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# Mining Data Streams

CS246: Mining Massive Datasets  
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# Announcements

**We will be releasing practice exam problems this weekend**

**We will hold extra office hours next week for exam preparation**

# Gradient Boosted Decision Trees

- Prediction at round  $t$  is:  $\hat{y}_i^{(t)} = \hat{y}_i^{(t-1)} + f_t(x_i)$
- Goal: Find tree  $f_t(\cdot)$  that minimizes:

$$\text{obj}^{(t)} = \sum_{i=1}^n l(y_i, \hat{y}_i^{(t)}) + \omega(f_t)$$

- The optimal objective is:

$$\text{obj}^* = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^T \frac{G_j^2}{H_j + \lambda} + \gamma T$$

- $G_j, H_j$  depend on the loss function,  $T = \#$  of leaves.

**In principle we could:**

- Enumerate possible tree structures  $f$  and take the one that minimizes  $obj$

# How to find a single tree $f_t$

- In practice we grow tree greedily:
  - Start with tree with depth 0
  - For each leaf node in the tree, try to add a split
  - The change of the objective after adding a split is:

$$Gain = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \underbrace{\frac{G_L^2}{H_L + \lambda}}_{\text{Score of left child}} + \underbrace{\frac{G_R^2}{H_R + \lambda}}_{\text{Score of right child}} - \underbrace{\frac{(G_L + G_R)^2}{H_L + H_R + \lambda}}_{\text{Score if we do not split}} \right] - \gamma$$

- Take the split that gives **best gain**
- **Next: How to find the best split?**

# How to Find the Best Split?

- **For each node, enumerate over all features**
  - For each feature, sort the instances by feature value
  - Use a linear scan to decide the best split along that feature
  - Take the best split solution along all the features
- **Pre-stopping:**
  - Stop split if the best split have negative gain
  - But maybe a split can benefit future splits.
- **Post-Pruning:**
  - Grow a tree to maximum depth, recursively prune all the leaf splits with negative gain.

# Summary: GBDT Algorithm

- **Add a new tree  $f_t(x)$  in each iteration**

- Compute necessary statistics for our objective

$$g_i = \partial_{\hat{y}^{(t-1)}} l(y_i, \hat{y}^{(t-1)}), \quad h_i = \partial_{\hat{y}^{(t-1)}}^2 l(y_i, \hat{y}^{(t-1)})$$

- Greedily grow the tree that minimizes the objective:

$$Obj = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^T \frac{G_j^2}{H_j + \lambda} + \gamma T$$

- **Add  $f_t(x)$  to our ensemble model**

$$y^{(t)} = y^{(t-1)} + \epsilon f_t(x_i)$$

$\epsilon$  is called step-size or shrinkage,  
usually set around 0.1

**Goal:** prevent overfitting

- **Repeat until we use  $M$  ensemble of trees**

# XGBoost

- **XGBoost: eXtreme Gradient Boosting**
  - A highly scalable implementation of gradient boosted decision trees with regularization

Widely used by data scientists and provides state-of-the-art results on many problems!

- System optimizations:
  - **Parallel tree constructions** using column block structure
  - **Distributed Computing** for training very large models using a cluster of machines.
  - **Out-of-Core Computing** for very large datasets that don't fit into memory.

# New Topic: Infinite Data

## High dim. data

Locality sensitive hashing

Clustering

Dimensional  
ity  
reduction

## Graph data

PageRank,  
SimRank

Community  
Detection

Spam  
Detection

## Infinite data

Filtering  
data  
streams

Queries on  
streams

Web  
advertising

## Machine learning

Decision  
Trees

SVM

Parallel SGD

## Apps

Recommen  
der systems

Association  
Rules

Duplicate  
document  
detection



# So far

- So far we have worked datasets or data bases where **all data is available**
- In contrast, in **data streams**, data arrives one element at a time often at a **rapid rate** that:
  - If it is not **processed immediately** it is lost forever.
  - It is not feasible to **store** it all

# Data Streams

- In many data mining situations, we do not know the entire data set in advance
- **Stream Management** is important when the input rate is controlled **externally**:
  - Google queries
  - Twitter posts or Facebook status updates
  - e-Commerce purchase data.
  - Credit card transactions
- Think of the **data** as **infinite** and **non-stationary** (the distribution changes over time)
  - This is the fun part and why interesting algorithms are needed

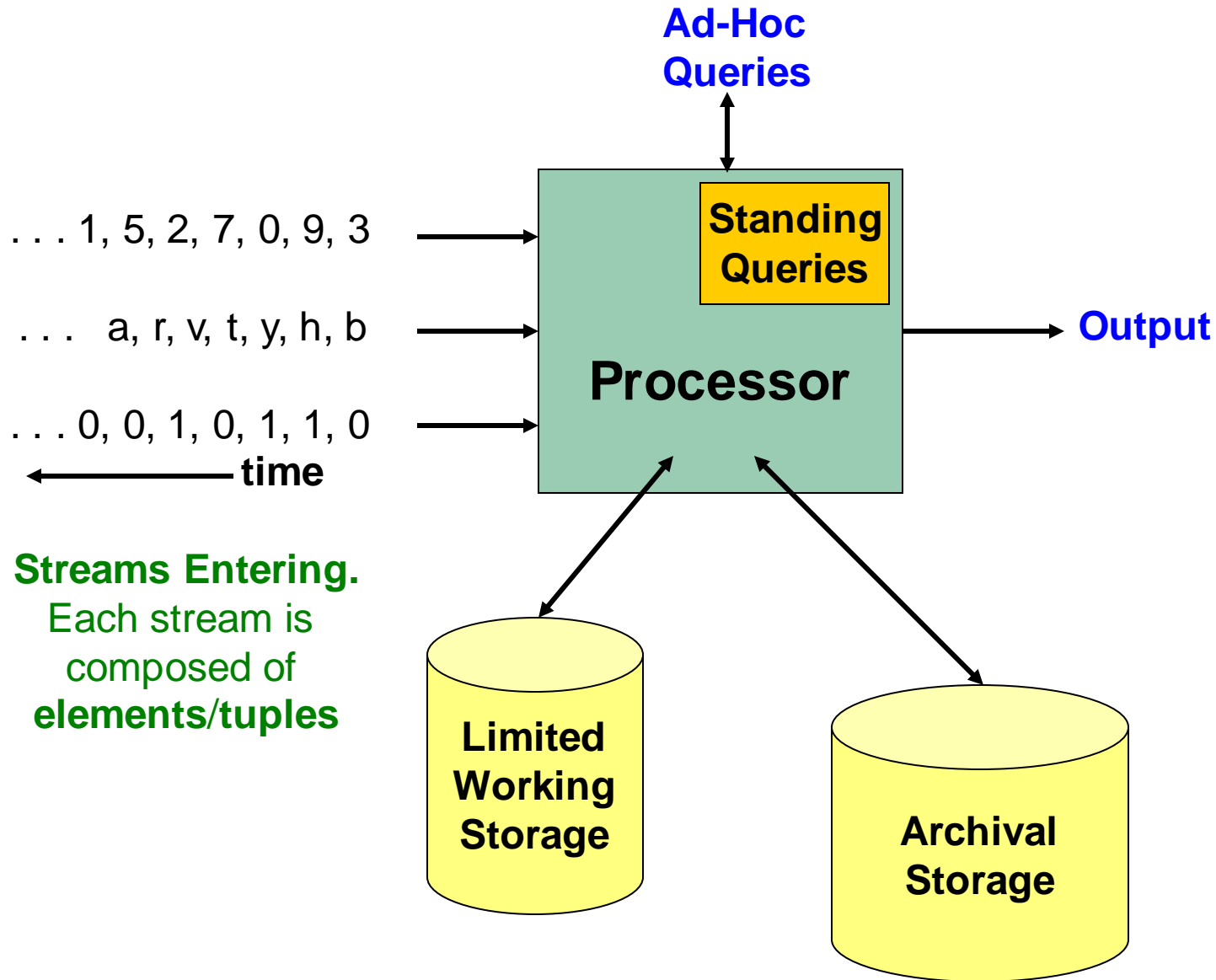
# The Stream Model

- Input **elements** enter at a rapid rate, at one or more input ports (i.e., **streams**)
  - **We call elements of the stream tuples**
- **The system cannot store the entire stream accessibly**
- **Q: How do you make critical calculations about the stream using a limited amount of (secondary) memory?**

# Side note: SGD is a Streaming Alg.

- **Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD) is an example of a streaming algorithm**
- **In Machine Learning we call this: Online Learning**
  - Allows for modeling problems where we have a continuous stream of data
  - We want an algorithm to learn from it and slowly adapt to the changes in data
- **Idea: Do small updates to the model**
  - **SGD** makes small updates
  - **So:** First train the classifier on training data
  - **Then:** For every example from the stream, we slightly update the model (using small learning rate)

# General Stream Processing Model



# Problems on Data Streams

- **Types of queries one wants to answer on a data stream:**
  - **Sampling data from a stream**
    - Construct a random sample
  - **Filtering a data stream**
    - Select elements with property  $x$  from the stream
  - **Counting distinct elements**
    - Number of distinct elements in the last  $k$  elements of the stream
  - **Finding most frequent elements**

# Applications

- **Mining query streams**
  - Google wants to know what queries are more frequent today than yesterday
- **Mining click streams**
  - Wikipedia wants to know which of its pages are getting an unusual number of hits in the past hour
- **Mining social network news feeds**
  - Look for trending topics on Twitter, Facebook

# Sampling from a Data Stream: Sampling a fixed proportion

As the stream grows the sample  
also gets bigger



# Sampling from a Data Stream

- Why is this important?
  - Since we cannot store the entire stream, a representative **sample** can act like the stream
- **Two different problems:**
  - **(1)** Sample a **fixed proportion** of elements in the stream (say 1 in 10)
  - **(2)** Maintain a **random sample of fixed size  $s$**  over a potentially infinite stream
    - At any “time”  $k$  we would like a random sample of  $s$  elements of the stream  $1..k$ 
      - **What is the property of the sample we want to maintain?**  
For all time steps  $k$ , each of the  $k$  elements seen so far must have **equal probability** of being sampled

# Sampling a Fixed Proportion

- **Problem 1: Sampling a fixed proportion**
  - E.g. sample 10% of the stream
  - As stream gets bigger, sample gets bigger
- **Naïve solution:**
  - Generate a random integer in  $[0\dots9]$  for each query
  - Store the query if the integer is **0**, otherwise discard
- **Any problem with this approach?**
  - We have to be very careful what query we answer using this sample

# Problem with Naïve Approach

- **Scenario:** Search engine query stream
  - **Stream of tuples:** (user, query, time)
  - **Question:** What fraction of unique queries by an average user are duplicates?
    - Suppose each user issues  $x$  queries once and  $d$  queries twice (total of  $x+2d$  query instances) then the correct answer to the query is  $d/(x+d)$
  - **Proposed solution: We keep 10% of the queries**
    - Sample will contain  $(x+2d)/10$  elements of the stream
    - Sample will contain  $d/100$  pairs of duplicates
      - $d/100 = 1/10 \cdot 1/10 \cdot d$
    - There are  $(10x+19d)/100$  unique elements in the sample
      - $(x+2d)/10 - d/100 = (10x+19d)/100$
  - **So the sample-based answer is**  $\frac{\frac{d}{100}}{\frac{10x}{100} + \frac{19d}{100}} = \frac{d}{10x+19d}$

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Sample underestimates

# Solution: Sample Users

## Solution:

- Don't sample queries, sample users instead
- Pick  $1/10^{\text{th}}$  of **users** and take all their search queries in the sample
- Use a hash function that hashes the user name or user id uniformly into 10 buckets

# Generalized Solution

- **Stream of tuples with keys:**
  - Key is some subset of each tuple's components
    - e.g., tuple is (user, search, time); key is **user**
  - Choice of key depends on application
- **To get a sample of  $a/b$  fraction of the stream:**
  - Hash each tuple's key uniformly into  **$b$**  buckets
  - Pick the tuple if its hash value is at most  **$a$**



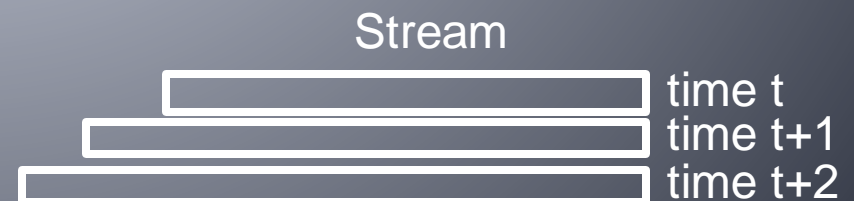
Hash table with  **$b$**  buckets, pick the tuple if its hash value is at most  **$a$** .

**How to generate a 30% sample?**

Hash into  $b=10$  buckets, take the tuple if it hashes to one of the first 3 buckets

# Sampling from a Data Stream: Sampling a fixed-size sample

The sample is of fixed size  $s$



# Maintaining a fixed-size sample

- **Problem 2: Fixed-size sample**
- **Suppose we need to maintain a random sample  $S$  of size exactly  $s$  tuples**
  - E.g., main memory size constraint
- **Why?** Don't know length of stream in advance
- **Suppose by time  $n$  we have seen  $n$  items**
  - **Each item is in the sample  $S$  with equal prob.  $s/n$**

**How to think about the problem: say  $s = 2$**

**Stream:** a x c y z | k c | d e g...

At  $n = 5$ , each of the first 5 tuples is included in the sample  $S$  with equal prob.

At  $n = 7$ , each of the first 7 tuples is included in the sample  $S$  with equal prob.

**Impractical solution would be to store all the  $n$  tuples seen so far and out of them pick  $s$  at random**



# Solution: Fixed Size Sample

## ■ Algorithm (a.k.a. Reservoir Sampling)

- Store all the first  $s$  elements of the stream to  $S$
- Suppose we have seen  $n-1$  elements, and now the  $n^{\text{th}}$  element arrives ( $n > s$ )
  - With probability  $s/n$ , keep the  $n^{\text{th}}$  element, else discard it
  - If we picked the  $n^{\text{th}}$  element, then it replaces one of the  $s$  elements in the sample  $S$ , picked uniformly at random

## ■ Claim: This algorithm maintains a sample $S$ with the desired property:

- After  $n$  elements, the sample contains each element seen so far with probability  $s/n$

# Proof: By Induction

- **We prove this by induction:**
  - Assume that after  $n$  elements, the sample contains each element seen so far with probability  $s/n$
  - We need to show that after seeing element  $n+1$  the sample maintains the property
    - Sample contains each element seen so far with probability  $s/(n+1)$
- **Base case:**
  - After we see  $n=s$  elements the sample  $S$  has the desired property
    - Each out of  $n=s$  elements is in the sample with probability  $s/s = 1$

# Proof: By Induction

- **Inductive hypothesis:** After  $n$  elements, the sample  $S$  contains each element seen so far with prob.  $s/n$
- **Inductive step:**
  - **New element  $n+1$  arrives, it goes to  $S$  with prob  $s/(n+1)$**
  - **For all other elements currently in  $S$ :**
    - They were in  $S$  with prob.  $s/n$
    - The probability that they remain in  $S$ :

$$\left(1 - \frac{s}{n+1}\right) + \left(\frac{s}{n+1}\right)\left(\frac{s-1}{s}\right) = \frac{n}{n+1}$$

Element  $n+1$  discarded    Element  $n+1$  not discarded    Element in the sample not picked

- tuples stayed in  $S$  with prob.  $n/(n+1)$
- So,  **$P(\text{tuple is in } S \text{ at time } n+1) = \frac{s}{n} \cdot \frac{n}{n+1} = \frac{s}{n+1}$**

# Filtering Data Streams

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# Filtering Data Streams

- Each element of data stream is a tuple
- Given a list of keys  $S$  (which is our filter)
- Determine which tuples of stream have key in  $S$
- **Obvious solution: Hash table**
  - But suppose we **do not have enough memory** to store all of  $S$  in a hash table
    - E.g., we might be processing millions of filters on the same stream

# Applications

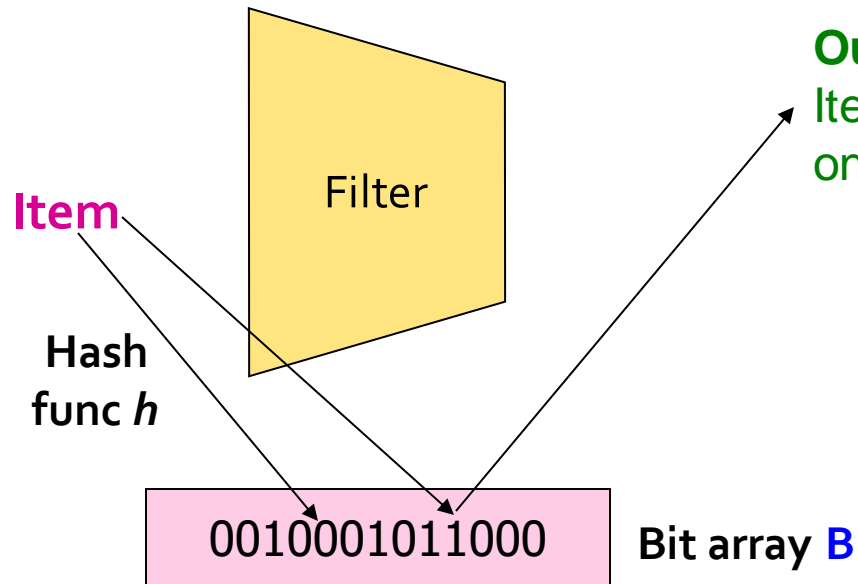
- **Example: Email spam filtering**
  - 1 million users, each user has 1000 “good” email addresses (trusted addresses)
  - If an email comes from one of these, it is **NOT** spam
- **Example: Content filtering**
  - You want to make sure the user does not see the same ad/recommendation multiple times

# First Cut Solution (1)

Given a set of keys  $S$  that we want to filter

- Create a **bit array**  $B$  of  $n$  bits, initially all  $0$ s
- Choose a **hash function**  $h$  with range  $[0, n)$
- Hash each member of  $s \in S$  to one of  $n$  buckets, and set that bit to  $1$ , i.e.,  $B[h(s)] = 1$
- Hash each element  $a$  of the stream and output only those that hash to bit that was set to  $1$ 
  - **Output**  $a$  if  $B[h(a)] == 1$

# First Cut Solution (2)



**Output the item since it may be in  $S$ .**  
Item hashes to a bucket that at least one of the items in  $S$  hashed to.

**Drop the item.**  
It hashes to a bucket set to **0** so it is surely not in  $S$ .

- **Creates false positives**
  - Items that are hashed to a 1 bucket may or may not be in  $S$
- **but no false negatives**
  - Items that are hashed to 0 bucket are surely not in  $S$



# First Cut Solution (3)

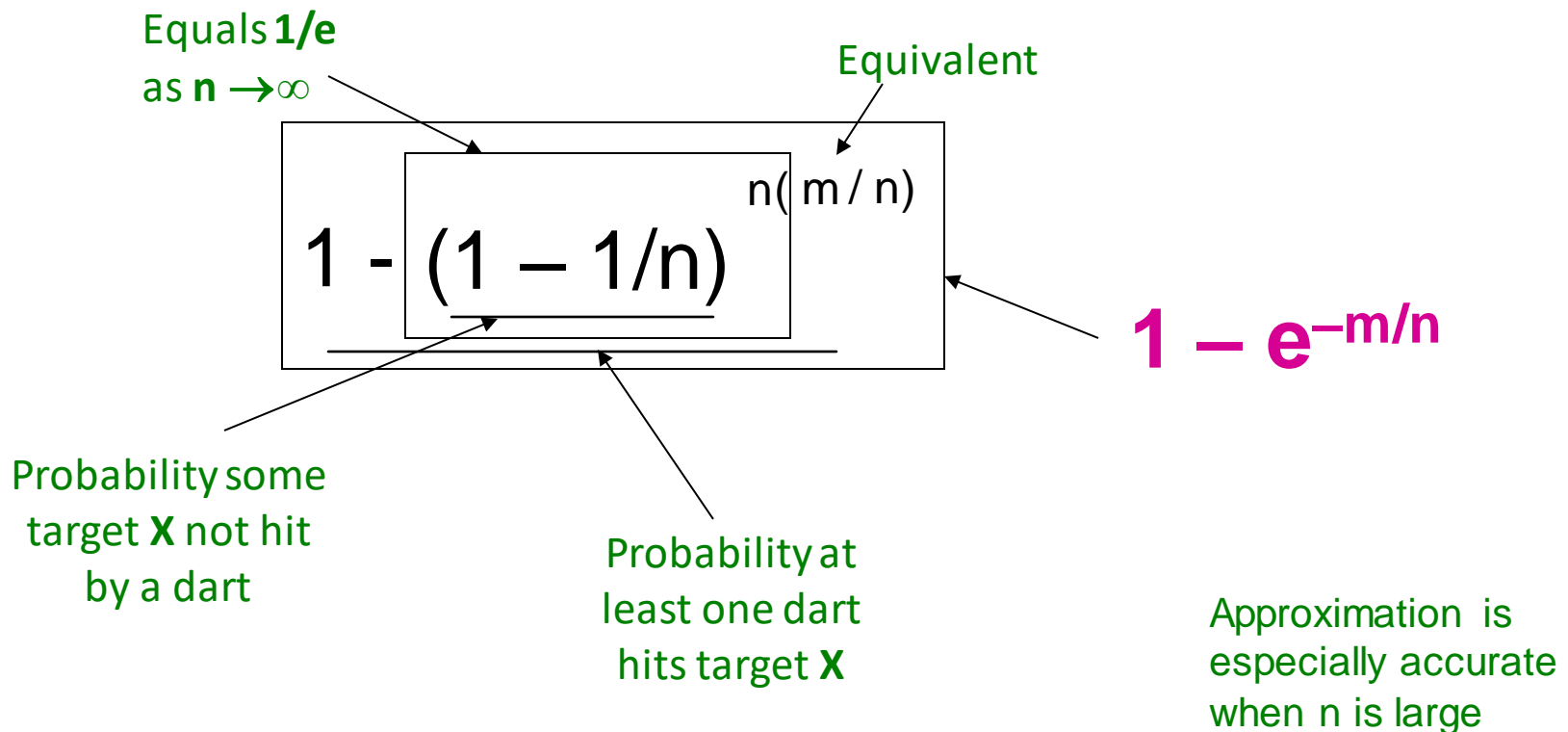
- $|S| = 1$  billion email addresses  
 $|B| = 1\text{GB} = 8$  billion bits
- If the email address is in  $S$ , then it surely hashes to a bucket that has the bit set to **1**, so it always gets through (*no false negatives*)
- Approximately  $1/8$  of the bits are set to **1**, so about  $1/8^{\text{th}}$  of the addresses not in  $S$  get through to the output (*false positives*)
  - Actually, less than  $1/8^{\text{th}}$ , because more than one address might hash to the same bit

# Analysis: Throwing Darts (1)

- Let's do a more accurate analysis of number of **false positives**, we know that:
  - Fraction of 1s in array  $B$  = **prob. of false positive**
- **Darts & Targets:** If we throw  $m$  darts into  $n$  equally likely targets, **what is the probability that a target gets at least one dart?**
- **In our case:**
  - **Targets** = bits/buckets
  - **Darts** = hash values of items

# Analysis: Throwing Darts (2)

- We have  $m$  darts,  $n$  targets
- **What is the probability that a target gets at least one dart?**



# Analysis: Throwing Darts (3)

- **Fraction of 1s in the array B = probability of false positive =  $1 - e^{-m/n}$**
- **Example:  $10^9$  darts,  $8 \cdot 10^9$  targets**
  - Fraction of 1s in B =  $1 - e^{-1/8} = 0.1175$ 
    - Compare with our earlier estimate:  $1/8 = 0.125$
- **To reduce false positive rate of bloom filter we use multiple hash functions**

# Bloom Filter

- Consider:  $|S| = m$  keys,  $|B| = n$  bits
- Use  $k$  independent hash functions  $h_1, \dots, h_k$
- **Initialization:**
  - Set  $B$  to all  $0$ s
  - Hash each element  $s \in S$  using each hash function  $h_i$ , set  $B[h_i(s)] = 1$  (for each  $i = 1, \dots, k$ ) (note: we have a single array B!)
- **Run-time:**
  - When a stream element with key  $x$  arrives
    - If  $B[h_i(x)] = 1$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, k$  then declare that  $x$  is in  $S$ 
      - That is,  $x$  hashes to a bucket set to  $1$  for every hash function  $h_i(x)$
    - Otherwise discard the element  $x$

# Bloom Filter – Analysis

- **What fraction of the bit vector  $B$  are 1s?**
  - Throwing  $k \cdot m$  darts at  $n$  targets
  - So fraction of 1s is  $(1 - e^{-km/n})$
- But we have  $k$  independent hash functions and we only let the element  $x$  through **if all  $k$**  hash element  $x$  to a bucket of value **1**
- So, **false positive probability** =  $(1 - e^{-km/n})^k$

# Bloom Filter – Analysis (2)

- $m = 1$  billion,  $n = 8$  billion

- $k = 1: (1 - e^{-1/8}) = 0.1175$

- $k = 2: (1 - e^{-1/4})^2 = 0.0489$

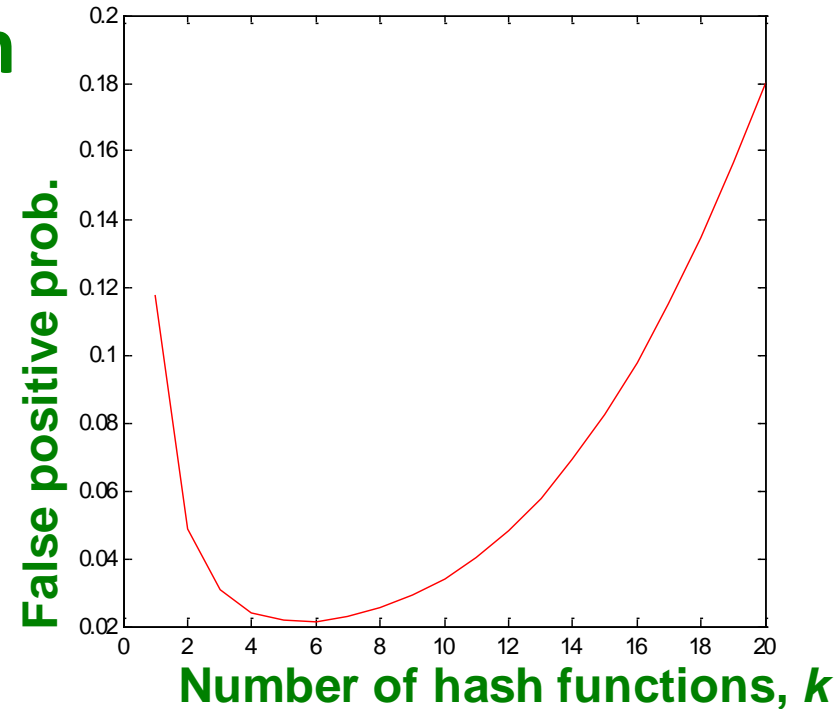
- What happens as we keep increasing  $k$ ?

- Optimal value of  $k: \frac{n}{m} \ln 2$

- In our case: Optimal  $k = 8 \ln(2) = 5.54 \approx 6$

- Error at  $k = 6: (1 - e^{-3/4})^6 = 0.0216$

Optimal  $k$ :  $k$  which gives the lowest false positive probability



# Counting Distinct Elements



# Counting Distinct Elements

## ■ Problem:

- Data stream consists of a universe of elements chosen from a set of size  $N$
- Maintain a count of the number of distinct elements seen so far

## ■ Obvious approach:

Maintain a dictionary of elements seen so far

- keep a hash table of all the distinct elements seen so far
- What if number of distinct elements are huge?
- What if there are many streams that need to be processed at once?

# Applications

- **How many unique users a website has seen in each given month?**
  - Universal set = set of logins for that month
  - Stream element = each time someone logs in
- **How many different words are found at a site which is among the Web pages being crawled?**
  - Unusually low or high numbers could indicate artificial pages (spam?)
- **How many distinct products have we sold in the last week?**

# Using Small Storage

- **Real problem: What if we do not have space to maintain the set of elements seen so far in every stream?**
  - We have limited working storage
- We use a variety of hashing and randomization to get approximately what we want
- Estimate the count in an unbiased way
- Accept that the count may have a little error, but limit the probability that the error is large

# Flajolet-Martin Approach

- Estimates number of distinct elements by hashing elements to a bit-string that is sufficiently long
  - The length of the bit-string is large enough that it produces more result than size of universal set.
- **Idea:** the more different elements we see in the stream, the more different hash values we shall see.
  - Number of trailing 0s in these hash values estimates number of distinct elements.

# Flajolet-Martin Approach

- Pick a hash function  $h$  that maps each of the  $N$  elements to at least  $\log_2 N$  bits
- For each stream element  $a$ , let  $r(a)$  be the number of trailing 0s in  $h(a)$ 
  - $r(a)$  = position of first 1 counting from the right
    - E.g., say  $h(a) = 12$ , then 12 is 1100 in binary, so  $r(a) = 2$
- Record  $R$  = the maximum  $r(a)$  seen
  - $R = \max_a r(a)$ , over all the items  $a$  seen so far
- Estimated number of distinct elements =  $2^R$

# Why It Works: Intuition

- Very rough and heuristic intuition why Flajolet-Martin works:
  - $h(a)$  hashes  $a$  with **equal prob.** to any of  $N$  values
  - All elements have **equal prob.** to have a tail of  $r$  zeros
  - That is  $2^{-r}$  fraction of all  $a$ s have a tail of  $r$  zeros
    - About 50% of  $a$ s hash to **\*\*\*0**
    - About 25% of  $a$ s hash to **\*\*00**
    - So, if we saw the longest tail of  $r=2$  (i.e., item hash ending **\*100**) then we have probably seen **about 4** distinct items so far
  - **So, it takes to hash about  $2^r$  items before we see one with zero-suffix of length  $r$**

# Why It Works: More formally

- Now we show why Flajolet-Martin works
- Let  $m$  be the number of distinct elements seen so far in the stream
- We show that probability of finding a tail of  $r$  zeros:
  - Goes to 1 if  $m \gg 2^r$
  - Goes to 0 if  $m \ll 2^r$
- Thus,  $2^R$  will almost always be around  $m$ !

# Why It Works: More formally

- What is the probability that a given  $h(a)$  ends in at least  $r$  zeros? It is  $2^{-r}$ 
  - $h(a)$  hashes elements uniformly at random
  - Probability that a random number ends in at least  $r$  zeros is  $2^{-r}$
- Then, the probability of **NOT** seeing a tail of length  $r$  among  $m$  elements:

$$(1 - 2^{-r})^m$$

Prob. all end in fewer than  $r$  zeros.

Prob. that given  $h(a)$  ends in fewer than  $r$  zeros



# Why It Works: More formally

- **Note:**  $(1 - 2^{-r})^m = (1 - 2^{-r})^{2^r (m2^{-r})} \approx e^{-m2^{-r}}$
- **Prob. of NOT finding a tail of length  $r$  is:**
  - If  $m \ll 2^r$ , then prob. tends to **1**
    - $(1 - 2^{-r})^m \approx e^{-m2^{-r}} = 1$  as  $m/2^r \rightarrow 0$
    - So, the probability of finding a tail of length  $r$  tends to **0**
  - If  $m \gg 2^r$ , then prob. tends to **0**
    - $(1 - 2^{-r})^m \approx e^{-m2^{-r}} = 0$  as  $m/2^r \rightarrow \infty$
    - So, the probability of finding a tail of length  $r$  tends to **1**
- **Thus,  $2^R$  will almost always be around  $m$ !**

# Why It Doesn't Work

- **$E[2^R]$  is actually infinite**
  - Probability halves when  $R \rightarrow R+1$ , but value doubles
- **Workaround involves using many hash functions  $h_i$  and getting many samples of  $R_i$**
- **How are samples  $R_i$  combined?**
  - **Average?** What if one very large value  $2^{R_i}$ ?
  - **Median?** All estimates are a power of 2
  - **Solution:**
    - Partition your samples into small groups
    - Take the median of groups
    - Then take the average of the medians

# Counting frequent items/itemsets

# Counting Itemsets

- **New Problem: Given a stream of itemsets, which itemsets appear more frequently?**
- **Application:**
  - What are most frequent products bought together?
  - What are some “hot” gift items bought together?
- **Solution: Exponentially decaying windows**
  - We first use it to count singular items
    - Popular movies, most bought products, etc.
  - Then we extend it to counting itemsets

# Exponentially Decaying Windows

- **Exponentially decaying windows: A heuristic for selecting likely frequent items (itemsets)**
  - **What are “currently” most popular movies?**
    - Instead of computing the raw count in last  $N$  elements
    - Compute a **smooth aggregation** over the whole stream
- **Smooth aggregation:** If stream is  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  then the smooth aggregation at time  $t$ :  $\sum_{t=1}^T a_t (1 - c)^{T-t}$ 
  - $c$  is a constant, presumably tiny, like  $10^{-6}$  or  $10^{-9}$
  - $a_t$  is a non-negative integer in general
- **When new  $a_{t+1}$  arrives:**  
Multiply current sum by  $(1-c)$  and add  $a_{t+1}$

# A binary stream per item

- Think of the stream of itemsets as one binary stream per item
  - For every item, form a binary stream
    - **1** = item present; **0** = not present

Stream of items:

brtbhbgbbgzcbabbcbdbdbnrbpbqbbsbtbababebcbbbvbwbxbwbbcbdbcbgfbabbzdba



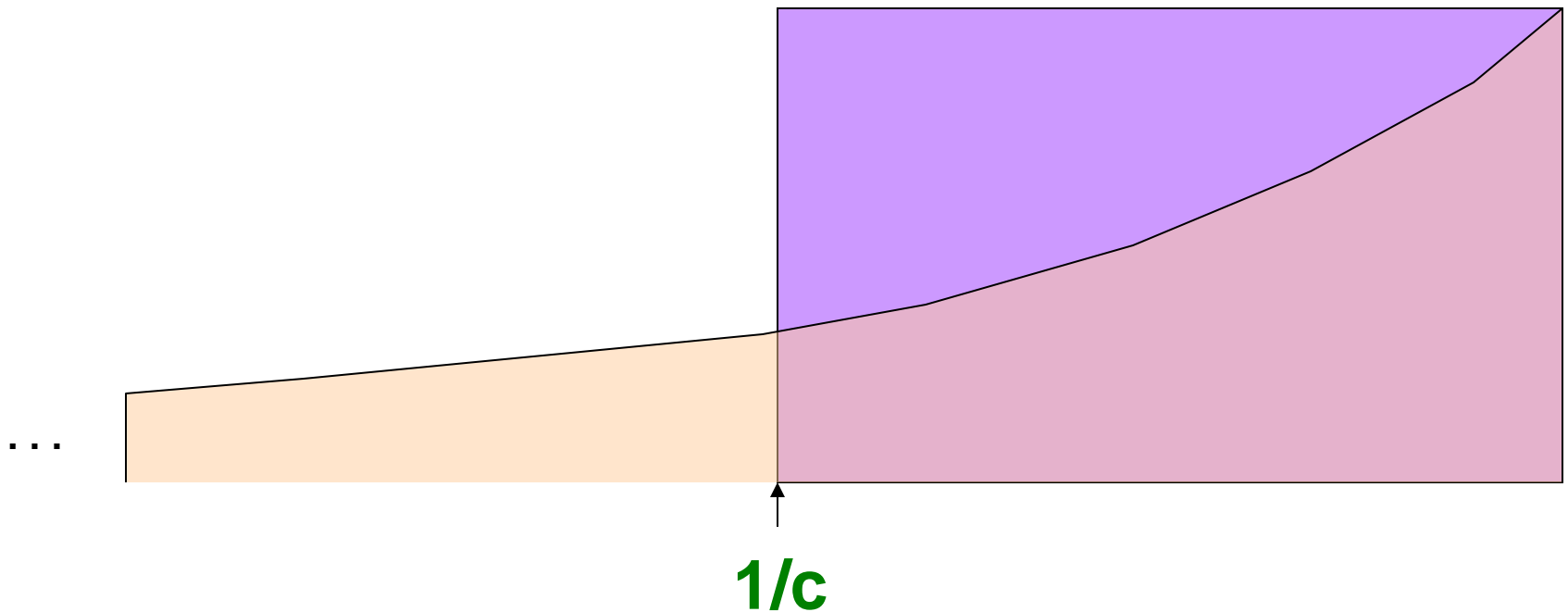
Binary stream for “b”

10010101100010110101010101010110101010101110101010111010100010110010

# Counting Items

- If each  $\mathbf{a}_t$  is an “item” we can compute the **characteristic function** of each item  $\mathbf{x}$  as an **Exponentially Decaying Window**:
  - That is:  $\sum_{t=1}^T \delta_t \cdot (\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{c})^{T-t}$   
where  $\delta_t = \mathbf{1}$  if  $\mathbf{a}_t = \mathbf{x}$ , and  $\mathbf{0}$  otherwise
  - **In other words**: Imagine that for each item  $\mathbf{x}$  we have a binary stream ( $\mathbf{1}$  if  $\mathbf{x}$  appears,  $\mathbf{0}$  if  $\mathbf{x}$  does not appear)
  - **Then, when a new item  $\mathbf{a}_t$  arrives**:
    - Multiply the summation of each item by  $(\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{c})$
    - Add **+1** to the summation of item  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{a}_t$
- **Call this sum the “weight” of item  $\mathbf{x}$**

# Counting Items: Decaying Windows



- **Important property:** Sum over all weights

$$\sum_t \mathbf{1} \cdot (1 - c)^t = 1/[1 - (1 - c)] = 1/c$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n z^k = \frac{1 - z^{n+1}}{1 - z}$$



# Counting Individual Items

- What are “currently” most popular movies?
- Suppose we want to find movies of weight  $> \frac{1}{2}$ 
  - **Important property:** Sum over all weights  $\sum_t \delta_t \cdot (1 - c)^t$  is  $1/[1 - (1 - c)] = 1/c$ 
    - That means that no item can have weight greater than  $1/c$
    - The item will have weight  $1/c$  if its stream is  $[1,1,1,1,1\dots]$ . Note we have a separate binary stream for each item. So, at a given time only one item will have a  $\delta_t=1$ , and for other items:  $\delta_t=0$ .
- **Thus:**
  - There cannot be more than  $2/c$  movies with weight of  $\frac{1}{2}$  or more
    - Why? Assume weight of item is  $\frac{1}{2}$ . How many items  $n$  can we have so that the sum is  $< 1/c$ ; **Answer:**  $\frac{1}{2}n < 1/c \rightarrow n < 2/c$
- So,  $2/c$  is a limit on the number of movies being counted at any time

# Extension to Itemsets

- **Extension: Count (some) itemsets**
  - What are currently “hot” itemsets?
    - **Problem:** Too many itemsets to keep counts of all of them in memory
- **When a basket  $B$  comes in:**
  - Multiply all counts by  $(1 - c)$
  - For uncounted items in  $B$ , create new count
  - Add **1** to count of any item in  $B$  and to any **itemset** contained in  $B$  that is already being counted
  - **Drop counts  $< \frac{1}{2}$**
  - Initiate new counts (next slide)

# Initiation of New Counts

- Start a count for an itemset  $S \subseteq B$  if every proper subset of  $S$  had a count prior to arrival of basket  $B$ .
  - **Intuitively:** If all subsets of  $S$  are being counted this means they are “frequent/hot” and thus  $S$  has a potential to be “hot”
- **Example:**
  - Start counting  $S=\{i, j\}$  iff both  $i$  and  $j$  were counted prior to seeing  $B$
  - Start counting  $S=\{i, j, k\}$  iff  $\{i, j\}$ ,  $\{i, k\}$ , and  $\{j, k\}$  were all counted prior to seeing  $B$

# How many counts do we need?

- Counts for single items  $< (2/c) \cdot (\text{avg. number of items in a basket})$
- Counts for larger itemsets = ??
- But we are conservative about starting counts of large sets
  - If we counted every set we saw, one basket of **20** items would initiate **1M** counts

# Summary

- **Sampling a fixed proportion of a stream**
  - Sample size grows as the stream grows
- **Sampling a fixed-size sample**
  - Reservoir sampling
- **Check existence of a set of keys in the stream**
  - Bloom filter
- **Counting distinct elements in a stream**
  - Flajolet-Martin algorithm
- **Counting frequent elements in a stream**
  - Exponentially decaying window