

# Mapping-based Techniques

## Algorithms for Nearest Neighbor Search: Lecture 3

Yury Lifshits

<http://yury.name>

Steklov Institute of Mathematics at St.Petersburg  
California Institute of Technology



1 / 26

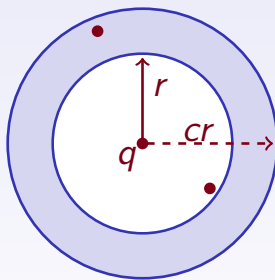
## Outline

- 1 Locality-Sensitive Hashing (LSH)
  - General Scheme
  - Ball Grids Hashing
- 2 Random Projections

2 / 26

## Approximate Algorithms

**$c$ -Approximate  $r$ -range query:** if there at least one  $p \in S : d(q, p) \leq r$  return some  $p' : d(q, p') \leq cr$



**$c$ -Approximate nearest neighbor query:** return some  $p' \in S : d(p', q) \leq cr_{NN}$ , where  $r_{NN} = \min_{p \in S} d(p, q)$

Today we consider only range queries

3 / 26

## Today's Focus

### Data models:

- $d$ -dimensional Euclidean space:  $\mathbb{R}^d$
- Hamming cube:  $\{0, 1\}^d$  with Hamming distance

### Our goal:

 provable performance bounds

- Sublinear search time, near-linear preprocessing space
- Logarithmic search time, polynomial preprocessing space

**Still an open problem:** approximate nearest neighbor search with logarithmic search and linear preprocessing

4 / 26

# Chapter IX

## Locality-Sensitive Hashing

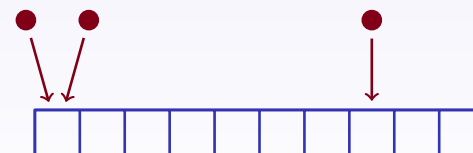
5 / 26

## Definition of LSH

Indyk&Motwani'98

**Locality-sensitive hash family**  $\mathcal{H}$  with parameters  $(c, r, P_1, P_2)$ :

- If  $\|p - q\| \leq r$  then  $\Pr_{\mathcal{H}}[h(p) = h(q)] \geq P_1$
- If  $\|p - q\| \geq cr$  then  $\Pr_{\mathcal{H}}[h(p) = h(q)] \leq P_2$



6 / 26

## The Power of LSH

Notation:  $\rho = \frac{\log(1/P_1)}{\log(1/P_2)} < 1$

### Theorem

Any  $(c, r, P_1, P_2)$ -locality-sensitive hashing leads to an algorithm for  $c$ -approximate  $r$ -range search with (roughly)  $n^\rho$  query time and  $n^{1+\rho}$  preprocessing space

Proof in the next four slides

7 / 26

## LSH: Preprocessing

Composite hash function:  $g(p) = \langle h_1(p), \dots, h_k(p) \rangle$

Preprocessing with parameters  $L, k$ :

- 1 Choose at random  $L$  composite hash functions of  $k$  components each
- 2 Hash every  $p \in S$  into buckets  $g_1(p), \dots, g_L(p)$

Preprocessing space:  $\mathcal{O}(Ln)$

8 / 26

## LSH: Search

- 1 Compute  $g_1(q), \dots, g_L(q)$
- 2 Go to corresponding buckets and explicitly check  $d(p, q) \leq cr$  for every point there
- 3 **Stopping conditions:** (1) we found a satisfying object or (2) we tried at least  $3L$  objects

Search time is  $\mathcal{O}(L)$

9 / 26

## LSH: Analysis (1/2)

In order to have probability of error at most  $\delta$  we set  $k, L$  such that

$$P_2^k n \approx 1 \quad L \approx (1/P_1)^k \log(1/\delta)$$

Solving these constraints:

$$k = \frac{\log n}{\log(1/P_2)}$$

$$L = (1/P_1)^{\frac{\log n}{\log(1/P_2)}} \log(1/\delta) = n^{\frac{\log(1/P_1)}{\log(1/P_2)}} \log(1/\delta) = n^\rho \log(1/\delta)$$

10 / 26

## LSH: Analysis (2/2)

The expected number of  $cr$ -far objects to be tried is  $P_2^k Ln \approx L$

For true  $r$ -neighbor the chance to be hashed to the same bucket as  $q$  is at least

$$1 - (1 - (1/P_1)^k)^L \geq 1 - (1/e)^{\frac{L}{(1/P_1)^k}} \geq 1 - \delta$$

Preprocessing space  $\mathcal{O}(Ln) \approx n^{1+\rho+o(1)}$

Search  $\mathcal{O}(L) \approx n^{\rho+o(1)}$

11 / 26

## Ball Grids Hashing: Idea

- 1 Apply low distortion embedding  $A$  into  $t$ -dimensional Euclidean space
- 2 Set up  $U$   $4w$ -step grids of  $w$ -radius balls that all together cover  $t$ -dimensional space
- 3 Hash object  $p$  to the id of the first ball covering  $A(p)$

12 / 26

## BG Hashing: Initialization

Parameters:  $t = \log^{2/3} n$ ,  $w = r \log^{1/6} n$ ,  $U = 2^{t \log t} \log n$

- Construct  $d \times t$  matrix  $A$  taking every element at random from normal distribution  $N(0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}})$
- For every  $1 \leq i \leq U$  choose a random shift  $\bar{v}_i \in [0, 4w]^t$

13 / 26

## BG Hashing: Computing

- 1 Compute  $p' = A(p)$
- 2 From  $i = 1$  to  $U$  check whether  $p'$  is covered by  $i$ -th grid of balls. If so return  $i$  and ball's center and stop.
- 3 If no such ball found return FAIL

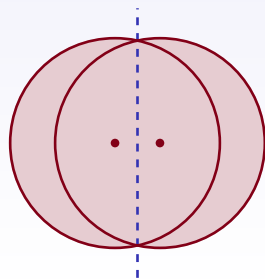
14 / 26

## BG Hashing: Analysis

**Fact:** Probability of  $\frac{\|Ap - Ap'\|}{\|p - p'\|} \notin [1 - \varepsilon, 1 + \varepsilon]$  is at most  $\exp(-\varepsilon^2 t)$

Given two points  $p, s \in \mathbb{R}^t : \|p - s\| = \Delta$ :

$$Pr[h(p) = h(s)] = \frac{B(p, w) \cap B(s, w)}{B(p, w) \cup B(s, w)}$$



15 / 26

## BG Hashing: Final Result

3-pages computational proof:

$$\rho = \frac{\log(1/P_1)}{\log(1/P_2)} = 1/c^2 + o(1)$$

**Theorem (Andoni & Indyk 2006)**

Consider  $c$ -approximate  $r$ -range search in  $d$ -dimensional space. Then for every  $\delta$  there is a randomized algorithm with (roughly)  $n^{1/c^2 + o(1)}$  query time and  $n^{1+1/c^2 + o(1)}$  preprocessing space. For every query this algorithm answers correctly with probability at least  $1 - \delta$

16 / 26

## Future of LSH

### Achievements:

- Provably sublinear search time
- Utilization of low-distortion embedding

### Current drawbacks:

- Probability of error can not be amplified only in preprocessing stage, it can not be decreased to  $1/n$
- Asymptotic analysis of power degree: from what place  $n^{1/c^2+o(1)}$  is really sublinear?
- For nearest neighbor search  $c = \max \frac{r_{NN}(q)}{r_{FN}(q)}$ , where  $r_{FN}(q)$  is the farthest neighbor. This might be pretty close to 1

17 / 26

## Self-Reduction in a Nutshell

**Problem:**  $(1 + \varepsilon)$ -approximate  $l$ -range queries in  $d$ -dimensional Hamming cube

- Apply embedding  $\{0, 1\}^d$  into  $\{0, 1\}^k$  such that  $l$ -neighbors usually fall within  $\delta_1 k$  from each other, while  $(1 + \varepsilon)l$ -far objects are embedded at least  $\delta_2 k$  from each other
- Precompute all  $(\frac{\delta_1 + \delta_2}{2})k$ -neighbors for every point in  $\{0, 1\}^k$
- In search step, embed  $q$  and explicitly check all precomputed  $(\frac{\delta_1 + \delta_2}{2})k$ -neighbors

19 / 26

## Chapter X

## Random Projections

18 / 26

## RP: Inner product test

### Single test:

- Choose random subset of positions of size  $\frac{1}{2l}$
- Randomly assign 0 or 1 to every of them, the rest assign to 0, call the resulting vector  $r$
- $h_r(p) = r \cdot p$

**Claim:** there exist constants  $\delta_1 > \delta_2$

- $H_d(p, s) \leq l \Rightarrow \Pr[h(p) = h(q)] \geq \delta_1$
- $H_d(p, s) \geq (1 + \varepsilon)l \Rightarrow \Pr[h(p) = h(q)] \leq \delta_2$

20 / 26

## RP: Preprocessing

### Inner product mapping:

- Choose  $k$  random tests  $r_1, \dots, r_k$
- Map every  $p$  into  $A(p) = h_{r_1}(p) \dots h_{r_k}(p)$

### Data Structure

- Apply inner product mapping to all strings in database
- For every  $v \in \{0, 1\}^k$  precompute all  $(\frac{\delta_1 + \delta_2}{2})k$ -neighbors

21 / 26

## RP: Search

- Compute  $A(q) = h_{r_1}(q) \dots h_{r_k}(q)$
- Retrieve and explicitly check all  $(\frac{\delta_1 + \delta_2}{2})k$ -neighbors of  $A(q)$

### Analysis:

- Chances to miss true  $l$ -neighbor:  $\exp(-\frac{\delta_1 - \delta_2}{2\delta_1} k)$
- Chances to waste time on  $(1 + \varepsilon)l$ -far neighbor:  $\exp(-\frac{\delta_1 - \delta_2}{2\delta_1} k)$

Thus we should take near-logarithmic  $k$  which lead to polynomial size of  $\{0, 1\}^k$  to be NN-precomputed

22 / 26

## RP: Formal Claim

### Theorem (Kushilevets, Ostrovsky, Rabani, 1998)

Consider  $(1 + \varepsilon)$ -approximate  $l$ -range search in  $d$ -dimensional Hamming cube. Then for every  $\mu$  there is a randomized algorithm with (roughly)  $d^2 \text{polylog}(d, n)$  query time and  $n^{\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-2})}$  preprocessing space. For every query this algorithm answers correctly with probability at least  $1 - \mu$

23 / 26

## Exercise

Prove that  $2^{\mathcal{O}(t)}$  number of randomly chosen  $(w, 4w)$  ball grids is enough to cover  $t$ -dimensional space with probability  $1/2$

24 / 26

## Highlights

- Locality-sensitive hashing: use random projection for defining a candidate list, check its members explicitly
- Random projections: low-distortion embedding into finite sets + fully precomputed nearest neighbors

Thanks for your attention! Questions?

## References

Course homepage <http://simsearch.yury.name/tutorial.html>



Y. Lifshits

The Homepage of Nearest Neighbors and Similarity Search

<http://simsearch.yury.name>



A. Andoni, P. Indyk

Near-Optimal Hashing Algorithms for Approximate Nearest Neighbor in High Dimensions. FOCS'06

<http://web.mit.edu/andoni/www/papers/cSquared.pdf>



E. Kushilevitz, R. Ostrovsky, Y. Rabani

Efficient Search for Approximate Nearest Neighbor in High Dimensional Spaces. STOC'98

<http://www.cs.technion.ac.il/~rabani/pss/Publications/KushilevitzOR98.ps.gz>