

# An edge quadtree for external memory

Herman Haverkort<sup>1</sup>    Mark McGranaghan<sup>2</sup>    Laura Toma<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Eindhoven University of Technology, the Netherlands

<sup>2</sup>Bowdoin College, USA

Symposium of Experimental Algorithms  
June 2013, Rome

# Outline

1 The problem

2 Preliminaries

3 Our algorithm

4 Empirical evaluation

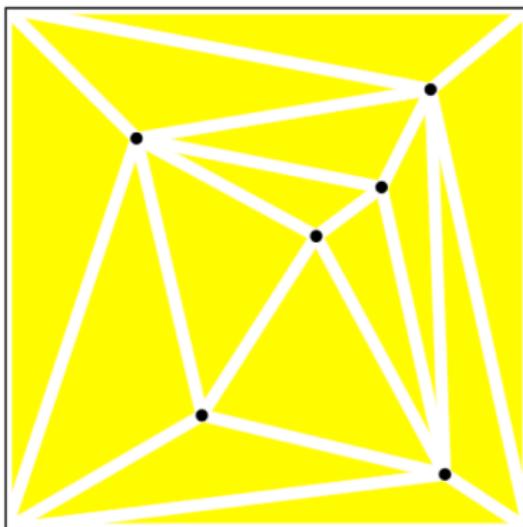
- Application: Map overlay

# The problem

Build a quadtree subdivision for a set of non-intersecting edges in the plane.

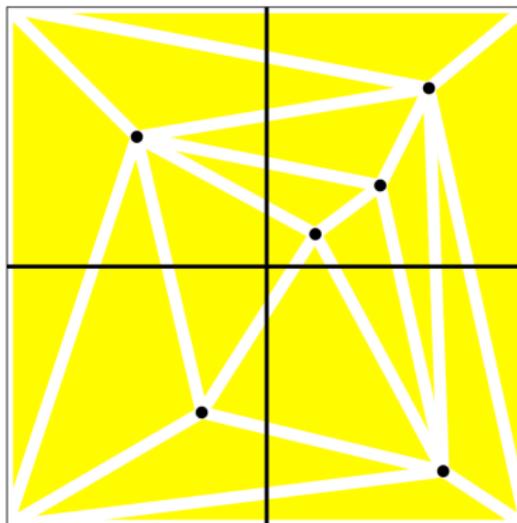
Goal: Scalable to very large data (IO-efficient)

Quadtree: divide unit square into quadrants, refine until data per cell is “small”  
(for e.g., until every cell has at most one vertex)



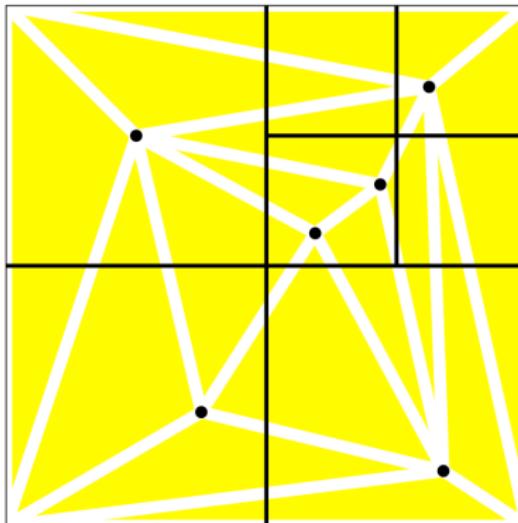
figures thanks to H. Haverkort

Quadtree: divide unit square into quadrants, refine until data per cell is “ $\text{scriptsize}$ ”  
(for e.g., until every cell has at most one vertex)



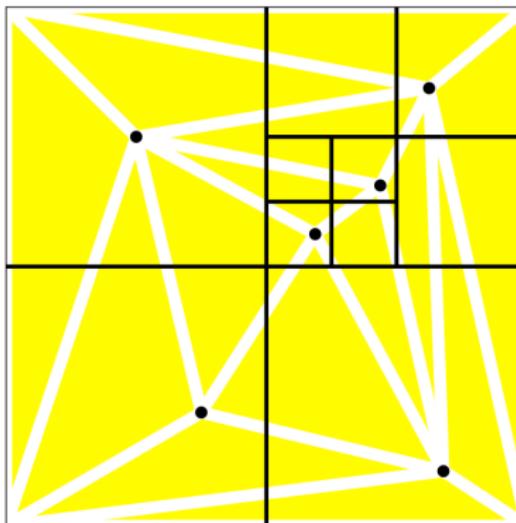
figures thanks to H. Haverkort

Quadtree: divide unit square into quadrants, refine until data per cell is “`scriptsize`”  
(for e.g., until every cell has at most one vertex)



figures thanks to H. Haverkort

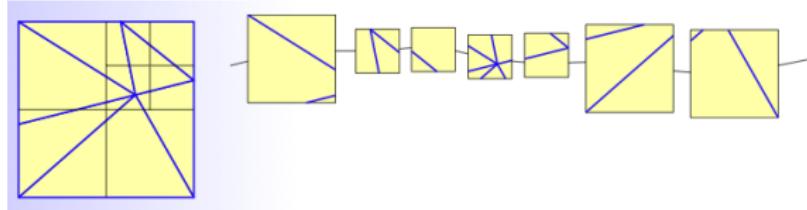
Quadtree: divide unit square into quadrants, refine until data per cell is “`scriptsize`”  
(for e.g., until every cell has at most one vertex)



figures thanks to H. Haverkort

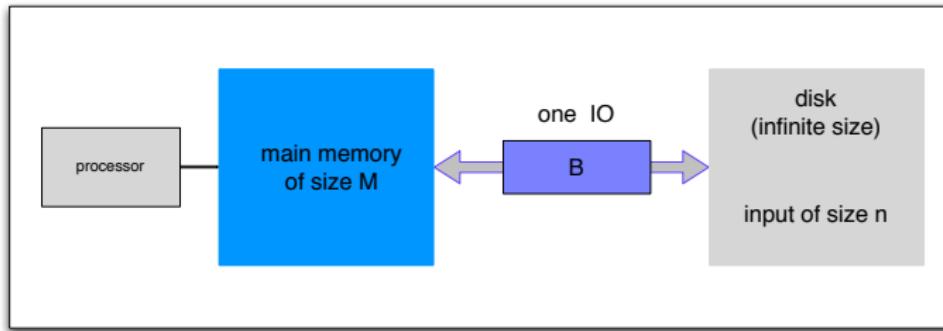
# Linear edge quadtree

Linear (edge) quadtree: set of leaf cells, each cell storing its data.



- space efficient

# The IO-Model [Agarwal & Vitter, 1988]



- IO-complexity: number of IOs
- Fundamental bounds
  - scan:  $\text{scan}(n) = \frac{n}{B}$  IOs
  - sort:  $\text{sort}(n) = \Theta\left(\frac{n}{B} \log_{M/B} \frac{n}{M}\right)$  IOs

# Quadtrees: Related work

## Point quadtree

- compressed:  $O(n)$  cells,  $O(1)$  points each

## Edge quadtree

- Build quadtree induced by endpoints and distribute edges
  - $O(n)$  cells,  $O(1)$  points per cell,  $I = O(n^2)$  edge-cell intersections
- Specific stopping criteria
  - E.g. split a region until it intersects a single edge (unbounded size)

# Quadtrees: Related work

- Samet et al ('85,'86,'89,'92,'97,'99,'02)
  - PM quadtree (PM1, PM2, PM3)
  - segment quadtree
  - PMR quadtree
- Agarwal et al. 2006
  - build point qdt with  $O(k)$  points per cell in  $O(\frac{n}{B} \frac{h}{\log M/B})$  IOs
  - this is  $O(\text{sort}(n))$  IOs when points are nicely distributed
- De Berg et al. 2010
  - star-qdt, guard-qdt
  - $O(1)$  point per cell,  $O(\text{sort}(n + l))$  IOs
  - exploit fatness/low density:  $O(1)$  edges per cell,  $l = O(n)$

# Our contributions

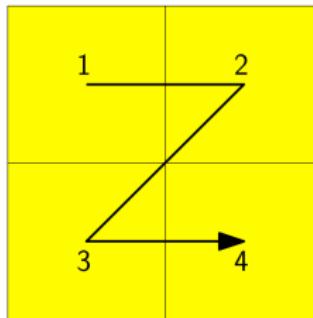
Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a set of  $n$  non-intersecting segments in the plane.

Let  $k(k \geq 1)$  be a user-defined parameter.

- $K$ -quadtree
  - Build a compressed, linear quadtree on the endpoints of  $\mathcal{E}$  with  $O(n/k)$  cells and  $O(k)$  points in each cell in  $O(\text{sort}(n))$  IOs.
  - Compute the intersections between the edges and the quadtree subdivision in  $O(\text{sort}(n + l))$  IOs.
- Empirical evaluation
  - triangulated terrains, TIGER data

# Quadtrees and Z-order

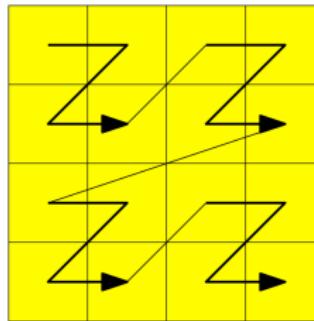
Z-order space filling curve: visits quadrants recursively in order NW, NE, SW, SE



figures thanks to H. Haverkort

# Quadtrees and Z-order

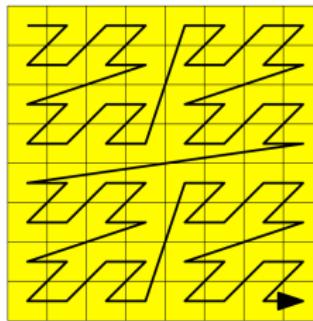
Z-order space filling curve: visits quadrants recursively in order NW, NE, SW, SE



figures thanks to H. Haverkort

# Quadtrees and Z-order

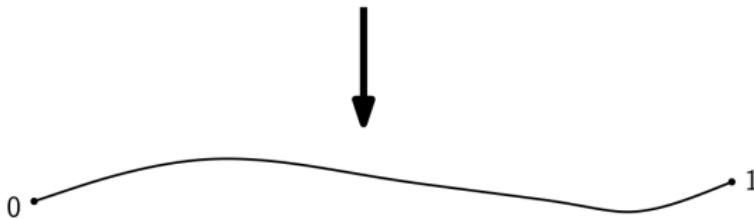
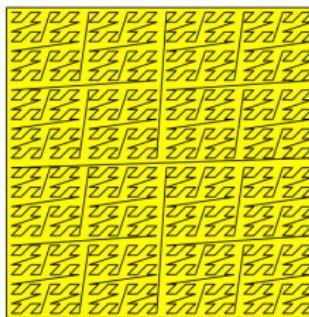
Z-order space filling curve: visits quadrants recursively in order NW, NE, SW, SE



figures thanks to H. Haverkort

# Quadtrees and Z-order

Z-order space filling curve: visits quadrants recursively in order NW, NE, SW, SE

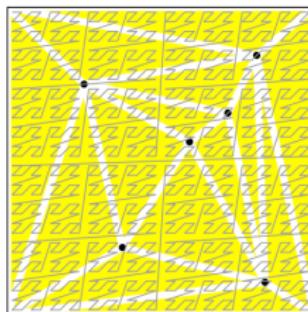


figures thanks to H. Haverkort

# Quadtrees and Z-order

Quadtree cell = interval on Z-order curve

Quadtree subdivision = subdivision of Z-order curve

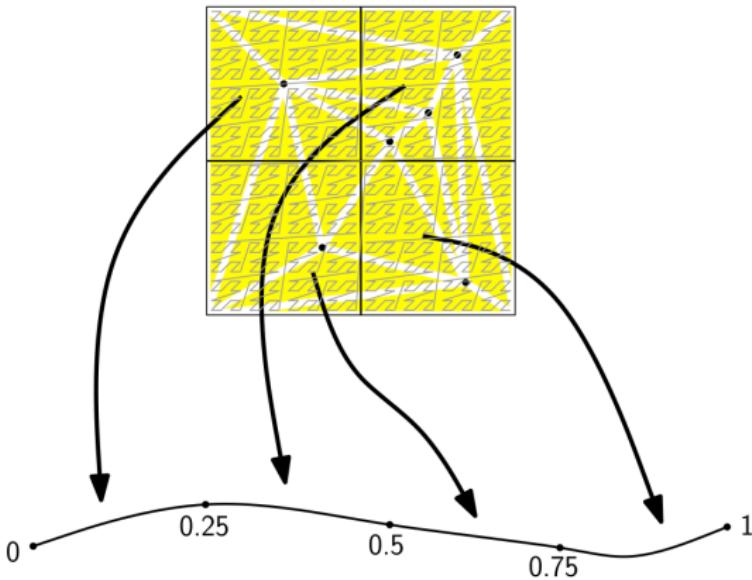


figures thanks to H. Haverkort

# Quadtrees and Z-order

Quadtree cell = interval on Z-order curve

Quadtree subdivision = subdivision of Z-order curve

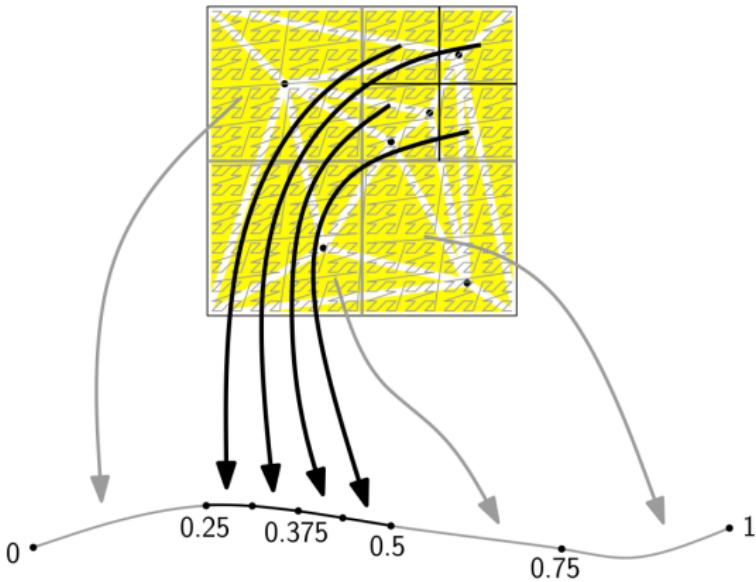


figures thanks to H. Haverkort

# Quadtrees and Z-order

Quadtree cell = interval on Z-order curve

Quadtree subdivision = subdivision of Z-order curve

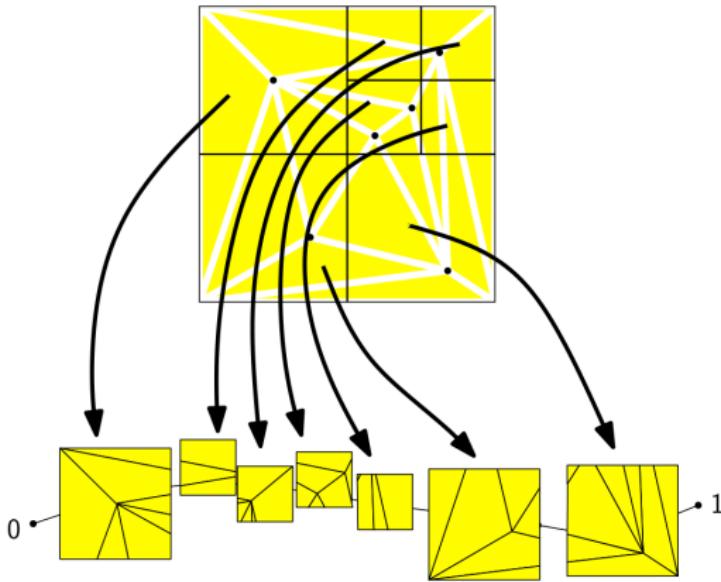


figures thanks to H. Haverkort

# Quadtrees and Z-order

Quadtree cell = interval on Z-order curve

Quadtree subdivision = subdivision of Z-order curve

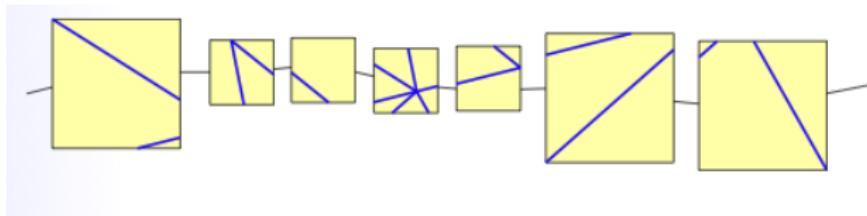


figures thanks to H. Haverkort

# Our algorithm

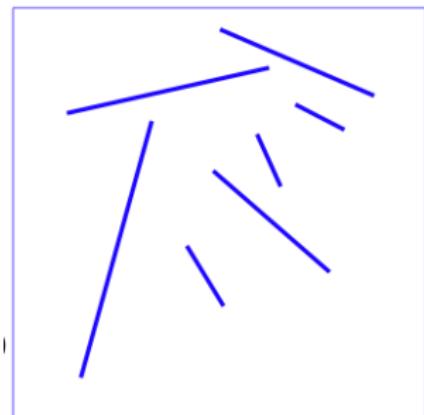
Input: Set of non-intersecting segments  $\mathcal{E}$  and a value  $k \geq 1$ .

- ➊ Construct the subdivision of the endpoints of  $\mathcal{E}$   
 $\Rightarrow Q = \{[z_1 = 0, z_2], [z_2, z_3], \dots\}$  a subdivision of  $[0, 1]$
  
  
  
  
  
  
- ➋ Compute the edge-cell intersections  
 $\Rightarrow Q = \{(z_i, e), \dots\}$



# Our algorithm: Constructing the subdivision

Input: Set of non-intersecting segments  $\mathcal{E}$  and value  $k$ .

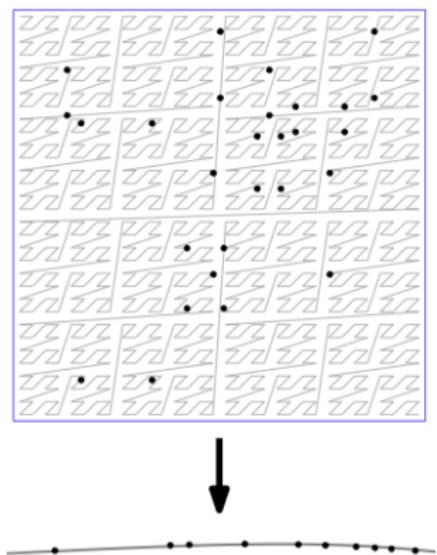


# Our algorithm: Constructing the subdivision

Input: Set of non-intersecting segments  $\mathcal{E}$  and value  $k$ .

Algorithm:

- ① Find the endpoints of the segments and sort them in Z-order.

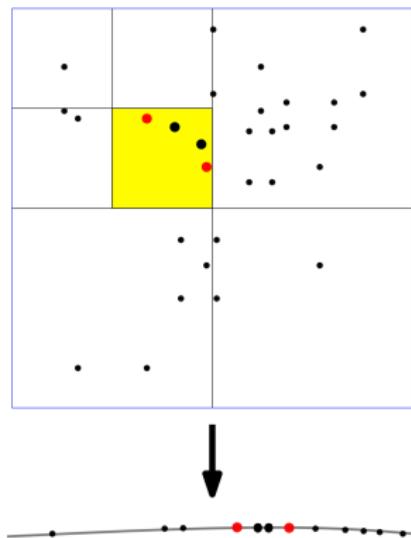


# Our algorithm: Constructing the subdivision

Input: Set of non-intersecting segments  $\mathcal{E}$  and value  $k$ .

Algorithm:

- ① Find the endpoints of the segments and sort them in Z-order.
- ② Let  $P_k = \{p_0, p_k, p_{2k}, \dots\}$  the set of every  $k$ th point. For every two consecutive points  $p$  and  $p'$  in  $P_k$ :
  - find smallest cell  $Q$  that contains  $p$  and  $p'$

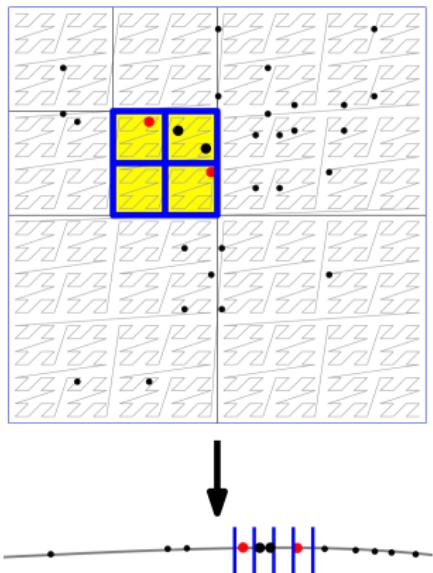


# Our algorithm: Constructing the subdivision

Input: Set of non-intersecting segments  $\mathcal{E}$  and value  $k$ .

Algorithm:

- ➊ Find the endpoints of the segments and sort them in Z-order.
- ➋ Let  $P_k = \{p_0, p_k, p_{2k}, \dots\}$  the set of every  $k$ th point. For every two consecutive points  $p$  and  $p'$  in  $P_k$ :
  - find smallest cell  $Q$  that contains  $p$  and  $p'$
  - output **cell boundaries** of  $Q$  and its quadrants



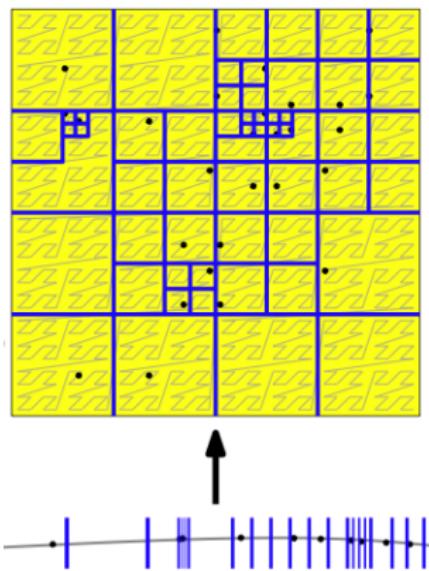
# Our algorithm: Constructing the subdivision

Input: Set of non-intersecting segments  $\mathcal{E}$  and value  $k$ .

Algorithm:

- ① Find the endpoints of the segments and sort them in Z-order.
- ② Let  $P_k = \{p_0, p_k, p_{2k}, \dots\}$  the set of every  $k$ th point. For every two consecutive points  $p$  and  $p'$  in  $P_k$ :
  - find smallest cell  $Q$  that contains  $p$  and  $p'$
  - output cell boundaries of  $Q$  and its quadrants

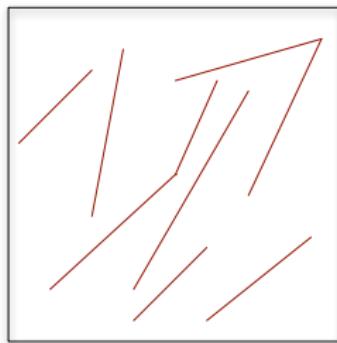
Lemma: Subdivision with  $O(n/k)$  cells and  $O(k)$  vertices per cell.



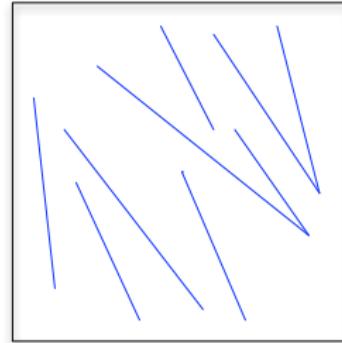
# Our algorithm: Edge-cell intersection

Goal: For every  $I_j = [z_j, z_{j+1}] \in Q$ , compute the edges that intersect  $\sigma_j$ .

- Let  $E^+$  ( $E^-$ ) be the edges of positive (negative) slope



$E^+$



$E^-$

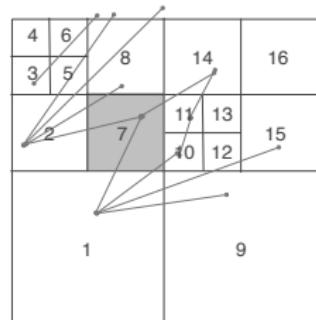
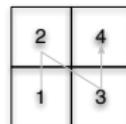
Idea: Process  $E^+$  and  $E^-$  separately.

# Finding the intersections of $E^+$ and $Q$ ( $k = 1$ )

Input:  $Q = \{[z_1, z_2], [z_2, z_3], \dots\}$  in Z-order,  $E^+$

Algorithm:

- For each interval  $I_j = [z_j, z_{j+1}]$  in  $Q$ , find all edges in  $E^+$  that intersect  $I_j$

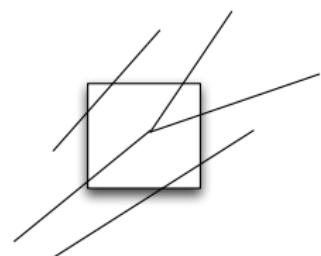


# Finding the intersections of $E^+$ and $Q$ ( $k = 1$ )

Input:  $Q = \{[z_1, z_2], [z_2, z_3], \dots\}$  in Z-order,  $E^+$

Algorithm:

- For each interval  $I_j = [z_j, z_{j+1}]$  in  $Q$ , find all edges in  $E^+$  that intersect  $I_j$



The edges that intersect  $I_j$  either:

- start in  $I_j$  or,
- start in an interval outside  $I_j$

# Finding the intersections of $E^+$ and $Q$ ( $k = 1$ )

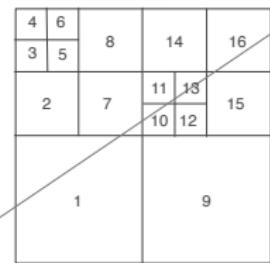
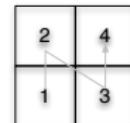
Input:  $Q = \{[z_1, z_2], [z_2, z_3], \dots\}$  in Z-order,  $E^+$

## Lemma

*An edge of positive slope intersects the cells in  $Q$  in Z-order.*

The edges that intersect  $I_j$  either:

- start in  $I_j$ , or,
- start in an interval before  $I_j$

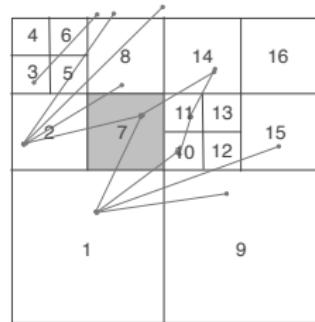


# Finding the intersections of $E^+$ and $Q$ ( $k = 1$ )

Input:  $Q = \{[z_1, z_2], [z_2, z_3], \dots\}$  in Z-order,  $E^+$

Algorithm:

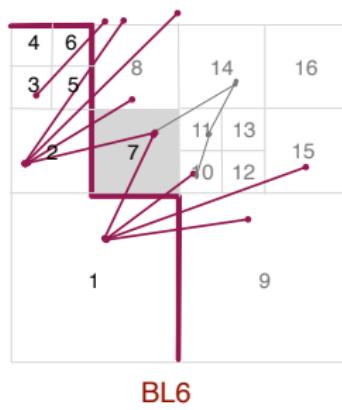
- Sort  $E^+$  by Z-index of first endpoint.
- For each interval  $I_j = [z_j, z_{j+1}]$  in  $Q$ :
  - Find all edges in  $E^+$  that originate in  $I_j$ :  
read all  $e = (p, q)$  from  $E^+$  s. th.  
 $z(p) \in I_j$
  - Find all edges in  $E^+$  that originate in  
an interval before  $I_j$ : **HOW?**



# Finding the intersections of $E^+$ and $Q$ ( $k = 1$ )

$B_j$ : boundary between  $\cup_{i < j} \sigma_i$  and  $\cup_{i \geq j} \sigma_i$

$BL_j$ : the edges that intersect  $B_j$ , in order.



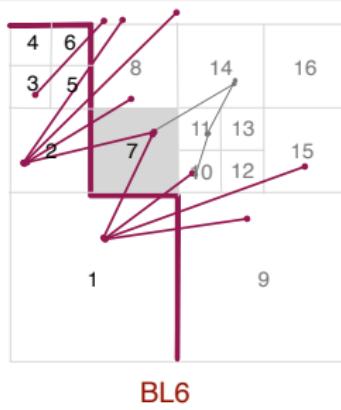
# Finding the intersections of $E^+$ and $Q$ ( $k = 1$ )

$B_j$ : boundary between  $\cup_{i < j} \sigma_i$  and  $\cup_{i \geq j} \sigma_i$

$BL_j$ : the edges that intersect  $B_j$ , in order.

## Lemma

$B_j$  is a monotone staircase and the intersection of  $\sigma_j$  and  $B_{j-1}$  covers a connected part of  $B_{j-1}$ .

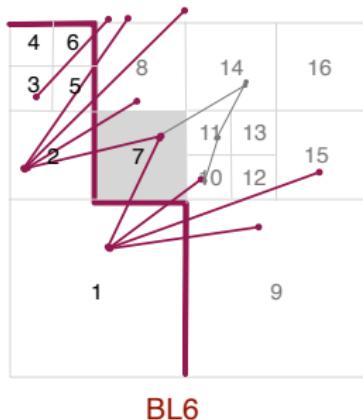


# Finding the intersections of $E^+$ and $Q$ ( $k = 1$ )

Input:  $Q = \{[z_1, z_2], [z_2, z_3], \dots\}$  in Z-order,  $E^+$

Algorithm:

- Sort  $E^+$  by z-index of first endpoint.
- For each interval  $I_j = [z_j, z_{j+1}]$  in  $Q$ :
  - Find all edges in  $E^+$  that start in  $I_j$ :  
read all  $e = (p, q)$  from  $E^+$  s. th.  
 $z(p) \in I_j$
  - Use  $BL_{j-1}$  to find the edges that  
start before  $\sigma_j$  and intersect  $\sigma_j$ , and  
update  $BL_{j-1}$  to  $BL_j$

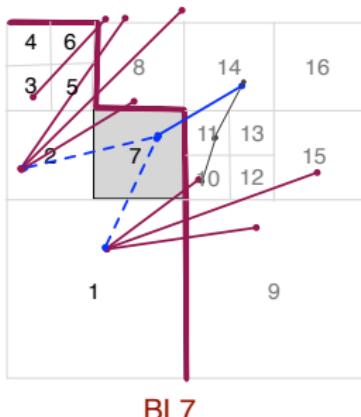


# Finding the intersections of $E^+$ and $Q$ ( $k = 1$ )

Input:  $Q = \{[z_1, z_2], [z_2, z_3], \dots\}$  in Z-order,  $E^+$

Algorithm:

- Sort  $E^+$  by z-index of first endpoint.
- For each interval  $I_j = [z_j, z_{j+1}]$  in  $Q$ :
  - Find all edges in  $E^+$  that start in  $I_j$ :  
read all  $e = (p, q)$  from  $E^+$  s. th.  
 $z(p) \in I_j$
  - Use  $BL_{j-1}$  to find the edges that  
start before  $\sigma_j$  and intersect  $\sigma_j$ , and  
update  $BL_{j-1}$  to  $BL_j$

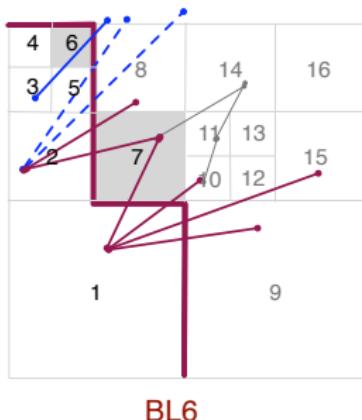


# Finding the intersections of $E^+$ and $Q$ ( $k = 1$ )

Input:  $Q = \{[z_1, z_2], [z_2, z_3], \dots\}$  in Z-order,  $E^+$

Algorithm:

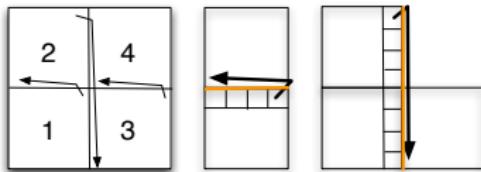
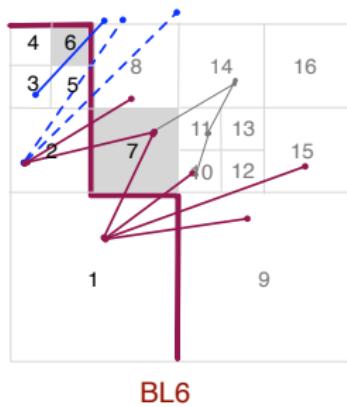
- Sort  $E^+$  by z-index of first endpoint.
- For each interval  $I_j = [z_j, z_{j+1}]$  in  $Q$ :
  - Find all edges in  $E^+$  that start in  $I_j$ :  
read all  $e = (p, q)$  from  $E^+$  s. th.  
 $z(p) \in I_j$
  - Use  $BL_{j-1}$  to find the edges that  
start before  $\sigma_j$  and intersect  $\sigma_j$ , and  
update  $BL_{j-1}$  to  $BL_j$



Search in  $BL_{j-1}$ :  $\Omega(1)$  IOs per cell  $\implies \Omega(n)$  IOs

Idea: Start scanning  $BL_{j-1}$  from an edge that intersects  $\sigma_{j-1}$

# Finding the intersections of $E^+$ and $Q$ ( $k = 1$ )



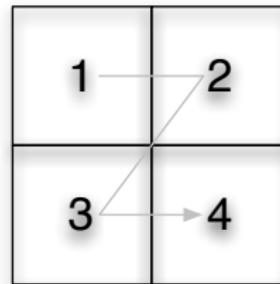
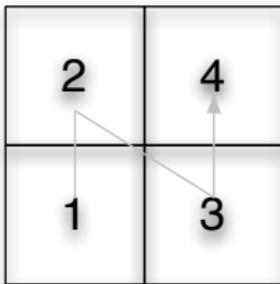
## Lemma

*The number of edges traversed and skipped is  $O(l)$ , where  $l$  is the number of edge-cell intersections.*

The intersections of  $E^+$  and  $Q$  can be found in  $O(\text{scan}(n + l))$  IOs, once  $Q$  and  $E^+$  are sorted.

# Our algorithm

The algorithm generalizes to  $k > 1$  and to  $E^-$ .



# Empirical evaluation

QDT-K

- our algorithm for constructing a k-quadtree

Platform

- C
- Intel 2.83 GHz, 5400 rpm SATA drive (HP blade servers)
- 512 MB RAM

Datasets:

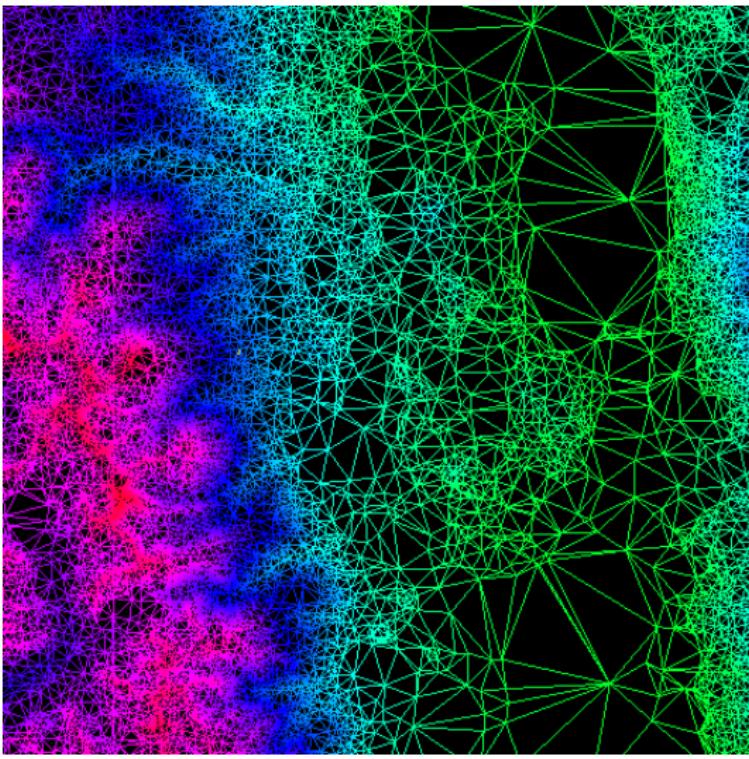
- triangulated terrains (TINs)
- TIGER data

# Datasets: TINs

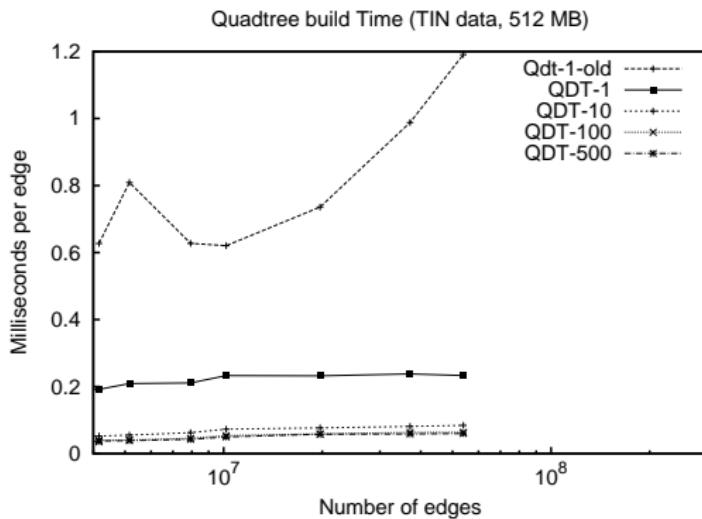
- We ignored the elevation.
- Delaunay triangulation
- Lots of small angles on the boundary

Dataset	$e$	Max inc.	Min $\angle$
Kaweah	$1.2 \cdot 10^6$	31	.0704
Puerto Rico	$4.1 \cdot 10^6$	291	.0010
Cumberlands	$5.1 \cdot 10^6$	44	.0016
Sierra	$7.9 \cdot 10^6$	75	.0137
Central App.	$10.1 \cdot 10^6$	62	.0013
Hawaii	$19.7 \cdot 10^6$	356	.0007
Haldem	$37.1 \cdot 10^6$	78	.0097
Lower NE	$53.9 \cdot 10^6$	168	.0021

# Datasets: TINs



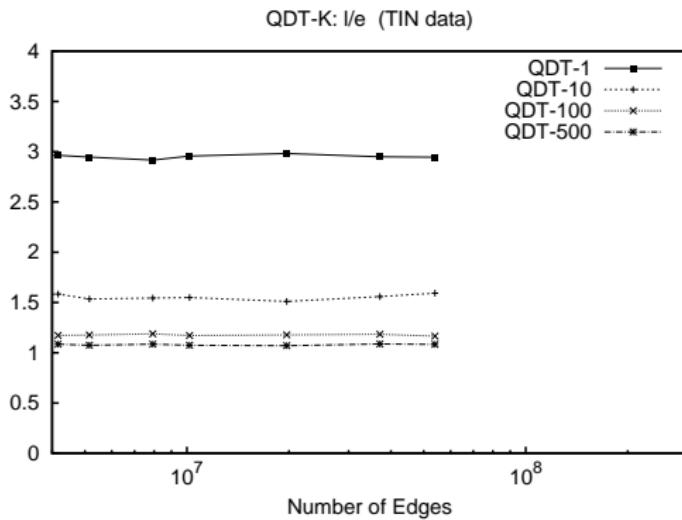
# Results: TIN data



- Qdt-1-old from De Berg et al. 2010
- As  $k$  increases: construction time of QDT-K decreases

# Results: TIN data

## QDT- $k$ total size



- As  $k$  increases:  $c$  decreases, and  $I/e$  decreases (fewer cells  $\rightarrow$  fewer edge-cell intersections)

# Results: TIN data

Sizes and build time on LowerNE ( $e = 53.9 \cdot 10^6$ )

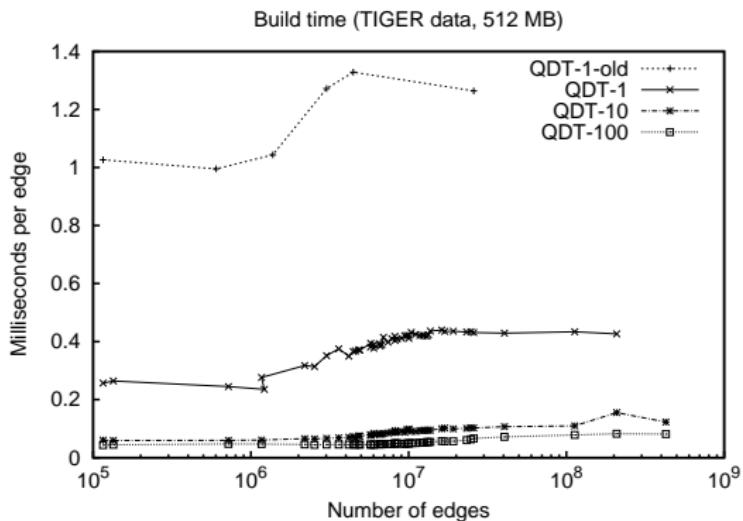
	$c$	$I$	$I/c$	build (min)
QDT-1-OLD	$32.5 \cdot 10^6$	$158.8 \cdot 10^6$	4.8	1,071
QDT-1	$32.5 \cdot 10^6$	$158.8 \cdot 10^6$	4.8	210
QDT-100	$.24 \cdot 10^6$	$62.8 \cdot 10^6$	257.4	57
QDT-500	$.06 \cdot 10^6$	$58.4 \cdot 10^6$	957.4	53
QDT-1000	$.02 \cdot 10^6$	$57.5 \cdot 10^6$	2456.5	54

# Datasets: TIGER data

- Available at <http://www.census.gov/geo/www/tiger/>
- 50 sets, one set for each state, containing roads, hydrography, railways and boundaries
- Largest set: TX ( $e = 40.4 \cdot 10^6$ )
- We assembled larger bundles.

Dataset	$e$
New England	$25.8 \cdot 10^6$
East Coast	$113.0 \cdot 10^6$
Eastern Half	$208.3 \cdot 10^6$
All USA	$427.7 \cdot 10^6$

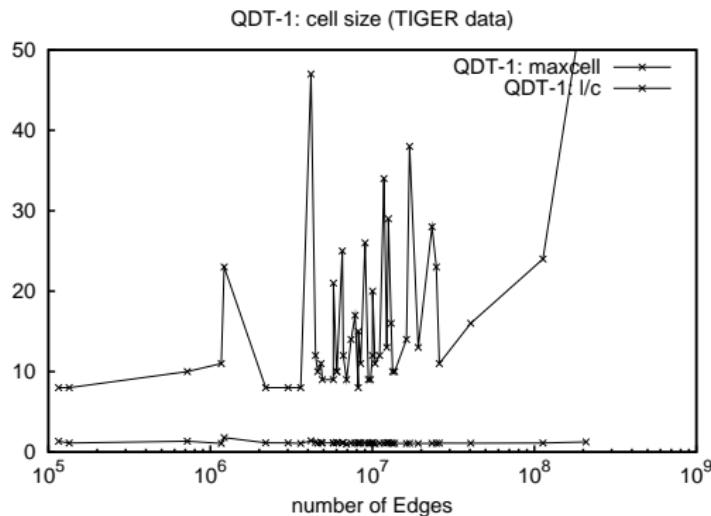
# Results: TIGER data



- QDT- $k$  gets faster up to  $k = 100$  and then levels
- QDT-100 on AllUSA in 9.7 hours, 70% CPU.
- Bottleneck is finding edge-cell intersections

# Results: TIGER data

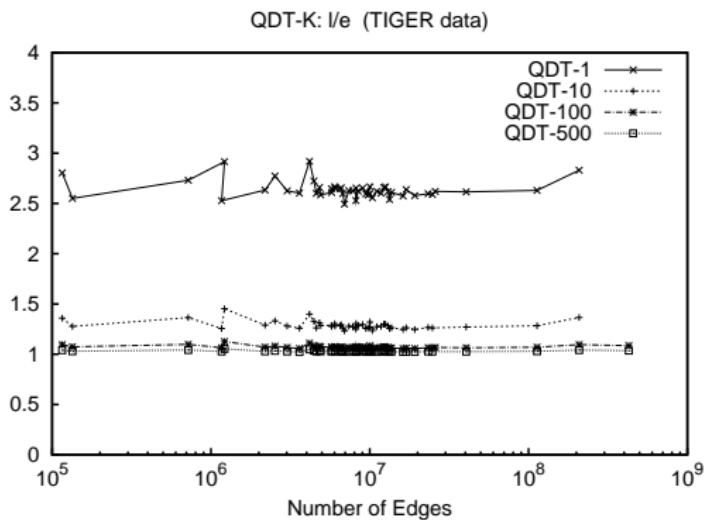
## QDT-1 cell size



- Varies widely from state to state
  - Easthalf: max cell intersects 58 edges
  - ME: max cell intersects 8 edges

# Results: TIGER data

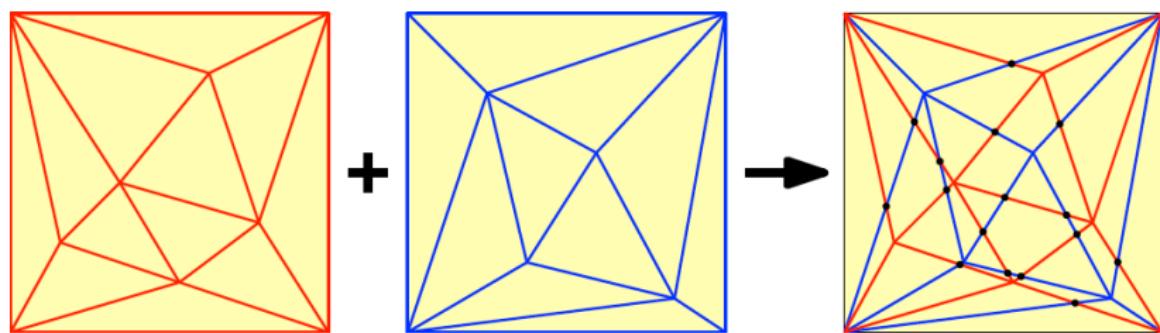
## QDT- $k$ total size



- As  $k$  increases: number of cells decreases, average size of a cell increases, and overall quadtree size decreases

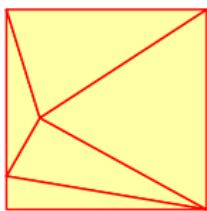
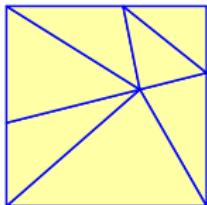
# Application: Map overlay

Finding pairwise intersections between two sets of edges

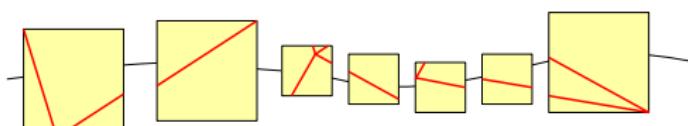
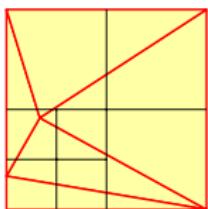
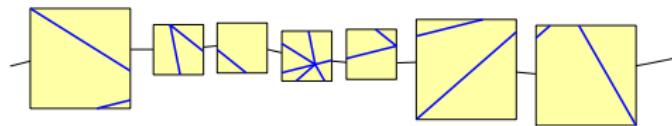
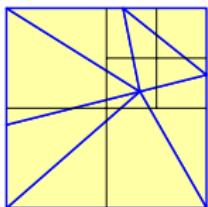


figures thanks to H. Haverkort

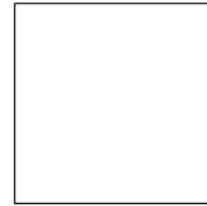
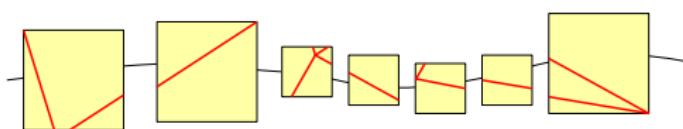
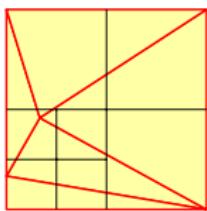
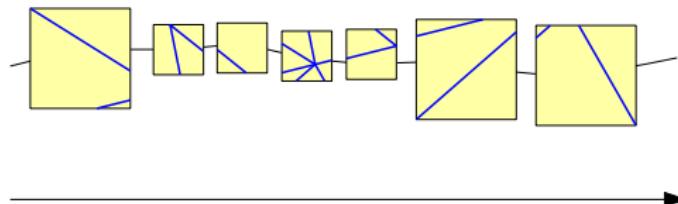
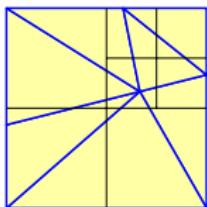
## Map overlay with quadtrees in Z-order

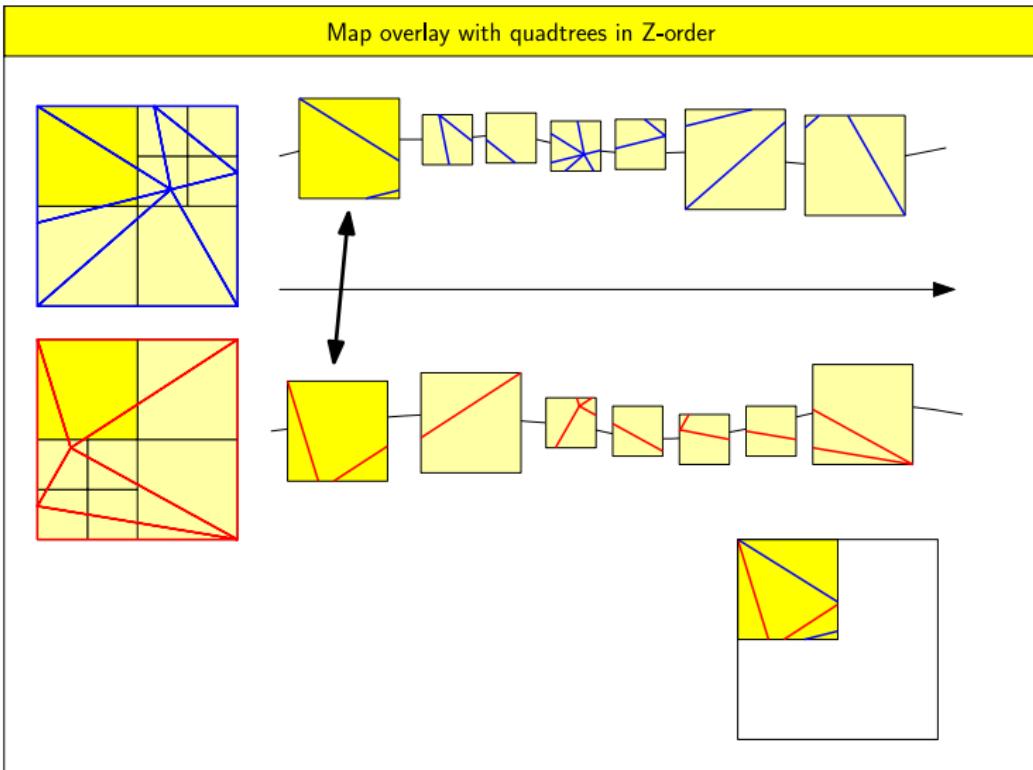


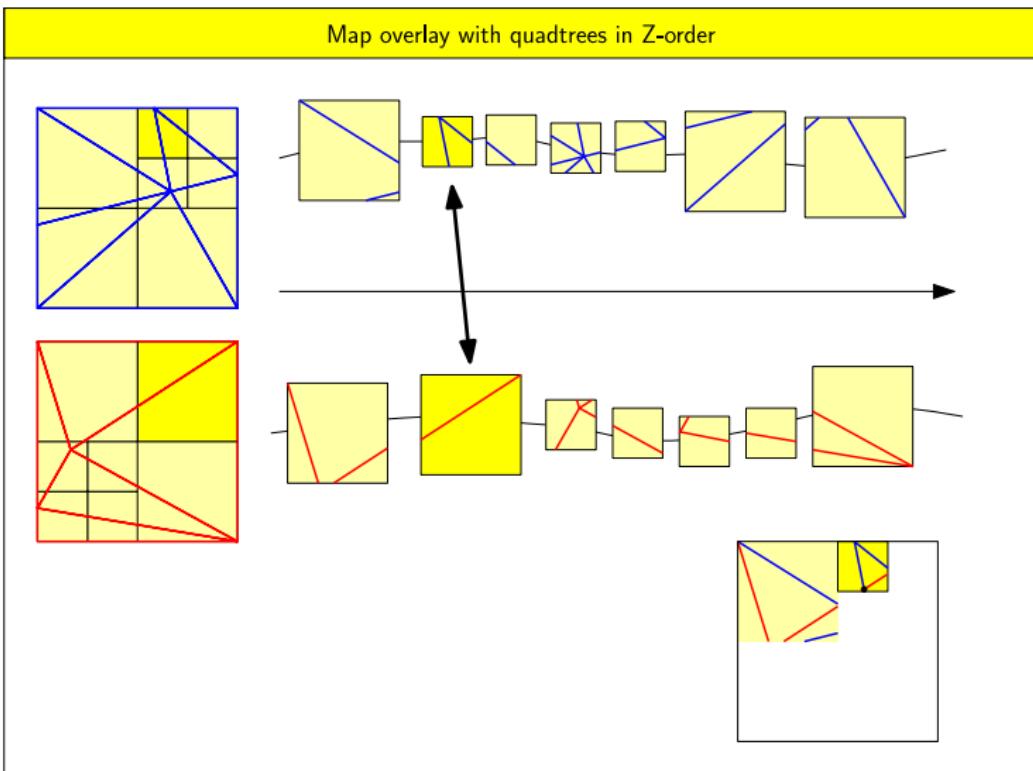
## Map overlay with quadtrees in Z-order

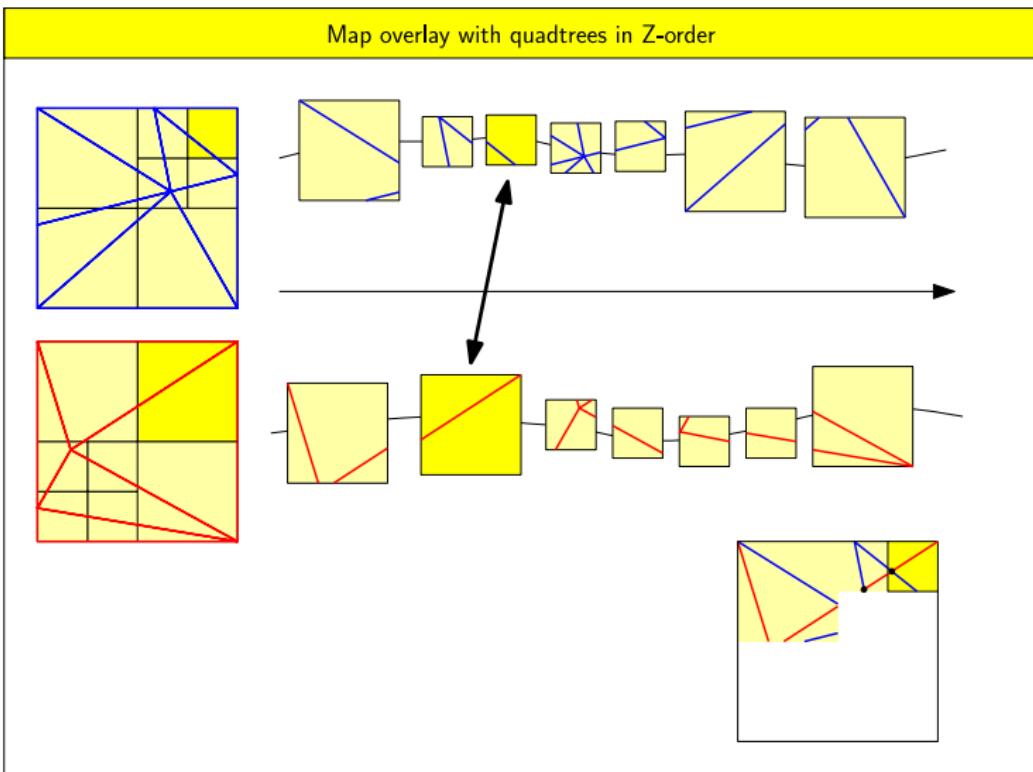


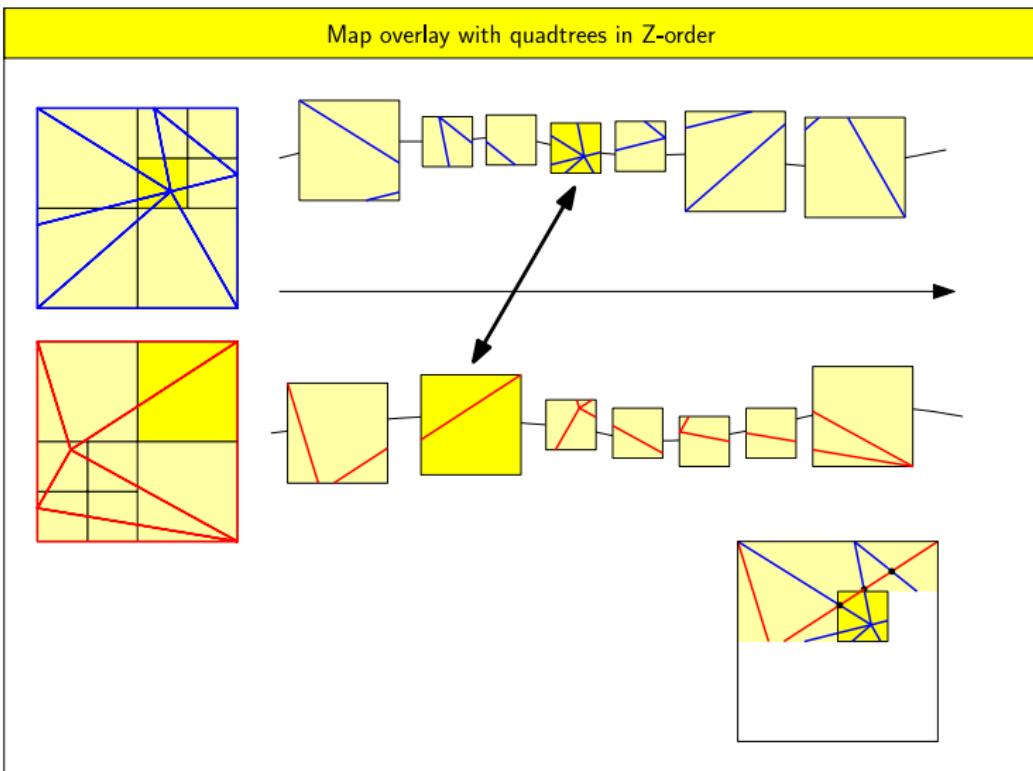
## Map overlay with quadtrees in Z-order

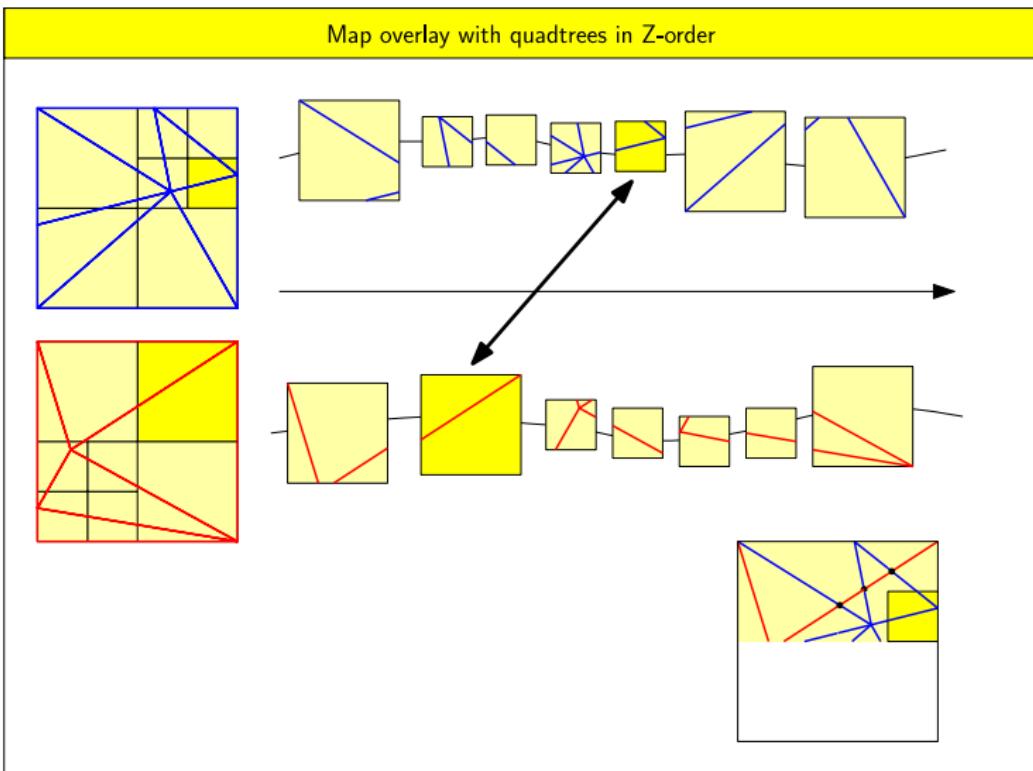


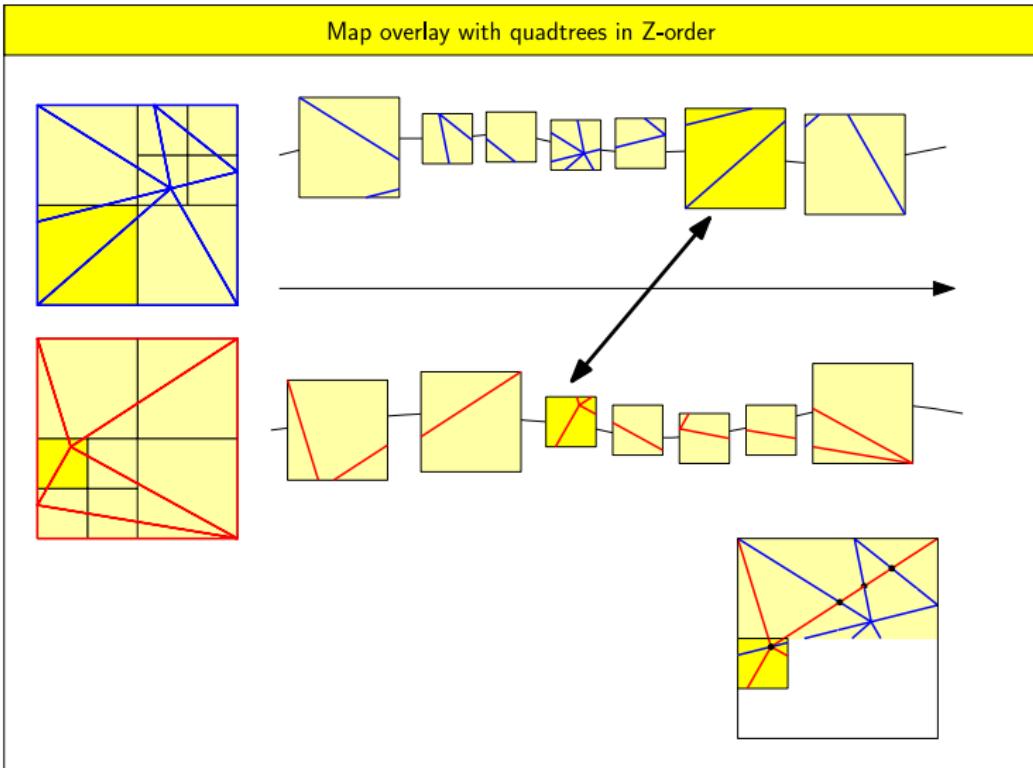


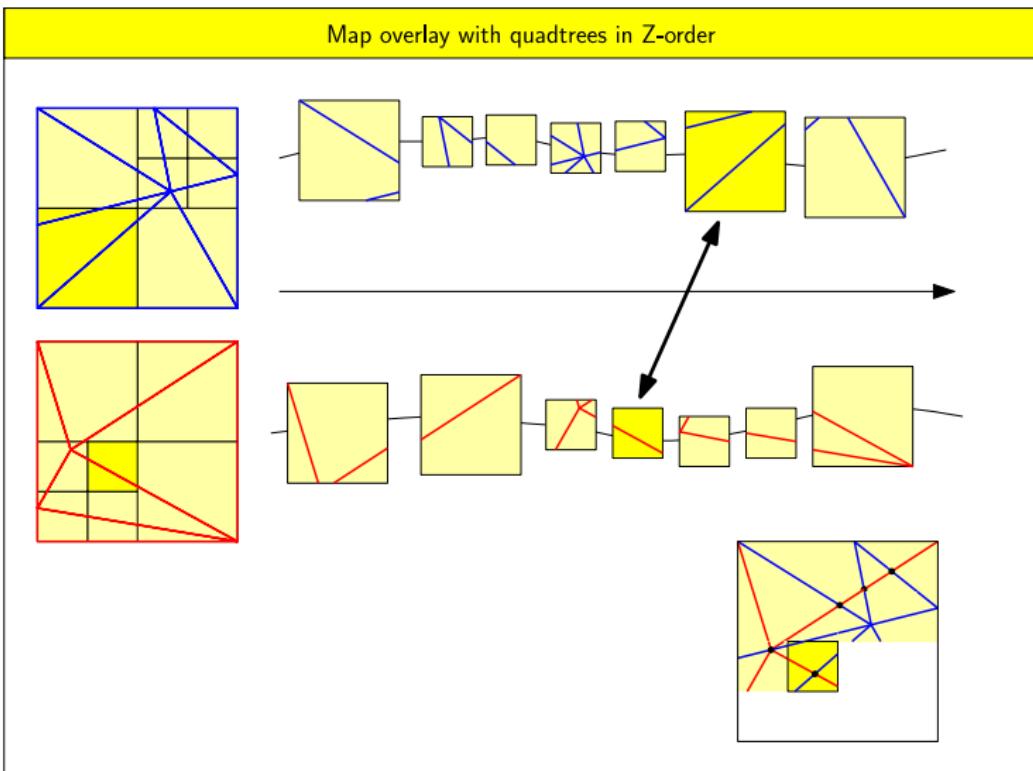


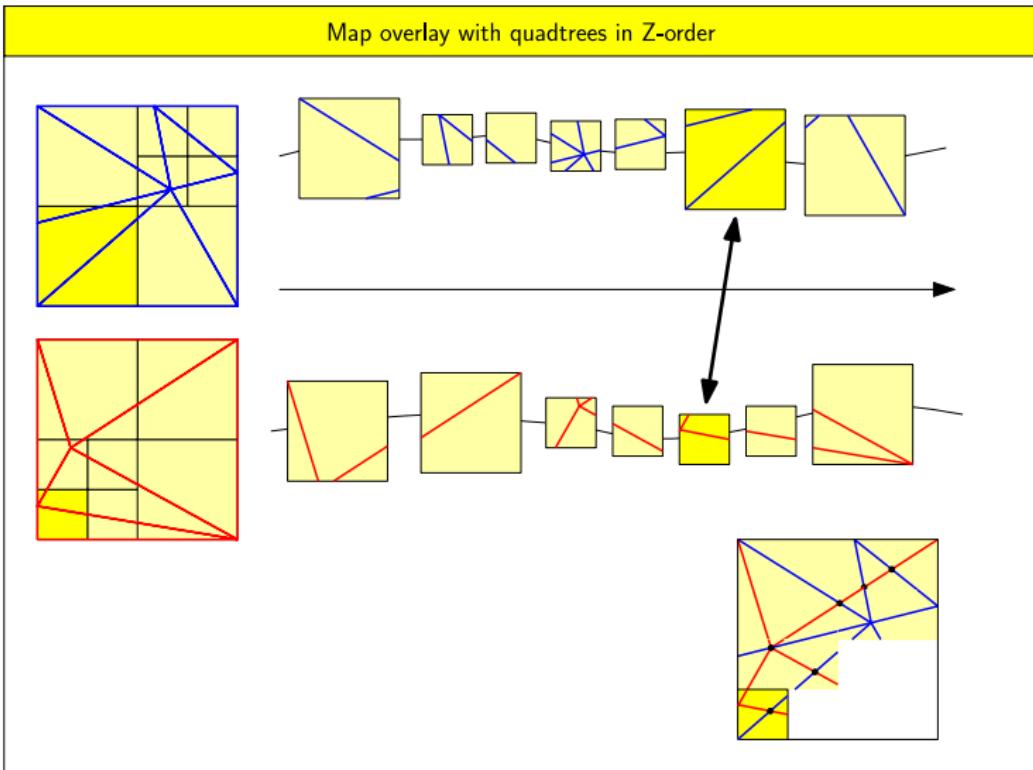


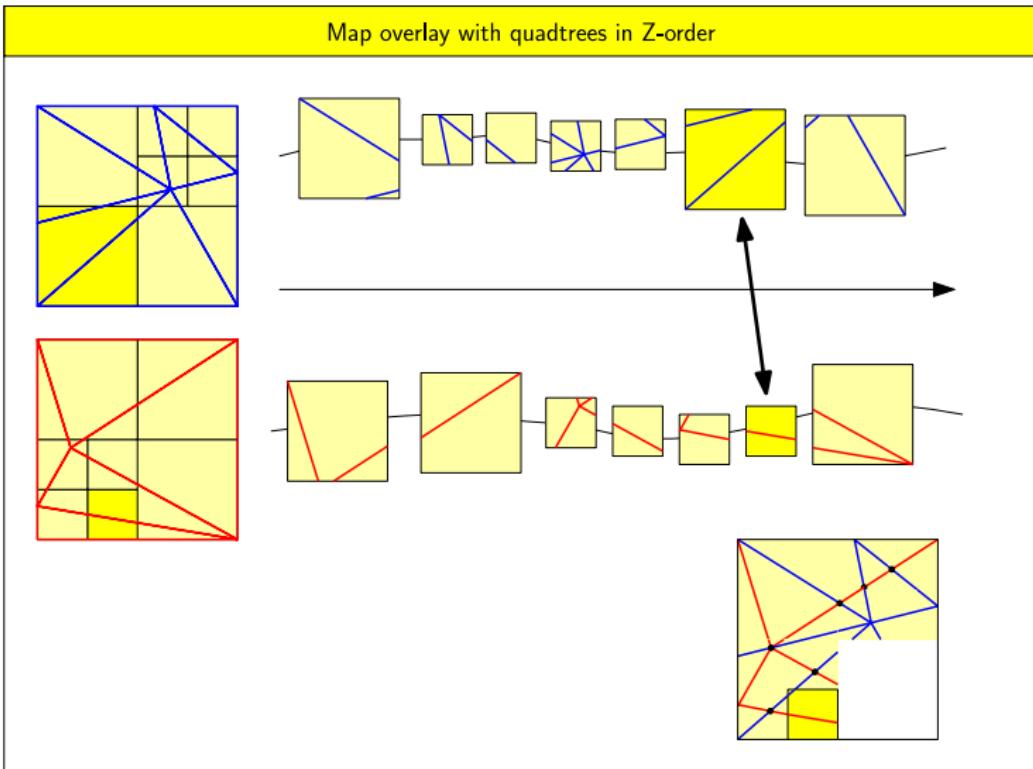


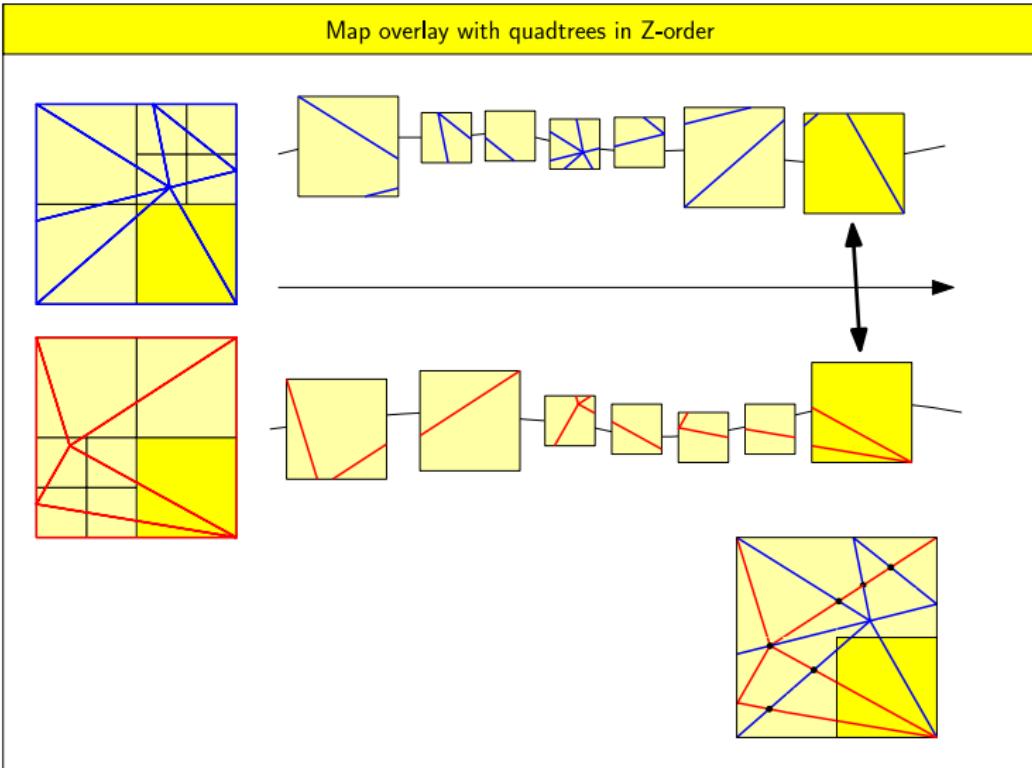












# Results: Map overlay with Quadtrees

- We overlayed a TIN stored as  $\text{QDT-1}$  with TIGER data stored as  $\text{QDT-k}$ 
  - All data scaled to unit square
  - Artificial results
- Competing effects
  - size of a cell, and time for cell-cell intersection both increase with  $k$
  - nb. of cells decreases with  $k$
- Optimal  $k$ :  $k \in [100, 500]$
- Overlay 262 mill. edge in 1.8 hours, if quadtrees are given

# Conclusions

- New, IO-efficient algorithm for computing K-quadtrees with  $O(k)$  vertices per cell,  $O(n/k)$  cells, in  $O(\text{sort}(n + I))$  IOs.
- Viable for two types of data used in practice
- As  $k$  increases, K-quadtrees are faster to compute and have smaller size.
- Optimal value  $k$  depends on application

Thank you!