

CS 263: Counting and Sampling

Nima Anari



slides for

Sampling vs. Counting

Review

Density μ on space Ω

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▶ **Sampling:** $\mathbb{P}[\text{output}] \propto \mu(\text{output})$

Review

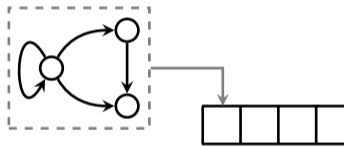
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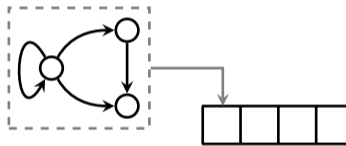
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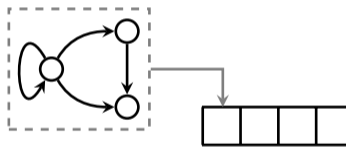


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 - ▶ Natural counting variants of known NP-complete problems.
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Approx counting

$(1 + \epsilon)$ -approx in
 $\text{poly}(n, 1/\epsilon)$

FPRAS/FPTAS

↑
randomized

↑
deterministic

Approx sampling

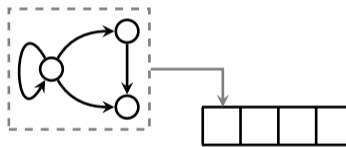
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FPAUS

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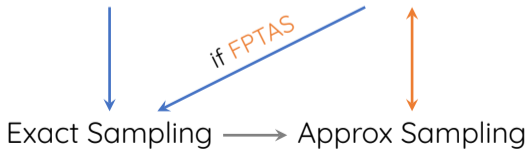
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FPAUS

Self-reducibles [Jerrum-Valiant-Vazirani]:

Exact Counting \longrightarrow Approx Counting



DNF Counting

- ▶ Rejection sampling
- ▶ Monte Carlo estimation

Counting vs. Sampling

- ▶ Self-reducibility
- ▶ Reductions
- ▶ Total variation and coupling

Counting via Determinants if time

- ▶ Spanning trees

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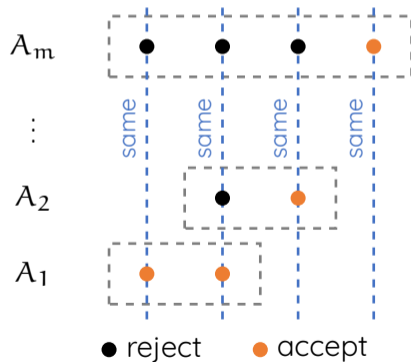
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DNF sampling [Karp-Luby]

$$\phi = C_1 \vee C_2 \vee \dots \vee C_m$$

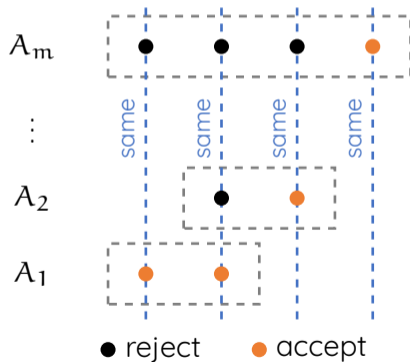
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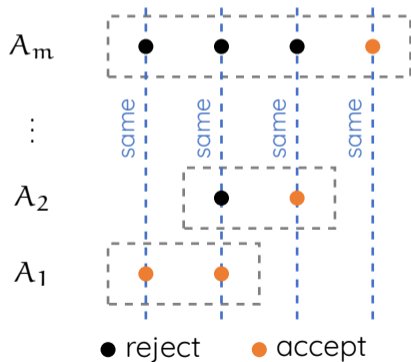
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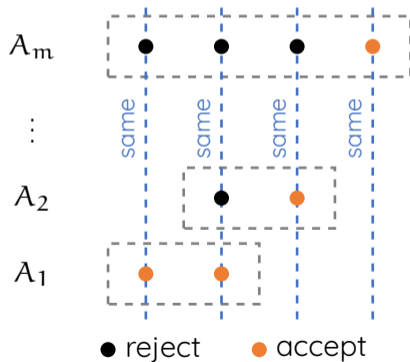
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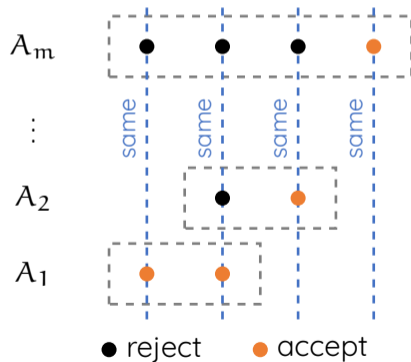
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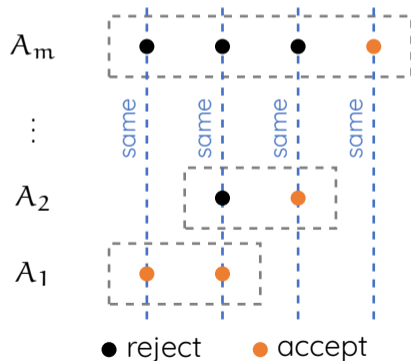
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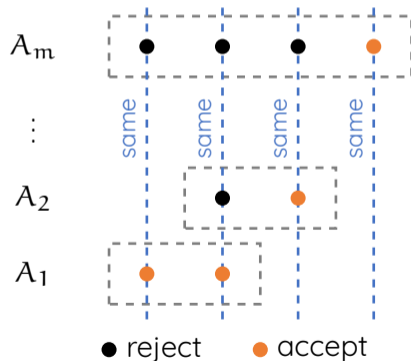
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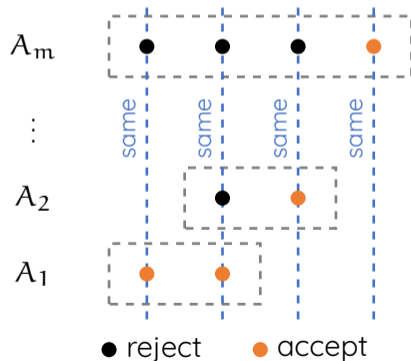
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for  $i = 1, \dots, t$  do
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  and  $X_i \leftarrow \mathbb{1}[\text{accept}]$ 
return  $X = \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_t}{t}$ 
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$$\mathbb{P}\left[X \notin \left[p - \frac{\epsilon p}{3}, p + \frac{\epsilon p}{3}\right]\right] \leq \frac{\text{Var}(X)}{(\epsilon p/3)^2}$$

which is $\leq 9/(\epsilon p)^2$.

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Lemma

To mult. estimate p from $\text{Ber}(p)$ samples, $O(1/p\epsilon^2)$ many enough.

Open problem: Is there an FPTAS for DNF counting?

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[Gopalan-Meka-Reingold'12]

$\pm \epsilon 2^n$ approximation in time

$$n^{\tilde{O}(\log \log n)}$$

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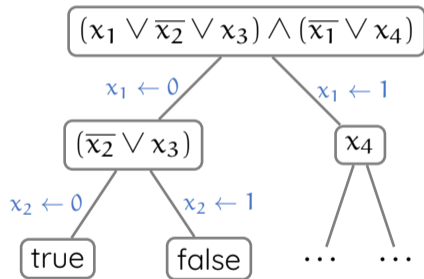
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Self-reducible problems

advanced: measure-decomposed

Solutions of instance I partitioned. Each part \equiv smaller instance I'.



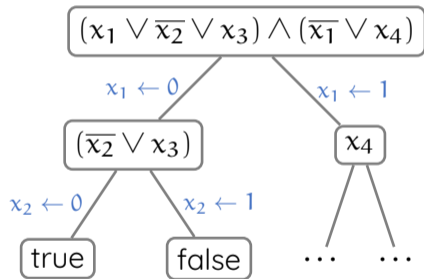
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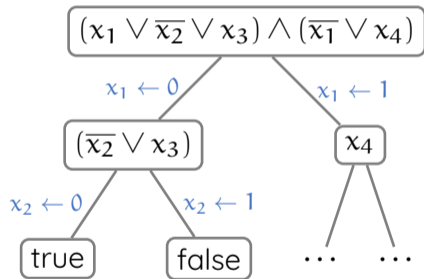
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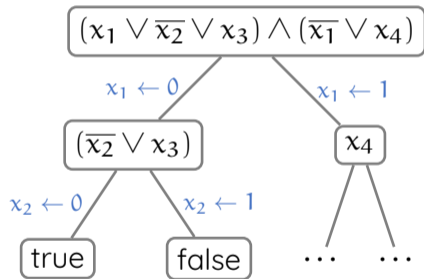


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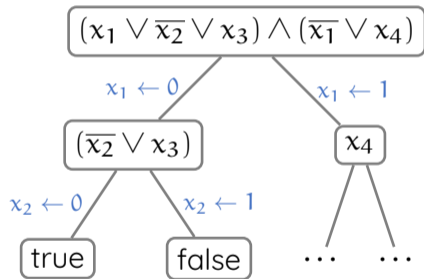
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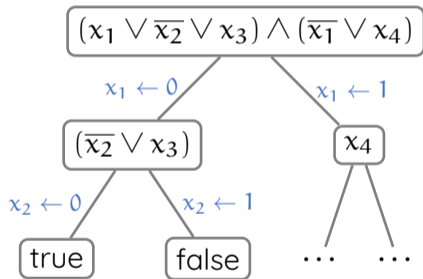
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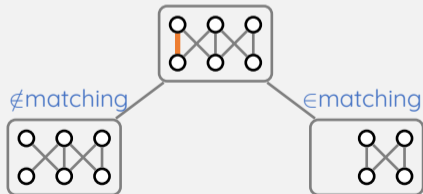


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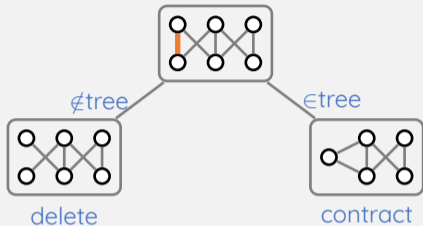
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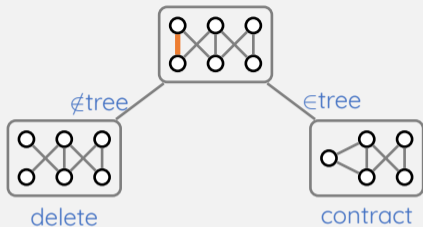
Example: perfect matchings



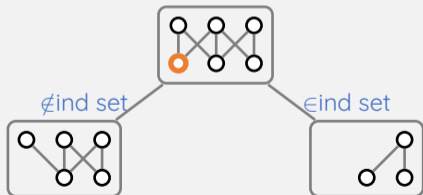
Example: spanning trees



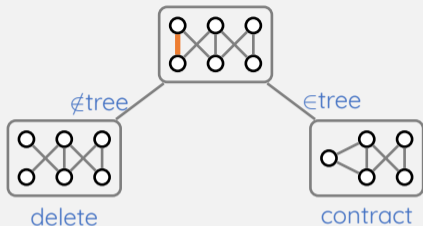
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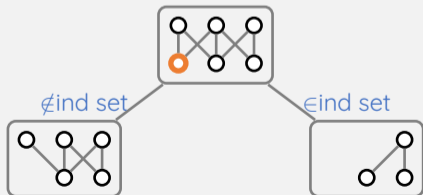
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Example: spanning trees

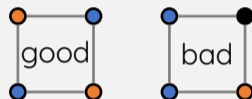


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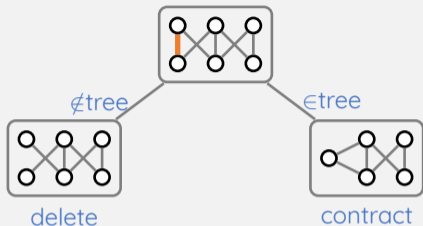


Non-example: colorings

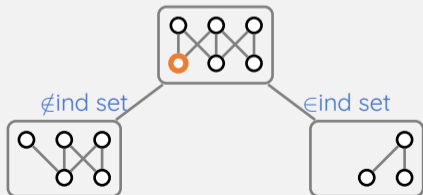
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Solutions: $x \in [q]^V$ with $x_u \neq x_v$ for adjacent u, v



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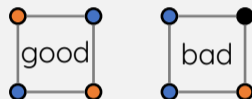


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Note that

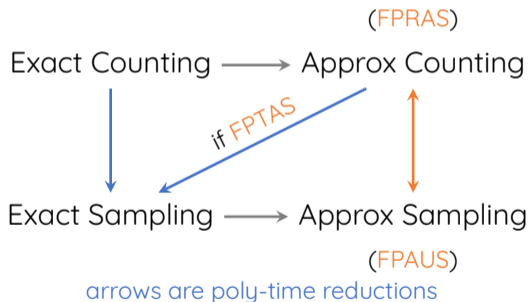
$$\# \left(\begin{array}{c} u \quad v \\ \circ - \circ \\ \circ - \circ \end{array} \right) = \# \left(\begin{array}{c} u \quad v \\ \circ \quad \circ \\ \circ - \circ \end{array} \right) - \# \left(\begin{array}{c} u/v \\ \circ - \circ \end{array} \right),$$

but this is **not** self-reducibility.

Theorem [Jerrum-Valiant-Vazirani]

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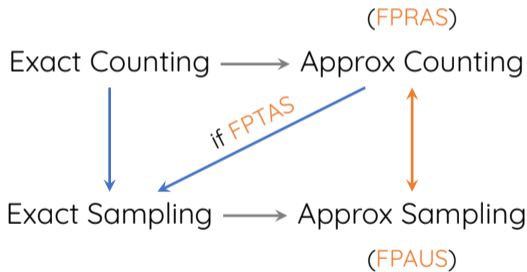
approx counting \equiv approx sampling



Theorem [Jerrum-Valiant-Vazirani]

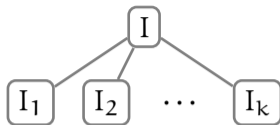
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arrows are poly-time reductions

Exact Counting \implies Exact Sampling



```
while I not base case do
  compute children  $I_1, \dots, I_k$ 
  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$  do
     $c_i \leftarrow \#(I_i)$ 
  choose  $i$  w.p.  $\propto c_i$ 
   $I \leftarrow I_i$ 
```

output sample for I

$$\mathbb{P}[\text{sample}] = \frac{\#(I_i)}{\#(I)} \cdot \frac{\#(I_{ij})}{\#(I_i)} \cdots = \frac{1}{\#(I)}$$

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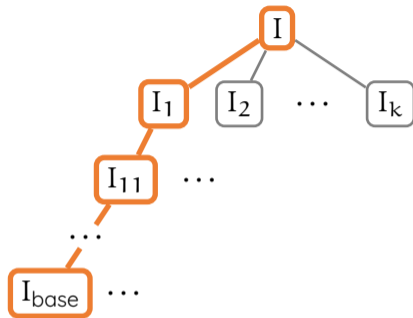
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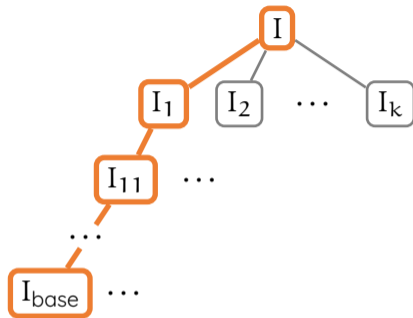
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- ▶ Runtime: $\text{poly}(n, \log(1/\delta))$ 😊

Exact Sampling \implies Approx Counting

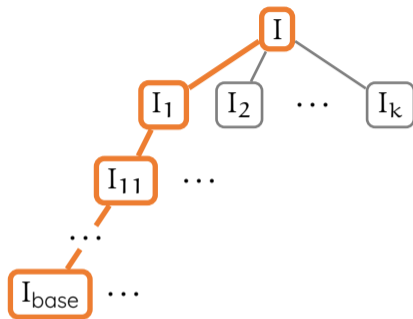


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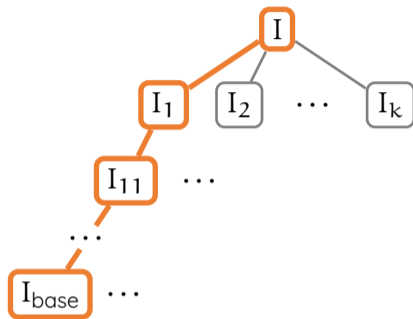
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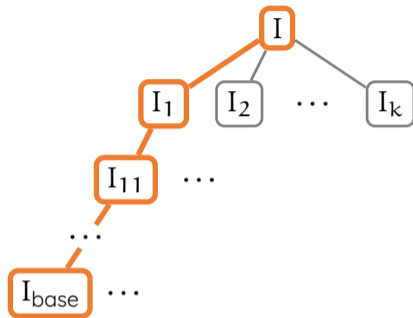
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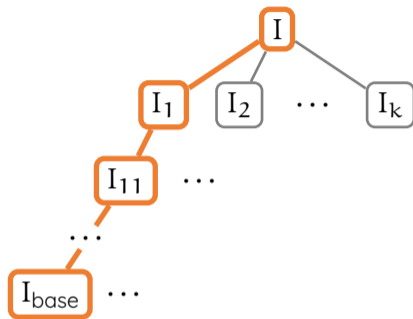
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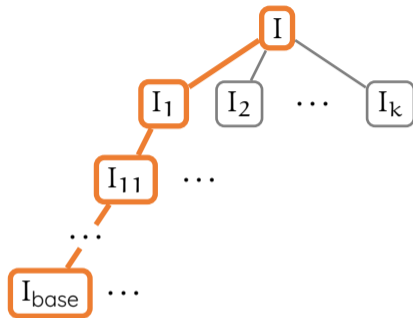
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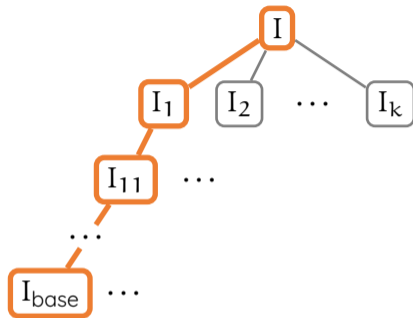


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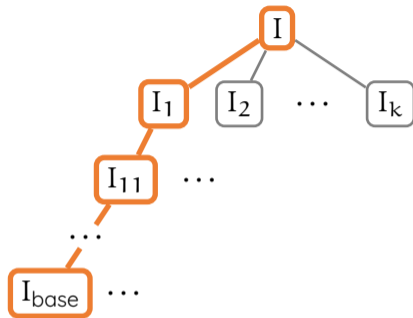
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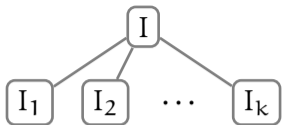
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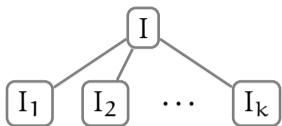
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- ▶ **Problem:** if any ratio p is small, it takes $\geq 1/p$ time to estimate.

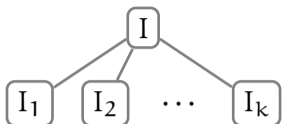


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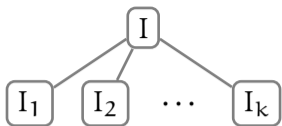
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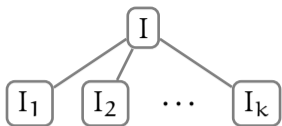


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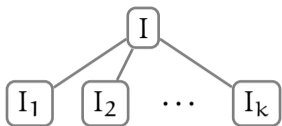
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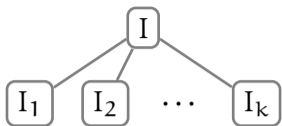
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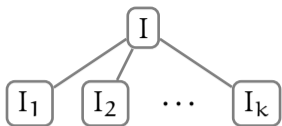
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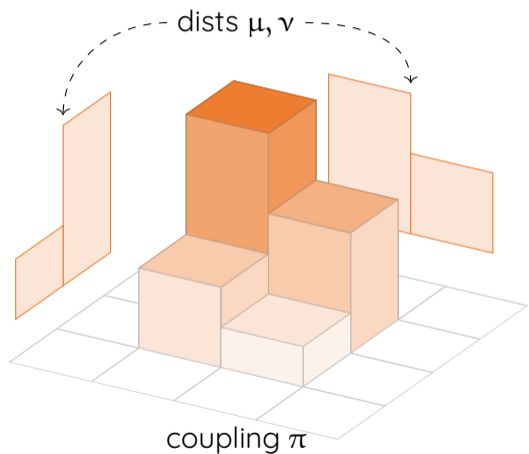
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Lemma

In a randomized poly-time algorithm, exact samplers can be replaced by FPAUS while guaranteeing the output changes no more than δ in d_{TV} at the cost of $\text{poly}(n, \log(1/\delta))$ in runtime.

Coupling

For dists μ, ν , a coupling is a joint dist π of (X, Y) where $X \sim \mu$ and $Y \sim \nu$.



Coupling

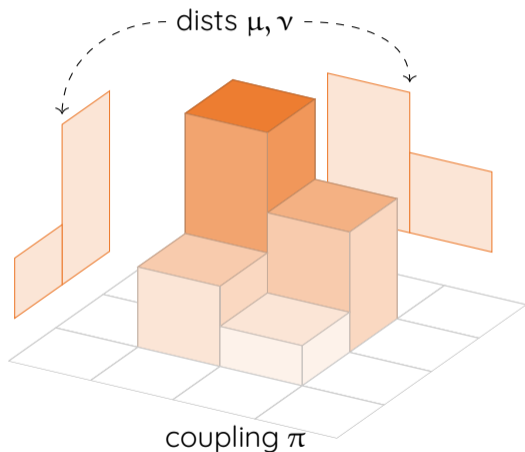
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Theorem

The minimum

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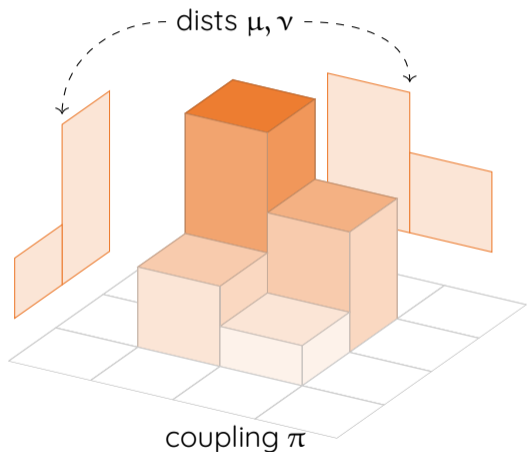
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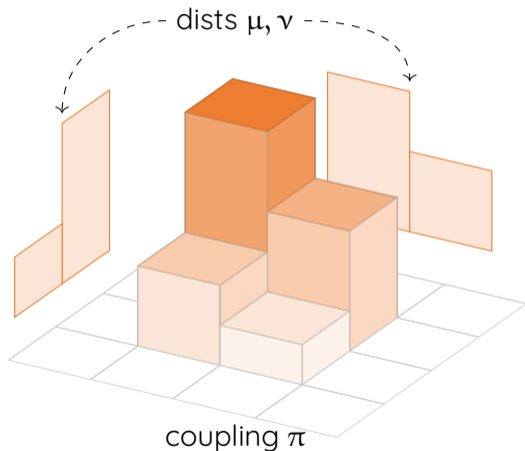
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- ▶ Proof: exercise!
- ▶ **Useful mindset:** think of coupling as an alg to produce X, Y .
Compose these algs together.



Replacing exact samples with approx samples

▶ Suppose alg uses samples X_1, \dots, X_m .

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DNF Counting

- ▶ Rejection sampling
- ▶ Monte Carlo estimation

Counting vs. Sampling

- ▶ Self-reducibility
- ▶ Reductions
- ▶ Total variation and coupling

Counting via Determinants ← if time

- ▶ Spanning trees

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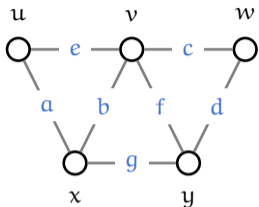
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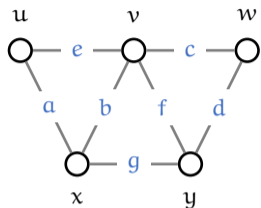
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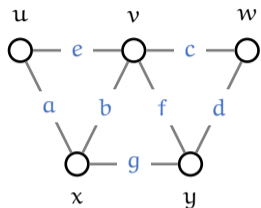
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$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{w} \\ \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{c} & \mathbf{d} & \mathbf{e} & \mathbf{f} & \mathbf{g} \\ +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & +1 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & +1 & +1 \end{bmatrix}$$

vertex-edge adj matrix

Counting spanning trees

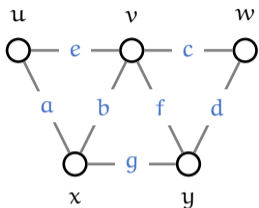


▶ Sum of rows = 0

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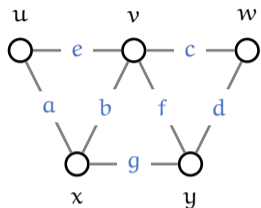
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▶ $n \times n$ submatrices have $\det = 0$

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{w} \\ \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{c} & \mathbf{d} & \mathbf{e} & \mathbf{f} & \mathbf{g} \\ +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & +1 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & +1 & +1 \end{bmatrix}$$

vertex-edge adj matrix

Counting spanning trees

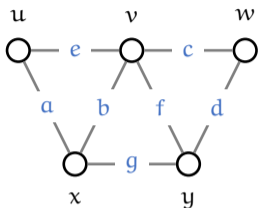


- ▶ Sum of rows = 0
- ▶ $n \times n$ submatrices have $\det = 0$
- ▶ How about $(n - 1) \times (n - 1)$?

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{w} \\ \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{c} & \mathbf{d} & \mathbf{e} & \mathbf{f} & \mathbf{g} \\ +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & +1 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & +1 & +1 \end{bmatrix}$$

vertex-edge adj matrix

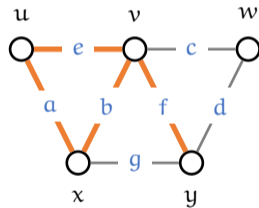
Counting spanning trees



$$\begin{array}{c}
 \mathbf{u} \\
 \mathbf{v} \\
 \mathbf{w} \\
 \mathbf{x} \\
 \mathbf{y}
 \end{array}
 \begin{bmatrix}
 \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{c} & \mathbf{d} & \mathbf{e} & \mathbf{f} & \mathbf{g} \\
 +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & -1 & +1 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & -1 & +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 -1 & +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & +1 & +1
 \end{bmatrix}$$

vertex-edge adj matrix

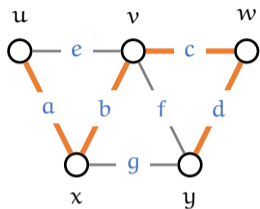
- ▶ Sum of rows = 0
- ▶ $n \times n$ submatrices have $\det = 0$
- ▶ How about $(n - 1) \times (n - 1)$?
- ▶ If **cycle** exists, $\det = 0$:



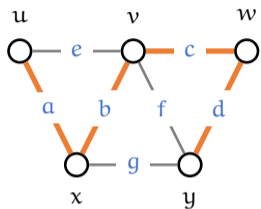
For some choice of signs:

$$\pm(\text{col a}) \pm (\text{col b}) \pm (\text{col e}) = 0$$

Otherwise, columns are a spanning tree. In this case $\det \in \{\pm 1\}$. Sketch:



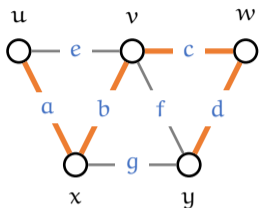
Otherwise, columns are a spanning tree. In this case $\det \in \{\pm 1\}$. Sketch:



submatrix

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{w} \\ \mathbf{x} \end{array} \begin{array}{cccc} \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{c} & \mathbf{d} \\ \left[\begin{array}{cccc} +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & +1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & +1 \\ -1 & +1 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

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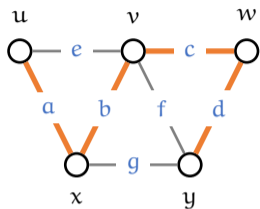
submatrix

$$\begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} a & b & c & d \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} u \\ v \\ w \\ x \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & +1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & +1 \\ -1 & +1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

added row u to x

$$\begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} a & b & c & d \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} u \\ v \\ w \\ x \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & +1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & +1 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

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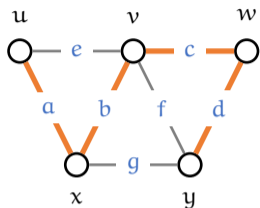
added row \mathbf{u} to \mathbf{x}

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{w} \\ \mathbf{x} \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{c} & \mathbf{d} \\ +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & +1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & +1 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

added row \mathbf{x} to \mathbf{v}

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{w} \\ \mathbf{x} \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{c} & \mathbf{d} \\ +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & +1 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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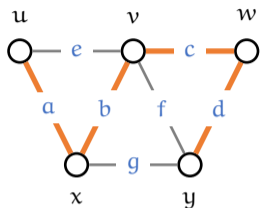
added row x to v

$$\begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} a & b & c & d \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} u \\ v \\ w \\ x \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & +1 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

added row v to w

$$\begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} a & b & c & d \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} u \\ v \\ w \\ x \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & +1 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

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permuted and fixed signs

$$\begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} a & b & c & d \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} u \\ x \\ v \\ w \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & +1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

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- ▶ Next lecture: other determinant-based counting algs.