

Target Contrastive Estimation

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- A supervised learning setting where training and test data stem from different biased samplings.
- For example, perform the same clinical experiment in different hospitals.
 - Geographically biased sampling.

- More formally:
 - Shared sample space $\,\Omega\,$
 - Shared event space ${\cal F}$
 - Different probability measures ${\mathbb Q}$, ${\mathbb P}$

















※ (x,y=+1)
○ (x,y=-1)







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Current approaches



 A standard procedure for DA relies on making an assumption on domain dissimilarity and deviating from the source model.

- Sensitive to estimation errors.
- Sensitive to class-dependent transformations.
- Sensitive to disjoint empirical supports.
- Sensitive to model misspecification.

As a result, DA approaches can perform worse than naive models.

Target Contrastive Estimation



- We are specifically interested in never performing worse than the source model.
- Can we construct a parameter estimator such that its likelihood is larger than or equal to the likelihood of the source estimator on the target domain?

 In order to do this, we will contrast the hypothetical target estimate with the source estimate for worst-case labellings.

Notation



- Source samples:

$$x_i \in X = \{ (x_{i1}, \dots, x_{id}) \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid x_i \sim p_X, i = 1, \dots, n \}$$
$$y_i \in y = \{ y_i \in \{1, \dots, K\} \mid i = 1, \dots, n \}$$

- Target samples:

$$z_j \in Z = \{(z_{j1}, \dots, z_{jd}) \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid z_j \sim p_Z, j = 1, \dots, m\}$$
$$u_j \in u = \{u_j \in \{1, \dots, K\} \mid j = 1, \dots, m\}$$

- Likelihood of model parameter given source data $L(\theta \mid X, y)$
- Likelihood of model parameter given target data $L(\theta \mid Z, u)$





- Since we have labeled source data, we can fit a model:

$$\hat{\theta}_S = \underset{\theta \in \Theta}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} L(\theta \mid X, y)$$

where Θ is the parameter space.

 The likelihood of this parameter on the target samples can be evaluated through:

 $L(\hat{\theta}_S \mid Z, u)$

Contrast



– We want to construct a parameter estimator $\hat{\theta}_T$ for which the following holds:

$$L(\hat{\theta}_T \mid Z, u) \ge L(\hat{\theta}_S \mid Z, u)$$

or equivalently:

$$L(\hat{\theta}_T \mid Z, u) - L(\hat{\theta}_S \mid Z, u) \ge 0$$

– Maximizing this contrast w.r.t. θ leads to an estimator that returns the source estimate when it can not do better.

$$\max_{\theta \in \Theta} L(\theta \mid Z, u) - L(\hat{\theta}_S \mid Z, u) \ge 0$$

Pessimism



- However, the true target labels \boldsymbol{u} are unknown.
- In order to still construct an estimator that never performs worse than the source estimator, we can consider worst-case labellings.
- Such a labeling can be obtained by proposing a hypothetical labeling \mathbf{q}_j for each sample and minimizing the likelihood:

 $\min_{q} L(\theta \mid Z, q)$

Pessimism



Incorporating the minimization over labellings in the contrast yields:

$$\max_{\theta \in \Theta} \min_{q} L(\theta \mid Z, q) - L(\hat{\theta}_{S} \mid Z, q) \ge 0$$

 If we choose discrete labellings, the minimization will be combinatorial and expensive.

- Therefore, we employ a convex relaxation of the labeling space.
- Corresponds to class posterior probabilities: $q_{kj} := p(u_j = k \mid z_j)$.
- q_j will be an element of a K-1 dimensional simplex Δ_{K-1} .

Target Contrastive Estimation



The resulting maximum contrastive pessimistic likelihood estimator is :

$$\hat{\theta}_T = \underset{\theta \in \Theta}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \min_{q \in \Delta_{K-1}^m} L(\theta \mid Z, q) - L(\hat{\theta}_S \mid Z, q)$$

Linear Discriminant



- Linear Discriminant Analysis is a classical classifier with a particularly interesting property under this estimator.
- LDA fits a Gaussian distribution to each class:

$$L(\theta \mid Z, q) = \sum_{j=1}^{m} \sum_{k=1}^{K} q_{kj} \log \pi_k \mathcal{N}(z_j \mid \mu_k, \Sigma)$$

where $\theta = (\pi_1, \ldots, \pi_K, \mu_1, \ldots, \mu_K, \Sigma)$

- Plugging that into the TCE formulation:

$$\hat{\theta}_T = \underset{\theta \in \Theta}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \min_{q \in \Delta_{K-1}^m} \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^K q_{kj} \log \frac{\pi_k \mathcal{N}(z_j \mid \mu_k, \Sigma)}{\hat{\pi}_{Sk} \mathcal{N}(z_j \mid \hat{\mu}_{Sk}, \hat{\Sigma}_S)}$$

TCE-LDA



Theorem:

For continuously distributed feature vectors and a sample size $m \ge d + K$, the likelihood of the TCE estimate is almost surely strictly larger than the source estimate.

$$L_{\text{LDA}}(\hat{\theta}_T \mid Z, u) > L_{\text{LDA}}(\hat{\theta}_S \mid Z, u)$$

- Does not hold for novel target samples.
- Does not directly translate to other measures (e.g. error rate).

Optimization - init





Optimization - max





Optimization - min





Optimization - max





Optimization - min





Optimization - max





Optimization - min





Optimization – saddle





Experiment



- Heart disease dataset:

- 4 hospitals: Cleveland, Virginia, Hungary and Switzerland.

Х	Z	S-LDA	TCE-LDA	Χ	Ζ	S-LDA	TCE-LDA
С	V	-3.68e + 3	-3.19e + 3	V	C	-6.41e + 3	-5.08e + 3
С	Η	-4.97e + 3	-4.69e + 3	Н	C	-5.35e + 3	-5.00e + 3
С	S	-2.20e + 3	2.18e + 2	S	C	-3.13e + 18	-5.16e + 3
V	Η	-5.94e + 3	-4.80e + 3	Н	V	-3.60e + 3	-3.25e + 3
V	S	-2.51e + 3	3.47e + 2	S	V	-2.06e + 18	-3.14e + 3
Η	S	-2.45e + 3	1.93e + 2	S	Η	-3.04e + 18	-4.94e + 3

Experiment



- Heart disease dataset:

- 4 hospitals: Cleveland, Virginia, Hungary and Switzerland.

Х	Ζ	S-LDA	TCE-LDA	_	Х	Ζ	S-LDA	TCE-LDA
С	V	.410 (.035)	.395 (.035)		V	С	.287 (.026)	.300 (.026)
С	Η	.174 (.022)	.174 (.022)		Η	С	.201 (.023)	.208 (.023)
С	S	.463 (.045)	.455 (.045)		S	С	.380 (.028)	.317 (.027)
V	Η	.221 (.024)	.231 (.025)		Η	V	.415 (.035)	.415 (.035)
V	S	.366 (.043)	.366 (.045)		S	V	.340 (.034)	.340 (.034)
Η	S	.545 (.045)	.537 (.045)		S	Η	.384 (.028)	.378 (.028)

Conclusion



- Target Contrastive Estimation obtains parameters that are never less likely than the source estimators.
- Increases in likelihood do not directly correspond to decreases in error rates.
- The results due to the worst-case labeling do not hold for novel target samples (transductive only).

Questions



