

# E2 205 Error-Control Coding

## Lecture 12

Naveeta Maheswari

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### 1 Entropy

Let  $X$  be a discrete random variable having finite alphabets  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $P_X(x) = p(x)$  be the pmf of  $X$ .

Then, the entropy  $H(X)$  of  $X$  in bits per symbol is given by

$$H(X) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p(x) \log \frac{1}{p(x)} = H_2(X)$$

$$H_b(X) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p(x) \log_b \frac{1}{p(x)} = \log_b(2) H_2(X)$$

**Example 1** Let  $\mathcal{X} = \{0, 1\}$  and  $P_X(x) = p(x)$ .

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} H(X) &\triangleq H_2(p) = H_2(p, (1-p)) \\ &= p \log \frac{1}{p} + (1-p) \log \frac{1}{(1-p)} \end{aligned}$$

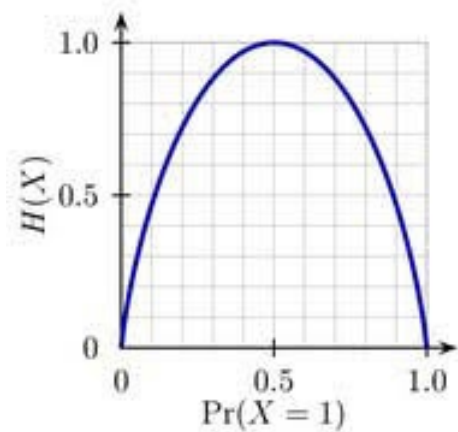


Figure 1: Binary entropy function

Thus,  $H(X)$  is maximum when  $\{0,1\}$  are equally likely. This is in general true.

**Example 2** Let  $\mathcal{X} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, M - 1\}$ .

$X$  has pmf  $p(x)$  and  $Y$  be uniform over  $\mathcal{X}$

Hence,

$$p(y) = \frac{1}{M}, \quad \text{all } y \in \mathcal{X}$$

The entropy of  $Y$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} H(Y) &= \sum_{y \in \mathcal{X}} p(y) \log \frac{1}{p(y)} \\ &= \sum_{y=0}^{M-1} \frac{1}{M} \log(M) \\ H(Y) &= \log M \end{aligned}$$

**Claim:**  $H(X) \leq H(Y)$ , with equality iff  $p(x) = \frac{1}{M}$ ,  $\forall x \in \mathcal{X}$

**Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned} H(X) - H(Y) &= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p(x) \log \frac{1}{p(x)} - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{X}} p(y) \log \frac{1}{p(y)} \\ &= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p(x) \log \frac{1}{p(x)} - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{1}{M} \log(M) \\ &= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p(x) \log \frac{1}{p(x)} - \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p(x) \log(M) \\ &= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p(x) \log \frac{1}{Mp(x)} \\ &\leq \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p(x) \left[ \frac{1}{Mp(x)} - 1 \right] \quad (\text{see aside}) \\ &= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{1}{M} - \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p(x) \\ &= 1 - 1 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $H(X) \leq H(Y)$

Equality holds iff  $\frac{1}{Mp(x)} = 1$ ,  $\forall x \in \mathcal{X}$ .

$$\Rightarrow p(x) = \frac{1}{M}, \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{X}$$

**Aside:** From the linear approximation of  $\ln(x)$  it is known that

$$\ln(x) \leq (x - 1)$$

with equality if and only if  $x=1$ .

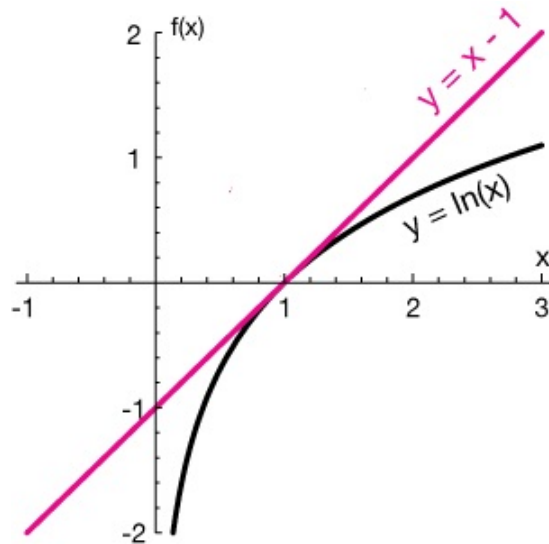


Figure 2: Linear approximation of  $\ln(x)$

## 2 Conditional Entropy

The conditional entropy is a measure of the average uncertainty remaining about random variable  $X$  after observing another random variable  $Y$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 H(Y|X) &\triangleq \sum_{(x,y)} p(x,y) \log \frac{1}{p(y|x)} \\
 &= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} p(x,y) \log \frac{1}{p(y|x)}
 \end{aligned}$$

### Example 3 Binary Symmetric Channel

The binary symmetric channel (BSC) is defined by the channel diagram shown in fig 3. The common transition probability is denoted by  $\varepsilon$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 H(Y|X) &= P_X(0)H(Y|X=0) + P_X(1)H(Y|X=1) \\
 &= P_X(0)H_2(\varepsilon, 1-\varepsilon) + P_X(1)H_2(\varepsilon, 1-\varepsilon) = H_2(\varepsilon, 1-\varepsilon)
 \end{aligned}$$

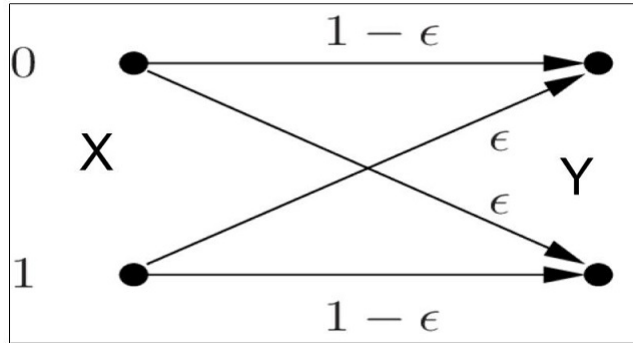


Figure 3: Binary symmetric channel

**Note:**

$$H(X) = \mathbb{E}\left[\log \frac{1}{P(X)}\right]$$

Consider  $Y$  as a function of  $X$ , i.e

$$Y = f(X)$$

By the expectation value rule,

$$\mathbb{E}[Y] = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} f(x)p(x)$$

$$\therefore H(Y|X) = \mathbb{E}\left[\log \frac{1}{P(Y|X)}\right]$$

### 3 Joint Entropy

The joint entropy  $H(X,Y)$  is the average uncertainty of the random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  as a whole.

$$(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in (\mathcal{X}_1 \times \mathcal{X}_2 \times \dots \mathcal{X}_n)$$

$$H(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) \triangleq \sum_{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)} p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \log \frac{1}{p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)}$$

### 3.1 Chain Rule For Joint Entropy

$$\begin{aligned} H(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \log \frac{1}{P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)} \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \log \frac{1}{p(X_1) \prod_{i=2}^n p(X_i | X_{[i-1]})} \end{aligned}$$

where,  $X_{[i-1]} = X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{i-1}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} &= \mathbb{E} \sum_{i=1}^n \log \frac{1}{p(X_i | X_{[i-1]})} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E} \log \frac{1}{p(X_i | X_{[i-1]})} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n H(X_i | X_{[i-1]}) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, in particular

$$\begin{aligned} H(X, Y) &= H(X) + H(Y|X) \\ &= H(Y) + H(X|Y) \end{aligned}$$

## 4 Mutual Information

The mutual information  $I(X;Y)$  is the reduction in entropy defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} I(X;Y) &\triangleq H(Y) - H(Y|X) \\ &= \sum_y p(y) \log \frac{1}{p(y)} - \sum_{(x,y)} p(x,y) \log \frac{1}{p(x|y)} \end{aligned}$$

**Note:**

$$\mathbb{E}_{P_Y} \left[ \log \frac{1}{P_Y(y)} \right] = \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} p(y) \log \frac{1}{p(y)}$$

$$= \sum_{(x,y)} p(x,y) \log \frac{1}{p(y)}$$

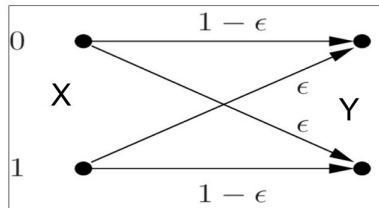
This is the marginalisation sum over all x

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} I(X;Y) &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \log \frac{1}{P(Y)} - \log \frac{1}{P(Y|X)} \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \log \frac{p(Y|X)}{P(Y)} \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \log \frac{P(X,Y)}{P(X)P(Y)} \right] \\ &= H(X) - H(X|Y) \quad (\text{from the symmetry}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore H(Y) - H(Y|X) = I(X;Y) = H(X) - H(X|Y)$$

**Example 4** Consider a binary symmetric channel with transition probability  $\epsilon$ .



$$\begin{aligned} I(X;Y) &= H(Y) - H(Y|X) \\ &= H(Y) - H_2(\epsilon, 1 - \epsilon) \\ &\leq 1 - H_2(\epsilon, 1 - \epsilon) \end{aligned}$$

equality achieved iff  $p_X(0) = p_X(1) = 1/2$

**Claim:**  $I(X;Y) \geq 0$

**Proof:**

$$I(X;Y) = \mathbb{E} \left[ \log \frac{p(x,y)}{p(x) \cdot p(y)} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
-I(X;Y) &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \log \frac{p(x) \cdot p(y)}{p(x,y)} \right] \\
&\leq \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{p(x)p(y)}{p(x,y)} - 1 \right] \text{ ( from aside )} \\
&= \sum_{x,y} \frac{p(x,y) \cdot p(x) \cdot p(y)}{p(x,y)} - \sum_{x,y} p(x,y) \\
&= 1 - 1 = 0
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$I(X;Y) \geq 0$$

**Corollary:**

$$1. H(X|Y) \leq H(X)$$

$$2. H(Y|X) \leq H(Y)$$

**Note:**

$$\begin{aligned}
I(X;Y) &= \mathbb{E} \log \frac{p(x,y)}{p(x) \cdot p(y)} \\
&= \mathbb{E} \log \frac{1}{p(x)} + \mathbb{E} \log \frac{1}{p(y)} - \mathbb{E} \log \frac{1}{p(x,y)}
\end{aligned}$$

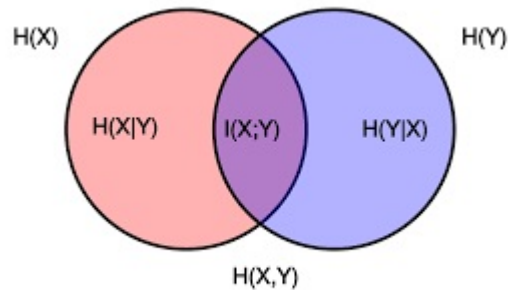


Figure 4: Venn-diagram of mutual information

$$I(X;Y) = H(X) + H(Y) - H(X,Y)$$



## 5 Conditional Mutual Information

$$\begin{aligned} I(X; Y|Z) &\triangleq H(Y|Z) - H(Y|X, Z) \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \log \frac{P(Y|X, Z)}{P(Y|Z)} \right] \end{aligned}$$

### 5.1 Chain Rule of Conditional Mutual Information

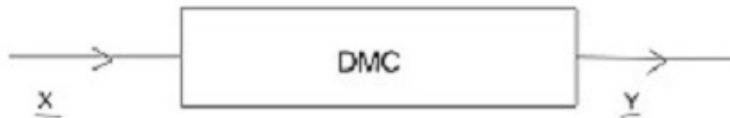
$$I(X_{[n]}; Y) = \sum_{i=1}^n I(X_i; Y|X_{[i-1]})$$

**Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned} I(X_{[n]}; Y) &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \log \frac{p(X_{[n]}|Y)}{p(X_{[n]})} \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \log \prod_{i=1}^n \left[ \frac{p(X_i|Y, X_{[i-1]})}{p(X_i|X_{[i-1]})} \right] \right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E} \left[ \log \left( \frac{p(X_i|Y, X_{[i-1]})}{p(X_i|X_{[i-1]})} \right) \right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n [H(X_i|X_{[i-1]}) - H(X_i|Y, X_{[i-1]})] \\ \therefore I(X_{[n]}; Y) &= \sum_{i=1}^n I(X_i; Y|X_{[i-1]}) \end{aligned}$$

## 6 Channel Capacity

Consider a discrete memoryless channel



The input  $\underline{X}$  consist of input symbols  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  and the output  $\underline{Y}$  consists of output symbols  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$ .

$$P_{\underline{Y}|\underline{X}} = \prod_{i=1}^n P_{Y_i|X_i}(y_i|x_i)$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n P(y_i|x_i)$$

The channel capacity per symbol of a DMC is defined as

$$C = \max_{p(x)} I(X; Y)$$

Thus, the BSC has capacity

$$C = 1 - H_2(\varepsilon, 1 - \varepsilon)$$

The capacity has operational meaning as the largest rate  $R$  at which information can be reliably transmitted across the channel.

Saying that one is able to transmit reliably at rate  $R$  across a DMC is equivalent to saying that there exist a sequence of  $(n, M=2^{nR})$  codes whose associated probability  $P_e^{(n)}$  of codeword error goes zero in the limit i.e ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_e^{(n)} = 0$$

**Example 5** Consider binary erasure channel shown in fig5.

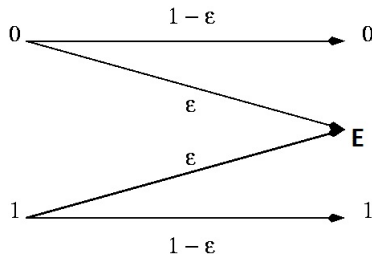


Figure 5: Binary erasure channel

**Claim:**

$$\text{Capacity}(C) = (1 - \varepsilon)$$

**Proof:**

$$I(X;Y) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$

$$H(Y|X) = H_2(\varepsilon, 1 - \varepsilon)$$

To compute  $H(Y)$ , introduce the random variable  $Z$  such that

$$Z = \begin{cases} 1, & Y=E \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Then,

$$H(Y, Z) = H(Y) + H(Z|Y)$$

$$= H(Z) + H(Y|Z)$$

$$\therefore H(Y) = H(Z) + H(Y|Z)$$

$$= H_2(\varepsilon, 1 - \varepsilon) + H(Y|Z = 0)P_Z(0) + H(Y|Z = 1)P_Z(1)$$

$$H(Y|Z) = (1 - \varepsilon)H(Y|Z = 0)$$

$$\leq (1 - \varepsilon)$$

Select  $x = \{ 0, 1 \}$  with equal probability to get

$$H(Y|Z) = (1 - \varepsilon)$$

Concluding

$$C = H_2(\varepsilon, 1 - \varepsilon) + (1 - \varepsilon) - H_2(\varepsilon, 1 - \varepsilon)$$

$$= (1 - \varepsilon)$$