

Article **Side Information Design in Zero-Error Coding for Computing**

Nicolas Charpenay ¹ , Maël Le Treust ² and Aline Roumy ³

¹ Univ. Rennes, CNRS, IRMAR UMR 6625, F-35000 Rennes, France; nicolas.charpenay@univ-rennes.fr

² Univ. Rennes, CNRS, Inria, IRISA UMR 6074, F-35000 Rennes, France; mael.le-treust@cnrs.fr

3 INRIA Rennes, Campus de Beaulieu, 35042 Rennes cedex, France; aline.roumy@inria.fr

Abstract: We investigate the zero-error coding for computing problem with encoder side information. An encoder is provided an access to a source *X* and is furnished with side information $g(Y)$. It 2 communicates with a decoder that possesses side information *Y* and aims to retrieve $f(X, Y)$ with \bullet zero probability of error, where f and g are assumed to be deterministic functions. In a previous work we determined a condition that yields an analytic expression for the optimal rate $R^*(g)$; it covers $\overline{}$ in particular the case where $P_{X,Y}$ is full support. In this article we review this result and study the side information design problem, which consists in finding the best trade-offs between the quality ⁷ of the encoder's side information $g(Y)$ and $R^*(g)$. We construct two greedy algorithms that give \bullet an achievable set of points in the side information design problem, based on partition refining and \bullet coarsening. One of them runs in polynomial time. 10

Keywords: zero-error information theory; source coding; graph theory 11

1. Introduction **12**

1.1. Zero-error coding for computing 13

$$
X^{n} \to \text{Encoder} \xrightarrow{\text{R}} \text{Decoder} \to (f(X_{t}, Y_{t}))_{t \leq n}
$$
\n
$$
(g(Y_{t}))_{t \leq n} \qquad Y^{n}
$$

Figure 1. Zero-error coding for computing with side information at the encoder.

The problem of Figure [1](#page-0-0) is a zero-error setting that relates to Orlitsky and Roche's ¹⁴ coding for computing problem from [\[1\]](#page-16-0). This coding problem appears in video compression $\frac{1}{15}$ [$2,3$], where X^n models a set of images known at the encoder. The decoder does not always \overline{a} want to retrieve each whole image. Instead, the decoder receives, for each image X_t , $t \leq n$, a 17 request Y_t to retrieve information $f(X_t, Y_t)$. This information can for instance be a detection: 18 cat, dog, car, bike; or a scene recognition: street/city/mountain, etc... The encoder does not ¹⁹ know the decoder's exact request but has prior information about it (e.g. type of request), \rightarrow which is modeled by $(g(Y_t))_{t\leq n}$. This problem also relates to the zero-error Slepian-Wolf λ 1 open problem, which corresponds to the special case, where *g* is constant and $f(X, Y) = X$. 22

Similar schemes to the one depicted in Figure [1](#page-0-0) have already been studied. But they $\frac{23}{25}$ differ to the one we study in two ways. First, they consider that no side information is \approx available at the encoder. Second, and more importantly, they consider different coding $\frac{1}{25}$ constraints: the lossless case is studied by Orlitsky and Roche in [\[1\]](#page-16-0), the lossy case by 26 Yamamoto in $[4]$, and the zero-error "unrestricted inputs" case by Shayevitz in $[5]$. The 27 latter results can be used as bounds for our problem depicted in Figure [1](#page-0-0) but do characterize $\frac{1}{28}$ exactly its optimal rate.

Numerous extensions of the problem depicted in Figure [1](#page-0-0) have been studied recently. ₃₀ The distributed context, for instance, has an additional encoder which encodes *Y* before ³¹ transmitting it to the decoder. Achievability schemes have been proposed for this setting by ₃₂

Citation: Charpenay, N.; Le Treust, M.; Roumy, A. Side Information Design in Zero-Error Coding for Computing. *Entropy* **2023**, *1*, 0. [https://doi.org/](https://doi.org/10.3390/e1010000)

Received: Revised: Accepted: Published:

Copyright: \odot 2024 by the authors. Submitted to *Entropy* for possible open access publication under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attri- bution (CC BY) license [\(https://](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) [creativecommons.org/licenses/by/](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) $4.0/$

Another related context is the network setting, where the function of source random ₃₆ variables from source nodes has to be retrieved at the sink node of a given network. For $\frac{3}{27}$ tree networks, the feasible rate region is characterized by Feizi and Médard in [\[9\]](#page-16-8) for $\frac{1}{38}$ networks of depth one; and by Sefidgaran and Tchamkerten in [\[10\]](#page-16-9) under a Markov source ³⁹ distribution hypothesis. In [\[11\]](#page-16-10), Ravi and Dey consider a bidirectional relay with zero- ⁴⁰ error "unrestricted inputs" and characterize the rate region for a specific class of functions. 41 In [\[12\]](#page-16-11), Guang et al. study zero-error function computation on acyclic networks with \sim limited capacities, and give an inner bound based on network cut-sets. For both distributed ⁴³ and network settings, the zero-error coding for computing problem with encoder side 44 information remains open. \blacksquare

In a previous work $[13]$, we determined a condition that we called "pairwise shared side information" such that, if satisfied, the optimal rate $R^*(g)$ has a single-letter expression. 47 This covers many cases of interest, in particular the case where P_{XY} is full-support for \bullet any functions f, g . For the sake of completeness, we review this result. Moreover, we propose an alternative and more interpretable expression for this pairwise shared side information. More precisely, we show that the instances where the "pairwise shared side 51 information" condition is satisfied, correspond to the worst possible optimal rates in an 52 auxiliary zero-error Slepian-Wolf problem. $\frac{1}{2}$ satisfying the same state of state st

1.2. Encoder's side information design $\frac{1}{2}$

In the zero-error coding for computing problem with encoder side information, it ss can be observed that a "coarse" encoder side information (e.g. if *g* constant) yields a high $\overline{}$ optimal rate $R^*(g)$, whereas a "fine" encoder side information (e.g. $g = Id$) yields a low $\overline{}$ optimal rate $R^*(g)$. The side information design problem consists in determining the best so trade-offs between the optimal rate $R^*(g)$ and the quality of the encoder's side information, so which is measured by its entropy $H(g(Y))$. This expression describes the optimal rate of \bullet a zero-error code that transmits the quantized version of *Y* via the *g* function. The best 61 trade-offs correspond to the Pareto front of the achievable set, i.e. whose corner-points 62 cannot be obtained by a time sharing between other coding strategies. In short, we aim at 63 determining the Pareto front of the convex hull of the achievable pairs $(H(g(Y)), R^*(g))$.

In this article, we propose a greedy algorithm that gives an achievable set of points in $\overline{65}$ the side information design problem, when P_{XY} is full support. Studying our problem with the latter hypothesis is interesting because, unlike the case of the Slepian-Wolf problem, σ it does not necessarily correspond to a worst-case scenario. Recall indeed, that, when $P_{X,Y}$ is full-support, the Slepian-Wolf encoder does not benefit from the side-information 69 available at the decoder and needs to send *X*. In our problem instead, if the retrieval function $f(X, Y) = Y$, since the decoder already has access to *Y*, no information needs to be τ_1 sent by the encoder and the optimal rate is 0. Finally, the proposed algorithm relies on our τ results with "pairwise shared side information" that give the optimal rate for all function τ *g*, and performs a greedy partition coarsening when choosing the next achievable point. ⁷⁴ Moreover, it runs in polynomial time. The state of the state of $\frac{1}{75}$

The paper is organised as follows. In Section [2,](#page-1-0) we present formally the zero-error τ coding for computing problem and the encoder's side information design problem. In π Section [3,](#page-3-0) we give our theoretic results on the zero-error coding for computing problem, $\frac{1}{18}$ including the "pairwise shared side information" condition. In Section [4](#page-7-0) we present our \rightarrow greedy algorithms for the encoder's side information design problem.

2. Formal presentation of the problem 81 **81** 81

We denote sequences by $x^n = (x_1, ..., x_n)$. The set of probability distributions over \mathcal{X} az is denoted by $\Delta(\mathcal{X})$. The distribution of *X* is denoted by $P_X \in \Delta(\mathcal{X})$, its support is denoted as by supp $P_X.$ Given the sequence length $n \in \mathbb{N}^\star$, we denote by $\Delta_n(\mathcal{X}) \subset \Delta(\mathcal{X})$ the set of \quad s4

empirical distributions of sequences from \mathcal{X}^n . We denote by $\{0,1\}^*$ the set of binary words. \bullet The collection of subsets of a set Y is denoted by $P(Y)$.

Definition [1](#page-0-0). *The zero-error source coding problem of Figure* 1 *is described by:*

- *Four finite sets* U *,* X *,* Y *,* Z *and a source distribution* $P_{X,Y} \in \Delta(X \times Y)$ *;*
- *a For all* $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$, (X^n, Y^n) *is the random sequence of n copies of* (X, Y) *, drawn in an i.i.d.* ss *fashion using* $P_{X,Y}$ *.*
- *- Two deterministic functions*

$$
f: \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y} \to \mathcal{U}, \tag{1}
$$

$$
g: \mathcal{Y} \to \mathcal{Z}.\tag{2}
$$

; ⁹⁶

- An encoder that knows X n and g(*Yt*) *t*≤*n sends binary strings over a noiseless channel to a* ⁹¹ *decoder that knows* Y^n *, and that wants to retrieve* $(f(X_t, Y_t))_{t \leq n}$ without error.

A coding scheme in this setting is described by: $\frac{1}{2}$ 93

- *- A time horizon* $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ *, and an encoding function* $\phi_e : \mathcal{X}^n \times \mathcal{Z}^n \to \{0,1\}^*$ *such that* $\text{Im } \phi_e$ *94* is *prefix-free*;
- *- A decoding function* $\phi_d : \mathcal{Y}^n \times \{0, 1\}^* \to \mathcal{U}^n$
- The rate is the average length of the codeword per source symbol, *i.e.* $R = \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{E} \left[\ell \circ \phi_e(X^n, (g(Y_t))_{t \leq n}) \right]$, where ℓ denotes the codeword length function;
- *- n, φ^e , φ^d must satisfy the zero-error property:*

$$
\mathbb{P}\bigg(\phi_d\Big(Y^n,\phi_e\big(X^n,(g(Y_t))_{t\leq n}\big)\Big)\neq \big(f(X_t,Y_t)\big)_{t\leq n}\bigg)=0.\tag{3}
$$

The minimal rate under the zero-error constraint is defined by:

$$
R^*(g) \doteq \inf_{\substack{n,\phi_e,\phi_d\\ \text{zero-error}}} \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{E}\big[\ell \circ \phi_e\big(X^n, (g(Y_t))_{t \le n}\big)\big].\tag{4}
$$

The definition of the Pareto front that we give below is adapted to the encoder's \bullet side information design problem, and allows to describe the best trade-off between the 100 quality of the encoder side information and the rate to compute the function $f(X, Y)$ at α the decoder. In other works, the definition of a Pareto front may differ, depending on the 102 minimization/maximization problem considered, and on the number of variables to be ¹⁰³ optimized.

Definition 2 (Pareto front). Let $S \subset \mathbb{R}^2_+$ be a set, the Pareto front of S is defined by

$$
\operatorname{Par}(\mathcal{S}) \doteq \left\{ x \in \mathcal{S} \middle| \forall x' \in \mathcal{S} \setminus \{x\}, x'_1 > x_1 \text{ or } x'_2 > x_2 \right\}.
$$
 (5)

Definition 3. *The side information design problem in Figure [1](#page-0-0) consists in determining the Pareto front of the achievable pairs* $(H(g(Y)), R^*(g))$:

$$
\mathcal{F} \doteq \text{Par}\left(\text{Conv}\left\{\left(H(g(Y)), R^*(g)\right) \, \middle| \, g: \mathcal{Y} \to \mathcal{Z}\right\}\right),\tag{6}
$$

where Conv *denotes the convex hull.* 105

In our zero-error setup, all alphabets are finite. Therefore, the Pareto front of the 106 convex hull in (6) is computed on a finite set of points, which correspond to the best $_{107}$ trade-offs for the encoder's side information.

Determining the optimal rate in the zero-error coding for computing problem, with or 110 without encoder side information, is an open problem. In a previous contribution [\[13\]](#page-16-12) we $\frac{1}{11}$ determined a condition that, when satisfied, yields an analytic expression for the optimal 112 rate. Interestingly, this condition is general as it does not depend on the function *f* to be ¹¹³ retrieved at the decoder. The state of the decoder of the decoder of the state of the state

3.1. General case 115

We first build the characteristic graph $G_{[n]}$, which is a probabilistic graph that captures **116** the zero-error encoding constraints on a given number *n* of source uses. It differs from the 117 graphs used in [\[5\]](#page-16-4), as we do not need a cartesian representation of these graphs to study the 118 optimal rates. Furthermore, it has a vertex for each possible realization of $(X^n, (g(Y_t))_{t \leq n})$ known at the encoder, instead of \mathcal{X}^n as in the zero-error Slepian-Wolf problem [\[14\]](#page-16-13).

Definition 4 (Characteristic graph *G*[*n*])**.** *The characteristic graph G*[*n*] *is defined by:* ¹²¹

- *-* $\mathcal{X}^n \times \mathcal{Z}^n$ as set of vertices with distribution $P^n_{X,g(Y)}$ *,* ¹²²
- $(x^n, z^n)(x^{\prime n}, z^{\prime n})$ are adjacent if $z^n = z^{\prime n}$ and there exists $y^n \in g^{-1}(z^n)$ such that:

$$
\forall t \leq n, P_{X,Y}(x_t, y_t) P_{X,Y}(x'_t, y_t) > 0,\tag{7}
$$

$$
and \ \exists t \leq n, \ f(x_t, y_t) \neq f(x'_t, y_t); \tag{8}
$$

where
$$
g^{-1}(z^n) = \{y^n \in \mathcal{Y}^n \mid (g(y_t))_{t \leq n} = z^n\}.
$$

The characteristic graph $G_{[n]}$ is designed with the same core idea as in [\[15\]](#page-16-14): (x^n, z^n) 124 and $(x^{\prime n}, z^{\prime n})$ are adjacent if there exists a side information symbol y^n compatible with the 125 observation of the encoder (i.e. $z^n = z'^n$ and $y^n \in g^{-1}(z^n)$), such that $f(x^n, y^n) \neq f(x'^n, y^n)$. 126 In order to prevent erroneous decodings, the encoder must map adjacent pairs of sequences 127 to different codewords; hence the use of graph colorings, defined below.

Definition 5 (Coloring, independent subset). Let $G = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E}, P_V)$ be a probabilistic graph. A 129 s ubset $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{V}$ is independent if $xx' \notin \mathcal{E}$ for all $x,x' \in \mathcal{S}$. Let $\mathcal C$ be a finite set (the set of colors), a \quad 130 *mapping* $c: \mathcal{V} \to \mathcal{C}$ *is a coloring if* $c^{-1}(i)$ *is an independent subset for all* $i \in \mathcal{C}$ *.* 131

The chromatic entropy of $G_{[n]}$ gives the best rate of *n*-shot zero-error encoding func- 132 tions, as in $[14]$.

Definition 6 (Chromatic entropy H_χ). The chromatic entropy of a probabilistic graph $G =$ (V, \mathcal{E}, P_V) *is defined by*

$$
H_{\chi}(G) = \inf \{ H(c(V)) \mid c \text{ is a coloring of } G \}. \tag{9}
$$

Theorem 7 (Optimal rate)**.** *The optimal rate writes:* ¹³⁴

$$
R^*(g) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} H_\chi(G_{[n]}).
$$
\n(10)

Proof. By construction the following holds: for all encoding function *φ^e* , *φ^e* is a coloring of $G_{[n]}$ if and only if there exists a decoding function ϕ_d such that (n, ϕ_e, ϕ_d) satisfies the zero-error property. Thus the best achievable rate writes

$$
R^*(g) = \inf_n \inf_{\phi_e \text{ coloring of } G_{[n]}} H\Big(\phi_e\Big(X^n, \big(g(Y_t)\big)_{t \le n}\Big)\Big) \tag{11}
$$

$$
=\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{1}{n}H_{\chi}(G_{[n]}).
$$
\n(12)

119

where [\(12\)](#page-3-1) comes from Fekete's Lemma and from the definition of H_χ . \square

A general single-letter expression for $R^*(g)$ is missing, due to the lack of intrinsic 136 structure of *G*[*n*] . In Section [3.2,](#page-4-0) we introduce a hypothesis that gives structure to *G*[*n*] and ¹³⁷ allows us to derive a single-letter expression for *R* ∗ (g) .

3.2. Pairwise shared side information 139

Definition 8. *The distribution* $P_{X,Y}$ *and the function g satisfy the "pairwise shared side information" condition if*

$$
\forall z \in \mathcal{Z}, \forall x, x' \in \mathcal{X}, \exists y \in g^{-1}(z), P_{XY}(x, y)P_{XY}(x', y) > 0,
$$
\n(13)

 \vec{a} *where Im*(g) *is the image of the function g.This means that for all* z *output of* g *, every pair (* x *,* x') ¹⁴⁰ "shares" at least one side information symbol $y \in g^{-1}$ (z) . 141

Note that any full-support distribution $P_{X,Y}$ satisfies the "pairwise shared side infor-mation" hypothesis. In Theorem [9,](#page-4-1) we give an interpretation of the "pairwise shared side 143 information" condition in terms of the optimal rate in an auxiliary zero-error Slepian-Wolf ¹⁴⁴ problem. ¹⁴⁵

Theorem 9. *The tuple* $(P_{X,Y}, g)$ *satisfies the condition "pairwise shared side information"* [\(13\)](#page-4-2) 146 $\iff R^*(g) = H(X|g(Y))$ in the case $f(X,Y) = X$, and for all $z \in \mathcal{Z}$, $P_{X|g(Y)=z}$ is 147 *full-support.*

The proof of Theorem 9 is given in Appendix [A.1.](#page-11-0) 149

Definition 10 (AND, OR product). Let $G_1 = (\mathcal{V}_1, \mathcal{E}_1, P_{V_1})$, $G_2 = (\mathcal{V}_2, \mathcal{E}_2, P_{V_2})$ be two proba*bilistic graphs; their AND (resp. OR) product denoted by* $G_1 \wedge G_2$ (resp. $G_1 \vee G_2$) is defined by: $V_1 \times V_2$ as set of vertices, $P_{V_1}P_{V_2}$ as probability distribution on the vertices, and (v_1v_2) , $(v'_1v'_2)$ are *adjacent if*

$$
v_1v_1' \in \mathcal{E}_1 \text{ AND } v_2v_2' \in \mathcal{E}_2,
$$

resp. $(v_1v_1' \in \mathcal{E}_1 \text{ and } v_1 \neq v_1')$ OR $(v_2v_2' \in \mathcal{E}_2 \text{ and } v_2 \neq v_2')$;
$$
(14)
$$

 w ith the convention that all vertices are self-adjacent. We denote by $G_1^{\wedge n}$ (resp. $G_1^{\vee n}$) the n-th AND $\;$ 150 *(resp. OR) power.* 151

AND and OR powers significantly differ in terms of existing single-letter expression 152 for the associated asymptotic chromatic entropy. Indeed, in the zero-error Slepian-Wolf 153 problem in [\[14\]](#page-16-13), the optimal rate $\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{1}{n}H_\chi(\overline{G}^{\wedge n})$, which relies on an AND power, does 154 not have a single-letter expression. There exists instead, closed form expressions for OR 155 powers of graphs. More precisely, as recalled in Proposition [12,](#page-5-0) $\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{1}{n}H_\chi(G^{\vee n})$ admits 156 a single letter expression called the Körner graph entropy, introduced in $[16]$, and defined 157 below. This observation is key for us to derive a single letter expression for our problem. More precisely, by using a convex combination of Körner graph entropies, we provide a 156 single-letter expression in Theorem [14](#page-5-1) for the optimal rate $R^*(g)$.

Definition 11 (Körner graph entropy H_k). For all $G = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E}, P_V)$, let $\Gamma(G)$ be the collection of *independent sets of vertices in G. The Körner graph entropy of G is defined by*

$$
H_{\kappa}(G) = \min_{V \in W \in \Gamma(G)} I(W; V), \tag{15}
$$

 w here the minimum is taken over all distributions $P_{W|V}\in \Delta(\mathcal{W})^{\mathcal{V}}$, with $\mathcal{W}=\Gamma(G)$ and the $^{-1}$ 161 *constraint that the random vertex V belongs to the random set W with probability one.* ¹⁶²

Proposition 12 (Properties of H_k). [\[14,](#page-16-13) Theorem 5] For all probabilistic graphs G and G',

$$
H_{\kappa}(G) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} H_{\chi}(G^{\vee n}), \tag{16}
$$

$$
H_{\kappa}(G \vee G') = H_{\kappa}(G) + H_{\kappa}(G').
$$
\n(17)

Definition 13 (Auxiliary graph G_z^f). *For all* $z \in \mathcal{Z}$ *, we define the auxiliary graph* G_z^f *by* $\hspace{1cm}$ *167*

 \mathcal{X} *as set of vertices with distribution* $P_{X|g(Y)=z}$ *,* ¹⁶⁸

R

- xx' are adjacent if $f(x,y) \neq f(x',y)$ for some $y \in g^{-1}(z) \cap \text{supp } P_{Y|X=x} \cap \text{supp } P_{Y|X=x'}$.

Theorem 14 (Pairwise shared side information). If $P_{X,Y}$ and g satisfy [\(13\)](#page-4-2), the optimal rate 170 *writes:* 171

$$
R^*(g) = \sum_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} P_{g(Y)}(z) H_{\kappa}(G_z^f).
$$
 (18)

The proof is in Section [A.2,](#page-12-0) the keypoint is the particular structure of $G_{[n]}$: a disjoint 172 union of OR products.

Remark 15. *The "pairwise shared side information" assumption* [\(13\)](#page-4-2) *implies that the adjacency* ¹⁷⁴ *condition* [\(7\)](#page-3-2) *is satisfied, which makes G*[*n*] *a disjoint union of OR products. Moreover, Körner* ¹⁷⁵ *graph entropies appear in the final expression for R*[∗] (*g*)*, even if G*[*n*] *is not an n-th OR power.* ¹⁷⁶

Now consider the case where $P_{X,Y}$ is full-support. This is a sufficient condition to \overline{Y} have [\(13\)](#page-4-2). The optimal rate in this setting is derived from Theorem [14,](#page-5-1) which leads to the 178 analytic expression in Theorem [16.](#page-5-2) 179

Theorem 16 (Optimal rate when *PX*,*^Y* is full-support)**.** *When PX*,*^Y is full-support, the optimal rate writes:*

$$
R^*(g) = H(j(X, g(Y))|g(Y)),
$$
\n(19)

where the function j returns a word in U ∗ *, defined by*

$$
j: \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Z} \to \mathcal{U}^* (x, z) \mapsto (f(x, y'))_{y' \in g^{-1}(z)}.
$$
 (20)

Proof. By Theorem [14,](#page-5-1) $R^*(g) = \sum_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} P_{g(Y)}(z) H_{\kappa}(G_z^f)$. It can be shown that G_z^f is complete 180 multipartite for all *z* as $P_{X,Y}$ is full support; and it satisfies $H_k(G_z^f) = H(j(X,g(Y))|g(Y)) = -\frac{1}{2}$ *z* . \Box

3.3. Example 183

In this example, the "pairwise shared side information" assumption is satisfied and 184 $R^*(g)$ is strictly less than a conditional Huffman coding of *X* knowing $g(Y)$; and also 185 strictly less than the optimal rate without exploiting $g(Y)$ at the encoder.

Consider the probability distribution and function outcomes depicted in Figure [2,](#page-6-0) 187 with $\mathcal{U} = \{a, b, c\}, \mathcal{X} = \{0, ..., 3\}, \mathcal{Y} = \{0, ..., 7\}, \text{ and } \mathcal{Z} = \{0, 1\}.$ Let us show that the 188 "pairwise shared side information" assumption is satisfied. The source symbols $0, 1, 2 \in \mathcal{X}$ 189 share the side information symbol 0 (resp. 5) when $g(Y) = 0$ (resp. $g(Y) = 1$). The source 190 symbol $3 \in \mathcal{X}$ shares the side information symbols 1, 2, 3 with the source symbols 0, 1, 2, 191

$P_{X,Y}$		Y								
		$\boldsymbol{0}$	1	2	$\overline{3}$		$4\quad 5$	6	7	
		$g(Y)=0$					$g(Y)=1$			
\boldsymbol{X}	$\overline{0}$	0.1	0.05	\ast	\ast		0.05 0.05	\ast	\ast	
	$\mathbf{1}$	0.1	\ast	$0.05\,$	\ast		0.05 0.05 0.05		\ast	
	\overline{c}	0.1	$*$	\ast	0.05	\ast	0.05	\ast	\ast	
	3	\ast		0.05 0.05 0.05		$*$	0.05	\ast	0.05	
$f(\cdot,\cdot)$		Y								
		0	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{2}$	$\overline{3}$	$\overline{4}$	5°	6	-7	
		$g(Y)=0$					$g(Y)=1$			
\boldsymbol{X}	$\overline{0}$	\boldsymbol{a}	\boldsymbol{b}	\ast	\ast	\boldsymbol{b}	\boldsymbol{a}	\ast	\ast	
	$\mathbf{1}$	\boldsymbol{a}	\ast	b	\ast	$\it a$	$\mathfrak a$	b	\ast	
	2	\boldsymbol{b}	\ast	\ast	\mathcal{C}	\ast	\boldsymbol{b}	\ast	\ast	
	3	\ast	$\mathcal C$	$\mathcal C$	\mathcal{C}_{0}	\ast	\mathcal{C}_{0}	\ast	\mathcal{C}_{0}	

Figure 2. An example of $P_{X,Y}$ and *g* that satisfy [\(13\)](#page-4-2); along with the outcomes $f(X,Y)$. The elements outside supp $P_{X,Y}$ are denoted by $*$.

respectively, when $g(Y) = 0$; and the source symbol 3 shares the side information symbol 5 $_{192}$ with all other source symbols when $g(Y) = 1$.

Since the "pairwise shared side information" assumption is satisfied, we can use Theorem [14;](#page-5-1) the optimal rate writes

$$
R^*(g) = P_{g(Y)}(0)H_{\kappa}(G_0^f) + P_{g(Y)}(1)H_{\kappa}(G_1^f). \tag{21}
$$

First we need to determine the probabilistic graphs G_0^f $\frac{f}{0}$ and G_1^f \int_1^f . In G_0^f $\frac{1}{0}$, the vertex 0 is 194 adjacent to 2 and 3, as $f(0,0)\neq f(2,0)$ and $f(0,1)\neq f(3,1).$ The vertex 1 is also adjacent to $^{-1}$ 2 and 3 as $f(1,0) \neq f(2,0)$ and $f(1,2) \neq f(3,2)$. Furthermore $P_{X|g(Y)=0}$ is uniform, hence 196 $G_0^f = (C_4, \text{Unif}(\mathcal{X}))$ where C_4 is the cycle graph with 4 vertices.

In G_1^f $_1^f$, the vertices 1, 2, 3 are pairwise adjacent as $f(1,5)$, $f(2,5)$ and $f(3,5)$ are pairwise 198 different; and 0 is adjacent to 1, 2 and 3 because of the different function outputs generated ¹⁹⁹ by $Y = 4$ and $Y = 5$. Thus, $G_1^f = (K_4, P_{X|g(Y)=1})$ with $P_{X|g(Y)=1} = (\frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{8}, \frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{4})$ and K_4 is the 200 $\text{complete graph with 4 vertices.}$

Now let us determine $H_k(G_0^f)$ $\binom{f}{0}$ and $H_k(G_1^f)$ $\binom{J}{1}$. On one hand,

$$
H_{\kappa}(G_0^f) = H(V_0) - \max_{V_0 \in W \in \Gamma(G_0^f)} H(V_0|W)
$$
\n(22)

$$
= 2 - 1 = 1,\t(23)
$$

with *V*⁰ ∼ *P*_{*X*|*g*(*Y*)=0 = Unif(*X*); and where *H*(*V*₀|*W*) in [\(22\)](#page-6-1) is maximized by taking} *W* = {0, 1} when $V \in \{0, 1\}$, and $W = \{2, 3\}$ otherwise.

On the other hand,

$$
H_{\kappa}(G_1^f) = \min_{V_1 \in W \in \Gamma(G_1^f)} I(W; V_1)
$$
\n(24)

$$
=H(V_1)\approx 1.906,\tag{25}
$$

with $V_1 \sim P_{X \mid g(Y)=1}$; where [\(25\)](#page-6-2) follows from $\Gamma(G_1^f)$ $\binom{f}{1} = \{\{0\}, ..., \{3\}\}\text{, as } G_1^f$ $\frac{1}{1}$ is complete. 204 Hence $R^*(g) \approx 1.362$.

The rate that we would obtain by transmitting *X* knowing $g(Y)$ at both encoder and \sim decoder with a conditional Huffman algorithm writes: $R_{\text{Huff}} = H(X|g(Y)) \approx 1.962$.

The rate that we would obtain without exploiting $g(Y)$ at the encoder is $R_{N_0}g =$ $H(X) \approx 1.985$, because of the different function outputs generated by $Y = 4$ and $Y = 5$. Finally, $H(f(X, Y)|Y) \approx 0.875$.

In this example we have

$$
H(X) = R_{\text{No }g} > R_{\text{Huff}} > R^*(g) > H(f(X,Y)|Y). \tag{26}
$$

This illustrates the impact of the side information at the encoder in this setting, as we can ²¹¹ observe a large gap between the optimal rate $R^*(g)$ and $R_{\text{No }g}$.

4. Optimization of the encoder side information ²¹³

4.1. Preliminary results on partitions ²¹⁴

In order to optimize the function *g* in the encoder side information, we propose a new $\frac{1}{215}$ equivalent characterization of the function *g* in the form of a partition of the set \mathcal{Y} . The 216 equivalence is shown in the Proposition [17](#page-7-1) below.

Proposition 17. *For all* $g: Y \to Z$ *, the collection of subsets* $(g^{-1}(z))_{z \in Z}$ *is a partition of* Y *.* 218 *Conversely, if* $A \subset \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Y})$ *is a partition of* \mathcal{Y} *, then there exists a mapping* $g_A : \mathcal{Y} \to \mathcal{Z}$ *such* 219 *that* $\forall z \in \text{Im } g_{\mathcal{A}}$, $\exists A_z \in \mathcal{A}$, $A_z = g_{\mathcal{A}}^{-1}$ (*z*)*.* ²²⁰

Proof. The direct part results directly from the fact that g is a function. For the converse $\frac{1}{221}$ part, we take $\mathcal Z$ such that $|\mathcal Z| = |\mathcal A|$ and we define $g_{\mathcal A} : \mathcal Y \to \mathcal Z$ by $g_{\mathcal A}(y) = z$, where $z \in \mathcal Z$ is the unique index such that $y \in A_z$. The property $\forall z \in \text{Im } g_A$, $\exists A_z \in \mathcal{A}$, $A_z = g_A^{-1}(z)$ is 223 therefore satisfied. 224 \Box

Now, let us define coarser and finer partitions, with the corresponding notions of \sim 226 merging and splitting. These operations on partitions are the core idea of our greedy 227 algorithms; as illustrated in Proposition [17,](#page-7-1) the partitions of $\mathcal Y$ correspond to functions $\mathbf z_{248}$ $g: Y \rightarrow Z$ for the encoder's side information. Therefore, obtaining a partition from another 229 means finding another function *g* : $\mathcal{Y} \to \mathcal{Z}$ for the encoder's side information.

Definition 18 (Coarser, Finer). Let $A, B \subset \mathcal{P}(Y)$ be two partitions of the finite set Y. We say *that* A *is coarser than* B *if*

$$
\forall B \in \mathcal{B}, \, \exists A \in \mathcal{A}, \, B \subset A. \tag{27}
$$

If so, we also say that B is finer than A. 231

Example 19. Let $\mathcal{Y} = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$, the partition $\mathcal{A} = \{\{1\}, \{2, 3, 4\}\}$ is coarser than $\mathcal{B} = 232$ $\{\{1\},\{2\},\{3,4\}\}\$ *.* ²³³

Definition 20 (Merging, Splitting). A merging is an operation that maps a partition $A =$ 234 ${A_1,..., A_i,..., A_j,..., A_m}$ to the partition $A' = {A_1,..., A_i \cup A_j,..., A_m}$. A splitting in an opera*tion that maps a partition* $\mathcal{A} = \{A_1, ..., A_i, ..., A_m\}$ *to the partition* $\mathcal{A}' = \{A_1, ..., A_i^{(1)}\}$ $\binom{1}{i}$, $A_i^{(2)}$ $\{A_{ii}^{(2)},...,A_{mi}\}$, 236 *where* $\{A_i^{(1)}\}$ $\binom{1}{i}$, $A_i^{(2)}$ $\binom{2}{i}$ *form a partition of the subset* A_i *.* ²³⁷

We also define the set of partitions Merge(A) *(resp.* Split(A)*), which correspond to all partitions that can be obtained with a merging (resp. splitting) of* A*:*

$$
Merge(\mathcal{A}) \doteq \left\{ m(\mathcal{A}) \mid m \text{ is a merging} \right\};\tag{28}
$$

$$
\text{Split}(\mathcal{A}) \doteq \left\{ s(\mathcal{A}) \; \middle| \; s \text{ is a splitting} \right\}. \tag{29}
$$

Proposition 21. If A *is coarser (resp. finer) than* B, then A can be obtained from B by performing 238 *a finite number of mergings (resp. splittings).* ²³⁹

225

4.2. Greedy algorithms based on partition coarsening and refining ²⁴⁰

In this Section, we assume $P_{X,Y}$ to be full-support.

With Proposition 17 , we know that determining the Pareto front by a brute force approach would at least require to enumerate the partitions of $\mathcal Y$. Therefore, the complexity 243 of this approach is exponential in $|\mathcal{Y}|$. In the following we describe the greedy Algorithms 244 [1](#page-8-0) and [2](#page-9-0) that give an achievable set for the encoder's side information design problem; one ²⁴⁵ of them has a polynomial complexity. Then we give an example where the Pareto front coincides with the boundary of the convex hull of the achievable rate region obtained by $_{247}$ both greedy algorithms. 248

In these a argmin (resp. argmax) means any minimizer (resp. maximizer) of the ²⁴⁹ specified quantity; and the function $g_A : \mathcal{Y} \to \mathcal{Z}$ is a function for the encoder's side 250 information corresponding to the partition A , whose existence is given by Proposition [17.](#page-7-1) ϵ_{51}

The coarsening (resp. refining) algorithm starts by computing its first achievable point $(H(g_{\mathcal{A}}(Y)), R^*(g_{\mathcal{A}}))$ with $\mathcal A$ being the finest (resp. coarsest) partition: it evaluates $R^*(g_{\mathcal{A}})$, with $g_{\mathcal{A}} =$ Id (resp. $g_{\mathcal{A}}$ constant); and $H(g_{\mathcal{A}}(Y)) = H(Y)$ (resp. $H(g_{\mathcal{A}}(Y)) = 0$). Then, at each iteration, the next achievable point will be computed by using a merging (resp. splitting) of the current partition A . The next partition will be a coarser (resp. finer) partition chosen from Merge(A) (resp. Split(A)), following a greedy approach. Since we want to achieve good trade-offs between $H(g_{\mathcal{A}}(Y))$ and $\bar{R}^*(g_{\mathcal{A}})$, we want to decrease $H(g(Y))$ (resp. $R^*(g_A)$) as much as possible while increasing the other quantity as less as possible. We do so by maximizing over $\mathcal{B} \in \text{Merge}(\mathcal{A})$ the negative ratio

$$
\frac{R^*(g_B) - R^*(g_A)}{H(g_B(Y)) - H(g_A(Y))'},
$$
\n(30)

resp. minimizing over $\mathcal{B} \in \text{Split}(\mathcal{A})$ the negative ratio

$$
\frac{R^*(g_B) - R^*(g_A)}{H(g_B(Y)) - H(g_A(Y))};
$$
\n(31)

hence the use of slope maximization (resp. minimization) in the algorithm. At the end, the 252 set of achievable points computed by the algorithm is returned. 253

In Figure [3,](#page-9-1) we show rate pairs associated to all possible partitions of \mathcal{Y} : a point 254 corresponds to a partition of Y , its position gives the associated rates $(H(g(Y)), R^*(g))$. ²⁵⁵ Two points are linked if their corresponding partitions A, B satisfy $A \in \text{Merge}(\mathcal{B})$ or 256 $A \in Split(B)$. The obtained graph is the Hasse diagram for the partial order "coarser than". 257 Note that, due to symmetries in the chosen example, several points associated to different partitions may overlap. In Figure [4](#page-10-0) (resp. Figure [5\)](#page-10-1), we give an illustration of the trajectory 259 of the greedy coarsening (resp. refining) algorithm.

Algorithm 2 Greedy refining algorithm

1: $\mathcal{A} \leftarrow \{ \{1, ..., |\mathcal{Y}|\} \}$ 1: $A \leftarrow \{\{1,...,|\mathcal{Y}|\}\}$ // A starts by being the coarsest partition of \mathcal{Y} , i.e. $g_A = \text{Id}$.
2: Front $\leftarrow [A, \text{ndef}, ..., \text{ndef}]$ // Will contain the list of the $|\mathcal{Y}|$ partitions chosen $2/$ / Will contain the list of the $|\mathcal{Y}|$ partitions chosen during the execution 3: 4: **for** *i* ∈ {1, ..., |Y| − 1} **do** 5: // Minimize over *B* splitting of *A* the slope between $(H(g_{\mathcal{A}}(Y)), R^*(g_{\mathcal{A}}))$ and $(H(g_{\mathcal{B}}(Y)), R^*(g_{\mathcal{B}})).$ 6: $\mathcal{A} \leftarrow \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathcal{B} \in \text{Split}(\mathcal{A})} \frac{R^*(g_{\mathcal{B}}) - R^*(g_{\mathcal{A}})}{H(g_{\mathcal{B}}(Y)) - H(g_{\mathcal{A}}(Y))}$ *H*(*g*_B(*Y*))−*H*(*g*_A(*Y*)) 7: $Front[i] \leftarrow A$ 8: 9: **return** *Front* $\{1\}$, ... $\{|Y|\}$ at this point

Figures [3,](#page-9-1) [4,](#page-10-0) [5](#page-10-1) are obtained with the following problem data:

$$
P_{X,Y} = \text{Unif}(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}) \qquad f(\cdot, \cdot) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} . \tag{32}
$$

Figure 3. An illustration of the rate pairs associated to all partitions of \mathcal{Y} . The Pareto front is the broken line corresponding to the partitions $p_1 - p_2 - p_3 - p_4 - p_5$; with $p_1 = \{\{1, 2, 3, 4\}\}\$, $p_2 = \{\{1, 2, 4\}, \{3\}\}, p_3 = \{\{1, 2\}, \{3, 4\}\}, p_4 = \{\{1, 2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}\}, p_5 = \{\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}\}.$

As stated in Theorem [22,](#page-9-2) the complexity of the coarsening greedy algorithm is polynomial, since $|\text{Merge}(\mathcal{A})|$ is quadratic in $|\mathcal{Y}|$ and the evaluation of $R^*(g)$ can be done in 262 polynomial time. This polynomial complexity property is not satisfied by the refining 263 greedy algorithm, as $|\text{Split}(\mathcal{A})|$ is exponential in $|\mathcal{Y}|$.

Figure 4. An illustration of the trajectory of the coarsening greedy algorithm (blue), with the Pareto front of the achievable rates (dashed red).

Figure 5. An illustration of the trajectory of the refining greedy algorithm (green), with the Pareto front of the achievable rates (dashed red).

Theorem 22. *The coarsening greedy algorithm runs in polynomial time in* $|Y|$ *. The refining greedy* 265 *algorithm runs in exponential time in* |Y|*.* ²⁶⁶ *Proof.* The number of points evaluated by the coarsening (resp. refining) greedy algorithm is $O(|\mathcal{Y}|^3)$ (resp. $O(2^{|\mathcal{Y}|})$): $O(|\mathcal{Y}|)$ mergings (resp. splittings) are made; and for each 268 of these mergings, all points from Merge(A) (resp. Split(A)) are evaluated, they are at most $\binom{|\mathcal{Y}|}{2}$ $\mathcal{L}^{(1)}(2) = O(|\mathcal{Y}|^2)$ (resp. $O(2^{|\mathcal{Y}|})$ in the worst case $\mathcal{A} = \{\{1,...,|\mathcal{Y}|\}\}\)$. Since the 270 expression $R^*(g) = H(j(X, g(Y))|g(Y))$ from Theorem [16](#page-5-2) allows for an evaluation of 271 $R^*(g)$ in polynomial time in $|y|$, the coarsening (resp. refining) greedy algorithm has a 272 polynomial (resp. exponential) time complexity. \Box

Author Contributions: Formal analysis, N.C.; validation, N.C, M.L.T., and A.R.; writing—original ²⁷⁴ draft preparation, N.C.; writing—review and editing, M.L.T., A.R.; supervision, M.L.T., A.R. All ²⁷⁵ authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript. 276

Funding: This work was partially supported by the Cominlabs excellence laboratory with the French 277 National Research Agency's funding (ANR-10-LABX-07-01). ²⁷⁸

Institutional Review Board Statement: Not applicable.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Appendix A

Appendix A.1 – Proof of Theorem [9](#page-4-1)

Consider the particular case $f(X, Y) = X$ of Figure [1.](#page-0-0) The optimal rate in this particular $\sum_{i=1}^{n}$ case equals the optimal rate $R^*(g)$ in the following auxiliary problem, depicted in Figure 284 $A1: (X,g(Y))$ $A1: (X,g(Y))$ as source available at the encoder and to be retrieved by the decoder which knows *Y* (thus expecting it to retrieve $g(Y)$ in addition to *X* does not change the optimal $\frac{g}{286}$ rate). 287

$$
X^{n}, (g(Y_{t}))_{t \leq n} \longrightarrow \text{Encoder} \longrightarrow R \longrightarrow \text{Decoder} \longrightarrow X^{n}, (g(Y_{t}))_{t \leq n}
$$

Figure A1. An auxiliary zero-error Slepian-Wolf problem.

Definition A1 (Characteristic graph for the zero-error Slepian-Wolf problem). Let X, Y be two finite sets and $P_{Y|X}$ be a conditional distribution from $\Delta(\mathcal{Y})^{|\mathcal{X}|}.$ The characteristic graph $-$ 289 *associated to* $P_{Y|X}$ *is defined by:* 290

- *-* X *as set of vertices,* ²⁹¹
- *x*, $x' \in \mathcal{X}$ are adjacent if $P_{Y|X}(y|x)P_{Y|X}(y|x') > 0$ for some $y \in \mathcal{Y}$.

This auxiliary problem is a particular instance of the zero-error Slepian-Wolf problem; its optimal rate writes $\overline{H}(G)$; where $\overline{H}(G)$ is the complementary graph entropy [\[17\]](#page-16-16) and *G* is the characteristic graph in the Slepian-Wolf problem, defined in Definition $A1$, for the pair $((X, g(Y)), Y)$. The graph *G* has $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Z}$ as set of vertices, and (x, z) is adjacent to (x', z') if there exists a side information symbol $y \in Y$ such that $P_{X,Y,g(Y)}(x,y,z)P_{X,Y,g(Y)}(x',y,z') >$ 0. It can be observed that the vertices (x, z) and (x', z') such that $z \neq z'$ are not adjacent in *G*. The graph *G* is therefore a disjoint union indexed by Z:

$$
G = \bigsqcup_{z \in \mathcal{Z}}^{P_{g(Y)}} G_z;
$$
\n(A1)

$$
R^*(g) = \overline{H}(G) = \overline{H}\left(\bigcup_{z \in \mathcal{Z}}^{P_g(y)} G_z\right); \tag{A2}
$$

where for all $z \in \mathcal{Z}$, G_z is the characteristic graph defined in Definition [A1](#page-11-2) for the pair (X'_z, Y'_z) ∼ $P_{X,Y|g(Y)=z}$ $\overline{}$.

(\Rightarrow) Assume that *g* and *P_X*,*Y* satisfy the "pairwise shared side information" condition. It directly follows that $P_{X|g(Y)=z}$ is full-support for all $z \in \mathcal{Z}$. Let $z \in \mathcal{Z}$, and let (x, z) , (x', z) be any two vertices of G_z . By construction, there exists $y \in g^{-1}(z)$ such that

 $P_{X,Y}(x,y)P_{X,Y}(x',y) > 0$; hence $P_{X,Y,g(Y)}(x,y,z)P_{X,Y,g(Y)}(x',y,z) > 0$, and (x,z) , (x',z) are adjacent in G_z . Each graph G_z is therefore complete, and perfect; the graph $G = \bigsqcup_{z \in \mathcal{Z}}^{P_{g(Y)}} G_z$ is a disjoint union of perfect graphs and is therefore also perfect. We have:

$$
R^*(g) = \overline{H}\left(\bigsqcup_{z \in \mathcal{Z}}^{P_g(\gamma)} G_z\right) \tag{A3}
$$

$$
=H_{\kappa}\left(\bigsqcup_{z\in\mathcal{Z}}^{P_{\mathcal{S}}(Y)}G_{z}\right)\tag{A4}
$$

$$
=\sum_{z\in\mathcal{Z}}P_{g(Y)}(z)H_{\kappa}(G_z)\tag{A5}
$$

$$
=\sum_{z\in\mathcal{Z}}P_{g(Y)}(z)H(P_{X|g(Y)=z})\tag{A6}
$$

$$
=H(X|g(Y));
$$
 (A7)

where [\(A3\)](#page-12-1) comes from [\(A2\)](#page-11-3); [\(A4\)](#page-12-2) and [\(A5\)](#page-12-3) follow from [\[18,](#page-16-17) Corollary 12] used on the perfect graph $\bigcup_{z\in\mathcal{Z}}^{P_g(Y)} G_z$; and [\(A6\)](#page-12-4) holds as the independent subsets of the complete graph 296 G_z are singletons containing one of its vertices.

(←) Conversely, assume that $P_{X|g(Y)=z}$ is full-support for all $z \in \mathcal{Z}$, and $R^*(g) = \mathbb{Z}$ $H(X|g(Y)).$

Assume, *ad absurdum*, that at least one of the $(G_z)_{z \in \mathcal{Z}}$ is not complete; then there exists a coloring of that graph that maps two different vertices to the same color. Thus, there exists $z \in \mathcal{Z}$ such that

$$
\overline{H}(G_z) < H(P_{X|g(Y)=z}),\tag{A8}
$$

as *PX*|*g*(*Y*)=*^z* is full-support. We have

$$
H(X|g(Y)) = R^*(g)
$$
 (A9)

$$
=\overline{H}\left(\bigsqcup_{z\in\mathcal{Z}}^{P_{\mathcal{S}}(Y)} G_z\right) \tag{A10}
$$

$$
\leq \sum_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} P_{g(Y)}(z) \overline{H}(G_z) \tag{A11}
$$

$$
\langle H(X|g(Y));\tag{A12}
$$

where $(A10)$ comes from $(A2)$, $(A11)$ results from $[17$, Theorem 2], and $(A12)$ follows 300 from [\(A8\)](#page-12-8). We arrive at a contradiction, hence all the graphs $(G_z)_{z \in \mathcal{Z}}$ are complete: 301 for all $z \in \mathcal{Z}$ and $x, x' \in \mathcal{X}$, there exists a side information symbol $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ such that some $P_{X,Y,g(Y)}(x,y,z)P_{X,Y,g(Y)}(x',y,z)>0$; hence $y\in g^{-1}(z)$, and satisfies $P_{X,Y}(x,y)P_{X,Y}(x',y)>-\infty$ 0. The condition "pairwise shared side information" is satisfied by $P_{X,Y}$, g .

Appendix A.2 – Proof of Theorem [14](#page-5-1) 305

Let us specify the adjacency condition in $G_{[n]}$ under the assumption [\(13\)](#page-4-2). Two vertices are adjacent if they satisfy (7) and (8) ; however (7) is always satisfied under [\(13\)](#page-4-2). Thus $(x^n, z^n)(x^m, z^n)$ are adjacent if $z^n = z^m$ and

$$
\exists y^{n} \in g^{-1}(z^{n}), \exists t \le n, f(x_{t}, y_{t}) \ne f(x'_{t}, y_{t}). \tag{A13}
$$

It can be observed that the condition [\(A13\)](#page-12-9) is the adjacency condition of an OR product of adequate graphs; more precisely,

$$
G_{[n]} = \bigsqcup_{z^n \in \mathcal{Z}^n} \bigvee_{t \leq n} G_{z_t}^f. \tag{A14}
$$

Although *G*[*n*] cannot be expressed as an *n*-th OR power, we will show that its chromatic ³⁰⁶ entropy asymptotically coincide with that of an appropriate OR power: we now search for $\frac{1}{307}$ an asymptotic equivalent of $H_\chi(G_{[n]})$. $\bigg)$. 308

Definition A2. S_n is the set of colorings of $G_{[n]}$ that can be written as $(x^n, z^n) \mapsto (T_{z^n}, \tilde{c}(x^n, z^n))$ some *for some mapping* $\tilde{c}:\mathcal{X}^n\times\mathcal{Z}^n\to\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$ *; where* T_{z^n} *denotes the type of* z^n *.* ³¹⁰

In the following, we define $Z^n \doteq (g(Y_t))_{t \leq n}$. Now we need several Lemmas. Lemma 311 [A3](#page-13-0) states that the optimal coloring $c(x^n, z^n)$ of $G_{[n]}$ has the type of z^n as a prefix at a $\frac{1}{2}$ negligible rate cost. Lemma [A6](#page-13-1) gives an asymptotic formula for the minimal entropy of the 313 colorings from S_n .

Lemma A3. *The following asymptotic comparison holds:*

$$
H_X(G_{[n]}) = \inf_{\substack{c \text{ coloring of } G_{[n]} \\ s.t. \ c \in S_n}} H(c(X^n, Z^n)) + O(\log n). \tag{A15}
$$

Definition A4 (Isomorphic probabilistic graphs). Let $G_1 = (\mathcal{V}_1, \mathcal{E}_1, P_{V_1})$ and $G_2 = (\mathcal{V}_2, \mathcal{E}_2, P_{V_2})$ sis *be two probabilistic graphs. We say that* G_1 *is isomorphic to* G_2 (denoted by $G_1 \simeq G_2$) if there exists 316 *an isomorphism between them, i.e. a bijection* $\psi : \mathcal{V}_1 \to \mathcal{V}_2$ *such that:* 317

- \mathcal{L} *For all* $v_1, v'_1 \in \mathcal{V}_1$ *,* $v_1 v'_1 \in \mathcal{E}_1 \Longleftrightarrow \psi(v_1) \psi(v'_1) \in \mathcal{E}_2$ *,* 318
- *- For all* $v_1 \in V_1$, $P_{V_1}(v_1) = P_{V_2}(\psi(v_1)).$

Lemma A5. Let B be a finite set, let $P_B \in \Delta(\mathcal{B})$ and let $(G_b)_{b \in \mathcal{B}}$ be a family of isomorphic see *probabilistic graphs, then* $H_{\chi}(\bigsqcup_{b' \in \mathcal{B}}^{P_B} G_{b'}) = H_{\chi}(G_b)$ *for all b* ∈ *B*.

Lemma A6. *The following asymptotic comparison holds:*

$$
\inf_{\substack{c \text{ coloring of } G_{[n]} \\ \text{s.t. } c \in \mathcal{S}_n}} H(c(X^n, Z^n)) = n \sum_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} P_{g(Y)}(z) H_{\kappa}(G_z^f) + o(n). \tag{A16}
$$

The proof of Lemma $\overline{A3}$ $\overline{A3}$ $\overline{A3}$ is given in Appendix $\overline{A.3}$, its keypoint is the asymptoti- 322 cally negligible entropy of the prefix T_{Z^n} of the colorings of S_n . The proof of Lemma 323 [A5](#page-13-2) is given in Appendix [A.5.](#page-15-0) The proof of Lemma [A6](#page-13-1) is given in Appendix [A.4,](#page-14-1) and 324 relies on the decomposition $G_{[n]} = \bigsqcup_{Q_n \in \Delta_n(\mathcal{Z})} G_{[n]}^{Q_n}$ $\frac{Q_n}{[n]}$, where $G_{[n]}^{\overline{Q}_n}$ $\frac{[Q_n]}{[n]}$ is the subgraph induced 325 by the vertices (x^n, z^n) such that the type of z^n is Q_n . We show that $G_{[n]}^{Q_n}$ $\mathbb{E}_{[n]}^{\bigtimes n}$ is a disjoint 326 union of isomorphic graphs whose chromatic entropy is given by Lemma $A5$ and [\(17\)](#page-5-3): 327 $H_{\chi}(G_{[n]}^{\mathcal{Q}_n})$ $\binom{Q_n}{[n]} - n \sum_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} Q_n(z) H_{\kappa}(G_z^f) \big| \leq n \epsilon_n$. Finally, uniform convergence arguments enable s28 us to conclude. $\frac{329}{200}$

Now let us combine these results together:

$$
R^*(g) = \frac{1}{n} H_\chi(G_{[n]}) + o(1)
$$
\n(A17)

$$
= \frac{1}{n} \inf_{\substack{c \text{ coloring of } G_{[n]} \\ \text{s.t. } c \in \mathcal{S}_n}} H(c(X^n, Z^n)) + o(1) \tag{A18}
$$

$$
= \sum_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} P_{g(Y)}(z) H_{\kappa}(G_z^f) + o(1), \tag{A19}
$$

where [\(A17\)](#page-13-3) comes from Theorem [7,](#page-3-4) [\(A18\)](#page-13-4) comes from Lemma [A3,](#page-13-0) and [\(A19\)](#page-13-5) comes from $\frac{331}{2}$ Lemma [A6.](#page-13-1) The proof of Theorem [14](#page-5-1) is complete. 332

330

Let c_n^* be the coloring of $G_{[n]}$ with minimal entropy. Then we have:

$$
H_X(G_{[n]}) = \inf_{c \text{ coloring of } G_{[n]}} H(c(X^n, Z^n))
$$
\n(A20)

$$
\leq \inf_{\substack{c \text{ coloring of } G_{[n]} \\ \text{s.t. } c \in \mathcal{S}_n}} H(c(X^n, Z^n)) \tag{A21}
$$

$$
= \inf_{\substack{c:(x^n,z^n) \\ \mapsto (T_{z^n},\tilde{c}(x^n,z^n))}} H(T_{Z^n},\tilde{c}(X^n,Z^n))
$$
 (A22)

$$
\leq H(T_{Z^n}) + H(c_n^*(X^n, Z^n))
$$
\n(A23)

$$
=H_{\chi}(G_{[n]})+O(\log n), \tag{A24}
$$

where [\(A22\)](#page-14-2) comes from Definition [A2;](#page-13-6) [\(A23\)](#page-14-3) comes from the subadditivity of the entropy, $\frac{334}{2}$ and the fact that $(x^n, z^n) \mapsto (T_{z^n}, c_n^*(x^n, z^n))$ is a coloring of $G_{[n]}$ that belongs to S_n ; and ³³⁵ [\(A24\)](#page-14-4) comes from $H(T_{Z^n}) = O(\log n)$, as $\log |\Delta_n(\mathcal{Z})| = O(\log n)$. The desired equality 336 comes from the bounds $H_\chi(G_{[n]})$ and $H_\chi(G_{[n]}) + O(\log n)$ on [\(A21\)](#page-14-5).

$$
Appendix A.4 - Proof of Lemma A6
$$

For all $Q_n \in \Delta_n(\mathcal{Z})$, let

$$
G_{[n]}^{Q_n} = \bigsqcup_{\substack{z^n \in \mathcal{Z}^n \\ T_{z^n} = Q_n}} \bigvee_{t \le n} G_{z_t}^f,
$$
\n(A25)

with the probability distribution induced by $P_{X,Z}^n$. This graph is formed of the connected components of $G_{[n]}$ whose corresponding z^n has type Q_n . We need to find an equivalent for $H_\chi(G_{[n]}^{\mathcal{Q}_n})$ [*n*]). Since *G Qn* $\frac{\mathcal{Q}_n}{[n]}$ is a disjoint union of isomorphic graphs, we can use Lemma [A5:](#page-13-2)

$$
H_{\chi}(G_{[n]}^{Q_n}) = H_{\chi}\left(\bigvee_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} (G_z^f)^{\vee nQ_n(z)}\right).
$$
 (A26)

On one hand,

$$
H_{\chi}\left(\bigvee_{z\in\mathcal{Z}}(G_{z}^{f})^{\vee nQ_{n}(z)}\right)\geq H_{\kappa}\left(\bigvee_{z\in\mathcal{Z}}(G_{z}^{f})^{\vee nQ_{n}(z)}\right)
$$
(A27)

$$
n\sum_{z\in\mathcal{Z}}Q_n(z)H_{\kappa}(G_z^f),\tag{A28}
$$

where [\(A27\)](#page-14-6) comes from $H_k \leq H_\chi$ [\[14,](#page-16-13) Lemma 14], [\(A28\)](#page-14-7) comes from [\(17\)](#page-5-3). On the other hand,

= *n* ∑

$$
H_{\chi}\left(\bigvee_{z\in\mathcal{Z}}(G_{z}^{f})^{\vee nQ_{n}(z)}\right)\leq \sum_{z\in\mathcal{Z}}Q_{n}(z)H_{\chi}((G_{z}^{f})^{\vee n})
$$
(A29)

$$
= n \sum_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} Q_n(z) H_{\kappa}(G_z^f) + n \epsilon_n,
$$
 (A30)

where $\epsilon_n \doteq \max_z \frac{1}{n} H_\chi((G_z^f)^{\vee n}) - H_\kappa(G_z^f)$ is a quantity that does not depend on Q_n and satisfies $\lim_{n\to\infty} \epsilon_n = 0$; [\(A29\)](#page-14-8) comes from the subadditivity of H_χ . Combining equations [\(A26\)](#page-14-9), [\(A28\)](#page-14-7) and [\(A30\)](#page-14-10) yields

$$
\left| H_{\chi}(G_{[n]}^{Q_n}) - n \sum_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} Q_n(z) H_{\kappa}(G_z^f) \right| \leq n\epsilon_n.
$$
 (A31)

Now, we have an equivalent for $H_\chi(G_{[n]}^{Q_n})$ $\frac{Q_n}{[n]}$.

$$
\inf_{\substack{c \text{ coloring of } G_{[n]} \\ \text{s.t. } c \in S_n}} H(c(X^n, Z^n))
$$
\n(A32)

$$
= \inf_{\substack{c:(x^n,z^n) \\ \mapsto (T_{z^n},\tilde{c}(x^n,z^n))}} H(\tilde{c}(X^n,Z^n)|T_{Z^n}) + H(T_{Z^n})
$$
\n(A33)

$$
= \inf_{\substack{c:(x^n,z^n) \\ \mapsto (T_{z^n},\tilde{c}(x^n,z^n))}} \sum_{Q_n \in \Delta_n(\mathcal{Z})} P_{T_{Z^n}}(Q_n) H(\tilde{c}(X^n,Z^n) | T_{Z^n} = Q_n) + O(\log n)
$$
(A34)

$$
= \sum_{Q_n \in \Delta_n(\mathcal{Z})} P_{T_{Z^n}}(Q_n) \inf_{c_{Q_n} \text{ coloring of } G_{[n]}^{Q_n}} H(c_{Q_n}(X^n, Z^n) | T_{Z^n} = Q_n) + O(\log n)
$$
 (A35)

$$
= \sum_{Q_n \in \Delta_n(\mathcal{Z})} P_{T_{Z^n}}(Q_n) H_{\chi}(G_{[n]}^{Q_n}) + O(\log n)
$$
\n(A36)

$$
= \sum_{Q_n \in \Delta_n(\mathcal{Z})} P_{T_{Z^n}}(Q_n) \left(n \sum_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} Q_n(z) H_{\kappa}(G_z^f) \pm n\epsilon_n \right) + O(\log n) \tag{A37}
$$

$$
=n\sum_{Q_n\in\Delta_n(\mathcal{Z})}2^{-nD(Q_n||P_{g(Y)})+o(n)}\left(\sum_{z\in\mathcal{Z}}Q_n(z)H_{\kappa}(G_z^f)\right)\pm n\epsilon_n+O(\log n)\tag{A38}
$$

$$
= n \sum_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} P_{g(Y)}(z) H_{\kappa}(G_z^f) + o(n), \tag{A39}
$$

where [\(A34\)](#page-15-1) comes from $H(T_{Z^n}) = O(\log n)$, as $\log |\Delta_n(\mathcal{Z})| = O(\log n)$; [\(A35\)](#page-15-2) follows 339 from the fact that the entropy of \tilde{c} can be minimized independently on each $G_{[n]}^{Q_n}$ $\binom{|\mathcal{Q}|n}{[n]}$; $\left(\mathrm{A36}\right)$ 340 follows from the definition of $G_{[n]}^{Q_n}$ [*n*] ; [\(A37\)](#page-15-4) comes from [\(A31\)](#page-14-11); [\(A38\)](#page-15-5) comes from [\[19,](#page-16-18) Lemma ³⁴¹ 2.6] and the fact that ϵ_n does not depend on Q_n .

Appendix A.5 – Proof of Lemma [A5](#page-13-2) 343

Let $(\tilde{G}_i)_{i\leq N}$ be isomorphic probabilistic graphs and *G* such that $G = \bigsqcup_i \tilde{G}_i$. Let $c_1^* : \mathcal{V}_1 \to \mathcal{C}$ be the coloring of \tilde{G}_1 with minimal entropy, and let c^* be the coloring of *G* defined by

$$
c^*: \mathcal{V} \to \mathcal{C} \tag{A40}
$$

$$
v \mapsto c_1^* \circ \psi_{i_v \to 1}(v), \tag{A41}
$$

where i_v is the unique integer such that $v \in V_{i_v}$, and $\psi_{i_v \to 1} : V_{i_v} \to V_1$ is an isomorphism between \tilde{G}_{i_v} and \tilde{G}_1 . In other words c^* applies the same coloring pattern c_1^* on each connected component of *G*. We have

$$
H_{\chi}(G) \le H(c^*(V)) \tag{A42}
$$

$$
= h\left(\sum_{j\leq N} P_{i_V}(j) P_{c^*(V_j)}\right) \tag{A43}
$$

$$
= h\left(\sum_{j\leq N} P_{i_V}(j) P_{c_1^*(V_1)}\right) \tag{A44}
$$

$$
=H(c_1^*(V_1))
$$
\n^(A45)

$$
=H_{\chi}(\tilde{G}_{1}),\tag{A46}
$$

where *h* denotes the entropy of a distribution; [\(A44\)](#page-15-6) comes from the definition of *c*^{*}; and ₃₄₄ [\(A46\)](#page-15-7) comes from the definition of c_1^* \blacksquare .

Now let us prove the upper bound on $H_\chi(\tilde{G}_1)$. Let *c* be a coloring of *G*, and let i^* = argmin_{*i*} $H(c(V_i))$ (i.e. i^* is the index of the connected component for which the entropy of the coloring induced by *c* is minimal). We have

$$
H(c(V)) = h\left(\sum_{j \le N} P_{i_V}(j) P_{c(V_j)}\right)
$$
\n(A47)

$$
\geq \sum_{j \leq N} P_{i_V}(j) h(P_{c(V_j)}) \tag{A48}
$$

$$
\geq \sum_{j \leq N} P_{i_V}(j) H(c(V_{i^*})) \tag{A49}
$$

$$
\geq H_{\chi}(\tilde{G}_{i^*}),\tag{A50}
$$

$$
=H_{\chi}(\tilde{G}_{1}),\tag{A51}
$$

where [\(A48\)](#page-16-19) follows from the concavity of *h*; [\(A49\)](#page-16-20) follows from the definition of *i*^{*}; [\(A50\)](#page-16-21) comes from the fact that *c* induces a coloring of \tilde{G}_{i^*} ; [\(A51\)](#page-16-22) comes from the fact that \tilde{G}_1 and \tilde{G}_{i^*} are isomorphic. Now, we can combine the bounds [\(A46\)](#page-15-7) and [\(A51\)](#page-16-22): for all coloring *c* of *G* we have

$$
H_{\chi}(G) \le H_{\chi}(\tilde{G}_1) \le H(c(V)),\tag{A52}
$$

which yields the desired equality when taking the infimum over *c*.

References 347

- 1. Orlitsky, A.; Roche, J.R. Coding for computing. In Proceedings of the Proceedings of IEEE 36th Annual Foundations of Computer 348 Science. IEEE, 1995, pp. 502–511. 349
- 2. Duan, L.; Liu, J.; Yang, W.; Huang, T.; Gao, W. Video coding for machines: A paradigm of collaborative compression and 350 intelligent analytics. *IEEE Transactions on Image Processing* 2020, 29, 8680-8695.
- 3. Gao, W.; Liu, S.; Xu, X.; Rafie, M.; Zhang, Y.; Curcio, I. Recent standard development activities on video coding for machines. ³⁵² *arXiv preprint arXiv:2105.12653* **2021**. ³⁵³
- 4. Yamamoto, H. Wyner-ziv theory for a general function of the correlated sources (corresp.). *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory* ³⁵⁴ **1982**, *28*, 803–807. ³⁵⁵
- 5. Shayevitz, O. Distributed computing and the graph entropy region. *IEEE transactions on information theory* **2014**, *60*, 3435–3449. ³⁵⁶
- 6. Krithivasan, D.; Pradhan, S.S. Distributed source coding using abelian group codes: A new achievable rate-distortion region. 357 *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory* **2011**, *57*. ³⁵⁸
- 7. Basu, S.; Seo, D.; Varshney, L.R. Hypergraph-based Coding Schemes for Two Source Coding Problems under Maximal Distortion. ³⁵⁹ In Proceedings of the IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory (ISIT), 2020.
- 8. Malak, D.; Médard, M. Hyper Binning for Distributed Function Coding. In Proceedings of the 2020 IEEE 21st International 361 Workshop on Signal Processing Advances in Wireless Communications (SPAWC). IEEE, 2020, pp. 1–5.
- 9. Feizi, S.; Médard, M. On network functional compression. *IEEE transactions on information theory* **2014**, *60*, 5387–5401. ³⁶³
- 10. Sefidgaran, M.; Tchamkerten, A. Distributed function computation over a rooted directed tree. *IEEE Transactions on Information* ³⁶⁴ *Theory* **2016**, *62*, 7135–7152. ³⁶⁵
- 11. Ravi, J.; Dey, B.K. Function Computation Through a Bidirectional Relay. *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory* **2018**, *65*, 902–916. ³⁶⁶

12. Guang, X.; Yeung, R.W.; Yang, S.; Li, C. Improved upper bound on the network function computing capacity. *IEEE Transactions* ³⁶⁷ *on Information Theory* **2019**, *65*, 3790–3811. ³⁶⁸

- 13. Charpenay, N.; Le Treust, M.; Roumy, A. Optimal Zero-Error Coding for Computing under Pairwise Shared Side Information. In 369 Proceedings of the 2023 IEEE Information Theory Workshop (ITW). IEEE, 2023, pp. 97–101. ³⁷⁰
- 14. Alon, N.; Orlitsky, A. Source coding and graph entropies. *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory* **1996**, *42*, 1329–1339. ³⁷¹
- 15. Witsenhausen, H. The zero-error side information problem and chromatic numbers (corresp.). *IEEE Transactions on Information* ³⁷² *Theory* **1976**, *22*, 592–593. ³⁷³
- 16. Körner, J. Coding of an information source having ambiguous alphabet and the entropy of graphs. In Proceedings of the 6th ³⁷⁴ Prague conference on information theory, 1973, pp. 411–425.
- 17. Tuncel, E.; Nayak, J.; Koulgi, P.; Rose, K. On complementary graph entropy. *IEEE transactions on information theory* **2009**, ³⁷⁶ *55*, 2537–2546. ³⁷⁷
- 18. Csiszár, I.; Körner, J.; Lovász, L.; Marton, K.; Simonyi, G. Entropy splitting for antiblocking corners and perfect graphs. 378 *Combinatorica* **1990**, *10*, 27–40. ³⁷⁹
- 19. Csiszár, I.; Körner, J. *Information theory: coding theorems for discrete memoryless systems*; Cambridge University Press, 2011. ³⁸⁰

Disclaimer/Publisher's Note: The statements, opinions and data contained in all publications are solely those of the individual ³⁸¹ author(s) and contributor(s) and not of MDPI and/or the editor(s). MDPI and/or the editor(s) disclaim responsibility for any injury to 382 people or property resulting from any ideas, methods, instructions or products referred to in the content.