

# Geometric Data Structures for Range Searching

## Balanced Binary Search Tree for 1-D Range Searching

Given: A set  $P := \{p_1, \dots, p_n\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$

Task: Process  $P$  into a data structure that supports range queries of the type: Report all points of  $P$  that lie in a query interval  $[x, x']$

$\Rightarrow$  Balanced binary search tree  $T$

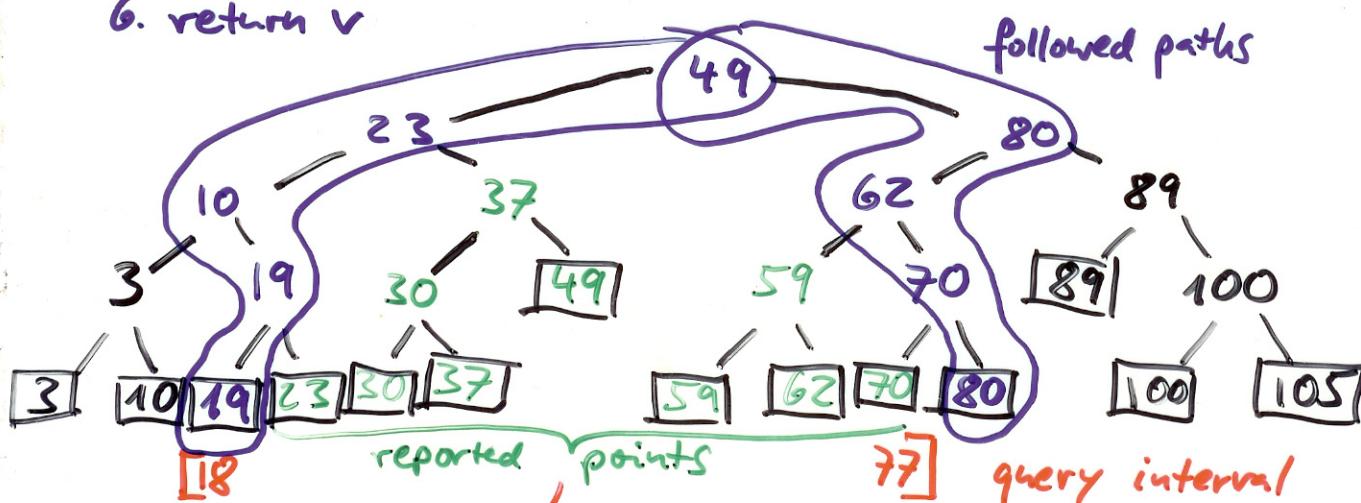
- Leaves of  $T$  store points of  $P$
- Inner vertices store splitting values  
inner vertex  $v$  stores  $x_v$  such that
  - Left subtree of  $v$  contains all  $p \in P$  with  $p \leq x_v$
  - Right subtree of  $v$  contains all  $p \in P$  with  $p > x_v$

Find Split Node ( $T, x, x'$ ):

Input:  $T$  and  $x \leq x'$

Output: The node  $v$  where the paths to  $x$  and  $x'$  split, or the leaf where both paths end

1.  $v := \text{root}(T)$
2. while  $v$  is no leaf and ( $x' \leq x_v$  or  $x_v < x$ ) do
3.   if  $x' \leq x_v$  then
4.      $v := \text{left-child}(v)$
5.   else  $v := \text{right-child}(v)$
6. return  $v$



## Algorithm 1D-Range-Query ( $T, [x, x']$ )

Input: A binary search tree  $T$ , a range  $[x, x']$

Output: All points stored in leaves of  $T$  that lie in  $[x, x']$

1.  $V_{\text{split}} := \text{FindSplitNode}(T, x, x')$
2. if  $V_{\text{split}}$  is a leaf then
3.   Check if point stored at  $V_{\text{split}}$  must be reported
4. else // Follow path to  $x$  and report points in subtrees right of path
5.    $v := \text{left\_child}(V_{\text{split}})$
6.   while  $v$  is no leaf do
7.     if  $x \leq x_v$  then
8.       Report-Subtree( $\text{right\_child}(v)$ )
9.      $v := \text{left\_child}(v)$
10.    else  $v := \text{right\_child}(v)$
11.   Check if point stored at leaf  $v$  must be reported
12. Similarly follow path to  $x'$  and report points in subtrees left of path

## Analysis:

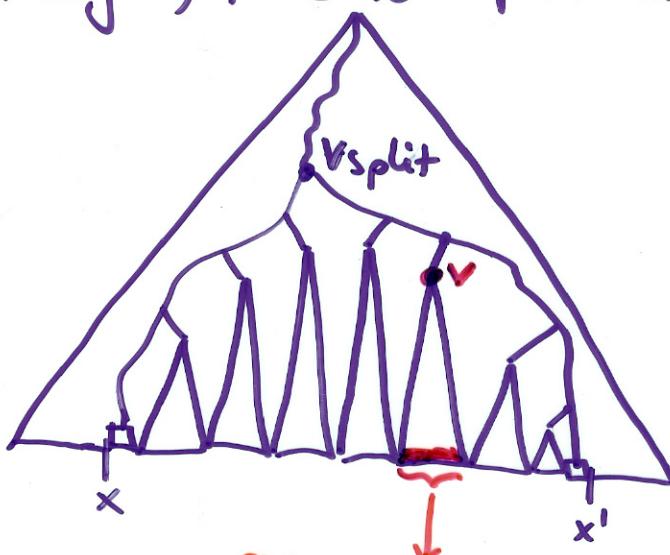
- Preprocessing:

$O(n \log n)$  construction time

$O(n)$  storage

- Query:

$O(k + \log n)$  time to report all  $k$  points in query range



$O(\log n)$  subtrees

$P(v) :=$  Canonical subset  
of  $v$

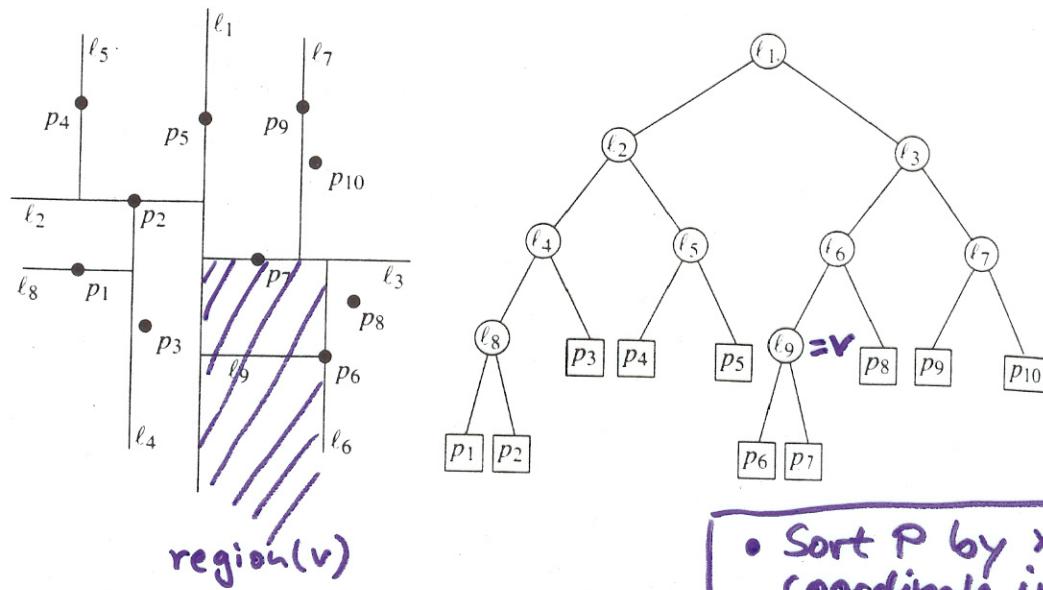
$\Rightarrow$  Union of canonical subsets = output

# KD-Trees for 2-D Range Searching

Given: A set  $P := \{p_1, \dots, p_n\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$

Task: Process  $P$  into a data structure that allows fast 2D range queries: Report all points in  $P$  that lie in the query rectangle  $[x, x'] \times [y, y']$

$\Rightarrow$  Recursively Split  $P$  into two sets of same size, alternatingly along a vertical or horizontal line



Algorithm BUILDKDTREE( $P, depth$ )

*Input.* A set of points  $P$  and the current depth  $depth$ .

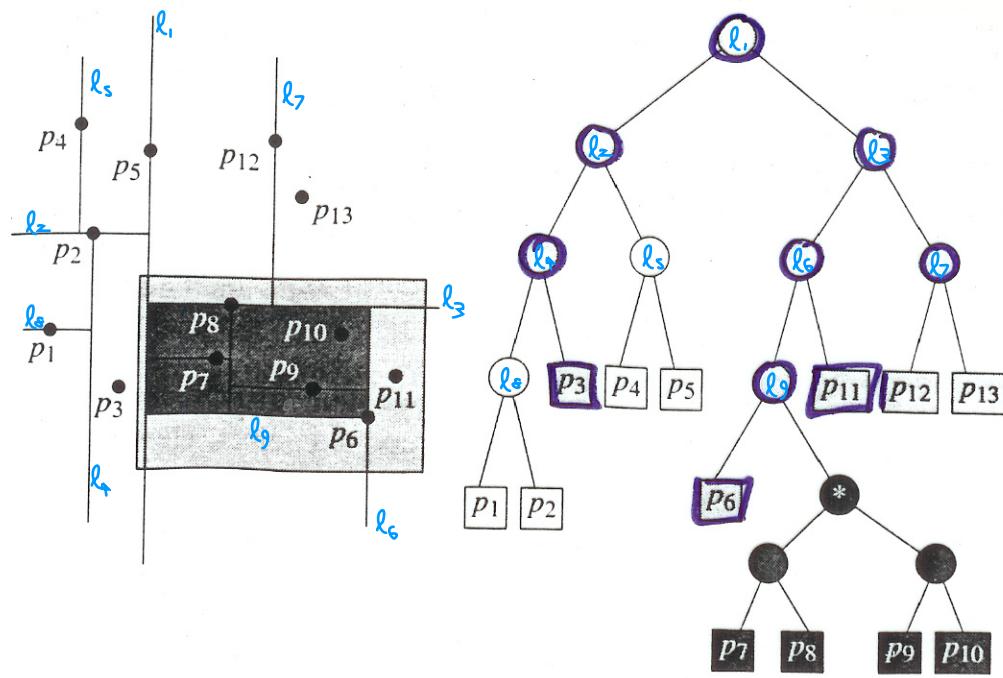
*Output.* The root of a kd-tree storing  $P$ .

1. if  $P$  contains only one point
2. then return a leaf storing this point
3. else if  $depth$  is even
  4. then Split  $P$  into two subsets with a vertical line  $\ell$  through the median  $x$ -coordinate of the points in  $P$ . Let  $P_1$  be the set of points to the left of  $\ell$  or on  $\ell$ , and let  $P_2$  be the set of points to the right of  $\ell$ .
  5. else Split  $P$  into two subsets with a horizontal line  $\ell$  through the median  $y$ -coordinate of the points in  $P$ . Let  $P_1$  be the set of points below  $\ell$  or on  $\ell$ , and let  $P_2$  be the set of points above  $\ell$ .
6.  $v_{\text{left}} \leftarrow \text{BUILDKDTREE}(P_1, depth + 1)$
7.  $v_{\text{right}} \leftarrow \text{BUILDKDTREE}(P_2, depth + 1)$
8. Create a node  $v$  storing  $\ell$ , make  $v_{\text{left}}$  the left child of  $v$ , and make  $v_{\text{right}}$  the right child of  $v$ .
9. return  $v$

- Sort  $P$  by  $x$ - and by  $y$ -coordinate in advance
- Use these two sorted lists to find median
- Pass sorted lists into recursive calls

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \begin{cases} O(1) & , n=1 \\ O(n) + 2T(\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil), & n>1 \end{cases}$$

$= O(n \log n)$  time



$lc(v) = \text{left\_child}(v)$   
 $rc(v) = \text{right\_child}(v)$

Algorithm SEARCHKDTREE( $v, R$ )

*Input.* The root of (a subtree of) a kd-tree, and a range  $R$ .

*Output.* All points at leaves below  $v$  that lie in the range.

1. if  $v$  is a leaf
2. then Report the point stored at  $v$  if it lies in  $R$ .
3. else if  $\text{region}(lc(v))$  is fully contained in  $R$
4.     then REPORTSUBTREE( $lc(v)$ )
5. else if  $\text{region}(lc(v))$  intersects  $R$
6.     then SEARCHKDTREE( $lc(v), R$ )
7. if  $\text{region}(rc(v))$  is fully contained in  $R$
8.     then REPORTSUBTREE( $rc(v)$ )
9. else if  $\text{region}(rc(v))$  intersects  $R$
10.     then SEARCHKDTREE( $rc(v), R$ )

//  $\text{region}(lc(v))$   
 $= \text{region}(v) \cap l(v)^{\text{left}}$   
 $\leadsto \text{compute on}$   
 $\text{the fly}$

Theorem: A kd-tree for a set  $P$  of  $n$  points can be constructed in  $O(n \log n)$  time and uses  $O(n)$  space. A rectangular range query can be answered in  $O(\sqrt{n} + k)$  time;  $k = \#$  reported points.

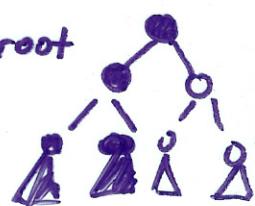
(Generalization to  $d$  dimensions: Also  $O(n)$  storage,  $O(n \log n)$  construction time, but  $O(n^{1-1/d} + k)$  query time.)

Proof Sketch:

- Sum of # of visited vertices in ReportSubtree =  $O(k)$
- # Visited vertices that are not in one of the reported subtrees =  $O(\# \text{regions}(v) \text{ intersected by a line})$

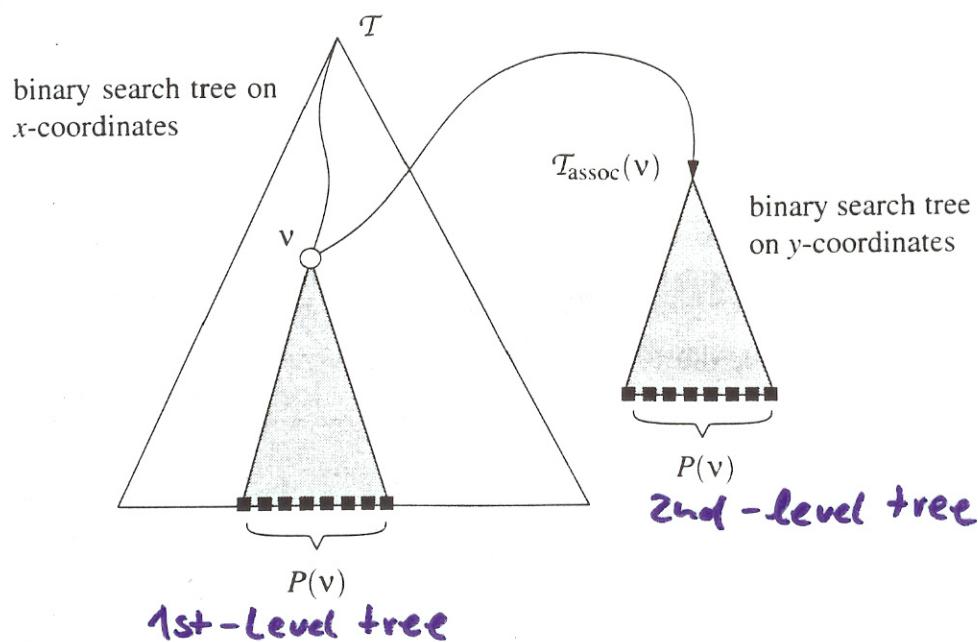
$\leadsto Q(n) := \# \text{intersected regions in kd-tree of } n \text{ points whose root contains vertical splitting line}$

$$\leadsto Q(n) = 2 + 2Q\left(\frac{n}{4}\right), n > 1 \Rightarrow Q(n) = O(\sqrt{n})$$



## Range Trees in 2D

Task: Answer 2D rectangular range query within  $O(\log^2 n + k)$  query time



**Algorithm** BUILD2DRANGETREE( $P$ )

*Input.* A set  $P$  of points in the plane.

*Output.* The root of a 2-dimensional range tree.

1. Construct the associated structure: Build a binary search tree  $T_{\text{assoc}}$  on the set  $P_y$  of  $y$ -coordinates of the points in  $P$ . Store at the leaves of  $T_{\text{assoc}}$  not just the  $y$ -coordinate of the points in  $P_y$ , but the points themselves.
2. **if**  $P$  contains only one point
3.   **then** Create a leaf  $v$  storing this point, and make  $T_{\text{assoc}}$  the associated structure of  $v$ .
4.   **else** Split  $P$  into two subsets; one subset  $P_{\text{left}}$  contains the points with  $x$ -coordinate less than or equal to  $x_{\text{mid}}$ , the median  $x$ -coordinate, and the other subset  $P_{\text{right}}$  contains the points with  $x$ -coordinate larger than  $x_{\text{mid}}$ .
5.    $v_{\text{left}} \leftarrow \text{BUILD2DRANGETREE}(P_{\text{left}})$
6.    $v_{\text{right}} \leftarrow \text{BUILD2DRANGETREE}(P_{\text{right}})$
7.   Create a node  $v$  storing  $x_{\text{mid}}$ , make  $v_{\text{left}}$  the left child of  $v$ , make  $v_{\text{right}}$  the right child of  $v$ , and make  $T_{\text{assoc}}$  the associated structure of  $v$ .
8. **return**  $v$

Lemma:  $O(n \log n)$  storage;  $O(n \log n)$  construction time

Proof: •  $O(n)$  storage at every level of  $\mathcal{T} \rightarrow O(n \log n)$  altogether  
• Presort  $P$  into two lists, sorted by  $x$ - or  $y$ -coordinate  
 $\rightarrow$  Construct search trees in linear time  
 $\rightarrow$  Construction time proportional to storage □

**Algorithm** 2DRANGEQUERY( $\mathcal{T}, [x : x'] \times [y : y']$ )

*Input.* A 2-dimensional range tree  $\mathcal{T}$  and a range  $[x : x'] \times [y : y']$ .

*Output.* All points in  $\mathcal{T}$  that lie in the range.

1.  $v_{\text{split}} \leftarrow \text{FINDSPLITNODE}(\mathcal{T}, x, x')$
2. **if**  $v_{\text{split}}$  is a leaf
3.   **then** Check if the point stored at  $v_{\text{split}}$  must be reported.
4. **else** (\* Follow the path to  $x$  and call 1DRANGEQUERY on the subtrees  
right of the path. \*)  
    5.    $v \leftarrow lc(v_{\text{split}})$   
    6.   **while**  $v$  is not a leaf  
        7.     **do if**  $x \leq x_v$   
            8.       **then** 1DRANGEQUERY( $\mathcal{T}_{\text{assoc}}(rc(v)), [y : y']$ )  
            9.        $v \leftarrow lc(v)$   
        10.     **else**  $v \leftarrow rc(v)$

11. Check if the point stored at  $v$  must be reported.

12. Similarly, follow the path from  $rc(v_{\text{split}})$  to  $x'$ , call 1DRANGEQUERY with the range  $[y : y']$  on the associated structures of subtrees left of the path, and check if the point stored at the leaf where the path ends must be reported.

Theorem: A range tree storing  $n$  points in the plane can be constructed in  $O(n \log n)$  time and storage. A rectangular range query can be answered in  $O(\log^2 n + k)$  time;  
 $k = \#$  reported points.

Proof: Query time  $= \sum_{\text{visited } v} (O(\log n + k_v)) = O(\underbrace{\sum_{\text{visited } v} \log n}_{= \log^2 n} + \underbrace{\sum_{\text{visited } v} k_v}_{= k})$   
Search paths in  $\mathcal{T}$  have length  $\log^2 n$

## Generalizing Range Trees to Higher Dimensions

- d Levels of trees; one level per coordinate
  - 1st Level: balanced bin. search tree on 1st coordinate
  - 2nd Level: For each v in 1st level construct  $(d-1)$ -dim. range tree for points in  $P(v)$  restricted to last  $(d-1)$  coordinates
  - ⋮
- Query recursively as before  $\rightsquigarrow O(\log^d n + k)$  time

Theorem: A range tree storing  $n$  points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  can be constructed in  $O(n \log^{d-1} n)$  time and storage. A rectangular range query can be answered in  $O(\log^d n + k)$  time.

Proof:  $T_d(n) = O(n \log n) + O(\log n) \cdot T_{d-1}(n)$  construction time  
construct bal. bin. search tree #levels  $\uparrow$  construction time per level  
 $T_2(n) = O(n \log n) \Rightarrow T_d(n) = O(n \log^{d-1} n)$

Query time  $Q_d(n) = O(\log n) + O(\log n) \cdot Q_{d-1}(n)$   
1st level #Subtrees  
 $Q_2(n) = O(\log^2 n) \Rightarrow Q_d(n) = O(\log^d n)$

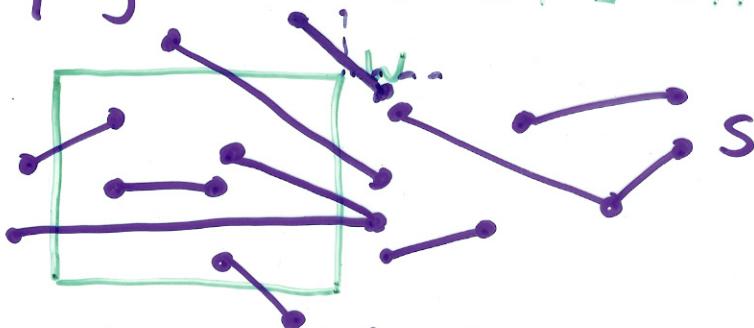
Theorem: Using fractional cascading the query time of a  $d$ -dimensional range tree can be sped up to  $O(\log^{d-1} n + k)$ ; thus to  $O(\log n + k)$  for  $d=2$ .

## Windowing Problem

Given: A set  $S$  of  $n$  line segments in the plane  
(non-intersecting)

Task: Process  $S$  into a data structure such that the following windowing query can be answered efficiently:

Report all segments in  $S$  that intersect a given query window  $W := [x, x'] \times [y, y']$

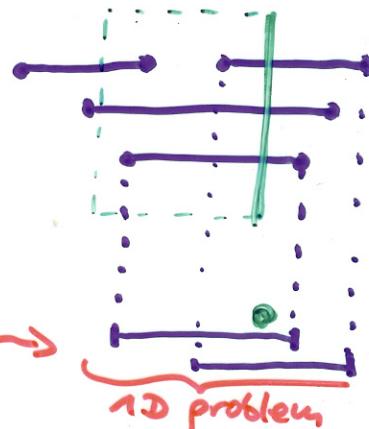


Segments having at least one endpoint in  $W$  can be found by range queries in range trees  
→  $O(\log n + k)$  time (with fractional cascading)

### Subproblem I (for horizontal segments)

Process a set of horizontal line segments s.t. segments intersecting a vertical query segment can be reported efficiently.

→ Consider query line instead of segment →



### Subproblem II (1 dimensional):

Given: A set  $I = \{[x_1, x'_1], \dots, [x_n, x'_n]\}$  of intervals in  $\mathbb{R}$

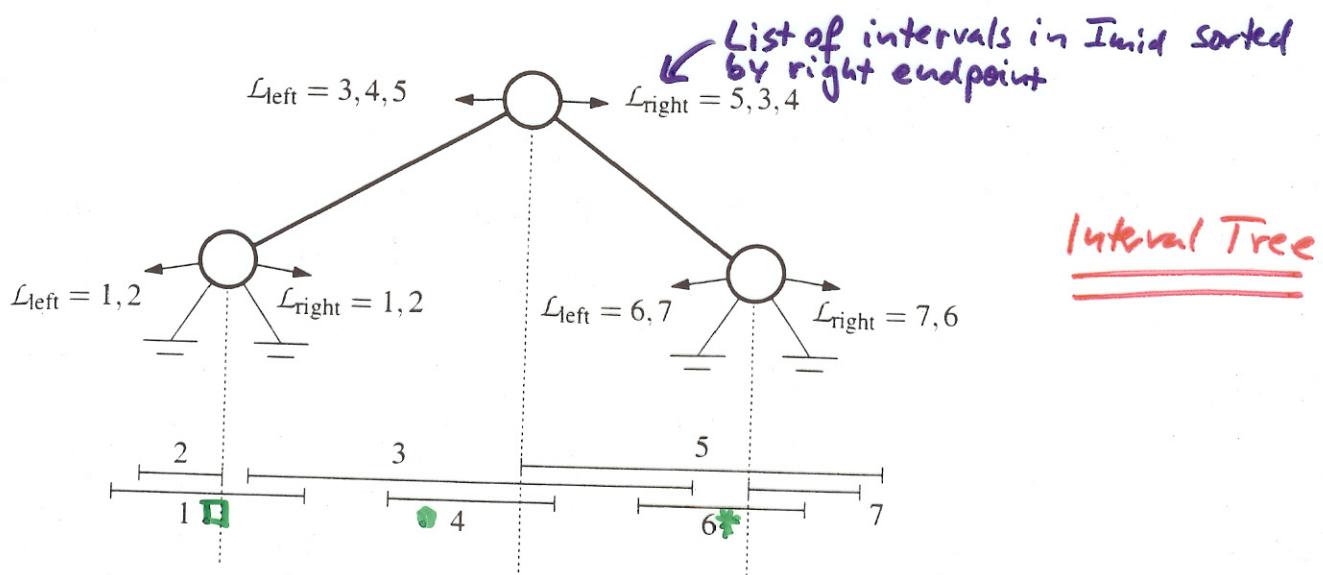
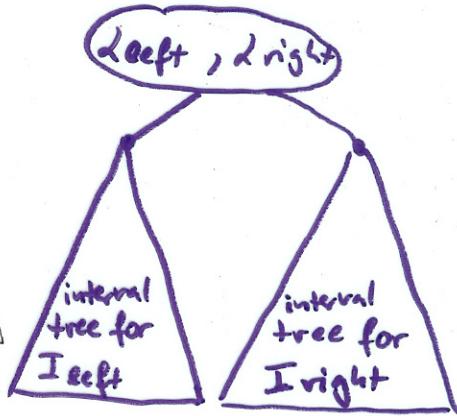
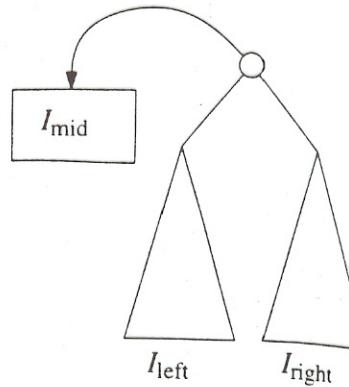
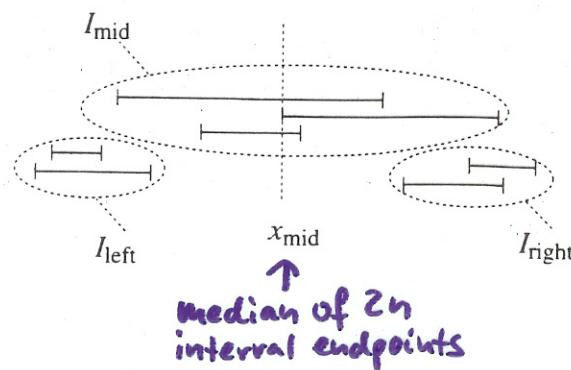
Task: Process  $I$  into a data structure which supports queries of the type: Report all intervals that contain a query point

→ Interval trees

→ Segment trees

## Interval Trees

$$I = I_{\text{left}} \cup I_{\text{mid}} \cup I_{\text{right}}$$



Interval Tree

Lemma: An interval tree on a set of  $n$  intervals uses  $O(n)$  storage and has depth  $O(\log n)$ .

Proof: Each interval is stored in a set  $I_{\text{mid}}$  only once  $\rightarrow O(n)$  storage.

Algorithm CONSTRUCTINTERVALTREE( $I$ )

*Input.* A set  $I$  of intervals on the real line.

*Output.* The root of an interval tree for  $I$ .

1. if  $I = \emptyset$
2. then return an empty leaf
3. else Create a node  $v$ . Compute  $x_{\text{mid}}$ , the median of the set of interval endpoints, and store  $x_{\text{mid}}$  with  $v$ .
4. Compute  $I_{\text{mid}}$  and construct two sorted lists for  $I_{\text{mid}}$ : a list  $L_{\text{left}}(v)$  sorted on left endpoint and a list  $L_{\text{right}}(v)$  sorted on right endpoint. Store these two lists at  $v$ .
5.  $lc(v) \leftarrow \text{CONSTRUCTINTERVALTREE}(I_{\text{left}})$
6.  $rc(v) \leftarrow \text{CONSTRUCTINTERVALTREE}(I_{\text{right}})$
7. return  $v$

Time analysis:  $O(n + |I_{\text{mid}}| \cdot \log |I_{\text{mid}}|)$  per vertex  $\Rightarrow O(n \log n)$

### Algorithm QUERYINTERVALTREE( $v, q_x$ )

*Input.* The root  $v$  of an interval tree and a query point  $q_x$ .

*Output.* All intervals that contain  $q_x$ .

1. **if**  $v$  is not a leaf
2.   **then if**  $q_x < x_{\text{mid}}(v)$   
      **then** Walk along the list  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{left}}(v)$ , starting at the interval with the leftmost endpoint, reporting all the intervals that contain  $q_x$ . Stop as soon as an interval does not contain  $q_x$ .
3.   **QUERYINTERVALTREE**( $lc(v), q_x$ )
4.   **else** Walk along the list  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{right}}(v)$ , starting at the interval with the rightmost endpoint, reporting all the intervals that contain  $q_x$ . Stop as soon as an interval does not contain  $q_x$ .
5.   **QUERYINTERVALTREE**( $rc(v), q_x$ )

### Time analysis:

- $O(1 + k_v)$  time at vertex  $v$ ;  $k_v := \# \text{intervals reported at } v$
  - Visit  $\leq 1$  node at any depth
- $\rightarrow O(\log n + k)$

Theorem: An interval tree for a set of  $n$  intervals ~~can be~~ can be constructed in  $O(n \log n)$  time and uses  $O(n)$  storage. All intervals that contain a query point can be reported in  $O(\log n + k)$  time;  $k = \# \text{reported intervals}$ .

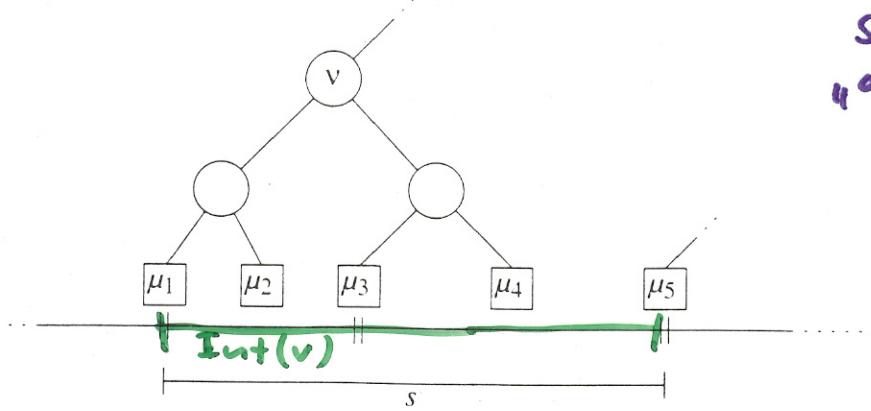
## Segment Trees

Let  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_m$  the sorted list of distinct interval endpoints of  $I$   
 ↳ Consider partitioning into elementary intervals

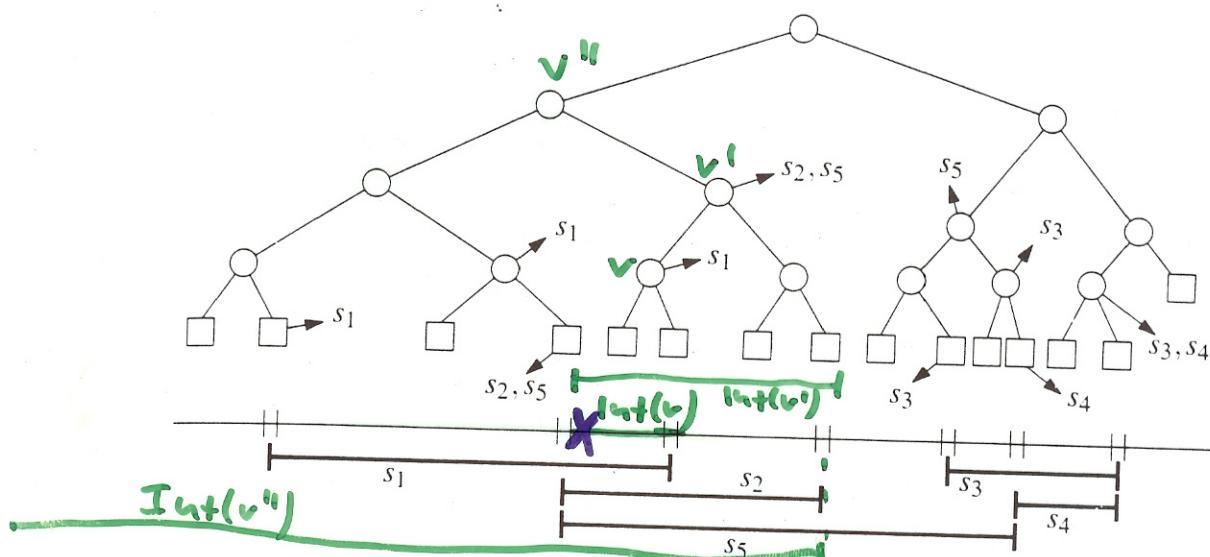
$$(-\infty, p_1], [p_1, p_2], (p_2, p_3], \dots, (p_{m-1}, p_m], [p_m, p_m], (p_m, \infty)$$

- Balanced binary search tree  $T$  with leaves corresponding to elementary intervals
- $\text{Int}(\mu) :=$  elementary interval corresponding to leaf  $\mu$   
 $\text{Int}(v) :=$  union of  $\text{Int}(\mu)$  of all leaves in subtree rooted at  $v$
- Each node or leaf  $v$  stores
  - $\text{Int}(v)$
  - the canonical subset  $I(v) \subseteq I$  :

$$I(v) := \{(x, x') \in I \mid \text{Int}(v) \subseteq [x, x'] \text{ and } \text{Int}(\text{parent}(v)) \not\subseteq [x, x']\}$$



Store intervals  
"as high as possible"



Lemma: A segment tree on  $n$  intervals uses  $O(n \log n)$  storage

Proof idea: Any interval is stored in a set  $I(v)$  for at most two nodes at the same level of  $T$ .

### **Algorithm QUERYSEGMENTTREE(v, $q_x$ )**

*Input.* The root of a (subtree of a) segment tree and a query point  $q_x$ .  
*Output.* All intervals in the tree containing  $q_x$ .

1. Report all the intervals in  $I(v)$ .
2. if  $v$  is not a leaf
3.   then if  $q_x \in \text{Int}(lc(v))$
4.       then QUERYSEGMENTTREE( $lc(v), q_x$ )
5.       else QUERYSEGMENTTREE( $rc(v), q_x$ )

Time analysis: • Visit one node per level  $\Rightarrow O(\log n + k)$  time  
• Spend  $O(1 + kr)$  per node  $v$

### Segment-Tree-Construction:

- 1) Sort interval endpoints of  $I \rightsquigarrow$  elementary intervals  $\{O(n \log n)\}$
- 2) Construct balanced bin. Search tree on elem. intervals  $\{O(n \log n)\}$
- 3) Determine  $\text{Int}(v)$  bottom-up  $O(n)$
- 4) Compute Canonical subsets by incrementally inserting the intervals  $[x, x'] \in I$  into  $T$ , using **InsertSegmentTree**

### **Algorithm INSERTSEGMENTTREE(v, $[x : x']$ )**

*Input.* The root of a (subtree of a) segment tree and an interval.  
*Output.* The interval will be stored in the subtree.

1. if  $\text{Int}(v) \subseteq [x : x']$
2.   then store  $[x : x']$  at  $v$
3.   else if  $\text{Int}(lc(v)) \cap [x : x'] \neq \emptyset$
4.       then INSERTSEGMENTTREE( $lc(v), [x : x']$ )
5.       if  $\text{Int}(rc(v)) \cap [x : x'] \neq \emptyset$
6.           then INSERTSEGMENTTREE( $rc(v), [x : x']$ )

Time analysis: • Spend constant time per node

- If we don't store  $[x, x']$  at  $v$ , then  $x \in \text{Int}(v)$  or  $x' \in \text{Int}(v)$
- Each interval stored  $\leq$  twice at each level.  
At most one node per level whose interval contains  $x$  (similar fork)  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Visit  $\leq 4$  nodes per level  $\Rightarrow O(\log n) \Rightarrow O(n \log n)$  together.

Theorem: A Segment tree for a set of  $n$  intervals can be built in  $O(n \log n)$  time and uses  $O(n \log n)$  storage.  
All intervals that contain a query point can be reported in  $O(\log n + k)$  time.

## 2D Windowing Revisited

Given: A set  $S$  of  $n$  disjoint segments in the plane

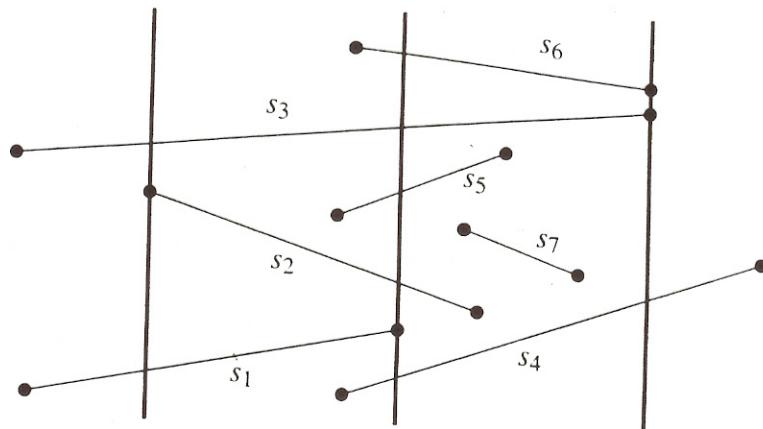
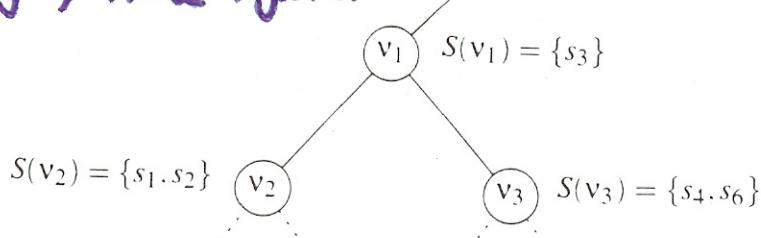
Task: Process  $S$  into a data structure such that all segments intersecting a vertical query segment  $q := q_x \times [q_y, q'_y]$  can be reported efficiently

- Build segment tree  $T$  based on  $x$ -intervals of segments in  $S$   
 $\rightarrow$  each  $\text{Int}(v) \cong \text{Int}(v) \times (-\infty, \infty)$  vertical slab

- $I(v) \cong S(v)$  canonical subset of segments spanning vertical slab

Analysis:

- Store  $S(v)$  in binary search tree  $J(v)$  based on vertical order of segments
- Storage  $O(n \log n)$
- Bottom-up construction maintaining vertical order of segments  
 $\rightarrow O(n \log n)$  time together



### Query algorithm:

- Search regularly for  $q_x$  in  $T$
- In every visited node  $v$  report segments in  $J(v)$  between  $q_y$  and  $q'_y$  (1D range query)  
 $\rightarrow O(\log n + k_v)$  time for  $J(v)$   $\rightarrow O(\log^2 n + k)$  altogether

Theorem: Let  $S$  be a set of (interior-) disjoint segments in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

The segments intersecting a vertical query segment (or an axis-parallel rectangular query window) can be reported in  $O(\log^2 n + k)$  time, with  $O(n \log n)$  preprocessing time and  $O(n \log n)$  storage.