

# *Sublinear Algorithms*

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## LECTURE 8

### Last time

- Streaming
- Distinct Elements
- $k$ -wise independent hash functions

### Today

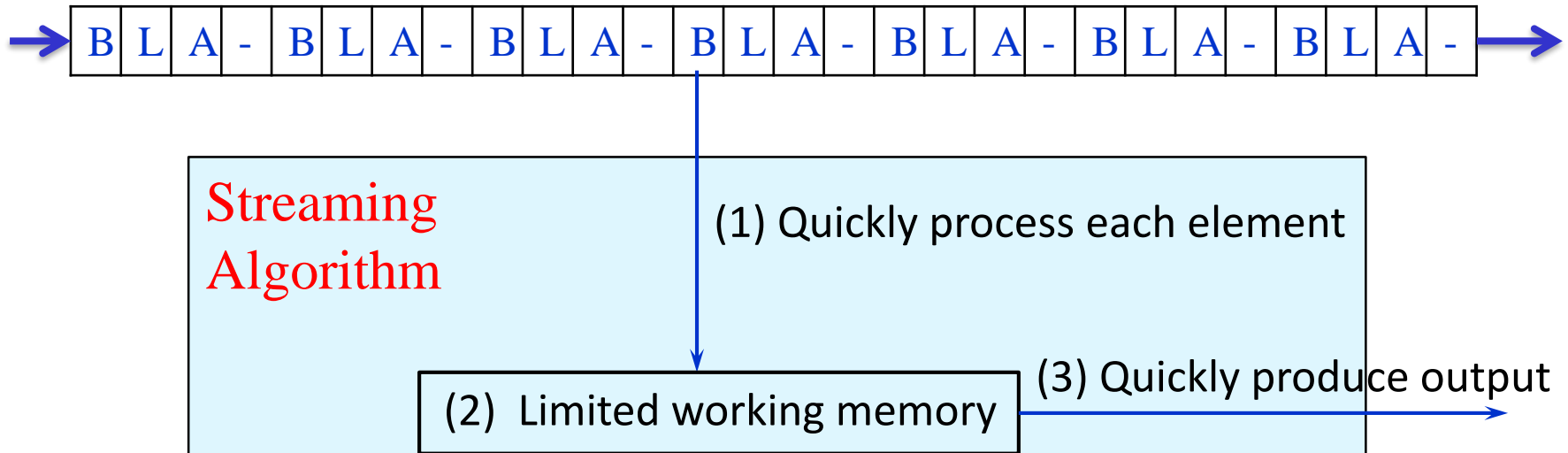
- Approximate counting
- Estimation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> moment
- Linear sketching

*Project proposals due Thursday*

*Sign up for project meetings, scribing, grading*



# Data Stream Model [Alon Matias Szegedy 96]



Motivation: internet traffic analysis

Model the **stream** as  $m$  elements from  $[n]$ , e.g.,

$$\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m \rangle = 3, 5, 3, 7, 5, 4, \dots$$

**Goal:** Compute a function of the stream, e.g., **median, number of distinct elements, longest increasing sequence.**

# Frequency Moments Estimation

Input: a stream  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m \rangle \in [n]^m$

- The **frequency vector** of the stream is  $f = (f_1, \dots, f_n)$ , where  $f_i$  is the number of times  $i$  appears in the stream
- The  $p$ -th frequency moment is  $F_p = \|f\|_p^p = \sum_{i=1}^n f_i^p$

$F_0$  is the number of nonzero entries of  $f$  (# of distinct elements)

$F_1 = m$  (# of elements in the stream)

$F_2 = \|f\|_2^2$  is a measure of non-uniformity

used e.g. for anomaly detection in network analysis

$F_\infty = \max_i f_i$  is the most frequent element

**Goal:** Estimate  $F_p$  up to a multiplicative factor  $(1 \pm \varepsilon)$  with probability  $\geq 2/3$

# Approximate Counting: Estimating $F_1$

Input: a stream  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m \rangle \in [n]^m$

Warm-up: Compute  $m$ . How much space do you need?

Goal: Estimate  $m$  up to a multiplicative factor  $(1 \pm \varepsilon)$  with probability  $\geq \frac{2}{3}$

Today:  $O(\varepsilon^{-2} \log \log m)$  space algorithm [Morris 78]

## Morris Algorithm (initial version)

1. Initialize  $X \leftarrow 0$
2. For each element, increment  $X$  by 1 w. p.  $2^{-X}$
3. Return  $\tilde{m} = 2^X - 1$ .

- Intuitively,  $X$  is keeping track of  $\log(m + 1)$
- Intuitively, expected increment to  $2^X$  at each step is  $2^X \cdot 2^{-X} = 1$ .

# Morris Algorithm: Analysis

## Morris Algorithm (initial version)

1. Initialize  $X \leftarrow 0$
2. For each element, increment  $X$  by 1 w. p.  $2^{-X}$
3. Return  $\tilde{m} = 2^X - 1$ .

- Let  $X_i$  represent  $X$  after  $i$  elements.
- $2^{X_0} = 1$  By the compact form of the Law of Total Expectation

- $E[2^{X_i}] = E[E[2^{X_i} | X_{i-1}]]$   
 $= E[2^{X_{i-1}+1} \cdot 2^{-X_{i-1}} + 2^{X_{i-1}} \cdot (1 - 2^{-X_{i-1}})]$   
 $= E[2 + 2^{X_{i-1}} - 1] = E[2^{X_{i-1}}] + 1 = i + 1$

$$E[2^X] = m + 1$$

**Claim.**  $\text{Var}[2^X] \leq m^2/2$

# *Variance Calculation*

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Claim.  $\text{Var}[2^X] \leq m^2/2$

# Morris Algorithm: Analysis

## Morris Algorithm (initial version)

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3. Return  $\tilde{m} = 2^X - 1$ .

- Let  $X_i$  represent  $X$  after  $i$  elements.
- $2^{X_0} = 1$  By the compact form of the Law of Total Expectation

- $$\begin{aligned} E[2^{X_i}] &= E[E[2^{X_i} \mid X_{i-1}]] \\ &= E[2^{X_i} \cdot 2^{-X_{i-1}} + 2^{X_{i-1}} \cdot (1 - 2^{-X_{i-1}})] \\ &= E[2 + 2^{X_{i-1}} - 1] = E[2^{X_{i-1}}] + 1 = i + 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$E[2^X] = m + 1$$

**Claim.**  $\text{Var}[2^X] \leq m^2/2$

- By Chebyshev,  $\Pr[|\tilde{m} - m| \geq \varepsilon m] \leq \frac{\text{Var}[\tilde{m}]}{(\varepsilon \cdot m)^2} \leq \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2}$
- **Idea:** to reduce variance, keep  $t$  independent counters and average their estimates.

# Morris Algorithm: Improvement

## Morris Algorithm

1. Initialize  $t$  independent counters  $X \leftarrow 0$
2. For each element, increment each  $X$  by 1 w. p.  $2^{-X}$
3. Return  $\tilde{m} =$  the average of  $2^X - 1$  over all counters

- Then  $E[\tilde{m}]$  remains  $m$
- But  $\text{Var}[\tilde{m}]$  is  $\frac{1}{t} \cdot \text{Var}[2^X]$

$$E[2^X] = m + 1$$

**Claim.**  $\text{Var}[2^X] \leq m^2/2$

- By Chebyshev,  $\Pr[|\tilde{m} - m| \geq \varepsilon m] \leq \frac{\text{Var}[\tilde{m}]}{(\varepsilon \cdot m)^2} \leq \frac{1}{2t\varepsilon^2}$
- It is sufficient to set  $t = O\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$



# Frequency Moments Estimation

Input: a stream  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m \rangle \in [n]^m$

- The **frequency vector** of the stream is  $f = (f_1, \dots, f_n)$ , where  $f_i$  is the number of times  $i$  appears in the stream
- The  $p$ -th frequency moment is  $F_p = \|f\|_p^p = \sum_{i=1}^n f_i^p$

$F_0$  is the number of nonzero entries of  $f$  (# of distinct elements)

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$F_2 = \|f\|_2^2$  is a measure of non-uniformity

used e.g. for anomaly detection in network analysis

$F_\infty = \max_i f_i$  is the most frequent element

Goal: Estimate  $F_p$  up to a multiplicative factor  $(1 \pm \varepsilon)$  with probability  $\geq 2/3$

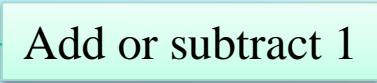
# Estimating $F_2$ [Alon Matias Szegedy 96]

Input: a stream  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m \rangle \in [n]^m$

Goal: Estimate  $F_2$  up to a multiplicative factor  $(1 \pm \varepsilon)$  with probability  $\geq \frac{2}{3}$

Today:  $O(\varepsilon^{-2} (\log m + \log n))$  space algorithm

## AMS Algorithm (initial version)

1. Sample a hash function  $h : [n] \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$  from a 4-wise independent family
2. Initialize  $X \leftarrow 0$
3. For each element  $a$ , increment  $X$  by  $h(a)$  
4. Return  $X^2$ .

- Let  $Z = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$ , where  $z_i = h(i)$
- Then, at the end,  $X = Z \cdot f = \sum_{i \in [n]} z_i f_i$
- Let's compute the expectation and variance of  $X^2$

# The expectation of $X^2$

## AMS Algorithm (initial version)

1. Sample a hash function  $h : [n] \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$  from a 4-wise independent family
2. Initialize  $X \leftarrow 0$
3. For each element  $a$ , increment  $X$  by  $h(a)$  ← Add or subtract 1
4. Return  $X^2$ .

- Let  $Z = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$ , where  $z_i = h(i)$

$$\mathbb{E}[X^2] = F_2$$

- Then, at the end,  $X = Z \cdot f = \sum_{i \in [n]} z_i f_i$

$$X^2 = \left( \sum_{i \in [n]} z_i f_i \right)^2 = \sum_{i \in [n]} \sum_{j \in [n]} z_i z_j f_i f_j$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X^2] = \sum_{i \in [n]} \sum_{j \in [n]} \mathbb{E}[z_i z_j] f_i f_j$$

by linearity of expectation

$$= \sum_{i \in [n]} \mathbb{E}[z_i^2] f_i^2 + \sum_{i \neq j} \mathbb{E}[z_i] \cdot \mathbb{E}[z_j] f_i f_j$$

$z_i$ 's are  
2-wise independent

$$= \sum_{i \in [n]} f_i^2 = F_2$$

$$z_i^2 = 1$$

# The variance of $X^2$

## AMS Algorithm (initial version)

1. Sample a hash function  $h : [n] \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$  from a 4-wise independent family
2. Initialize  $X \leftarrow 0$
3. For each element  $a$ , increment  $X$  by  $h(a)$  ← Add or subtract 1
4. Return  $X^2$ .

- Let  $Z = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$ , where  $z_i = h(i)$
- Then, at the end,  $X = Z \cdot f = \sum_{i \in [n]} z_i f_i$

$$\mathbb{E}[X^2] = F_2$$

$$\text{Var}[X^2] = \mathbb{E}[X^4] - (\mathbb{E}[X^2])^2$$

$$= \sum_{i,j,k,\ell \in [n]} \mathbb{E}[z_i z_j z_k z_\ell] f_i f_j f_k f_\ell - F_2^2$$

by linearity of expectation

$$= \sum_{i \in [n]} \mathbb{E}[z_i^4] f_i^4 + 6 \sum_{i < j} \mathbb{E}[z_i^2] \cdot \mathbb{E}[z_j^2] f_i^2 f_j^2 - F_2^2$$

$z_i$ 's are  
4-wise independent

$$= \sum_{i \in [n]} f_i^4 + 6 \sum_{i < j} f_i^2 f_j^2 - F_2^2 \leq 4 \sum_{i < j} f_i^2 f_j^2 \leq 2F_2^2$$

$$z_i^2 = 1$$

# Estimating $F_2$ [Alon Matias Szegedy 96]

## AMS Algorithm

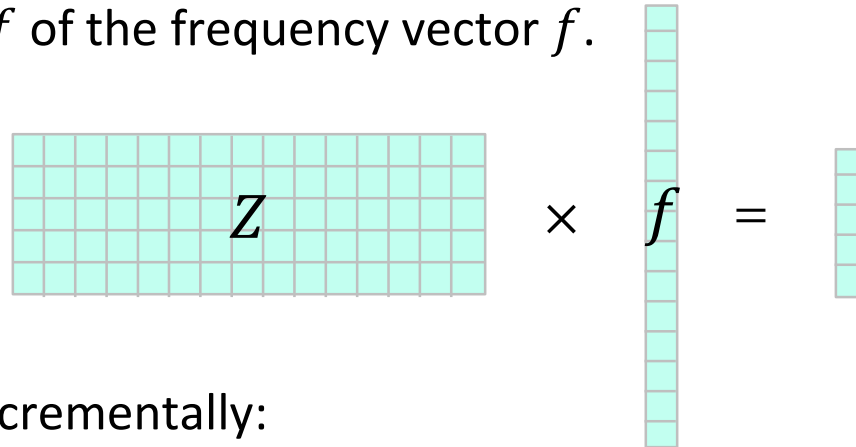
1.  $t \leftarrow 20/\varepsilon^2$  Run  $t$  copies of initial algorithm and average the results
2. Sample  $t$  independent hash functions  $h_i: [n] \rightarrow \{-1,1\}$  from a 4-wise independent family
3. Initialize  $t$  counters  $X_i \leftarrow 0$
4. For each element  $a$ , increment each  $X_i$  by  $h_i(a)$
5. Return  $Y = \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i \in [t]} X_i^2$ .

- We proved:  $\mathbb{E}[X_i^2] = F_2$  and  $\text{Var}[X_i^2] \leq 2F_2^2$
- Then  $\mathbb{E}[Y] = \mathbb{E}[X_i^2] = F_2$  and  $\text{Var}[Y] = \frac{1}{t} \text{Var}[X_i^2] \leq \frac{2}{t} F_2^2$   $X_i^2$  are independent
- **Correctness:**  $\Pr[|Y - F_2| \geq \varepsilon \cdot F_2] = \Pr[|Y - \mathbb{E}[Y]| \geq \varepsilon \cdot F_2]$   
$$\leq \frac{\text{Var}[Y]}{(\varepsilon \cdot F_2)^2} \leq \frac{2F_2^2}{t \cdot \varepsilon^2 \cdot F_2^2} = \frac{1}{10}$$
 Chebyshev
- **Space:**  $O(t \log n)$  to store hash functions +  $O(t \log m)$  to store  $X_i$ 's

$$O\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} (\log n + \log m)\right)$$

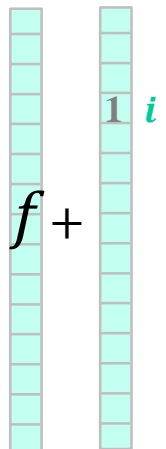
# General Technique: Linear Sketching

- A **sketching algorithm** stores a random matrix  $Z \in \mathbb{R}^{t \times n}$  where  $t \ll n$  and computes projection  $Zf$  of the frequency vector  $f$ .



- $Zf$  can be computed incrementally:
  - Suppose we have a sketch  $Zf$  of the current frequency vector  $f$ .
  - If we see an occurrence of  $i$ , the new frequency vector is  $f' = f + e_i$ .
  - We update the sketch by adding column  $i$  of  $Z$  to  $Zf$ :

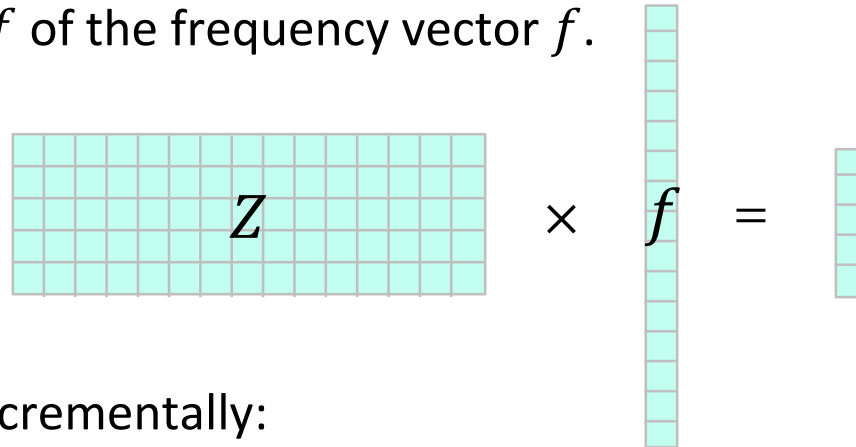
$$Zf' = Z(f + e_i) = Zf + Ze_i = Zf + (i\text{-th column of } Z)$$



- In the **AMS** algorithm,  $Z$  was a matrix of -1s and 1s, with each row chosen independently from a 4-wise independent family

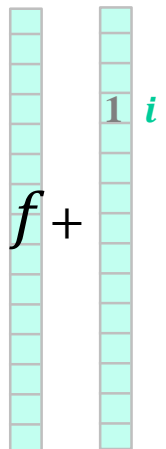
# General Technique: Linear Sketching

- A **sketching algorithm** stores a random matrix  $Z \in \mathbb{R}^{t \times n}$  where  $t \ll n$  and computes projection  $Zf$  of the frequency vector  $f$ .


$$Z \times f = \text{result}$$

- $Zf$  can be computed incrementally:
  - Suppose we have a sketch  $Zf$  of the current frequency vector  $f$ .
  - If we see an occurrence of  $i$ , the new frequency vector is  $f' = f + e_i$ .
  - We update the sketch by adding column  $i$  of  $Z$  to  $Zf$ :

$$Zf' = Z(f + e_i) = Zf + Ze_i = Zf + (i\text{-th column of } Z)$$



- In general: Need to choose the random matrix so that
  - relevant properties of  $f$  can be estimated with high probability from  $Zf$
  - $Z$  can be stored efficiently