

# Tutorial 8 Variational Inference

## Olga Mikheeva

Excellent concise description of theory and  
Example of using mean field coordinate ascent  
to solve a GMM.

- We want to find:  $p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x})}{p(\mathbf{x})}$
- But:  $p(\mathbf{x}) = \int p(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{z}.$
- is intractable.

# Lets find an I-Projection

$$q^*(z) = \operatorname{argmin}_{q(z) \in \mathcal{Q}} KL(q(z) || p(z|x))$$

$$\begin{aligned} KL(q(z) || p(z|x)) &= E_{q(z)}[\log q(z)] - E_{q(z)}[\log p(z|x)] \\ &= E_{q(z)}[\log q(z)] - E_{q(z)}[\log p(z, x)] + \log p(x) \end{aligned}$$

- Hard term is there again but now without any q.
- Evidence Lower Bound:

$$\begin{aligned} ELBO(q) &= E_{q(z)}[\log p(z, x)] - E_{q(z)}[\log q(z)] \\ &= E_{q(z)}[\log p(z)] + E_{q(z)}[\log p(x|z)] - E_{q(z)}[\log q(z)] \end{aligned}$$

- Match prior + match data + reduce spread

# Lets find an I-Projection

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$$\log p(x) = ELBO(q) + KL(q(z) || p(z|x))$$

If x is set to a data value this is a log liklihood of that data

# Mean Field Approximation

$$q(\mathbf{z}) = \prod_{j=1}^m q_j(z_j)$$

$$ELBO(q) = E_{q(\mathbf{z})}[\log p(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x})] - E_{q(\mathbf{z})}[\log q(\mathbf{z})]$$

- Coordinate ascent says take one term,  $j$ , to maximize by plugging in and setting the variational derivative to 0:

*(note to self: show on board)*

$$q_j^*(z_j) \propto \exp\{E_{-j}[\log p(z_j | \mathbf{z}_{-j}, \mathbf{x})]\}$$

# Gaussian Mixture Model

$$\mu_k \sim \mathcal{N}(\alpha, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$$

$$c_i \sim \text{Categorical}\left(\frac{1}{K}, \dots, \frac{1}{K}\right)$$

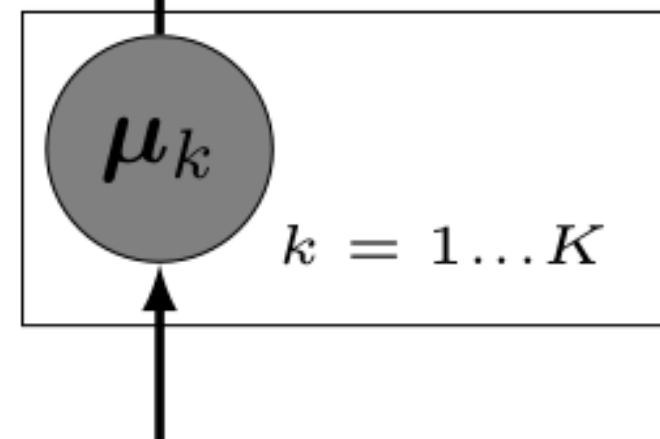
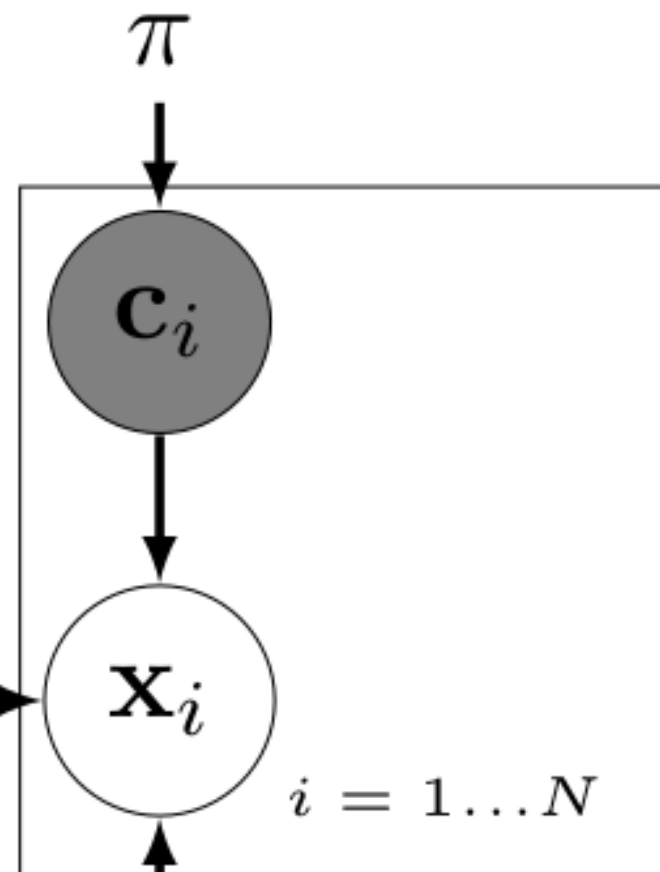
$$\mathbf{x}_i | c_i, \mu \sim \mathcal{N}(c_i^T \mu, \lambda^2 \mathbf{I})$$

$$k = 1, \dots, K$$

$$i = 1, \dots, N$$

$$i = 1, \dots, N$$

$$\lambda^2$$



$$p(\mu, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{x}) = \prod_{k=1}^K p(\mu_k) \prod_{i=1}^N p(c_i) p(\mathbf{x}_i | c_i, \mu)$$

Categorical dist. = multinomial dist.

$$\sigma^2$$

# Mean Field

$$p(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{c}) \approx q(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{c}) = \prod_{k=1}^K q(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k) \prod_{i=1}^N q(c_i)$$

$$q(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k) = \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k | \boldsymbol{m}_k, s_k^2 \boldsymbol{I})$$

$$q(c_i) \sim \text{Categorical}(\boldsymbol{\phi}_i)$$

# ELBO

Alert: remember this slide exists if you are doing the tutorial as you are asked to do this.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{s}^2, \phi) &= \\
 &= \sum_{k=1}^K E_q[\log p(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k)] + \sum_{i=1}^N E_q[\log p(c_i)] + \sum_{i=1}^N E_q[\log p(\mathbf{x}_i|c_i, \boldsymbol{\mu})] \\
 &\quad - \sum_{k=1}^K E_q[\log q(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k)] - \sum_{i=1}^N E_q[\log q(c_i)] \\
 \sum_{k=1}^K E_q[\log p(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k)] &= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^K \left[ p \log(2\pi\sigma^2) + \int d\boldsymbol{\mu} \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, m_k, s_k^2 I) (\boldsymbol{\mu}_k - \boldsymbol{\alpha})^2 / \sigma^2 \right] \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} \left[ K p \log(2\pi\sigma^2) + \sum_{k=1}^K (m_k^2 + p s_k^2 + \alpha^2 - 2\mathbf{m}_k \bullet \boldsymbol{\alpha}) / \sigma^2 \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

# ELBO

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{x}|\boldsymbol{m}, s^2, \boldsymbol{\phi}) &= \\&= \sum_{k=1}^K E_q[\log p(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k)] + \sum_{i=1}^N E_q \left[ \log p(c_i) \right] + \sum_{i=1}^N E_q \left[ \log p(\boldsymbol{x}_i | c_i, \boldsymbol{\mu}) \right] \\&- \sum_{k=1}^K E_q \left[ \log q(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k) \right] - \sum_{i=1}^N E_q \left[ \log q(c_i) \right] \\&\quad \sum_{i=1}^N E_q \left[ \log p(c_i) \right] = \quad -N \log K \quad : \text{all terms are } 1/K\end{aligned}$$



# ELBO

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{x}|\boldsymbol{m}, s^2, \boldsymbol{\phi}) &= \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K E_q[\log p(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k)] + \sum_{i=1}^N E_q[\log p(c_i)] + \sum_{i=1}^N E_q[\log p(\boldsymbol{x}_i|c_i, \boldsymbol{\mu})] \\ &\quad - \sum_{k=1}^K E_q[\log q(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k)] - \sum_{i=1}^N E_q[\log q(c_i)]\end{aligned}$$

- Third term is sort of like first, but now we have  $c_i^T \boldsymbol{\mu}$  together and  $\lambda$  replaces  $\sigma$  and more...
- That leads to a sum over  $k$  and a  $\phi_{ik}$  factor.
- Also the sum of  $i$  is to  $N$ .

# ELBO

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{x}|\boldsymbol{m}, s^2, \boldsymbol{\phi}) &= \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K E_q[\log p(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k)] + \sum_{i=1}^N E_q[\log p(c_i)] + \sum_{i=1}^N E_q[\log p(\boldsymbol{x}_i|c_i, \boldsymbol{\mu})] \\ &\quad - \sum_{k=1}^K E_q[\log q(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k)] - \sum_{i=1}^N E_q[\log q(c_i)]\end{aligned}$$

- Forth term is easy as it ends up as moments of a normal distribution. End up with an expression with  $\mu$ ,  $K$  and  $s$ .
- Last term is easy too and will only involve the  $\phi_{ik}$