

CS60021: Scalable Data Mining

Similarity Search and Hashing

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# **GENERALIZATION OF LSH**

# Locality sensitive hashing

- Originally defined in terms of a similarity function [C'02]
- Given universe  $U$  and a similarity  $s: U \times U \rightarrow [0,1]$ , does there exist a prob distribution over some hash family  $H$  such that

$$\Pr_{h \in H} [h(x) = h(y)] = s(x, y)$$

$$\begin{aligned} s(x, y) = 1 &\rightarrow x = y \\ s(x, y) &= s(y, x) \end{aligned}$$

# Locality Sensitive Hashing

- Hash family  $H$  is *locality sensitive* if [Indyk Motwani]

$\Pr[h(x) = h(y)]$  is high if  $x$  is close to  $y$

$\Pr[h(x) = h(y)]$  is low if  $x$  is far from  $y$

- Not clear such functions exist for all distance functions

# Hamming distance

- Points are bit strings of length  $d$
- $H(x, y) = |\{i, x_i \neq y_i\}|$       $S_H(x, y) = 1 - \frac{H(x, y)}{d}$
- Define a hash function  $h$  by sampling a set of positions
  - $x = 1011010001, y = 0111010101$
  - $S = \{1, 5, 7\}$
  - $h(x) = 100, h(y) = 100$

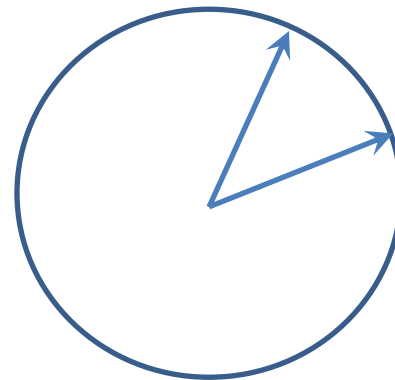
# LSH for Hamming Distance

- The above hash family is locality sensitive,  $k = |S|$

$$\Pr[h(x) = h(y)] = \left(1 - \frac{H(x, y)}{d}\right)^k$$

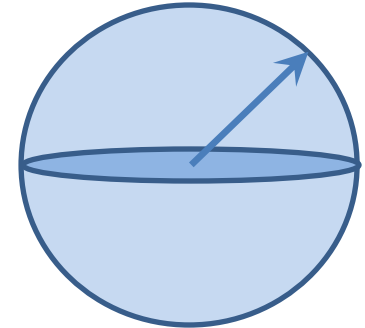
# LSH for angle distance

- $x, y$  are unit norm vectors
- $d(x, y) = \cos^{-1}(x \cdot y) = \theta$
- $S(x, y) = 1 - \theta/\pi$
- Choose direction  $v$  uniformly at random
  - $h_v(x) = \text{sign}(v \cdot x)$
  - $\Pr[h_v(x) = h_v(y)] = 1 - \theta/\pi$



# Aside: picking a direction u.a.r.

- How to sample a vector  $x \in R^d$ ,  $|x|_2 = 1$  and the direction is uniform among all possible directions



- Generate  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_d)$ ,  $x_i \sim N(0, 1)$  iid
- Normalize  $\frac{x}{|x|_2}$ 
  - By writing the pdf of the d-dimensional Gaussian in polar form, easy to see that this is uniform direction on unit sphere



# Which similarities admit LSH?

- There are various similarities and distance that are used in scientific literature
  - Encyclopedia of distances DL'11
- Will there be an LSH for each one of them?
  - Similarity is LSHable if there exists an LSH for it

[slide courtesy R. Kumar]

# LSHable similarities

Thm:  $S$  is LSHable  $\rightarrow 1 - S$  is a metric

$$\begin{aligned}d(x, y) = 0 &\rightarrow x = y \\d(x, y) &= d(y, x) \\d(x, y) + d(y, z) &\geq d(x, z)\end{aligned}$$

Fix hash function  $h \in H$  and define

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_h(A, B) &= [h(A) \neq h(B)] \\1 - S(A, B) &= \Pr_h[\Delta_h(A, B)]\end{aligned}$$

Also

$$\Delta_h(A, B) + \Delta_h(B, C) \geq \Delta_h(A, C)$$

# Example of non-LSHable similarities

- $d(A, B) = 1 - s(A, B)$
- Sorenson-Dice :  $s(A, B) = \frac{2|A \cap B|}{|A| + |B|}$ 
  - Ex:  $A = \{a\}, B = \{b\}, C = \{a, b\}$
  - $s(A, B) = 0, s(B, C) = s(A, C) = \frac{2}{3}$
- Overlap:  $s(A, B) = \frac{|A \cap B|}{\min(|A|, |B|)}$ 
  - $s(A, B) = 0, s(A, C) = 1 = s(B, C)$

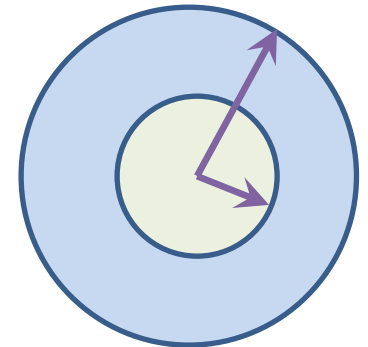
# Gap Definition of LSH

- A family is  $(r, R, p, q)$  LSH if

IMRS'97, IM'98, GIM'99

$$\Pr_{h \in H} [h(x) = h(y)] \geq p \text{ if } d(x, y) \leq r$$

$$\Pr_{h \in H} [h(x) = h(y)] \leq q \text{ if } d(x, y) \geq R$$



Here  $p > q$ .

# Gap LSH

- All the previous constructions satisfy the gap definition

- Ex: for  $JS(S, T) = \frac{|S \cap T|}{|S \cup T|}$

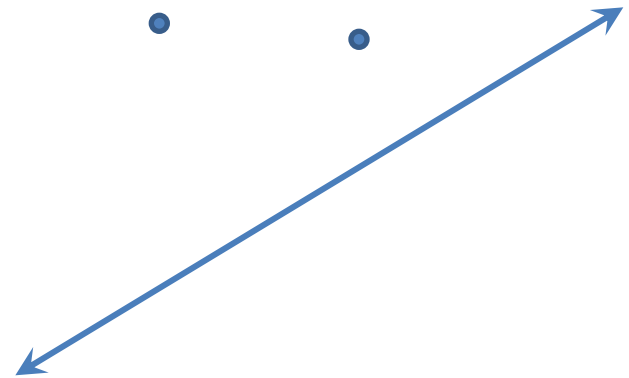
$$JD(S, T) \leq r \rightarrow JS(S, T) \geq 1 - r \rightarrow \Pr[h(S) = h(T)] = JS(S, T) \geq 1 - r$$

$$JD(S, T) \geq R \rightarrow JS(S, T) \leq 1 - R \rightarrow \Pr[h(S) = h(T)] = JS(S, T) \leq 1 - R$$

Hence is a  $(r, R, 1 - r, 1 - R)$  LSH

# L2 norm

- $d(x, y) = \sqrt{(\sum_i (x_i - y_i)^2)}$
- $u =$  random unit norm vector,  $w \in R$  parameter,  $b \sim Unif[0, w]$
- $h(x) = \lfloor \frac{u \cdot x + b}{w} \rfloor$
- If  $|x - y|_2 < \frac{w}{2}$ ,  $\Pr[h(x) = h(y)] \geq \frac{1}{3}$
- If  $|x - y|_2 > 4w$ ,  $\Pr[h(x) = h(y)] \leq \frac{1}{4}$



# Solving the near neighbour

- $(r, c)$  –near neighbour problem
  - Given query point  $q$ , return all points  $p$  such that  $d(p, q) < r$  and none such that  $d(p, q) > cr$
  - Solving this gives a subroutine to solve the “nearest neighbour”, by building a data-structure for each  $r$ , in powers of  $(1 + \epsilon)$

# How to actually use it?

- Need to amplify the probability of collisions for “near” points

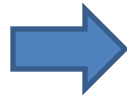


# Band construction

- AND-ing of LSH
  - Define a composite function  $H(x) = (h_1(x), \dots, h_k(x))$
  - $\Pr[H(x) = H(y)] = \prod_i \Pr[h_i(x) = h_i(y)] = \Pr[h_1(x) = h_1(y)]^k$
- OR-ing
  - Create  $L$  independent hash-tables for  $H_1, H_2, \dots, H_L$
  - Given query  $q$ , search in  $\cup_j H_j(q)$

# Example

	S <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>3</sub>	S <sub>4</sub>
A	1	0	1	0
B	1	0	0	1
C	0	1	0	1
D	0	1	0	1
E	0	1	0	1
F	1	0	1	0
G	1	0	1	0



	S1	S2	S3	S3
h1	1	2	1	2
h2	2	1	3	1

	S1	S2	S3	S3
h3	3	1	2	1
h4	1	3	2	2

# Why is this better?

- Consider  $q, y$  with  $\Pr[h(q) = h(y)] = 1 - d(x, y)$
- Probability of not finding  $y$  as one of the candidates in  $\cup_j H_j(q)$

$$1 - (1 - (1 - d)^k)^L$$

# Creating an LSH

- Query  $x$
- If we have a  $(r, cr, p, q)$  LSH
- For any  $y$ , with  $|x - y| < r$ ,
  - Prob of  $y$  as candidate in  $\cup_j H_j(x) \geq 1 - (1 - p^k)^L \geq 1 - \frac{1}{e}$
- For any  $z$ ,  $|x - z| > cr$ ,
  - Prob of  $z$  as candidate in any fixed  $H_j(x) \leq q^k$
  - Expected number of such  $z \leq Lq^k \leq L = n^\rho$
  - $\rho < 1$

$$\rho = \frac{\log(p)}{\log(q)} \quad L = n^\rho \quad k = \log(n) / \log\left(\frac{1}{q}\right)$$

# Runtime

- Space used =  $n^{1+\rho}$
- Query time =  $n^\rho \times (k + d)$  [time for k-hashes & brute force comparison]
- We can show that for Hamming, angle etc,  $\rho \approx \frac{1}{c}$ 
  - Can get 2-approx near neighbors with  $O(\sqrt{n})$  neighbour comparisons

# LSH: theory vs practice

- In order to design LSH in practice, the theoretical parameter values are only a guidance
  - Typically need to search over the parameter space to find a good operating point
  - Data statistics can provide some guidance.

# Summary

- Locality sensitive hashing is a powerful tool for near neighbour problems
- Trades off space with query time
- Practical for medium to large datasets with fairly large number of dimensions
  - However, doesn't really work very well for sparse, very very high dimensional datasets
- LSH and extensions are an area of active research and practice

# References:

- Primary references for this lecture
  - Modern Massive Datasets, Rajaraman, Leskovec, Ullman.
  - Survey by Andoni et al. (CACM 2008) available at [www.mit.edu/~andoni/LSH](http://www.mit.edu/~andoni/LSH)