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WHAT CAN I DO?

I HAVE A PROBABILITY MEASURE MODELLING MY UNCERTAINTY, BUT I WANT TO ROBUSTIFY MY MODEL...

WHY DO NOT YOU USE DISTORTION MODELS?

DISTORTION MODELS

1. INGREDIENTS

P_0 : probability measure
 δ : distortion parameter
 d : distorting function

2. THE MODEL

$$B_d^\delta(P_0) = \{P \mid d(P, P_0) \leq \delta\}$$

$$\underline{P}_d(f) = \inf \{P(f) \mid P \in B_d^\delta(P_0)\}$$

$$\mathcal{M}(\underline{P}_d) = \{P \mid P(f) \geq \underline{P}_d(f) \forall f\}$$

d continuous and convex

3. PARTICULAR CASES

3.1 Known IP-models

$$\underline{P}_{PMM}(A) = \max\{0, (1 + \delta)P_0(A) - \delta\}$$

$$\underline{P}_{LV}(A) = (1 - \delta)P_0(A)$$

$$\underline{P}_{COR}(A) = \frac{(1 - \delta)P_0(A)}{1 - \delta P_0(A)}$$

3.2 Distance-based models

$$\underline{P}_{TV}(A) = \max\{0, P_0(A) - \delta\}$$

3.3 Vertical barrier models

$$\underline{P}_{VB}(A) = \max\{bP_0(A) + a, 0\}$$

3.4 Increasing transformations

$$\underline{P}(A) = g(P_0(A))$$

$g: [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ increasing
 $g(0) = 0, g(1) = 1$

Assumptions:
 $\mathcal{X} = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$
 $P_0(A) > 0 \forall A \neq \emptyset$
 δ "small enough"

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WHY DO NOT YOU CONSIDER THE EUCLIDEAN DISTANCE?

BUT IF YOU USE A DISTANCE...

YOU ARE RIGHT...

EUCLIDEAN MODEL

1. Euclidean distance

$$d_E(P, P_0) = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (p_i - p_i^0)^2}$$

d_E continuous and convex

2. Lower prevision

$$\bar{f} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$$

$$s_f^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i - \bar{f})^2$$

$$\underline{P}_E(f) = P_0(f) - \delta \sqrt{n} s_f$$

3. Lower probability

$$\underline{P}_E(A) = P_0(A) - \delta \sqrt{\frac{|A|(n-|A|)}{n}}$$

4. Properties

- \underline{P}_E is not 2-monotone...
- ... but it is 2-monotone on events
- the model is not preserved under conditioning
- extreme points: $\text{ext}(B_E^\delta(P_0)) = \{P \mid d_E(P, P_0) = \delta\}$

5. Example

$P_0 = (0.5, 0.3, 0.2)$
 $\delta = 0.1$

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WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER TO USE A DIVERGENCE?

BUT FOR COMPARING PROBABILITIES...

NICE POINT...

KULLBACK-LEIBLER MODEL

1. KL-divergence

$$D_{KL}(P, P_0) = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \log\left(\frac{p_i}{p_i^0}\right)$$

D_{KL} continuous and convex

2. Lower prevision

$$f = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i I_{x_i}$$

$$\underline{P}_{KL}(f) = \min_{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \alpha_i p_i^0$$

subject to

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i p_i^0 = 1, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i p_i^0 \log(\alpha_i) = \delta$$

3. Lower probability

$$\underline{P}_{KL}(A) = \alpha P_0(A)$$

where $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ is the unique solution of

$$\alpha P_0(A) \log(\alpha) + (1 - \alpha P_0(A)) \log\left(\frac{1 - \alpha P_0(A)}{1 - P_0(A)}\right) = \delta$$

4. Properties

- \underline{P}_{KL} is not 2-monotone...
- ... but it is 2-monotone on events
- the model is not preserved under conditioning
- extreme points: $\text{ext}(B_{KL}^\delta(P_0)) = \{P \mid D_{KL}(P, P_0) = \delta\}$

5. Example

$P_0 = (0.5, 0.3, 0.2)$
 $\delta = 0.1$

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WHICH ONE SHOULD I USE?

AMONG ALL THE MODELS...

IT DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR...

COMPARISON

1. Properties

	2-monot.	∞ -monot.	Prob. interval	Conditioning
Euclidean-model...				
... on gambles	X	X	X	X
... on events	✓	X	X	X
KL-model...				
... on gambles	X	X	X	X
... on events	✓	X	X	X
PMM	✓	X	✓	✓
LV	✓	✓	✓	✓
COR...				
... on gambles	X	X	X	✓
... on events	✓	✓	X	✓
TV	✓	X	✓	✓
Vertical Barrier models	✓	X	X	✓

2. Amount of imprecision

$$\delta \leq \frac{1}{2} \min_{x \in \mathcal{X}} P_0(x)$$

3. Example

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DOES ANYBODY CARE ABOUT DISTORTION MODELS?

MANY PEOPLE!

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