







DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

Causal Inference by Encoding Generative Modeling



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COPSS Distinguished Achievement Award and Lectureship (2021)
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IMS Neyman Lecture (2002)
The COPSS Presidents' Award (1993)

Date: 24 November 2023 (Friday)

Time: 2:30 pm — 3:30 pm

Venue: LT2, Lady Shaw Building,

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Abstract

We consider the problem of inferring the causal effect of an exposure variable X on an outcome variable Y. Besides X and Y, a high-dimensional covariate V is also measured. It is assumed that confounding variables that may cause bias in the desired causal inference are low-dimensional features of V. Under this assumption, we propose an encoding generative modeling (EGM) approach for the estimation of the average dose response function, a function that captures, in an average sense, the dependency of Y on X when confounders were held fixed. We show that EGM provides a framework for us to develop deep learning-based estimates for the structural equations that describe the causal relations among the variables. We will present numerical and theoretical evidence to demonstrate the effectiveness of our approach.

*** All are welcome ****

