
An Introduction To Range Searching

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Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany.



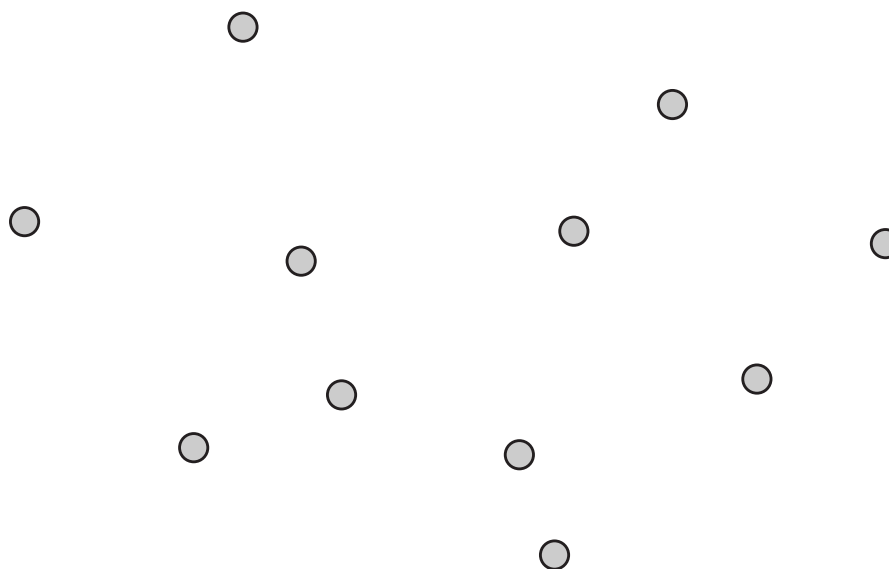
1. Introduction: Problem Statement, Lower Bounds
2. Range Searching in 1 and 1.5 Dimensions
3. Range Searching in 2 Dimensions
4. Summary and Outlook

Problem Setting



Given: Collection \mathcal{S} of n points in d dimensions ($\mathcal{S} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$).

Wanted: Algorithm for *efficiently* reporting all k points in \mathcal{S} falling into a given axis-parallel **query range** $D \subset \mathbb{R}^d$.

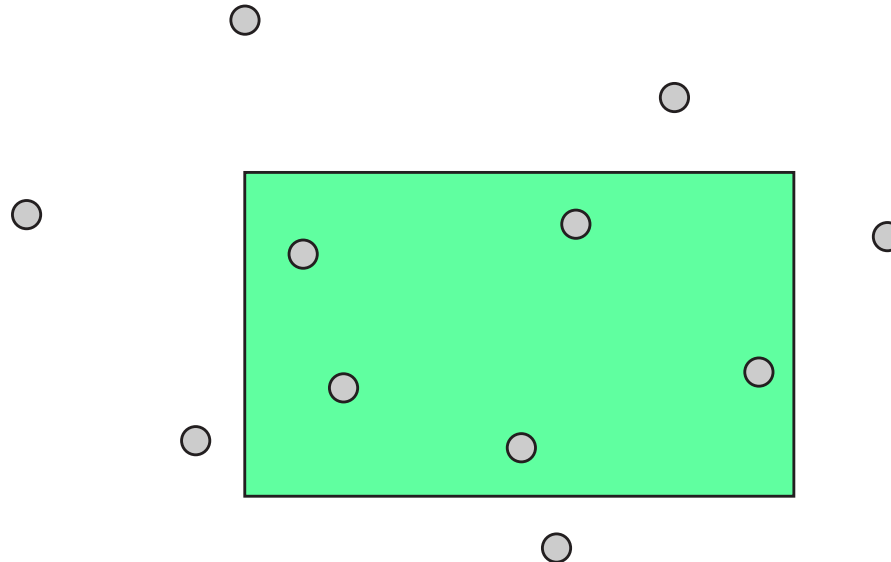


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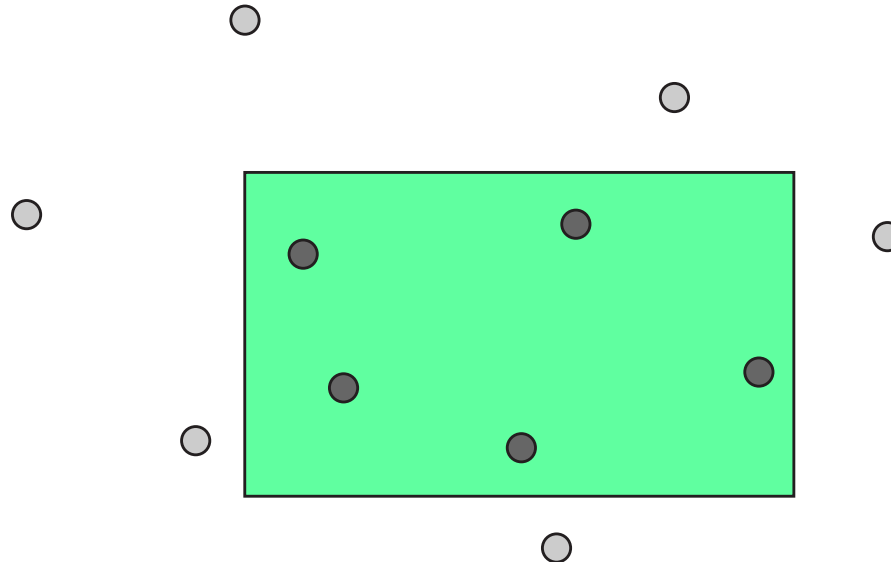


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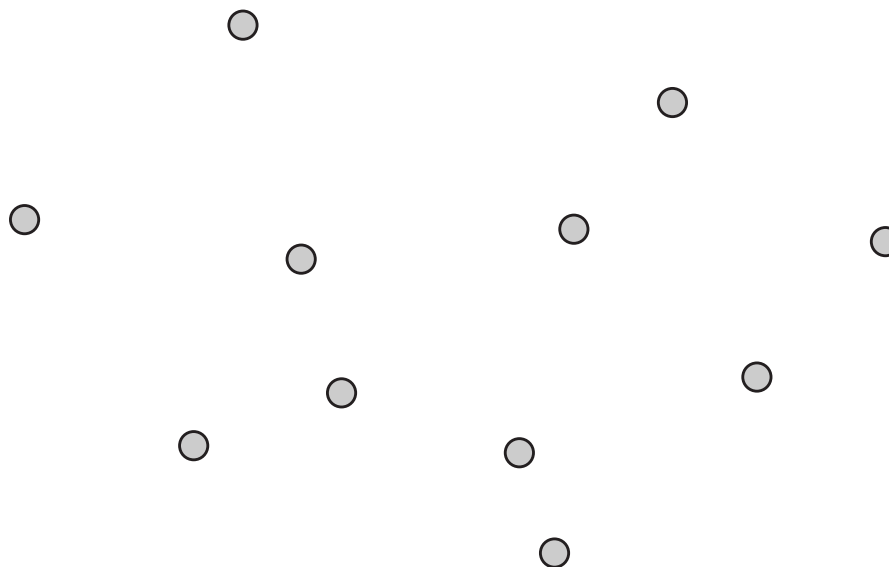


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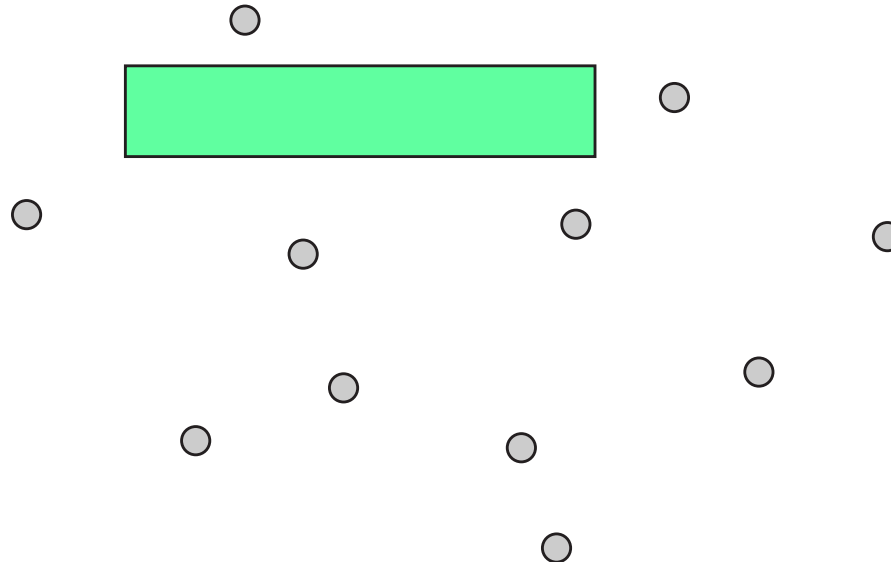


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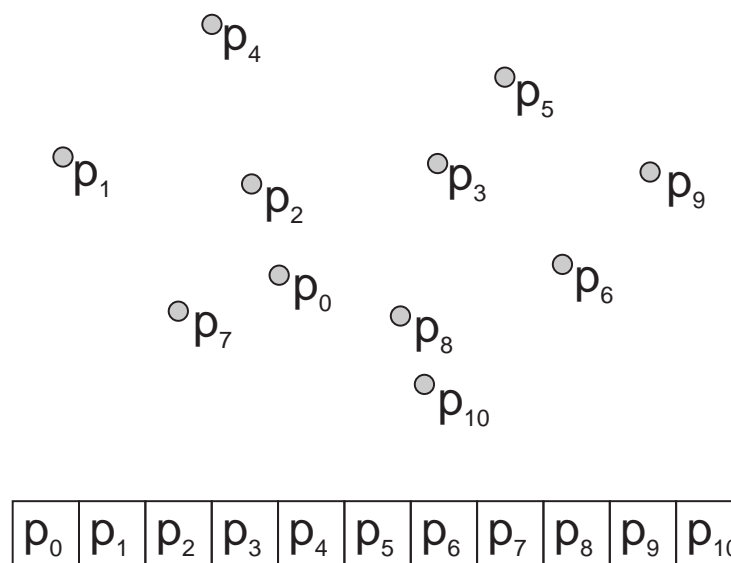
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Applications: Geographic Information Systems; Databases having relations in which the keys can be totally ordered.

A First Approach



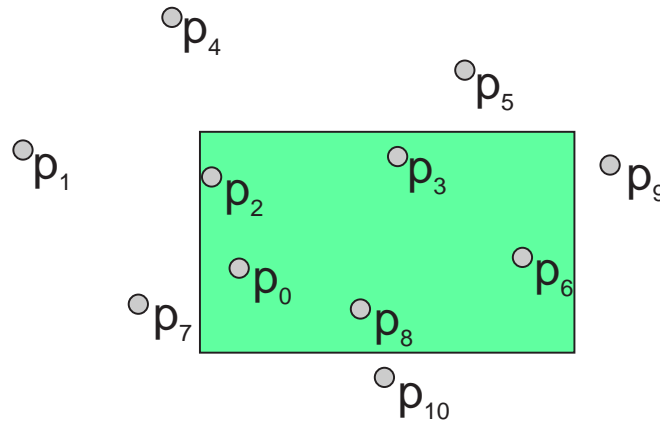
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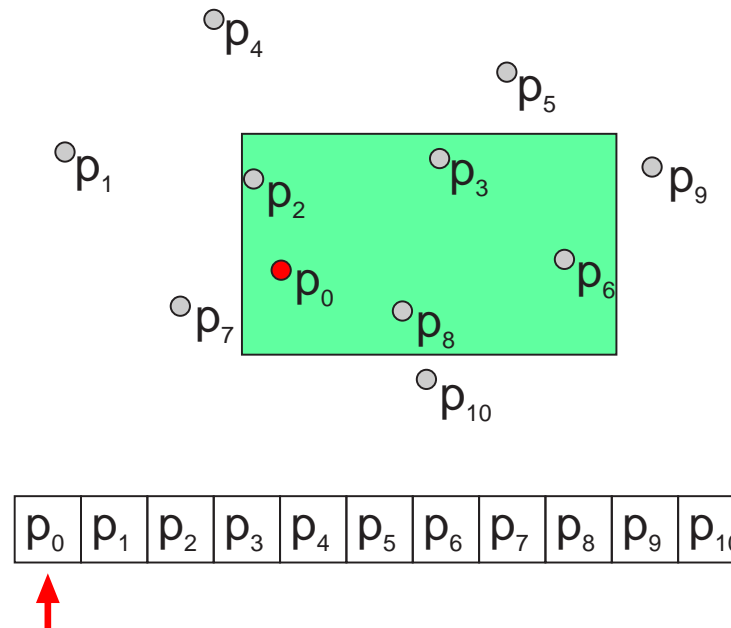


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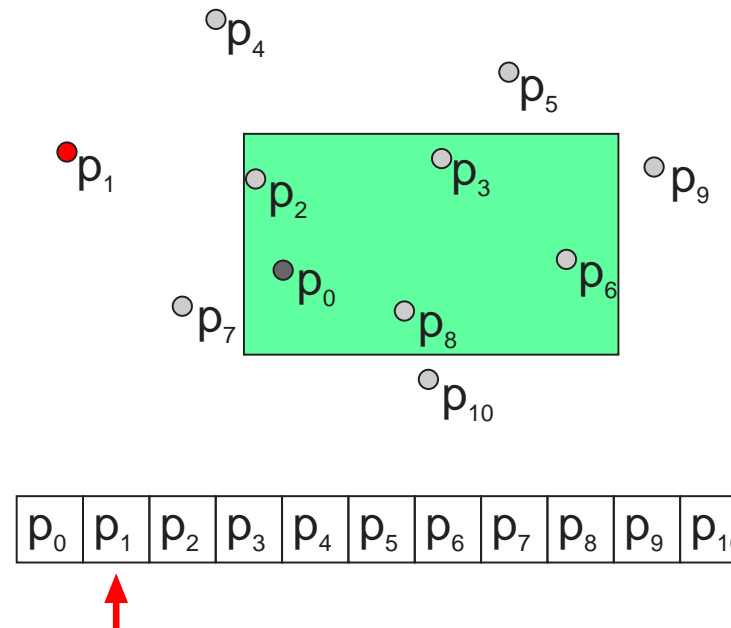
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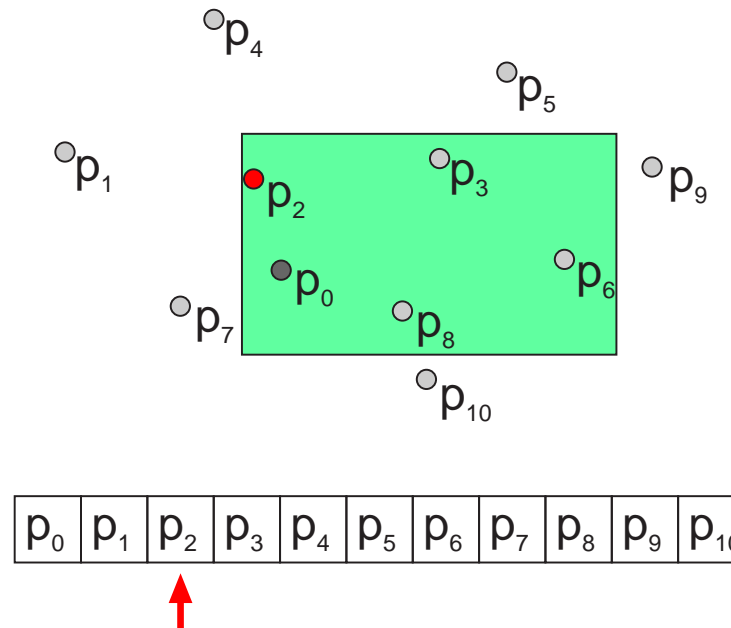
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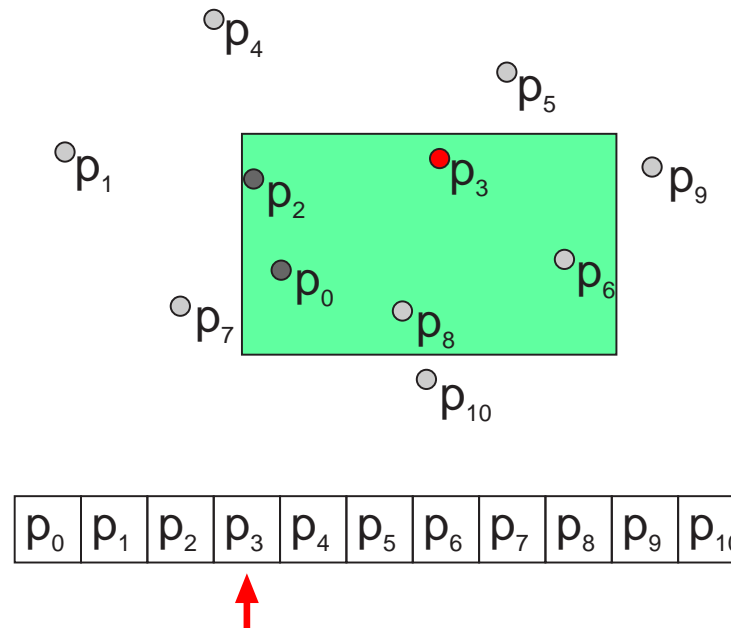
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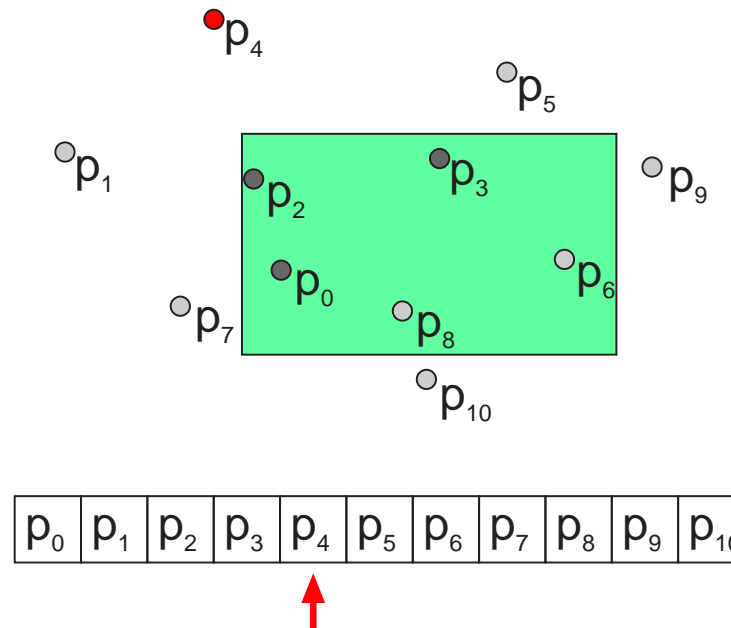
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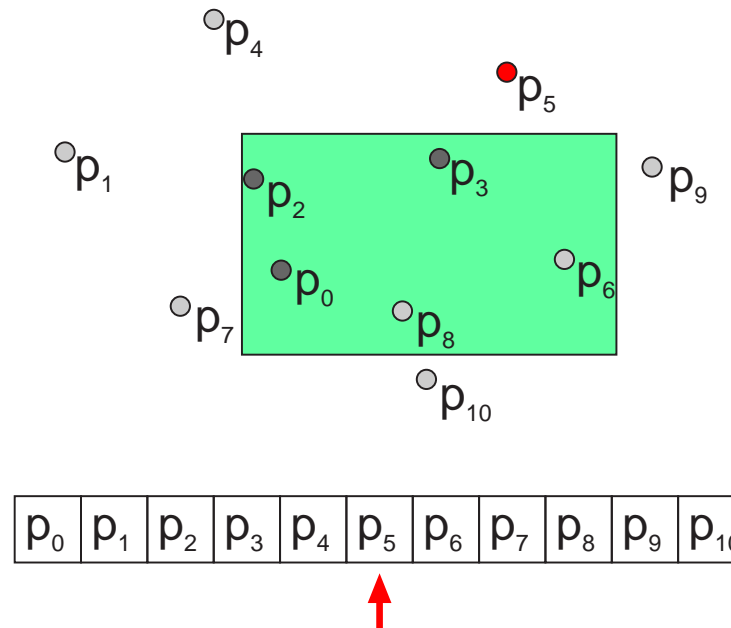
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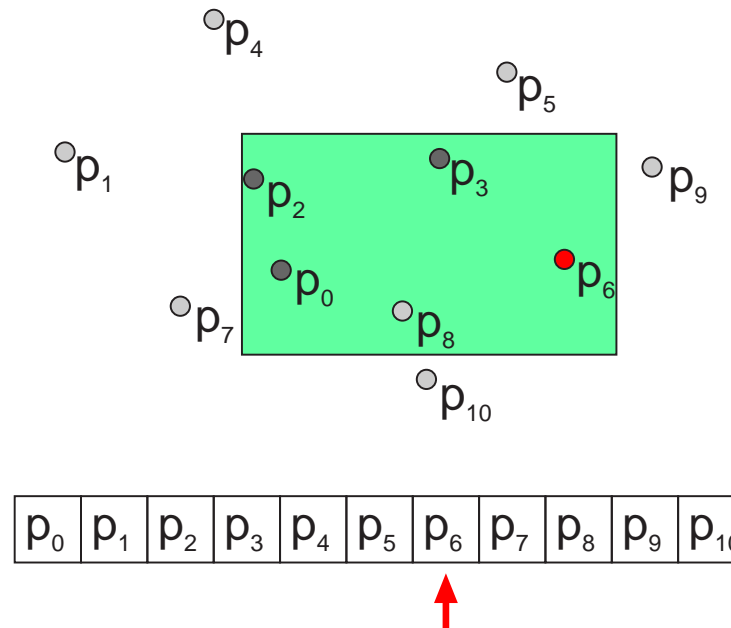
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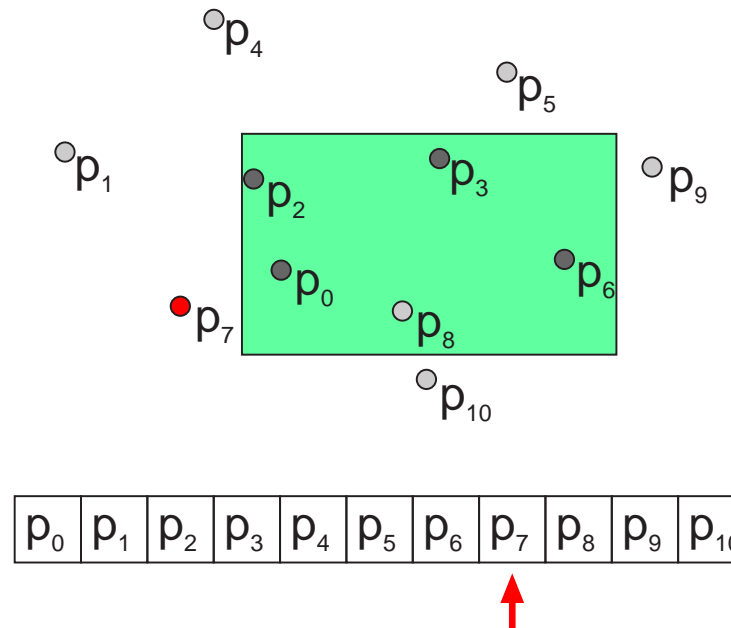
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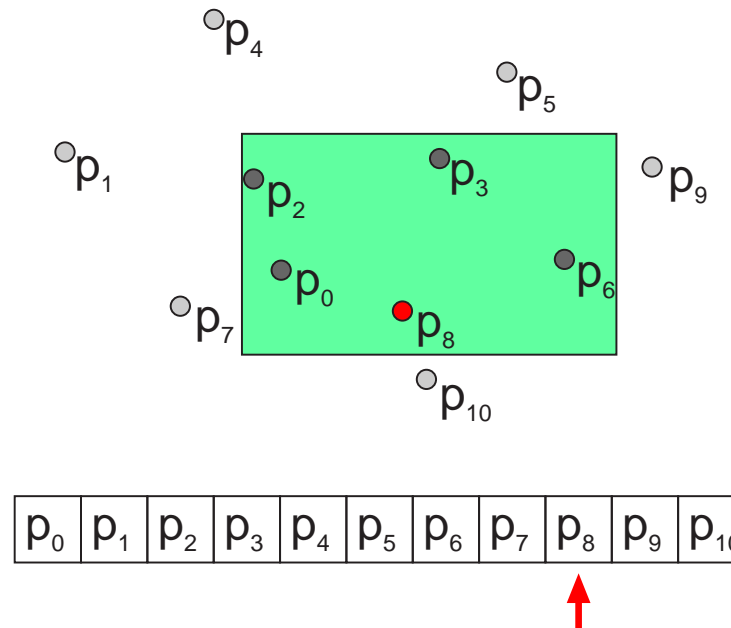
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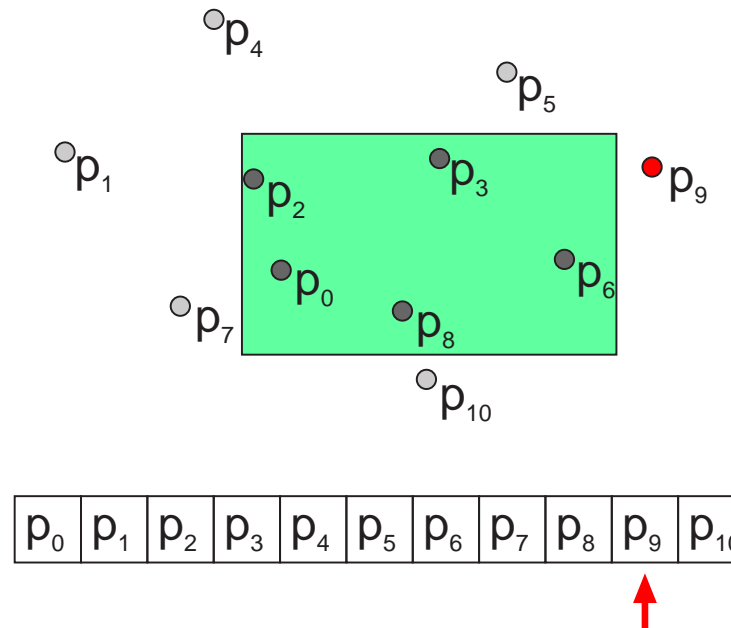
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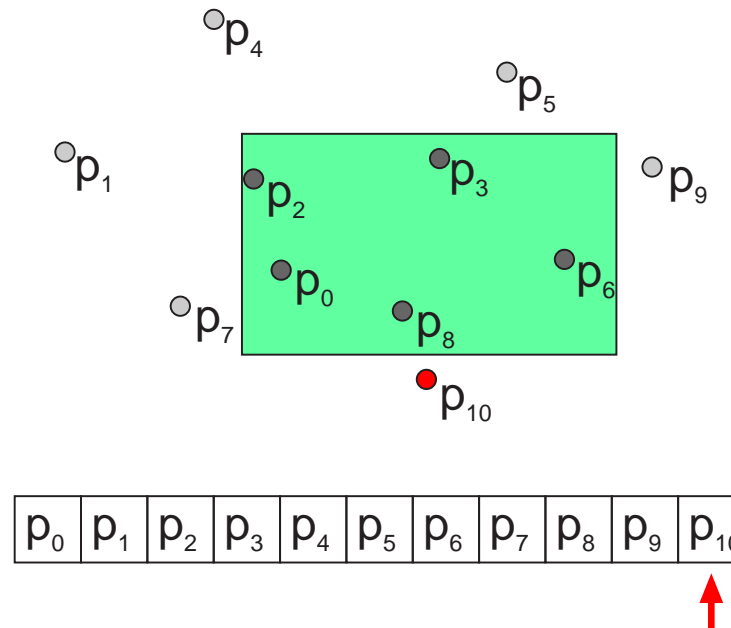
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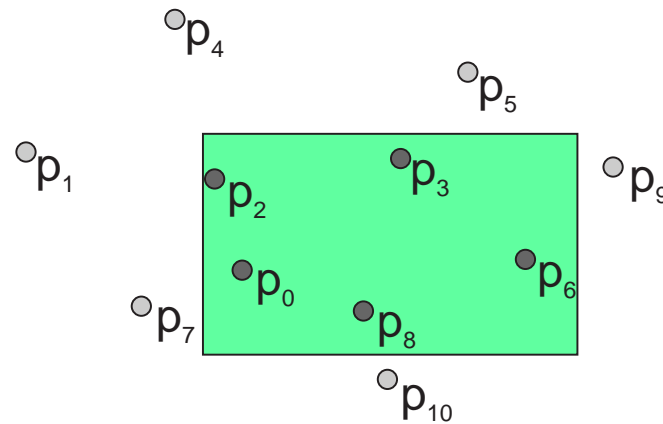
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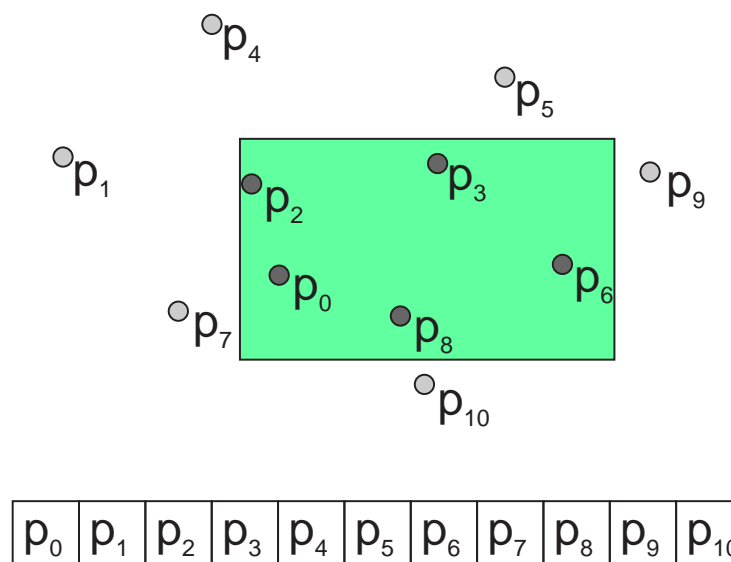


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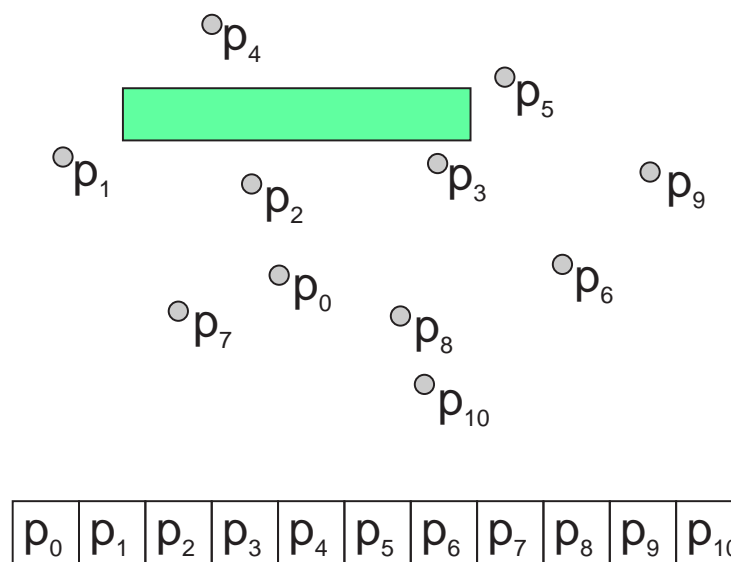


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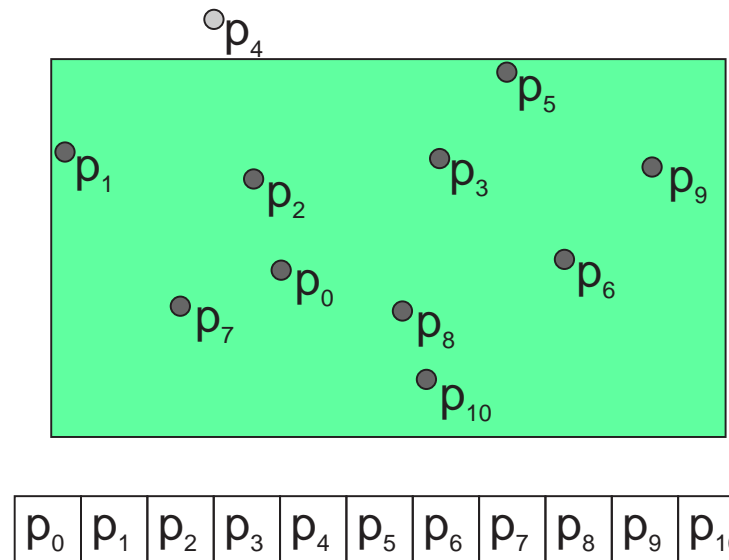


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- Change the model to also include k (the number of points reported) as a **parameter**.
 - Algorithm on previous slide has complexity $\mathcal{O}(n + k) = \mathcal{O}(n)$.
- Time complexity: **preprocessing time** \Leftrightarrow **query time**
- Can disregard preprocessing time for many applications (one-time operation).
- Query time composed of two components:
 - **Search time**: Time to locate the first element to be reported.
 - **Retrieval time**: Time to fetch and report all k elements to be reported.
- Space requirement (lower bound for preprocessing time).

Lower Bounds [Bentley & Maurer, 1980]



- Parameters: n points, k points reported, d dimensions.
- Space requirement: $\Omega(n)$.
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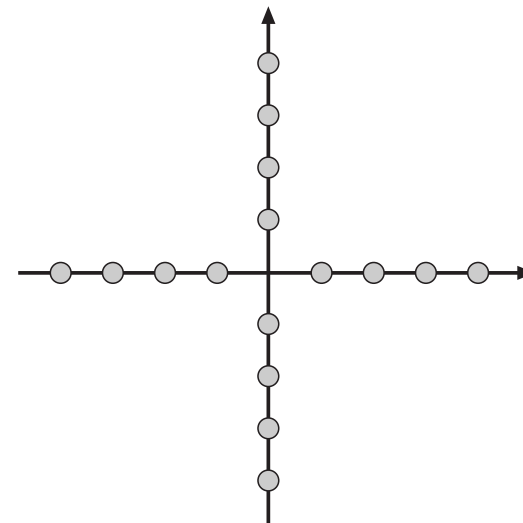


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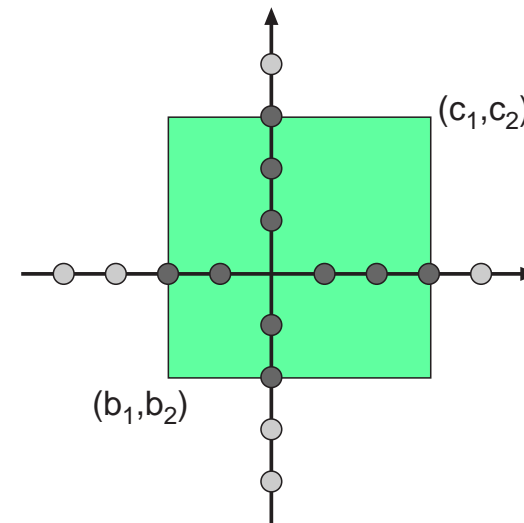
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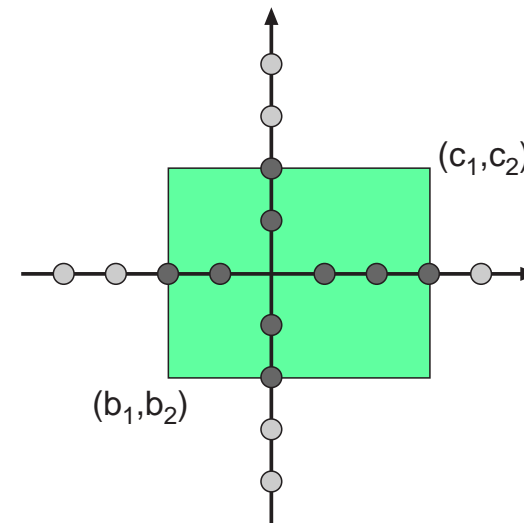
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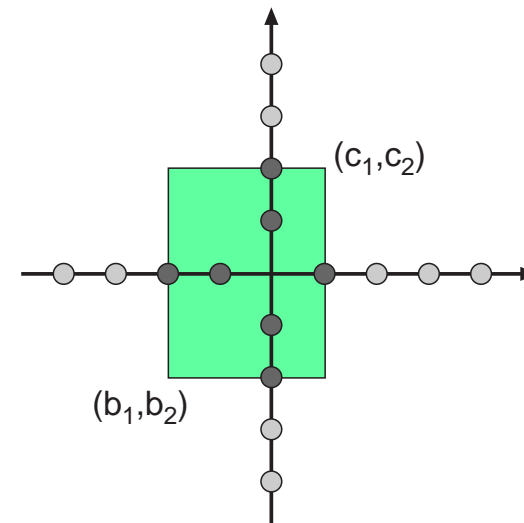
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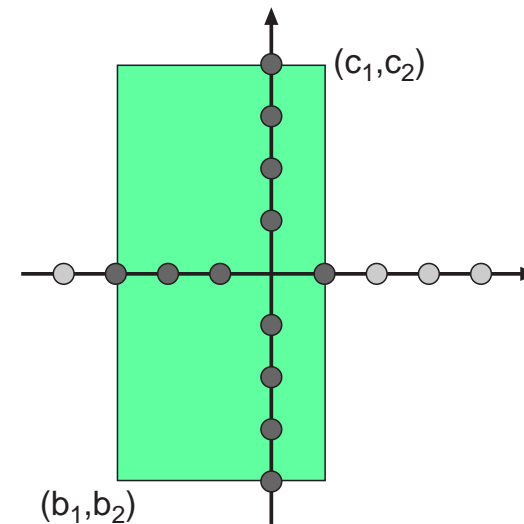
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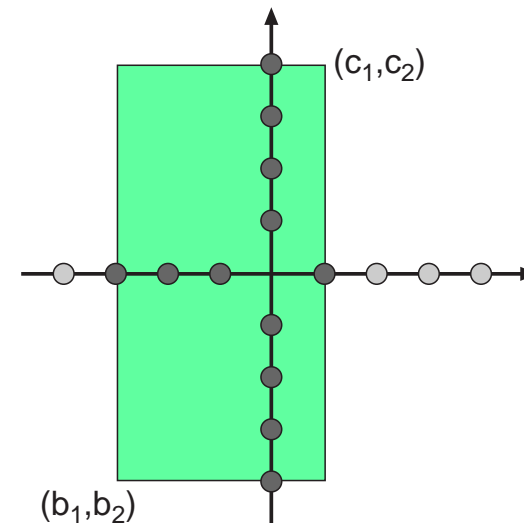
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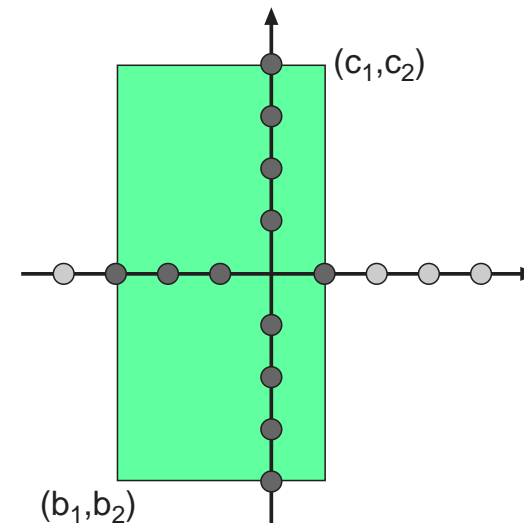


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- Depth of decision tree: $\Omega(\log(n/(2d))^{2d}) = \Omega(d \cdot \log n)$.
- Lower bound not tight for all d .



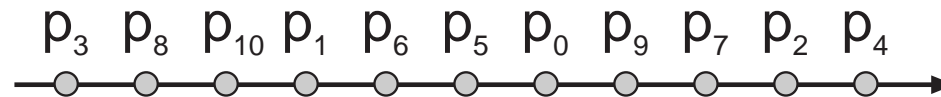


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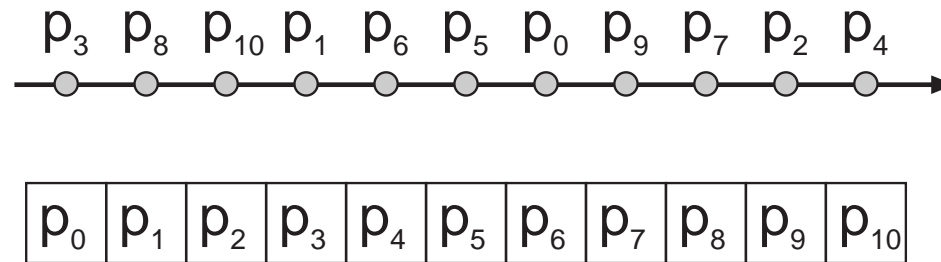
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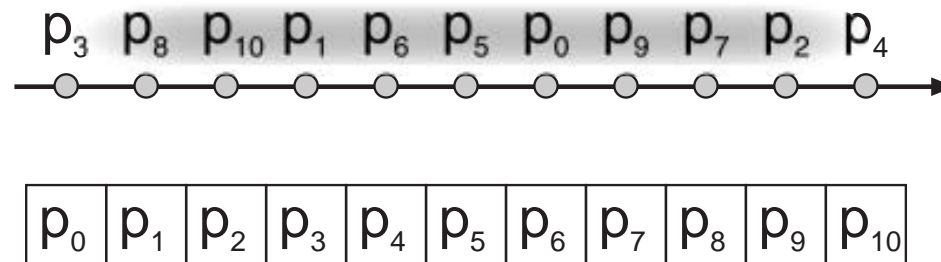


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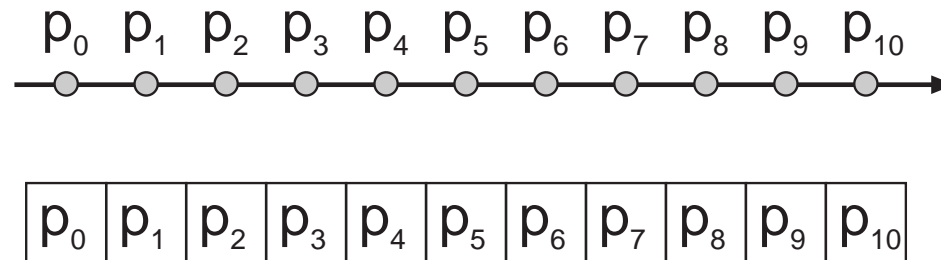


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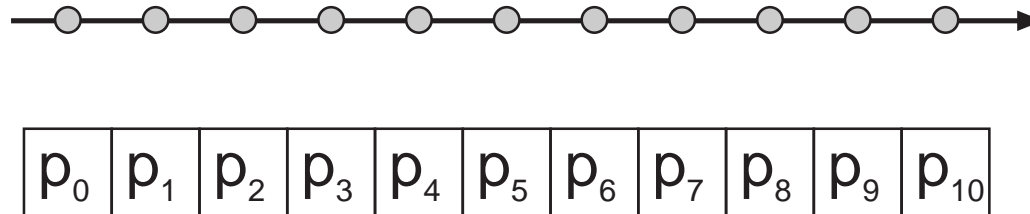


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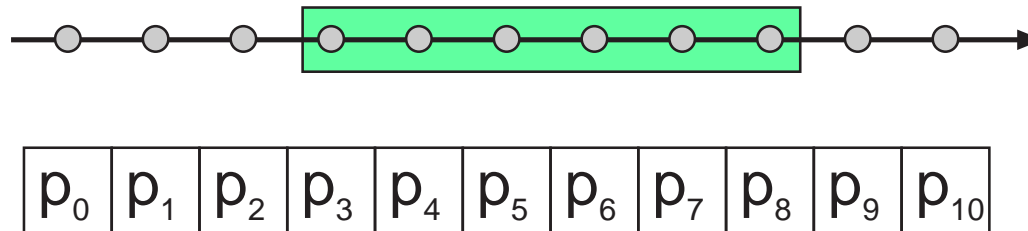


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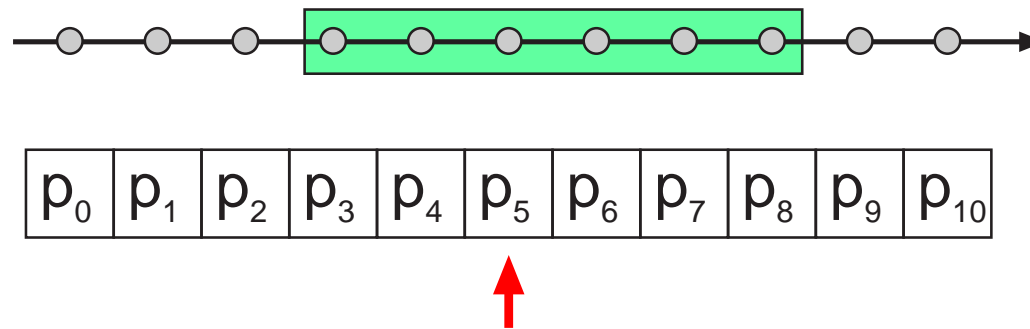


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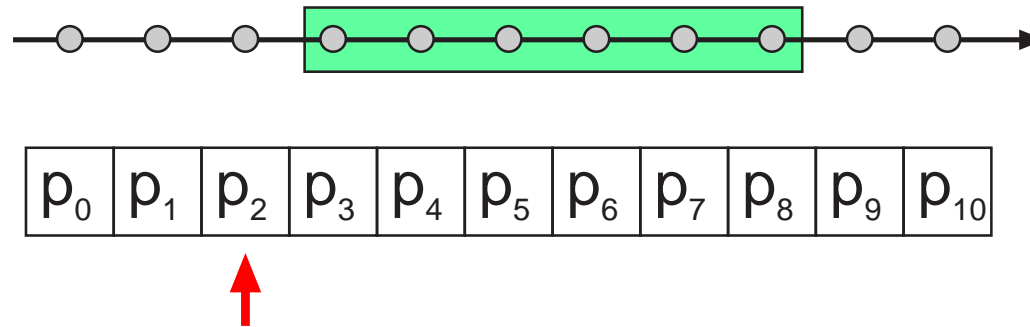


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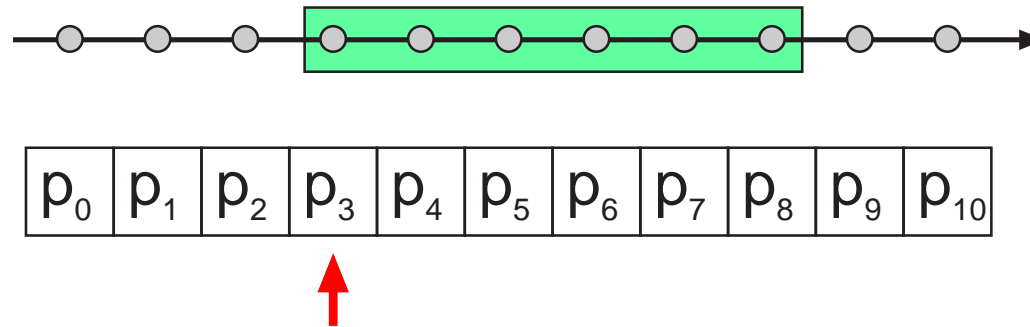


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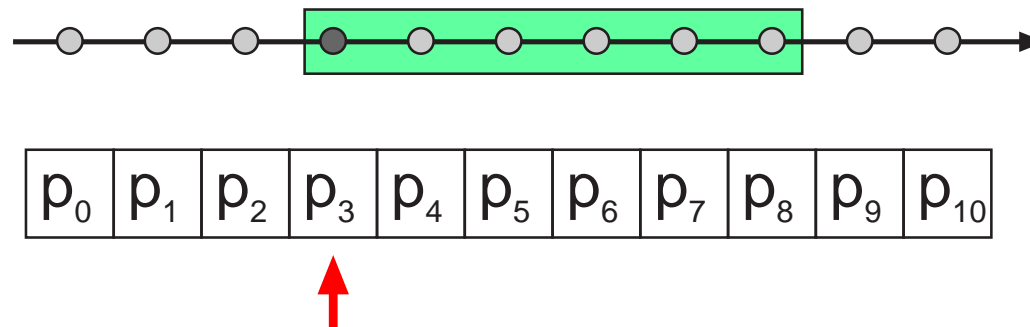


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... scan forward until first $p_i < x_2$ (or end of array).

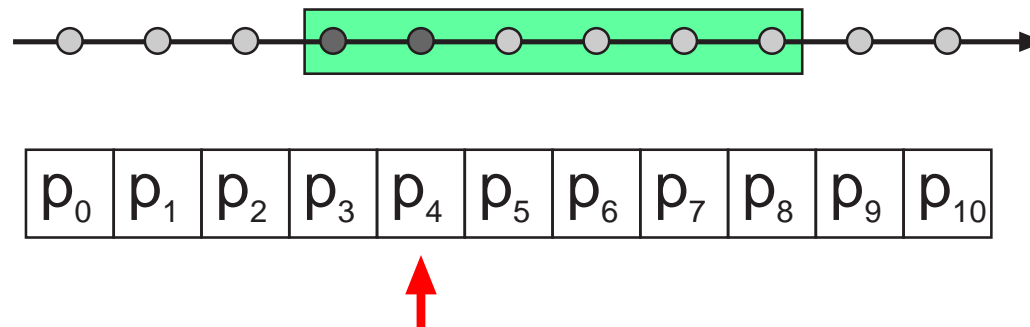


One-Dimensional Range Searching

- Point set $\mathcal{S} = \{p_0, \dots, p_{n-1}\} \subset \mathbb{R}$, stored in an array.
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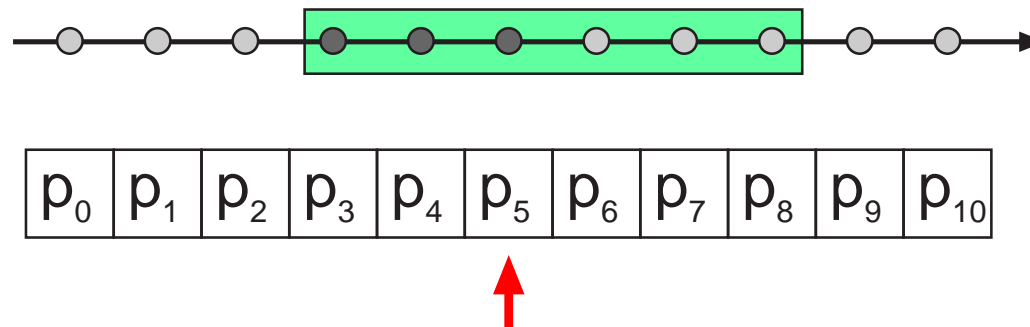


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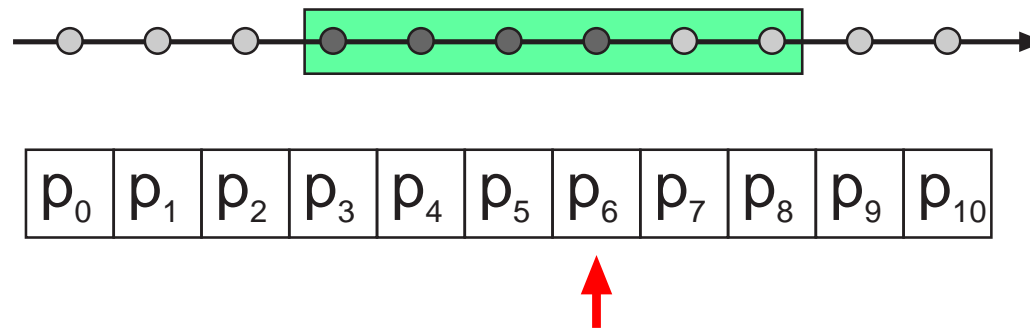


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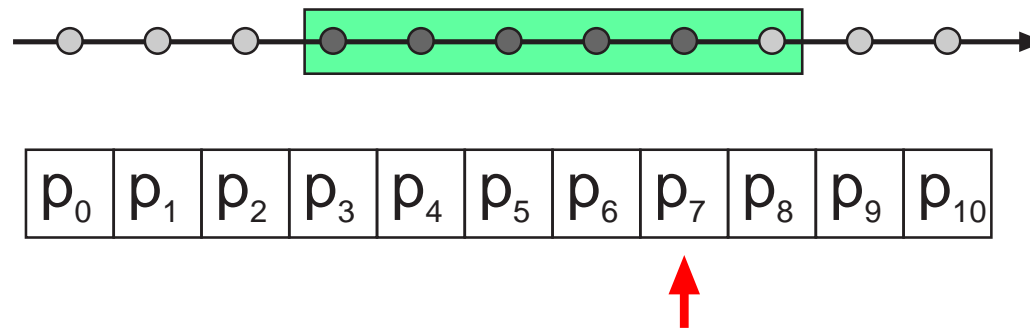


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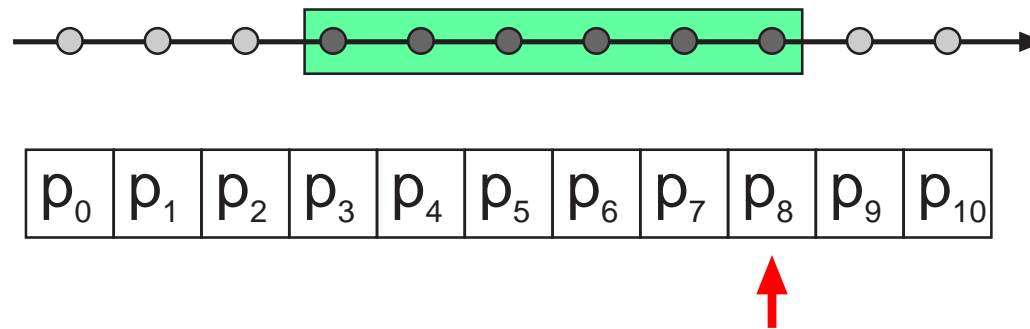


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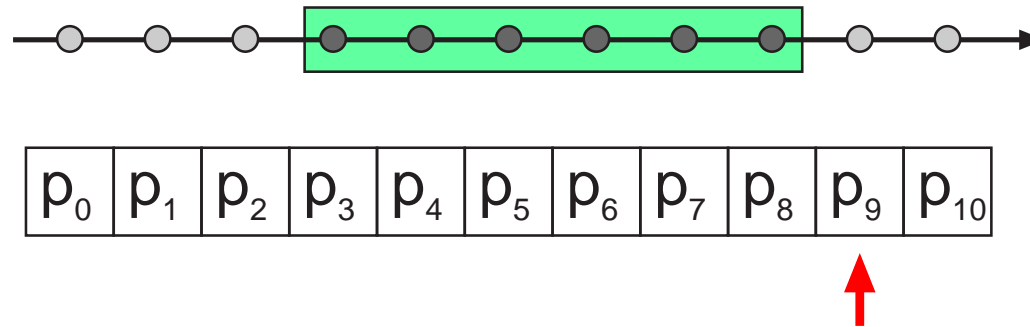


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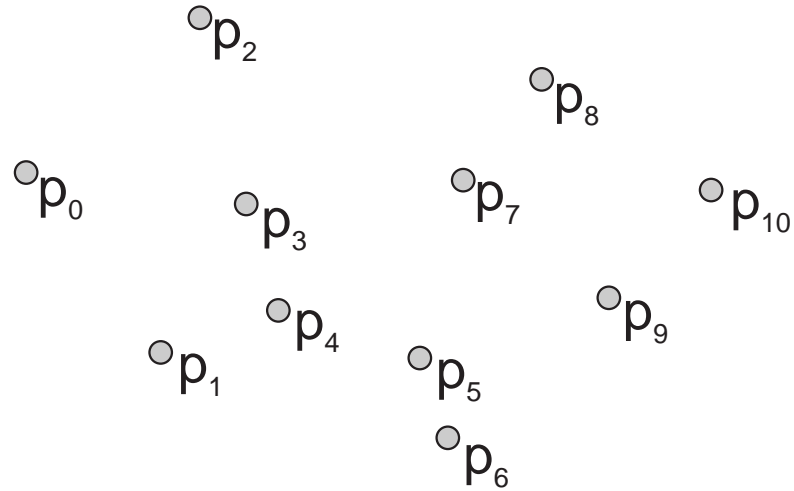
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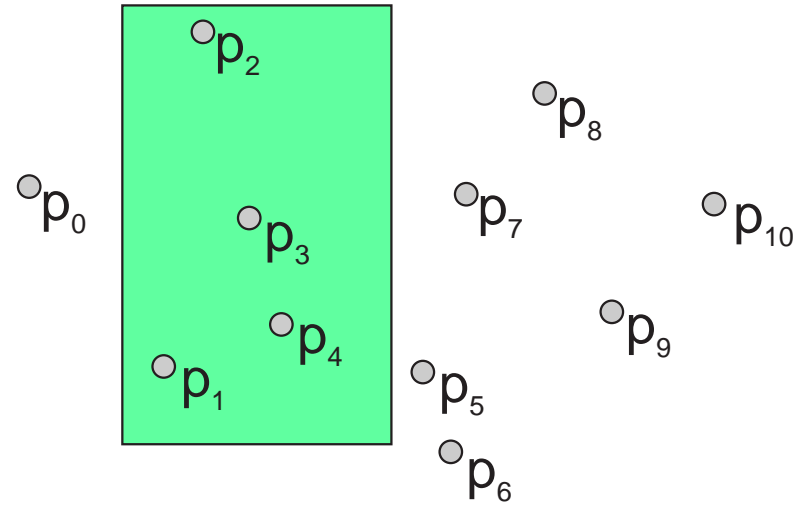
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Does Sorting Help in Two Dimensions?



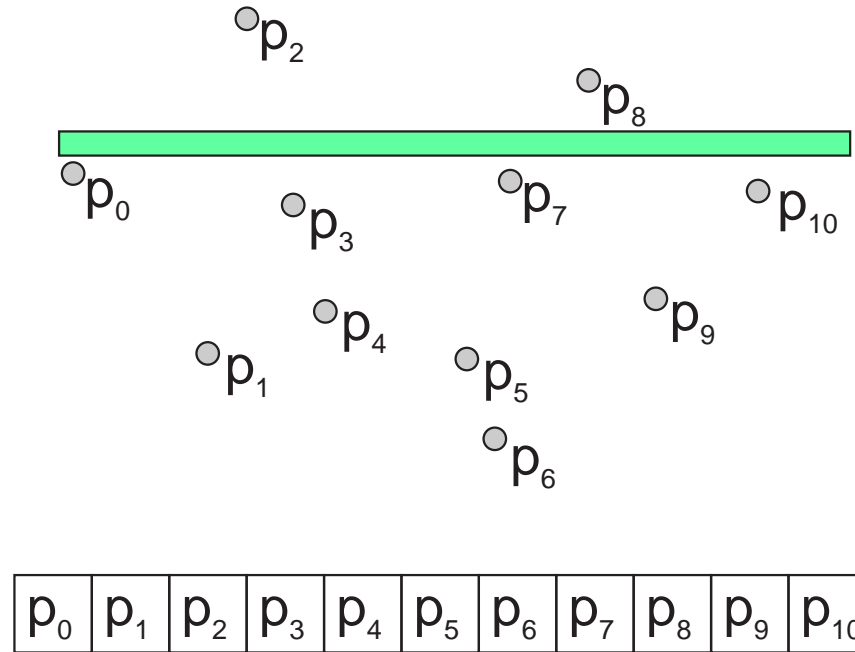
p_0	p_1	p_2	p_3	p_4	p_5	p_6	p_7	p_8	p_9	p_{10}
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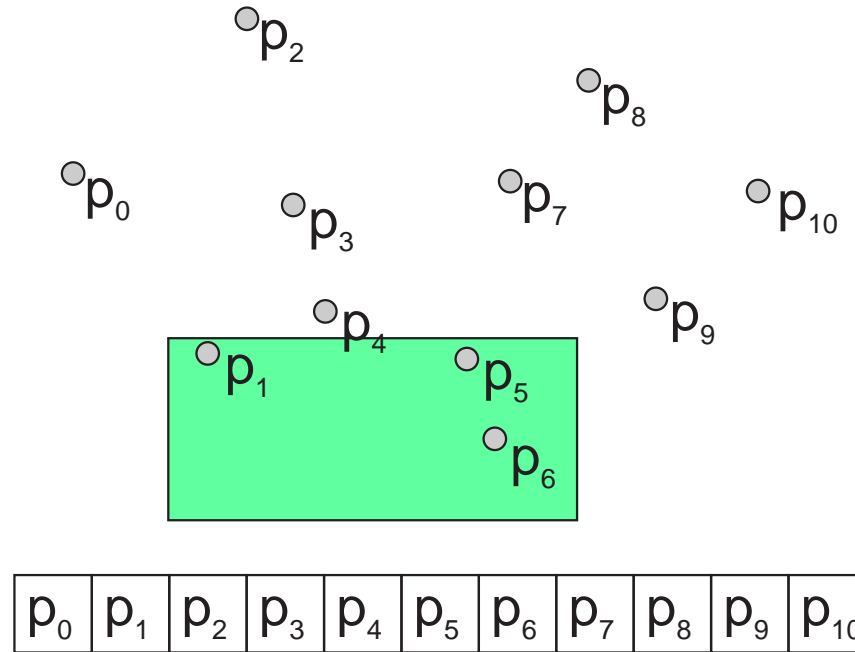


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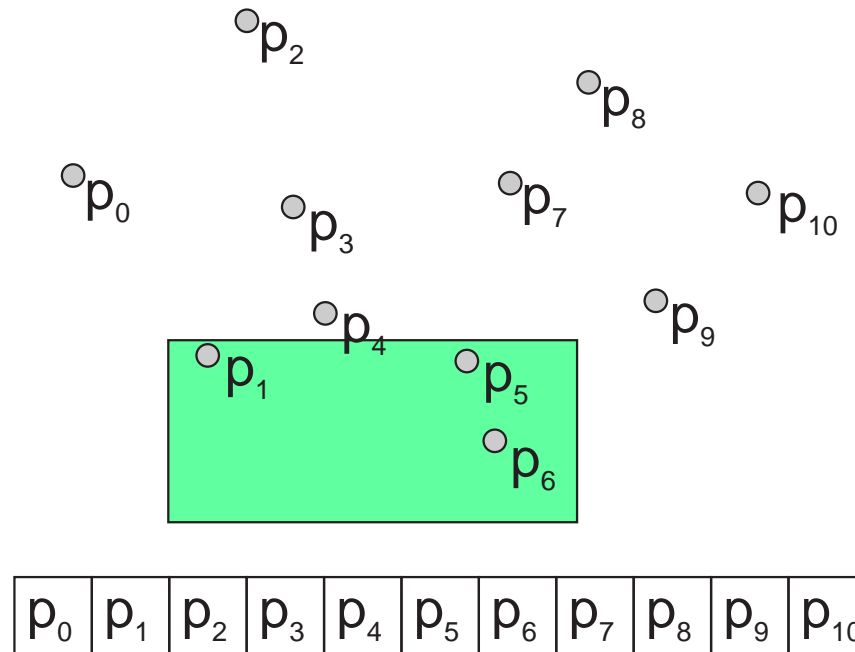
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Does Sorting Help in Two Dimensions?



- There is no total order on points in two dimensions sorting according to which guarantees $\Theta(2 \cdot \log_2 n + k)$ query time for range searching.

Recap: One-Dimensional Range Searching



- Key ingredient: **binary search** (bisection).
- Replace (sorted) array by binary search tree.

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---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----

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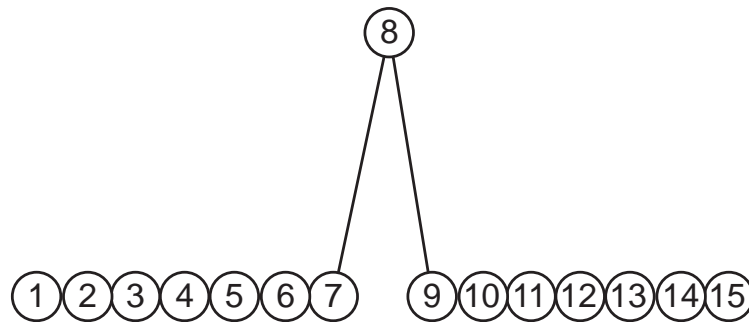
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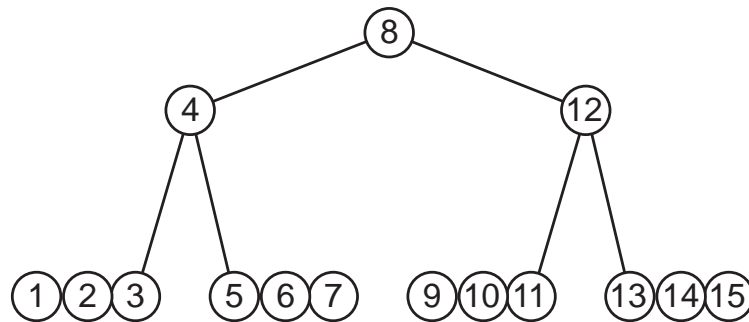
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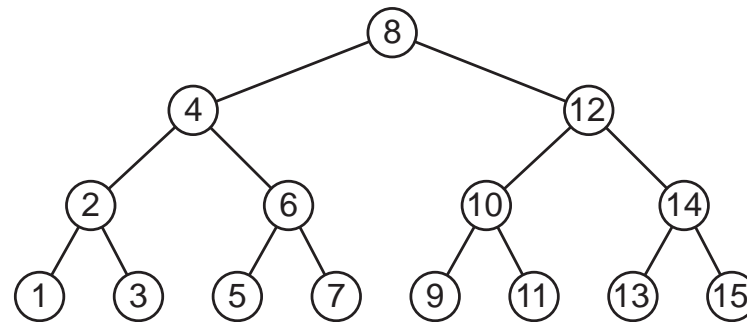
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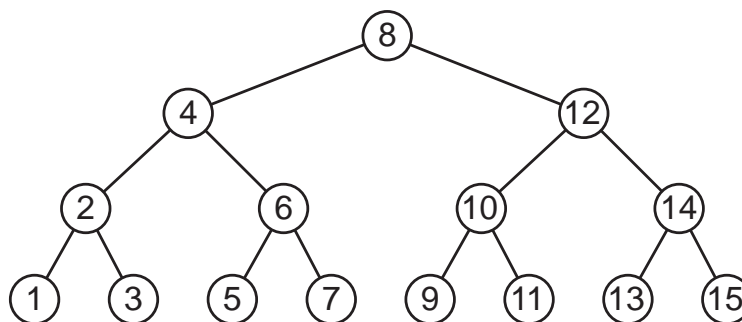
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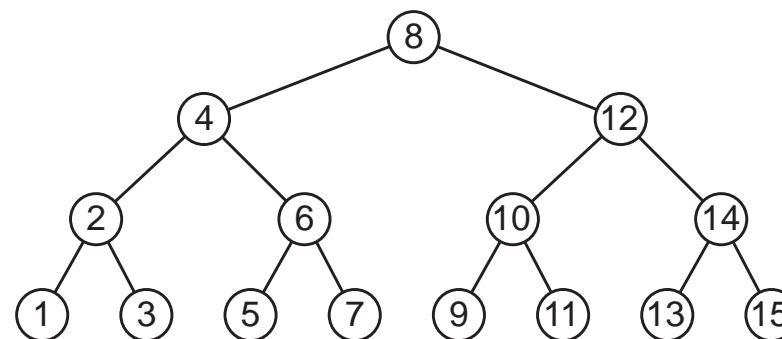
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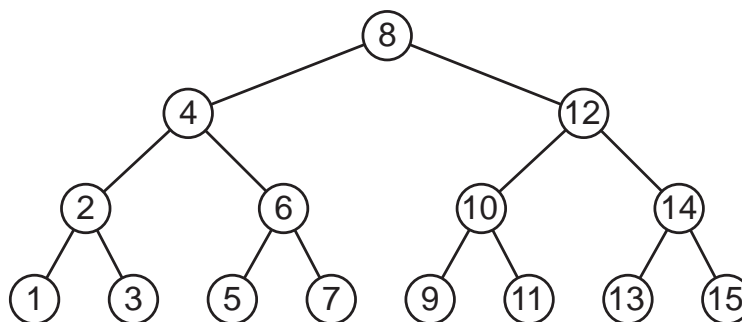
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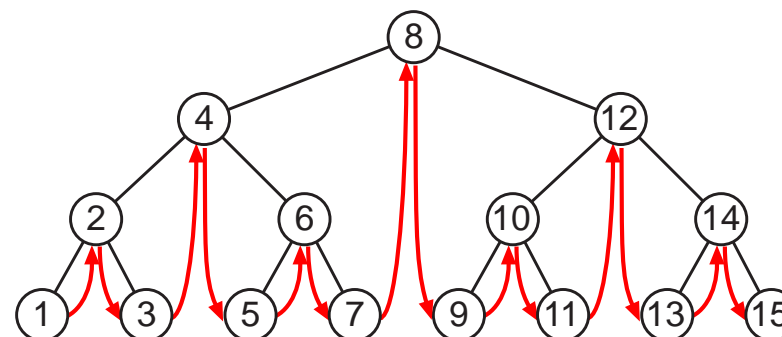
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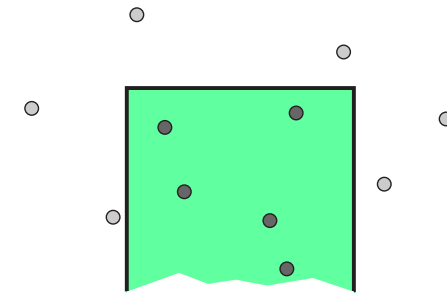


Three-sided (1.5-dim.) Range Searching



Given: Point set $\mathcal{S} = \{p_0, \dots, p_{n-1}\} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$,
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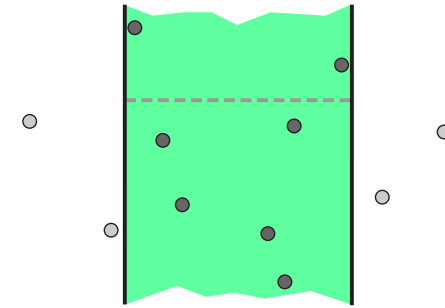


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Look at two subproblems:

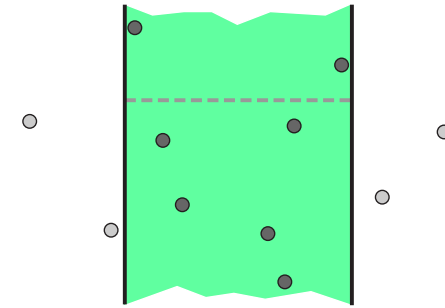
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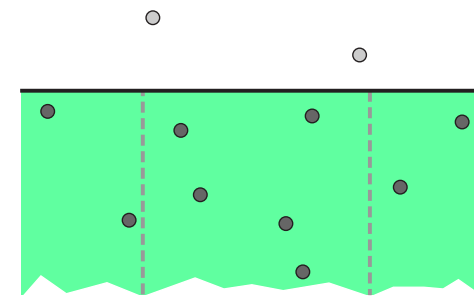
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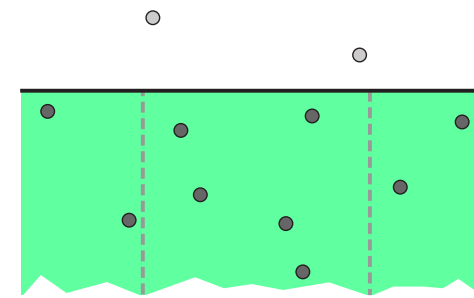
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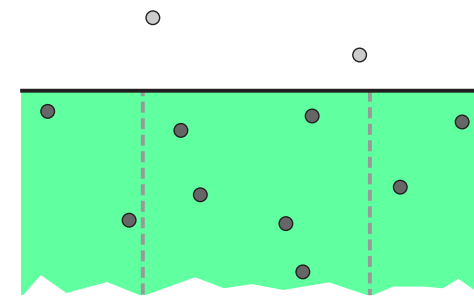
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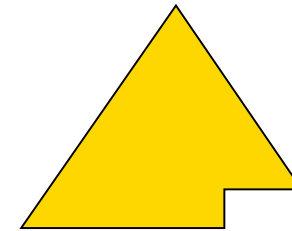
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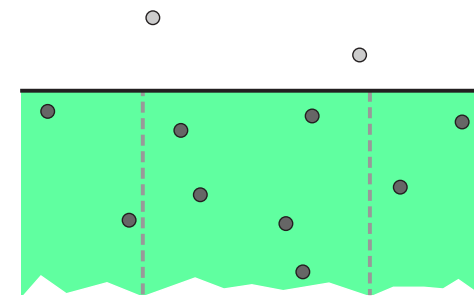


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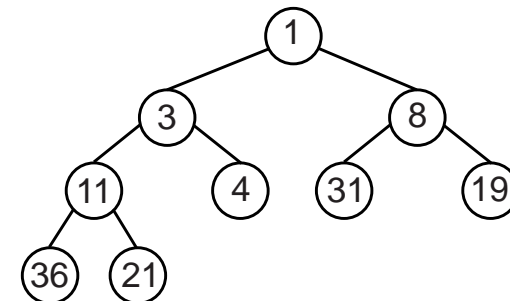
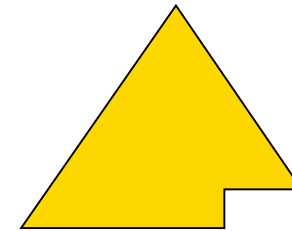
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Combining the best of both worlds(?)



Binary search tree with heap property:

- Binary search tree unique w.r.t. *inorder*-traversal.

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- Binary tree \mathcal{H} storing a two-dimensional point at each node s.t. the heap property w.r.t. the *y*-coordinates is fulfilled.
- Additional requirement: $\forall v \in \mathcal{H} : \exists x_v \in \mathbb{R} :$
$$l \leq x_v < r \quad \forall l \in \text{LSUBTREE}(v), \forall r \in \text{RSUBTREE}(v).$$



Use recursive definition [McCreight, 1985]:

- Build priority search tree $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{S})$ for a given set \mathcal{S} of points in the plane. Assume w.l.o.g. that all coordinates are pairwise distinct.
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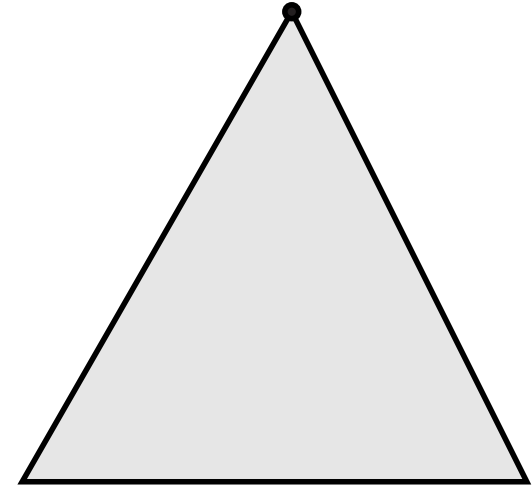
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Query range $[x_1, x_2] \times [-\infty, y]$:

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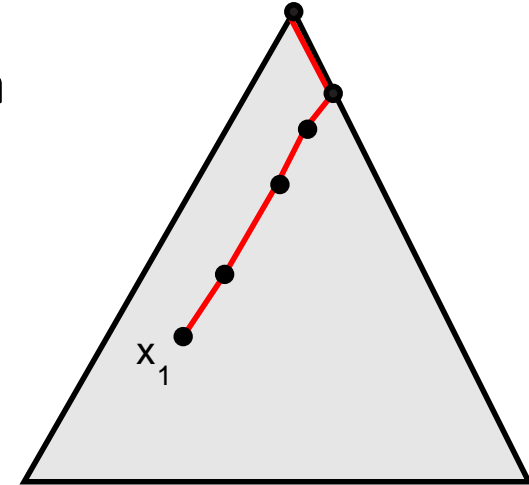


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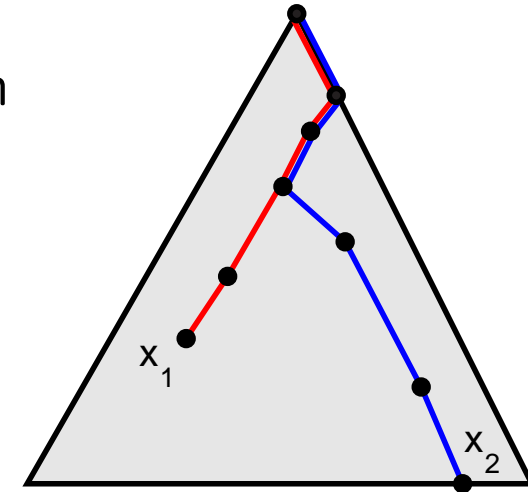


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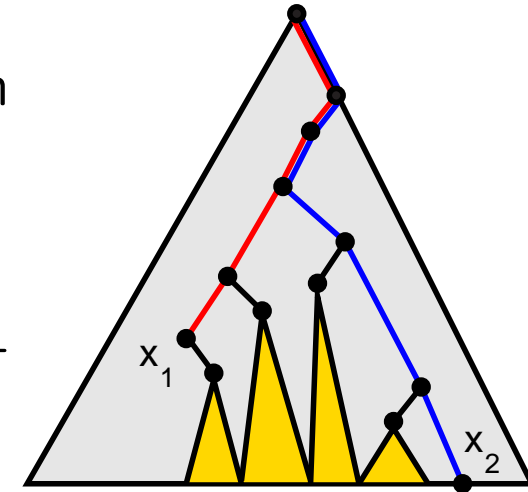


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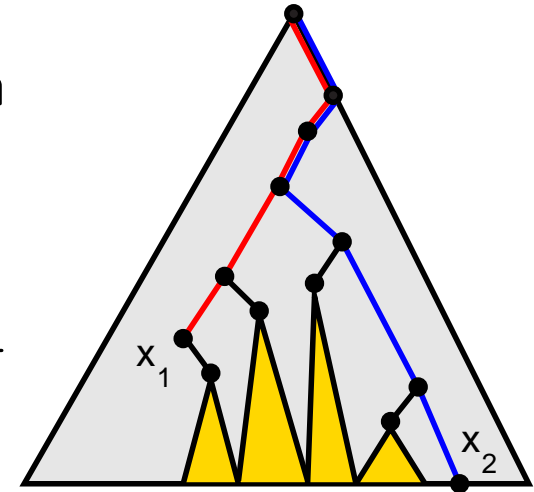


Querying a priority search tree



Query range $[x_1, x_2] \times [-\infty, y]$:

- Queries for x_1 and x_2 result in two search paths in \mathcal{H} .
- Check all points on these paths.
- All subtrees “embraced” by these paths contain points in $[x_1, x_2] \times \mathbb{R}$.
- Query these subtrees as follows:



SearchInSubtree(v, y)

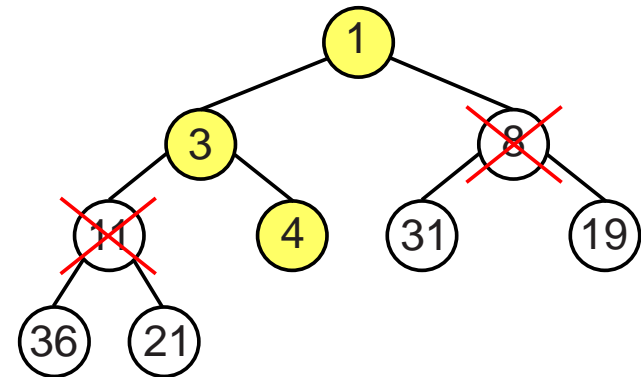
if v not a leaf **and** $p(v).y \leq y$ **then**

Report $p(v)$;

SearchInSubtree(LSON(v), y);

SearchInSubtree(RSON(v), y);

Query time: $\mathcal{O}(1 + k_v)$.



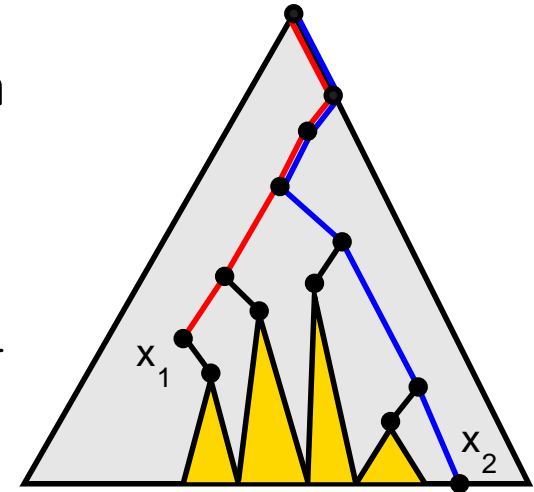
Example for $y = 5$.

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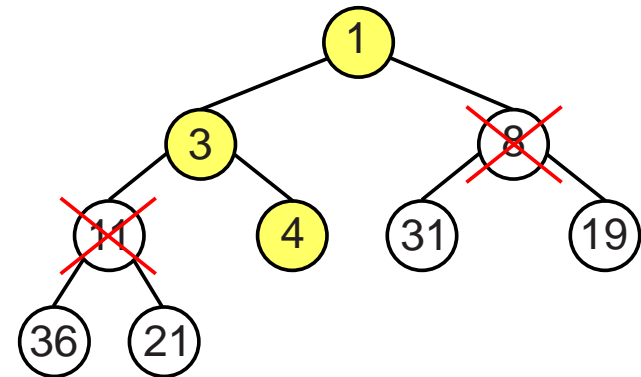
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Example for $y = 5$.



Missing Components:

- A more detailed description of the query algorithm.
 - Proof of correctness.
- } \Rightarrow [de Berg et al., 2000]

Theorem 2.1

Priority search trees allow for answering **three-sided range queries** on points in \mathbb{R}^2 with time and space complexities as follows:

Preprocessing time: $\Theta(n \log n)$

Query time: $\mathcal{O}(\log n + k)$

Space requirement: $\Theta(n)$

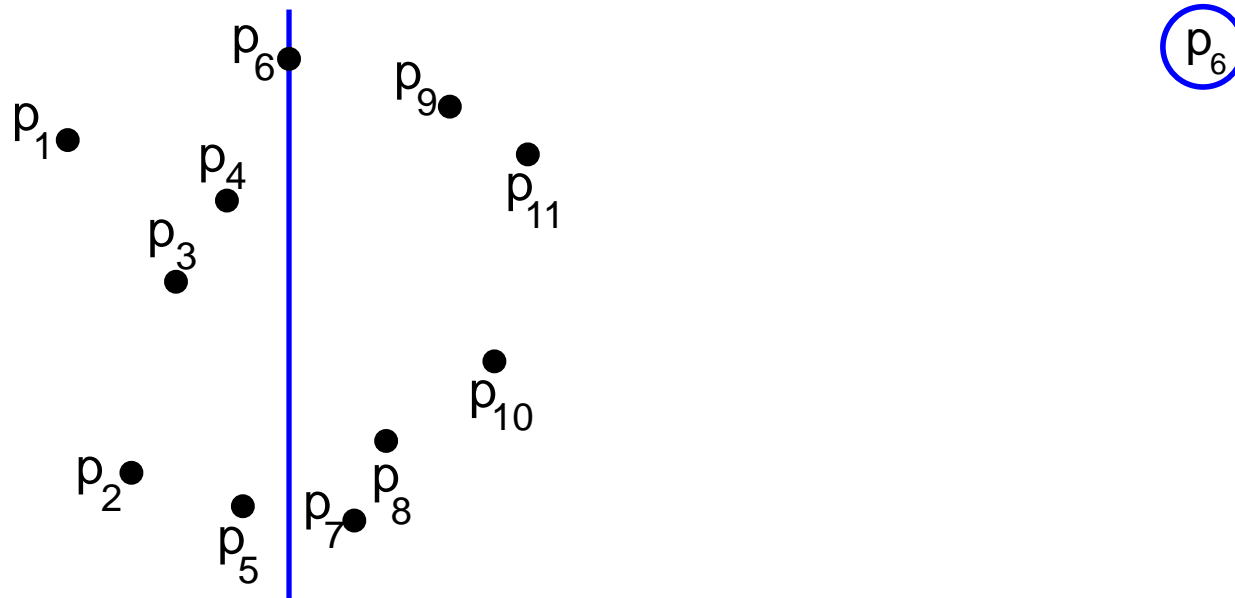


1. Introduction: Problem Statement, Lower Bounds
2. Range Searching in 1 and 1.5 Dimensions
3. Range Searching in 2 Dimensions
4. Summary and Outlook



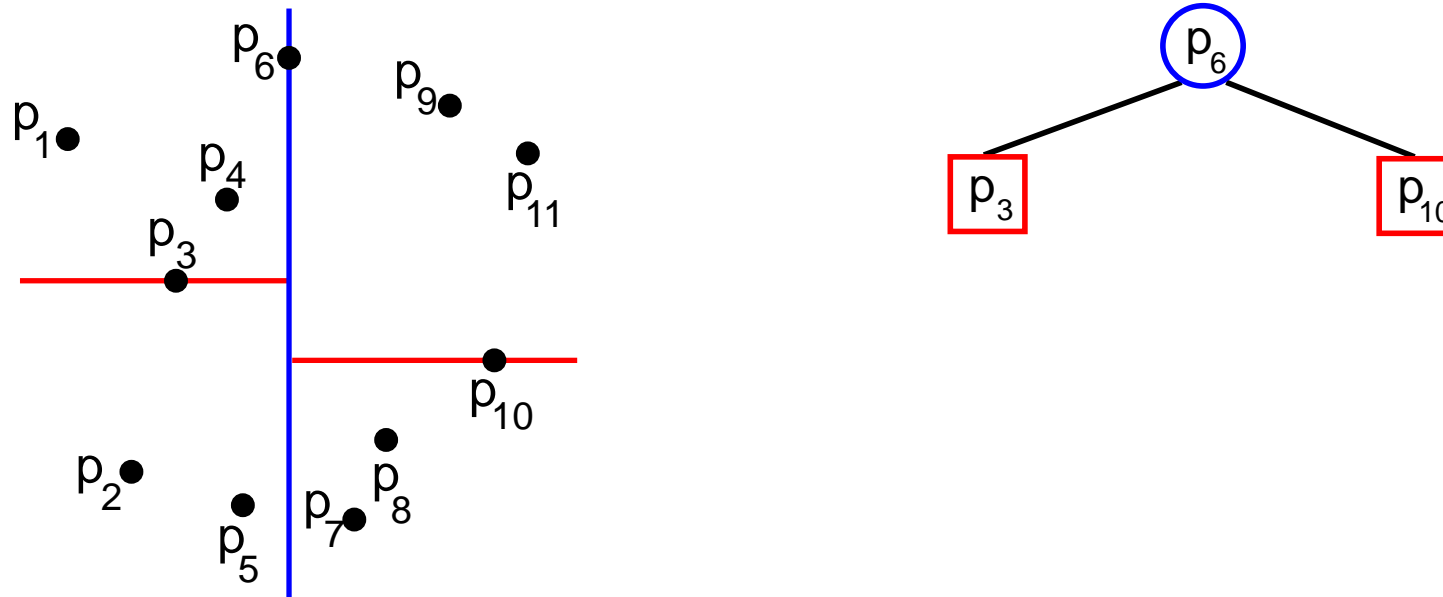
- Extend the concept of binary search by **bisection** to higher dimensions.
- Instead of intervals, partition (hyper-)rectangles; do the partitioning **alternating** parallel to the coordinate axes.
- R_i is partitioned into R_j and $R_k \Rightarrow |R_j| \approx |R_k| \approx \frac{1}{2}|R_i|$.
- Structure corresponding to partitioning: balanced binary tree (**k D-tree** [Bentley, 1975]).
- Node v corresponds to hyperrectangle $R(v)$, $R(\text{root}) = \mathbb{R}^d$; children correspond to sub-hyperrectangles.
- Each node v is augmented to store:
 - $\mathcal{S}(v)$: points contained in $R(v)$ (**implicitly**).
 - $\ell(v)$: representation of split axis.
 - $p(v)$: median of $\mathcal{S}(v)$ w.r.t. $\ell(v)$.

Example



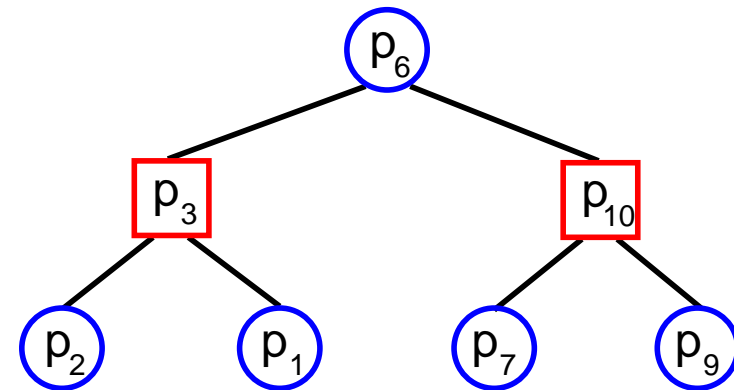
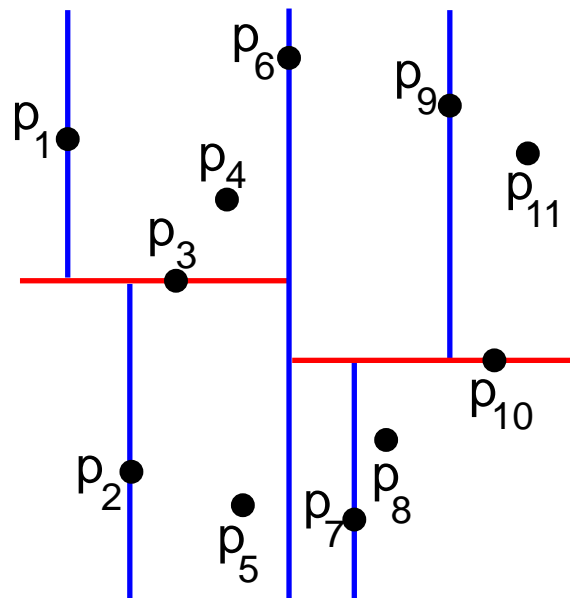
Alternating partitioning along the coordinate axes.

Example



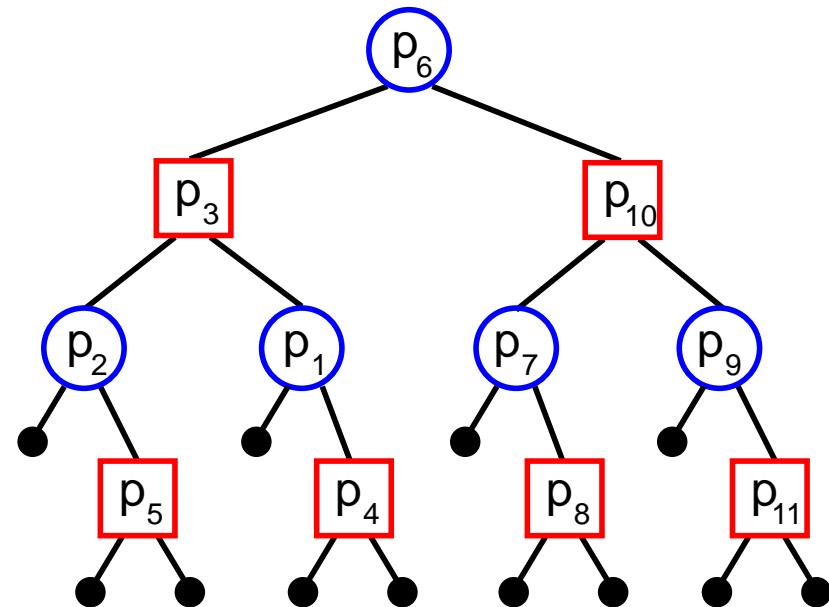
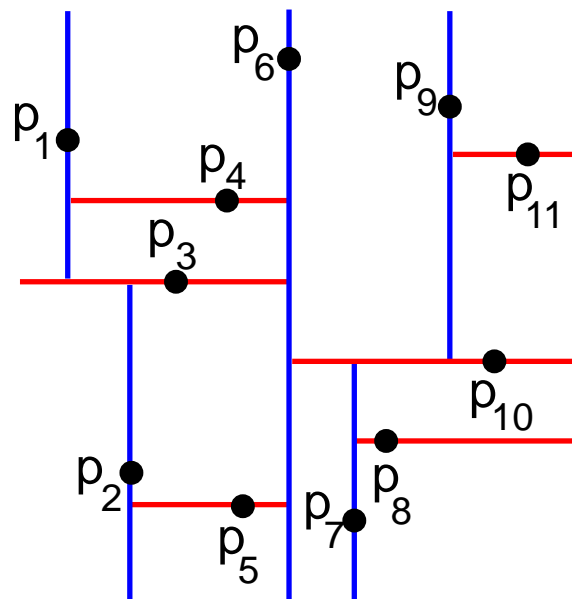
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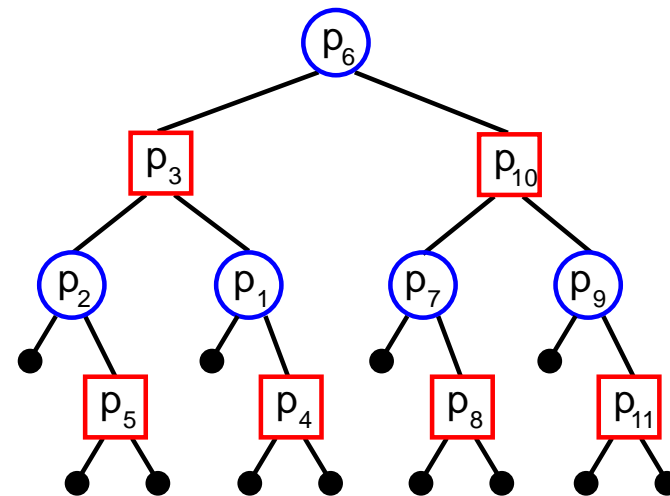
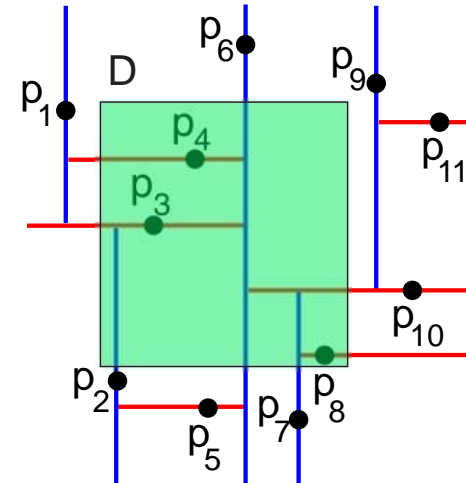
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Querying a 2D-tree



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double left, median, right;  
if v.type == "vertical" then  
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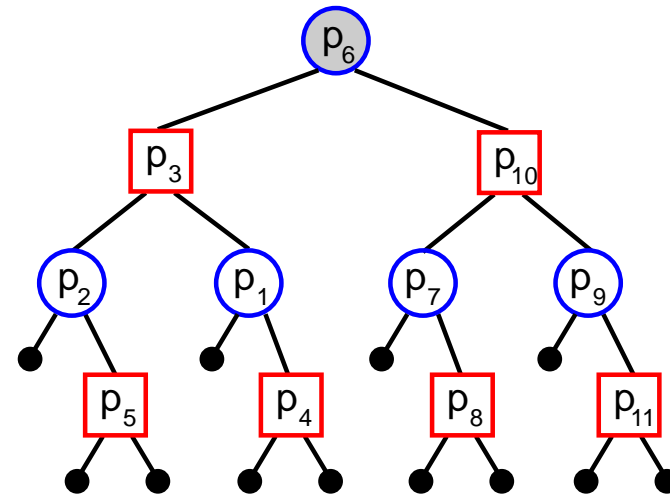
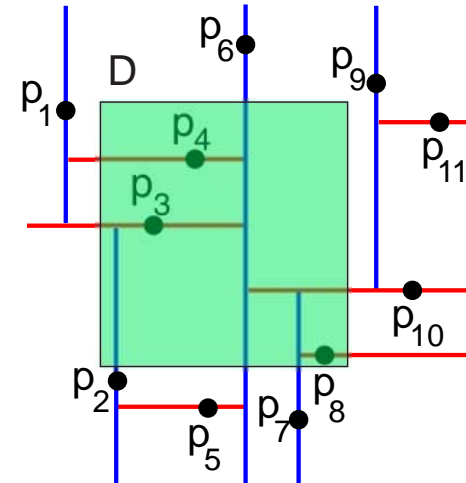
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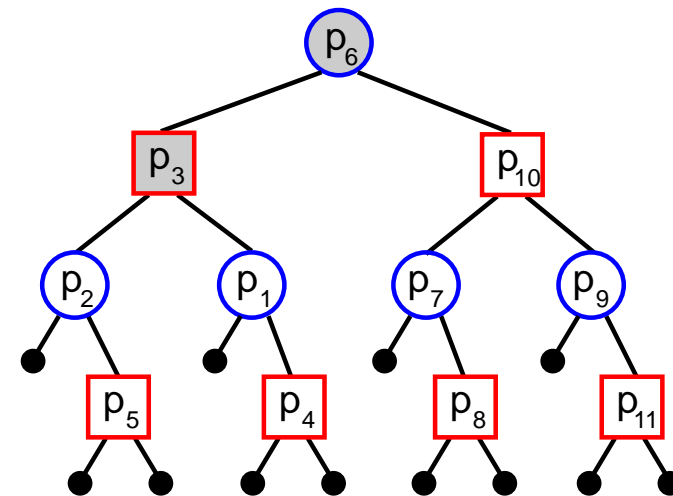
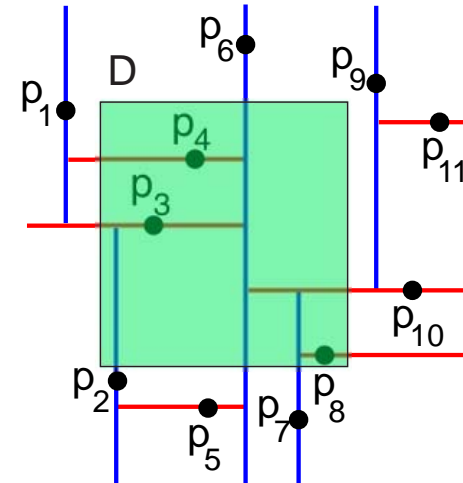


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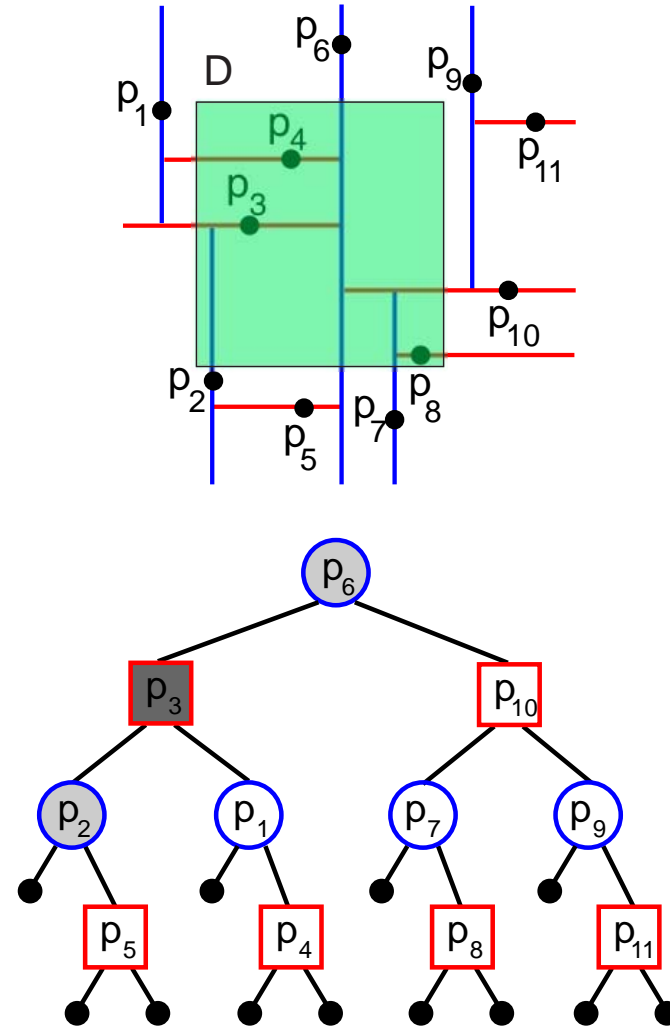


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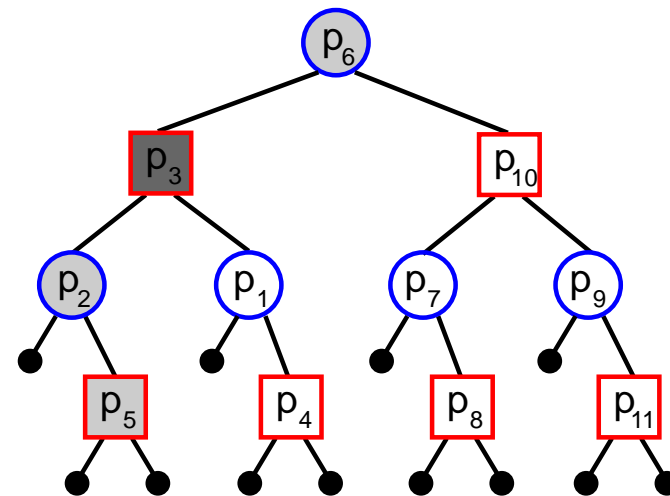
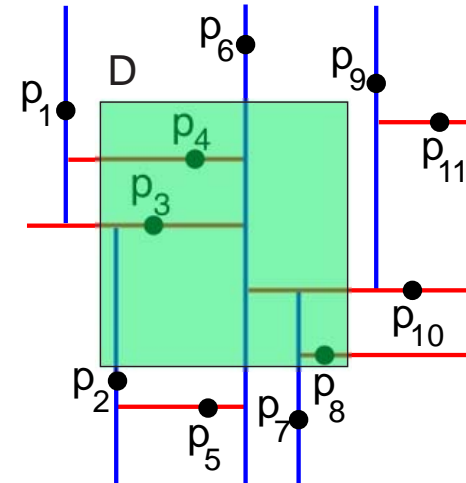


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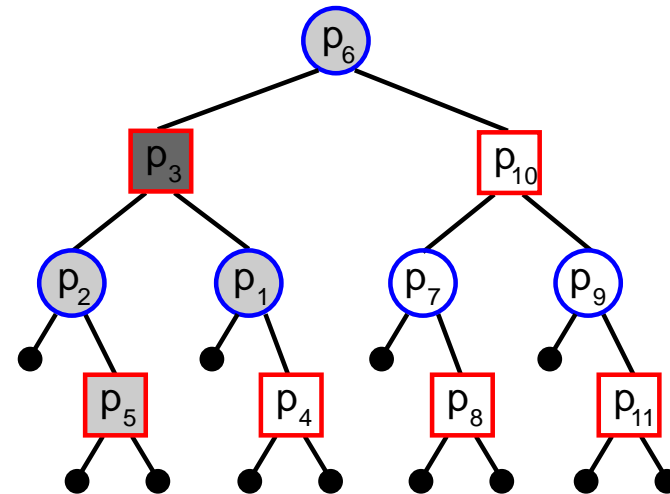
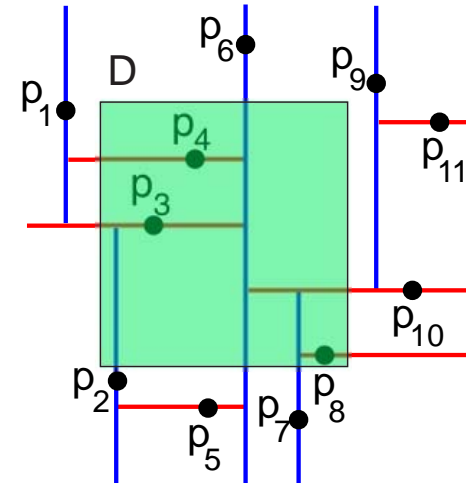


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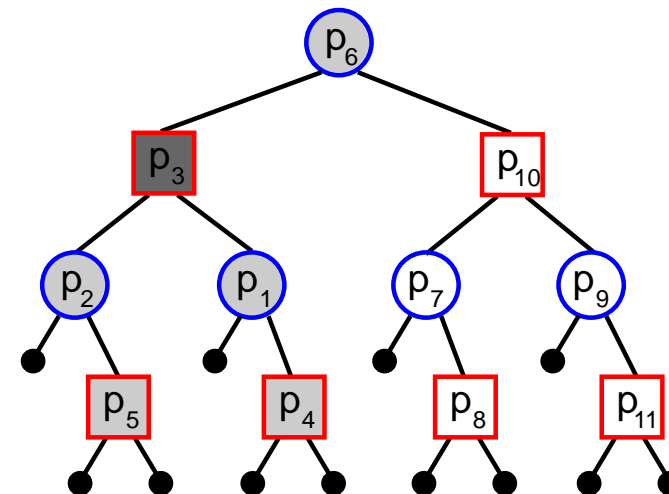
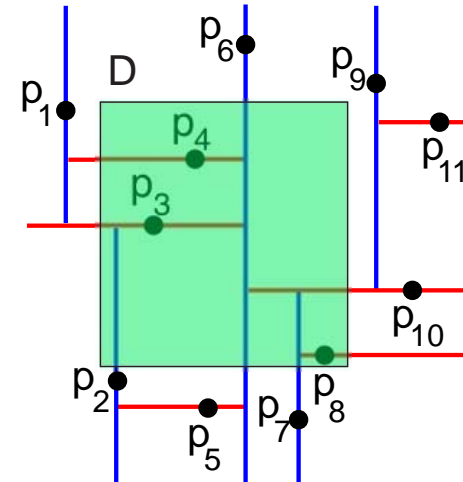


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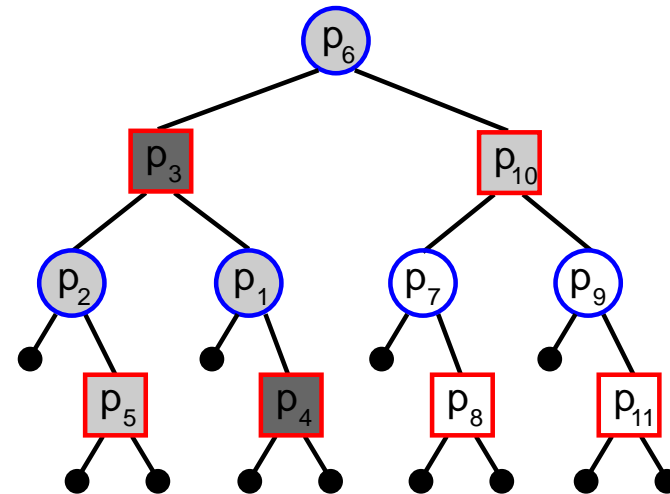
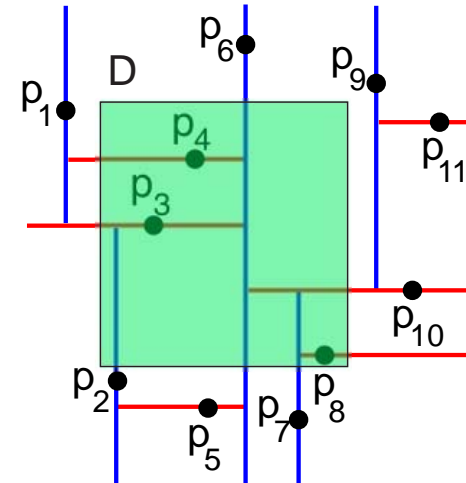


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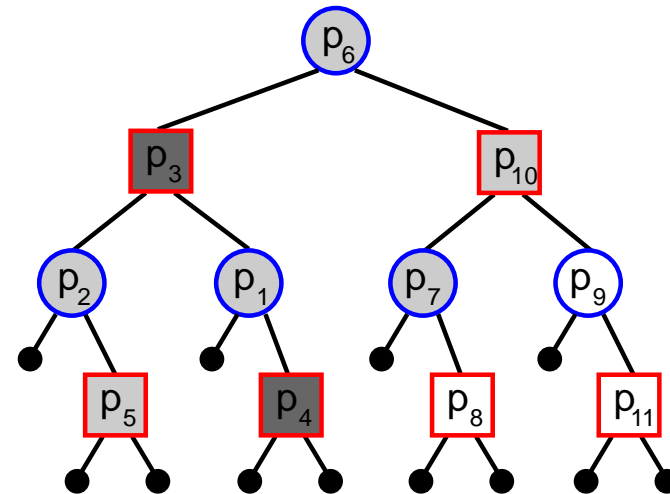
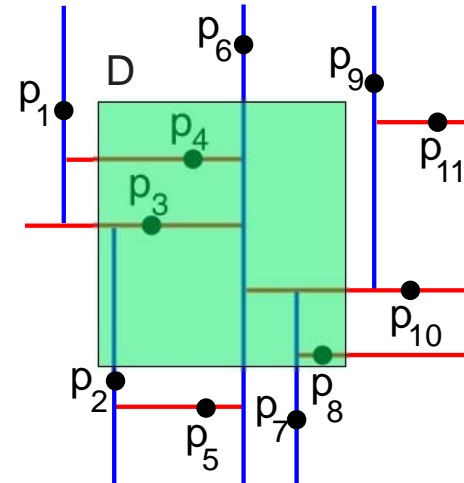


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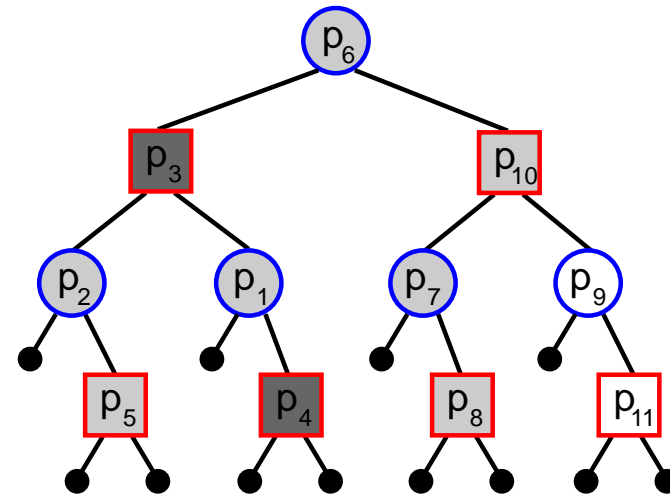
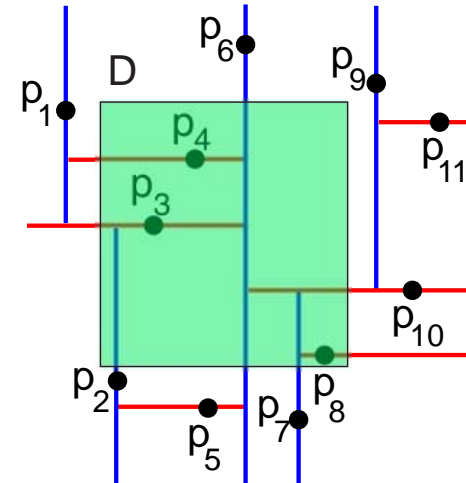


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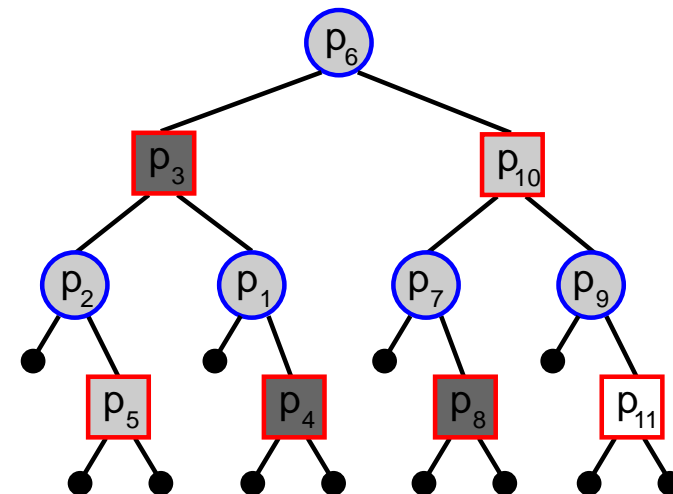
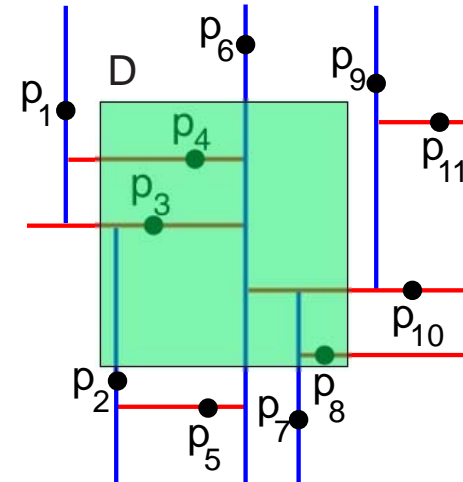


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Space requirement:

- $p \in R(v) \iff p = p(v) \vee p \in R(q)$ for any descendant q of v .
- $\mathcal{O}(1)$ space requirement per node, exactly one point stored at each node $\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(n)$ overall space requirement.



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- Linear-time **median finding** per partitioning step, i.e., recurrence:

$$T(n) = 2 \cdot T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + \mathcal{O}(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n \cdot \log n)$$



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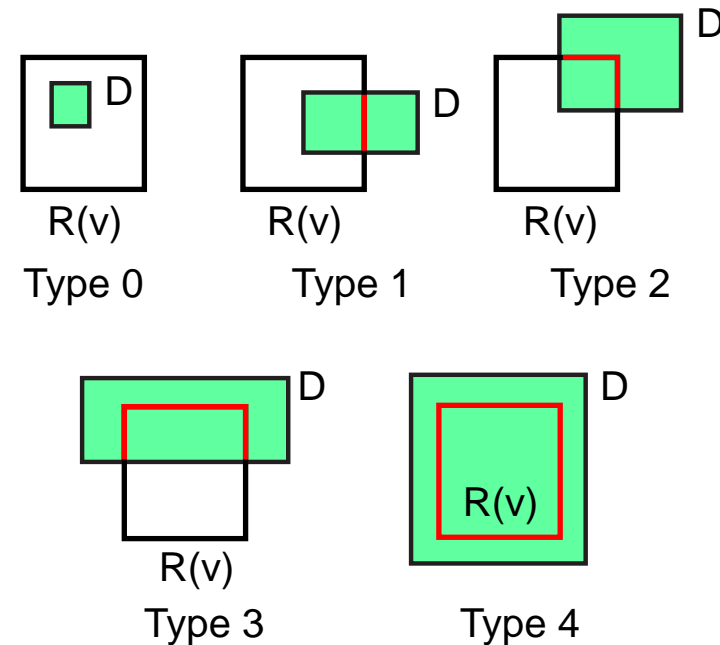
- Alternative: Replace median-finding by **pre-sorting** (copies of) the point by their x - and y -coordinates, respectively.
 - Can find median w.r.t. x -coordinate in $\mathcal{O}(1)$ time.
 - Can construct sorted y -arrays to be passed to the children in linear time.



- Query time proportional to number of nodes visited.
- v **productive** $\iff p(v) \in D$.
- Nodes visited: productive and unproductive nodes.

Definition 3.1

Let $R(v)$ be a rectangle and let $0 \leq i \leq 4$. D and $R(v)$ form a **type- i situation** $\iff i$ sides of $R(v)$ intersect the interior of D .

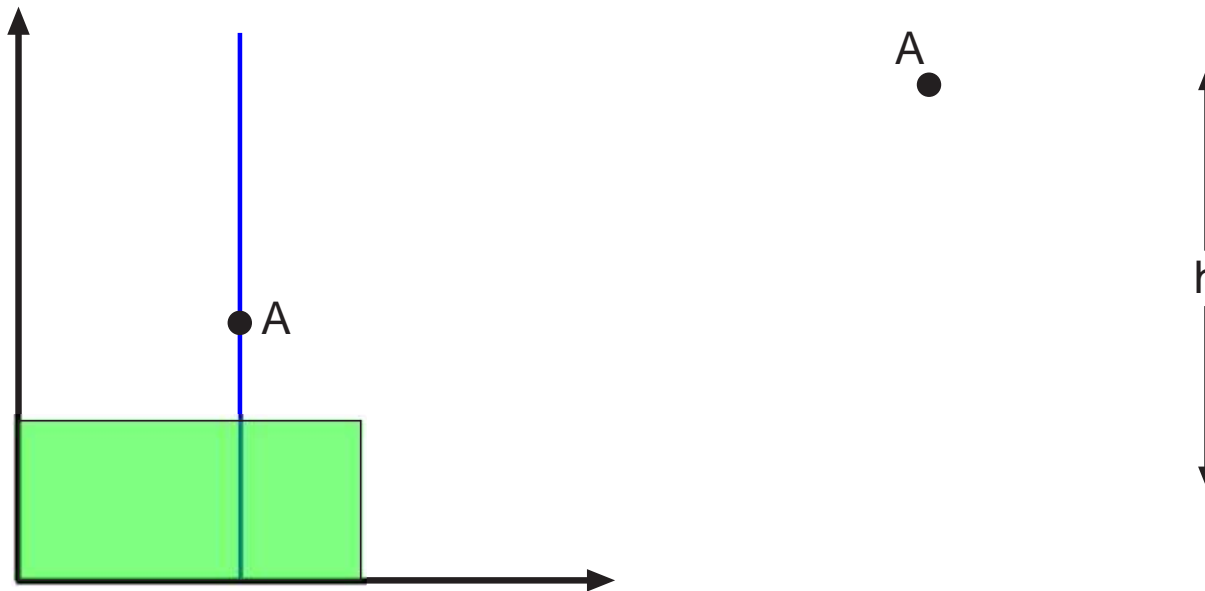


- Type-4 situation always productive, all other situations may be unproductive.

Constructing a worst-case situation–I



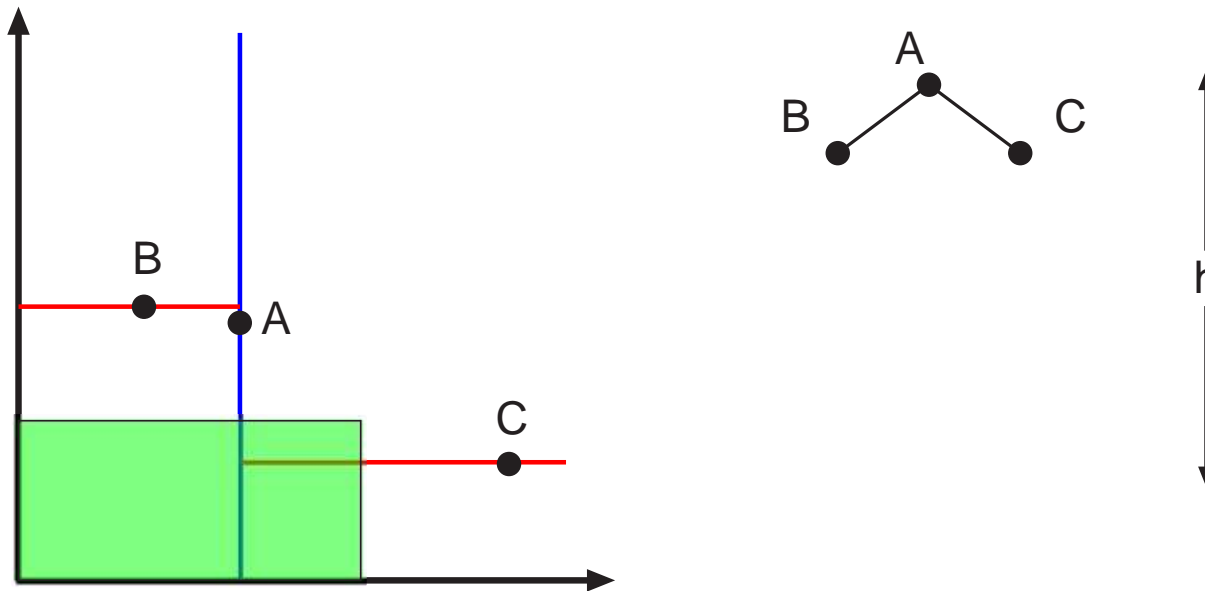
- Use **self-replicating** type-2/type-3 situations [Lee & Wong, 1977].



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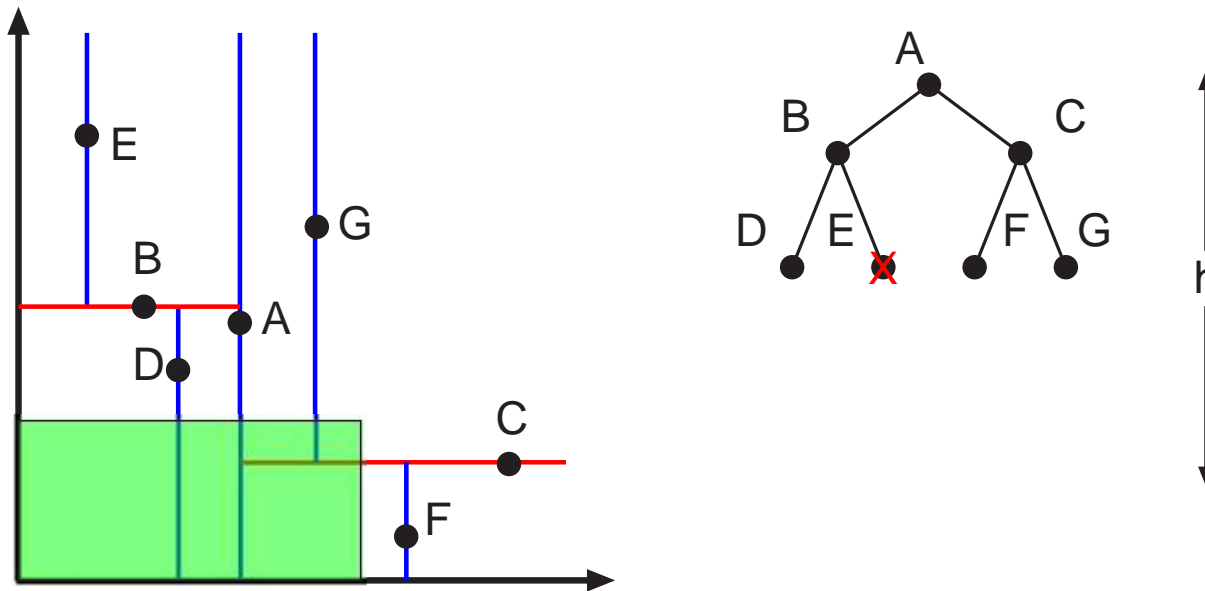
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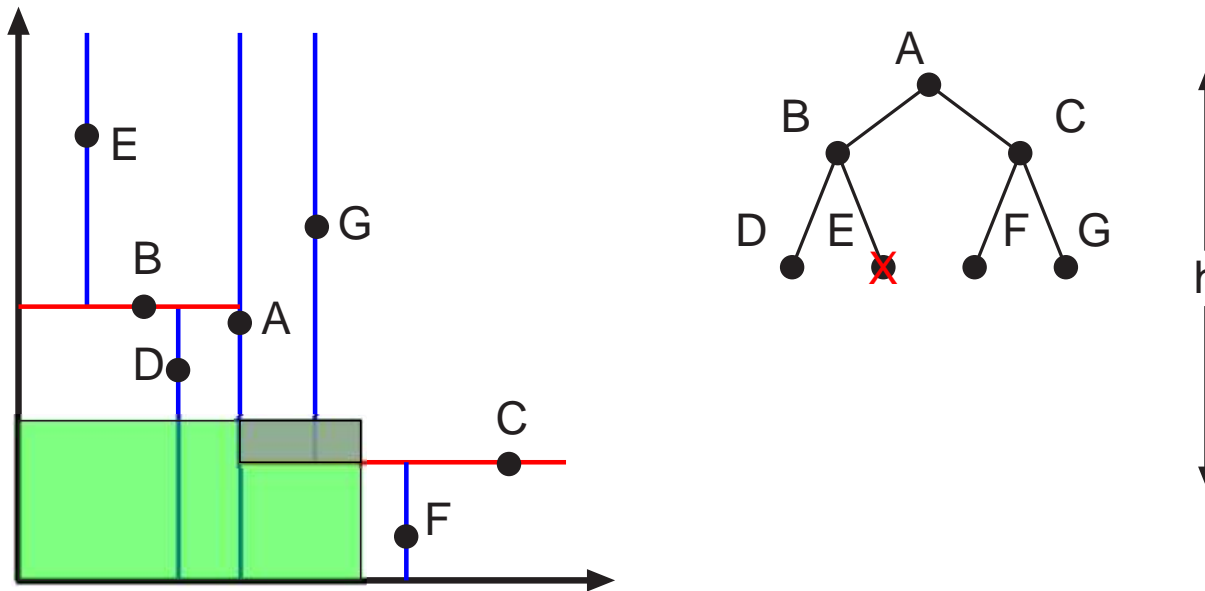
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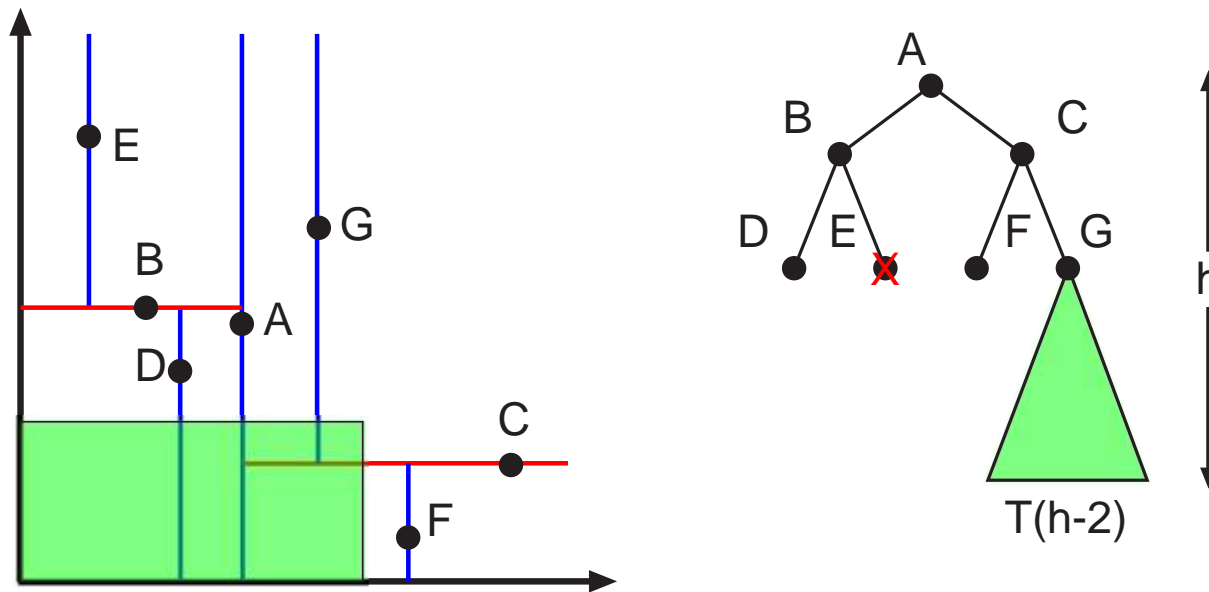
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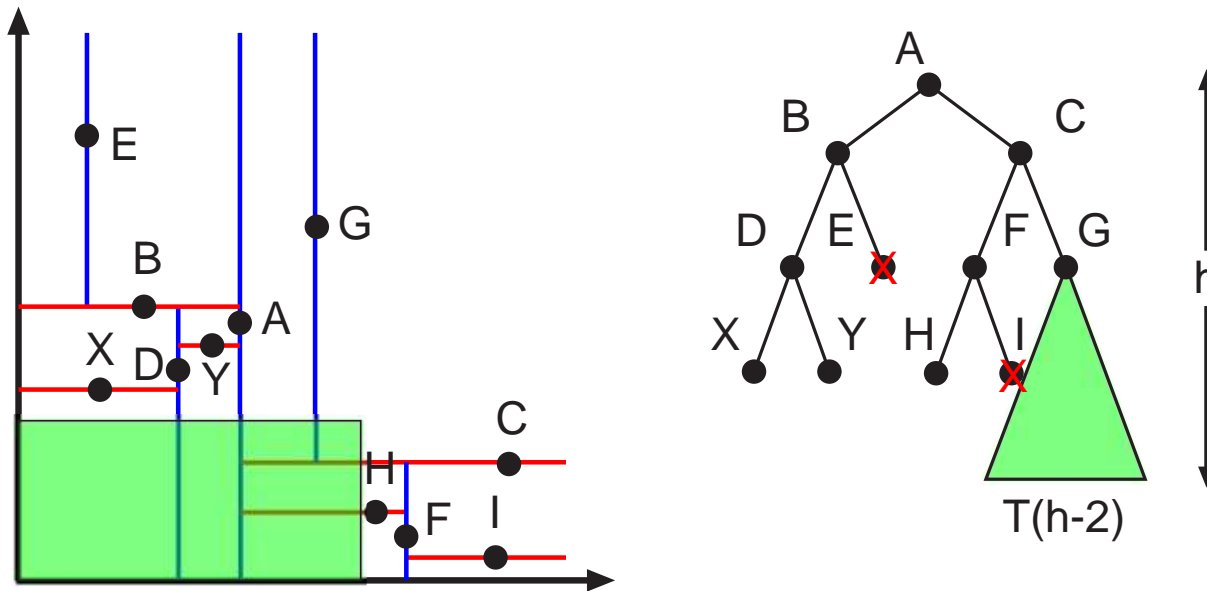
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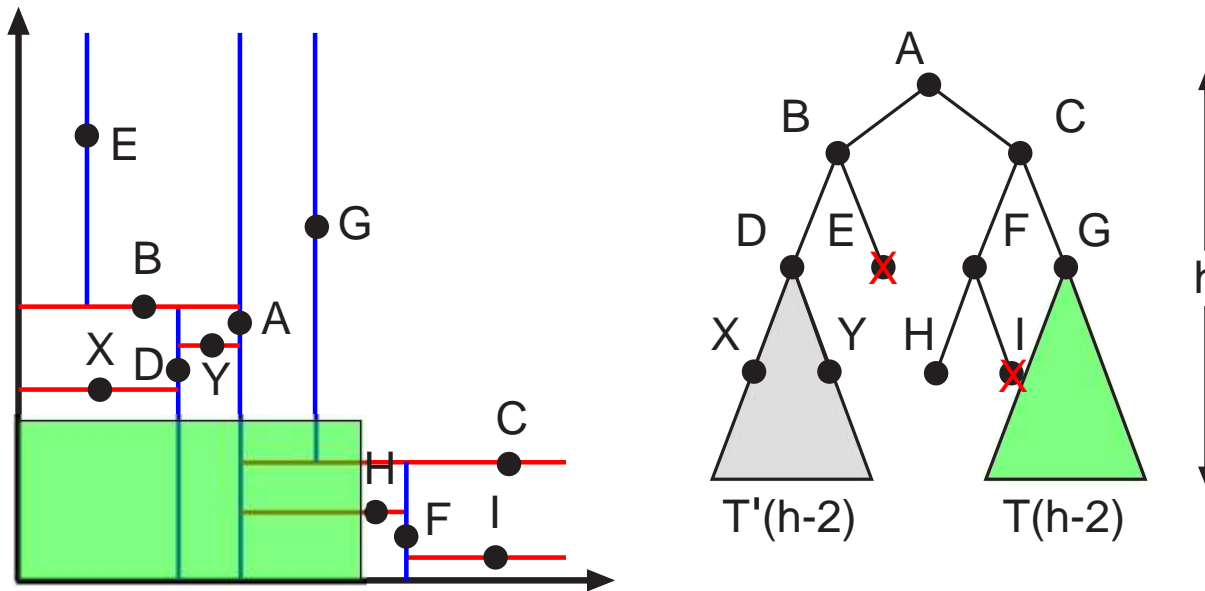
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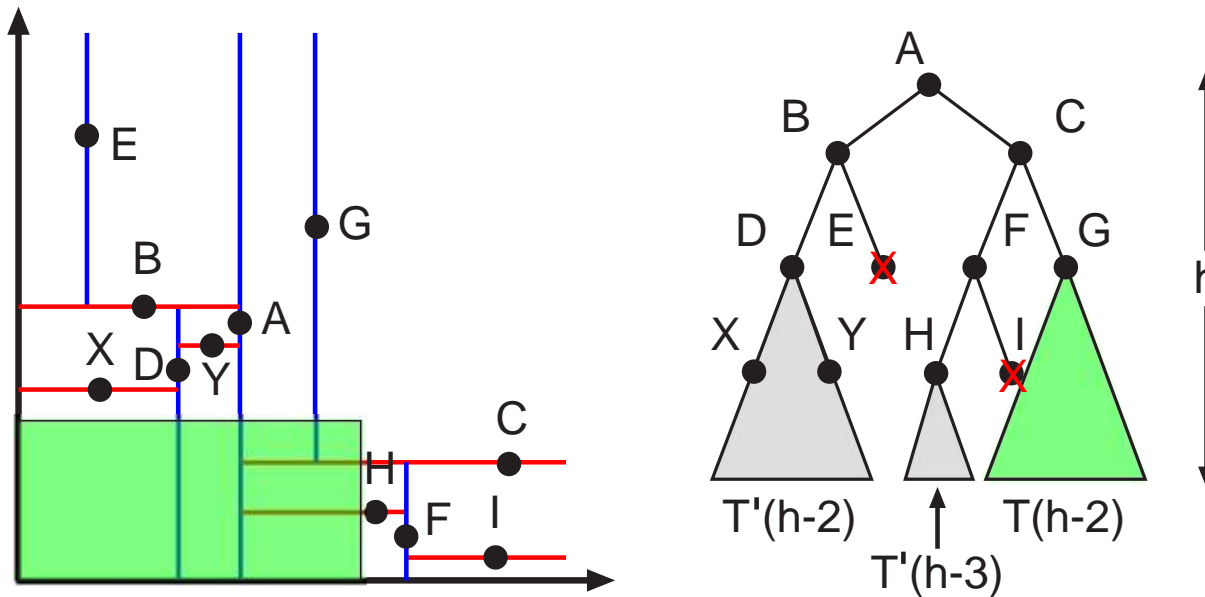


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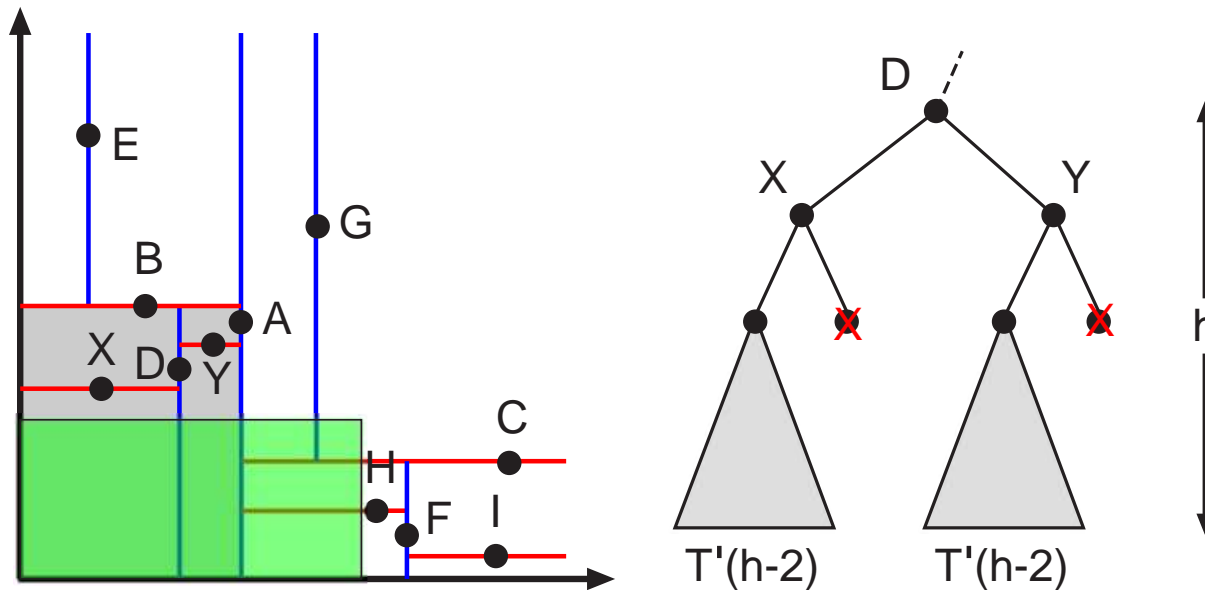
- Recurrence for worst-case query time:

$$T(h) = \underbrace{1}_A + \underbrace{1}_B + \underbrace{1}_C + \underbrace{T(h-2)}_G + \underbrace{T'(h-2)}_D + \underbrace{1}_F + \underbrace{T'(h-3)}_H$$

Constructing a worst-case situation–II



- A closer look at situation “subtree rooted at node D ”.



- Recurrence for this situation:

$$T'(h) = \underbrace{1}_D + \underbrace{1}_X + \underbrace{1}_Y + \underbrace{2 \cdot T'(h-2)}_{\text{Children of } X \text{ and } Y}$$

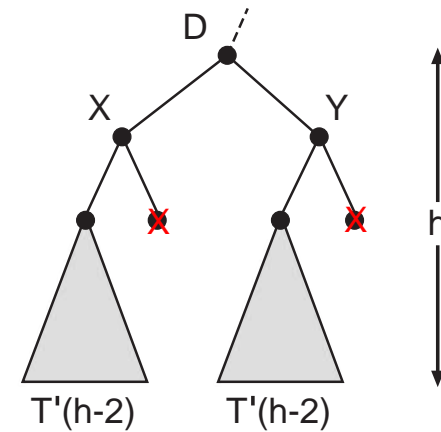
Constructing a worst-case situation–III



- The following recurrence holds for $T'(h)$:

$$T'(h) = 2 \cdot T'(h-2) + 3$$

with $T'(0) = 0$ and $T'(1) = 1$.



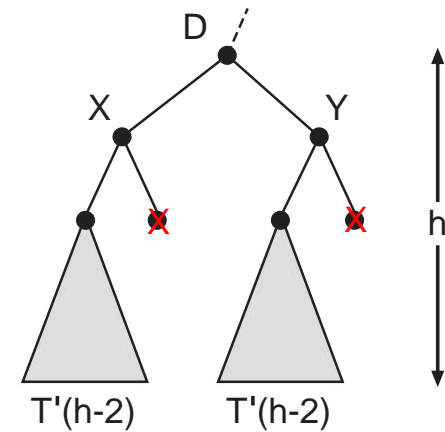
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with $T'(0) = 0$ and $T'(1) = 1$.



- Solve recurrence for $T'(h)$, w.l.o.g. $h = 2 \cdot i$, $i \in \mathbb{N}$.

$$\begin{aligned} T'(2 \cdot i) &= 3 + 2 \cdot T'(2(i-1)) \\ &= 3 + 2 \cdot (3 + 2 \cdot T'(2(i-2))) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} 3 \cdot 2^j = 3 \cdot 2^i - 3 \end{aligned}$$

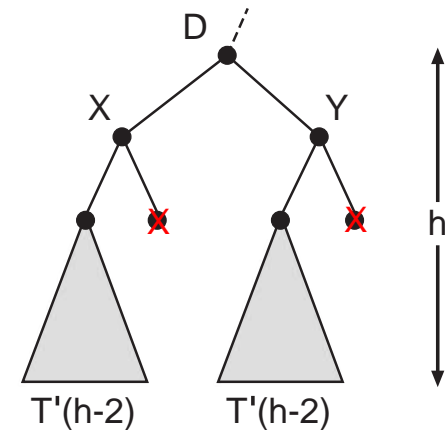
Constructing a worst-case situation–III



- The following recurrence holds for $T'(h)$:

$$T'(h) = 2 \cdot T'(h-2) + 3$$

with $T'(0) = 0$ and $T'(1) = 1$.



- Solve recurrence for $T'(h)$, w.l.o.g. $h = 2 \cdot i$, $i \in \mathbb{N}$.

$$\begin{aligned} T'(2 \cdot i) &= 3 + 2 \cdot T'(2(i-1)) \\ &= 3 + 2 \cdot (3 + 2 \cdot T'(2(i-2))) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} 3 \cdot 2^j = 3 \cdot 2^i - 3 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly: $T'(2 \cdot i + 1) = 4 \cdot 2^i - 3$.

Constructing a worst-case situation–IV

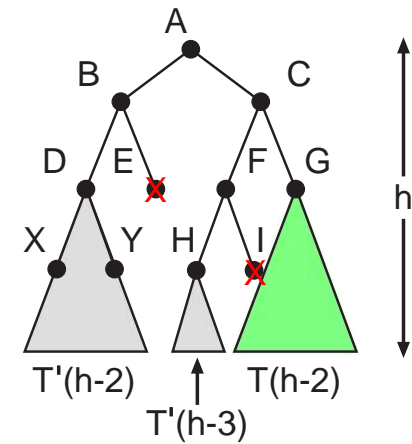


- The following recurrence holds for $T(h)$:

$$T(h) = T(h - 2) + T'(h - 2) + T'(h - 3) + 4$$

$$T'(h) = \begin{cases} 4 \cdot 2^i - 3 & \text{for } h = 2 \cdot i + 1 \\ 3 \cdot 2^i - 3 & \text{for } h = 2 \cdot i \end{cases}$$

with $T(0) = T'(0) = 0$ and $T(1) = T'(1) = 1$.



Constructing a worst-case situation–IV

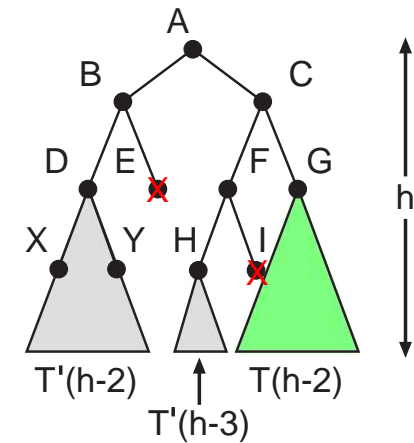


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Constructing a worst-case situation–IV

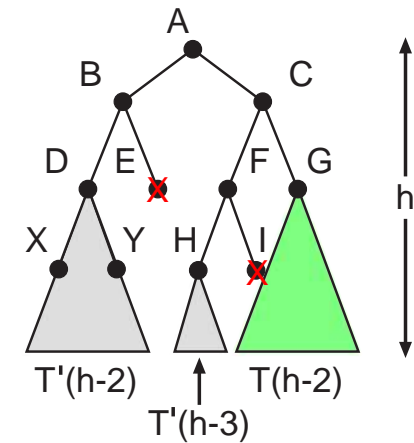


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- Solve recurrence for $T(h)$, w.l.o.g. $h = 2 \cdot i$, $i \in \mathbb{N}$.

$$\begin{aligned} T(2 \cdot i) &= 4 + T(2(i - 1)) + 3 \cdot 2^{i-1} - 3 + 4 \cdot 2^{i-2} - 3 \\ &= T(2(i - 1)) + 5 \cdot 2^{i-1} - 2 \\ &= 5 \cdot (2^{h/2} - 1) - h \end{aligned}$$

Constructing a worst-case situation–IV

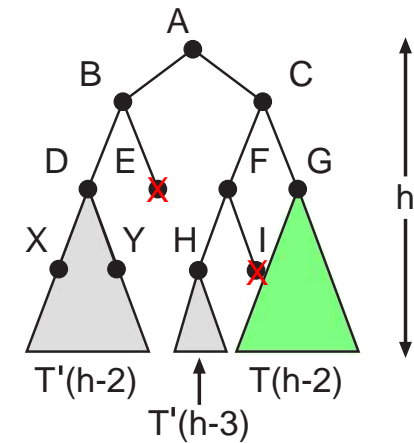


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Similarly: $T(2 \cdot i + 1) = 7 \cdot (2^{\lfloor h/2 \rfloor} - 1) - h + 2$.

Constructing a worst-case situation–IV

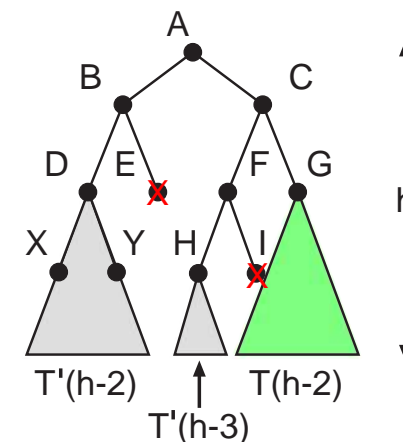


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- Solve recurrence for $T(h)$, w.l.o.g. $h = 2 \cdot i$, $i \in \mathbb{N}$.

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Similarly: $T(2 \cdot i + 1) = 7 \cdot (2^{\lfloor h/2 \rfloor} - 1) - h + 2$.

- Overall (for $n \leq 2^h - 1$): $T(n) \in \mathcal{O}(2 \cdot n^{1/2})$.



- Worst-case query time independent of the number of points reported.
- k D-tree very relevant in practice!
- Extension to higher dimensions (points in \mathbb{R}^d): Do partitioning in a round-robin manner of the coordinate axes $x_1 \rightarrow x_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow x_d \rightarrow x_1 \rightarrow \dots$

Theorem 3.2

Multidimensional search trees (k D-trees) allow for answering **four-sided range queries** on points in \mathbb{R}^d , $d \geq 2$ with time and space complexities as follows:

Preprocessing time: $\Theta(d \cdot n \log n)$

Query time: $\mathcal{O}(d \cdot n^{1-1/d} + k)$

Space requirement: $\Theta(n)$



1. Introduction: Problem Statement, Lower Bounds
2. Range Searching in 1 and 1.5 Dimensions
3. Range Searching in 2 Dimensions
4. Summary and Outlook

Summary



Lower bounds:

- $\Omega(d \cdot \log_2 n + k)$ time, $\Omega(n)$ space.

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Outlook:

- Optimal query time possible if one is willing to spend superlinear space [Chazelle, 1990]. Beware: choosing the adequate model of computation is crucial.

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