

## Correction: Definition of Local Sensitivity at Distance $k$

The  $L_1$  *local sensitivity* of a function  $f$  on database  $X$  is the maximum  $L_1$  norm of the difference between  $f(X)$  and  $f(Y)$ , where  $Y$  is a neighbor of  $X$ :

$$LS_f(X) = \max_{Y: d(X,Y) \leq 1} \|f(X) - f(Y)\|_1$$

In contrast to global sensitivity, the max in this case is taken over  $Y$  *only*, with  $X$  fixed to the *true database* (the actual data over which you're running the query).

The *local sensitivity at distance  $k$*  is defined as:

$$A_f^k(X) = \max_{X': d(X,X') \leq k} LS_f(X')$$

Expanding the definition, this is equivalent to:

$$A_f^k(X) = \max_{X': d(X,X') \leq k} \max_{Y: d(X',Y) \leq 1} \|f(X') - f(Y)\|_1$$

**Note: the definition given in class was not correct (it was missing the second max).**

For a complete definition, see Nissim et al. [1], Definition 3.1.

## References

- [1] K. Nissim, S. Raskhodnikova, and A. Smith. Smooth sensitivity and sampling in private data analysis. 2011. Draft Full Version, v1.0. <http://www.cse.psu.edu/~ads22/pubs/NRS07/NRS07-full-draft-v1.pdf>.