

Problems 5 - Dictionary coders, Test transforms, Quantization

Coding Technology

Illés Horváth

2025/11/14

Dictionary codes, Text transforms

Reminder: Dictionary coders.

LZ77: lookup buffer, search buffer, search for longest match, add one character, record: (position, length of match, new character).

LZ78: add one character to a string already seen before, record: (address of old string, novelty).

Reminder: Text transforms.

MTF transforms: move current character to the front of the alphabet after each step.

Burrows–Wheeler transform. Transform: order all cyclic permutations alphabetically, codeword is last column + the position of the original message in the alphabetical ordering. Inverse transform: starting from last and first column, match sections of increasing length in each step.

Problem 1

Compute the next two records of the LZ77 algorithm, starting from the following position.

ablaakbarna | ablaakbaahar | arradaahr...

Solution.

► first step:

← 10 →
ablaakba rna | ablaakba ahar | arradaahr... (10,7,a)
← 7 →

► next step:

ablaakbar | naablaakbaa | hararradaahr... (0,0,h)

Problem 2

An LZ77 coder has parameters $h_s = h_\ell = 5$. Decode the following sequence of records: $(0,0,C)$, $(0,0,A)$, $(2,1,D)$, $(3,2,B)$, $(2,5,A)$.

Solution. $(0,0,X)$ -type records code a single character (X) , so the first two records are decoded to **CA**.

The numbers in the record $(2,1,D)$ are decoded as a copy command: move back 2 positions and copy 1 character (C) . Then the D is added to the end $\rightarrow$ **CACD**.

Similarly, $(3,2,B)$ results in **CACD**ACB****.

For the record $(2,5,A)$, we execute a similar copy command, but we only have 2 characters (CB) to copy; in this case, we keep copying those 2 characters cyclically until we get 5 characters $(CBCBC)$, then add an A to the end $\rightarrow$ **CACDACB**CBCBCA****.

Problem 3

Using LZ78, encode the message AABABBBABBABB. Also convert the dictionary to binary.

Solution. We use $A \rightarrow 0$, $B \rightarrow 1$ fixed length character encoding.

A|A B|A B B|B|A B B A|B B

1	(0,A)	0
2	(1,B)	011
3	(2,B)	011101
4	(0,B)	011101001
5	(3,A)	0111010010110
6	(4,B)	01110100011101001

Problem 4

Apply MTF transform to the text "tobeornottobe".

Solution.

abcdefghijklmnopqrst	tobeornottobe	20
tabcdefghijklmnopqrs	tobeornottobe	20,16
otabcdefghijklmnopqrs	to b eornottobe	20,16,4
botacdefghijklmnopqrs	tob e ornottobe	20,16,4,7
ebotacdfghijklmnopqrs	tobe o rnottobe	20,16,4,7,3
oebtacdfghijklmnopqrs	tobeor n ottobe	20,16,4,7,3,19
roebtacdfghijklmnopqrs	tobeorn o ttobe	20,16,4,7,3,19,16
nroebtacdfghijklmpqs	tobeorn o ttobe	20,16,4,7,3,19,16,3
onrebtacdfghijklmpqs	tobeorn o ttobe	20,16,4,7,3,19,16,3,6
tonrebtacdfghijklmpqs	tobeorn o ttobe	20,16,4,7,3,19,16,3,6,1
tonrebtacdfghijklmpqs	tobeornott o be	20,16,4,7,3,19,16,3,6,1,2
otnrebtacdfghijklmpqs	tobeornott o be	20,16,4,7,3,19,16,3,6,1,2,6
btonreacdfghijklmpqs	tobeornottob e	20,16,4,7,3,19,16,3,6,1,2,6,6

Problem 5

Compute the Burrows–Wheeler transform of the text “andanand”.
Solution.

andanand		anandand	
ndananda		andanand	←
danandan		andanda	
anandand		dananda	
nandanda	→	dandana	
andandan		nandanda	
ndandana		ndananda	
dandanan		ndandana	

The Burrows–Wheeler transform is (“ddnnnaaa”, 2).

Problem 6

Apply inverse Burrows–Wheeler transform to (“NNBAAA”, 4).

Solution.

ABANAN	
ANABAN	
ANANAB	
BANANA	←
NABANA	
NANABA	

The inverse transform is “BANANA”.

Quantization

Reminder. Quantization: round values from a larger set to values from a smaller set.

A quantizer $Q : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is described by levels $x_1, \dots, x_N$ and domains $B_1, \dots, B_N$.

Real random signal X . Distortion: $D(Q) = \mathbb{E}((X - Q(X))^2)$.

Nearest neighbour rule, center of gravity rule, Lloyd-Max property.

Optimal quantizer: explicit derivation only when N is very small.

Otherwise, Lloyd-Max algorithm for iterative approximation:

1. Initialize levels.
2. Update domains using nearest neighbour rule.
3. Compute $D(Q)$, if the decrease is below threshold, stop.
4. Update values using center of gravity rule, repeat.

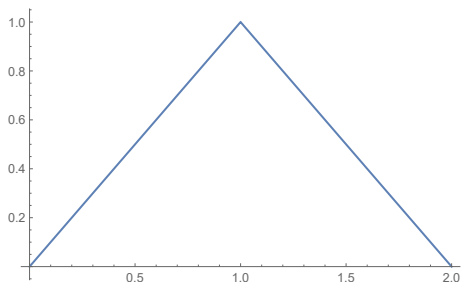
Problem 7

The probability density function of the random signal X is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - |x - 1| & \text{for } x \in [0, 2] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Compute the optimal 3-level quantizer for X explicitly. (Hint: use symmetry.)

Solution. The pdf looks like this:



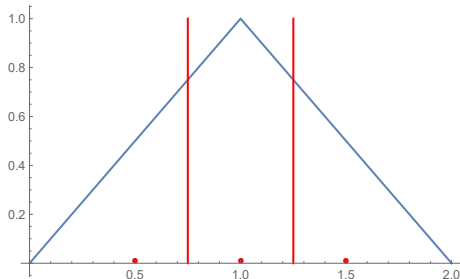
Problem 7

Let the boundaries be $y \in [0, 1]$ and $2 - y \in [1, 2]$, so

$$B_1 = [0, y] \quad B_2 = [y, 2 - y] \quad B_3 = [2 - y, 2]$$

According to the center of gravity rule (and the symmetry), the levels are

$$x_1 = \frac{\int_0^y x \cdot x dx}{\int_0^y x dx} = \frac{2y}{3}, \quad x_2 = 1, \quad x_3 = 2 - \frac{2y}{3}.$$



Problem 7

$$\begin{aligned} D(Q) = & \int_0^y (x - 2y/3)^2 x dx + \int_y^1 (x - 1)^2 x dx + \\ & \int_1^{2-y} (x - 1)^2 (2 - x) dx + \int_{2-y}^2 (x - (2 - 2y/3))^2 (2 - x) dx = \\ & -\frac{4}{9}y^4 + \frac{4}{3}y^3 - y^2 + \frac{1}{6} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d}{dy} \left(-\frac{4}{9}y^4 + \frac{4}{3}y^3 - y^2 + \frac{1}{6} \right) = -\frac{16}{9}y^3 + 4y^2 - 2y = 0$$

$$y \left(-\frac{16}{9}y^2 + 4y - 2 \right) = 0$$

$$y_1 = 0 \quad y_2 = 0.75 \quad y_3 = 1.5$$

Problem 7

Is $y_2 = 0.75$ a minimum?

$$\left. \frac{d^2}{dy^2} \left(-\frac{16}{3}y^4 + \frac{4}{3}y^3 - y^2 + \frac{1}{6} \right) \right|_{y=y_2} > 0$$

so y_2 is a minimum and the optimal quantizer is:

$$B_1 = [0, 0.75] \quad B_2 = [0.75, 1.25] \quad B_3 = [1.25, 2]$$

$$x_1 = 0.5 \quad x_2 = 1 \quad x_3 = 1.5$$

Problem 7

Solution 2. Once we have $x_1 = \frac{2y}{3}$, y can also be obtained from the nearest neighbour rule: $y = \frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}$ gives a linear equation for y that can be solved:

$$y = \frac{x_1 + x_2}{2} = \frac{\frac{2y}{3} + 1}{2} \rightarrow y = 0.75,$$

and the rest follows.

Problem 8

We want to find the optimal 3-level quantization for $X \sim U([0, 2])$. Execute two iterations of the Lloyd-Max algorithm, starting from the levels $x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0.4, x_3 = 1.6$.

Solution. Step 1: initialization. $x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0.4, x_3 = 1.6$.

Step 2: compute the domains.

$$B_1 = [0, 0.2] \quad B_2 = [0.2, 1.0] \quad B_3 = [1.0, 2.0]$$

Step 3:

$$\begin{aligned} D(Q) = & \int_0^{0.2} (x - 0.2)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} dx + \int_{0.2}^{1.0} (x - 0.4)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} dx + \\ & + \int_{1.0}^2 (x - 1.6)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} dx \approx 0.0805 \end{aligned}$$

Step 4: update the levels.

$$x_1 = 0.1 \quad x_2 = 0.6 \quad x_3 = 1.5$$

Problem 8

Second iteration.

Step 2: update the domains.

$$B_1 = [0, 0.35] \quad B_2 = [0.35, 1.05] \quad B_3 = [1.05, 2.0]$$

Step 3:

$$\begin{aligned} D(Q) = & \int_0^{0.35} (x - 0.1)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} dx + \int_{0.35}^{1.05} (x - 0.6)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} dx + \\ & + \int_{1.05}^2 (x - 1.5)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} dx \approx 0.0665 \end{aligned}$$

Step 4: update the levels.

$$x_1 = 0.175 \quad x_2 = 0.7 \quad x_3 = 1.525$$

Problem 9

What is the optimal 3-level quantization for $X \sim U([0, 2])$?
Compute the distortion.

Solution. For uniform distributions, the optimal quantizer is always discrete uniform, that is, all domains have the same length:

$$B_1 = [0, 2/3] \quad B_2 = [2/3, 4/3] \quad B_3 = [4/3, 2]$$

$$\begin{aligned} D(Q) &= \int_0^{2/3} (x - 1/3)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} dx + \int_{2/3}^{4/3} (x - 1)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} dx + \\ &\quad + \int_{4/3}^2 (x - 5/3)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} dx = 2/27 \approx 0.0370 \end{aligned}$$