

Dimension Argument

UGTCS

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1 Definitions

$GF(p^k)$ = Galois Field of Cardinality p^k .

2 Random Matrices

Let M be an $n \times n$ matrix on $GF(2)$. Prove that $Pr[\det(M) \neq 0] \geq \frac{1}{4}$

Proof. $\det(M) \neq 0 \iff$ Every column is linearly indep.

$Pr[\text{each column is LI}] = \prod_i Pr[c_1, \dots, c_i \text{ are LI} \mid c_1, \dots, c_{i-1} \text{ are LI}]$ c_1, \dots, c_{i-1} are LI iff $\text{sizeof}(\text{span}(c_1, \dots, c_{i-1})) = 2^{i-1}$

$Pr[c_1, \dots, c_i \text{ are LI} \mid c_1, \dots, c_{i-1} \text{ are LI}] = 1 - \frac{2^{i-1}}{2^n}$

Use inequality:

$$a - x \geq 4^{-x} \forall x \in [0, 0.5]$$

$$\prod_{i=1}^n 1 - 2^{i-1-n} \geq \prod 4^{2^{i-1}-n} = 4^{-(2^{-1}+2^{-2}+\dots+2^{-n})} \geq 4^{-1}$$

□

3 Polynomials

Prove a polynomial of degree d has $\leq d$ real roots using Linear Algebra.

Proof. Represent $c_0x^0 + c_1x^1 + \dots$ as $[c_0, c_1, \dots] \vec{c}$

If we have a root r , then $[1, r, r^2, \dots] \cdot \vec{c} = \vec{0}$

For contradiction, assume $d+1$ roots r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{d+1} , then

$$\mathbb{I} \not\equiv \vec{0}$$

Property of a Vandermonde Matrix V : $\det(V) = \prod_{i \neq j} (\alpha_i - \alpha_j)$

Then the left matrix have all LI columns since no two roots are the same.

□