

We will describe:

1. Mathematical Definition
 2. Step-by-Step Algorithm
 3. Pseudocode
 4. Time Complexity
 5. How it contributes to final Drift decision
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Production Signal Drift Analyzer

Algorithms for Measuring Data Drift

Mean Shift (Location Drift)

Purpose

Measures change in central tendency between reference and live data.

If the center of distribution moves → location drift.

Mathematical Definition

$$\mu_R = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n R_i$$

$$\mu_L = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m L_i$$

$$\Delta_\mu = |\mu_R - \mu_L|$$

Algorithm Steps

1. Compute mean of reference dataset.
 2. Compute mean of live dataset.
 3. Compute absolute difference.
 4. Compare with threshold.
-

Pseudocode

```
FUNCTION MeanShift(reference, live):  
  
    mean_ref = SUM(reference) / LENGTH(reference)  
    mean_live = SUM(live) / LENGTH(live)  
  
    delta_mu = ABS(mean_ref - mean_live)  
  
    RETURN delta_mu
```

Complexity

$O(n + m)$

Interpretation

Small $\Delta\mu \rightarrow$ Stable

Moderate $\Delta\mu \rightarrow$ Slight Drift

Large $\Delta\mu \rightarrow$ Major Drift

2 Variance Shift (Spread Drift)

Purpose

Measures change in dispersion (spread) of values.

Even if means match, variance may change.

Mathematical Definition

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum (x - \mu)^2$$

$$\Delta_\sigma = |\sigma_R - \sigma_L|$$

Algorithm Steps

1. Compute mean.
2. Compute variance.
3. Take square root \rightarrow standard deviation.
4. Compute absolute difference.

Pseudocode

```
FUNCTION VarianceShift(reference, live):  
  
    mean_ref = compute_mean(reference)  
    mean_live = compute_mean(live)  
  
    std_ref = sqrt(SUM((x - mean_ref)^2) / n)  
    std_live = sqrt(SUM((x - mean_live)^2) / m)  
  
    delta_sigma = ABS(std_ref - std_live)  
  
    RETURN delta_sigma
```

Complexity

$O(n + m)$

Interpretation

Spread widening → increased uncertainty

Spread shrinking → over-concentration

3 Distribution Shape Shift (Modality Change)

Purpose

Detects structural change (unimodal → bimodal)

Mean and variance may look similar, but shape differs.

Concept

Convert data into histogram bins.

Count number of local peaks.

If peak count changes → structural drift.



Algorithm Steps

1. Find global min and max.
 2. Create fixed number of bins.
 3. Build histogram.
 4. Count local maxima.
-



Pseudocode

```
FUNCTION CountPeaks(data, bins):  
  
    min_val = MIN(data)  
    max_val = MAX(data)  
  
    IF min_val == max_val:  
        RETURN 1  
  
    width = (max_val - min_val) / bins  
  
    histogram = ARRAY[bins] initialized to 0  
  
    FOR each value in data:  
        index = FLOOR((value - min_val) / width)  
        IF index == bins:  
            index = bins - 1  
        histogram[index] += 1  
  
    peaks = 0  
  
    FOR i from 1 to bins-2:  
        IF histogram[i] > histogram[i-1] AND histogram[i] > histogram[i+1]:  
            peaks += 1  
  
    RETURN MAX(peaks, 1)
```



Complexity

O(n)



Interpretation

Peak change → Bimodal Shift
Highest priority drift type

Distribution Divergence (Histogram Distance)

Purpose

Measures overall probability mass difference.

Unlike mean or variance, this captures full distribution difference.

Mathematical Definition

Let:

$$P(i) = \frac{count_{ref}(i)}{n}$$

$$Q(i) = \frac{count_{live}(i)}{m}$$

Histogram Distance:

$$D = \frac{1}{2} \sum |P(i) - Q(i)|$$

Range:

$$0 \leq D \leq 1$$

Algorithm Steps

1. Define common bins.
 2. Build histograms for both datasets.
 3. Normalize to probabilities.
 4. Compute total variation distance.
-

Pseudocode

```
FUNCTION HistogramDistance(reference, live, bins):
```

```
    min_val = MIN(global)
```

```
    max_val = MAX(global)
```

```
width = (max_val - min_val) / bins
```

```
hist_ref = ARRAY[bins]
```

```
hist_live = ARRAY[bins]
```

```
FILL histograms
```

```
FOR i in bins:
```

```
    p = hist_ref[i] / n
```

```
    q = hist_live[i] / m
```

```
    divergence += ABS(p - q)
```

```
RETURN divergence / 2
```



Complexity

$O(n + \text{bins})$



Interpretation

0 → identical

0.1–0.3 → moderate

0.4 → strong drift



Final Data Drift Decision Algorithm

Combine all metrics:



Unified Drift Algorithm

```
FUNCTION DetectDrift(reference, live):
```

```
    delta_mu = MeanShift(reference, live)
```

```
    delta_sigma = VarianceShift(reference, live)
```

```
    peaks_ref = CountPeaks(reference)
```

```
    peaks_live = CountPeaks(live)
```

```
divergence = HistogramDistance(reference, live)
```

```
IF peaks_ref != peaks_live:
```

```
    RETURN "Bimodal Shift"
```

```
ELSE IF divergence >= 0.4:
```

```
    RETURN "Major Drift"
```

```
ELSE IF divergence >= 0.15:
```

```
    RETURN "Slight Drift"
```

```
ELSE:
```

```
    RETURN "Stable"
```



Summary Table

Component	Detects	Sensitive To
Mean Shift	Location change	Translation
Variance Shift	Spread change	Scaling
Shape Shift	Structure	Multi-peak
Histogram Distance	Overall probability change	Global differences

Overall Time Complexity

$O(n + m)$