

# Memory Bounds for the Expert Problem



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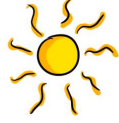

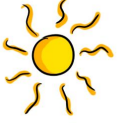
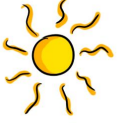



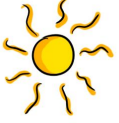


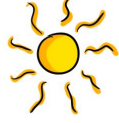








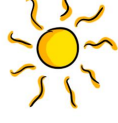
David P. Woodruff

Samson Zhou



# Prediction with Expert Advice

a fundamental problem of **sequential prediction**

Day					You	Actual outcome
1					?	
2					?	
3					?	
4					?	

# Quantifying Performance

In general, predicting the future is impossible.

We judge our algorithm based on **regret**.

## **Definition** (regret)
























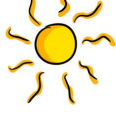
# of mistakes algorithm makes more than the best expert

## **Definition** (average regret)

$$\frac{\text{regret}}{\text{\# of days}}$$

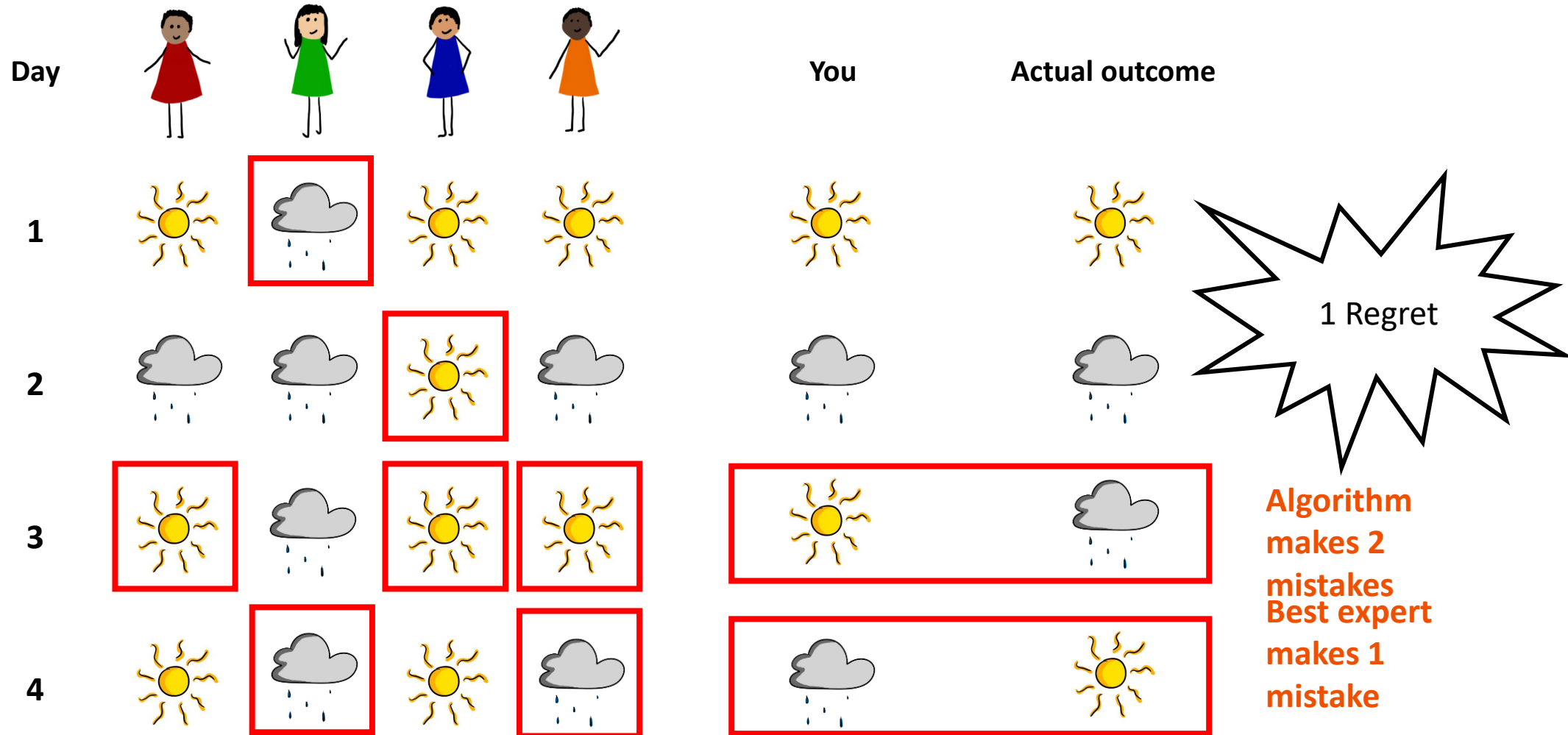
# Prediction with Expert Advice

a fundamental problem of **sequential prediction**

Day					You	Actual outcome
1					?	
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# Prediction with Expert Advice

a fundamental problem of **sequential prediction**






























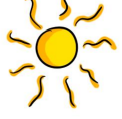
# The Online Learning with Experts Problem

- $n$  experts who decide either  $\{0,1\}$  on each of  $T$  days ( $n \gg T$ )
- Algorithm takes advice from experts and predict either  $\{0,1\}$  on each day
- Algorithm sees the outcome, which is either  $\{0,1\}$ , of each day and can use this information on future days
- The cost of the algorithm is the number of incorrect predictions
- (Average) Regret is the amortized additional cost of the algorithm compared to the cost  $M$  of the best expert

# Applications of the Experts Problem

- Ensemble learning, e.g., AdaBoost
- Forecast and portfolio optimization
- Special case of online convex optimization

# Weighted Majority (Littlestone, Warmuth 89)

Day					Algorithm	Actual outcome
weights	1	1	1	1		
1						
	1	1/2	1	1		
2						
	1	1/2	1/2	1		
3						
	1/2	1/2	1/4	1/2		
4						
	1/2	1/4	1/4	1/4		



# Guarantee for Weighted Majority

## **Theorem** (Deterministic Weighted Majority)

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{\# of mistakes by} \\ \text{deterministic weighted} \\ \text{majority} \end{array} \leq 2.41 (M + \log_2 n)$$

where  $M$  is the # of mistakes the best expert makes,  $n$  is # of experts.

- $\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^M \leq \text{sum of the weights} \leq \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^m n$
- $m \leq \frac{M + \log_2 n}{\log_2 \frac{4}{3}}$

# Guarantee for Weighted Majority

## **Theorem** (Deterministic Weighted Majority)

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{\# of mistakes by} \\ \text{deterministic weighted} \\ \text{majority} \end{array} \leq 2.41 (M + \log_2 n)$$

where  $M$  is the # of mistakes the best expert makes,  $n$  is # of experts.

## **Theorem** (Randomized Weighted Majority, i.e, Multiplicative Weights)

For  $\epsilon > 0$ , can construct algorithm  $A$  such that

$$E[\text{\# of mistakes by } A] \leq (1 + \epsilon) M + \frac{\ln n}{\epsilon}$$

# Previous Work

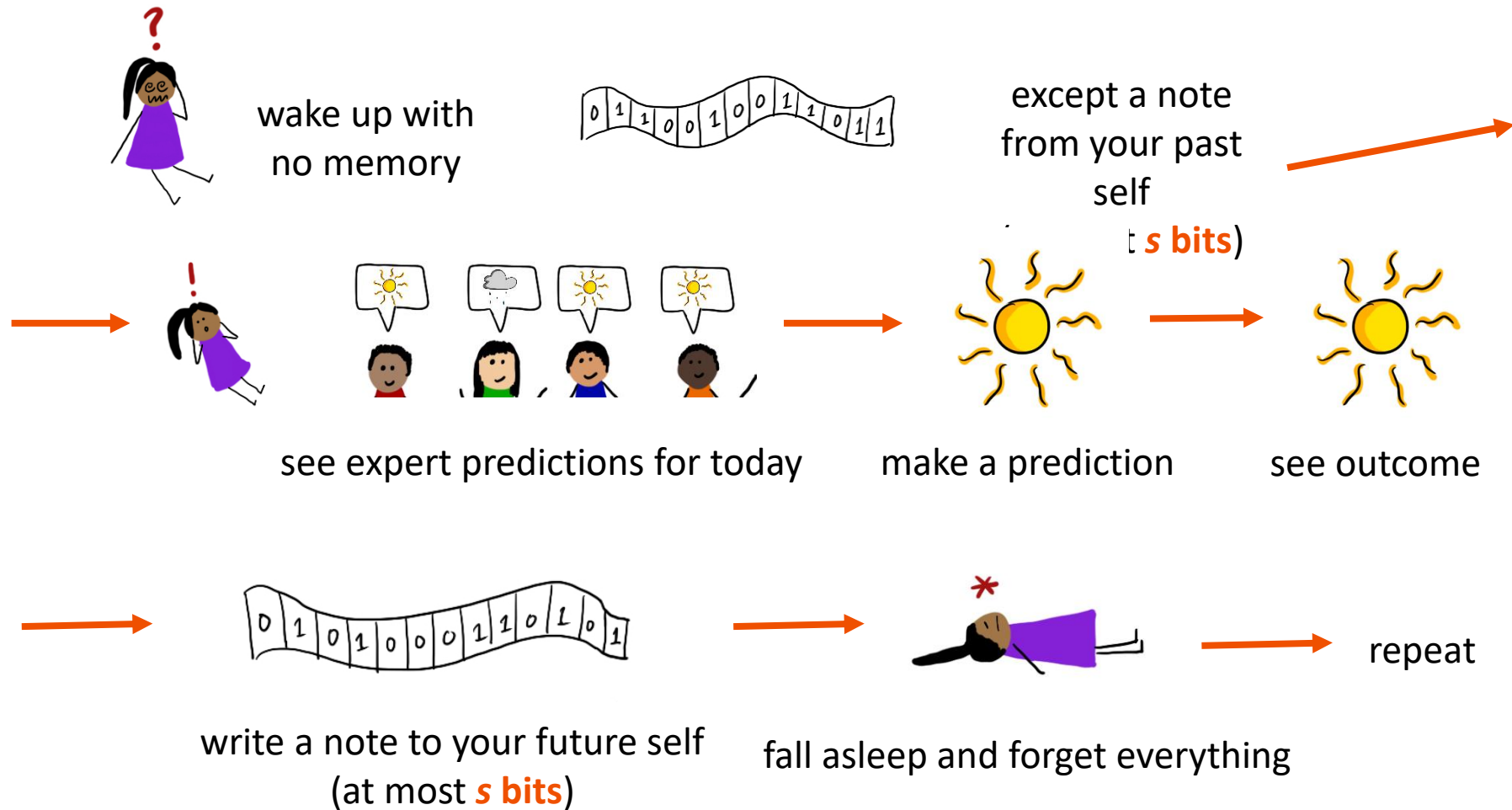
- Weighted majority algorithm (Littlestone and Warmuth 89) down-weights each expert that is incorrect on each day and selects the weighted majority as the output for each day
- Weighted majority algorithm gets  $O(M + \log n)$  total mistakes
- Randomized weighted majority algorithm (Littlestone and Warmuth 89) randomly follows each expert with probability proportional to the weight of the expert
- Randomized weighted majority algorithm achieves regret  $O\left(\sqrt{\frac{\log n}{T}}\right)$

# Memory Bounds for the Expert Problem

- These algorithms require  $\Omega(n)$  memory to maintain weights for each expert – but what if  $n$  is very large and we want sublinear space?
- Can use no memory and just randomly guess each day – still good if the best expert makes a lot of mistakes but bad if the best expert makes very few mistakes
- What are the space/accuracy tradeoffs for the online learning with experts problem?

# The Streaming Model

(the Jason Bourne model of computation)



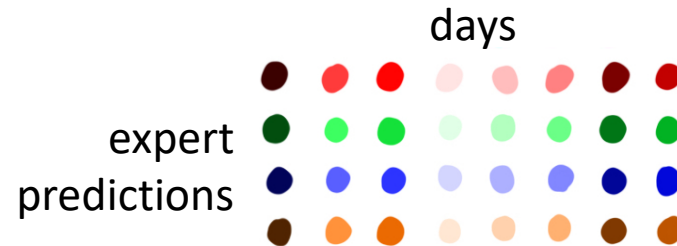
# The Streaming Model

The complete sequence of  $T$  days is the **data stream**.

$(\text{prediction}_1, \text{outcome}_1), \dots, (\text{prediction}_T, \text{outcome}_T)$

## Definition (Arbitrary Order Model)

An adversary chose the predictions and outcomes to trick you.



## Definition (Random Order Model)

An adversary chose the predictions and outcomes to trick you,  
then the order was randomly shuffled.

# A Natural Idea

- What if we just identify the best expert?
- Find the best expert so far, follow it until a new best expert emerges, identify the new best expert, find it, repeat
- Must use  $\Omega(n)$  space

# Set Disjointness Communication Problem

- **Set disjointness communication problem:** Alice has a set  $X \in \{0,1\}^n$  and Bob has a set  $Y \in \{0,1\}^n$  and the promise is that either  $|X \cap Y| = 0$  or  $|X \cap Y| = 1$

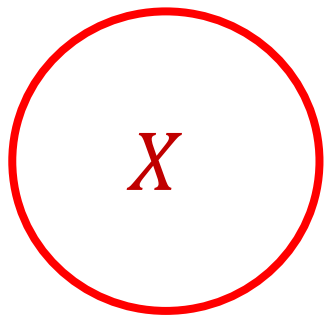


- Set disjointness requires total communication  $\Omega(n)$





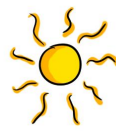
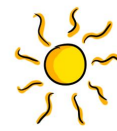


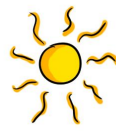

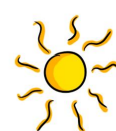


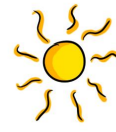
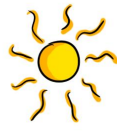


# Reduction

- Suppose there exists an algorithm  $A$  that identifies the best expert. Alice creates a stream  $S$  so that each element of is  $X$  an expert that is correct on its own day



$$X = \{1,0,1,0,0,1,0,0,0,1\}$$
$$X = \{1,3,6,10\}$$

	Expert 1	Expert 3	Expert 6	Algorithm
Day				
1				
2				
3				

# Reduction

- Alice runs the algorithm  $A$  on the stream  $S$  created by their set  $X$  and passes the state of  $A$  to Bob, who continues running the algorithm on the stream  $S'$  created by their set  $Y$
- At the end,  $A$  will output an expert  $i \in [n]$ , and then Alice and Bob will check whether  $X \cap Y = i$
- Solves set disjointness\* so  $A$  must use  $\Omega(n)$  space
- **Not end of story**: low-regret algorithm need not find best expert

# Our Results (I)

- Any algorithm that achieves  $\delta < \frac{1}{2 + \sqrt{32 \ln 8}}$  (average) regret with probability at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  must use  $\Omega\left(\frac{n}{\delta^2 T}\right)$  space
- Lower bound holds for arbitrary-order, random-order, and i.i.d. streams

## Our Results (II)

- There exists an algorithm that uses  $O\left(\frac{n}{\delta^2 T} \log^2 n \log \frac{1}{\delta}\right)$  space achieves expected regret  $\delta > \sqrt{\frac{8 \log n}{T}}$  in the random-order model
- The algorithm is almost-tight with the space lower bounds and oblivious to  $M$ , the number of mistakes made by the best-expert
- Can achieve regret almost matching randomized weighted majority
- Result extends to general costs in  $[0, \rho]$  with expected regret  $\rho\delta$

# Our Results (III)

- For  $M < \frac{\delta^2 T}{1280 \log^2 n}$  and  $\delta > \sqrt{\frac{128 \log^2 n}{T}}$ , there exists an algorithm that uses  $\tilde{O}\left(\frac{n}{\delta T}\right)$  space and achieves regret  $\delta$  with probability  $\frac{4}{5}$
- The algorithm \*beats\* the lower bounds, showing that the hardness comes from the best expert making a “lot” of mistakes
- Can achieve regret almost matching randomized weighted majority
- The algorithm oblivious to  $M$ , the number of mistakes made by the best-expert

# Format

- ❖ Part 1: Background
- ❖ Part 2: Lower Bound
- ❖ Part 3: Arbitrary Model
- ❖ Part 4: Random-Order Model

# Questions?



# Lower Bound

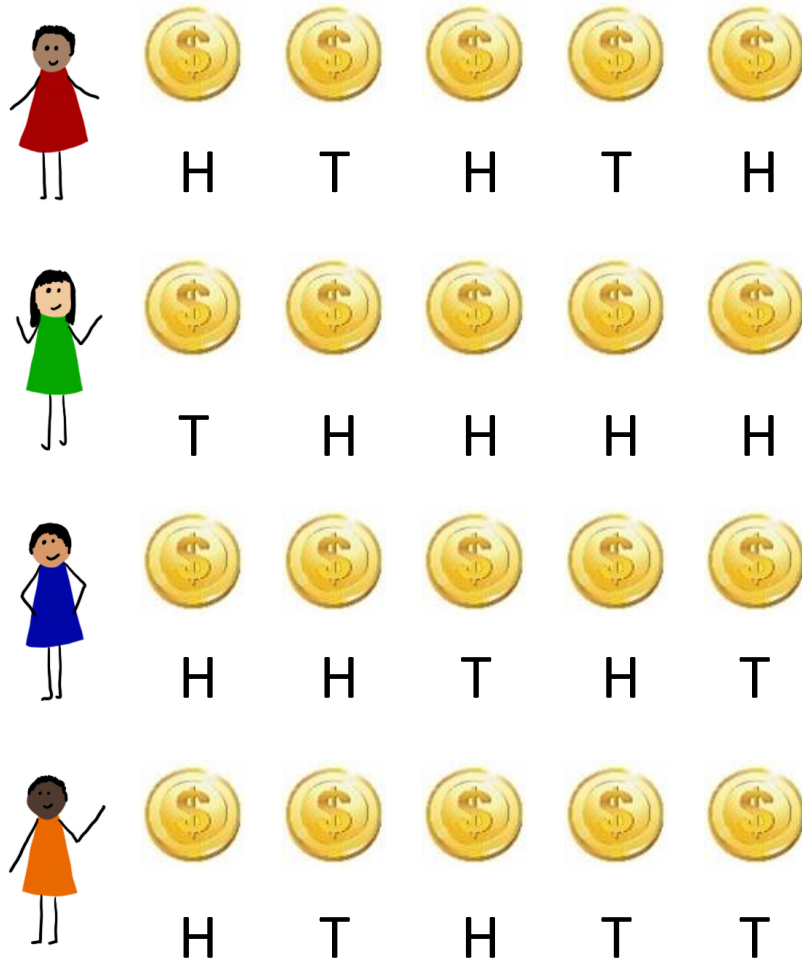
- Any algorithm that achieves  $\delta < \frac{1}{2}$  (average) regret with probability at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  must use  $\Omega\left(\frac{n}{\delta^2 T}\right)$  space
- Lower bound holds for arbitrary-order, random-order, and i.i.d. streams

# Communication Problem for Lower Bound

- Distributed detection problem
- $\varepsilon$ -DIFFDIST problem:  $T$  players each hold  $n$  bits and must distinguish between two cases.
- Case 1: (NO) Every index for every player is drawn i.i.d. from a fair coin, i.e., a Bernoulli distribution with parameter  $\frac{1}{2}$
- Case 2: (YES) An index  $L \in [n]$  is selected arbitrarily. The  $L$ -th bit of each player is chosen i.i.d. from a Bernoulli distribution with parameter  $\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon$  and all the other bits are chosen i.i.d. from a fair coin

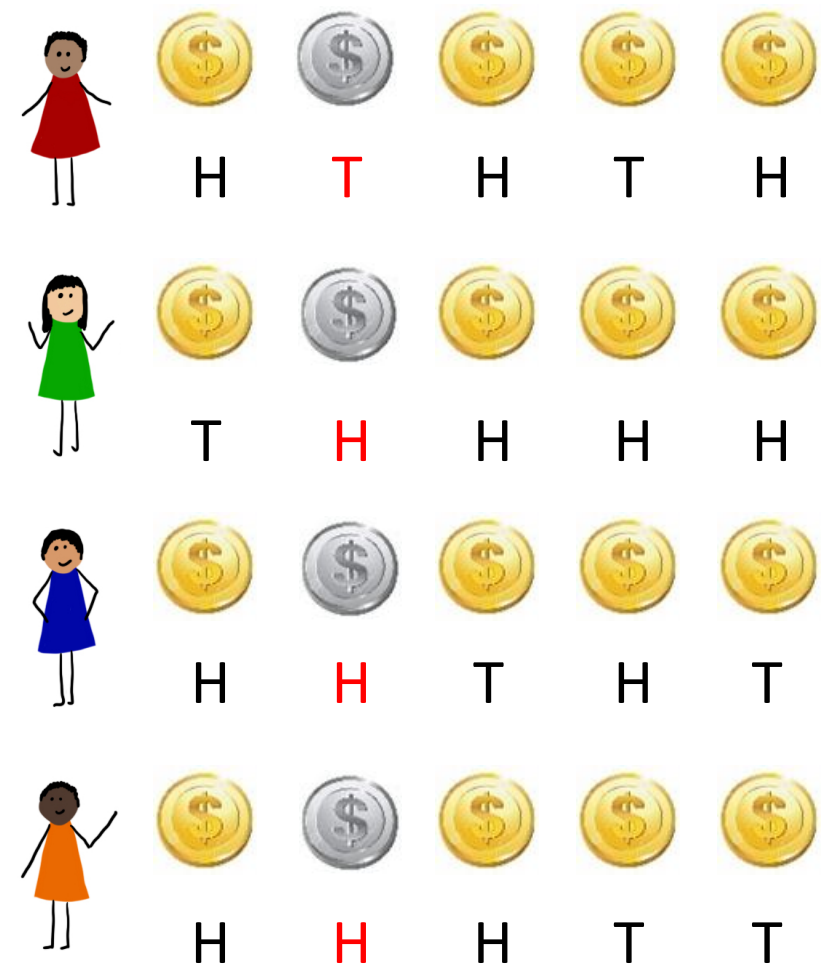


# Communication Problem for Lower Bound



NO

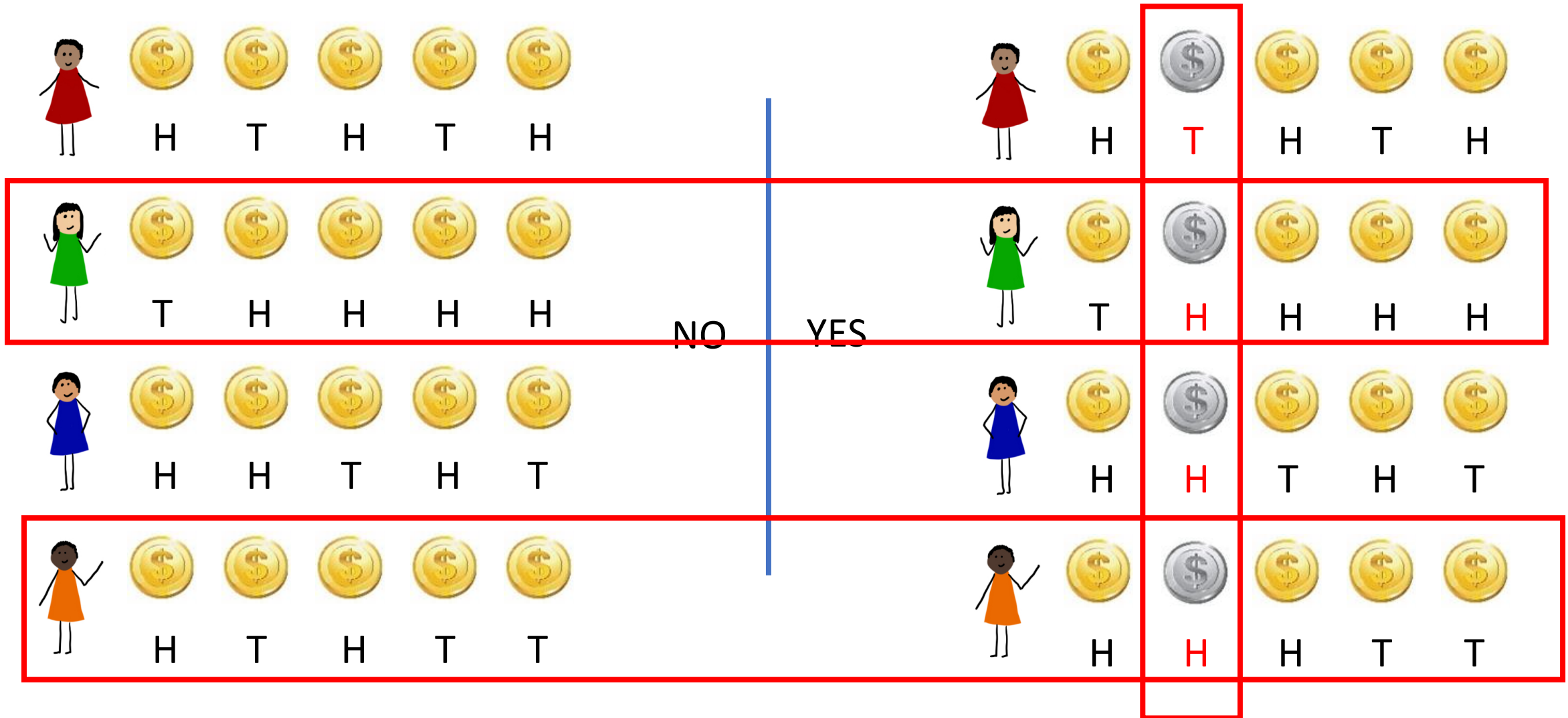
YES



# $\varepsilon$ -DIFFDIST Problem

- $\varepsilon$ -DIFFDIST problem:  $T$  players each hold  $n$  bits and must distinguish between two cases.
- Protocol: Randomly choose  $\tilde{O}\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$  players and send all bits of those players, see whether some bit has bias at least  $\frac{\varepsilon}{2}$

# Communication Problem for Lower Bound



# $\varepsilon$ -DIFFDIST Problem

- $\varepsilon$ -DIFFDIST problem:  $T$  players each hold  $n$  bits and must distinguish between two cases.
- Protocol: Randomly choose  $\tilde{O}\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$  players and send all bits of those players, see whether some bit has bias at least  $\frac{\varepsilon}{2}$
- Communication of protocol:  $\tilde{O}\left(\frac{n}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$
- Theorem:  $\Omega\left(\frac{n}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$  communication is necessary

# $\varepsilon$ -DIFFDIST Problem

- **Theorem:**  $\Omega\left(\frac{n}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$  communication is necessary
- **Fact:**  $\Omega\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$  samples are necessary to distinguish between a fair coin, i.e., a Bernoulli distribution with parameter  $\frac{1}{2}$  and a coin with bias  $\varepsilon$
- **Intuition:** players must solve the single coin problem on each of the  $n$  coins

# $\varepsilon$ -DIFFDIST Problem

- **Intuition**: players must solve the single coin problem on each of the  $n$  coins
- Formally, all the coins are independent in the NO distribution
- Independence implies entropy is additive so the mutual information must  $n$  times the mutual information in single coin problem
- **Fact**:  $\Omega\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$  mutual information is necessary to distinguish between a single fair coin, i.e., a Bernoulli distribution with parameter  $\frac{1}{2}$  and a coin with bias  $\varepsilon$

# $\varepsilon$ -DIFFDIST Summary







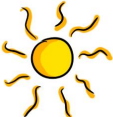
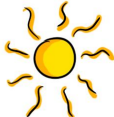
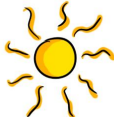
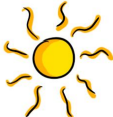


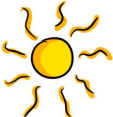

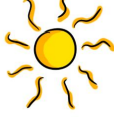





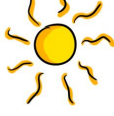





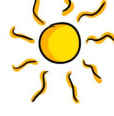
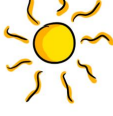
- $\varepsilon$ -DIFFDIST problem:  $T$  players each hold  $n$  bits and must distinguish between two cases.
- Case 1: (NO) Every index for every player is drawn i.i.d. from a fair coin, i.e., a Bernoulli distribution with parameter  $\frac{1}{2}$
- Case 2: (YES) An index  $L \in [n]$  is selected arbitrarily. The  $L$ -th bit of each player is chosen i.i.d. from a Bernoulli distribution with parameter  $\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon$  and all the other bits are chosen i.i.d. from a fair coin
- Fact:  $\Omega\left(\frac{n}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$  communication is necessary to solve the problem

# Reduction Intuition

- Each player in the  $\varepsilon$ -DIFFDIST Problem corresponds to a different day
- Each bit in the  $\varepsilon$ -DIFFDIST Problem corresponds to a different expert
- **Reduction**: distinguishing whether there exists a slightly biased random bit corresponds to distinguishing whether there exists a slightly “better” expert
- We would like to use an online learning with experts algorithm for solving  $\varepsilon$ -DIFFDIST Problem for  $\varepsilon = O(\delta)$  by sampling  $\Omega\left(\frac{1}{\delta^2}\right)$  players















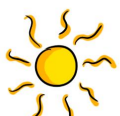





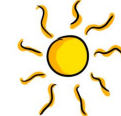





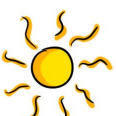


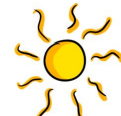


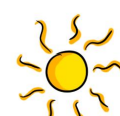
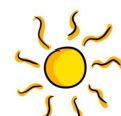



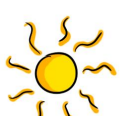

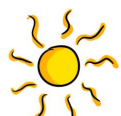




# Reduction Challenge

Day					You	Actual outcome
1						
2						
3						
4						

# Reduction

- We would like to use an online learning with experts algorithm for solving  $\varepsilon$ -DIFFDIST Problem for  $\varepsilon = O(\delta)$  by sampling  $\Omega\left(\frac{1}{\delta^2}\right)$  players
- However, an algorithm with bad guarantees can still “luckily” have good cost
- Use masking argument – outcome of each day is masked by an independent fair coin flip on each day (expert advice also flipped)

# Reduction Challenge

Day				Actual outcome	You				Actual outcome	
1										MASK=1
2										MASK=0
3										MASK=1
4										MASK=1

# Reduction

- For constant  $\delta < \frac{1}{2}$ , if there is no biased coin, no expert will do better than  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\delta}{2}$  with probability at least  $\frac{1}{4}$
- For constant  $\delta < \frac{1}{2}$ , if there is a biased coin, an expert will do better than  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\delta}{2}$  with probability at least  $\frac{1}{4}$

# Reduction Summary

- The online learning with experts algorithm with regret  $\delta$  will be able to solve the  $\varepsilon$ -DIFFDIST Problem with probability at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  for  $\varepsilon = O(\delta)$ , using  $\Omega\left(\frac{n}{\delta^2}\right)$  total communication
- Any algorithm that achieves  $\delta < \frac{1}{2}$  regret with probability at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  must use  $\Omega\left(\frac{n}{\delta^2 T}\right)$  space

# Format

- ❖ Part 1: Background
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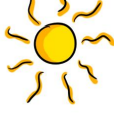





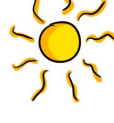

# Questions?



# “Low-Mistake” Regime

- For  $M < \frac{\delta^2 T}{1280 \log^2 n}$  and  $\delta > \sqrt{\frac{128 \log^2 n}{T}}$ , there exists an algorithm that uses  $\tilde{O}\left(\frac{n}{\delta T}\right)$  space and achieves regret  $\delta$  with probability  $\frac{4}{5}$
- We know there is a really accurate expert. What if we iteratively pick “pools” of experts and delete them if they run “poorly”?

# Reduction Problem

Day					You	Actual outcome
1						
2						
3						
4						



# No Mistake Regime

- If iteratively pick pool of  $k$  experts (“rounds”) and output the majority vote of the pool while deleting any incorrect expert, each pool will have at most  $O(\log k)$  errors
- If best expert makes no mistakes, use  $\frac{n}{k}$  pools to achieve regret  $\delta T$   
means setting  $k = \tilde{O}\left(\frac{n}{\delta T}\right)$

# No Mistake Regime Summary

- **Algorithm:** Iteratively pick pool of  $k = \tilde{O}\left(\frac{n}{\delta_T}\right)$  experts (“rounds”) and output the majority vote of the pool while deleting any incorrect expert
- If the number of rounds is small, the pools must have done well so the overall regret is small
- The number of rounds cannot be large because at some point the best expert would have been sampled and retained

# “Low-Mistake” Regime

- **Algorithm:** Iteratively pick pool of  $k = \tilde{O}\left(\frac{n}{\delta T}\right)$  experts and output the majority vote of the pool while deleting any incorrect expert
- If best expert makes  $M$  mistakes, use  $\frac{nM}{k}$  pools to achieve regret  $\delta T$   
means setting  $k = \tilde{O}\left(\frac{nM}{\delta T}\right)$ , which is too large

# “Low-Mistake” Fix-Its

- **Fix #1**: Randomly sample pools of experts instead of iteratively picking pools
- **Problem #1**: Cannot guarantee that the best expert will be retained
- **Fix #2**: Delete experts that have erred with fraction more than  $1 - \delta$
- **Problem #2**: “Build-up” of errors

# A Really Bad Case Study



- Suppose  $\delta = \frac{1}{2}$
- Example shows that the pool of  $k$  sampled experts can make roughly  $T - T/k$  errors

# “Low-Mistake” Regime

- **Algorithm:** Repeatedly sample a pool of  $k = \tilde{O}\left(\frac{n}{\delta T}\right)$  experts and output the majority vote of the pool while deleting any expert with lower than  $1 - \frac{\delta}{8 \log n}$  accuracy since it was sampled

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WANT TO SHOW

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- If the number of rounds is small, the pools must have done well so the overall regret is small
- The number of rounds cannot be large because at some point the best expert would have been sampled and retained

# “Low-Mistake” Regime: First Property

- **Algorithm**: Repeatedly sample a pool of  $k = \tilde{O}\left(\frac{n}{\delta T}\right)$  experts and output the majority vote of the pool while deleting any expert with lower than  $1 - \frac{\delta}{8 \log n}$  accuracy since it was sampled
- **Lemma**: For  $\delta > \sqrt{\frac{128 \log^2 n}{T}}$ , a pool that is used for  $t$  days can only make  $\frac{t\delta}{2} + 4 \log n$  mistakes
- For the algorithm to make  $T\delta$  mistakes, need at least  $\frac{T\delta}{8 \log n}$  rounds

# “Low-Mistake” Regime: Second Property

- For the algorithm to make  $T\delta$  mistakes, need at least  $\frac{T\delta}{8 \log n}$  rounds
- “BAD” day: the best expert is deleted by the pool if it is sampled on that day
- $|\text{BAD}| \leq \frac{8M \log n}{\delta}$  and  $M < \frac{\delta^2 T}{1280 \log^2 n}$ , so the remaining rounds must be sampled on “GOOD” days and avoid the best expert
- Must avoid sampling the best expert on at least  $\frac{T\delta}{16 \log n}$  rounds
- $O\left(\frac{n \log^2 n}{\delta T}\right)$  experts sampled in each round  $\rightarrow$  low probability



# Idealized Analysis

- **Analysis**: conditioned on the number of rounds being small, the algorithm makes a small number of mistakes
- **Subtle pitfall**: if the best expert is sampled on a good day, then there will be no more rounds, so the conditional probability analysis is difficult

# Simple Decoupling Argument

- Instead of conditioning on total number of rounds, consider a decoupling argument, where we draw the day of the next round over a matching distribution
- Define a set of random variables  $d_1, d_2, \dots$  for each round's day
- Given  $d_i$ , draw  $d_{i+1}$  from the distribution of possible days for the next round based on possible experts sampled in the pool conditioned on entire history
- Results in a Poisson process, then apply same analysis bounding the number of resamplings on “GOOD” days

# Arbitrary Order Model Summary

- **Algorithm:** Repeatedly sample a pool of  $k = \tilde{O}\left(\frac{n}{\delta T}\right)$  experts and output the majority vote of the pool while deleting any expert with lower than  $1 - \frac{\delta}{8 \log n}$  accuracy since it was sampled
- If the number of rounds is small, the pools must have done well so the overall regret is small
- The number of rounds cannot be large because at some point the best expert would have been sampled and retained

# Format

- ❖ Part 1: Background
- ❖ Part 2: Lower Bound
- ❖ Part 3: Arbitrary Model
- ❖ Part 4: Random-Order Model

# Questions?



# Random-Order Streams

- There exists an algorithm that uses  $O\left(\frac{n}{\delta^2 T} \log^2 n \log \frac{1}{\delta}\right)$  space achieves expected regret  $\delta > \sqrt{\frac{8 \log n}{T}}$  in the random-order model

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## TAKING A STEP BACK

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- We used majority vote of remaining experts in sampled pool
- Instead of removing experts, could just downweight them and run deterministic weighted majority
- Why not randomized weighted majority, i.e., multiplicative weights?

# Random-Order Streams

- **Algorithm:** Repeatedly sample a pool of  $k = \tilde{O}\left(\frac{n}{\delta^2 T}\right)$  experts and run multiplicative weights on pool, resample if the expected cost of the pool over  $t$  time “is bad”.

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WANT TO SHOW

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- If the number of rounds is small, the pools must have done well so the overall regret is small
- The number of rounds cannot be large because at some point the best expert would have been sampled and retained

# Multiplicative Weights Algorithm

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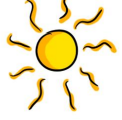
**Algorithm 4** The multiplicative weights algorithm.

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**Input:** Number  $n$  of experts, number  $T$  of rounds, parameter  $\varepsilon$

- 1: Initialize  $w_i^{(1)} = 1$  for all  $i \in [n]$ .
  - 2: **for**  $t \in [T]$  **do**
  - 3:    $p_i^{(t)} \leftarrow \frac{w_i^{(t)}}{\sum_{i \in [n]} w_i^{(t)}}$
  - 4:   Follow the advice of expert  $i$  with probability  $p_i^{(t)}$ .
  - 5:   Let  $c_i^{(t)}$  be the cost for the decision of expert  $i \in [n]$ .
  - 6:    $w_i^{(t+1)} \leftarrow w_i^{(t)} \left(1 - \varepsilon c_i^{(t)}\right)$
  - 7: **end for**
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# Weighted Majority (Littlestone, Warmuth 89)

Day					Algorithm	Actual outcome
weights	1	1	1	1		
1						
	1	1/2	1	1		
2						
	1	1/2	1/2	1		
3						
	1/2	1/2	1/4	1/2		
4						
	1/2	1/4	1/4	1/4		

Algorithm makes 2 mistakes  
Best expert makes 1 mistake



# Multiplicative Weights Algorithm

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**Algorithm 4** The multiplicative weights algorithm.

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  - 2: **for**  $t \in [T]$  **do**
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  - 5:   Let  $c_i^{(t)}$  be the cost for the decision of expert  $i \in [n]$ .
  - 6:    $w_i^{(t+1)} \leftarrow w_i^{(t)} (1 - \varepsilon c_i^{(t)})$
  - 7: **end for**
- 

- **Theorem** (Arora, Hazan, Kale 2012): Expected cost of the algorithm is  $\sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{i=1}^n c_i^{(t)} p_i^{(t)} \leq \frac{\ln n}{\varepsilon} + (1 + \varepsilon) \sum_{t=1}^T c_i^{(t)}$  for each  $i \in [n]$  (and in particular the best expert), i.e,  $\leq \frac{\ln n}{\varepsilon} + (1 + \varepsilon)M$
- $\varepsilon$  is trade-off term between multiplicative and additive error

# Multiplicative Weights Algorithm

- **Structural lemma:** Let  $X_1, \dots, X_t$  be independent random variables in  $[0,1]$  with expectation  $\alpha$  and  $X$  be their sum. Then  $\Pr \left[ |X - \alpha t| \geq 4\sqrt{t \log T} + \frac{4 \log T}{\alpha} \right] \leq \frac{1}{T^2}$
- **Casework:** If  $t \leq \frac{1}{\alpha^2}$ , then deviation should not be more than  $\frac{4 \log T}{\alpha}$
- **Casework:** If  $t \geq \frac{1}{\alpha^2}$ , then deviation should not be more than  $4\sqrt{t \log T}$

# Random-Order Streams: First Property

- **Structural lemma:** Let  $X_1, \dots, X_t$  be independent random variables in  $[0,1]$  with expectation  $\alpha$  and  $X$  be their sum. Then  $\Pr \left[ |X - \alpha t| \geq 4\sqrt{t \log T} + \frac{4 \log T}{\alpha} \right] \leq \frac{1}{T^2}$
- By the guarantee for multiplicative weights for  $\varepsilon = \frac{\delta}{2}$ , the cost of each pool is at most  $\left(1 + \frac{\delta}{2}\right) \left(\alpha t + 4\sqrt{t \log T} + \frac{4 \log T}{\alpha}\right) + \frac{2 \ln n}{\delta}$
- For  $\delta > \sqrt{\frac{16 \log^2 n}{T}}$ ,  $\delta > \frac{M}{T}$ , number of rounds must be at least  $\Omega\left(\frac{\delta^2 T}{\log n}\right)$

# Random-Order Streams: Second Property

- Number of rounds must be at least  $\Omega\left(\frac{\delta^2 T}{\log n}\right)$
- Must avoid sampling the best expert on at least  $\Omega\left(\frac{\delta^2 T}{\log n}\right)$  rounds
- $O\left(\frac{n \log^2 n}{\delta^2 T}\right)$  experts sampled in each round  $\rightarrow$  low probability
- Must use same “decoupling” argument
- Similar analysis for  $\delta \leq \frac{M}{T}$

# Summary of Multiplicative Weights Algorithm

- There exists an algorithm that uses  $O\left(\frac{n}{\delta^2 T} \log^2 n\right)$  space achieves expected regret  $\delta > \sqrt{\frac{16 \log^2 n}{T}}$ ,  $\delta > \frac{M}{T}$  in the random-order model (assuming the number of mistakes  $M$  made by the best expert is known)
- Similar analysis for  $\delta \leq \frac{M}{T}$  (gets  $O\left(\frac{n}{\delta M} \log^2 n\right)$  space)
- Remove the assumption that  $M$  is known?

# Removing the Assumption on $M$

- Do a binary search for  $\frac{M}{T}$  with  $\gamma$  as the running estimate
- Proceed through  $\ell = 2 \log \frac{1}{\delta}$  epochs, each of length  $\frac{\delta T}{\ell}$
- Run previous algorithm on with estimated cost  $\gamma \cdot \frac{\delta T}{\ell}$  and target regret  $O(1)$  until we have a  $(1 + O(\delta))$ -approximation of  $\frac{M}{T}$  by  $\gamma$
- Since regret is lower, space usage increases by a factor of  $O(\ell)$  for  $\delta \leq \frac{M}{T}$

# Summary of Random-Order Model

- Given  $\delta > \sqrt{\frac{16 \log^2 n}{T}}$ , there exists an algorithm in the random-order model that achieves expected regret  $\delta$  and uses  $O\left(\frac{n}{\delta^2 T} \log^2 n\right)$  space for  $\delta > \frac{M}{T}$  and  $O\left(\frac{n}{\delta M} \log^2 n \log \frac{1}{\delta}\right)$  space for  $\delta \leq \frac{M}{T}$
- Generalizes to other sequential prediction algorithms!

# Follow the Perturbed Leader

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**Algorithm 2** The follow the perturbed leader algorithm (FPL\*) from [KV05], instantiated for the experts problem.

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**Input:** Number  $n$  of experts, number  $T$  of rounds, parameter  $\varepsilon$

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- 1: **for**  $t \in [T]$  **do**
  - 2:   **for**  $i \in [n]$  **do**
  - 3:     Choose  $p_i^{(t)}$  independently, according to  $\pm(2r/\varepsilon)$ , where  $r$  is drawn from a standard exponential distribution
  - 4:   **end for**
  - 5:   Follow the expert  $i$  for whom the sum of their total cost so far and  $p_i^{(t)}$  is the lowest
  - 6: **end for**
-



# Follow the Perturbed Leader

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4:   end for
5:   Follow the expert  $i$  for whom the sum of their total cost so far and  $p_i^{(t)}$  is the lowest
6: end for
```

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- **Theorem** (Kalai and Vempala 2005): Expected cost of the algorithm is  $\frac{O(\ln n)}{\varepsilon} + (1 + \varepsilon) \sum_{t=1}^T c_i^{(t)}$  for each  $i \in [n]$  (and in particular the best expert), i.e,  $\leq \frac{O(\ln n)}{\varepsilon} + (1 + \varepsilon)M$
- $\varepsilon$  is trade-off term between multiplicative and additive error

# Summary of Results

- Any algorithm that achieves  $\delta < \frac{1}{2 + \sqrt{32 \ln 8}}$  regret with probability at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  must use  $\Omega\left(\frac{n}{\delta^2 T}\right)$  space
- There exists an algorithm that uses  $O\left(\frac{n}{\delta^2 T} \log^2 n\right)$  space and achieves expected regret  $\delta > \sqrt{\frac{16 \log^2 n}{T}}$  in the random-order model
- For  $M < \frac{\delta^2 T}{1280 \log^2 n}$  and  $\delta > \sqrt{\frac{128 \log^2 n}{T}}$ , there exists an algorithm that uses  $\tilde{O}\left(\frac{n}{\delta T}\right)$  space and achieves regret  $\delta$  with probability  $\frac{4}{5}$

# Summary of Results II

- If the cost is between  $[0, \rho]$ , the expected regret is  $\rho\delta$  for both models
- General regret in random-order model (multiplicative weights)  $\rightarrow$  use same algorithm
- General regret in arbitrary-order model (weighted majority)  $\rightarrow$  output random expert

# Future Work?



- What bounds for arbitrary-order streams can be shown when the best expert incurs unrestricted cost? For constant  $\delta$ , can we tolerate a constant fraction of mistakes?
- What happens when predictions are real values and evaluated against the correct answer with respect to a loss function?
- Extra constraints are imposed on the experts, i.e., side information