On Binary Codes and Non-Interactive Simulation

Lei Yu

Joint Work with Vincent Tan Department of ECE National University of Singapore

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• A natural question: What are the possible joint distributions P_{UV} of (U, V)?

$$Q\left(\mathcal{U} \times \mathcal{V} | P_{XY}\right) := \{P_{UV} \in \mathcal{P}\left(\mathcal{U} \times \mathcal{V}\right) : U - \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y} - V\}$$

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This problem is termed Non-Interactive Simulation of Random Variables

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Background:

- Used to define common information
 - Gács-Körner (1972) restricted U, V s.t. $\mathbb{P}(U = V) \rightarrow 1$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$
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Related Problems:

Non-interactive correlation distillation (Mossel-O'Donnell 2005, Yang 2007):
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Related Problems:

- Non-interactive correlation distillation (Mossel-O'Donnell 2005, Yang 2007):
 U, V ~ Bern (¹/₂) and maximize EUV
- Noise-sensitivity of Boolean functions (Mossel-O'Donnell 2005):
 - $X \sim \text{Bern}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right), Y = X \oplus E \text{ with } E \sim \text{Bern}(p) \text{ ind. of } X$
 - $U = f(\mathbf{X}), V = f(\mathbf{Y})$ with $f : \{-1, 1\}^n \to \{-1, 1\}$ being a balanced Boolean function (i.e., $\mathbb{P}(U = 1) = \mathbb{P}(V = 1) = \frac{1}{2}$)
 - maximize $\mathbb{P}(U = V)$ (or $\mathbb{E}UV$)

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- So in this work, we focus on the binary case:
 - X, Y, U, V are Boolean random variables taking values in $\{-1, 1\}$
 - P_{XY} is a Boolean symmetric distribution with correlation coefficient $\rho \in [0, 1]$, i.e.,

$$P_{XY} = \begin{array}{cc} -1 & 1 \\ \frac{1+\rho}{4} & \frac{1-\rho}{4} \\ \frac{1-\rho}{4} & \frac{1+\rho}{4} \end{array} \right]$$

• For this case, P_{UV} is determined by the triple

 $(\mathbb{P}(U = 1), \mathbb{P}(V = 1), \mathbb{P}(U = V = 1))$

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• The region of the triple above is determined by

$$p_n^+(a,b) := \max_{\substack{U,V:U-\mathbf{X}-\mathbf{Y}-V\\ \mathbb{P}(U=1)=a,\\ \mathbb{P}(V=1)=b}} \mathbb{P}(U=V=1)$$

$$p_n^-(a,b) := \min_{\substack{U,V:U-\mathbf{X}-\mathbf{Y}-V\\ \mathbb{P}(U=1)=a,\\ \mathbb{P}(V=1)=b}} \mathbb{P}(U=V=1)$$

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• If we restrict $U = f(\mathbf{X}), V = g(\mathbf{Y})$ for $f, g : \{-1, 1\}^n \to \{-1, 1\}$, we obtain

$$q_n^+(a,b) := \max_{\substack{f,g:\mathbb{P}(f(\mathbf{X})=1)=a_n,\\\mathbb{P}(g(\mathbf{Y})=1)=b_n}} \mathbb{P}(f(\mathbf{X}) = g(\mathbf{Y}) = 1)$$

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where $a_n := \frac{\lfloor 2^n a \rfloor}{2^n}$ and $b_n := \frac{\lfloor 2^n b \rfloor}{2^n}$.

Replace $(P_{U|\mathbf{X}}, P_{V|\mathbf{Y}})$ with Boolean functions (f, g)

Lemma

We have

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$$\begin{split} 0 &\leq p_n^+(a,b) - q_n^+(a,b) \leq 2^{-(n-1)} \\ 0 &\leq p_n^-(a,b) - q_n^-(a,b) \leq 2^{-(n-1)}. \end{split}$$
articular, if $a &= \frac{M}{2^n}$ and $b &= \frac{N}{2^n}$ for some $M, N \in \mathbb{N}$, then
 $p_n^+(a,b) &= q_n^+(a,b)$
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$$\begin{split} 0&\leq p_n^+(a,b)-q_n^+(a,b)\leq 2^{-(n-1)}\\ 0&\leq p_n^-(a,b)-q_n^-(a,b)\leq 2^{-(n-1)}.\\ \end{split}$$
 In particular, if $a=\frac{M}{2^n}$ and $b=\frac{N}{2^n}$ for some $M,N\in\mathbb{N},$ then

$$p_n^+(a,b) = q_n^+(a,b)$$

$$p_n^-(a,b) = q_n^-(a,b).$$

Proof: Observe that optimizations in $p_n^{\pm}(a, b)$, $q_n^{\pm}(a, b)$ are linear programs. This lemma follows by the simplex method.

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We have

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 In particular, if $a = \frac{M}{2^n}$ and $b = \frac{N}{2^n}$ for some $M, N \in \mathbb{N}$, then

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Proof: Observe that optimizations in $p_n^{\pm}(a, b)$, $q_n^{\pm}(a, b)$ are linear programs. This lemma follows by the simplex method.

• Restricting $U = f(\mathbf{X}), V = g(\mathbf{Y})$ is asymptotically optimal in attaining $p_n^+(a, b), p_n^-(a, b)$

Connection to Coding Theory

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- $A \subseteq \{-1, 1\}^n$ is called a binary code
- For a Boolean function f, $A := {x : f(x) = 1}$ is a binary code
 - *f* and *A* are uniquely determined by each other.

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- $A \subseteq \{-1, 1\}^n$ is called a binary code
- For a Boolean function $f, A := {\mathbf{x} : f(\mathbf{x}) = 1}$ is a binary code
 - f and A are uniquely determined by each other.
- In coding theory, the distance distribution between $A, B \subseteq \{-1, 1\}^n$ is,

$$P^{(A,B)}(i) := \frac{1}{|A||B|} \left| \{ (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \in A \times B : d_{\mathrm{H}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = i \} \right|, \quad i \in \{0, 1, ..., n\}$$

where $d_{\mathrm{H}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') := \left| \left\{ i : x_i \neq x'_i \right\} \right|$ denotes the Hamming distance

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• In particular, if A = B, then

$$P^{(A,A)}(i) := \frac{1}{|A|^2} \left| \left\{ \left(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' \right) \in A^2 : d_{\mathrm{H}} \left(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' \right) = i \right\} \right|, \quad i \in \{0, 1, ..., n\}$$

is the distance distribution of a single code $A \subseteq \{-1, 1\}^n$

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Distance Enumerators and Average Distances

• Define the distance enumerator between $A, B \subseteq \{-1, 1\}^n$ as

$$\Gamma_{z}(A,B) := \frac{1}{|A||B|} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in A} \sum_{\mathbf{x}' \in B} z^{d_{\mathrm{H}}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}')} = \sum_{i=0}^{n} P^{(A,B)}(i) \cdot z^{i}.$$

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• The average distance between $A, B \subseteq \{-1, 1\}^n$ is defined as

$$D(A, B) := \frac{1}{|A||B|} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in A} \sum_{\mathbf{x}' \in B} d_{\mathrm{H}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \sum_{i=0}^{n} P^{(A,B)}(i) \cdot i$$

• Clearly, D(A, B) is the mean of $P^{(A,B)}$.

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Lemma

For
$$a = \frac{M}{2^n}$$
 and $b = \frac{N}{2^n}$ for some $M, N \in \mathbb{N}$, we have

$$\mathbb{P}(f(\mathbf{X}) = g(\mathbf{Y}) = 1) = ab(1+\rho)^n \Gamma_{\frac{1-\rho}{1+\rho}}(A, B) = ab\Pi_{\rho}(A, B)$$
where $A := \{\mathbf{x} : f(\mathbf{x}) = 1\}$ and $B := \{\mathbf{x} : g(\mathbf{x}) = 1\}$.

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• Given *a*, *b*, ρ , characterizing the possible range of $\mathbb{P}(f(\mathbf{X}) = g(\mathbf{Y}) = 1)$ is equivalent to characterizing the possible range of $\Gamma_{\frac{1-\rho}{1+\rho}}(A, B)$ or $\Pi_{\rho}(A, B)$

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- The (Boolean function version of) non-interactive simulation problem ↔ the problem of determining the possible range of the (dual) distance enumerator

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Theorem (Symmetric Case: a = b)

$$\theta^{-}(a) \le q \le \theta^{+}(a),$$

where

$$\begin{split} \theta^+(a) &:= \min\left\{a, a^2 + \frac{a}{2}\rho + \left(\frac{a}{2} - a^2\right)\rho^2\right\}\\ \theta^-(a) &:= \max\left\{0, a^2 - \frac{a}{2}\rho - \left(\frac{a}{2} - a^2\right)\rho^2\right\} \end{split}$$

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In particular, for $a = \frac{1}{2}$, (Witsenhausen's result (1975))

$$\frac{1-\rho}{4} \le q \le \frac{1+\rho}{4},$$

and for $a = \frac{1}{4}$, (new) $\frac{1-2\rho-\rho^2}{16} \le q \le \left(\frac{1+\rho}{4}\right)^2.$

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- Our bounds also hold for $q := \mathbb{P}(U = V = 1)$ (stochastic version).
- Our results for asymmetric cases can be found in our paper.

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- Both the upper and lower bounds for the case $a = \frac{1}{2}$ are sharp:
 - the upper bound is attained by $g(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}) = 1 \{x_1 = 1\}$ (symmetric subcube functions)
 - the lower bound is attained by $g(-\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}) = 1 \{x_1 = 1\}$ (anti-symmetric subcube functions)
Main Result

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- The upper bound for the case $a = \frac{1}{4}$ is sharp:
 - attained by $g(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}) = 1 \{ x_1 = x_2 = 1 \}$















Lei Yu (NUS)







• Consider the Fourier/Hadamard basis

$$\chi_S(\mathbf{x}) := \prod_{i \in S} x_i, \quad S \subseteq [n] := \{1, ..., n\}$$

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- The inverse Fourier transform is

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Then we can rewrite

$$\mathbb{P}(f(\mathbf{X}) = g(\mathbf{Y}) = 1) = ab + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^{n} Q(k)\rho^{k}$$

where

$$Q(k) := \sum_{S \subseteq [n]: |S|=k} \hat{f}_S \hat{g}_S, \quad 1 \le k \le n$$

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• Consider the Fourier/Hadamard basis

$$\chi_S(\mathbf{x}) := \prod_{i \in S} x_i, \quad S \subseteq [n] := \{1, ..., n\}$$

- For a Boolean function $f : \{-1, 1\}^n \to \{-1, 1\}$, its Fourier/Hadamard transform is $\hat{f}_S := \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \text{Unif}\{-1, 1\}^n} [f(\mathbf{x})\chi_S(\mathbf{x})], \quad S \subseteq [n].$ (1)
- The inverse Fourier transform is

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{S \subseteq [n]} \hat{f}_S \chi_S(\mathbf{x})$$

Then we can rewrite

$$\mathbb{P}(f(\mathbf{X}) = g(\mathbf{Y}) = 1) = ab + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^{n} Q(k)\rho^{k}$$

where

$$Q(k) := \sum_{S \subseteq [n]: |S|=k} \hat{f}_S \hat{g}_S, \quad 1 \le k \le n$$

(2)

• To bound $\mathbb{P}(f(\mathbf{X}) = g(\mathbf{Y}) = 1)$, we only need to bound $\sum_{k=1}^{n} Q(k) \rho^{k}$

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- Step 1: Bound *Q*(1):
 - We show that

$$Q(1) = 8ab\left(\frac{n}{2} - D(A, B)\right)$$

$$\left|\frac{n}{2} - D(A, B)\right| \le \frac{n}{2} - \frac{1}{2} (D(A, A) + D(B, B)).$$

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• Fu-Wei-Yeung (2001) showed the following (linear programming) bound on average distance

$$\min_{A:|A|=M} D(A,A) \ge \frac{n}{2} - \frac{1}{4a}$$

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Combining the results above gives

$$|Q(1)| \le a+b$$

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$$\tau^+ := \sum_{S \in \mathcal{P}} \hat{f}_S \hat{g}_S, \qquad \tau^- := \sum_{S \in \mathcal{N}} \hat{f}_S \hat{g}_S$$

where $\mathcal{P} := \{S \subseteq [n] : |S| \ge 2, \hat{f}_S \hat{g}_S \ge 0\}$ and $\mathcal{N} := \{S \subseteq [n] : |S| \ge 2, \hat{f}_S \hat{g}_S < 0\}$

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- We show $\tau^+ \tau^- \le 4\sqrt{a\overline{a}b\overline{b}} Q(1)$ by using Parseval's Theorem $(\sum_{S:|S|\ge 0} \hat{f}_S^2 = 1)$
- We show $-4ab Q(1) \le \tau^+ + \tau^- \le 4a\overline{b} Q(1)$

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- Finally, combining Steps 1 and 2 yields our bounds: $\theta^-(a) \le q \le \theta^+(a)$, where $a^+(a) = a^+(a) = a^+(a) = a^+(a)$

$$\theta^{+}(a) = \min\left\{a, a^{2} + \frac{a}{2}\rho + \left(\frac{a}{2} - a^{2}\right)\rho^{2}\right\}$$
$$\theta^{-}(a) = \max\left\{0, a^{2} - \frac{a}{2}\rho - \left(\frac{a}{2} - a^{2}\right)\rho^{2}\right\}$$

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• In our Step 2, we use the following bounds:

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- Conjecture: Given $a = b = 2^{-m}$, the optimal f, g are subcube functions, i.e., $g(\pm \mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}) = 1 \{x_1 = \dots = x_m = 1\}$

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- Subcube functions satisfy $Q(k) = 0, k \ge m + 1$

Until now, we have shown the equivalence

$$\mathbb{P}\left(f(\mathbf{X}) = g(\mathbf{Y}) = 1\right) = ab\left(1 + \rho\right)^n \Gamma_{\frac{1-\rho}{1+\rho}}(A, B) = ab\Pi_{\rho}\left(A, B\right)$$

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- Non-interactive simulation is equivalent to some coding-theoretic problem
- We have applied coding-theoretic results to non-interactive simulation
- Next, in turn, we apply techniques for non-interactive simulation to a coding-theoretic problem
 - Specifically, apply hypercontractivity inequalities to bound average distances
- Recall that: The average distance between A, B is defined as

$$D(A, B) := \frac{1}{|A||B|} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in A} \sum_{\mathbf{x}' \in B} d_{\mathrm{H}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \sum_{i=0}^{n} P^{(A,B)}(i) \cdot i$$

Main Result: A New Bound on Average Distances

By hypercontractivity inequalities, we obtain:

Theorem

For $1 \le M \le 2^n$, we have

$$\min_{A:|A|=M} D(A,A) \geq \frac{n}{2} - \psi(a),$$

where $a := \frac{M}{2^n}$ and $\psi(a) := \inf_{t>0, t\neq 1} \frac{(ta+\overline{a})\left[at\log t - (ta+\overline{a})\log(ta+\overline{a})\right]}{a^2(t-1)^2}.$

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 Best known result: Fu-Wei-Yeung (2001) showed the following (linear programming) bound

$$\min_{A:|A|=M} D(A,A) \ge \frac{n}{2} - \frac{1}{4a}$$

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- We applied Fourier analysis (combined with linear programming) to the non-interactive simulation problem
 - Our bounds are sharp for some cases and tighter than existing results for some other cases

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- For non-interactive simulation problem, data processing inequalities (DPIs) are very useful

In this work:

- We applied Fourier analysis (combined with linear programming) to the non-interactive simulation problem
 - Our bounds are sharp for some cases and tighter than existing results for some other cases
- In turn, applied DPIs (hypercontractivity) to the minimal average-distance problem
 - Our bound is tighter than the best known result for some cases

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