# Interpretable Distribution Features with Maximum Testing Power 

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## Overview

■ Have: Two collections of samples $X, Y$ from unknown distributions $P$ and $Q$.

Positive emotions


Negative emotions


- Goal: Learn distinguishing features that indicate how $P$ and $Q$ differ.


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\end{array}
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- Why: best location = distinguishing feature.


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- Propose: a linear-time algorithm to find such data-driven feature(s).


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Witness Function (Gretton et al., 2012)

- 00


## Witness Function (Gretton et al., 2012)

Observe $X=\left\{\mathrm{x}_{1}, \ldots, \mathrm{x}_{n}\right\} \sim P$


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Best feature =
$\mathbf{v}^{*}$ that maximizes witness ${ }^{2}(\mathrm{v})$ ??

## Failure Mode of the Witness Function



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Sample size $n=50$


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## Sample size $n=500$



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Sample size $n=5000$


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## Failure Mode of the Witness Function

- $P(\mathbf{x})$
- $Q(\mathbf{y})$
- witness $^{2}(\mathbf{v})$

- witness ${ }^{2}(\mathrm{v})$ only cares about the "signal".
- Not the "noise" (variability) at each feature.


## The ME (Mean Embeddings) Statistic (Chwialkowski et al., 2015)

■ Variance of $\mathrm{v}=$ variance of v from $\mathrm{X}+$ variance of v from Y . - ME Statistic: $\hat{\lambda}_{n}(\mathrm{v}):=n \frac{\text { witness }^{2}(\mathrm{v})}{\text { variance of }^{\mathrm{v}}}$.

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## Properties of the ME Statistic

■ Can construct a two-sample test using $J$ features.

- $H_{0}: P=Q$ vs. $H_{1}: P \neq Q$.
- Choosing the best $J$ features increases a lower bound on the test power.
- Test power $=\mathbb{P}$ (reject $H_{0} \mid H_{1}$ is true).
- Runtime: $\mathcal{O}(n)$. Fast.


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## Distinguishing Positive/Negative Emotions



- 35 females and 35 males (Lundqvist et al., 1998).
- $48 \times 34=1632$ dimensions.

Pixel features.
■ $n=201$.

■ Informative features: differences at the nose, and smile lines.

## Distinguishing Positive/Negative Emotions


happy neutral surprised


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## Bayesian Inference Vs. Deep Learning Papers

Papers on Bayesian inference


Papers on deep learning


■ NIPS papers (1988-2015)
■ Sample size $n=216$.
■ Random 2000 nouns (dimensions). TF-IDF representation.

## Bayesian Inference Vs. Deep Learning Papers

No optimization


## Bayesian Inference Vs. Deep Learning Papers



## Bayesian Inference Vs. Deep Learning Papers



## Bayesian Inference Vs. Deep Learning Papers



Learned informative feature (a new document): infer, Bayes, Monte Carlo, adaptor, motif, haplotype, ECG, covariance, Boltzmann

## Illustration: Two Informative Features

- 2D problem.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& P: \mathcal{N}([0,0], I) \\
& Q: \mathcal{N}([1,0], I)
\end{aligned}
$$



160 140 120 100


## Summary




Learned feature

> Fast method to extract features for distinguishing two distributions

■ Python code available: http://wittawat.com

## Questions?

Thank you

## Full ME Test Statistic

$\square$ Let $\mathcal{V}=\left\{\mathbf{v}_{1}, \ldots, \mathbf{v}_{J}\right\}$ be the $J$ test locations.
$\square$ Let $\overline{\mathbf{z}}_{n}:=\left(\begin{array}{c}\hat{\mu}_{P}\left(\mathbf{v}_{1}\right)-\hat{\mu}_{Q}\left(\mathbf{v}_{1}\right) \\ \vdots \\ \hat{\mu}_{P}\left(\mathbf{v}_{J}\right)-\hat{\mu}_{Q}\left(\mathbf{v}_{J}\right)\end{array}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{J}$.
■ Let
$\left(\mathbf{S}_{n}\right)_{i j}:=\widehat{\operatorname{cov}}_{\mathbf{x}}\left[k\left(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}_{i}\right), k\left(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}_{j}\right)\right]+\widehat{\operatorname{cov}}_{\mathbf{y}}\left[k\left(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{v}_{i}\right), k\left(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{v}_{j}\right)\right] \in \mathbb{R}^{J \times J}$.

- Then, the statistic

$$
\hat{\lambda}_{n}:=n \overline{\mathbf{z}}_{n}^{\top}\left(\mathbf{S}_{n}+\gamma_{n} I\right)^{-1} \overline{\mathbf{z}}_{n},
$$

where $\gamma_{n}>0$ is a regularization parameter.
■ When $J=1$,

$$
\hat{\lambda}_{n}=n \frac{\left[\hat{\mu}_{P}(\mathbf{v})-\hat{\mu}_{Q}(\mathbf{v})\right]^{2}}{\gamma_{\mathrm{n}}+\operatorname{var}_{\mathbf{x}}[k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v})]+\operatorname{var}_{\mathbf{y}}[k(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{v})]}
$$

■ Computing $\hat{\lambda}_{n}: \mathcal{O}\left(J^{3}+J^{2} n+J d n\right)$.

- Optimization of $\mathcal{V}: \mathcal{O}\left(J^{3}+J^{2} d n\right)$.


## Distinguishing NIPS Articles

■ Bayesian inference, Deep learning, Learning theory
■ Random 2000 nouns (dimensions). TF-IDF representation.


Learned informative features (bags of words): Bayes-Deen: infer, Bayes, Monte Carlo, adantor, motif, haplotype, ECG Bayes-Learn: infer, Markov, graphic, segment, bandit, boundary, favor Learn-Deep: deep, forward, delay, subgroup, bandit, receptor, invariance

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## Preprocessing of NIPS articles

- Remove stop words, and stem.
- A paper belongs to a group if it has at least one keyword.
${ }_{1}$ Bayesian inference (Bayes): graphical model, bayesian, inference, mcmc, monte carlo, posterior, prior, variational, markov, latent, probabilistic, exponential family.
2 Deep learning (Deep): deep, drop out, auto-encod, convolutional, neural net, belief net, boltzmann.
${ }_{3}$ Learning theory (Learn): learning theory, consistency, theoretical guarantee, complexity, pac-bayes, pac-learning, generalization, uniform converg, bound, deviation, inequality, risk min, minimax, structural risk, VC, rademacher, asymptotic.
4 Neuroscience (Neuro): motor control, neural, neuron, spiking, spike, cortex, plasticity, neural decod, neural encod, brain imag, biolog, perception, cognitive, emotion, synap, neural population, cortical, firing rate, firing-rate, sensor.


## Lower Bound on Test Power

■ Let $\mathcal{K}$ be a kernel class such that $\sup _{k \in \mathcal{K}} \sup _{(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}) \in \mathcal{X}^{2}}|k(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y})| \leq B$.
$■$ Let $\mathbb{V}$ be a collection in which each element is a set of $J$ test locations.
■ Assume $\tilde{c}:=\sup _{\mathcal{V} \in \mathbb{V}, k \in \mathcal{K}}\left\|\Sigma^{-1}\right\|_{F}<\infty$.

## Proposition

The test power $\mathbb{P}_{H_{1}}\left(\hat{\lambda}_{n} \geq T_{\alpha}\right)$ of the $M E$ test satisfies $\mathbb{P}_{H_{1}}\left(\hat{\lambda}_{n} \geq T_{\alpha}\right) \geq L\left(\lambda_{n}\right)$ where $L\left(\lambda_{n}\right):=1-2 e^{-\xi_{1}\left(\lambda_{n}-T_{\alpha}\right)^{2} / n}-2 e^{-\frac{\left[\gamma_{n}\left(\lambda_{n}-T_{\alpha}\right)(n-1)-\xi_{2} n\right]^{2}}{\left.\xi_{3 n}(2 n-1)\right)^{2}}}-2 e^{-\left[\left(\lambda_{n}-T_{\alpha}\right) / 3-\bar{c}_{3} n \gamma_{n}\right]^{2} \gamma_{n}^{2} / \xi_{4}}$, and $\bar{c}_{3}, \xi_{1}, \ldots \xi_{4}$ are positive constants depending on only $B, J$ and $\tilde{c}$. For large $n, L\left(\lambda_{n}\right)$ is increasing in $\lambda_{n}$.

- $\lambda_{n}:=n \mu^{\top} \Sigma^{-1} \mu$ is the population counterpart of $\hat{\lambda}_{n}$.

■ $\mu=\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x y}}\left[\mathbf{z}_{1}\right]$ and $\Sigma=\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x y}}\left[\left(\mathbf{z}_{1}-\mu\right)\left(\mathbf{z}_{1}-\mu\right)^{\top}\right]$.

## Four Toy Problems

| Data | $P$ | $Q$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 1. Same Gaussian (SG) | $\mathcal{N}\left(0_{d}, I_{d}\right)$ | $\mathcal{N}\left(0_{d}, I_{d}\right)$ |
| 2. Gauss. mean difference (GMD) | $\mathcal{N}\left(0_{d}, I_{d}\right)$ | $\mathcal{N}\left((1,0, \ldots, 0)^{\top}, I_{d}\right)$ |
| 3. Gauss. variance difference (GVD) | $\mathcal{N}\left(0_{d}, I_{d}\right)$ | $\mathcal{N}\left(0_{d}, \operatorname{diag}(2,1, \ldots, 1)\right)$ |
| 4. Blobs (4×4 grid of Gaussian blobs) |  |  |




- $H_{0}$ is true in SG.
- $H_{1}$ is true in others.


## Rejection Rate vs. Sample Size

 GVD. $d=50$.


GMD. $d=100$.


Blobs. $d=2$.


■ $J=5$. Gaussian kernel.

- Right level of type-1 error. Optimizing $\mathcal{V}, \sigma^{2}$ helps.


## Rejection Rate vs. Data Dimension





■ $n:=10000 . \quad J=5$.

- T-test has higher type-1 error as dimension increases.

■ GMD: Optimizing $\mathcal{V}$ gives ME-full a maximum test power.

## Test with smooth characteristic functions (Chwialkowski



- $\hat{p}(\omega), \hat{q}(\omega)$ are characteristic functions of $P, Q$.


## Illustration: SCF test



- Checking the difference at finite locations may work.


## Illustration: SCF test


$-\hat{p}(\omega)$
$-\hat{q}(\omega)$

■ It may also fail if locations are poorly chosen.

## Illustration: SCF test



■ Smooth the characteristic functions.
■ Theoretically, any locations will reveal the difference.

## SCF test (Chwialkowski et al., 2015)

■ Test based on smooth characteristic functions (SCF) $\phi_{P}$.
■ Characteristic function of $P$ is $\hat{p}(\mathbf{w}):=\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim P} \exp \left(i \mathbf{w}^{\top} \mathbf{x}\right)$.

- Convolve with an analytic smoothing kernel $l(a)=\exp \left(-\frac{\|a\|^{2}}{2 \sigma^{2}}\right)$

$$
\phi_{P}(\mathbf{w})=\int_{\mathbb{R}^{d}} \hat{p}(\mathbf{w}) l(\mathbf{v}-\mathbf{w}) \mathrm{d} \mathbf{w} \stackrel{(\text { algebra })}{=} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{d}} \exp \left(i \mathbf{v}^{\top} \mathbf{x}\right) \hat{l}(\mathbf{x}) \mathrm{d} P(\mathbf{x})
$$

where $\hat{l}=$ inverse Fourier transform of $l$.

- Test statistic: $d_{\phi, J}^{2}(P, Q)=\frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^{J}\left(\phi_{P}\left(\mathbf{v}_{j}\right)-\phi_{Q}\left(\mathbf{v}_{j}\right)\right)^{2}$.
- $\hat{d}_{\phi, J}^{2}$ uses
$\hat{\phi}_{P}(\mathbf{v})=\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \exp \left(i \mathbf{v}^{\top} \mathbf{x}_{i}\right) \hat{l}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}\right)$.
■ $\mathbf{Z}_{i}:=$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \hat{l}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}\right) \sin \left(\mathbf{x}_{i}^{\top} \mathbf{v}_{j}\right)-\hat{l}\left(\mathbf{y}_{i}\right) \sin \left(\mathbf{y}_{i}^{\top} \mathbf{v}_{j}\right) \\
& \hat{l}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}\right) \cos \left(\mathbf{x}_{i}^{\top} \mathbf{v}_{j}\right)-\hat{l}\left(\mathbf{y}_{i}\right) \cos \left(\mathbf{y}_{i}^{\top} \mathbf{v}_{j}\right)
\end{aligned} \quad n \overline{\mathbf{z}}_{n}\left(\mathbf{S}+\gamma_{n}\right)^{-1} \overline{\mathbf{z}}_{n}
$$

Statistic

$$
\hat{\lambda}_{n}
$$

References I

