

Asymptotic Divergences and Strong Dichotomy

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Overview

Theorem (Schnorr and Stimm 72')

1. *If S is not normal, then there is a finite-state gambler that wins money at an infinitely-often exponential rate betting on S .*
2. *If S is normal, then any finite-state gambler betting on S loses money at an exponential rate betting on S .*

Schnorr-Stimm Dichotomy Theorem

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Question: What are these exponential rates? How to interpret them?

Strong Dichotomy Theorem

Modulo asymptotic caveats, We show that

- 1'. The infinitely-often exponential rate of winning in 1 is $2^{\text{Div}(S||\alpha)|w|}$.
- 2'. The exponential rate of loss in 2 is $2^{-\text{Risk}_G(w)}$.

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This is a **quantify** version of Schnorr-Stimm's dichotomy theorem.

1. Information theory: entropy and divergence
2. Asymptotic divergences
3. Finite-state gambler and strong dichotomy
4. Finite-state dimension

Information Theory: a Short Introduction

A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away...

Self-information

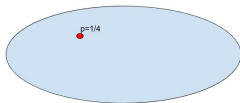
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There is a point.

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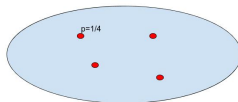
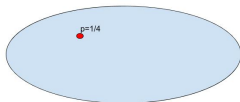
There is a point.



Self-information

A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away...

There is a point.



So he therefore believes we need to have $\log \frac{1}{1/4} = 2$ bits to encode the objects in his galaxy. And that is only **his** opinion.

We call $\log \frac{1}{p}$ this point's *self-information*.

A (*discrete*) *probability measure* on a nonempty finite set Ω is a function $\pi : \Omega \rightarrow [0, 1]$ satisfying

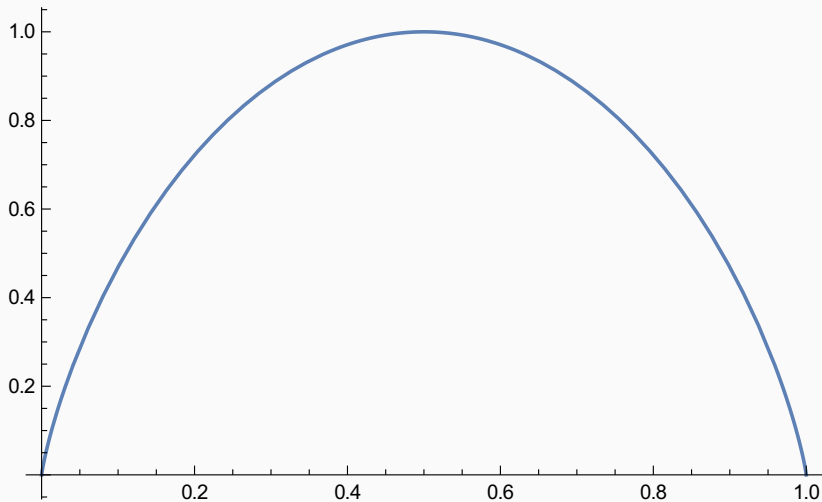
$$\sum_{\omega \in \Omega} \pi(\omega) = 1. \quad (1)$$

We write $\Delta(\Omega)$ for the set of all probability measures on Ω . Then the Shannon entropy of π is define as:

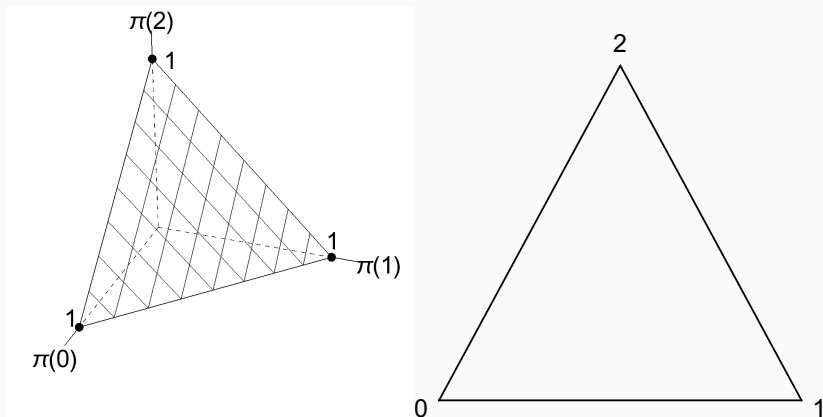
$$H(\pi) = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} \pi(\omega) \log \frac{1}{\pi(\omega)} \quad (2)$$

That is, a (weighted) average of the self-information of all points.

Entropy: 2D-plots

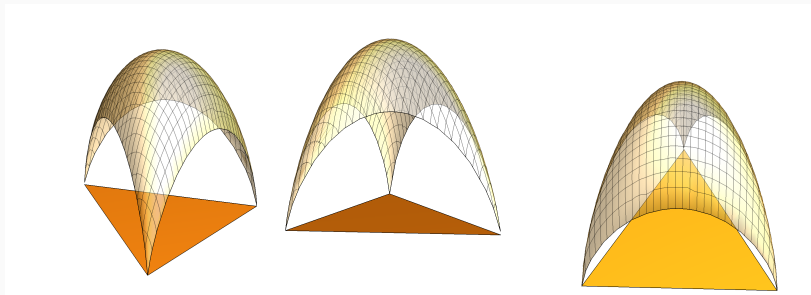


Entropy: 3D Probability Measures



Two views of the simplex $\Delta(\{0, 1, 2\})$. The simplex is part of the plane $x + y + z = 1$.

Entropy: 3D-entropy



3D-entropy plotted on the previous equilateral triangle.

Kullback-Leibler Divergence

Definition

Let $\alpha, \beta \in \Delta(\Omega)$, where Ω is a nonempty finite set. The *Kullback-Leibler divergence* (or *KL-divergence*) of β from α is

$$D(\alpha||\beta) = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} \alpha(\omega) \log \frac{\alpha(\omega)}{\beta(\omega)} = E_{\alpha} \log \frac{\alpha}{\beta}, \quad (3)$$

where the logarithm is base-2.

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Note that we can view

$$D(\alpha||\beta) = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} \alpha(\omega) \log \frac{1}{\beta(\omega)} - \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} \alpha(\omega) \log \frac{1}{\alpha(\omega)}$$

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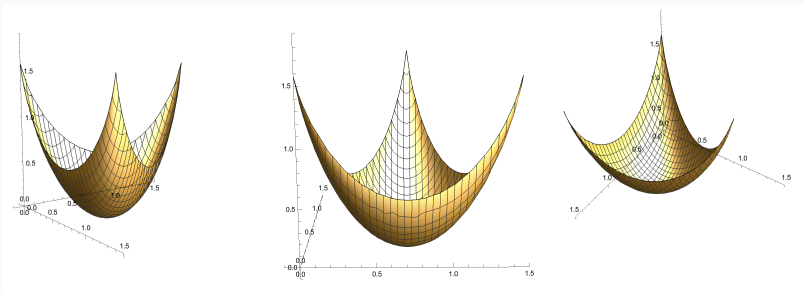
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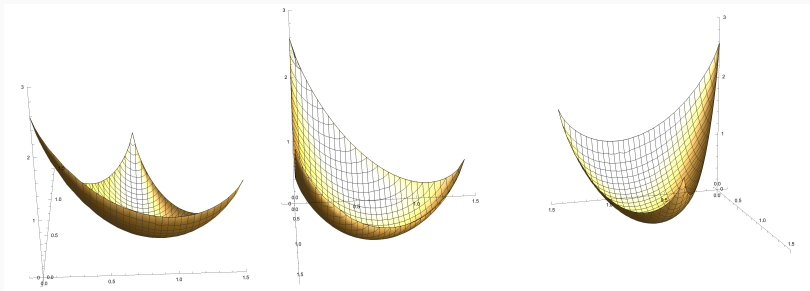
- $\beta(\omega)$ can be view as “subjective” probability, or a coding scheme.
- $\alpha(\omega)$ can be view as the “real” probability.
- $D(\alpha||\beta)$ measures the difference between the average code-length of a coding scheme and an optimal coding. So it is always ≥ 0 .

Divergence: $D(\alpha||\beta)$, where $\beta = (\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3})$



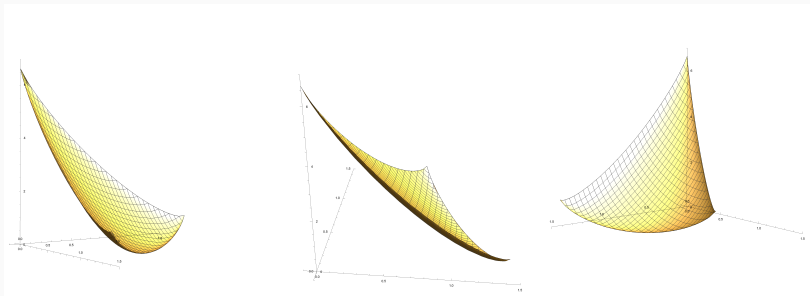
Three views of the function $D(\alpha||\beta)$, where $\beta = (\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3})$. It is the upside-down copy of the 3D-entropy function.

Divergence: $D(\alpha||\beta)$, where $\beta = (\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2})$



Three views of the function $D(\alpha||\beta)$, where $\beta = (\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2})$.

Divergence: $D(\alpha||\beta)$, where $\beta = (\frac{1}{100}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{49}{100})$



Three views of the function $D(\alpha||\beta)$, where $\beta = (\frac{1}{100}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{49}{100})$.

Divergence: the Highest Peak

We have three peaks in the previous plots. Which one is the highest one?
And how tall is it?

Proposition (radius of β^1)

The highest peak of $D(\alpha||\beta)$ (with β fixed) equals to

$$c = \log \left(1 / \min_{\omega \in \Omega} \beta(\omega) \right).$$

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Remark

The number c will show up later in this talk again.

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Asymptotic entropies and divergences

We work in a finite alphabet Σ with $2 \leq |\Sigma| < \infty$. For the purpose of this talk, one can treat $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$.

Block Counting

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We write Σ^ℓ for the set of strings of length ℓ over Σ , $\Sigma^* = \bigcup_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \Sigma^\ell$ for the set of (finite) *strings* over Σ , Σ^ω for the set of (infinite) *sequences* over Σ , and $\Sigma^{\leq \omega} = \Sigma^* \cup \Sigma^\omega$.

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For nonempty strings $w, x \in \Sigma^*$, we write

$$\#_{\square}(w, x) = \left| \left\{ m \leq \frac{|x|}{|w|} - 1 \mid x[m|w|..(m+1)|w| - 1] = w \right\} \right|$$

for the *number of block occurrences* of w in x . Note that $0 \leq \#_{\square}(w, x) \leq \frac{|x|}{|w|}$.

Block Frequency

For each $S \in \Sigma^\omega$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, and $\lambda \neq w \in \Sigma^*$, the n -th *block frequency* of w in S is

$$\pi_{S,n}(w) = \frac{\#\square(w, S[0..n|w| - 1])}{n} \quad (4)$$

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Note that the above w can be of any length. We now fix a length, and consider the set of strings Σ^ℓ . We denote $\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)} = \pi_{S,n} \upharpoonright \Sigma^\ell$ be the restriction of the function $\pi_{S,n}$ to the set Σ^ℓ of strings of length ℓ .

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$\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}$ is a rational-valued probability measure on Σ^ℓ .

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Remark

Intuitively, this is like we are using Σ^ℓ as our alphabet instead. And $\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}$ becomes the frequency of each “symbol” of the new alphabet.

Asymptotic divergences

A probability measure $\alpha \in \Delta(\Sigma)$ naturally induces, for each $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, a probability measure $\alpha^{(\ell)} \in \Delta(\Sigma^\ell)$ defined by

$$\alpha^{(\ell)}(w) = \prod_{i=0}^{|w|-1} \alpha(w[i]). \quad (5)$$

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Definition

Let $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, $S \in \Sigma^\omega$, and $\alpha \in \Delta(\Sigma)$.

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Empirical Divergences of One Sequence From Another

Definition

Let $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ and $S, T \in \Sigma^\omega$.

1. The *lower ℓ -divergence of T from S* is

$$\text{div}_\ell(S||T) = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} D(\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)} || \pi_{T,n}^{(\ell)}).$$

2. The *upper ℓ -divergence of T from S* is

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The following notions are essentially due to Borel.

Definition

Let $\alpha \in \Delta(\Sigma)$, $S \in \Sigma^\omega$, and $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^+$.

1. S is α - ℓ -normal if, for all $w \in \Sigma^\ell$,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \pi_{S,n}(w) = \alpha^{(\ell)}(w).$$

2. S is α -normal if, for all $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, S is α - ℓ -normal.

Theorem (divergence characterization of normality)

For all $\alpha \in \Delta(\Sigma)$ and $S \in \Sigma^\omega$, the following conditions are equivalent.

- (1) *S is α -normal.*
- (2) $\text{Div}(S||\alpha) = 0$.
- (3) *For every α -normal sequence $T \in \Sigma^\omega$, $\text{Div}(S||T) = 0$.*
- (4) *There exists an α -normal sequence $T \in \Sigma^\omega$ such that $\text{Div}(S||T) = 0$.*

Finite-state gambler and strong dichotomy

Definition

A *finite-state gambler (FSG)* is a 4-tuple

$$G = (Q, \delta, s, B),$$

where Q is a finite set of *states*, $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$ is the *transition function*, $s \in Q$ is the *start state*, and $B : Q \rightarrow \Delta_{\mathbb{Q}}(\Sigma)$ is the *betting function*.

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We write $d_{G,\alpha}(w)$ for the gambler G 's capital (amount of money) after betting on the successive bits of a prefix $w \sqsubseteq S$, and we assume that the initial capital is $d_{G,\alpha}(\lambda) = 1$.

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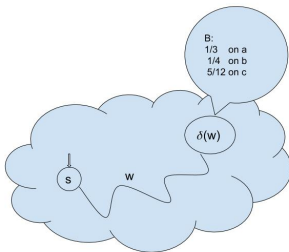
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Finite-state Gambler



Let our capital after seeing $w \sqsubseteq S$ be $d_{G,\alpha}(w)$. The gambler's bets $B(\delta(w))(a)$ of the money that the next symbol of S is an a . If it then turns out to be the case, the gambler's capital will be

$$d_{G,\alpha}(wa) = d_{G,\alpha}(w) \frac{B(\delta(w))(a)}{\alpha(a)}. \quad (6)$$

The payoffs in (6) are fair with respect to α , which means that the conditional α -expectation

$$\sum_{a \in \Sigma} \alpha(a) d_{G,\alpha}(wa)$$

of $d_{G,\alpha}(wa)$, given that $w \sqsubseteq S$, is exactly $d_{G,\alpha}(w)$. This says that the function $d_{G,\alpha}$ is an α -martingale.

Strong Dichotomy: Winning

Theorem

Let $\alpha \in \Delta(\Sigma)$, $S \in \Sigma^\omega$, and $\gamma < 1$. If S is not α -normal, then there is a finite-state gambler G such that, for infinitely many prefixes $w \sqsubseteq S$,

$$d_{G,\alpha}(w) > 2^{\gamma \text{Div}(S||\alpha)|w|}.$$

Proof.

(Sketch)

Step 1 : Let $r < 1$. By the definition of $\text{Div}(S||\alpha)$ there must exist ℓ such that

$$\text{Div}_\ell(S||\alpha) > r \text{Div}(S||\alpha) > 0. \quad (7)$$

Remark

This step get us fix an ℓ .

Step 2 : Fix some (rational) π_0 such that

$$D(\pi_0||\alpha^{(\ell)}) \approx \ell \text{Div}_\ell(S||\alpha) > 0. \quad (8)$$

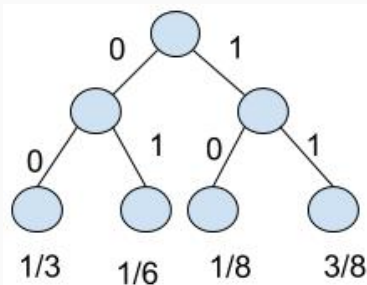
Winning: cont.

Remark

The advantage of π_0 is that it is a rational probability. It can be used to implement a finite-state gambler. And $D(\pi_0 || \alpha^{(\ell)})/\ell$ is closed to $\text{Div}_\ell(S || \alpha)$ and hence $\text{Div}(S || \alpha)$. The closer, the better.

Step 3: Use π_0 as a gambling strategy. Note that π_0 is probability measure on Σ^ℓ . But our finite-state gambler need to gambler on Σ .

Play the conditional probability trick to fill this gap.



Winning: cont.

Step 4: the resulting gambler can be viewed as gamble on Σ^ℓ . Since a string w can be view as (assuming $|w|$ is a multiple of ℓ)

$$w = u_0 u_1 \cdots u_{n-1}, \quad \text{where } |u_i| = \ell \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq n-1.$$

Then

$$d_{G,\alpha}(w) = \prod_0^{n-1} \frac{\pi_0(u_i)}{\alpha(u_i)}. \quad (9)$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \log d_{G,\alpha}(w) &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \log \frac{\pi_0(u_i)}{\alpha^{(\ell)}(u_i)} = \sum_{|u|=\ell} \#_{\square}(u, w) \log \frac{\pi_0(u)}{\alpha^{(\ell)}(u)}, \\ &= n \sum_{|u|=\ell} \frac{\#_{\square}(u, w)}{n} \log \frac{\pi_0(u)}{\alpha^{(\ell)}(u)} = n \sum_{|u|=\ell} \pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}(u) \log \frac{\pi_0(u)}{\alpha^{(\ell)}(u)}, \\ &= n \sum_{|u|=\ell} \left[\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}(u) \log \frac{\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}(u)}{\alpha^{(\ell)}(u)} - \pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}(u) \log \frac{\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}(u)}{\pi_0(u)} \right] \\ &= n \left(D(\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)} \| \alpha^{(\ell)}) - D(\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)} \| \pi_0) \right) \dots > \gamma \text{Divg}(S \| \alpha) |w| \end{aligned}$$

Strong Dichotomy: Losing

We define the *risk* that G takes in a state $q \in Q$ to be

$$\text{risk}_G(q) = D(\alpha || B(q)).$$

i.e., the divergence of $B(q)$ from not betting. We also define the *total risk* that G takes *along* a string $w \in \Sigma^*$ to be

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Strong Dichotomy: Losing

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Theorem (strong dichotomy theorem)

Let $\alpha \in \Delta(\Sigma)$, $S \in \Sigma^\omega$, and $\gamma < 1$.

If S is α -normal, then, for every finite-state gambler G , for all but finitely many prefixes $w \sqsubseteq S$,

$$d_{G,\alpha}(w) < 2^{-\gamma \text{Risk}_G(w)}.$$

Remark

1. *By Agafonov theorem, If S is α -normal, then it behaves quite random. In the sense that no matter in what state q , the probability q sees an a is $\alpha(a)$.*

Remark

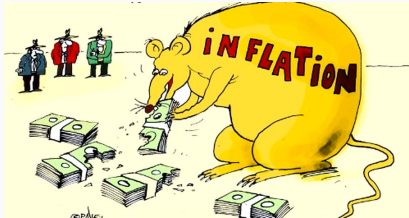
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2. *A gambling strategy $B(q)$ that is not the same with α is consider taking a risk of $\text{risk}_G(q)$.*
3. *The rate of losing the the risk a gambler accumulates along the way of gambling S .*

Finite-state dimension

Hard times: the Age of Inflation



For each $\alpha \in \Delta(\Sigma)$ and each $S \in \Sigma^\omega$, define the sets

$$\mathfrak{G}^\alpha(S) = \left\{ s \in [0, \infty) \mid (\exists \text{FSG } G) \limsup_{w \rightarrow S} \alpha^{|w|}(w)^{1-s} d_{G,\alpha}(w) = \infty \right\}$$

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and

$$\mathfrak{G}_{\text{str}}^\alpha(S) = \left\{ s \in [0, \infty) \mid (\exists \text{FSG } G) \liminf_{w \rightarrow S} \alpha^{|w|}(w)^{1-s} d_{G,\alpha}(w) = \infty \right\}$$

Definition (Lutz 11')

Let $\alpha \in \Delta(\Sigma)$ and $S \in \Sigma^\omega$.

1. The *finite-state α -dimension* of S is $\dim_{\text{FS}}^\alpha(S) = \inf \mathfrak{G}^\alpha(S)$.
2. The *finite-state strong α -dimension* of S is $\text{Dim}_{\text{FS}}^\alpha(S) = \inf \mathfrak{G}_{\text{str}}^\alpha(S)$

Definition

Let $S \in \Sigma^\omega$. We define the following asymptotic entropy.

1. $H_+^{(\ell)}(S) = \frac{1}{\ell} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} H(\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)})$.
2. $H^+(S) = \sup_{\ell} H_+^{(\ell)}$.
3. $H_-^{(\ell)}(S) = \frac{1}{\ell} \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} H(\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)})$.
4. $H^-(S) = \sup_{\ell} H_-^{(\ell)}$.

A Bound for Finite-state Dimension

Theorem

For all $\alpha \in \Delta(\Sigma)$ and $S \in \Sigma^\omega$. Then,

$$\dim_{\text{FS}}^\alpha(S) \leq \frac{H^+(S)}{H^+(S) + \text{Div}(S||\alpha)}$$

and

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Proof:

- Unpack the $\alpha^{|w|}(w)^{1-s}$, express it with asymptotic divergence and entropy.
- Apply (the winning side of) strong dichotomy theorem to the $d_{G,\alpha}(w)$ part.

Proof Sketch Cont.

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha^{|w|}(w)^{1-s}d_{G,\alpha}(w) &= d_{G,\alpha}(w)2^{(1-s)\log \alpha^{|w|}(w)} \\ &= d_{G,\alpha}(w)2^{(1-s)\frac{|w|}{\ell}} \sum_{|u|=\ell} \frac{\#\square(u,w)}{|w|/\ell} \log \alpha(u) \\ &= d_{G,\alpha}(w)2^{(1-s)\frac{|w|}{\ell}} \sum_{|u|=\ell} \pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}(u) \log \alpha(u) \\ &= d_{G,\alpha}(w)2^{-(1-s)\frac{|w|}{\ell}} \sum_{|u|=\ell} \pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}(u) \left(\log \frac{\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}(u)}{\alpha(u)} - \log \pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}(u) \right) \\ &= d_{G,\alpha}(w)2^{-(1-s)\frac{|w|}{\ell}} \left(D(\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)} || \alpha^{(\ell)}) + H(\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}) \right) \\ &> 2^{\gamma \text{Div}(S||\alpha)|w| - (1-s)\frac{|w|}{\ell}} \left(D(\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)} || \alpha^{(\ell)}) + H(\pi_{S,n}^{(\ell)}) \right)\end{aligned}$$

The last inequality is the competition of “winning rate” and “inflation rate”. We just want the total rate be positive infinitely often.

Divergence Theorem for Normality and Finite-state Dimensions

Theorem (Lutz² 08')

If α and β are positive probability measure on Σ , then, for every β -normal sequence $S \in \Sigma^\omega$,

$$\dim_{\text{FS}}^\alpha(S) = \text{Dim}_{\text{FS}}^\alpha(S) = \frac{H(\beta)}{H(\beta) + D(\beta||\alpha)}$$

²A Divergence Formula for Randomness and Dimension

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That is, equality in the previous theorem holds if S is β -dimension sequence, for some $\beta \in \Delta(\Sigma)$. Hence the bound is tight.

²A Divergence Formula for Randomness and Dimension

Another Bound: the return of c

As a special case of the previous bound, we have

Theorem

For all $\alpha \in \Delta(\Sigma)$ and $S \in \Sigma^\omega$ let $c = \log(1/\min_{a \in \Sigma} \alpha(a))$. Then,

$$\dim_{\text{FS}}^\alpha(S) \leq 1 - \text{Div}(S||\alpha)/c$$

and

$$\text{Dim}_{\text{FS}}^\alpha(S) \leq 1 - \text{div}(S||\alpha)/c.$$

Thank you for your time!
