



Computer  
Science

# CSC535: Probabilistic Graphical Models

**Parameter Learning**

Prof. Jason Pacheco

# Administrivia

- HW3 Correction: question1.m  $\rightarrow$  question2.m
- See Piazza for notes on function-to-variable messages
- Numerically stable normalization of vector  $f(x) \propto p(x)$

$$h(x) = \log f(x) - \log \max_x f(x)$$

$$p(x) = \exp(h(x)) \div \sum_x \exp(h(x))$$

# Outline

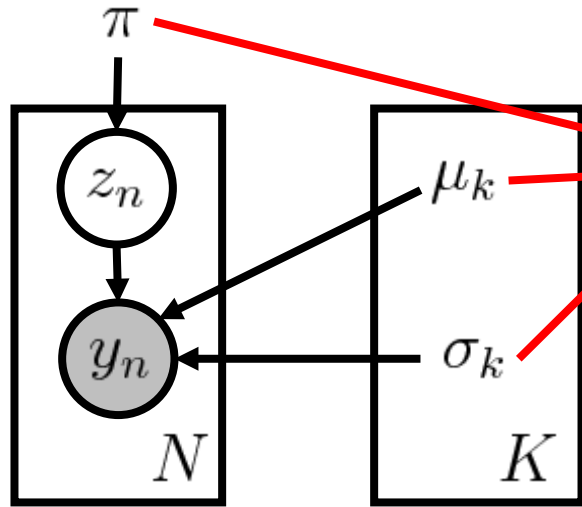
- Maximum Likelihood
- Maximum A Posteriori
- Expectation Maximization

# Outline

- **Maximum Likelihood**
- Maximum A Posteriori
- Expectation Maximization

# Example: Gaussian Mixture Model

Model is often specified in terms of *unknown parameters*



**GMM**

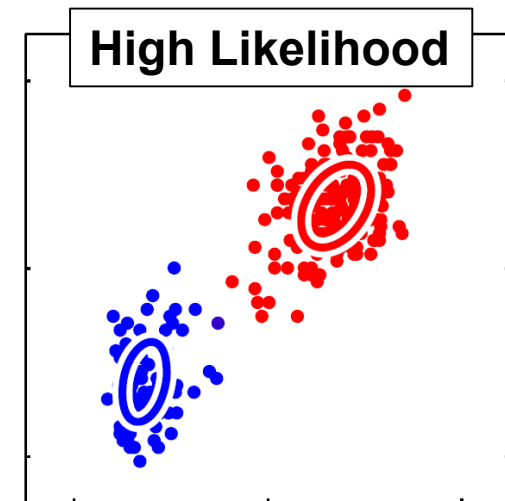
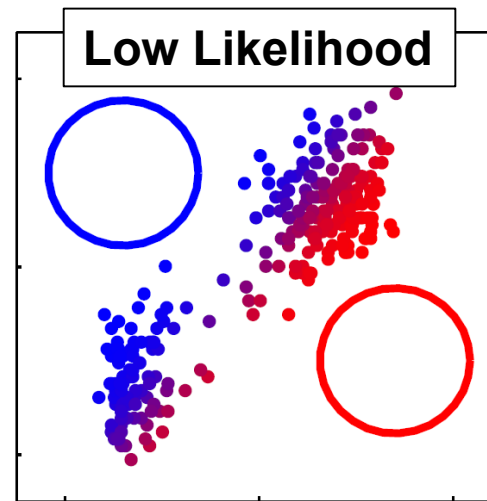
How *likely* are parameters for observed data?

$$\theta = \{\pi, \mu_1, \sigma_1, \dots, \mu_K, \sigma_K\} \quad \mathcal{Y} = \{y_1, \dots, y_N\}$$

Marginal Likelihood (likelihood function):

$$p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta) = \sum_{z_1} \dots \sum_{z_N} p(z_1, \dots, z_N, \mathcal{Y} | \theta)$$

**Intuition** Learn / estimate parameters that assign highest probability (under the model) to data we've observed.



# Maximum Likelihood Estimation

$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = \arg \max_{\theta} p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta)$$

**Consistency:** Converges (in probability) to value being estimated

$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} \xrightarrow{P} \theta_0$$

True consistency *never happens* in practice since *all models are wrong* (but some are still useful)

**Asymptotically Normal:**

$$\sqrt{N} (\theta^{\text{MLE}} - \theta_0) \xrightarrow{D} \mathcal{N}(0, I^{-1})$$

└──────────┘ **Fisher Information Matrix**

**Efficiency:** Achieves lowest possible variance of unbiased estimator (i.e. achieves Cramer-Rao lower bound)

*Functional invariance, second-order efficiency, minimizes KL divergence, ...*

# Maximum Likelihood Estimation

$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = \arg \max_{\theta} p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta) = \arg \max_{\theta} \log p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta)$$

If concave then just solve for zero-gradient solution,

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta) \equiv \log p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta) \quad \nabla_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(\theta^{\text{MLE}}) = 0$$

Log-Likelihood Function  
doesn't change argmax  
since log is monotonic

Logarithm serves a couple of practical purposes:

1) Simplifies derivatives for conditionally independent data

$$\nabla_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^N \nabla_{\theta} \log p(y_i | \theta)$$

2) Avoids numerical under/overflow

# MLE of Gaussian Mean

Assume data are i.i.d. univariate Gaussian,

$$p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^N \mathcal{N}(y_i | \theta, \sigma^2)$$

↖ Variance is known

Log-likelihood function:

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^N \log \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} (y_i - \theta)^2 \sigma^{-2} \right) \right)$$

Constant doesn't  
depend on mean

$$= \text{const.} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N ((y_i - \theta)^2 \sigma^{-2})$$

MLE doesn't change when we:  
1) Drop constant terms (in  $\theta$ )  
2) Minimize negative log-likelihood

MLE estimate is *least squares estimator*:

$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \arg \max_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \theta)^2 = \arg \min_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \theta)^2$$



# MLE of Gaussian Mean

Sum of squares objective is convex,

$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = \arg \min_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \theta)^2$$

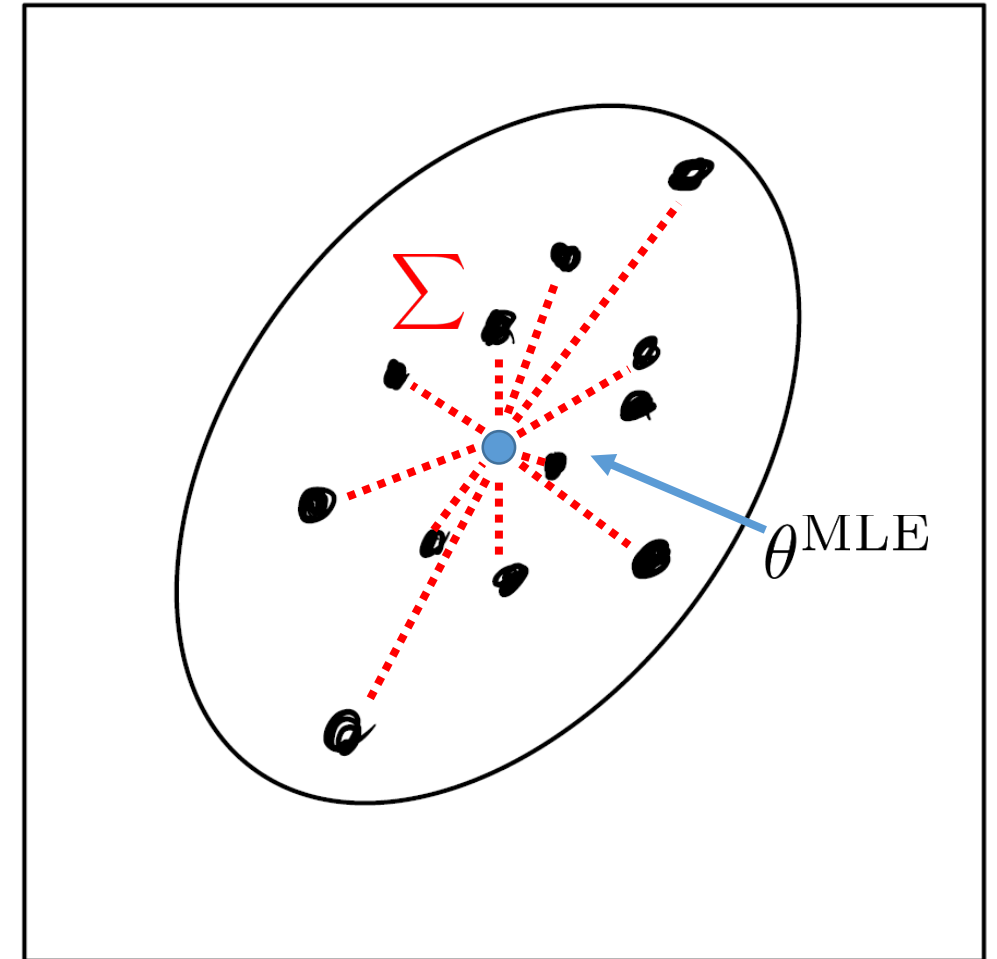
Set derivative to zero and solve,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{d}{d\theta} (y_i - \theta)^2 = -2 \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \theta) = 0$$

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^N y_i \right) - N\theta = 0$$

MLE is empirical mean of data,

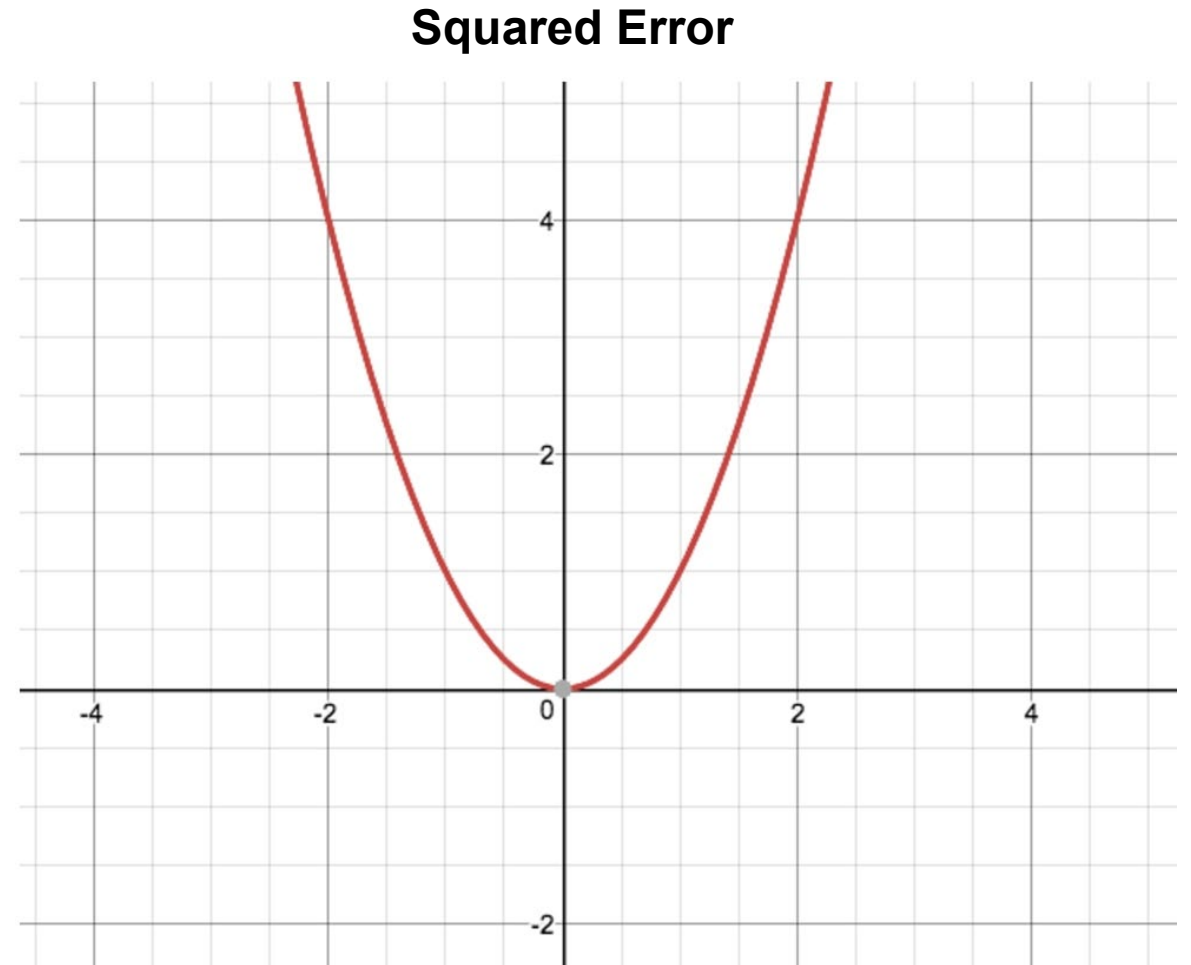
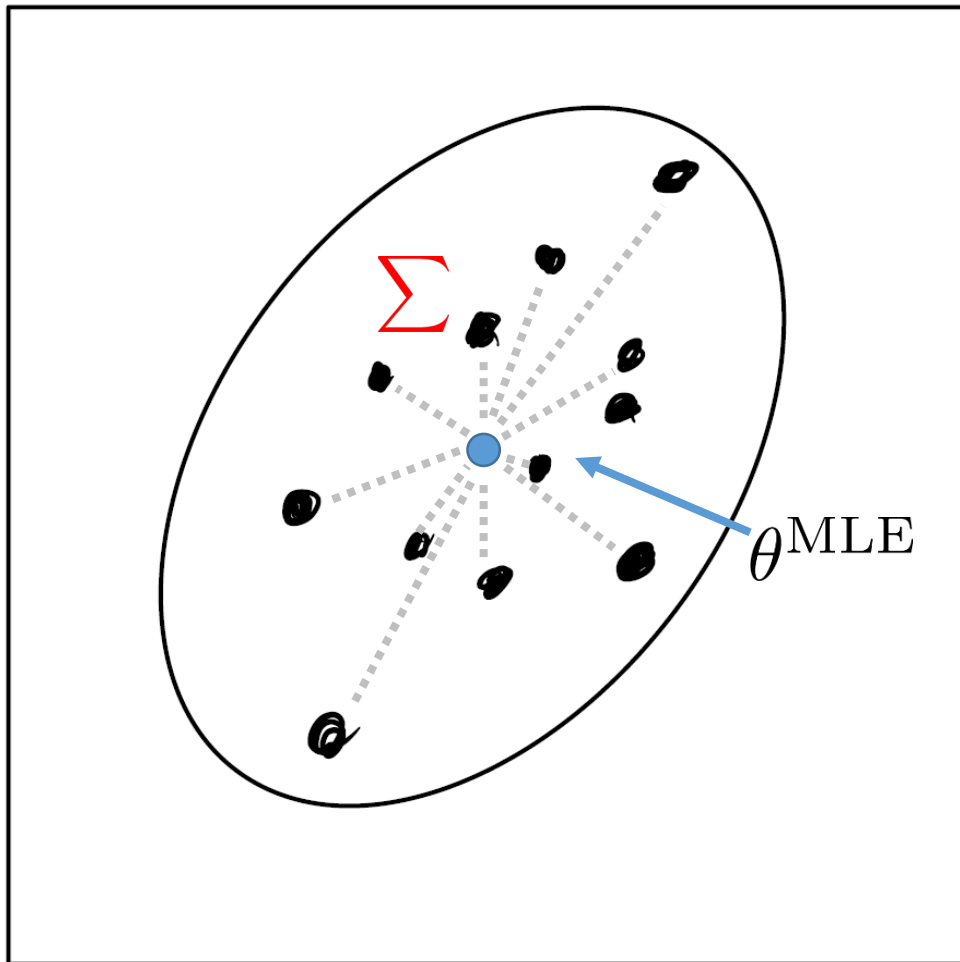
$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N y_i$$



Minimize squared distance from mean

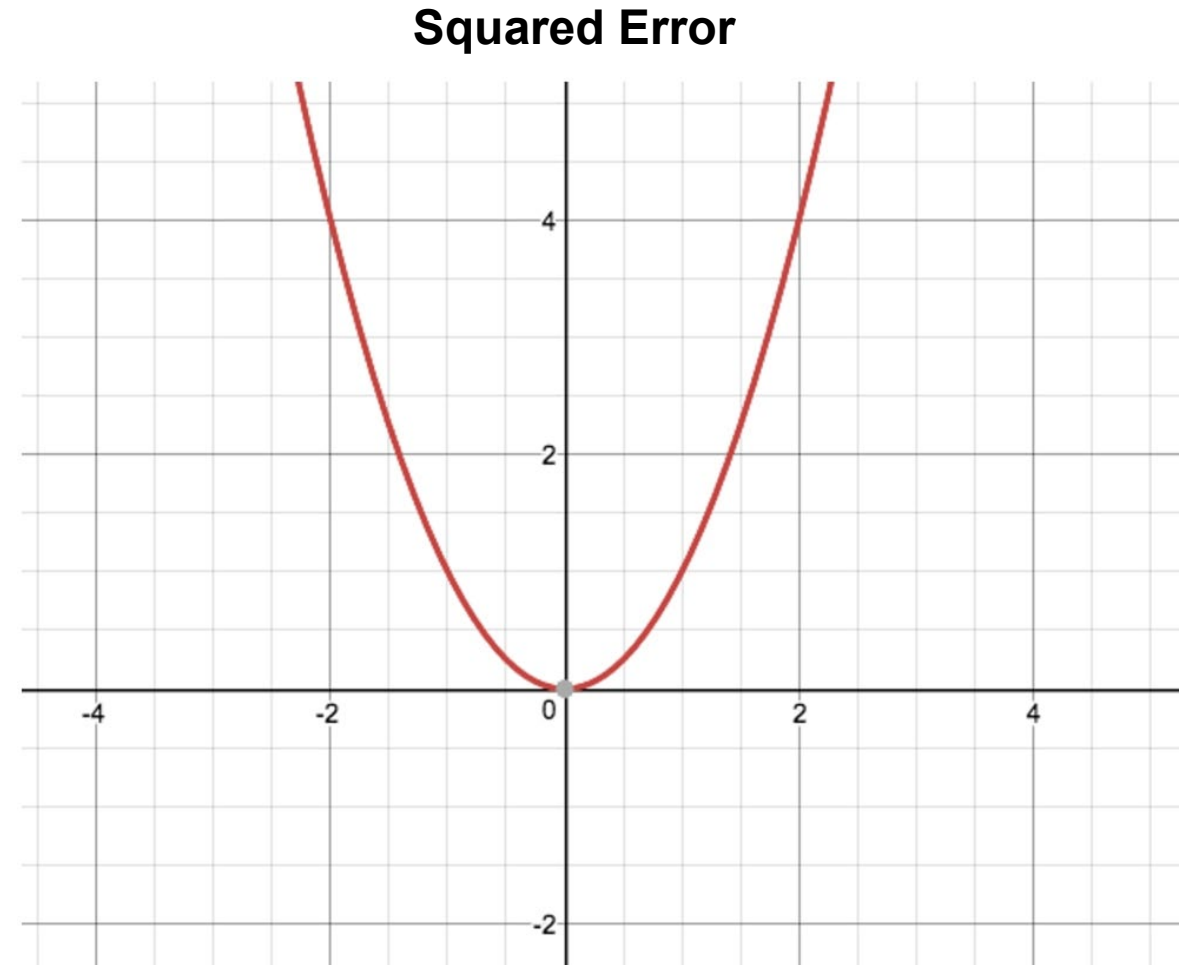
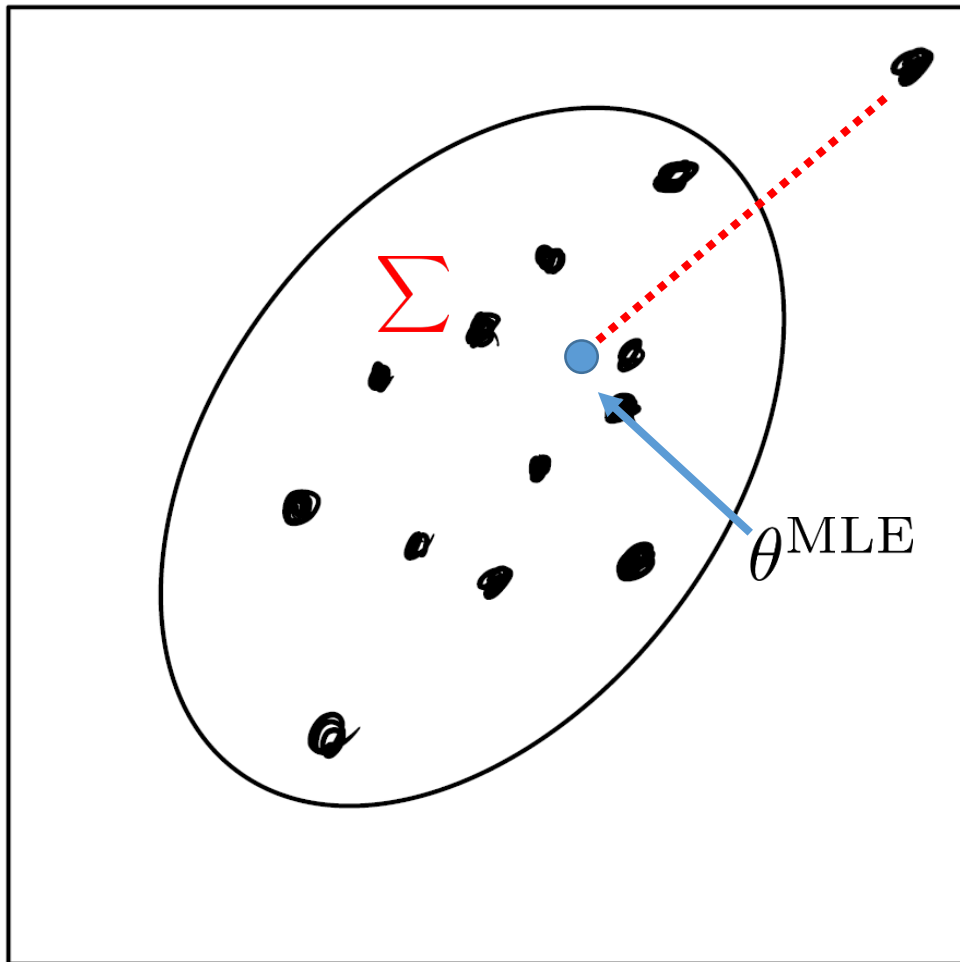
# Outliers

*How does an outlier affect the estimator?*



# Outliers

*How does an outlier affect the estimator?*



# Regularized Maximum Likelihood

Penalty term  $R$  minimizes effect of outliers on estimator,

$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(\theta) - \lambda R(\theta)$$

Regularization weight  $\leftarrow$   $\rightarrow$  Regularizer

**Example** L2-regularized Least-Squares,

$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = \arg \min_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \theta)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \theta^2$$

**Example** L1-regularized Least-Squares,

$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = \arg \min_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \theta)^2 + \lambda |\theta|$$

L1 is not differentiable,  
and so care must be  
taken in optimizer

In regression setting these have  
various names: ridge regression,  
LASSO

# Regularized Maximum Likelihood

Penalty term  $R$  minimizes effect of outliers on estimator,

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(\theta) - \lambda R(\theta)$$

Regularization weight  $\leftarrow$   $\lambda$   $\rightarrow$  Regularizer

**Example** L2-regularized Least-Squares,

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \min_{\theta} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \theta)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \theta^2$$

In regression setting  
known as ridge regression

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{d}{d\theta} (y_i - \theta)^2 + \frac{d}{d\theta} \frac{\lambda}{2} \theta^2 = - \left( \sum_{i=1}^N y_i \right) + N\theta + \lambda\theta = 0$$

$$\hat{\theta} = \frac{1}{N + \lambda} \sum_i y_i$$

$\lambda$  acts as *pseudocount*

# Linear Regression - Ordinary Least Squares (OLS)

Linear function of inputs  $\mathbf{X}$ ,

$$y = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x_1 + \dots + \theta_d x_d + \epsilon$$

With  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$  and MLE,

Shorthand:

$$x^i = (1, x_1^i, \dots, x_d^i)^T$$

$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = \arg \min_{\theta} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (y^i - \theta^T x^i)^2$$

Solving for zero-gradient:

$$0 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \nabla_{\theta} (y^i - \theta^T x^i)^2$$

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^N (y^i - \theta^T x^i) (x^i)^T = \sum_{i=1}^N y^i (x^i)^T - \theta^T \sum_{i=1}^N x^i (x^i)^T$$

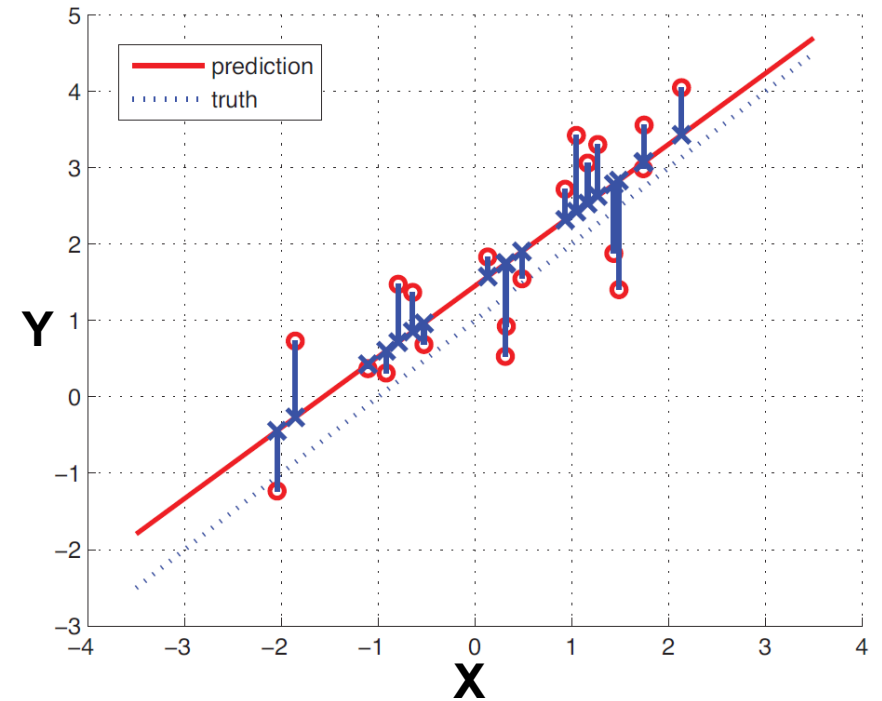
$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}$$

where

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ x_1 & x_1 & \dots & x_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ x_d & x_d & \dots & x_d \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{y} = (y^1, \dots, y^N)^T$$

Source: Kevin Murphy's Textbook



# Linear Regression – Basis Functions

*Predicted functions may be nonlinear in  $X$*

Source: Elements of Stat. Learning

Define a set of *basis functions* or *features*:

$$f_{\theta}(x) = \sum_{k=1}^K h_k(x)\theta_k,$$

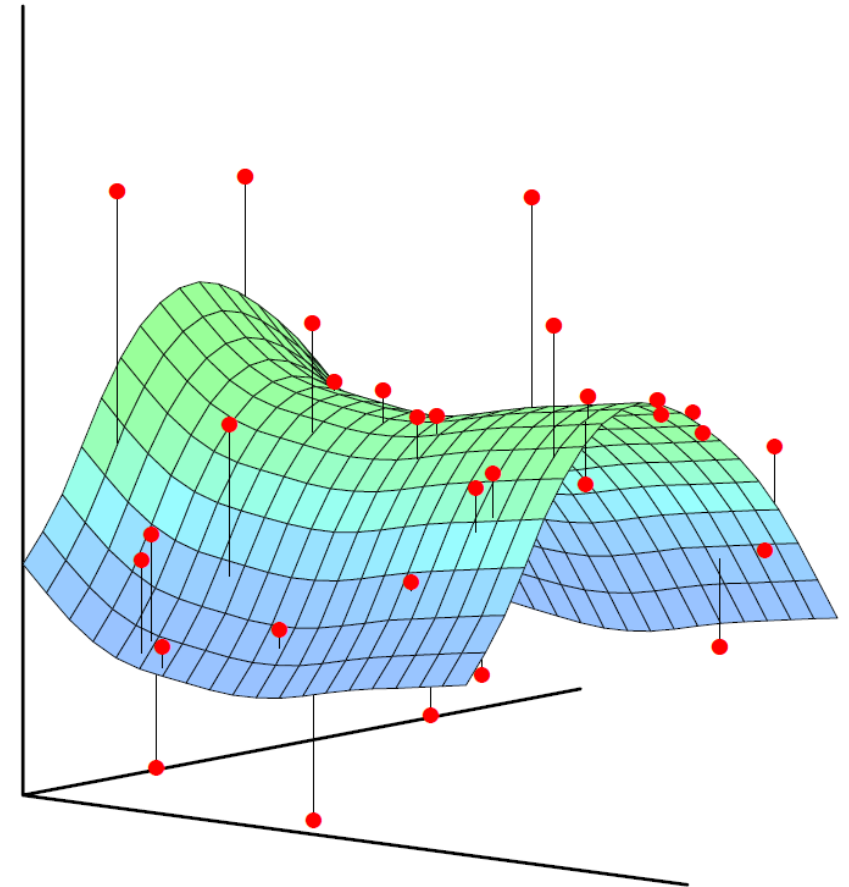
Output is linear Gaussian (in basis func's):

$$p(y \mid \theta, h(x)) = \mathcal{N}(f_{\theta}(x), \sigma^2)$$

Least squares solution takes same form:

$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = (\mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{F})^{-1} \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{y}$$

↳  $\mathbf{F}$  is a matrix of feature evaluations  
at each input in training set



# L2 Regularized Linear Regression – Ridge Regression

Source: Kevin Murphy's Textbook

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \min_{\theta} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (y^i - \theta^T x^i)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \theta^T \theta$$

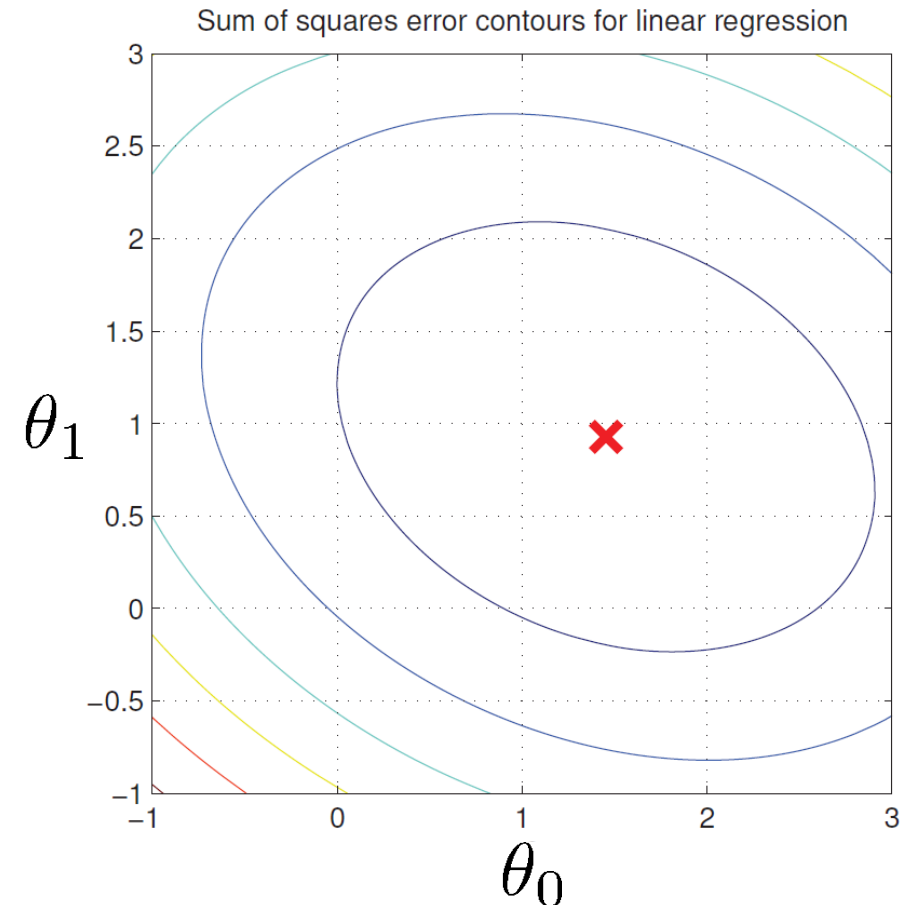
After some algebra...

$$\hat{\theta} = (\lambda I + \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}$$

Compare to unregularized solution:

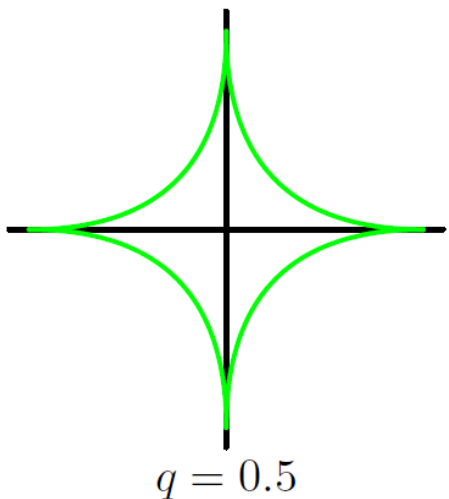
$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}$$

*Regularized least-squares includes pseudocount in weighting similar to Gaussian mean estimator*

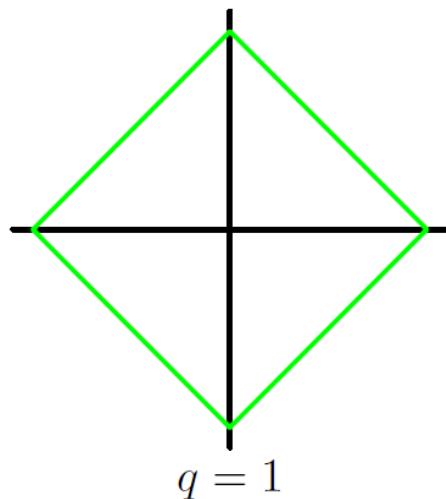




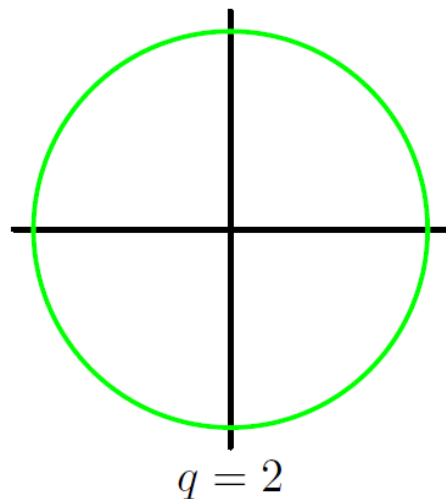
# Other Regularization Terms



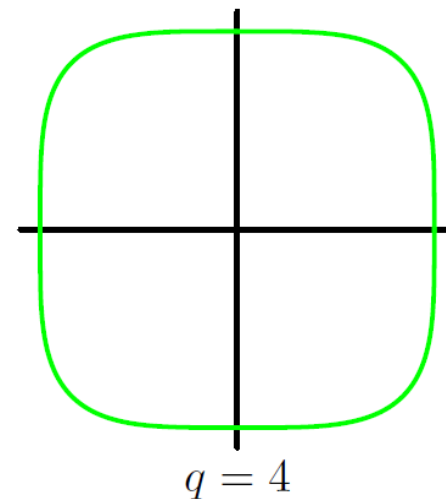
$q < 1$  is not a norm,  
and thus not convex



L1 is non-  
differentiable



L2 Regularization



A more general regularization penalty,

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \min_{\theta} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \theta)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} |\theta|^q$$

# MLE More Generally

MLE has a closed-form in Gaussian models because they are convex:

$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = \arg \max_{\theta} \underbrace{\log p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta) \equiv \mathcal{L}(\theta)}$$

**Quadratic in Gaussian MLE**

Log-likelihood is typically non-convex, so we use numerical methods such as Gradient descent:

$$\theta^{k+1} = \theta^k + \beta \nabla_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(\theta^k)$$

*In this setting we cannot generally guarantee optimal MLE estimators*

# Administrivia

- HW2 grades by end of week
- Midterm: Monday 10/26 (take-home)
- Clarification of parallel sum-product for factor graphs

# MLE Summary

- Recall the trick of maximizing the p.d.f. by minimizing the negative log
- The Gaussian form for the likelihood led to a least-squares problem
- Least-squares solutions are tightly connected to assuming Gaussian distribution for the random effects (noise)
- If the random part is not Gaussian, then squared error may not make sense
- Squared error and Gaussian assumptions are mathematically very convenient but they are **very sensitive to outliers** (this motivates *robust estimators*)
- The least-squares solution leads to the average as being the “best” way to characterize a group of independent numbers, but there are other answers:
  - Minimum absolute value for error
  - Median
  - Minimum risk / maximal gain

# Outline

- Maximum Likelihood
- **Maximum A Posteriori**
- Expectation Maximization

# Maximum A Posteriori (MAP) Estimation

Recall the MAP estimator maximizes posterior probability,

$$\begin{aligned}\theta^{\text{MAP}} &= \arg \max_{\theta} p(\theta \mid \mathcal{Y}) \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} p(\theta, \mathcal{Y}) && \text{( Bayes' rule )} \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} p(\mathcal{Y} \mid \theta)p(\theta) && \text{( Probability Chain Rule )} \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} \log p(\mathcal{Y} \mid \theta) + \log p(\theta) && \text{( Monotonicity of Logarithm )}\end{aligned}$$

Prior serves as regularizer in regularized MLE:

$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(\theta) - \lambda R(\theta)$$

*So conceptually, defining a regularizer in MLE imposes prior beliefs*

# MAP of Gaussian Mean

Gaussian prior on  $\theta$  with i.i.d. Gaussian observations:

$$p(\mathcal{Y}, \theta) = \mathcal{N}(\theta \mid 0, \lambda^{-1}) \prod_{i=1}^N \mathcal{N}(y_i \mid \theta, \sigma^2)$$

↗ Variance is known

Log-joint probability:

$$\begin{aligned} J(\theta) &= \log \left( \sqrt{\frac{\lambda}{2\pi}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \theta^2 \lambda \right) \right) + \sum_{i=1}^N \log \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} (y_i - \theta)^2 \sigma^{-2} \right) \right) \\ &= \text{const.} - \frac{\lambda}{2} \theta^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \theta)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Minimize negative log-joint (+ rearrange terms):

MAP estimate equivalent to regularized least squares estimator

**Note** Likelihood variance can be incorporated into prior variance

$$\theta^{\text{MAP}} = \arg \min_{\theta} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \theta)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \theta^2$$

# Bayesian Linear Regression

Gaussian prior on regression weights,

$$p(\theta) = \mathcal{N}(\theta \mid m_0, S_0) \qquad p(y \mid \theta, x) = \mathcal{N}(y \mid \theta^T x, \sigma^2)$$

Posterior over N observations is Gaussian (yay for Gaussians!),

$$p(\theta \mid \mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{X}) = \mathcal{N}(\theta \mid m_N, S_N)$$

$$m_N = S_N (S_0^{-1} m_0 + \sigma^{-2} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}) \qquad S_N^{-1} = S_0^{-1} + \sigma^{-2} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}$$

MAP is posterior mean,

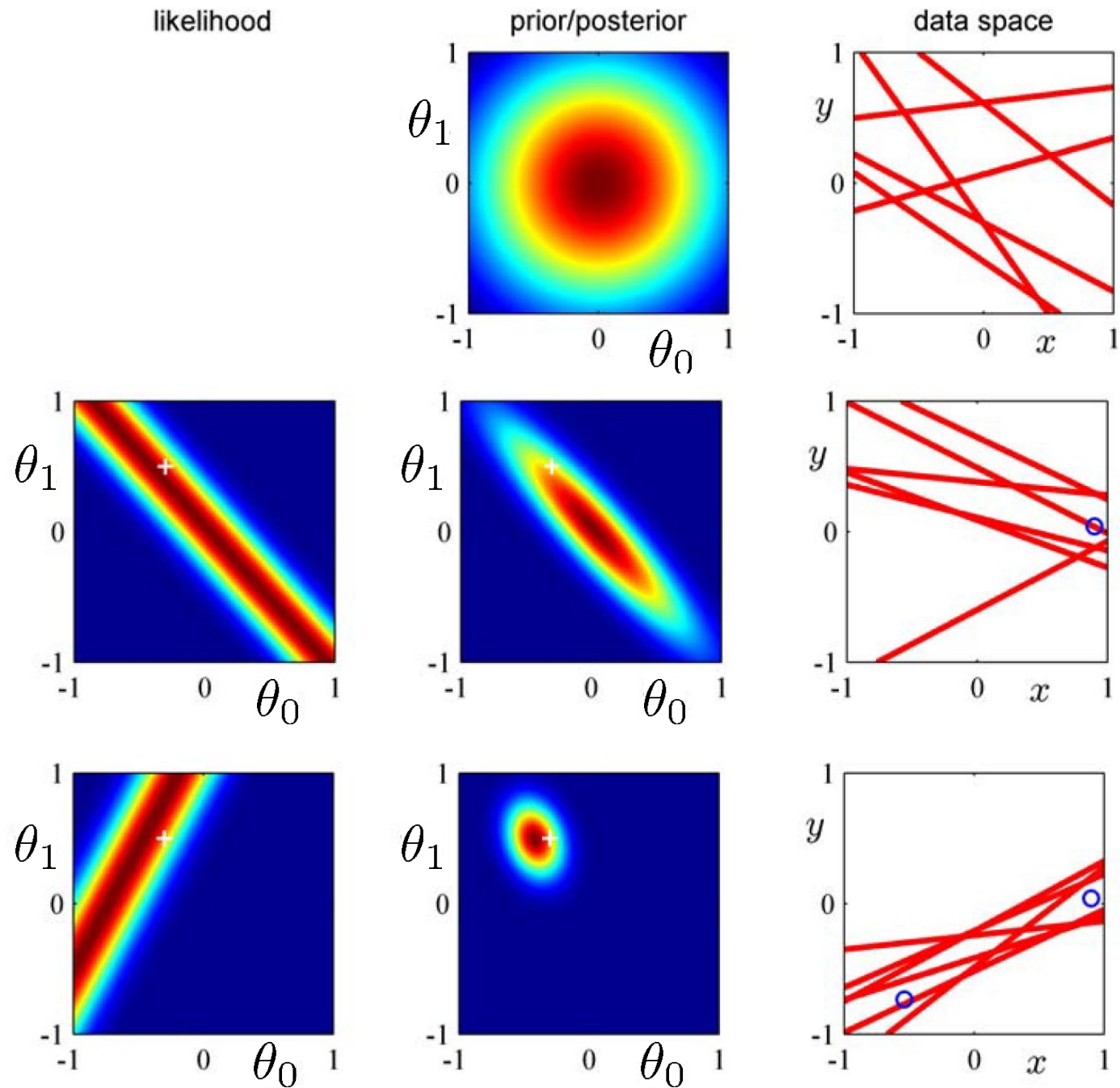
$$\theta^{\text{MAP}} = m_N$$

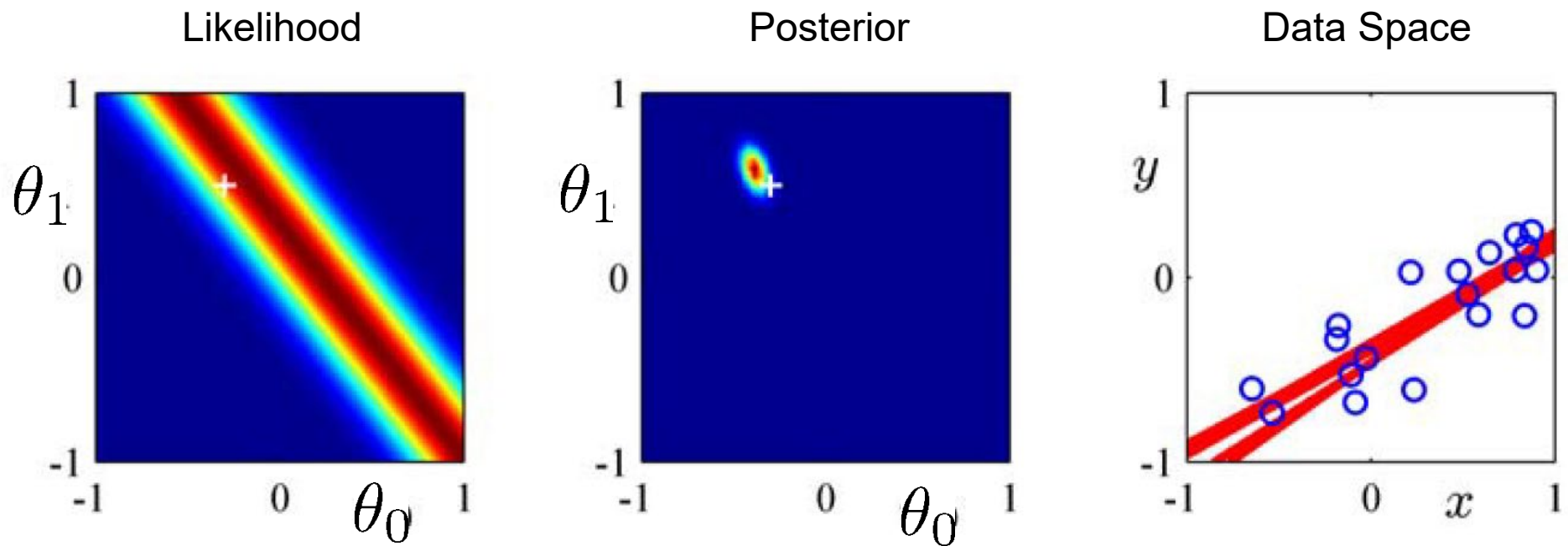
Again equivalent to regularized least squares (ridge regression)

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ x_1 & x_1 & \dots & x_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ x_d & x_d & \dots & x_d \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{y} = (y^1, \dots, y^N)^T$$







*Posterior concentrates on true weights as more data observed*

*Likelihood outweighs prior in the limit (converges to MLE)*

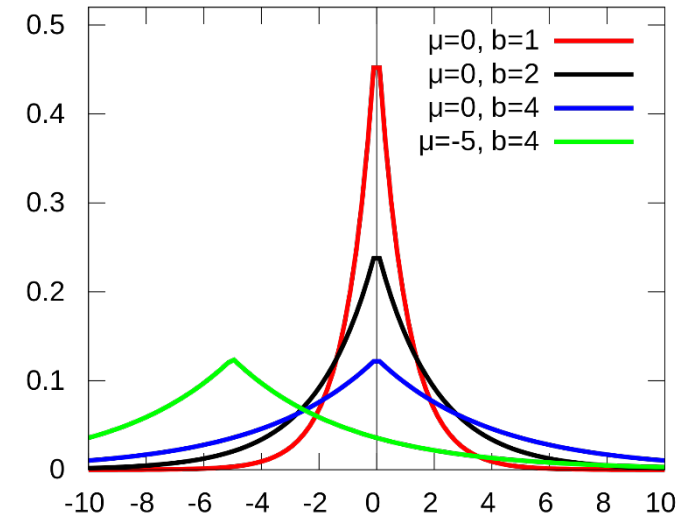
# Sparse Prior on Regression Weights

## Laplace distribution

$$\text{Laplace}(\theta \mid \mu, b) = \frac{1}{2b} \exp\left(-\frac{|\theta - \mu|}{b}\right)$$

Mean  $\mu$  and scale  $b > 0$ .

Compared to Gaussian: Higher probability at zero, larger tails



## Regression Joint Probability

$$p(\theta, \mathcal{Y} \mid \mathcal{X}) = \text{Laplace}(\theta \mid 0, \lambda^{-1}) \prod_{i=1}^N \mathcal{N}(y^i, \theta^T x^i, \sigma^2)$$

## MAP Estimate

$$\theta^{\text{MAP}} = \arg \min_{\theta} -\log p(\theta, \mathcal{Y} \mid \mathcal{X}) = \arg \min_{\theta} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (y^i - \theta^T x^i)^2 - \lambda |\theta|$$

Does not have closed-form.  
Convex, but non-differentiable.  
Solve via iterative methods.

*Equivalent to L1-regularized least squares MLE (LASSO)*

# Summary

*Bayesian approach allows for different perspective of MLE*

- MAP = MLE for particular regularizer/prior
- MLE Regularizer implicitly imposes prior belief
- MAP estimate can be sequentially updated with additional data
- Inference = optimization (can avoid calculus in Gaussian case)

# Administrivia

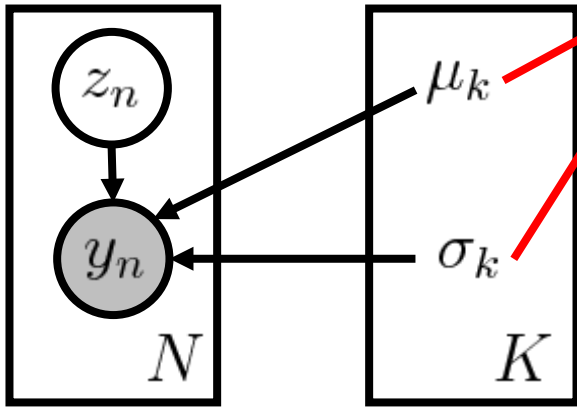
- HW3 due later today
- HW2 graded and solutions posted
- Review readings this week (no assignments)
- “Take-home” midterm Monday
  - Everything up-to-and-including parameter learning material
- We will have a midterm review lecture Monday

# Outline

- Maximum Likelihood
- Maximum A Posteriori
- **Expectation Maximization**

# Marginal Likelihood Calculation

*Recall the Gaussian Mixture Model...*

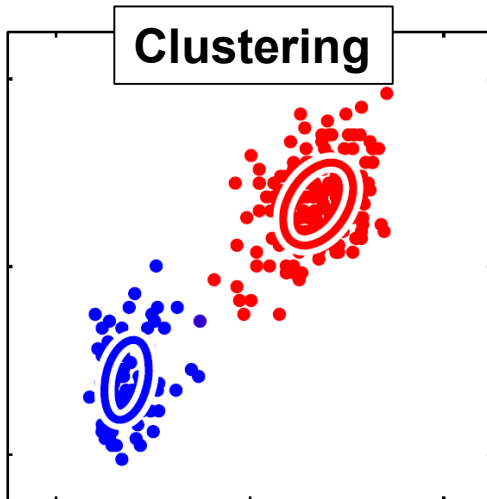


$$\theta = \{\mu_1, \sigma_1, \dots, \mu_K, \sigma_K\}$$

Marginal Likelihood (likelihood function):

$$p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta) = \sum_{z_1} \dots \sum_{z_N} p(z_1, \dots, z_N, \mathcal{Y} | \theta)$$

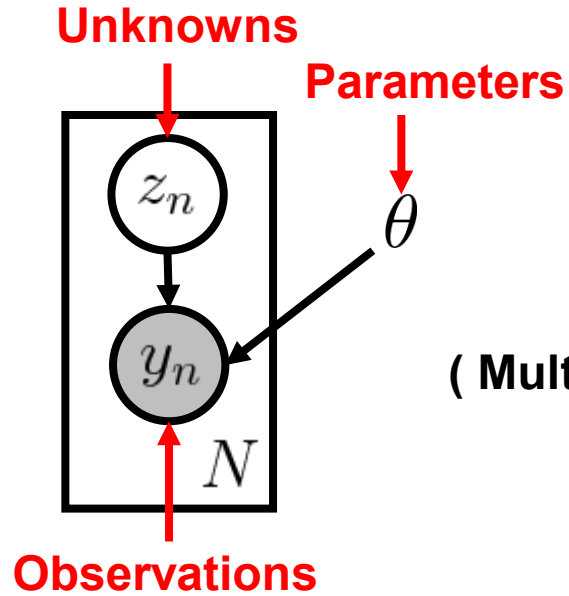
Sum over all possible  $K^N$  assignments,  
which we cannot compute



**Motivation** Approximate MLE / MAP when we cannot compute the marginal likelihood in closed-form

# Lower Bounding Marginal Likelihood

Conditionally-independent model with partial observations...



$$\log p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta) = \log \sum_{z_1} \dots \sum_{z_N} p(z_1, \dots, z_N, \mathcal{Y} | \theta)$$

( Multiply by  $q(z)/q(z)=1$  )

$$= \log \sum_z p(z, \mathcal{Y} | \theta) \left( \frac{q(z)}{q(z)} \right)$$

**Shorthand**

$z = z_1, \dots, z_N$

( Definition of Expected Value )

$$= \log \mathbf{E}_q \left[ \frac{p(z, \mathcal{Y} | \theta)}{q(z)} \right]$$

$q(z)$  is any distribution with support over  $Z$

( Jensen's Inequality )

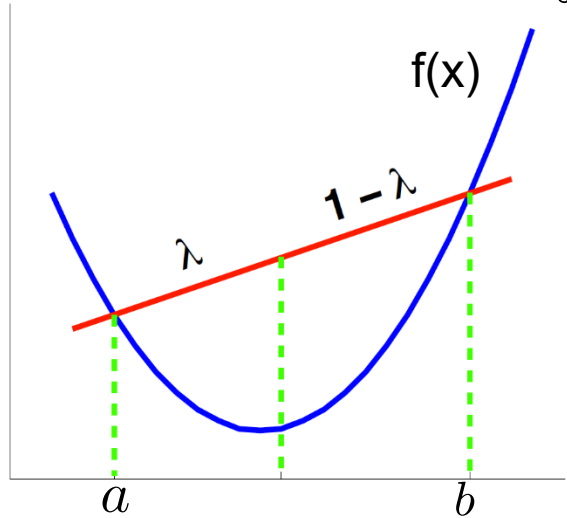
$$\geq \mathbf{E}_q \left[ \log \frac{p(z, \mathcal{Y} | \theta)}{q(z)} \right]$$



# Jensen's Inequality

**Definition** A function  $f(x)$  is convex iff for any points  $a, b$  and  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$

$$f(\lambda a + (1 - \lambda)b) \leq \lambda f(a) + (1 - \lambda)f(b)$$



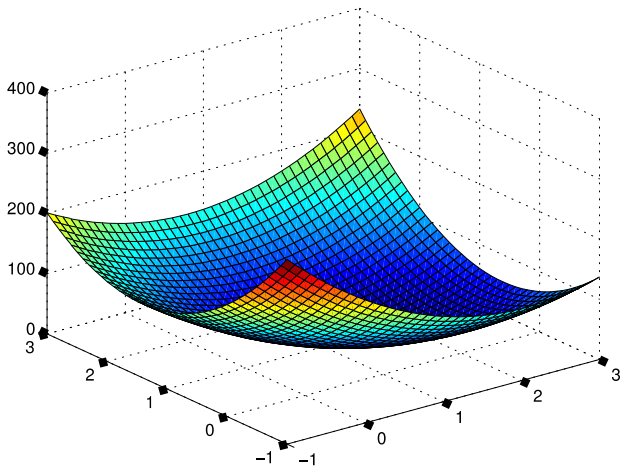
**Jensen's Inequality** holds for any convex  $f(x)$ ,

$$f(\mathbb{E}[X]) \leq \mathbb{E}[f(X)]$$

**Proof** (sketch) is by induction on  $m$  points,

$$f\left(\sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i x_i\right) \leq \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f(x_i)$$

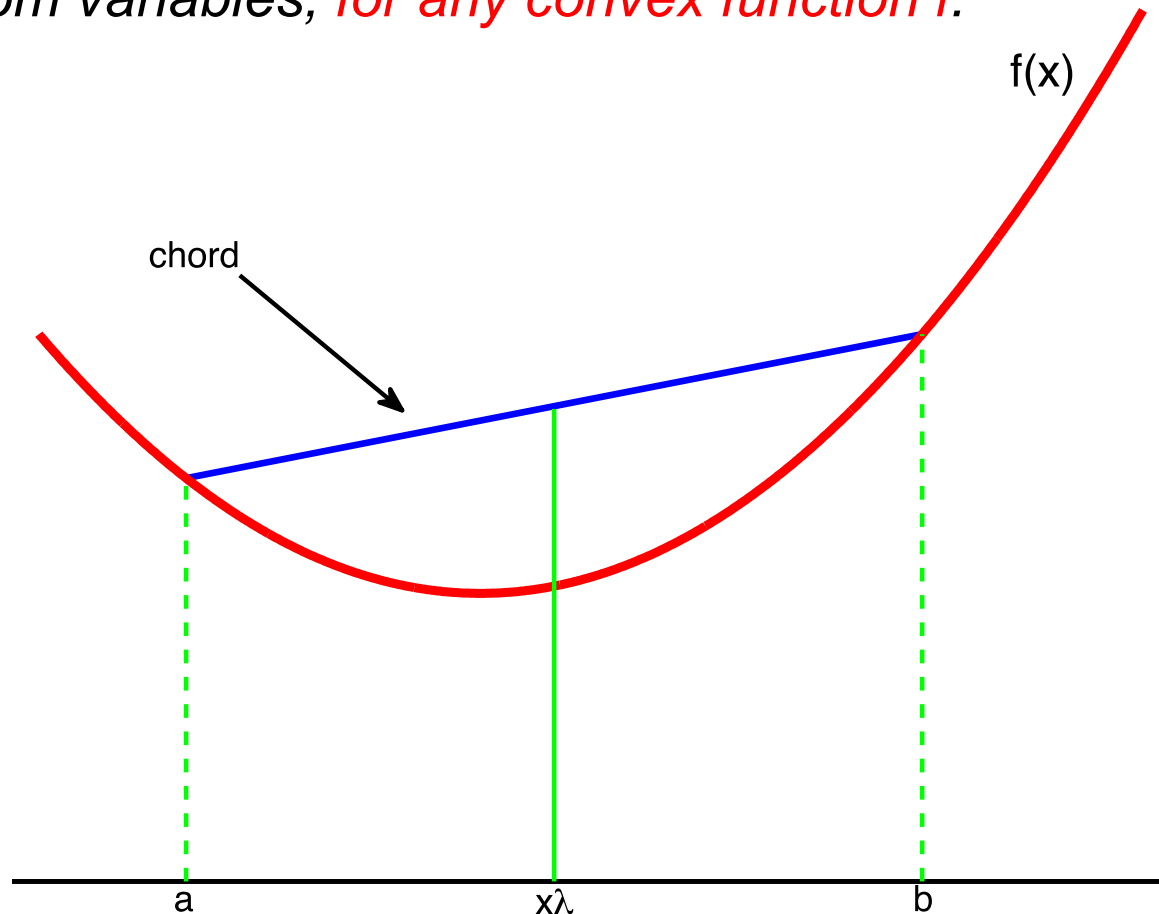
where  $\lambda_i \geq 0$ ,  $\sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i = 1$  so  $\lambda_i = \Pr[X = x_i]$



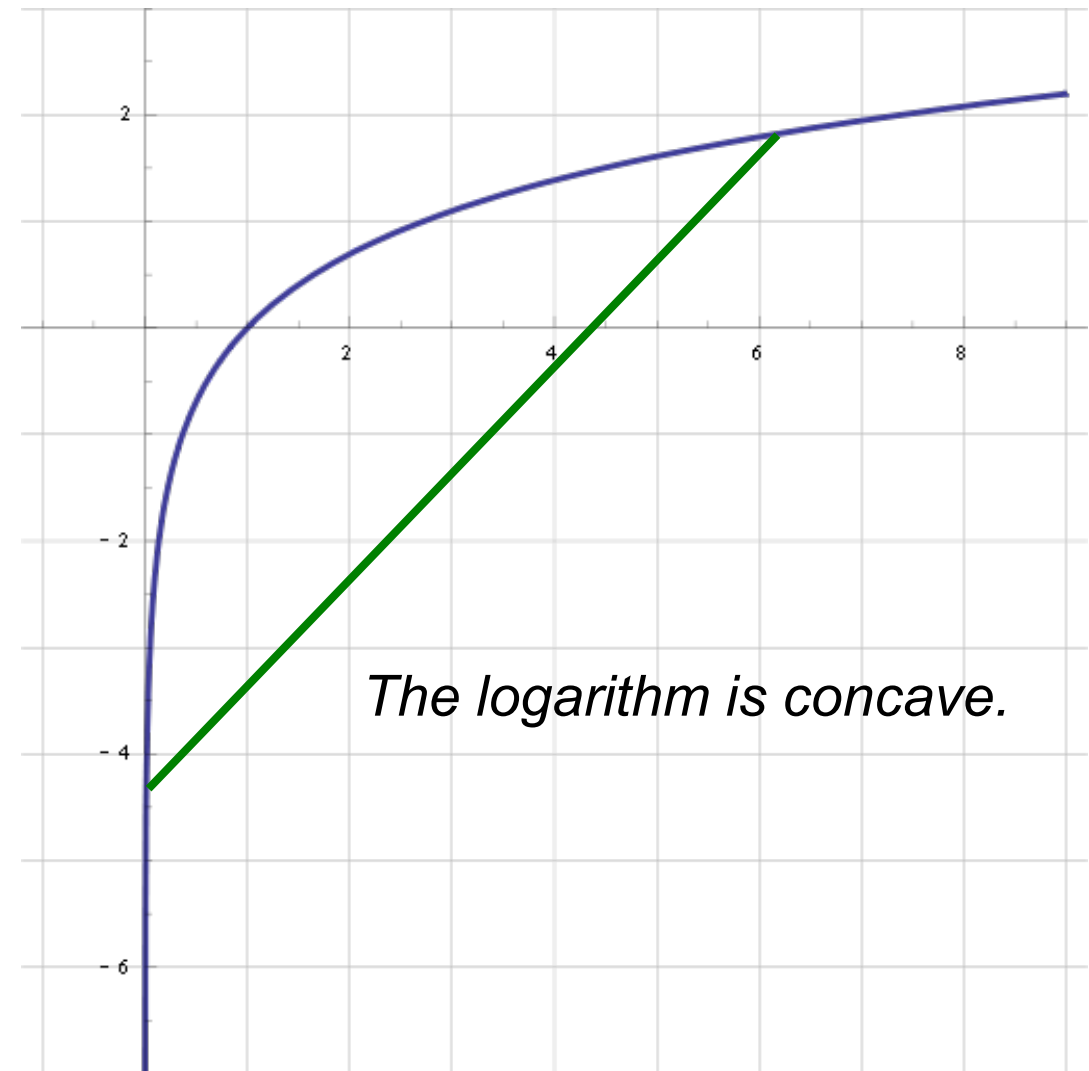
# Jensen's Inequality

$$f(\mathbb{E}[X]) \leq \mathbb{E}[f(X)]$$

Valid for both discrete (expectations are sums) and continuous (expectations are integrals) random variables, *for any convex function  $f$* .



$$\ln(\mathbb{E}[X]) \geq \mathbb{E}[\ln(X)]$$



# Expectation Maximization

Find tightest lower bound of marginal likelihood,

$$\max_{\theta} \log p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta) \geq \max_{q, \theta} \mathbf{E}_q \left[ \log \frac{p(z, \mathcal{Y} | \theta)}{q(z)} \right] \equiv \mathcal{L}(q, \theta)$$

Solve by coordinate ascent...

Initialize Parameters:  $\theta^{(0)}$

At iteration t do:

Update q:  $q^{(t)} = \arg \max_q \mathcal{L}(q, \theta^{(t-1)})$

Update  $\theta$ :  $\theta^{(t)} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(q^{(t)}, \theta)$

Until convergence

Fix  $\theta$



Fix q



# Expectation Maximization

Find tightest lower bound of marginal likelihood,

$$\max_{\theta} \log p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta) \geq \max_{q, \theta} \mathbf{E}_q \left[ \log \frac{p(z, \mathcal{Y} | \theta)}{q(z)} \right] \equiv \mathcal{L}(q, \theta)$$

Solve by coordinate ascent...

Initialize Parameters:  $\theta^{(0)}$

At iteration t do:

**E-Step:**  $q^{(t)} = \arg \max_q \mathcal{L}(q, \theta^{(t-1)})$

**M-Step:**  $\theta^{(t)} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(q^{(t)}, \theta)$

Until convergence

Fix  $\theta$



Fix  $q$



# E-Step

$$q^{(t)}(z) = \arg \max_q \mathcal{L}(q, \theta^{(t-1)}) \equiv \mathbf{E}_q \left[ \log \frac{p(z, y | \theta^{(t-1)})}{q(z)} \right]$$

Concave (in  $q(z)$ ) and optimum occurs at,

$$q^{(t)}(z) = p(z | y, \theta^{(t-1)})$$

Set  $q(z)$  to posterior with current parameters

Initialize Parameters:  $\theta^{(0)}$

At iteration  $t$  do:

**E-Step:**  $q^{(t)}(z) = p(z | y, \theta^{(t-1)})$

**M-Step:**  $\theta^{(t)} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(q^{(t)}, \theta)$

Until convergence

# M-Step

$$\theta^{(t)} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(q^{(t)}, \theta) = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathbf{E}_{q^{(t)}} \left[ \log \frac{p(z, y | \theta)}{q^{(t)}} \right]$$

Adding / subtracting constants we have,

$$\theta^{(t)} = \arg \max_{\theta} \sum_z q^{(t)}(z) \log p(y | z, \theta)$$

**Intuition** We don't know  $Z$ , so average log-likelihood over current posterior  $q(z)$ , then maximize. E.g. weighted MLE.

*May lack a closed-form, but suffices to take one or more gradient steps.  
Don't need to maximize, just improve.*

# Expectation Maximization

Initialize Parameters:  $\theta^{(0)}$

At iteration t do:

Expectation in E-step is kind of confusing. Think of this as alternating maximizations

**E-Step:**  $q^{(t)}(z) = p(z | y, \theta^{(t-1)})$

**M-Step:**  $\theta^{(t)} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(q^{(t)}, \theta)$

Until convergence

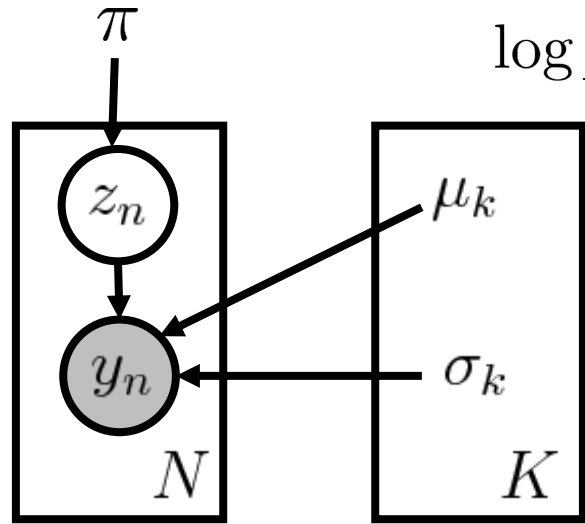
**E-Step** Compute **expected** log-likelihood under the posterior distribution,

$$q^{(t)}(z) = p(z | y, \theta^{(t-1)}) \quad \mathbf{E}_{q^{(t)}} [\log p(y | z, \theta)] = \mathcal{L}(q^{(t)}, \theta)$$

**M-Step Maximize** expected log-likelihood,

$$\theta^{(t)} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(q^{(t)}, \theta)$$

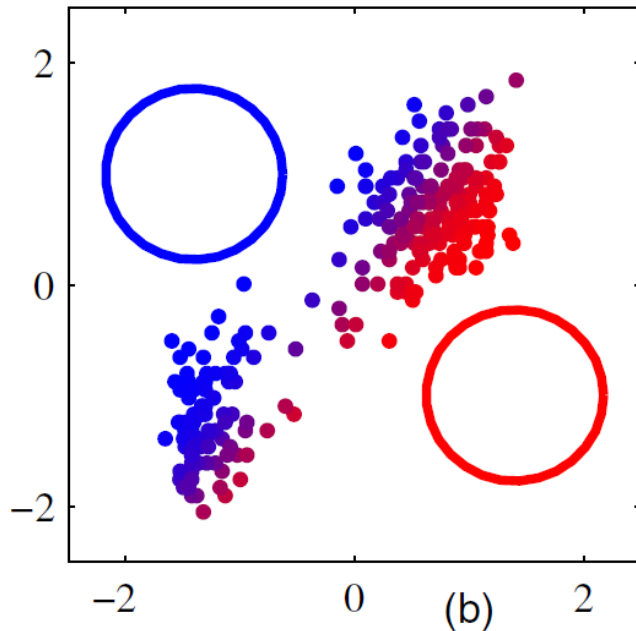
# Example: Gaussian Mixture Model



$$\log p(\mathcal{Y} \mid \pi, \mu, \Sigma) \geq \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K q(z_n = k) \log \{ \pi_k \mathcal{N}(y_n \mid \mu_k, \Sigma_k) \} = \mathcal{L}(q, \theta)$$

**E-Step:**  $q^{\text{new}} = \arg \max_q \mathcal{L}(q, \theta^{\text{old}})$

$$q^{\text{new}}(z_n = k) = p(z_n = k \mid \mathcal{Y}, \mu^{\text{old}}, \Sigma^{\text{old}}, \pi^{\text{old}})$$



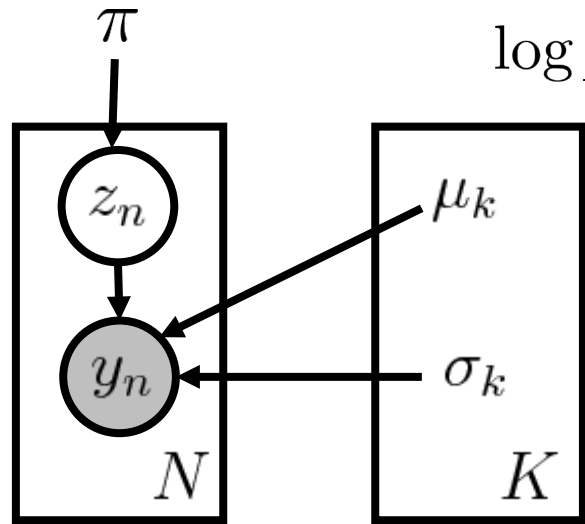
$$= \frac{p(z_n = k, \mathcal{Y} \mid \mu^{\text{old}}, \Sigma^{\text{old}}, \pi^{\text{old}})}{\sum_{j=1}^K p(z_n = j, \mathcal{Y} \mid \mu^{\text{old}}, \Sigma^{\text{old}}, \pi^{\text{old}})}$$

$$= \frac{\pi_k \mathcal{N}(y_n \mid \mu_k^{\text{old}}, \Sigma_k^{\text{old}})}{\sum_{j=1}^K \pi_j \mathcal{N}(y_n \mid \mu_j^{\text{old}}, \Sigma_j^{\text{old}})}$$

Commonly refer to  $q(z_n)$  as *responsibility*



# Example: Gaussian Mixture Model



$$\log p(\mathcal{Y} \mid \pi, \mu, \Sigma) \geq \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K q(z_n = k) \log \{ \pi_k \mathcal{N}(y_n \mid \mu_k, \Sigma_k) \} = \mathcal{L}(q, \theta)$$

**M-Step:**  $\theta^{\text{new}} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(q^{\text{new}}, \theta)$

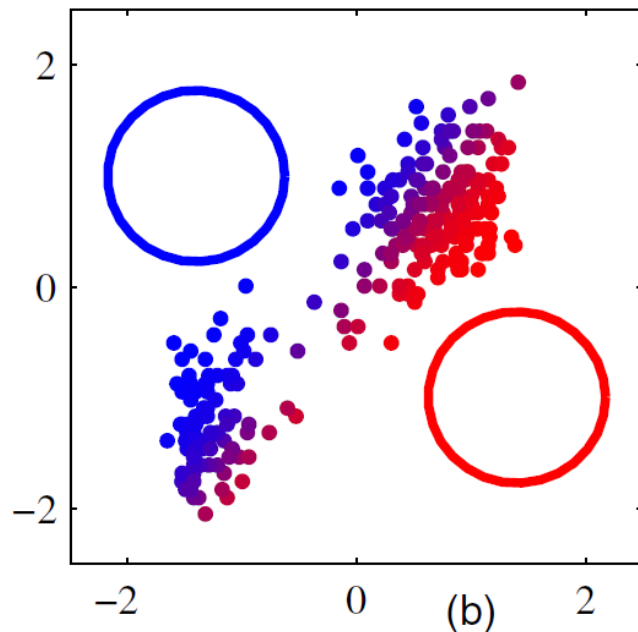
Start with mean parameter  $\mu_k$ ,

$$0 = \nabla_{\mu_k} \mathcal{L}(q^{\text{new}}, \theta)$$

$$0 = \sum_{n=1}^N \nabla_{\mu_k} \mathbf{E}_{z_n \sim q^{\text{new}}} [\log \mathcal{N}(y_n \mid \mu_{z_n}, \Sigma_{z_n})]$$

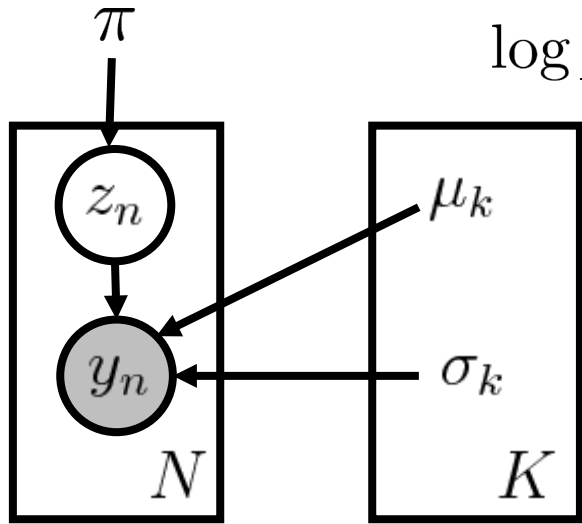
$$0 = - \sum_{n=1}^N q^{\text{new}}(z_n = k) \Sigma_k (y_n - \mu_k)$$

$$\mu_k^{\text{new}} = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N q^{\text{new}}(z_n = k) y_n \quad \text{where} \quad N_k = \sum_{n=1}^N q(z_n = k)$$



# Example: Gaussian Mixture Model

$$\log p(\mathcal{Y} \mid \pi, \mu, \Sigma) \geq \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K q(z_n = k) \log \{ \pi_k \mathcal{N}(y_n \mid \mu_k, \Sigma_k) \} = \mathcal{L}(q, \theta)$$

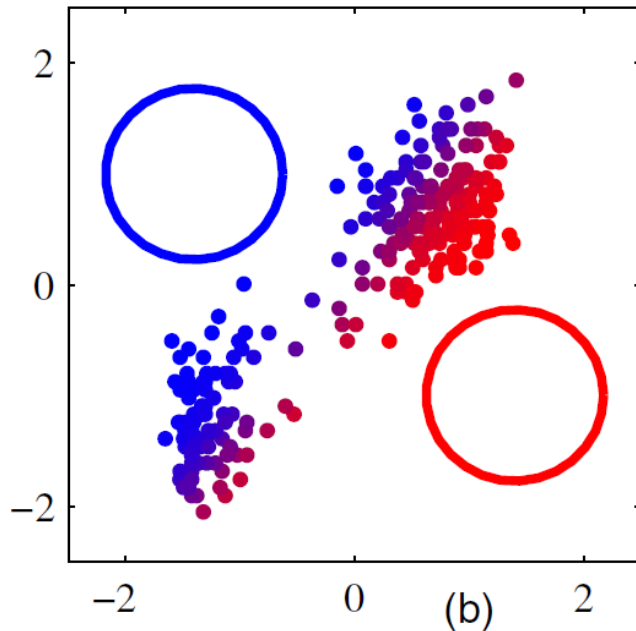


**M-Step:**  $\theta^{\text{new}} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(q^{\text{new}}, \theta)$

Repeat for remaining parameters,

$$\Sigma_k^{\text{new}} = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N q(z_n = k) (y_n - \mu_k^{\text{new}})(y_n - \mu_k^{\text{new}})^T$$

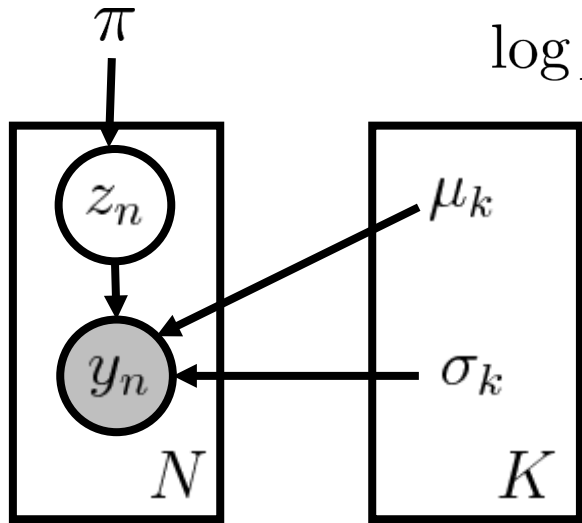
$$\pi_k^{\text{new}} = \frac{N_k}{N}$$



- Solving for mixture weights requires a bit more work
- Need constraint  $\sum_k \pi_k = 1$
- Use Lagrange multiplier approach

# Example: Gaussian Mixture Model

$$\log p(\mathcal{Y} | \pi, \mu, \Sigma) \geq \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K q(z_n = k) \log \{ \pi_k \mathcal{N}(y_n | \mu_k, \Sigma_k) \} = \mathcal{L}(q, \theta)$$

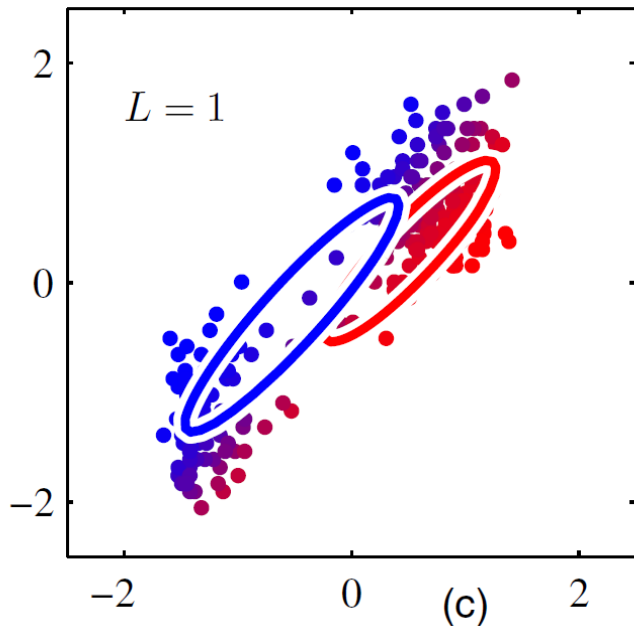


**M-Step:**  $\theta^{\text{new}} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(q^{\text{new}}, \theta)$

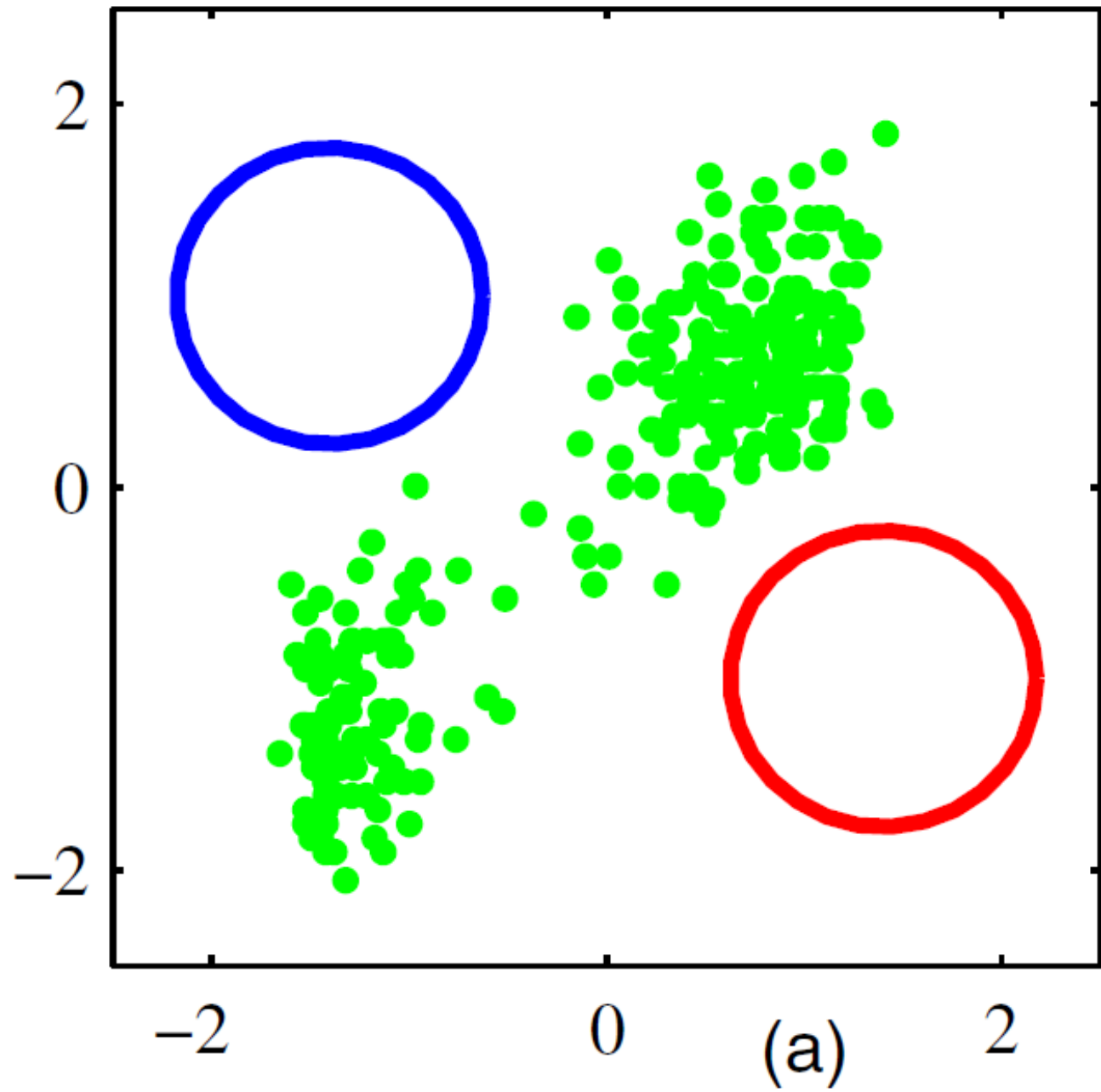
Repeat for remaining parameters,

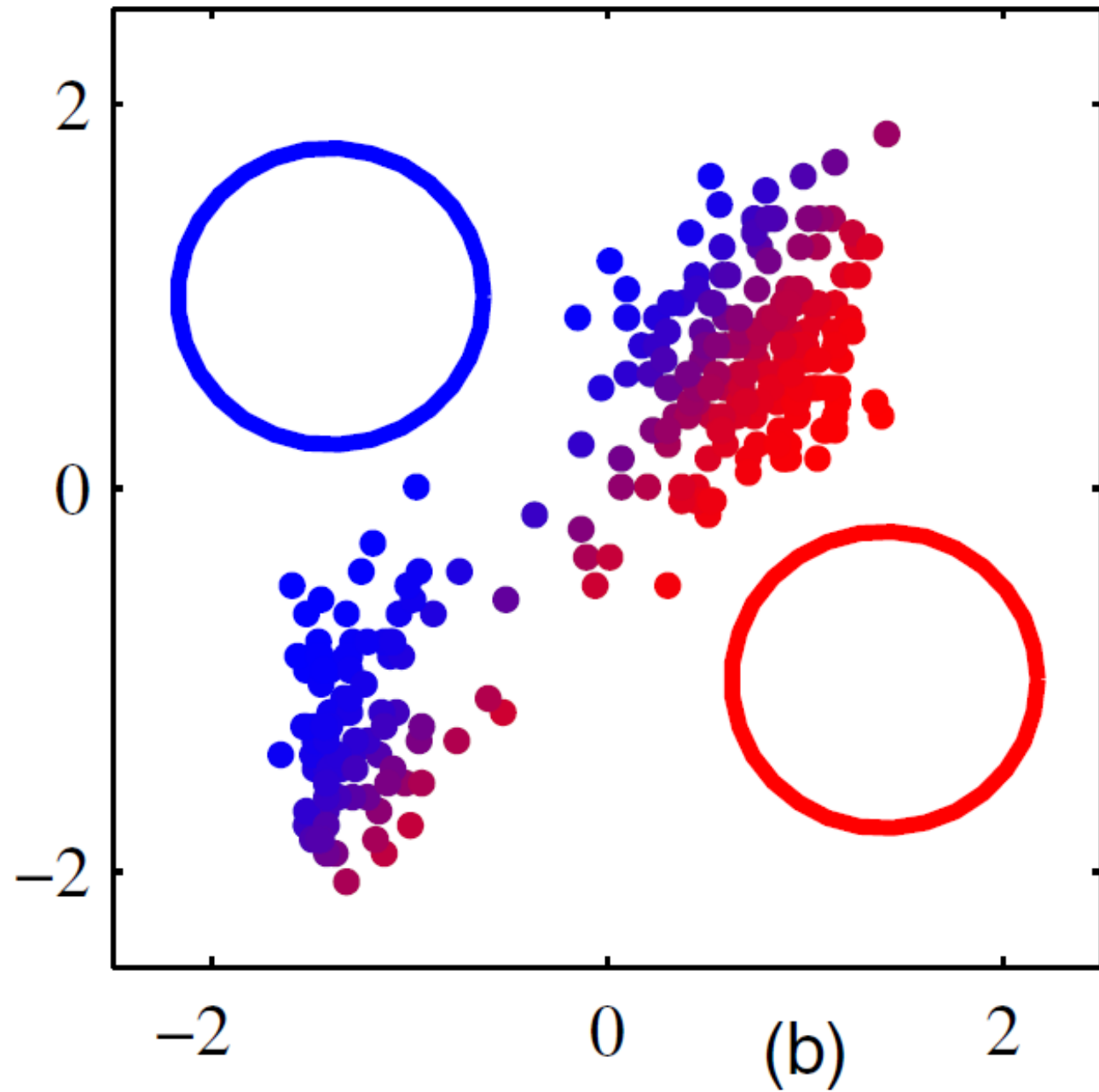
$$\Sigma_k^{\text{new}} = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N q(z_n = k) (y_n - \mu_k^{\text{new}})(y_n - \mu_k^{\text{new}})^T$$

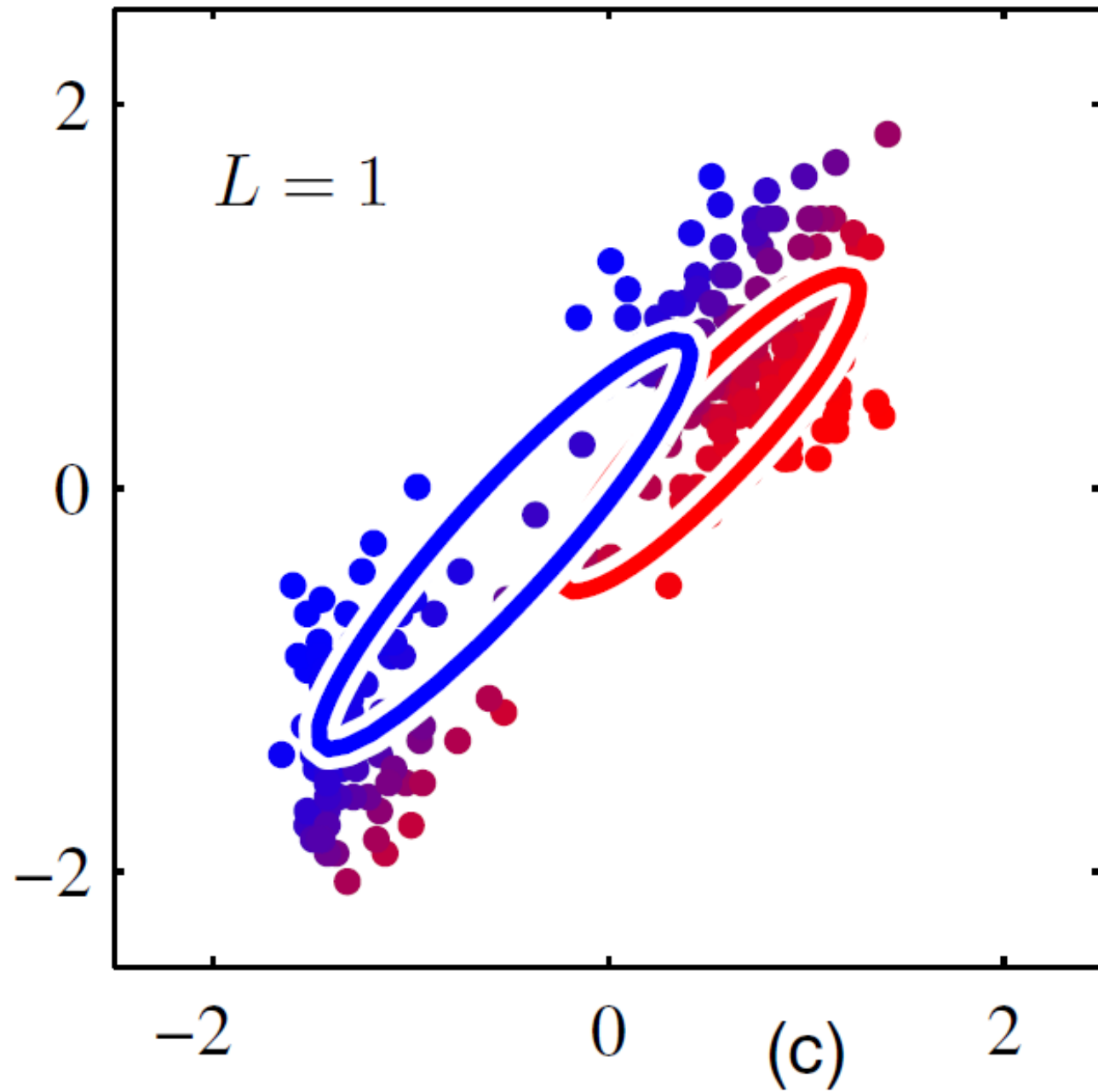
$$\pi_k^{\text{new}} = \frac{N_k}{N}$$

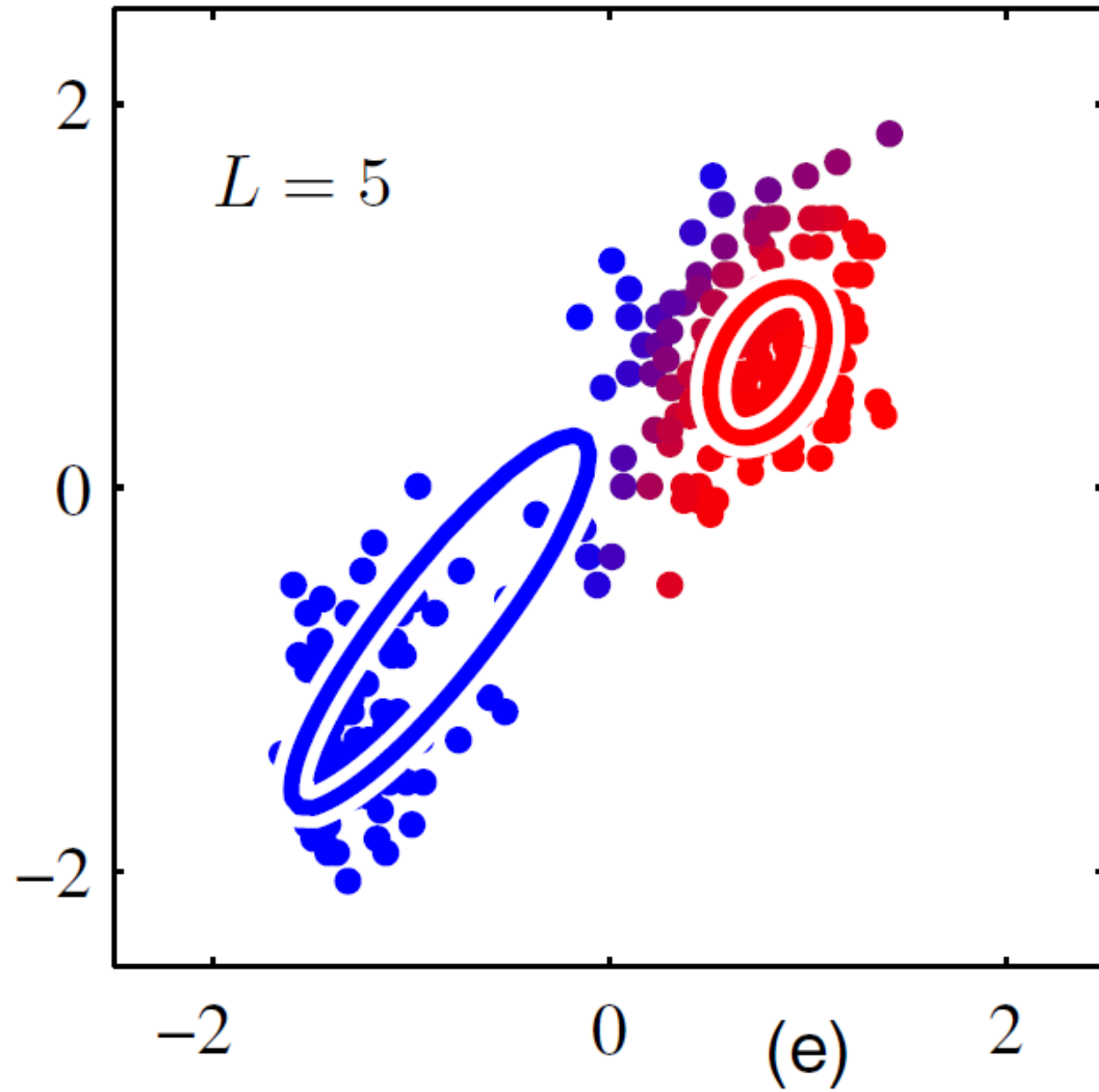


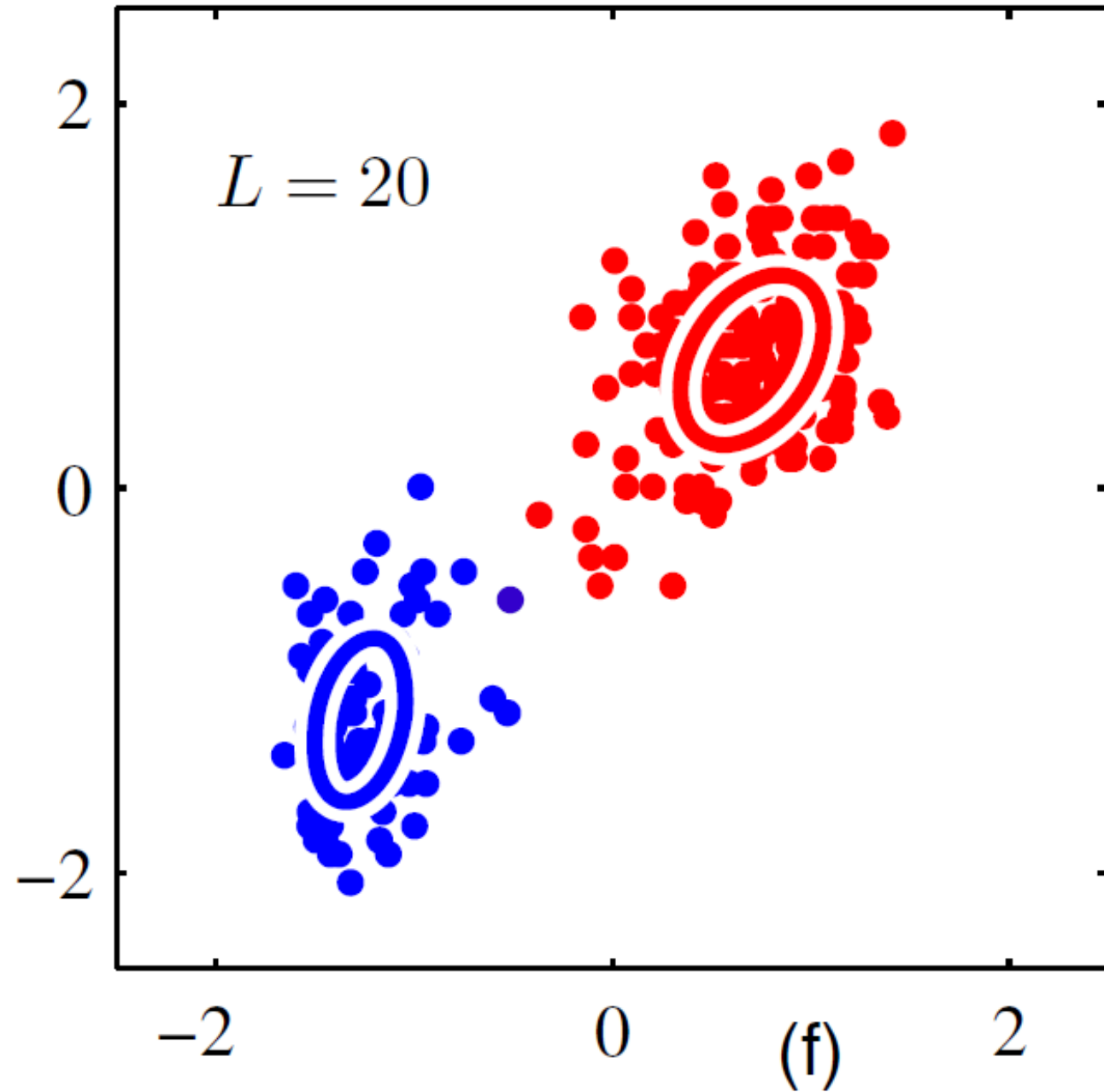
- Solving for mixture weights requires a bit more work
- Need constraint  $\sum_k \pi_k = 1$
- Use Lagrange multiplier approach





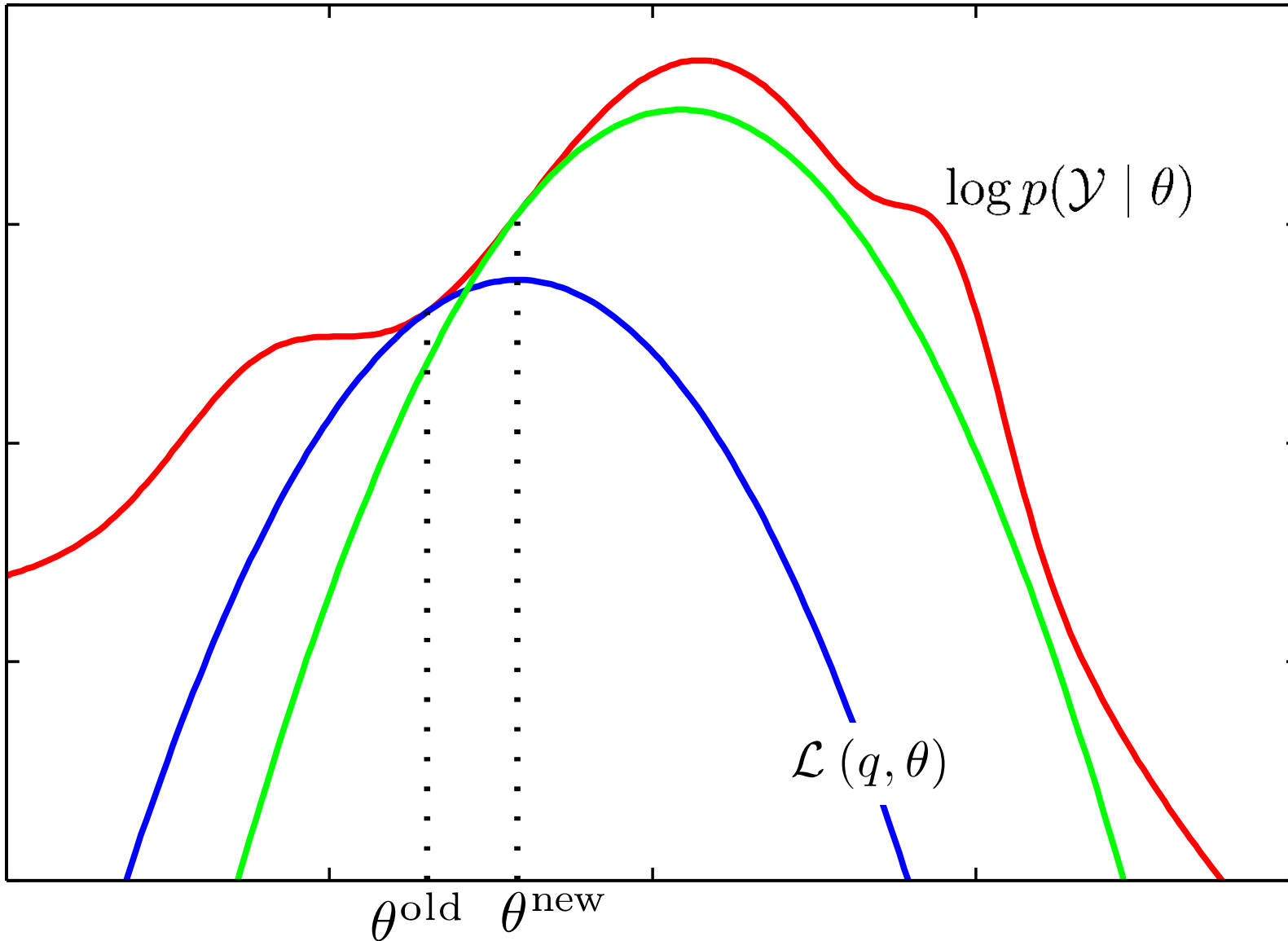








# EM: A Sequence of Lower Bounds



# EM Lower Bound

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{E}_q \left[ \log \frac{p(z, y | \theta)}{q(z)} \right] &= \mathbf{E}_q \left[ \log \frac{p(z, y | \theta)}{q(z)} \frac{p(y | \theta)}{p(y | \theta)} \right] && \text{( Multiply by 1 )} \\ &= \log p(y | \theta) - \text{KL}(q(z) || p(z | y, \theta)) && \text{( Definition of KL )}\end{aligned}$$

Bound gap is the Kullback-Leibler divergence  $\text{KL}(q||p)$ ,

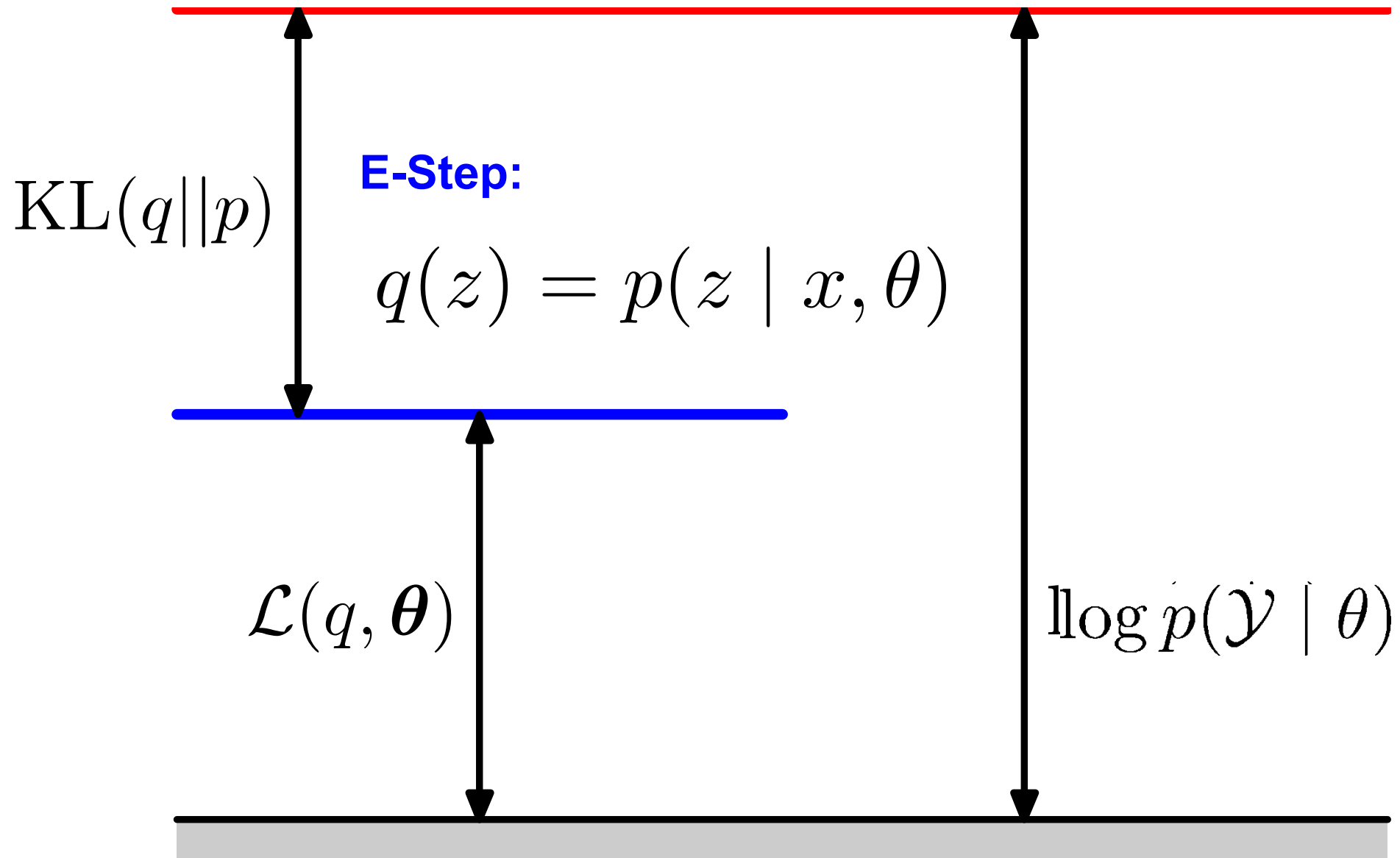
$$\text{KL}(q(z) || p(z | y, \theta)) = \sum_z q(z) \log \frac{q(z)}{p(z | y, \theta)}$$

➤ Similar to a “distance” between  $q$  and  $p$

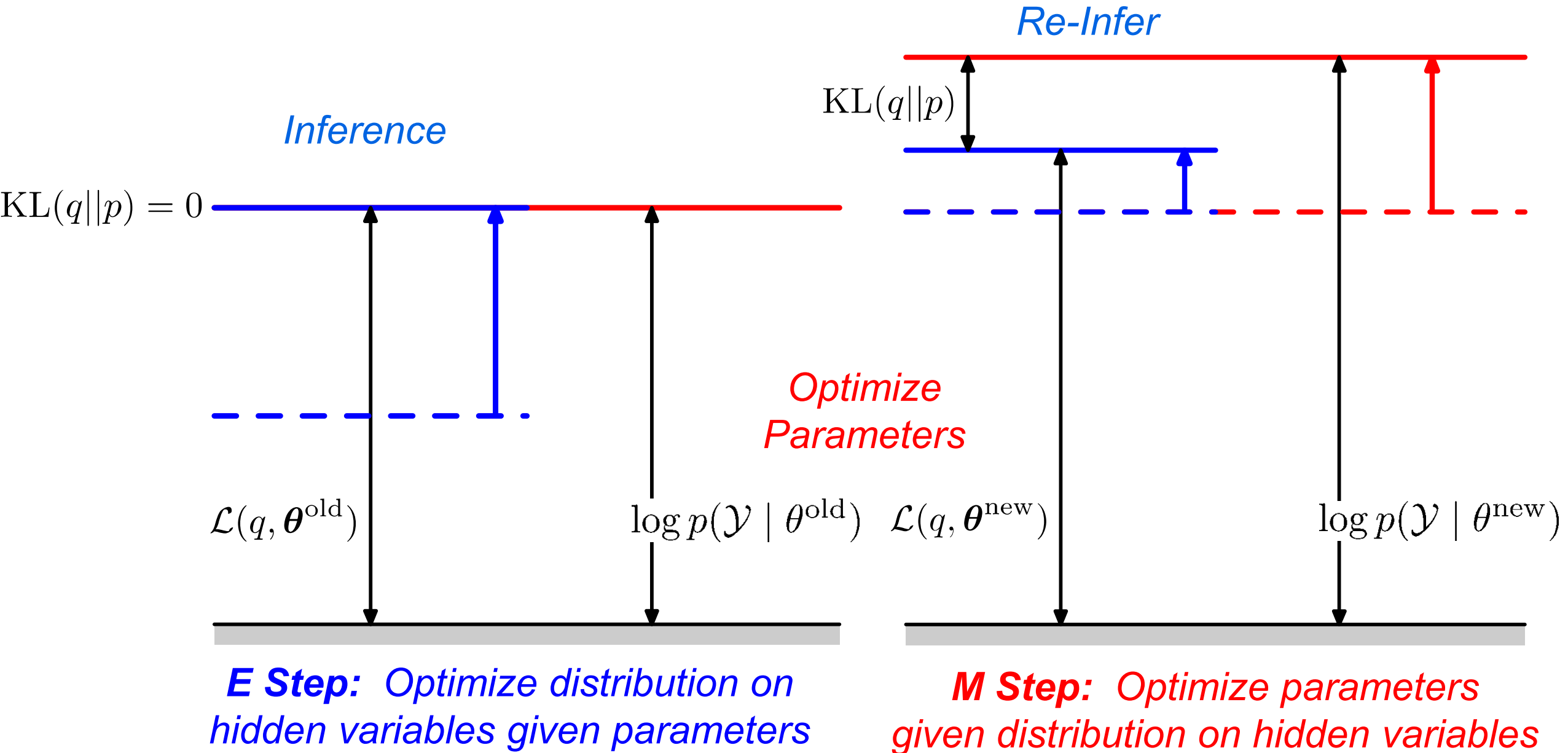
$$\text{KL}(q || p) \geq 0 \text{ and } \text{KL}(q || p) = 0 \text{ if and only if } q = p$$

➤ This is why solution to E-step is  $q(z) = p(z | y, \theta)$

# Lower Bounds on Marginal Likelihood



# Expectation Maximization Algorithm



# Properties of Expectation Maximization Algorithm

Sequence of bounds is monotonic,

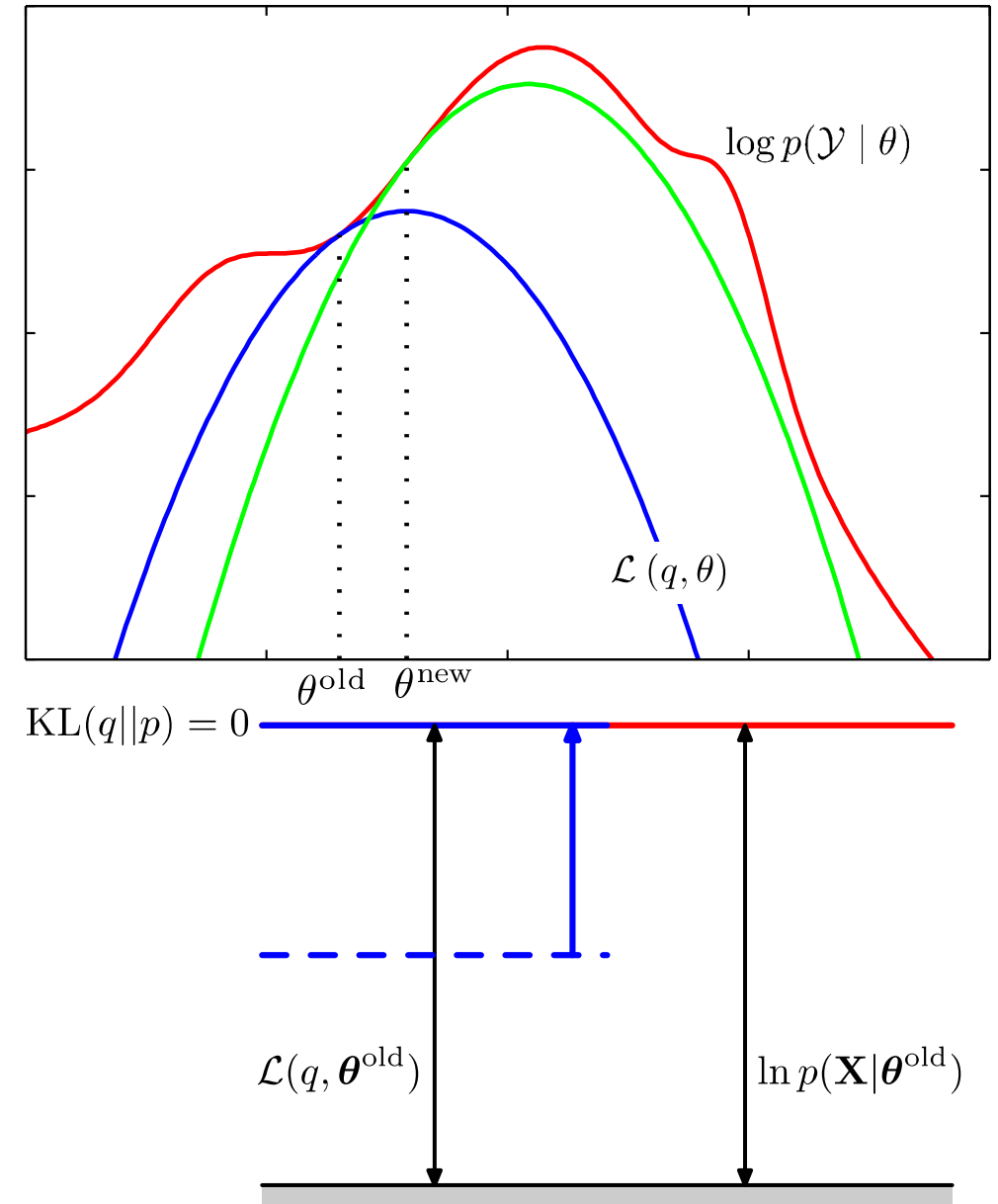
$$\mathcal{L}(q^{(1)}, \theta^{(1)}) \leq \mathcal{L}(q^{(2)}, \theta^{(2)}) \leq \dots \leq \mathcal{L}(q^{(T)}, \theta^{(T)})$$

Guaranteed to converge

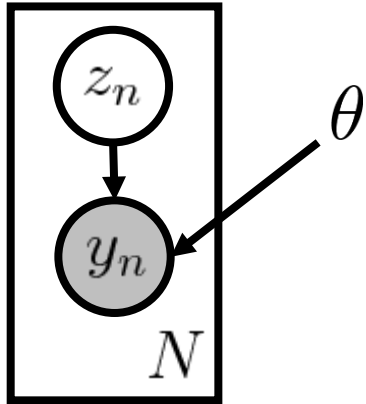
(Pf. Monotonic sequence bounded above.)

Converges to a local maximum of the marginal likelihood

After each E-step bound is tight at  $\theta^{\text{old}}$  so likelihood calculation is exact (for those parameters)



# MLE vs. MAP Estimation

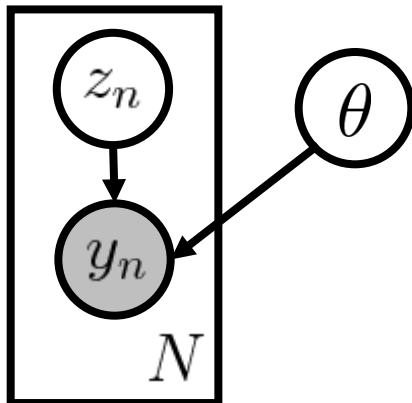


Conditional model,

$$p(z, y | \theta) = \prod_{n=1}^N p(z_n) p(y_n | z_n, \theta)$$

MLE estimate of unknown non-random parameters,

$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = \arg \max_{\theta} \log p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta)$$



Generative model,

Corresponds to regularized MLE

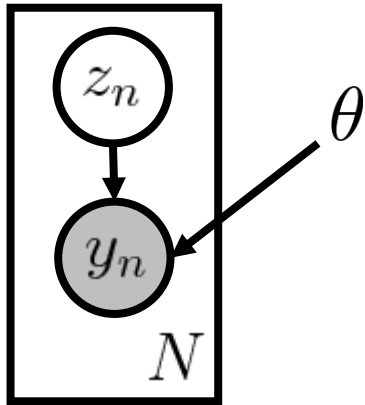
$$p(z, y, \theta) = p(\theta) \prod_{n=1}^N p(z_n) p(y_n | z_n, \theta)$$

MAP estimate of random parameters,

$$\theta^{\text{MAP}} = \arg \max_{\theta} \log p(\theta) + \log p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta)$$

# EM Lower Bound

*Recall EM lower bound of marginal likelihood*



$$\arg \max_{\theta} \log p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta) = \arg \max_{\theta} \log \sum_z p(z, \mathcal{Y} | \theta)$$

( Multiply by  $q(z)/q(z)=1$  )

$$= \log \sum_z p(z, \mathcal{Y} | \theta) \left( \frac{q(z)}{q(z)} \right)$$

( Definition of Expected Value )

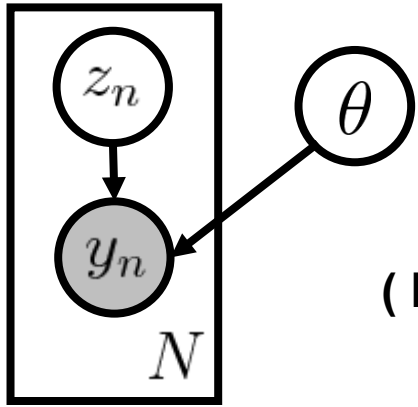
$$= \log \mathbf{E}_q \left[ \frac{p(z, \mathcal{Y} | \theta)}{q(z)} \right]$$

( Jensen's Inequality )

$$\geq \mathbf{E}_q \left[ \log \frac{p(z, \mathcal{Y} | \theta)}{q(z)} \right]$$

# MAP EM

*Bound holds with addition of log-prior*



$$\arg \max_{\theta} \log p(\theta \mid \mathcal{Y}) = \arg \max_{\theta} \log \sum_z p(z, \mathcal{Y} \mid \theta) + \log p(\theta)$$

( Multiply by  $q(z)/q(z)=1$  )

$$= \log \sum_z p(z, \mathcal{Y} \mid \theta) \left( \frac{q(z)}{q(z)} \right) + \log p(\theta)$$

( Definition of Expected Value )

$$= \log \mathbf{E}_q \left[ \frac{p(z, \mathcal{Y} \mid \theta)}{q(z)} \right] + \log p(\theta)$$

( Jensen's Inequality )

$$\geq \mathbf{E}_q \left[ \log \frac{p(z, \mathcal{Y} \mid \theta)}{q(z)} \right] + \log p(\theta)$$



# MAP EM

$$\max_{\theta} \log p(\theta, \mathcal{Y}) \geq \max_{q, \theta} \mathbf{E}_q \left[ \log \frac{p(z, \mathcal{Y} | \theta)}{q(z)} \right] + \log p(\theta)$$

**E-Step:** Fix parameters and maximize w.r.t.  $q(z)$ ,

$$q^{\text{new}} = \arg \max_q \mathbf{E}_q \left[ \log \frac{p(z, \mathcal{Y} | \theta^{\text{old}})}{q(z)} \right] + \boxed{\log p(\theta^{\text{old}})} \quad \text{Constant in } q(z)$$

Same solution as standard maximum likelihood EM,

$$q^{\text{new}} = p(z | \mathcal{Y}, \theta^{\text{old}})$$

**M-Step:** Fix  $q(z)$  and optimize parameters,

$$\theta^{\text{new}} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathbf{E}_{q^{\text{new}}} [\log p(\mathcal{Y} | z, \theta)] + \log p(\theta)$$

# MAP EM

Initialize Parameters:  $\theta^{(0)}$

At iteration t do:

**E-Step:**  $q^{(t)}(z) = p(z | y, \theta^{(t-1)})$

**M-Step:**  $\theta^{(t)} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(q^{(t)}, \theta) + \log p(\theta)$

Until convergence

**E-Step** Compute **expected** log-likelihood under the posterior distribution,

$$q^{(t)}(z) = p(z | y, \theta^{(t-1)}) \quad \mathbf{E}_{q^{(t)}}[\log p(y | z, \theta)] = \mathcal{L}(q^{(t)}, \theta)$$

**M-Step Maximize** expected log-likelihood,

$$\theta^{(t)} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(q^{(t)}, \theta) + \log p(\theta)$$

# EM Summary

Approximate MLE for intractable marginal likelihood via lower bound,

$$\max_{\theta} \log p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta) \geq \max_{q, \theta} \mathbf{E}_q \left[ \log \frac{p(z, \mathcal{Y} | \theta)}{q(z)} \right] \equiv \mathcal{L}(q, \theta)$$

Coordinate ascent alternately maximizes  $q(z)$  and  $\theta$ ,

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{E}\text{-Step} & \mathbf{M}\text{-Step} \\ q^{\text{new}} = \arg \max_q \mathcal{L}(q, \theta^{\text{old}}) & \theta^{\text{new}} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(q^{\text{new}}, \theta) \end{array}$$

Solution to E-step sets  $q$  to posterior over hidden variables,

$$q^{\text{new}}(z) = p(z | \mathcal{Y}, \theta^{\text{old}})$$

M-step is problem-dependent, requires gradient calculation

# EM Summary

Easily extends to (approximate) MAP estimation,

$$\max_{\theta} \log p(\theta \mid \mathcal{Y}) \geq \max_{q, \theta} \mathbf{E}_q \left[ \log \frac{p(z, \mathcal{Y} \mid \theta)}{q(z)} \right] + \log p(\theta) + \text{const.}$$

E-step unchanged / Slightly modifies M-step,

<b>E-Step</b>	<b>M-Step</b>
$q^{\text{new}} = \arg \max_q \mathcal{L}(q, \theta^{\text{old}})$	$\theta^{\text{new}} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(q^{\text{new}}, \theta) + \log p(\theta)$
$= p(z \mid \mathcal{Y}, \theta^{\text{old}})$	

## Properties of both MLE / MAP EM

- Monotonic in  $\mathcal{L}(q, \theta)$  or  $\mathcal{L}(q, \theta) + \log p(\theta)$  (for MAP)
- Provably converge to local optima (hence approximate estimation)

# Learning Summary

Maximum likelihood estimation (MLE) maximizes (log-)likelihood func,

$$\theta^{\text{MLE}} = \arg \max_{\theta} \log p(\mathcal{Y} | \theta) \equiv \mathcal{L}(\theta)$$

Where parameters are *unknown non-random* quantities

Tendency to *overfit* training data mitigated by inclusion of regularizer,

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(\theta) - \lambda \mathcal{R}(\theta)$$

For linear-Gaussian models  $\theta^{\text{MLE}}$  and  $\hat{\theta}$  have closed-form leading to:

- Least-squares estimation
- Ridge regression (L2 regularized least-squares)
- LASSO regression (L1 regularized least-squares)

# Learning Summary

Maximum a posteriori (MAP) maximizes posterior probability,

$$\theta^{\text{MAP}} = \arg \max_{\theta} \log p(\theta \mid \mathcal{Y}) = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(\theta) + \log p(\theta)$$

Parameters are *random* quantities with prior  $p(\theta)$ .

Corresponds to regularized MLE for specific prior/regularizer pair,

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(\theta) - \lambda \mathcal{R}(\theta)$$

Gaussian prior=L2, Laplacian prior=L1

Straightforward sequential updating, e.g. Bayesian linear regression

# Learning Summary

- Most models will not yield closed-form MLE/MAP estimates
- Gradient-based methods optimize log-likelihood function

$$\theta^{k+1} = \theta^k + \beta \nabla_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(\theta^k)$$

- Expectation Maximization (EM) alternative to gradient methods
- Both approaches approximate for non-convex models