Efficient *k*-center algorithms for planar points in convex position

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k-center problem

Problem Statement: Given a set of *n* points in plane, cover the points using *k* balls so that the maximum radius of a ball is minimized

- *k*-center problem for arbitrary points: $n^{O(\sqrt{k})}$ time
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- 2-center problem for points in convex position: $O(n \log n)$ time
- 3-center problem for points in convex position: $O(n^2 \log^3 n)$ time



Our results

First efficient algorithm for planar *k*-center problem for points in convex position

- $O(n^2 \min\{k, \log n\} \log n + k^2 n \log n)$ -time algorithm
- For k = 3, $O(n^2 \log^3 n) \Rightarrow O(n^2 \log n)$.





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 $P = \langle p_0, ..., p_{n-1} \rangle$: (cyclic) sequence of points in clockwise order $P(i, t) = \langle p_i, p_{i+1}, ..., p_{i+t-1} \rangle$

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 $f(i, \ell)$: length of the longest substring of P from p_i that admits an (ℓ, r) -cover



- *P* admits (k, r)-cover if $f(i, k) \ge |P|$ for some *i*





















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 $f(i, \boldsymbol{\ell}) = \max\{f_A(i, \boldsymbol{\ell}), f_B(i, \boldsymbol{\ell}), f_C(i, \boldsymbol{\ell})\}$



For case A & B: $O(k^2n)$ -time algorithm



Observation. The value $f(i, \ell) + i$ is nondecreasing while *i* and ℓ is increasing.

$$\begin{aligned} f_{A}(i, \ell) &= f(i, 1) + f(i + f(i, 1), \ell - 1) \\ \max\{f_{A}(i, \ell), f_{B}(i, \ell)\} &= \max_{1 \leqslant \gamma \leqslant \ell - 1}\{f(i, \gamma) + f(i + f(i, \gamma), \ell - \gamma)\} \end{aligned}$$



























Lemma. max{ $f_A(i, \ell), f_B(i, \ell)$ } can be computed in $O(k^2n)$ time for all *i* and ℓ . **Lemma**. max{ $f_A(i, \ell), f_C(i, \ell)$ } can be computed in $O(\min\{kn^2, n^2 \log n\})$ time for all *i* and ℓ .



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Theorem. Given a set of *n* points in convex position, an integer *k*, and a radius *r*, we can determine in $O(n^2 \min\{k, \log n\} + k^2 n)$ time whether the set admits a (k, r)-cover or not.

Let the running time of decision algorithm $T_s = O(n^2 \min\{k, \log n\} + k^2 n)$



Smallest disk: defined by at most three points



In a naïve way, it takes $O(n^3 \log n)$ time by applying binary search over the set of $O(n^3)$ radii



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 $r_u(i, t)$: radius of the smallest disk covering P(i, t) and $p_u t_u(i, r) = \max\{t | r_u(i, t) \leq r\}$





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Lemma. For any fixed integers *u* and *i* and any fixed $r \in (r_L, r_U]$, we can compute $t_u(i, r)$ in $O(\log n)$ time after O(n)-time preprocessing.



Using Cole's parametric search with $O(n^2)$ processors,

we can compute $t_u(i, r^*)$ for all *i* and *u* in $O(T_s \log n)$ time $r_u(i, t_u(i, r^*))$ for all *i* and *u* in $O(n^2 \log n)$ time

From these $O(n^2)$ candidates, find r^* using binary search in $O(T_s \log n)$ time.

Also works under the Minkowski distance of order *p* for any fixed integer *p*



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Thank You!



