#### Gaussian Mixture Models & EM CE-717: Machine Learning

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## Mixture Models: definition

 Mixture models: Linear supper-position of mixtures or components

$$p(\boldsymbol{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \sum_{j=1}^{K} P(M_j) p(\boldsymbol{x}|M_j; \boldsymbol{\theta}_j)$$

- $\sum_{j=1}^{K} P(M_j) = 1$
- $P(M_j)$ : the prior probability of *j*-th mixture
- $\boldsymbol{\theta}_j$ : the parameters of *j*-th mixture
- $p(x|M_j; \theta_j)$ : the probability of x according to j-th mixture

Framework for finding more complex probability distributions

• Goal: estimate  $p(x|\theta)$  E.g., Multi-modal density estimation

# Gaussian Mixture Models (GMMs)

- Gaussian Mixture Models:  $p(\mathbf{x}|M_j; \boldsymbol{\theta}_j) \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}_j, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_j)$  $p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^{K} \pi_j \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_j, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_j)$   $\sum_{j=1}^{K} \pi_j = 1$
- Fitting the Gaussian mixture model
  - Input: data points  $\{x^{(i)}\}_{i=1}^{N}$
  - Goal: find the parameters of GMM  $(\pi_j, \mu_j, \Sigma_j, j = 1, ..., K)$

# GMM: 1-D Example



$$\mu_1 = -2$$
  
 $\sigma_1 = 2$   
 $\pi_1 = 0.6$ 

 $\mu_2 = 4$   $\sigma_2 = 1$  $\pi_2 = 0.3$ 

 $\mu_3 = 8$  $\sigma_3 = 0.2$  $\pi_3 = 0.1$ 

#### GMM: 2-D Example



k = 3

# GMM: 2-D Example

#### GMM distribution



k = 3

## How to Fit GMM?

In order to maximize log likelihood:

$$\ln p(\boldsymbol{X}|\boldsymbol{\pi},\boldsymbol{\mu},\boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \ln \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{k} \pi_{j} \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_{j},\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{j}) \right\}$$

The sum over components appears inside the log and there is no closed form solution for maximum likelihood.

$$\frac{\partial \ln p(\boldsymbol{X}|\boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\mu}_{k}} = \boldsymbol{0}$$
$$\frac{\partial \ln p(\boldsymbol{X}|\boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{k}} = \boldsymbol{0} \qquad k = 1, \dots, K$$
$$\frac{\partial \ln p(\boldsymbol{X}|\boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) + \lambda \left(\sum_{j=1}^{K} \pi_{j} - 1\right)}{\partial \pi_{k}} = 0$$

 $X = \{x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N)}\}$ 

## ML for GMM

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{k} = \frac{1}{N_{k}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{\pi_{k} \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_{k}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{k})}{\sum_{j=1}^{K} \pi_{j} \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_{j}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{j})} \boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{k} = \frac{1}{N_{k}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{\pi_{k} \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_{k}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{k})}{\sum_{j=1}^{K} \pi_{j} \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_{j}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{j})} (\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{k}^{\text{new}}) (\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{k}^{\text{new}})^{T}$$

$$\pi_k^{\text{new}} = \frac{N_k}{N}$$

$$N_k = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{\pi_k \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^{K} \pi_j \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_j, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_j)}$$

$$\frac{\partial \log |A^{-1}|}{\partial A^{-1}} = A^T \qquad \frac{\partial x^T A x}{\partial A} = x x^T$$

An iterative algorithm in which each iteration is guaranteed to improve the log-likelihood function

- General algorithm for finding ML estimation when the data is incomplete (missing or unobserved data).
  - EM find the maximum likelihood parameters in cases where the models involve unobserved variables Z in addition to unknown parameters  $\theta$  and known data observations X.

Mixture models: discrete latent variables

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum P(z_j = 1) p(\mathbf{x}|z_j = 1) = \sum_{j=1}^{K} \pi_j p(\mathbf{x}|z_j = 1)$$

- z: latent or hidden variable
  - specifies the mixture component

• 
$$P(z_j = 1) = \pi_j$$
  
•  $0 \le \pi_j \le 1$   
•  $\sum_{j=1}^{K} \pi_j = 1$ 

# EM for GMM

 $z^{(i)} \in \{1, 2, ..., K\}$  shows the mixture from which  $x^{(i)}$  is generated

- Initialize  $\mu_k$ ,  $\Sigma_k$ ,  $\pi_k$  k = 1, ..., K
- **E** step: i = 1, ..., N, j = 1, ..., K $\gamma_j^i = P\left(z_j^{(i)} = 1 | \boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{old}\right) = \frac{\pi_j^{old} \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_j^{old}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_j^{old})}{\sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k^{old} \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_k^{old}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k^{old})}$

• **M** Step: j = 1, ..., K $\mu_j^{new} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \gamma_j^i \boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}}{\sum_{i=1}^N \gamma_j^i}$ 

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{j}^{new} = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \gamma_{j}^{i}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \gamma_{j}^{i} (\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{j}^{new}) (\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{j}^{new})^{T}$$
$$\pi_{j}^{new} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \gamma_{j}^{i}}{N}$$

Repeat E and M steps until convergence

#### EM & GMM: example



EM & GMM: Example







# EM+GMM vs. k-means

- k-means:
  - It is not probabilistic
  - Has fewer parameters (and faster)
  - Limited by the underlying assumption of spherical clusters
    - can be extended to use covariance get "hard EM" (ellipsoidal kmeans).
- Both EM and k-means depend on initialization
  - getting stuck in local optima
    - EM+GMM has more local minima
    - Useful trick: first run k-means and then use its result to initialize EM.

## EM algorithm: general

General algorithm for finding ML estimation when the data is incomplete (missing or unobserved data).

# Incomplete log likelihood

- Complete log likelihood
  - Maximizing likelihood (i.e.,  $\log P(X, Y | \theta)$ ) for labeled data is straightforward
- Incomplete log likelihood
  - With Z unobserved, our objective becomes the log of a marginal probability  $\log P(X|\theta) = \log \sum_Z P(X, Z|\theta)$ 
    - > This objective will not decouple and we use EM algorithm to solve it

$$X = \{ \mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(N)} \}$$
  
$$Z = \{ \mathbf{z}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{z}^{(N)} \}$$

# EM Algorithm

- Assumptions: X (observed or known variables), Z (unobserved or latent variables), X come from a specific model with unknown parameters  $\theta$ 
  - If Z is relevant to X (in any way), we can hope to extract information about it from X assuming a specific parametric model on the data.

#### Steps:

- Initialization: Initialize the unknown parameters  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$
- Iterate the following steps, until convergence:
  - Expectation step: Find the probability of unobserved variables given the current parameters estimates and the observed data.
  - Maximization step: from the observed data and the probability of the unobserved data find the most likely parameters (a better estimate for the parameters).

# EM algorithm intuition

- When learning with hidden variables, we are trying to solve two problems at once:
  - hypothesizing values for the unobserved variables in each data sample
  - learning the parameters
- Each of these tasks is fairly easy when we have the solution to the other.
  - Given complete data, we have the statistics, and we can estimate parameters using the MLE formulas.
  - Conversely, computing probability of missing data given the parameters is a probabilistic inference problem

# EM algorithm

X: observed variables Z: Unobserved variables  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ : parameters

Expectation step (E-step): Given the current parameters, find soft completion of the data, using probabilistic inference.

Maximization step (M-step): We then treat the soft completed data as if it were observed and learn a new set of parameters.

```
Choose an initial parameters \theta^1
t \leftarrow 1
Iterate until convergence:
    E Step: Calculate P(Z|X, \theta^t)
    M Step: \theta^{t+1} = \operatorname{argmax} E_{P(Z|X,\theta^t)}[\log P(Z,X|\theta)]
    t \leftarrow t + 1
```

expectation of the log-likelihood evaluated using

 $E_{Z \sim P(Z|X, \theta^{\text{old}})}[\log p(X, Z|\theta)]$  the current estimate for the parameters  $\theta^t$ 

$$= \sum_{Z} P(Z|X, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{old}}) \times \log p(X, Z|\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

EM theoretical analysis

What is the underlying theory for the use of the expected complete log likelihood in the M-step?

$$E_{P(Z|X, \theta^{old})} [\log P(X, Z|\theta)]$$

Now, we show that maximizing this function also maximizes the likelihood

### EM theoretical foundation: Objective function

$$X = \{x^{(1)}, ..., x^{(n)}\}$$

$$Z = \{z^{(1)}, ..., z^{(n)}\}$$

$$Z = \{z^{(1)}, ..., z^{(n)}\}$$

$$\int_{\text{Jensen inequality}}^{\text{Jensen inequality}} Q(Z) \frac{P(X, Z | \boldsymbol{\theta})}{Q(Z)} \ge \sum_{Z} Q(Z) \log \frac{P(X, Z | \boldsymbol{\theta})}{Q(Z)}$$

$$F[\boldsymbol{\theta}, Q]$$

 $F[\boldsymbol{\theta}, Q]$  is a lower bound on  $\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}; X)$ 

#### EM maximizes $F[\theta, Q]$

Jensen's inequality

• If f is a convex function

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



• If f is a concave function

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



# EM theoretical foundation: Algorithm in general form

- EM is a coordinate ascent algorithm on F[θ, Q]. In the tth iteration,
  - E-step: maximize  $F[\theta, Q]$  w.r.t. Q

$$Q^t = \operatorname*{argmax}_{Q} F[\boldsymbol{\theta}^t, Q]$$

M-step:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t+1} = \operatorname*{argmax}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} F[\boldsymbol{\theta}, Q^t]$$

We will show that each iteration improves the log-likelihood

# EM theoretical foundation: E-step

$$Q^t = P(Z|X, \theta^t) \implies Q^t = \operatorname*{argmax}_Q F[\theta^t, Q]$$

Proof:

$$F[\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t}, P(Z|X, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{t})] = \sum_{Z} P(Z|X, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{t}) \log \frac{P(X, Z|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t})}{P(Z|X, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{t})}$$
$$= \sum_{Z} P(Z|X, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{t}) \log P(X|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t}) = \log P(X|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t}) = \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t}; X)$$

•  $F[\theta, Q]$  is a lower bound on  $\ell(\theta; X)$ . Thus,  $F[\theta^t, Q]$  has been maximized by setting Q to  $P(Z|X, \theta^t)$ :

$$F[\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t}, P(Z|X, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{t})] = \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t}; X)$$
$$\Rightarrow P(Z|X, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{t}) = \operatorname*{argmax}_{Q} F[\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t}, Q]$$

# EM algorithm: illustration



# EM theoretical foundation: M-step

M-step can be equivalently viewed as maximizing the expected complete log-likelihood:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t+1} = \operatorname*{argmax}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} F[\boldsymbol{\theta}, Q^t] = \operatorname*{argmax}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} E_{Q^t}[\log P(X, Z | \boldsymbol{\theta})]$$

Proof:

$$F[\theta, Q^{t}] = \sum_{Z} Q^{t}(Z) \log \frac{P(X, Z | \theta)}{Q^{t}(Z)}$$
$$= \sum_{Z} Q^{t}(Z) \log P(X, Z | \theta) - \sum_{Z} Q^{t}(Z) \log Q^{t}(Z)$$
$$\Rightarrow F[\theta, Q^{t}] = E_{Q^{t}}[\log P(X, Z | \theta)] + H(Q^{t}(Z))$$
Independent of  $\theta$ 

EM iteration increases  $\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}; X)$ 

$$\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t}; X) = E_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t}}[\log P(X, Z | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{t})] + H(\boldsymbol{Q}^{t}(Z))$$

 $\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t+1}; X) \ge E_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^t}[\log P(X, Z|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t+1})] + H(\boldsymbol{Q}^t(Z))$ 

 $\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t+1}; X) - \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t}; X) \ge E_{Q^{t}}[\log P(X, Z|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t+1})] - E_{Q^{t}}[\log P(X, Z|\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t})]$ 

Moreover, we have:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t+1} = \operatorname*{argmax}_{\boldsymbol{Q}^{t}} [\log P(X, Z | \boldsymbol{\theta})]$$
  
$$\Rightarrow E_{\boldsymbol{Q}^{t}} [\log P(X, Z | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{t+1})] \ge E_{\boldsymbol{Q}^{t}} [\log P(X, Z | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{t})]$$

$$\Rightarrow \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t+1}; X) - \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t}; X) \ge 0$$

EM is guaranteed to find a local maxima of the log likelihood

 $P(\boldsymbol{z}|\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{P(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\sum_{\boldsymbol{z}} P(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})} = \frac{P(\boldsymbol{x}|\boldsymbol{z},\boldsymbol{\theta})P(\boldsymbol{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\sum_{\boldsymbol{z}} P(\boldsymbol{x}|\boldsymbol{z},\boldsymbol{\theta})P(\boldsymbol{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}$ 

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = [\boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}]$$

$$Q_j(z_j = 1) = P(z_j = 1 | \boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{\pi_j \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{x} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_j, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_j)}{\sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{x} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)}$$

# EM for GMM $\theta = [\pi, \mu, \Sigma]$ M step: details $\theta^{old} = [\pi^{old}, \mu^{old}, \Sigma^{old}]$

$$p(X, Z|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \prod_{i=1}^{N} p(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}, \boldsymbol{z}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \prod_{i=1}^{N} p(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{z}^{(i)}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\boldsymbol{z}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{\pi})$$
$$= \prod_{i=1}^{N} \prod_{j=1}^{K} \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_{j}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{j})^{\boldsymbol{z}_{j}^{(i)}} \pi_{j}^{\boldsymbol{z}_{j}^{(i)}}$$

$$\log p(X, Z | \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{K} z_j^{(i)} \{ \log \mathcal{N} (\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_j, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_j) + \log \pi_j \}$$

$$E_{Z \sim P(Z|X, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{old}})}[\log p(X, Z|\boldsymbol{\theta})] = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{K} E_{P(z_{j}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{old}})}[z_{j}^{(i)}] \{\log \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_{j}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{j}) + \log \pi_{j}\}$$

## EM for GMM M step: details

$$\frac{\partial Q(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \boldsymbol{\theta}^{old})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\mu}_j} = 0 \Rightarrow \boldsymbol{\mu}_j = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \gamma_j^i \boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}}{\sum_{i=1}^N \gamma_j^i}$$

$$\frac{\partial Q(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \boldsymbol{\theta}^{old})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_j} = 0 \Rightarrow \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_j = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^N \gamma_j^i} \sum_{i=1}^N \gamma_j^i (\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_j) (\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_j)^T$$

$$\frac{\partial \left( Q(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \boldsymbol{\theta}^{old}) + \lambda \left( \sum_{l=1}^{k} \pi_l - 1 \right) \right)}{\partial \pi_j} = 0 \Rightarrow \pi_j = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \gamma_j^i}{N}$$
Lagrange multiplier due to  
the constraint  $\sum_{j=1}^{k} \pi_j = 1$ 

# EM algorithm: general

- EM: general procedure for learning from partly observed data
- Define:  $Q(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{old}}) = E_{Z \sim P(Z|X, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{old}})}[\log p(X, Z|\boldsymbol{\theta})]$ =  $\sum_{Z} P(Z|X, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{old}}) \times \log p(X, Z|\boldsymbol{\theta})$

expectation of the log-likelihood evaluated using the current estimate for the parameters  $\theta^{
m old}$ 

Choose an initial setting  $\theta^{\text{old}} = \theta^0$ 

Iterate until convergence:

**E Step**: Use X and current  $\theta^{\text{old}}$  to calculate  $P(Z|X, \theta^{\text{old}})$ 

```
M Step: \theta^{\text{new}} = \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmax}} Q(\theta; \theta^{\text{old}})
```

 $\boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{old}} \leftarrow \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\text{new}}$ 

# EM advantages and disadvantages

- Some good things about EM:
  - no learning rate (step-size) parameter
  - automatically enforces parameter constraints
  - very fast for low dimensions
  - each iteration guaranteed to improve likelihood
- Some bad things about EM:
  - can be slower than some other iterative gradient-based methods

# Semi-supervised learning

- Supervised Learning models require labeled data
  - Supervised learning usually requires plenty of labeled data
    - It is usually expensive to have a large set of labeled data
    - Unlabeled data is often abundant with no or low cost
- Learning from both labeled and unlabeled data
  - Labeled training data:  $\mathcal{L} = \{(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}, \mathbf{y}^{(n)})\}_{l=1}^{L}$
  - Unlabeled data available during training:  $\mathcal{U} = \{x^{(n)}\}_{n=L+1}^{L+U}$

# Semi-supervised learning: example



Zhu, Semi-Supervised Learning Tutorial, ICML, 2007.



# Semi-supervised generative model

- Start from MLE  $\boldsymbol{\theta} = [\boldsymbol{\pi}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}]$  on  $\mathcal{L} = \{(\boldsymbol{x}^{(n)}, y^{(n)})\}_{l=1}^{L}$
- Repeat:
  - E-step: compute  $p(y^{(n)}|\mathbf{x}^{(n)}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$  for n = L + 1 to n = L + U
  - M-step: compute the parameters  $\theta = [\pi, \mu, \Sigma]$  considering both labeled data and unlabeled data using the distribution found on their labels in the E-step

#### Resource

#### C. Bishop, "Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning", Chapter 9.