

2. Compute Total Variation Distance

(a)

3/3 points (graded)

Compute the total variation distance between

$$\mathbf{P} = X \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{Q} = X + c, \quad \text{where } X \sim \text{Ber}(p), p \in (0, 1), \text{ and } c \in \mathbb{R}.$$

(If applicable, enter **abs(x)** for $|x|$. Simplify your answer to have the minimum number of absolute signs possible.)For $c \notin \{-1, 0, 1\}$:

$$\mathbf{TV}(\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{Q}) =$$

1

☐ Answer: 1

1

For $c = 0$:

$$\mathbf{TV}(\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{Q}) =$$

0

☐ Answer: 0

0

For $c = 1$ or $c = -1$:

$$\mathbf{TV}(\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{Q}) =$$

(abs(2*p-1)+1)/2

☐ Answer: 1/2*(1+abs(1-2*p))

$\frac{\text{abs}(2 \cdot p - 1) + 1}{2}$

STANDARD NOTATION

Solution:

- For $c \notin \{-1, 0, 1\}$, the support of X and $X + c$ are disjoint, hence $\mathbf{TV}(X, X + c) = 1$.
- For $c = 0$, by the definiteness property $\mathbf{TV}(X, X) = 0$.
- For $c = 1$ (resp. $c = -1$), the support of X and $X + c$ intersect at $X = 1$ (resp. at $X = 0$). Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{TV}(X, X + c) &= \frac{1}{2}(|1 - p| + |p - (1 - p)| + |p|) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(1 + |1 - 2p|) \quad \text{where } c = 1, \text{ or } -1. \end{aligned}$$

提交

你已经尝试了2次 (总共可以尝试2次)

☐ Answers are displayed within the problem

(b)

2/2 points (graded)

Compute the total variation distance between

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{Ber}(p) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{Ber}(q), \quad \text{where } p, q \in [0, 1].$$

(If applicable, enter **abs(x)** for $|x|$.)

$\mathbf{TV}(\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{Q}) =$

abs(p-q)

abs (p - q)

Answer: abs(p-q)

Let $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$ be n i.i.d. Bernoulli random variables with some parameter $p \in [0, 1]$, and $\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n$ be their empirical average. Consider the total variation distance $\mathbf{TV}(\mathbf{Ber}(\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n), \mathbf{Ber}(p))$ between $\mathbf{Ber}(\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n)$ and $\mathbf{Ber}(p)$ as a function of the random variable $\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n$, and hence a random variable itself. Does $\mathbf{TV}(\mathbf{Ber}(\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n), \mathbf{Ber}(p))$ necessarily converge in probability to a constant? If yes, enter the constant below; if not; enter DNE.

$\mathbf{TV}(\mathbf{Ber}(\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n), \mathbf{Ber}(p)) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{(\mathbf{P})}$

0

0

Answer: 0

STANDARD NOTATION

Solution:

To compute the total variation distance between two Bernoulli variables, again use the formula relating **TV** to the pmfs:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{TV}(\mathbf{Ber}(p), \mathbf{Ber}(q)) &= \frac{1}{2} [|p - q| + |(1 - p) - (1 - q)|] \\ &= |p - q|. \end{aligned}$$

Let $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$ be n i.i.d. Bernoulli random variables with some parameter $p \in [0, 1]$, and $\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n$ be their empirical average. By the Law of Large Numbers, we know that $\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n$ will converge to p . Now, imagine another Bernoulli distribution with parameter $\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n$, say $\mathbf{Ber}(\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n)$. What can we infer about the two distributions? What is the total variation distance between $\mathbf{Ber}(\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n)$ and $\mathbf{Ber}(p)$? Intuitively, the two distribution should behave similarly since

$$\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{i.p.} p.$$

Recall that by definition, the convergence in probability means

$$P(|\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n - p| > \epsilon) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} 0.$$

Remember that the total variation distance between $\mathbf{Ber}(q)$ and $\mathbf{Ber}(p)$ is $|q - p|$. We want to calculate the total variation distance between $\mathbf{Ber}(\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n)$ and $\mathbf{Ber}(p)$, that is, $|\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n - p|$. This is the same as what we've seen above! By the Law of Large Numbers, we can say that the total variation distance will converge in probability to **0** as n goes to infinity.

$$\mathbf{TV}(\mathbf{Ber}(\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n), \mathbf{Ber}(p)) = |\bar{\mathbf{X}}_n - p| \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{p.} 0.$$

提交

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Answers are displayed within the problem

(c)

1/1 point (graded)
 Compute the total variation distance between

$$P = \text{Unif}([0, s]) \quad \text{and} \quad Q = \text{Unif}([0, t]), \quad \text{where } 0 < s < t.$$

TV(P,Q) = $\frac{1}{2} \cdot (1/s - 1/t) \cdot s + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 1/t \cdot s$ ☐ Answer: 1 - s/t

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{t} \right) \cdot s + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{t} \cdot (t - s)$$

STANDARD NOTATION

Solution:

To compute the total variation distance between two uniform distributions, denote the densities of the two distributions by

$$f_s(x) = \frac{1}{s} \mathbf{1}\{0 \leq x \leq s\}, \quad f_t(x) = \frac{1}{t} \mathbf{1}\{0 \leq x \leq t\}.$$

With this, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{TV}(\text{Unif}([0, s]), \text{Unif}([0, t])) &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} |f_s(x) - f_t(x)| dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[\int_0^s \left| \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{t} \right| dx + \int_s^t \left| \frac{1}{t} \right| dx \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{s}{t}\right) + \left(1 - \frac{s}{t}\right) \right] \\ &= 1 - \frac{s}{t}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $\mathbf{TV}(\mathbf{Unif}([0, s]), \mathbf{Unif}([0, t]))$ is a continuous function in t that decreases to 0 as t approaches s .

提交

你已经尝试了1次 (总共可以尝试2次)

- ☐ Answers are displayed within the problem

(d)

1.0/1 point (graded)

Let $\mathbf{X} \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ and $\mathbf{Y} \sim \text{Ber}(p)$. Compute the total variation distance between the distributions of $\text{sign}(\mathbf{X})$ and $\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{1}$. Note that $\text{sign}(\mathbf{X})$ is a function of the random variable with

$$\text{sign}(X) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } X > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } X = 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } X < 0. \end{cases}$$

(If applicable, enter **abs(x)** for $|x|$, **Phi(x)** for $\Phi(x) = \mathbf{P}(Z \leq x)$ where $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$, and **q(alpha)** for q_α , the $1 - \alpha$ -quantile of a standard normal distribution, e.g. enter **q(0.01)** for $q_{0.01}$.)

$$\text{TV}(\text{sign}(X), Y - 1) = 1/2 * (\text{abs}(1 - \Phi(-\mu/\sigma)) + \Phi(-\mu/\sigma))$$

Answer: $0.5 * (\Phi(\mu/\sigma) + p + \text{abs}(1 - p - \Phi(-\mu/\sigma)))$

STANDARD NOTATION

Solution:

Observe that $\frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$. Hence

$$\text{sign}(X) = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{with probability } \Phi\left(-\frac{\mu}{\sigma}\right) \\ 1 & \text{with probability } 1 - \Phi\left(-\frac{\mu}{\sigma}\right) = \Phi\left(\frac{\mu}{\sigma}\right) \end{cases}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} 2\mathrm{TV}\left(\mathrm{sign}\left(X\right),Y-1\right) &= \left|\Phi\left(\frac{\mu}{\sigma}\right)\right|+|p|+\left|\left(1-p\right)-\Phi\left(-\frac{\mu}{\sigma}\right)\right| \\ &= \Phi\left(\frac{\mu}{\sigma}\right)+p+\left|1-p-\Phi\left(-\frac{\mu}{\sigma}\right)\right|. \end{aligned}$$

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你已经尝试了1次（总共可以尝试3次）

☐ Answers are displayed within the problem

(e)

0/1 point (graded)
Compute the total variation distance between

$$\mathbf{P} = \text{Ber}(p) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{Q} = \text{Poiss}(p), \quad \text{where } p \in (0, 1).$$

TV(P,Q) =

1/2*(p*(1-exp(-p))+abs(exp(-p)-1+p))

$\frac{1}{2} \cdot (p \cdot (1 - \exp(-p)) + \text{abs}(\exp(-p) - 1 + p))$

☐ Answer: p*(1-e^(-p))

STANDARD NOTATION

没考虑到support漏了一项；而且没化简：e^(-p) > 1 - p when p > 0

Solution:

Recall the pmf $f_X(x)$ for $X \sim \text{Poiss}(p)$ is

$$f_X(x) = e^{-p} \frac{p^x}{x!} \quad \text{for } x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} 2\mathrm{TV}\left(\text{Ber}(p),\text{Poiss}(p)\right) &= \left|e^{-p} - (1-p)\right| + \left|pe^{-p} - p\right| + e^{-p} \left(\frac{p^2}{2!} + \frac{p^3}{3!} + \dots\right) \\ &= \left(e^{-p} - (1-p)\right) + \left(p(1 - e^{-p})\right) + e^{-p}(e^p - (1+p)) \quad \text{since } e^{-p} > (1-p) \text{ for } p > 0 \\ &= 2\left(p(1 - e^{-p})\right). \\ \iff \mathrm{TV}\left(\text{Ber}(p),\text{Poiss}(p)\right) &= p(1 - e^{-p}). \end{aligned}$$

提交

你已经尝试了2次（总共可以尝试2次）

☐ Answers are displayed within the problem

讨论

显示讨论

主题： Unit 3 Methods of Estimation:Homework 4: TV distance, KL-Divergence, and Introduction to MLE / 2. Compute Total Variation Distance

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