

**Problem:** Given  $N$  points in a rectilinear metric. Find the smallest disc containing these points in  $O(n)$

**Solution:**

Given a set  $S$  of 2D points, find the circle with the smallest radii such that all the other points in  $S$  are contained in either  $C$  or its circumference

**Welzl's Algorithm:**

1. It exploits the fact that if the coordinate is not present in the disc constructed so far, then it will be present on the boundary of the new circle/sphere.
2. The following are the observations:
  - a. For the size of the input set at most 3, small-case routine is generated. It outputs empty circle, circle with radii 0, circle on diameter constructed by an arc of input coordinates for input sizes 0, 1, and 2, correspondingly.
  - b. For input size 3, if the coordinates are vertices of an acute-angled triangle, the circumcircle is outputted. If not, the circle having a diameter of the triangle's lengthiest edge is outputted.
  - c. For more substantial scale inputs, the program uses a solution of 1 smaller scale where we choose the outlier point  $p$  randomly and consistently. The returned circle  $D$  is verified, and if it encloses  $p$ , it is returned as a result. Otherwise, we know point  $p$  is on the border of the result.
3. Algorithm Working:
  - a. Let  $md(P)$  denote the minimum enclosing disc enclosing the set of points " $P$ ."
  - b.  $md(P)$  for a given set  $P$  of  $n$  points, is calculated in a Randomized Incremental fashion.
  - c. Let  $P$  be the set of  $n$  points and  $D = md\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_i\}$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq n$  points seen so far.
  - d. Now, if  $p_{i+1} \in D$ , then we need not do anything, and now,  $D = md\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_i, p_{i+1}\}$ , and we proceed to next point.
  - e. Else, we use the fact that  $p_{i+1}$  will lie on the boundary of  $D$   $D = md\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_i, p_{i+1}\}$ .

Algorithm 1: minidisk ( $P$ )

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1: if  $P = \emptyset$  then
2:    $D \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
3: else
4:   choose  $p \in P$ 
5:    $D \leftarrow \text{minidisk}(P - \{p\})$ 
6:   if  $p \in D$  then
7:      $D \leftarrow b \text{ minidisk}(P - \{p\}, p)$ 
8:   end if
9: end if
10: return  $D$ 
```

The constraint to use the trivial algorithm is  $|P|=0$  or  $|R|=3$ . Equivalent limitation will be  $|R|=3$  or  $|P|+|R|\leq 3$ , and call of the trivial method for  $R$  in the scenario  $|R|=3$  and union of  $P$  and  $R$  otherwise. This would prevent some recursive calls on the bottom of the recursion.

**algorithm** welzl **is**

**Input:** Finite sets  $P$  and  $R$  of coordinates in the plane  $|R|\leq 3$ .

**output:** Minimum disk circumscribing  $P$  with  $R$  on the border.

**if**  $P$  is empty **or**  $|R| = 3$  **then**

**return** trivial( $R$ )

**choose**  $p$  in  $P$  (arbitrarily and consistently)

$D := \text{welzl}(P - \{ p \}, R)$

**if**  $p$  is in  $D$  **then**

**return**  $D$

**return** welzl( $P - \{ p \}, R \cup \{ p \}$ )