

# Divide-and-Conquer



## Divide-and-conquer.

- Break up problem into several parts.
- Solve each part recursively.
- Combine solutions to sub-problems into overall solution.

## Most common usage.

- Break up problem of size  $n$  into **two** equal parts of size  $\frac{1}{2}n$ .
- Solve two parts recursively.
- Combine two solutions into overall solution in **linear time**.

## Consequence.

- Brute force:  $n^2$ .
- Divide-and-conquer:  $n \log n$ .

Divide et impera.  
Veni, vidi, vici.  
- *Julius Caesar*





## 5.3 Counting Inversions

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# Counting Inversions



Music site tries to match your song preferences with others.

- You rank  $n$  songs.
- Music site consults database to find people with **similar** tastes.

**Similarity metric:** number of inversions between two rankings.

- My rank:  $1, 2, \dots, n$ .
- Your rank:  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ .
- Songs  $i$  and  $j$  **inverted** if  $i < j$ , but  $a_i > a_j$ .

Songs					
	A	B	C	D	E
Me	1	2	3	4	5
You	1	3	4	2	5

Inversions

3-2, 4-2

**Brute force:** check all  $\Theta(n^2)$  pairs  $i$  and  $j$ .



# Applications



## Applications.

- Voting theory.
- Collaborative filtering.
- Measuring the "sortedness" of an array.
- Sensitivity analysis of Google's ranking function.
- Rank aggregation for meta-searching on the Web.
- Nonparametric statistics (e.g., Kendall's Tau distance).
- $K(L,M)=$

$$|\{(i,j) | i < j \wedge [((L(i) < L(j)) \wedge (M(i) > M(j))) \vee ((L(i) > L(j)) \wedge (M(i) < M(j)))]\}|$$



# Counting Inversions: Divide-and-Conquer



Divide-and-conquer.

1	5	4	8	10	2	6	9	12	11	3	7
---	---	---	---	----	---	---	---	----	----	---	---



# Counting Inversions: Divide-and-Conquer



Divide-and-conquer.

<sup>n</sup> **Divide**: separate list into two pieces.

1	5	4	8	10	2	6	9	12	11	3	7
---	---	---	---	----	---	---	---	----	----	---	---

Divide:  $O(1)$ .

1	5	4	8	10	2	6	9	12	11	3	7
---	---	---	---	----	---	---	---	----	----	---	---



# Counting Inversions: Divide-and-Conquer



## Divide-and-conquer.

- Divide: separate list into two pieces.
- Conquer**: recursively count inversions in each half.

1	5	4	8	10	2	6	9	12	11	3	7
---	---	---	---	----	---	---	---	----	----	---	---

Divide:  $O(1)$ .

1	5	4	8	10	2	6	9	12	11	3	7
---	---	---	---	----	---	---	---	----	----	---	---

5 blue-blue inversions

8 green-green inversions

5-4, 5-2, 4-2, 8-2, 10-2

6-3, 9-3, 9-7, 12-3, 12-7, 12-11, 11-3, 11-7

Conquer:  $2T(n / 2)$



# Counting Inversions: Divide-and-Conquer



## Divide-and-conquer.

- Divide: separate list into two pieces.
- Conquer: recursively count inversions in each half.
- Combine**: count inversions where  $a_i$  and  $a_j$  are in different halves, and return sum of three quantities.

1	5	4	8	10	2	6	9	12	11	3	7
---	---	---	---	----	---	---	---	----	----	---	---

Divide:  $O(1)$ .

1	5	4	8	10	2	6	9	12	11	3	7
---	---	---	---	----	---	---	---	----	----	---	---

5 blue-blue inversions

8 green-green inversions

Conquer:  $2T(n / 2)$

9 blue-green inversions

5-3, 4-3, 8-6, 8-3, 8-7, 10-6, 10-9, 10-3, 10-7

**Combine**: ???

Total =  $5 + 8 + 9 = 22$ .





# Counting Inversions: Combine



**Combine:** count blue-green inversions

- Assume each half is **sorted**.
- Count inversions where  $a_i$  and  $a_j$  are in different halves.
- Merge** two sorted halves into sorted whole.

↖ to maintain sorted invariant

3	7	10	14	18	19
---	---	----	----	----	----

2	11	16	17	23	25
6	3	2	2	0	0

13 blue-green inversions:  $6 + 3 + 2 + 2 + 0 + 0$

Count:  $O(n)$

2	3	7	10	11	14	16	17	18	19	23	25
---	---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

Merge:  $O(n)$

$$T(n) \leq T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + O(n) \Rightarrow T(n) = O(n \log n)$$



# Counting Inversions: Implementation



**Pre-condition.** [Merge-and-Count] A and B are sorted.

**Post-condition.** [Sort-and-Count] L is sorted.

```
Sort-and-Count(L) {  
    if list L has one element  
        return 0 and the list L  
  
    Divide the list into two halves A and B  
    ( $r_A$ , A)  $\leftarrow$  Sort-and-Count(A)  
    ( $r_B$ , B)  $\leftarrow$  Sort-and-Count(B)  
    ( $r$ , L)  $\leftarrow$  Merge-and-Count(A, B)  
  
    return  $r = r_A + r_B + r$  and the sorted list L  
}
```





Merge-and-Count( $A, B$ )

Maintain a *Current* pointer into each list, initialized to point to the front elements

Maintain a variable *Count* for the number of inversions, initialized to 0

While both lists are nonempty:

Let  $a_i$  and  $b_j$  be the elements pointed to by the *Current* pointer

Append the smaller of these two to the output list

If  $b_j$  is the smaller element then

Increment *Count* by the number of elements remaining in  $A$

Endif

Advance the *Current* pointer in the list from which the smaller element was selected.

EndWhile





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Sort-and-Count( $L$ )

If the list has one element then  
there are no inversions

Else

Divide the list into two halves:

$A$  contains the first  $\lceil n/2 \rceil$  elements

$B$  contains the remaining  $\lfloor n/2 \rfloor$  elements

$(r_A, A) = \text{Sort-and-Count}(A)$

$(r_B, B) = \text{Sort-and-Count}(B)$

$(r, L) = \text{Merge-and-Count}(A, B)$

Endif

Return  $r = r_A + r_B + r$ , and the sorted list  $L$

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## 5.4 Closest Pair of Points

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# Closest Pair of Points



**Closest pair.** Given  $n$  points in the plane, find a pair with smallest Euclidean distance between them.

**Fundamental geometric primitive.**

- Graphics, computer vision, geographic information systems, molecular modeling, air traffic control.
- Special case of nearest neighbor, Euclidean MST, Voronoi.

↖ fast closest pair inspired fast algorithms for these problems

**Brute force.** Check all pairs of points  $p$  and  $q$  with  $\Theta(n^2)$  comparisons.

**1-D version.**  $O(n \log n)$  easy if points are on a line.

**Assumption.** No two points have same  $x$  coordinate.

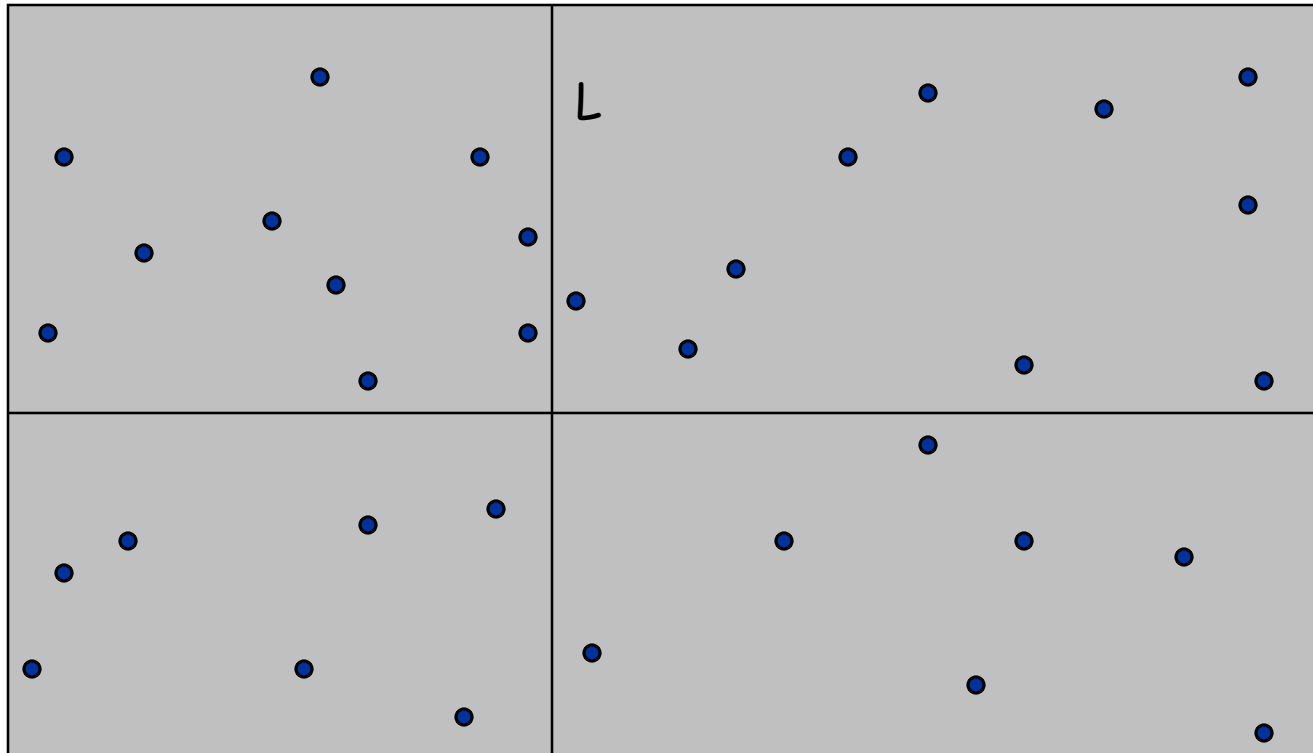
↑  
to make presentation cleaner



# Closest Pair of Points: First Attempt



**Divide.** Sub-divide region into 4 quadrants.

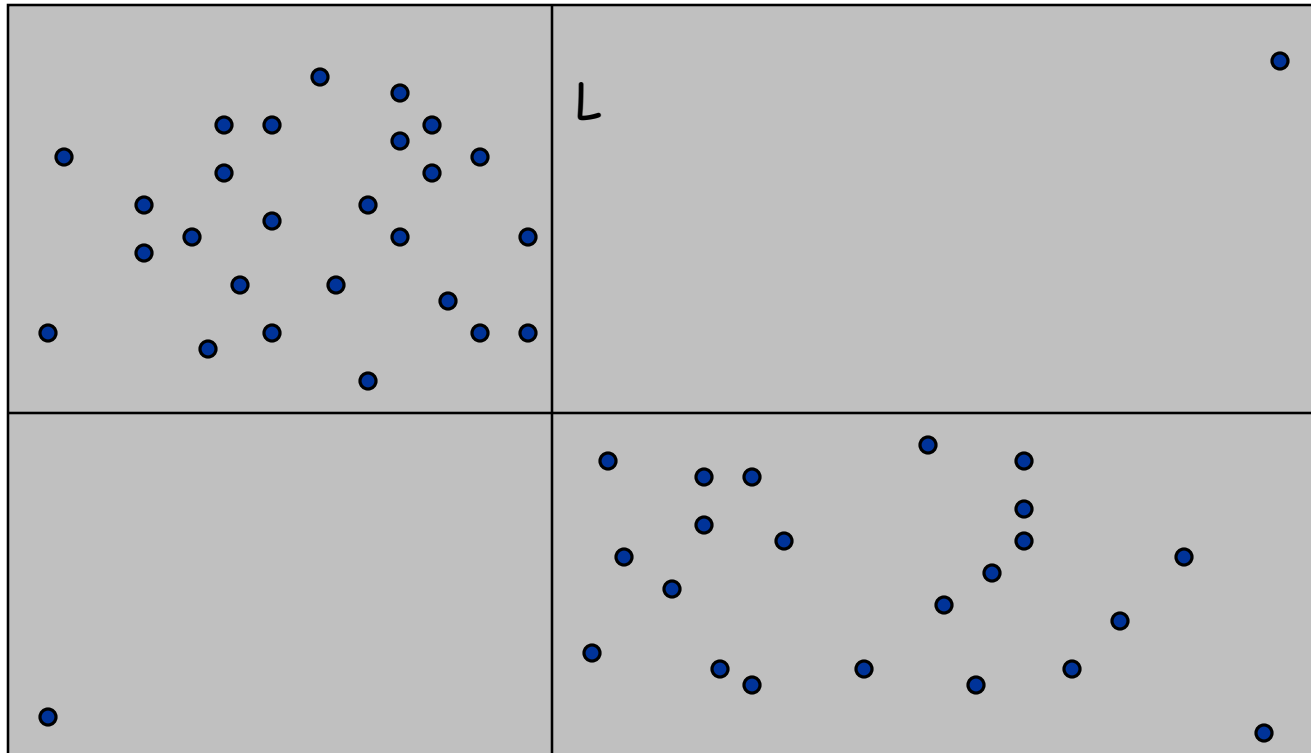


# Closest Pair of Points: First Attempt



**Divide.** Sub-divide region into 4 quadrants.

**Obstacle.** Impossible to ensure  $n/4$  points in each piece.



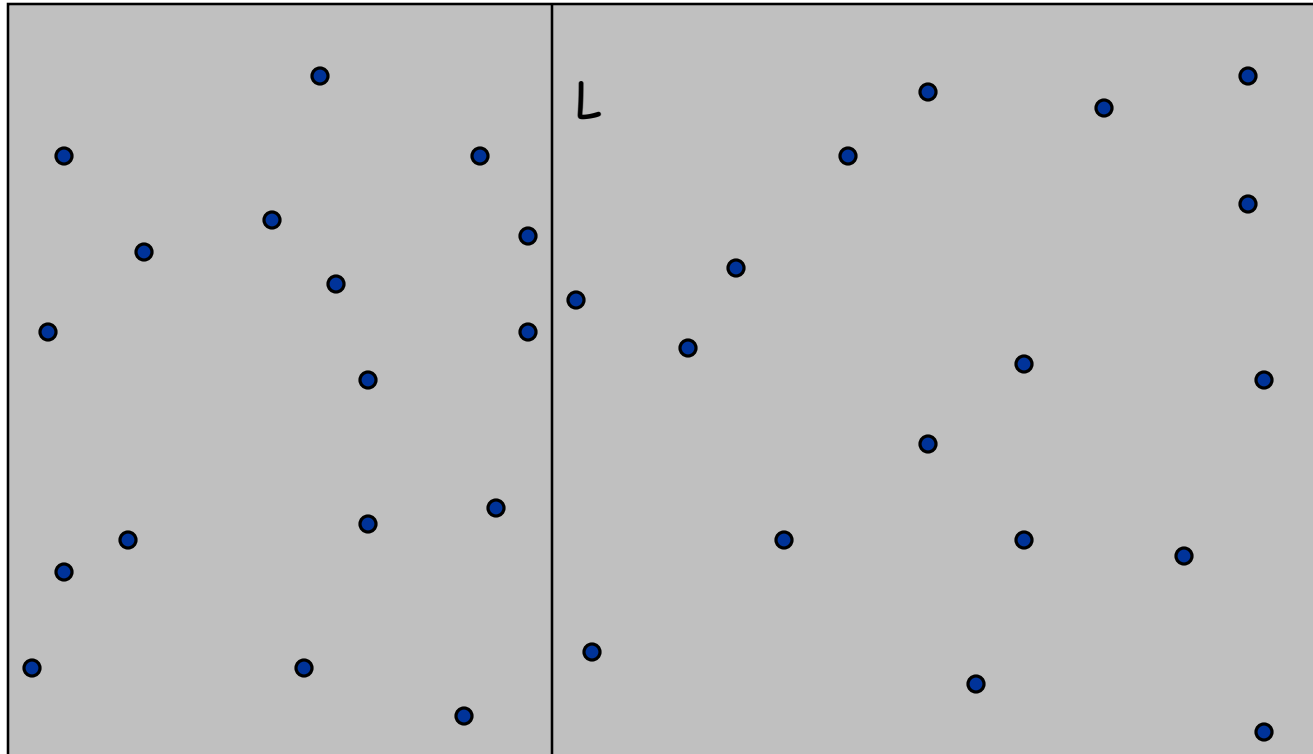


# Closest Pair of Points



## Algorithm.

- Divide:** draw vertical line  $L$  so that roughly  $\frac{1}{2}n$  points on each side.

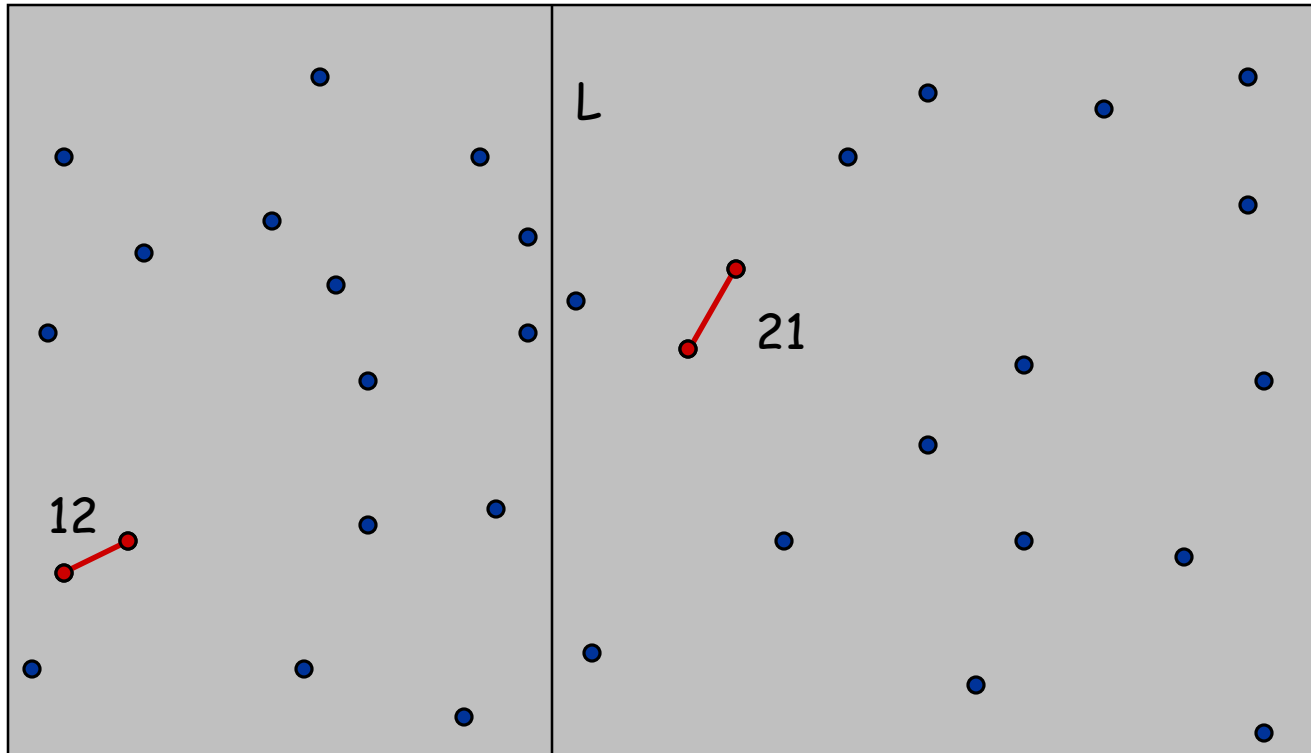


# Closest Pair of Points



## Algorithm.

- Divide: draw vertical line  $L$  so that roughly  $\frac{1}{2}n$  points on each side.
- Conquer:** find closest pair in each side recursively.

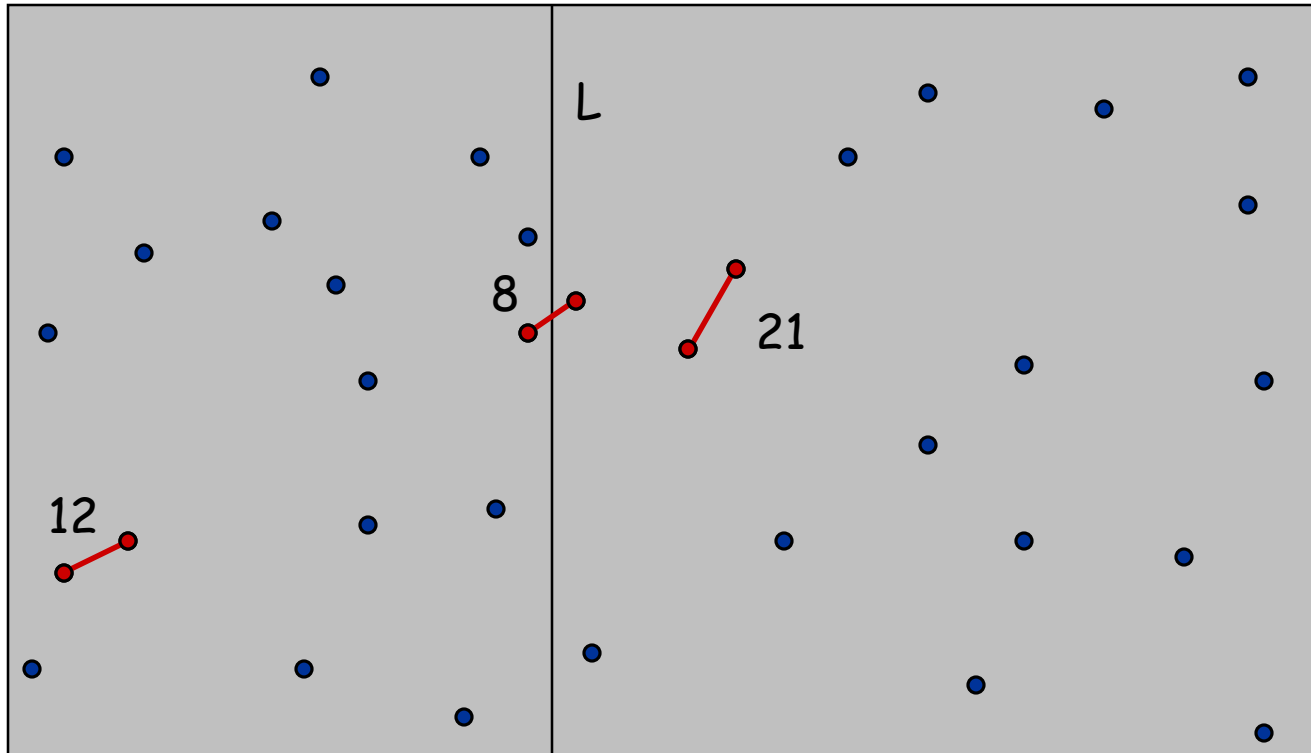


# Closest Pair of Points



## Algorithm.

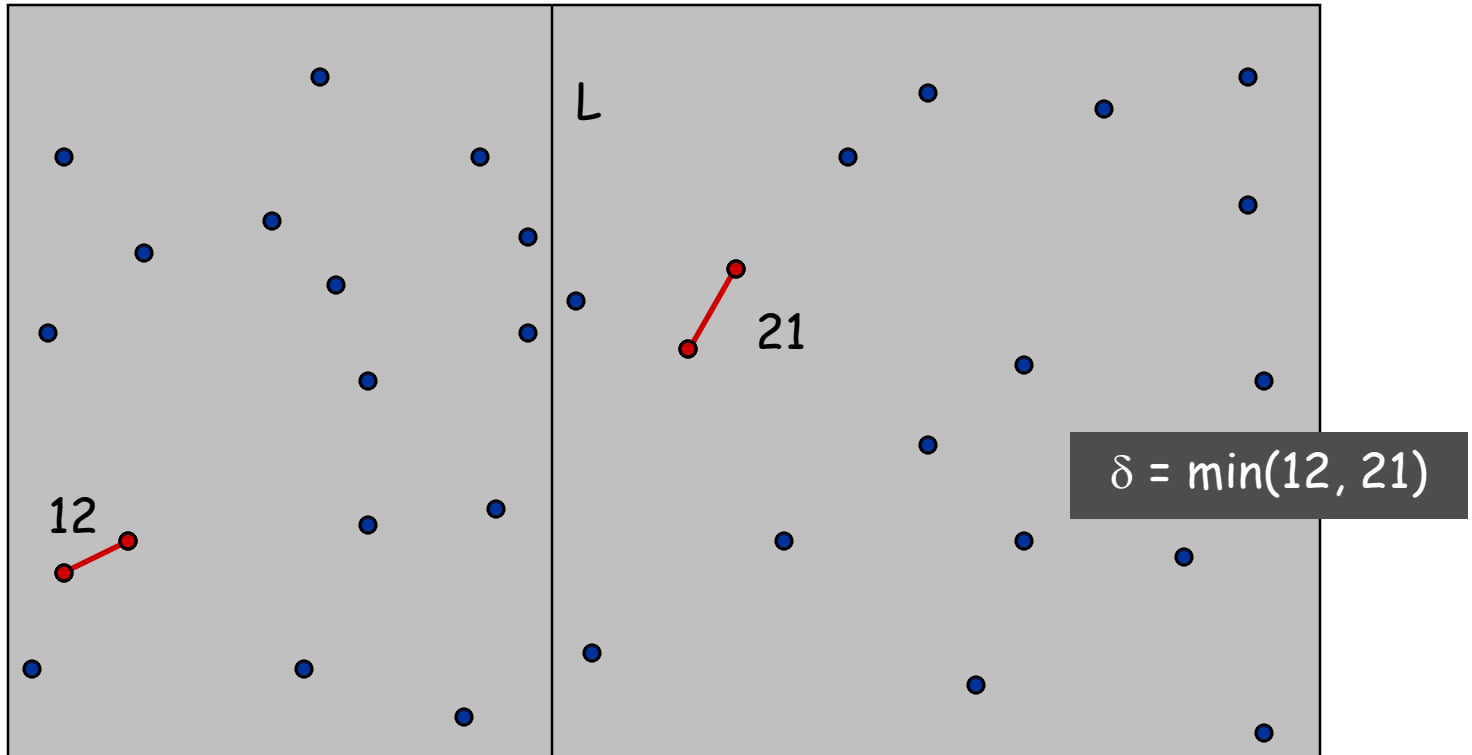
- Divide: draw vertical line  $L$  so that roughly  $\frac{1}{2}n$  points on each side.
- Conquer: find closest pair in each side recursively.
- Combine:** find closest pair with one point in each side. ← seems like  $\Theta(n^2)$
- Return best of 3 solutions.



# Closest Pair of Points



Find closest pair with one point in each side, assuming that distance  $< \delta$ .

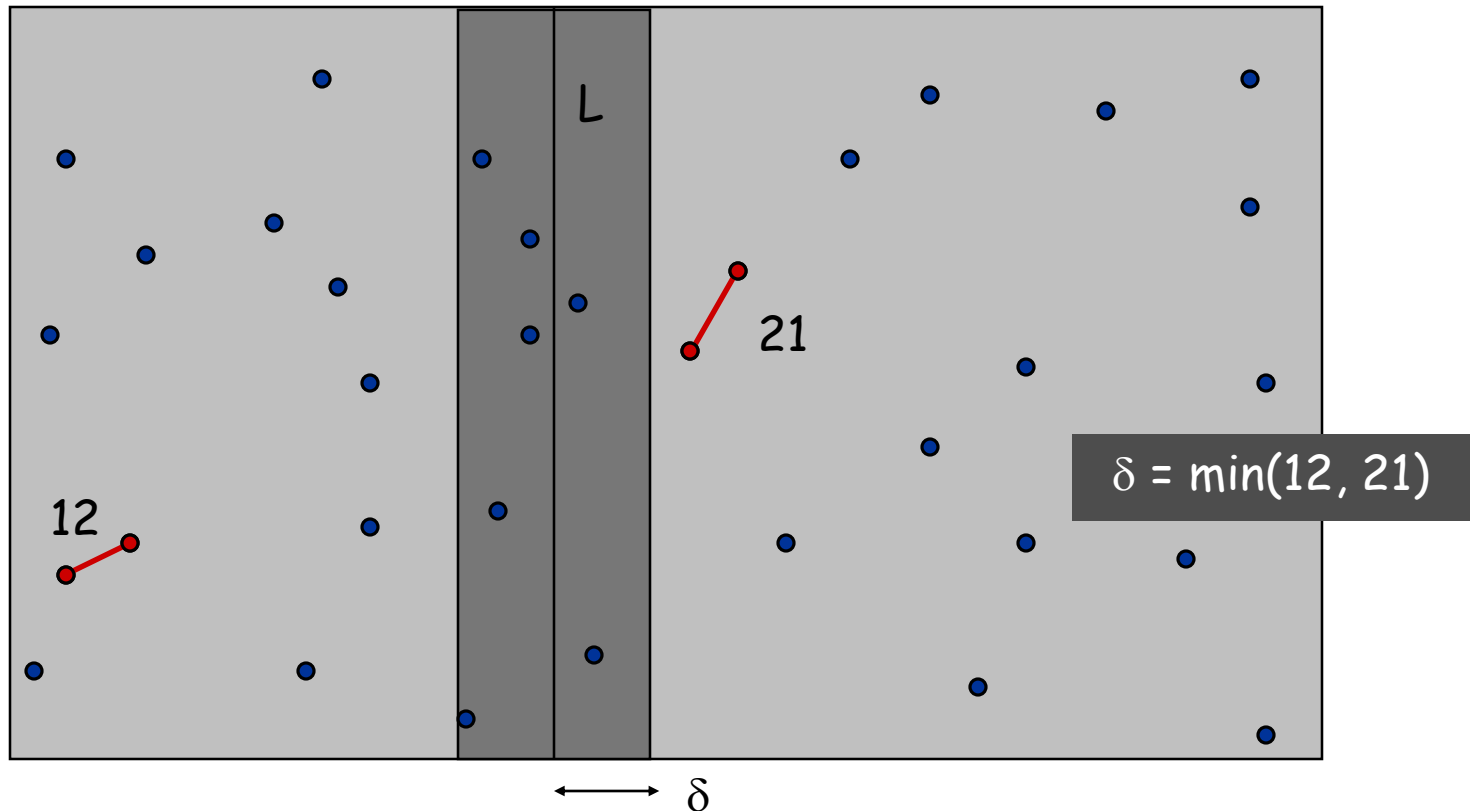


# Closest Pair of Points



Find closest pair with one point in each side, assuming that distance  $< \delta$ .

Observation: only need to consider points within  $\delta$  of line  $L$ .

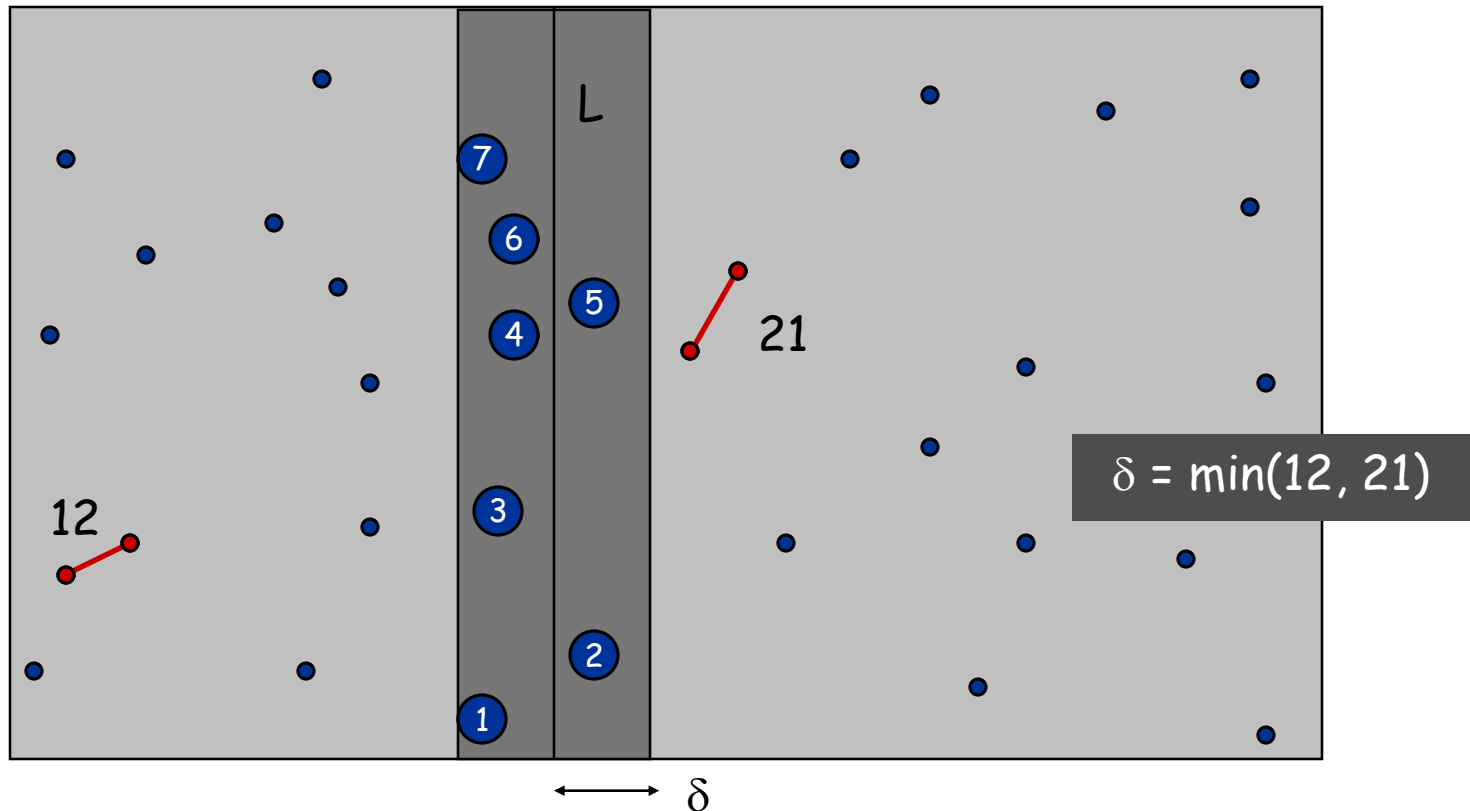


# Closest Pair of Points



Find closest pair with one point in each side, assuming that distance  $< \delta$ .

- Observation: only need to consider points within  $\delta$  of line  $L$ .
- Sort points in  $2\delta$ -strip by their  $y$  coordinate.

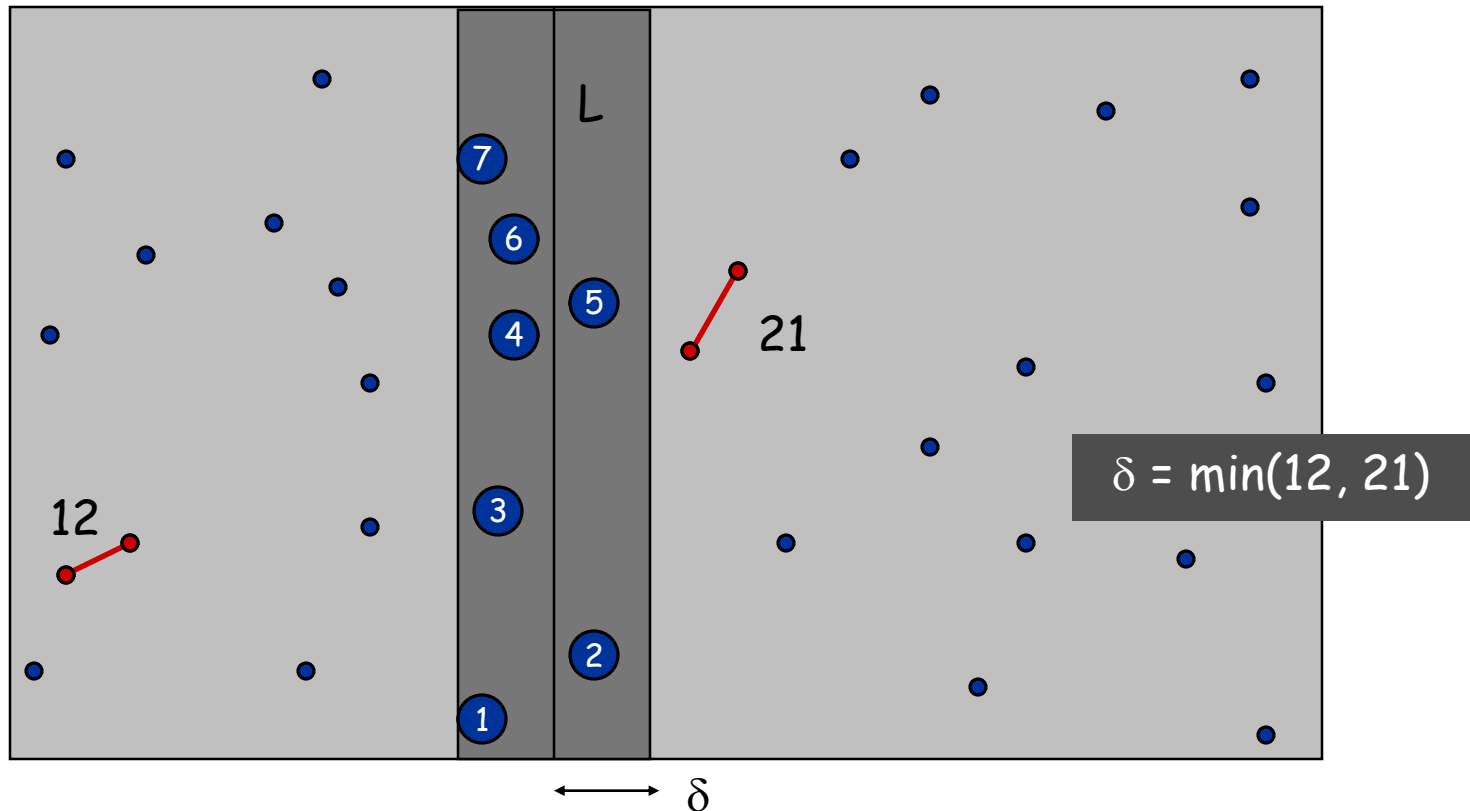


# Closest Pair of Points



Find closest pair with one point in each side, **assuming that distance**  
 **$< \delta$ .**

- Observation: only need to consider points within  $\delta$  of line  $L$ .
- Sort points in  $2\delta$ -strip by their  $y$  coordinate.
- Only check distances of those within 11 positions in sorted list!



# Closest Pair of Points



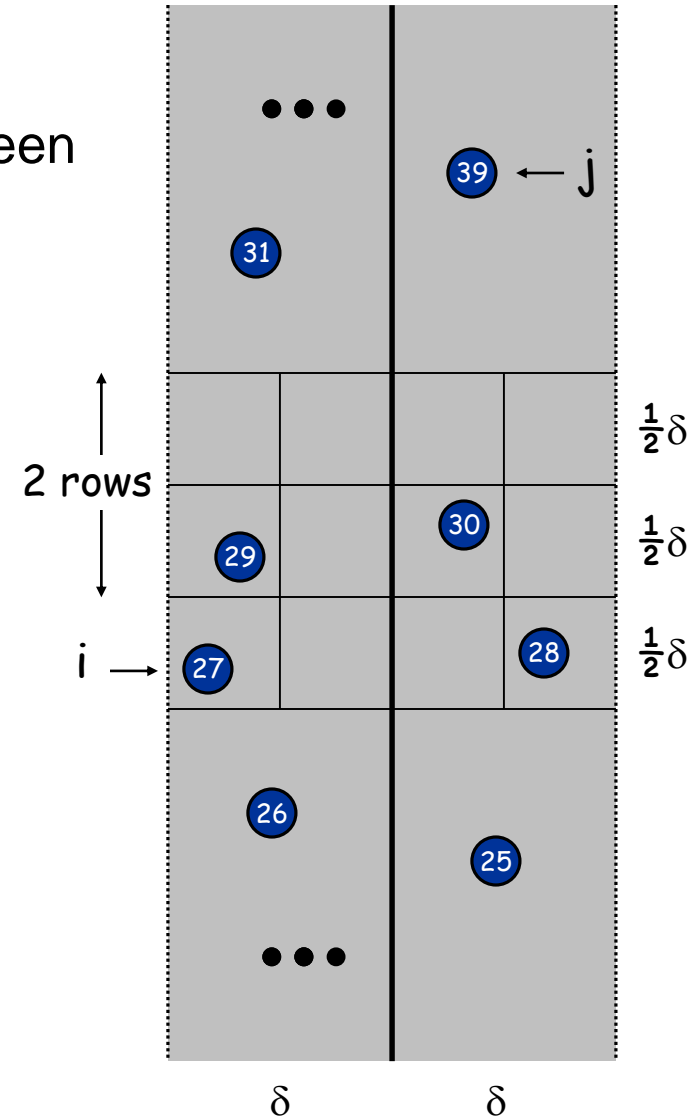
**Def.** Let  $s_i$  be the point in the  $2\delta$ -strip, with the  $i^{\text{th}}$  smallest y-coordinate.

**Claim.** If  $|i - j| \geq 12$ , then the distance between  $s_i$  and  $s_j$  is at least  $\delta$ .

**Pf.**

- $\cdot$  No two points lie in same  $\frac{1}{2}\delta$ -by- $\frac{1}{2}\delta$  box.
- $\cdot$  Two points at least 2 rows apart have distance  $\geq 2(\frac{1}{2}\delta)$ . ■

**Fact.** Still true if we replace 12 with 7.





# Closest Pair Algorithm



```
Closest-Pair( $p_1, \dots, p_n$ ) {
```

```
  Compute separation line  $L$  such that half the points  
  are on one side and half on the other side.
```

$O(n \log n)$

```
   $\delta_1$  = Closest-Pair(left half)
```

```
   $\delta_2$  = Closest-Pair(right half)
```

$2T(n / 2)$

```
   $\delta$  =  $\min(\delta_1, \delta_2)$ 
```

```
  Delete all points further than  $\delta$  from separation line  $L$ 
```

$O(n)$

```
  Sort remaining points by  $y$ -coordinate.
```

$O(n \log n)$

```
  Scan points in  $y$ -order and compare distance between  
  each point and next 11 neighbors. If any of these  
  distances is less than  $\delta$ , update  $\delta$ .
```

$O(n)$

```
  return  $\delta$ .
```

```
}
```



# Closest Pair of Points: Analysis



Running time.

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + O(n \log n) \Rightarrow T(n) = O(n \log^2 n)$$

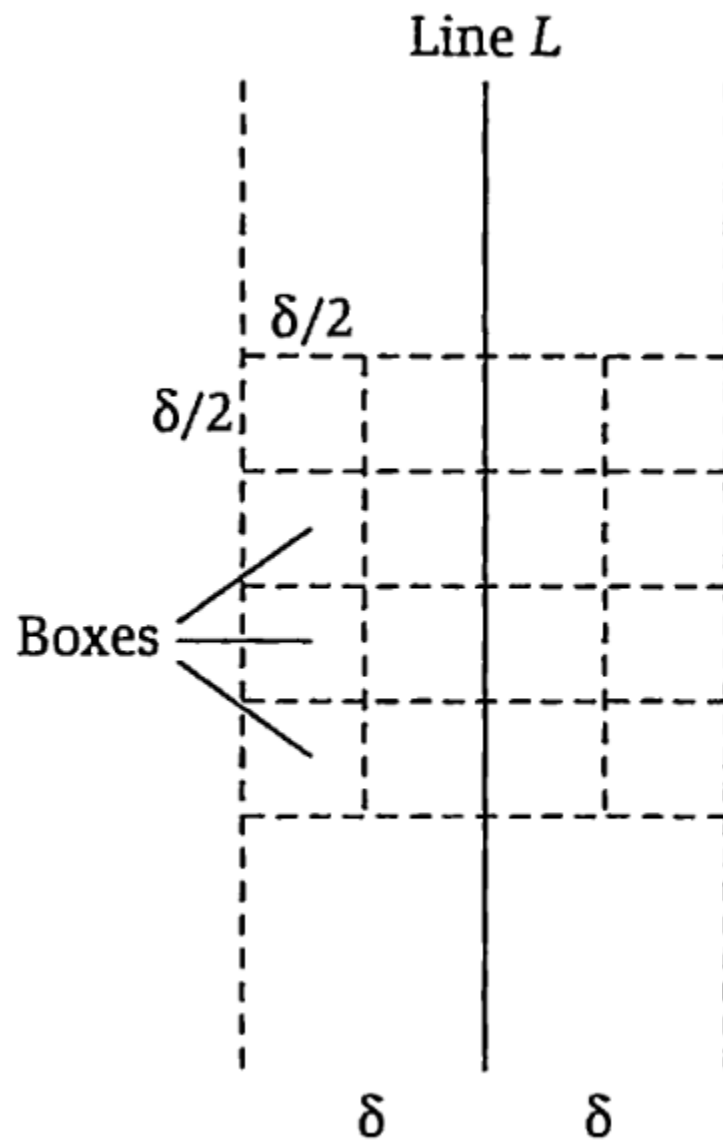
Q. Can we achieve  $O(n \log n)$ ?

A. Yes. Don't sort points in strip from scratch each time.

- Each recursive returns two lists: all points sorted by y coordinate, and all points sorted by x coordinate.
- Sort by **merging** two pre-sorted lists.

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + O(n) \Rightarrow T(n) = O(n \log n)$$







Closest-Pair( $P$ )

Construct  $P_x$  and  $P_y$  ( $O(n \log n)$  time)

$(p_0^*, p_1^*) = \text{Closest-Pair-Rec}(P_x, P_y)$

Closest-Pair-Rec( $P_x, P_y$ )

If  $|P| \leq 3$  then

find closest pair by measuring all pairwise distances

Endif

Construct  $Q_x, Q_y, R_x, R_y$  ( $O(n)$  time)

$(q_0^*, q_1^*) = \text{Closest-Pair-Rec}(Q_x, Q_y)$

$(r_0^*, r_1^*) = \text{Closest-Pair-Rec}(R_x, R_y)$

$\delta = \min(d(q_0^*, q_1^*), d(r_0^*, r_1^*))$

$x^* = \text{maximum } x\text{-coordinate of a point in set } Q$

$L = \{(x, y) : x = x^*\}$

$S = \text{points in } P \text{ within distance } \delta \text{ of } L.$





Construct  $S_y$  ( $O(n)$  time)

For each point  $s \in S_y$ , compute distance from  $s$   
to each of next 15 points in  $S_y$

Let  $s, s'$  be pair achieving minimum of these distances  
( $O(n)$  time)

If  $d(s, s') < \delta$  then

Return  $(s, s')$

Else if  $d(q_0^*, q_1^*) < d(r_0^*, r_1^*)$  then

Return  $(q_0^*, q_1^*)$

Else

Return  $(r_0^*, r_1^*)$

Endif





## 5.5 Integer Multiplication

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$O(n)$  bit operations.

**Brute force solution:  $\Theta(n^2)$  bit operations.**

Add

[illegible]

# Divide-and-Conquer Multiplication: Warmup



To multiply two  $n$ -digit integers:

- Multiply four  $\frac{1}{2}n$ -digit integers.
- Add two  $\frac{1}{2}n$ -digit integers, and shift to obtain result.

$$\begin{aligned}x &= 2^{n/2} \cdot x_1 + x_0 \\y &= 2^{n/2} \cdot y_1 + y_0 \\xy &= (2^{n/2} \cdot x_1 + x_0)(2^{n/2} \cdot y_1 + y_0) = 2^n \cdot x_1 y_1 + 2^{n/2} \cdot (x_1 y_0 + x_0 y_1) + x_0 y_0\end{aligned}$$

$$T(n) = \underbrace{4T(n/2)}_{\text{recursive calls}} + \underbrace{\Theta(n)}_{\text{add, shift}} \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$$



assumes  $n$  is a power of 2





# Karatsuba Multiplication



To multiply two  $n$ -digit integers:

- Add two  $\frac{1}{2}n$  digit integers.
- Multiply **three**  $\frac{1}{2}n$ -digit integers.
- Add, subtract, and shift  $\frac{1}{2}n$ -digit integers to obtain result.

$$\begin{aligned}x &= 2^{n/2} \cdot x_1 + x_0 \\y &= 2^{n/2} \cdot y_1 + y_0 \\xy &= 2^n \cdot x_1 y_1 + 2^{n/2} \cdot (x_1 y_0 + x_0 y_1) + x_0 y_0 \\&= \underbrace{2^n \cdot x_1 y_1}_A + \underbrace{2^{n/2} \cdot ((x_1 + x_0)(y_1 + y_0) - x_1 y_1 - x_0 y_0)}_B + \underbrace{x_0 y_0}_C\end{aligned}$$

**Theorem.** [Karatsuba-Ofman, 1962] Can multiply two  $n$ -digit integers in  $O(n^{1.585})$  bit operations.

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &\leq \underbrace{T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + T(1 + \lceil n/2 \rceil)}_{\text{recursive calls}} + \underbrace{\Theta(n)}_{\text{add, subtract, shift}} \\&\Rightarrow T(n) = O(n^{\log_2 3}) = O(n^{1.585})\end{aligned}$$

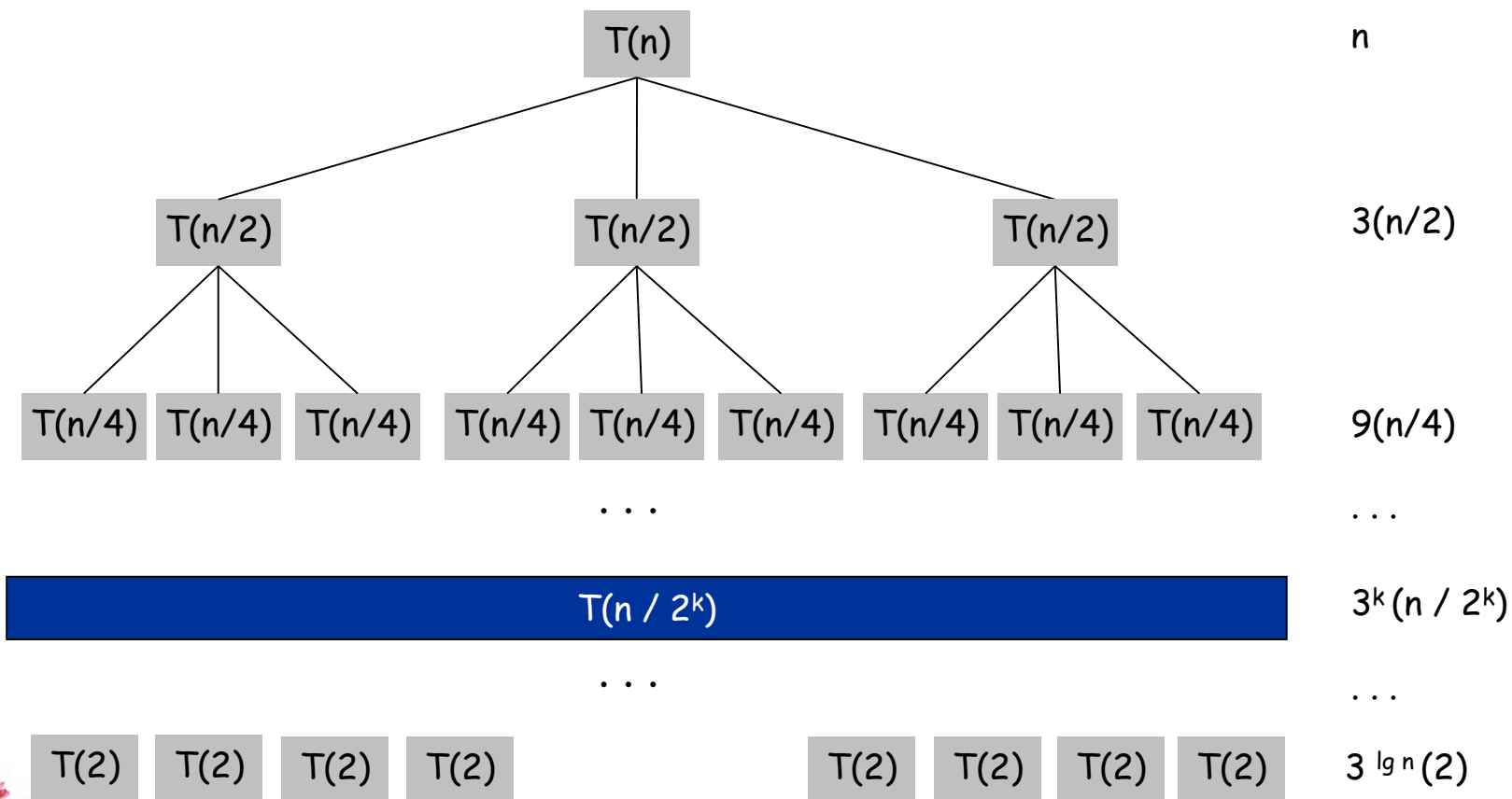


# Karatsuba: Recursion Tree



$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 3T(n/2) + n & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{\log_2 n} n \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^k = \frac{\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{1+\log_2 n} - 1}{\frac{3}{2} - 1} = 3n^{\log_2 3} - 2$$





Recursive-Multiply( $x, y$ ):

Write  $x = x_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0$

$y = y_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + y_0$

Compute  $x_1 + x_0$  and  $y_1 + y_0$

$p = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_1 + x_0, y_1 + y_0)$

$x_1 y_1 = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_1, y_1)$

$x_0 y_0 = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_0, y_0)$

Return  $x_1 y_1 \cdot 2^n + (p - x_1 y_1 - x_0 y_0) \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0 y_0$





# Matrix Multiplication

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# Matrix Multiplication



**Matrix multiplication.** Given two n-by-n matrices A and B, compute  $C = AB$ .

$$c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} b_{kj}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} & \cdots & c_{1n} \\ c_{21} & c_{22} & \cdots & c_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_{n1} & c_{n2} & \cdots & c_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & \cdots & b_{1n} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & \cdots & b_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ b_{n1} & b_{n2} & \cdots & b_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

**Brute force.**  $\Theta(n^3)$  arithmetic operations.

**Fundamental question.** Can we improve upon brute force?



# Matrix Multiplication: Warmup



## Divide-and-conquer.

- Divide: partition A and B into  $\frac{1}{2}n$ -by- $\frac{1}{2}n$  blocks.
- Conquer: multiply 8  $\frac{1}{2}n$ -by- $\frac{1}{2}n$  recursively.
- Combine: add appropriate products using 4 matrix additions.

$$\begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} C_{11} &= (A_{11} \times B_{11}) + (A_{12} \times B_{21}) \\ C_{12} &= (A_{11} \times B_{12}) + (A_{12} \times B_{22}) \\ C_{21} &= (A_{21} \times B_{11}) + (A_{22} \times B_{21}) \\ C_{22} &= (A_{21} \times B_{12}) + (A_{22} \times B_{22}) \end{aligned}$$

$$T(n) = \underbrace{8T(n/2)}_{\text{recursive calls}} + \underbrace{\Theta(n^2)}_{\text{add, form submatrices}} \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$$



# Matrix Multiplication: Key Idea



**Key idea.** multiply 2-by-2 block matrices with only **7** multiplications.

$$\begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C_{11} = P_5 + P_4 - P_2 + P_6$$

$$C_{12} = P_1 + P_2$$

$$C_{21} = P_3 + P_4$$

$$C_{22} = P_5 + P_1 - P_3 - P_7$$

$$P_1 = A_{11} \times (B_{12} - B_{22})$$

$$P_2 = (A_{11} + A_{12}) \times B_{22}$$

$$P_3 = (A_{21} + A_{22}) \times B_{11}$$

$$P_4 = A_{22} \times (B_{21} - B_{11})$$

$$P_5 = (A_{11} + A_{22}) \times (B_{11} + B_{22})$$

$$P_6 = (A_{12} - A_{22}) \times (B_{21} + B_{22})$$

$$P_7 = (A_{11} - A_{21}) \times (B_{11} + B_{12})$$

n 7 multiplications.

n  $18 = 10 + 8$  additions (or subtractions).



# Fast Matrix Multiplication



**Fast matrix multiplication.** (Strassen, 1969)

- Divide: partition A and B into  $\frac{1}{2}n$ -by- $\frac{1}{2}n$  blocks.
- Compute: 14  $\frac{1}{2}n$ -by- $\frac{1}{2}n$  matrices via 10 matrix additions.
- Conquer: multiply 7  $\frac{1}{2}n$ -by- $\frac{1}{2}n$  matrices recursively.
- Combine: 7 products into 4 terms using 8 matrix additions.

**Analysis.**

- Assume  $n$  is a power of 2.
- $T(n)$  = # arithmetic operations.

$$T(n) = \underbrace{7T(n/2)}_{\text{recursive calls}} + \underbrace{\Theta(n^2)}_{\text{add, subtract}} \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_2 7}) = O(n^{2.81})$$





# Fast Matrix Multiplication in Practice



## Implementation issues.

- Sparsity.
- Caching effects.
- Numerical stability.
- Odd matrix dimensions.
- Crossover to classical algorithm around  $n = 128$ .

## Common misperception: "Strassen is only a theoretical curiosity."

- Advanced Computation Group at Apple Computer reports 8x speedup on G4 Velocity Engine when  $n \sim 2,500$ .
- Range of instances where it's useful is a subject of controversy.

**Remark.** Can "Strassenize"  $Ax=b$ , determinant, eigenvalues, and other matrix ops.



# Fast Matrix Multiplication in Theory



Q. Multiply two 2-by-2 matrices with only 7 scalar multiplications?

A. Yes! [Strassen, 1969]  $\Theta(n^{\log_2 7}) = O(n^{2.81})$

Q. Multiply two 2-by-2 matrices with only 6 scalar multiplications?

A. Impossible. [Hopcroft and Kerr, 1971]  $\Theta(n^{\log_2 6}) = O(n^{2.59})$

Q. Two 3-by-3 matrices with only 21 scalar multiplications?

A. Also impossible.  $\Theta(n^{\log_3 21}) = O(n^{2.77})$

Q. Two 70-by-70 matrices with only 143,640 scalar multiplications?

A. Yes! [Pan, 1980]  $\Theta(n^{\log_{70} 143640}) = O(n^{2.80})$

## Decimal wars.

<sub>n</sub> December, 1979:  $O(n^{2.521813})$ .

<sub>n</sub> January, 1980:  $O(n^{2.521801})$ .



# Fast Matrix Multiplication in Theory



**Best known.**  $O(n^{2.376})$  [Coppersmith-Winograd, 1987.]

**Conjecture.**  $O(n^{2+\varepsilon})$  for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

**Caveat.** Theoretical improvements to Strassen are progressively less practical.

