

Homework 2 (Deadline: Apr 22)

- (10 pts) Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be a symmetric and positive definite matrix, and let $g \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_n)$. Try to develop a Bernstein type upper tail for the deviation of $X = g^T A g$ from its mean.
- (10 pts) In Lecture 2, we have shown that if

$$\text{Ent} \left[e^{\lambda X} \right] \lesssim \lambda^2 \nu^2 \mathbb{E} \left[e^{\lambda X} \right] \quad \text{for all } \lambda \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (1.1)$$

then X is sub-Gaussian with parameter ν . We have also given two examples (Gaussian and bounded random variables) such that (1.1) holds. This question asks you show that (1.1) holds for all the sub-Gaussian random variables. More precisely, show that if X is $\frac{\nu^2}{4}$ -sub-Gaussian, then (1.1) holds.

- (10 pts) Consider a random variable X taking values in \mathbb{R} with pdf of the form

$$p_\theta(x) = h(x) e^{\langle \theta, T(x) \rangle - \phi(\theta)},$$

where $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$. Assume $\nabla \phi(\theta)$ is L -Lipschitz, i.e.,

$$\|\nabla \phi(\theta_1) - \nabla \phi(\theta_2)\|_2 \leq L \|\theta_1 - \theta_2\|_2.$$

For a fixed unit-norm vector $v \in \mathbb{R}^d$, show that the random variable $Z = \langle v, T(X) \rangle$ is sub-Gaussian.

- (10 pts) Verify that the equality in the tensorization property of entropy (Theorem 2.11 of Lecture 2) holds for

$$g(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \exp \left(\lambda \sum_{k=1}^n X_k \right),$$

where X_1, \dots, X_n are independent.

- (10 pts) Compute the KL divergence between two multivariate Gaussian distributions $\mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \Sigma_1)$ and $\mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \Sigma_2)$, where $\mu_1, \mu \in \mathbb{R}^d$ are the means and $\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ are two covariance matrices which are symmetric and positive definite.
- (10 pts) Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ be a random matrix with each entry being i.i.d bounded random variables in $[a, b]$. Show that the spectral norm of A (i.e., $\|A\|_2$) is sub-Gaussian.
- (10 pts) Let $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$ and $b = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$ be two probability measures defined on the discrete space $\mathcal{X} = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$. Assume the metric (transportation cost per unit) has the following form

$$d(x_i, x_j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x_i = x_j, \\ 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Compute the Wasserstein distance $W_1(a, b)$.