Time-space Trade-offs for Voronoi Diagrams

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Limited Memory

Started in the 70's



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Increased interest recently

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Model Input: read-only, random-access Memory: O(s) words Output: write-only





Increased interest recently

Input: set *P* of points in \mathbb{R}^2

Output: Subdivision of \mathbb{R}^2 , such that each region has a common nearest neighbor in P.

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- Compute VD(R)
- Triangulate VD(R)
- For each triangle, report the vertices of VD(P) inside it



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To report Voronoi vertices in $\Delta = \{v_1, v_2, v_3\} \subseteq R_2 \text{ only consider}$ points in $B_{v_1}, B_{v_2}, B_{v_3}$



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Problem: O(s) voronoi diagrams of size O(n/s) to compute



- Allocate each triangle O(1) memory
- Scan points O(n/s) times and $O(n \log s)$ per scan



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- Compute and triangulate VD(R)
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- **Solution**: Sample $\Theta(t_v \log t_v)$ extra points from B_v for any $v \in VD(R)$ with $t_v \ge 2$.
 - Recompute conflict sizes
 - Continue sampling in large conflict sets



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Putting it together

Computing R_2 : expected $O(n \log s \log^* s)$ Computing for each triangle: expected $O((n^2/s) \log s)$

Reporting Voronoi diagrams of a set of n points in the plane can be done in $O((n^2/s)\log s + n\log s\log^* s)$ expected time.

(Almost optimal for both linear and constant memory)

Open Problem: Can we do the same in worst-case time?