

Optimal Divide-and-Conquer to Compute Measure and Contour for a Set of Iso-Rectangles★

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Summary. We reconsider two geometrical problems that have been solved previously by line-sweep algorithms: the measure problem and the contour problem. Both problems involve determining some property of the union of a set of rectangles, namely the size and the contour (boundary) of the union. We devise essentially a single time-optimal divide-and-conquer algorithm to solve both problems. This can be seen as a step towards comparing the power of the line-sweep and the divide-and-conquer paradigms. The surprisingly efficient divide-and-conquer algorithm is obtained by using a new technique called “separational representation”, which extends the applicability of divide-and-conquer to orthogonal planar objects.

OPTIMAL DIVIDE-AND-CONQUER TO COMPUTE MEASURE AND CONTOUR FOR A SET OF ISO-RECTANGLES

Ralf Hartmut Güting, 1984
4. Implementation
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REVIEW - STRIPES ALGORITHM

Given set V : vertical edges, interval x_ext

Return

set L, R : y -proj of left/right unpaired edges

set P : y -proj of end pts of V with $\pm \infty$

set S : stripes($rect(V), (x_ext, [-\infty, +\infty])$)

Function STRIPES (V, x_ext):

If $V.size() == 1$: // only side v

If $v.side == \text{left}$: $L = \{v.y_interval\}$

Else: $R = \{v.y_interval\}$

$P = \{-\infty, v.y_interval.bottom, v.y_interval.top, +\infty\}$

$S = \{(i_x, i_y, \emptyset) \mid i_x = x_ext \text{ and } i_y \in \text{partition}(P)\}$ **[A]**

For $s \in S$ s.t. $s.y_interval = v.y_interval$:

If $v.side == \text{left}$:

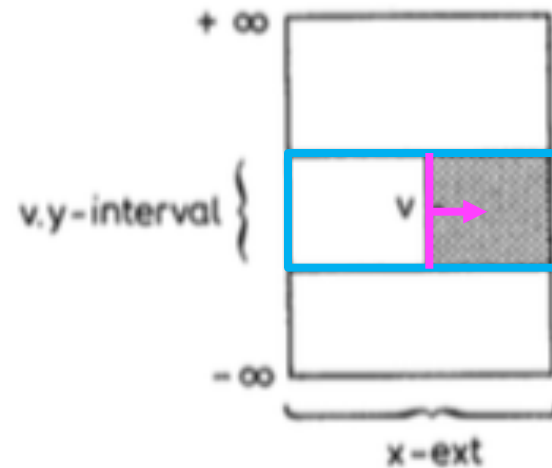
$s.x_union = \{v.coord, x_ext.top\}$ **[B]**

Else:

$s.x_union = \{x_ext.bottom, v.coord\}$ **[C]**

WHAT WAS THAT?

Stripe s (s.t. $s.y_interval = v.y_interval$)



If $v.side == \text{left}$:

$s.x_union = \{v.coord, x_ext.top\}$

Fig. 5

REVIEW - STRIPES ALGORITHM

If $V.size() > 1$:

Divide

Choose x_m and divide V into V_1 and V_2
s.t. $V_1.size() \approx V_2.size()$.

Conquer

$L_1, R_1, P_1, S_1 = \text{STRIPES}(V_1, [x_ext.bottom, x_m])$

$L_2, R_2, P_2, S_2 = \text{STRIPES}(V_2, [x_m, x_ext.top])$

Merge

$L = (L_1 \setminus LR) \cup L_2$

$R = R_1 \cup (R_1 \setminus LR)$

$P = P_1 \cup P_2$

$S_L = \text{copy}(S_1, P, [x_ext.bottom, x_m])$

$S_R = \text{copy}(S_2, P, [x_m, x_ext.top])$

blacken($S_L, R_1 \setminus LR$)

blacken($S_R, L_1 \setminus LR$)

Return $L, R, P, S = \text{concat}(S_L, S_R, P, x_ext)$

COPY

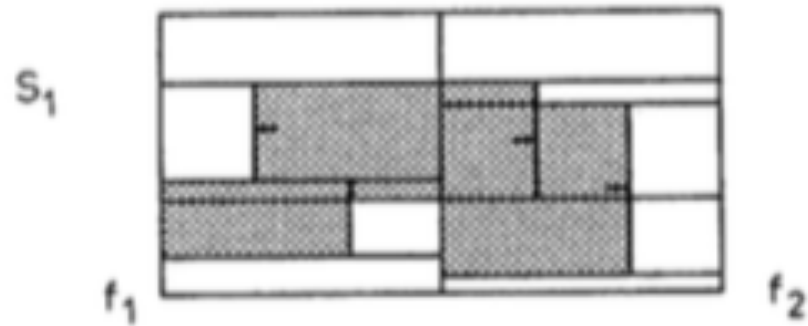


Fig. 8

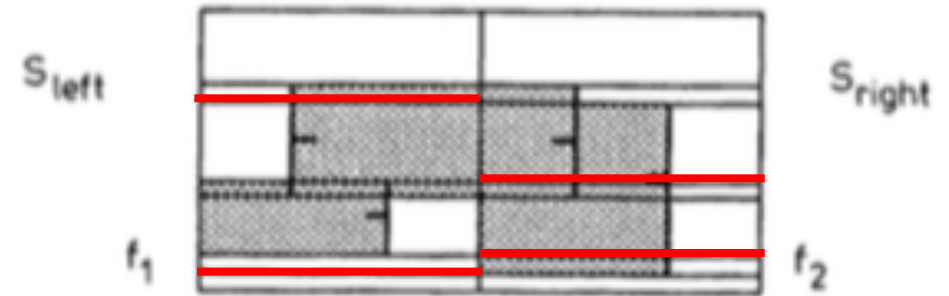


Fig. 9

Function copy (set S: stripes, set P, interval x_int):

$S' = \{(i_x, i_y, \emptyset) \mid i_x = x_int \text{ and } i_y \in \text{partition}(P)\}$

Forall $s' \in S$:

For $s \in S$ s.t. $s.y_interval \supseteq s'.y_interval$:

$s'.x_union = s.x_union$ [D]

Return S'

BLACKEN



Fig. 9

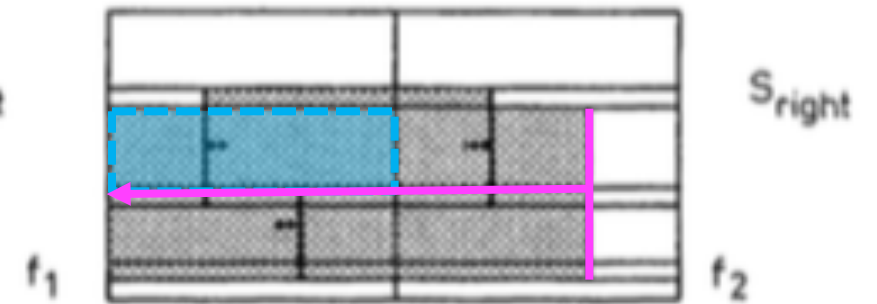
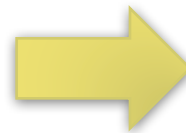


Fig. 10

Function blacken (set S: stripes, set P, set J: y intervals):

Forall $s \in S$:

if $\exists i \in j$ s.t. $s.y_interval \subseteq i$:

$s.x_union = \{s.x_interval\}$ [E]

CONCAT

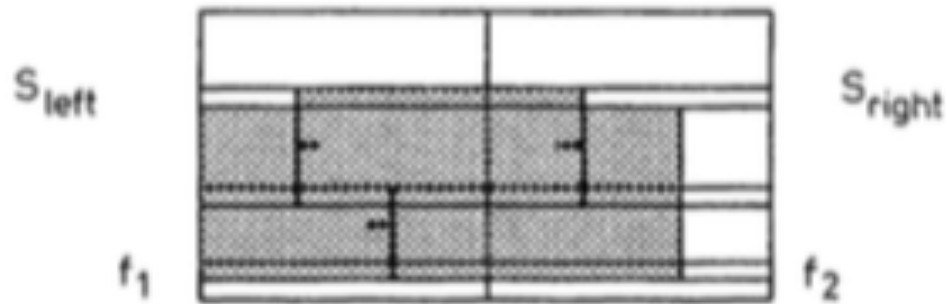


Fig. 10

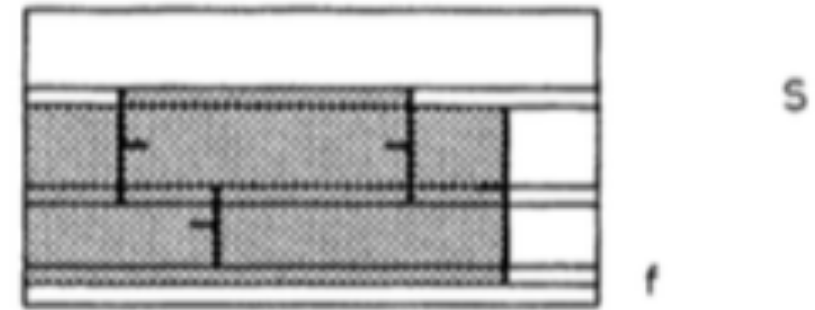
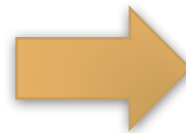


Fig. 11

Function concat (set S : stripes, set P , set J : y intervals):

$$S = \{(i_x, i_y, \emptyset) \mid i_x = x_int \text{ and } i_y \in \text{partition}(P)\}$$

Forall $s \in S$:

For $s_1 \in S_1, s_2 \in S_2$ s.t. $s.y_interval == s_1.y_interval$
and $s.y_interval == s_2.y_interval$:

$$\underline{s.x_union = s_1.x_union \text{ merge } s_2.x_union} \text{ [F]}$$

Return S

THE MEASURE PROBLEM

Just replace `s.x_union` as `s.x_measure` (at the underlined parts of the algorithm, and “merge” = “+” in this case), which denotes the total length of the intervals contained.

THE CONTOUR PROBLEM

Need to compute: given disjoint x-intervals J , query $q=[x_1, x_2]$, return $q \setminus (q \cap \text{union}(J))$ (i.e. free subintervals of q with respect to J)

Use Binary Search Tree to store endpoints of $s.x_union$ in its leaves.

1. Each node contains a value x , an side-type (either left, right or undef) and pointers to left child / right child.
2. Replace $s.x_union$ with $s.tree$ (at the underlined part of the algorithm).
3. Handle tree operations with pointers.
4. Return interval $[a, b]$ within $[x_1, x_2]$ for every pair of $(a, \text{right}, \text{empty}, \text{empty})$ and $(b, \text{left}, \text{empty}, \text{empty})$

COPY

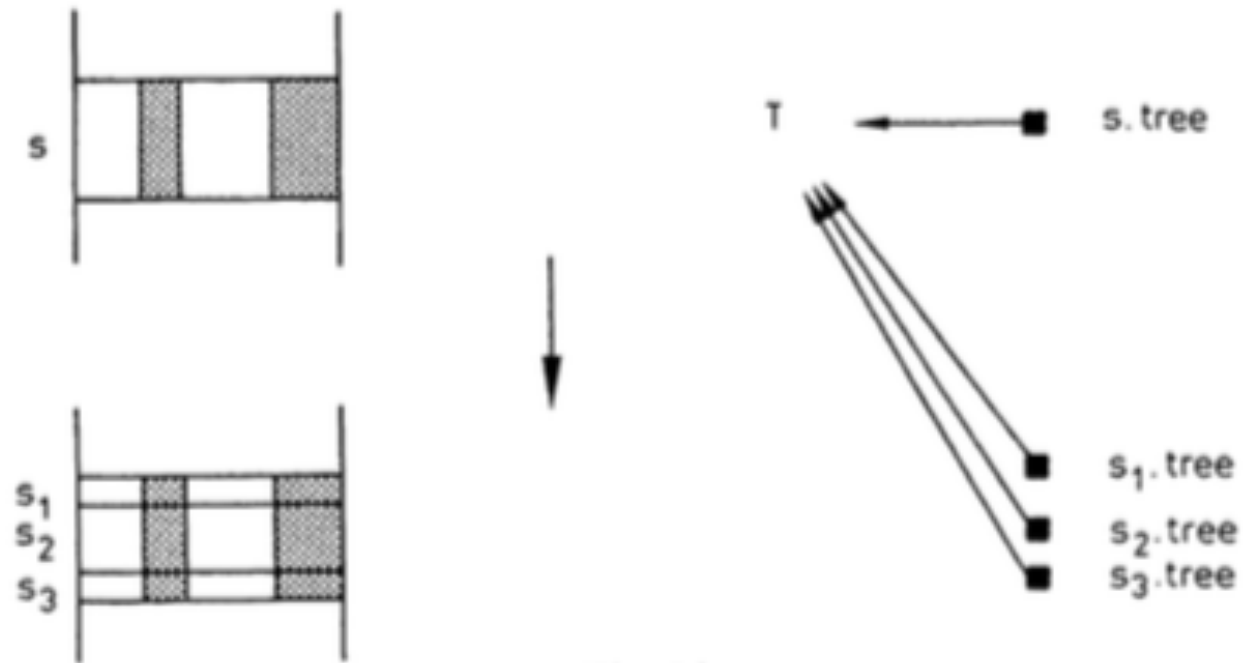
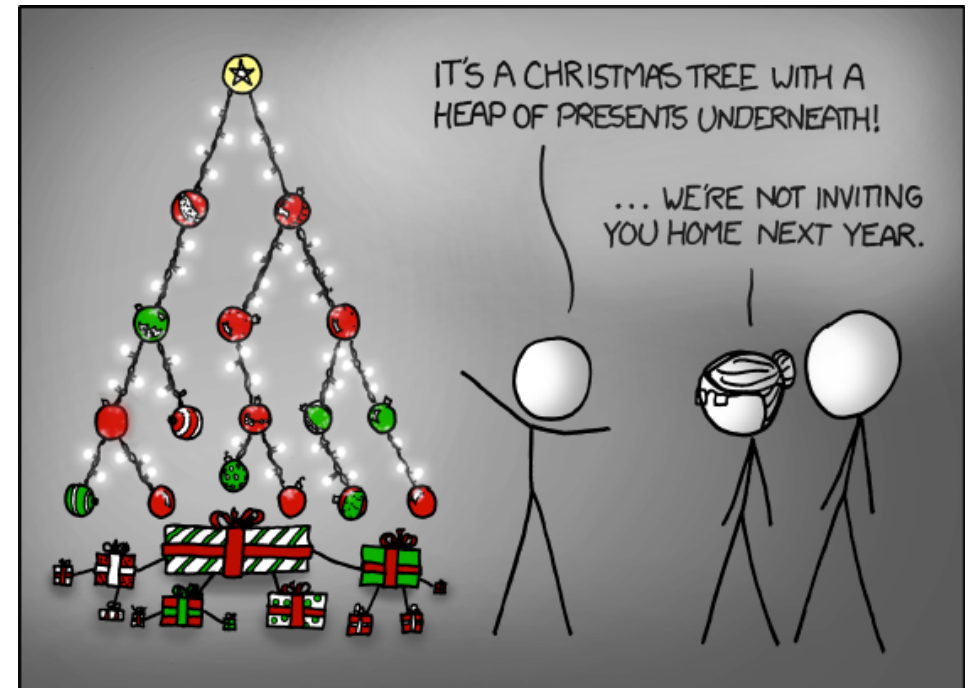


Fig. 16

[D] $s'.tree = s.tree$



<https://xkcd.com/835/>

BLACKEN



T ← ■ s.tree

[E] s.tree = empty
(because no free subintervals left)

■ nil

Fig. 17

CONCAT

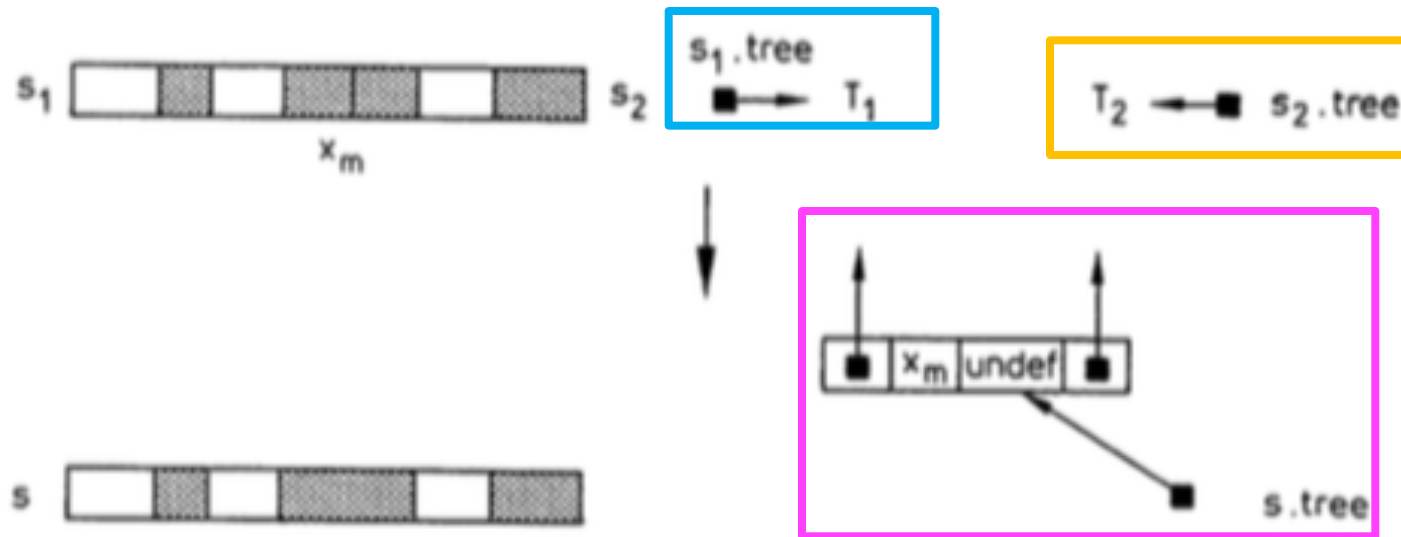


Fig. 18

[F] When both trees aren't empty,

$s.tree = (s_1.x_interval.top, undef, s_1.tree, s_2.tree)$

TIME COMPLEXITY

- ✓ **STRIPES algorithm**

$$T(n) = O(1) + 2T(n/2) + O(n)$$

$$T(n) = O(n \log n)$$

- ✓ **For the contour problem:**

Each query takes $O(\text{tree height} + \# \text{ of free intervals})$

Total Time $O(n \log n + p)$, $p = \# \text{ of contour pieces}$.

(Same as time-optimal line-sweep algorithms)