ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE

School of Computer and Communication Sciences

Handout 5	Introduction to Communication Systems
Homework 3	October 1, 2009

This is your first graded homework. Your grade will solely be evaluated based on your answers, not your friends' answers, nor your look or gender ;). Try to write down your answers as clear as possible such that at least one of the assistants would be able to read them. :)

PROBLEM 1. Assume that we use the following code for encoding the source stream. Let $x = x_1 x_2 x_3, \ldots$ be a long sequence of source symbols where $x_i \in \{a, b, c, d\}$. Let $\mathbf{c} = c(x_1)c(x_2)c(x_3).\ldots$ be the corresponding long binary sequence which results when we encode x. Imagine picking one bit at random from c. What is the probability that this bit is a 1?

Symbol	Code	probability
a	0	1/2
b	10	1/4
С	110	$1/4 \\ 1/8 \\ 1/8$
d	111	1/8

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PROBLEM 2. Find a probability distribution $\{p_1, p_2, p_3, p_3\}$ such that there are *two* optimal codes that assign different lengths l_i to the four symbols a, b, c, d.

Symbol	probability	length
a	p_1	l_1
b	p_2	l_2
С	p_3	l_3
d	p_4	l_4

PROBLEM 3. The World Series is a seven-game series that terminates as soon as either Nadal or Federe wins four games. Let X be the random variable that represents the outcome of a World Series between Nadal (N) and Federer (F). Possible values of X are FFFF, NFNFNFN, NNNFFFF, ... Let Y be the number of games played which ranges from 4 to 7. Assume that Nadal and Federer are equally matched and that the games are independent. Calculate H(X) and H(Y)

PROBLEM 4. Which of these codes cannot be Huffman codes for any probability assignment?

- $\{0, 10, 11\}.$
- {00, 01, 10, 110}.
- {01, 10}.

PROBLEM 5. Consider the following source.

Symbol	probability
a	1/2
b	1/4
с	1/8
d	1/8

- What is the entropy of this source?
- Find a binary Huffman code. What is the average code length?
- Find a Shannon-Fano code. What is the average code length?