K Nearest Neighbor Queries and KNN-Joins in Large Relational Databases (Almost) for Free

> Bin Yao, Feifei Li, Piyush Kumar Florida State University

Introduction

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- Our goal: design relational algorithms for KNN and KNN-Joins.
 - Readily applied on relational databases without updating the engine.
 - Augmented with ad-hoc query conditions and optimized by the query optimizer.
 - Do it in SQL!

Challenge and benefit in designing relational algorithms

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 - Medrank
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- kNN-Join solution:
 - the iJoin algorithm
 - the Gorder algorithm

Data set P stored in table R_P : { $pid, Y_1, \dots, Y_d, A_1, \dots, A_h$ }. Query set Q stored in table R_Q : { $qid, X_1, \dots, X_d, B_1, \dots, B_g$ }.

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- KNN queries: let $A = kNN(q, \mathsf{R}_P)$,

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Approximate k nearest neighbors: Suppose q's kth nn from P is p^* and $r^* = |q, p^*|$, p be the kth NN of q for some kNN algorithm A and $r^p = |q, p|$, $(p, r^p) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}$ is $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximate solution of kNN if $r^* \leq r^p \leq (1 + \epsilon)r^*$.









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- Translate the kNN search into one dimensional range search on the z-values.

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Theorem 1:

Using $\alpha = O(1)$ and $\gamma = O(k)$, z^{χ} -kNN guarantees an expected constant factor approximate kNN result with $O(\log_f \frac{N}{B} + k/B)$ number of page accesses (clustered index on z-values).











SQL statement for approximation algorithm

SELECT TOP k * FROM(SELECT TOP $\gamma + 1 * \text{FROM } R_P$, (SELECT TOP 1 zval FROM R_P WHERE R_P .zval > q.zval ORDER BY R_P .zval ASC) AS T WHERE $R_P.zval \ge T.zval$ ORDER BY R_P.zval ASC UNION SELECT TOP γ * FROM R_P WHERE R_P .zval < T.zval ORDER BY R_P .zval DESC) AS C ORDER BY Euclidean $(q.X_1,q.X_2,C.Y_1,C.Y_2)$






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Let γ_{ℓ} and γ_h denote the left and right γ -th points close to the query point, if $z_{\gamma_{\ell}} \leq z_{\ell}$ and $z_{\gamma_h} \geq z_h$ in *at least* one of the α tables, $A^{\chi} = A$



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- Deal with data in any dimension: without changing the framework; for large dimensionality (say d > 20), using LSH-based method.
- Updates: for deletion, delete record r based on its *pid* from all talbes R⁰,..., R^α; for insertion, calculate the z-values of the point for all randomly shifted versions, insert them into corresponding tables.

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- Real data sets: points representing the road-networks for states in USA
- Two synthetic data sets: uniform points and random clustered points.
- Compare against the Medrank and iDistance algorithms (implemented by SQL statement and store precedure).

The default experimental parameters are summarized below

Symbol	Definition	Default Value
k	number of neighbors	10
Ν	size of points set	1,000,000
lpha	randomly shifted copies	2
γ	number of points up and down	2k
d	dimensionality	2





















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- No changes are required for different dimensions, and the update is trivial.
- Future research:
 - Study other related, interesting queries in this framework, e.g., the reverse nearest neighbor queries.
 - Examine the relational algorithms to the data space other than the L_p -norms, such as the road networks.

