

Task12

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This task is about minimizing the expression $E[L] = \sum_i p_i L_i$ under the constraint $\sum_i 2^{-L_i} = 1$ and then prove that $L_i = \log_2 \left(\frac{1}{p_i} \right)$

Proof: This is a minimizing problem that can be solved with Lagrange method:

$$\begin{aligned} \min H(x) &= \sum_{i=1}^m p_i \cdot L_i + \lambda \cdot (1 - \sum_{i=1}^m 2^{-L_i}) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad &\sum_{i=1}^m 2^{-L_i} = 1 \\ &L_i \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

With Lagrangian optimization, it obtains:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{i=1}^m p_i \cdot L_i + \lambda \cdot (1 - \sum_{i=1}^m 2^{-L_i})$$

Solving the derivatives with respect to i and set them to zero, obtains:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial L_i} &= p_i + \lambda \cdot \ln(2) \cdot 2^{-L_i} = 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow 2^{-L_i} &= -\frac{p_i}{\lambda \cdot \ln(2)} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Now, let's derivative with respect to λ :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \lambda} &= 1 - \sum_{i=1}^m 2^{-L_i} = 0 \\ 1 - \sum_{i=1}^m 2^{-L_i} &= 0 \\ \sum_{i=1}^m 2^{-L_i} &= 1 \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Combining (1) into (2) in order to calculate the value of λ yields:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^m -\frac{p_i}{\lambda \cdot \ln(2)} &= 1 \Leftrightarrow -\frac{1}{\lambda \cdot \ln(2)} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^m p_i = 1 \\ \Leftrightarrow \lambda &= -\frac{1}{\ln(2)} \quad (3), \text{ since } \sum_{i=1}^m p_i = 1 \end{aligned}$$

The last step is calculating L_i , and it can be don by combining (3) into (1):

$$p_i - \frac{\ln(1)}{\ln(2)} \cdot 2^{-L_i} = 0 \Leftrightarrow p_i = 2^{-L_i}$$

$$\log_2 p_i = -L_i \Leftrightarrow L_i = \log_2 \frac{1}{p_i}$$

Compute the second derivative on $L_i = \log_2 \frac{1}{p_i}$ yields $\frac{1}{2^{L_i}} \cdot \ln(2) > 0$ which means $E(L_i)$ reaches a global minimum and $L_i = \log_2 \frac{1}{p_i}$ is its minimizer \square