Beyond Two-sample-tests: Localizing Data Discrepancies in High-dimensional Spaces

Frederic.Cazals@inria.fr, Alix.Lheritier@inria.fr Inria Sophia Antipolis, Algorithms-Biology-Structure

- http://team.inria.fr/abs
- http://sbl.inria.fr





What do we provide?

Given two point clouds,



to find spatially coherent regions of high discrepancy,



we localize the discrepancy,



and provide a cluster based decomposed effect size.



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Goals

Outlook

Data discrepancies: two-sample problem and effect size

▶ The two-sample test (TST) approach

- Two datasets $x^{(n_0)} \equiv \{x_1, \dots, x_{n_0}\}$ and $y^{(n_1)} \equiv \{y_1, \dots, y_{n_1}\}$ in \mathbb{R}^d as i.i.d. samples from two unknown densities f_X and f_Y
- Hypothesis testing: $H_0: f_X = f_Y, H_1: f_X$ and f_Y differ in some way.
 - \rightarrow accept/reject: summarizes difference in a single bit

Effect size: "quantitative measure of the strength of a phenomenon"

- p-value gives magnitude of the statistical significance but "Statistical significance = Effect size × Sample size"
 - but Statistical significance = Effect size \times Sample size
- The statistic of TST reflects the global discrepancy and could be considered as a measure of the effect size
- ▷ Towards a nonparametric multivariate effect size:
 - effect size must be standardized in some way in order to be comparable
 - we seek to represent more general discrepancies,
 - in multidimensional spaces

Outline of our method: three steps

- Step 1: Estimate a measure of local discrepancy on each given point
- Step 2: Aggregate local discrepancy in a spatial coherent way, using topological persistence analysis to spot stable features, and produce clusters by removing low discrepancy points
- Step 3: Produce an effect size bar plot to summarize the discrepancy profile

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Step 1

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Pre-requisite: Jensen-Shannon divergence

Kullback-Leibler divergence (KLD):

$$\begin{cases} D_{\mathrm{KL}}\left(f\|g\right) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \log \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} dx \\ D_{\mathrm{KL}}\left(P\|Q\right) \equiv \sum_{l \in \mathcal{A}} P(l) \log \frac{P(l)}{Q(l)} \end{cases}$$

▷ The Jensen-Shannon divergence (JSD): symmetrizes and smoothes the KLD: Consider $f \equiv (f_X+f_Y)/2$, then

$$JS(f_X || f_Y) \equiv \frac{1}{2} \left(D_{\mathrm{KL}} \left(f_X || f \right) + D_{\mathrm{KL}} \left(f_Y || f \right) \right)$$

▶ Main properties of JSD:

- JSD is symmetric

- JSD is bounded between 0 and 1
- Its square root yields a metric

▷Ref: Endres and Schindelin; IEEE Trans. Info. Theory, 2003

Step 1: Jensen-Shannon divergence and its decomposition

- ▷ Notations: two unknown densities f_X and f_Y , and the associated samples $x^{(n_0)}$ and $y^{(n_1)}$
- Two random variables are implicitly defined:
 - a position variable Z with density $f_Z \equiv f = (f_X + f_Y)/2$
 - a binary label $L \in \{0, 1\}$ with pmf P(0) = 1/2, indicating from which density (f_X or f_Y) an instance of Z is obtained.

▶ Equivalently, one defines the following pair of random variables:

$$(L,Z) = \begin{cases} (0,X) & \text{with prob. } \frac{1}{2} \\ (1,Y) & \text{with prob. } \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

Associated conditional and unconditional probability mass functions:

$$\begin{cases} P(I|z) = \mathbb{P}(L = I|Z = z) \\ P(I) = \mathbb{P}(L = I) = \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

Lemma: the JSD can be expressed as:

$$JS(f_X \| f_Y) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f_Z(z) D_{\mathrm{KL}}\left(P(\cdot|z) \| P(\cdot)\right) dz$$

Step 1: the local discrepancy

From

$$JS(f_X || f_Y) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f_Z(z) D_{\mathrm{KL}}(P(\cdot|z) || P(\cdot)) \, dz$$

 \triangleright We define the *discrepancy* at location z as

$$\delta(z) \equiv D_{\mathrm{KL}}\left(P(\cdot|z) \| P(\cdot)\right).$$

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Remarks:

 $-\delta(z) \in [0,1]$ and $\delta(z) = 0 \Leftrightarrow f_X(z) = f_Y(z)$. -P(I) is known but P(I|z) is not: we need to estimate P(I|z) at each given location z.

Step 1: random design nonparametric regression

▷ Consider random variables: location $Z \in \mathbb{R}^d$, and response variable $R \in \mathbb{R}$

Associated regression function:

$$m(z) \equiv \mathbb{E}\left[R|Z=z\right].$$

▷ Consider data: $\{(Z_i, R_i)\}_{i=1,...,n}$

 $ightharpoonup k_n$ -nearest neighbors regressor: upon sorting samples by increasing distance to z:

$$m_n(z) = \frac{1}{k_n} \sum_{i=1,\ldots,k_n} R_{(i,n)}(z)$$

NB: m_n(z) is a random variables: some convergence assessment is in order.
 Ref: L. Györfi and A. Krzyzak; A distribution-free theory of nonparametric regression; 2002

Step 1: estimation via k-nearest neighbors

- \triangleright Using the labels as reponse variable $R\equiv L$
- ▷ Estimate $P(\cdot|z)$ via random design nonparametric regression:
- build an estimator $m_n(z)$ using n i.i.d. realizations of (L, Z) for:

$$m(z) = \mathbb{E}\left[L|Z=z\right] = P(1|z).$$

- Then, if $0 \le m_n(z) \le 1$, we can use the following estimator for P(l|z):

$$\hat{P}_n(I|z) \equiv |1-I-m_n(z)|.$$

▷ Thm: Using a k_n -nearest neighbors regressor, s.t. $\frac{k_n}{\log n} \to \infty$ and $\frac{k_n}{n} \to 0$:

$$\hat{\delta}_n(z)\equiv D_{\mathrm{KL}}\left(\hat{P}_n\left(\cdot|z
ight)\|P(\cdot)
ight) \xrightarrow{n
ightarrow\infty}\delta(z)$$
 a.s.

for *f*-almost all $z \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

The random multiplexer to obtain i.i.d. realizations of (L, Z)

▷ A random sampler produces i.i.d. realizations of (Z, L) from $x^{(n_0)}$ and $y^{(n_1)}$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & & \\ & & \\ Y & & \\$$

Figure: Random multiplexer generating pairs (label, position).

▷ The case of populations of uneven sizes:

- the multiplexer will consume faster the small population, and halt
- unused samples of the large population: detrimental since information loss
- resample B times and take the median of estimates, on a per sample basis

Step 1: Illustration: statistical image comparison

▷ Images: taking 2 × 2 blocks in each color channel (R,G,B) yields points in \mathbb{R}^{12} . ▷ Interpolate gray scale pixel color with red scale representing discrepancy at each pixel (upper left corner of the corresponding block) estimated with $k_n = n^{1/3}$



Multidimensional Scaling of parameter space:

The two populations...



Step 2

Outlook

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Step 2: Building the clusters from sublevel sets of $-\hat{\delta}(z)$

Ingredients:

- Height function / landscape: estimated discrepancy δ(z)
- Parameter: significance threshold δ_{max}

Construction:

- ldea: one cluster \sim one connected component of the sublevel set of $-\hat{\delta}(z)$ defined by δ_{max}
- Extra ingredient: smoothing the landscape to get rid of small clusters : smoothing using topological persistence at threshold ρ



 \triangleright NB: spurions samples removed from clusters due to filtering wrt δ_{max} .

Step 2: Building the clusters: persistence diagram

Partition of the PD induced by:

- Significance threshold δ_{max}
- Persistence threshold ρ



- ▶ Local minimum *m* of $-\hat{\delta}(z)$:
 - ► Selected/rejected: *m* was born before −δ_{max}.
 - Persistent/canceled: persistence(m) ≥ ρ
 - ► Filtered (un-filtered): the catchment basin of *m* dies after (before) -δ_{max}.

Observation:

- # persistent local minima : 1 + num points in the region $R_4 \cup R_5$ of the PD.

Step 2: Illustration: statistical image comparison Images again:









▷ Parameters: k = 10 (NNG), $\rho = 0.1, \delta_{max} = 0.1$







Landscape Simplification:

Union-find versus recursive simplification of the Morse-Smale-Witten complex

Clustering: one versus many:

- Work with critical points (instead of all samples)
- Pre-process the c.p. to redo analysis at various $\delta_{\textit{max}}$ threshold



- ▷Ref: Chazal et al; Tomato; ACM SoCG 2011
- ▷Ref: Banyaga, Hurtubise; Lectures on Morse Homology; 2004
- ▷Ref: Cazals, Cohen-Steiner; CGTA, 2011

Goals Step 1 Step 2

Step 3

Wrapping-up

More examples

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Step 3: Effect size: discrepancy profile

Global estimated JSD: area under dashed line

▷ Maximum JSD: area under continuous line (=1)

 \triangleright Contribution of each cluster C to JSD: area of bar

$$JS_{C}(f_{X}||f_{Y}) \equiv \frac{1}{n_{0}+n_{1}} \sum_{z \in (x^{(n_{0})} \cup y^{(n_{1})}) \cap C} \hat{\delta}(z).$$

Mass of each cluster: bar width

Population balance in each cluster: bar color

- ▷ Ellipses:
 - Large global JSD (dashed line)
 - Contributed by 2+2 balanced clusters

▶ Images:

- Smaller global JSD (dashed line)
- Contributed by 2 clusters





Goals Step 1

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More examples

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Wrapping-up: workflow



Compulsory parameters:

 k_n : regression parameter

 δ_{max} : discrepancy significance threshold

 ρ : persistence threshold

k: num. of nearest neighbors for the persistence based clustering

Optional parameter:

B: num. repetition in case of unbalanced populations

Try me: http://sbl.inria.fr



Structural Bioinformatics Library

Template C++ / Python API for developping structural bioinformatics applications.



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Goals Step 1 Step 2

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More examples

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Gaussian mixture: specification

- Goal: ability to spot regions of different intensity of discrepancy.
 Data:
- distributions for X and Y: two mixtures of four 2D Gaussians $n_0 = n_1 = 2000$.

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Gaussian mixture: results I

-k = 6 (NNG) $-\delta_{max} = 0.13$ yields two large clusters



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Gaussian mixture: results II

-k = 6 (NNG) $-\delta_{max} = 0.25$ yields four small clusters



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Crenels: specification

▶ Goal: coping with data of low intrinsic dimension (in fact: 1 in d=121)
 ▶ Data:

- Points:
 - consider the pixels (0/1) of a m imes m grayscale image ${\cal T}$
 - rotating the image I yields a point cloud (1 point per image)
 - -m = 11 yields d = 121; but intrinsic dimension is one
- Populations:

red points: from RV $X = rotate(I, A_X)$ with uniform RV $A_X \sim \mathcal{U}(s, t)$, blue points: from RV $Y = rotate(I, A_Y)$, with: consider two Bernoulli RV $B_1 \sim \mathcal{B}(p_1)$ and $B_2 \sim \mathcal{B}(p_2)$, two uniform RV $U_1 \sim \mathcal{U}(a, b)$ and $U_1 \sim \mathcal{U}(c, d)$. Define: $A_Y = B_1(B_2U_1 + (1 - B_2)U_2) + (1 - B_1)A_X$. $n_0 = 2000$, $n_1 = 2000$

▷ Rotated images: (a) Orignal image (b,c,d,e) Example rotated images



Crenels: results

- k = 30 (NNG), $- \delta_{max} = 0.1$



Handwritten digits: specification

▶ Handwritten digits:

- One digit: 28×28 grayscale image: d = 784
- Populations: $n_0 = n_1 = 1600$
- More specifically: two mixtures of 3s, 6s and 8s

digit	blue	red
3	100	1000
6	500	500
8	1000	100

Images from: http://www.cs.nyu.edu/~roweis/data.html:



>Ref: LeCun and Cortes; The MNIST database of handwritten digits, 1998

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Handwritten: results

-k = 30 (NNG), $-\delta_{max} = 0.35$



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Outlook: about regression

- k-NN based regressors: adapt to local intrinsic dimension: convergence results proved (L₂ sense) for marginals μ which are doubling measures.
- random projection tree based regressors: convergence results proved (L₂ sense) when X has Assouad dimension d. NB: more efficient than k-NN since cells of RPT have constant size.
- Open problem (AFAIK): strong pointwise consistency using RPTrees.

PRef: Kpotufe; k-NN regression adapts to local intrinsic dimension; NIPS 2011

▷Ref: Kpotufe and Dasgupta; A tree-based regressor that adapts to intrinsic dimension; J. of Computer and System Sciences, 2012

Outlook: general

About p-values:

- Use a classical test, possibly Maximum Mean Discrepancy (Gretton et al).
- Also: the k-NN estimator used in a sequential way can be used to compute a p-value in a flexible way—the number of samples to process need not be known in advance.
- More applications:
 - Finding clusters with low discrepancy: study $\hat{\delta}$.
 - Goodness-of-fit analysis: sampling from a given model, then comparing data to spot discrepancies
- Feedback versus feature based selection: Compare to NIPS 2015 paper *Principal differences analysis*: feature based identification in the context of TST