Computing Valid *p*-value for Optimal Changepoint by **Selective Inference using Dynamic Programming**

Vo Nguyen Le Duy, Hiroki Toda, Ryota Sugiyama, Ichiro Takeuchi

Introduction and Motivation

- Changepoint (CP) detection: find changes in the underlying mechanism of the observed sequential data.
- CP detection is usually formulated as the problem of minimizing the segmentation cost where Dynamic Programming (DP) is commonly used.
- There are several CP detection methods. However, less attention has been paid to quantify the reliability of the detected CPs.



- A and E are falsely detected CPs
 - Results from CP detection algorithms are unreliable
 - Harmful for high-stake decision making such as medical diagnosis
- We propose OptSeg-SI method to provide valid p-value, which is used as a criterion to quantify the reliability of the detected CPs, based on the concept of Selective Inference (SI).
- \rightarrow Large *p*-value indicates false detection (**A** and **E**) and small *p*-value indicates true detection (**B**, **C**, **D** and **F**)
- OptSeg-SI can identify both false and true positive detections

Concept of Selective Inference (SI)

Conditional Data Space $\mathcal{X} = \{ \boldsymbol{x} \mid \mathcal{A}(\boldsymbol{x}) = \mathcal{A}(\boldsymbol{x}^{\mathrm{obs}}) \}$





Conditional inference: $\Pr(T(x) \mid \mathscr{A}(x) = \mathscr{A}(x^{obs}))$, where T(x) is the test statistic.



Problem Setting

We consider the following statistical test

 $H_0: \mu_{left} = \mu_{right}$ VS.

$$H_1: \mu_{\text{left}} \neq \mu_{\text{right}}$$

where μ is population mean.

The conditional *p*-value (selective *p*-value) is defined as

 $p_{\text{selective}} = \mathbb{P}_{H_0}(|\Delta| \ge |\Delta^{\text{obs}}| | \mathcal{X})$

- Δ^{obs} is is the difference in sample mean between the left segment and right segment in the **observed** sequence
- Δ is the mean difference in **any random sequence**
- \mathscr{X} is the conditional data space defined as

$$\mathcal{X} = \{x : \{\text{left}, \text{right}\} \leftarrow \text{DP algorithm } \mathscr{A}(x)\}$$

- \diamond In other words, \mathscr{X} is the data space whose data has the same detected CP as the observed sequence.
- The selective *p*-value is valid since

 $\mathbb{P}_{\mathrm{H}_{0}}(p_{\mathrm{selective}} < \alpha) = \alpha, \quad \forall \alpha \in [0,1].$

However, characterization of the conditional data space ${\mathscr X}$ is challenging

Proposed Method - Schematic illustration



- Step 1: Obtain CP results from the observed data x^{obs}
- Step 2: By restricting data on the line, we perform DP on parametrized data and identify the sub-space whose data has the same CP results as x^{obs}





Proposed Method - Details

 \diamond We first restrict the data to the line by using a scalar parameter $z \in \mathbb{R}$ $\mathbf{x}(z) = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}z,$

where a and b have specific forms.

 \clubsuit The conditional data space \mathscr{X} is then re-written as

$$\mathcal{X} = \{ \boldsymbol{x}(z) = \boldsymbol{a} + \boldsymbol{b}z \mid z \in \mathcal{Z} \},\$$

where $\mathscr{Z} = \{z \in \mathbb{R} : \{\text{left}, \text{right}\} \leftarrow \text{DP algorithm } \mathscr{A}(\mathbf{x}(z))\}.$

 \Longrightarrow The remaining task is to identify truncation region \mathscr{Z}



- We propose a parametric DP approach to compute CP results of x(z) for all $z \in \mathbb{R}$ \bullet The region \mathscr{Z} is then the union of intervals of z on which we obtain
- the same CP results as the observed data



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