Chapter 2: Decoding: Making Predictions

2.1 Definitions

$\mathcal{X}$ denotes possible inputs, $\mathcal{Y}$ is a set of all possible outputs. For some inputs, some outputs are not feasible (same input length condition, for example). We will use $\mathcal{Y}_x$ to subset feasible combinations.

Decoding is finding the best $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ given $x \in \mathcal{X}$. Decoding as a term is attributed to Fred Jelinek (from information theory) and y is considered a message encoded with a representation in x.