# Lecture Notes 6: Probabilistic PCA and EM algorithm

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### 6 Probabilistic PCA

### 6.1 Procrustes Transformation

\*Procrustes was an African bandit in Greek mythology, who stretched or squashed his visitors to fit his iron bed(eventually killing them).

**Orthogonal Procrustes Problem** is a matrix approximation problem (here we regard it as an optimization problem), where given two matrices **X** and **Y**, one is asked to find an **Orthogonal matrix U** which most closely maps **X** to **Y**. Intuitively, **U** is to rotate **X** by a certain angle.

**Proposition 6.1.** Let  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  be  $n \times p$  matrices, and  $\mathbf{U}$  is a  $p \times p$  orthogonal matrix which minimizes  $||\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{U}^T||_F^2$ , s.t.  $\mathbf{U}^T\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{I}_p$ , where  $||\cdot||$  denotes the Frobenius norm. Then,  $\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{R}^T$ , where  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}$  are orthogonal matrices.

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} ||\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{U}^T||_F^2 &= \operatorname{tr}((\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{U}^T)^T(\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{U}^T)) \\ &= \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{Y}^T\mathbf{Y}) + \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{U}\mathbf{X}^T\mathbf{X}\mathbf{U}^T) - 2\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{Y}^T\mathbf{X}\mathbf{U}^T) \\ &= \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{Y}^T\mathbf{Y}) + \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{X}^T\mathbf{X}) - 2\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{Y}^T\mathbf{X}\mathbf{U}^T) \end{aligned}$$

Note:  $\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{Y}^T\mathbf{Y})$  and  $\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{X}^T\mathbf{X})$  are constants, so in order to minimize  $||\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{U}^T||_F^2$ , we need the maximum of  $\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{Y}^T\mathbf{X}\mathbf{U}^T)$ . We first perform *Single Value Decomposition*(SVD) on  $\mathbf{Y}^T\mathbf{X}$ ,

$$\mathbf{Y}^T\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{R}^T$$

where  $\mathbf{Q}$  and  $\mathbf{R}$  are orthogonal matrices.

$$tr(\mathbf{Q}\boldsymbol{\Lambda}\mathbf{R}^{T}\mathbf{U}^{T}) = tr(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}\mathbf{R}^{T}\mathbf{U}^{T}\mathbf{Q})$$

$$= tr(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}\mathbf{Z}) \ (Let \mathbf{R}^{T}\mathbf{U}^{T}\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{Z})$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{p} \boldsymbol{\lambda}_{i}\mathbf{Z}_{ii} \ (\boldsymbol{\Lambda} = \operatorname{diag}(\lambda_{1}, \cdots, \lambda_{p}))$$

$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^{p} \boldsymbol{\lambda}_{i} \ (Since for orthonomal \ matrix, \ all \ the \ elements \ are \ \leq 1)$$

The equity is obtained when  $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{I}$ , that is,

$$\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{I} = \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{Q} \Longrightarrow \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{R}^T$$

# 6.2 Probabilistic PCA(closed form approach)

**Definition 6.1.** Probabilistic PCA is often formulated as a mapping from the latent space into the data space via

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{z} + \boldsymbol{\mu} + \sigma\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

where  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ,  $\boldsymbol{\epsilon} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}_p)$ ,  $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}_q)$  and  $\mathbf{z} \perp \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$ .  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^q$  is a latent variable and  $\mathbf{W}$  is a  $p \times q$  loading matrix.

Given a set of samples,  $\{\mathbf{x}_1, ..., \mathbf{x}_n\} \in \mathbb{R}^p$ , we have

- Sample mean:  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbf{x}_i$
- Sample variance:  $\mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\mathbf{x}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}) (\mathbf{x}_i \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}})^T$

Based on the previous notes, we have the following results. Please refer to *Lecture Notes 5* for detailed proof if necessary.

- 1.  $(\mathbf{x} \boldsymbol{\mu}) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{C})$ , where  $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_p$
- 2.  $(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x} \boldsymbol{\mu}) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{M}^{-1}\mathbf{W}^T(\mathbf{x} \boldsymbol{\mu}), \sigma^2\mathbf{M}^{-1})$ , where  $\mathbf{M} = \sigma^2\mathbf{I}_q + \mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{W}$
- 3. Likelihood function  $L = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{C}|^{\frac{n}{2}}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \mathbf{C}^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_i \boldsymbol{\mu})\right)$  (Ignore the constant coefficient), and we let  $f = -\log L$
- 4. When  $\frac{\mathrm{d}f}{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\mu}} = 0$ , we have  $f = \frac{n}{2}\log|C| + \frac{n}{2}\mathrm{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S})$

Let function  $\mathbf{F}$  be  $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{W}, \sigma^2) = \log |\mathbf{C}| + \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S})$ . For convenience, just let  $\sigma^2 = \tau$ . In the following part, we are going to minimize the value of  $\mathbf{F}$  and estimate  $\mathbf{W}$  and  $\tau$ . That is,

$$\frac{d\mathbf{F}}{d\mathbf{W}} = 0$$
 and  $\frac{d\mathbf{F}}{d\tau} = 0$ 

Before we get into detailed proof, the following techniques should be noted.

- 1.  $d \log |\mathbf{C}| = tr(\mathbf{C}^{-1}d\mathbf{C})$
- 2.  $d \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}) = \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{A} d \mathbf{x}) \implies \frac{\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{A} d \mathbf{x}^T)}{d \mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}$
- $3. \ \mathrm{d}\mathbf{C}^{-1} = -\mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathrm{d}\mathbf{C}\mathbf{C}^{-1}$

Proof. 1. We assume that **B** is the adjoint matrix of **C**, and we have  $\mathbf{BC} = \mathbf{CB} = |\mathbf{C}|\mathbf{I}$ . Then we can get  $|\mathbf{C}| = \sum_{j=1}^{p} \mathbf{C}_{ij}(\mathbf{B}^{T})_{ij}$ , which indicates that  $\frac{\partial |\mathbf{C}|}{\partial \mathbf{C}_{ij}} = (\mathbf{B}^{T})_{ij}$ . Therefore, we have

$$d|\mathbf{C}| = \sum_{i} \sum_{j} (\mathbf{B}^{T})_{ij} (d\mathbf{C})_{ij}$$

$$= \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{B} d\mathbf{C})$$

$$= \operatorname{tr}(|\mathbf{C}|\mathbf{C}^{-1}d\mathbf{C})$$

$$= |\mathbf{C}|\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}d\mathbf{C})$$

$$d \log |\mathbf{C}| = \frac{d|\mathbf{C}|}{|\mathbf{C}|} = \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}d\mathbf{C})$$

2. The proof was left as homework in last class.

3.

$$\mathbf{C} \cdot \mathbf{C}^{-1} = \mathbf{I} \Rightarrow d\mathbf{C} \cdot \mathbf{C}^{-1} + \mathbf{C} \cdot d\mathbf{C}^{-1} = 0 \Rightarrow d\mathbf{C}^{-1} = -\mathbf{C}^{-1} d\mathbf{C} \mathbf{C}^{-1}$$

Now we set out to calculate  $\frac{d\mathbf{F}}{d\mathbf{W}}$  and  $\frac{d\mathbf{F}}{d\tau}$ .

 $\frac{\mathrm{d}\mathbf{F}}{\mathrm{d}\mathbf{W}}$ :

$$d\mathbf{F} = d \log |\mathbf{C}| + d \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S})$$

$$= \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}d\mathbf{C}) + \operatorname{tr}(d\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S})$$

$$= \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}d\mathbf{C}) - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}d\mathbf{C}\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S})$$

$$= \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}(d\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^{T} + \mathbf{W}d\mathbf{W}^{T})) - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}(d\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^{T} + \mathbf{W}d\mathbf{W}^{T})\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S})$$

Since we have

$$\mathrm{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathrm{d}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T) = \mathrm{tr}(\mathbf{W}\mathrm{d}\mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{C}^{-1}) = \mathrm{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{W}\mathrm{d}\mathbf{W}^T)$$

Then we get

$$d\mathbf{F} = 2\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{W}d\mathbf{W}^{T}) - 2\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{W}d\mathbf{W}^{T})$$
$$= 2\operatorname{tr}[(\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{W})d\mathbf{W}^{T}]$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{1}{2}\frac{d\mathbf{F}}{d\mathbf{W}} = \mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{W}$$

If we let  $\frac{d\mathbf{F}}{d\mathbf{W}} = 0$ , we can achieve that  $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{SC}^{-1}\mathbf{W}$ .

Substitute  $\mathbf{C} = \tau \mathbf{I}_p + \mathbf{W} \mathbf{W}^T$  to the equation above. We can prove the following two equations are equivalent. The proof is omitted here.

$$\mathbf{S}(\tau \mathbf{I}_p + \mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T)^{-1}\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W}$$
$$\mathbf{S}\mathbf{W}(\tau \mathbf{I}_q + \mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{W})^{-1} = \mathbf{W}$$

We perform Eigendecomposition on  $\mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{W}$ , which is  $\mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{V}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{V}^T$ , we get

$$\mathbf{SWV}(\tau \mathbf{I}_q + \mathbf{\Lambda})^{-1} = \mathbf{WV}$$
  
 $\mathbf{SWV} = \mathbf{WV}(\tau \mathbf{I}_q + \mathbf{\Lambda})$ 

where the diagonal of  $\tau \mathbf{I}_q + \mathbf{\Lambda}$  is composed of eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{S}$  and  $\mathbf{W}\mathbf{V}$  is composed of eigenvectors. However,  $\mathbf{W}\mathbf{V}$  may not be orthonormal. Hence, we need to normalize  $\mathbf{W}\mathbf{V}$ :

$$\mathbf{\Lambda}^{-\frac{1}{2}}\mathbf{V}^T\mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{W}\mathbf{V}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \mathbf{\Lambda}^{-\frac{1}{2}}\mathbf{V}^T\mathbf{V}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{V}^T\mathbf{V}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \mathbf{I}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\mathbf{SWV}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{-rac{1}{2}} = \mathbf{WV}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{-rac{1}{2}}( au\mathbf{I}_q + \mathbf{\Lambda})$$

Let  $\Phi_q = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{V}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ ,  $\mathbf{\Gamma}_q = \tau \mathbf{I}_q + \mathbf{\Lambda}$ , We can know that  $\Phi_q^T \Phi_q = \mathbf{I}_q$  and the diagonal of  $\mathbf{\Gamma}_q$  is composed of eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{S}$ . We can also substitute  $\mathbf{\Gamma}_q$  into  $\mathbf{F}$ , and get the minimum value of  $\mathbf{F}$  when the diagonal of  $\mathbf{\Gamma}_q$  is composed of top q largest eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{S}$ .

Together we have

$$\mathbf{S}\Phi_q = \Phi_q \mathbf{\Gamma}_q$$
 
$$\mathbf{W} = \Phi_q (\mathbf{\Gamma}_q - \tau \mathbf{I}_q)^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{V}^T$$

Remark 6.1. We can assign  $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{I}_q$  without loss of generality, since  $\mathbf{V}$  can be arbitrary orthogonal rotation matrix. Moreover,  $\Phi_q$  is a  $p \times q$  matrix with q column vectors as the principal eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{S}$ . Now, we have known something about  $\mathbf{W}$  and should continue to estimate  $\tau$ .

 $\frac{\mathrm{d}\mathbf{F}}{\mathrm{d} au}$ :

$$d\mathbf{F} = \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}d\tau\mathbf{I}) - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}d\tau\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S}) \quad (d\tau \text{ is a scalar})$$
$$= [\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}) - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{C}^{-1})]d\tau$$

which implies

$$\frac{d\mathbf{F}}{d\tau} = \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1} - \mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{C}^{-1}) = 0$$

Recall another condition

$$\mathbf{C}^{-1} = (\tau \mathbf{I}_p + \mathbf{W} \mathbf{W}^T)^{-1} = \tau^{-1} \mathbf{I}_p - \tau^{-1} \mathbf{W} (\tau \mathbf{I}_q + \mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{W})^{-1} \mathbf{W}^T$$

Multiply S on both sides, we have

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{S}\mathbf{C}^{-1} &= \tau^{-1}\mathbf{S} - \tau^{-1}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{W}(\tau\mathbf{I}_q + \mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{W})^{-1}\mathbf{W}^T \\ &= \tau^{-1}\mathbf{S} - \tau^{-1}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T \quad (\mathrm{Since} \ \mathbf{S}\mathbf{W}(\tau\mathbf{I}_q + \mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{W})^{-1} = \mathbf{W}) \\ \mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{C}^{-1} - \mathbf{C}^{-1} &= \mathbf{C}^{-1}\tau^{-1}\mathbf{S} - \mathbf{C}^{-1}\tau^{-1}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T - \mathbf{C}^{-1} \\ &= \tau^{-1}\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S} - \mathbf{C}^{-1}\tau^{-1}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T - \mathbf{C}^{-1} \\ &= \tau^{-1}(\tau^{-1}\mathbf{S} - \tau^{-1}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T) - \mathbf{C}^{-1}\tau^{-1}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T - \mathbf{C}^{-1} \\ &= \tau^{-1}(\tau^{-1}\mathbf{S} - \tau^{-1}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T) - \tau^{-1}\mathbf{C}^{-1}(\mathbf{C} - \tau\mathbf{I}_p) - \mathbf{C}^{-1} \\ &= \tau^{-1}(\tau^{-1}\mathbf{S} - \tau^{-1}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T) - \tau^{-1}\mathbf{I}_p \\ &= \tau^{-2}\mathbf{S} - \tau^{-2}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T - \tau^{-1}\mathbf{I}_p \end{split}$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{F}}{d\tau} = \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1} - \mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{C}^{-1}) = \tau^{-2}\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{S} - \mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^{T} - \tau\mathbf{I}_{p}) = 0$$

Then we have

$$\tau \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{I}_p) = \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{S}) - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{W})$$

$$p\tau = \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{S}) - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{\Gamma}_q - \tau \mathbf{I}_q)$$

$$= \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{S}) - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{\Gamma}_q) + q\tau$$

$$(p - q)\tau = \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{S}) - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{\Gamma}_q)$$

$$\tau = \frac{\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{S}) - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{\Gamma}_q)}{p - q}$$

$$= \frac{1}{p - q} \sum_{j = q + 1}^{p} \mathbf{\Gamma}_j$$

The condition above is referred as the first order condition, which has a clear interpretation as the variance "lost" in the projection, averaged over the lost dimensions.

#### **Summary**:

$$\tau = \frac{1}{p-q} \sum_{j=q+1}^{p} \mathbf{\Gamma}_j \tag{1}$$

$$\mathbf{W} = \Phi_q (\mathbf{\Gamma}_q - \tau \mathbf{I}_q)^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{V}^T$$
 (2)

In practice, to find the most likely model given S, we should first estimate  $\tau$  from Equation (1), and then W from Equation (2), where for simplicity, we would effectively ignore V(choose V=I).

# 6.3 Expectation-Maximization(EM algorithm)

**Definition 6.2.** Given a statistical model consisting of a set  $\mathbf{X}$  of observed data, a set of unobserved latent data or missing values  $\mathbf{Z}$ , and a vector of unknown parameters  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ , along with a likelihood function  $L(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}) = p(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$ , the maximum likelihood estimation (MLE) of the unknown parameters is determined by the marginal likelihood of the observed data

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \operatorname{argmax} \log p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \operatorname{argmax} \log \int p(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) d\mathbf{z}$$

However, this quantity is often intractable.

### Intuition of EM:

• Introduce an auxiliary variable z and the pairs (x, z) are referred as complete data.

$$\begin{split} p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) &= \int p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \mathrm{d}\mathbf{z} \\ \log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) &= \log \int p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) d\mathbf{z} \\ &= \log \int \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{q(\mathbf{z})} q(\mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z} \quad (q(\mathbf{z}) \text{ is a distribution of } \mathbf{z}) \\ &\geq \int \left(\log \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{q(\mathbf{z})}\right) q(\mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z} \quad (\log \text{ is a concave function}) \end{split}$$

• Assign  $q(\mathbf{z}) = p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)})$ , where t denotes the  $t^{th}$  iteration.

$$\begin{split} \int \left(\log \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{q(\mathbf{z})}\right) q(\mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z} &= \int \left(\log \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)})}\right) p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) d\mathbf{z} \\ &= \int (\log p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})) p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) d\mathbf{z} - \int (\log p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)})) p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) d\mathbf{z} \end{split}$$

where the second entry is a constant and the first entry is a function of  $\theta$ . Specifically,

$$\mathbf{Q}(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) = \int (\log p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})) p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) d\mathbf{z}$$

### Steps of EM:

The EM algorithm seeks to find the MLE of the marginal likelihood by iteratively applying the following two steps:

- Expectation step (E step): Calculate the expected value of the log likelihood function, with respect to the conditional distribution of **Z** given **X** under the current estimate of the parameters  $\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}$ :  $\mathbf{Q}(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x},\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}}[\log p(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})]$
- Maximization step (M step): Find the parameter that maximizes this quantity:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t+1)} = \underset{\boldsymbol{\theta}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \mathbf{Q}(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)})$$

## 6.4 Probabilistic PCA(EM approach)

In the EM approach to maximizing the likelihood for PPCA, we consider the latent variables  $\{\mathbf{z}_i\}$  to be "missing" data and the "complete" data to comprise the observations together with these latent variables. The corresponding complete-data log-likelihood is then:

$$L_c = \sum_{i=1}^n \log p(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{z}_i)$$

where, in PPCA,  $\log p(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{z}_i)$  is

$$\begin{split} \log p(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{z}_i) &= \log[p(\mathbf{x}_i | \mathbf{z}_i) p(\mathbf{z}_i)] \\ &= \log \left[ \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{p}{2}} \tau^{\frac{p}{2}}} \exp(-\frac{1}{2\tau} || \mathbf{x}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu} - \mathbf{W} \mathbf{z}_i ||^2) exp(-\frac{1}{2} || \mathbf{z}_i ||^2) \right] \\ &= -\frac{p}{2} \log \tau - \frac{1}{2\tau} || \mathbf{x}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu} - \mathbf{W} \mathbf{z}_i ||^2 - \frac{1}{2} || \mathbf{z}_i ||^2 \quad \text{(Omit the constant coefficient)} \\ &= -\frac{p}{2} \log \tau - \frac{1}{2\tau} || \mathbf{x}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu} ||^2 - \frac{1}{2\tau} || \mathbf{W} \mathbf{z}_i ||^2 + \frac{1}{\tau} (\mathbf{x}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T (\mathbf{W} \mathbf{z}_i) - \frac{1}{2} || \mathbf{z}_i ||^2 \end{split}$$

**Note:** The former notion of parameter  $\theta$  in EM algorithm is  $\{\tau, \mathbf{W}\}$  in this case.

• E-Step: we take the expectation of  $L_c$  with respect to the distribution of  $p(\mathbf{z}_i|\boldsymbol{\theta}_i)$ :

$$\mathbf{Q}(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \int (\log p(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \mathbf{z}_{i})) p(\mathbf{z}_{i}|\mathbf{x}_{i}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) d\mathbf{z}_{i}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left\{ -\int \frac{p}{2} \log \tau p(\mathbf{z}_{i}|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) d\mathbf{z}_{i} - \int \frac{1}{2\tau} ||\mathbf{x}_{i} - \boldsymbol{\mu}||^{2} p(\mathbf{z}_{i}|\mathbf{x}_{i}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) d\mathbf{z}_{i}$$

$$-\int \frac{1}{2\tau} ||\mathbf{W}\mathbf{z}_{i}||^{2} p(\mathbf{z}_{i}|\mathbf{x}_{i}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) d\mathbf{z}_{i} + \int \frac{1}{\tau} (\mathbf{x}_{i} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^{T} (\mathbf{W}\mathbf{z}_{i}) p(\mathbf{z}_{i}|\mathbf{x}_{i}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) d\mathbf{z}_{i}$$

$$-\int \frac{1}{2} ||\mathbf{z}_{i}||^{2} p(\mathbf{z}_{i}|\mathbf{x}_{i}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) d\mathbf{z}_{i} \right\}$$

$$= -\frac{np}{2} \log \tau - \frac{n}{2\tau} tr(\mathbf{S})$$

$$-\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int \left[ \frac{1}{2\tau} ||\mathbf{W}\mathbf{z}_{i}||^{2} - \frac{1}{\tau} (\mathbf{x}_{i} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^{T} (\mathbf{W}\mathbf{z}_{i}) + \frac{1}{2} ||\mathbf{z}_{i}||^{2} \right] p(\mathbf{z}_{i}|\mathbf{x}_{i}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) d\mathbf{z}_{i}$$

(The first two entries are independent from  $\mathbf{z}_i$ , and  $\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{S}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\mathbf{x}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{x}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T$ ) We can define:

$$\langle \mathbf{z}_{i} \rangle = \int \mathbf{z}_{i} p(\mathbf{z}_{i} | \mathbf{x}_{i}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) d\mathbf{z}_{i} = \mathbf{M}_{(t)}^{-1} \mathbf{W}_{(t)}^{T}(\mathbf{x}_{i} - \boldsymbol{\mu})$$
(Since  $(\mathbf{z} | \mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{W}^{T}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}), \sigma^{2} \mathbf{M}^{-1})$ , where  $\mathbf{M} = \sigma^{2} \mathbf{I}_{q} + \mathbf{W}^{T} \mathbf{W}$ )
$$\langle \mathbf{z}_{i}, \mathbf{z}_{i}^{T} \rangle = \int \mathbf{z}_{i} \mathbf{z}_{i}^{T} p(\mathbf{z}_{i} | \mathbf{x}_{i}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) d\mathbf{z}_{i} = \tau_{(t)} \mathbf{M}_{(t)}^{-1} + \langle \mathbf{z}_{i} \rangle \langle \mathbf{z}_{i} \rangle^{T}$$
(Since  $Cov(\mathbf{z}_{i}) = \mathbb{E}(\mathbf{z}_{i} \mathbf{z}_{i}^{T}) - \mathbb{E}(\mathbf{z}_{i}) \mathbb{E}(\mathbf{z}_{i}^{T})$ )

Hence,  $\mathbf{Q}(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)})$  is

$$\mathbf{Q}(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) = -\frac{np}{2}\log\tau - \frac{n}{2\tau}\mathrm{tr}(\mathbf{S}) - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left\{ \frac{1}{2\tau}\mathrm{tr}(\mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{W}\langle\mathbf{z}_i,\mathbf{z}_i^T\rangle) - \frac{1}{\tau}(\mathbf{x}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T\mathbf{W}\langle\mathbf{z}_i\rangle + \frac{1}{2}\mathrm{tr}(\langle\mathbf{z}_i,\mathbf{z}_i^T\rangle) \right\}$$

• M-Step: Maximize  $\mathbf{Q}(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)})$  (a):

$$\frac{d\mathbf{Q}}{d\mathbf{W}} = \frac{1}{\tau} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\mathbf{x}_{i} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \langle \mathbf{z}_{i}^{T} \rangle - \frac{1}{\tau} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbf{W} \langle \mathbf{z}_{i}, \mathbf{z}_{i}^{T} \rangle = 0$$

$$\mathbf{W} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \langle \mathbf{z}_{i}, \mathbf{z}_{i}^{T} \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\mathbf{x}_{i} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \langle \mathbf{z}_{i}^{T} \rangle$$

$$\mathbf{W}^{(t+1)} = \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\mathbf{x}_{i} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \langle \mathbf{z}_{i}^{T} \rangle \right) \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} \langle \mathbf{z}_{i}, \mathbf{z}_{i}^{T} \rangle \right)^{-1} \tag{3}$$

(b):

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{Q}}{\partial \tau} = -\frac{np}{2} \frac{1}{\tau} + \frac{n}{2\tau^2} \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{S}) + \frac{1}{2\tau^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{W} \langle \mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{z}_i^T \rangle) - \frac{1}{\tau^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbf{x}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \mathbf{W} \langle \mathbf{z}_i^T \rangle = 0$$

$$\tau^{(t+1)} = \frac{1}{p} \left[ \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{S}) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{W} \langle \mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{z}_i^T \rangle) - \frac{2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbf{x}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \mathbf{W} \langle \mathbf{z}_i \rangle \right]$$
Since  $\mathbf{W} \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{z}_i^T \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbf{x}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \langle \mathbf{z}_i^T \rangle$ , we can combine the last two entries.
$$\tau^{(t+1)} = \frac{1}{p} \left[ \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{S}) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbf{x}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \mathbf{W}^{(t+1)} \langle \mathbf{z}_i \rangle \right] \tag{4}$$

In practice, we can first calculate  $\mathbf{W}^{(t+1)}$  using Equation (3) and then substitute to Equation (4) to get  $\tau^{(t+1)}$ .

#### Summary:

The pros of EM approach is that it reduces the computational complexity by avoiding performing full SVD, which is used in the previous closed form approach.