

# LECT 05

Note Title

2/21/2007

## TODAY

- Bounded depth circuits :  $AC^0$
- Parity  $\notin AC^0$  (mod "Switching Lemma")
- Proof of Switching Lemma.

WARNING: THESE NOTES CONTAIN ONLY

THE PROOF OF THE LEMMA;

NO STATEMENT;

NO CONTEXT!

A hand-drawn purple squiggle on lined paper. The squiggle starts with a small hook at the bottom left, curves upwards and to the right, then has a slight dip and continues to curve upwards and to the right, ending in a short horizontal line.

## Furst-Saxe-Sipser Switching Lemma

- Let  $f$  be a DNF formula with  $s$  wires, on  $n$ -inputs.

Let  $p$  be a random restriction of  $x_1, \dots, x_n$

$$x_i \leftarrow 0 \quad \text{w.p.} \quad \frac{1-p}{2}$$

$$x_i \leftarrow 1 \quad \text{w.p.} \quad \frac{1-p}{2}$$

$$x_i \leftarrow x_i \quad \text{w.p.} \quad p$$

- Then if  $p < \frac{1}{f(s, n)}$

$f|_p$  is a function of  $\underbrace{C}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{ind. of } n}}$  inputs.

Proof: Do the restriction in 2 stages

first stage  $X_i \leftarrow x_i$  w.p.  $\sqrt{p}$ .

Second stage  $X_i \leftarrow x_i$  w.p.  $\sqrt{p}$ .

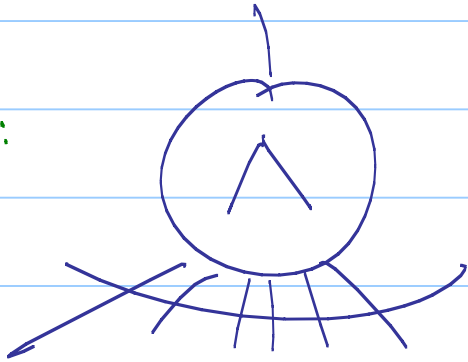
Claims:

- First stage: All terms have  $\leq C$  variables

- Second stage:  $f$  depends on  $\leq C$  variables

Proof of first stage chains: (relatively easy)

Case 1:



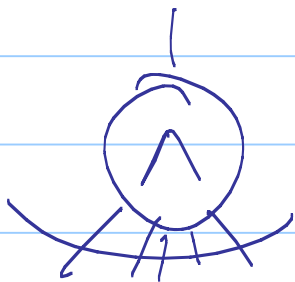
fanout large  $\geq 2 \log s$

$$\Pr[\text{output} \neq 0] \leq \left(\frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{p}\right)^{2 \log s}$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{s^2}$$

$$\Pr[\exists \text{ and gate with output} \neq 0] \leq \frac{1}{s}$$

Case 2:



fanout  $\leq 2 \log s$

$$\Pr[\exists i \text{ unrestricted gate}] \leq (2 \log s)^i \cdot \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{p}}\right)^i$$

$S_0$  ... if  $(\sqrt{p})^i \ll \frac{1}{S}$  then ...

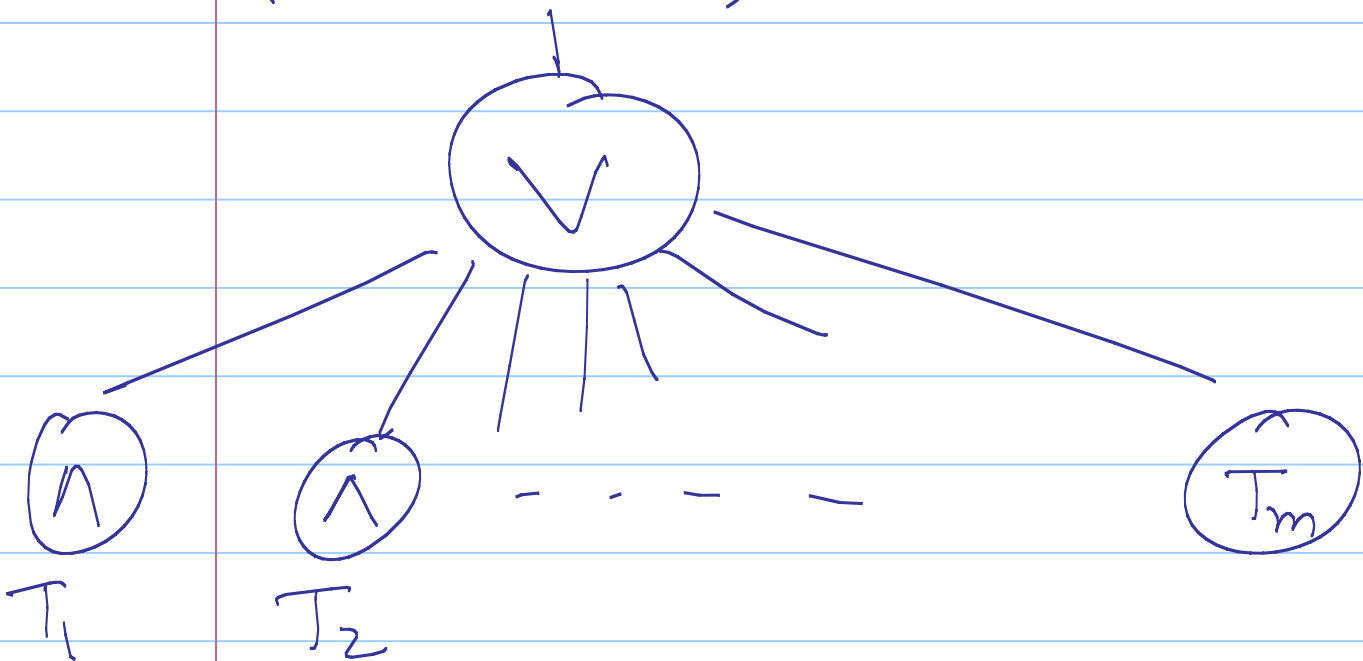
Moral :  $c$  - depends on  $S$  vs.  $\frac{1}{p}$

if  $S = p^{-a}$   $C \approx 2a$ .

## Proof of Stage 2 :

• More complicated : Induction on  $c$   
(from first stage)

• Why? Terms from first level overlap  
(share variables)



Case 1: Many disjoint  $T_i$ 's. ( $\Omega(3^c \log s)$ )

$$\Pr[T_i = 1] \geq \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}}\right)^c$$

$$\geq \frac{1}{3}^c$$

$$\Pr[\forall i: T_i \neq 1] \leq \left(1 - \frac{1}{3^c}\right)^{\Omega(3^c \log s)}$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{s} \quad \square$$

Case 2: (The hard, inductive, case)

Less than  $3^c \log s$  disjoint  $T_i$ 's

Let  $T_1, \dots, T_k$  be maximal disjoint set.

$$\text{Let } H = \bigcup_{i=1}^k T_i$$



$$[n] = H \cup X$$

$$[n] \Big|_p = H' \cup X'$$

Want to show:  $f \Big|_p (H' \cup X')$  depends on  $b_c$  variables

Step 1:  $|H'|$  is small (as in first stage)

Step 2:  $\forall$  assignment  $\rho'$  to  $H'$

$f \Big|_{\rho \cup \rho'} (X')$  depends on few variables

Induction: every term depends on only  $C-1$  variables

$\Rightarrow$

depends on  $\leq b_{C-1}$  vars.

Step 3:  $f|_{pvp'} (H^k v x')$  depends

$$m \quad d_c \stackrel{\Delta}{=} C' + 2^{C'} d_{c-1} \quad \text{variables} \quad \boxtimes$$