

simpler family of dist's.

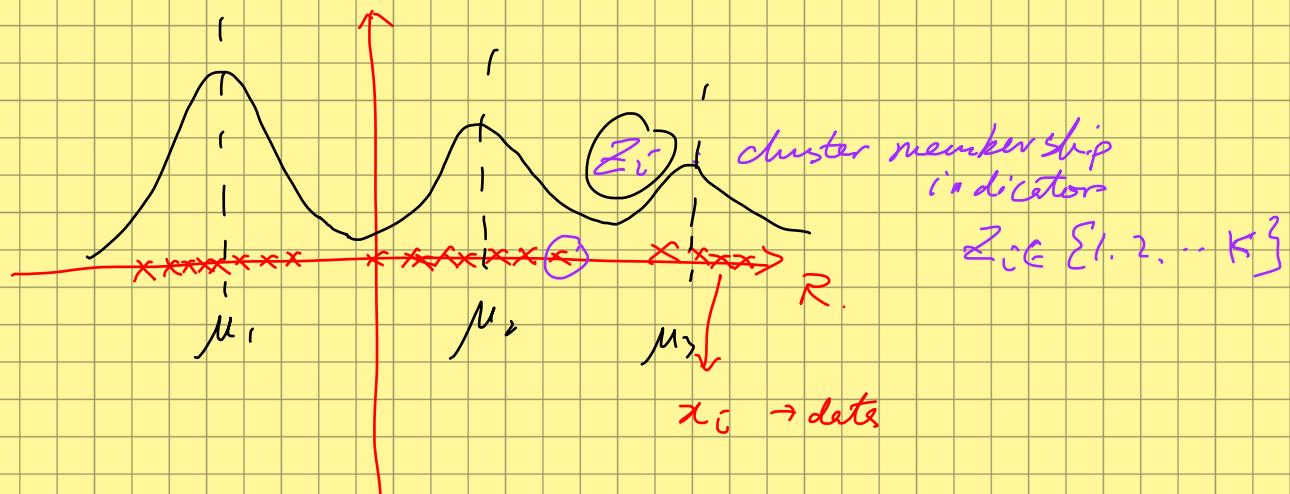
Variational distributions

$$\{q: q(z; \tilde{w})\}_{\tilde{w}}$$

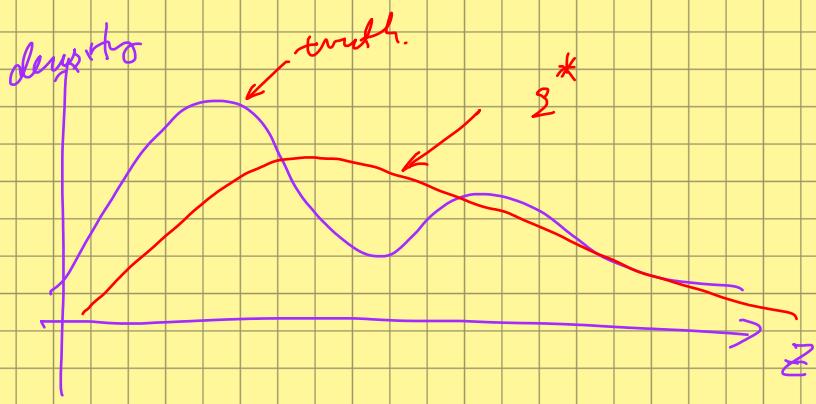
$$q^*(z) = q(z; \tilde{w}^*)$$

- (Key Question)
- 1) How to measure the difference between dist's.
 - 2) How to find the closest one?

Gaussian Mixture



Caveats about VI.



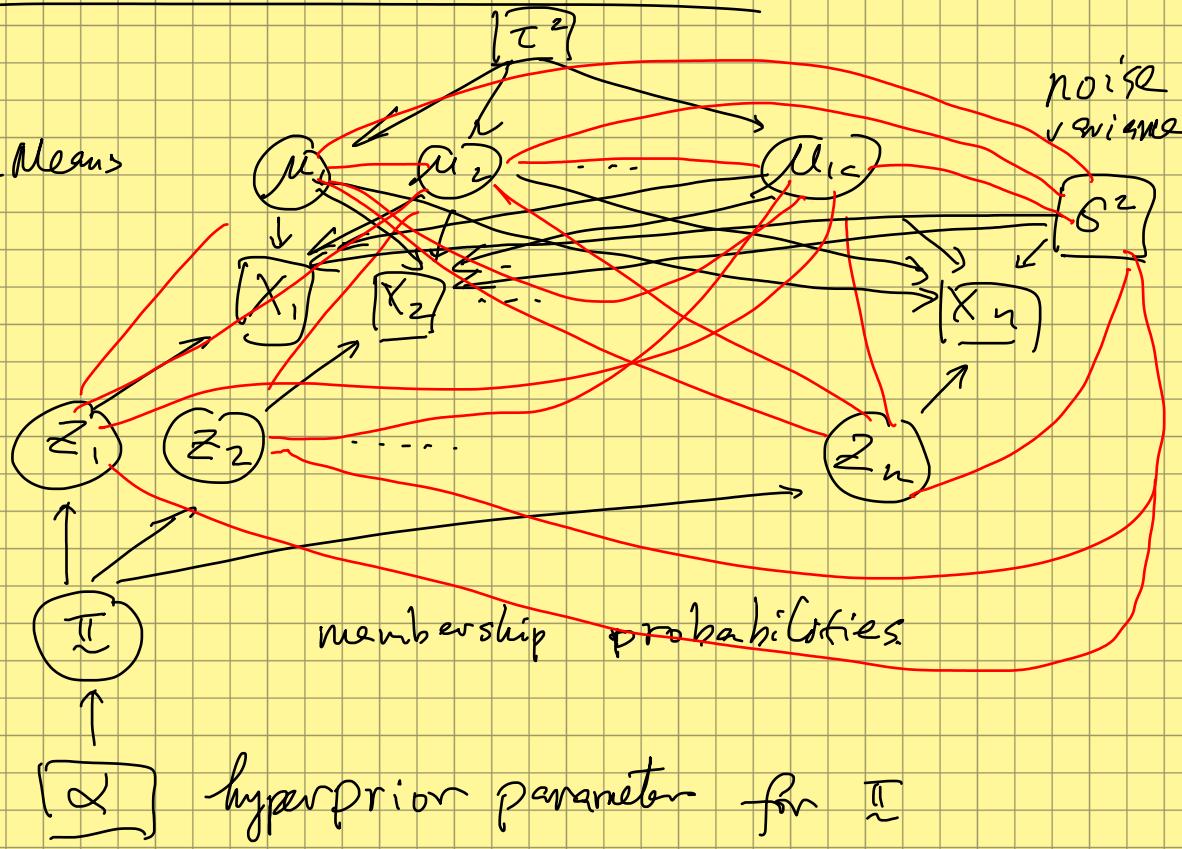
suppose we choose a family of unimodal dist's



DAG

Gaussian Mixture Model.

Gaussian Means



$$[z_1 | z_{-1}, \mu, \pi, x, \tau^2, \sigma^2, \omega]$$

$$\Pr(z_i, \mu_i | x, \tau^2, \sigma^2, \omega)$$

NOT INDEPENDENT

On Coordinate Ascent update

Q: why we $p(z_k | z_{-k}, x)$ when updating the marginal dist's $g(z_k)$?

A: For computational simplicity, putting z_k at the last position in the generic chain rule factorization so that z_k only appears in ELB summation once!

Suppose to approximate $p(z_1, z_2, z_3 | x)$, we use a family $g(z_1, z_2, z_3) = \prod_{i=1}^3 g(z_i)$.

We update $g(z_1)$, then $g(z_2)$, then $g(z_3)$.

1) Update $g(z_1)$

$$ELB(g) = E_g[\log p(z_1, z_2, z_3 | x)] - E_g[\log g(z_1, z_2, z_3)]$$

These are the terms only involving $g(z_1)$

$$= E_g[\log p(z_1) + \log p(z_3 | z_1) + \log p(z_2 | z_1, z_3)]$$

$$= E_{g(z_1)} \log g(z_1) - E_{g(z_2)} \log g(z_2) - E_{g(z_3)} \log g(z_3)$$

Do update $\underline{g}^*(z_1) = \dots$

2) Update $g(z_2)$: same strategy, but now, we REWRITE as

$$E_g[\log p(z) + \log p(z_3 | z_1) + \log p(z_2 | z_1, z_3)]$$

Again only one term involves $g(z_2)$!!

Update $\underline{g}^*(z_2) \dots$

3) Update $g(z_3) \dots$ by similar tricks.

Therefore by putting the margin z_k at the last position in the chain rule, ONE term from the chain rule is enough.