Homework 3

Deep Learning 2024 Spring

Due on 2024/4/13

1 True or False

Problem 1. Stochastic Gradient MCMC is designed to solve the optimization problem $\arg \max_{\theta} \mathbb{P}(\theta|X)$, where θ is the collection of parameters and X represents data.

Problem 2. The convolution used in GLOW and WaveNet should be both invertible (i.e., the convolution kernels W should be invertible) since they are all flow models.

2 Q&A

Problem 3. (Importance Sampling) x is a random variable. Given target distribution p(x) and target random variable y = f(x), importance sampling gives an estimator of $\mathbb{E}[y]$ from a proposal distribution q(x):

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim p}\left[f(\mathbf{x})\right] = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim q}\left[\frac{p(\mathbf{x})}{q(\mathbf{x})}f(\mathbf{x})\right] \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{x \sim q(\cdot)} \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}f(x).$$

Prove that when q has the following form,

$$q^{\star}(\mathbf{x}) \propto p(\mathbf{x})|f(\mathbf{x})|$$

the variance of this estimator can be minimized.

Problem 4. (Markov Chain Monte Carlo)

- 1. Prove random-walk Metropolis-Hasting sampling (i.e., $s' \leftarrow s + \text{Gaussian noise}$) is a valid MCMC algorithm, i.e., it constructs a Markov chain which is ergodic and satisfies the detailed balance property.
- 2. Prove that Gibbs sampling is a special case of Metropolis-Hasting sampling, and that the acceptance rate of Gibbs sampling (i.e., $\alpha(s \to s')$) is 1.

Here we consider the following 2-step Gibbs proposal: (1) randomly sample a coordinate index i; (2) sample coordinate s_i from the coordinate proposal $q(s_i \to s_i') = p(s_i'|s_{j\neq i})$.

3. (Bonus Question) In fact, Gibbs sampling is typically implemented in a *cyclic fashion*, i.e., running posterior sampling in a fixed order over all the dimensions. Prove that cyclic Gibbs sampling yields the same stationary distribution as random-order Gibbs sampling in the above question, as long as the Markov chain can access all states under the fixed ordering.

Problem 5. (Directed Probabilistic Model)

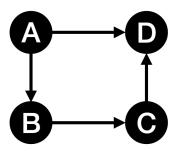


Figure 1: An example of directed graphical model.

Continuing Problem 6 in the previous homework, we consider **directed probabilistic model** in this problem. In a directed graphical model, an edge (arrow) implies dependency of the downstream random variable to the upstream one. Figure 1 shows an example, where the joint probability distribution can be factorized as

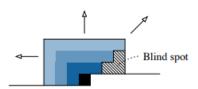
$$\mathbb{P}(A,B,C,D) = \mathbb{P}(A)\mathbb{P}(B|A)\mathbb{P}(C|B)\mathbb{P}(D|A,C).$$

- 1. Judge whether the following statements regarding independence are true or not. $X \perp Y \mid Z$ denotes that X and Y are independent given Z.
 - (a) $A \perp C$
 - (b) $A \perp C \mid B$
 - (c) $A \perp C \mid D$
 - (d) $A \perp C \mid B, D$
 - (e) $B \perp D$
 - (f) $B \perp D \mid A$
 - (g) $B \perp D \mid C$
 - (h) $B \perp D \mid A, C$
- 2. Suppose the conditional distributions are given by

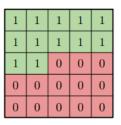
$$\mathbb{P}(\mathsf{B}|\mathsf{A}=a) = \mathcal{N}(a,1)$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathsf{C}|\mathsf{B}=b) = \mathcal{N}(b,1)$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathsf{D}|\mathsf{A}=a,\mathsf{C}=c) = \mathcal{N}(c+a,1).$$



(a) A sawtooth-shaped receptive field.



(b) A PixelCNN causal mask.

The prior distribution of A is a Gaussian distribution with zero mean and unit variance. Derive the likelihood $\mathbb{P}(B,C,D|A)$ and posterior $\mathbb{P}(A|B,C,D)$ in closed form.

Problem 6. (PixelCNN) PixelCNN¹ is an auto-regressive generative model based on masked convolution kernels. Please answer the following questions:

- 1. Show that masked convolution kernels induce sawtooth-shaped receptive fields, as shown in Figure 2a.
- 2. An obvious flaw of PixelCNN is that the generated pixel can not condition on all the left and upper pixels due to the sawtooth-shaped receptive field, which is called the issue of *blind spot*. Denote the unmasked kernel as w, the corresponding mask as m (as shown in Figure 2b), and the image/feature map as x. The computation of a PixelCNN layer can be represented as

$$y = conv(m \cdot w, x)$$

Propose a minimal modification on PixelCNN to remove the blind spot while maintaining the autoregressive property. Write down your per-layer computation process.

¹https://arxiv.org/abs/1601.06759