Elements of Information Theory

Lecture 3 Asymptotic Equipartition Property

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Outlines

- Convergence and Law of Large Number
- > Asymptotic Equipartition Property
- > Typical Sequence and Typical Set
- High-Probability Sets and Typical Set

Convergence of a sequence of numbers

A sequence $\{a_n, n = 1, 2, 3, ...\}$ converges to the constant A if for every ε , there must exist an integer m such that $\forall n > m$, the following inequality holds:

$$|a_n - A| < \varepsilon$$

Question:

If the sequence $\{a_n, n = 1, 2, 3, ...\}$ converges to the constant A, what does it imply?

$$a_n = \left(-\frac{9}{10}\right)^n, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \cdots$$

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Can we extend the definition of the convergence for the sequence of number to the random variable case?

Convergence of a sequence of random variables

- > It can also be called as "Stochastic Convergence".
- It is an critically important concept in probabilities as well as other applications.
- Formalizing the idea that a sequence of essentially random or unpredictable events can sometimes be expected to settle into a pattern.
- There are <u>several approaches</u> to characterize the convergence of the sequence of random variables (stochastic convergence).

A sequence of random variable $\{X_n, n = 1, 2, 3, ...\}$ can be viewed as converging to the random variable X

1) Convergence in distribution

$$\lim_{n\to\infty} F_n(x) = F(x)$$
, where F_n and F are CDFs of X_n and X

2) Convergence in probability

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \Pr\{|X_n - X| \ge \varepsilon\} = 0$$

3) Almost sure convergence (with probability 1)

$$\Pr\left\{\lim_{n\to\infty} X_n = X\right\} = 1$$

4) Convergence in mean

$$\lim_{n\to\infty} \mathbb{E}\Big\{|X_n - X|^r\Big\} = 0, \quad \text{where } r \text{ is the real number and } r \geq 1$$

$$\text{when } r = 2 \Longrightarrow \text{Convergence in mean square}$$

Law of Large Numbers (LLN)

- > It describes the result of performing the same experiment a large number of times.
- > It was first stated by Italian mathematician Gerolamo Cardano.
- > A special form of LLN (binary random variable) was proved by Jacob Bernoulli ----- "Bernoulli's Theorem"
- > It was further described by S. D. Poisson and named as LLN.
- > Weak LLN and Strong LLN

Law of Large Numbers (LLN)

Let X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n be a sequence of independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.) random variables with expected (mean) value:

$$\mathbb{E}\{X_1\} = \mathbb{E}\{X_2\} = \dots = \mathbb{E}\{X_n\} = \mu$$

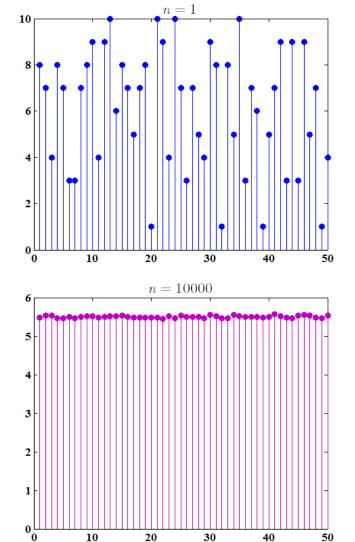
Then, the LLN tells us that the sample average

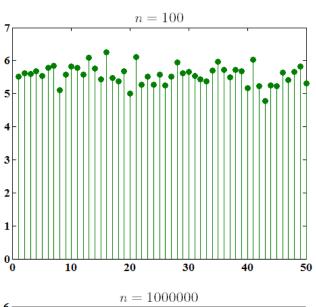
$$\overline{X}_n = \frac{1}{n} (X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n)$$

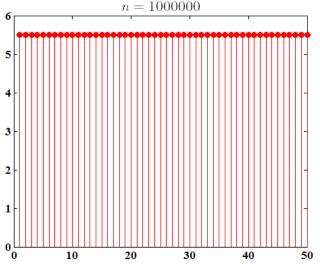
converges to the expected value, i.e.,

$$\overline{X}_n \longrightarrow \mu \text{ for } n \to \infty$$

 X_n is uniformly distributed on $\{1, 2, ..., 10\}$. $\overline{X}_n = \frac{X_1 + \cdots + X_n}{n}$







> Weak Law

The sample value of the sequence of i.i.d. random variables X_1 , X_2 ,, X_n converges in probability towards the expected value. That is to say for any positive number ε , we have

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \Pr \left\{ \left| \overline{X}_n - \mu \right| > \varepsilon \right\} = 0$$

> Strong Law

The sample value of the sequence of i.i.d. random variables X_1 , X_2 ,, X_n converges almost surely to the expected value, i.e.,

$$\Pr\bigg\{\lim_{n\to\infty}\overline{X}_n=\mu\bigg\}=1$$

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Example

We consider a sequence

$$\mathbf{u}_L = (u_1, u_2, \cdots, u_L), \ u_l \in \{s_1, \cdots, s_K\}$$

Then, the *self-information* of this sequence is

$$I(\mathbf{u}_L) = \sum_{l=1}^{L} I(u_l) = L_1 I(s_1) + L_2 I(s_2) + \dots + L_K I(s_K),$$

where L_k denotes the number of symbol s_k in the sequence.

For example, we consider the following sequence

$$\mathbf{u}_L = (1, 2, 0, 3, 5, 2, 1, 2, 3)$$

Then, we have

$$I(\mathbf{u}_L) = 1 \cdot I(0) + 2 \cdot I(1) + 3 \cdot I(2) + 2 \cdot I(3) + 1 \cdot I(5)$$

$$I(\mathbf{u}_{L}) = \sum_{l=1}^{L} I(u_{l}) = L_{1}I(s_{1}) + L_{2}I(s_{2}) + \dots + L_{K}I(s_{K})$$

$$\frac{1}{L}I(\mathbf{u}_{L}) = \frac{1}{L}\sum_{l=1}^{L} I(u_{l}) = \frac{L_{1}}{L}I(s_{1}) + \frac{L_{2}}{L}I(s_{2}) + \dots + \frac{L_{K}}{L}I(s_{K})$$

$$L \to \infty$$

Converging to the expected value of $I(u_l)$

Questions

- 1. What is the expected value of the self-information?
- 2. What can we obtain from this example?

Theorem (Asymptotic Equipartition Property, AEP)

Let $X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$ be the sequence of i.i.d. random variables with distribution p(x), then we have

$$-\frac{1}{n}\log p(X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_n) \to H(X)$$
 in probability,

i.e.,

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \Pr\left\{ \left| -\frac{1}{n} \log p(X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_n) - H(X) \right| > \varepsilon \right\} = 0, \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0.$$

It is derived by weak LLN. -> Weak AEP

Strong LLN ---> Strong AEP

Strong AEP

Let $X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$ be the sequence of i.i.d. random variables with distribution p(x), then we have

$$-\frac{1}{n}\log p(X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_n) \to H(X) \quad \text{with probability 1},$$

i.e.,

$$\Pr\left\{\lim_{n\to\infty} -\frac{1}{n}\log p(X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_n) = H(X)\right\} = 1.$$

Questions:

- 1. What is the relationship between LLN and AEP?
- 2. Why is it named as AEP?

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We consider a sequence of i.i.d. random variables

$$X_L = (X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_L), X_i \in \{s_1, \cdots, s_K\}$$

with distribution p(x).

Then, the probability of event $(x_1, x_2, ..., x_L)$ can be written as

The number of the con-

The number of the corresponding symbol appeared in the sequence

$$\Pr\{X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \cdots, X_L = x_L\}$$

$$= \left(\Pr\{X = s_1\}\right)^{L_1} \left(\Pr\{X = s_2\}\right)^{L_2} \cdots \left(\Pr\{X = s_K\}\right)^{L_K}$$

Different sequences usually have distinct probabilities.

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$$= \left(\Pr\{X = s_1\}\right)^{L_1} \left(\Pr\{X = s_2\}\right)^{L_2} \cdots \left(\Pr\{X = s_K\}\right)^{L_K}$$

For example, we consider the random variable $X \in \{0,1\}$ with P(0) = 0.3 and P(1) = 0.7. Then, for the following two sequences, we have

$$\Pr\left\{\boldsymbol{x}_{9}^{1} = (1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0)\right\} = 0.0032$$

$$\Pr\left\{\boldsymbol{x}_{9}^{2} = (0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1)\right\} = 0.00025$$

What will happen if L goes to infinite?

Weak Asymptotic Equipartition Property

$$\lim_{L \to \infty} \Pr\left\{ \left| -\frac{1}{L} \log P(X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_L) - H(X) \right| \le \varepsilon \right\} = 1, \ \forall \varepsilon > 0$$

$$2^{-L(H(X) + \varepsilon)} \le P(X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_L) \le 2^{-L(H(X) - \varepsilon)}, \ \forall \varepsilon > 0 \text{ and } L \to \infty$$

When $L \rightarrow \infty$, different sequences have approximately the same probabilities.

Approximately equal partition on probability

We consider a sequence of i.i.d. random variables

$$X_L = (X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_L), X_i \in \{s_1, \cdots, s_K\}$$

with distribution p(x).

For different realizations, the numbers of symbols $s_1, \ldots s_K$ are different.

For example, we consider the following two sequences

$$\boldsymbol{x}_9^1 = (1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_9^2 = (0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1)$$

What will happen if L goes to infinite?

Strong Asymptotic Equipartition Property



Strong Law of Large Numbers

$$\Pr\left\{\lim_{L\to\infty} \frac{1}{L} \sum_{i=1}^{L} X_i = \mathbb{E}\{X\}\right\} = 1$$

$$\forall \mathbf{x}_L = (x_1, \dots, x_L) \Longrightarrow \frac{1}{L} \sum_{i=1}^{L} x_i = \mathbb{E}\{X\}, \text{ if } L \to \infty$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{K} \left[\frac{L_i}{L} - P(s_k)\right] s_k = 0, \text{ if } L \to \infty$$

The empirical distribution in sequence x_L should be "close" to the prior probability distribution.

We consider a sequence of i.i.d. random variables

$$X_L = (X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_L), X_i \in \{s_1, \cdots, s_K\}$$

with distribution p(x).

Then, the probability of event $(x_1, x_2, ..., x_L)$ can be written as

$$\Pr\{X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \cdots, X_L = x_L\}$$

$$= \left(\Pr\{X = s_1\}\right)^{L_1} \left(\Pr\{X = s_2\}\right)^{L_2} \cdots \left(\Pr\{X = s_K\}\right)^{L_K}$$

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Strong Asymptotic Equipartition Property



Empirical distribution = Prior probability distribution



Constant and equal to 2^{-LH(X)} when L goes to infinity.

Definition (Weakly Typical Sequence)

Let $X \sim p(x)$. Then, the sequence

$$(x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_n) \in \mathcal{X}^n$$

is weakly typical sequence if

$$\left| -\frac{1}{n} \log p(x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_n) - H(X) \right| \le \varepsilon.$$

Definition (Strongly Typical Sequence)

Let $X \sim p(x)$. Then, the sequence

$$(x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_n) \in \mathcal{X}^n$$

is strongly typical sequence if the empirical distribution of each symbol is "close" to its prior probability distribution.

Definition (Weakly Typical Set)

The weakly typical set $A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}$ with respect to p(x) is the set of sequences

$$(x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_n) \in \mathcal{X}^n$$

with the property

$$\left| -\frac{1}{n} \log p(x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_n) - H(X) \right| \le \varepsilon.$$

Definition (Strongly Typical Set)

The strongly typical set $\mathcal{T}_{\epsilon}^{(n)}$ with respect to p(x) is the set of sequences

$$(x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_n) \in \mathcal{X}^n$$

with the property

$$\forall a \in \mathcal{X}, \quad \left| \frac{1}{n} N(a; x^n) - p(a) \right| \le \epsilon p(a),$$

where $N(a;x^n)$ is the number of occurrences of symbol a in sequence.

- > Strong typical set v.s. Weak typical set
 - > Strong typical set Strong typical sequence
 - Weak typical set Weak typical sequence

Example

- ✓ $X = \{a,b,c,d\}$ with probability distribution $\{0.5, 0.25, 0.125, 0.125\}$
- ✓ Sample sequences consisting of 8 i.i.d. samples
- ✓ Strong typical sequence
 - ---- Symbols with correct proportions, e.g., aaaabbcd
- ✓ Weak typical sequence
 - ---- Self-information per symbol equals to the entropy, e.g., aabbbbbb

Example

- ✓ Bit-sequences of length n
- ✓ The probability distribution is P(1) = p and P(0) = 1-p
- ✓ Strong typicality?
- ✓ Weak typicality?
- ✓ What will happen when p=0.5?

Some Discussions

- 1. All sequence in the typical set have roughly equal probabilities.
- 2. Most or least likely sequences may NOT be in the typical set.

Properties of (Weakly) Typical Set1. If $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}$, then we have

$$H(X) - \epsilon \le -\frac{1}{n} \log p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \le H(X) + \epsilon$$

- 2. $\Pr\left\{A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}\right\} > 1 \epsilon$ for n sufficiently large.
- 3. $\left|A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}\right| \leq 2^{n(H(X)+\epsilon)}$, where |A| denotes the number of elements in the set A.
- 4. $\left|A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}\right| \geq (1-\epsilon)2^{n(H(X)-\epsilon)}$ for n sufficiently large.

1. If $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}$, then we can obtain from the definition of weak typical set that

$$\left| -\frac{1}{n} \log p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) - H(X) \right| \le \varepsilon$$

$$H(X) - \epsilon \le -\frac{1}{n} \log p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \le H(X) + \epsilon$$

2. Based on weak AEP, we have

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \Pr\left\{ \left| -\frac{1}{n} \log p(X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_n) - H(X) \right| > \varepsilon \right\} = 0, \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0$$

For any given $\delta > 0$, there must exist n_0 such that when $n > n_0$, we have

$$\Pr\left\{ \left| -\frac{1}{n} \log p(X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_n) - H(X) \right| \le \varepsilon \right\} > 1 - \delta$$

Let
$$\delta = \varepsilon$$
, we have $\Pr\left\{A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}\right\} > 1 - \epsilon$.

3. Proof for property (3)

$$H(X) - \epsilon \le -\frac{1}{n} \log p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \le H(X) + \epsilon$$

$$2^{-n[H(X) + \epsilon]} \le p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \le 2^{-n[H(X) + \epsilon]}$$

$$1 = \sum_{\boldsymbol{x} \in \mathcal{X}^n} p(\boldsymbol{x}) \ge \sum_{\boldsymbol{x} \in A_{\varepsilon}^{(n)}} p(\boldsymbol{x}) \ge \sum_{\boldsymbol{x} \in A_{\varepsilon}^{(n)}} 2^{-n[H(X) + \epsilon]} = 2^{-n[H(X) + \epsilon]} \left| A_{\varepsilon}^{(n)} \right|$$

4. Proof for property (4)

$$1 - \epsilon < \Pr\left\{A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}\right\} = \sum_{\boldsymbol{x} \in A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}} p(\boldsymbol{x})$$

$$\leq \sum_{\boldsymbol{x} \in A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}} 2^{-n[H(X) - \epsilon]} = 2^{-n[H(X) - \epsilon]} \left|A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}\right|$$

$$\leq \sum_{\boldsymbol{x} \in A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}} 2^{-n[H(X) - \epsilon]} = 2^{-n[H(X) - \epsilon]} \left|A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}\right|$$

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High- Probability Sets and Typical Set

- Typical set is a fairly small set that contains most of the probability.
- It is not clear whether it is the smallest such set.

<u>Definition (Smallest Set)</u> For each n=1,2,..., let $B_{\delta}^{(n)} \subset \mathcal{X}^n$ be the smallest set with

$$\Pr\Big\{B_{\delta}^{(n)}\Big\} \ge 1 - \delta$$

- The smallest set is different from the typical set.
- The smallest set must have significant intersection with the typical set and therefore must have about as many elements.

High- Probability Sets and Typical Set

Theorem

Let $X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$ be i.i.d. random variables with probability distribution p(x). For $\delta < 1/2$ and any $\delta' > 0$, if

$$\Pr\Big\{B_{\delta}^{(n)}\Big\} \ge 1 - \delta$$

is satisfied, that we have

$$\left| \frac{1}{n} \log \left| B_{\delta}^{(n)} \right| > H - \delta'$$

for n sufficiently large.

The theorem tells us $B_\delta^{(n)}$ must have at least 2^{nH} elements and is about the same size as the $A_\epsilon^{(n)}$.

Summary

> AEP

$$-\frac{1}{n}\log p(X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_n) \to H(X)$$
 in probability

> Typical Set

$$2^{-n(H(X)+\varepsilon)} \le p(x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_n) \le 2^{-n(H(X)-\varepsilon)}$$

> Properties

1. If
$$(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}$$
, then $H(X) - \epsilon \le -\frac{1}{n} \log p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \le H(X) + \epsilon$

- 2. $\Pr\left\{A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}\right\} > 1 \epsilon$ for n sufficiently large.
- _____ 3. $\left|A_{\epsilon}^{(n)}\right| \leq 2^{n(H(X)+\epsilon)}$, where |A| denotes the number of elements in the set A.