

Article Side Information Design in Zero-Error Coding for Computing

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Abstract: We investigate the zero-error coding for computing problem with encoder side information. 1 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 3 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 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 of the encoder's side information g(Y) and $R^*(g)$. We construct two greedy algorithms that give 8 an achievable set of points in the side information design problem, based on partition refining and 9 coarsening. One of them runs in polynomial time. 10

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

1. Introduction

1.1. Zero-error coding for computing

$$X^{n} \xrightarrow{} \underbrace{\text{Encoder}}_{\substack{n \\ (g(Y_{t}))_{t \leq n}}} \xrightarrow{R} \underbrace{\text{Decoder}}_{\substack{n \\ Y^{n}}} \left(f(X_{t}, Y_{t}) \right)_{t \leq n}$$

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

The problem of Figure 1 is a zero-error setting that relates to Orlitsky and Roche's 14 coding for computing problem from [1]. This coding problem appears in video compression 15 [2,3], where X^n models a set of images known at the encoder. The decoder does not always 16 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), 20 which is modeled by $(g(Y_t))_{t \le n}$. This problem also relates to the zero-error Slepian-Wolf 21 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 have already been studied. But they differ to the one we study in two ways. First, they consider that no side information is available at the encoder. Second, and more importantly, they consider different coding constraints: the lossless case is studied by Orlitsky and Roche in [1], the lossy case by Yamamoto in [4], and the zero-error "unrestricted inputs" case by Shayevitz in [5]. The latter results can be used as bounds for our problem depicted in Figure 1 but do characterize exactly its optimal rate.

Numerous extensions of the problem depicted in Figure 1 have been studied recently. The distributed context, for instance, has an additional encoder which encodes Y before transmitting it to the decoder. Achievability schemes have been proposed for this setting by 32

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Krithivasan and Pradhan in [6] using abelian groups; by Basu et al. in [7] using hypergraphs 33 for the case with maximum distortion criterion; and by Malak and Médard in [8] using 34 hyperplane separations for the continuous lossless case. 35

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 37 tree networks, the feasible rate region is characterized by Feizi and Médard in [9] for 38 networks of depth one; and by Sefidgaran and Tchamkerten in [10] under a Markov source 39 distribution hypothesis. In [11], Ravi and Dev consider a bidirectional relay with zero-40 error "unrestricted inputs" and characterize the rate region for a specific class of functions. 41 In [12], Guang et al. study zero-error function computation on acyclic networks with 42 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. 45

In a previous work [13], we determined a condition that we called "pairwise shared 46 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 $P_{X,Y}$ is full-support for 48 any functions f,g. For the sake of completeness, we review this result. Moreover, we 49 propose an alternative and more interpretable expression for this pairwise shared side 50 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. 53

1.2. Encoder's side information design

In the zero-error coding for computing problem with encoder side information, it 55 can be observed that a "coarse" encoder side information (e.g. if g constant) yields a high 56 optimal rate $R^*(g)$, whereas a "fine" encoder side information (e.g. g = Id) yields a low 57 optimal rate $R^*(g)$. The side information design problem consists in determining the best 58 trade-offs between the optimal rate $R^*(g)$ and the quality of the encoder's side information, 59 which is measured by its entropy H(g(Y)). This expression describes the optimal rate of 60 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 $(H(g(Y)), R^*(g))$. 64

In this article, we propose a greedy algorithm that gives an achievable set of points in 65 the side information design problem, when $P_{X,Y}$ is full support. Studying our problem with 66 the latter hypothesis is interesting because, unlike the case of the Slepian-Wolf problem, 67 it does not necessarily correspond to a worst-case scenario. Recall indeed, that, when 68 $P_{X,Y}$ 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 70 function f(X, Y) = Y, since the decoder already has access to Y, no information needs to be 71 sent by the encoder and the optimal rate is 0. Finally, the proposed algorithm relies on our 72 results with "pairwise shared side information" that give the optimal rate for all function 73 g, and performs a greedy partition coarsening when choosing the next achievable point. 74 Moreover, it runs in polynomial time. 75

The paper is organised as follows. In Section 2, we present formally the zero-error 76 coding for computing problem and the encoder's side information design problem. In 77 Section 3, we give our theoretic results on the zero-error coding for computing problem, 78 including the "pairwise shared side information" condition. In Section 4 we present our 79 greedy algorithms for the encoder's side information design problem.

2. Formal presentation of the problem

We denote sequences by $x^n = (x_1, ..., x_n)$. The set of probability distributions over \mathcal{X} 82 is denoted by $\Delta(\mathcal{X})$. The distribution of X is denoted by $P_X \in \Delta(\mathcal{X})$, its support is denoted 83 by supp P_X . Given the sequence length $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$, we denote by $\Delta_n(\mathcal{X}) \subset \Delta(\mathcal{X})$ the set of 84

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

Definition 1. *The zero-error source coding problem of Figure 1 is described by:*

- Four finite sets $\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Z}$ and a source distribution $P_{X,Y} \in \Delta(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y})$;
- 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. fashion using $P_{X,Y}$.
- Two deterministic functions

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

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

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

A coding scheme in this setting is described by:

- 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 Im ϕ_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. $R \doteq \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{E} \left[\ell \circ \phi_e \left(X^n, (g(Y_t))_{t \le n} \right) \right]$, where ℓ denotes the codeword length function;
- n, ϕ_e, ϕ_d must satisfy the zero-error property:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

where Conv denotes the convex hull.

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

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Determining the optimal rate in the zero-error coding for computing problem, with or without encoder side information, is an open problem. In a previous contribution [13] we determined a condition that, when satisfied, yields an analytic expression for the optimal rate. Interestingly, this condition is general as it does not depend on the function f to be retrieved at the decoder.

3.1. General case

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

Definition 4 (Characteristic graph $G_{[n]}$). *The characteristic graph* $G_{[n]}$ *is defined by:*

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

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

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

where
$$g^{-1}(z^n) = \{ y^n \in \mathcal{Y}^n \mid (g(y_t))_{t \le n} = z^n \}.$$
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The characteristic graph $G_{[n]}$ is designed with the same core idea as in [15]: (x^n, z^n) and (x'^n, z'^n) are adjacent if there exists a side information symbol y^n compatible with the observation of the encoder (i.e. $z^n = z'^n$ and $y^n \in g^{-1}(z^n)$), such that $f(x^n, y^n) \neq f(x'^n, y^n)$. In order to prevent erroneous decodings, the encoder must map adjacent pairs of sequences 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 subset $S \subseteq \mathcal{V}$ is independent if $xx' \notin \mathcal{E}$ for all $x, x' \in S$. Let C be a finite set (the set of colors), a mapping $c : \mathcal{V} \to C$ is a coloring if $c^{-1}(i)$ is an independent subset for all $i \in C$.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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where (12) comes from Fekete's Lemma and from the definition of H_{χ} .

A general single-letter expression for $R^*(g)$ is missing, due to the lack of intrinsic structure of $G_{[n]}$. In Section 3.2, we introduce a hypothesis that gives structure to $G_{[n]}$ and allows us to derive a single-letter expression for $R^*(g)$.

3.2. Pairwise shared side information

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

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

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

Note that any full-support distribution $P_{X,Y}$ satisfies the "pairwise shared side information" hypothesis. In Theorem 9, we give an interpretation of the "pairwise shared side information" condition in terms of the optimal rate in an auxiliary zero-error Slepian-Wolf problem.

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

The proof of Theorem 9 is given in Appendix A.1.

Definition 10 (AND, OR product). Let $G_1 = (V_1, \mathcal{E}_1, P_{V_1})$, $G_2 = (V_2, \mathcal{E}_2, P_{V_2})$ be two probabilistic 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

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

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

$$(14)$$

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

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], the optimal rate $\lim_{n\to\infty} \frac{1}{n} H_{\chi}(G^{\wedge n})$, 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, $\lim_{n\to\infty} \frac{1}{n} H_{\chi}(G^{\vee n})$ 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. 158 More precisely, by using a convex combination of Körner graph entropies, we provide a 159 single-letter expression in Theorem 14 for the optimal rate $R^*(g)$. 160

Definition 11 (Körner graph entropy H_{κ}). 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*

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

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

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Proposition 12 (Properties of H_{κ}). [14, Theorem 5] For all probabilistic graphs G and G',

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

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

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

- \mathcal{X} as set of vertices with distribution $P_{X|g(Y)=z'}$
- xx' are adjacent if $f(x,y) \neq f(x',y)$ for some $y \in g^{-1}(z) \cap \operatorname{supp} P_{Y|X=x} \cap \operatorname{supp} P_{Y|X=x'}$. 169

Theorem 14 (Pairwise shared side information). If $P_{X,Y}$ and g satisfy (13), the optimal rate writes:

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

The proof is in Section A.2, the keypoint is the particular structure of $G_{[n]}$: a disjoint union of OR products.

Remark 15. The "pairwise shared side information" assumption (13) implies that the adjacency condition (7) is satisfied, which makes $G_{[n]}$ a disjoint union of OR products. Moreover, Körner graph entropies appear in the final expression for $R^*(g)$, even if $G_{[n]}$ is not an n-th OR power.

Now consider the case where $P_{X,Y}$ is full-support. This is a sufficient condition to 177 have (13). The optimal rate in this setting is derived from Theorem 14, which leads to the analytic expression in Theorem 16.

Theorem 16 (Optimal rate when $P_{X,Y}$ is full-support). When $P_{X,Y}$ is full-support, the optimal rate writes:

$$R^{*}(g) = H(j(X, g(Y))|g(Y)),$$
(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, $R^*(g) = \sum_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} P_{g(Y)}(z) H_{\kappa}(G_z^f)$. It can be shown that G_z^f is complete multipartite for all z as $P_{X,Y}$ is full support; and it satisfies $H_{\kappa}(G_z^f) = H(j(X,g(Y))|g(Y)) = 1$

3.3. Example

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

Consider the probability distribution and function outcomes depicted in Figure 2, 187 with $\mathcal{U} = \{a, b, c\}, \mathcal{X} = \{0, ..., 3\}, \mathcal{Y} = \{0, ..., 7\}$, 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

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$P_{X,Y}$		Ŷ								
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
g(Y) = 0						g(Y) = 1				
X	0	0.1	0.05	*	*	0.05	0.05	*	*	
	1	0.1	*	0.05	*	0.05	0.05	0.05	*	
	2	0.1	*	*	0.05	*	0.05	*	*	
	3	*	0.05	0.05	0.05	*	0.05	*	0.05	
		L								
$f(\cdot, \cdot)$		Y								
		0	1	2	3	_4	5	6	7	
		g(Y) = 0					g(Y) = 1			
X	0	а	b	*	*	b	а	*	*	
	1	а	*	b	*	а	а	b	*	
	2	b	*	*	С	*	b	*	*	
	3	*	С	С	С	*	С	*	С	

Figure 2. An example of $P_{X,Y}$ and *g* that satisfy (13); 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 with all other source symbols when g(Y) = 1.

Since the "pairwise shared side information" assumption is satisfied, we can use Theorem 14; the optimal rate writes

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

First we need to determine the probabilistic graphs G_0^f and G_1^f . In G_0^f , the vertex 0 is 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 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 $G_0^f = (C_4, \text{Unif}(\mathcal{X}))$ where C_4 is the cycle graph with 4 vertices.

In G_1^f , the vertices 1, 2, 3 are pairwise adjacent as f(1,5), f(2,5) and f(3,5) are pairwise different; and 0 is adjacent to 1, 2 and 3 because of the different function outputs generated 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 complete graph with 4 vertices.

Now let us determine $H_{\kappa}(G_0^f)$ and $H_{\kappa}(G_1^f)$. On one hand,

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

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

with $V_0 \sim P_{X|g(Y)=0} = \text{Unif}(\mathcal{X})$; and where $H(V_0|W)$ in (22) is maximized by taking $W = \{0, 1\}$ when $V \in \{0, 1\}$, and $W = \{2, 3\}$ otherwise.

On the other hand,

$$H_{\kappa}(G_{1}^{f}) = \min_{V_{1} \in W \in \Gamma(G_{1}^{f})} I(W; V_{1})$$
(24)

$$=H(V_1) \approx 1.906,$$
 (25)

with $V_1 \sim P_{X|g(Y)=1}$; where (25) follows from $\Gamma(G_1^f) = \{\{0\}, ..., \{3\}\}$, as G_1^f is complete. Price $R^*(g) \approx 1.362$.

The rate that we would obtain by transmitting X knowing g(Y) at both encoder and 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 $R_{\text{No g}} =$ $H(X) \approx 1.985$, because of the different function outputs generated by Y = 4 and Y = 5. 209 Finally, $H(f(X, Y)|Y) \approx 0.875$. 210

In this example we have

$$H(X) = R_{\text{No }g} > R_{\text{Huff}} > R^*(g) > H(f(X,Y)|Y).$$
(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 $R_{No g}$. 212

4. Optimization of the encoder side information

4.1. Preliminary results on partitions

In order to optimize the function g in the encoder side information, we propose a new 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 below. 217

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

Proof. The direct part results directly from the fact that g is a function. For the converse 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 $z \in \mathcal{Z}$ 222 is the unique index such that $y \in A_z$. The property $\forall z \in \text{Im } g_A, \exists A_z \in A, A_z = g_A^{-1}(z)$ is 223 therefore satisfied. 224 Π

Now, let us define coarser and finer partitions, with the corresponding notions of 226 merging and splitting. These operations on partitions are the core idea of our greedy 227 algorithms; as illustrated in Proposition 17, the partitions of $\mathcal Y$ correspond to functions 228 $g: \mathcal{Y} \to \mathcal{Z}$ 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. 230

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

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

If so, we also say that \mathcal{B} is finer than \mathcal{A} .

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

Definition 20 (Merging, Splitting). A merging is an operation that maps a partition \mathcal{A} = 234 $\{A_1, ..., A_i, ..., A_j, ..., A_m\}$ to the partition $\mathcal{A}' = \{A_1, ..., A_i \cup A_j, ..., A_m\}$. A splitting in an operation that maps a partition $\mathcal{A} = \{A_1, ..., A_i, ..., A_m\}$ to the partition $\mathcal{A}' = \{A_1, ..., A_i^{(1)}, A_i^{(2)}, ..., A_m\}$, 236 where $\{A_i^{(1)}, A_i^{(2)}\}$ 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 \mathcal{A} :

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

$$Split(\mathcal{A}) \doteq \left\{ s(\mathcal{A}) \mid s \text{ is a splitting} \right\}.$$
(29)

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

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4.2. Greedy algorithms based on partition coarsening and refining

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 242 approach would at least require to enumerate the partitions of \mathcal{Y} . Therefore, the complexity of this approach is exponential in $|\mathcal{Y}|$. In the following we describe the greedy Algorithms 1 and 2 that give an achievable set for the encoder's side information design problem; one 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 both greedy algorithms. 248

In these a argmin (resp. argmax) means any minimizer (resp. maximizer) of the specified quantity; and the function $g_{\mathcal{A}} : \mathcal{Y} \to \mathcal{Z}$ is a function for the encoder's side information corresponding to the partition \mathcal{A} , whose existence is given by Proposition 17. 251

The coarsening (resp. refining) algorithm starts by computing its first achievable point $(H(g_A(Y)), R^*(g_A))$ with A being the finest (resp. coarsest) partition: it evaluates $R^*(g_A)$, with $g_A = \text{Id}$ (resp. g_A constant); and $H(g_A(Y)) = H(Y)$ (resp. $H(g_A(Y)) = 0$). 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 $H(g_A(Y))$ and $R^*(g_A)$, 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 $\mathcal{B} \in \text{Merge}(A)$ the negative ratio

$$\frac{R^*(g_{\mathcal{B}}) - R^*(g_{\mathcal{A}})}{H(g_{\mathcal{B}}(Y)) - H(g_{\mathcal{A}}(Y))},$$
(30)

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

$$\frac{R^*(g_{\mathcal{B}}) - R^*(g_{\mathcal{A}})}{H(g_{\mathcal{B}}(Y)) - H(g_{\mathcal{A}}(Y))};$$
(31)

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

Algorithm 1 Greedy coarsening algorithm

1: $\mathcal{A} \leftarrow \{\{1\}, ..., \{|\mathcal{Y}|\}\}$ // A starts by being the finest partition of \mathcal{Y} , i.e. $g_{\mathcal{A}} = \text{Id.}$ 2: *Front* \leftarrow [A, ndef, ..., ndef] // Will contain the list of the $|\mathcal{Y}|$ partitions chosen during the execution 3: for $i \in \{1, ..., |\mathcal{Y}| - 1\}$ do 4: // Maximize over \mathcal{B} merging of \mathcal{A} the slope between $(H(g_{\mathcal{B}}(Y)), R^*(g_{\mathcal{B}}))$ and 5: $(H(g_{\mathcal{A}}(Y)), R^*(g_{\mathcal{A}})).$ $R^*(g_{\mathcal{B}}) - R^*(g_{\mathcal{A}})$ $\mathcal{A} \leftarrow \operatorname{argmax}_{\mathcal{B} \in \operatorname{Merge}(\mathcal{A})} \frac{K \setminus \{g_{\mathcal{B}}\}^{-K} \setminus \{g_{\mathcal{A}}\}}{H(g_{\mathcal{B}}(Y)) - H(g_{\mathcal{A}}(Y))}$ 6: $Front[i] \leftarrow A$ 7: 8: $// A = \{\{1, ..., |Y|\}\}$ at this point 9: return Front

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

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Algorithm 2 Greedy refining algorithm

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

Figures 3, 4, 5 are obtained with the following problem data:

$$P_{X,Y} = \text{Unif}(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}) \qquad f(\cdot, \cdot) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1\\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1\\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0\\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (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, the complexity of the coarsening greedy algorithm is polynomial, since $|Merge(\mathcal{A})|$ is quadratic in $|\mathcal{Y}|$ and the evaluation of $R^*(g)$ can be done in polynomial time. This polynomial complexity property is not satisfied by the refining greedy algorithm, as $|Split(\mathcal{A})|$ 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 $|\mathcal{Y}|$. The refining greedy algorithm runs in exponential time in $|\mathcal{Y}|$.

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 269 most $\binom{|\mathcal{Y}|}{2} = O(|\mathcal{Y}|^2)$ (resp. $O(2^{|\mathcal{Y}|})$ in the worst case $\mathcal{A} = \{\{1, ..., |\mathcal{Y}|\}\}$). Since the expression $R^*(g) = H(j(X, g(Y))|g(Y))$ from Theorem 16 allows for an evaluation of 271 $R^*(g)$ in polynomial time in $|\mathcal{Y}|$, the coarsening (resp. refining) greedy algorithm has a 272 polynomial (resp. exponential) time complexity. 273

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Appendix A

Appendix A.1 – Proof of Theorem 9

Consider the particular case f(X, Y) = X of Figure 1. The optimal rate in this particular case equals the optimal rate $R^*(g)$ in the following auxiliary problem, depicted in Figure 284 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 286 rate). 287

$$X^n, (g(Y_t))_{t \le n} \longrightarrow$$
Encoder $\xrightarrow{} R \xrightarrow{} Decoder \xrightarrow{} X^n, (g(Y_t))_{t \le n}$

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

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

- \mathcal{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] 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 $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ 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 \mathcal{Z} :

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

$$R^*(g) = \overline{H}(G) = \overline{H}\left(\bigsqcup_{z \in \mathcal{Z}}^{P_{g(Y)}} G_z\right);$$
(A2)

where for all $z \in \mathcal{Z}$, G_z is the characteristic graph defined in Definition A1 for the pair $(X'_z, Y'_z) \sim P_{X,Y|g(Y)=z}.$

 (\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

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 $P_{X,Y}(x,y)P_{X,Y}(x',y) > 0$; 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:

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

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

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

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

$$=H(X|g(Y)); \tag{A7}$$

where (A3) comes from (A2); (A4) and (A5) follow from [18, Corollary 12] used on the perfect graph $\bigcup_{z \in \mathcal{Z}}^{P_{g(Y)}} G_z$; and (A6) holds as the independent subsets of the complete graph G_z are singletons containing one of its vertices.

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

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

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

as $P_{X|g(Y)=z}$ is full-support. We have

$$H(X|g(Y)) = R^*(g) \tag{A9}$$

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

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

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

where (A10) comes from (A2), (A11) results from [17, Theorem 2], and (A12) follows from (A8). We arrive at a contradiction, hence all the graphs $(G_z)_{z \in \mathcal{Z}}$ are complete: for all $z \in \mathcal{Z}$ and $x, x' \in \mathcal{X}$, there exists a side information symbol $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ such that $P_{X,Y,g(Y)}(x,y,z)P_{X,Y,g(Y)}(x',y,z) > 0$; hence $y \in g^{-1}(z)$, and satisfies $P_{X,Y}(x,y)P_{X,Y}(x',y) > 303$ 0. The condition "pairwise shared side information" is satisfied by $P_{X,Y,g}$.

Appendix A.2 – Proof of Theorem 14

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

$$\exists y^n \in g^{-1}(z^n), \exists t \le n, f(x_t, y_t) \ne f(x'_t, y_t).$$
(A13)

It can be observed that the condition (A13) is the adjacency condition of an OR product of adequate graphs; more precisely,

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

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

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

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

Lemma A3. The following asymptotic comparison holds:

$$H_{\chi}(G_{[n]}) = \inf_{\substack{c \text{ coloring of } G_{[n]}\\s.t. \ c \in \mathcal{S}_n}} H(c(X^n, Z^n)) + O(\log n).$$
(A15)

Definition A4 (Isomorphic probabilistic graphs). Let $G_1 = (\mathcal{V}_1, \mathcal{E}_1, P_{V_1})$ and $G_2 = (\mathcal{V}_2, \mathcal{E}_2, P_{V_2})$ ³¹⁵ 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

- For all $v_1, v_1' \in \mathcal{V}_1, v_1v_1' \in \mathcal{E}_1 \iff \psi(v_1)\psi(v_1') \in \mathcal{E}_2$,
- For all $v_1 \in \mathcal{V}_1$, $P_{V_1}(v_1) = P_{V_2}(\psi(v_1))$.

Lemma A5. Let \mathcal{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 probabilistic graphs, then $H_{\chi}(\bigsqcup_{b' \in \mathcal{B}}^{P_B} G_{b'}) = H_{\chi}(G_b)$ for all $b \in \mathcal{B}$.

Lemma A6. The following asymptotic comparison holds:

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

The proof of Lemma A3 is given in Appendix A.3, its keypoint is the asymptotically negligible entropy of the prefix T_{Z^n} of the colorings of S_n . The proof of Lemma A5 is given in Appendix A.5. The proof of Lemma A6 is given in Appendix A.4, and relies on the decomposition $G_{[n]} = \bigsqcup_{Q_n \in \Delta_n(Z)} G_{[n]}^{Q_n}$, where $G_{[n]}^{Q_n}$ is the subgraph induced by the vertices (x^n, z^n) such that the type of z^n is Q_n . We show that $G_{[n]}^{Q_n}$ is a disjoint union of isomorphic graphs whose chromatic entropy is given by Lemma A5 and (17): $|H_{\chi}(G_{[n]}^{Q_n}) - n \sum_{z \in Z} Q_n(z) H_{\kappa}(G_z^f)| \le n\epsilon_n$. Finally, uniform convergence arguments enable us to conclude.

Now let us combine these results together:

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

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

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

where (A17) comes from Theorem 7, (A18) comes from Lemma A3, and (A19) comes from Lemma A6. The proof of Theorem 14 is complete.

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Appendix A.3 – Proof of Lemma A3

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

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

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

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

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

where (A22) comes from Definition A2; (A23) comes from the subadditivity of the entropy, 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 (A24) comes from $H(T_{Z^n}) = O(\log n)$, as $\log |\Delta_n(\mathcal{Z})| = O(\log n)$. The desired equality comes from the bounds $H_{\chi}(G_{[n]})$ and $H_{\chi}(G_{[n]}) + O(\log n)$ on (A21).

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

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

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 $H_{\chi}(G_{[n]}^{Q_n})$. Since $G_{[n]}^{Q_n}$ is a disjoint union of isomorphic graphs, we can use Lemma A5:

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

On one hand,

$$H_{\chi}\left(\bigvee_{z\in\mathcal{Z}} (G_z^f)^{\vee nQ_n(z)}\right) \ge H_{\kappa}\left(\bigvee_{z\in\mathcal{Z}} (G_z^f)^{\vee nQ_n(z)}\right)$$
(A27)

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

where (A27) comes from $H_{\kappa} \leq H_{\chi}$ [14, Lemma 14], (A28) comes from (17). On the other hand,

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$$H_{\chi}\left(\bigvee_{z\in\mathcal{Z}} (G_z^f)^{\vee nQ_n(z)}\right) \le \sum_{z\in\mathcal{Z}} Q_n(z) H_{\chi}((G_z^f)^{\vee n})$$
(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) comes from the subadditivity of H_{χ} . Combining equations (A26), (A28) and (A30) yields

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

where (A34) comes from $H(T_{Z^n}) = O(\log n)$, as $\log |\Delta_n(\mathcal{Z})| = O(\log n)$; (A35) follows from the fact that the entropy of \tilde{c} can be minimized independently on each $G_{[n]}^{Q_n}$; (A36) follows from the definition of $G_{[n]}^{Q_n}$; (A37) comes from (A31); (A38) comes from [19, Lemma 2.6] and the fact that ϵ_n does not depend on Q_n .

Appendix A.5 – Proof of Lemma A5

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 $v \in \mathcal{V}_{i_v}$, and $\psi_{i_v \to 1} : \mathcal{V}_{i_v} \to \mathcal{V}_1$ 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

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

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

$$= h\Big(\sum_{j \le N} P_{i_V}(j) P_{c_1^*(V_1)}\Big)$$
(A44)

$$= H(c_1^*(V_1)) \tag{A45}$$

$$=H_{\chi}(\tilde{G}_1),\tag{A46}$$

where *h* denotes the entropy of a distribution; (A44) comes from the definition of c^* ; and (A46) comes from the definition of c_1^* .

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

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

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

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

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

$$=H_{\chi}(\tilde{G}_1),\tag{A51}$$

where (A48) follows from the concavity of h; (A49) follows from the definition of i^* ; (A50) comes from the fact that c induces a coloring of \tilde{G}_{i^*} ; (A51) comes from the fact that \tilde{G}_1 and \tilde{G}_{i^*} are isomorphic. Now, we can combine the bounds (A46) and (A51): 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*.

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