

dit: a Python package for discrete information theory

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Software

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Summary

dit("Dit: A Python Package for Discrete Information Theory. Available at: Https://Github.com/Dit/Dit" n.d.) is a Python package for the study of discrete information theory. Information theory is a mathematical framework for the study of quantifying, compressing, and communicating random variables (Cover and Thomas 2006)(MacKay 2003)(Yeung 2008). More recently, information theory has been utilized within the physical and social sciences to quantify how different components of a system interact. dit is primarily concerned with this aspect of the theory.

dit implements the vast majority of information measure defined in the literature, including entropies (Shannon(Cover and Thomas 2006), Renyi, Tsallis), multivariate mutual informations (co-information(Bell 2003)(McGill 1954), total correlation(Watanabe 1960), dual total correlation(Te Sun 1980)(Han 1975)(Abdallah and Plumbley 2012), CAEKL mutual information(Chan et al. 2015)), common informations (Gács-Körner(Gács and Körner 1973)(Tyagi, Narayan, and Gupta 2011), Wyner(Wyner 1975)(W. Liu, Xu, and Chen 2010), exact(Kumar, Li, and El Gamal 2014), functional, minimal sufficient statistic), and channel capacity(Cover and Thomas 2006). It includes methods of studying joint distributions including information diagrams, connected informations(Schneidman et al. 2003)(Amari 2001), marginal utility of information(Allen, Stacey, and Bar-Yam 2014), and the complexity profile(Bar-Yam 2004). It also includes several more specialized modules including bounds on the secret key agreement rate(Maurer and Wolf 1997), partial information decomposition(Williams and Beer 2010), rate-distortion theory(Cover and Thomas 2006) & information bottleneck(Tishby, Pereira, and Bialek 2000), and others. Please see the dit homepage for a complete and up-to-date list.

Where possible, the implementations in dit support multivariate, conditional forms even if not defined that way in the literature. For example, dit implements the multivariate, conditional exact common information even though it was only defined for two variables.

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