# Minimum Mixture Estimation 

Juraj Medzihorsky

SGIA \& RMC

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## About Me



## Minimum Mixture Estimation




Leaf Cutter Ants by Jon Pinder

## Minimum Mixture Estimation

Observed


## Minimum Mixture Estimation

## Observed



Maximum Likelihood Estimation


## Minimum Mixture Estimation

## Observed



Maximum Likelihood Estimation


Minimum Mixture Estimation


## MME: Forensic Application



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Polling station report from 2019 Bolivian general election, public domain.

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Polling station report from 2019 Bolivian general election, public domain.

## MME: Forensic Application

| 228 |
| :--- |
| 584 |
| 293 |
| 713 |
| 831 |
| 118 |
| 366 |
| 729 |
| 382 |
| 321 |
| 879 |
| 318 |
| 478 |
| 398 |
| 142 |
| 744 |

MME: Forensic Application

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## MME: Forensic Application

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Observed


Integrity Model


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| 9 |
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Observed


Overlap


Integrity Model


| 28 |
| ---: |
| 4 |
| 23 |
| 3 |
| 83 |
| 1 |
| 8 |
| 6 |
| 9 |
| 2 |
| 3 |
| 9 |
| 9 |
| 8 |
| 4 |
| 8 |
| 3 |
| 2 |
| 4 |

Observed


Overlap


Integrity Model


Contamination


## MME: Features

General framework that can integrate any parametric model [1-2].

It rests on always true assumptions, as any model will always contain between $0 \%$ and $100 \%$ of the population [1-3].

Holds automatic robustness of validity by
 insensitivity to contamination [3].

Directly interpretable residuals [4].




## MME: Objective

Minimize the fraction of the observations that lie outside of the model, known as the mixture index of fit,

$$
\pi^{*}(\mathrm{O}, \mathcal{M})=\inf \{\pi: \mathrm{O}=(1-\pi) \mathrm{M}+\pi \mathrm{R}, \mathrm{M} \in \mathcal{M}, \mathrm{R} \text { residual, } \pi \in[0,1]\}
$$

where O is the observed density, M an element from model $\mathcal{M}$, and R an unspecified residual density.

## Minimum $\alpha$-Divergence Estimation

$\alpha$-MDE minimizes Rényi divergence

$$
D_{\alpha}(\mathrm{O} \| \mathrm{M})=\frac{1}{\alpha-1} \log \left(\sum_{i} \frac{o_{i}^{\alpha}}{m_{i}^{\alpha-1}}\right)
$$

and under $\alpha \rightarrow-\infty$ equals MME.
For fixed normalized $P$ and $Q$ there is a factor

$$
\tilde{Z}_{\delta}:=\underset{Z}{\arg \min } A_{\delta}(P \| Z Q)=\left(\sum_{i} p_{i}^{\delta} q_{i}^{1-\delta}\right)^{1 / \delta}
$$

non-decreasing in $\delta$ (Minka 2005). Since $D_{\alpha}(O \| M)=A_{(1+\alpha) / 2}(O \| M)$,

$$
\lim _{\alpha \rightarrow-\infty} 1-\tilde{Z}_{(1+\alpha) / 2}(\mathrm{O}, \mathcal{M})=\pi^{*}(\mathrm{O}, \mathcal{M})^{-}
$$

giving an estimator of $\pi^{*}$ with negative bias vanishing in decreasing $\alpha$.
$\alpha$-MDE: Illustration


Generalizes
Minimum Mixture Estimation $\quad \alpha \rightarrow-\infty$
Maximum Likelihood Estimation
Minimum Envelope Estimation $\quad \alpha \rightarrow \infty$
Others

Enables

- Approximate MME
- Penalized MME
- Bayesian MME


## $\alpha$ MDE: Generative Models?

Simulating from the model under arbitrary $\alpha \neq 1$
Rényi entropy $H_{\alpha}=\frac{1}{1-\alpha} \log \left(\sum_{i} p_{i}^{\alpha}\right)=\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \log \left(\|P\|_{\alpha}\right)$
Non i.i.d. regimes?
Two-stage regimes: population process $\alpha \neq 1$, sampling $\alpha=1$ ?
Bootstrap and jackknife under $\alpha \neq 1$ ?
$\alpha$-generalizations of common distributions?
Tsallis statistics? A q-Multinomial RNG that works would be a good start.


MME: Adams' Method




## Thank you!

