Variational Mixture of Normalizing Flows

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November 22, 2019

Thesis to obtain the Master of Science degree in **Electrical and Computer Engineering**

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 - What should the mixture components be?
 - How should their parameters be estimated?



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 - Explicit distributions: Normalizing flows [Rezende and Mohamed, 2015]
 - Explicit access to the density function
 - No approach to introduce discrete structure (multi-modality)



Mixture Models



- Mixture Models
- Normalizing Flows



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 - The chosen family for the mixture model components



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- Experiments and results



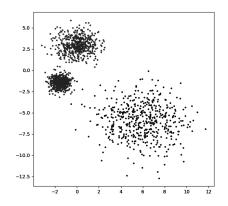
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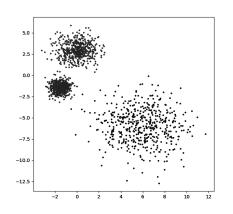
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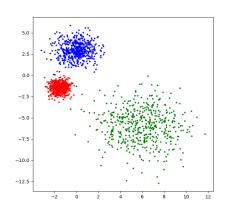
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Mixture Models: Definition

• Mixture model: used to model data that contains subgroups.



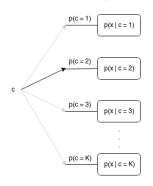
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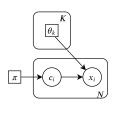
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Mixture Models: Joint

For N data points, $X = \{x_i : i = 1, 2, ..., N\}$, and hidden variables $C = \{c_i : i = 1, 2, ..., N\}$



$$p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{c}) =$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{k=1}^{K} p_c(c_i = k) p_{\mathbf{x}|c}(\mathbf{x}_i | c_i = k, \theta_k)$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi_k p_{\mathbf{x}|c}(\mathbf{x}_i | c_i = k, \theta_k)$$



Mixture Models: Difficult case

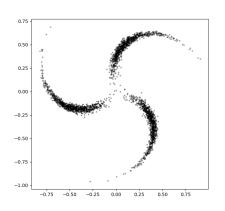




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Given

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{z} \sim p(\mathbf{z}) \\ \mathbf{x} = g(\mathbf{z}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \end{cases}$$

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then:

$$f_{X}(\mathbf{x}) = f_{Z}(g^{-1}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})) \left| \det \left(\frac{d}{d\mathbf{x}} g^{-1}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right) \right|$$
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This can be **optimized w.r.t.** θ , to approximate an **arbitrary distribution**

Requirements for feasibility



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Base density - closed form and easy to sample from



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Determinant of the **Jacobian** of g - computationally cheap



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3 Gradient of $\det\left(\frac{d}{dz}g(z;\theta)\right)$ w.r.t θ - computationally cheap

• Normalizing Flows: composition of several "good" transformations



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$$g = h_{l-1} \circ h_{l-2} \circ ... \circ h_1 \circ h_0$$

• Applying the formula to g, and taking the logarithm:

$$\log f_X(\mathbf{x}) = \log f_Z(g^{-1}(\mathbf{x})) - \sum_{\ell=0}^{L-1} \log \left| \det \left(\frac{d}{d\mathbf{x}_\ell} h_\ell(\mathbf{x}_\ell) \right) \right|.$$

• An example: Affine Coupling Layer [Dinh, Sohl-Dickstein, and Bengio, 2017]



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$$\begin{cases} x_1 &= z_1 \odot \exp(s(z_2)) + t(z_2) \\ x_2 &= z_2. \end{cases}$$

• The respective Jacobian matrix:

$$J_{f(z)} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial z_1} & \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial z_2} \\ \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial z_1} & \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial z_2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \operatorname{diag}(\exp(s(z_2))) & \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial z_2} \\ \mathbf{0} & I \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$p(c|x) = \frac{p(x|c)p(c)}{p(x)}$$
$$= \frac{p(x|c)p(c)}{\int p(x|c')p(c')dc'}$$

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- Problem: The integral is normally intractable
 - Variational inference: an approximate inference framework to overcome this intractability.

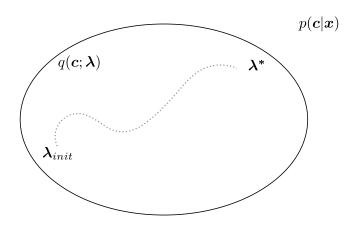
Variational Inference: Goal

Given a family $q(c; \lambda)$, find the parameters λ^* such that:

$$oldsymbol{\lambda}^* = \mathop{\mathsf{argmin}}_{oldsymbol{\lambda}} \mathit{KL}(q(oldsymbol{c};oldsymbol{\lambda}) || p(oldsymbol{c}|oldsymbol{x}))$$



Variational Inference: Goal





$$\mathit{KL}(q(oldsymbol{c})||p(oldsymbol{c}|oldsymbol{x})) = \int q(oldsymbol{c}) \log rac{q(oldsymbol{c})}{p(oldsymbol{c}|oldsymbol{x})} doldsymbol{c}$$

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$$= \int q(\mathbf{c}) (\log q(\mathbf{c}) - (\log p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{c}) - \log p(\mathbf{x}))) d\mathbf{c}$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_q[\log q(\mathbf{c})] - \mathbb{E}_q[\log p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{c})] + \log p(\mathbf{x})$$



$$KL(q(c)||p(c|x)) + \mathbb{E}_q[\log p(x,c)] - \mathbb{E}_q[\log q(c)] = \log p(x)$$



$$\underbrace{\mathcal{K}L(q(\boldsymbol{c})||p(\boldsymbol{c}|\boldsymbol{x}))}_{\geqslant 0} + \mathbb{E}_q[\log p(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{c})] - \mathbb{E}_q[\log q(\boldsymbol{c})] = \log p(\boldsymbol{x})$$

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\mathbb{E}_q[\log p(x,c)] - \mathbb{E}_q[\log q(c)] \leqslant \log p(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathsf{ELBO}(q) &= \mathbb{E}_q[\log p(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{c})] - \mathbb{E}_q[\log q(\boldsymbol{c})] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_q[\log p(\boldsymbol{x}|\boldsymbol{c})] + \mathbb{E}_q[\log p(\boldsymbol{c})] - \mathbb{E}_q[\log q(\boldsymbol{c})] \end{aligned}$$



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VMoNF: Introduction

Is it possible to **combine** the ideas from the previous sections, to obtain a mixture of flexible models?



• Mixture of K normalizing flows



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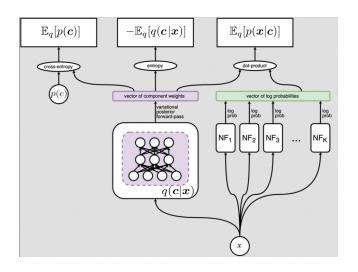
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- The components p(x|c) are normalizing flows
- Optimize the ELBO, by jointly learning the variational posterior and the generative components.

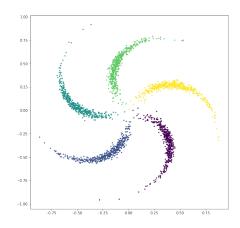


VMoNF: Overview



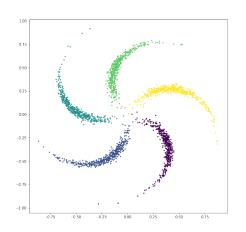


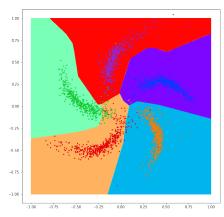
VMoNF: Experiments - Pinwheel (5 wings)





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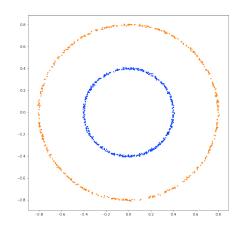




VMoNF: Experiments - Pinwheel (3 wings)

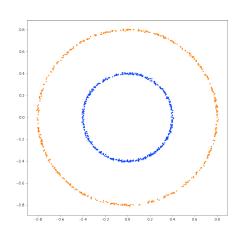
Trainining Animation

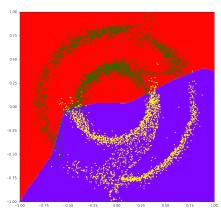
VMoNF: Experiments - 2 Circles





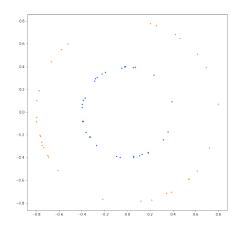
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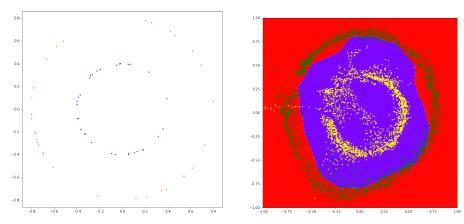


VMoNF: Experiments - 2 Circles (semi supervised)





VMoNF: Experiments - 2 Circles (semi supervised)



Note: 32 labeled points, 1024 unlabeled points



VMoNF: Experiments - MNIST

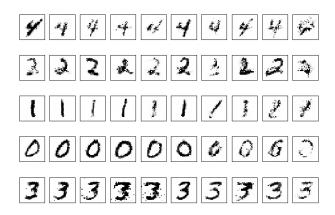




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- (Controlled) component anihilation

Thank you!

