# round elimination & triangular discrimination

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#### round elimination [...Miltersen-Nisan-Safra-Wigerson...]

triangular discrimination [Topsøe]



# round elimination



computational process with R rounds

input X

in round *i* some data  $M_i(X, M_{< i})$  is recorded

 $M_R$  should provide some info on X

problem: lower bounds on R...

### round elimination

construct  $X^{(R)}$  and  $f^{(R)}$  so that solution for them in R rounds yields solution for  $X^{(R-1)}$  and  $f^{(R-1)}$  in R-1 round

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 $X^{(0)}$  and  $f^{(0)}$  are non trivial

error increases in every step

example: communication complexity

alice gets X and bob gets Y

they talk:  $M_1(X), M_2(Y, M_1), M_3(X, M_1, M_2), \dots, M_r$ 

#### round elimination

. . .

level 0: alice gets X, bob gets Y, compute f(X, Y)

level 1: alice gets  $(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$ , bob gets  $X_{\leq j}$ , Y, compute  $f(X_j, Y)$ 

suggestion: do not eliminate rounds

#### bound amount of info collected

for all *i* 

$$\mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{M_{\leq i}} dist(p_{X^{(R-i)}} | m_{\leq i}, p_{X^{(R-i)}}) \leq i \cdot \epsilon$$

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choice of *dist* is important

# triangular discrimination

measures of "distance" between distributions p, q are useful

each measure due to unique properties

f-divergence [Csiszar, Morimoto, Ali, Silvey]

$$D_f(p||q) = \sum_{\omega} q(\omega) f\left(rac{p(\omega)}{q(\omega)}
ight)$$

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with f convex so that f(1) = 0

### examples

$$\ell_1$$
 distance  $|p-q|_1$  with  $|1-x|$ 

KL-divergence D(p||q) with  $x \log_2 x$ 

triangular discrimination  $\Delta(p,q)$  with  $\frac{(1-x)^2}{1+x}$ 



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#### properties

non-negativity  $D_f(p||q) \ge 0$ 

**convexity**  $D_f(p||q)$  is convex in (p,q)

data processing  $D_f(p_X||p_Y) \ge D_f(p_{g(X)}||p_{g(Y)})$ 

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### relations

[Pinsker]  $|p - q|_1 \leq \sqrt{2D(p||q)}$ 

extremely useful in information theoretic proofs

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simple  $\Delta(p,q) \leq |p-q|_1 \leq \sqrt{2\Delta(p,q)}$ 

 $\Delta(p,q) = \sum_{\omega} \frac{(p(\omega)-q(\omega))^2}{p(\omega)+q(\omega)}$ 

[Topsøe]  $\Delta(p,q) \leq 2D(p||q)$ 

dual/operational meaning

#### $\ell_1$ & statistical distance

$$|p-q|_1 = \max_{\|g\|_\infty \le 1} |\mathop{\mathbb{E}}_p g - \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_q g$$

 $\Delta \& \ell_2$ 

$$\Delta(
ho,q) = \max_{\mathbb{E}_{
ho} g^2 + \mathbb{E}_{q} g^2 \leq 1} (\mathbb{E}_{
ho} g - \mathbb{E}_{q} g)^2$$

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### applications

 $\Delta$  was recently used

\* construct group homomorphisms [Erschler, Karlsson]

\* study harmonic functions on groups [Benjamini, Duminil-Copin, Kozma, Yadin]

 $\star$  Gromov's theorem on groups of polynomial growth  $[\mbox{Ozawa}]$ 

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# an example

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assume X takes values in  $\{0,1\}^n$  and has entropy n-k:

 $D(p_X||u_n) = k$ 

#### subadditivity

if I is a uniform coordinate then  $X_I$  is close to uniform:

$$\mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{I} D(p_{X_i}||u_1) \leq k/n$$

Pinsker

$$\mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{I} |p_{X_i} - u_1|_1 \leq \sqrt{2k/n}$$

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# stability?

# $X \sim \{0,1\}^n$ , $D(p_X || u_n) = k$ , $I \sim U([n])$

let  $J \sim [n]$  be of high entropy

 $D(p_J||p_I) \leq \epsilon$ 

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is  $X_J$  close to uniform?

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 $D(p_J||p_I) \leq \epsilon$ 

is  $X_J$  close to uniform?

yes  $\mathbb{E}_J |p_{X_j} - u_1|_1 \le |p_J - p_I|_1 + \mathbb{E}_I |p_{X_i} - u_1|_1 \le \sqrt{2\epsilon} + \sqrt{2k/n}$ 

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# stability?

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yes  $\mathbb{E}_J \Delta(p_{X_i}, u_1) \leq 4\epsilon + 10k/n$ 

$$X \sim \{0,1\}^n$$
,  $D(p_X||u_n) = k$ ,  $I \sim U([n])$ ,  $D(p_J||p_I) \leq \epsilon$ 

for 
$$s \in [n]$$
 let  $g(s) = \Delta(p_{X_s}, u_1)$ 

write

$$\mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{J} \Delta(p_{X_{j}}, u_{1}) = \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{J} g = \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{I} g + (\mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{J} g - \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{I} g)$$

the left term

$$\mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{I} g \leq \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{I} 2D(p_{X_i}||u_1) \leq \frac{2k}{n}$$

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remains to upper bound the right term  $au = \mathbb{E}_J g - \mathbb{E}_I g$ 

 $X \sim \{0,1\}^n$ ,  $D(p_X||u_n) = k$ ,  $I \sim U([n])$ ,  $D(p_J||p_I) \le \epsilon$ for  $s \in [n]$  let  $g(s) = \Delta(p_{X_s}, u_1)$ 

upper bound  $au = \mathbb{E}_J g - \mathbb{E}_I g$  by

$$|\tau| = \sum_{s} \frac{(p_J(s) - p_I(s))}{\sqrt{p_J(s) + p_I(s)}} \sqrt{g(s)} \cdot \sqrt{p_J(s) + p_I(s)} \sqrt{g(s)}$$

 $X \sim \{0,1\}^n$ ,  $D(p_X||u_n) = k$ ,  $I \sim U([n])$ ,  $D(p_J||p_I) \le \epsilon$ for  $s \in [n]$  let  $g(s) = \Delta(p_{X_s}, u_1)$ 

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$$\leq \sqrt{\sum_{s} \frac{(p_J(s) - p_I(s))^2}{p_J(s) + p_I(s)}} \frac{g(s)}{\sqrt{\sum_{s} (p_J(s) + p_I(s))g(s)}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{(p_J(s) - p_I(s))^2}{p_J(s) + p_I(s)}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{(p_J(s) - p_I(s))^2}{p_J(s)$$

 $X \sim \{0,1\}^n$ ,  $D(p_X||u_n) = k$ ,  $I \sim U([n])$ ,  $D(p_J||p_I) \le \epsilon$ for  $s \in [n]$  let  $g(s) = \Delta(p_{X_s}, u_1)$ 

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# high level

**problem:** need to analyze  $\mathbb{E}_p g$  for "complicated" p

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**possible solution:** analyze  $\mathbb{E}_q g$  for q that is

- "simple"
- $\Delta$ -close to p

need to control variances of g

#### summary

#### round elimination

lower bound on number of rounds consider not eliminating

#### *f*-divergences

useful collections of "distances"

#### triangular discrimination

may help to avoid square-root loss

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