

Geospatial Interlinking with JedAI-spatial

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ABSTRACT

In this talk I will present the framework JedAI-spatial for the interlinking of geospatial data encoded in RDF.

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SHORT CV

Manolis Koubarakis is a Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the Dept. of Informatics and Telecommunications, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. He leads the Artificial Intelligence team (<http://ai.di.uoa.gr>). He holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science, from the National Technical University of Athens, an M.Sc. in Computer Science, from the University of Toronto, and a diploma (B.Sc.) in Mathematics, from the University of Crete. He is a Fellow of EurAI (European Association for Artificial Intelligence) since 2015 and President of the Hellenic Association for Artificial Intelligence. He is a member of the Advisory Board that implements the Hellenic National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence. He has published more than 200 papers that have been widely cited (7324 citations and h-index 45 in Google Scholar) in the areas of Artificial Intelligence (especially Knowledge Representation), Databases, Semantic Web and Linked Geospatial Data (especially Earth observation data). His research has been financially supported with a total amount exceeding 8 million Euros by the European Commission, the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation, the Greek General Secretariat for Research and Technology, the European Space Agency and industry. Manolis currently participates in H2020 project AI4Copernicus (2021-2023, as Technical Manager of this project which brings Copernicus data to the AI4EU platform) and DeepCube (2021-2023, where he leads the work on Semantic Data Cubes).

MORE DETAILS OF MY TALK

Geospatial data has escalated tremendously over the years. The outbreak of Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smartphones, position tracking applications and location-based services has skyrocketed

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the volume of geospatial data. For example, 100TB of weather-related data is produced everyday¹; Uber hit the milestone of 5 billion rides among 76 countries already on May 20, 2017². Web platforms like OpenStreetMap³ provide an open and editable map of the whole world. Earth observation programmes like Copernicus⁴ publish tens of terabytes of geospatial data per day on the Web⁵. For these reasons, geospatial data constitutes a considerable part of Semantic Web data, but the links between its data sources and their geometries are scarce in the Linked Open Data cloud [6, 10].

Geospatial Interlinking aims to cover this gap by associating pairs of geometries with topological relations like those of the Dimensionally Extended 9-Intersection Model (DE-9IM) [2–4]. In Figure 1 for instance, LineString g_3 intersects LineString g_4 and touches Polygon g_1 , which contains Polygon g_2 . Two are the main challenges of this task: (i) its inherently quadratic time complexity, because it has to examine every pair of geometries, and (ii) the high time complexity of examining a single pair of geometries, which amounts to $O(N \log N)$, where N is the size of the union set of their boundary points [1]. As a result, Geospatial Interlinking involves a high computational cost that does not scale to large Web datasets.

Numerous algorithms aim to address these challenges by enhancing the time efficiency and scalability of Geospatial Interlinking.

¹<https://www.ibm.com/topics/geospatial-data>

²<https://www.uber.com/en-SG/blog/uber-hits-5-billion-rides-milestone>

³<https://www.openstreetmap.org>

⁴<https://www.copernicus.eu>

⁵https://www.copernicus.eu/sites/default/files/Copernicus_DIAS_Factsheet_June2018.pdf

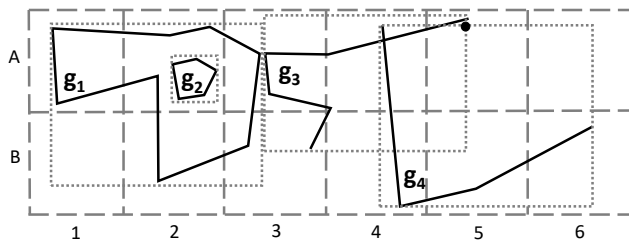


Figure 1: Example of four topologically related geometries.

The most recent ones operate in main memory, reducing the search space to pairs of geometries that are likely to be topologically related according to a geospatial index [8, 14, 16]. However, no open-source system organizes these algorithms into a common framework so as to facilitate researchers and practitioners in their effort to populate the LOD cloud with more topological relations. Systems like Silk [5] and LIMES [7] convey only the methods developed by their creators. Silk-spatial [15] and RADON [13] respectively, while systems that could act as a library of established methods, such as stLD [11, 12], are not publicly available. Moreover, no system supports progressive methods, neither for serial nor for parallel processing, even though they are indispensable for applications with limited computational or temporal resources [9, 10].

To address these issues, I present *JedAI-spatial*, an open-source system that supports a broad range of Geospatial Interlinking applications on the Web by implementing the state-of-the-art methods in the literature. JedAI-spatial makes the following contributions:

- It organizes the main algorithms into a novel taxonomy that facilitates their use and adoption by practitioners and researchers, enabling them to select the most appropriate algorithm based on the requirements of their application.
- Its intuitive user interface supports both novice and expert users.
- Its modular and extensible architecture allows for easily incorporating new algorithms and improvements to the existing ones.
- It optimizes the implementation of existing algorithms, some of which have not been applied to Geospatial Interlinking before.
- We have publicly released the code of JedAI-spatial at: <https://github.com/giantInterlinking/JedAI-spatial>.

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