

# ELBO Derivations (3 flavours)

1. From Jensen's
  2. From KL
  3. From Bayes Rule Directly
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- The bottom half of the slide features two large, overlapping geometric shapes. On the left is a light gray triangle pointing towards the bottom right. On the right is a dark blue triangle pointing towards the bottom left. They overlap in the center, creating a white triangular area.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \log p(\mathbf{x}) &= \log \int p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z} = \log \int \frac{q(\mathbf{z})}{q(\mathbf{z})} p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z} = \log \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} \left[ \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})}{q(\mathbf{z})} \right] && \text{1 Trick I: Multiply \& divide} \quad \dots \text{this is expectation} \dots \\
 &\geq \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} \left[ \log \left( \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})}{q(\mathbf{z})} \right) \right] && \dots \text{after the inequality} \dots \quad \text{2} \\
 &\stackrel{\text{Chain Rule}}{\geq} \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} \left[ \log \left( \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})p(\mathbf{z})}{q(\mathbf{z})} \right) \right] && \dots \text{log properties} \dots \quad \text{4} \\
 &= \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} [\log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})] + \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} \left[ \log \left( \frac{p(\mathbf{z})}{q(\mathbf{z})} \right) \right] && \text{3} \\
 &\stackrel{\text{Def. of KL}}{=} \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} [\log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})] - \text{KL}(q(\mathbf{z}) || p(\mathbf{z})) && \text{5} \quad \text{Data-Likelihood} \quad \text{Regularisation}
 \end{aligned}$$

**The ELBO – Evidence Lower-Bound**



**Jensen's Inequality**  
 $\mathbb{E}[f(\mathbf{x})] \leq f(\mathbb{E}[x])$   
 ... for concave fncs ...

... apply the inequality ...

$$f(\mathbb{E}[x]) = \log(\mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})}[\cdot]) \geq \mathbb{E}[f(\mathbf{x})] = \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})}[\log(\cdot)]$$

Start from the goal (close-dist. to the posterior)

... our approximation dist. ...

$$\text{KL}(q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})) = \int q(\mathbf{z}) \log \left[ \frac{q(\mathbf{z})}{p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})} \right] d\mathbf{z}$$

... the posterior (our approx. goal) ...



... arrive again at the Evidence Lower-Bound (ELBO).

$$\mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} [\log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})] - \text{KL}(q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z}))$$

1 ● Log props. ● Multiply dist. ● Integral props.

$$\int q(\mathbf{z}) \log \left[ \frac{q(\mathbf{z})}{p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})} \right] d\mathbf{z} = \int q(\mathbf{z}) \log q(\mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z} - \int q(\mathbf{z}) \log p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{z} \xrightarrow{\text{Rule of Conditional Probabilities}} \int q(\mathbf{z}) \log q(\mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z} - \int q(\mathbf{z}) \log \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})}{p(\mathbf{x})} d\mathbf{z}$$

3 Those integrals are expectations

2 ● Log props. ● Multiply dist. ● Integral props.

$$= \int q(\mathbf{z}) (\log q(\mathbf{z}) - \log p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})) d\mathbf{z} + \int q(\mathbf{z}) \log p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{z} = \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} [\log q(\mathbf{z}) - \log p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})] + \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} [\log p(\mathbf{x})]$$

4 ● Independent RV

$$\text{KL}(q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})) = \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} [\log q(\mathbf{z}) - \log p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})] + \log p(\mathbf{x})$$



Saw it before!

(same as 3,4,5 of previous slide)

5 Kullback-Leibler is always positive

6 Prob. Chain rule

$$\mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} [\log p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) - \log q(\mathbf{z})] = \log p(\mathbf{x}) - \text{KL}(q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})) \implies \log p(\mathbf{x}) \geq \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} [\log p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) - \log q(\mathbf{z})]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} \left[ \log \left( \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})}{q(\mathbf{z})} \right) \right] = \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} \left[ \log \left( \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})p(\mathbf{z})}{q(\mathbf{z})} \right) \right]$$

Arrivals: Evidence-Lower Bound (ELBO)

7 ● Log props. ● Def of KL

$$= \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} [\log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})] - \text{KL}(q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z}))$$



## Start from Bayes Rule

1

$$\text{Posterior } p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\text{Likelihood } p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}) \text{ Prior } p(\mathbf{z})}{\text{Normaliser } p(\mathbf{x})}$$

## Cross-Multiply

2

$$\ln p(\mathbf{x}) = \ln \left[ \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})p(\mathbf{z})}{p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})} \right] \quad \ln p(\mathbf{x}) = \ln p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) - \ln p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})$$

Prob. Rule

Ln props.

## Trick I: Add & Subtract



$$0 = -\ln q(\mathbf{z}) + \ln q(\mathbf{z})$$

... unchanged ...

$$\ln p(\mathbf{x}) = \ln p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) - \ln p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}) - \ln q(\mathbf{z}) + \ln q(\mathbf{z})$$

... this trick introduced the variational distribution ...

$$\ln p(\mathbf{x}) = \ln p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) - \ln q(\mathbf{z}) - \ln \frac{p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})}{q(\mathbf{z})} \quad \text{... re-arrange \& log props ...}$$

## The Ln Bound



$$\ln x \leq x - 1 \quad \rightarrow \quad -\ln x \geq 1 - x$$

apply

$$\ln p(\mathbf{x}) \geq \ln p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) - \ln q(\mathbf{z}) + 1 - \frac{p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})}{q(\mathbf{z})}$$

... true for all  $\mathbf{z}$  ...

## Trick II: Expectation



● Log props. ● Multiply dist. ● Cancel numerator & denominator

... this is just 1 (pdf int.) ...



Saw it before!

5

$$\ln p(\mathbf{x}) \geq \int q(\mathbf{z}) \left( \ln p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) - \ln q(\mathbf{z}) + 1 - \frac{p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})}{q(\mathbf{z})} \right) d\mathbf{z} = \int q(\mathbf{z}) \ln \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})}{q(\mathbf{z})} d\mathbf{z} + 1 - \int p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{z}$$

... true for all  $\mathbf{z}$  -> then also for any sample from any distribution ...



$$\text{ELBO} = \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})} [\log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})] - \text{KL}(q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z}))$$

● Chain Rule  
● Log props. ● Def of KL