

**DCGI**

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER GRAPHICS AND INTERACTION

# INTERSECTIONS OF LINE SEGMENTS AND POLYGONS

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<http://service.felk.cvut.cz/courses/X36VGE>

Based on [Berg], [Mount], [Kukral], and [Drtina]

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# Talk overview

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- Intersections of line segments
  - Motivation
  - Sweep line algorithm recapitulation
  - Sweep line intersections of line segments
- Intersection of polygons or planar subdivisions
  - See assignment [21] or [Berg, Section 2.3]
- Intersection of axis parallel rectangles



# Geometric intersections – what are they for?

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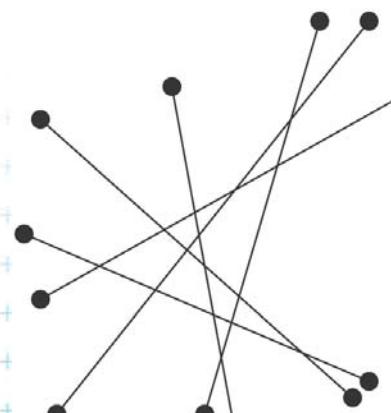
One of the most basic problems in computational geometry

- Solid modeling
  - Intersection of object boundaries in CSG
- Overlay of subdivisions, e.g. layers in GIS
  - Bridges on intersections of roads and rivers
  - Maintenance responsibilities (road network X county boundaries)
- Robotics
  - Collision detection and collision avoidance
- Computer graphics
  - Rendering via ray shooting (intersection of the ray with objects)
- ...



# Line segment intersection

- Intersection of complex shapes is often reduced to simpler and simpler intersection problems
- Line segment intersection is the most basic intersection algorithm
- Problem statement:  
Given  $n$  line segments in the plane, report all points where a pair of line segments intersect.
- Problem complexity
  - Worst case –  $I = O(n^2)$  intersections
  - Practical case – only some intersections
  - Use an output sensitive algorithm
    - $O(n \log n + I)$  optimal randomized algorithm
    - $O(n \log n + I \log n)$  sweep line algorithm - %



[Berg]



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# Plane sweep line algorithm recapitulation

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- Horizontal line (**sweep line, scan line**) I moves top-down (or vertical line: left to right) over the set of objects
- The move is not continuous, but I jumps from one event point to another
  - Event points are in **priority queue** or sorted list
  - The left-most event point is removed first
  - **New event points** may be created (usually as interaction of **neighbors** on the sweep line) and **inserted in the queue**
- Scan-line status
  - Stores information about the objects intersected by SL
  - It is updated while halting on event point



# Line segment intersection - Sweep line alg.

- Avoid testing of pairs of segments far apart
- Compute **intersections of neighbors** on the sweep line only
- $O(n \log n + I \log n)$  time in  $O(n)$  memory  
 $2n$  steps for end points,  $I$  steps for intersections,  $\log n$  search the tree
- Ignore “nasty cases” (most of them will be solved later on)
  - No segment is parallel to a sweep line ()
  - Segments intersect in one point and do not overlap
  - No three segments meet in a common point



# Line segment intersections

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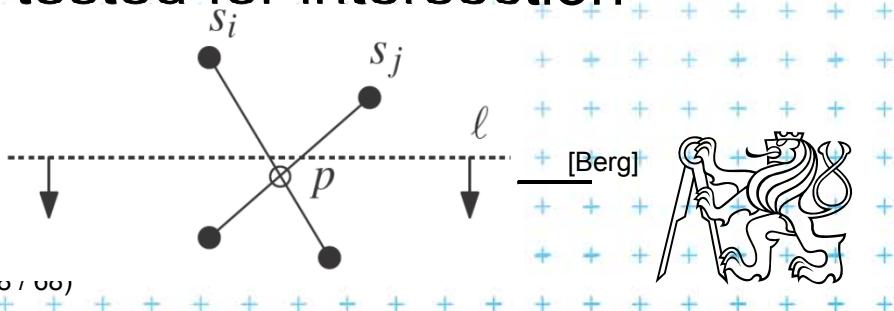
- *Status* = ordered sequence of segments intersecting the sweep line  $\mathcal{L}$
- *Events* (waiting in the priority queue)
  - = points, where the algorithm actually does something
    - Segment *end-points*
      - known at algorithm start
    - Segment *intersections* between neighboring segments along  $\mathcal{SL}$ 
      - Discovered as the sweep executes



# Detecting intersections

- Intersection events must be **detected** and inserted to the event queue **before** they occur
- Given two segments  $a, b$  intersecting in a point  $p$ , there must be a placement of the  $\mathbf{l}$  prior to  $p$ , such that segments  $a, b$  are adjacent along  $\mathbf{l}$   
(only adjacent will be tested for intersection)
  - segments  $a, b$  are not adjacent when the alg. starts
  - segments  $a, b$  are adjacent just before  $p$

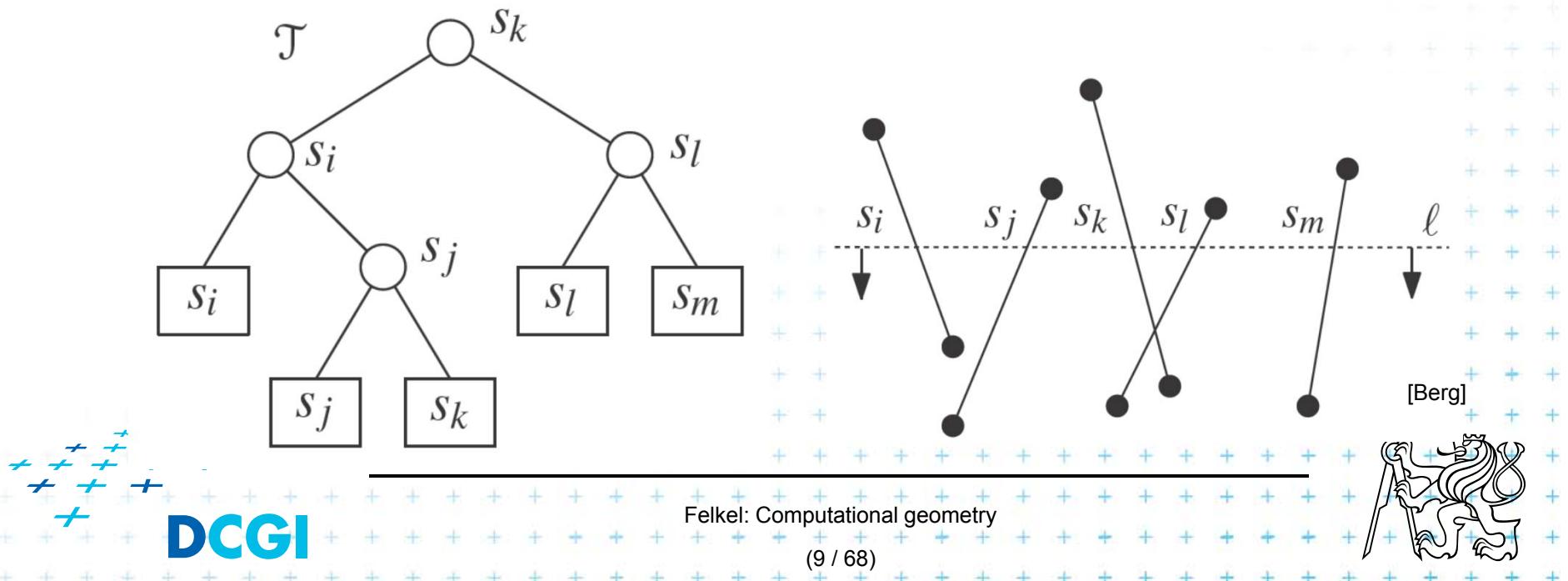
=> there must be an event point when  $a, b$  become adjacent and therefore are tested for intersection



# Data structures

Sweep line  $\mathbf{l}$  status = order of segments along  $\mathbf{l}$

- Balanced binary search tree
- Coords of intersections with  $\mathbf{l}$  vary as  $\mathbf{l}$  moves  
=> BST keys are pointers to the line segments
  - Position of  $\mathbf{l}$  is plugged in the  $y=mx+b$  to get the key



# Data structures

Event queue (postupový plán, časový plán)

- Define: Order /

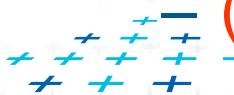
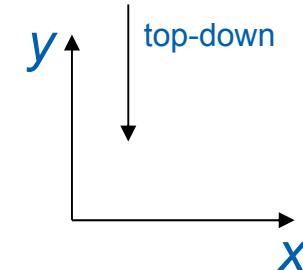
$p / q \text{ iff } p_y > q_y \text{ or } p_y = q_y \text{ and } p_x < q_x$

top-down, left-right approach

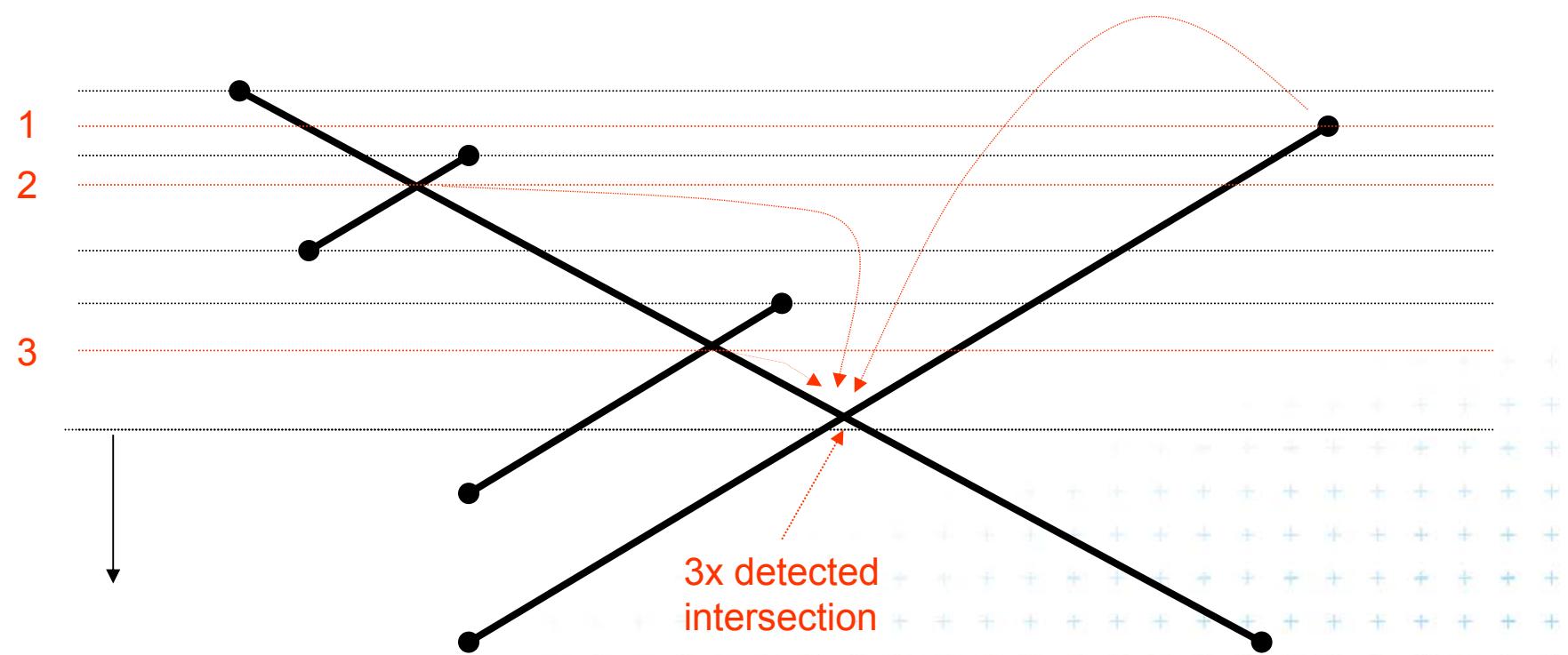
(points on I treated left to right)

- Operations

- Insertion of computed intersection points
- Fetching the next event (highest  $y$  below I )
- Test, if the segment is already present in the queue
- (Delete intersection event in the queue)



# Problem with duplicities of intersections

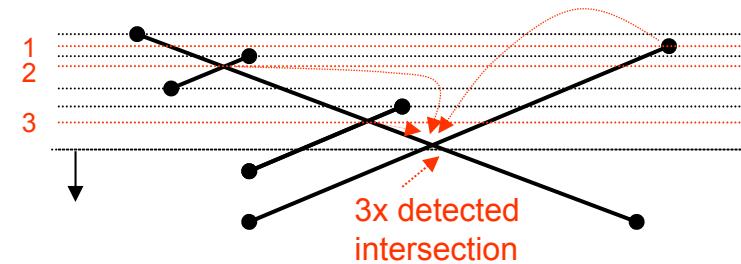


# Data structures

## Event queue data structure

- **Heap**

- Problem: can not check **duplicated intersection events** (reinvented more than once)
- Processed twice or more
- Memory complexity up to  $O(n^2)$



- **Ordered dictionary (balanced binary tree)**

- Can check duplicated events (adds just constant factor)
- Nothing inserted twice
- If non-neighbor intersections are deleted  
i.e., only intersection of neighbors is stored  
then memory complexity just  $O(n)$



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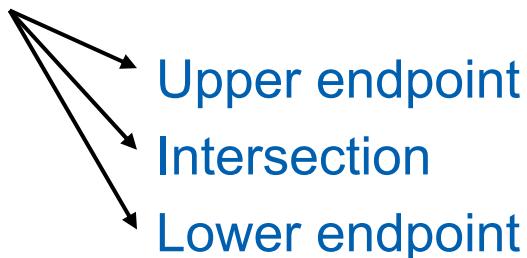
# Line segment intersection algorithm

## FindIntersections( $S$ )

*Input:* A set  $S$  of line segments in the plane

*Output:* The set of intersection points + pointers to segments in each

1. init an empty event queue  $Q$  and insert the segment endpoints
2. init an empty status structure  $T$
3. **while**  $Q$  is not empty
4. remove next event  $p$  from  $Q$
5. handleEventPoint( $p$ )

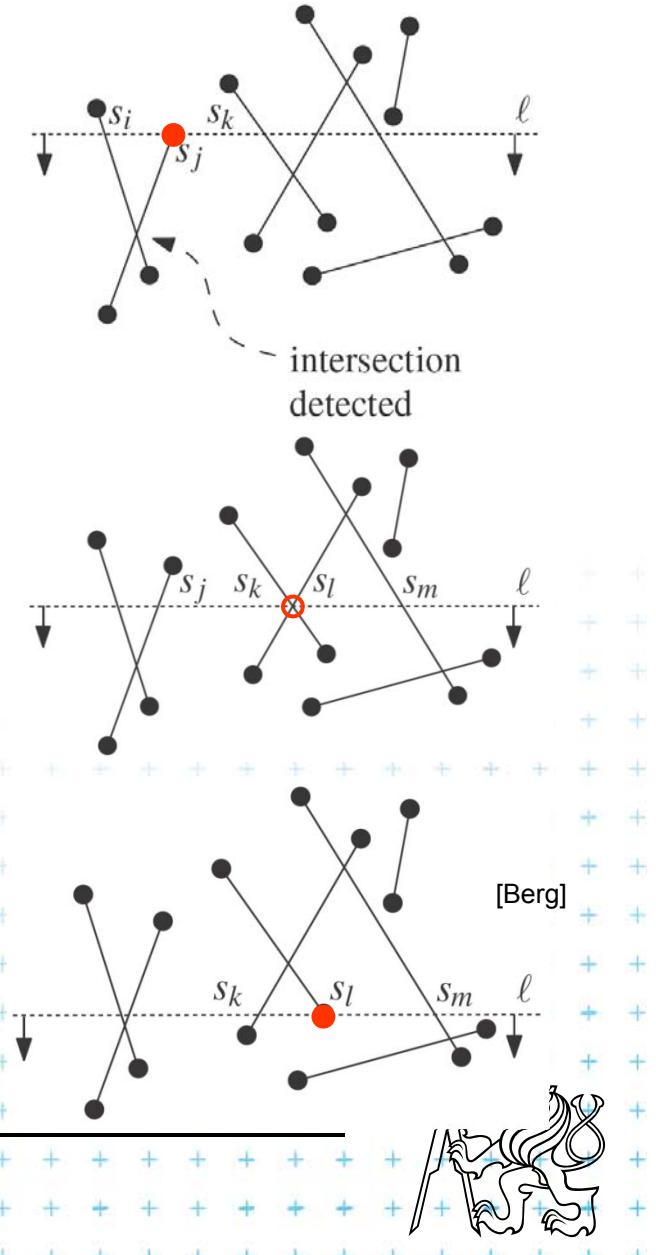


Note: Upper-end-point events store info about the segment



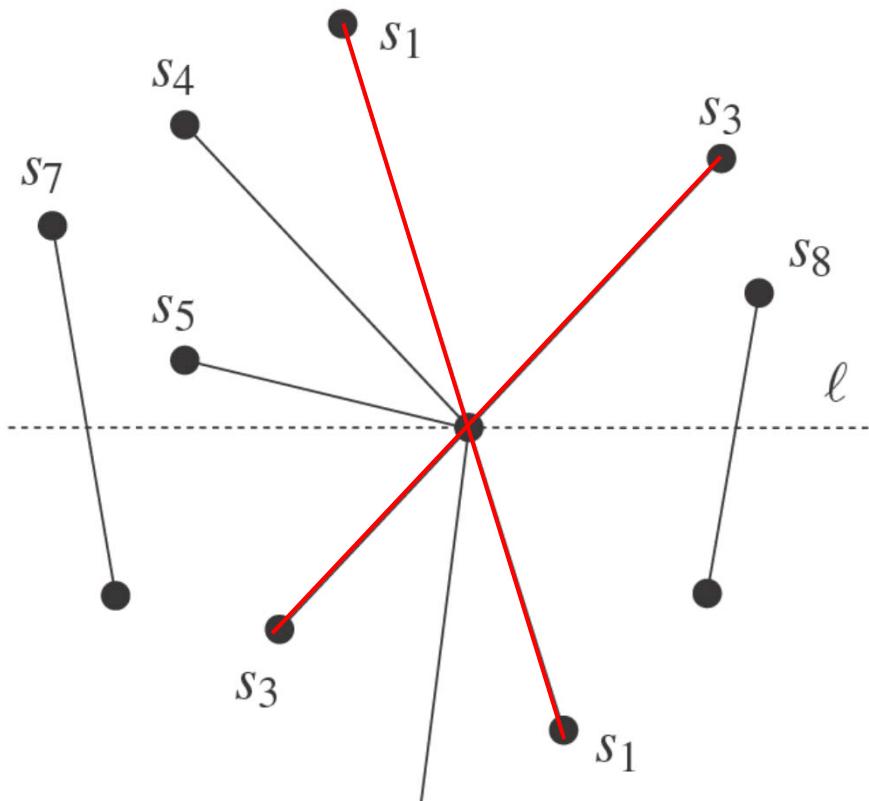
# handleEventPoint principle

- Upper endpoint  $U(p)$ 
  - insert  $p$  (on  $s_j$ ) to  $T$
  - add intersections with left and right neighbors to  $Q$
- Intersection  $C(p)$ 
  - switch order of segments in  $T$
  - add intersections of left and right neighbors to  $Q$
- Lower endpoint  $L(p)$ 
  - remove  $p$  (on  $s_l$ ) from  $T$
  - add intersections of left and right neighbors to  $Q$



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# More than two segments incident



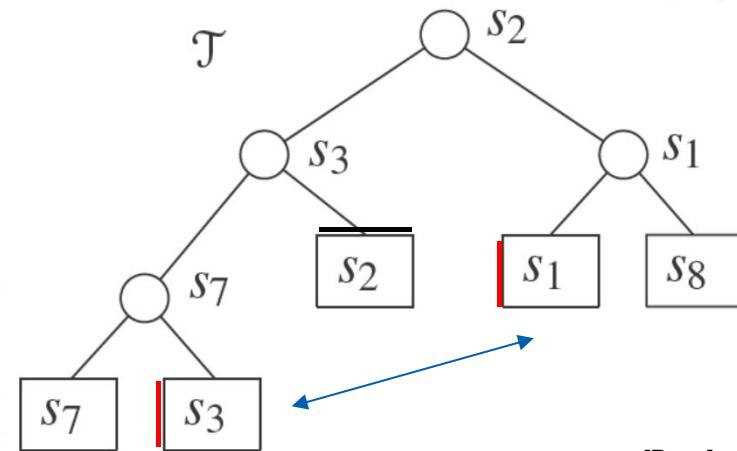
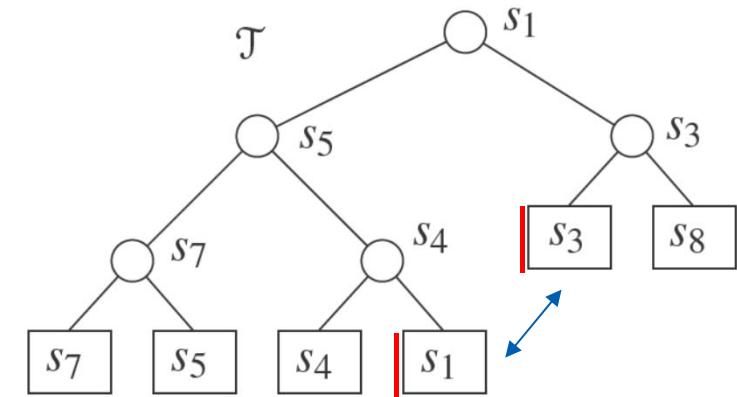
$$U(p) = \{s_2\}$$



$$C(p) = \{s_1, s_3\}$$



$$L(p) = \{s_4, s_5\}$$



[Berg]

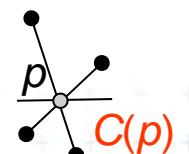
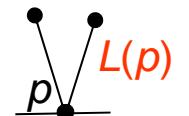
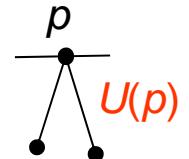


# Handle Events

[Berg, page 25]

## handleEventPoint( $p$ )

1. Let  $U(p)$  = set of segments whose upper point is  $p$ .  
These segmets are stored with the event point  $p$  (will be added to  $T$ )
2. Search  $T$  for all segments  $S(p)$  that contain  $p$  (are adjacent in  $T$ ):  
Let  $L(p) \triangleq S(p)$  = segments whose lower endpoint is  $p$   
Let  $C(p) \triangleq S(p)$  = segments that contains  $p$  in interior
3. if(  $L(p) \cup U(p) \cup C(p)$  contains more than one segment )  
4. report  $p$  as intersection together with  $L(p)$ ,  $U(p)$ ,  $C(p)$
5. Delete the segments in  $L(p) \cup C(p)$  from  $T$
6. Insert the segments in  $U(p) \cup C(p)$  from  $T$   
(horizontal segment as the last)
7. if(  $U(p) \cup C(p) = \emptyset$  ) then FindNewEvent( $s_l, s_r, p$ ) // left & right neighbors
8. else  $s' =$  leftmost segment of  $U(p) \cup C(p)$ ; findNewEvent( $s_l, s', p$ )  
 $s'' =$  rightmost segment of  $U(p) \cup C(p)$ ; findNewEvent( $s'', s_r, p$ )



# Detection of new intersections

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**findNewEvent( $s_l, s_r, p$ )**

*Input:* two segments and a current event point  $p$

*Output:* updated event queue  $Q$  with new intersections

1. if [ (  $s_l$  and  $s_r$  intersect below the sweep line  $\Gamma$  ) or  
    ( intersect on  $\Gamma$  and to the right of  $p$  ) ] and     // horizontal segments  
    ( the intersection is not present in  $Q$  )
2. then  
    insert  $p$  as an event into  $Q$



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# Line segment intersections

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- Memory  $O(I) = O(n^2)$  with duplicates in  $Q$   
or  $O(n)$  with duplicates in  $Q$  deleted
- Operational complexity
  - $n + I$  stops
  - $\log n$  each $\Rightarrow O(I + n) \log n$  total
- The algorithm is by Bentley-Ottmann

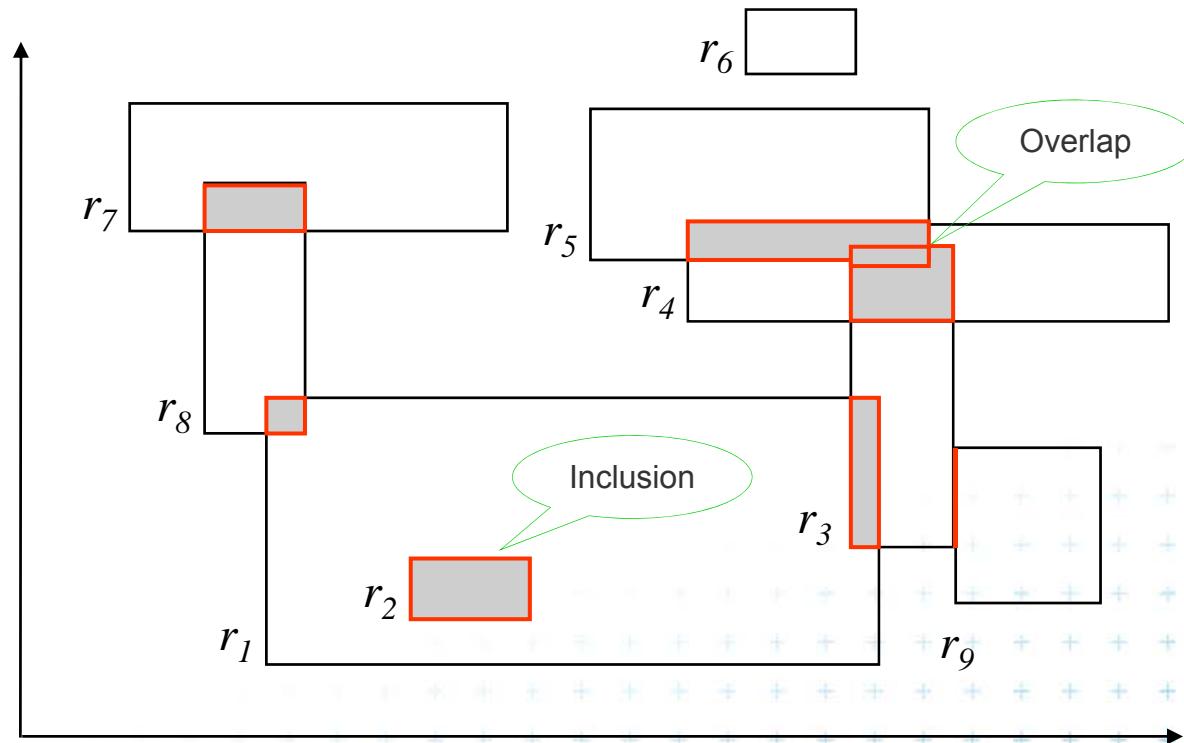
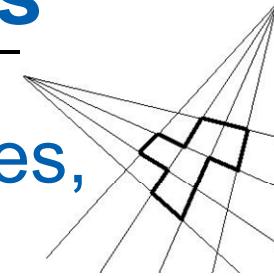
Bentley, J. L.; Ottmann, T. A. (1979), "Algorithms for reporting and counting geometric intersections", *IEEE Transactions on Computers* C-28 (9): 643-647, doi:[10.1109/TC.1979.1675432](https://doi.org/10.1109/TC.1979.1675432).

See also [http://wapedia.mobi/en/Bentley%20%93Ottmann\\_algorithm](http://wapedia.mobi/en/Bentley%20%93Ottmann_algorithm)



# Intersection of axis parallel rectangles

- Given the collection of  $n$  *isothetic* rectangles, report all intersecting parts



Answer:  $(r_1, r_3) (r_1, r_8) (r_3, r_4) (r_3, r_5) (r_4, r_5) (r_7, r_8) (r_1, r_2) (r_3, r_9)$

[?]



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# Brute force intersection

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## Brute force algorithm

*Input:* set  $S$  of axis parallel rectangles

*Output:* pairs of intersected rectangles

1. For every pair  $(r_i, r_j)$  of rectangles  $\in S, i \neq j$
2.     if  $(r_i \cap r_j \neq \emptyset)$  then
3.         report  $(r_i, r_j)$

## Analysis

Preprocessing: None.

Query:  $O(N^2)$ ;  $\binom{N}{2} = (N(N - 1))/2 \in O(N^2)$ .

Storage:  $O(N)$ .



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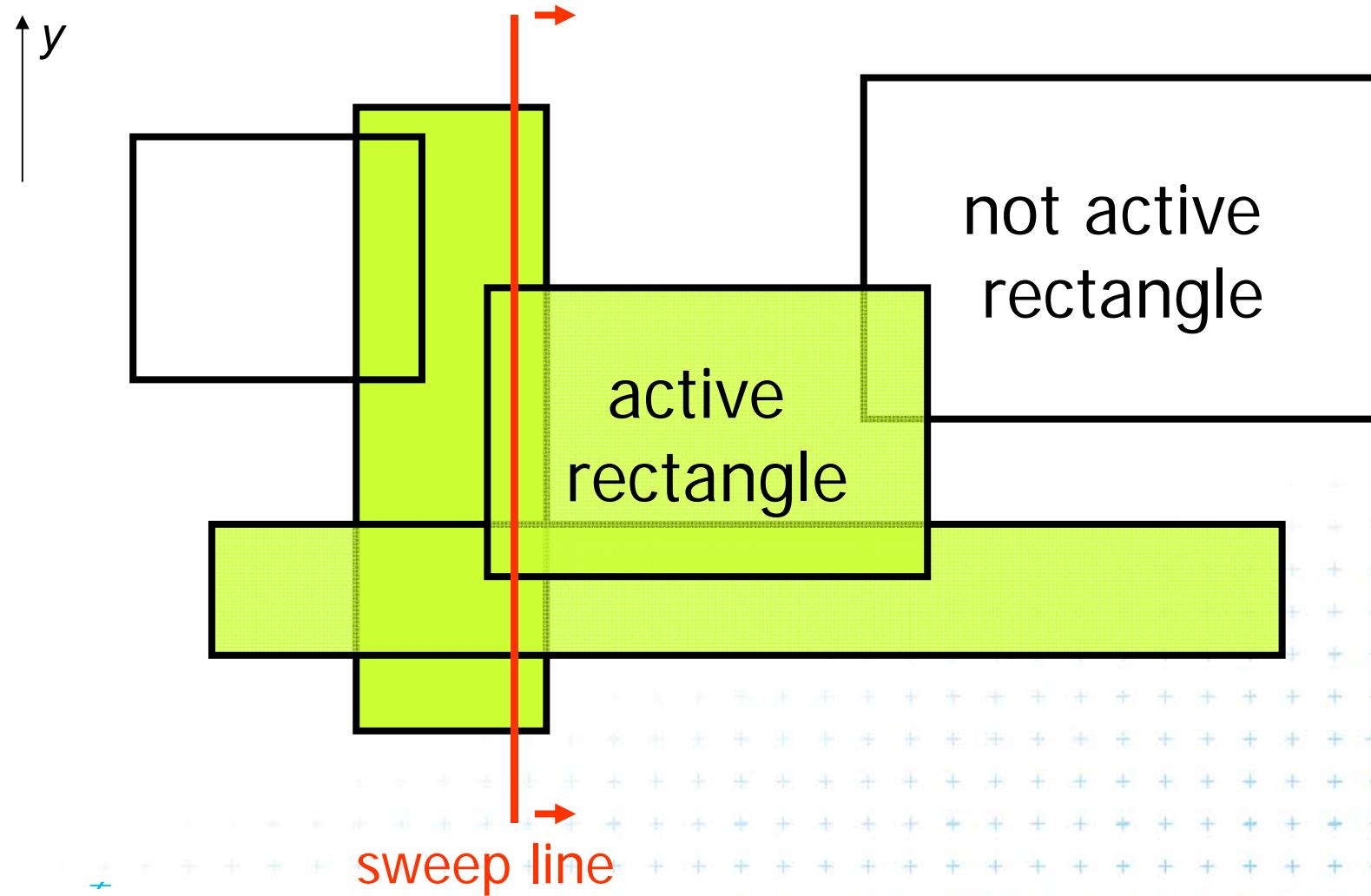
# Plane sweep intersection algorithm

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- Vertical sweep line moves from left to right
- Stops at every x-coordinate of a rectangle  
(either its left side or its right side).
- **active rectangles** – a set
  - = rectangles currently intersecting the sweep line
    - **left side** event of a rectangle  
=> the rectangle is **added** to the active set.
    - **right side**  
=> the rectangle is **deleted** from the active set.
- The active set used to detect rectangle intersection

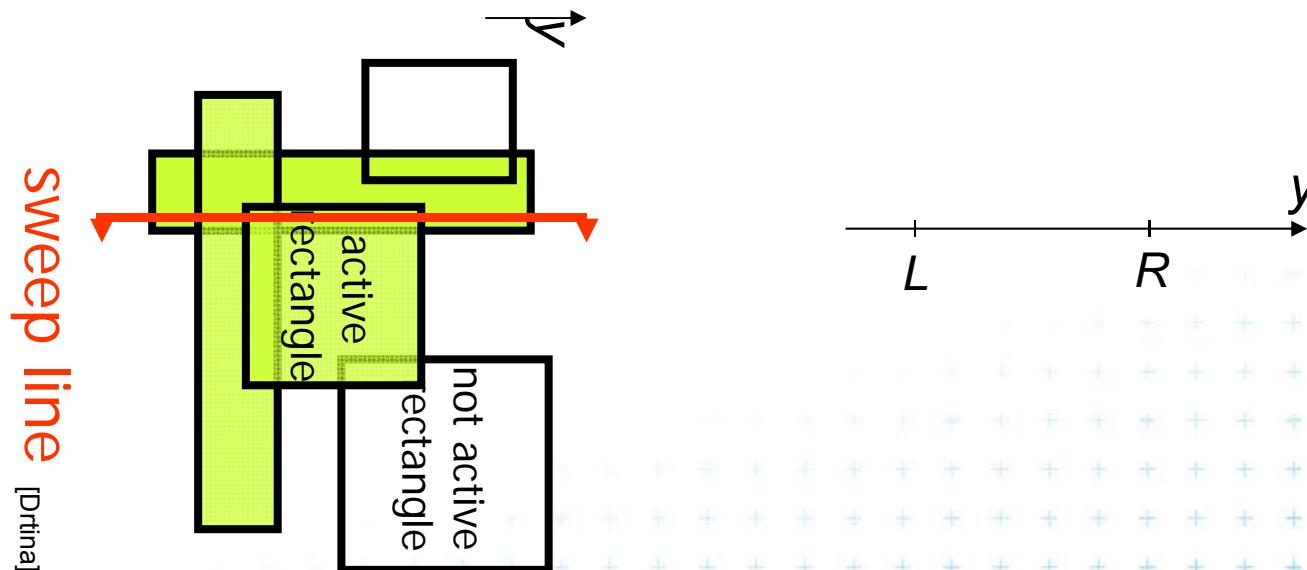


# Example rectangles and sweep line



# Interval tree as sweep line status structure

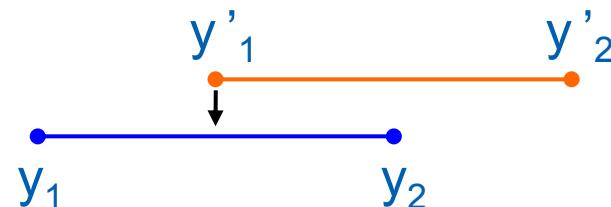
- Vertical sweep-line => Only y-coordinates along it
- Turn our view in slides 90° right
- Sweep line (y-axis) will be drawn as horizontal



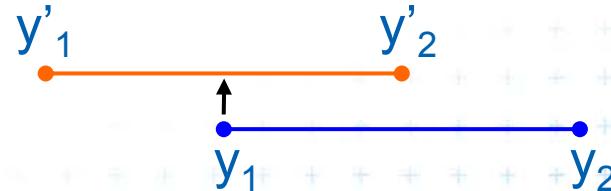
# Intersection test – between pair of intervals

- Given two intervals  $R = [y_1, y_2]$  and  $R' = [y'_1, y'_2]$  the condition  $R \cap R'$  is equivalent to one of these mutually exclusive conditions:

a)  $y_1 < y'_1 < y_2$



b)  $y'_1 < y_1 < y'_2$



Intervals along the sweep line

a)

b)

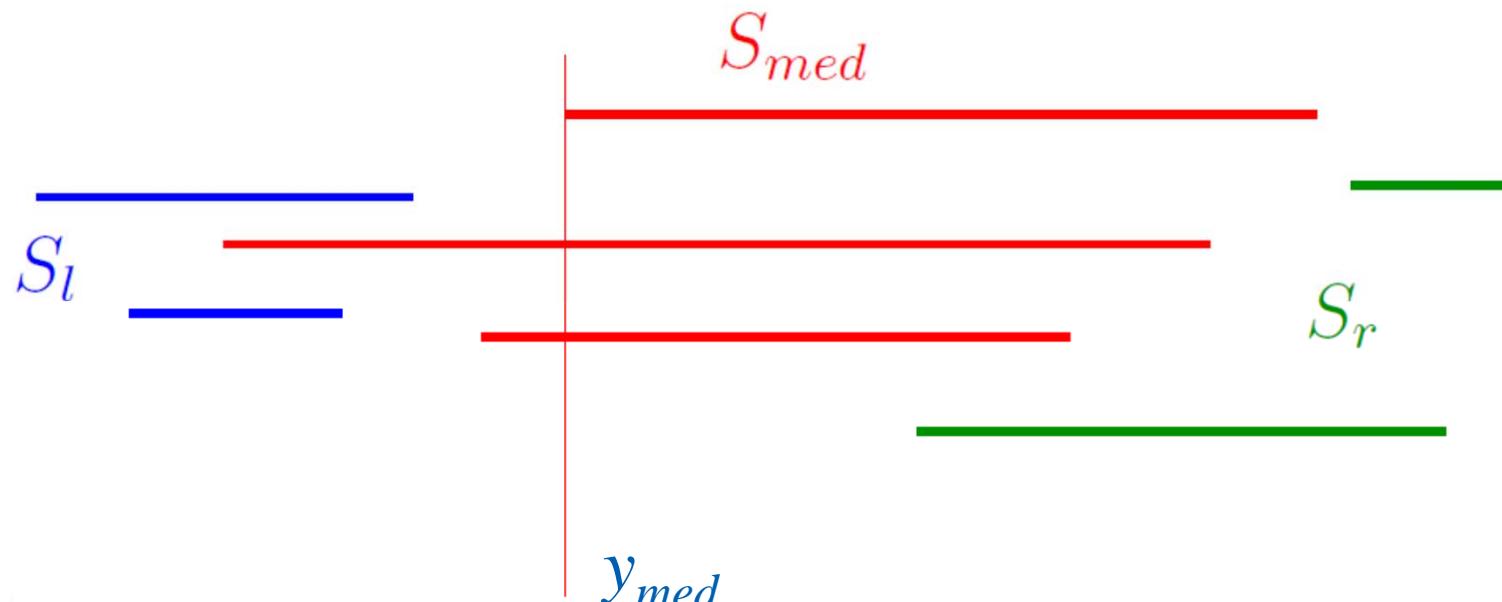
b)

intersection

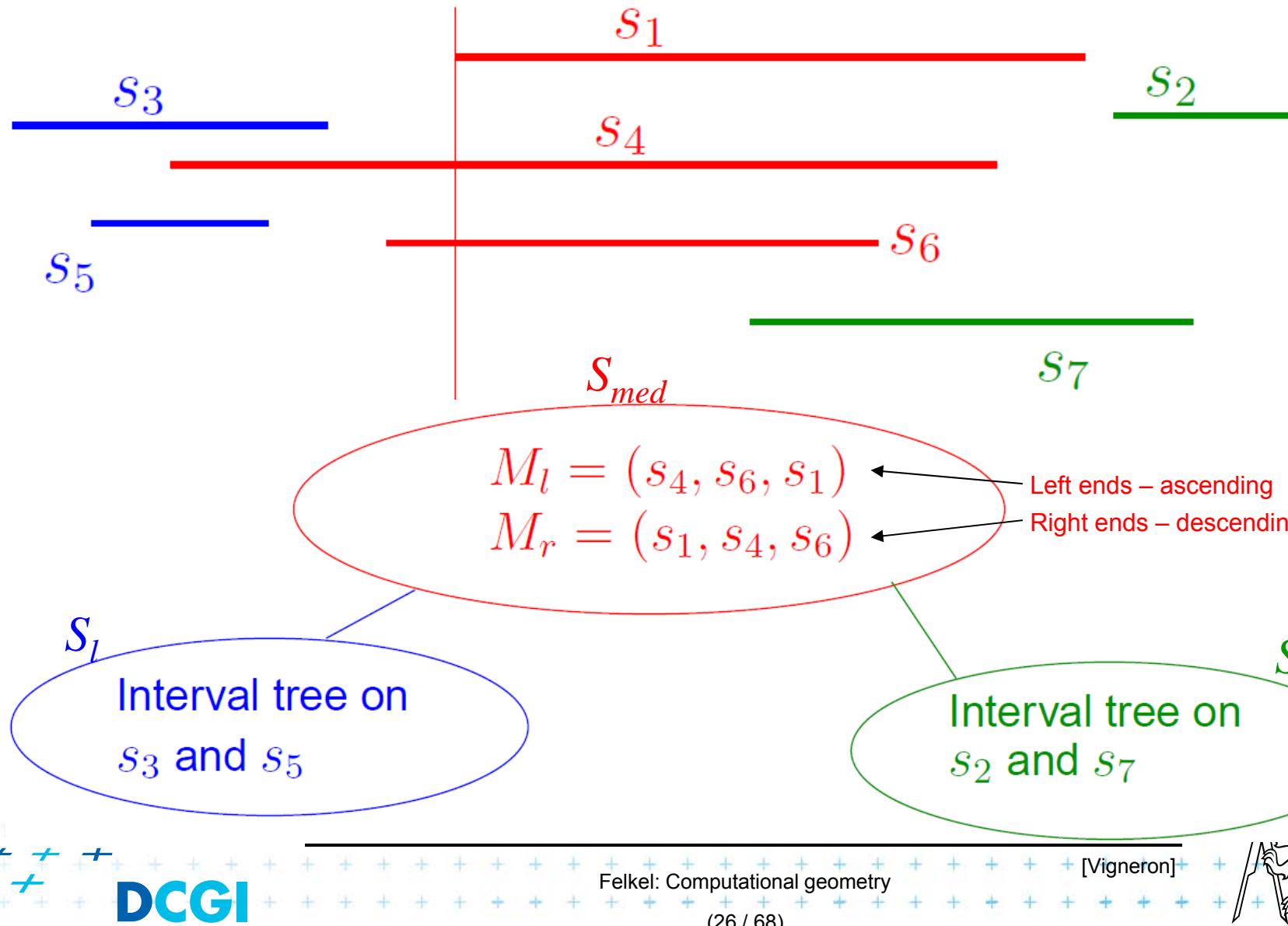


# Static interval tree – stores all end points

- Let  $v = y_{med}$  be the median of end-points of segments
- $S_l$  : segments of S that are completely to the left of  $y_{med}$
- $S_{med}$  : segments of S that contain  $y_{med}$
- $S_r$  : segments of S that are completely to the right of  $y_{med}$

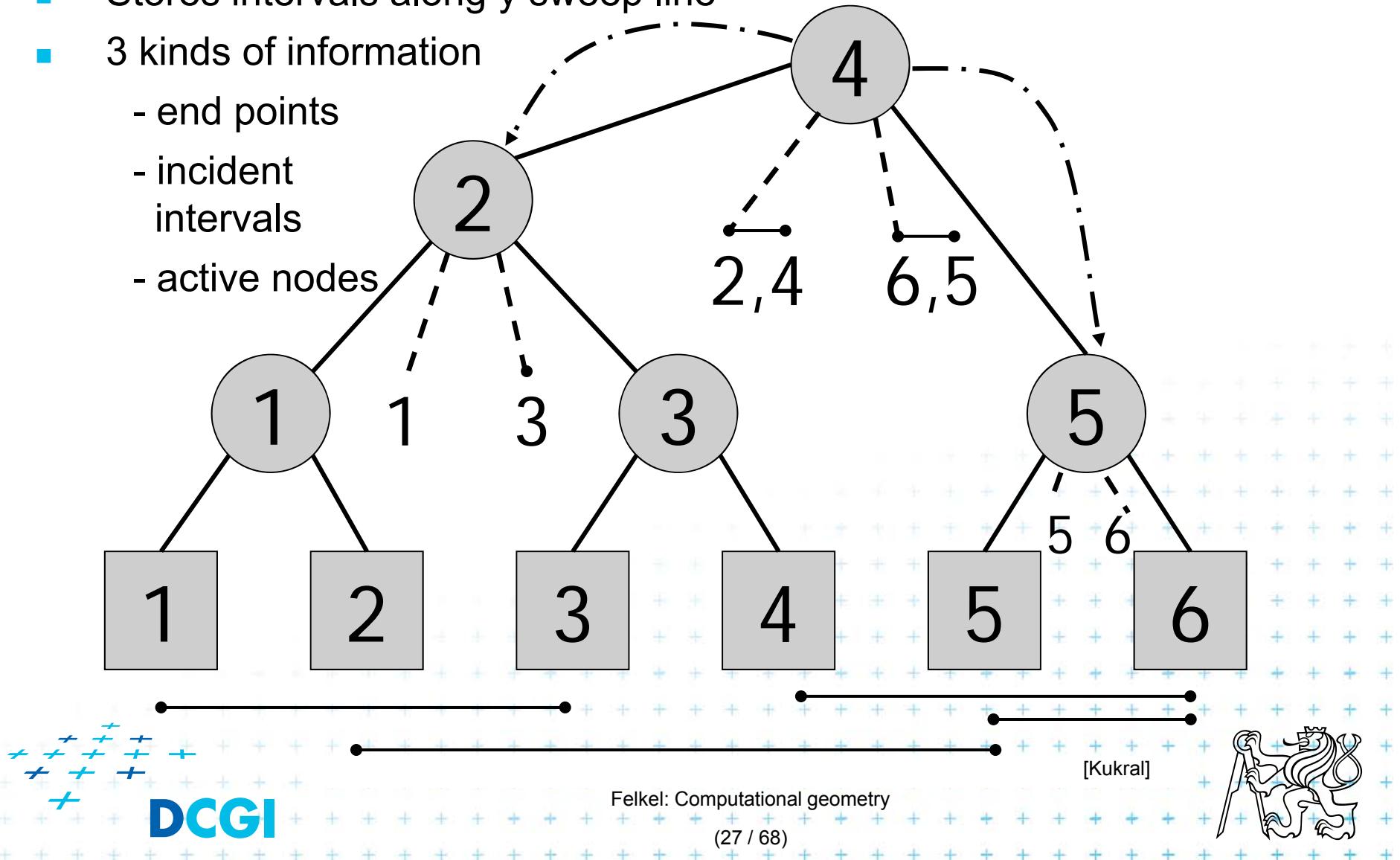


# Static interval tree – Example



# Static interval tree [Edelsbrunner80]

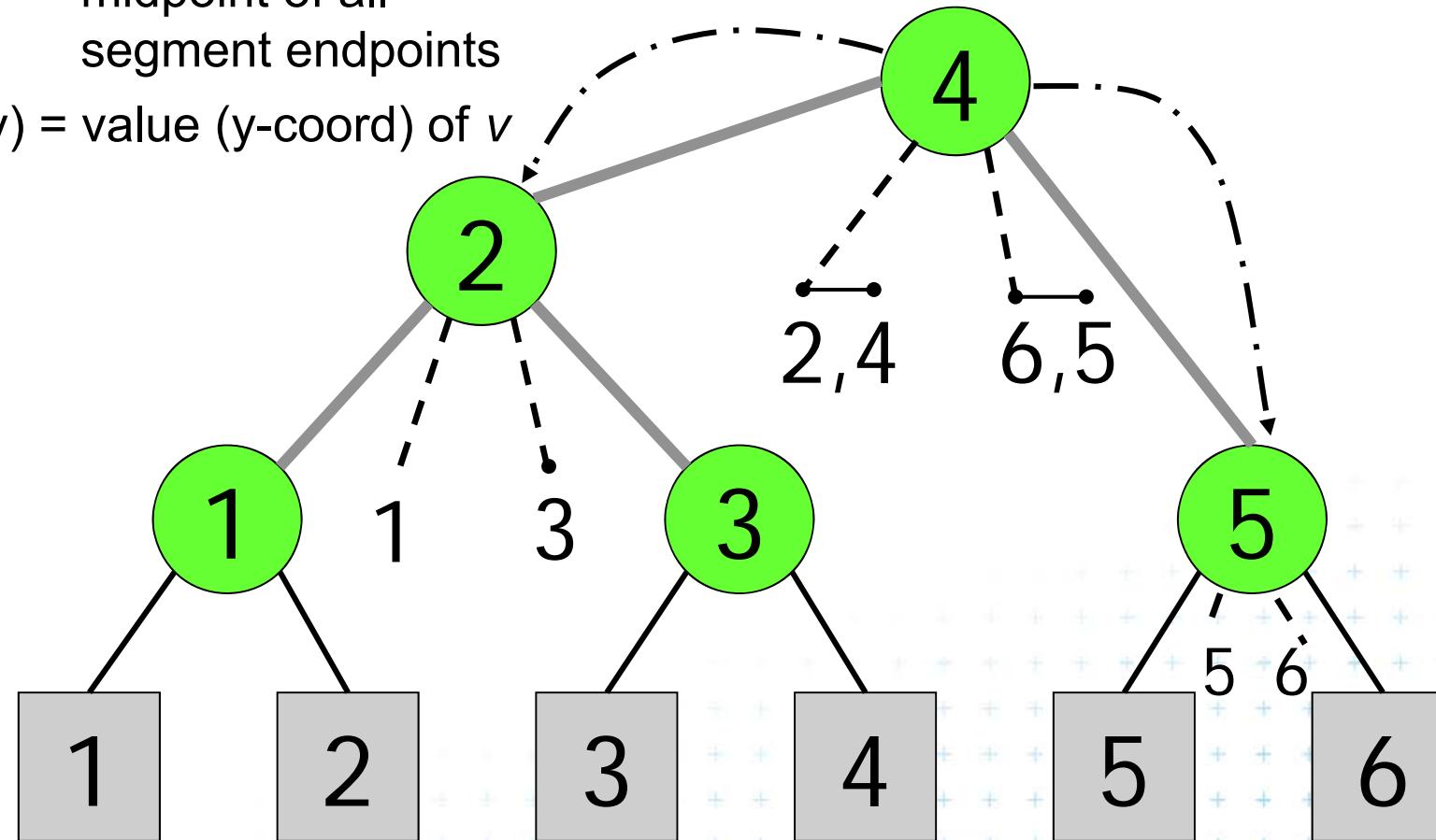
- Stores intervals along y sweep line
- 3 kinds of information
  - end points
  - incident intervals
  - active nodes



# Primary structure – static tree for endpoints

$v$  = midpoint of all segment endpoints

$H(v)$  = value (y-coord) of  $v$



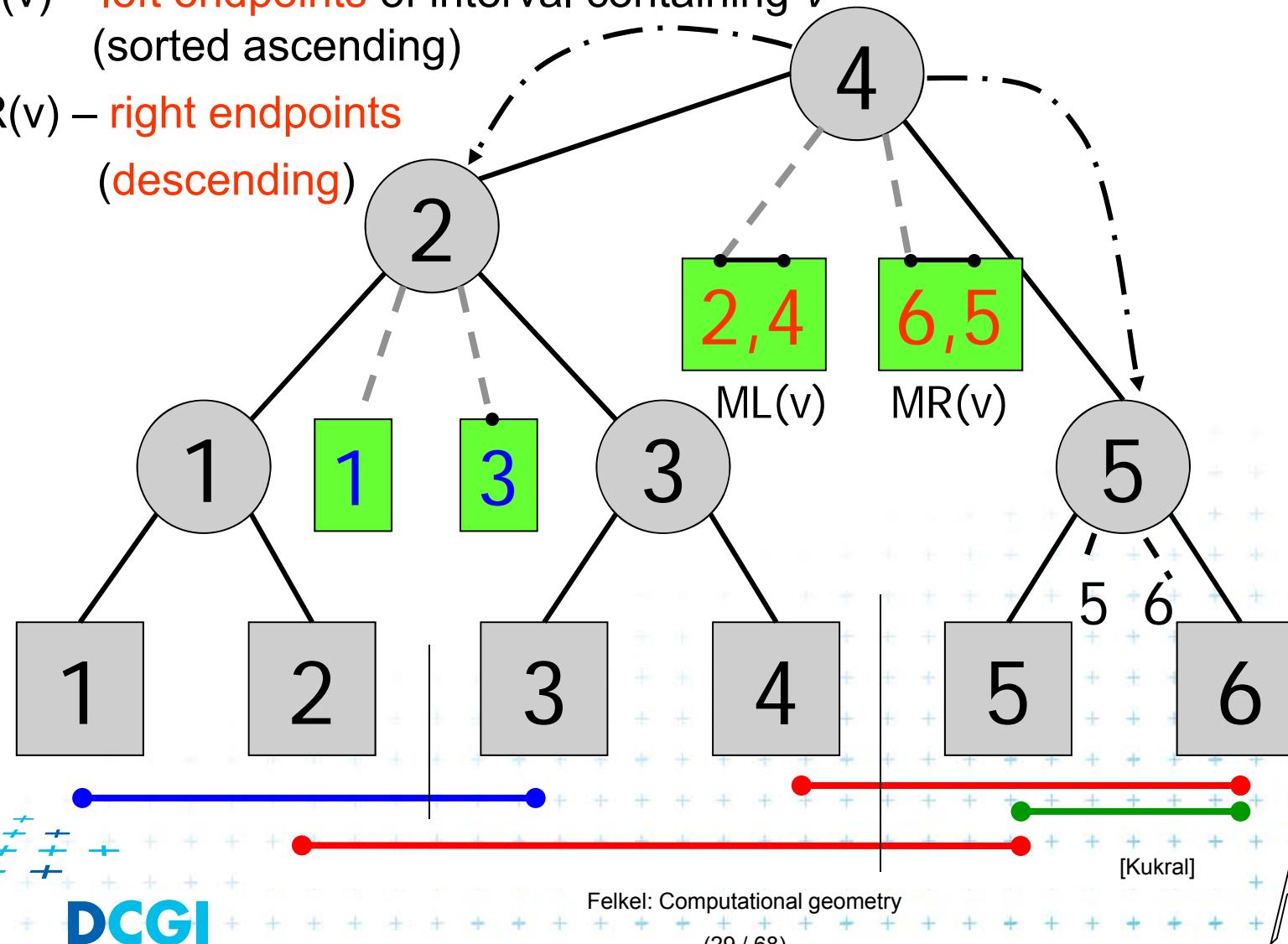
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# Secondary lists of incident interval end-pts.

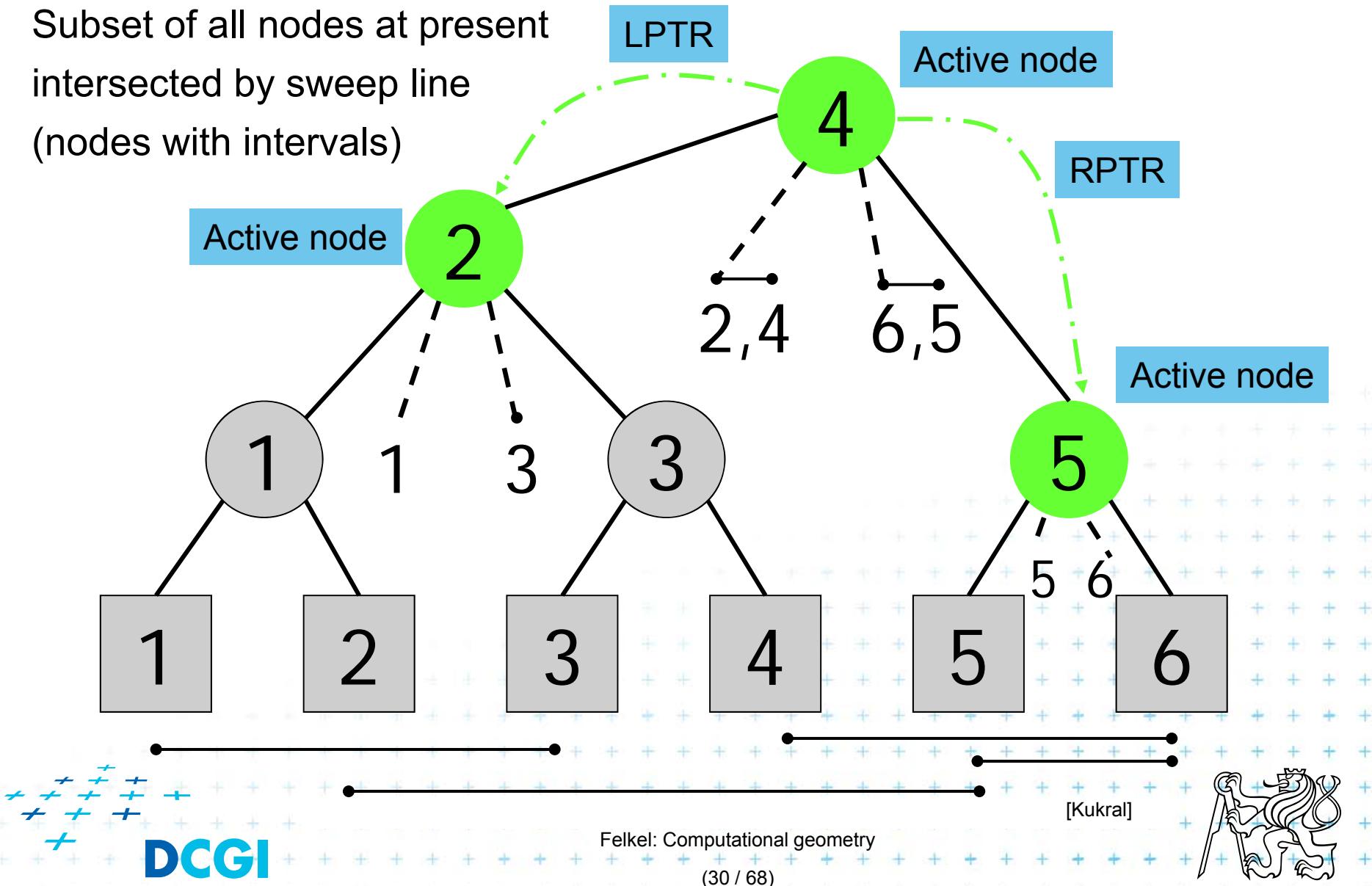
$ML(v)$  – left endpoints of interval containing  $v$   
(sorted ascending)

$MR(v)$  – right endpoints  
(descending)



# Active nodes – intersected by the sweep line

Subset of all nodes at present  
intersected by sweep line  
(nodes with intervals)



# Query = sweep and report intersections

**RectangleIntersections(  $S$  )**

*Input:* Set  $S$  of rectangles

*Output:* Intersected rectangle pairs

1. Preprocess(  $S$  ) // create the interval tree  $T$  (for y-coords)  
// and event queue  $Q$  (for x-coords)
2. **while** (  $Q \neq \emptyset$  ) do
3.   Get next entry  $(x_{il}, y_{il}, y_{ir}, t)$  from  $Q$  //  $t @ \{ \text{left} | \text{right} \}$
4.   **if** (  $t = \text{left}$  ) // left edge 
5.     a) **QueryInterval** (  $y_{il}, y_{ir}$ , root( $T$ ) ) // report intersections
6.     b) **InsertInterval** (  $y_{il}, y_{ir}$ , root( $T$ ) ) // insert new interval
7.   **else** // right edge 
8.     c) **DeleteInterval** (  $y_{il}, y_{ir}$ , root( $T$ ) )



# Preprocessing

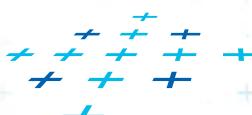
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## Preprocess( S )

*Input:* Set S of rectangles

*Output:* Primary structure of the interval tree  $T$  and the event queue Q

1.  $T = \text{PrimaryTree}(S)$  // Construct the static primary structure  
// of the interval tree -> sweep line STATUS T
2. // Init event queue Q with vertical rectangle edges in ascending order.  
// Put the left edges with the same  $x$  ahead of right ones.
3. for i = 1 to n
4.     insert( (  $x_{il}$ ,  $y_{il}$ ,  $y_{ir}$ , left ), Q)     // left edges of  $i$ -th rectangle
5.     insert( (  $x_{ir}$ ,  $y_{il}$ ,  $y_{ir}$ , right ), Q)    // right edges



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# Interval tree – primary structure construction

## PrimaryTree( $S$ )

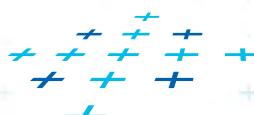
*Input:* Set  $S$  of rectangles

*Output:* Primary structure of an interval tree  $T$

1.  $S_y = \text{Sort endpoints of all segments in } S \text{ according to } y\text{-coordinate}$
2.  $T = \text{BST}(S_y)$
3. **return**  $T$

## BST( $S_y$ )

1. **if**(  $|S_y| = 0$  ) **return** null
2.  $yMed = \text{median of } S_y$
3.  $L = \text{endpoints } p_y < yMed$
4.  $R = \text{endpoints } p_y \geq yMed$
5.  $t = \text{new IntervalTreeNode}(yMed)$
6.  $t.left = \text{BST}(L)$
7.  $t.right = \text{BST}(R)$
8. **return**  $t$



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# Interval tree – search the intersections

## QueryInterval ( $b, e, T$ )

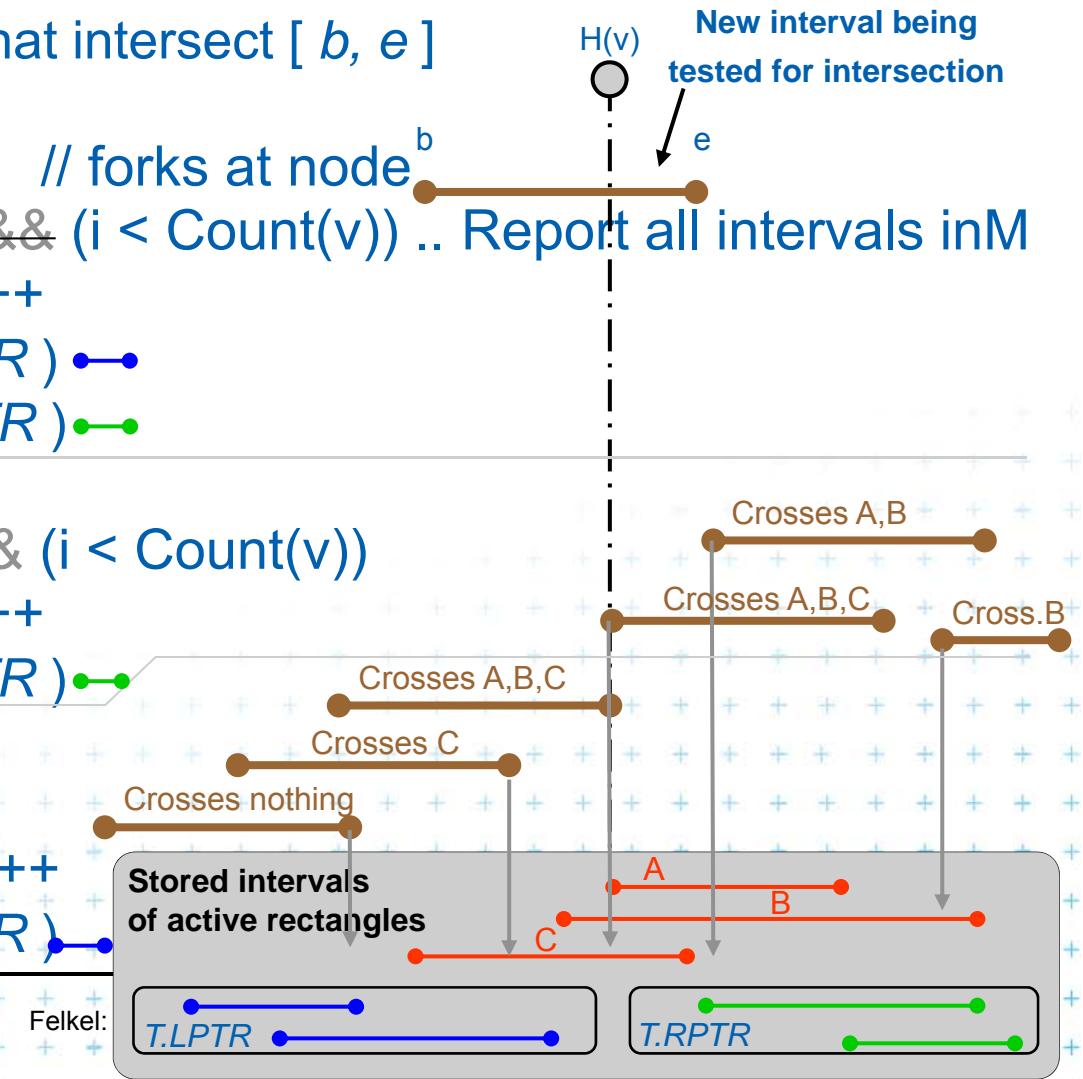
*Input:* Interval of the edge and current tree  $T$

*Output:* Report the rectangles that intersect  $[ b, e ]$

```

1. if(  $T = \text{null}$  ) return
2. i=0; if(  $b < H(v) < e$  )           // forks at nodeb          e
3.   while (  $MR(v).[i] \geq b$  ) && (i < Count(v)) .. Report all intervals in M
4.     ReportIntersection; i++
5.   QueryInterval(  $b,e,T.LPTR$  ) ••
6.   QueryInterval(  $b,e,T.RPTR$  ) ••
7. else if (  $H(v) . b < e$  )
8.   while (  $MR(v).[i] \geq b$  ) && (i < Count(v))
9.     ReportIntersection; i++
10.    QueryInterval(  $b,e,T.RPTR$  ) ••
11. else //  $b < e . H(v)$ 
12.   while (  $ML(v).[i] \leq e$  )
13.     ReportIntersection; i++
14.   QueryInterval(  $b,e,T.LPTR$  ) ••

```



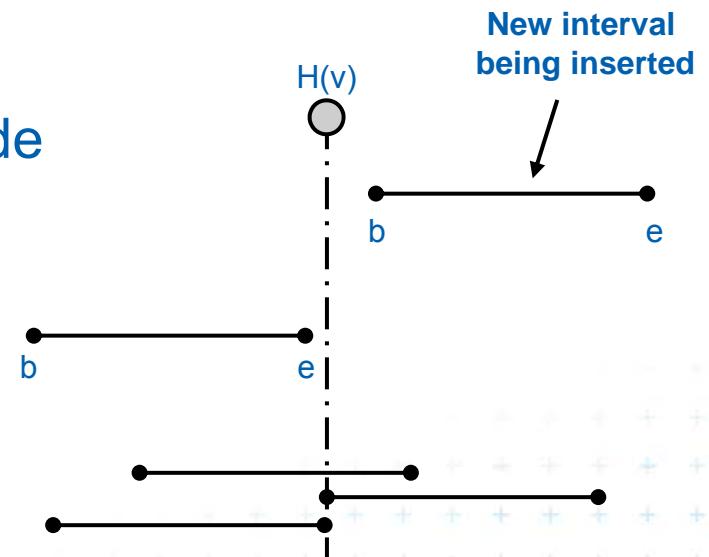
# Interval tree - interval insertion

**InsertInterval (  $b, e, T$  )**

*Input:* Interval  $[b,e]$  and interval tree  $T$

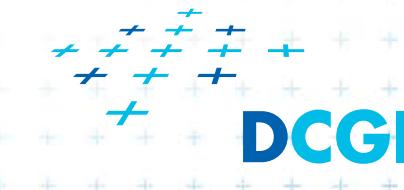
*Output:*  $T$  after insertion of the interval

```
1. v = root( $T$ )
2. while( v != null )    // find the fork node
3.   if ( $H(v) < b < e$ )
4.     v = v.right      // continue right
5.   else if ( $b < e < H(v)$ )
6.     v = v.left       // continue left
7.   else //  $b \leq H(v) \leq e$  // insert interval
8.     set v node to active
9.     connect LPTR resp. R PTR to its parent
10.    insert  $[b,e]$  into list  $ML(v)$  – sorted in ascending order of  $b$ 's
11.    insert  $[b,e]$  into list  $MR(v)$  – sorted in descending order of  $e$ 's
12.    break
13. endwhile
14. return  $T$ 
```

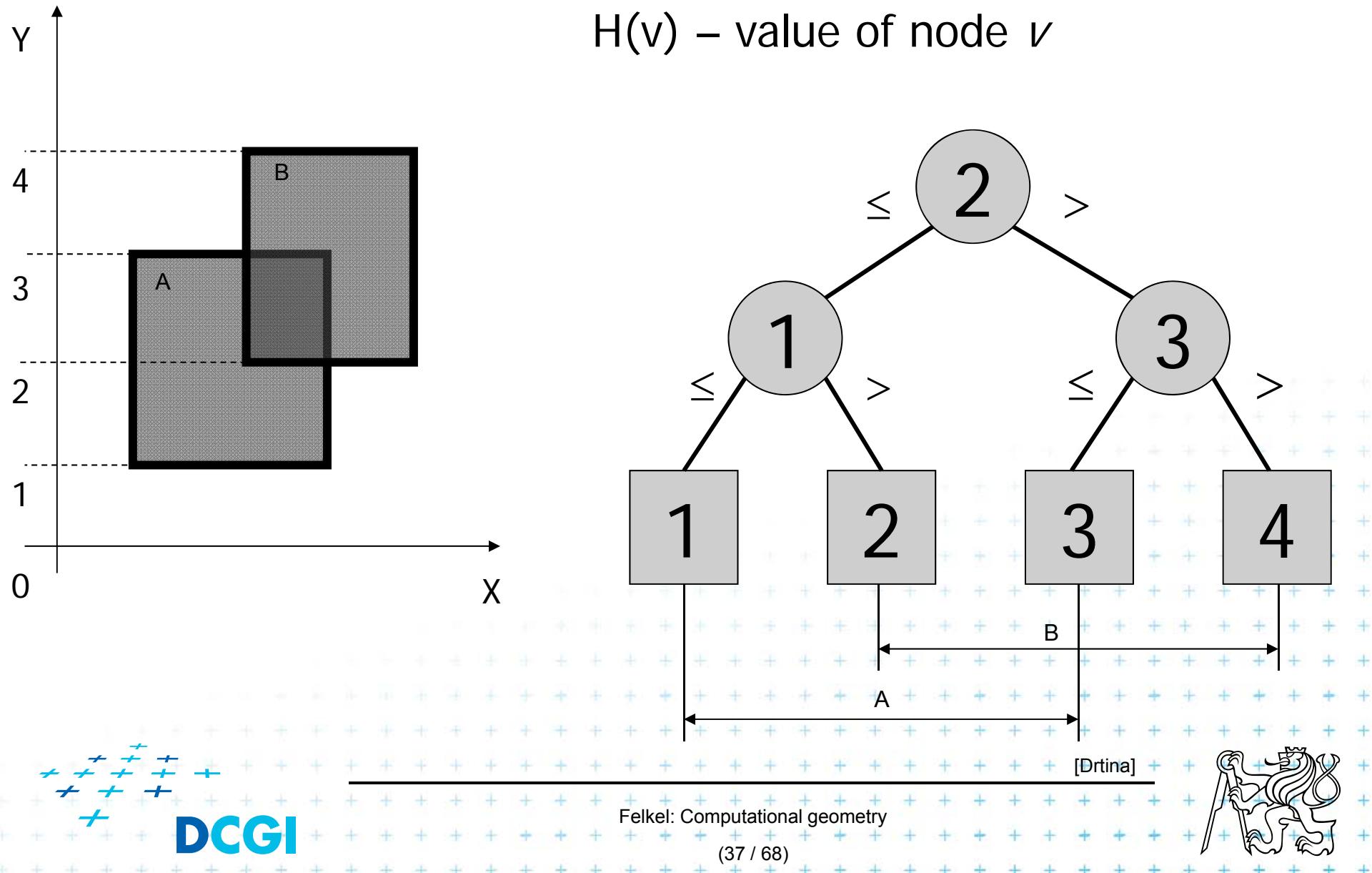


# Example 1

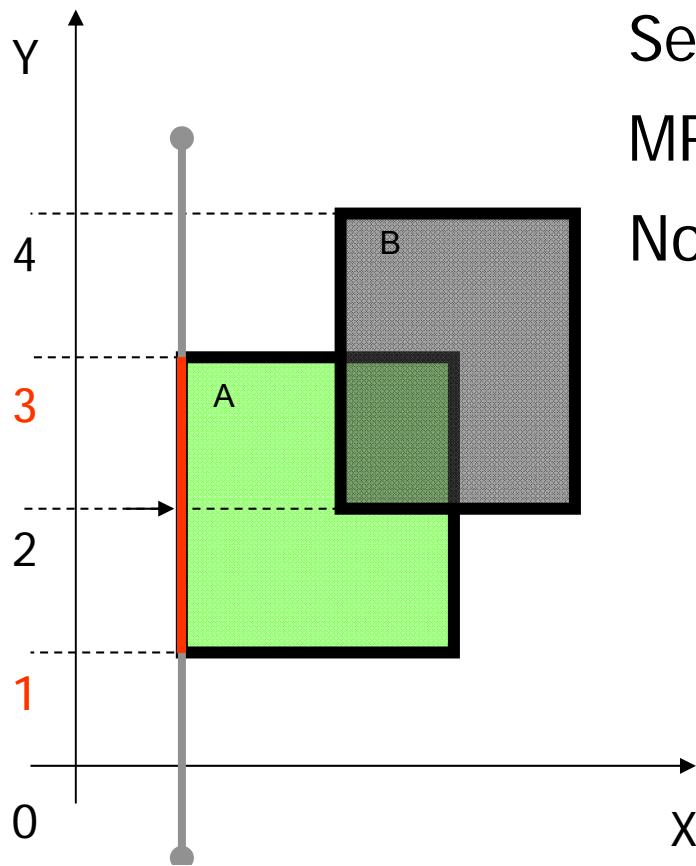
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# Example 1 – static tree on endpoints



# Interval insertion [1,3] a) Query Interval



Active rectangle

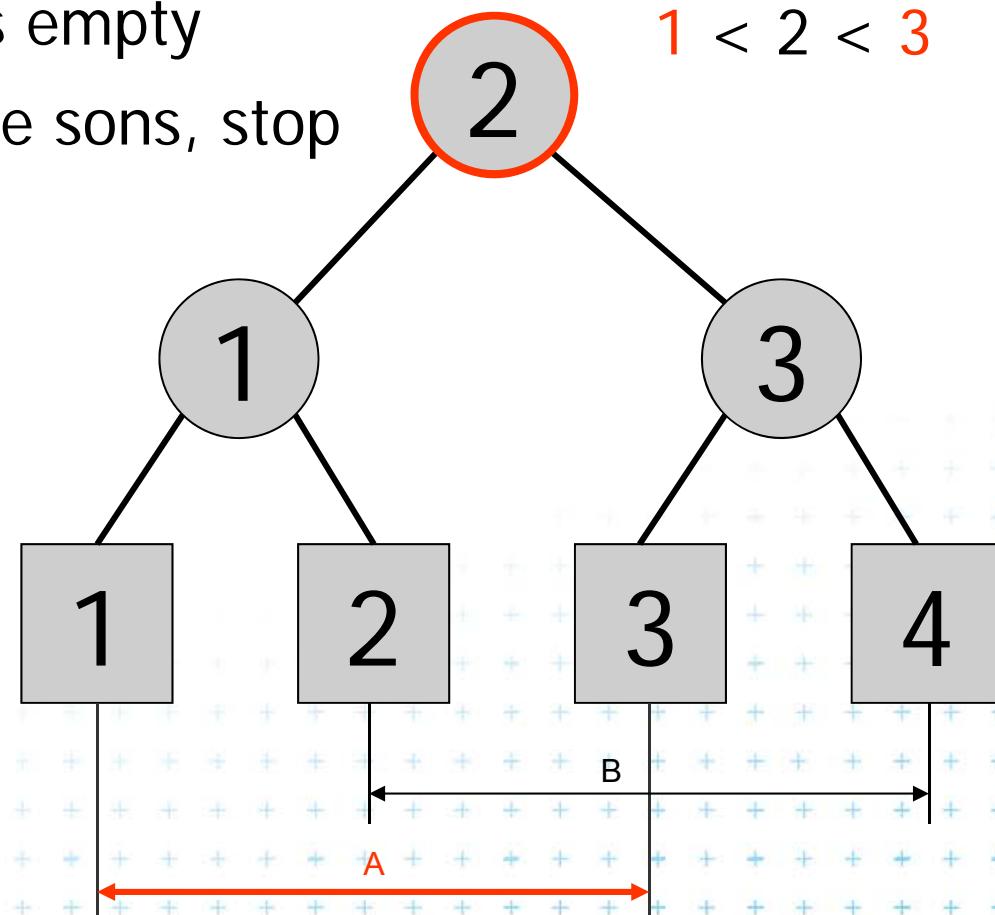
Current node

Active node

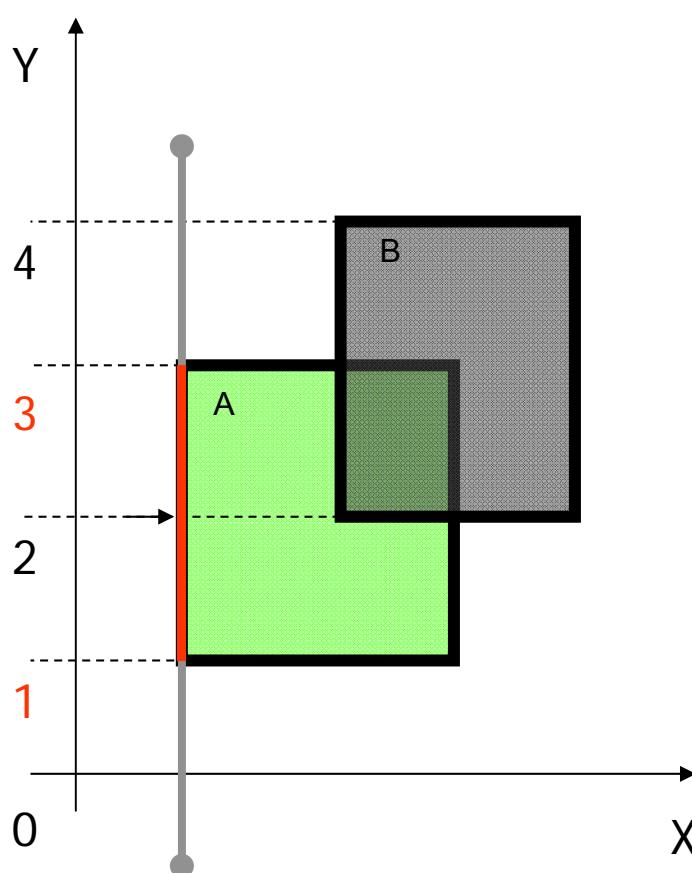


DCGI

Search  $MR(v)$  or  $ML(v)$ :  $b < H(v) < e$   
 $MR(v)$  is empty  
No active sons, stop



# Interval insertion [1,3] b) Insert Interval



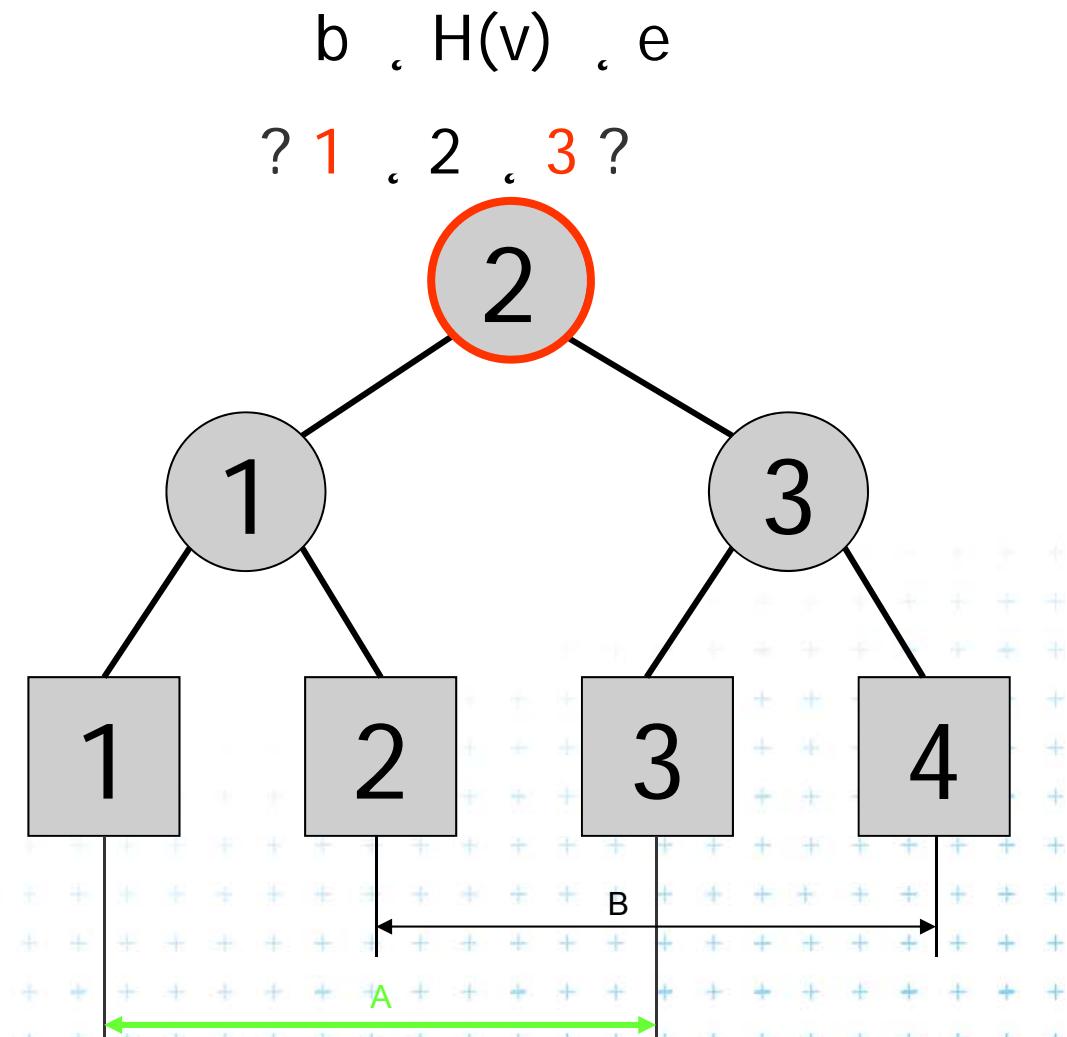
Active rectangle

Current node

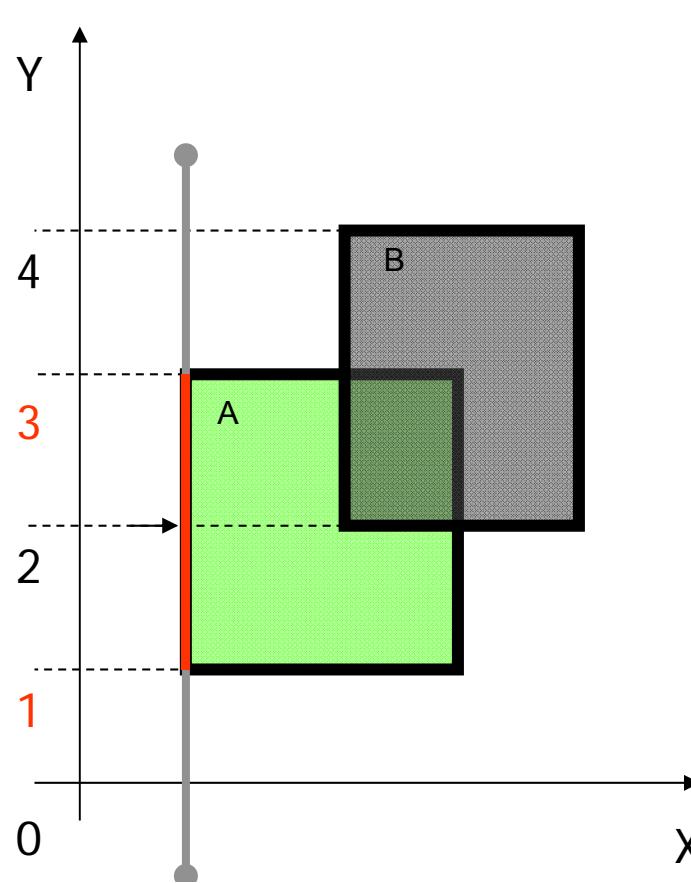
Active node



DCGI



# Interval insertion [1,3] b) Insert Interval

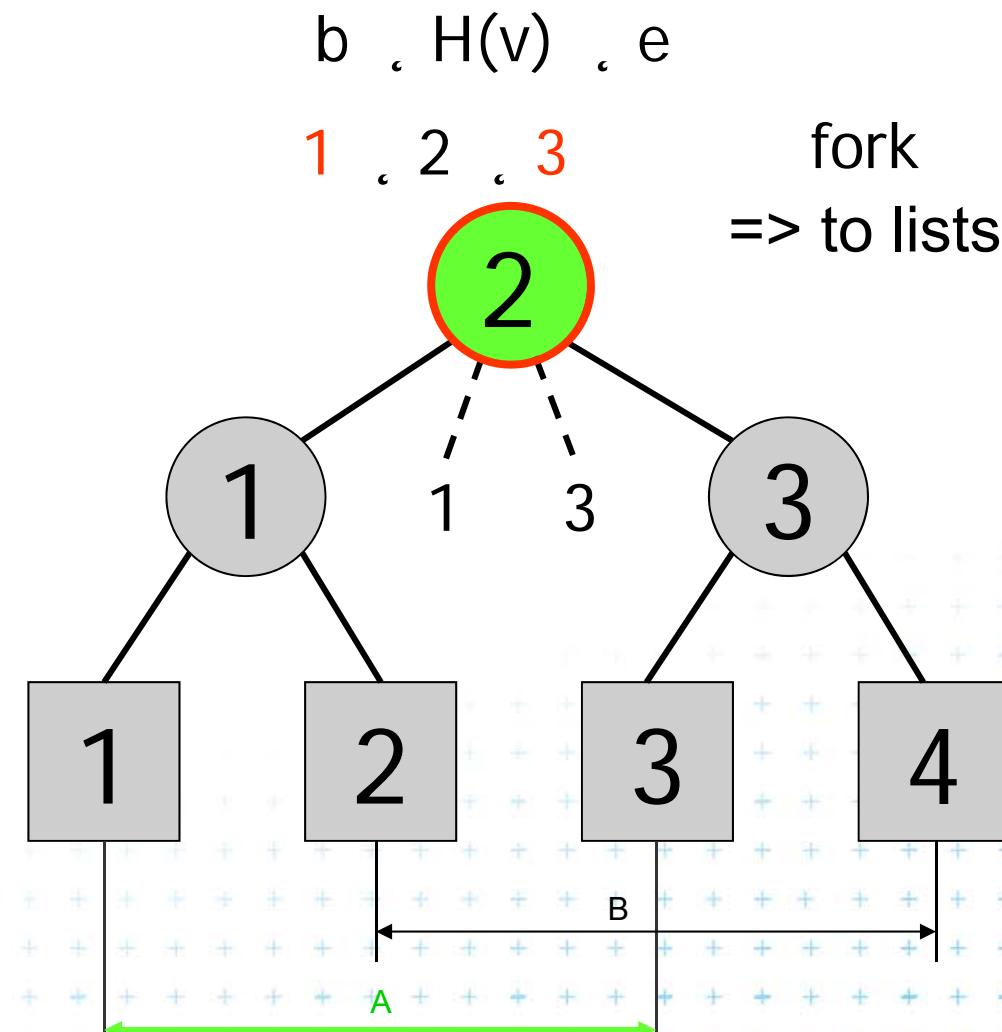


Active rectangle

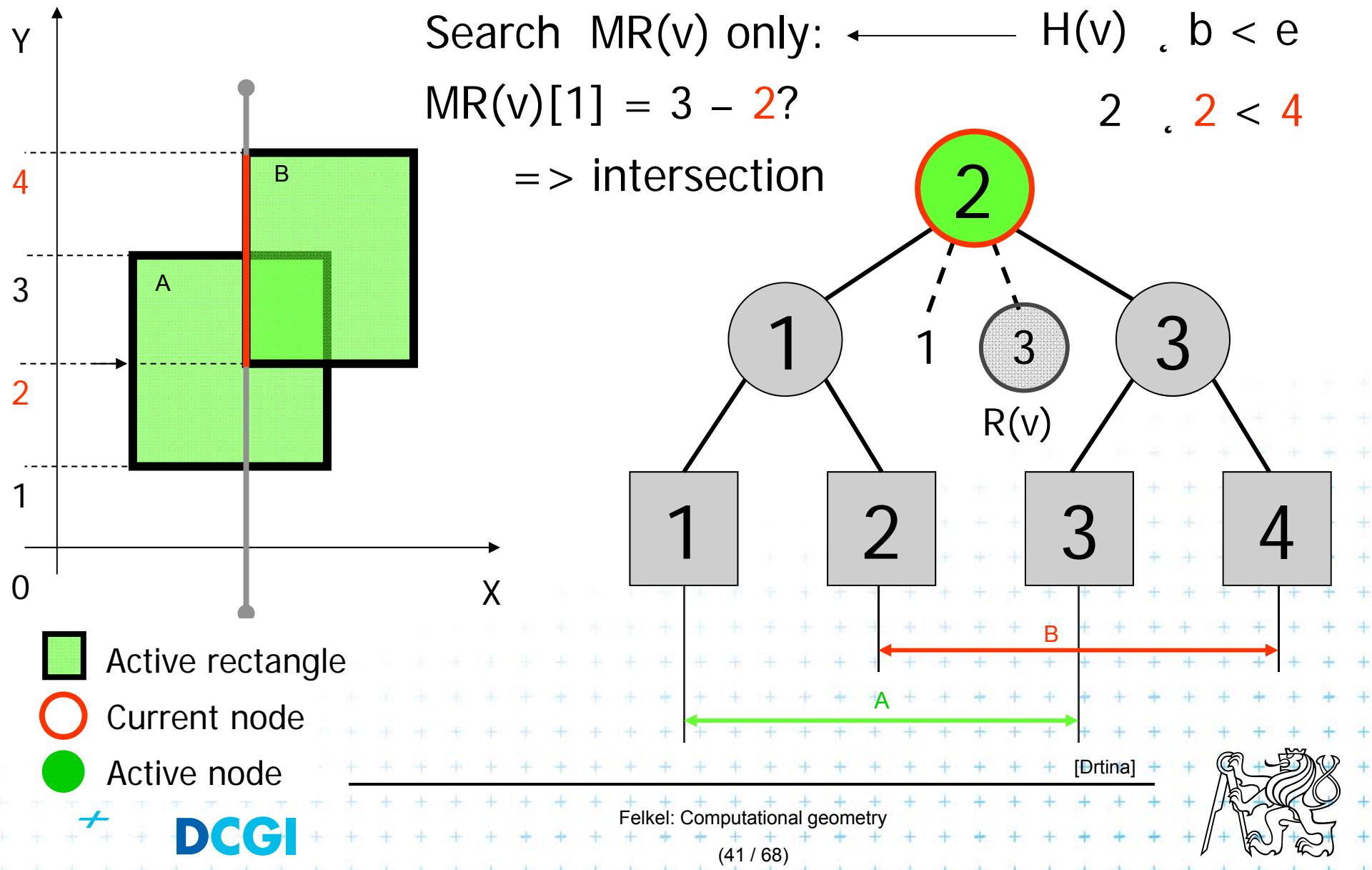
Current node

Active node

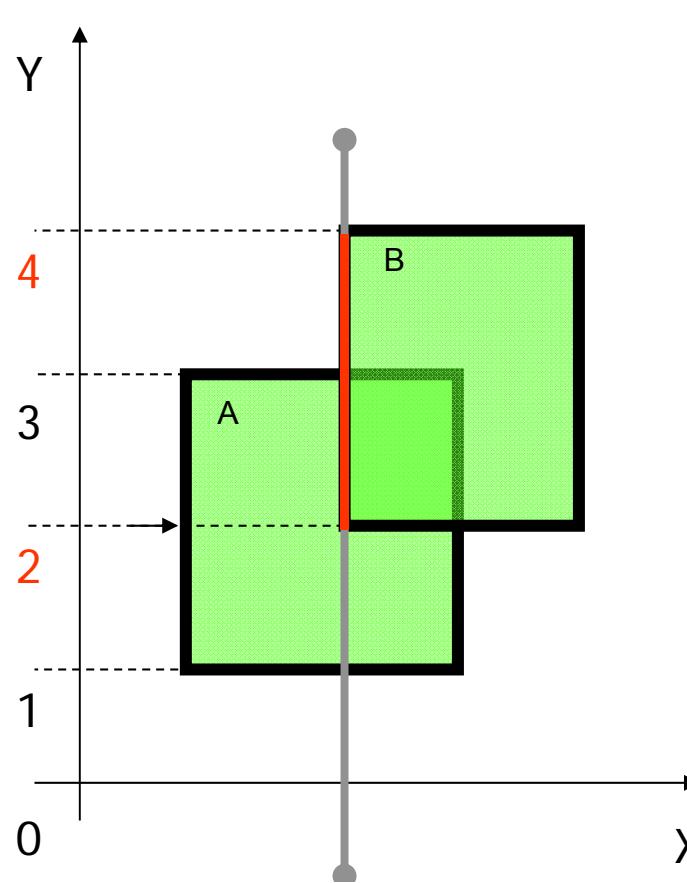
DCGI



# Interval insertion [2,4] a) Query Interval



# Interval insertion [2,4] b) Insert Interval



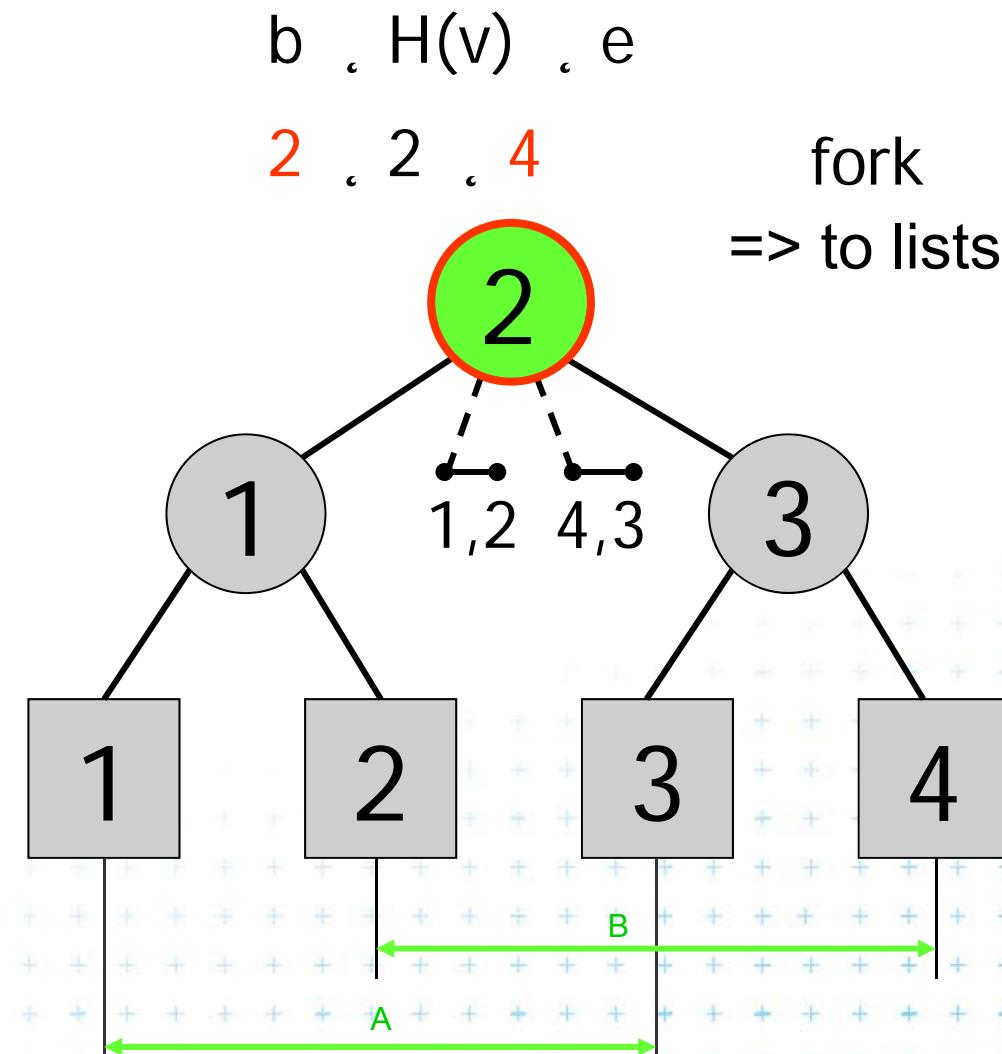
Active rectangle

Current node

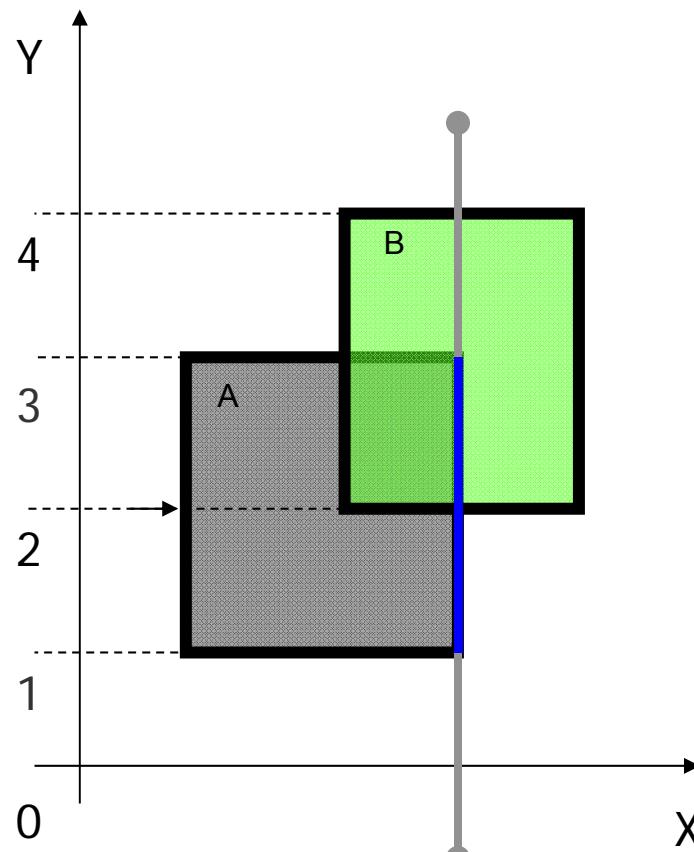
Active node



**DCGI**



# Interval delete [1,3]



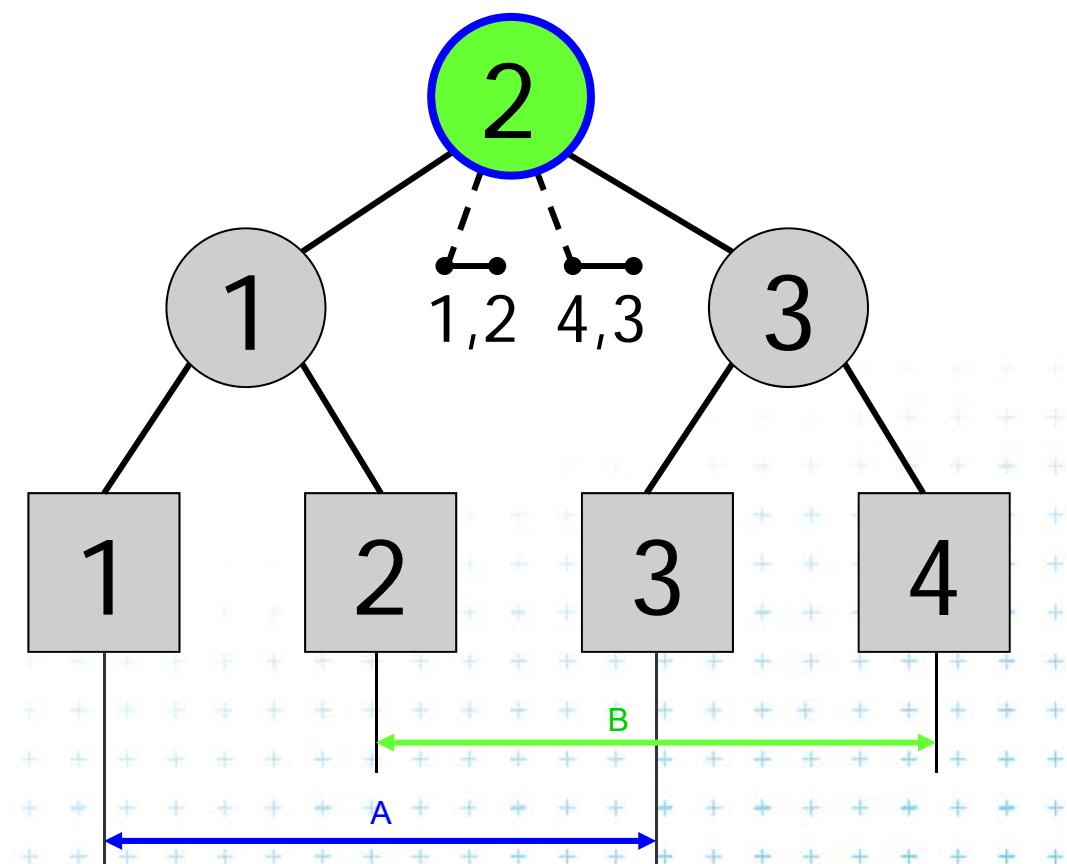
Active rectangle

Current node

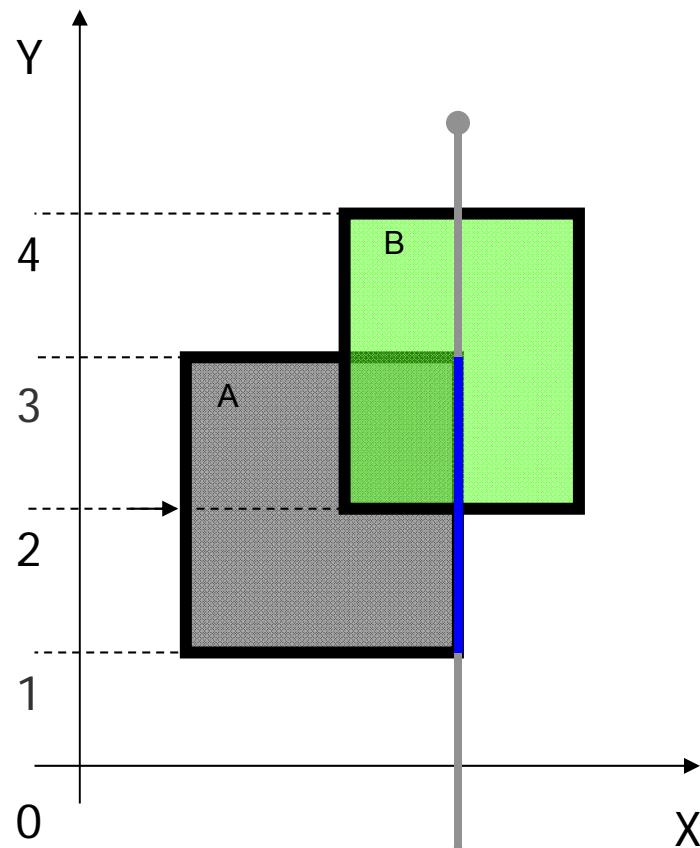
Active node



**DCGI**



# Interval delete [1,3]

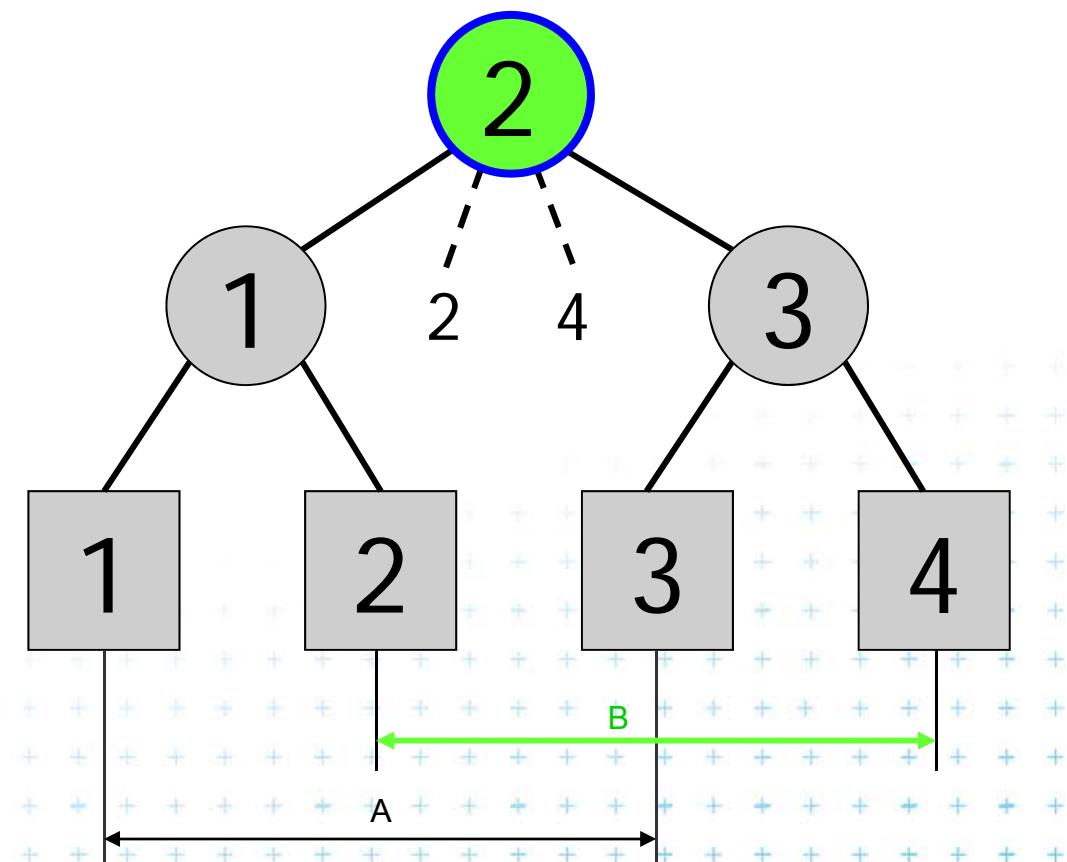


Active rectangle

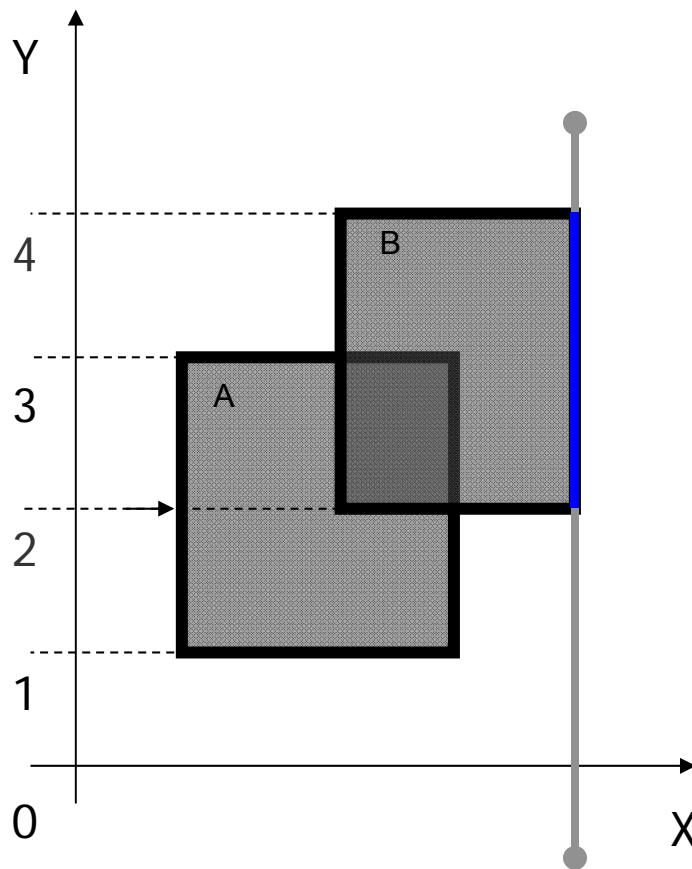
Current node

Active node

DCGI



# Interval delete [2,4]



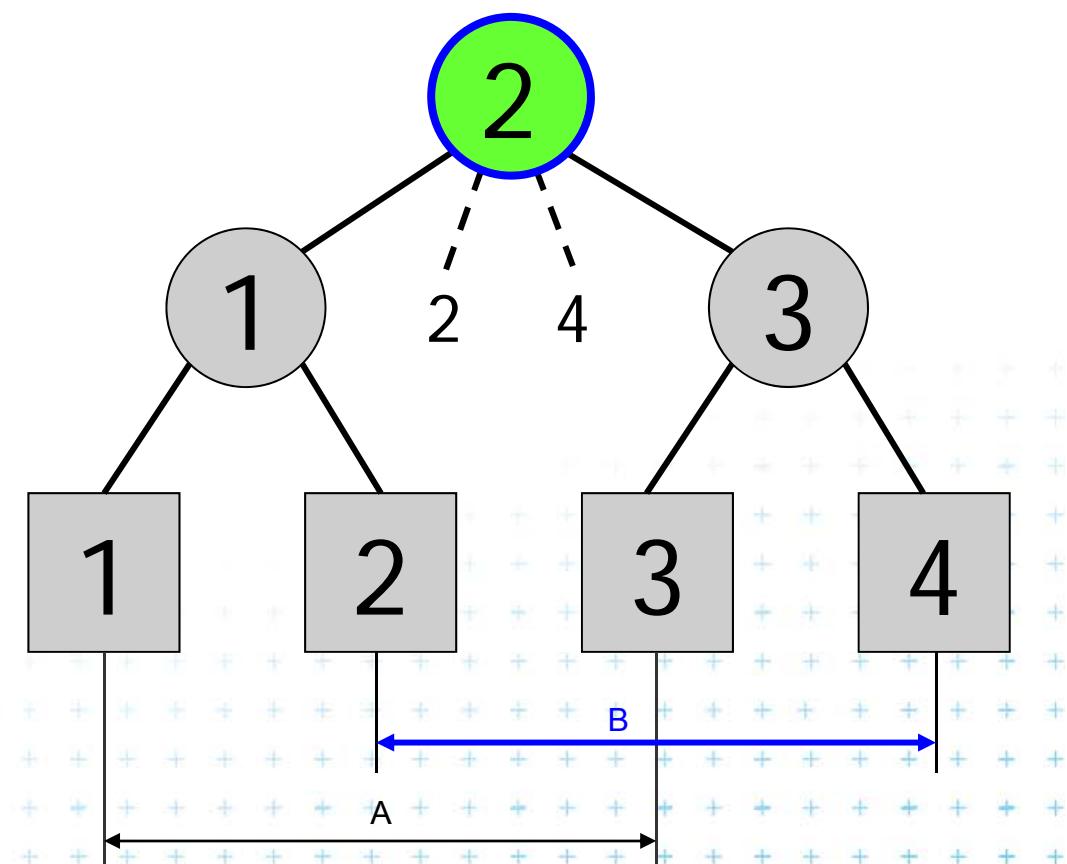
Active rectangle

Current node

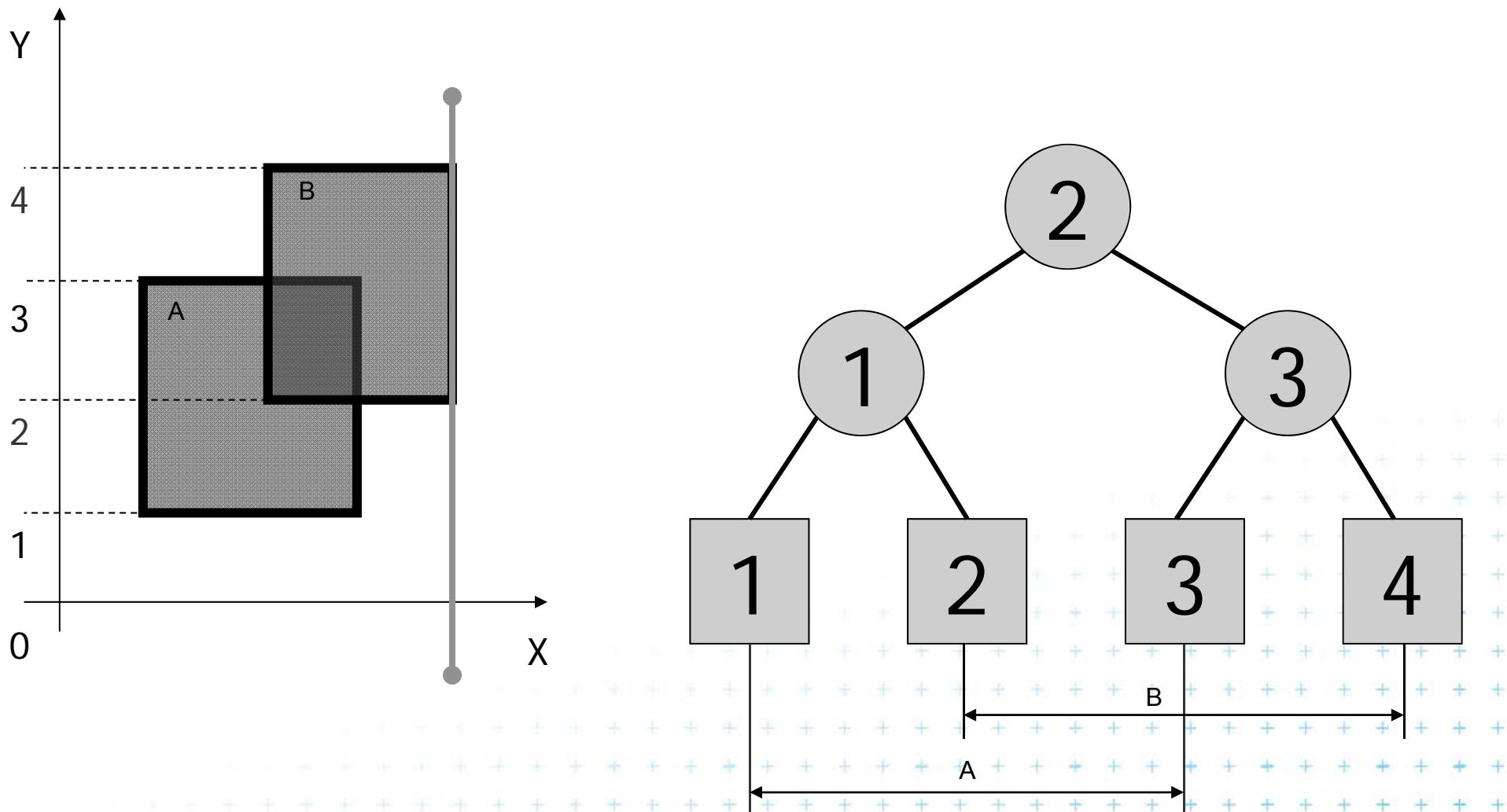
Active node



DCGI



# Interval delete [2,4]



## Example 2

---

**RectangleIntersections(  $S$  )** // this is copy of the slide before

*Input:* Set  $S$  of rectangles // just to remember the algorithm

*Output:* Intersected rectangle pairs

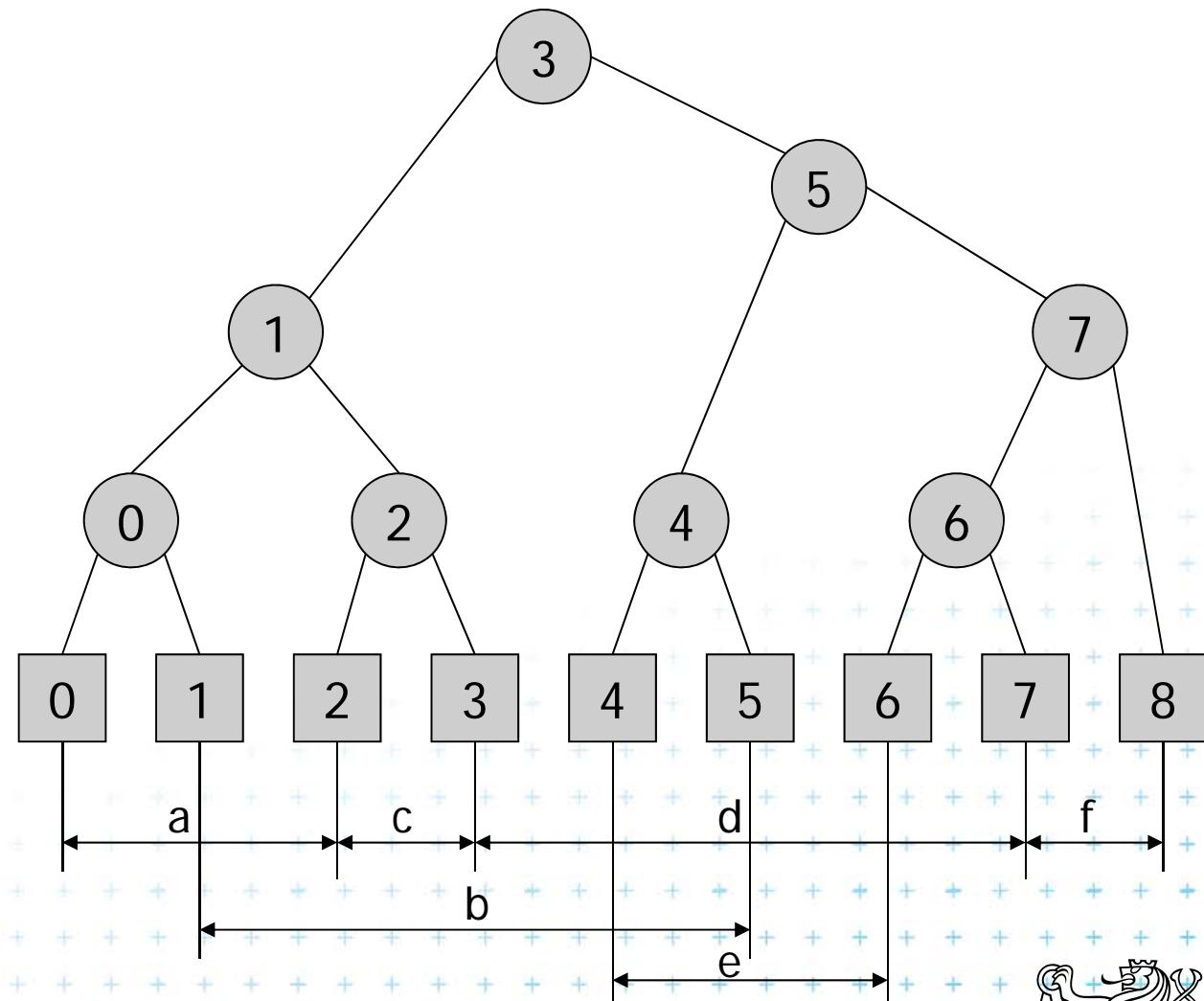
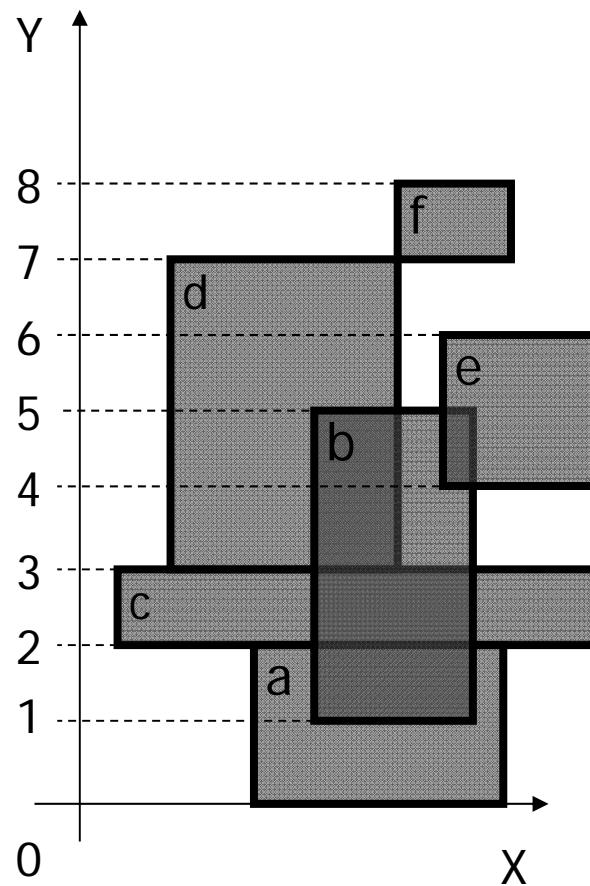
1. Preprocess(  $S$  ) // create the interval tree  $T$  and event queue  $Q$
2. **while** (  $Q \neq \emptyset$  ) do
3.     Get next entry  $(x_{il}, y_{il}, y_{ir}, t)$  from  $Q$  //  $t @ \{ \text{left} | \text{right} \}$
4.     **if** (  $t = \text{left}$  ) // left edge
5.         a) **QueryInterval** (  $y_{il}, y_{ir}, \text{root}(T)$  ) // report intersections
6.         b) **InsertInterval** (  $y_{il}, y_{ir}, \text{root}(T)$  ) // insert new interval
7.     **else** // right edge
8.         c) **DeleteInterval** (  $y_{il}, y_{ir}, \text{root}(T)$  )



**DCGI**

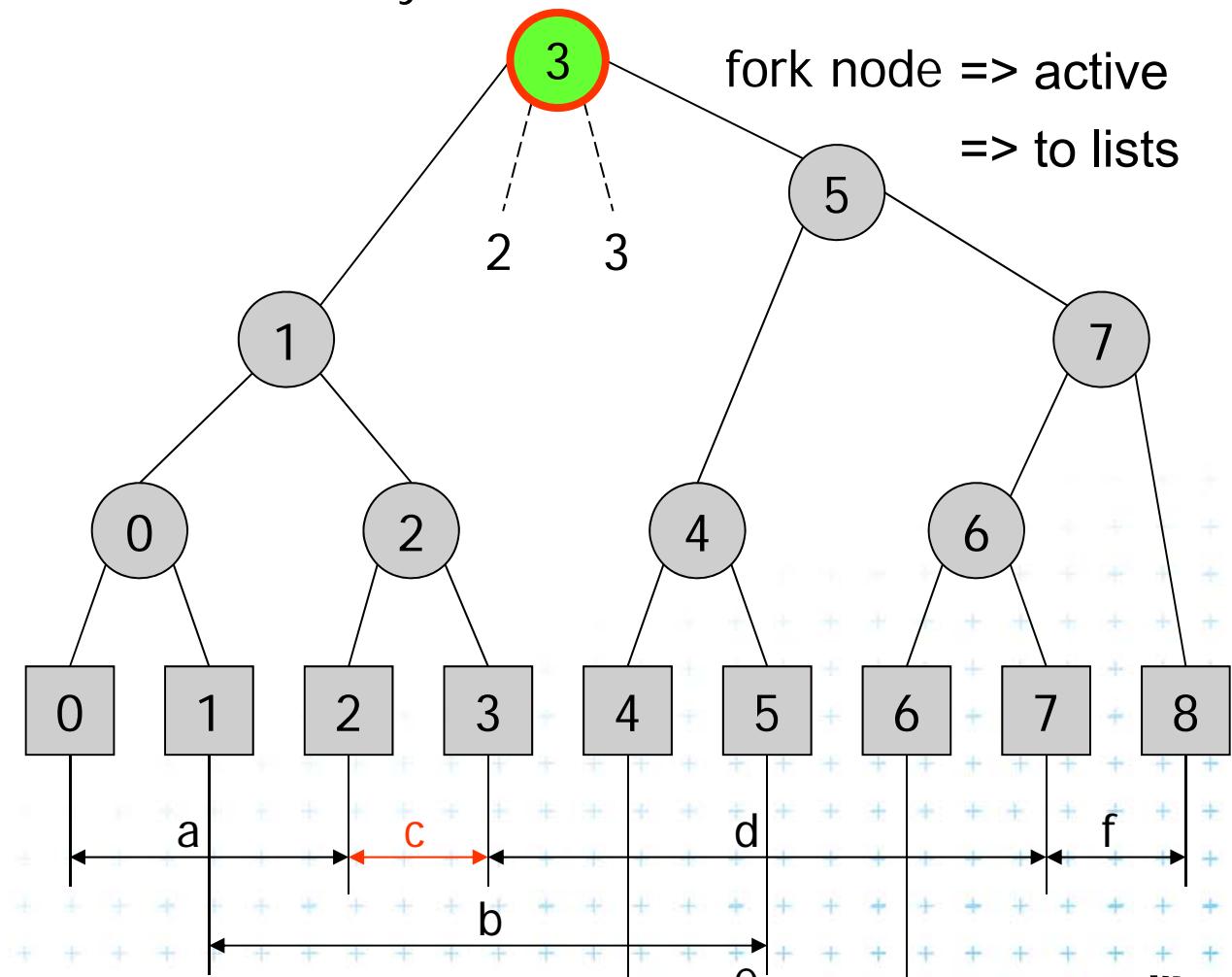
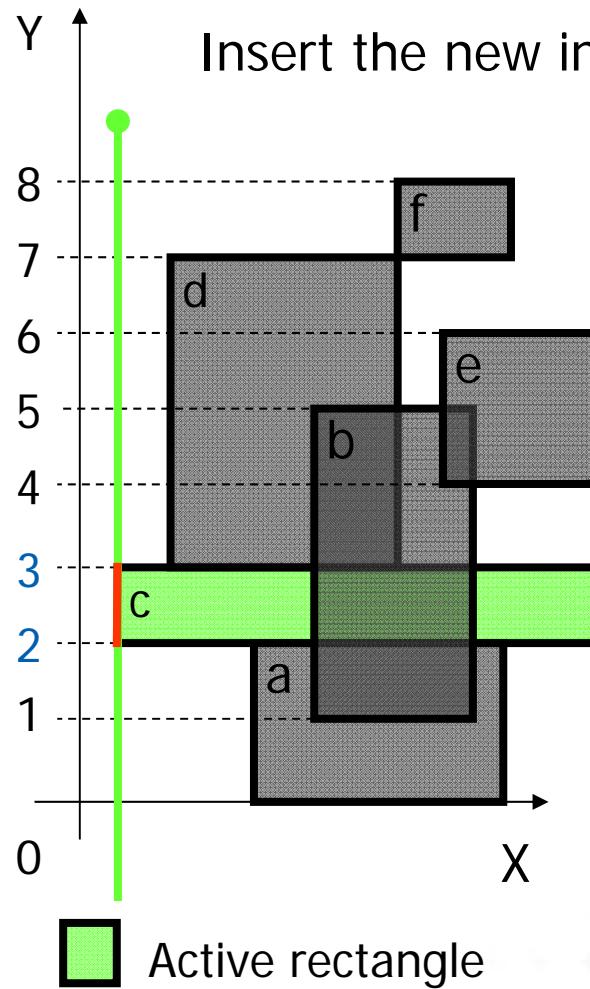


## Example 2



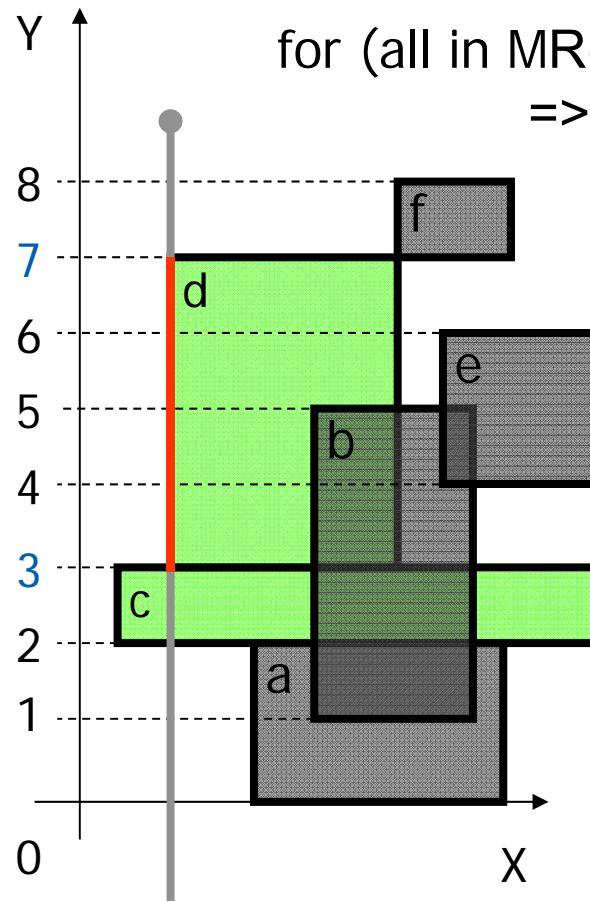
# Insert [2,3] – empty => b) Insert Interval

b , H(v) , e



# Insert [3,7] a) Query Interval

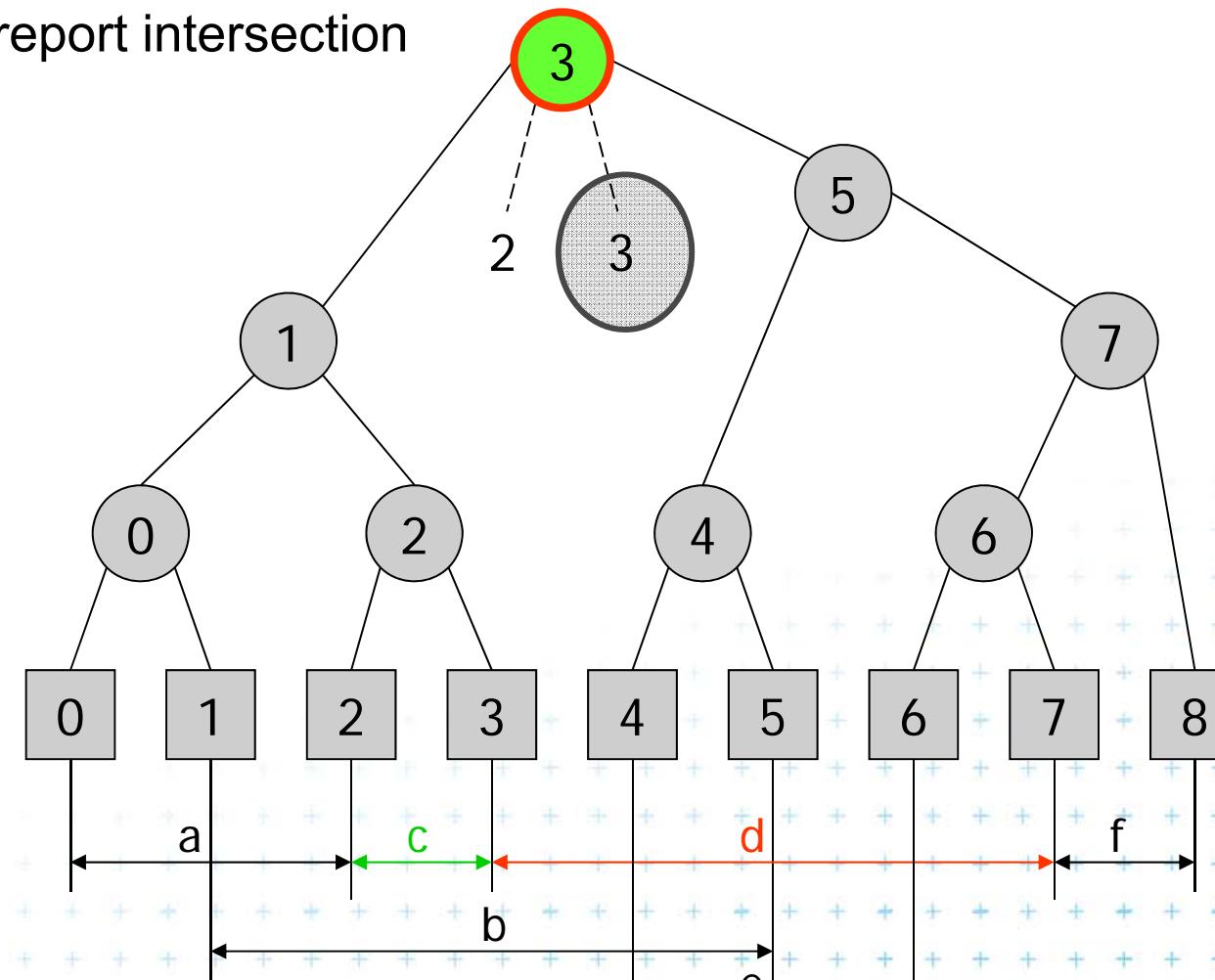
$H(v)$  , b ? e



Active rectangle

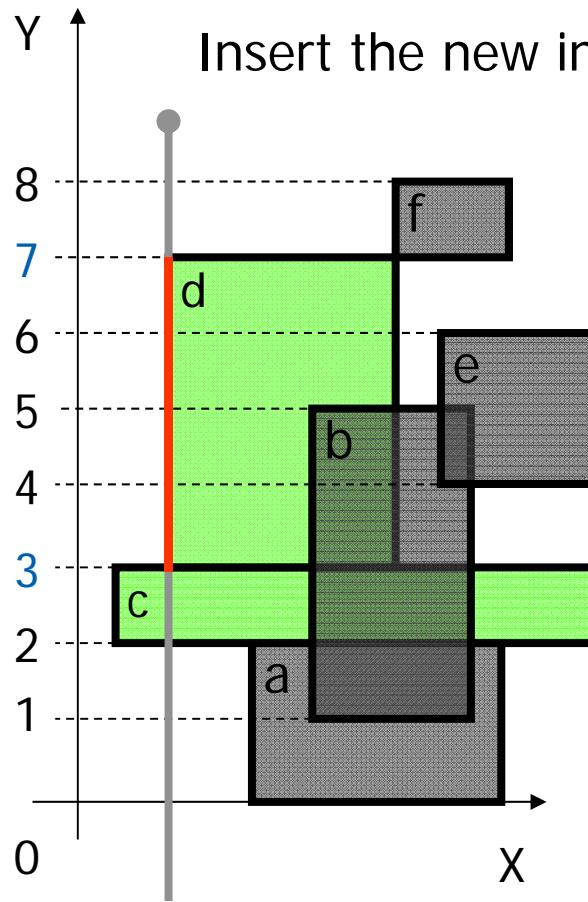
Current node

Active node



# Insert [3,7] b) Insert Interval

b . H(v) . e



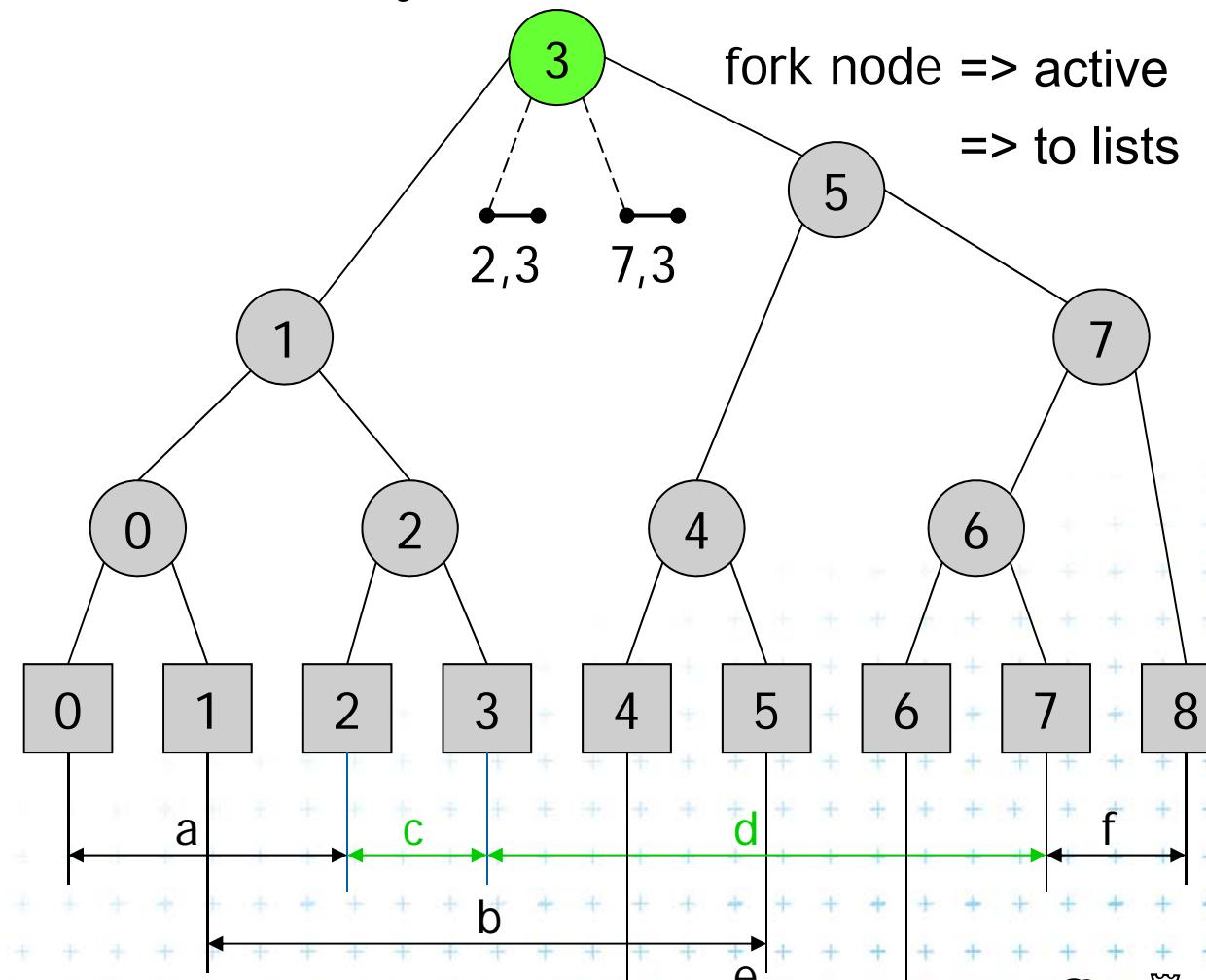
Active rectangle

Current node

Active node

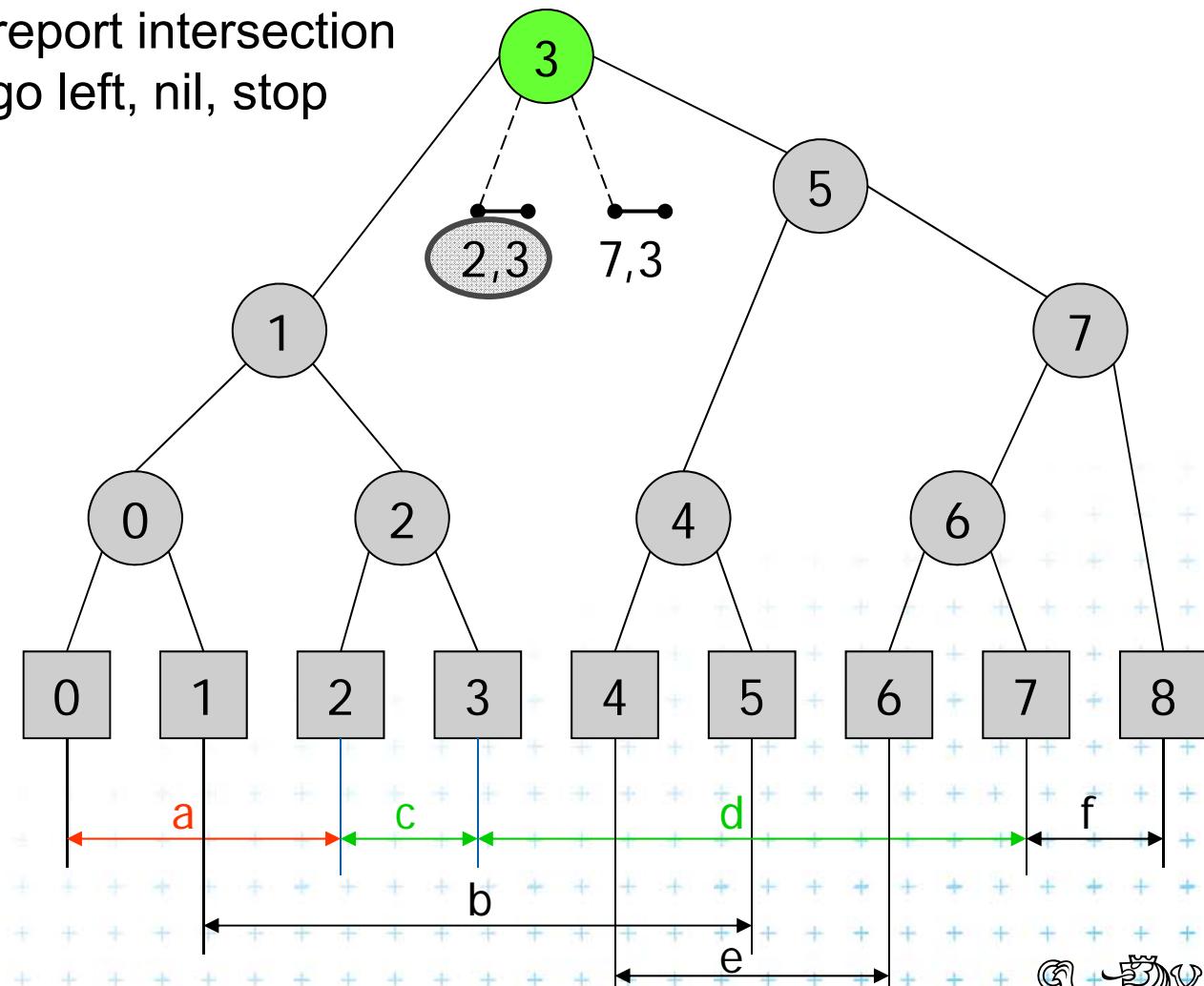
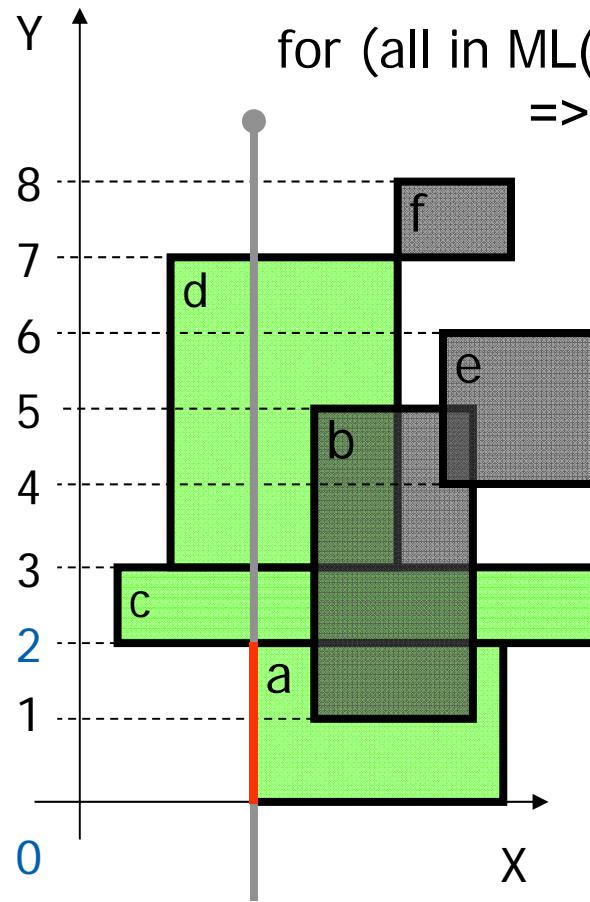


**DCGI**



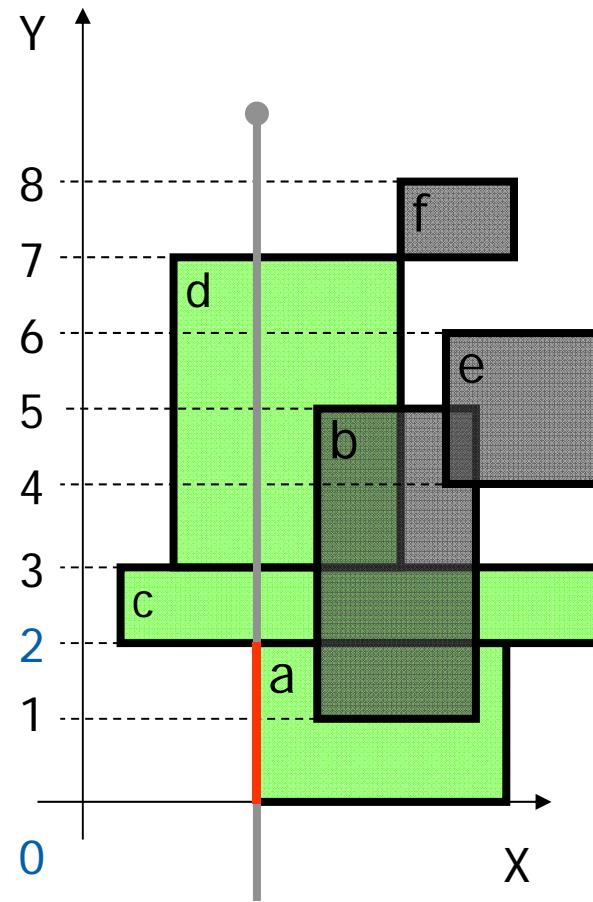
# Insert [0,2] a) Query Interval

b ? e . H(v)



# Insert [0,2] b) Insert Interval 1/2

$b \leq e < H(v)$



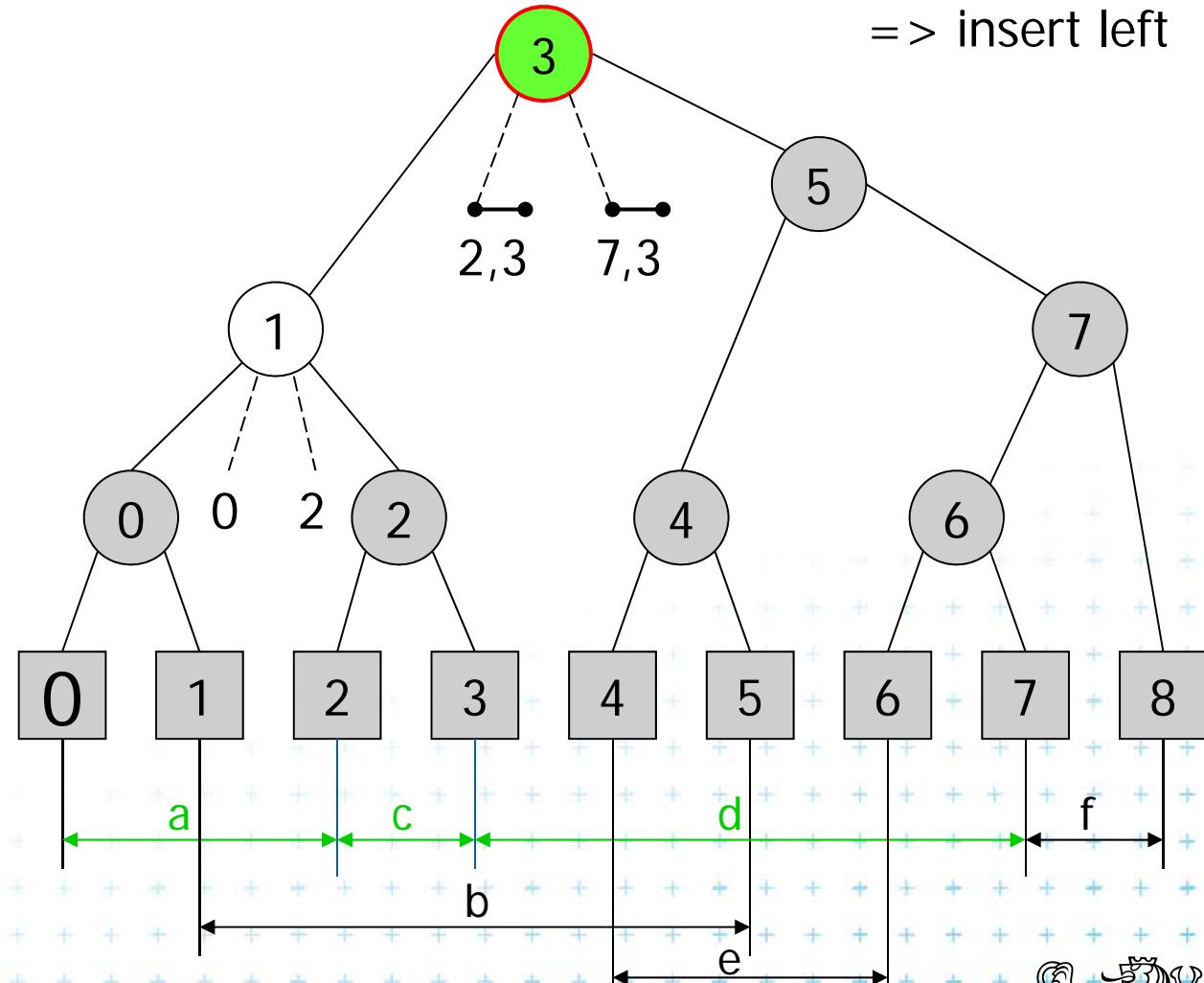
Active rectangle

Current node

Active node

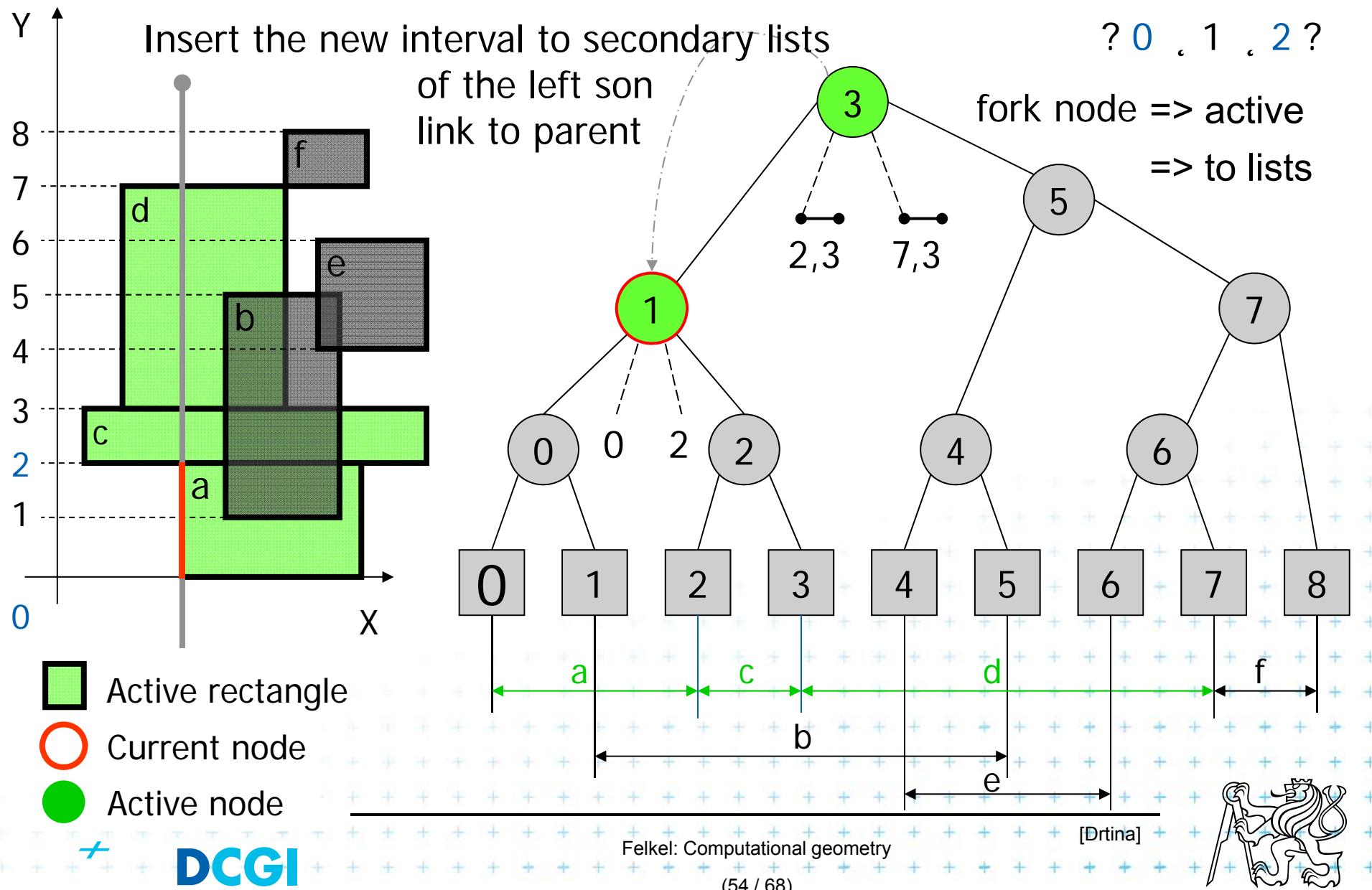


DCGI



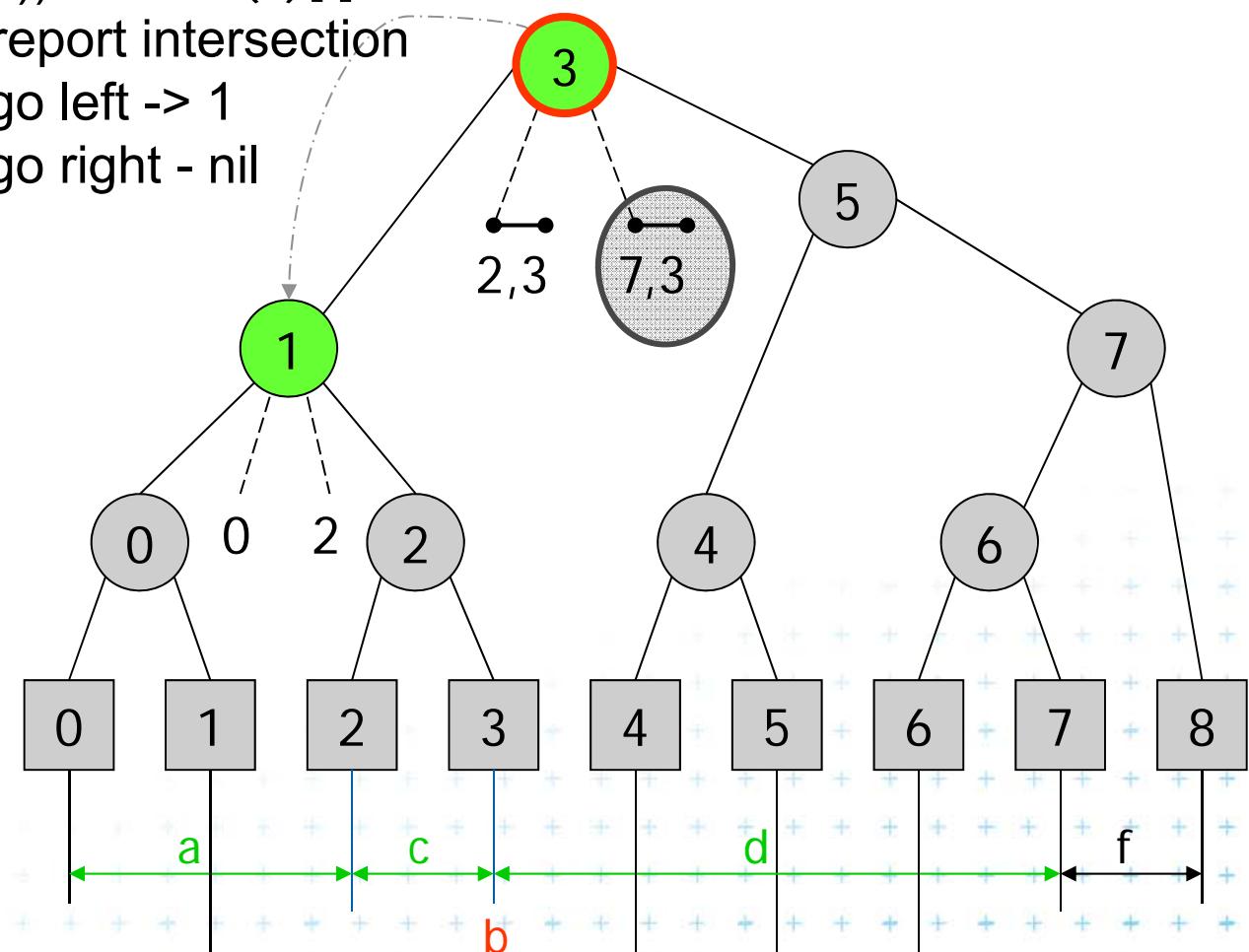
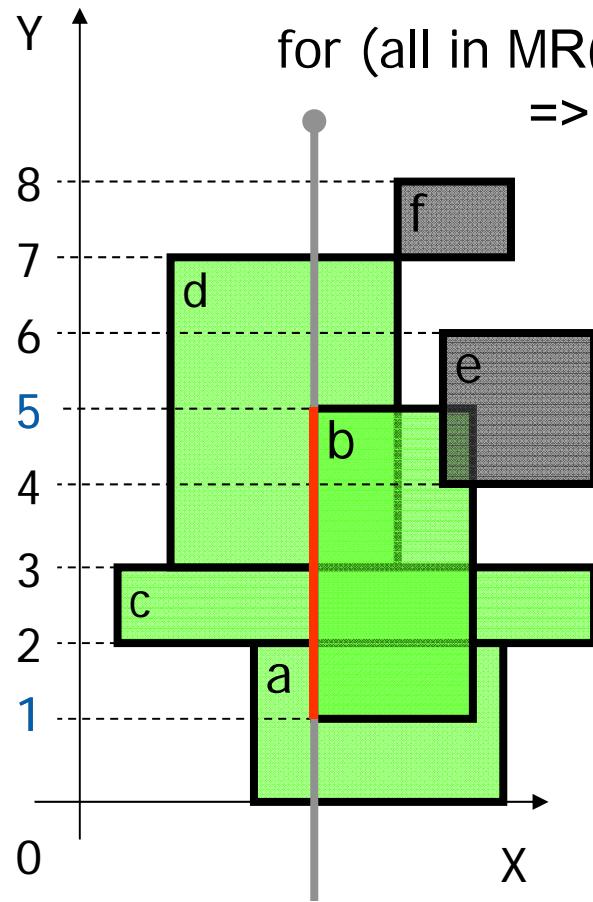
# Insert [0,2] b) Insert Interval 2/2

b , H(v) , e



# Insert [1,5] a) Query Interval 1/2

$b ? H(v) < e$



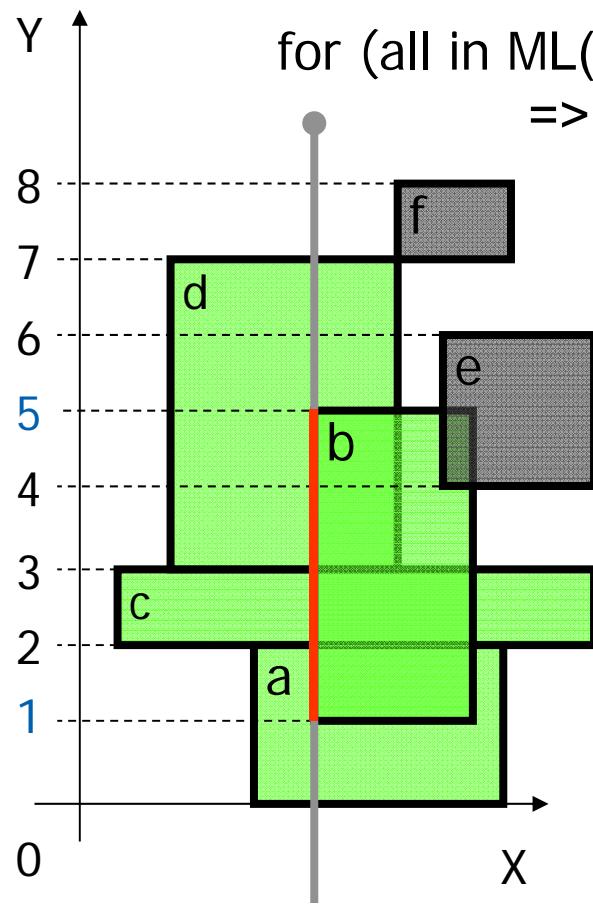
- Active rectangle
- Current node
- Active node

DCGI

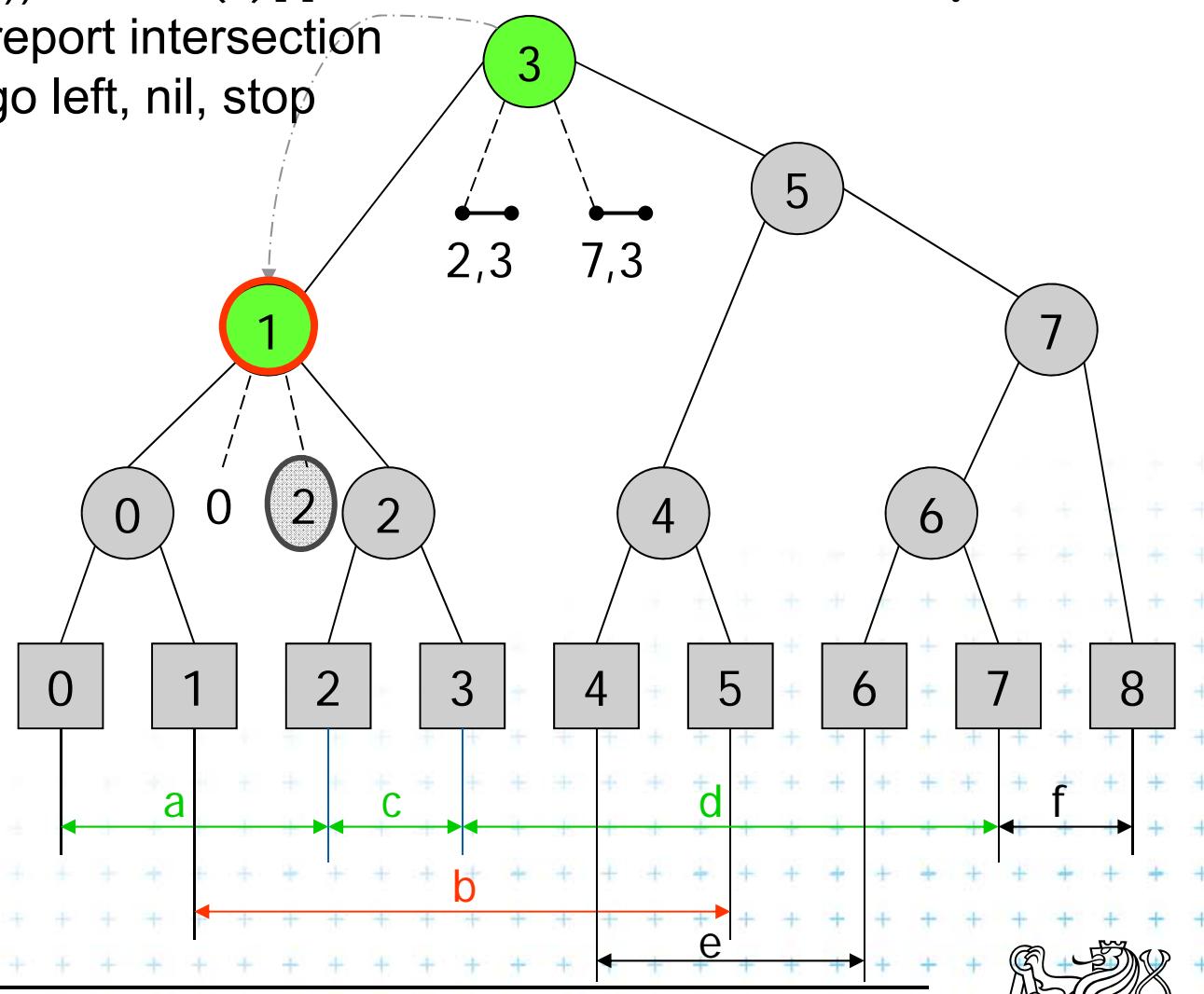


# Insert [1,5] a) Query Interval 2/2

$H(v)$ ,  $b \in$



for (all in ML(v)) test  $ML(v)[i] - 1$   
=> report intersection  
go left, nil, stop



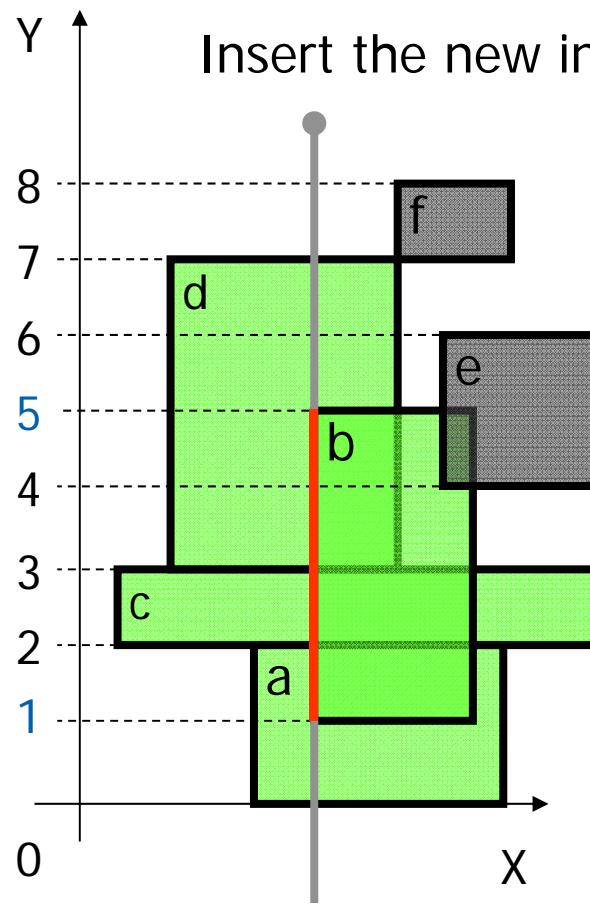
Felkel: Computational geometry

(56 / 68)



# Insert [1,5] b) Insert Interval

b . H(v) . e



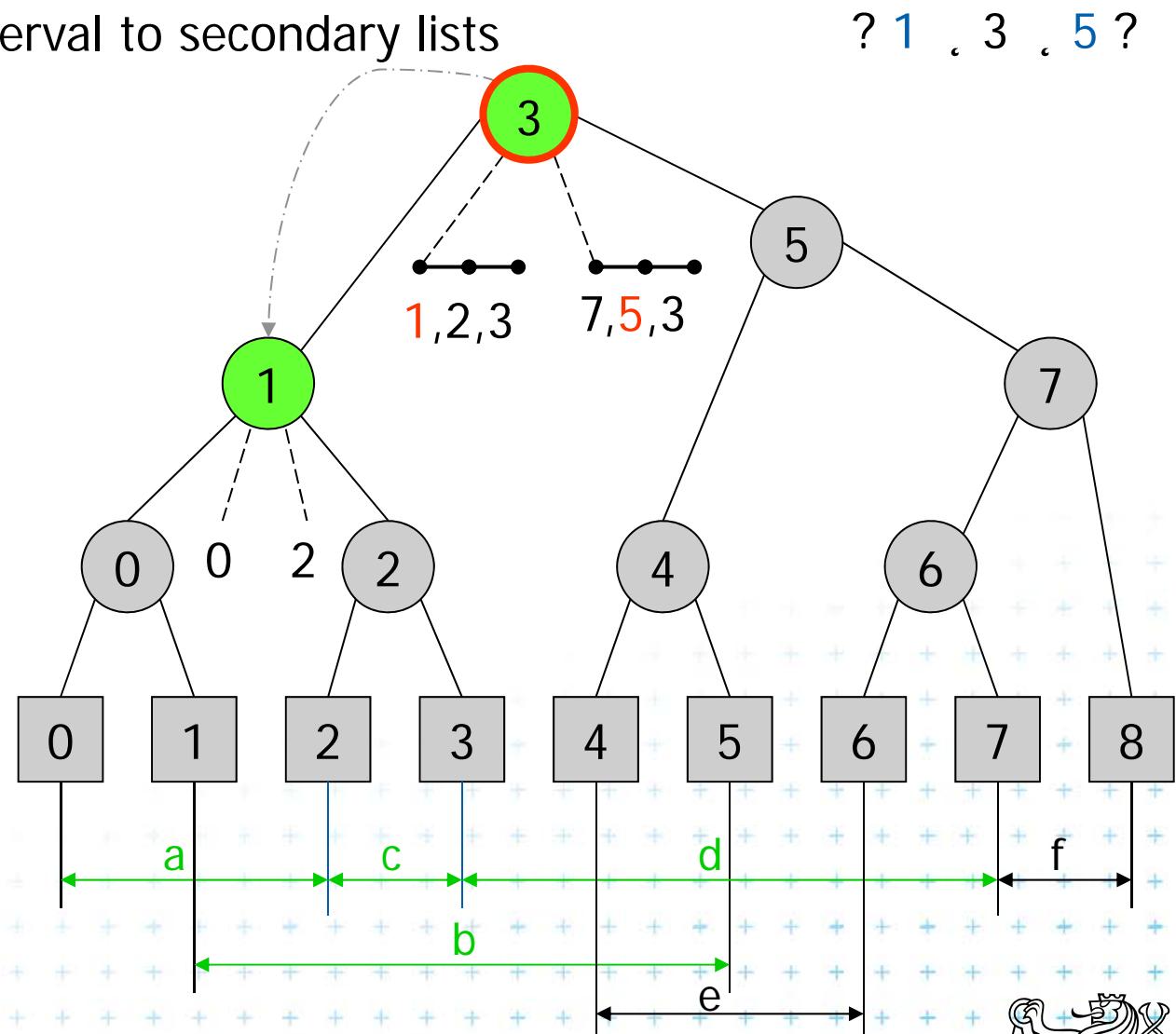
■ Active rectangle

○ Current node

● Active node

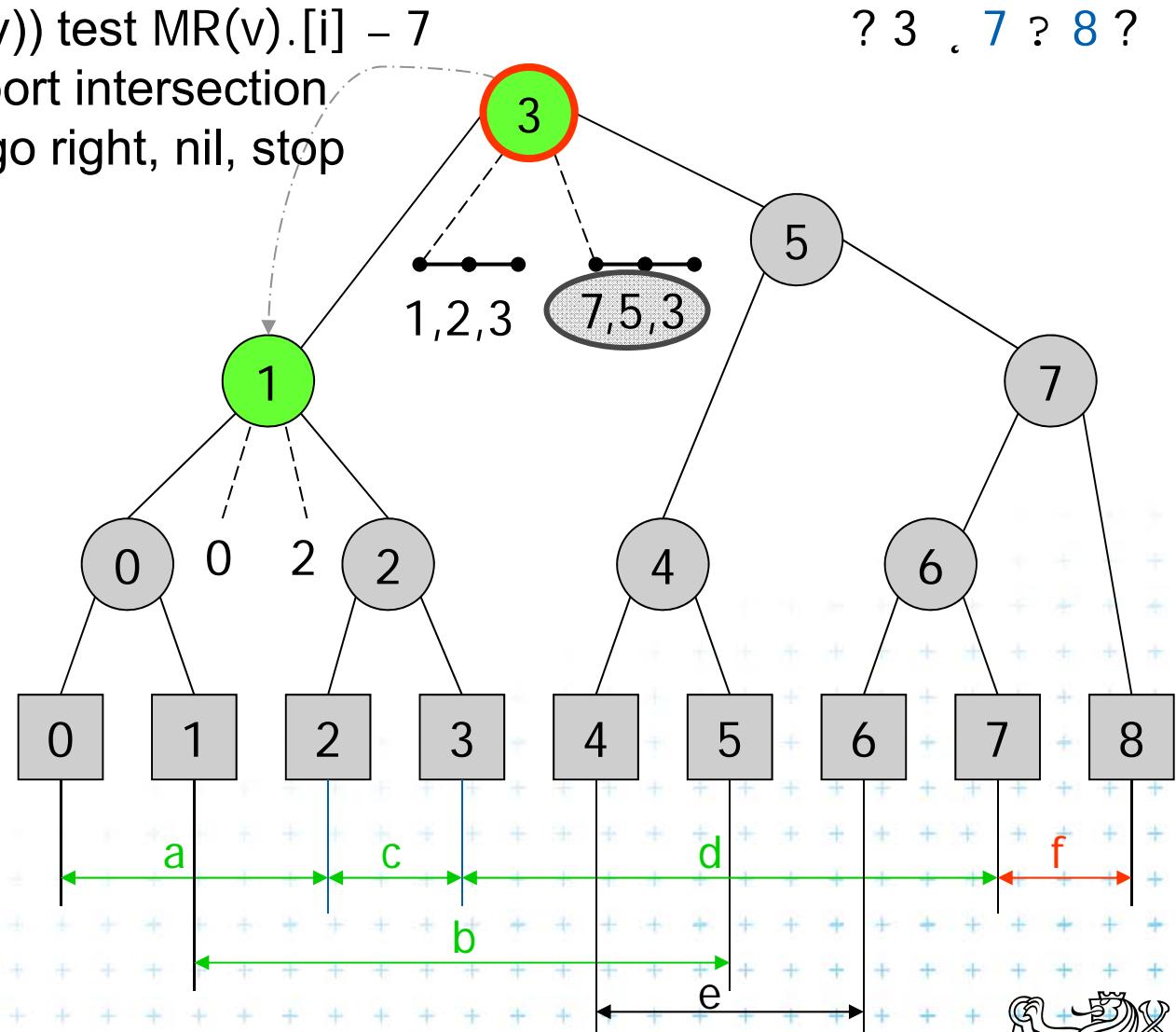
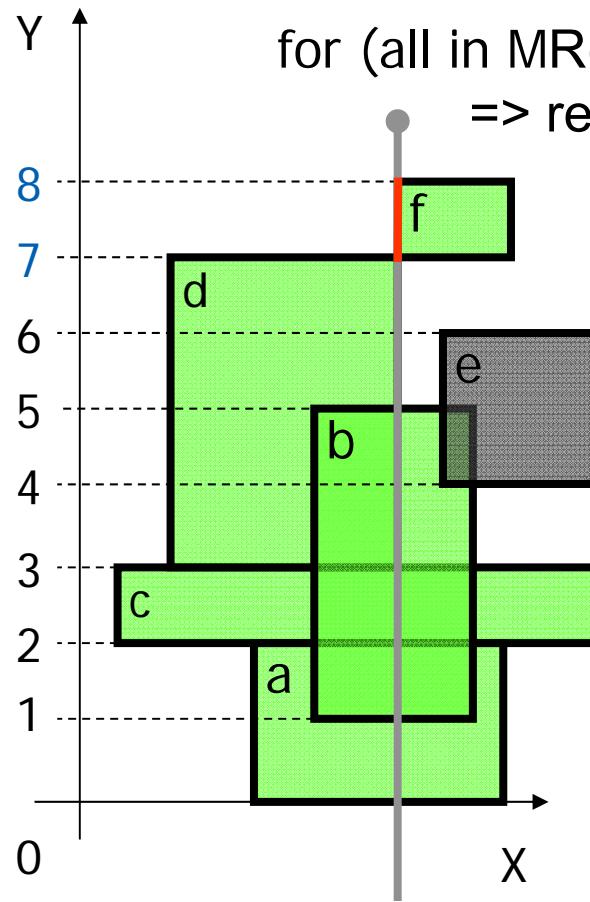


**DCGI**



# Insert [7,8] a) Query Interval

$H(v)$  , b ? e



Active rectangle

Current node

Active node

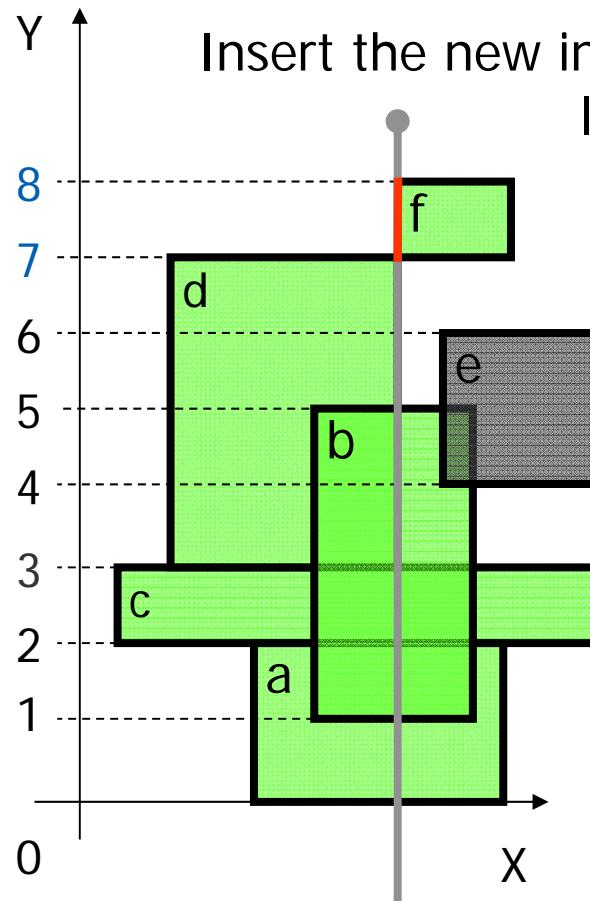


DCGI



# Insert [7,8] b) Insert Interval

b . H(v) . e

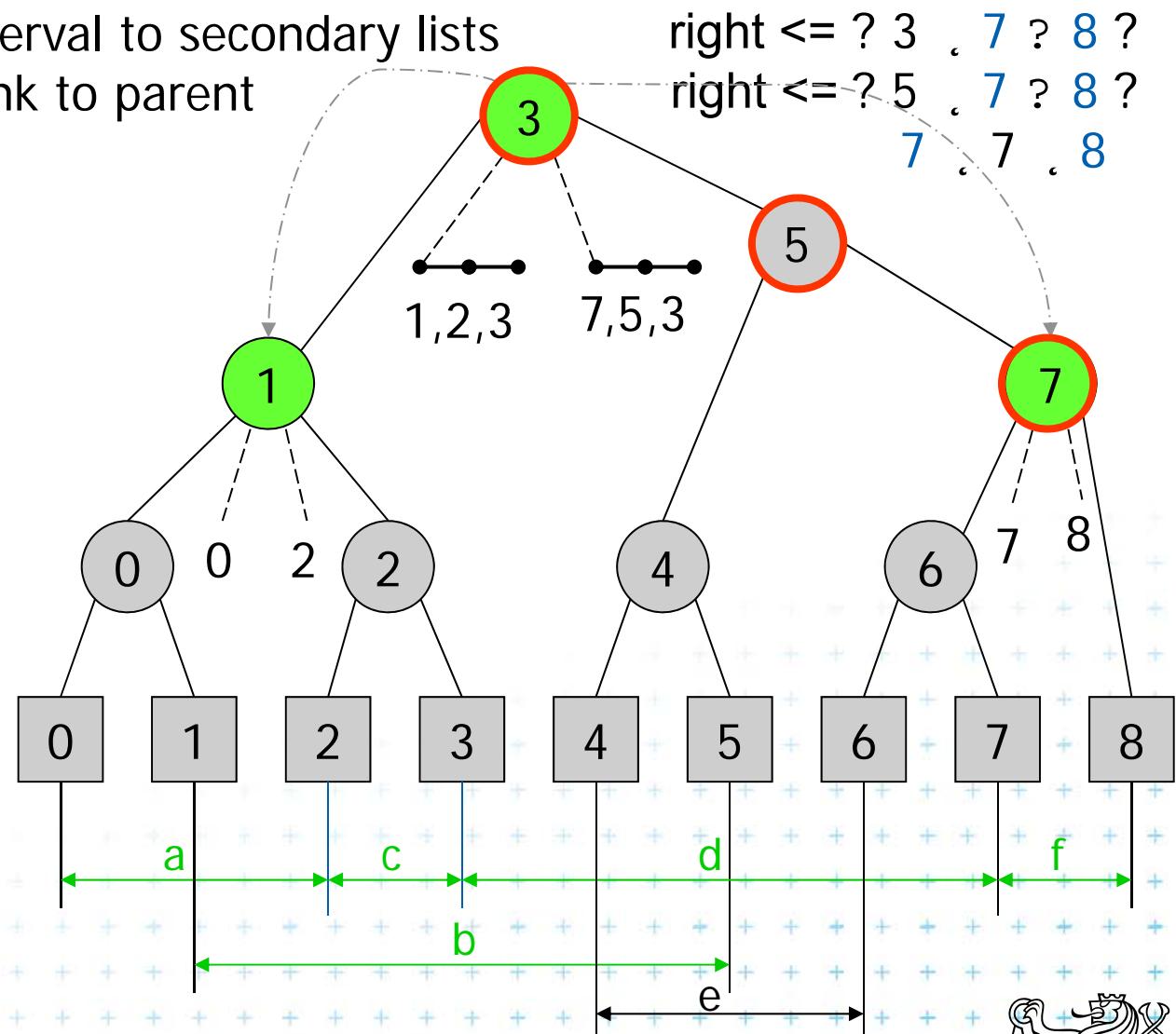


Active rectangle

Current node

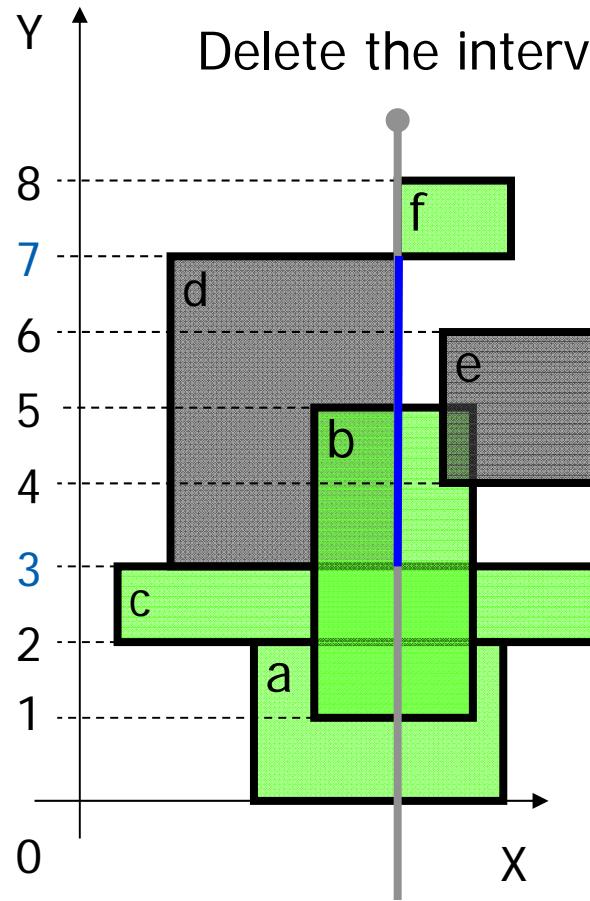
Active node

**DCGI**



# Delete [3,7] Delete Interval

b . H(v) . e

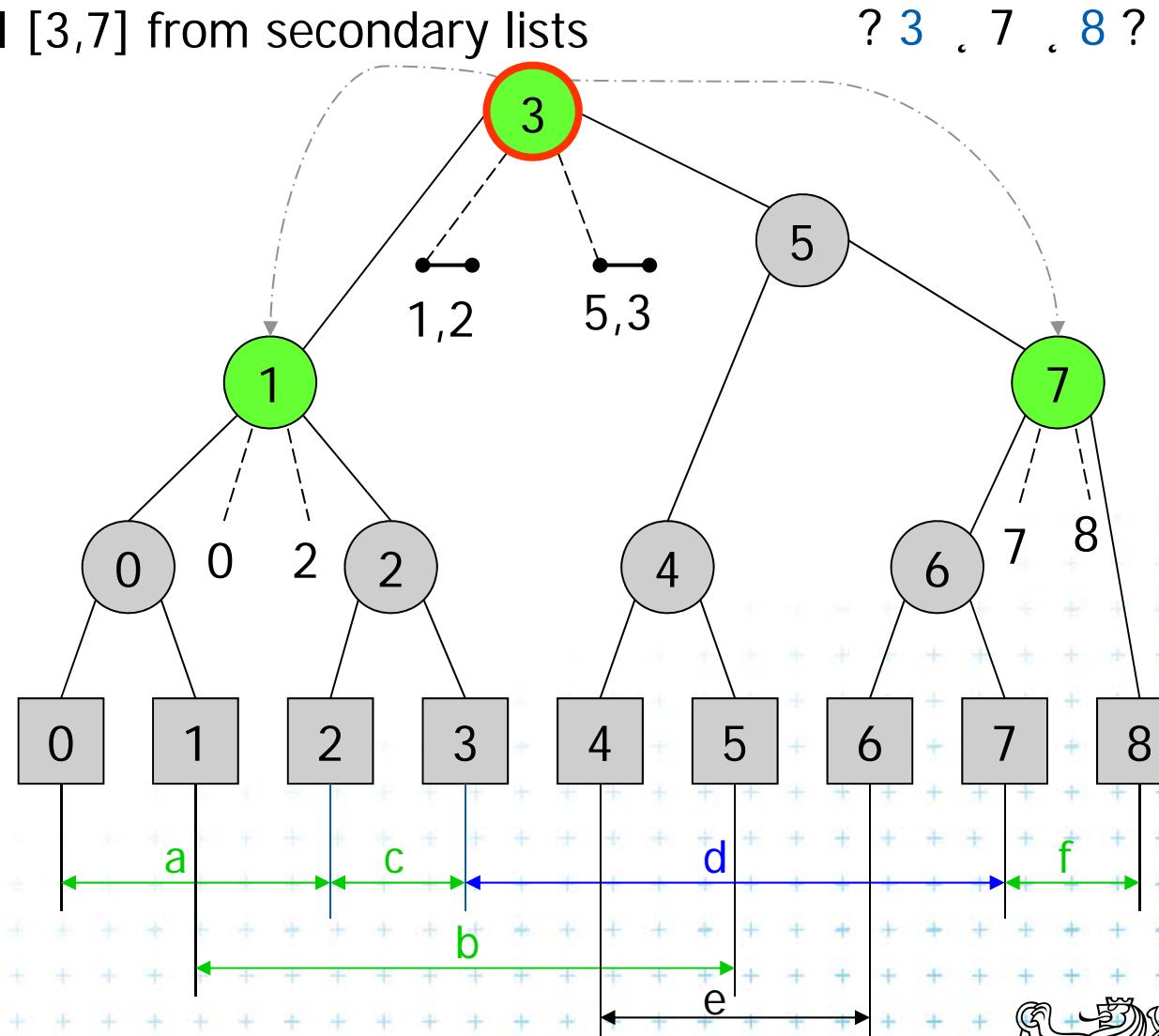


Active rectangle

Current node

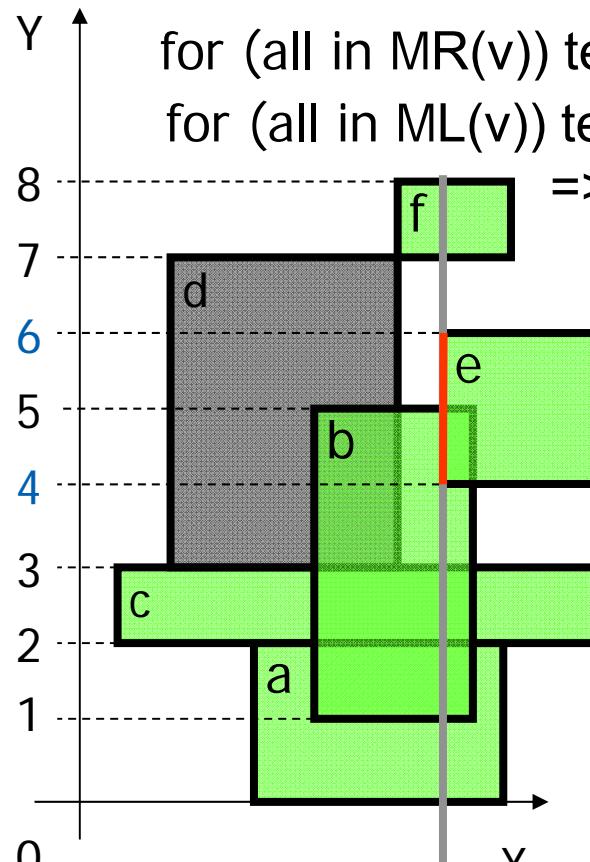
Active node

**DCGI**



# Insert [4,6] a) Query Interval

$H(v)$  , b ? e

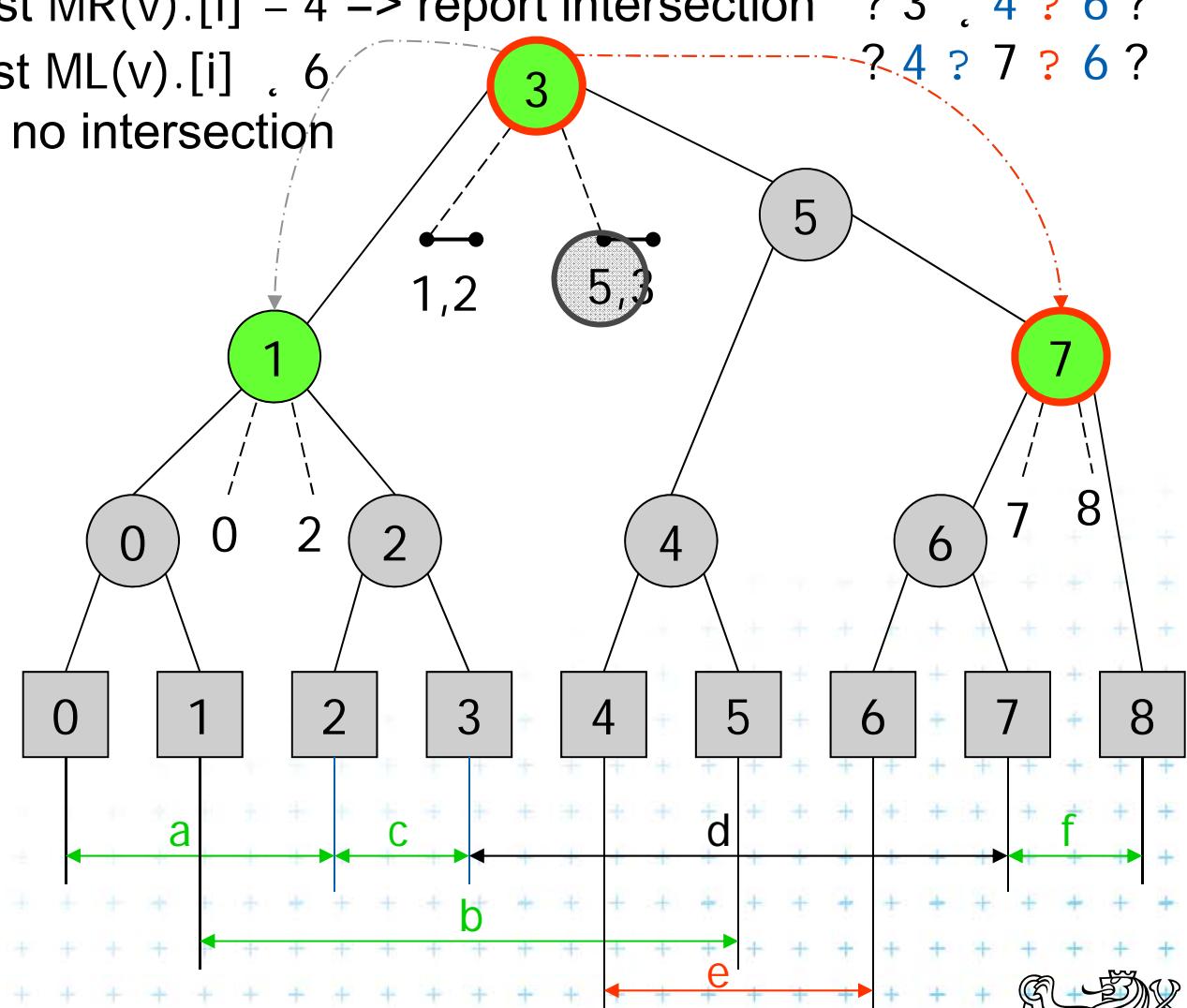


Active rectangle

Current node

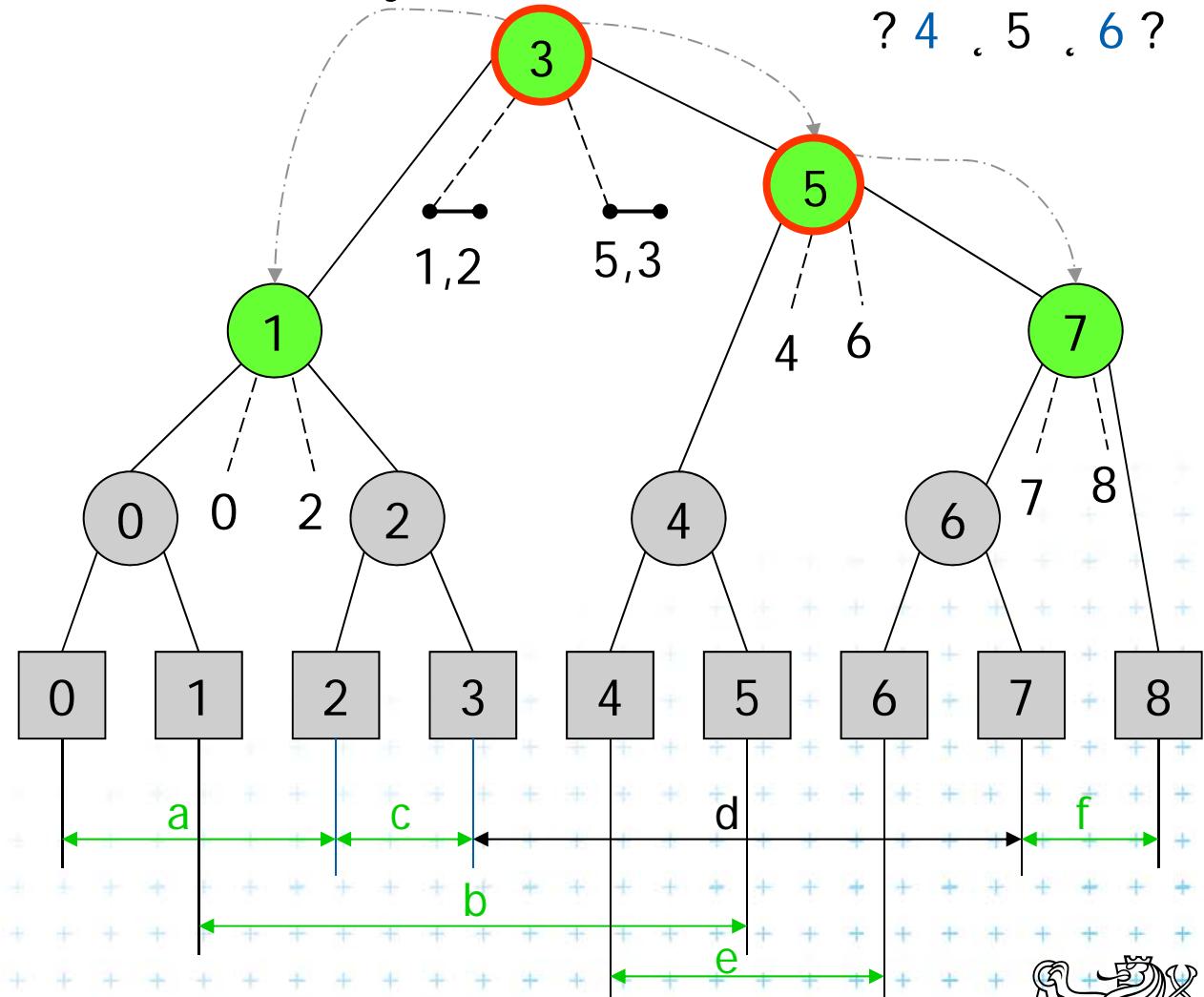
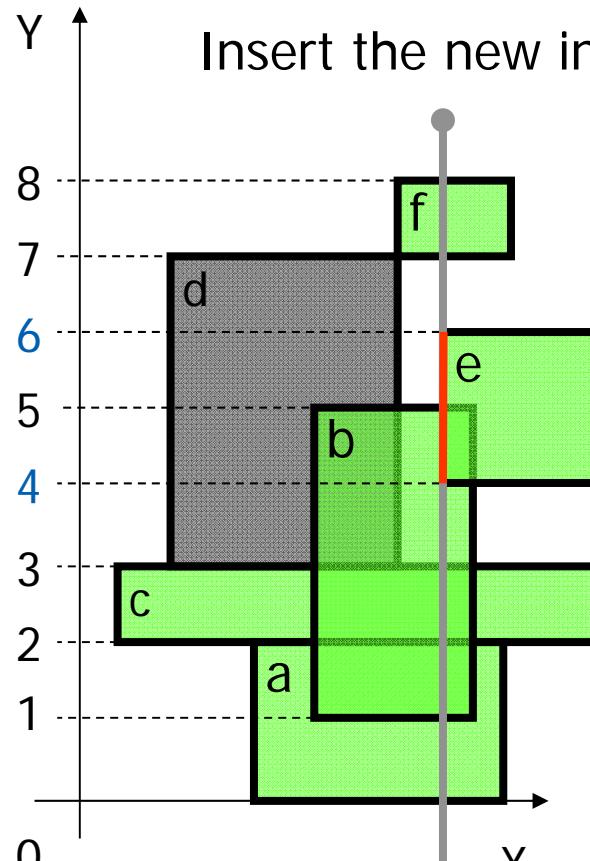
Active node

DCGI



# Insert [4,6] b) Insert Interval

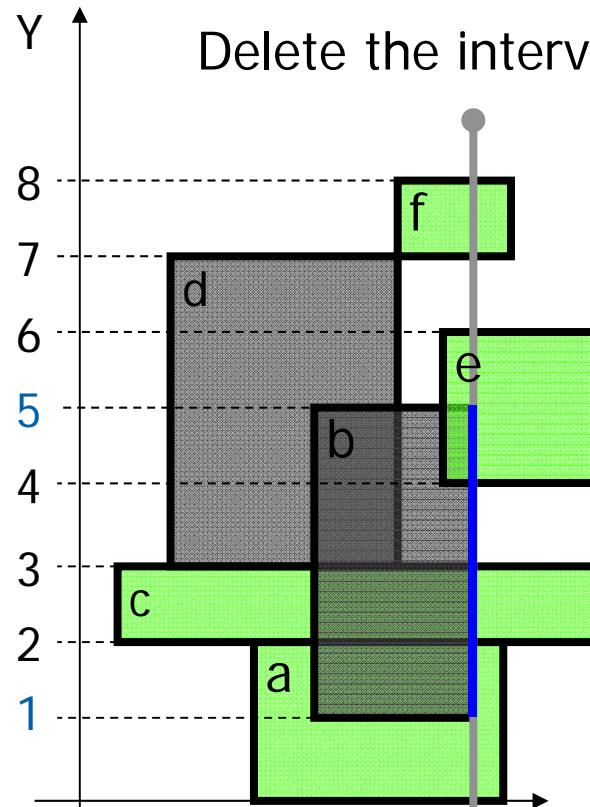
s



DCGI

# Delete [1,5] Delete Interval

b . H(v) . e

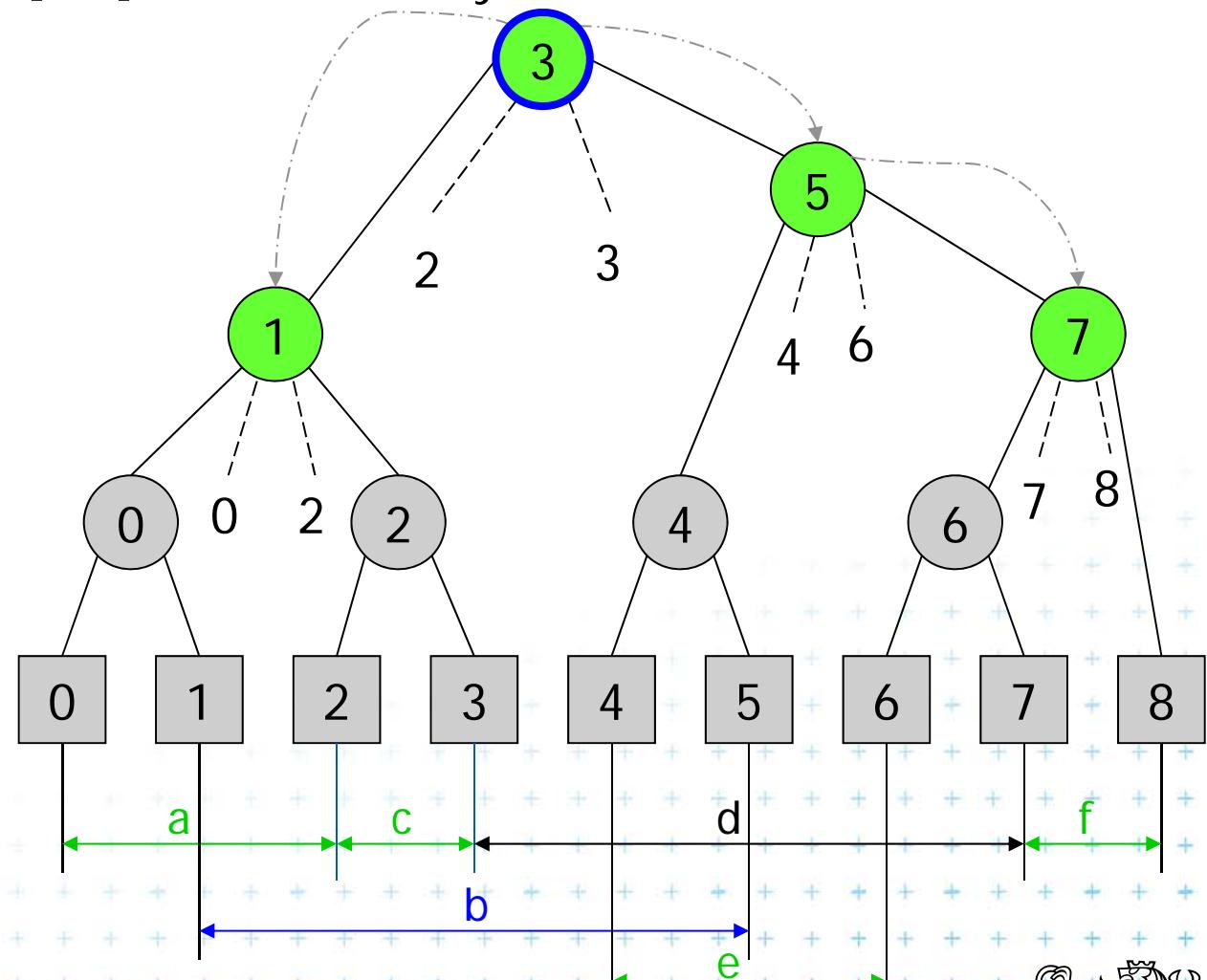


█ Active rectangle

○ Current node

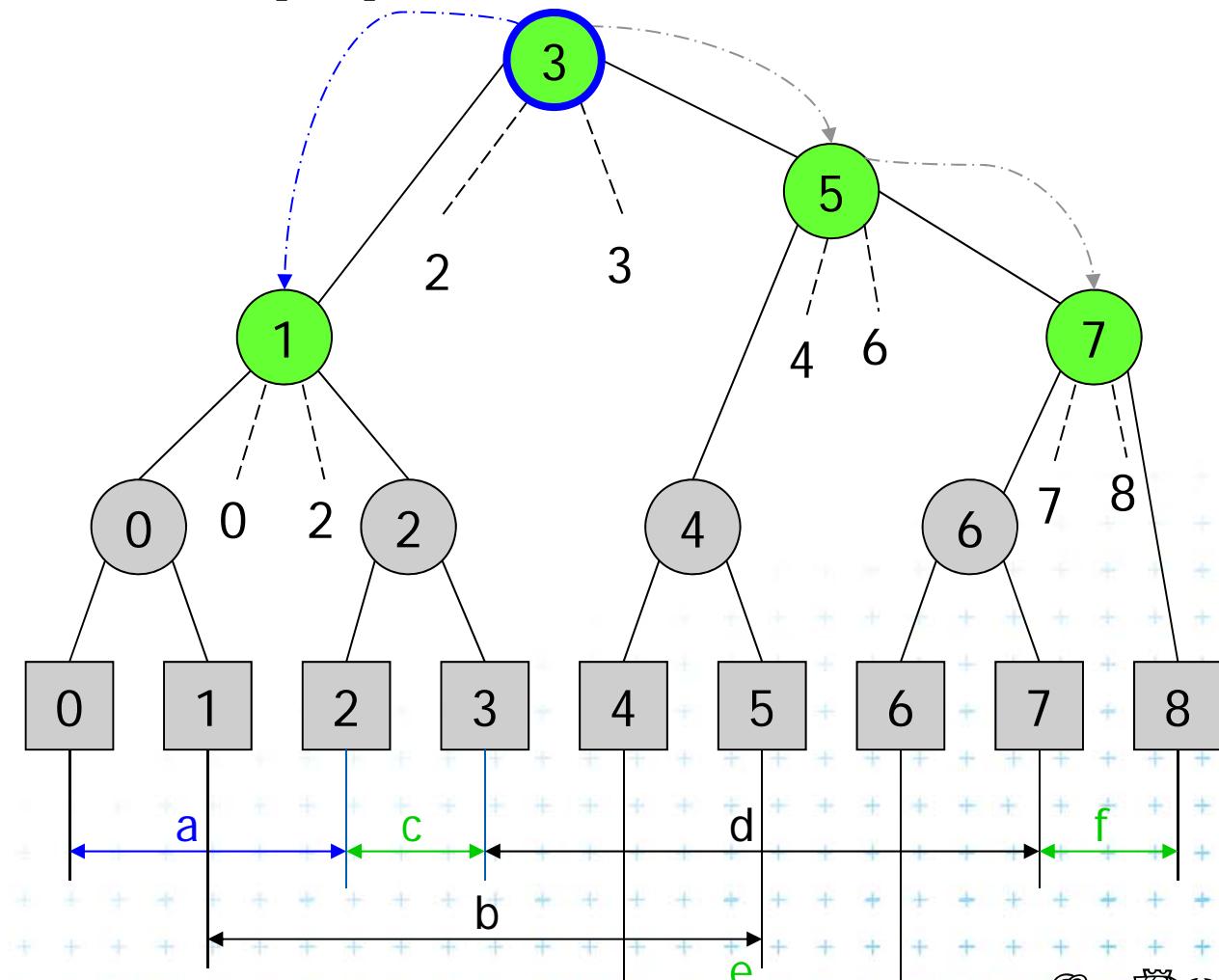
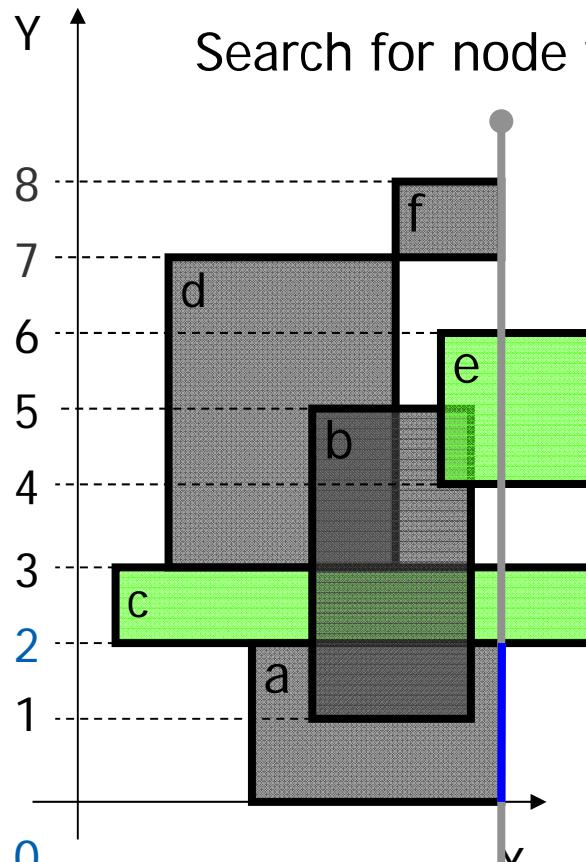
● Active node

**DCGI**



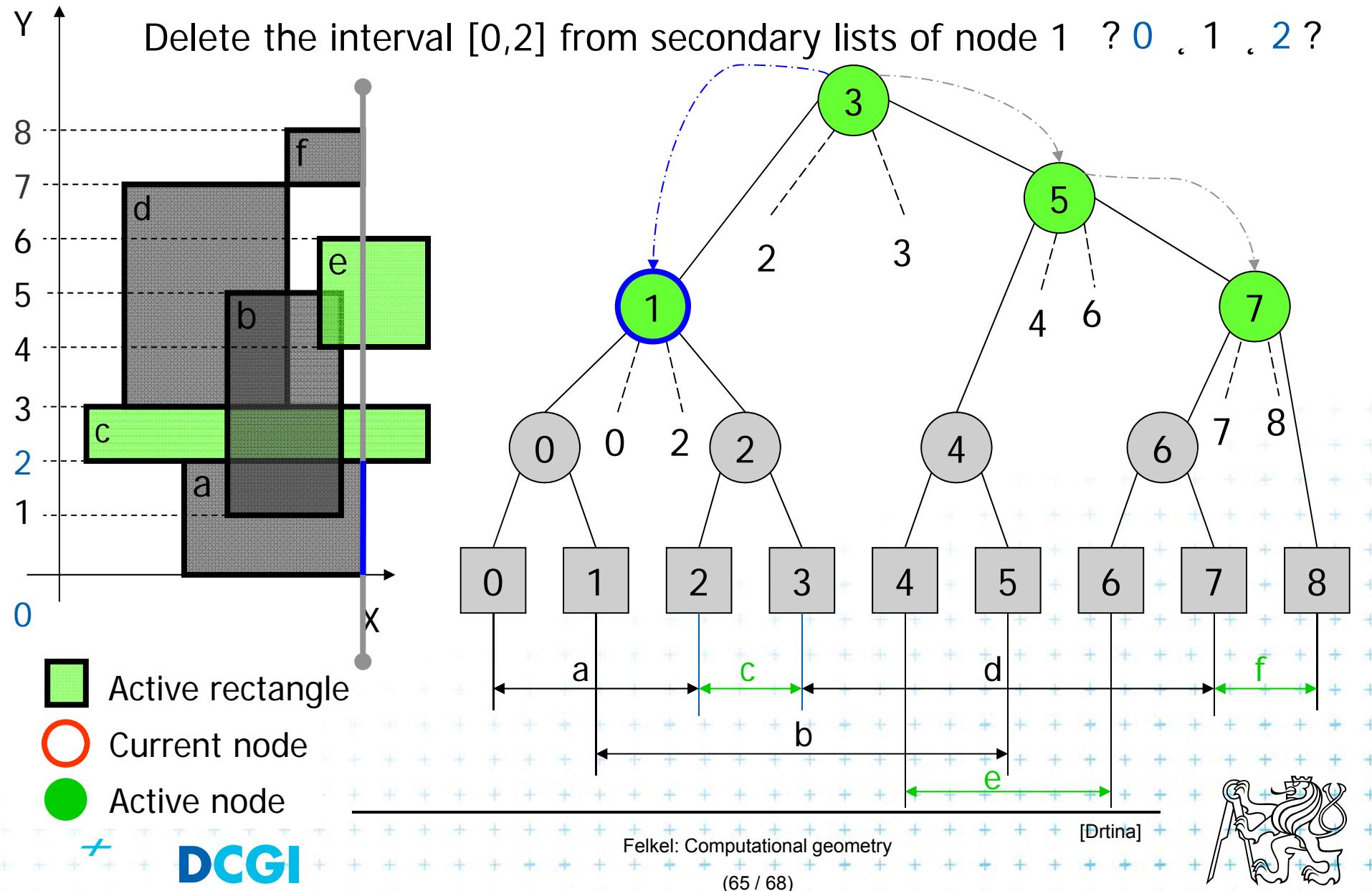
# Delete [0,2] Delete Interval 1/2

b ? e , H(v)



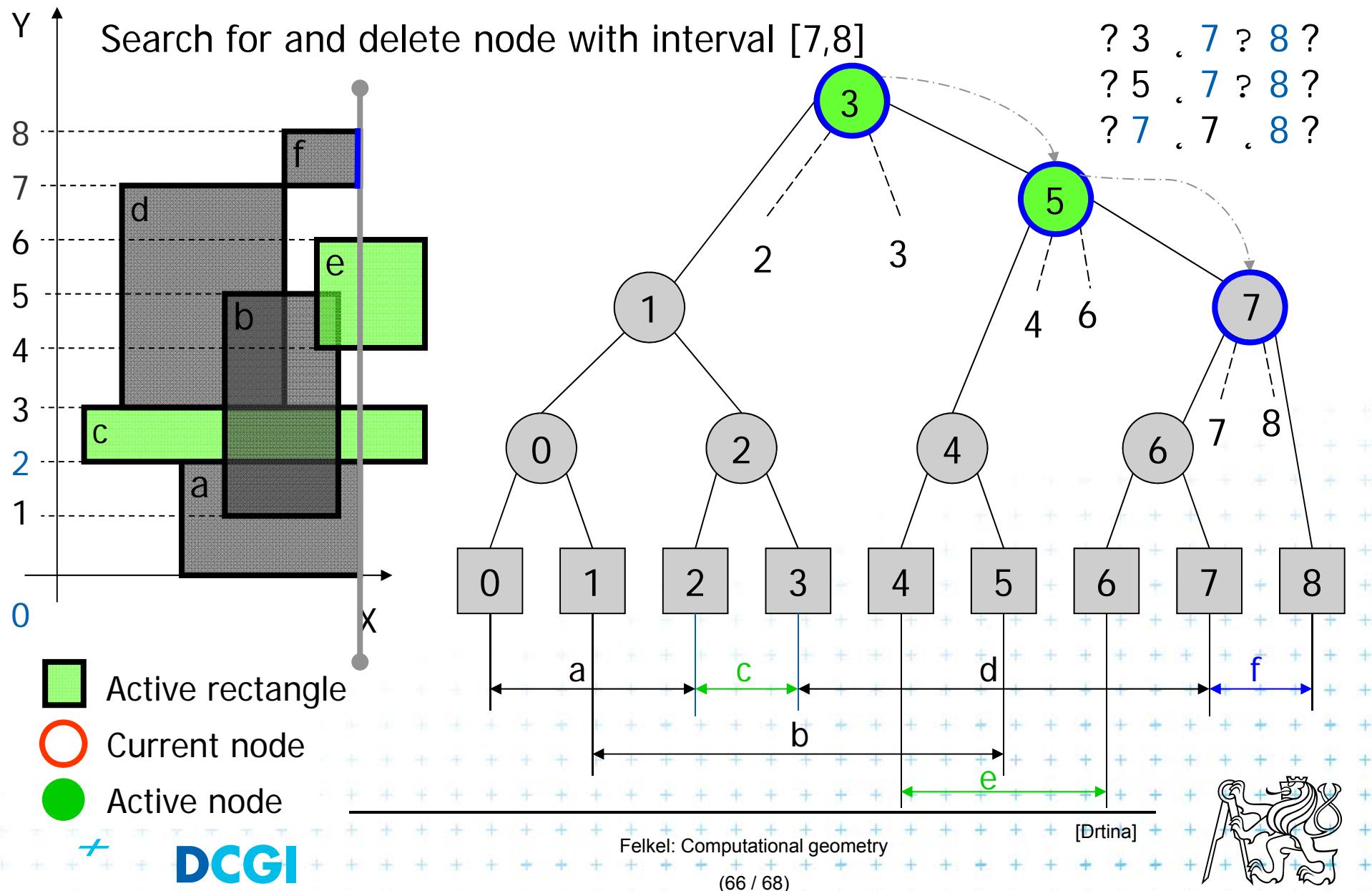
# Delete [0,2] Delete Interval 2/2

b . H(v) . e



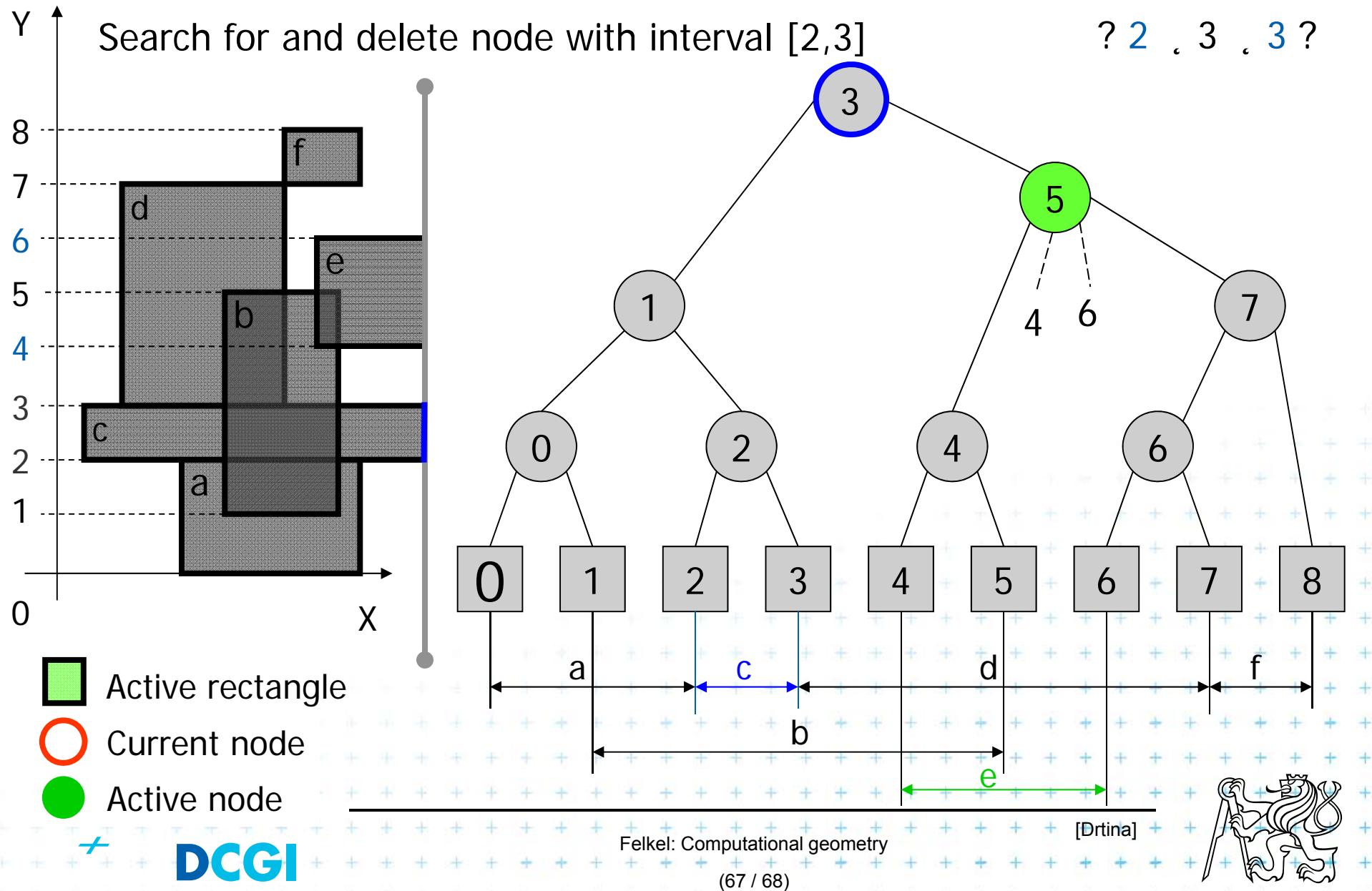
# Delete [7,8] Delete Interval

b → H(v) → e



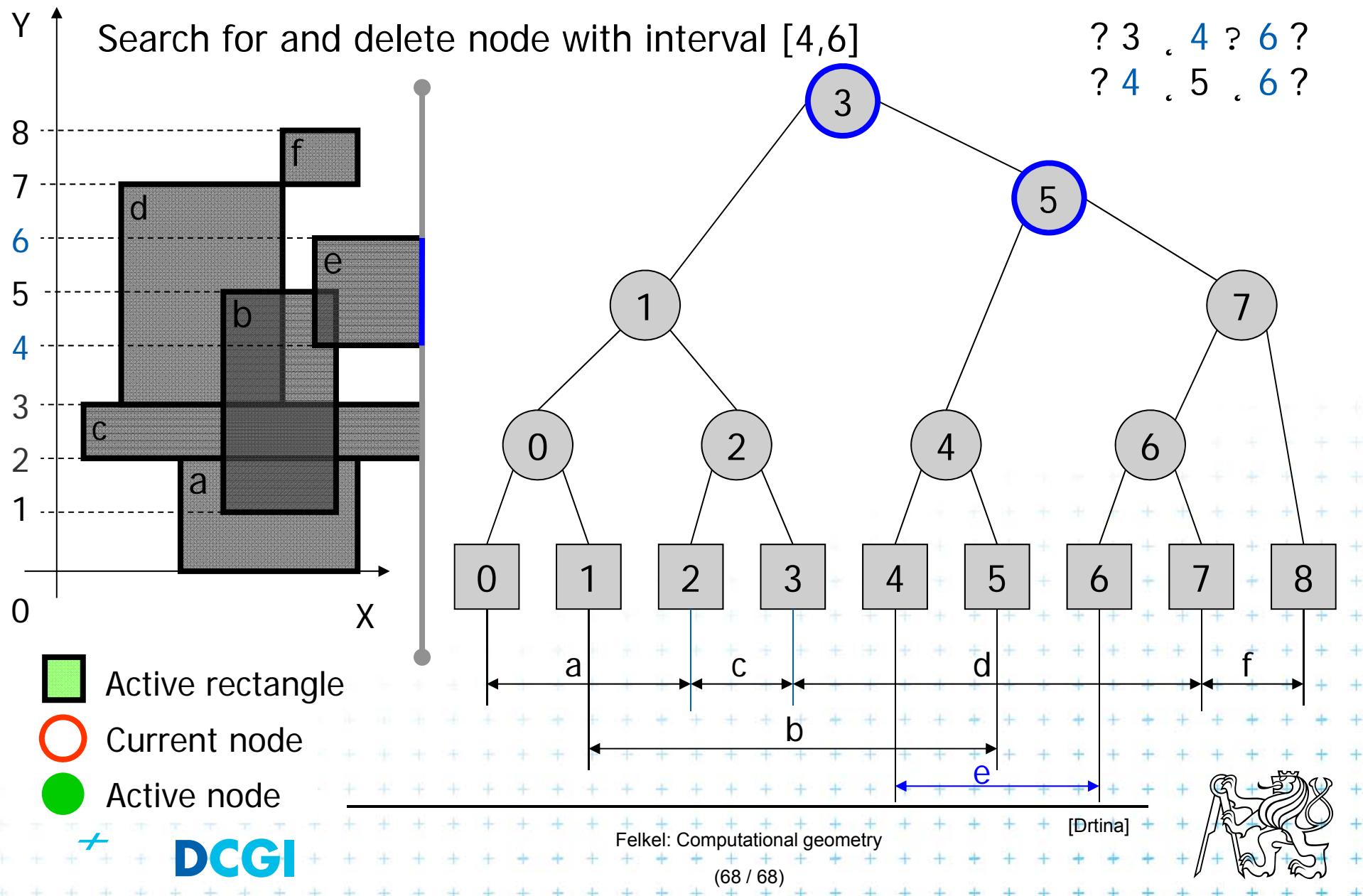
# Delete [2,3] Delete Interval

$b \dots H(v) \dots e$



# Delete [4,6] Delete Interval

b , H(v) , e



# Complexities of rectangle intersections

---

- $n$  rectangles,  $s$  intersected pairs found
- $O(n \log n)$  preprocessing time to separately sort
  - x-coordinates of the rectangles for the plane sweep
  - the y-coordinates for initializing the interval tree.
- The plane sweep itself takes  $O(n \log n + s)$  time, so the overall time is  $O(n \log n + s)$
- $O(n)$  space
- This time is optimal for a decision-tree algorithm (i.e., one that only makes comparisons between rectangle coordinates).



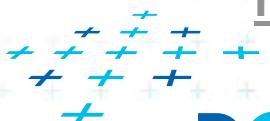
**DCGI**



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