

# COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

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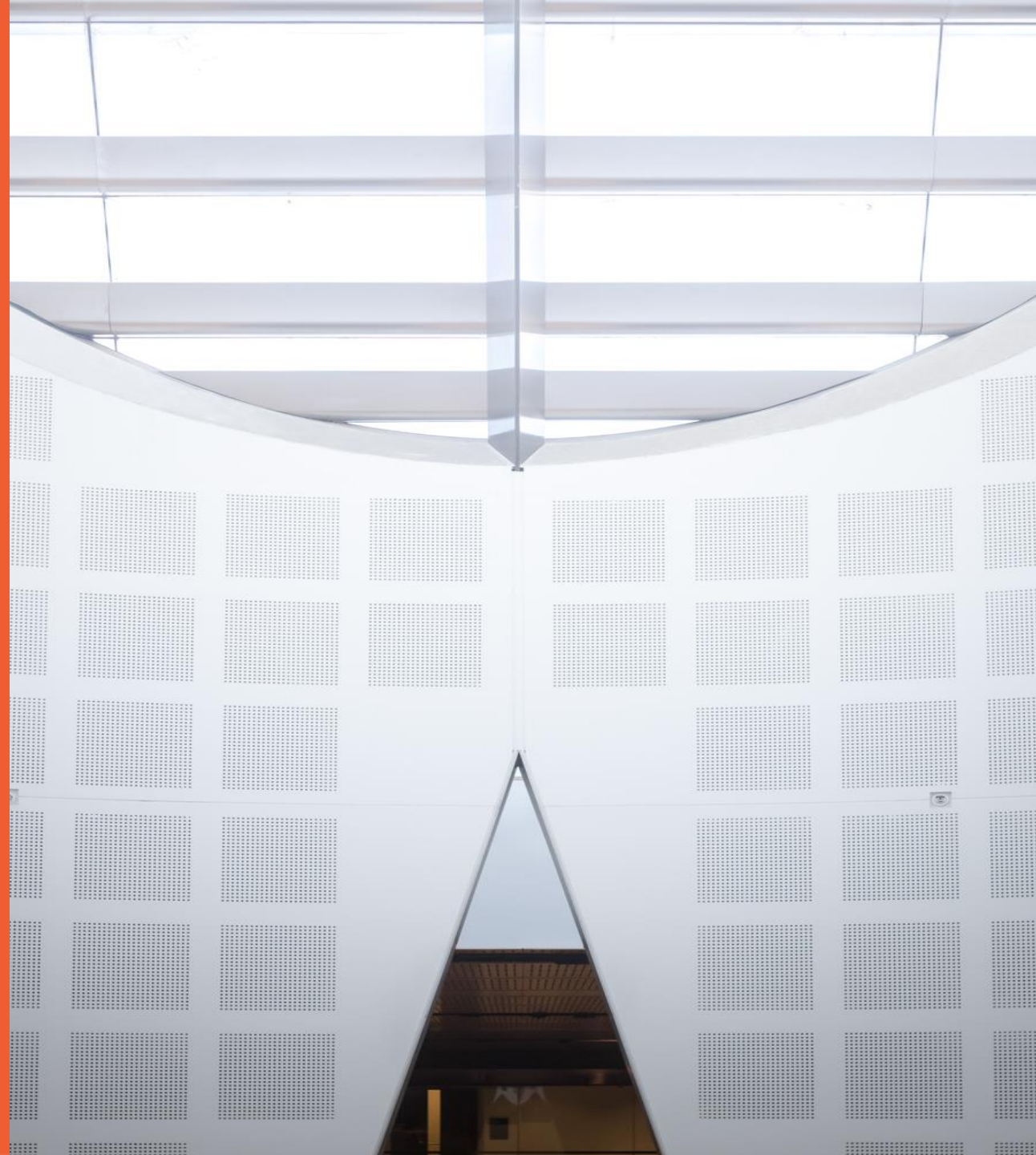
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COMPx270: Randomised and  
Advanced Algorithms  
Lecture 8: Streaming and  
Sketching I

Clément Canonne  
School of Computer Science



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
SYDNEY



## A question

You have a graph, coming one edge at a time, with possible duplicates, and no paper to write anything done, **only your memory**. **What is its average degree?**

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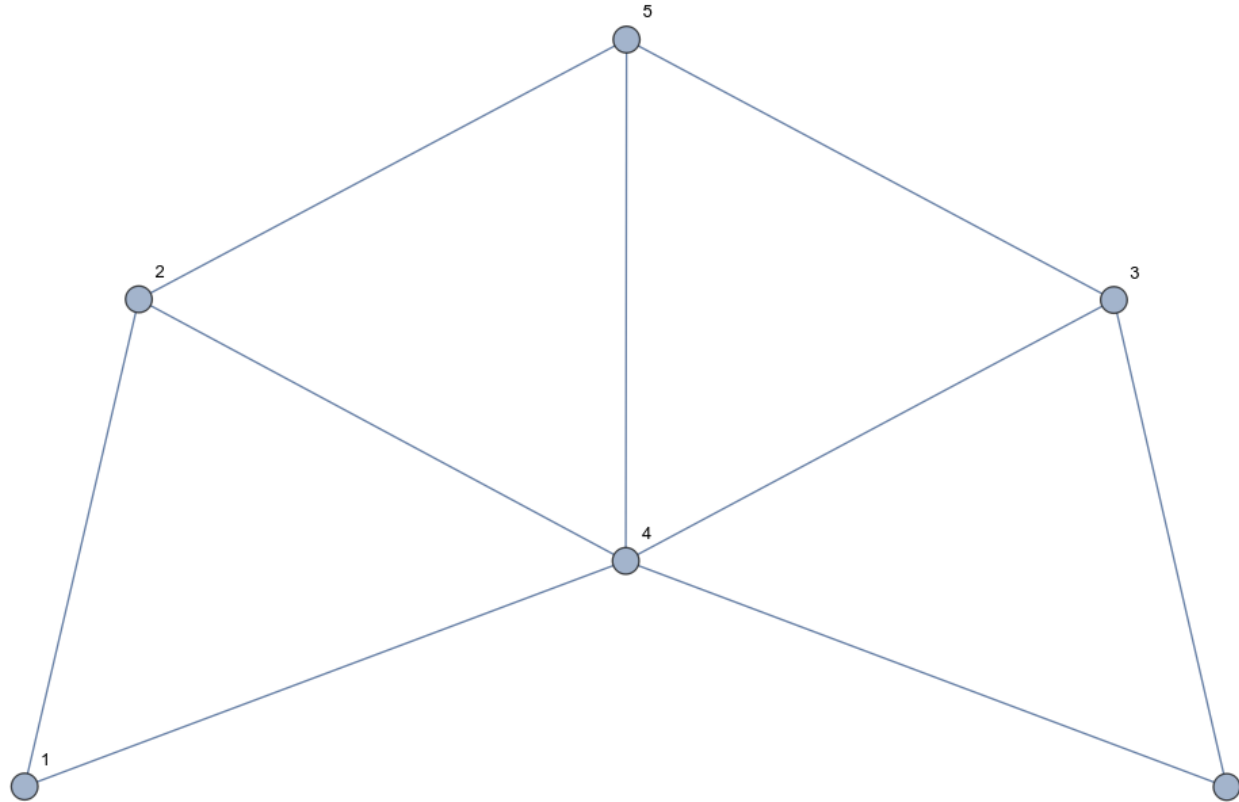
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You have a graph, coming one edge at a time, with possible duplicates, and no paper to write anything done, **only your memory**. **What is its average degree?**

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# A question (an answer)



# Streaming algorithms: what? (1/3)

## Streaming algorithms: what? (2/3)

- Low memory: cannot store whole input
- Input comes as a stream: sequence of length  $m$

$$\sigma = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m)$$

$\uparrow$   
 $a_i \in \mathcal{X}, |\mathcal{X}| = n$

Worst-case (arbitrary) order.

- $p$ -pass algorithms get to see  $\sigma$   $p$  times ( $p=1$  for us\*)
- cash register: don't remove parts of the input (that would be "turnstile")

SPACE:  $O(\min(n, m))$   
("sublinear")

hope:  $O(\log(mn)) = O(\log m + \log n)$   
very good polylog( $m, n$ )

so less than  
 $O(m \log n)$   
or  
 $O(n \log m)$



## Streaming algorithms: what? (3/3)

- Randomised algorithms
- Approximate: want to compute some value  $v \geq 0$   
we're OK with  $\hat{v} \approx^{\varepsilon} v$   
 $\uparrow$ ?

① Multiplicative:

$$\Pr[|\hat{v} - v| \geq \varepsilon v] \leq \delta$$

$(1 \pm \varepsilon)$  approx

② Additive:

$$\Pr[|\hat{v} - v| \geq \varepsilon] \leq \delta$$

$\pm \varepsilon$  approx

## First example: Majority

A.k.a. "special case of Heavy Hitters"

• MAJORITY : is there an elem<sup>t</sup> appearing  $\geq 50\%$  of the time in the stream? (If so, which one(s)?)

$$\sigma = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_m) \in [n]^m$$

$$\forall j \in [n] \quad f_j = \#(\text{times } j \text{ appears in } \sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbb{1}_{\sigma_i = j}$$

frequency of element  $j$

Frequency vector  $\vec{f} = (f_1, \dots, f_n)$

$$\bullet 0 \leq f_j \leq m \quad \forall j \in [n]$$

$$\bullet F_1 = \|\vec{f}\|_1 = \sum_{j=1}^n f_j = m$$



## First example: Majority (Frequency Estimation)

MAJORITY: "Is there  $j \in [n]$  s.t.  $f_j \geq \frac{m}{2}$ ?" (at most 2 of them)  
 $\epsilon$ -HH: "Is there  $j \in [n]$  s.t.  $f_j \geq \epsilon m$ ?" (at most  $\frac{1}{\epsilon}$  of them)

Want to solve this in one pass.

We'll see two passes, but deterministically

## First example: the Misra-Gries algorithm (1/3)

MISRA-GRIES returns  $\hat{b}_1, \dots, \hat{b}_n$  (a succinct representation of them)  
st.  $b_j - \varepsilon m \leq \hat{b}_j \leq b_j \quad \forall j$   
in one pass.

! only  $O(\frac{1}{\varepsilon})$  estimates are non-zero: only returns these  $\hat{b}_j$

→ TO SOLVE MAJORITY IN TWO PASSES

Pass ① Run M-G on  $\sigma$  with  $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{4}$

Pass ② Count exactly the frequency  
for all  $j$ 's s.t.  $\hat{b}_j \geq \frac{m}{4}$

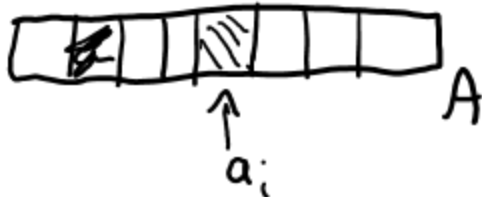
If  $b_j \geq \frac{m}{2}$   
     $\hat{b}_j \geq \frac{m}{4} > 0$   
If  $\hat{b}_j \geq \frac{m}{4}$   
     $b_j \geq \frac{m}{4}$   
    → at most 4 of them

## First example: the Misra-Gries algorithm, alternative view (2/3)

$A \leftarrow n$  zeroes (use a BST to save space)  
 $k \leftarrow 1/\epsilon$

At step  $1 \leq i \leq m$ :

- get  $a_i$
- If  $A[a_i] > 0$   
 $A[a_i] += 1$  # of non-zero entries.  
↓
- If  $A[a_i] = 0$  and  $|A| < k-1$   
 $A[a_i] = 1$
- If  $A[a_i] = 0$  and  $|A| = k-1$   
 $A[a_i] = 1 \rightarrow$  For all  $j$  s.t.  $A[j] > 0$   
 $A[j] = A[j] - 1$



At the end: return all  $j$ 's (and  $A[j]$ )  
 s.t.  $A[j] > 0$

SPACE :  $O(k, (\log m + \log n))$   
 $= O(\frac{\log(nm)}{\epsilon})$

CORRECTNESS ( $\hat{b}_i = A[i]$ )  
 ①  $\forall j, \hat{b}_j \leq b_j$  "clear"

②  $\forall j, \hat{b}_j \geq b_j - \frac{m}{k}$

Claim: "can't decrement an element too many times"

Each decrement corresponds to exactly  $k$  prior increments  $\rightarrow$  at most  $\frac{m}{k}$  decrements

## First example: the Misra-Gries algorithm (3/3)

**Theorem 39.** *The MISRA-GRIES algorithm is a deterministic one-pass algorithm which, for any given parameter  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1]$ , provides  $\hat{f}_1, \dots, \hat{f}_n$  of all element frequencies such that*

$$f_j - \varepsilon m \leq \hat{f}_j \leq f_j, \quad j \in [n]$$

*with space complexity  $s = O(\log(mn)/\varepsilon)$ . (In particular, it can be used to solve the MAJORITY problem in two passes.)*

## Second example: Approximate Counting

$$n=2 \quad \mathcal{X}=\{0,1\}$$

$$\text{Want } d = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i$$

- $O(\log m)$  trivial : counter (deterministic)
- 2-estimate  $O(\log \log m)$  space (Morris)  
randomized

## Second example: Approximate Counting and the Morris Counter

---

```
1:  $x \leftarrow 0$ 
2: for all  $1 \leq i \leq m$  do
3:   Get item  $a_i \in \{0, 1\}$ 
4:   if  $a_i = 1$  then
5:      $r_i \leftarrow \text{Bern}(1/2^x)$        $\triangleright$  Independent of previous choices.
6:      $x \leftarrow x + r_i$ 
7: return  $\hat{d} \leftarrow 2^x - 1$ 
```

---

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\hat{d}] &= ? \\ \text{Var}[\hat{d}] &= ? \end{aligned}$$

## Second example: Approximate Counting and the Morris Counter

---

```
1:  $C_0 \leftarrow 1$ 
2: for all  $1 \leq i \leq m$  do
3:   Get item  $a_i \in \{0, 1\}$ 
4:   if  $a_i = 1$  then
5:      $r_i \leftarrow \text{Bern}(1/C_{i-1})$      $\triangleright$  Independent of previous choices.
6:   else  $r_i \leftarrow 0$ 
7:    $C_i \leftarrow 2^{r_i} C_{i-1}$ 
8: return  $\hat{d} \leftarrow C_m - 1$ 
```

---

Claim:  $\mathbb{E}[C_m] = d+1$   
 $\text{Var}[C_m] = O(d^2) \quad (= \binom{d}{2})$

## Throwback: Law of Total Expectation (and Friends)

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[X|Y]] = \mathbb{E}[X]$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\beta(Y)|Y] = \beta(Y)$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\beta(Y)X|Y] = \beta(Y) \mathbb{E}[X|Y]$$



## Second example: the Morris Counter (1/3)

- $\mathbb{E}[C_0] = C_0 = 1$
- $\mathbb{E}[C_{i+1} | C_i] \stackrel{?}{=} \frac{1}{C_i} \cdot 2C_i + \left(1 - \frac{1}{C_i}\right) \cdot C_i$   
 $\uparrow$   
 $\text{if } a_{i+1} = 1$   
 $= C_{i+1}$

(if  $a_{i+1} = 0$ ,  $C_{i+1} = C_i$ )

$$\rightarrow \mathbb{E}[C_{i+1}] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[C_{i+1} | C_i]] = \mathbb{E}[C_i] + a_{i+1} = \mathbb{E}[C_{i-1}] + a_i + a_{i+1} = \dots$$

$$\rightarrow \mathbb{E}[C_m] = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^m a_i \approx 1 + d$$

✓

---

```

1:  $C_0 \leftarrow 1$ 
2: for all  $1 \leq i \leq m$  do
3:   Get item  $a_i \in \{0, 1\}$ 
4:   if  $a_i = 1$  then
5:      $r_i \leftarrow \text{Bern}(1/C_{i-1})$     ▷ Independent of previous choices.
6:   else  $r_i \leftarrow 0$ 
7:    $C_i \leftarrow 2^{r_i} C_{i-1}$ 
8: return  $\hat{d} \leftarrow C_m - 1$ 

```

---

$$\mathbb{E}[C_{i+1} | C_i] = C_i + a_{i+1}$$

## Second example: the Morris Counter (2/3)

$$\text{Var}[C_m] = \mathbb{E}[C_m^2] - \mathbb{E}[C_m]^2$$

$\uparrow$  known!  $(d+1)^2$

$$\mathbb{E}[C_m^2] = ?$$

$$\bullet \mathbb{E}[C_0^2] = C_0^2 = 1$$

$$\bullet \mathbb{E}[C_{i+1}^2 | C_i] = \begin{cases} C_i^2 & \text{if } a_{i+1} = 0 \\ \frac{1}{C_i} \cdot 4C_i^2 + \left(1 - \frac{1}{C_i}\right) C_i^2 = 3C_i + C_i^2 & \text{if } a_{i+1} = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$= C_i^2 + a_{i+1}(2 + a_{i+1})C_i$$

$$+ \sum_{i=1}^m (\dots)$$

$$\rightarrow \mathbb{E}[C_m^2] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[C_m^2 | C_{m-1}]] = \dots = 1 + 3 \frac{d(d+1)}{2}$$

$$\leadsto \text{Var } C_m = \frac{d(d+1)}{2} \quad \checkmark$$

---

```

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3:   Get item  $a_i \in \{0, 1\}$ 
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5:      $r_i \leftarrow \text{Bern}(1/C_{i-1})$      $\triangleright$  Independent of previous choices.
6:   else  $r_i \leftarrow 0$ 
7:    $C_i \leftarrow 2^{r_i} C_{i-1}$ 
8: return  $\hat{d} \leftarrow C_m - 1$ 

```

---

## Second example: the Morris Counter (3/3)

$$\mathbb{E}[C_m] = d+1 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{Var}[C_m] = \Theta(d^2) \quad \times$$

Chebyshev:

$$C_m = \mathbb{E}[C_m] \pm \sqrt{\text{Var}[C_m]} \quad \text{wp. } 99\%$$

useless guarantee.

Doem? No

- ① "Meh" guarantee, wp. 51%  $\checkmark$
- ↓
- ② "Good" guarantee, take average wp. 51%
- ↓
- ③ "Good" guarantee, median trick wp.  $1-\delta$

## Second example: the Morris Counter, Median-of-Means

**Theorem 40.** The medians-of-means version of the MORRIS COUNTER is a randomised one-pass algorithm which, for any given parameters  $\epsilon, \delta \in (0, 1]$ , provides an estimate  $\hat{d}$  of the number  $d$  of non-zero elements of the stream such that

$$\Pr \left[ (1 - \epsilon)d \leq \hat{d} \leq (1 + \epsilon)d \right] \geq 1 - \delta$$

with space complexity

$$s = O \left( \frac{\log \log m}{\epsilon^2} \cdot \log \frac{1}{\delta} \right)$$

that is, doubly logarithmic in  $m$ .

② average over instances  $T = O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2}\right)$  to reduce variance, then Chebyshev

③ Median trick over instances  $T' = O\left(\log \frac{1}{\delta}\right)$

Did we need to do that?

No.

No need for median-of-means  
here!

⊕ better space ...

## Second example: the Morris Counter, careful version (1/2)

Morris from before

$$C \leftarrow 2C \text{ w.p. } \frac{1}{C} \text{ (when } a_i = 1)$$



Morris, better

$$C \leftarrow (1+\alpha)C \text{ w.p. } \frac{1}{\alpha C}$$

(Estimate:  $(1+\alpha)^x - 1$ )

$$\boxed{\alpha = 2\varepsilon^2\delta}$$

## Second example: the Morris Counter, careful version (2/2)

**Theorem 41.** *The “careful” version of MORRIS COUNTER is a randomised one-pass algorithm which, for any given parameters  $\epsilon, \delta \in (0, 1]$ , provides an estimate  $\hat{d}$  of the number  $d$  of non-zero elements of the stream such that*

$$\Pr \left[ (1 - \epsilon)d \leq \hat{d} \leq (1 + \epsilon)d \right] \geq 1 - \delta$$

*with space complexity*

$$s = O \left( \log \log m + \log \frac{1}{\epsilon} + \log \frac{1}{\delta} \right)$$

*that is, doubly logarithmic in  $m$  and logarithmic in  $1/\epsilon$ .*

### Third example: Distinct Elements

Approximate  $F_0 = \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{1_{b_i > 0}}_{\text{"d" (new name)}}$

Return  $\hat{d} = (1 \pm \epsilon) d$



## Third example: Distinct Elements, the Tidemark (AMS) algorithm (1/5)

$$\varepsilon = \Theta(1)$$

- 
- 1: Pick  $h: [n] \rightarrow [n]$  from a strongly universal hashing family
  - 2:  $z \leftarrow 0$
  - 3: **for all**  $1 \leq i \leq m$  **do**
  - 4:     Get item  $a_i \in [n]$
  - 5:     **if**  $\text{zeros}(h(a_i)) \geq z$  **then**
  - 6:          $z \leftarrow \text{zeros}(h(a_i))$
  - 7: **return**  $\sqrt{2} \cdot 2^z$
- 

$$\text{zeros}(k) = \text{largest } i \text{ s.t. } 2^i \mid k$$



## Third example: Distinct Elements, the Tdemark (AMS) algorithm (2/5)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Space } s &= O(\log n) && (\text{hash function}) \\ &+ O(\log \log n) && (\text{storing } z) \\ &= O(\log n) \end{aligned}$$

---

```
1: Pick  $h: [n] \rightarrow [n]$  from a strongly universal hashing family
2:  $z \leftarrow 0$ 
3: for all  $1 \leq i \leq m$  do
4:   Get item  $a_i \in [n]$ 
5:   if  $\text{zeros}(h(a_i)) \geq z$  then
6:      $z \leftarrow \text{zeros}(h(a_i))$ 
7: return  $\sqrt{2} \cdot 2^z$ 
```

---

Intuition: "Since  $h$  behaves like a random function"

- $\rightarrow$   $d$  values  $h(j_1), \dots, h(j_d)$  uniformly distributed in  $[n]$
- $\rightarrow$  for each, probab to have at least  $r$  trailing zeroes in binary is  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot \dots \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2^r}$
- $\rightarrow$  for  $r \approx \log_2 d$ , by "union bound" we "should" have at least one hash with  $r$  trailing zeroes (w.cst proba)
- $\rightarrow$  for  $r \gg \log_2 d$ , by union bound very unlikely to have any hash with  $r$  trailing zeroes

## Third example: Distinct Elements, the Tidemark (AMS) algorithm (3/5)

Analysis

Let 
$$Y_n = \sum_{j: b_j > 0} \mathbb{1}_{\text{zeros}(h(j)) \geq n} \quad , \text{ for } n \geq 0$$

---

```

1: Pick  $h: [n] \rightarrow [n]$  from a strongly universal hashing family
2:  $z \leftarrow 0$ 
3: for all  $1 \leq i \leq m$  do
4:   Get item  $a_i \in [n]$ 
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6:      $z \leftarrow \text{zeros}(h(a_i))$ 
7: return  $\sqrt{2} \cdot 2^z$ 

```

---

Observations:

①

$$Y_n \geq 1 \iff z \geq n$$

(for all  $n \geq 0$ )

②

$$\mathbb{E}[Y_n] = \sum_{j: b_j > 0} \Pr[\text{zeros}(h(j)) \geq n] = \sum_{j: b_j > 0} \frac{1}{2^n} = \frac{d}{2^n}$$

$h(j)$  is uniformly distributed

$d$  terms

③

$$\text{Var } Y_n = \sum_{j: b_j > 0} \text{Var } \mathbb{1}_{\text{zeros}(h(j)) \geq n}$$

pairwise independence

$$\leq \sum_{j: b_j > 0} \frac{1}{2^n} = \frac{d}{2^n}$$

### Third example: Distinct Elements, the Tidemark (AMS) algorithm (4/5)

So  $\mathbb{E}[Y_n] \leq \frac{d}{2^n}$ ,  $\text{Var}[Y_n] \leq \frac{2^n}{d}$  for all  $n \geq 0$

④ Markov!

$$\Pr[z \geq n] = \Pr[Y_n \geq 1] \leq \mathbb{E}[Y_n] = \frac{d}{2^n} \quad \textcircled{*}$$

Chebyshev!

$$\Pr[z \leq n] = \Pr[Y_{n+1} = 0] \leq \frac{2^{n+1}}{d} \quad \textcircled{*}$$

---

```

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7: return  $\sqrt{2} \cdot 2^z$ 

```

---

⑤ Conclude:

$$\Pr[\hat{d} \geq Cd] = \Pr[2^z \geq \frac{C}{\sqrt{2}} d] \leq \frac{\sqrt{2}}{Cd} \cdot d = \frac{1}{3} \quad \textcircled{*}$$

$$\Pr[\hat{d} \leq d/C] = \Pr[2^z \leq \frac{d}{\sqrt{2}C}] \leq \frac{2d}{\sqrt{2}C} \cdot \frac{1}{d} = \frac{1}{3} \quad \textcircled{*}$$

$$C = 3\sqrt{2}$$

⑥ Amplify (?) Not a very good guarantee! Union bound mainly gives  $\Pr[\hat{d} \notin [d/C, Cd]] \leq \frac{2}{3} \dots$   
 How to amplify this?  
 "Carefully": median trick still applies, and works.

## Third example: Distinct Elements, the Tidemark (AMS) algorithm (5/5)

**Theorem 42.** *The (median trick version of the) TIDEMARK (AMS) algorithm is a randomised one-pass algorithm which, for any given parameter  $\delta \in (0, 1]$ , provides an estimate  $\hat{d}$  of the number  $d$  of distinct elements of the stream such that, for some absolute constant  $C > 0$ ,*

$$\Pr \left[ \frac{1}{C} \cdot d \leq \hat{d} \leq C \cdot d \right] \geq 1 - \delta$$

*with space complexity*

$$s = O \left( \log n \cdot \log \frac{1}{\delta} \right).$$

Only issue:  $C = \Theta(1)$ .  
We don't get  $1 \pm \epsilon$   
for arbitrary  $\epsilon > 0$ .

**Can we do better?**

Yes.

## Third example: Distinct Elements, the BJKST algorithm (1/4)

**Input:** Parameter  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1]$

- 1: Set  $k \leftarrow O(\log^2 n / \varepsilon^4)$ ,  $T \leftarrow \Theta(1 / \varepsilon^2)$
- 2: Pick  $h: [n] \rightarrow [n]$  from a strongly universal hashing family
- 3: Pick  $g: [n] \rightarrow [k]$  from a strongly universal hashing family
- 4:  $z \leftarrow 0$ ,  $B \leftarrow \emptyset$
- 5: **for all**  $1 \leq i \leq m$  **do**
- 6:     Get item  $a_i \in [n]$
- 7:     **if**  $\text{zeros}(h(a_i)) \geq z$  **then**
- 8:          $B \leftarrow B \cup \{(g(a_i), \text{zeros}(h(a_i)))\}$
- 9:         **while**  $|B| \geq T$  **do**
- 10:              $z \leftarrow z + 1$
- 11:             Remove every  $(a, b)$  with  $b < z$  from  $B$
- 12: **return**  $|B| \cdot 2^z$

Why this value of  $k$ ?

Birthday paradox.  
We want no collision in any of the  $\log n$  buckets (with high proba.).

$$k = O((T \log n)^2)$$

means  
each bucket has no collision under  $g$  with proba

$$\geq 1 - \frac{1}{10 \log n}$$

+ union bound to get overall proba  $1 - \frac{1}{10} = \frac{9}{10}$



## Third example: Distinct Elements, the BJKST algorithm (2/4)

Space:

- Hash functions:  $h, g$  take space  $O(\log n + \log k) = O(\log n + \log \frac{1}{\epsilon})$
- $z$ : space  $O(\log \log n)$
- $B$ : space  $T \cdot O(\log k + \log \log n) = O(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} (\log \log n + \log \frac{1}{\epsilon}))$

Total:  $O(\log n + \frac{\log(1/\epsilon) + \log \log n}{\epsilon^2})$

Input: Parameter  $\epsilon \in (0, 1]$

- 1: Set  $k \leftarrow O(\log^2 n / \epsilon^4)$ ,  $T \leftarrow \Theta(1/\epsilon^2)$
- 2: Pick  $h: [n] \rightarrow [k]$  from a strongly universal hashing family
- 3: Pick  $g: [n] \rightarrow [k]$  from a strongly universal hashing family

- 4:  $z \leftarrow 0$ ,  $B \leftarrow \emptyset$
- 5: for all  $1 \leq i \leq m$  do
- 6:   Get item  $a_i \in [n]$
- 7:   if  $\text{zeros}(h(a_i)) \geq z$  then
- 8:      $B \leftarrow B \cup \{(g(a_i), \text{zeros}(h(a_i)))\}$
- 9:   while  $|B| \geq T$  do
- 10:      $z \leftarrow z + 1$
- 11:     Remove every  $(a, b)$  with  $b < z$  from  $B$
- 12: return  $|B| \cdot 2^z$

Assumption: no collisions via hashing. Our setting of  $k$  ensures this is true with high proba. ( $\geq 9/10$ ), so we can just add  $1/10$  of failure proba at the end (union-bound) to account for it.

Analysis:

As before,  $\mathbb{E}[Y_n] = \frac{d}{2^n}$ ,  $\text{Var}[Y_n] \leq \frac{2^n}{d}$  for all  $n \geq 0$ .

We return

$$Y_z 2^z$$

on line 12, so we fail when  $|Y_z 2^z - d| > \epsilon d$ .



### Third example: Distinct Elements, the BJKST algorithm (3/4)

$$\Pr[\text{fail}] = \Pr[|Y_Z 2^Z - d| > \varepsilon d] = \sum_{\eta=1}^{\log n} \Pr[|Y_\eta - \frac{d}{2^\eta}| > \varepsilon \frac{d}{2^\eta}, Z = \eta]$$

$$\leq \sum_{\eta=1}^{\log n} \min(\Pr[|Y_\eta - \frac{d}{2^\eta}| > \varepsilon \frac{d}{2^\eta}], \Pr[Z = \eta])$$

$$\leq \sum_{\eta=1}^{s-1} \Pr[|Y_\eta - \frac{d}{2^\eta}| > \varepsilon \frac{d}{2^\eta}] + \sum_{\eta=s}^{\log n} \Pr[Z = \eta]$$

$$\leq \sum_{\eta=1}^{s-1} \frac{2^{\eta^2}}{\varepsilon^2 d} + \frac{d}{2^{s-1} T}$$

Chebyshev

setting of T

$$\leq \frac{2^s}{\varepsilon^2 d} + \frac{\varepsilon^2 d}{100 \cdot 2^s}$$

Balance the two terms:  
 $2^s \approx \varepsilon^2 d$

$$\leq \frac{1}{10}$$

and we are done!

Input: Parameter  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1]$

- 1: Set  $k \leftarrow O(\log^2 n / \varepsilon^4)$ ,  $T \leftarrow \Theta(1/\varepsilon^2)$
- 2: Pick  $h: [n] \rightarrow [n]$  from a strongly universal hashing family
- 3: Pick  $g: [n] \rightarrow [k]$  from a strongly universal hashing family

4:  $z \leftarrow 0$ ,  $B \leftarrow \emptyset$

5: for all  $1 \leq i \leq m$  do

6:   Get item  $a_i \in [n]$

7:   if  $\text{zeros}(h(a_i)) \geq z$  then

8:      $B \leftarrow B \cup \{(g(a_i), \text{zeros}(h(a_i)))\}$

9:   while  $|B| \geq T$  do

10:      $z \leftarrow z + 1$

11:     Remove every  $(a, b)$  with  $b < z$  from  $B$

12: return  $|B| \cdot 2^z$

↑ If we had the  $s$ -th bucket in play, the  $(s-1)^{\text{th}}$  must have reached capacity before

⊕ Key idea: use one bound (+ Chebyshev) for some terms, the other (+ Markov) for the remaining ones.

## Third example: Distinct Elements, the BJKST algorithm (4/4)

**Theorem 43.** *The (median trick version of the) BJKST algorithm is a randomised one-pass algorithm which, for any given parameters  $\epsilon, \delta \in (0, 1]$ , provides an estimate  $\hat{d}$  of the number  $d$  of distinct elements of the stream such that, for some absolute constant  $C > 0$ ,*

$$\Pr \left[ (1 - \epsilon) \cdot d \leq \hat{d} \leq (1 + \epsilon)d \right] \geq 1 - \delta$$

*with space complexity*

$$s = O \left( \left( \log n + \frac{\log(1/\epsilon) + \log \log n}{\epsilon^2} \right) \cdot \log \frac{1}{\delta} \right).$$

... Can we do better?

Yes.  
(a little bit)

(But it's a much  
more complicated  
algorithm/analysis)