

# PCP - Huji Course, Ex 1.

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## 1 Ex 1.

Let  $A$  be a random matrix in  $M(\mathbb{F}_2^{k \times n})$ . For any non-zero  $x \in \mathbb{F}$ , we have that  $Ax$  is distributed uniformly.

**Claim 1.**

*Proof.* By the fact that  $x \neq 0$ , there exists at least one coordinate  $i \in [k]$  such that  $x_i \neq 0$ . Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned}(Ax)_j &= \sum_k A_{jk}x_k = \sum_{i \neq k} A_{jk}x_k + A_{ji}x_i \\ &= \sum_{i \neq k} A_{jk}x_k + A_{ji}\end{aligned}$$

Notice that due to the fact that  $\mathbb{F}_2$  is a field, there is exactly one assignment that satisfies the equation conditioned on all the values  $A_{jk}$  where  $j \neq k$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr[(Ax)_j = 1] &= \sum_{A_{jk}; k \neq i} \Pr[(Ax)_j = 1 \mid A_{jk}; k \neq i] \Pr[A_{jk}; k \neq i] \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, any coordinate of  $Ax$  is distributed uniformly  $\Rightarrow Ax$  is distributed uniformly.  $\square$

By the uniformity of  $Ax$ , we obtain that the expected Hamming weight of  $Ax$  is:

$$\mathbf{E}[|Ax|] = \mathbf{E}\left[\sum_i^n (Ax)_i\right] = \frac{1}{2}n$$

As the coordinates of  $A_x$  are independent (each row of  $A$  is sampled separately), we can use the Hoff's bound to conclude that:

$$\Pr\left[||Ax| - \mathbf{E}[|Ax|]| \geq \left(\frac{1}{2} - \delta\right)n\right] \leq e^{-n(\frac{1}{2}-\delta)^2}$$

Now, we will use the union bound to show that any  $x \in \mathbb{F}_2^k$ ,  $Ax$  is of weight at least  $\delta$ .

$$\Pr[|Ax| \geq \delta : \forall x \in \mathbb{F}_2^k] \geq 1 - |\mathbb{F}_2^k| \cdot e^{-n(\frac{1}{2}-\delta)^2}$$

Denote  $k = \rho n$  and notice that the above holds when  $\rho \geq \left(\frac{1}{2} - \delta\right)^2$ .

## 2 Ex 2.

**Claim 2.** Let  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$  be unit vectors in an inner-product space such that  $\langle v_i, v_j \rangle \leq -2\varepsilon$  for all  $i \neq j$ , then  $m \leq \frac{1}{2\varepsilon} + 1$ .

*Proof.* Let us bound the norm of the summation  $|\sum_i v_i|$  from both sides. As the norm is non-negative by definition, we will bound it from the left by 0. On the other hand, we have that:

$$0 \leq \left| \sum_i v_i \right|^2 = m + 2 \sum_{i,j} \langle v_i, v_j \rangle \leq m - 2 \cdot \frac{m(m-1)}{2} \cdot 2\varepsilon$$

Thus, we obtain  $m(2(m-1)\varepsilon - 1) \leq 0$ , namely,  $m \leq \frac{1}{2\varepsilon} + 1$  □

Now, define the following product for  $u, v \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$ ,  $\langle v, u \rangle = \sum_i (-1)^{v_i} (-1)^{u_i}$  and observe that:

1.  $\langle v, v \rangle = \sum_i 1 = n \geq 0$ .
2.  $\langle v, u \rangle = \langle u, v \rangle$ .
3.  $\langle ax + by, z \rangle = (-1)^a \langle x, z \rangle + (-1)^b \langle y, z \rangle$ .

Now, if the  $v$ 's correspond to a code with distance at least  $d$ , then, for any codewords  $v$  and  $u$  that disagree on at least  $d$  coordinates, we have that  $\langle v, u \rangle \leq \text{agree} - \text{disagree} = n - 2 \text{ disagree} = n - 2d$ . Now consider the normal codewords  $\tilde{v}_1.. \tilde{v}_n$  and assume that

$$\langle \tilde{v}_i, \tilde{v}_j \rangle = (1 - 2\delta) = \frac{1}{n} (n - 2d(v_i, v_j)) \leq \varepsilon$$

Therefore, if  $d \geq \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon$ , we obtain the condition of the above claim.

## 3 Ex 3.

Consider the following process for decoding  $a$ ,

```

1 for  $t \in [\tau]$  do
2   for  $i \in [n]$  do
3      $x \sim_u \mathbb{F}_2^n$ 
4      $a_i^{(t)} \leftarrow w(x) + w(\sigma_i(x))$ 
5   end
6 end
7 for  $i \in [n]$  do
8    $\hat{a}_i \leftarrow \lfloor \frac{1}{\tau} \sum_t a_i^{(t)} \rfloor$ 
9 end
10 return  $\hat{a}_0, \hat{a}_1, \hat{a}_2.. \hat{a}_n$ 
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**Claim 3.** For  $\tau = \Omega\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^4} \log(n)\right)$  The above decoding success to decode  $w(x)$  with probability  $\geq 1 - \frac{1}{n}$ .

*Proof.* In this question we will say that  $w$  agree on  $x, \sigma_i(x)$  if both  $x, \sigma_i(x)$  were either flipped or unflipped. Clearly if  $w(x)$  agree with  $w(\sigma_i(x))$  then

$$\begin{aligned} w(x) + w(\sigma_i(x)) &= H_a(x) + H_a(\sigma_i(x)) \\ &= \sum_{i \neq j} a_j(x_j + x_j) + a_i(x_j + 1 + x_j) = a_j \quad (\text{neither of them were flipped.}) \\ &= 1 + H_a(x) + 1 + H_a(\sigma_i(x)) = a_i \quad (\text{both flipped.}) \end{aligned}$$

Thus we can bound the probability that  $w(x) + w(\sigma_i(x)) \neq a_i$  by the probability that  $w$  disagree on  $x$  and that append at probability:

$$\xi := (1 - f(x)) f(\sigma_i(x)) + (1 - f(\sigma_i(x))) f(x)$$

Now as we want bound  $\xi$  we could think about the maximization problem under the restrictions that  $f(x), f(\sigma_i(x)) \leq \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$ . We know that the maximum lay on the boundary so we can assign  $\frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$  for each of the probabilities to obtain an upper bound. That will yield  $\xi \leq 2 \cdot (\frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon) (\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon)$ , namely  $\xi \leq \frac{1}{2} - 2\varepsilon^2$ . Now the probability that a coordinate  $i$  will be rounded to the opposite side, that it  $\hat{a}_i \neq a_i$  mean that arithmetic mean over  $\tau$  experiments were  $2\varepsilon^2$  far from the expectation. Which by Hoff' bound is bounded by:  $e^{\tau 4\varepsilon^4}$ . So using the union bound we obtain:

$$\Pr[\text{decoding success}] \geq 1 - n \cdot e^{\tau 4\varepsilon^4}$$

Therefore it's enough to take  $\tau = O(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^4} \log(n))$  to obtain a decoder which run at time  $O(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^4} n \log(n))$  and success with heigh probability.  $\square$

## 4 Ex 3.

Consider the following process for decoding  $a$ :

```

1 for  $t \in [\tau]$  do
2   for  $i \in [n]$  do
3      $x \sim_u \mathbb{F}_2^n$ 
4      $a_i^{(t)} \leftarrow w(x) + w(\sigma_i(x))$ 
5   end
6 end
7 for  $i \in [n]$  do
8    $\hat{a}_i \leftarrow [\frac{1}{\tau} \sum_t a_i^{(t)}]$ 
9 end
10 return  $\hat{a}_0, \hat{a}_1, \hat{a}_2, \dots, \hat{a}_n$ 

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**Claim 4.** For  $\tau = \Omega(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^4} \log(n))$  the above decoding succeeds in decoding  $w(x)$  with probability  $\geq 1 - \frac{1}{n}$ .

*Proof.* In this question we will say that  $w$  agrees on  $x, \sigma_i(x)$  if both  $x, \sigma_i(x)$  were either flipped or unflipped. Clearly, if  $w(x)$  agrees with  $w(\sigma_i(x))$  then

$$\begin{aligned}
w(x) + w(\sigma_i(x)) &= H_a(x) + H_a(\sigma_i(x)) \\
&= \sum_{i \neq j} a_j(x_j + x_j) + a_i(x_j + 1 + x_j) = a_j \quad (\text{neither of them were flipped.}) \\
&= 1 + H_a(x) + 1 + H_a(\sigma_i(x)) = a_i \quad (\text{both flipped.})
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we can bound the probability that  $w(x) + w(\sigma_i(x)) \neq a_i$  by the probability that  $w$  disagrees on  $x$  and that is at probability:

$$\xi := (1 - f(x)) f(\sigma_i(x)) + (1 - f(\sigma_i(x))) f(x)$$

Now, to bound  $\xi$ , we can think about the maximization problem under the restrictions that  $f(x), f(\sigma_i(x)) \leq \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$ . We know that the maximum lies on the boundary, so we can assign  $\frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$  for each of the probabilities to obtain an upper bound. That will yield  $\xi \leq 2 \cdot (\frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon) (\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon)$ , namely  $\xi \leq \frac{1}{2} - 2\varepsilon^2$ . Now, the probability that a coordinate  $i$  will be rounded to the opposite side, i.e.  $\hat{a}_i \neq a_i$ , means that the arithmetic mean over  $\tau$  experiments is  $2\varepsilon^2$  far from the expectation. According to Hoff's bound, this is bounded by  $e^{\tau 4\varepsilon^4}$ . Thus, using the union bound, we obtain:

$$\Pr[\text{decoding success}] \geq 1 - n \cdot e^{\tau 4\varepsilon^4}$$

Therefore, it is enough to take  $\tau = O(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^4} \log(n))$  to obtain a decoder that runs in time  $O(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^4} n \log(n))$  and succeeds with high probability.  $\square$

## 5 Ex 4.

### 5.1 (a)

We will prove that if for any  $x$ ,  $f$  interpolate well on  $x, x+1, \dots, x+d+1$  than any it interpolate well on every coordinates set at size  $d+1$ . Denote by  $J \subset \mathbb{F}_q$  at size  $d+1$ . Let's continue by induction on  $\max J$ . The base case  $\max J = d+1 \Rightarrow J = \{1, 2, \dots, d+1\}$  follow straightforwardly from the assumption. Assume the correctness for any  $J$  such that  $\max J \leq x_0$  and consider  $J'$  such that  $\max J' = x_0 + 1$ . Now it given that  $S = \{x_0 - d, x_0 - d + 1, \dots, x_0 + 1\}$  is well interpolating set, so there exists coefficients  $a_1, a_{d+1}$  such that  $a_{d+1}f(x_0 + 1) = \sum_{x_i \in S/(x_0+1)} a_i f(x_i)$ . On the overhand, for ant any  $x_i \in S/(x_0 + 1)$  the union  $K = x_i \cup J/(x_0 + 1)$  is subset of  $\mathbb{F}_q$  at size  $d+1$  such that  $\max K \leq x_0$ . Hence by induction assumption  $K$  is well interpolating set and we can exchange any  $f(x_i)$  for  $x_i \in S$  by a linear combination of  $f(x_i)$  for  $x_i \in J/(x_0 + 1)$ . So in overall we obtain that  $J$  is depended set, namely  $f$  is well interpolate on  $J$ .

### 5.2 (b)

Define the function  $g(x) = f(t^{-1}(x - s))$ . Note that  $q$  is prime, thus  $(\mathbb{F}_q/0, \cdot)$  and  $(\mathbb{F}_q, +)$  are groups and the inverse elements  $-s, t^{-1}$  are exist and unqs. Suppose that  $y$  is a zero of  $g \Rightarrow f(t(y + s)) = g(y) = 0$ . Hence the number of zeros of  $f$  equals to the number of zeros of  $g$ , which means that their degree are equal  $\Rightarrow g$  is also a polynomial at degree at most  $d$ ,  $\Rightarrow a_1, a_2, \dots, a_d$  are also the interpolation coefficients respecting to the interpolation set  $\{tx_1 + s, tx_2 + s, \dots, tx_d + s\}$ .

## 6 Ex (5).

### 6.1 (a)

As shown in the previous section, by the fact that  $q$  is prime, we have that  $g_{u,v}$  acts on  $\mathbb{F}_q^m$  by  $g_{u,v}(x) = u + vx$ , (for any  $v \neq 0$ ). Thus,  $f(g_{u,v}(x))$  is just a permutation over the values of  $f$ . As the number of zeros remains the same, we have that  $f(g_{u,v}(x))$  is also a degree  $d$  polynomial. Therefore, the restricted polynomial  $f|_L$  corresponds to the restriction  $L'$  of another polynomial obtained by taking  $u' = 0$  and  $v$  to be supported only on a single coordinate. Hence, the restricted polynomial can have at most  $d$  zeros.

### 6.2 (b)

As we have that  $f$  is a polynomial of degree exactly  $d$ , there must be a monomial  $x_1^{d_1} x_2^{d_2} \dots x_k^{d_k}$  such that  $\sum_i d_i = d$ . Denote by  $g$  the sum of all those monomials, and by  $v \in \mathbb{F}_q^n$  a coordinate on which  $g(v) \neq 0$  (if there is no such  $v$ , then we could write  $f$  as a sum of monomials, each of degree at most  $d-1$ ).

Now, as  $g(v), t \neq 0$ , we obtain that  $g(vt)$  is equal exactly to  $t^d \cdot c$  where  $c$  is the sum of coefficients of each monomial of  $g$  (also  $c = g(1)$ ). As  $f(x) - g(x)$  is a polynomial of degree  $d-1$ , it holds from the previous section that  $(f - g)(vt)$  is also a polynomial of degree at most  $d-1$ . Thus, it cannot zero out  $g(vt) \Rightarrow f(vt) = (f - g)(vt) + g(vt)$  is also a polynomial of degree  $d$ .

## 7 Ex (6).

### 7.1 (a) and (b).

Let  $F$  be a function from  $\{0, 1, \dots, d\}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_q$ , we are going to define a  $d$ -degree polynmail  $f : \mathbb{F}_q^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_q$  that agree with  $F$  and show that is uniq. Notice that any polynomial could be written as  $\sum_{i,j} a_i a_j x^i y^j$ . Thus, the assignments of  $(d+1)^2$  points define  $(d+1)^2$  equations over  $(d+1)^2$  variables. In addition, as the determinant of the matrix equals

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0^2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \cdot 0 & 0 & 1 \cdot 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \cdot 1 & 1^2 1 & d & d & d^2 & d^2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} a_{00} \\ a_{01} \\ a_{10} \\ a_{11} \\ a_{20} \\ a_{dd} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F(0,0) \\ F(0,1) \\ F(1,0) \\ F(1,1) \\ F(d,d) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} (-1)^{\sigma(\pi)} \prod_{i,j} (x^{\sigma(i)_1} y^{\sigma(j)_2}) &= \prod_{i < j} (x_i - x_j) \prod_{i < j} (y_i - y_j) \\ &= \prod_{i < j} (x_i - x_j) \prod_{i < j} (y_i - y_j) = \prod i^{d-i} \prod j^{d-j} \not\equiv 0 \end{aligned}$$

So the determinant is not zero, thus we can solve that system by gauss elimination and obtain unique solution. The solution is unique and define the coefficients of  $f$ .

## 7.2 (c).

Now consider a function  $f : \mathbb{F}_q^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_q$  which any restriction of  $f$  to a line is a polynomial at degree at most  $d$ .