

08

Communication over a Noisy Channel

Notice

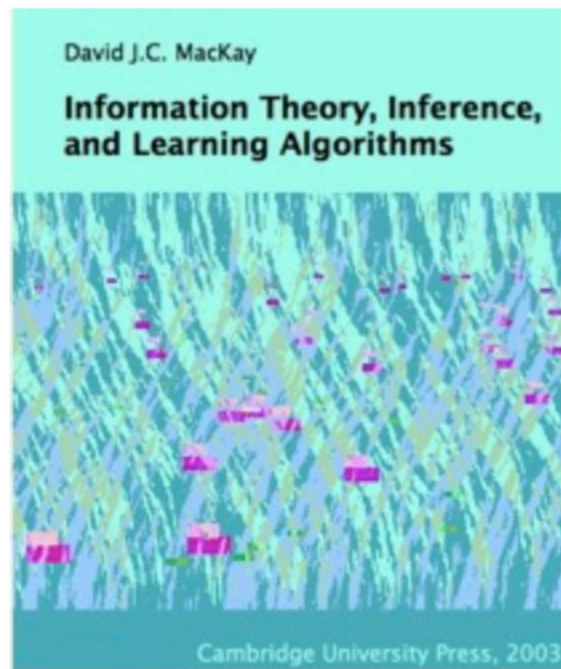
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Bibliography

- Many examples are extracted and adapted from:



Information Theory, Inference, and Learning Algorithms
David J.C. MacKay
2005, Version 7.2

- And some slides were based on Iain Murray course
 - ◆ <http://www.inf.ed.ac.uk/teaching/courses/it/2014/>

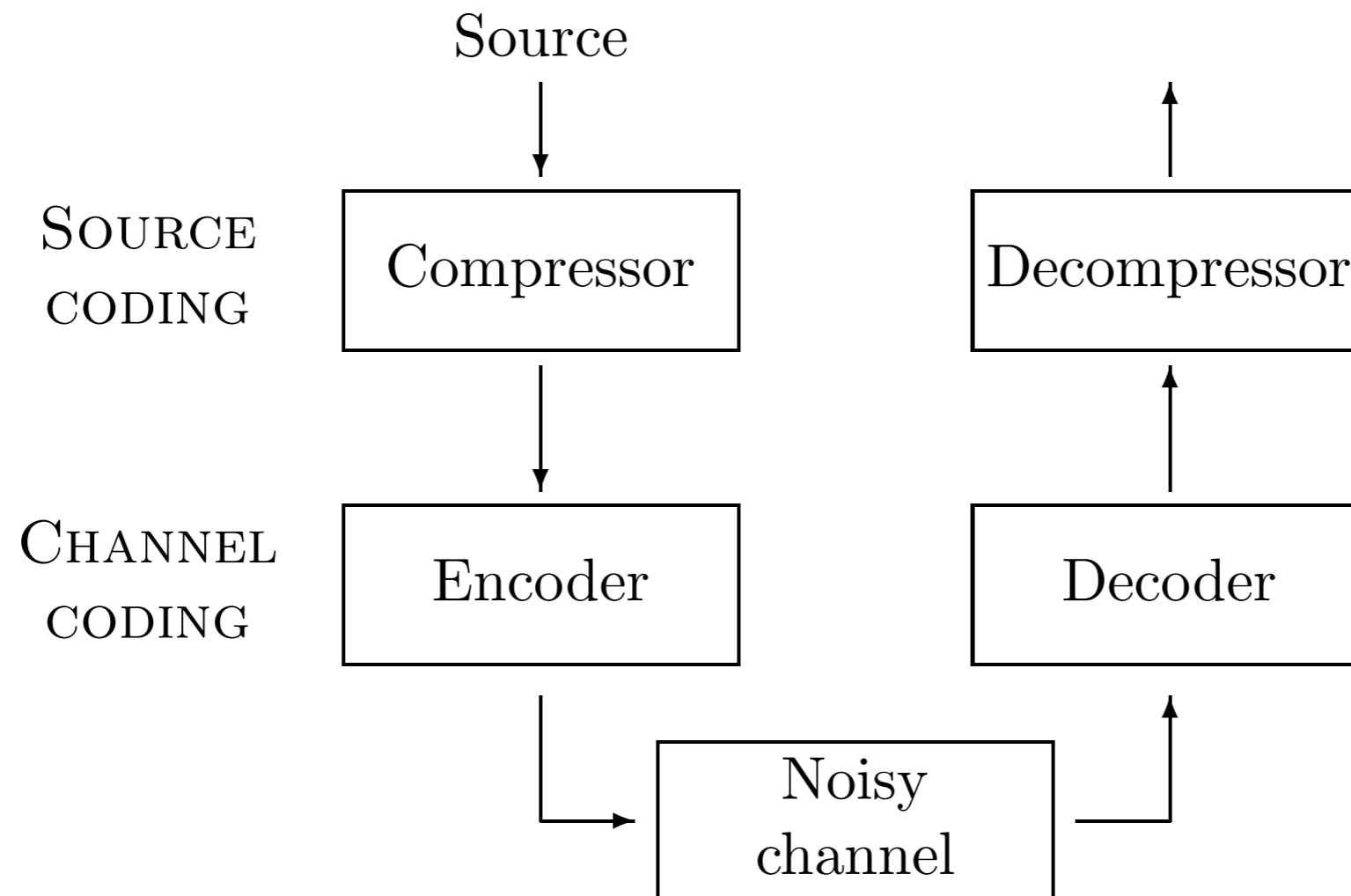
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The big picture

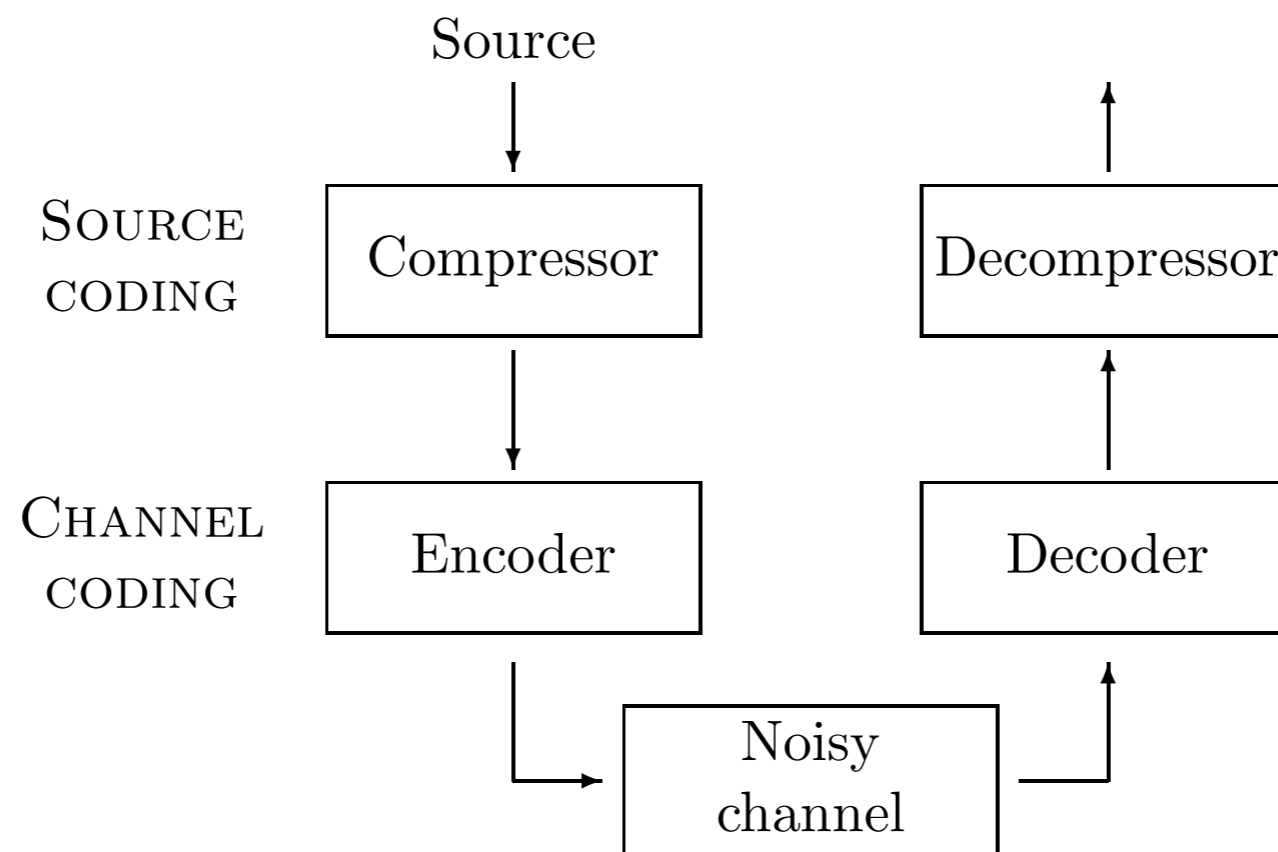
The big picture

- The aim of **source coding** is **data compression**, assuming a noise-free channel.
- Real channels are noisy. The aim of **channel coding** is to make the **noisy channel behave like a noiseless channel**.



The big picture. **Channel Coding**

- The data to be transmitted has been through a good compressor, so the **bit stream has no obvious redundancy**.
- The channel code, which makes the transmission, will **put back redundancy of a special sort, designed to make the noisy received signal decodable**.



The big picture. Channel Coding

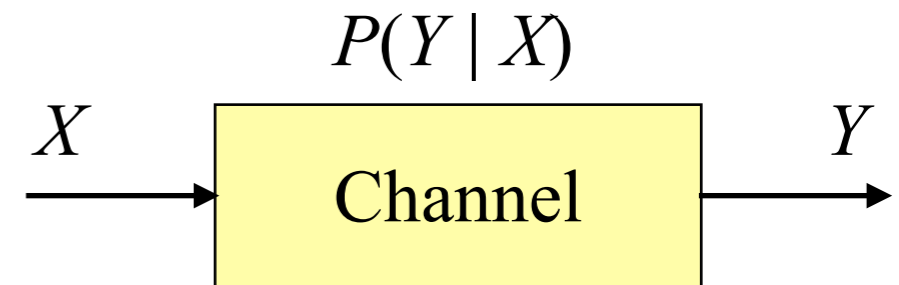
- Suppose we transmit 1000 bits per second with $p_0 = p_1 = 1/2$ over a noisy channel that flips bits with probability $f = 0.1$.
- What is the **rate of transmission of information**?
 - We might guess that the rate is 900 bits per second by subtracting the expected number of errors per second. But this is not correct! because **the recipient does not know where the errors occurred**.
 - Consider the case where the noise level of $f = 0.5$.
 - Half of the received symbols are correct due to chance alone.
 - But when $f = 0.5$, **no information is transmitted** at all.
- A measure of the **information transmitted** is given by the **mutual information $I(\text{Source}; \text{Received})$**

Noisy Channels

Discrete memoryless channel

- A **discrete memoryless channel** Q is characterized by

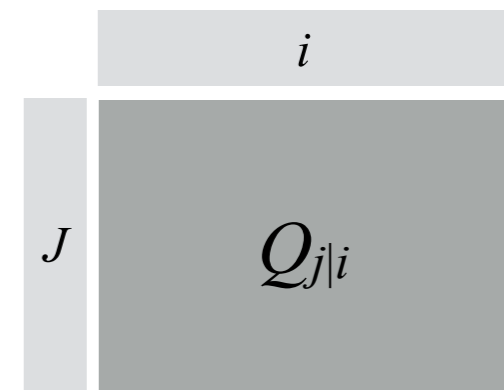
- an input alphabet A_X ,
- an output alphabet A_Y ,
- a set of conditional probability distributions $P(y | x)$, one for each $x \in A_X$.



- These *transition probabilities* may be written in a *matrix*

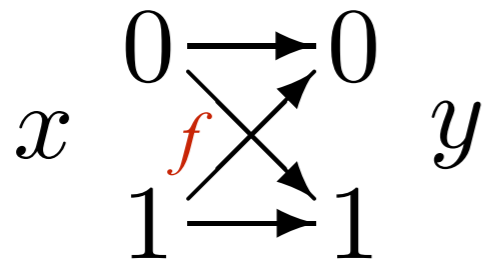
$$Q_{j|i} = P(y = b_j | x = a_i)$$

- The **output variable** j indexing the **rows**
- The **input variable** i indexing the **columns**
- **Each column of Q is a probability vector.**
- $\mathbf{p}_y = Q\mathbf{p}_x$



Binary Symmetric Channel

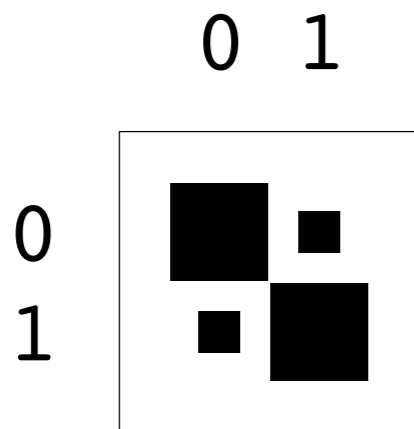
- $A_X = \{0, 1\}; A_Y = \{0, 1\}$.



$$\begin{aligned} P(y=0 | x=0) &= 1-f; & P(y=0 | x=1) &= f; \\ P(y=1 | x=0) &= f; & P(y=1 | x=1) &= 1-f. \end{aligned}$$

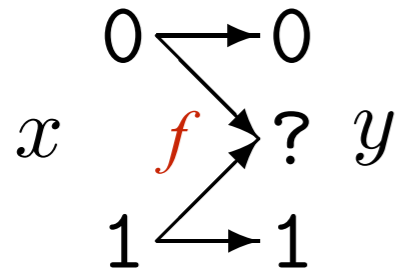
- f is the probability of flipping a bit.

- So we assume that $f < 0.5$



Binary erasure channel

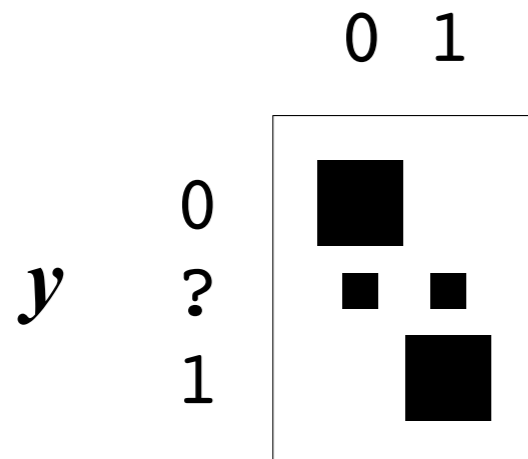
- $A_X = \{0, 1\}$; $A_Y = \{0, ?, 1\}$.



$$\begin{aligned} P(y=0 \mid x=0) &= 1-f; & P(y=0 \mid x=1) &= 0; \\ P(y=? \mid x=0) &= f; & P(y=? \mid x=1) &= f; \\ P(y=1 \mid x=0) &= 0; & P(y=1 \mid x=1) &= 1-f. \end{aligned}$$

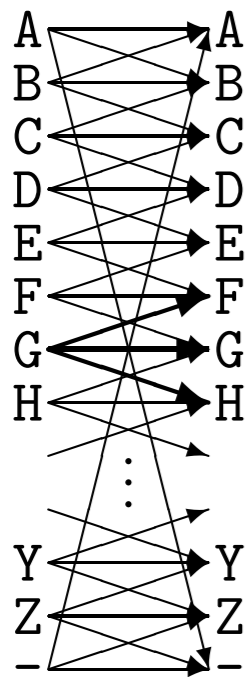
- f is the probability of erasing a bit.

- So we assume that $f < 0.5$

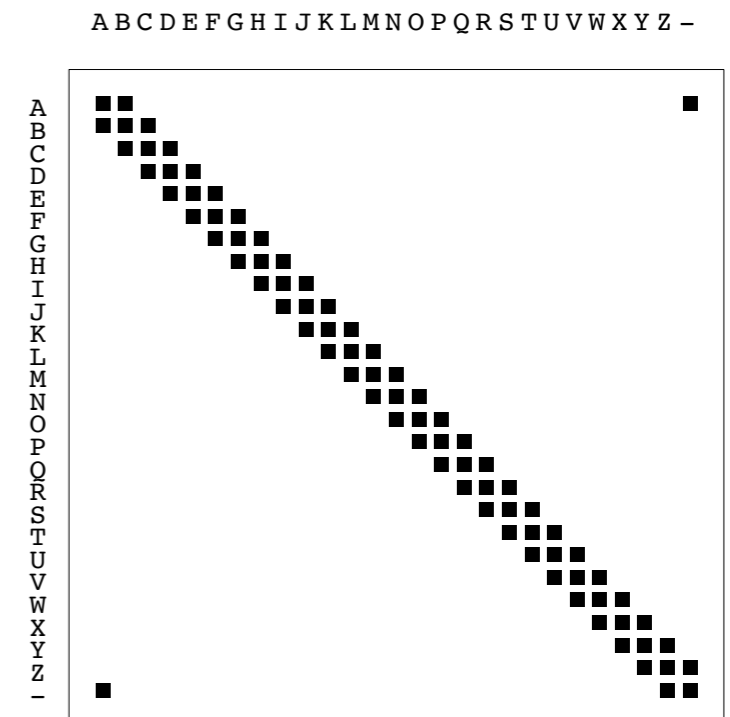


Noisy typewriter

- $A_X = A_Y =$ the 27 letters $\{A, B, \dots, Z, -\}$.
- The letters are **arranged in a circle**.
- When the typist attempts to type B, what comes out is either A, B or C, with probability 1/3 each;
- When the input is C, the output is B, C or D;
- and so forth, with the final letter '-' adjacent to the first letter A.

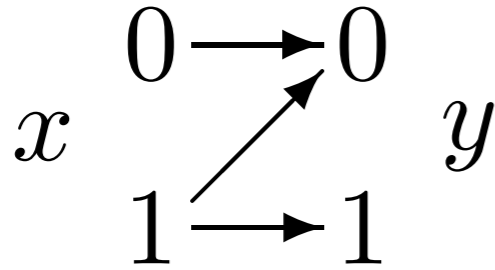


$$\begin{aligned}
 & \vdots \\
 P(y = F \mid x = G) &= 1/3; \\
 P(y = G \mid x = G) &= 1/3; \\
 P(y = H \mid x = G) &= 1/3; \\
 & \vdots
 \end{aligned}$$



Z channel

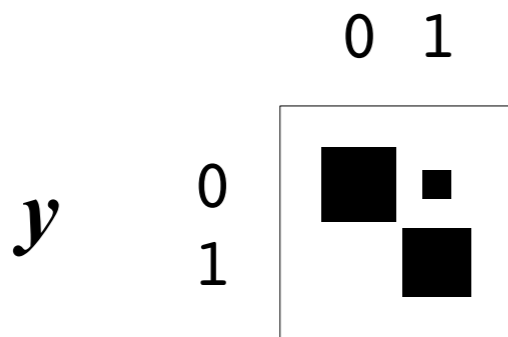
- $A_X = \{0, 1\}; A_Y = \{0, 1\}.$



$$\begin{aligned} P(y=0 | x=0) &= 1; & P(y=0 | x=1) &= f; \\ P(y=1 | x=0) &= 0; & P(y=1 | x=1) &= 1 - f. \end{aligned}$$

- f is the probability of flipping a one.

- So we assume that $f < 0.5$



Inferring the input given the output

Inferring the input given the output

- If we assume that the **input** x to a **channel** comes from an ensemble X ,
 - We obtain a joint ensemble XY in

$$P(x, y) = P(y | x)P(x)$$

- If we receive a particular symbol y , what was the input symbol x ?
 - Typically we won't know for certain
 - The posterior distribution of the input using Bayes' theorem

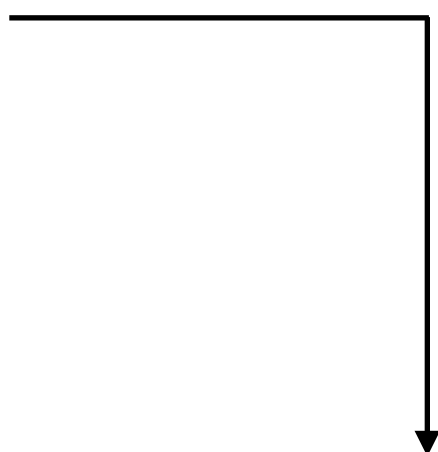
$$P(x | y) = \frac{P(y | x)P(x)}{P(y)} = \frac{P(y | x)P(x)}{\sum_{x'} P(y | x')P(x')}$$

Example - **binary symmetric channel**

- Consider a **binary symmetric channel** with probability of error $f = 0.15$.
- Let the input ensemble be $P_X : \{p_0 = 0.9, p_1 = 0.1\}$.
- Assume **we observe $y = 1$** .

$$\begin{aligned} P(x = 1 | y = 1) &= \frac{P(y = 1 | x = 1)P(x = 1)}{\sum_{x'} P(y | x')P(x')} \\ &= \frac{0.85 \times 0.1}{0.85 \times 0.1 + 0.15 \times 0.9} \\ &= \frac{0.085}{0.22} = 0.39. \end{aligned}$$

$$P(x = 0 | y = 1) = 0.61$$


$$P(y = 1 / x = 1) = 0.85$$

Example - binary symmetric channel

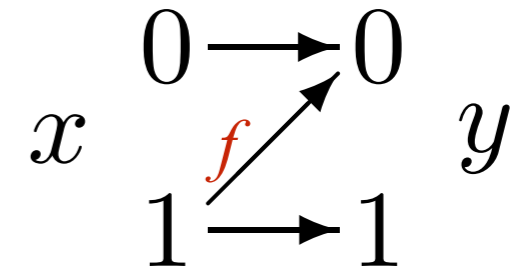
- Consider a **binary symmetric channel** with probability of error $f = 0.15$.
- Let the input ensemble be $P_X : \{p_0 = 0.9, p_1 = 0.1\}$.
- Assume **we observe $y = 0$** .

$$\begin{aligned} P(x = 1 \mid y = 0) &= \frac{P(y = 0 \mid x = 1)P(x = 1)}{\sum_{x'} P(y \mid x')P(x')} & P(y = 0 \mid x = 1) = 0.15 \\ &= \frac{0.15 \times 0.1}{0.15 \times 0.1 + 0.85 \times 0.9} \\ &= \frac{0.015}{0.78} = 0.019. \end{aligned}$$

$$P(x = 0 \mid y = 0) = 0.981$$

Example - **Z** channel

- Consider a **Z channel** with probability of error $f = 0.15$.
- Let the input ensemble be $P_X : \{p_0 = 0.9, p_1 = 0.1\}$.
- Assume we observe $y = 1$.



$$P(x = 1 \mid y = 1) = \frac{P(y = 1 \mid x = 1)P(x = 1)}{\sum_{x'} P(y \mid x')P(x')}$$

$$P(y = 1 \mid x = 1) = 0.85$$

$$= \frac{0.85 \times 0.1}{0.85 \times 0.1 + 0 \times 0.9}$$

$$= \frac{0.085}{0.085} = 1.0.$$

So given the output $y = 1$ we become certain of the input

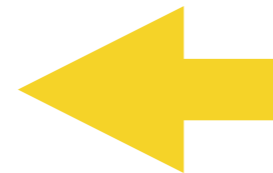
Information conveyed by a channel

Information conveyed by a channel

- We now consider **how much information can be communicated through a channel.**
- We are interested in finding ways of using the channel **such that all the bits that are communicated are recovered with negligible probability of error**
- Assuming a particular input ensemble X , we can measure **how much information the output conveys about the input** by the mutual information $I(X; Y)$

$$I(X; Y) = H(X) - H(X | Y)$$

$$I(X; Y) = H(Y) - H(Y | X)$$

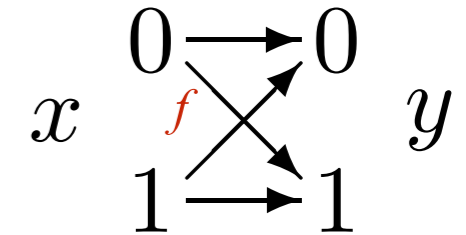


Example with a BSC

- Consider the **binary symmetric channel** again, with $f = 0.15$ and $P_X : \{p_0 = 0.9, p_1 = 0.1\}$.

- We need $P(y)$ and $P(y | x)$ for

$$I(X;Y) = H(Y) - H(Y | X)$$



- Compute $P(y)$

$$P(y) = \sum_x P(x, y) = \sum_x P(y | x)P(x) = P(y | x = 0)P(x = 0) + P(y | x = 1)P(x = 1)$$

$$P(y = 0) = P(y = 0 | x = 0)P(x = 0) + P(y = 0 | x = 1)P(x = 1) = 0.85 \times 0.9 + 0.15 \times 0.1 = 0.78$$

$$P(y = 1) = P(y = 1 | x = 0)P(x = 0) + P(y = 1 | x = 1)P(x = 1) = 0.15 \times 0.9 + 0.85 \times 0.1 = 0.22$$

- $P(y | x)$ is defined by the channel

$$\begin{aligned} P(y = 0 | x = 0) &= 1 - f; & P(y = 0 | x = 1) &= f; \\ P(y = 1 | x = 0) &= f; & P(y = 1 | x = 1) &= 1 - f. \end{aligned} \quad f = 0.15$$

Example with a BSC

$$I(X;Y) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$

- Consider the **binary symmetric channel** again, with $f = 0.15$ and $P_X : \{p_0 = 0.9, p_1 = 0.1\}$.
- $P(y = 0) = 0.78; P(y = 1) = 0.22$

$$H(Y) = H_2(0.22) = 0.76 \text{ bits}$$

$$H_2(p) = p \log_2 \frac{1}{p} + (1-p) \log_2 \frac{1}{1-p}$$

- $H(Y|X)$

$$H(Y|X) = P(x=0)H(Y|x=0) + P(x=1)H(Y|x=1)$$

$$H(Y|x=0) = H_2(f) = H_2(0.15) = 0.61 \text{ bits}$$

$$H(Y|x=1) = H_2(f) = H_2(0.15) = 0.61 \text{ bits}$$

$$H(Y|X) = 0.9H_2(f) + 0.1H_2(f) = H_2(f) = H_2(0.15) = 0.61 \text{ bits}$$

$$I(X;Y) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$

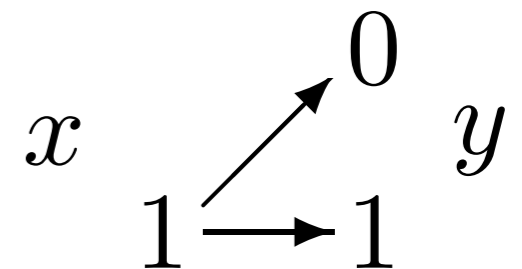
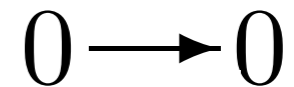
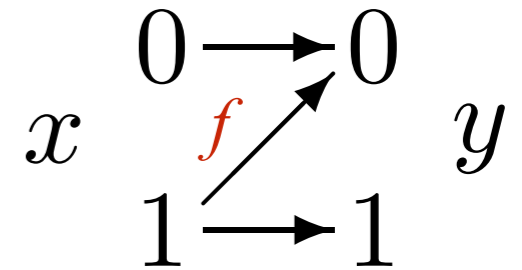
$$I(X;Y) = H_2(0.22) - H_2(0.15) = 0.76 - 0.61 = 0.15 \text{ bits}$$

$$H(X) = H_2(0.1) = 0.47 \text{ bits}$$

Example with a **Z** channel

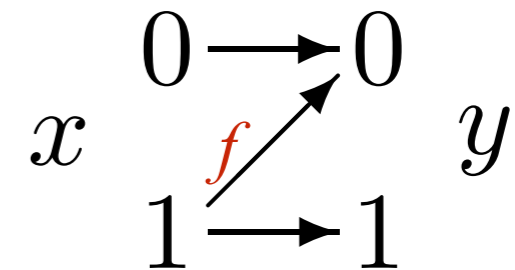
- Consider the **Z channel** again, with $f = 0.15$ and $P_X : \{p_0 = 0.9, p_1 = 0.1\}$.
- $1 - f = 0.85$
- Compute $I(X;Y)$

$$\begin{aligned} I(X;Y) &= H(Y) - H(Y | X) \\ &= H_2(0.085) - [0.9H_2(0) + 0.1H_2(0.15)] \end{aligned}$$



Example - Z channel

- Consider a **Z channel** with probability of error $f = 0.15$.
- Let the input ensemble be $P_X : \{p_0 = 0.9, p_1 = 0.1\}$.
- Assume we observe $y = 1$.



$$P(x = 1 \mid y = 1) = \frac{P(y = 1 \mid x = 1)P(x = 1)}{\sum_{x'} P(y \mid x')P(x')}$$

$$P(y = 1 \mid x = 1) = 0.85$$

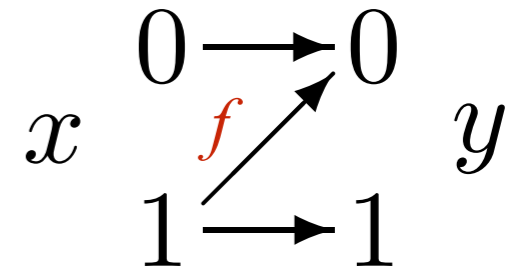
$$= \frac{0.85 \times 0.1}{0.85 \times 0.1 + 0 \times 0.9}$$

$$= \frac{0.085}{0.085} = 1.0.$$

So given the output $y = 1$ we become certain of the input

Example with a Z channel

- Consider the **Z channel** again, with $f = 0.15$ and $P_X : \{p_0 = 0.9, p_1 = 0.1\}$.
- $P(y = 1) = 0.085$
- Compute $I(X; Y)$



$$\begin{aligned} I(X; Y) &= H(Y) - H(Y | X) \\ &= H_2(0.085) - [0.9 H_2(0) + 0.1 H_2(0.15)] \\ &= 0.42 - 0.1 \times 0.61 = 0.36 \text{ bits} \end{aligned}$$

-
- **BSC** - $I(X; Y) = 0.15$ bits
 - **Z Channel**: $I(X; Y) = 0.36$ bits
 - The Z channel is a **more reliable channel** (for the same f)

Maximizing the mutual information

- The **mutual information** between the input and the output **depends on the chosen input ensemble !**
- To maximize the mutual information conveyed by the channel by choosing the best possible input ensemble. We define the **capacity of the channel** to be its **maximum mutual information**.
- The **capacity** of a channel Q is:

$$C(Q) = \max_{P_X} I(X; Y)$$

- The distribution P_X that achieves the maximum is called the **optimal input distribution**, denoted by P_X^* .
- There may be **multiple optimal input distributions** achieving the same value of $I(X; Y)$

Capacity - Example for BSC

- Consider the **binary symmetric channel** with $f = 0.15$.
- With $P_X = \{p_0 = 0.9, p_1 = 0.1\}$, we have $I(X; Y) = 0.15$ bits

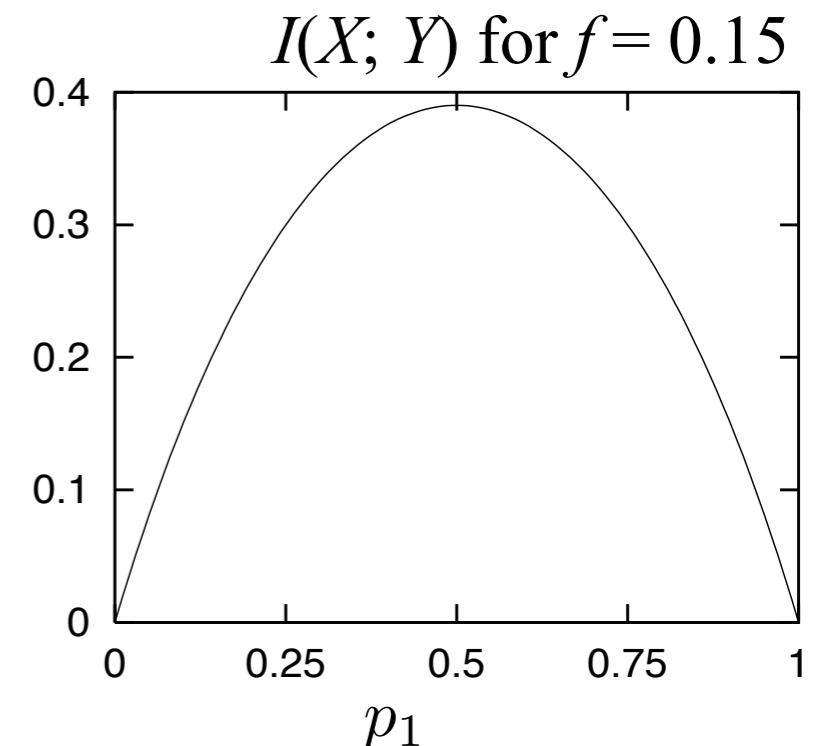
$$I(X; Y) = H_2(0.22) - H_2(0.15) = 0.76 - 0.61 = 0.15 \text{ bits}$$

- What is the **maximum of $I(X; Y)$** ? For which P_X ?
- By symmetry, the **optimal input distribution** is $\{0.5, 0.5\}$ and the capacity is 0.39 bits.

$$C(Q_{BSC}) = H_2(0.5) - H_2(0.15) = 1 - 0.61 = 0.39 \text{ bits}$$

- Note the mutual information $I(X; Y)$

$$I(X; Y) = H_2((1-f)p_1 + (1-p_1)f) - H_2(f)$$



Capacity - Example for BSC

- Consider the **binary symmetric channel** with f .

$$I(X;Y) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$

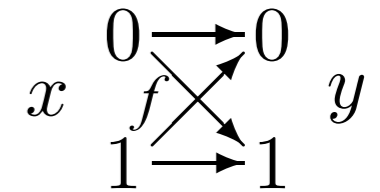
$$H(Y) = H_2((1-f)p_1 + (1-p_1)f)$$

$$H(Y|X) = p_1 H_2(f) + (1-p_1) H_2(f) = H_2(f)$$

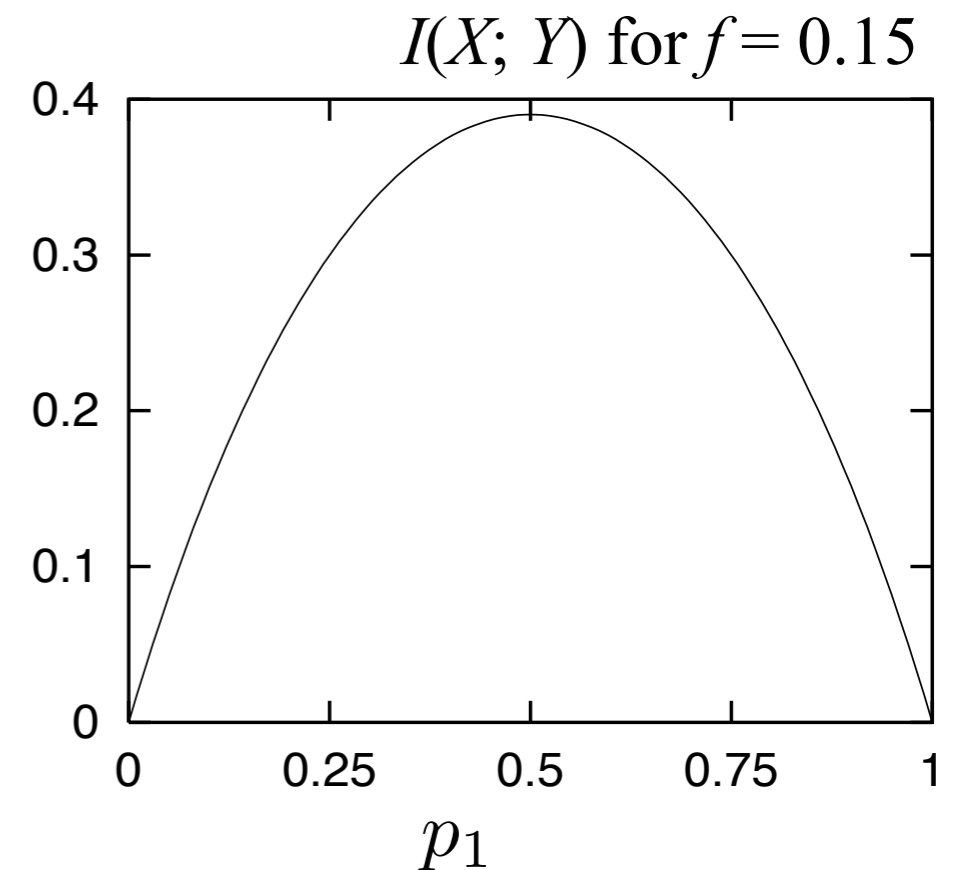
$$I(X;Y) = H_2((1-f)p_1 + (1-p_1)f) - H_2(f)$$

$$p_1 = 0.5 \rightarrow (1-f)p_1 + (1-p_1)f = 0.5$$

$$C(Q_{BSC}) = H_2(0.5) - H_2(0.15) = 1 - 0.61 = 0.39 \text{ bits}$$



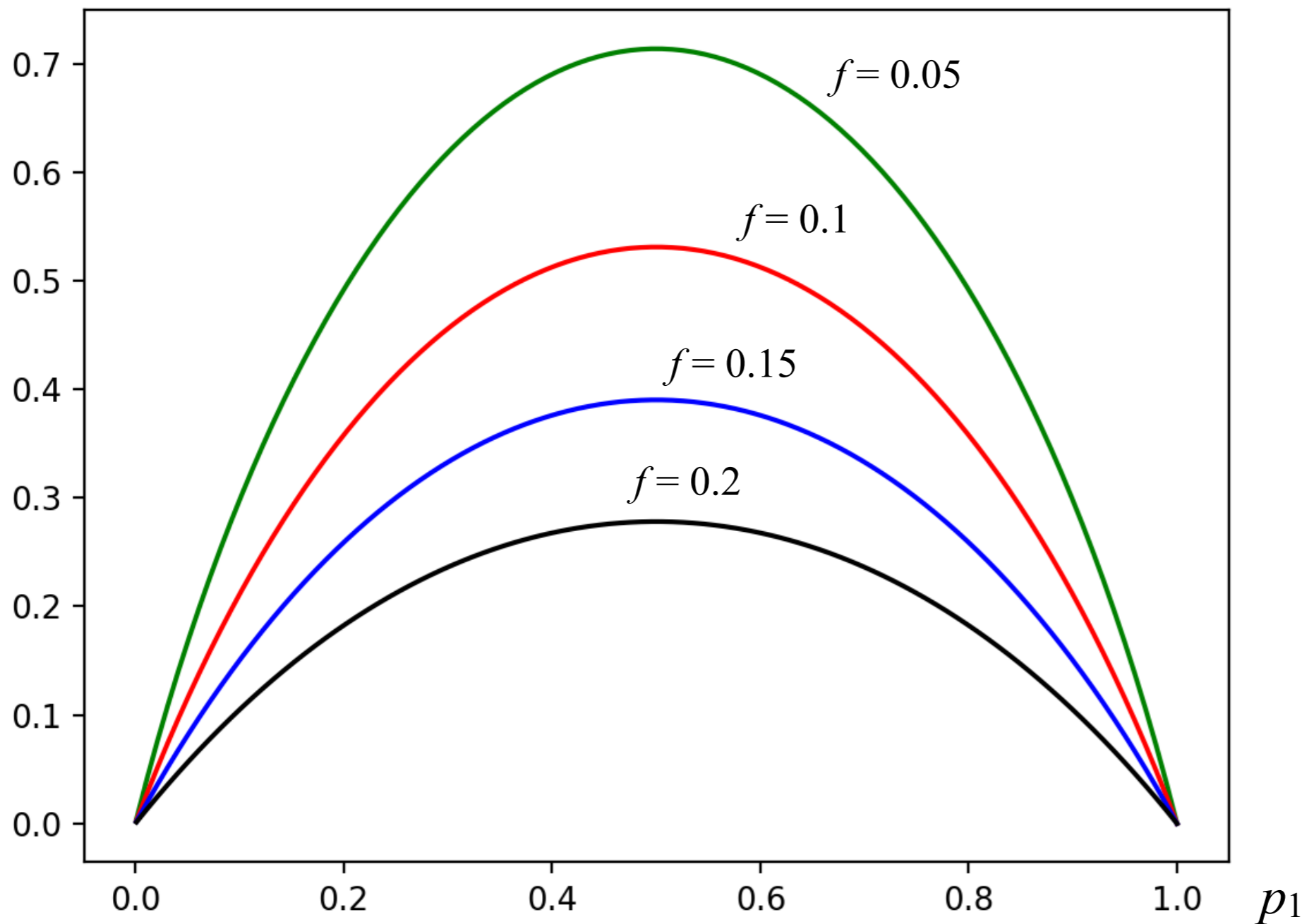
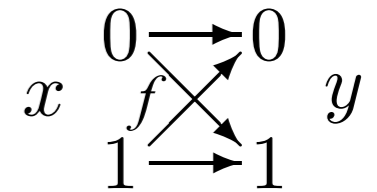
$$P(y=1) = p_1(1-f) + (1-p_1)f$$



Capacity - Example for BSC

$$I(X;Y) = H_2((1-f)p_1 + (1-p_1)f) - H_2(f)$$

- Consider the **binary symmetric channel** with f .



Capacity - Example for Z Channel

- Consider the **Z channel** with $f = 0.15$.

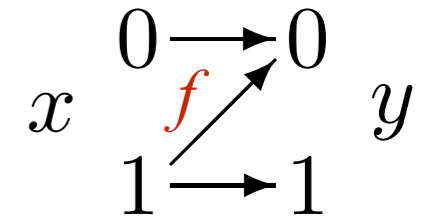
$$I(X;Y) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$

$$H(Y) = H_2((1-f)p_1)$$

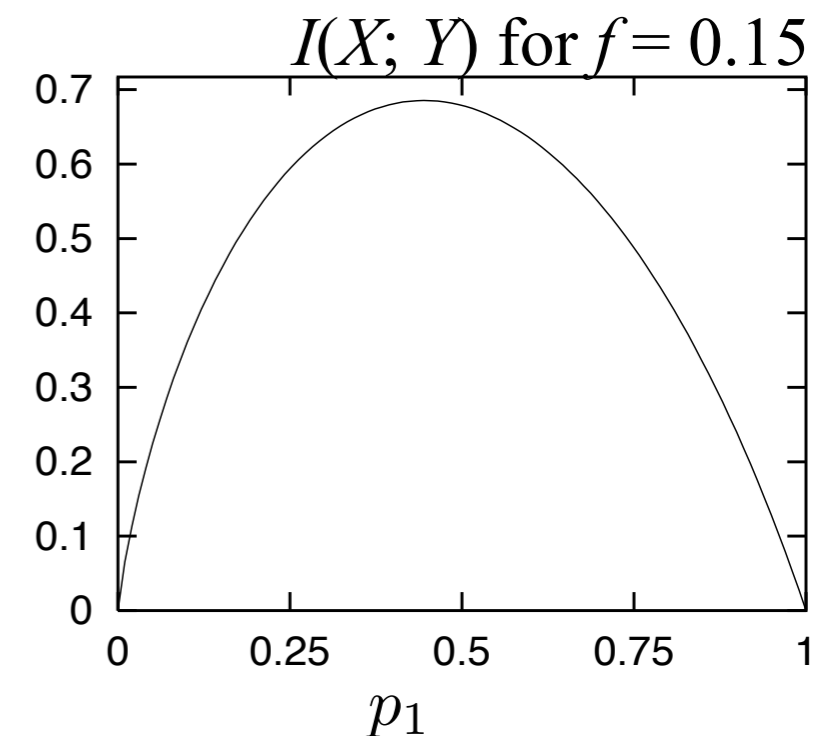
$$H(Y|X) = p_1 H_2(f) + p_0 H_2(0) = p_1 H_2(f)$$

$$I(X;Y) = H_2((1-f)p_1) - p_1 H_2(f)$$

- It is maximized for $f = 0.15$ by $p_1^* = 0.445$
- We find $C(Q_Z) = 0.685$.

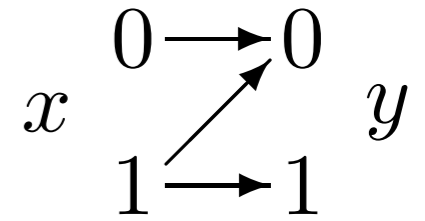
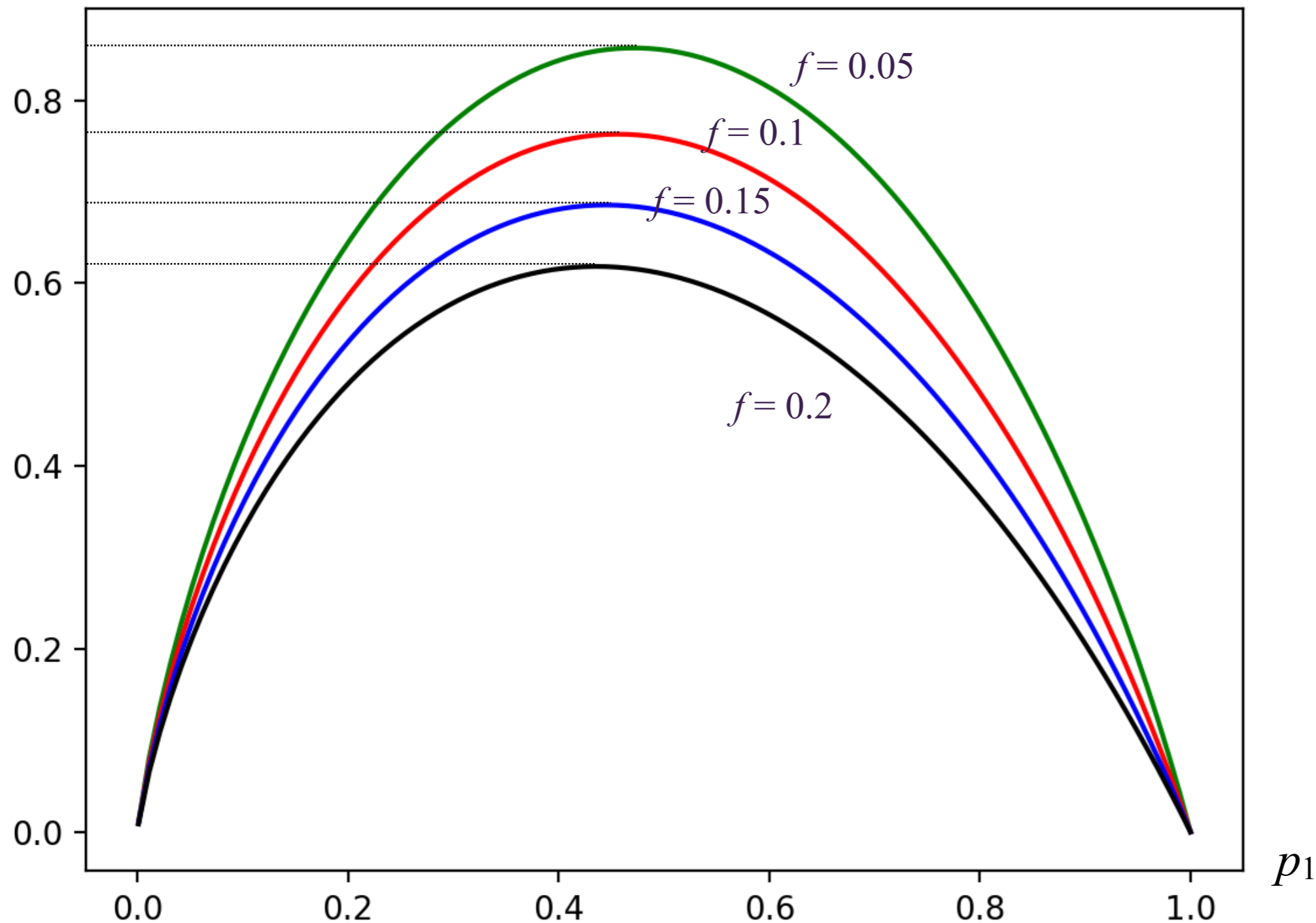


$$P(y=1) = p_1(1-f)$$



Capacity - Example for Z Channel

$$I(X;Y) = H_2((1-f)p_1) - p_1 H_2(f)$$



Capacity - Example the noisy typewriter

- $A_X = A_Y =$ the 27 letters $\{A, B, \dots, Z, -\}$.
- When the typist attempts to type B, what comes out is either A, B or C, with probability $1/3$ each;
- The **optimal input distribution is a uniform distribution over x** .
- The output distribution is also a uniform distribution over y .

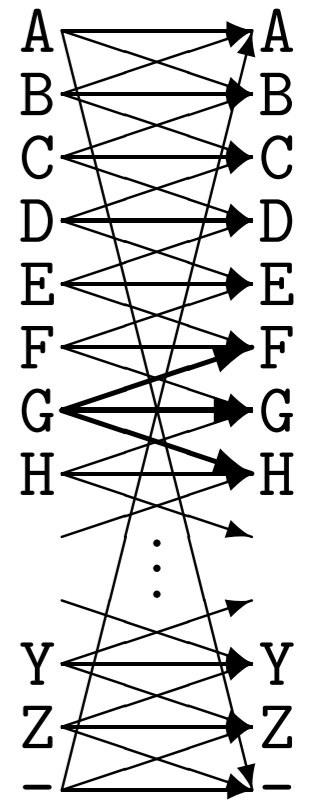
$$H(Y) = \log_2 27 = \log_2 3^3 \text{ bits}$$

- For each x , $P(y | x) = 1/3$ for 3 letters and zero for the others.

$$H(Y | X) = (3 \frac{1}{3} \log_2 3) = \log_2 3 \text{ bits}$$

$$I(X; Y) = 3 \log_2 3 - \log_2 3 = 2 \log_2 3 = \log_2 9 \text{ bits}$$

$$C_{\text{TypeWriter}} = \log_2 9 \text{ bits}$$



The noisy-channel coding theorem

The noisy-channel coding theorem

- It seems plausible that the ‘**capacity**’ we have defined may be a **measure of information conveyed by a channel**.
- What is not obvious, is that the **capacity** indeed **measures the rate at which blocks of data can be communicated** over the channel with *arbitrarily small probability of error*.

(N, K) block code

- An (N, K) block code for a channel Q is a list of $S = 2^K$ codewords

$$\left\{ \mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \mathbf{x}^{(2)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(2^K)} \right\}, \quad \mathbf{x}^{(s)} \in A_X^N,$$

each of length N .

- Using this code we can encode a signal $s \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 2^K\}$ as $\mathbf{x}^{(s)}$
- The *rate* of the code is $R = K/N$ bits per channel use.
 - This definition of the rate for any channel, not only channels with binary inputs
 - It is sometimes conventional to define the rate of a code for a channel with q input symbols to be $K/(N \log q)$.

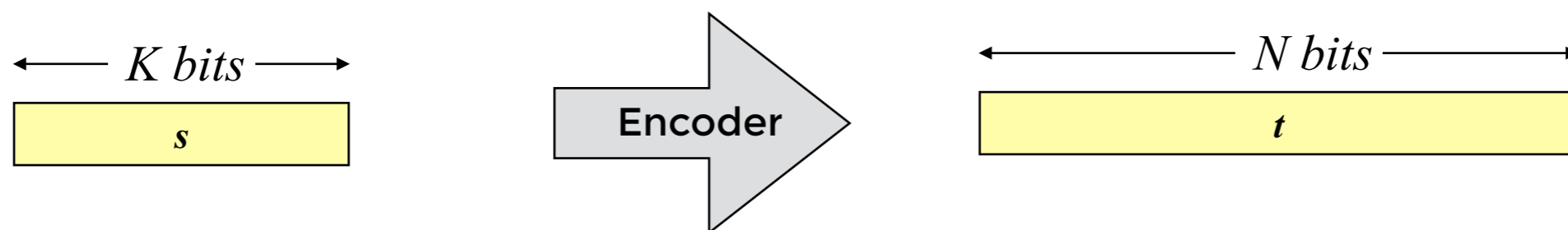
Block Codes (N, K)

$$R = K/N \text{ bits per channel use}$$

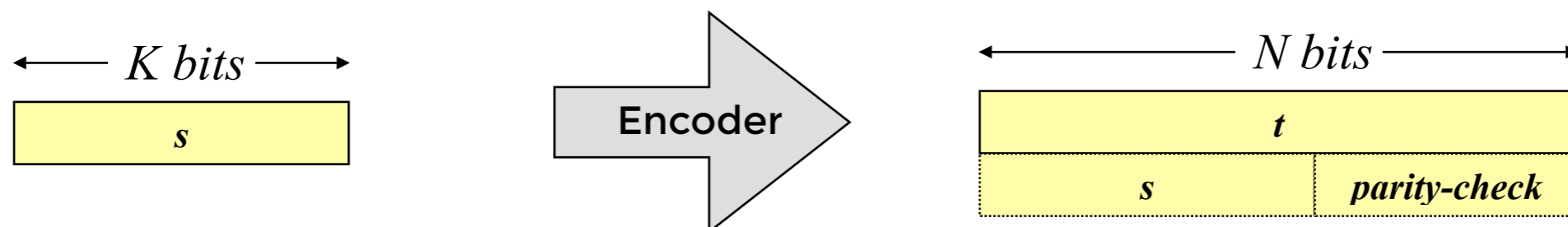
- Add redundancy to **blocks of data** instead of encoding one bit at a time
- A **block code** is a rule for converting a **sequence of source bits** s , of length K , say, into a transmitted sequence t of length N bits.

$$R_{H(7,4)} = 0.57$$

- To add redundancy, $N > K$



- In a **linear block code**, the extra $N - K$ bits are **linear functions** of the original K bits



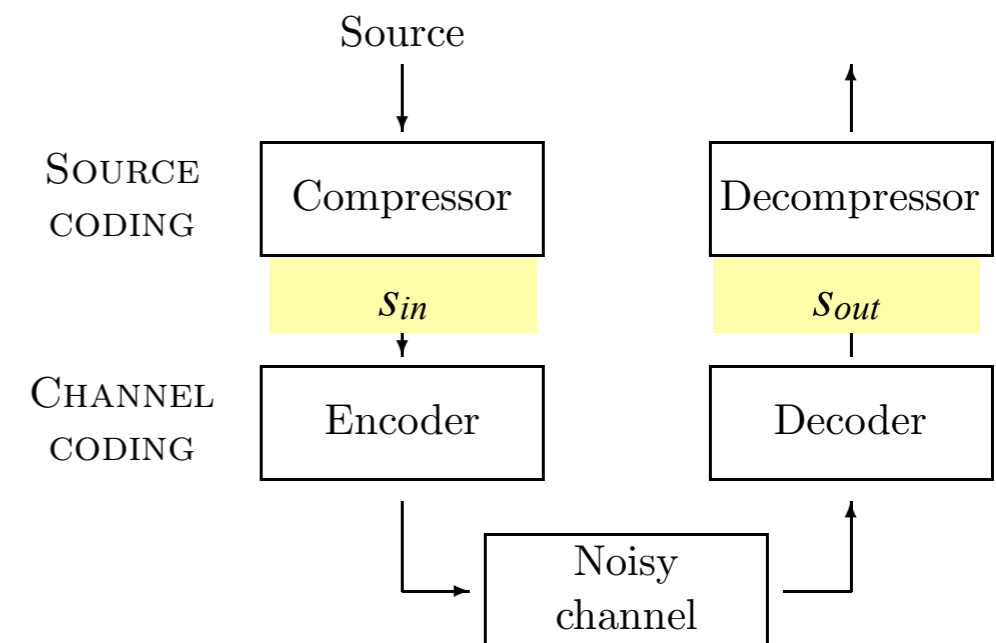
Decoding and the probability of block error

- A **decoder** for an (N, K) block code is a **mapping** from the set of **length- N strings** of channel outputs, A_Y^N , to a **codeword label** $\hat{S} \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 2^K\}$.

- The extra symbol $\hat{S} = 0$ can be used to indicate a ‘failure’.

- The **probability of block error** of a code and decoder, for a **given channel**, and for a **given probability distribution** over the encoded signal $P(s_{in})$, is:

$$p_B = \sum_{s_{in}} P(s_{in}) P(s_{out} \neq s_{in} | s_{in})$$



The maximal probability of block error and optimal decoder

- The maximal probability of block error is:

$$p_{BM} = \max_{s_{in}} P(s_{out} \neq s_{in} | s_{in})$$

- The **optimal decoder** for a channel code is the one that **minimizes the probability of block error**.

- It decodes an output \mathbf{y} as the input s that has maximum posterior probability $P(s | \mathbf{y})$.

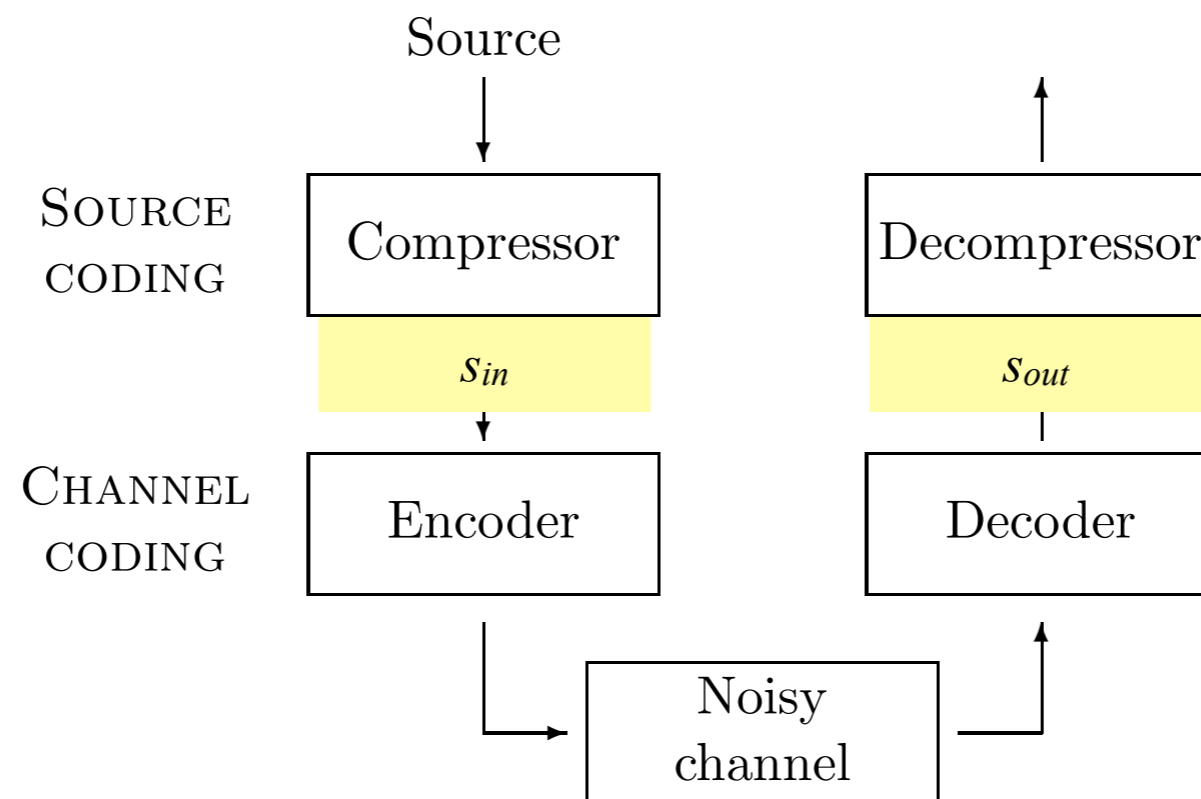
$$P(s | \mathbf{y}) = \frac{P(\mathbf{y} | s)P(s)}{\sum_{s'} P(\mathbf{y} | s')P(s')} \quad \hat{s}_{\text{optimal}} = \operatorname{argmax} P(s | \mathbf{y})$$

- A **uniform prior distribution on s** is usually assumed, in which case the **optimal decoder is also the maximum likelihood decoder**, i.e., the decoder that maps an output \mathbf{y} to the input s that has maximum likelihood $P(\mathbf{y} | s)$.

The probability of bit error - p_b

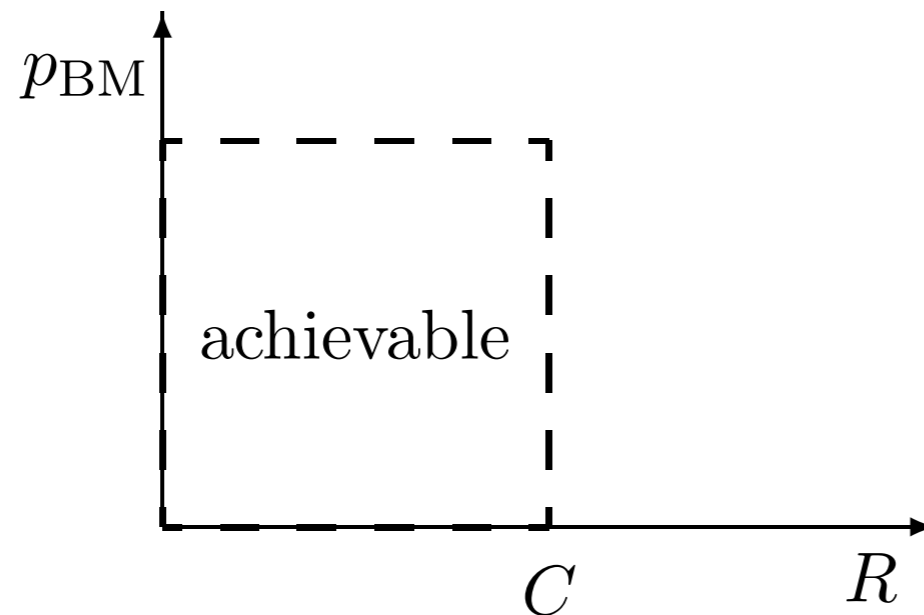
■ The probability of bit error p_b

- Assuming that the codeword number s is represented by a binary vector s of length K bits.
- It is the average probability that a **bit of s_{out}** is not equal to the **corresponding bit of s_{in}** (averaging over all K bits).



Shannon's noisy-channel coding theorem (part one)

- Associated with each discrete memoryless channel, there is a non-negative number C (called the **channel capacity**) with the following property:
- For any $\varepsilon > 0$ and $R < C$, for large enough N ,
 - there **exists a block code of length N and rate $\geq R$**
 - and a decoding algorithm, **such that the maximal probability of block error is $< \varepsilon$** .



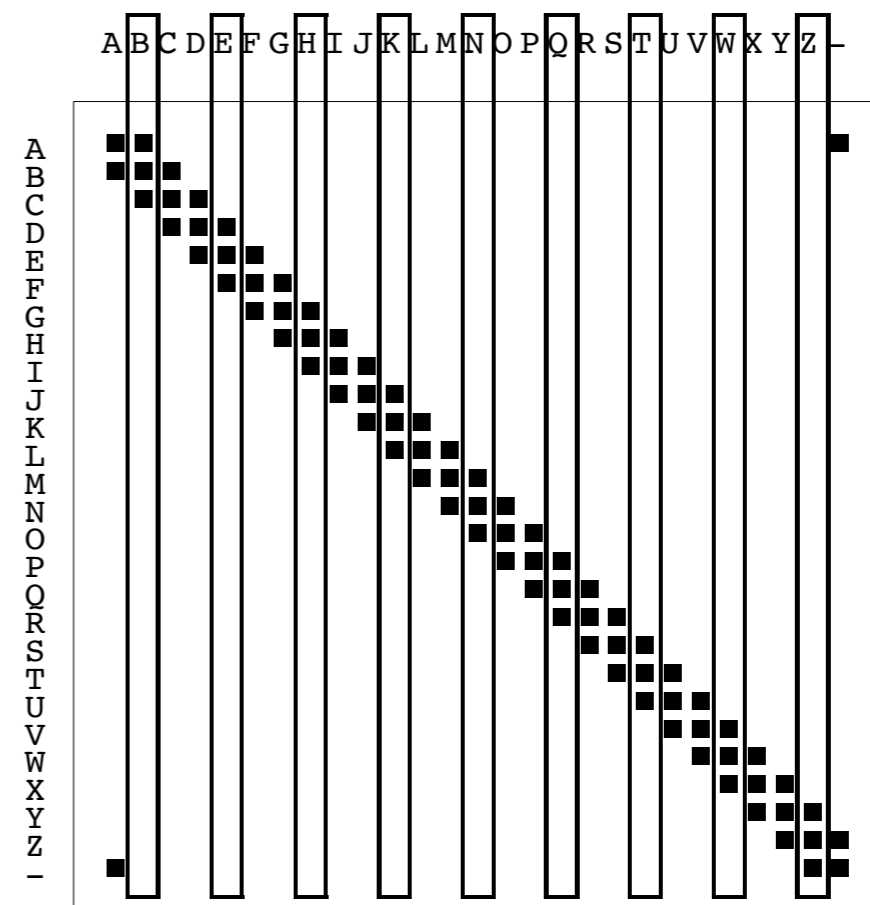
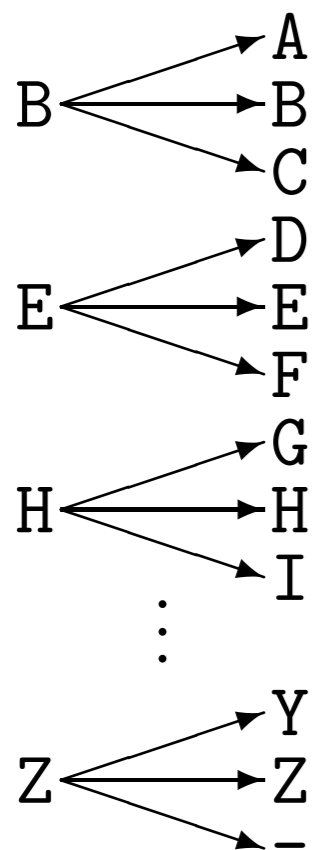
Block code (N, K)

$$\text{Rate } R = K / N$$

Confirmation of the theorem for the noisy typewriter channel

- In the case of the noisy typewriter, we can easily confirm the theorem, because we can create a **completely error-free communication strategy** using a block code of length $N = 1$.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _

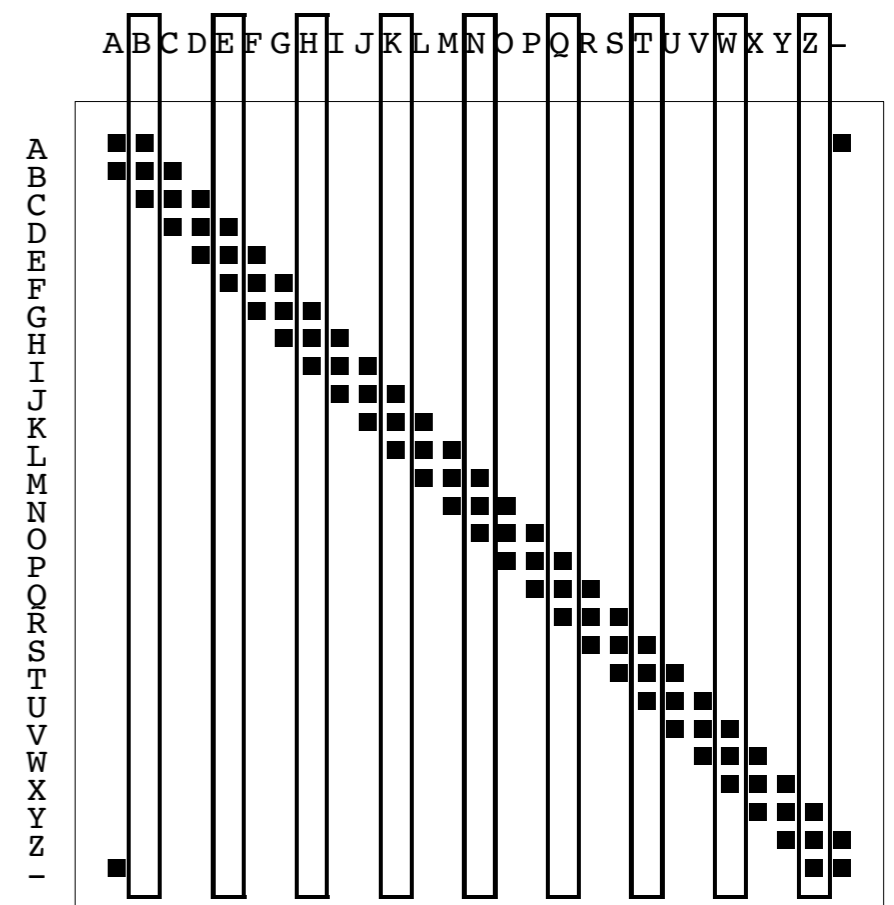


Confirmation of the theorem for the noisy typewriter channel

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A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _

- These letters form a **non-confusable subset of the input** alphabet. Any output can be uniquely decoded.
- The **number of inputs in the non-confusable subset is 9**, so the error-free information rate of this system is $\log_2 9$ bits, which is equal to the capacity C .



The noisy typewriter channel and the Theorem

The theorem

Associated with each discrete memoryless channel, there is a non-negative number C . For any $\epsilon > 0$ and $R < C$, for large enough N , there exists a block code of length N and rate $\geq R$ and a decoding algorithm, such that the maximal probability of block error is $< \epsilon$.

How it applies to the noisy typewriter

The capacity C is $\log_2 9$.

No matter what ϵ and R are, we set the blocklength N to 1.

The block code is $\{B, E, \dots, Z\}$. The value of K is given by $2^K = 9$, so $K = \log_2 9$, and this code has rate $\log_2 9$, which is greater than the requested value of R .

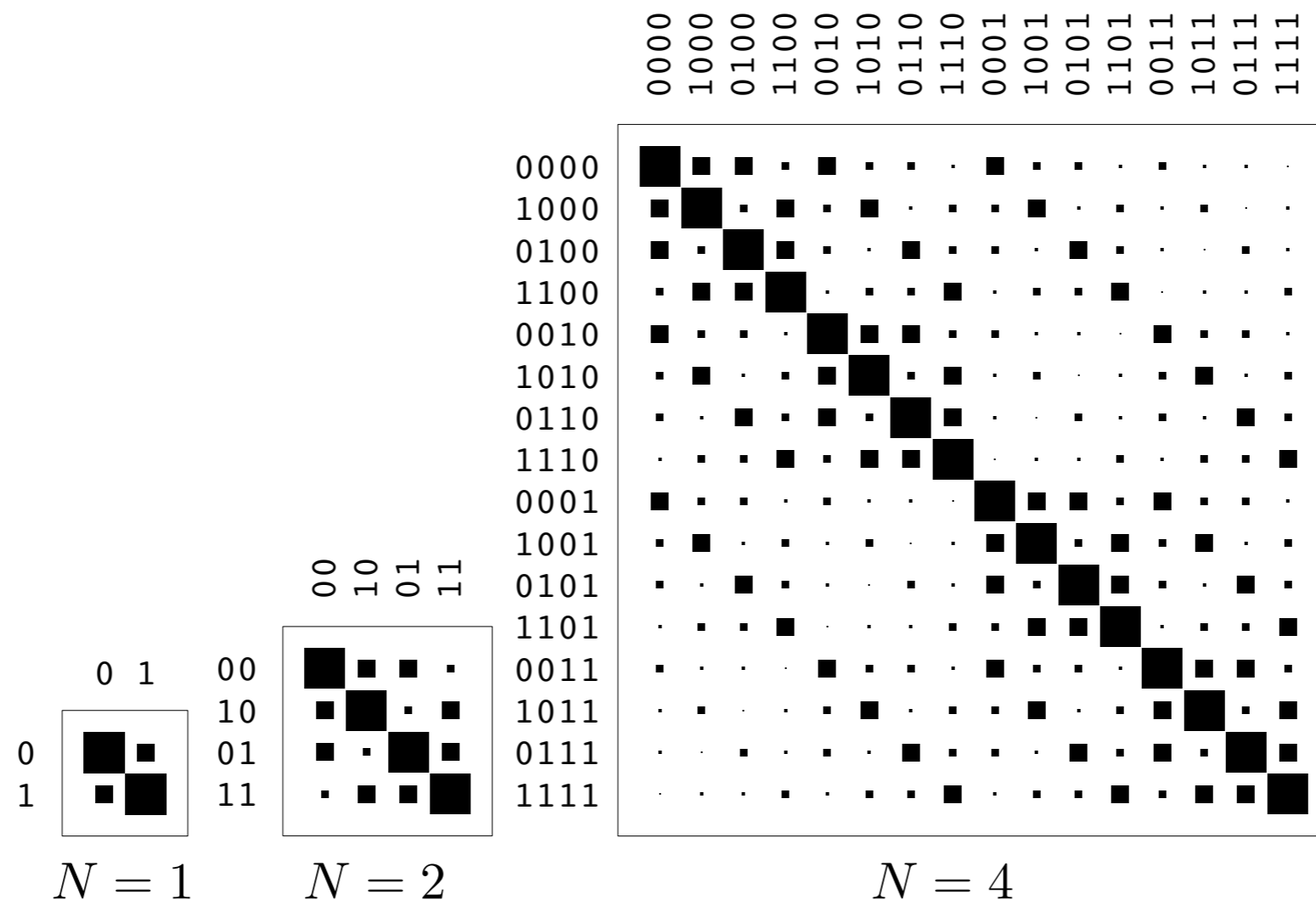
The decoding algorithm maps the received letter to the nearest letter in the code;

the maximal probability of block error is zero, which is less than the given ϵ .

Intuitive preview of proof

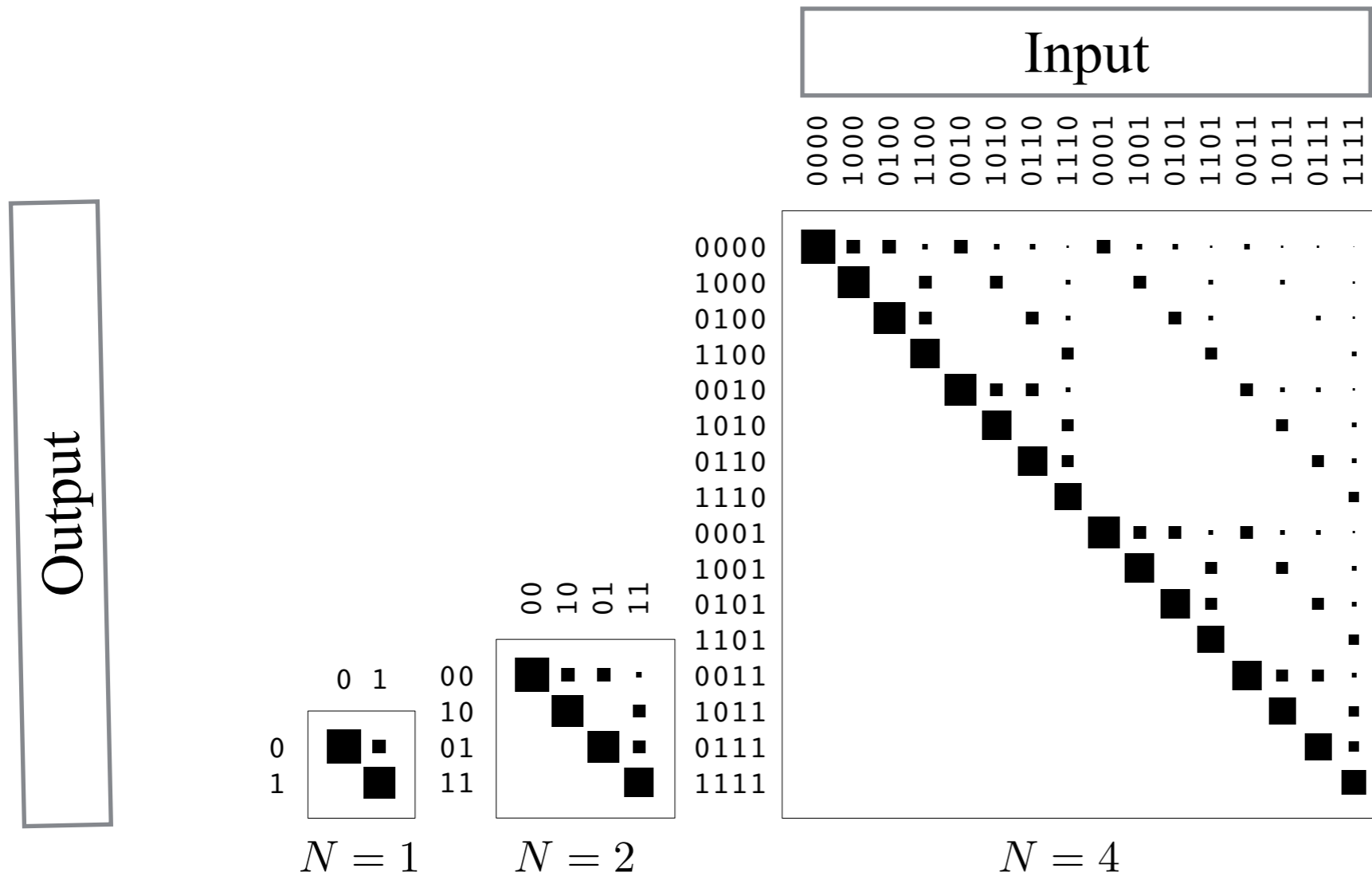
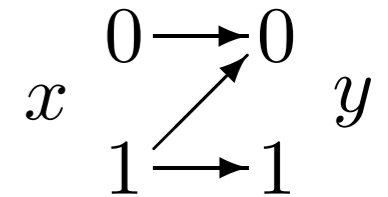
Extended channels

- The **extended channel** corresponding to N uses of the channel.
- The extended channel has $|A_X|^N$ possible inputs \mathbf{x} and $|A_Y|^N$ possible outputs.
- Extended channels obtained from a **binary symmetric channel** with $f = 0.15$



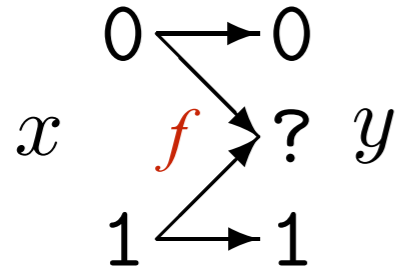
Extended channels

- Extended channels obtained from a **Z channel** with $f = 0.15$



Binary erasure channel

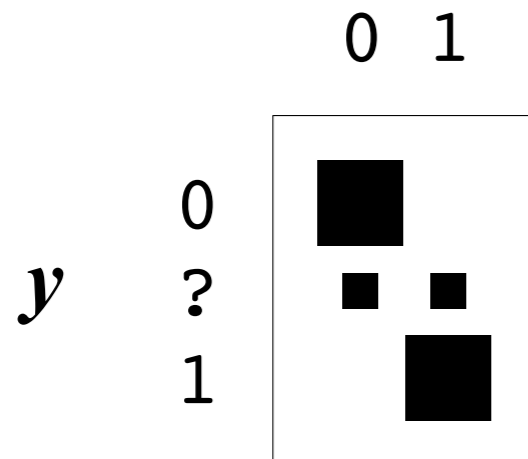
- $A_X = \{0, 1\}$; $A_Y = \{0, ?, 1\}$.



$$\begin{aligned} P(y = 0 \mid x = 0) &= 1 - f; & P(y = 0 \mid x = 1) &= 0; \\ P(y = ? \mid x = 0) &= f; & P(y = ? \mid x = 1) &= f; \\ P(y = 1 \mid x = 0) &= 0; & P(y = 1 \mid x = 1) &= 1 - f. \end{aligned}$$

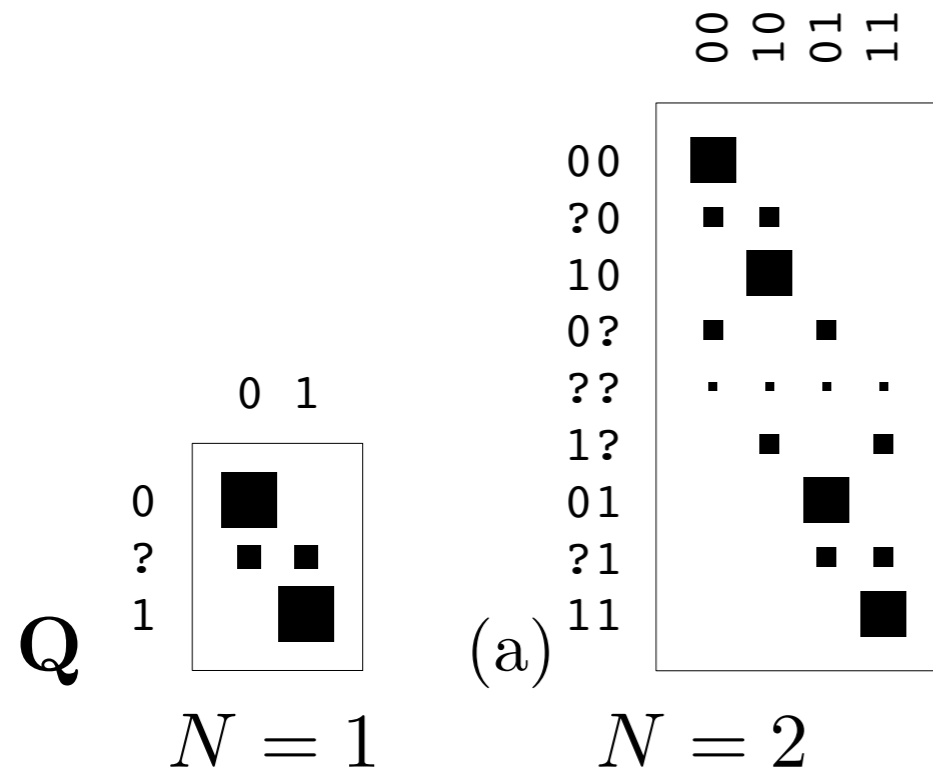
- f is the probability of erasing a bit.

- So we assume that $f < 0.5$



Extended channels for the binary erasure channel

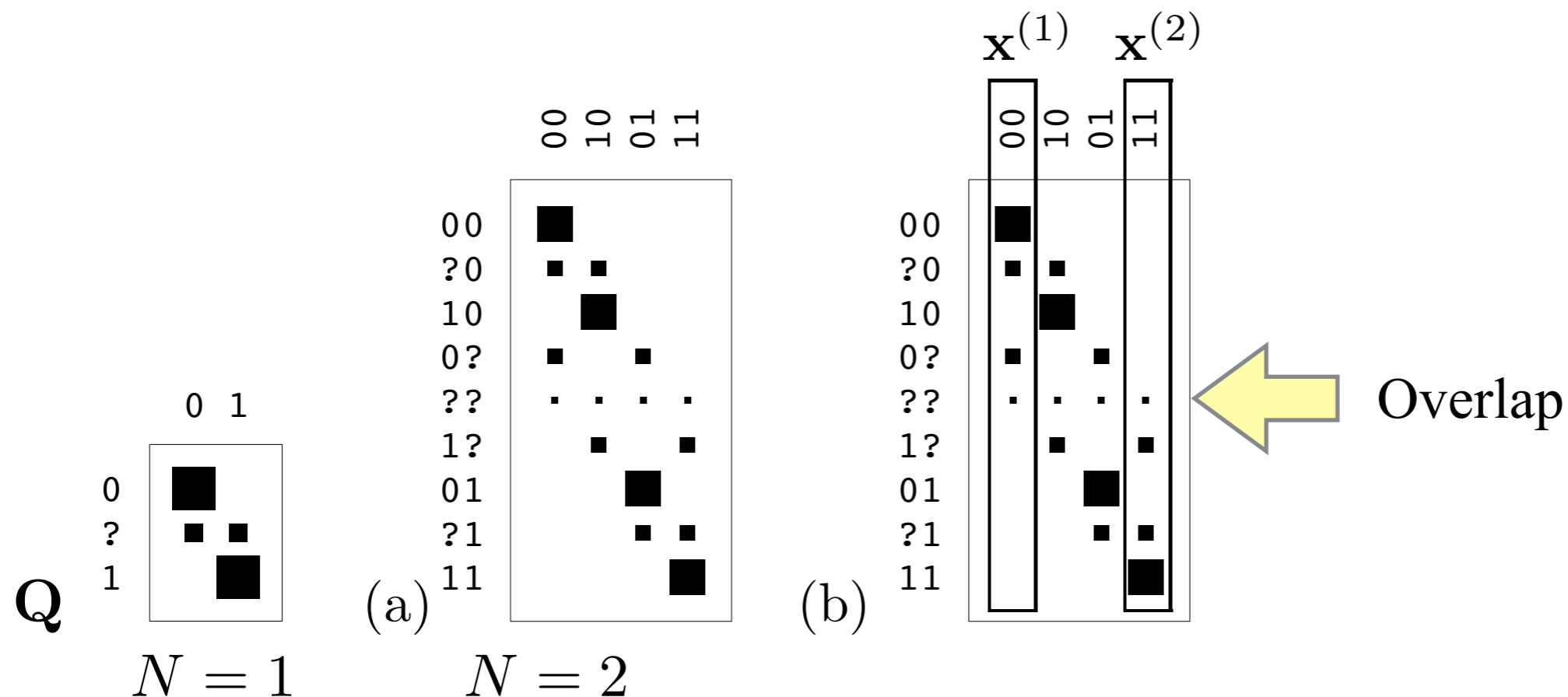
- For $N = 2$



- The best code for this channel with $N = 2$ is obtained by **choosing two columns that have minimal overlap.**

Extended channels for the binary erasure channel

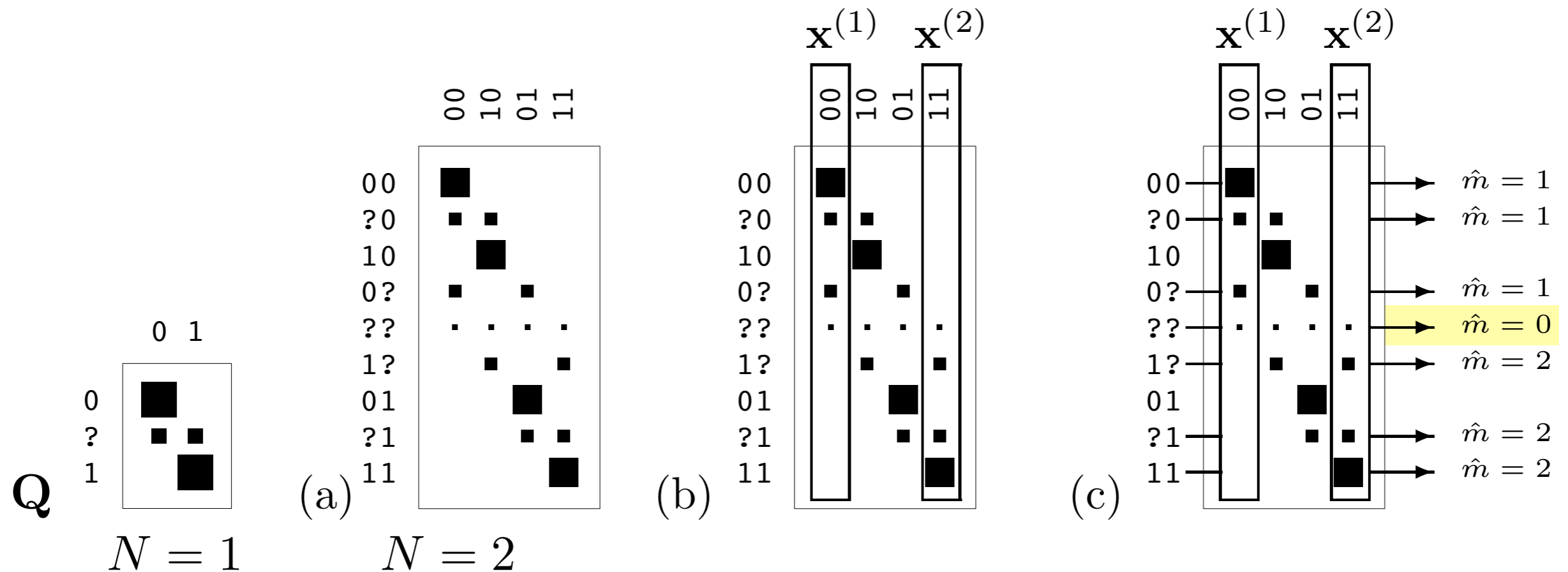
- For $N = 2$



- The best code for this channel with $N = 2$ is obtained by **choosing two columns that have minimal overlap**, for example, columns 00 and 11.

Extended channels for the binary erasure channel

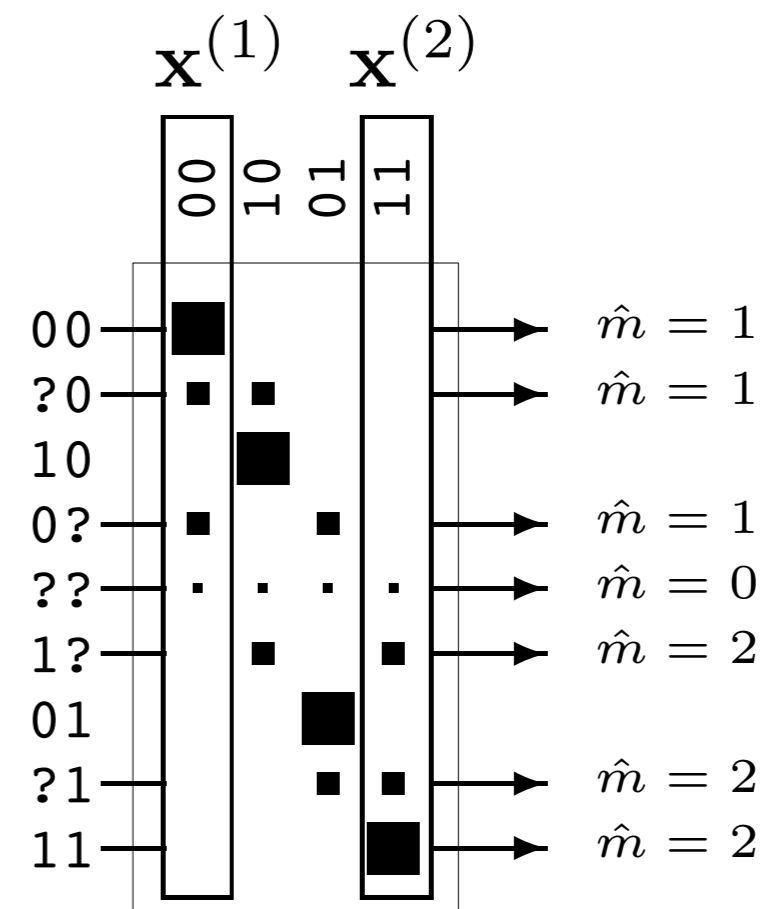
- For $N = 2$



- The decoding algorithm returns '00' if the extended channel output is among the top four and '11' if it's among the bottom four, and **gives up if the output is '??'**.

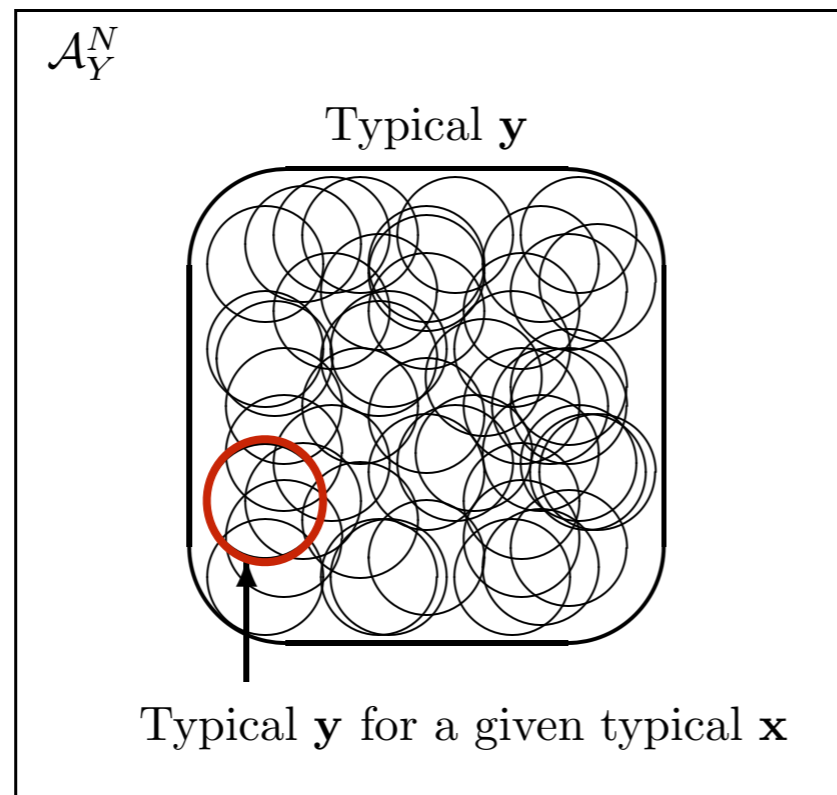
Intuitive preview of proof

- To prove the **noisy-channel coding theorem**, we make **use of large block-lengths N** .
- The intuitive idea is that, if N is large, an extended channel looks a lot like the noisy typewriter.
- Any particular input \mathbf{x} is very likely to produce an output in a **small subspace of the output alphabet**
 - the typical output set, given that input.
- So we can find a **non-confusable subset of the inputs** that **produce essentially disjoint output sequences**.



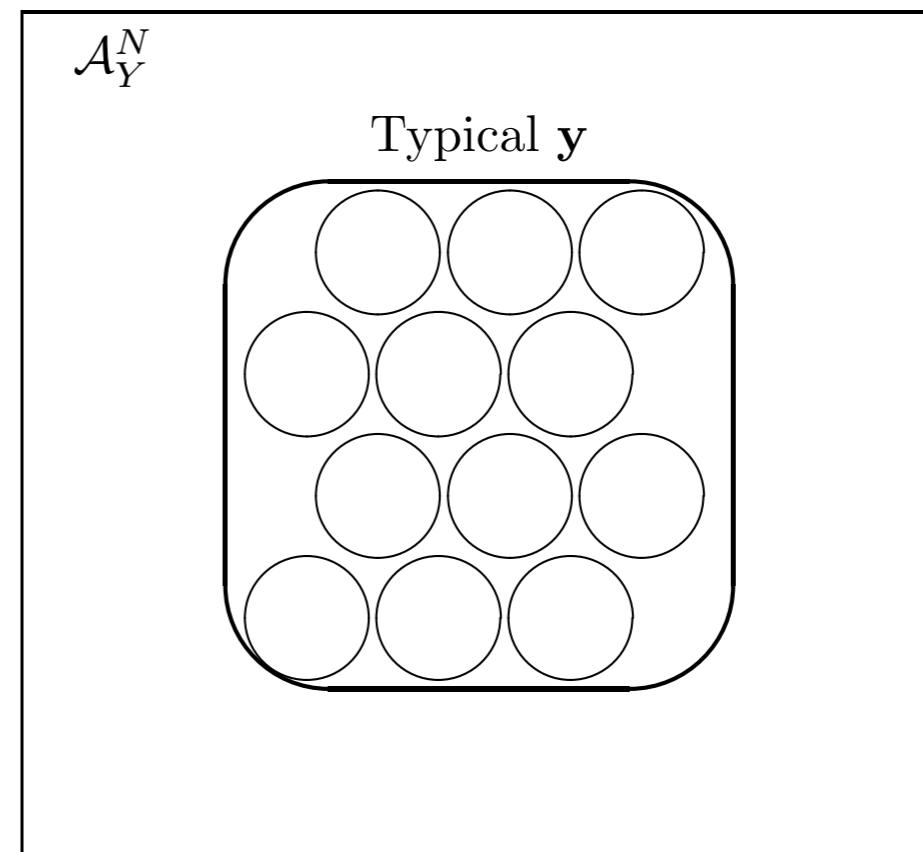
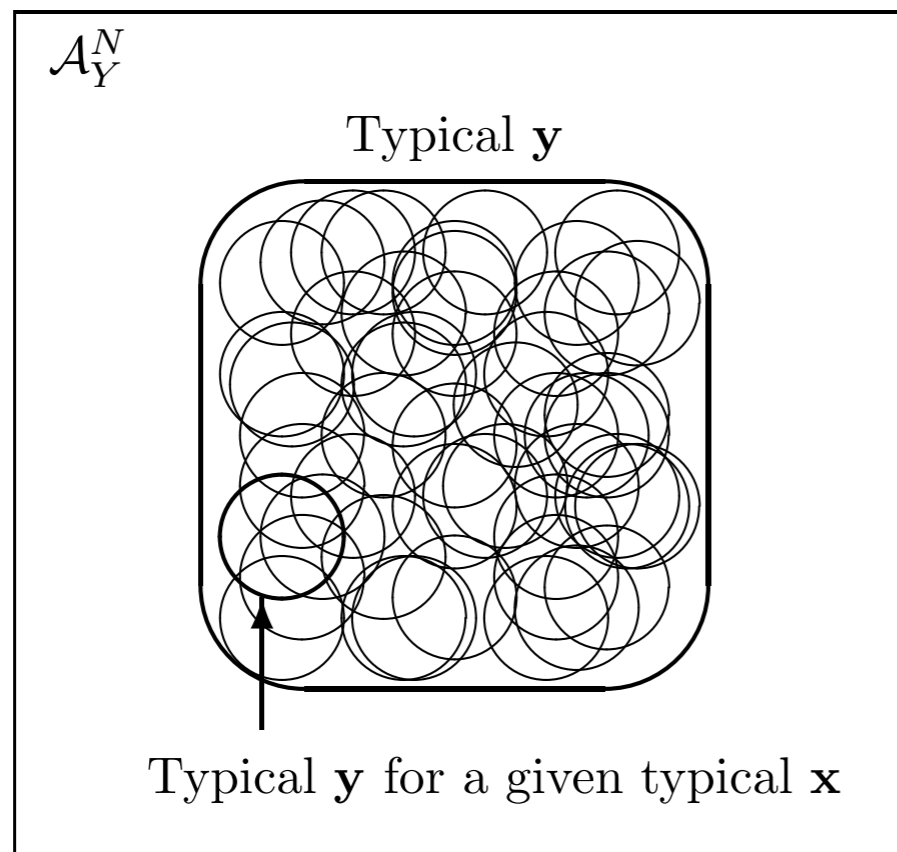
Intuitive preview of proof

- For a given N , how to **generating** such a non-confusable subset of the inputs, and **count up** how many distinct inputs it contains?
- Let \mathbf{x} be an input sequence for the extended channel by drawing it from an ensemble X^N
- The total number of typical output sequences \mathbf{y} is $2^{NH(Y)}$.
- For any particular typical input sequence \mathbf{x} , there are about $2^{NH(Y|X)}$ probable sequences



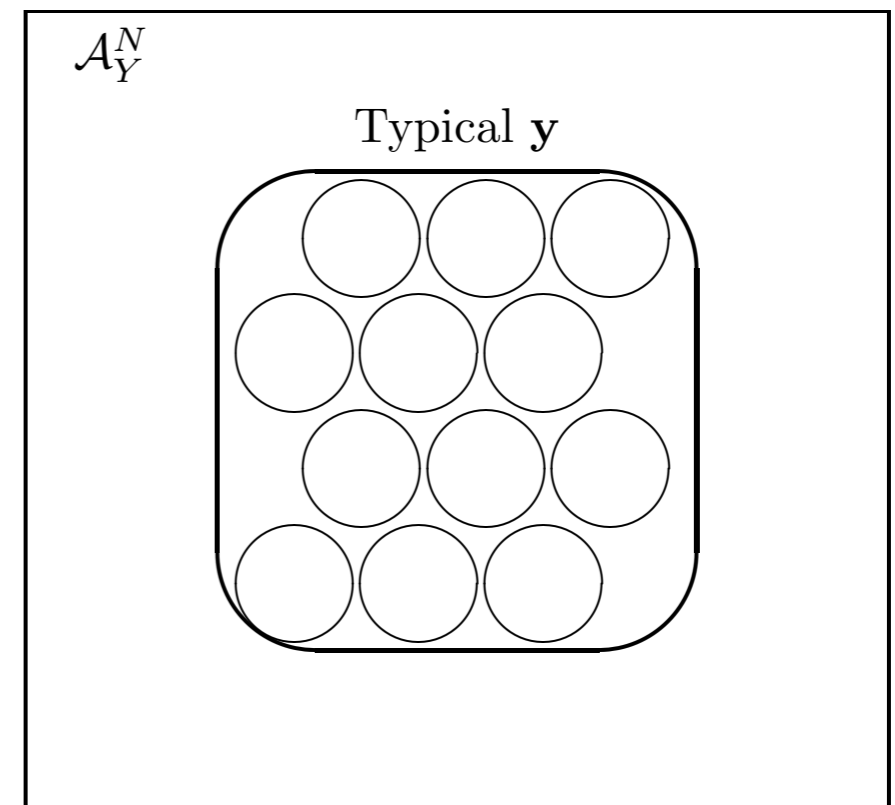
Intuitive preview of proof

- We now imagine **restricting ourselves to a subset of the typical inputs \mathbf{x}** such that the corresponding typical output sets do not overlap.
- We can then **bound the number of non-confusable inputs** by dividing the size of the typical \mathbf{y} set, $2^{NH(Y)}$, by the size of each typical- \mathbf{y} given-typical- \mathbf{x} set, $2^{NH(Y|X)}$



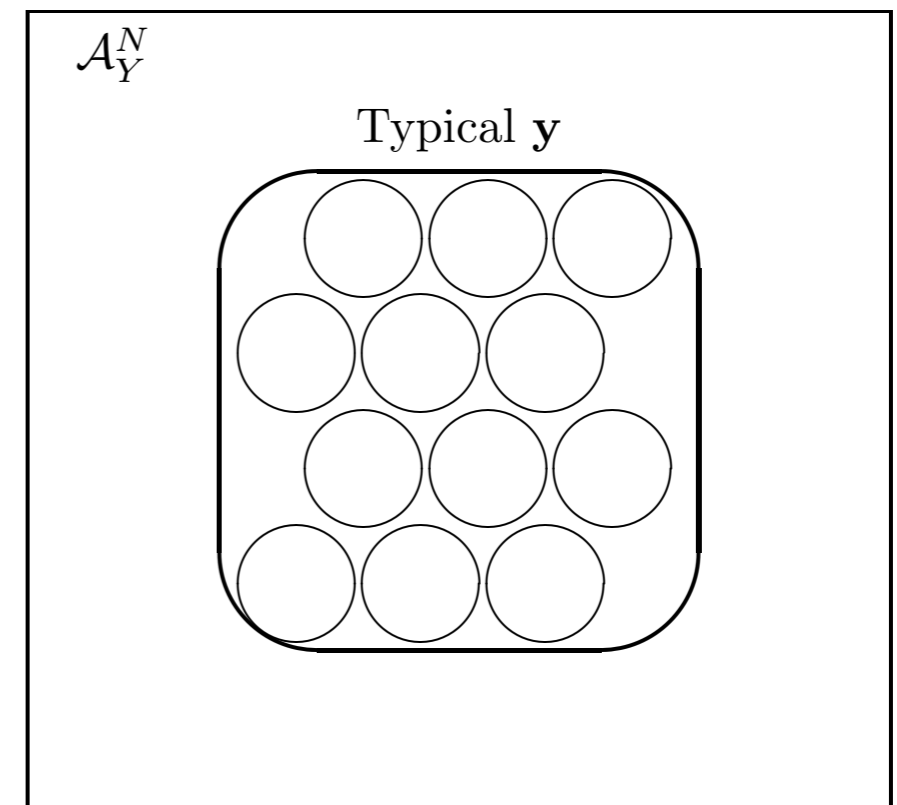
Intuitive preview of proof

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- So the number of non-confusable inputs, if they are selected from the set of typical inputs $\mathbf{x} \sim X^N$, is $\leq 2^{NH(Y)-NH(Y|X)} = 2^{NI(X; Y)}$.
- The maximum value of this bound is achieved if X is the ensemble that maximizes $I(X; Y)$, in which case the number of non-confusable inputs is $\leq 2^{NC}$



Intuitive preview of proof

- We can then **bound the number of non-confusable inputs** by dividing the size of the typical \mathbf{y} set, $2^{NH(Y)}$, by the size of each typical- \mathbf{y} given-typical- \mathbf{x} set, $2^{NH(Y|X)}$
- So the number of non-confusable inputs, if they are selected from the set of typical inputs $\mathbf{x} \sim X^N$, is $\leq 2^{NH(Y) - NH(Y|X)} = 2^{NI(X; Y)}$.
- The maximum value of this bound is achieved if X is the ensemble that maximizes $I(X; Y)$, in which case the number of non-confusable inputs is $\leq 2^{NC_{cv}}$
- Thus asymptotically **up to C bits per cycle**, and no more, **can be communicated with vanishing error probability.**



Further Reading and Summary



Q&A

Further Reading

- **Recommend Readings**

- ◆ Information Theory, Inference, and Learning Algorithms from David MacKay, 2015, pages 146 - 160.

- **Supplemental readings:**

What you should know

- What is the purpose of source code and the purpose of channel code.
- The idea that the information transmitted depends on the input probability distribution
- Some common channels: BSC, Z, EBC, TypeWitter
- How to infer the input based on the output
- The Channel capacity and the mutual information; the concept of optimal input distribution
- How to compute a channel capacity for some common channels
- The concepts of probability of block error, the maximal probability of block error and The probability of bit error.
- Understanding the Shannon's noisy-channel coding theorem (part one) and the corresponding general strategy for channel coders.

Further Reading and Summary



Q&A