


ESE150 Spring 2022

Penn Engineering

ESE



Lecture #12 – Psychoacoustic Compression Algorithm

**ESE 150 –
DIGITAL AUDIO BASICS**

Based on slides © 2009–2022 DeHon, Koditschek
Additional Material © 2014 Farmer

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LECTURE TOPICS

- × Review and preclass
- × How do we take advantage of psychoacoustics in MP3
Achieve this 6–12x reduction from CD Audio
 - + Review Tricks
 - + Formulate Optimization
 - + Algorithm for Adaptation
- × Midterm
- × References

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REVIEW AND PRECLASS SETUP/REMINDER

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KNOBS WE CAN TURN

- × **Amplitude quantization**
 - + Per band
- × **Frequency quantization**
 - + Per band?
- × **Frequencies kept (per critical band)**
 - + Per band
- × ...and can perform lossless compression

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PRECLASS 1

- × 44,300 samples/s
- × 16b
- × 26ms window
- × a) How many bits?
- × 128Kb/s stereo → 64Kb/s per audio channel
- × b) How many bits per 26ms window?
- × c) ratio?

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MP3 ENCODING PROCESS

- × **All MP3 files broken into “Frames”**
 - + Each frame stores 1152 Audio Samples
 - + Lasts for 26 ms
 - + Frame also divided further into 2 “granuels”
 - × Each granuel contains 576 samples

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OPTIMIZATION PROBLEM

- × How fit in the resource constraints (128Kb/s) while maximizing goodness (sound quality)?
- × Quantify bits used: $\sum_{bands} \sum_{f \in freqs} Bits(f)$
 - + Cannot exceed 128Kb/s
 - + = 1,704 b / 26ms frame / channel
- × Quantify goodness: minimize $\sum_{f \in freqs} Error(f) \times W(f)$

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PRECLASS 2

- × 576 frequencies
- × 16b amplitude
- × 1704b budget
- × (frequency, amplitude) pairs to represent
- × **How many frequencies can we keep?**
- × **Conclude:** cannot keep all frequencies and hit budget

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PRECLASS 3

- × **Bits if only have 3 non-masked, non-zero frequencies?**
- × **Conclude:** some frames won't use all their bits

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PRECLASS 4

- × **If all frequencies equally likely, how many bits to represent 80 non-zero/non-masked frequencies?**

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PRECLASS 5

- × 60dB, 42dB, 30dB each are 25% of amplitudes
- × Other magnitudes remaining 25%
 - + Equally likely
- × **How many bits to represent each of the 3 25% cases?**
- × **How many bits to represent other cases?**
- × **On average many bits to represent 80 non-zero/non-masked frequencies?**
- × **Conclude:** number of frequencies can keep depends on compressibility

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SEEN

- × **May want to do something smarter than**
 - + Allocating fixed number of frequencies per band
 - + Allocating fixed quantization to a band
- × **Like to adapt our encoding to the data**
 - + If more Huffman compressible, we get more frequencies
 - + If fewer frequencies suffice for one band,
 - × Allow more frequencies for another
 - × ...or allocate less quantization

The diagram shows two frequency bands, Band 0 and Band 1, plotted on a graph of amplitude versus frequency. The x-axis is labeled 'frequency' and has tick marks for 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9. The y-axis is labeled 'amplitude'. Band 0 has a single, very tall peak at frequency 4. Band 1 has several shorter peaks at frequencies 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

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OPTIMIZATION PROBLEM

- × How fit in the resource constraints (128Kb/s) while maximizing goodness (sound quality)?
- × Optimization problems central to engineering

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OPTIMIZATION PROBLEM

- × How fit in the resource constraints (128Kb/s) while maximizing goodness (sound quality)?
- × Quantify bits used:

$$\sum_{bands} \sum_{f \in freqs} Bits(f)$$
 - + Cannot exceed 128Kb/s
 - + = 1,704 b / 26ms frame / channel
- × Quantify goodness: minimize

$$\sum_{f \in freqs} Error(f) \times W(f)$$

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GOODNESS/SOUND QUALITY

- × **Error(Amp) = |Orig Amplitude – Encoded|**
 - + Whole OrigAmplitude if dropped
 - + |Orig Amplitude-Quantize(OrigAmplitude,bits)| if quantized
- × **W(freq)**
 - + 0 if below hearing threshold
 - + 0 if masked
 - + Value between 0 and 5 if partially masked in critical band
 - + Really depend on what already encoded

$$\sum_{f \in freqs} Error(f) \times W(f)$$

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EXAMPLE WEIGHT FUNCTION W(F)

- × **W(f)=CBWeight*Mask**
- × **Mask = 0 if MaxAmp-FreqAmp>3**
 - + **1 otherwise**

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Part 2

ENCODING ALGORITHMS

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GREEDY INCREMENTAL FREQUENCY SELECTION

- × **EncodeFreq=0**
- × **UnencodedFreqs=AllFreqs**
- × **Error=ErrorCalc(AllFreqs)**
- × **While((EncodeFreq<NumFreqs) && Error>0)**
 - + dErr,newFreq=MaxDeltaError(UnencodedFreqs)
 - + FrameFreq.add(newFreq)
 - + UnencodedFreqs.remove(newFreq)
 - + Error-=dErr
 - + numFreqs++

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APPROACH

- Start with nothing
- Start with bitbudget

$$\sum_{bands} \sum_{f \in freqs} Bits(f)$$

$$\sum_{f \in freqs} Error(f) \times W(f)$$

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APPROACH

- Start with nothing
- Start with bitbudget

$$\sum_{bands} \sum_{f \in freqs} Bits(f)$$

$$\sum_{f \in freqs} Error(f) \times W(f)$$

| | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|
| sum | 14 | 13 | 13 | 6 |
| weight | 3 | 5 | 5 | 3 |
| weighted | 42 | 65 | 65 | 18 |

Bits = 0
Error = 190

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APPROACH

- Start with nothing
- Start with bitbudget
- While(bitbudget > 0)
 - Identify Largest Error reduction component: $Error(freq) \times W(freq)$

$$\sum_{bands} \sum_{f \in freqs} Bits(f)$$

$$\sum_{f \in freqs} Error(f) \times W(f)$$

Bits = 0
Error = 190

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APPROACH

- Start with nothing
- Start with bitbudget

$$\sum_{bands} \sum_{f \in freqs} Bits(f)$$

$$\sum_{f \in freqs} Error(f) \times W(f)$$

| | | | | |
|----------|----|---|----|----|
| sum | 14 | 0 | 13 | 6 |
| weight | 3 | 5 | 5 | 3 |
| weighted | 42 | 0 | 65 | 18 |

Bits = 3+6=9
Error = 125

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APPROACH

- Start with nothing
- Start with bitbudget

$$\sum_{bands} \sum_{f \in freqs} Bits(f)$$

$$\sum_{f \in freqs} Error(f) \times W(f)$$

| | | | | |
|----------|----|---|---|----|
| sum | 14 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| weight | 3 | 5 | 5 | 3 |
| weighted | 42 | 0 | 0 | 18 |

Bits = 18
Error = 60

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APPROACH

- Start with nothing
- Start with bitbudget

$$\sum_{bands} \sum_{f \in freqs} Bits(f)$$

$$\sum_{f \in freqs} Error(f) \times W(f)$$

| | | | | |
|----------|---|---|---|----|
| sum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| weight | 3 | 5 | 5 | 3 |
| weighted | 0 | 0 | 0 | 18 |

Bits = 27
Error = 18

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ALSO QUANTIZATION

$$\sum_{bands} \sum_{f \in freqs} Bits(f)$$

- ✗ To keep simple, assumed fixed quant.
- ✗ Incrementally assign bits
- ✗ While(bitbudget>0)
 - + Identify Largest Error component: $Error(freq) \times W(freq)$
 - + Assign more bits to that frequency
 - ✗ Go from 0 bits to 1 bit
 - ✗ 1 bit to 2 bits

$$\sum_{f \in freqs} Error(f) \times W(f)$$

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ALSO QUANTIZATION

$$\sum_{bands} \sum_{f \in freqs} Bits(f)$$

- ✗ While(bitbudget>0)
 - + Identify Largest Error component: $Error(freq) \times W(freq)$
 - + Assign more bits to that frequency
 - ✗ Go from 0 bits to 1 bit
 - ✗ 1 bit to 2 bits

$$\sum_{f \in freqs} Error(f) \times W(f)$$

0b -- error=7
1b quant -- error=1 (1+6) encode
3b quant -- error=0 (3+9) encode

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APPROACH (GREEDY)

- ✗ Start with nothing
- ✗ Start with bitbudget
- ✗ While(bitbudget>0)
 - + Identify Largest Error component
 - + Allocate some bits to reduce error
 - ✗ Add frequency or Add quantization bits to band
 - ✗ Pick one to most reduce the error

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APPROACH (GREEDY)

- ✗ Start with nothing
- ✗ Start with bitbudget
- ✗ While(bitbudget>0)
 - + Identify Largest Error component
 - + Allocate some bits to reduce error
 - ✗ Add frequency or Add quantization bits to band
 - ✗ Pick one to most reduce the error
 - + Re-Huffman encode and update bitbudget

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ADAPTIVE REFINEMENT

- ✗ Rediscovering where to allocate everything every time may be laborious
 - + Often same frequencies persist for more than 26ms
- ✗ Maybe we can get close and adjust?
 - + Use critical band allocation from previous frames as a starting point guess
 - ✗ bits, frequencies, quantization
 - + Try initial encoding with that

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APPROACH (ADAPTIVE)

- ✗ Start with budget guess
 - + Quantization in bands
 - + Frequencies to keep in each band
- ✗ Encode, compress
 - ✗ What can we do if takes up > 1704 bits?
 - ✗ What can we do if takes up < 1704 bits?

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FINISH WITH ADAPTIVE FINE TUNING

- × <previous slide>
- × **FrameBits=Huffman(FrameFreq)**
- × **While ((FrameBits>1704) | (FrameBits<(1704-26)))**
 - + If (FrameBits>1704)
 - × NumFreqs—
 - × FrameFreq←RemoveLeastImportant(FrameFreq)
 - + Else if (FrameBits<(1704-26))
 - × NumFreqs++
 - × FrameFreq←AddNextImportant(FrameFreq)
- + FrameBits=Huffman(FrameFreq)

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FINISH WITH ADAPTIVE FINE TUNING

Could add/subtract more than one freq at a time.
Could keep track of high and low encodings.

- × <previous slide>
- × **FrameBits=Huffman(FrameFreq)**
- × **While ((FrameBits>1704) | (FrameBits<(1704-26)))**
 - + If (FrameBits>1704)
 - × NumFreqs—
 - × FrameFreq←RemoveLeastImportant(FrameFreq)
 - + Else if (FrameBits<(1704-26))
 - × NumFreqs++
 - × FrameFreq←AddNextImportant(FrameFreq)
- + FrameBits=Huffman(FrameFreq)

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Roundup

PERCEPTUAL CODING & MP3

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MP3 FLOW CHART (ENCODING/DECODING)

A type of DFT is performed

Basic MP3 Encoding Scheme

Encoded bitstream → *Data is stored in frequency domain rep. Even Huffman coded too!*

We use psychoacoustic model to control quantization! (how we achieve compression)

MP3 Decoding Scheme

Decoded PCM audio

Notice: Psychoacoustics is embedded Your brain is involved in decoding!

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MIDTERM – MONDAY IN LECTURE

| | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Closed book, notes × Calculators allowed × 50 minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Shorter than previous years × 5% of grade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + prepare for final × Last 4 year's midterm and answers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + on 2018, 2019, 2020 syllabus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Were all in-person, closed book (75 minutes) + 2021 was online, open book, also on syllabus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> × (120 minutes) | <p>Topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Data representation in bits × Sounds waves × Sampling × Quantization × Nyquist × Lossy/lossless compression × Common case × Frequency domain × Psychoacoustics × Perceptual coding |
|---|--|

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COMPARE TO LAB

- × **Lecture 11 & 12 (this week)**
 - + Help understand more what real MP3 encoding looks like
 - + Thinking about fixed rate
 - × And adaptation for variable rate encoding from Huffman
 - + Formulating masking explicitly
 - × But simplistic
 - + Illustrating Optimization Approaches
- × **Lab 6**
 - + Capture spirit of reducing frequencies
 - + Simplified – only taking loudest fraction in each band
 - × Rather than being rigorous about masking
 - × Or trying to hit some fixed rate

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BIG IDEAS

- × **Can use psychoacoustics to compress audio**
 - + Eliminate portions of signal that human's don't notice
- × **Optimization**
 - + Identify Design Space (knobs)
 - + Identify Costs and Constraints
 - + Formulate quantitatively
 - + Algorithms to approach
 - + Iterative/adaptive approach
 - × Deal with effects that aren't completely predictable

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LEARN MORE

- × **Optimization –**
 - + continuous mathematical optimization ESE204, ESE504, ESE605
 - + discrete optimization CIS121, CIS320
- × **Signal processing – ESE224**

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COMING UP

- × **Feedback**
- × **Lab 6 start today**
 - + 2 week lab
 - + Brings together first half of course
 - + Formal report
- × **Midterm on Monday**
- × **Lab 6 continue next Wednesday**

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REFERENCES

Tutorials on Psychoacoustic Coding (in increasing order of abstraction and generality)

D. Pan, M. Inc, and I. L. Schaumburg. A tutorial on MPEG/audio compression. *IEEE multimedia*, 2(2):60–74, 1995.

Nikil Jayant, James Johnston, and Robert Safranek. Signal compression based on models of human perception. *Proceedings of the IEEE*, 81(10):1385–1422, 1993.

V. K. Goyal. Theoretical foundations of transform coding. *IEEE Signal Processing Magazine*, 18(5):9–21, 2001.

Lightweight Overview of MP3

Rassol Raissi. The theory behind mp3. Technical report, MP3 Tech, December 2002.

Scientific Basis of MP3 Coding Standard

J. D. Johnston. Transform coding of audio signals using perceptual noise criteria. *IEEE Journal on selected areas in communications*, 6(2):314–323, 1988.

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