

Expectation-Maximization (EM) algorithm



1 EXPECTATION-MAXIMIZATION (EM) ALGORITHM

The purpose of EM algorithm is to get the parameter estimation of mixed model contained hidden z variable: $\theta_{MLE} = \arg \max_{\theta} \log p(x|\theta)$. EM algorithm is to use iteration method to solve this problem:

$$\theta^{t+1} = \arg \max_{\theta} \int_z \log [p(x, z|\theta)] p(z|x, \theta^t) dz = \mathbb{E}_{z|x, \theta^t} [\log p(x, z|\theta)] \quad (1)$$

Therefore,

- E step: compute the expectation of $\log p(x, z|\theta)$ under the $p(x, z|\theta^t)$ distribution.
- M step: compute the parameters to maximum the expectation in the E step.

1.1 EM Algorithm Proof

Lemma 1.1. *Jensen Inequality: when $f(x)$ is a convex function, the Jensen Inequality is*

$$\begin{aligned} x_i \in \text{discrete distribution, } f\left(\sum_j \lambda_j x_j\right) &\leq \sum_j \lambda_j f(x_j) \\ x_i \in \text{continuous distribution, } f(\mathbb{E}(x)) &\leq \mathbb{E}(f(x)) \Rightarrow f\left(\int x p(x) dx\right) \leq \int f(x) p(x) dx \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Lemma 1.2. *Given $\theta^{t+1} = \arg \max_{\theta} \int_z \log [p(x, z|\theta)] p(z|x, \theta^t) dz$, need to proof $\log p(x|\theta^t) \leq \log p(x|\theta^{t+1})$,*

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
& \because p(x|\theta) = \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{p(z|x, \theta)} \\
& \therefore \log p(x|\theta) = \log p(x, z|\theta) - \log p(z|x, \theta) \\
& \text{left: } \int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \log p(x|\theta) dz = \log p(x|\theta) \\
& \text{right: } \underbrace{\int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \log p(x, z|\theta) dz}_{Q(\theta, \theta^t)} - \underbrace{\int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \log p(z|x, \theta) dz}_{H(\theta, \theta^t)} \\
& \because \theta^{t+1} = \arg \max_{\theta} \int_z \log [p(x, z|\theta)] p(z|x, \theta^t) dz \\
& \therefore Q(\theta^{t+1}, \theta^t) \geq Q(\theta^t, \theta^t) \\
& (1) \text{ Using KL divergence to proof} \\
& \therefore H(\theta^{t+1}, \theta^t) - H(\theta^t, \theta^t) = \int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \log p(z|x, \theta^{t+1}) dz - \int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \log p(z|x, \theta^t) dz \\
& = \int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \log \left[\frac{p(z|x, \theta^{t+1})}{p(z|x, \theta^t)} \right] dz = -KL(p(z|x, \theta^{t+1}) || p(z|x, \theta^t)) \leq 0 \\
& \therefore Q(\theta^{t+1}, \theta^t) \geq Q(\theta^t, \theta^t), H(\theta^{t+1}, \theta^t) \leq H(\theta^t, \theta^t) \\
& \therefore \log p(x|\theta^t) \leq \log p(x|\theta^{t+1}) \\
& (2) \text{ Using Jensen Inequality to proof} \\
& \therefore H(\theta^{t+1}, \theta^t) - H(\theta^t, \theta^t) = \int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \log p(z|x, \theta^{t+1}) dz - \int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \log p(z|x, \theta^t) dz \\
& = \int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \log \left(\frac{p(z|x, \theta^{t+1})}{p(z|x, \theta^t)} \right) dz \\
& \leq \log \left(\int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \frac{p(z|x, \theta^{t+1})}{p(z|x, \theta^t)} dz \right) = \log \left(\int_z p(z|x, \theta^{t+1}) dz \right) = \log(1) = 0 \\
& \therefore Q(\theta^{t+1}, \theta^t) \geq Q(\theta^t, \theta^t), H(\theta^{t+1}, \theta^t) \leq H(\theta^t, \theta^t) \\
& \therefore \log p(x|\theta^t) \leq \log p(x|\theta^{t+1})
\end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

QED

1.2 EM Derivation

$$\begin{aligned}
& \because p(x|\theta) = \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{p(z|x, \theta)} \\
& \therefore \log p(x|\theta) = \log p(x, z|\theta) - \log p(z|x, \theta) \\
& = \log \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{q(z)} - \log \frac{p(z|x, \theta)}{q(z)} \\
& \therefore \mathbb{E}_{q(z)} (\log p(x|\theta)) = \mathbb{E}_{q(z)} \left(\log \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{q(z)} \right) - \mathbb{E}_{q(z)} \left(\log \frac{p(z|x, \theta)}{q(z)} \right) \\
& \int_z q(z) \log p(x|\theta) dz = \int_z q(z) \log \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{q(z)} dz - \int_z q(z) \log \frac{p(z|x, \theta)}{q(z)} dz \\
& \log p(x|\theta) = \underbrace{\int_z q(z) \log \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{q(z)} dz}_{\text{ELBO}} + \text{KL}(p(z|x, \theta) || q(z))
\end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

ELBO (Evidence Lower Bound) is the Lower bound, so $\log p(x|\theta) \geq \text{ELBO}$. When $q(z)$ has the same the distribution of

$p(z|x, \theta)$, both sides of inequality are equal. The purpose of EM algorithm is to maximum the ELBO.

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{\theta} &= \arg \max_{\theta} \text{ELBO} = \arg \max_{\theta} \int_z q(z) \log \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{q(z)} dz \\
&\because \text{ELBO} \leq \log p(x|\theta) \\
&\therefore \text{ when } q(z) \text{ has the same distribution of posterior } p(z|x, \theta^t), \text{ ELBO obtains the maximal value.} \\
&\therefore \hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta} \int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \log \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{p(z|x, \theta^t)} dz \\
&= \arg \max_{\theta} \int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \log p(x, z|\theta) dz - \arg \max_{\theta} \int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \log p(z|x, \theta^t) dz \\
&\because \arg \max_{\theta} \int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \log p(z|x, \theta^t) dz = C \\
&\therefore \hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta} \int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \log p(x, z|\theta) dz
\end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

From Jensen Inequality,

$$\begin{aligned}
\log p(x|\theta) &= \log \left[\int_z p(x, z|\theta) dz \right] \\
&= \log \left[\int_z \frac{p(x, z|\theta) q(z)}{q(z)} dz \right] \\
&= \log \mathbb{E}_{q(z)} \left[\frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{q(z)} \right] \\
&\leq \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{q(z)} \left[\log \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{q(z)} \right]}_{\text{ELBO}}
\end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

In the end, having the observed data Y , latent variable Z , complete data $X = (Y, Z)$.

- E step: Given y and pretending for the moment that θ^t is correct, formulate the distribution for the complete data x :

$$f(x|y, \theta^t). \tag{7}$$

Then, calculate the Q-function:

$$\begin{aligned}
Q(\theta, \theta^t) &= \mathbb{E}_{z|x, \theta^t} [\log p(x, z|\theta)] \\
&= \int_z p(z|x, \theta^t) \log p(x, z|\theta) dz
\end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

- M step: Maximum $Q(\theta, \theta^t)$ with regard θ^t :

$$\theta^{t+1} = \arg \max_{\theta} Q(\theta, \theta^t) \tag{9}$$

1.3 Generalized EM

- E step:

$$q^{t+1}(z) = \arg \max_q \int_z q^t(z) \log \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{q^t(z)} dz, \text{ fixed } \theta \tag{10}$$

- M step:

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta} \int_z q^{t+1}(z) \log \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{q^{t+1}(z)} dz, \text{ fixed } q \tag{11}$$

1.4 Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM)

Firstly, identify the variables and parameters, having K Gaussian distributions.

observed data: $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$

latent variable: $Z = (z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n)$

paramters: $\theta = p, \mu, \Sigma$

where: $p = (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k)$

$\mu = (\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_k)$

$\sigma = (\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \dots, \Sigma_k)$

$$p_k = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x_i \in \phi_k \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \tag{12}$$

Some probability formulas

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(x_i, Z|\theta) &= \sum_k p_k \phi(x_i|\theta_k) \\
 p(X, Z|\theta) &= \prod_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K p_k \mathcal{N}(x_i|\mu_k, \Sigma_k) \\
 p(z = C_k|\theta) &= p_k \\
 p(x_i|z_j = C_k, \theta) &= \mathcal{N}(x_i|\mu_k, \Sigma_k)
 \end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

where $p_k \geq 0$, $\sum_k^K p_k = 1$, $\phi(x|\theta)$ is Gaussian distribution, $\theta_k = (\mu_k, \Sigma_k)$. Therefore,

$$\phi(x|\theta_k) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^n |\Sigma_k|}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu_k)^T \Sigma_k^{-1} (x - \mu_k)\right) \tag{14}$$

Samples are $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$, Z is the hidden variable, the learning parameters are $\theta = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k, \mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_k, \Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \dots, \Sigma_k\}$. Using MLE to get θ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \theta_{\text{MLE}} &= \arg \max_{\theta} \log p(X) = \arg \max_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^N \log p(x_i) \\
 &= \arg \max_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^N \log \sum_{k=1}^K p_k \mathcal{N}(x_i|\mu_k, \Sigma_k)
 \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

1.4.1 E-Step

The Q-function is,

$$\begin{aligned}
Q(\theta, \theta^t) &= \mathbb{E}_{Z|X, \theta^t} [\log P(X, Z|\theta)] = \sum_Z P(Z|X, \theta^t) \log P(X, Z|\theta) \\
\therefore \log P(X, Z|\theta) &= \sum_{i=1}^N \log P(x_i, z_i|\theta), P(Z|X, \theta^t) = \prod_{i=1}^N P(z_i|x_i, \theta^t) \\
\therefore Q(\theta, \theta^t) &= \sum_Z \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \log P(x_i, z_i|\theta) P(Z|X, \theta^t) \right] \\
&= \sum_Z [\log P(x_1, z_1|\theta) P(Z|X, \theta^t) + \dots + \log P(x_n, z_n|\theta) P(Z|X, \theta^t)] \\
\therefore \sum_Z (\log P(x_1, z_1|\theta) P(Z, X|\theta^t)) &= \sum_{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k} (\log P(x_1, z_1|\theta) P(Z, X|\theta^t)) \\
&= \sum_{z_1} (\log P(x_1, z_1|\theta) P(z_1, x_1|\theta^t)) \underbrace{\sum_{z_2, z_3, \dots, z_k} \prod_{i=2}^N P(z_i|x_i, \theta^t)}_{\Delta} \\
\therefore \sum_{z_2, z_3, \dots, z_k} \prod_{i=2}^N P(z_i|x_i, \theta^t) &= \sum_{z_2} P(z_2|x_2, \theta^t) \dots \sum_{z_n} P(z_n|x_n, \theta^t) \\
&\quad \underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_{=1} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_{=1} \\
\therefore \sum_Z (\log P(x_1, z_1|\theta) P(Z, X|\theta^t)) &= \sum_{z_1} (\log P(x_1, z_1|\theta) P(z_1, x_1|\theta^t)) \\
\therefore Q(\theta, \theta^t) &= \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{z_i} (\log P(x_i, z_i|\theta) P(z_i, x_i|\theta^t)) \tag{16} \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \log P(x_i, z_i = C_k|\theta) P(z_i = C_j|x_i, \theta) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \log p_k \phi(x_i, \mu_k, \Sigma_k) P(z_i = C_j|x_i, \theta) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K [\log p_k + \log \phi(x_i, \mu_k, \Sigma_k)] P(z_i = C_k|x_i, \theta) \\
\therefore P(z_i = C_j|x_i, \theta) &= \frac{P(x_i, z_i = C_j|\theta)}{P(x_i|\theta)} = \frac{P(x_i, z_i = C_j|\theta)}{\sum_{k=1}^K P(x_i, z_i = C_k|\theta)} \\
&= \frac{P(x_i|z_i = C_j, \theta) P(z_i = C_j|\theta)}{\sum_{k=1}^K P(x_i|z_i = C_k, \theta) P(z_i = C_k|\theta)} \\
&= \frac{\phi(x_i|\mu_j, \Sigma_j) p_j}{\sum_{k=1}^K \phi(x_i|\mu_k, \Sigma_k) p_k} = \gamma_{ij} \\
\therefore Q(\theta, \theta^t) &= \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K [\log p_k + \log \phi(x_i, \mu_k, \Sigma_k)] \gamma_{ij}
\end{aligned}$$

1.4.2 M-step

$$\theta^{t+1} = \arg \max_{\theta} Q(\theta, \theta^t) = \arg \max_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K [\log p_k + \log \phi(x_i, \mu_k, \Sigma_k)] \gamma_{ij}, \theta = (p_k, \mu_k, \Sigma_k) \tag{17}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
p_k^{t+1} &= \arg \max_{p_k} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K [\log p_k + \log \phi(x_i, \mu_k, \Sigma_k)] \gamma_{ij}, \\
\text{s.t. } &\sum_{k=1}^K p_k = 1. \\
\therefore L(p_k, \lambda) &= \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K [\log p_k + \log \phi(x_i, \mu_k, \Sigma_k)] \gamma_{ij} + \lambda \left(\sum_{k=1}^K p_k - 1 \right) \\
\frac{\partial L(p_k, \lambda)}{\partial p_k} &= \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{p_k} P(z_i = C_k | x_i, \theta) + \lambda = 0 \\
\sum_{i=1}^N P(z_i = C_k | x_i, \theta) + p_k \lambda &= 0 \\
\sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{i=1}^N P(z_i = C_k | x_i, \theta) + \sum_{k=1}^K p_k \lambda &= 0 \\
\sum_{i=1}^N \underbrace{\sum_{k=1}^K P(z_i = C_k | x_i, \theta)}_{=1} + \underbrace{\sum_{k=1}^K p_k \lambda}_{=1} &= 0 \\
\lambda &= -N \\
\therefore p_k^{t+1} &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N P(z_i = C_k | x_i, \theta)}{N}
\end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

Compute μ_k^{t+1}

$$\begin{aligned}
\mu_k^{t+1} &= \arg \max_{\mu_k} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K [\log p_k + \log \phi(x_i, \mu_k, \Sigma_k)] \gamma_{ij} \\
\therefore L(\mu_k) &= \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K [\log p_k + \log \phi(x_i, \mu_k, \Sigma_k)] \gamma_{ij} \\
&= \arg \max_{\mu_k} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \left[\log \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^n |\Sigma_k|}} \right] - \frac{1}{2} (x_i - \mu_k)^T \Sigma_k^{-1} (x_i - \mu_k) \right] \gamma_{ij} \\
\therefore \frac{\partial L}{\partial \mu_k} &= \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\partial \left(-\frac{1}{2} (x_i - \mu_k)^T \Sigma_k^{-1} (x_i - \mu_k) \right)}{\partial \mu_k} \gamma_{ij} = 0 \\
\therefore \frac{\partial u^T v}{\partial x} &= u^T \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v^T \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, u = u(x), v = v(x) \\
\therefore \frac{\partial L}{\partial \mu_k} &= \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu_k)^T \Sigma_k^{-1} \gamma_{ij} = 0 \\
\therefore \sum_{i=1}^N x_i \Sigma_k^{-1} \gamma_{ij} &= \sum_{i=1}^N \mu_k \Sigma_k^{-1} \gamma_{ij} \\
\therefore \mu_k^{t+1} &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N x_i \gamma_{ij}}{\sum_{i=1}^N \gamma_{ij}}
\end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

Compute Σ_k^{t+1}

$$\begin{aligned}
\Sigma_k^{t+1} &= \arg \max_{\Sigma_k} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K [\log p_k + \log \phi(x_i, \mu_k, \Sigma_k)] \gamma_{ij} \\
\therefore L(\Sigma_k) &= \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K [\log p_k + \log \phi(x_i, \mu_k, \Sigma_k)] \gamma_{ij} \\
&= \arg \max_{\Sigma_k} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \left[\log \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^n |\Sigma_k|}} \right] - \frac{1}{2} (x_i - \mu_k)^T \Sigma_k^{-1} (x_i - \mu_k) \right] \gamma_{ij} \\
&= \arg \min_{\Sigma_k} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\log |\Sigma_k| + (x_i - \mu_k)^T \Sigma_k^{-1} (x_i - \mu_k) \right) \gamma_{ij} \\
\therefore \frac{\partial |A|}{\partial A} &= |A| A^{-1}, \frac{\partial \log |A|}{\partial A} = A^{-1} \\
\therefore \frac{\partial L}{\partial \Sigma_k} &= \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\partial}{\partial \Sigma_k} \left(\log |\Sigma_k| + (x_i - \mu_k)^T \Sigma_k^{-1} (x_i - \mu_k) \right) \gamma_{ij} = 0 \\
\therefore (x_i - \mu_k)^T \Sigma_k^{-1} (x_i - \mu_k) &\text{ is a scalar} \\
\therefore (x_i - \mu_k)^T \Sigma_k^{-1} (x_i - \mu_k) &= \text{tr} \left((x_i - \mu_k)^T \Sigma_k^{-1} (x_i - \mu_k) \right) \\
&= \text{tr} \left(\Sigma_k^{-1} (x_i - \mu_k)^T (x_i - \mu_k) \right) \\
\therefore \frac{\partial \text{tr}(AB)}{\partial A} &= B^T \\
\therefore \frac{\partial \text{tr}(\Sigma_k^{-1} (x_i - \mu_k)^T (x_i - \mu_k))}{\partial \Sigma_k} &= (x_i - \mu_k)^T (x_i - \mu_k) \frac{\partial \Sigma_k^{-1}}{\partial \Sigma} = -(x_i - \mu_k)^T (x_i - \mu_k) \Sigma_k^{-2} \\
\therefore \frac{\partial L}{\partial \Sigma_k} &= \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\Sigma_k^{-1} - (x_i - \mu_k)^T (x_i - \mu_k) \Sigma_k^{-2} \right) \gamma_{ij} = 0 \\
\sum_{i=1}^N \Sigma_k^{-1} \gamma_{ij} &= \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu_k)^T (x_i - \mu_k) \Sigma_k^{-2} \gamma_{ij} \\
\sum_{i=1}^N \Sigma_k \gamma_{ij} &= \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu_k)^T (x_i - \mu_k) \gamma_{ij} \\
\therefore \Sigma_k^{t+1} &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu_k)^T (x_i - \mu_k) \gamma_{ij}}{\sum_{i=1}^N \gamma_{ij}}
\end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

In the end,

$$\begin{aligned}
\gamma_{ij} &= \frac{\phi(x_i | \mu_j, \Sigma_j) p_j}{\sum_{k=1}^K \phi(x_i | \mu_k, \Sigma_k) p_k} \\
p_k^{t+1} &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N P(z_i = C_k | x_i, \theta)}{N} \\
\mu_k^{t+1} &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N x_i \gamma_{ij}}{\sum_{i=1}^N \gamma_{ij}} \\
\Sigma_k^{t+1} &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu_k)^T (x_i - \mu_k) \gamma_{ij}}{\sum_{i=1}^N \gamma_{ij}}
\end{aligned} \tag{21}$$