

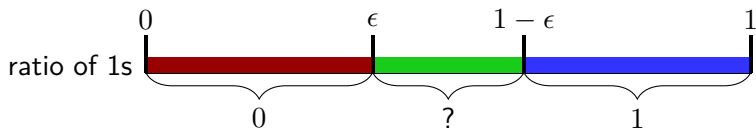
Size Bounds on Low Depth Circuits for Promise Majority

Joshua Cook

The University of Texas at Austin

July 3, 2022

Promise Majority



Approximate majority[1], promise majority[3], approximate selector[2], etc.

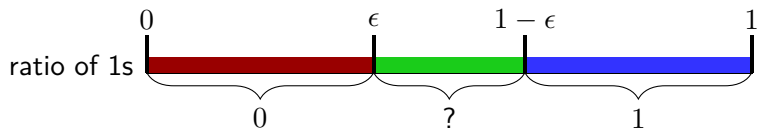
Definition (Promise Majority)

For $n \in \mathbf{N}$, $\epsilon \in (0, 1/2)$, and function $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$, we say f solves ϵ -promise majority if for all $x \in \{0, 1\}^n$ with $\sum_{i \in [n]} x_i < \epsilon n$ and for all $y \in \{0, 1\}^n$ with $\sum_{i \in [n]} 1 - y_i < \epsilon n$

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- Often usable in place of majority, in circuit derandomization.

Promise Majority



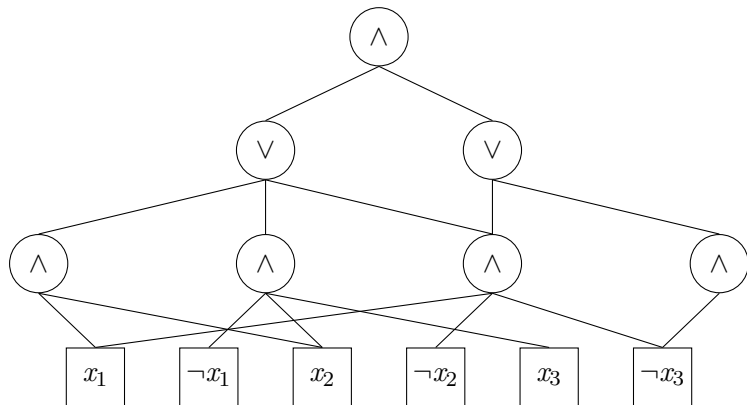
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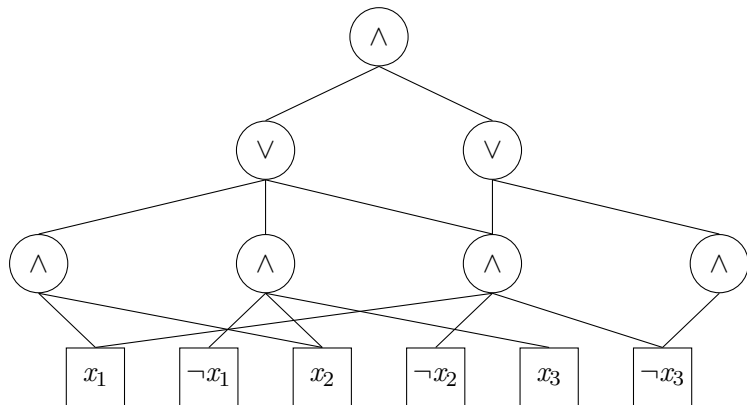
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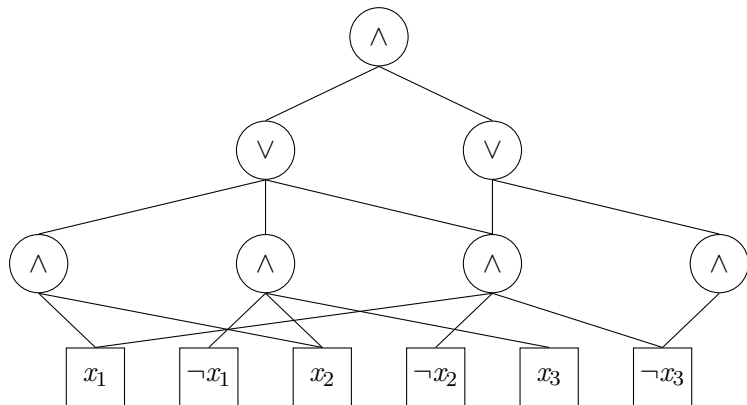
- Often usable in place of majority, in circuit derandomization.
- Widely studied, computable by AC0.



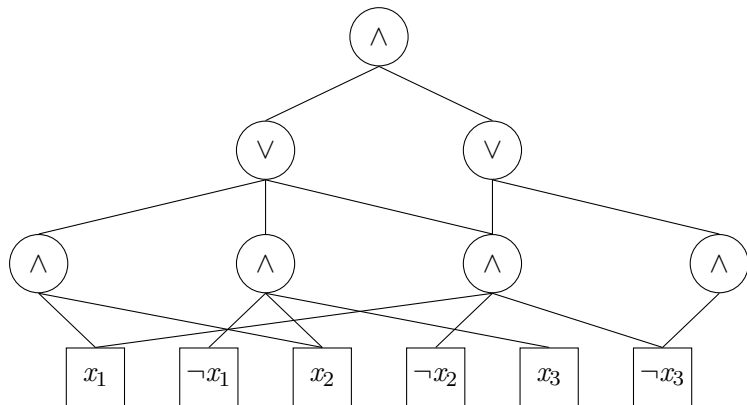
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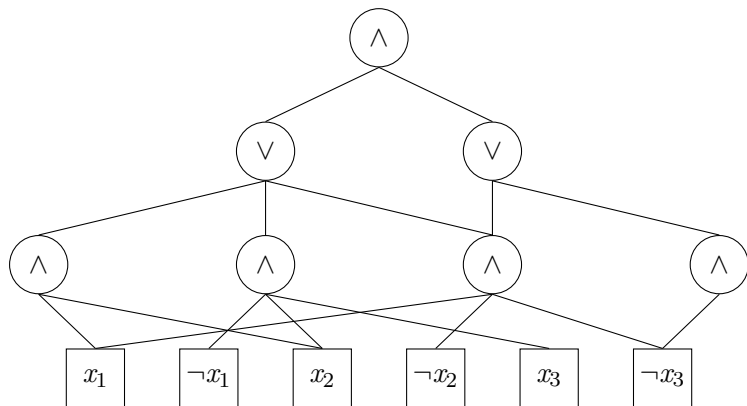
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- AC0 constant depth, polynomial size.

Depth-3 ϵ -Promise Circuit Bounds

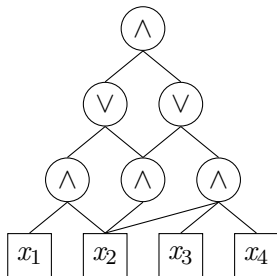
Depth-3 Lower Bounds (Suppressing polylogarithmic factors):

Author	Size	Monotone
Trivial	n	General
Chaudhuri, Radhakrishnan 1996 [2]	$n^{\frac{64}{63}}$	General
Viola 2011 [5]	$n^{\Omega(-\ln(1-2\epsilon))}$	General
Us	$n^{2+\frac{\ln(1-\epsilon)}{\ln(\epsilon)}}$	Monotone
Us	$n^{2+\frac{\ln(1-\epsilon^2)}{2\ln(\epsilon)}}$	General

Circuit Upper Bound by Ajtai 1983 [1]:

$$n^{2+\frac{\ln(1-\epsilon)}{\ln(\epsilon)-\ln(1-\epsilon)}}.$$

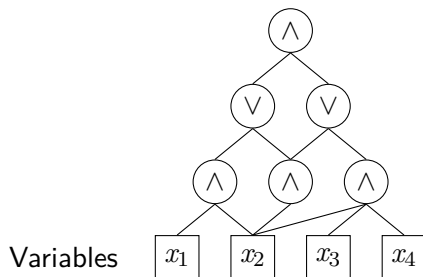
Depth-3 Circuits Terminology



Focus on depth-3 promise Majority

- Negation of promise majority circuit, also promise majority. Assume lowest level gate is “AND”.

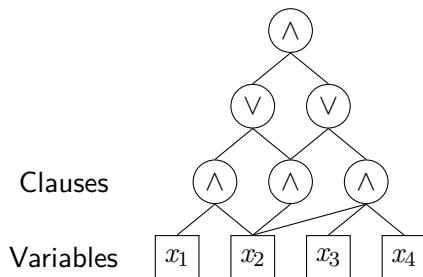
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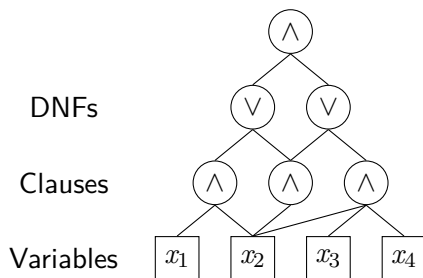
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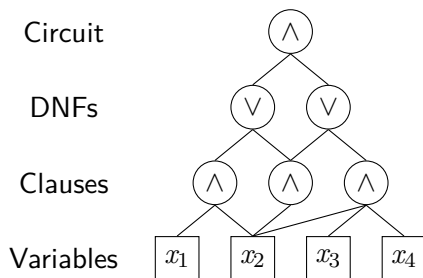
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- Call input bits “variables”.
- First level, AND gates “clauses”.
- Second level, OR gates “DNFs”.
- Third level, AND gate “circuits”.

Definition

Let D_ϵ be the distribution on $\{0, 1\}^n$ that sets each bit independently to 1 with probability ϵ .

Biased Coin Distributions

Definition

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Example: $D_{1/3}$ with 3 coins:

outputs	probabilities
111	$(\frac{1}{3})^3$
011, 101, 110	$(\frac{1}{3})^2 \frac{2}{3}$
100, 010, 001	$(\frac{1}{3}) (\frac{2}{3})^2$
000	$(\frac{2}{3})^3$

By central limit theorem, with probability almost one half, D_ϵ has less than ϵ fraction ones.

Definition

We say $\rho \in \{0, 1, *\}^n$ is a restriction on n bits. We say the size of ρ , $|\rho|$, is the number of 1s and 0s in ρ .

If $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$, then define $f \upharpoonright_\rho$ as the function where the values from ρ are passed into f where it is 1 or 0, and otherwise the corresponding variable from the argument is passed in.

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$$\rho = (1, *, 0, *)$$

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Restriction

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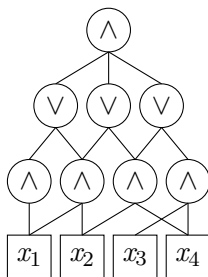
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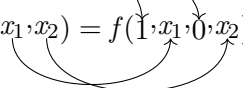
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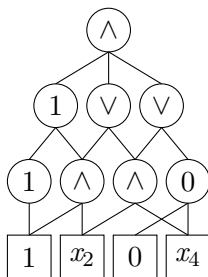
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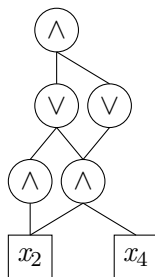
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Monotone Lower Bound Idea

Idea: Lower bound the fan in at each layer.

Pretend $\epsilon \in (0, 1/2)$ is constant for simplicity. Let $\alpha = \frac{\epsilon}{\ln(1/\epsilon)}$.

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- 3 Circuit has $\tilde{\Omega}(n^{2+\alpha})$ clauses.

Theorem

Let $S = \{S_1, \dots, S_m\}$ be subsets of $[n]$ where each $i \in [m]$ has $|S_i| \geq w$. Then for any $t \in [n]$ there is some $T \subseteq [n]$ with $|T| = t$ so that T intersects all but at most

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of the sets in S .

In particular, if

- S is the set of clauses in a monotone DNF, F , and
- ρ is some restriction restricting variables in T to 0,

then $|F \upharpoonright_{\rho}| \leq |F|e^{-w\frac{t}{n}}$ variables remaining.

Theorem

Let $\epsilon \in (0, 1/2)$ and monotone DNF F be such that

- For all x with less than ϵn zeros, $F(x) = 1$.
- $\Pr[F(D_\epsilon) = 0] \geq \text{poly}(1/n)$.

Then F has $n^{1+\alpha}$ clauses for some $\alpha = \Omega(\frac{\epsilon}{\ln(1/\epsilon)})$.

All DNFs in circuit must satisfy condition 1.

But For DNF to “help” by much, it must satisfy condition 2.

Theorem

Depth-3 Circuit C solving ϵ -promise majority has size $n^{2+\Omega\left(\frac{\epsilon}{\ln(1/\epsilon)}\right)}$.

Idea: Eliminate many DNFs with few clauses.

Can eliminate too many DNFs if there are not enough clauses.

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- Remove large clauses.
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Solution: Focus on large DNFs during elimination.

Insight: Some large DNF must survive if few variables fixed.

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General Idea: Same!

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- Circuit lower bounds, works!
 - At worst, might eliminate or shrink DNFs and clauses early.
 - But circuit still solves a promise problem, so it still has large DNFs after restriction.

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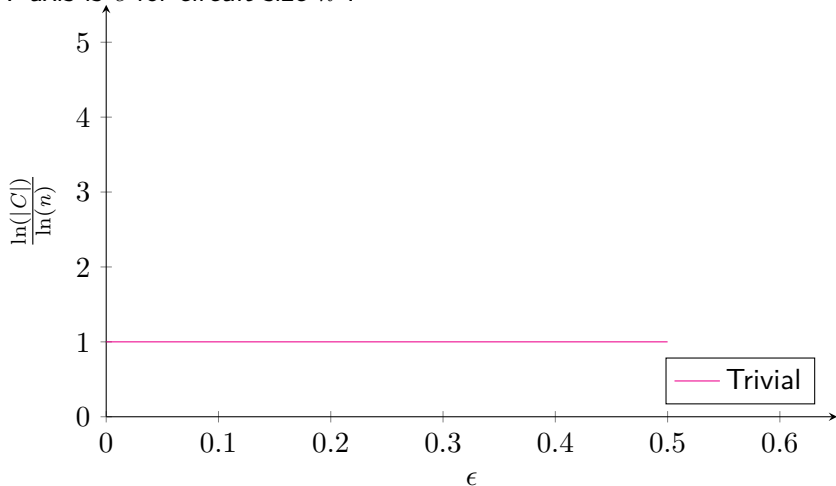
Then by Chernoff bounds, its likely that we eliminate many clauses.

By definition, restricting the rest of the variables is the same as using D_ϵ .

Depth-3 Bounds, Constant ϵ

Note: Graphs *slightly* adjusted for visibility.

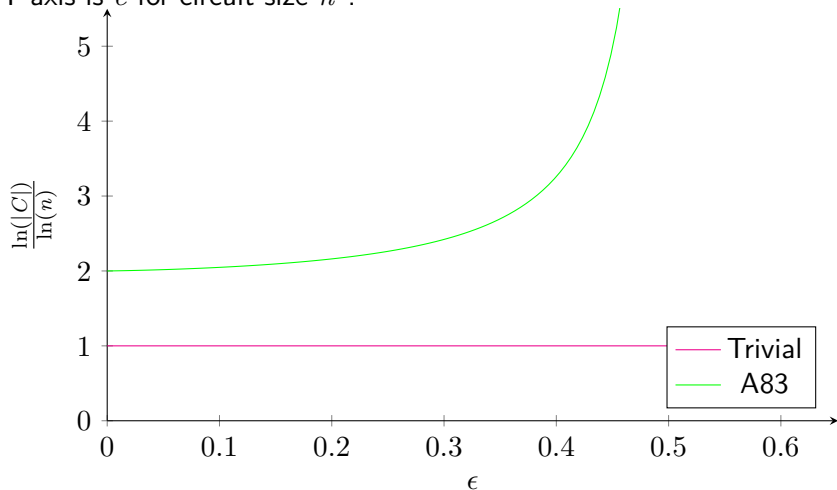
Y-axis is c for circuit size n^c .



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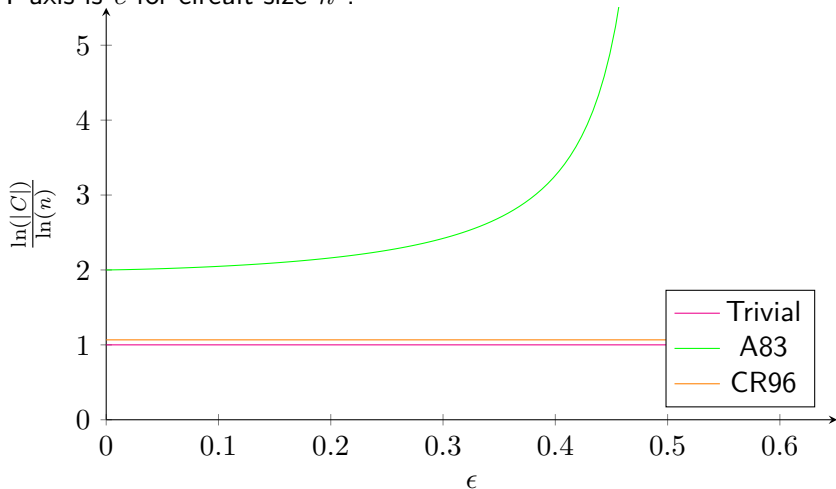
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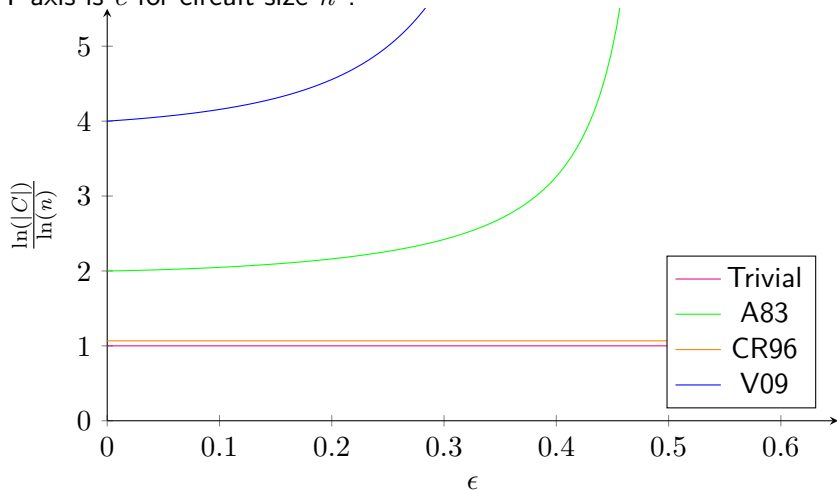
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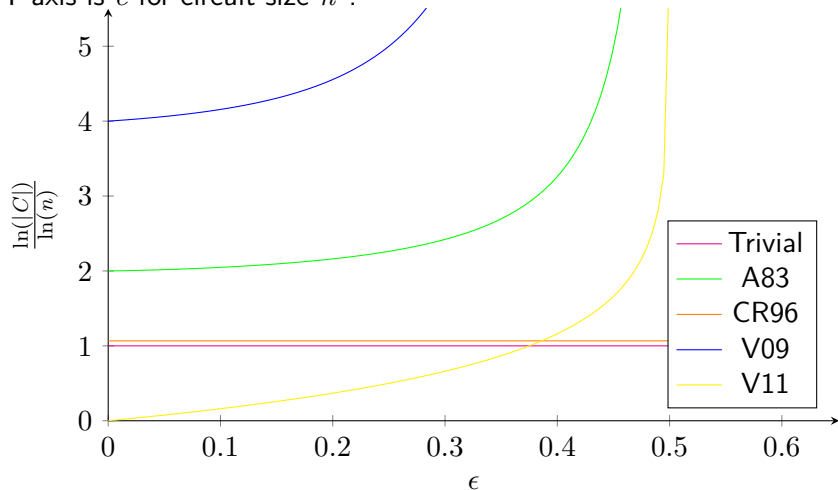
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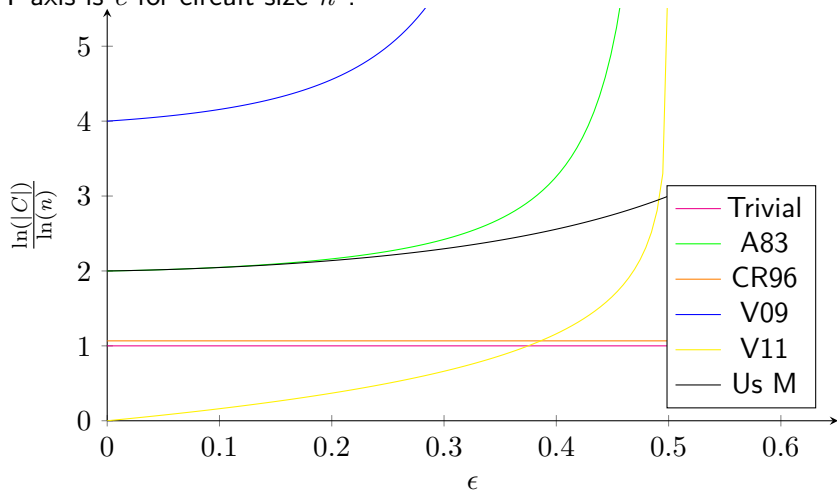
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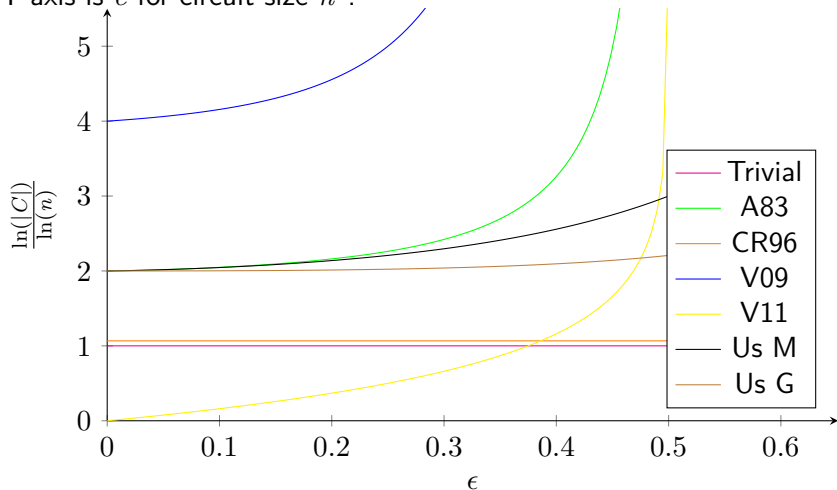
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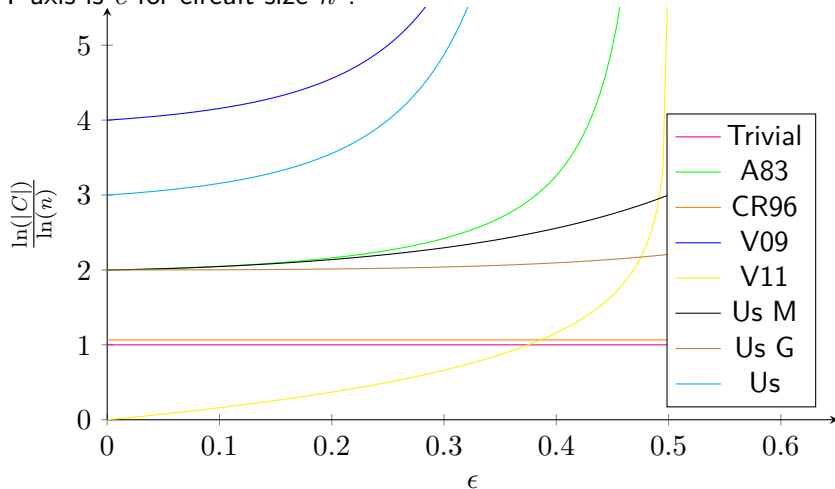
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