

# Splay trees recap

## • Dynamic BST

↳ re-arranges tree even after search (via pointer moves and rotations)

## • $O(\log n)$ amortized cost per operation

• In some cases stronger guarantees (e.g. if search sequence  $R$  structured, biased distribution, locality, ...)

## • Conjectured constant competitive ("almost" optimal on every search sequence $R$ )

best "offline" dynamic BST execution of  $R$   
(knowing  $R$  in advance, optimized for  $R$ )

## → Dynamic Optimality Conjecture

Same partial results, but not even  $o(\log n)$ -competitiveness is known.

( $O(1)$ -comp. conjectured)

Easy claim. Splay is  $O(\log n)$ -competitive

Proof.  $R = r_1, \dots, r_m$   $m \geq n$  ( $n$  is # of distinct keys)

cost of splay on  $R \leq m \cdot O(\log n)$  (Thm 1)

$OPT(R) \geq m$  (each search cost at least 1 — visit the root)

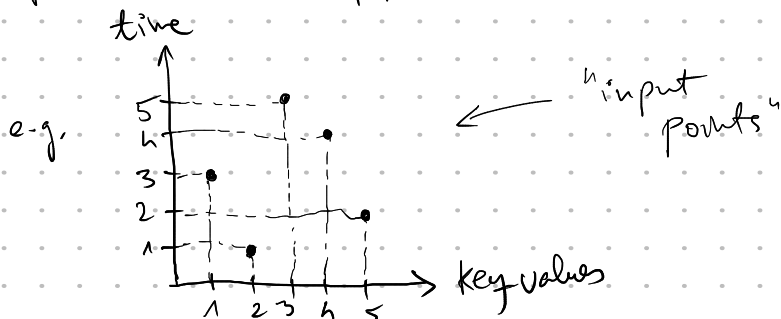
$$\Rightarrow \frac{\text{Splay}(R)}{OPT(R)} \leq O(\log n) \quad \square$$

## Geometry of Binary Search Trees

Search seq.  $R = r_1, \dots, r_m$

e.g.  $R = 2, 5, 1, 4, 3$ .  $\begin{pmatrix} m=5 \\ n=5 \end{pmatrix}$

Represent  $R$  as set of points  $(r_i, i)$  for  $i=1, \dots, m$



Serving  $R$  in a BST.

(Splay tree or any other BST based on pointer moves and rotations)

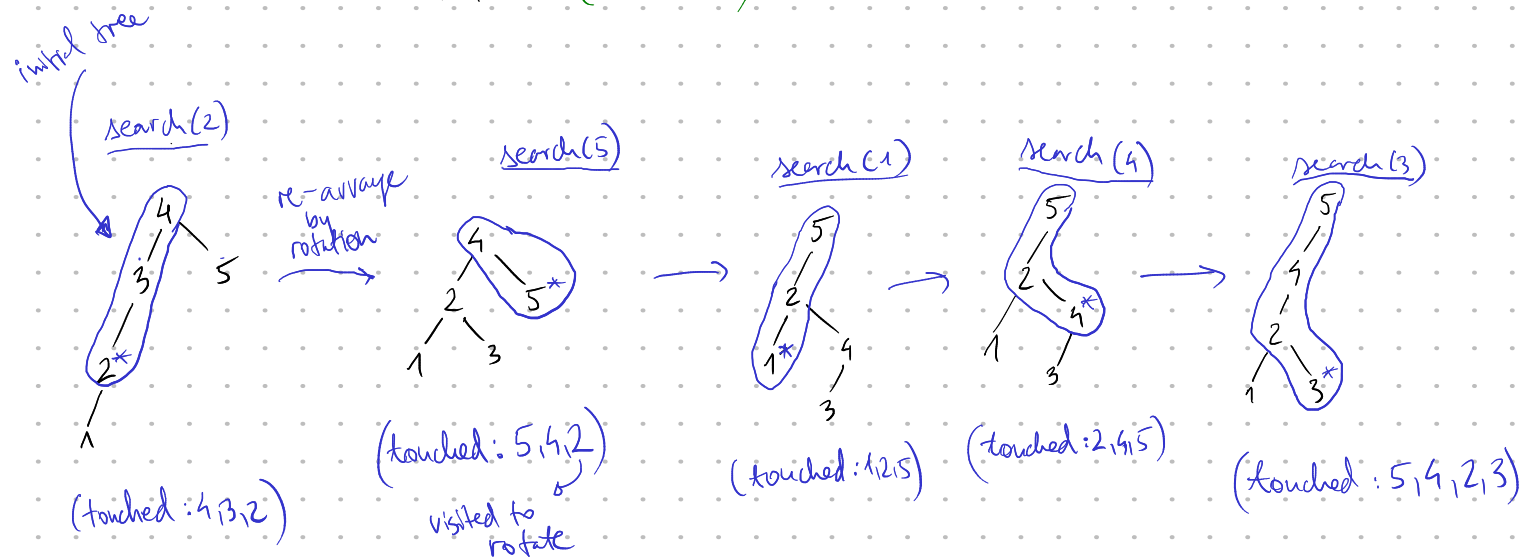
BST model:

-  $search(x)$ : follow search path  $root \rightarrow x$ , then re-arrange by doing rotations at the pointer

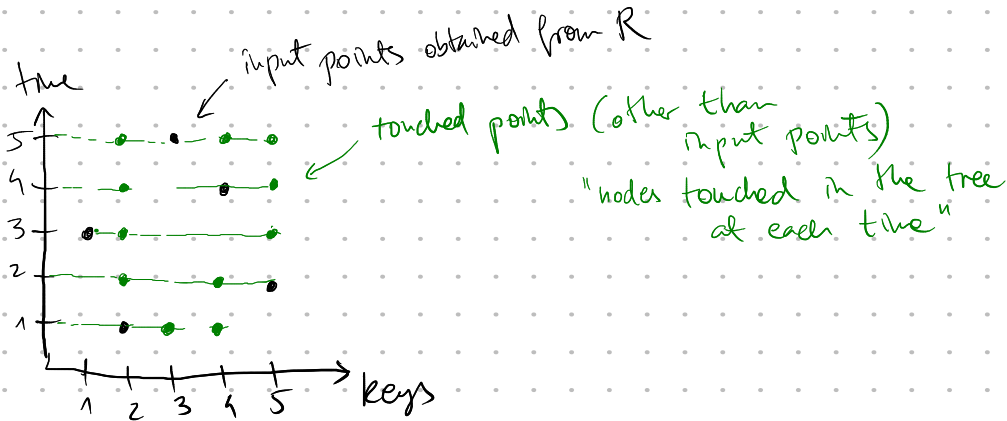
(pointer first moves from root to  $x$ , then we can move it anywhere step-by-step)

Cost: # rotations + # pointer moves (incl. search)

eg.  $R = 2, 5, 1, 4, 3$  ( $m = n = 5$ )



Plot the BST sequence as a set of points (that contains the input points)



Claim. Let  $T_1, T_2$  be two BSTs of size  $k$  over same set of nodes.

Then we can transform  $T_1 \rightarrow T_2$  with  $O(k)$  rotations. (was exercise)

In BST execution we only need to do  $O(k)$  rotations + pointer moves,

where  $k$  is the # touched nodes

[This is true even if we allow rotations only at pointer and also count pointer moves.] (exercise - check this)



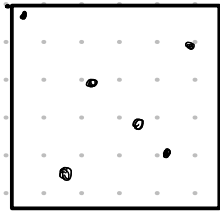
Cost of BST execution of  $R$   
 $*$  = # points in geom. view.  
 (\* small constant factor ignored)

Study BSTs in geometric view.

Given a point set  $P$ :

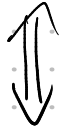
"Input points"

"search seq."



find a superset of  $P$  that describes a valid BST execution and is as small as possible (= small cost)

Theorem A point set  $S$  describes a "valid execution" of  $P$  (obtained from search seq.  $R$ ) by a BST

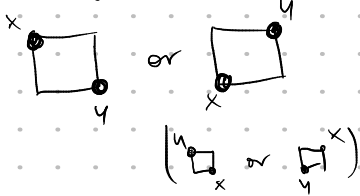


$P \subseteq S$ , and

$S$  has no "empty rectangles" ( $S$  is "saturated")

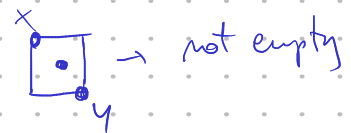
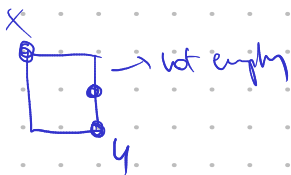
$\forall x, y \in S$ :  
(not on the same horiz. or vertical line)

rectangle with corners  $x, y$

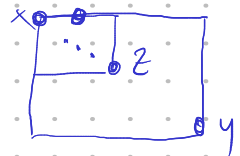


contains some point from  $S \setminus \{x, y\}$   
(possibly on boundary or other corner)

e.g.



(observe that there must be some point on a rectangle side adjacent to  $x$  and to  $y$ , as we can apply condition repeatedly)

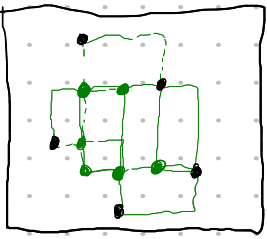


$|S|$  = cost of BST execution

(BST problem is reduced to finding a small saturated subset of points)

Given  $P$ , find smallest  $S \supseteq P$  with no empty rectangles

eg



Is this optimal?

↘ S has no empty rectangles. Important: must consider all pairs

Note

In general, no efficient algorithm is known to solve this problem.

(It is also not known to be NP-hard)

○ vs ○

● vs ●

● vs ○

Proof of Thm

I)  $S$  valid BST execution

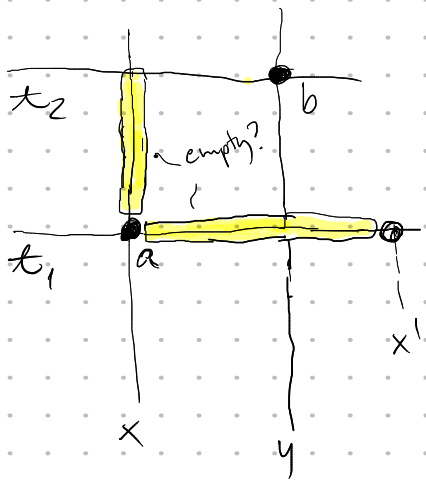


$S$  has no empty rectangles ( $S$  is satisfied)

Consider any two points  $a, b \in S$

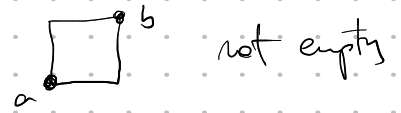
$\uparrow$   $\Downarrow$   
 $(x, t_1)$   $(y, t_2)$

w.l.o.g.  $x < y$   
 $t_1 < t_2$



BST touched  $x$  at time  $t_1$ ,  
 touched  $y$  at time  $t_2$ .

Want to prove



1) If there is a point

$$(z, t_1) \in S$$

s.t.  $z \in [x+1, y]$ , then DONE.

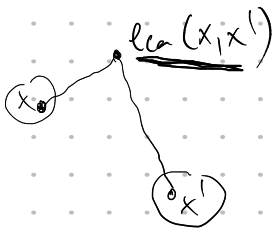
2) ow. Let  $x' > x$  be the smallest value s.t.

point  $(x', t_1) \in S$

(if no such point, set  $x' = n+1$ )

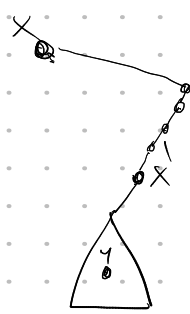
(we know  $x' > y$ , as otherwise we are in case 1)

tree after time  $t_1$ :

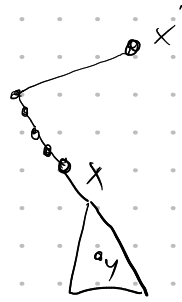


cannot happen:  $x$  and  $x'$  were touched but  $\text{lca}(x, x')$  not  
 (if  $x < \text{lca}(x, x') < x'$ )  
 (we assume nothing between  $x$  and  $x'$  is touched)

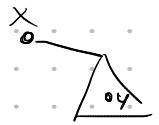
So it must be that one of  $x, x'$  is ancestor of the other.



or



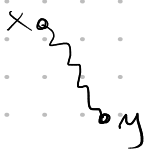
or if  $x'$  didn't exist at all:



as  $y$  was not touched, and  $x < y < x'$ ,  $y$  must be in a subtree hanging below  $x$

$\Rightarrow$  after time  $t_1$ ,  $y$  is descendant of  $x$

If  $x$  is not touched in the interval  $[t_{i+1}, t_2]$ , then  $y$  remains descendant of  $x$ .



$\Rightarrow y$  cannot be touched at time  $t_2$ .



So  $x$  must have been touched in this time interval, so rectangle not empty.

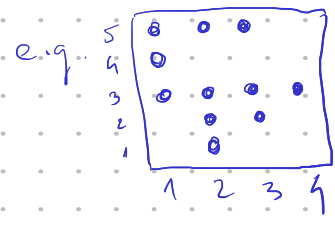
ii)  $S$  describes a valid BST execution



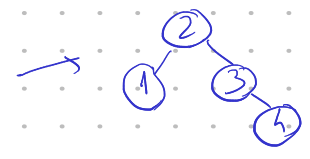
$S$  has no empty rectangles

→ we need to show how to recover a BST execution from a point set  $S$ .  
(may be not unique)

Initial tree  $T_0$ : treap of nodes, where priority is given by earliest touch time (with key values  $1 \dots m$ ) of each key value. (breaking ties arbitrarily)



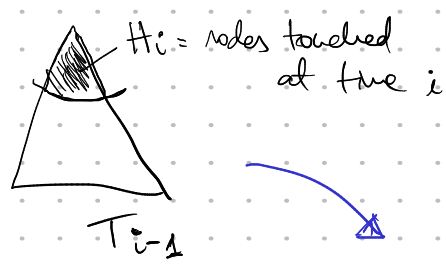
key	priority
1	→ 3
2	→ 1
3	→ 2
4	→ 3



Define  $T_i$ : BST after  $i$ -th search.

Invariant:  $T_i$  is a treap according to earliest touched time of keys in the interval  $[i+1, \dots, m]$

Operation at time  $i$ :



transform  $H_i \rightarrow H_i'$  s.t. it is a treap according to earliest touch time in future



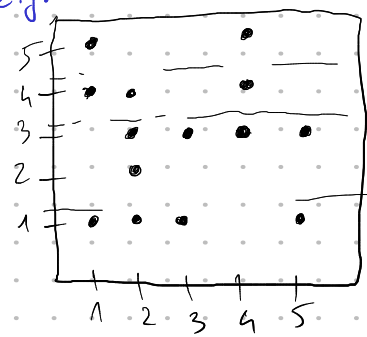
$T_i$  is  $T_{i-1}$ , with the top part  $H_i$  transformed into treap  $H_i'$  (rest of tree unchanged)

(need to prove that invariant is maintained)

→ from this it follows that the set of touched nodes  $H_i$  is indeed at the top of the tree.

Since these are the "earliest touched", they must have smallest priority, so they are on top by treap-property

e.g.

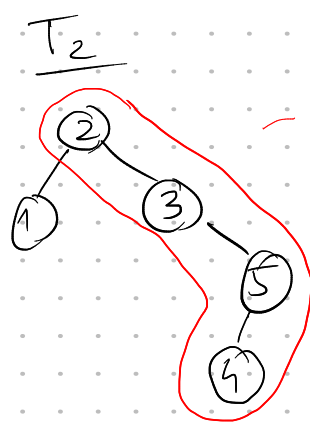
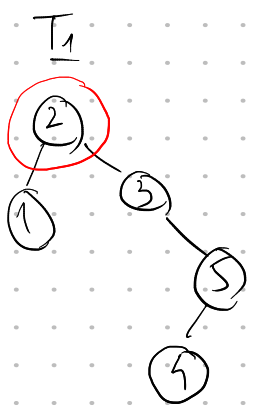
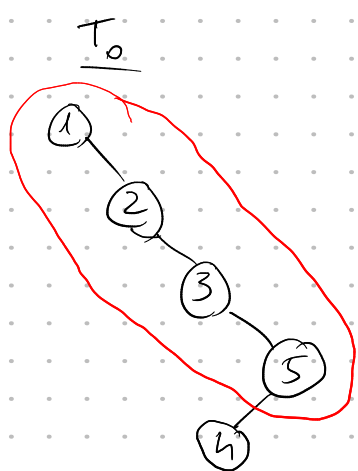


S is satisfied

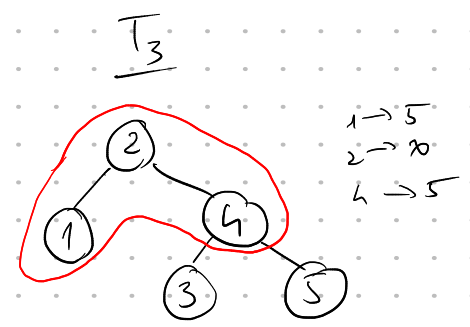
(break ties arbitrarily)

- priorities
- 1 → 1
  - 2 → 1
  - 3 → 1
  - 5 → 1
  - 4 → 3

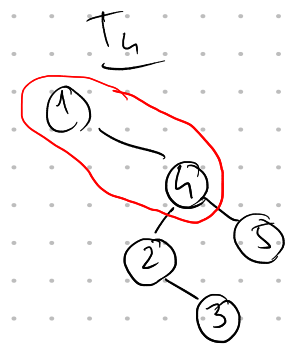
- priorities
- 1 → 4
  - 2 → 2
  - 3 → 3
  - 5 → 3



- 2 → 4
- 3 → 2
- 5 → 2
- 4 → 4



- 1 → 5
- 2 → 2
- 4 → 5



Proof that invariant is maintained:

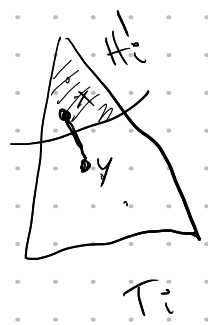
reminder:  
 (invariant  $T_i$  is a treap acc. to earliest future touch times)

Induction: true for  $T_0, \dots, T_{i-1}$ .

Suppose  $T_i$  not a treap. (some edge  $x,y$  must witness this)

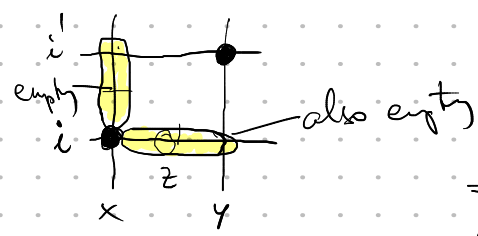


$x$  is above  $y$ , even though  $y$  will be touched earlier than  $x$



$x,y$  cannot be both in  $H_i$ ! (we just made  $H_i$  a correct treap)

$x,y$  cannot be both in  $T_i \setminus H_i$ ! (  $T_{i-1}$  was a correct treap and we didn't disturb this part.



Suppose some point  $z$  touched at time  $i$  ( $x \leq z < y$ )

$\Rightarrow y$  cannot be child of  $x$   
 Bar above  $(x,i)$  empty since  $y$  will be touched first.  
 But then both sides of rectangle empty  $\Rightarrow$   $S$  not satisfied



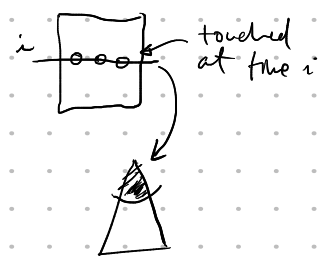
Summary:

Find a satisfied superset of  $P \iff$  Find a BST execution of  $R$

( $P$ : geom. view of  $R$ )

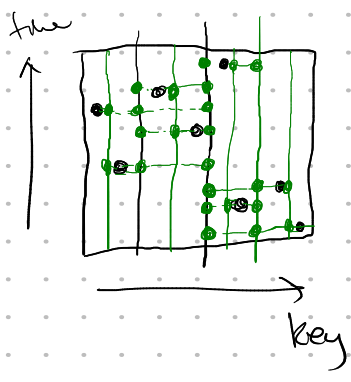
BST execution  $\rightarrow$  point set: plot touched elements at each time

point set  $\rightarrow$  BST execution: at every time  $i$ , touched elements form the top part of current tree, transform into a treap with future touch time is the priority.



(need to look at point set "globally")

This is called "offline equivalence"



- find satisfied superset
- no efficient algorithm is known

Two heuristics

1) Divide and Conquer

- split point set with vertical line in middle
- project each part to middle line
- Obs. no empty rectangles that cross middle line
- recurse on left/right side

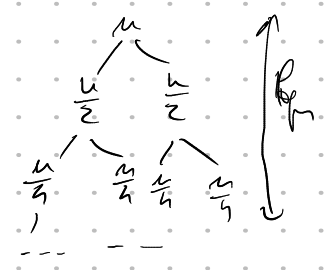
$n$ : # input points

Cost: size of point set

# added "touch" points  $T(n) = n + 2T(\frac{n}{2})$

$T(1) = 1$

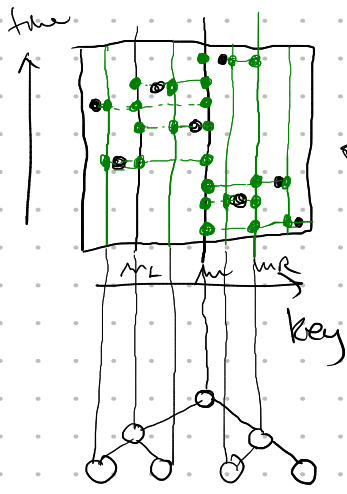
$T(n) = O(n \log n)$



$\rightarrow$  BST execution that serves  $n$  searches in time  $O(n \log n)$

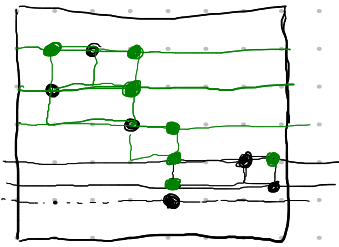
BST with  $O(\log n)$  cost per search





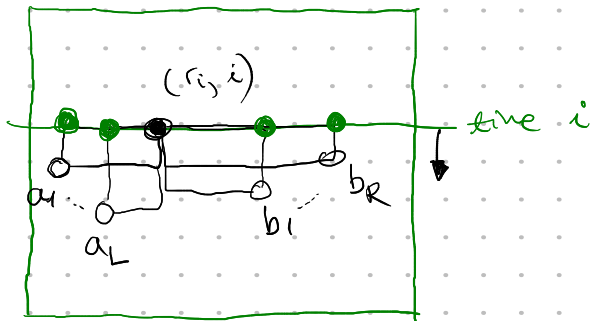
corresponds to fixed balanced BST (without rotations)

## 2) A different geometric algorithm:



point set is satisfied

- geometric sweep line algorithm
- move through the input with horiz. line, step-by-step.
- add new points only on the line.
- invariant: below the line there are no empty rectangles

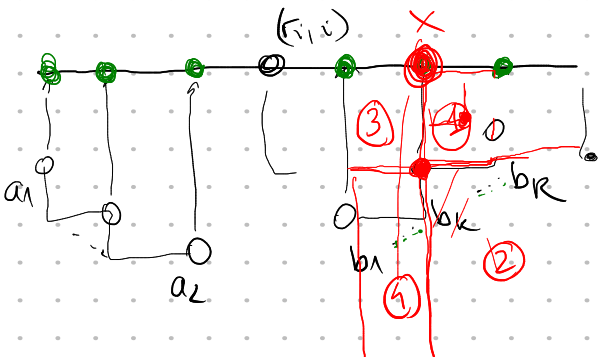


at time  $i$ , current search point  $(r_i, i)$  forms empty rectangles with points  $a_1, \dots, a_2$  } below line  $i$   
 $b_1, \dots, b_R$  }

$\rightarrow$  project  $a_1, \dots, a_2$  } to line  $i$   
 $b_1, \dots, b_R$  }

Claim. Alg. maintains invariant.

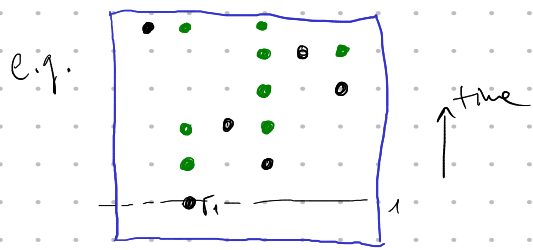
Show that no new empty rectangle is created at or below line  $i$



oss  $b_1, \dots, b_R$  increase by  $y$ -coordinate LTR

Suppose that some newly added point  $X$  created an empty rect. Other corner is  $X'$ . Split plane in quadrants 1, 2, 3, 4.  $X'$  cannot exist  $\rightarrow$  (argue case-by-case)

This is called the Greedy algorithm.



Algorithm finds satisfied superset.  
What is it in tree-view?

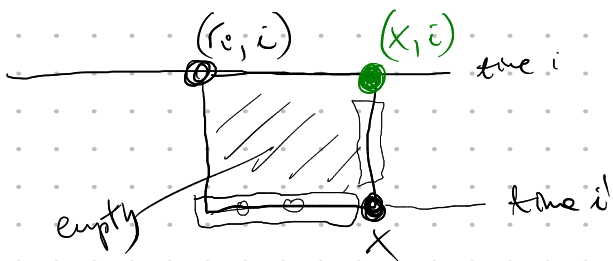
Claim: Nodes touched by Greedy at time  $i$  (points in row  $i$ ) are exactly the search path of the tree.

Proof: To: treap accordy to earliest touch time



for  $i=1$  claim is true

Suppose it is true for  $1, \dots, i-1$   
at time  $i$ :

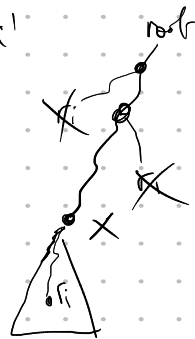


Need to show:  $x$  is on search path at time  $i$ .

by induction hypothesis  $x$  was on search path at time  $i'$ ,

no element in  $[r_i, x)$  was on search path at time  $i'$ .

at time  $i'$



-  $r_i$  must have been a descendant of  $x$  at time  $i'$ .

- since  $x$  was not touched in time interval  $(i', i)$ ,  $r_i$  is still

descendant of  $x$  when we search

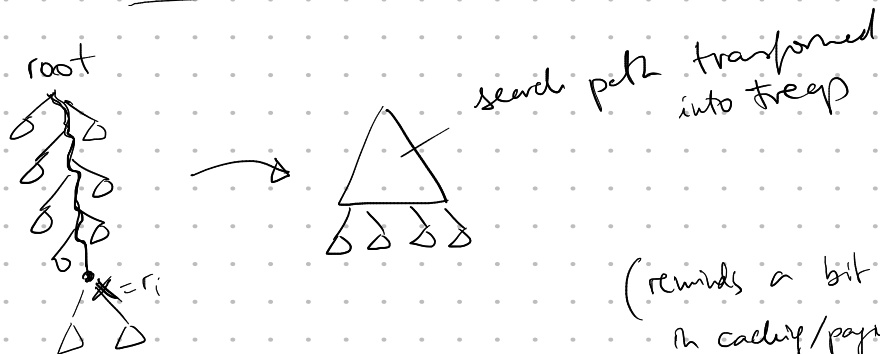
$\Rightarrow x$  is on search path of  $r_i$  at time  $i$ .

Greedy corresponds to a BST algorithm called GreedyFuture:

- search in BST,
- transform search path into a treap, w/ earliest future search as priority.

$$R = r_1, \dots, r_m$$

search( $r_i$ )



(reminds a bit of LFD in caching/page)

Recall that Splay is an online algorithm.

GreedyFuture is an offline algorithm. [We will see how to make GreedyFuture online]

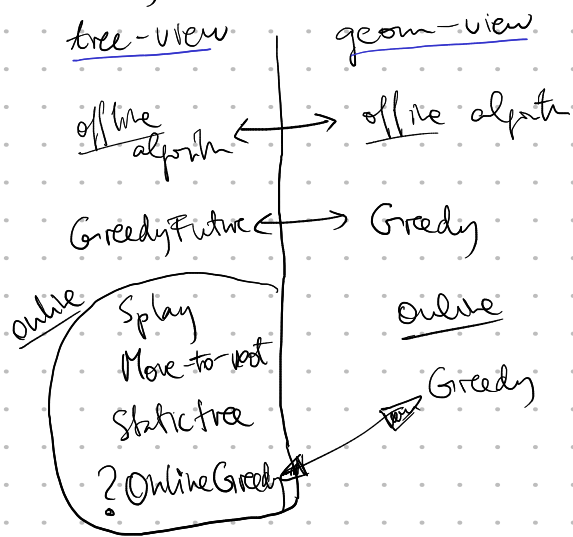
How good is GreedyFuture?

Conjectured  $O(OPT)$  (constant-competitive) } OPEN

Which is better Splay / GreedyFuture?

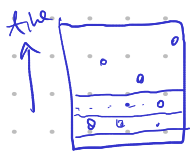
GreedyFuture satisfies Theorem 1-6 (like Splay) and more.

Summary



online BST algorithm in tree-view: serves search sequence  $R = r_1, \dots, r_m$  one-by-one, without knowing the future requests

online BST algorithm in geometric view: processes input points one-by-one (row-by-row) bottom-to-top, adds new points only in current row, without knowing input points above current row.



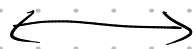
Scheduled request problem

Obs. Greedy is an online algorithm.

GreedyFuture is offline because of the transformation  
 geom. view  $\rightarrow$  tree view (used heap built with earliest future access times)  
 (Thm)

Thm (online equivalence)

online BST algorithm  
 (in tree view)  
 that serves  $R$  with  
 cost  $C$

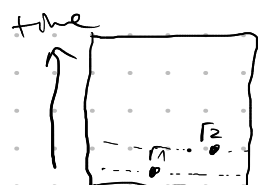


online geometric algorithm  
 that serves  $P$  (obtained from  $R$ )  
 with cost  $\Theta(C)$

Proof

$\rightarrow$  (easy)

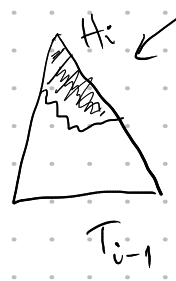
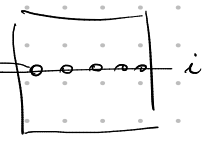
just run BST algorithm in tree-view, at each time plot in geom-view the points that are touched (visited by pointer)



tree-view ← geom.

Recall proof of offline equiv.

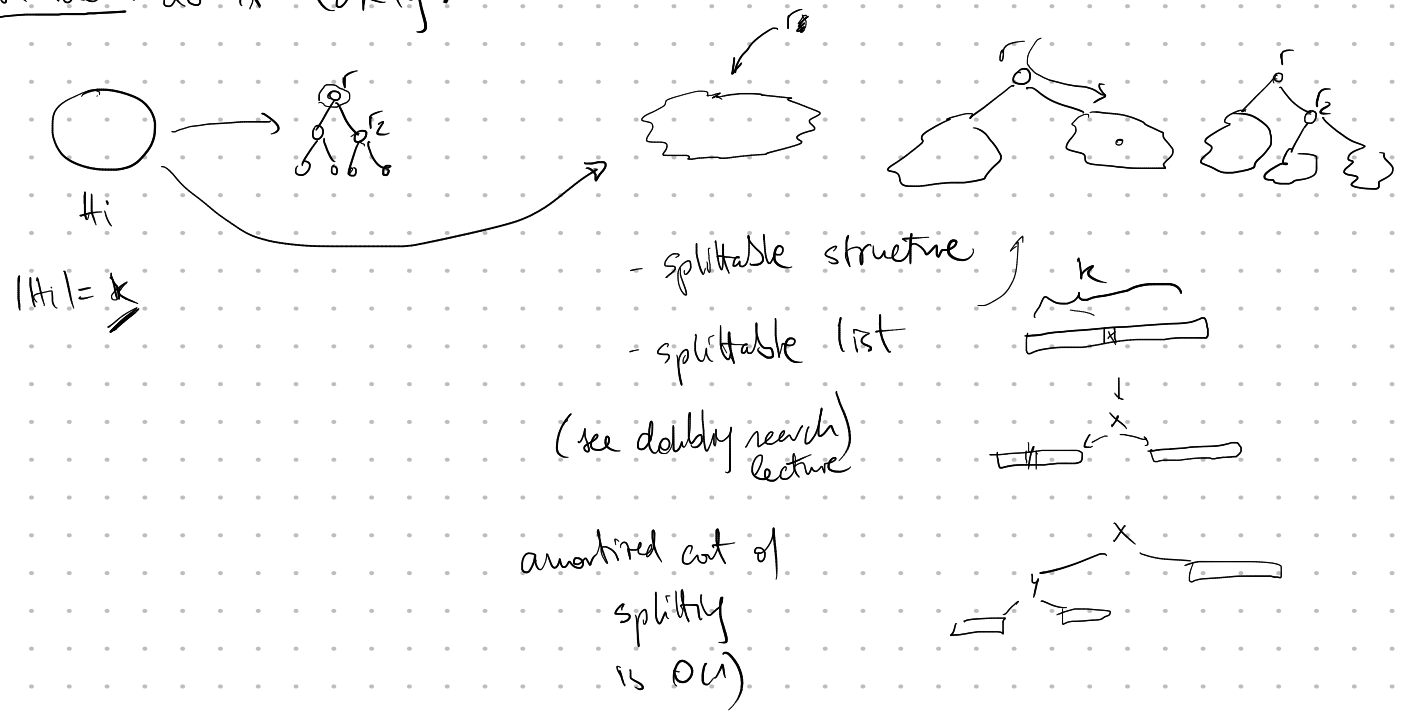
at time  $i$



$H_i$ : touched points at time  $i$   
 transform  $H_i \rightarrow H'_i$  heap according to future access times.

Problem: we don't know the future

Solution idea: do it lazily.



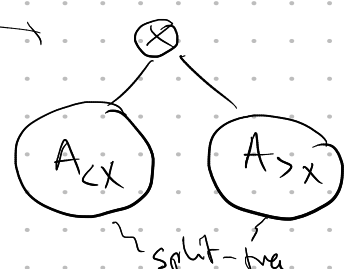
Split-tree data structure

Stores set  $A$  of keys



make-split-tree( $A$ )  $\rightarrow O(|A|)$

split( $x$ )  $\rightarrow O(1)$  amortized time



# Implementation:

(1) - splittable lists

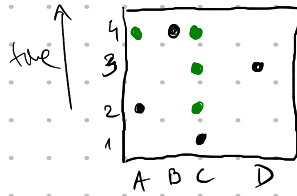
(2) - finger search trees

(3) - way AVL / red-black / B-trees (exercise)

→ need to use rich tree-based implementation to remain in BST model.

→ replace treap in proof of this by split-tree.

e.g. Online Greedy



$T_0$



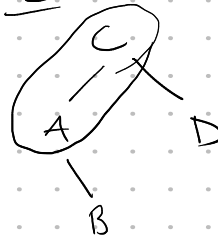
split tree

$T_1$

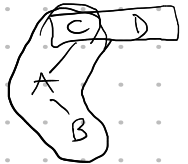
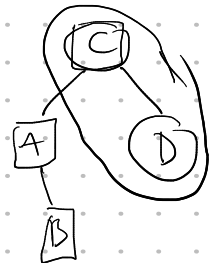


each node is a split tree

$T_2$



$T_3$



$T_3$

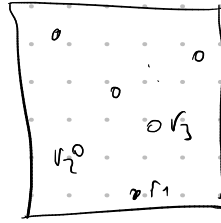


## Summary

Geometric view of BST

$$R = r_1 \dots r_n$$

view it as set of points



Task: Find smallest  
subset of points  
with no empty rectangles

offline eqv.

tree-strategy  $\longleftrightarrow$  geometric algorithm.

online eqv.

online  
tree-strategy  $\longleftrightarrow$  geometric algorithm  
row-by-row

- Greedy Future  
- Online Greedy

$\longleftrightarrow$  Greedy

## Conjecture

Greedy is constant-competitive

Like for Splay, conjecture is open.

Which is better? Splay or Greedy?

For both Splay and Greedy we cannot prove  $o(\log n)$ -competitiveness.

Is there any BST algorithm with  $o(\log n)$ -competitiveness?

$$\text{cost} \leq \text{OPT} \cdot o(\log n)$$

YES: Tango-tree is  $O(\log \log n)$ -competitive (next)

(Best known)