

# ECE 6970 - Homework Assignment 3

November 15th 2019

**Due to:** Tuesday, November 26th, 2019 (at the beginning of the lecture)

**Instructions:** Submission in pairs is allowed. Prove and explain every step in your answers.

- 1) **Properties of  $f$ -divergences:** For any  $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})$  probability measures on the same probability space, dominated by a common measure  $P, Q \ll \lambda$ , recall that

$$D_f(P\|Q) := \mathbb{E}_Q f\left(\frac{dP/d\lambda}{dQ/d\lambda}\right),$$

where  $f$  is a convex function satisfying the assumption given in class and  $d\mu/d\lambda$  is the Radon-Nikodym derivative of  $\mu$  with respect to  $\lambda$ . Prove the following properties:

a) Non-negativity:  $D_f(P\|Q) \geq 0$  with equality if and only if  $P = Q$ .

b) Joint convexity: The map  $(P, Q) \mapsto D_f(P\|Q)$  is (jointly) convex.

**Hint:** Use the ‘perspective’ of  $f$ , defined by  $g(x, y) = yf\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)$ , which is convex in  $(x, y)$  if and only if  $f$  is convex.

c) Conditioning increases  $f$  divergence: For  $P_X \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})$  and two transition kernels (channels)  $P_{Y|X}$  and  $Q_{Y|X}$  from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathcal{Y}$ , consider the probability measures  $P_{X,Y} := P_X P_{Y|X}$  and  $Q_{X,Y} := P_X Q_{Y|X}$  on  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$ . Denoting by  $P_Y$  and  $Q_Y$  their marginals on  $\mathcal{Y}$ , show that

$$D_f(P_Y\|Q_Y) \leq D_f(P_{Y|X}\|Q_{Y|X}|P_X) =: \int D_f(P_{Y|X=x}\|Q_{Y|X=x})dP_X(x). \quad (1)$$

d) Same channel  $\implies$  same divergence: For  $P_X, Q_X \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})$  and a transition kernel  $P_{Y|X}$ , define  $P_{X,Y} := P_X P_{Y|X}$  and  $Q_{X,Y} := Q_X P_{Y|X}$  (measures on the product space, as before). Show that

$$D_f(P_X\|Q_X) = D_f(P_{X,Y}\|Q_{X,Y}).$$

- 2) **Example of Data Processing Inequality:** Let  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{F})$  be a measurable space ( $\mathcal{X}$  is the sample set and  $\mathcal{F}$  the  $\sigma$ -algebra). Use the Data Processing Inequality to show that for any two probability measures  $P, Q$  on  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{F})$  and any  $E \in \mathcal{F}$ :

$$D_f(P\|Q) \geq D_f(\text{Bern}(P(E))\|\text{Bern}(Q(E))),$$

where  $\text{Bern}(p)$ , for  $p \in [0, 1]$ , is a Bernoulli  $p$  distribution.

- 3)  **$f$ -divergences, metrics, and mismatched support:** Recall the definitions of Kullback-Leibler (KL) divergence  $D_{\text{KL}}(\cdot\|\cdot)$ ,  $\chi^2$ -divergence  $\chi^2(\cdot\|\cdot)$ , Total Variations Distance  $\delta_{\text{TV}}(\cdot, \cdot)$ , Squared Hellinger Distance  $H^2(\cdot, \cdot)$ , and Jensen-Shannon Divergence  $\text{JSD}(\cdot\|\cdot)$  provided in class. Show that:

a)  $\sqrt{H^2(\cdot, \cdot)}$  is a metric on  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})$ .

**Hint:** Use relation to  $L^2$  norm. You may assume probability measures have densities, but a general proof is preferable.

b)  $D_{\text{KL}}(P, Q) = \chi^2(P, Q) = \infty$  whenever  $P \not\ll Q$  (i.e.,  $P$  is not absolutely continuous with respect to  $Q$ ).

c)  $\delta_{\text{TV}}(P, Q)$ ,  $H^2(P, Q)$  and  $\text{JSD}(P, Q)$  attain their maximal values, 1, 2, and  $2 \log 2$ , respectively, whenever  $\text{supp}(P) \cap \text{supp}(Q) = \emptyset$ .

d) Explain why the previous property is unwanted when performing generative modeling  $\inf_{\theta \in \Theta} \delta(P, Q_\theta)$  of a data distribution  $P$  based on a parametrized family  $\{Q_\theta\}_{\theta \in \Theta}$  under statistical divergence  $\delta$ .

4)  **$f$ -divergences variational formula:** The convex conjugate of a function  $f$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  is  $f^*(y) = \sup_{x \in \text{dom}(f)} xy - f(x)$ , where  $\text{dom}(f)$  is the domain of  $f$ . We saw the following variational representation of  $f$ -divergences:

$$D_f(P||Q) = \sup_{g: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}} \mathbb{E}_P[g] - \mathbb{E}_Q[f^* \circ g],$$

where the supremum is over all measurable  $g$  for which the expectations are finite. In random variable notation, the right-hand side is written as  $\sup_g \mathbb{E}_P[g(X)] - \mathbb{E}_Q[f^*(g(X))]$ , with the law of  $X$  specified in the subscript. Show that

a)  $D_f(P||Q) \geq \sup_{g: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}} \mathbb{E}_P[g] - \mathbb{E}_Q[f^* \circ g]$ , when supremising over all  $g$  as above.

**Hint:** The convex conjugate is a biconjugation, i.e.,  $(f^*)^* = f$ . and for any  $y \in \text{dom}(f^*)$ ,  $f(x) \geq yx - f^*(y)$ .

b) **Bonus:** Assuming  $f$  is differentiable, equality in the supremum is attained by  $g(x) = f' \left( \frac{dP}{dQ}(x) \right)$ , where  $f'$  is the derivative of  $f$ . Prove this fact (not mandatory).

c) Derive the following variational formulas by computing convex conjugates:

i)  $D_{\text{KL}}(P||Q) = 1 + \sup_{g: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}} \mathbb{E}_P g(X) - \mathbb{E}_Q e^{g(X)}$

ii)  $\delta_{\text{TV}}(P, Q) = \sup_{\|g\|_\infty \leq 1} \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_P g(X) - \mathbb{E}_Q g(X)$

iii)  $\chi^2(P||Q) = \sup_{g: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}} \mathbb{E}_P g(X) - \mathbb{E}_Q \left[ g(X) + \frac{g^2(x)}{4} \right]$

**Hint:** Consider the change of variables  $h(x) = \frac{g(x)}{2} + 1$ .

5) **Entropy (full) chain rule:** Let  $(X_1, \dots, X_k) \sim P_{X_1, \dots, X_n}$ . Show that:

a) If  $(X_1, \dots, X_k)$  is discrete, then its Shannon entropy decomposes as  $H(X_1, \dots, X_k) = \sum_{i=1}^k H(X_i | X_1, \dots, X_{i-1})$ , where  $H(X_1 | X_0) = H(X_1)$ .

b) If  $(X_1, \dots, X_k)$  is jointly continuous, then its differential entropy decomposes as  $h(X_1, \dots, X_k) = h(X_k) + \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} h(X_{k-i} | X_k, \dots, X_{k-(i-1)})$ .

6) **Properties of mutual information:** Let  $(X, Y, Z) \sim P_{X, Y, Z}$ . Use properties learned in class to show that:

a) Mutual information and conditional KL divergence:  $I(X; Y) = D_{\text{KL}}(P_{Y|X} || P_Y | P_X)$ , where  $P_{X, Y} = P_X P_{Y|X}$  and  $P_Y$  is its  $Y$ -marginal. The conditional KL divergence is defined in (1).

b) More data  $\implies$  more information:  $I(X; Y) \leq I(X; Y, Z)$ .

c) Mutual information and functions:  $I(X; Y) \geq I(X; f(Y))$  for any deterministic function  $f$ . Furthermore, if  $f$  is continuous and one-to-one, then  $I(X; f(X)) = H(X)$  for discrete  $X$ , and  $I(X; f(X)) = \infty$  for continuous  $X$ . Do not use mutual information Data Processing Inequality in your proof.