

# Homework 3 Part 1

This is an individual assignment.

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Solve all problems by hand. You may type your answers in markdown cells or [push](#) a PDF file with your handwritten answers.

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## Problem 1 (20 points)

Consider a model in which the set of all hidden variables are denoted by  $\mathbf{z}$ .

Let  $x$  be a sample observation (single sample, e.g.,  $x = 1.5$ ). The data likelihood is defined as

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

and the prior probability on the latent variables is defined as an Exponential with parameter  $\lambda = 1$ ,

$$p(z|\lambda) \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda = 1) = \exp(-z), \quad z \geq 0$$

We saw that the resulting posterior probability,  $p(z|x)$ , is *intractable*. Suppose we use variational inference with the following proposed family of surrogate posteriors

$$q(z) \sim \text{Exp}(\alpha) = \alpha \exp(-\alpha z), \quad z \geq 0.$$

That is, for a specific value of  $\alpha$ ,  $q(z)$  represents a proposed surrogate posterior.

Suppose you only have 1 data sample  $x = 1.5$ , find the value for  $\alpha$  that maximizes the ELBO for this surrogate posterior.

$$\mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z)} [z] = \frac{1}{\alpha}, \text{ where } z \sim e^\alpha$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z)} [z^2] = \frac{2}{\alpha^2}$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z)} [a \cdot z] = a \cdot \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z)} [z] = a \cdot \frac{1}{\alpha}$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z)} [a] = a$$

HW3-PI-A1

Evidence lower bound (ELBO)

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z)} [\ln p(z|x) - \ln q(z)] = \mathbb{E}_z \left[ \ln \left( \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z)} \right) \right]$$

$q(z)$  = surrogate posterior

$p(z|x)$  = true intractable posterior

$$= \mathbb{E}_z [\ln p(x|z)p(z)] - \mathbb{E}_z [\ln p(x)] - \mathbb{E}_z [\ln q(z)]$$

$$\textcircled{1} \dots \ln(p(x|z)p(z)) = \ln \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-z)^2}{2}} \cdot e^{-z} \right] \quad \text{enf} \quad \textcircled{2}$$

$$= \ln \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-z)^2}{2}-z} \right]$$

$$= \ln \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right) + \frac{(-x^2 + 2xz - z^2 - 2z)}{2}$$

$$\ln(p(x|z)p(z)) = \ln \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right) - \frac{x^2}{2} + (x-1)z - \frac{z^2}{2}$$

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$$\textcircled{2} \dots \ln q(z) = \ln [\alpha e^{-\alpha z}] = \ln \alpha - \alpha z$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 L &= \mathbb{E}_z \left[ \ln \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right) - \frac{x^2}{2} + (x-1)z - \frac{z^2}{2} \right] - \ln(p(x)) \\
 &\quad - \mathbb{E}_z [\ln \alpha - \alpha z] \\
 &= \ln \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} - \frac{x^2}{2} + \mathbb{E}_z [(x-1)z] - \mathbb{E}_z \left[ \frac{z^2}{2} \right] - \ln(p(x)) \\
 &\quad - \ln \alpha + \mathbb{E}_z [\alpha z] \\
 &= \ln \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right) - \ln \alpha - \frac{x^2}{2} + (x-1) \frac{1}{\alpha} - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{z^2}{\alpha^2} \right) - \ln p(x) \\
 &\quad - \ln \alpha + \cancel{\alpha} \frac{1}{\alpha} \\
 \underline{x=1.5} \\
 L &= \ln \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} - 2 \ln \alpha - \frac{(1.5)^2}{2} + \frac{0.5}{\alpha} - \frac{1}{\alpha^2} - \ln p(\alpha) + 1 \\
 \frac{\partial L}{\partial \alpha} &= 0 \Rightarrow 0 - 2 \frac{1}{\alpha} - 0 + \frac{0.5(-1)}{\alpha^2} + \frac{2}{\alpha^3} = 0 \\
 \Rightarrow -2\alpha^2 - 0.5\alpha + 2 &= 0 \\
 \Rightarrow \alpha^2 + 0.5\alpha - 2 &= 0 \\
 \Rightarrow 2\alpha^2 + \alpha - 4 &= 0 \\
 \alpha = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} &= \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1 + 4(2)4}}{2(2)} = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{33}}{4}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{-1 + \sqrt{33}}{4}, \frac{-1 - \sqrt{33}}{4}$$
$$= 1.186, -1.686$$

## Problem 2 (25 points)

Consider a model in which the set of all hidden stochastic variables, denoted collectively by  $\mathbf{Z}$ , comprises some latent variables  $\mathbf{z}$  together with some model parameters  $\theta$ .

Suppose we use a variational distribution that factorizes between latent variables and parameters so that

$$q(\mathbf{z}, \theta) = q_{\mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z})q_{\theta}(\theta),$$

in which the distribution  $q_{\theta}(\theta)$  is approximated by a point estimate of the form  $q_{\theta}(\theta) = \delta(\theta - \theta_0)$  where  $\theta_0$  is a vector of free parameters.

Show that variational optimization of this factorized distribution is equivalent to an EM algorithm, in which the E-step optimizes  $q_{\mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z})$ , and the M-step maximizes the expected complete-data log posterior distribution of  $\theta$  with respect to  $\theta_0$ .

Q2.  $q(\mathbf{z}, \theta) = q_{\mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z}) q_{\theta}(\theta)$ , where  $q_{\theta}(\theta) = \delta(\theta - \theta_0)$  vector of free parameters

$$P(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \underbrace{P(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{z})}_{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{P(\mathbf{z})}_{\text{prior}}$$

EM maximizes the log likelihood of the observed data w.r.t.  $\mathbf{z}$  and model parameters  $\theta$ .

Factorizing variational distribution between  $\mathbf{z}$  and  $\theta$ .  
 $q(\mathbf{z}, \theta) = q_{\mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z}) q_{\theta}(\theta)$  approx. by point estimate  $q_{\theta}(\theta) = \delta(\theta - \theta_0)$   
here  $\theta_0$  vector free parameter

E step: compute the posterior dist. of latent variables given observed data and current estimates of model parameters.

$$\therefore q(\mathbf{z} | \mathbf{x}, \theta_0) = q_{\mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z})$$

$\therefore$  E-step optimizes the variational distribution  $q_2(z)$  by computing the posterior distribution of the latent variables with observed data and current estimates of the model parameters:

$$q_2(z) \propto p(x, z; \theta_\theta)$$

This is equivalent of E-step in EM algorithm.

In M-step, we find parameters that maximize the expected complete data log posterior distribution.

$$\theta_\theta \leftarrow \arg \max_{\theta} E[\log p(x, z; \theta) | x, \theta_\theta]$$

where expectation is taken w.r.t. variational distribution  $q(z; \theta)$

$$\therefore \log p(x, z; \theta) = \log p(x|z) + \log p(z)$$

$$\log(x|z) = \sum_i \log p(x_i|z; \theta)$$

$\overbrace{\quad}$   
summing over all observations  
in the dataset

plugging in the factorized variational distribution

and taking the expectation w.r.t.  $q_2(z)$

$$\mathbb{E}[\log p(x|z)] = \mathbb{E}_z [\log p(x|z, \theta)]$$

$$q_2(z) \propto p(x, z; \theta_0)$$

$$\theta_0 \leftarrow \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_z [\log p(x, z; \theta)]$$

Simplifying the integral :

$$\theta_0 \leftarrow \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_z [\log p(x|z; \theta)] q_2(z) =$$

$$= \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \sum_i \log (x_i, z; \theta) q_2(z)$$

This is equivalent of M-step.

of factorized distribution.

i.e. Variational optimization is equivalent of EM algorithm

## On-Time (5 points)

Submit your assignment before the deadline.

# Submit Your Solution

Confirm that you've successfully completed the assignment.

Along with the Notebook, include a PDF of the notebook with your solutions.

`add` and `commit` the final version of your work, and `push` your code to your GitHub repository.

Submit the URL of your GitHub Repository as your assignment submission on Canvas.

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