

Minimum Bounding Bicone: a new Minimum Bounding Box System for Trajectory Data

Liu Yinpei

lyp_bobi@yahoo.com

Shanghai Jiaotong University

Abstract

In the widely used Minimum Bounding Box(MBB) system, if we want to express a moving object in a given time period, we have to form a 3-dimension rectangle that bound it, namely $[x_1, x_2] \times [y_1, y_2] \times [t_1, t_2]$. And when doing different kinds of query on the trajectories, we actually first use message of their MBBs to do some pruning to avoid the full scan of the database and the complex computation of the exact distance between trajectories. In this paper we propose a new method called Minimum Bounding Bicone (to make difference with Minimum Bounding Box, we abbreviate this as MBBC), which we would show to be a more precise description of the original trajectory points. And we designed a index structure named R^2 -Tree, which could fully utilize the MBBCs to achieve better pruning power than R-Tree.

ACM Reference Format:

Liu Yinpei. 2019. Minimum Bounding Bicone: a new Minimum Bounding Box System for Trajectory Data. In . ACM, New York, NY, USA, 6 pages.

1 Basic Observations and Hypotheses

The index structure of spatial data is somehow matured now, as index structures like R-Tree, k-d Tree, space-filling curves, their variants, and other index structure have shown their efficiency on different realms in application. However, when comes to trajectory data, we find that these index structure can be further grained to become faster using the additional information and insight of real data. For trajectory data, we have some basic observations that is widely accepted:

1. Moving objects have only limited velocity, and the distance of a pair of adjacent points in one trajectory is hardly bounded according to the time difference of the points.
2. Enormous trajectory data is being produced every day, which naturally raised the necessity to use distributed databases

and analysis tools.

3. The calculation of exact trajectory distance requires complex computation, so avoiding the exact calculation by pruning is very important.

4. The data are generally inserted in their time order, and updates to the past data is rarely needed.

So there are some basic assumptions.

1. Most moving objects we are handling share a common acceptable speed bounds, like 30km/h for walking people, 200km/h for cars, 70km/h for ships. When handling spatio-temporal databases consists of two or more kinds of moving objects, build different indexes for different kinds is generally a good idea.

2. Although we don't assume the trajectory data to be stored in a distributed environment like HDFS, we would implement the algorithm in a distributed environment to achieve better scalability, which generally load a larger part of the data in a single I/O action. (For example, 64MB per block in HDFS instead of 8KB per page in Postgre SQL.) Note that the implementation on a non-distributed environment lead to no reduction of the pruning power of the index.

3. We have to do calculation on the trajectories instead of the points in the trajectories, so the real computation cost of the queries is polynomially higher than queries on the points.

Studies on trajectories have proposed the inefficiency of Minimum Bounding Boxes for a long time [1], while good substitution to it are never provided to our knowledge. In this article, we would propose Minimum Bounding Bicone as a new bounding system for trajectory data. This system come from the basic idea that if we use the speed information, we could represent a uniform rectilinear motion a lot better than a MBB. And the trajectory of an objects in a short time period tend to be similar to a uniform rectilinear motion.

2 Queries Supported

We would like to support two basic kind of trajectory queries, namely range query and kNN query. Both of the query have multiple variants and different variants may require computing costs with polynomial level difference, so we would first give our definition of the query.

Definition 1. (*ST-point*) A Spatio-temporal point(abbreviate as ST-point) is a 3-tuple (x,y,t) . The x and y stand for the

Permission to make digital or hard copies of all or part of this work for personal or classroom use is granted without fee provided that copies are not made or distributed for profit or commercial advantage and that copies bear this notice and the full citation on the first page. Copyrights for components of this work owned by others than ACM must be honored. Abstracting with credit is permitted. To copy otherwise, or republish, to post on servers or to redistribute to lists, requires prior specific permission and/or a fee. Request permissions from permissions@acm.org.

location of the point, and the t stand for the time that the location is recorded.

Definition 2. (Trajectory) A trajectory is a list of ST-points sorted by their time value in ascendant order, namely

$$[(x_1, y_1, t_1), (x_2, y_2, t_2), \dots, (x_n, y_n, t_n)], \\ t_1 \leq t_2 \leq t_3 \leq \dots \leq t_n.$$

The trajectory is the sampled points of the real trajectory, which is in the form of the function

$$T^{real} : t \Rightarrow (x, y), t \in [t_1, t_n].$$

Notice that we assume we know exactly the starting and ending time of the real trajectory, namely t_1 and t_n .

For the points are generally sampled in a given rate in the real world, we could assume that the differences $t_2 - t_1, t_3 - t_2, \dots, t_n - t_{n-1}$ are nearly equal, although we don't require this property in the rest of the paper.

Definition 3. (Integral Distance) Given two trajectories

$$T_a = [(x_{a1}, y_{a1}, t_{a1}), (x_{a2}, y_{a2}, t_{a2}), \dots, (x_{am}, y_{am}, t_{am})]$$

and

$$T_b = (x_{b1}, y_{b1}, t_{b1}), (x_{b2}, y_{b2}, t_{b2}), \dots, (x_{bn}, y_{bn}, t_{bn}),$$

we define their Integral Distance as below:

Denote $\hat{t} = \hat{t}_a \cup \hat{t}_b = \{t_{a1}, t_{a2}, \dots, t_{am}\} \cup \{t_{b1}, t_{b2}, \dots, t_{bn}\}$, and $\tilde{t} = [t_1, t_2, \dots, t_l]$ as the \hat{t} sorted by its ascendant order. And for $t \in \hat{t}$ define

$$T'_a(t) = \begin{cases} T_a(t), t \in \hat{t}_a \\ T_a(t_{ak}) + (T_a(t_{a(k+1)}) - T_a(t_{ak})) * \frac{t - t_{ak}}{t_{a(k+1)} - t_{ak}}, \\ \quad t \in [t_{a1}, t_{am}], t_{ak} < t < t_{a(k+1)} \\ T_a(t_{a1}), t \in [t_{b1}, t_{bn}] \setminus [t_{a1}, t_{am}], t < t_{a1} \\ T_a(t_{am}), t \in [t_{b1}, t_{bn}] \setminus [t_{a1}, t_{am}], t < t_{am} \end{cases}$$

and $T'_b(t)$ similarly. Then the Integral Distance is

$$d(T_a, T_b) = \sum_{i \in \{1, 2, \dots, l-1\}} \frac{1}{2} (T'_a(t_i) - T'_b(t_i) + T'_a(t_{i+1}) - T'_b(t_{i+1})) * (t_{i+1} - t_i).$$

This is a natural extension of the real Integral Distance

$$\int_{t_1}^{t_l} (T_a^{real} - T_b^{real}) dt.$$

Definition 4. (Range Query) Given a query box

$$[x_1, x_2] \times [y_1, y_2] \times [t_1, t_2],$$

return all the trajectories that "intersect", which means having at least one point inside, this box.

Definition 5. (kNN Query) Given a trajectory which not necessarily contained in the database, and find the trajectories which have the k smallest Integral distance to the given trajectory in the database, which may contain itself.

3 Caculation of MBBC

First we define a function which is at the core of this paper.

Definition 6. (Possible Area) Denote C as the full spatial space, which is invariant over time. Given a spatial area \mathcal{A} (which could degenerate into a point) and a time stamp t_0 , we define the function $Possible_Area()$ which calculate the $Possible_Area$ position at a given time t if the object could at most move at a velocity v .

$$Possible_Area(t; \mathcal{A}, t_0, v) = \{A + v|t - t_0| * \vec{n} \mid \|\vec{n}\| \leq 1\}.$$

Definition 7. (Possible Cone) We further define the function to calculate all the $Possible_Area$ points as $Possible_Cone()$, which could be further divide extend to $Possible_Cone^+$ and $Possible_Cone^-$ as tow nappes of the double cone.

$$Possible_Cone(\mathcal{A}, t_0, v) = \\ \{Possible_Area(t; \mathcal{A}, t_0, v) \times t\} \\ Possible_Cone^+(\mathcal{A}, t_0, v) = \\ \{Possible_Area(t; \mathcal{A}, t_0, v) \times t \mid t \geq t_0\} \\ Possible_Cone^-(\mathcal{A}, t_0, v) = \\ \{Possible_Area(t; \mathcal{A}, t_0, v) \times t \mid t \leq t_0\}$$

Definition 8. (MBBC) Given a trajectory

$$T = [(x_1, y_1, t_1), (x_2, y_2, t_2), \dots, (x_n, y_n, t_n)],$$

with the maximum speed v , the Minimum Bounding Bicone of it is

$$MBBC(T; v) = Possible_Cone^+((x_1, y_1), t_1, v) \\ \bigcap Possible_Cone^-((x_n, y_n), t_n, v),$$

which is a bicone. As we can see, the intervening points contributes nothing to the MBBC after the maximum speed is given, so we call this type of MBBC a MBBC of points.

Similarly we define MBBC of two area laid at starting and ending time, expressed as $(\mathcal{A}, t_1), (\mathcal{B}, t_n)$ to be

$$MBBC(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}; t_1, t_n, v) = Possible_Cone^+(\mathcal{A}, t_1, v) \\ \bigcap Possible_Cone^-(\mathcal{B}, t_n, v),$$

which shape would be like two truncated cones, so for convenience we still call it MBBC.

We call a MBBC with its \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} both rectangles, which may degenerate into a line segment or a point, as a regular MBBC. Due to the strategy of building the index tree, the \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} of each MBBC mentioned in this paper would be rectangles. So in the rest of paper we assume every MBBC is regular without extra explanation.

The shape of the MBBC of a trajectory would like Figure 1. Notice that the volume of a cone is 1/3 of the volume of the cylinder, which would obviously result in stronger pruning power.

Algorithm 1 Class Statement

```

Class Point
  dimension: Int
  x: Double
  y: Double
  t: Double
Class MBB
  dimension: Int
  low: Point //this Point stores the lower value of x,y and t
  for this MBB
  high: Point //this Point stores the higher value of x,y and t
  for this MBB
Class MBBC
  A: MBB //start area, dimension=2
  B: MBB //end area, dimension=2
  maxspeed: Double //the maxspeed of this layer
  mbb: MBB //the MBB when dimension=3
Class pointMBBC extends MBBC
  function x
    return A.x1
  end function
  function y
    return A.y1
  end function

```

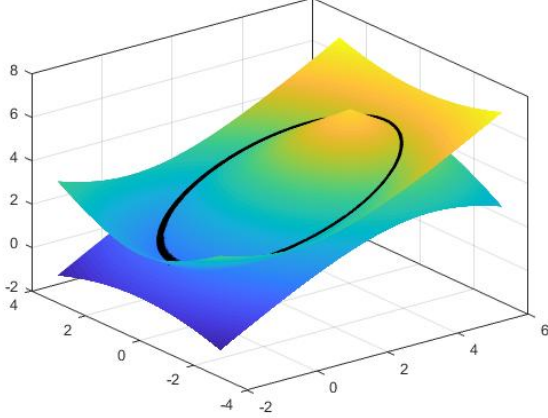


Figure 1. A MBBC of points, Plotted by MATLAB, with speed 1, start point (0,0,0), and end point (4,0,5)

4 Building Index on MBBCs

MBBC is a tight expression to the raw trajectories, but the use of the maximum velocity leads to some problems when we want to combine multiple MBBCs to construct a RTree-like structure, as the slope of different MBBCs are different. To overcome this problem, we would combine multiple MBBC as they all moving at the maximum speed at this time period.

4.1 building the index

We choose to build a B^+ -Tree or a Hash table on the time axis, and for each time period (which is a leaf of the B^+ -Tree or a value of the Hash table), we would build a RTree-like index structure called R^2 -Tree. The square means that it use the range informations both at the start time and at the end time. We are doing this for four reasons.

The first reason is the inefficiency of RTree and its variants on 3 or higher dimensions. This basically comes from the fact that the ratio of volume of the bounding boxes in comparison with the real volume grows exponentially with the increase of dimension.

The second reason is that the query on the trajectories generally only involves trajectories in a given time period instead of using time information as a measurement of the relation between trajectories.

The third reason is that things can move forth and back in spatial axes, but can only move forth in time axes. Using B^+ -Tree or Hash table could utilize this knowledge better.

And the last reason is that scholars have agreed on the necessity of cutting long trajectories into small segments to avoid their MBBCs to grow too large. We would also use this method to avoid producing large MBBCs, and this method basically corresponds to the division of time axis.

We suggest two ways to build the first level of index upon time axis. The first one is to divide the time into segments of a given length, for example, one hour. Then we can access the R^2 -Tree of the given time period by Hash Table. But this method may lead to data imbalance, for example, the car trajectories during the day is more than the trajectories during the night. The imbalance of data would not only lead to the imbalance of the whole tree, but also the imbalance of pruning power, that is, if there are a lot of trajectories in a given time period, we would want the time period to be smaller or the MBBCs would be overlapped with others frequently and make it hard to pruning using spatial information. So we suggest a second way, which is to build a B^+ -Tree where each leaf node shares almost the same number of trajectory points. For general data, this method would result in longer querying time, but for skewed data, this method may produce better result.

In each time period, if the time period is $[t_1, t_n]$, we would build the so called R^2 -Tree, which by structure is a binary tree, in a simple divide and conquer manner. At start, we have a root node which record all the trajectories in

$$MBBC(C, C; t_1, t_n, v).$$

Then we would either do a "start division" or a "end division", the process would be similar to the construction of k-d Tree.

For start division, we pick an area \mathcal{A} and calculate the

$$\mathcal{B} = MBB(\text{Possible_Area}(t; \mathcal{A}, t_1, v)).$$

Then we calculate

$$\mathcal{B}' = MBB(\text{Possible_Area}(t; C \setminus \mathcal{A}, t_1, v)).$$

which is the area that an object can reach if it start in $C \setminus \mathcal{A}$. So the left node of the root is the trajectories in

$$MBBC(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}; t_1, t_n, v),$$

and right node is the trajectories in

$$MBBC(C \setminus \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}'; t_1, t_n, v).$$

The end division is just the same except we first pick an area containing ending points, and calculate back the Possible_Area starting position.

The area selection is just like the k-d Tree, where we first select an axis, and for the axis, we select the median point and divide the plain into two parts which would divide the data into two sets containing equal number of trajectories. For there are two spatial dimensions, we have four division strategies, namely start/end division along x/y axis.

Due to the division strategy, the starting and ending area of MBBCs would always be rectangle, which we mentioned before. This makes calculation of checking intersection easier.

In every step, we would choose the one from the four strategies whose child nodes contains least volume. So although the MBBCs are overlapping each other inevitably, we could still try to minimize the number of MBBCs to overlap with a query box, which intuitively would lead to better pruning result. If two or more of the strategies have the same child nodes volume, we would randomly pick one.

The division strategy should stop when every node is small enough, which should roughly have contains the data that can be read out by one I/O action. (e.g. 8KB for Postgre SQL and 64MB for databases based on HDFS)

4.2 MBB and real maxspeed Construction

Although we use MBBCs to express the set of trajectories, we can still use MBB to enforce the pruning power. And we could label each MBBC with it's real max speed instead of the global one to further empower the pruning method. These two information of a tree node can be calculated directly by using the information of its child nodes. So by a bottom-up method applied to the tree after the division phase, we could append the information of exact MBB of the whole trajectory, the exact MBB of the starting area, the exact MBB of the ending area, and the exact max speed to each tree node to enhance the pruning power.

So every tree node of the index would contain two MBBCs, one for inserting new data so that every trajectory could be insert into a leaf node, the other for the exact message for the pruning.

Note that the MBBs and real maxspeed may have to update when new data is inserted or old data is modified.

4.3 Building a two level Index

The modern distributed system tend to do I/O action in bulk mode, in other word, read a big bulk of data, like 64MB

in HDFS, for one I/O action, instead of the classical mode of reading a page of 8KB or something like that each time. So now we don't have to consider the I/O cost at the leaf-side of the index tree too much. Instead, we just use the first level of index to find the related partition of the data, and load all these partition into memory for further processing. And the second level of the index, which is referred as "local index" in multiple papers, was build in memory for further pruning and retrieval.

To build a global and local index doesn't have much difference to the construction of one level of index. The only difference is that the global index part contains the part of global index contains the B^+ -Tree or Hash Table to index the divisions of time period, while the part of local index only contains the R^2 -Tree.

When building global index, the tree-node division procedure would end when each partition is small enough, which generally should be decide by the platform, for example, 64MB or 128MB for HDFS. If data update is needed, we would suggest to use only 40% to 80% of the maximum capacity of a leaf node in case their would be more data to insert. As stated earlier, we suppose that we don't have to change the past data a lot, so this structure would generally be good enough.

5 Querying using Index

As we mainly support range and KNN query, the most important questions we have to answer when using the index are these two:

1. How to decide whether a MBBC intersects with a MBB with the least computation cost?
2. How to calculate the minimum and maximum distance between two MBBCs with low computation cost?

Intuitively, these calculations seems to be time costing. That is what people generally argues about for an oriented bounding box system, which is widely discussed in the realm of collision detection. (They call the MBB along axes as AABB method, and not along axes as OBB method.) But these calculation of MBBC could be tolerable using the property of the bicones.

5.1 Doing Range Query

Given a query box MBB, we first have to prune out most of really irrelevant data using most simple calculation, so we first calculate

$$\mathcal{A} = MBB(Possible_Area(t_0; [x_1, x_2] \times [y_1, y_2], t_2, maxspeed))$$

and

$$\mathcal{B} = MBB(Possible_Area(t_n; [x_1, x_2] \times [y_1, y_2], t_1, maxspeed)).$$

Where the maxspeed is the theoretical one instead of the exact one. Using this, all the MBBCs that the starting area don't intersect with \mathcal{A} or ending area don't intersects with \mathcal{B} would be pruned easily. If we have the exact MBB message,

we can instead use the message of MBBs to do this round of pruning by checking whether the MBB intersects with the query box.

After the first level of pruning, we can use some more costly algorithm for the most of data is already pruned out. So we would start to check whether the MBBC actually intersects with the MBB.

A good property of bicone is that when looking from any direction which is perpendicular to t-axis, the shape of the bicone is a parallelogram with the same slope (which is the value of maximum speed v). We could easily proof that if a MBBC intersects with a MBB, then their projections on x-t plane, y-t plane and x-y plane also intersect. We would use this property for the second stage of pruning, named Projection Pruning.

Using the fact that the absolute value of the slope of each edge of the parallelogram is the same, we could transform the condition stated above into some simple comparison, as shown in Algorithm 2. Although there could be more pruning, we should consider that the exact computation of collision is unacceptable, and some false positive is acceptable.

5.2 Doing KNN Query

How to do KNN query in a R-tree like structure have been studied widely.[2] And the most popular method is to use the MINDIST(the minimum possible distance given the information of the MBBs) and MINMAXDIST(the guaranteed value that the exact minimum distance must smaller or equal to).

However, the exact calculation of MINDIST on trajectories requires too much calculation, while the calculation of MINMAXDIST can only be evaluated as MAXDIST(the maximum possible distance given the information of MBBs) as there are multiple points and the MBB yield too little information.

By using the MBBC method, we could yield tighter bounds to MINDIST and MAXDIST, make it a lot tolerable to calculate.

The strategy we use is rather simple, we first calculate the distance of two MBBCs at the starting and ending points, and combine them with max speed to yield a most pessimistic and optimistic distance as MINDIST and MAXDIST. The pseudo code is in Algorithm 3.

The Algorithm would just like the KNN algorithm on the R-Tree. When we are given a distance d and a trajectory traj, we don't have to run the code of calculating MINDIST and MAXDIST on every node in the tree. Instead, we can only concern the nodes that distance of the starting time plus distance of the ending time is lesser to $3*maxspeed*t + 2*d/t$, which could be search quickly through the R^2 -Tree

Algorithm 2 ProjectionPruning

```

1: function PROJECTIONPRUNING(bc:MBBC, box:MBB)
2:   maxspeed:Double = bc.maxspeed
3:   t0:Double = box.low.t-bc.A.t
4:   t1:Double = box.high.t-bc.A.t
5:   t:Double = bc.B.t-bc.A.t
6:   d:Double = maxspeed*t
7:   a:Double
8:   b:Double
9:   //check the y-t surface projection
10:  if bc.A.x+bc.B.x>box.high.x+box.low.x then
11:    a=bc.A.x-box.high.x
12:    b=bc.B.x-box.high.x
13:  else
14:    a=box.low.x-bc.A.x
15:    b=box.low.x-bc.B.x
16:  end if
17:  if a+b>d or a*t>d*t1 or b*t>d*(t-t0) then
18:    return false //pruning
19:  end if
20:  //check the x-t surface projection
21:  if bc.A.y+bc.B.y>box.high.y+box.low.y then
22:    a=bc.A.y-box.high.y
23:    b=bc.B.y-box.high.y
24:  else
25:    a=box.low.y-bc.A.y
26:    b=box.low.y-bc.B.y
27:  end if
28:  if a+b>d or a*t>d*t1 or b*t>d*(t-t0) then
29:    return false //pruning
30:  end if
31:  //check the x-y surface projection
32:  if  $d^2 + (box.A.x - box.B.x)^2 + (box.A.y - box.B.y)^2 >$ 
     $(2 * box.x - box.A.x - box.B.x)^2 + (2 * box.y - box.A.y -$ 
     $box.B.y)^2$  then
33:    continue
34:  end if
35:  if (bc.A.x-bc.B.x)(bc.A.y-bc.B.y)>=0 then
36:    if not INELLIPSE(bc,Point(box.low.x,box.high.y))
    and not INELLIPSE(bc,Point(box.high.x,box.low.y)) then
37:      return false
38:    end if
39:  else
40:    if not INELLIPSE(bc,Point(box.low.x,box.low.y))
    and not INELLIPSE(bc,Point(box.high.x,box.high.y))
    then
41:      return false
42:    end if
43:  end if
44:  return true
45: end function
46: function INELLIPSE(bc:MBBC,point:Point)
47:  if  $(bc.A.x - point.x)^2 + (bc.A.y - point.y)^2 + (bc.B.x -$ 
     $point.x)^2 + (bc.B.y - point.y)^2 > d^2/4 + (bc.A.x -$ 
     $bc.B.x)^2 + (bc.A.y - bc.B.y)^2$  then
48:    return false
49:  end if
50: end function

```

Algorithm 3 MINDIST and MAXDIST

```

1: function MINANDMAX(bc1:MBBC, bc2:MBBC)
2:   maxspeed:Double = max(bc1.maxspeed, bc2.maxspeed)
3:   min:Double
4:   max:Double
5:   d1:Double = (bc1.A.x + bc2.A.x)2 + (bc1.A.y + bc2.A.y)2
6:   d2:Double = (bc1.B.x + bc2.B.x)2 + (bc1.B.y + bc2.B.y)2
7:   m1:Double = (bc1.A.x + bc1.B.x)2 + (bc1.A.y + bc1.B.y)2
8:   m2:Double = (bc2.A.x + bc2.B.x)2 + (bc2.A.y + bc2.B.y)2
9:   if d1 < (2 * maxspeed * t)2 and d2 < (2 * maxspeed * t)2 then //then they could meet
10:     min = (d1 * d1 + d2 * d2) / maxspeed / 4
11:   else
12:     t = bc1.B.t - bc1.A.t
13:     min = (sqrt(d1) + sqrt(d2)) * t - maxspeed * t * t / 2 - 2 * (d1 + d2) / maxspeed
14:   end if
15:   max = (sqrt(d1) + sqrt(d2)) * t + maxspeed * t * t / 2 + 2 * (d1 + d2) / maxspeed
16:   return (min, max)
17: end function
18: function MINANDMAX(traj>List[Point], bc:MBBC)
19:   maxspeed:Double = bc.maxspeed
20:   ts:Double = traj[0].t
21:   te:Double = traj[-1].t // -1 means the last one
22:   d1 = sqrt((traj[0].x + bc.A.x)2 + (traj[0].y + bc.A.y)2)
23:   d2 = sqrt((traj[-1].x + bc.B.x)2 + (traj[-1].y + bc.B.y)2)
24:   summin:Double = d1 * (traj[1].t - traj[0].t) + d2 * (traj[-1].t - traj[-2].t)
25:   summax:Double = d1 * (traj[1].t - traj[0].t) + d2 * (traj[-1].t - traj[-2].t)
26:   for i = 1, 2, 3, ..., len(traj) - 2 do
27:     summin += max(d1 + (traj[i].t - ts) * maxspeed, d2 + (te - traj[i].t) * maxspeed, 0) * (traj[i+1].t - traj[i-1].t)
28:     summax += max(d1 + (traj[i].t + ts) * maxspeed, d2 + (te + traj[i].t) * maxspeed) * (traj[i+1].t - traj[i-1].t)
29:   end for
30:   return (summin / 2, summax / 2)
31: end function

```

6 Implementation on Spark

In this section we will show how to implement the two-level of global index and one level of local index in a widely used distributed platform, namely Apache Spark.

In Spark, there are naturally two levels of storage. The first level is RDD, which is open to the users, and stand for

the data to be analysed. The second level is partition. Each RDD is divided into many partitions which is about 64MB each to store in HDFS, and when Spark have to analysis the data in a RDD, it just read the related partition to reduce I/O cost. The partition is generally transparent to users. The RDD is a structure optimized for analysis, so the insertion and deletion cost are very high.

Recent studies have proposed a widely used method called two-level index, which refers to a structure that use a global index to manage different partitions, and use a local index to handle the data inside a single partition.

Instead of just adopting the two-level index structure, we extend it into a three-level index using the property of time axis. This method would help us to append new data into the data set, modified the past data, and update index more easily, which cater to the real application better.

At the top level, instead of represent the whole data as one RDD, we use a combination of RDDs to store data. Each RDD stands for a leaf node of the B^+ -Tree or a hash value of Hash Map in the time axis of global index. So when modifying data, we don't have to reconstruct the whole data, instead, we could just reconstruct the related RDD. In addition, since the data volume would be very large, we also designed a memory scheduling algorithm which take use of the spatial and temporal information, called spatial-LRU, to reduce the I/O cost.

This part is incomplete.

References

- [1] Dieter Pfoser, Christian S Jensen, Yannis Theodoridis, et al. 2000. Novel approaches to the indexing of moving object trajectories.. In *VLDB*. 395–406.
- [2] Nick Roussopoulos, Stephen Kelley, and Frédéric Vincent. 1995. Nearest Neighbor Queries. *ACM SIGMOD Record* 24, 71–79. <https://doi.org/10.1145/223784.223794>