

# INFORMATION THEORY

- Literature:
- Cover & Thomas „Elements of info. theory.“
  - Mackay „Info. Theory, Inference & Learning Algorithms“  
(free online copy)
  - Shannon „The Math. Theory of Communication“ (1949)

## some history:

- belief ~'40: sending info. at positive rates is not possible with negligible error.
- Shannon '48:
  - arbitrary small error probability is achievable for all rates below "capacity". The latter can be computed and is essentially always non-zero.
  - signals have irreducible complexity below which they cannot be compressed.  
(crucial idea in both cases: description of signal/info. as random processes)
- '49
  - Shannon-Nyquist sampling theorem
  - foundations of modern cryptography

- modern applications:
- data compression
    - ↳ lossless (ZIP, gzip, Dolby TrueHD, ...)
    - ↳ lossy (JPEG, MP3, ...)
  - error correction: CD, DVD, Blue-ray, bar codes, ...
  - channel coding: satellite communication, WLAN, mobile networks, ...

- future applications:
- quantum information theory?

## I. Preliminaries

### I.1. Probability theory

- $X$  finite set (symbols, events, ...)
- $X$  random variable with range in  $X$  and distribution  
 $p: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+ := [0, \infty)$   
 $\sum_{x \in X} p(x) = 1$  (we also use  $p(x) = P_X^{(x)} = p_x$ )
- expectation value  $E(X) := \sum_{x \in X} x p(x)$   
(if  $X$  is embedded in a linear space)
- joint distribution  $P_{XY}: X \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  for vector-valued r.v.s
- marginals  $P_X^{(x)} := \sum_{y \in Y} p(x,y)$ ,  $P_Y^{(y)} := \sum_{x \in X} p(x,y)$
- conditional distribution  $p(x|y) := \frac{p(x,y)}{P_Y^{(y)}}$  for  $P_Y^{(y)} \neq 0$
- $X$  &  $Y$  are independent r.v.s iff  $p(x,y) = P_X^{(x)} P_Y^{(y)}$   $\forall x, y$   
 $\Leftrightarrow p(x|y) = P_X^{(x)} \quad \forall x \forall y: P_Y^{(y)} > 0$

## I.2. Convexity

Def.: • Let  $V$  be an  $\mathbb{R}$ -vector space.  $C \subseteq V$  is a "convex set" iff

  $\forall \lambda \in [0,1]: (x, y \in C \Rightarrow \lambda x + (1-\lambda)y \in C)$

• Let  $C$  be a convex set.  $f: C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a "convex function" on  $C$

 iff  $\forall x, y \in C \quad \forall \lambda \in [0,1]:$

$$f(\lambda x + (1-\lambda)y) \leq \lambda f(x) + (1-\lambda)f(y)$$

•  $f$  is called "strictly convex" iff ' $\leq$ ' holds only if  $\lambda \in \{0,1\}$   
or  $x=y$ .

•  $f$  is "(strictly) concave" iff  $-f$  is (strictly) convex

Lemma: Let  $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be convex and open and  $f \in \mathcal{C}^2(C, \mathbb{R})$ . Then

(i)  $\forall x \in C : f''(x) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow f$  convex on  $C$

(ii)  $\forall x \in C : f''(x) > 0 \Rightarrow f$  strictly convex on  $C$

Lemma: (Jensen's inequality) If  $X$  is a real valued r.v. and

$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  convex, then  $E(f(X)) \geq f(E(X))$ .

proof: by induction on  $n = |X|$  with  $n=2$  the definition of convexity ...

□

## II. Entropic quantities

### II.1. Entropy as measure of uncertainty

"Bar Kochba game": identify  $x \in X$  with minimal number  $n$  of binary questions.

• necessary:  $2^n \geq |X_0|, X_0 := \{x \in X \mid p(x) > 0\}$

•  $I(x) := \min\{n \in \mathbb{Z} \mid n \geq x\} \cdot \lceil \log |X_0| \rceil$  questions are sufficient by partitioning  $X_0$

•  $\log x := \log_2 x$  according to binary tree.

• take  $m$  independent copies  $X_0^m$ . On average (i.e., per copy)

$$-\frac{1}{m} + \log |X_0| \leq \frac{\lceil \log |X_0|^m \rceil}{m} \quad m \leq \frac{\lceil \log |X_0|^m \rceil}{m} \leq \frac{1}{m} + \log |X_0|$$

$\xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} \log |X_0| =: H_0(X)$  "Hartley entropy"

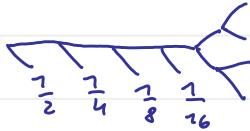
or "0-Renyi entropy"

However, this does not take probs. of the events into account.

$$\underline{\text{Exp.:}} \quad p = \left( \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{16}, \frac{1}{64}, \frac{1}{64}, \frac{1}{64}, \frac{1}{64} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow H_0(x) = 3$$

But on average 2 questions are sufficient if we act according to



$$\rightarrow \text{average \# of questions: } \frac{1}{2} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{4} + 3 \cdot \frac{1}{8} + 4 \cdot \frac{1}{16} + 4 \cdot 6 \cdot \frac{1}{64} = 2$$

$$\underline{\text{Shannon entropy}} \quad H(x) := - \sum_{x: p(x) > 0} p(x) \log p(x)$$

$$= - \sum_x p(x) \log p(x) \quad \text{with } 0 \log 0 := 0$$

consider  $H$  as functional on  $\mathcal{P} := \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \left\{ p \in \mathbb{R}_+^n \mid \sum_x p_x = 1 \right\}$

Properties: (i) symmetry:  $H(p_1, \dots, p_n) = H(p_{\pi(1)}, \dots, p_{\pi(n)}) \quad \forall \pi \in S_n$

(ii) expandability:  $H(p_1, \dots, p_n, 0) = H(p_1, \dots, p_n)$

(iii) additivity:  $H(XY) = H(X) + H(Y)$  if  $X, Y$  independent

(iv) subadditivity:  $H(XY) \leq H(X) + H(Y)$

$$\underline{\text{proof:}} \quad \text{(iii)} \quad - \sum_{x,y} p_x q_y \log(p_x q_y) = - \sum_{x,y} p_x q_y (\log p_x + \log q_y) \\ = H(X) + H(Y)$$

$$\text{(iv)} \quad H(X) + H(Y) - H(XY) = \sum_{x,y} p(x,y) [\log p(x,y) - \log p(x) - \log p(y)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= - \sum_{x,y} p(x,y) \log \left[ \frac{p(x)p(y)}{p(x,y)} \right] \\ &\stackrel{\substack{\text{• Jensen} \\ \text{• -Log convex}}}{{\downarrow}} \geq - \log \sum_{x,y} p(x)p(y) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

□

Thm.: (axiomatic characterization of entropies)

Let  $h: \mathbb{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a functional satisfying (i)-(iv),

then  $\exists a, b \in \mathbb{R}_+$ :  $h = a H_0 + b H$

If in addition  $h\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) = 1$  and  $\lim_{p \searrow 0} h(p, 1-p) = 0$ , then  $h = H$ .

proof: [Aczel, Forte, Ng 1974]

Thm. 1 (bounds on Shannon entropy)

Let  $p \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be a probability distribution and define

$$H_2(p) := -\log \|p\|_2^2. \text{ Then}$$

$$0 \stackrel{(i)}{\leq} H_2(p) \stackrel{(ii)}{\leq} H(p) \stackrel{(iii)}{\leq} H_0(p) \stackrel{(iv)}{\leq} \log n$$

where equality holds in

$$(i) \quad \text{if } \exists x: p(x) = 1$$

$$(ii) \quad \text{if } \exists m \in \{1, \dots, n\} \forall x: p(x) \in \left\{0, \frac{1}{m}\right\}$$

$$(iii) \quad \text{if } \cdots$$

$$(iv) \quad \text{if } \forall x: p(x) > 0$$

proof: (i)  $-\log \sum_x p(x)^2 \geq -\log \sum_x p_x = 0$   
 $\uparrow$  " $=$ " if  $\forall x: p(x)^2 = p(x) \Leftrightarrow \forall x: p(x) \in \{0, 1\}$

(ii)  $H(p) = -\sum_x p(x) \log p(x) \geq -\log \sum_x p(x)^2$   
 $\uparrow$   
-log is strictly convex

(iii)  $H(p) = \sum_{x \in X_0} p(x) \log \frac{1}{p(x)} \leq \log \sum_{x \in X_0} \frac{p(x)}{p(x)} = H_0(p)$   
 $\uparrow$   
Log is strictly concave

(iv)  $\checkmark$

□

## II.2. Conditional entropy & mutual information

Def.:

◦ "conditional entropy"  $H(X|Y) := H(X, Y) - H(Y)$

◦ "mutual information"  $I(X:Y) := H(X) + H(Y) - H(X, Y)$

◦ "cond. mutual info."  $I(X:Y|Z) := H(X, Z) + H(Z, Y)$   
 $- H(X, Y, Z) - H(Z)$

- Interpretation:
- $H(X|Y) = \sum_y p(y) \underbrace{\left( \sum_x p(x|y) \log p(x|y)^{-1} \right)}$   
entropy of  $X$  if  $Y=y$  is known
  - = average uncertainty about  $X$  if  $Y$  is known
  - $I(X:Y) = H(X) - H(X|Y) = H(Y) - H(Y|X) = I(Y:X)$   
= reduction of uncertainty (increase of information)  
about  $X$  after learning  $Y$  (and vice versa)
  - = information of  $X$  about  $Y$  and v.v.
  - $I(X:Y|Z) = H(X|Z) - H(X|Z,Y)$   
= reduction of uncertainty about  $X$  when we  
learn  $Y$  and already know  $Z$ .

- Thm.:
- $H(X|Y) \geq 0$  with ' $=$ ' iff  $\forall y \exists x: p(x,y) = p(y)$
  - $I(X:Y) \geq 0$  with ' $=$ ' iff  $\forall x,y: p(x,y) = p(x)p(y)$
  - $I(X:Y|Z) \geq 0$

Proof: a)  $H(X,Y) - H(X) = \sum_{x,y} p(x,y) \log \underbrace{\left( \frac{\sum_{y'} p(x,y')}{p(x,y)} \right)}_{\geq 1} \geq 0$

"="  $\Leftrightarrow \forall x,y: p(x,y) = 0 \vee p(x) = p(x,y)$

b)  $I(X:Y) = -\sum_{x,y} p(x,y) \log \left( \frac{p(x)p(y)}{p(x,y)} \right) \geq -\log \sum_{x,y} p(x)p(y) = 0$   
- log strictly convex

'=' iff  $\frac{p(x)p(y)}{p(x,y)} = \text{const.} = 1$   
 $\uparrow$   
normalization

c)  $\rightarrow$  exercise ...

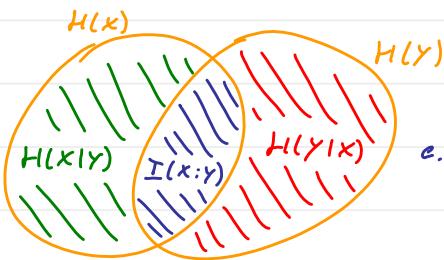
□

remark: a)  $\Leftrightarrow H(X,Y) \geq H(Y)$  can be seen as:

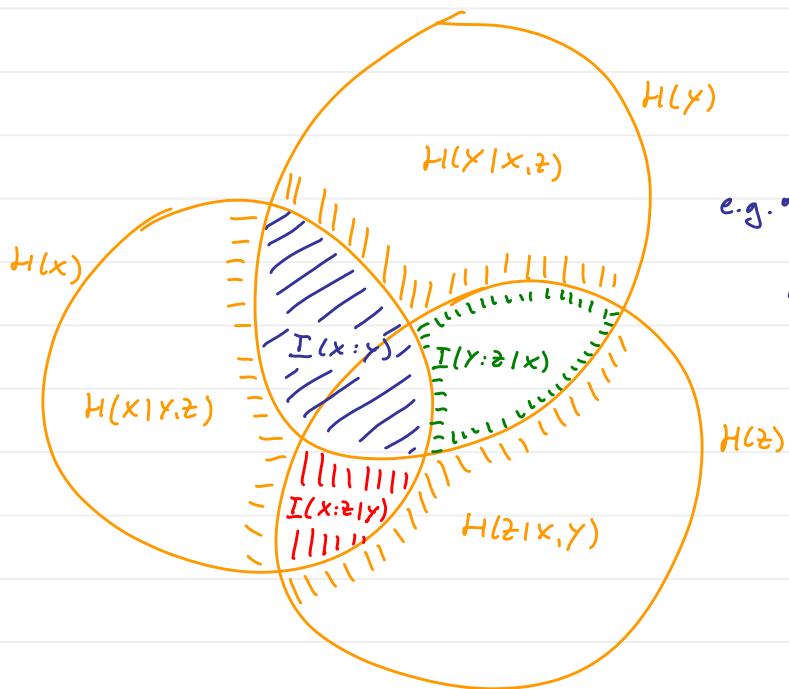
the entropy of a subsystem never exceeds the entropy of the whole system.

### Venn-diagrams:

graphical depiction of relations between entropic quantities in terms of relations between sets:



$$\text{e.g. } I(X:Y) + H(Y|X) = H(Y)$$

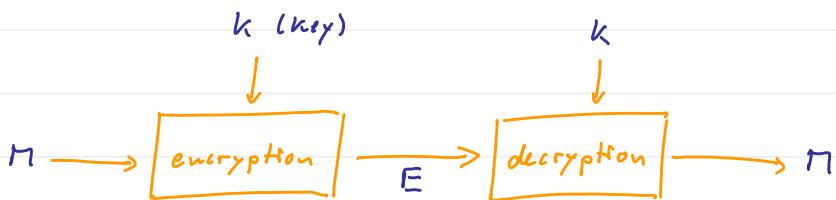


$$\text{e.g. } H(Y|X,Z) + I(Y:Z|X) = H(Y|X)$$

$$\circ H(X) = H(X|Y,Z) + I(X:Z|Y)$$

$$+ I(X:Y)$$

## II.3. Application for crypto systems



Def.: We say that random variables  $M, E, K$  describe a "perfectly secure crypto system" if

(i)  $I(M; E) = 0$  ( $E$  contains no info about  $M$  without  $K$ )

(ii)  $H(M|KE) = 0$  (once  $E$  and  $K$  are known,  $M$  can be perfectly recovered)

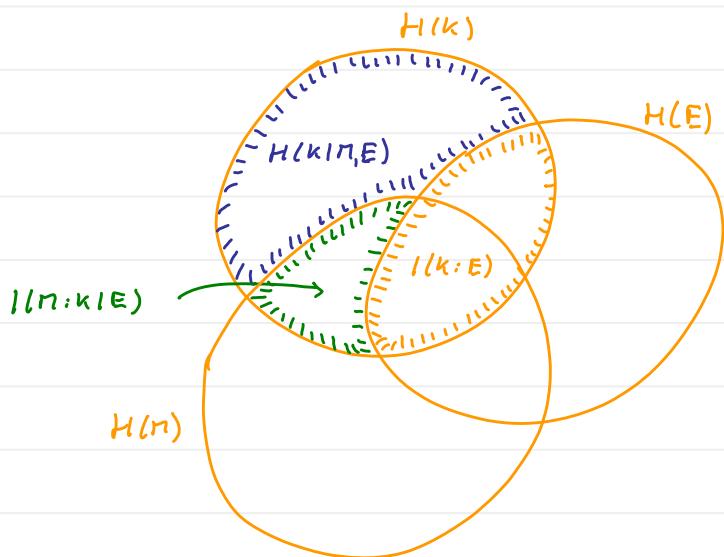
Thm.: (Shannon '49)

A perfectly secure crypto system requires  $H(K) \geq H(M)$ .

proof:  $H(K) = I(M; K|E) + \underbrace{I(K; E)}_{\geq 0} + \underbrace{H(K|M, E)}_{\geq 0}$

$$\geq I(M; K|E) = H(M) - \underbrace{H(M|K, E)}_{= 0} - \underbrace{I(M; E)}_{= 0} = H(M)$$

□



remark: • loosely speaking, this means that the key must not be shorter than the message.

- in practice, of course, weaker requirements are imposed.

## II.4. Chain rules

Thm.: (a)  $H(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{H(X_i | X_{i+1}, \dots, X_n)}_{:= H(X_i) \text{ for } i=1}$

(b)  $H(x_1, \dots, x_n | Y) = \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{H(X_i | X_{i+1}, \dots, X_n, Y)}_{:= H(X_i | Y) \text{ for } i=1}$

(c)  $I(x_1, \dots, x_n; Y) = \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{I(x_i; Y | X_{i+1}, \dots, X_n)}_{:= I(x_i; Y) \text{ for } i=1}$

proof (sketch): for (a) use  $p(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{p(x_i, \dots, x_n)}{p(x_{i-1}, \dots, x_n)} \leftarrow 1 \text{ for } i=1\right.$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n p(x_i | x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n)$$

and similarly for (b).

(c):  $I(x_1, \dots, x_n; Y) = H(x_1, \dots, x_n) - H(x_1, \dots, x_n | Y)$

$$\stackrel{(a), (b)}{=} \sum_{i=1}^n H(X_i | X_{i+1}, \dots, X_n) - H(X_i | X_{i+1}, \dots, X_n, Y)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n I(x_i; Y | X_{i+1}, \dots, X_n)$$

□

## II.5. Data processing inequality

Def.: • A "Markov chain" is a (finite or infinite) sequence of random variables  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  for which

$$p(x_n | x_{n-1}, \dots, x_1) = p(x_n | x_{n-1}) \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and all } x's.$$

• A Markov chain is called "stationary" or "homogeneous" if  $p(X_n = a | X_{n-1} = b) = p(X_1 = a | X_0 = b)$  for all  $n, a, b$ .

remarks: • Markov chains are often indicated by  $X_1 \rightarrow X_2 \rightarrow X_3 \rightarrow \dots$  or, equivalently,  $X_1 \leftarrow X_2 \leftarrow X_3 \leftarrow \dots$  (we will write  $X_1 - X_2 - X_3 - \dots$ )

• The probability distribution characterizing a Markov chain is

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1, \dots, x_n) &= p(x_1 | x_{n-1}) \dots p(x_n | x_1) p(x_1) & X_1 \rightarrow X_2 \rightarrow \dots \\ &= p(x_1 | x_2) \dots p(x_{n-1} | x_n) p(x_n) & X_1 \leftarrow X_2 \leftarrow \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{for } X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \text{ this means } p(x, y, z) = \frac{p(x, y) p(y, z)}{p(y)} \quad \forall x, y, z$$

Prop.:  $X, Y, Z$  form a Markov chain  $X - Y - Z$  iff  $I(X:Z|Y) = 0$ .

$$\underline{\text{proof:}} \quad I(X:Z|Y) = \sum_{x,y,z} p(x,y,z) \log \left[ \frac{p(x,y,z)}{p(x,y)p(z|y)} \right] \quad \square$$

Lemma: If  $Z = f(Y)$  for some  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , then  $X - Y - Z$  is a Markov chain.

$$\underline{\text{proof:}} \quad p(x|y,z) = p(x|y) \quad \square$$

Thm.: ("data processing inequality")

If  $X-Y-Z$  is a Markov chain, then  $H(X|Y) \leq H(X|Z)$  and

$$I(X:Y,Z) = I(X:Y) \geq I(X:Z)$$

proof: using chain rules in two different ways we get:

$$I(X:Y,Z) = \begin{cases} I(X:Z) + \overbrace{I(X:Y|Z)}^{\textcircled{a}} \\ I(X:Y) + \underbrace{I(X:Z|Y)}_{=0} \end{cases}$$

□

interpretation:

- $Z$  contains no more information about  $X$  than  $Y$  does.
- processing information (about  $X$ ) cannot increase it.

## II.6. Fano's inequality

Quantitative version of: "if  $Y$  allows to estimate  $X$  well, then  $H(X|Y)$  is small."

For random variables  $X, Y$  we define  $p_e := p(Y \neq X)$

$$h(p_e) := H((p_e, 1-p_e)) \quad \text{"binary entropy"}$$

Thm.: (Fano's inequality) If  $X, Y$  are random variables with range  $(X) = \mathcal{X}$ .  
Then

$$h(p_e) + p_e \log |\mathcal{X}| \geq H(X|Y)$$

proof: define a random variable  $E := \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } Y \neq X \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

from the chain rule we obtain:

$$\stackrel{(i)}{=} 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} H(E, X|Y) &= H(X|Y) + \overbrace{H(E|X,Y)}^{\stackrel{(i)}{=} 0} \\ &= \underbrace{H(E|Y)}_{\stackrel{(ii)}{\leq} h(p_e)} + \underbrace{H(X|E,Y)}_{\stackrel{(iii)}{\leq} p_e \log |x|} \end{aligned}$$

$$(i) E \text{ is a function of } X \text{ and } Y \Rightarrow H(E|X,Y) = 0$$

$$(ii) H(E|Y) \leq H(E) = h(p_e)$$

$\uparrow$   
 $I(E:Y) \geq 0$

$$(iii) H(X|E,Y) = \underbrace{p(E=0)}_{= p_e} \underbrace{H(X|E=0,Y)}_{\leq H(X) \leq \log |x|} + \underbrace{p(E=1)}_{= 0} \underbrace{H(X|E=1,Y)}_{= 0}$$

□

remark: if  $\text{range}(Y) = \text{range}(X)$ , we can replace  $|x|$  by  $|x-y|$ .  
In particular:

Corollary: If  $\text{range}(Y) = \text{range}(X) = \{0,1\}$ , then

$$h(p_e) \geq H(X|Y)$$

Corollary: Let  $X = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$  describe a random  $n$ -bit string,  $Y$  a random variable,  $\{f_i: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}_{i=1}^n$  and  $p_e := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n p(X_i \neq f_i(Y))$  the "average bit-error rate". Then

$$h(p_e) \geq \frac{1}{n} H(X|Y)$$

proof: → exercise ...

## II.7. Entropy rates

Def.: A "stochastic process"  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a sequence of random variables.

It is called "stationary" iff  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

$p(X_{i+n} = x_n, \dots, X_{i+m} = x_m)$  is independent of  $i \in \mathbb{N}_0$  for all  $x$ 's.

• The "entropy rates" of a stochastic process are defined as

$$H(\{X_i\}) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} H(X_1, \dots, X_n),$$

$$H'(\{X_i\}) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} H(X_n | X_{n-1}, \dots, X_1)$$

if the limits exist.

Thm.: For a stationary stochastic process the entropy rates both exist and

$$H(\{X_i\}) = H'(\{X_i\})$$

proof:  $H(X_{n+m} | X_n, \dots, X_1) \stackrel{\text{strong sub-additivity}}{\leq} H(X_{n+m} | X_{n-1}, \dots, X_1)$

$$\stackrel{\text{stationarity}}{=} H(X_n | X_{n-1}, \dots, X_1)$$

$\rightarrow H'$  exists since  $H(X_n | X_{n-1}, \dots, X_1)$  is a non-increasing and non-negative sequence.

The chain rule implies:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} H(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n H(X_i | X_{i-1}, \dots, X_1)$$

$$\stackrel{\text{Lemma (Caesar mean)}}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} H(X_n | X_{n-1}, \dots, X_1)$$

$$\text{Lemma (Caesar mean): } a_n \rightarrow a \Rightarrow \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \rightarrow a$$

Corollary: For a stationary Markov chain  $X_1 - X_2 - \dots$  we have

$$H(\{X_i\}) = H'(\{X_i\}) = H(X_2 | X_1)$$

proof:  $H(X_n | X_{n-1}, \dots, X_1) = H(X_n | X_{n-1}) = H(X_2 | X_1)$

$\uparrow$                                     $\uparrow$   
Markov                                   stationary

□

## Optimality of Huffman codes

Recursive construction of a "Huffman code"  $C: X \rightarrow A^*$  by building an  $|A|$ -ary tree from its leaves:

step 0) assign each symbol from  $X$  to a leaf,

step 1) assign the  $|A|$  least probable symbols to leaves with a common vertex,

step 2) 'combine' these symbols to a single one whose probability equals the sum of the  $|A|$  probabilities.

Then iterate  $1) \rightarrow 2) \rightarrow 1) \rightarrow \dots$  until there is only one symbol (= root) left.

### Examples:



Thm.: Given a random variable  $X$  and an alphabet  $A$ . The Huffman code is optimal in the set of all prefix-free symbol codes  $C: X \rightarrow A^*$ .

proof: by induction (only  $|A|=2$ ):

- basis for induction: optimality holds for  $n := |X| = 2$
- induction hypothesis: Huffman code is optimal for  $n$ . (\*)
- induction step: assume (\*), let  $|X| = n+1$  and  $p(x_n), p(x_{n+1})$  be smallest probabilities. Then

$$L(C_{n+1}) = L(C_n) + p(x_n) + p(x_{n+1})$$

↑  
Huffman codes ↑

since  $L(C_{un}) = l_1 p(x_1) + \dots + l_{n-1} p(x_{n-1}) + l_n p(x_n) + l_{n+1} p(x_{n+1})$  with  $l_n = l_{n+1}$

$$L(C_n) = \dots + (l_n - 1)(p(x_n) + p(x_{n+1}))$$

Now assume  $L(C'_{un}) < L(C_{un})$  for an optimal prefix-free code  $C'_{un}$ .

Optimality  $\Rightarrow l'_n = l_{un} = \max\{l'_i\}$  and we can assume  $x_n, x_{n+1}$  to be

neighbors on the tree of  $C'_{un}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } L(C_n) &\stackrel{(*)}{\leq} L(C'_n) = L(C'_{un}) - p(x_{n+1}) - p(x_n) \\ &< L(C_{un}) - p(x_{n+1}) - p(x_n) = L(C_n) \end{aligned}$$

□

Ex.: Huffman code for English language (see Mackay)

$L(C) = 4.15$  bits, compared to  $H(X) = 4.11$  bits

(entropy rate, however, is about 1bit/symbol)

- remarks:
- Huffman codes are used in the final level of the JPEG algorithm,
  - since any strategy for the Bar Kochba game corresponds to a prefix-free code and vice versa, Huffman codes provide the optimal strategy.

### III.2. Stream codes

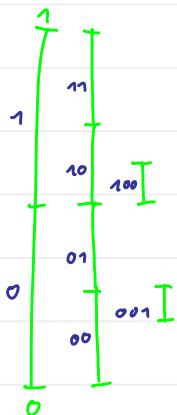
Motivation: "guessing game" ( $\rightarrow$  see Mackay)

#### III.2.1. Arithmetic codes

Basic idea:

- $I : \{0,1\}^+ \rightarrow \{[a,b] \mid 0 \leq a < b \leq 1\}$

$$I(a_1 \dots a_n) := \left[ \sum_{k=1}^n a_k 2^{-k}, \sum_{k=1}^n a_k 2^{-k} + 2^{-n} \right)$$



Note:  $I(a_1 \dots a_n) \supseteq I(a_1 \dots a_{n+1})$

- Define  $J : \mathcal{X}^+ \rightarrow \{[a,b] \mid 0 \leq a < b \leq 1\}$  similarly, but  
s.t.  $|J(x_1 \dots x_n)| = p(x_1, \dots, x_n)$

- Encode  $x_1 \dots x_n$  into  $a_1 \dots a_k$  s.t.

$$I(a_1 \dots a_k) \subseteq J(x_1 \dots x_n) \text{ & } k \text{ is smallest possible.}$$

- Encoding & decoding can be done 'on the fly'
- For a practicable algorithm  $J$  is constructed s.t. it depends only on a window of a fixed number of  $x_i$ 's.
- arithmetic coding requires a model for the probabilities
- Applications:
  - Dasher
  - DjVu

### III.2.2. Lempel-Ziv coding -

Idea: Replace a substring by a pointer to an earlier occurrence of the same substring.

#### Example:

original string:

1 0 11 01 010 00 0101 01010

# of substring:

2 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

(pointer, additional bit):

(0,1) (0,0) (1,1) (2,1) (4,0) (2,0) (5,1) (7,0)

#### remarks:

- applied in compress & gzip
- does not require a probabilistic model for the source
- Lempel-Ziv coding compresses asymptotically down to the entropy rate (for ergodic stationary stochastic processes)
- for too short strings the 'compressed' message can be longer than the original one
- a variant of LZ (Lempel-Ziv-Welch) is used in the image format GIF.

### III.3. Non-perfect data compression

Thm.: If  $C: \mathcal{X}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^+$  is a code for which  $H(X^n) \geq L(C)$ ,

then

$$p_e \geq h^{-1} \left( \frac{H(X^n) - L(C)}{n} \right)$$

where  $h^{-1}$  is the inverse of the binary entropy function  $h$  on  $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$ ,  
and  $p_e$  the average bit error rate after decoding.

proof: define a random variable  $Y := C(X^n)$  with range  $\mathcal{Y}$  and a code  $C': \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \{0,1\}^+$  by  $C' = \text{id}$ . Then

$$L(C) = L(C') \geq H(Y) = H(C(X^n)) \quad (*)$$

$$H(X^n | C(X^n)) = H(X^n, C(X^n)) - H(C(X^n))$$

$$= H(X^n) - H(C(X^n))$$

$$H(C(X^n) | X^n) = 0 \xrightarrow{\text{(*)}} \xleftarrow{\text{(*)}} H(X^n) - L(C)$$

$$\text{Fano's inequality} \Rightarrow n \ln(p_e) \geq H(X^n | C(X^n))$$

$$\geq H(X^n) - L(C)$$

□

### III.4. Asymptotic equipartition property & typicality

Def.: A sequence of random variables  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges to  $X$

"in probability" if  $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad p\{|X_n - X| > \varepsilon\} \rightarrow 0 \text{ for } n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Thm.: (weak Law of Large numbers)

Let  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  be i.i.d. random variables with mean  $E(X_i) = \mu$ .

Then  $\left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu \right] \text{ in probability.}$

Thm.: (asymptotic equipartition property / AEP) Let  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  be i.i.d. random variables with distribution  $p(x)$ . Then

$$-\frac{1}{n} \log(p(X_1, \dots, X_n)) \rightarrow H(X) \text{ in probability.}$$

remark:  $p(X)$  means a random variable defined as follows: let  $\Omega$  be the sample space,  $X: \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  a r.v. and  $p: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow [0,1]$ ,  $x \mapsto p(X=x)$ . Then  $p(X): \Omega \rightarrow [0,1]$  is defined as  $p(X) = p \circ X$ . Hence if  $\mu$  is the probability measure on  $\Omega$ , then  $p(X): \omega \mapsto \mu(\{\omega' \in \Omega \mid X(\omega') = X(\omega)\})$ .

proof:  $\{X_i\}$  i.i.d.  $\Rightarrow \{\log p(X_i)\}$  i.i.d.

$$\text{Law of large numbers } \Rightarrow \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log(p(X_i)) \rightarrow -H(X)$$

$$-\frac{1}{n} \log(p(X_1, \dots, X_n))$$

remark: this can be extended to ergodic stationary stochastic processes.

The "Shannon-McMillan-Breiman thm." states that then

$$-\frac{1}{n} \log(p(X_1, \dots, X_n)) \rightarrow H(\{X_i\})$$

Def.: (typical set)

A "typical set"  $A_\varepsilon^{(n)} \subseteq \mathcal{X}^n$  w.r.t. to a set of i.i.d. random variables  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  contains all  $x \in \mathcal{X}^n$  for which

$$2^{-n(H(X) + \varepsilon)} \leq p(x) \leq 2^{-n(H(X) - \varepsilon)}$$

Motivation: take a random string  $x := (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \{1, \dots, k\}^n$

$$\text{Then } p(x) = \prod_{i=1}^n p(X=i) \stackrel{n_i}{\approx} 2^{-nH(X)}$$

$\uparrow$

$n_i \approx n p(X=i)$

$\rightarrow$  we expect a random string to have probability around  $2^{-nH(X)}$

## Thm.i (properties of sets of typical strings)

$$1) \quad x \in A_{\varepsilon}^{(n)} \iff H(x) - \varepsilon \leq -\frac{1}{n} \log p(x) \leq H(x) + \varepsilon$$

$$2) \quad p(A_{\varepsilon}^{(n)}) := p\{X^n \in A_{\varepsilon}^{(n)}\} > 1 - \varepsilon \text{ for suff. large } n$$

$$3) \quad |A_{\varepsilon}^{(n)}| \leq 2^{-n(H(X) + \varepsilon)}$$

$$4) \quad |A_{\varepsilon}^{(n)}| \geq (1 - \varepsilon) 2^{-n(H(X) - \varepsilon)} \text{ for suff. large } n$$

proof: 1) from definition

$$\begin{aligned} 2) \quad p(A_{\varepsilon}^{(n)}) &= p\left\{\left|-\frac{1}{n} \log p(x) - H(X)\right| \leq \varepsilon\right\} \\ &= 1 - p\left\{\left|-\frac{1}{n} \log p(x) - H(X)\right| > \varepsilon\right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{AEP} \Rightarrow \exists N \in \mathbb{N} \forall n > N: p\left\{\left|-\frac{1}{n} \log p(x) - H(X)\right| > \varepsilon\right\} < \varepsilon$$

$$3) \quad 1 \geq \sum_{x \in A_{\varepsilon}^{(n)}} p(x) \geq \sum_{x \in A_{\varepsilon}^{(n)}} 2^{-n(H(X) + \varepsilon)} = |A_{\varepsilon}^{(n)}| 2^{-n(H(X) + \varepsilon)}$$

$$4) \quad \text{from 2)} \Rightarrow \exists N \in \mathbb{N} \forall n > N: p(A_{\varepsilon}^{(n)}) > 1 - \varepsilon$$

$$\sum_{x \in A_{\varepsilon}^{(n)}} 2^{-n(H(X) - \varepsilon)} = |A_{\varepsilon}^{(n)}| 2^{-n(H(X) - \varepsilon)}$$

□

- loosely speaking:
- sequences are typically typical ones
  - there are  $\sim 2^{nH(X)}$  typical sequences of length  $n$
  - each of them occurs with probability  $\sim 2^{-nH(X)}$

### III.5. Data compression based on AEP

$$X^n = A_\varepsilon^{(n)} \cup \overline{A_\varepsilon^{(n)}}$$

Define an injective map  $C: X^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^+$  such that

- $x \in A_\varepsilon^{(n)} \Rightarrow C(x) = 0y$  where  $y \in \{0,1\}^{\lceil n(H(x)+\varepsilon) \rceil}$
- remember that  $|A_\varepsilon^{(n)}| \leq 2^{\lceil n(H(x)+\varepsilon) \rceil}$   
→  $C$  can be chosen injective on  $A_\varepsilon^{(n)}$
- the prefix "0" indicates that  $x \in A_\varepsilon^{(n)}$
- $x \notin A_\varepsilon^{(n)} \Rightarrow C(x) = 1\tilde{x}$  where  $\tilde{x} \in \{0,1\}^{\lceil n \log |x| \rceil}$
- $\tilde{x} = x$  if  $X = \{0,1\}$
- the prefix "1" encodes  $x \notin A_\varepsilon^{(n)}$

We obtain for the average codeword length:

$$\begin{aligned} L(C) &= \sum_{x \in A_\varepsilon^{(n)}} p(x) L(x) + \sum_{x \notin A_\varepsilon^{(n)}} p(x) L(x) \\ &\leq \underbrace{p(A_\varepsilon^{(n)})}_{\leq 1} (n(H(x)+\varepsilon)+2) + \underbrace{(1-p(A_\varepsilon^{(n)}))}_{\leq \varepsilon} (n \log |x| + 2) \\ &\leq n(H(x)+\varepsilon) + 2 + \varepsilon (n \log |x| + 2) \end{aligned}$$

⇒ Thm.: (Shannon's source coding theorem) Let  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  be i.i.d. random variables with range  $X$ .  $\forall \delta > 0 \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \exists C: X^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^+$  uniquely decodable:

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{n} L(C) \leq H(X) + \delta}$$

## IV. Shannon's noisy channel coding theorem

### IV.1. Discrete memoryless channels



Def.: Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be finite sets. A map  $S: \mathbb{R}_+^{|X|} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+^{|Y|}$  describes

a "discrete memoryless channel" and the characterizing matrix

$S \in \mathbb{R}_+^{|\mathcal{Y}| \times |\mathcal{X}|}$  is a "stochastic matrix" if  $S_{yx} := p(y|x)$

are conditional probabilities, i.e.,  $\forall x \in X: \sum_{y \in Y} p(y|x) = 1$ .

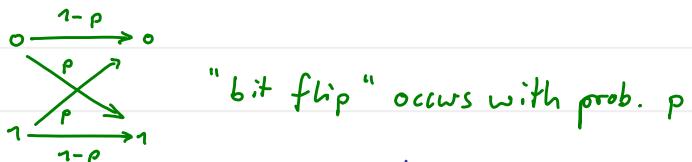
remarks: • "memoryless" refers to the fact that  $n$  uses of the channel will be described by  $S^{\otimes n} := S \otimes \dots \otimes S: \mathbb{R}_+^{|X^n|} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+^{|Y^n|}$

$$\text{where } (S^{\otimes n})_{y,x} = \prod_{i=1}^n p(y_i|x_i), \quad x \in X^n, y \in Y^n$$

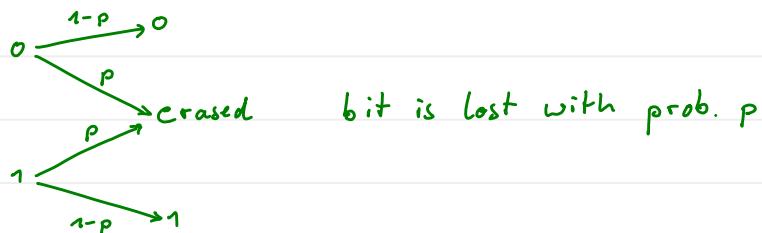
That is, the transition probabilities do not depend on what was sent in the past.

• in the following "channel" is meant to be discrete & memoryless

Examples: • binary symmetric channel:  $S = \begin{pmatrix} 1-p & p \\ p & 1-p \end{pmatrix}, p \in [0,1]$



• binary erasure channel:  $S = \begin{pmatrix} 1-p & 0 \\ p & p \\ 0 & 1-p \end{pmatrix}$



## IV.2. Codes, errors and rates

Def.: An " $(M, n)$  code" for a channel  $S$  with input alphabet  $X$  and output alphabet  $Y$  consists of

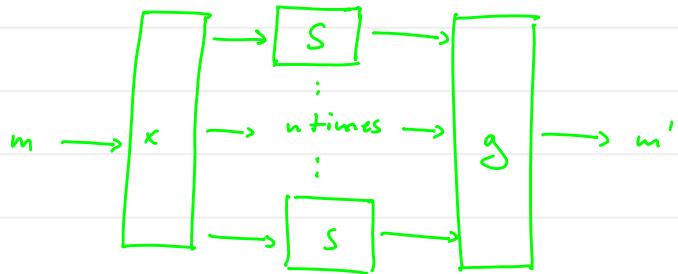
(i) an index set  $M$  (= set of messages) with  $|M| = M$

(ii) an encoding function  $x: M \rightarrow X^n$

with "codewords"  $x(m), m \in M$  and "codebook"  $x(M)$

(iii) a decoding function  $g: Y^n \rightarrow M$

$n$  is called "blocklength"



Example: repetition code:  $x: \{0, 1\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^3$ ,  $0 \mapsto 000$ ,  $1 \mapsto 111$

$g: \{0, 1\}^3 \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  by majority vote

Errors:  $\circ$  conditional prob. of error:  $\lambda_m := \sum_{y: g(y) \neq m} p(y|x(m))$ ,  $m \in M$

$$\text{where } p(y|x(m)) = \prod_{i=1}^n p(y_i|x_i(m))$$

$\circ$  max. prob. of error:  $\lambda^{(n)} := \max_{m \in M} \{\lambda_m\}$

$\circ$  average prob. of error:  $p_e^{(n)} := \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m \in M} \lambda_m$

Def.: • The "rate" of an  $(n, n)$  code is  $R := \frac{\log M}{n}$  (bits/transmission)

- A rate  $R$  is called "achievable" for a given channel iff there exists a sequence of  $(\mathbb{Z}^n, n)$  codes s.t.  $\lambda^{(n)} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .
- The "capacity"  $C(S)$  of a channel  $S$  is the supremum over all achievable rates.

remark: the rate of a repetition code  $0 \mapsto 0^n, 1 \mapsto 1^n$  is  $R = \frac{1}{n}$

So if we require  $\lambda^{(n)} \rightarrow 0$ , then  $R \rightarrow 0$  for generic channels.

### IV.3. Joint AEP

Def.: Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}, \varepsilon > 0$  and  $p: X \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the joint distribution of random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  with ranges  $X, Y$ . The set of jointly typical sequences w.r.t. to the joint distribution  $p$  is defined as

$$\mathcal{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)} := \left\{ (x, y) \in \mathcal{X}^n \times \mathcal{Y}^n \mid \begin{array}{l} \left| -\frac{1}{n} \log p(x) - H(X) \right| < \varepsilon \\ \left| -\frac{1}{n} \log p(y) - H(Y) \right| < \varepsilon \\ \left| -\frac{1}{n} \log p(x, y) - H(X, Y) \right| < \varepsilon \end{array} \right\}$$

where  $p(x, y) := \prod_{i=1}^n p(x_i, y_i)$  and  $p(x)$  &  $p(y)$  are the marginals.

Thm.: (Joint AEP) Let  $\mathcal{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}$  be the set of jointly typical sequences w.r.t. the joint distribution of  $X$  and  $Y$ . Then

$$2) p(\bar{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}) > 1 - \varepsilon \quad \text{for } n \text{ suff. large}$$

$$2) |\bar{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}| \leq 2^{-n(H(X,Y) + \varepsilon)} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$3) |\bar{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}| \geq (1-\varepsilon) 2^{-n(H(X,Y) - \varepsilon)} \quad \text{for } n \text{ suff. large}$$

4) If  $\tilde{X}^n, \tilde{Y}^n$  are i.i.d. random variables with individual ranges  $X$  and  $Y$  and joint distribution  $\Pr(\tilde{X} = x, \tilde{Y} = y) =: \tilde{p}(x, y)$  of the form  $\tilde{p}(x, y) = p(x)p(y)$  where  $p(x)$  and  $p(y)$  are the marginal distributions of  $X$  and  $Y$  respectively. Then

$$a) (1-\varepsilon) 2^{-n(I(X;Y) + 3\varepsilon)} \leq \Pr((\tilde{X}^n, \tilde{Y}^n) \in \bar{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}) \quad \text{for } n \text{ suff. large.}$$

$$b) \Pr((\tilde{X}^n, \tilde{Y}^n) \in \bar{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}) \leq 2^{-n(I(X;Y) - 3\varepsilon)}$$

Proof: 1), 2) and 3) are proven in complete analogy to the AEP for  $A_\varepsilon^{(n)}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} 4) a) \Pr((\tilde{X}^n, \tilde{Y}^n) \in \bar{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}) &= \sum_{(x,y) \in \bar{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}} p(x)p(y) \\ &\leq |\bar{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}| 2^{-n(H(X) - \varepsilon)} 2^{-n(H(Y) - \varepsilon)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\stackrel{2)}{\leq} 2^{-n(I(X;Y) - 3\varepsilon)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} b) \Pr((\tilde{X}^n, \tilde{Y}^n) \in \bar{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}) &= \sum_{(x,y) \in \bar{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}} p(x)p(y) \\ &\geq |\bar{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}| 2^{-n(H(X) + \varepsilon)} 2^{-n(H(Y) + \varepsilon)} \\ &\stackrel{3)}{\geq} (1-\varepsilon) 2^{-n(I(X;Y) + 3\varepsilon)} \end{aligned}$$

□

#### IV.4. Direct part of the coding theorem

Thm.: Let  $p(y|x)$  with  $x \in \mathcal{X}, y \in \mathcal{Y}$  describe a discrete memoryless channel. Every  $R < \max_{p(x)} I(X;Y)$  is an achievable rate for it, if the mutual information is computed w.r.t. to  $p(x,y) := p(x)p(y|x)$ .

- proof:
- fix  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $p(x)$  and let  $\mathcal{M} := \{1, \dots, 2^{nR}\}$
  - produce "random"  $(2^{nR}, n)$  code by generating  $2^{nR}$  codewords in  $\mathcal{X}^n$  independently according to  $p(x^n) = \prod_{i=1}^n p(x_i)$
  - use "typical-set decoding"  $g: \mathcal{Y}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  defined by

$$g(y^n) = m \quad \text{if} \quad (x^n(m), y^n) \in \mathcal{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}$$

$$\wedge \forall i \neq m: (x^n(i), y^n) \notin \mathcal{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}$$

$$g(y^n) = 1 \quad \text{otherwise}.$$

error analysis:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{p} &:= \sum_c p(c) p_e^{(n)}(c) \quad \text{averaged over codes} \\ &= \sum_c p(c) 2^{-nR} \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}} \lambda_m(c) \quad \& \text{codewords} \\ &= 2^{-nR} \sum_m \underbrace{\sum_c p(c) \lambda_m(c)}_{\text{independent of } m} = \sum_c p(c) \lambda_m(c) \end{aligned}$$

two error types (assuming  $y^n$  is received upon sending  $x^n(1)$ ):

(i)  $(x^n(1), y^n) \notin \mathcal{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}$  : this has prob. at most  $\varepsilon$

(ii)  $(x^n(j), y^n) \in \mathcal{B}_\varepsilon^{(n)}$  for some  $j \neq 1$

Since  $X^n(1)$  and  $X^n(j)$  are independent if  $j \neq 1$ , so are  $Y^n$  &  $X^n(j)$   
 $\xrightarrow{\text{Joint AEP}}$  prob. bounded by  $2^{-n(I(X:Y) - 3\varepsilon)}$  for each  $j \neq 1$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{p} \leq \varepsilon + (2^{nR} - 1) \underbrace{2^{-n(I(X:Y) - 3\varepsilon)}}_{(\because)}$$

$$\leq \varepsilon + 2^{n(R - I(X:Y) + 3\varepsilon)}$$

$$\leq 2\varepsilon \quad \text{if } R < I(X:Y) - 3\varepsilon \quad \& \quad n \text{ suff. large}$$

Hence, if  $R < I(X:Y)$  we can choose  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  accordingly and make  $\hat{p}$  arbitrary small.

- $\hat{p} \leq 2\varepsilon \Rightarrow \exists c : p_c^{(n)}(c) \leq 2\varepsilon$
- modify this code by discarding the worst 50% codewords  
 $\rightarrow (2^{nR-1}, n)$  code  $\tilde{c}$  for which the max. prob. of error is

$$\lambda^{(n)}(\tilde{c}) \leq 2 p_c^{(n)}(c) \leq 4\varepsilon$$

The rate of  $\tilde{c}$  is  $\tilde{R} = R - \frac{1}{n}$

□

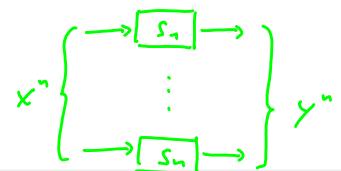
#### IV.5. Converse part of the coding theorem

Lemma: Let  $x^n \in \mathcal{X}^n$  with distribution  $p(x^n)$  be the input and  $y^n \in \mathcal{Y}^n$  be the output of an  $n$ -fold product of discrete memoryless channels. For  $p(x^n, y^n) := \prod_{i=1}^n p_i(y_i | x_i) p(x^n)$  we get

$$I(X^n; Y^n) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n I(X_i; Y_i)$$

(note that the channels can be different)

proof:  $I(X^n; Y^n) = H(Y^n) - H(Y^n | X^n)$



chain rule

$$\stackrel{!}{=} H(Y^n) = \sum_{i=1}^n H(Y_i | Y_{i-1}, \dots, Y_1, X^n)$$

$Y_i$  only depends on  $X_i$

$$\stackrel{!}{=} H(Y^n) = \sum_{i=1}^n H(Y_i | X_i)$$

subadditivity

$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^n H(Y_i) - H(Y_i | X_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n I(X_i; Y_i)$$

□

Theorem: (Shannon's noisy coding theorem - converse part)

Any  $(2^{nR}, n)$  code for a discrete memoryless channel satisfies

$$R \leq \frac{C}{1 - p_e^{(n)}}$$

where

$$C := \max_{p(x)} I(X; Y)$$

and

$p_e^{(n)} := 2^{-nR} \sum_{m=1}^{2^{nR}} \lambda_m$  is the error prob. averaged over all codewords.

proof: Let  $W$  be a random variable assigned to uniform dist. of codewords.

That is,  $\text{range}(W) = \{1, \dots, 2^{nR}\}$

$$nR = H(W) = H(W|\hat{W}) + I(W; \hat{W})$$

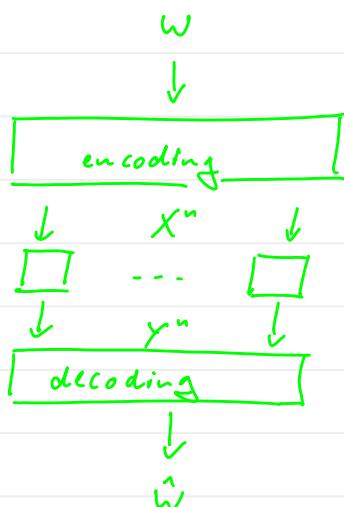
Fano's inequality  $\rightarrow \leq h(p_e^{(n)}) + p_e^{(n)} nR + I(W; \hat{W})$

data processing ineq. for  
Markov chain  $W - X^n - Y^n - \hat{W}$  }  $\leq h(p_e^{(n)}) + p_e^{(n)} nR + I(X^n; Y^n)$

previous Lemma  $\rightarrow \leq h(p_e^{(n)}) + p_e^{(n)} nR + \sum_{i=1}^n I(X_i; Y_i)$

$$\leq h(p_e^{(n)}) + p_e^{(n)} nR + nC$$

$$\Rightarrow p_e^{(n)} \geq 1 - \frac{C}{R} - \frac{h(p_e^{(n)})}{nR}$$



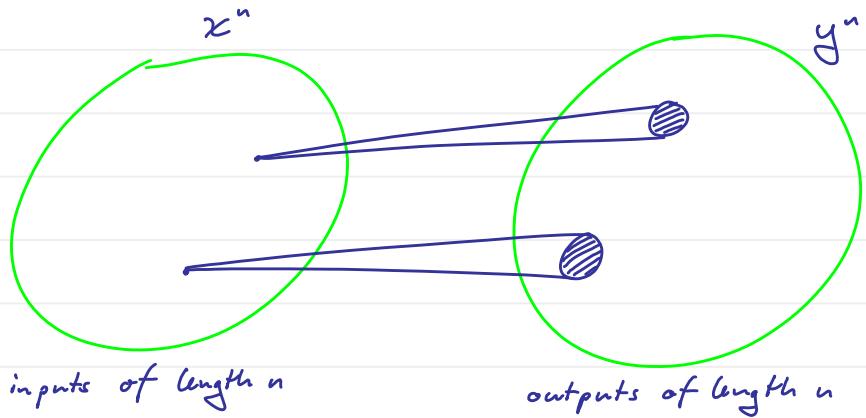
For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we can construct a  $(2^{nmR}, nm)$  code for which  $p_e^{(nm)} = p_e^{(n)}$ .

$$\Rightarrow p_e^{(n)} = p_e^{(nm)} \geq 1 - \frac{C}{R} - \frac{\ln(p_e^{(nm)})}{nmR} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 - \frac{C}{R}$$

$$\Rightarrow R \leq \frac{C}{1 - p_e^{(n)}}$$

□

## IV.6. Heuristic view on Shannon's noisy channel coding theorem



- (i) for every input we obtain  $\sim 2^{H(Y|X)}$  outputs with roughly equal prob.  
The other outputs may be possible, but they are not typical and thus  $\epsilon$  unlikely.
- (ii) the total number of typical sequences at the output is  $\sim 2^{nH(Y)}$
- (iii) to be able to distinguish different inputs at the output, their images must not overlap.

$\rightarrow$  There are about  $\frac{2^{nH(Y)}}{2^{nH(Y|X)}} = 2^{nI(X;Y)}$  such inputs corresponding to a rate of  $I(X;Y)$

Remark: strictly speaking, in (i) it should be  $2^{nH(Y|X=x)}$  for an input  $x \in X^n$

## IV. 7. Properties of the channel capacity

Proposition:

$$(1) \quad C \geq 0$$

$$(2) \quad C \leq \min \{ \log |X|, \log |Y| \}$$

proof: both are rather obvious from the operational definition, but they also follow easily from properties of the mutual information:

$$(1) \quad I(X;Y) \geq 0$$

$$(2) \quad I(X;Y) = \begin{cases} H(X) - H(X|Y) \leq H(X) \leq \log |X| \\ H(Y) - H(Y|X) \leq H(Y) \leq \log |Y| \end{cases} \quad \square$$

Thm.i (additivity) Let  $S_1, S_2, S_1 \otimes S_2$  be stochastic matrices describing two discrete memoryless channels and their product, respectively. Then

$$C(S_1 \otimes S_2) = C(S_1) + C(S_2)$$

proof:  $C(S_1 \otimes S_2) = \max_{p(x^2)} I(X^2; Y^2)$  where  $X^2 = (X_1, X_2)$ ,  $x^2 \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X}$

$$(i) \geq \max_{p(x_1)p(x_2)} I(X^2; Y^2) = C(S_1) + C(S_2)$$

$$(ii) \leq \max_{p(x^2)} (I(X_1; Y_1) + I(X_2; Y_2)) \text{ due to additivity Lemma}$$

$$= \max_{p(x_1)p(x_2)} (-n_1 + n_2) = C(S_1) + C(S_2)$$

$\square$

Proposition:  $I(X;Y)$  w.r.t.  $p(x,y) = \underbrace{p(y|x)p(x)}$  is a convex functional of  $p(y|x)$  and a concave functional of  $p(x)$ .

depends only on  $S$  not on  $p(x)$

proof:

- $\mathcal{I}(X;Y) = \underbrace{H(Y)}_{\text{concave in } p(x) \text{ since}} - H(Y|X) = H(Y) - \underbrace{\sum_x p(x) \underbrace{H(Y|X=x)}_{\text{linear in } p(x)}}_{p(y) = \sum_x S_{px} p(x) \text{ depends linearly on } p(x) \& H \text{ is concave}}$
- $\Rightarrow$  concavity in  $p(x)$

- for the proof of convexity w.r.t.  $S$  fix  $p(x)$  and define

$$p_\lambda(y|x) := \lambda p_1(y|x) + (1-\lambda)p_2(y|x), \quad p_\lambda(x,y) := p_\lambda(y|x)p(x)$$

Then  $\mathcal{I}_\lambda(X;Y) = D(p_\lambda(x,y) \| p_\lambda(y)p(x))$  and convexity

follows from joint convexity of the relative entropy.

□

Corollary:  $\circ$  The channel capacity is a convex functional of the channel:

$$C(\lambda S_1 + (1-\lambda)S_2) \leq \lambda C(S_1) + (1-\lambda)C(S_2)$$

- $\circ$  For  $\max_{p(x)} \mathcal{I}(X;Y)$  any local maximum is a global one.

→ efficient algorithms for computing the capacity (e.g. Arimoto-Blahut)

## IV.8. Computing some capacities

Prop.: Let  $S$  with  $S_{yx} = p(y|x)$  be a stochastic matrix where all columns are permutations of a probability vector  $q$ . Then

$$C(S) = \left( \max_{p(x)} H(Y) \right) - H(q) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{(where } Y \text{ is distributed according} \\ \text{to } \sum_x p(y|x)p(x) \text{ and } y \in Y \end{array}$$

$$\leq \log |Y| - H(q)$$

with equality iff there is an input distribution  $\tilde{p}$  s.t.  $(S\tilde{p})_y = \frac{1}{|Y|} \forall y \in Y$ .

proof:  $C = \max_{p(x)} I(X;Y) = \sup_{p(x)} H(Y) - H(Y|X)$

$$= \sup_{p(x)} H(Y) - \underbrace{\sum_x p(x)}_{\leq \log |Y|} \underbrace{H(Y|X=x)}_{= H(q)}$$

and  $H(Y) = \log |Y|$  iff distribution is uniform.  $\square$

Examples: ① binary symmetric channel:

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} 1-p & p \\ p & 1-p \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{bit flipped with prob. } p)$$

$$C(S) = \log 2 - H(p) \quad \text{for } \tilde{p} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1-p}{2} \\ \frac{p}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

② noisy typewriter channel:

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} 1-2p & p & & & p \\ p & 1-2p & p & & \\ & p & \ddots & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & p \\ p & & & p & 1-2p \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{"circulant matrix"}$$

$$C(S) = \log |Y| - H(q), \quad q = (1-2p, p, p) \quad \text{for } \tilde{p} \text{ uniform}$$

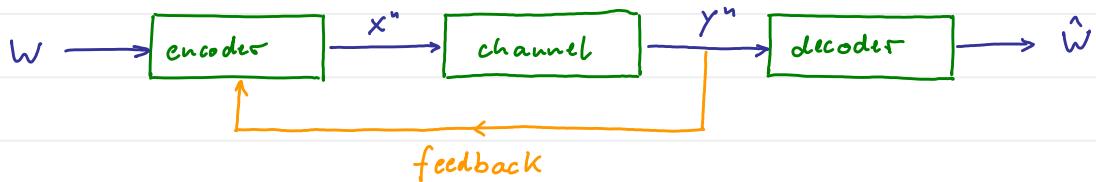
### ③ binary erasure channel

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} 1-p & 0 \\ p & p \\ 0 & 1-p \end{pmatrix} \quad (= \text{bit erased with prob. } p)$$

$$C(S) = 1-p$$

(proven in the exercise. A uniform output distribution is in this case not possible. Uniform input  $\tilde{p}$  is optimal, though.)

### IV.3. Feedback capacity



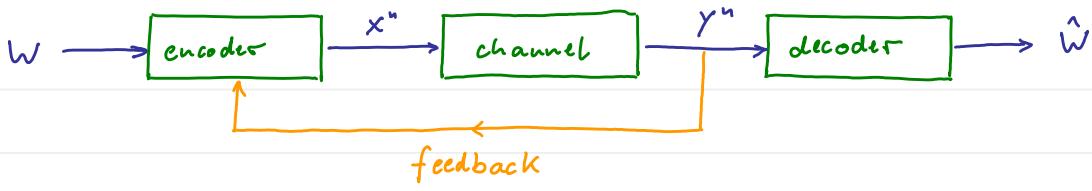
Consider sequential uses of the channel where in each encoding step the output of all previous transmissions can be used.

Def.: • An  $(M,n)$ -code with feedback for a discrete memoryless channel with input & output alphabets  $X$  &  $Y$  is defined via

- encoding functions  $f_i: \{1, \dots, M\} \times Y^{i-1} \rightarrow X$ ,  $i=1, \dots, n$
- a decoding function  $g: Y^n \rightarrow \{1, \dots, M\}$
- Let  $y^i := (y_1, \dots, y_i)$  and  $X_i := f_i(w, Y^{i-1})$
- $R$  is a "rate achievable with feedback" iff  $\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists (2^{nR}, n)$ -code with feedback s.t.  $\lambda^{(n)} < \epsilon$ .
- The "feedback capacity"  $C_{FB}$  is the supremum over all such rates.

Thm.:

$$C_{FB} = C$$



Thm.:

$$C_{FB} = C$$

proof: evidently  $C_{FB} \geq C$ , so we need to show  $C_{FB} \leq C$ .

Let  $W$  be uniformly distributed over all input messages.

Similar to the proof of the converse part without feedback:

$$nR = H(W) = \underbrace{H(W|Y^n)}_{(i)} + \underbrace{I(W;Y^n)}_{(ii)}$$

$$(i) \quad H(W|Y^n) \leq H(W|\hat{W}) \quad \text{data processing inequality}$$

$$\leq 1 + p_e^{(n)} nR \quad \text{Fano's inequality } (h(p_e) + p_e \log |X| \geq H(X|Y))$$

$$(ii) \quad I(W;Y^n) = H(Y^n) - H(Y^n|W)$$

$$= H(Y^n) - \sum_{i=1}^n H(Y_i|Y^{i-1}, W)$$

$$= H(Y^n) - \sum_{i=1}^n H(Y_i|Y^{i-1}, W, X_i) \quad | \quad X_i = f_i(W, Y^{i-1})$$

$$= H(Y^n) - \sum_{i=1}^n H(Y_i|X_i) \quad | \quad \begin{array}{l} Y_i \text{ depends on } (Y^{i-1}, W) \text{ only} \\ \text{via } X_i \end{array}$$

$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^n H(Y_i) - H(X_i|Y_i) \quad | \quad \text{subadditivity}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n I(X_i; Y_i) \leq nC$$

$$\Rightarrow nR \leq 1 + p_e^{(n)} nR + nC \Rightarrow R(1 - p_e^{(n)}) \leq \frac{1}{n} + C$$

$$\Rightarrow R \leq C \text{ via } n \rightarrow \infty$$

□

remarks: in practice, however, feedback can help/simplify.

example: for the binary erasure channel resend the bit until it has not been erased  $\rightarrow$  average nr. of channels used:

$$(1-p) \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} np^{n-1}}_{(1-p)^{-2}} = \frac{1}{(1-p)}$$

$\rightarrow (1-p)$  is achievable rate with feedback.

But we know also that  $C_{FB} = C = (1-p)$

- the capacity is in this case easily achieved with zero error
- without feedback codes coming close to capacity are far more complicated & the error is non-zero
- another resource which doesn't change capacity is "shared randomness" between sender & receiver.

#### IV. 10. Source-channel separation

Question: what if the messages to be transmitted are not uniformly distributed?

- one possibility is to separate source coding (data compression) & channel coding
- a more general approach would be to combine them.  
Such codes are called source-channel codes.
- the following shows that we don't lose anything, if we separate the two:

Thm.: (source-channel coding theorem)

Consider a discrete memoryless channel with  $C := \max_{p(x,y)} I(X;Y)$ .

- (i) Let  $\{V_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a stochastic process which satisfies the AEP w.r.t. its entropy rate  $H(\{V_i\})$  (e.g. an i.i.d source or, more generally, a stationary ergodic stochastic process). If  $H(\{V_i\}) < C$ , there is a source-channel code which allows transmission s.t.  $\text{prob}(\hat{V}^n \neq V^n) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .
- (ii) For any stationary stochastic process, if  $H(\{V_i\}) > C$ , then  $\exists \delta > 0 \ \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \ \forall$  source-channel codes :  $\text{prob}(\hat{V}^n \neq V^n) > \delta$ .

proof: similar to what we did before  $\rightarrow$  exercise.

## V. Error correcting codes / coding theory

Note: "random coding" (as in the proof of Shannon's noisy channel coding thm.) is completely useless for actual information transmission. We need something more concrete & more efficient ...

Example: "[7,4] Hamming code"

Let  $x \in \{0,1\}^4$  be a message which we want to protect against errors.

Define  $g := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $G := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ g & g & g & g \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{Z}_2^{7 \times 4}$ .

"Encode" the message into  $y := Gx \in \mathbb{Z}_2^7$  with addition mod 2.

Claim: the image of any vector  $x' \in \mathbb{Z}_2^4$  with  $x' \neq x$  differs from  $y$  in at least three bits, i.e.  $|\{i : 1(G(x-x')), i \neq 0\}| \geq 3$ .

Consequence: if an arbitrary single bit in  $y$  is corrupted, we can correct for it. proven by inspection:  $G(1x)$  has at least 3 non-zero components if  $1x \neq 0$ .

## V.1. Basic definitions

Def.: Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a finite alphabet,  $o \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $x, x' \in \mathcal{X}^n$ .

- $d(x) := |\{i \in \{1, \dots, n\} \mid x_i \neq o\}|$  "Hamming weight"
- $d(x-x') := |\{i \mid x_i \neq x'_i\}|$  "Hamming distance"
- $\{x' \in \mathcal{X}^n \mid d(x-x') \leq r\}$  "Hamming ball" of radius  $r$  around  $x$

remark:  $(x, x') \mapsto d(x-x')$  is a metric on  $\mathcal{X}^n$ .

Def.: An "error correcting code"  $C$  of length  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  over an alphabet  $\mathcal{X}$  is a subset  $C \subseteq \mathcal{X}^n$  whose elements are called "codewords".

remarks:

- we will often associate an "encoding map"  $E : \{1, \dots, |C|\} \rightarrow C \subseteq \mathcal{X}^n$  with the error correcting code (= code in the following)
- the above codes are also called "block codes" with "block length"  $n$ ,
- the code is called q-ary (binary) if  $|\mathcal{X}| = q$  ( $|\mathcal{X}| = 2$ )

Def.: Let  $C \subseteq \mathcal{X}^n$ .

- $R(C) := \frac{\log |C|}{\log |\mathcal{X}^n|}$  is called the "rate" of the code.
- $d(C) := \min_{\substack{c, c' \in C \\ c \neq c'}} d(c-c')$  is called its "distance", and  $\frac{d(C)}{n}$  "relative distance".

remarks:

- $R(C) \sim$  fraction of non-redundant info in the codewords of  $C$ .
- the  $[7, 4]$  Hamming code has distance 3 & rate  $R(C) = \frac{4}{7}$
- a corrupted message  $x'$  is said to have  $k$  errors w.r.t. its uncorrupted version  $x$  if  $d(x-x') = k$ .

Note: A code with distance  $d$  allows to correct

(i)  $\lfloor \frac{(d-1)}{2} \rfloor$  errors,

(ii)  $(d-1)$  symbol erasures.

proof: just choose the codeword closest in Hamming distance.  $\square$

Def.: Let  $\mathcal{C} = \{C_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of codes with lengths  $n_i$  so that  $n_{i+1} > n_i$ .  $\mathcal{C}$  is called "asymptotically good" if

$\liminf_i R(C_i)$  and  $\liminf_i \left( \frac{d(C_i)}{n_i} \right)$  are both strictly positive.

Summary of basic notions from previous lecture:

- "error correcting code"  $C \subseteq \mathcal{X}^n$  with  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{X}: \text{finite alphabet} \\ n \in \mathbb{N}: \text{"length" of the code} \end{array} \right.$
- "rate" of an ECC,  $R(C) := \frac{\log |C|}{n \log |\mathcal{X}|} \sim \frac{\text{length of message}}{\text{length of its codeword}}$   
 $\sim \text{fraction of non-redundant info}$
- "distance" of an ECC:  $d(C) := \min_{\substack{c, c' \in C \\ c \neq c'}} d(c - c') = \min_{\substack{\text{two codewords}}} \text{Hamming distance}$
- "relative distance":  $\frac{d(C)}{n}$

remember: an ECC with  $d := d(C)$  allows to correct  $\left\lfloor \frac{d-1}{2} \right\rfloor$  errors or  $(d-1)$  symbol erasures

## V.2. Linear codes

Def.: If  $\mathcal{X}$  is a field and  $C \subseteq \mathcal{X}^n$  a subspace, then  $C$  is called a "linear code".

remarks: •  $|\mathcal{X}| < \infty$  implies that  $\mathcal{X} = GF(q)$  is a "Galois field" with  $q := |\mathcal{X}| = p^m$  for some prime  $p$  and  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ .

• A subspace  $C \subseteq GF(q)^n$  admits a basis  $c_1, \dots, c_k$  so that

$$|C| = q^k \quad \& \text{ thus } \quad R(C) = \frac{k}{n}$$

• for real world applications we often have  $n \sim 10^3 - 10^4$

Def.: •  $G \in GF(q)^{n \times k}$  is called a "generator matrix" for a linear code  $C \subseteq GF(q)^n$  if its columns form a basis of  $C$ .

•  $C$  is then called an " $[n, k]$ -code" or " $[n, k, d]$ -code" if  $d = d(C)$ .

remark: the encoding map  $E: GF(q)^k \rightarrow GF(q)^n$  of a linear code is then just  $E: x \mapsto Gx$ .

Lemma: For any linear code  $C \subseteq GF(q)^n$  we have

$$d(C) = \min_{c \in C \setminus \{0\}} d(c).$$

- proof:
- let  $c_1, c_2 \in C$  be such that  $d(c_1 - c_2) = d(C)$ .  
 $\tilde{c} := c_1 - c_2 \in C \setminus \{0\}$  then implies  $d(C) = d(\tilde{c}) \geq \min_{c \in C \setminus \{0\}} d(c)$ .
  - conversely, if  $c_1 \in C \setminus \{0\}$  s.t.  $d(c_1) = \min_{c \in C \setminus \{0\}} d(c)$ , then for  $c_2 := 0$   
 $d(C) \leq d(c_1 - c_2) = d(c_1) = \dots$  . □

Def.: A generator matrix  $G \in GF(q)^{n \times k}$  is said to be "in systematic form" if  $G = (\mathbb{1}_k \ P)^\top$  for some  $k \times (n-k)$  matrix  $P$ . The encoding  $x \mapsto Gx$  is then also called "systematic"

- remarks:
- for every code with generator matrix  $G'$  we can by linear operations construct one with generator matrix  $G$  in sys. form s.t. the two codes are "equivalent" in the sense that their lengths, rates & min. distances coincides.
  - the codewords of a syst. encoding contain the raw message in the first  $k$  components followed by  $(n-k)$  symbols introducing redundancy.

Prop.: Let  $G = (\mathbb{1}_k \ P)^\top$  be the generator matrix of a linear code

$C \subseteq GF(q)^n$ . Then  $\forall c \in GF(q)^n$ :

$$c \in C \Leftrightarrow Hc = 0 \quad \text{for } H := (-P^\top \ \mathbb{1}_{n-k}).$$

- proof:
- $c \in C \Rightarrow \exists x \in GF(q)^k : c = Gx$   
 $\Rightarrow Hc = HGx = (-P^\top \ \mathbb{1}_k) \left( \begin{array}{c} \mathbb{1}_k \\ P^\top \end{array} \right) x = (P^\top - P^\top)x = 0 \quad \checkmark$

$$\bullet \quad Hc = 0 \Rightarrow 0 = (-P^T \mathbb{1}) \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} = c_2 - P^T c_1 \Rightarrow c_2 = P^T c_1$$

$$\Rightarrow c = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ P^T c_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1} \\ P^T \end{pmatrix} c_1 = G c_1 \quad \checkmark$$

□

- remarks:
- if  $c \in C$  is corrupted via  $c \mapsto c' := c + e$ , then  $Hc' = He$  is independent of the original codeword.
  - $He$  is called "syndrome" &  $H$  is called "parity check matrix"
  - a possible decoding strategy is then to infer/guess  $e$  from the syndrome.

### V.3. Bounds on the performance of error correcting codes

Prop.: (Hamming bound) Let  $C \subseteq \mathcal{X}^n$  be a code with  $|\mathcal{X}| = q$ , distance  $d(C) := d$  and  $m := \lfloor \frac{d-1}{2} \rfloor$  ( $= \#$  of errors which can be corrected).

Then

$$|C| \leq \frac{q^n}{V(q, n, m)}$$

$$\text{where } V(q, n, m) := \sum_{i=0}^m \binom{n}{i} (q-1)^i$$

proof: For each  $c \in C$  define a neighborhood  $B_m(c) := \{y \in \mathcal{X}^n \mid d(y-c) \leq m\}$ .

Then  $B_m(c) \cap B_m(c') = \emptyset$  for  $c, c' \in C$  with  $c \neq c'$  and  $|B_m(c)| = V(q, n, m)$ .

$$\text{So } |\mathcal{X}^n| = q^n \geq \left| \bigcup_{c \in C} B_m(c) \right| = \sum_{c \in C} |B_m(c)| = |C| V(q, n, m)$$

↑  
 $c \in C$   
 $\text{all } c \text{ disjoint}$

□

remark: if '=' holds in the Hamming bound, then we have a perfect packing of non-overlapping Hamming balls that cover the full space.

Def.: A code for which '=' holds in the Hamming bound is called "perfect".

Thm. i (Tietavainen/van Lint '70ies) The following are all perfect binary codes (i.e.  $q=2$ ):

(i)  $[2^{r-1}, 2^{r-1-r}, 3]$  Hamming codes (e.g.  $[7,4]$  for  $r=3$ )

(ii) the "  $[23, 12, 7]$  Golay code"

(iii) trivial codes (meaning  $|C| \in \{1, 2^n\}$ )

(iv) repetition codes  $x_i \mapsto \underbrace{(x_i, \dots, x_i)}_{n \text{ times}}$  for odd  $n$

Thm. ii (Gilbert-Varshamov bound)

For every triple  $(q, n, d) \in \mathbb{N}^3$  there exist a code  $C \subseteq \mathcal{X}^n$  with  $|\mathcal{X}| = q$  and distance  $d(C) = d$  s.t.

$$|C| \geq \frac{q^n}{V(q, n, d-1)}$$

$$\text{where } V(q, n, d-1) = \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \binom{n}{i} (q-1)^i$$

$$= \text{Volume of } B_{d-1} \subseteq \mathcal{X}^n$$

proof: construct the code step-by-step via:

(i) start with arbitrary first codeword

(ii) add any point as a codeword which has Hamming distance at least  $d$  from all previously chosen codewords,

(iii) iterate (ii) until the Hamming balls of radius  $(d-1)$  around the codewords cover all of  $\mathcal{X}^n$ .

The constructed code then satisfies  $|C| \cdot V(q, n, d-1) \geq q^n$ . □

remarks:

- There are linear codes satisfying this bound. In fact, random linear codes do the job for large enough  $n$ .

- computing (even approximating) the distance of a linear code is NP-hard  
→ picking a random code & checking whether it has good distance is not feasible.
- for prime powers  $\geq 49$  there are explicit constructions based on algebraic geometry which satisfy the GV bound.
- for  $q=2$  no explicit construction is known.

recall:  $\circ V(q, n, r) := \sum_{i=0}^r \binom{n}{i} (q-1)^i$  Volume of Hamming ball  $B_r \subseteq \mathbb{Z}_q^n$

$\circ$  Gilbert-Varshamov bound:  $A(q, n, d) \in \mathbb{N}^3 \exists$  code  $C \subseteq \mathbb{Z}_q^n$  s.t.

$$d(C) = d \wedge |C| \geq q^n / V(q, n, d-1)$$

$\circ f(x) = o(g(x)) \Leftrightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right| = 0$ , e.g.  $f(x) = o(1)$  means  $f(x) \xrightarrow{x \rightarrow \infty} 0$ .

$\circ f(x) = \Omega(g(x)) \Leftrightarrow \liminf_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right| > 0$  i.e.  $g$  is asympt. lower bound.

Lemma: For  $p \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$  and increasing  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$\boxed{\sum_{n=1}^{\lfloor n(p) - o(1) \rfloor} 2^{n(p)n} \leq V(2, n, pn) \leq 2^{\lfloor n(p) \rfloor n}}$$

(where  $h(p) := -p \log p + (1-p) \log(1-p)$  is the binary entropy).

Corollary: (i) For  $p \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$  there is a sequence of binary codes  $(C_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  with relative distance  $\boxed{\frac{d(C_n)}{n} \geq p}$  such that  $R(C_n) \geq 1 - h(p)$ .

(ii) Conversely, for  $p \in [0, 1]$  every sequence of binary codes with  $\frac{d(C_n)}{n} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} p$  satisfies

$$\boxed{R(C_n) \leq 1 - h(\frac{p}{2}) + o(1)}$$

proof: (i) by definition  $R(C_n) := \frac{\log |C_n|}{n}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} R(C_n) &\geq 1 - \frac{1}{n} \log V(2, n, d-1) \text{ by Gilbert-Varshamov} \\ &\geq 1 - h(p) \text{ using the Lemma for } p_n = d-1 \end{aligned}$$

(ii)  $R(C_n) \leq 1 - \frac{1}{n} \log V(2, n, \lfloor \frac{d-1}{2} \rfloor)$  Hamming bound

$$\leq 1 - h(\frac{p}{2}) + o(1) \quad \text{Lemma}$$

□

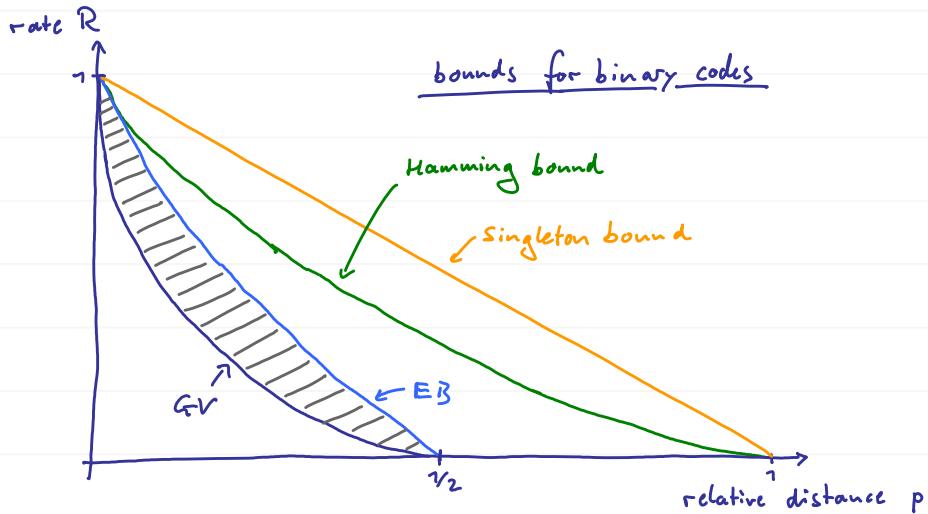
Consequence:

Asymptotically good binary codes exist!

remark: an improved upper bound is the "Elias-Bassalygo" bound:

$$R(C_n) \leq 1 - h\left(\frac{1-\sqrt{1-2p}}{2}\right) + o(1)$$

for  $n \rightarrow \infty$



Prop.: (Singleton bound)

For every  $q$ -ary code  $C \subseteq \mathbb{Z}_q^n$  with block length  $n \geq k$  and distance  $d$ , we have

$$|C| \leq q^{n-d+1}$$

proof: • take all  $|C|$  codewords and erase the first  $(d-1)$  symbols

• we are left with  $|C|$  strings which are distinct (since the distance was  $d$ ) and of length  $n-(d-1)$

$$\Rightarrow |C| \leq q^{n-d+1} = \text{max \# of } q\text{-ary strings of length } n-(d-1)$$

□

Corollary: Any linear  $[n, k, d]$  code satisfies

$$k \leq n-d+1$$

proof:  $|C| = q^k$ .

□

Def.: Linear  $[n, k]$  codes with distance  $d = n - k + 1$  are called "maximum distance separable" (MDS) codes.

- remarks:
- MDS codes require large alphabets;
  - a sequence of asymptotically good codes can be MDS only if  $q = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{n}{\log n}\right)$  with  $n \rightarrow \infty$
  - a sequence of MDS codes whose rel. distance is bounded away from 0 & 1 is asymptotically good, since

$$R = \frac{k}{n} = 1 - \frac{d}{n} + \frac{1}{n}$$

↑  
MDS

note that  $R + \frac{d}{n} \rightarrow 1$   
for MDS codes!

## V. 4. Reed-Solomon codes

Def.: For integers  $1 \leq k < n \leq q$  and  $\alpha \in GF(q)^n$  with distinct components

$$C := \left\{ p(\alpha) \in GF(q)^n \mid p \text{ is polynomial over } GF(q) \text{ of degree } < k \right\}$$

is called "Reed-Solomon code" and we will write  $[n, k]$ -RS code.

Encoding: ◦ we identify a message  $m \in GF(q)^k$  with a polynomial

$$p_m(x) := \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} m_i x^i$$

the codeword is then  $p_m(\alpha) = (p_m(\alpha_1), \dots, p_m(\alpha_n))$

◦  $p_m(\alpha) = Gm$  where  $G \in GF(q)^{n \times k}$  is a "Vandermonde matrix"

$$\text{with } G_{xy} := \alpha_x^{y-1}$$

$\Rightarrow$  RS codes are linear

- remarks:
- RS codes have large alphabet (since  $q \geq n$ )
  - typical choices for  $\alpha$ :

$$(i) \{\alpha\} = \{GF(q)\} \quad \text{i.e. } q = n$$

$$(ii) \{\alpha\} = \{GF(q)\} \setminus \{0\} \quad \text{i.e. } q = n+1$$

$$\alpha = (\beta^0, \beta^1, \dots, \beta^{n-1}), \text{ to "primitive element" of } GF(q)$$

Def.:  $\mathbb{K}_d[x] :=$  space of polynomials over the field  $\mathbb{K}$  with degree  $\leq d$ .

Lemma: If  $\alpha \in \mathbb{K}^{d+1}$  has distinct components, then  $\hat{\alpha}: \mathbb{K}_d[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{K}^{d+1}$ ,  
 $\hat{\alpha}: p \mapsto (p(\alpha_0), \dots, p(\alpha_{d+1}))$  is bijective.

proof: "Lagrange interpolation" define  $L_i \in \mathbb{K}_d[x]$ ,

$$L_i(x) := \frac{\prod_{k \neq i} (x - \alpha_k)}{\prod_{k \neq i} (\alpha_i - \alpha_k)}, \quad i, k, l \in \{0, \dots, d+1\}$$

Then  $L_i(\alpha_j) = \delta_{ij}$ . For any  $\beta \in \mathbb{K}^{d+1}$  define  $p(x) := \sum_{i=0}^{d+1} \beta_i L_i(x)$ .

Then  $p \in \mathbb{K}_d$  and  $p(\alpha_i) = \beta_i$ . Hence  $\hat{\alpha}$  is surjective.

Conversely, if  $p, \tilde{p} \in \mathbb{K}_d[x]$ , then  $(p - \tilde{p}) \in \mathbb{K}_d[x]$  has  $(d+1)$  roots  $\{\alpha_i\}_{i=0}^{d+1}$   
 $\Rightarrow p - \tilde{p} = 0$ , so  $\hat{\alpha}$  is also injective.

□

Thm.: For an  $[n, k]$ -RS code over  $GF(q)$  we have

$$(i) |C| = q^k$$

$$(ii) d(C) = n-k+1$$

proof: (i) follows from injectivity of  $G$

$$(ii) \text{ Linearity } \Rightarrow d(C) = \min_{c \in C \setminus \{0\}} d(c)$$

for  $m \in GF(q)^k \setminus \{0\}$   $p_m(x)$  has at most  $k-1$  roots as  $p_m \in \mathbb{K}_{n-1}[x]$ .

$\Rightarrow$  codeword  $c = p_m(\alpha)$  has at most  $k-1$  zeros

$$\Rightarrow d(C) \geq n-k+1$$

Singleton bound:  $d(C) \leq n-k+1$ .

□

Corollary: RS-codes are MDS codes (i.e., they achieve the Singleton bound)

## IV.5. Error bursts & interleaving -

sources for errors are often not memoryless / uncorrelated, e.g.:

- scratches on CD
  - disturbance / loss of signal for time intervals
- "bursts" of errors

simple ways to deal with this:

- (i) use codes with large alphabet (e.g. RS) & represent symbols using smaller alphabets. E.g. code over  $GF(2^m)$  with distance d corrects bursts of length  $\lfloor \frac{d-1}{2} \rfloor - 1$  when information is stored using contiguous bits.
- (ii) interleaving = rearranging symbols in concatenated codewords.

Consider  $[n,k]$ -code & let  $c^{(i)} = (c_1^{(i)}, \dots, c_n^{(i)}) \in C, i \in \{1, \dots, t\}$ .

Define new  $[\text{int}, k_t]$ -code  $\tilde{C}$  from all codewords of the form

$$\tilde{c} = (c_1^{(1)} c_1^{(2)} \dots c_1^{(t)} c_2^{(1)} \dots c_2^{(t)} \dots c_n^{(1)} \dots c_n^{(t)})$$

$C$  corrects bursts of length  $b \Rightarrow \tilde{C}$  corrects bursts of length  $\tilde{b} = t \cdot b$

Example:  $[256, 223]$ -RS code: rate  $\approx 90\%$ , corrects 13 byte errors

→ corrects bursts of  $12 \cdot 8 + 1 = 97$  bit errors

→  $t=37$  interleaving corrects burst up to 3kbits

(essentially this happens on a CD. 3kbits  $\approx 2.5$  mm on surface)

# SIGNAL RECOVERY & UNCERTAINTY RELATIONS

notation:

$\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}) := \text{Borel sets on } \mathbb{R}$

For  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$   $|T| := \int_T dt$  Lebesgue measure of  $T$

$f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  signal in the time domain

$\|f\|_p := \left( \int |f(t)|^p dt \right)^{1/p}$ ,  $L^p := \text{equivalence class of functions with } \|f\|_p < \infty$

$\hat{f}(\omega) := \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{-2\pi i \omega t} dt$  Fourier transformed signal (frequency domain)  
(recall Parseval:  $\|\hat{f}\|_2 = \|f\|_2$ )

For  $A : L^p \rightarrow L^q$ :  $\|A\| := \sup_{p \rightarrow q} \frac{\|Af\|_q}{\|f\|_p} = \|A\|$  if clear from context

Def.: • For  $T, W \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$  let  $P_w, P_T : L^2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R})$  be the "time-limiting" & "frequency-limiting" operators defined as  $P_T f(t) := \begin{cases} f(t), & t \in T \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$  and

$P_w f(t) := \int_W e^{2\pi i \omega t} \hat{f}(\omega) d\omega$  (densly defined on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ )

•  $f$  is said to be " $\epsilon$ - $L^p$ -concentrated" on  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$  iff  $\|f - P_T f\|_p \leq \epsilon \|f\|_p$

•  $\hat{f}$  is " $\epsilon$ - $L^p$ -concentrated" on  $W \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$  iff  $\|f - P_w f\|_p \leq \epsilon \|f\|_p$

(note that by Parseval's identity:  $\|f - P_w f\|_2 = \|\hat{f} - \widehat{P_w f}\|_2$ )

Lemma:  $\|P_w P_T\|_{2 \rightarrow 2}^2 \leq |W| \cdot |T|$

proof (sketch): note  $P_w P_T f(s) = \int_W e^{2\pi i \omega s} \int_T e^{-2\pi i \omega t} f(t) dt d\omega$   
 $= \int_T \int_W e^{2\pi i (s-t)\omega} d\omega f(t) dt$   
 $=: \int_{\mathbb{R}} K(s, t) f(t) dt \Rightarrow P_w P_T$  is compact operator

$\Rightarrow \|P_w P_T\|_{2 \rightarrow 2} \leq \|P_w P_T\|_2 = \sqrt{\int_T \int_W d\omega dt} = |T| \cdot |W|$   
 Schatten 2-norm □

Theorem: [L<sup>2</sup>-uncertainty relation]

Let  $T, W \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R})$  and  $f$  and  $\hat{f}$  be  $\epsilon_T$  and  $\epsilon_W$  L<sup>2</sup>-concentrated on  $T$  and  $W$  respectively. Then

$$\sqrt{|W| \cdot |T|} \geq \|P_W P_T f\|_2 \geq 1 - (\epsilon_T + \epsilon_W)$$

proof:

- $\|f - P_W P_T f\| \leq \|f - P_W f\| + \underbrace{\|P_W(f - P_T f)\|}_{\Delta \text{ ineq.}} \leq \epsilon_W + \epsilon_T$
- $\|f - P_W P_T f\| \geq \|f\| - \|P_W P_T f\|$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\|P_W P_T f\|}{\|f\|} \geq 1 - \epsilon_T - \epsilon_W$$

$\|P_W P_T f\| \stackrel{\text{Lemma}}{\leq} \sqrt{|W| |T|}$

□

### Recovery of missing segments:

- Assume  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$  is  $W$ -band-limited in the sense that  $P_W f = f$
- Let  $\eta \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$  be additive noise to  $f$ , i.e.  $f \mapsto f + \eta$
- Assume the signal is missing in a time window  $T$

→ finally received signal is  $\phi := (\mathbb{1} - P_T)(f + \eta)$

Thm.: If  $\|P_W P_T\| < 1$  (i.e. in particular if  $|W| \cdot |T| < 1$ ), then there is a recovery operator  $R: L^2 \rightarrow L^2$  s.t.

$$\boxed{\|f - Rf\|_2 \leq \frac{\|\eta\|_2}{1 - \|P_W P_T\|}}$$

proof: Define  $R := (\mathbb{1} - P_T P_W)^{-1}$  and note that  $\|P_W P_T\| = \|P_T P_W\|$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \|f - R\phi\|_2 &= \|f - R(\mathbb{1} - P_T)(f + \eta)\|_2 \\ &\stackrel{f = P_W f}{=} \|f - f - R(\mathbb{1} - P_T)\eta\|_2 \\ &= \|R(\mathbb{1} - P_T)\eta\|_2 \leq \|R\| \underbrace{\|\mathbb{1} - P_T\|}_{=1} \|\eta\|_2 \end{aligned}$$

Moreover  $\|R\| = \|(1 - P_T P_W)^{-1}\| \leq (1 - \|P_T P_W\|)^{-1}$ , so that

$$\|f - R\phi\|_2 \leq \frac{\|\eta\|}{1 - \|P_T P_W\|}$$

□

Remark:  $R = (1 - P_T P_W)^{-1} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (P_T P_W)^k$  suggests a recovery algorithm making use of alternating projections.

Thm.: [L<sup>2</sup>-uncertainty relation] If  $f$  is  $\varepsilon_T$ -L<sup>2</sup> concentrated on  $T$  & band limited on  $W$ , then

$$|W| \cdot |T| \geq 1 - \varepsilon_T$$

proof: • by hypothesis  $\frac{\|P_T f\|_2}{\|f\|_2} \geq 1 - \varepsilon_T$

- for  $f$  L<sup>2</sup> bandlim. it holds that  $\|f\|_\infty \leq |W| \|f\|_2$
- on the other hand:  $\|P_T f\|_2 = \int_T |f(t)| dt \leq \|f\|_\infty |T|$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\|P_T f\|_2}{\|f\|_2} \leq |T| / |W|$$

□

## Correction of sparse noise

Assume a band-limited signal  $f = P_w f$  is sent over a "noisy channel" which adds "sparse noise" ( $\gamma$  supported on  $T$ ) so that the received signal is

$$\phi = f + P_T \gamma. \quad (\text{no bound on } \|\gamma\|?)$$

With  $B_n(w) := \{f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}) \cap L^2(\mathbb{R}) \mid \|f\|_1=1 \wedge P_w f = f\}$  we get

Thm.: (Logan's phenomenon)

$$|w| \cdot |T| < \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow f = \operatorname{argmin}_{q \in B_n(w)} \|q - \phi\|_1$$

proof: Since  $|w| \cdot |T_q| \geq 1$  for any  $q \in B_n(w)$  with support  $T_q$

$|w| \cdot |T| < \frac{1}{2}$  means that  $\|P_{T_q} q\|_1 < \frac{1}{2} \|\gamma\|_1$  and so

$$\|P_{T_q} q\|_1 < \|P_{T_q} \gamma\|_1 \quad (\text{since } \|\gamma\|_1 = 1)$$

Therefore the best bandlimited approximation to  $\gamma$  is zero since:

$$\text{for } q = P_w q: \quad \|\gamma - q\|_1 = \|P_{T_q}(\gamma - q)\|_1 + \|P_{T_q^c}(\gamma - q)\|_1$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq \|P_{T_q} \gamma\|_1 - \|P_{T_q} q\|_1 + \|P_{T_q^c} q\|_1 \\ &\quad \uparrow \\ &\Delta \text{inq. \&} P_{T_q^c} \gamma > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$> \|P_{T_q} \gamma\|_1 = \|\gamma\|_1$$

To prove the Thm. suppose  $f \neq 0$  & note that  $\|f + \gamma - q\|_1 = \|\underbrace{\gamma - (q - f)}_{\text{band limited}}\|_1$

is minimized for  $q = f$ .

□

note: •  $T$  is unknown here (we just make use of small  $|T|$ )

• generalizations in various directions in the compressed sensing community