

# The EDGES spec

Oleksiy Grechnyev

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Problem: Create a graph connecting all BLE beacons (vertices). Let index  $i = 0, \dots, N_B - 1$  number the vertices (beacons), where  $N_B$  is the number of beacons.

- Step 1 : For each pair of vertices  $ij$  calculate the distance  $d_{ij}$ . If  $d_{ij} > \text{MAX\_DIST}$ , discard this edge. If not, include edge  $ij$  into the list (`std::vector`) **edges** only if there is strait white path (not crossing walls or other obstacles) between vertices  $i$  and  $j$ . The maximum distance rule is important for keeping the number of edges  $N_E$  linear in  $N_B$  for large maps. The graph edges have no direction, edge  $ij$  is equivalent to  $ji$  and included only once.
- Step 2 : Now the problem is to remove the "false edges", the ones that are doubled by two or more shorter edges. First, sort the list **edges** in the *descending* order by the edge length.
- Step 3 : Build the container (list of sets) **neighbors** with  $K_i$ : set of all neighbors (edge-connected vertices) of the vertex  $i$  for  $i = 0, \dots, N_B - 1$ . The index in the sorted list **edges** serves as the edge number. **edges** and **neighbors** are two different representation of the graph: edge-based and vertex-based. Keeping both in memory is needed for linear time.
- Step 4 : Loop over all edges  $ij$  starting from the longest. For each edge  $ij$  build the set of triangles named **triangles** which includes all triangles with edge  $ij$  as a side. How to do this efficiently? Find the set intersection  $K = K_i \cap K_j$ . All members of  $K$  are neighbors of both  $i$  and  $j$ , thus all triangles are given by  $\{ijk\}, k \in K$ . We have to exclude a triangle if edge  $ik$  or  $jk$  is already marked as **disabled** (see below).

Edge  $ij$  is discarded if there is at least one triangle  $ijk$  with two properties:

- (a)  $ij$  is the longest side of the triangle (NOT equal !)
- (b) One of the angles at vertices  $i$  or  $j$  in the triangle is smaller then `CRIT_ANGLE`

Variant: if there is no `CRIT_ANGLE`, all triangles are eliminated (except for isosceles ones), and the graph becomes tree-like with possible loops with 4 or more vertices.

The excluded edge  $ij$  is marked with a boolean flag **disabled**, and is obviously not considered for any future triangle candidates.

Step 5 : Finally, we remove all edges marked as **disabled**.

Notes:

- The algorithm presented above runs in linear time (in  $N_B$ ), provided that  $N_E$  (number of edges before deletion) is linear in  $N_B$ , and the maximal number of neighbors of any vertex is bounded by a constant  $N_N$  independent on  $N_B$ .  $O(N)$  time is a very good thing for an algorithm. The memory use is also  $O(N)$ .
- The algorithm is deterministic and independent on the vertex numbering.

Possible C++ variables:

```
struct Edge{
    int i,j; // Vertices
    double d; // Length
    bool disabled = false;
};
std::vector<Edge> edges;
std::vector<std::set<int>> neighbors;
```