

SCALAR QUANTIZATION

Prof. Pintu Chauhan, Assistant Professor
Information Technology Engineering



CHAPTER-6

Scalar Quantization





Lossy Image Compression Techniques

- **Scalar Quantization (SQ)**
- **Vector Quantization (VQ)**
- **Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT) Compression :**
 - JPEG
- **Wavelet compressions :**
 - SPIHT
 - EBCOT



Lossy Image Compression Techniques



SPIHT

**(Set Partition
Hierarchy Tree)**



Original

32:1 compression



JPEG

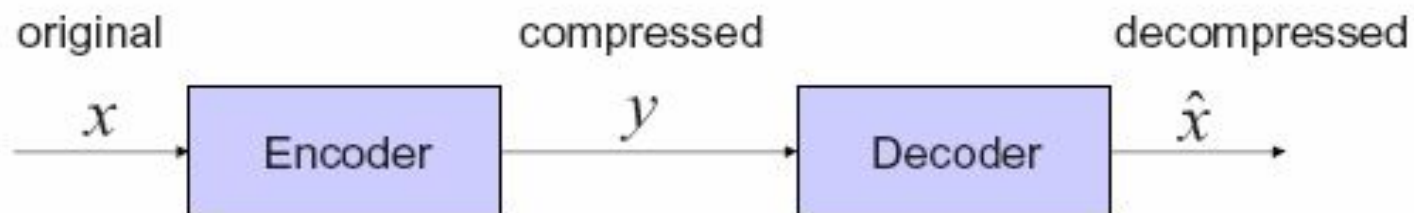


Image and the Eye

- Images are meant to be viewed by the human eye.
- The eye is very good at “interpolation,” that is, the eye can tolerate some distortion. So lossy compression is not necessarily bad.



Distortion



- Lossy compression: $x \neq \hat{x}$
- Measure of distortion is commonly mean squared error (MSE). Assume x has n real components (pixels).

$$MSE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \hat{x}_i)^2$$



Distortion

- Peak Signal to Noise Ratio (PSNR) is the standard way to measure fidelity.

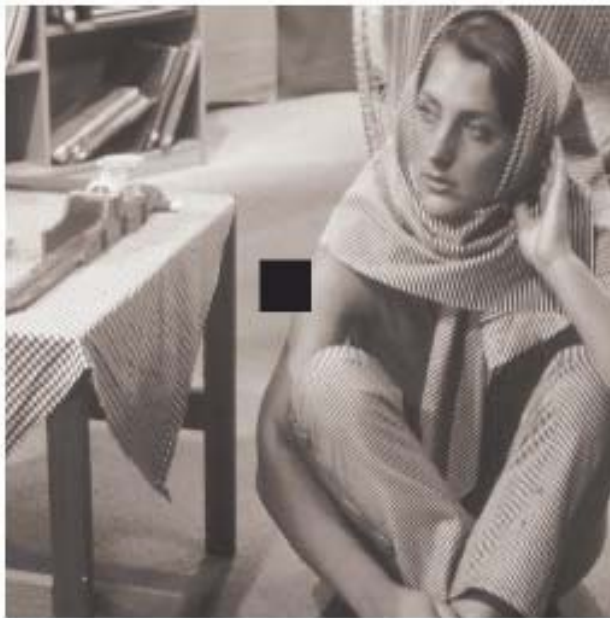
$$PSNR = 10\log_{10} \left(\frac{m^2}{MSE} \right)$$

*where m is the maximum value of a pixel possible
For gray scale images (8 bit per pixel) $m = 255$*

- PSNR is measured in decibels (dB):
- 0.5 to 1 dB is said to be a perceptible difference.
- Decent images *start* at about 25-30 dB.
- 35-40 dB might be indistinguishable from the original



PSNR is not everything !



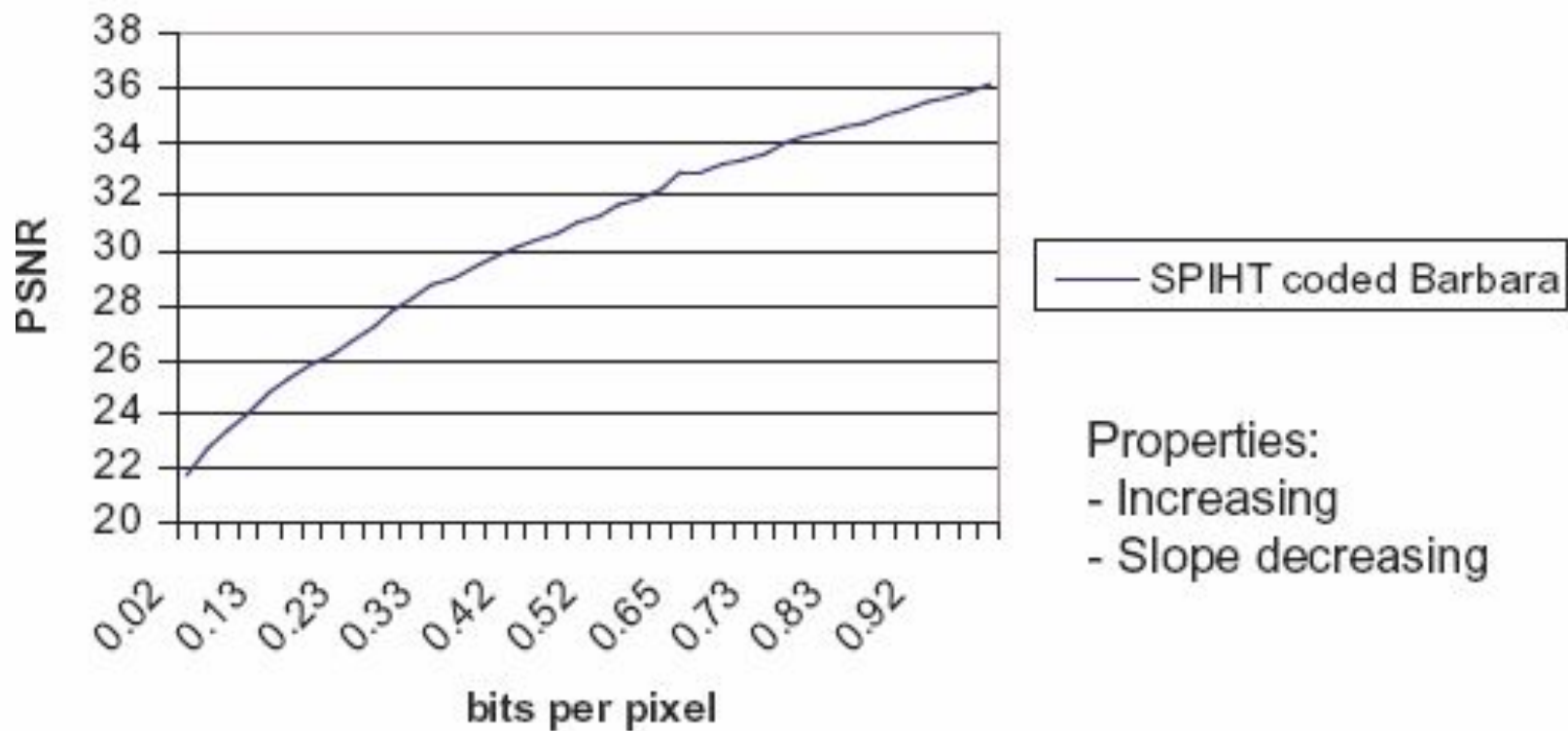
PSNR = 25.8 dB



PSNR = 25.8 dB



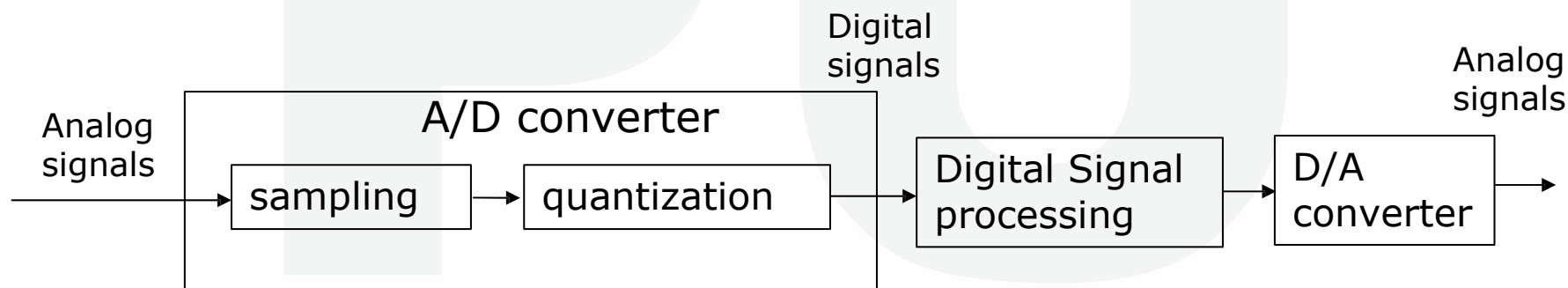
Distortion vs. Compression





Quantization Problem

- Real-world signals are continuous!
- Signal representation in computer is discrete with finite precision!
- Higher precision requires larger storage





Scalar Quantization Problem

■ Problem 1:

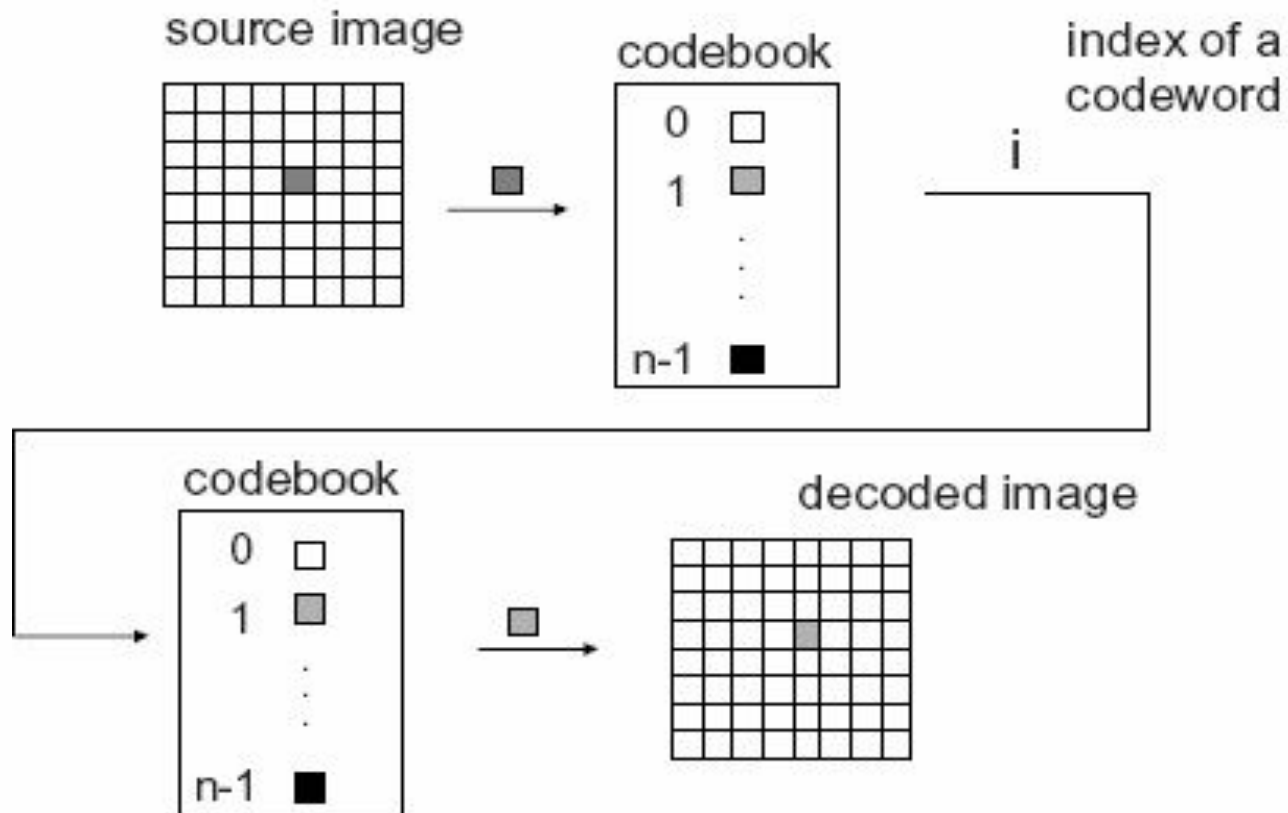
- You're given 16-bit integers (0-65545). Unfortunately, you only have space to store 8-bit integers (0-255).
- Come up with a representation of those 16-bit integers that uses only 8 bits!

■ Problem 2:

- You have a string of those 8-bit integers that use your representation.
- Recreate the 16-bit integers as best you can!



Scalar Quantization





Scalar Quantization Strategies

- Build a codebook with a training set, then always encode and decode with that fixed codebook.
 - Most common use of scalar quantization.
- Build a codebook for each image and transmit the codebook with the image.
- Training can be slow.



Distortion from Scalar Quantization

- Let the image be pixels $X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots, X_T$.
- Define $\text{index}(X)$ to be the index transmitted on input X .
- Define $c(j)$ to be codeword indexed by j .

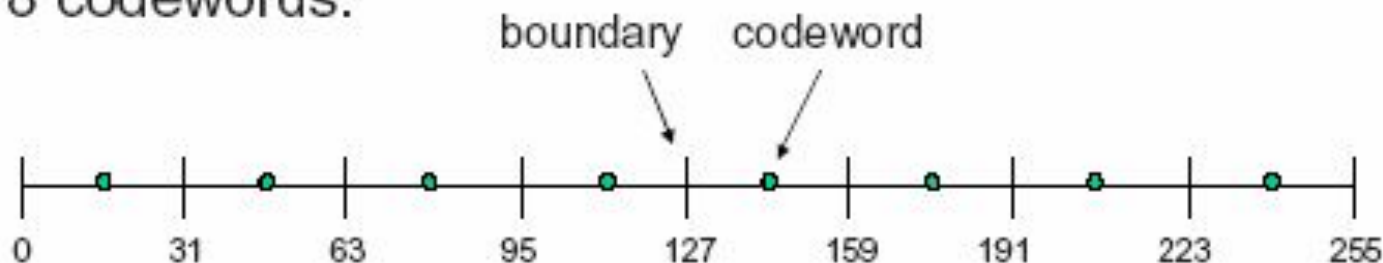
$$D = \sum_{i=1}^T [X_i - c(\text{index}(x_i))]^2 \quad (\text{Distortion})$$

$$MSE = \frac{D}{T}$$



Uniform Quantization Example

- 512 x 512 image with 8 bits per pixel.
- 8 codewords.



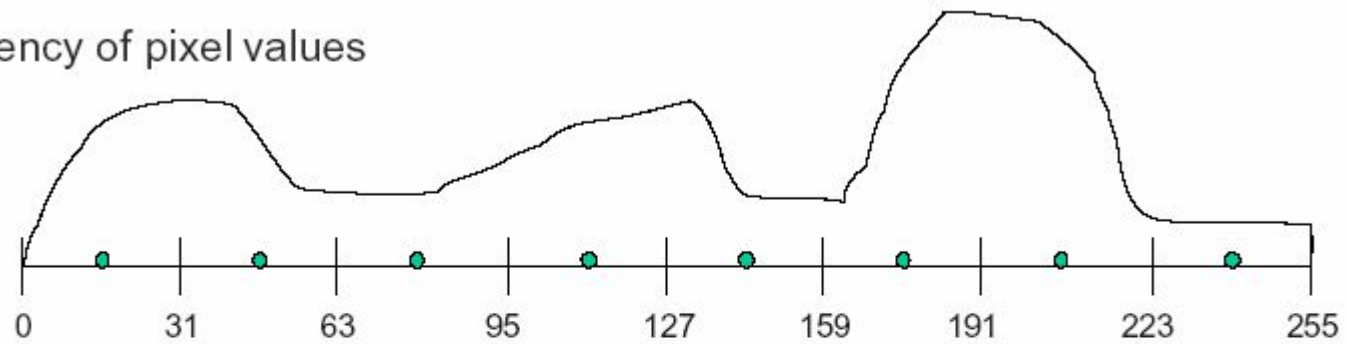
Codebook

Index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Codeword	16	47	79	111	143	175	207	239



Improve Bit Rate

Frequency of pixel values



p_j = the probability that a pixel is coded to index j .
Potential average bit rate is entropy.

$$H = \sum_{j=0}^7 p_j \log_2 \left(\frac{1}{p_j} \right)$$

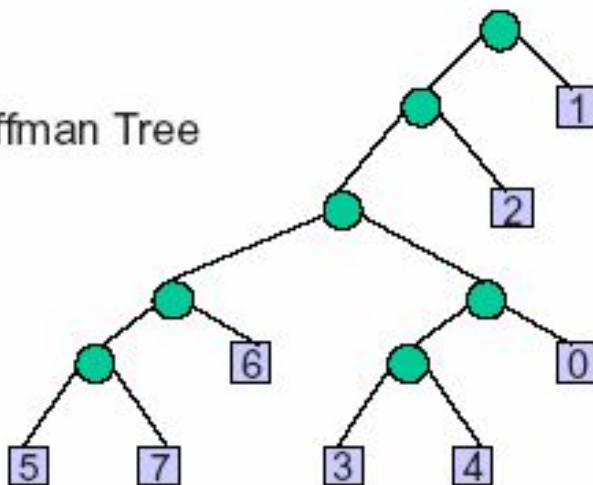


Example

- 512 x 512 image = 262,144 pixels

index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
input	0-31	32-63	64-95	96-127	128-159	160-191	192-223	224-255
frequency	25,000	95,000	85,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	18,000	9,144

Huffman Tree



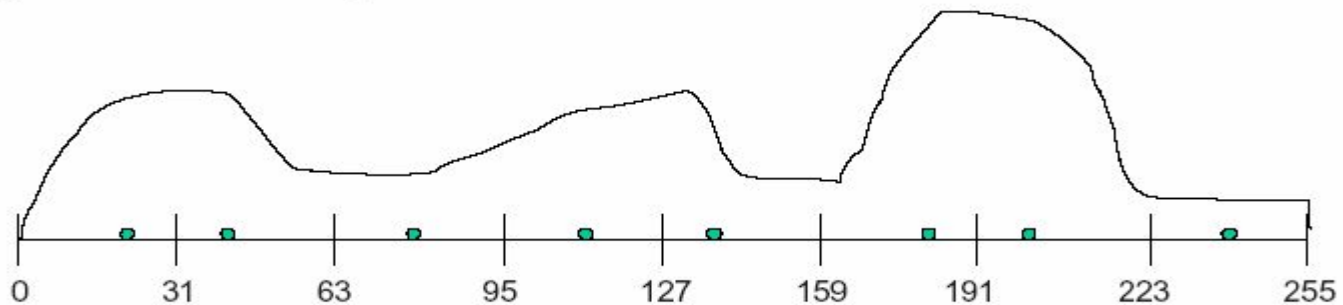
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{ABR} &= (95000 \times 1 + 85000 \times 2 + 43000 \times 4 + 39144 \times 5) / 262144 \\
 &= 2.41 \text{ bpp}
 \end{aligned}$$

Arithmetic coding should work better.



Improve Distortion

- Choose the codeword as a weighted average (the *centroid*).



Let p_x be the probability that a pixel has value x .

Let $[L_j, R_j)$ be the input interval for index j .

$c(j)$ is the codeword indexed by j .

$$c(j) = \text{round} \left(\sum_{L_j \leq x < R_j} x \cdot p_x \right)$$



Example

All pixels have the same index.

pixel value	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
frequency	100	100	100	40	30	20	10	0

$$\text{New Codeword} = \text{round}\left(\frac{8 \cdot 100 + 9 \cdot 100 + 10 \cdot 100 + 11 \cdot 40 + 12 \cdot 30 + 13 \cdot 20 + 14 \cdot 10 + 15 \cdot 0}{400}\right) = 10$$

$$\text{Old Codeword} = 11$$

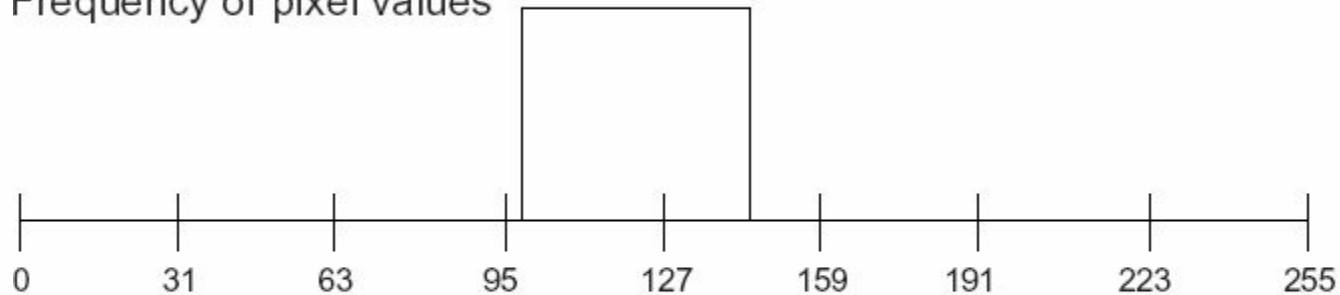
$$\text{New Distortion} = 140 \cdot 1^2 + 130 \cdot 2^2 + 20 \cdot 3^2 + 10 \cdot 4^2 = 10000$$

$$\text{Old Distortion} = 130 \cdot 1^2 + 120 \cdot 2^2 + 110 \cdot 3^2 = 16000$$



Extreme Case

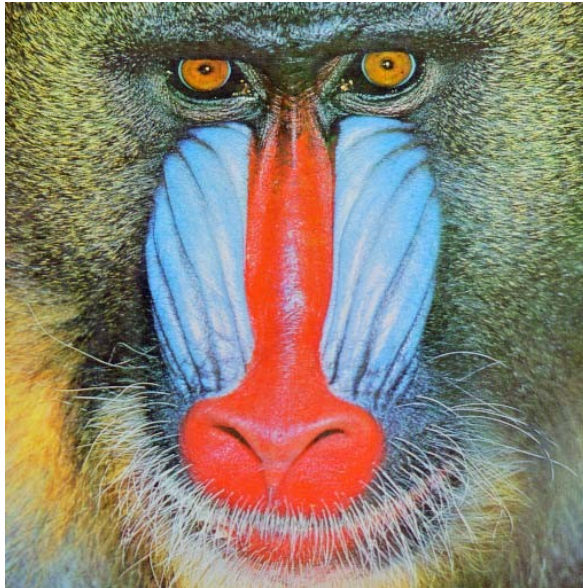
Frequency of pixel values



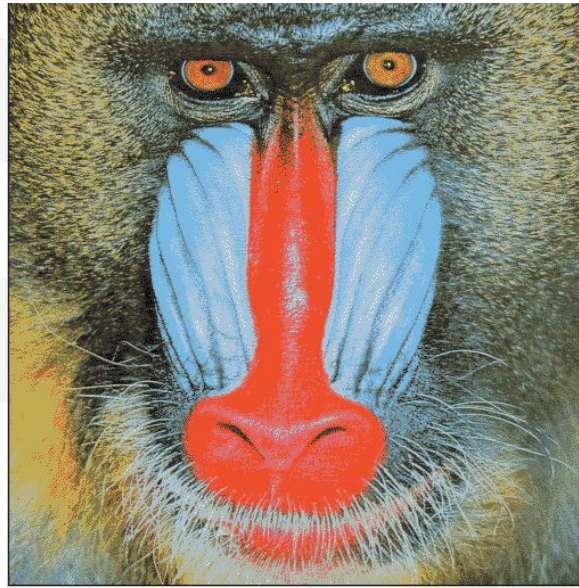
Only two codewords are ever used!!



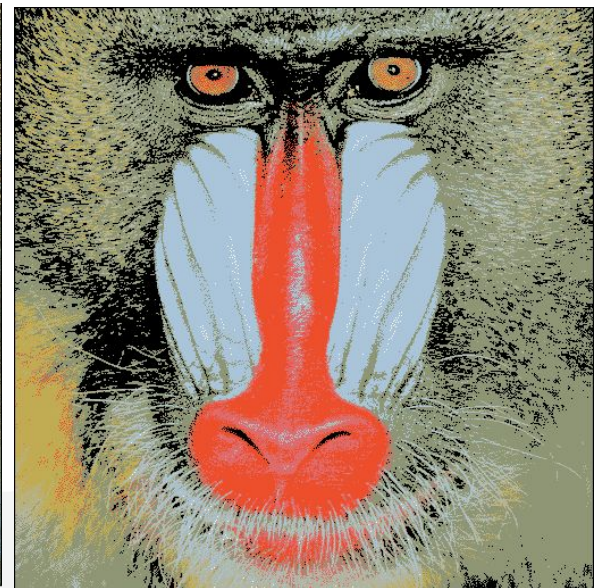
Quantization Example : Mandrill



8 bit quantization



4 bit quantization



3 bit quantization



Quantization Example : Pepper



8 bit quantization



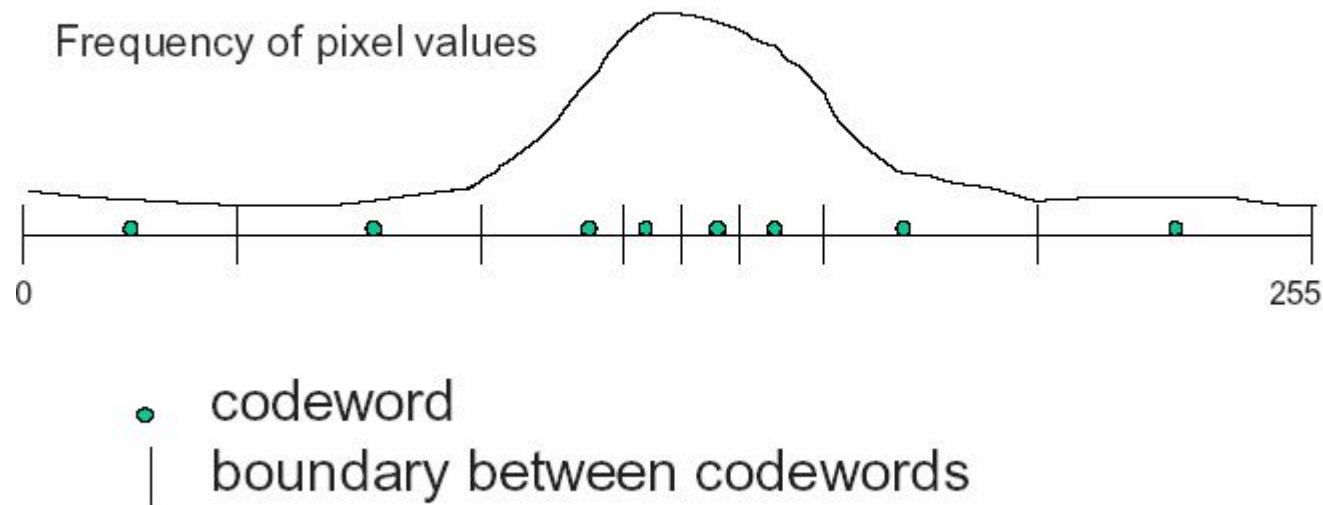
4 bit quantization



3 bit quantization

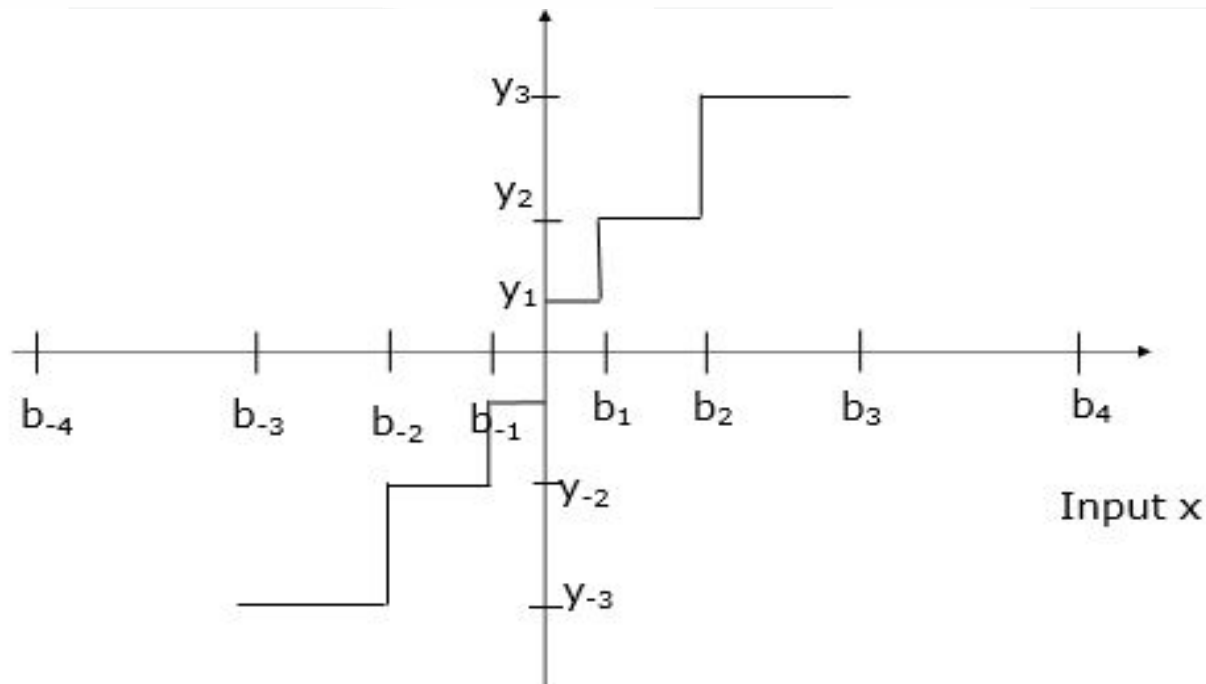


Non-Uniform Scalar Quantization



Non-Uniform Scalar Quantization

Problem: Given M reconstruction levels, find the boundaries of these construction levels (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_M) and reconstruction levels (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_M) to minimize the distortion.





Non-Uniform Scalar Quantization

Lloyd (1957) shows that the solutions y_i and b_i must satisfy the following 2 conditions:

$$Y_i = \frac{\int_{b_{j-1}}^{b_j} x f(x) dx}{\int_{b_{j-1}}^{b_j} f(x) dx}$$

$$b_j = \frac{y_{j+1} + y_j}{2}$$

$f(x)$: Is the probability density function of input x .



Non-Uniform Scalar Quantization

Proof: Take derivatives of with respect to y_i and b_i of MSE, setting the result to zero, and solve for y_i and b_i

$$MSE = \sum_{i=1}^M \int_{b_{i-1}}^{b_j} (x - y_i)^2 f(x) dx$$





Lloyd's Algorithm

- Lloyd (1957)
- Creates an optimized (but probably not optimal) codebook of size n .
- Let p_x be the probability of pixel value x .
 - Probabilities is either known or might come from a training set.
- Given codewords $c(0), c(1), \dots, c(n-1)$ and pixel x . Let $\text{index}(x)$ be the index of the closest code word to x .
- Expected distortion is

$$D = \sum_x P_x [X - c(\text{index}(x))]^2$$

- Goal of the Lloyd algorithm is to find the codewords that minimize distortion.
 - Lloyd finds a local minimum by an iteration process.



Lloyd's Algorithm

Choose a small error tolerance $\varepsilon > 0$.

Choose start codewords $c(0), c(1), \dots, c(n-1)$.

Compute $X(j) := \{x : x \text{ is a pixel value closest to } c(j)\}$.

Compute distortion D for $c(0), c(1), \dots, c(n-1)$.

Repeat:

 Compute new codewords:

$$c'(j) := \text{round}\left(\sum_{x \in X(j)} x \cdot p_x\right)$$

 Compute $X'(j) = \{x : x \text{ is a pixel value closest to } c'(j)\}$.

 Compute distortion D' for $c'(0), c'(1), \dots, c'(n-1)$.

 if $|(D - D')/D| < \varepsilon$ then quit,

 else $c := c'; X := X', D := D'$.

End{repeat}



Example

Initially $c(0) = 2$ and $c(1) = 5$

pixel value	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
frequency	100	100	100	40	30	20	10	0

$$X(0) = [0, 3], X(1) = [4, 7]$$

$$D(0) = 140 \cdot 1^2 + 100 \cdot 2^2 = 540; D(1) = 40 \cdot 1^2 = 40$$

$$D = D(0) + D(1) = 580$$

$$c'(0) = \text{round}((100 \cdot 0 + 100 \cdot 1 + 100 \cdot 2 + 40 \cdot 3) / 340) = 1$$

$$c'(1) = \text{round}((30 \cdot 4 + 20 \cdot 5 + 10 \cdot 6 + 0 \cdot 7) / 60) = 5$$



Example

pixel value	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
frequency	100	100	100	40	30	20	10	0

$$c'(0) = 1; c'(1) = 5$$

$$X'(0) = [0, 2]; X'(1) = [3, 7]$$

$$D'(0) = 200 \cdot 1^2 = 200$$

$$D'(1) = 40 \cdot 1^2 + 40 \cdot 2^2 = 200$$

$$D' = D'(0) + D'(1) = 400$$

$$|(D - D')/D| = (580 - 400)/580 = .31$$

$$c := c'; X := X'; D := D'$$



Example

pixel value	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
frequency	100	100	100	40	30	20	10	0

$$c(0) = 1; c(1) = 5$$

$$X(0) = [0, 2]; X(1) = [3, 7]$$

$$D = 400$$

$$c'(0) = \text{round}((100 \cdot 0 + 100 \cdot 1 + 100 \cdot 2)/300) = 1$$

$$c'(1) = \text{round}((40 \cdot 3 + 30 \cdot 4 + 20 \cdot 5 + 10 \cdot 6 + 0 \cdot 7)/100) = 4$$



Example

pixel value	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
frequency	100	100	100	40	30	20	10	0

$$c'(0) = 1; c'(1) = 4$$

$$X'(0) = [0, 2]; X'(1) = [3, 7]$$

$$D'(0) = 200 \cdot 1^2 = 200$$

$$D'(1) = 60 \cdot 1^2 + 10 \cdot 2^2 = 100$$

$$D' = D'(0) + D'(1) = 300$$

$$|(D - D')/D| = (400 - 300)/400 = .17$$

$$c := c'; X := X'; D := D'$$



Example

pixel value	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
frequency	100	100	100	40	30	20	10	0

$$c(0) = 1; c(1) = 4$$

$$X(0) = [0, 2]; X(1) = [3, 7]$$

$$D = 300$$

$$c'(0) = \text{round}((100 \cdot 0 + 100 \cdot 1 + 100 \cdot 2)/300) = 1$$

$$c'(1) = \text{round}((40 \cdot 3 + 30 \cdot 4 + 20 \cdot 5 + 10 \cdot 6 + 0 \cdot 7)/100) = 4$$

Example

pixel value	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
frequency	100	100	100	40	30	20	10	0

$$c'(0) = 1; c'(1) = 4$$

$$X'(0) = [0, 2]; X'(1) = [3, 7]$$

$$D'(0) = 200 \cdot 1^2 = 200$$

$$D'(1) = 60 \cdot 1^2 + 10 \cdot 2^2 = 100$$

$$D' = D'(0) + D'(1) = 300$$

$$|(D - D')/D| = (300 - 300)/300 = 0$$

Exit with codeword $c(0) = 1$ and $c(1) = 4$.

Scalar Quantization Notes

- Useful for analog to digital conversion.
- With entropy coding, it yields good lossy compression.
- Lloyd algorithm works very well in practice, but can take many iterations.
 - For n codewords should use about $20n$ size representative training set.
 - Imagine 1024 codewords.



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