CSCI 2570 Introduction to Nanocomputing

Information Theory

John E Savage





What is Information Theory

- Introduced by Claude Shannon. See Wikipedia
- Two foci: a) data compression and b) reliable communication through noisy channels.
- Data compression important today for storage and transmission, e.g., audio & video (JPEG).
- Reliable communication used in memories,
 CDs, Internet, and deep-space probes.



Source Models

- Memoryless sources generate successive outcomes that are independent and identically distributed.
- Source (S, p) has outcomes S = {1,2, ..., n}
 that occur with probabilities p = {p₁, p₂,..., p_n}
- E.g. **Binary Source:** $S = \{H,T\}, p_H = 1-p_T$

Entropy – A Measure of Information



Entropy of source (S,p) in bits is

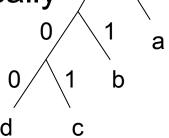
$$H(S) = -\sum_{i} p_i \log_2 p_i$$

- Binary Source: $H(S) = -p_H \log p_H (1 p_H) \log (1 p_H)$
- The larger the entropy, the less predictable is the source output and the more information is produced by seeing it.
- If base two logarithms used, entropy measured in bits (binary digits).





- A code is a set of words (codewords).
- Source codes compress data probabilistically 9
 - E.g. Outputs, probabilities and codes:
 - P(a) = .5, P(b) = .25, P(c) = .125, P(d) = .125
 - w(a) = 1, w(b) = 01, w(c) = 001, w(d) = 000



- Channel codes add redundancy for error correction and detection purposes.
 - $0 \rightarrow 000, 1 \rightarrow 111$; decide by majority rule
 - Codes can be used for detection or correction.





- Prefix condition: no codeword is a prefix for another.
 - Needed to decode a source code.
- A source with n i.i.d. outputs and entropy H(S) can be compressed to a string of length nH(S) for large n.
- Huffman coding algorithm gives the most efficient prefix source encoding.
 - For binary source code, combine two least probable outcomes and give them both the same prefix.
 - Repeat using the prefix as a new outcome with probability equal to the sum of the two least probable outcomes.
 - Algorithm was used on previous page.



• **Theorem** Let codeword a_i over alphabet of b symbols encode ith output where $s_i = |a_i|$. Let $p(a_i)$ be probability of a_i . Let $E(X) = \sum_i s_i p(a_i)$ be average codeword length. Let

$$H(X) = -\sum_{i} p(a_i) \log p(a_i)$$

be the source entropy. Then,

$$\frac{H(X)}{\log b} \le E(X) \le \frac{H(X)}{\log b} + 1$$



Let $q_i = b^{-s_i}/C$ where C such that $\sum_i q_i = 1$ Using $\log x \le x-1$, we have

$$\sum p_i \log(q_i/p_i) \leq 0$$

This implies

$$-\sum_i p_i \log p_i \leq -\sum_i p_i \log q_i$$

 $-\sum_{i}p_{i}\log p_{i} \leq -\sum_{i}p_{i}\log q_{i}$ Using $q_{i}=b^{-s_{i}}/C$ we have

$$H(X) \leq E(X) \log b$$

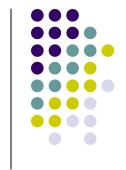


• Let codewords $\{a_i\}$, $s_i=|a_i|$, satisfy the prefix condition.

Theorem Lengths $\{s_i\}$ satisfy Kraft's Inequality $\sum_i b^{-s_i} \le 1$ and for any $\{s_i\}$ satisfying Kraft's Inequality, a prefix code can be constructed for them.



Proof Consider complete tree on b letters of depth $s_n = max_i$, s_i . If A_i are leaves of the complete tree that are leaves of a_i , $|A_i| = b^{s_n - s_i}$. Since the number of descendants in the complete tree is exactly b^{s_n} and the A_i are disjoint, Kraft's Inequality follows.

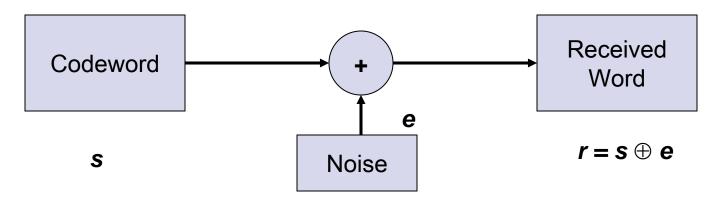


Proof(cont.) Let $s_1 \le s_2 \le ... \le s_n$. To construct a prefix code, assign codeword to nth word, w(n), which is the set of labels to a vertex at depth s_n . Assign a codeword to the (n-1)st word, w(n-1), by picking a vertex at depth s_{n-1} and deleting all of its leaves in the complete tree. Continue in this fashion. The fact that Kraft's Inequality is satisfied ensures that this process can go to completion.





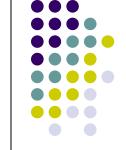
 Inputs are discrete; noise on successive transmissions is i.i.d.



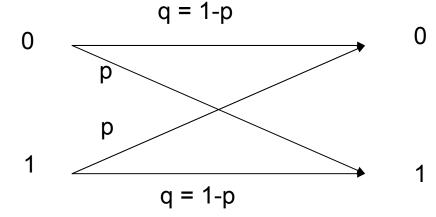
 Memoryless channels have a capacity, C, a maximum rate at which a source can transmit reliably through the channel, as we shall see.

Codes

- A code is a set of words (codewords).
 - Block codes and convolutional codes
- $(n,k,d)_q$ block codes
 - k inputs over alphabet of size q are encoded into codewords of length n over the same alphabet. The minimum Hamming distance (no. differences) between two codewords is d.
 - k = message length
 - n = block length
 - R = k/n =rate
 - d = minimum distance
 - q = alphabet size



Binary Symmetric Channel



- $r = s \oplus e$. Error vector e identifies errors.
- Average number of errors in n transmissions is np. Standard deviation is $\sigma = (npq)^{1/2}$.
- If codewords are more than 2(np + tσ)+1 bits apart, very likely can decode correctly.





- "Likely error vectors" form sphere around each codeword.
- If the spheres are disjoint, the probability of decoding the received word correctly will be high.

Memoryless Channel Coding Theorem



 There exists an infinite family of codes of rate R < C such that nth code achieves a prob. Of error P(E) satisfying where E(R) > 0 for R < C

$$P(E) \le e^{-nE(R)}$$

- All codes with rate R > C require $P(E) > \varepsilon > 0$.
- Capacity of BSC
 C = 1 H(p) = 1 + p log p + (1-p) log (1-p).





• Encode $b = (b_0, b_1, b_2, b_3)$ as bG where

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- *G* is the **generator matrix**.
- This is a $(7,4,3)_2$ code. Why is d = 3?
 - Compare b_1G and b_2G where $b_1 \neq b_2$.
 - Note that b₁G ⊕b₂G (term-by-term XOR) is equivalent to b₃G where b₃ = b₁⊕b₂.

Other Methods of Reliable Communication



- Automatic Repeat Request (ARQ)
 - The receiver checks to see if the received is a codeword.
 - If not, it requests retransmission of the message.
 - This method can detect d-1 errors when an (n,k,d) block code is used.
 - Requires buffering of data, which may result in loss of data.