

## Hands-on tutorial on ADVI

### Example #1:

Given some  $p(x)$ , choose a mean-field variational approximation

$q_\phi(x)$ , and find:

$$\phi^* = \underset{\phi}{\operatorname{argmin}} \operatorname{KL}[q_\phi(x) \parallel p(x)] := \mathcal{L}(\phi)$$

where  $q_\phi(x) = \prod_{i=1}^d \mathcal{N}(x_i | \mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$

$$\mathcal{L}(\phi) := \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{x \sim q_\phi(x)}}_{\text{prior}} [\log q_\phi(x) - \log p(x)] = \int \log \frac{q_\phi(x)}{p(x)} \cdot q_\phi(x) dx$$

### Example #2: Bayesian Logistic regression

Model:  $y = \sigma(w^T x)$ ,  $\underbrace{y_i \sim \operatorname{Ber}(\sigma(w^T x_i))}_{\text{likelihood}}$ ,  $\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_d \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right)}_{\text{prior}}$

Goal:  $p(w | \mathcal{D}) = \frac{p(\mathcal{D} | w) p(w)}{p(\mathcal{D})}$   
 $\hookrightarrow \int p(\mathcal{D} | w) p(w) dw$   $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{marginal likelihood,} \\ \text{model evidence} \end{array} \right.$

VI: Approximate  $p(w | \mathcal{D}) \approx q_\phi(w | \mathcal{D}) \approx \prod_{i=1}^d \mathcal{N}(w_i | \mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$

Recall:  $\phi^* = \underset{\phi}{\operatorname{argmin}} \operatorname{KL}[q_\phi(w | \mathcal{D}) \parallel p(w | \mathcal{D})] := \mathcal{L}(\phi)$

$\mathcal{L}(\phi) := -H[q_\phi(w | \mathcal{D})] - \mathbb{E}_{w \sim q_\phi(w | \mathcal{D})} [\log p(\mathcal{D} | w) + \log p(w)]$   $\left. \vphantom{\mathcal{L}(\phi)} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{Evidence} \\ \text{Lower} \\ \text{Bound} \\ \text{(ELBO)} \end{array}$

Let's consider:

$$\log p(\mathcal{D}) = \log \int p(\mathcal{D} | w) p(w) dw \stackrel{\text{I.S.}}{=} \log \int p(\mathcal{D} | w) p(w) \frac{q_\phi(w | \mathcal{D})}{q_\phi(w | \mathcal{D})} d\mathbf{w}$$

Jensen's inequality :

If  $f$  is a convex function and  $X$  is some random variable, then :

$$f(\mathbb{E}[X]) \leq \mathbb{E}[f(X)] \Rightarrow f\left(\int x p(x) dx\right) \leq \int f(x) p(x)$$

Jensen's  
 (\*)  $\geq \int \log \frac{p(D|w)p(w)}{q_\phi(w|D)} \cdot q_\phi(w|D) dw$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{w \sim q_\phi(w|D)} \left[ \log p(D|w) + \log p(w) - \log q_\phi(w|D) \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow -\log p(D) \leq -H[q_\phi(w|D)] - \mathbb{E}_{w \sim q_\phi(w|D)} [\log p(D|w) + \log p(w)]$$

Evidence lower bound (ELBO)

i.e.  $-\log p(D) \leq \text{KL}[q_\phi(w|D) \| p(w|D)] := \mathcal{L}(\phi)$

$$\phi^* = \arg \min_{\phi} -\log p(D) = \arg \max_{\phi} p(D)$$

$$\mathcal{L}(\phi) := \mathbb{E}_{w \sim q_\phi(w|D)} \left[ \log q_\phi(w|D) - (\log p(D|w) + \log p(w)) \right]$$

$$-H[q_\phi(w|D)] = \mathbb{E}_{w \sim q_\phi(w|D)} [\log q_\phi(w|D)]$$