

COMP2610/COMP6261 – Information Theory

Tutorial 6

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Question 1. Entropy

Let $p = (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_m)$ be a probability distribution on m elements, i.e. $p_i \geq 0$, and $\sum_{i=1}^m p_i = 1$. Define a new distribution q on $m-1$ elements as $q_1 = p_1, q_2 = p_2, \dots, q_{m-2} = p_{m-2}$, and $q_{m-1} = p_{m-1} + p_m$, i.e., the distribution q is the same as p on any $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m-2\}$, and the probability of the last element in q is the sum of the last two probabilities of p . Show that

$$H(p) = H(q) + (p_{m-1} + p_m) H\left(\frac{p_{m-1}}{p_{m-1} + p_m}, \frac{p_m}{p_{m-1} + p_m}\right).$$

Question 2. Mutual Information and Relative Entropy

Let X, Y, Z be three random variables with a joint probability mass function $p(X, Y, Z)$.

(a). Show that

$$I(X, Y, Z) = I(Y, Z, X) = I(Z, X, Y).$$

(b). The relative entropy between the joint distribution and the product of the marginals is $D(p(X, Y, Z) || p(X)p(Y)p(Z))$. Show that

$$D(p(X, Y, Z) || p(X)p(Y)p(Z)) = I(X, Y) + I(X, Y, Z).$$

Question 3. Markov Chain

Suppose a Markov chain $X_1 \rightarrow X_2 \rightarrow X_3$ starts in one of n states, i.e., $X_1 \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. Suppose X_2 will go down to $k \leq n$ states, i.e., $X_2 \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$. Then X_3 go back to $m > k$ states, i.e., $X_3 \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$.

(a). What is the upper bound of $I(X_1; X_3)$?

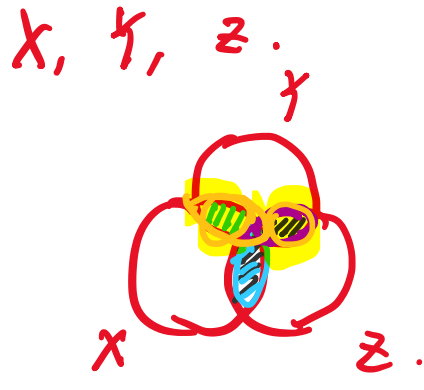
(b). Evaluate $I(X_1; X_3)$ for $k = 1$, and conclude that no dependence can survive.

Question 4. Inequalities

A coin is known to land heads with probability $\frac{1}{5}$. The coin is flipped N times for some even integer N .

(a). Using Markov's inequality, provide a bound on the probability of observing $\frac{N}{2}$ or more heads.

(b). Using Chernoff's inequality, provide a bound on the probability of observing $\frac{N}{2}$ or more heads. Express your answer in terms of N .



LHS = $H(Z) - H(Z|X, Y)$

$$= H(Z) - (H(X) - H(X|Y, Z)) = H(Z) - H(X) + H(X|Y, Z) - H(Z|X, Y) \quad (1)$$

RHS = $H(Z) - H(Z|Y)$

$$= H(Z) - H(X) + H(X|Y) - H(Z|Y) \quad (2)$$

$$(1) - (2) = (H(X|Y, Z) + H(Z|Y)) - (H(X|Y) + H(Z|X, Y)) = H(X, Z|Y)$$

$$= 0 \Rightarrow (1) = (2) \Rightarrow LHS = RHS.$$

b.

$$D(p(X, Y, Z) || p(X)p(Y)p(Z)) = \sum_{x, y, z} p(x, y, z) \cdot \log \frac{p(x, y, z)}{p(x)p(y)p(z)}.$$

$$= \left[\sum_{x, y, z} p(x, y, z) \log p(x, y, z) \right] - \sum_{x, y, z} p(x, y, z) \log p(x)p(y)p(z)$$

$$= -H(X, Y, Z) - \left[\sum_{x, y, z} p(x, y, z) \log p(x) \right] - \left[\sum_{x, y, z} p(x, y, z) \log p(y) \right] - \left[\sum_{x, y, z} p(x, y, z) \log p(z) \right]$$

$$= -H(X, Y, Z) + H(X) + H(Y) + H(Z).$$

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

$$= I(X; Y) + I(Z; X, Y).$$

$$X^N = X_1, \dots, X_N$$

(a).
$$P(X^N \geq \frac{N}{2}) \leq \frac{E[X^N]}{N/2} = \frac{N E[X]}{N/2} = \frac{N \cdot \frac{1}{5}}{N/2} = \frac{2}{5}$$

(b).
$$P(|X^N - E[X^N]| \geq \lambda) \leq \frac{V[X^N]}{\lambda^2}$$

$$P(|X^N - E[X^N]| \geq \lambda) = P(X^N - E[X^N] \geq \lambda) + P(X^N - E[X^N] \leq -\lambda)$$

$$= P(X^N \geq \lambda + E[X^N]) + P(X^N \leq E[X^N] - \lambda)$$

$$= P(X^N \geq \lambda + \frac{N}{5}) + P(X^N \leq \frac{N}{5} - \lambda)$$

$$X^N \geq \frac{N}{2} \quad \lambda = \frac{3N}{10}$$

$$= P(X^N \geq \frac{N}{2}) + P(X^N \leq -\frac{N}{10}) = 0$$

$$= P(X^N \geq \frac{N}{2})$$

$$\frac{N}{2} \text{ more heads}$$

$$\textcircled{1} P(|X^N - \frac{N}{5}| \geq \frac{3N}{10}) \leq \frac{V[X^N]}{(\frac{3N}{10})^2} = \frac{\frac{4N}{25}}{\frac{9N^2}{100}} = \frac{16}{9N}$$