Minimum Rates of Approximate Sufficient Statistics

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Joint work with Prof. Masahito Hayashi (Nagoya University & NUS)









NAGOYA UNIVERSITY

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2 Problem Setup

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3 Main Result and Interpretation

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$$P_{X|\theta}(x) = \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P_{X|Y}(x|y) P_{Y|\theta}(y) = \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P_{X,Y|\theta}(x,y) \quad \forall (x,\theta)$$

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In information theory language,

$$I(\theta; X) = I(\theta; f(X)) = I(\theta; Y).$$

Y provides as much information about θ as *X* does.

Examples

■ $X^n = (X_1, ..., X_n) \in \{0, 1\}^n$ is i.i.d. Bernoulli with parameter $\theta = \Pr[X_i = 1]$. Then

$$X^n \multimap - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \multimap - \theta$$

forms a Markov chain so $Y = f(X^n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ is a sufficient statistic for the family $\{P_{X^n|\theta}\}$.

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Exponential family with natural parameter $\theta = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_d)$

$$P_{X|\theta}^{n}(x^{n}) = P_{X}^{n}(x^{n}) \exp\left[\langle Y^{(n)}(x^{n}), \theta \rangle - nA(\theta)\right].$$

Vector of sufficient statistics $Y^{(n)}(x^n) = (Y_1^{(n)}(x^n), \dots, Y_d^{(n)}(x^n))$ with

$$Y_i^{(n)}(x^n) = \sum_{j=1}^n Y_i(x_j), \quad i = 1, \dots, d.$$

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Denote $(f \circ P_{X|\theta})(y) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} P_{X|\theta}(x) \Pr[f(x) = y]$. Hence,

$$\begin{split} \varphi \circ f \circ P_{X|\theta} &= \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} (f \circ P_{X|\theta})(y)\varphi(y) \\ &= \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P_{X|\theta} \{ x \in \mathcal{X} : f(x) = y \} P_{X|Y=y,\theta} = P_{X|\theta}. \end{split}$$

Memory Size

How much memory to store the sufficient statistics?

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Example 1: Binomial case. Since $\mathcal{X} = \{0, 1\}$, the sufficient statistic

$$\frac{1}{n}\sum_{j=1}^{n}X_{j}\in\left\{\frac{0}{n},\frac{1}{n},\frac{2}{n},\ldots,\frac{n}{n}\right\}$$

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Example 2: *k*-nomial case, i.e., $\mathcal{X} = \{0, 1, \dots, k-1\}$ and we have *n* samples. Size of sufficient statistics $Y^{(n)}(x^n)$ satisfies

$$|\{Y^{(n)}(x^n): x^n \in \mathcal{X}^n\}| = \binom{n+k-1}{k-1} \sim \frac{n^{k-1}}{(k-1)!},$$

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■ Example 3: $\theta \in \Theta = [0, 1]$ is the unknown mean of a Gaussian. Sufficient statistics can take uncountable number of values.

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Reduce the exponent *d* in n^d by relaxing exact recovery condition on generating distribution $P_{X|\theta}^n$.

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Now instead of exact recovery $P_{X|\theta}^n = \varphi_n \circ f_n \circ P_{X|\theta}^n$ for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we only require that

$$\overline{\lim_{n\to\infty}}\int_{\Theta}F\left(P_{X|\theta}^{n},\varphi_{n}\circ f_{n}\circ P_{X|\theta}^{n}\right)\,\mu(\mathrm{d}\theta)\leq\delta.$$

for some $\delta \geq 0$.

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■ Most of the time, we can reduce the exponent to *d*/2 and this is optimal.



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Definition of Code



Definition (Code)

A size- M_n code $C_n = (f_n, \varphi_n)$ consists of

- A possibly stochastic encoder $f_n : \mathcal{X}^n \to \mathcal{Y}_n = \{1, \dots, M_n\};$
- A decoder $\varphi_n : \mathcal{Y}_n \to \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}^n)$ (set of distributions on \mathcal{X}^n)

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Definition of Error

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The average error is a code $C_n = (f_n, \varphi_n)$ is defined as

$$\varepsilon(\mathcal{C}_n) := \int_{\Theta} F\left(\varphi_n \circ f_n \circ P_{X|\theta}^n, P_{X|\theta}^n\right) \,\mu(\mathrm{d}\theta)$$
$$= \mathbb{E}_{\theta \sim \mu} \left[F\left(\varphi_n \circ f_n \circ P_{X|\theta}^n, P_{X|\theta}^n\right) \right]$$

where $\mu(\cdot)$ is the prior distribution of θ .

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where $\mu(\cdot)$ is the prior distribution of θ .

Recall that

$$(f_n \circ P_{X|\theta}^n)(\mathbf{y}) = \sum_{\mathbf{x}^n \in \mathcal{X}^n} P_{X|\theta}^n(\mathbf{x}^n) \Pr[f(\mathbf{x}^n) = \mathbf{y}]$$

and

$$\varphi_n \circ f_n \circ P_{X|\theta}^n = \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}_n} (f_n \circ P_{X|\theta}^n)(y) \varphi_n(y) \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}^n).$$

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- Variational distance

$$F(P,Q) = ||P - Q||_1 = 2 \sup_{A \subset \mathcal{X}} |P(A) - Q(A)| \in [0,2]$$

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Relative entropy (Kullback-Leibler distance)

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Pinsker's inequality

$$\frac{\log e}{2} \|P - Q\|_1^2 \le D(P\|Q)$$
■ Given a code C_n, denote its error under the variational distance and relative entropy as ε⁽¹⁾(C_n) and ε⁽²⁾(C_n) resp.

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Definition (Minimum Compression Rate)

Let $\delta \ge 0$. Define

$$\mathsf{R}^{(i)}(\delta) := \inf_{\{\mathcal{C}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}} \left\{ \overline{\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{\log |\mathcal{C}_n|}{\log n}} : \overline{\lim_{n \to \infty} \varepsilon^{(i)}}(\mathcal{C}_n) \leq \delta \right\}, \quad i = 1, 2.$$

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$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{\log|\mathcal{C}_n|}{\log n}=r\quad\Longleftrightarrow\quad|\mathcal{C}_n|\asymp n^r$$

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Minimum Compression Rate: Interpretation

Suppose $\mathbb{R}^{(i)}(\delta) = r$. Then for every $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\{C_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ whose asymptotic error under criterion i = 1, 2 is $\leq \delta$ and

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■ Note that $\delta \in [0, 2]$ for variational distance and $\delta \in [0, \infty]$ for relative entropy.

Because $\delta \mapsto \mathbf{R}^{(i)}(\delta)$ is monotone

$$\mathbf{R}^{(i)}(\delta') \le \mathbf{R}^{(i)}(\delta), \quad \forall \, 0 \le \delta \le \delta'.$$

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Our goal is to characterize R⁽ⁱ⁾(δ) for all values of δ for statistical models {P_{X|θ}} under reasonable assumptions.

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- Our goal is to characterize R⁽ⁱ⁾(δ) for all values of δ for statistical models {P_{X|θ}} under reasonable assumptions.
- Typically for $\Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^d$,

$$\mathbf{R}^{(i)}(\delta) = \frac{d}{2}.$$



1 Sufficient Statistics, Motivation, and Main Contribution

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(i) Parameter space $\Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ is bounded and has positive Lebesgue measure (in \mathbb{R}^d).

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- (ii) Local approximation of relative entropy: As $\theta' \rightarrow \theta$,

$$D(P_{X|\theta} \| P_{X|\theta'}) = \frac{1}{2} (\theta - \theta')^T J(\theta - \theta') + o(\|\theta - \theta'\|^2)$$

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(iii) Asymptotic efficiency: Exists a sequence of estimators $\hat{\theta}_n(X^n)$ s.t.

$$\mathbb{E}_{\theta \sim \mu} \left[D \big(P_{X \mid \hat{\theta}_n(X^n)} \, \big\| \, P_{X \mid \theta} \big) \right] = \frac{d}{2n} + o \left(\frac{1}{n} \right).$$

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(v) Local asymptotic sufficiency of MLE

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Main Result

Theorem (Hayashi-T. (2016))

Assume (i), (ii), (iv), and (v), under the variational distance criterion

$$\mathbf{R}^{(1)}(\delta) = \frac{a}{2} \qquad \forall \, \delta \in [0,2).$$

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$$\mathbf{R}^{(2)}(\delta) = \frac{d}{2} \qquad \forall \, \delta \in \Big[\frac{d}{2}, \infty\Big).$$

3 If in addition $\{P_{X|\theta}\}_{\theta\in\Theta}$ is an exponential family,

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- But (this is more cool!), we show that even if the error is non-vanishing, i.e.,

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the memory requirement d/2 is asymptotically the same.

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■ This is known in information theory as a strong converse.



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Approximate Sufficient Statistics

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Universal Coding, Information, Prediction, and Estimation

JORMA RISSANEN

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This work was done while the author was Visiting Professor at the Department of System Science, University of California, Los Angeles, while on leave from the IBM Research Laboratory, San Jose, CA 95193. Gaussian autoregressive moving average (ARMA) processes below a bound, which is determined by the information in the data.

I. INTRODUCTION

THERE are three main problems in signal processing: prediction, data compression, and estimation. In the first, we are given a string of observed data points x_{μ} , $t = 1, \cdots, n$, on a dietr another, and the objective is to predict for each t the next outcome $x_{\mu,1}$ from what we have seens of ar. In the data compression problem we are given a similar sequence of observations, each truncated to some finite precision, and the objective is to redescribe the data with a suitably designed code as efficiently as possible, i.e., with a short code length.



J. Rissanen

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Quantize the MLE similarly to Rissanen.

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Encoder: Apply discretization to $\hat{\theta}_n$ with span t/\sqrt{n} and store this discretized parameter $\hat{\theta}'_n \in \Theta_{n,t}$ in the memory $\Theta_{n,t}$.

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• Memory is $\Theta_{n,t} = \Theta \cap \frac{t}{\sqrt{n}} \mathbb{Z}^d$ and $|\Theta_{n,t}| \asymp n^{d/2}$.

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Can show that

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\varepsilon^{(2)}(\mathcal{C}_n)\leq\frac{d}{2}$$

by eventually taking $t \downarrow 0$. But error is non-vanishing. :(

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Approximate Sufficient Statistics

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• Assume that $\{P_{X|\theta}\}$ is an exponential family

$$P_{X|\theta}(x) = P_X(x) \exp\left[\langle \theta, Y(x) \rangle - A(\theta)\right].$$

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Moment parametrization:

$$\eta(\theta) = \nabla_{\theta} A(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{\theta}[Y(X)].$$

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Approximate Sufficient Statistics

Decoder: Uniform mixture of conditional distributions whose moment parameter is discretized to
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$$\varphi(\hat{\eta}'_n) = \frac{1}{|\beta_t^{-1}(\hat{\eta}'_n)|} \sum_{\eta \in \beta_t^{-1}(\hat{\eta}'_n)} P_{X^n|Y=n\eta}$$

where

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Asymptotic error under relative entropy is zero and $|\mathcal{H}_{n,t}| \simeq n^{d/2}$.

Vincent Tan (NUS)

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Approximate Sufficient Statistics

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- **Discretize MLE with span** t/\sqrt{n} .
- \blacksquare Variational distance is a norm \Rightarrow triangle inequality
- Uniform mixture idea.



1 Sufficient Statistics, Motivation, and Main Contribution

- 2 Problem Setup
- 3 Main Result and Interpretation
- 4 Proof Ideas : Achievability
- 5 Proof Ideas : Converse (Impossibility)

6 Conclusion

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Information-Theoretic Asymptotics of Bayes Methods

BERTRAND S. CLARKE AND ANDREW R. BARRON, MEMBER, IEEE

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THE RELATIVE entropy is a mathematical expres-

we identify. We note that if the mixture excludes a neighborhood of the true density, then the behavior of the relative entropy is, asymptotically, of the order of the sample size; in addition, if the prior is discrete and assigns positive mass at θ_{o} , the relative entropy then asymptotically tends to a constant.

The relative entropy rate between the true distribution and the mixture of distributions has been examined by Barron [4]. It is shown that if the prior assigns positive mass to the relative entropy neighborhoods $\{\theta: D(P_{\theta_n} \| P_{\theta}) \le \epsilon\}$, $\epsilon \ge 0$, then

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B. Clarke

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A. Barron

Approximate Sufficient Statistics

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B. Clarke

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A. Barron

$$D\left(P_{X|\theta}^{n} \middle\| \underbrace{\int_{\Theta} P_{X|\theta'}^{n} \mu(\mathrm{d}\theta')}_{\text{mixture}}\right) = ??$$

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Can obtain a weak converse $R^{(1)}(0) \ge \frac{d}{2}$ by using Clarke and Barron's asymptotic formula:

$$D\left(P_{X|\theta}^{n} \parallel \int_{\Theta} P_{X|\theta'}^{n} \mu(\mathrm{d}\theta')\right) = \frac{d}{2}\log n + O(1).$$

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Additionally use the fact that

$$\varepsilon^{(1)}(\mathcal{C}_n) \to 0$$

and the uniform continuity of mutual information, i.e.,

$$|I_P(A;B) - I_{P'}(A;B)| \le 3\nu \log(|\mathcal{A}||\mathcal{B}| - 1) + 3H(\nu)$$

where

$$\nu = \frac{1}{2} \| P - P' \|_1.$$

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Strong Converse Variational Distance : $R^{(1)}(2^-) \ge \frac{d}{2}$

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Strong Converse Variational Distance : $R^{(1)}(2^-) \ge \frac{d}{2}$

• We want to show that for any sequence of codes $\{C_n\}_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$ such that

 $\lim_{n\to\infty}\varepsilon^{(1)}(\mathcal{C}_n)<2$

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■ Assume, to the contrary, that there exists a code C_n with error

$$\mathbb{E}_{\theta \sim \mu} \left[\left\| P_{X|\theta}^{n} - (\varphi \circ f)(\theta) \right\|_{1} \right] \leq 2 - \alpha,$$

with memory size $M_n = O(n^{\frac{1}{2}-\gamma})$ for some $\gamma > 0$.
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■ Define $S = \{\theta \in \Theta : \|P_{X|\theta}^n - (\varphi \circ f)(\theta)\|_1 \le 2 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\}$. Markov inequality says

$$\mu(\mathcal{S}) \ge \frac{\alpha}{4-\alpha} > 0.$$

Assume $\lambda \ll \mu$. Then $\lambda(S) > 0$.

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• Can choose $\frac{5}{\alpha}M_n$ points $\{\theta_i : i = 1, \dots, \frac{5}{\alpha}M_n\} \subset S$ such that

$$\|P_{X|\theta_i}^n - (\varphi \circ f)(\theta_i)\|_1 \le 2 - \frac{\alpha}{2}, \quad |\theta_i - \theta_j| > \lambda(\mathcal{S}) \left(\frac{5}{\alpha} M_n\right)^{-1}$$

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Because separation is $\Omega(n^{-\frac{1}{2}+\gamma})$, there exists disjoint $\mathcal{D}_i \subset \mathcal{X}^n$, $i = 1, \ldots, \frac{5}{\alpha}M_n$ such that

$$P_{X|\theta_i}^n(\mathcal{D}_i) \ge 1 - \epsilon.$$

• Note that $\frac{1}{2} ||P - Q||_1 = \sup_A |P(A) - Q(A)|$.

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• Take
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This implies

$$1 - \frac{\alpha}{4} \ge (\varphi \circ f(\theta_i))(\mathcal{D}_i^c) - P_{X|\theta_i}^n(\mathcal{D}_i^c)$$

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We have

$$(\varphi \circ f(\theta_i))(\mathcal{D}_i) \ge \frac{\alpha}{4} - \epsilon, \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, \frac{5}{\alpha}M_n.$$

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$$M_n \ge \sum_{j=1}^{M_n} (\varphi(j)) \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\frac{5}{\alpha}M_n} \mathcal{D}_i \right)$$

 $[\varphi(j) \text{ is a prob. meas.}]$

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$$egin{aligned} M_n &\geq \sum_{j=1}^{M_n} (arphi(j)) igg(igcup_{lpha}^{rac{5}{lpha} M_n} igcup_i ig) \ &= \sum_{i=1}^{rac{5}{lpha} M_n} igg(\sum_{j=1}^{M_n} (arphi(j)) (\mathcal{D}_i) igg) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\ge \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{5}{\alpha}M_n} (\varphi \circ f(\theta_i))(\mathcal{D}_i)$$

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 $[\varphi \circ f \text{ is a cvx. comb. of } \varphi(j)]$

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$$M_n \ge \sum_{j=1}^{M_n} (\varphi(j)) \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\frac{5}{\alpha}M_n} \mathcal{D}_i \right)$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{5}{\alpha}M_n} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{M_n} (\varphi(j))(\mathcal{D}_i) \right)$$
$$\ge \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{5}{\alpha}M_n} (\varphi \circ f(\theta_i))(\mathcal{D}_i)$$
$$\ge \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{5}{\alpha}M_n} \left(\frac{\alpha}{4} - \epsilon \right) = \frac{5}{\alpha}M_n \left(\frac{\alpha}{4} - \epsilon \right)$$

 $[\varphi(j) \text{ is a prob. meas.}]$

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▲ @ ▶ ▲ ⊇ ▶ ▲

$$egin{aligned} M_n &\geq \sum_{j=1}^{M_n} (arphi(j)) igg(igcup_{i=1}^{rac{5}{lpha} M_n} \mathcal{D}_i igg) \ &= \sum_{i=1}^{rac{5}{lpha} M_n} igg(\sum_{j=1}^{M_n} (arphi(j)) (\mathcal{D}_i) igg) \ &\geq \sum_{i=1}^{rac{5}{lpha} M_n} igg(arphi \circ f(heta_i) igg) (\mathcal{D}_i) \ &\geq \sum_{i=1}^{rac{5}{lpha} M_n} igg(rac{lpha}{4} - \epsilon igg) = rac{5}{lpha} M_n igg(rac{lpha}{4} - \epsilon igg) \end{aligned}$$

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Contradiction if $0 < \epsilon < \frac{\alpha}{20}$.



1 Sufficient Statistics, Motivation, and Main Contribution

- 2 Problem Setup
- 3 Main Result and Interpretation
- 4 Proof Ideas : Achievability
- 5 Proof Ideas : Converse (Impossibility)

6 Conclusion



Approximate sufficient statistics and minimum size of memory *Y*.



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