Indexing Multimedia Databases

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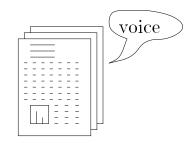
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1 PROBLEM - APPLICATIONS

Multimedia System: A system that can store and retrieve objects/documents with text, voice, images, animation, slides show etc.



Problem definition:

- given a set of multimedia objects,
- find the ones containing a desirable pattern (or something similar to it)

GOALS: search by content

- Efficient and
- 'complete' (no false dismissals)

Applications:

- time series: financial, marketing, ECGs, voice/sound
- images: education, art, medicine
- higher-d signals: scientific db (eg., meteorology, astrophysics), medicine, entertainment (video)

Sample queries:

- find companies whose stock prices move similarly
- find past days in which the solar magnetic wind showed patterns similar to today's pattern [Vas93]
- find X-rays similar to Smith's
- in LANDSAT images, find areas with cornfield colors
- find the average MRI brain scan of epileptics

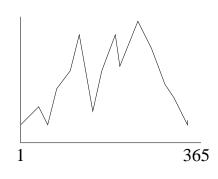
Similarity search, hypothesis testing, rule discovery, data mining [Agrawal et al., SIGMOD 93] [AIS93]

2 FRAMEWORK

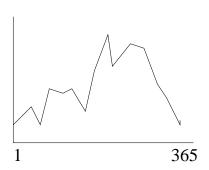
- Whole matching vs. Sub-pattern matching
- Range queries vs Nearest Neighbor
- All-pairs queries ('spatial joins')

Database

S1

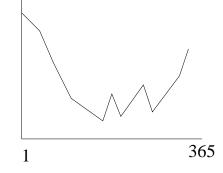


whole match query

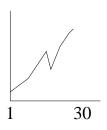


:

Sn



sub-sequence match



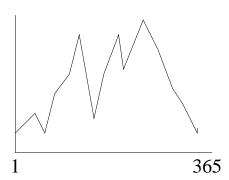
Distance function: by domain expert. Eg., Euclidean

$$\mathcal{D}(S,Q) \equiv \left(\sum_{i=1}^{l} |S[i] - Q[i]|^2\right)^{1/2} \tag{1}$$

(similarly for vector fields)

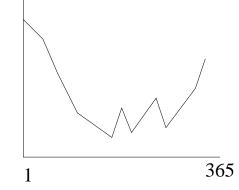
Database

S1



•

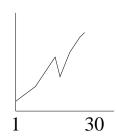
Sn



whole match query



sub-sequence match



Target method:

- \bullet fast
- no false dismissals (false alarms are OK)
- dynamic (insertions/deletions/appends)

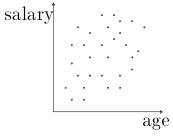
3 SPATIAL ACCESS METHODS

Objects may be points, rectangles or arbitrary shapes. Queries:

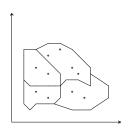
- point queries,
- range queries,
- 'all-pairs'/spatial join queries [BKS93],
- nearest neighbor(s) queries [RKV95].

Applications

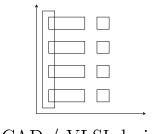
- Traditional data base systems.
- multimedia objects, after feature extraction [Jag91b]
- Cartography [Sam90a]
- Computer-Aided Design (CAD).
- Computer vision and robotics [BB82]
- Rule indexing in expert database systems [SSH86]



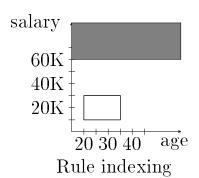
traditional data base

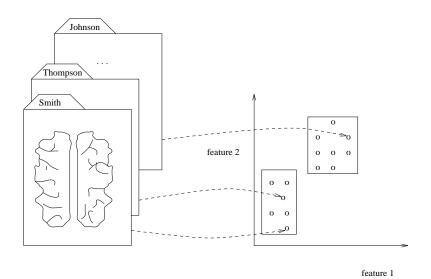


Cartographic data



CAD / VLSI design



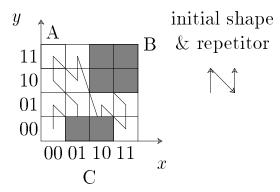


Overview

- space filling curves/ z-ordering / linear quadtrees
- grid files
- R-trees

3.1 Space filling curves

Proposed, among others, by. [Ore86] [SSN87] [OM88] [Ore89] [Ore90] [Sam90b]. Very similar linear quadtrees [Gar82].





- z_A = Shuffle ("1,2,1,2", x_A , y_A) = Shuffle ("1,2,1,2", 00, 11) = 0101 = (5)₁0
- $z_B = 11$ (common prefix of all its blocks)
- $z_{C_1} = 0010 = 2$
- $z_{C_2} = 1000 = 8$

NOTICE:

- Relations using z values \Rightarrow
 - excellent integration of geometric data bases
 with relational ones
 - fast processing of geometric queries, using **in-** \mathbf{dex} on the z values
- used by the U.S. Bureau of Census TIGER project [Whi81]
- BUT: regions give too many pieces, unless we use approximations (='redundancy' [Ore90]).

Variations - improvements

• Best distance preserving mapping?

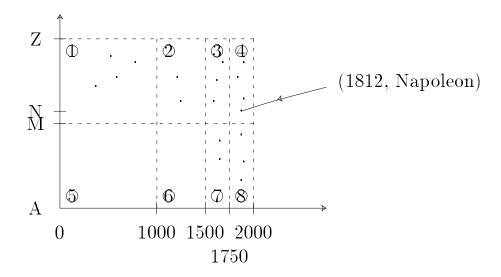


- Study of clustering properties of space filling curves:
 - Exhaustive enumeration, [FR89b]
 - formulas for partial match queries and $2\mathrm{x}2$ squares, $[\mathrm{Jag}90]$
 - closed formula for z-ordering [RF91]

3.2 Grid File

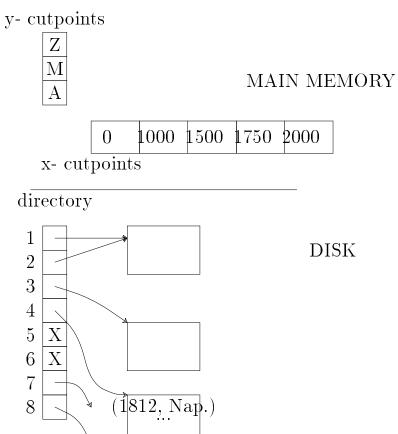
Dynamic version of multi-attribute hashing [NHS84]

- 2 disk accesses for exact match queries
- symmetric with respect to the attributes
- adapting to non-uniform distributions

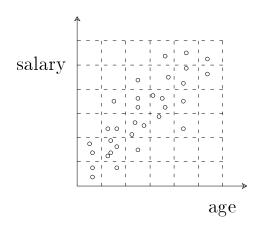


- Every cell \rightarrow one disk page
- Cuts occur on predefined points (1/2, 1/4 etc of each axis)
- Cuts cut all the way (as opposed to k-d-B-trees)

Implementation



BUT: correlated attributes



Solutions:

- Rotated grid file [HN83]
- tricell [FR89a]

Other Variations:

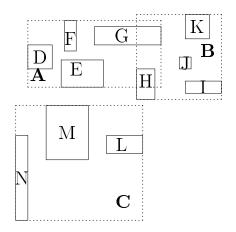
• Twin grid file [HSW88]

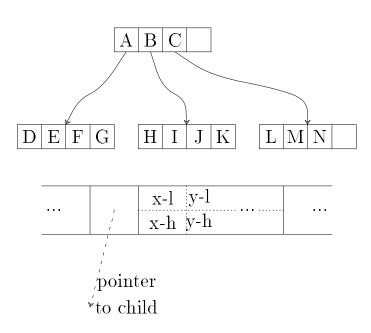
Notice that it handles *points*; rectangles can be handled by *transforming* them into points in 4-d [HN83]

3.3 R-trees

Idea: Group points in parents - allow parents to overlap. [Gut84]

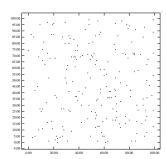
- balanced
- $\geq 50\%$ utilization

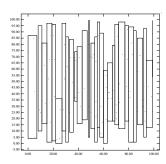


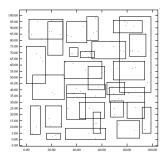


Variations / Improvements:

• Packed R-trees [RL85] [KF93] for static data.







- cell trees [Gun86] introduce diagonal cuts, too.
- R+ trees: [FSR87] [SRF87] No overlap; balanced. Outperform R-trees when there are few large rectangles and several small ones.
- R^* -trees [BKSS90] Main idea: defer splitting, using forced-reinsert on 30% of the most remote rectangles.
- Hilbert R-trees [KF94] defer split, by pushing keys to the 'Hilbert' neighbor.
- Analysis for R-trees: Range queries [PSTW93]; using fractal dimensions [FK94]

3.4 Conclusions

- Z-ordering (Linear quadtrees) and R-trees seem the most promising methods.
- R-trees are more robust for high-d spaces.

4 TIME SERIES

[Agrawal et al., FODO 93] [AFS93]

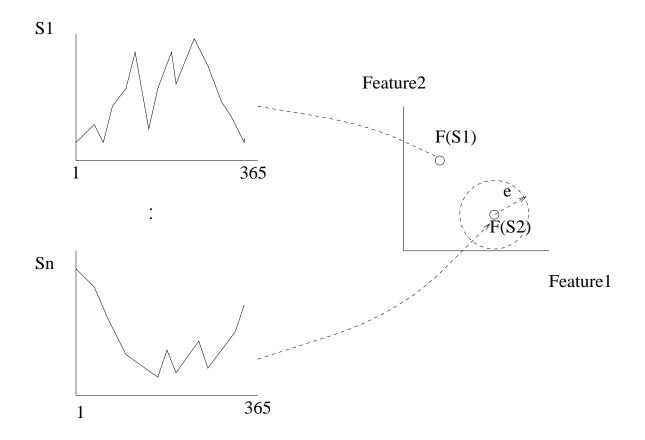
Distance: Euclidean

Obvious solution: sequential scan.

Q: Something faster?

A: 'Quick-and-dirty' filter:

- \bullet extract *n* features (numbers, eg., avg., etc.)
- \bullet map a sequence into a point in n-d feature space
- organize points with a Spatial Access Method (SAM) [Jag91b]
- discard false alarms



Intuitively,

$$D_{feature}(F(S_1), F(S_2)) \approx D_{actual}(S_1, S_2)$$

Ideally, "=". However equality might be difficult (eg., 'dimensionality curse').

Lemma: To guarantee no false dismissals, *lower-bound* the actual distance:

$$D_{feature}(F(S_1), F(S_2)) \le D_{actual}(S_1, S_2)$$

I.e., 'it is OK to make things look closer'.

Solution for the whole-matching problem:

- perform Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT).
- keep first few coefficients

It works well, because:

- DFT maintains distances (Parseval's theorem)
- concentrates the 'energy', for 'colored noises'
- Keeping the first few coefficients lower-bounds the distance

DFT formulas and definitions [Ham77] [OS75]:

$$X_f = 1/\sqrt{n} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} x_i \exp(-j2\pi f i/n)$$
 $f = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$

where $j = \sqrt{-1}$.

Energy of a signal \vec{x} :

$$E(\vec{x}) \equiv ||\vec{x}||^2 \equiv \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} |x_i|^2$$
 (2)

Theorem (Parseval).

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} |x_i|^2 = \sum_{f=0}^{n-1} |X_f|^2 \tag{3}$$

and also:

$$\|\vec{x} - \vec{y}\|^2 \equiv \|\vec{X} - \vec{Y}\|^2$$
 (4)

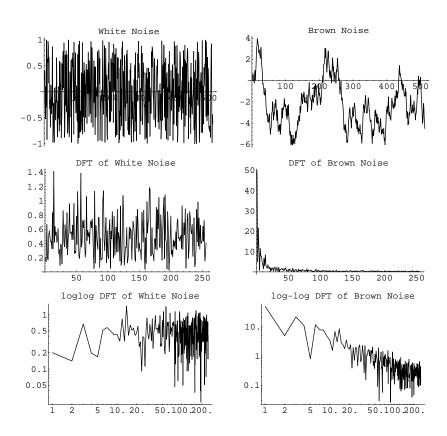
The first few (eg., 2) coefficients result in a lower bound:

$$(X_1-Y_1)^2+(X_2-Y_2)^2 \le (X_1-Y_1)^2+(X_2-Y_2)^2+(X_3-Y_3)^2\dots$$

Colored noises

- brown noise $(1/f^2 \text{ energy spectrum}) \equiv \text{random}$ walk (stock price movements, currency exchange rates) [Mandelbrot] [Man77]
- \bullet pink noise (1/f energy spectrum) works of art [Sch91]
- black noise $(1/f^b\ b > 2)$ water-level of rivers [Sch91]

Examples of colored noises:



Other 'noises': skewed spectrum, too

Performance:

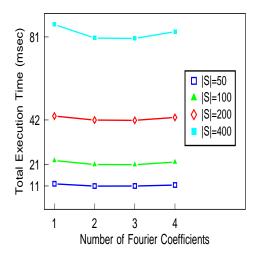


Figure 1: Time per query vs. # Fourier coefficients, for range queries

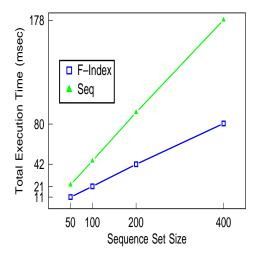


Figure 2: Time per query varying # sequences, for range queries

5 COLOR IMAGES

Much work on

- machine vision [BB82, DH73a], [TSSM89] [WSTM90]
 [CL91, CW92, LH90, LH92], [HK92], [IX90, Jag91a, KKS+91, CH91, MG89, GNM92, LW88], and [BGS92, SB91, Iok89];
- much work on fast searching;
- little communication between DB and MV communities [ACM91, JN92, NBE⁺93]

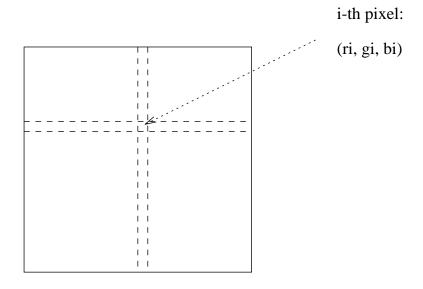
Except recently [HHLC92] [PO93] [?] [FBF⁺94] Goal: Queries on color, shape, texture, eg.,

- find photos with color distribution similar to a sunset over the ocean
- find shapes similar to tropical fish

Queries (a) 'by example' (b) 'by sketch' Support for combinations of color, shape, texture specifications; browsing; 'positional color'.

5.1 Color - features and distance function

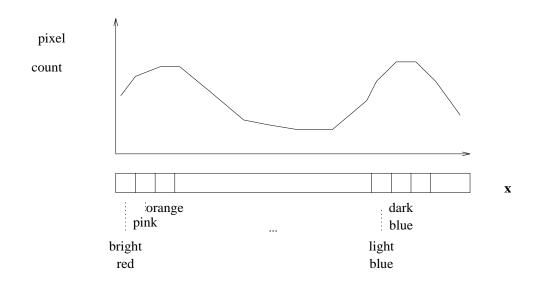
COLOR IMAGE, eg. 256x256



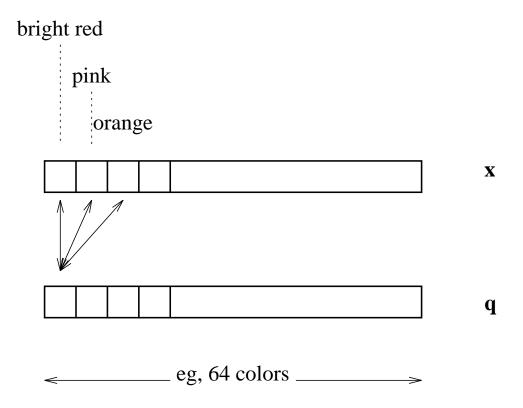
i-th pixel: (r_i, g_i, b_i) (Red, Green, Blue), $0 \le r_i, g_i, b_i \le 255$ eg. pink = (200, 60, 60) (\pm) black = (0, 0, 0)white = (255, 255, 255) Feature vector: histogram with, say 64 colors (bright red, pink, orange, ..., light blue, dark blue, ...)

Eg., sunset photo:

$$\vec{x} = (80, 85, 75, \dots, 90, 110, \dots)$$



Distance of two histograms \vec{x} and \vec{q} : CROSS TALK



$$distance_{histogram}(\vec{x}, \vec{q}) = (\vec{x} - \vec{q}) \begin{bmatrix} a_{RR} & a_{RP} & \dots \\ a_{PR} & a_{PP} & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix} (\vec{x} - \vec{q})^{t}$$

$$\dots = (\vec{x} - \vec{q}) \mathcal{A} (\vec{x} - \vec{q})^{t}$$

NONE of the S.A.Ms can handle crosstalk.

COLOR IMAGE, eg. 256x256

i-th pixel:

(ri, gi, bi)

Solution:

• Use a simpler feature vector, eg., average or total R, G, B

$$\vec{x'} = (\sum r_i, \sum g_i, \sum b_i)$$

with

 $distance_{RGB}(\vec{x'}, \vec{q'}) = \text{Euclidean distance}$

• exploit the theorem [FBF⁺94]

$$distance_{RGB}(\vec{x'}, \vec{q'}) \leq distance_{histogram}(\vec{x}, \vec{q})$$

Thus, the $distance_{RGB}()$:

- is euclidean \Rightarrow SAMs apply
- lowerbounds actual distance \Rightarrow no false dismissals

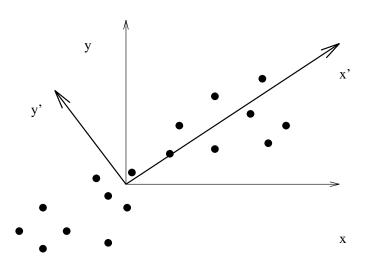
5.2 Shapes

• Features: area, perimeter, moments (≈ 20)

• Distance: (weighted) Euclidean

• Problem: too many features

• Solution: Karhunen-Loeve (K-L) transform ([Fuk90] [DH73b]) \Rightarrow 2-3 coefficients are enough



5.3 Performance

For color

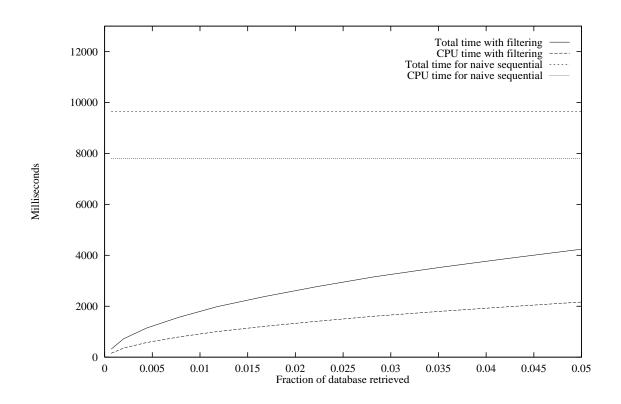


Figure 3: Time spent with sequential retrieval vs. filtered retrieval

Observations: resolving crosstalk

- allows indexing
- saves CPU time $(distance_{histogram} \text{ is } O(k^2)).$

Performance for shapes

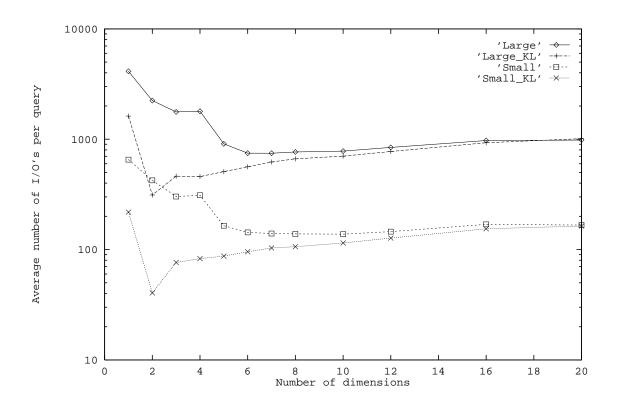


Figure 4: Average Disk I/O's per query, vs. dimensions kept

Observations

- first 2 K-L coefficients are best ($\approx 70\%$ of energy)
- similar performance for larger db

6 3-D MEDICAL IMAGES

Query by content in 2-d medical image databases [HHLC92] [PO93] [?]

Case study for 3-d medical images: QBISM [ACF⁺93] Goal: DB support for 3-d medical images (and specifically, for the *Human Brain Mapping* project). Ie.,:

given 3-d brain scans (PET, MRI etc) + demographic characteristics

build a system

to allow exploratory research

- a PET study: (x, y, z, intensity) tuples
- intensity = glucose consumption rate = brain activity

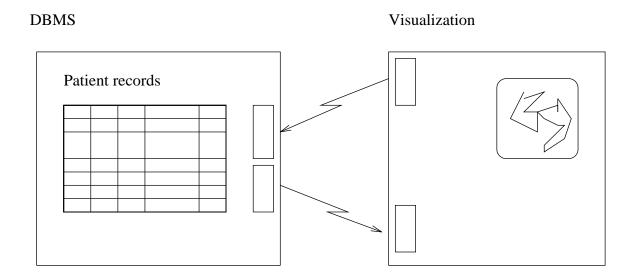
QBISM: Typical of multimedia retrieval system (handles scalar fields = n-d signals)

Sample queries:

- fetch a patient's PET study
- show visual system
- rotate and/or slice
- show areas of high intensity
- list organs within 10mm from hippocampus
- typical/average scan for 20-yr old left-handed females
- find brain scans similar to "Smith's"

System architecture:

- \bullet DBMS, with 'long fields', extended SQL with $contains,\ intersects$ etc., plus
- visualization package (eg., 'Data Explorer') as front end



Good news for similarity searches:

- Euclidean distance is a good first step
- DFT leads to a skewed spectrum

Conclusions: Compared to a file-based system, a DBMS allows:

- convenient querying over multiple images
- better performance through early filtering

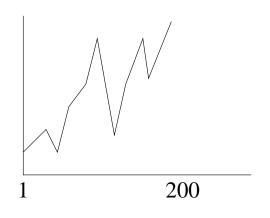
7 SUB-PATTERN MATCHING

Problem: [Faloutsos et. al., SIGMOD 94] [FRM94]

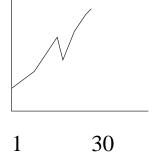
- Given a collection of sequences (of variable duration)
- find the ones that contain a desirable pattern (within distance ϵ)

Database

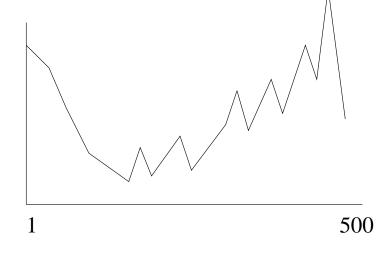
S1



sub-sequence match



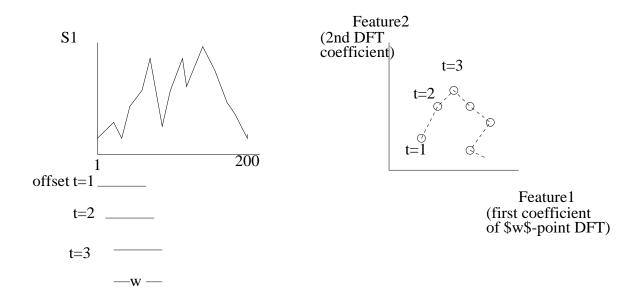
Sn



Assumption: queries have length $\geq w$

Proposed method: use sliding, overlapping windows to create trails in feature space.

Features: first few coefficients of the w-point DFT

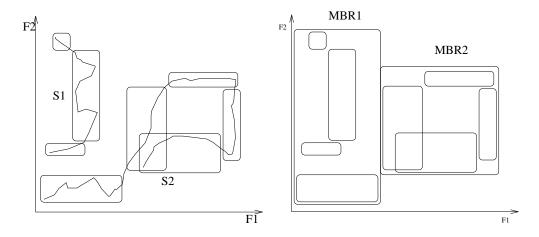


More details on the method:

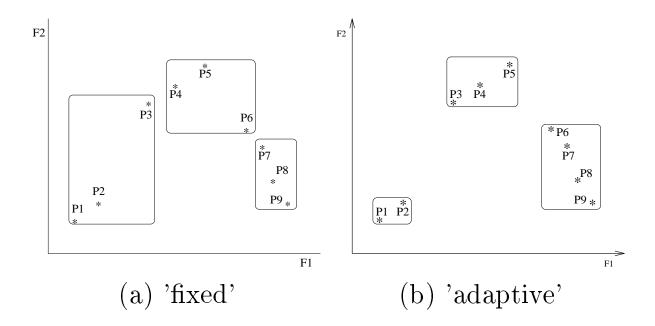
- subdivide trails and bound them by MBRs
- store MBRs in a S.A.M.

Q: Why not store all the points of the trail?

A: Too much space overhead!

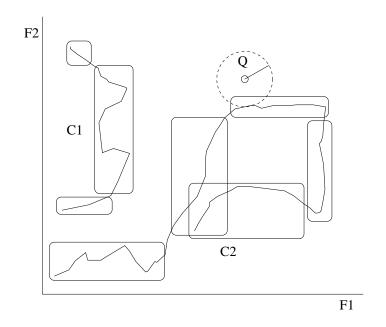


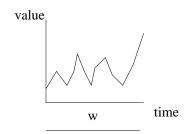
Leaf nodes: set of (seq-id, t-start, t-end, MBR) Non-leaf nodes: set of (MBR, node-ptr) More details - how to divide a trail into subtrails?



Searching, for minimum-length queries:

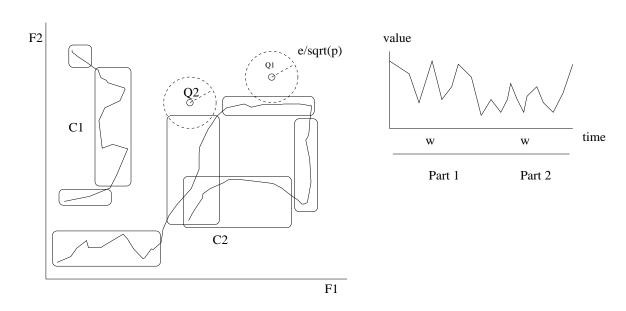
'short' query:





Searching, for longer queries: 'Multi-piece' algorithm:

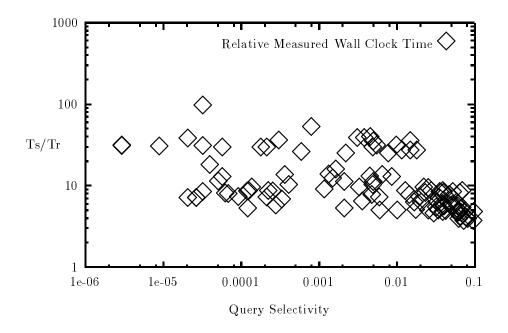
- \bullet Break it in p pieces of length w
- Search for each piece, with tolerance ϵ/\sqrt{p}
- 'OR' the results and cleanup false alarms



Experiments

- real data (stock prices) 329,000 points; also, synthetic data.
- implementation in C, AIX, IBM RS/6000
- features: first 3 (complex) DFT coefficients
- 'adaptive' heuristic for sub-trails
- R*-tree [BKSS90] for S.A.M.

Search time experiments - 'short' queries



Relative wall clock time vs. selectivity in log-log scale (Len(Q) = w = 512 points).

Conclusion: 3 to 100 times better than seq. scanning.

8 CONCLUSIONS

Problem: Fast and 'complete' indexing for multimedia databases

Solution: 'Quick and dirty' filter:

- map objects into points in feature space, **lower-bounding** the actual distance. (⇒ 'completeness').
- use any spatial access method (\Rightarrow efficiency).

Main idea, for 'sub-pattern matching'

- map an object into a set of (hyper)-rectangles in feature space
- use a S.A.M.

Occasional mismatches between features and SAMs:

- 'dimensionality curse': Use distance preserving, energy concentrating transforms (eg., DFT, DCT, wavelet [RBC+92] etc.)
- 'cross-talk': diagonalization

Challenges:

- specific distance function / features for each application
- handling of non-Euclidean distance functions (eg., as in DNA strings)

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