# Can 'finite' be more than 'infinite' in distributed 

## source coding

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## Distributed Information Coding

- Proliferation of Internet, wireless and sensor network applications
- Supported by distributed information processing
- Information-theoretic perspective


## 1: Distributed Field Gathering



## 2: Broadcast and Interference Networks



## 3: Streaming over the Internet



## Information and Coding theory: Tradition

Information Theory:

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Coding Theory:

- Approach these limits using algebraic codes (Ex: linear codes)
- Fast encoding and decoding algorithms
- Objective: practical implementability of optimal communication systems


## Point-to-point Data Compression (lossy)

Start with Binary Symmetric Source: X is IID $\operatorname{Be}(1 / 2)$

- Wish to compress with Hamming distortion: $d_{H}(x, \hat{x})=1$ if $x \neq \hat{x}$ and equals 0 otherwise.


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R(D)=\min _{P(\hat{X} \mid X)} I(X ; \hat{X})=1-h(\delta)
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## Many-to-one transformation: Quantization



Set of all n-length sequences


3-bit quantization

- Sequences that get the same color are NEARBY
- $\hat{X}^{n}=f\left(X^{n}\right)$, i.e., deterministically related
- But $\hat{X}_{i}$ is related to $X_{i}$ probabilistically: $P\left(\hat{X}_{i} \mid X_{i}\right)$.


## Many-to-one transformation: Binning



Set of all n-length sequences


2-bit binning

- Sequences that get the same color are FAR APART


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- Proven to be true for point-to-point communication
- A lot of effort in constructing codes of large block-lengths
- Even more effort in trying to encode and decode
- Where else more is better?


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## Four Basic Problems in Information Theory

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- Till recently we did not know whether these regions are tight or not.
- Wagner et al ['11] proved that Berger-Tung region is not tight using a continuity argument.


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- Window into the world of network information theory
- Single-letter Achievable Rate Distortion Region [Berger-Tung 77]
- Independent, Random (unstructured), Infinite-dimensional quantization
- Let $U_{i}$ denote the quantized version of $Y_{i}$
- Curse: Long Markov chain: $U_{1}-Y_{1}-Y_{2}-U_{2}$


## Berger Tung: Double Quantization

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\begin{aligned}
& Y_{1} \rightarrow \text { Quantizer } 1 \xrightarrow{\mathrm{U}_{1}} . \\
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- BT: $R_{1}+R_{2}=I\left(Y_{1}, Y_{2} ; U_{1}, U_{2}\right)$ optmized with $U_{1}-Y_{1}-Y_{2}-U_{2}$
- Centralized: $R_{1}+R_{2}=I\left(Y_{1}, Y_{2} ; U_{1}, U_{2}\right)$ optimized over everything


## Quantize + Bin

- Quantize+Bin is ubiquitous in communications, signal processing


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- So, as long as dimension (block-length) $\rightarrow \infty$, it does not matter whether the quantizers are
(i) independent or identical,
(ii) unstructured or linear.
- You cannot escape the curse with the wand of linear codes.


## BT: Independent, random infinite-length quantizers

- As block-length becomes large, most volume is inside the walls
- infinitesimal perturbation will take you to the next voronoi region



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- Short block-length: Correlation Transfer Efficiency $\uparrow$, Source Representation Efficiency $\downarrow$


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- Large block-length: Correlation Transfer Efficiency $\downarrow$, Source Representation Efficiency $\uparrow$
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- This is an artifact of quantize and bin strategy


## Common Information (Gacs-Korner-Witsenhausen)

- A random variable $X$ such that $X=f_{i}\left(Y_{i}\right)$ for $i \in\{1,2\}$ such that $H(X)>0$.


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- Break the long Markov chain using Cl
- Reduces to BT strategy when Cl is trivial


## Example [Wagner-Kelly-Altug 09]

- Let $Y_{1}=X+E$ and $Y_{2}=(X, Z)$. Where $X \sim \operatorname{Be}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right), E \sim \operatorname{Be}(\epsilon), Z \sim \operatorname{Be}(p)$.



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- The decoder wants to reconstruct $X+Z$ with distortion $D$.


## Cl is present: $\epsilon=0$

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- $\Longrightarrow$ discontinuity in $\left(R_{1}, R_{2}, D\right)$ as a function of $\epsilon$.
- Actual rate distortion region (performance limit) is continuous in $\epsilon$


## New Result: Theorem

For the binary one-help-one problem, the following rate-distortion region is achievable for any positive integer $n$.

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\begin{align*}
& R_{1} \geq 1-h_{b}(\delta)+\theta_{n}  \tag{1}\\
& R_{2} \geq h_{b}(p * \delta)-h_{b}\left(\delta_{1}\right)  \tag{2}\\
& D_{2} \leq \delta_{1} *\left(\left(1-(1-\epsilon)^{n}\right)\left(\delta+\frac{\epsilon}{\left(1-(1-\epsilon)^{n}\right)} * \delta\right)\right) \tag{3}
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- The region is continuous in $\epsilon$ and contains the Cl scheme when $\epsilon=0$.


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- Here $\theta_{n}=\frac{1}{2} \frac{\log n}{n}+O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$.
- If $n \epsilon \ll 1$ then the distortion is close to $\delta_{1} *\left(n \epsilon\left(\delta+\frac{1}{n} * \delta\right)\right)$.
- The region is continuous in $\epsilon$ and contains the Cl scheme when $\epsilon=0$.
- To get this performance via BT approach, we need multi-letterization


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- Here is a block-diagram of the scheme:

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- 3 components: $C_{f}^{(n)}, C_{r}^{(m)}$ and $\pi$.


## Specifics of Coding

- $C_{f}^{(n)}$ is an $n$-length code for quantizing a $B S S$ to a distortion $\delta$ with rate $R(n, \delta)=1-h_{b}(\delta)+\theta_{n}$. [Kostina-Verdu 12]


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- Interleaver $\pi_{i} \in S_{n}, i \in[1: m]$


## Encoders

- Encoder 1:
- Upon receiving a sequence $(X+E)(1: m, 1: n)$ takes $V(i, 1: n)=\operatorname{argmin}_{c^{n} \in C_{n}^{f}} d_{h}\left(c^{n},(X+E)(i, 1: n)\right)$ transmits the index of $V(i, 1: n)$ in $C_{f}^{n}$.


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- Encoder 2:
- Upon receiving a sequence $X(1: m, 1: n)$ calculates $\hat{V}(i, 1: n)=\operatorname{argmin}_{c^{n} \in C_{n}^{f}} d_{h}\left(c^{n}, X(i, 1: n)\right)$.
- Calculates $S(i, 1: n)=(\hat{V}+X+Z)(i, 1: n)$.
- Let $\tilde{S}(i, 1: n)=\pi_{i}(S(i, 1: n))$. Quantizes each $\tilde{S}(1: m, j)$ using $C_{r}^{m}$ to get $\tilde{Q}(1: m, j)$.
- Transmits the index of $\tilde{Q}(1: m, j)$ in $C_{r}^{m}$.


## Observation

- Note that $\tilde{S}(1: m, j)$ is a DMS:



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- The distribution of $\tilde{S}(1: m, j)$ is $B e(p * \delta)$ :

$$
\begin{aligned}
& P(\tilde{S}(i, j)=1)=P\left(X\left(i, \pi_{i}(j)\right)+\hat{V}\left(i, \pi_{i}(j)\right)+Z\left(i, \pi_{i}(j)\right)=1\right) \\
& =p * P\left(X\left(i, \pi_{i}(j)\right)+\hat{V}\left(i, \pi_{i}(j)\right)=1\right) \\
& =p * \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j^{\prime}=1}^{n} E\left(w_{H}\left(X\left(i, j^{\prime}\right)+\hat{V}\left(i, j^{\prime}\right)\right)\right) \\
& =p * \delta
\end{aligned}
$$

## Decoder

- Decoder:
- Calculates $Q(i, 1: n)=\pi_{i}^{-1}(\tilde{Q}(i, 1: n))$.
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- Note that $V(i, 1: n)=\hat{V}(i, 1: n)$ if $E(1: n)=0$.

$$
D=\left(\delta_{1} * \frac{1}{n} E\left\{w_{H}((\hat{V}+V)(1,1: n) \mid E(1,1: n) \neq 0)\right\} P(E(1,1: n) \neq 0)\right)
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- Simplifying the previous equations we can get:

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\left.D \leq \delta_{1} *\left(1-(1-\epsilon)^{n}\right)\left(\delta+\frac{\epsilon}{\left(1-(1-\epsilon)^{n}\right.} * \delta\right)\right)
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## Theorem

The new rate-distortion region strictly contains the BT rate region

## Hamming Codes

- Using Hamming code of length $2^{r}-1$ :

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\begin{aligned}
& R_{1}=1-\frac{r}{2^{r}-1} \\
& R_{2}=h_{b}\left(\frac{1}{2^{r}} * p\right)-h_{b}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \\
& D \leq \delta_{1} *\left(1-(1-\epsilon)^{n}\right)\left(\frac{\epsilon}{\left(1-(1-\epsilon)^{2^{r}-1}\right)} * \frac{1}{2^{r}-1}+\frac{1}{2^{r}-1}\right)
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- A good scheme for BT seems to be to time-share between the following points to avoid double quantization.

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- Also the Cl scheme for $\epsilon=0$ gives an outer bound.


## Numerical Results

- Comparison between the three bounds: $\left(\delta_{1}=0.1, p=0.3, \epsilon=10^{-10}\right)$



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- To get this performance in BT framework, we need multi-letterization ( $n$-letter)

