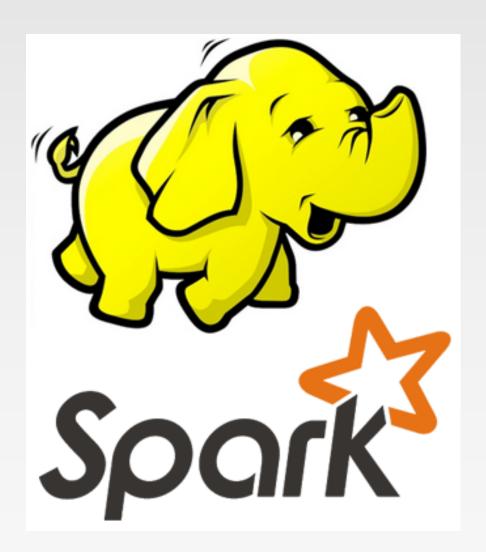
# **COMP9313: Big Data Management**



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Course web site: http://www.cse.unsw.edu.au/~cs9313/

# **Chapter 7: Mining Data Streams**

### **Data Streams**

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

## **Characteristics of Data Streams**

- n Traditional DBMS: data stored in *finite*, *persistent data sets*
- n Data Streams: distributed, continuous, unbounded, rapid, time varying, noisy, . . .
- n Characteristics
  - Huge volumes of continuous data, possibly infinite
  - Fast changing and requires fast, real-time response
  - Random access is expensive—single scan algorithm (can only have one look)
  - Store only the summary of the data seen thus far

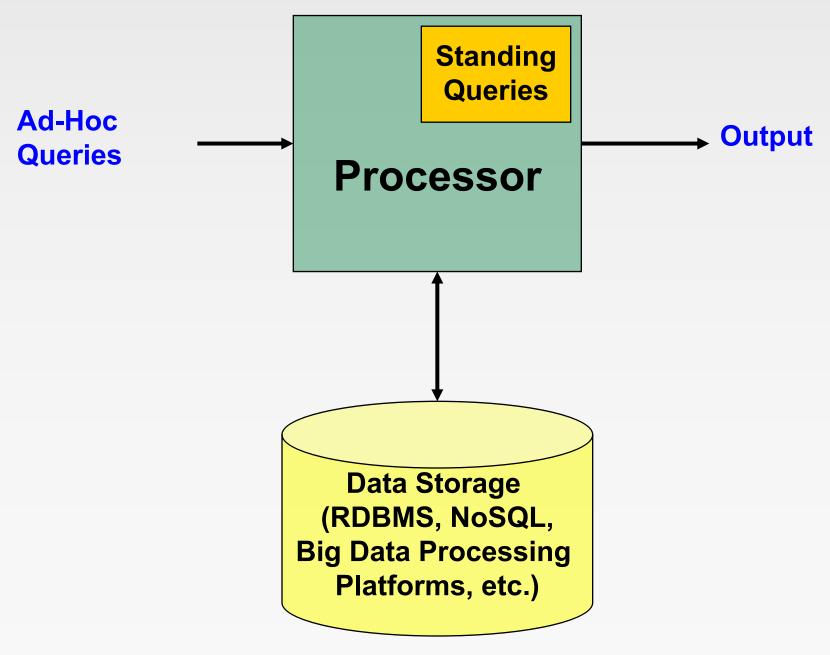
## **Massive Data Streams**

- n Data is *continuously growing* faster than our ability to store or index it
- n There are 3 Billion Telephone Calls in US each day, 30 Billion emails daily, 1 Billion SMS, IMs
- n Scientific data: NASA's observation satellites generate billions of readings each per day
- n IP Network Traffic: up to 1 Billion packets per hour per router. Each ISP has many (hundreds) routers!
- n ... ...

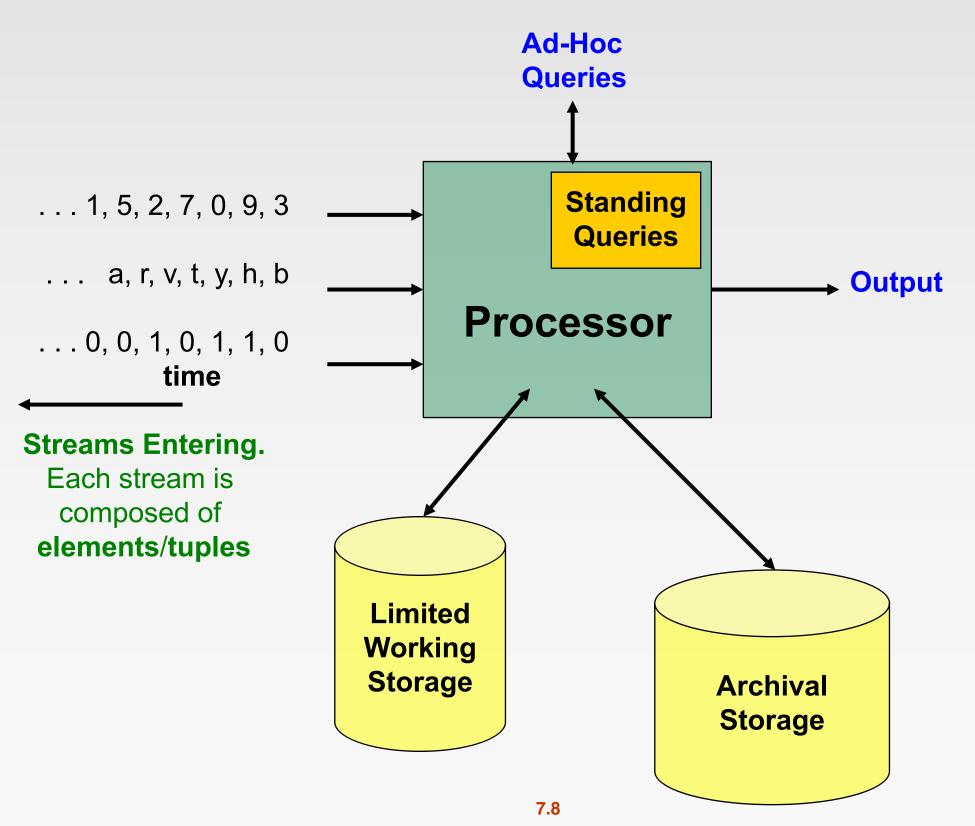
## **The Stream Model**

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

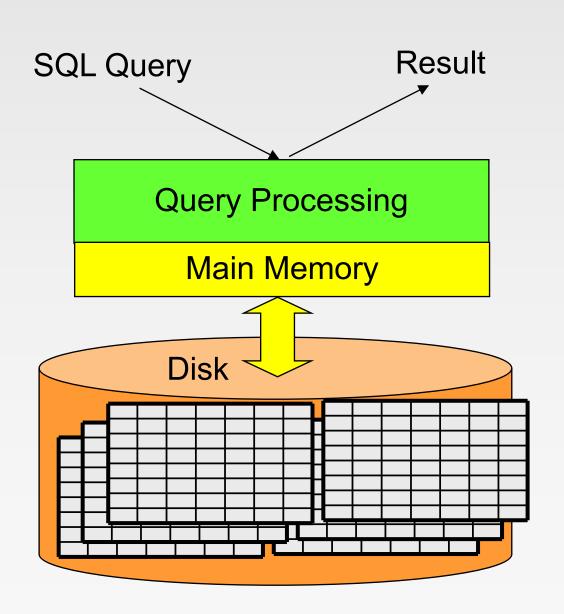
## Database Management System (DBMS) Data Processing

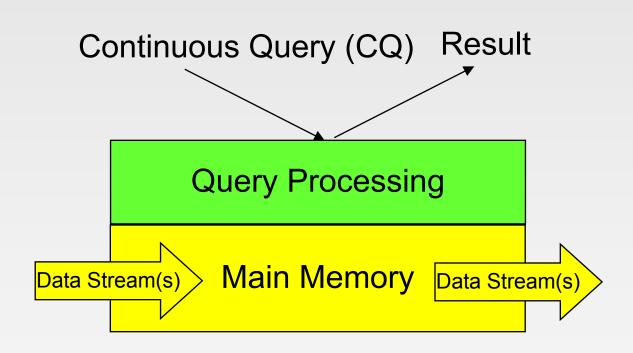


# General Data Stream Management System (DSMS) Processing Model



## DBMS vs. DSMS #1





## DBMS vs. DSMS #2

#### n Traditional DBMS:

- stored sets of relatively static records with no pre-defined notion of time
- I good for applications that require persistent data storage and complex querying

#### n DSMS:

- support on-line analysis of rapidly changing data streams
- data stream: real-time, continuous, ordered (implicitly by arrival time or explicitly by timestamp) sequence of items, too large to store entirely, no ending
- continuous queries

## DBMS vs. DSMS #3

#### **DBMS**

- n Persistent relations (relatively static, stored)
- n One-time queries
- n Random access
- n "Unbounded" disk store
- only current state matters
- n No real-time services
- n Relatively low update rate
- n Data at any granularity
- n Assume precise data
- n Access plan determined by query processor, physical DB design

#### **DSMS**

- n Transient streams (on-line analysis)
- n Continuous queries (CQs)
- n Sequential access
- n Bounded main memory
- n Historical data is important
- n Real-time requirements
- n Possibly multi-GB arrival rate
- n Data at fine granularity
- n Data stale/imprecise
- Unpredictable/variable data arrival and characteristics

## **Problems on Data Streams**

- n Types of queries one wants on answer on a data stream: (we'll learn 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
  - 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

## **Applications**

- n Mining query streams
- n Mining click streams
  - Yahoo wants to know which of its pages are getting an unusual 左去军 number of hits in the past hour
- Mining social network news feeds
  - E.g., look for trending topics on Twitter, Facebook



- n Sensor Networks
  - Many sensors feeding into a central controller きあら
- n Telephone call records
  - Data feeds into customer bills as well as settlements between telephone companies
- n IP packets monitored at a switch
  - Gather information for optimal routing

## **Example: IP Network Data**

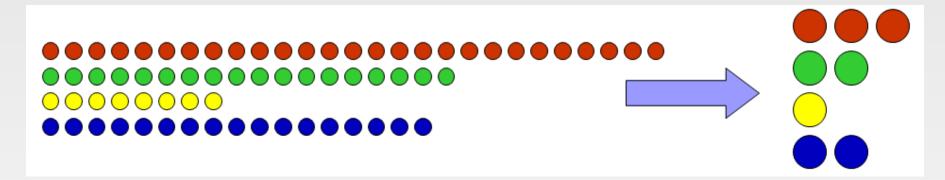


- Networks are sources of massive data: the metadata per hour per IP router is gigabytes
- n Fundamental problem of data stream analysis:
  - Too much information to store or transmit
- n So process data as it arrives
  - One pass, small space: the data stream approach
- n Approximate answers to many questions are OK, if there are guarantees of result quality

# Part 1: Sampling Data Streams

## Sampling from a Data Stream

Since we can not store the entire stream, one obvious approach is to store a sample



- n Two different problems:
  - (1) Sample a fixed proportion of elements in the stream (say 1 in 10)
    - As the stream grows the sample also gets bigger  $/\sqrt{2}$   $\sim$   $\sim$  ?
  - (2) Maintain a random sample of fixed size over a potentially infinite stream
    - As the stream grows, the sample is of fixed size
    - At any "time" *t* we would like a random sample of *s* elements
      - What is the property of the sample we want to maintain? For all time steps t, each of t elements seen so far has equal probability of being sampled

## Sampling a Fixed Proportion

- n Problem 1: Sampling fixed proportion
- n 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<sup>th</sup>** of query stream

#### n 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

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- 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) of is luplicated

- 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 = 1/10·1/10·d 两位新年州

Of d "duplicates" 18d/100 appear exactly once

- 18d/100 = ((1/10·9/10)+(9/10·1/10))·d 召解了其中1%

• So the sample-based answer is  $\frac{\frac{d}{100}}{\frac{x}{10} + \frac{d}{100} + \frac{18d}{100}} = \frac{d}{10x + 19d}$   $\neq d/(x + d)$ 

## **Solution: Sample Users**

#### **Solution:**



- n Pick 1/10th of users and take all their searches in the sample
- n Use a hash function that hashes the user name or user id uniformly into 10 buckets
  - We hash each user name to one of ten buckets, 0 through 9
  - If the user hashes to bucket 0, then accept this search query for the sample, and if not, then not.

## **Generalized Problem and Solution**

- n Problem: Give a data stream, take a sample of fraction a/b.
- n 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
- n 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



#### How to generate a 30% sample?

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

## Maintaining a Fixed-size Sample

- n 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
- n Why? Don't know length of stream in advance
- n 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... Note that the same item is treated as different tuples at different timestamps

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

#### n 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**<sup>th</sup> element, else discard it
  - If we picked the *n*<sup>th</sup> element, then it replaces one of the *s* elements in the sample *s*, picked uniformly at random
- n 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**

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#### n 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)

#### n 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* 内元类被争为 与 ≤ 地类
- Now element *n*+1 arrives
- Inductive step: For elements already in S, probability that the algorithm keeps it in S is:

$$\left(1 - \frac{s}{n+1}\right) + \left(\frac{s}{n+1}\right)\left(\frac{s-1}{s}\right) = \frac{n}{n+1}$$
Element **n+1** discarded Element in the not discarded sample not picked

- 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  $n+1 = \frac{s}{n} \cdot \frac{n}{n+1} = \frac{s}{n+1}$

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# Part 2: Querying Data Streams

## **Sliding Windows**

- n A useful model of stream processing is that queries are about a window of length N – the N most recent elements received
- n 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
- n 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

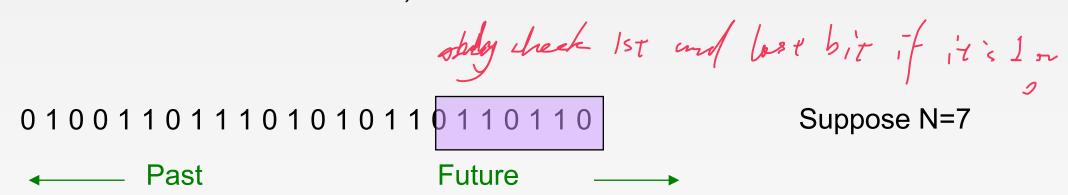
n Sliding window on a single stream:

N = 7q w e r t y u i o p a s d f g h j k 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)**

#### n Problem:

- Given a stream of **0**s and **1**s
- Be prepared to answer queries of the form: How many 1s are in the last k bits? where  $k \le N$
- n Obvious solution:
  - Store the most recent **N** bits
    - ▶ When new bit comes in, discard the *N*+1st bit



# Counting Bits (2)

- n You can not get an exact answer without storing the entire window
- n Real Problem:
  - What if we cannot afford to store N bits?
    - **E.g.**, we're processing 1 billion streams and N = 1 billion

n 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

0 1 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 1 1 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 1

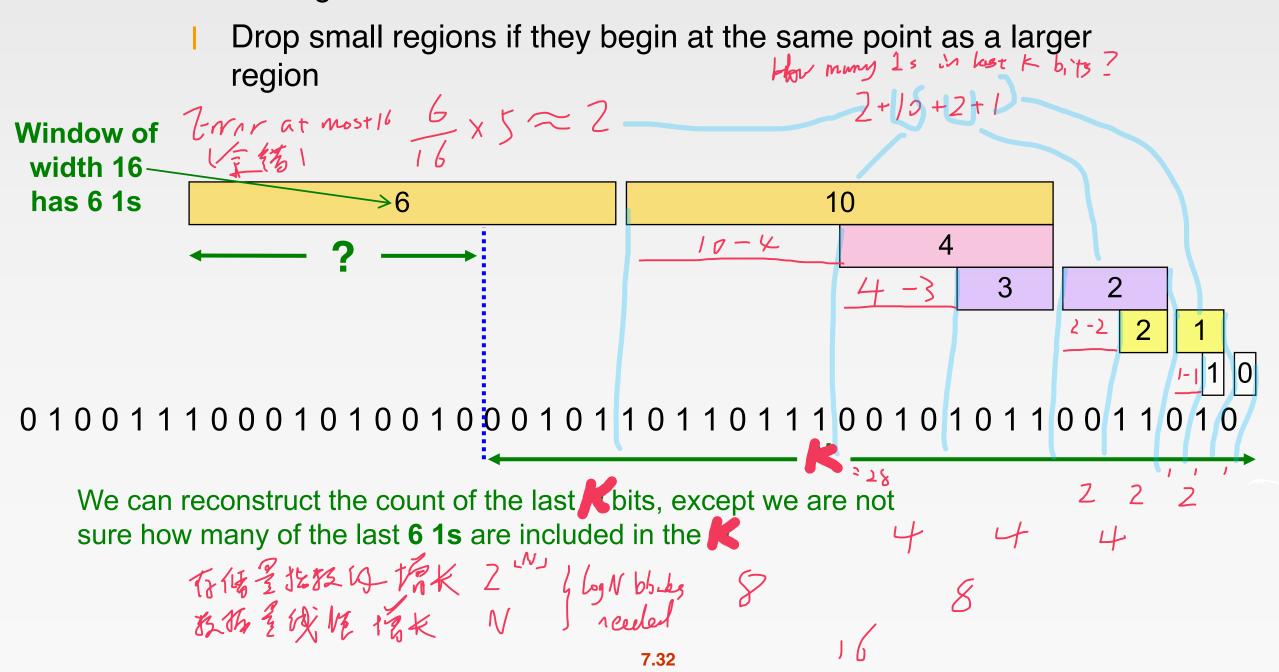
- Maintain 2 counters:
  - S: number of 1s from the beginning of the stream
  - **Z**: number of 0s from the beginning of the stream
- How many 1s are in the last **N** bits?  $N \cdot \frac{s}{s+z}$
- But, what if stream is non-uniform?
  - What if distribution changes over time?

# The Datar-Gionis-Indyk-Motwani (DGIM) Algorithm

- Maintaining Stream Statistics over Sliding Windows (SODA'02)
- 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

- n Solution that doesn't (quite) work:
  - Summarize **exponentially increasing** regions of the stream, looking backward



## What's Good?

- Stores only  $O(\log^2 N)$  bits
  - $O(\log N)$  counts of  $\log_2 N$  bits each

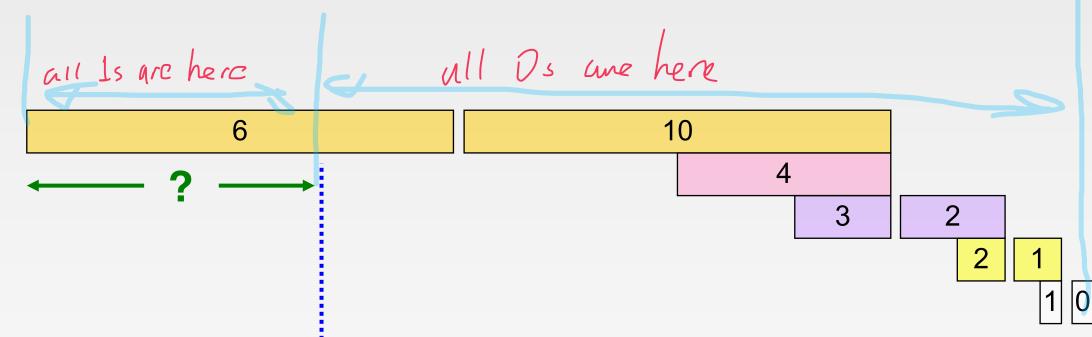
At most Z blocks of same size => 2 by N } Z by N · by N

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?

- n 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
- n In that case, the error is unbounded!



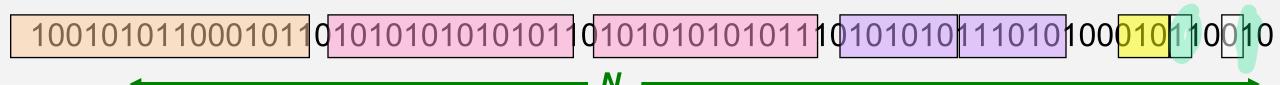
$$7ex_{1}(t) = \frac{6}{16}, 5 \approx 2$$

$$4y_{1}th = 0$$

$$2m_{1} + 2m_{2} + 2m_{3} + 2m_{4} = \frac{2}{0} \rightarrow \infty$$

# Fixup: DGIM Algorithm

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



# **DGIM: Timestamps**

10 or 1

- Each bit in the stream has a timestamp, starting from 1, 2, ...
- Record timestamps modulo N (the window size), so we can represent any relevant timestamp in O(log<sub>2</sub>N) bits
  - E.g., given the windows size 40 (N), timestamp 123 will be recorded as 3, and thus the encoding is on 3 rather than 123

#### Ո։ 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  $[\mathbf{0}(\log N)]$ Constraint on buckets:

    Number of 1s must be a power of 2

    That explains the  $O(\log \log N)$  in (B) above

    Output

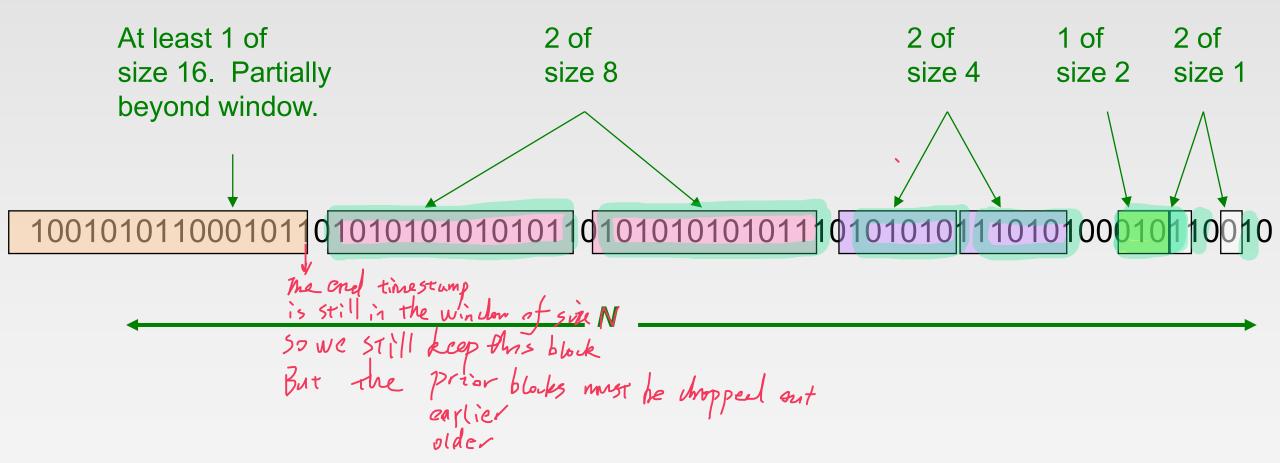
    Description:

    Output

# Representing a Stream by Buckets

- n The right end of a bucket is always a position with a 1
- n Every position with a 1 is in some bucket
- n Either one or two buckets with the same power-of-2 number of 1s
- n Buckets do not overlap in timestamps
- n Buckets are sorted by size
  - Earlier buckets are not smaller than later buckets
- n Buckets disappear when their end-time is > N time units in the past

# **Example: Bucketized Stream**



- n 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**

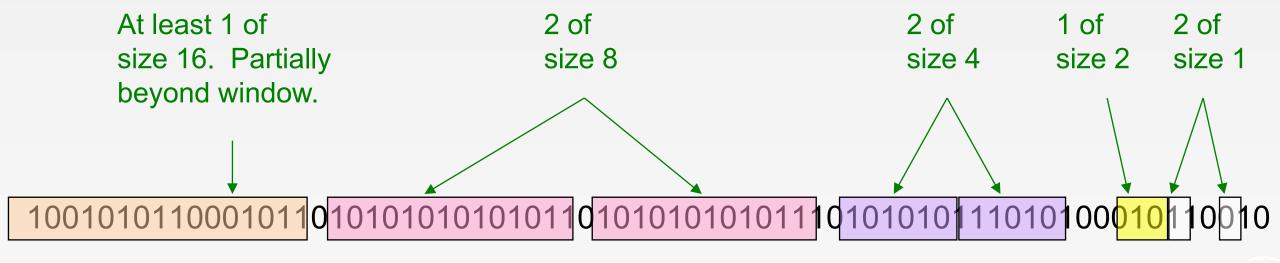
- When a new bit comes in, drop the last (oldest) bucket if its end-time is prior to **N** time units before the current time
- 2 cases: Current bit is **0** or **1**
- If the current bit is 0: no other changes are needed  $f \circ b = k$ but timestamps still grows
- If the current bit is 1:
  - (1) 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:** Bit of value 1 arrives Two white buckets get merged into a yellow bucket Next bit 1 arrives, new orange white is created, then 0 comes, then 1: **Buckets get merged...** State of the buckets after merging

## **How to Query?**

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



#### **Error Bound: Proof**

- n Why is error 50%? Let's prove it!
- Suppose the last bucket has size 2<sup>r</sup>
- Then by assuming  $2^{r-1}$  (i.e., half) of its 1s are still within the window, we make an error of at most  $2^{r-1}$  worst case:  $\begin{cases} 2^{r} & \text{many "13} & \text{in the last bucket} \end{cases}$
- n Since there is at least one bucket of each of the sizes less than **2**<sup>r</sup>, the true sum is at least

Smallest true ans =  $1+2+4+...+2^{r-1}=2^r-1+1 \rightarrow \text{there is at least one "1" in the last bucket$ 

n Thus, error at most 50%

At least 16 1s

# 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
- n Error is at most O(1/r)
- ${\sf n}$  By picking  ${\it r}$  appropriately, we can tradeoff between number of bits we store and the error

# **Extensions (optional)**

- n 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**.

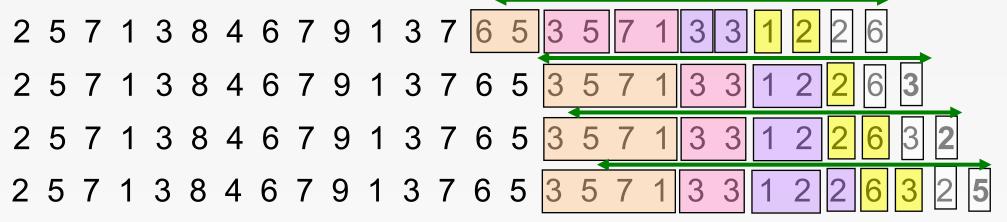
    Number of **1s** is the **sum of sizes of more recent buckets** + ½ **size of B**



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

# **Extensions (optional)**

- 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
    - $c_i$  ... estimated count for **i-th** bit • The sum is  $=\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} c_i 2^i$
  - (2) Use buckets to keep partial sums
    - Sum of elements in size b bucket is at most 2b



Idea: Sum in each bucket is at most 26 (unless bucket has only 1 integer) **Bucket sizes:** 



# **Summary**

- n Sampling a fixed proportion of a stream
  - Sample size grows as the stream grows
- n Sampling a fixed-size sample
  - Reservoir sampling
- n 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

# Part 3: Filtering Data Streams

# Filtering Data Streams

- n Each element of data stream is a tuple
- n Given a list of keys S
- n Determine which tuples of stream are in S
- n Obvious solution: Hash table
  - But suppose we do not have enough memory to store all of S in a hash table
    - ▶ E.g., we might be processing millions of filters on the same stream

## **Applications**

- n Example: Email spam filtering
  - We know 1 billion "good" email addresses
  - If an email comes from one of these, it is **NOT** spam
- n Publish-subscribe systems
  - You are collecting lots of messages (news articles)
  - People express interest in certain sets of keywords
  - Determine whether each message matches user's interest

# First Cut Solution (1)

Given a set of keys S that we want to filter

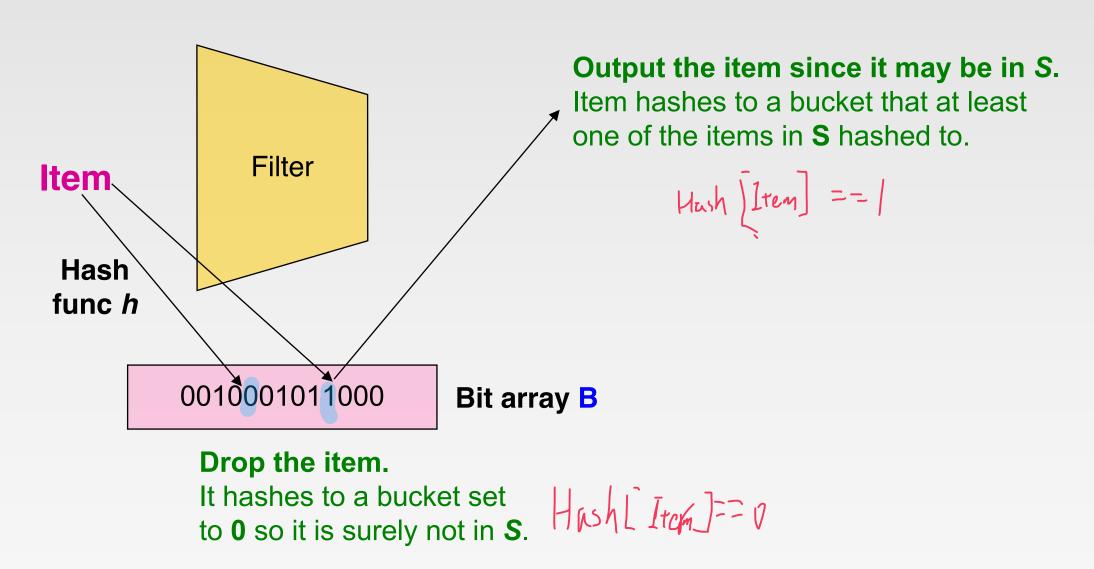


- Create a bit array B of n bits, initially all 0s
- n Choose a **hash function** *h* with range [0,n)



- n Hash each member of  $s \in S$  to one of n buckets, and set that bit to 1, i.e., B[h(s)]=1
- n Hash each element a of the stream and output only those that hash to bit that was set to 1
  - Output a if B[h(a)] == 1

# First Cut Solution (2)



- n Creates false positives but no false negatives
  - If the item is in **S** we surely output it, if not we may still output it

# First Cut Solution (3)

- n ISI = 1 billion email addresses IBI= 1GB = 8 billion bits
- n If the email address is in *S*, then it surely hashes to a bucket that has the big set to 1, so it always gets through (*no false negatives*)
  - False negative: a result indicates that a condition failed, while it actually was successful
- n Approximately 1/8 of the bits are set to 1, so about 1/8th of the addresses not in S get through to the output (*false positives*)
  - False positive: a result that indicates a given condition has been fulfilled, when it actually has not been fulfilled
  - Actually, less than 1/8th, because more than one address might hash to the same bit
  - Since the majority of emails are spam, eliminating 7/8th of the spam is a significant benefit

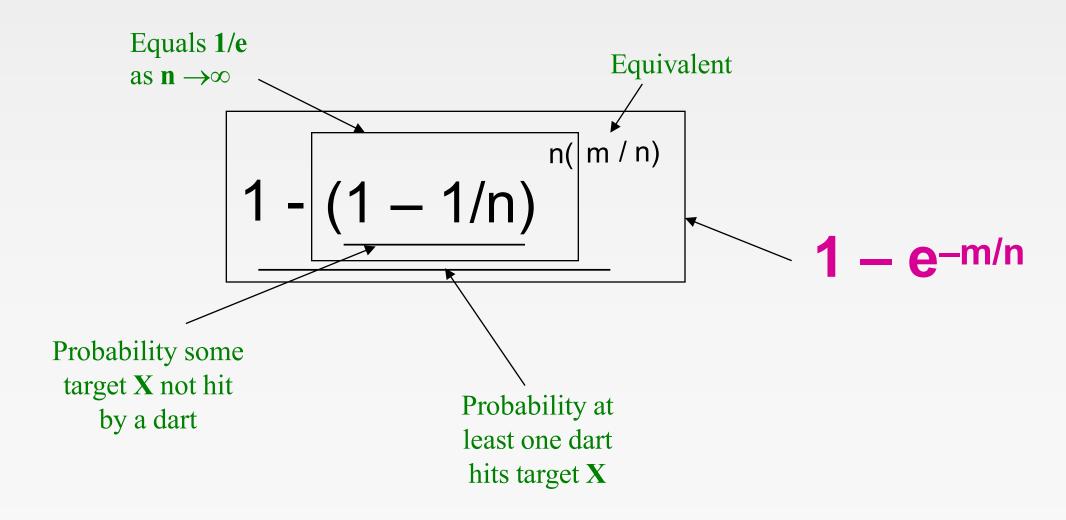
# **Analysis: Throwing Darts (1)**

- n More accurate analysis for the number of false positives
- n Consider: If we throw *m* darts into *n* equally likely targets, what is the probability that a target gets at least one dart?
- n In our case:
  - **Targets** = bits/buckets
  - **Darts** = hash values of items

$$P( \overline{x} T \partial_{x} + \overline{x} + \overline{x} T ) = (1 - \frac{1}{n})^{m}$$
  
 $= (1 - \frac{1}{n})^{n} - \frac{1}{n}$   
 $= (1 - \frac{1}{n})^{n} - \frac{1}{n}$ 

# **Analysis: Throwing Darts (2)**

- n We have *m* darts, *n* targets
- n What is the probability that a target gets at least one dart?



# **Analysis: Throwing Darts (3)**

- n Fraction of 1s in the array B = probability of false positive =  $1 e^{-m/n}$
- n Example: 109 darts, 8 · 109 targets
  - Fraction of 1s in  $B = 1 e^{-1/8} = 0.1175$ 
    - ▶ Compare with our earlier estimate: 1/8 = 0.125

### **Bloom Filter**

- n Consider: ISI = m, IBI = n
- n Use k independent hash functions  $h_1, \ldots, h_k$
- n 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,..., k)

#### n Run-time:

- When a stream element with key **x** arrives
  - If  $B[h_i(x)] = 1$  for all i = 1,..., 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 Example**

- n Consider a Bloom filter of size m=10 and number of hash functions k=3. Let H(x) denote the result of the three hash functions.
- n The 10-bit array is initialized as below

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

n Insert  $x_0$  with  $H(x_0) = \{1, 4, 9\}$ 

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1

n Insert  $x_1$  with  $H(x_1) = \{4, 5, 8\}$ 

									9
0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1

n Query  $y_0$  with  $H(y_0) = \{0, 4, 8\} = > ???$ 

n Query  $y_1$  with  $H(y_1) = \{1, 5, 8\} \Rightarrow ???$  False positive!

n Another Example: https://llimllib.github.io/bloomfilter-tutorial/

# **Bloom Filter – Analysis**

- n What fraction of the bit vector B are 1s?
  - Throwing **k m** darts at **n** targets
  - So fraction of 1s is  $(1 e^{-km/n})$
- But we have k independent hash functions and we only let the element x through if all k hash element x to a bucket of value 1

did we do that in Bloom Filter? Of course

So, false positive probability =  $(1 - e^{-km/n})^k$ 

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \left[ \left| - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right) \right|^{km} \right]^{k}$$

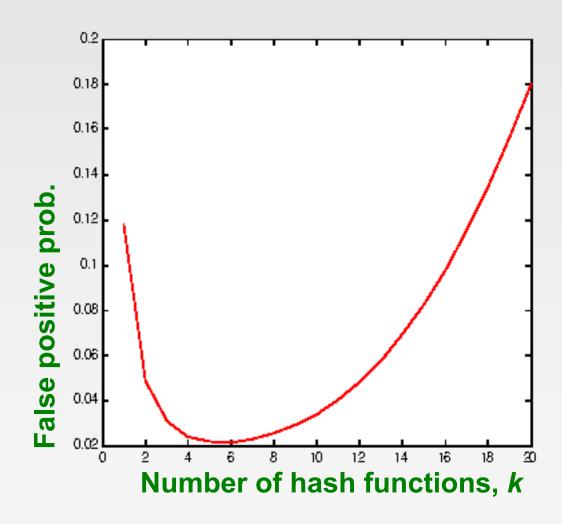
$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} \left[ \left| - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right) \right|^{n} \right]^{k}$$

$$= \left( \left| - \frac{1}{n} \right|^{km} \right)^{k}$$

# Bloom Filter – Analysis (2)

- n m = 1 billion, n = 8 billion
  - $k = 1: (1 e^{-1/8}) = 0.1175$
  - $k = 2: (1 e^{-1/4})^2 = 0.0493$

n What happens as we keep increasing *k*?



- n "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**

- n Bloom filters guarantee no false negatives, and use limited memory
  - Great for pre-processing before more expensive checks
- n Suitable for hardware implementation
  - Hash function computations can be parallelized
- n 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

# References

n Chapter 4, Mining of Massive Datasets.

# **End of Chapter 7**

# Part 4: Counting Data Streams (Sketch)

## **Counting Distinct Elements**

- n Problem:
  - Data stream consists of a universe of elements chosen from a set of size **N**
  - Maintain a count of the number of distinct elements seen so far
- n Example:

Data stream: 3 2 5 3 2 1 7 5 1 2 3 7

Number of distinct values: 5

- Obvious approach: Maintain the set of elements seen so far
  - I That is, keep a hash table of all the distinct elements seen so far

# **Applications**

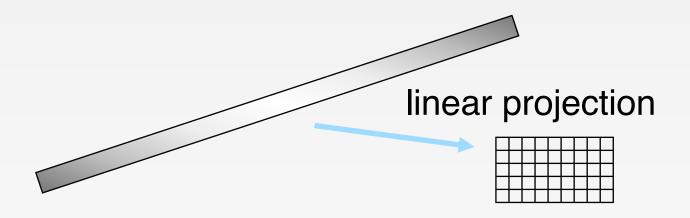
- n How many different words are found among the Web pages being crawled at a site?
  - Unusually low or high numbers could indicate artificial pages (spam?)
- n How many different Web pages does each customer request in a week?
- n How many distinct products have we sold in the last week?

# **Using Small Storage**

- n Real problem: What if we do not have space to maintain the set of elements seen so far?
- n Estimate the count in an unbiased way
- n Accept that the count may have a little error, but limit the probability that the error is large

#### **Sketches**

- n Sampling does not work!
  - If a large fraction of items aren't sampled, don't know if they are all same or all different
- n Sketch: a technique takes advantage that the algorithm can "see" all the data even if it can't "remember" it all
- n Essentially, sketch is a linear transform of the input
  - Model stream as defining a vector, sketch is result of multiplying stream vector by an (implicit) matrix



# Flajolet-Martin Sketch

- n Probabilistic Counting Algorithms for Data Base Applications. 1985.
- n Pick a hash function h that maps each of the N elements to at least log<sub>2</sub> N bits
- For each stream element a, let r(a) be the number of trailing 0s in h(a)
  - $\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{a})$  = position of first 1 counting from the right
    - ▶ E.g., say *h(a) = 12*, then *12* is *1100* in binary, so *r(a) = 2*
- n Record R =the maximum r(a) seen
  - $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{max}_{\mathbf{a}} \mathbf{r(a)}$ , over all the items  $\mathbf{a}$  seen so far
- Estimated number of distinct elements =  $2^R$

# Why It Works: Intuition

- n Very very rough and heuristic intuition why Flajolet-Martin works:
  - I h(a) hashes a with equal prob. to any of N values
  - Then *h(a)* is a sequence of  $log_2 N$  bits, where  $2^{-r}$  fraction of all as have a tail of r zeros
    - ▶ About 50% of *a*s hash to \*\*\*0
    - About 25% of as 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
  - So, it takes to hash about  $2^r$  items before we see one with zero-suffix of length r

# Why It Works: More formally

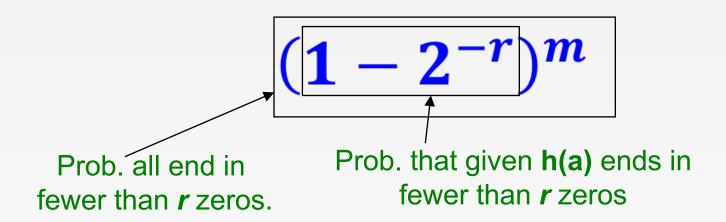
- Formally, we will show that probability of finding a tail of r zeros:
  - Goes to 1 if  $m \gg 2^r$
  - Goes to 0 if  $m \ll 2^r$

where m is the number of distinct elements seen so far in the stream

Thus, 2<sup>R</sup> will almost always be around m!

# Why It Works: More formally

- The probability that a given h(a) ends in at least r zeros is  $2^{-r}$ 
  - h(a) hashes elements uniformly at random
  - Probability that a random number ends in at least r zeros is 2-r
- Then, the probability of **NOT** seeing a tail of length *r* among *m* elements:

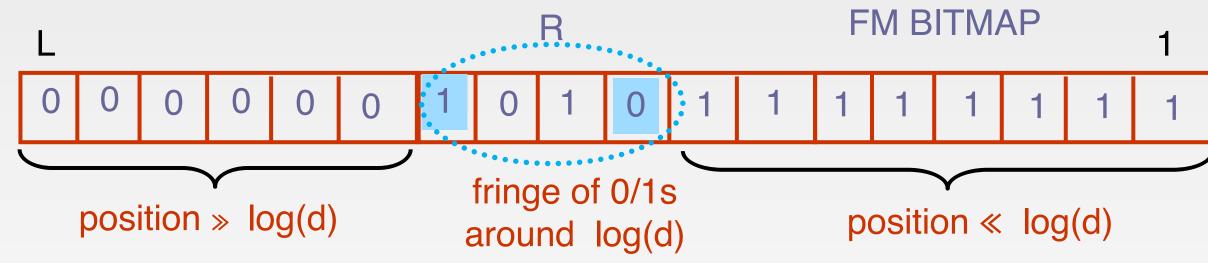


# Why It Works: More formally

- n Note:  $(1-2^{-r})^m = (1-2^{-r})^{2^r(m2^{-r})} \approx e^{-m2^{-r}}$
- n Prob. of NOT finding a tail of length r is:
  - If  $m \ll 2^r$ , then prob. tends to 1
    - $(1-2^{-r})^m \approx e^{-m2^{-r}} = 1$  as  $m/2^r \rightarrow 0$
    - ▶ So, the probability of finding a tail of length *r* tends to 0
  - If  $m >> 2^r$ , then prob. tends to 0
    - $(1-2^{-r})^m \approx e^{-m2^{-r}} = 0$  as  $m/2^r \to \infty$
    - ▶ So, the probability of finding a tail of length *r* tends to 1
- n Thus, 2<sup>R</sup> will almost always be around m!

# Flajolet-Martin Sketch

- Maintain FM Sketch = bitmap array of L = log N bits
  - Initialize bitmap to all 0s
  - For each incoming value a, set FM[r(a)] = 1
- If d distinct values, expect d/2 map to FM[1], d/4 to FM[2]...



- Use the leftmost 1: R = max<sub>a</sub> r(a)
- Use the rightmost 0: also an indicator of log(d)
  - Estimate d = c2<sup>R</sup> for scaling constant c ≈ 1.3 (original paper)
- Average many copies (different hash functions) improves accuracy