# ALGORITHMS FOR CONSTRUCTING VORONOI DIAGRAMS 

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Naive algorithm

## Constructing Voronoi diagrams

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The fact that each Voronoi region, $\operatorname{Vor}\left(p_{i}\right)$, is built in optimal $\Theta(n \log n)$ time does not implie that the construction of the entire diagram, $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$, requires $\Omega\left(n^{2} \log n\right)$ time, as we will see.
incremental algorithm

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... and prune the initial diagram.


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Starting with the Voronoi diagram of $\left\{p_{1}, \ldots, p_{i}\right\} \ldots$
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Each time an edge $e$, generated by $p_{i+1}$ and $p_{j}$, intersects a preexistent edge, $e^{\prime}$, a new vertex $v$ is created and a new edge starts, $e+1$. Then, these are the tasks to perform:

- Assign $v_{E}(e)=v, e_{N}(e)=e^{\prime}$, $f_{L}(e)=i+1, f_{R}(e)=j$
- Create $e+1$ and assign $v_{B}(e+1)=$ $v, e_{P}(e+1)=e$
- Delete all edges of the region of $p_{j}$, that lie between $v_{B}(e)$ and $v_{E}(e)$ in clockwise order
- Update $e\left(p_{j}\right)=e$
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Running time: Each step runs in $O(i)$ time, therefore the total running time of the algorithm is $O\left(n^{2}\right)$.

## divide and conquer algorithm

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In fact, there exists a monotone chain of edges of $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$ such that $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$ coincides with $\operatorname{Vor}(R)$ to the left of the chain, and it coincides with $\operatorname{Vor}(B)$ to its right.

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Proof. The vertical separation of $R$ and $B$ guarantees the existence of the "bridges", which are the edges of $\operatorname{ch}(P)$ connecting a $p_{i} \in R$ to a $p_{j} \in B$.

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Proof. Every edge $e_{i j}$ of $b(R, B)$ must be nonhorizontal, and leave $p_{i} \in R$ to its left and $p_{j} \in B$ to its right.


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Proof. Let $e$ be an edge of $\operatorname{Vor}(P)$ :

- If $e$ separates two points of $R$ in $\operatorname{Vor}(\mathrm{P})$, then it is (a portion of) the edge separating them in $\operatorname{Vor}(R)$. Due to Obs. 2, $e$ cannot belong to $\pi_{B}$.
- If $e$ separates two points of $B$, the case is analogous.
- If $e$ separates one point of $R$ from one of $B$, then $e \in b(R, B)$.


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## DIVIDE AND CONQUER ALGORITHM

1. Sort the points of $P$ by abscissa (only once) and vertically partition $P$ into two subsets $R$ and $B$, of approximately the same size.

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Each time an edge $e \in b(R, B)$ begins, such that $e \subset b_{i j}, p_{i} \in R$ and $p_{j} \in B$, do:

- Detect its intersection with $\operatorname{Vor}_{R}\left(p_{i}\right)$
- Detect its intersection with $\operatorname{Vor}_{B}\left(p_{j}\right)$
- Choose the first of the two intersection points
- Detect the site $p_{k}$ corresponding to the new starting region
- Replace $p_{i}$ or $p_{j}$ (as required) by $p_{k}$
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## How to compute the chain?

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How to compute the chain?
Initialization running time: $O(n)$


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How to compute the chain?
Initialization running time: $O(n)$
From $\operatorname{Vor}(R)$ and $\operatorname{Vor}(B)$.

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How to compute the chain?
Initialization running time: $O(n)$
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## Constructing Voronoi diagrams

How to compute the chain?
Initialization running time: $O(n)$
Advance running time: $O(n)$
If $e$ is an edge of $b(R, B)$ that entered $\operatorname{Vor}_{R}\left(p_{i}\right)$ through some vertex $v \in \operatorname{Vor}(P)$, then the exit point of $b(R, B)$ is found clockwise along the boundary of $\operatorname{Vor}_{R}\left(p_{i}\right)$.


## Constructing Voronoi diagrams

How to do the merging?

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How to do the merging?
It consists in updating the DCEL:

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How to do the merging?

## It consists in updating the DCEL:

Each time a face $\operatorname{Vor}_{B}\left(p_{i}\right)$ is left through an edge $e^{\prime} \in b_{i j}$, while staying in the same face $\operatorname{Vor}_{R}\left(p_{k}\right)$, a new vertex $v$ is created, an edge $e$ ends and another edge $e+1$ begins:

- Create $e+1$ and assign to it $v_{B}=v$ and $e_{P}=e^{\prime}$
- Assign to $e: v_{E}=v, e_{N}=e+1, f_{L}=i$ and $f_{R}=k$
- Modify for $e^{\prime}: v_{*}=v, e_{*}=e+1$
- Delete all edges of $\operatorname{Vor}_{B}\left(p_{k}\right)$ found in counterclockwise order between the entry and exit points
- Update $e\left(p_{i}\right)=e$
- Create the new vertex $v$ and assign $e(v)=e$


The procedure is analogous when exiting a face $\operatorname{Vor}_{R}\left(p_{i}\right)$.

## Constructing Voronoi diagrams

## DIVIDE AND CONQUER ALGORITHM

1. Sort the points of $P$ by abscissa (only once) and vertically partition $P$ into two subsets $R$ and $B$, of approximately the same size.
2. Recursively compute $\operatorname{Vor}(R)$ and $\operatorname{Vor}(B)$.
3. Compute the separating chain.
4. Prune the portion of $\operatorname{Vor}(R)$ lying to the right of the chain and the portion of $\operatorname{Vor}(B)$ lying to its left.

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## OTHER ALGORITHMS

There exist other algorithms with the same running time:

- Fortune's Algorithm (sweep)
- 3D projection algorithm

