

## Sample Solutions 03

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## 1 MAX-SAT

1. Consider an arbitrary boolean assignment to the variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ . Furthermore, let  $i \in [m]$ . For this exercise we use the following definitions:

- $L_{ij}$ : A random variable defined as:  $L_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the } j\text{th literal in clause } i \text{ is satisfied} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- $C_i$ : A random variable defined as:  $C_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the clause } c_i \text{ is satisfied} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- $C$ : The weighted sum of all  $C_i$ 's:  $C = \sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot C_k$
- $D_i$ : A random variable defined as  $D_i = 1 - C_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the clause } c_i \text{ is not satisfied} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- $D$ : The weighted sum of all  $D_i$ 's:  $D = \sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot D_k$
- $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}$ : An algorithm which assigns each boolean variable  $x$  the value *True* with probability  $1/2$  and then outputs the sum of the weights of all satisfied clauses
- $OPT$ : An algorithm which outputs the highest possible sum of weights of satisfied clauses possible.

If we set all boolean variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  to *True* with probability  $1/2$ , then all literals in each clause will be *True* with probability  $1/2$ . We have for all  $i \in [m]$ :

$$Pr[L_{ij} = 1] = Pr[L_{ij} = 0] = \frac{1}{2}.$$

Assume that clause  $i$  has  $k \geq 1$  literals. As each clause is the OR of its literals, it is only unsatisfied if all literals evaluate to *False*. Thus, the probability of clause  $i$  not being satisfied under a random assignment is:

$$Pr[D_i = 1] = \prod_{j=1}^k Pr[L_{ij} = 0] = \frac{1}{2^k} \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

From this we can conclude that the probability of clause  $i$  being satisfied is:

$$Pr[C_i = 1] = 1 - Pr[D_i = 1] = 1 - \frac{1}{2^k} \geq \frac{1}{2}.$$

We are now able to compute a lower bound on the expected value of the output of algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}$ . Observe that the output of algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}$  can be expressed by the random variable  $C = \sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot C_k$ . The expected value of  $C$  is:

$$\mathbb{E}[C] = \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot C_k\right] \stackrel{(1)}{=} \sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot \mathbb{E}[C_k] \stackrel{(2)}{=} \sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot Pr[C_k = 1] \stackrel{(3)}{\geq} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^m w_k,$$

where in (1) we used linearity of expectation, in (2) we used the fact that  $C_k$  is an indicator variable and in (3) we used the approximation  $\Pr[C_k = 1] \geq \frac{1}{2}$ .

The maximum possible value which  $OPT$  could attain is when all clauses are satisfied. For an arbitrary problem instance  $I$  we therefore have:

$$OPT(I) \leq \sum_{k=1}^m w_k.$$

This leads to the conclusion that in expectation, algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}$  is a  $1/2$  approximation of  $OPT$ :

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{A}_{1/2}(I)] = \mathbb{E}[C] \geq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^m w_k \geq \frac{1}{2} OPT(I).$$

We now try to improve algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}$  such that it returns a 0.49 approximation of  $OPT$  with probability at least 99%. For this we first look at the expected sum of weights of the unsatisfied clauses of algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}$ . This sum of weights can be expressed by the random variable  $D = \sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot D_k$ . Similar to  $C$  we can calculate an upper bound of the expected value of  $D$ :

$$\mathbb{E}[D] = \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot D_k\right] \stackrel{(1)}{=} \sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot \mathbb{E}[D_k] \stackrel{(2)}{=} \sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot \Pr[D_k = 1] \stackrel{(3)}{\leq} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^m w_k,$$

where in (1) we used linearity of expectation, in (2) we used the fact that  $D_k$  is an indicator variable and in (3) we used the approximation  $\Pr[D_k = 1] \leq \frac{1}{2}$ .

We now look at the probability of  $D$  being larger than  $0.51 \cdot \sum_{k=1}^m w_k$  (in which case  $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}$  did not produce a 0.49 approximation). For this we can use Markov's inequality:

$$\Pr[D \geq 0.51 \cdot \sum_{k=1}^m w_k] \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[D]}{0.51 \cdot \sum_{k=1}^m w_k} \leq \frac{\sum_{k=1}^m w_k}{2 \cdot 0.51 \cdot \sum_{k=1}^m w_k} = \frac{1}{1.02} \leq 0.99.$$

To decrease this probability we amplify it by repeating algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}$   $a$  times and returning the result which yielded the highest sum of weights. For this new algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}^a$  to fail (i.e. not returning a value which is a 0.49 approximation), all  $a$  repetitions must return a value which is smaller than a 0.49 approximation. The probability of this event happening is (we denote the  $i$ th run of algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}$  as  $D^{(i)}$ ):

$$\Pr[\mathcal{A}_{1/2}^a(I) \leq 0.49 \cdot OPT(I)] = \prod_{i=1}^a \Pr\left[D^{(i)} \geq 0.51 \sum_{k=1}^m w_k\right] \leq 0.99^a.$$

Setting  $a$  to 459 will reduce this probability to at most  $0.99^{459} \approx 0.0099 < 0.01$  which is lower than 1%. Therefore, by repeating algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}$  459 times and outputting the best result of all the runs we get a new algorithm which outputs a 0.49 approximation of  $OPT$  with probability at least 99%.

2. Let  $ILP$  be the integer linear program which is defined in the exact same way as the linear program in the problem description with the exception that:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\} : z_j &\in \{0, 1\} \\ \forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} : y_i &\in \{0, 1\} \end{aligned}$$

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**Algorithm 1**  $\mathcal{A}_{nr}$  which uses randomized rounding to solve the MAX-SAT problem

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1: function  $\mathcal{A}_{nr}$ (Input:  $I$  = formula in CNF form)
2:   Transform  $I$  to its corresponding linear program form  $I_{LP}$ 
3:    $(y^*, z^*) \leftarrow$  Solve linear program  $I_{LP}$ 
4:   for  $i \in [n]$  do
5:      $x_i \leftarrow 1$  with probability  $y_i^*$  (otherwise 0)
6:   end for
7:   Transform the problem back to a CNF instance  $I_{ILP}$ 
8:   return the sum of the weights of all clauses in  $I_{ILP}$  which are satisfied
9: end function

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You can see clearly that the linear program in the problem description is a relaxation of  $ILP$  (as we only changed the domain of all variables from integers to real numbers).

Let's first explain how  $ILP$  relates to our problem of finding a boolean variable assignment which maximizes the total weight of all satisfied clauses. Consider an arbitrary assignment of truth values to the boolean variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ . We can then interpret the variables of  $ILP$  as follows:

- $y_i$ : represents the truth value of the boolean variable  $x_i$ :  $y_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_i = \text{True} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- $z_i$ : represents the truth value of clause  $c_i$ :  $z_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if clause } c_i \text{ is satisfied} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$ILP$  has one constraint per clause. This constraint basically restricts the integer linear program to only set  $z_i$  to 1 (i.e. marking the clause as satisfied) if at least one of its literals is satisfied (described by the sum of all variables  $y_j$  which are contained in clause  $i$ ). As an example, let's assume that clause  $i$  of our input CNF is:

$$(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3 \vee \neg x_4 \vee x_5).$$

The corresponding constraint in the integer linear program would then be:

$$(y_1 + y_2 + y_5) + ((1 - y_3) + (1 - y_4)) \geq z_i,$$

or if you define  $S_i^+ = \{y_1, y_2, y_5\}$  and  $S_i^- = \{y_3, y_4\}$ :

$$\sum_{j \in S_i^+} y_j + \sum_{j \in S_i^-} y_j \geq z_i.$$

Finally, the maximization constraint of  $ILP$  is:

$$\text{maximize } \sum_{j=1}^m w_j \cdot z_j,$$

which can be interpreted as the goal of maximizing the total sum of all satisfied clauses.

Let us now look at algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{nr}$  which is described in algorithm 1. We are interested in the probability that a clause  $i$  with  $k \geq 1$  literals ( $l_1 \vee l_2 \vee \dots \vee l_k$ ) will be satisfied by algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{nr}$ . Let  $C_i$  denote the random variable which is 1 if clause  $i$  is satisfied by algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{nr}$  and 0 otherwise. Let's first look at the probability that  $C_i = 0$  (i.e. that clause  $i$  will not be satisfied by algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{nr}$ ). The literals of clause  $i$  can be divided into two groups. The group of literals  $S_i^+$  which consist of a simple boolean variable  $x$

and the literals  $S_i^-$  which consist of a negated boolean variable  $\neg x$ . In order that clause  $i$  is not satisfied, all boolean variables of literals in  $S_i^+$  have to be assigned *False* and all boolean variables of literals in  $S_i^-$  have to be assigned *True*. For a literal  $l$  let  $y_l$  be the variable which corresponds to the boolean variable  $x$  of  $l$ . Because algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{nr}$  assigns 1 to the boolean variable  $x_j$  with probability  $y_j^*$  we can express the probability of clause  $i$  being unsatisfied as:

$$Pr[C_i = 0] = \left( \prod_{l \in S_i^+} (1 - y_l^*) \right) \cdot \left( \prod_{l \in S_i^-} y_l^* \right).$$

We will now make use of the AM-GM inequality (Arithmetic Mean - Geometric Mean) which states that for any set of non-negative real numbers  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  it holds that:

$$\frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}{n} \geq (a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_n)^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

As the statement above is basically just a multiplication of  $k$  non-negative real numbers we can apply this inequality in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} Pr[C_i = 0] &= \left( \prod_{l \in S_i^+} (1 - y_l^*) \right) \cdot \left( \prod_{l \in S_i^-} y_l^* \right) = \left( \left( \left( \prod_{l \in S_i^+} (1 - y_l^*) \right) \cdot \left( \prod_{l \in S_i^-} y_l^* \right) \right)^{\frac{1}{k}} \right)^k \\ &\leq \left( \frac{1}{k} \left( \underbrace{\sum_{l \in S_i^+} (1 - y_l^*) + \sum_{l \in S_i^-} y_l^*}_{TEMP} \right) \right)^k. \end{aligned}$$

We will now transform the expression denoted by  $TEMP$  in the previous equation. First note that  $|S_i^+| + |S_i^-| = k$  because, by assumption, clause  $i$  consists of  $k$  literals. Secondly, notice that, by definition of the linear program, we have  $y_j^* \leq 1$  for all  $j \in [n]$ . Thus:

$$\begin{aligned} k - TEMP &= k - \left( \sum_{l \in S_i^+} (1 - y_l^*) + \sum_{l \in S_i^-} y_l^* \right) \\ &= \left( |S_i^+| - \sum_{l \in S_i^+} (1 - y_l^*) \right) + \left( |S_i^-| - \sum_{l \in S_i^-} y_l^* \right) = \sum_{l \in S_i^+} y_l^* + \sum_{l \in S_i^-} (1 - y_l^*). \end{aligned}$$

Returning to our previous computation of  $Pr[C_i = 0]$  we can transform this expression now as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} Pr[C_i = 0] &\leq \left( \frac{1}{k} \cdot TEMP \right)^k = \left( 1 - 1 + \frac{1}{k} \cdot TEMP \right)^k \\ &= \left( 1 - \frac{1}{k} \cdot k - \frac{1}{k} \cdot (-TEMP) \right)^k = \left( 1 - \frac{1}{k} \cdot (k - TEMP) \right)^k \\ &\leq \left( 1 - \frac{1}{k} \cdot \left( \sum_{l \in S_i^+} y_l^* + \sum_{l \in S_i^-} (1 - y_l^*) \right) \right)^k. \end{aligned}$$

Note, that the inner most expression is one of the constraints of our linear program from the problem statement. As  $(y^*, z^*)$  is the optimal solution of this linear program we know that:

$$\sum_{l \in S_i^+} y_l^* + \sum_{l \in S_i^-} (1 - y_l^*) \geq z_i^*.$$

The expression above therefore further simplifies to:

$$Pr[C_i = 0] \leq \left( 1 - \frac{1}{k} \cdot \left( \sum_{l \in S_i^+} y_l^* + \sum_{l \in S_i^-} (1 - y_l^*) \right) \right)^k \leq \left( 1 - \frac{z_i^*}{k} \right)^k.$$

From this it follows that:

$$Pr[C_i = 1] = 1 - Pr[C_i = 0] \geq 1 - \left( 1 - \frac{z_i^*}{k} \right)^k. \quad (1)$$

Remember that our goal is to prove that:

$$Pr[C_i = 1] \geq \left( 1 - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{k} \right)^k \right) \cdot z_i^*.$$

We are going to prove this by proceeding as follows:

- Express the probability in (1) as a function of  $z_i^*$ .
- Prove that this function is concave on the interval  $[0, 1]$ .
- Use a property of concave functions to prove our inequality.

The proof works as follows:

- The goal is to convert the expression in (1) as a function. For  $k \geq 1$ , define the function  $F_k(z) = 1 - \left( 1 - \frac{z}{k} \right)^k$ . Notice that  $F_k(0) = 0$ .
- To prove that  $F_k$  is concave on the interval  $[0, 1]$  for  $k \geq 1$  we use the following lemma:

**Lemma 1.** *A differentiable function  $f$  is concave on an interval  $[a, b]$  if and only if its derivative function  $f'$  is monotonically decreasing on that interval.*

For  $k \geq 1$  the derivative of  $F_k$  is:

$$\frac{dF_k}{dz} \left( 1 - \left( 1 - \frac{z}{k} \right)^k \right) = -k \cdot \left( 1 - \frac{z}{k} \right)^{k-1} \cdot \frac{dF_k}{dz} \left( 1 - \frac{z}{k} \right) = \left( 1 - \frac{z}{k} \right)^{k-1}.$$

To prove that this derivative is monotonically decreasing on the interval  $[0, 1]$  for all  $k \geq 1$  consider the two integers  $0 \leq a < b \leq 1$ :

$$a < b \Rightarrow 1 - \frac{b}{k} < 1 - \frac{a}{k} \Rightarrow \left( 1 - \frac{b}{k} \right)^{k-1} \leq \left( 1 - \frac{a}{k} \right)^{k-1} \Rightarrow \frac{dF_k}{dz}(b) \leq \frac{dF_k}{dz}(a).$$

which concludes the proof.

- To finally prove our inequality, we will make use of the following lemma for concave functions:

**Definition 2.** *A real-valued function  $f$  on an interval is said to be concave if, for any  $x$  and  $y$  in the interval and for any  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ :*

$$f((1 - \alpha)x + \alpha y) \geq (1 - \alpha) \cdot f(x) + \alpha \cdot f(y).$$

As our function  $F_k$  is concave on the interval  $[0, 1]$  for all  $k \geq 1$  it must therefore hold that:

$$F_k(z_i^* \cdot 1 + \underbrace{(1 - z_i^*) \cdot 0}_{=0}) \geq z_i^* \cdot F_k(1) + (1 - z_i^*) \cdot \underbrace{F_k(0)}_{=0}.$$

Applying the definition of function  $F_k$  and combining it with the probability  $Pr[C_i = 1]$  we finally get:

$$Pr[C_i = 1] \geq 1 - \left(1 - \frac{z_i^*}{k}\right)^k \geq \left(1 - \left(1 - \frac{1}{k}\right)^k\right) \cdot z_i^*.$$

Having computed this upper bound for the probability of a random clause  $i$  being satisfied under algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{nr}$ , we can now estimate how well of an approximation algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{nr}$  provides in expectation. For this let  $obj(x) = \sum_{i=1}^m w_i \cdot x_i$  be the objective function of the (integer) linear program. Furthermore, let  $(y^*, z^*)$  be the optimal solution of the linear program and  $OPT = (y^{OPT}, z^{OPT})$  the optimal solution of the integer linear program. Notice that  $obj(z^{OPT}) \leq obj(z^*)$  because every feasible solution of  $ILP$  is also a feasible solution to the corresponding linear program. Furthermore, notice that the output of algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{nr}$  can be described by the random variable  $C = \sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot C_k$ . The expected value of  $C$  can be estimated in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[C] &= \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot C_k\right] \stackrel{(1)}{=} \sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot \mathbb{E}[C_k] \stackrel{(2)}{=} \sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot Pr[C_k = 1] \\ &\stackrel{(3)}{\geq} \left(1 - \left(1 - \frac{1}{k}\right)^k\right) \cdot \sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot z_k^* \stackrel{(4)}{\geq} \left(1 - \frac{1}{e}\right) \cdot \sum_{k=1}^m w_k \cdot z_k^{OPT}. \end{aligned}$$

where in (1) we used linearity of expectation, in (2) we used the fact that  $C_k$  is an indicator variable, in (3) we used the approximation of  $Pr[C_k = 1]$  which we proved previously and in (4) we used the fact that  $\left(1 - \frac{1}{k}\right)^k \leq \frac{1}{e}$  for all  $k \geq 1$  and that  $obj(z^{OPT}) \leq obj(z^*)$ . We have therefore shown that algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{nr}$  yields in expectation an  $\left(1 - \frac{1}{e}\right)$  approximation of the optimal result.

3. Let us now try to solve MAX-SAT by combining the algorithms from part 1 and 2. Let's call the algorithm from part 1 **LARGE-SAT** and the algorithm from part 2 **SMALL-SAT**. The idea of the combined algorithm is very simple and the following one: toss a fair coin and, depending on the outcome, choose one the two algorithms of above.

#### MEDIUM-SAT

$b \in_R \{0, 1\}$

**if**  $b = 0$ : solve MAX-SAT with **LARGE-SAT**.

**else**: solve MAX-SAT with **SMALL-SAT**.

**Theorem 3.** *MEDIUM-SAT gives a 3/4-approximation for the MAX-SAT problem in expectation.*

*Proof.* We know that the following two inequalities must hold by linearity of expectation

and what has been established in the previous points.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{j \in [m]} w_j z_j \middle| b = 0 \right] &\geq \sum_{j \in [m]} w_j \left( 1 - 2^{-k} \right)^{z_j^* \leq 1} \geq \sum_{j \in [m]} w_j \left( 1 - 2^{-k} \right) z_j^* \\ \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{j \in [m]} w_j z_j \middle| b = 1 \right] &\geq \sum_{j \in [m]} w_j \left( 1 - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{k} \right)^k \right) z_j^*\end{aligned}$$

By the law of total expectation, we have that

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{j \in [m]} w_j z_j \right] &= \Pr[b = 0] \cdot \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{j \in [m]} w_j z_j \middle| b = 0 \right] + \Pr[b = 1] \cdot \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{j \in [m]} w_j z_j \middle| b = 1 \right] \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j \in [m]} w_j z_j^* \left[ \left( 1 - 2^{-k} \right) + \left( 1 - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{k} \right)^k \right) \right] \geq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j \in [m]} \frac{3}{2} w_j z_j^* \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \cdot \text{FOPT} \geq \frac{3}{4} \cdot \text{OPT}.\end{aligned}$$

The second to last inequality comes from the fact that  $\left( 1 - 2^{-k} \right) + \left( 1 - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{k} \right)^k \right)$  is monotonically non-decreasing in  $k$  and evaluates to  $\frac{3}{2}$  for  $k = 1$ ,  $\frac{3}{2}$  for  $k = 2$  and  $\frac{341}{216} > \frac{3}{2}$  for  $k = 3$ , which is already enough. This concludes the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

4. Let us consider the following CNF formula

$$F = (x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2).$$

We notice that all 4 possible assignments satisfy exactly 3 of the clauses in  $F$ , with the known corresponding LP objective function and LP constraints

$$\begin{aligned}y_1 + y_2 &\geq z_1 \\ y_1 + (1 - y_2) &\geq z_2 \\ (1 - y_1) + y_2 &\geq z_3 \\ (1 - y_1) + (1 - y_2) &\geq z_4 \\ y_1, y_2, z_1, z_2 &\in [0, 1]\end{aligned}$$

This yields optimal solutions

$$\begin{aligned}z_1^* = z_2^* = z_3^* = z_4^* &= 1 \\ y_1^* = y_2^* &= \frac{1}{2}.\end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $F$  is a CNF formula such that there is a  $3/4$  gap between the value of the solution of LP described in part 2 and the optimal Boolean assignment to the variables.

5. Similarly to part 2, the general strategy is to bound the probability of each clause  $j$  being satisfied as a function of  $z_j^*$  and use this to compare the expected value of our solution to the optimum of the LP relaxation.

Recall that we set  $x_i$  to 1 with probability  $f(y_j)$ , where  $f$  is an arbitrary function satisfying  $f(y) \in [1 - 4^{-y}, 4^{y-1}]$ . The probability of clause  $j$  not being satisfied is (omitting the asterisk in  $y^*$  and  $z^*$  for brevity)

$$\Pr[\text{clause } j \text{ is not satisfied}] = \prod_{i \in S_j^+} (1 - f(y_i)) \cdot \prod_{i \in S_j^-} (f(y_i)).$$

Now we use our assumption on  $f$  to bound the probability from above, appropriately substituting the upper or lower bound on  $f$  in each of its occurrences:

$$\begin{aligned}
\Pr[\text{clause } j \text{ is not satisfied}] &\leq \prod_{i \in S_j^+} (1 - (1 - 4^{-y_i})) \cdot \prod_{i \in S_j^-} (4^{y_i-1}) \\
&= \prod_{i \in S_j^+} (4^{-y_i}) \cdot \prod_{i \in S_j^-} (4^{y_i-1}) \\
&= 4^{\alpha_j}
\end{aligned}$$

where we define  $\alpha_j = \sum_{i \in S_j^+} (-y_i) + \sum_{i \in S_j^-} (y_i - 1)$ . Now notice that the condition from the LP definition requires that  $-\alpha_j \geq z_j$ . Therefore we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha_j &\leq -z_j \\
\Pr[\text{clause } j \text{ is **not** satisfied}] &\leq 4^{\alpha_j} \\
&\leq 4^{-z_j} \\
\Pr[\text{clause } j \text{ is satisfied}] &\geq 1 - 4^{-z_j} \\
&\geq \frac{3}{4} z_j
\end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality comes from the fact that  $h(x) = 1 - 4^{-x}$  is a concave function, meaning that  $h(x) \geq h(0) \cdot x + h(1) \cdot (1 - x)$ . We now bound the expected value of our solution:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^m [\text{clause } j \text{ is satisfied}] \cdot w_j \right] &= \sum_{j=1}^m \Pr[\text{clause } j \text{ is satisfied}] \cdot w_j \\
&\geq \frac{3}{4} \sum_{j=1}^m z_j w_j \\
&= \frac{3}{4} OPT_{LP} \\
&\geq \frac{3}{4} OPT.
\end{aligned}$$

Here  $OPT_{LP}$  denotes the value of the optimal LP solution, whereas  $OPT$  is the optimal solution to the MAX-SAT problem.