# Patterned non-determinism in communication complexity 

# (Results and applications) 

Dmytro Gavinsky

Institute of Mathematics, Praha
Czech Academy of Sciences

In 2022 the speaker changed the English spelling of his first name from the previous russian-odoured form "Dmitry" to the Ukrainian "Dmytro".

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Therefore, the communication complexity setting is one of those few that are both "powerful" and "understandable" enough to be interesting.
- We can often compare the "strength" of two communication regimes via presenting a problem with an efficient solution in one, but not in the other. This can lead to non-trivial unconditional structural separations - that is to statements that certain tasks are efficiently solvable in one regime of communication but not in the other.


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Therefore, the communication complexity setting is one of those few that are both "powerful" and "understandable" enough to be interesting.
- We can often compare the "strength" of two communication regimes via presenting a problem with an efficient solution in one, but not in the other. This can lead to non-trivial unconditional structural separations - that is to statements that certain tasks are efficiently solvable in one regime of communication but not in the other.
- During this talk we will define and investigate a new model of non-deterministic communication, which we will call patterned non-determinism (PNP).


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The input pair is accepted by a non-deterministic protocol if at least one advice value leads to its acceptance.

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Alternatively, $f:\{0,1\}^{n} \times\{0,1\}^{n} \rightarrow\{T, \perp\}$ has an efficient non-deterministic protocol if it admits a decomposition of the form

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f(x, y) \equiv \bigvee_{i=1}^{m} f_{i}(x, y)
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where $m$ is at most quasi-polynomial in $n$ and every $f_{i}$ has an efficient deterministic protocol: In this case a legitimate advice for input $(x, y)$ would be any index $i_{0}$ such that $f_{i 0}(x, y)=T$.

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- Clearly, non-deterministic protocols are at least as strong as deterministic ones; on the other hand, there are functions with very efficient non-deterministic protocols but with deterministic complexity in $\Omega(n)$.


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- UP is the sub-class of $N P$, where every input has at most one advice value that leads to its acceptance; alternatively, $f \in U P$ if it has an $N P$-decomposition $f(x, y)=\vee_{i=1}^{m} f_{i}(x, y)$ is such that $\forall x, y$ : $\left|\left\{i \mid f_{i}(x, y)=T\right\}\right| \leq 1$.


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- FewP is the sub-class of $N P$, where every input has at most poly- $\log (n)$ advice values leading to its acceptance; alternatively, $f \in$ Few $P$ if $\forall x, y$ : $\left|\left\{i \mid f_{i}(x, y)=\top\right\}\right| \leq$ poly- $\log (n)$ in an $N P$-decomposition of $f(x, y)$.


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- For $f:\{0,1\}^{n} \times\{0,1\}^{n} \rightarrow\{\top, \perp\}$ with an $N P$-decomposition

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let the corresponding family of accepting patterns be defined as

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\Gamma_{f} \stackrel{\text { def }}{=}\left\{\left\{i \mid f_{i}(x, y)=T\right\} \mid(x, y) \in\{0,1\}^{n} \times\{0,1\}^{n}\right\} .
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- Then $f \in P N P$ if $\left|\Gamma_{f}\right|$ is at most quasi-polynomial in $n$.


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- "Totality" is crucial for these model equivalences: for partial functions even $U P \neq P$.


## The pattern search problem

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- We shall see next how the above statement leads to certain (possibly, surprising) model equivalence in multi-party communication complexity.


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Alternatively, Alice interacts with Bob; Charlie sees the full transcript of their conversation and produces the answer.

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The argument will be based on the possibility of efficient pattern searching in (bipartite) PNP.


## Proof idea

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- That is, $\forall\left(x_{0}, y_{0}\right) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$ the message $\alpha_{x_{0}, y_{0}}$ allows to compute for every $Z \in \mathcal{Z}$.

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Cheating alert: $|\mathcal{Z}|$ can be as large as $2^{n}$ (easy to fix).


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- Accordingly, for every $(x, y) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$ the corresponding accepting pattern - that is, the set

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- The desired existence of an efficient protocol for $f(X, Y, Z)$ in the model $[(X \leftrightarrow Y) \rightarrow Z]$ follows.


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