

Detection theory and its industrial applications

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(January, 2023)

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Instructions

- This file is the answer of the **Hoeffding's Inequality for a Sum of Random Variables**.

Hoeffding's Inequality for a Sum of Random Variables

Notations

- $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, l\} : 0 \leq X_i \leq 1$
- $S_t = \sum_{i=1}^l X_i$
- $p = \mathbb{E}[\frac{S_t}{l}]$
- $p_i = \mathbb{E}[X_i]$

Question 1

Below is the plot of the function $h(p)$ on the interval $[0, 1]$.

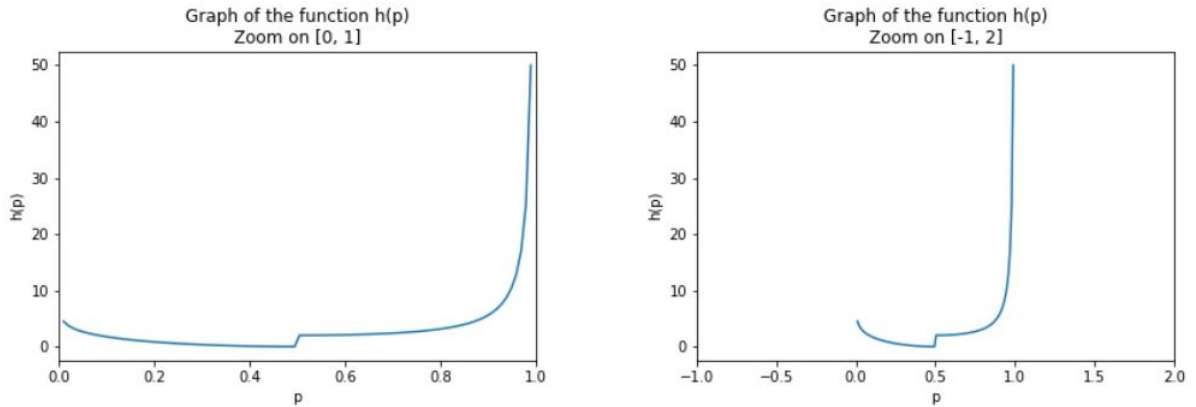


Figure 1: Question 1 with Python.

Question 2

Let X be a random variable such that $a \leq X \leq b$.

By convexity, it's known that for $x, y \in \text{dom}(f)$, and $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in [0, 1]$ that $f(\lambda_1 x + \lambda_2 y) \leq \lambda_1 f(x) + \lambda_2 f(y)$.

Hence as $\frac{b-x}{b-a}, \frac{x-a}{b-a} \geq 0$, it comes that :

$$e^{\lambda x} = e^{\lambda(\frac{b-x}{b-a}a + \frac{x-a}{b-a}b)} \leq \frac{b-x}{b-a}e^{\lambda a} + \frac{x-a}{b-a}e^{\lambda b}$$

$$\implies \boxed{\mathbb{E}[e^{\lambda X}] \leq \frac{b-\mathbb{E}[X]}{b-a}e^{\lambda a} + \frac{\mathbb{E}[X]-a}{b-a}e^{\lambda b}}$$

Question 3First part of the question

Let's show that $\mathbb{1}_{x \geq 0} \leq e^{\lambda x}$ for $\lambda > 0$.

- If $x < 0 \implies \mathbb{1}_{x \geq 0} = 0$, and $e^{\lambda x} \geq 0 \forall x < 0 \implies \mathbb{1}_{x \geq 0} \leq e^{\lambda x}$ for $x < 0$.

- Else, if $x \geq 0 \implies \mathbb{1}_{x \geq 0} = 1$, and $\min_{x \geq 0} e^{\lambda x} = e^0 = 1 \implies \mathbb{1}_{x \geq 0} \leq e^{\lambda x}$ for $x \geq 0$.

Hence for $\lambda > 0$,

$$\boxed{\mathbb{1}_{x \geq 0} \leq e^{\lambda x}}$$

Second part of the question

Let's show that $\mathbb{P}[S_t \geq l(p+t)] \leq e^{-\lambda(p+t)l} \prod_{i=1}^l \mathbb{E}[e^{\lambda X_i}]$

Starting with the first part of the question applied to $\mathbb{1}_{S_t - \mathbb{E}[S_t] - lt \geq 0}$, it comes that :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{1}_{S_t - \mathbb{E}[S_t] - lt \geq 0} &\leq e^{\lambda(S_t - \mathbb{E}[S_t] - lt)} \implies \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{1}_{S_t - \mathbb{E}[S_t] - lt \geq 0}] \leq \mathbb{E}[e^{\lambda(S_t - \mathbb{E}[S_t] - lt)}] \\ \implies \mathbb{P}[S_t - \mathbb{E}[S_t] - lt \geq 0] &= \mathbb{P}[S_t - pl - lt \geq 0] = \mathbb{P}[S_t \geq l(p+t)] \leq e^{-\lambda(\mathbb{E}[S_t] + lt)} \mathbb{E}[e^{\lambda S_t}] \\ \implies \boxed{\mathbb{P}[S_t \geq l(p+t)]} &\leq e^{-\lambda l(p+t)} \prod_{i=1}^l \mathbb{E}[e^{\lambda X_i}] \text{ since } X_1, \dots, X_l \text{ i.i.d.} \end{aligned}$$

Question 4

With the result of Question 2, it comes that :

$$\mathbb{E}[e^{\lambda X_i}] \leq \frac{1 - \mathbb{E}[X_i]}{1} e^0 + \frac{\mathbb{E}[X_i]}{1} e^\lambda = 1 - \mathbb{E}[X_i] + e^\lambda \mathbb{E}[X_i] = 1 - p_i + e^\lambda p_i$$

Hence,

$$\boxed{\prod_{i=1}^l \mathbb{E}[X_i] \leq \prod_{i=1}^l (1 - p_i + e^\lambda p_i)}$$

Finally, if the X_i 's are Bernoulli random variables, their values are in the range $[0, 1]$ since the support of a Bernoulli random variable is $\{0, 1\}$. So the above inequality holds.

Question 5

Let's show that $(\prod_{i=1}^l a_i)^{\frac{1}{l}} \leq \frac{1}{l} \sum_{i=1}^l a_i$

Since the log function is concave, the Jensen's inequality can be used :

$$\log\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^l a_i}{l}\right) \geq \sum_{i=1}^l \frac{\log(a_i)}{l} = \frac{1}{l} \sum_{i=1}^l \log(a_i) = \frac{1}{l} \log\left(\prod_{i=1}^l a_i\right) = \log\left(\left(\prod_{i=1}^l a_i\right)^{\frac{1}{l}}\right)$$

By taking the antilog on the left and right sides, it comes that :

$$\boxed{\left(\prod_{i=1}^l a_i\right)^{\frac{1}{l}} \leq \frac{1}{l} \sum_{i=1}^l a_i}$$

Question 6

Let's show that $\prod_{i=1}^l \mathbb{E}[e^{\lambda X_i}] \leq (1 - p - pe^\lambda)^l$
Starting with Question 4, it comes that :

$$\prod_{i=1}^l \mathbb{E}[X_i] \leq \prod_{i=1}^l (1 - p_i + e^\lambda p_i) = \prod_{i=1}^l (1 - p_i + e^\lambda p_i) = \left(\prod_{i=1}^l (1 - p_i + e^\lambda p_i) \right)^{\frac{1}{l}}$$

Then with Question 5, it comes that :

$$\prod_{i=1}^l \mathbb{E}[X_i] \leq \left(\frac{1}{l} \sum_{i=1}^l (1 - p_i + e^\lambda p_i) \right)^l = \left(1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^l \mathbb{E}[X_i]}{l} - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^l \mathbb{E}[X_i]}{l} e^\lambda \right)^l = (1 - p - pe^\lambda)^l$$

So finally,

$$\boxed{\prod_{i=1}^l \mathbb{E}[e^{\lambda X_i}] \leq (1 - p - pe^\lambda)^l}$$

Question 7

From Question 3 and Question 6, it comes that:

$$\mathbb{P}[S_t \geq (p+t)l] \leq e^{-\lambda(p+t)l} \prod_{i=1}^l \mathbb{E}[e^{\lambda X_i}] \leq e^{-\lambda(p+t)l} (1 - p + pe^\lambda)^l$$

To find the minimum in λ , let's define : $f(\lambda) = \log(e^{-\lambda(p+t)l} (1 - p + pe^\lambda)^l)$ since the log function is positive and monotone on its domain definition.

It comes that :

$$\begin{aligned} f(\lambda) &= l(-\lambda(p+t) + \log(1 - p + pe^\lambda)) \\ \implies \frac{\partial f(\lambda)}{\partial \lambda} &= l(-\lambda(p+t) + \frac{pe^\lambda}{1 - p + pe^\lambda}) = 0 \\ &\iff \frac{pe^\lambda}{1 - p + pe^\lambda} = p + t \\ \iff e^\lambda &= \frac{(p+t)(1-p)}{p(1-p-t)} \iff \boxed{\lambda = \log\left(\frac{(p+t)(1-p)}{p(1-p-t)}\right)} \end{aligned}$$

To show that λ is positive when $0 < t < 1 - p$, it's needed to show that $\frac{(1-p)(p+t)}{p(1-p-t)} > 1$. Hence :

$$\frac{(1-p)(p+t)}{p(1-p-t)} > 1 \iff p+t-p^2-pt > p-p^2-pt \iff t > 0$$

Hence,

$$\boxed{\lambda = \log\left(\frac{(p+t)(1-p)}{p(1-p-t)}\right) > 0 \text{ when } 0 < t < 1 - p}$$

Finally, let's obtain the first Hoeffding inequality.

$$\mathbb{P}[S_t \geq (p+t)l] \leq e^{-\lambda(p+t)l} (1 - p + pe^\lambda)^l = (e^{-\lambda(p+t)} (1 - p + pe^\lambda))^l$$

Moreover, it can be shown that :

$$e^{-\lambda(p+t)} (1 - p + pe^\lambda) = \left(\frac{(p+t)(1-p)}{p(1-p-t)} \right)^{-p-t} \left(1 - p + p \frac{(p+t)(1-p)}{p(1-p-t)} \right)^1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left(\frac{p}{p+t}\right)^{p+t} \left(\frac{1-p}{1-p-t}\right)^{-p-t} \left(\frac{(1-p)(1-p-t) + (p+t)(1-p)}{1-p-t}\right)^1 \\
&= \left(\frac{p}{p+t}\right)^{p+t} \left(\frac{1-p}{1-p-t}\right)^{-p-t} \left(\frac{(1-p)(1-p-t+p+t)}{1-p-t}\right)^1 \\
&= \left(\frac{p}{p+t}\right)^{p+t} \left(\frac{1-p}{1-p-t}\right)^{-p-t} \left(\frac{1-p}{1-p-t}\right)^1 \\
&= \left(\frac{p}{p+t}\right)^{p+t} \left(\frac{1-p}{1-p-t}\right)^{1-p-t}
\end{aligned}$$

So finally,

$$\boxed{\mathbb{P}[S_t \geq (p+t)l] \leq \left(\frac{p}{p+t}\right)^{l(p+t)} \left(\frac{1-p}{1-p-t}\right)^{l(1-p-t)}}$$

Question 8

Let's define $G(t, p) = \frac{p+t}{t^2} \log\left(\frac{p+t}{p}\right) + \frac{1-p-t}{t^2} \log\left(\frac{1-p-t}{1-p}\right)$, it comes that :

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial G(t, p)}{\partial t} &= \frac{t^2 - 2t(p+t)}{t^4} \log\left(\frac{p+t}{p}\right) + \frac{\frac{1}{p} p+t}{\frac{p+t}{p} t^2} + \frac{-t^2 - 2t(1-p-t)}{t^4} \log\left(\frac{1-p-t}{1-p}\right) + \frac{1-p-t}{t^2} \frac{\frac{-1}{1-p}}{\frac{1-p-t}{1-p}} \\
&= \frac{t^2 - 2t(p+t)}{t^4} \log\left(\frac{p+t}{p}\right) + \frac{1}{t} + \frac{-t^2 - 2t(1-p-t)}{t^4} \log\left(\frac{1-p-t}{1-p}\right) - \frac{1}{t^2} \\
&\implies t^2 \frac{\partial G(t, p)}{\partial t} = (1 - 2\frac{p+t}{t}) \log\left(\frac{p+t}{p}\right) - (1 + 2\frac{1-p-t}{t}) \log\left(\frac{1-p-t}{1-p}\right) \\
&= -(1 - 2\frac{p+t}{t}) \log\left(1 - \frac{t}{t+p}\right) - (-1 + 2\frac{1-p}{t}) \log\left(1 - \frac{t}{1-p}\right) \\
&= -(1 - 2\frac{p+t}{t}) \log\left(1 - \frac{t}{t+p}\right) + (1 - 2\frac{1-p}{t}) \log\left(1 - \frac{t}{1-p}\right) \\
&= (1 - 2\frac{1-p}{t}) \log\left(1 - \frac{t}{1-p}\right) - (1 - 2\frac{p+t}{t}) \log\left(1 - \frac{t}{t+p}\right) \\
&\implies \boxed{t^2 \frac{\partial G(t, p)}{\partial t} = H\left(\frac{t}{1-p}\right) - H\left(\frac{t}{t+p}\right)}
\end{aligned}$$

Then with Taylor series, it can be shown that :

$$\begin{aligned}
\log(1-x) &= -x - \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4} - \frac{x^5}{5} + \mathcal{O}(x^6) \\
\implies H(x) &= (1 - \frac{2}{x}) \log(1-x) = (1 - \frac{2}{x}) \left(-x - \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4} - \frac{x^5}{5} + \mathcal{O}(x^6)\right) \\
\implies H(x) &= -x - \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4} + 2 + x + \frac{2}{3}x^2 + \frac{x^3}{2} + \frac{2}{5}x^5 + \dots \\
\implies H(x) &= 2 + \left(\frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{2}\right)x^2 + \left(\frac{2}{4} - \frac{1}{3}\right)x^3 + \left(\frac{2}{5} - \frac{1}{4}\right)x^4 + \dots
\end{aligned}$$

Then, to show that $H(x)$ is increasing for $0 < x < 1$, it can be shown that :

$$H'(x) = 2\left(\frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{2}\right)x + 3\left(\frac{2}{4} - \frac{1}{3}\right)x^2 + 4\left(\frac{2}{5} - \frac{1}{4}\right)x^3 > 0 \text{ for } 0 < x < 1 \implies \boxed{H(x) \text{ is increasing for } 0 < x < 1.}$$

Then, it can be shown that :

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial G(t,p)}{\partial t} > 0 &\iff \frac{1}{t^2}(H(\frac{t}{1-p}) - H(\frac{t}{t+p})) > 0 \iff H(\frac{t}{1-p}) - H(\frac{t}{t+p}) > 0 \\ &\iff \frac{t}{1-p} > \frac{t}{t+p} \text{ since } H(x) \text{ is increasing with } 0 < x < 1 \\ &\iff t(p+t) > t(1-p) \iff t > 1-2p\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial G(t,p)}{\partial t} > 0 \iff t > 1-2p}$$

Finally, we got that :

$$\frac{\partial G(1-2p,p)}{\partial t} = 0$$

which leads to :

$$\begin{aligned}G(1-2p,p) &= \frac{p+1-2p}{(1-2p)^2} \log(\frac{p+1-2p}{(1-2p)^2}) + \frac{1-p-1+2p}{(1-2p)^2} \log(\frac{1-p-1+2p}{1-p}) \\ &= \frac{1-p}{(1-2p)^2} \log(\frac{1-p}{p}) + \frac{p}{(1-2p)^2} \log(\frac{p}{1-p}) = \frac{1-2p}{(1-2p)^2} \log(\frac{1-p}{p})\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\boxed{h(p) = \frac{1}{1-2p} \log(\frac{1-p}{p})}$$

Question 9

It has been shown that $G(t,p)$ attains its minimum for $t = 1-2p$. If $1-2p \leq 0$, it comes that $G(t,p)$ attains its minimum when $t \rightarrow 0$. In such case, we have that :

$$\boxed{\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} G(t,p) = \frac{1}{2p(1-p)} = h(p)}$$

Finally we got have :

$$h(\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} (1 - \frac{1}{2})} = 2$$

Moreover $h(p)$ attains its minimum when $p = \frac{1}{2}$ since :

$$h'(p) = \frac{4p-2}{(2p(1-p))^2} = 0 \iff p = \frac{1}{2}$$

So finally we have that $\boxed{h(p) \geq h(\frac{1}{2}) = 2}$ and the proof is complete :

$$P[S_t \geq (p+t)l] \leq (\frac{p}{p+t})^{l(p+t)} (\frac{1-p}{1-p-t})^{l(1-p-t)} \leq e^{-lt^2 h(p)} \leq e^{-2lt^2}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}h(p) &= \frac{1}{1-2p} \log(\frac{1-p}{p}) \text{ if } 0 < p < \frac{1}{2} \\ \text{and } h(p) &= \frac{1}{2p(1-p)} \text{ if } \frac{1}{2} \leq p < 1\end{aligned}$$

End of homework 2 - Thank you for reading.