

Problem Set #6

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All problems are of equal value.

1. The primitive operation we added to deterministic algorithms to make them randomized is the $\text{rand}(k)$ operation, which in 1 operation will return a uniformly random number in the set $\{0, \dots, k-1\}$. In this formalism we are allowed to specify k , and in this problem we will consider what happens when this flexibility is not present.

- (a) Given $k \geq \ell \geq 2$, show how one can output a uniformly random number in $\{0, \dots, \ell-1\}$ by only using $\text{rand}(k)$ as a source of randomness, in $O(1)$ expected time.
- (b) Given $k \geq 2$, show how one can output a uniformly random number in $\{0, \dots, k-1\}$ by only using $\text{rand}(2)$ as a source of randomness, in $O(\log k)$ expected time.

2. In lecture it was shown that the family of hash functions $\mathcal{H}_{k,p}$,

$$\mathcal{H}_{k,p} = \left\{ h : \mathbb{Z}_p^k \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p, h(x) = \sum_{i=1}^k x_i b_i, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p^k \right\},$$

is *universal* for any prime p and integer $k \geq 1$, in that for any $x \neq y \in \mathbb{Z}_p^k$,

$$\Pr_{h \in \mathcal{H}_{k,p}} [h(x) = h(y)] = \frac{1}{p},$$

where h is taken uniformly from $\mathcal{H}_{k,p}$. A stronger requirement is that of *ℓ -wise independence*, which means that for any distinct $x_1, \dots, x_\ell \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ and (not necessarily distinct) $y_1, \dots, y_\ell \in \mathbb{Z}_p$,

$$\Pr_{h \in \mathcal{H}_{k,p}} [h(x_1) = y_1 \wedge \dots \wedge h(x_\ell) = y_\ell] = \frac{1}{p^\ell}.$$

When $\ell = 2$, this is called *pairwise independence*.

- (a) Show that any family of hash functions that is pairwise independent is also universal.
 - (b) Show that $\mathcal{H}_{k,p}$ is not pairwise independent, for every k and p .
 - (c) Show that hash family $\mathcal{H}'_{k,p} = \{h : \mathbb{Z}_p^k \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p, h(x) = c + \sum_{i=1}^k x_i b_i, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p^k, c \in \mathbb{Z}_p\}$ is pairwise independent.
 - (d) Show that $\mathcal{H}'_{k,p}$ is not 3-wise independent, for every k and p with $p^k \geq 3$.
3. Online auction. Kleinberg-Tardos Chapter 13, Problem #10.