

Kullback–Leibler divergence ≥ 0

马浩博 518030910428

May 8, 2020

Proof. We shall prove that $D_{KL}(P||Q) \geq 0$, here D_{KL} means Kullback–Leibler divergence and $D(P||Q) = -\sum_x P(x) \ln \frac{Q(x)}{P(x)}$.

$$-D(P||Q) = \sum_x P(x) \ln \frac{Q(x)}{P(x)} \tag{1}$$

$$\leq \sum_x P(x) \left(\frac{Q(x)}{P(x)} - 1 \right) \tag{2}$$

$$= \sum_x Q(x) - \sum_x P(x) \tag{3}$$

$$= 1 - 1 \tag{4}$$

$$= 0 \tag{5}$$

In the (2) step we use the inequality $\ln x \leq x - 1$. □

proof 2. I recall Jensen's inequality in our textbook when I write the first proof. We can use it to get another proof.

$$-D(P||Q) = \sum_x P(x) \ln \frac{Q(x)}{P(x)} \quad (6)$$

$$\leq \ln \sum_x P(x) \frac{Q(x)}{P(x)} \quad (7)$$

$$= \ln \sum_x Q(x) \quad (8)$$

$$= \ln 1 \quad (9)$$

$$= 0 \quad (10)$$

In the (7) step we use Jensen's inequality. □