



Theory and Practice of Permutation Entropy

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1. Motivation

- Entropies and entropy-like quantities are playing an increasing role in data analysis, in the contexts of dynamical systems and of stochastic processes.
- Various applications of entropies are given, for example, in the analysis of physiological time series.
- Central classical concepts: Approximate entropy, Sample entropy, and variants.
- Interesting relatively new concepts: **Permutation entropies** and variants based on the ordinal structure of time series and systems behind them.
- Important: **good theoretical understanding** of those concepts and their relationship to other entropies, and their **adequate application** to the analysis of data.



2. Context

Modeling (one observable, simplest setting)

time series $(x_t)_{t=0}^{N-1} = (x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{N-1})$ assumed as values measured on the orbit of a dynamical system

- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mu, T)$ **μ -preserving dynamical system**
- X real-valued random variable on Ω
- **observable** X provides 'outreading' stochastic process $(X \circ T^{ot})_{t=0}^{\infty}$ with realizations $(X \circ T^{ot}(\omega))_{t=0}^{\infty}$; $\omega \in \Omega$

assumptions:

- **Ergodicity:** realizations represent distribution of X
- no information loss by the measuring process with respect to X ('separation' of orbits), natural¹

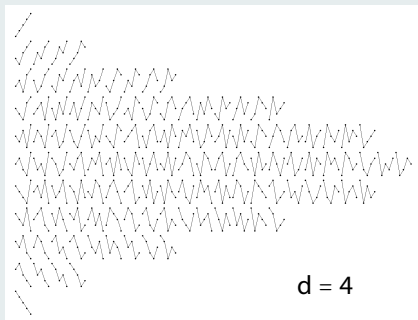
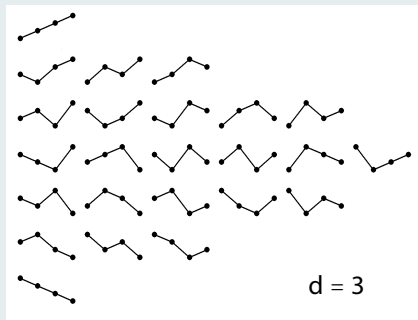
¹Gutman, Takens embedding theorem with a continuous observable, in: Proceedings of the Erg. Th. Workshops UNC Chapel Hill 2013-2014. De Gruyter

Ordinal patterns

Definition

$(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_d) \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$ has the **(ordinal) d-pattern** $\pi = (r_0, r_1, \dots, r_d) \in \Pi_d$ if

$x_{r_0} \geq x_{r_1} \geq \dots \geq x_{r_d}$, and
 $r_{l-1} > r_l$ in the case $x_{r_{l-1}} = x_{r_l}$.



Relative frequencies / probabilities of ordinal d-pattern words

Definition

- **relative frequency of d-patt. word** $(\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_k) \in \Pi_d^k$ in time series $(x_t)_{t=0}^{N-1}$:

$$P_{(\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_k)} := \frac{1}{N - d - k + 1} \#\{s \in \{0, \dots, N - d - k\} \mid \text{for all } i = 1, \dots, k \\ (x_{s+i-1}, x_{s+i}, \dots, x_{s+i-1+d}) \text{ has ordinal pattern } \pi_i\}$$

- **probability of d-pattern word** $(\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_k) \in \Pi_d^k$ for $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mu, T, X)$:

$$P_{(\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_k)} := \mu(\{\omega \in \Omega \mid \text{for all } i = 1, \dots, k \\ X \circ T^{oi-1}(\omega), X \circ T^{oi}(\omega), \dots, X \circ T^{od}(\omega) \text{ has ordinal pattern } \pi_i\})$$

- $P_{(\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_k)}$ estimates $P_{(\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_k)}$



3. From KS entropy to permutation entropy

Entropies (I)

Kolmogorov-Sinai entropy (KS entropy) is central theoretical complexity measure for dynamical systems, but not easy to determinate and to estimate.

ordinal approach:

- **entropy of d-pattern-k-words:**

$$H(d, k) := - \sum_{(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k) \in \Pi_d^k} P_{(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)} \ln P_{(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)}$$

- **empirical entropy of d-pattern-k-words:**

$$h(d, k) := - \sum_{(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k) \in \Pi_d^k} p_{(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)} \ln p_{(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k)}$$

- $h(d, k)$ estimates $H(d, k)$
- $H(d, 0) := 0$

Entropies (II)

- **entropy rate of d-patterns:**

$$\text{EntroRate}(d) := \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (\downarrow) \frac{H(d, k)}{k} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (\downarrow) (H(d, k+1) - H(d, k))$$

Theorem

$$\text{KS entropy} = \lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} (\uparrow) \text{EntroRate}(d) \leq \text{Permutation entropy}^2$$

² Antoniouk, K., Maksymenko, Discrete Contin. Dyn. Syst. A 34 (2014); K., Maksymenko, Stolz, Discrete Contin. Dyn. Syst. B 20 (2015);

- only one limit for **Permutation entropy**³:

$$\text{Permutation entropy} = \limsup_{d \rightarrow \infty} \frac{H(d, 1)}{d} \quad (\text{better: } \liminf_{d \rightarrow \infty} \frac{H(d, 1)}{d})$$

³ Bandt, Pompe, Phys. Rev. Lett. 88 (2002), X identity



Entropies (III)

Remark

KS entropy = Permutation entropy for a special class of dynamical systems (piecewise monotone interval maps) and X identity⁴

⁴ Bandt, G. Keller, Pompe, Nonlinearity 15 (2002)

Generalizations

- generalization to finitely (infinitely) many observables $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n(, \dots)$
- generalization to many non-ergodic cases (ergodic decomposition)
- generalization to new two-dimensionel basic symbolization schemes⁵





4. Conditional viewpoint

'Conditional' ordinal view on KS entropy

$H(1, 2) - H(1, 1)$	$H(1, 3) - H(1, 2)$	$H(1, 4) - H(1, 3)$...	↘	EntroRate(1)
$H(2, 2) - H(2, 1)$	$H(2, 3) - H(2, 2)$	$H(2, 4) - H(2, 3)$...	↘	EntroRate(2)
$H(3, 2) - H(3, 1)$	$H(3, 3) - H(3, 2)$	$H(3, 4) - H(3, 3)$...	↘	EntroRate(3)
$H(4, 2) - H(4, 1)$	$H(4, 3) - H(4, 2)$	$H(4, 4) - H(4, 3)$...	↘	EntroRate(4)
					⋮
				↗	KS entropy

- For all natural numbers k it holds

$$H(d, k) - H(d, k - 1) \leq \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k (H(d, i) - H(d, i - 1)) = \frac{H(d, k)}{k}$$

Lemma

For each sequence $(k_d)_{d=1}^{\infty}$ of natural numbers it holds

$$\text{KS entropy} \leq \liminf_{d \rightarrow \infty} (H(d, k_d + 1) - H(d, k_d)) \leq \liminf_{d \rightarrow \infty} \frac{H(d, k_d)}{k_d}$$

Conditional entropy of ordinal patterns⁶

- special case: $k_d = 1$ for all $d \in \mathbb{N}$:

Definition

conditional entropy of ordinal patterns

$$\liminf_{d \rightarrow \infty} H(d, 2) - H(d, 1)$$

- interpretation: uncertainty of next type of ordinal pattern of high order given one such type
- also interesting:

$$\liminf_{d \rightarrow \infty} H(d, k + 1) - H(d, k)$$

for $k = 2, 3, 4, \dots$

⁶Unakafov, K., Physica D 269 (2014), 94-102.

Conditional entropy better than PE?

assuming existence of

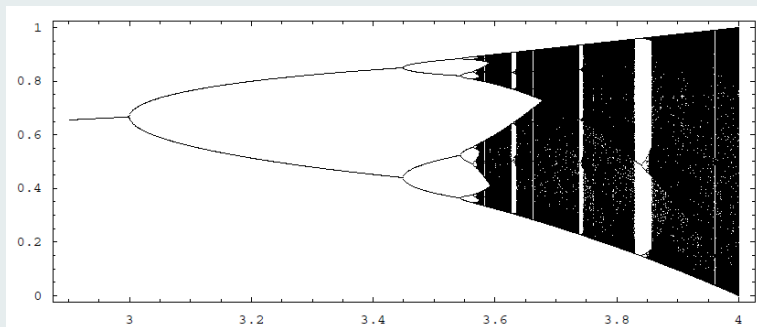
$$\lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} (H(d+1, 1) - H(d, 1)),$$

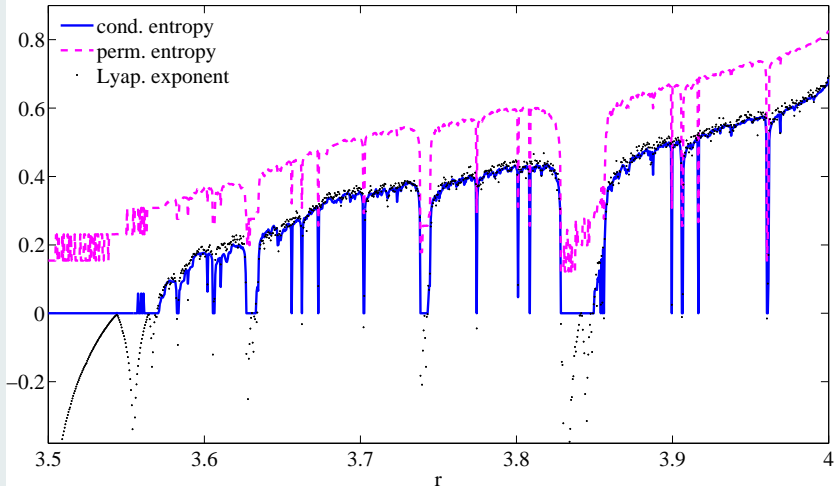
which looks natural, by the Stolz-Cesàro theorem with $H(d, 0) := 0$ it holds

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{KS entropy} &\leq \liminf_{d \rightarrow \infty} (H(d, 2) - H(d, 1)) \\
 &= \text{conditional entropy of ordinal patterns} \\
 &\leq \lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} (H(d+1, 1) - H(d, 1)) \\
 &= \lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} (H(d, 1) - H(d-1, 1)) \\
 &= \lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{d} \sum_{i=1}^d (H(i, 1) - H(i-1, 1)) \\
 &= \liminf_{d \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{d} H(d, 1) = \text{Permutation entropy}
 \end{aligned}$$

Logistic family and permutation entropies

- $x \in [0, 1] \mapsto rx(1 - x)$ for different $r \in [0, 4]$
- for almost all $r \in [0, 4]$ the KS entropy either coincides with the Lyapunov exponent if it is positive or is equal to zero otherwise (Pesin's formula, 'natural' RB-measure)





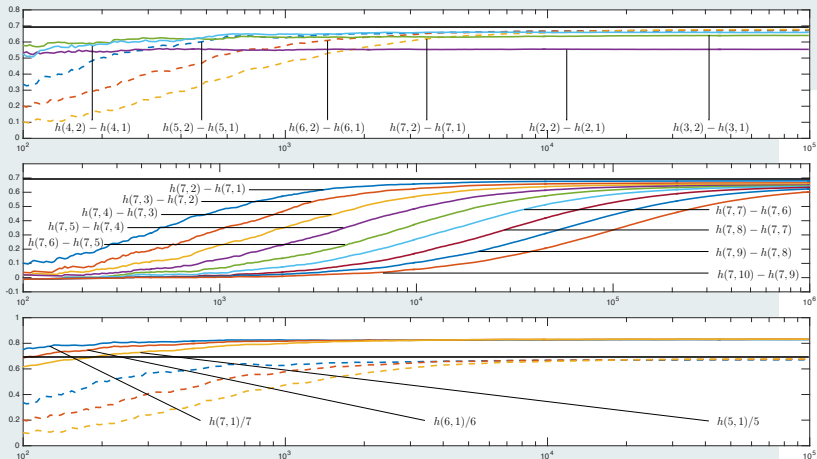
Lyapunov exponent, empirical and **conditional Permutation entropy** ($d=9$)



5. Practical aspects

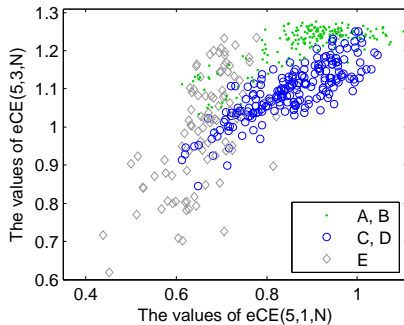
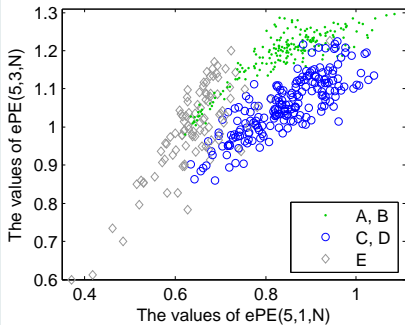
Asymptotics versus statistics⁷

$$\Omega = [0, 1], T(\omega) = 4\omega(1 - \omega), X = \text{id}$$



Combining entropies, delays

example: EEG recordings from the Bonn EEG Database⁸



empirical Permutation entropy versus empirical Permutation entropy/
 conditional Permutation entropy versus conditional Permutation entropy,

also other entropies

Variants of Permutation entropy

Reinventing metric information

- 'Flat' ordinal patterns, i.e. ordinal patterns coming from vectors of low variability, are very sensitive with respect to noise.
- ⇒ **robust Permutation entropy**⁹ excluding 'flat' ordinal patterns
- ⇒ **weighted Permutation entropy**¹⁰: weighting ordinal patterns by variance of vectors behind
- theoretically not well understood

Generalization of conditional approach by Armand Eyebe Fouda, Koepf, Jacquir¹¹

⁹ Keller, Unakafov, Unakafova, Entropy 16 (2014)

¹⁰ Fadlallah, Chen, Keil, Principe, Phys. Rev. E 87 (2013)

¹¹ Communications in Nonlinear Sci. and Num. Simulat. 46 (2017), 103-115

Further aspects

- generally: compromise between theoretical requirements and practical possibilities necessary
- requires better theoretical understanding of measures
- results in standardizations which have to be communicated and commonly used
- standards have to be (automatically) related to kind and size of data
- finding best measures also needs application of machine learning



Thank you!