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**Janos Pach** and **Rados Radoicic\*** (rados@math.rutgers.edu), Department of Mathematics, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ 08854, and **Jan Vondrak**. *On the diameter of separated point sets with many nearly equal distances.*

A point set is *separated* if the minimum distance between its elements is one. We call two real numbers *nearly equal* if they differ by at most one. We prove that for any dimension  $d \geq 2$  and any  $\gamma > 0$ , if  $P$  is a separated set of  $n$  points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  such that at least  $\gamma n^2$  pairs in  $\binom{P}{2}$  determine nearly equal distances, then the diameter of  $P$  is at least  $C(d, \gamma)n^{2/(d-1)}$  for some constant  $C(d, \gamma) > 0$ . In the case of  $d = 3$ , this result confirms a conjecture of Erdős. The order of magnitude of the above bound cannot be improved for any  $d$ . Our proof includes regularity lemma and Ramsey-type arguments. (Received August 08, 2005)