

# Beyond Bjøntegaard – Limits of Video Compression Performance Comparisons

C. Herglotz, M. Kränzler, R. Mons, A. Kaup Lehrstuhl für Multimediakommunikation und Signalverarbeitung





#### For 20 years...



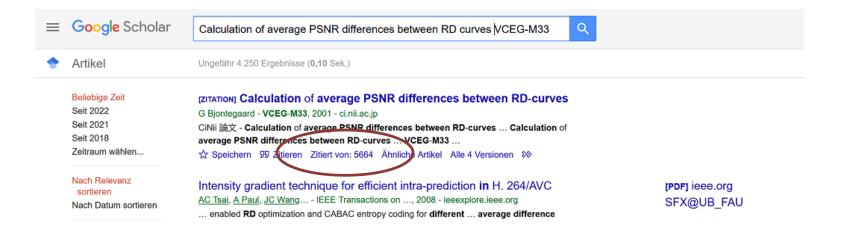
#### ...there is no video codec development without him

https://www.tu.no/artikler/dr-philos-gisle-bjontegaard-er-tildelt-norwegiantech-awards-hederspris/412169





### Probably the most cited standardization document ever

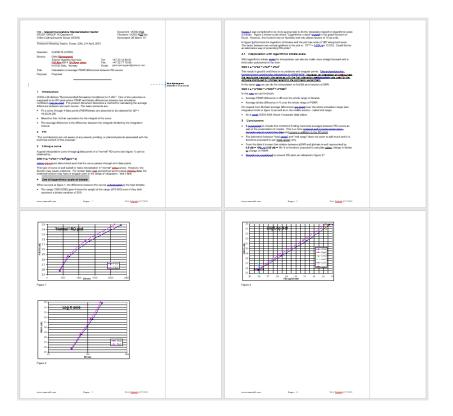






Four pages to calculate the difference between curves described by [1]

- Rate (bps)
- PSNR (dB)

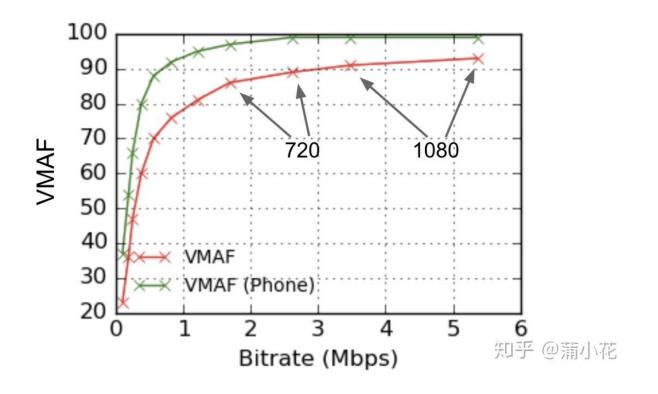


Bjøntegaard, G. Calculation of average PSNR differences between RD curves VCEG-M33, VCEG-M33, **2001.** 





But there is more than just rate-distortion (RD)

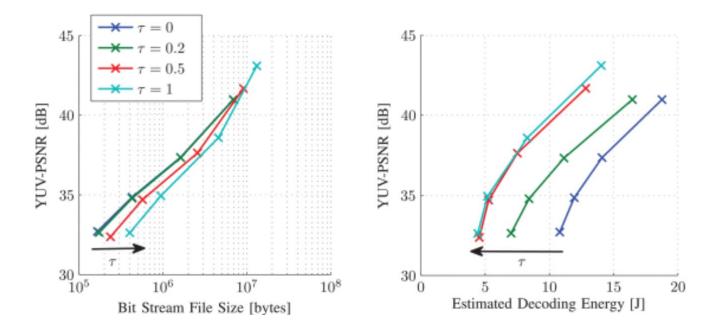


https://zhuanlan.zhihu.com/p/94223056







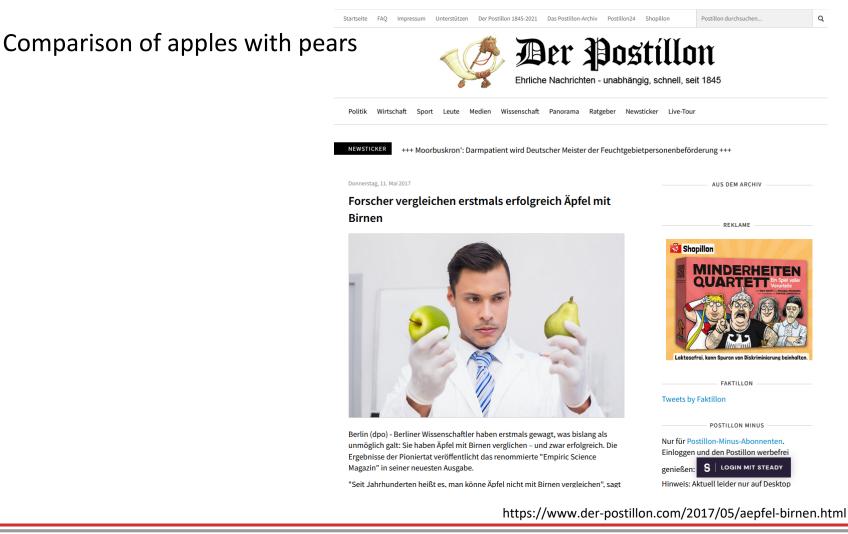


#### → 40% energy savings w.r.t. constant quality

C. Herglotz, A. Heindel and A. Kaup, "Decoding-Energy-Rate-Distortion Optimization for Video Coding," in *IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems* for Video Technology, vol. 29, no. 1, pp. 171-182, Jan. 2019.

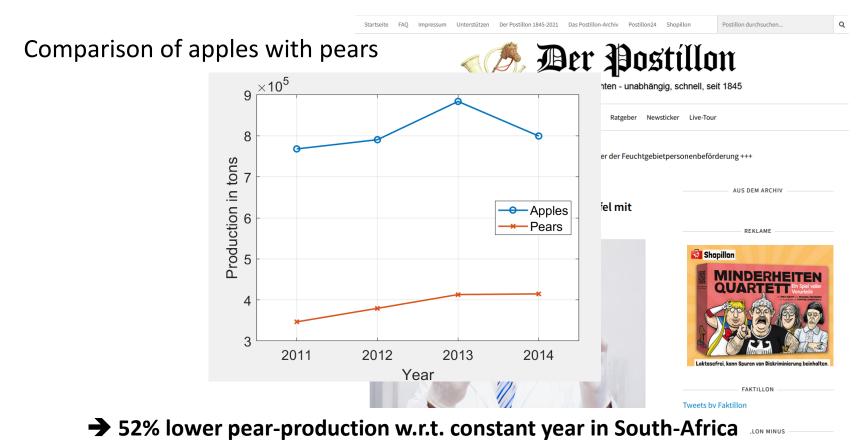












unmöglich galt: Sie haben Äpfel mit Birnen verglichen – und zwar erfolgreich. Die Ergebnisse der Pioniertat veröffentlicht das renommierte "Empiric Science Magazin" in seiner neuesten Ausgabe.

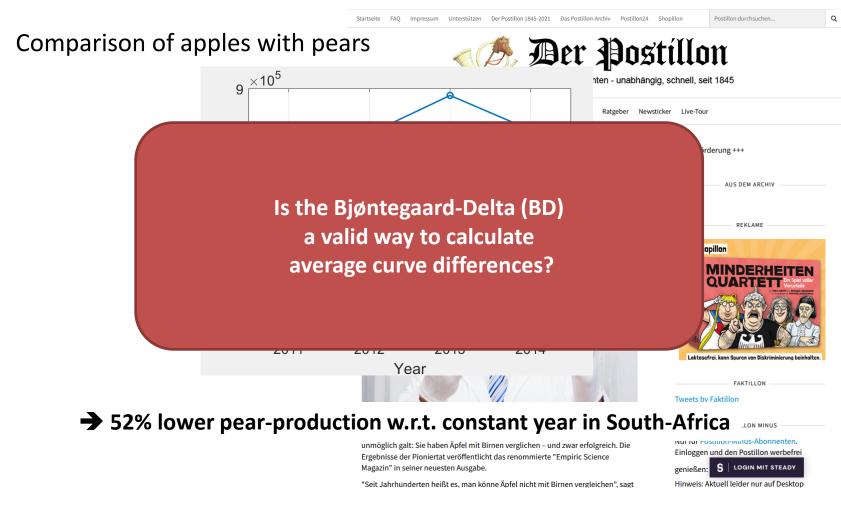
"Seit Jahrhunderten heißt es, man könne Äpfel nicht mit Birnen vergleichen", sagt

Run für Fosunon-minus-Abonnenten. Einloggen und den Postillon werbefrei genießen: S LOGIN MIT STEADY Hinweis: Aktuell leider nur auf Desktop

https://www.statista.com/







https://www.statista.com/





- The BD Calculus
- Interpolation Methods
- Evaluation
- Summary & Outlook



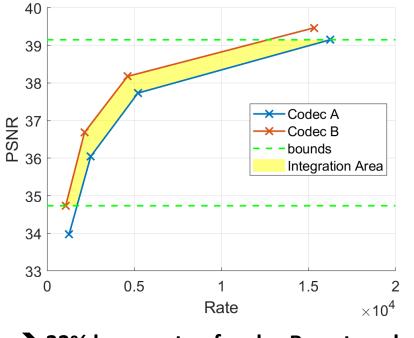


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#### Visualization of the Calculus



→ 33% lower rate of codec B w.r.t. codec A





Mathematical Description of the Calculus

- For each codec, four RD points with monotonic values are given





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- Take the log of the rates





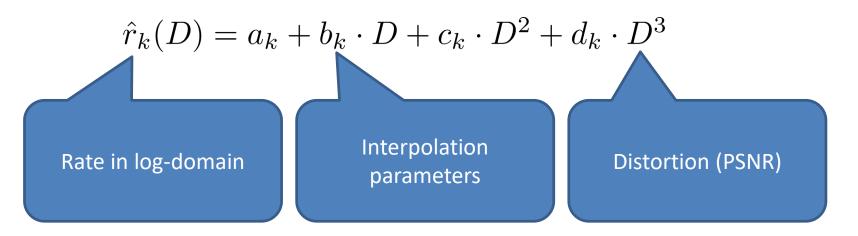
- For each codec, four RD points with monotonic values are given
- Take the log of the rates
- Find piecewise cubic interpolants for the two codecs k as

$$\hat{r}_k(D) = a_k + b_k \cdot D + c_k \cdot D^2 + d_k \cdot D^3$$





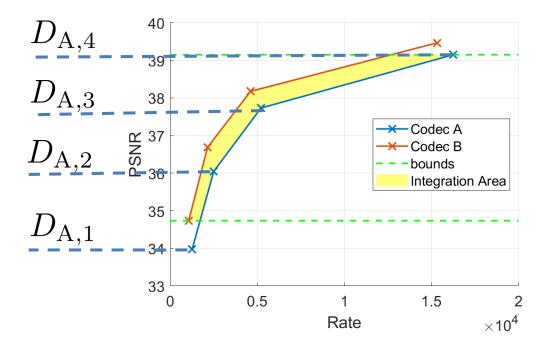
- For each codec, four RD points with **monotonic** values are given
- Take the log of the rates
- Find piecewise cubic interpolants for the two codecs k as







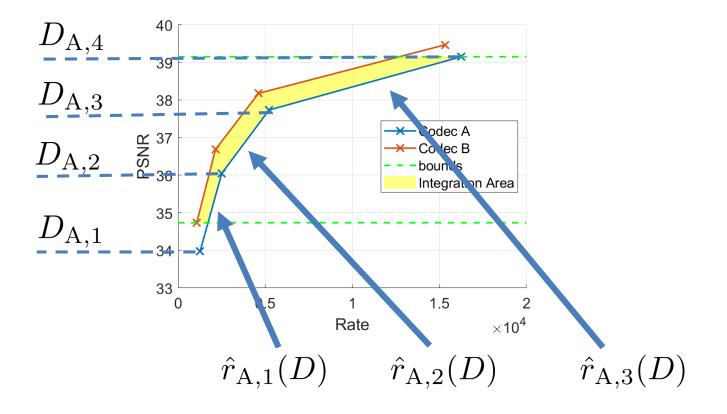
#### Visualization of the Calculus







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- Determine integration bounds (minimum and maximum overlap of PSNR)





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- Take the log of the rates
- Find piecewise cubic interpolants for the two codecs k as

$$\hat{r}_k(D) = a_k + b_k \cdot D + c_k \cdot D^2 + d_k \cdot D^3$$

- Determine integration bounds (minimum and maximum overlap of PSNR)
- Calculate the BD-rate by

$$\Delta R = 10^{\frac{1}{D_{\text{high}} - D_{\text{low}}} \int_{D_{\text{low}}}^{D_{\text{high}}} \hat{r}_{\text{B}}(D) - \hat{r}_{\text{A}}(D) dD} - 1$$





Mathematical Description of the Calculus

- For each codec, four RD points with **monotonic** values are given
- Take the log of the rates
- Find piecewise cubic interpolants for the two codecs k as

$$\hat{r}_k(D) = a_k + b_k \cdot D + c_k \cdot D^2 + d_k \cdot D^3$$

How to interpolate correctly?

p of PSNR)

- Calculate the BD-rate by

Determir

$$\Delta R = 10^{\frac{1}{D_{\text{high}} - D_{\text{low}}} \int_{D_{\text{low}}}^{D_{\text{high}}} \hat{r}_{\text{B}}(D) - \hat{r}_{\text{A}}(D) dD} - \frac{1}{2}$$





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### **Cubic Spline Interpolation (CSI)**

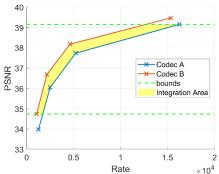
- Used in VCEG-M33 [1]
- Boundary constraints:

$$\hat{r}_{A,i}(D_{i+1}) = \hat{r}_{A,i+1}(D_{i+1})$$

$$\hat{r}'_{A,i}(D_{i+1}) = \hat{r}'_{A,i+1}(D_{i+1})$$

$$\hat{r}''_{A,i}(D_{i+1}) = \hat{r}''_{A,i+1}(D_{i+1})$$

$$\hat{r}'''_{A,i}(D_{i+1}) = \hat{r}'''_{A,i+1}(D_{i+1}) \quad \text{(not-a-knot)}$$





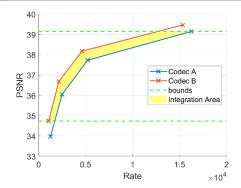


Relaxed interpolation methods

- Boundary constraints:

$$\hat{r}_{A,i}(D_{i+1}) = \hat{r}_{A,i+1}(D_{i+1})$$
$$\hat{r}'_{A,i}(D_{i+1}) = \hat{r}'_{A,i+1}(D_{i+1})$$

→ Further constraints needed



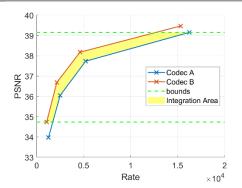




Relaxed interpolation methods

- Boundary constraints:

$$\hat{r}_{A,i}(D_{i+1}) = \hat{r}_{A,i+1}(D_{i+1})$$
$$\hat{r}'_{A,i}(D_{i+1}) = \hat{r}'_{A,i+1}(D_{i+1})$$

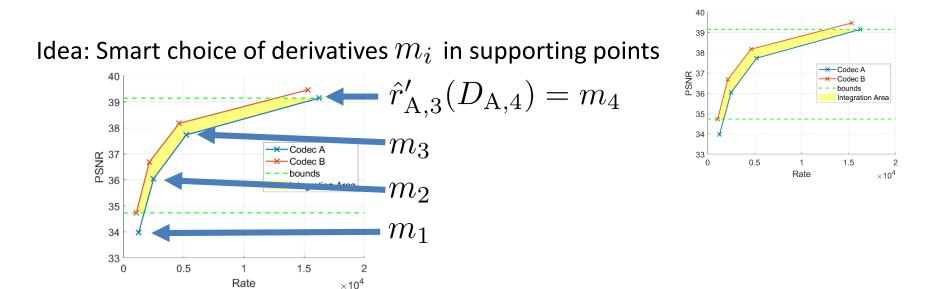


#### → Further constraints needed

→ Basis for PCHIP (used in JVET) and Akima (proposed)

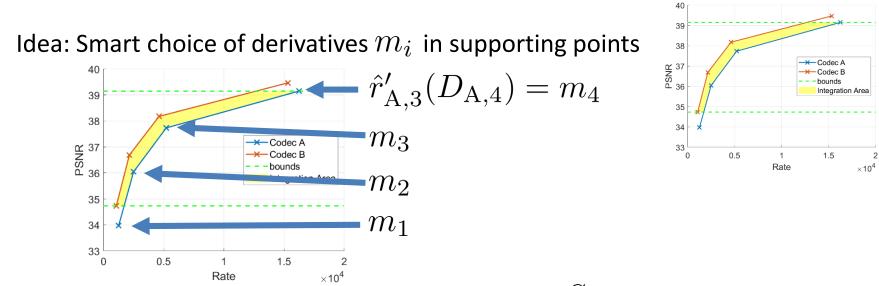




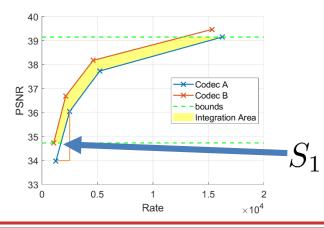






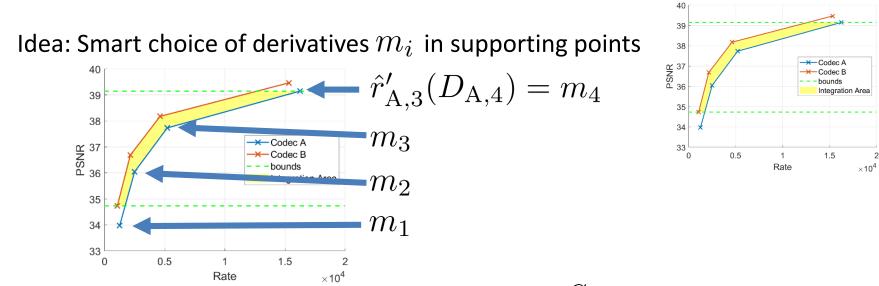


based on linear slopes between supporting points  $S_i$ 

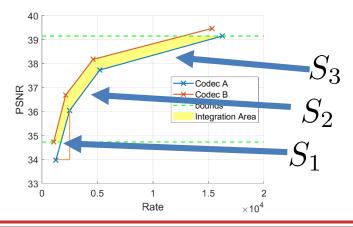








based on linear slopes between supporting points  $S_i$ 







**Piecewise cubic hermite interpolation polynomial (PCHIP)** [2]

- Used in JVET [3]
- Inner supporting points

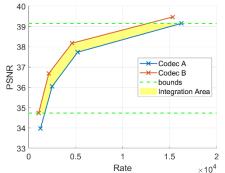
$$m_i = \frac{S_i S_{i+1}}{\alpha S_{i+1} + (1-\alpha)S_i}, \quad i = 2, 3$$
  
 $\alpha = \text{complicated}$ 

Outer supporting points

$$m_i = \frac{(2\Delta D_1 + \Delta D_2)S_1 - \Delta D_1S_2}{\Delta D_1 + \Delta D_2}, \quad i = 1, 4$$







### Piecewise cubic hermite interpolation polynomial (PCHIP)

- Used in JVET
- Inner supporting points

With constant  $\Delta D = 1$  between supporting points

$$m_i = \frac{2S_i S_{i+1}}{S_{i+1} + S_i}, \quad i = 2, 3$$

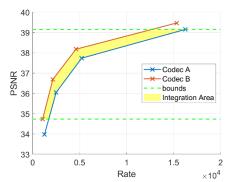
Outer supporting points

$$m_i = \frac{3S_1 - S_2}{2}, \quad i = 1, 4$$

→ Bias towards smaller slopes

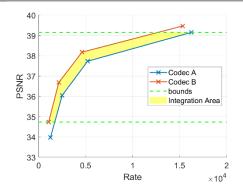






### **Akima Interpolation**

- Proposed in [4]
- Derivatives calculated by



$$m_i = \frac{|S_{i+1} - S_i|S_{i-1} + |S_{i-1} - S_{i-2}|S_i}{|S_{i+1} - S_i| + |S_{i-1} - S_{i-2}|}$$

with additional slopes

$$S_0 = 2S_1 - S_2$$
$$S_{-1} = 2S_0 - S_1$$

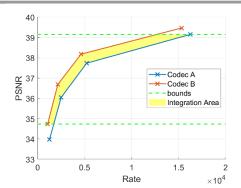
[1] C. Herglotz, M. Kränzler, R. Mons, A. Kaup, "Beyond Bjøntegaard – Limits of Video Compression Performance Comparisons", accepted for IEEE International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP), Bordeaux, 2022.

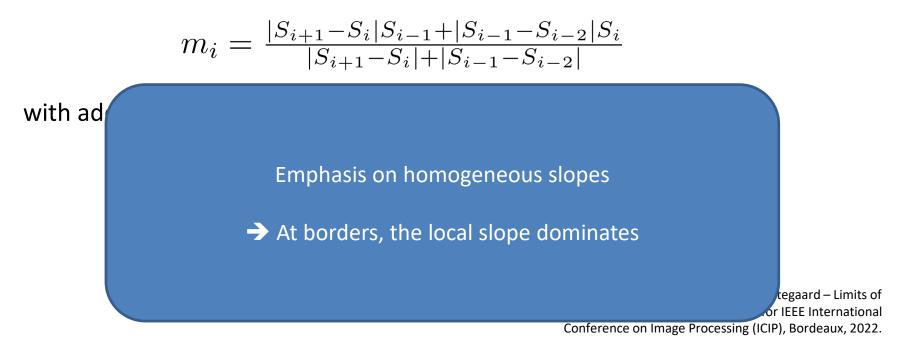




### Akima Interpolation

- Proposed in [4]
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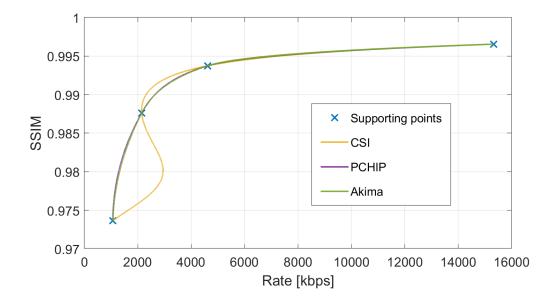








#### **Visual Example**







- The BD Calculus
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Friedrich-Alexander-Universität

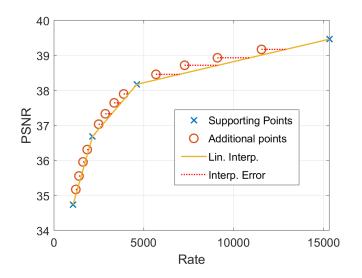
Fechnische Fakultät







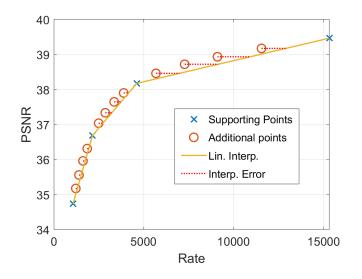
Check the interpolation accuracy for intermediate points







#### Check the interpolation accuracy for intermediate points



Calculate mean relative error over all points

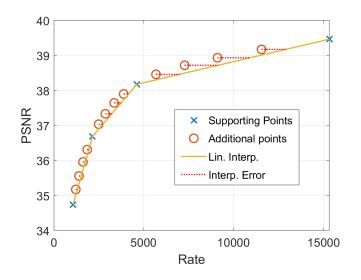
$$e = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \frac{\left| 10^{\hat{r}(D_n)} - R_n \right|}{R_n}$$

n: Point index (QP) N: Number of points  $D_n$ : Distortion of *n*-th point  $R_n$ : Rate of *n*-th point  $10^{\hat{r}(D_n)}$ : Interpolated rate of *n*-th point





### Check the interpolation accuracy for intermediate points



Maximum relative error over all points

$$E = \max \frac{\left| 10^{\hat{r}(D_n)} - R_n \right|}{R_n}$$

n: Point index (QP) N: Number of points  $D_n$ : Distortion of *n*-th point  $R_n$ : Rate of *n*-th point  $10^{\hat{r}(D_n)}$ : Interpolated rate of *n*-th point





#### **Evaluation setup**

- Six sequences from JVET CTC
- QPs from 22 to 37, supporting points {22, 27, 32, 37}
- Encoding with VTM and HM
- 10 bit internal bit-depth (HM and VTM)

### **Performance metrics**

- PSNR-Bitrate
- SSIM-Bitrate
- VMAF-Bitrate
- PSNR-Energy
- VMAF-Energy





PM	PSNR - Bitrate				
pair	$\bar{e}$	$E_{\rm max}$			
CSI	0.630%	5.151%			
PHIP	0.420%	4.103%			
Akima	0.370%	4.855%			





PM	PSNR -	Bitrate	SSIM - Bitrate			
pair	$\bar{e}$	$E_{\max}$	$\bar{e}$	$E_{\rm max}$		
CSI	0.630%	5.151%	9.130%	110.446%		
PHIP	0.420%	4.103%	1.709%	9.329%		
Akima	0.370%	4.855%	1.121%	7.439%		





PM	PSNR ·	- Bitrate	SSIM	- Bitrate	VMAF - Bitrate		
pair	$\bar{e}$ $E_{\max}$		$\bar{e}$	$E_{\max}$	$\bar{e}$	$E_{\max}$	
CSI	0.630%	5.151%	9.130%	110.446%	5.587%	29.093%	
PHIP	0.420%	4.103%	1.709%	9.329%	2.010%	12.971%	
Akima	0.370%	4.855%	1.121%	7.439%	1.402%	$\mathbf{10.576\%}$	





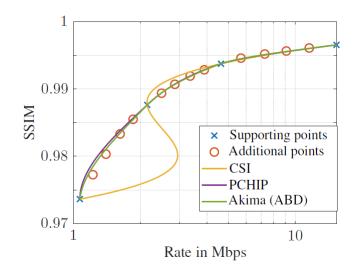
PM	PSNR - Bitrate		SSIM - Bitrate		VMAF - Bitrate		PSNR - Energy		VMAF - Energy	
pair	$\bar{e}$	$E_{\max}$	$\bar{e}$	$E_{\max}$	$\bar{e}$	$E_{ m max}$	$\bar{e}$	$E_{\max}$	$\bar{e}$	$E_{ m max}$
CSI	0.630%	5.151%	9.130%	110.446%	5.587%	29.093%	0.992%	7.060%	2.588%	14.705%
PHIP	0.420%	4.103%	1.709%	9.329%	2.010%	12.971%	0.917%	7.093%	1.140%	7.046%
Akima	0.370%	4.855%	1.121%	7.439%	1.402%	$\mathbf{10.576\%}$	0.904%	7.066%	1.064%	7.053%





### **Interpolation errors**

PM	PSNR - Bitrate		SSIM - Bitrate		VMAF - Bitrate		PSNR - Energy		VMAF - Energy	
pair	$\bar{e}$	$E_{\rm max}$	$\bar{e}$	$E_{ m max}$	$\bar{e}$	$E_{ m max}$	$\bar{e}$	$E_{\max}$	$\bar{e}$	$E_{ m max}$
CSI	0.630%	5.151%	9.130%	110.446%	5.587%	29.093%	0.992%	7.060%	2.588%	14.705%
PHIP	0.420%	4.103%	1.709%	9.329%	2.010%	12.971%	0.917%	7.093%	1.140%	7.046%
Akima	0.370%	4.855%	1.121%	7.439%	1.402%	$\mathbf{10.576\%}$	0.904%	7.066%	1.064%	7.053%







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### Summary & Outlook

- CSI should not be used for BD
- PCHIP and Akima return more accurate results
- Akima outperforms PCHIP
- Impact of these accuracies on BD-rate?
- Other questions?

Python Implementation

https://github.com/FAU-LMS/bjontegaard





# Bibliography

[1] G. Bjøntegaard, "Calculation of average PSNR differences between RD curves," document, VCEG-M33, Austin, TX, USA, Apr. 2001.

[2] F. N. Fritsch, R. E. Carlson.,"Monotone piecewise cubic interpolation." *SIAM Journal on Numerical Analysis* 17.2 (1980): 238-246.

[3] F. Bossen, J. Boyce, X. Li, V. Seregin, and K. Sühring, "JVET common test conditions and software reference configurations for SDR video," AHG Report, JVET-N1010, ITU/ISO/IEC Joint Video Exploration Team (JVET), Jan. 2017.

[4] H. Akima, "A new method of interpolation and smooth curve fitting based on local procedures," Journal of the ACM (JACM), vol. 17, no. 4, pp. 589–602, 1970.

[5] C. Herglotz, M. Kränzler, R. Mons, A. Kaup, "Beyond Bjøntegaard – Limits of Video Compression Performance Comparisons", accepted for IEEE International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP), Bordeaux, 2022.



