

JENSEN'S INEQUALITY: If 'f' is a convex function and X is a random variable,

$$E f(X) \geq f(EX)$$

[ref: Elements of Information Theory; Cover and Thomas IInd Edition.]

Proof: Principle of Induction;

→ First, we will prove it two-mass point distribution ($n=2$), then for any n . (x_1, x_2)

$$E(X) = \underbrace{p_1 x_1 + p_2 x_2}_{\text{convex combination of } (x_1, x_2)} ; \quad p_1 + p_2 = 1 \quad p_1, p_2 \in [0, 1]$$

Given that 'f' is convex over X .

$$f(p_1 x_1 + p_2 x_2) \leq \underbrace{p_1 f(x_1) + p_2 f(x_2)}_{E f(X)}$$

$$f(EX) \leq E f(X)$$

→ We, will assume that is true for a k -mass point distribution, and then show that it will be true for a $(k+1)$ -mass point distribution.

Proposition: Inductively, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are n -points in a convex set, then $\lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n$ where $\lambda_i \geq 0$ $i=1, \dots, n$ and $\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = 1$, is a convex combination of n -points of a convex set.

Proof: It is trivially, for $k=2$,

$$\lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 \quad \begin{array}{l} x_1, x_2 \in X \\ \lambda_1, \lambda_2 \geq 0 \\ \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = 1 \end{array}$$

→ Assume that it is true for some k ($k \geq 2$)
Then, r.p.s. it is also true for $k+1$.

$$(\lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_k x_k) + (\lambda_{k+1} x_{k+1}) \in \text{convex set } S$$

$$\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_k + \lambda_{k+1} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_k = 1 - \lambda_{k+1} \quad \lambda_i \geq 0 \quad i=1, \dots, k+1$$

$$(1 - \lambda_{k+1}) \left[\frac{\lambda_1 x_1}{1 - \lambda_{k+1}} + \frac{\lambda_2 x_2}{1 - \lambda_{k+1}} + \dots + \frac{\lambda_k x_k}{1 - \lambda_{k+1}} \right] + \lambda_{k+1} x_{k+1}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \lambda'_1 & \lambda'_2 & \dots & \lambda'_n \\ \lambda'_1 + \lambda'_2 + \dots + \lambda'_n = \frac{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_k}{1 - \lambda_{k+1}} = \frac{1 - \lambda_{k+1}}{1 - \lambda_{k+1}} = 1 \end{matrix}$$

\in convex, being convex combination of k -pts from convex set.

point in the convex set.

Proposition: Inductively, $x_i \in S$ a convex set

$$f(\lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n) \leq \lambda_1 f(x_1) + \lambda_2 f(x_2) + \dots + \lambda_n f(x_n)$$

$$\lambda_i \geq 0 \quad i=1, \dots, n$$

$$\sum \lambda_i = 1$$

\rightarrow It is trivially true for $n=2$;

\rightarrow Assume that it is true for some k , and prove it for $k+1$.

\rightarrow

$$\lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n + \lambda_{n+1} x_{n+1} \quad \text{where } \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = 1, \lambda_i \geq 0$$

$$f \left[(1 - \lambda_{n+1}) \frac{\lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n}{1 - \lambda_{n+1}} + \lambda_{n+1} x_{n+1} \right]$$

$\in S$

$$\leq (1 - \lambda_{n+1}) f(\lambda'_1 x_1 + \lambda'_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda'_n x_n) + \lambda_{n+1} f(x_{n+1})$$

$$\leq (1 - \lambda_{n+1}) [\lambda'_1 f(x_1) + \lambda'_2 f(x_2) + \dots + \lambda'_n f(x_n)] + \lambda_{n+1} f(x_{n+1})$$

$$= \lambda_1 f(x_1) + \lambda_2 f(x_2) + \dots + \lambda_n f(x_n) + \lambda_{n+1} f(x_{n+1})$$

$$f(\lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n) \leq \lambda_1 f(x_1) + \lambda_2 f(x_2) + \dots + \lambda_n f(x_n)$$

Jensen's Inequality.

$$\lambda_1 = p_1, \lambda_2 = p_2, \dots, \lambda_n = p_n.$$

$$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n.$$

$$f(\lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n) \leq \lambda_1 f(x_1) + \lambda_2 f(x_2) + \dots + \lambda_n f(x_n)$$

$$f(E X) \leq E f(X)$$