

Streaming Algorithms

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A Reference Book

- "The Probabilistic Method", Alon and Spencer (2004)

You may find an e-copy of this book on www.lib.nctu.edu.tw

The Probabilistic Method

The Union Bound

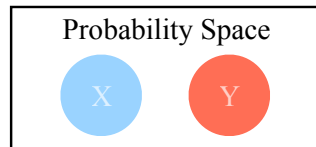
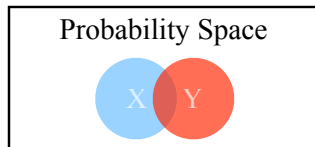
The union bound, a.k.a. **Boole's inequality**, is stated as follows.
For any countable set of probabilistic events A_1, A_2, \dots , we have

$$\Pr \left[\bigcup_i A_i \right] \leq \sum_i \Pr[A_i]$$

Note that A_i 's may be dependent or independent.

An illustration of independent events

If events X and Y are independent, which of the following is a proper illustration?



The Ramsey Number

Theorem 1. Given an n -node complete graph G and **any** 2-coloring (red/blue) on the edges in G , then G has a k -node monochromatic clique if n is sufficiently large, as a function of k .

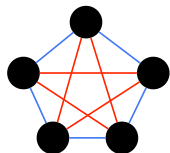
Let $R(k, \ell)$ be the smallest n so that for any 2-coloring G has either a **k -node red clique** or an **ℓ -node blue clique**.

The Ramsey Number

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Let $R(k, \ell)$ be the smallest n so that for any 2-coloring G has either a **k -node red clique** or an **ℓ -node blue clique**.

Example. $R(3, 3) = 6$.



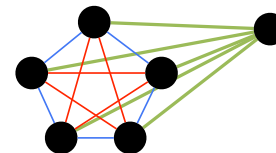
$R(3, 3) > 5$.

The Ramsey Number

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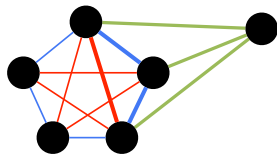
At least 3 newly-added edges have the same color.

The Ramsey Number

Theorem 1. Given an n -node complete graph G and **any** 2-coloring (red/blue) on the edges in G , then G has a k -node monochromatic clique if n is sufficiently large, as a function of k .

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Example. $R(3, 3) = 6$.



No matter which color is assigned to these three edges, it induces a monochromatic triangle, so $R(3, 3) \leq 6$.

The Ramsey Number

Theorem 1. Given an n -node complete graph G and **any** 2-coloring (red/blue) on the edges in G , then G has a k -node monochromatic clique if n is sufficiently large, as a function of k .

Let $R(k, \ell)$ be the smallest n so that for any 2-coloring G has either a **k -node red clique** or an **ℓ -node blue clique**.

Claim 1. $R(k, k) > 2^{k/2}$.

Proof of $R(k, k) > 2^{k/2}$

Proof Strategy.

Try to prove: if $n \leq 2^{k/2}$, there exists a coloring so that the resulting G has no monochromatic k -clique.

Assign a random coloring to each edge and try to show that **bad events** do not always happen.

Each bad event corresponds to that a certain clique is monochromatic.

Proof of $R(k, k) > 2^{k/2}$

Assign a random color, sampled uniformly from {red, blue}, to each edge.

Assign an unique ID from $\{1, 2, \dots, \binom{n}{k}\}$ to each k -clique.

$$\Pr[\text{the } i\text{-th clique is monochromatic}] = \frac{1}{2^{\binom{k}{2}-1}}$$

Proof of $R(k, k) > 2^{k/2}$

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$$\Pr[\text{the } i\text{-th clique is monochromatic}] = \frac{1}{2^{\binom{k}{2}-1}}$$

$\Pr[\text{some clique is monochromatic}]$

$\leq \sum_i \Pr[\text{the } i\text{-th clique is monochromatic}]$ (the union bound)

$$= \frac{\binom{n}{k}}{2^{\binom{k}{2}-1}}$$

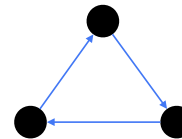
< 1 if $n \leq 2^{k/2}$

Some random coloring induces no monochromatic k-clique.

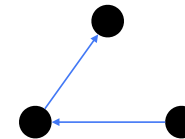
Tournament Graphs

Definition. We say a directed graph G is a tournament graph if for every pair of nodes u, v in G , either the directed edge (u, v) exists or (v, u) exists, but **not both**.

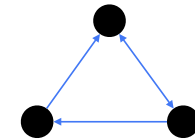
(a Yes-instance)



(a No-instance)



(a No-instance)

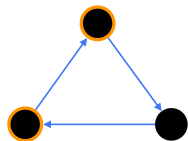


Tournament Graphs

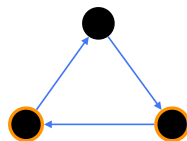
Theorem 2. Given an n -node tournament graph $G = (V, E)$, for any k -node subset $X \subseteq V$ there exists a node $v \in V \setminus X$ so that v beats (has a directed edge to) every node in X , if n is sufficiently large.

Example. $(n, k) = (3, 1)$

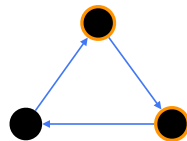
(Case 1)



(Case 2)



(Case 3)



Tournament Graphs

Theorem 2. Given an n -node tournament graph $G = (V, E)$, for any k -node subset $X \subseteq V$ there exists a node $v \in V \setminus X$ so that v beats (has a directed edge to) every node in X , if n is sufficiently large.

Proof Strategy. Assign a random orientation to each edge and try to show that **bad events** do not always happen.

Each bad event corresponds to that certain k nodes do not have a node in common that beats them all.

Proof of Theorem 2

Assign a random orientation, sampled uniformly from $\{\leftarrow, \rightarrow\}$, to each edge.

Assign an unique ID from $\{1, 2, \dots, \binom{n}{k}\}$ to each k-node subset.

$$\Pr[\text{the } i\text{-th bad event happens}] = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^k}\right)^{n-k}$$

$\Pr[\text{some bad event happens}]$

$$\leq \sum_i \Pr[\text{the } i\text{-th bad event happens}] \quad (\text{the union bound})$$

$$= \binom{n}{k} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^k}\right)^{n-k}$$

< 1 if n is sufficiently large.

Exercise 1

Problem 10 in Chap 1.

Prove that there is an absolute constant $c > 0$ with the following property. Let A be an n by n matrix with pairwise distinct entries. Then there is a permutation of the rows of A so that no column in the permuted matrix contains an increasing subsequence of length at least $c\sqrt{n}$.

Linearity of Expectation

Linearity of expectation is stated as follows. Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be random variables, $X = \sum_i c_i X_i$ for c_i 's in \mathbf{R} , we have

$$E[X] = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} c_i E[X_i]$$

Note that X_i 's may be dependent or independent.

Splitting Graphs

Theorem 3. Any n -node m -edge undirected graph G has a bipartite subgraph that has at least $m/2$ edges.

Proof Strategy. Show that a random partition of the n nodes induces $m/2$ crossing edges in expectation (on average).

Therefore, some random partition has **at least $m/2$** crossing edges. Why?

It is impossible that every random partition of nodes has fewer crossing edges than the average.

Splitting Graphs

Place each node in $\{\text{Left}, \text{Right}\}$ uniformly at random. Let X_e be the indicator variable whether edge e is a crossing edge with respect to the random partition.

Clearly, $E[X_e] = 2 * 1/2 * 1/2 * 1 = 1/2$.

Thus, $E[\sum_{e \in G} X_e] = \sum_{e \in G} E[X_e] = m/2$.

Some random partition of nodes induces
at least $m/2$ crossing edges.

Exercise 2

Prove that every n -node m -edge undirected **simple** graph G can be partitioned into $O(\log n)$ bipartite subgraphs H_1, H_2, \dots ; in other words, the union of H_i 's forms G .

Exercise 3

Prove or disprove that every n -node m -edge undirected graph has a bipartite subgraph $H = (U \cup V, E)$ so that the following conditions are both satisfied.

(1) $||U| - |V|| = O(1)$

(2) $|E| \geq m/2$