Diffusion Based EM Algorithm for Distributed Estimation of Gaussian Mixtures over Sensor Networks

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- Motivation
- Centralized EM algorithm for Gaussian mixture
- Distributed EM algorithm for Gaussian mixture
- Diffusion strategy for EM algorithm
- Stochastic approximation
- Simulations
- Conclusions and future work



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Multi-target localization in WSN



Predicting wealth from age





Parametric clustering of genes



Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM)



Motivations

- Density estimation is central first step of data exploration in sensor network;
- Expectation-Maximization (EM) algorithm has been extensively exploited;
- The distributed processing method has many advantages in sensor network;
- The distributed manner of EM algorithm for Gaussian mixtures focus on the tradeoff between local processing and communication.



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Centralized EM Algorithm for Gaussian Mixture Model in Sensor Network

- A network with M sensor nodes;
- Each node has N_m observations, denoted as

$$y_{mn}, m = 1, \cdots, M, n = 1, \cdots, N_m$$

• observations are drawn form a Gaussian Mixtures with K components probabilities: $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_K$

$$y_{mn} \sim \sum_{j=1}^{K} \alpha_j \mathcal{N}(\mu_j, \Sigma_j)$$

• Membership function

$$\mathcal{E}_{mn,i}^{t} = p(z_{mn} = i \mid y_{mn}, \theta^{t})$$

$$= \frac{p(y_{mn} \mid z_{mn} = i, \theta^{t}) p(z_{mn} = i \mid \theta^{t})}{\sum_{k=1}^{K} p(y_{mn} \mid z_{mn} = k, \theta^{t}) p(z_{mn} = k \mid \theta^{t})}$$
• E-step
$$Q(\theta, \theta^{t}) = E_{z} \{ \ln[\prod_{m=1}^{M} \prod_{n=1}^{N_{m}} p(y_{mn}, z \mid \theta)] \mid y_{mn}, \theta^{t} \}$$
• M-step
$$Q(\theta, \theta^{t+1}) = Q(\theta, \theta^{t+1}) = Q(\theta, \theta^{t+1})$$

$$\theta^{t+1} = \arg\max_{\theta} Q(\theta, \theta^t)$$

• The estimation of i-th component's parameters for the Gaussian mixture at step t+1

$$\mu_{i}^{t+1} = \frac{\sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{n=1}^{N_{m}} \varepsilon_{mn,i}^{t} y_{mn}}{\sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \varepsilon_{mn,i}^{t}}$$

$$\Sigma_{i}^{t+1} = \frac{\sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{n=1}^{N_{m}} \varepsilon_{mn,i}^{t} (y_{mn} - \mu_{i}^{t+1}) (y_{mn} - \mu_{i}^{t+1})^{T}}{\sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{n=1}^{N_{m}} \varepsilon_{mn,i}^{t}}$$

$$\alpha_{i}^{t+1} = \frac{1}{\sum_{m=1}^{M} N_{m}} \sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{n=1}^{N_{m}} \varepsilon_{mn,i}^{t}$$

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Distributed EM algorithm for Gaussian mixture

- Incremental strategy (R. Nowak, TSP, 2003)
 - A cyclic sequential communication path between sensor nodes is pre-determined;
 - The local statistics will be transmitted according to this path one sensor by one sensor.
- Consensus strategy (D. Gu, TNN, 2008)
 - A consensus filter will be implemented after the E-step at each iterative step, namely C-step (consensus step);
 - Each node will exchange local information with its neighbors until the agreement is reached.



Consensus strategy for parameter estimation

- The centralized EM algorithm enables the calculation of the global solution.
- Each node can implement the EM algorithm according to its own observations.
- How can we achieve the global solution for all nodes by transmitting the local information to the neighbors but not all observations?



Consensus strategy for mean estimation



- where: $\varepsilon_{m,i}^{t} = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{m}} \varepsilon_{mn,i}^{t}, \beta_{m,i}^{t} = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{m}} \varepsilon_{mn,i}^{t} y_{mn}$ are defined as Local Statistics. • $\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M} \beta_{m,i}^{t}, \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M} \varepsilon_{m,i}^{t}$ can be obtained by a consensus filter.
- The variance and component probabilities can be obtained in the similar way.

$$\Sigma_{i}^{t+1} = \frac{\sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{n=1}^{N_{m}} \varepsilon_{mn,i}^{t} (\gamma_{mn} - \mu_{i}^{t+1}) (\gamma_{mn} - \mu_{i}^{t+1})^{T}}{\sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{n=1}^{N_{m}} \varepsilon_{mn,i}^{t}} = \frac{\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M} \gamma_{m,i}^{t}}{\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M} \varepsilon_{m,i}^{t}}$$

$$\alpha_{i}^{t+1} = \frac{1}{\sum_{m=1}^{M} N_{m}} \sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{n=1}^{N_{m}} \varepsilon_{mn,i}^{t} = \frac{M}{\sum_{m=1}^{M} N_{m}} \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M} \varepsilon_{m,i}^{t}$$

• where:
$$\gamma_{m,i}^{t} = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{m}} \varepsilon_{mn,i}^{t} (y_{mn} - \mu_{i}^{t}) (y_{mn} - \mu_{i}^{t})^{T}$$
 is Local Statistics.

Disadvantages of consensus strategy

- The convergence rates for consensus step will degrade as the number of sensor nodes increase.
- The consensus of global information for all the sensor nodes will be achieved with quite a bit of communications to the neighbors.



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Diffusion strategy for parameter estimation

• E-step:

$$\varepsilon_{m,i}^{t} = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{m}} \varepsilon_{mn,i}^{t}, \beta_{m,i}^{t} = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{m}} \varepsilon_{mn,i}^{t} y_{mn}, \gamma_{m,i}^{t} = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{m}} \varepsilon_{mn,i}^{t} (y_{mn} - \mu_{i}^{t}) (y_{mn} - \mu_{i}^{t})^{T}$$

• D-step:

$$\varepsilon_{m,i}^{t} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}_{i}|} \sum_{l \in \mathcal{N}_{m}} \varepsilon_{l,i}^{t}, \beta_{m,i}^{t} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}_{i}|} \sum_{l \in \mathcal{N}_{m}} \beta_{l,i}^{t}, \gamma_{m,i}^{t} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}_{i}|} \sum_{l \in \mathcal{N}_{m}} \gamma_{l,i}^{t}$$

• M-step:

$$\mu_{m,i}^{t} = \frac{\beta_{m,i}^{t}}{\varepsilon_{m,i}^{t}}, \Sigma_{m,i}^{t} = \frac{\gamma_{m,i}^{t}}{\varepsilon_{m,i}^{t}}, \alpha_{m,i}^{t} = \frac{\varepsilon_{m,i}}{N_{m}}$$

Advantages of diffusion strategy

- Each node only communicate the local statistics to neighboring nodes at each iterative step;
- Each node update the local statistics according to the information received from its neighbors;
- The consensus for local statistics doesn't need to be achieved which can save much communications.



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Stochastic approximation

- Diffusion distributed EM algorithm (DDEM) can be considered as Robbins-Monro stochastic approximation;
- Notation for weighted mean:

$$\langle \langle f(y) \rangle \rangle_i(N) = \eta(N) \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\prod_{m=n+1}^N \lambda(s) \right) f(y_n) p(i \mid y_n, \theta^{n-1}),$$
$$\eta(N) = \left(\sum_{n=1}^N \prod_{m=n+1}^N \lambda(s) \right)^{-1}$$



• At time step t, the estimation can be written as:

$$\alpha_{i}^{t} = \langle \langle 1 \rangle \rangle_{i}(t), \mu_{i}^{t} = \frac{\langle \langle y \rangle \rangle_{i}(t)}{\langle \langle 1 \rangle \rangle_{i}(t)},$$
$$\Sigma_{i}^{t} = \frac{\langle \langle (y - \mu_{i})(y - \mu_{i}) \rangle \rangle_{i}(t)}{\langle \langle 1 \rangle \rangle_{i}(t)}$$

• Local statistics

$$\phi_{m,i}^{t} \triangleq \{\varepsilon_{m,i}^{t}, \beta_{m,i}^{t}, \gamma_{m,i}^{t}\} = \{\langle\langle 1 \rangle\rangle_{i}(t), \langle\langle y \rangle\rangle_{i}(t), \langle\langle (y - \mu_{i})(y - \mu_{i})^{T} \rangle\rangle_{i}(t)\}$$

• On-line EM algorithm has the abstract form:

$$\delta \phi_m^t = \phi_m^t - \phi_m^{t-1} = \eta(t) [F(y, \theta^{t-1}) - \phi_m^{t-1}]$$

$$\theta_m^t = H(\phi_m^t)$$

- First order dynamics: $\dot{z}(t) = -Lz(t)$
- DDEM can be formulated by the first order dynamics in the discrete form:

$$\delta \phi_m^t = \phi_m^t - \phi_m^{t-1}$$

= $\eta(t) [F(y, \theta^{t-1}) - \phi_m^{t-1} + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_m} (\phi_n^{t-1} - \phi_m^{t-1})]$

• Diffusion on-line EM algorithm can be written as:

$$\delta\phi_m^t = \eta(t) \Big(E[F(y, H(\phi_m^{t-1}))]_\rho - \phi_m^{t-1} \Big) + \eta(t) \zeta(y_t, \overline{\phi}^{t-1}) \Big)$$

• where:
$$\phi_m = E[F(y,\theta)]_{\rho}, \theta_m = H(\phi_m),$$

 $\zeta(y_t, \overline{\phi}^{t-1}) = F(y_t, H(\phi_m^{t-1})) - E[F(y, H(\phi_m^{t-1}))]_{\rho} + \sum_{l \in \mathcal{N}_m^{t-1}} (\phi_l^{t-1} - \phi_m^{t-1})$

• The above formula has the same form as the Robbins-Monro stochastic approximation

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Nodes Topology



Data distribution

- In the first 30 nodes,90% observations come from the first component, the rest 10% evenly from the other two components;
- In the next 40 nodes,80% observations come from the second component, the rest 20% evenly from the other two components;
- In the first 30 nodes,90% observations come from the third component, the rest 10% evenly from the other two components





EM algorithm with and without diffusion



Estimation performance with different communication range



Communication overhead with different communication range



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Conclusions and future work

- Each node only communicate the local statistics to neighboring nodes at each iterative step while the consensus strategy requires much more amount of communication to achieve consensus;
- Our method can be considered as the Robbins-Monro stochastic approximation to the maximum likelihood estimation for Gaussian Mixture;
- Is there exist some simple estimation method can substitute the ML estimation?

