

**Question 1 EM for Probabilistic PCA**

(a) *E-step. Calculate the statistics of the posterior distribution  $q(z) = p(z|\mathbf{x})$  which you'll need for the M-step.*

From the Appendix, we know how to get the distribution of  $z$  given  $\mathbf{x}$ , where  $z$  is drawn from Gaussian distribution and  $\mathbf{x}$  is drawn from a spherical Gaussian distribution.

In our setting,

$$p(z) = \mathcal{N}(z|0, 1)$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}|z) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|z\mathbf{u}, \sigma^2\mathbf{I})$$

To apply the parameters in the formulae of the Appendix, we have

$$\mu = 0, \Sigma = 1,$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{B} = 0, \mathbf{S} = \sigma^2\mathbf{I}$$

$$\mathbf{C} = (1 + \mathbf{u}^T(\sigma^2)^{-1}\mathbf{u})^{-1} = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + \mathbf{u}^T\mathbf{u}}$$

Thus, we can obtain the following formulae:

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|0, \mathbf{u}^T\mathbf{u} + \sigma^2)$$

$$p(z|\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{N}(z|\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{u}^T(\sigma^2)^{-1}\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{C})$$

$$= \mathcal{N}(z|\frac{\mathbf{u}^T\mathbf{x}}{\sigma^2 + \mathbf{u}^T\mathbf{u}}, \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + \mathbf{u}^T\mathbf{u}})$$

As a result,

$$m = E[z|\mathbf{x}] = \frac{\mathbf{u}^T\mathbf{x}}{\sigma^2 + \mathbf{u}^T\mathbf{u}}$$

$$\text{Var}[z|\mathbf{x}] = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + \mathbf{u}^T\mathbf{u}}$$

$$s = E[z^2|\mathbf{x}] = \text{Var}[z|\mathbf{x}] + E[z|\mathbf{x}]^2$$

$$= \frac{\sigma^4 + \sigma^2\mathbf{u}^T\mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u}^T\mathbf{x})^2}{(\sigma^2 + \mathbf{u}^T\mathbf{u})^2}$$

(b) *M-step. Re-estimate the parameters, which consist of the vector  $\mathbf{u}$ . derive a formula for  $\mathbf{u}_{new}$  that maximizes the expected log-likelihood, i.e.,*

$$\mathbf{u}_{new} = \arg \max_{\mathbf{u}} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{E}_{q(z^{(i)})} [\log p(z^{(i)}, \mathbf{x}^{(i)})]$$

Denote the function to be maximized as

$$\mathbb{F} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{E}_{q(z^{(i)})} [\log p(z^{(i)}, \mathbf{x}^{(i)})]$$

$$= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{E}_{q(z^{(i)})} [\log q(z^{(i)}) p(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})]$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \log p(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})q(z^{(i)}) &= \log \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} + \sigma^2)}} e^{-\frac{\mathbf{x}^{(i)2}}{2(\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} + \sigma^2)}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \frac{\sigma^2}{\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} + \sigma^2}}} e^{-\frac{(z^{(i)} - \frac{\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)}}{\sigma^2 + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u}})^2}{2 \frac{\sigma^2}{\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} + \sigma^2}}} \\
 &\propto -\frac{\mathbf{x}^{(i)2}}{2(\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} + \sigma^2)} - \frac{(z^{(i)} - \frac{\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)}}{\sigma^2 + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u}})^2}{2 \frac{\sigma^2}{\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} + \sigma^2}} \\
 &\propto -\frac{\mathbf{x}^{(i)2}\sigma^2 + [\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)} - (\sigma^2 + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u})z^{(i)}]^2}{2\sigma^2(\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} + \sigma^2)} \\
 &\propto -\frac{z^{(i)2}(\sigma^2 + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u})}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{z^{(i)}\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)}}{\sigma^2} \\
 &\propto -\frac{z^{(i)2}\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u}}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{z^{(i)}\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)}}{\sigma^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Apply the linearity of expectation,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{F} &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{E}[\log p(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})q(z^{(i)})] \\
 &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[ -\frac{\mathbb{E}[z^{(i)2}|\mathbf{x}^{(i)}]\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u}}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{\mathbb{E}[z^{(i)}|\mathbf{x}^{(i)}]\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)}}{\sigma^2} \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[ -\frac{m\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u}}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{s\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)}}{\sigma^2} \right] \\
 &= -\frac{m\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u}}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{s \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x}^{(i)}}{\sigma^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

To get the gradient with respect to  $\mathbf{u}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial \mathbb{F}}{\partial \mathbf{u}} &= -\frac{m\mathbf{u}}{\sigma^2} + \frac{s \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{x}^{(i)} \mathbf{I}}{\sigma^2} = 0 \\
 \mathbf{u} &\leftarrow \frac{s \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{x}^{(i)} \mathbf{I}}{m}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Question 2 Contraction Maps

(a)

## Question 3 Q-Learning

(a)

(b)