# Two part codes

- ▶ Send the index of the coding algorithm before the message.
- ▶ Requires $\log_2 N$ additional bits.
- ▶ Requires the encoder to make **two** passes over the data.
- ▶ Is the key idea of MDL (Minimal Description Length) modeling.
    - ▶ Good prediction model = model that minimizes the total code length
- ▶ Often inappropriate because based on lossless coding. **Lossy** coding often more appropriate.