

## \* Chernoff Bound

Consider the log likelihood ratio test

$$\hat{X} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \log \frac{P_{Y|X}(y|0)}{P_{Y|X}(y|1)} \triangleq T(y) > \tau \\ 1 & \text{if } T(y) < \tau \end{cases}$$

The false alarm prob is then

$$P(T(Y) < \tau | X=0) \stackrel{\text{shorthand}}{=} P_0(T(Y) < \tau)$$

Misdetection prob.

$$P_1(T(Y) > \tau)$$

Many times they are hard to compute.

⇒ Find a bound instead.

## Markov Inequality

Assuming  $P(X \leq 0) = 0$

$$\Rightarrow P(X \geq d) \leq \frac{E(X)}{d}$$

## Chernoff Bound

For general  $X$

$$P(X \geq d)$$

$$\leq P(sX \geq sd) \quad \text{for any } s \geq 0$$

$$= P(e^{sX} \geq e^{sd}) \leq \frac{E(e^{sX})}{e^{sd}} \quad \text{for any } s > 0$$

$$\leq \min_{s \geq 0} \frac{E(e^{sX})}{e^{sd}}$$

For i.i.d.  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ .

Let  $\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  be the sample mean

$$P(\bar{X} \geq d) = P\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i \geq nd\right)$$

$$\leq \min_{s \geq 0} \frac{E(e^{s \sum X_i})}{e^{snd}}$$

$$\dots \prod E(e^{sX_i}) \quad \downarrow \text{indep.}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \stackrel{s \geq 0}{=} \min_{s \geq 0} \frac{e^{snd}}{\prod_{i=1}^n E(e^{sX_i})} \quad \left. \vphantom{\prod_{i=1}^n} \right\} \text{indep.} \\
 & = \min_{s \geq 0} \frac{(E(e^{sX}))^n}{e^{snd}} = \left( \min_{s \geq 0} \frac{E(e^{sX})}{e^{sd}} \right)^n
 \end{aligned}$$

⇒ For a sample mean  $\bar{X}$

$$P(\bar{X} \geq d) \leq \left( \text{The CB for each } X \right)^n$$

for any  $n$ . (exponential decay)

Moreover, the Chernoff bound is

asymptotically tight (under general conditions)

I.e. If  $E(X) < d$  then  $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists n_0$   
such that

$$P(\bar{X} \geq d) \geq \left( \min_{s \geq 0} \frac{E(e^{sX})}{e^{sd}} - \epsilon \right)^n$$

$$\forall n \geq n_0$$

Example:  $X_i = \text{i.i.d. Bernoulli R.V.}$

$$X_i \in \mathbb{R} \{0,1\}.$$

$$\bar{X}_{1000} = \frac{1}{1000} \sum_{i=1}^{1000} X_i$$

$$\text{Q: } P(\bar{X}_{1000} \geq 0.75)$$

Solution 1: Binomial distribution

Solution 2: Gaussian approximation (by the central limit theorem)

Solution 3: By Chernoff bound,  $d=0.75$

$$\min_{s \geq 0} \frac{E(e^{sX})}{e^{s \cdot 0.75}} = \min_{s \geq 0} \frac{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}e^s}{e^{s \cdot 0.75}}$$

$$s^* = \log \frac{0.75}{0.25} \quad \Bigg| \quad = 2 \times 3^{-3/4} \approx 0.8114$$

$$\Rightarrow P(\bar{X}_{1000} \geq 0.75) \leq (2 \times 3^{-3/4})^{1000}$$

\* Application of the Chernoff Bound to

hypothesis testing with i.i.d. observations

$H_0: Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  are i.i.d with  $Y_i \sim P_0$

$H_1: Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  are i.i.d with  $Y_i \sim P_1$

Q: Find the expression of the misdetection prob of a log likelihood ratio test with threshold  $\gamma$ .

$$\text{Ans: } P_1 \left( \frac{\log P_0(Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n)}{P_1(Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n)} \geq \gamma \right)$$

Or equivalently

$$\because \frac{\log P_0(Y_1, \dots, Y_n)}{P_1(Y_1, \dots, Y_n)} = \frac{\log P_0(Y_1) P_0(Y_2) \dots P_0(Y_n)}{P_1(Y_1) P_1(Y_2) \dots P_1(Y_n)}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \log \frac{P_0(Y_i)}{P_1(Y_i)} \triangleq \sum_{i=1}^n T(Y_i) \quad \text{where}$$

$$\Rightarrow P_1 \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n T(Y_i) \geq \tau \right) = \log \frac{P_0(y)}{P_1(y)}$$

$$\tau \triangleq \frac{\gamma}{n}$$

If  $\tau = 0 \Rightarrow$  MD prob of the ML detector

$$\text{If } \tau = \frac{\log(P(X=1)) - \log(P(X=0))}{n}$$

$\Rightarrow$  MD prob of the MAP detector

What if  $\tau = E_0(T(Y))$ ?

or more rigorously  $\tau = E_0(T(Y)) - \varepsilon$  for some small  $\varepsilon > 0$

---

What is the physical meaning of

$$\mathbb{P}_1 \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n T(Y_i) \geq E_0(T(Y)) - \varepsilon \right)?$$

Ans:  $T(Y_i)$  are i.i.d, when  $H_0$  is true, the sample mean  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n T(Y_i)$  concentrate around  $E_0(T(Y))$

$\Rightarrow \textcircled{1}$  is the prob when  $H_1$  is true but the observations  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  look as if  $H_0$  is true.

What is the value of

$$P_1 \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n T(Y_i) \geq \underbrace{E_0(T(Y))}_{\tau^*} \right) ?$$

By Chernoff bound.

$$P_1 \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n T(Y_i) \geq \tau^* \right)$$

$$\approx \left( \min_{s \geq 0} \frac{E_1(e^{sT(Y)})}{e^{s\tau^*}} \right)^n$$

$\triangleq f(s)$

We need to solve

$$f'(s) = E_1 \left( (T(Y) - \tau^*) e^{s(T(Y) - \tau^*)} \right) = 0$$

Try  $s=1$

$$e^{\tau^*} f'(1) = E_1 \left( (T(Y) - \tau^*) e^{T(Y)} \right)$$

$$e^{\tau^*} f(1) = E_1 \left( (T(Y) - \tau^*) e^{-\tau^* Y} \right) \\ = \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \left( \log \frac{P_0(y)}{P_1(y)} - \tau^* \right) e^{-\tau^* y} \frac{P_0(y)}{P_1(y)} \cdot P_1(y) dy$$

$$= \int \left( \log \frac{P_0(y)}{P_1(y)} - \tau^* \right) \frac{P_0(y)}{P_1(y)} P_1(y) dy$$

$$= \int \left( \log \frac{P_0(y)}{P_1(y)} - \tau^* \right) P_0(y) dy$$

$$= E_0(T(Y) - \tau^*)$$

$$= E_0(T(Y)) - \tau^* = 0 \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{Recall that} \\ \tau^* \triangleq E_0(T(Y)) \end{array} \right.$$

---

One can actually show that  $f(s)$  is a convex function of  $s$ . So  $s^* = 1$  is the minimum. H.V. Poor pp. 86-91

$$\Rightarrow \min_{s \geq 0} f(s) = f(1) \\ = \frac{E_1(e^{T(Y)})}{\tau^*}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{\int_y e^{z^*} e^{\log \frac{P_0(y)}{P_1(y)}} \cdot P_1(y) dy}{\int_y e^{z^*} \frac{P_0(y)}{P_1(y)} P_1(y) dy} = e^{-z^*}
 \end{aligned}$$

This special  $z^* \triangleq E_0 \left( \log \frac{P_0(Y)}{P_1(Y)} \right)$

is denoted as  $D(P_0 \parallel P_1)$  the divergence between  $P_0$  distribution  
 & the  $P_1$  distribution

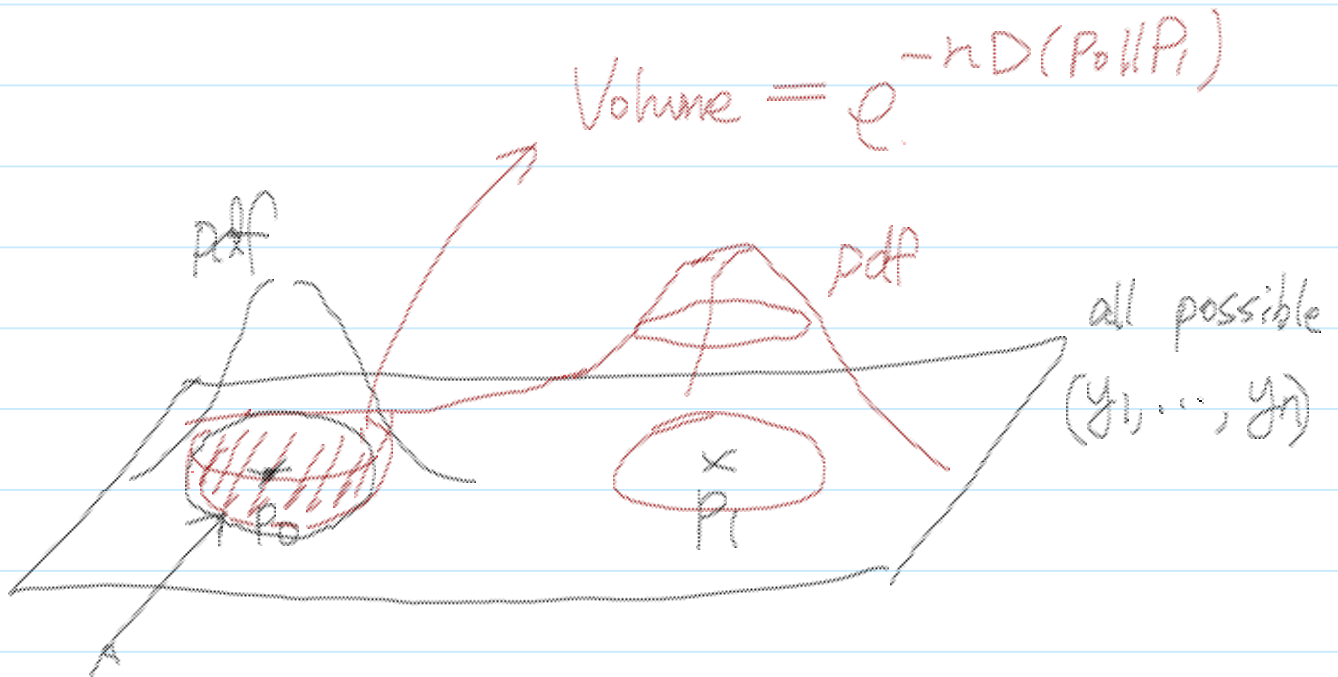
$$D(P_0 \parallel P_1) = E_0 \left( \log \frac{P_0(Y)}{P_1(Y)} \right) = \int_y P_0(y) \log \frac{P_0(y)}{P_1(y)} dy$$

(Also known as the Kullback-Leibler  
information number.)

The intuition behind  $D(P_0 \parallel P_1)$  is :

The prob that  $H_1$  is true but the

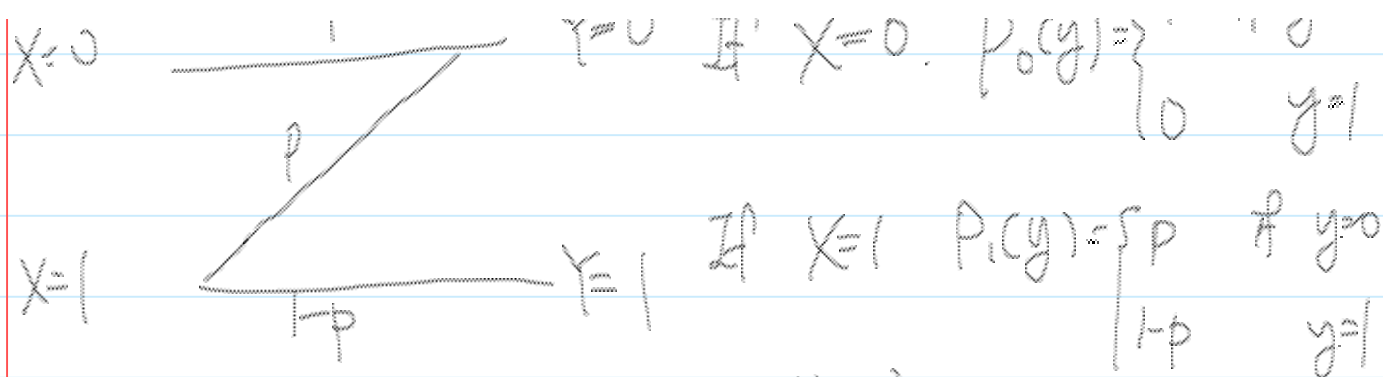
i.i.d.  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  look as if  $H_0$  is true.  
 is upper bounded by  $e^{-nD(P_0||P_1)}$   
 (which is asymptotically tight due to  
 the Chernoff bound.)



if  $H_0$  is true, the most likely  
 values of  $(y_1, \dots, y_n)$  is called  
 the typical set of  $P_0$

Example: The Z channel

$X=0$   $\xrightarrow{1}$   $Y=0$  if  $X=0$ .  $P_0(y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y=0 \\ 0 & \text{if } y=1 \end{cases}$



$$Q: D(P_0 || P_1) \text{ \& } D(P_1 || P_0)$$

$$\text{Ans: } D(P_0 || P_1) = E_0 \left( \log \left( \frac{P_0(Y)}{P_1(Y)} \right) \right)$$

$$= 1 \times \log \frac{P_0(0)}{P_1(0)} + 0 = \log \left( \frac{1}{p} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & D(P_1 || P_0) \\
 &= p \log \frac{P_1(0)}{P_0(0)} + (1-p) \log \frac{P_1(1)}{P_0(1)} \\
 &= \cancel{0} \neq
 \end{aligned}$$

Intuition:

$P(Y_1, \dots, Y_n \text{ look like } H_0 \text{ is true} \mid H_1 \text{ is true})$

$$\stackrel{(\approx)}{\leq} e^{-n D(P_0 || P_1)} = \left( \frac{1}{p} \right)^{-n} = p^n$$

I.e. receiving  $n$  consecutive zeros even though  $X=1$ .

$P(Y_1, \dots, Y_n \text{ look like } H_1 \text{ is true} \mid H_0 \text{ is true})$

$$\stackrel{(2)}{\approx} e^{-nD(P_1 \parallel P_0)} = 0$$

Why it is zero?  $\because$  When  $X=0$ ,

the output (with  $P_0(Y=1)=0$ ) can never mimic (look like)  $X=1$ , which has  $P_1(Y=1) \neq 0$

Properties of  $D(P_0 \parallel P_1)$

$$\textcircled{1} D(P_0 \parallel P_1) \geq 0$$

Intuition:

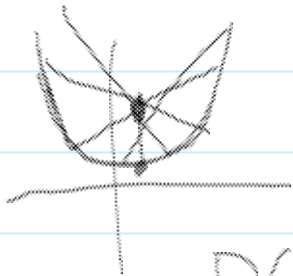
$e^{-nD(P_0 \parallel P_1)}$  is a tight prob

bound  $\Rightarrow e^{-nD(P_0 \parallel P_1)} \in [0, 1]$

$$\Leftrightarrow 0 \leq D(P_0 \parallel P_1) \leq \infty$$

pf: By Jensen's inequality:

For any convex function  $f(\cdot)$



$$E(f(X)) \geq f(E(X))$$

y coordinate x coordinate

$$D(P_0 \| P_1) = E_0 \left( \log \frac{P_0(Y)}{P_1(Y)} \right)$$

$$= E_0 \left( -\log \left( \frac{P_1(Y)}{P_0(Y)} \right) \right)$$

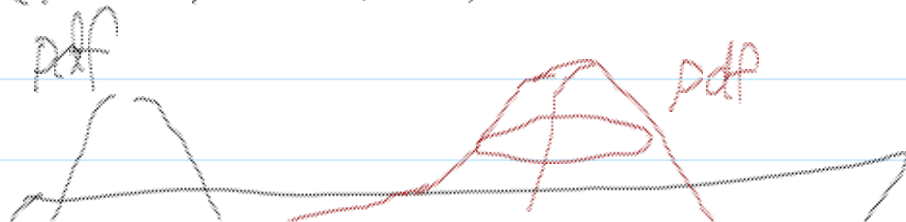
$\because -\log(\cdot)$  is convex

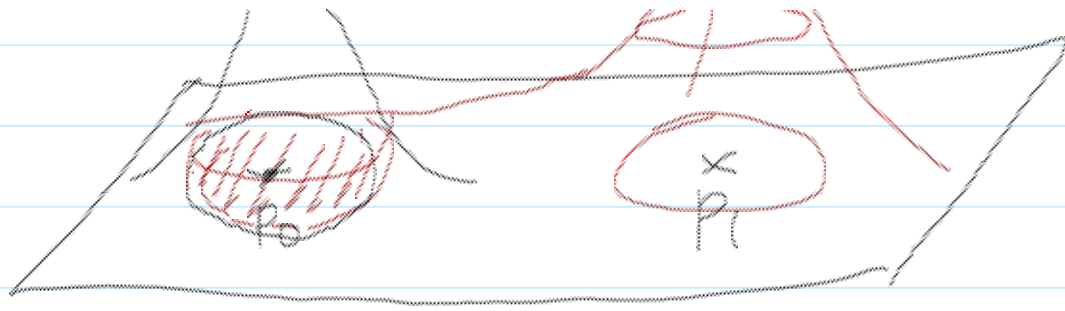
$$\geq -\log \left( E_0 \left( \frac{P_1(Y)}{P_0(Y)} \right) \right)$$

$$= -\log 1 = 0$$

② In general

$$D(P_0 \| P_1) \neq D(P_1 \| P_0)$$





How to use  $D(P_0 || P_1)$ ?

Ex:  $X_i$  is i.i.d Bernoulli with uniform distribution

$$\bar{X}_{1000} = \frac{1}{1000} \sum_{i=1}^{1000} X_i$$

$$Q: P(\bar{X}_{1000} > 0.75) = ?$$

Ans: The actual distribution is  $\overset{P_1 =}{\frac{1}{2}/\frac{1}{2}}$   
but the outcomes look like  $P_0 = 0.75/0.25$

$$\Rightarrow P(\bar{X}_{1000} > 0.75) \approx e^{-1000 D(P_0 || P_1)}$$

$$= e^{-1000 \left( 0.75 \times \log \frac{0.75}{0.5} + 0.25 \log \frac{0.25}{0.5} \right)}$$

$$= \left( 2 \times 3^{-0.75} \right)^{1000}$$

Note: The actual distribution is  $P_1$  but  $(H_1 \text{ is true})$

$$D(P_0 \parallel P_1) = E_{P_0} \left( \log \frac{P_0(Y)}{P_1(Y)} \right) \text{ is evaluated by } P_0$$

Properties of  $D(P_0 \parallel P_1)$ .

$$\textcircled{3} D(P_0 \parallel P_1) < \infty \text{ if } \forall x \text{ we have } P_1(X=x) > 0 \Rightarrow P_0(X=x) > 0$$

Mathematically  
Suppose  $E_{P_0} \left( \log \frac{P_0(Y)}{P_1(Y)} \right) < \infty$

$$\text{so } P_1(y) = 0 \Rightarrow P_0(y) = 0$$

Intuition:  $D(P_0 \parallel P_1) < \infty$

$\Leftrightarrow$  When  $H_1$  is true, the "prob of  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  looking like  $H_0$  is true" is non-zero

$\Leftrightarrow$  Given  $H_1$  is true, for  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  to mimic  $H_0$  is true, we must have

$$P_1(y) = 0 \Rightarrow P_0(y) = 0$$

④  $D(P_0 \| P_1)$  is a convex function with respect to  $P_0$  &  $P_1$

Namely for any pair of  $P_0, P_1, Q_0, Q_1$ .

We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & D(\alpha P_0 + (1-\alpha)Q_0 \| \alpha P_1 + (1-\alpha)Q_1) \\
 & \leq \alpha D(P_0 \| P_1) + (1-\alpha) D(Q_0 \| Q_1)
 \end{aligned}$$

(Note the LHS is

$$\sum_y (\alpha P_0(y) + (1-\alpha)Q_0(y)) \log \frac{\alpha P_0(y) + (1-\alpha)Q_0(y)}{\alpha P_1(y) + (1-\alpha)Q_1(y)}$$

pf: Exercise (Hint: By Jensen's inequality)



Intuition: Consider side information  $S$

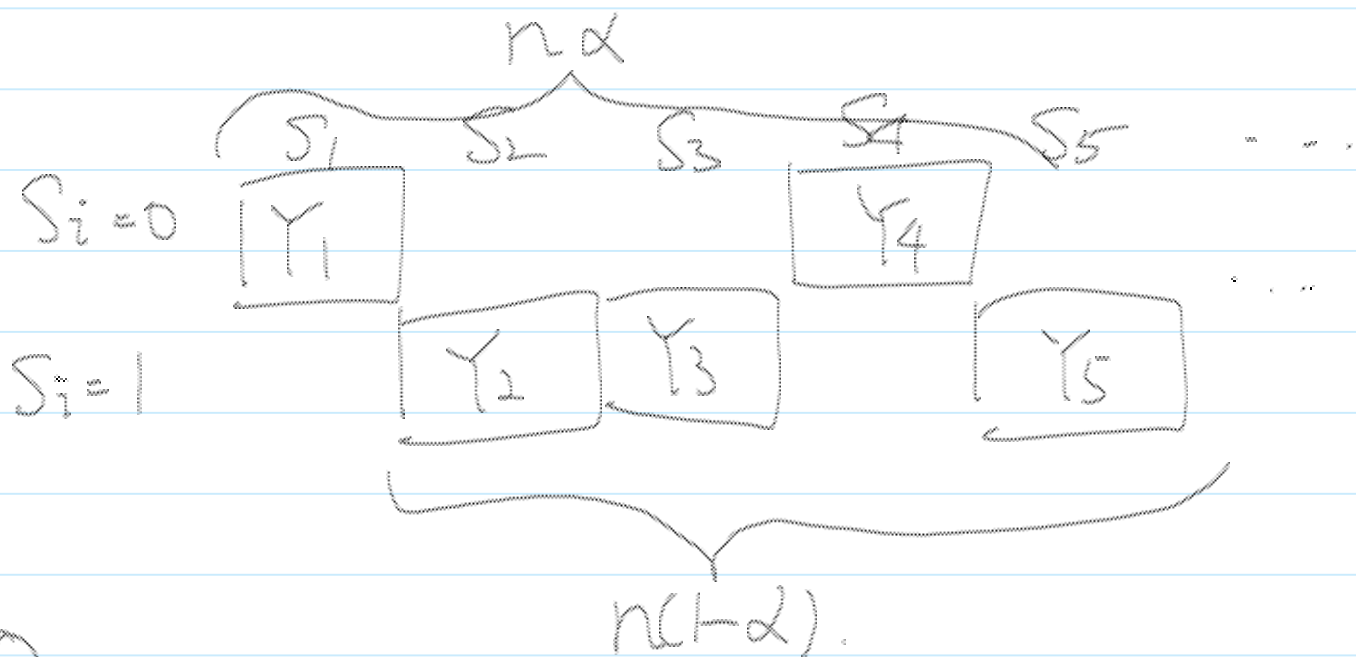
$$P_0(y) = P(Y=y | X=0, S=0)$$

$$Q_0(y) = P(Y=y | X=0, S=1)$$

$$P_1(y) = P(Y=y | X=1, S=0)$$

$$Q_1(y) = P(Y=y | X=1, S=1)$$

$$P(S=0) = \alpha \quad P(S=1) = 1-\alpha$$



① With the side info  $S_1, \dots, S_n$ , when will  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  look like  $H_0$  is true but actually  $H_1$  is true?