

Tail Inequalities

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Outline

- 1 The Chernoff Bound
 - Preliminaries
 - Chernoff Bound
- 2 Application
 - Set Balancing
 - Routing in a Parallel Computer
 - Wiring Problem
- 3 Martingales
 - General Definition
 - Martingales Tail Inequality

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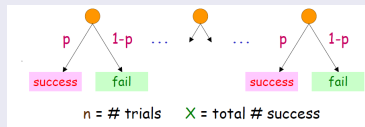
Bernoulli Distribution

Definition

independent Bernoulli trials: random variables $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ such that

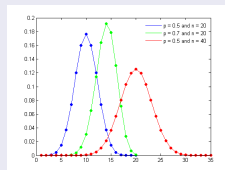
$$\Pr[X_i = 1] = p$$

$$\Pr[X_i = 0] = 1 - p$$



Binomial distribution: sum of i.i.d. Bernoulli trials, i.e. $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$

$$\Pr[X = k] = \binom{n}{k} \cdot p^k \cdot (1-p)^{n-k}$$



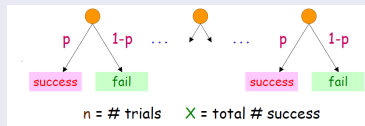
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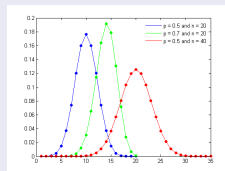
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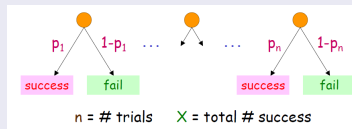
Poisson trial

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Sum of Poisson trial: $\mathbb{X} = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$ such that $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ be a sequence of independent Poisson trials, then

$$E[\mathbb{X}] = E[X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n] = p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_n$$

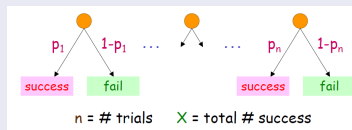
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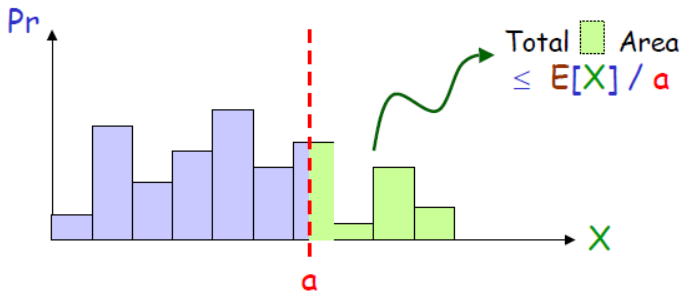
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Markov Inequality

Theorem

Let X be a random variable that takes on non-negative values only. Then, for any positive number a ,

$$\Pr(X \geq a) \leq \frac{E[X]}{a}$$

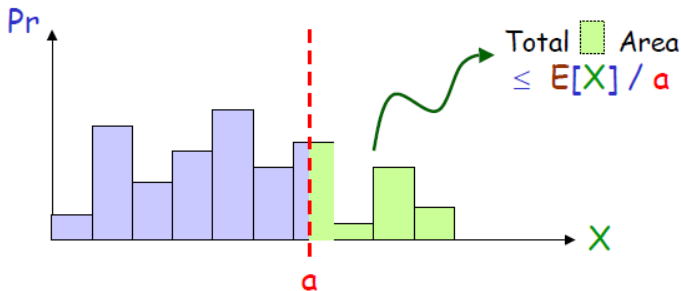


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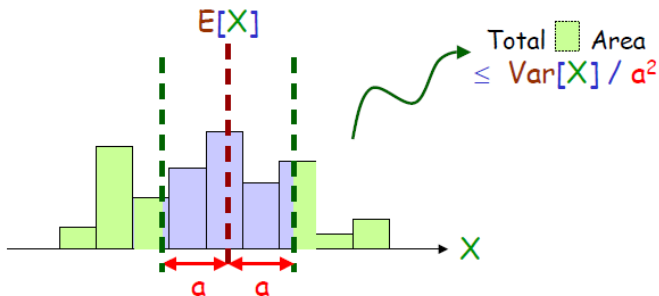


Chebyshev Inequality

Theorem

Let X be a random variable that takes on non-negative values only. Then, for any positive number a ,

$$\Pr(|X - E[X]| \geq a) \leq \frac{\text{Var}[X]}{a^2}$$



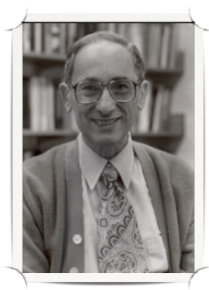
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Question1: For a real number δ , what is the probability that $\mathbb{X}$ exceeds $(1 + \delta)\mu$?

Question2: How large must δ be in order that the tail probability is less than a prescribed value ϵ ?

Tight answer can be obtained using technique known as the

Chernoff Bound



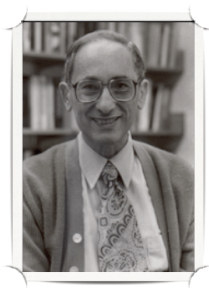
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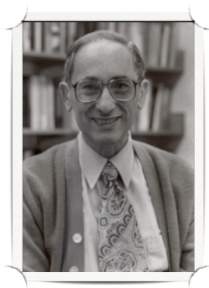
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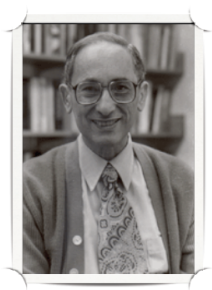
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Chernoff Bound

Moment Generating Function

The moment generating function of X is

$$M(t) = E(e^{tX})$$

Taylor expansion:

$$E(e^{tX}) = E\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} X^k\right) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} E(X^k)$$

Theorem

Let $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ be independent Poisson trials such that $\Pr[X_i = 1] = p_i$.
Let $\mathbb{X} = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$ and $\mu = E[\mathbb{X}]$. Then, for all $\delta > 0$,

$$\Pr[\mathbb{X} > (1 + \delta)\mu] \leq \left[\frac{e^\delta}{(1 + \delta)^{(1+\delta)}} \right]^\mu$$

in other words

$$\Pr[\mathbb{X} - \mu > \delta\mu] \leq \left[\frac{e^\delta}{(1 + \delta)^{(1+\delta)}} \right]^\mu$$

$$Pr[\mathbb{X} > (1 + \delta)\mu] \leq \left[\frac{e^\delta}{(1 + \delta)^{(1+\delta)}} \right]^\mu$$

Proof strategy:

- Markov's inequality + moment generating function.
- Bound the moment generating function.
- Parameterization + optimization.

Proof.

For any positive real number t ,

$$\begin{aligned} Pr[\mathbb{X} > (1 + \delta)\mu] &= Pr[e^{t\mathbb{X}} > e^{t(1+\delta)\mu}] \\ &\leq \frac{E(e^{t\mathbb{X}})}{e^{t(1+\delta)\mu}} \quad (\text{Markov inequality}) \end{aligned}$$

$$E[e^{t\mathbb{X}}] = E[e^{(t \sum_{i=1}^n X_i)}] = E(\prod_{i=1}^n e^{tX_i}) = \prod_{i=1}^n E(e^{tX_i})$$

$$Pr[\mathbb{X} > (1 + \delta)\mu] \leq \left[\frac{e^\delta}{(1 + \delta)^{(1+\delta)}} \right]^\mu$$

Proof (Contd.).

$$e^{tX_i} = \begin{cases} e^t & X_i = 1 \text{ (prob } p_i). \\ 1 & X_i = 0 \text{ (prob } 1 - p_i). \end{cases} \Rightarrow E[e^{tX_i}] = p_i e^t + 1 - p_i$$

$$\begin{aligned} Pr[\mathbb{X} > (1 + \delta)\mu] &= Pr[e^{t\mathbb{X}} > e^{t(1+\delta)\mu}] \\ &\leq \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n E[e^{tX_i}]}{e^{t(1+\delta)\mu}} \\ &\leq \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n [p_i e^t + 1 - p_i]}{e^{t(1+\delta)\mu}} \\ &= \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n [1 + p_i(e^t - 1)]}{e^{t(1+\delta)\mu}} \end{aligned}$$

$$Pr[\mathbb{X} > (1 + \delta)\mu] \leq \left[\frac{e^\delta}{(1 + \delta)^{(1+\delta)}} \right]^\mu$$

Proof (Contd.).

We use the fact $1 + x \leq e^x$ with $x = p_i(e^t - 1)$

$$\begin{aligned} Pr[\mathbb{X} > (1 + \delta)\mu] &\leq \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n e^{p_i(e^t - 1)}}{e^{t(1+\delta)\mu}} \\ &= \frac{e^{\sum_{i=1}^n p_i(e^t - 1)}}{e^{t(1+\delta)\mu}} \\ &= \frac{e^{(e^t - 1)\mu}}{e^{t(1+\delta)\mu}} \end{aligned}$$

For $t = \ln(1 + \delta)$

$$\left[\frac{e^\delta}{(1 + \delta)^{(1+\delta)}} \right]^\mu$$

Definition

$$F^+(\mu, \delta) = \left[\frac{e^\delta}{(1+\delta)^{(1+\delta)}} \right]^\mu$$

Example

- Player win each game with probability $\frac{1}{3}$.
- Outcomes of each games are independent.
- Find an upper bound for the probability that the number of games he wins is greater than $n/2$.
- X_i is 1 if he wins the i th game and 0 otherwise.
- $Y_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$
- $Pr(Y_n > \frac{n}{2}) < F^+(\frac{n}{3}, \frac{1}{2}) < (0.965)^n$

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Definition

$$F^-(\mu, \delta) = e^{(-\frac{\mu\delta^2}{2})}.$$

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Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} Pr[\mathbb{X} \leq (1 - \delta)\mu] &= Pr[-\mathbb{X} > -(1 - \delta)\mu] \\ &= Pr[e^{(-t\mathbb{X})} \geq e^{(-t(1-\delta)\mu)}] \\ &\leq \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n E[e^{(-t\mathbb{X})}]}{e^{(-t(1-\delta)\mu)}} \\ &\leq \frac{e^{(\mu(e^{-t}-1))}}{e^{(-t(1-\delta)\mu)}} \end{aligned}$$

Let $t = \ln(\frac{1}{1-\delta}) \Rightarrow Pr[\mathbb{X} \leq (1 - \delta)\mu] \leq [\frac{e^{-\delta}}{(1-\delta)^{(1-\delta)}}]^\mu$.

We simplify this using the McLaurin expansion for $\ln(1 - \delta)$ for $\delta \in (0, 1]$

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Example

- Player win each game with probability $\frac{3}{4}$.
- Outcomes of each games are independent.
- Find an upper bound for the probability that the number of games he wins is less than $n/2$.
- X_i is 1 if he wins the i th game and 0 otherwise.
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Second Question

How large must δ be in order that the tail probability is less than a prescribed value ϵ ?

Definition

For any positive μ and ϵ , $\Delta^+(\mu, \epsilon)$ is the value of δ that satisfies

$$F^+(\mu, \Delta^+(\mu, \epsilon)) = \epsilon$$

Similarly, $\Delta^-(\mu, \epsilon)$ is the value of δ that satisfies

$$F^-(\mu, \Delta^-(\mu, \epsilon)) = \epsilon$$

Deriving $\Delta^-(\mu, \epsilon)$ is easy:

$$\Delta^-(\mu, \epsilon) = \sqrt{\frac{2 \ln(\frac{1}{\epsilon})}{\mu}}$$

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Example

Suppose $p_i = 0.75$. How large must δ be so that $\Pr[X < (1 - \delta)\mu]$ is less than n^{-5} ?

$$\Delta^-(0.75n, n^{-5}) = \sqrt{\frac{10 \ln n}{0.75n}}$$

What if we wanted that $\Pr[X < (1 - \delta)\mu]$ be less than $e^{-1.5n}$?

$$\Delta^-(0.75n, e^{-1.5n}) = \sqrt{\frac{3n}{0.75n}} = 2$$

Exercise

Prove that

$$F^+(\mu, \delta) \leq \left[\frac{e}{(1+\delta)} \right]^{(1+\delta)\mu}$$

Hence infer that if $\delta > 2e - 1$

$$F^+(\mu, \delta) \leq 2^{-(1+\delta)\mu}$$

Theorem

Let X be defined as in Chernoff theorem. Then

$$P[X \geq (1+\delta)\mu] \leq \begin{cases} e^{-\mu\delta^2/4} & 0 < \delta \leq 1 \\ e^{-\frac{\mu\delta \ln \delta}{2}} & \delta > 1. \end{cases}$$

Proof.

For the interval $0 < \delta \leq 1$, we prove the weaker inequality

$$\left(\frac{e^\delta}{(1+\delta)^{(1+\delta)}} \right)^\mu \leq e^{\mu\delta^2/4}$$



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Set Balancing

Definition

- Suppose we have a group of m students
- We try to classify them by checking whether they have a particular feature or not
- Let n be the number of features
- Can you try to divide the m students into two groups $G1$ and $G2$, such that for each k ,
no. of students with feature k in $G1 =$ no. of students with feature k in $G2$.



	subject 1	subject 2	subject 3	subject 4
gender	boy	girl	boy	girl
age	≥ 3	≥ 3	< 3	< 3
teeth	un- healthy	un- healthy	healthy	un- healthy
bodyfat	normal	over- weight	normal	normal
allergy	no	no	yes	yes

Set Balancing

It is desirable to find a partition such that minimizes $\max_k \{\text{difference in no. of students with feature } k \text{ in } G1 \text{ and } G2.\}$.



	subject 1	subject 2	subject 3	subject 4
gender	boy	girl	boy	girl
age	≥ 3	≥ 3	< 3	< 3
teeth	un-healthy	un-healthy	healthy	un-healthy
bodyfat	normal	over-weight	normal	normal
allergy	no	no	yes	yes

	subject ₁	subject ₂	subject ₃	subject ₄
feature ₁	1	0	1	0
feature ₂	1	1	0	0
feature ₃	0	0	1	0
feature ₄	1	0	1	1
feature ₅	0	1	0	1

Set Balancing

0-1 matrix:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{feature 1:} \\ \text{feature 2:} \\ \vdots \\ \text{feature } n: \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{sub 1} \text{ sub 2 } \cdots \text{ sub } m \\ \left[\begin{array}{cccc} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1m} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nm} \end{array} \right] \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \{+1, -1\} \\ \text{vector} \\ \left[\begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_m \end{array} \right] \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \left[\begin{array}{c} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

Q: Given an $n \times n$ matrix A all of whose entries are 0 or 1, find a column vector $b \in \{-1, 1\}^n$ minimizing $\|Ab\|_\infty$.

Set Balancing

0-1 matrix:

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 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \\
 \text{feature } n: & a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nm} & \end{array} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix}$$

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Theorem

Suppose that $X_i, 1 \leq i \leq n$, be n independent and identically distributed $\{-1, +1\}$ valued random variables such that $\Pr[X_i = +1] = \Pr[X_i = -1] = 1/2$. Let the random variable X be defined by $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$. Then for any $\delta > 0$

$$\Pr[X \geq \delta] = \Pr[X \leq -\delta] \leq e^{-\delta^2/2n}$$

Olivious Routing

Consider the i th row of A . By previous theorem

$$\Pr[(Ab)_i \geq \sqrt{4n \ln n}] \leq n^{-2}$$

and

$$\Pr[(Ab)_i \leq -\sqrt{4n \ln n}] \leq n^{-2}$$

So

$$\Pr[|(Ab)_i| \geq \sqrt{4n \ln n}] \leq 2n^{-2}$$

There are n rows, so

$$\Pr[\|(Ab)\|_\infty \geq \sqrt{4n \ln n}] \leq 2/n$$

In other words,

With probability at least $1 - 2/n$, we find a vector b for which $\|Ab\|_\infty \leq \sqrt{4n \ln n}$.

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Routing



Network of Parallel Processors

Definition

- 1 N processors are connected by a network.

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Network of Parallel Processors

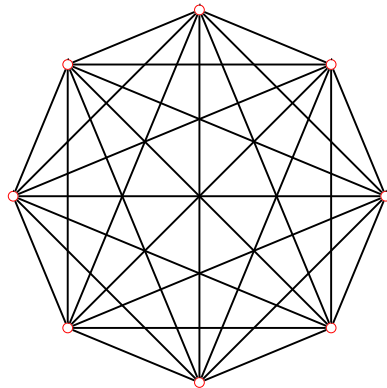
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- 5 Each processor has a unique identifying number between 1 and N .



nodes: processors
edges: links

Permutation Routing

Definition

1 N nodes: $[N]$.

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- 2 Each node sends one packet to a distinct destination.

Permutation Routing

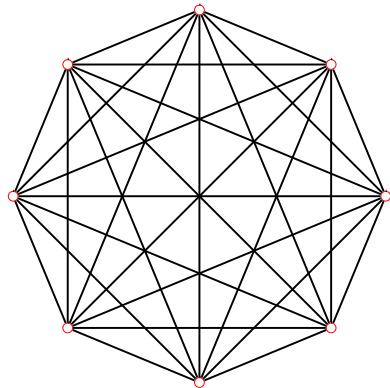
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Permutation Routing

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- 4 origin: i ,
dest.: $d(i)$.



Complete graph: one step to route all N packets without congestion.

Olivious Routing

Definition

An oblivious algorithm for the permutation routing problem satisfies the following property:

The route followed by v_i depends on $d(i)$ alone, and not on $d(j)$ for any $j \neq i$.

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Theorem

For any deterministic oblivious permutation routing algorithm on a network of N nodes of out-degree d , there is an instance of permutation routing $\Omega(\sqrt{N}/d)$ steps.

Proof.

Cf. (Kaklamanis, Krizanc, Tsantilas, 1991) based on (Borodin, Hopcroft, 1985)



Boolean Hypercube

Definition

1 n dimension hypercube

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Boolean Hypercube

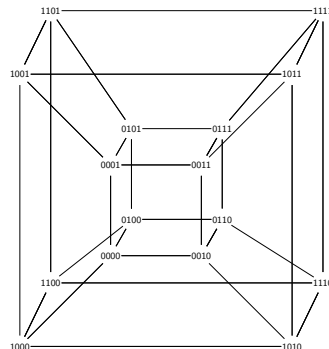
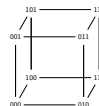
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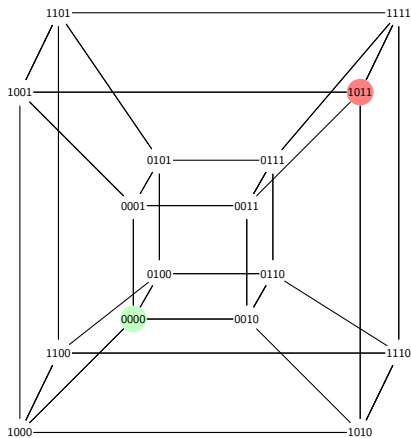
Boolean Hypercube

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- 2 Nodes: $\{0, 1\}^n$
 $N = 2^n$
- 3 Edges: $\forall u, v \in \{0, 1\}^n$ $u \sim v$ if $H(u, v) = 1$
- 4 Degree: n
- 5 Number of edges: $N \times n$ (for a directed hypercube).

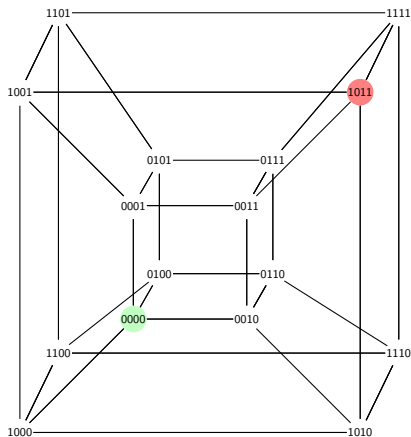


bit-fixing strategy



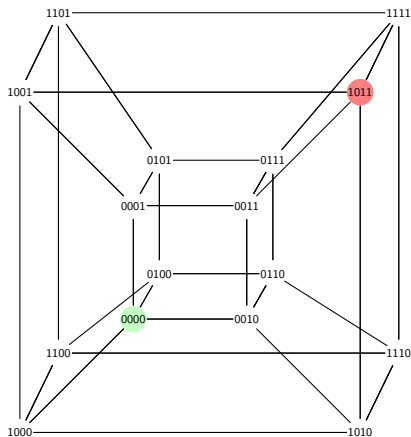
bit-fixing strategy

- 0000



bit-fixing strategy

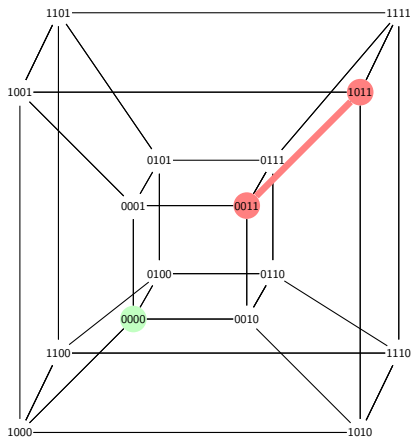
- 0000
- 1011



bit-fixing strategy

- 0000

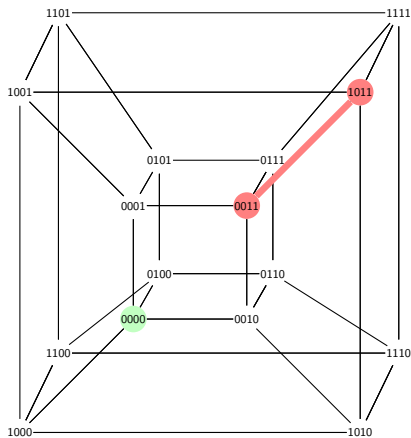
- 0011



bit-fixing strategy

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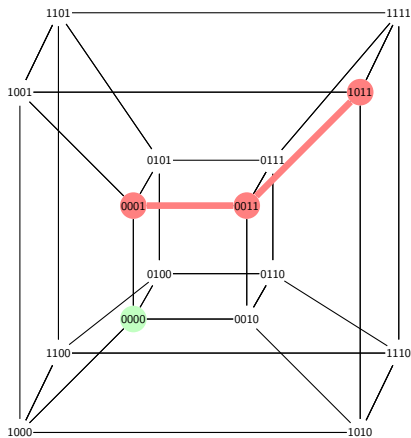
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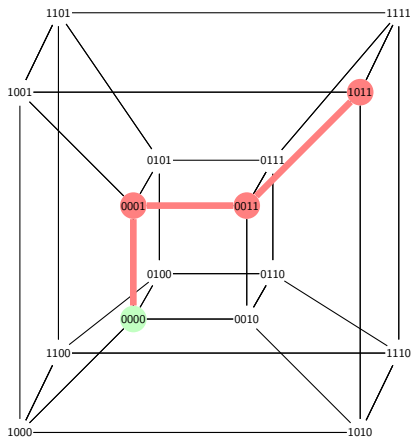
• 0000

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Randomized Oblivious Routing Algorithm

Algorithm

Phase1: Pick a random intermediate destination $\sigma(i)$ from $\{1, 2, \dots, N\}$. Packet v_i travels to node $\sigma(i)$.

Phase2: Packet v_i travels from node $\sigma(i)$ on to its destination $d(i)$.

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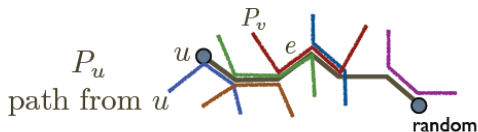
How many steps does elapse before packet v_i reaches its destination?
First Consider Phase1

CVCXVCV

For every $u \in \{0,1\}^n$ destination is a uniform and independent $v \in \{0,1\}^n$

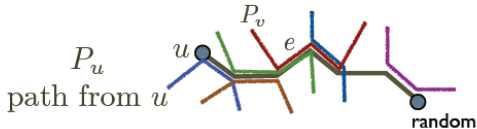
Exercise

view each route in phase1 as a directed path in the hypercube from the source to the intermediate destination. Prove that once two routes separate, they do not rejoin.



Lemma

Let the route of v_i follow the sequence of edges $\rho_i = (e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k)$ and S be the set of packets (other than v_i) whose route pass through at least one of $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k\}$. Then, the delay incurred by v_i is at most $|S|$.



Definition

- $H_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \rho_i \text{ and } \rho_j \text{ share at least one edge.} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

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$$\sum_{j=1}^N H_{ij} \leq \sum_{l=1}^k T(e_l).$$

Global Wiring

Given $\sum_{j=1}^N H_{ij} \leq \sum_{l=1}^k T(e_l)$, then

$$E\left[\sum_{j=1}^N H_{ij}\right] \leq E\left[\sum_{l=1}^k T(e_l)\right].$$

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$E(I_{\rho_j})$ is $\frac{n}{2}$ for all j , so the total route length is $Nn/2$.

$$E[T(e)] = \frac{Nn/2}{Nn} = 1/2.$$

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$$E\left[\sum_{j=1}^N H_{ij}\right] \leq E\left[\sum_{l=1}^k T(e_l)\right] = \frac{k}{2} \leq \frac{n}{2}.$$

By Chernoff Bound $Pr[X > (1 + \delta)\mu] \leq 2^{-(1+\delta)\mu}$, we have

$$Pr\left[\sum_{j=1}^N H_{ij} > 6n\right] \leq 2^{-6n}.$$

As the number of packets is $N = 2^n$, then the probability that at least one packet has delay more than $6n$ is less than $2^n \times 2^{-6n} = 2^{-5n}$.

Delay and length of path for each packet are at most $6n$ and n , respectively. Then, the number of steps for phase1 is at most $7n$.

Theorem

With probability at least $1 - 2^{-5n}$, every packet reaches its intermediate destination in phase1 in $7n$ or fewer steps.

The situation for phase2 is similar to phase1.

Therefore, the probability that a packet cannot reach its destination is

$$2 \times 2^{-5n} \leq 2^{-n} = \frac{1}{N}$$

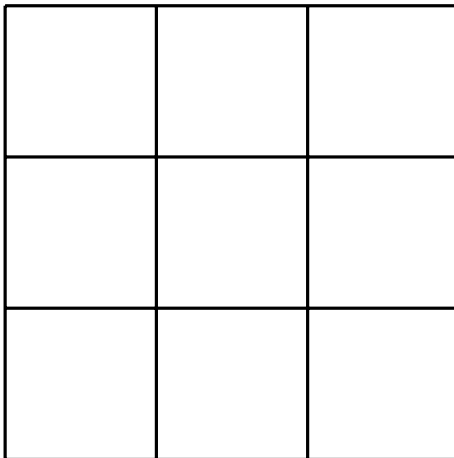
Theorem

With probability at least $1 - 1/N$, every packet reaches its destination in $14n$ or fewer steps.

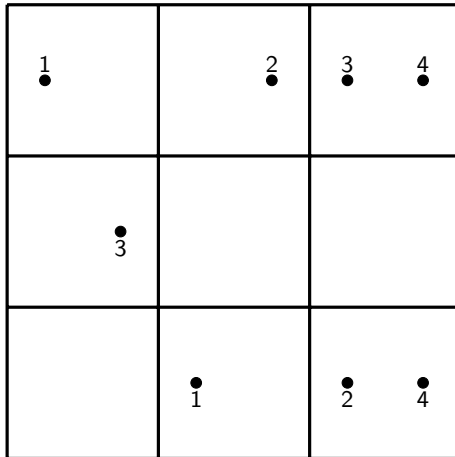
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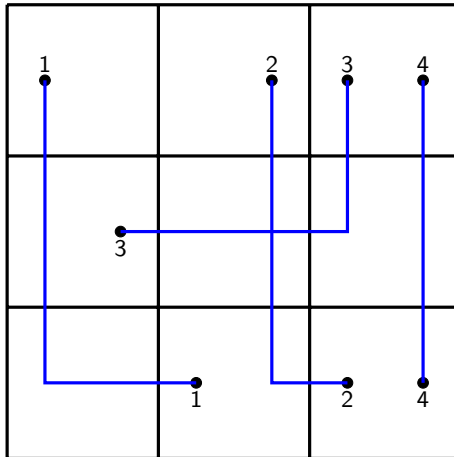
Global Wiring



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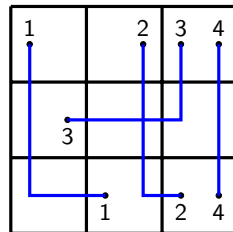
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Global Wiring

Definition

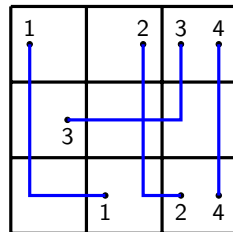
$$x_{i0} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{net } i \text{ goes horizontally} \\ & \text{first from the left end-point.} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



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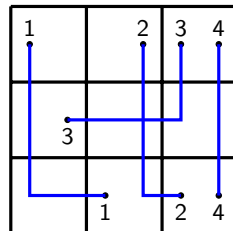
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Global Wiring

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Example

$$x_{11} = 0 \text{ And } x_{31} = 1$$

Wiring Problem

Integer program

For each boundary b ,

$$T_{b0} = \{i \mid \text{net } i \text{ passes through } b \text{ if } x_{i0} = 1\}$$

and

$$T_{b1} = \{i \mid \text{net } i \text{ passes through } b \text{ if } x_{i1} = 1\}$$

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Definition

$$\min w$$

s.t.

$$\sum_{i \in T_{b0}} x_{i0} + \sum_{i \in T_{b1}} x_{i1} \leq w (\forall \text{ boundaries } b),$$

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Zero-One Linear Programming is $\mathcal{NP}$ -hard.

Relaxed L.P. Model

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Relaxed L.P. Model

- In order to find an optimal solution to the above 0-1 linear programming, we need to solve an $\mathcal{NP}$ – *hard* problem!
- Therefore, we seek for a near optimal solution by the following approach:
 - Relax the 0 – 1 constraint to $x_{i0}, x_{i1} \in [0, 1]$ for each i ,
 - The obtained model is a linear programming model which can be easily solved using Simplex method, for example.
 - Let $\hat{x}_{i0}$ and $\hat{x}_{i1}$ be the solutions to the relaxed model obtained in the previous step and $\hat{w}$ be the value of the objective function for these solutions,
- ...

Randomized Rounding

- ...
- $\hat{x}_{i0}$ and $\hat{x}_{i1}$ might be fractional numbers, then they cannot be appropriate answers for our 0 – 1 model. Hence we round them to 0 or 1 in a probabilistic fashion, called *randomized rounding*, as follow

$$Pr[\overline{x}_{i0} = 1] = \hat{x}_{i0}$$

$$Pr[\overline{x}_{i1} = 1] = \hat{x}_{i1}$$

where $\overline{x}_{i1}$ and $\overline{x}_{i1}$ denote the rounded value of $\hat{x}_{i1}$ and $\hat{x}_{i1}$, respectively.

Randomized rounding

Theorem

Let ϵ be a real number such that $0 < \epsilon < 1$. Then with probability $1 - \epsilon$, the global wiring S produced by randomized rounding satisfies

$$w_S \leq \hat{w}(1 + \Delta^+(\hat{w}, \epsilon/2n)) \leq w_o(1 + \Delta^+(w_o, \epsilon/2n))$$

Proof.

- $\sum_{i \in T_{b0}} \hat{x}_{i0} + \sum_{i \in T_{b1}} \hat{x}_{i1} \leq \hat{w}$

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- $\sum_{i \in T_{b0}} \hat{x}_{i0} + \sum_{i \in T_{b1}} \hat{x}_{i1} \leq \hat{w}$
- $w_S(b) = \sum_{i \in T_{b0}} \bar{x}_{i0} + \sum_{i \in T_{b1}} \bar{x}_{i1}$
- $E[w_S(b)] = \sum_{i \in T_{b0}} E[\bar{x}_{i0}] + \sum_{i \in T_{b1}} E[\bar{x}_{i1}] = \sum_{i \in T_{b0}} \hat{x}_{i0} + \sum_{i \in T_{b1}} \hat{x}_{i1} \leq \hat{w}$.
- $Pr[w_S(b) > \hat{w}(1 + \Delta^+(\hat{w}, \epsilon/2n))] \leq \epsilon/2n$.

Randomized rounding

Theorem

Let ϵ be a real number such that $0 < \epsilon < 1$. Then with probability $1 - \epsilon$, the global wiring S produced by randomized rounding satisfies

$$w_S \leq \hat{w}(1 + \Delta^+(\hat{w}, \epsilon/2n)) \leq w_o(1 + \Delta^+(w_o, \epsilon/2n))$$

Proof.

- $\sum_{i \in T_{b0}} \hat{x}_{i0} + \sum_{i \in T_{b1}} \hat{x}_{i1} \leq \hat{w}$
- $w_S(b) = \sum_{i \in T_{b0}} \bar{x}_{i0} + \sum_{i \in T_{b1}} \bar{x}_{i1}$
- $E[w_S(b)] = \sum_{i \in T_{b0}} E[\bar{x}_{i0}] + \sum_{i \in T_{b1}} E[\bar{x}_{i1}] = \sum_{i \in T_{b0}} \hat{x}_{i0} + \sum_{i \in T_{b1}} \hat{x}_{i1} \leq \hat{w}$.
- $Pr[w_S(b) > \hat{w}(1 + \Delta^+(\hat{w}, \epsilon/2n))] \leq \epsilon/2n$.
- since the number of boundaries is less than $2n$

$$Pr[w_S > \hat{w}(1 + \Delta^+(\hat{w}, \epsilon/2n))] \leq \epsilon.$$



Consider $w_0 = n^\gamma$

$$w_S \leq n^\gamma \left(1 + \sqrt{\frac{4 \ln 2n/\epsilon}{n^\gamma}}\right)$$

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- 3 Martingales
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