Discrepancies Between Measures

Alessandro Barp

December 4, 2020

Imperial College London, Alan Turing Institute

Aim

Quantify the "difference" between two measures.

- Let $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})$ be the set of probability measures on a sample space \mathcal{X} .
- We need a map

$$D: \mathfrak{P}(\mathfrak{X}) \times \mathfrak{P}(\mathfrak{X}) \to \mathbb{R}.$$

- Desiderata
 - 1. Tractability: need to be able to implement $D(\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{Q})$
 - 2. Meaningful: the output of $D(\mathbb{P},\mathbb{Q})$ should be consistent with my application. E.g.

$$D(\mathbb{P},\mathbb{P})=0,$$

also

$$D(\mathbb{P},\mathbb{Q})=0\iff \mathbb{Q}=\mathbb{P},$$

and if $D(\mathbb{P}_1, \mathbb{Q}) \leq D(\mathbb{P}_2, \mathbb{Q})$, then \mathbb{P}_1 is closer to \mathbb{Q} than \mathbb{P}_2 .

3. Sampling Approximation: if \mathbb{Q} is replaced by an empirical measure \mathbb{Q}_n , then $D(\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{Q}_n)$ should be defined

Three main families:

1. If ${\mathcal F}$ is a space of bounded functions, set

$$D(\mathbb{P},\mathbb{Q}) \equiv \sup_{f\in\mathcal{F}} \left| \int f \mathrm{d}\mathbb{P} - \int f \mathrm{d}\mathbb{Q} \right|.$$

This is a "worst-case error" in expectation. Note $D(\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{P}) = 0$, and we can easily replace $\int f d\mathbb{Q}$ with a U-statistic.

2. If d is a metric on some metric space \mathcal{H} , and $\Phi : \mathfrak{P}(\mathfrak{X}) \to \mathcal{H}$, then

$$D(\mathbb{P},\mathbb{Q}) \equiv d(\Phi(\mathbb{P}),\Phi(\mathbb{Q})).$$

This is a pseudo-metric. However $\Phi(\mathbb{Q}_n)$ might not be defined.

3. Statistical divergences are such that $D(\mathbb{P}||\mathbb{Q}) = 0$ iff $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{Q}$. Divergence \sim discrete Lagrangian, further require that information tensor

$$g^{D}_{ij}(heta) \equiv -\partial_{ heta^{j}}\partial_{lpha^{j}}D(\mathbb{P}_{ heta},\mathbb{P}_{lpha})|_{lpha= heta}$$

is Riemannian metric. They generate gradient flows.

• An inner product space allows us to measure projections

 $\langle u, v \rangle$.

A Hilbert space $\ensuremath{\mathcal{H}}$ is one for which sequences that are getting closer and closer converge.

- We then obtain a metric $||u v|| \equiv \sqrt{\langle u v, u v \rangle}$ which measure distances.
- If \mathcal{H} is a Hilbert space of functions, measures can act by integration $\mathbb{P}: \mathcal{H} \to \mathbb{R}$. If \mathbb{P} is continuous, then we can define a map $\Phi: \mathbb{P} \mapsto \Phi(\mathbb{P})$ by Riesz representation.
- We obtain a pseudo-metric

$$D(\mathbb{P},\mathbb{Q})\equiv \|\Phi(\mathbb{P})-\Phi(\mathbb{Q})\|.$$

• If \mathcal{H} is a RKHS (i.e., δ_x continuous), this is the MMD.

• KL divergence

$$\mathsf{KL}(\mathbb{Q}\|\mathbb{P}) \equiv \int \log \frac{\mathrm{d}\mathbb{Q}}{\mathrm{d}\mathbb{P}} \mathrm{d}\mathbb{Q}.$$

• Information metric is the Fisher Matrix.

$$\mathsf{KL}(q\mathrm{d} x, p\mathrm{d} x) = \int \log q\mathrm{d} \mathbb{Q} - \int \log p\mathrm{d} \mathbb{Q}.$$

• Ignore q term, so we can use U-statistics

$$\widehat{\mathsf{KL}}(\{X_i\}, p \mathrm{d}x) = -\sum \log p(X_i),$$

 $X_i \sim \mathbb{Q}$, which defines maximum likelihood estimators.

• Fisher "divergence"

$$egin{aligned} \mathsf{SM}(\mathbb{Q}\|\mathbb{P}_{ heta}) &\equiv \int_{\mathfrak{X}} \|
abla \log p_{ heta} -
abla \log q \|_2^2 \, \mathrm{d}\mathbb{Q} \ &= \int_{\mathfrak{X}} \left(\|
abla \log q \|_2^2 + \|
abla \log p_{ heta}\|_2^2 + 2\Delta \log p_{ heta}
ight) \mathrm{d}\mathbb{Q} \end{aligned}$$

SM estimator is defined as $\hat{\theta}_n^{\text{SM}} \equiv \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta \in \Theta} \widehat{\text{SM}}(\{X_i\}_{i=1}^n || \mathbb{P}_{\theta})$ where

$$\widehat{\mathsf{SM}}(\{X_i\}_{i=1}^n \| \mathbb{P}_{\theta}) \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta \log p_{\theta}(X_i) + \frac{1}{2} \| \nabla \log p_{\theta}(X_i) \|_2^2$$

 SM breaks down for non-smooth models or for models in which the second derivative grows very rapidly, inefficient for heavy-tailed distributions, non-robust for light-tailed distributions A Stein operator $S_{\mathbb{P}}: \mathcal{G} \to \Gamma(\mathbb{R})$ for \mathbb{P} with Stein class \mathcal{G} , in this context means:

$$\int_{\mathcal{X}} \mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{P}}[f] \mathrm{d}\mathbb{P} = 0 \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{G}.$$

Used to construct integral probability discrepancies with no \mathbb{P} -integration: the Stein discrepancy (SD) $\mathcal{F} \equiv S_{\mathbb{P}_{\theta}}[\mathcal{G}]$

$$\mathrm{SD}_{\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{P}_{ heta}}[\mathcal{G}]}\left(\mathbb{Q}\|\mathbb{P}_{ heta}
ight)\equiv\sup_{f\in\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{P}_{ heta}}[\mathcal{G}]}\left|\int_{\mathfrak{X}}f\mathrm{d}\mathbb{P}_{ heta}-\int_{\mathfrak{X}}f\mathrm{d}\mathbb{Q}
ight|=\sup_{g\in\mathcal{G}}\left|\int_{\mathfrak{X}}\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{P}_{ heta}}[g]\mathrm{d}\mathbb{Q}
ight|.$$

Langevin-Stein discrepancy $\mathcal{T}_{\rho}[g] = \langle \nabla \log \rho, g \rangle + \nabla \cdot g$. More generally given $m \in \Gamma(\mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$

$$\mathcal{S}_p^m[g] \equiv rac{1}{p}
abla \cdot (pmg), \quad \mathcal{S}_p^m[A] \equiv rac{1}{p}
abla \cdot (pmA).$$

Hence the learning task consists on obtaining the *minimum Stein discrepancy* estimators

$$\hat{\theta}_n^{\mathsf{Stein}} \equiv \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta \in \Theta} \widehat{\mathsf{SD}}_{\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{P}_{\theta}}[\mathcal{G}]}(\{X_i\}_i^n \| \mathbb{P}_{\theta}).$$

For
$$\mathcal{S}_p^m[g]$$
 and $\mathcal{G} \equiv \{g \in C^1(\mathcal{X}, \mathbb{R}^d) \cap L^2(\mathcal{X}; \mathbb{Q}) : \|g\|_{L^2(\mathcal{X}; \mathbb{Q})} \le 1\}$:
 $\mathsf{DSM}_m(\mathbb{Q}\|\mathbb{P}) \equiv \sup_{f \in \mathcal{S}_p[\mathcal{G}]} \left| \int_{\mathcal{X}} f d\mathbb{Q} - \int_{\mathcal{X}} f d\mathbb{P} \right|^2 = \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left\| m^\top \left(\nabla \log q - \nabla \log p \right) \right\|_2^2 d\mathbb{Q}.$

- $\mathsf{DSM}_m(\mathbb{Q}||\mathbb{P}) = 0$ iff $\mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{P}$ when m(x) is invertible
- Recovers SM for $m(x)m^{\top}(x) = I$.
- Under appropriate assumptions

$$\mathsf{DSM}_m(\mathbb{Q}\|\mathbb{P}) = \int_{\mathfrak{X}} \left(\|\boldsymbol{m}^\top \nabla_{\mathsf{x}} \log \boldsymbol{p}\|_2^2 + \|\boldsymbol{m}^\top \nabla \log \boldsymbol{q}\|_2^2 + 2\nabla \cdot \left(\boldsymbol{m}\boldsymbol{m}^\top \nabla \log \boldsymbol{p}\right) \right) \mathrm{d}\mathbb{Q}.$$

• If m is θ -independent

$$\widehat{\mathsf{DSM}}_m(\{X_i\}_{i=1}^n \| \mathbb{P}_\theta) \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\| m^\top \nabla_x \log p_\theta \|_2^2 + 2\nabla \cdot \left(m m^\top \nabla \log p_\theta \right) \right) (X_i)$$

• For $\mathcal G$ unit ball vector-valued RKHS with matrix kernel K

$$\mathsf{DKSD}_{\mathcal{K},m}(\mathbb{Q}||\mathbb{P})^2 = \int k^0(x,y) \mathrm{d}\mathbb{Q} \otimes \mathrm{d}\mathbb{Q}$$
$$k^0(x,y) \equiv \frac{1}{p(y)p(x)} \nabla_y \cdot \nabla_x \cdot \left(p(x)m(x)\mathcal{K}(x,y)m(y)^\top p(y) \right)$$

• U-statistic approximation leads to DKSD estimators

$$\widehat{\mathsf{DKSD}}_{K,m}(\{X_i\}_{i=1}^n \| \mathbb{P}_{\theta})^2 = \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i \neq j} k_{\theta}^0(X_i, X_j)$$

- $m \operatorname{can} \operatorname{depend} \operatorname{on} \theta$
- K = kI, m = I then DKSD is KSD
- DKSD recovers DSM as a limit
- Statistical divergence when m invertible and K integrally positive definite
- Other examples recover contrastive divergences and minimum probability flow

- It is often stated that an advantage of Wasserstein-based estimators is that they take into account the geometry of the sample space
- In order to reflect the geometry of the statistical model in learning tasks you can follow a stochastic gradient flow generated by the information metric

$$egin{aligned} g_{\mathsf{DKSD}}(heta)_{ij} &= \int_{\mathfrak{X}^2} (
abla_{\mathbf{x}\partial_{\mathbf{\theta}^j}}\log p_{\mathbf{ heta}})^{ op} m_{\mathbf{ heta}}(\mathbf{x}) \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{x},y) m_{\mathbf{ heta}}^{ op}(y)
abla_{\mathbf{y}\partial_{\mathbf{ heta}^j}}\log p_{\mathbf{ heta}} \mathrm{d}\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{ heta}}(\mathbf{x}) \mathrm{d}\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{ heta}}(y), \ g_{\mathsf{DSM}}(heta)_{ij} &= \int_{\mathfrak{X}} \left\langle m^{ op}
abla_{\mathbf{ heta}^i} \log p_{\mathbf{ heta}}, m^{ op}
abla_{\mathbf{ heta}^j} \log p_{\mathbf{ heta}} \right\rangle \mathrm{d}\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{ heta}}. \end{aligned}$$