

MSc and EEE/EIE PART IV: MEng and ACGI

## INFORMATION THEORY

Time allowed: 3:00 hours

**Answer ALL questions.**

**Any special instructions for invigilators and information for candidates are on page 1.**

**Examiners responsible**

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## Information for students

### *Notation:*

- (a) Random variables are shown in Tahoma font.  $x$ ,  $\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{X}$  denote a random scalar, vector and matrix respectively.
- (b) The size of a set  $A$  is denoted by  $|A|$ .
- (c) By default, the logarithm is to the base 2.
- (d)  $\oplus$  denotes the exclusive-or operation, or modulo-2 addition.
- (e) “i.i.d.” means “independent identically distributed”.
- (f)  $H(\cdot)$  is the entropy function.
- (g)  $C(x) = \frac{1}{2} \log_2(1+x)$  is the capacity function for the Gaussian channel in bits/channel use.

## The Questions

1. Basics of information theory.

- a) Let  $X$  be the outcome of a throw of a fair dice which has six faces marked with 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, respectively, and let  $Y$  be Even, if  $X$  is even, and Odd, otherwise. Calculate

- i)  $H(X), H(Y)$
- ii)  $H(X, Y), H(X|Y), H(Y|X)$
- iii)  $I(X; Y)$

[10]

- b) Let  $p(x, y)$  be the joint probability distribution of random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ . Show that the mutual information  $I(X; Y)$  is always nonnegative. State the condition when  $I(X; Y) = 0$ . You may assume without proof that the relative entropy is always non-negative.

[5]

- c) Consider a sequence of  $n$  binary random variables  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ . Each  $n$ -sequence with an even number of 1's has probability  $2^{-(n-1)}$  and each  $n$ -sequence with an odd number of 1's has probability 0. Find the mutual information  $I(X_1; X_2), I(X_2; X_3 | X_1), \dots, I(X_{n-1}; X_n | X_1, \dots, X_{n-2})$ .

[10]

2. Markov chains.

- a) Consider the probability distribution of a random variable  $x$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & x_5 & x_6 & x_7 \\ 0.49 & 0.26 & 0.12 & 0.04 & 0.04 & 0.03 & 0.02 \end{pmatrix}$$

- i) Find a binary Huffman code for  $x$ . [5]  
 ii) Find the expected code length for this code. [3]

- b) Lempel-Ziv coding. Give the parsing and encoding of the following sequence:

101001100101001000101011

[Note: For this question, you will see less than 15 phrases; so ALWAYS use four bits to represent the location of a phrase. Do not worry about how to save such bits.]

[7]

- c) Consider a source with memory modelled by a three-state Markov chain with output symbols  $\{A, B, C\}$  and with the state-transition diagram shown in Figure 2.1.

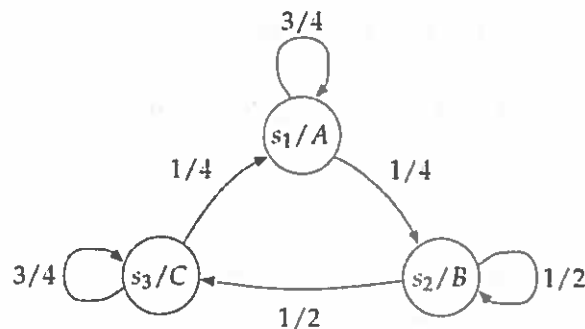


Fig. 2.1. State-transition diagram.

- i) Calculate the entropy rate of the source. [7]  
 ii) Consider a memoryless source with the same probability distribution as the stationary distribution. Calculate its entropy and comment on your finding. [3]

3. Gaussian sources and channels.

- a) Justify each step in the following proof of the converse of the coding theorem for the additive Gaussian noise channel where

$$Y_i = X_i + Z_i$$

Here  $Z_i$  is independent Gaussian noise.



Fig 3.1. Coding for the Gaussian channel.

Assume error probability  $P_e^{(n)} \rightarrow 0$  and  $n^{-1} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x} < P$  for each  $\mathbf{x}(w)$ . We derive

$$\begin{aligned} nR &= H(W) \stackrel{(1)}{=} I(W; Y_{1:n}) + H(W | Y_{1:n}) \\ &\stackrel{(2)}{\leq} I(X_{1:n}; Y_{1:n}) + H(W | Y_{1:n}) \\ &\stackrel{(3)}{=} h(Y_{1:n}) - h(Y_{1:n} | X_{1:n}) + H(W | Y_{1:n}) \\ &\stackrel{(4)}{\leq} \sum_{i=1}^n h(Y_i) - h(Z_{1:n}) + H(W | Y_{1:n}) \\ &\stackrel{(5)}{\leq} \sum_{i=1}^n I(X_i; Y_i) + 1 + nRP_e^{(n)} \\ &\stackrel{(6)}{\leq} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2} \log(1 + PN^{-1}) + 1 + nRP_e^{(n)} \\ R &\stackrel{(7)}{\leq} \frac{1}{2} \log(1 + PN^{-1}) + n^{-1} + RP_e^{(n)} \stackrel{(8)}{\rightarrow} \frac{1}{2} \log(1 + PN^{-1}) \end{aligned} \quad [8]$$

- b) Evaluate the differential entropy  $h(x) = -\int f \ln f$  for the following:

- i) The exponential density  $f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}$ ,  $x \geq 0$ . [4]  
 ii) The sum of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ ; where  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are independent normal random variables with means  $\mu_i$  and variances  $\sigma_i^2$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . [3]

- c) Prove that for any continuous source with differential entropy  $h$ , the mean square distortion  $D$  must satisfy the inequality

$$D \geq \frac{2^{2h}}{2\pi e} 2^{-2R}$$

where  $R$  is the compression rate.

[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.

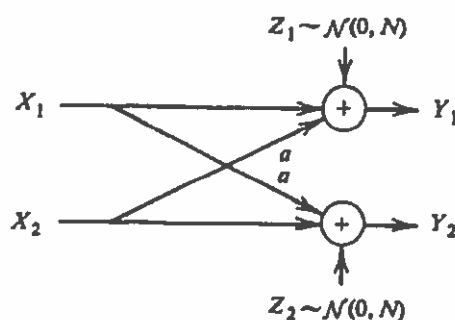


Fig. 4.1. Interference channel.

[10]

- b) Slepian-Wolf coding. Consider a stereo system where the sum and the difference of the right and left ear signals are to be individually compressed for a common receiver. Let  $Z_1$  be Bernoulli ( $p_1$ ) and  $Z_2$  be Bernoulli ( $p_2$ ) and suppose  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  are independent. We have  $P(Z_i = 0) = p_i$  and  $P(Z_i = 1) = 1 - p_i$ . Let  $X = Z_1 + Z_2$ , and  $Y = Z_1 - Z_2$ .

- i) What is the Slepian-Wolf rate region of achievable  $(R_x, R_y)$ ? [10]
- ii) Is this larger or smaller than the rate region of  $(R_{Z_1}, R_{Z_2})$ ? Why? [5]

