

# On Numerical Approximation of the DMC Channel Capacity

(BFA'2017 Workshop)

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# Outline

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**Background**

Channel Capacity Calculation

Further Discussions

Conclusion



# Walsh Spectrum Characterization on Sampling Distributions

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- Following a rump talk by Yi LU at FSE'2017 in Japan, it is proposed as a suitable topic for submission to the Nature journal.

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- 1) the sample number is denoted by  $S$ ,
- 2) the dimension of the signal source is denoted by  $2^n$ ,
- 3) the Walsh spectrum of the source distribution is denoted by the three valued set  $\{0, +d, -d\}$ , where the value  $d$  and the number  $k$  of nonzero coefficients are unknown variables.



## Walsh Spectrum Characterization on Sampling Distributions (cont'd)

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- Given an input array  $\mathbf{x} = (x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{2^n-1})$  of  $2^n$  reals in the time domain, the Walsh transform  $\mathbf{y} = \widehat{\mathbf{x}} = (y_0, y_1, \dots, y_{2^n-1})$  of  $\mathbf{x}$  is

$$y_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{j \in GF(2)^n} (-1)^{\langle i, j \rangle} x_j, \text{ for } i \in GF(2)^n.$$

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- The main problem asks to obtain *as precise and much knowledge as possible* about the signal source  $D$  from the sampling distribution  $D'$  using  $S$  samples.
- The main goal is to find out some large or even the largest nontrivial Walsh coefficient(s) and the index position(s) for  $D$ .

## Important Comments

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- This work is the follow-up result of [Lu-Desmedt'2016], [Lu'2016] and has origins in linear cryptanalysis (cf. [Lu-Vaudenay'2008], [Molland-Helleseeth'2004]).

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  - 1) the dimension  $2^n$  is very large (e.g.,  $2^{64}$ ),
  - 2) Walsh spectrum is not just a three valued set,
  - 3)  $D$  is an un-normalized distribution.
- The proposed problem incorporates the case that the source distribution  $D$  has zeros in the time domain.

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# Motivation on Studying Channel Capacity

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- Inspired by the idea of compressive sensing, [Lu'2015] first constructed *imaginary channel transition matrices*  $T \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(y|x)$  of size  $2 \times 2$  and  $2 \times M$ , and introduced Shannon's channel coding problem to statistical cryptanalysis.

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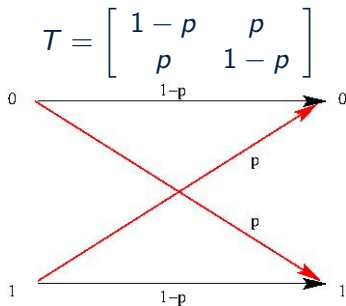
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- Case One: BSC (Binary Symmetric Channel)

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 1-p & p \\ p & 1-p \end{bmatrix}$$

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## Motivation on Studying Channel Capacity (cont'd)

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- Case Two: Non-Symmetric Binary Channel

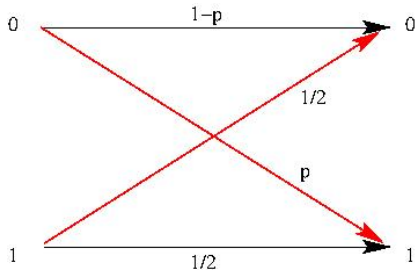
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# Motivation on Studying Channel Capacity (cont'd)

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- Case Three: Non-Binary Non-square Channel

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} D \\ U \end{bmatrix},$$

$D, U$  denote the source distribution and the uniform distribution over the binary vector space of dimension  $n$  respectively.

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- Case Three: Non-Binary Non-square Channel

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$D, U$  denote the source distribution and the uniform distribution over the binary vector space of dimension  $n$  respectively.

- Recall that the Channel Capacity with the transition matrix  $T$ , denoted by  $C(T)$ , invented by Shannon, describes the maximum rate (i.e., bits/transmission) to send information through the channel with an arbitrarily low error probability.

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- Recall that the Channel Capacity with the transition matrix  $T$ , denoted by  $C(T)$ , invented by Shannon, describes the maximum rate (i.e., bits/transmission) to send information through the channel with an arbitrarily low error probability.
- In above Case Three,  $C(T)$  gives a perfect answer to the key question in cryptanalysis: What is the minimum number of data samples to distinguish one biased distribution from the uniform distribution?

# The Famous Blahut-Arimoto Algorithm

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- For the desired absolute accuracy  $\epsilon$  of the capacity, Blahut-Arimoto algorithm solves the problem with transition matrix size  $N \times M$  within time  $O(MN^2 \log N/\epsilon)$ .
- Note that the most recent work [Sutter et al'2014] has the complexity  $O(M^2 N \sqrt{\log N}/\epsilon)$  for the same problem.

# Blahut-Arimoto Algorithm in Pseudo-Codes

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## Input:

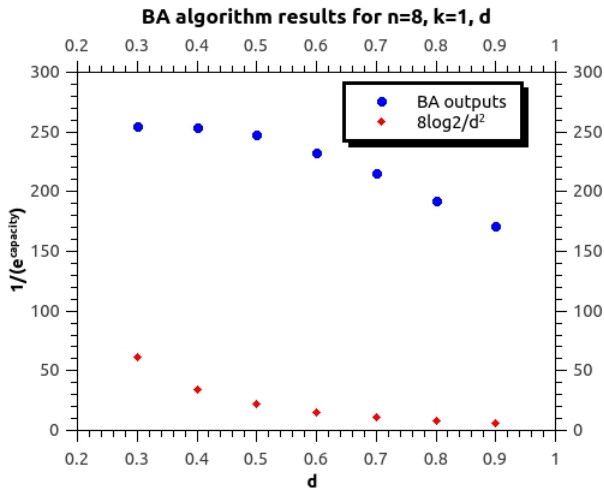
$Q_{k|j}$ : transition matrix of size  $2 \times 2^n$

$(p_0, p_1)$ : input distribution vector

$\epsilon$ : the desired absolute accuracy

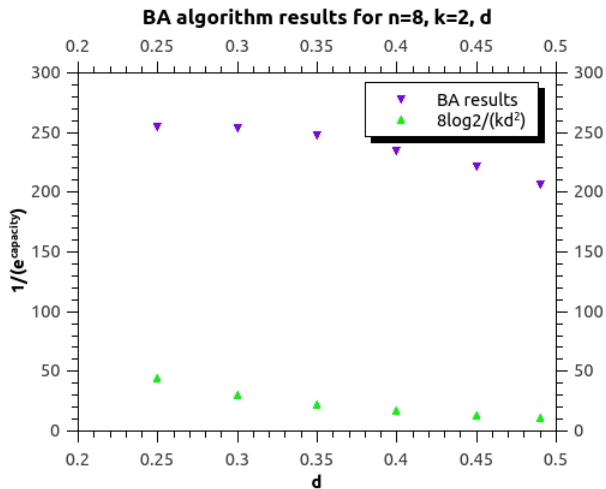
- 1: initialize the values of  $Q_{k|j}$  and  $p_0, p_1$
- 2: **repeat**
- 3:  $c_0 \leftarrow \exp\left(\sum_{k=0}^{2^n-1} Q_{k|0} \log \frac{Q_{k|0}}{p_0 Q_{k|0} + p_1 Q_{k|1}}\right)$
- 4:  $c_1 \leftarrow \exp\left(\sum_{k=0}^{2^n-1} Q_{k|1} \log \frac{Q_{k|1}}{p_0 Q_{k|0} + p_1 Q_{k|1}}\right)$
- 5:  $I_L \leftarrow \log(p_0 c_0 + p_1 c_1)$
- 6:  $I_U \leftarrow \log \max(c_0, c_1)$
- 7: update  $p_0$  by  $p_0 c_0 / (p_0 c_0 + p_1 c_1)$
- 8: update  $p_1$  by  $p_1 c_1 / (p_0 c_0 + p_1 c_1)$
- 9: **until**  $|I_U - I_L| < \epsilon$
- 10: output  $I_L$

# Capacity Results for $n = 8, k = 1$

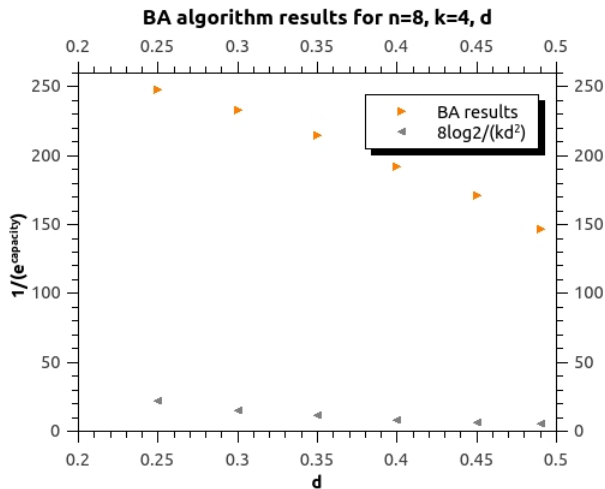




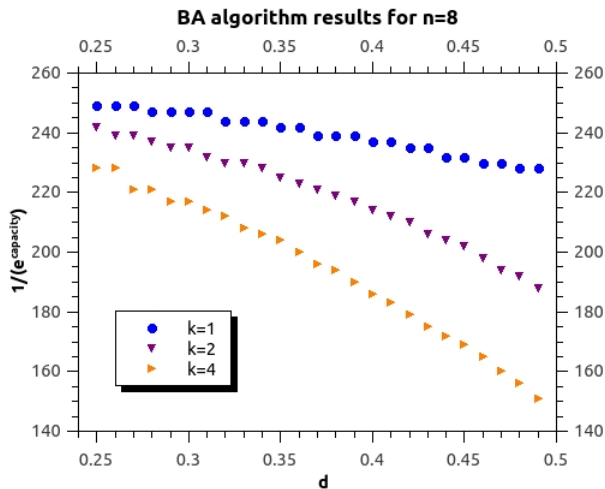
# Capacity Results for $n = 8, k = 2$ (cont'd)



# Capacity Results for $n = 8, k = 4$ (cont'd)



# Capacity Results for $n = 8, \epsilon = 0.01$ (cont'd)



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- From well-proved *paper* formulas/algorithms to *correct and efficient* computer implementations, we have a long road to go.
- In the new era of big data, high-precision numerical computation software is badly needed.
- Current available software and libraries with the feature:
  - MATHEMATICA
  - MATLAB
  - GNU Multiple Precision Arithmetic Library (GMP)
  - GNU Scientific Library (GSL)
  - etc.

# Blahut-Arimoto Algorithm in Pseudo-Codes

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## Inspection on BA Capacity Calculations with

$$n = 8, k = 1, d = 0.25, \epsilon = 0.1$$

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- Check the value of  $c_0 = \exp(TMP1 - TMP2)$ :

$$TMP1 = \frac{3}{8} \log\left(\frac{3}{1024}\right) + \frac{5}{8} \log\left(\frac{5}{1024}\right) \quad (1)$$

$$TMP2 = \frac{42 \times 0.8}{8 \times 1024} = \frac{4.2}{2^{10}} \quad (2)$$

## Inspection on BA Capacity Calculations with $n = 8, k = 1, d = 0.25, \epsilon = 0.1$ (cont'd)

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To finalize,

- check the value of  $I_U$ :

$$\log c_0 = TMP1 - TMP2 = -5.51\underline{3}$$

$$I_U = \max(-5.51\underline{3}, -5.54\underline{9}) = -5.51\underline{3}$$

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as  $\log(\cdot)$  and  $\exp(\cdot)$  both increase with the input.

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- As  $|I_U - I_L| < 0.1$ , we now know  $I_L = -5.5X$ .
- Meanwhile, the computer running BA algorithm also outputs  $I_L$ :  
“-5.5”, i.e., to be interpreted as  $] -5.5 - 0.1, -5.5 + 0.1[$ .



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- For lower value of  $\epsilon$  and  $k > 1$ , manual checking becomes harder for (1-3).
- Open Question:  
Evaluate the output precision of a composite function, which has exact values of inputs *initially*.

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- Our implementation allows to solve a lower-bound for distinguishing two distributions with arbitrarily small error probability.
- We have done experiments in the setting of Sparse Walsh Spectrum with  $M = 2^8$ ,  $\epsilon = 0.01$ ,  $k = 1, 2, 4$  and one distribution is a uniform distribution.

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- We have examined the important issue of calculation precision with  $M = 2^8, \epsilon = 0.1, k = 1$ .
- We are carrying out challenging large-scale experiments with larger  $M$  and more values of  $k$ .

# References

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