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Unit Distances in Three Dimensions

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(Submitted on 6 Jul 2011)

We show that the number of unit distances determined by n points in R^3 is O $(n^{3/2})$, slightly improving the bound of Clarkson et al. established in 1990. The new proof uses the recently introduced polynomial partitioning technique of Guth and Katz [arXiv:1011.4105]. While this paper was still in a draft stage, a similar proof of our main result was posted to the arXiv by Joshua Zahl [arXiv:1104.4987].

Comments: 13 pages

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