

# Randomized Online-Algorithms

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4/25/16  
15-750

## Online Problems

- 1) The Paging Problem
- 2) Server Problem
- 3) Cat/Mouse Games

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## Paging Prob

$N$  pages in slow memory  
 $K$  pages in fast memory  $K < N$  FM

Request seq =  $\sigma = \sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_m$

Cost model

request	cost
$\sigma_i \in FM$	0
$\sigma_i \notin FM$	1

swap in  $\sigma_i$  and evict a page.

## On-line Strategy (Deterministic)

L<sub>RU</sub> = Least Recently Used  
(Evict page not used in longest time)

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## Off-line Strategy (Det)

L<sub>FD</sub> = Longest Forward Distance  
(Evict page not needed for longest time)

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Note L<sub>RU</sub> & L<sub>FD</sub> are lazy algo.  
Eager algo move before needed.

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## Know Results

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Thm Lazy algs suffice

Thm LFD is off-line opt

no pts

Recall Metric Space  $\equiv$

1) Set  $S$

2) Distance measure  $d(, )$

st

$$\forall u \in S \quad d(u, u) = 0$$

$$\forall u, v \in S \quad d(u, v) \geq 0$$

$$\forall u, v, w \in S \quad d(u, v) + d(v, w) \geq d(u, w)$$

(triangle inequality)

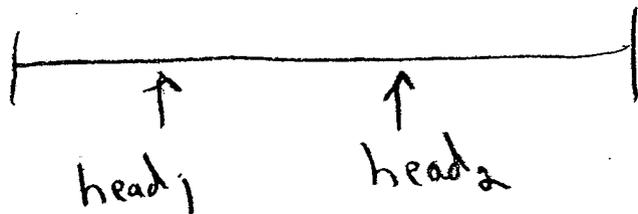
## K-server Prob

- 1) Metric space  $|S| \geq K+1$
- 2) K-servers  $\{h_1, \dots, h_K\} = H \subseteq S$
- 3) Request sequence  $\tau = \tau_1, \dots, \tau_m$   $\tau_i \in S$

## Cost Model

request	Cost
$\tau_i \in H$	0
$\tau_i \notin H$	Move some server $h_j$ to $\tau_i$ Cost $= d(h_j, \tau_i)$

A 2-server example  $\equiv$  2-headed disk Prob.



$$d(\text{head}_1, \text{head}_2) = \text{distance}$$

# Paging Prob as a $k$ -server Prob

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$S$  = pages of slow memory

Fast memory as  $\subseteq S$

$$d(u, v) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } u = v \\ 1 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

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## Known Thms

Thm  $\forall k$ -server prob the competitive factor  $\geq k$ .

Thm  $\forall k$ -server probs  $\exists 2k$ -comp. alg.

Conj  $\forall k$ -server probs  $\exists k$ -comp. alg.

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# Back to Paging Prob

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The competitive factor for LRU versus LFD.

Consider case  $k+1 = N$

Request  $\sigma = 1, 2, 3, \dots, N, 1, 2, 3, \dots, N, 1, 2, \dots$

Note After request  $1, \dots, k$

LRU has a page fault per request.

While

LFD has a page fault every  $(k-1)$ th request.

	FM	requests	cost
eg	$[1, \dots, N-1]$	$1, 2, \dots, N-1$	0
	$[1, \dots, N-2, N]$	$N$	1
	$[1, \dots, N-2, N]$	$1, \dots, N-2$	0
	$[1, \dots, N-3, N-1, N]$	$N-1$	1
	$[ \quad ]$	$N, 1, \dots, N-3$	0
	$[1, \dots, N-4, N-2, N-1, N]$	$N-2$	1

Thus LRU is at most  $(k-1)$ -competitive

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Goal: Get better cont-factor using randomization.

Def A randomized alg  $A$  is  $\epsilon$ -competitive

if  $\exists$  constant  $a \forall$  request seq  $\tau \forall$  alg  $B$   
off-line

$$\text{Expect}[C_A(\tau)] \leq c \cdot C_B(\tau) + a$$

We will show

$\exists$  paging alg (Randomized) that is  $O(\log N)$ -Competitive.

# Yet Another online Prob.

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## The Cat/Mouse Game

1) 1 Cat & 1 Mouse

2)  $N$ -hiding places

Cat  $\equiv$  Seq of probes looking for mouse

Cost  $\equiv$   $\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if mouse found} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$

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Note Cat/Mouse just Paging with  $K+1 = N$

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Question: Find a good randomized strategy for mouse

First Try

RAND: If found move to random new home.

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Claim RAND not good!

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Suppose

Cat visits:  $1, 2, \dots, N-1, 1, 2, \dots, N-1, 1$

She does not probe  $N$ !

Opt off-line: Mouse moves to  $N$

Total cost is 1.

RAND: 1) IF at  $N$  cost is 0

2) IF not at  $N$

What is expected # of moves to land at  $N$ ?

This is the same as:

Expect # of rolls of an  $N$ -sides die  
to get, say,  $N$ .

Let  $E \equiv$  The expected # of rolls

$E$  satisfies recurrence:

$$E = \frac{1}{N}(1) + \left(\frac{N-1}{N}\right)(1+E)$$

$$= 1 + \left(\frac{N-1}{N}\right)E$$

$$\frac{1}{N}E = 1 \Rightarrow E = N$$

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Back to RAND

$$\text{Expect}[\text{RAND}] = N$$

Thus RAND is  $\Omega(N)$ -competitive!

Claim All alg are  $\Omega(\log N)$ -Competitive.

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Pf

Cats Alg: Probe randomly for  $t$  times

where  $t = N \log N$ .

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On-line alg: Expect cost  $\equiv t/N$

thus  $= N \log N / N = \log N$

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Off-line  $\equiv$  Looking into future for a place to hide!

Question: # of probes for cat to inspect every square?

Let  $X$  be a random variable = # probes.

Let  $P_i =$  Prob of seeing a new sq after seeing  $i$  squares.

Thus  $P_i = \frac{N-i}{N}$

let  $X_i =$  Random variable # of probes to see a new sq after seeing  $i$  sq.

Note  $X = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} X_i$  &  $E(X_i) = \frac{N}{N-i}$

Thus  $E(X) = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} E(X_i) = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \frac{N}{N-i} = N \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{i} = \Theta(N \log N)$

Expect cost of off-line =  $O(1)$

$\therefore \Omega(\log N)$  - Competitive

# A Better on-line Alg

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- MARKING :
- 1) Start at random place.
  - 2) Mark each probed place.
  - 3) When found move to random unmarked place.
  - 4) When all places marked unmark and restart.

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Claim Marking is  $O(\log N)$ -competitive.

pf  
Def Phase  $\equiv$  time from a restart to a restart.

## 2 Types of probes

1) probing marked spot (no cost)

2) probing unmarked spot

Since Cat knows your strategy no type 1 probes.

Let  $M =$  # of moves per phase.  
(random variable)

$$M_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if found at probe } i. \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$M = \sum M_i \quad \& \quad E(M_i) = \frac{1}{N-i+1}$$

$$\text{Thus } E(M) = \sum E(M_i) = \Theta(\log N)$$

Since every place probed per phase

$$\text{Opt} \geq 1$$

Thus Marking is  $O(\log N)$ -Competitive

## Marking for Pages

Init  $\equiv$  no marks

- 1) Mark each requested page.
- 2) Eject a random unmarked page.
- 3) When all page in fast memory are marked restart.

Known: This alg is  $2k$ -Competitive