

# Almost Optimal Distribution-free Junta Testing

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Technion

## $k$ -Junta

A Boolean function  $f: \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}$  is called  $k$  –junta if it depends on at most  $k$  variables/coordinates.

Examples:

$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{10000}) = x_{11111} \wedge (x_{9992} \oplus x_{3001})$$

is 3-junta

is 4-junta

Relevant variables/coordinates

1-junta is  $\{x_i, \bar{x}_i, 0, 1\}$

0-junta is  $\{0, 1\}$

$k$  –Junta is the class of all  $k$  –juntas.

## Model of Testing

Given a black box that contains a Boolean function  $f: \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}$

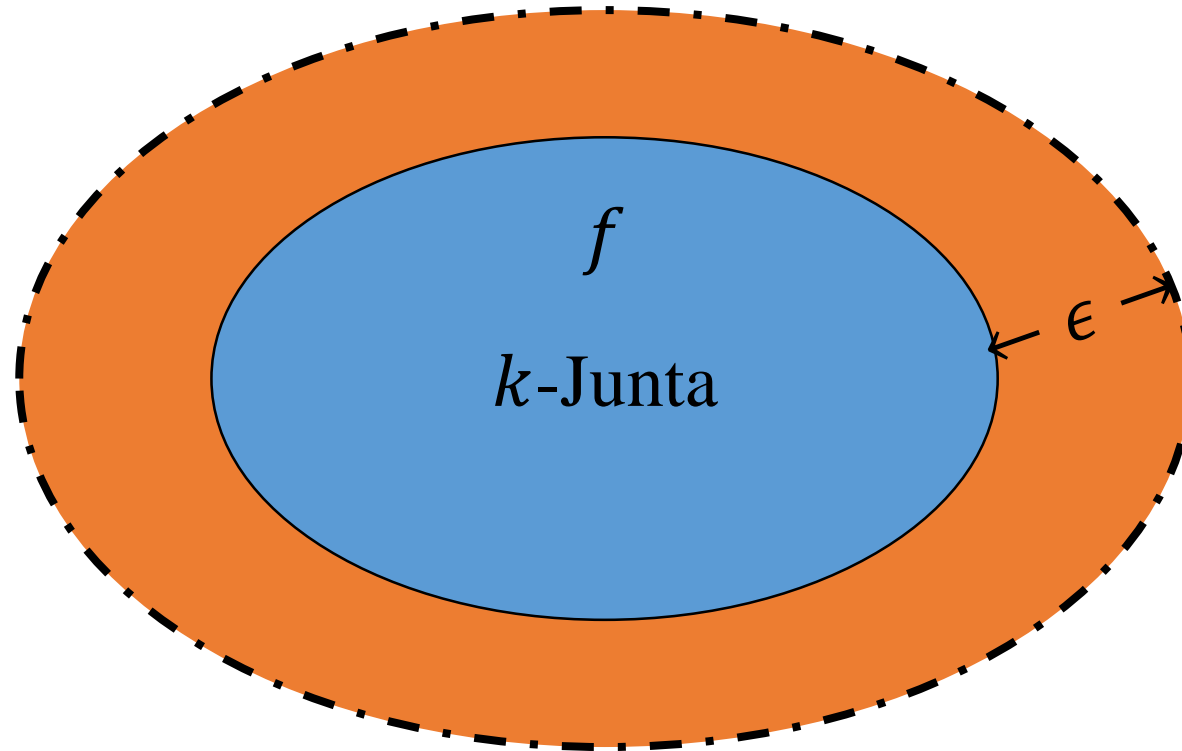
Given two oracles: 1) when  $x \in \{0,1\}^n$  is queried, it returns  $f(x)$   
and 2) returns  $u \in \{0,1\}^n$  chosen acc. to unknown distribution  $\mathcal{D}$

A distribution-free testing algorithm  $A$  for  $k$  –Junta is an algorithm that, given an access to the two oracles and a distance parameter  $\epsilon$  as an input ,

- 1) if  $f$  is  $k$ -junta then  $A$  outputs “accept” with probability at least  $2/3$ .
- 2) if  $f$  is  $\epsilon$ -far from every  $k$ -junta with respect to the distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  then  $A$  outputs “reject” with probability at least  $2/3$ .

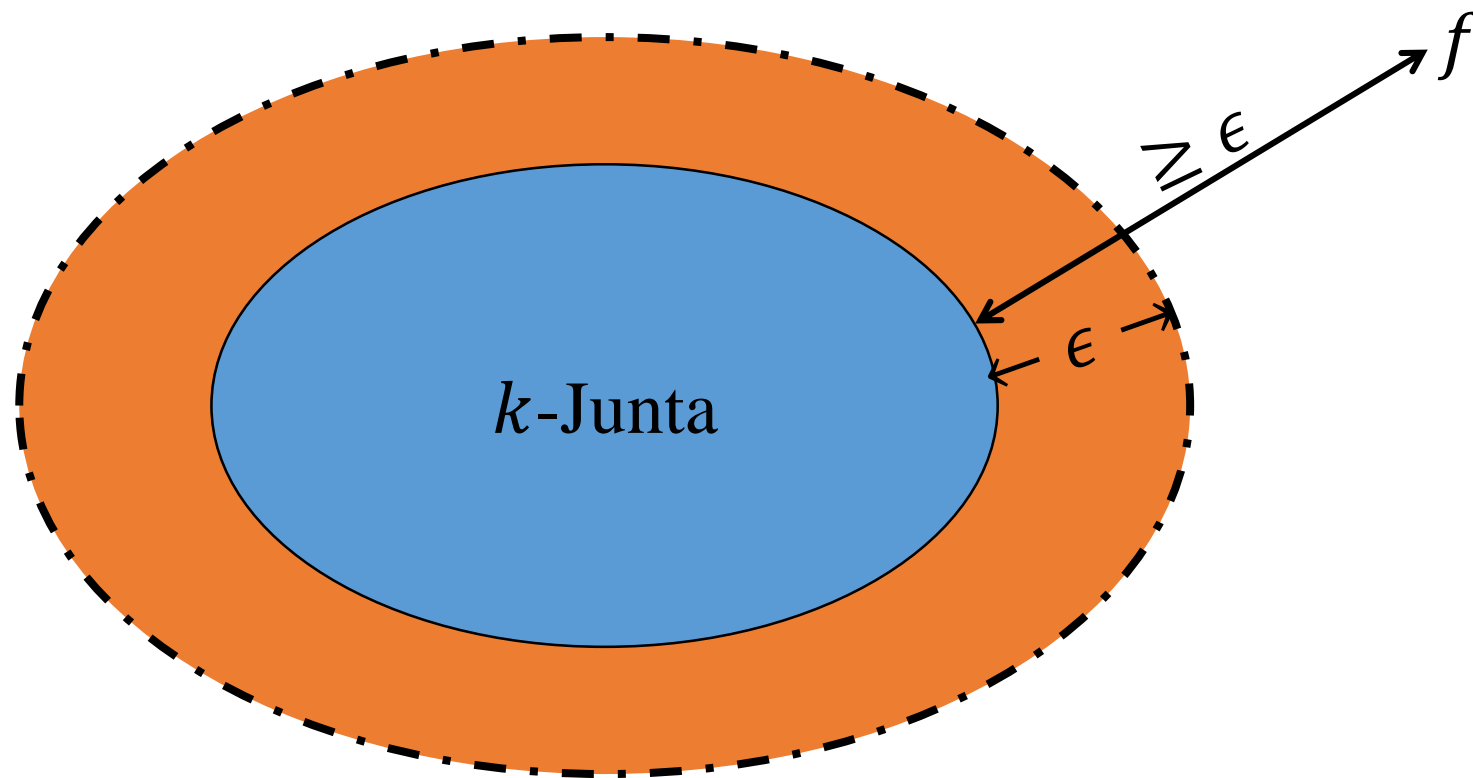
$$(\forall h \in k - Junta) \quad \Pr_{x \sim \mathcal{D}} [f(x) \neq h(x)] \geq \epsilon$$

# Model of Testing



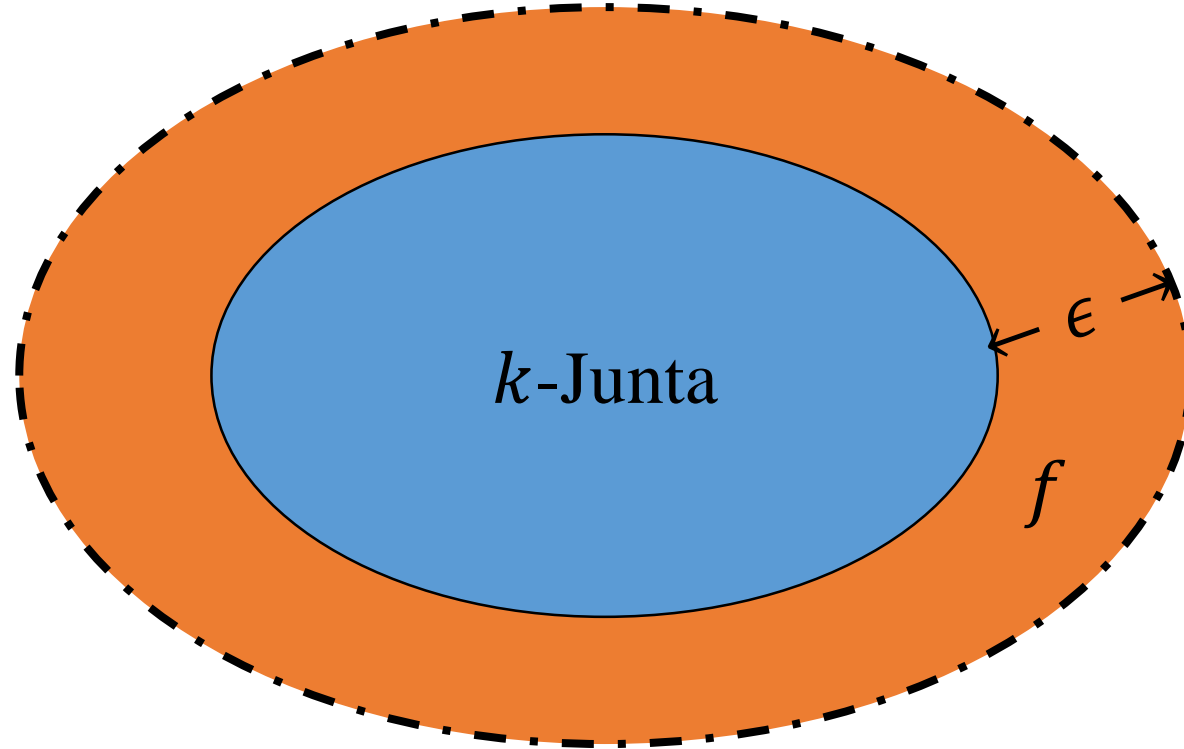
A outputs “accept” with probability at least  $2/3$ .

# Model of Testing



$A$  outputs “reject” with probability at least  $2/3$ .

# Model of Testing



A halts and outputs either “accept” or “reject”.

# Results in the uniform distribution Model

Reference	Ada./NonAda	Lo./Up.	Result $\tilde{O}/\tilde{\Omega}$
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Adaptive

Lower bounds

NonAdaptive

Upper bounds

For the number of queries

$$\tilde{O}(T) = T \text{ poly}(\log T)$$

$$\tilde{\Omega}(T) = T / \text{poly}(\log T)$$

$$\text{Time } \text{poly}\left(n, \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$$

## Results in the uniform distribution Model

Reference		Ada./NonAda	Lo./Up.	Result $\tilde{O}/\tilde{\Omega}$
Blais	STOC 2009	Adaptive	Upper	$k/\epsilon$



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Blais	APPROX 2008	NonAdaptive	Upper	$k^{\frac{3}{2}}/\epsilon$

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Chen et al. CCC 2017	NonAdaptive	Lower	$k^{\frac{3}{2}}/\epsilon$

# Results in the distribution-free model

Reference	Ada./NonAda	Lo./Up.	Result $\tilde{O}/\tilde{\Omega}$
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## Results in the distribution-free model

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Saglam FOCS 2018	Adaptive	Lower	$k$
Ours	Adaptive	Upper	$k / \epsilon$

## The algorithm

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

Choose a random uniform partition  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_r$  of  $[n]$  where  $r = 2k^2$

$$f(x_{X_1} \circ x_{X_2} \circ \dots \circ x_{X_r})$$

Why  $2k^2$ ? If  $f$  is  $k$ -junta, whp each  $X_i$  contains at most one relevant coordinate

### Find relevant sets

Find relevant sets  $X_{i_1}, X_{i_2}, \dots, X_{i_{k'}}$   $f(v) \neq f(v_{X_i} \circ 0_{X_i})$

$$X_{i_1}, X_{i_2}, \dots, X_{i_j}$$

$$X = X_{i_1} \cup X_{i_2} \cup \dots \cup X_{i_j} \quad f(u_X \circ 0_{\bar{X}}) \stackrel{?}{=} f(u) \quad u \sim \mathcal{D}$$

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$$X_{i_1}, X_{i_2}, \dots, X_{i_j}$$

$$X = X_{i_1} \cup X_{i_2} \cup \dots \cup X_{i_j}$$

$$f(u_X \circ 0_{\bar{X}}) ? = f(u) \quad u \sim \mathcal{D}$$

$f(u_X \circ 0_{\bar{X}}) \neq f(u)$  Find a new relevant set  $X_{i_{j+1}} = X_\ell$

$$f(u_X \circ u_{Y_1} \circ 0_{Y_2})$$

$$\bar{X} = Y_1 \cup Y_2$$

## Find relevant sets

Find relevant sets  $X_{i_1}, X_{i_2}, \dots, X_{i_{k'}}$

$$X_{i_1}, X_{i_2}, \dots, X_{i_j}$$

$$X = X_{i_1} \cup X_{i_2} \cup \dots \cup X_{i_j}$$

$$f(u_X \circ 0_{\bar{X}}) \stackrel{?}{=} f(u) \quad u \sim \mathcal{D}$$

$f(u_X \circ 0_{\bar{X}}) \neq f(u)$  Find a new relevant sets  $X_{i_{j+1}} = X_\ell$   $\log r = O(\log k)$   
If this is the  $(k + 1)$ -th relevant set then “reject”

We also get a witness for  $X_\ell$

$$f(v^{(\ell)}) \neq f\left(v_{X_\ell}^{(\ell)} \circ 0_{X_\ell}\right)$$

$$f(u_X \circ 0_{\bar{X}}) = f(u)$$

For  $\tilde{O}\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$  values of  $u \sim \mathcal{D}$

$$\Pr_{x \sim \mathcal{D}} [f(x_X \circ 0_{\bar{X}}) \neq f(x)] \leq \epsilon/3$$

$\tilde{O}\left(\frac{k}{\epsilon}\right)$  queries

## The algorithm

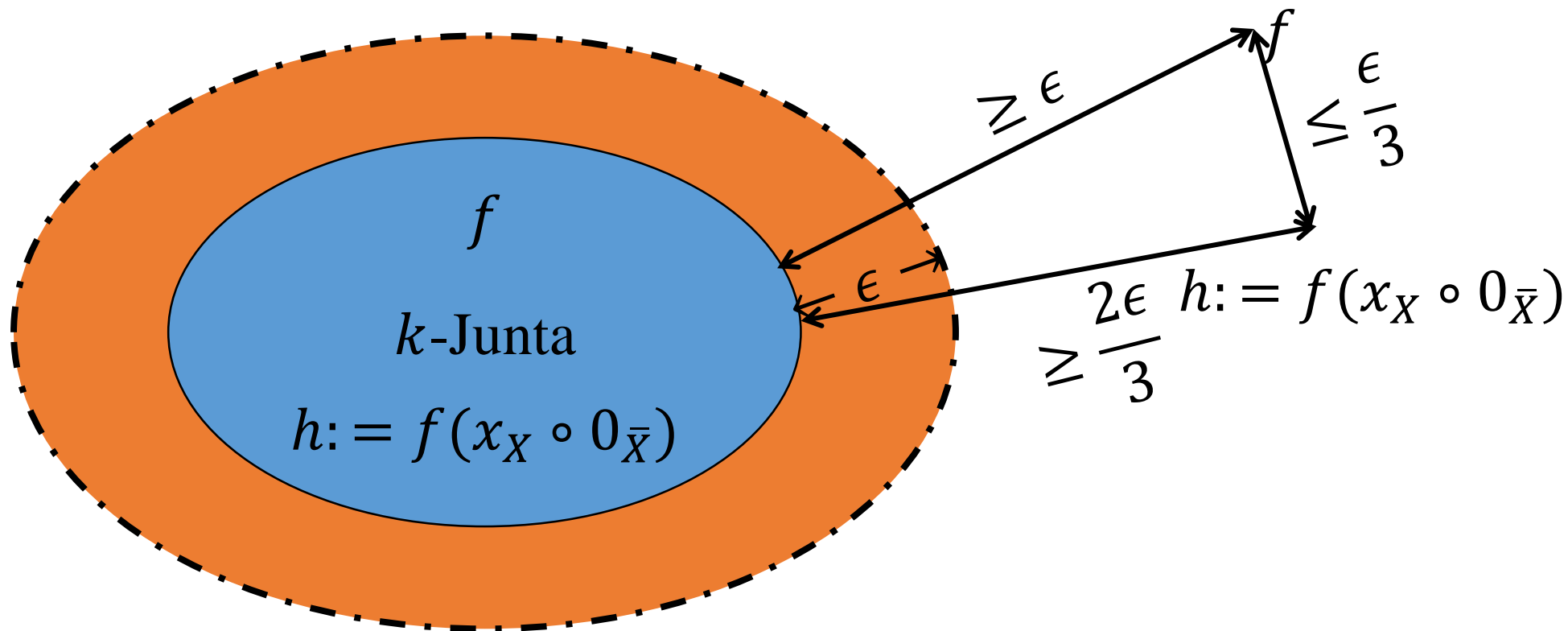
$X_{i_1}, X_{i_2}, \dots, X_{i_{k'}}, k' \leq k$

Each  $X_{i_j}$  contains at least one relevant variable

$X = X_{i_1} \cup X_{i_2} \cup \dots \cup X_{i_{k'}}$

$$\Pr_{x \sim \mathcal{D}} [f(x_X \circ 0_{\bar{X}}) \neq f(x)] \leq \frac{\epsilon}{3}$$

$h := f(x_X \circ 0_{\bar{X}})$  is  $\frac{\epsilon}{3}$ -close to  $f$  with respect to  $\mathcal{D}$



$X_{i_1}, X_{i_2}, \dots, X_{i_{k'}} , k' \leq k$  Each  $X_{i_j}$  contains at least one relevant coordinate

$$X = X_{i_1} \cup X_{i_2} \cup \dots \cup X_{i_{k'}}$$

$f$  is  $k$ -junta

$\tilde{O}\left(\frac{k}{\epsilon}\right)$  queries

$f(x)$  is  $\epsilon$ -far from every  $k$ -Junta with respect to  $\mathcal{D}$

$h := f(x_X \circ 0_{\bar{X}})$  is  $k$ -junta

Whp each  $X_{i_j}$  contains exactly one relevant coordinate

$h := f(x_X \circ 0_{\bar{X}})$  is  $\frac{2\epsilon}{3}$ -far from every  $k$ -Junta with respect to  $\mathcal{D}$

We also have witness for each relevant set  $X_{i_j}$ — that is,

$$f(v^{(j)}) \neq f\left(v_{X_{i_j}}^{(j)} \circ 0_{X_{i_j}}\right)$$

$f$  is  $k$ -junta

$f(x)$  is  $\epsilon$ -far from every  $k$ -Junta with respect to  $\mathcal{D}$

$h := f(x_X \circ 0_{\bar{X}})$  is  $k$ -junta

Whp each  $X_{i_j}$  contains exactly one relevant variable

$h := f(x_X \circ 0_{\bar{X}})$  is  $\frac{2\epsilon}{3}$ -far from every  $k$ -Junta with respect to  $\mathcal{D}$

$$f(v^{(j)}) \neq f\left(v_{X_{i_j}}^{(j)} \circ 0_{X_{i_j}}\right)$$

$f\left(v_{X_{i_j}}^{(j)} \circ x_{X_{i_j}}\right)$  is equal to  $x_{\tau(j)}$  or  $\overline{x_{\tau(j)}}$

$O(\log n)$

$\tilde{O}(k)$  queries

1-Junta \ 0-Junta

$\tilde{O}(1)$  queries

$f\left(v_{X_{i_j}}^{(j)} \circ x_{X_{i_j}}\right)$  is  $(1/15)$ -close to a literal in  $\{x_{\tau(j)}, \overline{x_{\tau(j)}}\}$  according to the uniform distribution

$h := f(x_X \circ 0_{\bar{X}})$  is either  $k$ -junta that depends on  $\Gamma = \{\tau(1), \tau(2), \dots, \tau(k')\}$

Or  $\frac{2\epsilon}{3}$ -far from every  $k$ -junta w.r.t.  $\mathcal{D}$   $X_{i_1}, X_{i_2}, \dots, X_{i_{k'}}$

Fix any  $y \in \{0,1\}^n$   $g = h(x_\Gamma \circ y_{\bar{\Gamma}})$  is  $k$ -junta

$h(x)$  is  $k$ -junta  $h(x)$  is  $\frac{2\epsilon}{3}$ -far from any  $k$ -junta with respect to  $\mathcal{D}$

$h(x) = h(x_\Gamma \circ y_{\bar{\Gamma}})$   $\Pr_{u \sim \mathcal{D}} [h(u) \neq h(u_\Gamma \circ y_{\bar{\Gamma}})] \geq \frac{2\epsilon}{3}$

$\Pr_{u \sim \mathcal{D}, y \sim U} [h(u) \neq h(y) | y_\Gamma = u_\Gamma] = 0$

$\Pr_{u \sim \mathcal{D}, y \sim U} [h(u) \neq h(u_\Gamma \circ y_{\bar{\Gamma}})] \geq \frac{2\epsilon}{3}$

$\tilde{O}\left(\frac{k}{\epsilon}\right)$  queries

$\tilde{O}\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$  queries

$\Pr_{u \sim \mathcal{D}, y \sim U} [h(u) \neq h(y) | y_\Gamma = u_\Gamma] \geq \frac{2\epsilon}{3}$

Given  $u$ ?

How to draw a random uniform  $y$  such that  $y_\Gamma = u_\Gamma$ ?  $\tilde{O}(k)$  queries



$$\Gamma = \{\tau(1), \tau(2), \dots, \tau(k')\}$$

$$h := f(x_X \circ 0_{\bar{X}})$$

Given  $u$ ?

How to draw a random uniform  $y$  such that  $y_\Gamma = u_\Gamma$ ?

$f\left(v_{\bar{X}_{i_j}}^{(j)} \circ x_{X_{i_j}}\right)$  is  $(1/15)$ -close to a literal in  $\{x_{\tau(j)}, \overline{x_{\tau(j)}}\}$  wrt uniform dist.

→ A procedure that given  $u$  finds  $u_{\tau(j)}$  with high probability

$\tilde{O}(1)$  queries

$$y = y_{X_{i_1}} \circ y_{X_{i_2}} \circ \dots \circ y_{X_{i_{k'}}} \circ y_{\bar{X}}$$

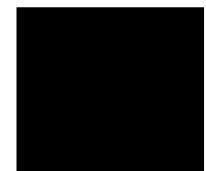
Draw a random uniform  $y_{X_{i_j}}$

If  $y_{\tau(j)} = u_{\tau(j)}$  then output( $y_{X_{i_j}}$ )

If  $y_{\tau(j)} \neq u_{\tau(j)}$  then output( $\overline{y_{X_{i_j}}}$ )

Chen, Liu, Servedio,  
Sheng, Xie 2018

$\tilde{O}(k)$  queries



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	<i>O(1)</i> -Round		?
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Almost non-Adaptive

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Chen et al.	STOC 2018	NonAdaptive	Lower	$2^{k/3}$
		$O(1)$ -Round		?
		?-Round		$\text{poly}(k / \epsilon)$
Ours	CCC 2019	Adaptive	Upper	$k / \epsilon$
Saglam	FOCS 2018	Adaptive	Lower	$k$

Thank You