

# Expectation Maximization Notes

↳ general technique for finding ML solutions for latent variable models.

Consider a model where:  $x$  is observed  
 $\theta$  are parameters.

The likelihood would be  $p(x|\theta)$ , but imagine this is very difficult to compute, (i.e., not in any exponential family)

We write the marginal likelihood as:

$$p(x|\theta) = \sum_z \overbrace{p(x, z|\theta)}^{\text{complete data likelihood}}$$

↳ we assume  $z$  is our latent variable and discrete here.

Goal, learn  $\theta$  via ML

$$\theta_{ML} = \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum_z p(x, z|\theta)$$

completely intractable since this is a summation over exponential # of terms.

Derive a bound on the likelihood

We use Jensen's Inequality where:

$f(\cdot)$  is some convex function,

$$f(E[x]) \leq E[f(x)]$$

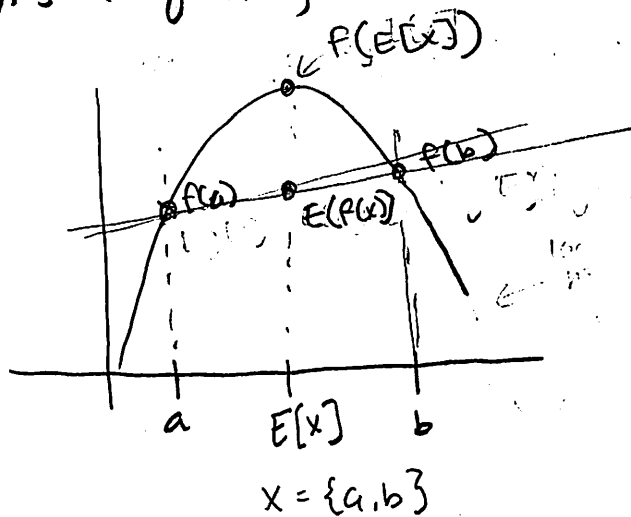
If  $f(\cdot)$  is concave, the inequality is reversed:

$$f(E[x]) \geq E[f(x)]$$

Let  $f(x)$  be the  $\log(x)$  where  $x$  is some probability value

then:  $\log E(x) \geq E[\log(x)]$

# Jensen's inequality continued



$$\log E[X] \geq E[\log(x)]$$

↑ concave function

$$\log p(x|\theta) = \log \sum_z p(x, z|\theta)$$

$$= \log \sum_z g(z) p(x, z|\theta)$$

Variational distribution  $\rightarrow g(z)$

$$= \log E_g \left[ \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{g(z)} \right]$$

use Jensen's inequality

$$\log p(x|\theta) = \log E_g \left[ \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{g(z)} \right]$$

$$\log E_g \left[ \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{g(z)} \right] \geq E_g \left[ \log \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{g(z)} \right]$$

$$= E_g [\log p(x, z|\theta) - \log g(z)]$$

$$= E_g [\log p(x, z|\theta)] - E [\log g(z)]$$

$$= E_g [\log p(x, z|\theta)] + H(g)$$

Key idea: We can improve these terms via EM!

## E-step

1) Choose  $g(z^{i+1}) = p(z|x, \theta^i)$

the variational distribution is the posterior over our latent variables  $z$  as a function of  $\theta$  from the previous iteration.

We can show that: Lower bound

$$\ln p(x|\theta) = \underbrace{\sum_z q(z) \ln \left\{ \frac{p(z, x|\theta)}{q(z)} \right\}}_{\text{Lower bound}} - \underbrace{\sum_z q(z) \ln \left\{ \frac{p(z|x, \theta)}{q(z)} \right\}}_{\text{KL divergence}}$$

Plugging in  $\Rightarrow \ln p(z, x|\theta) = \ln p(z|x, \theta) + \ln p(x|\theta)$

$$\ln p(x|\theta) = \sum_z q(z) \ln p(z, x|\theta) - \sum_z q(z) \ln q(z) - \sum_z q(z) \ln p(z|x, \theta) + \sum_z q(z) \ln q(z)$$

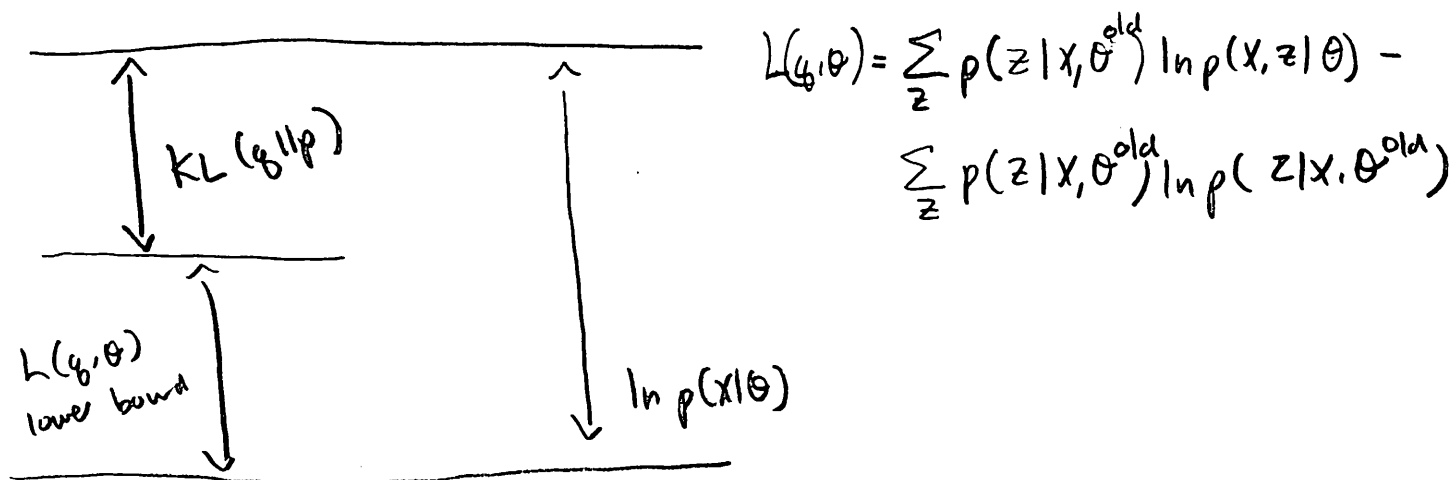
$$= \sum_z q(z) \ln p(z|x, \theta) + \sum_z q(z) \ln p(x|\theta) - \sum_z q(z) \ln p(z|x, \theta)$$

$$= \sum_z q(z) \ln p(x|\theta) = \ln p(x|\theta)$$

It turns out that increasing this lower bound results in minimizing the KL divergence btw our true posterior  $p(z|x, \theta)$  and our variational distribution  $q(z)$ .

When  $q(z) = p(z|\theta, x)$ , the KL divergence vanishes and we reach the maximum of that bound.

Thus in the E-step, we specify our  $q(z) = p(z|x, \theta_{old})$ .



The M-step takes the variational distribution  $q(z)$  to be fixed and the lower bound is maximized w.r.t to  $\theta$ .

## EM Algorithm

1. Choose some parameters for  $\theta$  which we will call  $\theta_{old}$

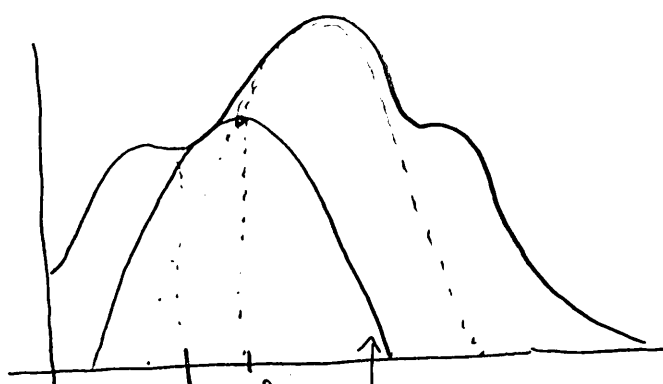
2. Evaluate  $p(z|x, \theta_{old})$  (E-step)

a) This results in removing the KL divergence term leaving you with the lower bound  $L(\theta, \theta)$ .

3. Maximize the  $E_{\theta} [\log p(x, z | \theta^*)]$  (M-step)

expectation of the complete data log likelihood

a) Since the expectation is maximized w.r.t to  $\theta_{old}$  the new  $\theta^*$  will increase the original log-likelihood of  $\ln p(x | \theta_{old})$



$L(\theta, \theta_{old}) =$  convex function guaranteed  
E-step determining this curve

M-step maximizes this lower bound

## GMM - Gaussian Mixture Model

Complete Data Likelihood

$$P(x_i, z_i | \mu, \Sigma) = \sum_K \mathbb{1}(z_i, k) \pi_k N(x_i | \mu_k, \Sigma_k)$$

$\uparrow$   
 $p(z_i = k) \triangleq \pi_k$

Likelihood Function

$$P(x | \mu, \Sigma) = \prod_{i=1}^N \sum_K \pi_k N(x_i | \mu_k, \Sigma_k) \leftarrow \text{has } K^N \text{ terms}$$

### Step 1 for GMM - E-step

$$\text{Set } q(z_i) = p(z_i = k | x_i, \mu, \Sigma) = \frac{p(z_i = k, x_i | \mu, \Sigma)}{p(x_i | \mu, \Sigma)}$$
$$= \frac{\pi_k N(x_i | \mu_k, \Sigma_k)}{\sum_{e=1}^K \pi_e N(x_i | \mu_e, \Sigma_e)}$$

Compute the new bound

$$E_q[\log p(x, z | \theta)] = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K p(z_i = k | x_i, \mu, \Sigma) [\log \pi_k + \log N(x_i | \mu_k, \Sigma_k)]$$

### Step 2 for GMM - M-Step

Maximize wrt  $\mu, \Sigma$

$$\mu_k^{\text{new}} = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{i=1}^n p(z_i = k | x_i, \mu, \Sigma) x_i$$

$$\Sigma_k^{\text{new}} = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{i=1}^n p(z_i = k | x_i, \mu, \Sigma) (x_i - \mu_k^{\text{new}})(x_i - \mu_k^{\text{new}})^T$$

$$\pi_k^{\text{new}} = \frac{N_k}{N} \quad \text{where } N_k = \sum_{i=1}^N p(z_i = k | x_i, \mu, \Sigma)$$

### Step 3

Check convergence!

btw log likelihood

$$\ln p(x | \theta^i) \rightarrow \ln p(x | \theta^{i+1}) \dots$$