

MSc and EEE/EIE PART IV: MEng and ACGI

INFORMATION THEORY

Time allowed: 3:00 hours

Answer ALL questions.

All questions carry equal marks

Examiners responsible First Marker(s) : C. Ling
Second Marker(s) : D. Gunduz

The Questions

I. Basics of information theory.

- a) X and Y are correlated binary random variables with $p(X \neq Y) = 0$ and all other joint probabilities equal to $1/3$. Calculate $H(X)$, $H(Y)$, $H(X|Y)$, $H(Y|X)$, $H(X,Y)$, $I(X;Y)$.

[6]

- b) Suppose x_1 and x_2 are i.i.d. Bernoulli random variables taking values of 0 and 1 with equal probabilities ($p = 0.5$). Let $y_1 = x_2$, $y_2 = x_1$, and $y_3 = x_1 \oplus x_2$. Compute the following mutual information:

- i) $I(x_1; y_1)$
- ii) $I(x_2; y_2)$
- iii) $I(x_{1,2}; y_{1,2})$
- iv) $I(x_1; x_2 | y_3)$

[8]

- c) Consider a Markov process with two states, 0 and 1, and transition matrix

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} 1-p & p \\ q & 1-q \end{pmatrix}.$$

- i) Determine the stationary distribution.
- ii) Calculate the entropy rate, $H(X)$.
- iii) Find the values of p and q that maximize $H(X)$.

[11]

- b) Upper bound on the rate-distortion function. For the case of a continuous random variable X with mean zero and variance σ^2 and squared-error distortion, show that the Gaussian distribution has the largest rate-distortion function, i.e., the rate-distortion function for X is bounded as follows:

$$R(D) \leq \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{\sigma^2}{D}.$$

Hint: use the following joint distribution of X and \hat{X} in Fig. 2.2.

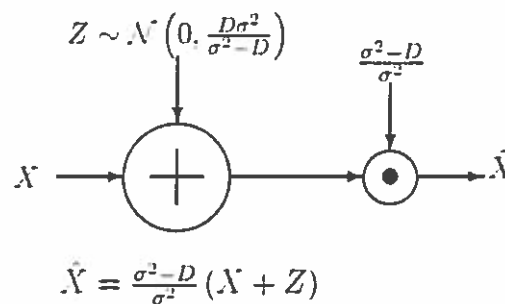


Fig. 2.2. Joint distribution of X and \hat{X} . X and Z are independent.

[10]

4. Network information theory.

- a) Consider the inference channel in Fig. 4.1. There are two senders with equal power P , two receivers, with crosstalk coefficient a . The noise is Gaussian with zero mean and variance N . Show that the capacity under very strong interference (i.e., $a^2 \geq 1 + P/N$) is equal to the capacity under no interference at all.

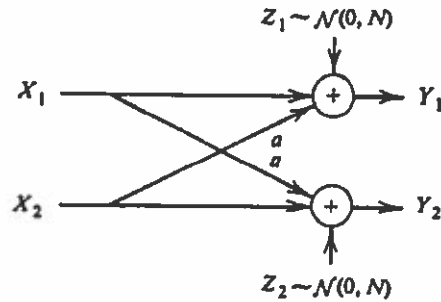


Fig. 4.1. Interference channel.

[10]

- b) Slepian-Wolf coding. Two senders know random variables U_1 and U_2 respectively. Let the random variables (U_1, U_2) have the following joint distribution:

$U_1 \backslash U_2$	0	1	2	...	$m-1$
0	α	$\frac{\beta}{m-1}$	$\frac{\beta}{m-1}$...	$\frac{\beta}{m-1}$
1	$\frac{\gamma}{m-1}$	0	0	...	0
2	$\frac{\gamma}{m-1}$	0	0	...	0
\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots
$m-1$	$\frac{\gamma}{m-1}$	0	0	...	0

where $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 1$. Find the region of rates (R_1, R_2) that allow a common receiver to decode both random variables reliably.

[15]