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# Mining Data Streams (Part 2)

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**Note:** These slides are an adaptation, with more details, of the slides by Jure Leskovec, Anand Rajaraman, Jeff Ullman available at <http://www.mmds.org>

# Main Topics

- **Further Tasks on Data Streams:**
  - **(1) *Filtering* a data stream: *Bloom filters***
    - Select elements with property **x** from Stream
  - **(2) *Counting* distinct elements: *Flajolet-Martin Algorithm***
    - Number of distinct elements in the last **k** elements of the Stream
  - **(3) *Estimating* moments: *AMS Algorithm***
    - Estimate Standard Deviation of last **k** elements of the Stream

# **(1) Filtering Data Streams**

# Filtering Data Streams

- **Stream Model:** Each element of data *Stream*  $X$  is a tuple  $x = \langle \text{key\_1}, \dots, \text{key\_k} \rangle$
- **Input:** Given a list of “good” key-values (items)  $S$  (e.g. a subset of good values for  $\text{key\_1}$ )
- **Task:** Determine and filter those tuples  $x$  of  $X$  having its component  $\text{key\_1}(x)$  in  $S$
- **Trivial solution:** Store all  $S$  in a **Hash\_Table**  $T$  and, for each element  $x$ , **do:** *hash*  $\text{key\_1}(x)$  and verify in  $T$ .
  - **Big Data:** Suppose there is not enough memory to store all of items in  $S$  in a **Hash Table**
    - E.g. we might be processing millions of filters on the same Stream

# Applications

## ■ Example: Email spam filtering

- We know 1 billion “good” email addresses (**key\_1**)
- If an **email** comes from one of these, it is **NOT** *spam*

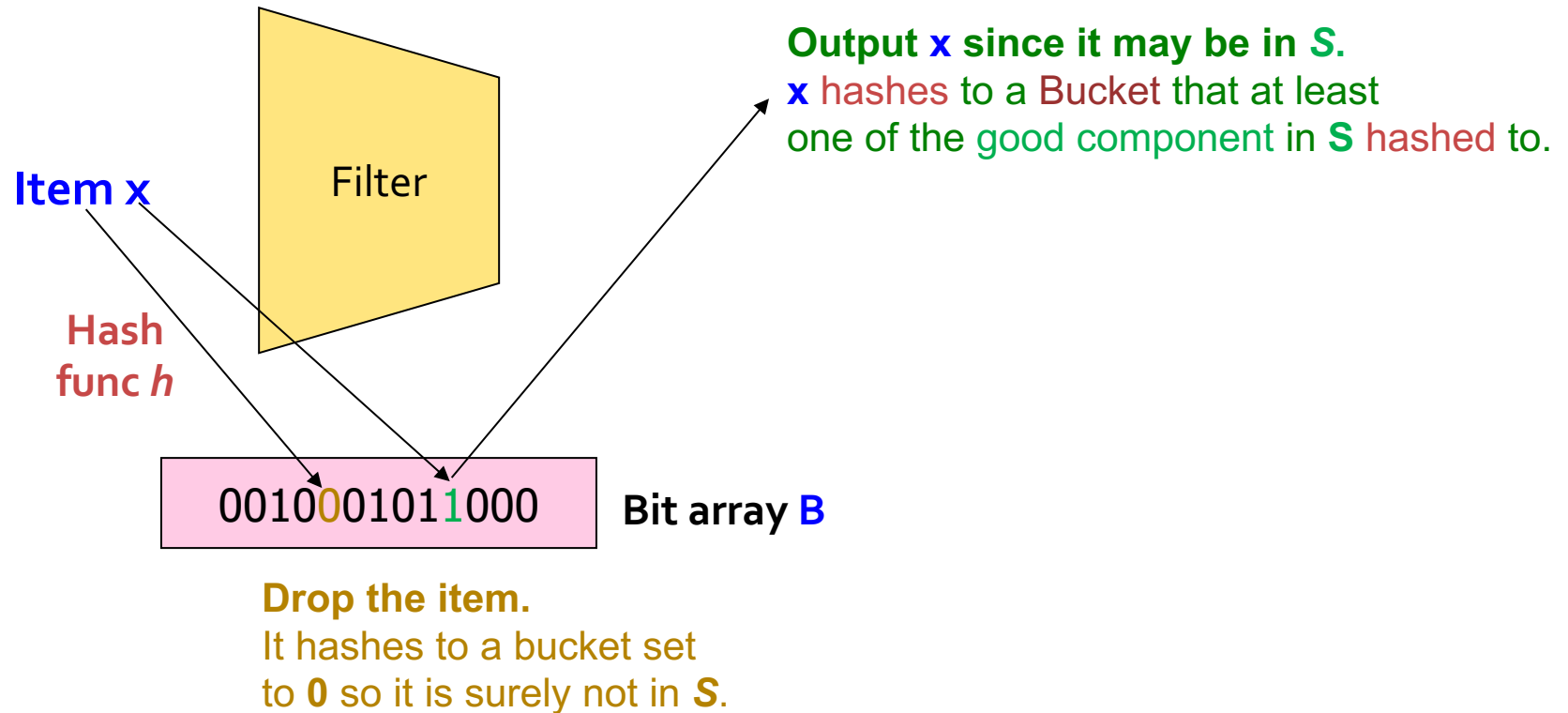
## ■ Publish-subscribe systems

- You are collecting lots of **messages** (news articles)
- People express interest (only) in certain **sets** of **keywords**
- Determine whether each **message** matches user's **interest**

# First-Cut Algorithm

- $U = \{\text{all values for key\_1}\}$ ;  $S = \{\text{good values for key\_1}\}$
- **Phase 1: Pre-processing**
  - Create an array  $B[1\dots n]$  of  $n$  bits, initially all 0s
  - Choose a hash function  $h: U \rightarrow [n]$
  - For each component  $s \in S$  compute  $h(s)$
  - Set  $B[h(s)] = 1$
- **Phase 2: Online** (Let  $x = \langle x_1, \dots, x_k \rangle$  the new stream element)
  - Compute  $h(x_1)$
  - If  $B[h(x_1)] = 1$  then **accept** stream element  $x$

# First-Cut Algorithm: Analysis



- Creates false positives but no false negatives
  - If the key-component of  $x$  is in  $S$  it surely accept it, if not we may still output it

# First-Cut Algorithm: Analysis

- $|S| = m$  (# of good email addresses) e.g. 1 billion  
 $|B| = n$  (size of the hash-array) e.g. 1GB = 8 billion bits
- **THM.** If the email address is in  $S$  (i.e.  $x_1 \in S$ ), then it surely hashes to a bucket that has the bit set to **1**, so it always gets through (*no false negatives*)
- Approximately  $m/n = 1/8$  of the bits are set to **1**, so about  $1/8$  (= Prob[collision]) of the addresses not in  $S$  get through to the output (*false positives*)
  - Actually, less than  $1/8$ , because more than one address might hash to the same bit



# Analysis: Throwing Balls (1)

More accurate analysis for the number of **false positives**.

Assume  $|S| = m$

The size of the Bucket **B** is  $|B| = n$

- **OBS:** For some item **u** from **U**, the probability to hit a *full* bucket is exactly the fraction **ERR** of **full** buckets in **B**. To estimate **ERR**, we play a *balls-into-bins* process:
- If we throw **m** balls into **n** equally likely bins, what is the probability that a bin gets at least one ball?
- **In our case:**
  - **Bin** = buckets:  $0, 1, \dots, n-1$
  - **Balls** = random hash values  $h(\text{Key}_1(x))$  of items in **S**:  $1, 2, \dots, m$
  - **Pr[one ball hits one bin] =  $1/n$**  ( Property of Hash Function  $h(..)$  )

then.....

# Analysis: Throwing Balls (2)

- We have  $m$  balls into  $n$  bins
- What is the probability that a bin gets **at least one** ball?
- $\Pr[\text{Err}] = 1 - (1 - 1/n)^m \simeq 1 - e^{-m/n}$  (using apx:  $(1-x) \simeq e^{-x}$ )
- **Note.** for  $m \ll n$  ,  $\Pr[\text{Err}] \simeq m/n$

# Analysis: Throwing Balls (3)

- **Fraction of 1s (full Bins) in the array B =**  
**= probability of false positive =  $1 - e^{-m/n}$**
- **Example:  $10^9$  balls ( $|S|$ ),  $8 \cdot 10^9$  Bins**
  - Fraction of full bins in **B** =  $1 - e^{-1/8} = 0.1175$ 
    - Compare with our earlier estimate:  $1/8 = 0.125$

# Bloom Filter

- Consider:  $|S| = m$ ,  $|B| = n$
- Use  $k$  independent hash functions  $h_1, \dots, h_k$
- Initialization:
  - Set  $B$  to all 0s
  - Hash each element  $s \in S$  using each hash function  $h_i$ , set  $B[h_i(s)] = 1$  (for each  $i = 1, \dots, k$ ) (note: we have a single array B!)
- Run-time:
  - When a stream element with key  $x$  arrives
    - If  $B[h_i(x)] = 1$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, k$  then declare that  $x$  is in  $S$ 
      - That is,  $x$  hashes to a bucket set to 1 for every hash function  $h_i(x)$
    - Otherwise discard the element  $x$

# Bloom Filter -- Analysis

- What fraction of the bit vector **B** are **1**s?
  - Throwing  $k \cdot m$  balls to  $n$  bins
  - So fraction of **1**s in **B** is  $(1 - e^{-km/n}) \simeq km/n$
- But we have  $k$  mutually-independent hash functions and we only let the element  $x$  through **if all**  $k$  hash element  $x$  to a bucket of value **1**
- So, false **positive probability** =  $(1 - e^{-km/n})^k$

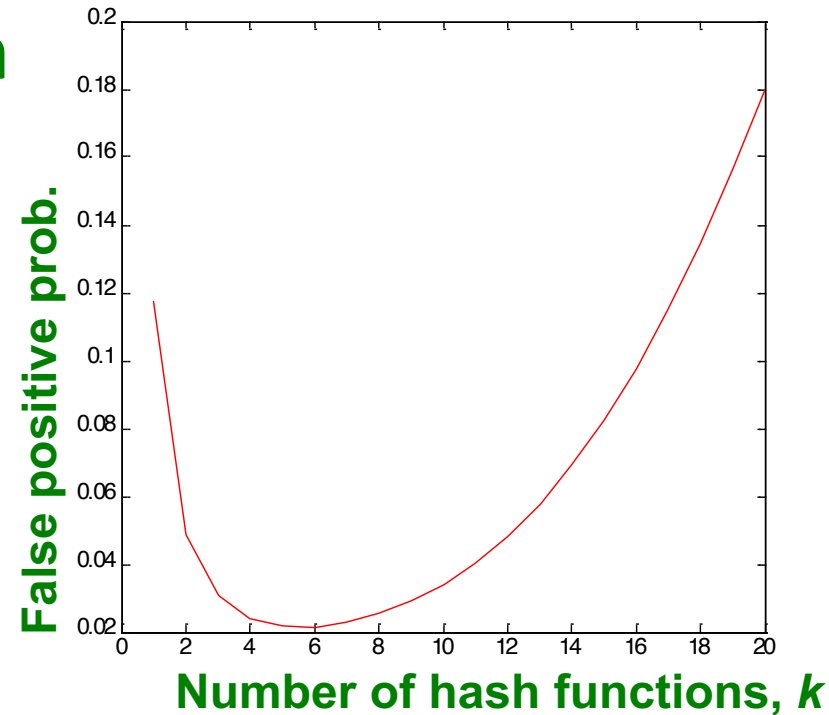
# Bloom Filter – Analysis (2)

- $m = 1$  billion,  $n = 8$  billion

- $k = 1: (1 - e^{-1/8}) = 0.1175$

- $k = 2: (1 - e^{-1/4})^2 = 0.0493$

- What happens as we keep increasing  $k$ ?



- “Optimal” value of  $k$ :  $n/m \ln(2)$

- In our case: Optimal  $k = 8 \ln(2) = 5.54 \approx 6$

- Error at  $k = 6$ :  $(1 - e^{-1/6})^2 = 0.0235$

# Bloom Filter: Wrap-up

- Bloom filters guarantee no false negatives, and use limited memory
  - Great for pre-processing before more expensive checks
- Suitable for hardware implementation
  - Hash function computations can be *parallelized*
- Is it better to have 1 big B or  $k$  small Bs?
  - It is “the same”:  $(1 - e^{-km/n})^k$  vs.  $(1 - e^{-m/(n/k)})^k$
  - But keeping 1 big B is simpler

## (2) Counting Distinct Elements



# Counting Distinct Elements

## ■ Problem:

- Data stream consists of a sequence of elements chosen from a universe set  $U$  of size  $N$
- Maintain a **count**  $d$  of the *number* of distinct elements seen so far in the stream

## ■ Obvious approach: $S \subseteq U \quad (|S| \ll |U|)$

Maintain the *set* of elements seen so far

- That is, keep a **hash table** of all the distinct elements seen so far

# Applications

- How many different words are found among the Web pages being crawled at a site?
  - Unusually low or high numbers could indicate artificial pages (spam?)
- How many different Web pages does each customer request in a week?
- How many distinct products have we sold in the last week?

# Using Small Storage

- **Real problem:** What if we do not have *space* (i.e. *energy*) to maintain the **set** of elements seen so far?
  - **d = # of distinct elements seen so far** } we only need the number!
1. **Goal:** Compute **d**
  2. **Relaxation:** Accept that our **answer** for **d** may have a *little error*, but limit the probability that the error is large

(1)+(2) = Probabilistic Approximation Algorithms

# Flajolet-Martin “*Magic*” Approach

- (Pre-processing) Pick a hash function  $h$  that maps each of the  $N$  elements of  $U$  to *at least*  $\log_2 N$  bits:  
 $h: [N] \rightarrow \{0,1\}^s, s \geq \log N$  (bits)  $U \equiv [N]$
- For each stream element  $a$ , Let (compute  $h(a)$ ) and:
  - $r(a)$  = position of first 1 counting from the right in  $h(a)$ 
    - E.g., say  $h(a) = 01100$  in binary, so  $r(a) = 3$
- Store ↗ of the STREAM
  - Sketch  $R = \max \{ r(a), \text{ over all the items } a \text{ seen so far } \}$
- **Magic THM:** Return  $m = 2^R$  as the *Estimated Value* APX  
for  $d$  (# of distinct elements seen so far)

# Flajolet-Martin “*Magic*” Approach

## Nice Properties of the FM-Algorithm:

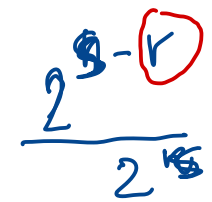

- Repeated occurrences of the same element do not affect the value of **R**: element **a** will always **hash** to the same value **h(a)** (so gets the same **r(a)**).
- Sketch **R** can be easily combined with others: if we have a collection of Sketches  $R_1, R_2, \dots, R_k$  from different Streams and wish to compute **d** in the combined stream, we can simply take
  - $\text{Max}\{R_1, R_2, \dots, R_k\} = \text{MAX} \{ \text{max} \{ r(a) \}_1, \dots, \}$

# Why It Works: Intuition

- Very very rough and heuristic intuition why Flajolet-Martin Algorithm works:

- $h(a)$  hashes  $a$  with **equal prob.** to any of the  $N$  slots
- Then  $h(a)$  is a sequence of  $\text{rnd } \log_2 N$  bits, where  $2^{-r}$  fraction of all  $a$ s have a tail in  $h(a)$  of  $r$  zeros  $\equiv \frac{2^{4-1}}{2^5}$
- About 50% of  $a$ s hash to **\*\*\*0**
- About 25% of  $a$ s hash to **\*\*00**
- So, if we saw the longest tail of  $R=2$  (i.e., item hash ending **\*100**) then we have probably seen **about 4** distinct items so far  $4 = 2^2$
- So, in expectation, it takes to hash about  $d = 2^R$  distinct items before we see one hash with zero-suffix of length  $R$ , i.e.,
- $2^R$  is the expected number of “trials” necessary and sufficient to see a sequence with zero-suffix of length  $R$

# Flajolet-Martin “*Magic*” : Formal Analysis

- Assume  $h: [N] \rightarrow \{0,1\}^s$ , where  $s \geq \log N$  (bits)
- Since  $h$  is a perfect hash function:
- Fact 1.** For any  $a$ , it holds  $\Pr(r(a) \geq r) = 1/2^r$  
- Define *binary r.v.*  $X_r = 1$  iff  $\exists \underline{a}$  in Stream s.t.  $r(\underline{a}) \geq r$
- Fact 2.**  $\Pr(X_r = 1) = 1 - (1-2^{-r})^d$  and  $\Pr[X_r = 0] = (1-2^{-r})^d$
- Remark:**  $d$  = real # of distinct elements seen so far 

Now, for the apx output  $m = 2^R$ , we can compute the Error Probability: for any  $c > 0$ ,

- $\Pr(m > 2^c \cdot d) = \Pr(R > \log d + c) = \Pr(X_{\log d + c} = 1) \leq d / 2^{\log d + c} = 2^{-c}$   
 (we used ineq.  $(1-x)^d \geq 1 - xd$  for “small”  $|xd| < 1$ )
- $\Pr(m < 2^c \cdot d) = \Pr(X_{\log d + c} = 0) \leq \exp(-2^{c-1})$   
 (we used ineq.  $(1-x) \leq \exp(-x)$  for “small”  $|x| < 1$ )

**Example:** for  $c=2$ , we get a 8-apx with Prob  $\geq 2/3$

For more detail, see file: [Flaj\\_Martin\\_Algo\\_Analysis.pdf](#)

# Flajolet-Martin "*Magic*" : Space Complexity

- **Fact.**  $\text{Space}[\text{F-M Algorithm}] = \underline{O(\log \log d)}$ , whp.

**Proof.** It is required to compute and store the quantity  $R$ .

From the previous analysis, it holds, whp,

$$R \leq \log d + c$$



# Large Deviation and Amplification: Informal

- $E[2^R]$  is actually **infinite**
  - Probability halves when  $R \rightarrow R+1$ , but value doubles
- Workaround involves using many hash functions  $h_i$  and getting many sketches  $R_i$
- How are samples  $R_i$  **combined**? SAMPLES = sketches
  - **Average?** What if one very large value  $2^{R_i}$ ?
  - **Median?** All estimates are a power of 2
  - **Solution in Practice:**
    - Partition your samples into small groups
    - Take the **median** of each group
    - Then take the average of the **medians** } OR VICEVERSA?

# Improvements of FM approach

- In [Bar-Yossef, Jayram, Kumar, Sivakumar, Trevisan '04], the authors refine the **FM algorithm** to give:
- a **rnd (1- eps)-apx algorithm** for **d** using overall memory space:

$$\left[ O(\text{eps}^{-2} * \log(1/\text{eps}) ) + 2 \lg \lg n \right]$$

- See the file: [Flaj\\_Martin\\_Algo\\_Analysis.pdf](#)

## (3) Computing Moments

# Generalization: Moments

- Suppose a stream  $I$  has elements chosen from a set  $A$  of  $N$  values
- Let  $m_i$  be the number of times value  $i$  occurs in  $I$
- The  $k^{\text{th}}$  *moment* is

$$\sum_{i \in A} (m_i)^k$$

# Special Cases

$$\sum_{i \in A} (m_i)^k$$

- **0<sup>th</sup> moment** = number of distinct elements
  - The problem just considered
- **1<sup>st</sup> moment** =  $|I|$ 
  - Easy to compute
- **2<sup>nd</sup> moment** = *surprise number S* =  
a measure of how uneven the item  
**distribution** is

# Example: Surprise Number

- Stream of length 100
- 11 distinct values
- Item counts: 10, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9  
Surprise  $S = 910$
- Item counts: 90, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1  
Surprise  $S = 8,110$

# The AMS Method: Informal

- AMS method works for all moments
- Gives an unbiased estimate
- **Today: evaluate the 2<sup>nd</sup> moment  $S$**
- **1st Step. pick and update** a sample of i.i.d random variables  $\{X_j : j = 1 \dots k\}$  defined as follows:
  - For each variable  $X$  we store  $X.el$  and  $X.val$ 
    - $X.el$  corresponds to some item  $i$  of  $I$  (see later...)
    - $X.val$  corresponds to the **count** of future occurrences of  $i$
  - Note this requires a **count** in main memory, so number  $k$  of  $X$ s should be limited

# The AMS Algorithm: Details

- How to set  $X.val$  and  $X.el$ ? (valid for all  $X$ s)
  - **Input:** stream  $I = I[1, \dots, L]$  of length  $L$  (we relax this later)
  - **Pick** some time step  $t$  *u.a.r.* in  $1 \leq t < L$
  - **Set**  $X.el := i$ , where  $i = I[t]$
  - **Compute** counter  $X.val := c$  as the number of  $i$ 's occurrences in the *sub-stream*  $I[t, \dots, L]$
- **Output:** the estimate of the **2<sup>nd</sup> moment**  $\sum_i m_i^2$  is
$$S = f(X) = L \cdot (2 \cdot c - 1)$$
  - **Note:** The algorithm computes *multiple*  $X$ s:  $(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k)$  and the final estimate will be  $S = 1/k \sum_j^k f(X_j)$



# The AMS Algorithm: Analysis

- Let *r.v.s* step **t**, element **i**, count **c**, and stream length **L** defined in the **AMS** Algorithm.
- $E(L \cdot (2 \mathbf{c} - 1)) = \sum_{i=1}^L L \cdot (2 \mathbf{c}(i) - 1) \cdot (1/L)$   
 $= \sum_{i=1}^L L \cdot (2 \mathbf{c}(i) - 1) \quad (*)$

To evaluate (\*), for any fixed  $a \in A$ , let  $j(1), \dots, j(m_a)$  the occurrences of  $a$  in the stream  $I = I[1, \dots, L]$ , then

$$\mathbf{c}(j(1)) = m_a, \mathbf{c}(j(2)) = m_a - 1, \dots, \mathbf{c}(j(m_a)) = 1. (**)$$

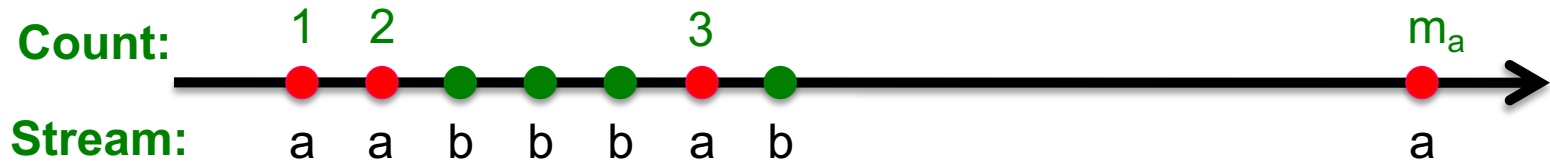
Rewriting (\*) using (\*\*) and grouping w.r.t. each  $a \in A$ :

$$(*) = \sum_{a \in A} \sum_{z=1}^{m_a} (2j-1) \text{ and } \sum_{z=1}^{m_a} (2j-1) = (m_a)^2$$

So,  $E(L \cdot (2 \mathbf{c} - 1)) = E(\mathbf{S}) = \sum_i m_i^2$



# The AMS Algorithm: Analysis



- 2<sup>nd</sup> moment is  $S = \sum_i m_i^2$
- $c_t$  = occurrences of item at time  $t$  appears from time  $t$  onwards ( $c_1 = m_a$ ,  $c_2 = m_a - 1$ ,  $c_3 = m_b$ )

- $E(S) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n n(2c_t - 1)$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_i n (1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + 2m_i - 1)$$

$m_i$  ... total count of item  $i$  in the stream (we are assuming stream has length  $n$ )

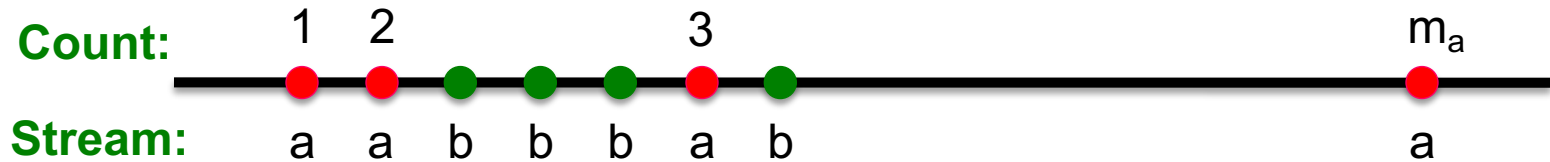
Group times by the value seen

Time  $t$  when the last  $i$  is seen ( $c_t = 1$ )

Time  $t$  when the penultimate  $i$  is seen ( $c_t = 2$ )

Time  $t$  when the first  $i$  is seen ( $c_t = m_i$ )

# The AMS Algorithm: Analysis



- $E(S) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i n (1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + 2m_i - 1)$ 
  - Little side calculation:  $(1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + 2m_i - 1) = \sum_{i=1}^{m_i} (2i - 1) = 2 \frac{m_i(m_i+1)}{2} - m_i = (m_i)^2$
- Then  $E(S = f(X)) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i n (m_i)^2$
- So,  $E(S) = \sum_i (m_i)^2$
- We have the second moment (in expectation)!

# Higher-Order Moments

- For estimating  $k^{\text{th}}$  moment we essentially use the same algorithm but change the estimate:
  - For  $k=2$  we used  $n (2 \cdot c - 1)$
  - For  $k=3$  we use:  $n (3 \cdot c^2 - 3c + 1)$  (where  $c=X.\text{val}$ )
- Why?
  - For  $k=2$ : Remember we had  $(1 + 3 + 5 + \dots + 2m_i - 1)$  and we showed terms  $2c-1$  (for  $c=1, \dots, m$ ) sum to  $m^2$ 
    - $\sum_{c=1}^m 2c - 1 = \sum_{c=1}^m c^2 - \sum_{c=1}^m (c - 1)^2 = m^2$
    - So:  $2c - 1 = c^2 - (c - 1)^2$
  - For  $k=3$ :  $c^3 - (c-1)^3 = 3c^2 - 3c + 1$
- Generally: Estimate =  $n (c^k - (c - 1)^k)$

# Combining Samples

- **In practice (to increase confidence):**
  - Compute  $f(X) = n(2c - 1)$  for as many mutually-indep. variables  $X$  as you can fit in memory
  - Average them in groups
  - Take Median of Averages
- **Problem: Streams never end**
  - We assumed input Stream  $I$  has finite size  $L$ :  
 $I = I[1, \dots, L]$
  - But real streams go on forever, so  $L$  is a variable – the number of inputs seen so far

# Streams Never End: Fixups

- (1) The variables  $X$  have  $L$  as a factor – keep  $L$  separately; just hold the count in  $X$
- (2) Suppose we can only store  $k$  counts.  
We must throw some  $X$ s out as time goes on:
  - **Objective:** Each starting time  $t$  is selected with probability  $k/L$
  - **Solution: (fixed-size sampling!** see previous slides)
    - Choose the first  $k$  time (i.e. elements) for  $k$  variables (deterministic)
    - When the  $L^{\text{th}}$  element arrives ( $L > k$ ), choose it with  $\text{Prob} = k/L$
    - If you choose it, throw one of the previously stored variables  $X$  out, *u.a.r.*

# Mining Data Streams: Pattern Matching

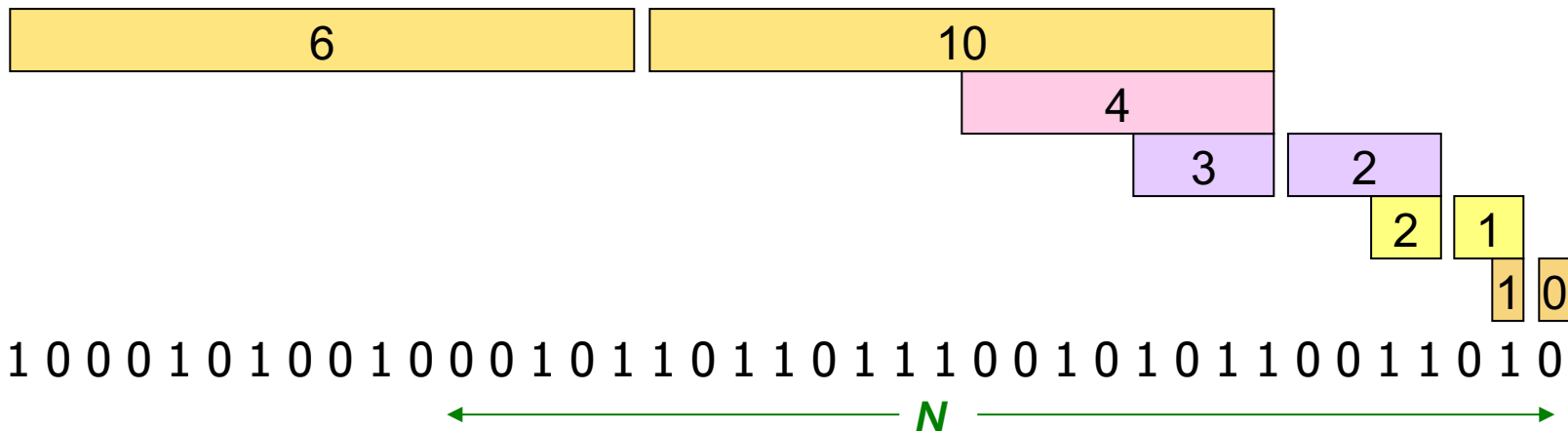
- **Pattern Matching Problem:** *Karp-Rabin's Algorithm*
- **Section 4** delle Note di Prezza su Good Notes
- (fai anche Rabin Hashing)

# Counting Itemsets



# Counting Itemsets

- New Problem: Given a stream, which items appear more than  $s$  times in the window?
- **Possible solution**: Think of the stream of baskets as one binary stream per item
  - **1** = item present; **0** = not present
  - Use **DGIM** to estimate counts of **1s** for all items



# Extensions

- In principle, you could count frequent pairs or even larger sets the same way
  - One stream per itemset
- Drawbacks:
  - Only approximate
  - Number of itemsets is way too big

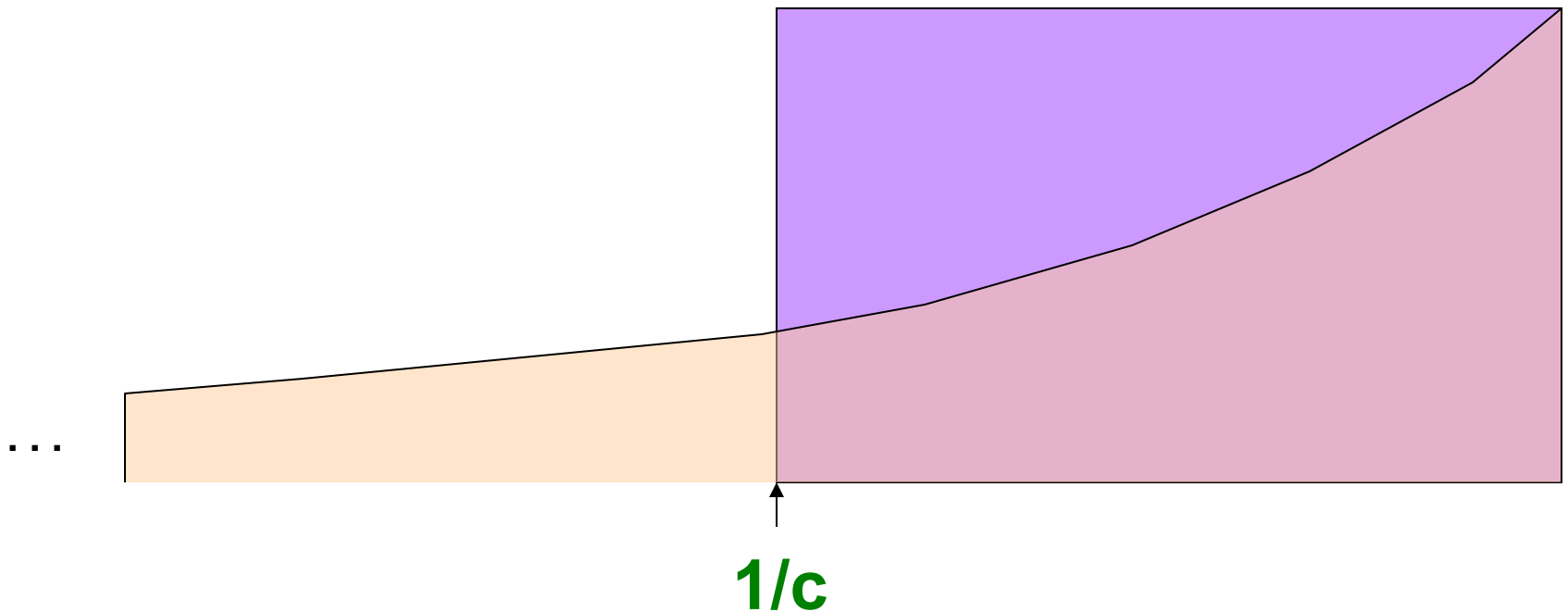
# Exponentially Decaying Windows

- **Exponentially decaying windows: A heuristic for selecting likely frequent item(sets)**
  - **What are “currently” most popular movies?**
    - Instead of computing the raw count in last  $N$  elements
    - Compute a **smooth aggregation** over the whole stream
- If stream is  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  and we are taking the sum of the stream, take the answer at time  $t$  to be:  
$$= \sum_{i=1}^t a_i (1 - c)^{t-i}$$
  - $c$  is a constant, presumably tiny, like  $10^{-6}$  or  $10^{-9}$
- **When new  $a_{t+1}$  arrives:**  
Multiply current sum by  $(1-c)$  and add  $a_{t+1}$

# Example: Counting Items

- If each  $a_i$  is an “item” we can compute the **characteristic function** of each possible item  $x$  as an Exponentially Decaying Window
  - That is:  $\sum_{i=1}^t \delta_i \cdot (1 - c)^{t-i}$   
where  $\delta_i=1$  if  $a_i=x$ , and  $0$  otherwise
  - Imagine that for each item  $x$  we have a binary stream ( $1$  if  $x$  appears,  $0$  if  $x$  does not appear)
  - **New item  $x$  arrives:**
    - Multiply all counts by  $(1-c)$
    - Add  $+1$  to count for element  $x$
- **Call this sum the “weight” of item  $x$**

# Sliding Versus Decaying Windows



- **Important property:** Sum over all weights  $\sum_t (1 - c)^t$  is  $1/[1 - (1 - c)] = 1/c$

# Example: Counting Items

- What are “currently” most popular movies?
- Suppose we want to find movies of weight  $> \frac{1}{2}$ 
  - **Important property:** Sum over all weights  $\sum_t (1 - c)^t$  is  $1/[1 - (1 - c)] = 1/c$
- **Thus:**
  - There cannot be more than  $2/c$  movies with weight of  $\frac{1}{2}$  or more
- So,  $2/c$  is a limit on the number of movies being counted at any time

# Extension to Itemsets

- **Count (some) itemsets in an E.D.W.**
  - What are currently “hot” itemsets?
    - **Problem:** Too many itemsets to keep counts of all of them in memory
- **When a basket **B** comes in:**
  - Multiply all counts by **(1-c)**
  - For uncounted items in **B**, create new count
  - Add **1** to count of any item in **B** and to any **itemset** contained in **B** that is already being counted
  - **Drop counts  $< \frac{1}{2}$**
  - Initiate new counts (next slide)

# Initiation of New Counts

- Start a count for an itemset  $S \subseteq B$  if every proper subset of  $S$  had a count prior to arrival of basket  $B$ 
  - **Intuitively:** If all subsets of  $S$  are being counted this means they are “frequent/hot” and thus  $S$  has a potential to be “hot”
- **Example:**
  - Start counting  $S=\{i, j\}$  iff both  $i$  and  $j$  were counted prior to seeing  $B$
  - Start counting  $S=\{i, j, k\}$  iff  $\{i, j\}$ ,  $\{i, k\}$ , and  $\{j, k\}$  were all counted prior to seeing  $B$



# How many counts do we need?

- Counts for single items  $< (2/c) \cdot (\text{avg. number of items in a basket})$
- Counts for larger itemsets = ??
- But we are conservative about starting counts of large sets
  - If we counted every set we saw, one basket of **20** items would initiate **1M** counts