

Faster Relative Entropy Coding with Greedy Rejection Coding

Gergely Flamich*

Stratis Markou*

José Miguel Hernández-Lobato

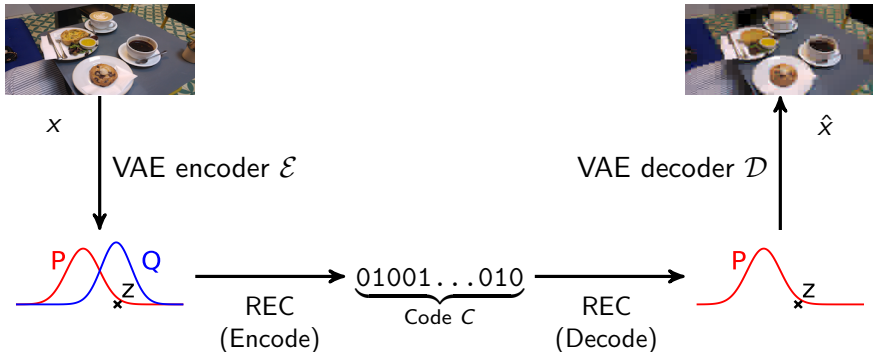
Computational and Biological Learning Lab
Department of Engineering



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

Motivation

Learned compression with VAEs



- ✓ Does not require quantizing z .
- ✓ Lossless/lossy compression, private federated learning and others.

Relative Entropy Coding

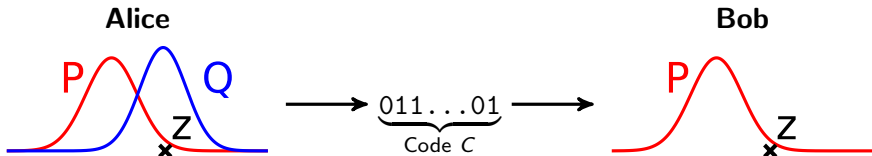
Relative Entropy Coding

Setup: Alice holds target distribution Q . Alice and Bob share

- Proposal distribution P .
- **Public** sequence of fair coin tosses $S = (s_1, s_2, \dots)$.

Goal: Alice uses P, S and Q to produce code C which

- Is decodable by Bob.
- Represents exact sample from Q .



- As small codelength $|C|$ as possible.
- As short runtime as possible.

Previous work and challenges

Runtime of general REC (Agustsson and Theis, 2020)

Without additional assumptions, any REC scheme will have

$$\Omega(\exp(D_{\text{KL}}[Q\|P]))$$

expected runtime.

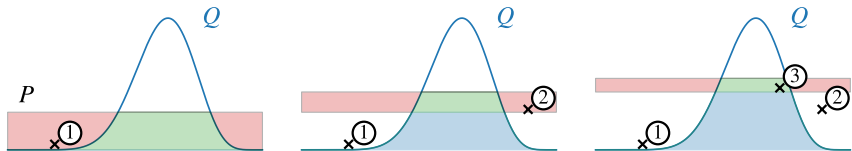
Runtime of A* coding (Flamich et al., 2022)

For 1D, unimodal q/p , the expected runtime of A* coding is

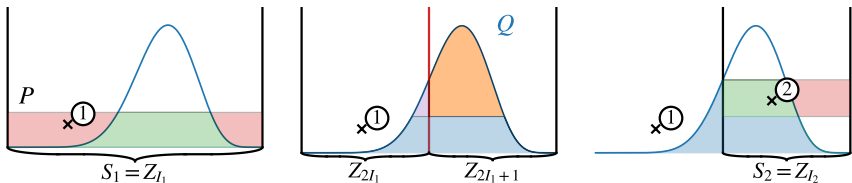
$$\mathbb{E}[T] = \mathcal{O}(D_{\infty}[Q\|P]) = \mathcal{O}\left(\log \sup_{z \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{q(z)}{p(z)}\right).$$

Greedy Rejection Coding

We extend a rejection-sampling REC algorithm (Harsha et al., 2007):



Augment algorithm by partitioning the sample space:



Theoretical Results (Informal)

Correctness of GRC

Let q be the target and p the proposal distribution. Let X be the sample returned by GRC. Then, under mild assumptions, GRC terminates with almost surely and $X \sim q$.

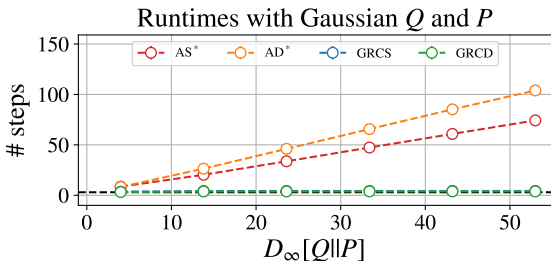
Runtime and codelength of GRC

Let T denote the number of steps GRC takes to run. For 1D unimodal q/p , there exists a partition process, such that

$$\mathbb{E}[T] = \mathcal{O}(D_{\text{KL}}[Q\|P]).$$

$$\mathbb{H}[X | S] \leq D_{\text{KL}}[Q\|P] + 2 \log(D_{\text{KL}}[Q\|P] + 1) + \mathcal{O}(1).$$

Experimental Results



TRAINING OBJECTIVE	# LATENT	TOTAL BPP WITH ζ CODING	TOTAL BPP WITH δ CODING
ELBO	20	1.472 ± 0.004	1.482 ± 0.004
	50	1.511 ± 0.003	1.530 ± 0.003
MODIFIED ELBO	20	1.470 ± 0.004	1.478 ± 0.004
	50	1.484 ± 0.003	1.514 ± 0.003

Summary

We develop Greedy Rejection Coding, an optimal REC algorithm.

For more information, find us at
Great Hall & Hall (B1 and B2), poster #1220
Wednesday 13 Dec 8:45-10:45.

