## cse 521: design and analysis of algorithms

Time \& place
I, Th $1200-120 \mathrm{pm}$ in CSE 203
People
Prof: James Lee (jrl@cs)
TA: Thach Nguyen (ncthach@cs)
Book
Algorithm Design by Kleinberg and Tardos


Grading
50\% homework (approx. bi-weekly problem sets)
20\% take-home midterm
30\% in-class final exam
Website: http://www.cs.washington.edu/52I/

## something a little bit different

assume you know: asymptotic analysis basic probability basic linear algebra dynamic programming recursion / divide-and-conquer graph traversal (BFS, DFS, shortest paths)

so that we can cover:
nearest-neighbor search
spectral algorithms (e.g. pagerank) online algorithms (multiplicative update) geometric hashing

+ graph algorithms, data structures, network flow, hashing, NP-completeness, linear programming, approx. algorithms


## case study: nearest-neighbor search



## formal model



## Problem:

Given an input database $\mathrm{D} \subseteq \mathrm{U}$ :
preprocess D (fast, space efficiently) so that queries $\mathrm{q} \in \mathrm{U}$ can be answered very quickly, i.e. return

## Goal:

Quickly respond with the database object most similar to the query.
$\mathbf{U}=$ universe (set of objects)
$\mathrm{d}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y})=$ distance between two objects
Assumptions:

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
d(x, x)=0 & \text { for all } x \in U \\
d(x, y)=d(y, x) & \text { for all } x, y \in U
\end{array}
$$

(symmetry)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{d}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}) \leq \mathrm{d}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{z})+\mathrm{d}(\mathrm{z}, \mathrm{y}) \\
& \text { for all } \mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}, \mathrm{z} \in \mathrm{U}
\end{aligned}
$$

(triangle inequality)
$a^{*} \in D$ such that $d\left(q, a^{*}\right)=\min \{d(q, x): x \in D\}$

## other considerations



Problem:
Given an input database $\mathrm{D} \subseteq \mathrm{U}$ :
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Is it expensive to compute $d(x, y)$ ?

ridiculousse


Should we treat the distance function and objects as a black box?


## primitive methods


[Brute force: Time]
Compute d(query, x) for every
object $\mathrm{x} \in \mathrm{D}$, and return the closest.
Takes time $\approx$
|D | • (distance comp. time)
[Brute force: Space]
Pre-compute best response to every possible query $\mathrm{q} \in \mathbf{U}$.

Takes space $\approx$
$|\mathrm{U}| \cdot($ object size)
Dream performance:
$O(\log |D|)$ query time
$O(|D|)$ space

something hard, something easy



All pairwise distances are equal:

$$
d(x, y)=1 \text { for all } x, y \in D
$$

Problem:
... so that queries $q \in U$ can be answerd quickly, i.e. return $a^{*} \in D$ such that $d\left(q, a^{*}\right)=\min \{d(q, x): x \in D\}$


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$\epsilon$-Problem:


Can sometimes solve exact NNS by first finding a good approximation
... so that queries $q \in U$ can be answerd quickly, i.e. return $a \in D$ such that $d(q, a) \leq(1+\epsilon) d(q, D)$

Let's suppose that $\mathrm{U}=[0,1]$ (real numbers between 0 and I ).


Answer: Sort the points $D \subseteq U$ in the preprocessing stage.
To answer a query $\mathrm{q} \in \mathrm{U}$, we can just do binary search.
To support insertions/deletions in $O(\log |D|)$ time, can use a BST. (balanced search tree)
How much power did we need?
Can we do this just using distance computations $\mathrm{d}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y})$ ? (for $\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y} \in \mathrm{D}$ )
Basic idea: Make progress by throwing "a lot" of stuff away.


Definition: The ball of radius $\alpha$ around $\mathrm{x} \in \mathrm{D}$ is

$$
B(x, \alpha)=\{y \in D: d(x, y) \leq \alpha\}
$$



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## extending the basic idea



## Greedy construction algorithm:

Start with $N=\emptyset$.
As long as there exists an $\mathrm{x} \in \mathrm{D}$
with $\mathrm{d}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{N})>\alpha$, add x to N .
So for every $\alpha>0$, we can construct an $\alpha$-net $\mathrm{N}(\alpha)$ in $\mathbf{O}\left(\mathbf{n}^{2}\right)$ time, where $\mathrm{n}=|\mathrm{D}|$.

Definition: An $\alpha$-net in D is a subset $\mathrm{N} \subseteq \mathrm{D}$ such that
I) Separation: For all $\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y} \in \mathrm{N}, \mathrm{d}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}) \geq \alpha$
2) Covering: For all $\mathrm{x} \in \mathrm{D}, \mathrm{d}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{N}) \leq \alpha$

## basic data structure: hierarchical nets



## basic data structure: hierarchical nets

## Data structure:

$$
\begin{aligned}
d_{\max } & =\max \{d(x, y): x, y \in D\} \\
d_{\min } & =\min \{d(x, y): x \neq y \in D\}
\end{aligned}
$$

For $i=\log \left(d_{\min }\right), \log \left(d_{\min }\right)+1, \ldots, \log \left(d_{\max }\right)$,
let $N_{i}$ be a $2^{i}$-net.
For each $x \in N_{i}, L_{x, i}=B\left(x, 2^{i+1}\right) \cap N_{i-1}$.


## algorithm: traverse the nets

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Algorithm: Given input query $q \in U$,
Let CurrentPoint $=$ only point of $N_{\log \left(d_{\max }\right)}$.
For $i=\log \left(d_{\max }\right)-1, \log \left(d_{\max }\right)-2, \ldots, \log \left(d_{\min }\right)$,
CurrentPoint $=$ closest point to $q$ in $L_{\text {CurrentPoint }, i}$

## algorithm: traverse the nets



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## running time analysis?

Query time $=O\left(\log \left(\frac{d_{\max }}{d_{\text {min }}}\right)\right) \max \left\{\left|L_{x, i}\right|: x \in D, i\right\}$

$$
L_{x, i}=B\left(x, 2^{i+1}\right) \cap N_{i-1}
$$

Nearly uniform point set: For $u, v \in L_{x, i} \quad d(u, v) \in\left[2^{i^{-1},}, 2^{i+2}\right]$

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## curs'ed hamsters



All pairwise distances are equal:
$d(x, y)=1$ for all $x, y \in D$


## 

## intrinsic dimensionality

Given a metric space ( $\mathbf{X}, \mathrm{d})$, let $\lambda(\mathbf{X}, \mathrm{d})$ be the smallest constant $\lambda$ such that every ball in X can be covered by $\lambda$ balls of half the radius.


The intrinsic dimension of $(\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{d})$ is the value

$$
\operatorname{dim}(X, d)=\log _{2} \lambda(X, d)
$$

## intrinsic dimensionality

We can bound the query time of our algorithm in terms of the intrinsic dimension of the data...

$$
\left[\begin{array}{rl}
\text { Query time } & =O\left(\log \left(\frac{d_{\max }}{d_{\min }}\right)\right) \max \left\{\left|L_{x, i}\right|: x \in D, i\right\} \\
L_{x, i} & =B\left(x, 2^{i+1}\right) \cap N_{i-1}
\end{array}\right.
$$

Claim: $\left|\mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{i}}\right| \leq[\lambda(\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{d})]^{3}$
Proof: Suppose that $k=\left|L_{x, i}\right|$. Then we need at least $k$ balls of radius $2^{\mathrm{i}-2}$ to cover $\mathbf{B}\left(\mathbf{x}, 2^{i+1}\right)$, because a ball of radius $\mathbf{2}^{\mathrm{i}-2}$ can cover at most one point of $\mathbf{N}_{\mathrm{i}-1}$.

But now we claim that (for any $r$ ) every ball of radius $r$ in $X$ can be covered by at most $[\lambda(X, d)]^{3}$ balls of radius $r / 8$, hence $k \leq[\lambda(X, d)]^{3}$.

## intrinsic dimensionality

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A ball of radius r can be covered $\lambda$ balls of radius $\mathrm{r} / 2$, hence by $\lambda^{2}$ balls of radius $r / 4$, hence by $\lambda^{3}$ balls of radius $\mathrm{r} / 8$.

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- Generalization of binary search (where dimension $=\mathbf{1}$ )
- Works in arbitrary metric spaces with small intrinsic dimension
- Didn't have to think in order to "index" our database
- Shows that the hardest part of nearest-neighbor search is

- Only gives approximation to the nearest neighbor
- Next time: Fix this; fix time, fix space + data structure prowess
- In the future: Opening the black box; NNS in high dimensional spaces
- Bonus: Algorithm is completely intrinsic (e.g. isomap)


