#### NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

#### CS5340 - Uncertainty Modeling in AI

(Quiz 2, Semester 2 AY2021/22)

### **SOLUTIONS**

Time Allowed: 1 hour

#### **Instructions**

- This is an open-book quiz. You may refer to any of the lecture slides and tutorials.
- You may not refer to any external online material or use any software to help you answer the questions.
- Please do not cheat; your answers must be your own. Do not collaborate with anyone else.
- Please put all your answers in Luminus.
- Read each question *carefully*. Don't get stuck on any one problem. The questions are *not* in any particular order of difficulty.
- Don't panic. The problems often look more difficult than they really are.
- Good luck!

Student Number.:	

# Common Probability Distributions

Distribution (Parameters)	PDF/PMF
	$1 \qquad \left[ (x-u)^2 \right]$
Normal $(\mu, \sigma^2)$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left[-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right]$
Bernoulli $(r)$	$r^x(1-r)^{(1-x)}$
Categorical $(\pi)$	$\prod_{k=1}^K \pi_k^{x_k}$
Binomial $(\mu, N)$	$\binom{N}{x}\mu^x(1-\mu)^{N-x}$
Poisson $(\lambda)$	$\frac{\lambda^x \exp[-\lambda]}{x!}$
Beta $(\alpha, \beta)$	$\frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)}x^{\alpha-1}(1-x)^{\beta-1}$
Gamma $(a, b)$	$\frac{1}{\Gamma(a)}b^a x^{a-1} \exp[-bx]$
Dirichlet $(\alpha)$	$\frac{\Gamma(\sum_{k}^{K} \alpha_{k})}{\Gamma(\alpha_{1})\Gamma(\alpha_{K})} \prod_{k=1}^{K} x_{k}^{\alpha_{k}-1}$
Multivariate Normal $(\mu, \Sigma)$	$\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{D/2} \Sigma ^{1/2}}\exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu})^{\top}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu})\right]$
Uniform $(a, b)$	$\frac{1}{b-a}$
Cauchy $(x_0, \gamma)$	$\frac{1}{\pi\gamma\left[1+\left(\frac{x-x_0}{\gamma}\right)^2\right]}$

**Note:**  $\Gamma(z) = \int_0^\infty x^{z-1} e^{-x} dx$  is the Gamma function.

## 1 True or False?

For the following questions, please answer True or False.

**Problem 1.** [1 points] Let Z = aX + bY where  $X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(0.2)$  and  $Y \sim \mathcal{N}(2,1)$ . Then

$$\mathbb{E}[Z] = \frac{a}{5} + 2b$$

Solution: True.

**Problem 2.** [1 points] Let the function  $f(X) = -(X^2)$  and  $x \sim p(X)$ . Define a new distribution q(X) with the same support as p(X). Then,

$$\mathbb{E}_p[f(X)] = \mathbb{E}_q[f(X)p(X)/q(X)]$$

Solution: True

**Problem 3.** [1 points] Consider  $x \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta)$ . Binomial prior distributions over  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are conjugate to a Beta likelihood and would lead to tractable and closed-form Bayesian inference. In particular, the new parameters are computed as  $\alpha' = \alpha + s$  and  $\beta' = \beta + (n - s)$  where s is the number of 1's observed and n is the number of samples.

**Solution:** False.  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  should be continuous, but Binomial prior only support discrete values.

**Problem 4.** [1 points] The Markov blanket for a node in a Markov Random Field is the set containing its neighbors.

Solution: True.

**Problem 5.** [2 points] For any independent variables X and Y,

$$\mathbb{E}[X^{2} + Y^{2}] = \mathbb{V}[X] + \mathbb{V}[Y] + (\mathbb{E}[X] + \mathbb{E}[Y])^{2} - 2\mathbb{E}[X]\mathbb{E}[Y]$$

Solution: True.

**Problem 6.** [1 points] The Poisson distribution is in Exponential Family.

Solution: True.

**Problem 7.** [1 points] An Exponential Family distribution always has a conjugate prior.

Solution: True.

**Problem 8.** [2 points] True or False:

$$(X \perp Y|Z, W) \Rightarrow (X \perp Y|Z) \land (X \perp Y|W)$$

In other words,  $(X \perp Y|Z, W)$  implies  $(X \perp Y|Z)$  and  $(X \perp Y|W)$ .

Solution: False.

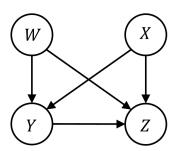
**Problem 9.** [2 points] True or False:

$$(X \perp Y|Z, W) \land (X \perp Y|W) \Rightarrow (X \perp Y|Z)$$

In other words, if  $(X \perp Y|Z, W)$  and  $(X \perp Y|W)$  then  $(X \perp Y|Z)$ .

Solution: False.

**Problem 10.** [2 points] Consider a Bayesian Network with four nodes W, X, Y, and Z and the following facts:

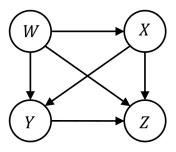


- $W \sim \text{Normal}(2, \sigma^2)$
- $X \sim \text{Normal}(0, v^2)$
- Y = aW + bX where a and b are scalars.
- Z = cW + dX + eY where c, d and e are scalars.

Then, the conditional p(Y|W,X,Z) is Gaussian, since this is a linear Gaussian model that we have covered in the tutorial.

**Solution:** False. The conditional is deterministic given the W, X, Z. The conditional p(Y|W, X, Z) can be called a "degenerate" Gaussian (zero variance, for which a PDF does not exist).

**Problem 11.** [2 points] Consider a Bayesian Network with three nodes W, X, Y, and Z and the following facts:



- $W \sim \text{Normal}(2, \sigma^2)$
- $X = (\mathbf{u}^{\top} f_{\theta}(\mathbf{k})) + W$  where  $f_{\theta}$  is a neural network.  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{k}$  are real vectors  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .
- Y = aW + bX where a and b are scalars.
- $\bullet \ \ Z = W + X + Y$

Then, the conditional p(Y|W,X,Z) is Gaussian, since this is a linear Gaussian model that we have covered in the tutorial.

**Solution:** False. The conditional is deterministic given the W, X, Z. The conditional p(Y|W, X, Z) can be called a "degenerate" Gaussian (zero variance, for which a PDF does not exist).

### 2 Valid Transitions

For each of the matrices below, select True if the matrix is ergodic. Select False otherwise.

Problem 12. [1 points]

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0.1 & 0.2 & 0.7 \\ 0.9 & 0.1 & 0.0 \\ 0.2 & 0.4 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Solution:** Yes, this transition matrix is aperiodic and irreducible.

Problem 13. [1 points]

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0 & 0.7 & 0.3 \\ 0.1 & 0.7 & 0.2 \\ 0.2 & 0.6 & 0.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Solution:** Yes, the transition matrix is aperiodic and irreducible.

Problem 14. [1 points]

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.0 & 0.0 \\ 0.0 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0.0 & 0.3 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Solution:** No, the matrix is not irreducible.

Problem 15. [1 points]

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0 & 0.3 & 0.7 \\ 1.0 & 0.0 & 0.0 \\ 1.0 & 0.0 & 0.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Solution:** No, the matrix is not aperiodic.

**Problem 16.** [1 points]

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0 & 1.0 & 0.0 \\ 0.5 & 0.0 & 0.5 \\ 0.0 & 1.0 & 0.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Solution:** No, the matrix is not aperiodic.

#### 3 More MCMC

Instead of specifying the proposal distribution, we can specify a "proposal transition function" for a MCMC sampler. In other words, we transform x to a new candidate sample x' via some function.

**Problem 17.** [3 points] Which of the following functions will lead to sampling from the stationary distribution given properly set hyperparameters? The hyperparameters are assumed *constant* throughout the chain. Assume the target distribution to be a **continuous** univariate distribution. Select all that apply.

```
A. x' = x + \epsilon where \epsilon \sim \text{Normal}(0, \sigma^2)

B. x' = x + (-1)^s \epsilon where \epsilon \sim \text{Beta}(a, b) and s \sim \text{Bernoulli}(0.5)

C. x' = x + \epsilon where \epsilon \sim \text{Poisson}(a)

D. x' = x + (-1)^s \epsilon where \epsilon \sim \text{Bernoulli}(r) and s \sim \text{Bernoulli}(0.5)

E. x' = x + (-1)^s \epsilon where \epsilon \sim \text{Gamma}(a, b) and s \sim \text{Bernoulli}(0.5)
```

**Solution:** A, B and E are valid proposal transition functions. C is not irreducible, since  $\epsilon \sim \text{Poisson}(a)$  will always be larger than 0, therefore, it can not reach the state 'on the left' in the future. D is also not irreducible, since Bernoulli is discrete, therefore if we start at a state x, we will never be able to reach the all the real numbers in the future, for example x + 0.1.

**Problem 18.** [3 points] Which of the following functions will lead to sampling from the stationary distribution given properly set hyperparameters? The hyperparameters are assumed *constant* throughout the chain. Assume the target distribution to be a <u>continuous</u> univariate distribution with strictly **positive support**, i.e.,  $p(x \le 0) = 0$ . Select all that apply.

```
A. x' = x + \epsilon where \epsilon \sim \text{Normal}(0, \sigma^2)

B. x' = x + (-1)^s \epsilon where \epsilon \sim \text{Beta}(a, b) and s \sim \text{Bernoulli}(0.5)

C. x' = x + \epsilon where \epsilon \sim \text{Poisson}(a)

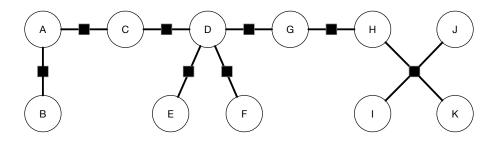
D. x' = x + (-1)^s \epsilon where \epsilon \sim \text{Bernoulli}(r) and s \sim \text{Bernoulli}(0.5)

E. x' = x + \epsilon where \epsilon \sim \text{Gamma}(a, b)
```

**Solution:** A, B. C and D is not irreducible. E is not irreducible, since  $\epsilon \sim \text{Gamma}(a, b)$  will always be larger than 0, therefore, we will never be able to reach the number that is smaller than x.

# 4 Gibbs Sampling

You want to run Gibbs sampling on the following graphical model. For each of the random variables below, what is the correct conditional to sample from? **Note:** If there are multiple correct answers, select the one that conditions upon the fewest number of random variables.



**Problem 19.** [1 points] Sample A.

A. p(A) (sample from the prior)

B. p(A|B,C)

C. p(A|B,C,D)

D. p(A|B,C,D,E)

E. p(A|B)

F. None of the other answers is correct.

Solution: p(A|B,C)

#### **Problem 20.** [1 points] Sample D.

- A. p(D|C, G, E, F)
- B. p(D|A, C, G, E, F, H)
- C. p(D|A, C, D)
- D. p(D)
- E. p(D|E,F)
- F. None of the other answers is correct.

Solution: p(D|C, E, F, G)

## **Problem 21.** [1 points] Sample E.

- A. p(E)
- B. p(E|D)
- C. p(E|C, D, F, G)
- D. p(E|D,F)
- E. p(E|A,B,C,D)
- F. None of the other answers is correct.

Solution: p(E|D)

**Problem 22.** [1 points] Sample H.

- A. p(H)
- B. p(H|D,G)
- C. p(H|G,I,J,K)
- D. p(H|G)
- E. p(H|I, J, K)
- F. None of the other answers is correct.

Solution: p(H|G, I, J, K)

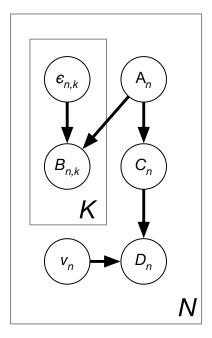
**Problem 23.** [1 points] Sample K.

- A. p(K)
- B. p(K|H,I,J)
- C. p(K|H)
- D. p(K|G, H, I, J, K)
- E. p(K|A,C,D,F,H)
- F. None of the other answers is correct.

Solution: p(K|H,I,J)

# 5 A Regression Model

Consider the following DGM,



along with the following distributions and relationships between variables:

- $A_n \sim \text{Normal}(0,1)$
- $\epsilon_{n,k} \sim \text{Normal}(0, \sigma_{\epsilon}^2)$
- $v_n \sim \text{Normal}(0, \sigma_v^2)$
- $B_{n,k} = wA_n + \epsilon_{n,k}$  where w is a scalar.
- $C_n = rA_n + \mu$  where r,  $\mu$  are scalars.
- $\bullet \ D_n = C_n + v_n$

For convenience, let us define the following:

- The parameters of this model is the set  $\theta = \{w, r, \mu, \sigma_{\epsilon}^2, \sigma_v^2\}$ .
- Let  $B_n = \{B_{n,k}\}_{k=1}^K$ , i.e., for a given  $n, B_n = \{B_{n,1}, B_{n,2}, \dots B_{n,K}\}$
- Likewise, let  $\epsilon_n = {\{\epsilon_{n,k}\}_{k=1}^K}$
- $\mathcal{X}$  is the set of the random variables  $\mathcal{X} = \{A_n, B_n, \epsilon_n, C_n, v_n, D_n\}_{n=1}^N$

This is a linear regression model extended such that we may not observe  $A_n$  but instead only noisy observations  $B_n$  of it. Likewise, the targets  $D_n$  are corrupted by noise.

For the questions in this section, assume that  $\theta$  are deterministic parameters (not random variables) and  $\theta$  is known.

**Problem 24.** [2 points] Which of the following joint distributions corresponds to the given model?

A. 
$$p(\mathcal{X}) = \prod_{n=1}^{N} p(D_n | C_n, v_n) p(C_n | A_n) p(A_n) p(v_n) \prod_{k=1}^{K} p(B_{n,k} | A_n, \epsilon_{n,k}) p(\epsilon_{n,k})$$

B. 
$$p(\mathcal{X}) = \prod_{n=1}^{N} p(A_n, C_n | D_n, v_n) p(D_n) p(v_n) \prod_{k=1}^{K} p(B_{n,k} | D_n, C_n, \epsilon_{n,k}) p(\epsilon_{n,k})$$

C. 
$$p(X) = \prod_{n=1}^{N} p(D_n, C_n | A_n, v_n) p(A_n) p(v_n) \prod_{k=1}^{K} p(A_n | B_{n,k}, \epsilon_{n,k}) p(\epsilon_{n,k})$$

D. 
$$p(\mathcal{X}) = \prod_{n=1}^{N} p(D_n|A_n, v_n)p(A_n)p(v_n)$$

E. 
$$p(\mathcal{X}) = p(D_n|A_n, v_n)p(A_n)p(v_n)p(B_{n,k}|A_n, \epsilon_{n,k})p(\epsilon_{n,k})$$

F. None of the other answers is correct.

Solution: A.  $p(\mathcal{X}) = \prod_{n=1}^{N} p(D_n|C_n, v_n) p(C_n|A_n) p(A_n) p(v_n) \prod_{k=1}^{K} p(B_{n,k}|A_n, \epsilon_{n,k}) p(\epsilon_{n,k})$ 

**Problem 25.** [2 points] What is the covariance of  $A_i$  and  $B_{j,k}$  where  $i \neq j$ ?

A. 0

B. 1

C. w

D. r

E. wr

F.  $w^2r^2$ 

G. None of the other answers is correct.

**Solution:** 0. From the graph,  $A_i$  and  $B_{j,k}$  are dependent if  $i \neq j$ . Therefore,  $Cov(A_i, B_{j,k}) = 0$ .

**Problem 26.** [2 points] What is the covariance of  $A_n$  and  $B_{n,k}$  for a given n and k?

A. 0

B. 1

C. w

D. r

E. wr

F.  $w^2r^2$ 

G. None of the other answers is correct.

Solution: w.

**Problem 27.** [3 points] What is the variance of  $B_{n,k}$ ?

- A. 0
- B. 1
- C.  $\sigma_{\epsilon}^2 + w^2$
- $D. \ \sigma_v^2 + r^2$
- E.  $\sigma_{\epsilon}^2 + r^2$
- $F. \ \sigma_v^2 + w^2$
- G. None of the other answers is correct.

Solution:  $\sigma_{\epsilon}^2 + w^2$ 

**Problem 28.** [3 points] What is the covariance of  $B_{n,k}$  and  $D_n$ ?

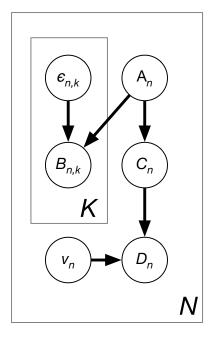
- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. wr
- D.  $w^2r^2$
- E.  $\sigma_{\epsilon}^2 + \sigma_v^2$
- F.  $w\sigma_{\epsilon}^2 + r\sigma_v^2$
- G. None of the other answers is correct.

Solution: wr

## 6 Learning Parameters

We will reuse the same model as in Section 5.

Consider the following DGM,



along with the following distributions and relationships between variables:

- $A_n \sim \text{Normal}(0,1)$
- $\epsilon_{n,k} \sim \text{Normal}(0, \sigma_{\epsilon}^2)$
- $v_n \sim \text{Normal}(0, \sigma_v^2)$
- $B_{n,k} = wA_n + \epsilon_{n,k}$  where w is a scalar.
- $C_n = rA_n + \mu$  where r,  $\mu$  are scalars.
- $\bullet \ D_n = C_n + v_n$

For convenience, let us define the following:

- The parameters of this model is the set  $\theta = \{w, r, \mu, \sigma_{\epsilon}^2, \sigma_v^2\}$ .
- Let  $B_n = \{B_{n,k}\}_{k=1}^K$ , i.e., for a given  $n, B_n = \{B_{n,1}, B_{n,2}, \dots B_{n,K}\}$
- Likewise, let  $\epsilon_n = {\{\epsilon_{n,k}\}_{k=1}^K}$
- $\mathcal{X}$  is the set of the random variables  $\mathcal{X} = \{A_n, B_n, \epsilon_n, C_n, v_n, D_n\}_{n=1}^N$

This is a linear regression model extended such that we may not observe  $A_n$  but instead only noisy observations  $B_n$  of it. Likewise, the targets  $D_n$  are corrupted by noise.

**NOTE:** For the questions in this section,  $\theta$  is **unknown** and we wish to learn it from data. Assume that  $\theta$  are deterministic parameters (not random variables).

**Problem 29.** [2 points] Suppose we observe  $A_n, C_n, D_n$  and we only want to learn the parameter r via MLE. Which of the following should we compute? If multiple solutions are similarly desirable, pick the set with the smallest number of random variables.

- A.  $\arg \max_r \sum_n \log p(C_n|A_n, r)$
- B.  $\arg \max_r \sum_n \log p(C_n, D_n | A_n, r)$
- C.  $\arg \max_r \sum_n \log p(A_n|r)$
- D.  $\arg \max_r \sum_n \log p(A_n, C_n, D_n | r)$
- E.  $\arg \max_r \sum_n \log p(C_n|r)$
- F. None of the other answers is correct.

**Solution:** A.  $\arg \max_r \sum_n \log p(C_n|A_n, r)$ 

**Problem 30.** [2 points] Suppose we only want to learn the parameter w via MLE. Which among the following random variables would we prefer to observe? If multiple solutions are similarly desirable, pick the set with the smallest number of random variables.

- A.  $\{A_n, B_n, C_n, D_n\}_{n=1}^N$
- B.  $\{B_n, C_n\}_{n=1}^N$
- C.  $\{A_n, B_n, \epsilon_n\}_{n=1}^N$
- D.  $\{B_n, C_n, \epsilon_n\}_{n=1}^{N}$
- E.  $\{B_n, C_n, D_n, \epsilon_n\}_{n=1}^{N}$
- F.  $\{A_n, B_n, C_n, D_n, \epsilon_n, v_n\}_{n=1}^N$
- G. None of the other answers is correct.

Solution: C.  $\{A_n, B_n, \epsilon_n\}_{n=1}^N$ 

**Problem 31.** [2 points] Suppose we only observe  $\mathcal{O} = \{B_n, D_n\}_{n=1}^N$  and want to learn the parameters  $\theta$  via MLE. Which of the following statements is correct?

- A. The likelihood is tractable and we can directly optimize it using an off-the-shelf optimizer.
- B. The likelihood is intractable due to the latent variables. We can learn the parameters via EM.
- C. The likelihood is intractable due to the latent variables. Also, the posterior over the latent variables is intractable. We can learn the parameters via Monte-Carlo EM or variational inference.
- D. None of the other statements is correct.

**Solution:** A. This is a variant of the linear Gaussian model. The likelihood is tractable and we can directly optimize it using an off-the-shelf optimizer.

**Problem 32.** [2 points] Suppose we only observe  $\mathcal{O} = \{B_n, D_n\}_{n=1}^N$  and want to learn the parameters  $\theta$  via Expectation Maximization. Consider that we first simplify the model by analytically marginalizing out  $\epsilon_n, v_n$ , and  $C_n$ . Which of the following posteriors is needed to form the  $Q(\theta, \theta^{old})$  function? Pick the best answer among the following.

A. 
$$\prod_{n=1}^{N} p(A_n|B_n, D_n, \theta^{old})$$

B. 
$$\prod_{n=1}^{N} p(A_n, B_n, D_n, \theta^{old})$$

C. 
$$\prod_{n=1}^{N} p(C_n, \epsilon_n, v_n | B_n, D_n, \theta^{old})$$

D. 
$$\prod_{n=1}^{N} p(B_n, \epsilon_n, v_n | A_n, D_n, \theta^{old})$$

E. 
$$\prod_{n=1}^{N} p(B_n, D_n | A_n, D_n, \epsilon_n, v_n, \theta^{old})$$

F. 
$$\prod_{n=1}^{N} p(B_n, D_n | A_n, D_n, \theta^{old})$$

G. None of the other answers is correct.

**Solution:**  $\prod_{n=1}^{N} p(A_n|B_n, D_n, \theta^{old})$ . Since  $B_n, D_n$  are observed,  $\epsilon_n, v_n$ , and  $C_n$  are safely marginalized out, the only unobserved (latent) variable is  $A_n$ . Then, the posterior should be  $p(A_{1:N}|B_{1:N}, D_{1:N}, \theta^{old}) = \prod_{n=1}^{N} p(A_n|B_n, D_n, \theta^{old})$ .

**Problem 33.** [3 points] Given observations  $\mathcal{O} = \{B_n, D_n\}_{n=1}^N$  and parameters  $\theta$ . What is the variance of the conditional  $p(A_n|\mathcal{O})$ ?

A. 
$$[1 + \sigma_v^{-2} r^2 + \sigma_\epsilon^{-2} \sum_{k=1}^K w^2]^{-1}$$

B. 
$$1 + \sigma_v^{-2} r^2 + \sigma_{\epsilon}^{-2} \sum_{k=1}^K w^2$$

C. 
$$\left[\sigma_v^{-2}r^2 + \sigma_\epsilon^{-2} \sum_{k=1}^K w^2\right]^{-1}$$

D. 
$$1 + \sigma_{\epsilon}^{-2} r^2 + \sigma_v^{-2} \sum_{k=1}^{K} w^2$$

E. 
$$\left[\sigma_{\epsilon}^{-2} + \sigma_{v}^{-2} \sum_{k=1}^{K} w^{2}\right]^{-1}$$

F. None of the other answers is correct.

**Solution:**  $[1 + \sigma_v^{-2} r^2 + \sigma_\epsilon^{-2} \sum_{k=1}^K w^2]^{-1}$ . Refer to Tutorial 7 and note that this model is just a linear Gaussian model. We can use the Eq. (11) in the tutorial (under 1.c.)

**Problem 34.** [2 points] Given observations  $\mathcal{O} = \{B_n, D_n\}_{n=1}^N$ , suppose we wish to learn  $\theta$  (still deterministic parameters) by maximizing a variational lower-bound. As before, we first simplify the model by analytically marginalizing out  $\epsilon_n, v_n$ , and  $C_n$ . The variational distribution q should be over which of the following sets of random variables? If multiple answers are correct, pick the one with the smallest number of random variables.

A. 
$$\{A_n, B_n, C_n, D_n\}_{n=1}^N$$

B. 
$$\{A_n, B_n, C_n\}_{n=1}^N$$

C. 
$$\{A_n\}_{n=1}^{N}$$

D. 
$$\{A_n, D_n\}_{n=1}^N$$

E. 
$$\{C_n\}_{n=1}^{N}$$

F. 
$$\{B_n, C_n\}_{n=1}^N$$

G. None of the other answers is correct.

**Solution:** C.  $\{A_n\}_{n=1}^N$ . Since  $B_n, D_n$  are observed,  $\epsilon_n, v_n$ , and  $C_n$  are safely marginalized out, the only unobserved (latent) variable is  $A_n$ . Then, the variational distribution should be over  $\{A_n\}_{n=1}^N$ 

**Problem 35.** [3 points] Given observations  $\mathcal{O} = \{B_n, D_n\}_{n=1}^N$ , suppose we wish to learn  $\theta$  by optimizing a variational lower-bound. As before, we first simplify the model by analytically marginalizing out  $\epsilon_n, v_n$ , and  $C_n$  and introduce a variational distribution q. Which of the following lower-bounds should we maximize given the model? The expectations are taken with respect to q

A. 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{N} \left[ \mathbb{E}[\log \mathcal{N}(D_n, C_n | rA_n + \mu, \sigma_v^2)] - \mathbb{D}_{\mathrm{KL}}[q(A_n) | p(A_n)] + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \mathbb{E}[\log \mathcal{N}(B_{n,k} | wA_k, \sigma_\epsilon^2)] \right]$$

B. 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{N} \left[ \mathbb{E}[\log \mathcal{N}(D_n | rA_n + \mu, \sigma_v^2)] - \mathbb{D}_{\mathrm{KL}}[q(A_n) \| p(A_n)] + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \mathbb{E}[\log \mathcal{N}(B_{n,k} | wA_k, \sigma_\epsilon^2)] \right]$$

C. 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{N} \left[ \mathbb{E}[\log \mathcal{N}(D_n | rA_n + \mu, \sigma_v^2)] + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \mathbb{E}[\log \mathcal{N}(B_{n,k} | wA_k, \sigma_\epsilon^2)] \right]$$

D. 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{N} \left[ \mathbb{E}[\log \mathcal{N}(D_n | wA_n + \mu, \sigma_v^2)] - \mathbb{D}_{\mathrm{KL}}[q(A_n) | | p(A_n)] + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \mathbb{E}[\log \mathcal{N}(B_{n,k} | rA_k, \sigma_\epsilon^2)] \right]$$

$$\text{E. } \sum_{n=1}^{N} \left[ \mathbb{E}[\log \mathcal{N}(D_n | rA_n + \mu, \sigma_v^2)] - \mathbb{D}_{\text{KL}}[q(A_n) \| p(A_n)] - \mathbb{D}_{\text{KL}}[q(C_n) \| p(C_n)] + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \mathbb{E}[\log \mathcal{N}(B_{n,k} | wA_k, \sigma_\epsilon^2)] \right]$$

F. None of the other answers is correct.

Solution: B. 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{N} \left[ \mathbb{E}[\log \mathcal{N}(D_n | rA_n + \mu, \sigma_v^2)] - \mathbb{D}_{\mathrm{KL}}[q(A_n) || p(A_n)] + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \mathbb{E}[\log \mathcal{N}(B_{n,k} | wA_k, \sigma_\epsilon^2)] \right]$$

# End of Paper