# Modify By Confidence Level

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## 1 The BTL Model —ModifyByConfidenceLevel

Suppose g is a K-dim vector, with one and only one component to be equal to 1, for each pair,  $p(< w, v > |g_k = 1) = p^k(w \succ v) \times \prod_{k' \neq k} p^{k'}(w \succeq v)$ . then the probability of generating a session observation d given the hidden aspect a is defined as:

$$p(d|g,\theta,V,U) = p(d|\Theta^t,g) = \prod_{w \in W^d, v \in L^d, \mathbf{w} \succeq_{\mathbf{R}^v}} \mathbf{a}^{\mathbf{K}} \frac{w_k}{w_k + \theta^t v_k} \prod_{k' \neq k} \frac{\theta^t w_{k'}}{v_{k'} + \theta^t w_{k'}}$$
(1)

where  $w \succ_R v$  is the ranking pair in R relation existing in session d, a is the given value.

Besides,

$$p(g|d, \Theta^t) \qquad \propto p(g|u, \Theta^t) p(d|g, \Theta^t)$$

$$p(g_k = 1|d, \Theta^t) \qquad \propto u_k^t \frac{w_k^t}{w_k^t + \theta^t l_k^t} \prod_{k' \neq k} \left[ \frac{\theta^t w_{k'}^t}{l_{k'}^t + \theta^t w_{k'}^t} \right]$$
(2)

First, let's use  $\gamma(d, k, \Theta^t)$  to denote the conditional probability  $p(g_k = 1|d, \Theta^t)$  given parameters in the t-th round, when the current session specific favorite aspect is  $g_k = 1$ , defined as follows

$$\gamma(d, k, \Theta^t) = \frac{p(d, g|\Theta^t)}{\Sigma_g p(d, g|\Theta^t)} = \frac{p(g|\Theta^t)p(d|\Theta^t, g)}{\Sigma_g p(g|\Theta^t)p(d|\Theta^t, g)}$$

$$= \frac{u_k \Pi_{w \in W^d, v \in L^d, \mathbf{w} \succ_{\mathbf{R}} \mathbf{v}} a^K \frac{w_k}{w_k + \theta^t v_k} \Pi_{k' \neq k} \frac{\theta^t w_{k'}}{v_{k'} + \theta^t w_{k'}}}{\Sigma_{k=1}^K u_k \Pi_{w \in W^d, v \in L^d, \mathbf{w} \succ_{\mathbf{R}} \mathbf{v}} a^K \frac{w_k}{w_k + \theta^t v_k} \Pi_{k' \neq k} \frac{\theta^t w_{k'}}{v_{k'} + \theta^t w_{k'}}}$$
(3)

Note that  $\forall d, \Sigma_k \gamma(d, k, \Theta^t) = 1$ .

## 1.1 E-step

In the E-step of t-th EM round, compute the expectation  $Q(\Theta^t) = E_G \ln p(D, G|\Theta)$ 

$$E_{G} \ln p(D, G|\Theta) = \sum_{d} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \gamma(d, k, \Theta^{t}) \ln p(d, g|\Theta)$$

$$= \sum_{d} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \gamma(d, k, \Theta^{t}) \{ \ln u_{k}$$

$$+ \sum_{w \in W_{d}, v \in V_{d}, w \succ_{R} v} [\ln a^{K} + \ln \frac{w_{k}}{w_{k} + \theta v_{k}} + \sum_{k' \neq k} \ln \frac{\theta w_{k'}}{v_{k'} + \theta w_{k'}}] \}$$

## 1.2 M-step

#### 1.2.1 For u

first maximize  $Q(\Theta^t)$  with respect to U. For each  $u \in U$ , eliminating constant terms, we have:

$$\min -\Sigma_{u(d)=u} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \gamma(d, k, \Theta^t) \ln u_k$$

$$w.r.t \Sigma_k u_k = 1$$
(5)

Solving the above Lagrange function Equ. 5, we get

$$u_k = \frac{\sum_{u(d)=u} \gamma(d, k, \Theta^t)}{\sum_{s=1}^K \sum_{u(d)=u} \gamma(d, s, \Theta^t)}$$
(6)

#### 1.2.2 For v

for the:

$$\ln \frac{y}{x} \ge 1 - \frac{x}{y}$$

we can derive a lower bound for the log-likelihood over the complete data, given the parameters learnt from previous round. hence, we obtain a minorization function of  $\tilde{Q}(\Theta^t)$ .

$$\tilde{Q}(\Theta^{t}) = \sum_{d} \sum_{k} \gamma(d, k, \Theta^{t}) \sum_{w \in W_{d}, v \in L_{d}} \{ \ln a^{K} + [\ln w_{k} + 1 - \ln(w_{k}^{t} + \theta^{t} v_{k}^{t}) - \frac{w_{k} + \theta v_{k}}{w_{k}^{t} + \theta^{t} v_{k}^{t}}] + \sum_{k' \neq k} [\ln(\theta w_{k'}) + 1 - \ln(v_{k'}^{t} + \theta^{t} w_{k'}^{t}) - \frac{v_{k'} + \theta w_{k'}}{v_{k'}^{t} + \theta^{t} w_{k'}^{t}}] \}.....(7)$$

 $\tilde{Q}(\Theta^t)$  can be separated for each item v. Considering only the k-th component  $v_k$ ,  $\tilde{Q}(v_k, \Theta^t)$  involves two terms, one of which is relevant to observations  $d \in W(v)$  where v acts as skyline object, the other is relevant to observations  $d \in L(v)$  where v acts as comparisons,  $\tilde{Q}(v_k, \Theta^t) = \tilde{Q}^1(v_k, \Theta^t) + \tilde{Q}^2(v_k, \Theta^t)$ . Removing all constants and irrelevant terms for  $v_k$ , we have the following minorizing function:

$$\tilde{Q}^{1}(v_{k}, \Theta^{t}) = \Sigma_{d \in W(v)} |L_{d}| \ln v_{k} - v_{k} \Sigma_{d \in W(v)} \Sigma_{v' \in L_{d}} \left[ \frac{\gamma(d, k, \Theta^{t})}{\alpha(v, v', k, \Theta^{t})} + \Sigma_{k' \neq k} \frac{\theta^{t} \gamma(d, k', \Theta^{t})}{\alpha(v', v, k, \Theta^{t})} \right]$$

$$\tilde{Q}^{2}(v_{k}, \Theta^{t}) = -v_{k} \Sigma_{d \in L(v)} \Sigma_{v' \in W_{d}} \left[ \frac{\theta^{t} \gamma(d, k, \Theta^{t})}{\alpha(v', v, k, \Theta^{t})} + \Sigma_{k' \neq k} \frac{\gamma(d, k', \Theta^{t})}{\alpha(v, v', k, \Theta^{t})} \right]$$

where:

 $|L_d|$  is the number of objects being dominanted in d,  $\alpha(v,v',k,\Theta^t)=v_k^t+\theta^t v'_k^t.$ 

By setting the partial derivative of  $\frac{\partial \tilde{Q}(v_k, \Theta^t)}{\partial v_k} = 0$ , we have:

$$\begin{split} \frac{1}{v_k} = & \frac{\Sigma_{d \in W(v)} \Sigma_{v' \in L_d} [\frac{\gamma(d,k,\Theta^t)}{\alpha(v,v',k,\Theta^t)} + \Sigma_{k' \neq k} \frac{\theta^t \gamma(d,k',\Theta^t)}{\alpha(v',v,k,\Theta^t)}]}{\Sigma_{d \in W(v)} |L_d|} \\ & + \frac{\Sigma_{d \in L(v)} \Sigma_{v' \in W_d} [\frac{\theta^t \gamma(d,k,\Theta^t)}{\alpha(v',v,k,\Theta^t)} + \Sigma_{k' \neq k} \frac{\gamma(d,k',\Theta^t)}{\alpha(v,v',k,\Theta^t)}]}{\Sigma_{d \in W(v)} |L_d|} \end{split}$$

### 1.2.3 For $\theta$

Fix u, v, update  $\theta$  by:

Fix  $v\in V$  and  $u\in U$ , rearranging Equ.7, we have the solution for  $\frac{\partial \tilde{Q}(\Theta^t)}{\partial \theta}=0$  as:

$$\theta = \frac{(K-1)\Sigma_d |W_d| |L_d|}{\Sigma_d \Sigma_k \gamma(d, k, \Theta^t) \Sigma_{w,v} \left[ \frac{v_k}{\alpha(w, v, k, \Theta^t)} + \Sigma_{k' \neq k} \frac{w_{k'}}{\alpha(v, w, k', \Theta^t)} \right]}$$
(7)