

INFUS 2025

Data-driven identification of non-additive measures

Vicenç Torra and Zuzana Ontkovičová

August, 2025

Dept. CS, Umeå University, Sweden

Outline

1. Introduction

- Aggregation: from arithmetic mean to fuzzy integrals
- Measures: some basic concepts
- Fuzzy Measures

2. Measure identification

- Learning from (input, output) pairs: Regression models
- Learning from associations: Metric learning
- Distances
- Putting the pieces together
- Still another problem

3. Summary

Introduction

Aggregation: from arithmetic mean to fuzzy integrals

Aggregation functions

Aggregation functions:

They are functions to combine data from a set of information sources.

Aggregation functions

Aggregation (a bit more formal)

- Given values a_1, \dots, a_n assume $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$ (numerical)
- We combine them $\mathbb{C}(a_1, \dots, a_n)$, also in \mathbb{R}

Examples

- Arithmetic mean $\sum_{i=1}^n (1/n) a_i$
- Weighted mean $\sum_{i=1}^n w_i a_i$
with weights w_1, \dots, w_n s.t. $w_i \geq 0$ and $\sum w_i = 1$.

Aggregation functions

Aggregation (still more formal)

- Given values a_1, \dots, a_n
- We combine them $\mathbb{C}(a_1, \dots, a_n)$
- such that
 - if $a_i \leq a'_i$, then $\mathbb{C}(a_1, \dots, a_n) \leq \mathbb{C}(a'_1, \dots, a'_n)$
 - $\mathbb{C}(a, \dots, a) = a$ for all a
(or for some a , e.g. $a = 0$ and $a = 1$)

Aggregation functions

Aggregation

- Given values a_1, \dots, a_n
- We combine them $\mathbb{C}(a_1, \dots, a_n)$

Examples (more examples)

- Arithmetic mean $\sum_{i=1}^n (1/n) a_i$
- Weighted mean $\sum_{i=1}^n w_i a_i$
with weights w_1, \dots, w_n s.t. $w_i \geq 0$ and $\sum w_i = 1$.
- OWA operators (linear combination of order statistics)

$$\sum_{i=1}^n w_i a_{\sigma(i)}$$

with σ a permutation s.t. values are sorted from largest to smallest

Aggregation functions

Aggregation (revisited, making f explicit)

- Given variables / information sources / criteria $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$
- and values $f : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$
- So, $f(x_i)$ value associated to x_i (i.e., $f(x_i) = a_i$)
- We combine them $\mathbb{C}(f(x_1), \dots, f(x_n))$

Examples

- Arithmetic mean $\sum_{i=1}^n (1/n) f(x_i)$
- Weighted mean $\sum_{i=1}^n w_i f(x_i)$
- OWA operators $\sum_{i=1}^n w_i f(x_{\sigma(i)})$

Aggregation functions

Aggregation (as averaging of f)

Given variables / information sources / criteria $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$

values $f : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$, weights w_i for each x_i

We integrate f with respect to the weights
(weighted mean, expected value)

$$E_w(f) = \sum_i w_i f(x_i)$$

or equivalently

$$E_w(f) = \int f d\mathbf{w}$$

Aggregation functions

Aggregation as averaging of f (with other integrals)

- Given variables / information sources / criteria $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$
- values $f : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$, weights w_i for each x_i
- Then, other integrals are possible
 - Choquet and Sugeno integrals
 - Other generalizations exist as well
 - ▷ Murofushi & Sugeno fuzzy t-conorm integral, Bustince & Fernandez & Mesiar etc.

Aggregation functions

Aggregation as averaging of f

- Given variables / information sources / criteria $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$
- values $f : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$, weights w_i for each x_i
- Then, other integrals are possible
 - Choquet and Sugeno integrals
 - but we need the concept of fuzzy measure

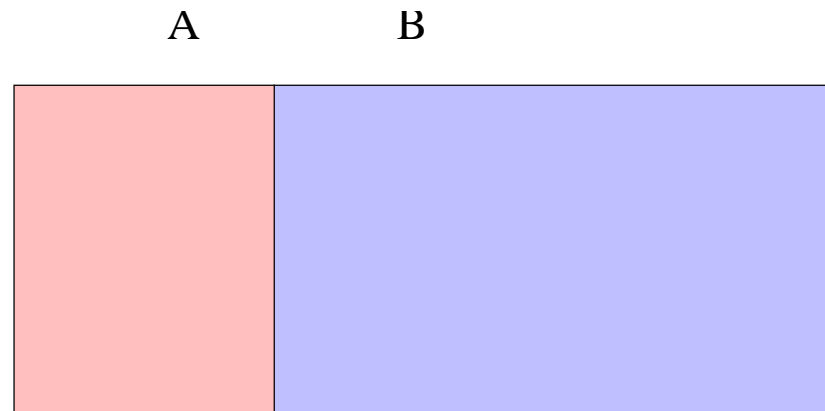
Measures: some basic concepts

Measures

Measures:

- A measure (mathematics) as a generalization of geometric measures (e.g., area)
- Used to express size, importance, and
- probabilities

Key property: additivity:



Additive measures

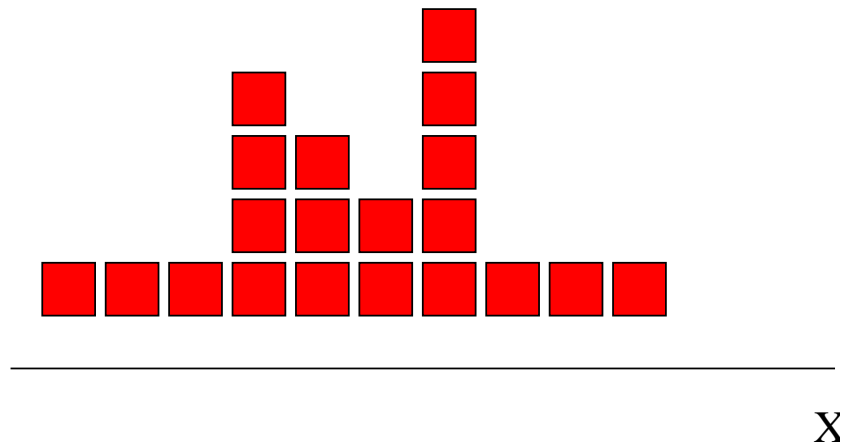
Additive measures: Formally (reference set X)

- $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$
- $\mu(S_1 \cup S_2) = \mu(S_1) + \mu(S_2)$ for disjoint S_1, S_2

Additive measures in statistics/probability theory

Measures: A typical example, **probabilities!!**
(on X and subsets of X , assume X finite)

- $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$
- $\mu(X) = 1$
- $\mu(S_1 \cup S_2) = \mu(S_1) + \mu(S_2)$ for disjoint S_1, S_2



Additive measures in decision making

Measures: or standard weights of sets of criteria/variables
(on X and subsets of X , assume X finite)

- $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$
- $\mu(X) = 1$
- $\mu(S_1 \cup S_2) = \mu(S_1) + \mu(S_2)$ for disjoint S_1, S_2

That is,

- the importance of the set of criteria/variables (price, comfort, size) equals to
 - $\text{importance}(\text{price}) + \text{importance}(\text{comfort}) + \text{importance}(\text{size})$

implicit assumption in problems using weighted means

Also, because of additivity for any disjoint S_1, S_2, C ,

- if $\mu(S_1) < \mu(S_2)$ then also $\mu(S_1 \cup C) < \mu(S_2 \cup C)$.

Additive measures in decision making

Example: assessment

- Set of 10 students with marks in 5 subjects,
assess = overall mark

| student | ML | P | M | L | G | Subj. Evaluation |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------------|
| s_1 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.1 | ??? |
| s_2 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.2 | 0.3 | ??? |
| s_3 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 0.6 | ??? |
| s_4 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.4 | ??? |
| s_5 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.9 | 0.9 | ??? |
| s_6 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.8 | 0.1 | ??? |
| s_7 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.2 | ??? |
| s_8 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.3 | ??? |
| s_9 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | ??? |
| s_{10} | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.1 | ??? |

- How do we assess?** Select weighted mean + weights, (**model of decision**)
 $w(\text{ML})=0.25$, $w(\text{P})=0.25$, $w(\text{M})=0.25$, $w(\text{L})=0.15$, $w(\text{G})=0.1$
 $WM(s_1, w) = 0.65$

Fuzzy Measures

Fuzzy measures

Non-additive measures:

- Replace the additivity condition by a monotonicity condition

$$S_1 \subseteq S_2 \text{ then } \mu(S_1) \leq \mu(S_2)$$

- This allows for **interactions**:

- $\mu(S_1 \cup S_2) > \mu(S_1) + \mu(S_2)$

- $\mu(S_1 \cup S_2) < \mu(S_1) + \mu(S_2)$

Fuzzy measures

Non-additive measures:

- Replace the additivity condition by a monotonicity condition
$$S_1 \subseteq S_2 \text{ then } \mu(S_1) \leq \mu(S_2)$$
- This allows for **interactions**:
 - $\mu(S_1 \cup S_2) > \mu(S_1) + \mu(S_2)$
 - $\mu(S_1 \cup S_2) < \mu(S_1) + \mu(S_2)$
- **positive/negative interactions !**
 - the importance of the set of criteria/variables (price, comfort, size) **does not need to equal**
$$\text{importance}(\text{price}) + \text{importance}(\text{comfort}) + \text{importance}(\text{size})$$
- This allows for inverting inequalities for any disjoint S_1, S_2, C , it is possible
 - $\mu(S_1) < \mu(S_2)$ but also $\mu(S_1 \cup C) > \mu(S_2 \cup C)$.

Fuzzy measures in decision making

Example: assessment

- Set of 10 students with marks in 5 subjects,

assess = overall mark

| student | ML | P | M | L | G | Subj. Evaluation |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------------|
| s_1 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.1 | ??? |
| s_2 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.2 | 0.3 | ??? |
| s_3 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 0.6 | ??? |
| s_4 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.4 | ??? |
| s_5 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.9 | 0.9 | ??? |
| s_6 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.8 | 0.1 | ??? |
| s_7 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.2 | ??? |
| s_8 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.3 | ??? |
| s_9 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | ??? |
| s_{10} | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.1 | ??? |

- Now, to assess. Fuzzy measures to represent interactions
 $\mu(\{M\}) = 0.25$, $\mu(\{L\}) = 0.15$, but $\mu(\{M, L\}) = 0.5$
- $CI(s_1, \mu)$

Measure identification

Measure identification

- Measure identification: inverse problem
 - Given data, find the measure

Measure identification

- Measure identification: inverse problem
 - Given data, find the measure
- but what is data?
 - Data is (input, data) pairs as usual in machine learning
⇒ **model learning for regression**
(i.e., learning a ML model based on a fuzzy measure)

Measure identification

- Measure identification: inverse problem
 - Given data, find the measure
- but what is data?
 - Data is (input, data) pairs as usual in machine learning
 - ⇒ **model learning for regression**
(i.e., learning a ML model based on a fuzzy measure)
 - Data is correct association between elements,
 - ⇒ **metric learning**
(i.e., learning a distance based on a fuzzy measure)

Learning from (input, output) pairs

Regression models

Measure identification

- Regression model: An example
- Set of 10 students/marks + subjective evaluation

| student | ML | P | M | L | G | Subj. Evaluation |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------------|
| s_1 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.7 |
| s_2 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.6 |
| s_3 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| s_4 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.8 |
| s_5 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 |
| s_6 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| s_7 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| s_8 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| s_9 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| s_{10} | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.5 |

- Model:
 - Weighted mean or linear regression (find weights w_i)

Measure identification

- Regression model: Formalization
- Optimization problem
 - Objective function: minimize error
 - Subject to constraints
 - ▷ Constraints on the parameters. E.g.,
Weighted mean: $\sum w_i = 1, w_i \geq 0$
Choquet integral: μ is a measure (i.e., monotonicity, ...)

Measure identification

- Regression model: **Examples of solution**
 - Solution by our software (python): [http://www.mdai.cat/ifao/ciFindMoebius\(data85, kAdditive=1\), fromMoebius2FM\(ciFindMoebius\(data85\),5\)](http://www.mdai.cat/ifao/ciFindMoebius(data85, kAdditive=1), fromMoebius2FM(ciFindMoebius(data85),5))
 - **weighted mean**, weights learnt:
[0.424, 0.411, 0.000, 0.125, 0.040]
 - **Choquet integral**, FM learnt:
[0, 0.440, 0.197, 0.629, 0, 0.580, 0.561, 0.704, 0.200, 0.570, 0.200, 0.695, 0.704, 0.704, 0.732, 0.815, 0.438, 0.608, 0.619, 0.806, 0.699, 0.748, 0.744, 0.859, 0.585, 0.706, 0.684, 0.919, 0.825, 0.825, 0.825, 1.0]

Measure identification

- Regression model: **Difficulties**
 - As the number of parameters of the measure is high ($2^{|X|} - 2$) we may have **overfitting**
⇒ Families of reduced complexity:
 k -additive, belief functions, etc.
 - Choquet integral-based model is easy to solve with optimization
Quadratic problem with linear constraints
 - Other measures with other integrals are **not so easy to learn**
⇒ e.g., Sugeno integral

Measure identification

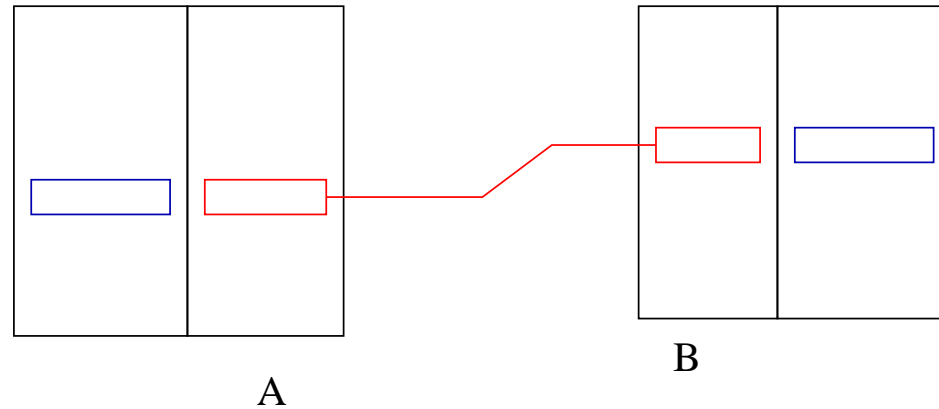
- Regression model: Sugeno integral-based
 - Optimization problem is no longer quadratic (because of the max-min in the integral)
 - Solution based on (\max, \oplus) -transform and genetic algorithms
 - ▷ In GA, we represent possible solutions with chromosomes then, we need that most chromosomes lead to feasible measures.
 - ▷ With (\max, \oplus) -transform this is the case.

Learning from associations

Metric learning

Context: Identity disclosure risk in data privacy

- Parametric Distance based record linkage: $d(A_i, B_i)$



- Find the *nearest* record
(*nearest* in terms of a distance)
- Formally, 2 sets of vectors
 $A_i = (a_1, \dots, a_N)$,
(a_i protected version of b_i)
 $B_i = (b_1, \dots, b_N)$
- $V_k(a_i)$: k th variable, i th record
- Distance $d(V_k(a_i), V_k(b_j))$
for all pairs (a_i, b_j) .

- Goal: find the best distance (in terms of re-identification attacks)
 - Other families beyond Euclidean distance
approach using fuzzy measures (non-additive measures)

Distances

From the Euclidean distance to CI-based distances

Distances: $d : [0, 1]^{|X|} \times [0, 1]^{|X|} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$.

$$d(A = (a_1, \dots, a_n), B = (b_1, \dots, b_n))$$

- Euclidean distance (squared)

$$d(A = (a_1, \dots, a_n), B = (b_1, \dots, b_n)) = \sum (a_i - b_i)^2$$

From the Euclidean distance to CI-based distances

Distances: $d : [0, 1]^{|X|} \times [0, 1]^{|X|} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$.

$$d(A = (a_1, \dots, a_n), B = (b_1, \dots, b_n))$$

- Euclidean distance (squared)

$$d(A = (a_1, \dots, a_n), B = (b_1, \dots, b_n)) = \sum (a_i - b_i)^2$$

- Weighted Euclidean (with weights w)

$$\begin{aligned} d_w(A, B) &= \sum w_i (a_i - b_i)^2 \\ &= WM(d(V_1(A), V_1(B)), \dots, d(V_n(A), V_n(B))) \end{aligned}$$

where $d(V_i(A), V_i(B)) = (a_i - b_i)^2$.

From the Euclidean distance to CI-based distances

Distances: $d : [0, 1]^{|X|} \times [0, 1]^{|X|} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$.

- Choquet integral-based

From the Euclidean distance to CI-based distances

Distances: $d : [0, 1]^{|X|} \times [0, 1]^{|X|} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$.

- Choquet integral-based

$$d_{\mu}(A, B) = CI_{\mu}(d(V_1(A), V_1(B)), \dots, d(V_n(A), V_n(B)))$$

where $d(V_i(A), V_i(B)) = (a_i - b_i)^2$,

and μ a fuzzy measure (satisfying fuzzy measure properties)

From the Euclidean distance to CI-based distances

Distances: $d : [0, 1]^{|X|} \times [0, 1]^{|X|} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$.

- Choquet integral-based

$$d_\mu(A, B) = CI_\mu(d(V_1(A), V_1(B)), \dots, d(V_n(A), V_n(B)))$$

where $d(V_i(A), V_i(B)) = (a_i - b_i)^2$,

and μ a fuzzy measure (satisfying fuzzy measure properties)

CI generalizes WM, and WM generalizes Euclidean distance,

So, appropriate μ and w make d_w and d_μ the Euclidean distance

When μ submodular, d_μ a metric (triangle inequality)

Putting the pieces together

Metric learning

- Can we do better than with the Euclidean distance?
 - Consider a supervised machine learning problem
 - We know the correct links, and look for the best distance

Metric learning

- Can we do better than with the Euclidean distance?
 - Consider a supervised machine learning problem
 - We know the correct links, and look for the best distance
- Other options (than the Euclidean distance):
 - Weighted Euclidean distance (weights w) d_w
 - Mahalanobis distance (using covariance matrix Q)

Metric learning

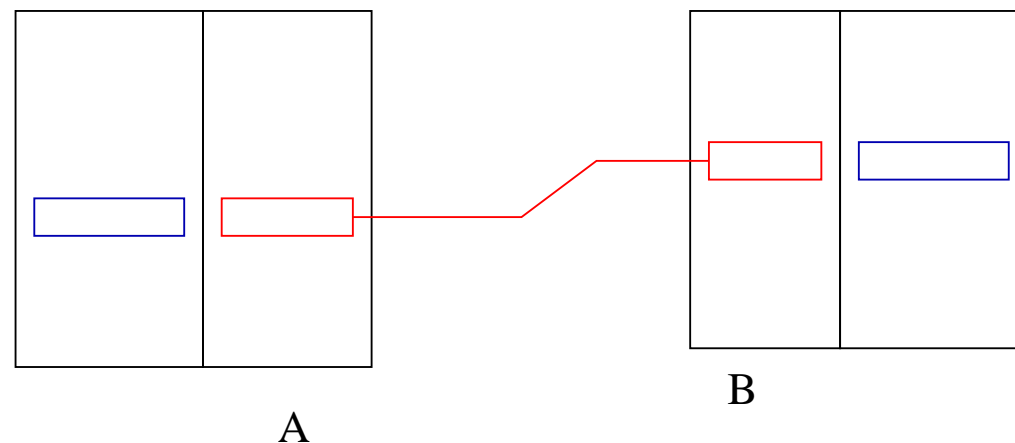
- Can we do better than with the Euclidean distance?
 - Consider a supervised machine learning problem
 - We know the correct links, and look for the best distance
- Other options (than the Euclidean distance):
 - Weighted Euclidean distance (weights w) d_w
 - Mahalanobis distance (using covariance matrix Q)
- But also
 - Choquet integral (measure μ) d_μ
 - Bilinear forms (using positive definite matrix Q) d_Q

Metric learning

- Can we do better than with the Euclidean distance?
 - Consider a supervised machine learning problem
 - We know the correct links, and look for the best distance
- Other options (than the Euclidean distance):
 - Weighted Euclidean distance (weights w) d_w
 - Mahalanobis distance (using covariance matrix Q)
- But also
 - Choquet integral (measure μ) d_μ
 - Bilinear forms (using positive definite matrix Q) d_Q
- From a machine learning perspective (correct links=reidentifications)
 - correct links $d_\mu \geq$ correct links $d_w \geq$ correct links d

Metric learning

- Metric learning. How to find these parameters (μ and Q)?
 - We consider the two files A and B
 - Assume they are aligned (A_i and B_i refer to the same record)
 - Then, the distance between A_i and B_i should be **smaller than** the distance A_i and other B_j .



Metric learning

- Metric learning. **Formalization** (case WM_w): $d_w(A_i, B_i)$
 - **Main constraint**: for a given i , for all $j \neq i$

$$\sum_{k=1}^N w_k d(V_k(A_i), V_k(B_j)) > \sum_{k=1}^N w_k d(V_k(A_i), V_k(B_i))$$

For aligned files A and B (i.e., A_i corresponds to B_i)

- This is sometimes **impossible to satisfy** for all i ,
so, **introduce** K_i (integer slack variable) which means $K_i = 1$ incorrect linkage, and then

$$\sum_{k=1}^N w_k (d(V_k(A_i), V_k(B_j)) - d(V_k(A_i), V_k(B_i))) + CK_i > 0$$

Metric learning

- Case $\mathbb{C} = WM$:

$$\text{Minimise} \quad \sum_{i=1}^N K_i$$

Subject to :

$$\sum_{k=1}^N w_k (d(V_k(a_i), V_k(b_j)) - d(V_k(a_i), V_k(b_i))) + CK_i > 0$$

$$K_i \in \{0, 1\}$$

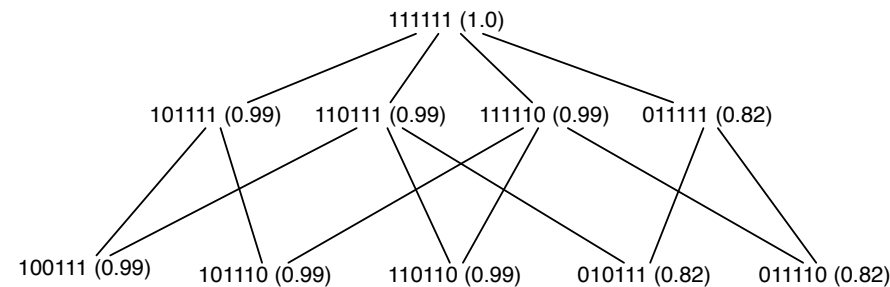
$$\sum_{k=1}^N w_k = 1$$

$$w_k \geq 0$$

- Similar with $\mathbb{C} = CI$ (Choquet integral) and μ
- Extensive work comparing different scenarios and \mathbb{C} .

Metric learning

- Results give:
 - number reidentifications in the worst-case scenario
 - Importance of weights (or sets of weights in fuzzy measures)
- Examples:
 - Choquet integral

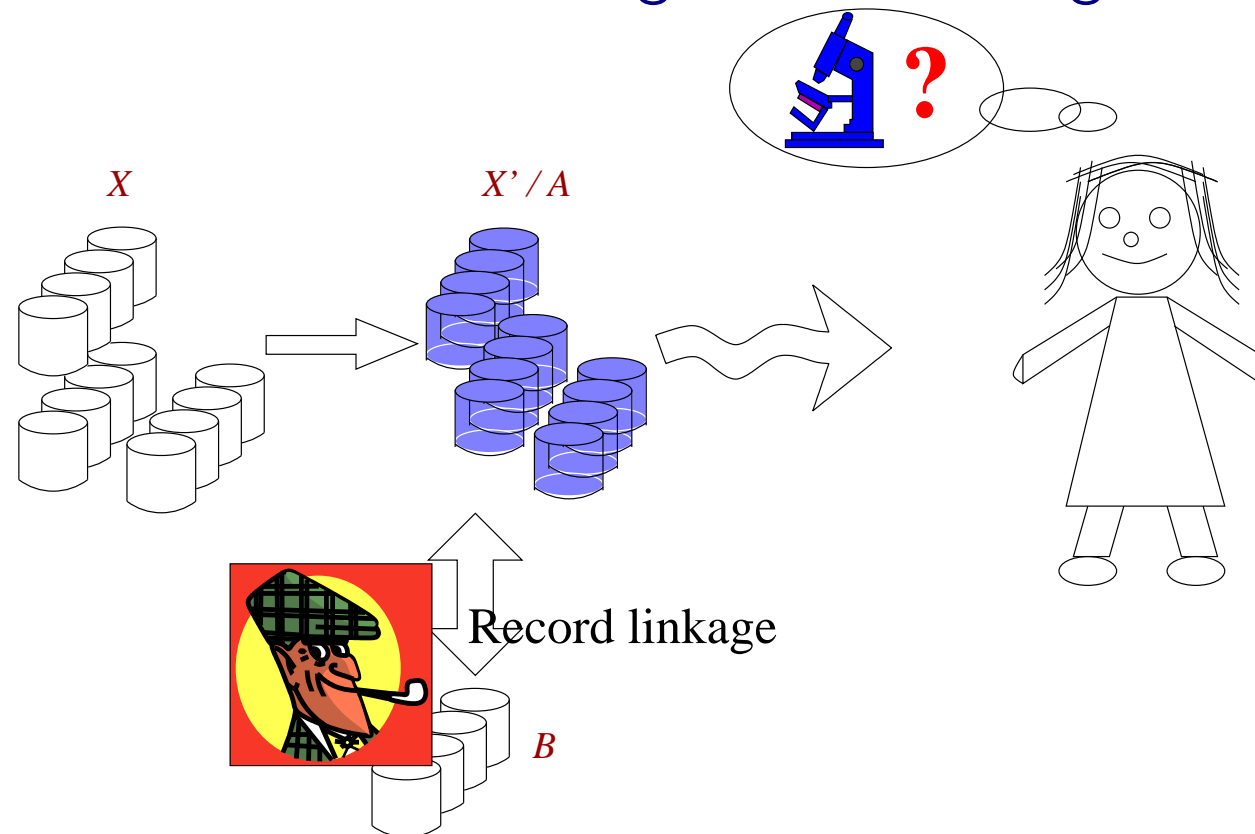


- Weighted Mean (WM):
 - ▷ V_1 0.016809573957189, V_2 0.00198841786482128, V_3 0.00452923777074791
 - ▷ V_4 0.138812880222131, V_5 0.835523953314578, V_6 0.00233593687053289

Metric learning

- Our application:

- Metric learning for privacy-preserving machine learning
- Model intrusion attacks in terms of attacking protected databases.
- Assessing worst-case scenario using metric learning



Still another problem

Radon Nikodym-derivative

- Given two fuzzy measures ν and μ , find f such that

$$\nu(A) = (C) \int_A f d\mu$$

- This is the Radon-Nikodym-like derivative for additive measures useful for defining f -divergence, KL-divergence, entropy
 - difficult to solve for non-additive (fuzzy) measures
 - useful if we learn fuzzy measures, to compute distances

Summary

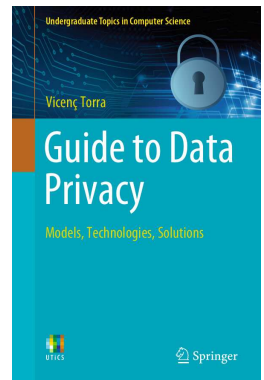
Summary

- Measure identification
 - Regression models
 - Metric learning
- Future directions
 - RN-like derivatives

References

References

- D. Abril, V. Torra, G. Navarro-Arribas (2015) Supervised learning using a symmetric bilinear form for record linkage. Inf. Fusion 26: 144-153.
- V. Torra (2022) (Max, \oplus) -transforms and genetic algorithms for fuzzy measure identification. Fuzzy Sets Syst. 451 253-265
- E. Türkarslan, V. Torra (2022) Measure Identification for the Choquet Integral: A Python Module. Int. J. Comput. Intell. Syst. 15:1 89
- Z. Ontkovicová, V. Torra (2024) Computation of Choquet integrals: Analytical approach for continuous functions. Inf. Sci. 679: 121105
- V. Torra (2022) Guide to Data Privacy, Springer.



Thank you