

1. Suppose,  $X$  and  $Y$  are the beliefs of two different robots.  $H(X)$  represents entropy of  $X$ ; this is alternatively written as  $H(P_X)$  where  $P_X$  is the probability distribution of  $X$ . Also,  $P_{XY}$  is the joint distribution of  $X$  and  $Y$ . For your reference, Bayes rule can be written as  $P_{XY}(x, y) = P_{X|Y}(x | y) \cdot P_Y(y)$ . 4+3

- (a) This is important to quantify how much information is revealed by belief  $Y$  about the belief  $X$ . This is called *Conditional Entropy*. This gives a notion of uncertainty remaining in  $X$  given  $Y$ , i.e.  $H(X | Y)$ . We can write it as  $H(X | Y) \equiv H(P_{XY} | P_Y) := \sum_{y_i} P_Y(y_i) \cdot H(P_{X|Y=y_i})$ .

RHS of the above expression is the average entropy of the conditional distribution. Show that:

$$H(X | Y) = H(X, Y) - H(Y)$$

- (b) Prove that  $H(X | Y) = 0$  if and only if  $X = g(Y)$  for some function  $g$ . Here,  $H(\cdot)$  represents entropy,  $X$  and  $Y$  are the beliefs of two different robots.
2. In Q-1, we have defined the residual uncertainty (i.e. conditional entropy) of  $X$  given  $Y$ . In this question, we will look at the *information revealed* by  $Y$  about  $X$ ; this term is called the *mutual information*  $I(X; Y)$  between  $X$  and  $Y$ . Note that  $X, Y, H(\cdot), P_X, P_Y, P_{XY}$  are the notations already explained in Q-1. 2+2+3
- (a) Write the mathematical expression for  $I(X; Y)$  in terms of uncertainty of  $X$  and conditional entropy between  $X$  and  $Y$ .
- (b) Prove that the information revealed by  $Y$  about  $X$  is same as the information revealed by  $X$  about  $Y$ .
- (c) *KL-divergence* gives the measure of difference (or, distance) between two probability distributions. Show that:

$$I(X; Y) = KL(P_{XY} || P_X P_Y)$$

3. Consider a mobile robot in a workspace  $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$ . Belief of the robot at current time  $t$  is given by  $P(X | \xi_t, a_t)$  where  $X$  is the random variable representing the environment and  $\xi_t$  is the history of states and actions until time  $t$ . Mathematically,  $\xi_t = \langle s_1, a_1, \dots, s_t \rangle$ . An effective exploration strategy is to select an action that gives maximum information about the environment, i.e. maximizes the reduction in uncertainty about the environment. From the current state  $s_t$  the next state distribution is denoted as  $S_{t+1}$ . 3+3

- (a) Write down the mathematical expression for selecting the action that maximally reduces uncertainty in  $X$  between time  $t + 1$  and  $t$ .
- (b) Express the above term using *KL-divergence*.