

Information Theory and Coding Techniques
Qualify Examination

2012/9/28

1. Let X_1 and X_2 be identically distributed but not necessarily independent.

$$\text{Let } \varphi = 1 - \frac{H(X_2|X_1)}{H(X_1)},$$

(a) Show that $\varphi = \frac{I(X_1;X_2)}{H(X_1)}$

(b) Show that $0 \leq \varphi \leq 1$

(c) When is $\varphi = 0$?

(d) When is $\varphi = 1$?

2. Let $X_1 \rightarrow X_2 \rightarrow X_3 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow X_n$ form a Markov chain in this order; that is, let

$$p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = p(x_1)p(x_2|x_1) \dots p(x_n|x_{n-1})$$

Please reduce $I(X_1; X_2, \dots, X_n)$ to its simplest form.

3. Let X, Y, Z be three random variables with a joint probability mass function $p(x, y, z)$.

The relative entropy between the joint distribution and the product of marginal is

$$D(p(x, y, z) \| p(x)p(y)p(z)) = E \left[\log \frac{p(x, y, z)}{p(x)p(y)p(z)} \right]$$

(a) Expand this in terms of entropies.

(b) When is this quantity zero?

4. Let $X = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{with probability } \frac{1}{2} \\ 2, & \text{with probability } \frac{1}{4} \\ 3, & \text{with probability } \frac{1}{4} \end{cases}$

Let X_1, X_2, \dots be drawn i.i.d. according to this distribution.

Find the limiting behavior of the product

$$(X_1 \cdot X_2 \cdots X_n)^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

5. Let A be a second-order Markov process with transition probabilities

$$\Pr(a=0|0,0)=0.2 \quad \Pr(a=1|0,0)=0.8$$

$$\Pr(a=0|0,1)=0.4 \quad \Pr(a=1|0,1)=0.6$$

$$\Pr(a=0|1,0)=0.0 \quad \Pr(a=1|1,0)=1.0$$

$$\Pr(a=0|1,1)=0.5 \quad \Pr(a=1|1,1)=0.5$$

and assume all states are equally probable at time $t=0$.

- (a) What are the state probabilities at $t=1$?
 - (b) What is the steady-state probability distribution for this Markov source?
 - (c) Find the entropy rate for this Markov source.
6. Which of the following codeword lengths can be the word lengths of a 3-ary Huffman code, and which cannot? Why?
- (a) (1,2,2,2,2)
 - (b) (2,2,2,2,2,2,2,3,3,3)
7. Suppose the codeword that we use to describe a random variable $X \sim p(x)$ always starts with a symbol chosen from the set $\{A, B, C\}$, followed by binary digits $\{0,1\}$. Thus, we have a ternary code for the first symbol and binary thereafter. Give the optional uniquely decodable code (minimum expected number of symbols) for the probability distribution

$$P = \left(\frac{16}{69}, \frac{15}{69}, \frac{12}{69}, \frac{10}{69}, \frac{8}{69}, \frac{8}{69} \right)$$

8. For the source $X = \left\{ \begin{matrix} X_1 & X_2 & X_3 & X_4 & X_5 & X_6 \\ 0.25 & 0.25 & 0.2 & 0.1 & 0.1 & 0.1 \end{matrix} \right\}$

Please construct an optimal Ternary Huffman code for X and find the corresponding average codeword length.

9. *Cascade of binary symmetric channels.* Show that a cascade of n identical independent binary symmetric channels,

$$X_0 \rightarrow \boxed{\text{BSC}} \rightarrow X_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow X_{n-1} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{BSC}} \rightarrow X_n,$$

each with raw error probability p , is equivalent to a single BSC with error probability $\frac{1}{2}(1 - (1 - 2p)^n)$ and hence that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} I(X_0; X_n) = 0$ if $p \neq 0, 1$. No encoding or decoding takes place at the intermediate terminals X_1, \dots, X_{n-1} . Thus, the capacity of the cascade tends to zero.

10. Please find the differential entropy of a continuous Gaussian random variable X ,

$$\text{where } X \sim \varphi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-X^2/2\sigma^2}$$