# Learned Wyner-Ziv Compressors Recover Binning

Ezgi Ozyilkan

2023 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory (ISIT) Taipei, Taiwan | June 25-30 2023

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## TANDON SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING



# **Distributed Source Coding**



















### server broadcasts model parameters

server









## clients update their models based on local data





## clients send model updates

server





# **Motivation: Distributed Source Coding** Federated learning. correlated client \*\*\*\*\* client \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* client e.g., next-word prediction

## clients send model updates

server





sensor



central processing unit



### Sensor networks.

sensor



central processing unit



sensor

### Sensor networks.



e.g., distributed camera

array



central processing unit





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### cameras transmit correlated images

sensor



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Particularly, for *general sources*.

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J. Ballé et al., "End-to-end Optimized Image Compression", International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2017.

Particularly, for *general sources*.

Learning-based compressors (e.g., Ballé et al., 2017) may help.

# Visual example from a learned compressor

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### → Johannes Ballé's keynote at DCC'23.







## Simpler special case: Rate-distortion (R-D) with side information



A. Wyner and J. Ziv, "The rate-distortion function for source coding with side information at the decoder", IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, 1976. 7



measure. The R-D function for X when Y available at the decoder is:

 $R_{WZ}(D) = \min(I(X; U) - I(Y; U)),$ 

where the minimization is over all p(u|x) and all functions g(u, y) satisfying  $\mathbb{E}_{p(x,y)p(u|x)}d(x,g(u,y)) \leq D \; .$ 

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<u>**Theorem.**</u> Let (X, Y) be correlated i.i.d.  $\sim p(x, y)$ , and let  $d(x, \hat{x})$  be a distortion



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#### Wyner-Ziv achievability



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## **Operational schemes**

11



R















Marginal formulation.



R















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 $L_{\mathrm{m}}(\theta, \phi, \xi) = \mathbb{E}\left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(u \mid x)}{q_{\xi}(u)} + \lambda \cdot d(x, g_{\phi}(u, y))\right],$ 

quantizer de-quantizer

 $L_{\mathbf{C}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\zeta}) = \mathbb{E}\left[\log \frac{p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{u} \mid \boldsymbol{x})}{q_{\boldsymbol{\xi}}(\boldsymbol{u} \mid \boldsymbol{y})} + \lambda \cdot d(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{g_{\boldsymbol{\phi}}}(\boldsymbol{u}, \boldsymbol{y}))\right].$ 

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Relax the constrained formulation of Wyner-Ziv theorem using Lagrange multipliers: 



• Define all models  $p_{\theta}(u | x)$ ,  $q_{\xi}(u)$  and  $q_{\xi}(u | y)$  as **discrete** distributions with probabilities:

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• This keeps the parametric families as general as possible, and **does not impose any structure**.

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 $\arg \max_{k \in 1, \dots, K} \{\alpha_k + G_k\}$ .

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  - Opt for *softmax* (differentiable!).
  - Use Gumbel-softmax 'trick' by Maddison et al.

E. J. Gumbel, "Statistical theory of extreme values and some practical applications: a series of lectures", US Department of *Commerce*, 1954. C. Maddison et al., "The concrete distribution: a continuous relaxation of discrete random variables", ICLR, 2017.

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• Consider correlation patterns of X = Y + N and Y = X + N.

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$$R_{WZ}(D) = \frac{1}{2} \log\left(\frac{\sigma_{x|y}^2}{D}\right), \ 0 \le D \le \sigma_{x|y}^2.$$

- Consider correlation patterns of X = Y + N and Y = X + N.
- The neural compressor does not make any assumptions on the source distribution.

- Wyner–Ziv formula has a closed–form solution in few special cases.
- To evaluate how close we can get to the R-D bound, we choose:
  - ► Let X and Y be correlated, zero-mean and stationary Gaussian memoryless sources.
  - Let  $d(\cdot)$  be mean-squared error.
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- Consider correlation patterns of X = Y + N and Y = X + N.
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  - The model parameters  $\{\theta, \phi, \xi, \zeta\}$  are learned in a data-driven way.

#### Results

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Marginal formulation.

X = Y + N with  $Y \sim N(0,1)$  and  $N \sim N(0,10^{-1})$ .

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 $\hat{x} = g_{\phi}(u, y)$ 

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#### Learned decoder: $\hat{x} = g_{\phi}(u, y)$

In quadratic-Gaussian WZ setup, the optimal decoder does:

$$\hat{x} = (1 - \beta) \cdot y + \beta \cdot u_{\beta}$$

where  $\beta \propto \sigma_n^2$  .

#### Learned encoder: $u = \arg \max_{v} p_{\theta}(v \mid x)$



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**Recovers** optimal reconstruction function.



X = Y + N with  $Y \sim N(0,1)$  and  $N \sim N(0,10^{-1})$ .



Y = X + N with  $X \sim N(0,1)$  and  $N \sim N(0,10^{-2})$ .

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<sup>†</sup>J. Whang, A. Acharya, H. Kim, and A. G. Dimakis, "Neural distributed source coding", https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.02797, 2021.

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- Data-driven insights about the 'nature' of a classical source coding problem with side information.

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# Thank you. Questions?

# Learned Wyner-Ziv Compressors Recover Binning

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This work was supported in part by NYU Wireless and Google.

