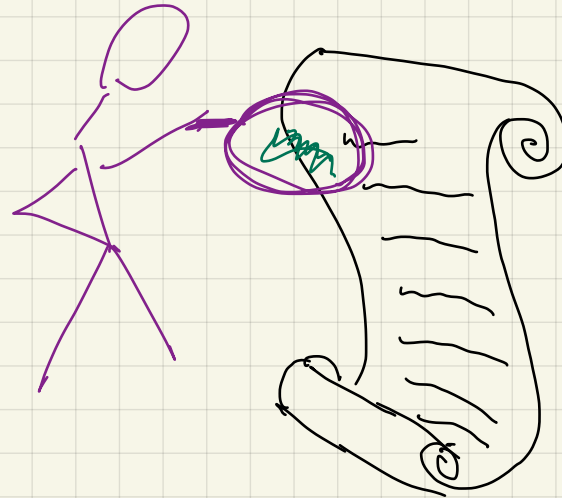
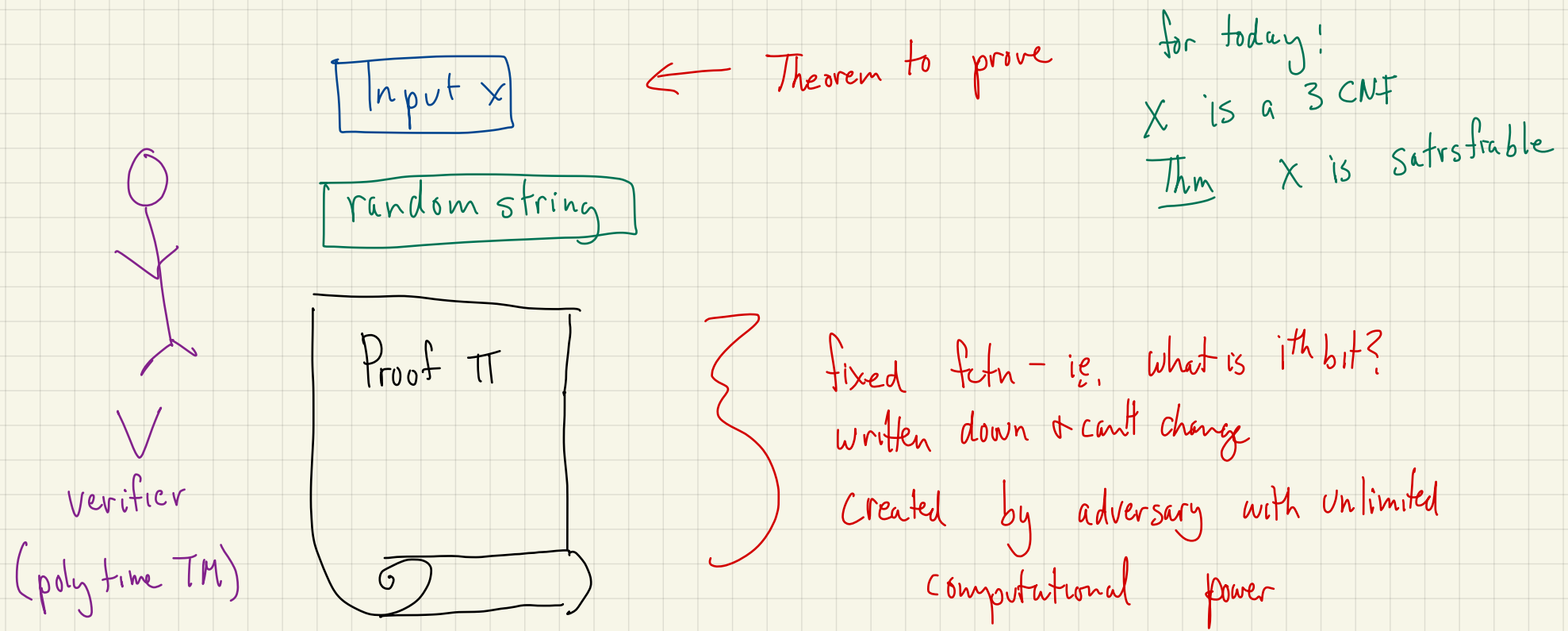


Lecture 22

Probabilistically Checkable Proof Systems



Probabilistically Checkable Proofs



def $L \in \text{PCP}(r, q)$ if $\exists v$ (ptime TM) s.t.
 1) $\forall x \in L \exists \pi$ s.t. $\Pr_{v's \text{ random string}} [v, \pi \text{ accepts}] = 1$
 2) $\forall x \notin L \forall \pi' \Pr_{v's \text{ random strings}} [v, \pi' \text{ accepts}] \leq 1/4$

e.g. SAT \in PCP(δ, n)

↑ proof = settings of all n vars
V doesn't need to be random!

Today: NP \subseteq PCP($O(n^3), O(1)$)

Actually: NP \subseteq PCP($O(\log n), O(1)$)

↳ Crazy

Verifier can't see
almost any of assignment

Let's start with a "warmup":

$$X \cdot y = \sum X_i \cdot y_i \quad \text{"inner product"}$$

$$X \circ y = (X_1 y_1, X_1 y_2, X_1 y_3, \dots, X_i y_j, \dots, X_n y_n) \quad \text{"outer product"}$$

n^2 -bit vector

n -bit vector

Fact: if $\bar{a} \neq \bar{b}$
 \bar{a}, \bar{b} are n -bit vectors

then $\Pr_{\bar{r} \in \{0,1\}^n} [\bar{a} \cdot \bar{r} \neq \bar{b} \cdot \bar{r}] \geq \frac{1}{2}$

also true for " $= \text{mod } 2$ "

if $A \cdot B \neq C$
 A, B, C are $n \times n$ matrices

then $\Pr_{\bar{r}} [A \cdot B \cdot \bar{r} \neq C \cdot \bar{r}] \geq \frac{1}{2}$

takes $O(n^2)$ time to compute: $A \cdot (B \cdot \bar{r})$

Proof of fact if $a_i \neq b_i$ pair n -bit strings that agree on all but i th location

so $\bar{r} = (r_1, \dots, r_i, \dots, r_n)$
 $\bar{s} = (r_1, \dots, \bar{r}_i, \dots, r_n)$

then either $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{r} \neq \bar{b} \cdot \bar{r}$
 or $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{s} \neq \bar{b} \cdot \bar{s}$

why?

$\bar{a} \cdot \bar{s} = (\bar{a} \cdot \bar{r}) \pm a_i$
 $\bar{b} \cdot \bar{s} = (\bar{b} \cdot \bar{r}) \pm b_i$

different

\Rightarrow In each pair at least one is \neq

note that this proof works "mod 2"

Fact: if $\bar{a} \neq \bar{b}$ then $\Pr_{\substack{\bar{r} \in \{0,1\}^n \\ r}} [\bar{a} \cdot \bar{r} \neq \bar{b} \cdot \bar{r}] \geq \frac{1}{2}$

if $A \cdot B \neq C$ then $\Pr_{\bar{r}} [A \cdot B \cdot \bar{r} \neq C \cdot \bar{r}] \geq \frac{1}{2}$

Example "application": setting: given vector $\bar{a} = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$

in one step: • can query a_i

• can specify \bar{y} & query $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{y}$

to test if $\bar{a} = (0, 0, \dots, 0)$:

Do several times:

pick $\bar{r} \in_{\mathcal{R}} \{0,1\}^n$

if $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{r} \neq 0$ output "Fail"

Output PASS

a bit strange
but what if all
these answers
were written
down for you?

behavior: if $\bar{a} = (0, 0, \dots, 0)$ will always PASS

if $\bar{a} \neq (0, \dots, 0)$ then FACT $\Rightarrow \Pr_{\bar{r}} [\bar{a} \cdot \bar{r} \neq 0] \geq \frac{1}{2}$

$\Rightarrow O(n)$ query 0-testing for vector in strange model

Making the model "less strange":

setting: given vector $\bar{a} = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$

in one step: • can query a_i

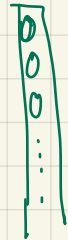
• can specify \bar{y} & query $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{y}$

first idea:

"Proof" = write out all answers to $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{y}$

answer vector

$\bar{a} \cdot (0, 0, \dots, 0)$
 $\bar{a} \cdot (0, 0, \dots, 1)$
 $\bar{a} \cdot (0, 0, \dots, 0)$
 $\bar{a} \cdot (0, 0, \dots, 1)$



to test if $\bar{a} = (0, 0, \dots, 0)$:

Do several times:

pick $\bar{r} \in_R \{0, 1\}^n$

ask proof for value of $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{r}$

if $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{r} \neq 0$ output "Fail"

Output PASS

Problem: proof can cheat

write all 0's in answer vector

How can we check that proof doesn't cheat?

test on \bar{r} 's that we know answer to?

is this easier

than just looking at every entry of \bar{a} ?

WILL COME BACK TO THIS

3SAT:

$$F = \bigwedge C_i \quad \text{s.t.} \quad C_i = (y_{i_1} \vee y_{i_2} \vee y_{i_3})$$

$$\text{where} \quad y_{i_j} \in \{x_1, \dots, x_n, \bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_n\}$$

← here use \bar{x} notation for complement

First crack:

Π = setting of sat assignment a

$$a_1 = T \quad a_2 = F \quad a_3 = T \dots$$

1 0 1 ...

V's protocol given formula & a !

Pick random clause C_i & check if \bar{a} satisfies

good? \bar{a} satisfies \bar{c} ✓

\bar{a} doesn't satisfy $\bar{c} \Rightarrow \exists i$ s.t. $C_i(\bar{a}) \neq T$

Pick i with prob = $\frac{1}{\# \text{clauses}}$ (i)

$$F = (x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x_3) (x_2 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee x_4)$$

$$\bar{a} = (x_1 = T, x_2 = F, x_3 = F, x_4 = F, \dots)$$

$$\text{random clause } (x_2 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee x_4) \quad \checkmark$$

F T F

Arithmetization of 3SAT:

Boolean formula $F \Leftrightarrow$ arithmetic formula $A(F)$ over \mathbb{Z}_2

$$T \Leftrightarrow 1$$

$$F \Leftrightarrow 0$$

$$X_i \Leftrightarrow x_i$$

$$\bar{X}_i \Leftrightarrow 1 - x_i$$

$$\alpha \wedge \beta \Leftrightarrow \alpha \cdot \beta$$

$$\alpha \vee \beta \Leftrightarrow 1 - (1 - \alpha)(1 - \beta)$$

$$\alpha \vee \beta \vee \gamma \Leftrightarrow 1 - (1 - \alpha)(1 - \beta)(1 - \gamma)$$

mod 2

example: $x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x_3 \Leftrightarrow 1 - (1 - x_1)(1 - (1 - x_2))(1 - x_3)$
 $= 1 - (1 - x_1)x_2(1 - x_3)$

F satisfied by a iff $A(F)(a) = 1$

$$F = \bigwedge C_i \quad \text{s.t.} \quad C_i = (y_{i_1} \vee y_{i_2} \vee y_{i_3})$$

where $y_{i_j} \in \{x_1, \dots, x_n, \bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_n\}$

$$T \Leftrightarrow 1$$

$$F \Leftrightarrow 0$$

$$x_i \Leftrightarrow x_i$$

$$\bar{x}_i \Leftrightarrow 1 - x_i$$

$$\alpha \wedge \beta \Leftrightarrow \alpha \cdot \beta$$

$$\alpha \vee \beta \Leftrightarrow 1 - (1 - \alpha)(1 - \beta)$$

$$\alpha \vee \beta \vee \gamma \Leftrightarrow 1 - (1 - \alpha)(1 - \beta)(1 - \gamma)$$

Consider $C^\sigma(x) = (\hat{C}_1(x), \hat{C}_2(x), \dots)$

s.t. $\hat{C}_i(x) =$ complement of arithmetization of clause C_i

\Rightarrow evaluates to 0 if x satisfies C_i

$\Rightarrow C^\sigma(x) = (0, 0, \dots, 0)$ if x satisfies F

Observe (1) each \hat{C}_i is $\text{deg} \leq 3$ poly in x

(2) V knows coeffs of each \hat{C}_i

Need to convince V that

$$C^\sigma(a) = (\hat{C}_1(a), \hat{C}_2(a), \dots) = (0, 0, \dots, 0)$$

WITHOUT SENDING
a ssignment a

Note We are only
concerned about #
bits V sees in proof,
NOT V 's runtime
which is going
to be superlinear

High level idea: special encoding of assignment

Encode satisfiability of F as a collection of polys in vars of assignment

- one for each clause
- eval to 0 if assignment satisfies clause
- low degree
- V knows coeffs - depend on structure of clause
+ vars of clause.

Note: We are only concerned that V is poly time, \leftarrow note that solving SAT in poly time would be impressive (j)

here will not be sublinear

However, want # queries to proof to be constant

Idea for proof:

- proof contains $C(a) \cdot r \quad \forall r \in \{0,1\}^n$
- if $\forall i, \hat{C}_i(a) = 0, \Pr_r [C(a) \cdot r = 0] = 1$
- if $\exists i$ st. $\hat{C}_i(a) \neq 0, \Pr_r [C(a) \cdot r = 0] = \frac{1}{2}$

$$F = \bigwedge C_i \text{ st. } C_i = (y_{i_1} \vee y_{i_2} \vee y_{i_3})$$

where $y_{i_j} \in \{x_1, \dots, x_n, \bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_n\}$

$$C(a) = (\hat{C}_1(a), \hat{C}_2(a), \dots) = (0, 0, \dots, 0)$$

complement

↔ mod 2 arithmetic

$$T \Leftrightarrow 1$$

$$F \Leftrightarrow 0$$

$$x_i \Leftrightarrow x_i$$

$$\bar{x}_i \Leftrightarrow 1 - x_i$$

$$\alpha \wedge \beta \Leftrightarrow \alpha \cdot \beta$$

$$\alpha \vee \beta \Leftrightarrow 1 - (1 - \alpha)(1 - \beta)$$

$$\alpha \vee \beta \vee \gamma \Leftrightarrow 1 - (1 - \alpha)(1 - \beta)(1 - \gamma)$$

why believe the proof?

can write all 0's, even if $C(a) \cdot r \neq 0$

⇒ will need to do more in order to believe the proof.

e.g. more proof verification of proof

What does $C(a) \cdot r$ look like?

$$\sum_i r_i \hat{C}_i(a) = \Gamma + \sum_i a_i \alpha_i + \sum_{i,j} a_i \cdot a_j \beta_{ij} + \sum_{i,j,k} a_i \cdot a_j \cdot a_k \gamma_{ijk} \pmod{2}$$

∨ doesn't know these

∨ does know these (so does proof) depend on r_i 's, coeffs of polys in \hat{C}_i but not on a_i 's

example

$$G = (X_1 \vee X_2) \wedge (\bar{X}_1 \vee X_2)$$

$$A(C_1) = 1 - (1-x_1)(1-x_2) = X_1 + X_2 - X_1 X_2$$

$$\Rightarrow C_1(a) = 1 - a_1 - a_2 + a_1 a_2$$

$$A(C_2) = 1 - (x_1)(1-x_2) = 1 - x_1 + x_1 x_2$$

$$\Rightarrow C_2(a) = a_1 - a_1 a_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum r_i \cdot C_i(a) &= r_1 (1 - a_1 - a_2 + a_1 a_2) + r_2 (a_1 - a_1 a_2) \\ &= \underbrace{r_1 \cdot 1 + r_2 \cdot 0}_{\text{deg } 0} + \underbrace{(-r_1 + r_2) \cdot a_1 + (-r_1) \cdot a_2}_{\text{deg } 1} + \underbrace{(r_1 - r_2) \cdot a_1 a_2}_{\text{deg } 2} \end{aligned}$$

$$F = \bigwedge C_i \text{ s.t. } C_i = (y_{i_1} \vee y_{i_2} \vee y_{i_3})$$

$$\text{where } y_{i_j} \in \{X_1, \dots, X_n, \bar{X}_1, \dots, \bar{X}_n\}$$

$$C^0(a) = (\hat{C}_1(a), \hat{C}_2(a), \dots) = (0, 0, \dots, 0)$$

complement

$$T \Leftrightarrow 1$$

$$F \Leftrightarrow 0$$

$$X_i \Leftrightarrow x_i$$

$$\bar{X}_i \Leftrightarrow 1 - x_i$$

$$\alpha \wedge \beta \Leftrightarrow \alpha \cdot \beta$$

$$\alpha \vee \beta \Leftrightarrow 1 - (1-\alpha)(1-\beta)$$

$$\alpha \vee \beta \vee \gamma \Leftrightarrow 1 - (1-\alpha)(1-\beta)(1-\gamma)$$

$$\sum_i r_i \hat{C}_i(a) = r + \sum_i a_i \alpha_i + \sum_{i,j} a_i a_j \beta_{ij} + \sum_{i,j,k} a_i a_j a_k \gamma_{ijk} \pmod{2}$$

r_1	r_2	$\sum r_i C_i(a)$	sat case $a^+ = (0, 1)$	unsat case $a^- = (0, 0)$
0	0	0	0	0
0	1	$a_1 - a_1 a_2$	0	0
1	0	$1 - a_1 - a_2 + a_1 a_2$	$1 - 0 - 1 + 0 = 0$	$1 - 0 - 0 + 0 = 1$
1	1	$1 - a_2$	$1 - 1 = 0$	$1 - 0 = 1$

High level idea: Special encoding of assignment

- proof writes out all linear fctns of assignment
deg 2
deg 3

- possible "confusion": "symmetric" for linear case

$$f_x(a) = x \cdot a = A_a(x)$$

↑
inner product

- for deg 2, 3: $B_a(y) = (a \circ a)^T \cdot y$
 $C_a(y) = (a \circ a \circ a)^T \cdot y$

A_a, B_a, C_a are all linear fctns \Rightarrow can test linearity & self-correct

Proof can cheat!
• what if A_a, B_a, C_a actually come from different assignments
• is a satisfying?

linear fctn : $\forall x, y \quad f(x) + f(y) = f(x+y)$

self-correcting:

if f is $\frac{1}{8}$ -close to linear

define $g(x)$ as follows:

Do $O(\log \frac{1}{\beta})$ times

Pick y randomly

answer _{i} $\leftarrow f(y) + f(x-y)$

Output most common answer _{i}

then
 $\forall x, \Pr[g(x) = f(x)] \geq 1 - \beta$

Self-testing: Given f

Do $O(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$ times:

Pick x, y randomly

if $f(x) + f(y) \neq f(x+y)$

Pass

Fail

if f linear passes
if f ϵ -far from linear, fails