Hypothesis assignment and partial likelihood averaging for cooperative estimation

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The ubiquity of distributed sensing infrastructure



Sensor network operations

Physical Sensor selection, communication infrastructure

Data Storage and retrieval, Clustering

Inference Estimation, Optimization and Control

Requirements

- Reliability, Security and Robustness
- Computational, storage and energy efficiency
- Temporal variations and Network size

Problem setup

- Discrete hypothesis space: Θ
- **True hypothesis location(s):** θ^*
- Sensing agents (*S*0, · · · , *S*3)
- Local communication, (Weighted adjacency matrix: A)



How to find the probability of true source location with decentralized communication network?

Existing research

- Jadbabaie et al.¹(2012): Opinion pooling with weighted sum updates in communication graphs
- Nedich et al.²(2017): Convergence rates of geometric averaging of inferences for the decentralized communication problem
- Atanasov et al.³(2014): Gaussian filtering algorithm based on geometric averaging

³Nedić, Angelia, Alex Olshevsky, and César A. Uribe. "Fast convergence rates for distributed non-bayesian learning." IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control 62.11 (2017): 5538-5553.

³Jadbabaie, Ali, et al. "Non-Bayesian social learning." Games and Economic Behavior 76.1 (2012): 210-225.

³Atanasov, Nikolay, et al. "Joint estimation and localization in sensor networks." 53rd IEEE Conference on Decision and Control. IEEE, 2014.

Problem setup

- Discrete hypothesis space: Θ
- **True hypothesis location(s)**: θ^*
- Sensing agents (*S*0, · · · , *S*3)
- Local communication
- Restricted observation space
- Local storage: Θ_i



Sensors S0, S1, S2, S3 learning the source S^* location as a probability over the Area.

The research questions

- Estimating source location probability in distributed communication and storage settings:
 - **RQ1** Distributed storage: How to assign the discrete space (Θ_i) tracked by each agent?
 - **RQ2** Local communication: How to find true source location probability estimates $(p_i(\theta), \forall \theta \in \Theta_i)$ for each agent?

RQ1: Agent space assignment

Assignment objective: Intuition

Maximize the diversity in sensor observation models($pz_i(z; \theta)$) at each hypothesis.

How to choose the sensors observing any hypothesis?



Assignment objective: Formulation

Diversity maximization

- Choosing sensor observation models over larger observation domain.
- Pairs of observation models with high divergence and entropy term.

$$F(\mathcal{G}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) = \sum_{\substack{i,j \in \mathcal{V}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \\ (i,j) \in \mathcal{E}}} D_{\mathsf{KL}}(\mathsf{pz}_{i}(\cdot|\boldsymbol{\theta}), \mathsf{pz}_{j}(\cdot|\boldsymbol{\theta})) + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}(\boldsymbol{\theta})} \mathsf{H}(\mathsf{pz}_{i}(\cdot|\boldsymbol{\theta})).$$
(1)

Objective function defined over sets of subgraphs $\mathcal{G}_{\theta}, \forall \theta \in \Theta$ as

$$\max_{\{\mathcal{G}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\}} \quad \sum_{\boldsymbol{\theta}\in\boldsymbol{\Theta}} F(\mathcal{G}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}})$$

Sub-network assignment constraints

Spatial Coverage

Every hypothesis is observed by one of the sensors.

Limited observation space

Limit the observation space for each agent.



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Subgraph connectivity

- Assign connected graphs for learning source probability at each hypothesis.
- NP-hard constraint.



Sub-network assignment as integer optimization

 $y_{i,v}, b_{ij,v}$: Inclusion of sensor *i* and edge (i, j) in sub-network observing θ_v $f_{ij,v}^i$: Flow variable for sensor *i* on edge (i, j) in sub-network observing θ_v

$$\begin{split} &\sum_{\nu=1}^{m} \Bigl[\max_{\mathbf{y}_{\nu}, \mathbf{b}_{\nu}} \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} b_{ij,\nu} \operatorname{D}_{\mathsf{KL}}(\mathsf{pz}_{i}(z|\theta_{\nu}), \mathsf{pz}_{j}(z|\theta_{\nu})) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_{i\nu} \operatorname{H}(\mathsf{pz}_{i}(z|\theta_{\nu})) \Bigr] \\ &\sum_{\nu=1}^{m} y_{i\nu} \leq m_{i}, \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \\ &\sum_{i} y_{i\nu} \geq 1, \quad \forall \nu \in \{1, \dots, m\}. \end{split}$$
(Cardinality)

Tackling connectivity constraint

$$\sum_{ij\in\mathcal{E}} b_{ij,v} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_{iv} - 1, \qquad (\text{Tree selection})$$

$$b_{ij,v} \leq y_{iv}, y_{jv}, \forall ij \in \mathcal{E}, \qquad (\text{Edge-node coupling})$$

$$f_{ij,v}^{i} + f_{ij,v}^{j} = 2, \qquad (\text{Edge flow})$$

$$\sum_{j\in\mathcal{N}_{i}} f_{ij,v}^{j} \leq 2 - \frac{2}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} y_{iv}}. \qquad (\text{Maximum average degree})$$

$$Maximum average degree: \left(\max_{H} \frac{\#edges}{\#nodes}\right), \text{ where } H \text{ is subgraph of G. } 2(k-1)/k \text{ for}$$

a connected tree of k nodes.

Illustration



Figure: (a) True distance based Gaussian observation models $pz_i(\cdot|\theta^*)$ for 4 agents. (b) Sensor-hypothesis assignment with number of hypotheses at each sensor limited to 6.

RQ2: Partial likelihood averaging algorithm

Algorithm: Partial likelihood averaging

Sensor *i* receiving observations $\{z_{i,t}\}_{t=1}^{T}$ to combine inferences with distributed communication matrix $(\mathbf{A}(\theta))$

7
$$Z_{i,\tau+1} = \sum_{\theta \in \Theta_i} \mu_{i,\tau+1}(\theta) + \sum_{\theta \in \Theta \setminus \Theta_i} \mu_{j,\tau+1}(\theta)$$

8 $p_{i,\tau}(\theta) = \mu_{i,\tau}(\theta)/Z_{i,t+1} \forall \theta \in \Theta_i$

Algorithm: Partial likelihood averaging

Sensor *i* receiving observations $\{z_{i,t}\}_{t=1}^{T}$ to combine inferences with distributed communication matrix $(\mathbf{A}(\theta))$

Output: posterior probability
$$p_{i,T}$$
 over Θ_i
1 $\mu_{i,0}(\theta) \leftarrow p_{i,0}(\theta), \forall \theta \in \Theta_i \ \%$ Initialization
2 **for** $t \in \{1, ..., T-1\}$ **do**
3 **for** $\theta \in \Theta_i$ **do**
4 **b** $\%$ Geometric update
5 **b** $\mu_{i,t+1}(\theta) = \prod_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \mu_{j,t}(\theta)^{\mathcal{A}(\theta)_{ij}} pz_i(z_{i,t}|\theta)$

6 % Normalization factor

7
$$Z_{i,T+1} = \sum_{\theta \in \Theta_i} \mu_{i,T+1}(\theta) + \sum_{\theta \in \Theta \setminus \Theta_i} \mu_{j,T+1}(\theta)$$

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Assumptions

Sensor data reception

Assume that if the true data generating pdf for agent *i*, $f_i^*(\boldsymbol{z}) > 0$ for some $\boldsymbol{z} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_z}$, then $1 \geq \bar{\alpha} \geq pz_i(\boldsymbol{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \geq \alpha > 0$, for all $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta_i$ and some constants $\bar{\alpha}$, α . Note that $\bar{\alpha}$ exists for any pdf.

Other assumptions

Static graph The undirected graph \mathcal{G} describing the agent communication is static and time-invariant.

Coverage Each hypothesis $\theta \in \Theta$ is observed by at least one agent, i.e., $|\mathcal{V}(\theta)| \ge 1$. Initial probabilities Every agent *i* has an initial likelihood $p_{i,0}(\theta) > 0$, $\forall \theta \in \Theta_i$.

Proof sketch

 Consensus: All agents probability estimates converge to same value at all hypotheses.

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} A(\theta)^{t} = \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{1} \mathbb{1}^{\top}$$
 (Doubly stochastic matrix)
$$\lim_{t \to \infty} p_{i,t}(\theta) = p^{*}(\theta)$$
 (For agents observing θ)

2 Convergence: The probability of an incorrect hypothesis is almost surely zero.

$$\lim_{t\to\infty}\frac{p_{i,t}(\theta_1)}{p_{i,t}(\theta_2)}\to 0$$

(When only θ_2 is optimal)

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Assignment in 20-node network

For n agents, E edges and m hypotheses

- #variables : $\mathcal{O}(m(n+3|E|))$
- #constraints : n + 2m + 4m|E|
- * 20 agent connected graph in space with 300 discrete hypotheses
- * Distance based observation model assigns more agents to low coverage areas



Convergence in 20-node network

* Comparing estimated probability at source with almost 1/3 communication and memory at each sensor:



Summary

- Matching each hypothesis to connected communication sub-networks based on diversity in observation models
- Geometric update based algorithm for finding inference
- Consensus among agents estimates at all hypotheses
- Proof based on comparing estimates at true and false hypotheses

Thank you