## CS 263: Counting and Sampling

Nima Anari
1 Stanford
slides for

## Det Counting; Markov Chains

Review

- DNF counting:
$\underset{\uparrow}{\left|A_{1} \sqcup \cdots \sqcup A_{m}\right| \cdot \left\lvert\, \frac{\left|A_{1} \cup \cdots \cup A_{m}\right|}{\left|A_{1} \sqcup \cdots \sqcup A_{m}\right|}\right.} \underset{\uparrow}{\substack{\text { easy to compute } \\ \text { probability }}}$


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Exact Counting $\longrightarrow$ Approx Counting


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D Coupling: dist with marginals $\mu, \nu$.
$\checkmark$ Matrix-tree theorem [Kirchhoff]: \#spanning trees $=\operatorname{det}($ matrix $)$

Laplacian, drop one row+col

## Counting via Determinants

$\bigcirc$ Spanning trees
$\bigcirc$ Bipartite planar perfect matchings

## Intro to Markov Chains

D Stationary distribution

- Fundamental theorem
- Mixing time


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## Counting spanning trees



| $\begin{array}{c}a \\ u \\ u \\ v \\ w \\ x \\ y \\ y\end{array}\left[\begin{array}{cccccc}+1 & 0 & 0 & d & e & f \\ 0 & -1 & +1 & 0 & +1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & +1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & +1 \\ 0 & +1\end{array}\right]$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
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vertex-edge adj matrix $A$

If we take $A A^{\top}$, we get the Laplacian:

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\left(A A^{\top}\right)_{\mathfrak{i j}}= \begin{cases}-\mathbb{1}[\mathfrak{i} \sim \mathfrak{j}] & \text { if } \mathfrak{i} \neq \mathfrak{j} \\ \operatorname{deg}(\mathfrak{i}) & \text { if } \mathfrak{i}=\mathfrak{j}\end{cases}
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$u$
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Counting $\Rightarrow$ sampling.

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D Open problem: speedups in directed graphs?

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c d
$\mathrm{a}\left[\begin{array}{ll}1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1\end{array}\right]$

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## Example: $\mathrm{K}_{2,2}$



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\operatorname{det}\left(\left[\begin{array}{ll}
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## Non-example: $\mathrm{K}_{3,3}$

D Determinant:

| $c$ | $d$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $a$ |  |
| $b$ |  |\(\left[\begin{array}{ll}1 \& 0 <br>

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Impossible! Exercise: show this.

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To move from orange PM to blue PM:
(1)

0
0
(3)

(4)
$\begin{array}{ll}0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}$

\}

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\begin{array}{cc}
\mathrm{O} \\
\mathrm{O} & \mathrm{O} \\
\mathrm{O}
\end{array}\left[\begin{array}{ll}
+ & 0 \\
+ & +
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\mathrm{O} & \mathrm{O} \\
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- For any cycle, \#cw edges: len/2.

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- This means: ;)

$$
\prod_{e \in \mathrm{cycle}} A_{e}=(-1)^{\operatorname{len} / 2+1}
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© Find Pfaffian orientation: nice cycles have odd \#cw edges.
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Example: lattice

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(1) Lemma: if all faces have odd \#cw edges, so do all nice cycles.
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- Modulo 2, \#(cw around cycle) is

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$\checkmark$ Because of niceness, there are even many interior vertices. :)

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Summary: counting via dets
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## Summary: counting via dets

D Spanning trees:
D Undirected: [Kirchhoff]'s matrix-tree theorem.
$D$ Directed: exercise!
$\bigcirc$ Planar perfect matchings:

- Bipartite:
[Fisher-Kasteleyn-Temperley]'s Pfaffian orientation.
D Non-bipartite: exercise!
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## Counting via Determinants

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## Intro to Markov Chains

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$$
\begin{aligned}
& \quad \begin{array}{lll}
\mathrm{a} & \mathrm{~b} & \mathrm{c} \\
\mathrm{a} \\
\mathrm{~b} \\
\mathrm{c}
\end{array}\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \\
0 & 1 & 0 \\
\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0
\end{array}\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

D Given (random) start $X_{0}$, we get Markovian process:

## Fundamental theorem

Under "mild conditions":

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\operatorname{dist}\left(X_{t}\right) \rightarrow \mu
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D Ideally, we want to stop at small t and have small $d_{\text {TV }}$ to $\mu$.


## Example: hypercube

$D \Omega=\{0,1\}^{n}$
$\bigcirc$ Pick u.r. $i \in[n]$
$\checkmark$ Replace coord $i$ with $\operatorname{Ber}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$

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$D$ Note: this convergence can be very slow.

Much more useful for us:

## Mixing time

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

$$
\mathrm{t}_{\text {mix }}(\mathrm{P}, \epsilon, v)=\min \left\{\mathrm{t} \mid \mathrm{d}_{\mathrm{Tv}}\left(\mu, v \mathrm{P}^{\mathrm{t}}\right) \leqslant \epsilon\right\}
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$\bigcirc$ We usually want $\mathrm{t}_{\text {mix }}(\mathrm{P})=$ poly $\log (|\Omega|)$ for efficient algs.

