Fair Covering of Points by Balls



Daniel Lokshtanov, Chinmay Sonar, Subhash Suri, Jie Xue University of California Santa Barbara

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Place *k* unit-radius balls to cover maximum number of points such that each color is covered in proportion to its size

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 $\lfloor \rho_i \cdot c^* \rfloor \leqslant c_i \leqslant \lceil \rho_i \cdot c^* \rceil$



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FAIR COVERING Problem



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$$(1-\epsilon)\lfloor \rho_i \cdot c^* \rfloor \leq c_i \leq (1+\epsilon)\lceil \rho_i \cdot c^* \rceil$$

 $\varepsilon\textsc{-Fair}$ Covering Problem

A relaxation



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A relaxation



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FAIR COVERING problem with two assumptions:

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MAXIMUM COVERAGE for applications in Clustering and Facility Location



Motivation

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Growing interest in Algorithmic Fairness

Motivation

 MAXIMUM COVERAGE for applications in Clustering and Facility Location

- Growing interest in Algorithmic Fairness
- Proportionality is a fundamental form of fairness



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Recently, [AEKM'19, BCFN'19] studied the "fair" clustering problem when the input is a multi-colored point set

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(We study a novel geometric max cover problem where proportionality implies **both** upper and lower limits for each color)

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 \rightarrow Our dynamic programming approach generalizes for t>2 colors with $\mathbb{O}(mn^t)$ bound on space and time

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Rest of the talk

We compute an ϵ' -fair covering with $(1 - \epsilon) \cdot opt$ points, where $opt \rightarrow$ maximum points covered by a fair covering with *k*-balls

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(r,b)-covering problem: Computes a minimum cardinality subset of *disjoint* disks covering *exactly r*-red, *b*-blue points.

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Roadmap:

 ϵ -(*r*,*b*)-covering $\leftrightarrow \epsilon$ -fair covering (Equivalence)

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- 2 there exists $r^* \in [(1-\varepsilon)r, r]$ and $b^* \in [(1-\varepsilon)b, b]$ such that $\mathcal{C}[r^*, b^*]$ is at most the size of an optimal (r, b)-covering

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Lemma

Given C[r,b], ε -Fair Covering can be solved in polynomial time.

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→ Iterate through all fair (r,b) pairs, and check if corresponding $\mathbb{C}[r^*, b^*] \leq k$. We return such a maximum (r^*, b^*) . → An (r^*, b^*) -covering is ϵ' -fair (where $\epsilon' \leq \epsilon$)

Within a constant sized square and Combining with DP

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For each S_i , and \forall valid (r,b) pairs we compute,

$$\mathcal{R}_i[r,b] = \begin{cases} k' \mid k' \leq k \& k' \text{ is optimal sized (r,b)-cover in } S_i \\ \infty \end{cases}$$

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Combining solution for a partition

$$F[s,r,b] \leftarrow \min_{\substack{0 \leq r' \leq r \\ 0 \leq b' \leq b}} \{\mathfrak{R}_s[r',b'] + F[s-1,r-r',b-b']\}$$

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(due to time constraints, we skip the proof of this lemma)

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 \rightarrow Computing $\mathcal{R}_i[r,b]$ takes $(n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}m^{\mathcal{O}(h^2)})$ time for each *i*

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 \rightarrow Combining solution with DP take $(nm)^{O(1)}$ time

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- \rightarrow Computing $\mathcal{R}_i[r,b]$ takes $(n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}m^{\mathcal{O}(h^2)})$ time for each *i*
- \rightarrow Combining solution with DP take $(nm)^{O(1)}$ time
- \rightarrow Overall, algorithm runs in time $n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}m^{\mathcal{O}(h^2)}$ $(n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}m^{\mathcal{O}(\frac{1}{e^2})})$

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Our approach generalizes to d > 2 and t > 2

Conclusions and Open Problems

• We introduce a new geometric fair covering problem

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- For 1D, we show a polynomial time algorithm when the number of colors is small, and we show NP-hardness for Ω(n) colors.

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Constant factor approximation faster than our PTAS

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- Constant factor approximation faster than our PTAS
- Fair Covering problem when balls are non-disjoint and non-discrete

- We introduce a new geometric fair covering problem
- For 1D, we show a polynomial time algorithm when the number of colors is small, and we show NP-hardness for Ω(n) colors.
- Constant factor approximation faster than our PTAS
- Fair Covering problem when balls are non-disjoint and non-discrete

Thank You!

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