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

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

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

$$\frac{1}{n}\log\frac{p(\mathbf{X})p(\mathbf{Y})}{p(\mathbf{X},\mathbf{Y})} = \frac{1}{n}\log\frac{\prod_{i}p(X_{i})p(Y_{i})}{\prod_{i}p(X_{i},Y_{i})} = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i}\log\frac{p(X_{i})p(Y_{i})}{p(X_{i},Y_{i})}$$
(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

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

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

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

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

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

$$\frac{1}{n}\sum X_i \to EX \tag{6}$$

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

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

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} [p(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)]^{1/n} = \lim_{n \to \infty} 2^{\log [p(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)]^{1/n}}$$

$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} 2^{\frac{1}{n} \sum \log p(X_i)} = 2^{E \log p(X)} = 2^{-H(X)}$$
 (7)