Mathematics > Probability

## Partial match queries in random quadtrees

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We consider the problem of recovering items matching a partially specified pattern in multidimensional trees (quad trees and k-d trees). We assume the traditional model where the data consist of independent and uniform points in the unit square. For this model, in a structure on $\$ n \$$ points, it is known that the number of nodes \$C_n( xi ) \$ to visit in order to report the items matching an independent and uniformly on $\$[0,1] \$$ random query $\$$ xxi\$ satisfies $\$ \backslash E c$ \{C_n(\xi)\}\sim \kappa n^\{lbeta\}\$, where \$lkappa\$ and \$1beta\$ are explicit constants. We develop an approach based on the analysis of the cost \$C_n $(x) \$$ of any fixed query $\$ x$ lin $[0,1] \$$, and give precise estimates for the variance and limit distribution of the cost \$C_n(x)\$. Our results permit to describe a limit process for the costs $\$ C_{-} n(x) \$$ as $\$ \times \$$ varies in $\$[0,1] \$$; one of the consequences is that $\$ \mathrm{E}\left\{\backslash \mathrm{max} \_\{\mathrm{xlin}[0,1]\}\right.$ C_n(x)\} \sim \gamma $\mathrm{n}^{\wedge} \backslash b e t a \$$.

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