## Part I

## 1.Basic concepts and Examples of Randomized Algorithms

## **Chapter 1. INTRODUCTION**

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Third aim is to show relations between randomized and deterministic complexity classes.

Fourth aim is to discuss in some details puzzling concept of randomness, at least in some details.

## The idea that randomized algorithm can be VERY useful can be seen as the main revolutionary idea in the design of algorithms in the last 2200 years.

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Randomized (probabilistic) algorithm is a set of rules how to solve some problem, step by step, in which each next step is chosen, with a determined probability, from a finite set of possible steps. As a consequence, a randomized algorithm *A* may produce different outputs when applied more than one times to the same input.

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**Advantages:** There are several important reasons why randomized algorithms are of increasing importance:

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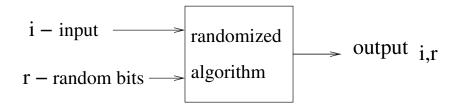
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**Randomized complexity classes** offer also a plausible way to extend the very important *feasibility* concept.

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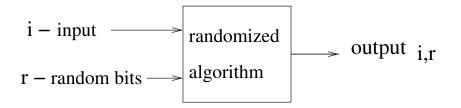
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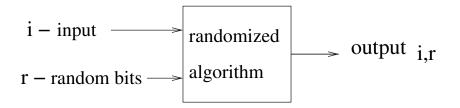
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**Important comment:** Repeated runs of a randomized algorithm with the same input data (but not same random input strings) may not, in general, produce the same results. Outcomes, of  $\mathcal{A}(i, r)$ , will depend not only on *i*, but also on *r*.

### A BIT of HISTORY

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#### **MODELS of RANDOMIZED ALGORITHMS I.**

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A randomized algorithm can be seen also in other ways:

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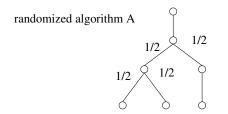
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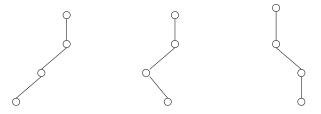
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- As a nondeterministic-like algorithm which has a probability assigned to each possible transition.
- As a probability distribution on a set of deterministic algorithms  $\{A_i, p_i\}_{i=1}^n$ .

## RANDOMIZED ALGORITHMS as PROBABILISTIC DISTRIBUTIONS on DETERMINISTIC ALGORITHMS

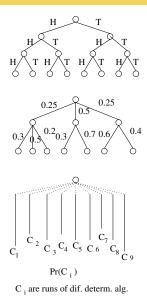


as a probabilistic distribution on three deterministic algorithms B, C, D



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#### **MODELS of RANDOMIZED ALGORITHMS II**



## **STORY of RANDOMNESS**

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There are only two possibilities, either a big chaos conquers the world, or order and law.

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Famous reply by Niels Bohr - one of the fathers of quantum mechanics.

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God is not malicious and made Nature to produce, so useful, (shared) randomness.

This is what the outcomes of the theoretical informatics imply.

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- Quantum measurement yields, in principle, random outcomes.

### RANDOMNESS

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- There is no proof that perfect randomness exists in the real world.
- More exactly, there is no proof that quantum mechanical phenomena of the microworld can be exploited to provide a perfect source of randomness for the macroworld.

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- Until Kolmogorov complexity was introduced we had no meaningful way to talk about a given object being random.

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Quantum processes can generate perfect randomness and on this basis quantum (almost perfect) generators of randomness are already commercially available.

### von NEUMANN EXAMPLE

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whenever you end such an iterative process, the final seed is a pseudorandom string of digits.

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of *n*-bit numbers by the iterative process

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Informally, a **pseudorandom generator** is a deterministic polynomial time algorithm which expands short random sequences (called **seeds**) into longer bit sequences such that the resulting probability distribution is in polynomial time indistinguishable from the uniform probability distribution.

#### Example. Linear congruential generator

One chooses *n*-bit numbers *m*, *a*, *b*,  $X_0$  and generates an  $n^2$  element sequence

$$X_1 X_2 \ldots X_{n^2}$$

of *n*-bit numbers by the iterative process

$$X_{i+1} = (aX_i + b) \bmod m.$$

There is a variety of classical algorithms capable to generate pseudorandomness of different quality concerning randomness.

Quantum processes can generate perfect randomness and on this basis quantum (almost perfect) generators of randomness are already commercially available.

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A very fundamental concept: A predicate *b* is a hard core predicate of the function f if *b* is easy to evaluate, but b(x) is hard to predict from f(x). (That is, it is unfeasible, given f(x) where x is uniformly chosen, to predict b(x) substantially better than with the probability 1/2.)

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**Conjecture:** The least significant bit of  $x^2 \mod n$  is a hard-core predicate.

**Theorem** Let f be a one-way function which is length preserving and efficiently computable, and b be a hard core predicate of f, then

$$G(s) = b(s) \cdot b(f(s)) \cdots b\left(f^{\prime(|s|)-1}(s)\right)$$

is a (cryptographically strong) pseudorandom generator with stretch function I(n).

### **EXAMPLES of RANDOMIZED ALGORITHMS**

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### **EXAMPLE 1. MONOPOLIST GAME**

**Game** Given are n active players each having w one dollar coins. They play, in rounds, the following game until all,

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### **EXAMPLE 1. MONOPOLIST GAME - again**

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#### Will the game end?

- In each round every active player puts \$1 on the table and the roulette wheel is spined to determine the winner who then takes all money on the table.
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Will the game end? It can be shown that it ends almost always in approximately at most  $(nw)^2$  steps.

### **EXAMPLE 2 - ELECTION of a LEADER**

In some cases randomization is the only way to solve the problem.

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**Example** Let n identical processors, connected into a ring, have to choose one of them to be a "leader", under the assumption that each of the processors knows n.



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- After n-1 steps each processor knows the number l of processors that chosen 1. If l = 1, the election ends and the leader introduces himself; if l = 0, election continues by repeating Step 2. If l > 1, the only processors remaining active will be those that have chosen 1 in Step 2. They set  $V \leftarrow l$  and election continues with Step 2.

### **CLASSICAL versus QUANTUM RANDOMIZATION**

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- It can be shown that this problem cannot be solved exactly and in bounded time on classical computers even in the case processors know number of nodes (n) and topology of the network.
- However, there is quantum algorithm that runs in  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$  time, its communication complexity is  $\mathcal{O}(n^4)$ , and it can solve this problem exactly for any network topology, provided parties are connected by quantum communication links.

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- How should they proceed to learn whether one of them paid the bill without learning which on e - for other two?

### **DINNING CRYPTOGRAPHERS - SOLUTION**

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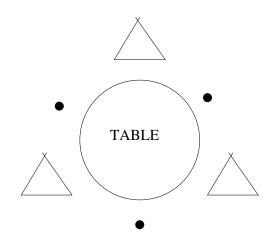
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#### Correctness:

- Odd number of differences uttered at the table implies that that a cryptographer paid the dinner.
- Even number of differences uttered at the table implies that NSA paid the dinner.
- In a case a cryptographer paid the dinner the other two cryptographers would have no idea he did that.



Let three coin tossing made by cryptographers be represented by bits

 $\mathit{b}_1, \mathit{b}_2, \mathit{b}_3$ 

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In case one of them payed dinner, say Cryptographer 2, they say loudly:

$$b_1 \oplus b_2, \overline{b_2 \oplus b_3}, b_3 \oplus b_1$$

and

$$(b_1\oplus b_2) \oplus (\overline{b_2\oplus b_3}) \oplus (b_3\oplus b_1)=1$$

### **EXAMPLE: RANDOM COUNTING**

**Problem:** Determine the number, say n, of elements of a bag X, provided you can do, repeatedly, only the following operation: to pick up, randomly, an element of the bag X, to look at it, and to return it back to the bag.

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#### Algorithm:

*k* ← 0;

**do** choose randomly an element from X, mark it and return it back; set  $k \leftarrow k+1$ **until** the just chosen element has already been chosen; **Problem:** Determine the number, say n, of elements of a bag X, provided you can do, repeatedly, only the following operation: to pick up, randomly, an element of the bag X, to look at it, and to return it back to the bag.

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If all N values obtained are 0, then we can consider p to be identically 0. The probability of error is at most  $2^{-N}$ .

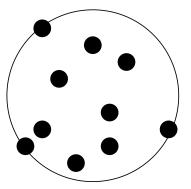
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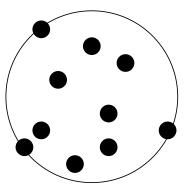
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Naive solution For any three points design a disk/circle passing through them - complexity of such an algorithm is  $O(n^3)$ 

# Random $\mathcal{O}(n)$ algorithm - Welzl

For the start let us consider all points as having the weight 1

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- Choose randomly (taking into considerations weights of points) a set of about 20 points S' and determine, somehow, D(S').
- In case there are points of S that are out of D(S'), then double their weights and go to Step 1. Otherwise you are done

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This way we obtain *random QUICKSORT* or RQUICKSORT.

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If  $p_{ij}$  is the probability that  $s_i$  and  $s_j$  are being compared during an execution of the algorithm, then  $E[s_{ij}] = p_{ij}$ .

In order to estimate  $p_{ij}$  it is enough to realize that if  $s_i$  and  $s_j$  are compared during an execution of the RQS, then one of these two elements has to be in the subtree headed by the other element in the comparison tree being created at that execution.

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$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} p_{ij} \le \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=i}^{n} \frac{2}{j-i+1} \le \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{k=1}^{n-i+1} \frac{2}{k} \le 2\sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{k=1}^{n-i+1} \frac{1}{k} \le 2nH_n = \Theta(n \log n)$$

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**Theorem** If  $0 < \epsilon < \frac{1}{2}$ , then there is a constant c such that for all but a fraction of at most  $n2^n e^{-\frac{\epsilon n^2}{2}}$  of satisfiable 3-CNF Boolean formulas with n variables, the probability that the above algorithm succeeds in discovering a truth assignment in each independent trial from a random start is at least  $1 - e^{-\epsilon^2 n}$ .

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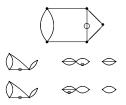
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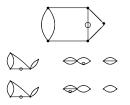
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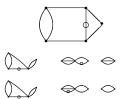
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In the above example, where two options are explored in the second step, we got once the optimal result, and once a non-optimal result.

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Similarly, in the *i*-th step

$$\Pr\left[E_i | \bigcap_{i=1}^{i-1} E_i\right] \ge 1 - \frac{2}{n-i+1} = \frac{n-i-1}{n-i+1}$$

Therefore, the probability that no edge of C is ever contracted during an execution of the algorithm, that is that algorithm gives correct output, can be lower bounded by

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Running time of the best deterministic minimum cut algorithm is  $O(nm + n^2 \lg n)$ , where *m* is number of edges and *n* is number of vertices.

#### **REMINDERS**

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Four research groups over the world verified after the announcement for three days that the number claimed to be a new largest prime is indeed a prime.

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Percentage of 512 bits numbers that are primes is 0.006...

## RANDOMIZED COMPLEXITY CLASSES

## COMPLEXITY CLASSES for DETERMINISTIC COMPUTATIONS

- P is the class of problems (languages) that can be solved (accepted) by deterministic algorithms running in polynomial time. (Or P is class of problems solvable in polynomial time on deterministic Turing machines.)
- NP is the class of problems solution of which can be verified in polynomial time. (Or NP is the class of problems that can be solved in polynomial time on nondeterministic Turing machines.)
- **co-NP** is the class of languages that are complements of languages in **NP**.
- PSPACE is the class of problems (languages) that can be solved (accepted) by algorithms using only polynomially large space/memory.
- **EXP** is the class of problems (languages) solvable in exponential time.

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**ZPP:** A language *L* is in **ZPP** (**Z**ero error **P**robabilistic **P**olynomial time) (it is also called *Las Vegas acceptance* if.)  $L \in$ **ZPP** = **RP**  $\land$  **coRP**.

A way how to model random steps formally, and to study power of randomization, is to consider probabilistic algorithms as nondeterministic Turing machines (NTM), that have in each configuration exactly two choices to make and for each input all computations have the same length. In order to define different complexity classes for randomized computations, one then just needs to consider different acceptance modes.

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DV3
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### **PP class - some observations**

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- Problems: a **PP**-algorithm is free to accept with probability  $1/2 + 2^{-n}$  if the answer is yes and probability  $1/2 2^n$  if the answer is no. However how can a mortal distinguish these two cases if, for example, n = 5000?

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**Theorem** All languages in **BPP** have polynomial size Boolean circuits.

**Definition** A language  $L \subseteq \{0, 1\}^*$  has polynomial size Boolean circuits if there is a family of Boolean circuits  $G = \{C_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  and a polynomial p such that size of  $C_n$  is bounded by p(n),  $C_n$  has n inputs and  $x \in L$  iff the output of  $C_{|x|}$  is 1 if its input is x.

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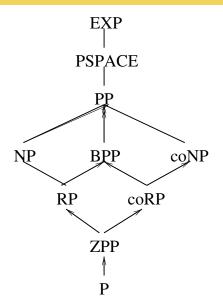
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In case k is big enough, the effective error probability will be as small as we wish. This process is called **amplification of probability**.

### **HIERARCHY of COMPLEXITY CLASSES**



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It can be shown that if P = BPP, then MA = NP.

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- If "polynomial-time computability" is used for efficiency criterion, we do not know answer yet but we maybe able to claim that randomness is not essential.

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- Using such techniques Widgerson and Impagliazo showed that P=BPP if there is a problem computable in an exponential time that requires circuits of exponential size.

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## In case the set of elementary events E is infinite situation is much more complex as the following example discuss in lecture 3 illustrates.

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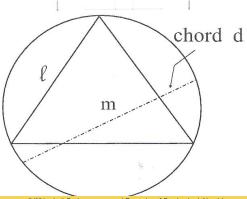
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**Problem** See the next figure. Fix a circle of radius 1. Draw in the circle equilateral triangle and denote *I* its length. Choose randomly a chord *d* (and denote *m* its length) of the circle. What is the probability that  $m \ge I$ ?



IV054 1. 1.Basic concepts and Examples of Randomized Algorithms