Probabilistic Count Matrix Factorization for Single Cell Expression Data Analysis

Ghislain DURIF July 4th 2019 Single-cell RNA-seq day, Toulouse

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1. Introduction

- 2. Dimension reduction with matrix factorization
- 3. Matrix Factorization for count data
- 4. Experiments
- 5. To conclude

Introduction

Single-cell RNA-seq

RNA-seq

• Quantification of gene expression on a genomic scale



Single-cell level (scRNA-seq)

- gene-to-gene variability: expression dynamics (low expression genes)
- cell-to-cell variability: diversity within a population of cells

x_{ij} = expression of gene j
in sample i

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High dimension:
 n grows but ≪ p

 $\rightarrow n \sim 100/1000$
and $p \sim 10000$

RNA-seq = count data



• Count data with drop-out events in single-cell RNA-seq (zero-inflation)

 $\rightarrow\,$ number of reads that map to a gene position

"The curse of high-dimensionality" (Donoho, 2000)

- Geometry: counter-intuitive behavior of metrics (Aggarwal et al., 2001)
 - ightarrow Representation: how to visualize thousands of variables?
- **Optimization:** numerical singularities due to complex dependencies (colinearity)
- · Computational efficiency and scalability

• Geometry: counter-intuitive behavior of metrics (Aggarwal et al., 2001)



with $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^p$

 $p \mapsto \|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2\|_2$

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• **Optimization:** numerical singularities due to complex dependencies (colinearity)

 $p \mapsto \operatorname{rank}(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})$

Note: if rank($X^T X$) < p then $X^T X$ is not invertible



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 \rightarrow Dimension reduction approaches

Dimension reduction

Statistical challenges

- Data exploration
- Visualization / clustering



Buganim et al. (2012)

- Representation of the data in a lower dimensional subspace
- Consider sparsity
 - $\rightarrow\,$ select the variables (genes) that contribute to this representation



Buganim et al. (2012)

Zero-inflation and drop-out events

- No gene expression
- Transcription is **bursty** (cells are not synchronized)
- Failure of the sequencing (dropout events = loss of the information)



Gene expression distribution (Freytag et al., 2018, "goldstandard" dataset)

Dimension reduction with matrix factorization

Data dimension



- *n* individuals (cells) with *p* recordings
- p variables (genes) with n observations

Data dimension



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Data dimension



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Regression

2-d



Source: stackoverflow.com

Dimension > 3

?













Visualization/clustering

- Represention of individuals/cells (columns of **U**) in dimension K < p
- Contribution of variables/genes (columns of V) in dimension K < n



Visualization/clustering

- Represention of individuals/cells (columns of U) in dimension *K* < *p*
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Data visualization with K = 2



• scatter plot of $(u_{i1}, u_{i2})_{i=1:n}$

- Expose hidden/latent structures
- Principal Component Analysis (PCA)?

Latent space projection



• Linear **projection** of **X** onto a lower dimensional space (of dim. *K*)

$$u_{ik} = \sum_{j=1}^{p} x_{ij} v_{jk} \qquad \qquad u_k = \mathbf{X} \mathbf{v}_k \text{ with } \begin{cases} \mathbf{u}_k \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ \mathbf{v}_k \in \mathbb{R}^p \end{cases}$$

Principal Component Analysis (PCA; Pearson, 1901; Hotelling, 1933)



• Additional constraints: $||v||_2 = 1$ and \mathbf{t}_k orthogonal to $\mathbf{u}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{u}_{k-1}$

Variable selection



- Enforce sparsity: only a few variables contribute to the model
- Objective: drop non relevant variables from the model

Sparse PCA (Zou et al., 2006)



• Lasso principle Tibshirani (1996): ℓ_1 penalty on the weights **v**

Why matrix factorization?

ightarrow generalization of PCA principle

Matrix factorization $\mathbf{X} \approx \mathbf{U} \mathbf{V}^{\! \mathrm{\scriptscriptstyle T}}$



 $\mathbf{X}_{n \times p}$

 $\mathbf{U}_{n \times K}$

 $x_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{K} u_{ik} v_{jk}$

Matrix factorization $X\approx UV^{\scriptscriptstyle T}$



Matrix factorization $X\approx UV^{\scriptscriptstyle T}$

• Individuals (cells): $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times K}$

• Variables (genes): $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times K}$



• K =latent dimension (hopefully small) • $UV^{T} =$ low-rank representation of X

Approximation $X \approx UV^{T}$?



Approximation $X \approx UV^{T}$?



Least Square Approximation?

$$\underset{\substack{\mathsf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times K} \\ \mathsf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times K}}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \| \mathsf{X} - \mathsf{U} \mathsf{V}^{\mathsf{T}} \|_{\mathsf{F}}^{2}$$
Least Square Approximation?

$$\underset{\substack{\mathsf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times K} \\ \mathsf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times K}}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \| \mathsf{X} - \mathsf{U} \mathsf{V}^{\mathsf{T}} \|_{F}^{2}$$

• Solution given by Singular Value Decomposition (SVD Eckart and Young, 1936)

• PCA = SVD of
$$\widetilde{\mathbf{X}}$$
 where $\widetilde{x}_{ij} = x_{ij} - \overline{\mathbf{x}}_j$

Sparse matrix factorization



Sparse SVD (Shen and Huang, 2008; Witten et al., 2009)

$$\underset{\mathbf{v}\in\mathbb{R}^{p}}{\operatorname{argmin}}\left\{ \left\| \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{u}\mathbf{v}^{T} \right\|_{F}^{2} + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^{p} |v_{j}| \right\}$$

 $\cdot \ \ell_1$ penalty shrinks contributions of non pertinent variables to zero

 $\|\cdot\|_2 \leftrightarrow$ Gaussian distribution

Gaussian SVD?

•
$$\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{U}\mathbf{V}^{\mathsf{T}}, \ \mathbf{\Sigma}^{2}\right)$$
 i.e. $X_{ij} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\sum_{k} u_{ik} v_{jk}, \ \sigma_{ij}^{2}\right)$

 $\cdot \log \mathcal{L}(\mathsf{U},\mathsf{V}) = \|\mathsf{X} - \mathsf{U}\mathsf{V}^{\mathsf{T}}\|_{F}^{2}$

 $\|\cdot\|_2 \leftrightarrow \text{Gaussian}$ distribution

- Count = not Gaussian
- First idea: $X_{ij} \sim \mathscr{P}(\lambda)$
- Highly expressed genes
 - ightarrow large λ
 - \rightarrow Gaussian approximation



Empirical distribution, counts drawn from $\mathscr{P}(200)$

 $\|\cdot\|_2 \leftrightarrow \text{Gaussian}$ distribution

- Lowly expressed genes in single-cell RNA-seq?
- Poisson assumption?
 - $\rightarrow\,$ Why not Negative Binomial?
 - → *NB* suitable for RNA-seq (Anders and Huber, 2010) and for scRNA-seq (Chen et al., 2016)



Empirical distribution, counts drawn from $\mathscr{P}(2)$

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Empirical distribution, counts drawn from $\mathcal{NB}(n = 5, p = 2.5E - 3)$

1) Interest for lowly expressed genes in single-cell

2) **Over-dispersion** in RNA-seq data

 \rightarrow Var(X_{ij}) > $\mathbb{E}[X_{ij}]$

3) Single-cell data: **zero-inflation** $\rightarrow \mathbb{P}(X_{ij} = 0) > e^{-\lambda}$

Zero-inflated over-dispersed counts

Dataset	n	p^1	prop. 0
Baron et al. (2016)	1886	6080	80.9%
Freytag et al. (2018)	925	8580	39.5%
goldstandard			
Freytag et al. (2018)	8352	4547	86.3%
silverstandard 5			
Llorens-Bobadilla et al. (2015)	141	13826	64.8%

¹after pre-filtering

PCA on zero-inflated count data



Observations scores over first two principal components

Matrix Factorization for count data

Non-negative Matrix Factorization (NMF, Lee and Seung, 1999)



Least Square Approximation with non-negativity constraints

$$\underset{\substack{\mathsf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times K} \\ \mathsf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times K}}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\| \mathsf{X} - \mathsf{U} \mathsf{V}^{\mathsf{T}} \right\|_{F}^{2} \quad \text{where} \quad u_{ik}, v_{jk} \geq 0 \text{ for any } i, j, k$$

Embed PCA with a probabilistic model

- Replace $\|\cdot\|_2$ approximation by likelihood-based approaches
- $X_{ij} \sim$ probability distribution in the exponential family
- $\rightarrow~$ Factorization of $\mathbb{E}[X]$ rather than X

$$\mathbb{E}[X_{ij}] = \sum_{k=1}^{K} u_{ik} \, \mathsf{v}_{jk}$$

Poisson-NMF (Lee and Seung, 1999)



• $X_{ij} \sim \mathscr{P}(\lambda_{ij})$ with the Poisson rate matrix $\mathbf{\Lambda} = [\lambda_{ij}]_{n \times p}$

• Factorization: $\mathbb{E}[X] = \Lambda \approx UV^T \iff \lambda_{ij} \approx \sum_k u_{ik} v_{jk}$

Poisson-NMF (Lee and Seung, 1999)

Maximum Likelihood Estimation under non-negativity constraint over U and V



- $\cdot \,$ U and V are parameters
- Optimization computationally expensive
- No account for over-dispersion or zero-inflation

Bregman divergence between X and UV⁷

 $D(\mathbf{X} \mid \mathbf{U}\mathbf{V}^{\mathsf{T}})$

 \cdot Based on the parametrization in the exponential family

Poisson:
$$D(x_{ij} | \lambda_{ij}) = x_{ij} \log \frac{x_{ij}}{\lambda_{ij}} - x_{ij} + \lambda_{ij}$$

- ightarrow Connected to the likelihood
- $\rightarrow\,$ Choice of the geometry driven by the model

Matrix factorization for over-dispersed zero-inflated count data?

- Probabilistic matrix factorization
- Hierarchical model: prior on factors U and V
- + Model inference: likelihood optimization \rightarrow variational inference
- Impose sparsity on V: how to select variables?
 → Probabilistic selection

Using a Negative Binomial NMF?

- Negative Binomial = standard distribution for over-dispersed count
- $X_{ij} \sim \mathcal{NB}(r_{ij}, \pi_{ij}) \rightarrow \text{complex optimization of the likelihood}$

Using a Negative Binomial NMF?

- Negative Binomial = standard distribution for over-dispersed count
- $X_{ij} \sim \mathcal{NB}(r_{ij}, \pi_{ij}) \rightarrow \text{complex optimization of the likelihood}$
- Gamma-Poisson hierarchical model

 $\lambda_{ij} \sim \Gamma(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)$ $X_{ij} \mid \lambda \sim \mathscr{P}(\lambda_{ij})$

 \rightarrow Marginal distribution of X_{ij} is a Negative Binomial distribution:

$$X_{ij} \sim \mathcal{NB}\left(\alpha_1, \frac{\alpha_2}{\alpha_2 + 1}\right)$$

• Independent Gamma prior distributions over factors U and V:

$$U_{ik} \sim \Gamma(\alpha_{k,1}, \alpha_{k,2})$$
 and $V_{jk} \sim \Gamma(\beta_{k,1}, \beta_{k,2})$

• Conditional Poisson distribution over the data X:

$$X_{ij} \mid (U_{ik}, V_{jk})_{k=1:K} \sim \mathscr{P}(\sum_{k} U_{ik} V_{jk})$$



- Factors = latent variables
- Recover the posterior $\widehat{U} = \mathbb{E}[U \,|\, X] \text{ and } \widehat{V} = \mathbb{E}[V \,|\, X]$
- Marginal distribution is over-dispersed $Var(X_{ij}) > \mathbb{E}[X_{ij}]$

Probabilistic Count Matrix Factorization (pCMF, Durif et al., 2019)

- 1. "Zero-inflated" Gamma-Poisson factor model
 - Poisson-Dirac mixture: $X_{ij} | (U_{ik}, V_{jk})_{k=1:K} \sim (1 \pi_i^{D}) \times \delta_0 + \pi_i^{D} \times \mathscr{P}(\lambda_{ij})$
 - $1 \pi_i^{D} \in [0, 1]$ is the dropout rate for gene j



D_{ij} = drop-out event indicator

•
$$\mathbb{P}(X_{ij} = 0 | \mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}) > e^{-\lambda_{ij}}$$

- Variable *j* contributes to factor *k* if $V_{jk} \neq 0$
- Objective: force the V_{jk} 's to be null for non pertinent genes

If V was a parameter $\rightarrow \ell_1$ penalty

$$\underset{\mathbf{v}\in\mathbb{R}^{p}}{\operatorname{argmin}}\left\{ \left\| \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{u}\mathbf{v}^{T} \right\|_{F}^{2} + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^{p} |v_{j}| \right\}$$

Probabilistic variable selection

• V_{jk} is a random variable \rightarrow necessary to use sparsity-inducing priors

Spike and slab model:

- Continuous one-group prior: shrinkage to small value near zero (ex: Bayesian Lasso with Laplace prior)
- **Two-group prior:** mixture between a Dirac and a continuous distribution, true mass at zero
 - ightarrow to induce a "sparse" posterior with a mass at zero



Probabilistic Count Matrix Factorization (pCMF, Durif et al., 2019)

2. Sparse Gamma-Poisson model



- Probabilistic variable selection
- Gamma-Dirac mixture $V_{jk} \sim (1 - \pi_j^{s}) \, \delta_0 + \pi_j^{s} \, \Gamma(\beta_{k,1}, \beta_{k,2})$
- $\pi_j^{s} \in [0, 1]$ probability that gene j contributes to the model
- S_{jk} = sparsity indicator

Model inference in pCMF

- + Objective: estimation of the factors \boldsymbol{U} and \boldsymbol{V}
- $\cdot \ \mathscr{L}(U \mid X)$ and $\mathscr{L}(V \mid X)$ are not explicit
 - \rightarrow Cannot use Maximum a Posteriori (MAP) or Expectation-Maximization (EM)
 - \rightarrow Inference of the posterior of latent variables

- Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) are computationally expensive
- Variational inference²: approximation of the posterior

²See supplementary slides at the end for more details

Model inference in pCMF

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Choice of K?

- Concerns all low rank methods
- No consensus procedure
- Explained variance $\rightarrow \ell_2$ metric criterion
- Bregman divergence:

 $k \mapsto D\left(\mathbf{X} \mid \widehat{\mathbf{U}}_{1:k}(\widehat{\mathbf{V}}_{1:k})^T\right)$

• Visualization: K = 2



Percentage of explained deviance $% dev = \frac{\log p(X | \mathbf{\Lambda} = \widehat{U}\widehat{V}^{T}) - \log p(X | \mathbf{\Lambda} = \overline{X})}{\log p(X | \mathbf{\Lambda} = X) - \log p(X | \mathbf{\Lambda} = \overline{X})}$

- log p(X | Λ): conditional distribution in the model
- · $\Lambda = X$: saturated model
- **Λ** = **X**: moment estimator (column-wise average)

Percentage of explained deviance

$$% dev = \frac{\log p(\mathbf{X} \mid \mathbf{\Lambda} = \widehat{\mathbf{U}}\widehat{\mathbf{V}}^{T}) - \log p(\mathbf{X} \mid \mathbf{\Lambda} = \overline{\mathbf{X}})}{\log p(\mathbf{X} \mid \mathbf{\Lambda} = \mathbf{X}) - \log p(\mathbf{X} \mid \mathbf{\Lambda} = \overline{\mathbf{X}})}$$

- log p(X | Λ): conditional distribution in the model
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- Λ = X

 moment estimator
 (column-wise average)

Example in the Gaussian case

$$% dev = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{K} \sigma_k^2}{\sum_{\ell=1}^{rk(X)} \sigma_\ell^2} = %$$
 explained variance from PCA

 $\sigma_1 > \ldots > \sigma_{\mathsf{rk}(X)}$ = singular values of X

t-SNE³ (van der Maaten and Hinton, 2008)

- No measure of the quality of the representation
- How to choose the "perplexity" parameter?

³C.f. later

Experiments

t-SNE (van der Maaten and Hinton, 2008)

t-Stochastic Neighbourhood Embedding

Dimension *p*

- Observations: $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^p$
- Probabilistic distribution \mathcal{P} on pairwise distance $d(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i'})$

Dimension 2

- Low-dimensional obervations: $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n \in \mathbb{R}^2$
- Probabilistic distribution Q on pairwise distance $d(\mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{u}_{i'})$

t-SNE (van der Maaten and Hinton, 2008)



t-SNE (van der Maaten and Hinton, 2008)



Perplexity parameter?

- "You see what you want"
- What happens if you don't know what you are looking for?
- · See https://distill.pub/2016/misread-tsne/

Gaussian PCA with zero-inflated compartment

$$X_{ij} \sim (1-\pi_j)\delta_0 + \pi_j \mathcal{N}\left(\sum_k U_{ik} v_{jk}, \sigma_{ij}^2\right)$$

Latent factors:

- $U_{ik} \sim \mathcal{N}(\cdot, \cdot)$
- $v_{jk} = parameter$
Gaussian PCA with zero-inflated compartment

$$X_{ij} \sim (1 - \pi_j) \delta_0 + \pi_j \mathcal{N} \Big(\sum_k U_{ik} \, v_{jk} \, , \, \sigma_{ij}^2 \Big)$$

Latent factors:

- $U_{ik} \sim \mathcal{N}(\cdot, \cdot)$
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\mathbf{u}_1 vs \mathbf{u}_2 (individual representation)



\mathbf{v}_1 vs \mathbf{v}_2 (variable representation)



Simulation: quantitative results



Clustering of individuals

Quality of the model

Simulation: quantitative results



Clustering of variables

Quality of the model

scRNA-seq: data visualization

\mathbf{u}_1 vs \mathbf{u}_2 (individual representation)



Freytag et al. (2018) goldstandard dataset

scRNA-seq: data visualization

\mathbf{v}_1 vs \mathbf{v}_2 (variable representation)



Freytag et al. (2018) goldstandard dataset

scRNA-seq: quantitative results

	prop. 0	ngroup		(s)pCMF	PCA	ZIFA	t-SNE
Baron et al. (2016)	80.9%	13	adj. RI	21.2%	14.3%	15.4%	14.2%
			%dev	73.2%	41.6 %	53.5 %	/
Freytag et al. (2018)	39.5 %	3	adj. RI	81.3 %	60.1 %	56.8 %	60.5 %
goldstandard			%dev	55.7 %	65.6 %	48.6%	/
Freytag et al. (2018)	86.3 %	11	adj. RI	24.2%	16.2 %	19.8%	24.8%
silverstandard 5			%dev	70.0%	55.1%	/	/
Llorens-Bobadilla et al. (2015)	64.8 %	6	adj. RI	40.1%	25.3 %	38.3%	29.8%
			%dev	64.4%	34.8%	42.6%	/

To conclude

 \cdot Optimization algorithm \rightarrow variational inference

- Algorithm initialization
 - \rightarrow especially sparse compartment (gene pre-filtering strategy)

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- Data visualization
 - PCA
 - \rightarrow hidden PCA?

 \rightarrow representation with low of explained variance (< 10%)?

- t-SNE: clustering vs visualization a posteriori
- Dimension reduction (unsupervised)
- probabilistic Count Matrix Factorization

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- Data visualization
- Dimension reduction (unsupervised)
 - \rightarrow Latent space projection
 - \rightarrow Variable selection (sparsity)
- probabilistic Count Matrix Factorization

- Data visualization
- Dimension reduction (unsupervised)
 - $\rightarrow\,$ Latent space projection
 - \rightarrow Variable selection (sparsity)
- probabilistic Count Matrix Factorization
 - \rightarrow Model-based
 - \rightarrow Data-driven (count, over-dispersion, zero-inflation)

Count matrix Factorization

- Model selection criterion (choice of *K*)
- Calibration of the sparsity hyper-parameter
- Stochastic procedure to improve the optimization
- Extension to account for covariates in the model

Thanks for your attention

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- Laurent Modolo (CNRS, LBMC)
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Variational inference (see Hoffman et al., 2013)

- p(U, V | X) approximated by the variational distribution q(U, V)
- Regarding the Kullback-Leibler divergence \rightarrow quantify the "proximity" between two distributions of probability

$$q(\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}) = \underset{\text{distribution } \widetilde{q}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \operatorname{KL}\left(\widetilde{q}(\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}) \, \big| \, p(\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V} \, | \, \mathbf{X}) \, \right)$$

• Constraints on q:

 $ightarrow \, q$ is factorizable: independence between the factors

$$q(\mathbf{U},\mathbf{V}) = \prod_{i,k} q(u_{ik}; \mathbf{a}_{ik}) \times \prod_{j,k} q(v_{jk}; \mathbf{b}_{jk})$$

 $ightarrow \, q$ respects the Gamma-Poisson conjugacy in the exponential family

The Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO)

Objective:
$$J(q) = \mathbb{E}_q[\log p(X, U, V)] - \mathbb{E}_q[\log q(U, V)]$$

- A lower bound on the marginal log-likelihood: $\log p(X) \ge J(q)$ (by Jensen's inequality)
- Maximizing J(q) equivalent to minimizing KL(q(U, V) | p(U, V | X)) \rightarrow because $J(q) = \log p(X) - KL(q(U, V) | p(U, V | X))$
- J(q) is optimized regarding the variational parameters \mathbf{a}_{ik} and \mathbf{b}_{jk}

Optimization of the ELBO

• Gradient of J(q) regarding the variational parameters:

$$\begin{vmatrix} \nabla_{\mathbf{a}_{ik}} \\ \nabla_{\mathbf{b}_{jk}} \\ \nabla_{(rijk)_k} \end{vmatrix} J(q)$$

• Expression of the ELBO regarding the variational parameters:

$$\widetilde{J}(\mathbf{a}_{ik}) = \mathbb{E}_q[\log p(u_{ik} \mid -)] - \mathbb{E}_q[\log q(u_{ik}; \mathbf{a}_{ik})] + \mathrm{cst}$$

$$\widetilde{J}(\mathbf{b}_{jk}) = \mathbb{E}_q[\log p(\mathbf{v}_{jk} \mid -)] - \mathbb{E}_q[\log q(\mathbf{v}_{jk}; \mathbf{b}_{jk})] + \mathrm{cst}$$

$$\widetilde{J}((r_{ijk})_k) = \mathbb{E}_q[\log p((z_{ijk})_k | -)] - \mathbb{E}_q[\log q((z_{ijk})_k; (r_{ijk})_k)] + \operatorname{cst}$$

- ightarrow Explicit coordinates of the point that sets the gradient to zero
- $\rightarrow\,$ Iterative optimization through a fixed-point algorithm

Variational EM algorithm (Beal and Ghahramani, 2003)

- 1) Variational E-step:
 - $\rightarrow\,$ Estimation of the variational parameters a and b
- 2) M-step:
 - → Estimation of the prior parameters (Gamma parameters α and β) EM: argmax $\mathbb{E}_{U,V|X}[\log \mathcal{L}(X, U, V; \alpha, \beta)]$

Output: estimation of the factors by the variational expectation

 $\alpha.\beta$

 $\widehat{U} = \mathbb{E}_q[U]$ and $\widehat{V} = \mathbb{E}_q[V]$

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