Introduction to Information Theory, Fall 2019

Practice problem set #11

You do **not** have to hand in these exercises, they are for your practice only.

1. **Suboptimality of symbol codes:** Recall that the optimal symbol code C for a source X satisfies

$$H(X) \leq L(C, X) < H(X) + 1.$$

Show that for any $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a source such that for the optimal symbol code C

$$L(C, X) > H(X) + 1 - \varepsilon.$$

Hint: construct an example for a binary source.

2. Entropy and probability: Suppose X and Y are independent random variables taking values on the same alphabet with respective distributions P and Q. Show that

$$\Pr(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{Y}) \ge 2^{-H(\mathbf{P}) - D(\mathbf{P} \| \mathbf{Q})}.$$

Hint: Jensen's inequality.

- 3. Channel capacity Suppose we have a channel $Q(y_1, y_2|x) = Q(y_1|x)Q(y_2|x)$. That is, for any fixed input symbol *x*, the output distribution is IID. Now let X be a random channel input and denote by $Y = (Y_1, Y_2)$ the corresponding channel output.
 - (a) Show that

$$I(X : Y) = 2I(X : Y_1) - I(Y_1 : Y_2).$$

(b) Show that the capacity of the channel $X \to Y$ is at most twice the capacity of the channel $X \to Y_1$.