

**PRIVATE AND EFFICIENT
ALGORITHM DESIGN
FROM
ROBUST ESTIMATORS**

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PLAN

INTRO

STATISTICAL ESTIMATION

distribution: p_θ

samples: $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim p_\theta$

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estimator: $\hat{\theta}$

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1. robustness

works under η

fraction corruption

STATISTICAL ESTIMATION

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samples: $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim p_\theta$

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goal: $\|\theta - \hat{\theta}(X)\|$ small

1. robustness

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fraction corruption

2. privacy

changing a sample does not
change the output
distribution

EXPONENTIAL MECHANISM

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score function

$$\text{score}(\theta; X)$$

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$$\text{score}(\theta; X)$$

low sensitivity

$$d_{\text{Ham}}(X, X') = 1 \implies |\text{score}(\theta, X) - \text{score}(\theta, X')| \leq 1$$

EXPONENTIAL MECHANISM

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$$d_{\text{Ham}}(X, X') = 1 \implies |\text{score}(\theta, X) - \text{score}(\theta, X')| \leq 1$$

sample

$$p(\theta) \propto \exp(-\varepsilon \text{score}(\theta; X))$$

ε -dp



EXPONENTIAL MECHANISM

INVERSE SENSITIVITY

good point detector

is (θ, X) a good pair?

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low sensitivity score

$$\text{score}(\theta, X) = \min_{X'} \text{Ham}(X, X') \text{ such that } \theta \text{ is good for } X'$$

sensitivity 1



EXPONENTIAL MECHANISM

INVERSE SENSITIVITY

low sensitivity score

$$\text{score}(\theta, X) = \min_{X'} \text{Ham}(X, X') \text{ such that } \theta \text{ is good for } X'$$

key insight: inverse sensitivity exp mech outputs low scoring points when applied to robust estimators

EFFICIENCY



E

\mathbb{R}

a linear functional

$$\tilde{E} : \text{polynomials} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$\tilde{\mathbb{R}}$

a linear functional

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} : \text{polynomials} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}1 = 1$$

degree- d

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}p^2(x) \geq 0$$

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 \vDash

SATISFIES

\mathbb{R}

a linear functional

$$\tilde{E} : \text{polynomials} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\tilde{E}1 = 1$$

degree- d

$$\tilde{E}p^2(x) \geq 0$$

 \mathbb{F}

set of polynomial constraints

$$A = \{p_i(x) \geq 0\}$$

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$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} \vDash_d A \iff \tilde{\mathbb{E}}q^2(x) \prod_{i \in S} p_i(x) \geq 0$$

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a linear functional

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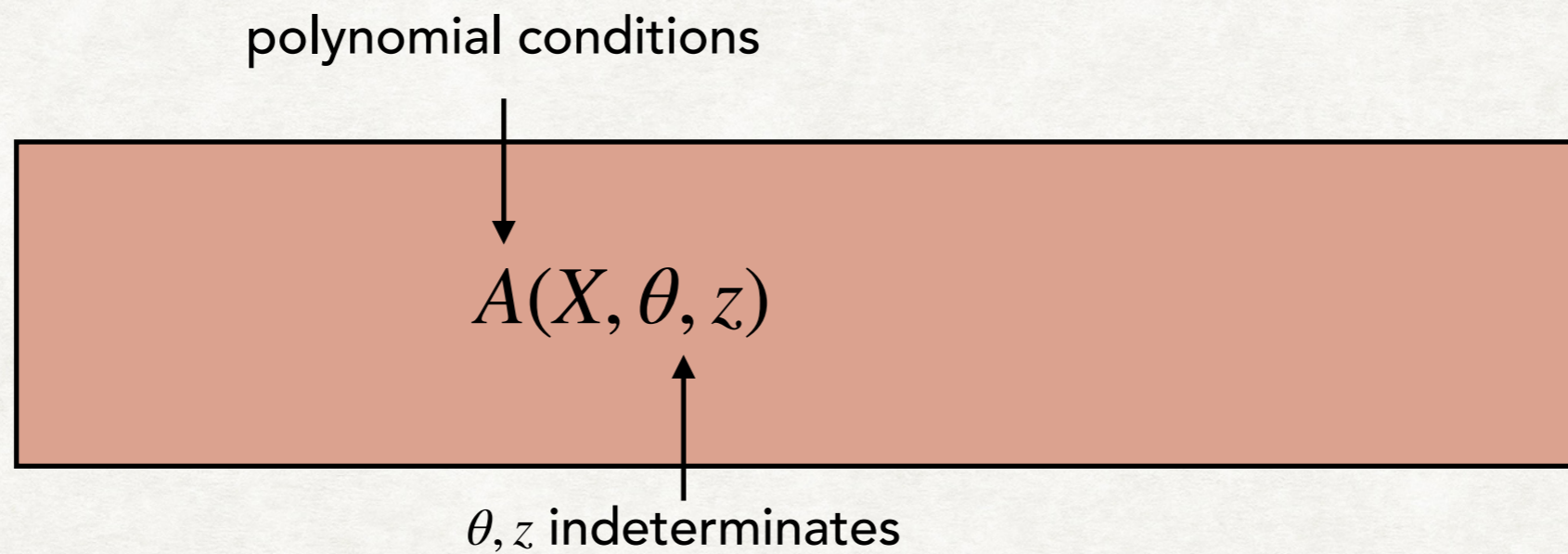
degree- d

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} \mathbb{F}_d A \iff \tilde{\mathbb{E}}q^2(x) \prod_{i \in S} p_i(x) \geq 0$$

$$n^{O(d)}$$

SOS BASED ROBUST ESTIMATORS

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SOS BASED ROBUST ESTIMATORS

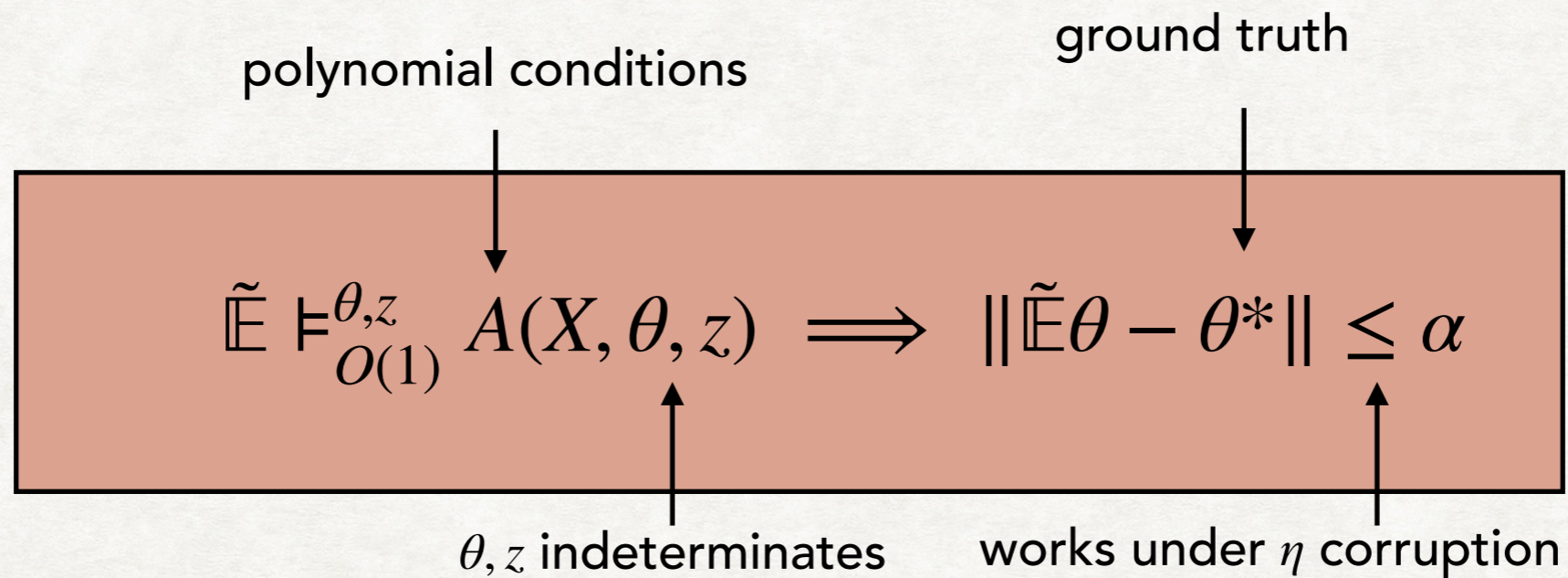
polynomial conditions

A diagram illustrating the relationship between polynomial conditions and a set of equations. A large light-brown rectangular box contains the equation $\tilde{E} \stackrel{\theta, z}{=}_{O(1)} A(X, \theta, z)$. An arrow points from the text "polynomial conditions" above to the top of the box. Another arrow points from the text " θ, z indeterminates" below to the bottom of the box.

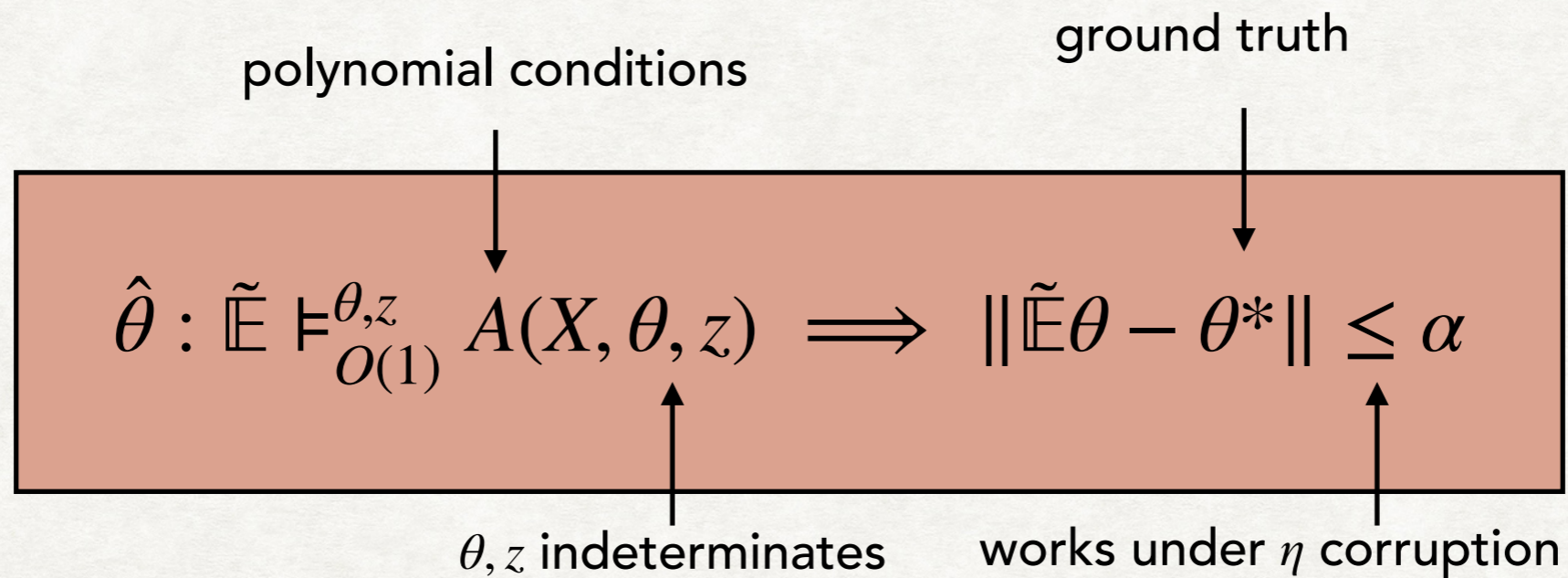
$$\tilde{E} \stackrel{\theta, z}{=}_{O(1)} A(X, \theta, z)$$

θ, z indeterminates

SOS BASED ROBUST ESTIMATORS



SOS BASED ROBUST ESTIMATORS



CHALLENGES

$$\hat{\theta} : \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \vdash_{O(1)}^{\theta, z} A(X, \theta, z) \implies \|\tilde{\mathbb{E}}\theta - \theta^*\| \leq \alpha$$

θ, z indeterminates

works under η corruption

sos based robust estimator

CHALLENGES

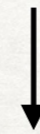
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robust estimator



$\text{score}(\theta, X) = \min_{X'} \text{Ham}(X, X')$ such that $\hat{\theta}$ thinks (X, θ) are good

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computing score

robust estimator

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efficient sampling

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EFFICIENT SCORE FUNCTIONS

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$$A(X, \theta, z)$$

estimation program

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inverse sensitivity

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estimation program

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inverse sensitivity

move the counting inside the sos program

EFFICIENT SCORE FUNCTIONS

move the counting inside the sos program

number of points allowed to change

$$B_t := \left\{ \begin{array}{l} w_i^2 = w_i, \\ \sum_{i=1}^n w_i = n - t, \\ w_i X_i = w_i X'_i \end{array} \right\}$$

$$C_t := B_t \cup A$$

new constraints

EFFICIENT SCORE FUNCTIONS

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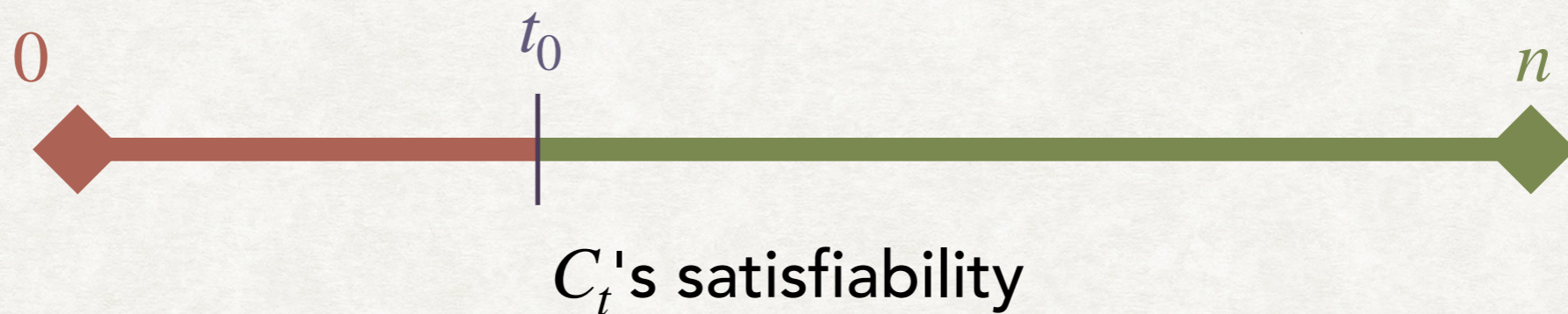
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new constraints

score($\theta; X$) := min _{t} such that

\exists degree $O(1)$ \tilde{E} in X', w', θ', z

$\tilde{E} \models C_t, \quad \|\tilde{E}\theta' - \theta\| \leq \alpha$

new score

EFFICIENT SCORE FUNCTIONS

$\text{score}(\theta; X) := \min_t$ such that

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EFFICIENT SCORE FUNCTIONS

$\text{score}(\theta; X) := \min_t$ such that

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$$\tilde{E} \vDash C_t, \quad \|\tilde{E}\theta' - \theta\| \leq \alpha$$

new score

accuracy

$$\tilde{E} \vDash C_{\eta n} \implies \|\tilde{E}\theta' - \theta^*\| \leq \tilde{O}(\eta)$$

sos proofs generalize

low scoring \tilde{E} gives high quality estimate

EFFICIENT SCORE FUNCTIONS

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new score

accuracy

privacy

$\tilde{E} \vDash C_{\eta n} \implies \|\tilde{E}\theta' - \theta^*\| \leq \tilde{O}(\eta)$

still low sensitivity

sos proofs generalize

low scoring \tilde{E} gives high quality estimate

EFFICIENT SCORE FUNCTIONS

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computing score

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binary search?

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new score

computing score

binary search?

issue: fix t , can't verify if \tilde{E} exists or not

bit complexitiy



EFFICIENT SCORE FUNCTIONS

τt -approximate pseudo-expectation

score($\theta; X$) := \min_t such that

\exists degree $O(1)$ \mathcal{L} in X', w', θ', z

$$\mathcal{L} \models_{\tau t\text{-approx}} C_t, \quad \|\mathcal{L}\theta' - \theta\|_\infty \leq \alpha/\sqrt{d} + \tau t$$

new score

EFFICIENT SCORE FUNCTIONS

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new score

computing score

efficiently computable
ellipsoid + binary search

CHALLENGES

τt -approximate pseudo-expectation

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ellipsoid + binary search

efficient sampling

?

EFFICIENT SAMPLING

$\text{score}(\theta; X) := \min_t$ such that

\exists degree $O(1)$ \tilde{E} in X', w', θ', z

$\tilde{E} \vDash C_t, \quad \|\tilde{E}\theta' - \theta\| \leq \alpha$

if $\text{score}(\theta; X)$ was convex
 \implies we could sample efficiently

EFFICIENT SAMPLING

score($\theta; X$) := \min_t such that

\exists degree $O(1)$ \tilde{E} in X', w', θ', z

$$\tilde{E} \vDash C_t, \quad \|\tilde{E}\theta' - \theta\| \leq \alpha$$

issue: score is not convex

$$\tilde{E}_1 \vDash C_{t_1}, \tilde{E}_2 \vDash C_{t_2} \not\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}(\tilde{E}_1 + \tilde{E}_2) \vDash C_{\frac{1}{2}(t_1+t_2)}$$

EFFICIENT SAMPLING

$\text{score}(\theta; X) := \min_t$ such that

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but, it's quasi-convex:

the sub-level sets $\{\theta : \text{score}(\theta; X) \leq t\}$ are convex

\implies we can design a sampler

CHALLENGES

$\text{score}(\theta; X) := \min_t$ such that

\exists degree $O(1)$ \tilde{E} in X', w', θ', z

$\tilde{E} \models C_t, \quad \|\tilde{E}\theta' - \theta\| \leq \alpha$

computing score

efficiently computable

approximate satisfiability, ellipsoid,
binary search

efficient sampling

efficient and private sampler for
quasi-convex score

convex body sampling techniques

RECIPE

1. make a score function $S(\theta; X)$
for sos based robust estimators, make the score as described in the previous slides

RECIPE

1. make a score function $S(\theta; X)$
2. show it has bounded sensitivity

$$|S(\theta; X) - S(\theta; X')| \leq 1$$

RECIPE

1. make a score function $S(\theta; X)$
2. show it has bounded sensitivity
3. show it is quasi-convex
convex level sets

RECIPE

1. make a score function $S(\theta; X)$
2. show it has bounded sensitivity
3. show it is quasi-convex
4. show it is efficiently computable
can find the score up to error γ in time
 $\text{poly log}(1/\gamma)$, we showed this for sos based scores

RECIPE

1. make a score function $S(\theta; X)$
2. show it has bounded sensitivity
3. show it is quasi-convex
4. show it is efficiently computable
5. show it can be efficiently approximately minimized
can find a point with score of $\min_{\theta} S + 1$

RECIPE

1. make a score function $S(\theta; X)$ (exp mechanism)
2. show it has bounded sensitivity (privacy)
3. show it is quasi-convex (efficient sampling)
4. show it is efficiently computable (computing score)
5. show it can be efficiently approximately minimized (efficient sampling)

Theorem: Let V_η be the volume of points with score less than ηn , $\eta_0 > 0$. Then if there exists a point with score less than $\eta_0 n$, the exponential mechanism with score function S as above outputs a point with score less than $2\eta_0 n$ with high probability, as long as

$$n = \Omega \left(\max_{\eta_0 \leq \eta \leq 1} \frac{\log(V_\eta / V_{\eta_0})}{\varepsilon \cdot \eta} \right).$$

APPLICATIONS

GAUSSIAN MEAN ESTIMATION

assumption: $\|\mu\| \leq R$

Theorem: There exists a private and polynomial time algorithm that can estimate the mean of $\mathcal{N}(\mu, I)$ up to error α using n samples.

$$n = \tilde{O} \left(\frac{d}{\alpha^2} + \frac{d}{\alpha\varepsilon} + \frac{d \log R}{\varepsilon} \right), \quad \text{under } (\varepsilon, 0)\text{-dp}$$

$$n = \tilde{O} \left(\frac{d}{\alpha^2} + \frac{d}{\alpha\varepsilon} + \frac{\log(1/\delta)}{\varepsilon} \right), \quad \text{under } (\varepsilon, \delta)\text{-dp}$$

LEARNING GAUSSIANS

assumption: $\|\mu\| \leq R, \quad \frac{1}{K} \cdot I \preceq \Sigma \preceq K \cdot I$

Theorem: There exists a private and polynomial time algorithm that can estimate $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$ up to TV distance α using n samples.

$$n = \tilde{O} \left(\frac{d^2}{\alpha^2} + \frac{d^2}{\alpha \varepsilon} + \frac{d^2 \log K}{\varepsilon} + \frac{d \log R}{\varepsilon} \right), \quad \text{under } (\varepsilon, 0)\text{-dp}$$

$$n = \tilde{O} \left(\frac{d^2}{\alpha^2} + \frac{d^2}{\alpha \varepsilon} + \frac{\log(1/\delta)}{\varepsilon} \right), \quad \text{under } (\varepsilon, \delta)\text{-dp}$$