

# ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE

School of Computer and Communication Sciences

**Handout 12**  
Homework 6

Information Theory and Coding  
October 22, 2013

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PROBLEM 1. Let the alphabet be  $\mathcal{X} = \{a, b\}$ . Consider the infinite sequence  $X_1^\infty = abababababababab\dots$

- (a) What is the compressibility of  $\rho(X_1^\infty)$  using finite-state machines (FSM) as defined in class? Justify your answer.
- (b) Design a specific FSM, call it  $M$ , with at most 4 states and as low a  $\rho_M(X_1^\infty)$  as possible. What compressibility do you get?
- (c) Using only the result in point (a) but no specific calculations, what is the compressibility of  $X_1^\infty$  under the Lempel-Ziv algorithm, i.e., what is  $\rho_{LZ}(X_1^\infty)$ ?
- (d) Re-derive your result from point (c) but this time by means of an explicit computation.

PROBLEM 2. From the notes on the Lempel-Ziv algorithm, we know that the maximum number of distinct words  $c$  a string of length  $n$  can be parsed into satisfies

$$n > c \log_K(c/K^3)$$

where  $K$  is the size of the alphabet the letters of the string belong to. This inequality lower bounds  $n$  in terms of  $c$ . We will now show that  $n$  can also be upper bounded in terms of  $c$ .

- (a) Show that, if  $n \geq \frac{1}{2}m(m-1)$ , then  $c \geq m$ .
- (b) Find a sequence for which the bound in (a) is met with equality.
- (c) Show now that  $n < \frac{1}{2}c(c+1)$ .