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Mining Data Streams (Part 1)

Mining of Massive Datasets

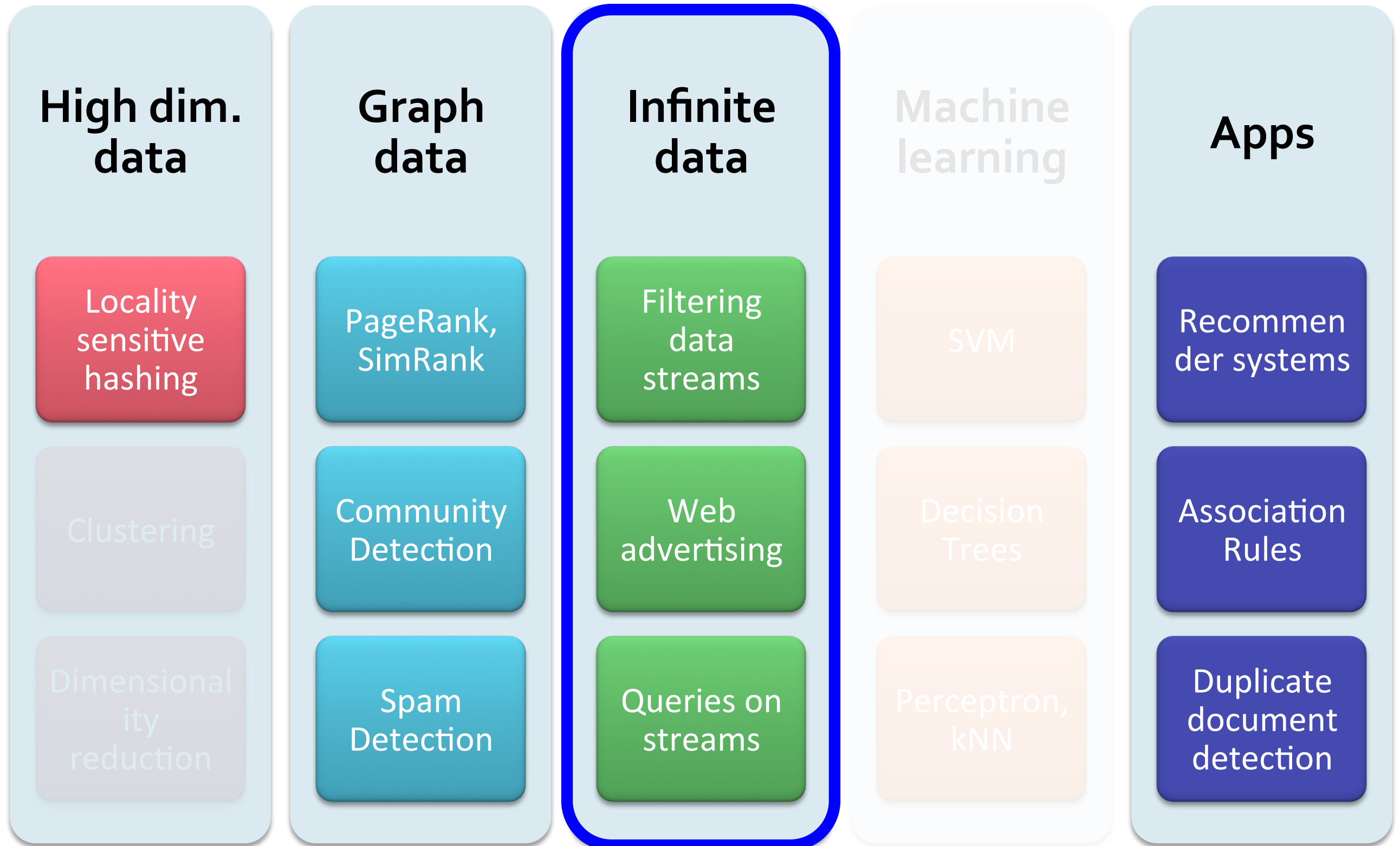
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New topic: Infinite data



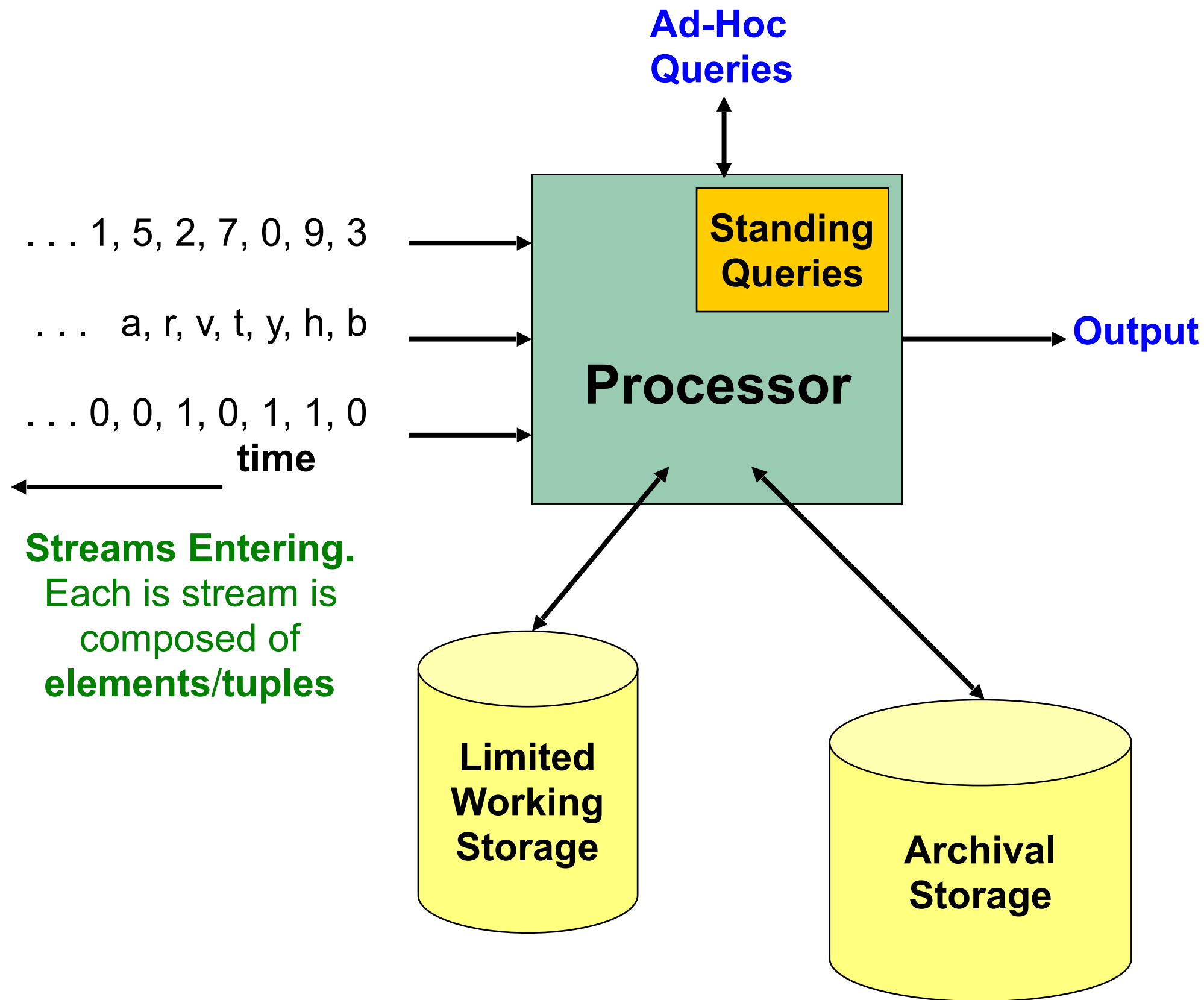
Data Streams

- In many data mining situations, we do not know the entire data set in advance
- **Stream Management** is important when the input rate is controlled **externally**:
 - Google queries
 - Twitter or Facebook status updates
- We can think of the **data** as **infinite** and **non-stationary** (the distribution changes over time)

The Stream Model

- Input **elements** enter at a rapid rate, at one or more input ports (i.e., **streams**)
 - We call elements of the stream **tuples**
- The system cannot store the entire stream accessibly
- **Q:** How do you make critical calculations about the stream using a limited amount of (secondary) memory?

General Stream Processing Model



Problems on Data Streams

- **Types of queries one wants on answer on a data stream:** (we'll do these today)
 - **Sampling data from a stream**
 - Construct a random sample
 - **Queries over sliding windows**
 - Number of items of type x in the last k elements of the stream

Problems on Data Streams

- **Types of queries one wants on answer on a data stream:** (we'll do these next time)
 - **Filtering a data stream**
 - Select elements with property x from the stream
 - **Counting distinct elements**
 - Number of distinct elements in the last k elements of the stream
 - **Estimating moments**
 - Estimate average or std. dev. of last k elements
 - **Finding frequent elements**

Applications (1)

■ Mining query streams

- Google wants to know what queries are more frequent today than yesterday

■ Mining click streams

- Yahoo wants to know which of its pages are getting an unusual number of hits in the past hour

■ Mining social network news feeds

- E.g., look for trending topics on Twitter, Facebook

Applications (2)

■ Sensor Networks

- Many sensors feeding into a central controller

■ Telephone call records

- Data feeds into customer bills as well as settlements between telephone companies

■ IP packets monitored at a switch

- Gather information for optimal routing
- Detect denial-of-service attacks

Sampling from a Data Stream: Sampling a fixed proportion

As the stream grows the sample
also gets bigger

Sampling from a Data Stream

- Since we can not store the entire stream, one obvious approach is to store a **sample**
- **Two different problems:**
 - (1) Sample a **fixed proportion** of elements in the stream (say 1 in 10)
 - (2) Maintain a **random sample of fixed size** over a potentially infinite stream
 - At any “time” k we would like a random sample of s elements
 - What is the property of the sample we want to maintain?
For all time steps k , each of k elements seen so far has equal prob. of being sampled

Sampling a Fixed Proportion

- **Problem 1: Sampling fixed proportion**
- **Scenario:** Search engine query stream
 - **Stream of tuples:** (user, query, time)
 - **Answer questions such as:** How often did a user run the same query in a single days
 - Have space to store $1/10^{\text{th}}$ of query stream
- **Naïve solution:**
 - Generate a random integer in $[0..9]$ for each query
 - Store the query if the integer is 0, otherwise discard

Problem with Naïve Approach

- **Simple question:** What fraction of queries by an average search engine user are duplicates?
 - Suppose each user issues x queries once and d queries twice (total of $x+2d$ queries)
 - **Correct answer:** $d/(x+d)$
 - **Proposed solution:** We keep 10% of the queries
 - Sample will contain $x/10$ of the singleton queries and $2d/10$ of the duplicate queries at least once
 - But only $d/100$ pairs of duplicates
 - $d/100 = 1/10 \cdot 1/10 \cdot d$
 - Of d “duplicates” $18d/100$ appear exactly once
 - $18d/100 = ((1/10 \cdot 9/10) + (9/10 \cdot 1/10)) \cdot d$
 - **So the sample-based answer is**
$$\frac{\frac{x}{10} + \frac{d}{100} + \frac{18d}{100}}{\frac{x}{10} + \frac{d}{100} + \frac{18d}{100}} = \frac{d}{10x + 19d}$$

Solution: Sample Users

Solution:

- Pick $1/10^{\text{th}}$ of **users** and take all their searches in the sample
- Use a hash function that hashes the user name or user id uniformly into 10 buckets

Generalized Solution

■ Stream of tuples with keys:

- Key is some subset of each tuple's components
 - e.g., tuple is (user, search, time); key is **user**
- Choice of key depends on application

■ To get a sample of a/b fraction of the stream:

- Hash each tuple's key uniformly into b buckets
- Pick the tuple if its hash value is at most a



Hash table with b buckets, pick the tuple if its hash value is at most a .

How to generate a 30% sample?

Hash into $b=10$ buckets, take the tuple if it hashes to one of the first 3 buckets

Sampling from a Data Stream: Sampling a fixed-size sample

As the stream grows, the sample is of fixed size

Maintaining a fixed-size sample

- **Problem 2: Fixed-size sample**
- **Suppose we need to maintain a random sample S of size exactly s tuples**
 - E.g., main memory size constraint
- **Why?** Don't know length of stream in advance
- **Suppose at time n we have seen n items**
 - **Each item is in the sample S with equal prob. s/n**

How to think about the problem: say $s = 2$

Stream: a x c y z k c d e g...



At $n=5$, each of the first 5 tuples is included in the sample S with equal prob.

At $n=7$, each of the first 7 tuples is included in the sample S with equal prob.

Impractical solution would be to store all the n tuples seen so far and out of them pick s at random

Solution: Fixed Size Sample

■ Algorithm (a.k.a. Reservoir Sampling)

- Store all the first s elements of the stream to S
- Suppose we have seen $n-1$ elements, and now the n^{th} element arrives ($n > s$)
 - With probability s/n , keep the n^{th} element, else discard it
 - If we picked the n^{th} element, then it replaces one of the s elements in the sample S , picked uniformly at random

■ Claim: This algorithm maintains a sample S with the desired property:

- After n elements, the sample contains each element seen so far with probability s/n

Proof: By Induction

■ We prove this by induction:

- Assume that after n elements, the sample contains each element seen so far with probability s/n
- We need to show that after seeing element $n+1$ the sample maintains the property
 - Sample contains each element seen so far with probability $s/(n+1)$

■ Base case:

- After we see $n=s$ elements the sample S has the desired property
 - Each out of $n=s$ elements is in the sample with probability $s/s = 1$

Proof: By Induction

- **Inductive hypothesis:** After n elements, the sample S contains each element seen so far with prob. s/n
- **Now element $n+1$ arrives**
- **Inductive step:** For elements already in S , probability that the algorithm keeps it in S is:
$$\underbrace{\left(1 - \frac{s}{n+1}\right)}_{\text{Element } n+1 \text{ discarded}} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{s}{n+1}\right)}_{\text{Element } n+1 \text{ not discarded}} \underbrace{\left(\frac{s-1}{s}\right)}_{\text{Element in the sample not picked}} = \frac{n}{n+1}$$
- So, at time n , tuples in S were there with prob. s/n
- Time $n \rightarrow n+1$, tuple stayed in S with prob. $n/(n+1)$
- So prob. tuple is in S at time $n+1 = \frac{s}{n} \cdot \frac{n}{n+1} = \frac{s}{n+1}$

Queries over a (long) Sliding Window

Sliding Windows

- A useful model of stream processing is that queries are about a *window* of length N – the N most recent elements received
- **Interesting case:** N is so large that the data cannot be stored in memory, or even on disk
 - Or, there are *so many streams* that windows for all cannot be stored
- **Amazon example:**
 - For every product X we keep 0/1 stream of whether that product was sold in the n -th transaction
 - We want answer queries, how many times have we sold X in the last k sales

Sliding Window: 1 Stream

■ Sliding window on a single stream:

N = 7

q w e r t y u i o p a **s d f g h j k l** z x c v b n m

q w e r t y u i o p a s **d f g h j k l z** x c v b n m

q w e r t y u i o p a s d **f g h j k l z x** c v b n m

q w e r t y u i o p a s d f **g h j k l z x c** v b n m

← Past Future →

Counting Bits (1)

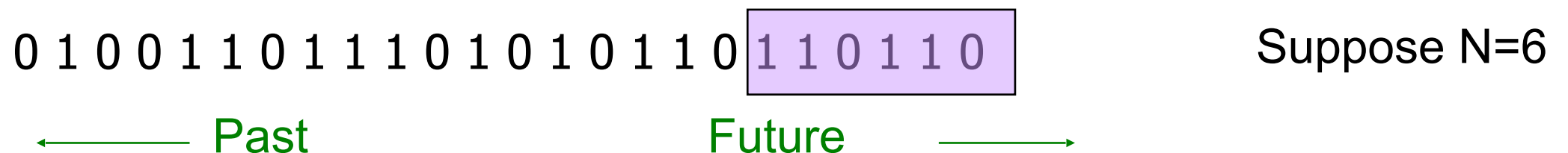
■ Problem:

- Given a stream of **0s** and **1s**
- Be prepared to answer queries of the form
How many 1s are in the last k bits? where $k \leq N$

■ Obvious solution:

Store the most recent N bits

- When new bit comes in, discard the $N+1^{\text{st}}$ bit



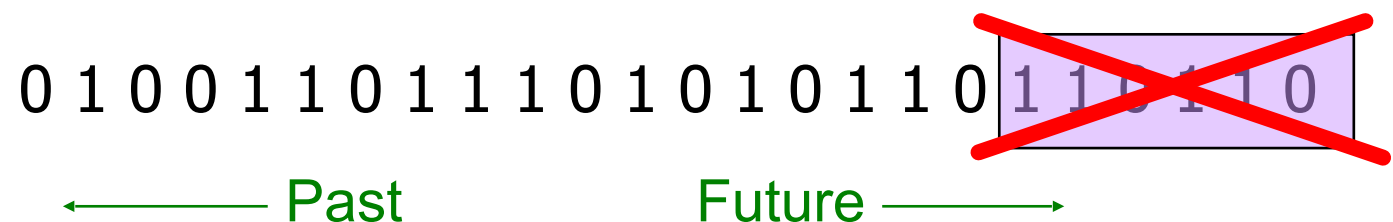
Counting Bits (2)

- You can not get an exact answer without storing the entire window

- **Real Problem:**

What if we cannot afford to store N bits?

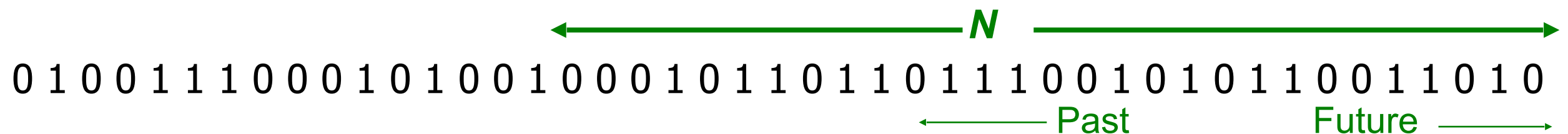
- E.g., we're processing 1 billion streams and
 $N = 1$ billion



- **But we are happy with an approximate answer**

An attempt: Simple solution

- **Q: How many 1s are in the last N bits?**
- A simple solution that does not really solve our problem: **Uniformity assumption**



- **Maintain 2 counters:**
 - S : number of 1s from the beginning of the stream
 - Z : number of 0s from the beginning of the stream
- **How many 1s are in the last N bits?** $N \cdot \frac{S}{S+Z}$
- **But, what if stream is non-uniform?**
 - What if distribution changes over time?

DGIM Method

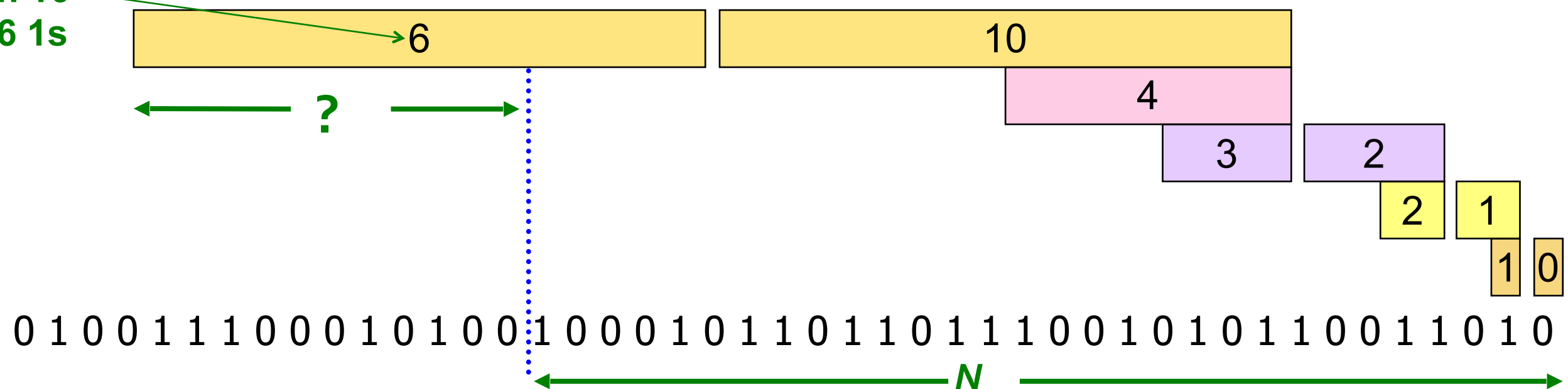
- **DGIM solution that does not assume uniformity**
- We store $O(\log^2 N)$ bits per stream
- **Solution gives approximate answer, never off by more than 50%**
 - Error factor can be reduced to any fraction > 0 , with more complicated algorithm and proportionally more stored bits

Idea: Exponential Windows

■ Solution that doesn't (quite) work:

- Summarize **exponentially increasing** regions of the stream, looking backward
- Drop small regions if they begin at the same point as a larger region

Window of width 16 has 6 1s



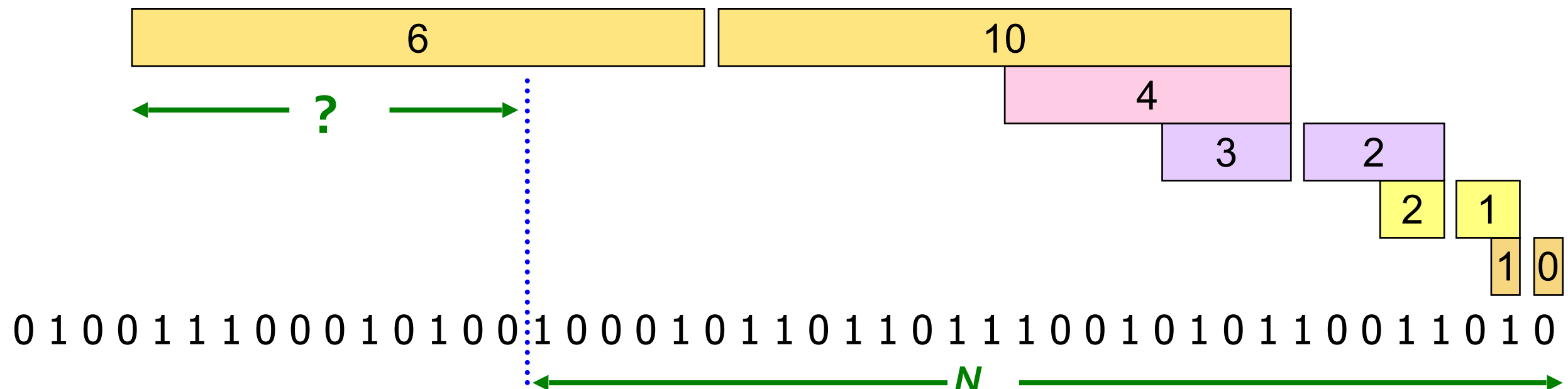
We can reconstruct the count of the last N bits, except we are not sure how many of the last **6 1s** are included in the N

What's Good?

- Stores only $O(\log^2 N)$ bits
 - $O(\log N)$ counts of $\log_2 N$ bits each
- Easy update as more bits enter
- Error in count no greater than the number of **1s** in the “**unknown**” area

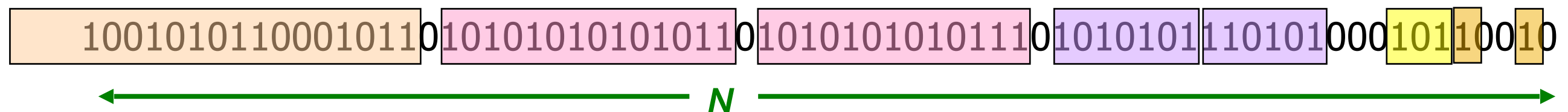
What's Not So Good?

- As long as the **1s** are fairly evenly distributed, the error due to the unknown region is small – **no more than 50%**
- But it could be that all the **1s** are in the unknown area at the end
- In that case, **the error is unbounded!**



Fixup: DGIM method

- **Idea:** Instead of summarizing fixed-length blocks, summarize blocks with specific number of **1s**:
 - Let the block *sizes* (number of **1s**) increase exponentially
- When there are few 1s in the window, block sizes stay small, so errors are small

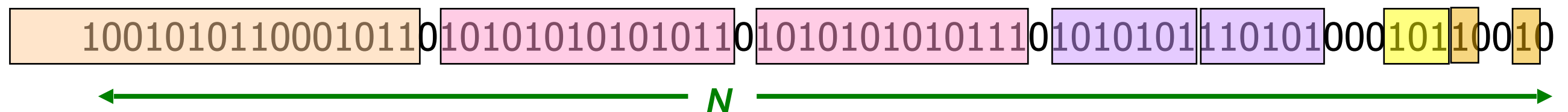


DGIM: Timestamps

- Each bit in the stream has a *timestamp*, starting **1, 2, ...**
- Record timestamps modulo **N** (**the window size**), so we can represent any **relevant** timestamp in $O(\log_2 N)$ bits

DGIM: Buckets

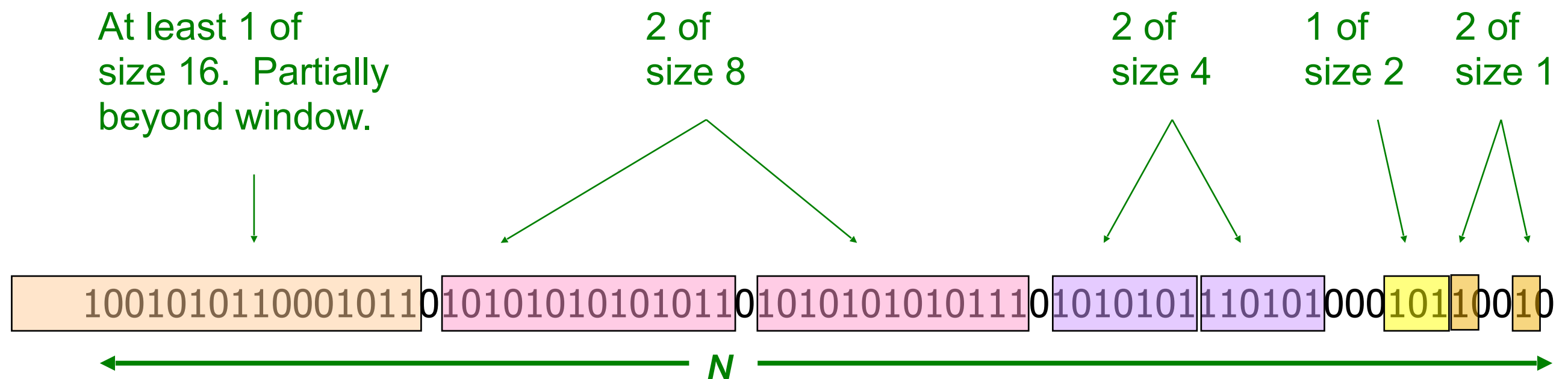
- A *bucket* in the DGIM method is a record consisting of:
 - (A) The timestamp of its end [$O(\log N)$ bits]
 - (B) The number of 1s between its beginning and end [$O(\log \log N)$ bits]
- **Constraint on buckets:**
Number of 1s must be a power of 2
 - That explains the $O(\log \log N)$ in (B) above



Representing a Stream by Buckets

- Either **one** or **two** buckets with the same **power-of-2 number of 1s**
- **Buckets do not overlap in timestamps**
- **Buckets are sorted by size**
 - Earlier buckets are not smaller than later buckets
- Buckets disappear when their end-time is $> N$ time units in the past

Example: Bucketized Stream



Three properties of buckets that are maintained:

- Either **one** or **two** buckets with the same **power-of-2** number of **1s**
- Buckets do not overlap in timestamps
- Buckets are sorted by size

Updating Buckets (1)

- When a new bit comes in, drop the last (oldest) bucket if its end-time is prior to ***N*** time units before the current time
- **2 cases:** Current bit is **0** or **1**
- **If the current bit is 0:**
no other changes are needed

Updating Buckets (2)

- **If the current bit is 1:**
 - (1) Create a new bucket of size 1, for just this bit
 - End timestamp = current time
 - (2) If there are now **three buckets of size 1**, **combine the oldest two into a bucket of size 2**
 - (3) If there are now **three buckets of size 2**, **combine the oldest two into a bucket of size 4**
 - (4) And so on ...

Example: Updating Buckets

Current state of the stream:

1001010110001011 010101010101011 010101010101011 01010101 110101000 1011 0010

Bit of value 1 arrives

001010110001011 010101010101011 010101010101011 01010101 110101000 1011 0010 1

Two orange buckets get merged into a yellow bucket

001010110001011 010101010101011 010101010101011 01010101 110101000 1011 0010 1

Next bit 1 arrives, new orange bucket is created, then 0 comes, then 1:

010110001011 010101010101011 010101010101011 01010101 110101000 1011 0010 11 0 1

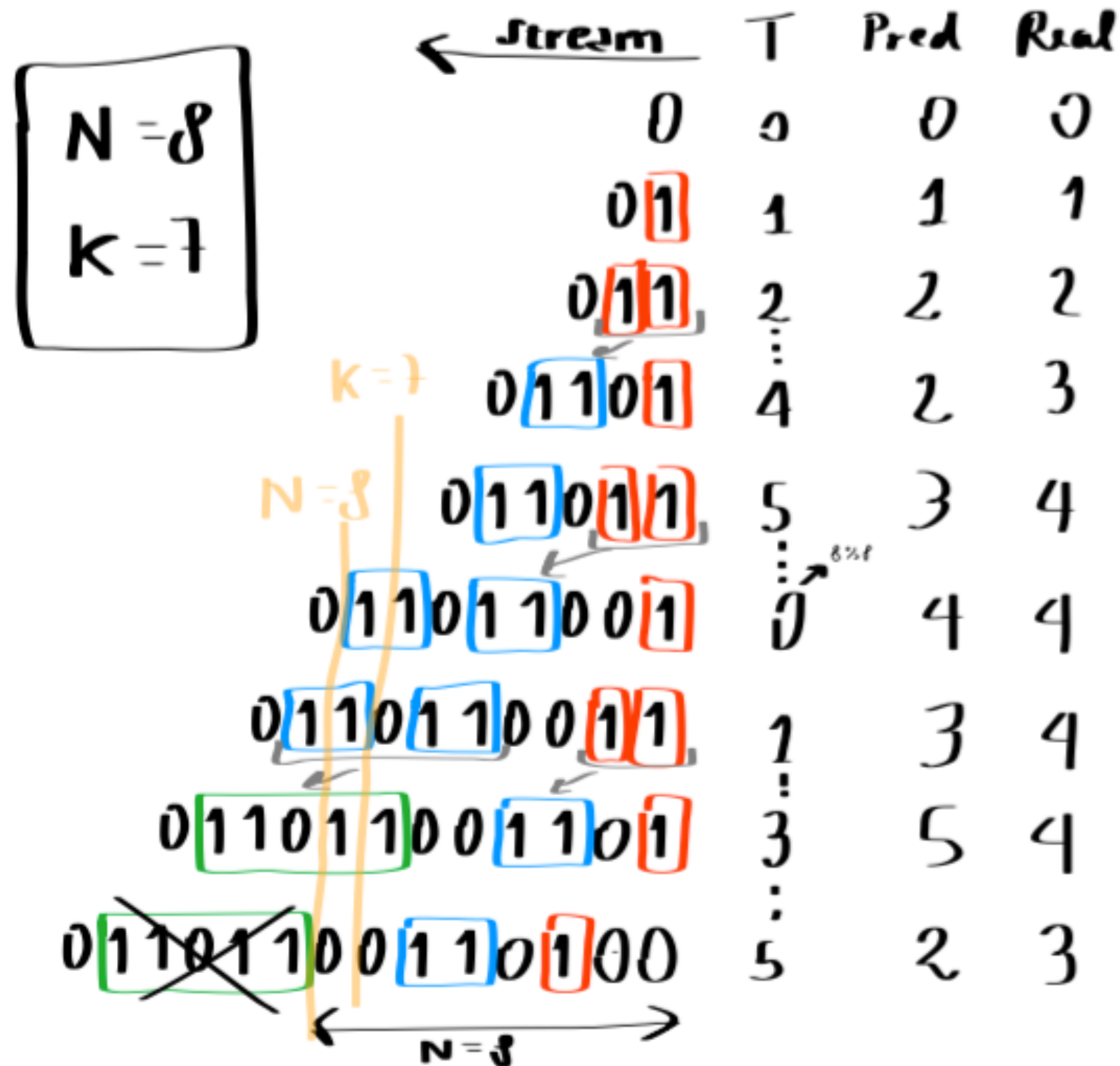
Buckets get merged...

010110001011 010101010101011 010101010101011 01010101 110101000 1011 0010 11 0 1

State of the buckets after merging

01011000101 1010101010101011 010101010101011 01010101 110101000 1011 0010 11 0 1

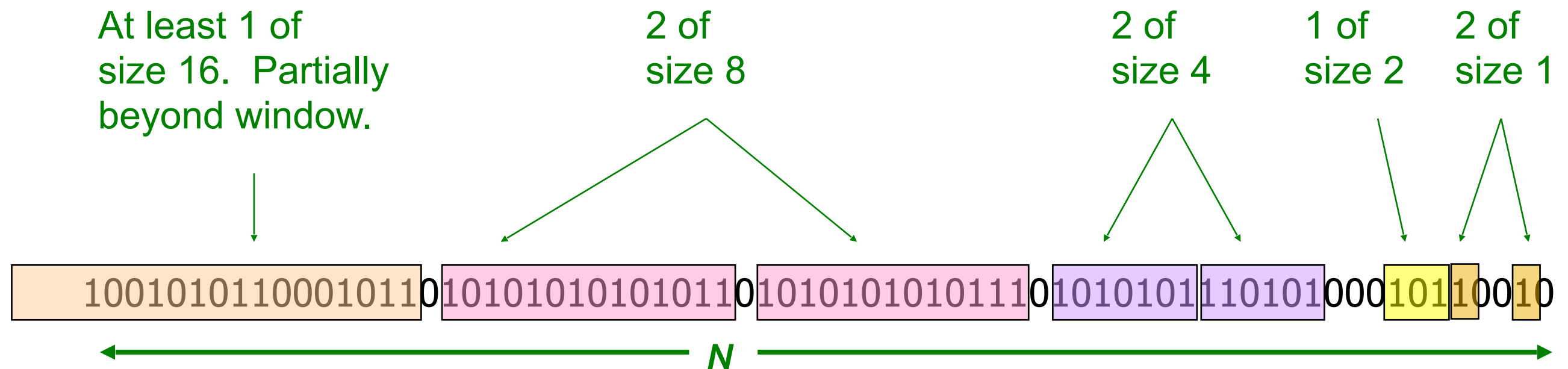
Example: Updating Buckets



How to Query?

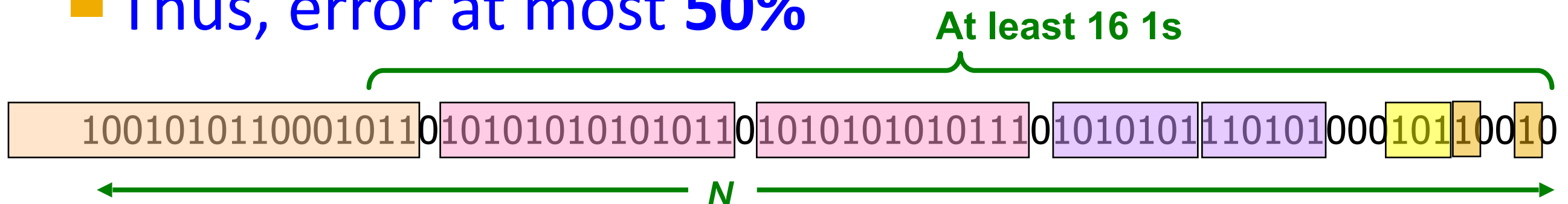
- To estimate the number of 1s in the most recent N bits:
 1. Sum the sizes of all buckets but the last
(note “size” means the number of 1s in the bucket)
 2. Add half the size of the last bucket
- **Remember:** We do not know how many 1s of the last bucket are still within the wanted window

Example: Bucketized Stream



Error Bound: Proof

- **Why is error 50%? Let's prove it!**
- Suppose the last bucket has size 2^r
- Then by assuming 2^{r-1} (i.e., half) of its **1s** are still within the window, we make an error of at most 2^{r-1}
- Since there is at least one bucket of each of the sizes less than 2^r , the true sum is at least $1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^{r-1} = 2^r - 1$
- **Thus, error at most 50%**



Further Reducing the Error

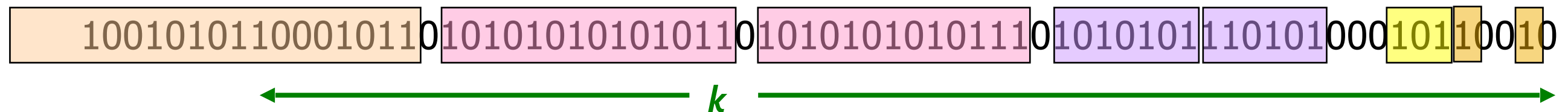
- Instead of maintaining **1** or **2** of each size bucket, we allow either **$r-1$** or **r** buckets (**$r > 2$**)
 - Except for the largest size buckets; we can have any number between **1** and **r** of those
- **Error is at most $O(1/r)$**
- By picking **r** appropriately, we can tradeoff between number of bits we store and the error

Extensions

- Can we use the same trick to answer queries

How many 1's in the last k ? where $k < N$?

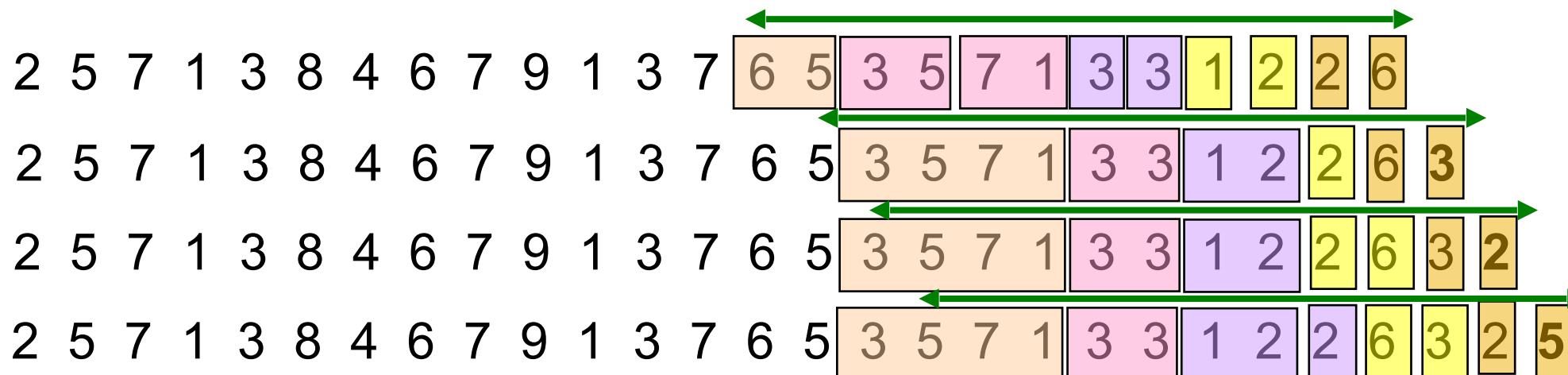
- **A:** Find earliest bucket **B** that at overlaps with k .
Number of 1s is the **sum of sizes of more recent buckets + $\frac{1}{2}$ size of B**



- Can we handle the case where the stream is not bits, but integers, and we want the sum of the last k elements?

Extensions

- **Stream of positive integers**
- **We want the sum of the last k elements**
 - **Amazon:** Avg. price of last k sales
- **Solution:**
 - **(1) If you know all have at most m bits**
 - Treat m bits of each integer as a separate stream
 - Use DGIM to count 1s in each integer
 - The sum is $= \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} c_i 2^i$ c_i ...estimated count for i -th bit
 - **(2) Use buckets to keep partial sums**
 - **Sum of elements in size b bucket is at most 2^b**



Idea: Sum in each bucket is at most 2^b (unless bucket has only 1 integer)
Bucket sizes:

16	8	4	2	1
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Summary

- **Sampling a fixed proportion of a stream**
 - Sample size grows as the stream grows
- **Sampling a fixed-size sample**
 - Reservoir sampling
- **Counting the number of 1s in the last N elements**
 - Exponentially increasing windows
 - Extensions:
 - Number of 1s in any last k ($k < N$) elements
 - Sums of integers in the last N elements