

## Exercise 2 – Information Theory

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### 1. Mutual Information

- Show that  $I(X; Y) = H(X) - H(X|Y) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$
- Conditional vs. unconditional Mutual Information
  - Give an example for three random variables such that
 
$$I(X; Y|Z) < I(X; Y)$$
  - Give an example for three random variables such that
 
$$I(X; Y|Z) > I(X; Y)$$

- Let  $X, Y, Z$  three random variables who form a *Markov chain*  $X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z$   
Show that  $X, Y$  are conditionally independent given  $Z$ , i.e.

$$p(x, z|y) = p(x|y)p(z|y)$$

- Let  $p(x, y)$  be given by

$\mathbf{Pr(x, y)}$	$\mathbf{x_1}$	$\mathbf{x_2}$
$\mathbf{y_1}$	1/3	1/3
$\mathbf{y_2}$	0	1/3

Find

- $H(X), H(Y)$
  - $H(X|Y), H(Y|X)$
  - $H(X, Y)$
  - $H(X) - H(Y)$
  - $H(X), H(Y)$
  - $I(X; Y)$
  - Draw a Venn diagram that illustrates the quantities stated in the above bullets (“a” to “f”)
- Grouping rule for Entropy  
Let  $p = (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_m)$  be a probability distribution on  $m$  elements (i.e.  $p_i \geq 0$ ) and  $\sum_i p_i = 1$ ). Define a new distribution on  $q$  on  $m - 1$  elements such that the distribution on the first  $m - 2$  elements is identical, and the probability of last element in  $q$  is the sum of the last two probabilities in  $p$ , i.e.  

$$q_1 = p_1, \quad q_2 = p_2, \quad \dots, \quad q_{m-2} = p_{m-2}, \quad q_{m-1} = p_{m-1} + p_m$$

Show that

$$H(p) = H(q) + (p_{m-1} + p_m)H(v)$$

where  $v = \left( \frac{p_{m-1}}{p_{m-1} + p_m}, \frac{p_m}{p_{m-1} + p_m} \right)$  is a binary probability distribution

5. In general, Relative Entropy is not symmetric, namely  $D(p||q) \neq D(q||p)$ .  
Give an example for two **not identical** distributions,  $p \neq q$ , such that  
 $D(p||q) = D(q||p)$

6. Relative Entropy  $D(p||q)$  and chi-square ( $\chi^2$ )

Show that the  $\chi^2$  statistics

$$\chi^2 = \sum_x \frac{(p(x) - q(x))^2}{q(x)}$$

is (twice) the first term in the Taylor series expansion of  $D(p||q)$  around  $q$ .

Thus,

$$D(p||q) = \frac{1}{2}\chi^2 + \dots$$

namely chi-square is a first order approximation of the relative entropy.

Hint: Write  $\frac{p}{q} = 1 + \frac{p-q}{q}$  and expand the  $\log(\cdot)$

7. Min Relative Entropy under constraints

Let  $p(x), q(x)$ ,  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  two probability mass function, and let  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$  where  $f_j: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be feature functions. Given expectation constraints on the features  $\sum_x p(x) f_j(x) = \alpha_j \quad \forall j$ , what is the  $p^*$  that minimize the relative entropy  $D(p||q)$ ? Solve the following

$$p^* = \arg \max_{p \in \mathcal{P}} D(p||q)$$

$$\text{Where } \mathcal{P} = \{p: E_p[f_j] = \alpha_j, \quad \forall j\}$$

Use Lagrange multipliers to derive an explicit form to  $p^*$