

Bootstrap Estimation of a Non-Parametric Information Divergence Measure

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Abstract

This work details the bootstrap estimation of a non-parametric information divergence measure - the D_p divergence measure - in the context of a binary classification problem. In practice only finite length data sets are available for analysis. To reduce the limitation of finite data size, a bootstrap approach is used to calculate the divergence measure. Monte-Carlo iterations are performed at various sample sizes of the data set, the D_p value is found for each value of sample size, and a power law curve is used to find the asymptotic convergence value of the D_p divergence measure as a function of sample size. The divergence measure can then be used to estimate the Bayes classification error rate. This method is applied to several data sets, and the Bayes error rate is calculated from the D_p divergence.

1 Introduction

Information divergence measures have a wide variety of applications in machine learning, pattern recognition, statistics, and information theory. A common problem in machine learning is the binary classification problem, in which data $x_i \in \mathbf{R}^n$ is assigned a class label $c_i \in \{0, 1\}$ according to a classification rule, where class labels c_0 and c_1 correspond to respective probability distributions $f_0(\mathbf{x})$ and $f_1(\mathbf{x})$. The Bayesian classifier assigns class labels to x_i such that the posterior probability is maximized. The error rate of this classifier, the Bayes error rate, provides an absolute lower bound on the classification error rate. Estimating the best achievable classification error rate makes it possible to quantify the usefulness of a feature set or the performance of a classifier [1].

Given the two conditional distributions, $f_0(\mathbf{x})$ and $f_1(\mathbf{x})$, it is possible to write the Bayes error rate in terms of the prior probabilities p_0 and p_1 as given in [2]:

$$E_{Bayes} = \int_{r_1} p_0 f_0(\mathbf{x}) dx + \int_{r_0} p_1 f_1(\mathbf{x}) dx \quad (1)$$

Here, r_1 and r_0 refer to the region where the corresponding posterior is the larger [5].

Direct evaluation of this integral can be quite involved and impractical, as it is challenging to create an exact model for the posterior distributions $f_0(\mathbf{x})$ and $f_1(\mathbf{x})$. As an alternative to direct evaluation, it is possible to derive bounds for the Bayes error rate.

We arrive at an estimate of the Bayes error rate by using expressions that give bounds on the classification error in terms of information divergence measures. However, common methods of estimating the Bayes error rate via divergence measure still require information about the conditional distributions corresponding to both class labels. Therefore the non-parametric divergence measure given in [3], and the Bayes error estimates derived in [2] will be used in this study.

The work is organized as follows: the remainder of Section 1 is devoted to previous work, Section 2 provides a description of the divergence measure used, and its relation to the Bayes error rate and Section 3 introduces the bootstrap sampling method used. In Section 4 we will apply the method to several generated datasets and real world datasets to show that the power law method can successfully be applied to several distributions. In 4.1 we will consider the generated example datasets, and in 4.2 we will perform our analysis on the Pima Indians dataset and the Banknote dataset found in the University of California Irvine machine learning repository [cite repository here].

Previous Work

2 The D_p Divergence Measure

3 Bootstrap Sampling

-lowest sub sample size has to be greater than the dimension of the data

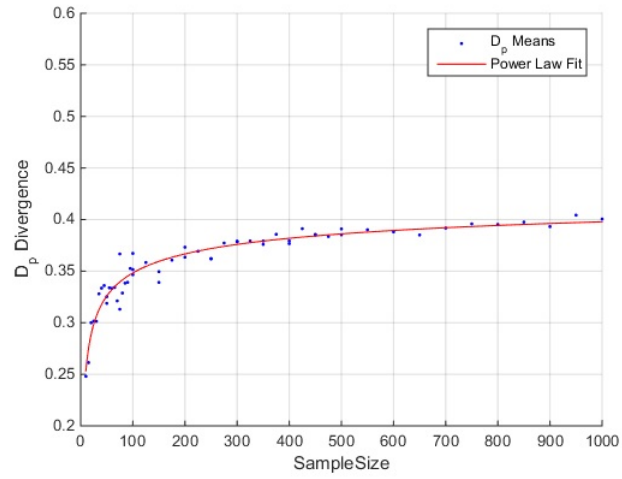
4 Results

Uniform Dataset

Table 1: Uniform Dataset for Bootstrap Analysis of D_p

D_0								
μ_0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
σ_0	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$
D_1								
μ_1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
σ_1	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$

Figure 1: Asymptotic Convergence of D_p for 8-Dimensional Uniform Data Set, $N = 200$ trials

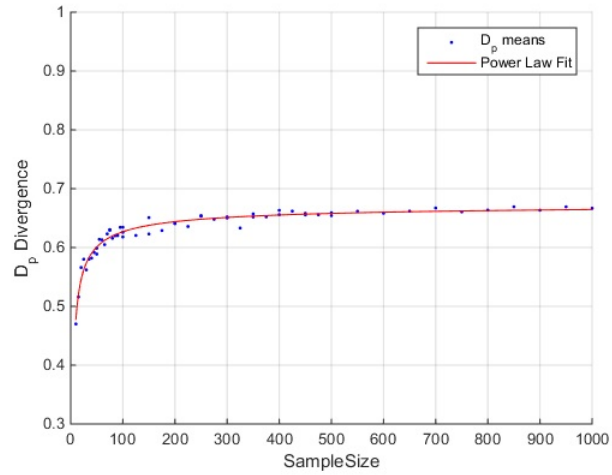


Gaussian Dataset

Table 2: Gaussian Dataset for Bootstrap Analysis of D_p

D_0								
μ_0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
σ_0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
D_1								
μ_1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
σ_1	2.56	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Figure 2: Asymptotic Convergence of D_p for Gaussian Data Set, $N = 5000$ trials

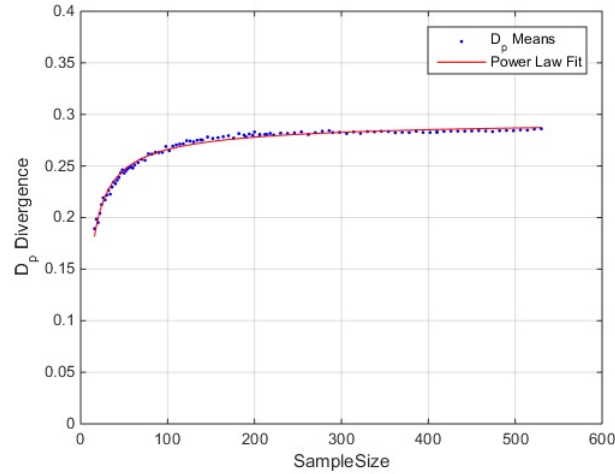


Banknote Dataset

The first real world example we consider is the Banknote Authentication Data Set taken from the University of California, Irvine Machine Learning Repository [7]. The 4-dimensional dataset contains data extracted from images of banknotes. *We observe that for a sensitive task such as authenticating banknotes, the data*

Pima Indians Dataset

Figure 3: Asymptotic Convergence for Pima Indian Data Set, $N = 5000$ trials



References

- [1] Hawes, Chad M., and Carey E. Priebe. "A Bootstrap Interval Estimator for Bayes' Classification Error." 2012 IEEE Statistical Signal Processing Workshop, 2012
- [2] V. Berisha, A. Wisler, A.O. Hero, and A. Spanias, "Empirically Estimable Classification Bounds Based on a Nonparametric Divergence Measure" IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing, vol. 64, no. 3, pp.580-591, Feb. 2016.
- [3] A. O. Hero, B. Ma, O. Michel, and J. Gorman, Alpha-divergence for classification, indexing and retrieval, Communication and Signal Processing Laboratory, Technical Report CSPL-328, U. Mich, 2001
- [4] K. Tumer, K. (1996) "Estimating the Bayes error rate through classifier combining" in Proceedings of the 13th International Conference on Pattern Recognition, Volume 2, 695699
Contains the pima indian dataset BERs in table format
- [5] Tumer, Kagan, and Joydeep Ghosh. "Bayes Error Rate Estimation Using Classifier Ensembles." International Journal of Smart Engineering System Design 5.2 (2003): 95-109.
- [6] Lichman, M. (2013). UCI Machine Learning Repository [<http://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml>]. Irvine, CA: University of California, School of Information and Computer Science.
- [7] V. Lohweg, Banknote Authentication Data Set, 2012. [Online]. Available: <http://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/datasets/banknote+authentication>.

Table 3: Bayes Error Rates Achieved in Literature for Pima Indians Data Set

Algorithm	Bayes Error Rate
Discrim	22.50
Quadisc	26.20
Logdisc	22.30
SMART	23.20
ALLOC80	30.10
K-NN	32.40
CASTLE	25.80
CART	25.50
IndCART	27.10
NewID	28.90
AC2	27.60
Baytree	27.10
NaiveBay	26.20
CN2	28.90
C4.5	27.00
Itrule	24.50
Cal5	25.00
Kohonen	27.30
DIPOL92	22.40
Backprob	24.80
RBF	24.30
LVQ	27.20

Table 4: D_p

Sample Size	Monte-Carlo Iterations	D_p Asymptotic Value	Bayes Error Rate (Lower Bound)
100	50	0.2816	23.47%
100	200	0.2752	23.77%
100	5000	0.3170	21.85%
200	50	0.2829	23.40%
200	200	0.2925	22.96%
200	5000	0.3176	23.40%
300	50	0.2970	21.82%
300	200	0.3030	22.48%
300	5000	0.3033	22.46%