

Split Packing: An Algorithm for Packing Circles with up to Critical Density

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The critical density for packing squares is 1/2 [Moon & Moser, 1967]

Outline



- 2 Other container types
- 3 Other object types
- 4 Future work

Critical density for packing circles into a square

What is the largest *a* so that any set of circles with a combined area of *a* can be packed into the unit square?

Critical density for packing circles into a square

What is the largest a so that any set of circles with a combined area of a can be packed into the unit square?

 \rightarrow Now: Constructive proof!























В















в		
1		

Split property:

All elements of larger group \geq groups' difference.



В			
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Split property:

All elements of larger group \geq groups' difference.

An (a, b)-hat




























4
















































7

8



SPLIT-PÄCK

















7





https://morr.cc/split-packing/



Two perspectives:

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Deciding packability

A tight sufficient density condition: Every instance with up to critical density d can be packed!

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Minimizing the container's size

A constant-factor approximation algorithm:

The ratio between the approximated and the optimal container area is at most 1/d.

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Runtime:

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Runtime:

- At most $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ numeric operations
 - Worst-case greedy split: $n + (n 1) + (n 2) + \cdots + 1$ operations

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Minimizing the container's size

A constant-factor approximation algorithm:

The ratio between the approximated and the optimal container area is at most 1/d.

Runtime:

- At most $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ numeric operations
 - ▶ Worst-case greedy split: $n + (n 1) + (n 2) + \cdots + 1$ operations
- Exactly 3n 2 geometric constructions
 - ▶ Full binary recursion tree with *n* leaf nodes

Circles in a square



Critical density:
$$\frac{\pi}{3+2\sqrt{2}} \approx 53.90\%$$

Approximation factor:
$$\frac{3+2\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \approx 1.8552$$

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Circles in a square: Examples



Outline





3 Other object types

4 Future work

Splitting for asymmetric triangles



Circles in a right/obtuse triangle



Condition: $a^2 + b^2 \leq c^2$

Critical density:
$$\sqrt{rac{-(a-b-c)(a+b-c)(a-b+c)}{(a+b+c)^3}}\pi < 53.91\%$$

Approximation factor: Larger than 1.8552

Circles in a right/obtuse triangle: Examples



Circles in a thick isosceles triangle

$$Condition: \ \frac{c}{\sqrt{2}} \le b \le c$$

$$Critical \ density: \ 48.60\% < \frac{(c-2b+\sqrt{4b^2-c^2})^2\pi}{2c\sqrt{4b^2-c^2}} < 53.91\%$$

Approximation factor: Between 1.8552 and 2.0576

Circles in a thick isosceles triangle: Examples



The problem with acute triangles



The problem with acute triangles



The problem with acute triangles



Circles in a long rectangle



Condition:
$$w \geq rac{2+3\sqrt{2}}{4}h pprox 1.5607h$$

Critical density: $\frac{\pi h}{4w} < 50.33\%$

Approximation factor:
$$\frac{4w}{\pi h} > 1.9870$$

Circles in a long rectangle: Examples



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Packing circles in a square

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Other shapes in a square?



Other shapes in a square?



Other shapes in a square?



Rubies!



Rubies!



Rubies in a square



Critical density: $8\sqrt{2(\sqrt{2}-1)} + 6\sqrt{2} - 15 \approx 76.67\%$

Approximation factor: ≈ 1.3043

Rubies in a square: Examples



Squares in a square



Critical density: 50%

Approximation factor: 2

Octagons in a square



Critical density: $8(5\sqrt{2}-7) \approx 56.85\%$

Approximation factor: ≈ 1.7589








"Sharp rubies" in an isosceles right triangle



Critical density:
$$4\sqrt{2(\sqrt{2}-1)} + 3\sqrt{2} - 7 \approx 88.34\%$$

Approximation factor: ≈ 1.1320

"Sharp rubies" in an isosceles right triangle: Examples



Outline

Packing circles in a square

- 2 Other container types
- 3 Other object types



Future work: More container types



Future work: Acute triangles



Future work: More object types

- Ovals
- Rectangles
- General convex polygons?

What do the critical instances look like?

Future work: Maximum object size



Current best achievable density for packing squares into a square in an online setting: $^{2\!/\!5}$

[Brubach 2015]

Future work: Circle/river packing





Future work: 3D











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- Interactive visualization, at https://morr.cc/split-packing/

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Thanks!

Bonus slide: Applications

