

# Construction of Voronoi Diagrams

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## Outline:

I. Circle event

II. Data structures

III. Handling of circle events

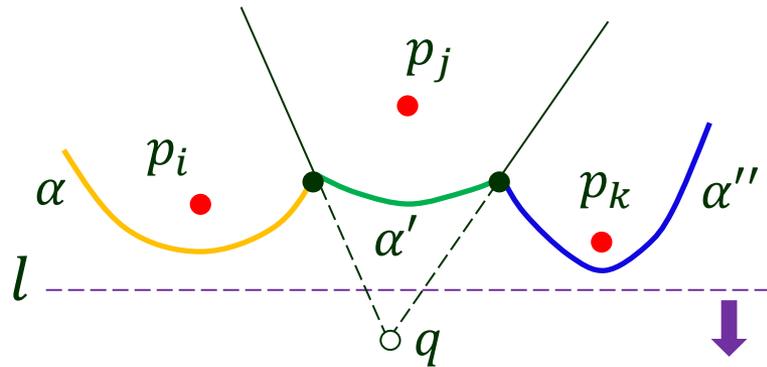
IV. Algorithm and time complexity

V. Handling of degeneracies

VI. Applications

# I. Circle Event

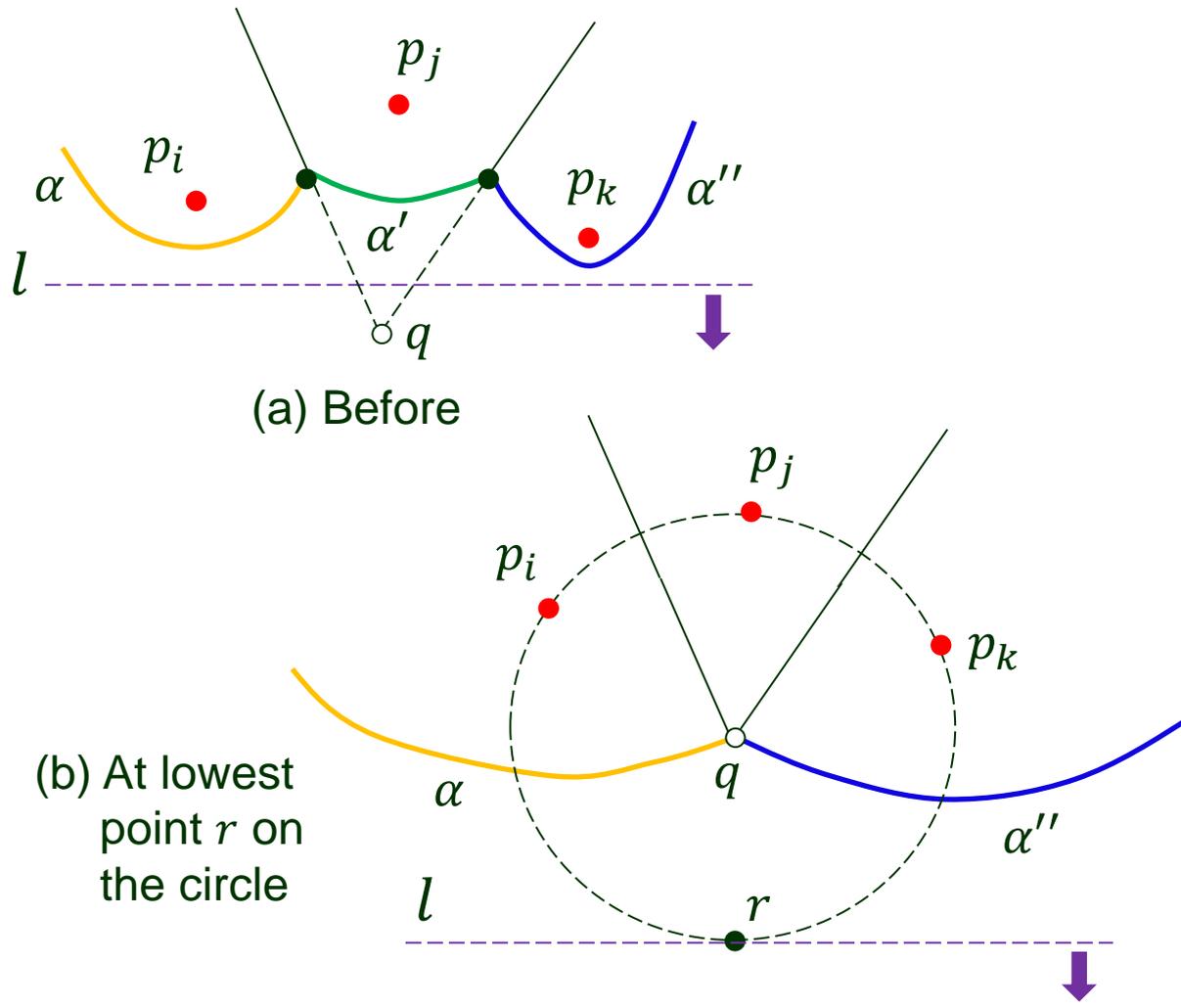
An existing arc shrinks to a point and disappears afterward.



(a) Before

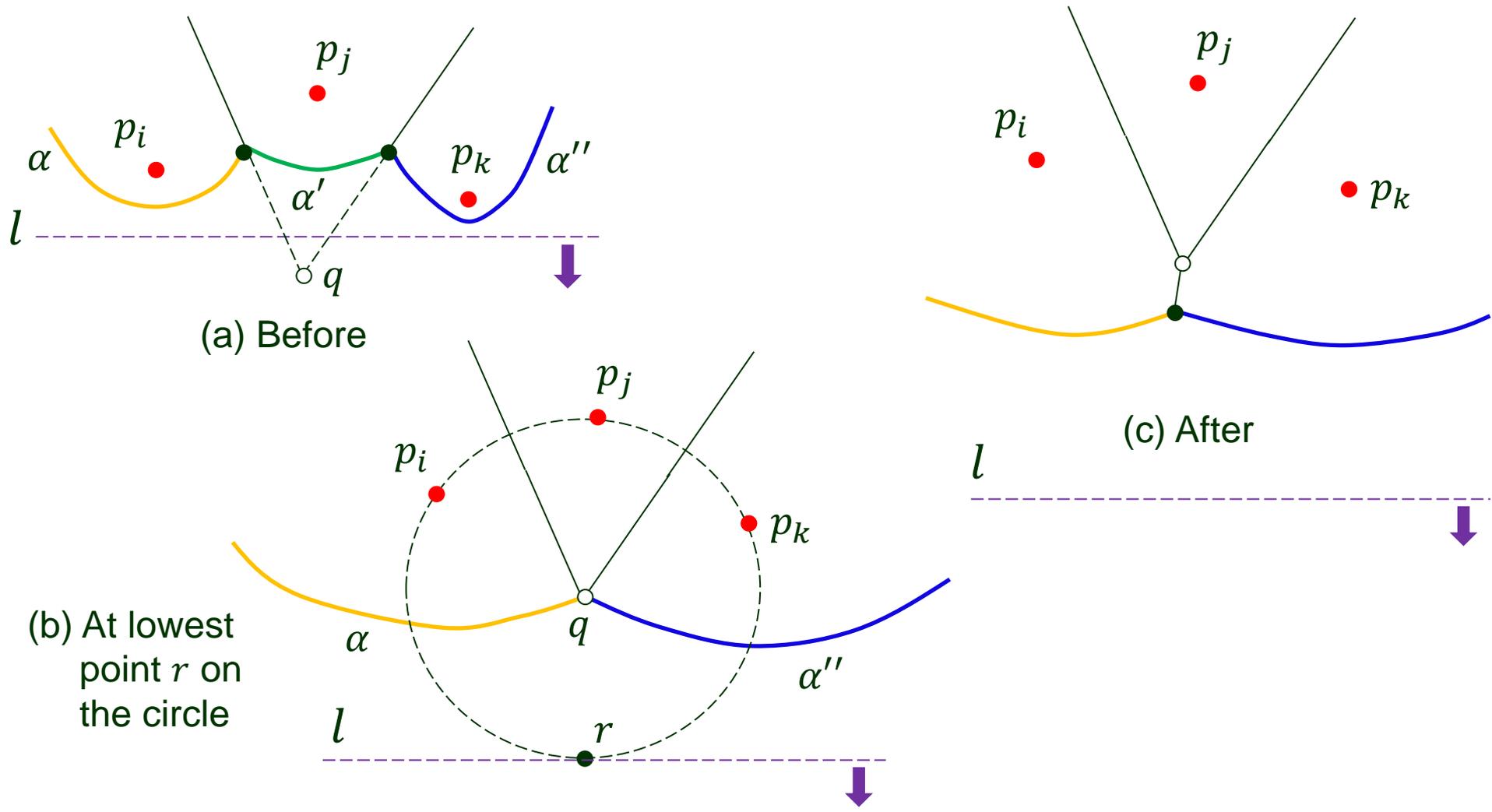
# I. Circle Event

An existing arc shrinks to a point and disappears afterward.



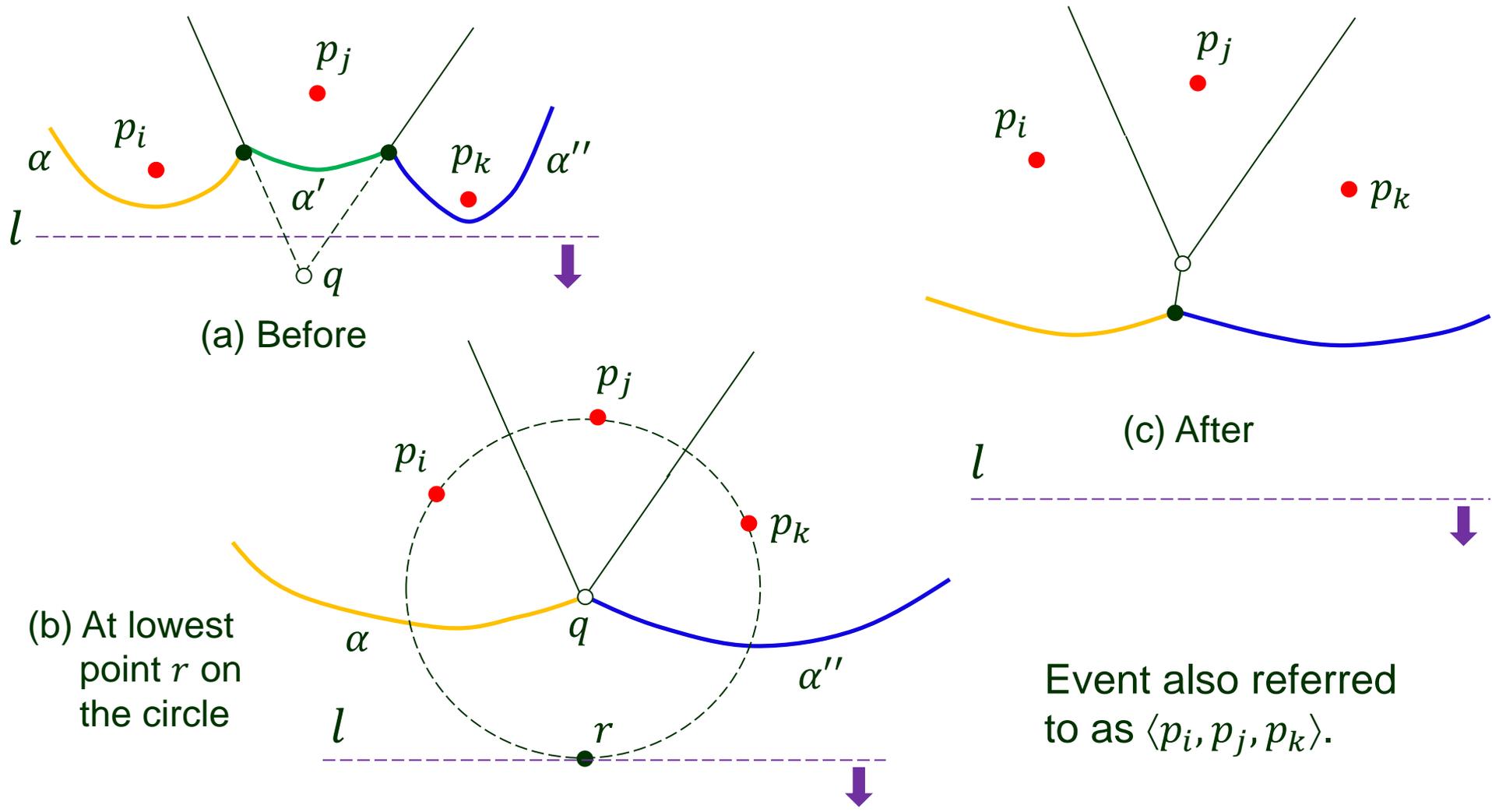
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An existing arc shrinks to a point and disappears afterward.



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# Circle Event Summary

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At a circle event:

- ◆ An existing arc drops out.
- ◆ Two growing Voronoi edges merge at a vertex.

**Lemma** An existing arc disappears from the beach line only through a circle event.

# II. Data Structures

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a) A data structure to store part of  $\text{Vor}(P)$  computed so far.

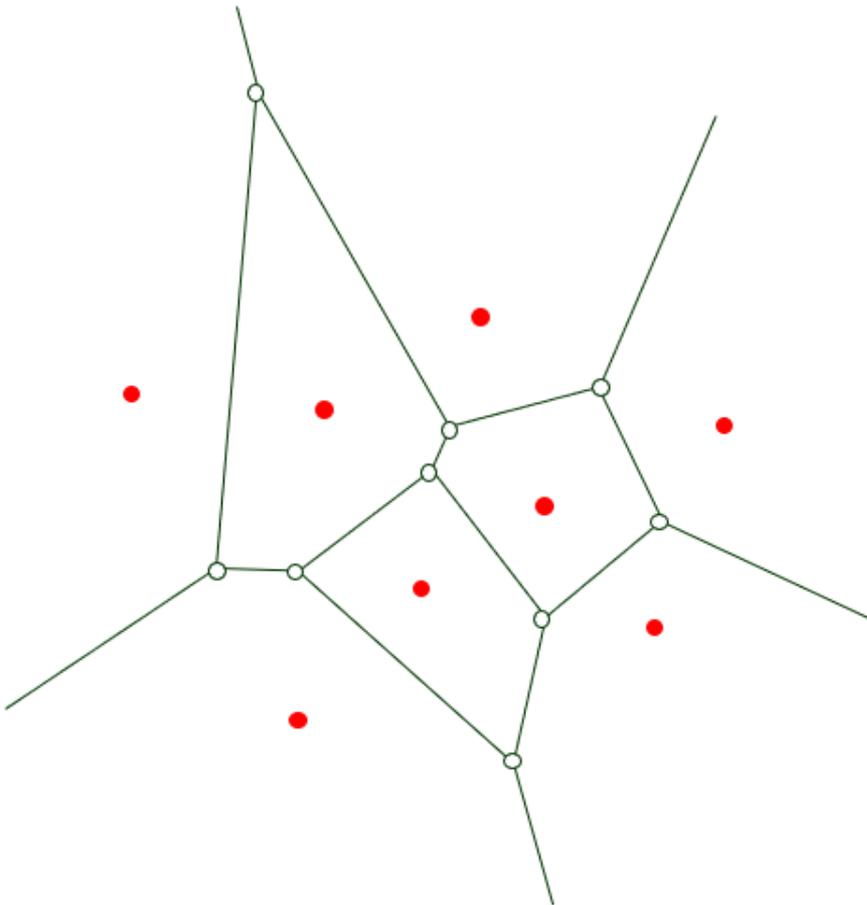
b) Standard data structures for sweeping.

- event queue
- sweep line status

# Voronoi Diagram Storage

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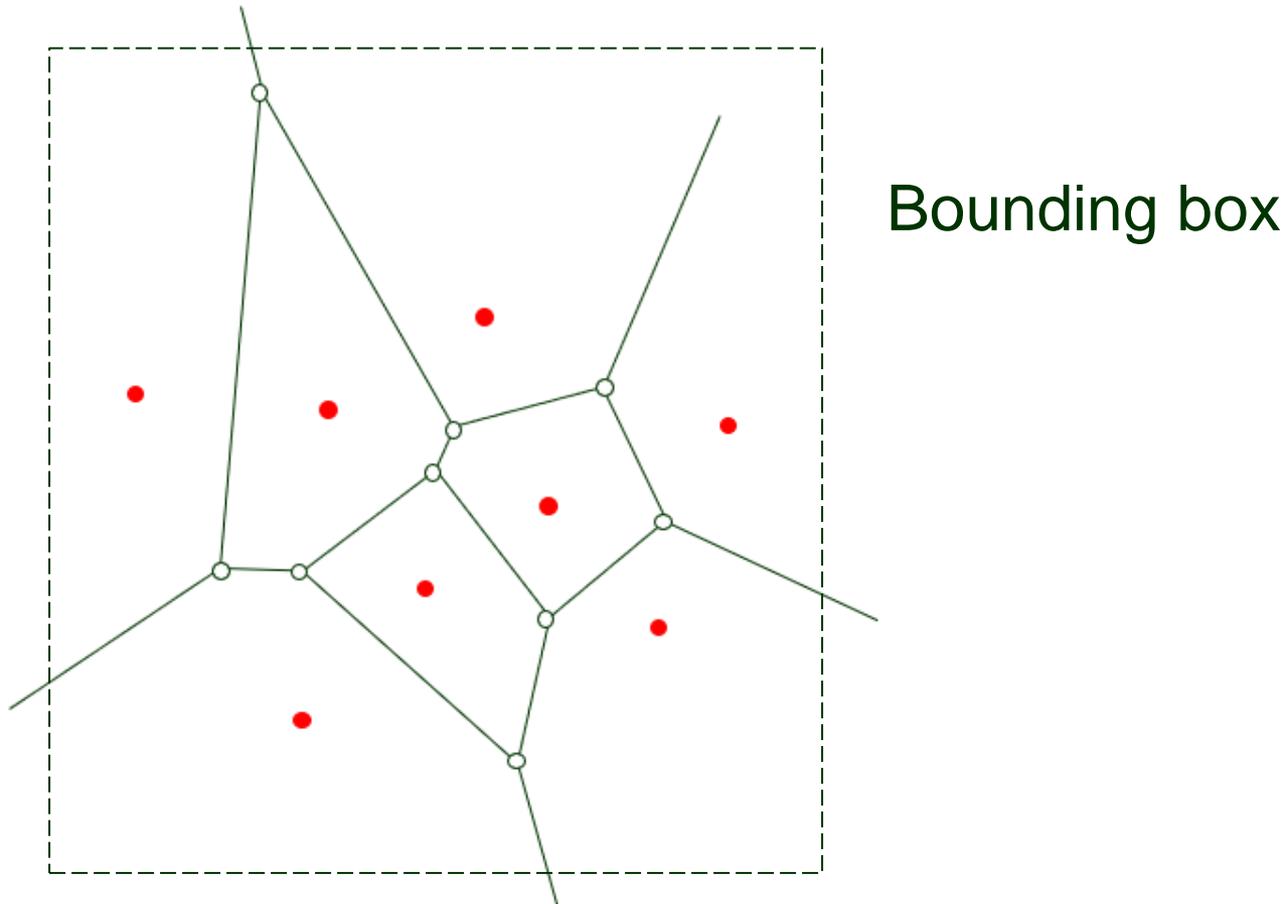
As a planar subdivision (DCEL)



# Voronoi Diagram Storage

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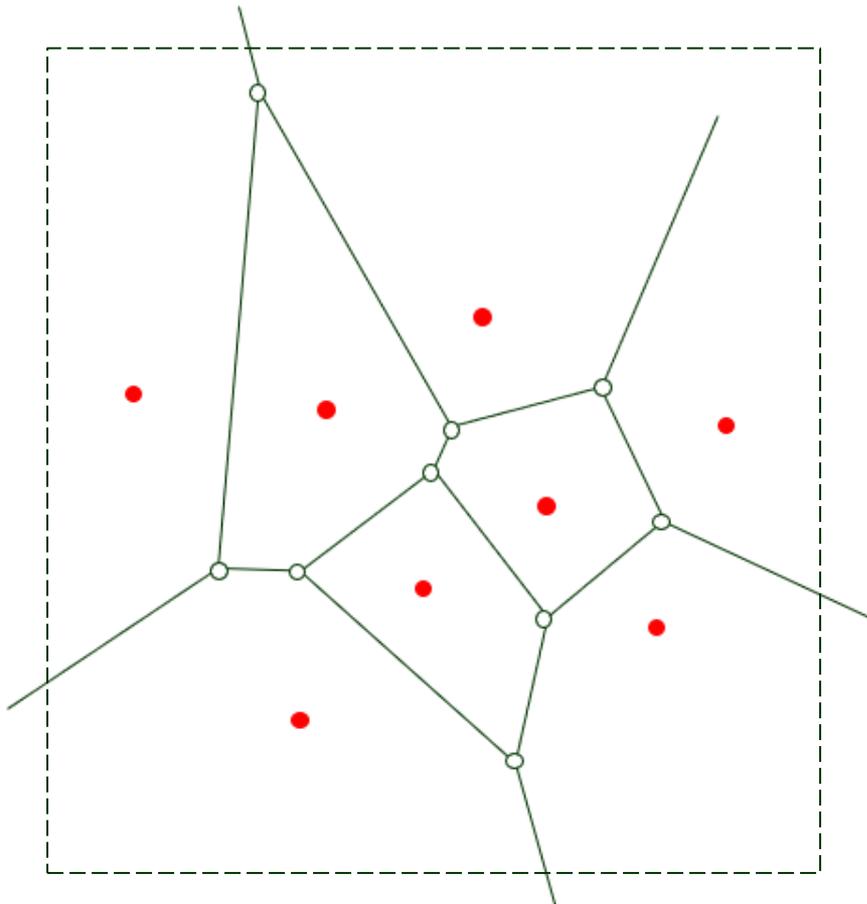
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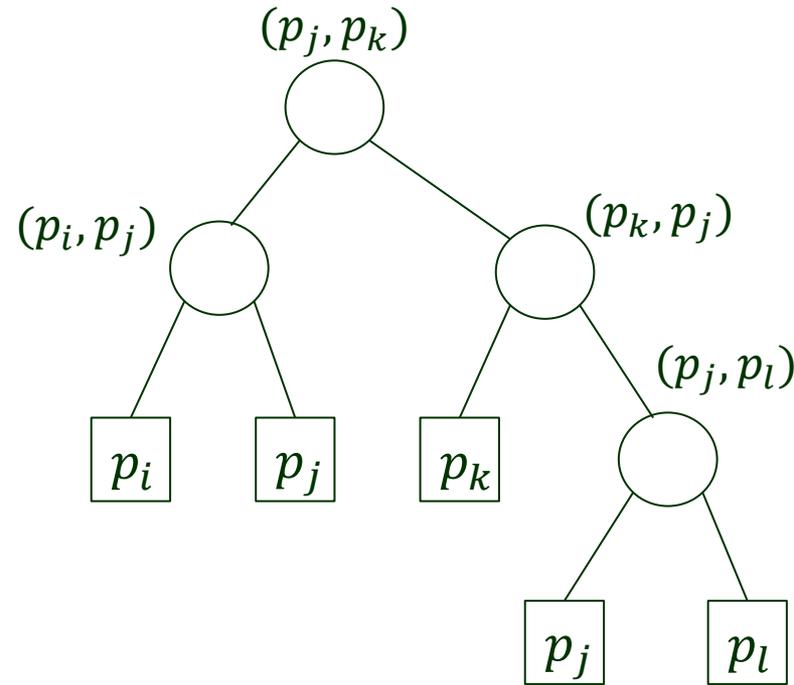
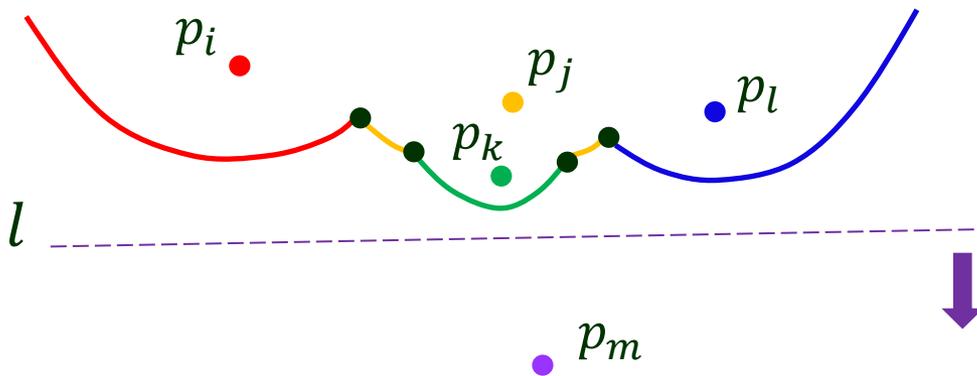


Bounding box

- ◆ added after the computation
- ◆ large enough to contain all vertices

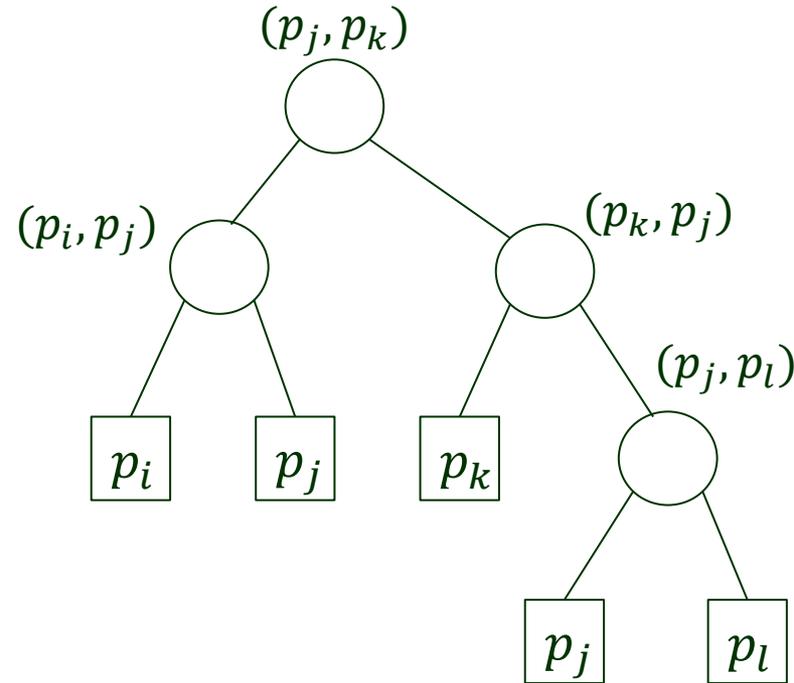
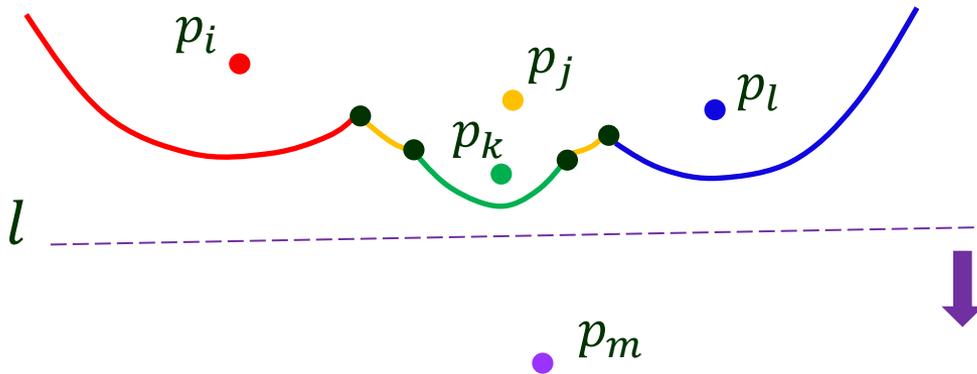
# Beach Line Storage

As a balanced BST  $T$



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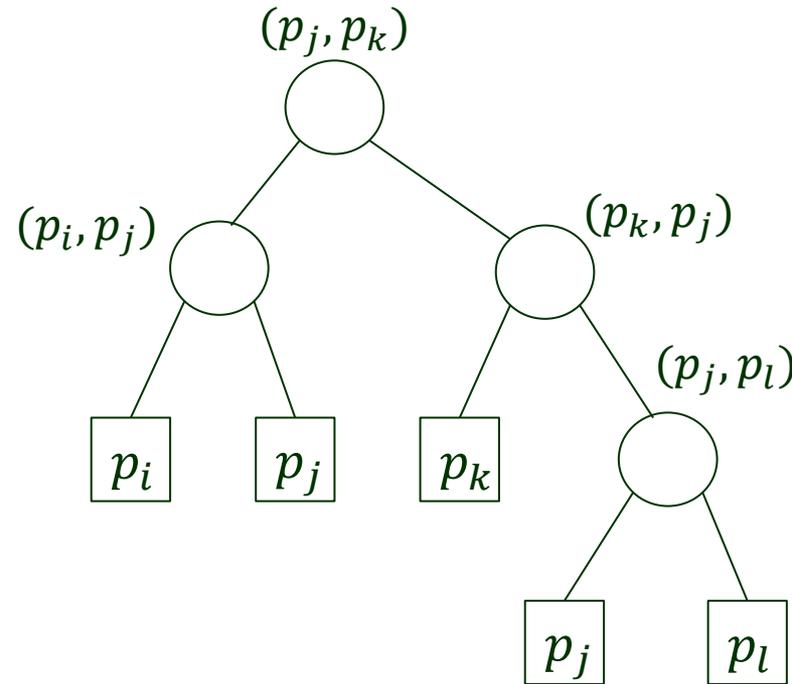
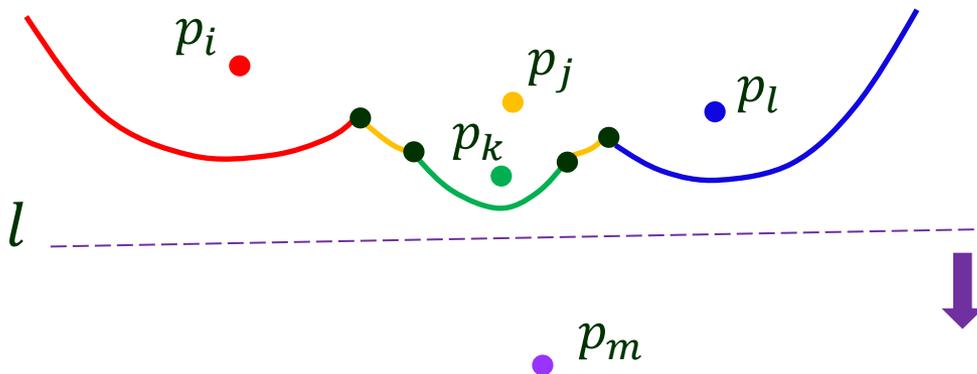
As a balanced BST  $T$



- ◆ **Leaves:** arcs of the beach line
  - ordered from left to right
  - labeled with their defining sites

# Beach Line Storage

As a balanced BST  $T$



◆ *Leaves*: arcs of the beach line

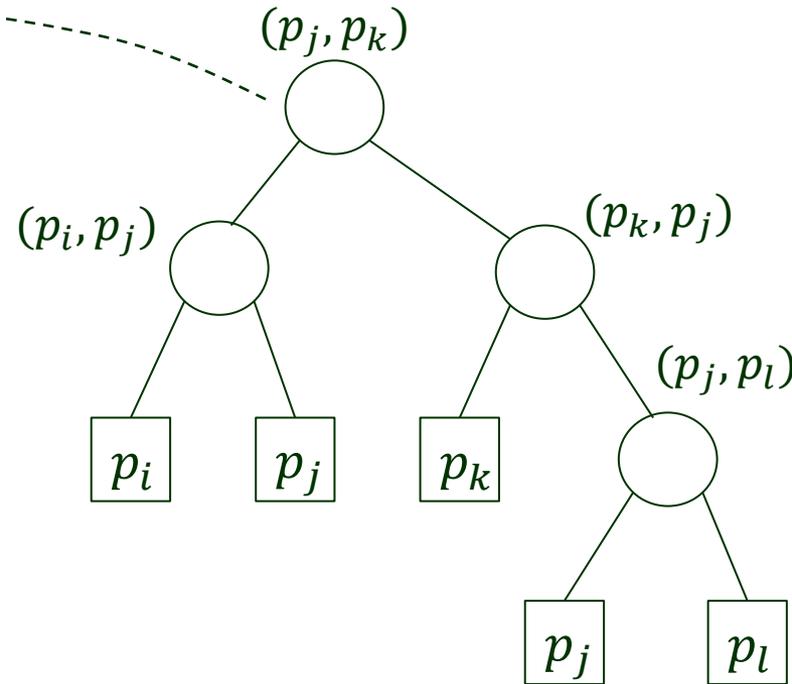
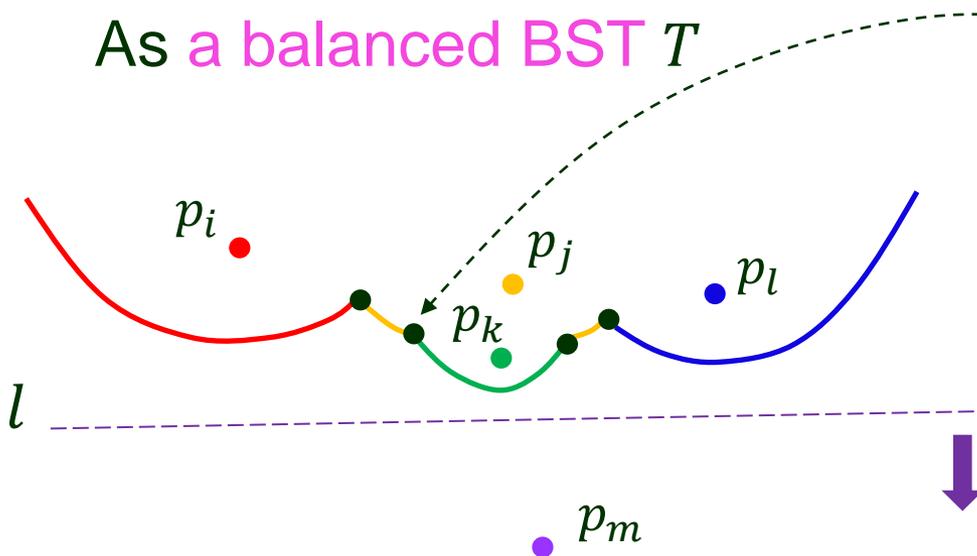
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◆ *Internal nodes*: break points

$(p_i, p_j)$ : joining a left arc defined by  $p_i$  and a right arc defined by  $p_j$

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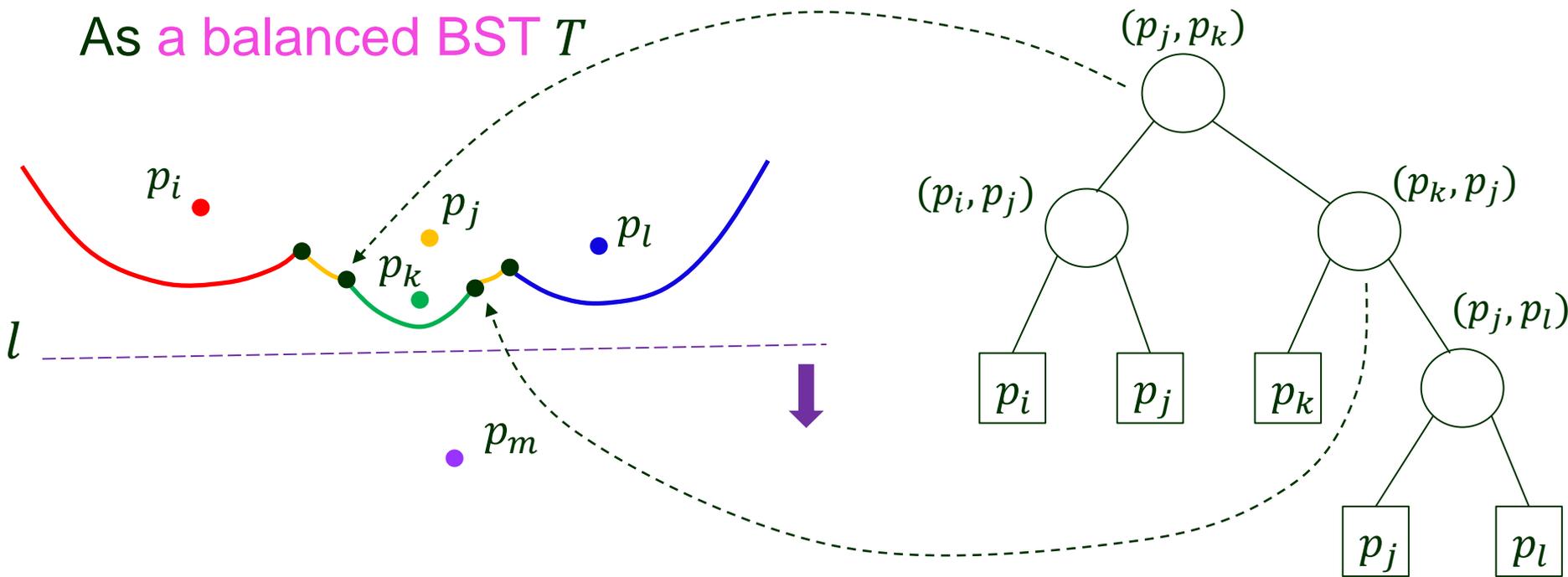
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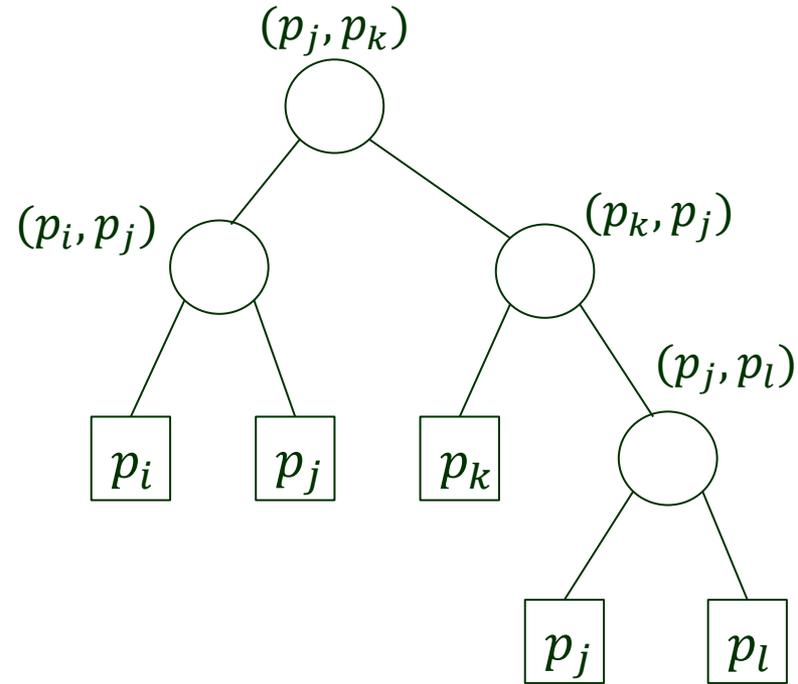
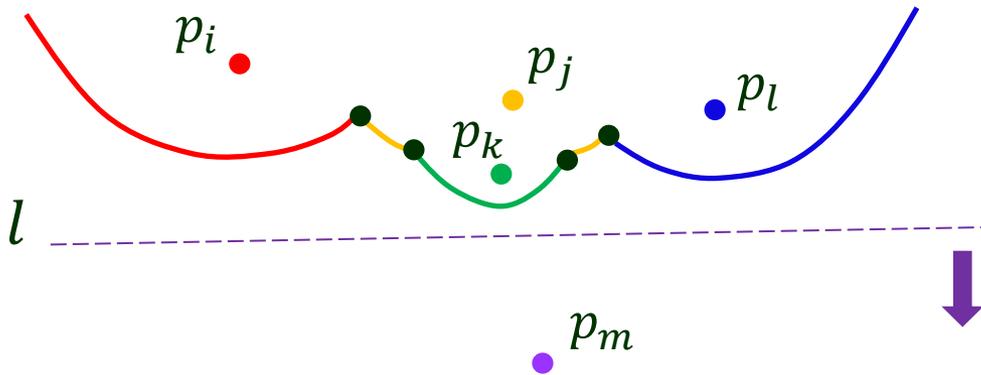
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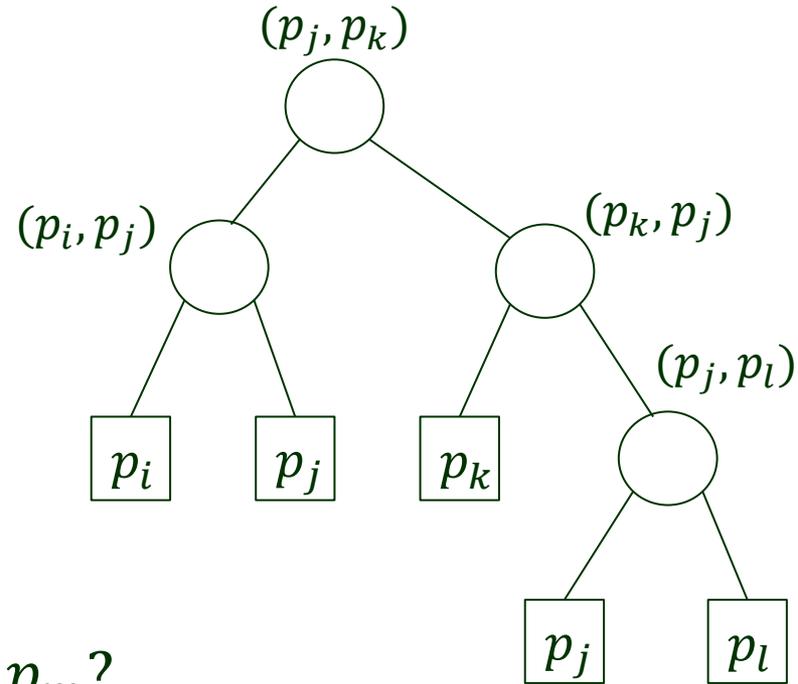
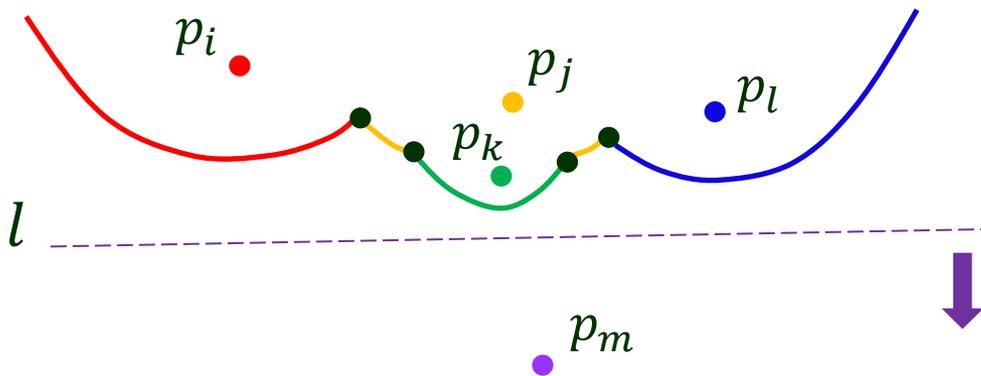
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# Arc Above a New Site

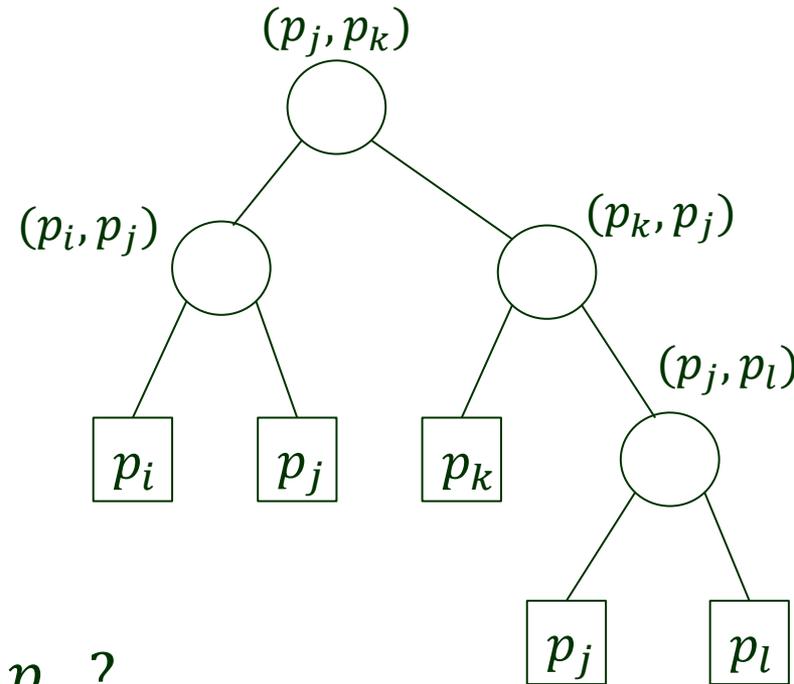
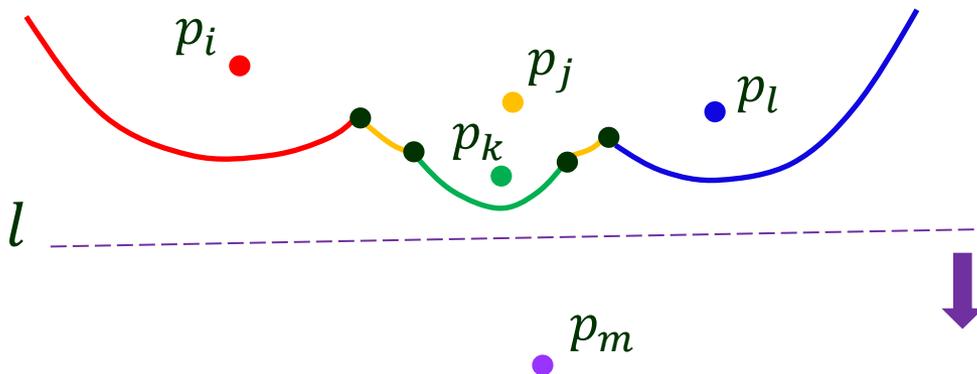


# Arc Above a New Site



How to find the arc above a new site  $p_m$ ?

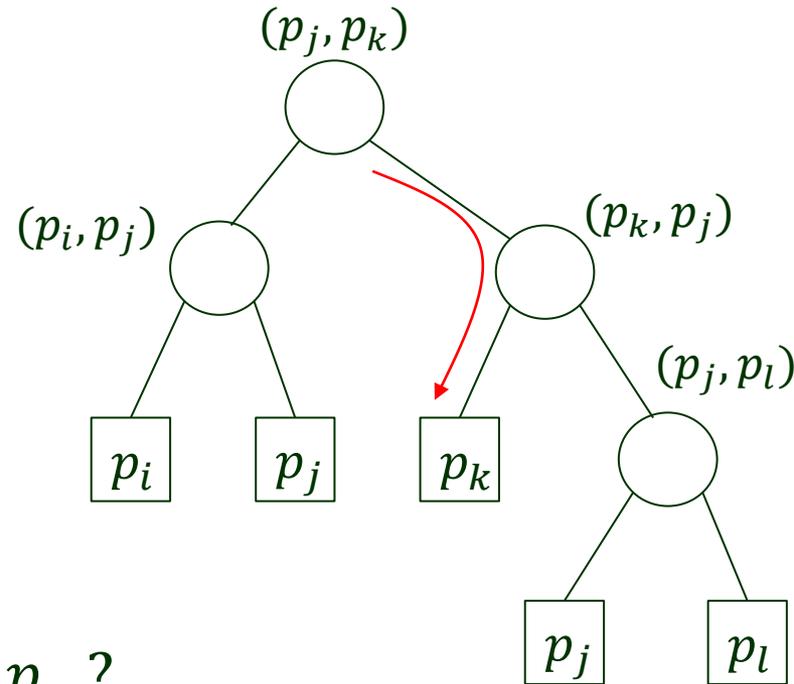
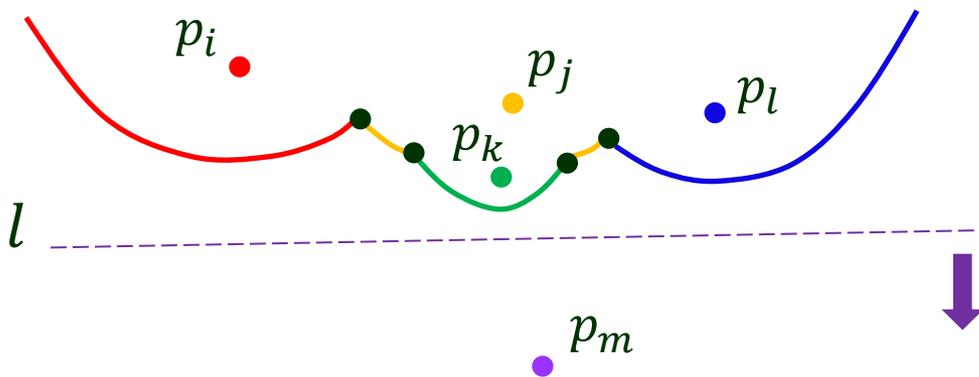
# Arc Above a New Site



How to find the arc above a new site  $p_m$ ?

- Compare its  $x$ -coordinate with that of the breakpoint  $(p_i, p_j)$  stored at an internal node.

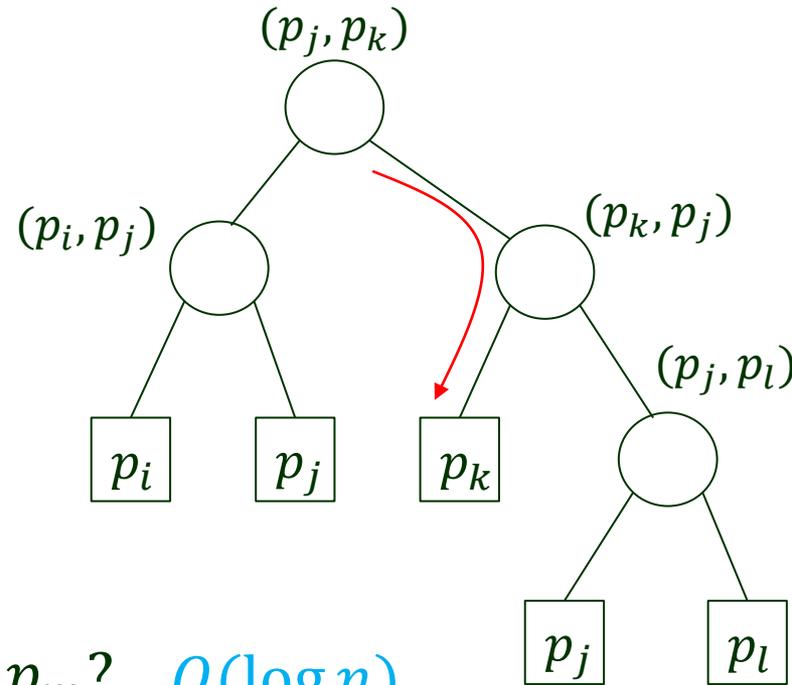
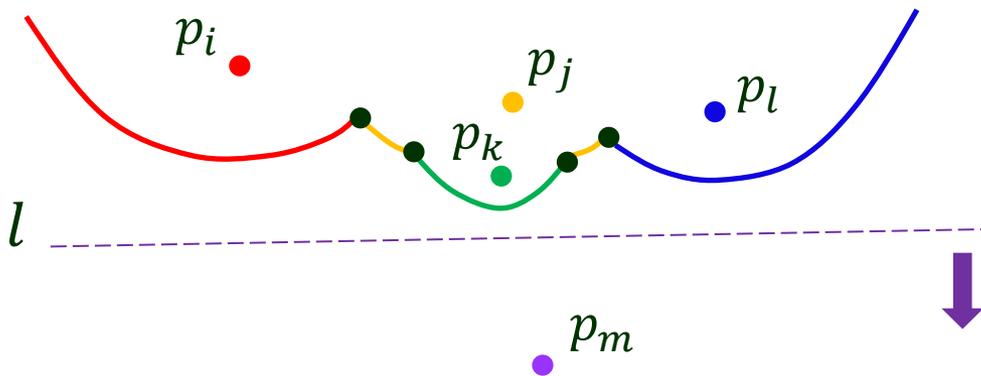
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- Compare its  $x$ -coordinate with that of the breakpoint  $(p_i, p_j)$  stored at an internal node.
- The  $x$ -coordinate of  $(p_i, p_j)$  can be computed in time  $O(1)$ .

# Arc Above a New Site



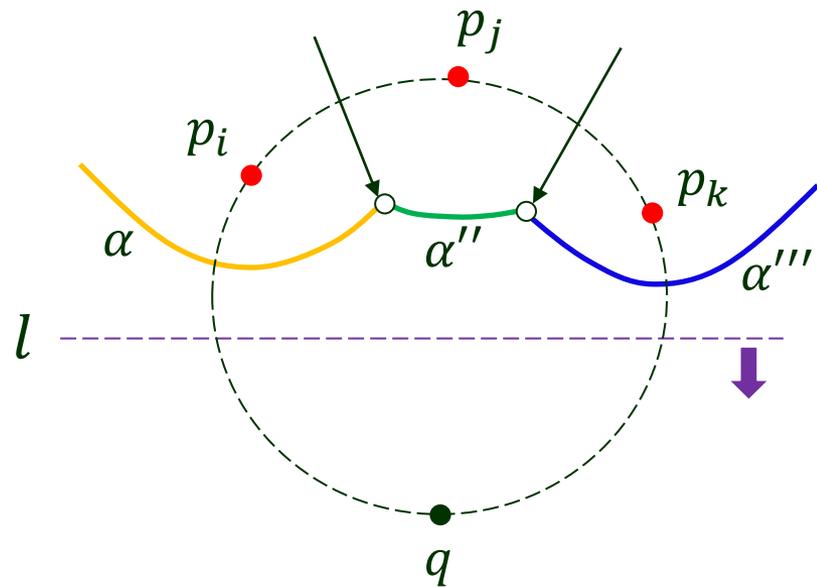
How to find the arc above a new site  $p_m$ ?  $O(\log n)$

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# Event Queue

As a priority queue  $Q$  in  $y$ -coordinate

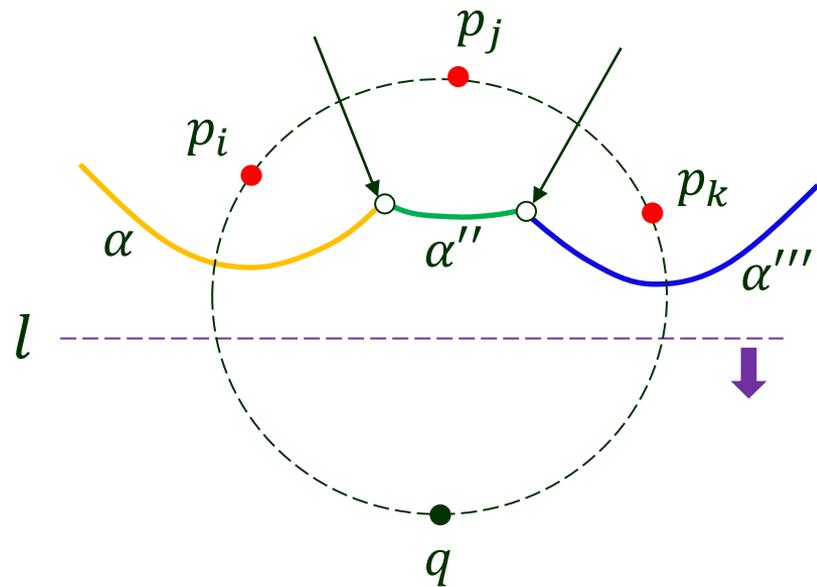
- ◆ For a site event, store the site.



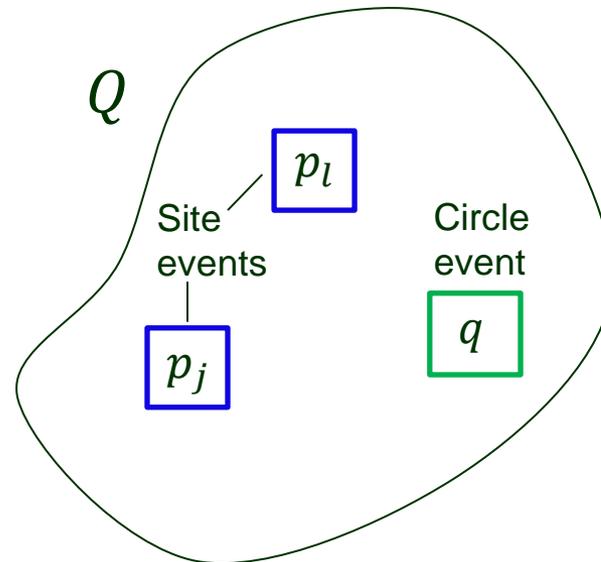
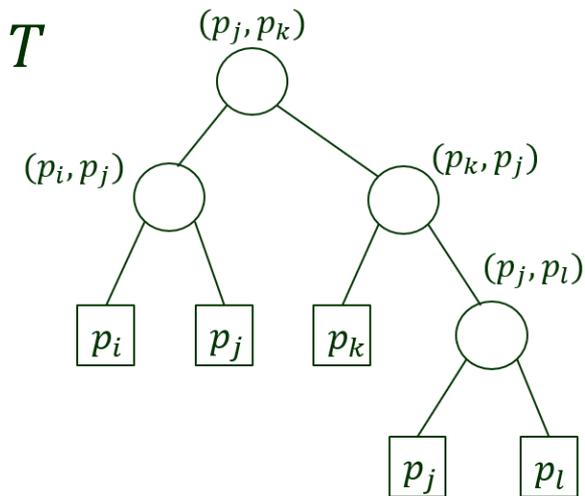
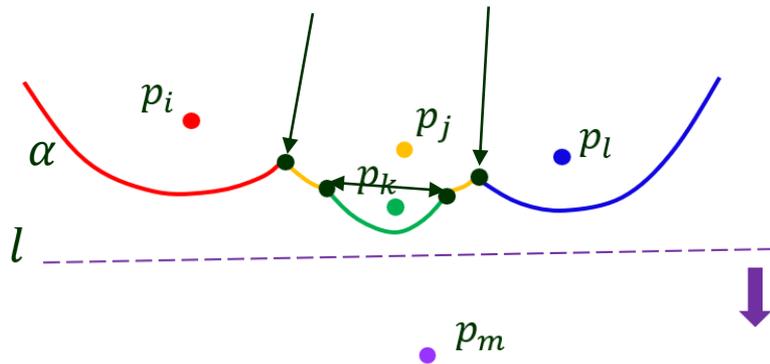
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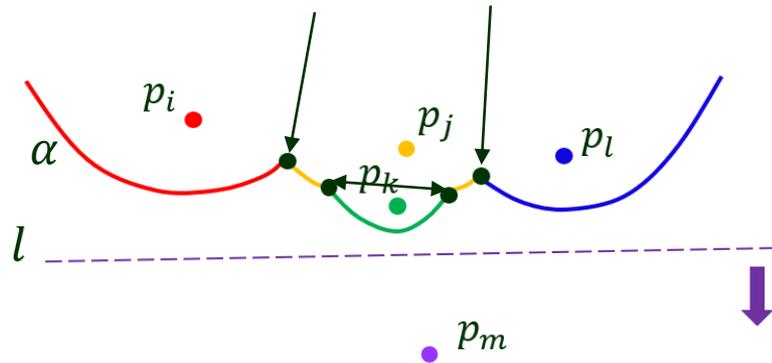
- ◆ For a site event, store the site.
- ◆ For a circle event, store
  - the lowest point ( $q$ ) of the circle
  - a pointer to the leaf representing the arc to disappear



# Cross Referencing

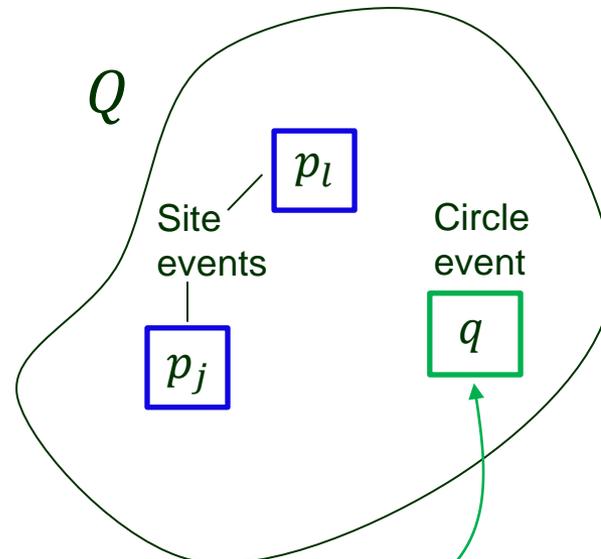
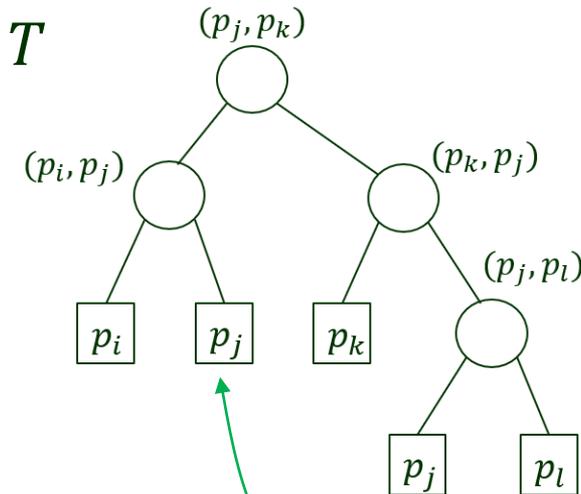


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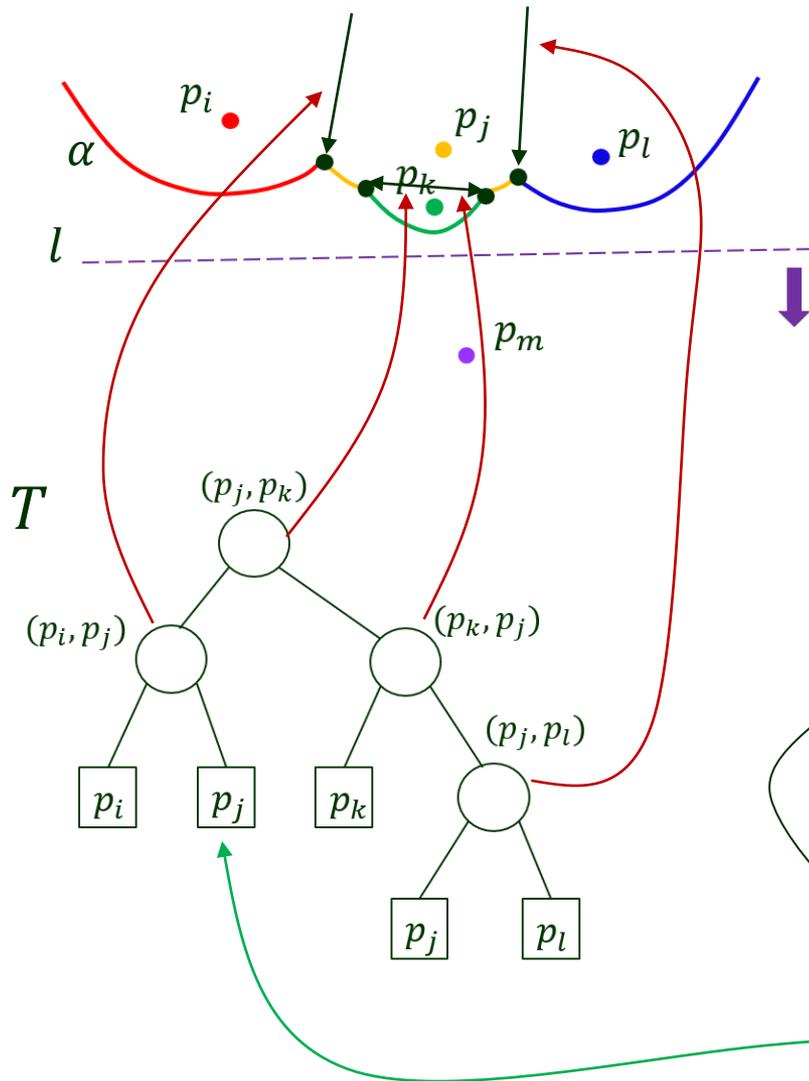


In  $T$

- ◆ Every leaf (arc) points to a node (circle event) in  $Q$ , in which the arc will disappear.

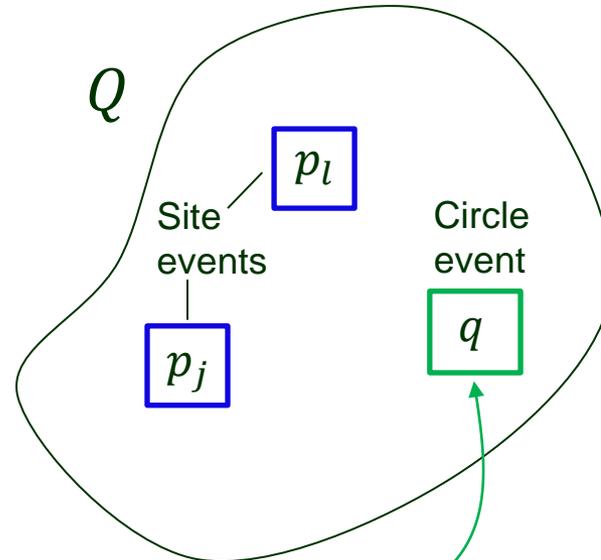


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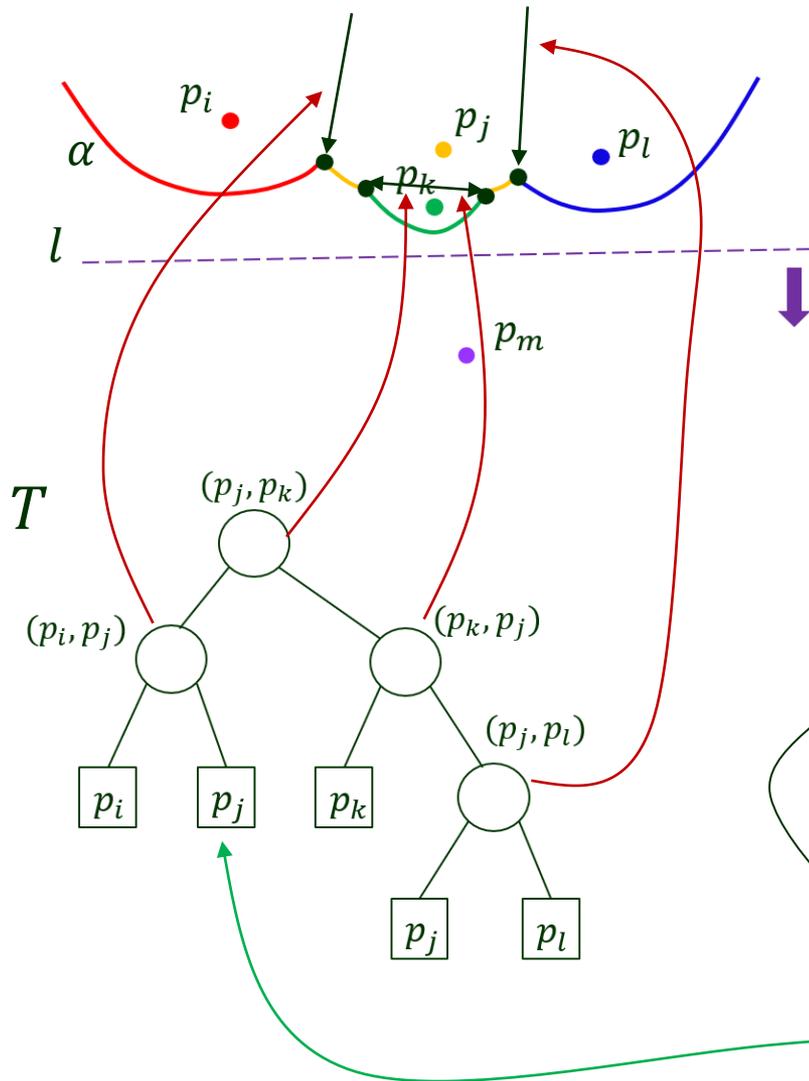


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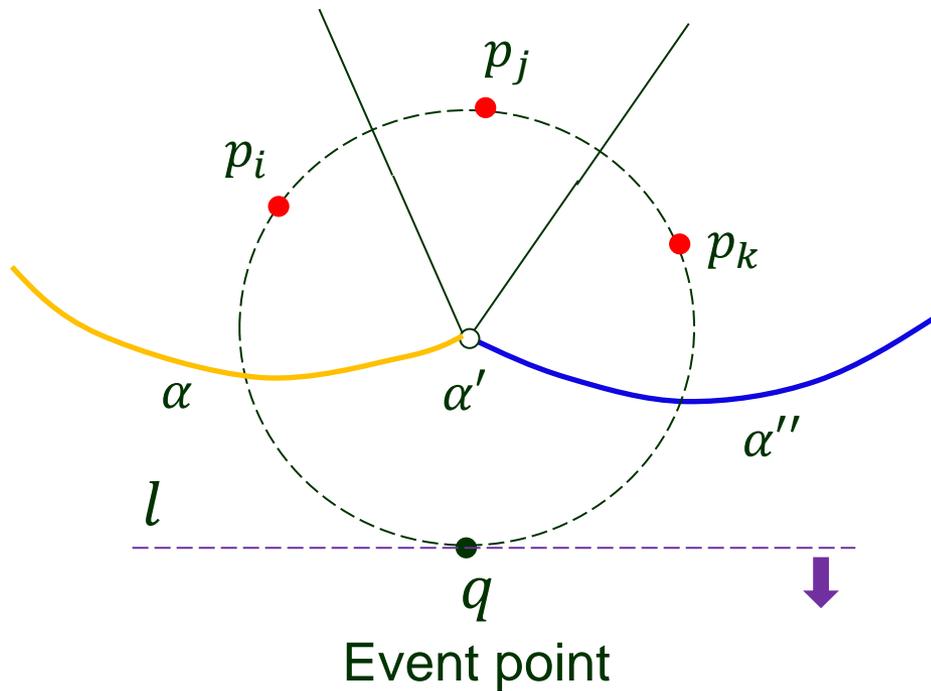
$Q$

In  $Q$

- ◆ Every circle event points to the leaf in  $T$  representing the arc to disappear.
- ◆ From the site  $p_j$  defining the arc we can find its two adjacent sites  $p_i$  and  $p_k$ , retrieving the circle event  $\langle p_i, p_j, p_k \rangle$ .

# III. Detection of a Circle Event

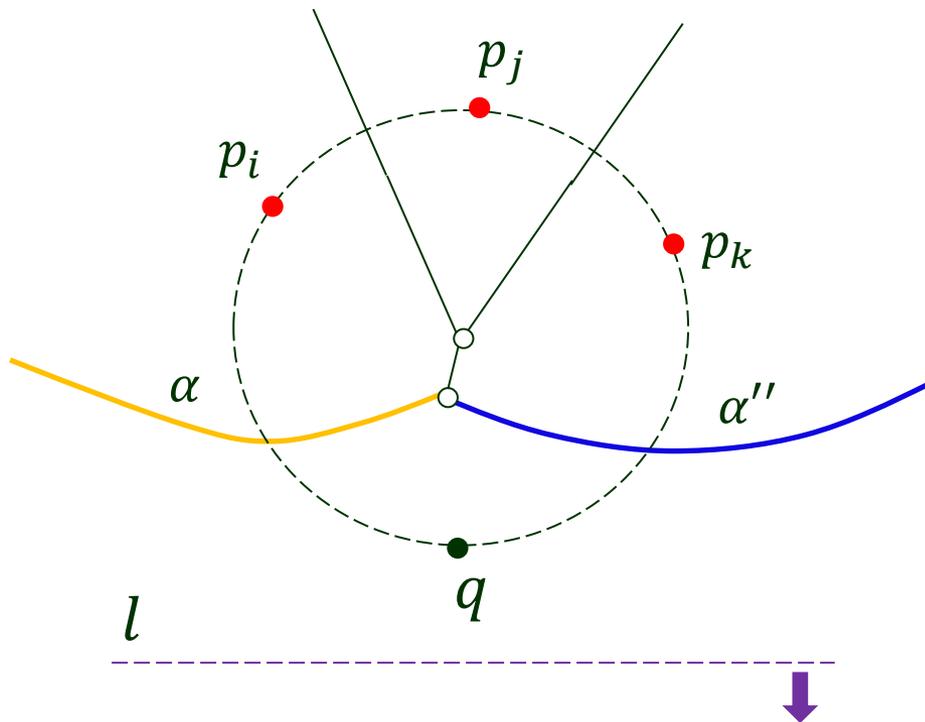
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$\alpha'$  is to disappear  
when  $q$  is on  $l$ .

# Handled Event

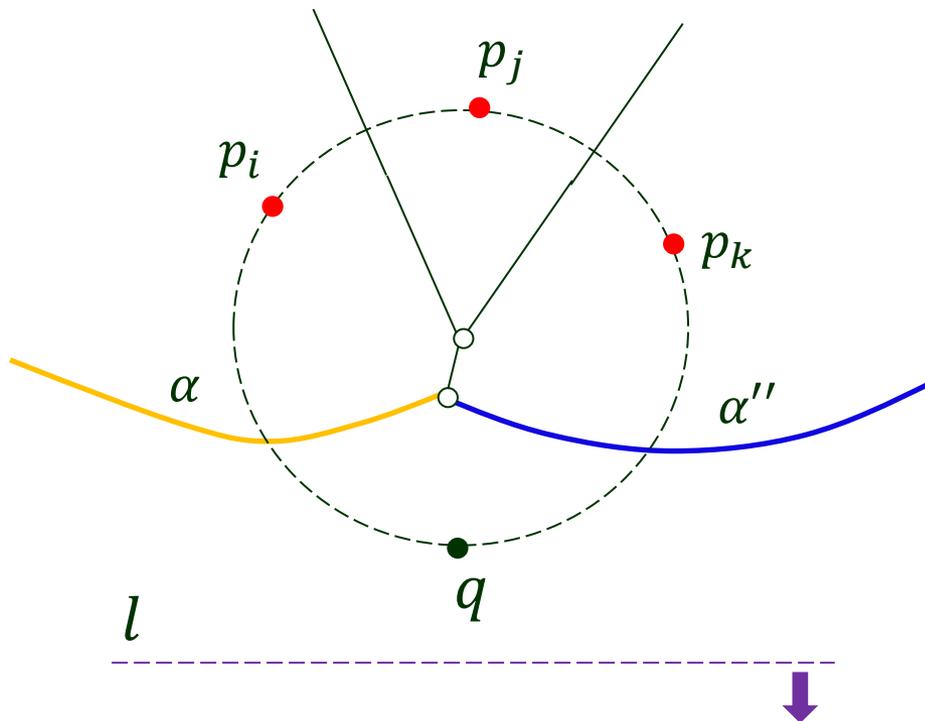
Every three consecutive arcs on the beach line introduce a circle event.



♣ Circle completely above  $l$ .

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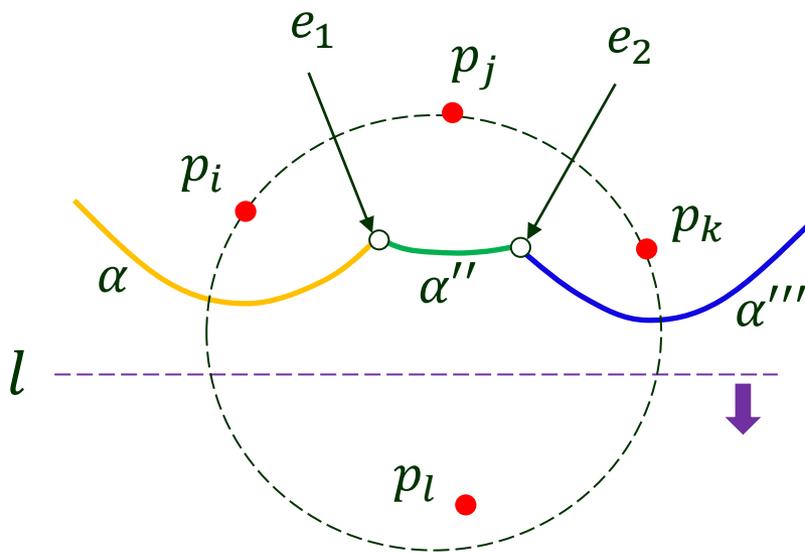
♣ Circle completely above  $l$ .



Event ( $q$ ) has been dealt with.

# False Alarm

- ♣ Circle contains some other site.

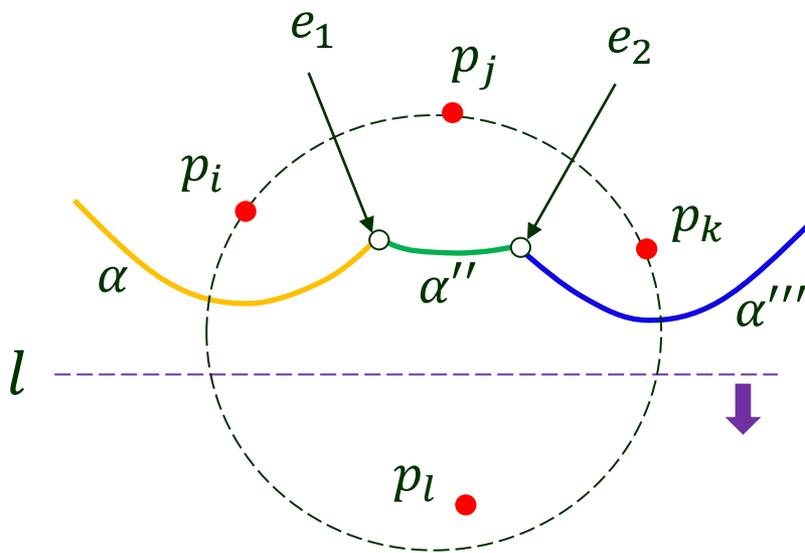


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Event should not be handled.



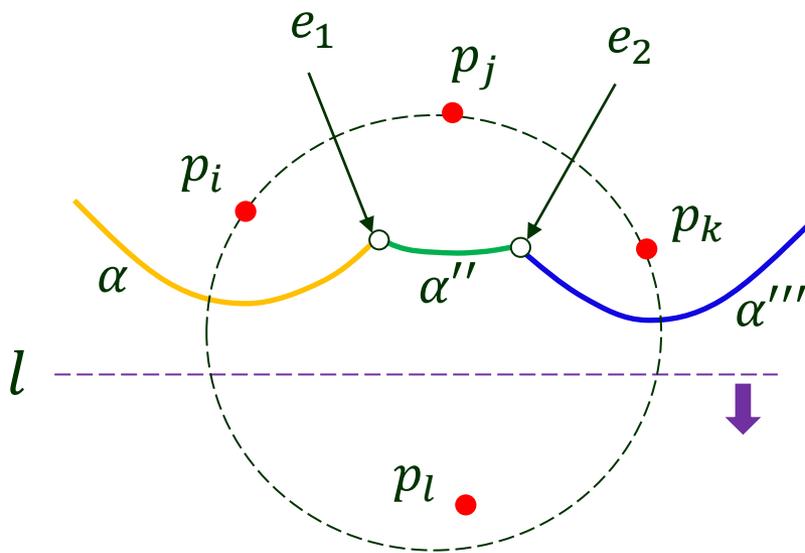
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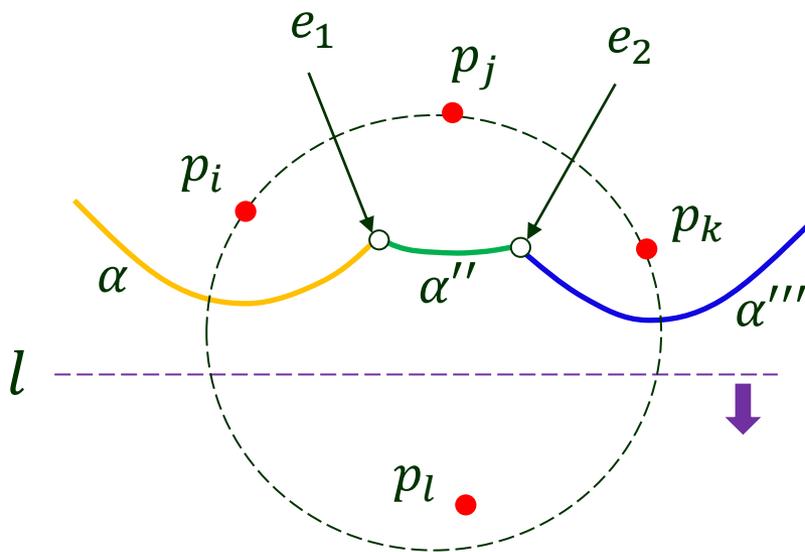
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**Lemma** Every Voronoi vertex is detected at a circle event.

# Structural Changes of the Beach Line

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The beach line *changes its topological structure* at every event.

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Triples of adjacent arcs are introduced or destroyed.

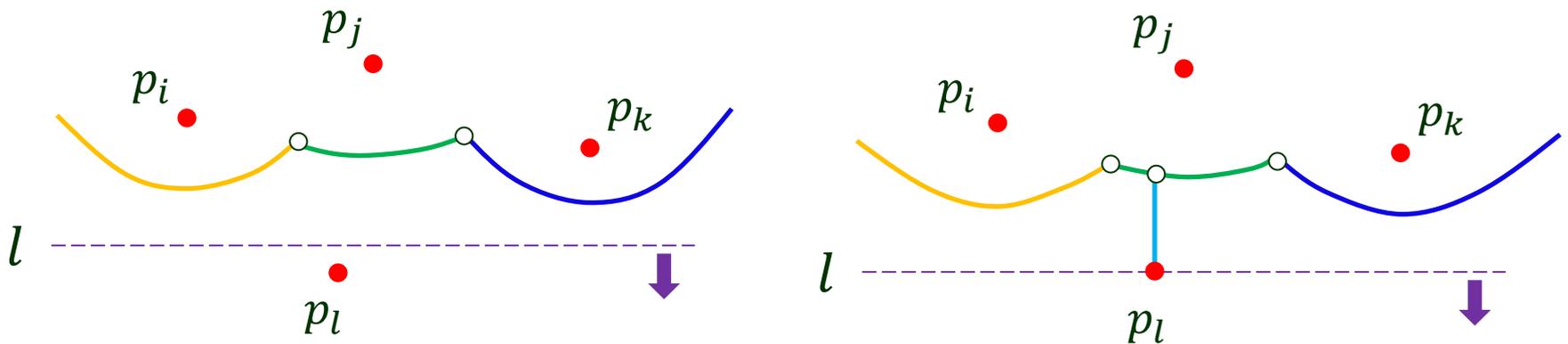
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Site event



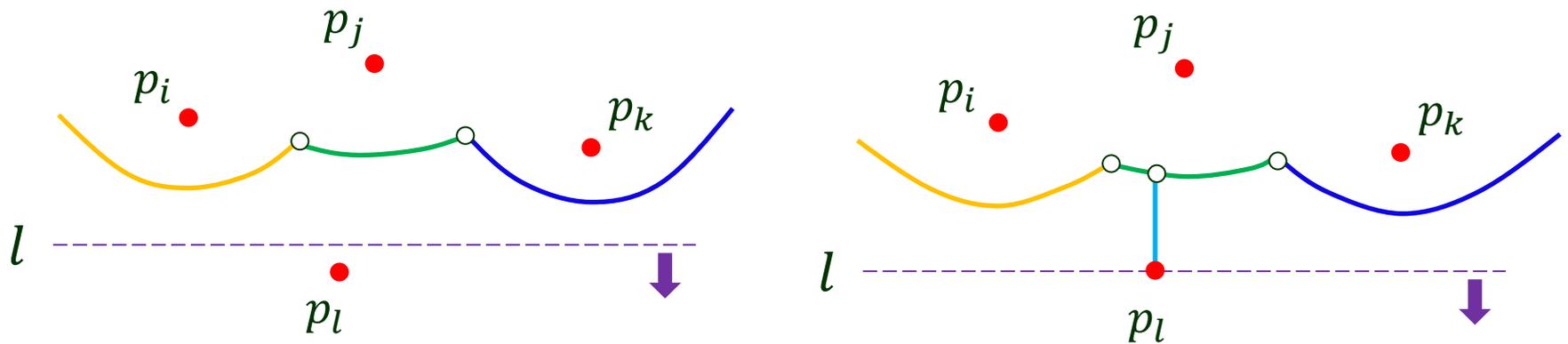
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Site event



Triple  $\langle p_i, p_j, p_k \rangle$

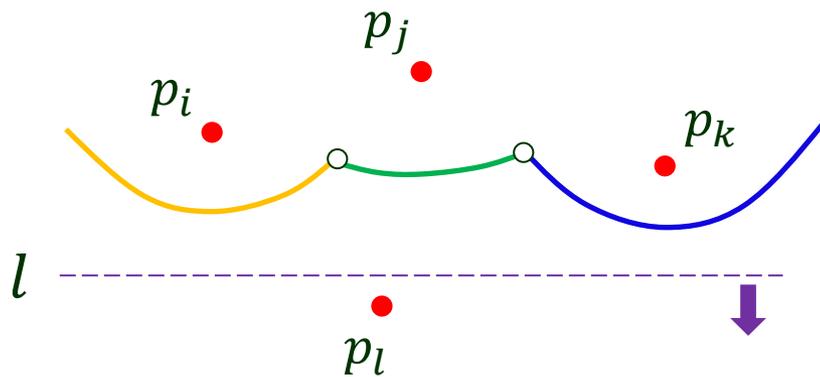
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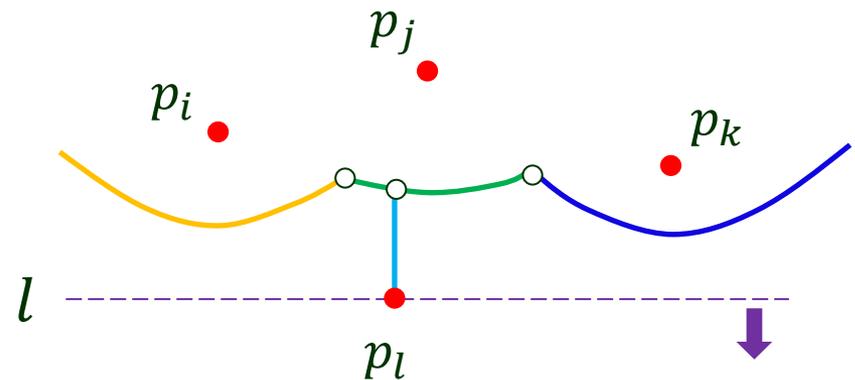


Triples of adjacent arcs are introduced or destroyed.

Site event



Triple  $\langle p_i, p_j, p_k \rangle$



Delete  $\langle p_i, p_j, p_k \rangle$

Add  $\langle p_i, p_j, p_l \rangle$

$\langle p_l, p_j, p_k \rangle$

# Circle Event Insertion

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Circle event will happen only if the corresponding triple stays until the sweep line *reaches the lowest point* of the circle.

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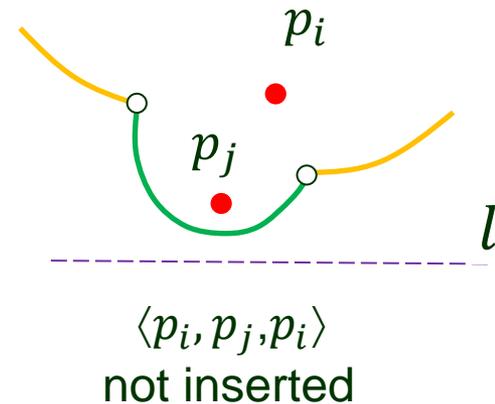
- ◆ Insert a new triple of consecutive arcs as a circle event if all three conditions below hold:
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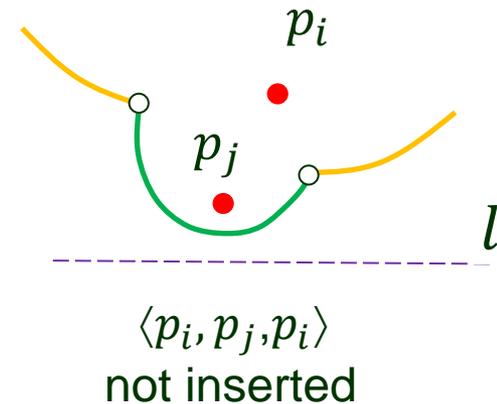
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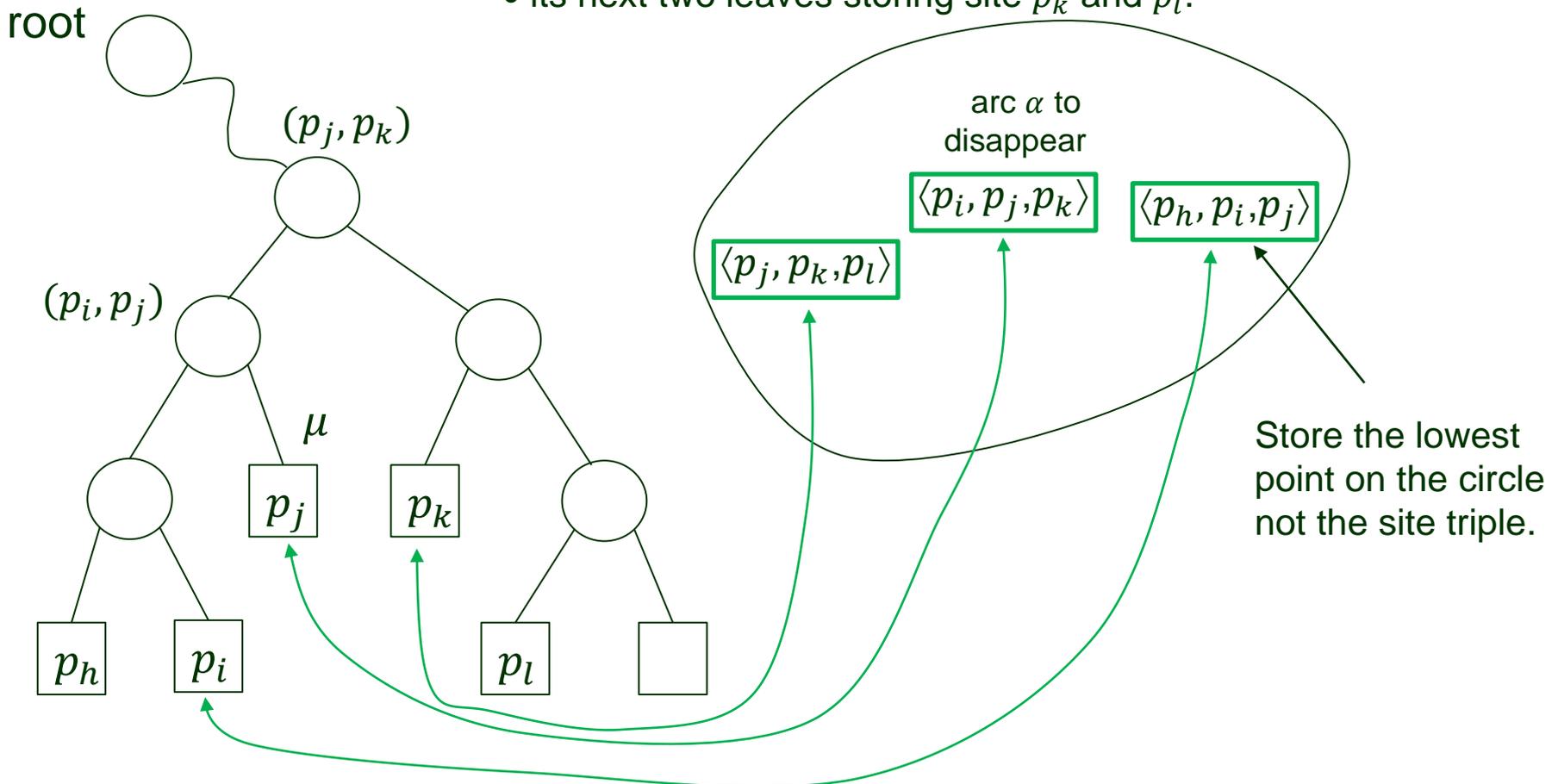
b) the triple is not in the event queue  $Q$ ;

c) the circle through the three defining sites intersects the sweep line.



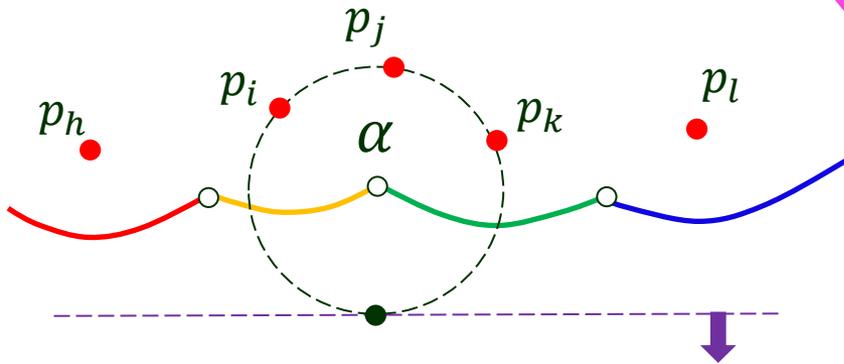
# Circle Event Deletion

- ◆ Takes place when arc  $\alpha$  disappears or splits. To find all affected circle events, search in  $T$  for
  - the leaf  $\mu$  storing the site  $p_j$  defining  $\alpha$ .
  - its previous two leaves storing sites  $p_i$  and  $p_h$ .
  - its next two leaves storing site  $p_k$  and  $p_l$ .



# Circle Event Deletion

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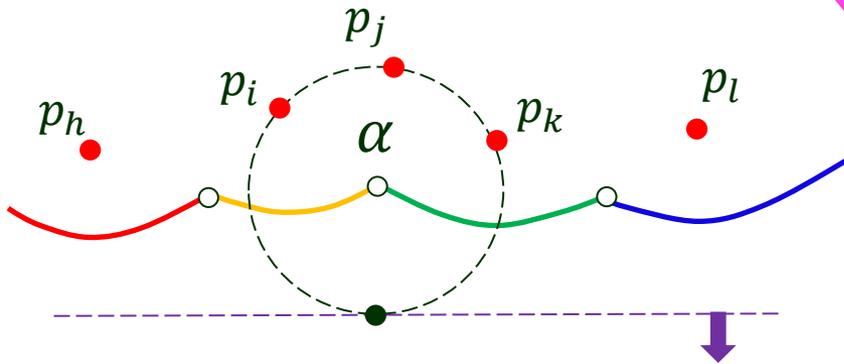


◆ In the case arc  $\alpha$  disappears

Delete

Add

# Circle Event Deletion

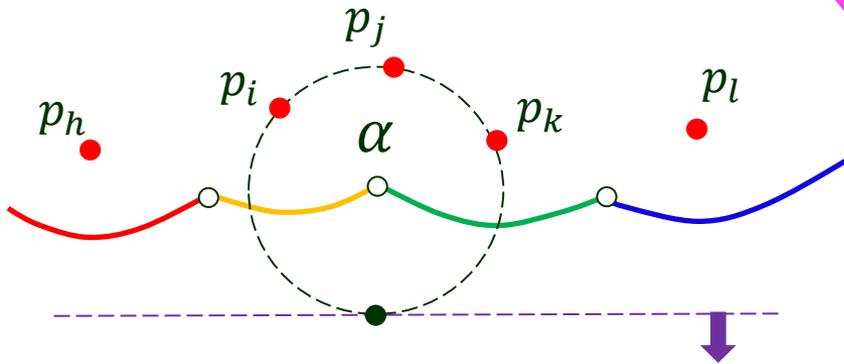


◆ In the case arc  $\alpha$  disappears

Delete  $\langle p_h, p_i, p_j \rangle$   
 $\langle p_i, p_j, p_k \rangle$   
 $\langle p_j, p_k, p_l \rangle$

Add

# Circle Event Deletion

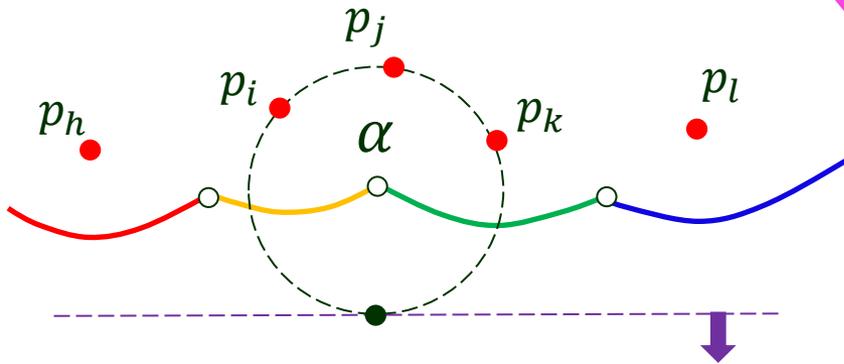


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Delete  $\langle p_h, p_i, p_j \rangle$   
 $\langle p_i, p_j, p_k \rangle$   
 $\langle p_j, p_k, p_l \rangle$  } Circle events involving  $\alpha$

Add

# Circle Event Deletion

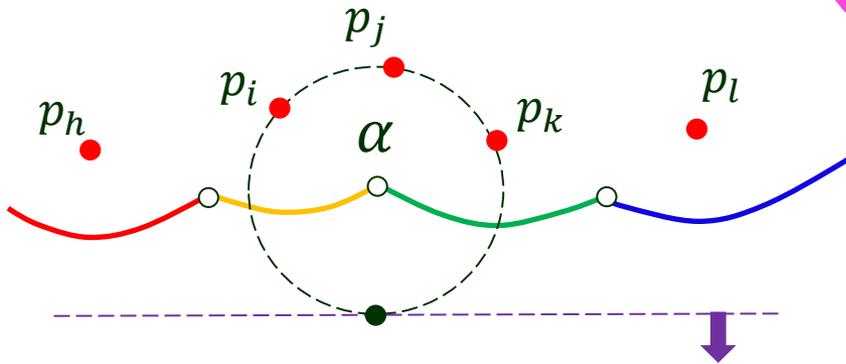


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May have been removed already  $\langle p_i, p_j, p_k \rangle$   
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Circle events involving  $\alpha$

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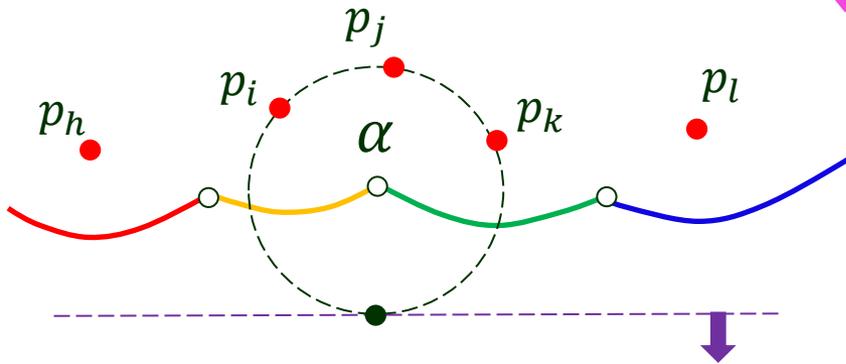


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May have been removed already  $\langle p_i, p_j, p_k \rangle$   
 $\langle p_j, p_k, p_l \rangle$  } Circle events involving  $\alpha$

Add  $\langle p_h, p_i, p_k \rangle$  if  $h \neq k$  and circle intersecting  $l$

# Circle Event Deletion

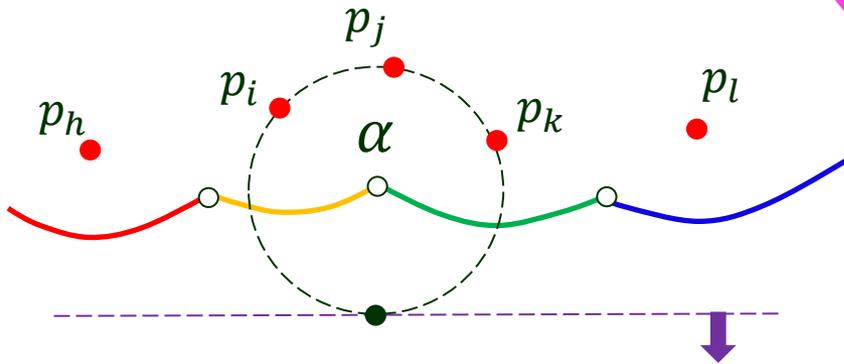


◆ In the case arc  $\alpha$  disappears

Delete  $\left. \begin{array}{l} \langle p_h, p_i, p_j \rangle \\ \langle p_i, p_j, p_k \rangle \\ \langle p_j, p_k, p_l \rangle \end{array} \right\}$  Circle events involving  $\alpha$   
May have been removed already

Add  $\langle p_h, p_i, p_k \rangle$  if  $h \neq k$  and circle intersecting  $l$   
 $\langle p_i, p_k, p_l \rangle$  if  $i \neq l$  and circle intersecting  $l$

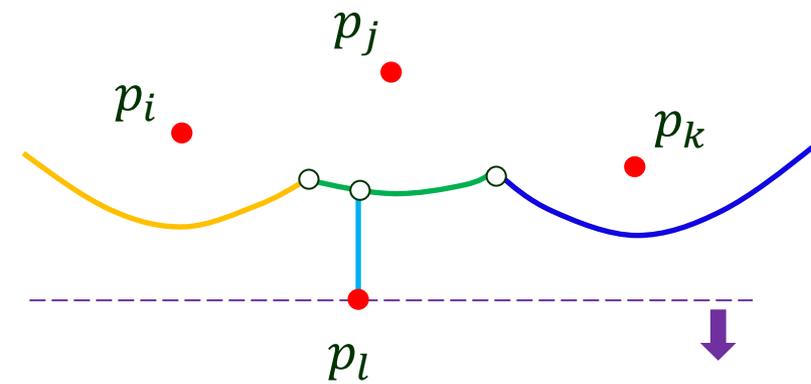
# Circle Event Deletion



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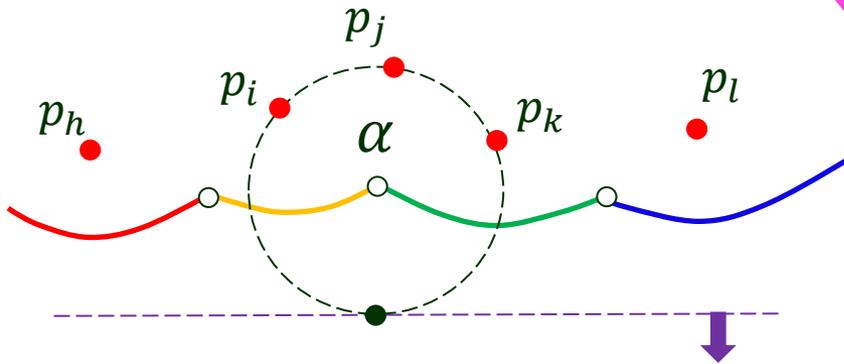
Delete  $\left. \begin{array}{l} \langle p_h, p_i, p_j \rangle \\ \langle p_i, p_j, p_k \rangle \\ \langle p_j, p_k, p_l \rangle \end{array} \right\} \text{Circle events involving } \alpha$   
 May have been removed already

Add  $\langle p_h, p_i, p_k \rangle$  if  $h \neq k$  and circle intersecting  $l$   
 $\langle p_i, p_k, p_l \rangle$  if  $i \neq l$  and circle intersecting  $l$



- ◆ In the case arc  $\alpha$  splits due to a site event  $p_l$

# Circle Event Deletion



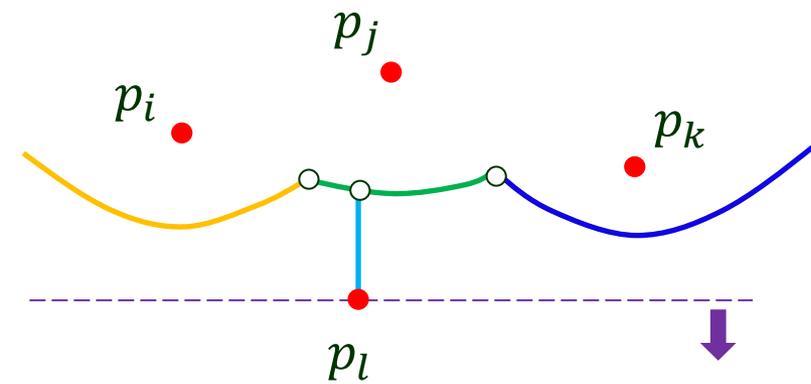
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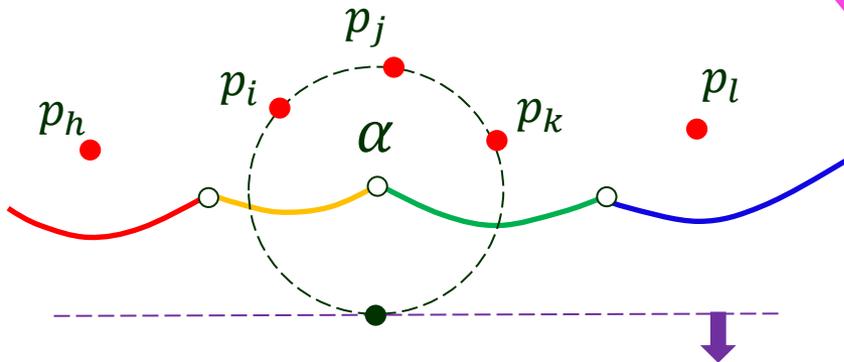
$\langle p_i, p_k, p_l \rangle$  if  $i \neq l$  and circle intersecting  $l$



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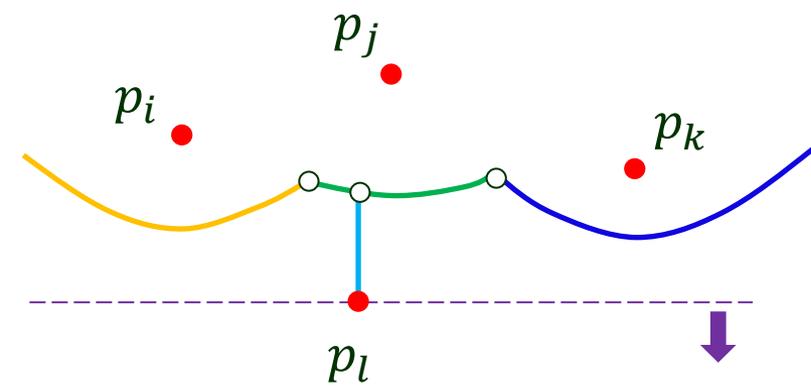
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# IV. Construction Algorithm

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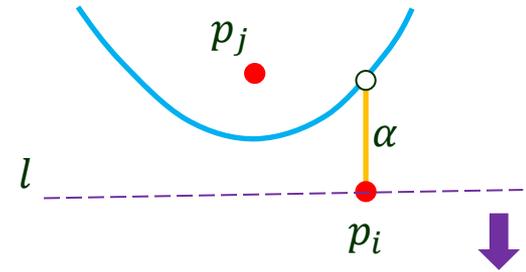
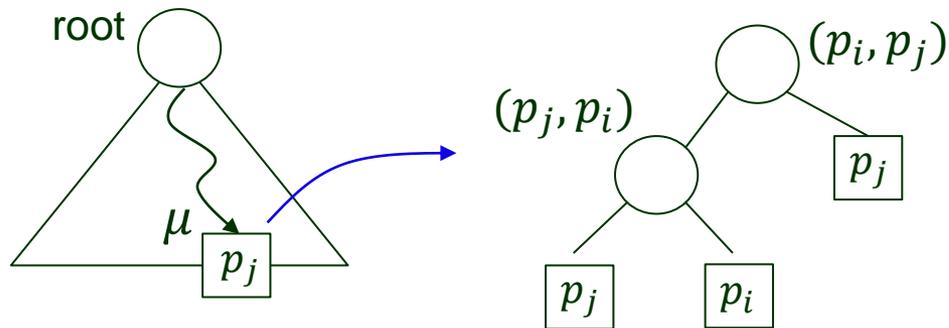
VoronoiDiagram( $P$ )

1. Initialize event queue  $Q$  with  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$
2. **while**  $Q \neq \emptyset$
3.     **do** extract event  $e$  with the largest  $y$ -coordinate from  $Q$ .
4.         **if**  $e$  is a site event at  $p_i$
5.             **then** HandleSiteEvent( $p_i$ )
6.             **else** HandleCircleEvent( $p_s$ ) //  $p_s, s > n$  is the lowest  
  // point on the corresponding circle.
7. Compute a bounding box with all Voronoi vertices in its interior.
8. Update DCEL for half-infinite edges.
9. Traverse DCEL to add cell records and related pointers.

# Site Event Handling

HandleSiteEvent( $p_i$ )

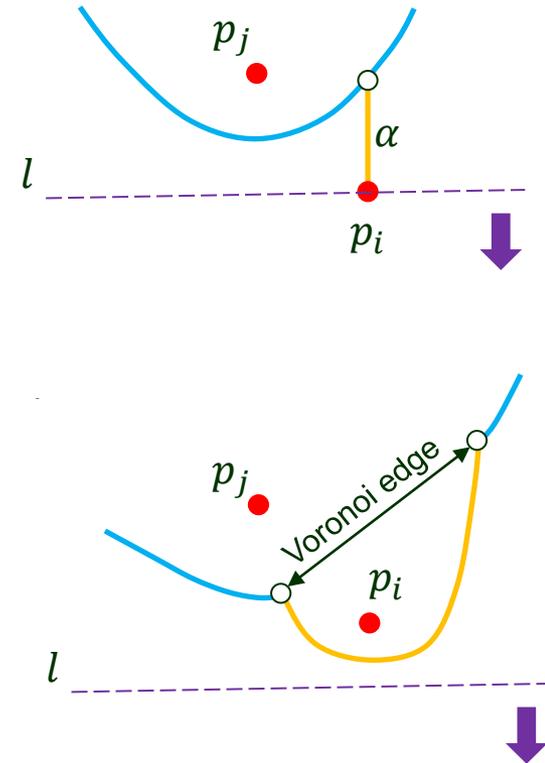
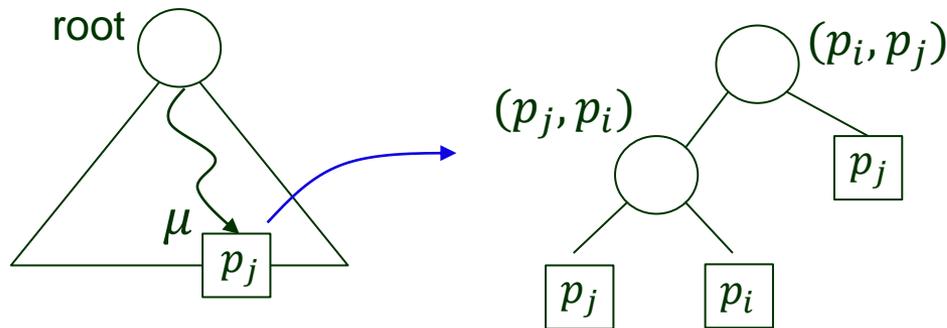
1.  $\alpha \leftarrow$  arc vertically above  $p_i$  in the plane // search in  $T$  to find  $\alpha$  defined by  $p_j$
2.  $Q \leftarrow Q - \{ \text{circle events involving } \alpha \}$
3. Replace the leaf  $p_j$  with a subtree below.



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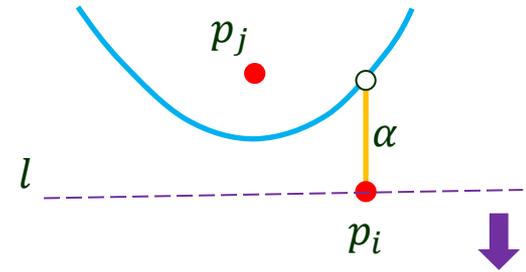
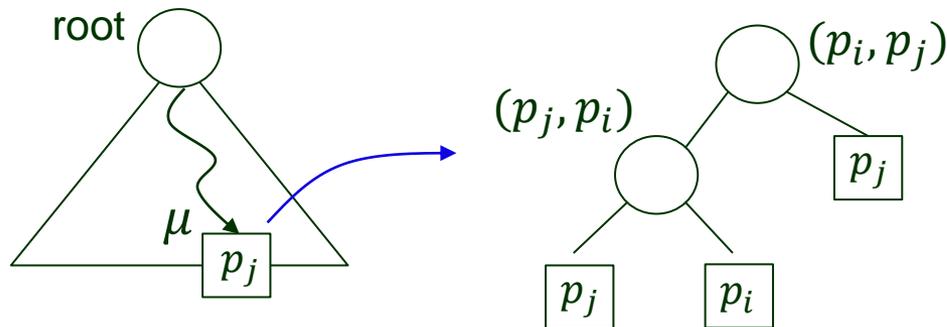
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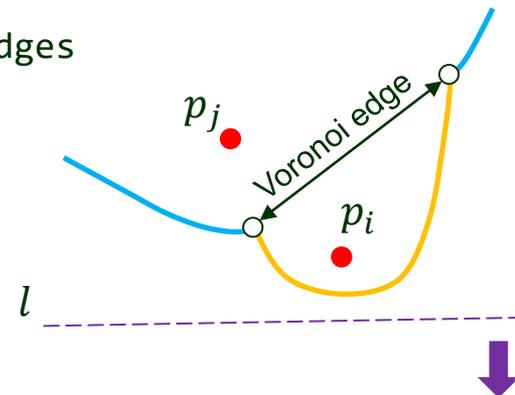
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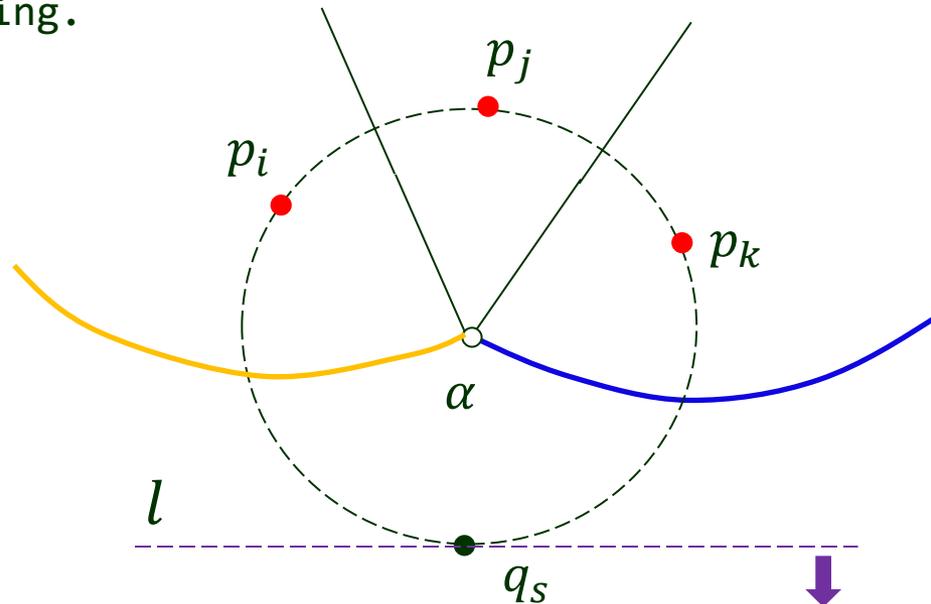
4. Add new records in Voronoi diagram (DCEL) for two half-edges separating  $V(p_i)$  and  $V(p_j)$  to be traced out.
5. Check arc triples  $\langle \_, p_j, p_i \rangle$  and  $\langle p_i, p_j, \_ \rangle$ , inserting each as a circle event if the three conditions below hold:
  - a) The triple is not present in  $Q$ .
  - b) The defined circle intersects  $l$ .
  - c) The two breakpoints in the triple are converging (moving toward each other).



# Circle Event Handling

HandleCircleEvent( $q_s$ )

1.  $\alpha \leftarrow$  arc vertically above  $q_s$  to disappear // search in  $T$
2.  $Q \leftarrow Q - \{ \text{circle events involving } \alpha \}$
3. Delete leaf  $\mu$  representing  $\alpha$  in  $T$ .
4. Update the tuples (representing the breakpoints) at the internal nodes.
5. Add the center of the circle as a vertex record to DCEL.
6. Create two half-edge records (between cells  $V_i$  and  $V_k$ ).
7. Check new triples that arise:  $\langle \_, p_i, p_k \rangle$  and  $\langle p_i, p_k, \_ \rangle$ , inserting each as a circle event into  $Q$  if the two breakpoints in the triple are converging.



# Time Complexity

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**Theorem** The algorithm runs in  $O(n \log n)$  time using  $O(n)$  storage.

**Proof** (sketch)

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    - vertices handled

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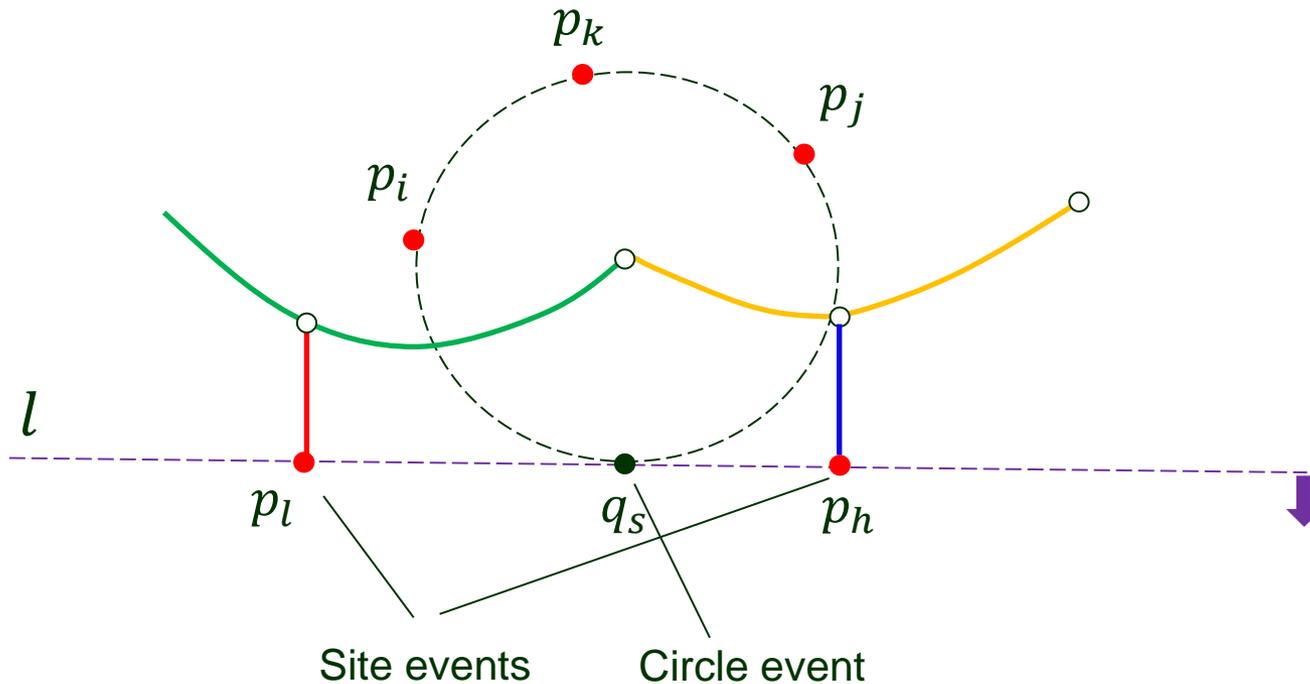
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# V. Degeneracy (1)

Two or more event sites with the same  $y$ -coordinate.

1a) different  $x$ -coordinates

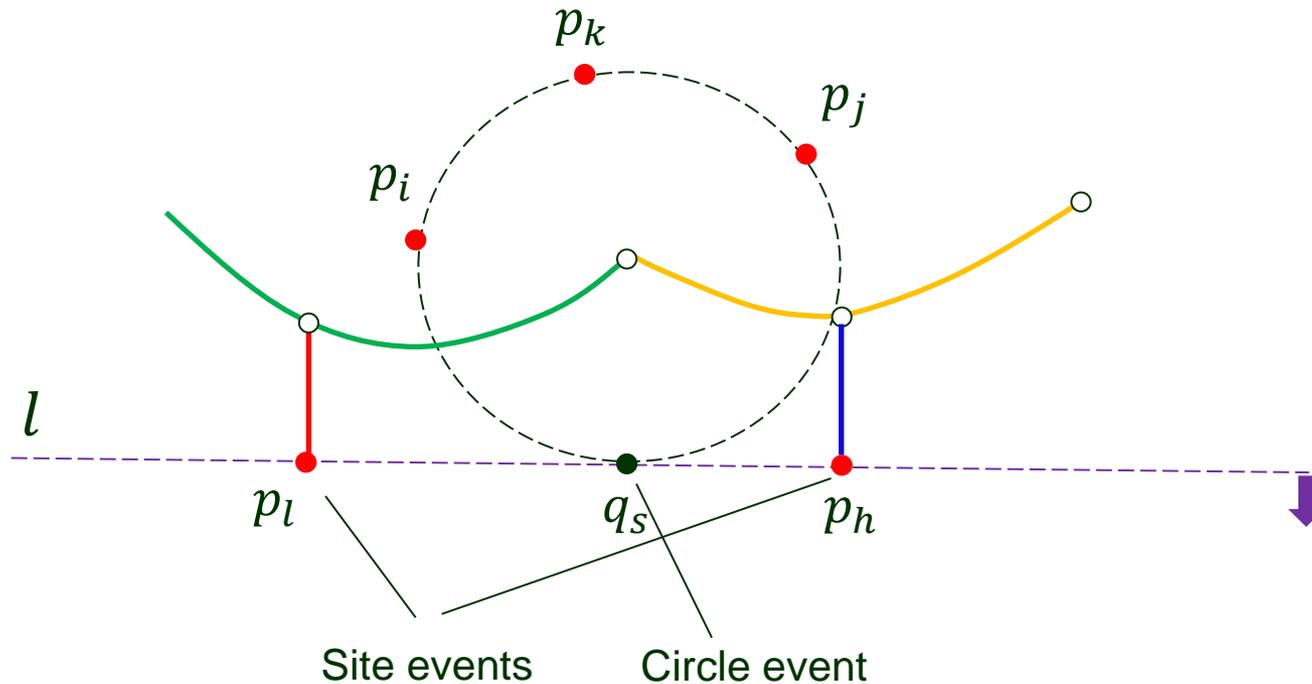


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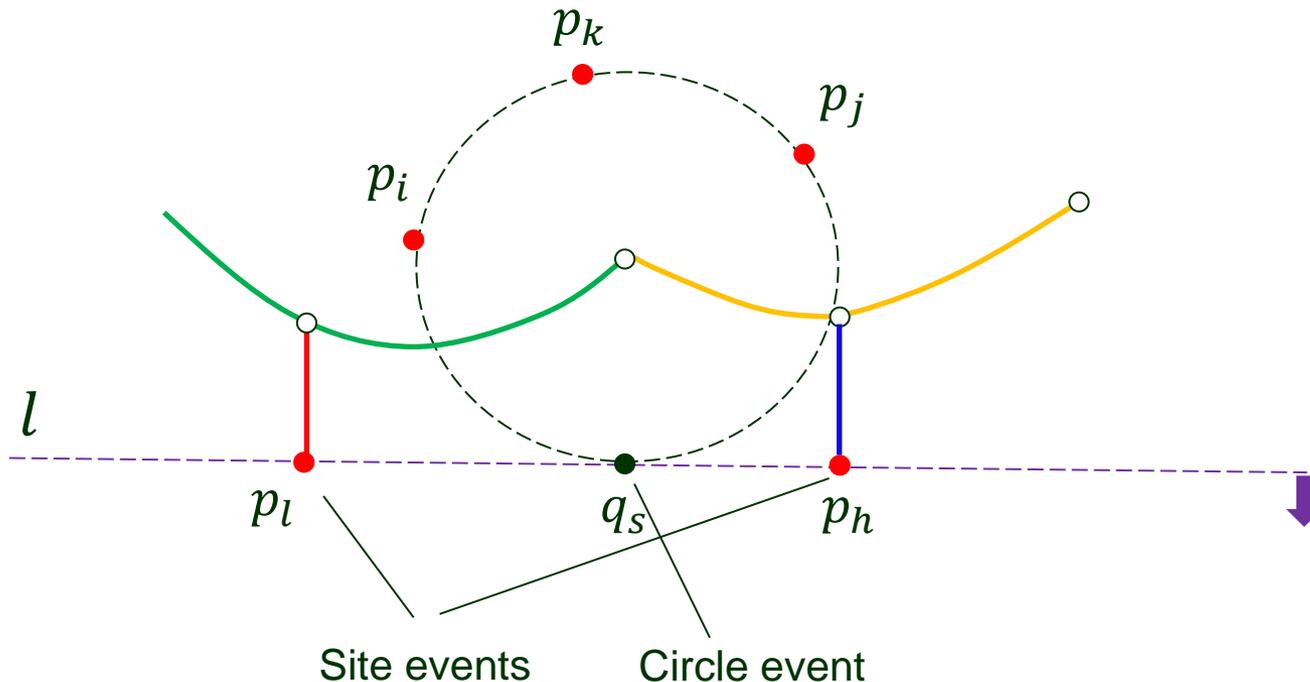
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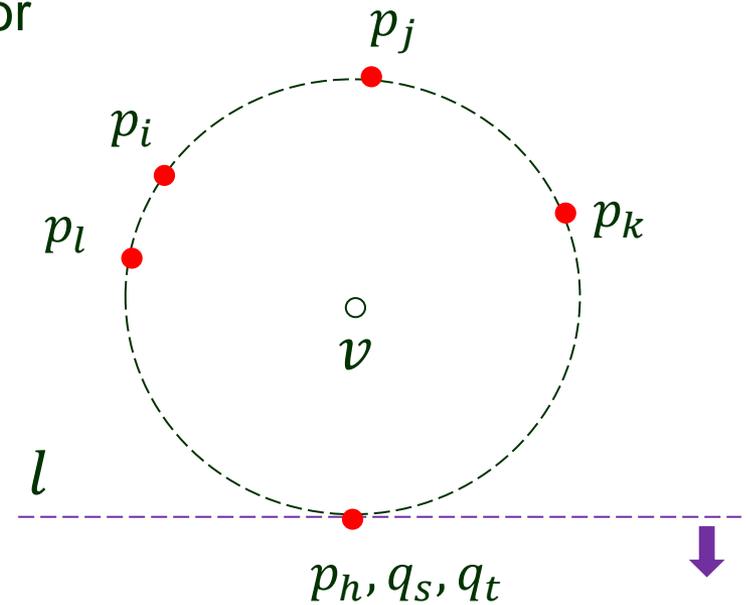
Handle them in any order.



# Degeneracy (1) – cont'd

1b) same  $x$ -coordinate

- 0 site event and  $\geq 2$  circle events, or
- 1 site event and  $\geq 1$  circle event



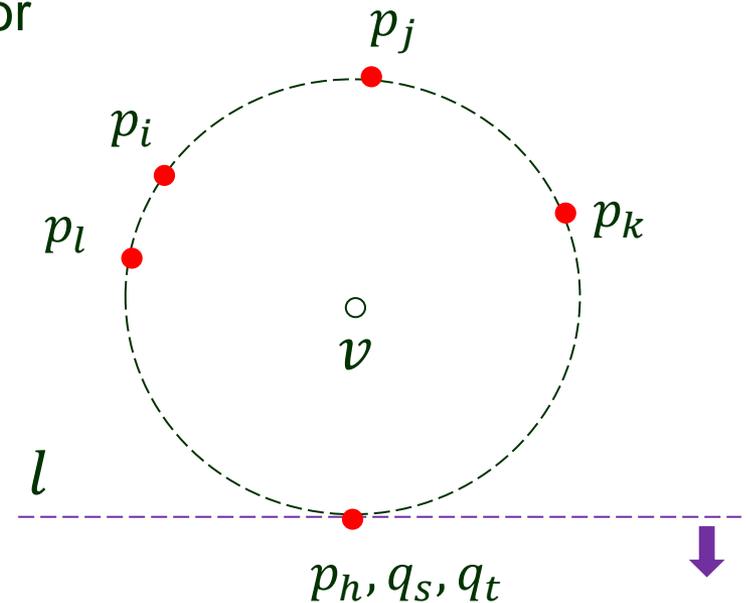
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a Voronoi vertex of degree  $\geq 4$



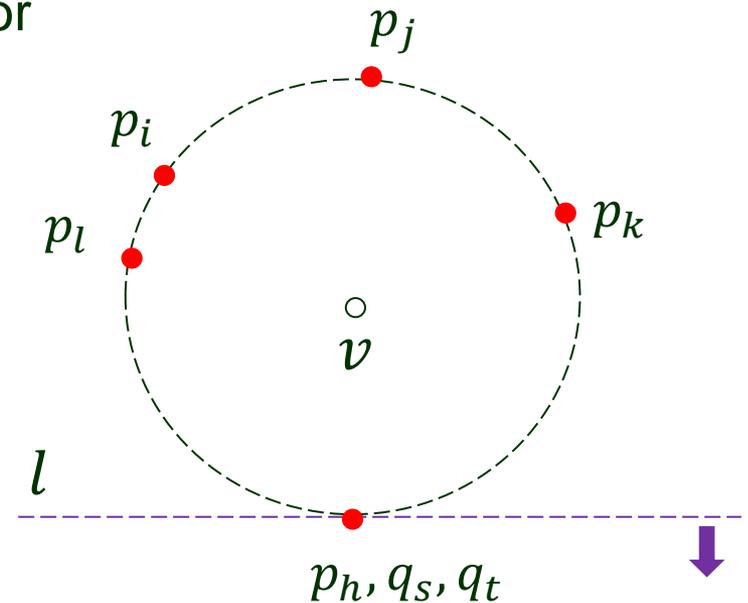
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Three events coincide:

$p_h$

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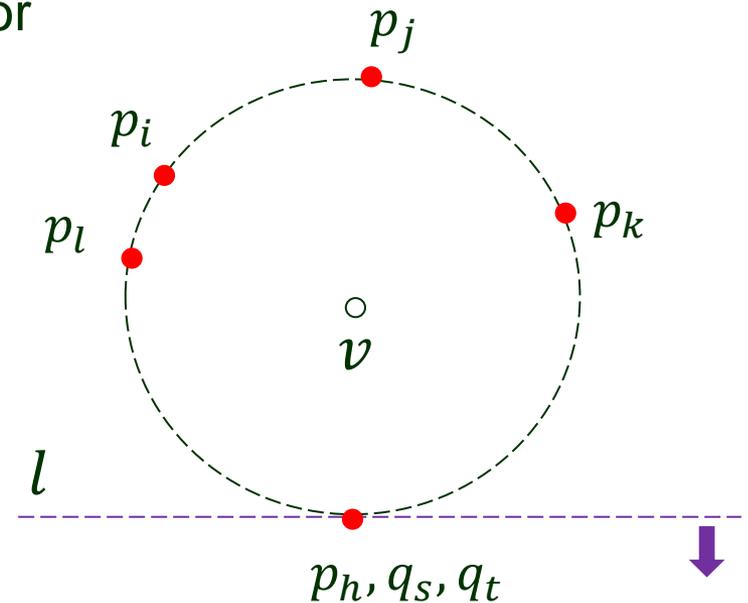
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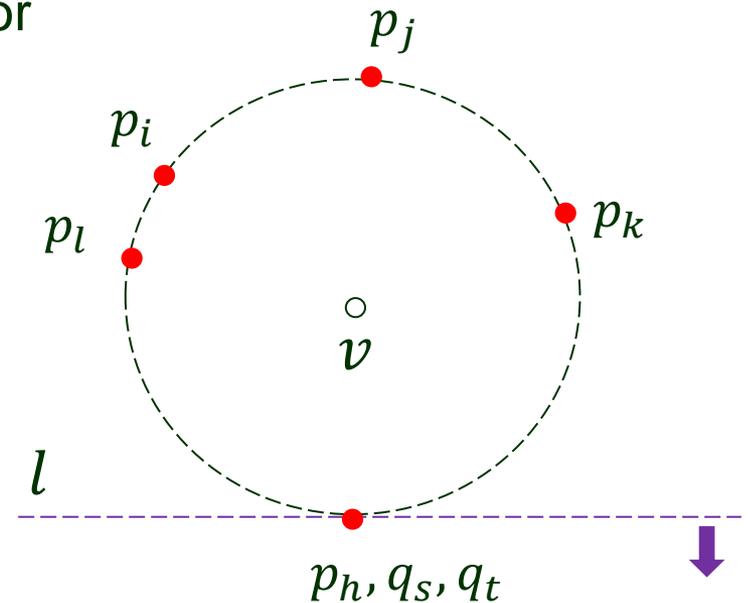
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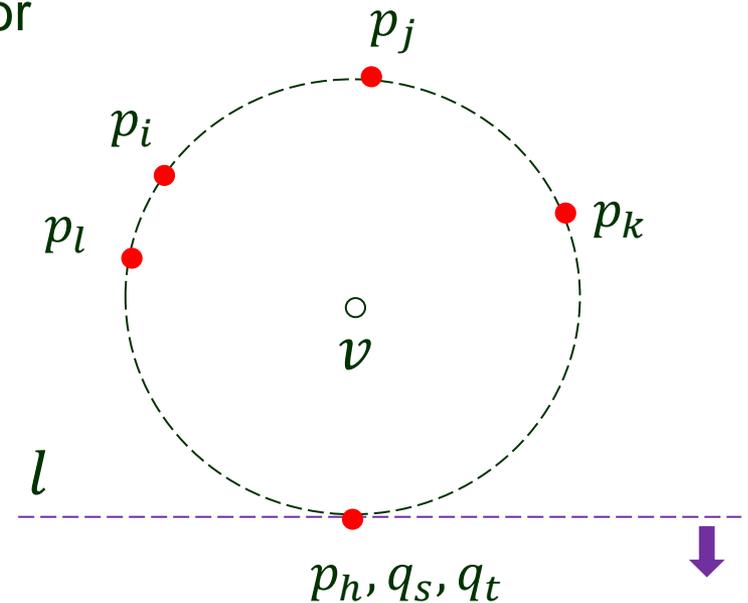
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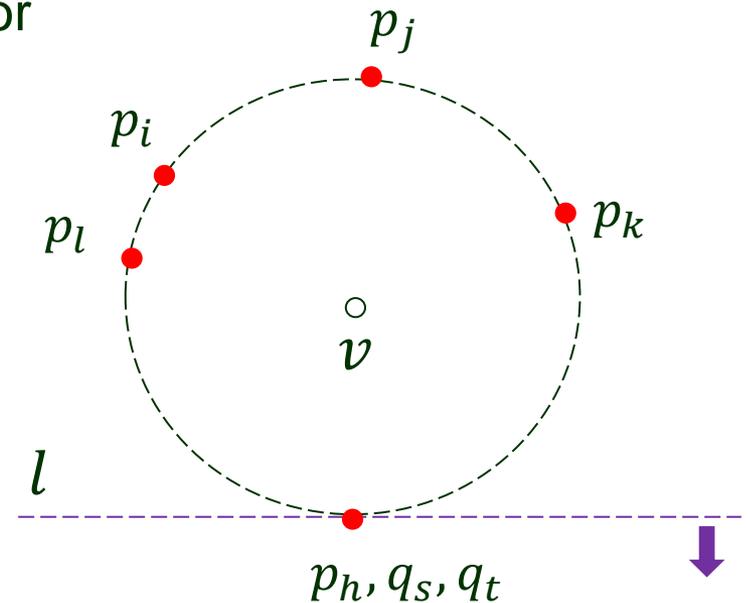
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- Handle circle events first.
  - as  $\geq 2$  vertices coinciding
  - each with degree 3 and 0 length in between
- Handle the sole site event last.



Three events coincide:

$p_h$

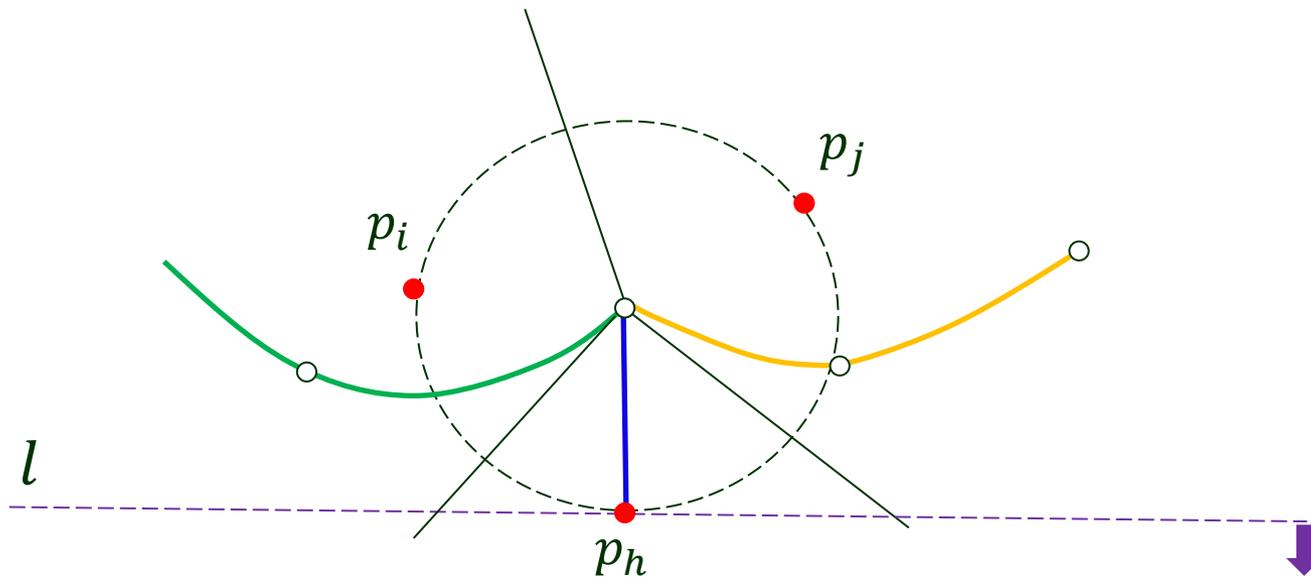
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# Degeneracy (2)

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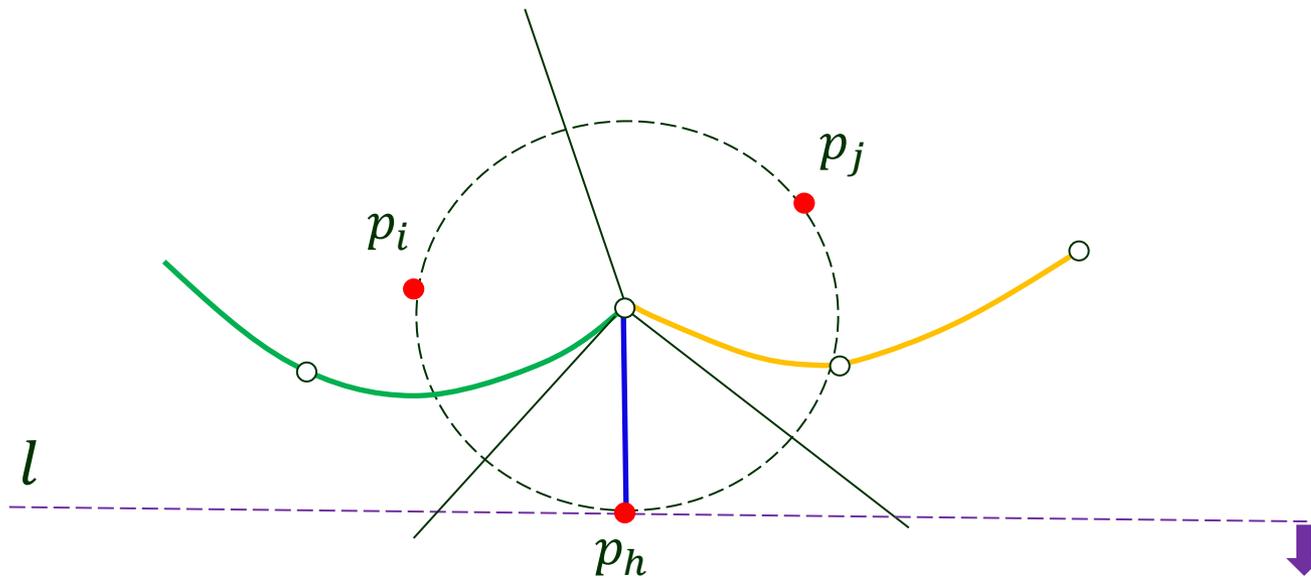
A new site appears right below a break point on the beach line.



# Degeneracy (2)

A new site appears right below a break point on the beach line.

Handle it as a circle event, and then add a new arc (for  $p_h$ ).



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**Nearest Neighbor Search:** With preprocessing allowed, how quickly can a nearest neighbor of a new given query point  $q$  be found?