# CS 263: Counting and Sampling

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slides for

# Det Counting; Markov Chains

 $\triangleright$  DNF counting:

$$|A_1 \sqcup \cdots \sqcup A_m| \cdot \frac{|A_1 \cup \cdots \cup A_m|}{|A_1 \sqcup \cdots \sqcup A_m|}$$
  
easy to compute probability











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- Matrix-tree theorem [Kirchhoff]: #spanning trees = det(matrix) Laplacian, drop one row+col

# Counting via Determinants

▷ Spanning trees

▷ Bipartite planar perfect matchings

# Intro to Markov Chains

- ▷ Stationary distribution
- Fundamental theorem
- ▷ Mixing time

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vertex-edge adj matrix A



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a g 07 u 0 ν -1 +1 0 0 0 0 0 w -1χ u +1

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- Open problem: speedups in directed graphs?

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- Orient edges from one side to other. This is all +1 signing.

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- ▷ This means: 😊

$$\prod_{e \in cycle} A_e = (-1)^{len/2+1}$$





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$$\label{eq:product} \begin{split} \#(\text{int faces}) + \#(\text{int edges}) \equiv \\ \#(\text{int verts}) + 1 \end{split}$$

Because of niceness, there are even many interior vertices.  $\triangleright$  How to make faces happy?

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- Determinantal point processes will see later

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Given (random) start  $X_0$ , we get  $\supset$ Markovian process:

$$X_0 \rightarrow X_1 \rightarrow X_2 \rightarrow \dots$$

transition via P transition via P

Under "mild conditions":

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> Ideally, we want to stop at small t and have small  $d_{TV}$  to  $\mu$ .

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Note: this convergence can be very slow. Much more useful for us:

### Mixing time

For Markov chain P with stationary  $\boldsymbol{\mu},$  we set

$$t_{\mathsf{mix}}(\mathsf{P},\varepsilon,\nu) = \mathsf{min}\big\{t \ \big| \ d_{\mathsf{TV}}(\mu,\nu\mathsf{P}^{\mathsf{t}}) \leqslant \varepsilon\big\}$$

and

$$t_{\mathsf{mix}}(P,\varepsilon) = \mathsf{max}\{t_{\mathsf{mix}}(P,\varepsilon,\nu) \mid \nu\}$$

Much more useful for us:

#### Mixing time

For Markov chain P with stationary  $\boldsymbol{\mu},$  we set

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We will see later that we don't even have to specify e, and we can just talk about t<sub>mix</sub>(P).
i.e., it's fine to set it to 1/4

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- $\triangleright \ \mbox{We usually want } t_{mix}(P) = \mbox{poly} \log(|\Omega|) \mbox{ for efficient algs.}$