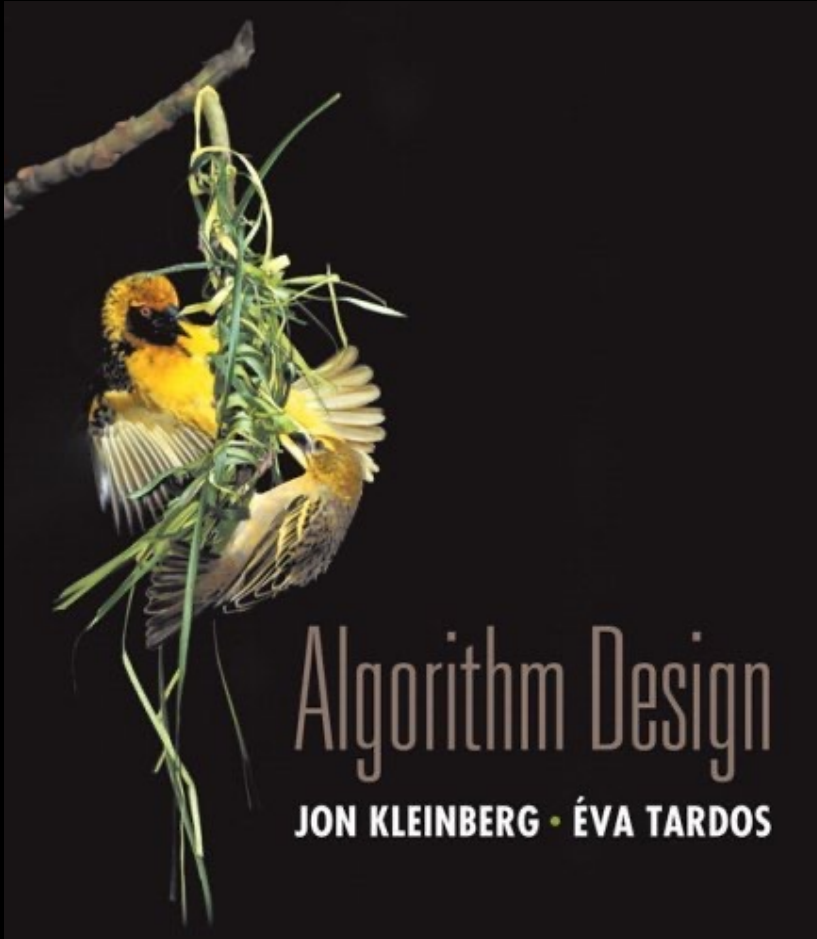


Chapter 5

Divide and Conquer



Slides by Kevin Wayne.
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Divide-and-Conquer

Divide-and-conquer.

- Break up problem into several parts.
- Solve each part recursively.
- Combine solutions to sub-problems into overall solution.

Most common usage.

- Break up problem of size n into **two** equal parts of size $\frac{1}{2}n$.
- Solve two parts recursively.
- Combine two solutions into overall solution in **linear time**.

Consequence.

- Brute force: n^2 .
- Divide-and-conquer: $n \log n$.

5.1 Mergesort

Sorting

Sorting. Given n elements, rearrange in ascending order.

Applications.

- Sort a list of names.
- Organize an MP3 library. obvious applications
- Display Google PageRank results.
- List RSS news items in reverse chronological order.

- Find the median.
- Find the closest pair. problems become easy once items are in sorted order
- Binary search in a database.
- Identify statistical outliers.
- Find duplicates in a mailing list.

- Data compression.
- Computer graphics.
- Computational biology.
- Supply chain management. non-obvious applications
- Book recommendations on Amazon.
- Load balancing on a parallel computer.
- ...

Mergesort

Mergesort.

- Divide array into two halves.
- Recursively sort each half.
- Merge two halves to make sorted whole.



Jon von Neumann (1945)

A L G O R I T H M S

A L G O R

I T H M S

divide $O(1)$

A G L O R

H I M S T

sort $2T(n/2)$

A G H I L M O R S T

merge $O(n)$

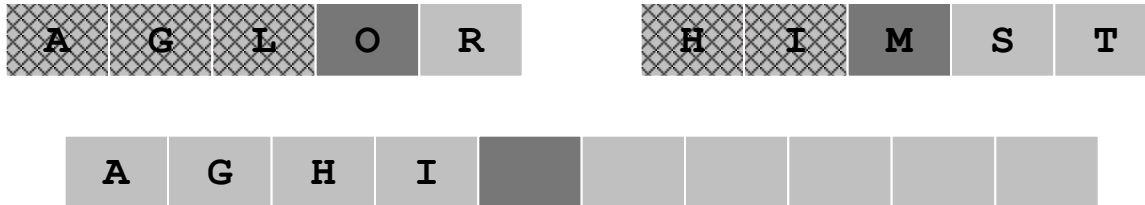
Merging

Merging. Combine two pre-sorted lists into a sorted whole.

How to merge efficiently?



- Linear number of comparisons.
- Use temporary array.



Challenge for the bored. In-place merge. [Kronrud, 1969]

↑
using only a constant amount of extra storage

A Useful Recurrence Relation

Def. $T(n)$ = number of comparisons to mergesort an input of size n .

Mergesort recurrence.

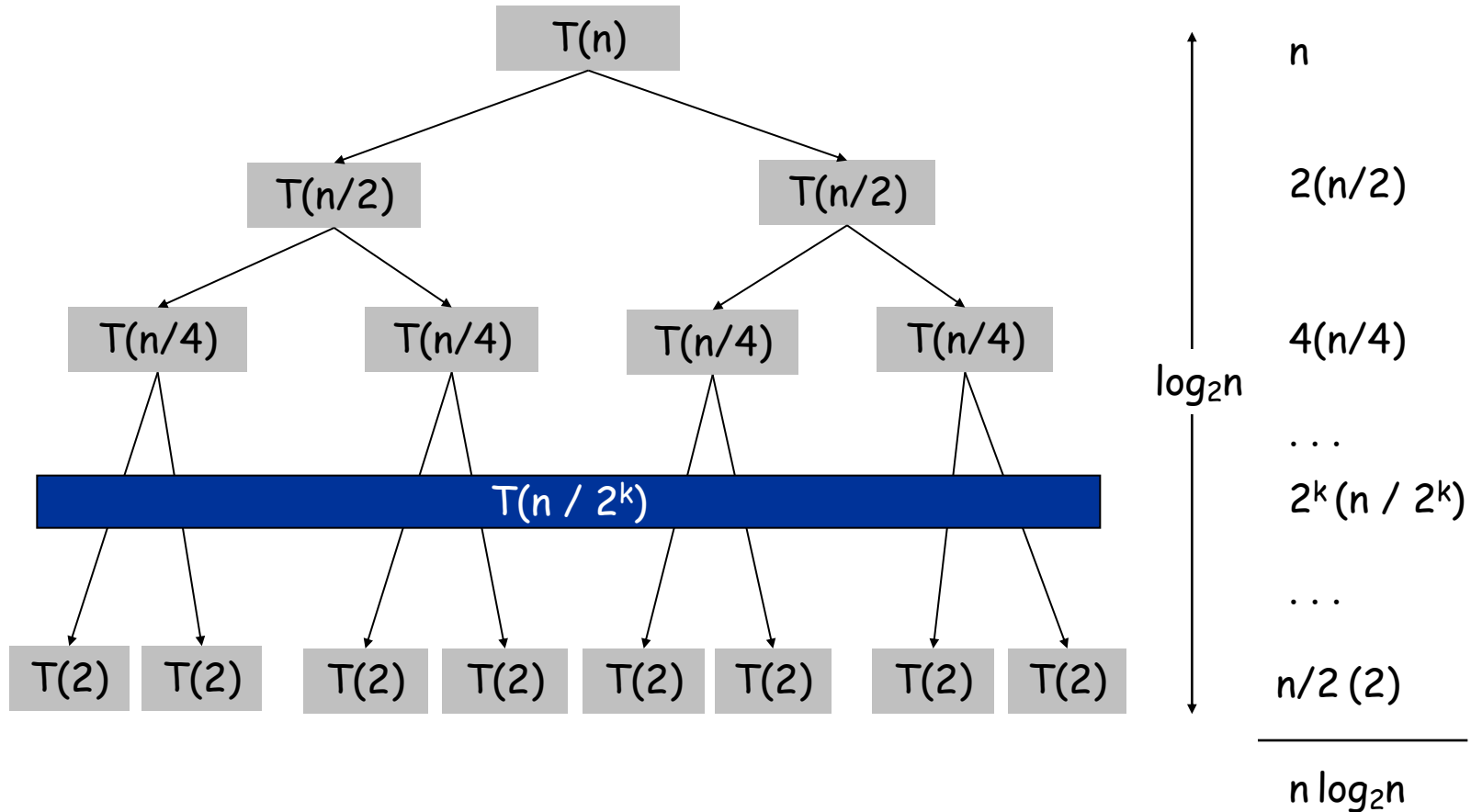
$$T(n) \leq \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ \underbrace{T(\lceil n/2 \rceil)}_{\text{solve left half}} + \underbrace{T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor)}_{\text{solve right half}} + \underbrace{n}_{\text{merging}} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Solution. $T(n) = O(n \log_2 n)$.

Assorted proofs. We describe several ways to prove this recurrence. Initially we assume n is a power of 2 and replace \leq with $=$.

Proof by Recursion Tree

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n=1 \\ \underbrace{2T(n/2)}_{\text{sorting both halves}} + \underbrace{n}_{\text{merging}} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



Proof by Telescoping

Claim. If $T(n)$ satisfies this recurrence, then $T(n) = n \log_2 n$.

↑
assumes n is a power of 2

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ \underbrace{2T(n/2)}_{\text{sorting both halves}} + \underbrace{n}_{\text{merging}} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Pf. For $n > 1$:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{T(n)}{n} &= \frac{2T(n/2)}{n} + 1 \\ &= \frac{T(n/2)}{n/2} + 1 \\ &= \frac{T(n/4)}{n/4} + 1 + 1 \\ &\dots \\ &= \frac{T(n/n)}{n/n} + \underbrace{1 + \dots + 1}_{\log_2 n} \\ &= \log_2 n \end{aligned}$$

Proof by Induction

Claim. If $T(n)$ satisfies this recurrence, then $T(n) = n \log_2 n$.

↑
assumes n is a power of 2

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ \underbrace{2T(n/2)}_{\text{sorting both halves}} + \underbrace{n}_{\text{merging}} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Pf. (by induction on n)

- Base case: $n = 1$.
- Inductive hypothesis: $T(n) = n \log_2 n$.
- Goal: show that $T(2n) = 2n \log_2 (2n)$.

$$\begin{aligned} T(2n) &= 2T(n) + 2n \\ &= 2n \log_2 n + 2n \\ &= 2n(\log_2(2n) - 1) + 2n \\ &= 2n \log_2(2n) \end{aligned}$$

Analysis of Mergesort Recurrence

Claim. If $T(n)$ satisfies the following recurrence, then $T(n) \leq n \lceil \lg n \rceil$.

$$T(n) \leq \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ \underbrace{T(\lceil n/2 \rceil)}_{\text{solve left half}} + \underbrace{T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor)}_{\text{solve right half}} + \underbrace{n}_{\text{merging}} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

↑
 $\log_2 n$

Pf. (by induction on n)

- Base case: $n = 1$.
- Define $n_1 = \lfloor n / 2 \rfloor$, $n_2 = \lceil n / 2 \rceil$.
- Induction step: assume true for $1, 2, \dots, n-1$.

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq T(n_1) + T(n_2) + n \\ &\leq n_1 \lceil \lg n_1 \rceil + n_2 \lceil \lg n_2 \rceil + n \\ &\leq n_1 \lceil \lg n_2 \rceil + n_2 \lceil \lg n_2 \rceil + n \\ &= n \lceil \lg n_2 \rceil + n \\ &\leq n(\lceil \lg n \rceil - 1) + n \\ &= n \lceil \lg n \rceil \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} n_2 &= \lceil n/2 \rceil \\ &\leq \left\lceil 2^{\lceil \lg n \rceil} / 2 \right\rceil \\ &= 2^{\lceil \lg n \rceil} / 2 \\ \Rightarrow \lg n_2 &\leq \lceil \lg n \rceil - 1 \end{aligned}$$

Two Exercises

- Using recursion tree to guess a result, and then, applying induction to prove.

$$(1) T(n) = 3 T(n/4) + \Theta(n^2)$$

Use cn^2 to replace $\Theta(n^2)$ for $c > 0$ in recursion tree

Apply $T(n) \leq dn^2$ for $d > 0$, the guess result, in induction prove

Determine the constraint associated with d and c

$$(2) T(n) = T(n/3) + T(2n/3) + O(n)$$

Use c to represent the constant factor in $O(n)$ in recursion tree

Apply $T(n) \leq d n \lg n$ for $d > 0$, the guess result, in induction prove

Determine the constraint associated with d and c

Master Theorem

The master theorem

Let $a \geq 1$ and $b > 1$ be constants, let $f(n)$ be a function, and let $T(n)$ be defined on the nonnegative integers by the recurrence

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n),$$

where we interpret n/b to mean either $\lfloor n/b \rfloor$ or $\lceil n/b \rceil$. Then $T(n)$ has the following asymptotic bounds:

1. If $f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \epsilon})$ for some constant $\epsilon > 0$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$.
2. If $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$, then $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \lg n)$.
3. If $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \epsilon})$ for some constant $\epsilon > 0$, and if $af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$ for some constant $c < 1$ and all sufficiently large n , then $T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$. ■

$$T(n) = 9T(n/3) + n, T(n) = \Theta(n^2); \quad T(n) = 3T(n/4) + n \log n, T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$$

$$T(n) = T(2n/3) + 1, T(n) = \Theta(\log n); \quad T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n), T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$$

$$T(n) = 8T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2), T(n) = \Theta(n^3); \quad T(n) = 7T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2), T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log 7})$$

Parallel Merge Sort

Merge sort with parallel recursion: $O(n)$, still slow

Parallel multiway merge sort

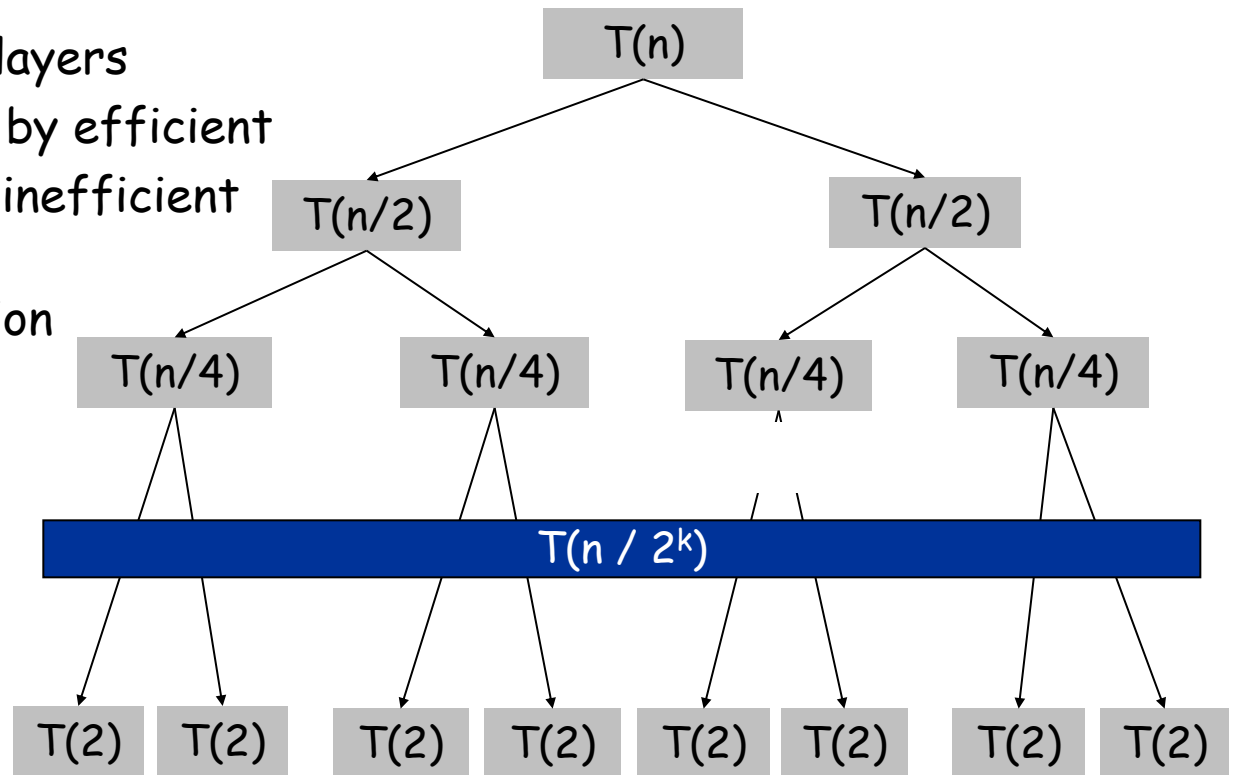
Merge sort with parallel merge

Merge sort with two layers

Bottom layer: slow but efficient

Top layer: fast but inefficient

Multisequence selection



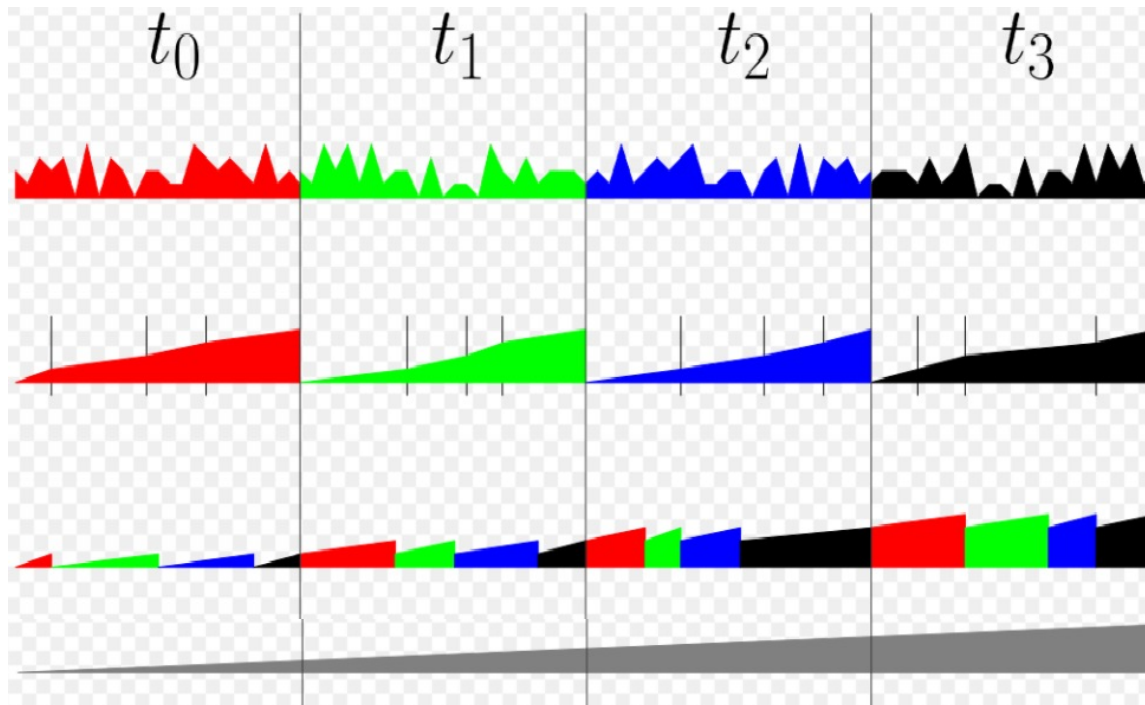
Extra: Parallel Multiway Merge Sort

Map-Shuffle-Reduce in Hadoop

Partition data and assign to m processors

Each processor sorts data based on n samples

Data access: message passing



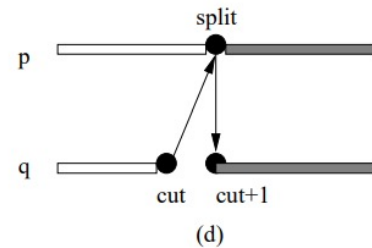
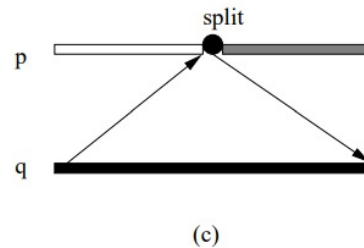
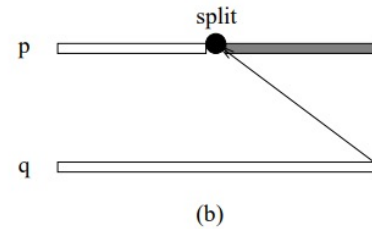
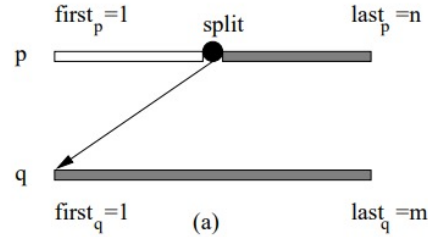
Extra: Parallel Merge (Sort)

Merge two sorted subsequences: $O(\log^2 n)$ with $O(n / \log^2 n)$ processors: switch to sequence merge sort with sizes are reduced to $O(\log^2 n)$

Data access: PRAM

Parallel random-access memory

EREW or CRCW



Speedup: seq. time / para. time, **Efficiency:** # of processors (k)/speed up

Cost: # of processors x parallel time, **Cost-optimal:** efficiency = 1

Other parallel sorts: bitonic, quick, radix, and sample sort

R. Cole, Parallel Merge Sort, SIAM Journal on Computing, 1988

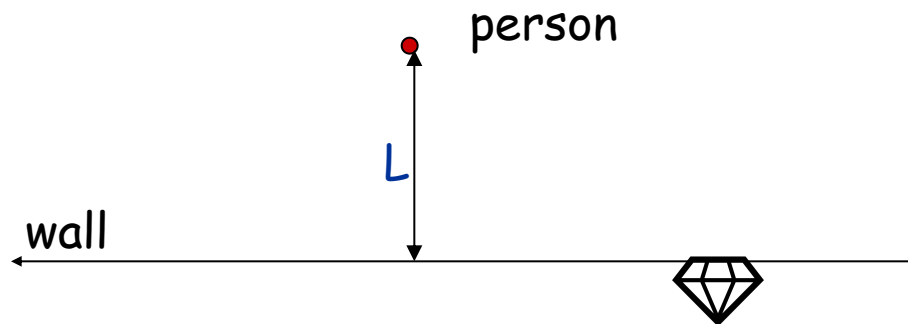
J. Wu and S. Olariu, On Cost-Optimal Merge of Two Intransitive Sorted Sequence, 2003

Extra: Searching

Systematically search the "space" for a solution.

Key: how to **divide (-and-eliminate)** the solution space.

1. A person is L distance away from a long wall with no end on both sides. A diamond is placed on the wall which can be identified through touching. Design a searching method with a constant bound in moving distance.



Extra: Searching

1. A fish needs to be steamed between 5 to 18 minutes. Design a fast-searching method to find the best cooking time. Under- and over-cook can be compared via tasting, but not during cooking. (1 minute is the basic unit of time duration. Quality of fish is a [quadratic function](#).)

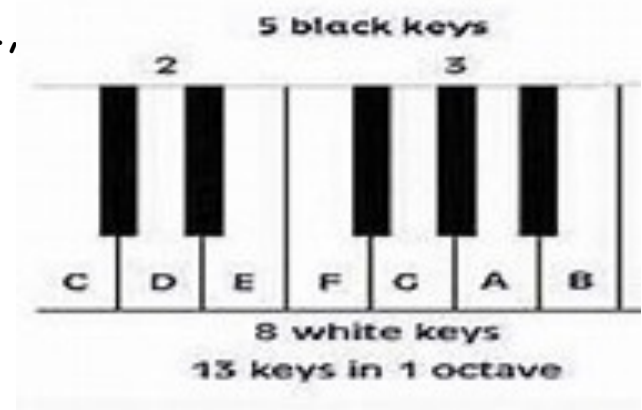
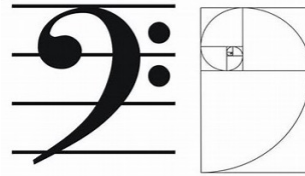
check [golden-section search](#)

Extra: Fibonacci Sequence and Golden Ratio

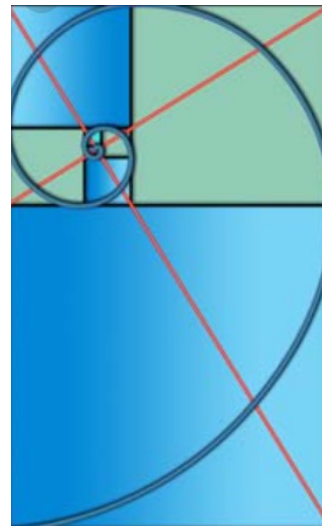
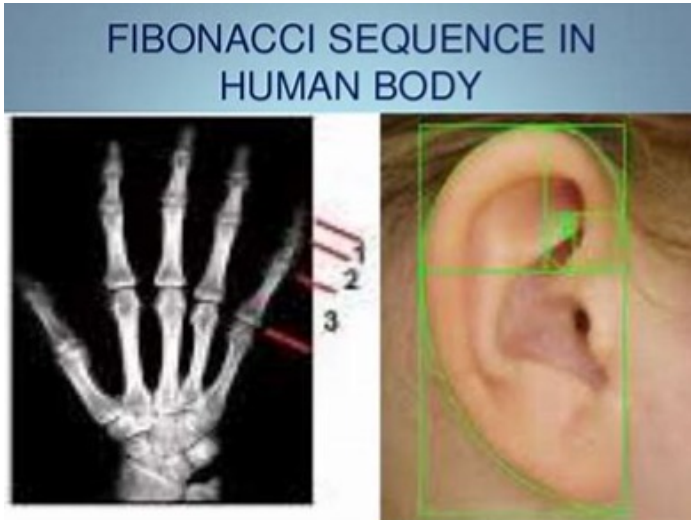
$F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$, $F_0 = 0$, $F_1 = 1$: 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21,

$(a+b)/b = b/a = 1.618...$

In music, human body, nature, ...



Eye of god



Extra: Fibonacci Puzzle

Extended Fibonacci sequence:

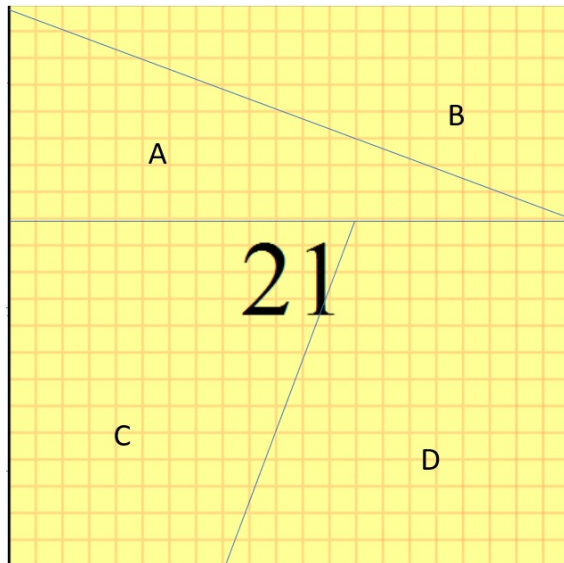
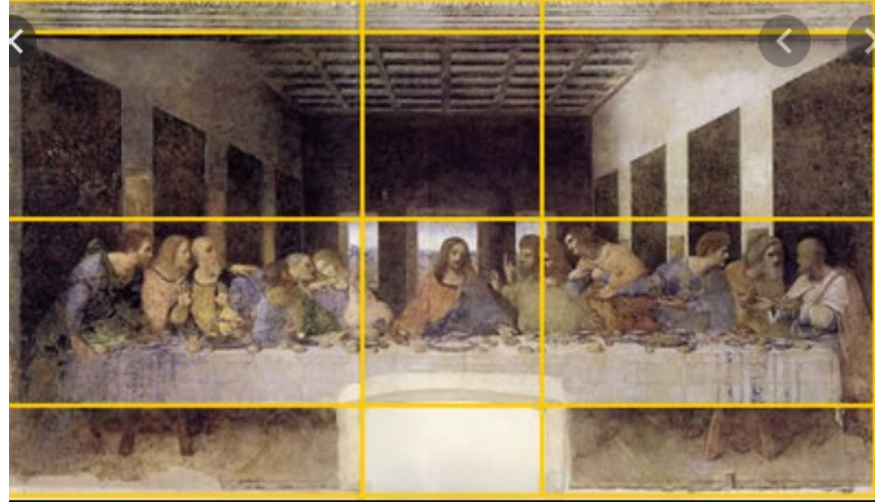
2, 4, 6, 10, 16, 26, ...

4, 8, 12, 20, 32, 52, ...

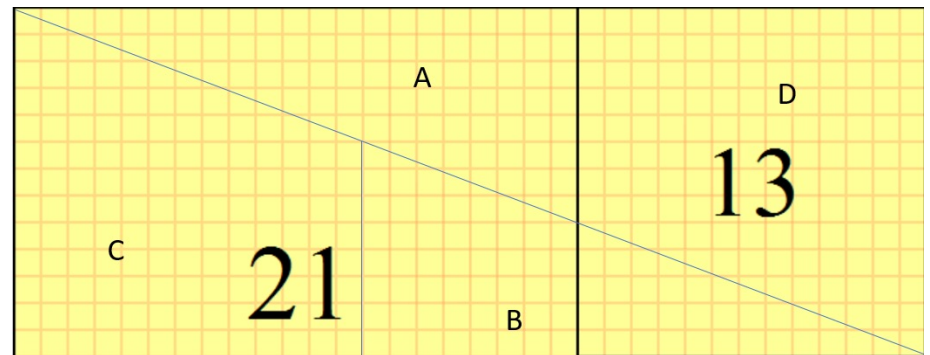
8, 16, 24, 40, 64, 104, ...

Fibonacci sequence in **Last Super**

1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13



$$21 \times 21 = 34 \times 13 (?)$$



Mathematics is the language in which God has written the universe -Galileo Galilei

5.3 Counting Inversions

Counting Inversions

Music site tries to match your song preferences with others.

- You rank n songs.
- Music site consults database to find people with **similar** tastes.

Similarity metric: number of inversions between two rankings.

- My rank: $1, 2, \dots, n$.
- Your rank: a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n .
- Songs i and j **inverted** if $i < j$, but $a_i > a_j$.

Songs

| | A | B | C | D | E |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|
| Me | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| You | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 |

Inversions
3-2, 4-2

Brute force: check all $\Theta(n^2)$ pairs i and j .

More Applications of Rankings

Applications.

- Collaborative filtering (preferences /taste info. from many users)
- Measuring the "sortedness" of an array.
- Sensitivity analysis of Google's ranking function.

Voting theory: 3-party voting (Condorcet paradox, Arrow's impossibility theorem on voting)

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1: $A \succ B \succ T$ | Based on 1 and 3: A beats B |
| 2: $B \succ T \succ A$ | Based on 2 and 3: T beats A |
| 3: $T \succ A \succ B$ | Based on 1 and 2: B beats T |

(A: Anderson, B: Biden, T: Trump)

Counting Inversions: Divide-and-Conquer

Divide-and-conquer.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|----|---|---|
| 1 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 10 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 11 | 3 | 7 |
|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|----|---|---|

Counting Inversions: Divide-and-Conquer

Divide-and-conquer.

- **Divide:** separate list into two pieces.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|----|---|---|
| 1 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 10 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 11 | 3 | 7 |
|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|----|---|---|

Divide: $O(1)$.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|----|---|---|
| 1 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 10 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 11 | 3 | 7 |
|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|----|---|---|

Counting Inversions: Divide-and-Conquer

Divide-and-conquer.

- Divide: separate list into two pieces.
- **Conquer**: recursively count inversions in each half.



Divide: $O(1)$.



Conquer: $2T(n / 2)$

5 blue-blue inversions

8 green-green inversions

5-4, 5-2, 4-2, 8-2, 10-2

6-3, 9-3, 9-7, 12-3, 12-7, 12-11, 11-3, 11-7

Counting Inversions: Divide-and-Conquer

Divide-and-conquer.

- **Divide:** separate list into two pieces.
- **Conquer:** recursively count inversions in each half.
- **Combine:** count inversions where a_i and a_j are in different halves, and return sum of three quantities.



Divide: $O(1)$.



5 blue-blue inversions

8 green-green inversions

Conquer: $2T(n / 2)$

9 blue-green inversions

5-3, 4-3, 8-6, 8-3, 8-7, 10-6, 10-9, 10-3, 10-7

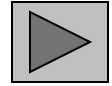
Combine: ???

Total = $5 + 8 + 9 = 22$.

Counting Inversions: Combine

Combine: count blue-green inversions

- Assume each half is **sorted**.
- Count inversions where a_i and a_j are in different halves.
- **Merge** two sorted halves into sorted whole.



to maintain sorted invariant



13 blue-green inversions: $6 + 3 + 2 + 2 + 0 + 0$

Count: $O(n)$



Merge: $O(n)$

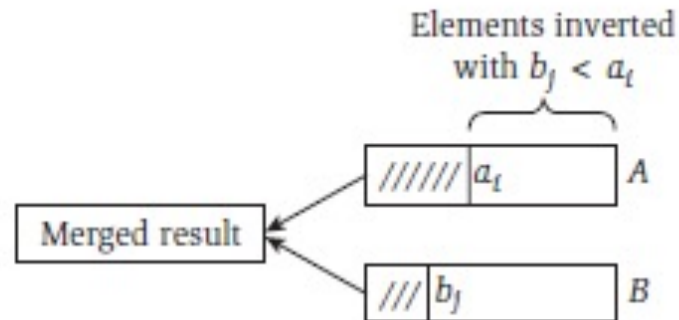
$$T(n) \leq T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + O(n) \Rightarrow T(n) = O(n \log n)$$

Counting Inversions: Implementation

Pre-condition. [Merge-and-Count] A and B are sorted.

Post-condition. [Sort-and-Count] L is sorted.

```
Sort-and-Count(L) {  
    if list L has one element  
        return 0 and the list L  
  
    Divide the list into two halves A and B  
    ( $r_A$ , A)  $\leftarrow$  Sort-and-Count(A)  
    ( $r_B$ , B)  $\leftarrow$  Sort-and-Count(B)  
    ( $r$ , L)  $\leftarrow$  Merge-and-Count(A, B)  
  
    return  $r = r_A + r_B + r$  and the sorted list L  
}
```



5.4 Closest Pair of Points

Closest Pair of Points

Closest pair. Given n points in the plane, find a pair with smallest Euclidean distance between them.

Fundamental geometric primitive.

- Graphics, computer vision, geographic information systems, molecular modeling, air traffic control.
- Special case of nearest neighbor, Euclidean MST, Voronoi.

↖ fast closest pair inspired fast algorithms for these problems

Brute force. Check all pairs of points p and q with $\Theta(n^2)$ comparisons.

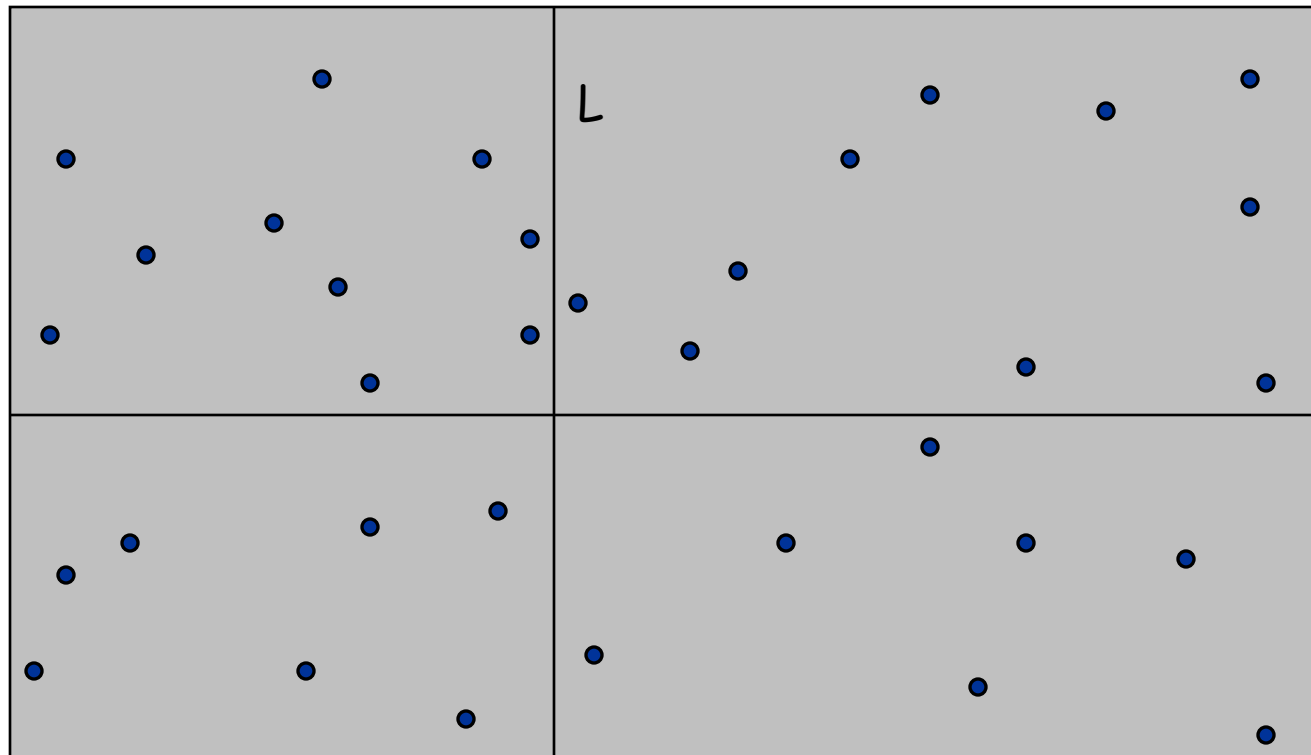
1-D version. $O(n \log n)$ easy if points are on a line.

Assumption. No two points have same x coordinate.

↑
to make presentation cleaner

Closest Pair of Points: First Attempt

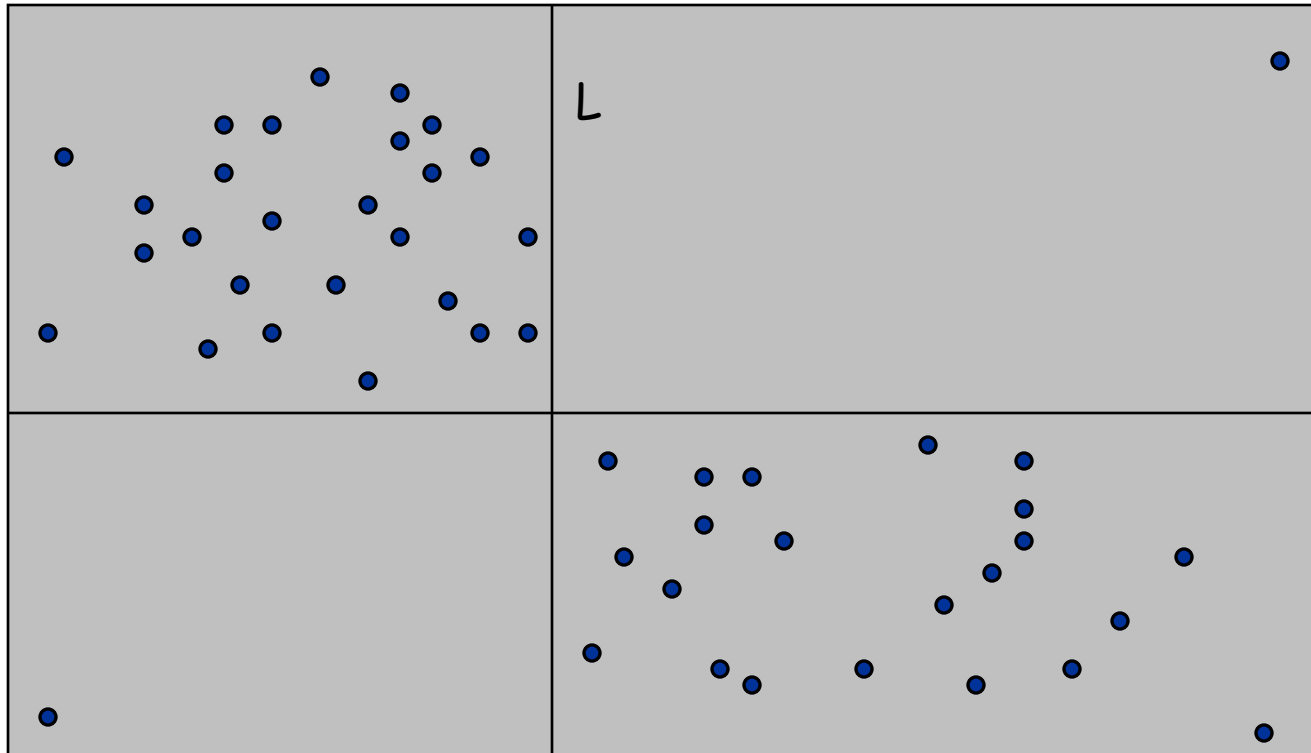
Divide. Sub-divide region into 4 quadrants.



Closest Pair of Points: First Attempt

Divide. Sub-divide region into 4 quadrants.

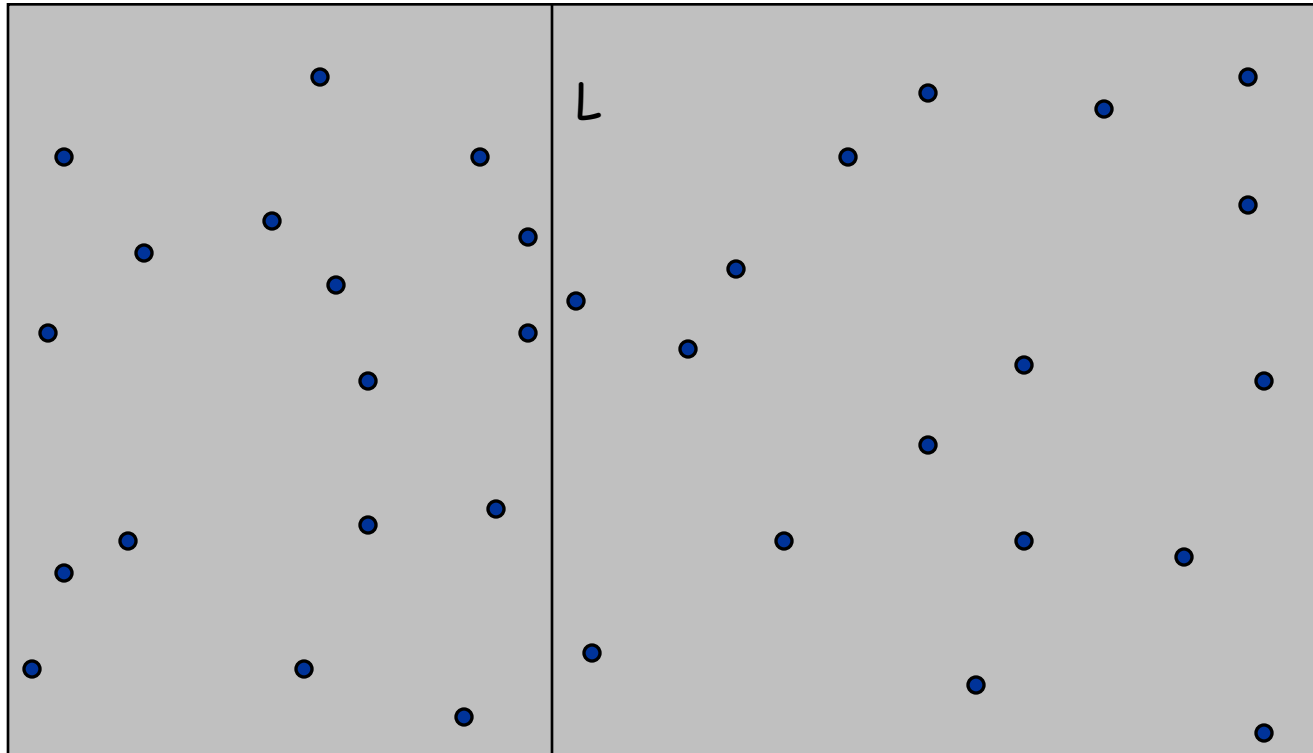
Obstacle. Impossible to ensure $n/4$ points in each piece.



Closest Pair of Points

Algorithm.

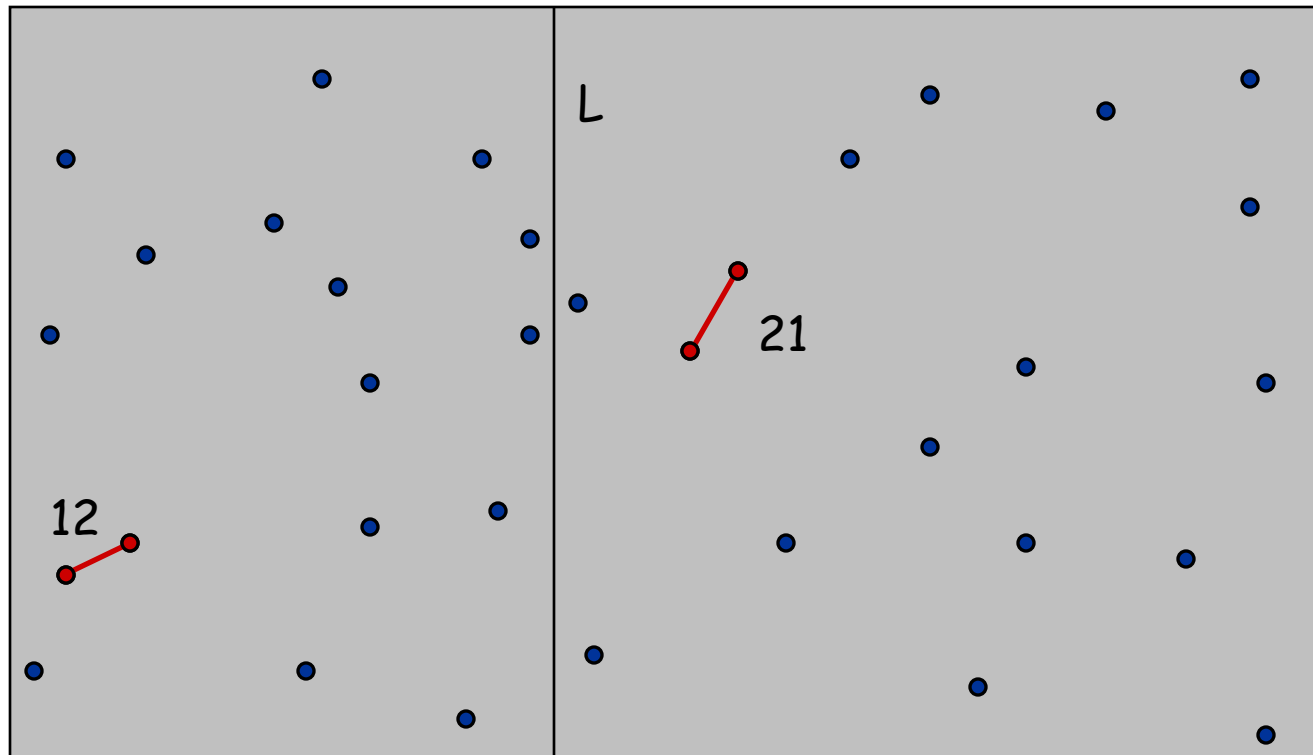
- **Divide:** draw vertical line L so that roughly $\frac{1}{2}n$ points on each side.
- Bonus point: Given a country map, perform two vertical-oriented cuts of the map into three parts: east, middle, and west, such that $|east| + |west| = |middle|$ ($|x|$ stands for the population of x)



Closest Pair of Points

Algorithm.

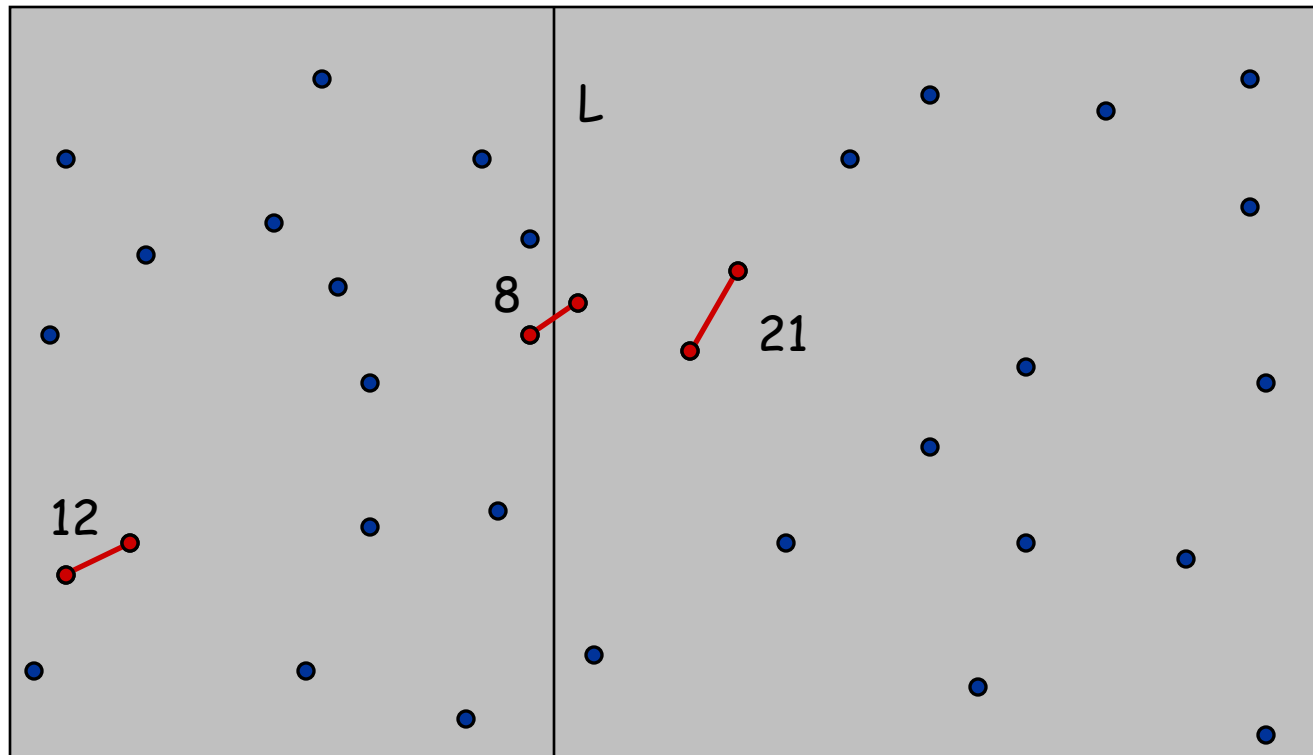
- Divide: draw vertical line L so that roughly $\frac{1}{2}n$ points on each side.
- **Conquer**: find closest pair in each side recursively.



Closest Pair of Points

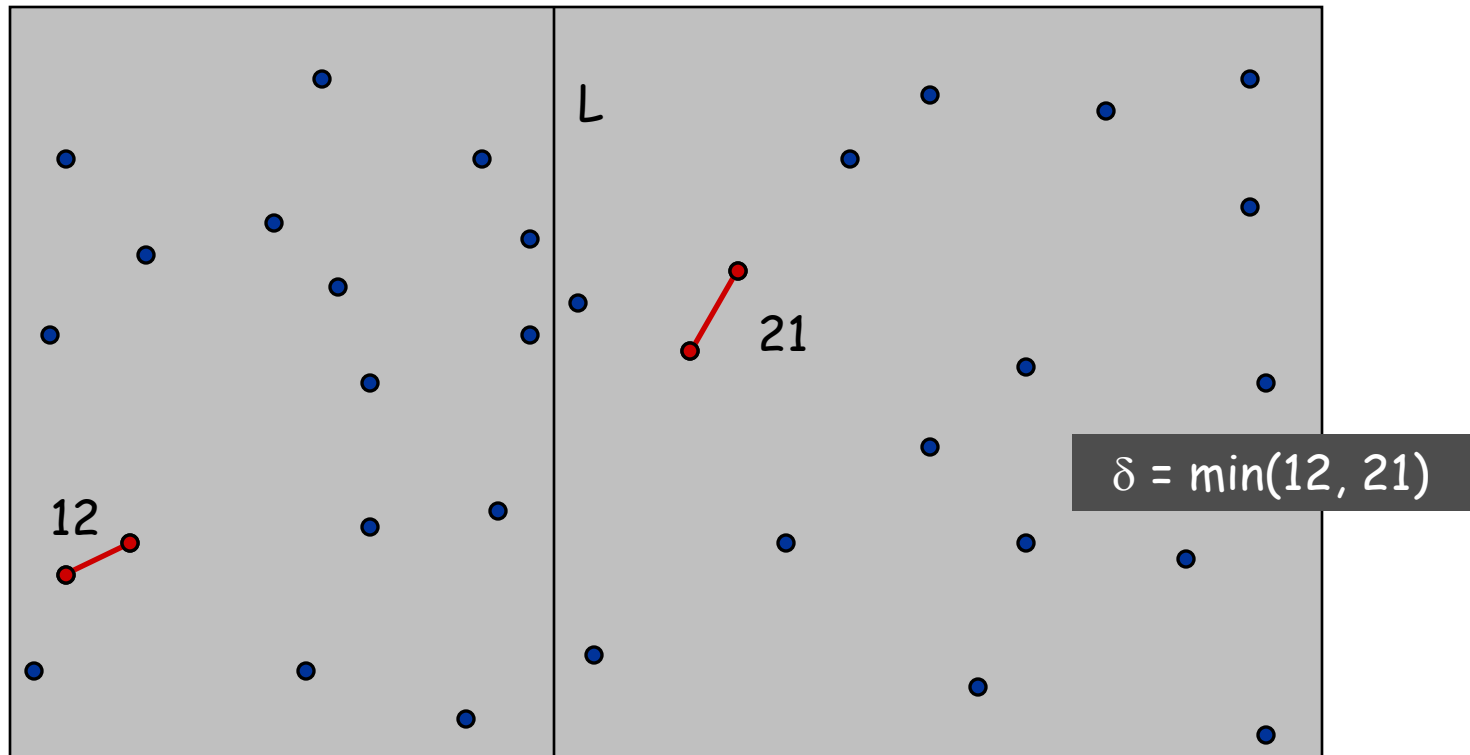
Algorithm.

- Divide: draw vertical line L so that roughly $\frac{1}{2}n$ points on each side.
- Conquer: find closest pair in each side recursively.
- **Combine**: find closest pair with one point in each side. ← seems like $\Theta(n^2)$
- Return best of 3 solutions.



Closest Pair of Points

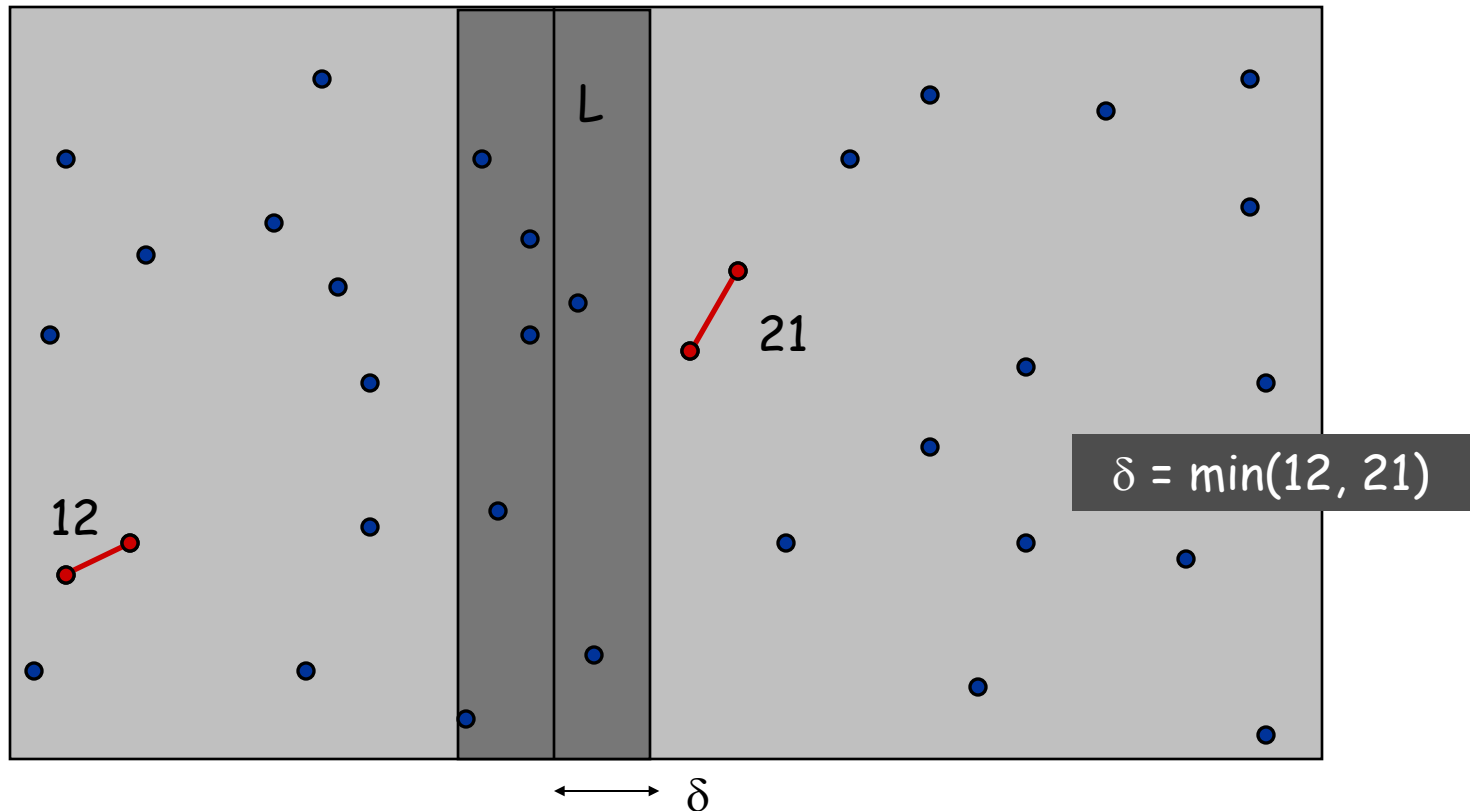
Find closest pair with one point in each side, **assuming that distance $< \delta$** .



Closest Pair of Points

Find closest pair with one point in each side, **assuming that distance $< \delta$** .

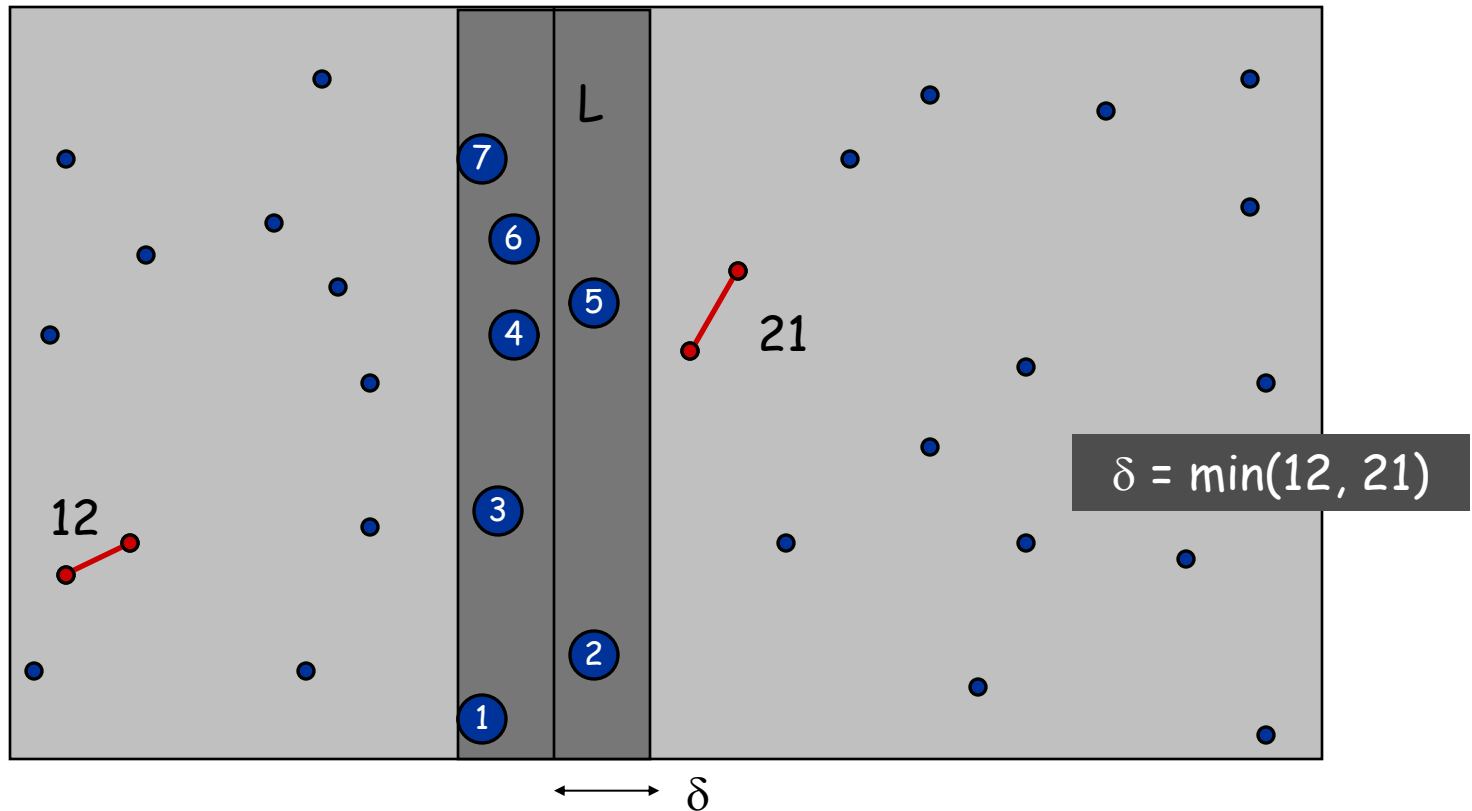
- Observation: only need to consider points within δ of line L .



Closest Pair of Points

Find closest pair with one point in each side, **assuming that distance $< \delta$** .

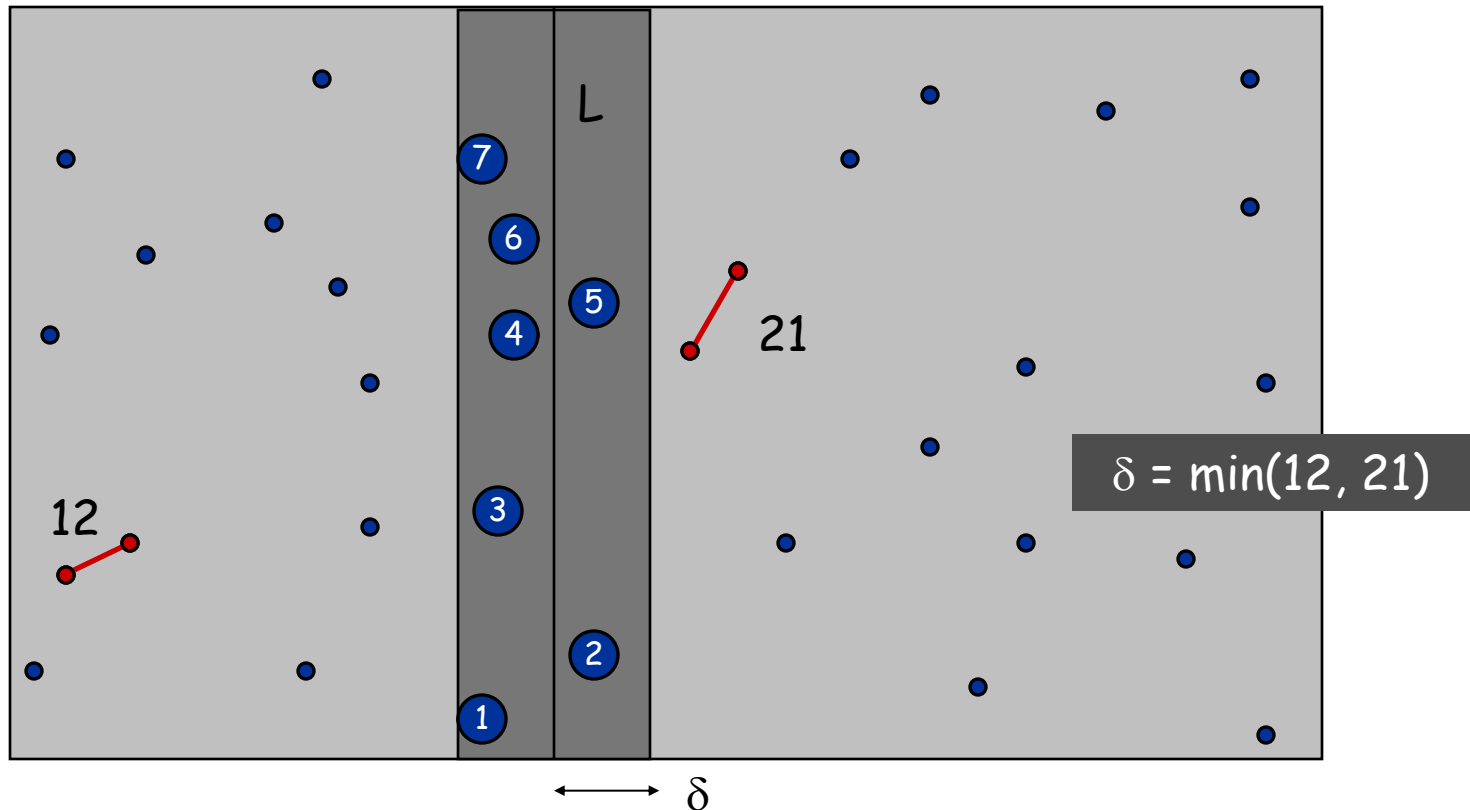
- Observation: only need to consider points within δ of line L .
- Sort points in 2δ -strip by their y coordinate.



Closest Pair of Points

Find closest pair with one point in each side, **assuming that distance $< \delta$** .

- Observation: only need to consider points within δ of line L .
- Sort points in 2δ -strip by their y coordinate.
- Only check distances of those within 11 positions in sorted list!



Closest Pair of Points

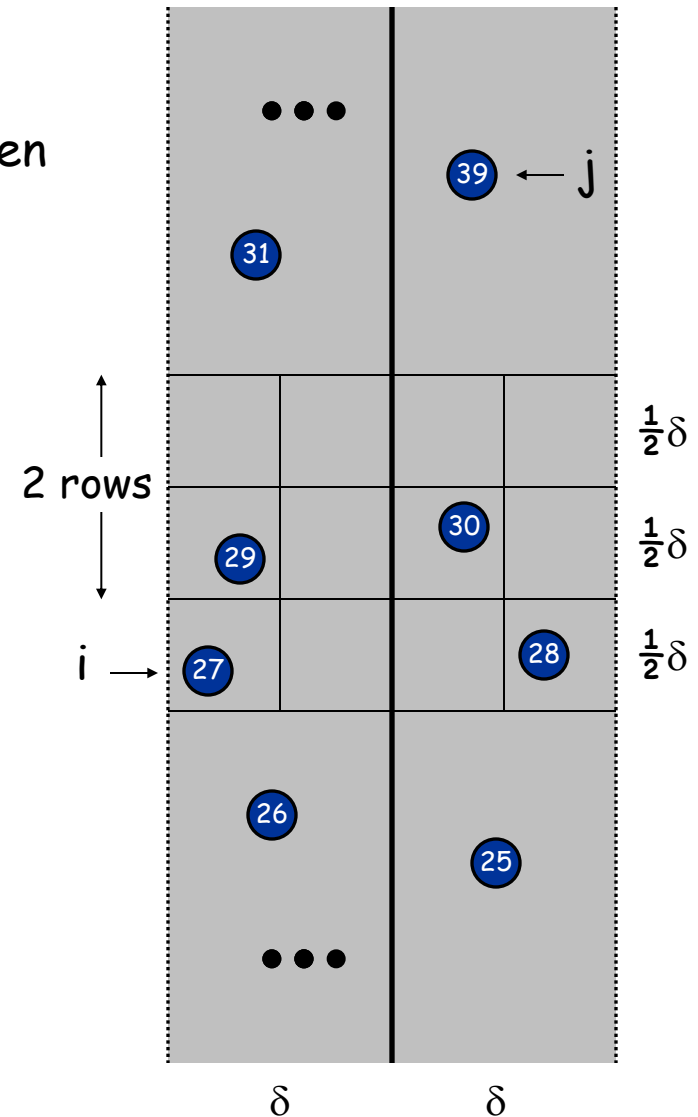
Def. Let s_i be the point in the 2δ -strip, with the i^{th} smallest y -coordinate.

Claim. If $|i - j| \geq 12$, then the distance between s_i and s_j is at least δ .

Pf.

- No two points lie in same $\frac{1}{2}\delta$ -by- $\frac{1}{2}\delta$ box.
- Two points at least 2 rows apart have distance $\geq 2(\frac{1}{2}\delta)$. ▪

Fact. Still true if we replace 12 with 7.
(This is independent of δ calculated at each recursive call.)



Closest Pair Algorithm

```
Closest-Pair( $p_1, \dots, p_n$ ) {  
    Compute separation line  $L$  such that half the points  
    are on one side and half on the other side.  $O(n \log n)$   
  
     $\delta_1 = \text{Closest-Pair}(\text{left half})$   
     $\delta_2 = \text{Closest-Pair}(\text{right half})$   $2T(n / 2)$   
     $\delta = \min(\delta_1, \delta_2)$   
  
    Delete all points further than  $\delta$  from separation line  $L$   $O(n)$   
  
    Sort remaining points by  $y$ -coordinate.  $O(n \log n)$   
  
    Scan points in  $y$ -order and compare distance between  
    each point and next 11 neighbors. If any of these  
    distances is less than  $\delta$ , update  $\delta$ .  $O(n)$   
  
    return  $\delta$ .  
}
```

Closest Pair of Points: Analysis

Running time.

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + O(n \log n) \Rightarrow T(n) = O(n \log^2 n)$$

Q. Can we achieve $O(n \log n)$?

- A. Yes. Don't sort points in strip from scratch each time.
- Each recursive returns two lists: all points sorted by y coordinate, and all points sorted by x coordinate.
 - Sort by **merging** two pre-sorted lists.

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + O(n) \Rightarrow T(n) = O(n \log n)$$

Q. Can we do better?

A. Yes, $O(n)$ using randomized solution (Chapter 13)

Integer Multiplication

X times Y: half-and-half, but still $O(n^2)$

$$\begin{aligned}xy &= (x_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0)(y_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + y_0) \\ &= x_1y_1 \cdot 2^n + (x_1y_0 + x_0y_1) \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0y_0.\end{aligned}$$

Complexity: $T(n) \leq 4T(n/2) + cn$

Reduce 4 calls to 3: $(x_1 + x_0)(y_1 + y_0) = x_1y_1 + x_1y_0 + x_0y_1 + x_0y_0$

New complexity:

$$T(n) \leq 3T(n/2) + cn$$

Hence,

$$O(n^{\log_2 3}) = O(n^{1.59})$$

Recursive-Multiply(x,y):

Write $x = x_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0$

$y = y_1 \cdot 2^{n/2} + y_0$

Compute $x_1 + x_0$ and $y_1 + y_0$

$p = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_1 + x_0, y_1 + y_0)$

$x_1y_1 = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_1, y_1)$

$x_0y_0 = \text{Recursive-Multiply}(x_0, y_0)$

Return $x_1y_1 \cdot 2^n + (p - x_1y_1 - x_0y_0) \cdot 2^{n/2} + x_0y_0$
