

MA3466 Tutorial Sheet 6: solutions to q1-3¹

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1. (C& T 3.2) AEP and mutual information. Let (X_i, Y_i) be i.i.d with joint distributions $p(x, y)$. We form the log likelihood ration of the hypothesis that X and Y are independent versus the hypothesis that they are dependent. What is the limit of

$$\frac{1}{n} \log \frac{p(\mathbf{X})p(\mathbf{Y})}{p(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})} \quad (1)$$

Solution: This is done in a way that mimics the original proof of the AEP; first we use independence

$$\frac{1}{n} \log \frac{p(\mathbf{X})p(\mathbf{Y})}{p(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})} = \frac{1}{n} \log \frac{\prod_i p(X_i)p(Y_i)}{\prod_i p(X_i, Y_i)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \log \frac{p(X_i)p(Y_i)}{p(X_i, Y_i)} \quad (2)$$

Now, if the X_i and the Y_i are i.i.d. then is the expression in the sum; so, in the sense of the law of the large numbers

$$\frac{1}{n} \log \frac{p(\mathbf{X})p(\mathbf{Y})}{p(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})} \rightarrow E \log \frac{p(X)p(Y)}{p(X, Y)} = -I(X, Y) \quad (3)$$

2. (C& T 3.3) A piece of cake. A cake is sliced roughly in half and the largest piece selected each time, the other bits being discarded. Assume $p(2/3, 1/3) = 3/4$ and $p(2/5, 3/5) = 1/4$. How large, to the first order in the exponent, is the piece of cake after n cuts.

Solution: So here if there are b $2/3$ cuts and s $3/5$ cuts the size of the remaining piece will be

$$S = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^b \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^s \approx \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{3n/4} \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^{n/4} \quad (4)$$

to leading order.

3. (C& T 3.6) AEP-like limit. Let X_1, X_2 and so on be i.i.d., drawn with distribution $p(x)$, what is

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [p(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)]^{1/n} \quad (5)$$

For this you need to know the strong law of large numbers: to prove the AEP we used the weak law:

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum X_i \rightarrow EX \quad (6)$$

in probability, the strong law states that it approaches it almost surely.

Solution: So the trick here is to use a log so as to be able to change a product into a sum

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [p(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)]^{1/n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2^{\log [p(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)]^{1/n}} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2^{\frac{1}{n} \sum \log p(X_i)} = 2^{E \log p(X)} = 2^{-H(X)} \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

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