

Streaming Lower Bounds via Communication Complexity

$$x, y \in \{0, 1\}^n$$

$$\text{DISJ}(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \langle x, y \rangle = 0 \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Thm Randomized communication complexity of DISJ is $\Omega(n)$

Suffices to find distrib' on inputs st. any deterministic protocol w. low communication has large error

INDEX

Given $x \in \{0, 1\}^n$ index $i \in [n]$

$$\text{Compute } \text{INDEX}(x, i) = x_i \in \{0, 1\}$$

Claim: In order to solve $\text{INDEX}(x, i)$ can solve $\text{DISJ}(x, e_i)$

Thm: Randomized communication complexity of INDEX is $\Omega(n)$

Pf: Yao's lemma: construct a distrib' D on (x, i) st.
any deterministic protocol w. low error uses $\Omega(n)$ bits.

$$D: x \in \{0, 1\}^n, i \in [n]$$

Any deterministic protocol with $\leq c \cdot \frac{1}{8}n$ bits of communication
must have error $\geq \frac{1}{8}$

Fix det. one-way protocol P with $\leq cn$ bits of communication

Alice sends only 2^{cn} distinct messages z to Bob

$f: \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{cn}$ Alice's fn mapping input x to output z

Suppose Bob gets z from Alice and his input is i
Bob announces guess for i th bit

Hold z fixed, consider Bob's answers for $i = 1 \dots n$

Answer vector $a(z) \in \{0, 1\}^n$

$\leq 2^{cn}$ messages $z \Rightarrow \leq 2^{cn}$ answer vectors $a(z)$

Fix Alice's input x , resulting in message $z = z(x)$

Protocol is correct for Bob's input i iff $a(z)_i = x_i$

Bob's index i chosen uniformly

$$\Pr_i [P \text{ is incorrect } | z, z] = \frac{d_H(x, a(z))}{n}$$

Goal: w. constant prob. over choice of x

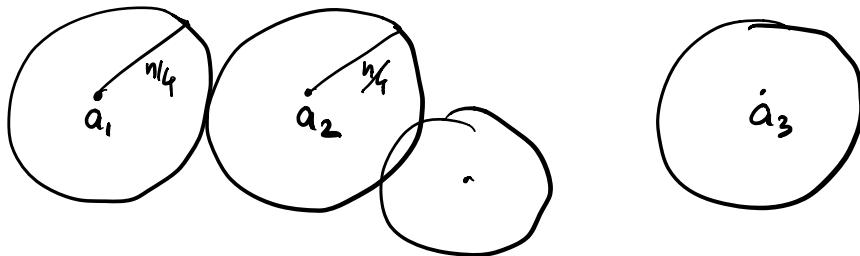
thus expression is larger than a constant

$$A = \{a(z(x)) : x \in \{0, 1\}^n\} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{Set of all answer vectors} \\ \text{used by protocol } P \end{matrix}$$

$$|A| \leq 2^n$$

Alice's input x is good if \exists answer vector $a \in A$

with $d_H(x, a) < \frac{n}{4}$, bad otherwise



Claim: There are at least 2^{n-1} bad inputs x

Why does this imply theorem?

$$\Pr_{(x,y) \in D} [P \text{ is wrong on } (x,y)] = \Pr[x \text{ is good}] \cdot \Pr_{x \text{ is good}} [P \text{ wrong on } (x,y)] \geq 0$$

$$+ \Pr[x \text{ is bad}] \cdot \Pr_{x \text{ is bad}} [P \text{ wrong on } (x,y) | x \text{ is bad}]$$

$$\Pr_{(x,y) \in D} [P \text{ wrong on } (x,y) | x \text{ is bad}] = \mathbb{E}_x \left[\frac{d_H(x, a(z(x)))}{n} | x \text{ is bad} \right] \geq \left[\min_{a \in A} \frac{d_H(x, a)}{n} | x \text{ is bad} \right]$$

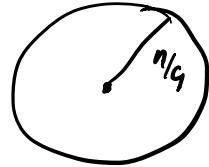
$$\geq \frac{1}{4}$$

\Rightarrow Protocol P has error $\geq \frac{1}{8}$

Proof of Claim:

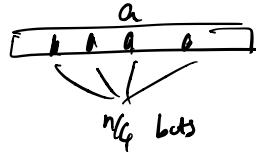
Fix answer vector $a \in A$

inputs $x \in w$ w. Hamming distance $\leq \frac{n}{4}$ from a



$$1 = \binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{2} + \dots + \binom{n}{n/4}$$

\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow
 dist 0 dist 1 dist 2 dist $\frac{n}{4}$



$$\binom{n}{k} \leq \left(\frac{en}{k}\right)^k \quad (\text{from Stirling's approx})$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n/4} \binom{n}{k} \leq 2 \binom{n}{n/4} \leq 2 \left(\frac{en}{n/4}\right)^{n/4} = 2(4e)^{n/4}$$

$$= 2 \cdot 2^{\log_2(4e) \cdot n/4}$$

$$= 2 \cdot 2^{0.861n}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{total # good inputs} &\leq |A| \cdot 2 \cdot 2^{0.861n} \\ &\leq 2 \cdot 2^{(0.861+c)n} \quad c=0.1 \\ &\leq 2^{n-1} \quad \text{for } n \text{ sufficiently large} \end{aligned}$$

So far

INDEX \rightarrow DISJ \rightarrow linear lower bounds for streaming
(Fox)

Next: Dependence on approximation parameter ϵ to compute $(1+\epsilon)$ approx of freq. moments

Why quadratic dependence on ϵ ?

Goal: Any streaming algo. that computes $(1+\epsilon)$ approx of F_0, F_2 needs $\Omega(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2})$ space

Focus on extreme case $(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}})$ approx requires $\Omega(n)$ space

Special case has all ideas needed for $\Omega(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2})$ bound

Disjointness doesn't work

Suppose we have streaming algo S that gives $(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}})$ approx to F_0

Follow redⁿ for F_0

Alice's input x , Bob's input y : concatenate xy

$$\begin{aligned} \text{DISJ}(x, y) &= 0 & F_0(xy) &= |x| + |y| & n \\ &= 1 & F_0(xy) &\leq |x| + |y| - 1 & n-1 \end{aligned}$$

$(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}})$ approx of F_0 gives additive error of \sqrt{n}

Relate to Hamming Distance

$x, y \in \{0, 1\}^n$ Universe $U = \{1, \dots, n\}$

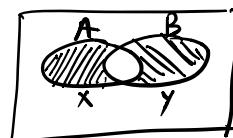
x, y : characteristic vectors of subsets A, B of U

$$d_H(x, y) = |A \setminus B| + |B \setminus A|$$

$$F_0 = |A \cup B|$$

$$|A \setminus B| = F_0 - |B|, |B \setminus A| = F_0 - |A|$$

$$d_H(x, y) = 2F_0 - |x| - |y|$$



Bob knows y , Alice can send $|x|$ to Bob using $\log_2 n$ bits

One way communication protocol that computes F_0 w. comm. C
 yields one-way protocol that computes $d_H(x, y)$ w.
 comm. $C + \log_2 n$

$$(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}) \text{ approx to } F_0 \quad [F_0, (1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}})F_0]$$

yields protocol to estimate $d_H(x, y)$ up to $\frac{2F_0}{\sqrt{n}} \leq 2\sqrt{n}$

additive error with $\log_2 n$ extra communication

Goal: Hamming distance estimation w. additive error
 has large communication complexity

convert to decision problem

for a parameter t , constant C

$$\text{GAP-HAMMING}(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } d_H(x, y) \leq t - C\sqrt{n} \\ 0 & \text{if } d_H(x, y) \geq t + C\sqrt{n} \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Promise problem

$\text{GAP-HAMMING}(t)$ reduces to $(1 + \frac{C}{\sqrt{n}})$ approx of F_0

How to pick t ?

$$t=0 ? \quad t=C\sqrt{n}$$

$$\text{GAP-HAMMING}_1(C\sqrt{n}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } d_H(x, y) = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } d_H(x, y) \geq 2C\sqrt{n} \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

We will pick $t = \frac{n}{2}$