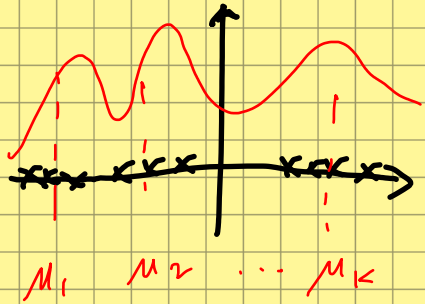


# Lecture 16: Variational Inference Example.



Generative model:

1)  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_K \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Normal}(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$  Prior

2)  $Z_1, \dots, Z_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Categorical}(\pi)$

$\pi = (\pi_1, \dots, \pi_K)$

$X \sim \text{Multinomial}(\pi)$   
 $(0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0)$   $K=5$

3)  $x_i \sim \text{Normal}(\mu_{Z_i}, 1)$   
 independent.

↑  
 assume known  
 variance = 1

$X' \sim \text{Categorical}(\pi)$   
 3

Calculate the posterior of unknowns given data.

\*  $pr(Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_n, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_K | x_1, \dots, x_n, \mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$

approximate:

Variational inference (mean-field)

Choose among a family of distributions

$$q(z, \mu) = \prod_{k=1}^K q(\mu_k | \tilde{\mu}_k, \tilde{\sigma}_k^2) \times \prod_{i=1}^n q(z_i | \phi_i)$$

1)  $Z_i: i=1, \dots, n$ , (cluster membership indicator)

2)  $\mu_k, k=1, \dots, K$ : (component Gaussian means).

Update:  $Z_i$

$$q^*(Z_i) \propto \exp\left\{E_{-i} \left[ \log P(\underline{\mu}, \underline{Z}, \underline{x}) \right]\right\}$$

$$\log P(\underline{\mu}, \underline{Z}, \underline{x}) = \log P(\underline{\mu}) + \underbrace{\log P(Z_i) + \log P(x_i | \mu_{Z_i, Z_i})}_{\text{ith person}}$$

$$+ \underbrace{\sum_{i' \neq i} \log P(Z_{i'}) + \log P(x_{i'} | \mu_{Z_{i'}, Z_{i'}})}_{\text{Other people}}$$

$$q^*(Z_i) \propto \exp\left( \log \pi_{Z_i} + E \log P(x_i | \mu_{Z_i}) \right)$$

$k=1, 2, \dots, K$ .

$$E = -\frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} x_i^2 + x_i E(\mu_{Z_i}) - E[\mu_{Z_i}^2] / 2$$

prior of  $\mu_{Z_i}$   
 variational disth of  $\mu_{Z_i}$

Mean-Field Approximation.

Update  $\mu_k$  -  $k=1, \dots, K$ .

Aside: Exponential family:

$$P(\underline{x}) = \underbrace{h(\underline{x})}_{\text{generic}} \exp\left(\underbrace{\eta^t}_{\text{natural parameters}} \underbrace{t(\underline{x})}_{\text{sufficient statistics}} - \underbrace{a(\eta)}_{\text{normalization constant}}\right)$$

$$a(\eta) = \log\left(\int h(\underline{x}) \exp(\eta^t t(\underline{x})) d\underline{x}\right)$$

$$1) \quad \frac{\partial a(\eta)}{\partial \eta} = E(t(\underline{x})) \quad ; \quad \frac{\partial^2 a(\eta)}{\partial \eta^2} = \text{Var}(t(\underline{x}))$$

For Gaussian distn.

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$
$$= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\right) \exp\left(\frac{\mu}{\sigma^2}x - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}x^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}\mu^2 - \log \sigma\right)$$

$$\eta = \left(\frac{\mu}{\sigma^2}, \frac{1}{\sigma^2}\right)$$

$$t(x) = \left(x, -\frac{1}{2}x^2\right)$$

Back to updating

$$q^*(\mu_k) \propto \exp\left(E_{\{\mu_k\}} \log p(\mu_k, \underline{z}, \underline{x})\right)$$

we can simplify this update if we have assumed  $q(\mu_k)$  comes from exponential family (Gaussian in this case)

$$\propto E_q(\eta)$$

$$g(\mu_k | \tilde{\mu}_k, \tilde{\sigma}_k^2), \quad k=1, \dots, K$$

variational parameters

from a Gaussian family.

mean, variance parameters.

$$\left( \eta_1 = \frac{\tilde{\mu}_k}{\tilde{\sigma}_k^2}, \quad \eta_2 = \frac{1}{\tilde{\sigma}_k^2} \right)$$

to find  $(\eta_1^*, \eta_2^*)$  that maximizes the  $EL(\beta_{\mu_k})$ .

## Natural Param. Updating

captured ←

$$\begin{cases} \eta_1^* = \eta_{1,0} + \sum_{i=1}^n E(I(z_i=k)) \cdot x_i \\ \eta_2^* = \eta_{2,0} + \sum_{i=1}^n E(I(z_i=k)) \end{cases}$$

(updating formula)

$(\eta_{1,0}, \eta_{2,0})$  are the natural parameters of Prior Gaussian.  
 $= (\frac{\mu_0}{\sigma_0^2}, \frac{1}{\sigma_0^2})$ .

**equivalently**

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_k^* &= \frac{\eta_1^*}{\eta_2^*} = \frac{\frac{\mu_0}{\sigma_0^2} + \sum_{i=1}^n E(I(z_i=k)) \cdot x_i}{\frac{1}{\sigma_0^2} + \sum_{i=1}^n E(I(z_i=k))} \\ \sigma_k^{2*} &= \frac{1}{\eta_2^*} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{\sigma_0^2} + \sum_{i=1}^n E(I(z_i=k))} \end{aligned}$$

mean-variance parametrization.