



# Secure Two-Party Distribution Testing

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# Discrete Distribution Testing

Test distributions for statistical properties using sample access.

## Closeness Testing

- ▶ 2 distributions:  $a, b$ .
- ▶ Alphabet:  $[n]$ .
- ▶ Inputs:  $t$  samples from each of  $a$  and  $b$ .

$$\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_t \sim a$$

$$\beta_1 \dots \beta_t \sim b$$

Does  $a = b$  or  $\|a - b\|_1 > \epsilon$ ?

Typical Question: What is  $t$ ? (sample complexity)

$$t = \Theta_\epsilon(n^{2/3}) \text{ [BFR+ 00, Val11, BFR+ 13, CDVV14, DK16, DGPP16]}$$

Many variants:

- ▶ Instance-Optimal [ADJ+ 11, ADJ+ 12, DK16].
- ▶ Unequal sample sizes [AJOS14, BV15, DK16].
- ▶ Quantum [BHH11].



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# This Talk: Two Party Closeness Testing



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## Main Questions:

- ▶ Communication Complexity
- ▶ Security.



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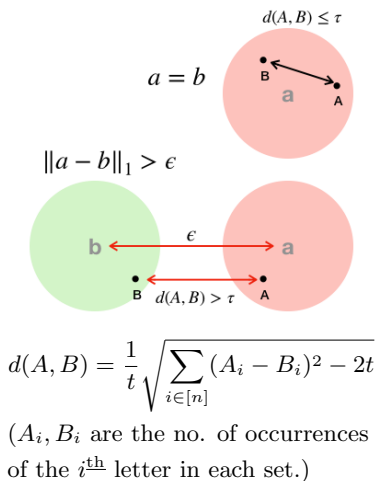
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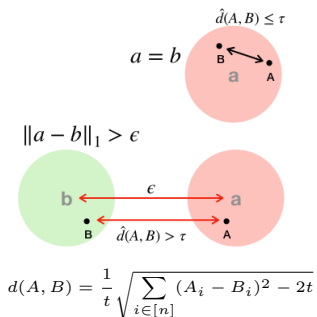
## Testing Closeness - Known Reductions [CDVV14,DK16]



- ▶ Tool:  $\ell_1$  to  $\ell_2$  reduction.
- ▶ Compute *count-distance* for 2 sets of  $t$  samples  $A \sim a, B \sim b$ .
- ▶ Compare to some threshold  $\tau$  to estimate if they originated from SAME or  $\epsilon$ -FAR distributions.
- ▶ Reductions use “splitting” / “flattening” techniques.
- ▶ This results in adjusted alphabet, that **depends on Bob's inputs.**



## Improving communication (still insecurely)



- ▶ Alice and Bob estimate  $\hat{d}(A, B)$  by sketching  $\|A - B\|_2^2$  approximation and comparing to threshold  $\tau$ .
- ▶ With **more samples**, can tolerate **cruder approximation**, gaining **communication efficiency**.

Communication Complexity:  $\tilde{\Theta}_\epsilon(n^2/t^2)$

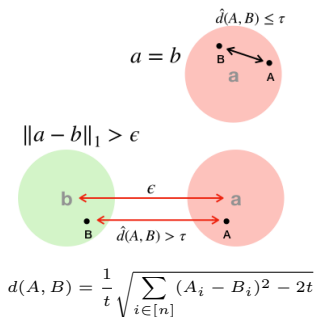
Examples:

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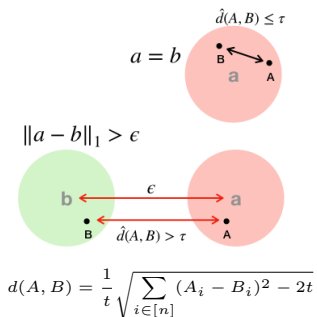
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# Adding Security

- ▶ Applying **generic techniques** for secure computation is **prohibitive** in our context, as we care for **sublinear communication**.
- ▶  $\|A - B\|_2^2$  can be estimated securely and efficiently using a secure (garbled) circuit with **external memory** [IW06].
- ▶ But reductions estimators use an adjusted alphabet that “depend on Bob’s samples”.

**Goal: Securely estimating  $\|A_S - B_S\|_2^2$**

(where  $A_S, B_S$  represent samples over the adjusted alphabet)

- ▶ We need a secure way for Alice and Bob to agree on an alphabet.

**Observation:** *Most letters multiplicity is not affected by alphabet change.*



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# Solution Overview

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- ▶ Secure circuit estimates some distance of the original alphabet.
- ▶ Such estimation is then adjusted by the circuit to account for the adjusted alphabet and “heavy” letters.
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## Secure Closeness: Methods

1. **Adapted Reduction:** adjust alphabet using split set  $S$  sampled from both  $a$  and  $b$ . (avoiding insecure part in reduction)
2. **Capped Samples:** estimate capped sample distance  $\|A' - B'\|_2^2$ . (which is of a similar magnitude as  $\|A_S - B_S\|_2^2$ , over the adjusted alphabet)

**Split Samples:** Recasted samples randomly placed in 1-of- $s$  bins, based on sample multiplicity in multi-set  $S$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 0 \\ 7 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow A_S = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & & & \\ 0 & & & \\ 2 & 4 & 1 & \\ 0 & 1 & & \end{bmatrix}$$

$$S = \{3, 3, 4\}$$

**Capped Samples:** Count samples up to  $L$ .

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## Secure Closeness: Methods (cont)

3. **Adjust for “heavy letters”**: compute  $\|A' - B'\|_2^2 - \|A_S - B_S\|_2^2$  exactly.  
(function of a small number of letters. can be computed over a small-sized circuit)

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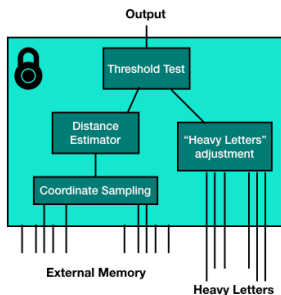
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## Secure Circuit Sketch



1. Sample multiset  $S$  from Alice, Bob.
2. Approximate by sampling from external memory  $\|A' - B'\|_2^2$ .
3. Compute  $\|A_S - B_S\|_2^2 - \|A' - B'\|_2^2$
4. Output “SAME” iff (2) + (3)  $\leq \tau$

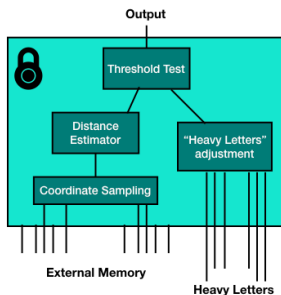
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Communication overhead is a function of security parameter  $k$  independent of  $n$  (assuming PRG/OT).



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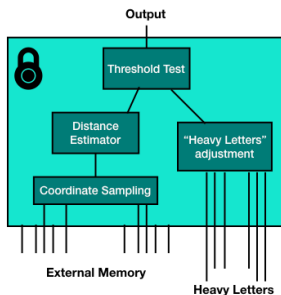
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# Conclusions

- ▶ **Two Party Closeness Testing** can be computed **securely** with  $\tilde{\Theta}_{\epsilon,k}(n^2/t^2)$  communication under standard cryptographic assumptions.
- ▶ We also provide (secure) **Two Party Independence Testing** protocols using  $\tilde{\Theta}_{\epsilon,k}(n^2m/t^2 + nm/t + \sqrt{m})$  communication.
- ▶ We show **tightness** for Closeness Testing, and for some of the parameter regimes of Independence Testing.
- ▶ **More Samples**  $\Leftrightarrow$  **Less Communication**.

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