

Nov 4

Closest pair of points

$$x_i, y_i \leq \text{poly}(n)$$

Input: n distinct points P_1, \dots, P_n $P_i = (x_i, y_i)$

Output: pair P_i, P_j s.t. $d(P_i, P_j)$ is min

$$d(P_i, P_j) = \sqrt{(x_i - x_j)^2 + (y_i - y_j)^2}$$

integers

Assumptions:

① Given P_i & P_j we can compute $d(P_i, P_j)$ in $O(1)$ time.

$$d(P_i, P_j) \text{ is min} \iff d(P_i, P_j)^2 \text{ is min.}$$

② Assume all x_i values are ~~distinct~~ distinct \leftarrow
 y_i

If not, (i) (Claim) \exists a rotation of n distinct pts s.t. after rotation the assumption holds.

(ii) Can modify the algo we'll see later to handle the general case

Notation: P is the set of all points $P = \{P_1, \dots, P_n\}$

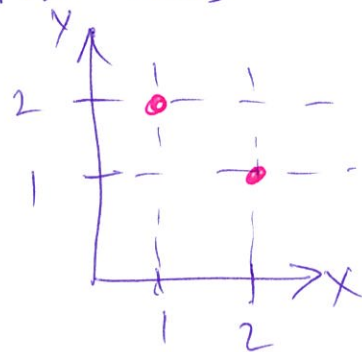
Eg. $P = \{(1, 2), (2, 1)\}$

P_x is P sorted by x -values

Eg. $P_x = \{(1, 2), (2, 1)\}$

P_y is P sorted by y -values

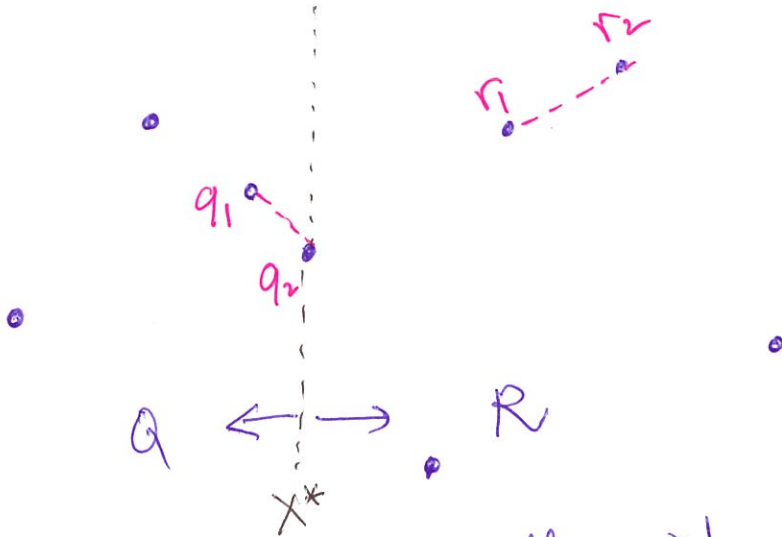
Eg. $P_y = \{(2, 1), (1, 2)\}$



Goal: Do better than $O(n^2)$ algo

Towards a Divide & Conquer algo

$n=8$



Indivisible starts at 1

Step 1: Divide P equally into Q & R

$$(x^*, y^*) = P_x \left[\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil \right]$$

$$Q = \{ (x, y) \in P \mid x \leq x^* \}$$

$$R = \{ (x, y) \in P \mid x > x^* \}$$

$$|Q| = \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil \quad |R| = n - \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$$

Step 2: Recursively find closest pair of points in Q and R

$q_1, q_2 \in Q$ are closest pts in Q
 $r_1, r_2 \in R$ are closest pts in R

IMPORTANT: $\delta = \min (d(q_1, q_2), d(r_1, r_2))$

ASIDE: P_x, P_y for P in $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ time

Q: Given P_x, P_y : compute Q_x, Q_y, R_x, R_y is $\mathcal{O}(n)$ time.

A: $Q_x = P_x [1: \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil], R_x = P_x [\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil + 1:n]$
 $\forall (x, y) \in P_y$ if $x \leq x^*$ add (x, y) to Q_y
else add (x, y) to R_y
 $\mathcal{O}(n)$ time.