Entropy

• Entropy is the average surprise on finding out the outcome of some random variable *X*

$$H(X) = -\sum_{x \in X} P(x) \log_2 P(x)$$

- If P(x) is the probability that the outcome is x, then log P(x) is how surprised we would be if the outcome were x
- Since P(x) ranges from 0 (for impossible events) to 1 (for certain events), the surprise ranges from infinity (for impossible events) to 0 (for certain events)
- Entropy is the weighted average of the surprise for all possible outcomes

Information theory

• A binary code for transmitting poker hands:

straight flush	0000
four of a kind	0001
full house	0010
flush	0100
straight	1000
three of a kind	0011
two pair	0101
pair	1001
high card	0111

Information theory

• An improved code, taking advantage of uneven probabilities:

straight flush	0.0000154	11111111
four of a kind	0.000240	11111110
full house	0.00144	1111110
flush	0.00196	111110
straight	0.00393	11110
three of a kind	0.0211	1110
two pair	0.0475	110
pair	0.422	10
high card	0.501	0

• Now the expected value of the message length E[C] is 1.61 bits.

Relative entropy

 How many bits did we waste on average by using the wrong encoding?

$$E_{P}[(-\log_{2} q(x)) - (-\log_{2} p(x))] = \sum_{x \in X} p(x) ((-\log_{2} q(x)) - (-\log_{2} p(x)))$$
$$= \sum_{x \in X} p(x) (\log_{2} p(x) - \log_{2} q(x))$$
$$D(P||Q) = \sum_{x \in X} p(x) \log_{2} \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$$

- This *relative entropy* (or *Kullback-Leibler divergence*) can be used as a measure of how closely two probability distributions agree.
- The entropy and divergence is usually measured in *bits* (log₂) or nats (log_e).

Log likelihood

- Often, we are interested in comparing how well two models q₁ and q₂ match an empirical distribution p.
- In this case, we can equivalently look at the log likelihood:

$$D(P||Q) = \sum_{x \in X} p(x) \log \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$$
$$= \sum_{x \in X} p(x) \log p(x) - \sum_{x \in X} p(x) \log q(x)$$

Minimizing D(P||Q) is the same as maximizing:

$$L_P(Q) = \sum_{x \in X} p(x) \log q(x)$$

• Related to cross entropy $(-L_P(Q))$ and perplexity $(2^{-L_P(Q)})$.

Conditional entropy

• We can also define the joint and conditional entropy for combinations of random variables:

$$H(XY) = -\sum_{x \in X} \sum_{y \in Y} p(x, y) \log p(x, y)$$

$$H(Y|X) = \sum_{x \in X} p(x) H(Y|X = x)$$

$$= \sum_{x \in X} p(x) \left(-\sum_{y \in Y} p(y|x) \log p(y|x) \right)$$

$$= -\sum_{x \in X} \sum_{y \in Y} p(x, y) \log p(y|x)$$

• Like joint and conditional probability, joint and conditional entropy are related:

H(X, Y) = H(X) + H(Y|X)

Conditional entropy

• The conditional entropy H(Y|X) measures the amount of uncertainty in Y after we know the value of X (on average)

H(Y|X) = H(XY) - H(X)

- Shannon's game gives us conditional entropy:
 - H(letter) = 4.76
 - H(letter|previous letter) = 4.03
 - H(previous letter&letter) = 8.79

• The average mutual information *I*(*X*; *Y*) measures how much knowing the value of one random variable reduces the uncertainty about another:

$$(X; Y) = H(X) - H(X|Y)$$

= $H(X) + H(Y) - H(X, Y)$
= $\sum_{x \in X} \sum_{y \in Y} p(x, y) \log \frac{p(x, y)}{p(x)p(y)}$
= $I(Y; X)$
 ≥ 0

• *I*(*X*; *Y*) is the expected value of:

$$I(x, y) = \log \frac{\rho(x, y)}{\rho(x)\rho(y)}$$



- If X and Y are independent, then I(X; Y) = 0.
- The average MI of dependent variables depenends on their entropy:

$$I(X;X) = H(X) - H(X|X)$$

= $H(X) - H(X) + H(X)$
= $H(X)$

• Average MI is also related to relative entropy:

I(X; Y) = D(P(X, Y)||P(X)P(Y))

Recall that if X and Y are independent, then P(X, Y) = P(X)P(Y).

- Corpus linguistics, lexicography
 - I(w₁, w₂) >> 0 means w₁ occurs together with w₂ more often than you would expect by chance
 - I(w₁, w₂) << 0 means w₁ occurs together with w₂ less often than you would expect by chance
 - $I(w_1, w_2) \approx 0$ means there is no evidence for a relationship between w_1 and w_2
- For word counts:

$$I(w_1, w_2) = \log \frac{p(w_1, w_2)}{p(w_1)p(w_2)} = \log \frac{f(w_1, w_2) \times N}{f(w_1) \times f(w_2)}$$

- f(ik) 4094
 f(mijn) 951
 f(ik, mijn) 528
 l(ik, mijn) 2.61
- f(ik) 4094
 f(voor) 4491
 f(ik, voor) 449
 I(ik, voor) 0.137
- f(ik) 4094 f(zij) 1321 f(ik, zij) 60 I(ik, zij) -1.00

- f(regering) 150
 f(partij) 133
 f(regering, partij) 4
 I(regering, partij) 3.17
- f(jongen) 137
 f(meisje) 112
 f(jongen, meisje) 10
 I(jongen, meisje) 4.88
- f(jong) 95
 f(oud) 118
 f(jong, oud) 5
 I(jong, oud) 4.32

- f(tweede) 296 f(kamer) 194 f(tweede, kamer) 31 I(tweede, kamer) 4.60
- f(verenigde)
 f(naties)
 f(verenigde, naties)
 13
 I(verenigde, naties)
 9.11

Main verb	Object noun	MI	Joint freq
drink	martinis	12.6	3
drink	cup of water	11.6	3
drink	champagne	10.9	3
drink	beverage	10.8	8
drink	cup of coffee	10.6	2
drink	cognac	10.6	2
drink	beer	9.9	29
drink	cup	9.7	6
drink	coffee	9.7	12
drink	toast	9.6	4
drink	alcohol	9.4	20
drink	wine	9.3	10
drink	fluid	9.0	5
drink	liquor	8.9	4
drink	tea	8.9	5
drink	milk	8.7	8
drink	juice	8.3	4
drink	water	7.2	43
drink	quantity	7.1	4