# Channel reliability: from ordinary to zero-error capacity

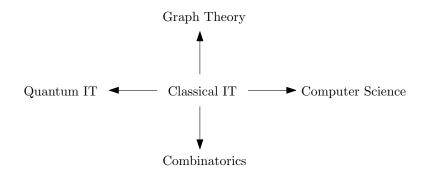
#### Marco Dalai

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M. Dalai

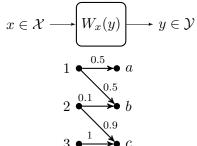
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#### **Classical DMCs**

• Discrete channel  $W(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y} \text{ finite})$ 



• Memoryless extension W

$$\boldsymbol{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \longrightarrow \boldsymbol{W}_{\boldsymbol{x}}(\boldsymbol{y}) \longrightarrow \boldsymbol{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$$
  
 $\boldsymbol{W}_{\boldsymbol{x}}(\boldsymbol{y}) = \prod_i W_{x_i}(y_i)$ 

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#### **Classical DMCs**

• Discrete channel  $W(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y} \text{ finite})$ 

$$x \in \mathcal{X} \longrightarrow W_{x}(y) \longrightarrow y \in \mathcal{Y}$$

$$1 \bigoplus_{\substack{0.5 \\ 0.5 \\ 2 \\ 0.1 \\ 0.9 \\ 0.9 \\ c}$$

• Memoryless extension W

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- Code: M codewords  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_M\} \subset \mathcal{X}^n$
- **Decoder**: *M* disjoint decision regions  $\{\mathcal{Y}_1, \ldots, \mathcal{Y}_M\} \subseteq \mathcal{Y}^n$  (here: maximum likelyhood decoder)
- **Probability of error** given message *m*

$$\mathsf{P}_{\mathrm{e}|m} = \sum_{oldsymbol{y} 
otin \mathcal{Y}_m} oldsymbol{W}_{oldsymbol{x}_m}(oldsymbol{y}) 
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#### Code and Error Probability

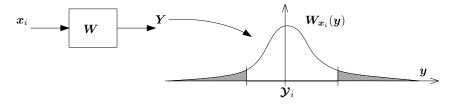
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# • Maximum error probability

$$\mathsf{P}_{\mathrm{e,max}} = \max_{m} P_{e|m}$$

• Optimal codes

$$\mathsf{P}_{e,\max}^{(n)}(R) = \min_{\mathcal{C}} P_{e,\max}$$

where the minimum is over codes of length n and rate at least R

• Channel capacity

$$C = \sup\left\{R \, : \, \limsup_{n \to \infty} \mathsf{P}_{\mathrm{e}, \max}^{(n)}(R) = 0\right\}$$

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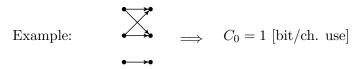
where the minimum is over codes of length  $\boldsymbol{n}$  and rate at least  $\boldsymbol{R}$ 

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$$C = \sup\left\{R : \limsup_{n \to \infty} \mathsf{P}_{\mathrm{e},\max}^{(n)}(R) = 0\right\}$$

• Zero-error capacity

$$C_0 = \sup\{R : \mathsf{P}_{e,\max}^{(n)}(R) = 0 \text{ for some } n\}.$$



• Reliability function:

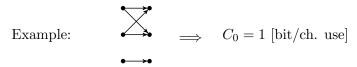
$$E(R) = \limsup_{n \to \infty} -\frac{1}{n} \log \mathsf{P}_{\mathrm{e,max}}^{(n)}(R)$$

that is,

$$\mathsf{P}_{\mathrm{e,max}}^{(n)}(R) \approx e^{-nE(R)} \qquad C_0 < R < C$$

• Zero-error capacity

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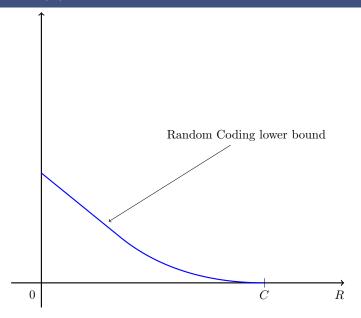


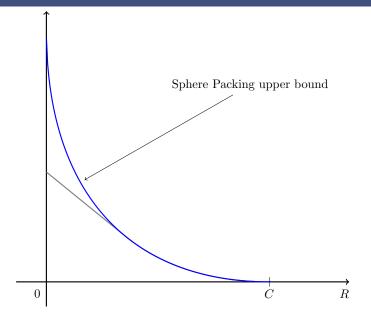
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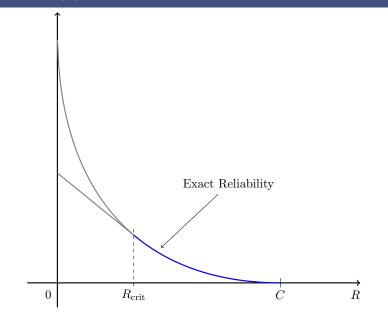
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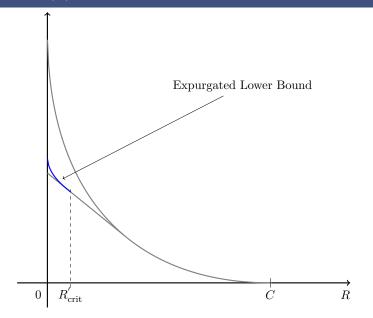
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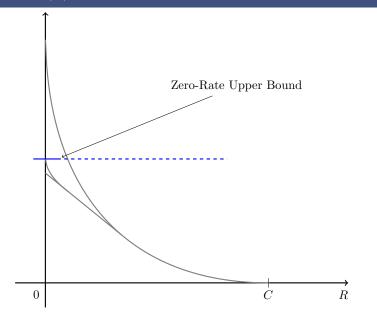
$$\mathsf{P}_{\mathrm{e,max}}^{(n)}(R) \approx e^{-n E(R)} \qquad C_0 < R < C$$

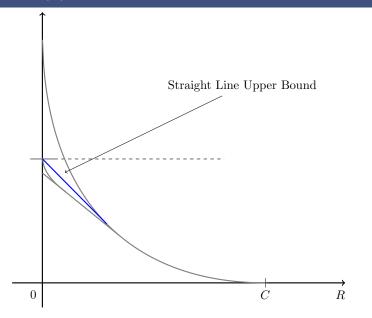








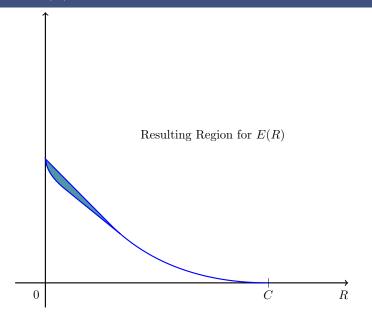


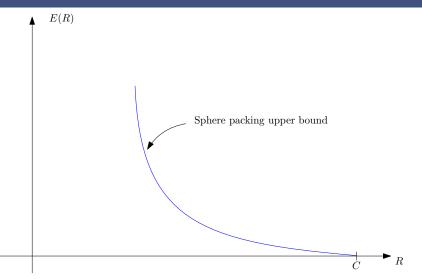


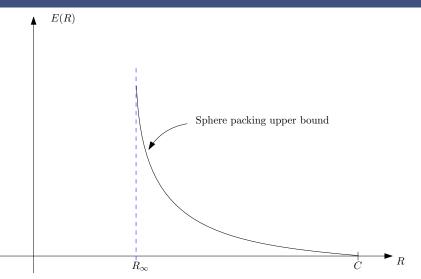
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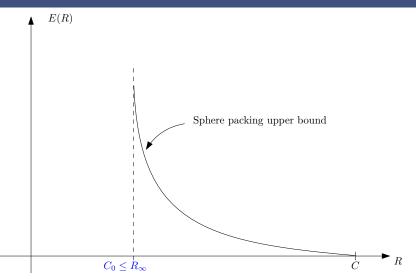
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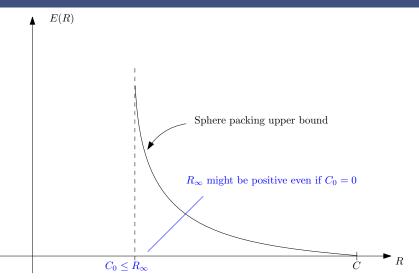
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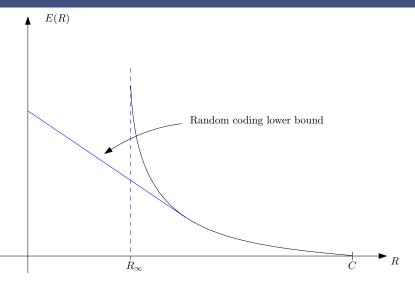


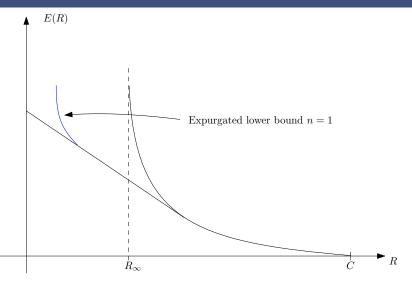


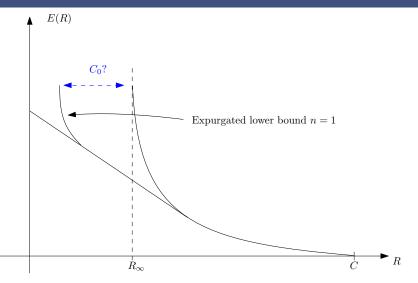


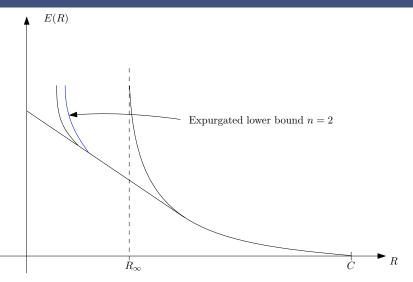


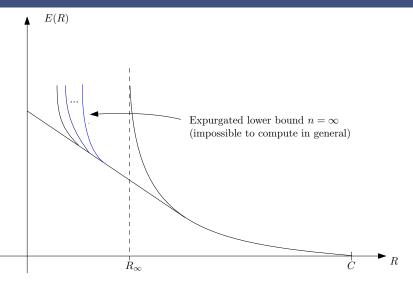
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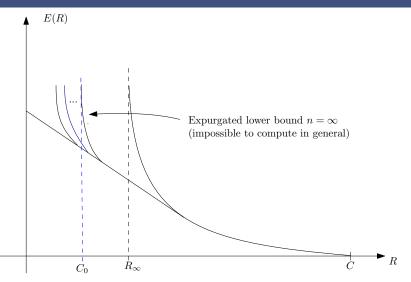


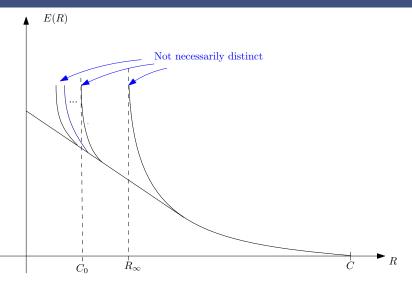


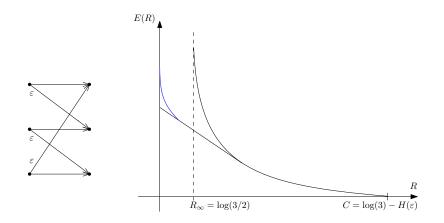






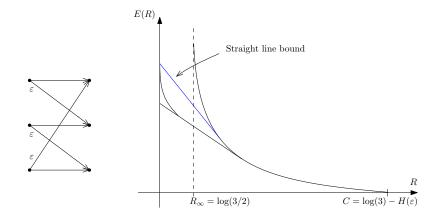




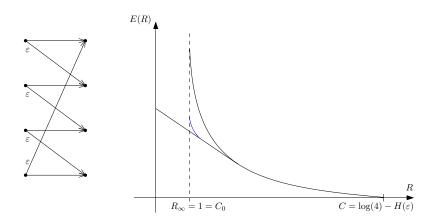


Note:  $C_0 = 0$ 

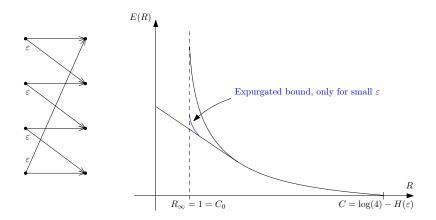
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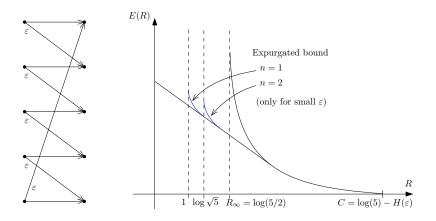
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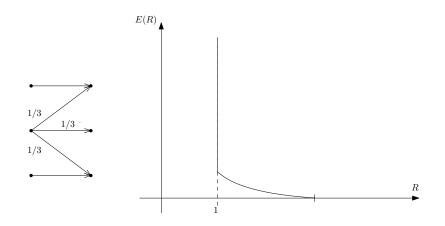


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Note:  $C_0 = \log \sqrt{5}$  (see later)

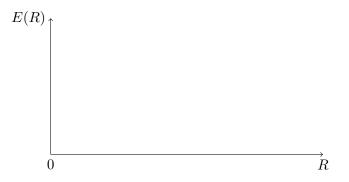
#### Example: strange case



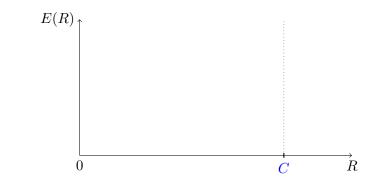
Note: exact reliability!

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## Some More Facts

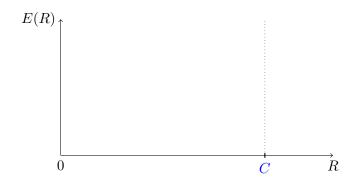


### Some More Facts



Shannon, 1948

$$C = \max_{P} \sum_{x,y} P(x) W_x(y) \log \frac{W_x(y)}{\sum_{x'} P(x') W_{x'}(y)},$$

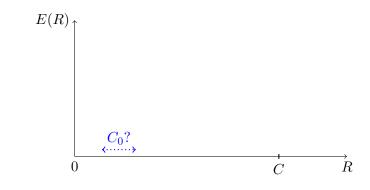


...later noticed to be an information radius

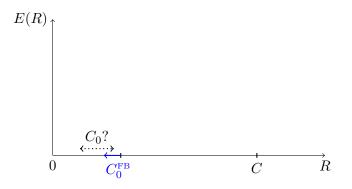
$$C = \min_{Q} \max_{x} D(W_x ||Q)$$

where  $D(Q_1||Q_2) = \sum_y Q_1(y) \log \frac{Q_1(y)}{Q_2(y)}$  is the Kullback-Leibler divergence

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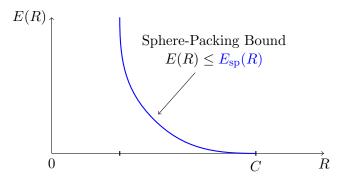
Shannon, 1956



Shannon, 1956 (combinatorial)

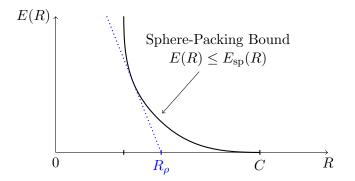
Upper bounded by the zero-error capacity with feedback

$$C_0^{\text{FB}} = \max_P \left[ -\log \max_y \sum_{x: W_x(y) > 0} P(x) \right]$$



Fano, 1961 - Shannon, Gallager and Berlekamp, 1967 (probabilistic)

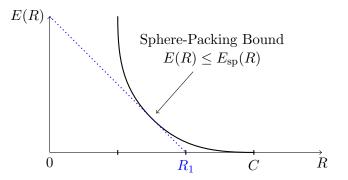
$$E_{\rm sp}(R) = \sup_{\rho \ge 0} \max_{P} \left[ -\log \sum_{y} \left( \sum_{x} P(x) W_x(y)^{1/(1+\rho)} \right)^{1+\rho} - \rho R \right]$$



Also

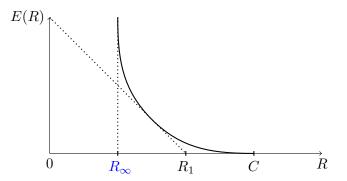
$$R_{\rho} = \min_{Q} \max_{x} D_{\alpha}(W_{x} || Q), \quad \alpha = 1/(1+\rho)$$

 $D_{\alpha}(Q_1||Q_2) = \frac{1}{\alpha-1} \log \sum_y Q_1(y)^{\alpha} Q_2(y)^{1-\alpha}$  is the Rényi divergence



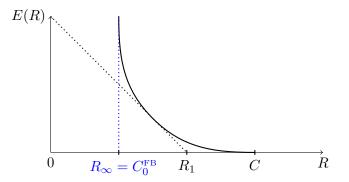
Cutoff rate

$$R_1 = \min_{Q} \max_{x} \log \frac{1}{\left(\sum_{y} \sqrt{W_x(y)Q(y)}\right)^2}$$

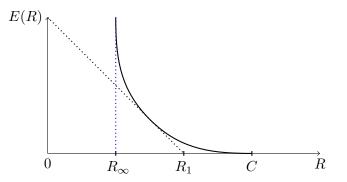


 $R_{\infty}$  rate

$$R_{\infty} = \min_{Q} \max_{x} \log \frac{1}{\sum_{y:W_{x}(y)>0} Q(y)}$$



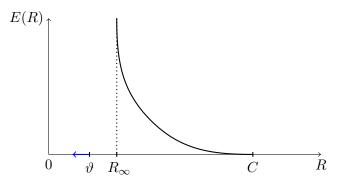
- $E_{\rm sp}(R)$  gives  $C_0 \leq R_\infty$
- So we have both  $C_0 \leq C_0^{\text{FB}}$  and  $C_0 \leq R_\infty$



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- So we have both  $C_0 \leq C_0^{\text{FB}}$  and  $C_0 \leq R_\infty$
- It turns out that  $R_{\infty} = C_0^{\text{FB}}$  (whenever  $C_0 > 0$ )
- Same bound for  $C_0$  using combinatorial or probabilistic approaches
- We can then minimize  $R_{\infty}$  over auxiliary channels  $\tilde{W}$

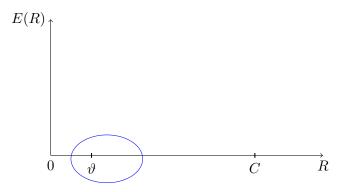
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### Lovász, 1979

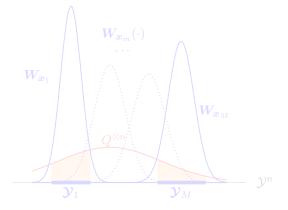
- New bound:  $C_0 \leq \vartheta$
- Using geometric representations of graphs
- Combinatorial, apparently no connection with probability



### Lovász, 1979

- New bound:  $C_0 \leq \vartheta$
- Using geometric representations of graphs
- Combinatorial, apparently no connection with probability
- **Goal**: better understanding of the  $R_{\infty}$  vs  $\vartheta$

## Binary hypothesis testing: compare $Q^{\otimes n}$ with $W_{\boldsymbol{x}_m}$

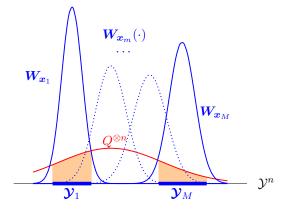


• The decision regions  $\mathcal{Y}_1, \dots, \mathcal{Y}_M$  are disjoint •  $Q^{\otimes n}(\mathcal{Y}_m) \leq 1/M$  for at least one m, since  $\int Q^{\otimes n} = 1$ •  $W_{\pi_m}(\overline{\mathcal{Y}_m}) \geq e^{-n(E_{sp}(R)+o(1))}$  using Nevman-Pearson/Che

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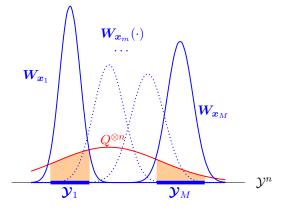
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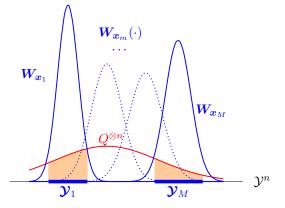


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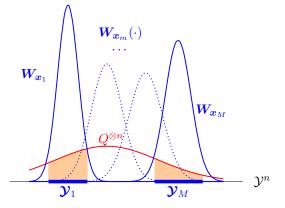
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# Binary Hypothesis Testing (BHT)

BHT between distributions  $P_0$  and  $P_1$  over  $\mathcal{V}$  from n i.i.d. samples

• Two decision regions

$\boldsymbol{\mathcal{V}}_0$ decision region	$\boldsymbol{\mathcal{V}}_1$ decision region	
for $P_0$	for $P_1$	
$P_0$ $\bullet$		$P_1$ $\bullet$

• Error probabilities

$$\mathsf{P}_{\mathbf{e}|\mathbf{0}} = \sum_{v \in \boldsymbol{\mathcal{V}}_1} P_{\mathbf{0}}(v) \,, \qquad \qquad \mathsf{P}_{\mathbf{e}|\mathbf{1}} = \sum_{v \in \boldsymbol{\mathcal{V}}_0} P_{\mathbf{1}}(v)$$

Error exponents in BHT between  $P_0$  and  $P_1$  with n i.i.d. samples

$$\frac{1}{n} \log \mathsf{P}_{e|0} = \mu(s) - s\mu'(s) + o(1)$$
$$\frac{1}{n} \log \mathsf{P}_{e|1} = \mu(s) + (1 - s)\mu'(s) + o(1)$$

where 0 < s < 1,

$$\mu(s) = \log \sum_{v \in \mathcal{V}} P_0(v)^{1-s} P_1(v)^s$$
$$= -s D_{1-s}(P_0 || P_1)$$

and  $D_{\alpha}(P||Q)$  is the Rényi divergence

$$D_{\alpha}(P||Q) = \frac{1}{\alpha - 1} \log \sum_{v \in V} P^{\alpha}(v) Q^{1 - \alpha}(v)$$

Note:

$$\lim_{\alpha \to 1} D_{\alpha}(P \| Q) = \sum_{v \in V} P(v) \log \frac{P(v)}{Q(v)} =: D_{\mathrm{KL}}(P \| Q)$$

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Error exponents in BHT between  $P_0$  and  $P_1$  with n i.i.d. samples

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where 0 < s < 1,

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=  $-sD_{1-s}(P_0 || P_1)$ 

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#### Interpretation: Shannon-Gallager-Berlekamp, 1967

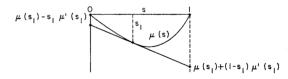
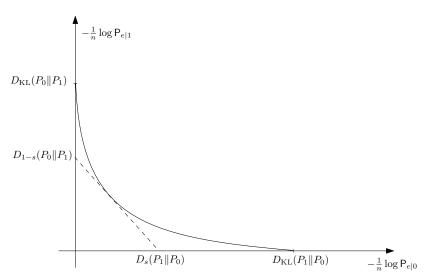


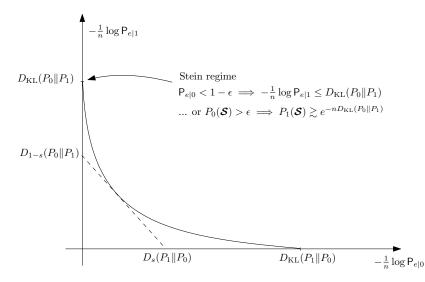
FIG. 6. Geometric interpretation of the exponents  $\mu(s) - s\mu'(s)$  and  $\mu(s) + (1 - s)\mu'(s)$ .

Figure 6 gives a graphical interpretation of the terms  $\mu(s) - \mu'(s)$ and  $\mu(s) + (1 - s)\mu'(s)$ . It is seen that they are the endpoints, at 0 and 1, of the tangent at s to the curve  $\mu(s)$ . As s increases, the tangent see-saws around, decreasing  $\mu(s) - s\mu'(s)$  and increasing  $\mu(s) + (1 - s)\mu'(s)$ . In the special case where  $\mu(s)$  is a straight line, of course, this see-sawing does not occur and  $\mu(s) - s\mu'(s)$  and  $\mu(s) + (1 - s)\mu'(s)$ do not vary with s.

Another graphical representation

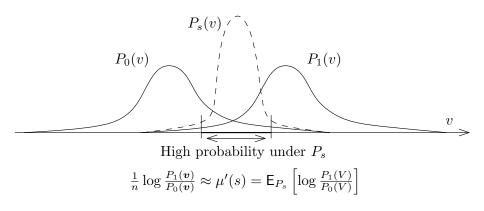


Another graphical representation



Key role played by the tilted mixture  $P_s$ 

$$P_s(v) = \frac{P_0(v)^{1-s} P_1(v)^s}{\sum_{v'} P_0(v')^{1-s} P_1(v')^s} \implies \frac{P_0(v)}{P_s(v)} = e^{\mu(s)} e^{-s \log \frac{P_1(v)}{P_0(v)}}.$$



Alternative expression (more popular)

$$-\frac{1}{n}\log \mathsf{P}_{e|0} = D_{\mathrm{KL}}(P_s || P_0) + o(1)$$
$$-\frac{1}{n}\log \mathsf{P}_{e|1} = D_{\mathrm{KL}}(P_s || P_1) + o(1)$$

- Very simple and intuitive: probabilities that  $P_0$  and  $P_1$  generate  $P_s$ -like sequences
- Directly uses the Stein regime in  $P_0$  vs  $P_s$  and  $P_1$  vs  $P_s$
- Note (for later): this does *not* work in the quantum setting

- Given code with  $M = e^{nR}$  codewords
- Group codewords by empirical "compositions" (or "type", empirical frequency of symbols in the codeword)
- At most  $n^{|\mathcal{X}|} = e^{o(n)}$  groups
- At least one group contains  $e^{n(R-o(1))}$  codewords
- Bound probability of error for this subcode
- $\bullet\,$  So, we can assume all codewords have same composition, say P

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### Back to sphere packing: MIT Proof

- BHT between output distribution  $W_{\boldsymbol{x}_m}$  and auxiliary  $\boldsymbol{Q} = Q^{\otimes n}$
- Use  $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{Y}}_m$  as decision region for  $\boldsymbol{W}_{\boldsymbol{x}_m}$
- $M = e^{nR}$  codewords; for at least one  $m, Q(\mathcal{Y}_m) \leq 1/M$  and so

$$-\frac{1}{n}\log\mathsf{P}_{\mathrm{e}|\boldsymbol{Q}}\geq R$$

• But for the optimal test

$$-\frac{1}{n}\log \mathsf{P}_{\mathbf{e}|W_{x_m}} = -\mu(s) + s\mu'(s) + o(1)$$
$$-\frac{1}{n}\log \mathsf{P}_{\mathbf{e}|Q} = -\mu(s) - (1-s)\mu'(s) + o(1)$$

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$$\mu(s) = \sum_{x} P(x) \left[ \log \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} W_x(y)^{1-s} Q(y)^s \right]$$

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# Back to sphere packing: MIT Proof

So,

$$-\frac{1}{n}\log\mathsf{P}_{\mathsf{e}|\boldsymbol{W}_{\boldsymbol{x}_m}} \le \sup_{0< s< 1} \left[ E_0(s, P) - \frac{s}{1-s}(R-\epsilon) \right] + o(1)$$

where

$$E_0(s, P) = \min_Q \left[ \frac{1}{s-1} \sum_x P(x) \log \sum_y W_x(y)^{1-s} Q(y)^s \right]$$
  
=  $\min_Q \left[ \frac{s}{1-s} \sum_x P(x) D_{1-s}(W_x || Q) \right]$   
=  $\frac{s}{1-s} I_{1-s}(P, W),$ 

where  $I_{\alpha}(P, W)$  is Csiszár's version of  $\alpha$ -mutual information.

M. Dalai

Channel reliability: from ordinary to zero-error capacity

# Auxiliary Q - Auxiliary V

The optimal Q is such that

$$Q(y) = \sum_{x} P(x)V_x(y)$$

if we define  $V_x(y)$  as

$$V_x(y) = \frac{W_x^{1-s}(y)Q^s(y)}{\sum_{y'} W_x^{1-s}(y')Q^s(y')}.$$

This channel V is such that

$$I(P, V) = \sum_{x} P(x)D(V_x || Q)$$
$$= R - \epsilon$$

- Consider an auxiliary channel V such that I(P, V) < R
- Converse: original coding scheme incurs  $\mathsf{P}_{\mathrm{e}} > \epsilon$  on V
- For at least one codeword m,  $V_{\boldsymbol{x}_m}(\boldsymbol{\mathcal{Y}}_m) > \epsilon$ .
- Stein Lemma

$$\boldsymbol{W}_{\boldsymbol{x}_m}(\overline{\boldsymbol{\mathcal{Y}}_m})\gtrsim e^{-nD(V||W|P)}$$

• Optimizing over V

$$\frac{1}{n}\log\frac{1}{\mathsf{P}_{\mathbf{e}|\boldsymbol{W}_{\boldsymbol{x}_m}}} \le \inf_{V:I(P,V) < R} D(V||W|P)(1+o(1)).$$

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M. Dalai

MIT proof

- Just a single Q and M decoding regions implies  $Q(\mathcal{Y}_m) \leq 1/M$  for some m
- If  $Q(\mathcal{Y}_m) \leq e^{-nR}$  then  $W_{\boldsymbol{x}_m}(\overline{\mathcal{Y}_m})$  is at least  $e^{-nE_{\mathrm{sp}}(R)}$

Haroutunian

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- The optimal Q induces the optimal channel V
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# Zero-Error Capacity

- The zero-error capacity only depends on the *confusability* of symbols in the input alphabet  $\mathcal{X}$
- Symbols x and x' confusable if  $\exists y : W_x(y)W_{x'}(y) > 0$ , or

$$\sum_{y} W_x(y) W_{x'}(y) > 0$$

• Confusability graph



# Hence $C_0(W) = C(G)$ (Graph Capacity)

Channel reliability: from ordinary to zero-error capacity

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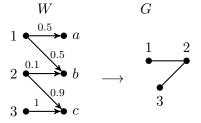
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Hence  $C_0(W) = C(G)$  (Graph Capacity)

# **Graph Capacity**

- Graph G
  - vertex set V(G) (channel input symbols),
  - edge set E(G) (pairs of distinct confusable symbols).
- $A \subseteq V(G)$  independent set if

$$x, x' \in A \implies x \nsim x'$$

• Independence number

$$\alpha(G) = \max\{|A| : A \subseteq V(G) \text{ independent set}\}$$

- Strong power  $G^n$ 
  - $V(G^n) = V(G) \times V(G) \cdots \times V(G) = V(G)^n$
  - $x \neq x'$  connected in  $G^n$  if entrywise either equal or connected in G

$$(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \sim (x'_1, x'_2, \dots, x'_n) \iff \forall i, x_i \sim x'_i \text{ or } x_i = x'_i$$

i.e., confusable sequences.

 $\operatorname{So},$ 

- $\alpha(G^n)$  is the largest size of an independent set in  $G^n$  or
- $\alpha(G^n)$  is the largest size of a zero-error code.

**Graph Capacity** 

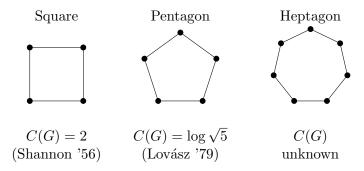
$$C(G) := \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log \alpha(G^n)$$

- C(G) is highest asymptotic rate achievable with zero-error codes.
- Note: the limit exists due to Fekete's lemma since

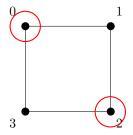
$$\alpha(G^{n+m}) \ge \alpha(G^n)\alpha(G^m)$$

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# Three meaningful examples



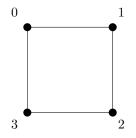
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 $\alpha(G)=2\implies \alpha(G^n)\geq 2^n\implies C(G)\geq 1$ bit/ch. use

### • Converse

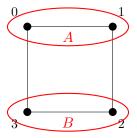
- Each sequence symbol either in A or in B
- $2^n$  "classes" of codewords
- Codewords in each class are all confusable.
- Pigeonhole principle:  $\alpha(G^n) \leq 2^n$ , so  $C(G) \leq 1$



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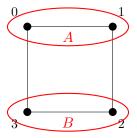
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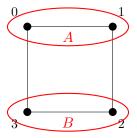
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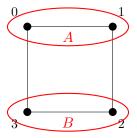
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# More general

- [i+-i] Using the same reasoning
  - Clique: subset of V(G) completely connected in G (independent set in  $\overline{G}$ )
  - Assume G can be *covered* with k cliques
  - Then  $\alpha(G^n) \leq k^n$ , and  $C(G) \leq \log(k)$

### Theorem

 $C(G) \le \log \bar{\chi}(G)$ 

### where

- $\bar{\chi}(G) =$ clique covering number of G
  - = minimum number of cliques to cover G
  - = chromatic number of  $\bar{G}$

 $=: \chi(\bar{G})$ 

### Extension to fractional covers

• A set of cliques  $A_1, \ldots, A_k \subseteq V(G)$  is a factional cover of G with weights  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \ldots, \lambda_k$  if

$$\sum_{i:v\in A_i}\lambda_i\geq 1\,,\quad \forall v\in V(G)$$

• Fractional clique covering number

$$\bar{\chi}^*(G) = \min\sum_i \lambda_i$$

minimum over fractional clique covers  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k = \text{weights})$ .

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M. Dalai

Channel reliability: from ordinary to zero-error capacity

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### Proof

• Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k$  achieve  $\bar{\chi}^*(G) = \sum_i \lambda_i$ . Define a probability distribution q on cliques

$$q_i = \frac{\lambda_i}{\sum_j \lambda_j}$$

• If A is random clique  $\sim q$  then

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M. Dalai

Channel reliability: from ordinary to zero-error capacity

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### Comparison with $R_{\infty}$

• Setting 
$$\mathcal{X}_y = \{x : W_x(y) > 0\}, \ \mathcal{Y}_x = \{y : W_x(y) > 0\}$$
$$R_{\infty}(W) = \log \min_Q \max_x \frac{1}{\sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}_x} Q(y)}$$

• Setting  $q(y) = \max_x \frac{Q(y)}{\sum_{y' \in \mathcal{Y}_x} Q(y')}$ 

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under constraints

$$q(y) \ge 0$$
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• Like a fractional clique cover, every output symbol a clique on G.

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Channel reliability: from ordinary to zero-error capacity

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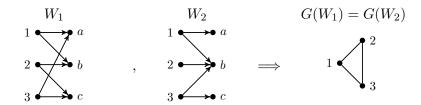
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• Indeed  $R_{\infty}$  does not only depend on G(W)



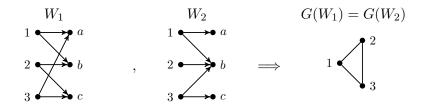
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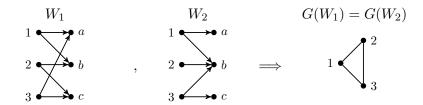
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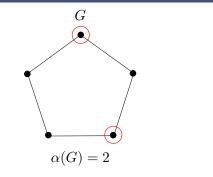
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#### • Achievability:

$$\alpha(G^2) = 5 \implies C(G) \ge \frac{1}{2}\log 5$$

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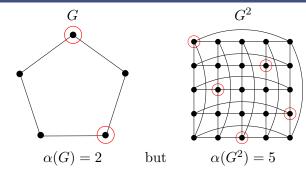
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# $\bar{\chi}^*(G) = 5/2 \implies C(G) \le \log(5/2)$

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M. Dalai

Channel reliability: from ordinary to zero-error capacity



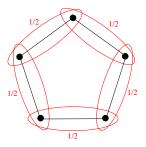
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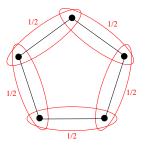
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### Lovász theta function

Lovász's idea

• Graph representation: map vertices x to unit norm  $u_x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  so that

$$x \not\sim x' \implies u_x \perp u_{x'}$$

- An independent set A is mapped to an orthonormal basis
- For any unit norm c and independent set A

$$1 \ge ||c||^2 \ge \sum_{x \in A} |\langle u_x | c \rangle|^2 \ge |A| \min_x |\langle u_x | c \rangle|^2$$

• Take  $\{u_x\}$  and c optimally; if

$$\theta(G) = \left(\max_{\{u_x\},c} \min_x |\langle u_x|c\rangle|^2\right)^{-1}$$

then

$$\alpha(G) \le \theta$$

### Tensorization

• Note  $\langle a \otimes b | c \otimes d \rangle = \langle a | c \rangle \langle b | d \rangle$ 

• So, if  $\{u_x\}$  representation of G used with c gives

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then  $\{u_x\}^{\otimes n}$  representation of  $G^n$  used with  $c^{\otimes n}$  gives  $\alpha(G^n) \le \theta(G)^n$   $\bullet \mbox{ Taking } \lim \frac{1}{n} \log{(\cdot)}$ 

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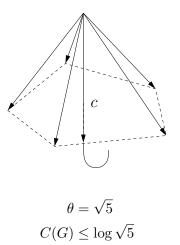
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#### Lovász theta function: pentagon

Lovász's umbrella



#### Lovász' Bound, channel interpretation

• Orthonormal Representation: A set of unit norm vectors  $\{u_x\}, x \in \mathcal{X}$ 

x, x' not confusable  $\implies \langle u_x | u_{x'} \rangle = 0$ 

• Trivial Representation:  $u_x = \sqrt{W_x}$ 

• Value (log domain):

$$V(\{u_x\}) = \min_{c} \max_{x} \log \frac{1}{|\langle u_x | c \rangle|^2} \qquad (\|c\| = 1)$$

c is the handle. Note:  $|\langle u_x | c \rangle|^2 \ge e^{-V(\{u_x\})}, \forall x$ 

• The bound:

 $C_0 \le V(\{u_x\})$ 

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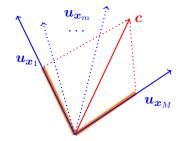
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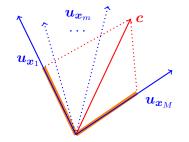
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Vectors 
$$\boldsymbol{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \longrightarrow \boldsymbol{u}_{\boldsymbol{x}} = u_{x_1} \otimes \dots \otimes u_{x_n}$$
  
Handle  $\dots$   $\boldsymbol{c} = c \otimes \dots \otimes c$ 



For a zero-error code, the vectors u<sub>xm</sub> are pairwise orthogonal
|⟨u<sub>xm</sub>|c⟩|<sup>2</sup> ≤ 1/M for at least one m, because ||c|| = 1
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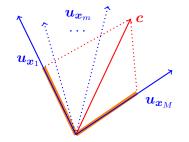


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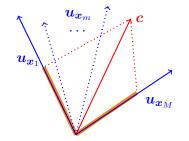
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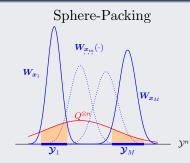
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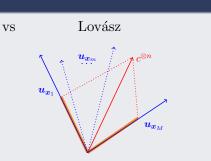


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### Lovász' Bound and the Sphere-Packing Bound

# Analogies

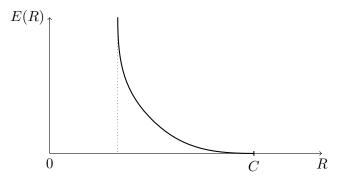




We note the following analogies

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \sqrt{\boldsymbol{W}_{\boldsymbol{x}_m}} & \leftrightarrow & \boldsymbol{u}_{\boldsymbol{x}_m} \\ & \sqrt{Q} & \leftrightarrow & c \\ Q^{\otimes n}(\boldsymbol{\mathcal{Y}}_m) & \leftrightarrow & |\langle \boldsymbol{u}_{\boldsymbol{x}_m} | c^{\otimes n} \rangle|^2 \end{array}$$

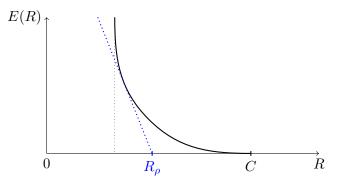
Channel reliability: from ordinary to zero-error capacity



What about min-max expressions?

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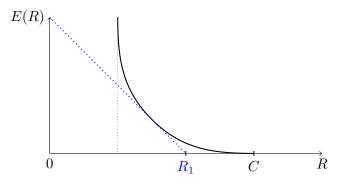
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### Remind

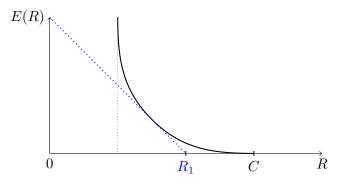
$$R_{\rho} = \min_{Q} \max_{x} D_{\alpha}(W_{x}||Q), \quad \alpha = 1/(1+\rho)$$

 $D_{\alpha}(Q_1||Q_2) = \frac{1}{\alpha-1} \log \sum_y Q_1(y)^{\alpha} Q_2(y)^{1-\alpha}$  is the Rényi divergence



Setting  $\rho = 1$ , cutoff rate:

$$R_1 = \min_{Q} \max_{x} \log \frac{1}{\left(\sum_{y} \sqrt{W_x(y)Q(y)}\right)^2}$$



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Channel reliability: from ordinary to zero-error capacity

$$u_x = \sqrt{W_x} \implies V(\{u_x\}) = \text{cutoff rate}$$

- If all  $u_x$  have non-negative components we always get the cutoff rate of some classical channel
- Lovász' optimal  $u_x$  can (often will!) have negative components.

#### Intuition (?)

• So,

Use wave functions of quantum physics to play the role of  $\sqrt{W_x}$ 

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### Definition

# • Basic Idea

 $W_x$  now density operator

 $W_x$  is a positive semi-definite matrix with unit trace • Classical channels: all  $w_x$  are diagonal

$$W_x = \begin{bmatrix} W_x(1) & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & W_x(2) & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & \ddots & \end{bmatrix}$$

• **Pure-State Channel**: all  $W_x$  are rank-one matrices

$$W_x = |u_x\rangle \langle u_x|$$

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$$W_x = |u_x\rangle \langle u_x|$$

#### • Memoryless extension:

$$\boldsymbol{x} = (x_1, \ldots, x_n) \to \boldsymbol{W}_{\boldsymbol{x}} = W_{x_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes W_{x_n}$$

• Code: M codewords  $\{x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_M\} \subset \mathcal{X}^n$ 

• **Decoder:** a POVM, collection of M positive operators  $\{\Pi_1, \ldots, \Pi_M\}$  (positive semi-definite matrices) such that

$$I - \sum_{m=1}^{M} \Pi_m \ge 0$$

- Classical deterministic case:  $\Pi_m$  diagonal  $\{0, 1\}$ -valued matrix, indicator function of  $\mathcal{Y}_m$
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• If 
$$A = |a\rangle\langle a|$$
 and  $B = |b\rangle\langle b|$  (pure states)  
Tr  $AB = |\langle a|b\rangle|^2$ 

#### • If

$$A = \sum_{i} \alpha_{i} |a_{i}\rangle \langle a_{i}| \qquad B = \sum_{j} \beta_{j} |b_{j}\rangle \langle b_{j}|$$

then

$$\operatorname{Tr} AB = \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \beta_j |\langle a_i | b_j \rangle|^2$$

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- Holevo, Schumacher-Westmorelan (1998): general states

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- Burnashev-Holevo (1998): random coding for pure states
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- Missing: conjectured Gallager-like random coding exponent!

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- Consider again binary hypothesis testing
- Try both MIT approach and Harountunian's approach

• Here  $\sigma_0, \sigma_1$  are density operators, with

$$\mathsf{P}_{\mathrm{e}|\sigma_0} = \operatorname{Tr} \sigma_0^{\otimes n} (I - \Pi) \qquad \mathsf{P}_{\mathrm{e}|\sigma_1} = \operatorname{Tr} \sigma_1^{\otimes n} \Pi$$

• Error exponents:

$$-\frac{1}{n}\log \mathsf{P}_{\mathbf{e}|\sigma_0} = -\mu(s) + s\mu'(s) + o(1)$$
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where

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• Upon differentiation, one finds for example for  $\mathsf{P}_{\mathsf{e}|\sigma_0}$ 

$$-\frac{1}{n}\log\mathsf{P}_{\mathrm{e}|\sigma_{0}} = -\log\mathrm{Tr}(\sigma_{0}^{1-s}\sigma_{1}^{s}) + \mathrm{Tr}\left[\frac{\sigma_{0}^{1-s}\sigma_{1}^{s}}{\mathrm{Tr}\,\sigma_{0}^{1-s}\sigma_{1}^{s}}\left(\log\sigma_{1}^{s} - \log\sigma_{0}^{s}\right)\right] +$$

• When  $\sigma_0$  and  $\sigma_1$  commute, define

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and use log σ<sub>1</sub><sup>s</sup> - log σ<sub>0</sub><sup>s</sup> = log σ<sub>0</sub><sup>1-s</sup>σ<sub>1</sub><sup>s</sup> - log σ<sub>0</sub>.
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$$= D(\sigma_s ||\sigma_0) + o(1).$$

• But if  $\sigma_0$ ,  $\sigma_1$  do not commute, this form does not hold!

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Channel reliability: from ordinary to zero-error capacity

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## Classical-quantum sphere packing

Channel and coding scheme

- $W_x$  are density operators (classical case: diagonal)
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- Extends using quantum Rényi divergence  $D_{\alpha}(\rho \| \sigma)$
- Matches achievability at high rates for pure-state channels
- Auxiliary Q does *not* induce auxiliary channel V

Haroutunian's approach

- Extends using quantum KL divergence
- Trivial bound for pure-state channels:

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# What happened

- Using a constant Q we get a good bound
- Using an optimal channel V we don't
- Impossible... a constant Q is a "dummy channel" with  $V_x = Q$ IT Proof
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Haroutunian

- General channel V with I(P, V) < R
- Converse for V of the form  $\operatorname{Tr} \mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{x}_m} \mathbf{\Pi}_m = o(1) \dots$  too weak
- BHT between  $V_{x_m}$  and  $W_{x_m}$  in Stein's regime

- $\bullet\,$  Take an auxiliary V with I(P,V) < R
- Compute the correct strong converse  $\operatorname{Tr} V_{\boldsymbol{x}_m} \boldsymbol{\Pi}_m = e^{-n E_{sc}(R,P)}$
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# Classical case

- Choosing I(P, V) = 0 (MIT) or  $I(P, V) = R \epsilon$  (Haroutunian) makes no difference
- No other choice can do better (I guess... list decoding)
- The strong converse exponent for V, and the BHT between  $V_{x_m}$  and  $W_{x_m}$  both involve Rény divergences

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- Is I(P,V) = 0 really optimal?
   → No matching achievability for mixed state channels.
- Strong converse exponent for c-q channels derived only very recently (Mosonyi and Ogawa 2014).
- Unlike the BHT between  $V_{x_m}$  and  $W_{x_m}$ , strong converse involves so-called "sandwiched" Rényi divergence

$$\tilde{D}_{\alpha}(\rho,\sigma) = \frac{1}{\alpha - 1} \log \operatorname{Tr} \left( \sigma^{\frac{1 - \alpha}{2\alpha}} \rho \sigma^{\frac{1 - \alpha}{2\alpha}} \right)^{\alpha}$$

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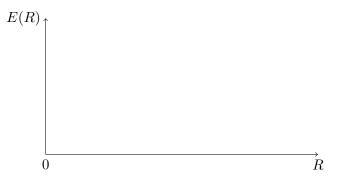
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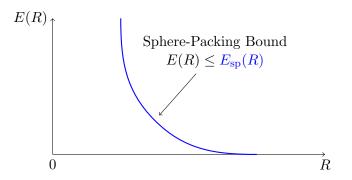
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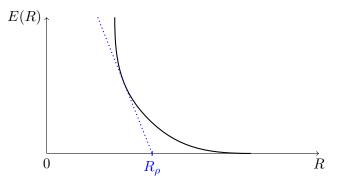
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Sphere packing

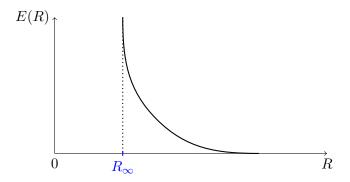
$$E_{\rm sp}(R) = \sup_{\rho \ge 0} \max_{P} \left[ -\log \operatorname{Tr} \left( \sum_{x} P(x) W_x^{1/(1+\rho)} \right)^{1+\rho} - \rho R \right]$$

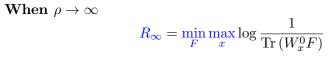


#### Minmax characterization

$$R_{\rho} = \min_{F} \max_{x} D_{\alpha}(W_{x}||F), \quad \alpha = 1/(1+\rho)$$

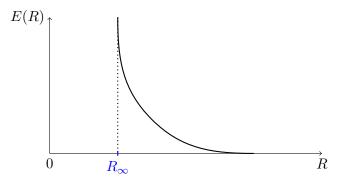
where F runs over density operators and  $D_{\alpha}(F_1||F_2) = \frac{1}{\alpha-1} \log \operatorname{Tr}(F_1^{\alpha} F_2^{1-\alpha})$  is the Rényi divergence





where  $W_x^0$  is the projector onto the support of  $W_x$ 

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For pure-state channels  $W_x = |u_x\rangle\langle u_x|$ Using pure-states  $F = |f\rangle\langle f|$  we have  $\operatorname{Tr}(W_x^0 F) = |\langle u_x|f\rangle|^2$ . So,

$$R_{\infty} \leq \min_{f} \max_{x} \log \frac{1}{|\langle u_{x} | f \rangle|^{2}}$$
$$= V(\{u_{x}\})$$

• For any representation  $\{u_x\}$ , the classical-quantum channel with pure-states  $W_x = |u_x\rangle\langle u_x|$  satisfies  $R_\infty \leq V(\{u_x\})$ 

• We can define

$$\vartheta_{sp} = \min_{\{W_x\}} R_\infty \tag{1}$$

where we minimize over all channels such that  $\operatorname{Tr} W_x W_{x'} = 0$  if x and x' are not confusable

• Then

 $C_0 \le \vartheta_{sp} \le \vartheta$ 

- Actually additional results in Lovász' paper imply  $\vartheta \leq \vartheta_{sp}$  and hence  $\vartheta_{sp} = \vartheta$ .
- So, pure-state channels achieve the optimum in (1) and for some optimal channel some pure state  $F = |f\rangle\langle f|$  achieves  $R_{\infty}$

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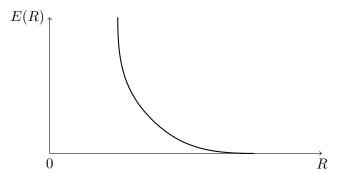
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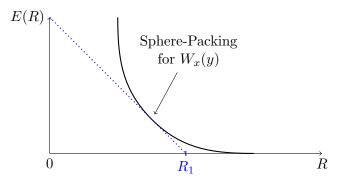
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#### Cutoff rates and $R_{\infty}$



But... where are those cutoff rates?

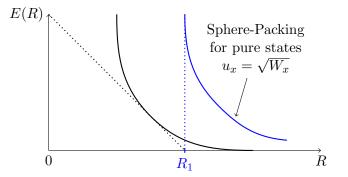
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#### But... where are those cutoff rates?

- We had previously identified  $R_1$  with  $V(\{\sqrt{W_x}\})$
- But then we ended up with a relation between  $\vartheta$  and  $R_{\infty}$

#### Cutoff rates and $R_{\infty}$



#### But... where are those cutoff rates?

- Mathematically, this is due to the fact that the cutoff rate of a channel W always equals the  $R_{\infty}$  rate of a pure-state channel with state vectors  $u_x = \sqrt{W_x}$
- The true meaning of this... I do not know, but this sounds important

## Suggested reading (to start with) I

- C. E. Shannon. "The Zero-Error Capacity of a Noisy Channel".
  In: *IRE Trans. Inform. Theory* IT-2 (1956), pp. 8–19.
- C. E. Shannon. "Certain results in coding theory for noisy channels". In: Information and Control 1 (1957), pp. 6–25.
- R. M. Fano. Transmission of Information: A Statistical Theory of Communication. Wiley, New York, 1961.
- R. G. Gallager. "A Simple Derivation of the Coding Theorem and Some Applications". In: *IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory* IT-11 (1965), pp. 3–18.
  - C. E. Shannon, R. G. Gallager, and E. R. Berlekamp. "Lower Bounds to Error Probability for Coding in Discrete Memoryless Channels. I". In: Information and Control 10 (1967), pp. 65–103.

## Suggested reading (to start with) II

- C. E. Shannon, R. G. Gallager, and E. R. Berlekamp. "Lower Bounds to Error Probability for Coding in Discrete Memoryless Channels. II". In: Information and Control 10 (1967), pp. 522–552.
  - R. G. Gallager. Information Theory and Reliable Communication. Wiley, New York, 1968.
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- R. E. Blahut. "Hypothesis testing and Information theory". In: *IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory* IT-20 (1974), pp. 405–417.

## Suggested reading (to start with) III

- L. Lovász. "On the Shannon Capacity of a Graph". In: *IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory* 25.1 (1979), pp. 1–7.
  - A. J. Viterbi and J. K. Omura. *Principles of Digital Communication and Coding.* McGraw-Hill, New York, 1979.
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- K. Audenaert, M. Nussbaum, A. Szkoła, and F. Verstraete. "Asymptotic Error Rates in Quantum Hypothesis Testing". In: *Communications in Mathematical Physics* 279 (1 2008), pp. 251–283.
- M. Nussbaum and A. Szkoła. "The Chernoff lower bound for symmetric quantum hypothesis testing". In: Ann. Statist. 37.2 (2009), pp. 1040–1057.
- H. Nagaoka. "The Converse Part of the Theorem for Quantum Hoeffding Bound". In: arXiv:quant-ph/0611289v1 ().