Entropy-Constrained Gaussian Channel Capacity

Adway Girish Information theory lab, EPFL





October 30, 2025 SiA group meeting

Outline

Entropy-constrained Gaussian channel

4 High-SNR asymptotics

3 Low-SNR asymptotics via moment problem

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Entropy-constrained Gaussian channel

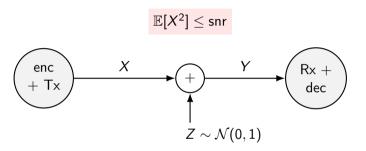
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3 Low-SNR asymptotics via moment problem

Gaussian channel

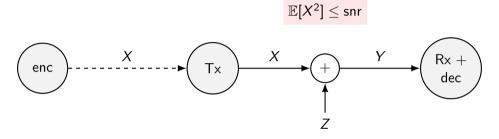


Gaussian channel



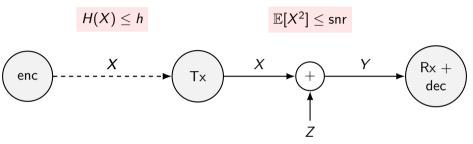
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Gaussian channel



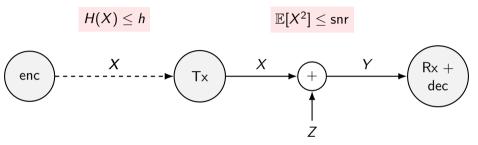
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Entropy-constrained Gaussian channel



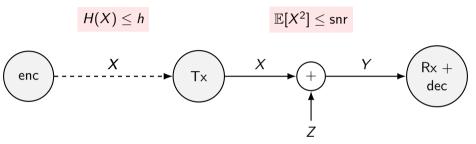
$$\begin{split} C(\mathsf{snr}) &= \max_{X: \mathbb{E}[X^2] \leq \mathsf{snr}} I(X; X + Z) = \frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \mathsf{snr}) \\ C_H(h, \mathsf{snr}) &= \max_{X: \frac{\mathbb{E}[X^2] \leq \mathsf{snr}}{H(X) \leq h}} I(X; X + Z) \end{split}$$

Entropy-constrained Gaussian channel



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- optimal X at h: discrete X with $H(X) \leq h$ that is closest to $\mathcal{N}(0, 1 + \mathsf{snr})$ after "Gaussian smoothing"

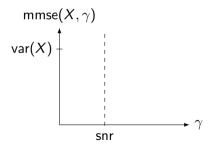
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$$I(X, \text{snr}) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\text{snr}} \text{mmse}(X, \gamma) \, d\gamma$$
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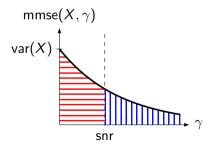
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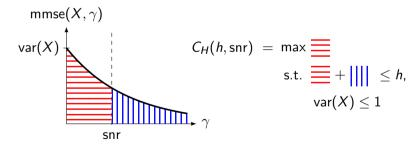
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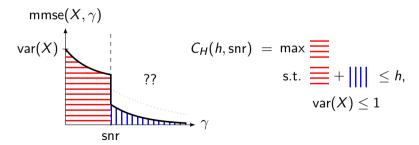
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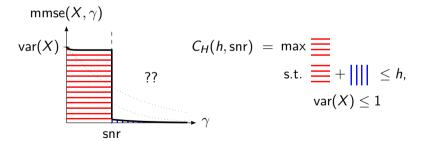
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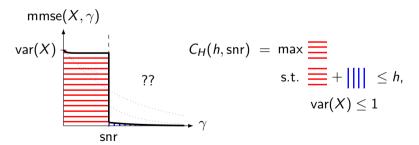
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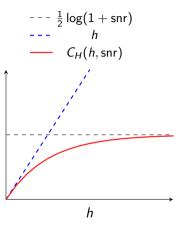


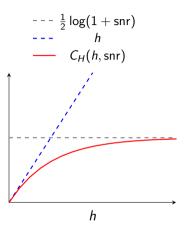
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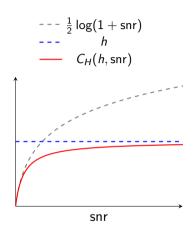
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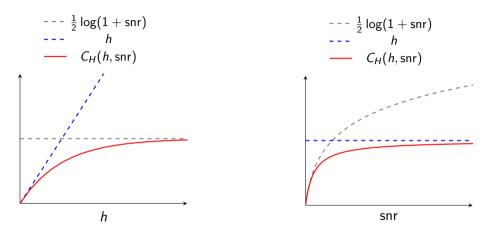


ullet optimal X at snr: indistinguishable at SNR < snr, distinguishable at SNR > snr









we look at asymptotic behaviour of \mathcal{C}_H as snr $\to 0, \infty$

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• $\operatorname{snr} \to \infty$: $C_H(h,\operatorname{snr}) \to h$, so gap of interest $= h - C_H(h,\operatorname{snr}) = H(X^*) - I(X^*,\operatorname{snr})$

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Lemma

For any
$$X$$
 with $\mathbb{E}[X^2]=1$ and finite $H(X)$, and $Z\sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$ independent of X , we have

$$H(X \mid \sqrt{\operatorname{snr}}X + Z) = \exp\left(-\operatorname{snr}\frac{\operatorname{d_{min}}(X)^2}{8} + \operatorname{o}(\operatorname{snr})\right).$$

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- need stronger $X^* \stackrel{d}{\to} X_h$ as snr $\to \infty$ to characterize **gap** in terms of $d_{\min}(X_h) = \beta$

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2 High-SNR asymptotics

Opening the state of the sta

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- $C(\operatorname{snr}) C_H(h, \operatorname{snr}) = O(\operatorname{snr}^{k_h+1})$

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• given continuous $W \sim f_W$ and [C] constraints on discrete X, how large can $k_{\text{[C]}}$ be?

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Q: Given s₁, s₂, s₃,..., s_k, does there exist X on ℝ such that E[Xⁿ] = s_n for n = 1, 2, 3,..., k?
A: iff (k odd)
(k even)

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A: iff (k odd) there exists \tilde{s}_{k+1} such that $H_{\frac{k+1}{2}}(s_1, \ldots, s_k, \tilde{s}_{k+1}) \succeq 0$ (k even)

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finite support: at most $\lfloor k/2 \rfloor + 1$ atoms (if it exists)

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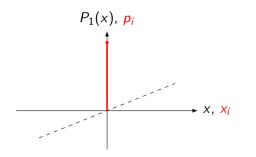
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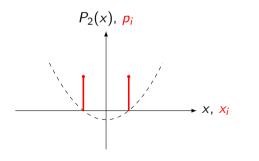
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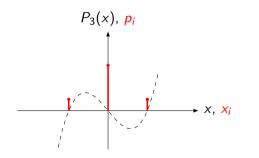


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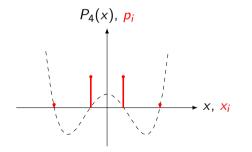


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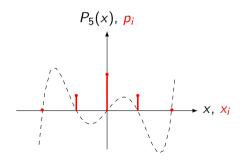
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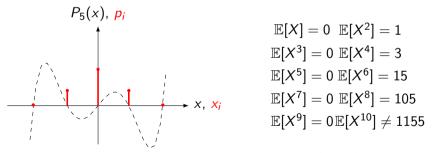
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ullet optimal trade-off of atoms to moments matched, but $H(X_m^{\mathbb{Q}})pprox rac{1}{2}\log m o\infty$

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$$\eta_G = \frac{1}{3}$$
, so for $h < h_2(\frac{1}{3})$, as snr $\to 0$, $C(\operatorname{snr}) - C_H(h, \operatorname{snr}) = O(\operatorname{snr}^4)$.

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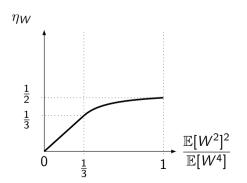
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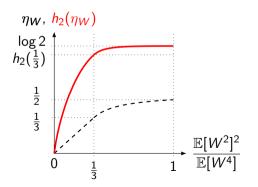
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- worst-case exponent $= \min_{X: H(X) < h} \mathsf{D}_{\mathsf{KL}}(X + Z \parallel G + Z)$ $= \Theta(\frac{1}{\sigma^8}) \text{ for } h < h_2(\frac{1}{3})$

- observe n i.i.d. samples $Y_i = X_i + Z_i$ with $Z_i \sim Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ independent of X_i , $\sigma \to \infty$
- $\left. \begin{array}{ll} \mathcal{H}=0: & X_i \sim X \text{ discrete with } H(X) \leq h \\ \mathcal{H}=1: & X_i \sim G \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1) \end{array} \right\} \text{ decide } \hat{\mathcal{H}} \in \{0,1\} \text{ from } Y^n$
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- ullet proof: Taylor expansion, $k^{ ext{th}}$ term depends on first k moments, can match only 3 moments

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Thank you!