



# Closest Pair Algorithms in 2D Space, a Commentary on Complexity and Reductions

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Published Online: 05 January 2022	One of the most challenging problems in computational geometry is closest pair of points given n points. Brute force algorithms[1] and Divide and conquer[1] have been verified and the lowest complexity of $O(n \log(n))$ attributed to latter class of algorithms, with worst case being for the former being $O(n^2)$ . We propose a method of partitioning the set of n-points based on the least area rectangle that can circumscribe these points.
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## INTRODUCTION

We circumscribe a rectangle for the set of points  $S_n = \{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$  with smallest possible area, partition it into k parts width and length wise such that  $k^2$  number of cells result.

**Hypothesis 1:** Candidate for closest pair identification is the cell with maximum density  $\rho_{kmax} = \text{Max}(N_{kl}/A_k)$ , where,  $A_k = |(x_{max} - x_{min})(y_{max} - y_{min})|/k^2$ , l is the  $l^{th}$  cell and minimum is found here.

**Hypothesis 2:** Candidate for closest pair identification is the cell with minimum density  $\rho_{kmin} = \text{Min}(N_{kl}/A_k)$ , where,  $A_k = |(x_{max} - x_{min})(y_{max} - y_{min})|/k^2$ , l is the  $l^{th}$  cell, minimum is found here.

**Hypothesis 3:** Candidate for closest pair identification is the cell with a density  $\rho_k = N_{kl}/A_k$ , where,  $A_k = |(x_{max} - x_{min})(y_{max} - y_{min})|/k^2$ , l is the  $l^{th}$  cell, minimum is found here.

### Problem:

Find  $\{(x_i, y_i), (x_j, y_j)\}$  S.T  $d_{ij}$  (distance) is a minimum.

$$\sqrt{d_{ij}} = \sqrt{(x_i - x_j)^2 + (y_i - y_j)^2}$$

$$\frac{\log d_{ij}}{2} = \log(x_i - x_j) + \log(y_i - y_j)$$

Formulating an objective function or Reduction that solves the easier problem

$$\text{Minimize } Z = |\log(x_i - x_j)| + |\log(y_i - y_j)|$$

$$\forall \quad x_{min} < x_i < x_{max}$$

$$x_{min} < x_j < x_{max}$$

$$y_{min} < y_i < y_{max}$$

$$y_{min} < y_j < y_{max}$$

$$\text{Let } X = |\log(x_i - x_j)| \text{ and } Y = |\log(y_i - y_j)|$$

$$Z = X + Y$$

$$|X - Y| > 0$$

$$0 < X < |\log(x_{max} - x_{min})|$$

$$0 < Y < |\log(y_{max} - y_{min})|$$

Following the conventional linear programming this would turn out to be an NP hard problem, i.e  $O(n^2)$  or higher orders.

With the improved solver proposed by Cohen et al [2], it takes  $O(n^\omega \log(n/\delta))$  time where  $\omega$  is the exponent of matrix multiplication and  $\delta$  is the relative accuracy.

Dividing the smallest circumscribing rectangle into  $k^2$  cells, assuming minimum is found for the  $l^{th}$  cell.

Although when minimum computed for individual cell by divide and conquer algorithm[1] results in a complexity of  $O(n \log(n))$ , with  $k^2$  iterations Recurrence relation of complexity becomes  $T(n) = k^2 O(n^\omega \log(n/\delta))$  specifically if Hypothesis 3 holds true

In real scenarios either of three hypotheses hold true, but for cases with Hypothesis 2 or 1, We could get the complexity to  $O(n^\omega \log(n/\delta))$ , here the input size  $n \ll n_T$  where  $n_T$  is the sample size.

For the formulation above  $\omega = 1$  and

By iteratively increasing partition size  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  we can reduce the absolute overall complexity.

Although it's impossible to theoretically reduce the complexity beyond  $O(n^\omega \log(n/\delta))$  we can enhance the divide

and conquer strategies based on density distribution of partitioned points in a 2-D space for reduced overall compute time[3].

#### REFERENCES

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