

# Chapter 8

## The Proofs of the PCP Theorems

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# Outline

1. Backgrounds
2. CSP
3. Gap amplification
4. Hardness of  $2\text{CSP}_W$
5. Hastad's 3bit PCP

# Three approaches

1. Local test approach (Arora, Sudan, 1992, full proof 1998)
2. Expander approach (Dinur, 06)
3. Fourier analysis approach (Hastad, 1998)

We introduce the two later approaches.

The first approach is a development of new ECC and new decoding algorithms of the ECC, based on the algebraic fundamental theorem.

# CSP with non-binary alphabet

## Definition

( $q\text{CSP}_W$ ) For  $q, W \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $q\text{CSP}$  with alphabet  $[W] = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, W-1\}$ .

For  $\rho < 1$ ,  
the  $\rho$ -GAP  $q\text{CSP}_W$  problem.

Examples:

- i) 3SAT:  $q = 3$ ,  $W = 2$ , constraints are OR's of literals
- ii) 3COL:  $2\text{CSP}_3$ .

# Overall ideas of Dinur's proof

We know

The PCP theorem  $\iff \rho - \text{GAP}q\text{CSP}$  is NP-hard for  $\rho < 1$ .

Let  $\rho = 1 - \epsilon$ .

## Theorem

*Given a 3CSP instance  $\phi$ , if  $\phi$  is satisfiable,  $\text{val}(\phi) = 1$ , otherwise, then  $\text{val}(\phi) \leq 1 - \frac{1}{m}$ .*

Therefore, for  $\rho = 1 - \frac{1}{m}$ ,  
the  $\rho - \text{GAP}3\text{CSP}$  is NP-hard.

To prove the PCP theorem, it suffices to amplify the error from  $\frac{1}{m}$  to a constant  $\epsilon_0$ .

# Reduction

The proof is a reduction  $R$ :

$$R : q\text{CSP} \rightarrow q'\text{CSP}$$

$$\phi \mapsto \psi$$

$$\text{val}(\phi) \leq 1 - \epsilon \Rightarrow \text{val}(\psi) \leq 1 - 2\epsilon.$$

# Linear-blowup reduction

## Definition

Let  $f$  be a function mapping CSP instances to CSP instances. We say that  $f$  is a complete linear-blowup reduction, written CL-reduction, if:

- i)  $f$  is polynomial time computable
- ii) (Completeness) If  $\text{val}(\phi) = 1$ , then so is  $\text{val}(f(\phi))$ .
- iii) (Linear blowup) If  $\phi$  has  $m$  constraints, then  $f(\phi)$  has at most  $cm$  constraints and alphabet  $W$ , where  $C, W$  depend on only the arity and alphabet of  $\phi$ .

# The PCP main lemma

## Lemma

*There exist constants  $q_0, \epsilon_0 > 0$  and a CL-reduction  $f$ :*

- If  $\phi$  is  $q_0\text{CSP}$ , then so is  $\psi = f(\phi)$ ,*
- If  $\epsilon < \epsilon_0$  and  $\text{val}(\phi) \leq 1 - \epsilon$ , then*

$$\text{val}(\psi) \leq 1 - 2\epsilon.$$

Consequently:

There exist constants  $q_0, \epsilon_0$  such that

$$(1 - 2\epsilon_0) - \text{GAP}q_0\text{CSP}$$

is NP-hard.



# Gap amplification lemma

## Lemma

*For every  $l, q \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exist  $W \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\epsilon_0 > 0$ , CL-reduction  $g$ :*

- If  $\phi$  is  $q\text{CSP}$ , then  $\psi = g(\phi)$  is  $2\text{CSP}_W$ ,*
- for each  $\epsilon < \epsilon_0$ , if  $\text{val}(\phi) \leq 1 - \epsilon$ , then*

$$\text{val}(\psi) \leq 1 - l \cdot \epsilon.$$

Arity:

$$q \Rightarrow 2$$

Alphabet:

$$2 \Rightarrow W$$

Error:

$$\epsilon \Rightarrow l\epsilon$$

# Alphabet reduction lemma

## Lemma

*There exist  $q_0$ , CL-reduction  $h$ :*

- 1) *If  $\phi$  is  $2\text{CSP}_W$ , then  $\psi = h(\phi)$  is  $q_0\text{CSP}$*
- 2) *If  $\text{val}(\phi) \leq 1 - \epsilon$ , then*

$$\text{val}(\psi) \leq 1 - \frac{\epsilon}{3}.$$

- Arity:  $2 \Rightarrow q_0$
- Alphabet:  $W \Rightarrow 2$
- Error:  $\epsilon \Rightarrow \frac{\epsilon}{3}$ .
- Combining the gap amplification and the alphabet reduction lemmas with  $l = 6$ ,  $q = q_0$ .

# Intuition

- Parallel repetition
- To reduce the size, we use random walks in expanders

## Basic tools

1) For a regular graph  $G = (V, E)$ ,  $S \subseteq V$ ,  $|S| \leq \frac{n}{2}$ ,  $|V| = n$ ,

$$\Pr_{(u,v) \in_R E} [u \in S \ \& \ v \in S] \leq \frac{|S|}{n} \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\lambda(G)}{2} \right).$$

2)

$$\lambda(G') = (\lambda(G))^l.$$

For  $T = \bar{S}$ ,

$$e(S, T) \geq (1 - \lambda(G)) \frac{d|S| \cdot |T|}{n} \geq \frac{1 - \lambda(G)}{2} \cdot d|S|$$

The probability that  $v \in T$  under the condition of  $u \in S$  is at least  $\frac{1 - \lambda(G)}{2}$ .

The probability that  $v \in S$  under the condition of  $u \in S$  is  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\lambda(G)}{2}$ .

This gives 1). 2) as before.

# Notation

## Definition

We say that a  $q\text{CSP}_W$  instance  $\phi$  is “nice”, if:

**P1** The arity  $q$  of  $\phi$  is 2.

**P2**  $\phi$  has a constraint graph  $G$  satisfying:

**0.1** for a constraint with variables  $u_i, u_j$ , there is an edge  $(i, j)$

**0.2**  $G$  has parallel edges and self-loops

**0.3**  $G$  is  $d$ -regular, and half the edges are self-loops

**P3**  $G$  is an expander with  $\lambda(G) \leq 0.9$ , say.

**Convention:** Assume all CSP instances are nice.

# Powering

## Lemma

*There is an algorithm that given any  $2\text{CSP}_W$  instance  $\psi$  satisfying P1 - P3, and an integer  $t \geq 1$ , produces an instance  $\psi^t$  satisfying:*

1.  $\psi^t$  is a  $2\text{CSP}_{W'}$  instance,  $W' < W^{d^{5t}}$ ,  $\psi^t$  has  $d^{t+\sqrt{t}+1} \cdot n$  constraints.
2. If  $\psi$  is satisfied, then so is  $\psi^t$ .
3. For every  $\epsilon < \frac{1}{d\sqrt{t}}$ , if  $\text{val}(\psi) \leq 1 - \epsilon$ , then  $\text{val}(\psi^t) \leq 1 - \epsilon'$ , for  $\epsilon' = \frac{\sqrt{t}}{10^5 d W^4} \epsilon$ .
4.  $\psi^t$  is produced from  $\psi$  in time polynomial in  $m$  and  $W^{dt}$ .

# Proof - I

Outline of the reduction:

$$\psi \Rightarrow \psi^t$$

Variables  $y$  – the same  $y$ 's

$$y \in W \Rightarrow y \in W^{d^{5t}}$$

Consider the constraint graph  $G$  of  $\psi$ .

Let  $y$  be a variable of  $\psi^t$ , the assignment of  $y$  in  $\psi^t$  defines the codes for all old variables of  $\psi$  in a ball of radius  $t + \sqrt{t}$ .

For every path  $P$  in  $G$  of length  $2t + 1$ , define a constraint for  $\psi^t$  as follows:

# Defining constraints for $\psi^t$

Suppose that

$$P = i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{2t+1}.$$

Define the constraint  $c_P$  for  $\psi^t$ :

$c_P$  is false, if there is a  $j \in [2t+1]$  satisfying:

- (i)  $i_j$  is in the  $(t + \sqrt{t})$ -radius ball around  $i_1$ ,
- (ii)  $i_{j+1}$  is in the  $(t + \sqrt{t})$ -radius ball of  $i_{2t+1}$ ,
- (iii) Let  $w$  be the value of  $i_j$  defined by  $i_1$ ,  $w'$  be the value of  $i_{j+1}$  defined by  $i_{2t+1}$ , and
- (iv)  $(w, w')$  fails to satisfy the constraint associated with  $i_j$  and  $i_{j+1}$  in  $\psi$ .



## Lifting assignment for $\psi^t$

For every variable  $u$  in  $\psi^t$ ,  $u$  defines a value  $f_u(v)$  for every  $v$  in  $G$  such that  $\text{dist}(u, v) \leq t + \sqrt{t}$  in  $G$ .

For every assignment to the variables  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$  in  $\psi$ , we lift it to a canonical assignment to the variables  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$  in  $\psi^t$  as follows:

For each  $y_i$ , define

$$f_i(y_j) = f(u_j)$$

for each  $y_j$  in the  $t + \sqrt{t}$ -radius ball of  $u_i$ .

**Completeness:**

If  $(u_1), \dots, f(u_n)$  satisfy  $\psi$ , then the assignment defined above for  $\psi^t$  satisfies all the constraints of  $\psi^t$ .

# Soundness

$$\text{val}(\psi) \leq \epsilon \Rightarrow \text{val}(\psi^t) \leq 1 - \epsilon',$$

for  $\epsilon' = \frac{\sqrt{t}}{10^5 d W^4} \epsilon$ .

Given an assignment  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$  to the new variables  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$  for  $\psi^t$ . Note that  $f_i(j)$  is the value of  $y_j$  defined by  $y_i$ .

For a fixed  $j$ , define  $f(j)$  to be the majority  $f_i(j)$  for all possible  $i$ 's, and define  $f(j)$  to be the value of  $u_j$  for  $\psi$ .

## Plurality assignment

**Idea:** Fix an assignment  $\mathbf{y} = y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$  to  $\psi^t$ , define an assignment  $\mathbf{u}$  for  $\psi$  by plurality. Then:

If  $\mathbf{u}$  violates a few ( $\epsilon$ ) constraints of  $\psi$ , then  $\mathbf{y}$  violates many ( $\epsilon' = \Omega(\sqrt{t}\epsilon)$ ) constraints of  $\psi^t$ .

### Definition

(Plurality assignment) For every variable  $u_i$  of  $\psi$ , we define the random variable  $Z_i$  over  $\{0, 1, \dots, W-1\}$  as follows:

- (i) start from vertex  $i$ ,
- (ii) take  $t$  step random walk in  $G$  to reach vertex  $k$ ,
- (iii) let  $z_i$  be the most likely value of  $y_k(i)$ .
- (iv) let

$$\mathbf{z} = z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n$$

be the plurality assignment.

# Failure set

## Note

$$\Pr[Z_i = z_i] \geq \frac{1}{W}.$$

Assume  $\text{val}(\psi) \leq 1 - \epsilon$ .

For the plurality assignment  $\mathbf{z} = z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n$ , let  $F$  be the set of constraints of  $\psi$  that are not satisfied by  $\mathbf{z}$ .

Then:

$$|F| \geq \epsilon m = \epsilon d \frac{n}{2}.$$

We call  $F$  the *failure set* of  $\psi$ . We will use the failure set  $F$  to show that  $\mathbf{y}$  fails to satisfy  $\epsilon'$  fraction of the constraints of  $\psi^t$ .

## Probability space

- 1) Pick a  $(2t + 1)$  step path  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{2t+2}$  in  $G$ , i.e., a random constraint of  $\psi^t$ .
- 2) For each  $j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq 2t + 1$ , we say that the  $j$ -th edge in the path, i.e.,  $(i_j, i_{j+1})$ , is *truthful* if:
  - $y_{i_j}$  gives the plurality value of  $i_j$ , and
  - $y_{i_{2t+2}}$  gives the plurality value for  $i_{j+1}$ .

**Fact:** If there is an edge  $(i_j, i_{j+1})$  which is both truthful and in  $F$ , then the constraint defined by the path is unsatisfied.

What we will prove is: there are  $\epsilon'$  fraction of the paths that contain the edges as above.

# The probability that an edge is chosen

## Lemma

*(Property 1) For each edge  $e$  of  $G$  and each  $j \in [2t + 1]$ ,*

$$\Pr[e \text{ is the } j\text{th edge of the path}] = \frac{1}{|E|} = \frac{2}{dn}.$$

The proof is by observation.

# The probability that a chosen edge is truthful

## Lemma

(Property 2) Let  $\delta < \frac{1}{100W}$ . For each edge  $e$  of  $G$  and  $j$  with  $t \leq j \leq t + \delta\sqrt{t}$ ,

$$\Pr[e \text{ is truthful} \mid e \text{ is the } j\text{th edge}] \geq \frac{1}{2W^2}.$$

**Intuition:** The edges in the middle of the paths are truthful with high probability.

## Proof of Property 2 - I

By property 1, the set of walks of length  $2t + 1$  that contain  $e = (i_j, i_{j+1})$  at the  $j$ th step can be generated by concatenating a random walk of length  $j$  from  $i_j$ , and a random walk of length  $2t - j$  from  $i_{j+1}$ .

To property Property 2, it suffices to prove:

The probability that:

- $y_{i_j}$  gives the plurality value of  $i_j$ , and

- $y_{i_{2t+2}}$  gives the plurality value for  $i_{j+1}$

is at least  $\frac{1}{2W^2}$ .



## Proof of Property 2 - II

Assume  $j \in \{t, t+1, \dots, t + \delta\sqrt{t}\}$ .

Recall that at each vertex of  $G$ , half edges are self-loops.

For a random walk of  $l$  steps, we define a distribution  $S_l$ :

- 1) the number of the random coins that come up "heads",
- 2) take  $S_l$  "real" steps on the graph.

Then:

$$\Pr[S_l = k] = \binom{l}{k} 2^{-l}.$$

## Proof of Property 2 - III

This gives

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_m |\Pr[S_t = m] - \Pr[S_{t+\delta\sqrt{t}} = m]| \leq 10\delta.$$

Therefore, for each  $j \in \{t, t+1, \dots, t+\delta\sqrt{t}\}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr[y_{i_j} \text{ gives the plurality value for } i_j \text{ and} \\ & \quad y_{i_{2t+1}} \text{ gives the plurality value for } i_{j+1}] \\ & \geq \left(\frac{1}{W} - 10\delta\right)\left(\frac{1}{W} - 10\delta\right) \geq \frac{1}{2W^2}. \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

# Proof

Let  $V$  be the random variable denoting the number of edges among the middle  $\delta\sqrt{t}$  edges that are truthful and in  $F$ .  
According to properties 1 and 2,

$$E[V] \geq \delta\sqrt{t} \times \frac{|F|}{|E|} \times \frac{1}{2W^2}.$$

## Property 3

First,

$$E[V^2] \leq 30\epsilon\delta\sqrt{t}d.$$

Let  $V'$ : the number of edges in the middle that are in  $F$ .

Then  $V \leq V'$ .

We prove

$$E[V'^2] \leq 30\epsilon\delta\sqrt{t}d.$$

For  $j \in \{t, t+1, \dots, t+\delta\sqrt{t}\}$ ,

$$l_j = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if the } j\text{th edge is in } F, \\ 0, & \text{o.w.} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

Then

$$V' = \sum_{j \in \{t, t+1, \dots, t+\delta\sqrt{t}\}} l_j.$$

## Proof of property 3 - II

$$\begin{aligned} E[V'^2] &= E\left[\sum_{j,j'} l_j l_{j'}\right] \\ &= E\left[\sum_j l_j^2\right] + E\left[\sum_{j \neq j'} l_j l_{j'}\right] \\ &= \epsilon\delta\sqrt{t} + E\left[\sum_{j \neq j'} l_j l_{j'}\right] \\ &= \epsilon\delta\sqrt{t} + 2 \sum_{j < j'} \Pr[(j\text{th edge is in } F) \wedge (j'\text{th edge is in } F)] \\ &\leq \epsilon\delta\sqrt{t} + 2 \sum_{j < j'} \Pr[(j\text{th vertex in } S) \wedge (j'\text{th vertex in } S)] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq \epsilon\delta\sqrt{t} + 2 \sum_{j < j'} \epsilon d (\epsilon d + (\lambda(G))^{j'-j}) \\
&\leq \epsilon\delta\sqrt{t} + 2\epsilon^2\delta\sqrt{t}d^2 + 2\epsilon\delta\sqrt{t}d \sum_{k \geq 1} \lambda^k(G) \\
&\leq \epsilon\delta\sqrt{t} + 2\epsilon^2\delta\sqrt{t}d^2 + 20\epsilon\delta\sqrt{t}d \\
&\leq 30\epsilon\delta\sqrt{t}d. (\epsilon < \frac{1}{d\sqrt{t}}). \tag{3}
\end{aligned}$$

Finally,

$$\Pr[V > 0] \geq \frac{(E[V])^2}{E[V^2]} \geq \frac{(\delta\sqrt{t}\epsilon)^2}{30\epsilon\delta\sqrt{t}d} = \frac{\sqrt{t}}{10^5 d W^4} \epsilon = \epsilon'.$$

# Proof of reducing alphabet size - I

Let  $\phi$  be a  $2\text{CSP}$  instance with:

- (i)  $n$  variables  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$ ,
- (ii) alphabet  $\{0, 1, \dots, W-1\}$ , and
- (iii) constraints  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_m$ .

Each variable takes value in  $[W]$ , that is interpreted as a string in  $\{0, 1\}^{\log W}$ .

Each constraint  $C_k$  involves variables  $u_i$  and  $u_j$  is regarded as a circuit  $\hat{C}_k$  applied to the bit strings.

Let  $I$  be an upper bound of all the circuits size.

Then,

$$I \leq 2^{2^{\log W}} < W^4.$$

Now each  $\hat{C}_k$  is a new constraint with binary variables.

# Project property

For each constraint  $C(y_1, y_2)$ , for each value of  $y_1$ , there is a unique  $y_2$  such that  $C(y_1, y_2)$  is satisfied.

A 2CSP instance  $\phi$  is called *regular*, if every variable appears in the same number of constraints.



# Raz's repetition Theorem

## Theorem

*There is a  $c > 1$  such that for every  $t > 1$ ,  $\epsilon - \text{GAP}2\text{CSP}_W$  is NP-hard for  $\epsilon = 2^{-t}$ ,  $W = 2^{ct}$ , and the result holds for  $2\text{CSP}$  instances that are regular and have the projection property.*

# Intuition

Assume  $\phi$  is a  $2\text{CSP}_W$  instance such that either  $\text{val}(\phi) = 1$  or  $\text{val}(\phi) = \rho < 1$ , and it is NP-hard to distinct the two cases. Construct  $\phi^{*t}$  as follows.

For every  $t$ -tuple of constraints of  $\phi$ :

$$\phi_1(y_1, z_1), \phi_2(y_2, z_2), \dots, \phi_t(y_t, z_t)$$

$\phi^{*t}$  has the constraint of the form:

$$\bigwedge_{i=1}^t \phi_i(y_i, z_i)$$

between variables  $(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_t)$  and  $(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_t)$ .

Running the verifier for  $\phi$  in parallel  $t$  times gives the theorem.

## 3-bit PCP Theorem

### Theorem

*For every  $\delta > 0$  and every language  $L \in \text{NP}$ , there is a PCP verifier  $V$  for  $L$  making three binary queries having completeness  $1 - \delta$  and soundness at most  $\frac{1}{2} + \delta$ .*

*Moreover the tests used by  $V$  are linear. That is, given a proof  $\pi \in \{0, 1\}^m$ ,  $V$  chooses a triple  $(i_1, i_2, i_3) \in [m]^3$  and  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  according to some distribution and accepts if and only if*

$$\pi_{i_1} + \pi_{i_2} + \pi_{i_3} = b \pmod{2}.$$

# Long code

## Definition

The long code for  $[W]$  encodes each  $w \in [W]$  by a table of all values of the function  $\chi_{\{w\}} : \{\pm 1\}^W \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$ .

Let  $W \in \mathbb{N}$ . For  $w \in [W]$ ,

$$\chi_{\{w\}}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_W) = \prod_{i \in \{w\}} x_i = \prod_{i=w} x_i = x_w.$$

The long code or codeword defined by  $w$  is the table of the function  $\chi_{\{w\}}$ .

Given a function  $f : \{\pm 1\}^W \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$ , we need to test if  $f$  is a long code  $\chi_{\{w\}}$  for some  $w \in [W]$ .

## Local test of long code

The local tester for long code  $\mathcal{T}$ :

- (1) Pick two uniformly random vectors  $x, y$  from  $\{\pm 1\}^W$ .
- (2) Pick a *noisy*  $z \in \{\pm 1\}^W$  as follows: For each  $i$ 
  - with probability  $1 - \rho$ , define  $z_i = +1$ ,
  - o.w., then  $z_i = -1$ .
- (3) Accepts if:

$$f(x)f(y) = f(xyz).$$

# Completeness

If  $f = \chi_{\{w\}}$  for some  $w \in [W]$ , then

- $f(x)f(y) = x_w y_w$
- $f(xyz) = x_w y_w z_w$
- $f(x)f(y) = f(xyz) \iff x_w = 1$ , which holds with probability  $1 - \rho$ .

# Soundness - I

## Lemma

*If the tester accepts with probability  $\frac{1}{2} + \delta$ , then*

$$\sum_{\alpha} \widehat{f}_{\alpha}^3 (1 - 2\rho)^{|\alpha|} \geq 2\delta.$$

Suppose the lemma holds.

If  $|\alpha|$  is large,  $(1 - 2\rho)^{|\alpha|}$  is negligible. Therefore, there are small  $\alpha$  such that  $\widehat{f}_{\alpha}$  is large, so  $f$  is close to  $\chi_{\alpha}$ .

For  $k = \frac{1}{2\rho} \log \frac{1}{\epsilon}$ , if  $|\alpha| > k$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - 2\rho)^{|\alpha|} &< (1 - 2\rho)^{\frac{1}{2\rho} \log \epsilon^{-1}} \\ &= ((1 - 2\rho)^{\frac{1}{2\rho}})^{\log \frac{1}{\epsilon}} < \left(\frac{1}{e}\right)^{\log \frac{1}{\epsilon}} < \epsilon. \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

## Soundness - II

By the lemma,

$$\begin{aligned}
 2\delta &\leq \sum_{\alpha} \widehat{f}_{\alpha}^3 (1 - 2\rho)^{|\alpha|} \\
 &= \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} \widehat{f}_{\alpha}^3 (1 - 2\rho)^{|\alpha|} + \sum_{|\alpha| > k} \widehat{f}_{\alpha}^3 (1 - 2\rho)^{|\alpha|} \\
 &\leq \max_{|\alpha| \leq k} \widehat{f}_{\alpha} \sum_{\alpha, |\alpha| \leq k} \widehat{f}_{\alpha}^2 (1 - 2\rho)^{|\alpha|} + \epsilon \\
 &\leq \max_{\alpha, |\alpha| \leq k} \widehat{f}_{\alpha} + \epsilon.
 \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

Therefore, there is an  $\alpha$  such that  $|\alpha| \leq k$ ,  $\widehat{f}_{\alpha} \geq 2\delta - \epsilon$ .  
 $f$  is close to  $\chi_{\alpha}$ .



## Proof of the lemma - I

If the tester accepts with prob  $\frac{1}{2} + \delta$ , then

$$E[f(x)f(y)f(xyz)] = 2\delta.$$

Let  $f = \sum_{\alpha} \hat{f}_{\alpha} \chi_{\alpha}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} 2\delta &\leq E_{x,y,z}[(\sum_{\alpha} \hat{f}_{\alpha} \chi_{\alpha}(x))(\sum_{\beta} \hat{f}_{\beta} \chi_{\beta}(y))(\sum_{\gamma} \hat{f}_{\gamma} \chi_{\gamma}(xyz))] \\ &= \sum_{\alpha} \hat{f}_{\alpha}^3 E_z[\chi_{\alpha}(z)]. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

By the choice of  $z$ ,

$$E_z[\chi_{\alpha}(z)] = E_z[\prod_{i \in \alpha} z_i].$$

## Proof of the lemma - II

By the independence, the later is

$$\prod_{i \in \alpha} E[z_i] = (1 - 2\rho)^{|\alpha|},$$

since  $E[z_i] = 1 - 2\rho$ . Therefore,

$$2\delta \leq \sum_{\alpha} \widehat{f}_{\alpha}^3 (1 - 2\rho)^{|\alpha|}.$$

## Recall the instance

Assume: For a  $2\text{CSP}_W$  instance  $\phi$ , either  $\text{val}(\phi) = 1$  or  $\text{val}(\phi) \leq 1 - \epsilon$ .

Suppose that

- (i)  $\phi$  has  $n$  variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , taking values in  $[W]$ ,
- (ii) for each constraint  $\phi_r(x_i, x_j)$ , there is a function  $h : [W] \rightarrow [W]$  such that  $\phi_r$  is satisfied by  $\pi$  if and only if  $\pi(j) = h(\pi(i))$ .

# Bifolded

**Observation** For  $v = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_W)$ ,

$$\chi_{\{w\}}(-v) = -\chi_{\{w\}}(v) = -v_w$$

.

## Definition

We say that a function is biofolded, if for all  $v \in \{\pm 1\}^W$ ,  
 $f(-v) = -f(v)$ .

## BifolDED lemma

### Lemma

*If  $f : \{\pm 1\}^W \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$  is bifolDED and  $\hat{f}_\alpha \neq 0$ , then  $|\alpha|$  is odd. In particular,  $|\alpha| \geq 1$ .*

By definition,

$$\hat{f}_\alpha = \langle f, \chi_\alpha \rangle = E_v[f(v)\chi_\alpha(v)] = E_v[f(v) \prod_{i \in \alpha} v_i]$$

If  $|\alpha|$  is even, then  $\chi_\alpha(-v) = \chi_\alpha(v)$ , in which case, if  $f$  is bifolDED,  $f(-v) = -f(v)$ . Therefore,

$$\hat{f}_\alpha = E_v[f(v)\chi_\alpha(v)] = 0.$$

Assume the functions are bifolDED.

# Hastad's verifier $V_H$

Assumptions:

1) The proof  $\pi$  is expected to be the assignment  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$  to the variables  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  such that each  $w_i$  is encoded by a bifolded long code.

$V_H$  assumes each  $w_i$  is treated as a function

$$f_i : \{\pm 1\}^W \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}.$$

2) Randomly picks a constraint  $\phi_r(i, j)$  in the  $2\text{CSP}_W$  instance.

3)  $V_H$  checks:

-  $f_i, f_j$  encode two values in  $[W]$  that satisfy  $\phi_r$ , i.e., if  $f_i, f_j$  are the long codes of  $w, w'$ , then  $h(w) = w'$ .

## $V_H$ - II

For  $u \in [W]$ , let  $h^{-1}(u) = \{w \mid h(w) = u\}$ .

For  $y \in \{\pm 1\}^W$ ,  $\mathcal{H}^{-1}(y)$  is the string  $z$  in  $\{\pm 1\}^W$  such that for each  $w \in [W]$ , the  $w$ th bit of the  $z$  is  $y_{h(w)}$ .

$V_H$  proceeds as follows:

1. Pick random  $v, y$  from  $\{\pm 1\}^W$ ,
2. Pick a noisy  $z \in \{\pm 1\}^W$  by
  - with prob  $1 - \rho$ ,  $z_i = +1$ ,
  - $z_i = -1$ , otherwise.
3. Accepts, if

$$f(v)g(y) = f(\mathcal{H}^{-1}(y)vz).$$

# Completeness

If  $\phi$  is satisfied, take a satisfying assignment and form a proof for  $V_H$ .

Suppose  $f, g$  are long codes of  $w, u$  with  $h(u) = w$ . Then

$$f(v)g(y)f(\mathcal{H}^{-1}(y)vz) = v_w y_u y_{h(w)} v_w z_w = z_w \quad (7)$$

$V_H$  accepts with prob  $1 - \rho$ .



# Soundness- I

For  $\alpha \subseteq [W]$ ,

$$h_2(\alpha) = \{u \in [W] \mid |h^{-1}(t) \cap \alpha| \geq 1\}.$$

## Lemma

Let  $f, g : \{\pm 1\}^W \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$  be bifolded functions and  $h : [W] \rightarrow [W]$  such that they pass the test by  $V_H$  with prob  $\geq \frac{1}{2} + \delta$ . Then:

$$\sum_{\alpha \neq \emptyset} \widehat{f}_\alpha^2 \widehat{g}_{h_2(\alpha)} (1 - 2\rho)^{|\alpha|} \geq 2\delta.$$

# Soundness - II

## Lemma

*Suppose that  $\phi$  is a  $2\text{CSP}_W$  instance with  $\text{val}(\phi) < \epsilon$ . If  $\rho\delta^2 > \epsilon$ , then  $V_H$  accepts with prob  $< \frac{1}{2} + \delta$ .*