

# CS 446/ECE 449: Machine Learning

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## L22: Gaussian Mixture Models

## Goals of this lecture

- Understanding Gaussian mixture models
- Getting to know more details about generative modeling
- Learning the relationship between Gaussian mixture models and kMeans

## Reading material:

- C. Bishop; Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning; Chapter 9.2
- K. Murphy; Machine Learning: A Probabilistic Perspective; Chapter 11

Recall: Linear regression (discriminative)

$$p(y^{(i)}|x^{(i)}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(y^{(i)} - \mathbf{w}^\top \phi(x^{(i)}))^2\right)$$

Now: (generative)

$$p(x^{(i)} | \underbrace{\mu, \sigma}_{\theta \text{ or } \mathbf{w}}) = \mathcal{N}(x^{(i)} | \mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(x^{(i)} - \mu)^2\right)$$

Important difference: we are now interested in modeling the distribution of the data  $x^{(i)}$  and not the class labels  $y^{(i)}$ . Though it is sometimes ambiguous what you call data or labels.

Given a dataset  $\mathcal{D} = \{(x^{(i)})\}$  how to find  $\theta = (\mu, \sigma)$  of

$$p(x^{(i)}|\mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(x^{(i)} - \mu)^2\right)$$

Minimize negative log-likelihood

Program:

$$\min_{\mu, \sigma} -\log \prod_{i \in \mathcal{D}} p(x^{(i)}|\mu, \sigma) := \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(x^{(i)} - \mu)^2 + \frac{N}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma^2)$$

Program:

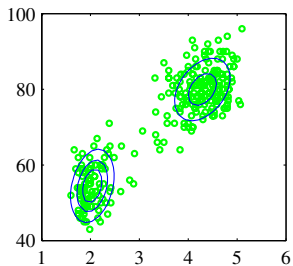
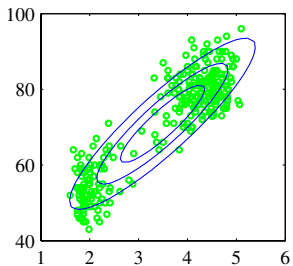
$$\min_{\mu, \sigma} -\log \prod_{i \in \mathcal{D}} p(\mathbf{x}^{(i)} | \mu, \sigma) := \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \mu)^2 + \frac{N}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma^2)$$

Optimality condition:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} : \quad \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} (\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \mu) = 0 \quad \implies \quad \mu = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} \mathbf{x}^{(i)}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} : \quad \frac{-1}{\sigma^3} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} (\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \mu)^2 + \frac{N}{\sigma} = 0 \quad \implies \quad \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} (\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \mu)^2$$

Issue: single Gaussian isn't that flexible



Fix: linear superposition of Gaussians

$$p(x^{(i)} | \underbrace{\pi, \mu, \sigma}_{\text{all components}}) = \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k \mathcal{N}(x^{(i)} | \mu_k, \sigma_k)$$

Constraints:

$$\sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k = 1 \quad \pi_k \geq 0$$

Minimize negative log-likelihood:

$$\min_{\pi, \mu, \sigma} -\log \prod_{i \in \mathcal{D}} p(x^{(i)} | \pi, \mu, \sigma) := -\sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} \log \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k \mathcal{N}(x^{(i)} | \mu_k, \sigma_k)$$

How to optimize:

No closed form solution. Gradient descent is possible.



Alternative: auxiliary/latent variable  $z_{ik} \in \{0, 1\}$  with  $\sum_{k=1}^K z_{ik} = 1 \forall i$   
Marginal for  $z_{ik}$

$$p(z_{ik} = 1) = \pi_k \quad p(\mathbf{z}_i) = \prod_{k=1}^K \pi_k^{z_{ik}} \text{ where } \mathbf{z}_i = [z_{i1}, \dots, z_{iK}]^\top$$

Conditional

$$p(x^{(i)} | z_{ik} = 1) = \mathcal{N}(x^{(i)} | \mu_k, \sigma_k)$$

Marginal for  $x^{(i)}$

$$\begin{aligned} p(x^{(i)} | \pi, \mu, \sigma) &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}_i} p(x^{(i)} | \mathbf{z}_i) p(\mathbf{z}_i) = \sum_{\mathbf{z}_i} \prod_{k=1}^K \pi_k^{z_{ik}} \mathcal{N}(x^{(i)} | \mu_k, \sigma_k)^{z_{ik}} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k \mathcal{N}(x^{(i)} | \mu_k, \sigma_k) \end{aligned}$$

Posterior:

$$r_{ik} = p(z_{ik} = 1 | x^{(i)}) = \frac{p(z_{ik} = 1) p(x^{(i)} | z_{ik} = 1)}{\sum_{\hat{k}=1}^K p(z_{i\hat{k}} = 1) p(x^{(i)} | z_{i\hat{k}} = 1)} = \frac{\pi_k \mathcal{N}(x^{(i)} | \mu_k, \sigma_k)}{\sum_{\hat{k}=1}^K \pi_{\hat{k}} \mathcal{N}(x^{(i)} | \mu_{\hat{k}}, \sigma_{\hat{k}})}$$

With all those definitions at hand, minimize negative log-likelihood:

$$\min_{\pi, \mu, \sigma} -\log \prod_{i \in \mathcal{D}} p(x^{(i)} | \pi, \mu, \sigma) := -\sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} \log \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k \mathcal{N}(x^{(i)} | \mu_k, \sigma_k) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k = 1$$

Stationary point: (per cluster weight  $N_k = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} r_{ik}$ )

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu_k} : \quad -\sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} r_{ik} \left( -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x^{(i)} - \mu_k) \right) = 0 \quad \implies \quad \mu_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} r_{ik} x^{(i)}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma_k} : \quad \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} r_{ik} \left( \frac{1}{\sigma} - \frac{1}{\sigma^3} (x^{(i)} - \mu_k)^2 \right) = 0 \quad \implies \quad \sigma_k^2 = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} r_{ik} (x^{(i)} - \mu_k)^2$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \pi_k} : \quad \text{with Lagrange multiplier: } \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} \frac{\mathcal{N}(x^{(i)} | \mu_k, \sigma_k)}{\sum_{\hat{k}=1}^K \pi_{\hat{k}} \mathcal{N}(x^{(i)} | \mu_{\hat{k}}, \sigma_{\hat{k}})} + \lambda = 0$$

multiplication with  $\pi_k$  and summation over  $k$ :  $\lambda = -N$

multiplication with  $\pi_k$  and rearranging:  $\pi_k = \frac{N_k}{N}$

Not a closed form solution

## Gaussian Mixture Model Algorithm:

- Initialize  $\mu, \sigma, \pi$
- Iterate:
  - ▶ E-Step: Update

analytical form of subproblem,  
converge much faster.  
better than gradient descent

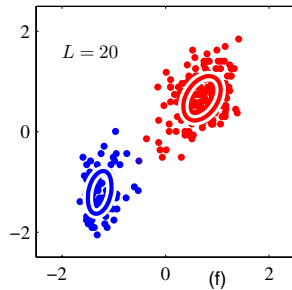
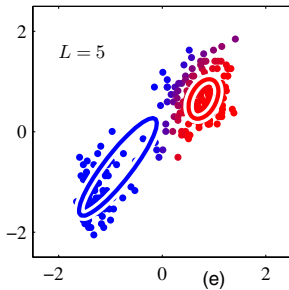
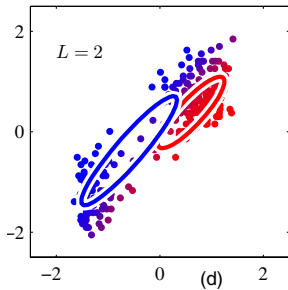
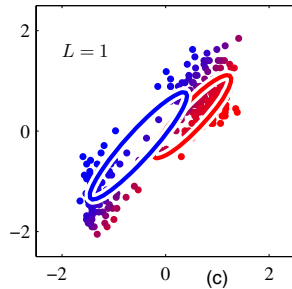
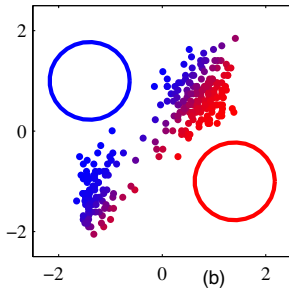
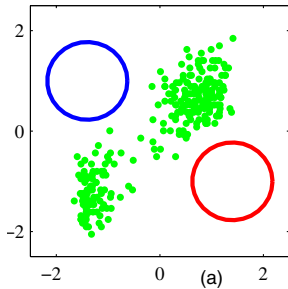
$$r_{ik} = \frac{\pi_k \mathcal{N}(x^{(i)} | \mu_k, \sigma_k)}{\sum_{\hat{k}=1}^K \pi_{\hat{k}} \mathcal{N}(x^{(i)} | \mu_{\hat{k}}, \sigma_{\hat{k}})}$$

- ▶ M-Step: Update

$$\mu_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} r_{ik} x^{(i)}$$

$$\sigma_k^2 = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{D}} r_{ik} (x^{(i)} - \mu_k)^2$$

$$\pi_k = \frac{N_k}{N}$$



## Similarity to kMeans:

- $r_{ik}$  is an assignment of sample  $i$  to cluster  $k$ , albeit a soft assignment
- $\mu_k$  are the cluster centers

Can we make this similarity formal?

Fix  $\sigma_k^2 = \epsilon \forall k$

Responsibilities:

$$r_{ik} = \frac{\pi_k \exp(-\frac{1}{2\epsilon}(x^{(i)} - \mu_k)^2)}{\sum_{\hat{k}=1}^K \pi_{\hat{k}} \exp(-\frac{1}{2\epsilon}(x^{(i)} - \mu_{\hat{k}})^2)}$$

What happens for  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ ?

- In the denominator the term for which  $(x^{(i)} - \mu_{\hat{k}})^2$  is smallest goes to zero slowest
- All responsibilities will go to zero except the one for which  $(x^{(i)} - \mu_{\hat{k}})^2$  is smallest, which will go to unity
- Responsibilities are hard assignments
- Cost function can be shown to be identical in the limit

## Quiz:

- What is the maximum likelihood solution of fitting the mean and variance of a Gaussian?
- Why do we consider mixtures of Gaussians?
- How do we find the means, variances and responsibilities of the Gaussian mixture model?

## Important topics of this lecture

- Generative modeling intuition
- Gaussian mixture model
- Relationship between Gaussian mixture model and kMeans

## What's next

- Generalizing the Gaussian mixture model concept