

COMPRESSION AND CODING I

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INF2310 - Digital Image Processing

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After original slides by Andreas Kleppe

- Three steps of compression

TODAY'S LECTURE

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- Redundancy

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- Coding and entropy

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- Sections from the compendium:
 - 18.1 *Hva er kompresjon*
 - 18.2 *Kompresjonsprosessen*
 - 18.3 *Melding, data, informasjon - og kapasitet*
 - 18.5 *Litt om informasjonsteori og sannsynlighet*
 - 18.6 *Naturlig binærkoding*
 - 18.7 *Koding med variabel lengde*
 - 18.7.1 *Shannon-Fano koding*
 - 18.7.2 *Huffman koding*
 - 18.7.4 *Aritmetisk koding*
 - *Appendic B Prefiks i titallsystemet og i det binære systemet*

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- It has a number of applications in storage and transmission of data
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 - Remote analysis / meteorology
 - Surveillance / remote control
 - Tele medicine / medical archives (PACS)
 - Mobile communication
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- *Time consumption is important*, but compression time and decompression time can vary.
 - Asymmetric compression: when one is more important than the other.
 - Symmetric compression: when both share the same importance.

INTRODUCTION

- We will use the symbol b to denote a *bit* and B to denote a *byte* ($= 8 b$).

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- Transfer speed and bandwidth capacity is *always* given with SI-prefixes

1 kbps = 10^3 bps = 1 kilo bit per second

1 Mbps = 10^6 bps = 1 mega bit per second

1 Gbps = 10^9 bps = 1 giga bit per second

1 Tbps = 10^{12} bps = 1 terra bit per second

- File size is *always* given with *binary* prefixes

1 KiB = 2^{10} B = 1 024 B = 1 kibi byte

1 MiB = 2^{20} B = 1 048 576 B = 1 mebi byte

1 GiB = 2^{30} B = 1 073 741 824 B = 1 gibi byte

1 TiB = 2^{40} B = 1 099 511 627 776 B = 1 tebi byte

Capacity for some standards

- 3G: At least 200 kbps
- ADSL2+: Max 24 Mbps
- VDSL2: Max 100 Mbps

SPACE AND TIME REQUIREMENTS

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Example 1: Digital 8-bit RGB image: $8 \text{ bit} \times 512 \times 512 \times 3 = 6\,291\,456 \text{ bit}$

Example 2: X-ray image : $12 \text{ bit} \times 7112 \times 8636 = 737\,030\,784 \text{ bit}$

| | 64 kbps capacity | 1 Mbps capacity |
|-----------|------------------|-----------------|
| Example 1 | ca 1 min. 38 s. | ca 6 s. |
| Example 2 | ca 3 h. 12 min. | ca 12 min. |

COMPRESSION AND DECOMPRESSION

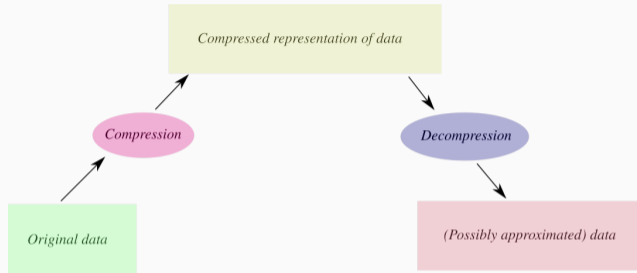


Figure 1: Compression and decompression pipeline

- We would like to compress our data, both to reduce storage and transmission load.
- In *compression*, we try to create a representation of the data which is smaller in size, while preserving vital information. That is, we throw away redundant information.
- The original data (or an approximated version) can be retrieved through *decompression*.

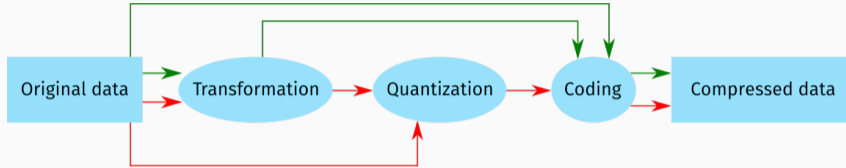


Figure 2: Three steps of compression

We can group compression in to three steps:

- **Transformation:** A more compact image representation.

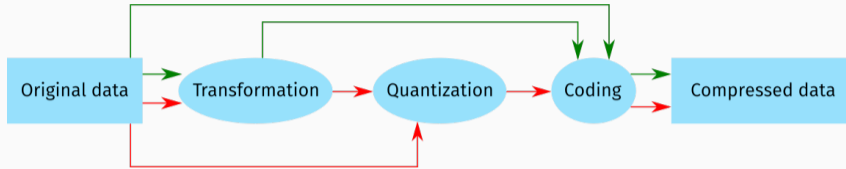


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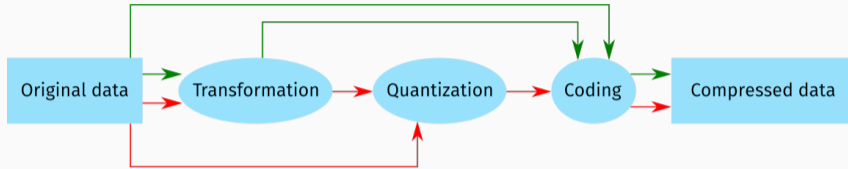


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We can group compression in to three steps:

- **Transformation:** A more compact image representation.
- **Quantization:** Representation approximation.
- **Coding:** Transformation from one set of symbols to another.
 - **Encoding:** Coding from an original format to some other format. E.g. encoding a digital image from raw numbers to JPEG.
 - **Decoding:** The reverse process, coding from some format to the original. E.g. decoding a JPEG image back to raw numbers.

Compression can either be *lossless* or *lossy*. There exists a number of methods for both types.

Lossless: We are able to perfectly reconstruct the original image.

Lossy: We can only reconstruct the original image to a certain degree (but not perfect).

THREE STEPS OF COMPRESSION

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- If we *quantize* the original (or transformed) image, this cannot be reversed, which implies a lossy compression.
- At the end, *encoding* is performed, which is some transformation to a binary representation. This is often based on normalized histograms.
- *Transforms* are always *reversible*.
- *Quantizations* are *not reversible*.
- *Coding* is always *reversible*.

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- Object edges has typically high information content.

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Data: · A bit-sequence representing the signal.

- *Symbol X*: a unit component character.

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- *Source code (or code book) c* : a mapping between a symbol x and its codeword $y = c(x)$.

$$c : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$$
$$: x \mapsto c(x)$$

EXAMPLE, NATURAL BINARY CODING

Consider the source code defined by the following table

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| \mathcal{X} : | a | b | g | d | r | z | e | t |
| \mathcal{Y} : | 000 | 001 | 010 | 011 | 100 | 101 | 110 | 111 |

such that $c(\mathbf{d}) = \mathbf{011}$ etc. In this case

- The uncompressed symbols x are from the alphabet \mathcal{X} .
- The compressed codewords y are composed of symbols from the alphabet $S_y = \{0, 1\}$.
- Each codeword is limited to 3 bits, and we can therefore only have 8 possible words and codewords.
- If each word x has the same probability of occurrence, this is optimally coded.

EXAMPLE, NATURAL BINARY CODING

Now, the symbols x can be whatever they like, so we include this example, which is the same as the above one, except with a different input alphabeth.

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-------|------|-------|-------|-----|------|-----|-------|
| \mathcal{X} : | alpha | beta | gamma | delta | rho | zeta | eta | theta |
| \mathcal{Y} : | 000 | 001 | 010 | 011 | 100 | 101 | 110 | 111 |

such that $c(\text{delta}) = 011$ etc. In this case

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- E.g. the signal **13**
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- **Redundancy:** What can be removed from the data without loss of (relevant) information.
- In compression, we want to remove redundant bits.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF REDUNDANCY

- *Psychovisual redundancy*
 - Information that we cannot perceive.
 - Can be compressed by e.g. subsampling or by reducing the number of bits per pixel.

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 - Correlation between neighbouring pixels within an image.
 - Can be compressed by e.g. run-length methods.
- *Coding redundancy*
 - Information is not represented optimally by the symbols in the code.
 - This is often measured as the difference between average code length and some theoretical minimum code length.

COMPRESSION RATE AND REDUNDANCY

- The *compression rate* is defined as the ratio between the *uncompressed size* and *compressed size*

$$\text{Compression rate} = \frac{\text{Uncompressed size}}{\text{Compressed size}}$$

or as the ratio between the *mean number of bits per symbol* in the compressed and uncompressed signal.

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- *Space saving* is defined as the reduction in size relative to the uncompressed size, and is given as

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- Example: An 8-bit 512×512 image has an uncompressed size of 256 kiB, and a size of 64 kiB after compression.
 - *Compression rate*: 4
 - *Space saving*: 3/4

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- With this we can construct a source code with
 - shorter codewords (few symbols) to words with high probability, and
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 - longer codewords to words with low probability.
- That is, we use a variable number of symbols to encode the words.

VARIABLE LENGTH CODING EXAMPLE: MORSE CODE

International Morse Code

1. The length of a dot is one unit.
2. A dash is three units.
3. The space between parts of the same letter is one unit.
4. The space between letters is three units.
5. The space between words is seven units.

| | | | |
|---|-----------|---|-----------|
| A | • — | U | • • — |
| B | — • • • | V | • • — — |
| C | — • — • | W | — — — • |
| D | — • • • | X | — • • — — |
| E | • | Y | — • — — — |
| F | • • — • | Z | — — — • • |
| G | — — — • | | |
| H | • • • • | | |
| I | • • | | |
| J | • — — — — | | |
| K | — • • — — | 1 | • — — — — |
| L | • — • • • | 2 | • • — — — |
| M | — — — | 3 | • • • — — |
| N | — — • | 4 | • • • • — |
| O | — — — — | 5 | • • • • • |
| P | • — — — • | 6 | — • • • • |
| Q | — • — — — | 7 | — — • • • |
| R | • — • • | 8 | — — — • • |
| S | • • • | 9 | — — — — • |
| T | — | 0 | — — — — — |

Figure 3: Morse code

- The morse code alphabet consist of four symbols: {a dot, a dash, a letter space, a word space}.
- Codeword length is approximately inversly proportional to the frequency of letters in the english language.

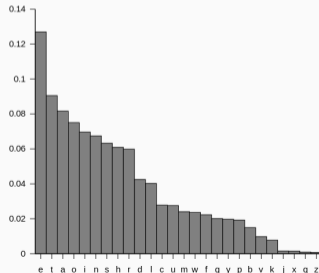


Figure 4: Relative letter frequency in the english language

EXPECTED CODE LENGTH

- The *expected length* L_c of a source code c for a random variable X with pmf. p_X is defined as

$$L_c = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p_X(x) l_c(x)$$

where $l_c(x)$ is the length of the codeword assigned to x in this source code.

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- Let us encode this with a variable length source code c_v , and a source code c_e with equal length codewords.

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| $p_X(1) = \frac{1}{2}$ | $c_v(1) = 0$ | $c_e(1) = 00$ |
| $p_X(2) = \frac{1}{4}$ | $c_v(2) = 10$ | $c_e(2) = 01$ |
| $p_X(3) = \frac{1}{8}$ | $c_v(3) = 110$ | $c_e(3) = 10$ |
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- Expected length of the variable length coding: $L_{c_v} = 1.75$ bits.
- Expected length of the equal length coding: $L_{c_e} = 2$ bits.

INFORMATION CONTENT

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- It can also be measured in *nats*

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- The *entropy* of a random variable X taking values $x \in \mathcal{X}$, and with pmf. p_X , is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} H(X) &= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p_X(x) I_X(x) \\ &= - \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p_X(x) \log p_X(x), \end{aligned}$$

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- The entropy of a fair dice toss is ≈ 2.6 bit (since $-6 \frac{1}{6} \log_2 \frac{1}{6} \approx 2.6$)

- **Maximal entropy:** every event has equal probability. For event that can take 2^b different values with equal probability ($1/2^b$) the entropy is equal to the number of bits in the alphabet, $H = b$.

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- **Minimal entropy:** only one event that occurs with probability 1. In this case the entropy is zero, $H = 0$.

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- For a signal of length n with symbols taking values in the alphabeth $\{s_0, \dots, s_{m-1}\}$, let n_i be the number of occurances of s_i in the signal, then the normalized histogram value for symbol s_i is

$$p_i = \frac{n_i}{n}.$$

- We can estimate the probability mass function with the normalized histogram.
- For a signal of length n with symbols taking values in the alphabeth $\{s_0, \dots, s_{m-1}\}$, let n_i be the number of occurances of s_i in the signal, then the normalized histogram value for symbol s_i is

$$p_i = \frac{n_i}{n}.$$

- If one assume that the values in the signal are independent realizations of an underlying random variable, then p_i is an estimate on the probability that the variable is s_i .

In this case, we have an $M \times N$ image where each pixel is either 0 or 1. With no inter-pixel spatial redundancy, we must use MN bits to store the image, but the entropy is dependent on the distribution of values.

- *As many 0 as 1 in the image*: The information content is equal for each event, and the entropy is therefore 1.

$$H = -\frac{1}{2} \log_2 \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \log_2 \frac{1}{2} = 1$$

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- *Three times as many 1 as 0 in the image:* A value of 1 is less surprising than a value of 0. The entropy is then less than in the case above.

$$H = -\frac{1}{4} \log_2 \frac{1}{4} - \frac{3}{4} \log_2 \frac{3}{4} \approx 0.811$$

ENTROPY IN A BINARY IMAGE

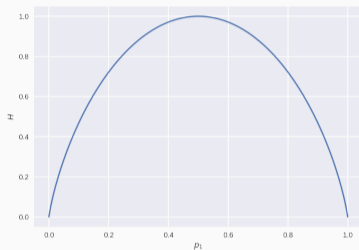


Figure 5: Entropy in a binary image

- When we store one by one pixel value, we need to use 1 bit per pixel, even if the entropy is close to 0.

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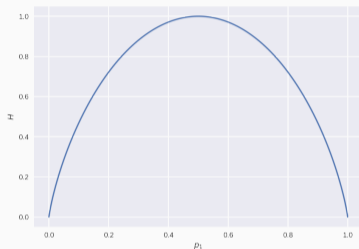


Figure 5: Entropy in a binary image

- When we store one by one pixel value, we need to use 1 bit per pixel, even if the entropy is close to 0.
- The coding redundancy is 0 for the case where $p_0 = p_1 = 0.5$.

We can separate all codes into the following subsets¹

- Nonsingular codes
- Uniquely decodable codes
- Instantaneous (or prefix) codes

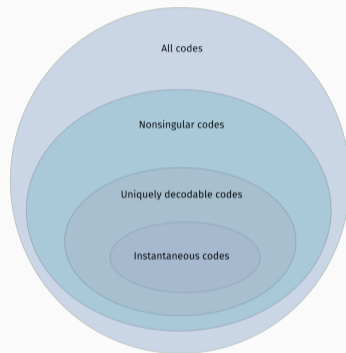


Figure 6: Code classes

¹See e.g. *Elements of Information Theory* by T. M. Cover and J. A. Thomas for more

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- That is, the source code c is nonsingular if, for every $x, x' \in \mathcal{X}$

$$x \neq x' \implies c(x) \neq c(x').$$

- We define the extension of a code c as the concatenation of codewords

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- With this, every encoded string of symbols has *one and only one* sequence of source symbols.
- We may need to look at the entire encoded string to determine its individual codewords, and decode it.

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- That is, we do not need to process the entire string of codewords in order to decode it.

CODE SET EXAMPLES

| X | Singular | Nonsingular, but not uniquely decodable | Uniquely decodable, but not instantaneous | Instantaneous |
|-----|----------|---|---|---------------|
| a | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| b | 0 | 010 | 00 | 10 |
| c | 0 | 01 | 11 | 110 |
| d | 0 | 10 | 110 | 111 |

- The code in column three is nonsingular, but we need a separator between the codewords to be able to decode it. E.g. 00100110 can be decoded to
 - $abcd$ when separated as 0, 010, 01, 10,
 - $aadcd$ when separated as 0, 0, 10, 01, 10.

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- The code in column five is instantaneous, and we can immediately decode a string of codewords.

- For an alphabeth with n different symbols, the codeword lengths l_1, \dots, l_m from any instantaneous code must satisfy

$$\sum_{i=1}^m n^{-l_i} \leq 1.$$

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- The expected length of any instantaneous code over an alphabeth with n symbols for a random variable X is greater or equal to the entropy $H(X)$. That is

$$\sum_{i=1}^m l_i p_i \geq H(X)$$

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- An instantaneous code that achieves equality is thus optimal in terms of expected codeword lengths (something that we want to minimize).

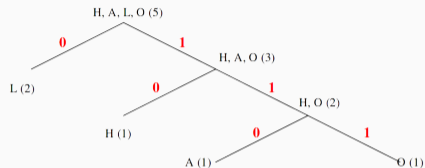
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- The resulting is quite compact (but not optimal).
- Algorithm that produces a binary Shannon-Fano code (with alphabeth $\{0, 1\}$):
 1. Sort the symbols x_i of the signal that we want to code by probability of occurrence.
 2. Split the symbols into two parts with approximately equal accumulated probability.
 - One group is assigned the symbol 0, and the other the symbol 1.
 - Do this step recursively (that is, do this step on every subgroup), until the group only contain one element.
 3. The result is a binary tree with the symbols that are to be encoded in the leaf nodes.
 4. Traverse the tree from root to the leaf nodes and record the sequence of symbols in order to produce the corresponding codeword.

SHANNON-FANO EXAMPLE

Two different encodings of the sequence "HALLO".

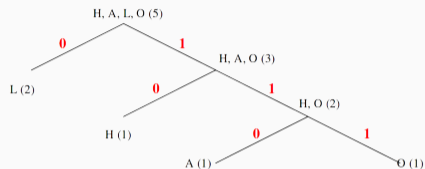


| x | $p_X(x)$ | $c(x)$ | $l(x)$ |
|-----|----------|--------|--------|
| L | 2/5 | 0 | 1 |
| H | 1/5 | 10 | 2 |
| A | 1/5 | 110 | 3 |
| O | 1/5 | 111 | 3 |

$c(\text{HALLO}) = 1011000111$, with length 10 bits.

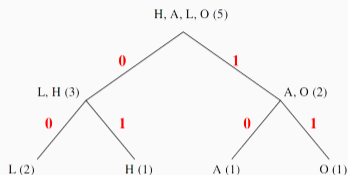
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$c(\text{HALLO}) = 0110000011$, with length 10 bits.

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That is, an upper bound for the coding redundancy of one bit.

- The expected codeword length is 2 in both example 1 and 2, and the entropy is about 1.92 bits.

- An instantaneous coding algorithm.

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- *Optimal* in the sense that it achieves minimal coding redundancy.

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- Algorithm for encoding a sequence of n symbols with a binary Huffman code and alphabet $\{0, 1\}$:
 1. Sort the symbols by decreasing probability.
 2. Merge the two least likely symbols to a group and give the group a probability equal to the sum of the probabilities of the members in the group. Sort the new sequence by decreasing probability.
 3. Repeat step 2. until there are only two groups left.
 4. Represent the merging as a binary tree, and assign 0 to the left branch and 1 to the right branch.
 5. Every symbol in the original sequence is now at a leaf node. Traverse the tree from the root to the corresponding leaf node, and append the symbols from the traversal to create the codeword.

HUFFMAN CODING: EXAMPLE

The six most common letters in the english language, and their relative occurrence frequency (normslized within this selection), is given in the table below. The resulting Huffman source code is given as c .

| x | $p(x)$ | $c(x)$ |
|-----|--------|--------|
| a | 0.160 | 000 |
| e | 0.248 | 10 |
| i | 0.137 | 010 |
| n | 0.131 | 011 |
| o | 0.146 | 001 |
| t | 0.178 | 11 |

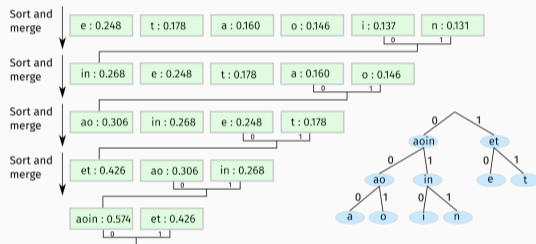


Figure 7: Huffman procedure example with resulting binary tree.

- The expected codeword length in the previous example is

$$\begin{aligned}L &= \sum_i l_i p_i \\ &= 3 \cdot 0.160 + 2 \cdot 0.248 + 3 \cdot 0.137 + 3 \cdot 0.131 + 3 \cdot 0.146 + 2 \cdot 0.178 \\ &= 2.574\end{aligned}$$

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- And the entropy is

$$\begin{aligned}H &= - \sum_i p_i \log_2 p_i \\ &\approx 2.547\end{aligned}$$

- Thus, the coding redundancy is $L - H \approx 0.027$.

- Shannon-Fano codes has a 1 bit upper limit for the coding redundancy.

¹R.G. Gallager, *Variations on a theme by Huffman*, IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, 24(6), 668-674, 1978.

- Shannon-Fano codes has a 1 bit upper limit for the coding redundancy.
- It can be shown¹ that Huffman codes can achieve an even tighter bound

$$L - H \leq p_{\max} + \log_2 \left(\frac{2 \log_2 e}{e} \right),$$

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- Thus, the coding redundancy increases with increasing p_{\max} .

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HUFFMAN AND SHANNON-FANO CODING, GENERAL REMARKS

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- Codewords for frequent symbols are shorter than codewords for rare symbols.
- The two least likely symbols have equal codeword length. And differ only in the last bit.
- Note that the source code also needs to be transmitted with the code in order to be able to decode it. The source code for a b -bit image contains up to $n = 2^b$ codewords, where the longest codeword can be up to $n - 1$ bits.

IDEAL AND ACTUAL CODE-WORD LENGTH

- For an optimal code, the expected codeword length L must be equal to the entropy

$$\sum_x p(x)l(x) = - \sum_x p(x) \log_2 p(x)$$

- That is, $l(x) = \log_2(1/p(x))$, which is the information content of the event x .

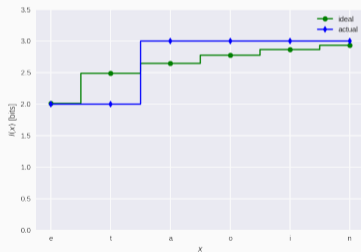


Figure 8: Ideal and actual codeword length from example in fig. 7

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- Example

| | | | | | | |
|--------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| x | x_1 | x_2 | x_3 | x_4 | x_5 | x_6 |
| $p(x)$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{4}$ | $\frac{1}{8}$ | $\frac{1}{16}$ | $\frac{1}{32}$ | $\frac{1}{64}$ |
| $c(x)$ | 0 | 10 | 110 | 1110 | 11110 | 11111 |

- In this example $L = H = 1.9375$, that is, no coding redundancy.

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- Variable code length, codes more probable symbols more compactly.
- Contrary to Shannon-Fano coding and Huffman coding, which codes symbol by symbol, arithmetic coding encodes the entire signal to one number $d \in [0, 1)$.
- Same expected codeword length as Huffman code.
- Can achieve shorter codewords for the entire sequence than Huffman code. This is because one is not limited to integer codewords for each symbol.

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- We then find the number within this decimal with the shortest binary representation, and use this as the encoded signal.

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 - 4.1 Create a new set of interval edges: $q_{new} \leftarrow c_{\min} + (c_{\min} - c_{\max}) \cdot q$
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5. Find a decimal number within the final interval with the shortest binary sequence.
6. The encoded signal is this shortest binary sequence.

- Suppose we have an alphabeth $\{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4\}$ with associated pmf.
 $p_X = [0.2, 0.2, 0.4, 0.2]$.

ARITHMETIC ENCODING: EXAMPLE

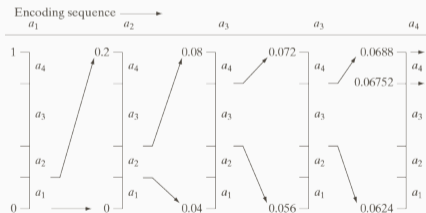
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Step-by-step solution, current interval is initialized to $[0, 1)$.

| Symbol | Interval | Sequence | Interval |
|--------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| a_1 | $[0.0, 0.2)$ | a_1 | $[0.0, 0.2)$ |
| a_2 | $[0.2, 0.4)$ | $a_1 a_2$ | $[0.04, 0.08)$ |
| a_3 | $[0.4, 0.8)$ | $a_1 a_2 a_3$ | $[0.056, 0.072)$ |
| a_3 | $[0.4, 0.8)$ | $a_1 a_2 a_3 a_3$ | $[0.0624, 0.0688)$ |
| a_4 | $[0.8, 1.0)$ | $a_1 a_2 a_3 a_3 a_4$ | $[0.06752, 0.0688)$ |



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DECIMAL NUMBERS AS BINARY SEQUENCE

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- How to represent some interval with the shortest possible binary sequence, that is, with the least number of bits?

DECIMAL NUMBERS AS BINARY SEQUENCE

- We do not store/transmit the signal as a decimal number, but as a binary sequence.
- How to represent some interval with the shortest possible binary sequence, that is, with the least number of bits?
- First, we need to know how to represent a decimal number in binary.
 - Any decimal number $d \in [0, 1)$ can be written as a power series

$$d = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n = b_1 \frac{1}{2^1} + b_2 \frac{1}{2^2} + b_3 \frac{1}{2^3} + \dots$$

where the weights are either 0 or 1 ($b_n \in \{0, 1\}$, $n \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$).

- The resulting binary sequence $b_1 b_2 b_3 \dots$ is then the binary representation of d .
- We use a subscript to indicate what system we are in d_{10} for decimal, and $0.d_2$ for binary.
- For instance: $0.703125_{10} = 0.101101_2$ since

$$0.703125 = 1 \frac{1}{2^1} + 0 \frac{1}{2^2} + 1 \frac{1}{2^3} + 1 \frac{1}{2^4} + 0 \frac{1}{2^5} + 1 \frac{1}{2^6}$$

Algorithm 1 Binary representation of decimal number $d \in [0, 1)$

procedure BINARY(d)

$r \leftarrow d$ ▷ Remainder

$b \leftarrow \lfloor 2r \rfloor$ ▷ Binary weight

$s \leftarrow [b]$ ▷ Binary sequence

while $r > 0$ **do**

$r \leftarrow 2r - b$

$b \leftarrow \lfloor 2r \rfloor$

$s \leftarrow s + [b]$ ▷ Append b to s

end while

return s

end procedure

- Define a remainder $r_k = \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} b_n \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$.
- Notice that $d = r_1$.
- Notice also that $2r_1 = b_1 + r_2$.
- If the integer part of $2r_1$ is 0, b_1 must be 0.
- Also, if the integer part of $2r_1$ is 1, b_1 must be 1.
- This is also the case for the rest of the reminders: $b_k = \lfloor 2r_k \rfloor$.
- And we can find the next reminder $r_{k+1} = 2r_k - b_k$.
- Terminate the search when the reminder is zero.

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- Always try to add a 1, and add a 0 if this is not possible.
- If neither c_{\min} or c_{\max} is changed at the current step, terminate the search.

SHORTEST BINARY REPRESENTATION WITHIN DECIMAL INTERVAL: ALGORITHM

Algorithm 2 Find shortest binary representation in decimal interval

```
procedure SHORTESTBINSEQUENCE( $(d_{\min}, d_{\max})$ )  
   $(c_{\min}, c_{\max}) \leftarrow (0.0, 1.0)$  ▷ Initialize current interval  
   $k \leftarrow 1$  ▷ Step counter  
   $s \leftarrow []$  ▷ Binary sequence  
  while True do  
    if  $(c_{\min} < d_{\min}) \wedge (c_{\min} + \frac{1}{2^k} < d_{\max})$  then  
       $c_{\min} \leftarrow c_{\min} + \frac{1}{2^k}$   
       $s \leftarrow s + [1]$  ▷ Append 1 to  $s$   
    else  
      if  $(c_{\max} > d_{\max}) \wedge (c_{\max} - \frac{1}{2^k} > d_{\min})$  then  
         $c_{\min} \leftarrow c_{\min} + \frac{1}{2^k}$   
         $s \leftarrow s + [0]$  ▷ Append 0 to  $s$   
      else  
        Exit loop  
      end if  
    end if  
  end while  
  return  $s$   
end procedure
```

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- Similar to what we did in the encoding, we define a list of interval edges based on the pmf $q = [0, p_X(x_1), p_X(x_1) + p_X(x_2), \dots, \sum_{i=1}^k p_X(x_k), \dots]$

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 1. See what interval the decimal number lies in, set this as the current interval.
 2. Decode the symbol corresponding to this interval (this is found via the alphabeth and q).
 3. Scale the q to lie within the current interval.
 4. Do step 1 to 3 until termination.
- Termination:
 - Define a **eod** symbol (*end of data*), and stop when this is decoded. Note that this will also need an associated probability in the model.
 - Or, only decode a predefined number of symbols.

- Alphabet: $\{a, b, c\}$. $p_X = [0.6, 0.2, 0.2]$. $q = [0.0, 0.6, 0.8, 1.0]$

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- Signal to decode: 10001
- First, we find that $0.10001_2 = 0.53125_{10}$
- Then we continue decoding symbol for symbol until termination:

| $[c_{\min}, c_{\max})$ | q_{new} | Symbol | Sequence |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|--------------|
| $[0.0, 1.0)$ | $[0.0, 0.6, 0.8, 1.0)$ | <i>a</i> | <i>a</i> |
| $[0.0, 0.6)$ | $[0.0, 0.36, 0.48, 0.6)$ | <i>c</i> | <i>ac</i> |
| $[0.48, 0.6)$ | $[0.48, 0.552, 0.576, 0.6)$ | <i>a</i> | <i>aca</i> |
| $[0.48, 0.552)$ | $[0.48, 0.5232, 0.5376, 0.552)$ | <i>b</i> | <i>acab</i> |
| $[0.5232, 0.5376)$ | $[0.5232, 0.53184, 0.53472, 0.5376)$ | <i>a</i> | <i>acaba</i> |

- The size of decimal intervals can be very small, and require high floating point precision:
 - English alphabets and letter frequency from wikipedia¹.
 - Encoding the signal: **helloworld**
 - Final interval in encoding: [0.35040662146355034, 0.35040662146372126).
 - Encoded to the binary sequence:
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- One solution can be to store/transmit the most significant bit as soon as it is known, and then double the size of the current interval.
- Many solutions exist, but they are often computationally expensive and behind patents.

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- No matter what, the transmitter and receiver needs to have the same model.

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- Compression consist of three parts
 - Transform
 - Quantization. Leads to lossy compression.
 - Coding, examples: Huffman, Shannon-Fano, Arithmetic.

QUESTIONS?