



# Dilution Group Testing: Novel Bounds via Practical Decoders

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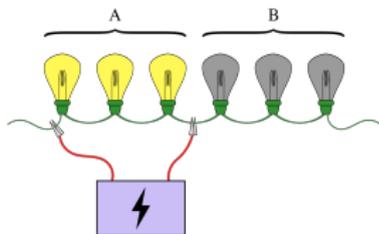
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# Overview

- Motivation
- Problem Setup
- NDD Algorithm
- Achievability Result for NDD
- Converse Results
- Experimental Results

# Motivation



## Contributions:

- First achievability results for DCN
- Preliminary results on the algorithm-independent converse

## Problem Setup

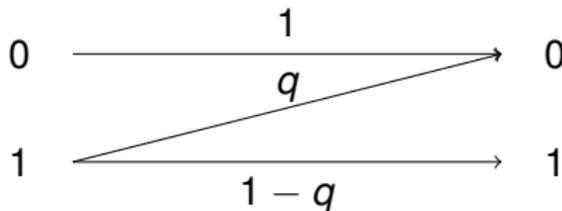
- $n$ : total number of items;
- $d = \Theta(n^\theta)$ : number of defective items for  $\theta \in (0, 1)$ ;
- $T = \beta d \log n$ : number of tests sufficient for vanishing  $P_e$ ;
- $\sigma$ : Parameter of interest (Boolean vec.) defectives (1) & non-defectives (0);
- $\hat{\sigma}$ : Estimate (Boolean vec.) defectives (1) & non-defectives (0);
- $M$ :  $n \times T$  design matrix ( $m_{(i,j)} \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\frac{\alpha}{d})$ );

- $\mathcal{D}$ : set of indices for defective items
- Noiseless Model:

$$Y_j = \bigvee_{i \in \mathcal{D}} M_{i,j}$$

- Dilution Model: Samples can get diluted. Z-Channel with transition probability  $q$ :

$$Y_j = \bigvee_{i \in \mathcal{D}} \mathcal{Z}(M_{i,j})$$



## NDD Algorithm [Scarlett & Johnson 2020]

### NDD Algorithm for Dilution Noise

1. For each  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , let  $N_{\text{neg},i}$  be the number of negative tests in which item  $i$  is included. In the first step, fix a constant  $\xi \in (q, 1)$  and construct the following set of possibly defective items:

$$\hat{PD} = \left\{ i \in \{1, \dots, n\} : N_{\text{neg},i} < \frac{\xi T \alpha}{d} \right\}$$

2. For each  $i \in \hat{PD}$ , let  $N'_{\text{pos},i}$  be the number of positive tests that include item  $j$  and no other item from  $\hat{PD}$ . We estimate the defective set as follows:

$$\hat{\sigma} = \left\{ i \in \hat{PD} : N'_{\text{pos},i} > 0 \right\}$$

## Achievability Result for NDD

**Theorem 2.** For noisy group testing under dilution channel noise with parameter  $q \in (0, 1)$ , in the sparsity regime  $d = \Theta(n^\theta)$ , with  $\theta \in (0, 1)$ , **NDD achieving  $P_e \rightarrow 0$  requires no more than**

$$T > \max \{T_a, T_b, T_c\}$$

tests, where

$$T_a = \frac{d \log d \cdot (1 + o(1))}{\alpha q e^{-\alpha(1-q)} \cdot D\left(\frac{\xi}{q} e^{\alpha(1-q)}\right)}$$

$$T_b = \frac{(1 - \nu) \cdot e^{\alpha(1-q)} \cdot d \log n \cdot (1 + o(1))}{\alpha \cdot D\left(\xi e^{\alpha(1-q)}\right)}$$

$$T_c = \frac{e^\alpha d \log d \cdot (1 + o(1))}{\alpha(1 - q)}$$

for Bernoulli designs with parameter  $\frac{\alpha}{d}$ ,  $\xi \in (q, e^{-\alpha(1-q)})$ ,  $D(x) := x \log(x) - x + 1$ , and  $\nu$  arbitrarily close to  $\theta$ .

## Converse Results

### Claim 5.

The strong converse number of tests  $T_{sc}$  below which  $P_e \rightarrow 1$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for any dilution group testing algorithm is given by:

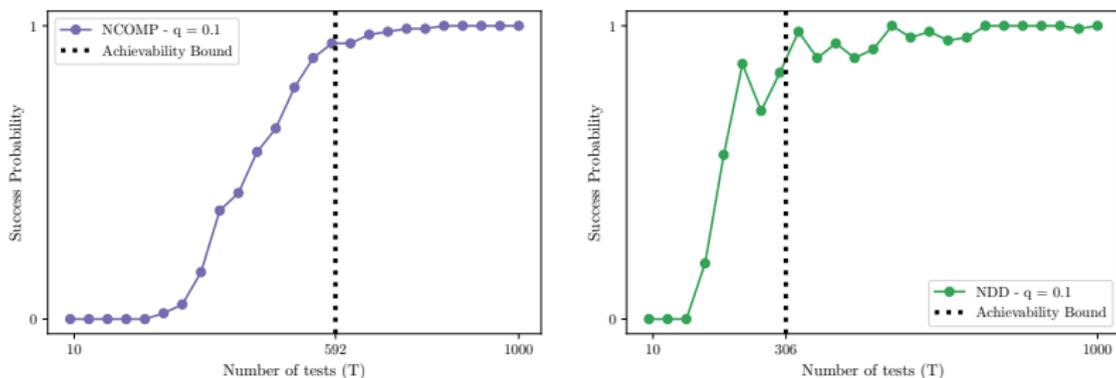
$$T_{sc} = \frac{\log_2 \binom{n}{k}}{\max_{\alpha \in [0, d]} H_b(e^{-\alpha(1-q)}) - \mathbb{E}_X[H_b(q^X)]} (1 - \eta)(1 + o(1))$$

where  $H_b$  is the binary entropy function,  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\alpha)$ ,  $\eta > 0$ .

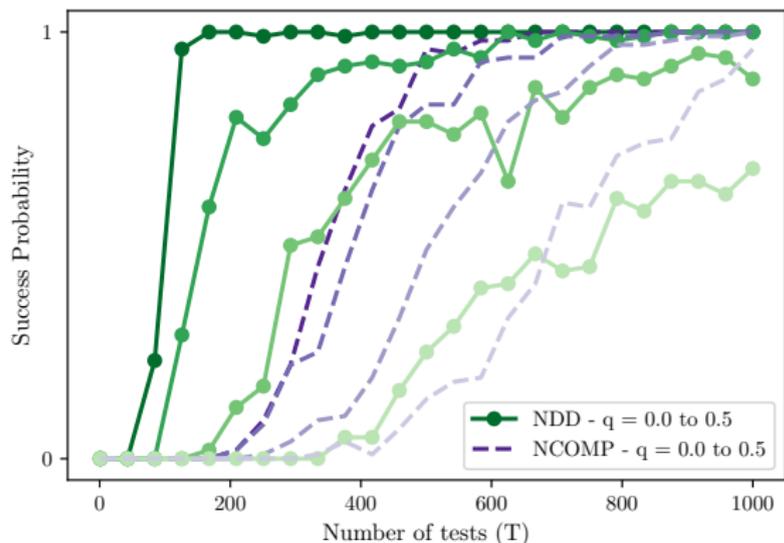
### Claim 6.

For  $q \in (0, 0.5)$ ,  $T_{sc} \in [d \log_2(\frac{n}{d}), \frac{d \log_2(\frac{n}{d})}{1 - H_b(q)}]$ .

# Experimental Results



**Figure:** *NCOMP* (left) and *NDD* (right) with dilution noise;  $q = 0.1$ ,  $n = 10000$ ,  $\theta = 0.15$ ,  $d = 6 \sim O(2n^{0.15})$



**Figure:** Comparison of the *NCOMP* and *NDD* algorithms;  
 $q = \{0.00001, 0.1, 0.3, 0.5\}$ ,  $n = 10000$ ,  $\theta = 0.15$ ,  $d = 6 \sim O(2n^{0.15})$

**Thank you!**

## References

[SJ 2020]: J. Scarlett and O. Johnson, “Noisy non-adaptive group testing: A (near-)definite defectives approach,” IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, 2020.

Pictures on slide 3 obtained from:

- [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/f/fa/Group\\_testing\\_lightbulbs.svg/1200px-Group\\_testing\\_lightbulbs.svg.png](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/f/fa/Group_testing_lightbulbs.svg/1200px-Group_testing_lightbulbs.svg.png)
- <https://images.agoramedia.com/EverydayHealth/gcms/Blood-Test-for-Pancreatic-Cancer-Shows-Early-Promise-1.jpg>

## Sketch of Proof

**Step 1** ( $T_a$ ): Ensure  $\hat{P}D$  contains all defectives. Bound  $N_{\text{neg}, i}$ , obtain  $T_a$ .

$$N_{\text{neg}, i} \sim \text{Binomial} \left( T, q \frac{\alpha}{d} \cdot \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha(1-q)}{d} \right)^{d-1} \right)$$

$$\mathbb{P}[\exists k \in \mathcal{K} : k \notin \hat{P}D] \leq e^{f(T)}$$

**Step 1** ( $T_b$ ): Ensure  $\hat{P}D$  contains no more than  $n^\nu$  non-defective items,  $\nu \in (0, \theta)$ . For  $i \notin \mathcal{D}$ :

$$\mathbb{P}[i \in \hat{P}D | N_{\text{neg}} = Te^{-\alpha}] \leq \exp\left(- (Te^{-\alpha})^{\frac{\alpha}{d}} D(1 - \eta) \cdot (1 + o(1))\right)$$

**Step 2:** ( $T_C$ ): Ensure all defectives in  $\hat{P}D$  are correctly classified.

$$\left( N'_{\text{pos},j} | \hat{p}d, g, n_{\text{neg}} \right) \sim \text{Binomial} \left( T \left( 1 - e^{\alpha(1-q)} \right), \frac{\alpha(1-q)e^{-\alpha}}{d(1 - e^{-\alpha(1-q)})} \right)$$