Closest Pair Report

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Results

Our implementation produces the expected results on all inputoutput file pairs. We see some floating point rounding errors in our results, however.

Our solutions runs through all the in 7.975 seconds. See appendix for our results.

Implementation details

First we sort all points on their x-axis. Then we recursively halve the array of points into smaller sub-arrays. We do this until there are 3 or less points in the sub-array of points, we return a floating point number s, which is the shortest distance between the points in that recursive call. The results are compared and the s is returned.

After finding the smallest distance *s*, we use it to construct the 'split belt'. The belt will then have a width of 2*s*. We find the points inside the split-belt by linearly searching from the split location, to the left and right in the points array.

We then sort the points in the split-belt by their y-axis, and call the same recursive function to find the smallest distance s' between the points inside the belt. In order to save time we stop the search when there are 15 or fewer points inside the belt.

Finally we return the minimum of s and s'

Our running time is $O(n \log n)$ for n points.

Future Work

In order to improve our solution we could we could use binary search instead of linear search when finding the points in the belt. This would be faster as binary search has a running time of O(logN) instead of O(N).

Alternative Implementation: kd-Tree Nearest Neighbour

Another way of solving the closest pairs problem is to use a kd-tree with 2 dimensions. You can construct a kd-tree in O(knlogn) time, where k is the number of dimensions, and n is the number of points. The running time for a nearest neighbour search is O(logn) and iterating over all of the original points provides a solution in O(nlogn) time just like our first proposed solution.

The difference in running time of the two implementations are solely on the linearithmic construction time of the kd-tree. To reveal the difference, we ran a shell-script that timed each algorithm over all input files several times.

While the first implementation is definitely a bit faster, the kd-tree implementation has the ability to find the specific distance one points and any other in O(logn) time, which the first implementation only supports if the points are stored in sorted order by all axes, and a binary search is used to figure out where the comparison point is. That implementation would require n^k memory, where k is the number of dimensions. (There would be an array of points for each dimension, each containing points with k values). If instead memory is to be saved, the recursive search for any two points would take O(klogn) for k dimensions over n points.

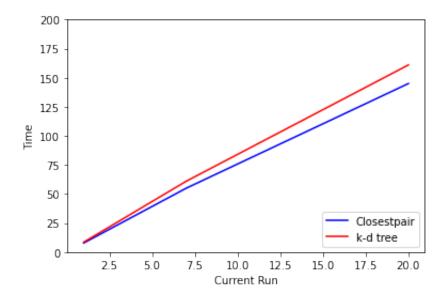


Figure 1: Runtime comparison

Appendix

data/a280-tsp.txt:	280	0.0
data/ali535-tsp.txt:	535	0.0
data/att48-tsp.txt:	48	131.46862743635836
data/att532-tsp.txt:	532	3.1622776601683795
data/berlin52-tsp.txt:	52	15.0
data/bier127-tsp.txt:	127	116.0
data/brd14051-tsp.txt:	14051	1.0
data/burma14-tsp.txt:	14	0.230000000000000043
data/ch130-tsp.txt:	130	0.6601809903932513
data/ch150-tsp.txt:	150	1.649216924729638
data/d1291-tsp.txt:	1291	24.99999999999773
data/d15112-tsp.txt:	15112	12.041594578792296
data/d1655-tsp.txt:	1655	25.399999999999636
data/d18512-tsp.txt:	18512	1.0
data/d198-tsp.txt:	198	22.936869882353186
data/d2103-tsp.txt:	2103	20.017242567346837
data/d493-tsp.txt:	493	17.96051224213805
data/d657-tsp.txt:	657	17.96051224213805
data/dsj1000-tsp.txt:	1000	679.9088174159826
data/eil101-tsp.txt:	101	1.4142135623730951
data/eil51-tsp.txt:	51	2.23606797749979
data/eil76-tsp.txt:	76	2.23606797749979
data/fl1400-tsp.txt:	1400	4.1719300090003735
data/fl1577-tsp.txt:	1577	8.35093407949055
data/fl3795-tsp.txt:	3795	4.1719300090003735
data/fl417-tsp.txt:	417	8.35093407949055
data/fnl4461-tsp.txt:	4461	10.0
data/gil262-tsp.txt:	262	1.0
data/gr137-tsp.txt:	137	0.7280109889280534
data/gr202-tsp.txt:	202	0.0399999999999915
data/gr229-tsp.txt:	229	0.3712142238654163
data/gr431-tsp.txt:	431	0.0399999999999915
data/gr666-tsp.txt:	666	0.02236067977499742
data/gr96-tsp.txt:	96	0.02236067977499742
data/kroA100-tsp.txt:	100	13.038404810405298
data/kroA150-tsp.txt:	150	13.038404810405298
data/kroA200-tsp.txt:	200	10.295630140987

data/kroB100-tsp.txt:	100	26.0
data/kroB150-tsp.txt:	150	8.06225774829855
data/kroB200-tsp.txt:	200	5.0
data/kroC100-tsp.txt:	100	17.72004514666935
data/kroD100-tsp.txt:	100	11.661903789690601
data/kroE100-tsp.txt:	100	22.135943621178654
data/lin105-tsp.txt:	105	31.0
data/lin318-tsp.txt:	318	31.0
data/linhp318-tsp.txt:	319	31.0
data/nrw1379-tsp.txt:	1379	2.8284271247461903
data/p654-tsp.txt:	654	15.0
data/pcb1173-tsp.txt:	1173	1.0
data/pcb3038-tsp.txt:	3038	1.0
data/pcb442-tsp.txt:	442	50.0
data/pla33810-tsp.txt:	33810	930.3897032964197
data/pla7397-tsp.txt:	7397	930.3897032964197
data/pla85900-tsp.txt:	85900	728.0109889280518
data/pr1002-tsp.txt:	1002	100.0
data/pr107-tsp.txt:	107	200.0
data/pr124-tsp.txt:	124	150.0
data/pr136-tsp.txt:	136	170.0
data/pr144-tsp.txt:	144	100.0
data/pr152-tsp.txt:	152	75.23961722390672
data/pr226-tsp.txt:	226	100.0
data/pr2392-tsp.txt:	2392	1.0
data/pr264-tsp.txt:	264	100.0
data/pr299-tsp.txt:	299	1.0
data/pr439-tsp.txt:	439	90.13878188659973
data/pr76-tsp.txt:	76	300.0
data/rat195-tsp.txt:	195	6.324555320336759
data/rat575-tsp.txt:	575	2.0
data/rat783-tsp.txt:	783	1.0
data/rat99-tsp.txt:	99	4.123105625617661
data/rd100-tsp.txt:	100	4.796664361824801
data/rd400-tsp.txt:	400	1.1739771249901285
data/rl11849-tsp.txt:	11849	9.0
data/rl1304-tsp.txt:	1304	32.0
data/rl1323-tsp.txt:	1323	48.0
data/rl1889-tsp.txt:	1889	32.0
data/rl5915-tsp.txt:	5915	32.0
data/rl5934-tsp.txt:	5934	9.0

data/st70-tsp.txt: 70 1.0

data/sw24978-tsp.txt: 24978 0.2776999999987311

data/ts225-tsp.txt: 225 500.0 data/tsp225-tsp.txt: 225 6.5

data/u1060-tsp.txt: 1060 70.68239950652483

data/u1432-tsp.txt: 1432 100.0 data/u159-tsp.txt: 159 100.0

data/u1817-tsp.txt: 1817 25.3899999999999873 data/u2152-tsp.txt: 2152 25.389999999999873

data/u2319-tsp.txt: 2319 100.0

 data/u574-tsp.txt:
 574
 2.941598205057742

 data/u724-tsp.txt:
 724
 3.31999999999999363

 data/ulysses16-tsp.txt:
 16
 0.3883297567789516

 data/ulysses22-tsp.txt:
 22
 0.08944271909999127

 data/usa13509-tsp.txt:
 13509
 2.77700000000018626

data/vm1084-tsp.txt: 1084 22.0 data/vm1748-tsp.txt: 1748 22.0