

Machine learning Homework- Variational Inference

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1 KL Divergence

Problem 1:

Given Two gaussians $p(x)$ and $q(x)$ with means μ_1 and μ_2 and covariances Σ_1 and Σ_2 . We know that for gaussians with diagonal covariances the gaussian function factorizes into product of gaussians which implies that

$$p(x) = \prod_j p_j(x_j) \quad (1)$$

also we know that the formula of KL divergence can be written as sum of individual divergence because of the above property.hence

$$KL(p||q) = \int p(x_j) \log\left(\frac{p(x_j)}{q(x_j)}\right) \quad (2)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_p(\log p(x)) - \mathbb{E}_p(\log q(x)) \quad (3)$$

Now $\mathbb{E}_p(\log p(x))$ is the entropy of the univariate gaussian which is given by $-\frac{1}{2} \ln(2\pi\sigma^2 \exp)$ also can be written as $-\frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma_1^2) - \frac{1}{2}$

$\mathbb{E}_p(\log q(x))$ is given by

$$\int p_j \log(q_j(x)) = \mathbb{E}_{p_j}(-\log q_j(x)) \quad (4)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{p_j}\left[\frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma_2^2 + \frac{(x - \mu_2)^2}{2\sigma_2^2})\right] \quad (5)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma_2^2) + \frac{\sigma_1^2 + (\mu_1 - \mu_2)^2}{2\sigma_2^2} \quad (6)$$

adding both we get

$$KL(p||q) = -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma_1^2) + \frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma_2^2) + \frac{\sigma_1^2 + (\mu_1 - \mu_2)^2}{2\sigma_2^2} \quad (7)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} + \log\left(\frac{\sigma_2}{\sigma_1}\right) + \frac{\sigma_1^2 + (\mu_1 - \mu_2)^2}{2\sigma_2^2} \quad (8)$$

Problem 2:

The KL divergence is written as

$$KL(p||q) = - \int p(x) \log q(x) dx + \int p(x) \log p(x) dx \quad (9)$$

we know that gaussian $q(x)$ can be written as with Identity covariance matrix as

$$\log q(x) = -\frac{D}{2} \log 2\pi - \frac{1}{2} |I| - \frac{1}{2} (x - \mu)^T I (x - \mu) \quad (10)$$

$$- \int p(x) \log q(x) dx = - \int p(x) - \frac{D}{2} \log 2\pi - \frac{1}{2} |I| - \frac{1}{2} (x - \mu)^T I (x - \mu) \quad (11)$$

$$(12)$$

whereas since the second term is not dependent on $q(x)$ it can be considered as a constant. Considering constants the equation becomes

$$KL(p||q) = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbb{E}_p[x] - \mu)^T(\mathbb{E}_p[x] - \mu) + const \quad (13)$$

computing gradient for above equation and after some calculations we get

$$\nabla_{\mu} KL(p||q) = \mu - \mathbb{E}_p[x] \quad (14)$$

Optimal parameter is obtained when the gradient is set to zero so we get

$$\mu = \mathbb{E}_p[x] \quad (15)$$

2 Mean field variational inference:

Problem 3:

We need to find the posterior $p(z|x)$ we know that posterior is proportional to the likelihood. so $p(z|x) \propto p(x|z)$
we also know that from given gaussian distribution

$$\mathcal{N}(x|\theta^T Z, 1) \quad (16)$$

$$p(z|x) = p(z1)p(z2)p(x|z) \quad (17)$$

$$p(z|x) = \exp(-\frac{1}{2}(z_1^2 + z_2^2 + (x - \theta_1 z_1 - \theta_2 z_2)^2)) \quad (18)$$

upon expanding we get a $2\theta_1\theta_2 z_1 z_2$ term due to which we cannot factorize.

Problem 4:

As seen in the previous problem we cannot factorize the true posterior. So $q(z)$ is not able to match the true posterior $p(z|x)$