

- The chain rule of probability

$$\log p(X; \theta) = \log p(X, Z; \theta) - \log p(Z|X; \theta)$$

Given $c \rightarrow \log p(X|c; \theta) = \log p(X, Z|c; \theta) - \log p(Z|X, c; \theta)$

- We next introduce an arbitrary distribution $q(Z|c)$ on both sides and integrate over Z .

$$\begin{aligned} \int q(Z|c) \log p(X|c; \theta) dZ &= \int q(Z|c) \log p(X, Z|c; \theta) dZ - \int q(Z|c) \log p(Z|X, c; \theta) dZ \\ &= \int q(Z|c) \log p(X, Z|c; \theta) dZ - \int q(Z|c) \log q(Z|c) dZ \\ &\quad + \int q(Z|c) \log q(Z|c) dZ - \int q(Z|c) \log p(Z|X, c; \theta) dZ \\ &= L(X, c, q, \theta) + KL(q(Z|c) || p(Z|X, c; \theta)) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} L(X, c, q, \theta) &= \int q(Z|c) \log p(X, Z|c; \theta) dZ - \int q(Z|c) \log q(Z|c) dZ \\ KL(q(Z|c) || p(Z|X, c; \theta)) &= \int q(Z|c) \log \frac{q(Z|c)}{p(Z|X, c; \theta)} dZ \end{aligned}$$

- Since the KL divergence is non-negative, $KL(q || p) \geq 0$, it follows that

$$\log p(X|c; \theta) \geq L(X, c, q, \theta)$$

with equality if and only if

$$q(Z|c) = p(Z|X, c; \theta)$$

In other words, $L(X, c, q, \theta)$ is a lower bound on $\log p(X|c; \theta)$

$$\begin{aligned} L(X, c, q, \theta) &= \int q(Z|c) \log p(X, Z|c; \theta) dZ - \int q(Z|c) \log q(Z|c) dZ \\ &= \int q(Z|c) \log p(X|Z, c; \theta) dZ + \int q(Z|c) \log p(Z|c) dZ \\ &\quad - \int q(Z|c) \log q(Z|c) dZ \\ &= E_{Z \sim q(Z|X, c; \theta)} \log p(X|Z, c; \theta) + E_{Z \sim q(Z|X, c; \theta)} \log p(Z|c) \\ &\quad - E_{Z \sim q(Z|X, c; \theta)} \log q(Z|X, c; \theta) \\ &= E_{Z \sim q(Z|X, c; \theta)} \log p(X|Z, c; \theta) - KL(q(Z|X, c; \theta) || p(Z|c)) \end{aligned}$$