1 DiPA with a Counter

1.1 DiPA* and Definitions

Definition 1.1. Fix parameters ϵ , N. Let C be the guard conditions $\{n < N, \text{true}, \text{insample} \ge x, \text{insample} < x, n < N \text{ AND insample} \ge x, n < N \text{ AND insample} < x, n \ge N \}$ A DiP* automaton (DiPA*) \mathcal{A} is defined as the tuple $\mathcal{A} = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, q_0, X, P, \delta)$, where:

- Q = finite set of states; partitioned into input states Q_{in} and non-input states Q_{non}
- Σ is the input alphabet (taken to be \mathbb{R})
- Γ is a finite output alphabet
- $q_0 \in Q$ is the starting state
- $X = \{x, \text{ insample, insample', n}\}$ is a set of variables. $x, \text{ insample, insample'} \in \mathbb{R}$; $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and is initialized to 0.
- $P: Q \to \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} \times \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} \times \mathbb{Q}$ describing the parameters for sampling from Laplace distributions at each state.
- $\delta: (Q \times C) \to Q \times (\Gamma \cup \{\text{insample}, \text{insample'}\} \cup \{\phi\}) \times \{\text{true}, \text{false}\} \times \{0, 1\}$ is the transition function (technically a relation) that defines what state to transition to, what symbol or real value to output, whether or not x is assigned to, and whether or not n is incremented based on the current state and transition guard.

There are certain conditions that δ must satisfy; these are almost all the same as the restrictions on transition functions of DiPA, but with some slight modifications and one major addition (marked in blue):

• **Determinism:** If $\delta(q, \text{true})$ is defined, then no other transitions out of q can be defined. Additionally, at most one of $\delta(q, \text{insample} \ge x)$ and $\delta(q, n < N \text{ AND insample} \ge x)$ can be defined and at most one of $\delta(q, \text{insample} < x)$ and $\delta(q, n < N \text{ AND insample} < x)$ can be defined.

If $\delta(q,n < N)$ is defined, then $\delta(q,n < N \text{ AND insample} \geq \mathbf{x})$ and $\delta(q,n < N \text{ AND insample} < \mathbf{x})$ are not defined. Additionally, if any of $\delta(q,n < N)$, $\delta(q,n < N \text{ AND insample} < \mathbf{x})$, or $\delta(q,n < N \text{ AND insample} \geq \mathbf{x})$ are defined, then $\delta(q,n \geq N)$ must be defined as well. Finally, if $\delta(q,n \geq N)$ is defined, then $\delta(q,\text{true})$, $\delta(q,\text{insample} \geq \mathbf{x})$ and $\delta(q,\text{insample} < \mathbf{x})$ are not defined.

For the sake of convenience, from now on, we will use true to refer to both guards true and n < N, insample $\geq x$ to refer to both insample $\geq x$ and n < N AND insample $\geq x$, and insample < x to refer to both insample < x and n < N AND insample < x.

• Output Distinction: For any state $q \in Q$, if $\delta(q, \texttt{insample} \ge \texttt{x}) = (q_1, o_1, b_1, i_1)$ and $\delta(q, \texttt{insample} < \texttt{x}) = (q_2, o_2, b_2, i_2)$, then $o_1 \ne o_2$ and at least one of $o_1 \in \Gamma$ and $o_2 \in \Gamma$ is true. In addition, $o_1 \ne \phi$ and $o_2 \ne \phi$ and if $\delta(q, n \ge N) = (q', o', b', i')$, then $o' = \phi$, i.e., the ϕ output symbol is reserved for transitions with guard $n \ge N$, which must output ϕ .

- Initialization: The initial state q_0 has only one outgoing transition of the form $\delta(q_0, \text{true}) = (q, o, \text{true}, i)$ for $i \in \{0, 1\}$.
- Non-input transition: From any $q \in Q_{non}$, if $\delta(q,c)$ is defined, then c = true.
- Control Flow Separation: Consider the underlying graph G of A. For all states $q \in Q$, if $\delta(q, n \geq N) = (q', o, b, i), q$ and q' must be in different strongly connected components of G.

Note that the **control flow separation** condition implies that no cycle in G can contain an edge that corresponds to a transition with guard $n \geq N$. In addition, determinism combined with control flow separation imply that no two transitions (i.e. transitions with different guards) can be from some state q to the same state q'.

1.1.1 Path Probabilities

Definition 1.2. (from [1]) A path ρ of length n of a DiPA* \mathcal{A} is a sequence of states, inputs, and outputs $\rho = q_0 \xrightarrow{a_0,o_0} q_1 \to \cdots \to q_{n-1}$, where q_i are the states traversed in \mathcal{A} , a_i are the inputs read in each state q_i , and o_i are the outputs output by \mathcal{A} at the transition $q_i \to q_{i+1}$. We denote the sequence of inputs a_i for a path ρ as $\operatorname{inseq}(\rho)$ and the sequence of outputs o_i as $\operatorname{outseq}(\rho)$. In general, for a path $\rho = q_0 \to q_1 \to \cdots \to q_{n-1}$ we denote the transition $q_i \to q_{i+1}$ by $\operatorname{trans}(q[i])$ and the guard of $\operatorname{trans}(\rho[i])$ as $\operatorname{guard}(\rho[i])$.

Definition 1.3. (from [1]) Two paths $\rho = q_0 \xrightarrow{a_0,o_0} q_1 \to \cdots \to q_n$ and $\rho' = q'_0 \xrightarrow{a'_0,o'_0} q'_1 \to \cdots \to q'_n$ of a DiPA* \mathcal{A} are **equivalent** if for all i, $o_i = o'_i$ and $q_i = o'_i$. In other words, ρ and ρ' traverse the same states in \mathcal{A} and produce the same output, and only possibly differ in the inputs they read. (Note that due to output determinism, ρ and ρ' traverse the same states iff they produce the same output.)

For any path ρ of a DiPA* \mathcal{A} , we define $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n, \rho]$ as the **probability** of path ρ being traversed with \mathcal{A} parameters ϵ and N, stored value x, and counter value n. This will enable us to define what it means for a DiPA* to be differentially private.

Consider a path $\rho = q_0 \xrightarrow{a_0,o_0} q_1 \to \dots \xrightarrow{a_{n-1},o_{n-1}} q_n$. Here, a_i and o_i are the input to state q_i and output of transition $q_i \to q_{i+1}$, respectively (if $q_i \in Q_{non}$ i.e. q does not take in input, $a_i = 0$).

If $|\rho| = 0$, we define $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n, \rho] = 1$. Otherwise, we define $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n, \rho]$ recursively: Let $P(q_0) = (d, \mu, d', \mu')$ be the parameters for sampling from Laplace distributions for insample and insample' at state q_0 . Let (q_0, c, q_1, o_0, b, i) represent the 0th transition, where c is the guard of the 0th transition, b is whether or not the 0th transition is an assignment transition, and i is the amount that the counter n gets incremented by in the 0th transition.

Let $\nu = \mu + a_0$. If $o_0 = (y, v, w)$ for $y \in \{\text{insample, insample'}\}$, then let

$$k = \int_{v}^{w} \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon|z-\mu-a_{0}|} dz$$
$$k' = \int_{v}^{w} \frac{d'\epsilon}{2} e^{-d'\epsilon|z-\mu'-a_{0}|} dz$$

If the 0th transition of ρ is not an assignment transition (i.e. $b = \mathtt{false}$), then we define $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n, \rho]$ as follows:

Case 1: $n \geq N$ and $c = n \geq N$. If $o_0 \in \Gamma$, then $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n, \rho] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n + i, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)]$. If $o_0 = (\mathtt{insample}, v, w)$ then $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n, \rho] = k\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x + i, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)]$. If $o_0 = (\mathtt{insample}, v, w)$ then $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n, \rho] = k'\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n + i, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)]$

Case 2: n < N and $c = n \ge N$. Then we define $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n, \rho] = 0$.

Every case for other guards is exactly analogous to their counterpart definitions in [1], but in general where $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)]$ is referenced in [1], $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n + i, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)]$ should be used instead.

Because of the initialization condition, for paths starting at the start state of \mathcal{A} , the starting value of x is irrelevant. In addition, since n is always initialized to 0, we will abuse notation for paths ρ that start at the start state to write $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, \rho]$ to represent $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, 0, \rho]$.

We can use this definition of path probabilities to formalize what it means for paths to be valid program traces in A:

Definition 1.4. A path $\rho = q_0 \to q_1 \to \cdots q_n$ from the start state q_0 of \mathcal{A} is valid if $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, \rho] > 0$.

Most notably, given a definition of path probabilities, we can define what it means for a DiPA* to be differentially private:

Definition 1.5. As in [1], a DiPA* \mathcal{A} with parameters ϵ , N is $d\epsilon$ -differentially private if for all equivalent paths ρ , ρ' in \mathcal{A} such that $\mathtt{inseq}(\rho)$ and $\mathtt{inseq}(\rho')$ are adjacent, $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, \rho] \leq e^{d\epsilon}\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, \rho']$.

1.1.2 Well-formedness

In this section, we define what it means for a DiPA* to be **well-formed**, analogously to how the well-formedness of DiPAs are defined.

Definition 1.6. A bounded cycle C in a DiPA* \mathcal{A} is a cycle in \mathcal{A} where there exists at least one transition $(q', \sigma, t, 1)$ (i.e. \mathbf{n} gets incremented) and there exists some $q \in Q$ ("exit state") in the cycle such that $f(q, n \geq N) = (q', \sigma, t, i)$ where q' is not in the cycle. Otherwise, the cycle is **unbounded**.

Definition 1.7. A cycle C with an exit state with transition $n \geq N$ is an **infeasible** cycle if, for all paths $\rho = q_0 \rightarrow q_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow q_m$ from the start state to a state $q_m \in C$, at least N transitions $q_i \rightarrow q_{i+1}$ are increment transitions or some transition $q_i \rightarrow q_{i+1}$ has guard $n \geq N$. Otherwise, C is **feasible**.

Definition 1.8. (from [1]) A leaking cycle is a cycle $C = q_0 \xrightarrow{a_0,o_0} q_1 \to \cdots \to q_{n-1} \to q_0$ in a DiPA \mathcal{A} if there exist indices $0 \le i < j < n$ such that the *i*th transition $q_i \to q_{i+1}$ is an assignment transition and the guard of the *j*th transition guard is not n < N or true.

Definition 1.9. (from [1]) A cycle ρ of a DiPA* \mathcal{A} is an L-cycle (respectively, G-cycle) if there is an $i < |\rho|$ such that $\mathtt{guard}(\rho[i]) = \mathtt{insample} < \mathtt{x}$ (respectively $\mathtt{guard}(\rho[i]) = \mathtt{insample} \ge$

x).

Definition 1.10. (from [1]) A path ρ of a DiPA \mathcal{A}^* is an AL-path (respectively, AG-path) if all assignment transitions on ρ have guard insample < x (respectively, insample $\ge x$).

Definition 1.11. (from [1]) A pair of cycles (C, C') in a DiPA \mathcal{A} is a **leaking pair** if one of the following is satisfied:

- C is an L-cycle, C' is a G-cycle, and there is an AG-path from a state in C to a state in C'.
- C is an G-cycle, C' is a L-cycle, and there is an AL-path from a state in C to a state in C'

Definition 1.12. A pair of cycles (C, C') is a **feasible unbounded leaking pair** of cycles in a DiPA* \mathcal{A} if both C and C' are feasible and unbounded cycles, C is an L-cycle (respectively, G-cycle), C' is a G-cycle (respectively L-cycle), and there exists an AL-path (respectively, AG-path) $\rho = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_k$ from C to C' (i.e. such that $a_1 \in C$ and $a_k \in C'$) such that all of the following hold:

- 1. Either there are no $n \geq N$ transitions on ρ or C' has no exit state.
- 2. Either there exists some path τ from the start state q_0 of \mathcal{A} to a_k that includes a_1 such that there are at most N-1 increment transitions on τ or C' has no exit state.
- 3. Either C' has no exit state or C has no increment transitions.
- 4. If there exists an $n \geq N$ transition in ρ from states a_i to a_{i+1} , there exists some path τ from the start state q_0 of \mathcal{A} to a_i that includes a_1 such that there are at least N increment transitions in τ .

Conditions (1)-(3) ensure that there exist some path in \mathcal{A} such that either n < N when entering C' or that C' has no exit state; otherwise, C' would be rendered infeasible in practice.

Condition (4) ensures that the path ρ between C and C' is in fact traversible.

Definition 1.13. (from [1]) A cycle C of a DiPA \mathcal{A} is a **disclosing cycle** if there exists some $0 \leq i < |C|$ such that trans(C[i]) is an input transition that outputs either insample or insample'.

Definition 1.14. (adapted from [1]) An feasible unbounded privacy violating lasso is a path $\rho = a_1 \to a_2 \to \cdots \to a_k$ of length n in a DiPA* \mathcal{A} such that one of the following hold:

- $tail(\rho)$ is an AG-path (respectively, AL-path) such that $last(\rho)$ is in a
- ρ is an AG-path (respectively, AL-path) such that $first(\rho)$ is in a feasible unbounded G-cycle (respectively, L-cycle) and the 0th transition has guard insample < x (respectively, $insample \ge x$) and outputs insample

• ρ is an AG-path (respectively, AL-path) such that first(ρ) is in a feasible unbounded L-cycle (respectively, G-cycle) and the last transition has guard insample $\geq x$ (respectively, insample < x) and outputs insample.

In addition, if there are any transitions $a_i \to a_{i+1}$ in ρ with guard $n \ge N$, there must exist some path represented by the word $\tau = \alpha \cdot \beta$ from the start state of \mathcal{A} to a_i such that α represents a path from the start state of \mathcal{A} to a_1 and β represents a subpath of ρ from a_1 to a_i .

Definition 1.15. For a lasso ρ , let C_{ρ} be the cycle associated with ρ . Then a lasso ρ in a DiPA* \mathcal{A} is bounded iff C_{ρ} is bounded. Similarly, ρ is feasible iff C_{ρ} is feasible.

Definition 1.16. A DiPA* \mathcal{A} is well-formed if \mathcal{A} has no reachable unbounded feasible leaking cycles, unbounded feasible leaking pair (C, C') where C is reachable, reachable unbounded feasible disclosing cycles, or reachable unbounded feasible privacy violating lassos.

1.2 Proving Differential Privacy

Theorem 1.17. Differential privacy can be decided for a DiPA* A^* in quadratic time.

We prove Theorem 1.17 by reducing a DiPA* to a DiPA and showing that they are equivalent through a construction similar to the canonical subset/powerset construction for finite automata.

Let $\mathcal{A}^* = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, q_0, X^*, P^*, \delta^*)$ be a well-formed DiPA* with parameters ϵ and N.

Let $G = \{ \text{true}, n < N, n \geq N, \text{insample} \geq x, n < N \text{ AND insample} \geq x, \text{insample} < x, n < N \text{ AND insample} < x \}$ be the set of guard conditions for DiPA*s.

Construct the DiPA $\mathcal{A} = (Q \times [N], \Sigma, \Gamma \cup \{\phi\}, (q_0, 0), X, P, \delta)$ as follows:

For each state $q \in Q^*$:

For $g \in G$, if $\delta^*(q,g) = (q', \sigma, \mathbf{b}, x)$ is defined, define $\delta((q,k), g)$ as follows:

 $\mathbf{Case} \ \mathbf{1:} \ g \in \{\mathtt{true}, \mathtt{insample} \geq \mathtt{x}, \mathtt{insample} < \mathtt{x}\}$

For all $k \in [N-1]$, define the transitions

$$\delta((q, k), g) = ((q', k + x), \sigma, \mathbf{b})$$

and define the transition

$$\delta((q,N),g) = ((q',N),\sigma,\mathbf{b})$$

Case 2: $g = n \ge N$

We define the transition

$$\delta((q,N),\mathtt{true}) = ((q',N),\sigma,\mathbf{b})$$

¹Hopefully this is clear

Case 3: q = n < N

For all $k \in [N-1]$, define the transitions

$$\delta((q,k),\mathtt{true}) = ((q',k+x),\sigma,\mathbf{b})$$

Case 4: g = n < N AND insample < x

For all $k \in [N-1]$, define the transitions

$$\delta((q,k), \mathtt{insample} < \mathtt{x}) = ((q',k+x),\sigma,\mathbf{b})$$

Case 5: $g = n < N \text{ AND insample} \ge x$

For all $k \in [N-1]$, define the transitions

$$\delta((q, k), \mathtt{insample} \ge \mathtt{x}) = ((q', k + x), \sigma, \mathbf{b})$$

Intuitively, at state (q, k) in \mathcal{A} , k will track the value of n in \mathcal{A}^* (since everything above N is treated the same, we compress all of those values together).

For each state $(q, k) \in Q$, let $P((q, k)) = P^*(q)$.

Claim 1.18. \mathcal{A} is a valid DiPA.

Proof. To be a valid DiPA, δ must satisfy four conditions: determinism, output distinction, initialization, and non-input transition.

Determinism: Consider some state $(q, k) \in Q$ and suppose that $\delta((q, k), \text{true})$ is defined. Then either $\delta^*(q, \text{true})$ is defined, $\delta^*(q, n < N)$ and k < N, or $\delta^*(q, n \ge N)$ is defined and k = N. By the condition of determinism for DiPA*s, if $\delta^*(q, \text{true})$, then no other transitions from q in \mathcal{A}^* are defined. Thus, neither $\delta((q, k), \text{insample} < \mathbf{x})$ or $\delta((q, k), \text{insample} \ge \mathbf{x})$ can be defined in \mathcal{A} .

If $\delta^*(q, n < N)$ is defined and k < N, then similarly none of $\delta^*(q, n < N)$ AND insample $\geq x$, $\delta^*(q, n < N)$ AND insample $\leq x$, $\delta^*(q, n < N)$ AND insample $\leq x$, $\delta^*(q, n < N)$ and insample $\leq x$, or $\delta^*(q, n < N)$ and insample $\leq x$, or $\delta^*(q, n < N)$ and insample $\leq x$ are defined. Additionally, since n < N, there is no additional transition from q corresponding to an $n \geq N$ guard in A^* , so neither $\delta((q, k), n > x)$ are defined in A.

Similarly, if $\delta^*(q, n \geq N)$ is defined and k = N, no other transitions from q can be defined in \mathcal{A} .

Output distinction: This follows immediately from the output distinction condition of DiPA*s.

Initialization: By the initialization condition of DiPA*s, the initial state q_0 has only one outgoing transition of the form $\delta(q_0, \text{true}) = (q, o, \text{true}, i)$ for $i \in \{0, 1\}$. Thus, there is only one transition out of $(q_0, 0)$ in \mathcal{A} , with guard true.

Non-input transition: Since input transitions are preserved from \mathcal{A}^* in the construction of \mathcal{A} , this follows immediately from the condition of non-input transition for DiPA*s.

Lemma 1.19. Let $\Psi = \{ \rho : \rho \text{ is a path in } A \}$ and $\Psi^* = \{ \rho^* : \rho^* \text{ is a valid path in } A^* \}$ be the sets of paths in A and A^* , respectively. There exists a bijection $f : \Psi \to \Psi^* \times [N]$ such that $\forall x, \forall \rho \in \Psi$, if $f(\rho) = (\rho^*, n), \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n, \rho^*]$.

Proof. Let $\rho = (q_1, n_1) \to (q_2, n_2) \to \ldots \to (q_m, n_m)$ be a path in \mathcal{A} . Then let $f(\rho) = (q_1 \to q_2 \ldots \to q_m, n_1)$ such that $\mathsf{inseq}(q_1 \to q_2 \ldots \to q_m) = \mathsf{inseq}(\rho)$. Note that $\mathsf{outseq}(q_1 \to q_2 \ldots \to q_m) = \mathsf{outseq}(\rho)$ by output determinism.

By construction², $\rho^* = q_1 \to \ldots \to q_m$ must be a valid path in \mathcal{A}^* if the value of the variable n in \mathcal{A}^* is n_1 at q_1 .

f is injective: Let $\rho = (q_1, n_1) \to \ldots \to (q_m, n_m), \rho' = (q'_1, n'_1) \to \ldots \to (q'_m, n'_m)$ be two paths in \mathcal{A} such that $\rho \neq \rho'$. If $|\rho| \neq |\rho'|, f(\rho) \neq f(\rho')$ clearly. Suppose $|\rho| = |\rho'|$ and consider the smallest i such that either $n_i \neq n'_i$ or $q_i \neq q'_i$. If $q_i \neq q'_i$, then clearly $f(\rho) = (q_1 \to \ldots \to q_i \to \ldots \to q_m, n_1) \neq (q_1 \to \ldots \to q'_i \to \ldots \to q_m, n'_1) = f(\rho')$. Otherwise, if $q_i = q'_i$ and $n_i \neq n'_i$, note that i = 1: there can only be one transition from $q_{i-1} \to q_i$ in \mathcal{A}^* and because i is the smallest such i, $q_{i-1} = q'_{i-1}$. Thus if i > 1, this would mean that $n_i = n'_i$, which is impossible. So $f(\rho) = (q_1 \to \ldots \to q_m, n_1) \neq (q'_1 \to \ldots \to q'_m, n'_1) = f(\rho')$.

f is surjective: Let $(\rho^*, n_1) = (q_1 \to \ldots \to q_m, n_1) \in \Psi^* \times [N]$. Let n_i be the value of n in \mathcal{A}^* after starting at state q_1 with $n = n_1$ and traversing each state q_i in order. Then $\rho = (q_1, n_1) \to \ldots (q_m, n_m)$ is a path in \mathcal{A} by construction and clearly $f(\rho) = (\rho^*, n_1)$.

Fix $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\rho \in \Psi$. Let $f(\rho) = (\rho^*, n_1)$. We will show that $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_1, \rho^*]$.

This follows by induction on $|\rho^*|$:

Suppose $|\rho^*| = 0$. Then $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x_0, \rho] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x_0, n_0, \rho^*] = 1$.

Now suppose $|\rho^*| = k > 0$ and that for all $|\rho'^*| < k$, $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x_0, \rho'] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x_0, n_0, \rho'^*]$.

Let c_0 be the guard of the first transition $q_0 \to q_1$ in $\rho^* = q_0 q_1 \cdots q_{m-1}$. So $\delta^*(q_0, c_0) = (q_1, \sigma, b, i)$.

Let $\nu = \mu + a_0$, where a_0 is the first input value read (or 0 if $q_0 \in Q_{non}$). Let $P(q_0) = (d, \mu, d', \mu')$ be the parameters for sampling from the Laplace distribution at q_0 . Define ℓ and u as follows: if $o_0 \in \Gamma \cup \{\phi\}$, then $\ell = -\infty$ and $u = \infty$. Otherwise, if $o_0 = (y, v, w)$ for $y \in \{\text{insample, insample'}\}$ (i.e. either insample or insample' is output with a value between v and w), then $\ell = v$ and u = w.

If $o_0 = (y, v, w)$ for $y \in \{\text{insample}, \text{insample'}\}$, then let

$$k = \int_{v}^{w} \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon|z-\mu-a_0|} dz$$
$$k' = \int_{v}^{w} \frac{d'\epsilon}{2} e^{-d'\epsilon|z-\mu'-a_0|} dz$$

Case 1: c = n < N

²Does this need to be elaborated on?

Note that $n_0 < N$ since ρ^* is a valid path.

By construction, $\delta((q_0, n_0), \text{true}) = ((q_1, n_1), \sigma, b)$ where $n_1 = n_0 + i$. Let x' be the value of x at q_1 in \mathcal{A}^* . Since \mathcal{A}^* assigns to x iff \mathcal{A} does, x' is also the value of x at (q_1, n_1) in \mathcal{A} .

Since $n_0 < N$, by the induction hypothesis

$$\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x', n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x', \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho]$$

Case 2: c = true

As in case 1, by construction, $\delta((q_0, n_0), \text{true}) = ((q_1, n_1), \sigma, b)$ where $n_1 = n_0 + i$. Let x' be the value of x at q_1 in \mathcal{A}^* . Since \mathcal{A}^* assigns to x iff \mathcal{A} does, x' is also the value of x at (q_1, n_1) in \mathcal{A} .

Then by the induction hypothesis

$$\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x', n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x', \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho]$$

Case 3: c = n > N

Note that $n_0 \ge N$ since ρ^* is a valid path.

By construction, $\delta((q_0, n_0), \text{true}) = ((q_1, n_1), \sigma, b)$ where $n_1 = n_0$. Let x' be the value of x at q_1 in \mathcal{A}^* . Since \mathcal{A}^* assigns to x iff \mathcal{A} does, x' is also the value of x at (q_1, n_1) in \mathcal{A} .

Since $n_0 \geq N$, by the induction hypothesis

$$\mathbb{P}[\epsilon,N,x,n_0,\rho^*] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon,N,x',n_1,\mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon,x',\mathtt{tail}(\rho)] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon,x,\rho]$$

Case 4: c = n < N AND insample $\geq x$

Since ρ^* is valid, $n_0 < N$.

By construction, $\delta((q_0, n_0), \texttt{insample} \ge \texttt{x}) = ((q_1, n_1), \sigma, b)$ where $n_1 = n_0 + i$.

Suppose b = true (i.e. $\text{trans}(q_0)$ is an assignment transition), then:

If σ is of the form (insample', v, w), since $n_0 < N$,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] &= k' \left(\int_x^\infty \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, z, n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] dz \\ &= k' \left(\int_x^\infty \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, z, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] dz \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] \end{split}$$

Otherwise,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] &= \left(\int_{\max(x, \ell)}^u \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z - \nu|} \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, z, n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] dz \\ &= \left(\int_{\max(x, \ell)}^u \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z - \nu|} \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, z, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] dz \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] \end{split}$$

Now suppose that $b = \mathtt{false}$. If σ is of the form (insample', v, w), since $n_0 < N$,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] &= k' \left(\int_x^\infty \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] \\ &= k' \left(\int_x^\infty \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] \end{split}$$

Otherwise,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] &= \left(\int_{\max(x, \ell)}^u \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z - \nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] dz \\ &= \left(\int_{\max(x, \ell)}^u \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z - \nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] \end{split}$$

Case 5: c = n < N AND insample < x

Since ρ^* is valid, $n_0 < N$.

By construction, $\delta((q_0, n_0), \texttt{insample} < \texttt{x}) = ((q_1, n_1), \sigma, b)$ where $n_1 = n_0 + i$.

Suppose b = true. Then if σ is of the form (insample', v, w), since $n_0 < N$,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] &= k' \left(\int_{-\infty}^x \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, z, n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] dz \\ &= k' \left(\int_{-\infty}^x \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, z, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] dz \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] \end{split}$$

Otherwise,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon,N,x,n_0,\rho^*] &= \left(\int_{\ell}^{\min(u,x)} \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon|z-\nu|}\right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon,N,z,n_1,\mathrm{tail}(\rho^*)] dz \\ &= \left(\int_{\ell}^{\min(u,x)} \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon|z-\nu|}\right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon,z,\mathrm{tail}(\rho)] dz \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon,x,\rho] \end{split}$$

Now suppose that b = false. If σ is of the form (insample', v, w), since $n_0 < N$,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] &= k' \left(\int_x^\infty \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] \\ &= k' \left(\int_x^\infty \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] \end{split}$$

Otherwise,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] &= \left(\int_{\ell}^{\min(u, x)} \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z - \nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] dz \\ &= \left(\int_{\ell}^{\min(u, x)} \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z - \nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] \end{split}$$

Case 6: $c = insample \ge x$

By construction, $\delta((q_0, n_0), \mathtt{insample} \geq \mathtt{x}) = ((q_1, n_1), \sigma, b)$ where $n_1 = n_0 + i$.

Suppose b = true (i.e. $\text{trans}(q_0)$ is an assignment transition), then:

If σ is of the form (insample', v, w),

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] &= k' \left(\int_x^\infty \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, z, n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] dz \\ &= k' \left(\int_x^\infty \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, z, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] dz \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] \end{split}$$

Otherwise,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] &= \left(\int_{\max(x, \ell)}^u \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z - \nu|} \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, z, n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] dz \\ &= \left(\int_{\max(x, \ell)}^u \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z - \nu|} \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, z, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] dz \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] \end{split}$$

Now suppose that b = false. If σ is of the form (insample', v, w),

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] &= k' \left(\int_x^\infty \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] \\ &= k' \left(\int_x^\infty \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] \end{split}$$

Otherwise,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] &= \left(\int_{\max(x, \ell)}^u \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z - \nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] dz \\ &= \left(\int_{\max(x, \ell)}^u \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z - \nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] \end{split}$$

Case 7: c = insample < x

By construction, $\delta((q_0, n_0), \texttt{insample} < \texttt{x}) = ((q_1, n_1), \sigma, b)$ where $n_1 = n_0 + i$.

Suppose b= true. Then if σ is of the form (insample', v,w),

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] &= k' \left(\int_{-\infty}^x \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, z, n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] dz \\ &= k' \left(\int_{-\infty}^x \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, z, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] dz \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] \end{split}$$

Otherwise,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] &= \left(\int_{\ell}^{\min(u, x)} \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z - \nu|} \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, z, n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] dz \\ &= \left(\int_{\ell}^{\min(u, x)} \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z - \nu|} \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, z, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] dz \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] \end{split}$$

Now suppose that b = false. If σ is of the form (insample', v, w),

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] &= k' \left(\int_x^\infty \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] \\ &= k' \left(\int_x^\infty \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z-\nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] \end{split}$$

Otherwise,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_0, \rho^*] &= \left(\int_{\ell}^{\min(u, x)} \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z - \nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, n_1, \mathtt{tail}(\rho^*)] dz \\ &= \left(\int_{\ell}^{\min(u, x)} \frac{d\epsilon}{2} e^{-d\epsilon |z - \nu|} dz \right) \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \mathtt{tail}(\rho)] \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] \end{split}$$

This is sufficient to prove the lemma.

Lemma 1.20. There exists d > 0 such that \mathcal{A} is $d\epsilon$ -differentially private if and only if \mathcal{A}^* is $d\epsilon$ -differentially private.

Proof. Let f be a bijection from paths in \mathcal{A} to tuples of paths in \mathcal{A}^* to [N], as defined in Lemma 1.19.

Suppose that $\exists d > 0$ such that \mathcal{A} is $d\epsilon$ -differentially private. Then for all equivalent paths ρ, ρ' in \mathcal{A} from the start state $(q_0, 0)$ such that $\mathsf{inseq}(\rho)$ and $\mathsf{inseq}(\rho')$ are adjacent, $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, \rho] \leq e^{d\epsilon}\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, \rho']$. Consider two equivalent paths ρ^*, ρ'^* in \mathcal{A}^* from the start state q_0 such that $\mathsf{inseq}(\rho^*)$ and $\mathsf{inseq}(\rho'^*)$ are adjacent. Then $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, 0, \rho^*] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, f^{-1}((\rho^*, 0))] \leq e^{d\epsilon}\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, f^{-1}((\rho'^*, 0))] = e^{d\epsilon}\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, 0, \rho'^*]$. Thus, \mathcal{A}^* is $d\epsilon$ -differentially private.

Suppose that $\forall d > 0$, \mathcal{A} is not $d\epsilon$ -differentially private. So there exists two equivalent paths from the start state $(q_0, 0)$ in \mathcal{A} $\rho = (q_0, 0) \to \ldots \to (q_m, n_m), \rho' = (q_0, 0) \to (q'_m, n'_m)$ in \mathcal{A} such that $\mathtt{inseq}(\rho)$ and $\mathtt{inseq}(\rho')$ are adjacent, but $\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, \rho] > e^{d\epsilon}\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, \rho']$.

Let $f(\rho) = (\rho^*, 0)$ and $f(\rho') = (\rho'^*, 0)$. Fix $\operatorname{inseq}(\rho^*) = \operatorname{inseq}(\rho)$ and $\operatorname{inseq}(\rho'^*) = \operatorname{inseq}(\rho')$.

Then by Lemma 1.19,
$$\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, \rho] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, 0, \rho^*] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho] = \mathbb{P}[\epsilon, \rho] > e^{d\epsilon}\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, \rho'] = e^{d\epsilon}\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, x, \rho'] = e^{d\epsilon}\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, x, 0, \rho'^*] = e^{d\epsilon}\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, N, \rho'^*]$$
. Thus, \mathcal{A}^* is not $d\epsilon$ -DP.

Corollary 1.21. Let A^* be a DiPA* with unfixed parameters.

Let $f(\epsilon, N) : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{R}$ be defined as follows:

Consider the instantiated version of \mathcal{A}^* with parameters ϵ and N. Let \mathcal{A} be the DiPA constructed from \mathcal{A}^* as in Theorem 3.1. $f(\epsilon, N) = wt(\mathcal{A})$.

Then $\forall \epsilon, f(\epsilon, N)$ grows linearly in N.

Corollary 1.22. For a DiPA* A^* , the well-formedness of A^* can be decided quadratically.

Proof. Note that the time it takes is bounded by the cost of constructing a DiPA \mathcal{A} from \mathcal{A}^* . The construction of \mathcal{A} from \mathcal{A}^* causes the number of states to increase by a factor of N. Each transition in \mathcal{A}^* corresponds to at most N transitions in \mathcal{A} . Since the well-formedness of \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{A}^* are equivalent, at most there is a linear increase in the time required to check the well-formedness of \mathcal{A}^* as compared to a DiPA* of the same size. Since differential privacy for DiPAs can be decided in linear time, this means that differential privacy for DiPA*s can be decided in quadratic time.

2 Input Terminator: EDIT I HAVE REALIZED THAT THIS IS BASICALLY MEANINGLESS

2.1 Definitions

Definition 2.1. Fix a parameter ϵ . Let C be the guard conditions {input = τ , input $\neq \tau$, input $\neq \tau$ AND insample $\geq x$, input $\neq \tau$ AND insample < x}. An **Input Terminated Differentially Private Automaton** (ITDiPA) \mathcal{A} is defined as the tuple $\mathcal{A} = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, q_0, X, P, \delta)$, where:

- Q = finite set of states; partitioned into input states Q_{in} and non-input states Q_{non}
- $\Sigma \cup \{\tau\}$ is the input alphabet (Σ is taken to be \mathbb{R})
- Γ is a finite output alphabet
- $q_0 \in Q$ is the starting state
- $X = \{x, insample, insample'\}$ is a set of variables. $x, insample, insample' \in \mathbb{R}$.
- $P: Q \to \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} \times \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0} \times \mathbb{Q}$ describing the parameters for sampling from Laplace distributions at each state.
- $\delta: (Q \times C) \to Q \times (\Gamma \cup \{\text{insample}, \text{insample'}\}) \times \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}\$ is the transition function (technically a relation) that defines what state to transition to, what symbol or real value to output, and whether or not x is assigned to.

There are certain conditions that δ must satisfy; these are almost all the same as the restrictions on transition functions of DiPA, but with some slight modifications (marked in blue):

• **Determinism:** If, for a state $q \in Q$, a transition from q with guard input $\neq \tau$ is defined, then there are no transitions from q with guard either input $\neq \tau$ AND insample < x nor input $\neq \tau$ AND insample \geq x.

Note that if the automaton is in state q and none of the guards of outgoing transitions from q are satisfied, the automaton terminates.

- Output Distinction: For any state $q \in Q$, if $\delta(q, \texttt{insample} \ge x) = (q_1, o_1, b_1)$ and $\delta(q, \texttt{insample} < x) = (q_2, o_2, b_2)$, then $o_1 \ne o_2$ and at least one of $o_1 \in \Gamma$ and $o_2 \in \Gamma$ is true.
- Initialization: The initial state q_0 has only one outgoing transition of the form $\delta(q_0, \text{input} \neq \tau) = (q, o, \text{true}).$
- Non-input transition: From any $q \in Q_{non}$, if $\delta(q, c)$ is defined, then $c \in \{\text{input} \neq \tau, \text{input} = \tau\}$.
- Output Termination: Let G be the underlying graph of A. If $\delta(q, \text{true} = \tau) = (q', \sigma, b)$ is defined, let C and C' be the weakly³ connected components G that contain

 $^{^3\}mathrm{check}$

q and q', respectively. Then C and C' must be different components of G and C' must be acyclic. Further, for all states $q' \in C'$, $q' \in Q_{non}$ (i.e. no further states take in any input).

2.1.1 Path probabilities

Definition 2.2. Two input sequences $\rho, \sigma \in \mathbb{R}^* \times \{\tau\}$ are **adjacent** if $|\rho| = |\sigma|, \rho[|\rho|] = \sigma[|\rho|] = \tau$ and $\forall i < |\rho|, |\rho[i] - \sigma[i]| \le 1$.

Note that path probabilities are exactly the same as in DiPAs, with the exception that a ITDiPA takes a input = τ transition with probability 1 if the input is τ and 0 otherwise.

Definition 2.3. A ITDiPA \mathcal{A} is $d\epsilon$ -differentially private if for all adjacent $\rho, \sigma \in \mathbb{R}^* \times \{\tau\}$, $\mathbb{P}[d\epsilon, \rho] \leq e^{d\epsilon}\mathbb{P}[\epsilon, \sigma]$.

2.1.2 Wellformedness

For a ITDiPA \mathcal{A} , let $DiPA(\mathcal{A})$ be the DiPA created from \mathcal{A} by removing all transitions with guard input = τ from the automaton and then removing all newly unreachable components.

Then \mathcal{A} is well-formed if and only if $DiPA(\mathcal{A})$.

2.2 Differential Privacy

Theorem 2.4. A ITDiPA A is well-formed if and only if it is differentially private.

Proof. Consider two paths

References

[1] Rohit Chadha, A. Prasad Sistla, and Mahesh Viswanathan. On Linear Time Decidability of Differential Privacy for Programs with Unbounded Inputs, April 2021.