

II.4 Memoryless Gaussian Channel

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- 1. the Gaussian channel is highly analytically tractable
- 2. the Gaussian noise can be regarded as the worst kind of additive noise subject to a constraint on the noise power.

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$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = f_{Z|X}(y-x|z) = f_{Z}(y-x),$$

$$h(Y|X) = h(Z|X)$$

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The capacity is achieved by the input distribution $\mathcal{N}(0, P)$.

Proof

1. Let F(x) be the CDF of the input random variable X such that $EX^2 \leq P$, where X is not necessarily continuous.

2. Since $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, N)$, f_Z exists. Then $f_{Z|X}(z|x)$ exists and is equal to $f_Z(z)$ because Z is independent of X.

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = f_{Z|X}(y-x|x) = f_{Z}(y-x),$$

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5. Since Z is independent of X and Z is zero-mean,

$$EY^2 = E(X+Z)^2$$
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provided that $f_{Z|X}(z|x)$ exists for all $x \in S_X$.

Theorem 11.21 (Capacity of a Memoryless Gaussian Channel) The capacity of a memoryless Gaussian channel with noise power N and input power constraint P is

$$\frac{1}{2}\log\left(1+\frac{P}{N}\right).$$

The capacity is achieved by the input distribution $\mathcal{N}(0, P)$.

Proof

1. Let F(x) be the CDF of the input random variable X such that $EX^2 \leq P$, where X is not necessarily continuous.

2. Since $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, N)$, f_Z exists. Then $f_{Z|X}(z|x)$ exists and is equal to $f_Z(z)$ because Z is independent of X.

3. From the proof of Lemma 11.22,

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = f_{Z|X}(y-x|x) = f_{Z}(y-x),$$

and by Proposition 10.24,

$$f_Y(y) = \int f_{Y|X}(y|x) \, dF_X(x).$$

Therefore $f_Y(y)$ exists and hence h(Y) is defined.

4. Therefore, by Lemma 11.22,

$$I(X;Y) = h(Y) - h(Y|X)$$

= $h(Y) - h(Z|X)$
= $h(Y) - h(Z).$

5. Since Z is independent of X and Z is zero-mean,

$$EY^{2} = E(X + Z)^{2}$$

= $EX^{2} + EZ^{2} + 2(EXZ)$
= $EX^{2} + EZ^{2} + 2(EX)(EZ)$
 $\leq P + N.$

6. By Theorem 10.43,

$$h(Y) \le \frac{1}{2} \log[2\pi e(P+N)]$$

with equality if $Y \sim \mathcal{N}(0, P + N)$. This is achieved with $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, P)$.

$$C(P) = \sup_{\substack{F(x): EX^2 \le P}} h(Y) - h(Z)$$

= $\frac{1}{2} \log[2\pi e(P+N)] - \frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi eN)$
= $\frac{1}{2} \log\left(1 + \frac{P}{N}\right).$