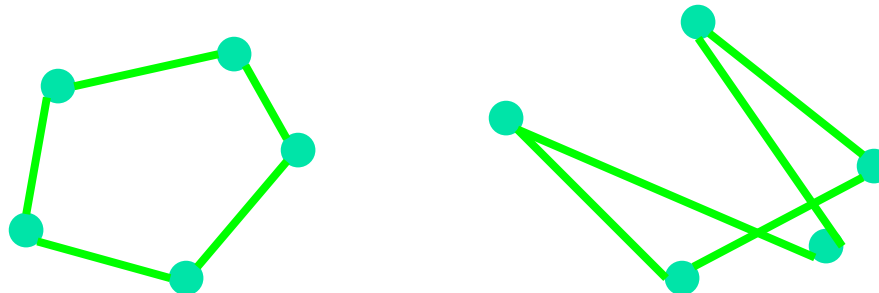
- **Point:** defined by a pair of coordinates (x,y)
- **Segment:** portion of a straight line between two points – their *convex combination*



A diagram showing a horizontal line segment in red. The left endpoint is labeled 'A' and the right endpoint is labeled 'B'. Both endpoints are marked with small red circles.

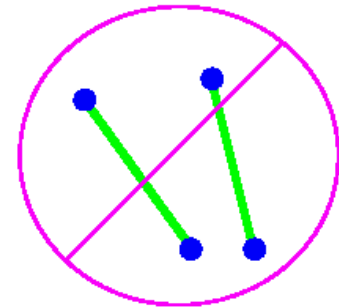
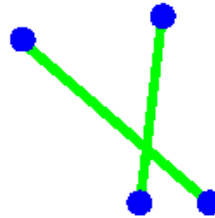
$$\begin{cases} x = \alpha x_A + (1 - \alpha) x_B \\ y = \alpha y_A + (1 - \alpha) y_B \end{cases}$$

- **Polygon:** a circular sequence of points (vertices) and segments (edges) between them

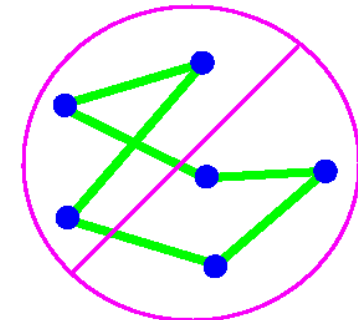
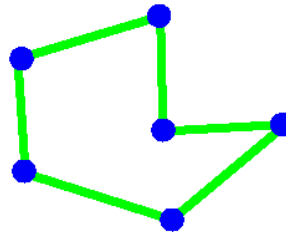


Some Geometric Problems

- **Segment intersection:** Given two segments, do they intersect?

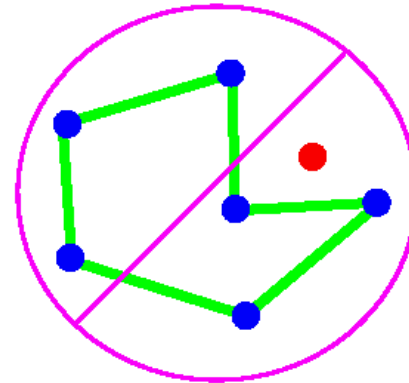
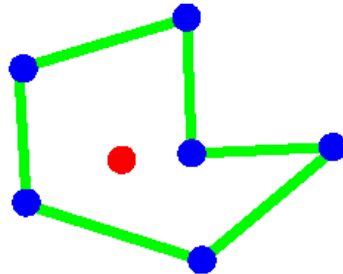


- **Simple closed path:** Given a set of points, find a non-intersecting polygon with vertices on the points



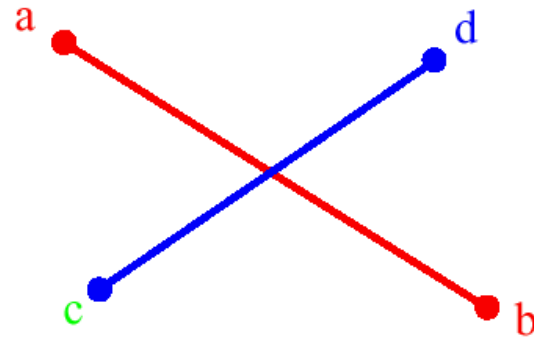
Some Geometric Problems (2)

- **Inclusion in polygon:** Is a point inside or outside a polygon?



Segment Intersection

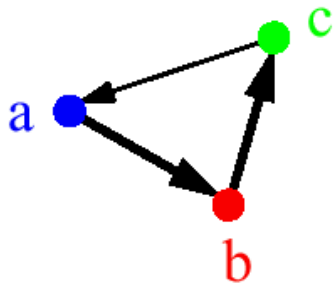
- Test whether segments (a,b) and (c,d) intersect.
How do we do it?



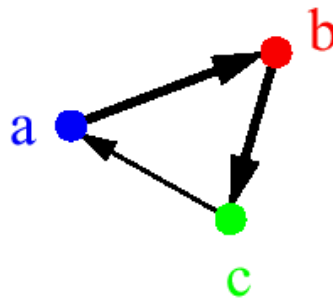
- We could start by writing down the **equations of the lines through the segments**, then test whether the lines intersect, then ...
- An alternative (and simpler) approach is based in the notion of **orientation of an ordered triplet of points** in the plane

Orientation in the Plane

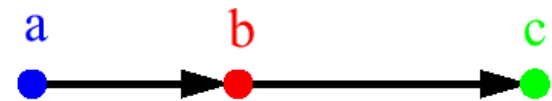
- The orientation of an ordered triplet of points in the plane can be
 - counterclockwise (left turn)
 - clockwise (right turn)
 - collinear (no turn)



counterclockwise
(left turn)



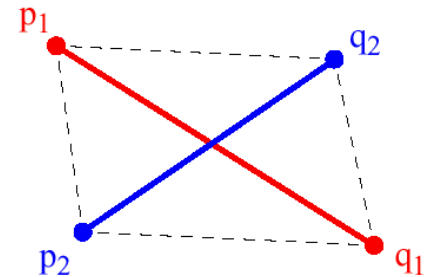
clockwise
(right turn)



collinear
(no turn)

Intersection and Orientation

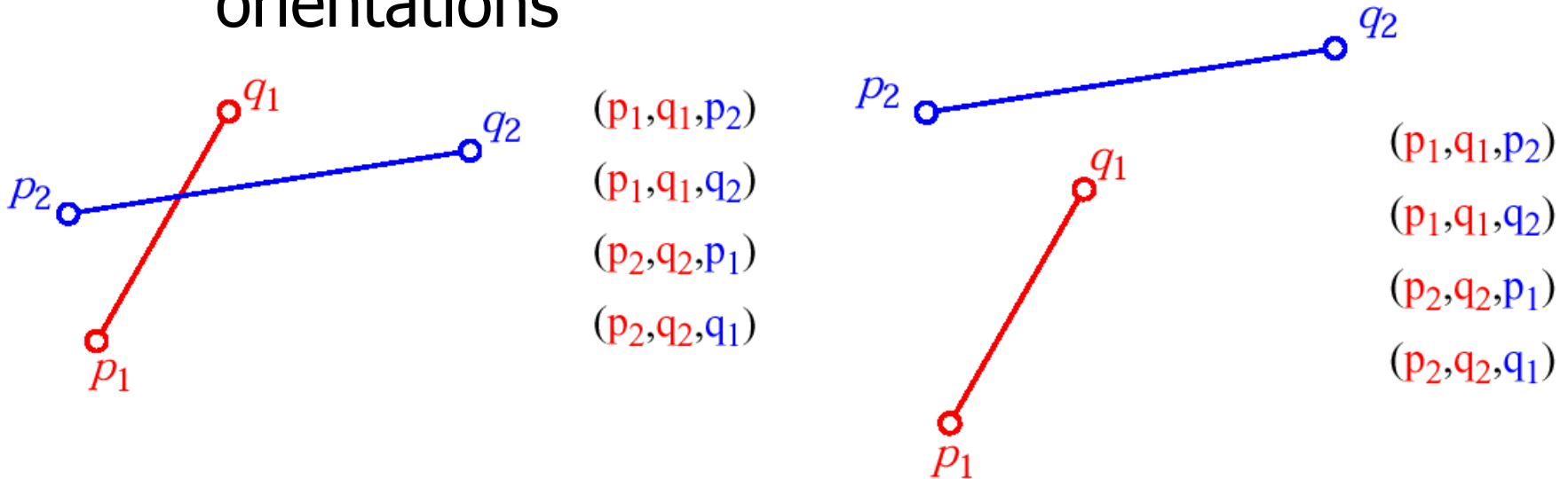
- Two segments (p_1, q_1) and (p_2, q_2) intersect if and only if one of the following two conditions is verified
- General case:
 - (p_1, q_1, p_2) and (p_1, q_1, q_2) have different orientations **and**
 - (p_2, q_2, p_1) and (p_2, q_2, q_1) have different orientations
- Special case
 - (p_1, q_1, p_2) , (p_1, q_1, q_2) , (p_2, q_2, p_1) , and (p_2, q_2, q_1) are all collinear **and**
 - the x-projections of (p_1, q_1) and (p_2, q_2) intersect
 - the y-projections of (p_1, q_1) and (p_2, q_2) intersect



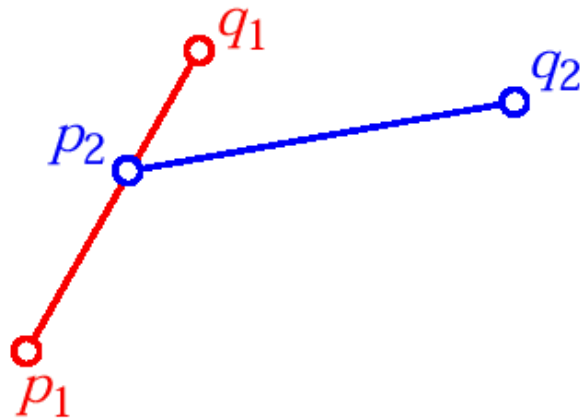
Orientation Examples

- General case:

- (p_1, q_1, p_2) and (p_1, q_1, q_2) have different orientations **and**
- (p_2, q_2, p_1) and (p_2, q_2, q_1) have different orientations



Orientation Examples (2)

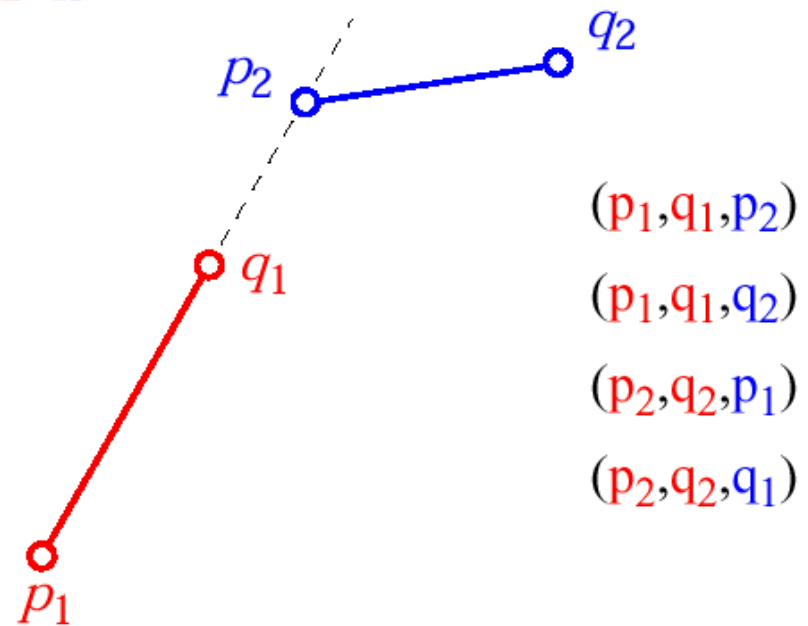


(p_1, q_1, p_2)

(p_1, q_1, q_2)

(p_2, q_2, p_1)

(p_2, q_2, q_1)



(p_1, q_1, p_2)

(p_1, q_1, q_2)

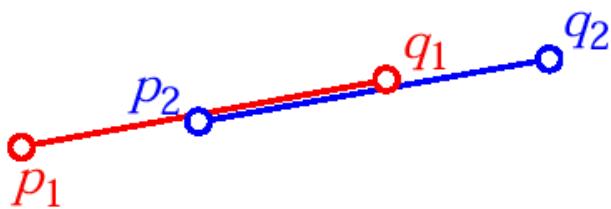
(p_2, q_2, p_1)

(p_2, q_2, q_1)

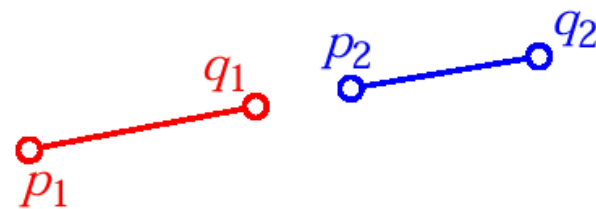
Orientation Examples (3)

- Special case

- (p_1, q_1, p_2) , (p_1, q_1, q_2) , (p_2, q_2, p_1) , and (p_2, q_2, q_1) are all collinear **and**
 - the x-projections of (p_1, q_1) and (p_2, q_2) intersect
 - the y-projections of (p_1, q_1) and (p_2, q_2) intersect



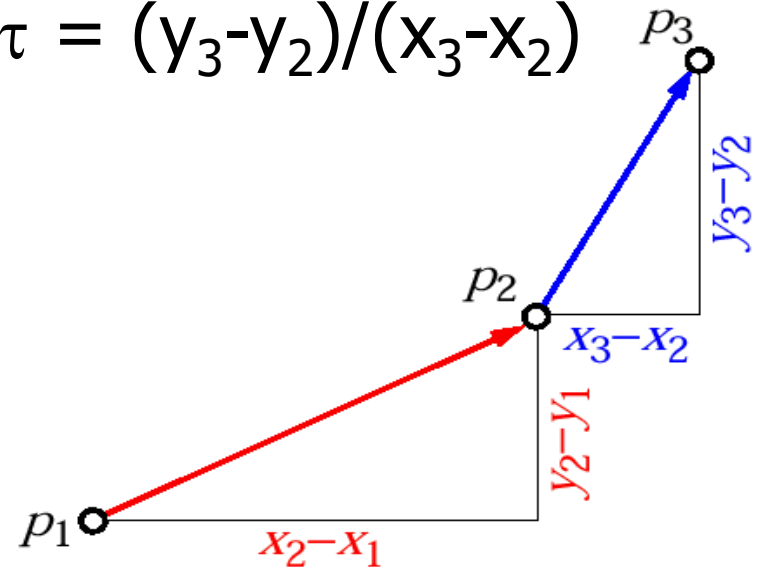
- (p_1, q_1, p_2)
- (p_1, q_1, q_2)
- (p_2, q_2, p_1)
- (p_2, q_2, q_1)



- (p_1, q_1, p_2)
- (p_1, q_1, q_2)
- (p_2, q_2, p_1)
- (p_2, q_2, q_1)

Computing the Orientation

- slope of segment (p_1, p_2) : $\sigma = (y_2 - y_1) / (x_2 - x_1)$
- slope of segment (p_2, p_3) : $\tau = (y_3 - y_2) / (x_3 - x_2)$



- Orientation test
 - counterclockwise (left turn): $\sigma < \tau$
 - clockwise (right turn): $\sigma > \tau$
 - collinear (no turn): $\sigma = \tau$



Computing the Orientation (2)

- The orientation depends on whether the following expression is positive, negative, or null

$$(y_2 - y_1)(x_3 - x_2) - (y_3 - y_2)(x_2 - x_1) = ?$$

- This is a *cross product* of two vectors

$$(x_2 - x_1, y_2 - y_1) \times (x_3 - x_2, y_3 - y_2) = \det \begin{pmatrix} x_2 - x_1 & x_3 - x_2 \\ y_2 - y_1 & y_3 - y_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

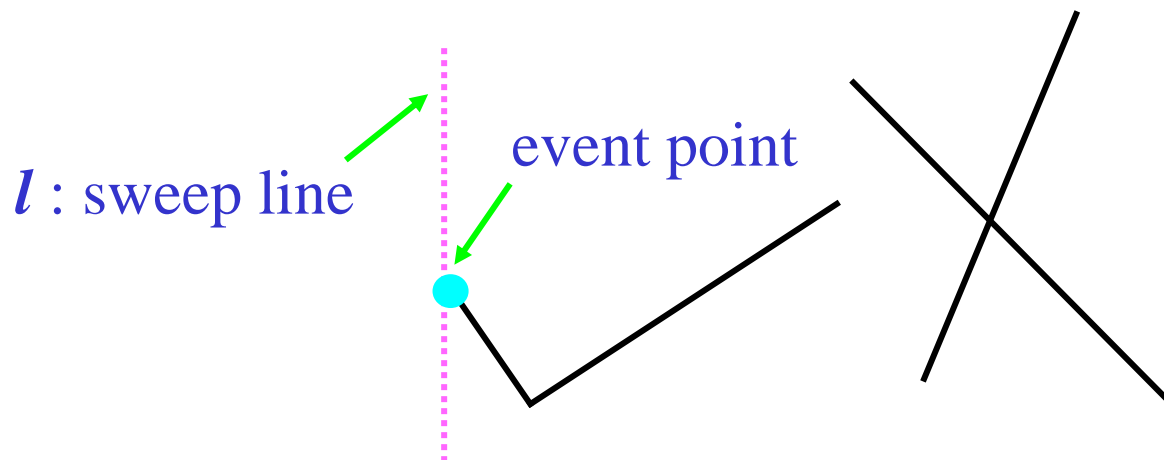


Determining Intersections

- Given a set of n segments, we want to determine whether any two line segments intersect
- A **brute force approach** would take $O(n^2)$ time (testing each with every other segment for intersection)

Determining Intersections (2)

- It can be done faster by using a powerful comp. geometry technique, called ***plane-sweeping***. Two sets of data are maintained:
 - *sweep-line status*: the set of segments intersecting the sweep line l
 - *event-point schedule*: where updates to l are required





Plane Sweeping Algorithm

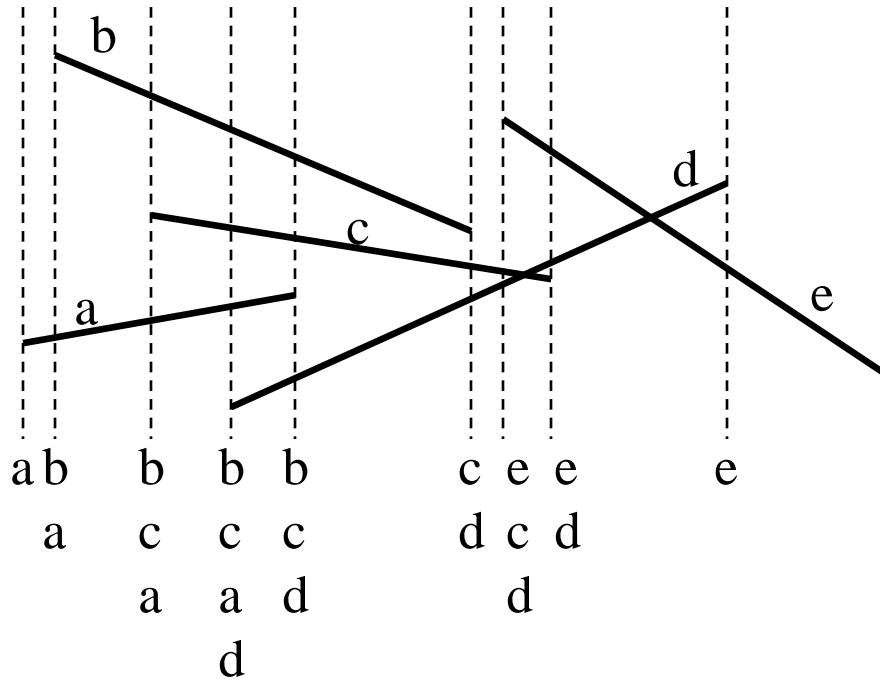
- Each segment end point is an event point
- At an event point, update the status of the sweep line & perform intersection tests
 - left end point: a new segment is added to the status of / and it's tested against the rest
 - right end point: it's deleted from the status of /
- Only testing pairs of segments for which there is a horizontal line that intersects both segments
- This might be not good enough. It may still be inefficient, $O(n^2)$ for some cases



Plane Sweep Algorithm (2)

- To include the idea of being close in the horizontal direction, only test segments that are **adjacent in the vertical direction**
- Only test a segment with the **ones above and below** (predecessor and successor, *rings a bell...*)
 - the "above-below" relationship among segments does not change unless there is an intersection
- New "status": *ordered* sequence of segments

Plane Sweeping Algorithm (3)





Pseudo Code

AnySegmentsIntersect (S)

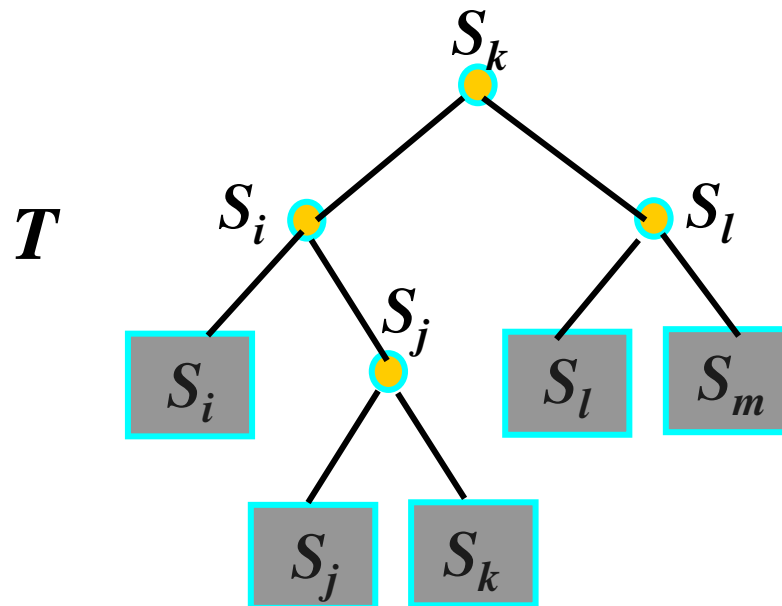
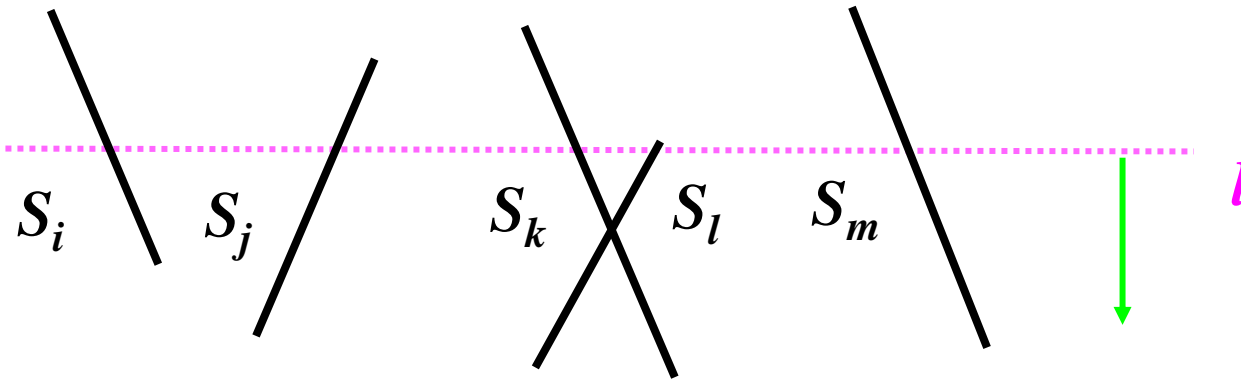
```
01 T ← ∅
02 sort the end points of the segments in S from left
   to right, breaking ties by putting points with lower
   y-coords first
03 for each point p in the sorted list of end points do
04     if p is the left end point of a segment s then
05         Insert(T,s)
06         if (Above(T,s) exists and intersects s) or
              (Below(T,s) exists and intersects s) then
07             return TRUE
08     if p is the right end point of a segment s then
09         if both Above(T,s) and Below(T,s) exist and
              Above(T,s) intersects Below(T,s) then
10             return TRUE
11         Delete(T,s)
12 return FALSE
```



Implementing Event Queue

- Define an order on event points
- Store the event points in a priority queue
 - both insertion or deletion takes $O(\log n)$ time, where n is the number of events, and fetching minimum – $O(1)$
 - For our algorithm sorted array is enough, because the set of events does not change.
- Maintain the status of $/$ using a binary search tree \mathcal{T}
 - the up-to-down order of segments on the line $/ \iff$ the left-to-right order of leaves in \mathcal{T}
 - segments in internal nodes guide search
 - each update and search takes $O(\log n)$

Status and Structure





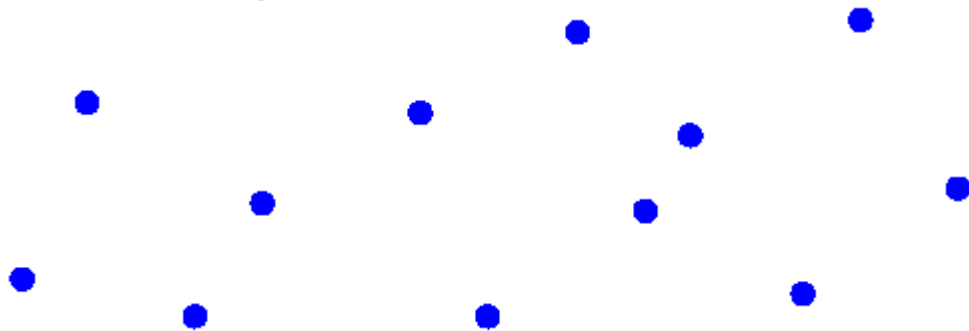
Running Time

- Sorting the segments takes $O(n \log n)$ time
- The loop is executed once for every end point ($2n$) taking each time $O(\log n)$ time (e.g., red-black tree operation)
- The total running time is $O(n \log n)$



Closest Pair


- Given a set P of N points, find $p, q \in P$, such that the distance $d(p, q)$ is minimum
- Algorithms for determining the closest pair:
 - Brute Force $O(n^2)$
 - Divide and Conquer $O(n \log n)$
 - Sweep-Line $O(n \log n)$






Brute Force

- Compute all the distances $d(p, q)$ and select the minimum distance
- Running time **$O(n^2)$**

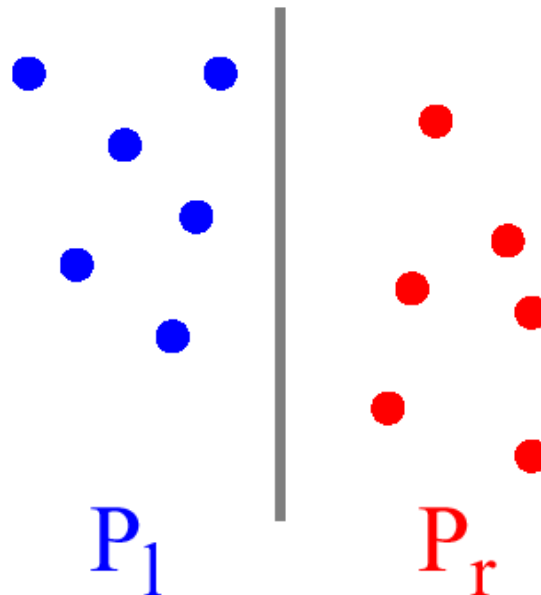
 (x_1, y_1)
 p_1

(x_2, y_2)

 p_2

$$d(p_1, p_2) = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$$

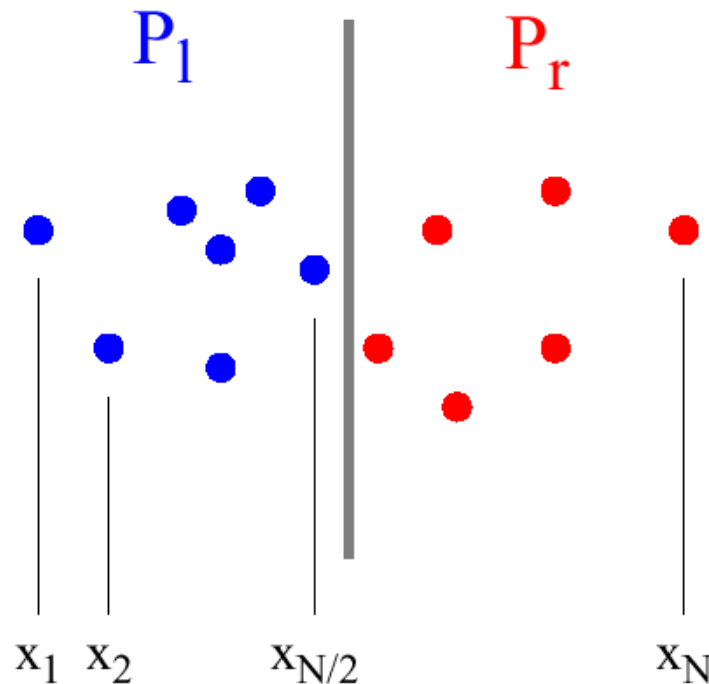
Divide and Conquer

- **Sort points** on the x-coordinate and **divide them in half**
- Closest pair is either in one of the halves or has a member in each half



Divide and Conquer (2)

- **Phase 1:** Sort the points by their x-coordinate
- $p_1 p_2 \dots p_{n/2} \dots p_{n/2+1} \dots p_n$



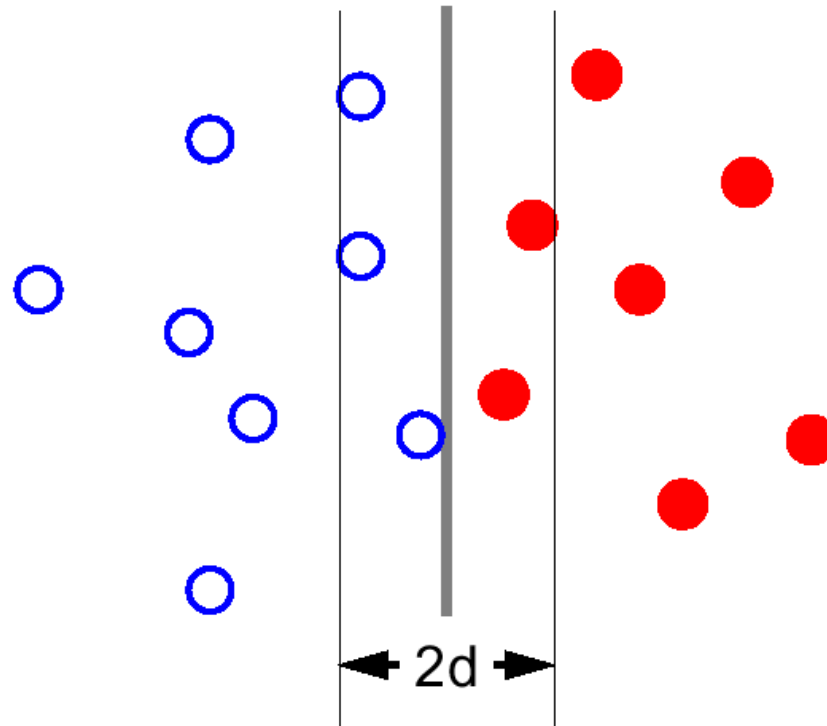


Divide and Conquer (3)

- **Phase 2:** Recursively compute closest pairs and minimum distances,
 - d_l, d_r in
 - $P_l = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{n/2}\}$
 - $P_r = \{p_{n/2+1}, \dots, p_n\}$
- Find the closest pair and closest distance in central strip of width $2d$, where
 - $d = \min(d_l, d_r)$
- in other words...

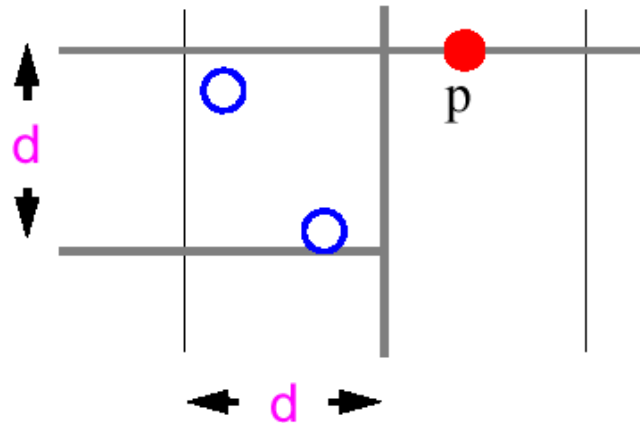
Divide and Conquer (4)

- Find the closest (○, ●) pair in a strip of width $2d$, knowing that no (○, ○) or (●, ●) pair is closer than d



Combining Two Solutions

- For each point p in the strip, check distances $d(p, q)$, where p and q are of different colors and:
$$y(p) - d \leq y(q) \leq y(p)$$



- There are no more than four such points!



Running Time

- Sorting by the y-coordinate at each conquering step yields the following recurrence

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= 2T(n/2) + n \log n \\T(1) &= 1\end{aligned}$$

$$O(n \log^2 n)$$

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= 2T(n/2) + n \log n \\&= 4T(n/4) + 2(n/2) \log(n/2) + n \log n \\&= 4T(n/4) + n(\log n - 1) + n \log n \\&\dots \\&= 2^k T(n/2^k) + n(\log n + (\log n - 1) + \dots + (\log n - k + 1)) \\&\dots \\&\text{stop when } n/2^k = 1; k = \log n \\&= n + n(1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + \log n) \\&= n + n((\log n + 1) \log n) / 2\end{aligned}$$



Improved Algorithm

- The idea: **Sort** all the points by y-coordinate **once**
- Before recursive calls, **partition the sorted list** into two sorted sublists for the left and right halves

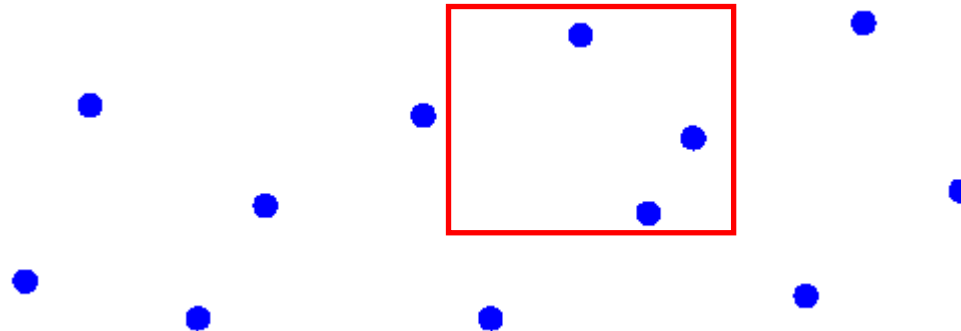


Running Time

- Phase 1:
 - Sort by x and y coordinate:
 - $O(n \log n)$
- Phase 2:
 - Partition: $O(n)$
 - Recur: $2T(n/2)$
 - Combine: $O(n)$
- $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n = O(n \log n)$
- **Total Time: $O(n \log n)$**

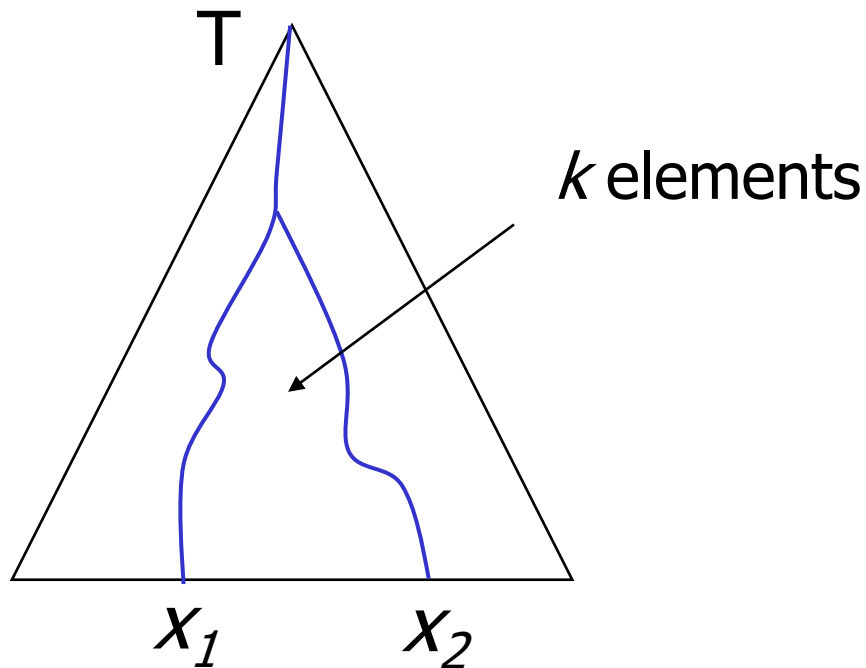
Multidimensional DS

- Multidimensional Data Structures are used to answer queries on the set of multidimensional points
 - Range query ($[x_1, x_2], [y_1, y_2]$): find all points (x, y) such that $x_1 < x < x_2$ and $y_1 < y < y_2$



1D Range Searching

- Find x , such that $x_1 < x < x_2$
 - Can be done with balanced binary search trees (e.g., red-black trees) in $O(\log n + k)$ time, where k is the size of the answer



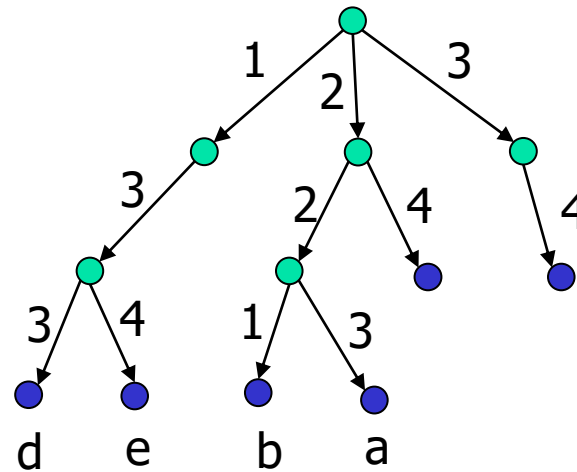
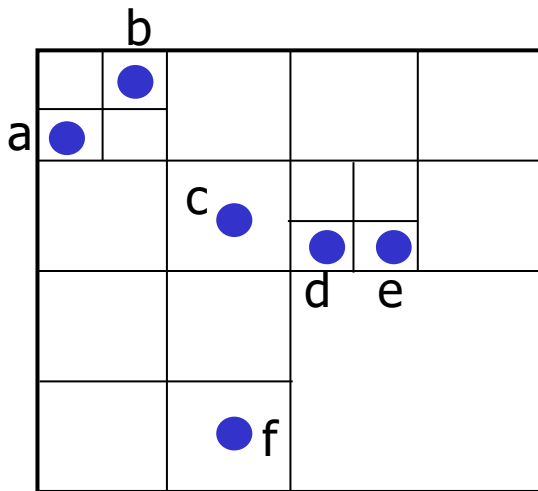


Range Trees

- Build a binary tree T on x -coordinates
- With each node v , associate a binary tree T_v that stores all the points in the subtree of T rooted at v . Organize T_v on y -coordinates.
- Space: $O(n \log n)$
- Range query: $O(\log^2 n + k)$

Quadtrees

- Quadtrees – partition tree
 - Linear space
 - Good average query performance





Next lecture

- Amortized Analysis