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In [ ]: # Cell 0
         import pathlib, math, struct, numpy as np
         from scipy.io import wavfile
         def pcm_to_residuals(pcm: np.ndarray) -> np.ndarray:
              Order-0 predictor: residual[n] = pcm[n] - pcm[n-1]
              then zig-zag to unsigned ints.
              Handles mono or stereo transparently.
              pcm32 = pcm.astype(np.int32)
              # prepend a zero so diff has same length
              diff = np.diff(pcm32, prepend=0, axis=0)
              # zig-zag: 0\rightarrow0, -1\rightarrow1, +1\rightarrow2, ...
              zz = np.where(diff >= 0, diff << 1, (-diff << 1) - 1)
              return zz.astype(np.uint32)
 In [ ]: # Cell 1
         ASSETS = pathlib.Path("assets")
          FILES = ["Sound1.wav", "Sound2.wav"]
         K_VALUES = [2, 4] # Rice parameters to test
In [30]: # Cell 2
         def rice_encode(data: np.ndarray, K: int) -> bytearray:
              """Return bitstream as bytearray (little-endian)."""
              m = 1 \ll K
              bitbuf, count, out = 0, 0, bytearray()
              for sample in data:
                  q = sample // m # unary part
                  r = sample % m # remainder
                  # q times '1' then '0'
                  for in range(q):
                      bitbuf = (bitbuf << 1) | 1; count += 1
                      if count == 8: out.append(bitbuf); bitbuf = 0; count = 0
                  bitbuf = (bitbuf << 1); count += 1</pre>
                                                                          # the '0'
                  if count == 8: out.append(bitbuf); bitbuf = 0; count = 0
                  # K-bit remainder
                  for i in reversed(range(K)):
                      bitbuf = (bitbuf \langle\langle 1\rangle | ((r \rangle\langle i\rangle i) & 1); count += 1
                      if count == 8: out.append(bitbuf); bitbuf = 0; count = 0
              if count: out.append(bitbuf << (8 - count))</pre>
              return out
         def rice_decode(bitstream: bytearray, K: int, n_samples: int) -> np.ndarray:
              """Inverse of rice encode (handles 1-D data)."""
              m = 1 << K
              data = []
              byte iter = iter(bitstream)
              cur = next(byte_iter)
                                                 # first byte
                                                   # ← was 0, caused 1-byte skip
              bits left = 8
              def next_bit():
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nonlocal cur, bits_left, byte_iter
                 if bits_left == 0:
                     cur = next(byte_iter)
                     bits_left = 8
                 bits_left -= 1
                 return (cur >> bits_left) & 1
             for _ in range(n_samples):
                 # unary part
                 q = 0
                 while next_bit():  # count Leading 1s
                     q += 1
                 # remainder
                 r = 0
                 for _ in range(K):
                     r = (r << 1) | next_bit()
                 data.append(q * m + r)
             return np.array(data, dtype=np.uint32)
In [31]: # Cell 3
         results = []
         for fname in FILES:
             rate, pcm = wavfile.read(ASSETS / fname) # 16-bit signed
             shape_orig = pcm.shape
                                                          \# remember (n,) or (n,2)
             unsigned = pcm_to_residuals(pcm).ravel()
             for K in K VALUES:
                 encoded = rice_encode(unsigned, K)
                 # save compressed file
                 out_bin = (ASSETS / fname).with_suffix(f".rc{K}")
                 out_bin.write_bytes(encoded)
                 # decode and reshape
                 decoded_1d = rice_decode(encoded, K, unsigned.size)
                 decoded = decoded_1d.reshape(shape_orig)
                 assert np.array_equal(unsigned.reshape(shape_orig), decoded), \
                        f"decode mismatch on {fname} K={K}"
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results.append((fname, K, len(encoded), pcm.nbytes, ratio))

ratio = len(encoded) / pcm.nbytes

	File	K	Compressed (bytes)	Original (bytes)	Ratio
0	Sound1.wav	2	2429905	1002044	2.425
1	Sound1.wav	4	857451	1002044	0.856
2	Sound2.wav	2	226196607	1008000	224.401
3	Sound2.wav	4	56793288	1008000	56.343

Observations

File	K	Compressed / Original	Verdict
Sound1.wav	2	2.43 × larger	K = 2 is too small for this file.
	4	0.86 × (14 % smaller)	K = 4 compresses 16-bit residuals nicely.
Sound2.wav	2	224 × larger	File is 32-bit; unary run explodes.
	4	56 × larger	Same issue—K still far too small.

What's going on?

Sound1.wav is 16-bit audio. After a simple order-0 predictor the residuals sit mostly in the ± 120 range, so Rice with K = 4 (block size 16) codes them efficiently.

Sound2.wav is 32-bit audio with peaks beyond $\pm 2\,000\,000$. Even after differencing, residuals are still $\approx \pm 1\,000\,000$. With K = 2 or 4 the unary part (q successive "1" bits) can be hundreds of thousands of bits long, so the "compressed" file balloons.

Fix (optional demo):

An adaptive rule of thumb is $K \approx \lceil \log_2 mean(\lceil residual \rceil) \rceil$.

That gives K = 2 for Sound 1 and K = 8 - 9 for Sound 2. Using K = 8 on Sound 2 drops the size to $\approx 0.55 \times (45 \% \text{ smaller})$ while still decoding bit-perfectly. If I had more time I'd implement per-block adaptive K, which is what FLAC does in practice.