

Computational Geometry

Real RAM, Word RAM, Point Location

What is a computer?

Thomas Bläsius

What Can Your Computer Do?

Model Of Computation

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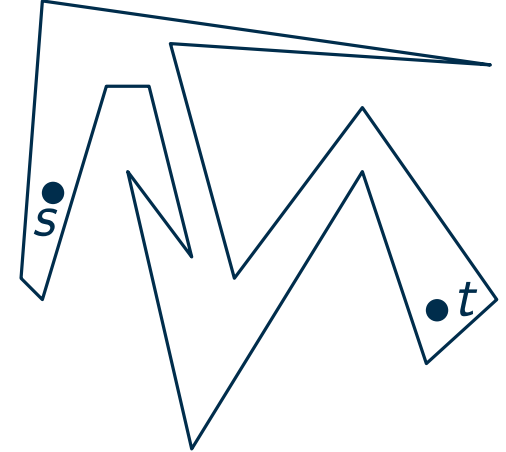
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 - bit-wise logical operations and bit shifts in $O(1)$

Minimum Link Path In Polygons

Problem: Minimum Link Path

Given a polygon P as well as points s and t in P , compute an st -path inside P with the minimum number of segments.



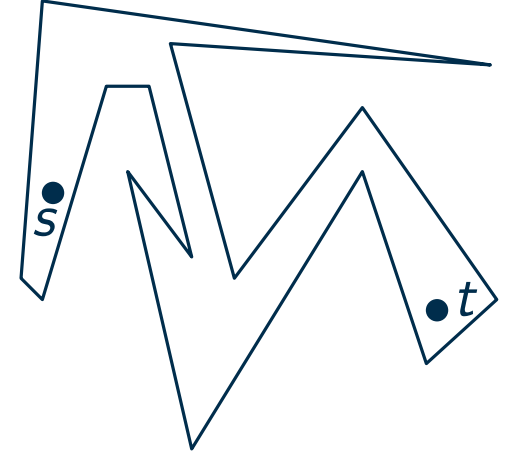
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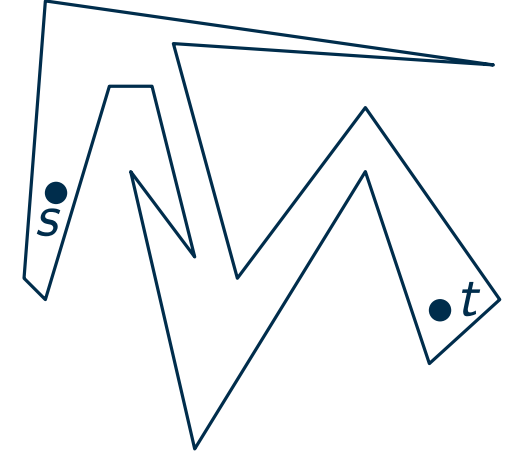
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- R_i = set of points reachable from s with i links
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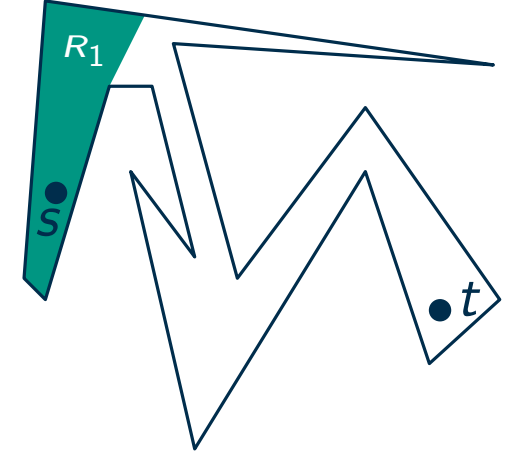
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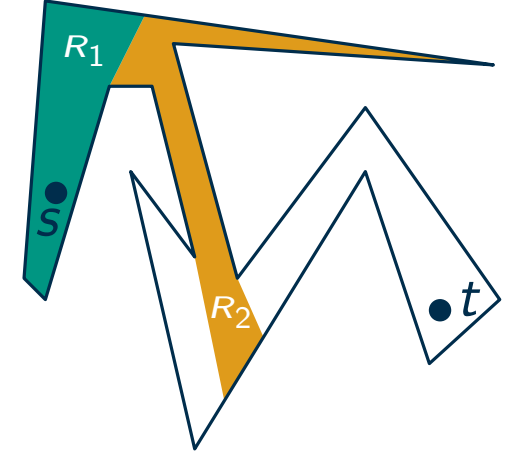
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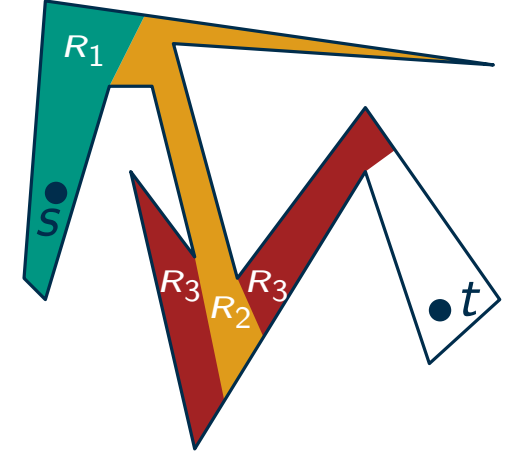
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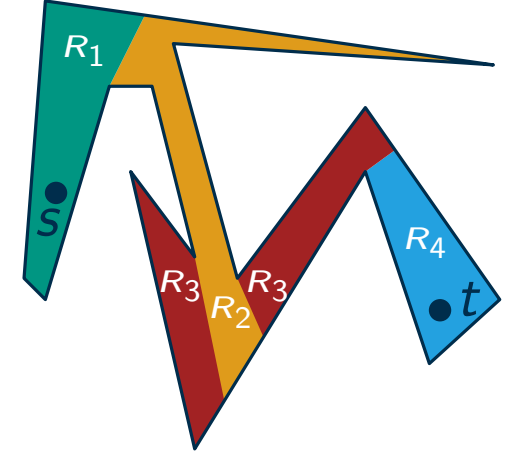
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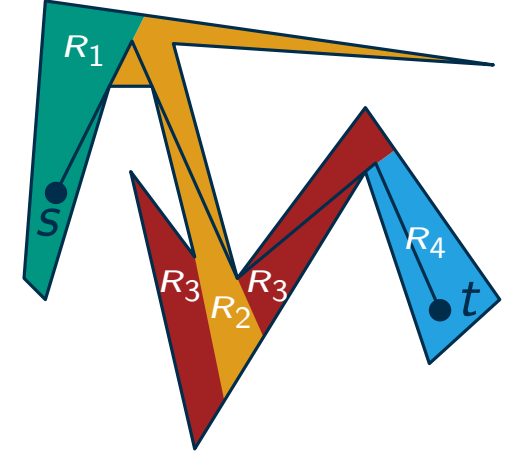
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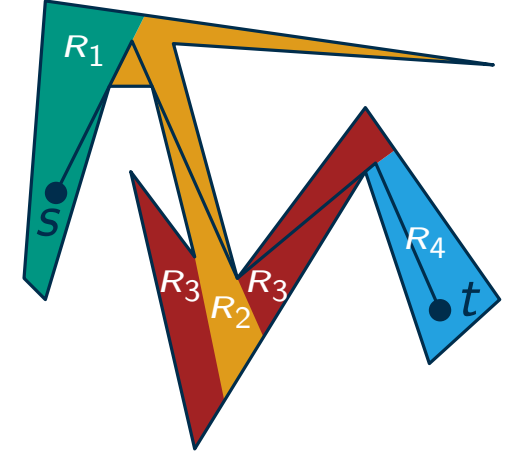
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There are instances encodable with $\Theta(n \log n)$ bits such that representing the polygons R_1, \dots, R_n requires $\Theta(n^2 \log n)$ bits.



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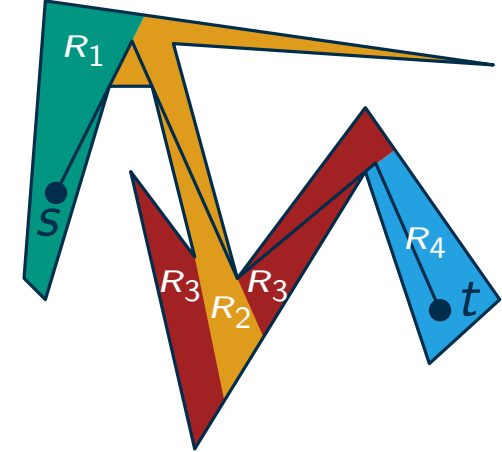
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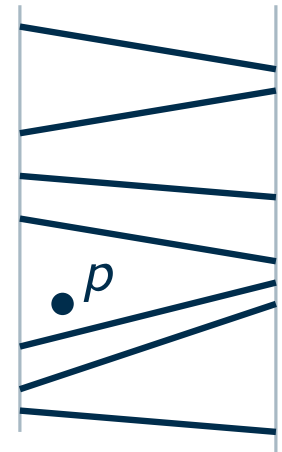
Which Of Them Is True?

- first theorem assumes a real RAM
- an implementations (e.g., with doubles for coordinates) is maybe not robust

Point-Location In A Vertical Slab (word RAM)

Problem

Let S be a set of disjoint segments between two vertical lines. Build a data structure that can answer between which two segments a query point p lies. (with acceptable memory consumption)



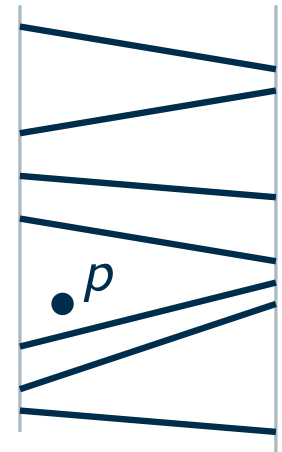
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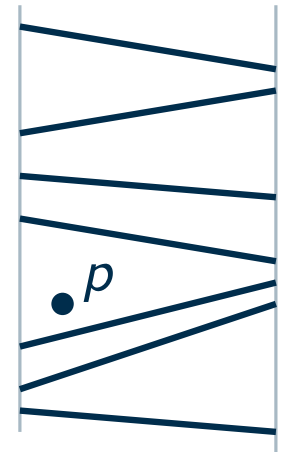
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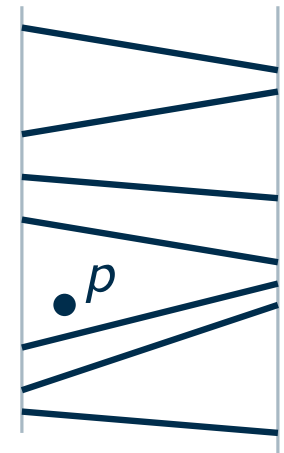
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- default solution: binary search provides $\Theta(\log n)$ queries
- goal: queries in $o(\log n)$
- use properties of the word RAM
 - numbers are integers
 - numbers lie in the interval $[0, 2^w)$
 - arithmetic operations, bit-wise logical operations, and bit-shifts on words of length w in $O(1)$



Beating The $\log n$ Lower Bound

Binary Search Basics

- walks down a decision tree
- decision for left/right subset: one comparison
- per step: number of integers is halved
- recursion depth: $\log_2(n)$

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Ideas For Improvement

- wider branching: shrink number of possible integers by the factor b in each step

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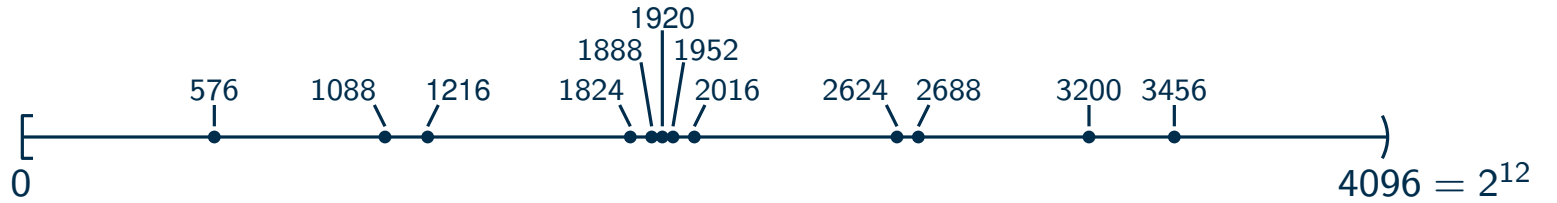
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 - in each step: shrink the number of integers or the interval
 - decision for the correct interval: $O(1)$ with bit magic

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Subdivision Into Subintervals

word size: w
number of integers: n
interval: $[0, 2^\ell)$
number of cells: 2^h
branching width: b



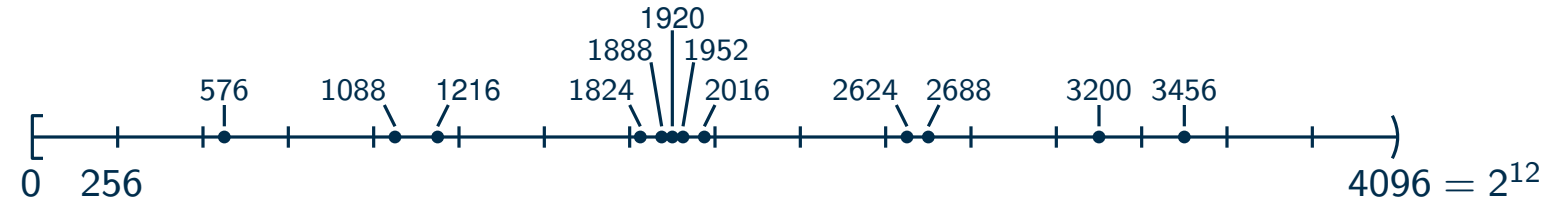
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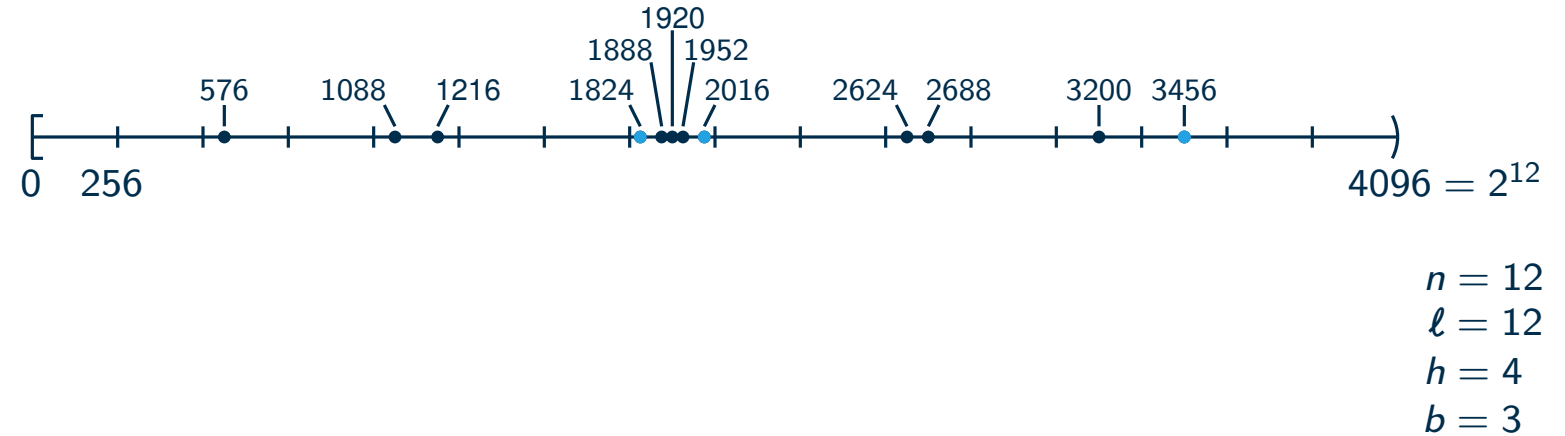
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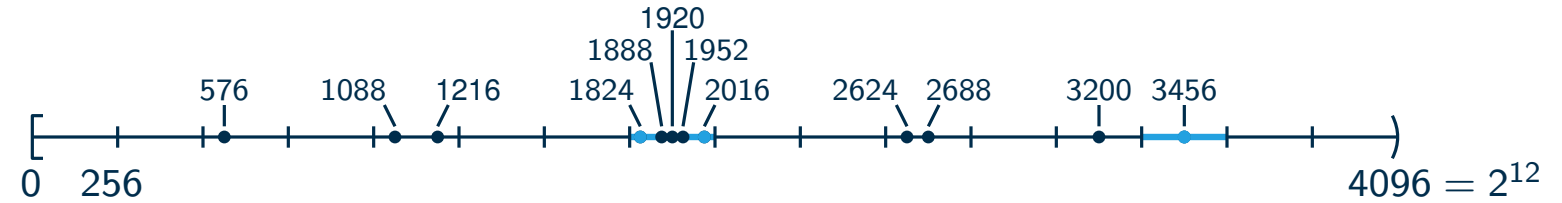


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- mark cells that contain marked integers



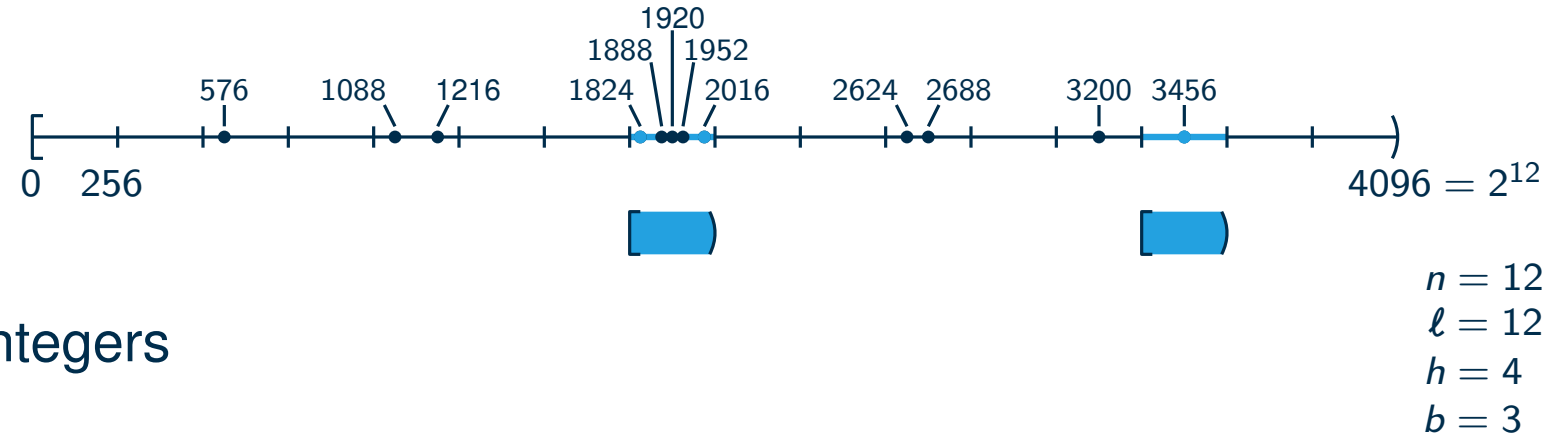
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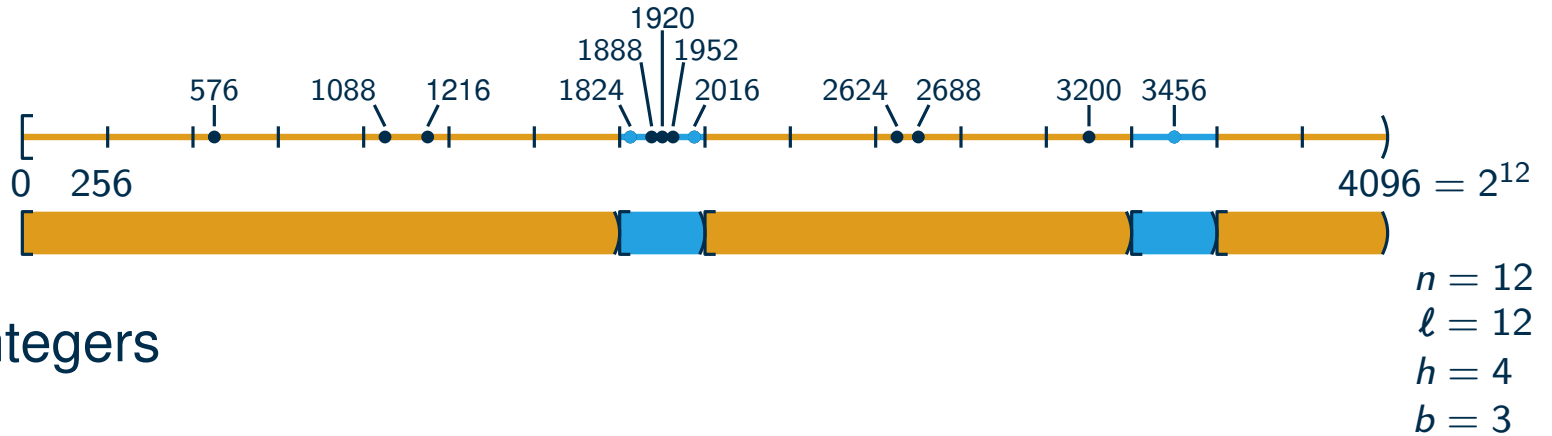


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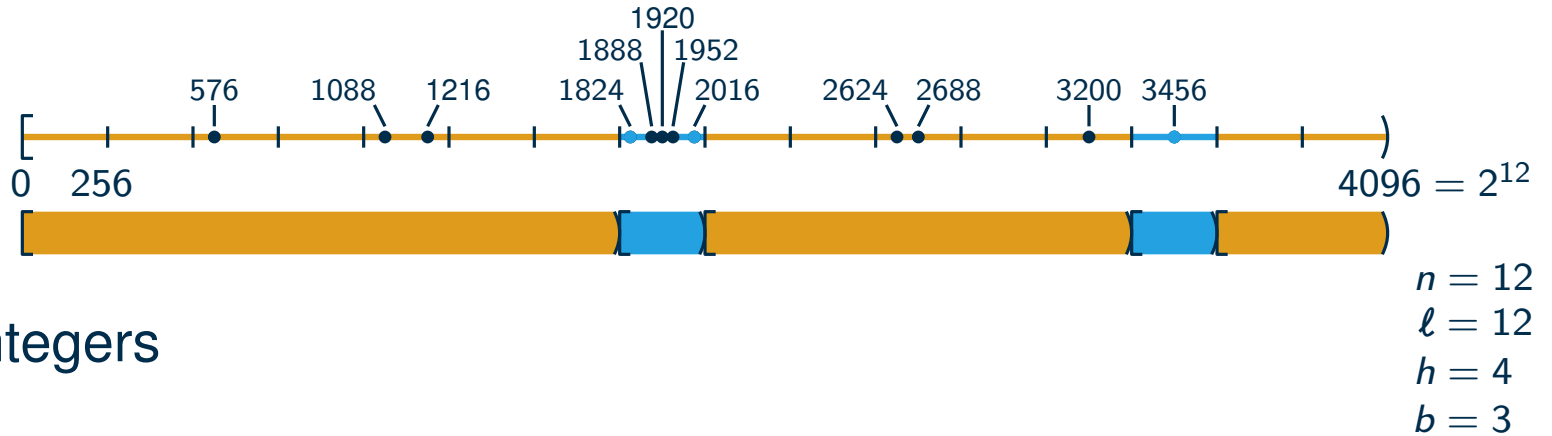


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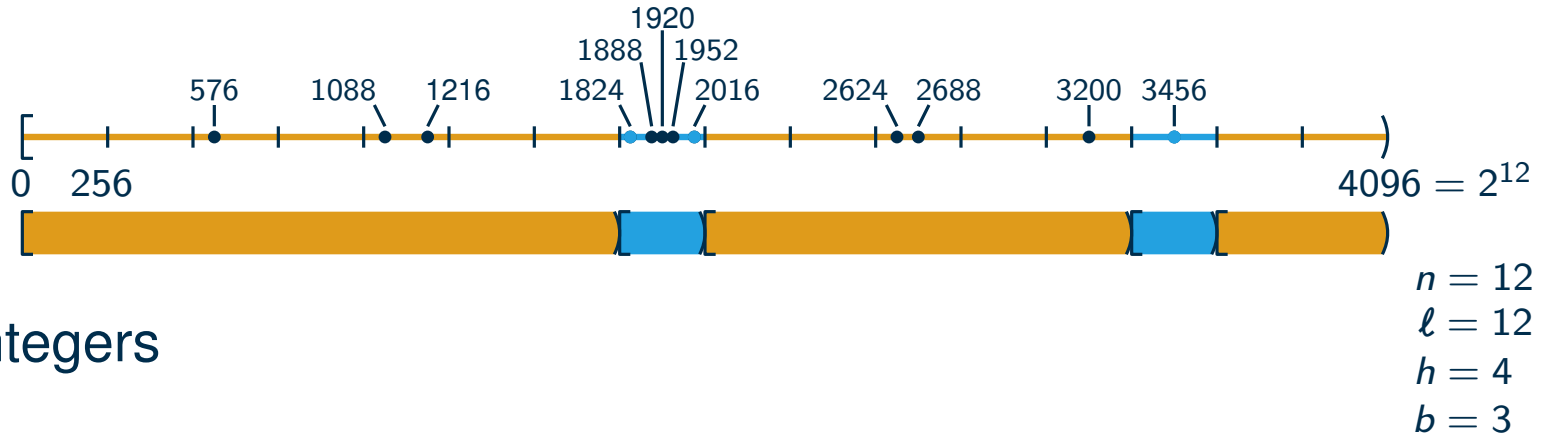
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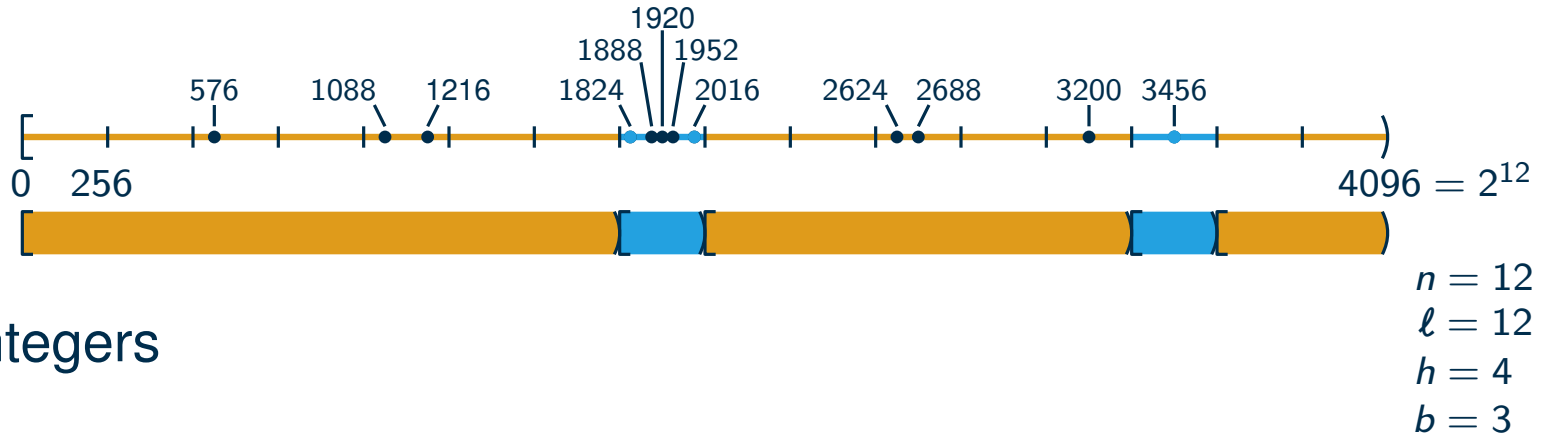
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Properties Of This Subdivision

- we have $O(b)$ subintervals
- the boundaries of each subinterval is a multiple of $2^{\ell-h}$
- each subinterval has length $2^{\ell-h}$ or contains at most $\frac{n}{b}$ integers

Recursive Subdivision

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(nice (h, b) -subdivision)

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- height of the tree: at most $\log_b(n) + \frac{w}{h}$

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Recursive Decision Tree

- one child for each subinterval in the (h, b) -subdivision
- stop recursion if only few integers are left
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Why?

Note: In the recursive calls, we may need to shift the subinterval to 0 and increase it to the next power of 2, such that it has the form $[0, 2^\ell)$.

Searching For The Successor Of An Integer q

- find subinterval containing q at most $\log_b(n) + \frac{w}{h}$ times

Recursive Subdivision

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number of integers: n
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(nice (h, b) -subdivision)

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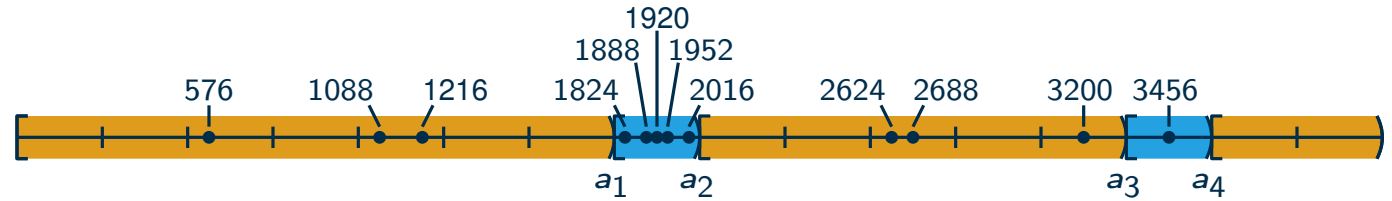
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20 bits

Representing The Subintervals

word size: w
number of integers: n
interval: $[0, 2^\ell)$
number of cells: 2^h
branching width: b

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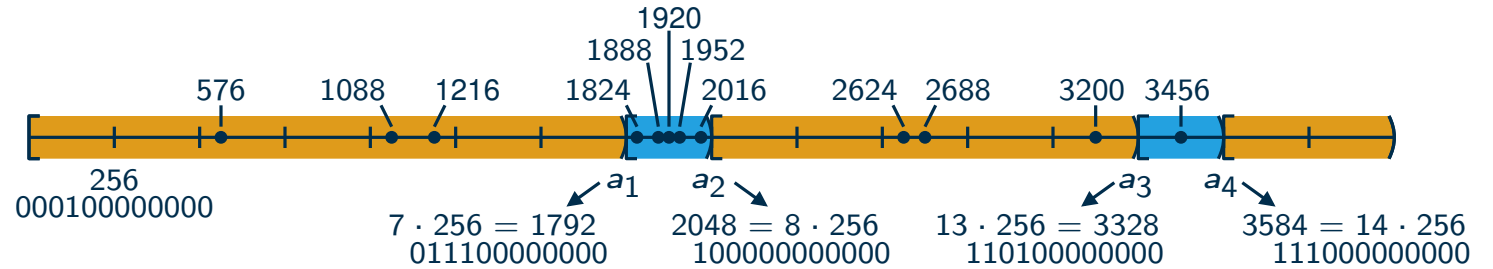


Representing The \bar{b} Interval Boundaries $a_1, \dots, a_{\bar{b}}$

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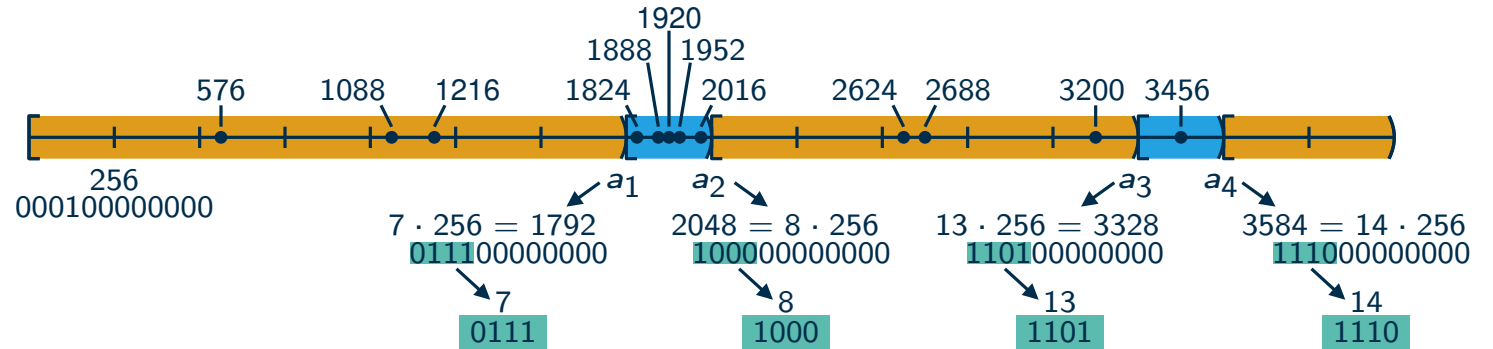
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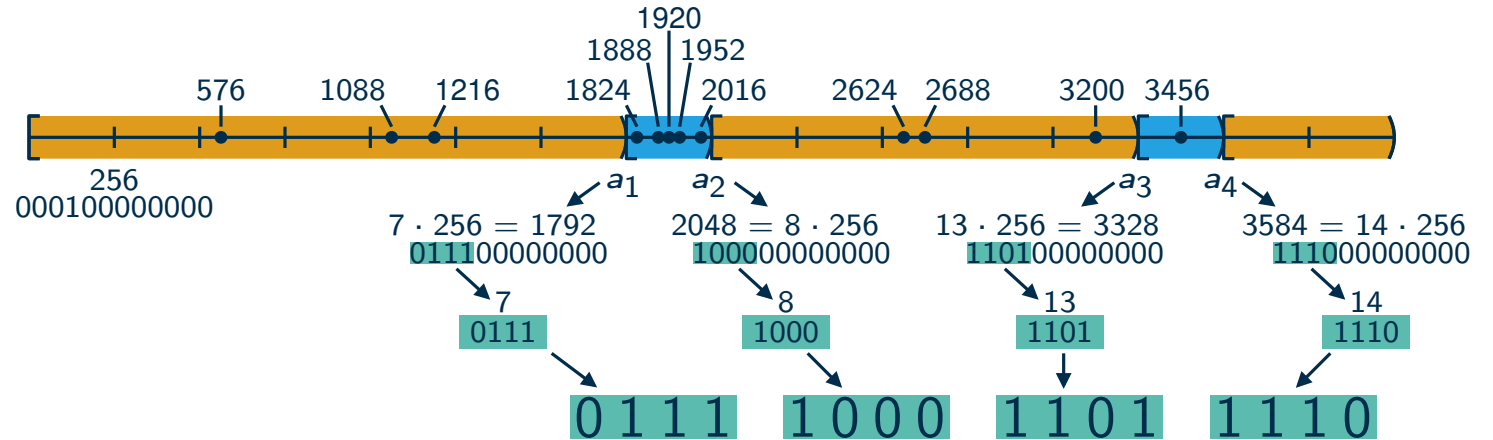


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- boundaries are multiples of $2^{\ell-h}$
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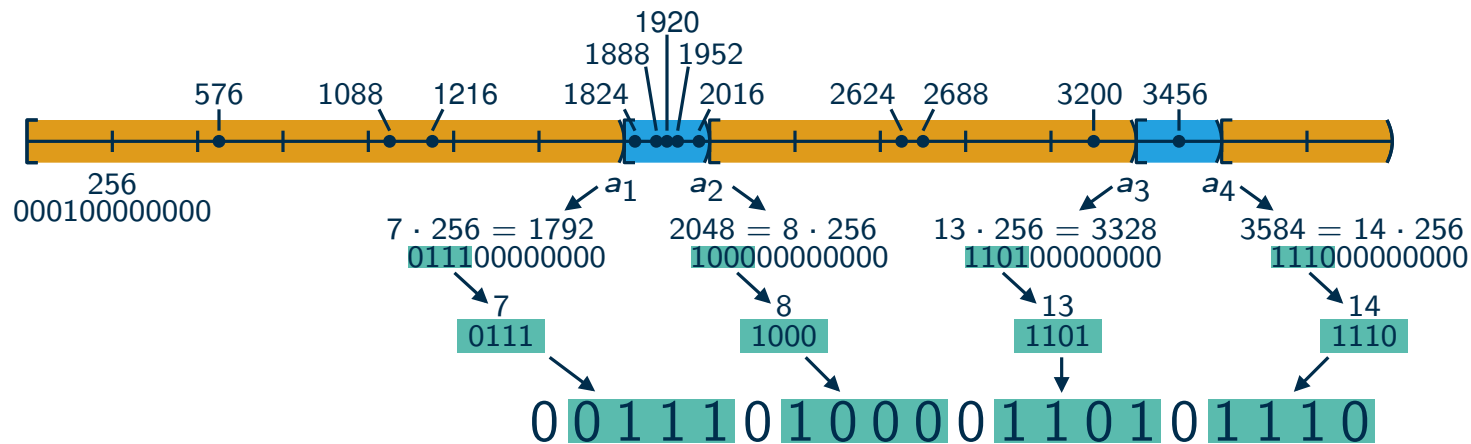


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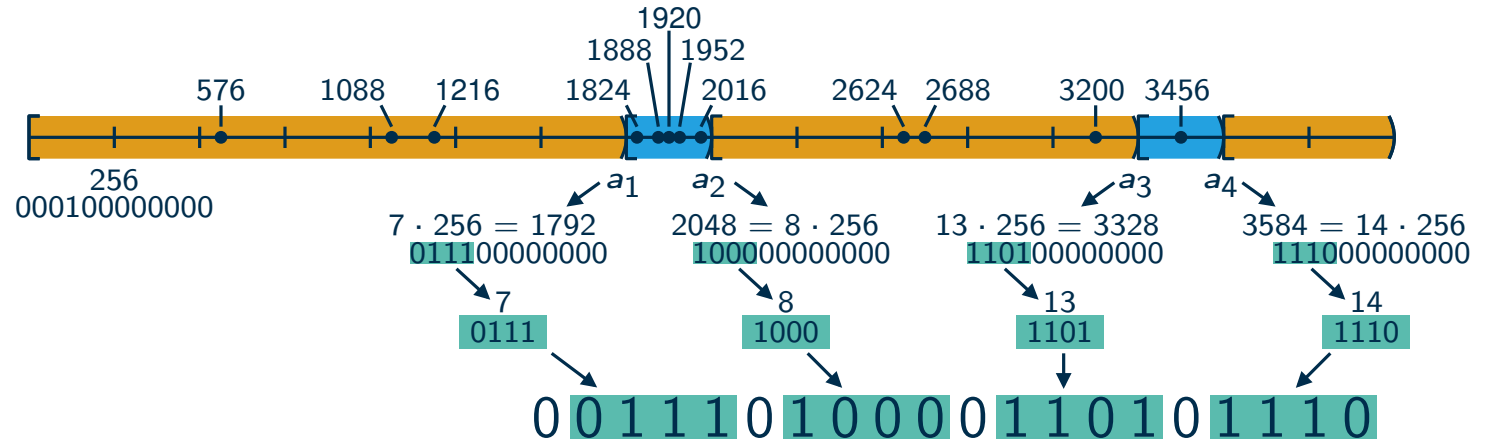
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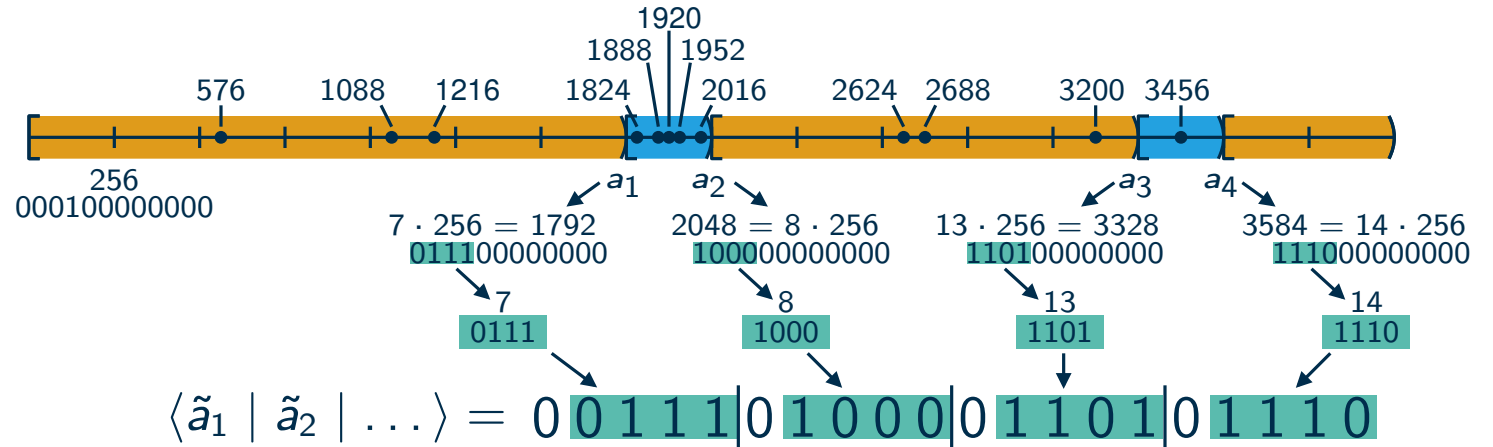
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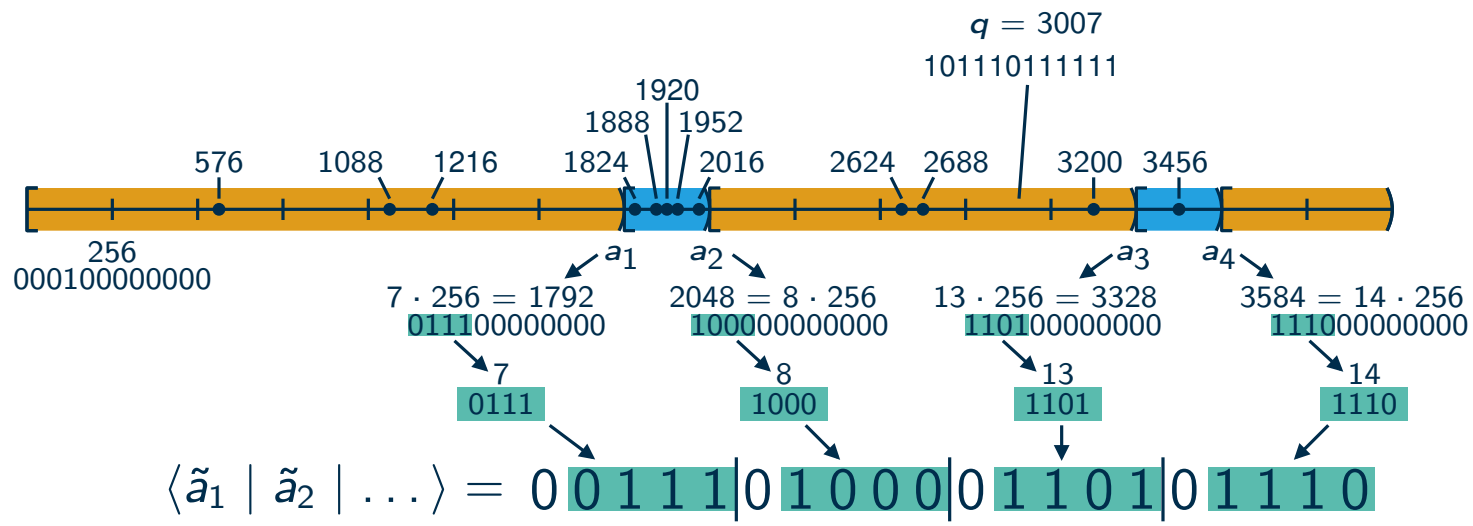
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- store the resulting word $\langle \tilde{a}_1 \mid \tilde{a}_2 \mid \dots \rangle$ at the corresponding node in the recursion tree

Finding The Right Subinterval

word size: w
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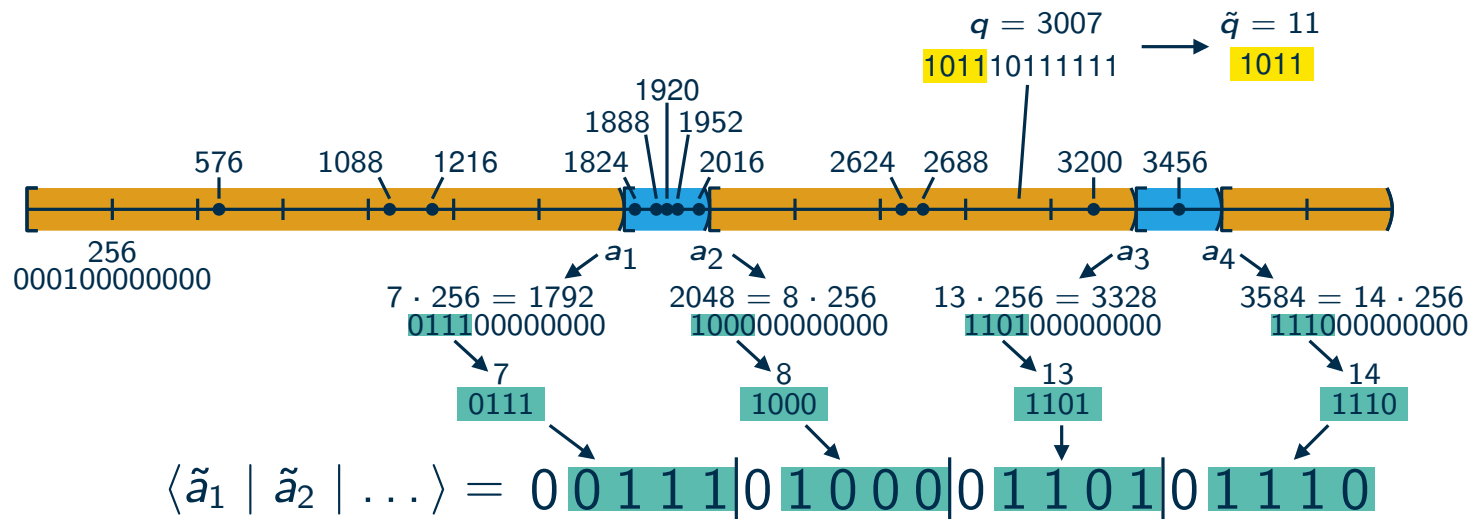


Query: Which Subinterval Contains q ?

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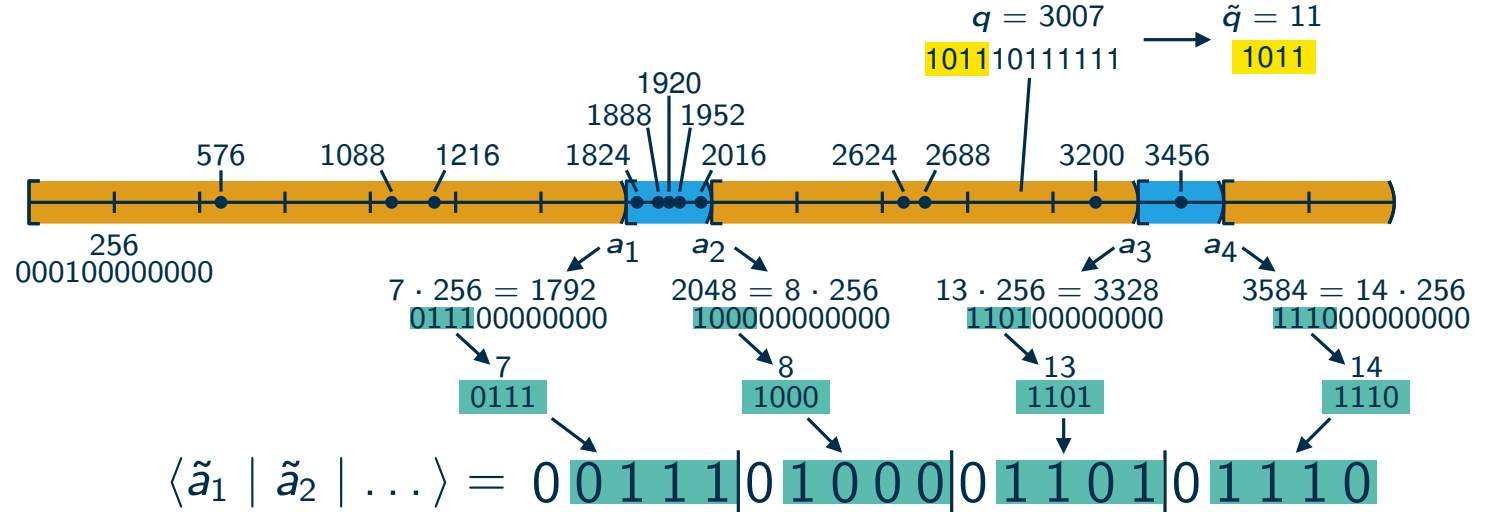
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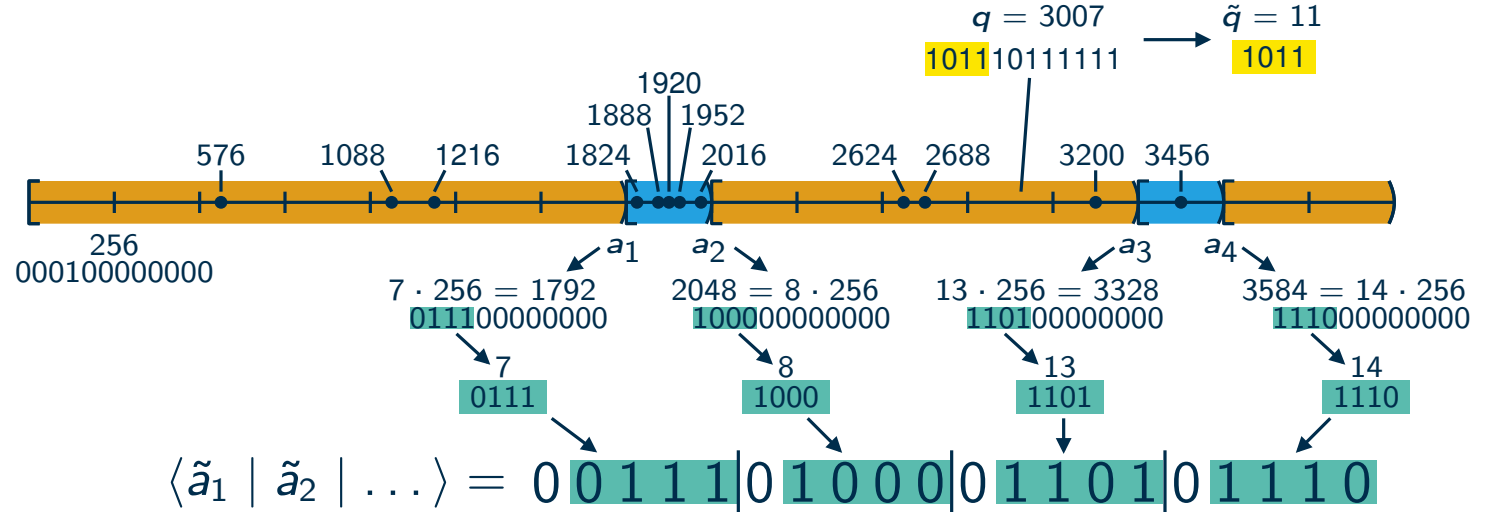
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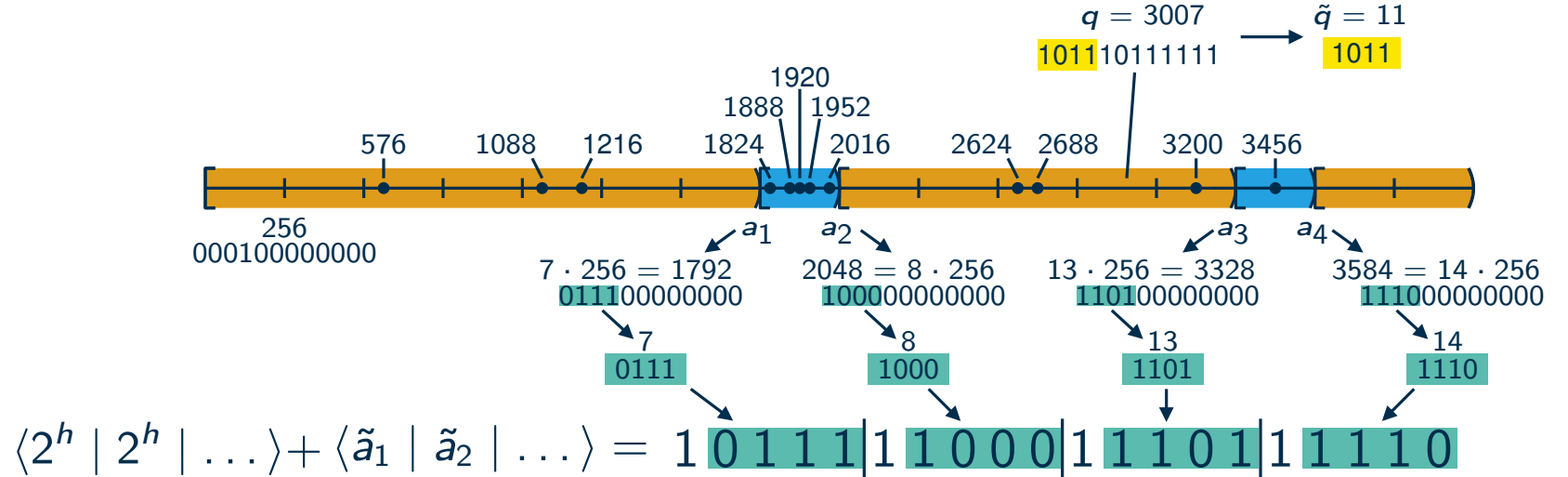
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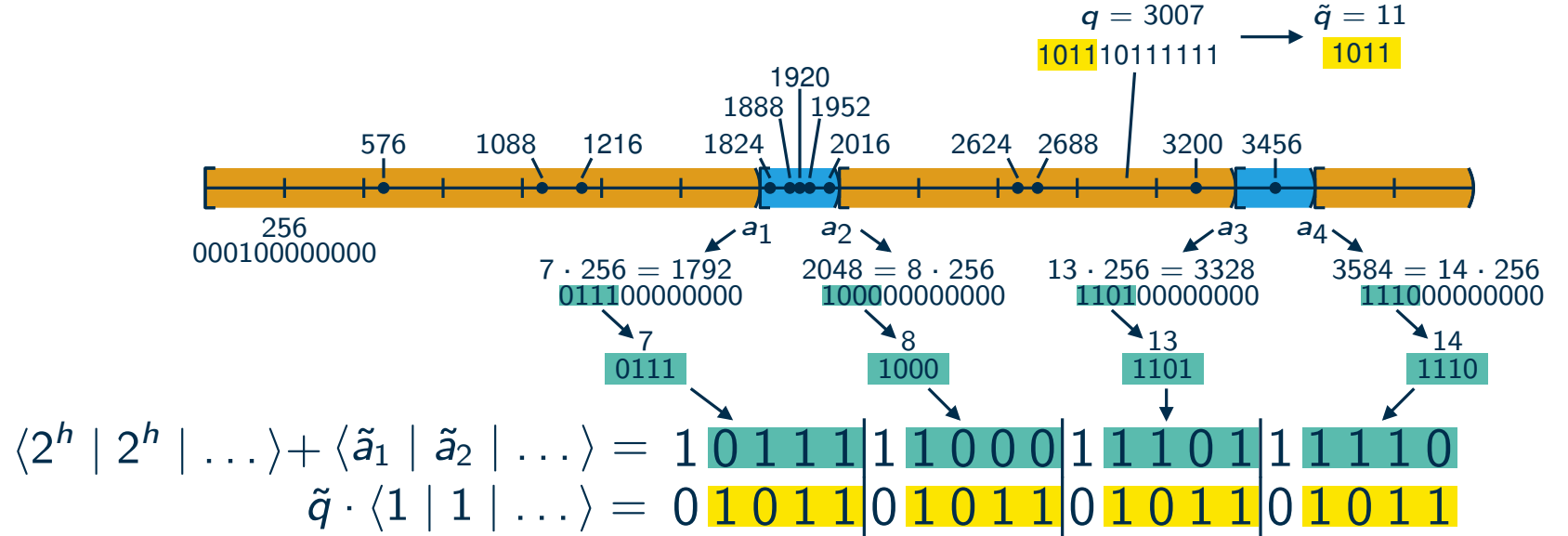
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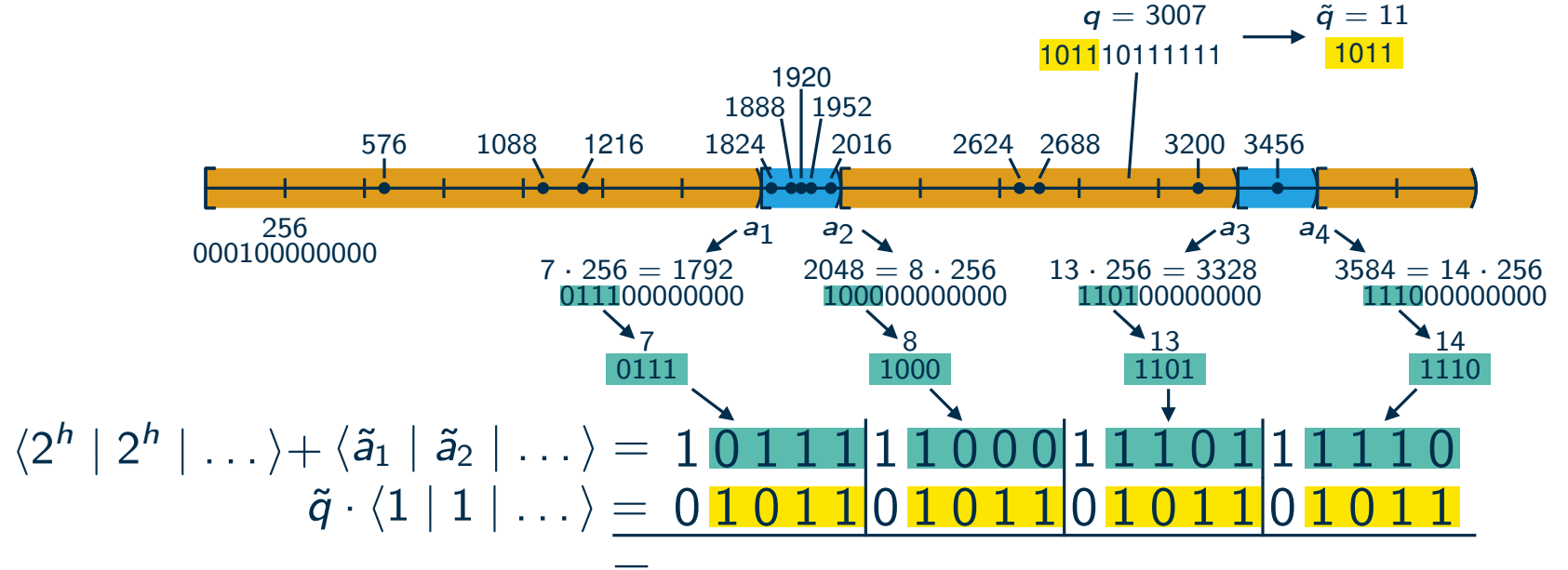
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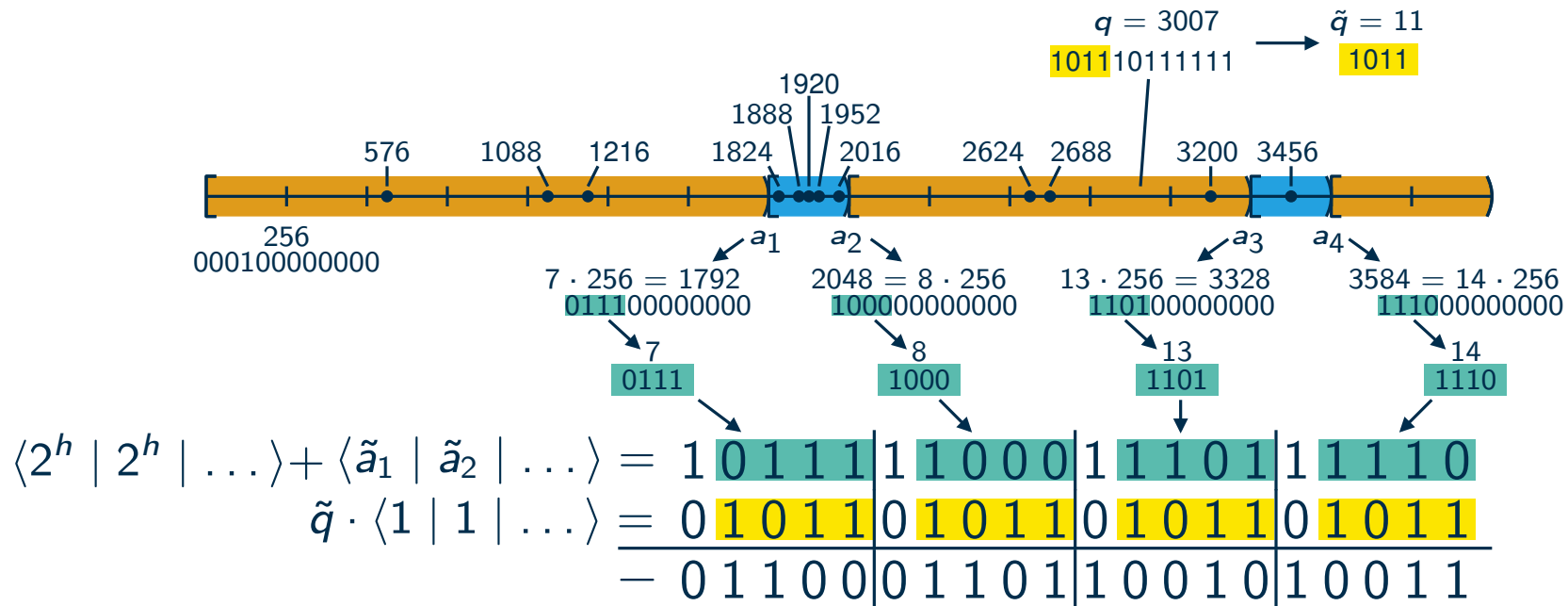
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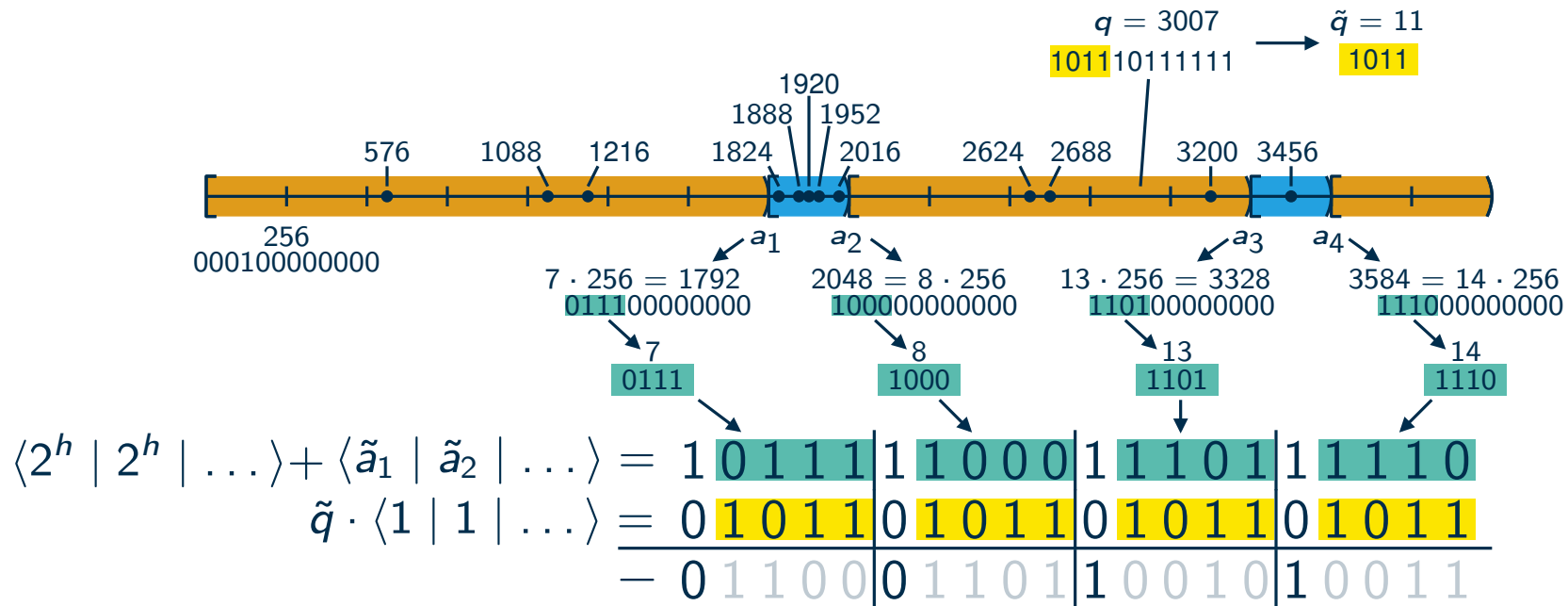
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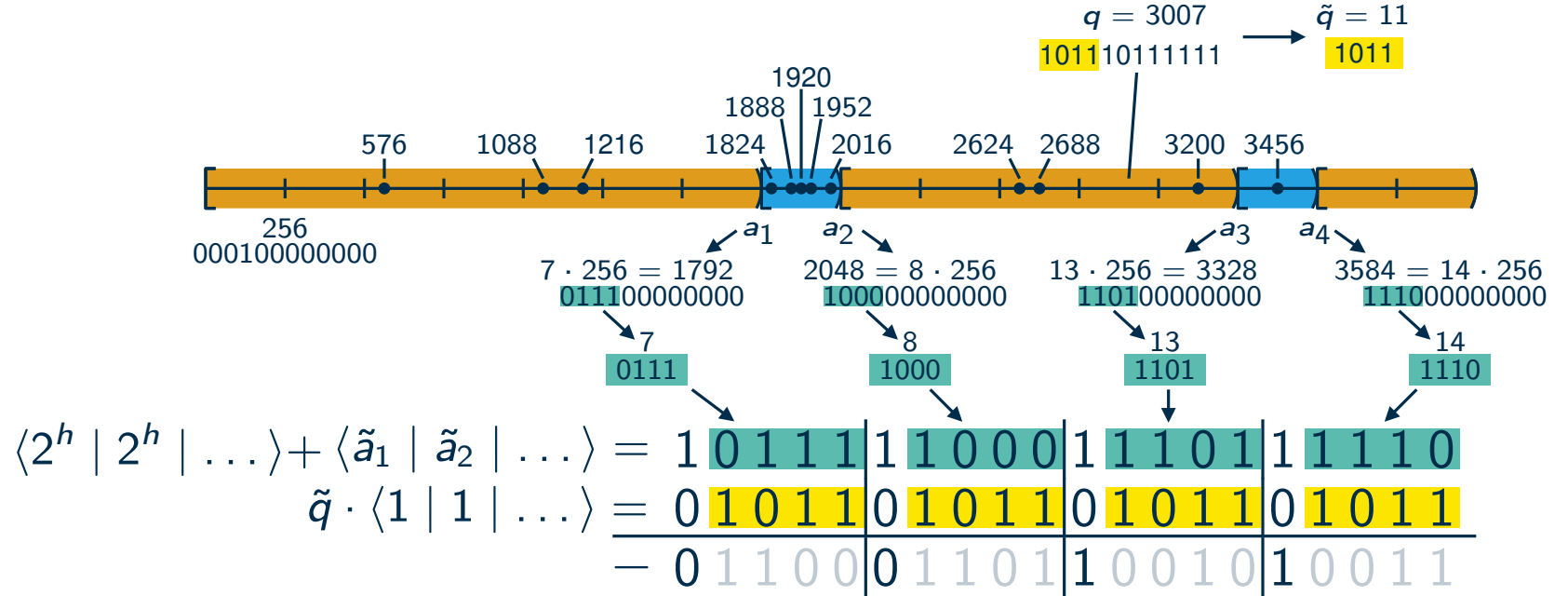
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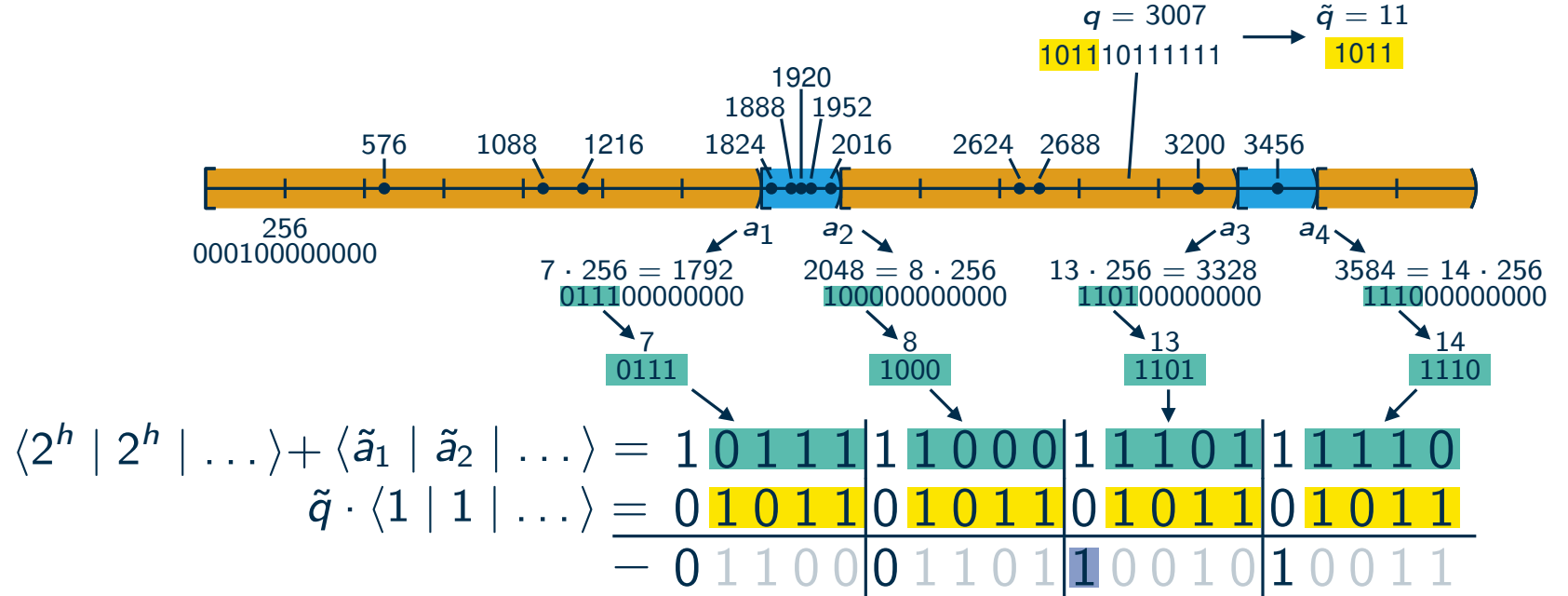
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- the **most significant 1-bit** yields i , such that $a_{i-1} < q \leq a_i$ (MS1B computable with $O(1)$ elementary operations)

Why?

Recap

word size: w
number of integers: n
interval: $[0, 2^\ell)$
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Lemma

(nice (h, b) -subdivision)

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1D Search \rightarrow 2D Search

1D: In Each Node Of The Searchtree

- $O(b)$ boundaries, each a multiple of $2^{\ell-h}$
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1D: Query

- search neighboring boundary
- continue in corresponding subtree

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Why Does This Help?

sufficient progress in each node

1D: Query

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happens $\leq \log_b(n) + \frac{w}{h}$ times

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h bits per boundary \rightarrow fit in just one word
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1D: Query

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works in $O(1)$

happens $\leq \log_b(n) + \frac{w}{h}$ times

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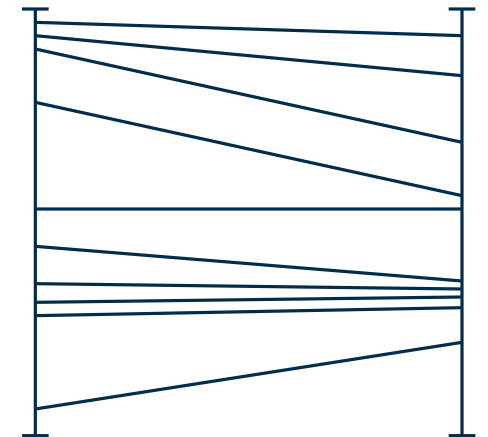
- search neighboring boundary

works in $O(1)$

- continue in corresponding subtree

happens $\leq \log_b(n) + \frac{w}{h}$ times

Extension To Point Location In A Slab



1D Search \rightarrow 2D Search

1D: In Each Node Of The Searchtree

- $O(b)$ boundaries, each a multiple of $2^{\ell-h}$
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Why Does This Help?

h bits per boundary \rightarrow fit in just one word

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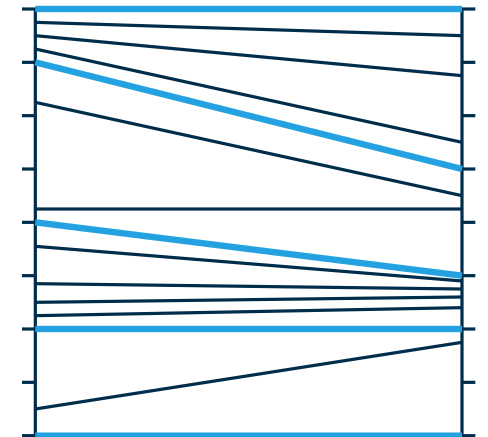
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Extension To Point Location In A Slab

- choose boundaries with similar properties



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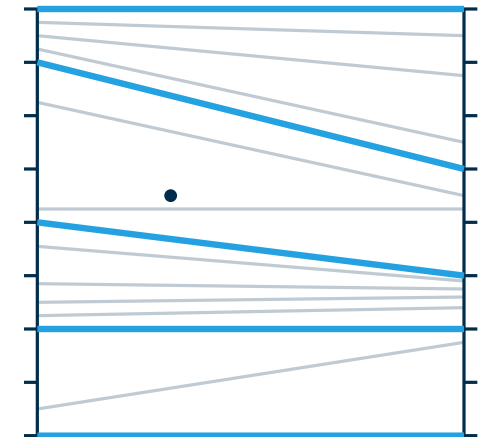
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- choose boundaries with similar properties
- query a point (x, y)



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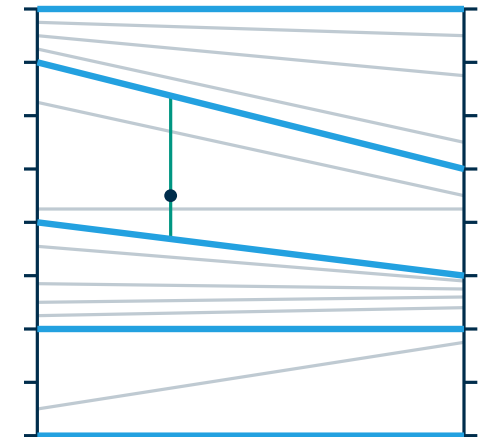
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Extension To Point Location In A Slab

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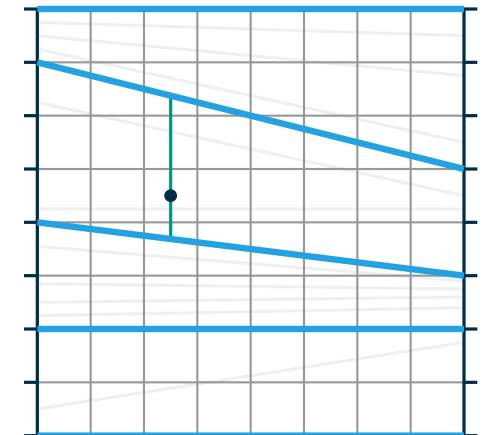
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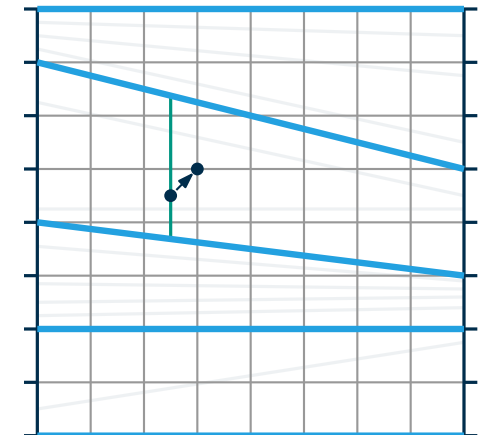
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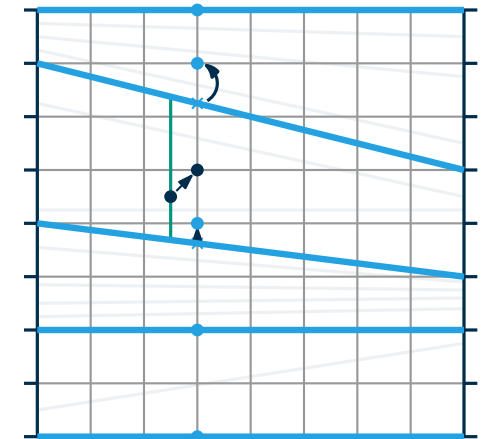
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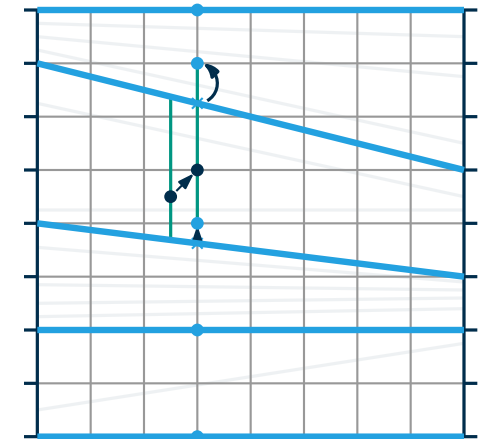
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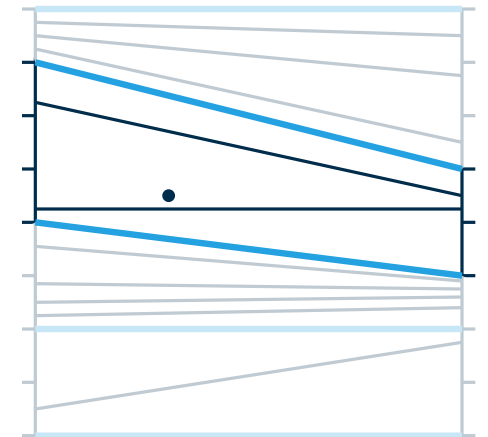
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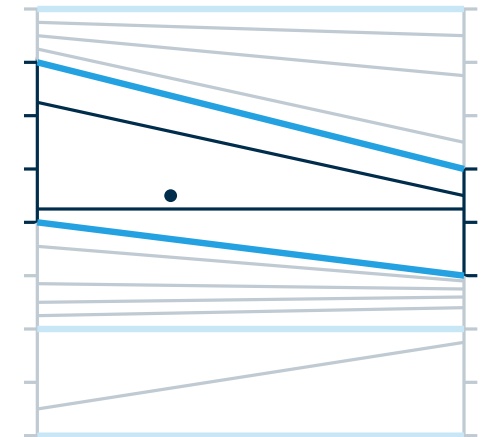
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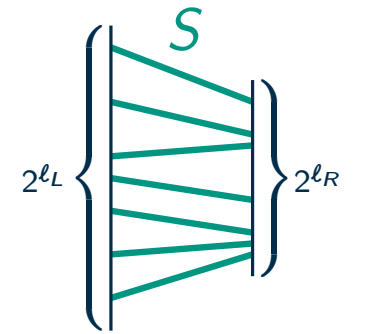
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Problem: What if boundaries intersect the segments?

Nice Subdivision



Input

- two vertical line segments that have length 2^{ℓ_L} and 2^{ℓ_R}
- n disjoint segments S between the two vertical segments

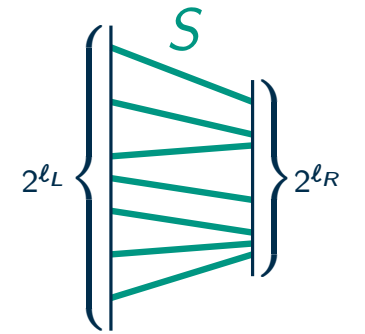
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Lemma

(nice (h, b) -subdivision)

There are $O(b)$ boundary segments $s_0, s_1, \dots \in S$ such that

- between s_i and s_{i+1} there are $\leq \frac{n}{b}$ segments from S or $y_L(s_{i+1}) - y_L(s_i) < 2^{\ell_L - h}$ or $y_R(s_{i+1}) - y_R(s_i) < 2^{\ell_R - h}$
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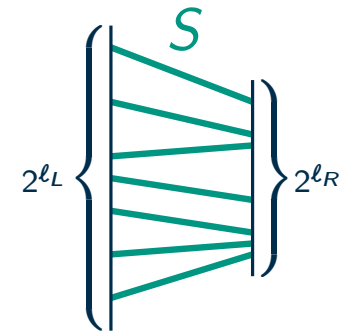
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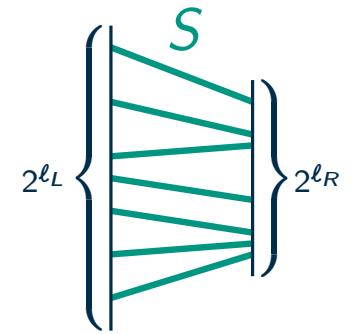
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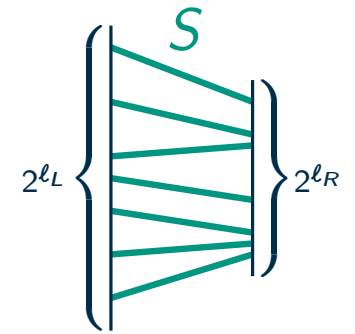
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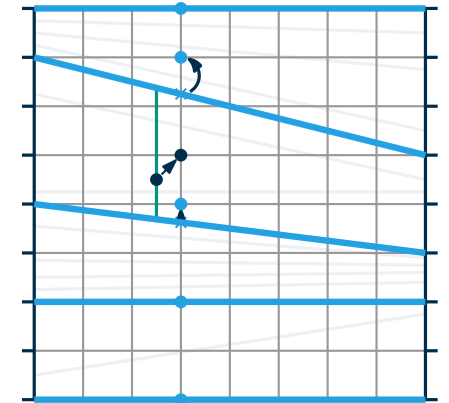
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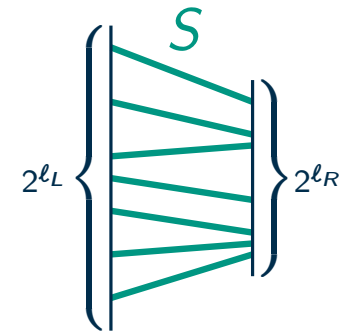
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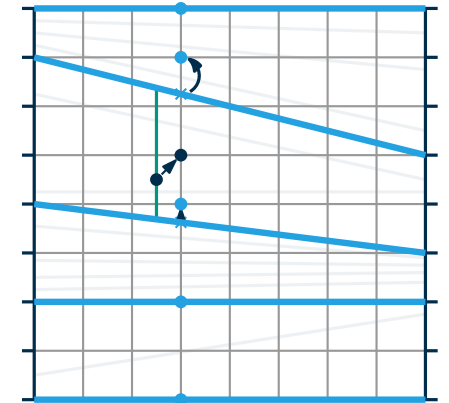
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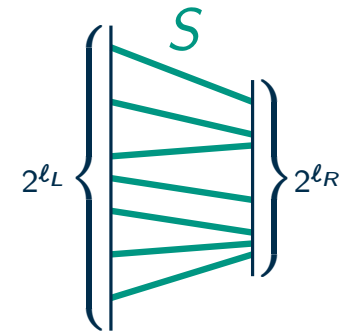
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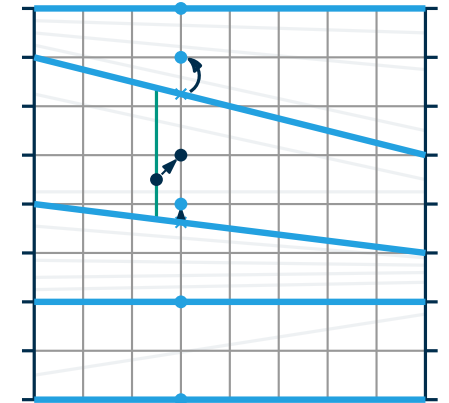
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- un-rounding: position of \tilde{q} in the $\tilde{s}_i \rightarrow$ position of q in the s_i (only $O(1)$ additional comparisons)



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Wrap-Up

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- models of computation: word RAM and real RAM

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Literature

- **Transdichotomous Results in Computational Geometry, I:
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<https://doi.org/10.1137/07068669X>
- **Transdichotomous Results in Computational Geometry, II:
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- **On the bit complexity of minimum link paths:
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Simon Kahana, Jack Snoeyink
[https://doi.org/10.1016/S0925-7721\(98\)00041-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0925-7721(98)00041-8)