

October 5, 2023

Mathematics and Information, Exercise sheet 4

Problem 1: (5 points)

Let $A = \{a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h\}$ with $p(a) = p(b) = p(c) = \frac{1}{15}$, $p(d) = p(e) = p(f) = \frac{2}{15}$, and $p(g) = p(h) = \frac{1}{5}$.

- What is the entropy of this source?
- Construct a binary HUFFMAN code for it!
- What is the average length of a code word?
- Find a ternary HUFFMAN code and compare the average code length to the entropy to base three!

Problem 2: (10 points)

Based on a letter count of JEAN PAUL's *Dr. Katzenbeisers Badereise*, the frequencies of letters in german plain text are as follows:

E	N	I	R	S	A	T	H	D	U	L	C	G
0,185	0,103	0,0735	0,0695	0,0681	0,0575	0,0546	0,0525	0,0481	0,0435	0,0369	0,0327	0,0279
O	M	B	W	F	K	Z	V	P	J	Y	X	Q
0,0275	0,0265	0,0203	0,0162	0,0158	0,0129	0,0123	0,00759	0,00567	0,00191	0,000497	0,000154	0,000108

Construct a binary HUFFMAN code for this alphabet!

Problem 3: (4 points)

Let A be an alphabet consisting of n letters occurring with equal probability each.

- Construct a binary HUFFMAN code for $n = 3, 5, 6, 7$, and compare its average length with the entropy!
- Determine the average length of a binary HUFFMAN code for $n = 2^k + 1$ and $n = 2^k - 1$ for $k \geq 2$!
- True or false?** If $C: A \rightarrow D$ is a code with D different symbols, and if $\sum_{a \in A} D^{-\ell(a)} = 1$, then C is optimal.

Problem 4: (1 points)

Transmitting a message usually involves three coding steps:

- Source coding* in order to adapt the message to the medium and possibly also compressing it
- Channel coding* uses error correcting codes to safeguard against transmission errors
- Cryptographic codes* prevent intelligent adversaries from reading or manipulating the message.

In which order should those three steps be applied for best results?