

Winter 2002

Tunstall Codes

Run-Length Coding

- Lots of 0's and not too many 1's.
 - Fax of letters
 - Graphics
- Simple run-length code
 - 0000001000000000100000000010001001.....
 - 6 9 10 3 2 ...
 - Code the bits as a sequence of integers

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Golomb Code of Order m

- Let $n = qm + r$ where $0 \leq r < m$.
 - Divide m into n to get the quotient q and remainder r .
 - Code for n has two parts:
 1. q is coded in unary
 2. r is coded as a fixed prefix code
- Example: $m = 5$ 0 0 0 1

Example: $m = 5$



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Example

- $n = qm + r$ is represented by:

$$\overbrace{11 \dots 10}^q \hat{r}$$

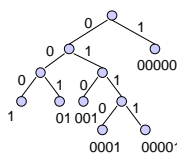
- where \hat{r} is the fixed prefix code for r

- Example:

2	6	9	10	27
0101001	10111	11000	1111010	

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Alternative Explanation Golomb Code



input	output
00000	1
00001	0111
0001	0110
001	010
01	001
1	000

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Run Length Example: $m = 5$

```

0000010000000000100000000010001001.....
1
0000010000000000100000000010001001.....
001
0000001000000000100000000010001001.....
1
0000001000000000100000000010001001.....
0111

```

In this example we coded 17 bit in only 9 bits.

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Choosing m

- Suppose that 0 has the probability p and 1 has probability $1-p$.
- The probability of 0^n1 is $p^n(1-p)$. The Golomb code of order $m = \left\lceil -1/\log_2 p \right\rceil$ is optimal.
- Example: $p = 127/128$.

$$m = \left\lceil -1/\log_2 (127/128) \right\rceil = 89$$

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Average Bit Rate for Golomb Code

$$\text{Average Bit Rate} = \frac{\text{Average output code length}}{\text{Average input code length}}$$

- $m = 4$ as an example. With p as the probability of 0.

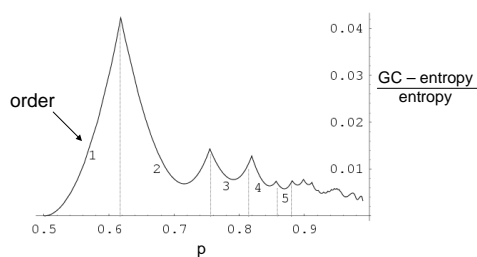
$$\text{ABR} = \frac{p^4 + 3(1-p^4)}{4p^4 + 4p^3(1-p) + 3p^2(1-p) + 2p(1-p) + (1-p)}$$

output	1	011	010	001	000
input	0000	0001	001	01	1
probability	p^4	$p^3(1-p)$	$p^2(1-p)$	$p(1-p)$	$1-p$

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Comparison of GC with Entropy



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Notes on Golomb codes

- Useful for binary compression when one symbol is much more likely than another.
 - binary images
 - fax documents
 - bit planes for wavelet image compression
- Need a parameter (the order)
 - training
 - adaptively learn the right parameter
- Variable-to-variable length code
- Last symbol needs to be a 1
 - coder always adds a 1
 - decoder always removes a 1

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Tunstall Codes

- Variable-to-fixed length code
- Example

input	output
a	000
b	001
ca	010
cb	011
cca	100
ccb	101
ccc	110

a b cca cb ccc ...
000 001 110 011 110 ...

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Tunstall code Properties

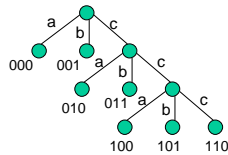
- No input code is a prefix of another to assure unique encodability.
- Minimize the number of bits per symbol.

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Prefix Code Property

a	000
b	001
ca	010
cb	011
cca	100
ccb	101
ccc	110



Unused output code is 111.

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Use for unused code

- Consider the string "cc". It does not have a code.
- Send the unused code and some fixed code for the cc.
- Generally, if there are k internal nodes in the prefix tree then there is a need for $k-1$ fixed codes.

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Designing a Tunstall Code

- Suppose there are m initial symbols.
- Choose a target output length n where $2^n > m$.

- Form a tree with a root and m children with edges labeled with the symbols.
- If the number of leaves is $> 2^n - m$ then halt.*
- Find the leaf with highest probability and expand it to have m children.** Go to 2.

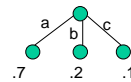
* In the next step we will add $m-1$ more leaves.
 ** The probability is the product of the probabilities of the symbols on the root to leaf path.

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Example

- $P(a) = .7, P(b) = .2, P(c) = .1$
- $n = 3$

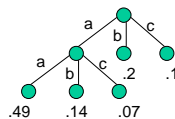


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Example

- $P(a) = .7, P(b) = .2, P(c) = .1$
- $n = 3$

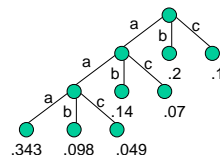


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Example

- $P(a) = .7, P(b) = .2, P(c) = .1$
- $n = 3$



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Bit Rate of Tunstall

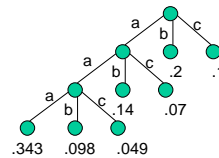
- The length of the output code divided by the average length of the input code.
- Let p_i be the probability of and r_i the length of input code i ($1 \leq i \leq s$) and let n be the length of the output code.

$$\text{Average bit rate} = \frac{n}{\sum_{i=1}^s p_i r_i}$$

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Example



$$\begin{aligned} \text{ABR} &= 3/[3 (.343 + .098 + .049) + 2 (.14 + .07) + .2 + .1] \\ &= 1.37 \text{ bits per symbol} \\ \text{Entropy} &= 1.16 \text{ bits per symbol} \end{aligned}$$

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Notes on Tunstall Codes

- Variable-to-fixed length code
- Error resilient
 - A flipped bit will introduce just one error in the output
 - Huffman is not error resilient. A single bit flip can destroy the code.

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