
Capacity of Noiseless and Noisy Two-Dimensional Channels

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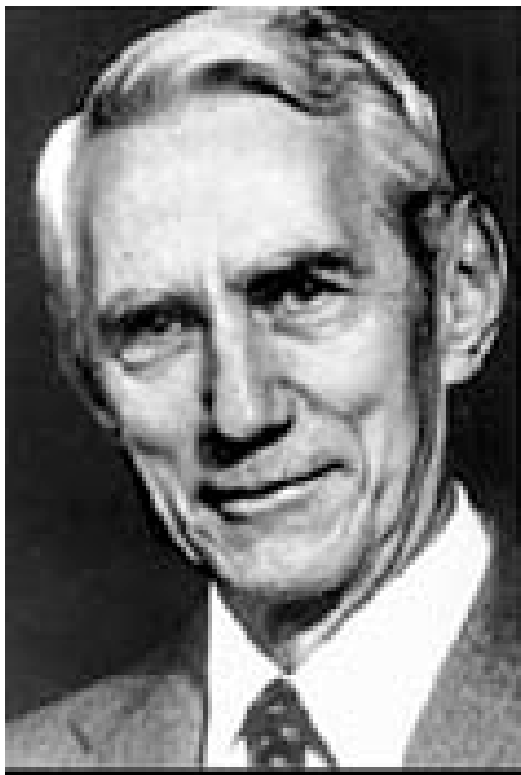
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Outline

- Shannon Capacity
- Discrete-Noiseless Channels
 - One-dimensional
 - Two-dimensional
- Finite-State Noisy Channel
 - One-dimensional
 - Two-dimensional
- Summary

Claude E. Shannon



Claude Elwood Shannon
1916 - 2001



The Inscription

CLAUDE ELWOOD SHANNON

1916 – 2001

FATHER OF INFORMATION THEORY

**HIS FORMULATION OF THE MATHEMATICAL
THEORY OF COMMUNICATION PROVIDED
THE FOUNDATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF
DATA STORAGE AND TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS
THAT LAUNCHED THE INFORMATION AGE.**

DEDICATED OCTOBER 16, 2001

EUGENE DAUB, SCULPTOR

The Formula on the “Paper”

Capacity of a discrete channel with noise [Shannon, 1948]

$$C = \text{Max} (H(x) - H_y(x))$$

For noiseless channel, $H_y(x)=0$, so:

$$C = \text{Max} H(x)$$

Gaylord, MI: $C = W \log (P+N)/N$

Bell Labs: no formula on paper

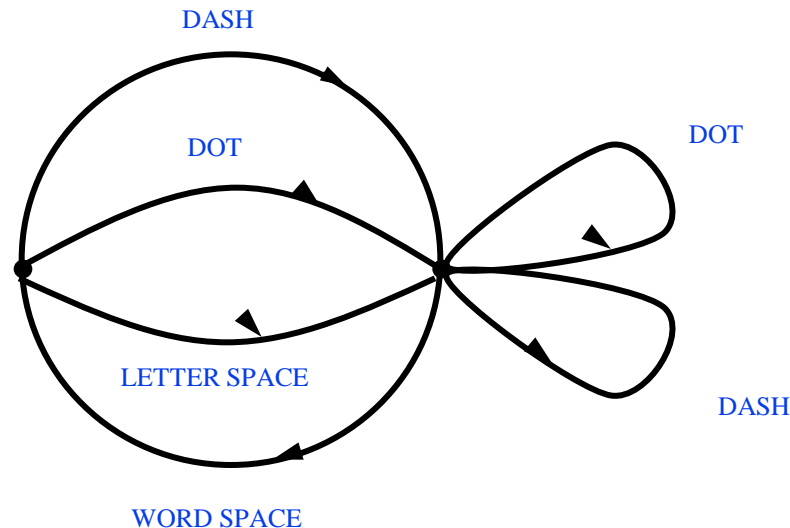
(“ $H = -p \log p - q \log q$ ” on plaque)



Discrete Noiseless Channels (Constrained Systems)

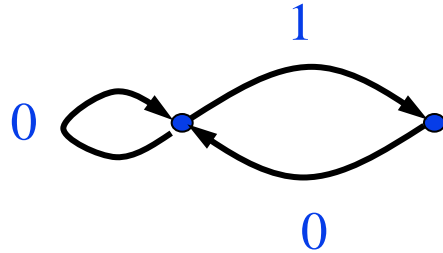
- A constrained system S is the set of sequences generated by walks on a labeled, directed graph G .

Telegraph channel constraints [Shannon, 1948]

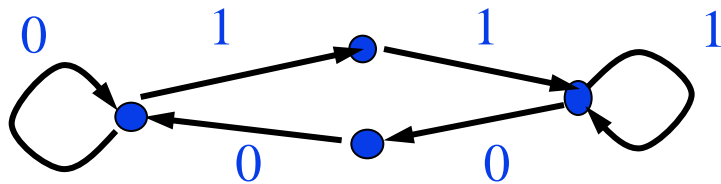


Magnetic Recording Constraints

Runlength constraints
("finite-type": determined by finite list F of forbidden words)



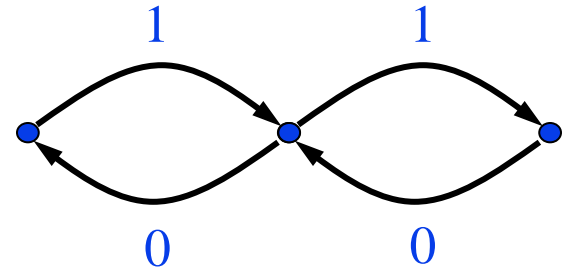
Forbidden word $F=\{11\}$



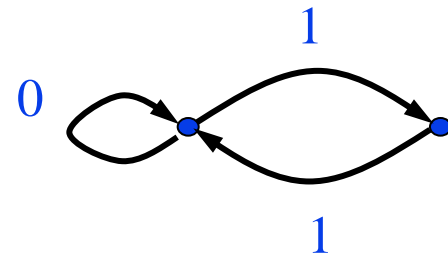
Forbidden words $F=\{101, 010\}$

Spectral null constraints
("almost-finite-type")

Biphase



Even



(d,k) runlength-limited constraints

- For $0 < d < k$, a (d,k) runlength-limited sequence is a binary string such that:

$d < \#0\text{'s between consec.}$

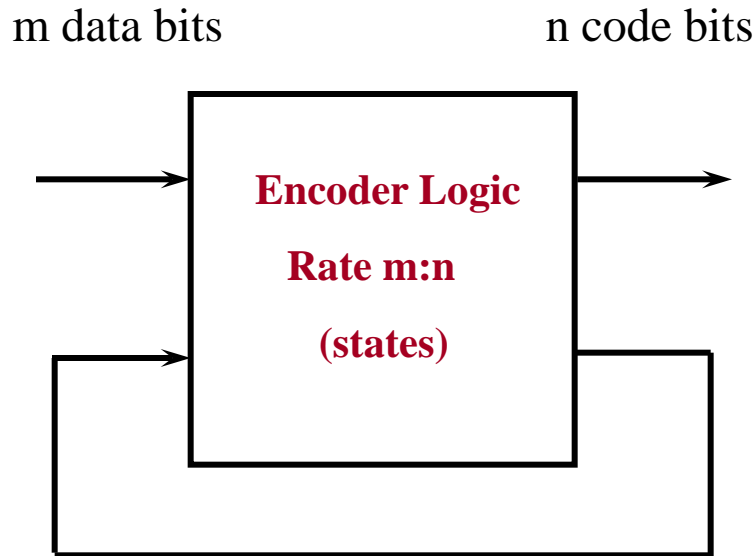
- $F=\{11\}$ forbidden list corresponds to $(d,k) = (1,\infty)$

1 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0

Practical Constrained Codes

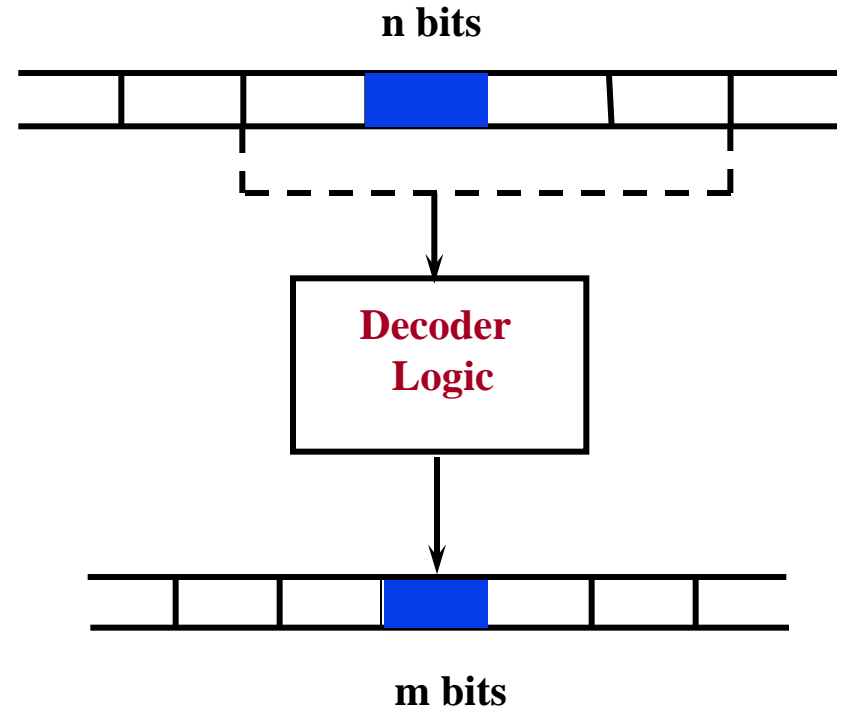
Finite-state encoder

(from binary data into S)



Sliding-block decoder

(inverse mapping from S to data)



We want: high rate $R=m/n$
low complexity

Codes and Capacity

- How high can the code rate be?
- Shannon defined the **capacity** of the constrained system S :

$$C = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log N(S, n)$$

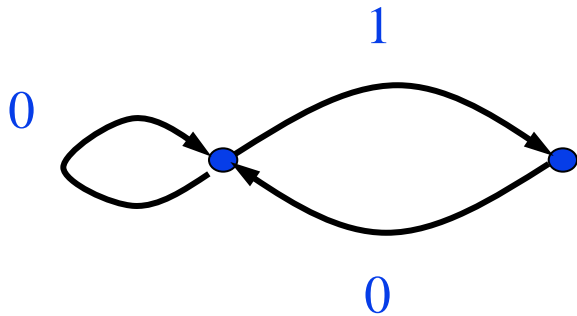
where $N(S, n)$ is the number of sequences in S of length n .

Theorem [Shannon, 1948] : If there exists a decodable code at rate $R = m/n$ from binary data to S , then $R \leq C$.

Theorem [Shannon, 1948] : For any rate $R = m/n < C$ there exists a block code from binary data to S with rate $k m : k n$, for some integer k .

Computing Capacity: Adjacency Matrices

- Let A_G be the adjacency matrix of the graph G representing S .



$$A_G = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- The entries in A_G^n correspond to paths in G of length n .

Computing Capacity (cont.)

- Shannon showed that, for suitable representing graphs G ,

$$C = \log \rho(A_G)$$

where $\rho(A_G) = \max\{|\lambda|: \lambda \text{ is an eigenvalue of } A_G\}$, i.e., the spectral radius of the matrix A_G .

- Assigning “transition probabilities” to the edges of G , the constrained system S becomes a Markov source x , with entropy $H(x)$. Shannon proved that

$$C = \max H(x)$$

and expressed the maximizing probabilities in terms of the spectral radius and corresponding eigenvector of A_G .

Maxentropic Measure

- Let λ denote the largest real eigenvalue of A_G , with corresponding eigenvector $\underline{B} = [B_1, \dots, B_M]$
- Then the maxentropic (capacity-achieving) transition probabilities are given by

$$P_{ij} = \frac{B_j}{B_i} \cdot \frac{A_{ij}}{\lambda}$$

- The stationary state distribution is expressed in terms of corresponding left and right eigenvectors.

Computing Capacity (cont.)

- Example: $(d, k) = (1, \infty)$

$$C = \log \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \approx 0.6942$$

- More generally, $C_{d,k} = \log \lambda_{d,k}$, where $\lambda_{d,k}$ is the largest real root of the polynomial

$$f_{d,k}(x) = x^{k+1} - x^{k-d} - \dots - x - 1, \text{ for } k < \infty$$

and

$$C_{d,\infty} = C_{d-1, 2d-1}, \text{ for } d \geq 1.$$

Constrained Coding Theorems

- Stronger coding theorems were motivated by the problem of constrained code design for magnetic recording.

Theorem[Adler-Coppersmith-Hassner, 1983]

Let S be a finite-type constrained system. If $m/n \leq C$, then there exists a rate $m:n$ sliding-block decodable, finite-state encoder.

(Proof is constructive: state-splitting algorithm.)

Theorem[Karabed-Marcus, 1988]

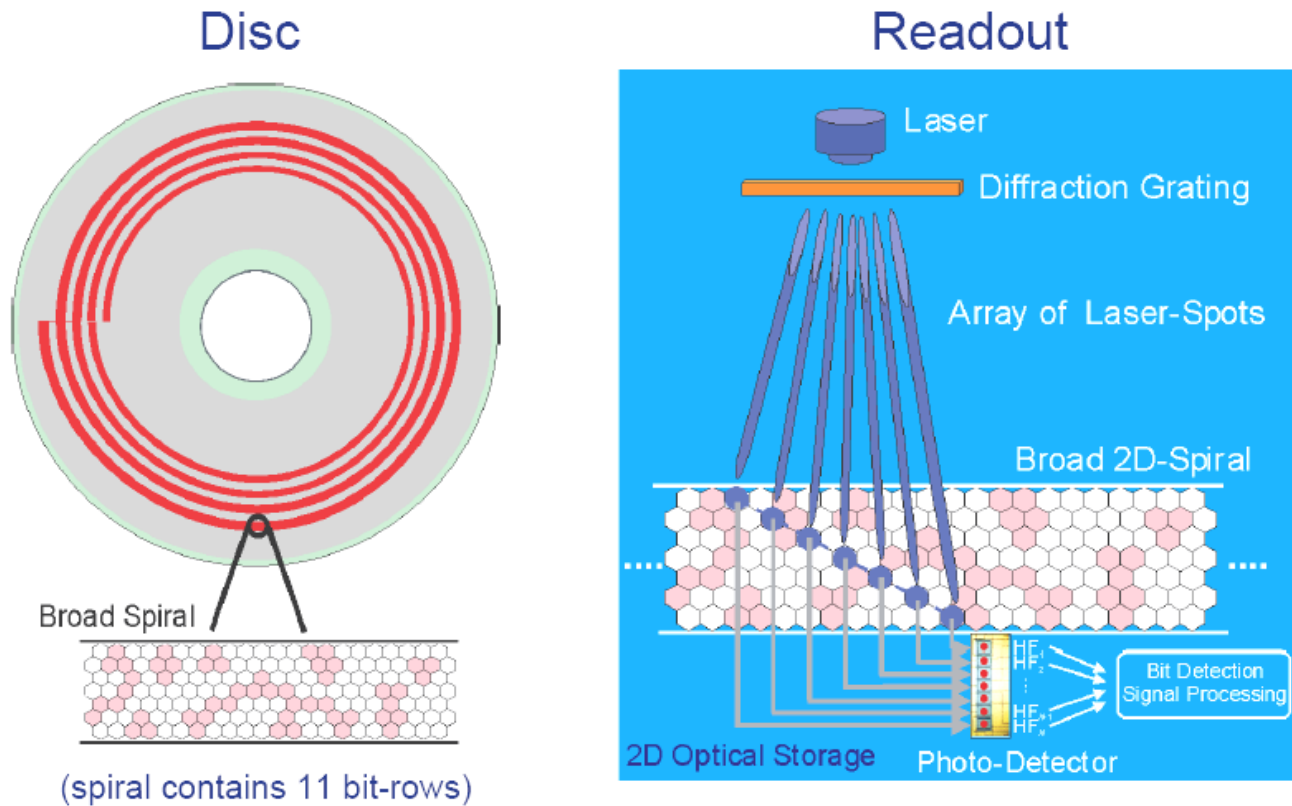
Ditto if S is almost-finite-type.

(Proof not so constructive...)

Two-Dimensional Constrained Systems

- Band-recording and page-oriented recording technologies require 2-dimensional constraints, for example:
- Two-Dimensional Optical Storage (TwoDOS) - Philips
- Holographic Storage - InPhaseTechnologies
- Patterned Magnetic Media – Hitachi, Toshiba, ...
- Thermo-Mechanical Probe Array – IBM

TwoDOS



Courtesy of Wim Coene, Philips Research

Constraints on the Integer Lattice \mathbb{Z}^2

- $S_{sq}^{1,\infty}$: $(d,k) = (1,\infty)$ constraint in $x - y$ directions:

1				1		
			1		1	
	1			1		
1		1				1
	1		1		1	
		1		1		
1			1			

$$F = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, [1 \quad 1] \right\}$$

Independent Sets

Hard-Square Model

(d,k) Constraints on the Integer Lattice \mathbb{Z}^2

- For 2-dimensional (d,k) constraints $S_{sq}^{d,k}$, the capacity is given by:

$$C^{d,k} = \lim_{m,n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N_{m,n}^{d,k}}{mn}$$

- The only nontrivial (d,k) pairs for which $C^{d,k}$ is known precisely are those with zero capacity, namely [Kato-Zeger, 1999] :

$$C^{d,d+1} = 0 \quad , \quad d > 0$$

$$C^{d,k} > 0 \quad , \quad k \geq d + 2$$

(d,k) Constraints on Z^2 – Capacity Bounds

- Transfer matrix methods provide numerical bounds on $C^{1,\infty}$ [Calkin-Wilf, 1998] , [Nagy-Zeger, 2000]

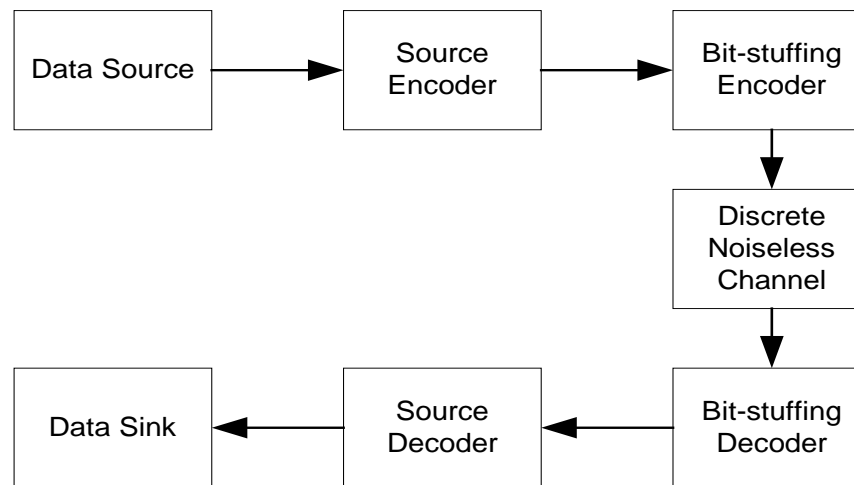
$$0.587891161775 \leq C^{1,\infty} \leq 0.587891161868$$

- Variable-rate “bit-stuffing” encoders for $S_{sq}^{d,\infty}$ yield best known lower bounds on $C^{d,\infty}$ for $d > 1$ [Halevy, et al., 2004]:

$$C^{d,\infty} \geq \lim_{m,n \rightarrow \infty} \max_{0 < p < 1} \frac{h(p)}{1 + 2dp - p^2(1 - p^{2d-1})} - o_{(\min\{m,n\})/d}(1) \quad (1)$$

d	Lower bound	d	Lower bound
2	0.4267	4	0.2858
3	0.3402	5	0.2464

2-D Bit-Stuffing (d, ∞) RLL Encoder



- Source encoder converts binary data to i.i.d bit stream (biased bits) with $\Pr(1) = p, \Pr(0) = 1 - p$, rate penalty $h(p)$.
- Bit-stuffing encoder inserts redundant bits which can be identified uniquely by decoder.
- Encoder rate $R(p)$ is a lower bound of the capacity. (For $d=1$, we can determine $R(p)$ precisely.)

2-D Bit-Stuffing $(1,\infty)$ RLL Encoder

- Biased sequence: 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0

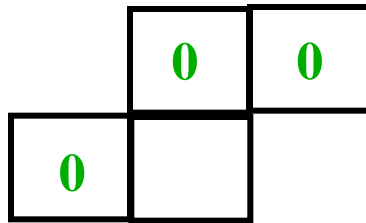
1	0	1	0	0	0	0			
0	1	0	1	0	0				
0	0	0	0	1	0				
0	0	0	1	0					
1	0	0	0						
0	0								
0									

Optimal bias $\Pr(1) = p = 0.3556$

$R(p)=0.583056$ (within 1% of capacity)

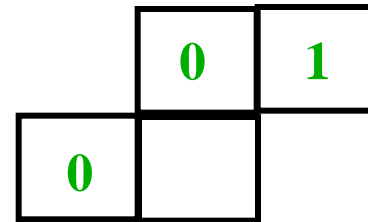
Enhanced Bit-Stuffing Encoder

- Use 2 source encoders, with parameters p_0, p_1 .



Optimal bias

$$\Pr(1) = p_0 = 0.328167$$



Optimal bias

$$\Pr(1) = p_1 = 0.433068$$

$$R(p_0, p_1) = 0.587277 \quad (\text{within } 0.1\% \text{ of capacity})$$

Non-Isolated Bit (n.i.b.) Constraint on Z^2

- The non-isolated bit constraint S_{sq}^{nib} is defined by the forbidden set:

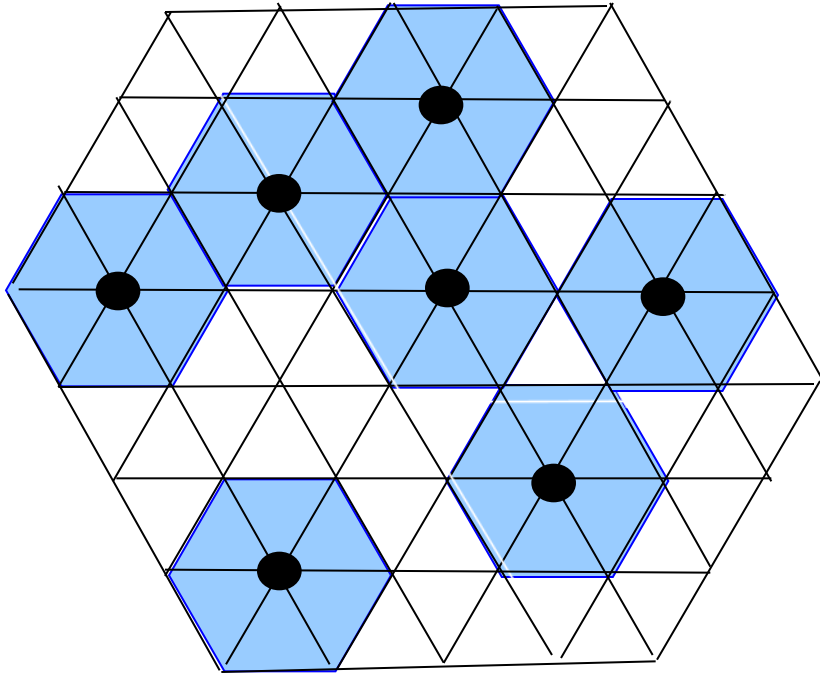
$$F = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

- Analysis of the coding ratio of a bit-stuffing encoder yields:

$$0.91276 \leq C_{sq}^{nib} \leq 0.93965$$

Constraints on the Hexagonal Lattice A_2

- $S_{hex}^{1,\infty} : (d, k) = (1, \infty)$ constraints:



				1		
		1				
1			1		1	
			1			
1						

$$F = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} & 1 \\ 1 & \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Hard-Hexagon Model

Hard Hexagon Capacity

- Capacity of hard hexagon model $C_{hex}^{1,\infty}$ is known precisely! [Baxter, 1980]*

$$C_{hex}^{1,\infty} = \log \kappa_h, \text{ where } \kappa = \kappa_1 \kappa_2 \kappa_3 \kappa_4 \text{ and}$$

$$\kappa_1 = 4^{-1} 3^{5/4} 11^{-5/12} c^{-2}$$

$$\kappa_2 = \left[1 - \sqrt{1-c} + \sqrt{2+c+2\sqrt{1+c+c^2}} \right]^2$$

$$\kappa_3 = \left[-1 - \sqrt{1-c} + \sqrt{2+c+2\sqrt{1+c+c^2}} \right]^2$$

$$\kappa_4 = \left[\sqrt{1-a} + \sqrt{2+a+2\sqrt{1+a+a^2}} \right]^{-1/2}$$

$$a = -\frac{124}{363} 11^{1/3}$$

$$b = \frac{2501}{11979} 33^{1/2}$$

$$c = \left[\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{8} a \left[(b+1)^{1/3} - (b-1)^{1/3} \right] \right]^{1/3}$$

So,

$$C_{hex}^{1,\infty} \approx 0.480767622$$

Hard Hexagon Capacity

- Alternatively, the hard hexagon entropy constant K satisfies a degree-24 polynomial with (big!) integer coefficients.
- Baxter does offer this disclaimer regarding his derivation, however:

*“It is not mathematically rigorous, in that certain analyticity properties of κ are assumed, and the results of Chapter 13 (which depend on assuming that various large-lattice limits can be interchanged) are used. However, I believe that these assumptions, and therefore (14.1.18)-(14.1.24), are in fact correct.”

(d,k) Constraints on A_2 – Capacity Bounds

- Zero capacity region partially known [Kukorelly-Zeger, 2001].
- Variable-to-fixed length “bit-stuffing” encoders for $S_{hex}^{d,\infty}$ yield best known lower bounds on $C_{hex}^{d,\infty}$ for $d > 1$ [Halevy, et al., 2004]:

$$C_{hex}^{d,\infty} \geq \lim_{m,n \rightarrow \infty} \max_{0 < p < 1} \frac{h(p)}{1 + 3dp - p^2} - o_{(\min\{m,n\})/d}(1) \quad (1)$$

d	Lower bound	d	Lower bound
2	0.3387	4	0.2196
3	0.2630	5	0.1901

Practical 2-D Constrained Codes

- There is no comprehensive algorithmic theory for constructing encoders and decoders for 2-D constrained systems.
- Very efficient bit-stuffing encoders have been defined and analyzed for several 2-D constraints, but they are not suitable for practical applications [Roth et al., 2001] , [Halevy et al., 2004] , [Nagy-Zeger, 2004].
- Optimal block codes with $m \times n$ rectangular code arrays have been designed for small values of m and n , and some finite-state encoders have been designed, but there is no generally applicable method [Demirkan-Wolf, 2004] .

Concluding Remarks

- The lack of convenient graph-based representations of 2-D constraints prevents the straightforward extension of 1-D techniques for analysis and code design.
- There are strong connections to statistical physics that may open up new approaches to understanding 2-D constrained systems (and, perhaps, vice-versa).

Noisy Finite-State ISI Channels (1-Dim.)

- Binary input process $x[i]$
- Linear intersymbol interference $h[i]$
- Additive, i.i.d. Gaussian noise $n[i] \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$

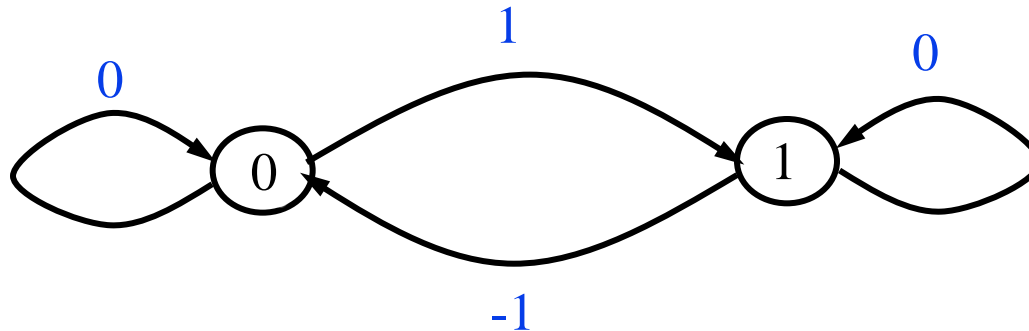
$$y[i] = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} h[k]x[i-k] + n[i]$$

Example: Partial-Response Channels

- Impulse response:

$$h(D) = \sum_{i=0}^N h[i]D^i = (1-D)(1+D)^{N-1}$$

- Example: **Dicode channel** $h(D) = (1-D)$



Entropy Rates

- Output entropy rate: $H(Y) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} H(Y_1^n)$
- Noise entropy rate: $H(N) = \frac{1}{2} \log(\pi e N_0)$
- Conditional entropy rate:

$$H(Y | X) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} H(Y_1^n | X_1^n) = H(N)$$

Mutual Information Rates

- Mutual information rate:

$$I(X;Y) = H(Y) - H(Y/X) = H(Y) - H(N)$$

- Capacity: $C = \max_{P(X)} I(X;Y)$

- Symmetric information rate (SIR):

Inputs $X = \{x[i]\}$ are constrained to be independent, identically distributed, and equiprobable binary digits.

Finding the Output Entropy Rate

- For one-dimensional ISI channel model:

$$H(Y) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} H(Y_1^n)$$

and

$$H(Y_1^n) = -E[\log p(Y_1^n = y_1^n)]$$

where

$$Y_1^n = [Y[1], Y[2], \dots, Y[n]]$$

Sample Entropy Rate

- If we simulate the channel N times, using inputs with specified (Markovian) statistics and generating output realizations

$$\underline{y}^{(k)} = [y[1]^{(k)}, y[2]^{(k)}, \dots, y[n]^{(k)}], k = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

then

$$-\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \log p(\underline{y}^{(k)})$$

converges to $H(Y_1^n)$ with probability 1 as $N \rightarrow \infty$.

Computing Sample Entropy Rate

- The forward recursion of the sum-product (BCJR) algorithm can be used to calculate the probability $p(y_1^n)$ of a sample realization of the channel output.
- In fact, we can write

$$-\frac{1}{n} \log p(y_1^n) = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p(y_i / y_1^{i-1})$$

where the quantity $p(y_i / y_1^{i-1})$ is precisely the normalization constant in the (normalized) forward recursion.

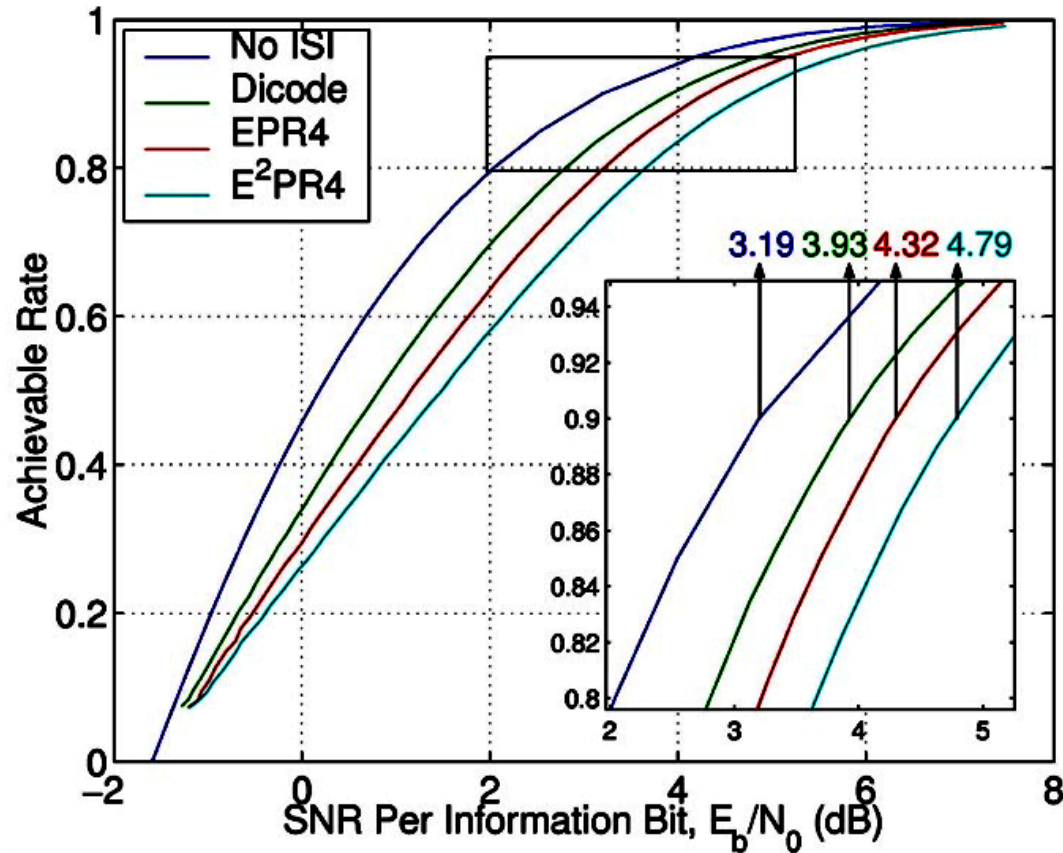
Computing Entropy Rates

- Shannon-McMillan-Breimann theorem implies

$$-\frac{1}{n} \log p(y_1^n) \xrightarrow{a.s.} H(Y)$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$, where y_1^n is a single long sample realization of the channel output process.

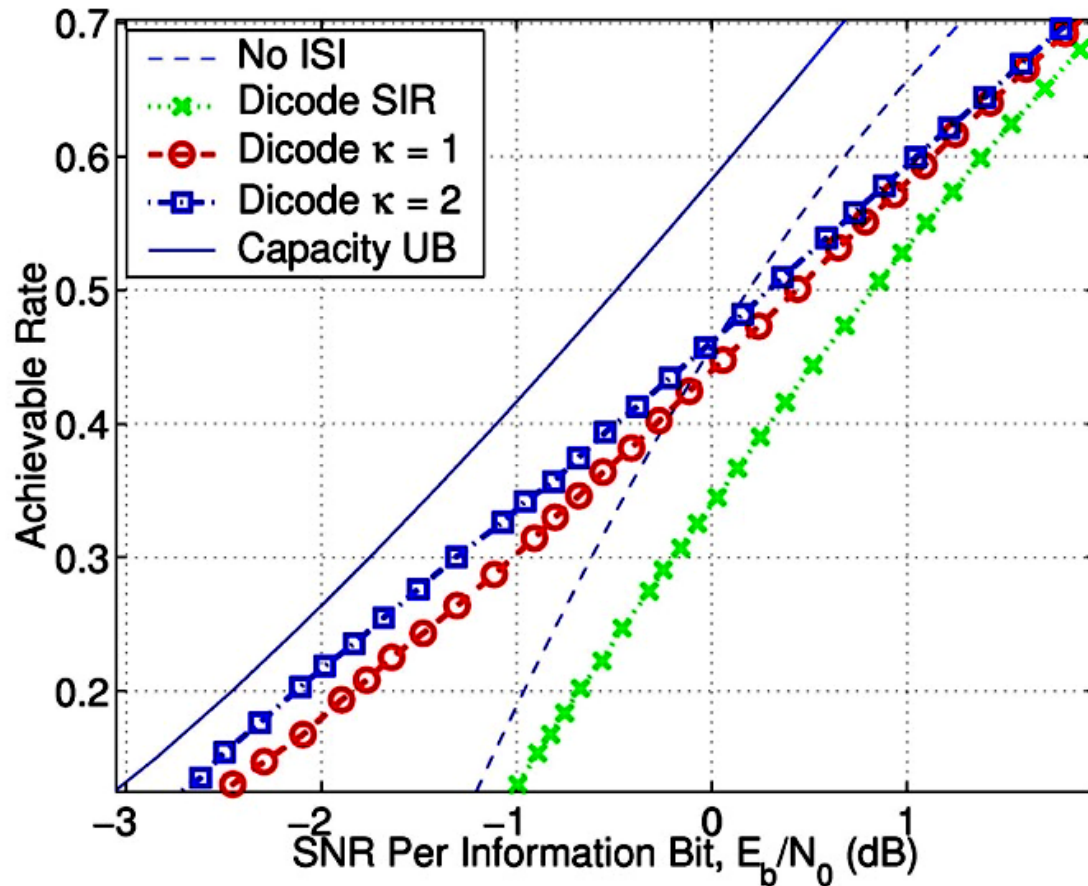
SIR for Partial-Response Channels



Computing the Capacity

- For Markov input process of specified order r , this technique can be used to find the mutual information rate. (Apply it to the combined source-channel.)
- For a fixed order r , [Kavacic, 2001] proposed a Generalized Blahut-Arimoto algorithm to optimize the parameters of the Markov input source.
- The stationary points of the algorithm have been shown to correspond to critical points of the information rate curve [Vontobel, 2002].

Capacity Bounds for Dicode $h(D)=1-D$



Markovian Sufficiency

Remark: It can be shown that optimized Markovian processes whose states are determined by their previous r symbols can asymptotically achieve the capacity of finite-state intersymbol interference channels with AWGN as the order r of the input process approaches ∞ .

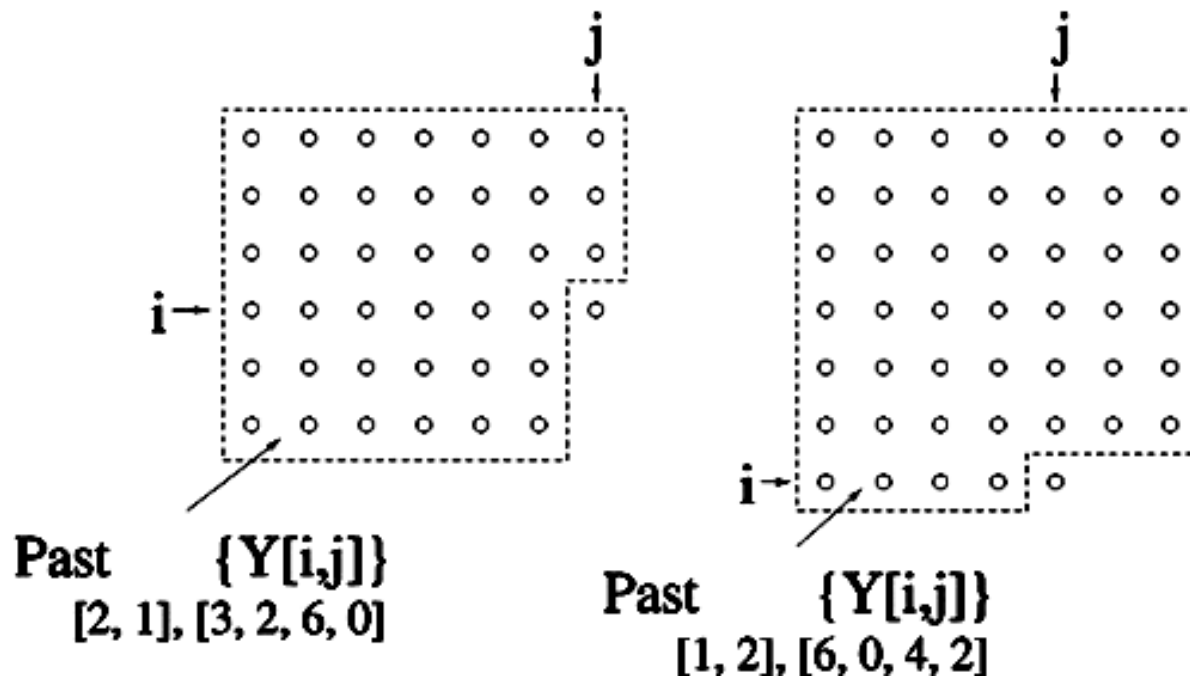
(This generalizes to 2 dimensional channels.)

[Chen-Siegel, 2004]

Capacity and SIR in Two Dimensions

- In **two dimensions**, we could estimate $H(Y)$ by calculating the sample entropy rate of a very large simulated output array.
- However, there is no counterpart of the BCJR algorithm in two dimensions to simplify the calculation.
- Instead, *conditional entropies can be used* to derive upper and lower bounds on $H(Y)$.

Examples of $Past\{Y[i,j]\}$



Conditional Entropies

- For a stationary two-dimensional random field Y on the integer lattice, the entropy rate satisfies:

$$H(Y) = H\left(Y[i, j] / Past_{k, \infty}\{Y[i, j]\}\right)$$

(The proof uses the entropy chain rule. See [5-6])

- This extends to random fields on the hexagonal lattice, via the natural mapping to the integer lattice.

Upper Bound on $H(Y)$

- For a stationary two-dimensional random field Y ,

$$H(Y) \leq \min_k H_{k,l}^{U1}$$

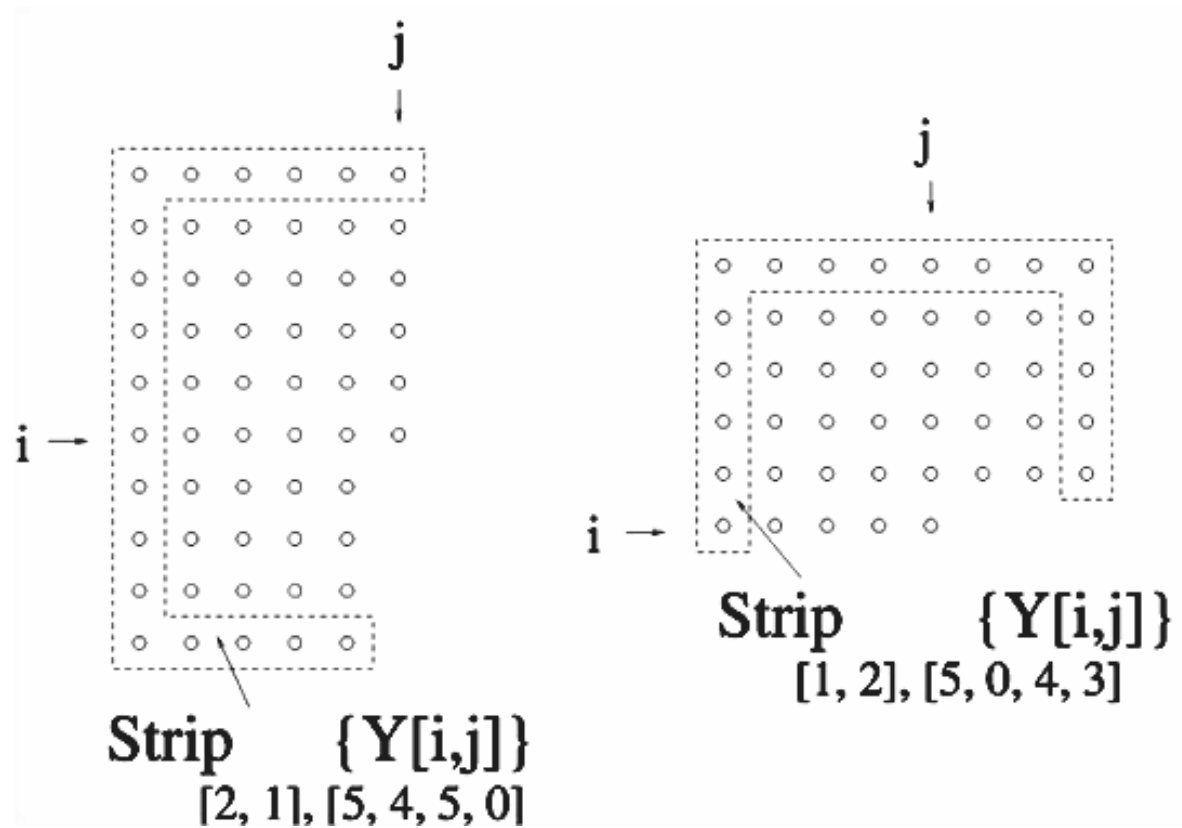
where

$$H_{k,l}^{U1}(Y) = H\left(Y[i,j] / Past_{k,l}\{Y[i,j]\}\right)$$

Two-Dimensional Boundary of $Past\{Y[i,j]\}$

- Define $Strip_{k,l}\{Y[i,j]\}$ to be the boundary of $Past_{k,l}\{Y[i,j]\}$.
- The exact expression for $Strip_{k,l}\{Y[i,j]\}$ is messy, but the geometrical concept is simple.

Two-Dimensional Boundary of $\text{Past}\{Y[i,j]\}$



Lower Bound on $H(Y)$

- For a stationary two-dimensional hidden Markov field Y ,

where
$$H(Y) \geq \max_k H_{k,l}^{L1}$$

$$H_{k,l}^{L1}(Y) = H\left(Y[i, j] / Past_{k,l}\{Y[i, j]\}, X\left(St_{k,l}\{Y[i, j]\}\right)\right)$$

and $X\left(St_{k,l}\{Y[i, j]\}\right)$ is the “state information” for

the strip $Strip_{k,l}\{Y[i, j]\}$.

Computing the SIR Bounds

- Estimate the two-dimensional conditional entropies $H(A|B)$ over a small array.
- Calculate $P(A, B), P(B)$ to get $P(A|B)$ for many realizations of output array.
- For column-by-column ordering, treat each row \underline{Y}_i as a variable and calculate the joint probability $P\{\underline{Y}_1, \underline{Y}_2, \dots, \underline{Y}_m\}$ row-by-row using the BCJR forward recursion.

2x2 Impulse Response

- “Worst-case” scenario - large ISI:

$$h_1[i, j] = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0.5 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

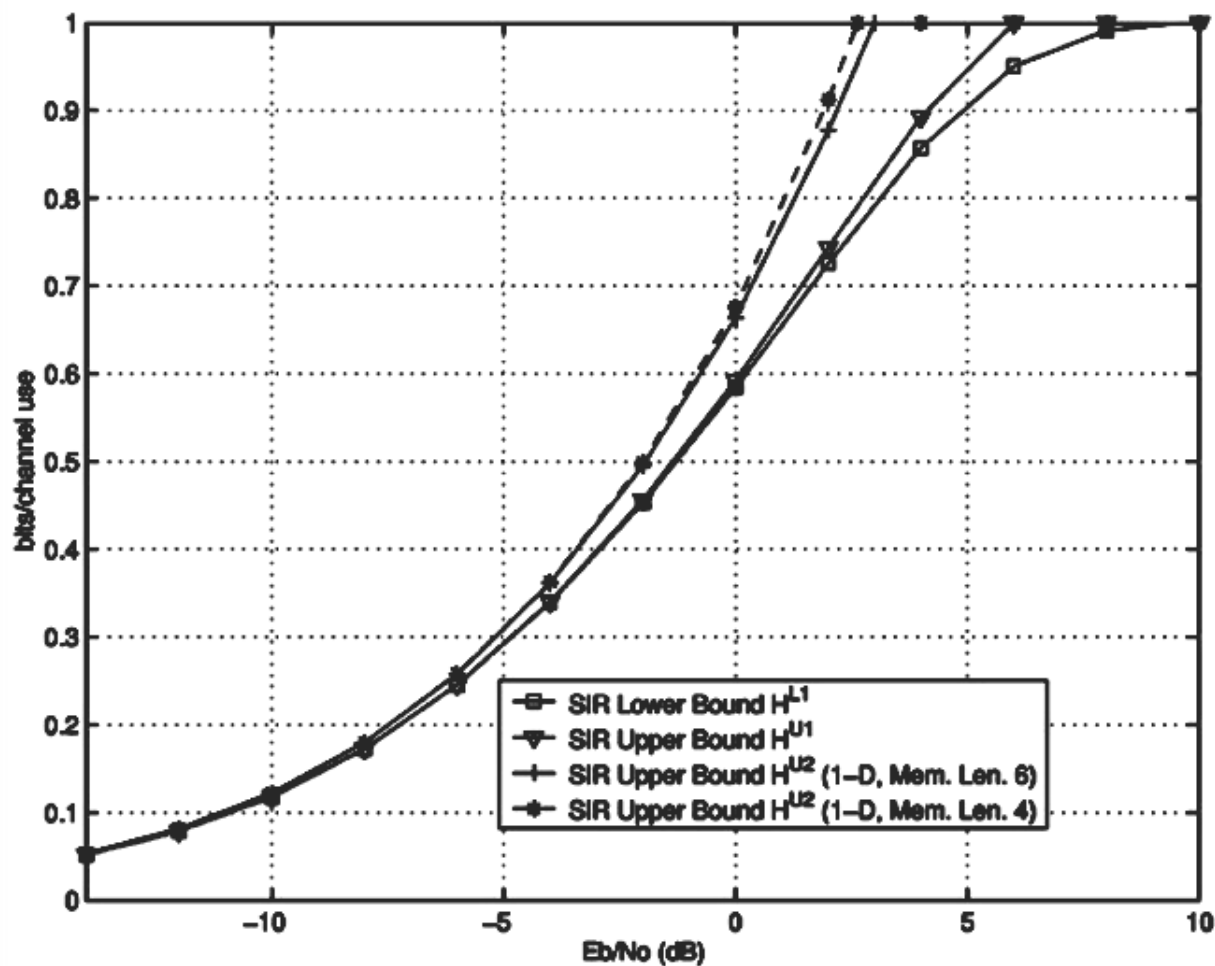
- Conditional entropies computed from 100,000 realizations.

- Upper bound: $\min \left\{ H_{[2,1],[7,7,3,0]}^{U1} - \frac{1}{2} \log(\pi e N_0), 1 \right\}$

- Lower bound: $H_{[2,1],[7,7,3,0]}^{L1} - \frac{1}{2} \log(\pi e N_0)$

(corresponds to element in middle of last column)

SIR Bounds for 2x2 Channel



Computing the SIR Bounds

- The number of states for each variable increases exponentially with the number of columns in the array.
- This requires that the two-dimensional impulse response have a small support region.
- It is desirable to find other approaches to computing bounds that reduce the complexity, perhaps at the cost of weakening the resulting bounds.

Alternative Upper Bound

- Modified BCJR approach limited to small impulse response support region.
- Introduce “auxiliary ISI channel” and bound

$$H(Y) \leq H_{k,l}^{U2}$$

where

$$H_{k,l}^{U2} = \int \cdots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} -p\left(y[i, j], Past_{k,l}\{y[i, j]\}\right) \log q\left(y[i, j] | Past_{k,l}\{y[i, j]\}\right) d\underline{y}$$

and $q\left(y[i, j] | Past_{k,l}\{y[i, j]\}\right)$ is an arbitrary conditional probability distribution.

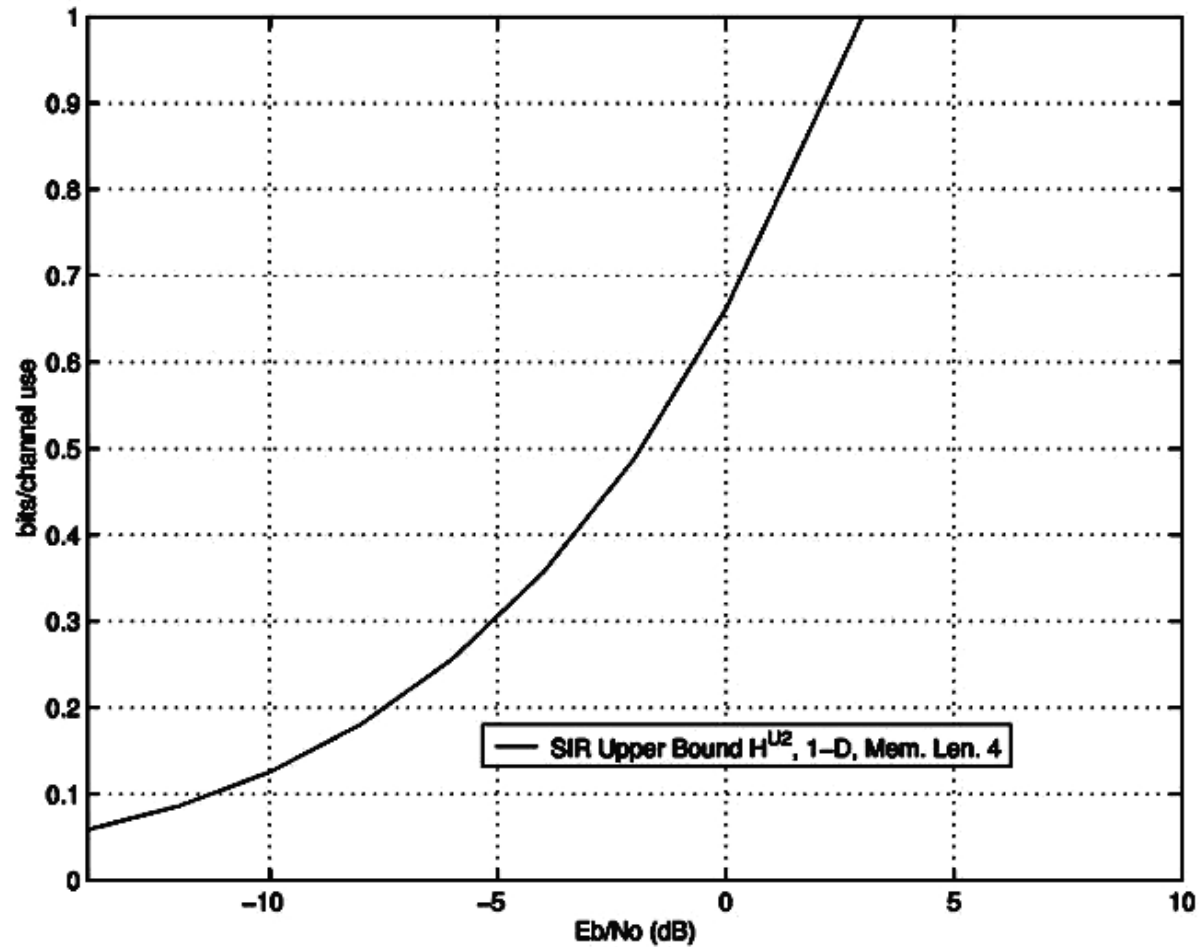
3x3 Impulse Response

- Two-DOS transfer function

$$h_2[i, j] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Auxiliary one-dimensional ISI channel with memory length 4.
- Useful upper bound up to $E_b/N_0 = 3$ dB.

SIR Upper Bound for 3x3 Channel



Concluding Remarks

- Recent progress has been made in computing information rates and capacity of 1-dim. noisy finite-state ISI channels.
- As in the noiseless case, the extension of these results to 2-dim. channels is not evident.
- Upper and lower bounds on the SIR of two-dimensional finite-state ISI channels have been developed.
- Monte Carlo methods were used to compute the bounds for channels with small impulse response support region.
- Bounds can be extended to multi-dimensional ISI channels.
- Further work is required to develop computable, tighter bounds for general multi-dimensional ISI channels.

References

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