

Randomised Algorithms

Winter term 2022/2023, Exercise Sheet No. 1

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Exercise 1.

(a) The best estimate is $\min\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$

If at least one sample was honest, the estimate would be exact, otherwise, if all samples were dishonest, the smallest sample would be the closest to N , since all the answers would be strictly bigger than N .

(b) The probability that the estimate is correct can be expressed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}(\{\text{The estimate is correct}\}) &= \mathbb{P}(\{\text{At least one sample was honest}\}) \\ &= 1 - \mathbb{P}(\{\text{All answers are dishonest}\}) \\ &= 1 - (1 - p)^n\end{aligned}$$

Setting this probability to 1, would mean that $(1 - p)^n = 0$, i.e., $p = 1$.

(c) For $n = 10$ and $p = 0.5$, we have $\mathbb{P}(\{\text{The estimate is correct}\}) = 1 - (1 - p)^n$, and hence, $\mathbb{P}(\{\text{The estimate is correct}\}) = 0.999$.

Exercise 2.

We toss the coin twice, let H_1 and H_2 be the random variables associated with each toss, we are interested in the following event: $\mathbb{P}[H_1 | (H_1 \& \bar{H}_2) \text{ or } (\bar{H}_1 \& H_2)]$, meaning, the probability that H_1 was heads knowing that only one of the coin tosses was head. **This event has a probability of 1/2.**

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}(H_1 | (H_1 \bar{H}_2) \text{ or } (\bar{H}_1 H_2)) &= \frac{\mathbb{P}[H_1 \text{ and } ((H_1 \bar{H}_2) \text{ or } (\bar{H}_1 H_2))]}{\mathbb{P}((H_1 \bar{H}_2) \text{ or } (\bar{H}_1 H_2))} \\ &= \frac{\mathbb{P}[(H_1 \bar{H}_2)]}{\mathbb{P}((H_1 \bar{H}_2) \text{ or } (\bar{H}_1 H_2))} \\ &= \frac{p(1 - p)}{2p(1 - p)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 3.

We assume that $n > 9$ throughout this exercise, and use the results of that we have established in class during the first session.

Case: Choosing $p < n^{20}$

- Upper bound on the communication complexity :

We have $s < p < n^{20}$, meaning we would need at most $2\lceil \log_2(n^{20}) \rceil \leq 40\lceil \log_2(n) \rceil$

For $n = 10^{16}$, we get the following upper bound: $40 * 16 * 4 = 2560$ bits

- Upper bound on the error :

We still have $x - y < 2^n$, and hence, the number of bad prime numbers is still at most $n - 1$. On the other hand, the spaces of choices of primes got bigger, $|\text{primes}(n^{20})|$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\text{An incorrect answer}) &\leq \frac{n-1}{|\text{primes}(n^{20})|} \\ &\leq \frac{(n-1)\ln(n^{20})}{n^{20}} \\ &\leq \frac{20(n-1)\ln(n)}{n^{20}} \end{aligned}$$

For $n = 10^{16}$, we can easily get the following upper bound: 10^{-300}

Case: Protocol R_{10}

- Upper bound on the communication complexity :

Assuming $p < n^2$, the communication complexity would simply be multiplied by 10, i.e., $256 \text{ bits} * 10 = 2560$ bits.

- Upper bound on the error :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(R_{10} \text{ making an error}) &= \mathbb{P}[\{p_i \text{ making an error for all } i \in \{1, \dots, 10\}\}] \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^{10} \mathbb{P}[\{p_i \text{ making an error}\}] \\ &\leq \prod_{i=1}^{10} \frac{2\ln(n)}{n} \\ &= \frac{2^{10}\ln(n)^{10}}{n^{10}} \end{aligned}$$

Each choice of p_i is independent from the others, which justifies the second equality.

For $n = 10^{16}$, we can easily get the following upper bound: $4.8 \cdot 10^{-142}$

Conclusion: They have similar upper bounds regarding the communication complexity, and the probability of an incorrect answer is practically ZERO for both of them.