

CS 266 Homework 6

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Problem 6.13

As a vertical line sweeps across, it will be making a trapezoid.

At a left endpoint, there are three trapezoids:

1. One already existing to the right
2. One being made above existing segment
3. One being made below existing segment

There are n segments and thus $2n$ endpoints. Considering that there are 3 trapezoids at each endpoint, this makes $6n$ trapezoids. However, we are double counting each trapezoid, making it $3n$ trapezoids. We are not however double counting in the case of the first endpoint that is considered because the trapezoid before it was not created by another endpoint, thus that adds 1 trapezoid. This means that there are at most $3n + 1$ trapezoids for n line segments.