CS 640 Introduction to Computer Networks

Lecture15

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Why use compression?

• Pros

- Cons
- Less data to transfer
 Application sees better
 CPU overhead (harder to
- hroughput
 Fewer bytes to store

- Latency might be better

- compress than to uncompress)
 - Latency might be worse
- Typically done at application or data link layer - HTTP compression (for dynamic pages too)



Other methods

- Run length encoding
 - Encode AAABBCDDDD as 3A2B1C4D
 - Works well for faxes
- Dictionary based methods
 - Use codes for words occurring in a dictionary
 - Words have variable lengths (may actually be a phrase)
 - Dictionary needs to be known to both sender and receiver
 - Can be static or dynamic (based on the data to compress)
 - Lempel-Ziv uses dynamic dictionaries
 - Works well for many kinds of data

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Today's lecture

- Compression
 - Lossless compression
 - Lossy compression
- Physical layer

Lossy compression overview

- Data reconstructed by the receiver is similar, but not identical to the data at the sender
- Can achieve higher compression ratios – User can control quality loss or compression ratio
- Used for images, audio and video
 - JPEG (images)
 - MPEG-2 video
 - MP3 audio
 - Many other formats exist (some proprietary)

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- Like transforming cartesian to polar coordinates
- Quantization drops small coefficients which represent visually unimportant information
- Encoding (Huffman+RLE)
- Compression factor ~ 30

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MPEG - video compression

- Typically MPEG encoding too expensive to do online
- Video is a sequence of frames (e.g. 30/second)
 - JPEG exploits spatial locality within images (frames)
 - MPEG also exploits temporal locality typically the next frame is somewhat similar (compression factor ~ 100)
- MPEG uses 3 types of frames
 - I frames can be decoded independently
 - P frames depend on the previous I frame
 - $-\,$ B frames depend on the previous and next I or P frame





Compressing sound

- Represented as periodic samples
 - Phone quality 8 bit samples every 125 µs (64Kbps)
 CD quality16 bit samples 23 µs (stereo 1.41 Mbps)
- MP3
 - Part of the MPEG standard
 - Divides the sound into frequency bands
 - Works on blocks of 64 to 1024 samples
 - Uses DCT, quantization, and encoding
 - Compression factor up to 12 (Layer III)

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Fundamental limit on throughput

• Shannon's theorem: $C = B \log_2(1+S/N)$

- C is channel capacity
- B is the width of the frequency band
- S/N is the ratio of the power of the signal and the power of the noise
- Actual solutions achieve throughput lower than C
- There are many ways of encoding bits into signals, theorem applies for all







