

The Lovász Local Lemma

Another way to argue that "nothing bad happens"

If A_1, \dots, A_n are bad events

how do we know if there is positive probability that none occur?

usual way: Union bound
 no assumptions on A_i 's w.r.t. independence
 $\Pr[\cup A_i] \leq \sum \Pr[A_i]$
 if each A_i occurs with prob p , then need $p < \frac{1}{n}$ to get anything interesting (i.e. sum < 1)

if A_i 's independent + "nontrivial":

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[\cup A_i] &\leq 1 - \Pr[\cap \bar{A}_i] \\ &= 1 - \prod \underbrace{\Pr[\bar{A}_i]}_{> 0} \\ &< 1 \end{aligned}$$

What if A_i 's have "some" independence?

def A "independent" of B_1, \dots, B_k if $\forall J \subseteq [k]$

$$\Pr[A \cap \bigcap_{j \in J} B_j] = \Pr[A] \cdot \Pr[\bigcap_{j \in J} B_j] \quad J \neq \emptyset$$

def. A_1, \dots, A_n events

$D = (V, E)$ with $V = [n]$ is

"dependency digraph of A_1, \dots, A_n "

if each A_i independent of all A_j that don't neighbor it in D (ie., all A_j st. $(i, j) \notin E$)

Lovász Local Lemma (symmetric version)

A_1, \dots, A_n events st. $\text{pr}(A_i) \leq p \quad \forall i$

with dependency digraph D st. D is of degree $\leq d$.

If $ep(d+1) \leq 1$ then

$$\text{Pr} \left[\bigwedge_{i=1}^n \bar{A}_i \right] > 0$$

Application:

Thm. $S_1, \dots, S_m \subseteq S$, $|S_i| = l$,
each S_i intersects at most d other S_j 's

new: degree bound restricts

before $m < 2^{l-1}$
now m not restricted

if $e(d+1) \leq 2^{l-1}$

then can 2-color S st. each S_i not monochromatic

ie. \mathcal{H} is a hypergraph with m edges,
each containing l nodes + each intersecting $\leq d$ other edges

Pf.

color each elt of S red/blue with prob $\frac{1}{2}$ iid.

$A_i \equiv$ event that S_i monochromatic

$$\Pr[A_i] = 2^{-(l-1)}$$

A_i ind of all A_j st. $S_i \cap S_j = \emptyset$
depends on $\leq d$ other A_j

$$\text{Since } \mathbb{E}p(d+1) = e \frac{1}{2^{l-1}} (d+1) \leq 1$$

LLL $\Rightarrow \exists$ 2-coloring \blacksquare

Comparison:

edges = m
size of edge = l

$$m < 2^{l-1}$$

edges = m
size of edge $\geq l$

each edge intersects
 $\leq d$ others

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} d+1 \leq \frac{2^{l-1}}{e} \end{array} \right.$$

no dependence on m

A second application:

Given CNF formula st. l vars in each clause

\dagger each var in $\leq k$ clauses.

If $\frac{e(lk+1)}{2^{l-1}} \leq 1$ there is a satisfying assignment

How do you find a solution?

partial history:

Lovász 1975

non-constructive
(no fast algorithm to find soln)

$d \leq 2^l$

Beck 1991

randomized algorithm
but for more restrictive conditions
on parameters

$d \leq 2^{l/d}$

⋮

Moser 2009

negligible restrictions for SAT

$d \leq 2$

" " "

most problems

Moser Tardos

⋮

Then given $S_1, \dots, S_m \subseteq S'$

each S_i intersects $\leq d$ other S_j 's

if $e(d+1) \cdot C \leq 2^{l-1}$

then can find 2-coloring of S' st.

each S_i not monochromatic

in time poly in m, d

Algorithm

• 2-color all elts of S randomly (iid, uniform)

• While there is a monochromatic set:

• pick arbitrary "violated" S_i

• randomly reassign colors to elements of S_i

for example, see p.3

Correctness trivial ✓

Runtime how many recolorings? * see (2a)

To analyze, define "witness tree" to explain why a certain event happened.

def. "log of execution" is a set of pairs $(1, S_{i_1}), (2, S_{i_2}), \dots$
 where first entry is a "loop" number
 and second entry S_{i_j} is the set resampled
 at j th loop.

e.g. $(1, S_1), (2, S_2), (3, S_1), (4, S_3), (5, S_2), \dots$

How many recolorings?

what independence properties do we have?

if $S_i \cap S_j = \emptyset$ then whether they are monochromatic is independent at all times

if $S_i \cap S_j \neq \emptyset$ but,

consider: $\Pr[S_i \text{ 2-colored at time } t]$

$\rightarrow \Pr[S_j \text{ 2-colored at time } u]$

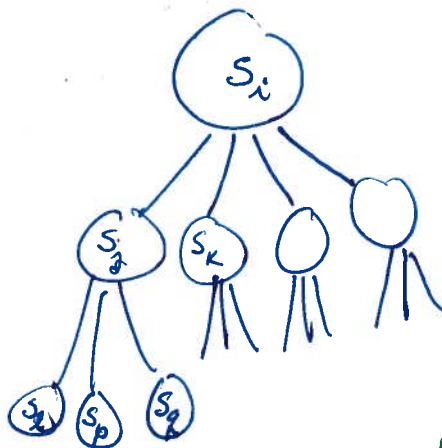
such that there was a recoloring of $S_i \cap S_j$ at time $t \leq v < u$

then also independent!

Model as tree:

Where is the gain?
This tree is d-ary, not n-ary

all S_i 's
st.
 $S_j \cap S_k \neq \emptyset$



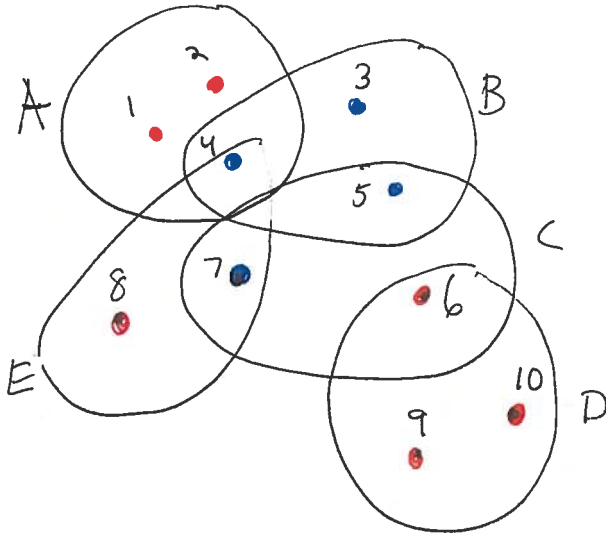
all S_j 's
st. $S_i \cap S_j \neq \emptyset$

recolorings of S_i
 \leftrightarrow recolorings of connected component in this tree

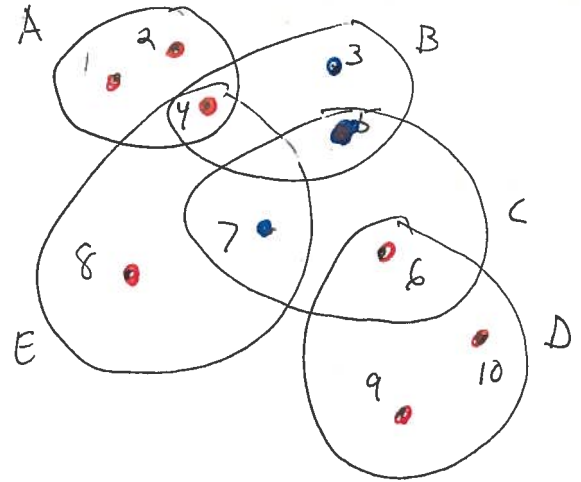
Log: (1,B) (2,D) (3,A) (4,C) (5,E)

LLL - (3)
alg

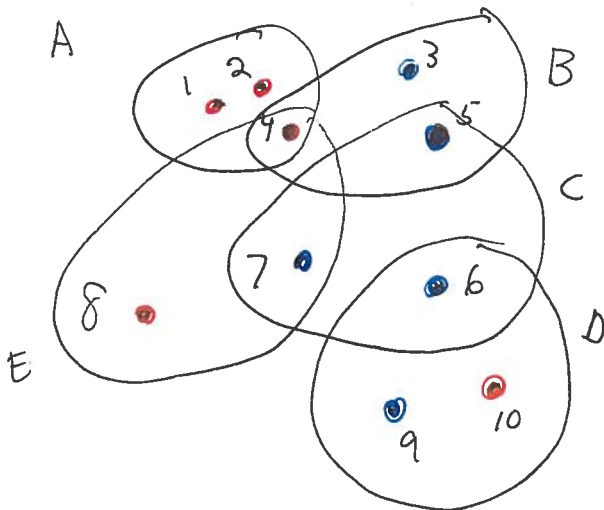
example time 0



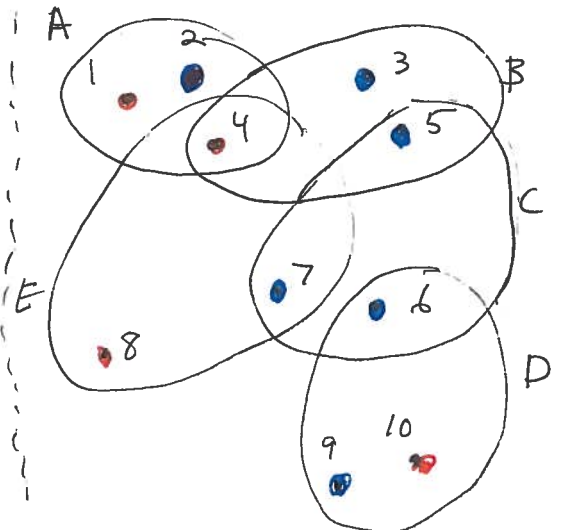
time 1
(1,B) resample edge ~~B~~



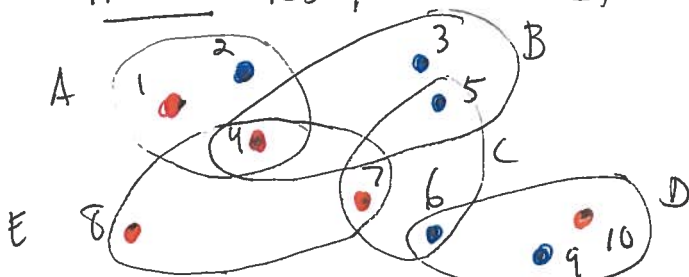
time 2
(2,D) resample D



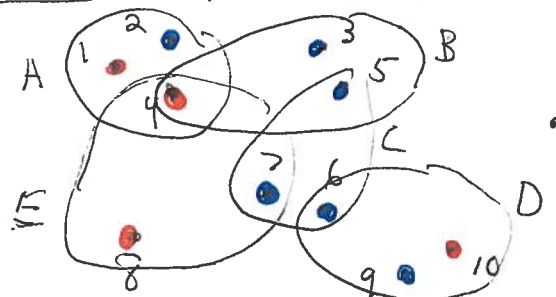
time 3
(3,A) resample A



time 4 resample C (4,C)



time 5 resample E (5,E)



A plan:

Show that for any "long" log, it is unlikely to happen.

lots of resamplings
↓

then

$$\Pr[\text{any long log occurs}] \leq \underbrace{(\# \text{ long logs})}_{\text{union bound}} (\text{max prob of a long log}) ?$$

but need to be a bit more elaborate, may be show:

$$\Pr[\text{a log longer than size } \ell_0] \leq \sum_{\ell > \ell_0} \underbrace{(\# \text{ logs of length } \ell)}_{\text{still too many of these to do naively}} (\text{Prob of log of length } \ell)$$

Plan here:

Focus on point of view of each set S_i

↓ how labellings can evolve

- not too many ways due to locality
- each big one has low probability

def. "witness tree for step j " ($j \geq 0$)

is constructed as follows

- root vertex labelled by S_{ij}

- $\{$ go backwards thru $\log\}$

- Do for step $j, j-1, j-2, \dots$

- if edge relabeled at current step t shares any nodes with edges already in witness tree,

any S_{it} can be added many times to witness tree



add S_{it} to witness tree

by making it point to arbitrary node on witness tree which is at max distance from root

In our example:

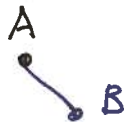
witness tree for time 1:



w.t. for time 2:



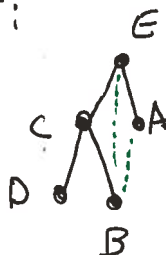
w.t. for time 3:



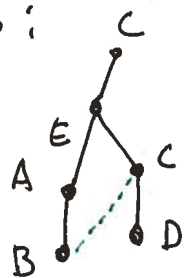
time 4:



time 5:



time 6:

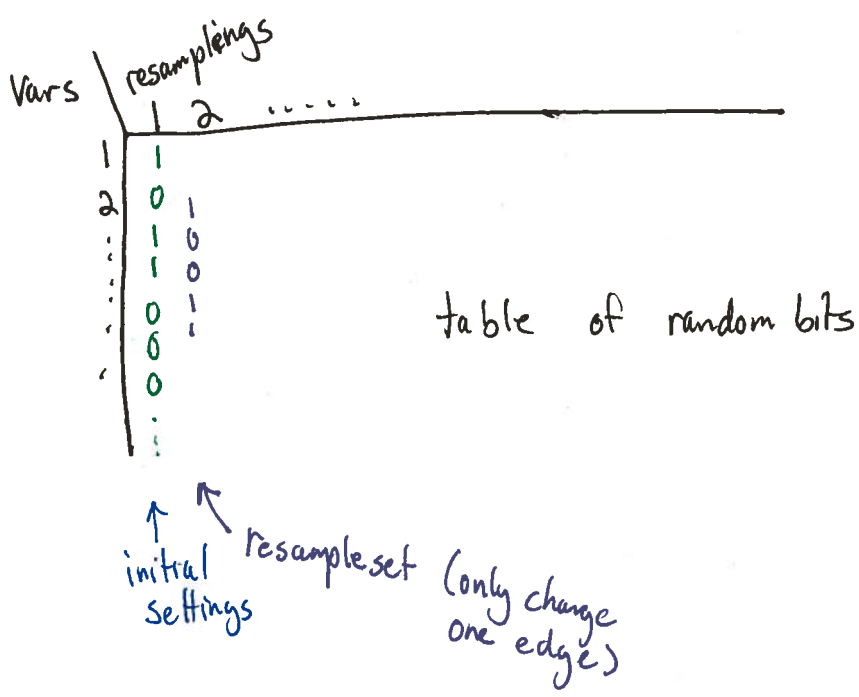


How do we bound probability of specific witness tree Υ in a run?

To analyze prob of tree Υ , upper bound via i.e., ensure that: "Y-check" procedure
 prob Υ occurs as a witness tree \leq prob Y-check passes

Def. Y-check procedure:

- Visit nodes of Υ in reverse BFS order (max depth first)
- take random evaluations of vars in current set
- check that set is monochromatic (violated)
- pass if all checks are violated



Important point
 prob of violation $= 2^{-(l-1)} \equiv p$

Observe:

- if 2 sets at same level in tree, can't intersect! (by construction) \Rightarrow independent (i.e. order of coin tosses doesn't matter)

- if 2 sets at different levels, will resample + get totally new bits \Rightarrow independent before later set

note that we consider reverse BFS

$$\Pr[\Upsilon\text{-check passes}] \leq p^{|\Upsilon|} = \left(2^{-(l-1)}\right)^{|\Upsilon|}$$

How to use the Υ -check?

- 1) Prob of getting tree somewhere in log \leq prob of Υ -check passing
- 2) no tree occurs twice in log (has to have previous tree as subtree!)
- 3) ^{so,} expected length of log = expected # of distinct trees in log

generosity #1
many Υ -trees consistent with log. We are bounding prob of any of them. (i.e. sum)

generosity #2: some of distinct trees can't even happen in our input, we are unbounding over a lot more than can happen

Expected # of resamplings

$$E[\# \text{ resamples}] \leq \sum_{\text{roots } i} \sum_{\substack{T \\ \text{with root } i}} E[\# \text{ times labelled tree } T \text{ rooted at } i \text{ occurs in execution of an algorithm}]$$

$$= \sum_{\text{roots } i} \sum_{\substack{T \text{ rooted} \\ \text{at } i}} E[\chi_T]$$

where $\chi_T = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } T \text{ occurs in} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$
 (here we use that no tree occurs twice in a log)

$$= m \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \sum_{\substack{T: |T|=s \\ T \text{ with fixed root}}} E[\chi_T]$$

$$\leq m \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \binom{sd}{s-1} p^s \quad (*)$$

$$\leq m \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \underbrace{(d+1)^s e^s}_{\text{since } p < \frac{(1-\epsilon)}{e(d+1)}} p^s$$

this is geometric sum + is $\Theta(1)$

if $p < \frac{1}{2e(d+1)}$ then goes down exponentially + gives good concentration

$\therefore E[\text{runtime}] = E[\# \text{ resamples}] \times \text{time per resample}$

is poly (m, l, d)

⊕ Why?

How many ^{d-ary} labelled rooted trees of size s ?

describe via Eulerian tour (left→right):

write 1 if go down
0 if skip child

(2 for "pop up" is redundant)

then, each node contributes d bits

String is $\leq sd$ characters with $s-1$ 1's

$\leq \binom{sd}{s-1}$ such strings

$\leq \left(e \frac{sd}{s-1}\right)^{s-1} \approx (ed)^{s-1}$ by Stirling's approx

example

