

# Finite-State Mutual Dimension\*

Adam Case<sup>†</sup>

Drake University

Jack H. Lutz<sup>†‡</sup>

Iowa State University

Roughly speaking, a *finite-state compressor* (FSC) can be thought of as a *finite-state automata* that does not have any accepting states and is equipped with an output function. An FSC  $C$  processes an input string  $u \in \Sigma^*$  by reading  $u$  from left to right, transitioning to a new state and outputting a string after each symbol of  $u$  is read. The *output* of  $C$  on an input  $u \in \Sigma^*$ , denoted by  $C(u)$ , is the concatenation of all the output strings produced while reading the input string. An *information-lossless finite-state compressor* (ILFSC)  $C$  is a FSC whose input string  $u \in \Sigma^*$  may be recovered when given knowledge of the output string  $C(u)$  and the last state that  $C$  entered upon reading  $u$ .

The  $k$ -state compression ratio of  $u \in \Sigma^*$  is

$$\rho_k(u) = \min \left\{ \frac{|C(u)|}{|u| \log |\Sigma|} \mid C \text{ is an ILFSC on } \Sigma \text{ that has } k \text{ states} \right\}.$$

The *lower* and *upper finite-state dimensions* of a sequence  $S \in \Sigma^\infty$  are

$$\dim_{FS}(S) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho_k(S \upharpoonright n) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Dim}_{FS}(S) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho_k(S \upharpoonright n),$$

respectively, and are also known as the *lower* and *upper finite-state compression ratios* of a sequence  $S$  [5, 4, 1]. Intuitively, these quantities represent the lower and upper *densities* of finite-state information contained within a sequence.

In this talk, we introduce “mutual” versions of finite-state dimension. More specifically, we define the *lower* and *upper finite-state mutual dimensions* between  $S \in \Sigma^\infty$  and  $T \in \Sigma^\infty$  by

$$\text{mdim}_{FS}(S : T) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\rho_t(S \upharpoonright n) + \rho_t(T \upharpoonright n) - \rho_r(S \upharpoonright n, T \upharpoonright n)]$$

and

$$\text{Mdim}_{FS}(S : T) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\rho_t(S \upharpoonright n) + \rho_t(T \upharpoonright n) - \rho_r(S \upharpoonright n, T \upharpoonright n)],$$

---

\*A preprint of the article that this abstract is based on may be found on arXiv:2109.14574 [3].

<sup>†</sup>Part of this research was carried out while the authors participated in the program “Equidistribution: Arithmetic, Computational and Probabilistic Aspects” at the National University of Singapore Institute for Mathematical Sciences in 2019.

<sup>‡</sup>This research was supported in part by National Science Foundation grants 1545028 and 1900716.

respectively, and they can be thought of as the lower and upper *densities* of finite-state information *shared* by the sequences  $S$  and  $T$ . In our first result, we show that these definitions have all of the properties expected of a measure of mutual information.

We relate finite-state mutual dimension to entropy rates of sequences [5]. For any  $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,  $x \in \Sigma^\ell$ , and sequence  $S \in \Sigma^\infty$ , the *frequency* of  $x$  in the first  $n \cdot \ell$  symbols of  $S$  is denoted by  $\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}(x)$ , and we can demonstrate that  $\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}$  is a discrete probability measure on the set of strings  $\Sigma^\ell$  of length  $\ell$ . We define the *lower* and *upper block mutual information rates* between  $S \in \Sigma^\infty$  and  $T \in \Sigma^\infty$  by

$$I(S; T) = \lim_{\ell \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\ell \log |\Sigma|} \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} I(\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}; \pi_{T,n}^{(\ell)}) \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{I}(S; T) = \lim_{\ell \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\ell \log |\Sigma|} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} I(\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}; \pi_{T,n}^{(\ell)}),$$

respectively, where  $I(\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}; \pi_{T,n}^{(\ell)})$  is the *Shannon mutual information* between the discrete probability measures  $\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}$  and  $\pi_{T,n}^{(\ell)}$ . In our next result, we show that finite-state mutual dimension may be characterized in terms of block mutual information rates. That is, we show that, for all  $S, T \in \Sigma^\infty$ ,  $\text{mdim}_{FS}(S : T) = I(S; T)$  and  $\text{Mdim}_{FS}(S : T) = \hat{I}(S; T)$ .

There have been several interesting interactions between the study of finite-state dimension and the concept of *normality*. We say that a sequence  $R \in \Sigma^\infty$  is *normal* if every string of the same length occurs with the same limiting frequency within  $R$ , and it has been shown that a sequence  $R \in \Sigma^\infty$  is normal if and only if  $\text{dim}_{FS}(R) = 1$  [2]. In our final result, we provide a similar characterization for pairs of normal sequences that achieve finite-state mutual dimension zero. More specifically, we show that if  $R_1 \in \Sigma^\infty$  and  $R_2 \in \Sigma^\infty$  are normal sequences, then  $(R_1, R_2) \in (\Sigma \times \Sigma)^\infty$  is normal if and only if  $\text{Mdim}_{FS}(R_1 : R_2) = 0$ , where  $(R_1, R_2)$  is the sequence obtained by pairing each symbol from  $R_1$  with the symbol from  $R_2$  at the same index.

## References

- [1] Krishna B. Athreya, John M. Hitchcock, Jack H. Lutz, and Elvira Mayordomo. Effective strong dimension in algorithmic information and computational complexity. *SIAM Journal of Computing*, 37(3):671–705, 2007.
- [2] C. Bourke, J.M. Hitchcock, and N.V. Vinodchandran. Entropy rates and finite-state dimension. *Theoretical Computer Science*, 3:392–406, 2005.
- [3] Adam Case and Jack H. Lutz. Finite-state mutual dimension. arXiv:2109.14574, 2021.
- [4] Jack J. Dai, James I. Lathrop, Jack H. Lutz, and Elvira Mayordomo. Finite-state dimension. *Theoretical Computer Science*, 310:1–33, 2004.
- [5] Jacob Ziv and Abraham Lempel. Compression of Individual Sequences via Variable-Rate Coding. *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory*, 24(5):530–536, 1978.