

# CS 480/680

# Introduction to Machine Learning

## Lecture 12

## Expectation Maximization and Gaussian Mixture Models

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24 October 2024

# We know how to estimate parameters and make predictions

Problem Type 2:

Given:  $\{x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2, x_3 = 0\}, x_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2 = 1.0)$

Task: Estimate  $\mu$

Problem Type 1:

Given:  $\{x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2, x_3\}, x_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu = 1.0, \sigma^2 = 1.0)$

Task: Predict  $x_3$

# Can we estimate parameters if data is missing?

Problem Type 3:

Given:  $\{x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2, x_3\}, x_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2 = 1.0)$

Task: Estimate  $(x_3, \mu)$

# How could we solve it?

$\mu:$

$x_3:$

KEY IDEA BEHIND EM ALGORITHM

# Lecture Outline

- I. How does the EM algorithm work in a special case?
- II. How does the EM algorithm work in general?

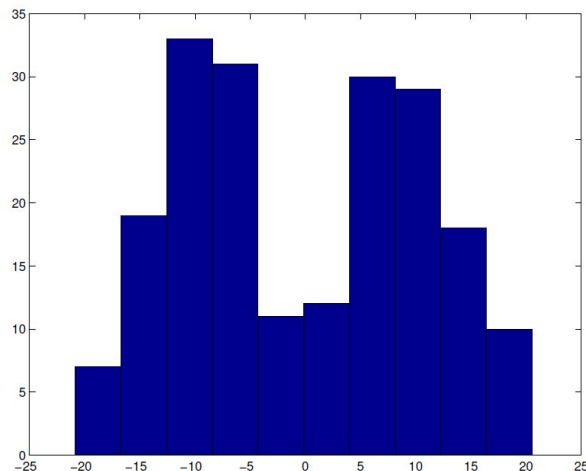


# Lecture Outline

- I. How does the EM algorithm work in a special case?**
- II. How does the EM algorithm work in general?



# Estimating the parameters of a *mixture* of Gaussians



$$X_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$$

$$X_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$$

$$X = (1 - \Delta) \cdot X_1 + \Delta \cdot X_2$$

Where  $\Delta$  is a binary random variable:

$$\Delta \in \{0, 1\}$$

Let  $\pi$  denote the probability of  $\Delta$  taking on the value of 1:

$$\Pr[\Delta = 1] = \pi$$

Let  $\mathcal{N}_{\mu, \sigma^2}$  denote the normal density with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ . Then the density of  $x$  is

$$p(x) = (1 - \pi)\mathcal{N}_{\mu_1, \sigma_1^2}(x) + \pi\mathcal{N}_{\mu_2, \sigma_2^2}(x)$$

# Can we find the parameters through direct maximization?

$$p(x) = (1 - \pi)\mathcal{N}_{\mu_1, \sigma_1^2}(x) + \pi\mathcal{N}_{\mu_2, \sigma_2^2}(x)$$

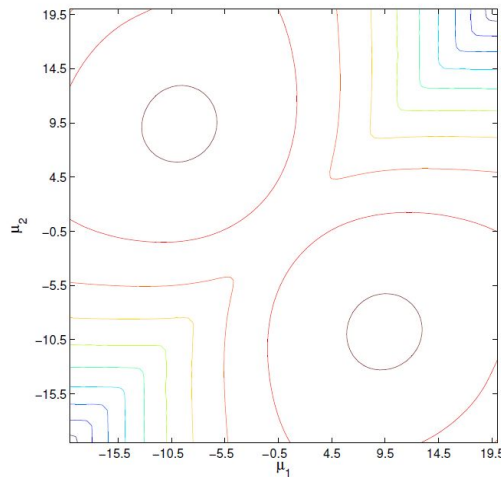
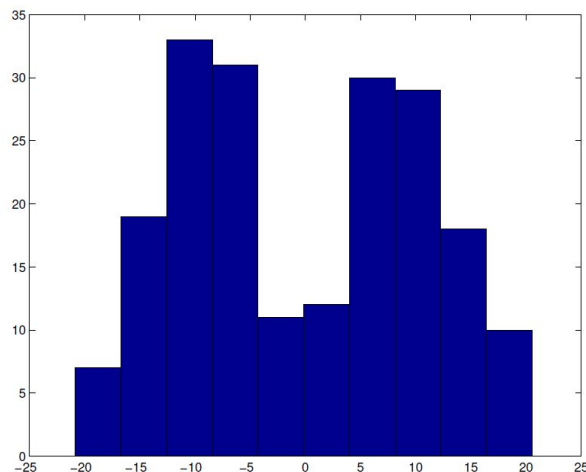
$$\mathcal{L}(\pi, \mu_1, \sigma_1^2, \mu_2, \sigma_2^2 \mid \mathbf{X}) = \prod_{i=1}^n \left[ (1 - \pi)\mathcal{N}_{\mu_1, \sigma_1^2}(x_i) + \pi\mathcal{N}_{\mu_2, \sigma_2^2}(x_i) \right]$$

$$\log \mathcal{L}(\pi, \mu_1, \sigma_1^2, \mu_2, \sigma_2^2 \mid \mathbf{X}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log \left[ (1 - \pi)\mathcal{N}_{\mu_1, \sigma_1^2}(x_i) + \pi\mathcal{N}_{\mu_2, \sigma_2^2}(x_i) \right]$$

$$\frac{\partial \log \mathcal{L}}{\partial \sigma_2} = ?? \quad \frac{\partial \log \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mu_2} = ?? \quad \frac{\partial \log \mathcal{L}}{\partial \sigma_1} = ?? \quad \frac{\partial \log \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mu_1} = ?? \quad \frac{\partial \log \mathcal{L}}{\partial \pi} = ??$$



# The likelihood function for a mixture model is nonconvex



## Label-switching problem:

- Parameters are unidentifiable because likelihood surface has two symmetric modes
- Even with mixing weight  $\pi$ , and variances  $\sigma_1^2, \sigma_2^2$  known!

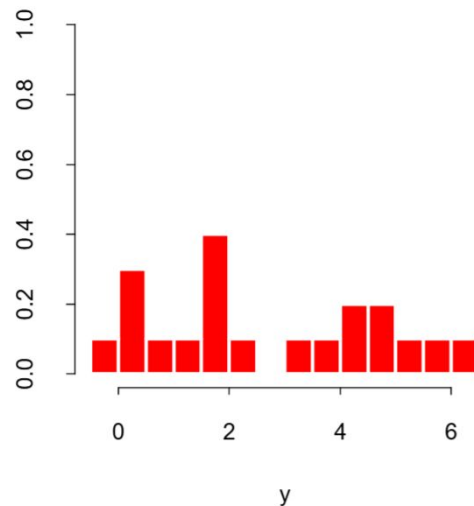


**thought experiments ...**

# Thought experiment 1: If we knew the sample assignments...

$$\log \mathcal{L}(\pi, \mu_1, \sigma^2, \mu_2, \sigma_2 \mid \mathbf{X})$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{i=1}^n \log \left[ (1 - \pi) \mathcal{N}_{\mu_1, \sigma_1^2}(x) + \pi \mathcal{N}_{\mu_2, \sigma_2^2}(x) \right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ (1 - \Delta_i) \log \mathcal{N}_{\mu_1, \sigma_1^2}(x) + \Delta_i \log \mathcal{N}_{\mu_2, \sigma_2^2}(x) \right] \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ (1 - \Delta_i) \log(1 - \pi) + \Delta_i \log \pi \right] \\ &= \begin{cases} \sum_{i=1}^n \log \mathcal{N}_{\mu_1, \sigma_1^2}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n \log(1 - \pi) & \text{if } \Delta = 0 \\ \sum_{i=1}^n \log \mathcal{N}_{\mu_2, \sigma_2^2}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n \log \pi & \text{if } \Delta = 1 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$



## Thought experiment 1: If we knew the sample assignments...

$$= \begin{cases} \sum_{i=1}^n \log \mathcal{N}_{\mu_1, \sigma_1^2}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n \log(1 - \pi) & \text{if } \Delta = 0 \\ \sum_{i=1}^n \log \mathcal{N}_{\mu_2, \sigma_2^2}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n \log \pi & \text{if } \Delta = 1 \end{cases}$$

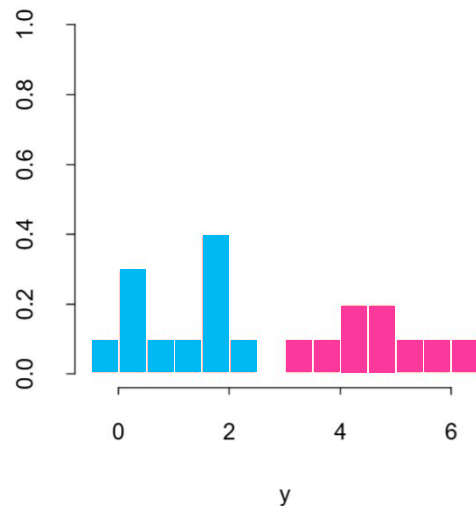
$$\hat{\mu}_1 = \frac{1}{|\Delta_0|} \sum_{i \in \Delta_0} x_i$$

$$\hat{\mu}_2 = \frac{1}{|\Delta_1|} \sum_{i \in \Delta_1} x_i$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_1^2 = \frac{1}{|\Delta_0|} \sum_{i \in \Delta_0} (x_i - \hat{\mu}_1)^2$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_2^2 = \frac{1}{|\Delta_1|} \sum_{i \in \Delta_1} (x_i - \hat{\mu}_2)^2$$

$$\hat{\pi} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta_i$$



... we could compute the parameters empirically

## Thought experiment 2: If we knew the parameters...

$$p(x) = (1 - \pi)\mathcal{N}_{\mu_1, \sigma_1^2}(x) + \pi\mathcal{N}_{\mu_2, \sigma_2^2}(x)$$

$$\Pr[\Delta_i = 1 \mid \pi, \mu_1, \sigma_1^2, \mu_2, \sigma_2^2, \mathbf{X}]$$

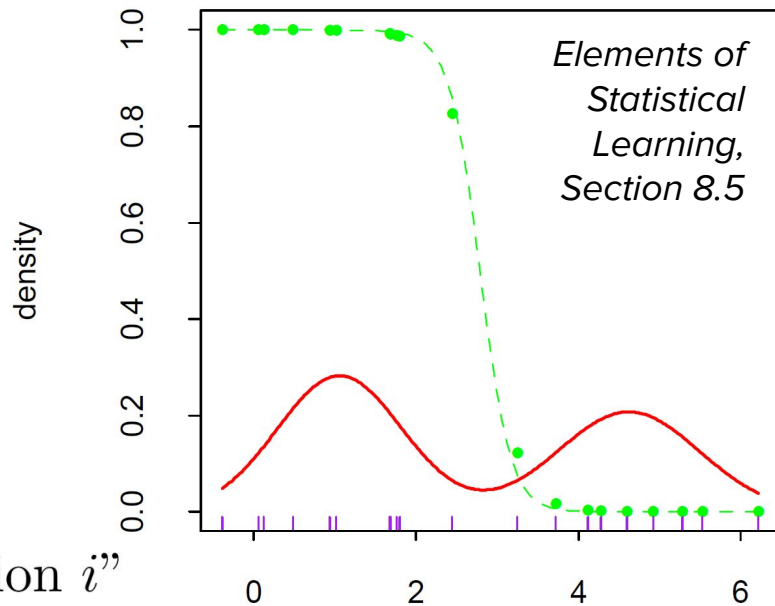
$$= \frac{\pi\mathcal{N}_{\mu_2, \sigma_2^2}(x_i)}{(1 - \pi)\mathcal{N}_{\mu_1, \sigma_1^2}(x_i) + \pi\mathcal{N}_{\mu_2, \sigma_2^2}(x_i)}$$

$$= \gamma_i : \text{“responsibility of mode 2 for observation } i\text{”}$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[\Delta_i \mid \pi, \mu_1, \sigma_1^2, \mu_2, \sigma_2^2, \mathbf{X}] :$$

“expectation of  $\Delta_i$  given parameters and data”

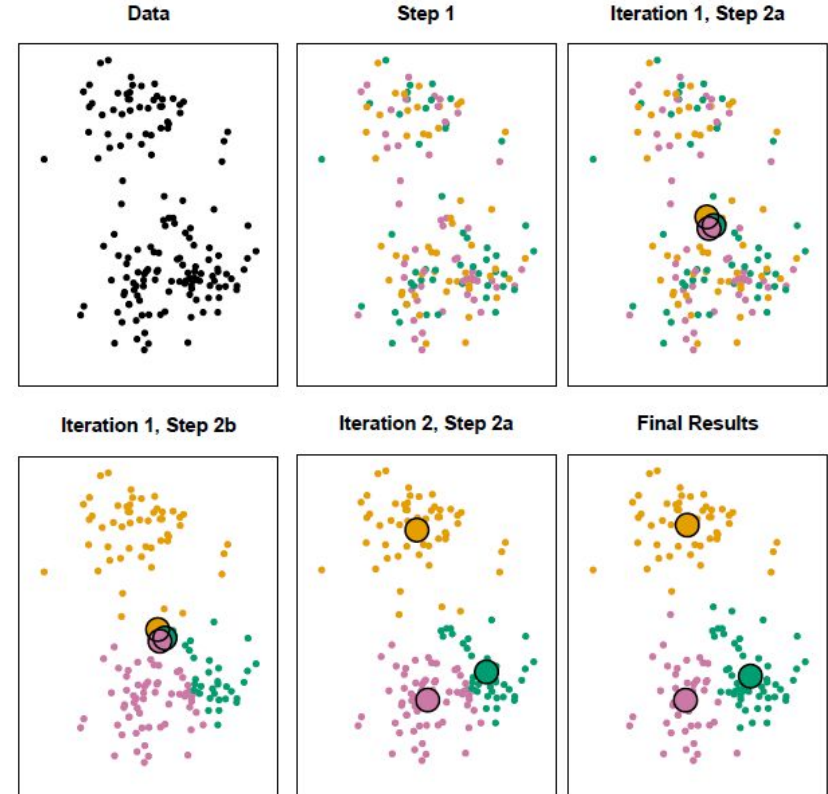
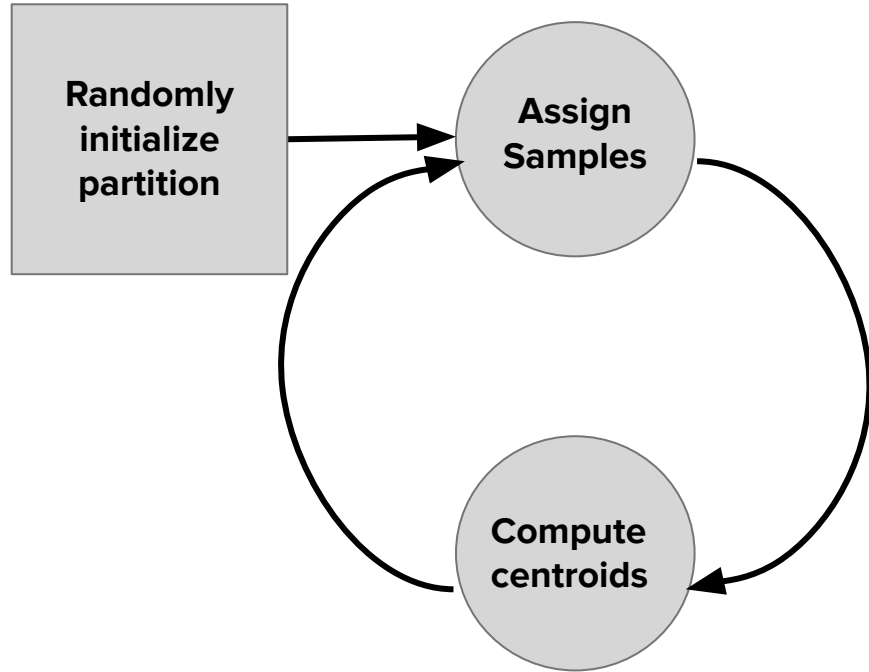
...we could compute the probability of a sample assignment



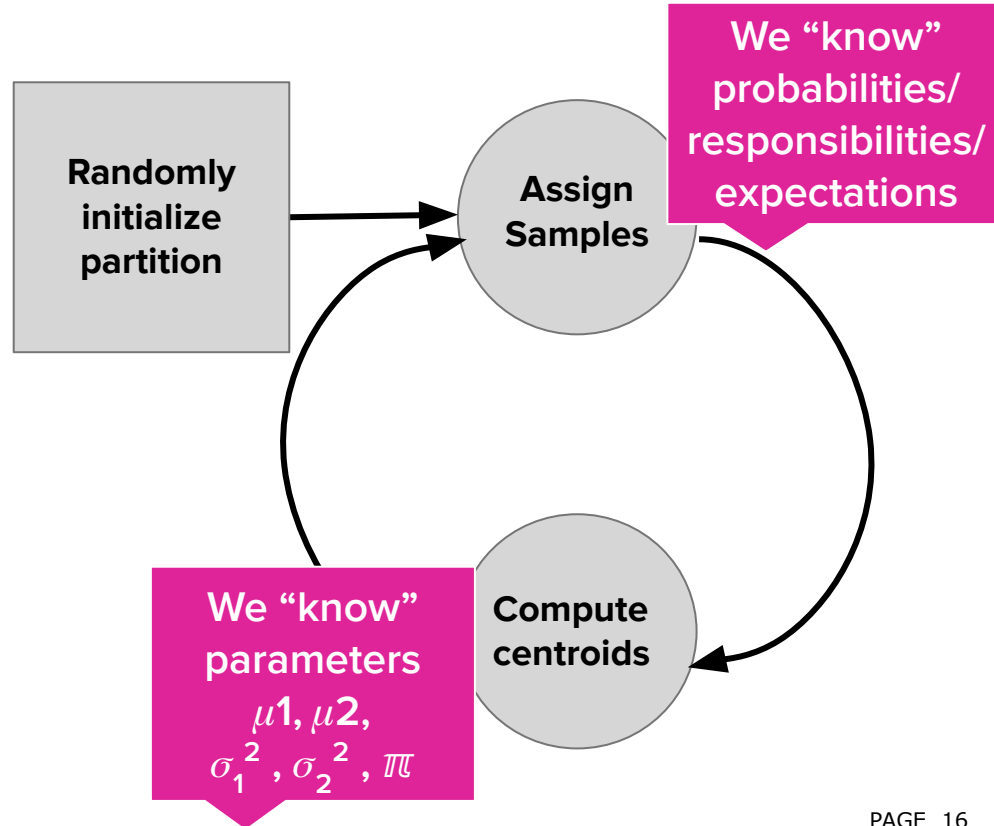
Could we combine these two somehow?



# Recall Lloyd's algorithm for K-Means clustering

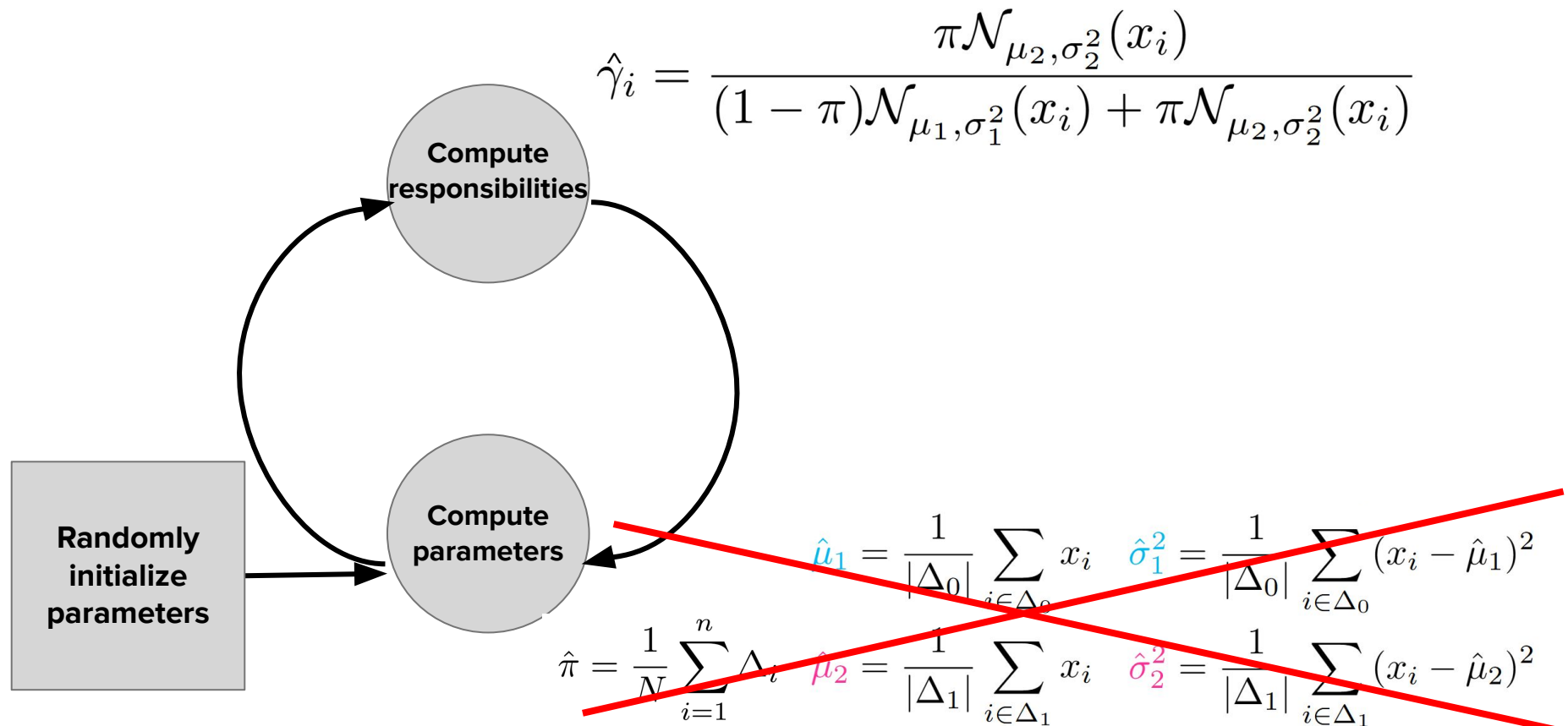


# Comparing Lloyd's algorithm to GMM parameter estimation

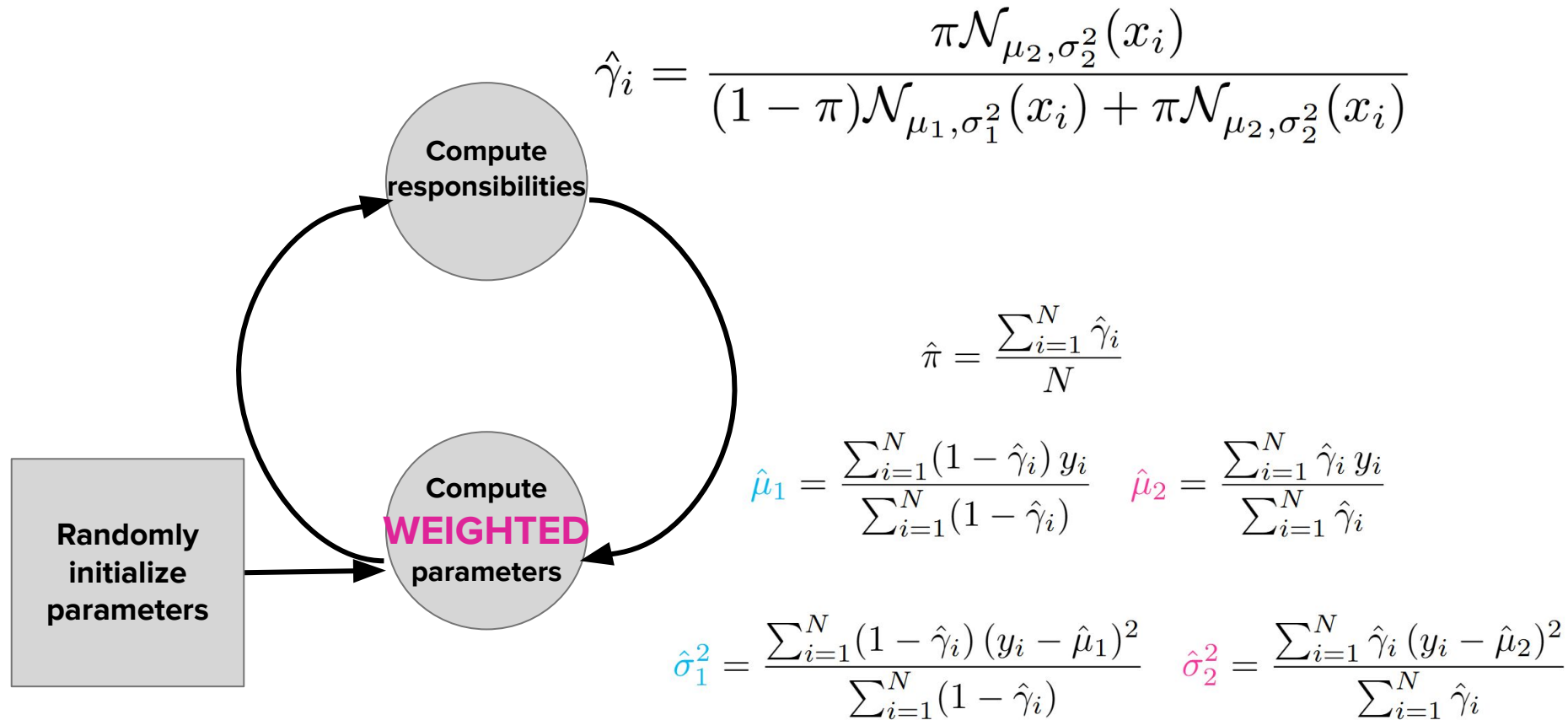




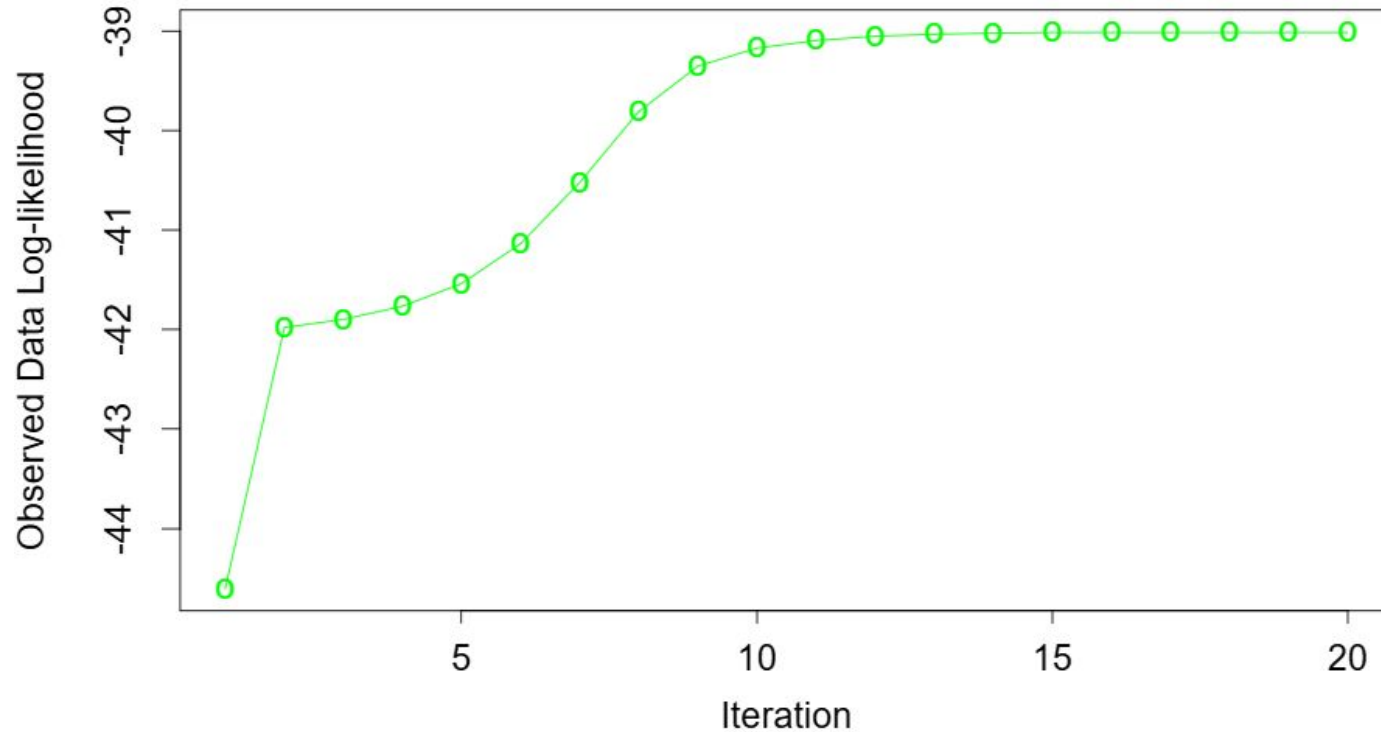
# Adapting Lloyd's algorithm for GMM parameter estimation?



# Adapting Lloyd's algorithm for GMM parameter estimation?



# Iterative procedure convergences on the given dataset



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**Algorithm 8.1** *EM Algorithm for Two-component Gaussian Mixture.*

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1. Take initial guesses for the parameters  $\hat{\mu}_1, \hat{\sigma}_1^2, \hat{\mu}_2, \hat{\sigma}_2^2, \hat{\pi}$  (see text).
2. *Expectation Step*: compute the responsibilities

$$\hat{\gamma}_i = \frac{\hat{\pi} \phi_{\hat{\theta}_2}(y_i)}{(1 - \hat{\pi}) \phi_{\hat{\theta}_1}(y_i) + \hat{\pi} \phi_{\hat{\theta}_2}(y_i)}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N. \quad (8.42)$$

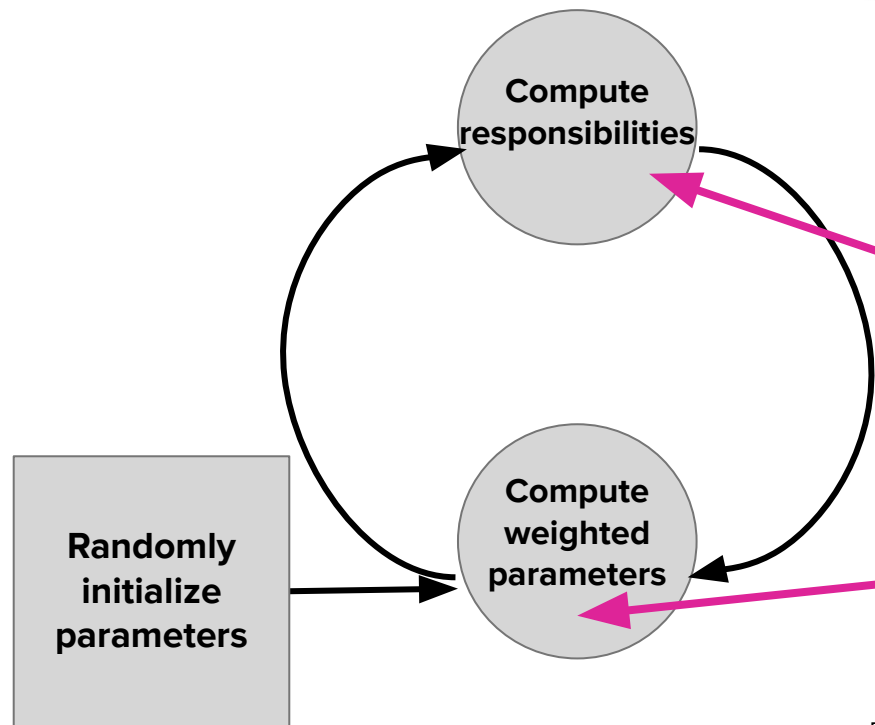
3. *Maximization Step*: compute the weighted means and variances:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mu}_1 &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (1 - \hat{\gamma}_i) y_i}{\sum_{i=1}^N (1 - \hat{\gamma}_i)}, & \hat{\sigma}_1^2 &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (1 - \hat{\gamma}_i) (y_i - \hat{\mu}_1)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^N (1 - \hat{\gamma}_i)}, \\ \hat{\mu}_2 &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\gamma}_i y_i}{\sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\gamma}_i}, & \hat{\sigma}_2^2 &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\gamma}_i (y_i - \hat{\mu}_2)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\gamma}_i}, \end{aligned}$$

and the mixing probability  $\hat{\pi} = \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\gamma}_i / N$ .

4. Iterate steps 2 and 3 until convergence.

# Why is it called Expectation-Maximization (EM)?



$$\hat{\gamma}_i = \frac{\pi \mathcal{N}_{\mu_2, \sigma_2^2}(x_i)}{(1 - \pi) \mathcal{N}_{\mu_1, \sigma_1^2}(x_i) + \pi \mathcal{N}_{\mu_2, \sigma_2^2}(x_i)}$$
$$= \mathbb{E}[\Delta_i \mid \pi, \mu_1, \sigma_1^2, \mu_2, \sigma_2^2, \mathbf{X}]$$

Compute **expectation** of latent variables  
“E” step

Compute parameters that  
**maximize** the weighted log likelihood  
“M” step

# Gaussian Mixture Models

The probability density for a point  $x$  is determined by the sum of densities of independent Gaussian distributions

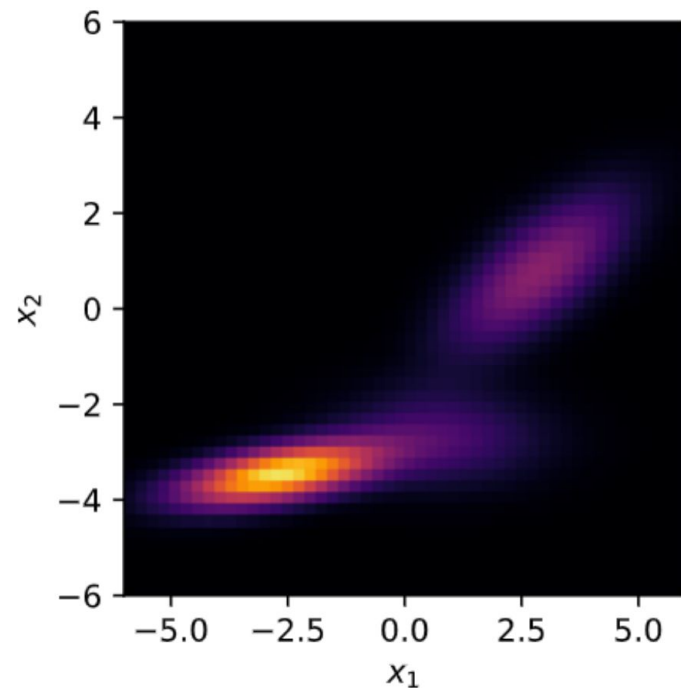
$$p(x) = \sum_{j=1}^k \pi_j \mathcal{N}(\mu_j, \Sigma_j, x)$$

Where:

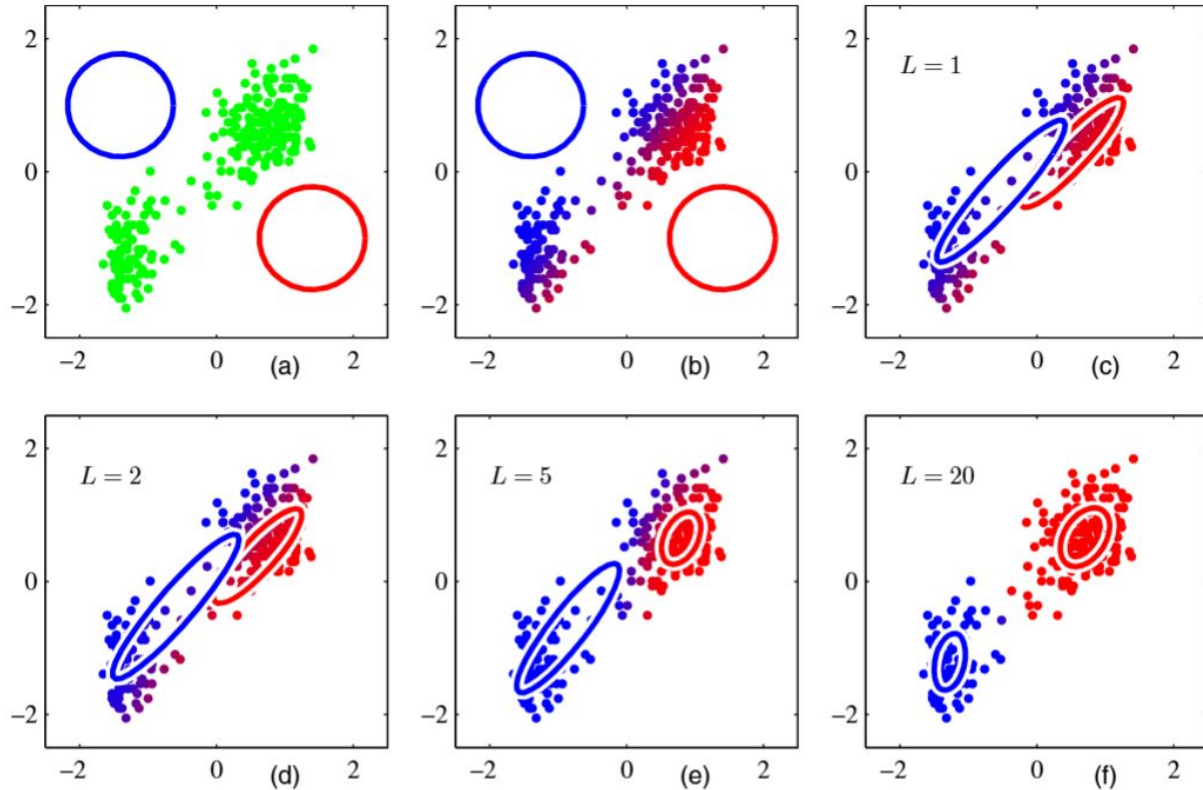
$\mu_j, \Sigma_j$ : mean vector and covariance matrix of  $j^{\text{th}}$  Gaussian,  
for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $d > 1$  each Gaussian is multivariate

$k$ : number of Gaussians in the model,

$\pi_j$ : mixing weight associated with the  $j^{\text{th}}$  Gaussian;  
 $\pi_j \in [0, 1]$  and  $\sum_{j=1}^k \pi_j = 1$



# EM for mixtures of multivariate Gaussians



# Lecture Outline

I. How does the algorithm work in a common special case?

**II. How does the algorithm work in general?**



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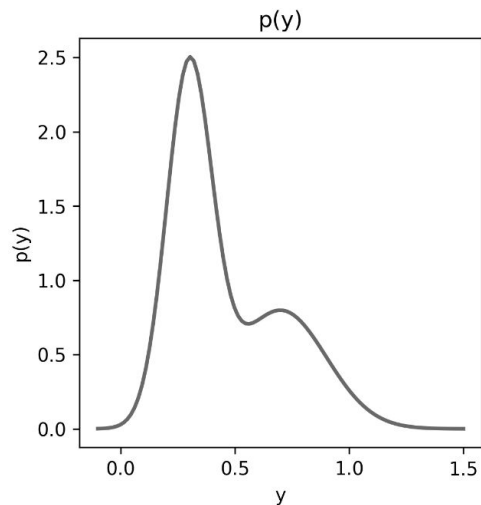


# General Expectation Maximization

$$\ell(\theta) = \sum_{n=1}^N \log p(y_n \mid \theta)$$

$y_n$  : observed data

$\theta$  : parameters to estimate



# General Expectation Maximization

$$\ell(\theta) = \sum_{n=1}^N \log p(y_n | \theta)$$

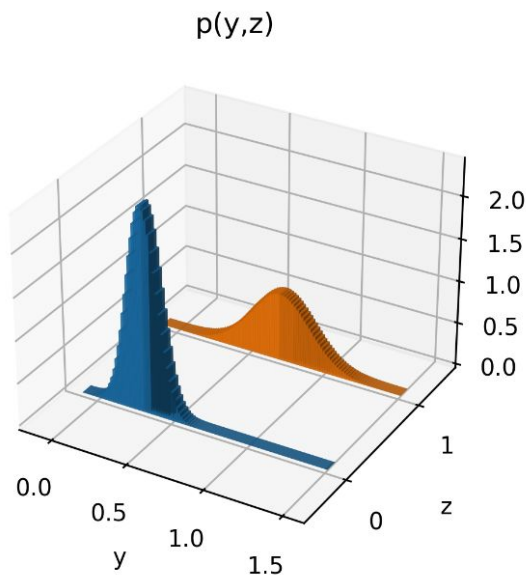
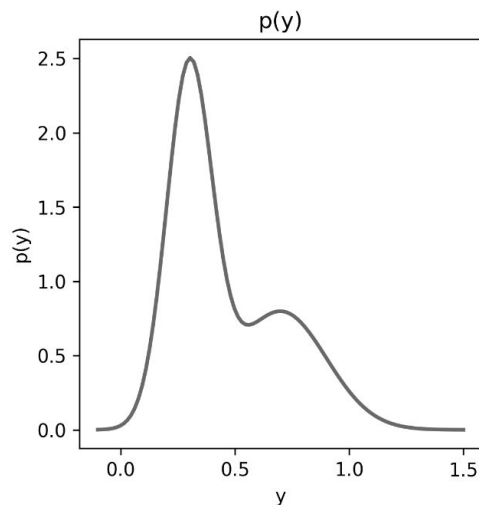
$$\ell(\theta) = \sum_{n=1}^N \log \left[ \sum_{z_n} p(y_n, z_n | \theta) \right]$$

$y_n$  : observed data

$\theta$  : parameters to estimate

$z_n$  : hidden variables

$p(y_n, z_n | \theta)$  : joint distribution of  $y_n$  and  $z_n$



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# General Expectation Maximization

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$y_n$  : observed data

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$$\ell(\theta) = \sum_{n=1}^N \log \left[ \sum_{z_n} p(y_n, z_n \mid \theta) \right]$$

$p(y_n, z_n \mid \theta)$  : joint distribution of  $y_n$  and  $z_n$

$$\ell(\theta) = \sum_{n=1}^N \log \left[ \sum_{z_n} p(y_n, z_n \mid \theta) \frac{q_n(z_n)}{q_n(z_n)} \right]$$

$$\ell(\theta) = \sum_{n=1}^N \log \left[ \sum_{z_n} q_n(z_n) \frac{p(y_n, z_n \mid \theta)}{q_n(z_n)} \right]$$



# General Expectation Maximization

$$\ell(\theta) = \sum_{n=1}^N \log p(y_n \mid \theta)$$

$y_n$  : observed data

$\theta$  : parameters to estimate

$z_n$  : hidden variables

$$\ell(\theta) = \sum_{n=1}^N \log \left[ \sum_{z_n} p(y_n, z_n \mid \theta) \right]$$

$p(y_n, z_n \mid \theta)$  : joint distribution of  $y_n$  and  $z_n$

$$\ell(\theta) = \sum_{n=1}^N \log \left[ \sum_{z_n} p(y_n, z_n \mid \theta) \frac{q_n(z_n)}{q_n(z_n)} \right]$$

$$\ell(\theta) = \sum_{n=1}^N \log \left[ \sum_{z_n} q_n(z_n) \frac{p(y_n, z_n \mid \theta)}{q_n(z_n)} \right]$$

Jensen's Inequality:

$$\log \mathbb{E}_{q_n} [Z] \geq \mathbb{E}_{q_n} [\log Z]$$

$$\ell(\theta) \geq \sum_n \sum_{z_n} q_n(z_n) \log \frac{p(y_n, z_n \mid \theta)}{q_n(z_n)}$$

$$\log \sum_{z_n} q_n(z_n) \frac{p(y_n, z_n \mid \theta)}{q_n(z_n)} \geq \sum_{z_n} q_n(z_n) \log \frac{p(y_n, z_n \mid \theta)}{q_n(z_n)}$$



# How can we maximize $\ell(\theta)$ ?

$$\ell(\theta) \geq \sum_n \sum_{z_n} q_n(z_n) \log \frac{p(z_n | y_n, \theta) p(y_n | \theta)}{q_n(z_n)}$$

$$\geq \sum_n \sum_{z_n} q_n(z_n) \log \frac{p(z_n | y_n, \theta)}{q_n(z_n)} p(y_n | \theta)$$

$$\geq \sum_n \left[ \sum_{z_n} q_n(z_n) \log \frac{p(z_n | y_n, \theta)}{q_n(z_n)} + \sum_{z_n} q_n(z_n) \log p(y_n | \theta) \right]$$

$$\geq \sum_n \left[ -D_{\text{KL}}(q_n(z_n) \| p(z_n | y_n, \theta)) + \log p(y_n | \theta) \right]$$

Select:  $q_n^* = p(z_n | y_n, \theta)$

$$\implies \ell(\theta) = \sum_n \log p(y_n | \theta)$$

Kullback-Leibler divergence

$$D_{\text{KL}}(q \| p) \triangleq \sum_z q(z) \log \frac{q(z)}{p(z)}$$

$$D_{\text{KL}}(q \| p) \geq 0$$

$$D_{\text{KL}}(q \| p) = 0 \quad \text{iff} \quad q = p$$

# How can we maximize $\ell(\theta)$ ?

$$\ell^t(\theta) = \sum_n \log p(y_n \mid \theta)$$

$$\theta^{t+1} = \arg \max_{\theta} \sum_n \log p(y_n \mid \theta)$$

Select:  $q_n^* = p(z_n | y_n, \theta)$

**Expectation**

$$\ell^t(\theta) \geq \sum_n \left[ -D_{\text{KL}}(q_n(z_n) \| p(z_n | y_n, \theta)) + \log p(y_n | \theta) \right]$$

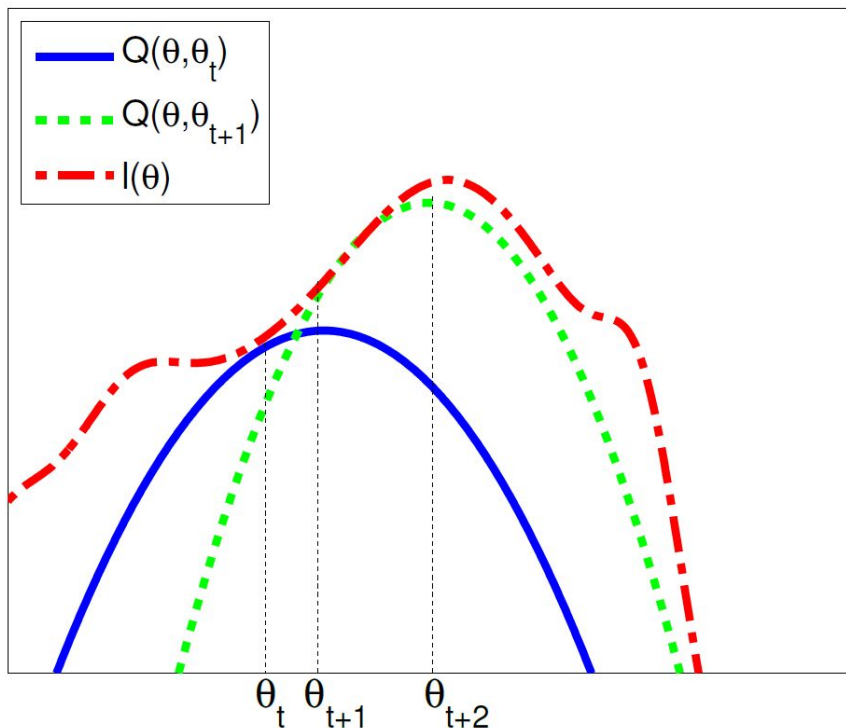
$$\ell^t(\theta) = \sum_n \log p(y_n | \theta)$$

**Maximization**

$$\theta^{t+1} = \arg \max_{\theta} \sum_n \log p(y_n | \theta)$$

**Initialize  
parameters**

# EM as bound optimization



$$\ell(\theta) \geq -D_{\text{KL}}(q_n(z_n) \parallel p(z_n \mid y_n, \theta)) + \log p(y_n \mid \theta)$$

$$\ell(\theta) \geq Q(\theta, \theta^t)$$

$$\ell(\theta^t) = Q(\theta^t, \theta^t)$$



# EM as Maximization-Maximization

