# The Sweep Line Paradigm

Computational Geometry – Recitation 2



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## Agenda

- Toy examples
- Line segment intersection
- Applications
  - Area of union of rectangles
  - Minimal distance pair



• Given a set of 1D segments, what is the union of them all?



• Solution: Sort all the points, and count the number of 'active' segments.

- We have traversed a discrete set of **Events**, in a certain **Order**, while maintaining some **Status** of the algorithm.
- Events [What data was processed]: start of segment, end of segment.
- Order [In what order we traverse the events]: From left to right
- Status [Additional information maintained]: number of active segments.
- Complexity:  $O(n \log n)$



- An archer is surrounded by a set of barricades. What are his lines of sight?
- Order: Scan the segments by angle.
- Status: Number of 'active' barricades.
  - Init in O(n).
- Events:
  - Start of a segment: increase number of barricades.
  - End of a segment: decrease number of barricades.
- Report angles with 0 barricades.



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- Report angles with 0 barricades.



# Barricade counter: 2

- An archer is surrounded by a set of barricades. What are his lines of sight?
- Order: Scan the segments by angle.
- Status: Number of 'active' barricades.
  - Init in O(n).
- Events:
  - Start of a segment: increase number of barricades.
  - End of a segment: decrease number of barricades.
- Report angles with 0 barricades.
- Complexity:  $O(n \log n)$



- An archer is surrounded by a set of barricades. Which barricades are visible to him?
- Order: Scan the segments by angle.
- **Status:** Set of active barricades, sorted by the distance from the archer.
- Events:
  - Start of a segment: Add segment to the status DS.
  - End of a segment: Remove segment from the status DS.
- Report all segments which was closest at some point.
- Complexity:  $O(n \log n)$

# **Segment Intersection**

### **Segment Intersection**

- Given a set of *n* segments, report all intersection points.
- Naïve algorithm: Check all segment pairs,  $O(n^2)$ .
- Sweep line algorithm:
- Order: scan from left to right.
- Status: segments intersecting the sweep line. (Ordered by intersection point).
- Events: Segment start, Segment end and Segments intersection.

**Dynamic events!** 

• Check intersection only between adjacent segments in the status DS.



#### Handle event: $Start(S_1)$

<b>Events</b>	<u>Status</u>
$Start(S_2)$	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>
$Start(S_3)$	
$End(S_1)$	
$Start(S_4)$	
$End(S_4)$	
$End(S_2)$	
$End(S_3)$	



#### Handle event: $Start(S_2)$

<u>Events</u>	<u>Status</u>
$Start(S_3)$	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>
$Intersection(S_1, S_2)$	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>
$End(S_1)$	
$Start(S_4)$	
$End(S_4)$	
$End(S_2)$	
$End(S_3)$	



#### Handle event: $Start(S_3)$

<b>Events</b>	<u>Status</u>
$Intersection(S_1, S_3)$	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>
$Intersection(S_1, S_2)$	<i>S</i> <sub>3</sub>
$End(S_1)$	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>
$Start(S_4)$	
$End(S_4)$	
$End(S_2)$	
$End(S_3)$	



#### **Handle event:** $Intersection(S_1, S_3)$

<b>Events</b>	<u>Status</u>
$Intersection(S_1, S_2)$	<i>S</i> <sub>3</sub>
$End(S_1)$	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>
$Start(S_4)$	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>
$End(S_4)$	
$End(S_2)$	
$End(S_3)$	



#### **Handle event:** $Intersection(S_1, S_2)$

<u>Events</u>	<u>Status</u>
$End(S_1)$	<i>S</i> <sub>3</sub>
$Start(S_4)$	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>
$End(S_4)$	<i>S</i> <sub>1</sub>
$End(S_2)$	
$End(S_3)$	



#### Handle event: $End(S_1)$

<b>Events</b>	<u>Status</u>
$Start(S_4)$	<i>S</i> <sub>3</sub>
$End(S_4)$	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>
$End(S_2)$	
$End(S_3)$	



#### Handle event: $Start(S_4)$

<b>Events</b>	<u>Status</u>
$Intersection(S_2, S_4)$	<i>S</i> <sub>3</sub>
$End(S_4)$	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>
$End(S_2)$	<i>S</i> <sub>4</sub>
$End(S_3)$	



#### **Handle event:** $Intersection(S_2, S_4)$

Events	<u>Status</u>
$Intersection(S_3, S_4)$	S <sub>3</sub>
$End(S_4)$	S <sub>4</sub>
$End(S_2)$	S <sub>2</sub>
$End(S_3)$	



#### **Handle event:** $Intersection(S_3, S_4)$

<b>Events</b>	<u>Status</u>
$End(S_4)$	S <sub>4</sub>
$End(S_2)$	S <sub>3</sub>
$End(S_3)$	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>



#### Handle event: $End(S_4)$

<b>Events</b>	<u>Status</u>
$End(S_2)$	<i>S</i> <sub>3</sub>
$End(S_3)$	<i>S</i> <sub>2</sub>



#### Handle event: $End(S_2)$





#### Handle event: $End(S_3)$





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- Status: segments intersecting the sweep line. (Ordered by intersection point).
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- Complexity:  $O(n \log n)$

• What is the total area covered by a set of rectangles?



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- Order: left to right
- Events: begin and end of a rectangle
- Status: active rectangles



- Status: active rectangles
- How do we maintain the active rectangle set?
- More importantly, how do we find the total length covered by the active rectangle?
- Naïve implementation: Recalculate the union each time (using example #1). Complexity:  $O(n^2)$ .
- Better implementation: Use augmented BST (classic DS exercise).
  Complexity: O(n log n).



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- Naïve algorithm: Check all pairs,  $O(n^2)$
- Sweeping idea:
- Events: All the points
- Order: left to right
- Status: minimal distance seen so far, d.
  And two BSTs of all the points in a strip of width d. one sorted by the y coordinate, and another sorted by the x coordinate.

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- Handle event:
- Compare the distance with the relevant points.
  - Using the sorted by *y* tree.
- Update *d* if needed.
- Remove from both trees the points that now are not part of the strip.
  - Using the sorted by *x* tree.