

# Plane Sweep Algorithm

Aritra Banik<sup>1</sup>

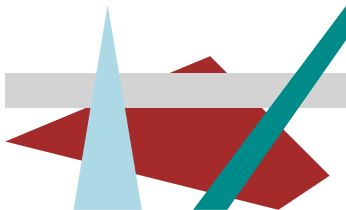
Assistant Professor  
National Institute of Science Education and Research



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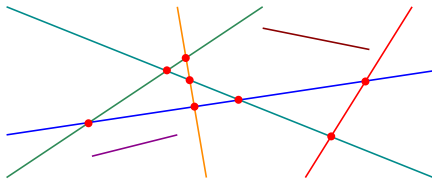
<sup>1</sup>Slide ideas borrowed from Marc van Kreveld and Subhash Suri

# Intersection Detection



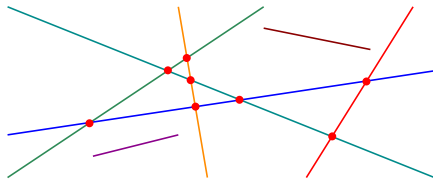
- Determine pairs of intersecting objects?
  - Collision detection in robotics and motion planning.
  - Visibility, occlusion, rendering in graphics.
  - Map overlay in GISs: e.g. road networks on county maps.

# Line Segment Intersection



- Let's first look at the easiest version of the problem:
- Given a set of  $n$  line segments in the plane, find all intersection points efficiently
- Naive algorithm?

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- Naive algorithm? Check all pairs.  $O(n^2)$ .

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**Algorithm 1** FindIntersections( $S$ )

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**Input:** A set  $S$  of line segments in the plane.

**Output:** The set of intersection points among the segments in  $S$ .

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1: for each pair of line segments  $e_i, e_j \in S$  do  
2:   if  $e_i$  and  $e_j$  intersect then  
3:     report their intersection point  
4:   end if  
5: end for
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**Algorithm 2** FindIntersections( $S$ )

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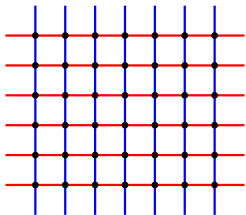
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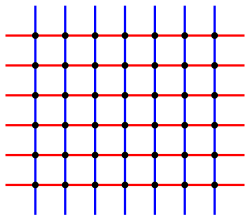
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- Question: Why can we say that this algorithm is optimal?

# Line Segment Intersection



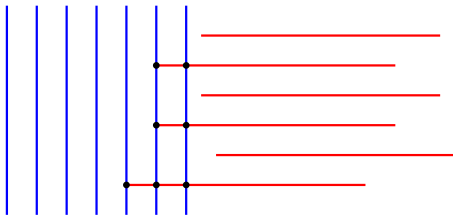
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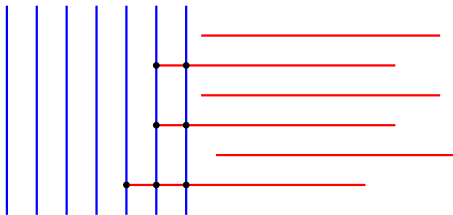


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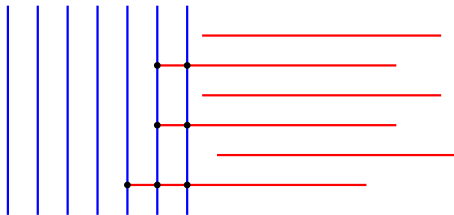
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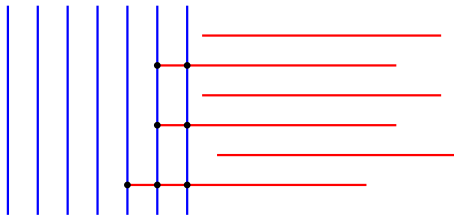
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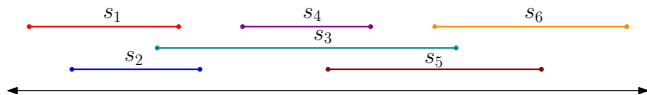
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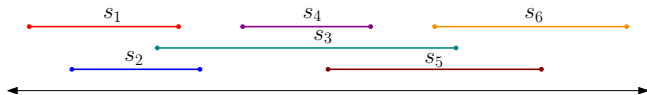
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- If there are  $k$  intersections, then ideal will be  $O(n \log n + k)$  time.
- We will describe a  $O((n + k) \log n)$  solution. Also introduce a new technique : **PLANE SWEEP**.

## An Easier Problem:



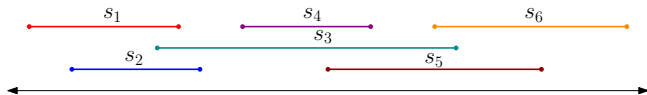
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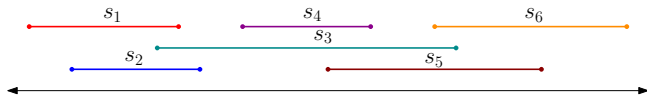
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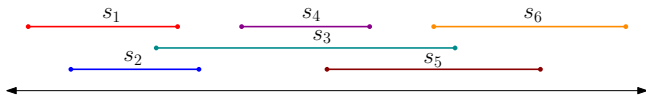
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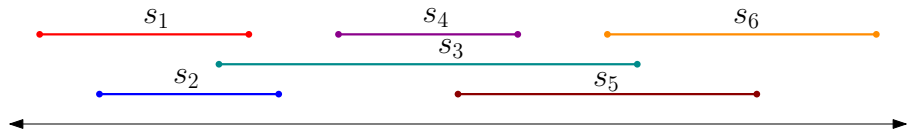


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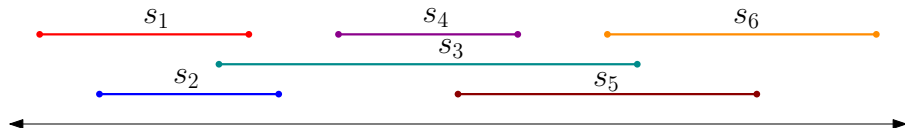
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- The algorithm stores the relevant situation at the current position of the sweep line : **STATUS**
- The algorithm knows everything it needs to know before the sweep line, and found all intersection pairs.

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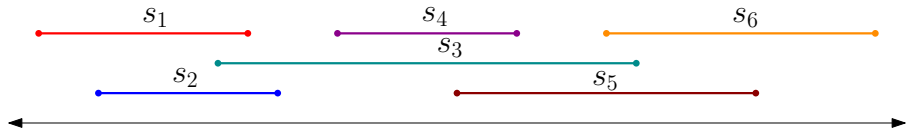
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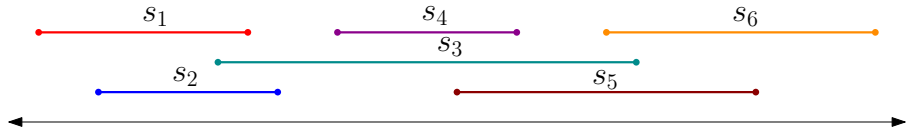
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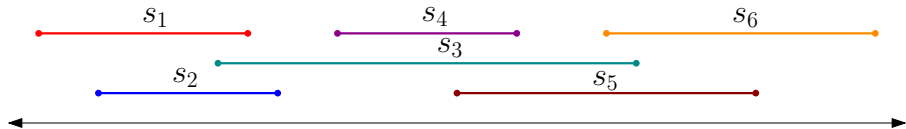
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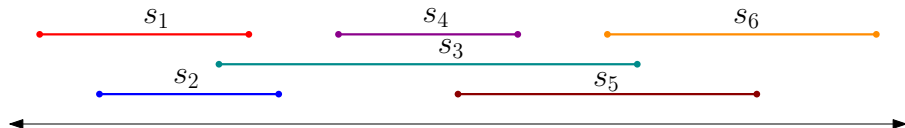
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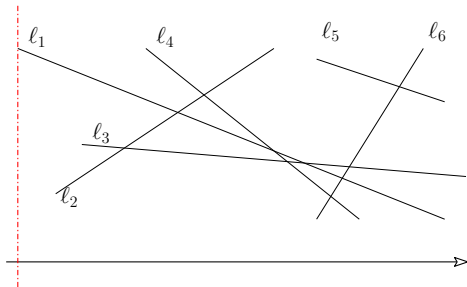
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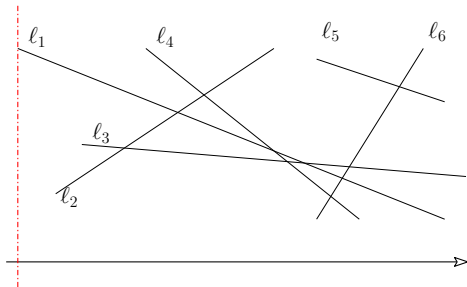
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- $2n * \log n + k$

# Back to 2D Problem





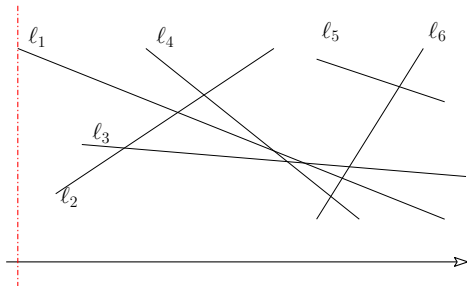
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Imagine a horizontal line passing over the plane from top to bottom, solving the problem as it moves

- **Question:** What are the event points?

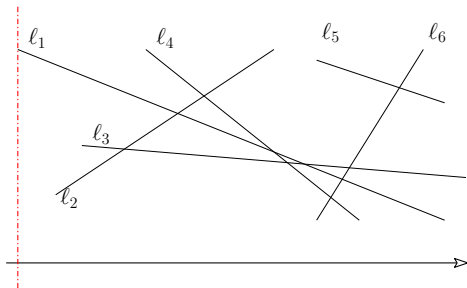
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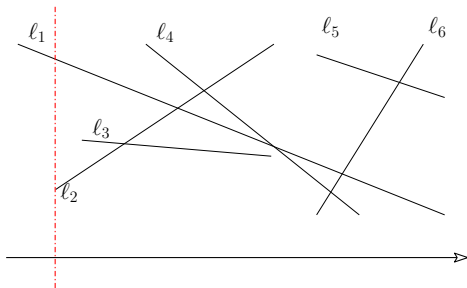
- **Question:** What are the event points?
- Maintain vertical order of segments intersecting the sweep line;

## Back to 2D Problem



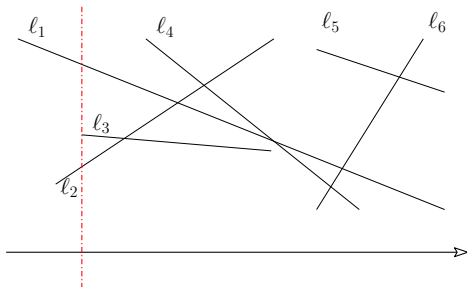
- Insert  $\ell_1$ , add the end point of  $\ell_1$  to the event queue

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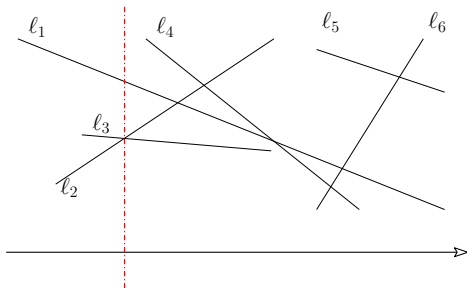
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# Back to 2D Problem



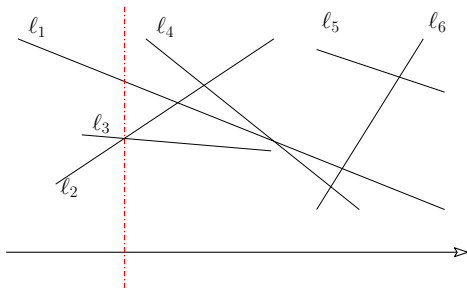
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- Insert  $l_3$ , Current order  $l_1, l_3, l_2$ ,
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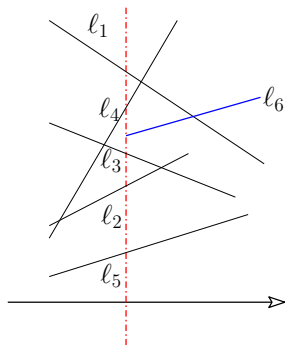
. . . and so on . . .

When do the events happen? When the sweep line is at

- a left endpoint of a line segment
- a right endpoint of a line segment
- an intersection point of a line segment

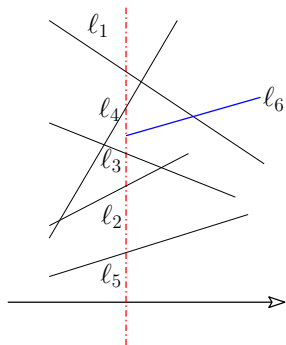


# A left endpoint of a line segment



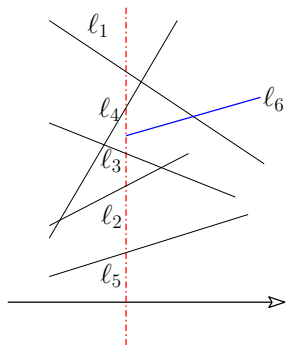
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- Search and insert.

# A left endpoint of a line segment



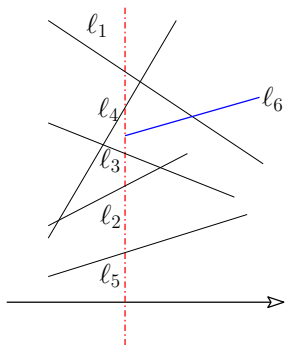
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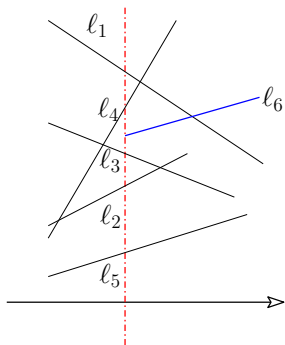
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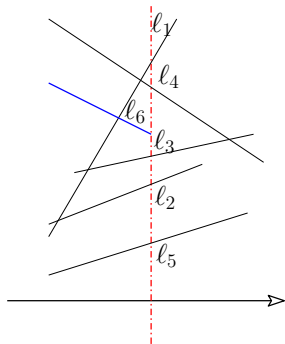
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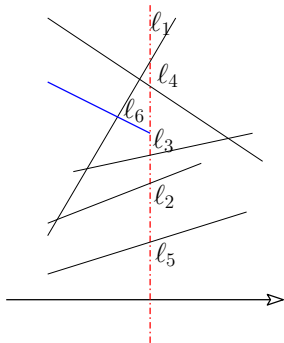
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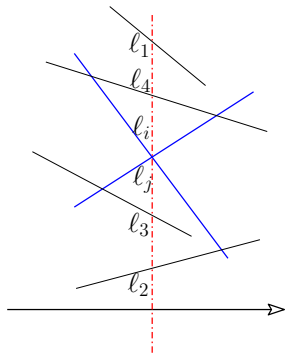
- Sweep line reaches right endpoint of a line segment: delete the line segment

# A right endpoint of a line segment



- Sweep line reaches right endpoint of a line segment: delete the line segment
- After deletion of  $l_6$ ,  $l_3$  and  $l_4$  becomes adjacent.
- If  $l_3$  and  $l_4$  intersects insert the intersection point into the event queue.

## Sweep line reaches an intersection point

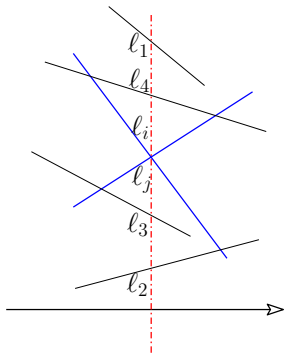


Sweep line reaches an intersection point of  $l_i$  and  $l_j$

- Exchange  $l_i$  and  $l_j$  in the order list.



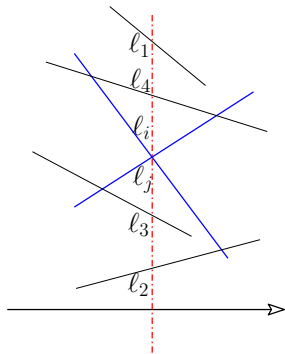
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- Report the intersection point.

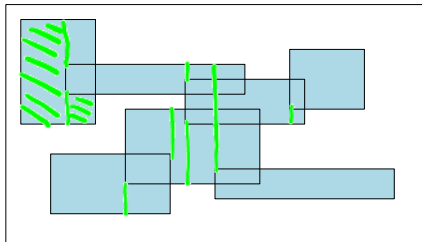
- Before the sweep algorithm starts, we know all upper endpoint events and all lower endpoint events
- But: How do we know intersection point events??? (those we were trying to find . . .)
- Observe: Two line segments can only intersect if they are horizontal neighbors

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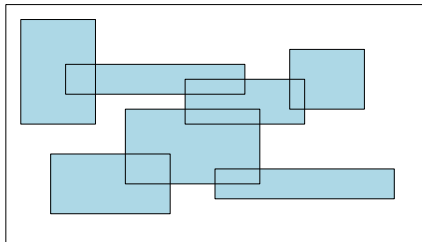
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- Note that if  $k$  is really large, the brute force  $O(n^2)$  time algorithm is more efficient



- Given a layout in which objects are orthogonal polygons with sides parallel to the axes. The task is to find the area covered by all the objects.

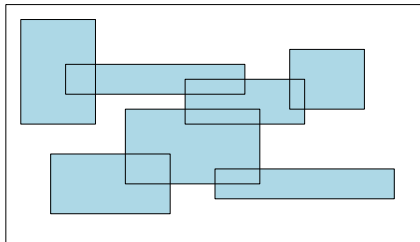


# Area of Union of rectangles

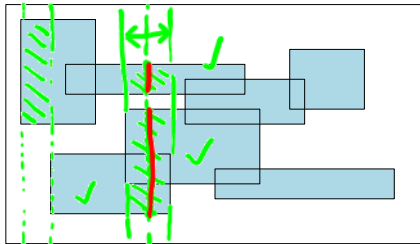


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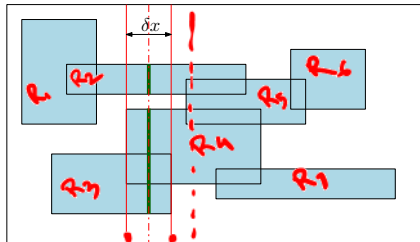
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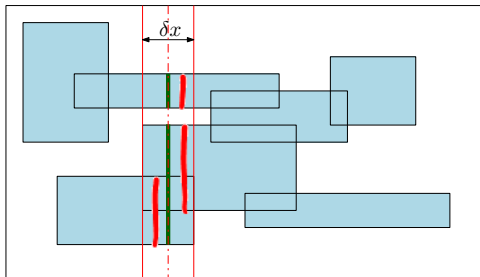
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- **PLANE SWEEP:** Keep track of the area that being swept.
- **EVENT POINTS:** When is the intersection of the the rectangels with the sweep line changes? Left and right end point of the rectangeles.
- What is the area between any two event points?



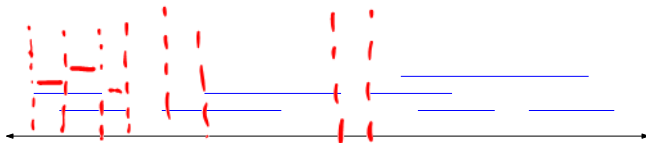
- Given a layout in which objects are orthogonal polygons with sides parallel to the axes. The task is to find the area covered by all the objects.
- PLANE SWEEP:** Keep track of the area that being swept.
- EVENT POINTS:** When is the intersection of the the rectangles with the sweep line changes? Left and right end point of the rectangles.
- What is the area between any two event points?
- $\delta x \times y$  where  $y$  is the length of the intersection of the the rectangles with the sweep line.



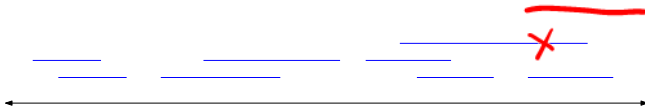
- Intersection of the the rectangles with the sweep line is a set of intervals.
- Thus the problem at hand becomes to maintain the intercepts. The  $y$  can change only at
  - The beginning of a rectangle.
  - The end of the rectangle.

# Sum of the union of the intervals

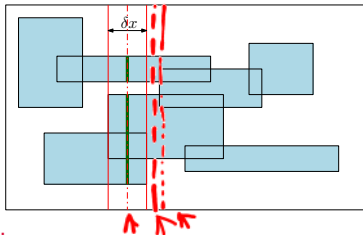
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- Naïve Method:



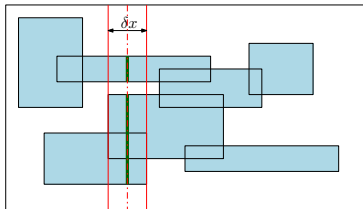
- **Naïve Method:**
- At each event point find out  $y$  by a sweepline method.
  - **EVENT POINTS:** Left and right end point of an interval.
  - **STATUS:** Balanced binary search tree to store intervals.
  - At each event point if tree is not empty  $\text{sum} += \text{distance}$  between current and last event point.



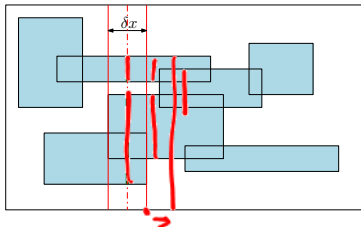
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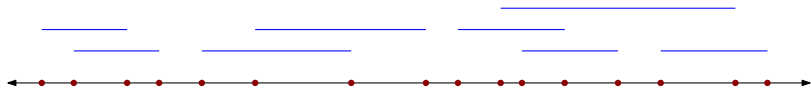
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$$\frac{l_1}{l_2}$$

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- Complexity of sum of intervals  $O(n \log n)$
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- Can we do better?? How to maintain **sum of the union of the intervals with respect to insertion and deletion**

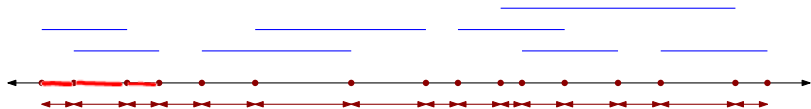
## Sum of the union of the intervals



- Sort the end points of the intervals.
- This will create a set of elementary intervals.

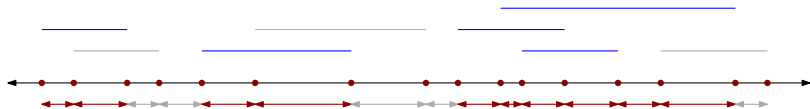
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Produced with a Trial Version of PDF Annotator - [www.pdf-annotator.com](http://www.pdf-annotator.com)

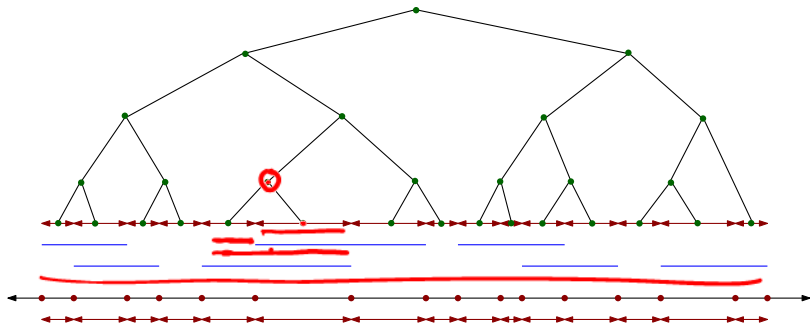


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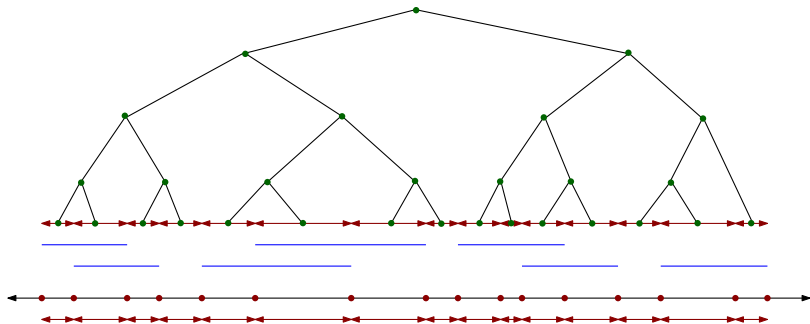


- Sort the end points of the intervals.
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- Depending on which intervals are **ACTIVE** , a set of elementary intervals will be **ACTIVE** .

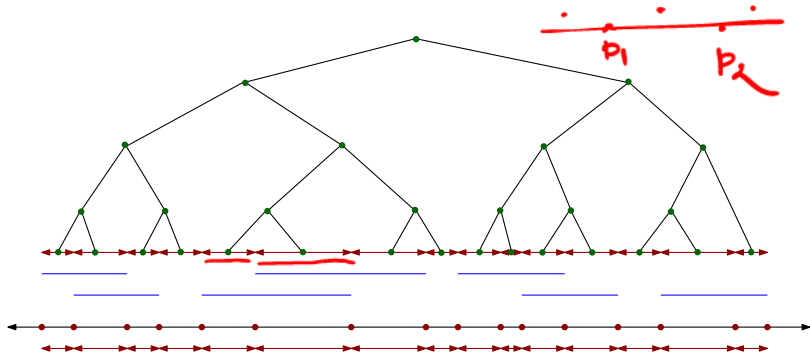


- We maintain a special data structure called the **INTERVAL-TREE**

# Interval-Tree



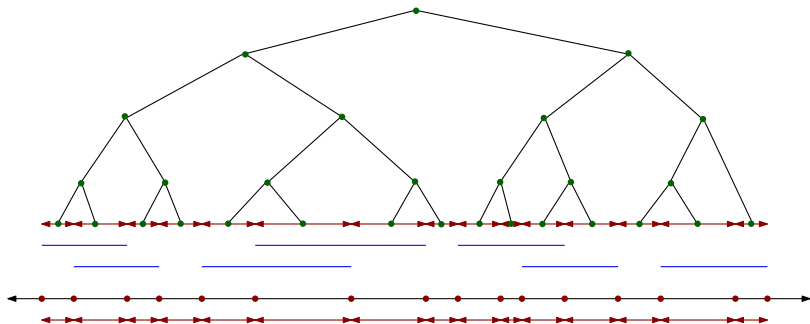
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- It is a balanced binary tree  $\mathcal{T}$  of the **ELEMENTARY INTERVALS**.
- Each node represents an interval.

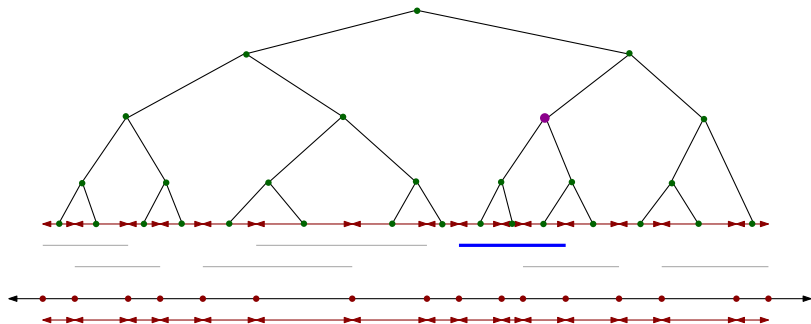


# Interval-Tree



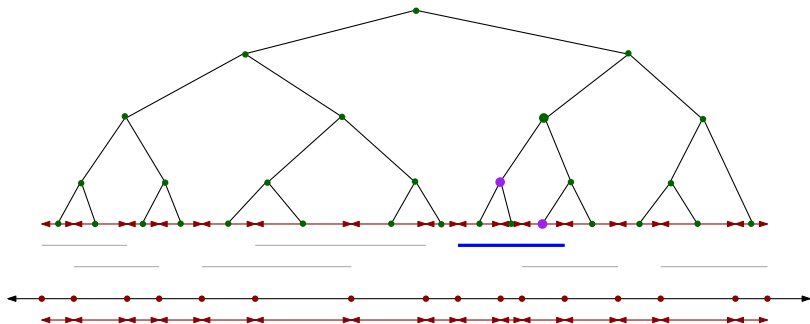
- How an interval  $I$  is stored in the tree?

# Interval-Tree

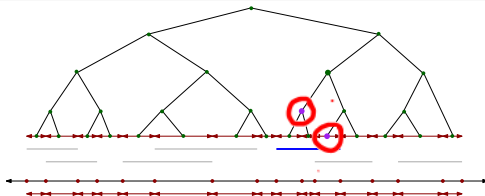


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# Interval-Tree



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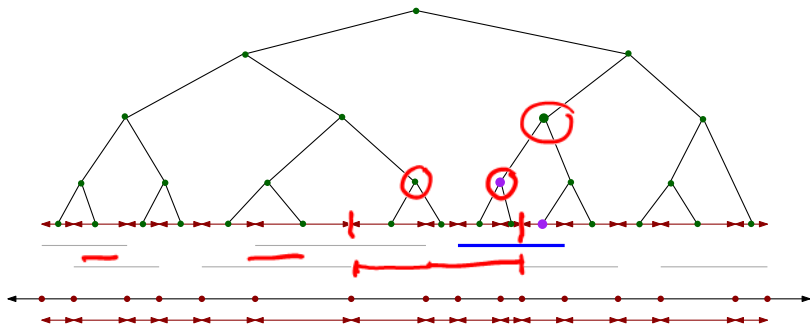

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**Algorithm 3** ReportInterval( $\mathcal{T}, v, I$ )
 

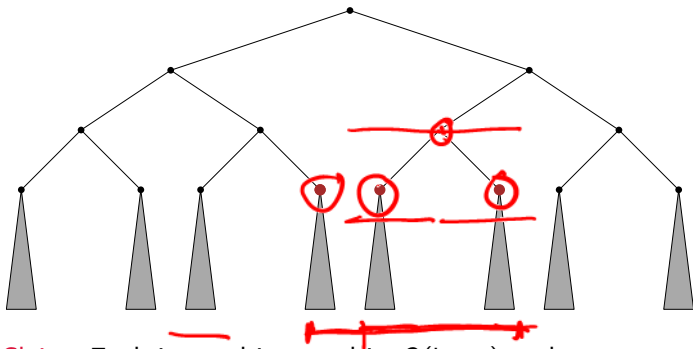
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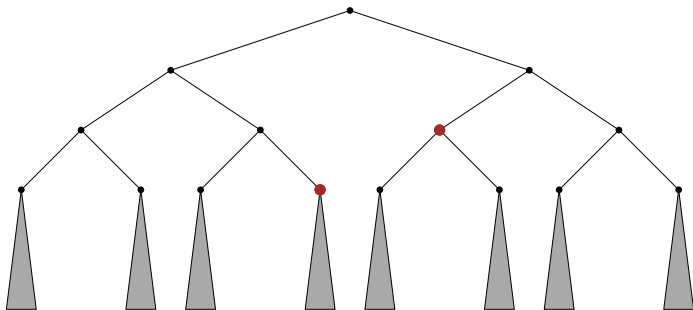
1: if  $v \subseteq I$  then ✓
2:   Report  $v$  ✓
3:   return
4: end if
5: if  $I \cap lc(v) \neq \emptyset$  then ✓
6:   ReportInterval( $\mathcal{T}, lc(v), I \cap lc(v)$ )
7: end if
8: if  $I \cap rc(v) \neq \emptyset$  then ✓
9:   ReportInterval( $\mathcal{T}, rc(v), I \cap rc(v)$ )
10: end if
  
```



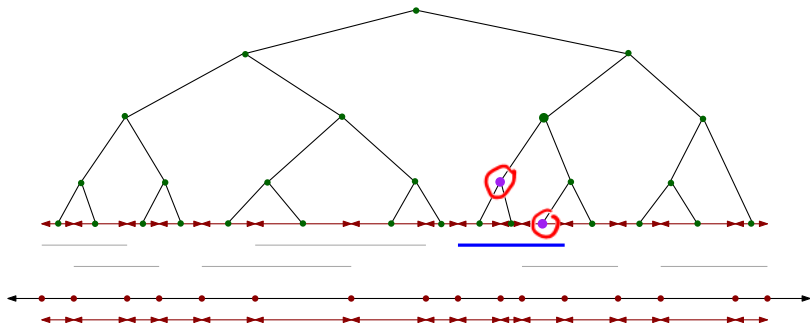
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- At each level there can be at most two nodes representing the interval.
- All of them have to be consecutive.

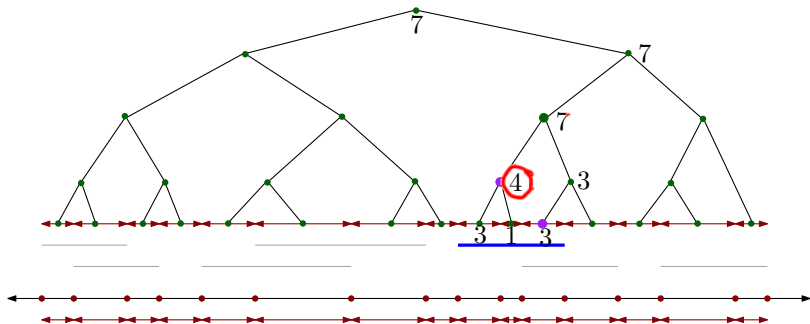


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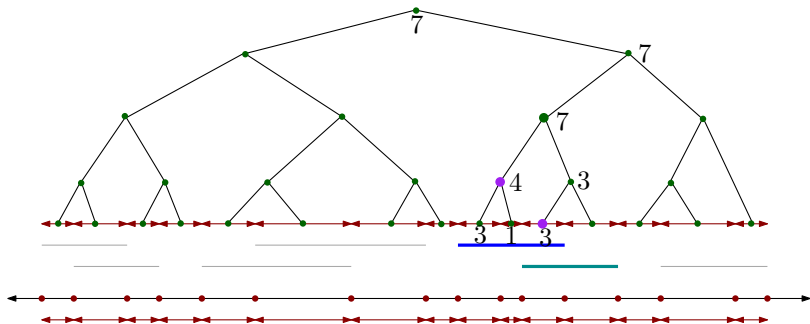
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- At each node we maintain the length of the active elementary intervals.



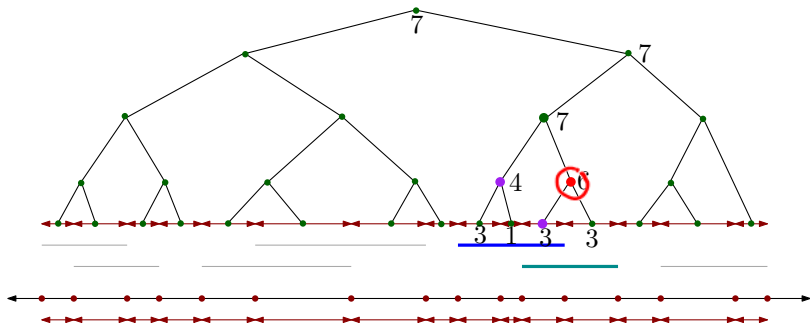


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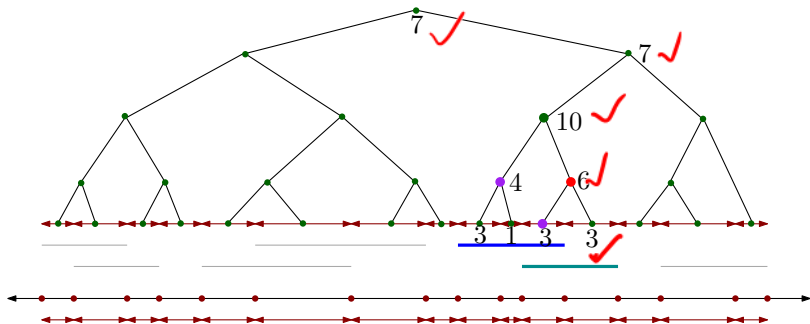
# Interval-Tree



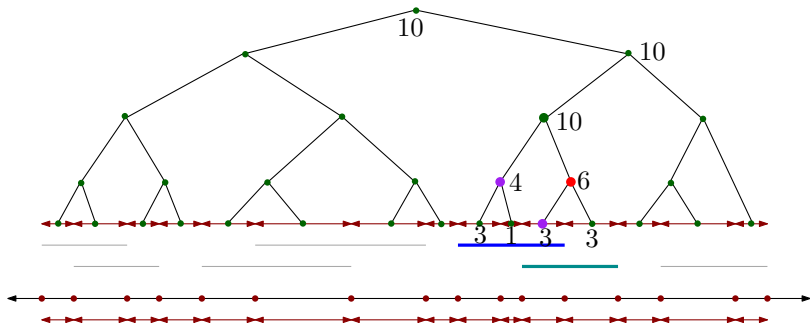
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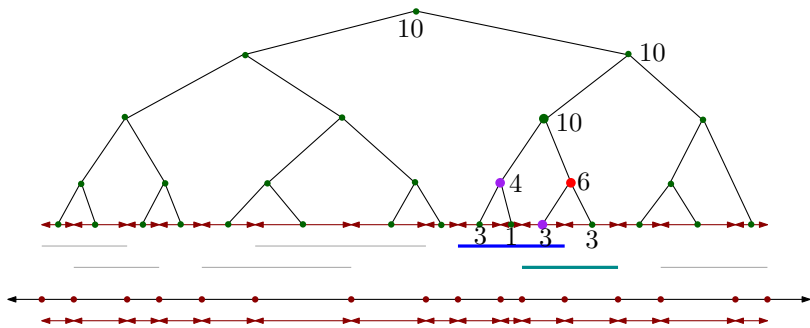
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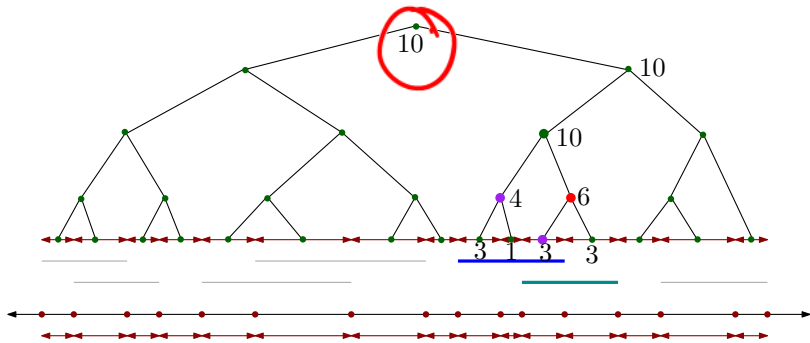
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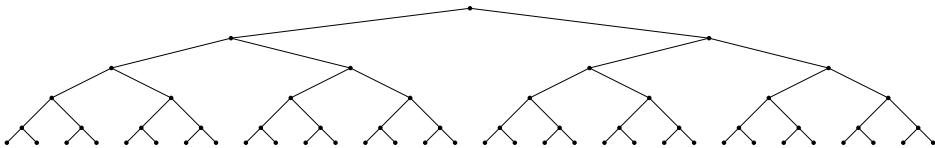
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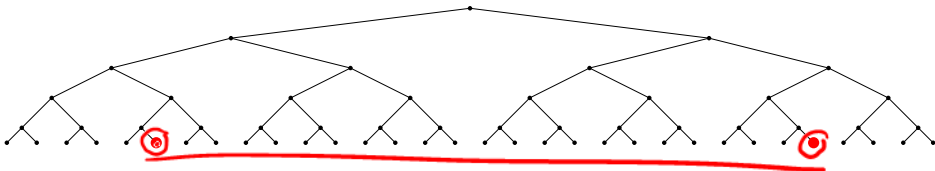


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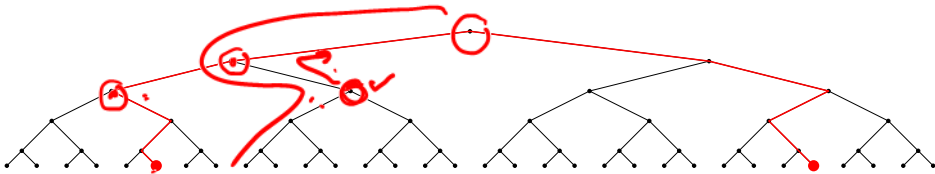


- Can be done in time  $O(\log n)$ .

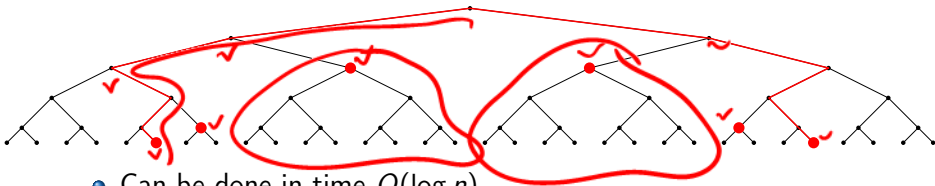




- Can be done in time  $O(\log n)$ .
- Consider the left most and right most elementary intervals.

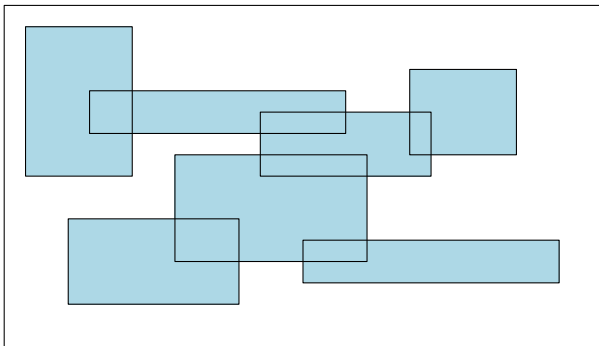


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# Sum of the union of the intervals



- In time  $O(n \log n)$  we can find out the area of the union of  $n$  rectangles.