

Mathematical foundations of information theory &  
 Discrete Stochastics and Information Theory  
 SS 2018

**Exercise Sheet 8**

16<sup>th</sup> of May 2018

---

**Exercise 32** (2 Points). Let

$$X = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{with probability } \frac{1}{6}, \\ 8 & \text{with probability } \frac{1}{3}, \\ 9 & \text{with probability } \frac{1}{2}. \end{cases}$$

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be drawn independently and identically distributed (i.i.d.) according to the distribution of  $X$ . Find the limiting behavior of  $(X_1 \cdot X_2 \cdots X_n)^{1/n}$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

*Hint:* How could the target limit be transformed/rewritten to apply the ergodic theorem or the law of large numbers?

**Exercise 33** (2 Points). Let  $\mathcal{X} = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and

$$C(a) = 10, \quad C(b) = 00, \quad C(c) = 11, \quad C(d) = 110.$$

- (a) Show that this code is not prefix free but uniquely decodable.
- (b) Show that there are arbitrarily long words  $x_1 \cdots x_n$  such that  $C(x_1 \cdots x_n)$  can only be decoded at the very end, that is for no  $k < n$ , the initial element  $x_1$  can already be recovered from  $C(x_1 \cdots x_k)$ .

**Exercise 34** (4 Points). Let  $\mathcal{X} = \{a, b, c, d\}$ , and let  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  be a random variable with

$$\mathbb{P}[X = a] = \frac{3}{8}, \quad \mathbb{P}[X = b] = \frac{2}{8}, \quad \mathbb{P}[X = c] = \frac{2}{8}, \quad \mathbb{P}[X = d] = \frac{1}{8}.$$

The elements of  $\mathcal{X}$  are encoded as follows:

$$C(a) = 00, \quad C(b) = 01, \quad C(c) = 11, \quad C(d) = 001.$$

- (a) Is the code  $C$  (i) non-singular, (ii) prefix-free, (iii) uniquely decodable?
- (b) Calculate the entropy  $H(X)$  and the expected length  $\mathbb{E}(\ell(C))$  where

$$\mathbb{E}(\ell(C)) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \ell(C(x)) \cdot p(x).$$

- (c) Give a better code for this random variable (prefix-free, shorter expected length).

**Exercise 35** (2 Points). Give an example for a prefix free code on  $\mathcal{X} = \{b(\text{eautiful}), r(\text{ain}), s(\text{now}), w(\text{ind})\}$  which is not postfix free. Use it to construct another example of a uniquely decodable code which is not instantaneous.