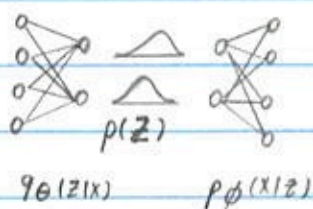


## pl. Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO) for VAE

Goal: A VAE is an autoencoder so we need our networks to reconstruct the data. However, we also need our networks to learn to map the latent space to a chosen prior. Thus, we need an objective function that does both of these things.

Let:



Recall: Bayes' Rule, 
$$\underbrace{p(z|x)}_{\text{posterior}} = \underbrace{p(z)}_{\text{prior}} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{p(x|z)}{\int p(x|z)p(z)dz}}_{\substack{\text{likelihood} \\ \text{margin likelihood}}}$$

ELBO for VAE: 1. Let  $p(z|x_i)$  be a chosen prior distribution to express latent space.

2. To make the encoder learn to map to our chosen prior, we can minimize,  $D_{KL}(q_\theta(z|x_i) \| p(z|x_i))$

3. We shall proceed to show that  $D_{KL}(q_\theta(z|x_i) \| p(z|x_i))$  can be used to construct an objective function that maximizes the log-likelihood of our data (the goal of any probabilistic model) by optimizing a lower-bound that takes into account the VAE's objectives of mapping to a chosen prior for the latent and reconstruction of data.

ph.

$$\begin{aligned}
 4. \quad D_{KL}(q_\theta(z|x_i) || p(z|x_i)) &= - \int q_\theta(z|x_i) \log\left(\frac{p(z|x_i)}{q_\theta(z|x_i)}\right) dz \geq 0 \\
 &= - \int q_\theta(z|x_i) \log\left(\frac{p_\theta(x_i|z)p(z)}{q_\theta(z|x_i)p(x_i)}\right) dz \geq 0 \quad // \text{apply bayes to } p(z|x_i) \\
 &= - \int q_\theta(z|x_i) [\log\left(\frac{p_\theta(x_i|z)p(z)}{q_\theta(z|x_i)}\right) - \log(p(x_i))] dz \geq 0 \quad // \log\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = \log(a) - \log(b) \\
 &= \left(- \int q_\theta(z|x_i) \log\left(\frac{p_\theta(x_i|z)p(z)}{q_\theta(z|x_i)}\right) dz\right) + \underbrace{(\log(p(x_i)) \int q_\theta(z|x_i) dz)}_{\text{integrates to 1}} \geq 0 \\
 &= \log(p(x_i)) - \int q_\theta(z|x_i) \log\left(\frac{p_\theta(x_i|z)p(z)}{q_\theta(z|x_i)}\right) dz \geq 0 \\
 \log(p(x_i)) &\geq \int q_\theta(z|x_i) \log\left(\frac{p_\theta(x_i|z)p(z)}{q_\theta(z|x_i)}\right) dz \\
 &\geq \int q_\theta(z|x_i) \log\left(\frac{p(z)}{q_\theta(z|x_i)}\right) dz + \int q_\theta(z|x_i) \log(p_\theta(x_i|z)) dz \\
 &\geq \underbrace{-D_{KL}(q_\theta(z|x_i) || p(z)) + \mathbb{E}_{q_\theta(z|x_i)} [\log(p_\theta(x_i|z))]}_{\text{"ELBO"}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$5. \quad \log(p(x)) \geq \underbrace{-D_{KL}(q_\theta(z|x_i) || p(z))}_{\uparrow} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{q_\theta(z|x_i)} [\log(p_\theta(x_i|z))]}_{\uparrow}$$

• This term causes the encoder to map to a chosen prior,  $p(z)$ .

• This term causes the decoder to map the latent back to our data's space.

• Also, by maximizing ELBO, we maximize the likelihood of our data being observed by our network. Thus, our network learns in respect to our data.  $\square$

p3.

Using ELBO for a VAE in practice: we have shown that maximizing ELBO fits a VAE yet, in practice, we must choose a prior,  $p(z)$ , for the latent to map the data too. We then need to manipulate ELBO to learn the parameters of the chosen prior.

Closed Form VAE Loss, Gaussian Latent: we shall show ELBO for when the prior,  $p(z)$ , is gaussian.

$$1. \text{ Let } z \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2), \text{ then } p(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda\pi}\sigma_p} \exp\left(\frac{-(x-\mu_p)^2}{\lambda\sigma_p^2}\right) \\ \text{and } q_\theta(z|x_i) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda\pi}\sigma_q} \exp\left(\frac{-(x-\mu_q)^2}{\lambda\sigma_q^2}\right)$$

2. Plug in  $p(z)$  and  $q_\theta(z|x_i)$  into the KL term of ELBO,

$$-D_{KL}(q_\theta(z|x_i) || p(z)) = \int q_\theta(z|x_i) \log\left(\frac{q_\theta(z|x_i)}{p(z)}\right) dz \\ = \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda\pi}\sigma_q} \exp\left(\frac{-(x-\mu_q)^2}{\lambda\sigma_q^2}\right) \log\left(\frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda\pi}\sigma_p} \exp\left(\frac{-(x-\mu_p)^2}{\lambda\sigma_p^2}\right)}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda\pi}\sigma_q} \exp\left(\frac{-(x-\mu_q)^2}{\lambda\sigma_q^2}\right)}\right) dz$$

3. We will work the current form of  $D_{KL}$  to be in terms of  $E(\cdot)$  and  $V(\cdot)$

$$-D_{KL}(q_\theta(z|x_i) || p(z)) = \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda\pi}\sigma_q} \exp\left(\frac{-(x-\mu_q)^2}{\lambda\sigma_q^2}\right) \cdot \left[ \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \log(2\pi) - \log(\sigma_p) - \frac{(x-\mu_p)^2}{\lambda\sigma_p^2} + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \log(\lambda\pi) + \log(\sigma_q) + \frac{(x-\mu_q)^2}{\lambda\sigma_q^2} \right] dz$$



p4.

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda \pi \sigma_q^2}} \int \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu_q)^2}{\lambda \sigma_q^2}\right) \left[ -\log(\sigma_p) - \frac{(x-\mu_p)^2}{\lambda \sigma_p^2} + \log(\sigma_q) + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \log(\lambda \pi) \right. \\ \left. + \log(\sigma_q) + \frac{(x-\mu_q)^2}{\lambda \sigma_q^2} \right] dz$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda \pi \sigma_q^2}} \int \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu_q)^2}{\lambda \sigma_q^2}\right) \left( \log\left(\frac{\sigma_q}{\sigma_p}\right) - \frac{(x-\mu_p)^2}{\lambda \sigma_p^2} + \frac{(x-\mu_q)^2}{\lambda \sigma_q^2} \right) dz$$

$$\Rightarrow -D_{KL}(q_\theta(z|x_i) \| p(z)) = \mathbb{E}_q \left[ \log\left(\frac{\sigma_q}{\sigma_p}\right) - \frac{(x-\mu_p)^2}{\lambda \sigma_p^2} + \frac{(x-\mu_q)^2}{\lambda \sigma_q^2} \right]$$

$$= \log\left(\frac{\sigma_q}{\sigma_p}\right) + \mathbb{E}_q \left[ -\frac{(x-\mu_p)^2}{\lambda \sigma_p^2} + \frac{(x-\mu_q)^2}{\lambda \sigma_q^2} \right]$$


$$= \log\left(\frac{\sigma_q}{\sigma_p}\right) - \frac{1}{\lambda \sigma_p^2} \mathbb{E}_q[(x-\mu_p)^2] + \frac{1}{\lambda \sigma_q^2} \mathbb{E}_q[(x-\mu_q)^2]$$

4. Recall  $V(\cdot) = \sigma^2 = E[(x-\mu)^2]$ , then

$$-D_{KL}(q_\theta(z|x_i) \| p(z)) = \log\left(\frac{\sigma_q}{\sigma_p}\right) - \frac{1}{\lambda \sigma_p^2} \mathbb{E}_q[(x-\mu_p)^2] + \frac{\sigma_q^2}{\lambda \sigma_p^2}$$

$$= \log\left(\frac{\sigma_q}{\sigma_p}\right) - \frac{1}{\lambda \sigma_p^2} \mathbb{E}_q[(x-\mu_p)^2] + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \log\left(\frac{\sigma_q}{\sigma_p}\right) - \frac{1}{\lambda \sigma_p^2} \mathbb{E}_q \left[ \underbrace{(x-\mu_q)}_a + \underbrace{(\mu_q-\mu_p)}_b \right]^2 + \frac{1}{2}$$

recall,  $(a+b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$  

$$= \log\left(\frac{\sigma_q}{\sigma_p}\right) - \frac{1}{\lambda \sigma_p^2} \mathbb{E}_q \left[ (x-\mu_q)^2 + 2(x-\mu_q)(\mu_q-\mu_p) + (\mu_q-\mu_p)^2 \right] + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \log\left(\frac{\sigma_q}{\sigma_p}\right) - \frac{\sigma_q^2 + (\mu_q-\mu_p)^2}{\lambda \sigma_p^2} + \frac{1}{2}$$

p5.

5. Assume prior,  $p(z)$ , is  $N(0, 1)$ . Thus,  $\sigma_p = 1$  and  $\mu_p = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore -D_{KL}(q_\theta(z|x_i) \| p(z)) &= \log(\sigma_q) - \frac{\sigma_q^2 + \mu_q^2}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) [1 + \log(\sigma_q^2) - \sigma_q^2 - \mu_q^2] \end{aligned}$$

6. Thus, ELBO with a standard normal prior is

$$\log(p(x_i)) \geq \frac{1}{2} [1 + \log(\sigma_i^2) - \sigma_i^2 - \mu_i^2] + \mathbb{E}_{q_\theta(z|x_i)} [\log(p_\phi(x_i|z))]$$

For a training batch, ELBO with  $N(0, 1)$  prior is

$$G = \sum_{j=1}^J \left( \frac{1}{2} [\log(\sigma_j^2) - \sigma_j^2 - \mu_j^2 + 1] \right) + \frac{1}{L} \sum_{i=1}^L \mathbb{E}_{q_\theta(z|x_i)} [\log(p_\phi(x_i|z^{(i,e)}))]$$

where  $J$  is the dimension of the latent vector  $z$ , and  $L$  is number of samples drawn according to reparameterization trick.

Re-parametrization Trick : In ELBO,  $\mathbb{E}_{q_\theta(z|x_i)} [\log(p_\phi(x_i|z))]$  is not differentiable. Thus, SGD does not work. By using Stochastic Gradient Variational Bayes (SGVB), we can approximate  $\mathbb{E}_{q_\theta(z|x_i)} [\log(p_\phi(x_i|z))]$ .

To do so, we will reparameterize the random variable  $\tilde{z} \sim q_\theta(z|x)$  using a differentiable function  $g_\phi(\epsilon, x)$  where  $\epsilon$  is a noise variable

$$\tilde{z} = g_\phi(\epsilon, x) \quad \text{with} \quad \epsilon \sim p(\epsilon)$$

pb.

We can form Monte Carlo estimates of expectations of some function  $f(z)$  w.r.t.  $q_\phi(z|x)$  as follows:

$$\mathbb{E}_{q_\phi(z|x)} [f(z)] = \mathbb{E}_{p(\epsilon)} [f(g_\phi(\epsilon, x))] \approx \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^L f(g_\phi(\epsilon^{(l)}, x^{(l)}))$$

where  $\epsilon^{(l)} \sim p(\epsilon)$

Applying to lower bound  $\mathbb{E}_{q_\phi(z|x)} [\log(p(x|z^{(i,l)}))]$

$$\tilde{h}^A(\theta, \phi; x^{(i)}) \approx h(\theta, \phi; x^{(i)})$$

$$\tilde{h}^A(\theta, \phi; x^{(i)}) = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^L \log(p_\theta(x^{(i)} | z^{(i,l)}) - \log(q_\phi(z^{(i,l)} | x^{(i)}))$$

where  $z^{(i,l)} = g_\phi(\epsilon^{(i,l)}, x^{(i)})$  and  $\epsilon^{(i,l)} \sim p(\epsilon)$

Proof: 1. Given the deterministic mapping  $z = g_\phi(\epsilon, x)$  we know that

$$q_\phi(z|x) \prod_i dz_i = p(\epsilon) \prod_i d\epsilon_i$$

2.  $\therefore \int q_\phi(z|x) f(z) dz = \int p(\epsilon) f(g_\phi(\epsilon, x)) d\epsilon$

3. Thus, a differentiable estimator can be made

$$\int q_\phi(z|x) f(z) dz \approx \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^L f(g_\phi(x, \epsilon^{(l)})) \quad \text{where} \quad \epsilon^{(l)} \sim p(\epsilon)$$

VAE ELBO Re-param Gauss:

$$\log(p(x_j)) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) [1 + \log(\sigma_j^2) - \sigma_j^2 - \mu_j^2] + \mathbb{E}_{q_\phi(z_j|x_j)} [\log(p_\theta(x_j|z_j))]$$

where  $z_j = \mu_j + \sigma_j \odot \epsilon$  and  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$