

# Approximation Algorithms for Maximum Independent Set of Pseudo-Disks

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## 2: Independent Set Problem

$\mathbf{F} = \{f_1, \dots, f_n\}$ :  $n$  objects in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

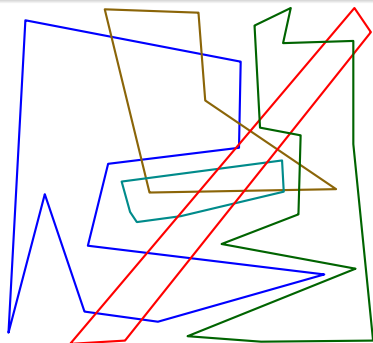
$w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n > 0$ : weights.

Problem (Independent set.)

*Find a maximum weight subset of  $\mathbf{F}$  s.t. no pair intersects.*

Fundamental problem...

- 1 Packing.
- 2 Frequency assignment/coloring.
- 3 ...



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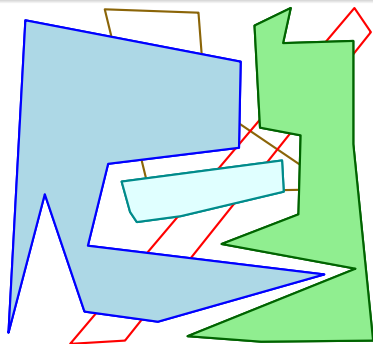
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# 3: Independent Set Problem

## Background

- $G = (V, E)$ : intersection graph  
Find maximum independent set in  $G$
- Indep set is **NP-Complete**.
- **[Hastad, 1996]**  
No approximation  $|V|^{1-\epsilon}$  if  $NP \neq ZPP$ .
- **[Berman and Fujito, 1999]**  
If max. degree of the graph is **3**  $\implies$  no PTAS

# 4: Independent Set Problem

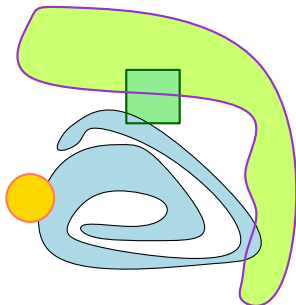
## Background - geometric settings

- 1 **[Chan, 2003, Erlebach et al., 2005]**  
PTAS for independent set of fat objects (weighted).  
Quadtree + dynamic programming techniques
- 2 **[Chan, 2003]**  
Using separator theorem - unweighted.
- 3 **[Chalermsook and Chuzhoy, 2009]**  
axis-parallel rectangles –  $O(\log \log n)$ -approximation
- 4 **[Agarwal and Mustafa, 2006]**  
segments – roughly  $O(\sqrt{\text{Opt}})$ -approximation

## 5: Pseudo-disks

### Definition

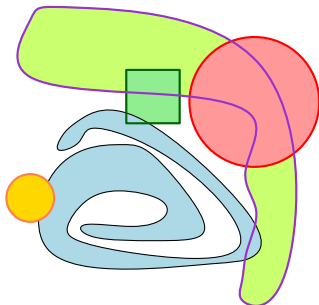
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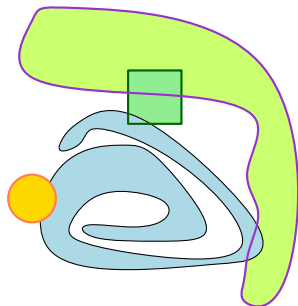
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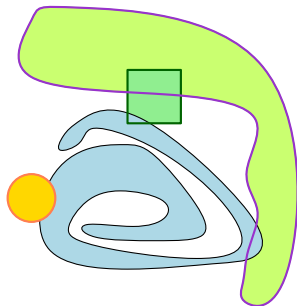
### Nature channel summary.

- 1 Herd animal.
- 2 Roam the plane.



## 6: Independent Set for Pseudo-disk

- Previous techniques seem powerless! Feeble even!
- **Greedy algorithm:**  
Pick smallest object to independent set, and repeat.
  - Constant factor for:  
disks/fat objects.
  - Pseudo-disks: FAIL!



## 7: Local Search for Independent Set

- Much work on local search  
Survey: **[Halldórsson, 1998]**.
- $\Delta$ : max degree of a graph  
 $\implies \Delta/4$  approximation via local search.
- **[Agarwal and Mustafa, 2006]**  
constant approximation for pseudo-disks that are rectangles.

## 8: Independent Set for Pseudo-disk - local search

### Our result

#### New result

PTAS for unweighted pseudo-disks.

When applicable: slower but simpler than prev algorithms.

#### Essentially same algorithm/analysis as...

PTAS for geometric hitting set problem via local search

Nabil H. Mustafa and Saurabh Ray

SoCG 2009.

Their result:

- 1 “dual” to ours.
- 2 harder...
- 3 independently independent.

## 9: New result - weighted case

An independent set via LP

### Theorem

*For a weighted set of pseudo-disks, computes  $O(1)$ -approximate independent set.*

### Thesis motivating this work

LP is a powerful tool that can help solving problems in low dim CG.

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## 10: A comment on methodology

### Time class

Doubly exponential

Exponential / **NP-Hard**

Polynomial

Quadratic

Near linear

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Sub-linear

Constant

Sub-constant time

} “traditional CG”

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} “Operation research”

### As such...

- Solving LP is polytime.
- Polynomial time = good.
- Use LP as an “oracle”.



# 11: LP for independent set

A clueless oracle in action.

$S = \{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$  - segments in the plane.

$x_i \in \{0, 1\}$ : var deciding if to include  $s_i$

$$\alpha = \max \sum_i w_i x_i$$

$$0 \leq x_i \leq 1 \quad \forall i$$

$$x_i + x_j \leq 1 \quad \forall i, j \quad \text{if } s_i \cap s_j \neq \emptyset$$

Bad news...

$x_i = 1/2$  for all  $i$ . Valid solution:  $\alpha = n/2$ .

Integrality gap =  $n/2$ .

## 12: A rounding scheme.

LP for independent set - another step in the wrong direction.

Given a solution to:

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- Put  $s_i$  into  $\mathcal{R}$  with prob'  $x_i$ .
- $\mathbf{E}[\text{cost of } |\mathcal{R}|] = \sum_i x_i w_i = \text{LP opt.}$
- $\beta = \mathbf{E}[\# \text{ bad pairs } \mathcal{R}] = \sum_{\substack{i < j \\ s_i \cap s_j \neq \emptyset}} x_i x_j.$
- $\mathcal{R}$  induces an intersection graph:  
 $\mathbf{G} = (\mathcal{R}, \mathbf{E}).$
- $\mathbf{E}[|\mathbf{E}|] = \beta.$
- $\beta$  small there is hope...

# 13: Turán's theorem

A "Greedy" algorithm for independent set.

## randIndepSet( $G = (V, E)$ )

```
 $V = \langle v_1, \dots, v_n \rangle$  - random  
 $I \leftarrow \emptyset$   
for  $i = 1 \dots n$  do  
  if  $\text{Neighborhood}(v_i) \cap I = \emptyset$   
     $I \leftarrow I \cup \{v_i\}$   
return  $I$ .
```

We have...

$$v \in V, \\ \Pr[v \in I] = \frac{1}{d(v)+1}.$$

$$\mathbf{E}[\text{size of indep set}] = \sum_{v \in V} \frac{1}{d(v)+1}$$

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$$\text{Weighted case: } \mathbf{E}[\text{cost indep set}] = \sum_v \frac{w(v)}{d(v)+1}.$$

## 14: Turán's theorem implies...

A good approximation if the graph is sparse.

### Theorem (Turán's Theorem)

$G = (V, E)$  - graph.

$$E[\text{cost indep set}] = \sum_v \frac{w(v)}{d(v) + 1}.$$

If  $d(v) = O(1)$  then constant factor approximation.

### Intuitively...

If  $|E(G)| = O(|V(G)|)$  then we get const approx.

# 15: Back to the rounding scheme

## Extracting a sparse intersection graph

$s_1, \dots, s_n$ : segments.

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$$\text{if } s_i \cap s_j \neq \emptyset$$

- Put  $s_i$  into  $\mathcal{R}$  with prob'  $x_i$ .
- $\mathcal{R}$  induced an intersection graph:  
 $\mathbf{G} = (\mathcal{R}, \mathbf{E})$ .
- $\mathcal{E} = \mathbf{E}[|\mathcal{R}|] = \sum_i x_i$ : Energy.
- $\beta = \mathbf{E}[|\mathbf{E}|] = \sum_{i < j, s_i \cap s_j \neq \emptyset} x_i x_j$ .
- $\beta$  might be very large.

Change the LP...

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# 16: A LP for pseudo-disks

No point is too deep

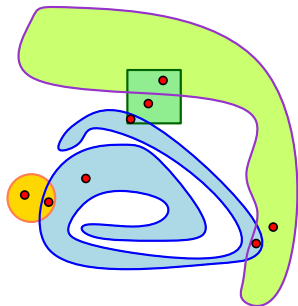
$\mathbf{F} = \{f_1, \dots, f_n\}$ : pseudo-disks in the plane.

New LP

$$\max \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i$$

$$\sum_{p \in f_i} x_i \leq 1 \quad \forall p \in \text{Verts}(\mathbf{F})$$

$$0 \leq x_i \leq 1, \quad \forall i.$$



# 17: A LP for pseudo-disks

## The rounding scheme

$\mathbf{F} = \{f_1, \dots, f_n\}$ : pseudo-disks in the plane.

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### Relevant quantities...

$$\mathcal{E} = \mathbf{E}[|\mathcal{R}|] = \sum_i x_i$$

$$\beta = \mathbf{E}[|\mathbf{E}|] = \sum_{\substack{i < j \\ f_i \cap f_j \neq \emptyset}} x_i x_j.$$

### Key lemma.

$$\beta = \mathbf{O}(\mathcal{E}).$$

Average degree of  $\mathbf{G} = (\mathcal{R}, \mathbf{E})$  is  $\mathbf{O}(\beta/\mathcal{E}) = \mathbf{O}(1)$ .

Done, by applying Turán's theorem to  $\mathbf{G} = (\mathcal{R}, \mathbf{E})$ .

## 18: A proof of the key lemma.

**Lemma:** 
$$\sum_{i < j, f_i \cap f_j \neq \emptyset} x_i x_j = O\left(\sum_i x_i\right).$$

**Proof.**

$p \in \text{Verts}(\mathbf{F})$ :  $p = \partial f_i \cap \partial f_j$ .

Use Clarkson's technique like argument.

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bla

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$\mathbf{p}$  is vertex of union of  $\mathbf{R}$  if

- (i)  $f_i$  and  $f_j$  are in  $\mathbf{R}$ .
- (ii) No object covering  $\mathbf{p}$  is in  $\mathbf{R}$ .

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$$\Pr[\mathbf{p} \in \partial \cup \mathbf{R}] = x_i x_j \prod_{\substack{k \neq i, j \\ \mathbf{p} \in \text{int}(f_k)}} (1 - x_k)$$

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From LP: 
$$\sum_{\substack{k \neq i, j \\ \mathbf{p} \in \text{int}(f_k)}} x_k \leq 1$$



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Expected complexity of union of  $\mathcal{R}$  is  $\tau = O(\mathbf{E}[|\mathcal{R}|]) = O\left(\sum_i x_i\right)$ .

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Expected complexity of union of  $\mathcal{R}$  is  $\tau = O(\mathbf{E}[|\mathcal{R}|]) = O\left(\sum_i x_i\right).$

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We conclude 
$$\sum_{i < j, f_i \cap f_j \neq \emptyset} \frac{x_i x_j}{10} = O\left(\sum_i x_i\right).$$

# 19: Conclusions

This talk is almost over...



## Results

- (i) Const approx: independent set of weighted pseudo-disks.
- (ii) PTAS for unweighted pseudo-disks

The paper contain some other results...

## Open problems

- (i) Rectangles?
- (ii) Hardness?

## 20: Thank you...



Skål !

Bunden i vejret eller resten i håret!

**English:** Bottoms up or the rest in your hair.

**Original Viking meaning:** Bottoms up or the rest (we drink) from your skull.



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