STA 414/2104: Machine Learning

Mixture models and EM algorithms

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Based on slides by Russ Salakhutdinov

Mixture Models

- We will look at mixture models, including Gaussian mixture models
- The key idea is to introduce latent variables, which allow complicated distributions to be formed from simpler distributions
- We will see that mixture models can be interpreted in terms of having discrete latent variables (in a directed graphical model)
- Later in class, we will also look at continuous latent variables

Topics

- K-means clustering
- Mixture of Gaussians
- An alternative view of EM



K-Means Clustering

- Let us first look at the following problem: Identify clusters, or groups, of data points in a multidimensional space.
- We observe the dataset $\{x_1, ..., x_N\}$ consisting of N observations each of D dimensions
- We would like to partition the data into K clusters, where K is given

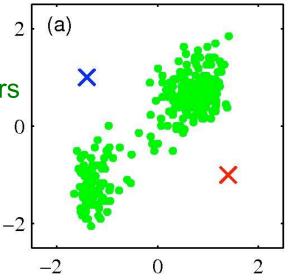
the center of clusters

• We next introduce *D*-dimensional vectors, prototypes $\mu_k, k = 1, ..., K$.

• We can think of μ_k as representing cluster centres

• Our goal:

- Find an assignment of data points to clusters
- Sum of squared distances of each data point to its closest prototype is at the minimum
 - 1. assignment of data points
 - 2. the prototypes, { mu_k }



K-Means Clustering

r_{nk} is binary indicator =1 if we assign x_n to k-th cluster

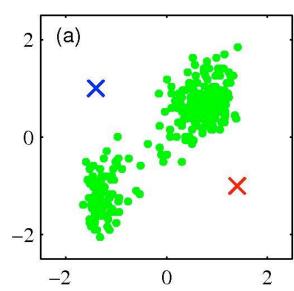
- For each data point $\mathbf{x_n}$ we introduce a binary vector $\mathbf{r_n}$ of length K (1-of-K encoding), which indicates which of the K clusters the data point $\mathbf{x_n}$ is assigned to.
- Define an objective function (distortion measure):

$$J = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{k=1}^{K} r_{nk} ||\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k||^2.$$

• It represents the sum of squares of the distances of each data point to its assigned prototype μ_k .

the assignments

• Our goal is to find the values of r_{nk} and the cluster centres μ_k so as to minimize the objective J. the prototypes



Iterative Algorithm

Define an iterative procedure to minimize:

$$J = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{k=1}^{K} r_{nk} ||\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k||^2.$$

assignment of n-th point is independent of the rest • Given μ_k , minimize J with respect to r_{nk} (**E-step**):

since J is linear to r, have closed form solution

$$r_{nk} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k = \arg\min_{j} ||\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_j||^2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Hard assignments of points to clusters.

which simply says assign n^{th} data point $\mathbf{x_n}$ to its closest cluster centre

• Given r_{nk} , minimize J with respect to μ_k (M-step): since J is quadratic to mu_k, compute derivative set = 0 and rearrange.

$$\mu_k = \frac{\sum_n r_{nk} \mathbf{x}_n}{\sum_n r_{nk}}$$
 Number of points assigned to cluster k .

Set μ_k equal to the mean of all the data points assigned to cluster k

Guaranteed convergence to a local minimum (not global minimum).

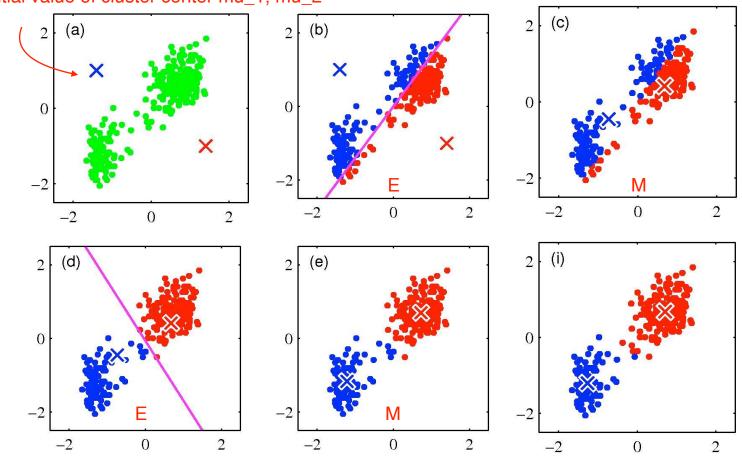
E: re-assigning data points to clusters, r_nk

M: re-computing cluster means, mu

Example

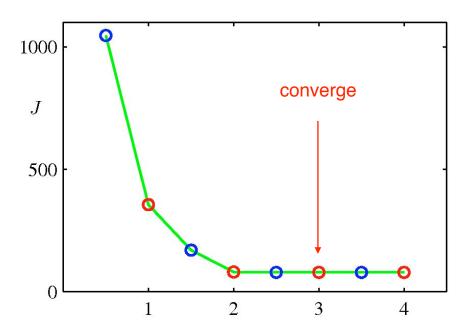
• Example of using K-means clustering (K=2) on the Old Faithful dataset.

initial value of cluster center mu_1, mu_2



Convergence

 Plot of the cost function after each E-step (blue points) and M-step (red points)



The algorithm has converged after three iterations.

• K-means clustering can be generalized by introducing a more general dissimilarity measure N

$$J = \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K r_{nk} K(\mathbf{x}_n, oldsymbol{\mu}_k).$$
 K defines how different are two points are

Image Segmentation

- Another application of the K-means algorithm.
- Partition an image into regions corresponding, for example, to object parts.
- Each pixel in an image is a point in 3-D space, corresponding to R,G,B channels.



- For a given value of K, the algorithm represents an image using K colours
- Another application is image compression.

Image Compression

instead of the entire vector

- For each data point, we store only the identity k of the assigned cluster.
- We also store the values of the cluster centers μ_k .
- Provided *K* << *N*, we require significantly less data.







- The original image has 240 x 180 = 43,200 pixels.
- Each pixel contains {R,G,B} values, each of which requires 8 bits.

24 = 3 channels x 8 bits / channel

- Requires 43,200 x 24 = 1,036,800 bits to transmit directly. set of cluster centers
- With K-means clustering, we need to transmit K code-book vectors $\mu_{\rm k}$ -- 24K bits.
- For each pixel we need to transmit $log_2 K$ bits (as there are K vectors).
- Compressed image requires 43,248 (K=2), 86,472 (K=3), and 173,040 (K=10) bits, which amounts to compression ratios of 4.2%, 8.3%, and 16.7%.

total number of bits with compression : 24K + NlogK, without compression: 24N bits

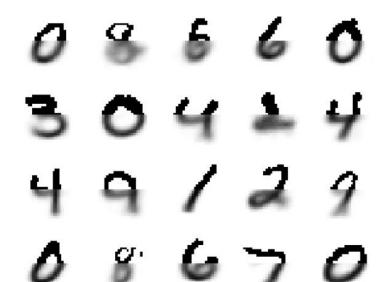
Mixture of Products of Bernoullis

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\pi}) = \sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi_k p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k)$$

where
$$\mu = \{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_K\}, \pi = \{\pi_1, \dots, \pi_K\}$$
, and

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k) = \prod_{i=1}^{D} \mu_{ki}^{x_i} (1 - \mu_{ki})^{(1-x_i)}$$

 $p(\mathbf{x}_{i \in \text{bottom}} | \mathbf{x}_{i \in \text{top}}, \boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\pi})$



Topics

- K-means clustering
- Mixture of Gaussians
- An alternative view of EM



Mixture of Gaussians

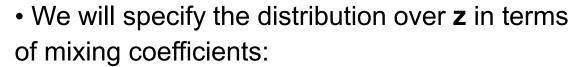
- We'll look at a mixture of Gaussians in terms of discrete latent variables
 - basically convert mixing coefficients to a latent categorical random variable
- The Gaussian mixture can be written as a linear superposition of Gaussians:

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_K).$$

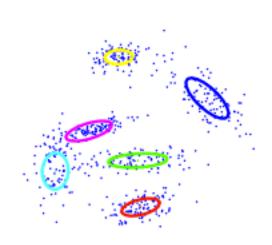
z is latent, categorical distribution

• Introduce a *K*-dimensional binary random variable **z** having a 1-of-*K* representation:

$$z_k \in \{0, 1\}, \quad \sum_k z_k = 1.$$



$$p(z_k = 1) = \pi_k, \quad 0 \le \pi_k \le 1, \quad \sum_k \pi_k = 1.$$



Mixture of Gaussians

Because z uses 1-of-K encoding, we have:

$$p(\mathbf{z}) = \prod_{k=1}^K \pi_k^{z_k}$$
. pdf

• We can now specify the conditional distribution:

$$p(\mathbf{x}|z_k=1) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k), \text{ or } p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}) = \prod_{k=1}^K \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)^{z_k}.$$

We have therefore specified the joint distribution:

$$p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})p(\mathbf{z}).$$

• The marginal distribution over **x** is given by:

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{z} \text{ joint distribution } p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) k = 1}^{\text{over z}} \pi_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k).$$

• The marginal distribution over **x** is given by a Gaussian mixture.

Mixture of Gaussians

X

The marginal distribution is:

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{z}} p(\mathbf{z}) p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}) = \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k).$$
 since p(x) = sum_z p(x,z), each x has a corresponding z

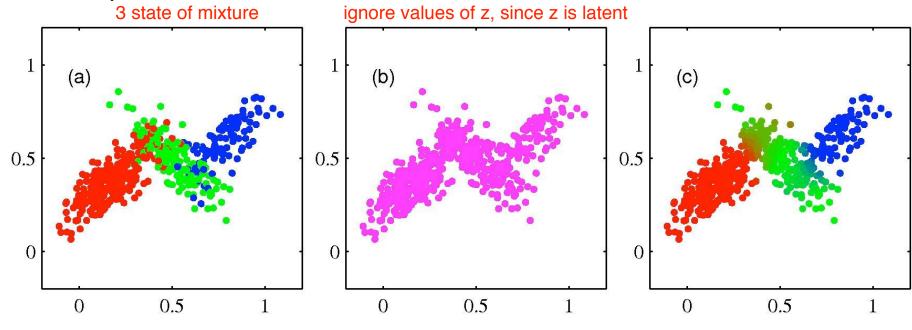
- If we have several observations $\mathbf{x_1}, \dots, \mathbf{x_N}$, it follows that for every observed data point $\mathbf{x_n}$ there is a corresponding latent variable $\mathbf{z_n}$.
- Let us look at the conditional $p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})$, responsibilities, which we will need for doing inference:

we will need for doing inference:
$$\gamma(z_k) = p(z_k = 1 | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{p(z_k = 1)p(\mathbf{x}|z_k = 1)}{\sum_{j=1}^K p(z_j = 1)p(\mathbf{x}|z_j = 1)} = \frac{\gamma(z_k) = p(z_k = 1 | \mathbf{x})}{\sum_{j=1}^K p(z_j = 1)p(\mathbf{x}|z_j = 1)} = \frac{p(z_k) = p(z_k = 1)p(\mathbf{x}|z_j = 1)}{\sum_{j=1}^K p(z_j = 1)p(\mathbf{x}|z_j = 1)} = \frac{p(z_k) = p(z_k) = p$$

• We will view μ_k as prior probability that $z_k=1$, and $\gamma(z_k)$ is the corresponding posterior once we have observed the data.

Example

500 points drawn from a mixture of three Gaussians.



Samples from the joint distribution $p(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{z})$.

Samples from the marginal distribution $p(\mathbf{x})$.

Same samples, where colours represent the value of responsibilities.

generated

real world

we are given z, the latent variable, we are given the complete dataset {X,Z}

 $p(z_k=1 \mid x)$ where k = 1,2,3 the responsibilities

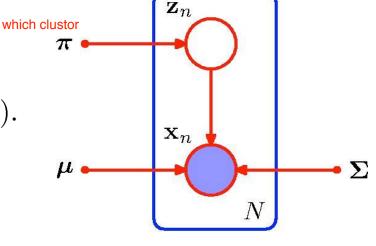
soft partitioning

we are given only incomplete dataset {X}

- Suppose we observe a dataset $\{x_1,...,x_N\}$, and we model the data using a mixture of Gaussians.
- We represent the dataset as an N x D matrix X.
- The corresponding latent variables will be represented and an $N \times K$ matrix **Z**.
- The log-likelihood takes the form:

$$\ln p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \ln \sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k).$$

Model parameters



filled circle - observed

"Graphical model" for a Gaussian mixture model for a set of i.i.d. data point $\{x_n\}$, and corresponding latent variables $\{z_n\}$.

E-step: maximize w.r.t. mu_k

The log-likelihood:

$$\ln p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \ln \sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k).$$

• Differentiating with respect to μ_k and setting to zero:

$$0 = \sum_{n} \frac{\pi_{k} \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{n} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_{k}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{k})}{\sum_{j} \pi_{j} \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{n} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_{j}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{j})} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{K}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_{n} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{k}). \qquad \boldsymbol{\pi}$$

$$\gamma(z_{nk}) \qquad \text{Soft assignment}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{k} = \frac{1}{N_{k}} \sum_{n} \gamma(z_{nk}) \mathbf{x}_{n}, \quad N_{k} = \sum_{n} \gamma(z_{nk}).$$

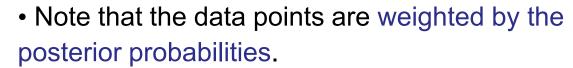
- We can interpret N_k as the effective number of points assigned to cluster k.
- The mean μ_k is given by the mean of all the data points weighted by the posterior $\gamma(z_{nk})$ that component k was responsible for generating \mathbf{x}_n .

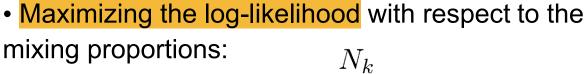
The log-likelihood:

$$\ln p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \ln \sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k).$$

• Differentiating with respect to Σ_k and setting to zero:

$$\Sigma_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N \gamma(z_{nk}) (\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k) (\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)^T. \quad \boldsymbol{\pi}$$





$$\pi_k = \frac{N_k}{N}.$$

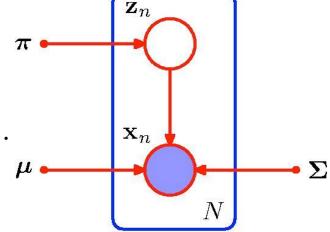
• The mixing proportion for the k^{th} component is given by the average responsibility which that component takes for explaining the data.

The log-likelihood:

$$\ln p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \ln \sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k).$$

- The maximum likelihood does not have a closed-form solution.
- Parameter updates depend on responsibilities $\gamma(z_{nk})$, which themselves depend on those parameters: since responsibility gamma does not depend on data, but also on parameters as well

$$\gamma(z_{nk}) = p(z_{nk} = 1 | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{\pi_k N(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^K \pi_j N(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_j, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_j)}._{\boldsymbol{\mu}}$$



Iterative Solution:

E-step: Update responsibilities $\gamma(z_{nk})$. i.e. the soft assignment

M-step: Update model parameters μ_k , π_k , Σ_k , for k=1,...,K.

i.e. Gaussian model center, variance,

An EM algorithm

- Initialize the means μ_k , covariances Σ_k , and mixing proportions π_k .
- E-step: Evaluate responsibilities using current parameter values:

$$\gamma(z_{nk}) = p(z_{nk} = 1 | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{\pi_k N(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^K \pi_j N(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_j, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_j)}.$$
 the posterior probabilities

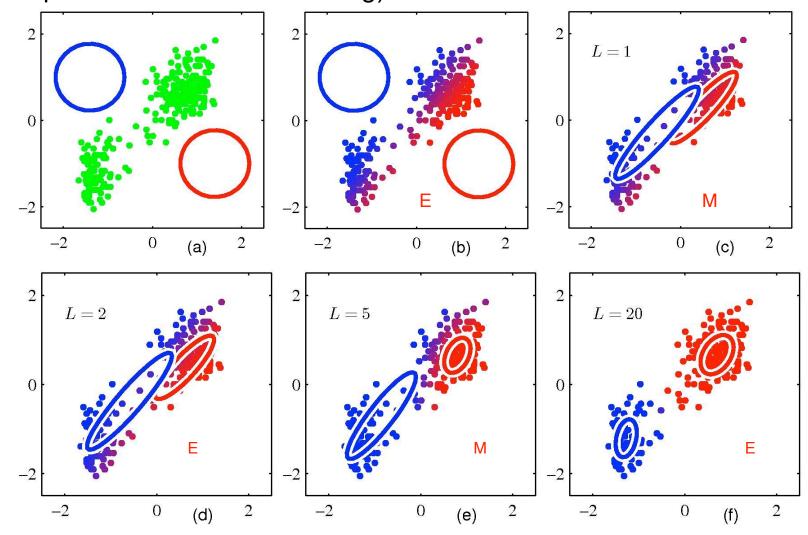
• M-step: Re-estimate model parameters using the current responsibilities:

$$\begin{split} \boldsymbol{\mu}_k^{new} &= \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_n \gamma(z_{nk}) \mathbf{x}_n, \quad N_k = \sum_n \gamma(z_{nk}), \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k^{new} &= \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N \gamma(y_{nk}) (\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k) (\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)^T, \\ \boldsymbol{\pi}_k^{new} &= \frac{N_k}{N}. \end{split}$$

Evaluate the log-likelihood and check for convergence.

Mixture of Gaussians: Example

• Illustration of an EM algorithm (much slower convergence compared to *K*-means clustering)



Topics

- K-means clustering
- Mixture of Gaussians
- An alternative view of EM

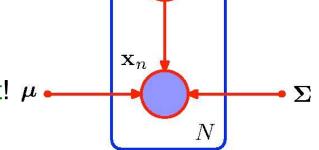


An Alternative View of EM

- The goal of EM is to find maximum-likelihood solutions for models with latent variables.
- We represent the observed dataset as an N x D matrix X.
- Latent variables will be represented as an N x K matrix Z.
- The set of all model parameters is denoted here by θ (θ would be better).
- The log-likelihood takes the form:

$$\ln p(\mathbf{X}|\theta) = \ln \left[\sum_{Z}^{\text{joint distribution}} p(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}|\theta) \right].$$

• Note: even if the joint distribution belongs to the exponential family, the marginal typically does not! μ •



- We will call:
 - $\{X, Z\}$ a complete dataset.
 - $\{X\}$ an incomplete dataset.

An Alternative View of EM

- In practice, we are not given a complete dataset {X,Z}, but only an incomplete dataset {X}.
- Our knowledge about the latent variables is given only by the posterior distribution $p(\mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X},\theta)$.
- Because we cannot use the complete data log-likelihood, we can consider the expected complete-data log-likelihood:

$$Q(\theta, \theta^{old}) = \sum_{\mathbf{Z}} p(\mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X}, \theta^{old}) \ln p(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}|\theta).$$

- In the E-step, we use the current parameters θ^{old} to compute the posterior over the latent variables $p(\mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X},\theta^{\text{old}})$. using bayes rule
- We use this posterior to compute expected complete log-likelihood.
- In the M-step, we find the revised parameter estimate θ^{new} by maximizing the expected complete log-likelihood:

$$\theta^{new} = \arg\max_{\theta} \mathcal{Q}(\theta, \theta^{old}).$$
 Tractable

The General EM algorithm

- Given a joint distribution $p(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{X}|\theta)$ over observed and latent variables governed by parameters θ , the goal is to maximize the likelihood function $p(\mathbf{X}|\theta)$ with respect to θ .
- Initialize parameters θ^{old} .
- E-step: Compute posterior over latent variables: $p(\mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X}, \theta^{\text{old}})$.
- M-step: Find the new estimate of parameters θ^{new} :

$$\theta^{new} = \arg\max_{\theta} \mathcal{Q}(\theta, \theta^{old}).$$
 where
$$\mathcal{Q}(\theta, \theta^{old}) = \sum_{\mathbf{Z}} p(\mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X}, \theta^{old}) \ln p(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}|\theta).$$

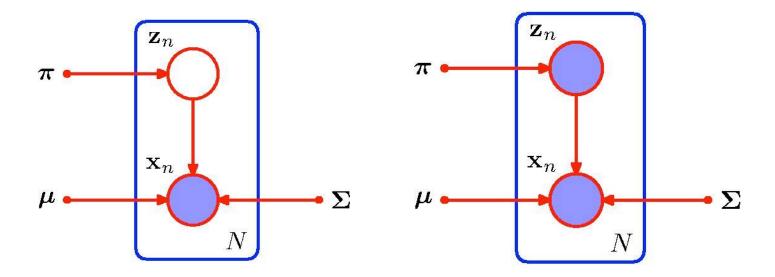
Check for convergence of either log-likelihood or the parameter values.
 Otherwise:

$$\theta^{new} \leftarrow \theta^{old}$$
, and iterate.

Gaussian Mixtures Revisited

• We now consider the application of the latent variable view of EM to the case of a Gaussian mixture model.

• Recall:
$$\ln p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\pi},\boldsymbol{\mu},\boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \sum_{n=1}^N \ln \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k,\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k).$$



 $\{\mathbf{X}\}$ -- incomplete dataset. $\{\mathbf{X},\mathbf{Z}\}$ -- complete dataset.

Maximizing Complete Data

 Consider the problem of maximizing the likelihood for the complete data:

$$p(\mathbf{X},\mathbf{Z}|\boldsymbol{\pi},\boldsymbol{\mu},\boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \prod_{n=1}^N \prod_{k=1}^K \left[\pi_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k,\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)
ight]^{z_{nk}}.$$
 ins both observed variables

likelihood: contains both observed variables

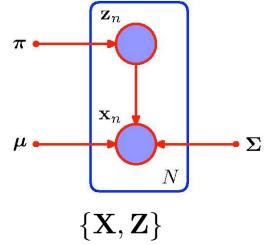
$$\ln p(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z} | \boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \sum_{k=1}^{K} \left[\sum_{n=1}^{N} z_{nk} \ln \pi_k + z_{nk} \ln \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k) \right].$$

Sum of K independent contributions, π one for each mixture component.

 Maximizing with respect to mixing proportions yields:

$$\pi_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N z_{nk}.$$

And similarly for the means and covariances.



-- complete dataset.

Posterior Over Latent Variables

Remember:

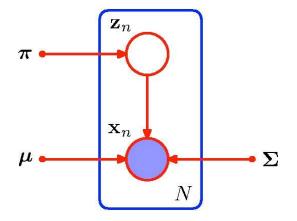
$$p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}) = \prod_{k=1}^K \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)^{z_k}, \quad p(\mathbf{z}) = \prod_{k=1}^K \pi_k^{z_k}.$$

• The posterior over latent variables takes the form:

$$p(\mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X}, \boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) \propto \prod_{n=1}^{N} \prod_{k=1}^{K} \left[\pi_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k) \right]^{z_k}.$$

 $p(Z|X) \sim p(Z,X)$ (from previous slides)

• Note that the posterior factorizes over n points, so that under the posterior distribution, $\{z_n\}$ are independent.



Expected Complete Log-Likelihood

• The expected value of indicator variable z_{nk} under the posterior distribution is:

$$\mathbb{E}[z_{nk}] = \frac{\sum_{\mathbf{z}_n} z_{nk} \prod_j \left[\pi_j \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_j, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_j) \right]^{z_{nj}}}{\sum_{\mathbf{z}_n} \prod_j \left[\pi_j \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_j, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_j) \right]^{z_{nj}}}$$
$$= \frac{\pi_k N(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^K \pi_j N(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_j, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_j)} = \gamma(z_{nk}).$$

- This represents the responsibility of component k for data point \mathbf{x}_n .
- The complete-data log-likelihood: closed form solution so tractable

$$\ln p(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z} | \boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{k=1}^{K} z_{nk} \left[\ln \pi_k + \ln \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k) \right].$$

• The expected complete data log-likelihood is: no closed form solution

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{Z}}\left[\ln p(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z} | \boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})\right] = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \gamma(z_{nk}) \left[\ln \pi_k + \ln \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)\right].$$

Expected Complete Log-Likelihood

The expected complete data log-likelihood is:

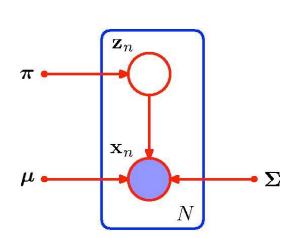
$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{Z}}\left[\ln p(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z} | \boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})\right] = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \gamma(z_{nk}) \left[\ln \pi_k + \ln \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)\right].$$

Maximizing with respect to the model parameters, we obtain:

$$\mu_k^{new} = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_n \gamma(z_{nk}) \mathbf{x}_n, \quad N_k = \sum_n \gamma(z_{nk}),$$

$$\Sigma_k^{new} = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N \gamma(y_{nk}) (\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k) (\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)^T,$$

$$\pi_k^{new} = \frac{N_k}{N}.$$



Relationship to K-Means clustering

• Consider a Gaussian mixture model in which covariances are shared and are given by $\varepsilon \mathbf{l}$.

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\epsilon)^{D/2}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\epsilon}||\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k||^2\right].$$

• Consider the EM algorithm for a mixture of K Gaussians, in which we treat ε as a fixed constant. The posterior responsibilities take the form:

$$\gamma(z_{nk}) = \frac{\pi_k \exp(-||\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k||^2/2\epsilon)}{\sum_{j=1}^K \pi_j \exp(-||\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_j||^2/2\epsilon)}.$$

- Consider the limit $\varepsilon \to 0$.
- In the denominator, the term for which $||\mathbf{x}_n \boldsymbol{\mu}_j||^2$ is smallest will go to zero most slowly. Hence $\gamma(z_{nk}) \to r_{nk}$, where

$$r_{nk} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k = \arg\min_{j} ||\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_j||^2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Relationship to K-Means clustering

• In the limit $\varepsilon \to 0$, the expected complete log-likelihood becomes:

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{Z}}\left[\ln p(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z} | \boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})\right] \to -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{k=1}^{K} r_{nk} ||\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k||^2 + \text{const.}$$

• Hence in the limit, maximizing the expected complete log-likelihood is equivalent to minimizing the distortion measure *J* for the *K*-means algorithm.

