

Mathematical Foundations of Infinite-Dimensional Statistical Model

Chap.3.5.3 - 3.6.1

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2019.01.04

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3.6.1 Vapnik-Červonenkis Classes of Sets

Reviews

- **Theorem 3.1.7**(Bernstein's inequality) Let $X_i, (1 \leq i \leq n)$ be centred independent random variables such that, for all $k \geq 2$ and all $1 \leq i \leq n$,

$$E|X_i|^k \leq \frac{k!}{2} \sigma_i^2 c^{k-2}$$

and set $\sigma = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i$, $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$. Then

$$Pr\{S_n \geq t\} \leq \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2\sigma + 2ct}\right), t \geq 0$$

Reviews

- **Theorem 3.5.13** Let P be a probability measure on (S, \mathcal{S}) and for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and let X_1, \dots, X_n be an independent sample of size n from P . Let \mathcal{F} be a class of measurable functions on S that admits a P -square integrable envelope F and satisfies the $L^2(P)$ -bracketing condition

$$\int_0^2 \sqrt{\log(N_{[]}(\mathcal{F}, L^2(P), \|F\|_{L^2(P)} \tau)} d\tau < \infty$$

Set $\sigma^2 := \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} Pf^2$ and

$$a(\delta) = \frac{\delta}{\sqrt{32 \log(2(N_{[]}(\mathcal{F}, L^2(P), \delta/2))}}$$

Then, for any $\delta > 0$,

$$E \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n (f(X_i) - Pf) \right\|_{\mathcal{F}}^* \leq 56\sqrt{n} \int_0^{2\delta} \sqrt{2 \log(N_{[]}(\mathcal{F}, L^2(P), \tau)} d\tau + 4nP[F|F| > \sqrt{na}(\delta)] + \sqrt{n\sigma}$$

- ▶ Instead of the $L^2(P)$ -norm, we will use a quantity $\rho_K(f)$ that is neither a norm nor a distance.
- ▶ Given a probability measure P on (S, \mathcal{S}) and a positive constant K , we set

$$\rho_K^2(f) = 2K^2 E(e^{|f(X)|/K} - 1 - |f(X)|/K) = 2K^2 \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{E|f(X)|^k}{K^k k!}$$

where X has probability law P

- ▶ Define the Bernstein size of f as the nonnegative square root of $\rho_K^2(f)$.

Properties of $\rho_K(f)$

- ▶ $\rho_K(f) < \infty$ if and only if $Ee^{|f(x)|/K} < \infty$
- ▶ $\lim_{K \rightarrow \infty} \rho_K(f) = E f^2(X)$
- ▶ **Lemma 3.5.18**
 - $\rho_K(f)$ is nonincreasing in K and $\rho_K(\lambda f) = |\lambda| \rho_{K/|\lambda|}(f)$
 - $\lambda_K^2(f+g) \leq 2\rho_{K/2}^2(f) + 2\rho_{K/2}^2(g)$
 - If $\rho_K(f) \leq R$, then $E|f(X)|^k \leq k! K^{k-2} R^2 / 2$, for all $k \geq 2$.
 - If $E|f(X)|^k \leq k! K^{k-2} R^2 / 2$, for all $k \geq 2$, then $\rho_{2K}^2(f) \leq 2R^2$
 - If $\|f\|_\infty \leq K$ and $Ef(X)^2 \leq R^2$, then $\rho_{2K}^2 \leq 2R^2$

- **Corollary 3.5.19** Let X_i be independent identically distributed random variables with law P , and let P_n be the corresponding empirical measure. Assume that $E f(X) = 0$ and $\rho_K(f) \leq R$. Then, given $C > 0$,

$$Pr\{\sqrt{n}|(P_n - P)(f)| \geq t\} \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2(C+1)R^2}\right), \quad t \leq C\sqrt{n}R^2/K$$

- **Definition 3.5.20** Let \mathcal{F} be a class of measurable functions $f: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $Ee^{|f(X)|/K} < \infty$. For each $\epsilon > 0$, the $B(K, P)$ -bracketing number $N_{BK}(\mathcal{F}, P, \epsilon)$ is defined as the smallest N for which there exists a partition of the class \mathcal{F} into N subsets B_1, \dots, B_N such that, letting $\Delta_i := (\sup_{f, g \in B_i} |f - g|)^*$, we have $\rho_K(\Delta_i) \leq \epsilon$, for $1 \leq i \leq N$. For each $\epsilon > 0$, the $B(K, P)$ -bracketing entropy of \mathcal{F} is defined as $H_{BK}(\mathcal{F}, P, \epsilon) = \log N_{BK}(\mathcal{F}, P, \epsilon)$.

- **Theorem 3.5.21** Let P be a probability measure on (S, \mathcal{S}) , and for each n , let P_n be the empirical measure corresponding to n independent identically distributed random variables with law P . Let \mathcal{F} be a class of measurable functions such that $\rho_K(f) \leq R$, for all $f \in \mathcal{F}$. Given $C_1 < \infty$, for all C sufficiently large and C_0 satisfying

$$C_0^2 \geq C^2(C_1 + 1)$$

, and for $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $t > 0$ satisfying

$$C_0(R \vee \int_{t/(2^6 \sqrt{n})}^R \sqrt{H_{B,K}(\mathcal{F}, P, \epsilon)} d\epsilon) \leq t \leq \sqrt{n}((8R) \wedge (C_1 R^2 / K))$$

we have

$$Pr\{\sqrt{n}\|P_n - P\|_{\mathcal{F}} \geq t\} \leq C \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{C^2(C_1 + 1)R^2}\right)$$

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3.5.3 Bracketing II: An Exponential bound for empirical processes over not necessarily bounded classes of functions

3.6.1 Vapnik-Červonenkis Classes of Sets

VC-class

Let \mathcal{C} be a class of subsets of a set S . Let $A \subseteq S$ be a finite set.

- ▶ The trace of \mathcal{C} on A is the collection of all the subsets of A obtained by intersection of A with sets C from \mathcal{C} .
- ▶ $\Delta^{\mathcal{C}}(A)$ is the cardinality of the trace of the class \mathcal{C} on A .
- ▶ $\Delta^{\mathcal{C}}(A) \leq 2^{\text{Card}(A)}$
- ▶ \mathcal{C} shatters A if $\Delta^{\mathcal{C}}(A) = 2^{\text{Card}(A)}$
- ▶ $m^{\mathcal{C}}(k) = \sup_{A \subseteq S; \text{Card}(A)=k} \Delta^{\mathcal{C}}(A)$.

VC-class

Let \mathcal{C} be a class of subsets of a set S . Let $A \subseteq S$ be a finite set.

- ▶ **Definition 3.6.1** A collection of sets \mathcal{C} is a Vapnik-Červonenkis Classes if quantity

$$v(\mathcal{C}) := \begin{cases} \min\{k : m^{\mathcal{C}}(k) < 2^k\} & \text{if } m^{\mathcal{C}}(k) < 2^k \\ \infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

is finite, that is, if there exists $k < \infty$ such that \mathcal{C} does not shatter any subsets of S of cardinality k .

VC-class

- **Theorem 3.6.2** Let \mathcal{C} be a non-empty VC class, and let $v = v(\mathcal{C})$. Then, for any finite set $A \subseteq S$,

$$\Delta^{\mathcal{C}}(A) \leq \text{Card}\{B \subseteq A : \text{Card}(B) < v\} = \sum_{j=0}^{v-1} \binom{\text{Card}(A)}{j}$$

and therefore,

$$m^{\mathcal{C}}(n) \leq \sum_{j=0}^{v-1} \binom{n}{j}$$

- **Proposition 3.6.4** Let k and n be nonnegative integers such that $n \geq k + 2$. Then

$$\sum_{j=0}^k \binom{n}{j} \leq \frac{1.5n^k}{k!}$$

- **Corollary 3.6.5** If \mathcal{C} is a non-empty VC class of sets and $v = v(\mathcal{C})$ is its VC index, then,

$$m^{\mathcal{C}}(n) \leq \frac{1.5n^{v-1}}{(v-1)!}, \text{ for } n \geq v + 1$$

For $n = v$, $m^{\mathcal{C}}(n) \leq 2^v - 1$, and for $n < v$, $m^{\mathcal{C}} \leq 2^n < 2^v - 1$. In particular,

$$m^{\mathcal{C}}(n) \leq 2n^{v-1}, \text{ for all } n \geq 1.$$

VC-class

- ▶ **Proposition 3.6.6** If \mathcal{G} is a finite-dimensional vector space of real functions on S , then the class of sets $\mathcal{C} := [\{g \geq 0\} : g \in \mathcal{G}]$ is VC with $v(\mathcal{C}) = \dim \mathcal{G} + 1$. The same is true for $[\{g > 0\} : g \in \mathcal{G}]$
- ▶ **Proposition 3.6.7**
 - If \mathcal{C} is VC, then $\mathcal{C}^c := \{C^c : C \in \mathcal{C}\}$ is VC.
 - If \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{D} are VC, Then $\mathcal{C} \cup \mathcal{D}$ and $\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{D}$ are VC.
 - If \mathcal{C} is a collection of subsets of S and \mathcal{D} is a collections of subsets of T and both are VC, then $\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{D}$ is also VC.
 - If $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{D}$ and \mathcal{D} are VC, then \mathcal{C} is VC.