

Case Study 5: Mixed Membership Modeling

Latent Dirichlet Allocation Collapsed Gibbs Sampler, Variational Methods

Machine Learning for Big Data
CSE547/STAT548, University of Washington

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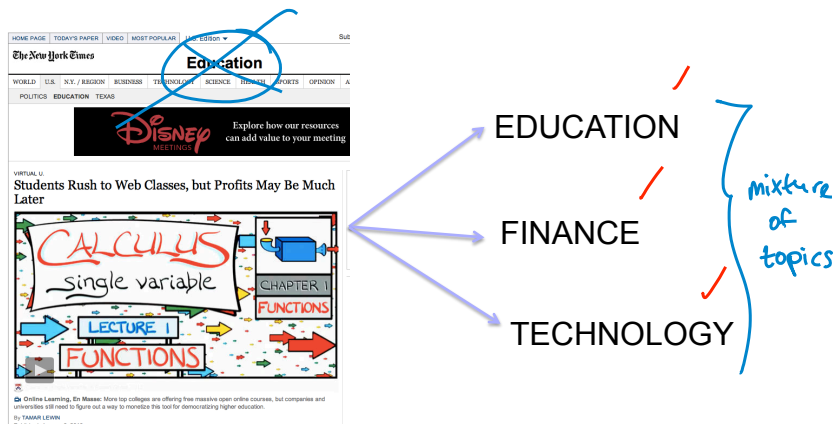
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Task 3: Mixed Membership Models

- **Now:** Document may belong to multiple clusters



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Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA)

each topic k is a distribution over words in vocab, β_k , just as before β_k

Global params

Topics

gene	0.04
dna	0.02
genetic	0.01
...	...

life	0.02
evolve	0.01
organism	0.01
...	...

brain	0.04
neuron	0.02
nerve	0.01
...	...

data	0.02
number	0.02
computer	0.01
...	...

previously, each doc had one topic

now, each is a mixture of topics

Topic proportions and assignments

every word is assigned to a topic

each doc has its own prevalence of topics in that doc

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Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA)

Topics

Documents

Topic proportions and assignments

Obs: All we see are words β_k 's

Want: posterior $p(\text{topics}, \text{doc prop. of topics}, \text{assign. vars.} \mid \text{words in docs})$

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LDA Generative Model

- Observations: $w_1^d, \dots, w_{N_d}^d$
- Associated topics: $z_1^d, \dots, z_{N_d}^d$ ← *topic per word in doc d*
- Parameters: $\theta = \{\{\pi^d\}, \{\beta_k\}\}$
- Generative model:

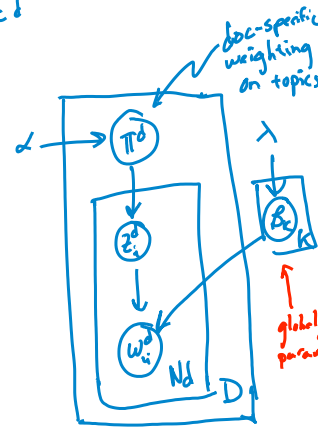
$$z_i^d \sim \pi^d \quad d=1, \dots, D$$

$$w_i^d | z_i^d \sim \beta_{z_i^d}$$

priors:

$$\pi^d \sim \text{Dir}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_K) \quad d=1, \dots, D$$

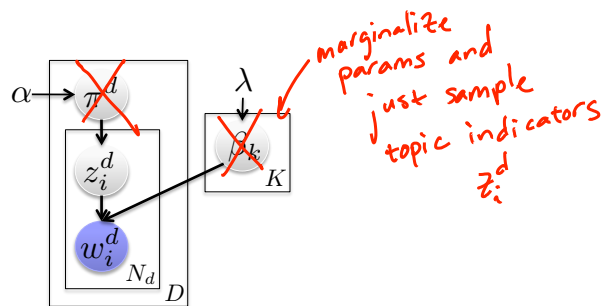
$$\beta_k \sim \text{Dir}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_V) \quad k=1, \dots, K$$



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LDA Joint Probability



$$p(\cdot) = \prod_{k=1}^K p(\beta_k | \lambda) \prod_{d=1}^D p(\pi^d | \alpha) \left(\prod_{i=1}^{N_d} p(z_i^d | \pi^d) p(w_i^d | z_i^d, \beta) \right)$$

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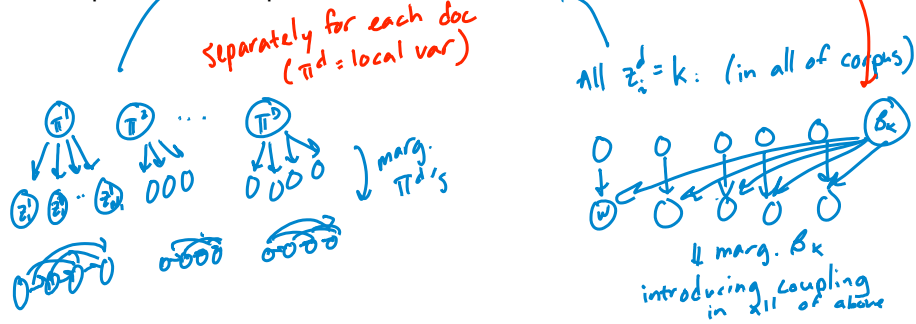
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Collapsed LDA Sampling

- Marginalize parameters
 - Document-specific topic weights
 - Corpus-wide topic-specific word distributions

$$p(z_i^d = k \mid z_{\setminus id}, \{w_i^d\}, \alpha, \lambda) \propto p(z_i^d = k \mid z_{\setminus id}, \alpha) p(w_i^d \mid z_i^d = k, z_{\setminus id}, w_{\setminus id}, \lambda)$$

- Unplate to see dependencies induced



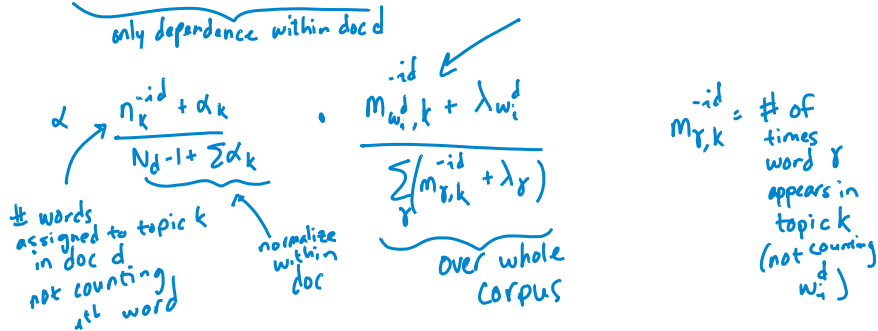
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Collapsed LDA Sampling

- Sample topic indicators for each word
 - Algorithm:

$$p(z_i^d = k \mid z_{\setminus id}, \{w_i^d\}, \alpha, \lambda) \propto p(z_i^d = k \mid \{z_j^d, j \neq i\}, \alpha) p(w_i^d \mid \{w_j^c : z_j^c = k, (j, c) \neq (i, d)\}, \lambda)$$



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Select a Document

Etruscan	trade	price	temple	market

all words in doc d

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Randomly Assign Topics

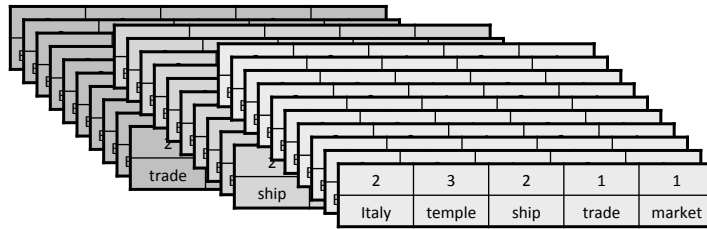
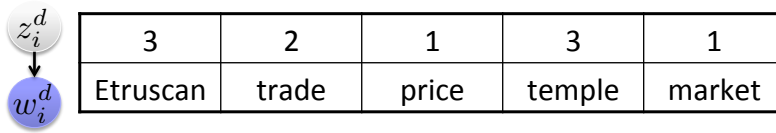
z_i^d	3	2	1	3	1
w_i^d	Etruscan	trade	price	temple	market

*one approach
to initialize sampler*

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Randomly Assign Topics

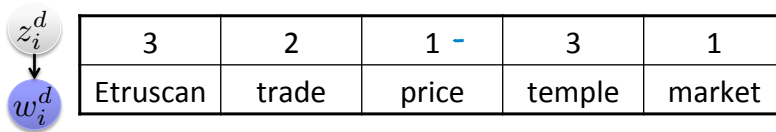


do for all docs in corpus

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Maintain Local Statistics



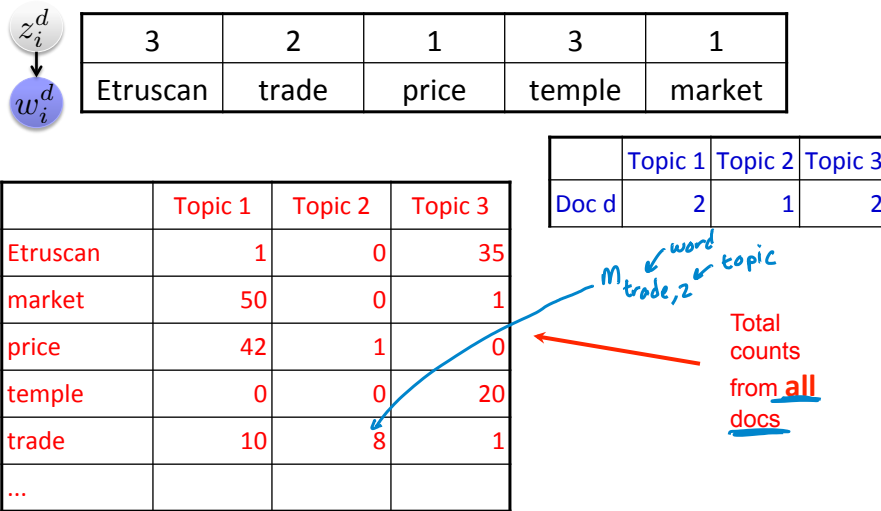
	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3
Doc d	2	1	2

n₁^d n₂^d n₃^d

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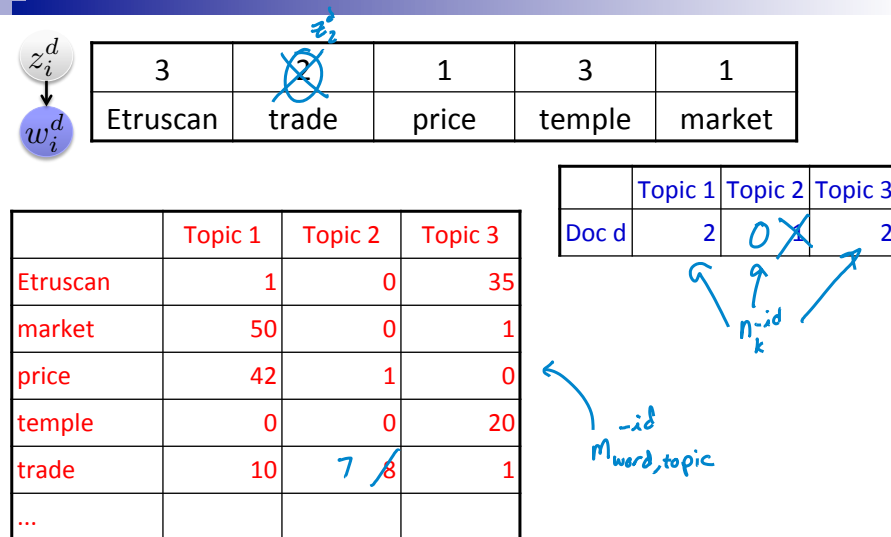
Maintain Global Statistics



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Resample Assignments



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What is the conditional distribution for this topic?

z_i^d	3	?	1	3	1
w_i^d	Etruscan	trade	price	temple	market

$p(z_i^d \mid \text{everything else})$

What is the conditional distribution for this topic?

- Part I: How much does this document like each topic?

z_i^d	3	?	1	3	1
w_i^d	Etruscan	trade	price	temple	market

Topic 1

Topic 2

Topic 3

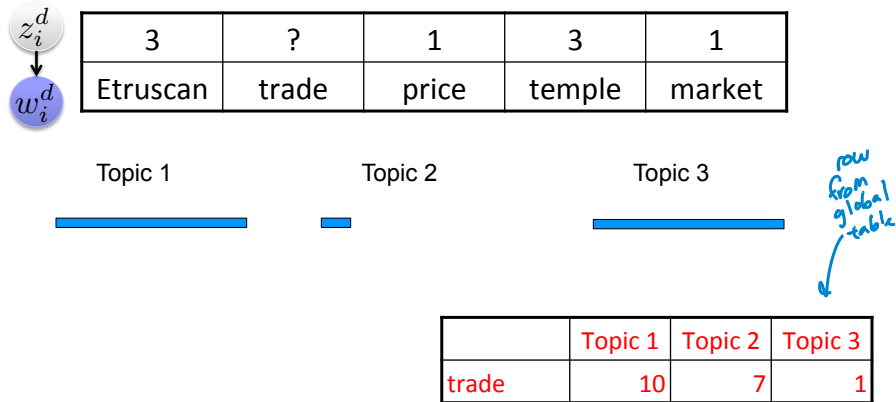
$$\frac{n_{k \cdot}^d + \alpha_k}{N_d - 1 + \sum \alpha_k}$$

"prior" term

	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3
Doc d	2	0	2

What is the conditional distribution for this topic?

- Part I: How much does this document like each topic?
- Part II: How much does each topic like this word?

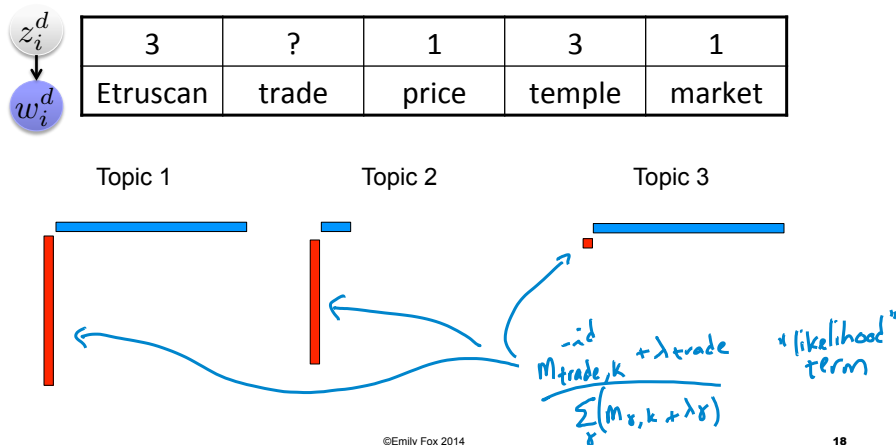


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What is the conditional distribution for this topic?

- Part I: How much does this document like each topic?
- Part II: How much does each topic like this word?



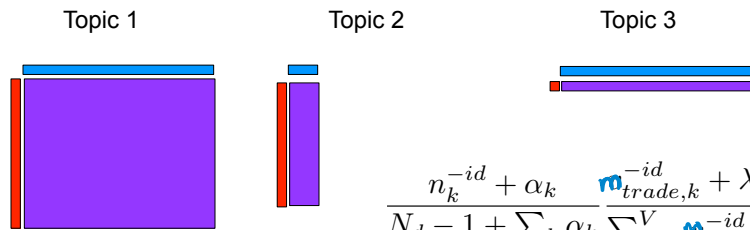
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What is the conditional distribution for this topic?

- Part I: How much does this document like each topic?
- Part II: How much does each topic like this word?

z_i^d	3	?	1	3	1
w_i^d	Etruscan	trade	price	temple	market



$$\frac{n_k^{-id} + \alpha_k}{N_d - 1 + \sum_k \alpha_k} \frac{m_{trade,k}^{-id} + \lambda_{trade}}{\sum_{\gamma=1}^V m_{\gamma,k}^{-id} + \lambda_{\gamma}}$$

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Sample a New Topic Indicator

z_i^d	3	1	1	3	1
w_i^d	Etruscan	trade	price	temple	market



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Update Counts

z_i^d
 w_i^d

3	1	1	3	1
Etruscan	trade	price	temple	market

	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3
Etruscan	1	0	35
market	50	0	1
price	42	1	0
temple	0	0	20
trade	10	7	1
...			

	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3
Doc d	3	0	2

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Geometrically...

inc. popularity of topic 1 in doc d
and word prevalence for topic 1 in corpus

z_i^d
 w_i^d

3	1	1	3	1
Etruscan	trade	price	temple	market



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Issues with Generic LDA Sampling

- Slow mixing rates → Need many iterations
- Each iteration cycles through sampling topic assignments for *all* words in *all* documents
- Modern approaches include:
 - Large-scale LDA. For example, [Mimno, David, Matthew D. Hoffman and David M. Blei. "Sparse stochastic inference for latent Dirichlet allocation." International Conference on Machine Learning, 2012.](#)
 - Distributed LDA. For example, [Ahmed, Amr, et al. "Scalable inference in latent variable models." Proceedings of the fifth ACM international conference on Web search and data mining \(2012\): 123-132](#)
 - And many, many more!
- Alternative: Variational methods instead of sampling
 - Approximate posterior with an optimized variational distribution

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Variational Methods

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Variational Methods Goal

- Recall task: Characterize the posterior $p(\theta, z | x)$ *obs.*
 - params* (pointing to θ)
 - latent vars* (pointing to z)
- Turn posterior inference into an optimization task
- Introduce a “tractable” family of distributions over parameters and latent variables
 - Family is indexed by a set of “free parameters”
 - Find member of the family closest to: $p(\theta, z | x)$

Call the family Q and want $q \in Q$ that is closest to $p(\theta, z | x)$

Variational Methods Cartoon

- Cartoon of goal:

best (pointing to the middle distribution)

$p(\theta, z | x)$ (pointing to the target distribution)

one member q in family Q (pointing to the right distribution)

obs. (pointing to the target distribution)

eg, Q : all Gaussians

- Questions:
 - ① □ How do we measure “closeness”?
 - ② □ If the posterior is intractable, how can we approximate something we do not have to begin with?

A Measure of Closeness

- Kullback-Leibler (KL) divergence
 - Measures "distance" between two distributions p and q

$$KL(p||q) \triangleq D(p||q) = E_p[\log \frac{p}{q}] = \int_{\theta} p(\theta) \log \frac{p(\theta)}{q(\theta)} d\theta$$

- If $p = q$ for all θ

$$D(p||q) = \int p(\theta) \log 1 d\theta = 0$$

- Otherwise, $D(p||q) > 0$

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A Measure of Closeness

$$KL(p||q) \triangleq D(p||q) = \int_{\theta} p(\theta) \log \frac{p(\theta)}{q(\theta)} d\theta$$

- Not symmetric $D(p||q) \neq D(q||p)$ $\leftarrow \int q(\theta) \log \frac{q(\theta)}{p(\theta)} d\theta$
- p determines where the difference is important: \rightarrow not a true distance metric

$$\exists \theta \quad \square \quad p(\theta)=0 \text{ and } q(\theta) \neq 0 \quad 0 \log 0 = 0$$

$$\exists \theta \quad \square \quad p(\theta) \neq 0 \text{ and } q(\theta)=0 \quad \epsilon \log \frac{\epsilon}{0} = \infty$$

$$\text{if } D(p||q) \text{ finite, } \text{supp}(q) \supseteq \text{supp}(p)$$

- Want $\hat{q} = \arg \min_{q \in \mathcal{Q}} D(p||q)$

- Just as hard as the original problem! $E_p[\dots]$

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Reverse Divergence

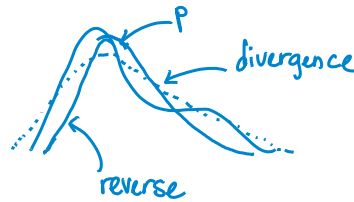
- Divergence $D(p \parallel q)$
 - true distribution p defines support of diff.
 - the "correct" direction
 - will be intractable to compute

- Reverse divergence $D(q \parallel p)$

- approximate distribution defines support
- tends to give overconfident results
- will be tractable

what we have control over

q now less diffuse than p



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Interpretations of Minimizing Reverse KL

$$D(q \parallel p) = E_q \left[\log \frac{q}{p} \right]$$

- Similarity measure:

$$\begin{aligned} D(q(\theta, z) \parallel p(\theta, z | x)) &= E_q [\log q(\theta, z)] - E_q [\log p(\theta, z | x)] \\ &= E_q [\log q(\theta, z)] - E_q [\log p(\theta, z, x)] + \log p(x) \\ &\quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{-\mathcal{L}(q)} \end{aligned}$$

- Evidence lower bound (ELBO)

$$\log p(x) = \underbrace{D(q(z, \theta) \parallel p(\theta, z | x))}_{\geq 0} + \mathcal{L}(q) \geq \mathcal{L}(q) \quad \text{"ELBO"}$$

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Interpretations of Minimizing Reverse KL

- Evidence lower bound (ELBO)

$$\log p(x) = D(q(z, \theta) || p(z, \theta | x)) + \mathcal{L}(q) \geq \mathcal{L}(q)$$

log marginal likelihood or "evidence"
const. *add to a const.* *"ELBO"*

- Therefore,

- ELBO provides a lower bound on marginal likelihood
- Maximizing ELBO is equivalent to minimizing KL

$$\max_{\text{what we can control}} \mathcal{L}(q) = \min_{\text{depends on what we don't know}} D(q || p) = \max \text{ lower bound of } \log p(x)$$

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Mean Field

$$\mathcal{L}(q) = E_q[\log p(z, \theta, x)] - E_q[\log q(z, \theta)]$$

- How do we choose a Q such that the following is tractable?

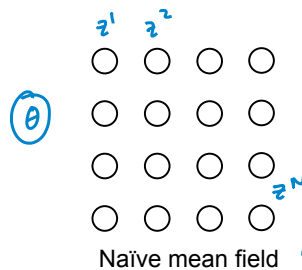
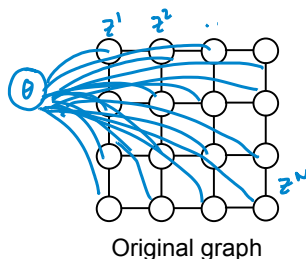
$$\hat{q} = \arg \max_{q \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathcal{L}(q) \leftarrow \text{new objective}$$

- Simplest case = mean field approximation $\theta, z = \{z^1, \dots, z^N\}$

- Assume each parameter and latent variable is conditionally independent given the set of free parameters

$$q(z, \theta) = q(\theta) \prod_{i=1}^N q(z^i | \phi^i)$$

$\theta, \{\phi^i\}$ are "free params" = control knobs in getting q close to p



can also look at "structured" mean field approx (breaks only some dependencies)

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Mean Field

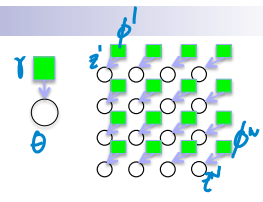
$$\mathcal{L}(q) = E_q[\log p(z, \theta, x)] - E_q[\log q(z, \theta)]$$

entropy

- Naïve mean field decomposition:

$$q(z, \theta) = q(\theta | \gamma) \prod_{i=1}^N q(z^i | \phi^i)$$

q_θ q_{z^i}



- Under this approximation, entropy term decomposes as

$$-E_q[\log q(z, \theta)] = -E_q[\log q(\theta | \gamma)] - \sum_i E_q[\log q(z^i | \phi^i)]$$

decouples across θ, ϕ^i

- Can (always) rewrite joint term as

$$E_q[\log p(\theta, z, x)] = E_q[\log p(\theta | z, x)] + E_q[\log p(z, x)]$$

full cond. of θ

$$E_q[\log p(\theta, z, x)] = E_q[\log p(z^i | z_{\setminus i}, \theta, x)] + E_q[\log p(z_{\setminus i}, \theta, x)]$$

full cond. of z^i

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Mean Field – Optimize γ

- Examine one free parameter, e.g., γ

$$\mathcal{L}(q) = E_q[\log p(\theta | z, x)] + E_q[\log p(z, x)] - E_q[\log q(\theta | \gamma)] - \sum_i E_q[\log q(z^i | \phi^i)]$$

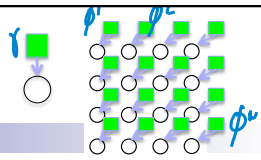
consider θ -full-cond. form

- Look at terms of ELBO just depending on γ

$$\mathcal{L}^\gamma = E_q[\log p(\theta | z, x)] - E_q[\log q(\theta | \gamma)] + \text{const.}$$

really just $q_\theta = q(\theta | \gamma)$ needed here

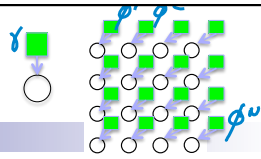
don't depend on γ
 because under q ,
 $z^i \perp \theta$!
 w.r.t. γ



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Mean Field – Optimize ϕ^i



- Examine another free parameter, e.g., ϕ^i

$$\mathcal{L}(q) = E_q[\log p(z^i | z_{\setminus i}, \theta, x)] + E_q[\log p(z_{\setminus i}, \theta, x)] - E_q[\log q(\theta | \gamma)] - \sum_i E_q[\log q(z^i | \phi^i)]$$

consider the z^i -full-cond. form (under the first term)

const. wrt ϕ^i (under the second and third terms)

- Look at terms of ELBO just depending on ϕ^i

$$\mathcal{L}^{\phi^i} = E_q[\log p(z^i | z_{\setminus i}, \theta, x)] - E_q[\log q(z^i | \phi^i)]$$

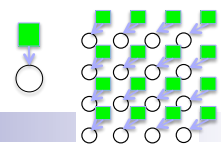
really just $q_{z^i} = q(z^i | \phi^i)$ here

- This motivates using a coordinate ascent algorithm for optimization
 - Iteratively optimize each free parameter holding all others fixed

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Algorithm Outline



- Initialization:** Randomly select starting distribution $q_{\theta}^{(0)}$
- E-Step:** Given parameters, find posterior of hidden data

$$\text{optimize } \phi \rightarrow q_z^{(t)} = \arg \max_{q_z} \mathcal{L}(q_z, q_{\theta}^{(t-1)})$$

latent vars z
- M-Step:** Given posterior distributions, find likely parameters θ

$$\text{optimize } \gamma \rightarrow q_{\theta}^{(t)} = \arg \max_{q_{\theta}} \mathcal{L}(q_z^{(t)}, q_{\theta})$$
- Iteration:** Alternate E-step & M-step until convergence

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What you need to know...

- Latent Dirichlet allocation (LDA)
 - Motivation and generative model specification
 - Collapsed Gibbs sampler

- Variational methods
 - Overall goal
 - Interpretation in terms of minimizing (reverse) KL
 - Mean field approximation

Reading

- **Mixed Membership Models: KM Sec. 27.3**
 - Basic LDA:
[Blei, David M., Andrew Y. Ng, and Michael I. Jordan. "Latent dirichlet allocation." the Journal of machine Learning research 3 \(2003\): 993-1022.](#)
 - Introduction:
[Blei, David M. "Probabilistic topic models." Communications of the ACM, vol. 55, no. 4 \(2012\): 77-84.](#)
 - Sampling:
[Griffith, Thomas L. and Mark Steyvers. "Finding scientific topics." Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, Volume: 101, Supplement: 1 \(2004\): Pages: 5228-5235](#)

Acknowledgements

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