MSc thesis defense presentation

Lukas Kavouras defends his MSc

thesis

Date: Tuesday, 08 Nov 2016

Time: 14:00

Univeristy of Athens,

Department of

Location: Informatics and

Telecommunications,

A56

Thesis title: High dimensional

approximate r-nets

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Thesis abstract

The construction of \$r\$-nets offers a powerful tool in computational and metric geometry. We focus on high-dimensional spaces and present a new randomized algorithm which efficiently computes approximate \$r\$-nets with respect to Euclidean distance. For any fixed \$\epsilon>0\$, the approximation factor is \$1+\epsilon\$ and the complexity is polynomial in the dimension and subquadratic in the number of points. The algorithm succeeds with high probability. More specifically, the best previously known LSH-based construction of Eppstein et al.\\cite{EHS15}\ is improved in terms of complexity by reducing the dependence on \$\epsilon\$, provided that \$\epsilon\$ is sufficiently small. Our method does not require LSH but, instead, follows Valiant's \cite{Val15} approach in designing a sequence of reductions of our problem to other problems in different spaces, under Euclidean distance or inner product, for which \$r\$-nets are computed efficiently and the error can be controlled. Our result immediately implies efficient solutions to a number of geometric problems in high dimension, such as finding the \$(1+\epsilon)\$-approximate \$k\$th nearest neighbor distance in time subquadratic in the size of the input.

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