

# Group Testing:

Something old, Something new, Something borrowed

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IIT Bombay

CNI Seminar Series, IISc

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# Group testing: origin

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  - ▶ *Negative test:* all in the pool are uninfected
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- **Key idea:** 'pool' samples from many soldiers and test it
  - ▶ *Negative test:* all in the pool are uninfected
  - ▶ *Positive test:* at least one soldier is infected
- **Goal:** design pooling strategies to minimize number of tests.

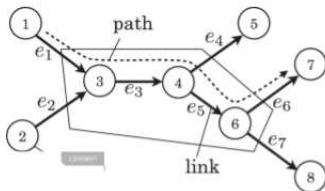


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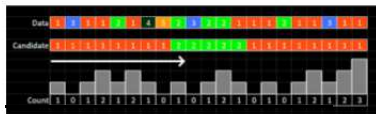
# Group testing: applications



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Imgs: online sources

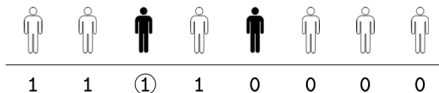






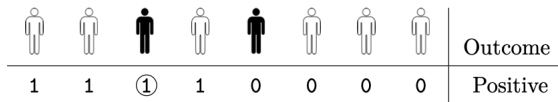
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- Each test  $t$  can be represented by  $\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n$ .
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- Outcome  $y_t = \bigvee_{i \in \mathcal{K}} \mathbf{x}_i^t$ .

# Problem

								Outcome
1	1	①	1	0	0	0	0	Positive
0	0	0	0	①	1	1	1	Positive
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	Negative
0	0	①	0	0	0	0	0	Positive
0	0	①	0	①	1	0	0	Positive
0	0	0	0	①	0	0	0	Positive

- Test design  $\mathbf{X} \in \{0, 1\}^{T \times n}$ , output  $\mathbf{y} = \bigvee_{i \in \mathcal{K}} \mathbf{x}_i$ .

# Problem

?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	y
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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  - ▶ Explicit constructions, efficient decoding rules

# Lower bound

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- Feasible testing design  $\implies \exists$  injective function from set of possible defective sets to the set of possible outputs



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- Feasible testing design  $\implies \exists$  injective function from set of possible defective sets to the set of possible outputs

$$2^T \geq \sum_{i=0}^k \binom{n}{i} \implies T \geq \Omega\left(k \log \frac{n}{k}\right)$$

# Achievable strategies: adaptive testing

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  - ▶ Repeat above process, removing one defective in each round.
  - ▶ Needs at most  $O(k \log n)$  tests.
  - ▶ More sophisticated algorithms achieve  $O(k \log \frac{n}{k})$  tests.
- Order-optimal w.r.t lower bound.

# Group testing: bounds

	Lower bound	Upper bound
Adaptive	$k \log \left( \frac{n}{k} \right)$	$k \log \left( \frac{n}{k} \right)$

# Achievable strategies: non-adaptive testing

- Testing design matrix has to be specified beforehand.

# Non-adaptive testing: disjunct testing matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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$\mathcal{K} = \{1, 2\}$ , O/p is  $\bigvee_{i \in [1:2]} \mathbf{X}_i$

$\mathbf{X}_4 \not\subseteq \bigvee_{i \in [1:2]} \mathbf{X}_i$

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- Simple decoding algorithm: if all tests involving an item o/p positive, mark defective.

# Non-adaptive testing: bounds

- *Lower bound:*  $\Omega(k^2 \log_k n)$  tests; connection to  $k$ -cover families [D'yachkov & Rykov'82, Furedi'96]

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- *Random construction*:  $O(k^2 \log \frac{n}{k})$  tests; choose each entry i.i.d.  $\sim \text{Ber}(1/(k+1))$ .
- *Explicit construction*:  $O(k^2 \min\{\log_k^2 n, \log n\})$  tests; based on a concatenated code construction [Kautz & Singleton'64, Porat & Rotschild'08]

# Group testing: bounds

	Lower bound	Upper bound
Adaptive	$k \log \left( \frac{n}{k} \right)$	$k \log \left( \frac{n}{k} \right)$
Non-adaptive	$k^2 \log_k n$	$k^2 \min \{ \log_k^2 n, \log n \}$

# Cascaded Group Testing

with Waqar Mirza and Niranjan Balachandran

Information Theory Workshop (ITW), Nov. 2024

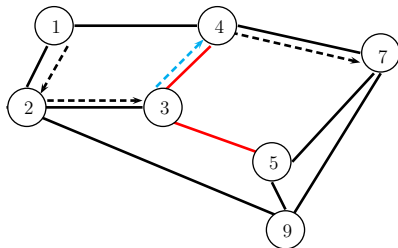
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.17917>



# Motivation

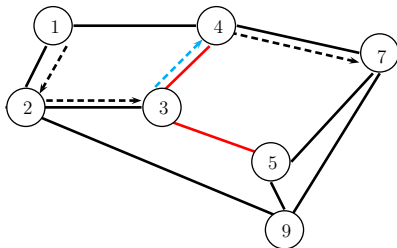
# Motivation

- Network tomography



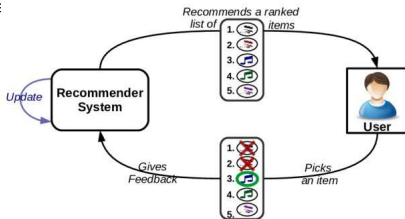
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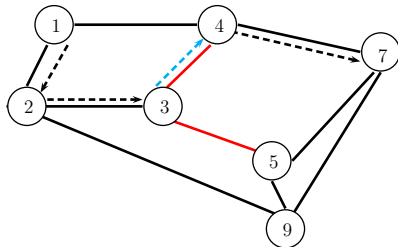
- Recommendation systems

[Img. source: "On Recommendation Systems in a Sequential Context", Frederic Guillou]



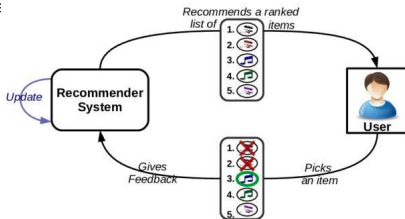
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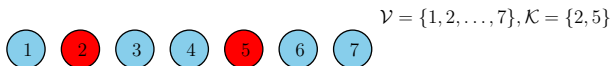
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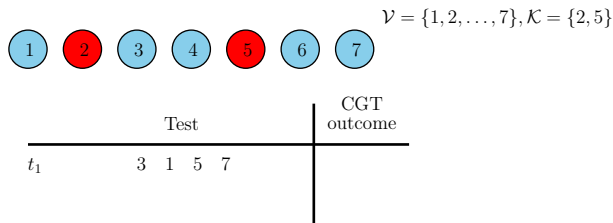
- Cascading bandits / OLTR

# Model



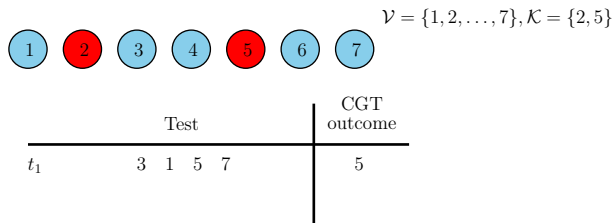
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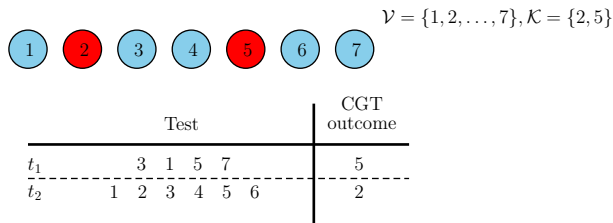
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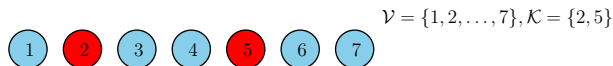
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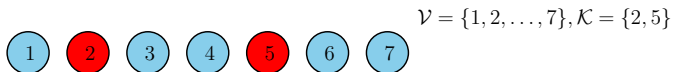
# Model



	Test						CGT outcome
$t_1$		3	1	5	7		5
$t_2$	1	2	3	4	5	6	2
$t_3$		1	3	4	6	7	0

- $n$  items  $\mathcal{V}$ , unknown subset  $\mathcal{K}$  of defectives with size at most  $k$ .
  - ▶  $k \ll n$
- Each test  $t$  is associated with an ordered subset of items  $(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{|t|})$ .
- Test  $t$  returns first defective item in the sequence.
  - ▶ 0 if no defective in test.

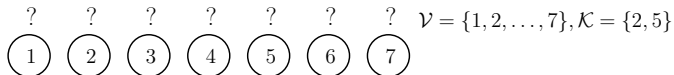
# Problem



	Test						CGT outcome
$t_1$		3	1	5	7		5
$t_2$	1	2	3	4	5	6	2
$t_3$	1	3	4	6	7		0
$t_4$		6	3	4	7		0
$t_5$		7	5	4	6		5

- Testing design  $\mathbf{X} = \{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_T\}$ , output  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_T)$

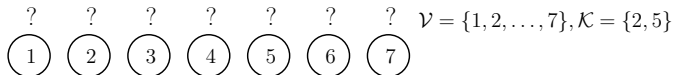
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- $\mathbf{X}$  is *feasible* if we can recover any  $\mathcal{K}$  from  $\mathbf{y}$ ,  $|\mathcal{K}| \leq k$ .

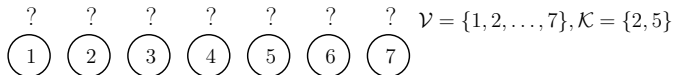
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$t_3$	1	3	4	6	7		0
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$t_5$		7	5	4	6		5

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- *Goal*: Given  $n, k$ , find feasible testing designs of minimum size.

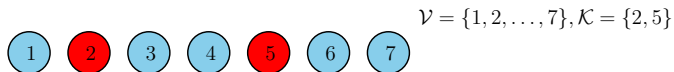
# Problem



	Test						CGT outcome
$t_1$		3	1	5	7		5
$t_2$	1	2	3	4	5	6	2
$t_3$		1	3	4	6	7	0
$t_4$		6	3	4	7		0
$t_5$		7	5	4	6		5

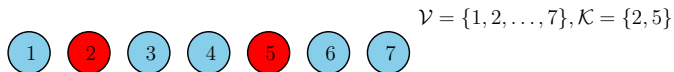
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- **Goal**: Given  $n, k$ , find feasible testing designs of minimum size.
  - ▶ Explicit constructions, efficient decoding rules

# Cascaded GT vs Binary GT



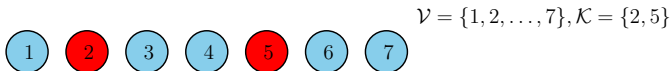
	Test						CGT outcome
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$t_2$	1	2	3	4	5	6	2
$t_3$	1	3	4	6	7		0
$t_4$		6	3	4	7		0
$t_5$		7	5	4	6		5

# Cascaded GT vs Binary GT



	Test						CGT outcome	BGT outcome
$t_1$		3	1	5	7		5	Yes
$t_2$	1	2	3	4	5	6	2	Yes
$t_3$	1	3	4	6	7		0	No
$t_4$		6	3	4	7		0	No
$t_5$		7	5	4	6		5	Yes

# Cascaded GT vs Binary GT



Test						CGT outcome	BGT outcome	
$t_1$	3	1	5	7		5	Yes	
$t_2$	1	2	3	4	5	6	2	Yes
$t_3$	1	3	4	6	7		0	No
$t_4$	6	3	4	7			0	No
$t_5$	7	5	4	6			5	Yes

- CGT test provides at least as much information as BGT test.



# Cascaded GT vs Binary GT

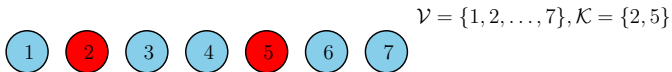
$$\mathcal{V} = \{1, 2, \dots, 7\}, \mathcal{K} = \{2, 5\}$$


Test						CGT outcome	BGT outcome	
$t_1$	3	1	5	7		5	Yes	
$t_2$	1	2	3	4	5	6	2	Yes
$t_3$	1	3	4	6	7		0	No
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- CGT test provides at least as much information as BGT test.
- Feasible design under BGT  $\implies$  Feasible design under CGT



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$t_5$	7	5	4	6			5	Yes

- CGT test provides at least as much information as BGT test.
- Feasible design under BGT  $\implies$  Feasible design under CGT
  - ▶ Upper bounds for BGT are also upper bounds for CGT
- How much can the additional information help?

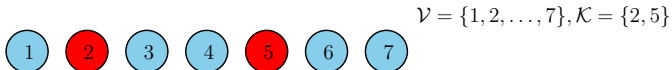
# Cascaded GT vs Binary GT: bounds

<i>BGT</i>	Lower bound	Upper bound
Adaptive	$k \log \left( \frac{n}{k} \right)$	$k \log \left( \frac{n}{k} \right)$
Non-adaptive	$k^2 \log_k n$	$k^2 \min \{ \log_k^2 n, \log n \}$

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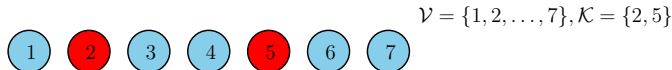
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# Adaptive testing



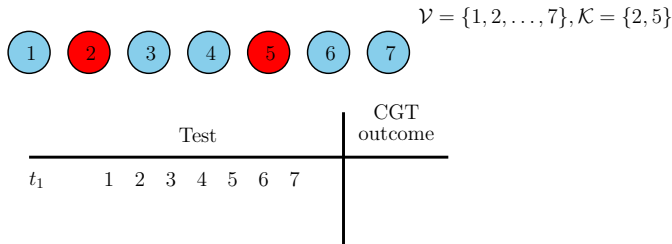
- Sequential design of tests

# Adaptive testing



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  - 1 Run a test with items in  $\mathcal{V} \setminus \hat{\mathcal{K}}$  in an arbitrary order.
  - 2 If the test returns 0, terminate and return  $\hat{\mathcal{K}}$ .
  - 3 If the test returns  $v$ , then update  $\hat{\mathcal{K}} \leftarrow \hat{\mathcal{K}} \cup \{v\}$ .
  - 4 Update  $i \leftarrow i + 1$ . If  $i > k$ , terminate and return  $\hat{\mathcal{K}}$ .

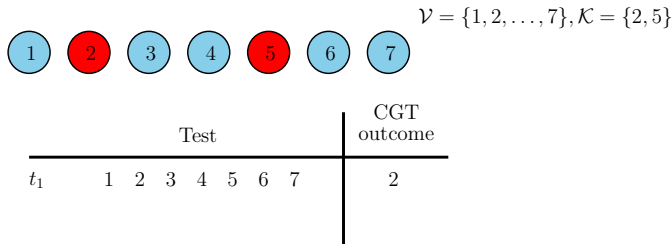
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# Adaptive testing

$\mathcal{V} = \{1, 2, \dots, 7\}, \mathcal{K} = \{2, 5\}$

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

	Test							CGT outcome
$t_1$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	2
$t_2$	1	3	4	5	6	7		5

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- Needs at most  $k$  tests, optimal in the worst-case.

# Cascaded group testing: bounds

<i>BGT</i>	Lower bound	Upper bound
Adaptive	$k \log \left( \frac{n}{k} \right)$	$k \log \left( \frac{n}{k} \right)$
Non-adaptive	$k^2 \log_k n$	$k^2 \min\{\log_k^2 n, \log n\}$
<i>CGT</i>	Lower bound	Upper bound
Adaptive	$k$	$k$
Non-adaptive		$k^2 \min\{\log_k^2 n, \log n\}$

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- Optimal for  $k = 1, 2$ . BGT would need  $\Omega(\log n)$  tests.
- What about larger  $k$ ?

# Non-adaptive testing: feasibility



$$\mathcal{V} = \{1, 2, \dots, 7\}, k = |\mathcal{K}| = 3$$

Test					
$t_1$	3	1	5	7	
$t_2$	1	2	3	4	5 6
$t_3$	1	3	4	6	7
$t_4$	6	3	4	7	
$t_5$	7	5	4	6	

# Non-adaptive testing: feasibility

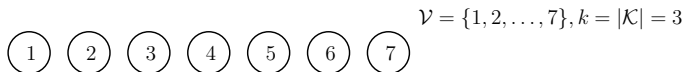
$$\mathcal{V} = \{1, 2, \dots, 7\}, k = |\mathcal{K}| = 3$$

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

	Test					
$t_1$	3	1	5	7		
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$t_3$	1	3	4	6	7	
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- Testing design  $\mathbf{X}$  is *feasible* if we can recover  $\mathcal{K}$  from  $\mathbf{y}$ .

# Non-adaptive testing: feasibility



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# Non-adaptive testing: feasibility



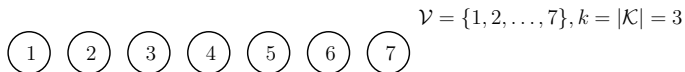
$$\mathcal{V} = \{1, 2, \dots, 7\}, k = |\mathcal{K}| = 3$$

$$\mathcal{K}_1 = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

	Test						CGT outcome
$t_1$	3	1	5	7			3
$t_2$	1	2	3	4	5	6	1
$t_3$	1	3	4	6	7		1
$t_4$	6	3	4	7			3
$t_5$	7	5	4	6			0

- Testing design  $\mathbf{X}$  is *feasible* if we can recover  $\mathcal{K}$  from  $\mathbf{y}$ .
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$$\mathcal{K}_1 = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

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$t_1$	3	1	5	7			3
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- Testing design  $\mathbf{X}$  is *feasible* if we can recover  $\mathcal{K}$  from  $\mathbf{y}$ .
- Distinct outputs for each  $\mathcal{K}_1 \neq \mathcal{K}_2$ , s.t.  $|\mathcal{K}_1|, |\mathcal{K}_2| \leq k$ .
- Analogue of disjunctness property under BGT.

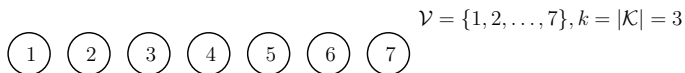
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- *Feasibility condition:*  $\forall \mathcal{K} \subset V$  with  $|\mathcal{K}| = k$ , and for every  $v \in \mathcal{K}$ ,  $\exists$  test  $t \in \mathbf{X}$  where  $v$  appears before every other item in  $\mathcal{K}$ .

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$$\mathcal{K} = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$v = 1$$

$$v = 2$$

$$v = 3$$

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$$v = 2 \times$$

$$v = 3 \checkmark$$

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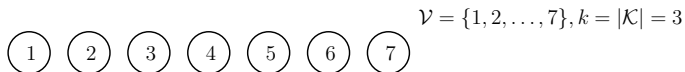





Test				
$t_1$	1	5	6	7
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$t_3$	3	7	5	6
$t_4$	4	7	6	5

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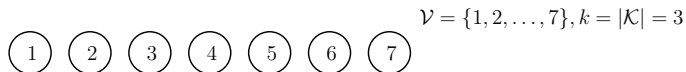





Test					
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$t_2$	2	6	5	7	
$t_3$	3	7	5	6	
$t_4$	4	7	6	5	

$\mathcal{K} = \{1, 2, 3\}$   
 $v = 1 \checkmark$   
 $v = 2 \checkmark$   
 $v = 3 \checkmark$

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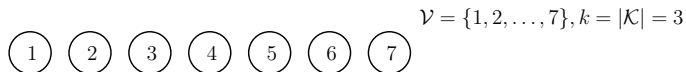


Test					
$t_1$	1	5	6	7	
$t_2$	2	6	5	7	
$t_3$	3	7	5	6	
$t_4$	4	7	6	5	

$\mathcal{K} = \{2, 5, 7\}$   
 $v = 2 \checkmark$   
 $v = 5 \checkmark$   
 $v = 7 \checkmark$

- *Feasibility condition:*  $\forall \mathcal{K} \subset V$  with  $|\mathcal{K}| = k$ , and for every  $v \in \mathcal{K}$ ,  $\exists$  test  $t \in \mathbf{X}$  where  $v$  appears before every other item in  $\mathcal{K}$ .

# Non-adaptive testing: feasibility

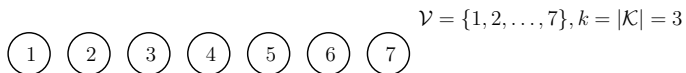


Test					
$t_1$	1	5	6	7	
$t_2$	2	6	5	7	←
$t_3$	3	7	5	6	←
$t_4$	4	7	6	5	←

$\mathcal{K} = \{3, 4, 6\}$   
 $v = 3 \checkmark$   
 $v = 4 \checkmark$   
 $v = 6 \checkmark$

- *Feasibility condition:*  $\forall \mathcal{K} \subset V$  with  $|\mathcal{K}| = k$ , and for every  $v \in \mathcal{K}$ ,  $\exists$  test  $t \in \mathbf{X}$  where  $v$  appears before every other item in  $\mathcal{K}$ .

# Non-adaptive testing: feasibility



Test				
$t_1$	1	5	6	7
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$t_3$	3	7	5	6
$t_4$	4	7	6	5

- *Feasibility condition:*  $\forall \mathcal{K} \subset V$  with  $|\mathcal{K}| = k$ , and for every  $v \in \mathcal{K}$ ,  $\exists$  test  $t \in \mathbf{X}$  where  $v$  appears before every other item in  $\mathcal{K}$ .

# Non-adaptive testing: feasibility

$\mathcal{V} = \{1, 2, \dots, 7\}, k = |\mathcal{K}| = 3$

Test					CGT outcome
$t_1$	1	5	6	7	6
$t_2$	2	6	5	7	6
$t_3$	3	7	5	6	3
$t_4$	4	7	6	5	4

$\mathcal{K} = \{3, 4, 6\}$

- *Feasibility condition:*  $\forall \mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{V}$  with  $|\mathcal{K}| = k$ , and for every  $v \in \mathcal{K}$ ,  $\exists$  test  $t \in \mathbf{X}$  where  $v$  appears before every other item in  $\mathcal{K}$ .
- *Reconstruction:*  $\hat{\mathcal{K}} = \{y_i : i \in [T], y_i \neq 0\}$

# Non-adaptive testing: feasibility

$\mathcal{V} = \{1, 2, \dots, 7\}, k = |\mathcal{K}| = 3$

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

	Test	CGT outcome
$t_1$	1   5   6   7	6
$t_2$	2   6   5   7	6
$t_3$	3   7   5   6	3
$t_4$	4   7   6   5	4

$\mathcal{K} = \{3, 4, 6\}$

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- *Reconstruction:*  $\hat{\mathcal{K}} = \{y_i : i \in [T], y_i \neq 0\}$
- *Lower bound:* Any feasible design has at least  $\lfloor \frac{k+1}{2} \rfloor \lceil \frac{k+1}{2} \rceil$  tests.

## Non-adaptive testing: feasibility

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- *Lower bound*: Any feasible design has at least  $\lfloor \frac{k+1}{2} \rfloor \lceil \frac{k+1}{2} \rceil$  tests.  
*Erdős-Szekeres theorem* gives  $\lfloor \log_2 \log_2(n-1) \rfloor$  lower bound.

# Cascaded group testing: bounds

<i>BGT</i>	Lower bound	Upper bound
Adaptive	$k \log \left( \frac{n}{k} \right)$	$k \log \left( \frac{n}{k} \right)$
Non-adaptive	$k^2 \log_k n$	$k^2 \min\{\log_k^2 n, \log n\}$

<i>CGT</i>	Lower bound	Upper bound
Adaptive	$k$	$k$
Non-adaptive	$\max\{k^2, \log \log n\}$	$k^2 \min\{\log_k^2 n, \log n\}$



# Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$

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$$a = 3$$



- Use feasible design  $\mathbf{X}_1$  for  $a$  items to create feasible design  $\mathbf{X}_2$  for  $a^2$  items.

# Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$

$$a = 3$$



$$A_1 \quad \boxed{1 \ 2 \ 3}$$

$$A_2 \quad \boxed{4 \ 5 \ 6}$$

$$A_3 \quad \boxed{7 \ 8 \ 9}$$

- Use feasible design  $\mathbf{X}_1$  for  $a$  items to create feasible design  $\mathbf{X}_2$  for  $a^2$  items.
- Partition  $a^2$  items into disjoint sets  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_a$  of size  $a$  each.

# Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$

$$a = 3, s_1 = (2, 3, 1), s_2 = (1, 3, 2)$$



$$A_1 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 1 \ 2 \ 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

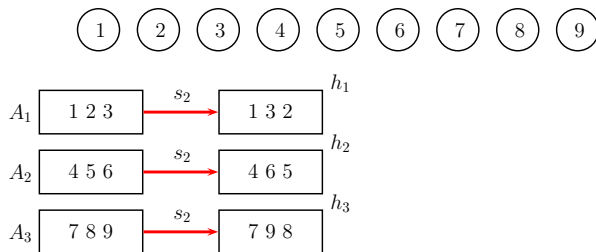
$$A_2 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 4 \ 5 \ 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$A_3 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 7 \ 8 \ 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

- Given permutations  $s_1, s_2$  on  $a$  items, permutation  $s_3 = s_1 \circ s_2$  on  $a^2$  items is given by:

# Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$

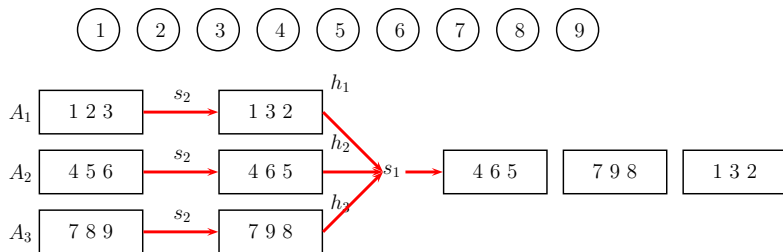
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# Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$

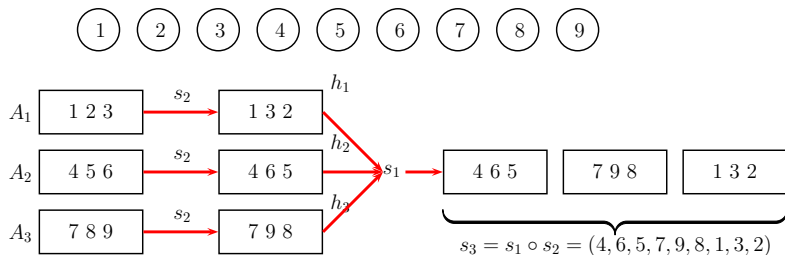
$$a = 3, s_1 = (2, 3, 1), s_2 = (1, 3, 2)$$



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  - Arrange  $h_1, h_2, \dots, h_a$  according to  $s_1$  to obtain  $s_3$

# Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$

$$a = 3, s_1 = (2, 3, 1), s_2 = (1, 3, 2)$$



- Given permutations  $s_1, s_2$  on  $a$  items, permutation  $s_3 = s_1 \circ s_2$  on  $a^2$  items is given by:
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# Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$

$a = 3$

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
$\mathbf{X}_1$									
$t_1$	1	2	3						
$t_2$	2	1	3						
$t_3$	3	2	1						

- Start with feasible design  $\mathbf{X}_1 = \{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_{|\mathbf{X}_1|}\}$  for  $a$  items.



# Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$

$a = 3$

$\mathbf{X}_1$

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

$\mathbf{X}_1$

$\mathcal{F}$

$t_1$

1

2

3

2

1

3

3

2

1

$t_1 \circ t_1$

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

5

4

6

2

1

3

8

7

9

9

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

- Start with feasible design  $\mathbf{X}_1 = \{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_{|\mathbf{X}_1|}\}$  for  $a$  items.
- Consider  $\mathcal{F} := \{t_i \circ t_j : i \in [|\mathbf{X}_1|]\}$ .

# Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$

$a = 3$

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

$g_1 = (1, 2, 3)$   
 $g_2 = (3, 2, 1)$

				$\mathcal{F}$											
$\mathbf{X}_1$	$t_1$	1	2	3		$t_1 \circ t_1$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
$t_2$	2	1	3			$t_2 \circ t_2$	5	4	6	2	1	3	8	7	9
$t_3$	3	2	1			$t_3 \circ t_3$	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

- Start with feasible design  $\mathbf{X}_1 = \{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_{|\mathbf{X}_1|}\}$  for  $a$  items.
- Consider  $\mathcal{F} := \{t_i \circ t_j : i \in [|\mathbf{X}_1|]\}$ .
- Take  $g_1 = (1, 2, \dots, a)$  and  $g_2 = (a, a - 1, \dots, 1)$ .

## Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$

$$a = 3$$

Diagram illustrating the construction of the permutation  $g_2$  from  $g_1$  and a transposition  $(2, 3)$ .

The sets  $X_1$ ,  $\mathcal{F}$ , and  $\mathcal{H}$  are defined as follows:

- $X_1$  (Left): A table with 3 rows and 3 columns.
 

$t_1$	1	2	3
$t_2$	2	1	3
$t_3$	3	2	1
- $\mathcal{F}$  (Middle): A table with 3 rows and 9 columns.
 

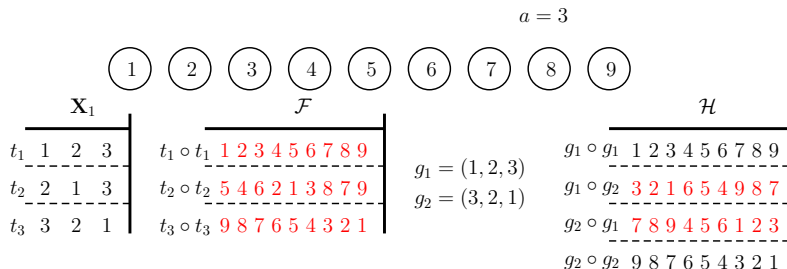
$t_1 \circ t_1$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
$t_2 \circ t_2$	5	4	6	2	1	3	8	7	9
$t_3 \circ t_3$	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
- $\mathcal{H}$  (Right): A table with 4 rows and 9 columns.
 

$g_1 \circ g_1$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
$g_1 \circ g_2$	3	2	1	6	5	4	9	8	7
$g_2 \circ g_1$	7	8	9	4	5	6	1	2	3
$g_2 \circ g_2$	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

The permutation  $g_1$  is defined as  $(1, 2, 3)$  and  $g_2$  is defined as  $(3, 2, 1)$ .

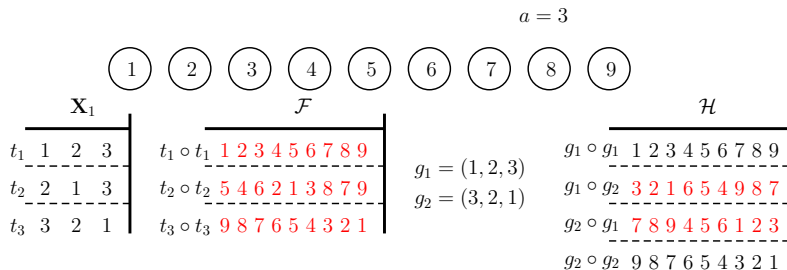
- Start with feasible design  $\mathbf{X}_1 = \{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_{|\mathbf{X}_1|}\}$  for  $a$  items.
- Consider  $\mathcal{F} := \{t_i \circ t_i : i \in [|\mathbf{X}_1|]\}$ .
- Take  $g_1 = (1, 2, \dots, a)$  and  $g_2 = (a, a - 1, \dots, 1)$ . Consider  $\mathcal{H} := \{g_i \circ g_j : i, j \in [2]\}$ .

# Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$



- Start with feasible design  $\mathbf{X}_1 = \{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_{|\mathbf{X}_1|}\}$  for  $a$  items.
- Consider  $\mathcal{F} := \{t_i \circ t_i : i \in [|\mathbf{X}_1|]\}$ .
- Take  $g_1 = (1, 2, \dots, a)$  and  $g_2 = (a, a - 1, \dots, 1)$ . Consider  $\mathcal{H} := \{g_i \circ g_j : i, j \in [2]\}$ .
- Finally, design for  $a^2$  items given by  $\mathbf{X}_2 := \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{H}$ .

# Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$



- $\mathbf{X}_2$  is a feasible design;

## Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$

$$a = 3$$

Diagram illustrating the construction of the permutation  $g_2$  from  $g_1$  and a transposition  $(2, 3)$ .

Nodes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Table  $X_1$ :

$t_1$	1	2	3
$t_2$	2	1	3
$t_3$	3	2	1

Table  $\mathcal{F}$ :

$t_1 \circ t_1$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
$t_2 \circ t_2$	5	4	6	2	1	3	8	7	9
$t_3 \circ t_3$	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

Table  $\mathcal{H}$ :

$g_1 \circ g_1$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
$g_1 \circ g_2$	3	2	1	6	5	4	9	8	7
$g_2 \circ g_1$	7	8	9	4	5	6	1	2	3
$g_2 \circ g_2$	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

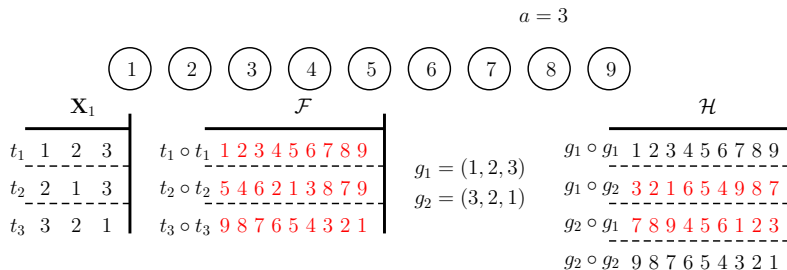
Permutations:

$g_1 = (1, 2, 3)$

$g_2 = (3, 2, 1)$

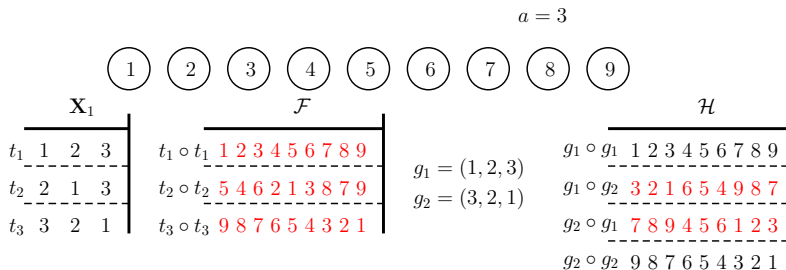
- $\mathbf{X}_2$  is a feasible design;  $|\mathbf{X}_2| \leq |\mathbf{X}_1| + 4$

## Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$



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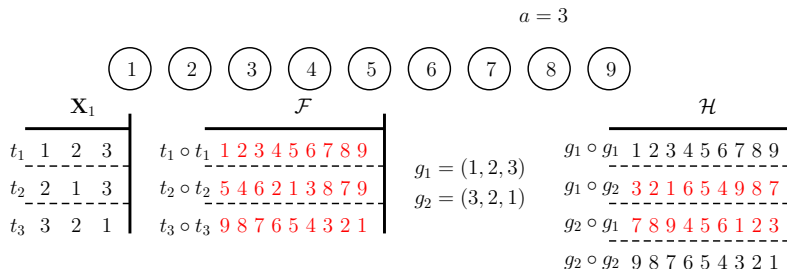
## Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$



- $\mathbf{X}_2$  is a feasible design;  $|\mathbf{X}_2| \leq |\mathbf{X}_1| + 4$
- Recursive design for  $n$  items, with at most  $O(\log \log n)$  tests.

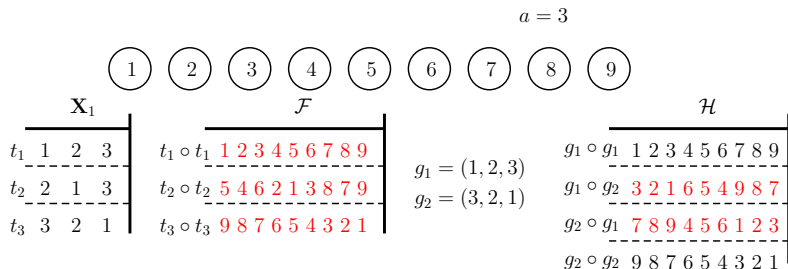


# Non-adaptive testing: $k = 3$



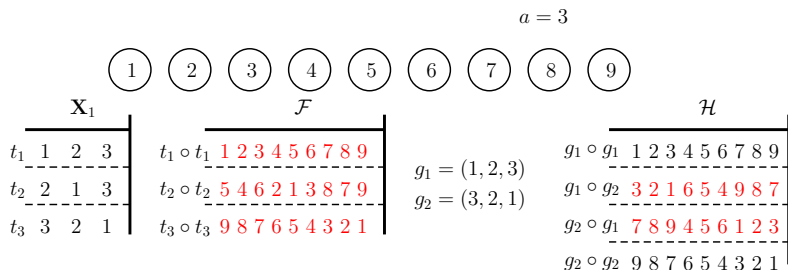
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- Idea generalizes to any constant  $k$ , with at most  $O((\log \log n)^{c_k})$  tests, where  $c_k = 2^{(k-2)} - 1$ .
- Can be much smaller than BGT which needs  $\Omega(k^2 \log_k n)$  tests.

# Cascaded group testing: bounds for $k = O(1)$

<i>BGT</i>	Lower bound	Upper bound
Adaptive	$k \log n$	$k \log n$
Non-adaptive	$k^2 \log n$	$k^2 \log n$

<i>CGT</i>	Lower bound	Upper bound
Adaptive	$k$	$k$
Non-adaptive	$\max\{k^2, \log \log n\}$	$\min\{(\log \log n)^{c_k}, k^2 \log n\}$

# Summary

- New variant of group testing

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- New variant of group testing
- Derived bounds under adaptive and non adaptive testing
- Further directions:
  - ▶ General achievable strategies for any  $k$
  - ▶ Close gap between upper and lower bounds
  - ▶ Noisy and constrained testing



Thanks

<https://sites.google.com/site/nikhilkaram/>

# Non-adaptive testing: disjunct testing matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

↑   ↑   ↑   ↑

2-disjunct

Not 3-disjunct

- *t-disjunct matrix*: Union of any  $t$  columns does not contain any other single column.
- With at most  $k$  defectives,

$$\text{Feasible testing design matrix} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \implies (k-1)\text{-disjunct} \\ \Longleftarrow k\text{-disjunct} \end{array} \right.$$

# Non-adaptive testing: disjunct testing matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{Say } k = 4, \mathbf{X} \text{ not } (k - 1)\text{-disjunct}$$

↑   ↑   ↑   ↑  
blue   red   red   red

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↑   ↑   ↑   ↑  
blue   red   red   red

Say  $k = 4$ ,  $\mathbf{X}$  not  $(k - 1)$ -disjunct

$$\mathbf{X}_1 \preceq \bigvee_{i \in [2:4]} \mathbf{X}_i \implies \bigvee_{i \in [2:4]} \mathbf{X}_i = \bigvee_{i \in [1:4]} \mathbf{X}_i$$

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O/p for  $\mathcal{K} = \{2, 3, 4\}$  same as for  $\mathcal{K} = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

$\implies \mathbf{X}$  not feasible for  $k = 4$ .

2-disjunct

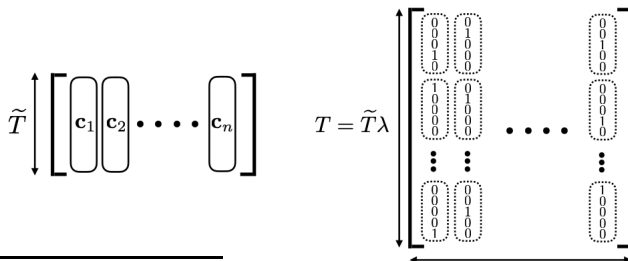
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# Non-adaptive testing: bounds

- *Lower bound*:  $\Omega(k^2 \log_k n)$  tests; connection to  $k$ -cover families [D'yachkov & Rykov'82, Furedi'96]
- *Random construction*:  $O(k^2 \log \frac{n}{k})$  tests; choose each entry i.i.d.  $\sim \text{Ber}(1/(k+1))$ .
- *Explicit construction*:  $O(k^2 \min\{\log_k^2 n, \log n\})$  tests; based on a concatenated code construction [Kautz & Singleton'64, Porat & Rotschild'08]



# Achievable strategies: non-adaptive testing

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- ▶ For  $m \geq 1$ , parity check matrix  $\mathbf{H}$  of a binary Hamming code has dimension  $m \times 2^m - 1$ .

$$\mathbf{H}_{3,7} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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- ▶ Item  $j$  defective  $\Rightarrow$  output

$$\mathbf{y} = \bigvee_{i \in \mathcal{K}} \mathbf{H}_i = \mathbf{H}_j$$

$$\mathbf{H}_{3,7}$$

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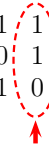
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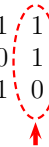
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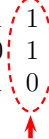
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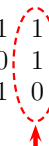
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- *Testing model*: threshold, quantitative, concomitant, tropical, graph-constrained

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