

# Label Shift Quantification with Robustness Guarantees via Distribution Feature Matching



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## Label Shift Quantification

Consider a covariate space  $\mathcal{X} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ , a label space  $\mathcal{Y} := [c]$ . Consider the **Label Shift Hypothesis**, where the test distribution  $\mathbb{Q}$  verified:

$$\mathbb{Q} = \sum_{i=1}^c \alpha_i^* \mathbb{P}_i \quad (\mathcal{LS})$$

With  $\mathbb{P}_i = p(X|Y=i)$ . We have access to **samples**:  $\hat{\mathbb{P}}_1, \dots, \hat{\mathbb{P}}_c$  and  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

We also consider a new setting, **Contaminated Label Shift** defined as :

$$\mathbb{Q} = \sum_{i=1}^c \alpha_i^* \mathbb{P}_i + \alpha_0^* \mathbb{Q}_0. \quad (\mathcal{CLS})$$

The distribution  $\mathbb{Q}_0$  is seen as a **contamination**, for which we have no prior knowledge nor sample.

**Goal** : Estimate the proportions  $\alpha^*$ . This is called **Quantification** [1].

## Consistency of Distribution Feature Matching

We make the following **identifiability hypothesis** on the mapping  $\Phi$ :

$$\sum_{i=1}^c \lambda_i \Phi(\mathbb{P}_i) = 0 \iff \lambda = 0 \quad (\mathcal{A}_1)$$

$$\exists C > 0 : \|\Phi(x)\|_{\mathcal{F}} \leq C \text{ for all } x. \quad (\mathcal{A}_2)$$

**Theorem 1** If the **Label Shift hypothesis** ( $\mathcal{LS}$ ) holds, and if the mapping  $\Phi$  verifies Assumptions ( $\mathcal{A}_1$ ) and ( $\mathcal{A}_2$ ), then for any  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ , with probability greater than  $1 - \delta$ , the solution  $\hat{\alpha}$  of ( $\mathcal{P}$ ) satisfies:

$$\|\hat{\alpha} - \alpha^*\|_2 \leq \frac{2CR_c/\delta}{\sqrt{\Delta_{\min}}} \left( \frac{\|w\|_2}{\sqrt{n}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} \right) \quad (1)$$

$$\leq \frac{2CR_c/\delta}{\sqrt{\Delta_{\min}}} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{\min_i n_i}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} \right), \quad (2)$$

where  $R_x = 2 + \sqrt{2 \log(2x)}$ ,  $w_i = \frac{\alpha_i^*}{\beta_i}$ .

- The bound (1) **improves** upon existing bounds in the literature ([2, 3]).
- The (empirical) quantity  $\Delta_{\min}$  provides a natural **criterion** for the choice of the feature map hyperparameter.

## Distribution Feature Matching

Let  $\Phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$  be a fixed **feature map** from  $\mathcal{X}$  into a **Hilbert space**  $\mathcal{F}$ . We extend the mapping to probability distributions on  $\mathcal{X}$  :

$$\Phi : \mathbb{P} \mapsto \Phi(\mathbb{P}) := \mathbb{E}_{X \sim \mathbb{P}}[\Phi(X)] \in \mathcal{F}.$$

We call **Distribution Feature Matching** (DFM) any estimation procedure that can be formulated as the minimiser of the following problem:

$$\hat{\alpha} = \arg \min_{\alpha \in \Delta^c} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^c \alpha_i \Phi(\hat{\mathbb{P}}_i) - \Phi(\hat{\mathbb{Q}}) \right\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2 \quad (\mathcal{P})$$

$\Delta^c := \{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^c : \sum_{i=1}^c x_i = 1\}$  is the  $(c-1)$  dimensional **simplex**.

## Robustness to contamination

In the **Contaminated Label Shift** setting, we aim at finding the proportions of the non-noise classes of the target. As these proportions don't sum to one, the **"hard"** condition  $\sum_i \alpha_i = 1$  is replaced by the **"soft"** condition  $\sum_i \alpha_i \leq 1$ .

$$\hat{\alpha}_{\text{soft}} = \arg \min_{\alpha \in \text{int}(\Delta^c)} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^c \alpha_i \Phi(\hat{\mathbb{P}}_i) - \Phi(\hat{\mathbb{Q}}) \right\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2, \quad (\mathcal{P}_2)$$

If  $\alpha_0^* = 0$ , then  $\|\hat{\alpha}_{\text{soft}} - \alpha^*\|_2$  is bounded by (1) and (2) with  $\Delta_{\min}$  replaced by  $\lambda_{\min}$ .

**Theorem 2** Introduce  $\bar{V} := \text{Span}\{\Phi(\mathbb{P}_i), i \in [c]\}$  and let  $\Pi_{\bar{V}}$  be the **orthogonal projection** on  $\bar{V}$ . If the **Contaminated Label Shift hypothesis** ( $\mathcal{CLS}$ ) holds, and if the mapping  $\Phi$  verifies Assumptions ( $\mathcal{A}_1$ ) and ( $\mathcal{A}_2$ ). Then, with probability greater than  $1 - \delta$ :

$$\|\hat{\alpha}_{\text{soft}} - \alpha^*\|_2 \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_{\min}}} \left( 3\epsilon_n + \epsilon_m + \sqrt{2\alpha_0} \epsilon_n \|\Phi(\mathbb{Q}_0)\| + \|\Pi_{\bar{V}}(\Phi(\mathbb{Q}_0))\|_{\mathcal{F}} \right), \quad (3)$$

with:

$$\epsilon_n = C \frac{R_{\delta/c}}{\sqrt{\min_i n_i}}; \quad \epsilon_m = C \frac{R_{\delta}}{\sqrt{m}};$$

- Bound (3) shows the **robustness** of DFM against perturbations  $\mathbb{Q}_0$  that are **orthogonal** to  $\bar{V}$ .
- For **BBSE**, the feature space is of the same dimension as the number of sources hence the orthogonal component will always be 0 and we expect **no robustness** property for BBSE.
- For **KMM** with a **Gaussian kernel**:  $\Phi(\mathbb{P})$  and  $\Phi(\mathbb{P}')$  will be close to orthogonal if  $\mathbb{P}$  and  $\mathbb{P}'$  are well-separated. We expect **robustness** property for KMM if the main mass of  $\mathbb{Q}_0$  is **far away** from the source distributions.

## Related literature

Kernel Mean Matching (**KMM**) [2]:

$$\Phi(x) = (y \mapsto k(x, y)) \in \mathcal{H}_k$$

Black-Box Shift Estimation (**BBSE**) [3]:

$$\Phi(x) = (1\{\hat{f}(x) = i\})_{i=1, \dots, c} \in \mathbb{R}^c$$

## Definitions

$$\hat{G}_{ij} = \langle \Phi(\hat{\mathbb{P}}_i), \Phi(\hat{\mathbb{P}}_j) \rangle$$

$$\hat{M}_{ij} = \langle \Phi(\hat{\mathbb{P}}_i) - \bar{\Phi}, \Phi(\hat{\mathbb{P}}_j) - \bar{\Phi} \rangle$$

$\Delta_{\min}$  is the **second smallest** eigenvalue of  $\hat{M}$  and  $\lambda_{\min}$  the **smallest** eigenvalue of  $\hat{G}$ . In particular, it holds:

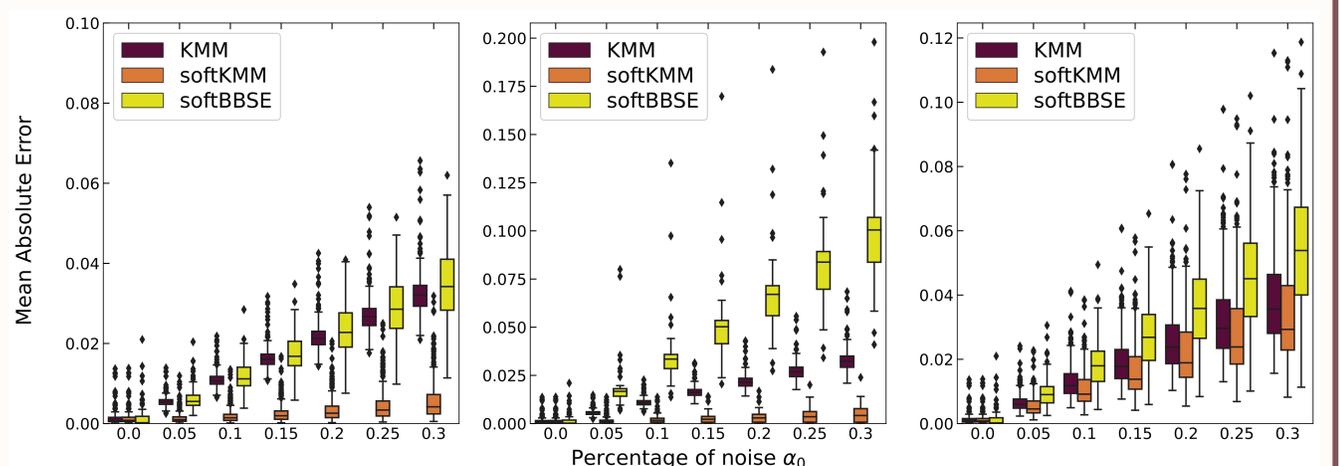
$$\Delta_{\min} \geq \lambda_{\min}.$$

## References

- [1] GONZÁLEZ, P., CASTAÑO, A., CHAWLA, N. V., AND COZ, J. J. D. A review on quantification learning. *ACM Computing Surveys (CSUR)* (2017).
- [2] IYER, A., NATH, S., AND SARAWAGI, S. Maximum mean discrepancy for class ratio estimation: Convergence bounds and kernel selection. In *International Conference on Machine Learning* (2014).
- [3] LIPTON, Z., WANG, Y.-X., AND SMOLA, A. Detecting and correcting for label shift with black box predictors. In *International conference on machine learning* (2018).

## Experiments

The source is a list of  $c$  **Gaussian distributions**.  $\alpha_0^*$  ranges from 0 to 0.3. We will test **three kinds of noise**  $\mathbb{Q}_0$ : **uniform distribution** over the data range, a new Gaussian with a mean **distant** from the other means and a new Gaussian with a **similar mean** to the source.



**Figure 1:** Robustness of the algorithms to three types of noise. Left: background noise; middle: noise is a new class far from the others; right: noise is a new class in the middle of the others.