

**Lazy Select**

- Pick  $n^{3/4}$  elements from  $S$  independently and uniformly at random with replacement into  $R$ .
- Sort  $R$ .
- Let  $x = kn^{-1/4}$ ,  $l = \max\{\lfloor x - \sqrt{n} \rfloor, 1\}$ ,  $h = \min\{\lceil x + \sqrt{n} \rceil, n^{3/4}\}$ ,  $a = R_l$  and  $b = R_h$ . By comparing every element in  $S$  with  $a$  determine  $r_s(a)$ . Similarly determine  $r_s(b)$ .
- If  $k < n^{1/4}$ , then  $P = \{y \in S \mid y \leq b\}$ .  
 If  $k > n - n^{1/4}$ , then  $P = \{y \in S \mid y \geq a\}$ .  
 If  $k \in [n^{1/4}, n - n^{1/4}]$ , then  $P = \{y \in S \mid a \leq y \leq b\}$   
 Check if  $S_k \in P$  and  $|P| \leq 4n^{3/4} + 2$  otherwise repeat [1] to [3].
- Sort  $P$  and return  $P_{(k-r_s(a)+1)}$ .

**Running time** There are  $2n$  comparisons in step (3)  $+o(n)$ .

Since the condition in step (3) may fail with  $> 0$  probability, we want to computer the expected number of comparisons.

$$(2n + o(n)) + O(n^{-1/4})(2n + o(n)) + \dots = 2n + o(n)$$

Claim:  $P[(S_k \in P) \wedge (|P| \leq (4n^{3/4} + 2))] \geq 1 - O(n^{-1/4})$

Proof: we will show

$$P[(S_k \notin P) \vee (|P| > 4n^{3/4} + 2)] \leq O(n^{-1/4})$$

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There are 3 cases depending on whether  $k < n^{1/4}$ ,  $k > n - n^{1/4}$ ,  $k \in [n^{1/4}, n - n^{1/4}]$ . The last case is hardest and we will show only this case.

For the last case, given  $k \in [n^{1/4}, n - n^{1/4}]$  and therefore  $P = \{y \in S \mid a \leq y \leq b\}$ .  $S_k \notin P \equiv \neg(a \leq S_k \leq b) \equiv (S_k < a) \vee (S_k > b)$ . We will now show  $P[S_k < a] \leq O(n^{-1/4})$ . Similarly, we can show  $P[S_k > b] \leq O(n^{-1/4})$ .

$$S_k < a \equiv S_k < R_l \equiv \text{there are less than } l \text{ elements in } R \leq S_k$$

Let

$$x = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i^{th} \text{ sample} \leq S_k \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Then  $P[x_i = 1] = \frac{k}{n}$ ,  $E[x_i] = \frac{k}{n}$ . Let

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^{n^{3/4}} x_i$$

. Then

$$E[X] = \sum E[x_i] = kn^{-1/4}$$

. So the event:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{there are fewer than } l \text{ element in } R \leq S_k \\ & \equiv X < l \equiv X < X - \sqrt{n} \equiv X < kn^{-1/4} - \sqrt{n} \equiv (X - E[X]) < -\sqrt{n} \end{aligned}$$

By Chebyshev Inequality:

$$P[|X - E[x]| \geq t] \leq \frac{\text{Var}[X]}{t^2}$$

Let  $t = \sqrt{n}$

$$\text{Var}[X] = \text{Var}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n^{3/4}} x_i\right]$$

Because of mutual independence of  $x_i$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}[X] &= \sum_{i=1}^{n^{3/4}} \text{Var}[x_i] = \sum_{i=1}^{n^{3/4}} (E[x_i^2] - E[x_i]^2) \\ \text{Var}[X] &= n^{3/4} \left( \frac{k}{n} - \frac{k^2}{n^2} \right) = \frac{k}{n} \left( 1 - \frac{k}{n} \right) n^{3/4} \leq \frac{n^{3/4}}{4} \end{aligned}$$

So:

$$\text{Var}[X] \leq \frac{n^{3/4}}{4}$$

$$P[|X - E[X]| \geq \sqrt{n}] \leq \frac{n^{-1/4}}{4}$$

So:

$$P[X - E[X] < -\sqrt{n}] \leq \frac{n^{-1/4}}{4}$$

□

**Lovasz Local Lemma** Let  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  be event in a arbitrary probability space. A direct graph  $D = (V, E)$ ,  $V = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  is said to be the dependency graph of  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  if for each  $i$ ,  $A_i$  is mutually independent of  $\{A_j \mid (i, j) \notin E\}$ .

Suppose that  $D = (V, E)$  is a dependency graph of the above event and suppose  $\exists x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in R$  such that  $0 \leq x_i < 1$  for all  $i$  and  $P[A_i] \leq x_i \prod_{(i,j) \in E} (1 - x_j)$  for all  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Then:

$$P[\bigwedge_{j=1}^n \overline{A_j}] \geq \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - x_i) > 0$$

Event  $A_1$  is said to be mutually independent of  $\{A_2, \dots, A_n\}$ , if for any subset  $S \subseteq \{2, \dots, n\}$ ,

$$P[A_1 \mid \bigwedge_{j \in S} E_j] = P[A_1]$$

where  $E_j \in \{A_j, \overline{A_j}\}$

If  $A_i$  are all mutually independent,

$$P[\bigwedge_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i}] = \prod_{i=1}^n P[\overline{A_i}] = \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - P[A_i])$$

If  $P[A_i] < 1$ , then we know the above is  $> 0$ .