# **Rate-Distortion Theory**



# Last Lecture: Scalar Quantization & Lloyd Quantizer

### **Scalar Quantization**

- Individual quantization of each input sample: s' = Q(s)
- Quantizer is characterized by K reconstruction levels  $s'_k$  and K-1 decision thresholds  $u_k$

### Lloyd Quantizer

- Minimizes distortion D for given number K of quantization intervals
- Two optimization criterions
  - Centroid condition (MSE):  $s'_k = \mathrm{E}\{ \ S \mid S \in \mathcal{I}_k \}$
  - Nearest neighbor condition (MSE):  $u_k = (s'_k + s'_{k-1})/2$
- Lloyd quantizer design: Iterate between the two optimization criterions

#### High-Rate Approximation: Lloyd Quantizer and Fixed-Length Coding

Panter and Dite approximation for operational distortion-rate function

$$D_F(R) = \varepsilon_F^2 \cdot \sigma^2 \cdot 2^{-2R}$$
 with  $\varepsilon_F^2 = \frac{1}{12\sigma^2} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sqrt[3]{f(s)} \, \mathrm{d}s \right)^3$ 

# Rate-Distortion Theory: Theoretical Bounds for Lossy Coding



#### Maximum Coding Efficiency for given Source ?

- What is the minimum bit rate R(D) required for achieving a maximum distortion D?
- What is the minimum possible distortion D(R) when coding at a maximum rate R?

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- ➡ Rate-distortion theory gives answers without considering any specific coding method

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#### Maximum Coding Efficiency for given Source ?

- What is the minimum bit rate R(D) required for achieving a maximum distortion D?
- What is the minimum possible distortion D(R) when coding at a maximum rate R?
- → Rate-distortion theory gives answers without considering any specific coding method
- ➡ Require a probabilistic model of the source (multi-variate pdf)

# Probabilistic Modeling for Lossy Source Coding

- Source: Statistical properties of source signal *s* are characterized by random process *S*
- Encoder: Deterministic process for generating bitstream  $\boldsymbol{b} = f_{enc}(\boldsymbol{s})$
- **Decoder**: Deterministic process for generating reconstructed signal  $s' = f_{dec}(b)$
- Sink: Receiver of reconstructed signal s'



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#### **Probabilistic Modeling for Source**

Stationary random process  $\boldsymbol{S} = \{\cdots, S_k, S_{k+1}, S_{k+2}, \cdots\}$  with given *N*-dimensional pdf

$$f_N(\boldsymbol{s}) = f(s_k, s_{k+1}, \cdots, s_{k+N-1})$$

# **Rate-Distortion Function** R(D) and **Distortion-Rate Function** D(R)



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- Specifies minimum required bit rate R for given maximum distortion D
- Property of the source

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#### **Distortion-Rate Function** D(R)

- Specifies minimum achievable distortion D for given maximum bit rate R
- Inverse of rate-distortion function R(D)

### First Definition: Operational Rate-Distortion Function

### Source given by random process S

**\blacksquare** Each source code Q is associated with a rate-distortion point

 $(R,D) = (r(Q), \delta(Q))$ 

<u>Note:</u> For a given source **S** and known encoder and decoder, r(Q) and  $\delta(Q)$  represent probabilistic averages for the rate and distortion

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 $\rightarrow$  Achievable rate distortion point (R, D)

 $\exists Q: r(Q) \leq R \land \delta(Q) \leq D$ 

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 $\rightarrow$  Achievable rate distortion point (R, D)

$$\exists Q: r(Q) \leq R \land \delta(Q) \leq D$$

 $\rightarrow$  Operational rate-distortion function R(D) and distortion-rate function D(R)

$$R(D) = \inf_{Q: \ \delta(Q) \le D} r(Q) \quad \text{and} \quad D(R) = \inf_{Q: \ r(Q) \le R} \delta(Q)$$

# Illustration: Operational Rate-Distortion Function



### **Operational rate-distortion function** R(D) / **distortion-rate function** D(R)

- Divides *R*-*D* space into region of achievable and region of non-achievable rate-distortion points
- Specifies the greatest lower bound for lossy coding

# Illustration: Operational Rate-Distortion Function



#### **Operational rate-distortion function** R(D) / **distortion-rate function** D(R)

- Divides R-D space into region of achievable and region of non-achievable rate-distortion points
- Specifies the greatest lower bound for lossy coding
- → Impossible to evaluate (minimization over all possible codes)

Definition: Mutual Information (discrete case)

Mutual information between two discrete random variables A and B
I(A; B) = H(A) - H(A | B)

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- → I(A; B): Reduction of uncertainty about A due to the observation of B

#### Mutual information I(A; B):

Average amount of information that a random variable *B* carries about another random variable *A* 

■ Mutual information between two discrete random variables A and B

I(A; B) = H(A) - H(A | B)

$$I(A; B) = H(A) - H(A | B) = E \left\{ -\log_2 p_A(A) \right\} - E \left\{ -\log_2 p_{A|B}(A | B) \right\}$$

$$I(A; B) = H(A) - H(A | B)$$
  
=  $E\left\{-\log_2 p_A(A)\right\} - E\left\{-\log_2 p_{A|B}(A | B)\right\}$   
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=  $D_{KL}(p_{AB} || p_A p_B)$ 

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• Mutual information between two discrete random variables A and B

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→ Mutual information is symmetric

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$$I(A; B) = H(A) - H(A | B)$$
  
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 $\Rightarrow$  Random variable A carries the same amount of information about B as B carries about A

• General formulation: Discrete random variables A and B

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Relationship to Kullback-Leibler Divergence

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Relationship to marginal entropy

$$I(A; B) \le H(A)$$
 and  $I(A; B) \le H(B)$ 

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■ Independent random variables A and B

$$I(A;B)=0$$

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Independent random variables A and B

$$I(A; B) = 0$$

• Deterministic functional relationship B = f(A)

$$B = f(A) \implies I(A; B) = H(B)$$

### Mutual Information for Continuous Random Variables ?

#### **Definition of Mutual information**

Discrete random variables A and B

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  - Discrete entropy  $H(\cdot)$  and discrete conditional entropy  $H(\cdot|\cdot)$  are not defined
  - H(A) and  $H(A|\cdot)$  both approach infinity if A is continuous

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#### Question: Can we define mutual information for continuous random variables

- Via approximation by discrete random variables
- ightarrow Quantize pdfs with a quantizaton step size  $\Delta$
- → Calculate mutual information for resulting discrete random variables
- $\twoheadrightarrow$  Consider limit for  $\Delta \to 0$
# **Discrete Approximation for Continuous Random Variables**



Discrete approximation  $f_X^{\Delta}(x)$  of probability density function  $f_X(x)$ 

$$orall x: x_k \leq x < x_{k+1}, \qquad f_X^\Delta(x) = rac{1}{\Delta_x} \cdot \mathrm{P}(x_k \leq X < x_{k+1})$$

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→ Pmf  $p_{X_{\Delta}}(x_k)$  for discrete random variable  $X_{\Delta}$  with alphabet  $\{x_k\}$ 

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→ Similarly: Joint pmf  $p_{X_{\Delta}Y_{\Delta}}(x_k, y_i)$  for two discrete approximations  $X_{\Delta}$  and  $Y_{\Delta}$ 

$$\mathcal{P}_{X_{\Delta}Y_{\Delta}}(x_k, y_i) = f_{XY}^{\Delta}(x_k, y_i) \cdot \Delta_x \cdot \Delta_y$$

• Mutual information  $I(X_{\Delta}; Y_{\Delta})$  for discrete approximations  $X_{\Delta}$  and  $Y_{\Delta}$ 

$$I(X_{\Delta}; Y_{\Delta}) = \sum_{\forall x_k} \sum_{\forall y_i} p_{X_{\Delta}Y_{\Delta}}(x_k, y_i) \cdot \log_2 \frac{p_{X_{\Delta}Y_{\Delta}}(x_k, y_i)}{p_{X_{\Delta}}(x_k) p_{Y_{\Delta}}(y_i)}$$

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$$\begin{split} I(X_{\Delta};Y_{\Delta}) \ &= \ \sum_{\forall x_k} \sum_{\forall y_i} p_{X_{\Delta}Y_{\Delta}}(x_k,y_i) \cdot \log_2 \frac{p_{X_{\Delta}Y_{\Delta}}(x_k,y_i)}{p_{X_{\Delta}}(x_k) \, p_{Y_{\Delta}}(y_i)} \\ &= \ \sum_{\forall x_k} \sum_{\forall y_i} f_{XY}^{\Delta}(x_k,y_i) \cdot \log_2 \frac{f_{XY}^{\Delta}(x_k,y_i)}{f_{X}^{\Delta}(x_k) \, f_{Y}^{\Delta}(y_i)} \cdot \Delta_x \cdot \Delta_y \end{split}$$

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$$\begin{split} P(X_{\Delta};Y_{\Delta}) &= \sum_{\forall x_k} \sum_{\forall y_i} p_{X_{\Delta}Y_{\Delta}}(x_k,y_i) \cdot \log_2 \frac{p_{X_{\Delta}Y_{\Delta}}(x_k,y_i)}{p_{X_{\Delta}}(x_k) \, p_{Y_{\Delta}}(y_i)} \\ &= \sum_{\forall x_k} \sum_{\forall y_i} f_{XY}^{\Delta}(x_k,y_i) \cdot \log_2 \frac{f_{XY}^{\Delta}(x_k,y_i)}{f_{X}^{\Delta}(x_k) \, f_{Y}^{\Delta}(y_i)} \cdot \Delta_x \cdot \Delta_y \end{split}$$

• Mutual information I(X; Y) for continuous random variables X and Y

$$I(X;Y) = \lim_{\substack{\Delta_x \to 0 \\ \Delta_y \to 0}} I(X_\Delta;Y_\Delta)$$

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$$I(X;Y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{XY}(x,y) \log_2 \frac{f_{XY}(x,y)}{f_X(x) f_Y(y)} \, \mathrm{d}x \, \mathrm{d}y$$

Heiko Schwarz (Freie Universität Berlin) - Data Compression: Rate-Distortion Theory

#### **Discrete Random Variables** A and B

$$I(A; B) = \sum_{a} \sum_{b} p_{AB}(a, b) \log_2 \frac{p_{AB}(a, b)}{p_A(a) p_B(b)}$$

Continuous Random Variables X and Y

$$I(A; B) = \iint f_{XY}(x, y) \log_2 \frac{f_{XY}(x, y)}{f_X(x) f_Y(y)} \, \mathrm{d}x \, \mathrm{d}y$$

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Heiko Schwarz (Freie Universität Berlin) — Data Compression: Rate-Distortion Theory

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Heiko Schwarz (Freie Universität Berlin) — Data Compression: Rate-Distortion Theory

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**Discrete Entropy** 

$$H(A) = \mathrm{E}\left\{-\log_2 p_A(A)\right\}$$
$$H(A \mid B) = \mathrm{E}\left\{-\log_2 p_{A \mid B}(A \mid B)\right\}$$

Continuous Random Variables X and Y

$$\begin{split} I(A;B) &= \int \int f_{XY}(x,y) \log_2 \frac{f_{XY}(x,y)}{f_X(x) f_Y(y)} \, \mathrm{d}x \, \mathrm{d}y \\ &= \mathrm{E} \bigg\{ \log_2 \frac{f_{XY}(X,Y)}{f_X(X) f_Y(Y)} \bigg\} \\ &= \mathrm{E} \bigg\{ \log_2 \frac{f_{X|Y}(X|Y)}{f_X(X)} \bigg\} \\ &= \mathrm{E} \bigg\{ -\log_2 f_X(X) \bigg\} - \mathrm{E} \bigg\{ -\log_2 f_{X|Y}(X|Y) \bigg\} \end{split}$$

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**Discrete Entropy** 

$$H(A) = \mathrm{E}\left\{-\log_2 p_A(A)\right\}$$
$$H(A \mid B) = \mathrm{E}\left\{-\log_2 p_{A \mid B}(A \mid B)\right\}$$

Continuous Random Variables X and Y

$$\begin{aligned} A;B) &= \int \int f_{XY}(x,y) \log_2 \frac{f_{XY}(x,y)}{f_X(x) f_Y(y)} \, \mathrm{d}x \, \mathrm{d}y \\ &= \mathrm{E} \Big\{ \log_2 \frac{f_{XY}(X,Y)}{f_X(X) f_Y(Y)} \Big\} \\ &= \mathrm{E} \Big\{ \log_2 \frac{f_{X|Y}(X|Y)}{f_X(X)} \Big\} \\ &= \mathrm{E} \Big\{ -\log_2 f_X(X) \Big\} - \mathrm{E} \Big\{ -\log_2 f_{X|Y}(X|Y) \Big\} \\ &= h(X) - h(X|Y) \end{aligned}$$

#### **Differential Entropy**

$$h(X) = \mathrm{E}\left\{-\log_2 f_X(X)\right\}$$
$$h(X \mid Y) = \mathrm{E}\left\{-\log_2 f_{X \mid Y}(X \mid Y)\right\}$$

Heiko Schwarz (Freie Universität Berlin) — Data Compression: Rate-Distortion Theory

### Mutual Information for Random Vectors

Consider vectors (or blocks) of random variables

$$A = \{A_1, A_2, A_3, \cdots, A_N\}$$
 and  $B = \{B_1, B_2, B_3, \cdots, B_M\}$ 

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➡ Mutual Information for Discrete Random Vectors

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$$\begin{split} I(\boldsymbol{A};\boldsymbol{B}) &= h(\boldsymbol{A}) - h(\boldsymbol{A} \mid \boldsymbol{B}) \\ &= h(\boldsymbol{B}) - h(\boldsymbol{B} \mid \boldsymbol{A}) = \mathrm{E} \bigg\{ \log_2 \frac{f_{\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{B}}(\boldsymbol{A},\boldsymbol{B})}{f_{\boldsymbol{A}}(\boldsymbol{A}) f_{\boldsymbol{B}}(\boldsymbol{B})} \end{split}$$

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Consider mixed case:

- Discrete random variable A
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(or discrete random vector)

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$$I(A; X) = H(A) - H(A | X) = h(X) - h(X | A)$$

• Conditional entropies H(A | X) and h(X | A) are given by

$$H(A | X) = E\{-\log_2 p_{A|X}(A | X)\} = \int_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) \left(-\sum_a p_{A|X}(a | x) \log_2 p_{A|X}(a | x)\right) dx$$

$$h(X \mid A) = E\{-\log_2 f_{X|A}(X \mid A)\} = \sum_{a} p_A(a) \left(-\int_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X|A}(x \mid a) \log_2 f_{X|A}(x \mid a) \, \mathrm{d}x\right)$$

## **Distortion Measures**

#### **General Distortion Measures**

Measure for deviation between N input samples s = {s<sub>1</sub>, s<sub>2</sub>, ..., s<sub>N</sub>} and the corresponding N reconstructed samples s' = {s'<sub>1</sub>, s'<sub>2</sub>, ..., s'<sub>N</sub>}

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 $\rightarrow$  N-th order distortion  $d_N(s, s')$  is the average of the single-symbol distortions

$$d_N(\boldsymbol{s},\boldsymbol{s'}) = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{k=1}^N d_1(s_k,s_k')$$

## **Common Additive Distortion Measures**

#### **Difference Distortion Measures**

• Single symbol distortion  $d_1(s, s')$  is calculated based on absolute differences

$$d_1(s,s') = \left|s-s'
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 with  $p>0$ 

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Most Common: Mean Squared Error (i.e., p = 2)

$$\begin{aligned} &d_1(s,s') = (s-s')^2 \\ &d_N(s,s') = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (s_k - s'_k)^2 = \frac{1}{N} \|s - s'\|_2^2 = \frac{1}{N} (s - s')^T (s - s') \end{aligned}$$

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Consider coding of given source  $\boldsymbol{S}$  with any source code  $\boldsymbol{Q}$ 

• Statistical properties of source **S** are given by N-th order pdf  $f_S(s)$ 

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source code Q: 
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# Distortion and Mutual Information for Source Codes

Consider coding of given source  $\boldsymbol{S}$  with any source code  $\boldsymbol{Q}$ 

- Statistical properties of source S are given by N-th order pdf  $f_S(s)$
- Statistical properties of Q can be described by N-th order conditional pdf  $g_N^Q(s' \mid s)$

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→ Distortion and mutual information are completely determined by source pdf f<sub>S</sub>(s) and conditional pdf g<sub>N</sub><sup>Q</sup>(s' | s) of source code Q

$$R(D) = \inf_{Q: \, \delta(Q) \leq D} \, r(Q)$$

(operational rate-distortion function)

$$\begin{split} R(D) &= \inf_{\substack{Q: \, \delta(Q) \leq D}} r(Q) \\ &\geq \inf_{\substack{Q: \, \delta(Q) \leq D}} \bar{H}(\boldsymbol{S'}) = \inf_{\substack{Q: \, \delta(Q) \leq D}} \lim_{\substack{N \to \infty}} \frac{H_N(\boldsymbol{S'})}{N} \end{split}$$

(operational rate-distortion function)

(lossless coding theorem)

$$\begin{split} R(D) &= \inf_{Q: \, \delta(Q) \leq D} \, r(Q) & \text{(operational rate-distortion function)} \\ &\geq \inf_{Q: \, \delta(Q) \leq D} \, \bar{H}(S') \, = \, \inf_{Q: \, \delta(Q) \leq D} \, \lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{H_N(S')}{N} & \text{(lossless coding theorem)} \\ &= \inf_{Q: \, \delta(Q) \leq D} \, \lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{I_N(S, S') + H_N(S' \mid S)}{N} & \text{(definition of mutual information)} \end{split}$$

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$$\begin{split} R(D) &= \inf_{Q: \delta(Q) \leq D} r(Q) & (\text{operational rate-distortion function}) \\ &\geq \inf_{Q: \delta(Q) \leq D} \bar{H}(S') = \inf_{Q: \delta(Q) \leq D} \lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{H_N(S')}{N} & (\text{lossless coding theorem}) \\ &= \inf_{Q: \delta(Q) \leq D} \lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{I_N(S, S') + H_N(S' \mid S)}{N} & (\text{definition of mutual information}) \\ &= \inf_{Q: \delta(Q) \leq D} \lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{I_N(S, S')}{N} & (\text{code } Q: \text{ deterministic function}) \\ &= \lim_{N \to \infty} \inf_{g_N^Q: \delta_N(g_N^Q) \leq D} \frac{I_N(g_N^Q)}{N} & (\text{use } N\text{-th order conditional pdf } g_N^Q) \\ &\geq \boxed{R'(D) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \inf_{g_N: \delta_N(g_N) \leq D} \frac{I_N(g_N)}{N}} & (g_N^Q \text{ for codes = subset of all } g_N) \end{split}$$

$$R(D) = \inf_{Q: \delta(Q) \le D} r(Q) \qquad (operational rate-distortion function)$$

$$\geq \inf_{Q: \delta(Q) \le D} \overline{H}(S') = \inf_{Q: \delta(Q) \le D} \lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{H_N(S')}{N} \qquad (lossless coding theorem)$$

$$= \inf_{Q: \delta(Q) \le D} \lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{I_N(S, S') + H_N(S' | S)}{N} \qquad (definition of mutual information)$$

$$= \inf_{Q: \delta(Q) \le D} \lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{I_N(S, S')}{N} \qquad (code Q: deterministic function)$$

$$= \lim_{N \to \infty} \inf_{g_N^Q: \delta_N(g_N^Q) \le D} \frac{I_N(g_N^Q)}{N} \qquad (use N-th order conditional pdf g_N^Q)$$

$$\geq \boxed{R'(D) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \inf_{g_N: \delta_N(g_N) \le D} \frac{I_N(g_N)}{N}} \qquad (g_N^Q \text{ for codes = subset of all } g_N)$$

→ The lower bound  $R^{I}(D) \leq R(D)$  is referred to as information rate-distortion function

## Information vs Operational Rate-Distortion Function

**1** We showed:  $R^{I}(D)$  is a lower bound for R(D)

$$R(D) \ge R^{\mathrm{I}}(D)$$
 with  $R'(D) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \inf_{g_N : \delta(g_N) \le D} \frac{I_N(g_N)}{N}$ 

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**2** Can be shown:  $R^{I}(D)$  is asymptotically achievable

• For any D > 0 and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a source code Q with

$$\delta(Q) \leq D$$
 and  $r(Q) \leq R^{\mathrm{I}}(D) + arepsilon$ 

• Proof: See [Cover, Thomas, "Elements of Information Theory"]

## Information vs Operational Rate-Distortion Function

**1** We showed:  $R^{I}(D)$  is a lower bound for R(D)

$$R(D) \ge R^{\mathrm{I}}(D)$$
 with  $R'(D) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \inf_{g_N : \delta(g_N) \le D} \frac{I_N(g_N)}{N}$ 

**2** Can be shown:  $R^{I}(D)$  is asymptotically achievable

• For any D > 0 and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a source code Q with

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- → Use term rate-distortion function R(D) for both

# **Fundamental Source Coding Theorem**

## **Bounds for Lossy Source Coding**

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### **Fundamental Source Coding Theorem**

Rate-distortion function R(D) and distortion-rate function D(R) specify the greatest lower bound for any source code

$$\forall Q: \ \delta(Q) \leq D \implies r(Q) \geq R(D)$$

$$\forall Q: r(Q) \leq R \implies \delta(Q) \geq D(R)$$

## **Lossless Coding of Discrete Source**

**Rate-distortion** function R(D)

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→ Rate-distortion function for lossless coding (D = 0)

$$R(0) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{H_N(\boldsymbol{S})}{N} = \bar{H}(\boldsymbol{S})$$

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→ Lossless coding theorem: Special case of fundamental source coding theorem

$$\forall Q: \, \delta(Q) = 0 \implies r(Q) \ge R(0) = \bar{H}(S)$$

## Special Case: Additive Distortion Measures & IID Sources

**•** *N*-th order distortion  $\delta_N(g_N)$  for additive distortion measures

$$\delta_N(g_N) = \mathrm{E}\{ d_N(\boldsymbol{S}, \boldsymbol{S'}) \} = \mathrm{E}\left\{ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} d_1(S_k, S'_k) \right\} = \mathrm{E}\{ d_1(S, S') \} = \delta_1(g_1)$$

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■ *N*-th order mutual information for iid source (if *S* is iid, then *S'* is also iid)

$$I_N(g_N) = \mathrm{E}\left\{\log_2 \frac{f_{\boldsymbol{S}\boldsymbol{S}'}(\boldsymbol{S},\boldsymbol{S}')}{f_{\boldsymbol{S}}(\boldsymbol{S}) f_{\boldsymbol{S}'}(\boldsymbol{S}')}\right\} = \mathrm{E}\left\{\log_2 \left(\frac{f_{\boldsymbol{S}\boldsymbol{S}'}(\boldsymbol{S},\boldsymbol{S}')}{f_{\boldsymbol{S}}(\boldsymbol{S}) f_{\boldsymbol{S}'}(\boldsymbol{S}')}\right)^N\right\} = N \cdot I_1(g_1)$$

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→ Rate-Distortion Function for IID Sources and Additive Distortion Measures

$$R(D) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \inf_{g_N: \, \delta_N(g_N) \le D} \frac{I_N(g_N)}{N} \implies R(D) = \inf_{g_1: \, \delta_1(g_1) \le D} I_1(g_1)$$

Heiko Schwarz (Freie Universität Berlin) — Data Compression: Rate-Distortion Theory

# **Rate-Distortion Function for Discrete Sources**

## **Properties of** R(D) for discrete sources

- Domain:  $[0, +\infty)$
- Non-increasing function
- Convex function
- Maximum rate (lossless coding)

$$R(0) = R_{\max} = \bar{H}(\boldsymbol{S})$$

■ There exists is maximum distortion *D*<sub>max</sub>

$$\exists D_{\max}: \quad R(D) = \begin{cases} > 0 & : \quad D < D_{\max} \\ 0 & : \quad D \ge D_{\max} \end{cases}$$

→ MSE distortion measure:  $D_{\max} = \sigma^2$ 



# **Rate-Distortion Function for Continuous Sources**

## Properties of R(D) for continuous sources

- Domain:  $[0, +\infty)$
- Non-increasing function
- Convex function
- Unlimited rate

$$\lim_{D\to 0} R(D) = +\infty$$

• There exists is maximum distortion  $D_{\max}$ 

$$\exists D_{\max}: \quad R(D) = \begin{cases} > 0 & : \quad D < D_{\max} \\ 0 & : \quad D \ge D_{\max} \end{cases}$$

→ MSE distortion measure:  $D_{\max} = \sigma^2$ 



# **Discussion of Rate-Distortion Functions**

## **Greatest Lower Bound for Lossless Coding**

Operational / information rate-distortion function

$$R(D) = \inf_{Q: \, \delta(Q) \le D} \, r(Q) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \, \inf_{g_N: \, \delta_N(g_N) \le D} \frac{I_N(g_N)}{N}$$

- Operational RDF: → Obvious definition, but impossible to evaluate
- Information RDF: → Property of source (no need to consider codes)
  - → Still impossible to evaluate directly
  - → Numerical minimization for discrete sources: Blahut-Arimoto algorithm

#### How can we proceed?

- Derive lower bound for rate-distortion function
- For some sources and distortion measures:
  - → Show that lower bound is achievable

Remember: Differential entropy of a continuous random variable X

$$h(X) = \mathrm{E}\{-\log_2 f_X(X)\} = -\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) \log_2 f_X(x) \,\mathrm{d}x$$

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### Example: Differential Entropy of Uniform IID Source

Continuous uniform iid source (with zero mean)

$$f(s) = \left\{egin{array}{ccc} rac{1}{A} & : & |s| \leq rac{A}{2} \ 0 & : & |s| > rac{A}{2} \end{array}
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→ Note: Differential entropy h(S) can become negative

# Summary: Mutual Information and Entropy

Mutual information

discrete X: I(X; Y) = H(X) - H(X | Y)continuous X: I(X; Y) = h(X) - h(X | Y)

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$$H(X) = E\{-\log_2 p_X(X)\} \qquad H(X | Y) = E\{-\log_2 p_{X|Y}(X | Y)\}$$
  
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Relationship between discrete and differential entropy:
 Quantization X<sub>Δ</sub> of continuous random variable X (with step size Δ)

$$h(X) = \lim_{\Delta \to 0} \left( H(X_{\Delta}) + \log_2 \Delta \right)$$

# **Differential Entropy Rate**

### N-th Order Differential Entropy

**Differential entropy for** N consecutive random variables  $S_k, \dots, S_{k+N-1}$ 

$$h_N(\boldsymbol{S}) = h(S_k, S_{k+1}, \cdots, S_{k+N-1}) = \mathrm{E}\Big\{-\log_2 f_{\boldsymbol{S}}(S_k, S_{k+1}, \cdots, S_{k+N-1})\Big\}$$
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→ Special sources (proof: same as for discrete entropy)

IID: 
$$\bar{h}(\mathbf{S}) = h(S)$$
  
Markov:  $\bar{h}(\mathbf{S}) = h(S_n | S_{n-1})$ 

Marginal pdf of Gaussian random processes

$$f_G(s)=rac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}}\,e^{-rac{(s-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

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$$\overline{h^{G}(S)} = \frac{1}{2}\log_{2}(2\pi e \sigma^{2})$$

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$$= E\left\{\frac{1}{2}\log_2(2\pi\sigma^2) + \frac{(S-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\log_2 e\right\}$$
  

$$= \frac{1}{2}\log_2(2\pi\sigma^2) + \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}E\{(S-\mu)^2\}\log_2 e \qquad (S \text{ has variance } \sigma^2)$$
  

$$= \frac{1}{2}\log_2(2\pi\sigma^2) + \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}\sigma^2\log_2 e$$
  

$$= \frac{1}{2}\log_2(2\pi e \sigma^2) \qquad \text{Note: Same expression as for } h^G(S)$$

## Kullback-Leibler Divergence

### **Recall: Discrete Random Variables**

• Divergence inequality for pmfs p and q

$$D(p \mid\mid q) = \mathrm{E}\bigg\{\log_2 rac{p(A)}{q(A)}\bigg\} = \sum_{orall a_k} p(a_k) \log_2 rac{p(a_k)}{q(a_k)} \ge 0$$

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### **Continuous Random Variables**

Divergence inequality for pdfs f and g

$$D(f \mid\mid g) = \mathrm{E}\bigg\{\log_2 \frac{f(S)}{g(S)}\bigg\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(s) \log_2 \frac{f(s)}{g(s)} \, \mathrm{d}s \, \geq \, 0$$

with equality if and only if f = g (both pdfs are the same)

Proof is analog to discrete case

• Let S be any random variable with pdf  $f_S(s)$ , mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ 

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$$h(S) = \mathrm{E}\Big\{-\log_2 f_S(S)\Big\}$$

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= E\left\{-\log\_2 f\_S(S) + \log\_2 f\_G(S) - \log\_2 f\_G(S)\right\}

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$$\begin{split} h(S) &= \mathrm{E}\Big\{-\log_2 f_S(S)\Big\} \\ &= \mathrm{E}\Big\{-\log_2 f_S(S) + \log_2 f_G(S) - \log_2 f_G(S)\Big\} \\ &= \mathrm{E}\Big\{-\log_2 f_G(S)\Big\} - D_{\mathrm{KL}}\Big(f_S \Big|\Big| f_G\Big) \end{split}$$

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→ Gaussian random variable has the largest differential entropy among all random variables with the same variance  $\sigma^2$ 

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• N-th order differential entropy for any source  $\boldsymbol{S}$  with variance  $\sigma^2$ 

$$h_N(\mathbf{S}) = h(S_k) + h(S_{k+1} | S_k) + \ldots + h(S_{k+N-1} | S_k, \cdots, S_{k+N-2})$$

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#### Maximization of *N*-th order Differential Entropy

→ Gaussian iid process has the largest *N*-th order differential entropy among all stationary processes with the same variance

$$h_N(\boldsymbol{S}) \leq h_N^{Giid}(\boldsymbol{S}) = rac{N}{2} \log_2\left(2\pi e \,\sigma^2
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$$R(D) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \inf_{g_N: \, \delta_N(g_N) \leq D} \, \frac{I_N(\boldsymbol{S}; \boldsymbol{S'})}{N}$$

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(b) 
$$\geq \bar{h}(\boldsymbol{S}) - \lim_{N \to \infty} \sup_{g_N: \, \delta_N(g_N) \le D} \frac{h_N(\boldsymbol{S} - \boldsymbol{S'})}{N}$$

- (a) Modification of the mean does not change differential entropy
- (b) Conditioning does not increase differential entropy

### Shannon Lower Bound

• Lower bound  $R_L(D)$  of rate-distortion function R(D)

 $R(D) \geq R_L(D),$ 

$$R_{\rm L}(D) = \bar{h}(\boldsymbol{S}) - \lim_{N \to \infty} \sup_{g_N: \delta_N(g_N) \le D} \frac{h_N(\boldsymbol{S} - \boldsymbol{S'})}{N}$$
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• When does it coincide with rate-distortion function?

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• In the derivation, we used the inequality:  $h_N(\boldsymbol{S}-\boldsymbol{S'} \mid \boldsymbol{S'}) \leq h_N(\boldsymbol{S}-\boldsymbol{S'})$ 

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  - $\rightarrow$  It can be calculated for all *p*-norm distortion measures

• Consider random process for approximation error:  $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{S} - \mathbf{S'}$ 

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→ Consider supremum of *N*-th order differential entropy

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■ Using derived supremum of *N*-th order differential entropy

$$R_{\rm L}(D) = \bar{h}(\boldsymbol{S}) - \lim_{N \to \infty} \sup_{g_N: \, \delta_N(g_N) \leq D} \frac{h_N(\boldsymbol{S} - \boldsymbol{S'})}{N}$$

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#### Shannon Lower Bound for MSE Distortion

Shannon lower bound as rate-distortion and distortion-rate function

$$R_{\rm L}(D) = \bar{h}(\boldsymbol{S}) - \frac{1}{2}\log_2(2\pi e D) \qquad \text{and} \qquad D_{\rm L}(R) = \frac{1}{2\pi e} \cdot 2^{2\bar{h}(\boldsymbol{S})} \cdot 2^{-2R}$$

# General Form of Shannon Lower Bound (MSE)

Shannon Lower Bound as distortion-rate function

$$D_L(R) = \frac{1}{2\pi e} \cdot 2^{2\bar{h}(\boldsymbol{s})} \cdot 2^{-2R}$$
$$= \varepsilon_L^2 \cdot \sigma^2 \cdot 2^{-2R} \quad \text{with} \quad \varepsilon_L^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi e} \cdot 2^{2\bar{h}(\boldsymbol{s}/\sigma)}$$

where  $\boldsymbol{S}/\sigma$  represent the unit-variance random process

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→ General form of Shannon lower bound for MSE distortion

$$D_L(R) = \varepsilon_L^2 \cdot \sigma^2 \cdot 2^{-2R}$$
  

$$R_L(D) = \frac{1}{2} \log_2 \left( \frac{\varepsilon_L^2 \cdot \sigma^2}{D} \right)$$
 with  $\varepsilon_L^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi e} \cdot 2^{2\bar{h}(S/\sigma)} = \frac{1}{2\pi e \sigma^2} \cdot 2^{2\bar{h}(S)}$ 

# Shannon Lower Bound (MSE) for IID Sources

For iid sources, we have

$$\bar{h}(\boldsymbol{S})=h(S)$$

### Shannon Lower Bound for MSE distortion and IID sources

Distortion-rate and rate-distortion function

$$D_L(R) = \varepsilon_L^2 \cdot \sigma^2 \cdot 2^{-2R}$$
  

$$R_L(D) = \frac{1}{2} \log_2 \left( \frac{\varepsilon_L^2 \cdot \sigma^2}{D} \right)$$
 with  $\varepsilon_L^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi e} \cdot 2^{2h(S/\sigma)} = \frac{1}{2\pi e \sigma^2} \cdot 2^{2h(S)}$ 

# Shannon Lower Bound (MSE) for Selected IID Sources



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# Shannon Lower Bound (MSE) for Selected IID Sources

Shannon lower bound for MSE and IID sources

$$D_L(R) = \varepsilon_L^2 \cdot \sigma_S^2 \cdot 2^{-2R}$$



# Shannon Lower Bound (MSE) for Selected IID Sources

Shannon lower bound as signal-to-noise ratio (SNR)



# Asymptotic Tightness of Shannon Lower Bound

Shannon lower bound  $R_L(D)$  approaches rate-distortion function R(D) for high rates R

 $\lim_{R\to\infty}D(R)-D_{\rm L}(R)=0$ 

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# High-Rate Approximations of Rate-Distortion Function

Shannon Lower Bound for IID sources

Gaussian: 
$$D_L(R) = \sigma^2 \cdot 2^{-2R}$$
  
Laplacian:  $D_L(R) = \frac{e}{\pi} \cdot \sigma^2 \cdot 2^{-2R}$   
Uniform:  $D_L(R) = \frac{6}{\pi e} \cdot \sigma^2 \cdot 2^{-2R}$ 

## High-Rate Approximations of Rate-Distortion Function

Shannon Lower Bound for IID sources

Gaussian: 
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aplacian:  $D_L(R) = \frac{e}{\pi} \cdot \sigma^2 \cdot 2^{-2R}$   
Uniform:  $D_L(R) = \frac{6}{\pi e} \cdot \sigma^2 \cdot 2^{-2R}$ 

Shannon Lower Bound for Gaussian-Markov Sources (without derivation)

$$D_L(R) = (1 - \varrho^2) \cdot \sigma^2 \cdot 2^{-2R}$$

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→ Can use these approximations of the rate-distortion function for evaluating the coding efficiency of lossy coding techniques for high rates

Shannon Lower Bound (high-rate approximation of rate-distortion function)

$$D_L(R) = \varepsilon_L^2 \cdot \sigma^2 \cdot 2^{-2R}$$
 with  $\varepsilon_L^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi e \sigma^2} \cdot 2^{2h(S)}$ 

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High-rate approximation for Lloyd quantizer with fixed-length coding

$$D_F(R) = \varepsilon_F^2 \cdot \sigma^2 \cdot 2^{-2R}$$
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→ Distortion increase for Lloyd quantizer (with fixed-length coding) relative to Shannon lower bound

$$\frac{D_F(R)}{D_L(R)} = \frac{\varepsilon_F^2}{\varepsilon_I^2}$$

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$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 & \text{Uniform iid:} & \frac{\pi e}{6} \approx 1.42 & (1.53 \, \text{dB}) \\
 & D_F(R) = \frac{\varepsilon_F^2}{\varepsilon_L^2} & \implies & \text{Gaussian iid:} & \frac{\sqrt{3} \pi}{2} \approx 2.72 & (4.34 \, \text{dB}) \\
 & \text{Laplacian iid:} & \frac{9\pi}{2e} \approx 5.20 & (7.16 \, \text{dB})
\end{array}$$

# Rate-Distortion Function (MSE) for Gaussian IID Sources

#### Gaussian IID sources and MSE distortion

Rate-distortion function coincides with Shannon lower bound

$$D(R) = \sigma^2 \cdot 2^{-2R},$$
  $R(D) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \log_2 \frac{\sigma^2}{D} &: D \le \sigma^2 \\ 0 &: D > \sigma^2 \end{cases}$ 

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- $\rightarrow$  Rate-distortion function R(D) is maximized for Gaussian IID sources
- → Gaussian IID sources are the hardest to code

#### **Rate-Distortion Function for Stationary Gaussian Sources**

• Parametric formulation with  $\theta > 0$ 

$$D(\theta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \min \left( \Phi_{SS}(\omega), \theta \right) \, \mathrm{d}\omega$$
$$R(\theta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \max \left( 0, \frac{1}{2} \log_2 \frac{\Phi_{SS}(\omega)}{\theta} \right) \, \mathrm{d}\omega$$

with  $\Phi_{SS}(\omega)$  being the Fourier series of the autocovariance function  $\phi_k$ 

$$\Phi_{SS}(\omega) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \phi_k \cdot e^{-i\omega k} \quad \text{with} \quad \phi_k = \mathrm{E}\{(S_n - \mu)(S_{n+k} - \mu)\}$$

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#### MSE distortion and given autocovariance function $\phi_k$

- → Rate-distortion function R(D) is maximized for Gaussian sources
- → Gaussian sources are the hardest to code

Autocovariance function and its Fourier series

$$\phi_k = \sigma^2 \, \rho^{|k|} \quad \iff \quad \Phi_{SS}(\omega) = \frac{\sigma^2 \, (1 - \varrho^2)}{1 - 2\varrho \, \cos \omega + \varrho^2}$$

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• For  $\rho \geq 0$ : All frequency components are coded if we choose

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$$\begin{split} R(D) \ &= \ \frac{1}{2} \log_2 \frac{\sigma^2 \left(1 - \varrho^2\right)}{D} \qquad \text{for } D \le \sigma^2 \frac{1 - \varrho}{1 + \varrho} \\ D(R) \ &= \ (1 - \varrho^2) \ \sigma^2 \ 2^{-2R} \qquad \text{for } R \ge \log_2(1 + \varrho) \end{split}$$

Autocovariance function and its Fourier series

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$$D(R) = (1 - \varrho^2) \sigma^2 2^{-2R}$$
 for  $R \ge \log_2(1 + \varrho)$ 

→ Guaranteed to be equal to Shannon lower bound for  $R \ge 1$  bit/sample

Heiko Schwarz (Freie Universität Berlin) — Data Compression: Rate-Distortion Theory

## Rate-Distortion Function for Stationary Gauss-Markov and MSE Distortion



## Summary of Lecture

### **Fundamental Source Coding Theorem**

• Greatest lower bound for source coding: Rate-Distortion Function R(D)

$$R(D) = \inf_{Q: \, \delta(Q) \leq D} r(Q) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \inf_{g_N: \, \delta_N(g_N) \leq D} \frac{I_N(g_N)}{N}$$

#### Shannon Lower Bound

Shannon lower bound for MSE distortion

$$R_L(D) = \bar{h}(\boldsymbol{S}) - \frac{1}{2}\log_2(2\pi e D) \quad \text{and} \quad D_L(R) = \frac{1}{2\pi e} \cdot 2^{2\bar{h}(\boldsymbol{S})} \cdot 2^{-2R}$$

Asymptotically tight: Suitable reference for performance evaluation at high rates

#### **Rate-Distortion Function for Gaussian Sources and MSE Distortion**

- Gaussian IID sources: Coincides with Shannon lower bound
- Stationary Gaussian: Parametric formulation
- Stationary Gauss-Markov: Coincides with Shannon lower bound for  $R \ge \log_2(1 + \varrho)$

# Exercise 1: Covariance Function for AR(1) Sources

Given is a zero-mean iid process  $\mathbf{Z} = \{Z_n\}$  with variance  $\sigma_Z^2$ . For a given correlation coefficient  $\varrho$  and mean  $\mu_S$ , a stationary continuous AR(1) process is constructed according to

$$S_n = \mu_S + \varrho \left( S_{n-1} - \mu_S \right) + Z_n$$

(a) What is the variance  $\sigma_s^2$  of the resulting process  $\{S_n\}$ ?

- (b) How do we have to modify the construction rule in order to get an AR(1) process with a pre-defined variance  $\sigma_5^2$ ?
- (c) Proof that

$$\operatorname{cov}(S_k, S_\ell) = \sigma_S^2 \cdot \varrho^{|k-\ell|}$$

## Exercise 2: Mutual Information for Discrete Case

Given is a stationary Markov process  $S = \{S_n\}$  with the binary symbol alphabet  $A = \{x, y\}$ . The conditional symbol probabilities  $p(s_n | s_{n-1})$  are given in the table below.

s <sub>n</sub>	$p(s_n \mid s_{n-1} = x)$	$p(s_n \mid s_{n-1} = y)$
x	3/4	1/4
y	1/4	3/4

Calculate:

- the marginal entropy  $H(S_n)$ ,
- the joint entropy  $H(S_n, S_{n+1})$  for two successive random variables,
- the conditional entropy  $H(S_n | S_{n-1})$  for a random variable given the preceding random variable,
- the mutual information  $I(S_n; S_{n+1})$  between two successive random variables.

# Exercise 3: Mutual Information for Stationary Gauss-Markov (Optional)

Consider a stationary Gauss-Markov process  $\mathbf{X} = \{X_n\}$  with mean  $\mu$ , variance  $\sigma^2$ , and the correlation coefficient  $\varrho$  (correlation coefficient between two successive random variables).

Determine the mutual information  $I(X_k; X_{k+N})$  between two random variables  $X_k$  and  $X_{k+N}$ , where the distance between the random variables is N times the sampling interval.

Interpret the results for the special cases  $\varrho = -1$ ,  $\varrho = 0$ , and  $\varrho = 1$ .

Hint: It can be shown that

$$E\left\{(\boldsymbol{X}-\boldsymbol{\mu})^{\mathrm{T}}\cdot\boldsymbol{C}_{N}^{-1}\cdot(\boldsymbol{X}-\boldsymbol{\mu})
ight\}=N,$$

which can be useful for the problem.

# Exercise 4: Shannon Lower Bound (MSE Distortion)

Determine the Shannon lower bound for MSE distortion, as distortion-rate function, for iid processes with the following pdfs:

- The exponential pdf  $f_E(x) = \lambda \cdot e^{-\lambda \cdot x}$ , with  $x \ge 0$
- The half-normal pdf  $f_{\mathcal{H}}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{4a}{\pi}} \cdot e^{-a \cdot x^2}$ , with  $x \ge 0$

Express the distortion-rate functions for the Shannon lower bound as a function of the variance  $\sigma^2$ .

Which of the given pdfs is easier to code (if the variance is the same)?

Verify that both pdfs are easier to code than the Gaussian iid with the same variance.

# Exercise 5: Shannon Lower Bound for MAE Distortion (Optional)

Consider rate-distortion bounds for MAE (mean absolute error) distortion.

Calculate the differential entropy for the Laplace pdf

$$f(s) = rac{\lambda}{2} \cdot e^{-\lambda \cdot |x-\mu|}$$

as a function of  $m = E\{|X - \mu|\}.$ 

- Show that the Laplace pdf is the pdf with the maximum differential entropy of all pdfs with the same value of m = E{|X μ|}.
- Derive the Shannon lower bound for iid sources and the MAE distortion measure d(x, x') = |x x'|. Formulate the Shannon lower bound as rate-distortion and as distortion-rate function.
- Calculate the Shannon lower bound for the MAE distortion measure for the Laplace iid source.