title of the big homework

Big homework in big course

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Abstract

All notes regarding my masters thesis project

1 External links

- Thesis pre proposal
- Tasks document
- Gitlab repository might be removed
- Overleaf project not regularly updated

2 Literature notes

Variational inference.: [Blei et al., 2016] INPROGRESS

```
\begin{array}{l}
\text{Objective } \geq 0 \\
\text{KL}\left(q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})\right) := \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})}\left[\log q(\mathbf{z})\right] - \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})}\left[\log p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})\right] \\
\text{ELBO}(q) := \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})}\left[\log p(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{x})\right] - \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z})}\left[\log q(\mathbf{z})\right] \\
\text{KL}\left(q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})\right) + \underbrace{\text{ELBO}(q)}_{\text{constant w. }q} = \underbrace{\log p(\mathbf{x})}_{\text{constant w. }q} \\
\text{ELBO}(q) = \mathbb{E}\left[\log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})\right] - \text{KL}\left(q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z})\right) \\
\text{ELBO}(q) = \mathcal{Q}(\theta, \theta_t) - \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}) \text{ //Entropy} \\
\end{array} \tag{5}
```

Algorithm 1: Coordinate Ascent for VI

```
Input: A model p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}), a data set \mathbf{x}

Output: A variational density q(\mathbf{z}) = \prod_{j=1}^m q_j(z_j)

1 Initialize: Variational factors q_j(z_j)

2 while the ELBO has not converged do

3 | for j \in \{1, \dots, m\} do

4 | Set q_j(z_j) \propto \exp\{\mathbb{E}_{-j}[\log p(z_j | \mathbf{z}_{-j}, \mathbf{x})]\}

5 | end

6 | Compute ELBO(q) = \mathbb{E}[\log p(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x})] - \mathbb{E}[\log q(\mathbf{z})]

7 end

8 return q(\mathbf{z})
```

Exponential families conditional conjugacy. [Bauer, 2018] TODO define conditional conjugacy properly

Gradient Optimization for ELBO. We will try to solve the optimization problem from Gradient ascent perspective. This will open up opportunity for stochastic optimization [Robbins and Monro, 1951] [Robbins and Monro, 1985].

Moving from Gradient Opt to Stochastic VI

Algorithm 2: VI with conjugate family assumption

```
Input: A model p, variational family q_{\phi(z)}, q_{\lambda}(z)
1 while ELBO is not converged do
2 | for each data point i do
3 | Update \varphi_i \leftarrow \mathbb{E}_{\lambda} \left[ \eta_l(\beta, x_i) \right]
4 | end
5 | Update \lambda \leftarrow \mathbb{E}_{\varphi} \left[ \eta_g(x, z) \right]
6 end
```

- 1. subsample a data point t from full data
- 2. use current global param λ to update local param φ_t
- 3. update λ

Gradient optimization step $\lambda_{t+1} = \lambda_t + \delta \nabla_{\lambda} f(\lambda_t)$. An equivalent formulation (for small $d\lambda$) is

$$\underset{d\lambda}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} f(\lambda + d\lambda) \text{ st. } ||d\lambda||^2 \le \epsilon \tag{7}$$

Here we have euclidean distance metric, which is not the best choice for probability distributions. For ex - $q_{\lambda} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1000)$ is much closer distribution to $q_{\lambda''} \sim \mathcal{N}(10, 10000)$ than $q_{\lambda'} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 0.001)$ is to $q_{\lambda'''}\mathcal{N}(0.1, 0.001)$ even though $||\lambda - \lambda'''|| \ge ||\lambda' - \lambda''''||$

Natural gradient of ELBO: natural gradient accounts for geometric structure of probability parameters (λ) . They wrap the parameter space in a sensible way such that moving in same direction in different directions amounts to equal change in symmetrized KL divergence.

$$\underset{d\lambda}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} f(\lambda + d\lambda) \text{ st.}$$

$$D_{KL}^{sym}(q_{\lambda}, q_{\lambda + d\lambda}) \leq \epsilon \text{ where}$$

$$D_{KL}^{sym}(q, p) = KL(q||p) + KL(p||q)$$

$$(8)$$

We need to find Riemannian metric 1 $G(\lambda)$ which transforms euclidean distance to symmetrized KL divergence:

$$d\lambda^{\mathsf{T}} d\lambda = D_{KL}^{sym}(q_{\lambda}(\beta), q_{\lambda+d\lambda}(\beta)) \tag{9}$$

Using information geometry ², we can also rescale the gradients in the right space:

$$\hat{\nabla_{\lambda}}ELBO = G^{-1}(\lambda)\nabla_{\lambda}ELBO \text{ where}$$
(10)

$$G(\lambda) = \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\nabla_{\lambda} \log q_{\lambda}(\beta)\right) \left(\nabla_{\lambda} \log q_{\lambda}(\beta)\right)^{\mathsf{T}}\right]$$
(11)

 $G(\lambda)$ is the Fisher information matrix. For our model class (conjugate exponential...) We've

$$\nabla_{\lambda} \log q_{\lambda}(\beta) = t(\beta) - \mathbb{E}\left[t(\beta)\right] \tag{12}$$

Combining 12 and 11

$$G(\lambda) = \nabla_{\lambda}^{2} a(\lambda) = a''(\lambda) \tag{13}$$

From [Hoffman et al., 2013], equation of Euclidean gradient

$$\nabla_{\lambda} ELBO = a''(\lambda) \Big(\mathbb{E} \left[\eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) \right] - \lambda \Big)$$
 (14)

TODO refresh 14 with value in [Blei et al., 2016] Combining 10, 14 and 13

$$g(\lambda) = \widehat{\nabla}_{\lambda} ELBO = \mathbb{E} \left[\eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) \right] - \lambda \text{ and}$$

$$\lambda_{t} = \lambda_{t-1} + \delta_{t} g(\lambda_{t-1})$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_{t} = (1 - \delta_{t}) \lambda_{t-1} + \delta_{t} \mathbb{E} \left[\eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) \right]$$
(15)

Algorithm 3: VI with conjugate family assumption

```
Input: A model p, variational family q_{\phi(z)}, q_{\lambda}(z)
1 while ELBO is not converged do
          for each data point i do
               Update \varphi_i \leftarrow \mathbb{E}_{\lambda} \left[ \eta_l(\beta, x_i) \right]
3
4
          Update \lambda \leftarrow (1 - \delta_t)\lambda + \delta_t \mathbb{E}_{q(\varphi)} \left[ \eta_q(x, z) \right]
```

Stochastic Variational inference. in Algorithm 3 line 2-4, we have to iterate over all data to compute the new set of local variables φ . This does not scale well to large datasets. [Hoffman et al., 2013] So we have to use stochastic gradients. Noisy gradients H of f will converge to a local optimum as long as

- $\mathbb{E}[H] = \nabla f$
- Step size δ_t st: $\sum_{1}^{\infty} \delta_t = \infty$ and $\sum_{1}^{\infty} \delta_t^2 < \infty$

Now,

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})\right] = \left(\alpha_1 + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{E}_q\left[t(z_i, x_i)\right], n + \alpha_2\right)$$

Noisy gradient by sampling

- 1. Sample $t \sim Uniform(1, ..., n)$
- 2. Rescale

$$g(\lambda) = \left(\alpha_1 + n\mathbb{E}_q\left[t(z_t, x_t)\right], n + \alpha_2\right) - \lambda$$
$$=: \hat{\lambda} - \lambda$$

Algorithm 4: Stochastic VI

```
Input: A model p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}), data \mathbf{x}
1 Initialize: variational family q_{\phi(z)}, q_{\lambda}(z) with params \lambda_0
   Result: Global variational densities q_{\lambda}(\beta)
2 while Stopping criteria not met do
         Sample t \sim Uniform(1, ..., n)
3
         Update \phi_t \leftarrow \mathbb{E}_{\lambda} \left[ \eta_l(\beta, x_t) \right]
4
         Compute global param estimate \hat{\lambda} = \mathbb{E}_{\varphi} \left[ \eta_q(z_t, x_t) \right]
6
        Update \lambda \leftarrow (1 - \delta_t)\lambda + \delta_t \lambda
7 end
s return \lambda
```

Research on optimizing difficult variational objectives with Monte Carlo (MC) estimates. Write gradient of ELBO as expectation, compute MC estimates, use stochastic optimization with MC estimates. New approaches avoid any model-specific derivations, and are called 'Black-box' inference techniques. As examples, see - [Kingma and Welling, 2013] [Rezende et al., 2014] [Ranganath et al., 2014] [Ranganath et al., 2016] [Titsias and Lázaro-[Kucukelbir et al., 2017]

ELBO =
$$\mathbb{E}_{q_{\nu}} \left[\log p_{\theta}(z, x) \right] - \mathbb{E}_{q} \left[\log q_{\nu} z \right]$$

 ν params of variational family, θ params of model. We need unbiased estimates of $\nabla_{\nu,\theta}ELBO$ to maximize ELBO.

Black Box variational inference. **INPROGRESS**

From [Ranganath et al., 2014]

¹seems to be some kind of transformation

 $^{^2\}mathrm{Hope}$ so

We will form the derivative of the objective as an expectation with respect to the variational approximation and then sample from the variational approximation to get noisy but unbiased gradients, which we use to update our parameters. For each sample, our noisy gradient requires evaluating the joint distribution of the observed and sampled variables, the variational distribution, and the gradient of the log of the variational distribution. This is a black box method in that the gradient of the log of the variational distribution and sampling method can be derived once for each type of variational distribution and reused for many models and applications.

We will form the $\nabla ELBO$ as an $\mathbb{E}_{q_{\lambda}}$ [...] and then sample S samples from the q_{λ} to get noisy but unbiased gradients (w.r.t λ), which we use to update λ . For each sample, our noisy gradient requires evaluating the $p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}_S), q(\mathbf{z}_S)$, and $\nabla \log q(\mathbf{z}_S)$. This is a black box method in that the $\nabla \log q(\mathbf{z}_S)$ and sampling method can be derived once for each type of variational distribution and reused for many models and applications.

Equation (2) of [Ranganath et al., 2014]

$$\nabla_{\lambda} \mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{q} \left[\nabla_{\lambda} \log q(z|\lambda) \Big(\log p(x,z) - \log q(z|\lambda) \Big) \right] \text{ where}$$

$$\mathcal{L}(\lambda) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\lambda_{z}}} \left[\log p(x,z) - \log q(z) \right] \text{ (ELBO)}$$
(16)

here it says that Equation 2/3 can be derived simply using the log trick but the authors use a complicated method in paper. Also derived in [Jalil Taghia and Schn, 2018] and [Bauer, 2018]

the gradient $\nabla_{\lambda} \log q(z|\lambda)$ of the log of a probability distribution is called the score function or REINFORCE Basic algorithm

$$z_s \sim q(z|\lambda) \text{ for } s \in 1..S$$

$$\nabla_{\lambda} \mathcal{L} \approx \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^{S} \nabla_{\lambda} \log q(z_s|\lambda) \Big(\log p(x, z_s) - \log q(z_s|\lambda) \Big)$$
(17)

Rao-Blackwellization and smart Control Variates to control variance

Variance still very high. Reparameterization and amortization come to rescue (See this tutorial from David Blei)

Good notes on Stochastic VI and Black Box VI from [Jalil Taghia and Schn, 2018]

Reparameterization trick.

TODO

Boosting Variational inference. TODO

Frank-Wolfe. INPROGRESS [Jaggi, 2013] [Pedregosa, 2018] [Pedregosa et al., 2018] [?] Here $x, \mathcal{D} \equiv$

Algorithm 5: Frank-Wolfe

- 1 Constrained Optimization: $\min_{x \in \mathcal{D}} f(\mathbf{x})$
- **2** for $t \in \{0, ..., T\}$ do
- $\mathbf{s} \mid s^t \leftarrow \arg\min_{s \in \mathcal{D}} \langle \mathbf{s}, \nabla f(\mathbf{x}^t) \rangle$
- 4 $\mathbf{x}^{t+1} \leftarrow \mathbf{UpdateRule}(\mathbf{x}^t, s^t, t, f)$
- 5 end

$$x, \mathcal{D} \equiv q, \mathcal{A}$$

$$q^{t+1} \leftarrow (1-\gamma)q^t + \gamma s^t = q^t + \gamma \overbrace{(s^t - q^t)}^{d_t} \text{ where}$$

$$\mathbf{Variant0} : \gamma \leftarrow \frac{2}{t+2}$$
(18)

$$\mathbf{Variant1} : \gamma \leftarrow \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{\gamma \in [0,1]} f((1-\gamma)q^t + \gamma s^t) \tag{19}$$

$$g_t \leftarrow -\langle \nabla f(\mathbf{x}_t), d_t \rangle \rangle$$

Exitcondition : $g_t < \delta$

$$\mathbf{Variant2} : \gamma \leftarrow \min\left(\frac{g_t}{L||d_t||^2}, 1\right) \tag{20}$$

Variant3:

$$q^{t+1} \leftarrow \underset{q \in \bigcup_{i=1}^{t} s^{t}}{\min} f(q)$$
(21)

20 has variants [Pedregosa, 2018] [Demyanov and Rubinov, 1970] **TODO** add more

$$\gamma \leftarrow \min \left\{ \frac{g_t}{L \operatorname{diam}(\mathcal{D})^2}, 1 \right\}$$

Boosting Black Box Variational inference. **INPROGRESS**

Boosting introduced in [Guo et al., 2016], connection with FW in [Locatello et al., 2017]. define a Linear Minimization Problem (LMO) as $\mathbf{LMO}_{\mathcal{A}}(y) := \underset{s \in \mathcal{A}}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} \langle y, s \rangle$ In line 3 of 5, rewrite it as

$$s^t \leftarrow (\delta - \text{Approx-}) \mathbf{LMO}_{\mathcal{A}}(\nabla f(q^t))$$

Algorithm for LMO in section 4 of [Locatello et al., 2018]. In Theorem 2, Curvature $C_{f,\mathcal{A}}$ is bounded for D^{KL} if param. space of densities in \mathcal{A} is bounded. In section 3, a bounded curvature for D^{KL} is obtained.

Black box LMO:

In this case $f(q^t) = \text{KL}(q^t(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{z}))$. Assuming θ are the parameters defining variational family $\mathcal{Q} \equiv \mathcal{A}$ We've to find $\nabla_{\theta} f(q^t)$, more specifically, we've to find

$$s^t \leftarrow (\delta - \text{Approx.}) \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{s \in \mathcal{A}} \langle \nabla \text{KL} \left(q^t(\mathbf{z}) || p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) \right), s \rangle$$

TODOadd how [Guo et al., 2016] [Locatello et al., 2017] deal with optimization of LMO. Also add the part about conv(A) being sufficient instead of A.

Convergence of SGD not fully understood. To guarantee convergence of FW, solution of LMO should not be degenerate. This translates to a constraint on $||s||_{\infty}$ which is not practical. Every pdf with bounded $||\cdot||_{\infty}$ has bounded entropy and the converse holds true in most cases of interest. (Gaussian, Laplacian, ...). Assume \mathcal{A} is such a family and $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$ is \mathcal{A} w/o l_{∞} norm constraint. TODOask

$$\underset{s \in \bar{\mathcal{A}}, \mathcal{H}(s) \geq -M}{\arg\min} \langle \nabla \text{KL}\left(q^t(\mathbf{z}) || p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})\right), s \rangle \stackrel{?}{=} \underset{s \in \bar{\mathcal{A}}, \mathcal{H}(s) \geq -M}{\arg\min} \left\langle s, \log \frac{q^t}{p} \right\rangle$$

Using Lagrange multiplier λ

$$\left\langle s, \log\left(\frac{s}{\sqrt[\lambda]{\frac{p}{q^t}}}\right) \right\rangle$$

$$\equiv \underset{s \in \bar{\mathcal{A}}}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} \operatorname{KL}\left(s||\sqrt[\lambda]{\frac{p}{q^t}}Z\right)$$

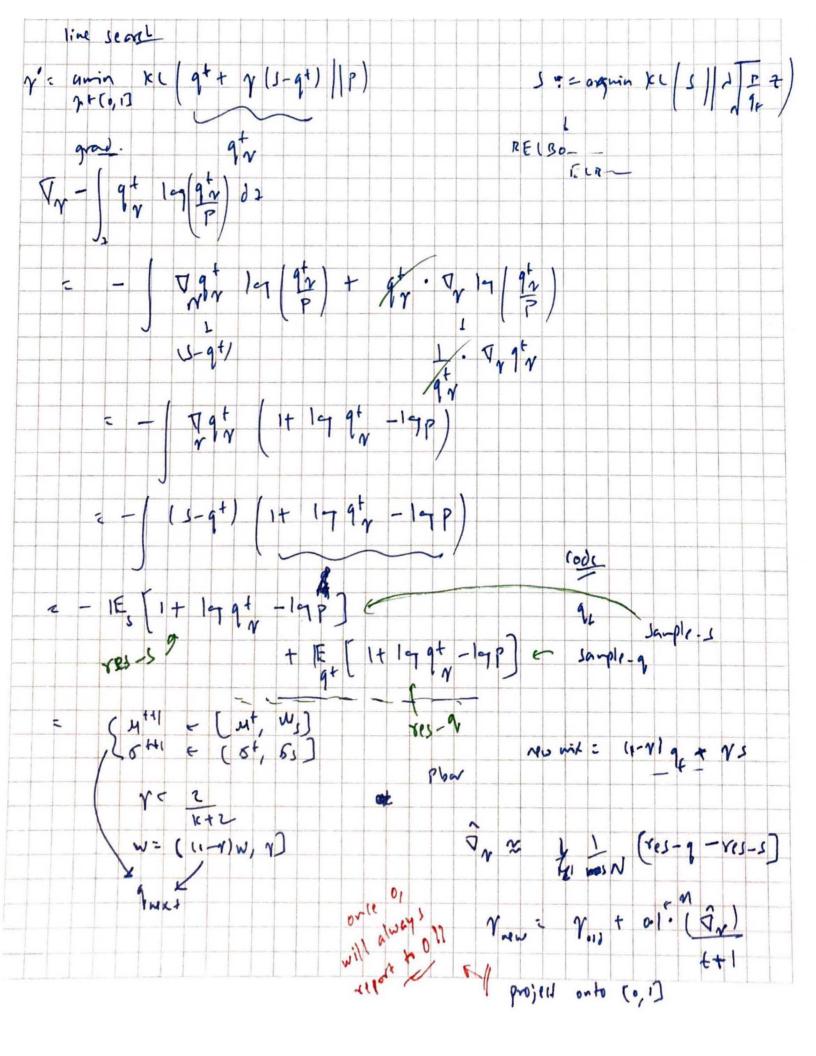
$$\operatorname{RELBO}(s,\lambda) := \mathbb{E}_s\left[\log p\right] - \mathbb{E}_s\left[\log q^t\right] - \lambda \mathbb{E}_s\left[\log s\right] \tag{22}$$

For true LMO solution, will need to maximize for λ . Might end in saddle, fix or slowly decrease with time $\frac{1}{\sqrt{t+1}}$

3 Ideas

3.1 Line search

Line search in 19 is not working very well.



```
def line_search_dkl(weights, locs, diags, mu_s, cov_s, x, k):
       """Perform line search for the best step size gamma.
2
3
      Uses gradient ascent to find gamma that minimizes
      KL(q_t + qamma (s - q_t) || p)
5
6
      Args:
          weights: weights of mixture components of q_t
           locs: means of mixture components of q_t
9
          diags: deviations of mixture components of q_t
10
          mu_s: mean for LMO Solution s
          cov_s: cov matrix for LMO solution s
12
          x: target distribution p
13
          k: iteration number of Frank-Wolfe
14
      Returns:
15
          Computed gamma
16
      def softmax(v):
18
          return np.log(1 + np.exp(v))
19
      # no. of samples to approximate \nabla_{\gamma}
20
      N_samples = 10
21
      # Create current iter q_t
22
      weights = [weights]
23
      qt_comps = [
          Normal(
               loc=tf.convert_to_tensor(locs[i]),
26
               scale=tf.convert_to_tensor(diags[i])) for i in range(len(locs))
27
      ]
28
      qt = Mixture(
29
          cat=Categorical(probs=tf.convert_to_tensor(weights)),
30
           components=qt_comps,
31
          sample_shape=N)
32
      qt = InfiniteMixtureScipy(stats.multivariate_normal)
33
      qt.weights = weights[0]
34
      qt.params = list(
35
          zip([[1] for 1 in locs], [[softmax(np.dot(d, d))] for d in diags]))
36
      # samples from q_t
      sample_q = qt.sample_n(N_samples)
      # create and sample from s
39
      s = stats.multivariate_normal([mu_s],
40
                                       np.dot(np.array([cov_s]), np.array([cov_s])))
      sample_s = s.rvs(N_samples)
42
      # q_{t+1} is mixture of q_t and s with weights (1-\gamma) and \gamma
      # Set its corresponding parameters and weights
44
      new_locs = copy.copy(locs)
45
      new_diags = copy.copy(diags)
46
      new_locs.append([mu_s])
47
      new_diags.append([cov_s])
48
      # initialize \gamma
49
      gamma = 2. / (k + 2.)
      # no. steps of gradient ascent
51
      n_steps = 10
52
      prog_bar = ed.util.Progbar(n_steps)
53
      for it in range(n_steps):
54
          print("line_search iter %d, %.5f" % (it, gamma))
55
          new_weights = copy.copy(weights)
56
          new_weights[0] = [(1. - gamma) * w for w in new_weights[0]]
57
          new_weights[0].append(gamma)
58
           # create q_{t+1}^{\gamma}
59
          q_next = InfiniteMixtureScipy(stats.multivariate_normal)
60
          q_next.weights = new_weights[0]
61
          q_next.params = list(
62
               zip([[1] for 1 in new_locs], [[np.dot(d, d)] for d in new_diags]))
           # Computes \mathbb{E}[...] \propto \sum_{v} \log p - \log q_{t+1}^{\gamma}
          def px_qx_ratio_log_prob(v):
65
               Lambda = 1.
66
```

```
ret = x.log_prob([v]).eval()[0] - q_next.log_prob(v)
67
              ret /= Lambda
68
              return ret
69
          # Samples w.r.t s
          rez_s = [
              px_qx_ratio_log_prob(sample_s[ss]) for ss in range(len(sample_s))
72
73
          # Samples w.r.t q_{t+1}
74
          rez_q = [
75
              px_qx_ratio_log_prob(sample_q[ss]) for ss in range(len(sample_q))
76
          ]
          # TODO(sauravshekhar) measure how noisy gradients are
          # Gradient ascent step, step size decreasing as rac{1}{it+1}
79
          gamma = gamma + 0.1 * (sum(rez_s) - sum(rez_q)) / (N_samples *
80
                                                                  (it + 1.))
          # Projecting it back to [0, 1], too small range?
          # FIXME(sauravshekhar) if projected to 0, all iterations will be same?
83
          if gamma >= 1 or gamma <= 0:</pre>
84
               gamma = max(min(gamma, 1.), 0.)
85
              break
86
      return gamma
87
```

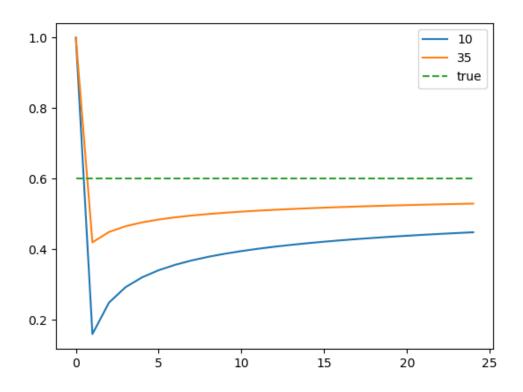


Figure 1: gamma with iterations for different n_samples

TODOmake E_q plot with iterations starting from 1

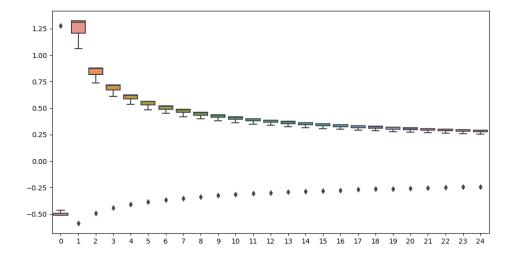


Figure 2: Boxplot for expectation w.r.t s for n_samples = 10

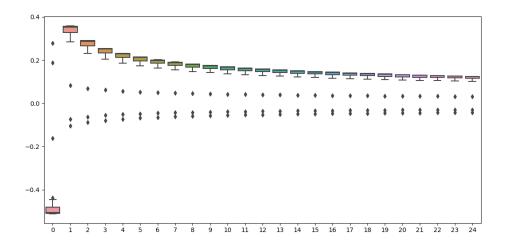


Figure 3: Boxplot for expectation w.r.t s for n_samples = 36

4 Math notes

Shannon Entropy.

Self information of event x = x is defined as $I(x) := -\log P(x)$

$$H(x) = \mathbb{E}_{x \sim P} [I(x)] = -\mathbb{E}_{x \sim P} [\log P(x)]$$

Cramer-Rao lower bound. [Balabdaoui and van de Geer, 2016] Suppose θ is an unknown deterministic parameter which is to be estimated from measurements x, distributed according to some pdf $f(x;\theta)$. The variance of any unbiased estimator $\hat{\theta}$ of θ is then bounded by reciprocal of Fischer Information $I(\theta)$:

$$\operatorname{var}(\hat{\theta}) \ge \frac{1}{I(\theta)} \text{ where}$$

$$I(\theta) = \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\frac{\partial l(x;\theta)}{\partial \theta}\right)^{2}\right]$$

$$= -\mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\partial^{2} l(x;\theta)}{\partial \theta^{2}}\right]$$

Note: See Wikipedia for other more general versions

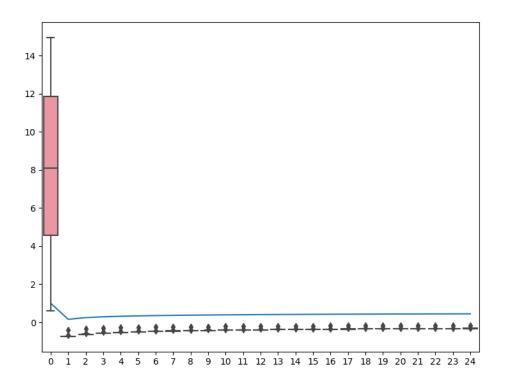


Figure 4: Boxplot for expectation w.r.t q_tĝamma for n_samples = 10

5 Code Notes

Normal distribution edward

```
from edward.models import Normal
from keras.layers import Dense

hidden = Dense(256, activation='relu')(x_ph)
qz = Normal(loc=Dense(10)(hidden),
scale=Dense(10, activation='softplus')(hidden))
```

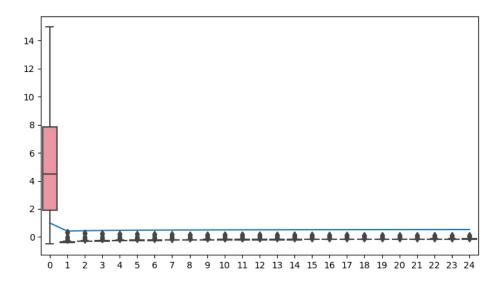


Figure 5: Boxplot for expectation w.r.t q_tgamma for n_samples = 35

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