

Robust Causal Domain Adaptation in a Simple Diagnostic Setting

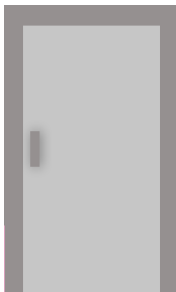
Thijs van Ommen



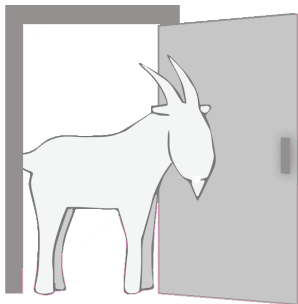
Utrecht University

Ghent, July 4, 2019

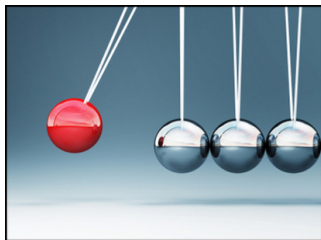
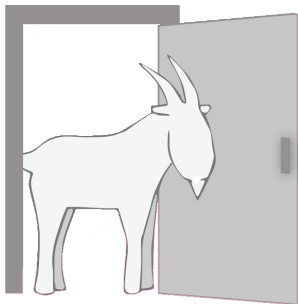
Background



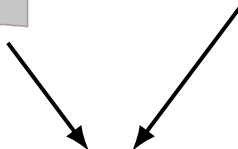
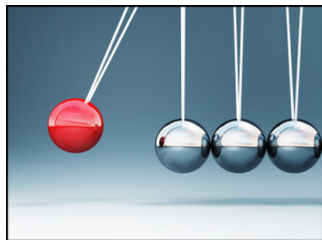
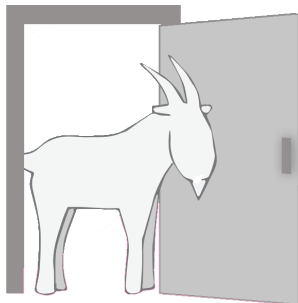
Background



Background



Background



This work

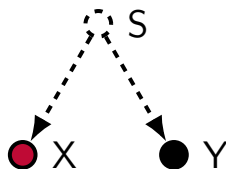
Motivating example

- X : lung cancer — to be diagnosed



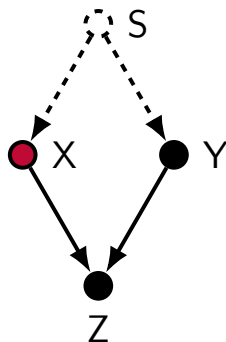
Motivating example

- X : lung cancer — to be diagnosed
- S : smoking (unobserved variable)
- Y : aspirin — may be prescribed to smokers due to their risk of heart disease



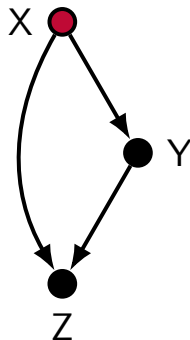
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Motivating example

Two domains:

- source domain ($C = 0$) where we observe data
- target domain ($C = 1$) where we want to make decisions

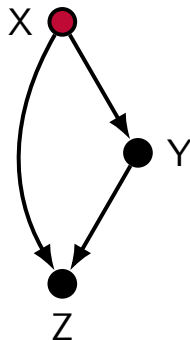
Same causal graph, different distributions:

source:

$$P(X \mid C = 0)$$

$$P(Y \mid X, C = 0)$$

$$P(Z \mid X, Y, C = 0)$$



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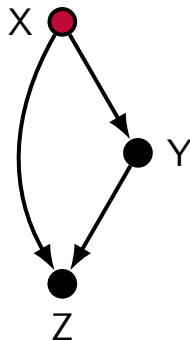
Same causal graph, different distributions:

target: source:

$$P(X | C = 1) = P(X | C = 0)$$

$$P(Y | X, C = 1) \text{?} \quad P(Y | X, C = 0)$$

$$P(Z | X, Y, C = 1) = P(Z | X, Y, C = 0)$$



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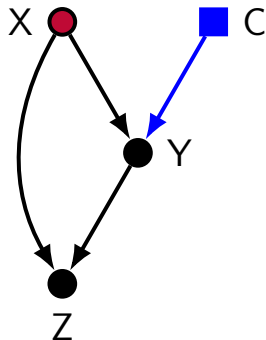
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Earlier approaches try find a set of features $\mathbf{A} \subseteq \{Y, Z\}$ s.t.

$$P(X | \mathbf{A}, C = 1) = P(X | \mathbf{A}, C = 0)$$

- Problem: in this graph, the only \mathbf{A} that makes $X \perp\!\!\!\perp C | \mathbf{A}$ is $\mathbf{A} = \emptyset$
- That would mean: take the same decision for every patient
- Can we do better?

Robust approach

Let \mathcal{P} be the credal set of all distributions for the target domain **consistent** with what we know from the source domain

- We want to take decisions that are good regardless of what $P \in \mathcal{P}$ is realized

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Let \mathcal{P} be the credal set of all distributions for the target domain **consistent** with what we know from the source domain

- We want to take decisions that are good regardless of what $P \in \mathcal{P}$ is realized
- Model as **zero-sum game** against adversary who chooses $P \in \mathcal{P}$
- For that, we need to fix a **loss function**, e.g. Brier or logarithmic loss

A theorem

Theorem (Existence and characterization of P^*)

For H_L finite and continuous, a $P \in \mathcal{P}$ maximizing the adversary's objective exists, and P^* is such a maximizer if and only if there exists a $\lambda^* \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{X}}$ such that

Ⓐ for every $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ with $P^*(y) > 0$,

$$\sum_{\substack{z \in \mathcal{Z}: \\ P^*(y,z) > 0}} P^*(z|y) H_L(P^*(\cdot|y,z)) = \sum_x P^*(x|y) \lambda_x^*;$$

Ⓑ for every $y \in \mathcal{Y}$, for all $P' \in \Delta_{\mathcal{X}}$, let $P'(x, z|y) := P'(x)P(z|x, y)$; then

$$\sum_{\substack{z \in \mathcal{Z}: \\ P'(z|y) > 0}} P'(z|y) H_L(P'(\cdot|y,z)) \leq \sum_x P'(x|y) \lambda_x^*.$$

Theorem applied to numerical example

We give a numerical example where all variables are binary, and find P^* analytically using the theorem:

- for Brier loss, and
- for logarithmic loss

The two solutions (and thus the resulting decisions) are different, even though both loss functions are strictly proper scoring rules

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