

COMP2610/COMP6261 - Information Theory

Tutorial 8: Source Coding

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1. Optimal Coding and Huffman Codes

Consider the ensemble X with probabilities $\mathcal{P}_X = \mathbf{p} = \{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{31}{128}, \frac{1}{128}\}$ and the code $C = \{0, 11, 100, 101\}$.

- What is the entropy $H(X)$?
- What is the expected length $L(C, X)$? Is C an optimal code for X ?
- What are the code lengths for X ? Construct a prefix Shannon code C_S for X . Compute the expected code length $L(C_S, X)$.
- What are the probabilities $\mathbf{q} = \{q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}$ for the code lengths of C ?
- Compute the relative entropy $D(\mathbf{p} \parallel \mathbf{q})$. What do you notice about $D(\mathbf{p} \parallel \mathbf{q})$, $H(X)$, $L(C, X)$, and $L(C_S, X)$?
- Construct a Huffman code C_H for X . How does its code lengths compare to C and C_S ? How do their expected code lengths compare?

2. Binary Representations

Express the following numbers in binary.

- 4.25_{10}
- 8.1_{10}

3. Shannon-Fano-Elias Coding

Let X be an ensemble with alphabet $\mathcal{A}_X = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\}$ and probabilities $p_X = (0.25, 0.5, 0.125, 0.125)$.

- Compute the cumulative distribution function $F(x_i)$ for each symbol x_i .
- Compute the symbol intervals $[F(x_{i-1}), F(x_i))$ for each symbol x_i . (Recall that we assume for convenience that $F(x_0) = 0$.)
- Compute the modified cumulative distribution function $\bar{F}(x_i)$ for each symbol x_i .
- Compute the Shannon-Fano-Elias codewords for each symbol x_i .
- Decode the string 10001.
- Suppose you only use the first $\lceil \log \frac{1}{p(x)} \rceil$ bits to code the above ensemble. Will the result be a prefix code?

4. Arithmetic Coding

- For the same ensemble as the previous section, compute an arithmetic code for the sequence \mathbf{c} . Assume here that $\mathbf{d} = \square$, i.e. that the symbol \mathbf{d} denotes the end of stream. Assume also that at each iteration, the probability of the various outcomes is unchanged.
- Compute an arithmetic code for the sequence \mathbf{ca} , with the same setup as the previous part. Does the codeword for \mathbf{ca} start with that for \mathbf{c} ?
- Compute an arithmetic code for the sequence \mathbf{ca} using adaptive probabilities, assuming an initial set of virtual counts $\mathbf{m} = (1, 1, 1)$ and a constant end-of-stream probability $p(\mathbf{d}) = 0.25$.