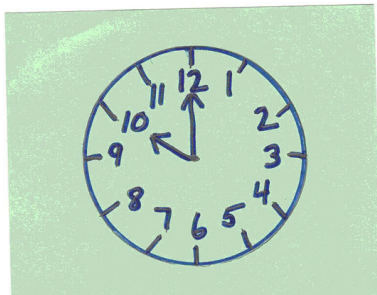
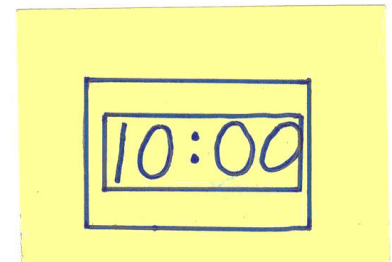


FROM ANALOGUE TO DIGITAL: CONCEPTS AND TECHNIQUES

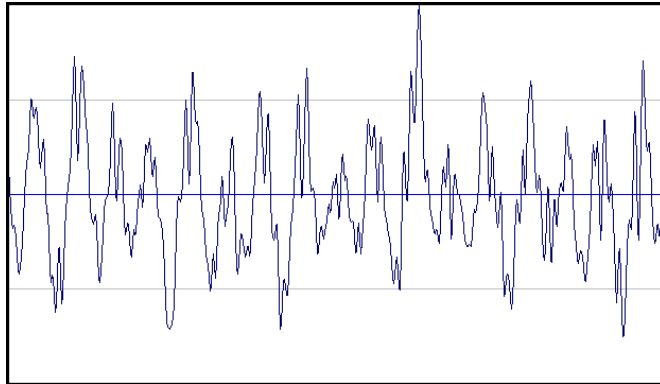


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An Analogue World ...



An analog or analogue signal is any variable signal continuous in both time and amplitude.

- ★ Any information may be conveyed by an analog signal; often such a signal is a measured response to changes in physical phenomena, such as sound or light, and is achieved using a transducer.
- ★ The primary disadvantage of analog representation is that any system has noise—that is, random variations—in it; as the signal is transmitted over long distances, these random variations may become dominant.



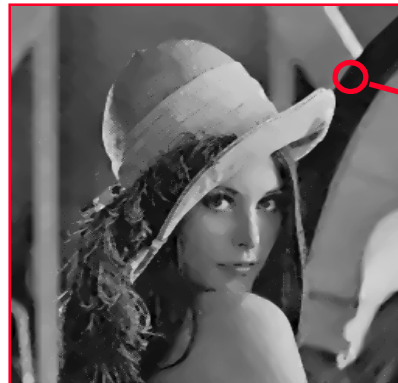
Digitization

Process of expressing analogue data in digital form.

Analogue data implies continuity while digital data is concerned with discrete states, e.g. digits.

Vantages of digitization:

- ★ **Easier to process**
- ★ **Easier to compress**
- ★ **Easier to multiplex**
- ★ **Easier to protect**
- ★ **Lower powers**
- ★ ...



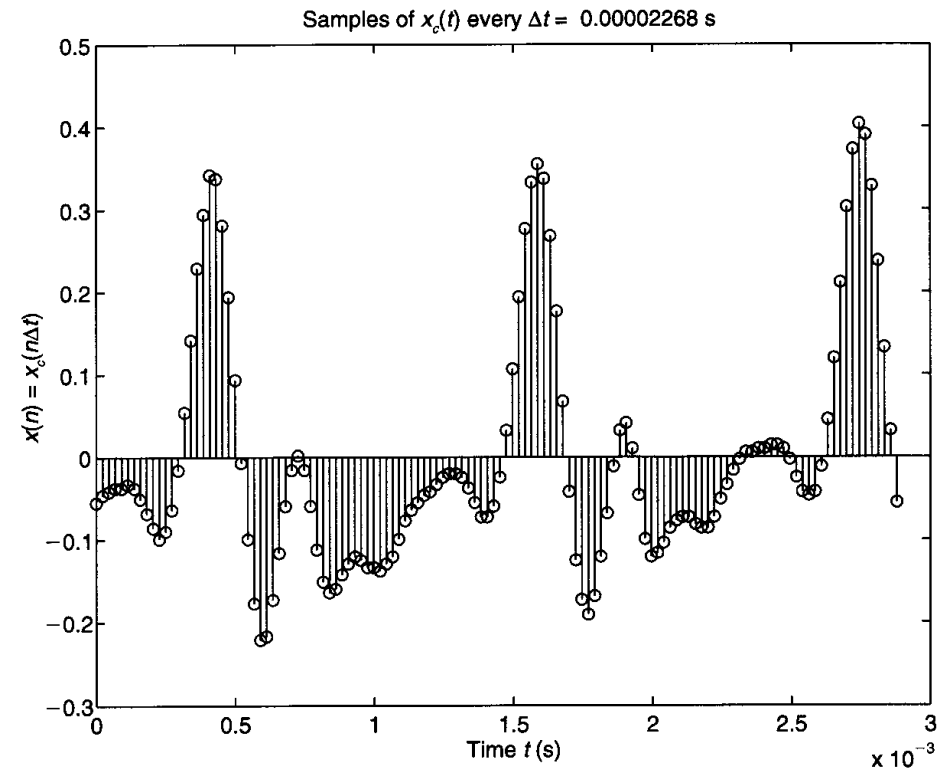
134 135 132 12 15...
133 134 133 133 11...
130 133 132 16 12...
137 135 13 14 13...
140 135 134 14 12...

Sampling or Time Discretization

Sampling is the process to obtain a periodic sequence of samples from an analogue signal.

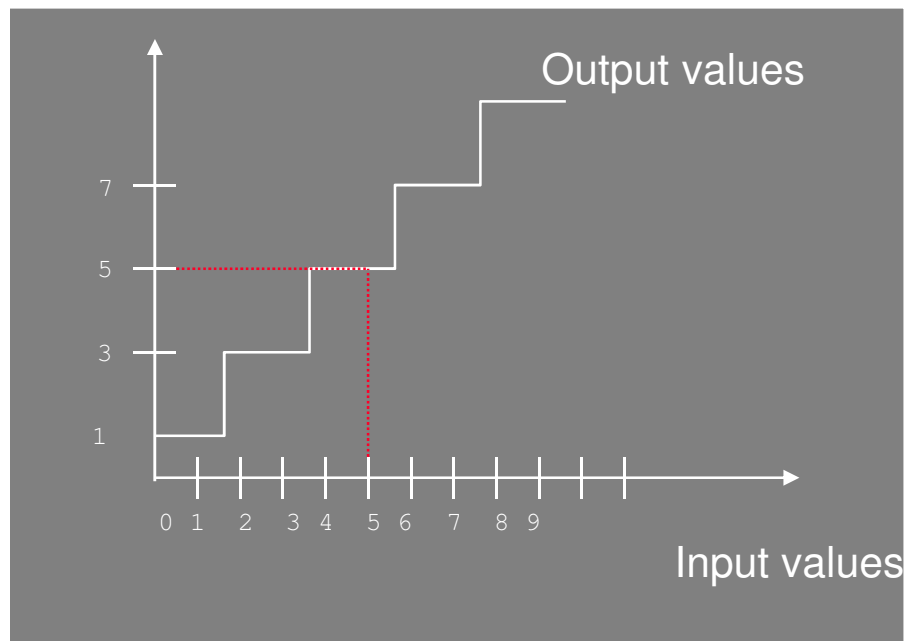
Sampling is governed by the Sampling Theorem which states that:

An analog signal may be fully reconstructed from a periodic sequence of samples if the sampling frequency is, at least, twice the maximum frequency present in the signal.



Quantization or Amplitude Discretization

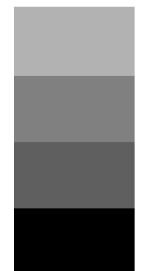
Quantization is the process in which the continuous range of values of a sampled input analogue signal is divided into nonoverlapping subranges, and to each subrange a discrete value of the output is uniquely assigned.



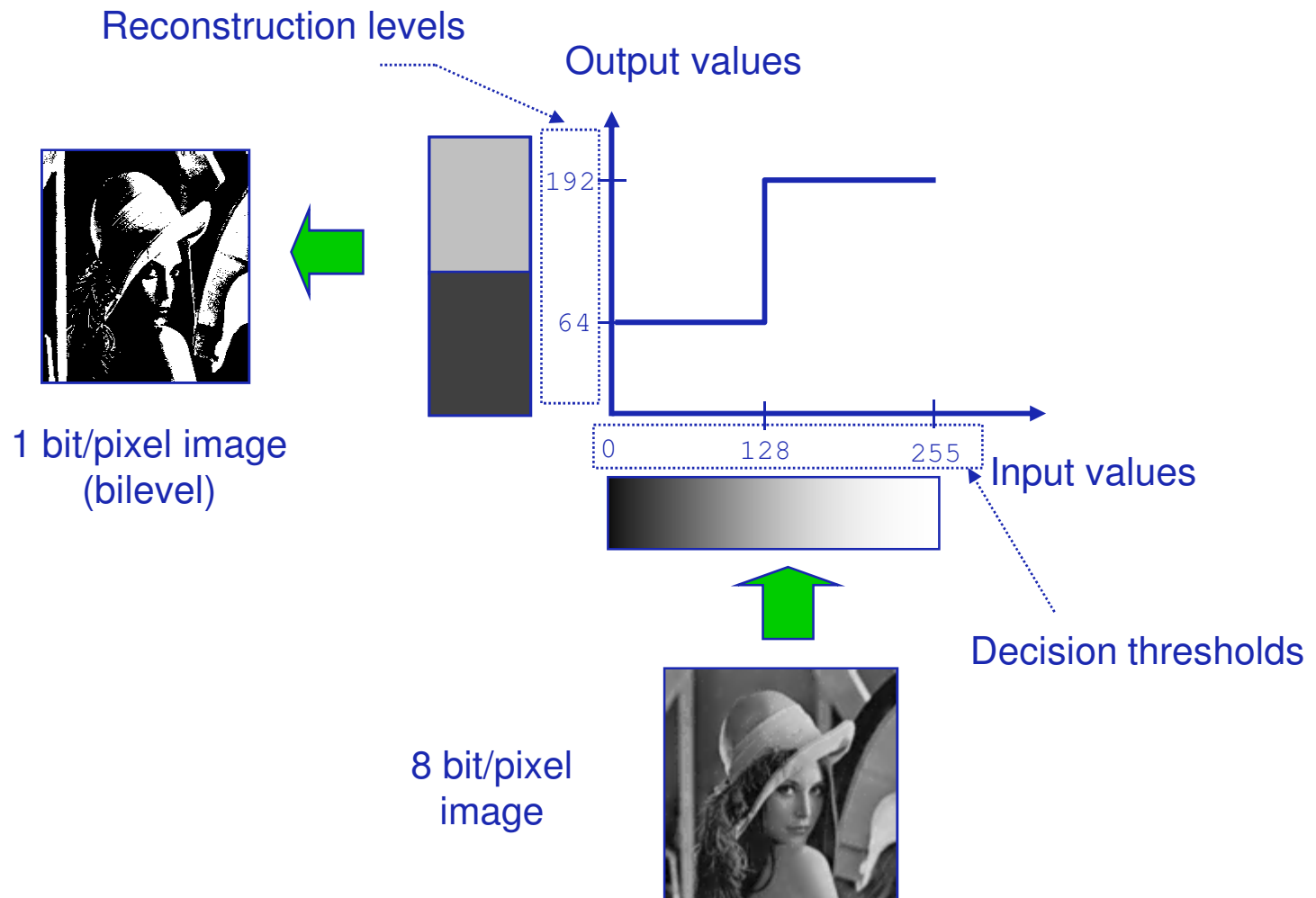
Continuous input



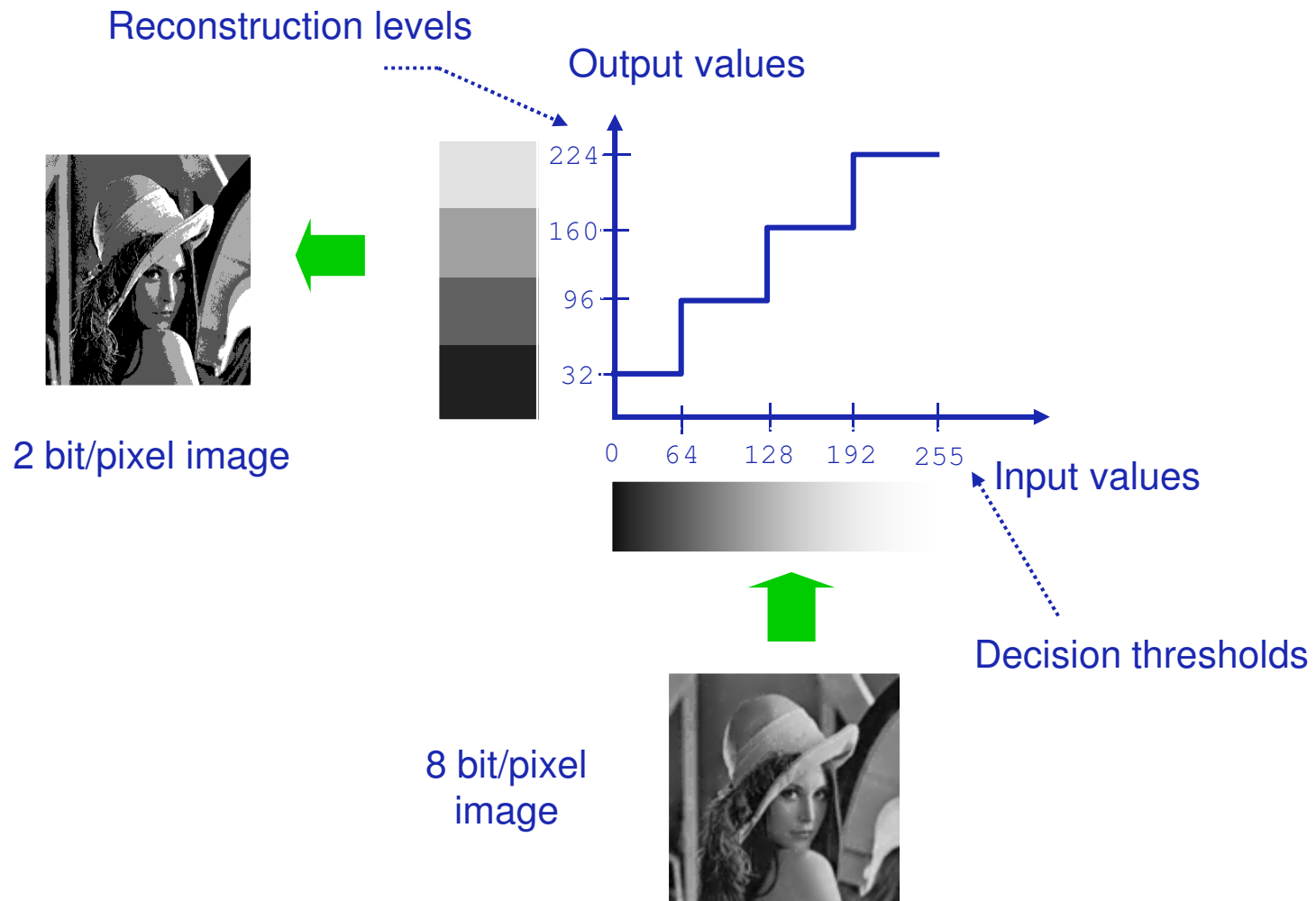
Discrete output



2 Levels Quantization



4 Levels Quantization



Uniform Quantization



4 bits



2 bits

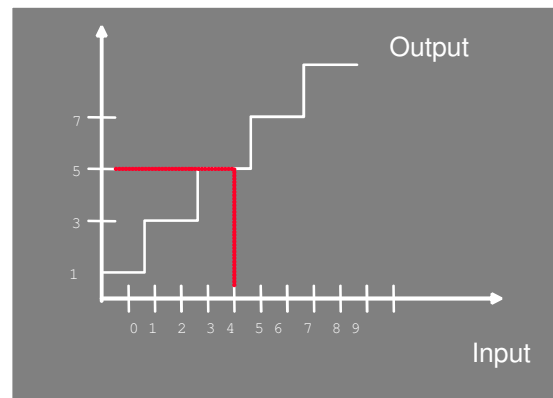
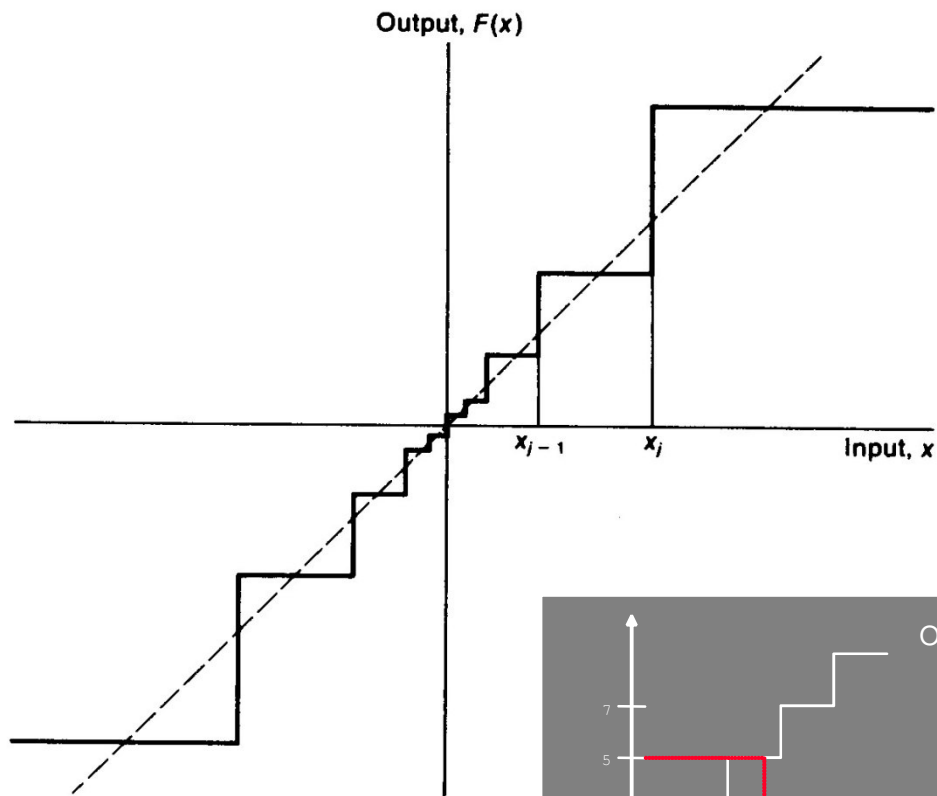


3 bits



1 bit

Non-Uniform Quantization

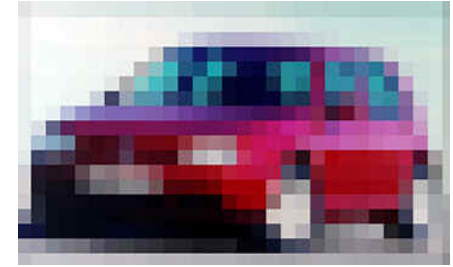


For many signals, e.g., speech, uniform or linear quantization is not a good solution in terms of minimizing the mean square error (and thus the Signal to Quantization noise Ratio, SQR) due to the non-uniform statistics of the signal.

Also to get a certain SQR, lower quantization steps have to be used for lower signal amplitudes and vice-versa.



Pulse Code Modulation (PCM)



Simplest form of digital source representation/coding where each sample is independently represented with the same number of bits.

- ★ **Example 1: Image with 200×100 samples at 8 bit/sample takes $200 \times 100 \times 8 = 160000$ bits with PCM coding**
- ★ **Example 2: 11 kHz bandwidth audio at 8 bit/sample takes $11000 \times 2 \times 8 = 176$ kbit/s with PCM coding**

Being the simplest form of coding, as well as the less efficient, PCM is typically taken as the reference coding to evaluate the performance of more powerful (source) coding algorithms.



Digital TV: an Example

- ★ **Recommendation ITU-R 601: 25 images/s with 720×576 luminance samples and 360×576 samples for each chrominance with 8 bit/sample**

$$[(720 \times 576) + 2 \times (360 \times 576)] \times 8 \times 25 = 166 \text{ Mbit/s}$$

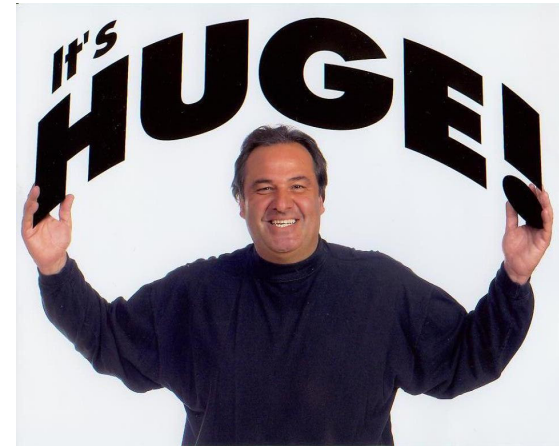
- ★ **Acceptable rate, p.e. using H.264/MPEG-4 AVC: 2 Mbit/s**

=> Compression Factor: $166/4 \approx 80$

The difference between the resources requested by compressed and non-compressed formats may lead to the emergence or not of new industries, e.g., DVD, digital TV.



Why Compressing ?



- ★ For example, images are created and consumed as a set of $M \times N$ luminance and chrominance samples with a certain number of bit per sample (L)
- ★ The number of bits and thus the memory and rate necessary to represent a digital image is **HUGE !!!**



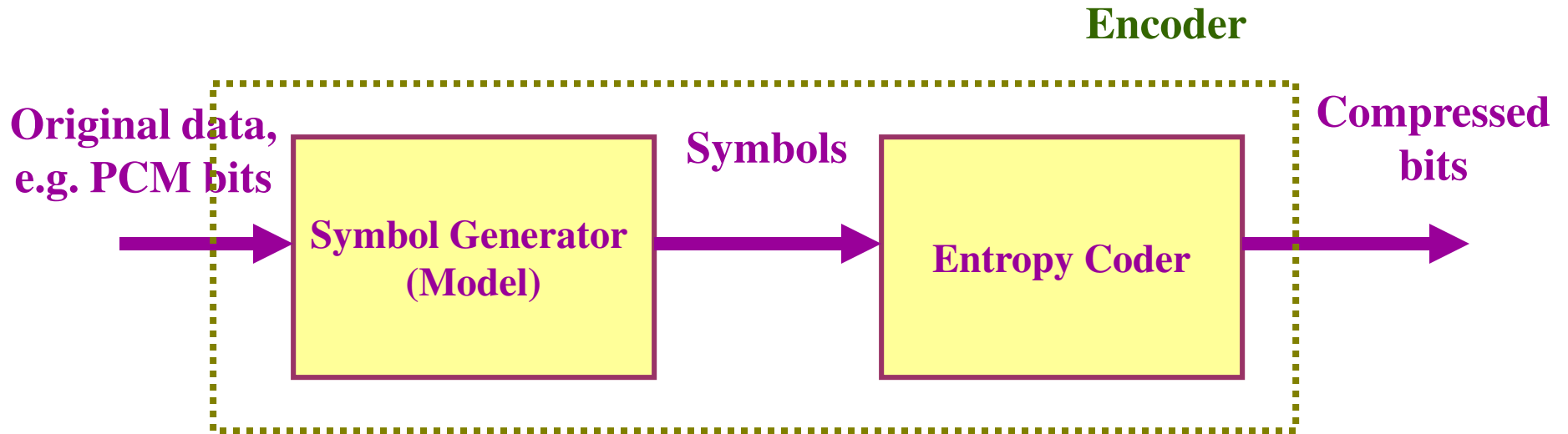
Digital Source Coding/Compression

Process through which a source, e.g., images, audio, video, is digitally represented considering relevant requirements such as compression efficiency, error resilience, random access, complexity, etc.



- ★ **Example 1: Maximizing the quality for the available rate**
- ★ **Example 2: Minimizing the rate for a target quality**

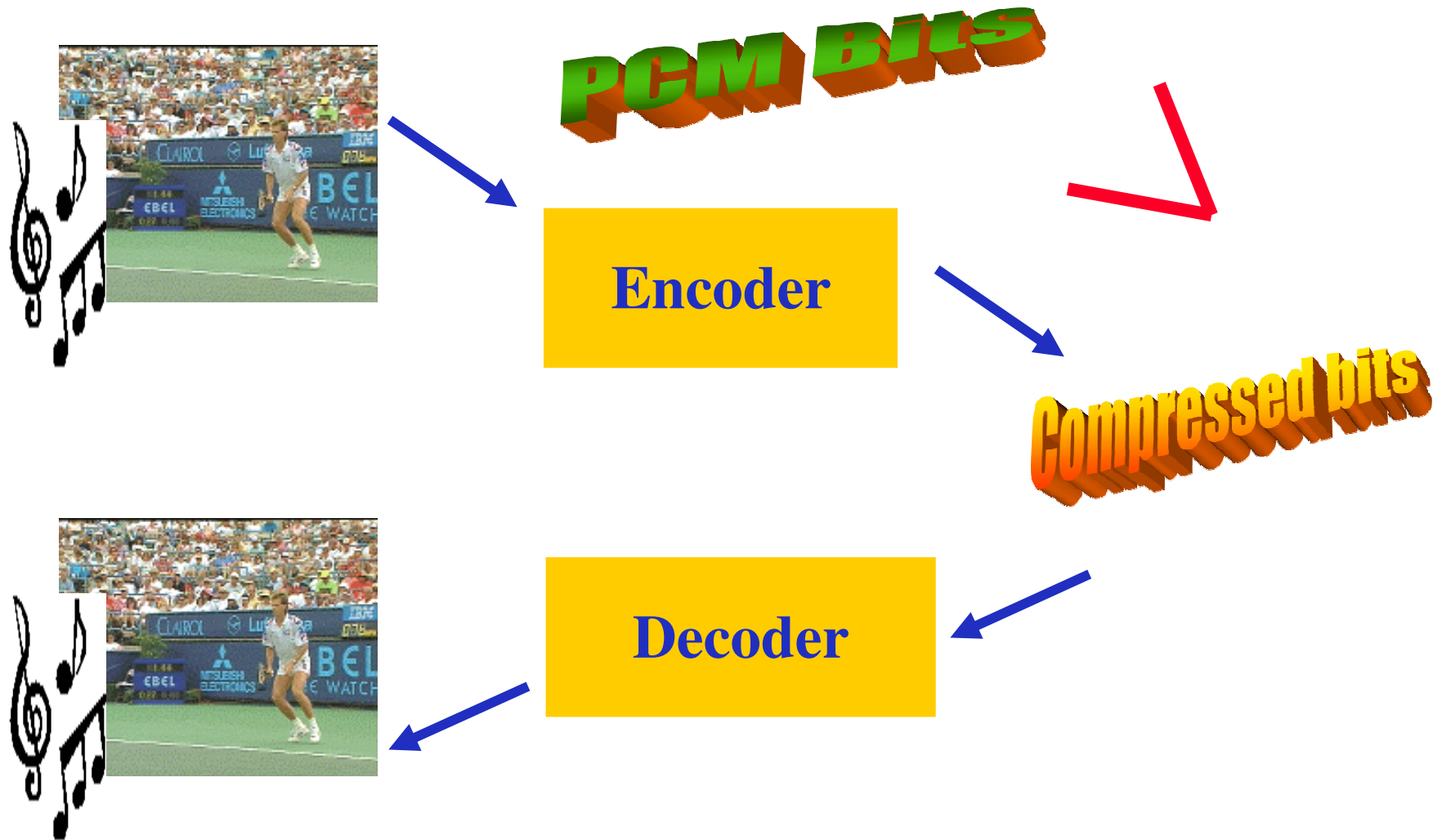
Source Coding: Original Data, Symbols and Bits



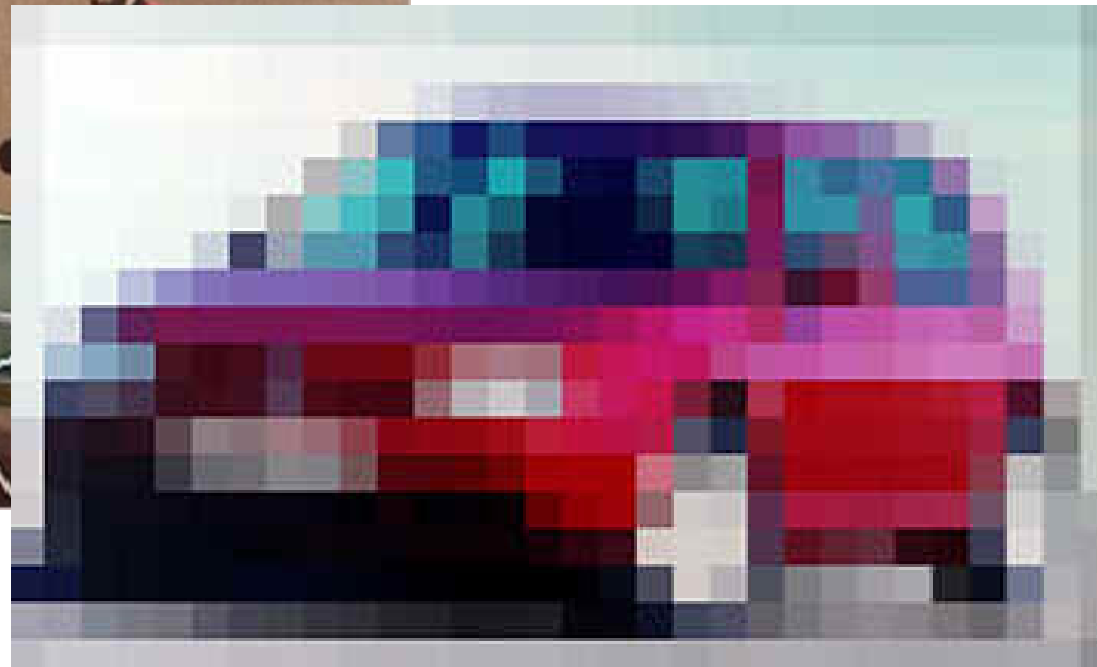
The encoder represents the original digital data (PCM) as a sequence of symbols, and later bits, using in the best way the set of available coding tools to satisfy the relevant requirements.

The encoder extracts from original data ‘its best’ ...

Coding ... and Decoding ...

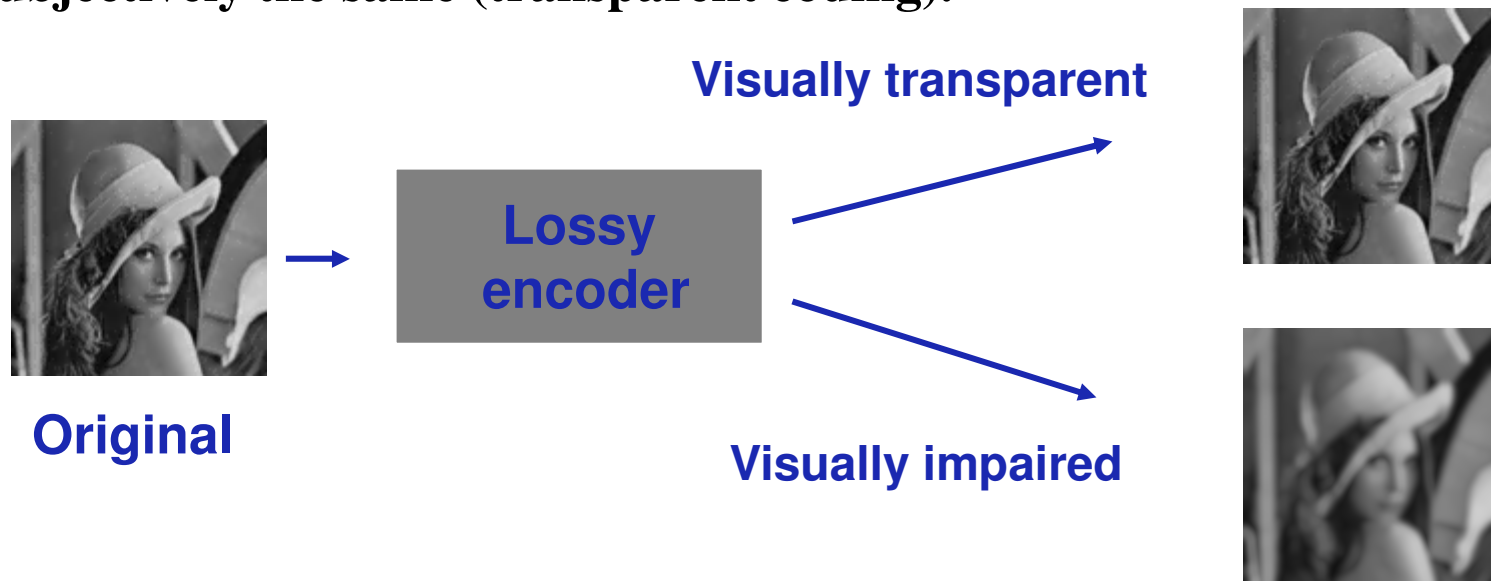


Efficient Digitization: Sampling + Quantization + Source Coding



Digital Image Coding: Main Types

- ★ **LOSSLESS (exact) CODING** – The image is coded preserving all the information present in the digital image; this means the original and decoded images are mathematically the same.
- ★ **LOSSY CODING** – The image is coded without preserving all the information present in the digital image; this means the original and decoder images are mathematically different although they may still be subjectively the same (transparent coding).





Where does Compression come from ?

★ **REDUNDANCY** – Regards the similarities, correlation and predictability of samples and symbols corresponding to the image/audio/video data.

-> **redundancy reduction does not involve any information loss this means it is a reversible process -> *lossless coding***

★ **IRRELEVANCY** – Regards the part of the information which is imperceptible for the visual or auditory human systems.

-> **irrelevancy reduction is an irreversible process -> *lossy coding***

Source coding exploits these two concepts: for that, it is necessary to know the source statistics and the human visual/auditory systems characteristics.



Information Theory: Entropy

Information Theory states that there is a lower limit for the average number of bits per symbol when coding m symbols from a source of information, each one with probability p_i . This limit is given by the source entropy obtained by:

$$H = \sum p_i \log_2 (1/p_i) \quad \text{bit/symbol}$$

★ **The source entropy:**

- Measures the average amount of information carried by each symbol output by the source
- Is a convex function of the probabilities p_i
- Takes its maximum value when all symbols are the same probability (all p_i are the same)
- Takes a maximum value of $\log_2 m$ bit/symbol

Information Theory does not indicate how to obtain a code with this coding efficiency but there are methods which allow to obtain codes with an efficiency as close as desired to the entropy efficiency.



Statistical Redundancy

Statistical Redundancy of a source, $R(X)$, is defined as the difference between the maximum possible entropy of a source with the same number of symbols (m) and the actual source entropy

$$R(X) = \log_2 m - H(X)$$

$R(X) > 0$ implies predictability of the symbols created by the source and manifests itself in two ways:

- ★ **Statistical dependency (memory) between the successive symbols of the signal**
- ★ **Unequal probability distribution of the source symbols**

Exploiting these factors leads to a reduction of the data associated to the representation of an image, video, audio, etc.



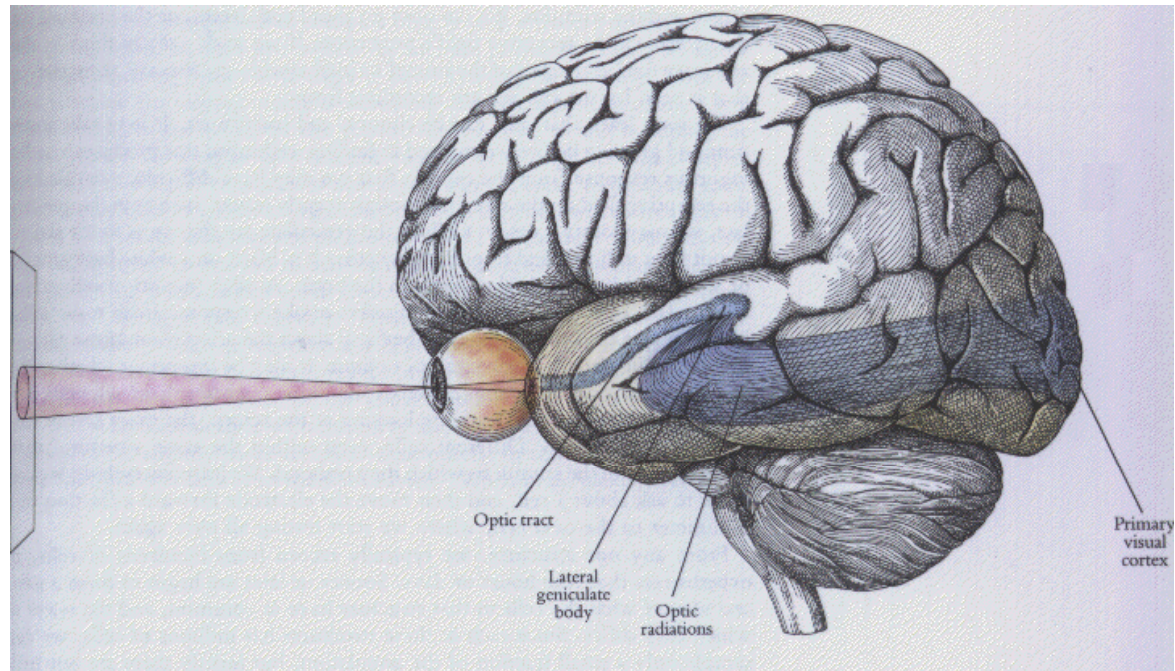
Compression Metrics

$$\text{Compression Factor} = \frac{\text{Number of bits for the original PCM image}}{\text{Number of bits for the coded image}}$$

$$\text{Bit/pixel} = \frac{\text{Number of bits for the coded image}}{\text{Number of pixels in the image (typically Y samples)}}$$

The number of pixels of an image corresponds to the number of samples of its component with the highest resolution, typically the luminance.

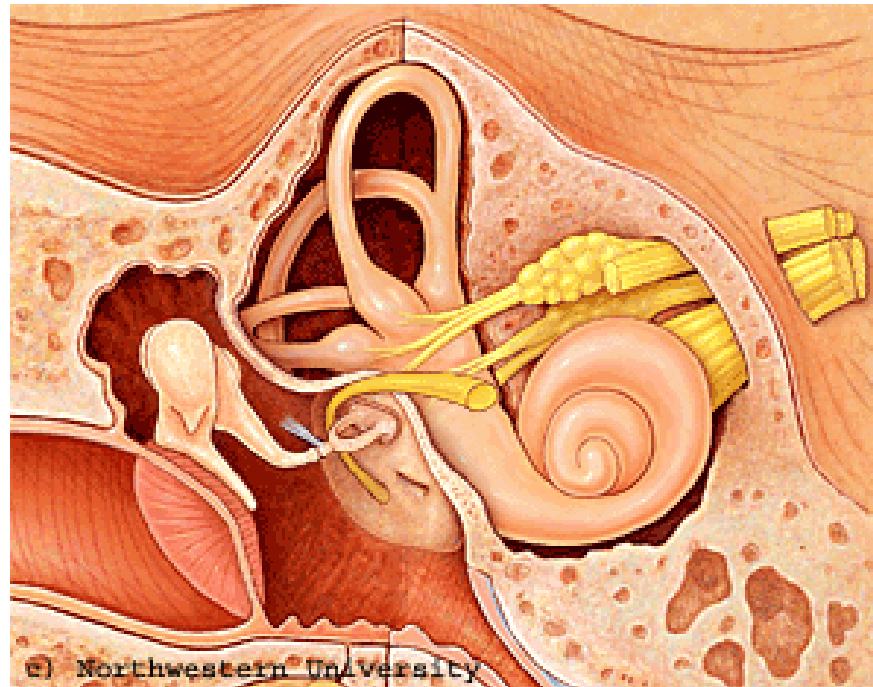
Human Visual System



It is essential to keep in mind that visual information is to be consumed by the Human Visual System !

The Human Visual System is the client that must be satisfied in terms of visual quality!

Human Auditory System



It is essential to keep in mind that audio/speech information is to be consumed by the Human Auditory System !

The Human Auditory System is the client that must be satisfied in terms of audio quality!

Quality Metrics



Subjective evaluation ⇒

e.g., scores in a 5 levels scale

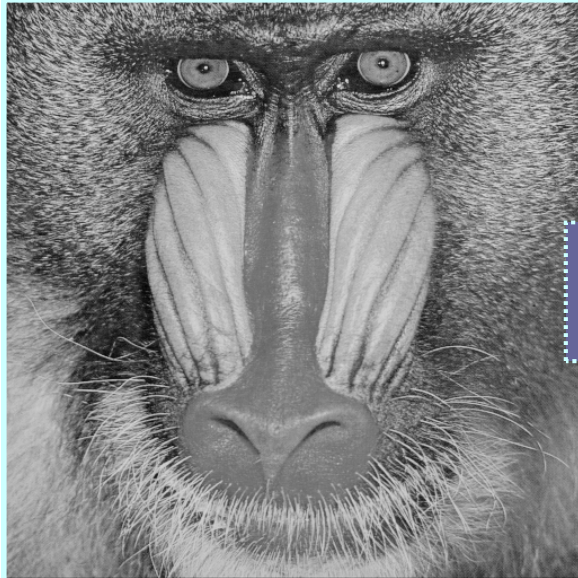
$$\text{PSNR(dB)} = 10 \log_{10} \frac{255^2}{\text{MSE}}$$

Objective evaluation ⇒

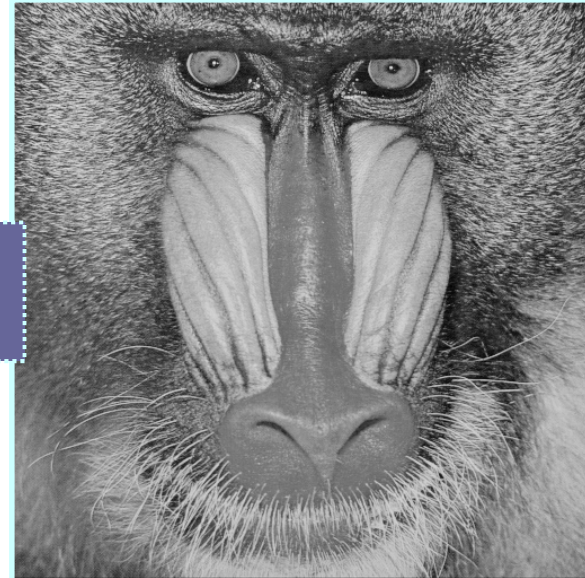
$$\text{MSE} = \frac{1}{MN} \sum_{i=1}^M \sum_{j=1}^N (y_{ij} - x_{ij})^2$$

x and y are the original and decoded data

How Does PSNR Fail ...



Horizontally
mirrored!



PSNR: 50.98 dB
Subjective quality: X

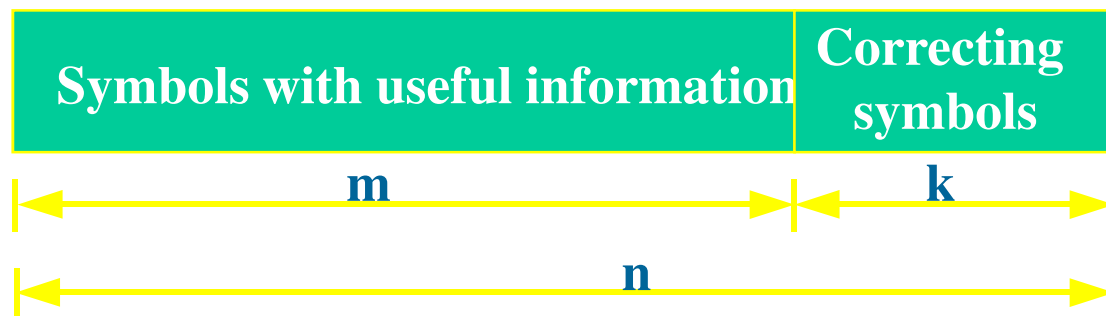
PSNR: 14.59 dB
Subjective quality: X ?



Channel Coding

Channel coding is the process applied to the bits produced by the source encoder to increase its robustness against channel or storage errors.

- ★ **At the sender, redundancy is added to the source compressed signal in order to allow the channel decoder to detect and correct channel errors.**
- ★ **The introduction of redundancy results in an increase of data to transmit. The selection of the channel coding solution must consider the type of channel, and thus the error characteristics, and the modulation.**



Block Codes

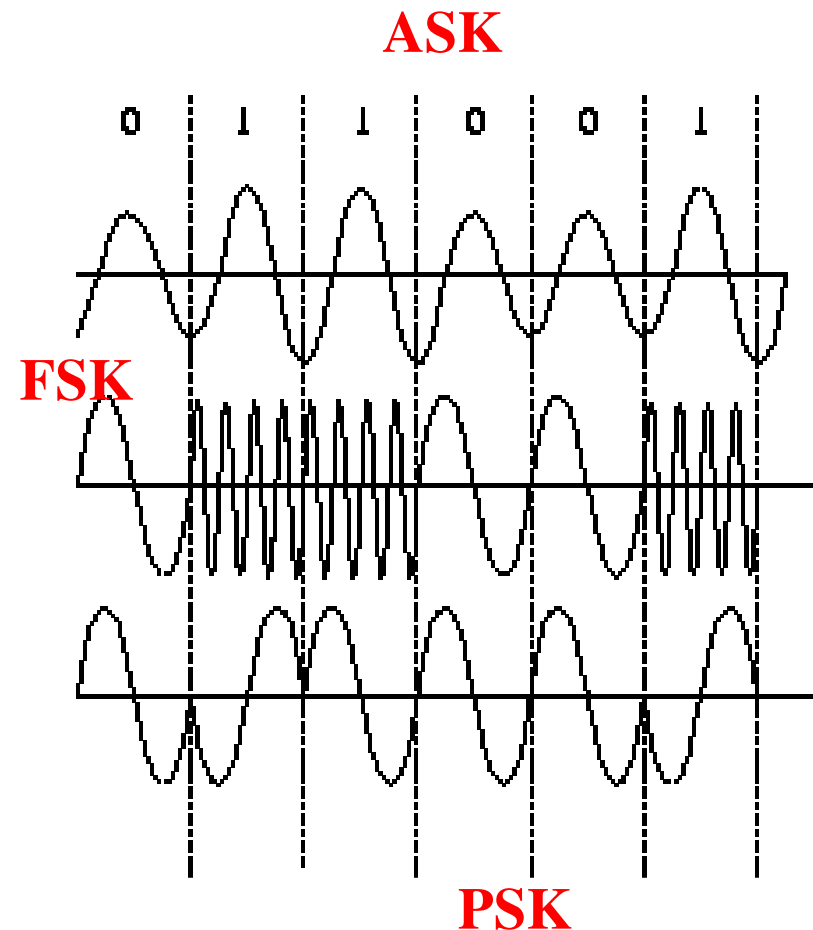
$$R = m/n = 1 - k/n$$

Digital Modulation

Modulation is the process through which one or more characteristics of a carrier (amplitude, frequency or phase) vary as a function of the modulating signal (the signal to be transmitted).

The selection of an adequate modulation is essential for the efficient usage of the bandwidth of any channel.

Together, (source and channel) coding and modulation determine the bandwidth necessary for the transmission of a certain signal.



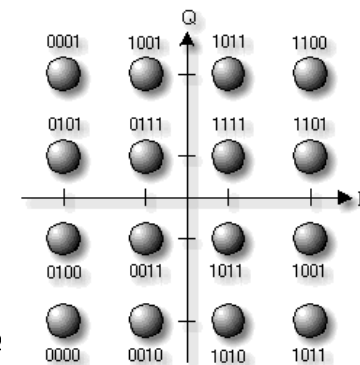
Selecting a Modulation ...

★ Factors to consider in selecting a modulation:

- Channel characteristics
- Spectrum efficiency
- Resilience to channel distortions
- Resilience to transmitter and receiver imperfections
- Minimization of protection requirements against interferences

★ Basic digital modulation techniques:

- Amplitude modulation (ASK)
- Frequency modulation (FSK)
- Phase modulation (PSK)
- Mix of phase and amplitude modulation (QAM)

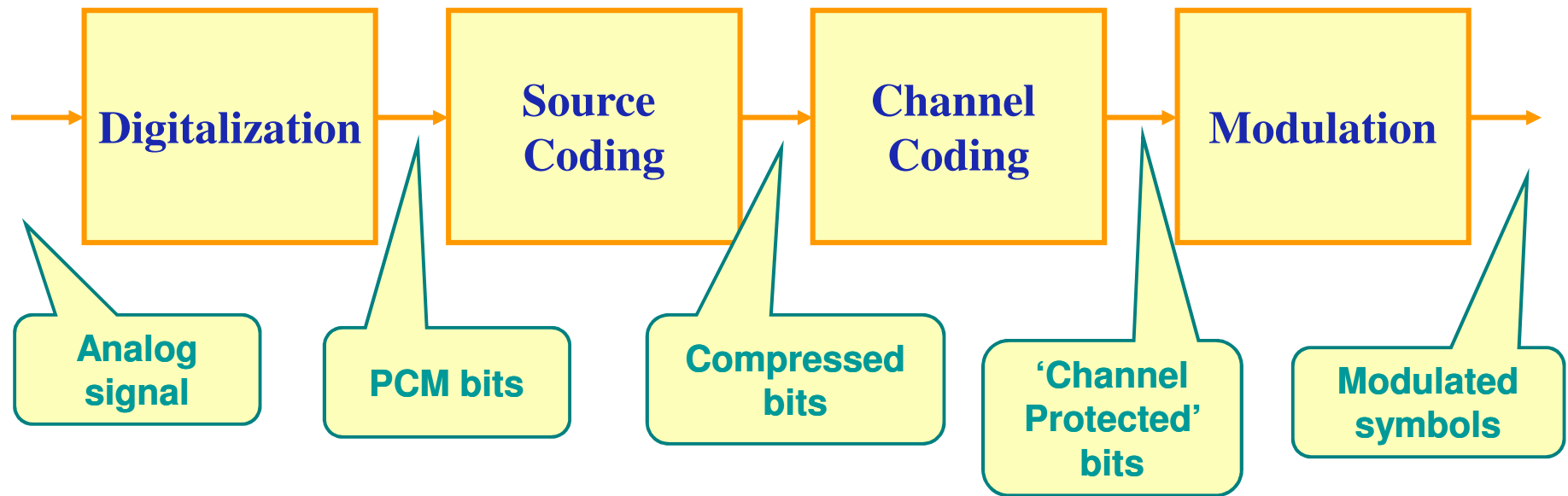




Digital TV: a Full Example

- ★ **ITU-R 601 Recommendation: 25 images/s with 720×576 luminance samples and 360×576 samples for each chrominance with 8 bit/sample**
$$[(720 \times 576) + 2 \times (360 \times 576)] \times 8 \times 25 = \mathbf{166 \text{ Mbit/s}}$$
- ★ **Acceptable rate after source coding/compression, p.e. using H.264/AVC: 2 Mbit/s**
- ★ **Rate after 10% of channel coding 2 Mbit/s + 200 kbit/s = 2.2 Mbit/s**
- ★ **Bandwidth per digital TV channel, e.g. with 64-PSK or 64-QAM: 2.2 Mbit/s / $\log_2 64 \approx 370 \text{ kHz}$**
- ★ **Number of digital TV channels / analog channel: 8 MHz / 370 kHz ≈ 20 channels**

Typical Digital Transmission Chain ...





Bibliography

- ★ **Fundamentals of Digital Image Processing, Anil K. Jain, Prentice Hall, 1989**

- ★ **Digital Video Processing, A. Murat Tekalp, Prentice Hall, 1995**