

Lecture 7: General Hardcore Bit of OWF

Instructor: Shweta Agrawal

Scribe: V.Rajeev

1 Recap : OWF and hardcore bit

One Way Function: $h : \{0, 1\}^k \rightarrow 0, 1$ is a hardcore bit for a OWF 'f' if

1) $h(x)$ is easy to compute given x

2) $h(x)$ is hard to compute given $f(x)$

i.e. for any polynomial time algorithm $A : Pr(A(f(x)) \rightarrow h(x)) \leq \frac{1}{2} + (\text{negligible function})$

Hardcore bit:

given $f(x)$, if $MSB(x)$ can be computed, then entire of $f^{-1}(f(x))$ can be computed.

2 General hardcore bit of a OWF

Definition 1 For a random parity : if $x \in 0, 1^k$ and $r \in 0, 1^k$, then $h_{x,r} = \sum r_i x_i \text{ mod } 2$

Given OWF $f : \{0, 1\}^k \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^k$,

Define $g_f = 0, 1^{2k} \rightarrow 0, 1^{2k}$ such that: $g_f(x, r) = f(x), r$

(g_f - appended function such that inverting $g'_f \equiv \text{inverting } f'$)

3 Goldreich - Levin Theorem

Theorem 1 If 'f' is a OWF, then $h(x, r)$ is a hardcore bit for g_f or more formally for all PPTA, $Pr_{x,r}(A(f(x), r) \rightarrow h(x, r)) < 1/2 + (\text{negligible function})$

Proof. Contra-positive Method

Assume A_{GL} such that $Pr_{x,r}(A(f(x), r) \rightarrow h(x, r)) \geq 1/2 + (\text{negligible function})$ will build an A_{OWF} that inverts f

Easy Case: Suppose A_{GL} is such that it always computes the hardcore bit. Set $r =$ unit vector & directly recover x each time.

Medium Case: Suppose A_{GL} such that $Pr(A_{GL} \text{ succeeds}) \geq 3/4 + \epsilon$, where ϵ is a non-negligible function

Proof Idea: r needs to be random

(1) Observe that for every $r', < x, r >$ and $< x, r \oplus e_i >$ together recover x_i . Call A_{GL} on $< x, r >$ & $< x, r \oplus e_i >$

Note: Since we can't test when the algo A_{GL} is correct, we run it many times and take majority.

(2) If both answers are same, x_i is obtained.

Proposition 1 Claim: there exists a set "GOOD" $\subseteq \{0,1\}^k$ such that $|GOOD| \geq 2^n \cdot \epsilon/2$ and for all $x \in GOOD$: $Pr(A_{GL} \text{ wins}) \geq 3/4 + (\epsilon)/2$

Proof: Define $\text{succ}(x) = Pr(A(f(x), r) = \langle x, r \rangle)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{GOOD is the set of } x \text{ such that: } \text{succ}(x) &\geq \frac{3}{4} + (\epsilon)/2 \\ Pr_{x,r}(A_{GL} \text{ wins}) &= Pr(A_{GL} \text{ wins} | x \in \text{GOOD}) Pr(x \in \text{GOOD}) + Pr(A_{GL} \text{ wins} | x \notin \\ &\quad \text{GOOD}) Pr(x \notin \text{GOOD}) \\ &\leq Pr(x \in \text{GOOD}) + Pr(A_{GL} \text{ wins} | x \notin \text{GOOD}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Pr(x \in \text{GOOD}) &\geq (3/4 + \epsilon) - (3/4 + (\epsilon)/2) \\ &= (\epsilon)/2 \equiv \text{non-negligible} \\ |GOOD| &\geq (\epsilon)/2 \cdot x^k \end{aligned}$$

Observe: For any 'i' and $x \in \text{GOOD}$

$$\begin{aligned} Pr(A_{GL}(f(x, r)) \neq \langle x, r \rangle) &\leq 1/4 - (\epsilon)/2 \\ Pr(A_{GL}(f(x, r \oplus e_i)) \neq \langle x, r \oplus e_i \rangle) &\leq 1/4 - (\epsilon)/2 \\ Pr(A_{GL} \text{ fails on at least one of them}) &\leq 1/2 - \epsilon \\ Pr(A_{GL} \text{ succeeds on both of them}) &> 1/2 + \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Statement 1: If $x \in \text{GOOD}$, and suppose A_{OWF} inverts f with $Pr \geq 1/2$ then, objective attained.

$$\begin{aligned} Pr(A_{OWF} \text{ succeeds in inverting f}) &\geq Pr(A_{OWF} \text{ succeeds} | \text{GOOD}) \cdot Pr(\text{GOOD}) \\ &\geq 1/2 \cdot (\epsilon)/2 = (\epsilon)/4 \dots eq^n(2) \end{aligned}$$

Need: A'_{OWF} to invert f' with $Pr \geq 1/2$ for $x \in \text{GOOD}$

A'_{OWF} : for $i=1$ to k do

I) for $j=1$ to 't'

1) Pick $r_j \leftarrow \{0,1\}^k$

2) Run $A_{GL}(f(x), r_j)$ as well as $A_{GL}(f(x), r_j \oplus e_i)$

3) Compute x_{ij} as XOR of answer.

II) Compute $x_i = \text{majority}(x_{ij})$

Proposition 2 Claim: if $t = \log 2k$, then $Pr(x_i \text{ computes correctly}) \geq 1 - 1/2k$

Lemma 2 Chernoff: if z_1, z_2, \dots, z_t are independent & identically distributed and $E(z_i) = 1/2$, $z = \sum_{i=1}^t z_i$, where z_i is indicator that x_i is correct then, $Pr(z < t/2) \leq 2^{-t}$

Justifying the Claim: if $t = \log 2k$, $Pr(\text{Majority is wrong}) \leq 1/2k$ thus, there exists i , such that x_i computed with A_{GL} is wrong with $Pr < k \cdot 1/2k$ So, $Pr(A_{GL} \text{ is correct for all } i) \geq \frac{1}{2}$

From Statement 1 and $eq^n(2)$, since A'_{OWF} inverts f with $Pr \geq 1/2$ for GOOD x and set GOOD is large enough. ■