



# Competitive Programming

From Problem 2 Solution in  $O(1)$

## Computational Geometry Line Sweep - Closest Pair

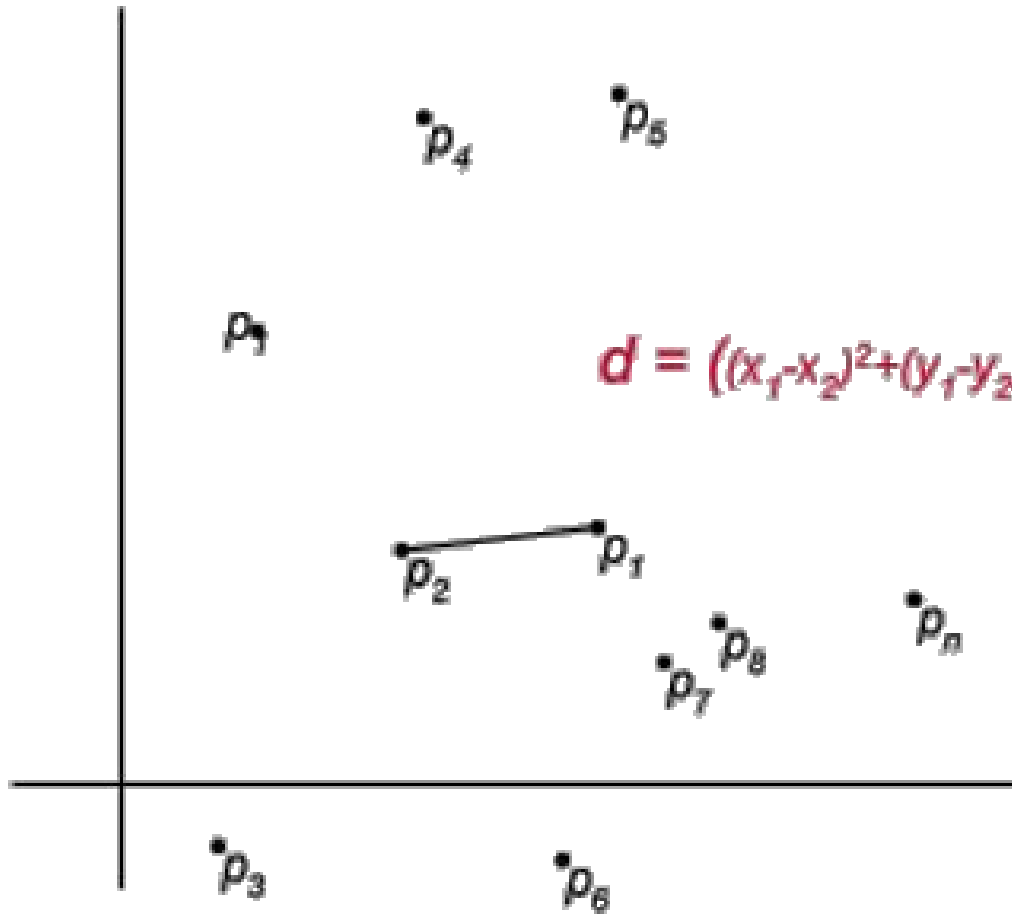
**Mostafa Saad Ibrahim**  
PhD Student @ Simon Fraser University



# Line Sweep

- Giving a plane of objects and some task
  - E.g. Set of segments to intersect
  - E.g. Set of rectangles to compute union
- One can consider every pair of objects!
  - However, every object (e.g. segment) interacts (e.g. intersect) with some surrounding ones **NOT ALL**
- Imagine a **vertical line** that is **swept** across the plane, specially **at discrete points** (events)
  - E.g. start/end of segment or a rectangle
  - We will use them to identify the **surrounding objects**

# Closest Pair Problem



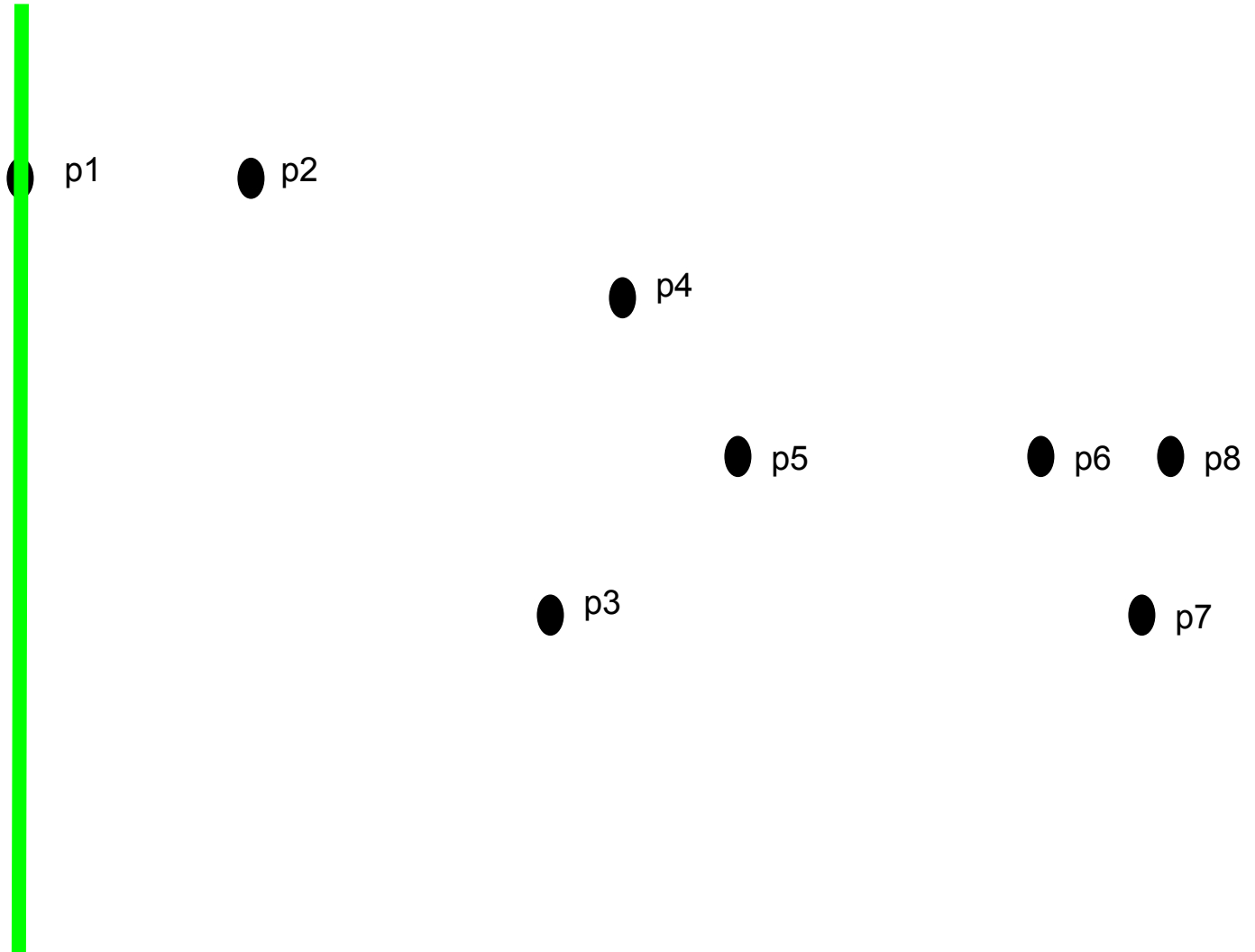
Given N points

Find the closest pair of points  
among them using Euclidean  
Distance

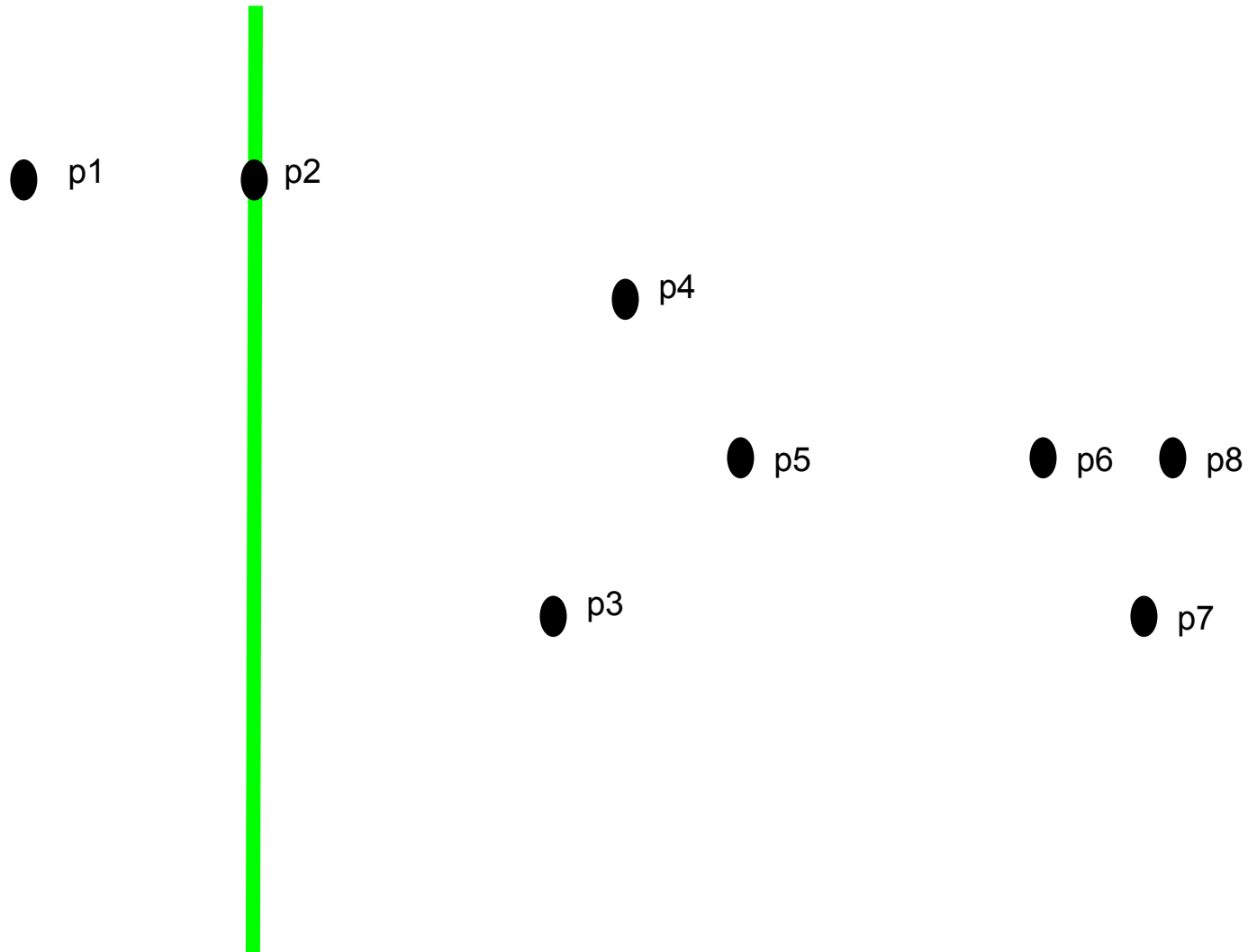
# Closest Pair Problem

- A trivial approach is brute force  $O(n^2)$ 
  - For every pair of points compute distance
  - Minimize over them
- Divide and Conquer Solution:  $O(n \log n)$ 
  - Can be generalized to N-Dimensions
- Sweep Line Solution  $O(n \log n)$ 
  - **Today Session**
  - Given a point, should we really consider every other point? Or just subset of them?
  - Vertical **Sweep line**...Points are the **events**
  - **Active Window** is based on current shortest distance

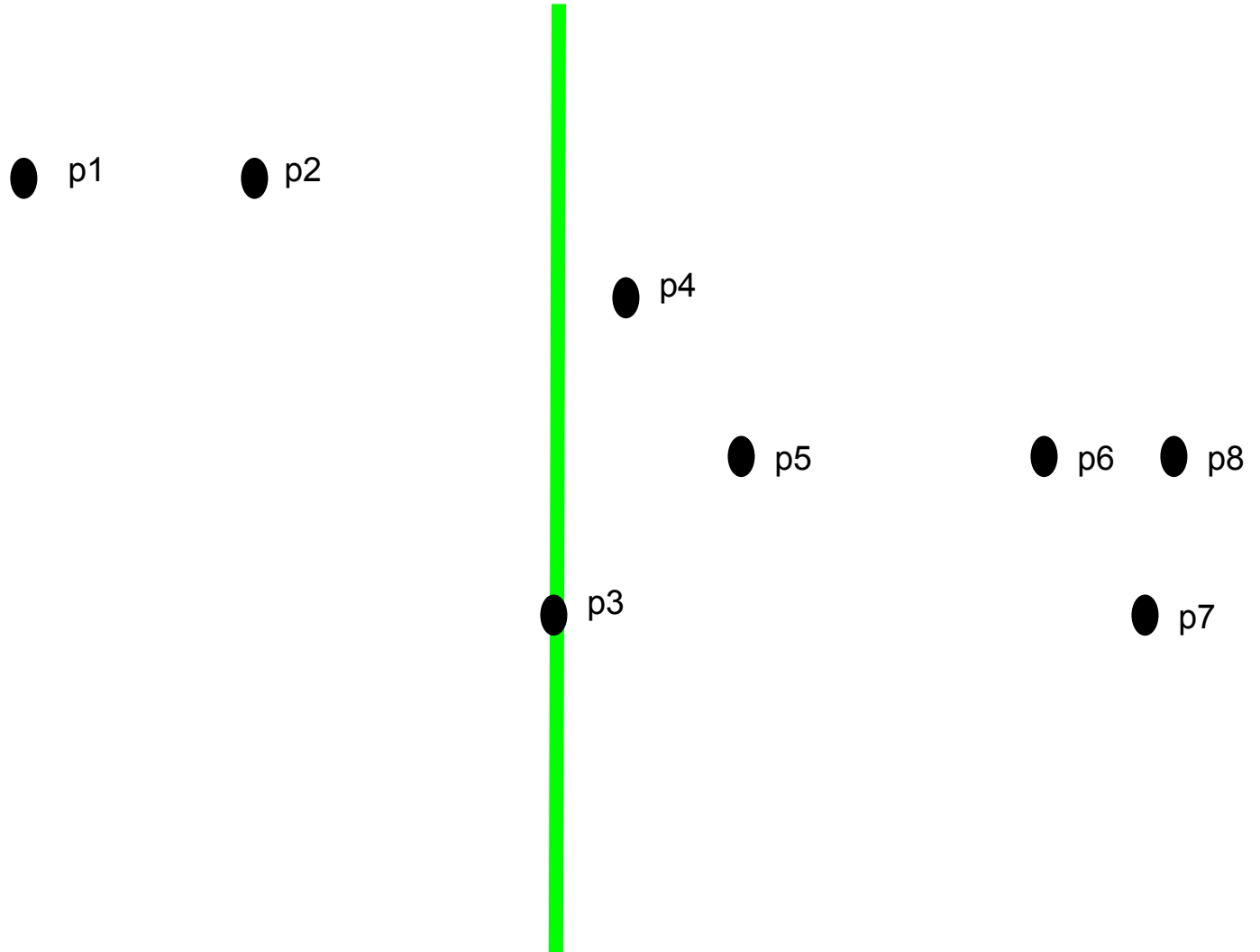
# Vertical Sweep Line



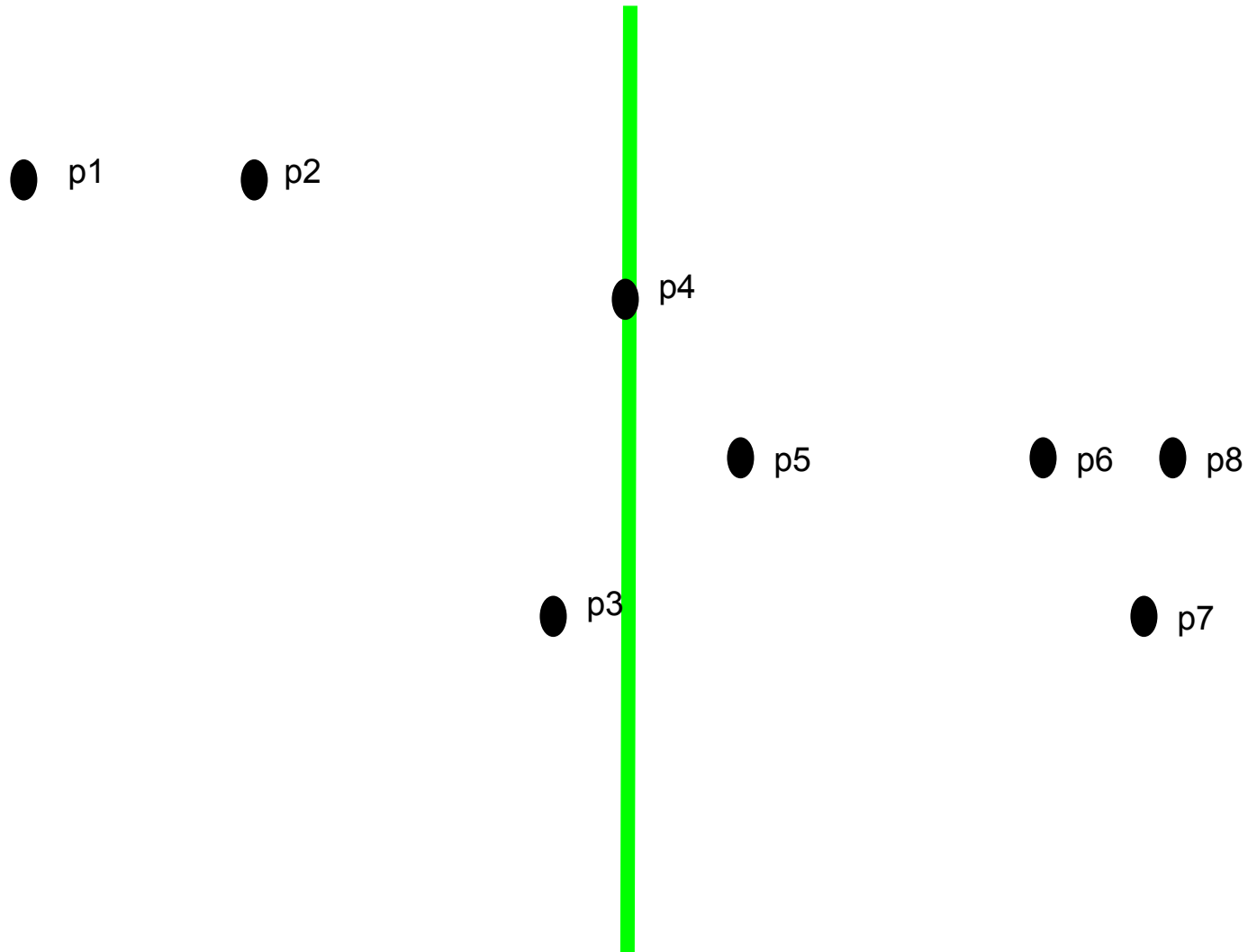
# Vertical Sweep Line



# Vertical Sweep Line



# Vertical Sweep Line





# Vertical Sweep Line

● p1

● p2

● p4

● p5

● p6

● p8

● p3

● p7

Note

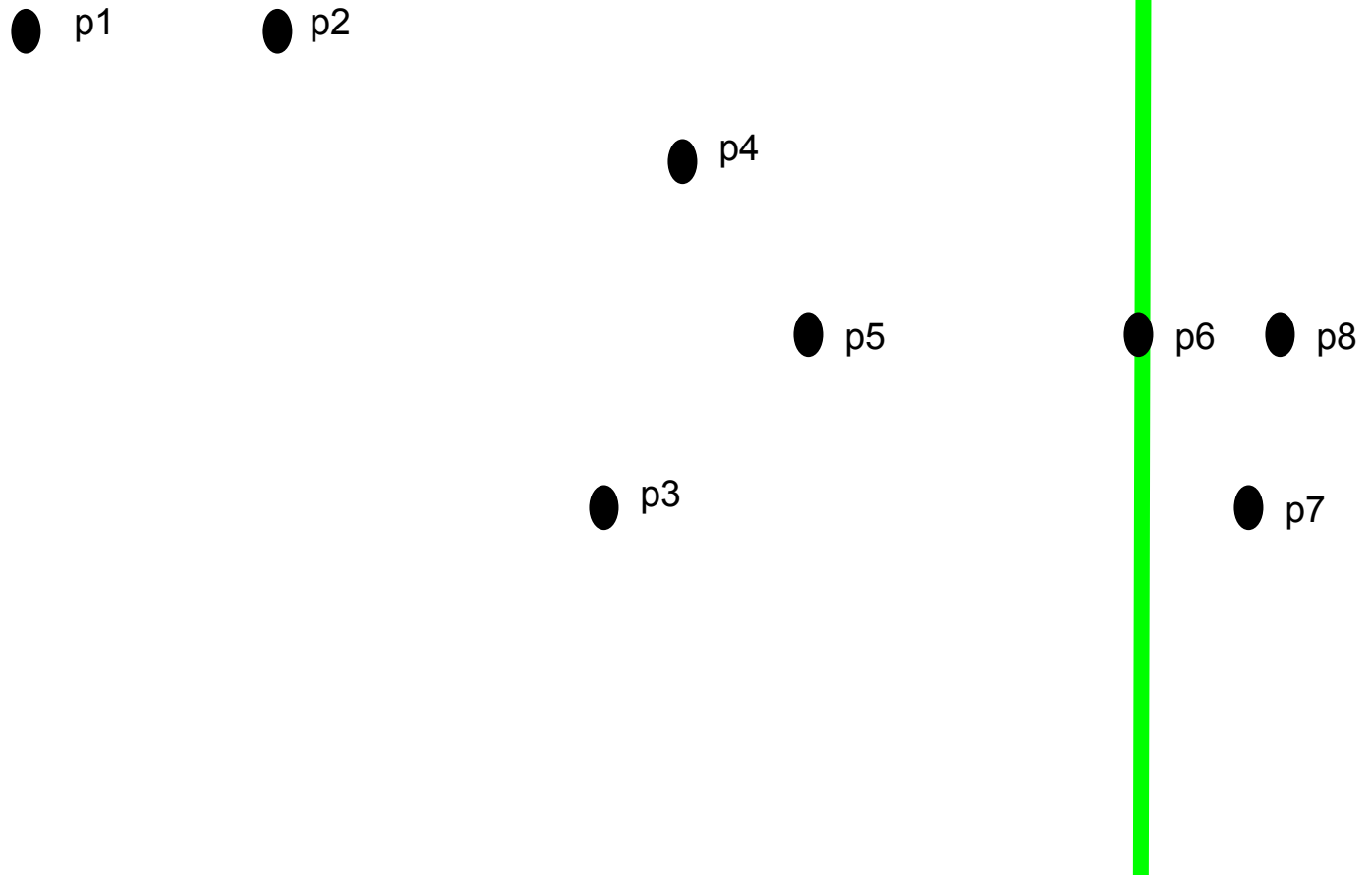
In a brute force solution:

p5 compares against {p1, p2, p3, p4}

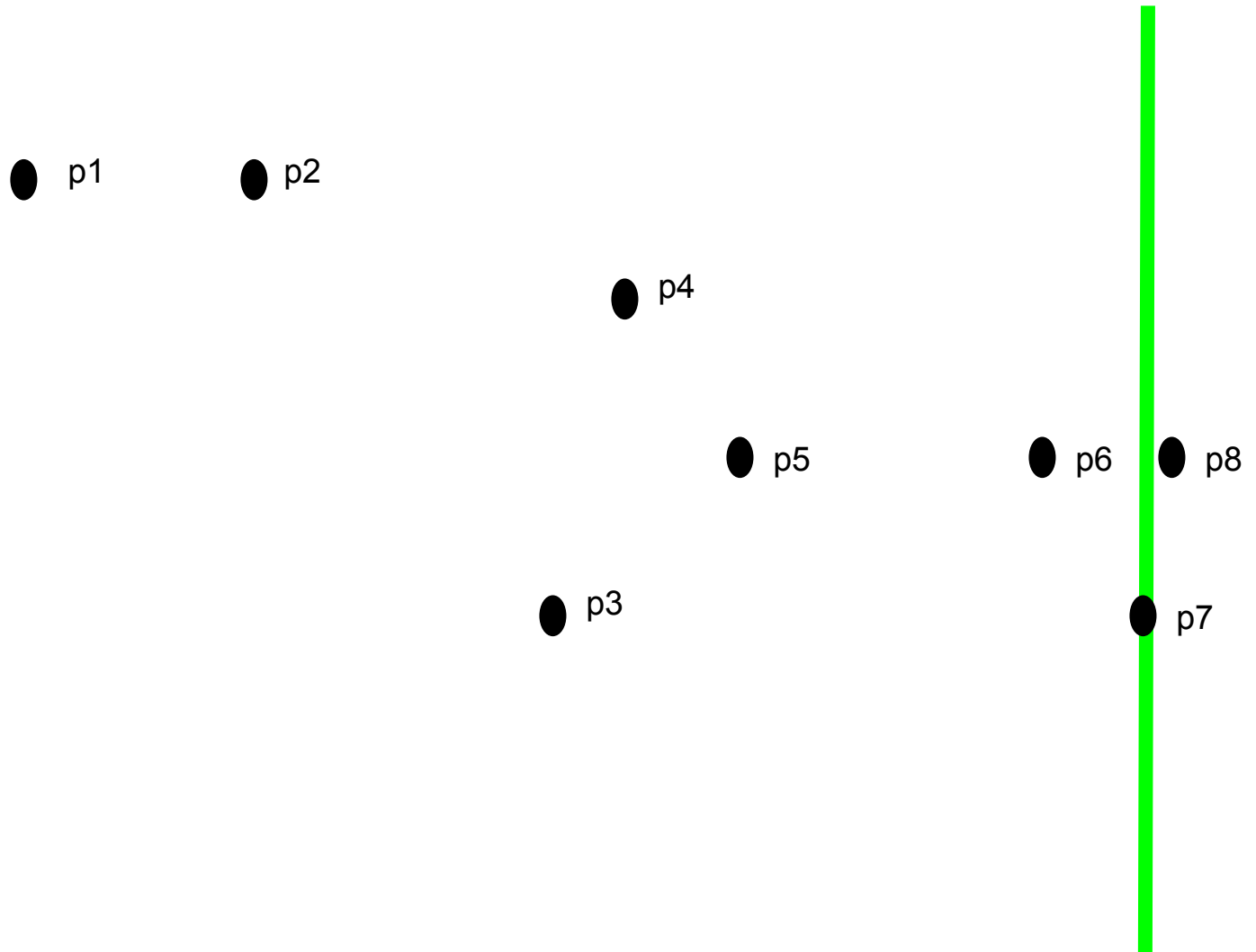
p6 compares against {p1, p2, p3, p4, p5}

e.g. every point compare against all left ones

# Vertical Sweep Line



# Vertical Sweep Line



# Vertical Sweep Line

● p1

● p2

● p4

● p5

● p6

● p8

Assume we reached some point e.g. p8  
should we consider all the previous points?

No, few subset only (this is called **active set**)

Like what? May be only p6 and p7?

Based on what? **Best distance so far**

e.g. best distance is (p4, p5) 2.5

So consider only points far with 2.5 units far from p8

● p3

● p7



# Vertical Sweep Line

- We are sweeping on points from left to right
- Each point may update the shortest D so far
- How to compute your **active window**?
  - Considering every left point is  $O(n^2)$ !
- Assume current best distance is 5
- Then next point P only need to consider **half circle** centered at p to get points  $\leq 5$ 
  - Note, just  $\frac{1}{2}$  circle NOT full one
  - We r sweeping from left to right, we only know left points
  - Note, rectangle is almost a circle + little parts

# Active window: Half Circle from P

● p1

● p2

● p4

● p5

● p6

● p8

● p3

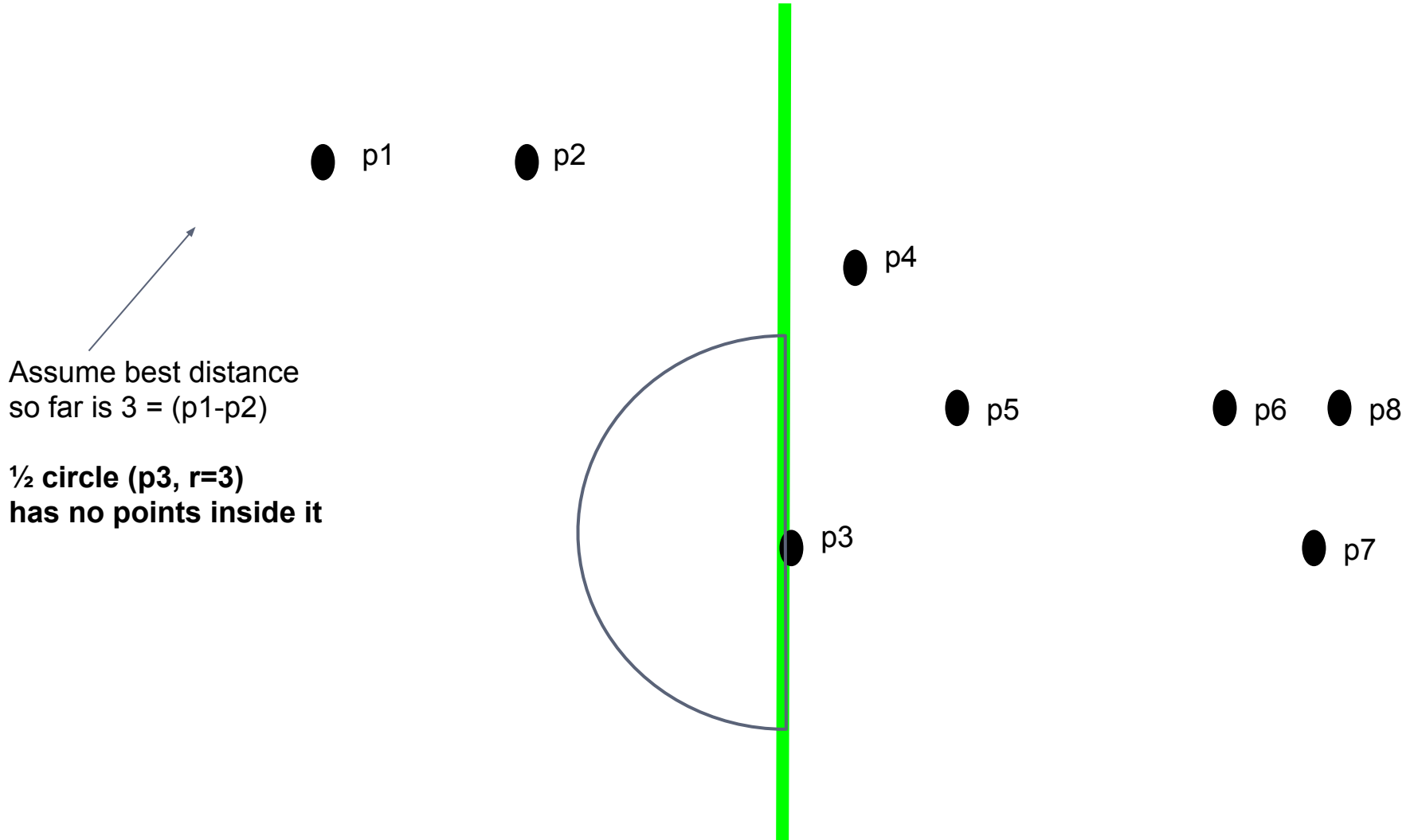
● p7

Assume best distance  
so far is  $3 = (p1-p2)$

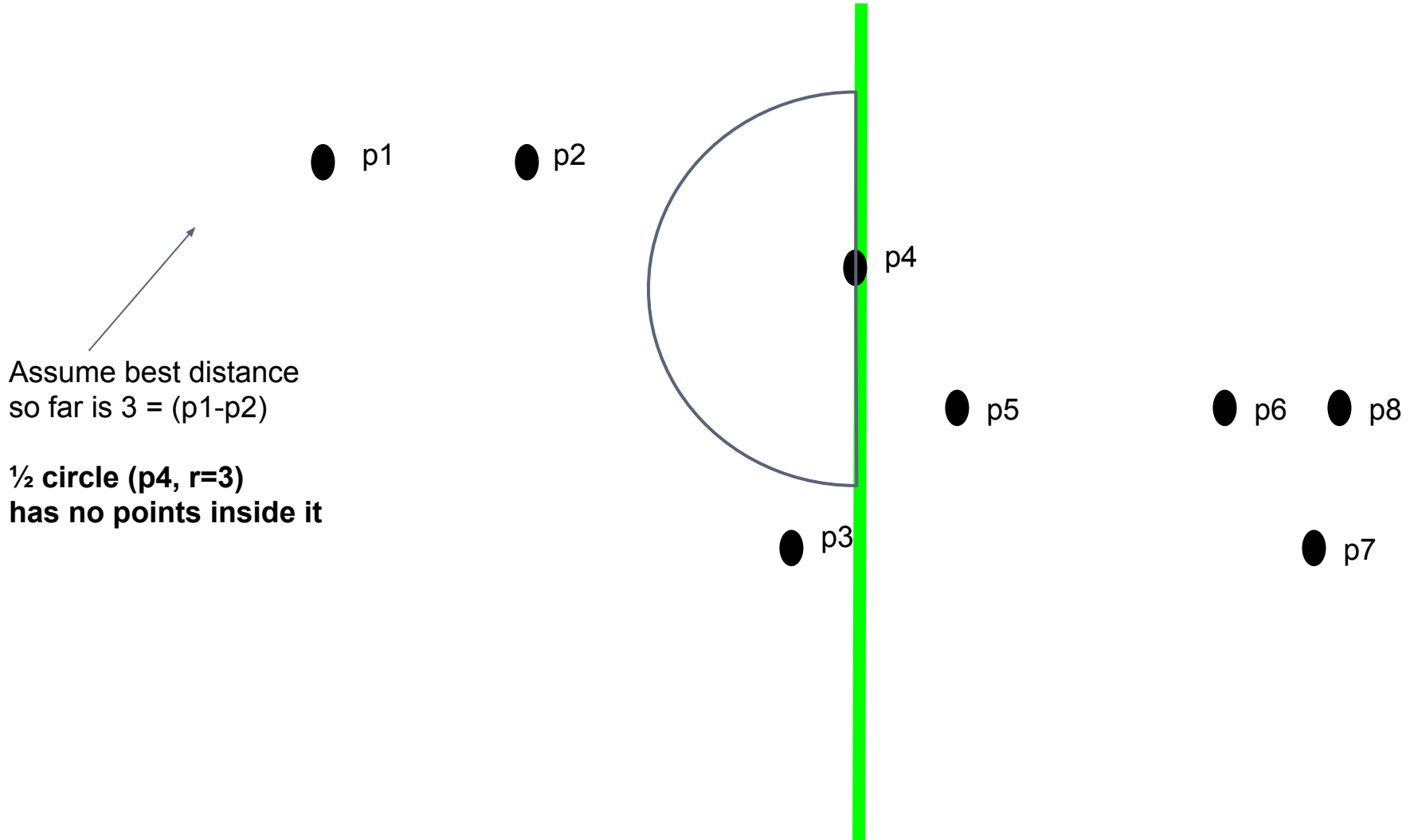
**Now we are at p3**  
p3 should see if any  
points are within  
**half circle of radius = 3**

if any, see if distance to  
any  $< 5$

# Active window: Half Circle from P



# Active window: Half Circle from P





# Active window: Half Circle from P

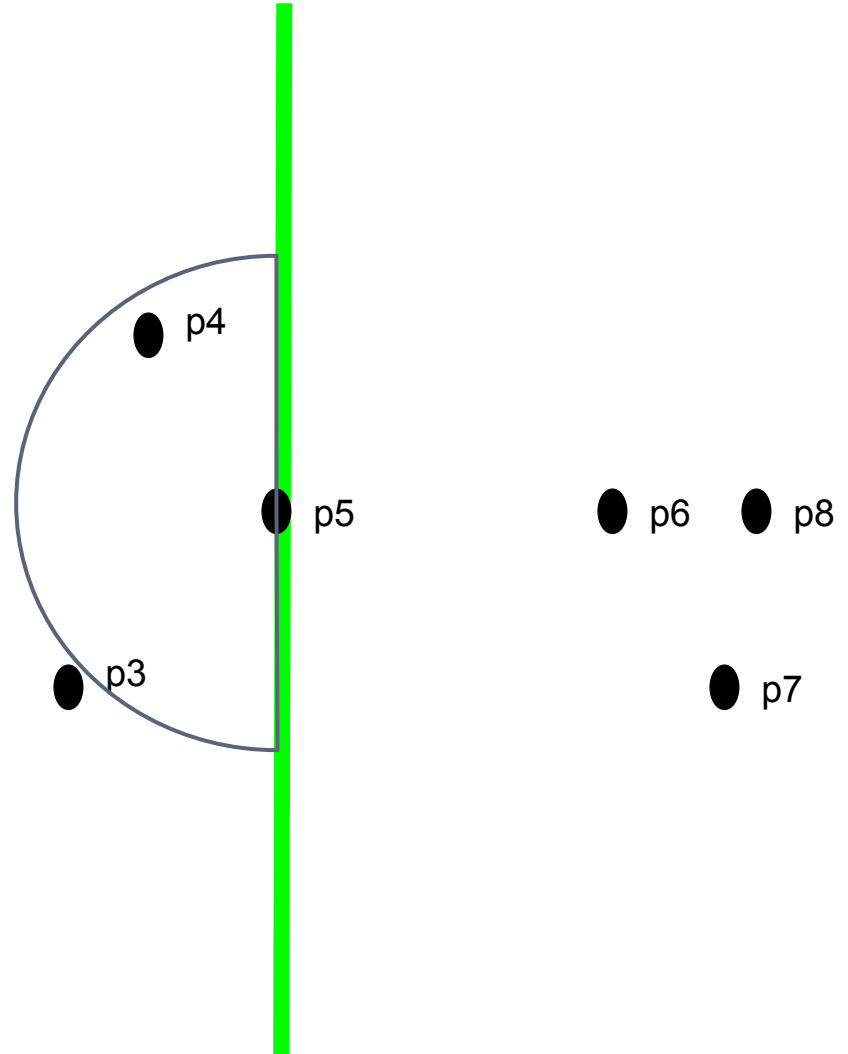
● p1

● p2

Assume best distance  
so far is  $3 = (p1-p2)$

$\frac{1}{2}$  circle (p5, r=3)  
has point p4  
 $\text{Dist}(p5, p4) = 2.5$

Update bestD = 2.5



# Active window: Half Circle from P

● p1

● p2

Assume best distance  
so far is  $3 = (p1-p2)$

$\frac{1}{2}$  circle (p6,  $r=2.5$ )  
has no points inside it

● p4

● p5

● p3

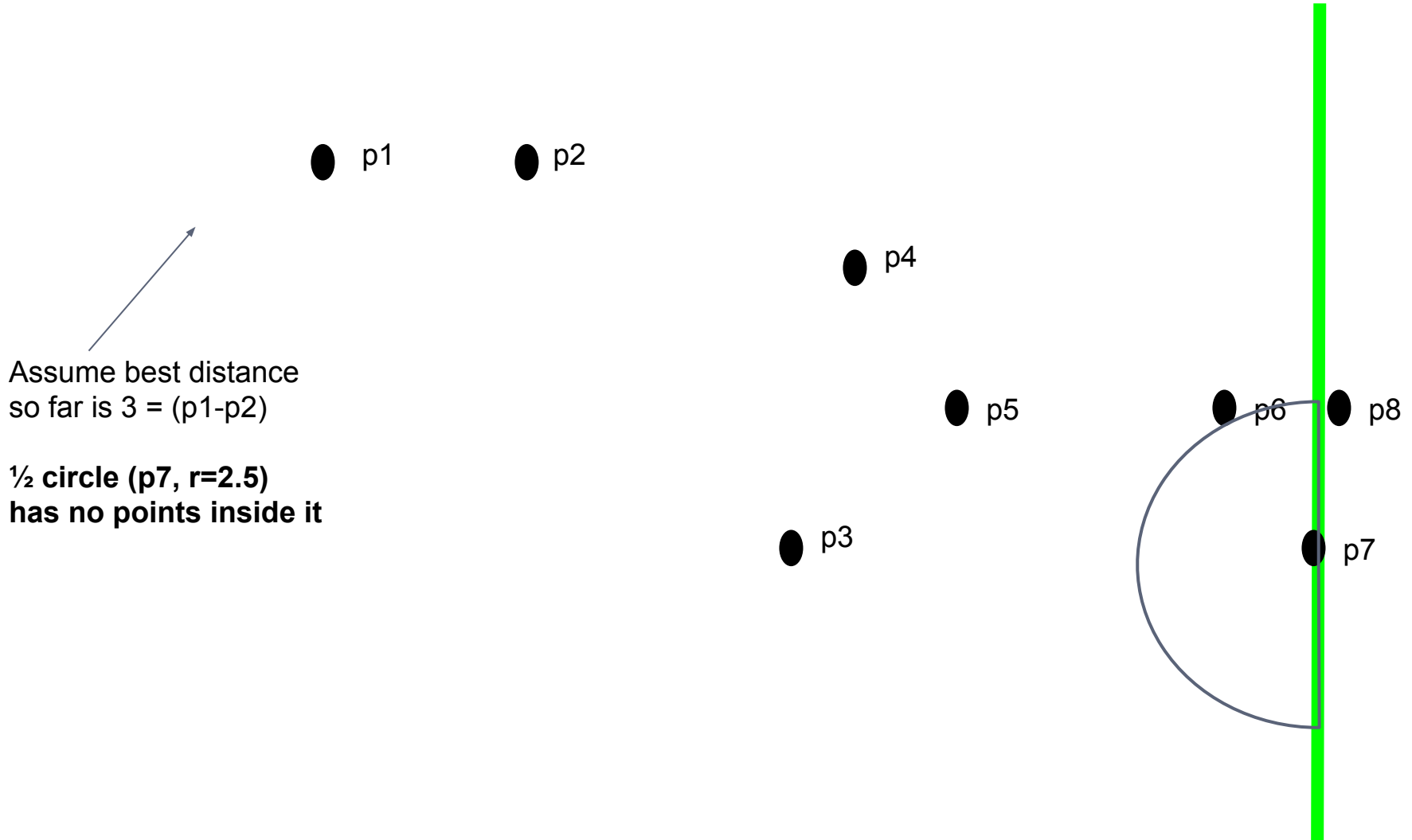


● p6

● p8

● p7

# Active window: Half Circle from P



# Active window: Half Circle from P

● p1

● p2

● p4

● p5

● p3

● p6

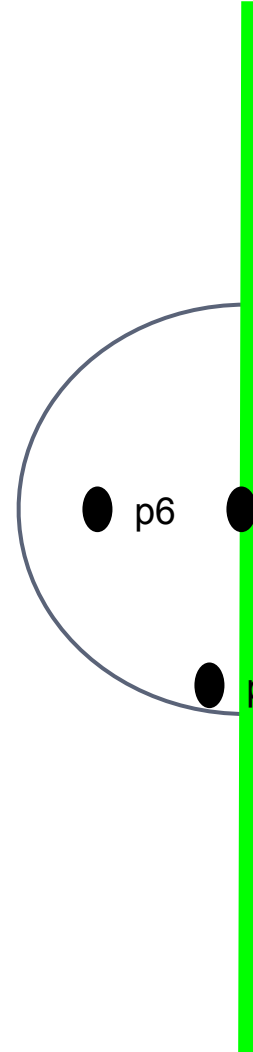
● p8

● p7

Assume best distance  
so far is 3 = (p1-p2)

1/2 circle (p8, r=2.5)  
has 2 points: p6, p7  
Dist(p8,p6)=1.3  
Dist(p8,p7)=2.2

Update BestD = 1.3



# Half Circle vs Half Rectangle

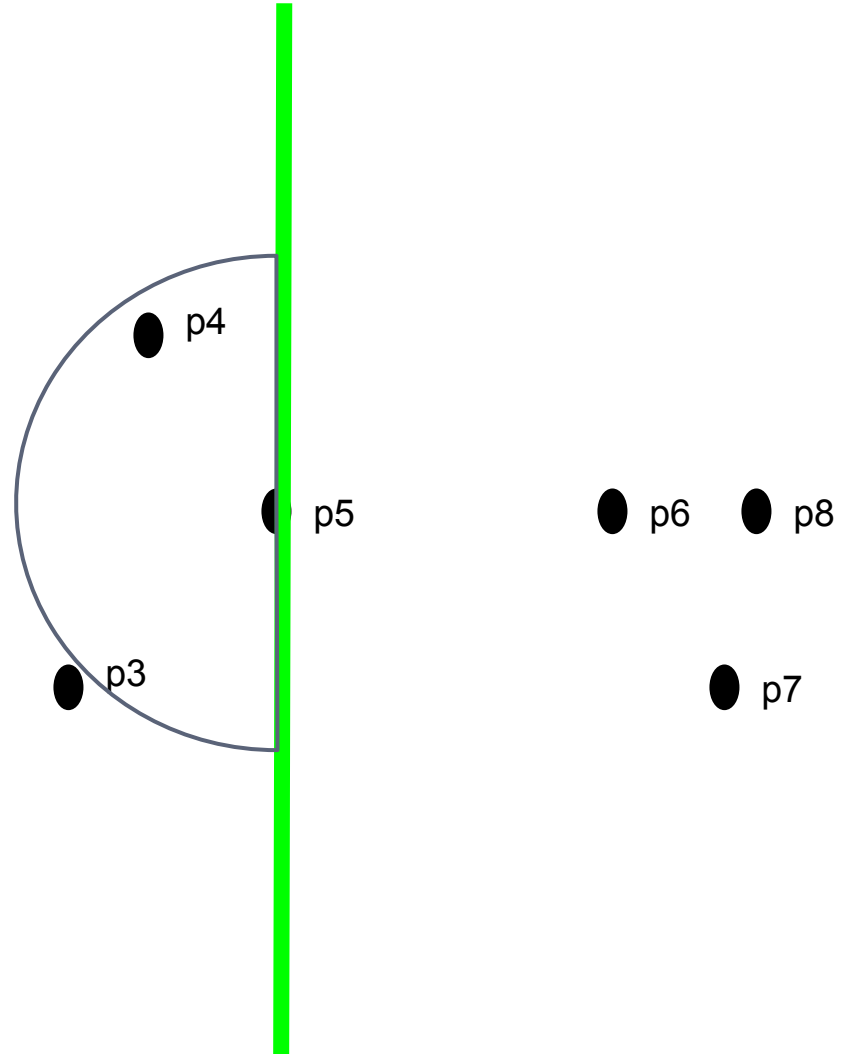
● p1

● p2

The minimum shape to  
get closest euclidean  
distance is circle

But efficient active  
window based on  $\frac{1}{2}$   
circle may be hard?

What about a half  
rectangle:  $r \times 2r$  ?



# Half Circle vs Half Rectangle

● p1

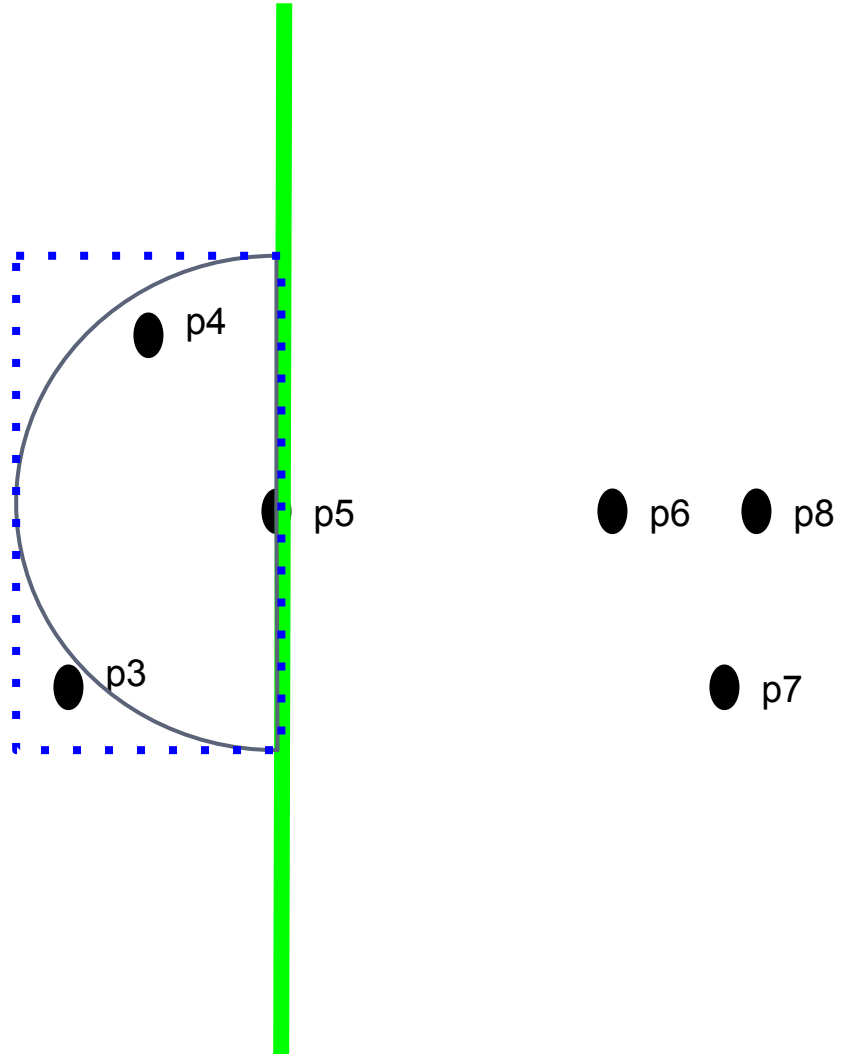
● p2

It might include **extra few points**..but  
given its trivial computations than  
circle = great achievement

Now p5 active window  
has both p4, p3  
Note  $\text{dist}(p5, p3) > \text{dist}(p5, p4)$

This rectangle is  $r * 2r$

e.g. 3x6 rectangle



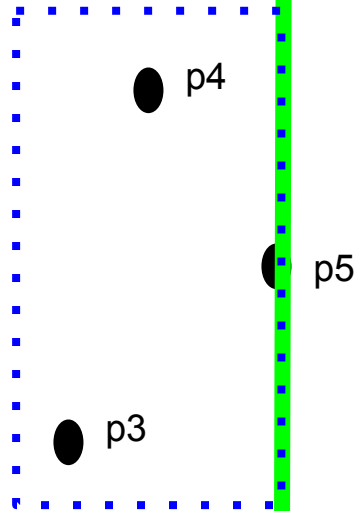
# Half Rectangle

● p1

● p2

Observation:

- We know points inside this rectangle (other than current point) has distances between themselves  $\geq r$
- What are the maximum points inside the  $r \times 2r$  rectangle?
- **at most 6 points**



● p6

● p8

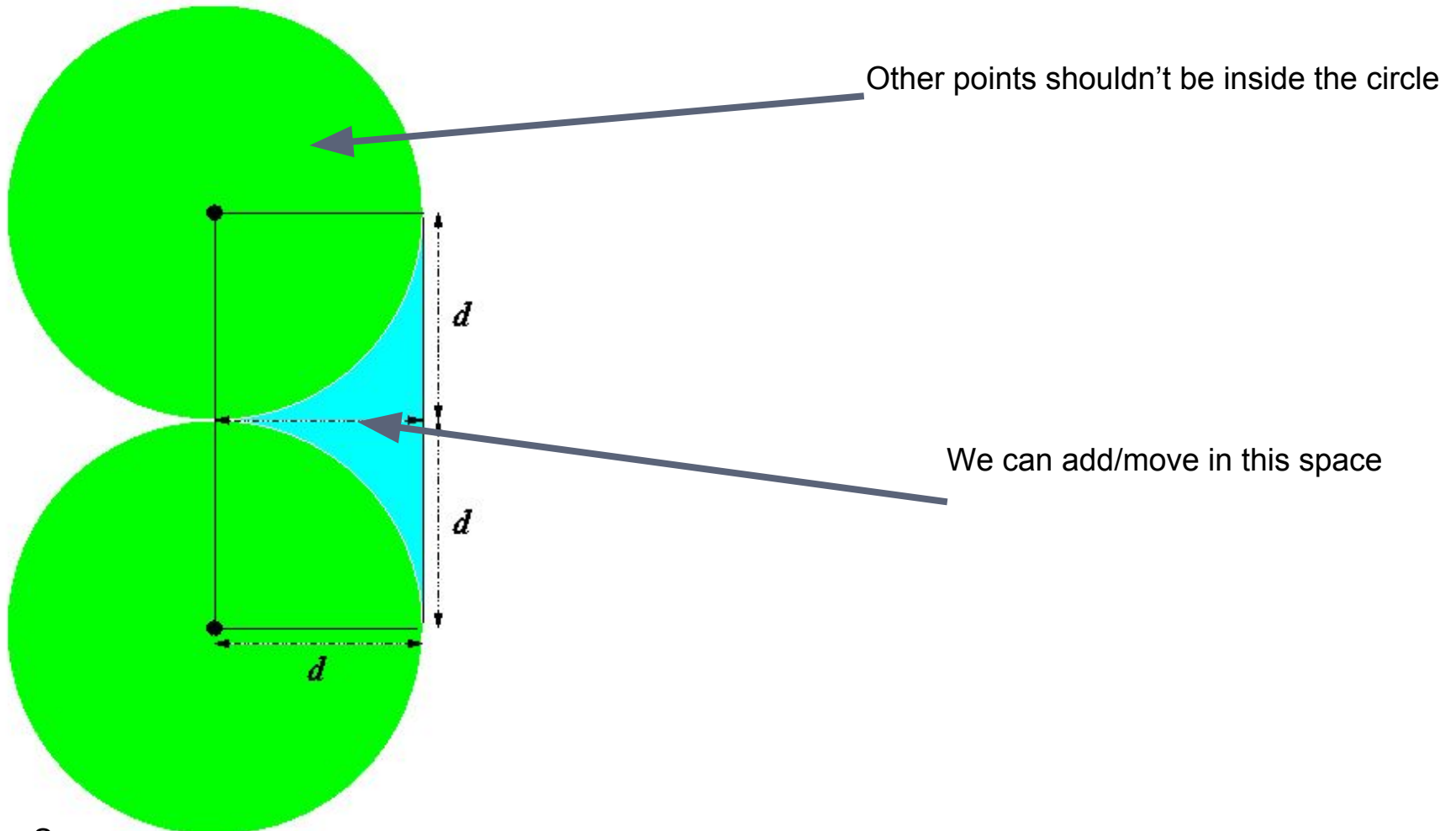
● p7

# Max points in the rectangle

- **Theorem**: A rectangle of width  $d$  and height  $2d$  can contain **at most six points** such that any two points are at distance at least  $d$ 
  - Divide  $d \times 2d$  to 2 rectangles:  $d \times d$  (think 6 corners)
  - Add points in the current 6 boundaries
  - Draw circle around each point of length  $D$  (others can't be inside the circle, only on its boundary)
  - Move the points wherever and try to add further points
  - You can't ...
  - hence maximum 6 points

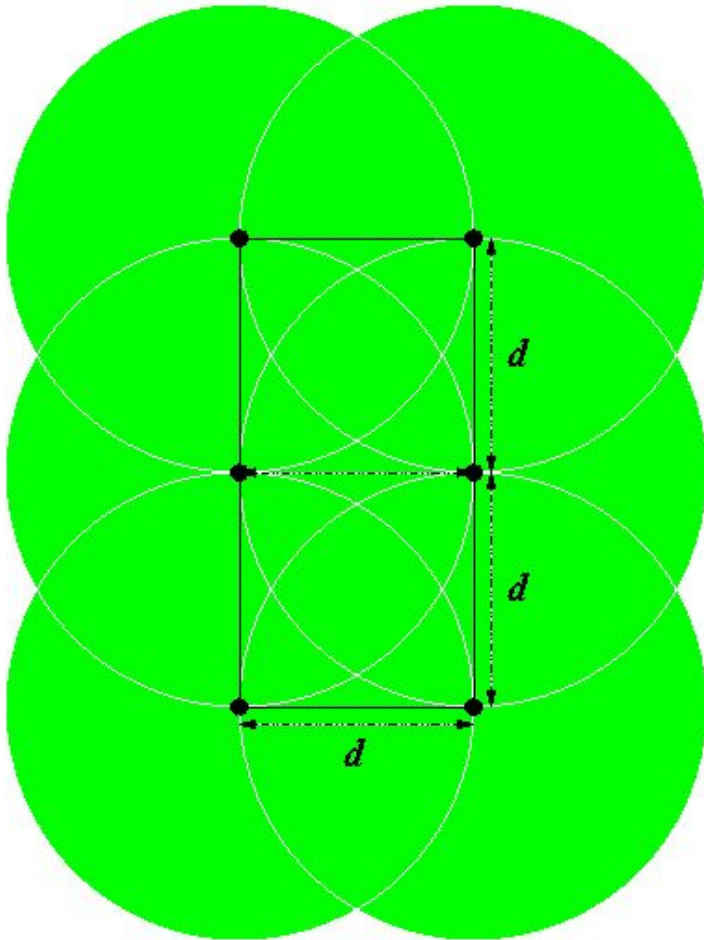


# Max points in the rectangle



Src: <http://www.cs.mcgill.ca/~cs251/ClosestPair/proofbox.html>

# Max points in the rectangle

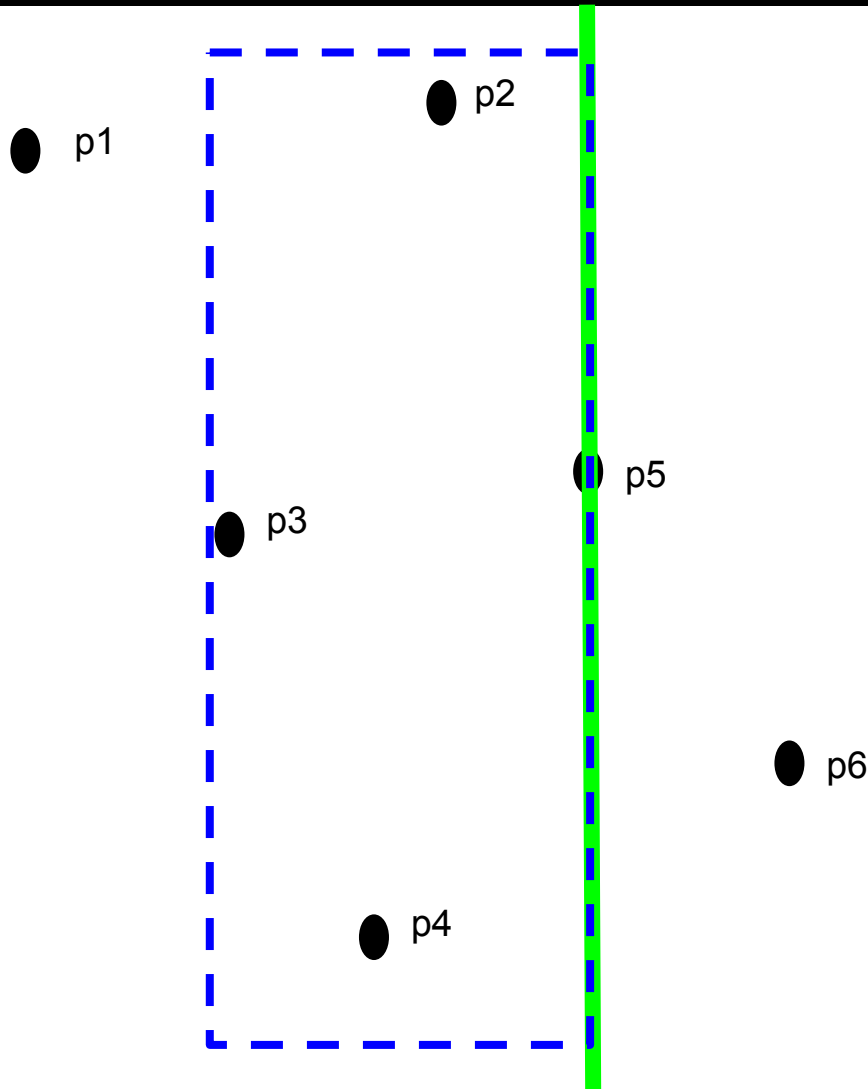


- Put 6 points on corners
- Draw 6 circles to limit others inside
- All space now **covered**
- One can't add/move without being less than  $D$

# Implementation

- Sorting the events is direct (sort X axis)
- The challenge is in the active window
- Assume finishing processing at point  $p$ 
  - So far best distance is  $d$
  - Assume having list  $LY$  of points on left of  $p$  with **x difference** from  $p$  to any of these points is  $d$
  - E.g. this set is rectangle of **width  $d$** , but **hieght =  $\infty$**
- To move to next sweep point  $q$ 
  - Remove any point in  $LY$  with **x difference** to  $q > d$
  - Do processing, then add  $q$
  - Note: This list may be large, but its width is  $d$

# Implementation: big rectangle

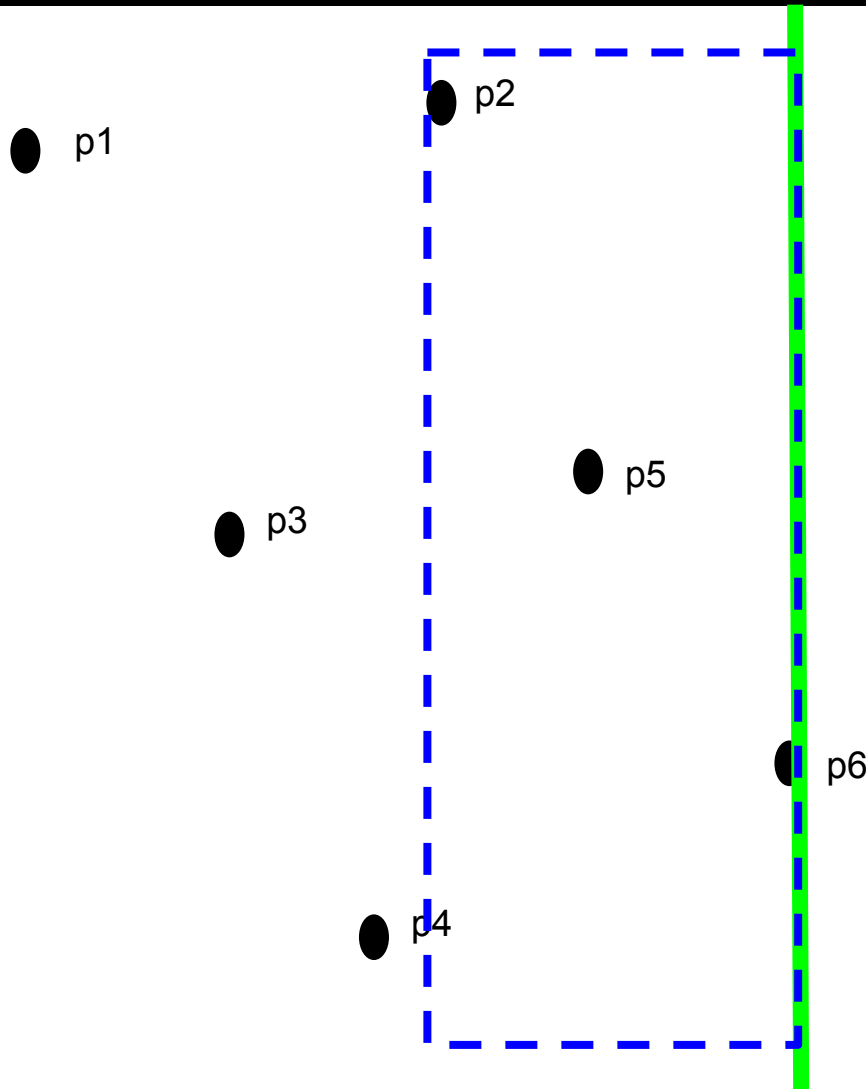


Assume we are done with p5  
updated  $d = 4$   
 $LY = \{p4, p3, p2\}$  : sorted on Y

Now let's **move to p6**

- Filter LY
- Process it
- Add p6 to LY

# Implementation: big rectangle



From p5  
previous LY = {p4, p3, p5, p2}  
previous d = 4  
=====

Dist(p4, p6) > 4 => remove  
Dist(p3, p6) > 4 => remove  
Dist(p6, p5) <= 4 => leave it  
Dist(p6, p2) <= 4 => leave it

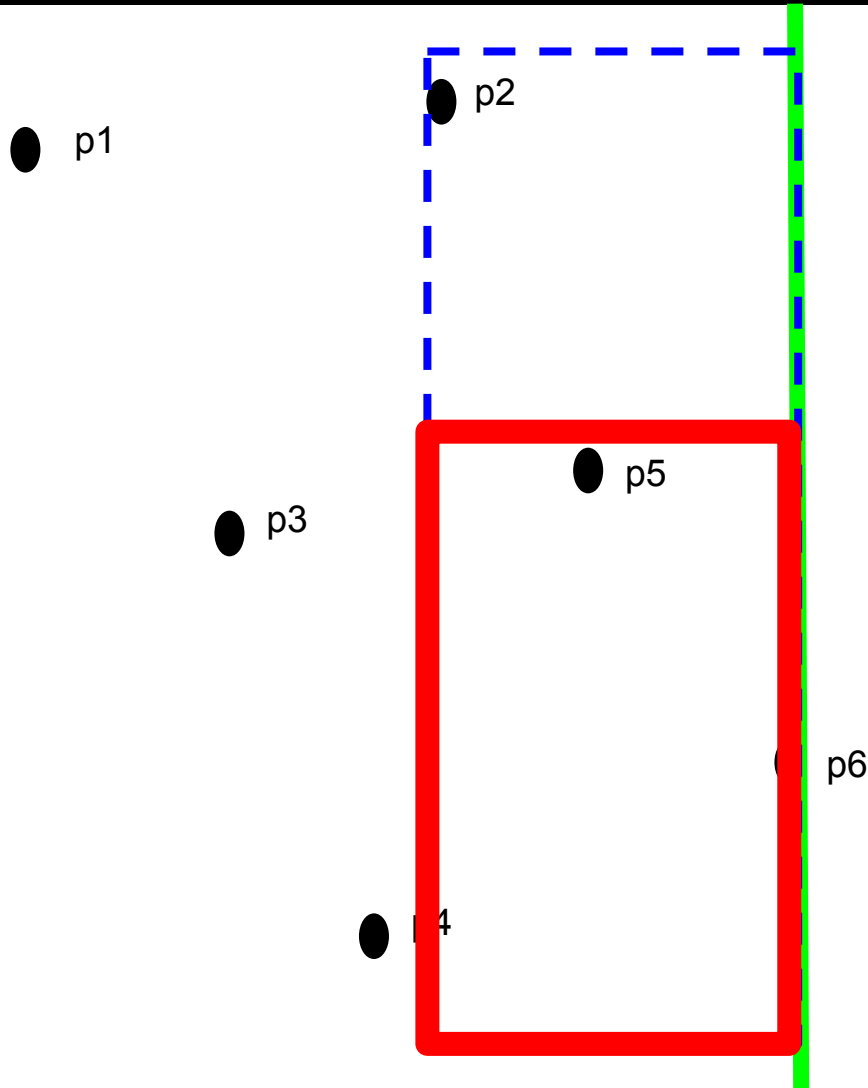
**Updated L = {p5, p2}, d = 4**  
=====

- Process P6
- Let new d = 3.5
- Add P6 to LY
- LY = {p6, p5, p2}
- Move to p7

# Implementation

- Now we have current point  $q$  ( $q.x, q.y$ )
  - best distance  $d$
  - points  $LY$  with  $x$  difference  $\leq d$ : e.g. rectangle  $(d, \infty)$
- We need our active window?
  - Let  $LY$  sorted by its  $Y$
  - Then binary search list to find range of  $(q.y-d, q.y+d)$
  - That is  $d$  unit above  $q.y$  ... and  $d$  unit below it
  - This window will have maximum 6 points
- In summary
  - Maintain the big rectangle of  $(d, \infty)$  dimension
  - Binary search in the rectangle to find the  $(d, 2d)$  rectangle

# Implementation: small rectangle



Recall at p6

- Updated LY = {p5, p2}
- Let new d = 4

Let

- p6.Y = 10
- Search LY for Y = {6, 14}
- This is the active window
- ActiveWindow = {p5}

Note red rectangle (active) is 4x8 rectangle

# Implementation: Initialization

- Let  $d = \infty$  (best distance so far, infinity)
- Let  $LX$  be sorted set on x-axis
  - Read input points and add in  $LX$
- Let  $LY$  be sorted set on y-axis



# Implementation: processing

- For every point  $p$  in  $LX$ 
  - For every point  $q$  in  $LY$ 
    - If  $|p.x - q.x| > d \Rightarrow$  remove  $q$  from  $LY$
    - Note: Get these points with iterating on left of  $p$  in  $LX$
  - $start = \text{lower\_bound}(LY, p.y - d)$ 
    - E.g. find **first** point with its  $q.y \geq p.y - d$
  - $end = \text{upper\_bound}(LY, p.y + d)$ 
    - E.g. find first point with its  $q.y > p.y + d$
  - For  $pos$ : from  $start$  to  $end$ 
    - $cur\_dist = \text{distance}(p, LY[pos])$
    - if  $(cur\_dist < d) \Rightarrow d = cur\_dist$
  - Add  $p$  to  $LY$

# Implementation

```
typedef complex<double> point;

#define X real()
#define Y imag()
#define vec(a,b) ((b)-(a))
#define length(a) (hypot((a).imag(), (a).real()))

struct cmpX {
    bool operator()(const point &a, const point &b) {
        if (dcmp(a.X, b.X) != 0)
            return dcmp(a.X, b.X) < 0;
        return dcmp(a.Y, b.Y) < 0;
    }
};

struct cmpY {
    bool operator()(const point &a, const point &b) {
        if (dcmp(a.Y, b.Y) != 0)
            return dcmp(a.Y, b.Y) < 0;
        return dcmp(a.X, b.X) < 0;
    }
};
```

# Implementation

```
double closestPair(vector<point> &eventPts) {  
    double d = 00;  
    multiset<point, cmpY> activeWindow;  
    sort(eventPts.begin(), eventPts.end(), cmpX());  
  
    int left = 0;  
    for (int right = 0; right < (int) eventPts.size(); ++right) {  
        while (left < right && eventPts[right].X - eventPts[left].X > d)  
            activeWindow.erase(activeWindow.find(eventPts[left++]));  
        auto asIt = activeWindow.lower_bound(point(-00, eventPts[right].Y - d));  
        auto aeIt = activeWindow.upper_bound(point(-00, eventPts[right].Y + d));  
        for (; asIt != aeIt; asIt++)  
            d = min(d, length(eventPts[right] - *asIt));  
        activeWindow.insert(eventPts[right]);  
    }  
    return d;  
}
```

# Little complex data structure

- Let LXY be a map of x position to sorted list of all available y positions
  - E.g. in C++:
    - `map<double, multiset<double> > pointsMap`
    - That is for every input (x, y)
    - `pointsMap[x].insert(y);`
- Now, this structure allow us to:
  - Once search on x dimension to get the big rectangle
  - Then search on y dimension to get the small rectangle
- Overall smaller code, little more smarter

# Implementation

```
#define foreach(a,s) for(auto a=(s).begin();a!=(s).end();a++)

double closestPair(map<double, multiset<double> > & pointsMap) {
    double d = 00;
    foreach(xsIt, pointsMap) foreach(ymIt, xsIt->second) // sweep on each point p
    {
        double x = xsIt->first, y = *ymIt;
        // Iterate on rectangle dx2d (max 6 points)
        // iterate on active set - X dimension (distance d)
        auto xeIt = pointsMap.upper_bound(x + d);
        for (auto xIt = xsIt; xIt != xeIt; xIt++) {
            double x2 = xIt->first;
            // iterate on active set - Y dimension (distance 2d)
            auto ysIt = xIt->second.lower_bound(y - d);
            auto yeIt = xIt->second.upper_bound(y + d);
            for (; ysIt != yeIt; ysIt++) {
                if (xsIt != xIt || ymIt != ysIt) // if NOT original (x,y)
                    d = min(d, max( abs(x-x2), abs(y-*ysIt)));
            }
        }
    }
    return d;
}
```

# Final Notes

- Line sweep is a technique (think like DP)
  - We can use it in many (advanced) problems
- It is all about vertical/horizontal sweep line + active window. Efficiency is important key
- Sometimes the active window need
  - Available balanced tree (such as **C++/Java set**)
  - Or Written such as AVL or **treap** (modify structure)
  - Another **nested sweep line** (e.g. horizontally)
  - Complex structure such as **segment tree**
- There are some variation (e.g. **radial sweep**)

# تم بحمد الله

علمكم الله ما ينفعكم

ونفعكم بما تعلمتم

وزادكم علماً