

Information Theory Notes

Sidney Golstein

April 9, 2020

1 Information Measures (ch2 p18)

Here, only for discrete random variables (RV).

1.1 Entropy

1.1.1 General definition

Let \mathbf{X} be a discrete RV with pmf $p(x)$. The entropy of \mathbf{X} is the uncertainty about its outcome:

$$H(\mathbf{X}) = - \sum_{x \in \chi} p(x) \log p(x) = -E_{\mathbf{X}}(\log p(\mathbf{X})) \quad (1)$$

where χ is the set of possible values of x , i.e., the alphabet.

1.1.2 Conditional entropy

Measure of the remaining uncertainty about the outcome of \mathbf{Y} given the observation \mathbf{X} . Denoted $H(X|Y)$

$$H(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{Y}) = -E_{\mathbf{X},\mathbf{Y}}(\log p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X})) \quad (2)$$

1.1.3 Joint entropy

Let (\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) be a pair of discrete RV:

$$H(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) = -E(\log p(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})) \quad (3)$$

1.1.4 Properties

$$H(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}) \leq H(\mathbf{Y}) \quad (4)$$

$$H(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) = H(\mathbf{X}) + H(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}) = H(\mathbf{Y}) + H(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{Y}) \quad (5)$$

$$H(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) \leq H(\mathbf{X}) + H(\mathbf{Y}) \quad (6)$$

1.2 Mutual Information

1.2.1 General definition

Let (\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) be a pair of discrete RV. The information about \mathbf{X} obtained from the observation \mathbf{Y} is the mutual information between \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Y} .

$$I(\mathbf{X}; \mathbf{Y}) = \sum_{(x,y) \in (\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})} p(x, y) \log \frac{p(x, y)}{p(x)p(y)} = H(\mathbf{X}) + H(\mathbf{Y}) - H(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) \quad (7)$$

$I(\mathbf{X}; \mathbf{Y}) = 0$ i.i.f. \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Y} are independent.

1.2.2 Conditional mutual information

The conditional mutual information between \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Y} given \mathbf{Z} is:

$$I(\mathbf{X}; \mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{Z}) = H(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{Z}) + H(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{Z}) - H(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{Z}) \quad (8)$$

Properties

- Independence:

If \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Z} are independent:

$$I(\mathbf{X}; \mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{Z}) \geq I(\mathbf{X}; \mathbf{Y}) \quad (9)$$

- Conditional independence:

If $\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow \mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}$ for a Markov chain (prediction of the future state only depends on the present state and not on the previous ones):

$$I(\mathbf{X}; \mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{Z}) \leq I(\mathbf{X}; \mathbf{Y}) \quad (10)$$

1.3 Summary

The entropy is a measure of information. The mutual entropy is a measure of information transfer.

2 Information Theoretic Secrecy (ch22 p549)

TEST ok