# Dynamic and Distributed Algorithms for Sampling from Gibbs Distributions

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## Gibbs Distribution

$$G = (V, E)$$

$$b_{v}$$

$$e A_{o}$$

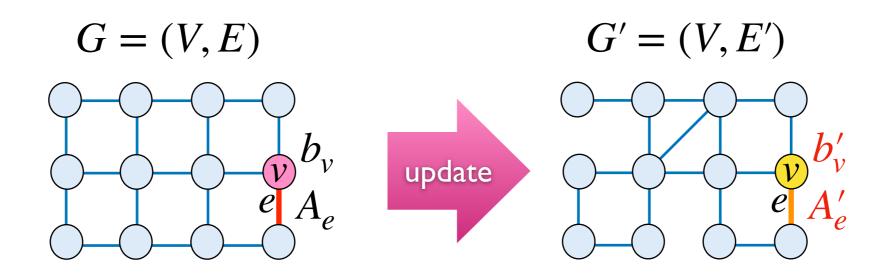
- $q \ge 2$  spin states
- $b_v$  each  $v \in V$ , distribution  $b_v : [q] \to [0,1]$ 
  - each  $e \in E$ , symmetric  $A_e : [q]^2 \to [0,1]$

 $\forall$ configuration  $\sigma \in [q]^V$ :

$$w(\sigma) = \prod_{e=\{u,v\}\in E} A_e\left(\sigma_u, \sigma_v\right) \prod_{v\in V} b_v\left(\sigma_v\right)$$

Gibbs distribution:  $\mu(\sigma) = \frac{w(\sigma)}{Z}$  where  $Z = \sum_{\sigma \in [q]^V} w(\sigma)$ 

# Dynamic Sampling

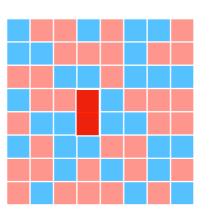


dynamic sampling algorithm:

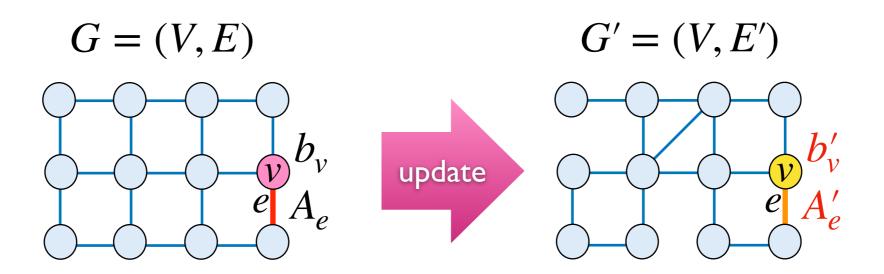


with cost that depends on

|update| ≜ # changed vertices and edges



# Dynamic Sampling

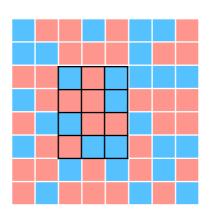


dynamic sampling algorithm:



with cost  $\tilde{O}(|\text{update}|)$ 

|update| ≜ # changed vertices and edges



# Dynamic Sampling

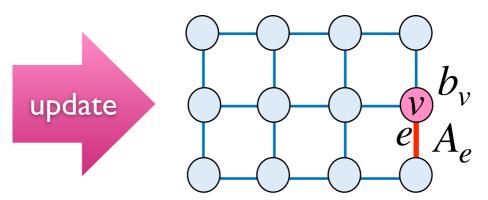
empty graph  $(V, \emptyset)$ 











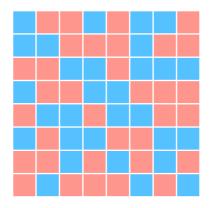
dynamic sampling algorithm:

$$X^{(0)} \sim \bigoplus_{v} b_{v}$$



$$X \sim \mu$$

 $\tilde{O}(|\text{update}|)$  dynamic sampling  $\Longrightarrow \tilde{O}(|E|)$  static sampling



# A Moser-Tardos style algorithm

[Feng, Vishnoi, Y. '19]

Gibbs distribution: 
$$\mu(\sigma) \propto \prod_{e=\{u,v\}\in E} A_e\left(\sigma_u,\sigma_v\right) \prod_{v\in V} b_v\left(\sigma_v\right)$$

current sample:  $X \sim \mu$ 

```
\begin{aligned} R &\leftarrow \{v \in V \mid v \text{ is updated or incident to updated } e\}; \\ \text{while } R \neq \varnothing \text{ do} \\ \text{for every } v \in R, \text{ resample } X_v \sim b_v \text{ independently;} \\ \text{every internal } e &= \{u,v\} \subseteq R \text{ accepts ind. w.p. } A_e(X_u,X_v); \\ \text{every boundary } e &= \{u,v\} \text{ with } u \in R, v \not\in R \text{ accepts ind. w.p.} \\ \frac{A_e(X_u,X_v)}{A_e(X_u^{\text{old}},X_v)} \min A_e\left(X_u^{\text{old}},\cdot\right); \qquad \text{$/\!\!/} X_u^{\text{old}}: X_u \text{ before resampling} \\ R &\leftarrow \bigcup_{e \text{ rejects}} e; \end{aligned}
```

# A Moser-Tardos style algorithm

[Feng, Vishnoi, Y. '19]

Gibbs distribution: 
$$\mu(\sigma) \propto \prod_{e=\{u,v\}\in E} A_e\left(\sigma_u,\sigma_v\right) \prod_{v\in V} b_v\left(\sigma_v\right)$$

current sample:  $X \sim \mu$ 

```
R \leftarrow \{v \in V \mid v \text{ is updated or incident to updated } e\}; while R \neq \emptyset do for every v \in R, resample X_v \sim b_v independently; every internal e = \{u, v\} \subseteq R accepts ind. w.p. A_e(X_u, X_v); every boundary e = \{u, v\} with u \in R, v \notin R accepts ind. w.p.  \propto \frac{A_e(X_u, X_v)}{A_e(X_u^{\text{old}}, X_v)}; \qquad \text{$/// X_u^{\text{old}}$: $X_u$ before resampling } R \leftarrow \bigcup_{e \text{ rejects}} e;
```

# Rejection Sampling

Gibbs distribution: 
$$\mu(\sigma) \propto \prod_{e=\{u,v\}\in E} A_e\left(\sigma_u,\sigma_v\right) \prod_{v\in V} b_v\left(\sigma_v\right)$$

Rejection sampling:  $(X \mid R = \emptyset) \sim \mu$ 

for every  $v \in R$ , sample  $X_v \sim b_v$  independently; every edge  $e = \{u, v\} \in E$  accepts independently w.p.  $A_e(X_u, X_v)$ ;  $R \leftarrow \bigcup_{e \text{ rejects}} e$ 

# A Moser-Tardos style algorithm

[Feng, Vishnoi, Y. '19]

Gibbs distribution: 
$$\mu(\sigma) \propto \prod_{e=\{u,v\}\in E} A_e\left(\sigma_u,\sigma_v\right) \prod_{v\in V} b_v\left(\sigma_v\right)$$

current sample:  $X \sim \mu$ 

```
\begin{aligned} R &\leftarrow \{v \in V \mid v \text{ is updated or incident to updated } e\}; \\ \textbf{while } R \neq \varnothing \textbf{ do} \\ &\text{for every } v \in R, \textbf{resample } X_v \sim b_v \text{ independently;} \\ &\text{every internal } e = \{u,v\} \subseteq R \text{ accepts ind. w.p. } A_e(X_u,X_v); \\ &\text{every boundary } e = \{u,v\} \text{ with } u \in R, v \not\in R \text{ accepts ind. w.p.} \\ &\propto \frac{A_e(X_u,X_v)}{A_e(X_u^{\text{old}},X_v)}; & \text{$//\!\!/} X_u^{\text{old}}; X_u \text{ before resampling} \\ &R \leftarrow \bigcup_{e \text{ rejects}} e; \end{aligned}
```

Partial Rejection Sampling (PRS): [Guo, Jerrum, Liu '17]

## A heat-bath based algorithm

[Feng, Guo, Y. '19]

Gibbs distribution: 
$$\mu(\sigma) \propto \prod_{e=\{u,v\}\in E} A_e\left(\sigma_u,\sigma_v\right) \prod_{v\in V} b_v\left(\sigma_v\right)$$

current sample:  $X \sim \mu$ 

```
R \leftarrow \{v \in V \mid v \text{ is updated or incident to updated } e\};
while R \neq \emptyset do
                                                          constant factor
      pick a random u \in R;
                                                          depends only on
      with probability (\alpha)
                                                              X_{R\cap N(u)}
                                                    do
            resample X_u \sim \mu_u(\cdot \mid X_{N(u)});
                                                     heat-bath
                                                a.k.a. Glauber dynamics
            delete u from R;
                                                    Gibbs sampling
      else
            add all neighbors of u to R;
```

 $N(u) \triangleq \text{neighborhood of } u$ 

#### M-T dynamic sampler

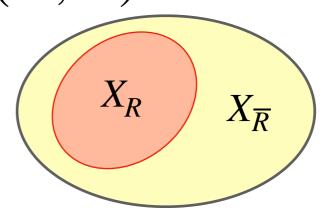
#### heat-bath dynamic sampler

```
R \leftarrow \{\text{vertices affected by update}\}; while R \neq \emptyset do \text{for every } v \in R, \text{resample } X_v \sim b_v \text{ independently;} every internal e = \{u, v\} \subseteq R \text{ accepts w.p.} A_e(X_u, X_v); every boundary e = \{u, v\} \text{ with } u \in R, v \notin R \text{ accepts w.p.} \propto \frac{A_e(X_u, X_v)}{A_e(X_u^{\text{old}}, X_v)}; R \leftarrow \bigcup_{e \text{ rejects}} e;
```

$$R \leftarrow \{ \text{vertices affected by update} \};$$
 while  $R \neq \emptyset$  do pick a random  $u \in R;$  with probability  $\propto \frac{1}{\mu_u(X_u \mid X_{N(u)})}$  do resample  $X_u \sim \mu_u(\; \cdot \mid X_{N(u)});$  delete  $u$  from  $R;$  else add all neighbors of  $u$  to  $R;$ 

chain: 
$$(X,R) \longrightarrow (X',R')$$

configuration  $X \in [q]^V$  set  $R \subseteq V$  of "incorrect" vertices



#### **Conditional Gibbs property:**

Given any R and  $X_R$ , the  $X_{\overline{R}}$  always follows  $\mu_{\overline{R}}^{X_R}$ .



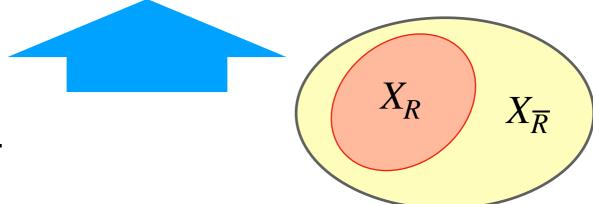
$$X \sim \mu$$
 when  $R = \emptyset$ 

# Equilibrium Condition

chain: 
$$(x, R) \xrightarrow{P} (y, R')$$

#### **Conditional Gibbs property:**

Given any R and  $X_R$ , the  $X_{\overline{R}}$  always follows  $\mu_{\overline{R}}^{X_R}$ .



Fix any  $\sigma \in [q]^R$ ,  $\tau \in [q]^{R'}$ .

$$\forall y \in [q]^V \text{ that } y_{R'} = \tau$$
:

$$\mu_{\overline{R'}}^{\tau}(y_{\overline{R'}}) \propto \sum_{\substack{x \in [q]^V \\ x_R = \sigma}} \mu_{\overline{R}}^{\sigma}(x_{\overline{R}}) \cdot P((x,R),(y,R'))$$

#### M-T dynamic sampler

#### heat-bath dynamic sampler

```
R \leftarrow \{\text{vertices affected by update}\}; while R \neq \emptyset do \{\text{for every } v \in R, \text{resample } X_v \sim b_v \text{ independently;} \} every internal e = \{u, v\} \subseteq R \text{ accepts w.p. } A_e(X_u, X_v); every boundary e = \{u, v\} \text{ with } u \in R, v \notin R \text{ accepts w.p. } \frac{A_e(X_u, X_v)}{A_e(X_u^{\text{old}}, X_v)}; R \leftarrow \bigcup_{e \text{ rejects}} e;
```

$$R \leftarrow \{ \text{vertices affected by update} \};$$
 while  $R \neq \emptyset$  do pick a random  $u \in R;$  with probability  $\propto \frac{1}{\mu_u(X_u \mid X_{N(u)})}$  do resample  $X_u \sim \mu_u(\cdot \mid X_{N(u)});$  delete  $u$  from  $R;$  else add all neighbors of  $u$  to  $R;$ 

chain: 
$$(X,R) \longrightarrow (X',R')$$

#### **Conditional Gibbs property:**

Given any R and  $X_R$ , the  $X_{\overline{R}}$  always follows  $\mu_{\overline{R}}^{X_R}$ .

- defined in [Feng, Vishnoi, Y. '19], also implicitly in [Guo, Jerrum '18]
- retrospectively, holds for *Partial Rejection Sampling* [Guo, Jerrum, Liu '17] and *Randomness Recycler* [Fill, Huber '00]

#### heat-bath dynamic sampler

 $R \leftarrow \{\text{vertices affected by update}\};$ 

while  $R \neq \emptyset$  do

pick a random  $u \in R$ ;

with probability  $\propto \frac{1}{\mu_u(X_u \mid X_{N(u)})}$  do

resample  $X_u \sim \mu_u(\cdot \mid X_{N(u)});$ 

delete u from R;

else

add all neighbors of u to R;

invariant CGP:  $X_{\overline{R}} \sim \mu_{\overline{R}}^{X_R}$ 

chain:

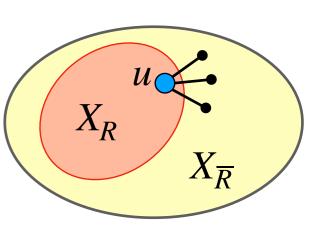
$$(X,R) \longrightarrow (X',R')$$

#### **Conditional Gibbs property:**

Given any R and  $X_R$ ,  $X_{\overline{R}}$  always follows  $\mu_{\overline{D}}^{X_R}$ .

#### success case:

$$R' = R \setminus \{u\}$$



filter

Pr[ filter succeeds ] 
$$\propto \frac{\mu_{\overline{R}}^{X_{R'}}(X_{\overline{R}})}{\mu_{\overline{D}}^{X_{R}}(X_{\overline{R}})} = \frac{\mu_{u}^{X_{R'}}(X_{u})}{\mu_{u}^{X_{N(u)}}(X_{u})} \propto \frac{1}{\mu_{u}^{X_{N(u)}}(X_{u})}$$

Bayes law depends only on 
$$X_R$$

$$\frac{X_{R'}(X_{\overline{R}})}{X_{R}(X_{\overline{R}})} = \frac{\mu_u^{X_{R'}}(X_u)}{\mu_u^{X_{N(u)}}(X_u)} \propto \frac{1}{\mu_u^{X_N}}$$

$$\propto \frac{1}{\mu_u^{X_{N(u)}}(X_u)}$$

$$X_{\overline{R}} \sim \mu_{\overline{R}}^{X_{R'}} + X_u \sim \mu_u(\cdot \mid X_{N(u)}) \Longrightarrow X_{\overline{R'}} \sim \mu_{\overline{R'}}^{X_{R'}}$$



invariant

#### heat-bath dynamic sampler

 $R \leftarrow \{\text{vertices affected by update}\};$ while  $R \neq \emptyset$  do pick a random  $u \in R$ ; with probability  $\propto \frac{1}{\mu_u(X_u \mid X_{N(u)})}$  do resample  $X_u \sim \mu_u(\cdot \mid X_{N(u)});$ delete u from R; else add all neighbors of u to R;

invariant CGP:  $X_{\overline{R}} \sim \mu_{\overline{R}}^{X_R}$ 

chain:

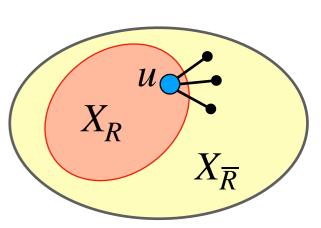
$$(X,R) \longrightarrow (X',R')$$

#### **Conditional Gibbs property:**

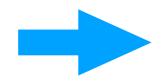
Given any R and  $X_R$ ,  $X_{\overline{R}}$  always follows  $\mu_{\overline{P}}^{X_R}$ .

failure case:

$$R' = R \cup N(u)$$



all vertices whose spins are revealed are includes in R'



invariant CGP:  $X_{\overline{R}'} \sim \mu_{\overline{R}'}^{X_{R'}}$ 

#### M-T dynamic sampler

#### **Efficiency Analysis:**

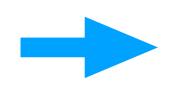
$$\begin{split} R &\leftarrow \{\text{vertices affected by update}\}; \\ \textbf{while } R \neq \varnothing \ \textbf{do} \\ \text{for every } v \in R, \text{resample } X_v \sim b_v \text{ independently;} \\ \text{every internal } e = \{u,v\} \subseteq R \text{ accepts w.p.} A_e(X_u,X_v); \\ \text{every boundary } e = \{u,v\} \text{ with } u \in R, v \not\in R \text{ accepts w.p.} \\ &\propto \frac{A_e(X_u,X_v)}{A_e(X_u^{\text{old}},X_v)}; \\ R \leftarrow \bigcup_{e \text{ rejects}} e; \end{split}$$

$$\mathbf{E}[H(R') \mid R] < H(R)$$

set R (or some potential of it) decays in expectation in every step in the worst case

#### Gibbs distribution: $\mu(\sigma) \propto \prod A_e(\sigma_u, \sigma_v) \prod b_v(\sigma_v)$ $e = \{u,v\} \in E$

- $\bullet \quad \min A_e > 1 \frac{1}{4\Lambda}, \quad \text{where $\Delta$ is the max-degree}$
- Ising model with inverse temp.  $\beta$ :  $e^{-2|\beta|} > 1 \frac{1}{2.221 \Lambda + 1}$
- hardcore model with fugacity  $\lambda < \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\Delta 1}$



- $X' \sim \mu'$  is returned within  $O(\Delta \mid \text{update} \mid)$  resamples  $O(\Delta \mid E \mid)$  time Las-Vegas perfect sampler

# heat-bath dynamic sampler (block version)

```
\begin{split} R \leftarrow & \{ \text{vertices affected by update} \}; \\ \mathbf{while} \ R \neq \varnothing \ \mathbf{do} \\ & \text{pick a random } u \in R \text{ and } \underbrace{r\text{-ball } B = B_r(u);} \\ & \mathbf{with \ probability} \propto \frac{1}{\mu_u(X_u \mid X_{\partial B})} \ \mathbf{do} \\ & \text{resample} \ X_B \sim \mu_B(\; \cdot \mid X_{\partial B}); \\ & \text{delete } u \text{ from } R; \\ & \text{else} \\ & \text{add all boundary vertices in } \partial B \text{ to } R; \end{split}
```

#### strong spatial mixing (SSM):

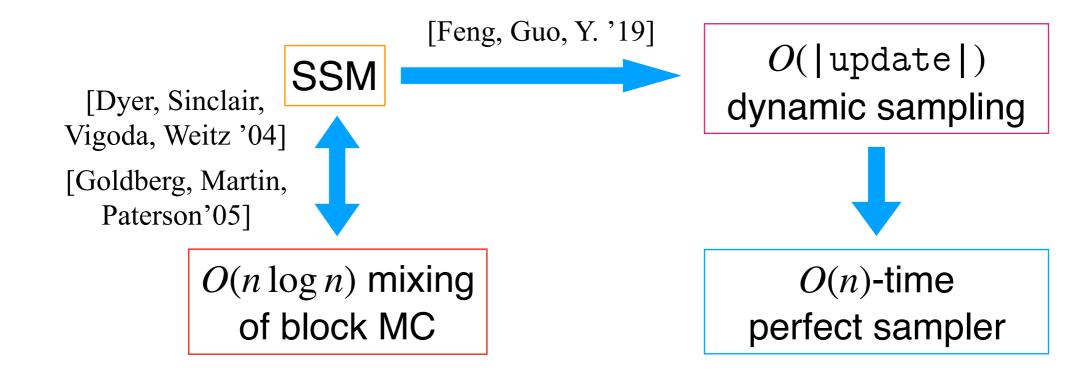
$$d_{\text{TV}}(\mu_v^{\sigma}, \mu_v^{\tau}) \leq \exp(-\Omega(\text{dist}(v, \sigma \oplus \tau)))$$

#### sub-exp neighborhood growth:

$$\forall v, |\partial B_r(v)| \le \exp(o(r))$$

E.g. 
$$\mathbb{Z}^d$$

#### On graphs with *sub-exp* neighborhood growth:



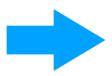
### A data structure approach

[Feng, He, Sun, Y. '20]

Gibbs distribution: 
$$\mu(\sigma) \propto \exp\left(\sum_{v \in V} \phi_v(\sigma_v) + \sum_{e=\{u,v\} \in E} \phi_e(\sigma_u, \sigma_v)\right)$$

Update of graphical model:  $\Phi \to \Phi'$  with diff  $\triangleq \|\Phi - \Phi'\|_1$ 

Dobrushin-Shlosman condition (path coupling cond.)



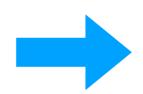
 $O(\text{diff} \cdot \Delta \log n)$  steps differ in single-site transition

efficient data structure (with a space overhead) for resolving such dynamic update

### Caveats

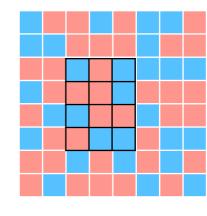
equilibrium:

conditional Gibbs property



#### Correctness:

- dynamic sampling (succinct in space)
- perfect sampling (interruptible)
- Does the <u>conditional Gibbs property</u> require stronger condition to maintain on general graphs?
  - e.g. expanders
- In dynamic sampling: the updated sample and original sample are correlated.
  - far-apart spins: decay of correlation
  - nearby spins: possibly resampled



# Distributed Gibbs Sampling

#### Moser-Tardos sampler

```
R \leftarrow V; // used for static sampling
         while R \neq \emptyset do
in parallel: for every v \in R, resample X_v \sim b_v independently;
in parallel: every internal e = \{u, v\} \subseteq R accepts w.p. A_e(X_u, X_v);
in parallel: every boundary e = \{u, v\} with u \in R, v \notin R accepts w.p.
                                         \propto \frac{A_e(X_u, X_v)}{A_e(X_u^{\text{old}}, X_v)};
```

• 
$$\min A_e > 1 - \frac{1}{4\Delta}$$
  
• Ising model:  $e^{-2|\beta|} > 1 - \frac{1}{2.221\Delta + 1}$   
• hardcore model:  $\lambda < \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\Delta - 1}$   
•  $X \sim \mu$  is returned in  $O(\log n)$  rounds in expectation

e rejects

• hardcore model: 
$$\lambda < \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\Delta - 1}$$

# Distributed Gibbs Sampling

#### Gibbs distribution:

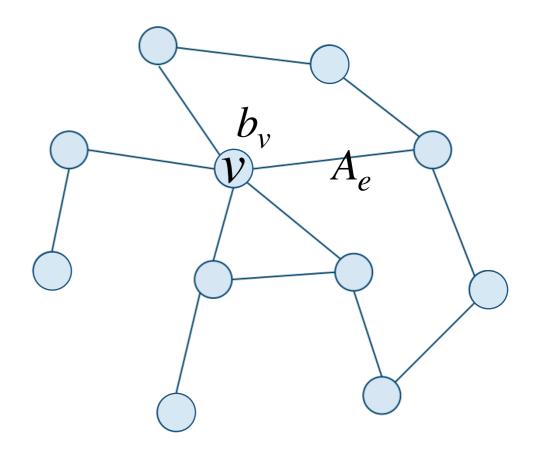
$$\mu(\sigma) \propto \prod_{e=\{u,v\}\in E} A_e\left(\sigma_u,\sigma_v\right) \prod_{v\in V} b_v\left(\sigma_v\right)$$

#### Distributed algorithm:

upon termination return  $X \in [q]^V$ 

- perfect sampling:  $X \sim \mu$
- approx. sampling:  $d_{\text{TV}}(X, \mu) \leq \epsilon$

network G = (V, E)



[Guo, Jerrum, Liu '17] [Feng, Sun, Y. '17]:

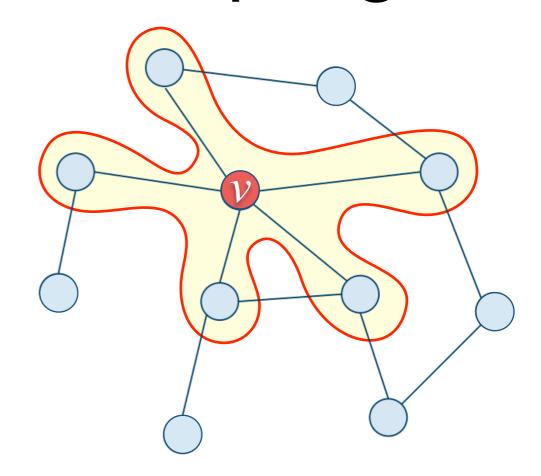
approx. sampling requires  $\Omega(\log n)$  rounds for  $\epsilon < 1/3$ 

# Distributed Gibbs Sampling

#### Single-site dynamics $X \to X'$ :

pick a random  $v \in V$ ; update  $X_v$  according to  $X_{N^+(v)}$ ;

- typical rapid mixing time:  $O(n \log n)$
- requires  $\Omega(n \log n)$  steps to mix [Hayes, Sinclair '07]



Parallelize single-site dynamics:  $O(n \log n)$  steps  $\rightarrow O(\log n)$  rounds

- chromatic scheduler: no adjacent concurrent update  $\Longrightarrow \Omega(\Delta \log n)$  rounds
- Hogwild! (independently random scheduler): biased,
   but may be good enough for local or Lipschitz estimators

[Niu, Recht, Ré, Wright '11], [De Sa, Olukotun, Ré '16], [Daskalakis, Dikkala, Jayanti '18]

## Parallel Metropolis Filters

Gibbs distribution: 
$$\mu(\sigma) \propto \prod_{e=\{u,v\}\in E} A_e\left(\sigma_u,\sigma_v\right) \prod_{v\in V} b_v\left(\sigma_v\right)$$

A Metropolis chain:

$$X \rightarrow X'$$

pick a random  $v \in V$ ; propose a random  $c_v \sim b_v$ ; accept and  $X_v \leftarrow c_v$  w.p.  $\prod_{u \in N(v)} A_{\{u,v\}}(X_u,c_v)$ ;

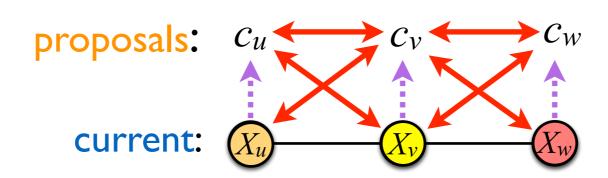
Local-Metropolis chain: [Feng, Sun, Y. '17]

every  $v \in V$  independently proposes  $c_v \sim b_v$ ;

every  $e = \{u, v\} \in E$  accepts independently w.p.

$$A_e(X_u, c_v) \cdot A_e(c_u, X_v) \cdot A_e(c_u, c_v);$$

every  $v \in V$  accepts and  $X_v \leftarrow c_v$  if all its incident edges accepted;



## Parallel Metropolis Filters

Gibbs distribution: 
$$\mu(\sigma) \propto \prod_{e=\{u,v\}\in E} A_e\left(\sigma_u,\sigma_v\right) \prod_{v\in V} b_v\left(\sigma_v\right)$$

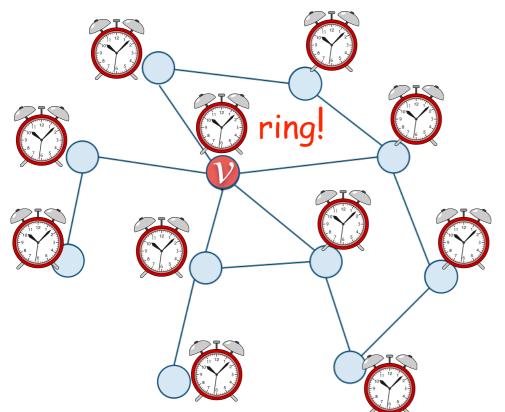
Local-Metropolis chain: [Feng, Sun, Y. '17]

```
every v \in V independently proposes c_v \sim b_v; every e = \{u, v\} \in E accepts independently w.p. A_e(X_u, c_v) \cdot A_e(c_u, X_v) \cdot A_e(c_u, c_v); every v \in V accepts and X_v \leftarrow c_v if all its incident edges accepted;
```

- sample from  $\mu$  when stationary
- improved in [Fischer, Ghaffari '18] [Feng, Hayes, Y. '18]: path coupling for single-site Metropolis  $\Longrightarrow O(\log n)$  rounds mixing
- applied in LCA model [Biswas, Rubinfeld, Yodpinyanee '19]

# Distributed simulation of Continuous chain

#### rate-1 Poisson clocks



when the clock at  $v \in V$  rings:

update  $X_{\nu}$  according to  $X_{N^+(\nu)}$ ;

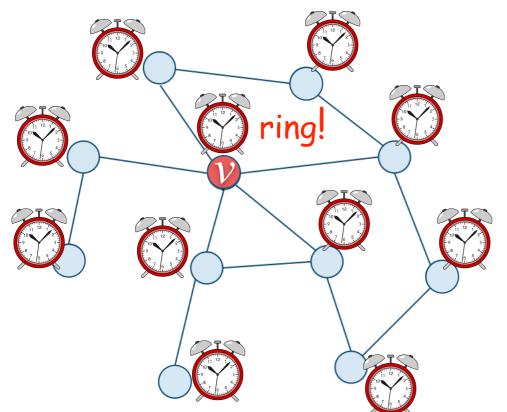
We want: faithfully simulate continuous time T in  $\mathcal{O}(T)$  rounds

To resolve an update at  $v \in V$  at time t:

- naive: wait until  $X_{N^+(v)}$  at time t is known to  $v \implies \Omega(\Delta T)$  rounds
- resolve update in advance: [Feng, Hayes, Y. '19]

# Distributed simulation of Continuous chain

#### rate-1 Poisson clocks



#### **Metropolis Chain**

when the clock at  $v \in V$  rings:

```
propose a random c_v; accept and X_v \leftarrow c_v w.p. \mathrm{Bias}(c_v, X_{N^+(v)});
```

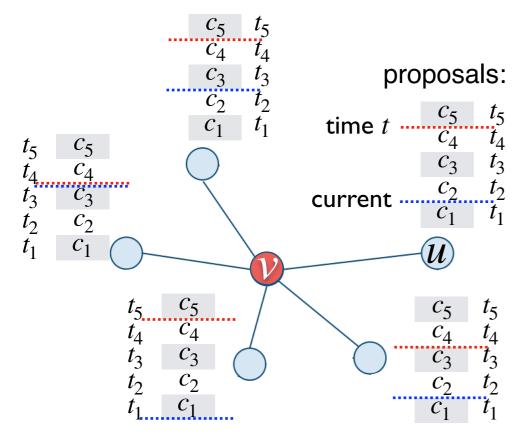
We want: faithfully simulate continuous time T in O(T) rounds

To resolve a proposal  $c_v$  of  $v \in V$  at time t:

- naive: wait until  $X_{N^+(v)}$  at time t is known to  $v \implies \Omega(\Delta T)$  rounds
- resolve update in advance: [Feng, Hayes, Y. '19]

# Distributed simulation of Continuous chain

#### rate-1 Poisson clocks



#### **Metropolis Chain**

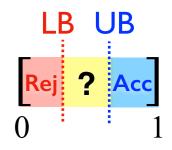
when the clock at  $v \in V$  rings:

```
propose a random c_v; accept and X_v \leftarrow c_v w.p. \mathrm{Bias}(c_v, X_{N^+(v)});
```

We want: faithfully simulate continuous time T in O(T) rounds

To resolve a proposal  $c_v$  of  $v \in V$  at time t:

- naive: wait until  $X_{N^+(v)}$  at time t is known to  $v \implies \Omega(\Delta T)$  rounds
- resolve update in advance: [Feng, Hayes, Y. '19] flip a coin with  ${\tt Bias}(c_v, X_{N^+(v)})$  before  $X_{N^+(v)}$  is fully known



# Faithfully simulate time-T continuous Metropolis chain in $O(T + \log n)$ rounds.

[Feng, Hayes, Y. '19]

model	Efficient simulation	Necessary condition for mixing
<i>q</i> -coloring	$\exists$ constant $C>0$ $q>C\Delta$	$q \ge \Delta + 2$
Ising model with temperature β	$\exists \text{ constant } C > 0$ $1 - e^{-2 \beta } < \frac{C}{\Delta}$	$1 - e^{-2 \beta } < \frac{2}{\Delta}$
hardcore model with fugacity λ	$\exists \ \text{constant} \ \frac{C>0}{\lambda} < \frac{C}{\Delta}$	$\lambda < \frac{(\Delta - 1)^{\Delta - 1}}{(\Delta - 2)^{\Delta}} \approx \frac{e}{\Delta - 2}$

# Summary

Many new ideas for dynamic/distributed sampling.

#### Open problems:

- conditional Gibbs property vs. phase transition
  - e.g. q-coloring on general graphs for  $q = O(\Delta)$
- impact of correlations in dynamic sampling applications
  - e.g. inference, approximate counting
- parallelization of general single-site dynamics
  - e.g. Glauber dynamics
- use these new ideas to improve sampling in classic setting
  - e.g. Moser-Tardos style tight analysis of sampling

# Thank you!