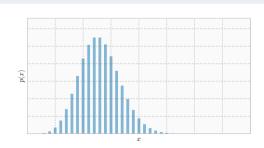
Probability distributions

Probability distribution

Given a discrete random variable $X \in V_X$, the corresponding probability distribution is a function p(x) = P(X = x) such that

- $0 \le p(x) \le 1$
- $\odot \sum_{x \in V_X} p(x) = 1$
- $\odot \sum_{x \in A} p(x) = P(x \in A)$, with $A \subseteq V_X$

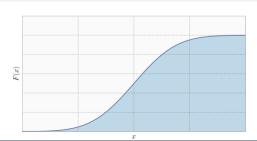


Some definitions

Cumulative distribution

Given a continuous random variable $X \in \mathbb{R}$, the corresponding cumulative probability distribution is a function $F(x) = P(X \le x)$ such that:

- $0 \le F(x) \le 1$
- $\odot \lim_{x \to -\infty} F(x) = 0$
- $\odot \lim_{x \to \infty} F(x) = 1$
- \odot $x \le y \implies F(x) \le F(y)$



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Some definitions

Probability density

Given a continuous random variable $X \in \mathbb{R}$ with derivable cumulative distribution F(x), the probability density is defined as

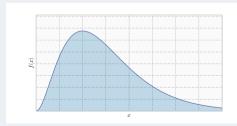
$$f(x) = \frac{dF(x)}{dx}$$

By definition of derivative, for a sufficiently small Δx ,

$$Pr(x \le X \le x + \Delta x) \approx f(x)\Delta x$$

The following properties hold:

$$\odot f(x) \ge 0$$



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Bernoulli distribution

Definition

Let $x \in \{0, 1\}$, then $x \sim Bernoulli(p)$, with $0 \le p \le 1$, if

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} p & \text{se } x = 1\\ 1 - p & \text{se } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

or, equivalently,

$$p(x) = p^x (1-p)^{1-x}$$

Probability that, given a coin with head (H) probability p (and tail probability (T) 1-p), a coin toss result into $x \in \{H, T\}$.

Mean and variance

$$E[x] = p Var[x] = p(1-p)$$

Extension to multiple outcomes

Assume *k* possible outcomes (for example a die toss).

In this case, a generalization of the Bernoulli distribution is considered, usualy named categorical distribution.

$$p(x) = \prod_{j=1}^k p_j^{x_j}$$

where $(p_1, ..., p_k)$ are the probabilities of the different outcomes $(\sum_{i=1}^k p_i = 1)$ and $x_i = 1$ iff the k-th outcome occurs.

Binomial distribution

Definition

Let $x \in \mathbb{N}$, then $x \sim Binomial(n, p)$, with $0 \le p \le 1$, if

$$p(x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} = \frac{n!}{x!(n-x)!} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}$$

Probability that, given a coin with head (H) probability p, a sequence of n independent coin tosses result into x heads.

Mean and variance

$$E[x] = np$$
$$Var[x] = np(1 - p)$$



Poisson distribution

Definition

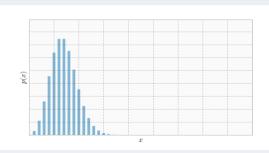
Let $x_i \in \mathbb{N}$, then $x \sim Poisson(\lambda)$, with $\lambda > 0$, if

$$p(x) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^x}{x!}$$

Probability that an event with average frequency λ occurs x times in the next time unit.

Mean and variance

$$E[x] = \lambda$$
$$Var[x] = \lambda$$



Normal (gaussian) distribution

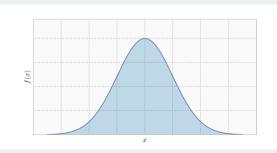
Definition

Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$, then $x \sim Normal(\mu, \sigma^2)$, with $\mu, \sigma \in \mathbb{R}$, $\sigma \geq 0$, if

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

Mean and variance

$$E[x] = \mu$$
$$Var[x] = \sigma^2$$



Beta distribution

Definition

Let $x \in [0, 1]$, then $x \sim Beta(\alpha, \beta)$, with $\alpha, \beta > 0$, if

$$f(x) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + \beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)} x^{\alpha - 1} (1 - x)^{\beta - 1}$$

where

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^\infty u^{x-1} e^u du$$

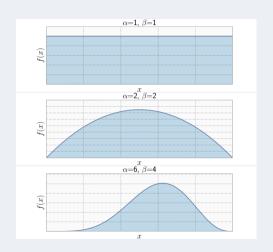
is a generalization of the factorial to the real field \mathbb{R} : in particular, $\Gamma(n) = (n-1)!$ if $n \in \mathbb{N}$

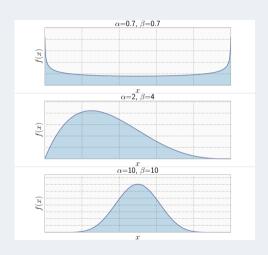
Mean and variance

$$E[x] = \frac{\beta}{\alpha + \beta}$$

$$Var[x] = \frac{\alpha\beta}{(\alpha + \beta)^2(\alpha + \beta + 1)}$$

Beta distribution





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Multivariate distributions

Definition for

discrete variables

Given two discrete r.v. X, Y, their joint distribution is

$$p(x, y) = P(X = x, Y = y)$$

The following properties hold:

1.
$$0 \le p(x, y) \le 1$$

2.
$$\sum_{x \in V_X} \sum_{y \in V_Y} p(x, y) = 1$$

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Multivariate distributions

Definition for variables

Given two continuous r.v. X, Y, their cumulative joint distribution is defined as

$$F(x, y) = P(X \le x, Y \le y)$$

The following properties hold:

- 1. $0 \le F(x, y) \le 1$
- $2. \lim_{x,y\to\infty} F(x,y) = 1$
- $3. \lim_{x,y\to-\infty} F(x,y) = 0$

If F(x, y) is derivable everywhere w.r.t. both x and y, joint probability density is

$$f(x, y) = \frac{\partial^2 F(x, y)}{\partial x \partial y}$$

The following property derives

$$\int \int_{(x,y)\in A} f(x,y) dx dy = P((X,Y)\in A)$$

Covariance

Definition

$$Cov[X,Y] = E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])]$$

As for the variance, we may derive

$$Cov[X,Y] = E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])]$$

$$= E[XY - XE[Y] - YE[X] + E[X]E[Y]]$$

$$= E[XY] - E[X]E[Y] - E[Y]E[X] + E[E[X]E[Y]]$$

$$= E[XY] - E[X]E[Y]$$

Moreover, the following properties hold:

- 1. Var[X + Y] = Var[X] + Var[Y] + 2Cov[X, Y]
- 2. If $X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y$ then Cov[X,Y] = 0

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Random vectors

Definition

Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be a set of r.v.: we may then define a random vector as

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ \vdots \\ X_2 \end{pmatrix} X_n$$

Expectation and random vectors

Definition

Let $g: \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}^m$ be any function. It may be considered as a vector of functions

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} g_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ g_2(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix} g_m(\mathbf{x})$$

where $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

The expectation of g is the vector of the expectations of all functions g_i ,

$$E[g(\mathbf{x})] = \begin{pmatrix} E[g_1(\mathbf{x})] \\ \vdots \\ E[g_2(\mathbf{x})] \end{pmatrix} E[g_m(\mathbf{x})]$$

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Covariance matrix

Definition

Let $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be a random vector: its covariance matrix Σ is a matrix $n \times n$ such that, for each $1 \le i, j \le n$, $\Sigma_{ii} = Cov[X_i, X_i] = E[(X_i - \mu_i)(X_i - \mu_i)], \text{ where } \mu_i = E[X_i], \mu_i = E[X_i].$

Hence.

$$\Sigma \quad = \quad \left[\begin{array}{cccc} Cov[X_1, X_1] & Cov[X_1, X_2] & \cdots & Cov[X_1, X_n] \\ Cov[X_2, X_1] & Cov[X_2, X_2] & \cdots & Cov[X_2, X_n] \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ Cov[X_n, X_1] & Cov[X_n, X_2] & \cdots & Cov[X_n, X_n] \end{array} \right]$$

$$= \quad \left[\begin{array}{cccc} Var[X_1] & \cdots & Cov[X_1, X_n] \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ Cov[X_n, X_1] & \cdots & Var[X_n] \end{array} \right]$$

Covariance matrix

By definition of covariance,

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} E[X_1^2] - E[X_1]^2 & \cdots & E[X_1X_n] - E[X_1]E[X_n] \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ E[X_nX_1] - E[X_n]E[X_1] & \cdots & E[X_n^2] - E[X_n]E[X_n] \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= E[\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T] - \boldsymbol{\mu}\boldsymbol{\mu}^T$$

where $\mu = (\mu_1, ..., \mu_n)^T$ is the vector of expectations of the random variables $X_1, ..., X_n$.

Properties

The covariance matrix is necessarily:

- \odot semidefinite positive: that is, $\mathbf{z}^T \Sigma \mathbf{z} \ge 0$ for any $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- ⊚ symmetric: $Cov[X_i, X_j] = Cov[X_j, X_i]$ for $1 \le i, j \le n$

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Correlation

For any pair of r.v. X, Y, the Pearson correlation coefficient is defined as

$$\rho_{X,Y} = \frac{Cov[X,Y]}{\sqrt{Var[X]Var[Y]}}$$

Note that, if Y = aX + b for some pair a, b, then

$$Cov[X, Y] = E[(X - \mu)(aX + b - a\mu - b)] = E[a(X - \mu)^{2}] = aVar[X]$$

and, since

$$Var[Y] = (aX - a\mu)^2 = a^2 Var[X]$$

it results $\rho_{X|Y} = 1$. As a corollary, $\rho_{X|X} = 1$.

Observe that if X and Y are independent, p(X,Y) = p(X)p(Y): as a consequence, Cov[X,Y] = 0 and $\rho_{X,Y} = 0$. That is, independent variables have null covariance and correlation.

The contrary is not true: null correlation does not imply indepedence: see for example X uniform in [-1, 1] and $Y = X^2$.

Correlation matrix

The correlation matrix of $(X_1, \dots, X_n)^T$ is defined as

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \rho_{X_1, X_1} & \rho_{X_1, X_2} & \cdots & \rho_{X_1, X_n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \\ \rho_{X_n, X_1} & \rho_{X_n, X_2} & \cdots & \rho_{X_n, X_n} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \rho_{X_1, X_2} & \cdots & \rho_{X_1, X_n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \\ \rho_{X_n, X_1} & \rho_{X_n, X_2} & \cdots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Multinomial distribution

Definition

Let $x_i \in \mathbb{N}$ for i = 1, ..., k, then $(x_1, ..., x_k) \sim Mult(n, p_1, ..., p_k)$ with $0 \le p \le 1$, if

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_k) = \frac{n!}{x_1! \dots x_k!} \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{x_i} \qquad \text{con } \sum_{i=1}^k x_i = n$$

Generalization of the binomial distribution to $k \ge 2$ possible toss results t_1, \dots, t_k with probabilities p_1, \dots, p_k ($\sum_{i=1}^k p_i = 1$). Probability that in a sequence of n independent tosses p_1, \dots, p_k , exactly x_i tosses have result t_i ($i = 1, \dots, k$).

Mean and variance

$$E[x_i] = np_i \qquad Var[x_i] = np_i(1-p_i) \qquad i = 1, \dots, k$$

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Dirichlet distribution

Definition

Let $x_i \in [0, 1]$ for i = 1, ..., k, then $(x_1, ..., x_k) \sim Dirichlet(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, ..., \alpha_k)$ if

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_k) = \frac{\Gamma(\sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i)}{\prod_{i=1}^k \Gamma(\alpha_i)} \prod_{i=1}^k x_i^{\alpha_i - 1} = \frac{1}{\Delta(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)} \prod_{i=1}^k x_i^{\alpha_i - 1}$$

with $\sum_{i=1}^{k} x_i = 1$.

Generalization of the Beta distribution to the multinomial case $k \geq 2$.

A random variable $\phi = (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_K)$ with Dirichlet distribution takes values on the K-1 dimensional simplex (set of points

 $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^K$ such that $x_i \geq 0$ for i = 1, ..., K and $\sum_{i=1}^K x_i = 1$)

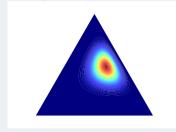
Mean and variance

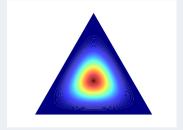
$$E[x_i] = \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_0} \qquad Var[x_i] = \frac{\alpha_i(\alpha_0 - \alpha_i)}{\alpha_0^2(\alpha_0 + 1)} \qquad i = 1, \dots, k$$

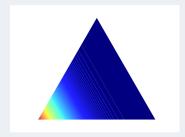
with $\alpha_0 = \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i$

Dirichlet distribution

Examples of Dirichlet distributions with k = 3







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Dirichlet distribution

Symmetric Dirichlet distribution

Particular case, where $\alpha_i = \alpha$ for i = 1, ..., K

$$p(\phi_1, \dots, \phi_K | \alpha, K) = \text{Dir}(\phi | \alpha, K) = \frac{\Gamma(K\alpha)}{\Gamma(\alpha)^K} \prod_{i=1}^K \phi_i^{\alpha-1} = \frac{1}{\Delta_K(\alpha)} \prod_{i=1}^K \phi_i^{\alpha-1}$$

Mean and variance

In this case.

$$E[x_i] = \frac{1}{K}$$
 $Var[x_i] = \frac{K-1}{K^2(\alpha+1)}$ $i = 1, ..., K$

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Gaussian distribution

- O Properties
 - · Analytically tractable
 - Completely specified by the first two moments
 - A number of processes are asintotically gaussian (theorem of the Central Limit)
 - · Linear transformation of gaussians result in a gaussian

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Univariate gaussian

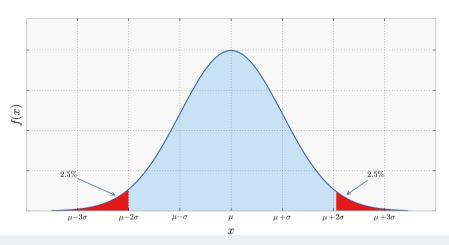
For $x \in \mathbb{R}$:

$$p(x) = N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$
$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

with

$$\mu = E[x] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x p(x) dx$$
$$\sigma^2 = E[(x - \mu)^2] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu)^2 p(x) dx$$

Univariate gaussian



A univariate gaussian distribution has about 95% of its probability in the interval $|x - \mu| \ge 2\sigma$.

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For $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$:

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = N(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$$

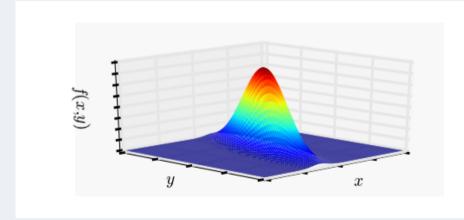
$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d/2} |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|^{1/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})}$$

where

$$\mu = E[\mathbf{x}] = \int \mathbf{x} p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

$$\Sigma = E[(\mathbf{x} - \mu)(\mathbf{x} - \mu)^T] = \int (\mathbf{x} - \mu)(\mathbf{x} - \mu)^T p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

- \odot μ : expectation (vector of size d)
- \odot Σ: matrix $d \times d$ of covariance. $\sigma_{ij} = E[(X_i \mu_i)(X_j \mu_j)]$



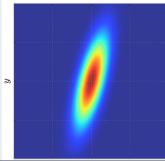
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Mahalanobis distance

Probability is a function of x through the quadratic form

$$\Delta^2 = (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})$$

- \odot Δ is the Mahalanobis distance from μ to \mathbf{x} : it reduces to the euclidean distance if $\Sigma = \mathbf{I}$.
- \odot Constant probability on the curves (ellipsis) at constant Δ .



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In general,

$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x})^T = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{x}$$

this implies that

$$\mathbf{x}^{T}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}^{T}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}^{T}\mathbf{A}^{T}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^{T}\left(\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{A} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{A}^{T}\right)\mathbf{x}$$

- \odot **A** + **A**^T is necessarily symmetric, as a consequence, Σ is symmetric
- \odot as a consequence, its inverse Σ^{-1} does exist.

Diagonal covariance matrix

Assume a diagonal covariance matrix:

$$\Sigma = \left[\begin{array}{cccc} \sigma_1^2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2^2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \sigma_n^2 \end{array} \right]$$

then, $|\Sigma| = \sigma_1^2 \sigma_n^2 \dots \sigma_n^2$ and

$$\Sigma^{-1} = \left[\begin{array}{cccc} \frac{1}{\sigma_1^2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sigma_2^2} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \frac{1}{\sigma_n^2} \end{array} \right]$$

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Diagonal covariance matrix

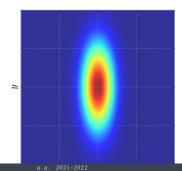
Easy to verify that

$$(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - \mu_i)^2}{\sigma_i^2}$$

and

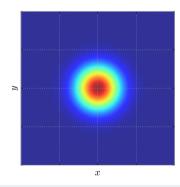
$$f(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_i} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \frac{(x_i - \mu_i)^2}{\sigma_i^2}\right)$$

The multivariate distribution turns out to be the product of d univariate gaussians, one for each coordinate x_i .



Identity covariance matrix

The distribution is the product of d "copies" of the same univariate gaussian, one copy for each coordinate x_i .



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Spectral properties of Σ

 Σ is real and symmetric: then,

- 1. all its eigenvalues λ_i are in \mathbb{R}
- 2. there exists a corresponding set of orthonormal eigenvectors \mathbf{u}_i (i.e. such that $(\mathbf{u}_i^T \mathbf{u}_j = 1 \text{ if } i = j \text{ and } 0 \text{ otherwise})$

Let us define the $d \times d$ matrix **U** whose columns correspond to the orthonormal eigenvectors

$$\mathbf{U} = \left(\begin{array}{ccc} | & & | \\ \mathbf{u}_1 & \cdots & \mathbf{u}_2 \\ | & & | \end{array} \right) \mathbf{u}_d$$

and the diagonal $d \times d$ matrix Λ with eigenvalues on the diagonal

$$\mathbf{\Lambda} = \left[\begin{array}{cccc} \lambda_1 & & & & \\ & \lambda_2 & & 0 & \\ & & \lambda_3 & & \\ & 0 & & \ddots & \\ & & & & \lambda_d \end{array} \right]$$

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Decomposition of

By the definition of **U** and Λ , and since $\Sigma \mathbf{u}_i = \mathbf{u}_i \lambda_i$ for all i = 1, ..., d, we may write

$$\Sigma \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{\Lambda}$$

Since the eigenvectors u_i are orthonormal, $\mathbf{U}^{-1} = \mathbf{U}^T$ by the properties of orthonormal matrices: as a consequence,

$$\Sigma = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{U}^{-1} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{U}^T = \sum_{i=1}^d \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{u}_i^T$$

Then, its inverse matrix is a diagonal matrix itself

$$\Sigma^{-1} = \sum_{i=1}^{d} \frac{1}{\lambda_i} \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{u}_i^T$$

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Density as a function of eigenvalues and eigenvectors

As shown before.

$$\Delta^{2} = (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^{T} \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) = (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^{T} \sum_{i=1}^{d} \frac{1}{\lambda_{i}} \mathbf{u}_{i} \mathbf{u}_{i}^{T} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{d} \frac{1}{\lambda_{i}} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^{T} \mathbf{u}_{i} \mathbf{u}_{i}^{T} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) = \sum_{i=1}^{d} \frac{1}{\lambda_{i}} (\mathbf{u}_{i}^{T} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}))^{T} \mathbf{u}_{i}^{T} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{d} \frac{(\mathbf{u}_{i}^{T} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}))^{2}}{\lambda_{i}}$$

Let $y_i = \mathbf{u}_i^T(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})$: then

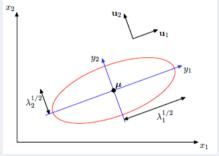
$$(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{y_i^2}{\lambda_i}$$

and

$$f(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\lambda_{i}}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \frac{y_{i}^{2}}{\lambda_{i}}\right)$$

Multivariate gaussian

 y_i is the scalar product of $\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}$ and the *i*-th eigenvector \mathbf{u}_i , that is the length of the projection of $\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}$ along the direction of the eigenvector. Since eigenvectors are orthonormal, they are the basis of a new space, and for each vector $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_d)$, the values (y_1, \dots, y_d) are the coordinates of \mathbf{x} in the eigenvector space.



Eigenvectors of Σ correspond to the axes of the distribution; each eigenvalue is a scale factor along the axis of the corresponding eigenvector.

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Linear transformations

Let $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$, $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^k$: then, if \mathbf{x} is normally distributed, so is \mathbf{y} .

In particular, if the distribution of \mathbf{x} has mean $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ and covariance matrix Σ , the distribution of \mathbf{y} has mean $\mathbf{A}^T \boldsymbol{\mu}$ and covariance matrix $\mathbf{A}^T \Sigma \mathbf{A}$.

$$\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) \Longrightarrow \mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}^T \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{A}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{A})$$

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Marginal and conditional of a joint gaussian

Let $\mathbf{x}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^h$, $\mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^k$ be such that $\left[\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \hline \mathbf{x}_2 \end{array}\right] \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}\right)$ and let

$$\odot \ \Sigma = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \hline \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{array} \right] \text{ with } \Sigma_{11} \in \mathbb{R}^{h \times h}, \Sigma_{12} \in \mathbb{R}^{h \times k}, \Sigma_{21} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times h}, \Sigma_{22} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$$

then

- ⊚ the marginal distribution of \mathbf{x}_1 is $\mathbf{x}_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{11})$
- ⊚ the conditional distribution of \mathbf{x}_1 given \mathbf{x}_2 is $\mathbf{x}_1 | \mathbf{x}_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{1|2}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1|2})$ with

$$\mu_{1|2} = \mu_1 - \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22}^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_2 - \mu_2)$$

$$\Sigma_{1|2} = \Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22}^{-1} \Sigma_{21}$$

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Bayes' formula and gaussians

Let \mathbf{x} , \mathbf{y} be such that

$$\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_1)$$
 and $\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_2)$

That is, the marginal distribution of \mathbf{x} (the prior) is a gaussian and the conditional distribution of \mathbf{y} w.r.t. \mathbf{x} (the likelihood) is also a gaussian with (conditional) mean given by a linear combination on \mathbf{x} . Then, both the the conditional distribution of \mathbf{x} w.r.t. \mathbf{y} (the posterior) and the marginal distribution of \mathbf{y} (the evidence) are gaussian.

$$\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\mu} + \mathbf{b}, \Sigma_2 + \mathbf{A}\Sigma_1\mathbf{A}^T)$$
$$\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}, \hat{\Sigma})$$

where

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}} = (\Sigma_1^{-1} + \mathbf{A}^T \Sigma_2^{-1} \mathbf{A})^{-1} (\mathbf{A}^T \Sigma_2^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{b}) + \Sigma_1^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu})$$

$$\hat{\Sigma} = (\Sigma_1^{-1} + \mathbf{A}^T \Sigma_2^{-1} \mathbf{A})^{-1}$$

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Bayesian statistics

Idea: inles sont un'abeli casuali, rispetto alla mindeli sons associate a distribuzioni di pubabelta. Abbicant conscenta del para estre, representante tale consecuta con uno dell'inica di probe

Classical (frequentist) statistics

- \odot Interpretation of probability as frequence of an event over a sufficiently long sequence of reproducible experiments.
- Parameters seen as constants to determine

Bayesian statistics

- Interpretation of probability as degree of belief that an event may occur.
- Parameters seen as random variables

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- Qui quindi, la conoscenza d⊈ non è solo un valore come nell'ambito frequentista, nell'ambito Bayesiano possiamo dire che abbia una certa distribuzione di probabilità

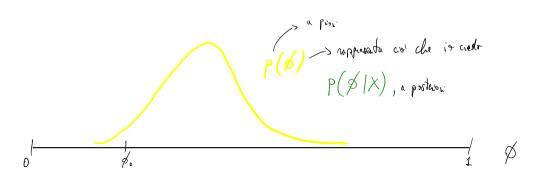
accade, questo può modificare come è fatta la distribuzione di probabilità di phi.

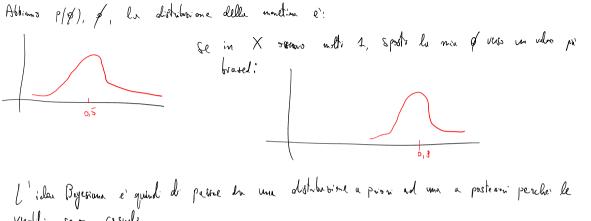
- idea Bayesiana: - supponiamo che la conoscenza iniziale sia la distribuzione gialla. Se l'osservatore può vedere cosa

Non so quanto vale esattamente, poi vado a vedere l'elenco delle ultime 10 partire giocate e scopro che AA MAGGICA ha sempre vinto. Ora, posso rivedere la mia stima per aumentare questo 0.3 a 0.4,0.5 Quindi c'è una conoscenza pregressa e l'osservazione dei dati fanno si che questa conoscenza pregressa venga rivista.

es: prob. che la Roma vinca la prossima partita sta intorno a 0.3. con una certa probabilità è 0.3

- Se osservo quindi un certo insieme di dati X, in seguito all'osservazione la prob. di phi sarà data dal fatto che ho osservato X (verde) e che chiamo probabilità a posteriori.





l'idea Byesiana e' guindi de passue en une distribusione a priori ad una a posteriori perche le Millel sono-casuali.

Bayes' rule

Ainta not protegio pron -> posterior.

Cornerstone of bayesian statistics is Bayes' rule

$$p(X = x | \Theta = \theta) = \frac{p(\Theta = \theta | X = x)p(X = x)}{p(\Theta = \theta)}$$

Given two random variables X, Θ , it relates the conditional probabilities $p(X = x | \Theta = \theta)$ and $p(\Theta = \theta | X = x)$.

A lively of algebraic
$$P(x \mid \theta) = \frac{P(\theta \mid x) P(x)}{P(\theta)}$$
. C: interesson $P(x \mid x) = \frac{P(x \mid x) P(x)}{P(x)}$. C: interesson $P(x \mid x) = \frac{P(x \mid x) P(x)}{P(x)}$. Passion quind legal le due probabilité che si interessons.

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Bayesian inference

Given an observed dataset **X** and a family of probability distributions $p(x|\Theta)$ with parameter Θ (a probabilistic model), we wish to find the parameter value which best allows to describe **X** through the model.

In the bayesian framework, we deal with the distribution probability $p(\Theta)$ of the parameter Θ considered here as a random variable. Bayes' rule states that

$$p(\Theta|\mathbf{X}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{X}|\Theta)p(\Theta)}{p(\mathbf{X})}$$

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Bayesian inference

Interpretation

- \odot $p(\Theta)$ stands as the knowledge available about Θ before X is observed (a.k.a. prior distribution)
- $\odot p(\Theta|X)$ stands as the knowledge available about Θ after X is observed (a.k.a. posterior distribution)
- $\underbrace{\quad p(\mathbf{X}|\Theta)}$ measures how much the observed data are coherent to the model, assuming a certain value Θ of the parameter (a.k.a. likelihood)
- ⊚ $p(\mathbf{X}) = \sum_{\Theta'} p(\mathbf{X}|\Theta')p(\Theta')$ is the probability that \mathbf{X} is observed, considered as a mean w.r.t. all possible values of Θ (a.k.a. evidence)
- La débitorine de pade invasur freents & (3), qual e' la puble de visserure une certa segunda de lanci? (X) E' la like liberd.

> p(X) e' la prob. oli quel oluturot <u>in a solut</u>. La calcoli umo fiscado un valve D, calcola p(X | T) e los focio per trobi : D: E' la mono importante ollle 4 peche non olipende da D, e a noi interessa il relore di D.

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 $p(9) \stackrel{\times}{\to} p(9|X) \stackrel{\times}{\to} p(9|X,X')$ se miania X' ho une polo. A pain the 1 P(9|X), quind: il processo er ite notivo. anual : duti seu poeli, allow p(O|X) e' dotermint grosses met du p(J), mentre se i duti direntant tunt, l'effetto d'es else si cae devae tendens a soumire.

E' un processo d'acquisifine di consecutu, un che iterati.

Conjugate distributions

$$p(\theta)$$
 fixen il ruoto thieve

Definition

Given a likelihood function p(y|x), a (prior) distribution p(x) is conjugate to p(y|x) if the posterior distribution p(x|y) is of the same type as p(x).

Consequence

If we look at p(x) as our knowledge of the random variable x before knowing y and with p(x|y) our knowledge once y is known, the new knowledge can be expressed as the old one.

$$P(\theta|X) = \frac{P(X|\theta) P(\theta)}{P(X)}$$

$$P(X|\theta) P(\theta)$$

$$P(X|\theta)$$

$$P(X|\theta) P(\theta)$$

$$P(X|\theta)$$

$$P(X|\theta$$

riette base itentiu moste se le obstribation a prise a a protei si sono della stada funigha, altimonti potra mo mistaire ad andre avanti

Examples of conjugate distributions: beta-bernoulli

The Beta distribution is conjugate to the Bernoulli distribution. In fact, given $x \in [0, 1]$ and $y \in \{0, 1\}$, if

$$\rho(\phi) \longrightarrow p(\phi|\alpha,\beta) = \text{Beta}(\phi|\alpha,\beta) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)}\phi^{\alpha-1}(1-\phi)^{\beta-1}$$

$$p(x|\phi) = \phi^{x}(1-\phi)^{1-x}$$

then

$$p(\phi|x) = \frac{1}{Z}\phi^{\alpha - 1}(1 - \phi)^{\beta - 1}\phi^{x}(1 - \phi)^{1 - x} = \text{Beta}(x|\alpha + x - 1, \beta - x)$$

where Z is the normalization coefficient

$$Z = \int_0^1 \phi^{\alpha+x-1} (1-\phi)^{\beta-x} d\phi = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta+1)}{\Gamma(\alpha+x)\Gamma(\beta-x+1)}$$

produto: ϕ $(1-\phi)^{\beta-\chi}$, stesse forme della Bonoulli an men della costrute $\frac{1}{2}$ => distributione a posteriori la la stessa forma ma i presente sono: $\beta \to \beta-\chi$ } modificati da χ , ma χ sono popos i deti.

Examples of conjugate distributions: beta-binomial

The Beta distribution is also conjugate to the Binomial distribution. In fact, given $x \in [0, 1]$ and $y \in \{0, 1\}$, if

$$\begin{split} p(\phi|\alpha,\beta) &= \mathrm{Beta}(\phi|\alpha,\beta) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)}\phi^{\alpha-1}(1-\phi)^{\beta-1} \\ p(k|\phi,N) &= \binom{N}{k}\phi^k(1-\phi)^{N-k} = \frac{N!}{(N-k)!k!}\phi^N(1-\phi)^{N-k} \end{split}$$

then

$$p(\phi|k,N,\alpha,\beta) = \frac{1}{Z}\phi^{\alpha-1}(1-\phi)^{\beta-1}\phi^k(1-\phi)^{N-k} = \mathrm{Beta}(\phi|\alpha+k-1,\beta+N-k-1)$$

with the normalization coefficient

$$Z = \int_0^1 \phi^{\alpha+k-1} (1-\phi)^{\beta+N-k-1} d\phi = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta+N)}{\Gamma(\alpha+k)\Gamma(\beta+N-k)}$$

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Multivariate distributions

Multinomial

Generalization of the binomial

$$p(n_1, \dots, n_K | \phi_1, \dots, \phi_K, n) = \frac{n!}{\prod_{i=1}^K n_i!} \prod_{i=1}^K \phi_i^{n_i} \qquad \qquad \sum_{i=1}^k n_i = n, \sum_{i=1}^k \phi_i = 1$$

the case n = 1 is a generalization of the Bernoulli distribution

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_K | \phi_1, \dots, \phi_K) = \prod_{i=1}^K \phi_i^{x_i} \qquad \forall i \, : \, x_i \in \{0, 1\}, \sum_{i=1}^K x_i = 1, \sum_{i=1}^K \phi_i = 1$$

Likelihood of a multinomial

$$p(\mathbf{X}|\phi_1,\ldots,\phi_K) = \prod_{i=1}^N \prod_{j=1}^K \phi_j^{x_{ij}} = \prod_{j=1}^K \phi_j^{N_j}$$

Conjugate of the multinomial

Dirichlet distribution

The conjugate of the multinomial is the Dirichlet distribution, generalization of the Beta to the case K > 2

$$\begin{split} p(\phi_1, \dots, \phi_K | \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_K) &= \mathsf{Dir}(\pmb{\phi} | \pmb{\alpha}) = \frac{\Gamma(\sum_{i=1}^K \alpha_i)}{\prod_{i=1}^K \Gamma(\alpha_i)} \prod_{i=1}^K \phi_i^{\alpha_i - 1} \\ &= \frac{1}{\Delta(\pmb{\alpha})} \prod_{i=1}^K \phi_i^{\alpha_i - 1} \end{split}$$

with $\alpha_i > 0$ for i = 1, ..., K

Random variables and Dirichlet distribution

A random variable $\phi = (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_K)$ with Dirichlet distribution takes values on the K-1 dimensional simplex (set of points $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^K$ such that $x_i \ge 0$ for $i = 1, \dots, K$ and $\sum_{i=1}^K x_i = 1$)

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Examples of conjugate distributions: dirichlet-multinomial

Assume $\phi \sim \text{Dir}(\phi|\alpha)$ and $z \sim \text{Mult}(z|\phi)$. Then,

$$\begin{split} p(\phi|z, \pmb{\alpha}) &= \frac{p(z|\phi)p(\phi|\alpha)}{p(z|\alpha)} = \frac{\phi_z p(\phi|\alpha)}{\int_{\pmb{\phi}} p(z|\phi)p(\phi|\alpha)d\pmb{\phi}} \\ &= \frac{\phi_z p(\phi|\alpha)}{\int_{\pmb{\phi}} \phi_z p(\phi|\alpha)d\pmb{\phi}} = \frac{\phi_z p(\phi|\alpha)}{E[\phi_z|\alpha]} \\ &= \frac{\alpha_0}{\alpha_z} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_0)}{\prod_{j=1}^K \Gamma(\alpha_j)} \phi_z \prod_{j=1}^K \phi_j^{\alpha_j-1} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_0+1)}{\prod_{j=1}^K \Gamma(\alpha_j+\delta(j=z))} \prod_{j=1}^K \phi_j^{\alpha_j+\delta(j=z)-1} = \text{Dir}(\pmb{\phi}|\pmb{\alpha}') \end{split}$$

where $\boldsymbol{\alpha'} = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_z + 1, \dots, \alpha_K)$

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Text modeling

Unigram model

Collection \mathbf{W} of N term occurrences: N observations of a same random variable, with multinomial distribution over a dictionary \mathbf{V} of size V.

$$p(\mathbf{W}|\boldsymbol{\phi}) = L(\boldsymbol{\phi}|\mathbf{W}) = \prod_{i=1}^{V} \phi_i^{N_i} \qquad \qquad \sum_{i=1}^{V} \phi_i = 1, \sum_{i=1}^{V} N_i = N$$

Parameter model

Use of a Dirichlet distribution, conjugate to the multinomial

$$p(\boldsymbol{\phi}|\boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \text{Dir}(\boldsymbol{\phi}|\boldsymbol{\alpha})$$

$$p(\boldsymbol{\phi}|\mathbf{W}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^{N} p(w_i|\boldsymbol{\phi}) p(\boldsymbol{\phi}|\boldsymbol{\alpha})}{\int_{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \prod_{i=1}^{N} p(w_i|\boldsymbol{\phi}) p(\boldsymbol{\phi}|\boldsymbol{\alpha}) d\boldsymbol{\phi}} = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{i=1}^{V} \phi_i^{N_i} \frac{1}{\Delta(\boldsymbol{\alpha})} \phi_i^{\alpha_i - 1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\Delta(\boldsymbol{\alpha} + \mathbf{N})} \prod_{i=1}^{V} \phi_i^{N_i + \alpha_i - 1} = \text{Dir}(\boldsymbol{\phi}|\boldsymbol{\alpha} + \mathbf{N})$$

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Information theory

Let *X* be a discrete random variable:

- \odot define a measure h(x) of the information (surprise) of observing X = x
- o requirements:
 - likely events provide low surprise, while rare events provide high surprise: h(x) is inversely proportional to p(x)
 - X, Y independent: the event X = x, Y = y has probability p(x)p(y). Its surprise is the sum of the surprise for X = x and for Y = y, that is, h(x, y) = h(x) + h(y) (information is additive)

this results into $h(x) = -\log x$ (usually base 2)

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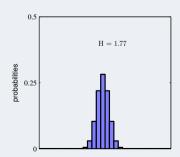
Entropy

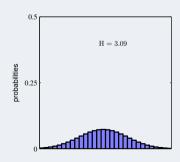
A sender transmits the value of X to a receiver: the expected amount of information transmitted (w.r.t. p(x)) is the entropy of X

$$H(x) = -\sum_{x} p(x) \log_2 p(x)$$

- lower entropy results from more sharply peaked distributions
- the uniform distribution provides the highest entropy

Entropy is a measure of disorder.





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Entropy, some properties

- $oldsymbol{o} p(x) \in [0, 1] \text{ implies } p(x) \log_2 p(x) \le 0 \text{ and } H(X) \ge 0$
- \odot H(X) = 0 if there exists x such that p(x) = 1

Maximum entropy

Given a fixed number k of outcomes, the distribution p_1, \dots, p_k with maximum entropy is derived by maximizing H(X) under the constraint $\sum_{i=1}^k p_i = 1$. By using Lagrange multipliers, this amounts to maximizing

$$-\sum_{i=1}^{k} p_i \log_2 p_i + \lambda \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} p_i - 1\right)$$

Setting the derivative of each p_i to 0,

$$0 = -\log_2 p_i - \log_2 e + \lambda$$

results into $p_i = 2^{\lambda} - e$ for each i, that is into the uniform distribution $p_i = \frac{1}{k}$ and $H(X) = \log_2 k$

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Entropy, some properties

H(X) is a lower bound on the expected number of bits needed to encode the values of X

- \odot trivial approach: code of length $\log_2 k$ (assuming uniform distribution of values for X)
- \odot for non-uniform distributions, better coding schemes by associating shorter codes to likely values of X

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Conditional entropy

Let X, Y be discrete r.v. : for a pair of values x, y the additional information needed to specify y if x is known is $-\ln p(y|x)$.

The expected additional information needed to specify the value of Y if we assume the value of X is known is the conditional entropy of Y given X

$$H(Y|X) = -\sum_{x} \sum_{y} p(x, y) \ln p(y|x)$$

Clearly, since $\ln p(y|x) = \ln p(x, y) - \ln p(x)$

$$H(X,Y) = H(Y|X) + H(X)$$

that is, the information needed to describe (on the average) the values of X and Y is the sum of the information needed to describe the value of X plus that needed to describe the value of Y is X is known.

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KL divergence

Assume the distribution p(x) of X is unknown, and we have modeled is as an approximation q(x).

If we use q(x) to encode values of X we need an average length $-\sum_{x} p(x) \ln q(x)$, while the minimum (known p(x)) is $-\sum_{x} p(x) \ln p(x)$.

The additional amount of information needed, due to the approximation of p(x) through q(x) is the Kullback-Leibler divergence

$$KL(p||q) = -\sum_{x} p(x) \ln q(x) + \sum_{x} p(x) \ln p(x)$$
$$= -\sum_{x} p(x) \ln \frac{q(x)}{p(x)}$$

KL(p||q) measures the difference between the distributions p and q.

- $\odot KL(p||p) = 0$
- $\odot KL(p||q) \neq KL(q||p)$: the function is not symmetric, it is not a distance (it would be d(x, y) = d(y, x))

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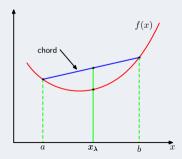
Convexity

A function is convex (in an interval [a, b]) if, for all $0 \le \lambda \le 1$, the following inequality holds

$$f(\lambda a + (1 - \lambda)b) \le \lambda f(a) + (1 - \lambda)f(b)$$

 $\otimes \lambda a + (1 - \lambda)b$ is a point $x \in [a, b]$ and $f(\lambda a + (1 - \lambda)b)$ is the corresponding value of the function

 $\otimes \lambda f(a) + (1-\lambda)f(b) = f(x)$ is the value at $\lambda a + (1-\lambda)b$ of the chord from (a, f(a)) to (b, f(b)).



Jensen's inequality and KL divergence

 \odot If f(x) is a convex function, the Jensen's inequality holds for any set of points x_1, \dots, x_M

$$f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{M} \lambda_i x_i\right) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{M} \lambda_i f(x_i)$$

where $\lambda_i \geq 0$ for all i and $\sum_{i=1}^{M} \lambda_i = 1$.

 \odot In particular, if $\lambda_i = p(x_i)$,

$$f(E[x]) \le E[f(x)]$$

o if x is a continuous variable, this results into

$$f\left(\int xp(x)dx\right) \le \int f(x)p(x)dx$$

 \odot applying the inequality to KL(p||q), since the logarithm is convex,

$$KL(p||q) = -\int p(x) \ln \frac{q(x)}{p(x)} dx \ge -\ln \int q(x) dx = 0$$

thus proving the KL is always non-negative.

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Applying KL divergence

- \odot **x** = $(x_1, ..., x_n)$, dataset generated by a unknown distribution p(x)
- \odot we want to infer the parameters of a probabilistic model $q_{\theta}(x|\theta)$
- o approach: minimize

$$KL(p||q_{\theta}) = -\sum_{x} p(x) \ln \frac{q(x|\theta)}{p(x)}$$

$$\approx -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \ln \frac{q(x_{i}|\theta)}{p(x_{i})}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\ln p(x_{i}) - \ln q(x_{i}|\theta))$$

First term is independent of θ , while the second one is the negative log-likelihood of \mathbf{x} . The value of θ which minimizes $KL(p||q_{\theta})$ also maximizes the log-likelihood.

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Mutual information

Measure of the independence between X and Y

$$I(X,Y) = KL(p(X,Y)||p(X), p(Y)) = -\sum_{x} \sum_{y} p(x,y) \ln \frac{p(x)p(y)}{p(x,y)}$$

additional encoding length if independence is assumed

We have:

$$I(X,Y) = -\sum_{x} \sum_{y} p(x,y) \ln \frac{p(x)p(y)}{p(x,y)}$$

$$= -\sum_{x} \sum_{y} p(x,y) \ln \frac{p(x)p(y)}{p(x|y)p(y)}$$

$$= -\sum_{x} \sum_{y} p(x,y) \ln \frac{p(x)}{p(x|y)}$$

$$= -\sum_{x} \sum_{y} p(x,y) \ln p(x) + \sum_{x} \sum_{y} p(x,y) \ln p(x|y) = H(X) - H(X|Y)$$

⊚ Similarly, it derives I(X,Y) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)

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