## Computational Geometry - WSPD WSPD

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Idea 3: sparse $t$-spanner

## Well-Separated Pairs

Def: A pair of disjoint point sets $A$ and $B$ in $\mathbb{R}^{d}$ is called $s$-well separated for some $s>0$, if $A$ and $B$ can each be covered by a ball of radius $r$ whose distance is at least $s r$.


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Obs: • $s$-well separated $\Rightarrow s^{\prime}$-well separated for all $s^{\prime} \leq s$

- singletons $\{a\}$ and $\{b\}$ are $s$-well separated for all $s>0$


## Well-Separated Pair Decomposition (WSPD)

For well-separated pair $\{A, B\}$ we know that the distance for all point pairs in $A \otimes B=\{\{a, b\} \mid a \in A, b \in B, a \neq b\}$ is similar.

Goal: $o\left(n^{2}\right)$-sized data structure that approximates the distances of all $\binom{n}{2}$ pairs of points in a set $P=\left\{p_{1}, \ldots, p_{n}\right\}$.

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Def: For a point set $P$ and some $s>0$ an $s$-well separated pair decomposition (s-WSPD) is a set of pairs $\left\{\left\{A_{1}, B_{1}\right\}, \ldots,\left\{A_{m}, B_{m}\right\}\right\}$ with

- $A_{i}, B_{i} \subset P$ for all $i$
- $A_{i} \cap B_{i}=\emptyset$ for all $i$
- $\bigcup_{i=1}^{m} A_{i} \otimes B_{i}=P \otimes P$
- $\left\{A_{i}, B_{i}\right\} s$-well separated for all $i$


## Example



28 point pairs

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28 point pairs

$12 s$-well separated pairs

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Thm 3: Given a point set $P$ in $\mathbb{R}^{d}$ and $s \geq 1$ we can construct an $s$-WSPD with $O\left(s^{d} n\right)$ pairs in time $O\left(n \log n+s^{d} n\right)$.

## Exercise 5

- $\mathrm{x}:=2 / \mathrm{s}+1$
- $S:=\left\{x^{i} \mid 0 \leq i \leq n-1\right\}$
$\mathcal{W}=\left\{A_{j}, B_{j}\right\}$ arbitrary $s$-WSPD for $S(s>0)$ $1 \leq j \leq m$


## Show:

$$
\sum_{j=1}^{m}\left(\left|A_{j}\right|+\left|B_{j}\right|\right)=\binom{n}{2}+m
$$

Hint: Show that for each $j$ at least one of both sets $A_{j}$ and $B_{j}$ is a singleton.

## Alternative Definition

Def.: For a point set $P$ and some $s>0$ an $s$-well separated pair decomposition ( $s$-WSPD) is a set of pairs $\left\{\left\{A_{1}, B_{1}\right\}, \ldots,\left\{A_{m}, B_{m}\right\}\right\}$ with

- $A_{i}, B_{i} \subset P$ for all $i$
- $\left\{A_{i}, B_{i}\right\} s$-well separated for all $i$
- for two distinct points $p, q \in P$ there is exactly one index $i$ with $1 \leq i \leq m$ such that
- $p \in A_{i}$ and $q \in B_{i}$, or
- $q \in A_{i}$ and $p \in B_{i}$.


## Exercise 6/7

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Given: $s$-WSPD $\mathcal{W}$ for $P$ with $s>2$
Let $\{A, B\} \in \mathcal{W}$ with $p \in A$ and $q \in B$

## Show that:

- $A$ is a singleton.
- size of $\mathcal{W}$ is at least $n / 2$.
- if $p, q$ have minimal distance among all pairs, then $\{\{p\},\{q\}\}$ lies in WSPD.

