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### Chapter 9

# Inference as Optimization: Structured Variational Inference

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### Outlines

- Variational inferences
  - Basic idea
  - Evidence lower bound
- Mean field variational inferences
  - Basic methods
  - Example for Ising model
- Structured variational inferences
- Deep variational autoencoder

#### Chapter 9 Variational Inference & MAP Inference

#### Textbook2

**Chapter 21** Variational Inference

#### Textbook1

**Chapter 11.3.6** Variational Analysis of Belief Propagation

Chapter 11.5 Structured Variational Approximations

**Chapter 13** MAP Inference

#### Other references

[1] Doersch C. **Tutorial on variational autoencoders**.

https://arxiv.org/abs/1606.05908

[2] Kingma DP, Welling M. Auto-encoding variational Bayes.

https://arxiv.org/abs/1312.6114

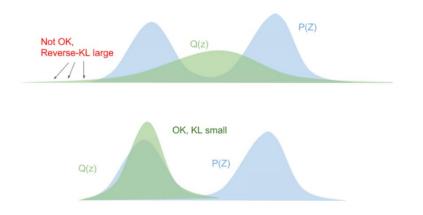
[3] Blei MN, Ng AY and Jordan MI. Latent Dirichlet Allocation. *Journal of Machine Learning Research* 2003, 3:993-1022.

#### What is Variational Inference?

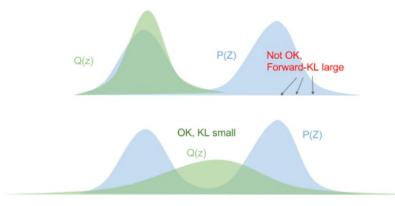
- To infer P(X), find another distribution Q(X) which can approximate it
  - Target distribution: P(X)
  - Proposal distribution: Q(X)
    - Q is restricted to a family of distribution with simple form
  - KL divergence:  $D_{KL}(Q||P)$  or  $D_{KL}(P||Q)$ 
    - $D_{KL}(Q||P) = E_{X \sim Q} \left( \ln \left( \frac{Q}{P} \right) \right)$
  - Aim:  $\min_{Q} D_{KL}(Q||P)$
- Structured variational inference
  - Define Q(X) based on the graph with simple structure
    - E.g. A graph with no edge (*mean field algorithm*)

### Comments On the Two Divergences

- Assume Q(X) is restricted as Gaussians
  - Reverse KL (I-projection):  $D_{KL}(Q||P)$
  - Forward KL (M-projection):  $D_{KL}(P||Q)$



Reverse KL: Q should model one of the peaks in P > 0



Forward KL: Q should cover P > 0

Q: Why reverse KL is commonly used?

#### Calculations in Variational Inferences

#### • I-projection

- General conditional target distribution P(X|Z=z)

$$D_{KL}(Q||P) = E_{X \sim Q} \left( \ln \frac{Q(X)}{P(X|z)} \right) \qquad P(X|z) = P(X,z)/P(z)$$

$$D_{KL}(Q||P) = E_{X \sim Q} \left( \ln \frac{Q(X)}{P(X,z)} \right) + \ln P(z)$$

$$\ln P(z) - D_{KL}(Q||P) = -E_{X \sim Q} \left( \ln \frac{Q(X)}{P(X,z)} \right) = E_{X \sim Q} (\ln P(X,z)) + H(Q(X))$$

- Two key questions:
  - -Q1: How to choose the family of the proposal distribution?
  - Q2: How to maximize the above energy functional?

### Exact Inference as Optimization

Energy functional

$$D_{KL}(Q||P_{\Phi}) = \ln Z - \left(H(Q(X) + \sum_{\phi \in \Phi} E_Q(\phi)\right)$$

– The second term is energy functional  $F[\tilde{P}_{\Phi}, Q]$ 

• For a clique tree with clique  $C_i$ , we have a set of beliefs  $Q(\beta_i, \mu_{i,j})$  - not calibrated). Its energy functional:

 $\tilde{P}_{\Phi} = \prod_{i} \psi_{i}$  ( $\psi_{i}$  is the initial factor for each clique)

$$\tilde{F}[\tilde{P}_{\Phi}, \boldsymbol{Q}] = \sum_{i} H_{\beta_{i}}(C_{i}) - \sum_{(i-j)\in\mathcal{E}} H_{\mu_{i,j}}(S_{i,j}) + \sum_{i} E_{\beta_{i}}[\ln \psi_{i}]$$

### Exact Inference as Optimization

- If Q is calibrated as  $Q^*$ , we can conclude that  $\tilde{F}[\tilde{P}_{\Phi}, Q^*] = \max_{Q} \tilde{F}[\tilde{P}_{\Phi}, Q] = \ln Z$
- Because the distribution is invariant for any calibrated beliefs, the relative entropy is minimized as 0
- Transform SP/BU algorithm as optimization

```
CTree-Optimize-KL:  \begin{aligned} & \textbf{Find} & Q = \{\beta_i: i \in \mathcal{V}_T\} \cup \{\mu_{i,j}: (i-j) \in \mathcal{E}_T\} \\ & \textbf{maximizing} & -D(Q \| P_\Phi) \\ & \textbf{subject to} \end{aligned} \\ & \mu_{i,j}[s_{i,j}] & = \sum_{C_i - S_{i,j}} \beta_i(c_i) \quad \forall (i-j) \in \mathcal{E}_T, \forall s_{i,j} \in \textit{Val}(S_{i,j}) \\ & \sum_{c_i} \beta_i(c_i) & = 1 \qquad \forall i \in \mathcal{V}_T. \end{aligned}
```

### **Energy Functional**

- Key is to find a Q to minimize the KL distance that is equal to maximize the energy functional  $L(Q) = E_{X\sim Q}(\ln P(X,z)) + H(Q)$ 
  - Or minimize J(Q) = -L(Q)
- Normally, Q is restricted to a distribution family
- The first term:  $E_{X\sim Q}(\ln P(X,z))$ 
  - -Q should mimic P
- The second term: H(Q)
  - Q should diffuse (reduce overfitting)

$$D_{KL}(Q||P_{\Phi}) = \ln Z - \left(H(Q(X) + \sum_{\phi \in \Phi} E_Q(\phi)\right)$$

### Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO)

• Because KL divergence is non-negative, the energy functional is bound by  $\ln P(z)$ 

$$L(Q) = E_{X \sim Q}(\ln P(X, z)) + H(Q)$$
  
= \ln P(z) - D\_{KL}(Q||P) \le \ln P(z)

- So, we also call L(Q) as ELBO
- Find a distribution Q to maximize the ELBO

#### What to **LEARN** in this lecture?

• Simplest case: treat all variables independently (no edge) in the proposal distribution *Q* 

### Mean field inference (平均场)

- Extended to general structures of proposal distribution *Q* (structured VI)
- Use deep NNs to do variational inferences

- Now, we need to calculate (infer)
  - -p(x|z) [Note: p or P are treated as the same here]
  - But, it is usually hard to calculate...
- We want to use a simplified distribution q to mimic the distribution p
- The simplest distribution family is in *fully factorized* format

$$q(x;\theta) = \prod_{i} q_i(x_i)$$

• Recall the energy functional  $L(q) = E_{x \sim q}(\ln p(x, z)) + H(q)$ 

• For fully factorized  $q = \prod_i q_i(x_i)$ 

$$E_{x\sim q}(\ln p(x,z)) = \sum_{x} \left[ \prod_{i} q_{i}(x_{i}) \right] \ln p(x,z)$$

$$H(q) = \sum_{x} \left[ \prod_{i} q_{i}(x_{i}) \right] \left[ -\sum_{i} \ln q_{i}(x_{i}) \right]$$

• So finally, we get

$$L(q) = \sum_{x} \left[ \prod_{i} q_i(x_i) \right] \left[ \ln p(x, z) - \sum_{k} \ln q_k(x_k) \right]$$

• We can derive the energy function for each  $q_j$ , assuming the other terms  $q_{-j}$  are fixed

$$L(q_{j}) = \sum_{x} \prod_{i} q_{i}(x_{i}) \left[ \log \tilde{p}(x) - \sum_{k} \log q_{k}(x_{k}) \right]$$

$$= \sum_{x_{j}} \sum_{x_{-j}} q_{j}(x_{j}) \prod_{i \neq j} q_{i}(x_{i}) \left[ \log \tilde{p}(x) - \sum_{k} \log q_{k}(x_{k}) \right]$$

$$= \sum_{x_{j}} q_{j}(x_{j}) \sum_{x_{-j}} \prod_{i \neq j} q_{i}(x_{i}) \log \tilde{p}(x)$$

$$- \sum_{x_{j}} q_{j}(x_{j}) \sum_{x_{-j}} \prod_{i \neq j} q_{i}(x_{i}) \left[ \sum_{k \neq j} \log q_{k}(x_{k}) + \log q_{j}(x_{j}) \right]$$

$$= \sum_{x_{j}} q_{j}(x_{j}) \log f_{j}(x_{j}) - \sum_{x_{j}} q_{j}(x_{j}) \log q_{j}(x_{j}) + \text{const}$$

$$\log f_{j}(x_{j}) \triangleq \sum_{x_{-j}} \prod_{i \neq j} q_{i}(x_{i}) \log \tilde{p}(x) = \mathbb{E}_{-q_{j}}[\log \tilde{p}(x)]$$

• Maximize the energy  $L(q_i)$ 

$$L(q_j) = \sum_{x_j} q_j(x_j) \log \left[ \frac{\exp\left\{E_{-q_j}[\ln \tilde{p}(x)]\right\}}{q_j(x_j)} \right] + c$$

Recall the KL divergence

$$D_{KL}(q||\tilde{p}) = -\sum q \ln \frac{\tilde{p}}{q}$$
 KEY:  $L(q_j)$  follows a form of KL divergence  $q^* \propto \tilde{p}$  will minimize the divergence

• We can easily see the solution:

$$q_j(x_j) \propto \exp\left\{E_{-q_j}[\ln\widetilde{p}(x)]\right\}$$

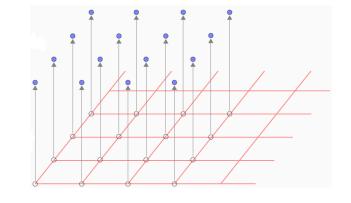
# An Example for Ising Model

- The hidden variables  $x_i$  are binary and  $z_i$  are always observed. (Please note *the edges are directed* from x to z)
- Aim: calculate  $E_{-q_j}[\ln \tilde{p}(x)]$
- The target distribution P $p(x|z) \propto p(z|x)p(x)$

• 
$$p(x) = \frac{1}{Z}e^{\sum_{i,j}w_{ij}x_ix_j} = \frac{1}{Z}e^{-E_0(x)}$$

• 
$$p(z|x) = e^{\sum_i \ln p(z_i|x_i)} = e^{\sum_i L_i(x_i)}$$

We can rewrite as



$$q_j(x_j) \propto \exp\left\{E_{-q_j}[\ln \tilde{p}(x)]\right\}$$

$$\ln \tilde{p}(x) = \sum_{i,j} w_{ij} x_i x_j + \sum_i L_i(x_i) + const$$

# Mean Field for Ising Model

- Set the family of the variational distribution  $q = \prod_i q(x_i; \theta_i)$ .
  - Each  $q(x_i; \theta_i)$  is a binary distribution
    - $q_i(x_i = 1) = \theta_i$  and  $q_i(x_i = -1) = 1 \theta_i$
- NOTE: the parameter  $\theta_i$  is not determined
- KEY: variational inference here is to find the optimal parameter  $\theta_i^*$  to maximize the energy functional (then we get  $q^*$ )
- AIM: inference in  $q^*$  rather than in p

$$q_j(x_j) \propto \exp\left\{E_{-q_j}[\ln \tilde{p}(x)]\right\}$$

# Mean Field for Ising Model

- Recall the previous result  $\ln q_j^*(x_j) = E_{-q_j}[\ln \tilde{p}(x)] + const$
- For Ising model

Please remember the above optimal solution for mean-field inference

$$\ln \tilde{p}(x) = \sum_{i,j} w_{ij} x_i x_j + \sum_i L_i(x_i) + const$$

$$E_{-q_j}[\ln \tilde{p}(x)] = E_{-q_j}\left(\sum_{i,j} w_{ij} x_i x_j + \sum_i L_i(x_i)\right) + c$$

$$= x_j \sum_{i \in Neighbor(j)} \left[w_{ij}(2\theta_i - 1)\right] + L_j(x_j) + c$$

• Set  $m_j = \sum_{i \in Neighbor(j)} [w_{ij}(2\theta_i - 1)]$ 

$$q_j(x_j) \propto \exp\left\{E_{-q_j}[\ln \tilde{p}(x)]\right\}$$

# Mean Field for Ising Model

- So we can get the optimal solution in this step  $\ln q^*(x_j; \theta_j) = x_j m_j + L_j(x_j) + const$
- Obviously, the optimal parameter

$$\theta_j^* = \frac{\exp[m_j + L_j(x_j = 1)]}{\exp[m_j + L_j(x_j = 1)] + \exp[-m_j + L_j(x_j = -1)]}$$

• Here  $L_j(x_j) = \ln p(z_j|x_j)$ 

$$m_j = \sum_{i \in Neighbor(j)} [w_{ij}(2\theta_i - 1)]$$

• We need to update the parameters by iteration, because we need to specify  $\theta_{-j}$ 

$$q_j(x_j) \propto \exp\left\{E_{-q_j}[\ln \tilde{p}(x)]\right\}$$

### Mean Field Inference for De-noising

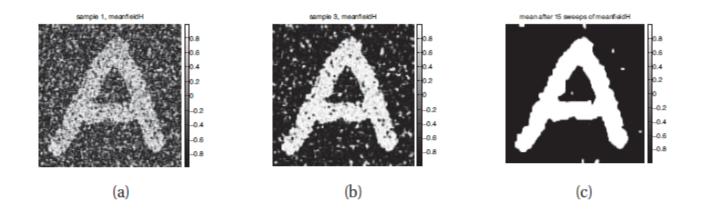
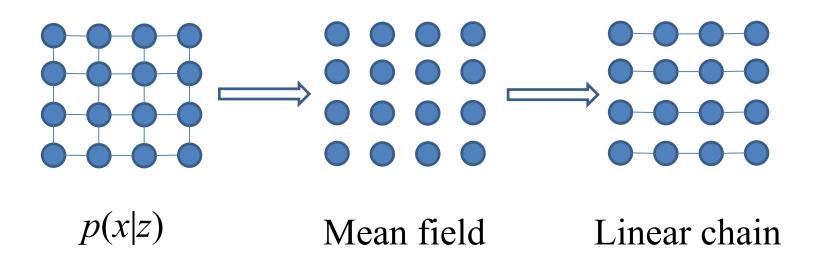


Figure 21.3 Example of image denoising using mean field (with parallel updates and a damping factor of 0.5). We use an Ising prior with  $W_{ij}=1$  and a Gaussian noise model with  $\sigma=2$ . We show the results after 1, 3 and 15 iterations across the image. Compare to Figure 24.1. Figure generated by isingImageDenoiseDemo.

Infer the probability of the hidden variables according to q rather than p. Sometimes, the variational probability is "better" than the target probability: de-noising or smoothing effects.

#### General Structured Variational Inference

- Graph for mean field inference
  - No edge is in the variational distribution family
- General structured variational inference
  - We can use any simpler structure to do inference



#### General Structured Variational Inference

- If we use linear chain for Ising model
- Recall: find a Q to minimize the KL distance that is equal to maximize the energy functional  $L(q) = E_{x \sim q}(\ln p) + H(q)$
- We can set  $q \propto \prod_l q_l(x_l)$



$$L(q) = E_{x \sim q}(\ln p) + H(q)$$

• 
$$q_i(\mathbf{x}_i) = \frac{1}{Z_l} e^{\sum_j \beta_{j,j+1} x_j x_{j+1}}$$

Each chain has a separate variational Gibbs distribution.

• 
$$p = \frac{1}{Z} e^{\sum_{i,j} w_{i,j} x_i x_j}$$

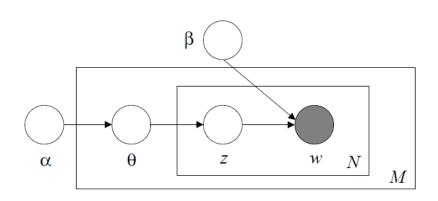
• 
$$E_{x \sim q}(\ln p) = \sum_{x} \left(-\ln z + \sum_{i,j} w_{ij} x_i x_j\right) \prod_i q_i$$

• 
$$H(q) = \sum_{x} (-\sum_{i} \ln q_i) \prod_{i} q_i$$

Maximize the energy functional chain by chain!



### Variational Inference for LDA



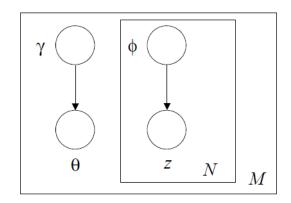


Figure 5: (Left) Graphical model representation of LDA. (Right) Graphical model representation of the variational distribution used to approximate the posterior in LDA.

$$p(\theta, \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} | \alpha, \beta) = p(\theta | \alpha) \prod_{n=1}^{N} p(z_n | \theta) p(w_n | z_n, \beta)$$

$$q(\theta, \mathbf{z} | \gamma, \phi) = q(\theta | \gamma) \prod_{n=1}^{N} q(z_n | \phi_n)$$

NOTE: variables should be the same and parameters are different

Variables:  $\theta$  and z

Parameters:  $\gamma$  and  $\phi_n$ 

#### General Structured Variational Inference

• For a general variational structures, we can finally derive:

$$\psi_j(oldsymbol{c}_j) \propto \exp \left\{ extbf{\emph{E}}_Q \Big[ \ln ilde{P}_\Phi \mid oldsymbol{c}_j \Big] - \sum_{k 
eq j} extbf{\emph{E}}_Q [\ln \psi_k \mid oldsymbol{c}_j] 
ight\}$$

- Comments:
  - The energy functional can be separated into maximal cliques on q
  - The update also depends on the expectation

### Stochastic Gradient for Parameter Update

- In many cases, we cannot derive the close-form solution as the mean field inference
- Many heuristic optimization methods can be used to optimize the target function
  - Remember the belief propagation on cluster graph
  - Stochastic gradient is commonly used
- Stochastic gradient (for maximizing)

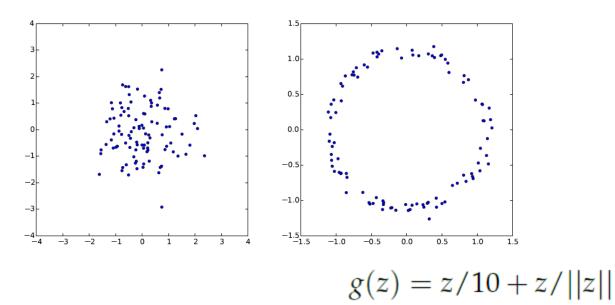
$$L(q) = E_{x \sim q}(\ln p) + H(q)$$

- Calculate the partial derivate  $\frac{\partial L(q)}{\partial \theta_i}$
- Then, update  $\theta_i^{t+1} = \theta_i^t + \delta \frac{\partial L(q)}{\partial \theta_i^t}$

### Limitation of Variational Inference

- The variational inference distribution family is hard to choose
  - Simple family cannot capture the complex features in target distribution
  - Complex family is hard for computation and easy for over-fitting

- Assume the observed data  $X \in \mathbb{R}^N$  are generated from a hidden subspace  $Z \in \mathbb{R}^L$  as standard Gaussian
- In most cases, the posterior P(Z|X) is hard to infer



Another distribution Q(Z|X) can be used to approximate P(Z|X) with respect to the minimization of KL-divergence

$$\log P(\mathbf{X}) - D[Q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{X})||P(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{X})]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z} \sim Q}[\log P(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{z})] - D[Q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{X})||P(\mathbf{z})]$$

**First term**: maximize the data generation probability

**Second term**: minimize the KL-divergence between standard Gaussian and the variational distribution

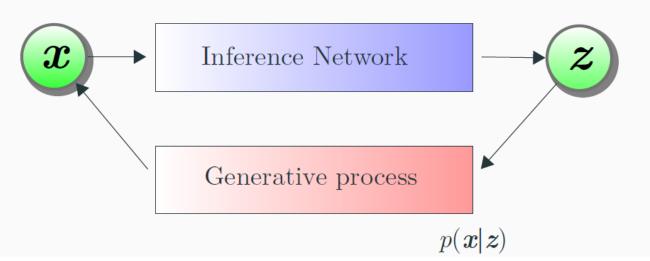
► The two terms can be treated as the "decoding" (from z to x) and "encoding" (from X to z) process. Two deep neural networks can be used to approximate these terms

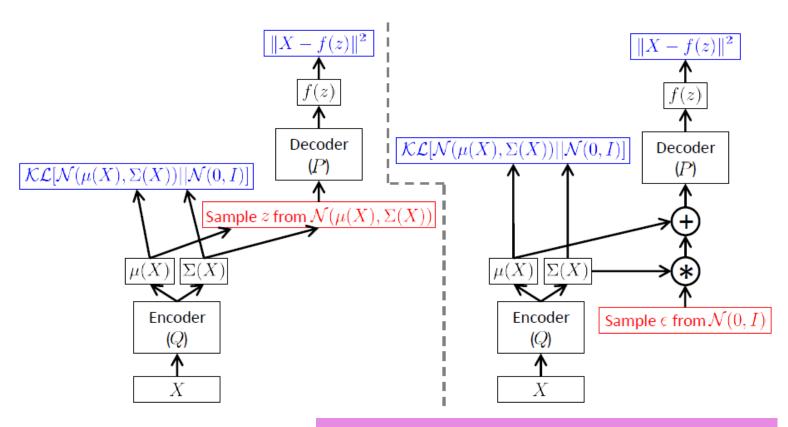
VAE idea: Use neural networks to approximate both variational and generative parameters.

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta; \boldsymbol{x}) = \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(\boldsymbol{z}|\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})} \log p(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{z}) + \mathbb{H}(q(\boldsymbol{z}|\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta}))$$

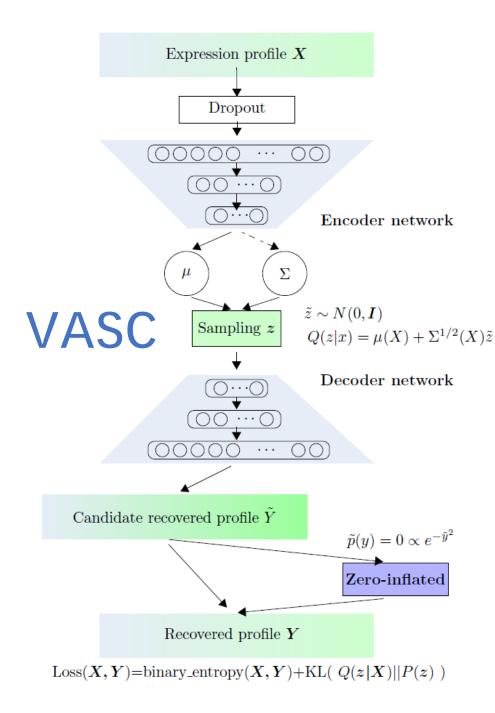
$$= \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(\boldsymbol{z}|\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})} \log p(\boldsymbol{x}|\boldsymbol{z}) - \mathbb{KL}(q(\boldsymbol{z}|\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \mid\mid p(\boldsymbol{z}))$$

$$q(\boldsymbol{z}|\boldsymbol{x}) = \mathcal{N}(f_{\mu}(\boldsymbol{x}), f_{\sigma}(\boldsymbol{x}))$$





Re-parameterization trick for learning



Input: scRNA-seq FPKM matrix

Additional random dropout!!

Three-layer encoder NNs: L1 norm in first layer ReLU activation

Target: Low-dimension representation by sampling

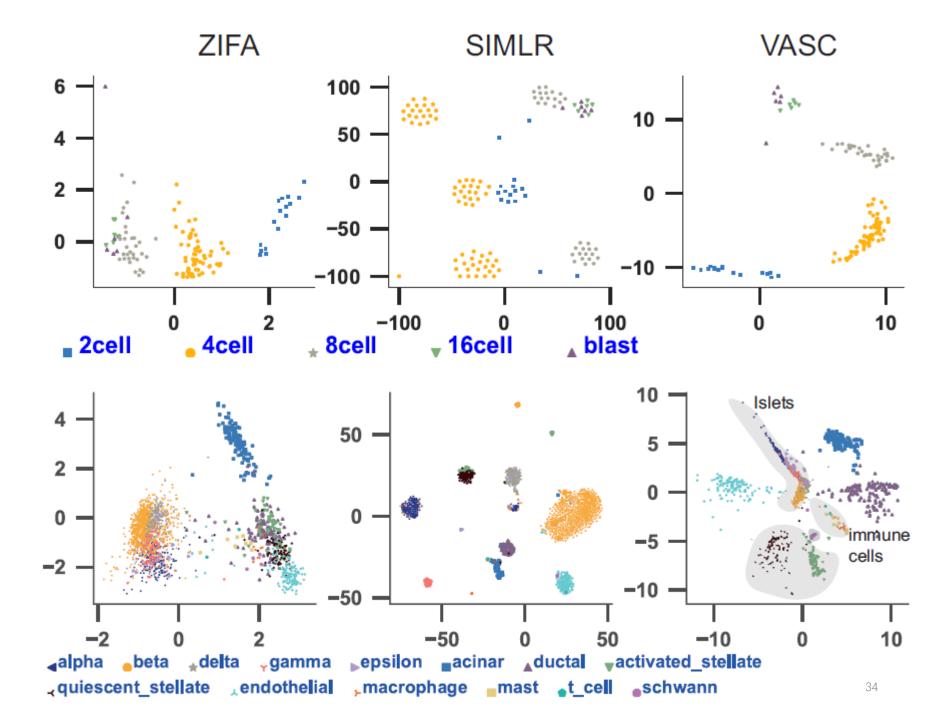
Three-layer decoder NNs: ReLU activation

Model dropouts by Gumbel distribution instead of "hard" ZI

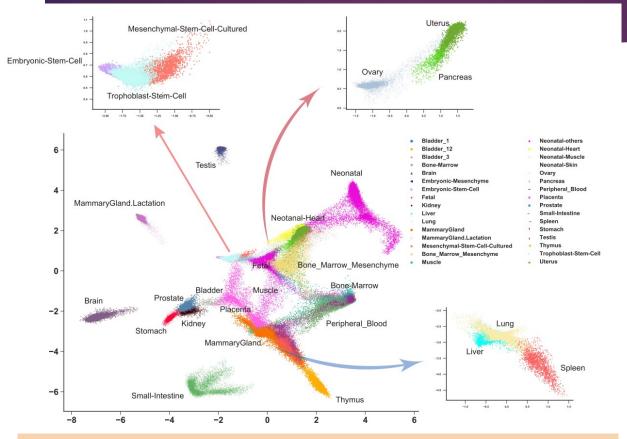
Output: recovered FPKM matrix

#### Advantages of VAE

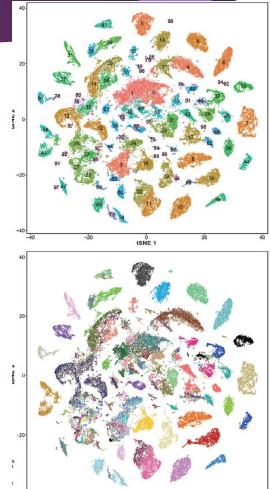
- Unequal structures in encoding & decoding networks
  - VAE is doing inference rather than autoencoding
  - Encoding/decoding NNs are used to mimic the two terms in the variational energy functional
  - ▶ So, we can freely design the topology of two NNs
- Dimension reduction
  - Use the inferred mean value calculated by the encoding network  $\mu(X)$
- A generative model
  - Fill the missing values and generate new data



#### Test on 10X & Microwell datasets



**t-SNE** (right) only consider the local similarity **VASC** preserves the topology of cell expression patterns



### Summary

- Variational inference is to find a simpler distribution *q* to mimic the target distribution *p*. Then, you can do easy inference in *q*.
- Variational inference is an *optimization* process to find a variational distribution *q* from a distribution family by *maximizing an energy functional*.
- Then variational distribution is usually simpler than the target distribution. So, it can be used for de-noising or dimension reduction.

### Comments: From Inference to Learning

• Variational inference can be regarded as a kind of learning: find the optimal parameters by maximizing an energy functional

$$-\max_{q} L(q) \qquad L(q) = E_{x \sim q}(\ln p(x|z)) + H(q)$$

• Learning as MLE: find the optimal parameters by maximizing likelihood function given data

$$-\max_{\theta} L(D;\theta)$$

### The End of Chapter 9

Structured variational inference is commonly used in PGMs

#### MAP Inference

- Probability inference
  - Compute the distribution P(Y) or P(Y|e)
- MAP (maximum a posterior) inference
  - Compute the optimal assignment or configuration
  - $-MAP(Y|e) = \arg \max_{y \in Val(Y)} P(y, e)$
- The max-marginal of a function f
  - $-\operatorname{MaxMarg}_{f}(\boldsymbol{y}) = \max_{\boldsymbol{y} \in Val(\boldsymbol{Y})} f(\boldsymbol{y})$
  - $-\operatorname{MaxMarg}_{F}(\boldsymbol{y}) = \max_{\boldsymbol{y} \in Val(\boldsymbol{Y})} \sum_{\boldsymbol{X} = \boldsymbol{x}} F(\boldsymbol{y}, \boldsymbol{X})$

#### Compute $\arg P(X, Y | \theta)$

# Viterbi algorithm Revisited

- Known transition matrix and emission matrix
- Infer the *maximum* probability STATE series
- The probability at time 0 with observation  $x_0$

For 
$$Y_1 = i$$
:  $\delta_{1,i} = \pi_i e_{i,x_1}$ 

• The probability at time 1 with observation  $x_1$ 

$$\delta_{2,i} = e_{i,x_2} \max_{y_1=1,\cdots} \left( \pi e_{i,x_2} \times t_{i,x_3} \right) = e_{i,x_2} \max_{y_1=1,\cdots} \left( \delta_{i,x_3} \times t_{i,x_3} \right)$$

$$\phi_2(i) = \underset{y_1=1,\dots}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \left( \delta_{1,y_1} \times t_{y_1,i} \right)$$

#### Compute $\arg P(X, Y | \theta)$

### Viterbi algorithm Revisited

• The probability at time t with observation  $x_t$ 

$$\delta_{t,i} = e_{i,x_t} \max_{y_{t-1}=1,\dots} \left( \delta_{t-1,y_{t-1}} \times t_{y_{t-1},i} \right)$$

$$\phi_t(i) = \arg\max_{y_{t-1}=1,\dots} \left( \delta_{t-1,y_{t-1}} \times t_{y_{t-1},i} \right)$$

For the last observation

$$\delta_{T,i} = e_{i,x_{T}} \max_{y_{T-1}=1,\dots} \left( \delta_{T-1,y_{T-1}} \times t_{y_{T-1},i} \right)$$

$$\phi_{T}(i) = \arg\max_{y_{T-1}=1,\dots} \left( \delta_{T-1,y_{T-1}} \times t_{y_{T-1},i} \right) \quad y_{T}^{*} = \arg\max_{y_{T}=1,\dots} \left( \delta_{T,y_{T}} \right)$$

#### Compute $\arg P(X, Y | \theta)$

### Viterbi algorithm Revisited

• After  $y_t$  is inferred, trace back to get other  $y_i$ 

$$y_{T}^{*} = \underset{y_{T}=1,\dots}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \left(\delta_{T,y_{T}}\right)$$

$$\phi_{t}(i) = \underset{y_{t-1}=1,\dots}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \left(\delta_{t-1,y_{t-1}} \times t_{y_{t-1},i}\right)$$

• We can infer other  $y_i$ 

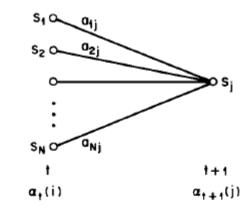
$$y_{T-1}^{*} = \phi_{T} (i = y_{T}^{*}) = \underset{y_{T-1}=1,\dots}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} (\delta_{T-1,y_{T-1}} \times t_{y_{T-1},i})$$

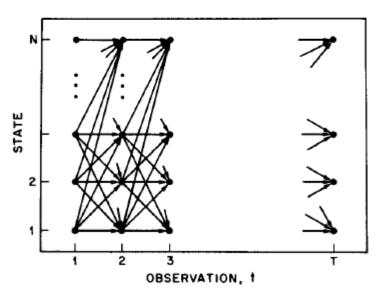
$$y_{t-1}^{*} = \phi_{t} (i = y_{t}^{*}) = \underset{y_{t-1}=1,\dots}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} (\delta_{t-1,y_{t-1}} \times t_{y_{t-1},i})$$

$$y_{t-1}^{*} = \phi_{t} (i = y_{t}^{*}) = \underset{y_{t-1}=1,\dots}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} (\delta_{t-1,y_{t-1}} \times t_{y_{t-1},i})$$

### Viterbi Algorithm Revisited

- Do variable elimination and record the paths which maximizing the joint distribution for the first *k* time slices after *k*-th run of elimination
- After all query variables are eliminated, trace back the path to get the configuration which maximizes the joint distribution
- Could we generalize Viterbi algorithm to Bayesian Networks and Markov Networks?





# Move to *Learning*

• Representation  $P \Leftrightarrow \{P, G\}$ 

• Inference

$$P(Y | E = e, \theta)$$

Learning

$$\max_{\theta} P(x[1], x[2], \cdots | \theta)$$

$$P(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \boldsymbol{x}[1], \boldsymbol{x}[2], \cdots)$$