## MFC CDT Probability and Statistics Week 8

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Mathematics for our Future Climate: Theory, Data and Simulation (MFC CDT).

November 25, 2024

## IMPERIAL

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- Uniform random number generation
  - Linear congruential generators



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- Inversion (inverse transform) sampling

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$$X = F^{-1}(U)$$



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Importance sampling

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$$X_1, \ldots, X_N \sim q(x)$$

• Estimate 
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- Importance sampling
  - Sample  $X_1, \ldots, X_N \sim q(x)$
  - Estimate  $(\varphi, \pi) \approx \sum_{i=1}^{N} \varphi(X_i) \mathbf{w}_i$ ,
- Metropolis-Hastings algorithm

Let us look at now the Bayesian inference problem.

We can solve it in full generality (in theory) using MH.

Recall the general formulation

$$p(x|y_{1:n}) = \frac{p(y_{1:n}|x)p(x)}{p(y_{1:n})} = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^{n} p(y_i|x)p(x)}{p(y_{1:n})},$$

when  $y_1, \ldots, y_n$  are conditionally independent given *x*.

## Metropolis-Hastings

Bayesian inference with MH



#### We write

$$p(x|y_{1:n}) \propto \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(y_i|x) p(x),$$

and set

$$\gamma(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(y_i|x) p(x),$$

as our unnormalised posterior.

The generic MH for Bayesian inference, given  $x_{n-1}$ 

Sample 
$$X' \sim q(x'|x_{n-1})$$
.

• Accept 
$$x_n = x'$$
 with probability

$$\alpha(x_{n-1}, x') = \min\left\{1, \frac{\gamma(x')q(x_{n-1}|x')}{\gamma(x_{n-1})q(x'|x_{n-1})}\right\}.$$

• Otherwise,  $X_n = x_{n-1}$ .



Recall our example about localising a source using observations from a sensor network.

We can now formalise this problem. Assume that the source is located at  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$  and the sensor network is located at  $s_1, \ldots, s_3 \in \mathbb{R}^2$  (3 sensors).

Assume that these three sensors "observe" the source according to:

$$p(y_i|x,s_i) = \mathcal{N}(y_i; ||x-s_i||, R),$$

where  $y_i$  is the observation from sensor *i*.

## Metropolis-Hastings

Example: Source localisation



Figure: Source localisation



Assume that you are asked to estimate the location of the source given the observations  $y_1, y_2, y_3$ . What is the model?



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We first need a prior on the source location:

 $p(x) = \mathcal{N}(x; \mu, \Sigma),$ 

where  $\mu$  is the prior mean and  $\Sigma$  is the prior covariance. We already have the likelihoods for each  $y_i$ .

Example: Source localisation



The posterior is given by

$$p(x|y_1, y_2, y_3, s_1, s_2, s_3) \propto p(x) \prod_{i=1}^3 p(y_i|x, s_i).$$



We choose a random walk proposal:

$$q(x'|x) = \mathcal{N}(x'; x, \sigma^2 I).$$

This is symmetric so the acceptance ratio is:

$$\mathbf{r}(x,x') = \frac{p(x')p(y_1|x',s_1)p(y_2|x',s_2)p(y_3|x',s_3)}{p(x)p(y_1|x,s_1)p(y_2|x,s_2)p(y_3|x,s_3)}$$



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• Set  $X_n = X'$  with probability

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This leaves  $\pi$  invariant.

The choice of the proposal is crucial. One very popular choice is the Langevin proposal.



$$X' = X_{n-1} - \gamma \nabla U(X_{n-1}) + \sqrt{2\gamma} Z_n$$

where  $Z_n \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$  and  $\gamma$  is the step size.

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$$q(x'|x) = \mathcal{N}(x - \gamma \nabla U(x), 2\gamma I).$$

#### Why is this a good choice?

$$\mathrm{d}X_t = -\nabla V(X_t)\mathrm{d}t + \sqrt{2}\mathrm{d}B_t,$$

where  $(B_t)_{t>0}$  is a Brownian motion.



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$$\pi \propto e^{-V(x)}$$

Therefore, for a classical *sampling* problem for, say  $\pi(x)$ , we could set  $V(x) = -\log \pi(x)$  (negative density).

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Therefore, for a classical *sampling* problem for, say  $\pi(x)$ , we could set  $V(x) = -\log \pi(x)$  (negative density).

This diffusion converges to its stationary measure exponentially fast if V is  $\mu$ -strongly-convex.

#### Langevin-based approaches Crash course on Langevin SDE - II – Optimisation

Consider the Langevin SDE for a generic drift  $\nabla V$ :

$$\mathrm{d}X_t = -\nabla V(X_t)\mathrm{d}t + \sqrt{rac{2}{eta}}\mathrm{d}B_t,$$

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This stationary measure concentrates on the minima of V as  $\beta \to \infty$  (Hwang, 1980).

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Langevin diffusion is a global optimiser.

### Langevin-based approaches Crash course on Langevin SDE - III: Numerical discretisation

The Euler discretisation is the unadjusted Langevin algorithm (ULA):

$$X_{t+1}^{\gamma} = X_t^{\gamma} - \gamma \nabla V(X_t^{\gamma}) + \sqrt{2\gamma} W_{t+1}$$

where  $(W_t)_{t\geq 0}$  are i.i.d standard Normal random variables.

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This chain has a *different* stationary measure  $\pi^{\gamma}$  but a number of guarantees can be derived for its convergence.

#### Theorem 1 (Durmus and Moulines, 2019)

Let  $\mathcal{L}(X_t)$  be the law of the iterates of ULA, then

$$W_2^2(\mathcal{L}(X_t^{\gamma}),\pi) \lesssim \left(1 - rac{\gamma\kappa}{2}
ight)^{t+1} \left(d/m + \|x - x^{\star}\|^2\right) + \gamma,$$

under suitable regularity conditions for V, restriction on  $\gamma$  where  $\kappa := \kappa(m, L)$ .



# An important note here is that, we can sample from the posterior $p(\boldsymbol{x}|\boldsymbol{y})$ using ULA as

 $p(x|y) \propto p(x,y),$ 

and

$$X_{n+1}^{\gamma} = X_n^{\gamma} + \gamma \nabla \log p(X_n^{\gamma}, y) + \sqrt{2}\gamma W_{n+1}.$$



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We can see that this algorithm would approximately sample from p(x|y).

Let us say we have data  $y_1, \ldots, y_M$  for *M* large. We can write the posterior as

$$p(x|y_{1:M}) \propto p(x) \prod_{i=1}^{M} p(y_i|x).$$

therefore, our potential becomes

$$V(x) = -\log p(x) - \sum_{i=1}^{M} \log p(y_i|x).$$



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Mini-quiz: What is the problem with MALA (or MH in general) in this case?
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However, we can resolve this, as we can approximate the gradient using subsampling:

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 $\approx 
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abla \log p(y_{k_j}|x) = \widehat{
abla V(x)},$ 

where  $k_j \sim \text{Unif}\{1, \ldots, M\}$ , for  $j = 1, \ldots, m$  for  $m \ll M$ .



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where  $k_j \sim \text{Unif}\{1, \ldots, M\}$ , for  $j = 1, \ldots, m$  for  $m \ll M$ .

Stochastic gradients.

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The resulting method is called *stochastic gradient Langevin dynamics* (SGLD) (Welling and Teh, 2011).

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Web based simulations if time permits.



We have seen approaches so far in **sampling**.

Next: An introduction to generative modelling

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Generative modelling: Given a dataset  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$  or given an empirical measure

$$\hat{p}_{\text{data}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \delta_{x_i},$$

output (approximately) a sample  $X \sim p_{data}$ .





Scales favourably with dimension



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- Requires only the ability to evaluate the density up to a normalizing constant



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The principle is to construct a Markov chain with stationary distribution  $\pi$  and sample from it.





▶ This is a classical density estimation problem.



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Discussion: Can we use kernel density estimation for this problem?



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Discussion: Can we use kernel density estimation for this problem?

What is a sensible parametric model?



## Consider the Gibbs-type probability measure

 $\pi_{\theta} \propto \exp(-U_{\theta}(x)),$ 

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When is this a flexible model for  $p_{data}$ ?



# Recall that if $U_{\theta}(x)$ is a neural network, then $U_{\theta}(x)$ is a universal approximator.



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For any continuous function U(x), there exists a neural network  $U_{\theta}(x)$  such that

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For any continuous function U(x), there exists a neural network  $U_{\theta}(x)$  such that

 $||U(x) - U_{\theta}(x)||_{\infty} < \epsilon.$ 



Let  $U : X \to \mathbb{R}$  and  $U_{\theta} : X \to \mathbb{R}$  be a neural network. Let  $\pi \propto \exp(-U(x))$  and  $\pi_{\theta} \propto \exp(-U_{\theta}(x))$ .



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$$\|\pi - \pi_{\theta}\|_{\mathrm{TV}} \le \frac{m(\mathrm{X})}{2} \|U - U_{\theta}\|_{\infty}$$

where m is the Lebesgue measure on X (with finite measure).



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$$\|\pi - \pi_{\theta}\|_{\mathrm{TV}} \le \frac{m(\mathrm{X})}{2} \|U - U_{\theta}\|_{\infty}$$

where *m* is the Lebesgue measure on X (with finite measure).

#### Therefore, an EBM is a universal approximator on bounded spaces.



Training EBMs is a hard problem and there is a VAST literature on this topic.



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We will review (expanding):

- Maximum Likelihood Estimation
- Score Matching

and variations of these.



The idea is to maximise the expected likelihood of the data under the model. The *expected* log-likelihood of the data is given by

$$\ell(\theta) := \mathbb{E}_{p_{\text{data}}}[\log \pi_{\theta}(X)], \tag{1}$$

where  $p_{data}$  is the data distribution.

Maximising this is equivalent to minimising the KL divergence between  $p_{\text{data}}$  and  $\pi_{\theta}$ .



Let us look at the objective a bit more closely.

$$\begin{split} \ell(\theta) &= \mathbb{E}_{p_{\text{data}}}[\log \pi_{\theta}(X)] = \int \log \pi_{\theta}(x) p_{\text{data}}(x) dx, \\ &= -\int U_{\theta}(x) p_{\text{data}}(x) dx - \log Z_{\theta}, \end{split}$$

where  $Z_{\theta} = \int \exp(-U_{\theta}(x)) dx$  is the normalising constant.



Let us look at the objective a bit more closely.

$$\ell( heta) = \mathbb{E}_{p_{ ext{data}}}[\log \pi_{ heta}(X)] = \int \log \pi_{ heta}(x) p_{ ext{data}}(x) dx,$$
  
=  $-\int U_{ heta}(x) p_{ ext{data}}(x) dx - \log Z_{ heta}(x) dx$ 

where  $Z_{\theta} = \int \exp(-U_{\theta}(x)) dx$  is the normalising constant. For gradient based optimisation, we can consider

$$\nabla_{\theta} \ell(\theta) = -\mathbb{E}_{p_{\text{data}}} \left[ \nabla_{\theta} U_{\theta}(X) \right] - \nabla_{\theta} \log Z_{\theta}.$$

The last term is intractable.



# Assuming $\int e^{-U_{\theta}(x)} dx < \infty$ , we have

$$abla_{ heta} \log Z_{ heta} = -\mathbb{E}_{\pi_{ heta}} [
abla_{ heta} U_{ heta}(X)].$$



## Therefore, we have the full gradient that is of the form

$$\nabla_{\theta} \ell(\theta) = -\mathbb{E}_{p_{\text{data}}} \left[ \nabla_{\theta} U_{\theta}(X) \right] + \mathbb{E}_{\pi_{\theta}} \left[ \nabla_{\theta} U_{\theta}(X) \right].$$


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We get then its empirical approximation

$$abla_{ heta}\ell_n( heta) = -rac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n 
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The second term is still problematic!

$$\nabla_{\theta}\ell_n(\theta) = -\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n \nabla_{\theta}U_{\theta}(x_i) + \mathbb{E}_{\pi_{\theta}}[\nabla_{\theta}U_{\theta}(X)].$$

The idea here is to use MCMC to sample from  $\pi_{\theta}$  to approximate the expectation.



Consider the following optimization (gradient ascent) procedure

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_{k+1} &= \theta_k + \delta \nabla_{\theta} \ell_n(\theta_k), \\ &= \theta_k - \frac{\delta}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla U_{\theta_k}(x_i) + \delta \mathbb{E}_{\pi_{\theta_k}}[\nabla U_{\theta_k}(X)] \end{aligned}$$



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abla U_{ heta_k}(X)] \end{aligned}$$

At iteration *k*, the expectation needs to be approximated, For this, we run a separate ULA chain at each *k*:

$$X_{k}^{(m)} = X_{k}^{(m-1)} - \gamma \nabla U_{\theta_{k}}(X_{k}^{(m-1)}) + \sqrt{2\gamma} W_{k}^{(m)},$$

where  $(W_k^{(m)})_{m\geq 0}$  are i.i.d standard Normal random variables.

## Algorithm MLE for EBMs via ULA

Input: The dataset {x<sub>i</sub>}<sup>n</sup><sub>i=1</sub>, the step size δ, the number of MCMC steps *M*, the burn-in *B*, the step size γ, the number of iterations *N*.

2: for 
$$k = 1, ..., K$$
 do

3: Fix 
$$X_k^{(0)}$$
  
4: for  $m = 1, ..., M$  do  
5:  $X_k^{(m)} = X_k^{(m-1)} - \gamma \nabla U_{\theta_k}(X_k^{(m-1)}) + \sqrt{2\gamma} W_k^{(m)}$ .  
6: end for  
7:  $\nabla \ell_n(\theta_k) = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla U_{\theta_k}(x_i) + \frac{1}{M-B} \sum_{m=B+1}^M \nabla U_{\theta_k}(X_k^{(m)})$ .  
8:  $\theta_{k+1} = \theta_k + \delta \nabla \ell_n(\theta_k)$ .  
9: end for



# Algorithm Pseudocode for EBM training via CD-1

- Input: The dataset {x<sub>i</sub>}<sup>n</sup><sub>i=1</sub>, the step size δ, the number of MCMC steps *M*, the burn-in *B*, the step size γ, the number of iterations *N*.
   for k = 1,..., K do
- 3: Randomly choose *i*.

4: 
$$X_{k}^{(0)} = x_{i}$$
.  
5:  $X_{k}^{(1)} = X_{k}^{(0)} - \gamma \nabla U_{\theta_{k}}(X_{k}^{(0)}) + \sqrt{2\gamma} W_{k}^{(1)}$ .  
6:  $\nabla \ell_{n}(\theta_{k}) = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \nabla U_{\theta_{k}}(x_{i}) + \nabla U_{\theta_{k}}(X_{k}^{(1)})$   
7:  $\theta_{k+1} = \theta_{k} + \delta \nabla \ell_{n}(\theta_{k})$ .  
8: end for

Often with the stochastic gradients:

$$n^{-1}\sum_{i=1}^n \nabla U_{\theta_k}(x_i) \approx J^{-1}\sum_{j=1}^J \nabla U_{\theta_k}(x_{i_j}).$$

# Algorithm Pseudocode for EBM training via PCD

- Input: The dataset {x<sub>i</sub>}<sup>n</sup><sub>i=1</sub>, the step size δ, the number of MCMC steps *M*, the burn-in *B*, the step size γ, the number of iterations *N*.
- 2: for k = 1, ..., K do
- 3: **for** i = 1, ..., N **do**

4: 
$$X_k^{(i)} = X_k^{(i)} - \gamma \nabla U_{\theta_k}(X_k^{(i)}) + \sqrt{2\gamma} W_k^{(i)}$$

- 5: end for
- 6:  $\nabla \ell_n(\theta_k) = -n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla U_{\theta_k}(x_i) + N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N \nabla U_{\theta_k}(X_k^{(i)}).$

7: 
$$\theta_{k+1} = \theta_k + \delta \nabla \ell_n(\theta_k).$$

8: end for



Algorithm "Short-Run MCMC" (Nijkamp et al., 2019)

1: Input: The dataset  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$ , the step size  $\delta$ , the number of MCMC steps M, the burn-in B, the step size  $\gamma$ , the number of iterations N. 2: for k = 1, ..., K do Fix  $X_{\iota}^{(0)} \sim p_0$ 3: for m = 1, ..., M do 4:  $X_{L}^{(m)} = X_{L}^{(m-1)} - \gamma \nabla U_{\theta_{L}}(X_{L}^{(m-1)}) + \sqrt{2\gamma} W_{L}^{(m)}.$ 5: end for 6:  $\nabla \ell_n(\theta_k) = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla U_{\theta_k}(x_i) + \frac{1}{M-R} \sum_{m=R+1}^M \nabla U_{\theta_k}(X_{\iota}^{(m)}).$ 7:  $\theta_{k+1} = \theta_k + \delta \nabla \ell_n(\theta_k).$ 8: 9: end for

Note this method also noises the data with a single step every iteration.

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Next: Energy Based Models and Score Matching.



## Recall the Euler discretisation is the unadjusted Langevin algorithm (ULA):

$$X_{t+1}^{\gamma} = X_t^{\gamma} + \gamma \nabla \log \Pi(X_t^{\gamma}) + \sqrt{2\gamma} W_{t+1}$$

where  $(W_t)_{t\geq 0}$  are i.i.d standard Normal random variables.



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Notice that we only need the gradient of the (unnormalised) log-density for sampling.

The idea of score matching is to directly estimate the gradient of the log-density.



Score matching methods are based on Fisher divergence, which is defined as

$$F(\pi_1 || \pi_2) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_{\pi_1}[\|\nabla \log \pi_1(X) - \nabla \log \pi_2(X)\|^2].$$
(2)

In the case of generative modelling, we are interested in computing  $\theta^{\star}$  where

$$\theta^{\star} \in \operatorname*{argmin}_{\theta} \mathrm{F}(p_{\mathrm{data}} || \pi_{\theta}),$$

where

$$\mathbf{F}(p_{\text{data}}||\pi_{\theta}) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_{p_{\text{data}}}[\|\nabla \log p_{\text{data}}(X) - \nabla \log \pi_{\theta}(X)\|^{2}].$$
(3)



# Proposition 1 (Hyvärinen, 2005)

## The loss in (3) can be written as

$$\mathbf{F}(p_{data}||\pi_{\theta}) = \mathbb{E}_{p_{data}}\left[\mathrm{Tr}\nabla^2\log\pi_{\theta}(X) + \frac{1}{2}\|\nabla\log\pi_{\theta}(X)\|^2\right].$$
 (4)

# Energy Based Models Score Matching





## Figure: From Murphy (2023)



## Unfortunately, this idea doesn't quite work in practice.



Image credit: https://yang-song.net/blog/2021/score/



Score matching can be inefficient and is expensive due to the Hessian term. Instead, we can leverage the following idea.

Let us define the noisy version of the data distribution as

$$p_{\rm data}^{\sigma}(x) = \int p_{\rm data}(x')K(x|x')dx',$$

where K(x|x') is a kernel.

# Proposition 2 (Vincent, 2011)

*Given the Fisher divergence between the noisy data distribution and the model distribution,* 

$$\mathbf{F}(p_{data}^{\sigma}||\pi_{\theta}) = \mathbb{E}_{p_{data}^{\sigma}}\left[\frac{1}{2}\|\nabla\log p_{data}^{\sigma}(X) - \nabla\log\pi_{\theta}(X)\|^{2}\right], \quad (5)$$

we have

$$F(p_{data}^{\sigma}||\pi_{\theta}) = \mathbb{E}_{p(x,x')} \left[\frac{1}{2} \|\nabla_x \log K(X|X') - \nabla \log \pi_{\theta}(X)\|^2\right].$$
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where  $p(x,x') = p_{data}(x')K(x|x').$ 



For example, one can simply choose

$$K(x|x') = \mathcal{N}(x; x', \sigma^2 I_d),$$

where  $\sigma$  is a hyperparameter. In this situation, the estimate will take the form (Song and Kingma, 2021)

$$\mathbb{F}(p_{\text{data}}^{\sigma} || \pi_{\theta}) = \mathbb{E}_{p_{\text{data}}(x')} \mathbb{E}_{z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^{2}I_{d})} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left\| \frac{z}{\sigma} + \nabla_{x} \log \pi_{\theta}(x' + \sigma z) \right\|^{2} \right].$$



One can estimate this score, by plugging the empirical data distribution in using

$$\hat{p}_{\text{data}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \delta_{x_i}.$$

and using samples from the Gaussian distribution, which results in the unbiased estimate of the loss

$$\hat{F}(p_{\text{data}}^{\sigma}||\pi_{\theta}) = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left\| \frac{z^{(i)}}{\sigma} + \nabla_{x} \log \pi_{\theta}(x_{i} + \sigma z^{(i)}) \right\|^{2}$$



## *Perturbed* scores are better behaved:



But there is a bias as we approximate the noisy data distribution.



## *Perturbed* scores are better behaved:



But there is a bias as we approximate the noisy data distribution.

This observation led to the idea of *adding* progressively more noise to data and learn associated scores (a bit later).

Image credit: https://yang-song.net/blog/2021/score/

Denoising score matching appeared as the cheapest option to approximate scores, but has an inherent bias as it estimates the noisy scores. Denoising score matching appeared as the cheapest option to approximate scores, but has an inherent bias as it estimates the noisy scores.

For  $\sigma \approx 0$ , the bias is small, but training is unstable and mixing can be arbitrarily slow, especially for  $p_{\text{data}}$  with multiple modes or which concentrates on low-dimensional manifolds.

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Can we "bridge" easy to sample distributions and the data distribution, via the use of noise scales?

This is the idea in Song and Ermon (2019) that unlocked the path to diffusion models.

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Let  $\{\sigma_i\}_{i=1}^{L}$  denote the sequence of *L* noise levels that satisfies  $\frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_2} = \dots = \frac{\sigma_{L-1}}{\sigma_L} > 1$ . For each noise level, we define

$$p_{\mathrm{data}}^{\sigma_i}(x) = \int p_{\mathrm{data}}(x') K_{\sigma_i}(x|x') \mathrm{d}x',$$

The pedestrian approach is to train a model for each noise level, but this is computationally expensive.

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The pedestrian approach is to train a model for each noise level, but this is computationally expensive.

We will instead choose a single network for all noise levels: Noise conditional score networks (NCSN). Let us denote the DSM loss for a single noise level as

$$\ell(\theta, \sigma) = \mathsf{F}(p_{\mathsf{data}}^{\sigma} || \pi_{\theta}) = \mathbb{E}_{p_{\mathsf{data}}^{\sigma}} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \| \nabla \log p_{\mathsf{data}}^{\sigma}(X) - \mathsf{s}_{\theta}(X) \|^2 \right].$$

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Let us clarify this for the specific kernel K. Recall that we can write

$$\ell(\theta,\sigma) = \mathbb{E}_{p(x,x')} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \| \nabla_x \log K_{\sigma}(X|X') - \mathbf{s}_{\theta}(X,\sigma) \|^2 \right].$$

where  $p(x, x') = p_{\text{data}}(x')K_{\sigma}(x|x')$ .

# Energy Based Models

Denoising Score Matching with Multiple Levels: Towards diffusion models

The final loss is then

$$\ell(\theta,\sigma) = \mathbb{E}_{p(x,x')} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left\| \frac{X - X'}{\sigma^2} + \mathbf{s}_{\theta}(X,\sigma) \right\|^2 \right]$$

It is typical to build the final loss as

$$\ell(\theta) = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{i=1}^{L} \lambda(\sigma_i) \ell(\theta, \sigma_i),$$

where  $\lambda(\sigma_i)$  is a weighting function. Song and Ermon (2019) propose  $\lambda(\sigma) = \sigma^2$ . Therefore, the training phase of the algorithm is to find

$$\theta_{\star} \in \operatorname*{argmin}_{\theta} \ell(\theta).$$

Algorithm Pseudocode for sampling from EBMs using annealed Langevin dynamics

- 1: Input: The trained NCSN  $s_{\theta_{\star}}(x, \sigma)$ , the number of noise levels *L*, the step size  $\varepsilon$ , the number of iterations *T*
- 2:  $X_0$  = random initialisation.
- 3: **for** i = 1, ..., L **do**

4: 
$$\gamma_i = \varepsilon \frac{\sigma_i^2}{\sigma_i^2}$$

5: **for** 
$$t = 1, ..., T$$
 **do**

6: 
$$X_{t+1} = X_t + \gamma_i s_{\theta_*}(X_t, \sigma_i) + \sqrt{2\gamma_i} W_{t+1}$$

7: end for

8: 
$$X_0 = X_T$$
.

9: end for
## Energy Based Models

Denoising Score Matching with Multiple Levels: Towards diffusion models

Figure from: https://yang-song.net/blog/2021/score/

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Taking this idea to its limit, Song et al., 2020 proposed to use forward-reverse SDEs of the form:

$$\mathbf{d}\mathbf{X}_t = -\frac{1}{2}\beta(t)\mathbf{X}_t\mathbf{d}t + \sqrt{\beta(t)}\mathbf{d}\mathbf{W}_t, \quad \mathbf{X}_0 \sim p_0 = p_{\text{data}}.$$
 (7)

and

$$\mathbf{d}\mathbf{X}_{t} = \frac{1}{2}\beta(t)\mathbf{X}_{t}\mathbf{d}t + \beta(t)\nabla\log p_{t}(\mathbf{X}_{t})\mathbf{d}t + \sqrt{\beta(t)}\mathbf{d}\bar{\mathbf{W}}_{t}, \qquad (8)$$

where  $\mathbf{X}_T \sim p_T$ . Here  $\nabla \log p_t$  is **intractable** and approximated via score matching and  $p_t(x) = \int p_{t|0}(x|x_0)p_{data}(x_0)dx_0$ .

# **Diffusion Models**

Score-based models





Image credit: https://yang-song.net/blog/2021/score/



With a similar score matching idea, the score function can be learned via the minimization

$$\theta^{\star} \in \arg\min \mathbb{E}_{t \in \mathrm{Unif}[0,1]} \mathbb{E}_{x_0 \sim p_{\mathrm{data}}} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_{t|0}(x|x_0)} [\|\nabla \log p_{t|0}(x|x_0) - s_{\theta}(x,t)\|^2],$$

Finally with the approximation

$$\mathbf{s}_{\theta^{\star}}(x,t) \approx \nabla \log p_t(x),$$

we can implement SGMs by discretizing the reverse process.

Score-based models



To be concrete, after training, we would use

$$\mathbf{d}\mathbf{X}_t = \frac{1}{2}\beta(t)\mathbf{X}_t \mathbf{d}t + \beta(t)s_{\theta^*}(x,t)\mathbf{d}t + \sqrt{\beta(t)}\mathbf{d}\bar{\mathbf{W}}_t,\tag{9}$$

and its discretizations for generation.





Outperforms earlier generative models (such as GANs, VAEs) in terms of sample quality.

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### Next: Diffusion models for inverse problems.

# **Diffusion Models**

for inverse problems

The setup:

• Assume we have a *trained* model  $s_{\theta^*}(x, t)$  for sampling from  $p_{\text{data}}$ .

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If we wanted to use an SGM for the posterior, we would need at time t

$$\nabla \log p_t(x_t|y) = \nabla \log p_t(x_t) + \nabla \log p_{y|t}(y|x_t),$$
  
$$\approx s_{\theta^*}(x_t, t) + \nabla \log p_{y|t}(y|x_t).$$

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where

$$p_{y|t}(y|x_t) = \int p_{y|0}(y|x_0)p(x_0|x_t)dx_0.$$

In other words, if we approximate  $\nabla \log p_{y|t}(y|x)$ , then we can use *pre-trained* models as priors.

for inverse problems



Let us simplify even more, and assume that we would like to recover  $p(x_0|y)$  where

$$y = Hx_0 + \varepsilon, \quad \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_y^2 I_y).$$

i.e., we have a linear inverse problem with Gaussian noise:

$$p(y|x_0) = \mathcal{N}(y; Hx_0, \sigma_y^2 I_y).$$

Recall that we are after approximating

$$p_{y|t}(y|x_t) = \int p(y|x_0)p(x_0|x_t)\mathrm{d}x_0.$$

Given that  $p(y|x_0)$  is Gaussian, we **could** compute the integral analytically if  $p(x_0|x_t)$  were Gaussian.

### One solution is to use Tweedie's formula.

### Proposition 3 (Tweedie's formula)

Let  $\mathbf{m}_{0|t}$  and  $\mathbf{C}_{0|t}$  be the mean and the covariance of  $p_{0|t}(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_t)$ , respectively. Then given the marginal density  $p_t(\mathbf{x}_t)$ , the mean is given as

$$\mathbf{m}_{0|t} = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_t] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}}(\mathbf{x}_t + \nu_t \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}_t)).$$

Then the covariance  $C_{0|t}$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{C}_{0|t} &= \mathbb{E}\left[ (\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{m}_{0|t}) (\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{m}_{0|t})^\top \mid \mathbf{x}_t \right] \\ &= \frac{\nu_t}{\alpha_t} (\mathbf{I}_{d_x} + \nu_t \nabla^2 \log p_t(\mathbf{x}_t)) = \frac{\nu_t}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \mathbf{m}_{0|t}. \end{aligned}$$

# Diffusion Models

Tweedie Moment Projected Diffusions (Boys et al., 2024)

### Proposition 4 (Moment projection)

Let  $p_{0|t}(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_t)$  be a distribution with mean  $\mathbf{m}_{0|t}$  and covariance  $\mathbf{C}_{0|t}$ . Let  $\hat{p}_{0|t}(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_t)$  be the the closest Gaussian in KL divergence to  $p_{0|t}(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_t)$ , i.e.,

$$\hat{p}_{0|t}(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_t) = \arg\min_{q \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathrm{KL}(p_{0|t}(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_t)||q),$$

where  ${\mathcal{ Q}}$  is the family of multivariate Gaussian distributions. Then

$$\hat{p}_{0|t}(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_t) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_0; \mathbf{m}_{0|t}, \mathbf{C}_{0|t}).$$

*This is a well-known moment matching result, see, e.g., Bishop, 2006.* 

Merging Tweedie and moment projection propositions leads to *Tweedie moment projection*:

$$p_{0|t}(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_t) \approx \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{x}_0; \mathbf{m}_{0|t}, \frac{\nu_t}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \mathbf{m}_{0|t}\right),$$
(10)

Finally using Tweedie moment projection, we can construct the approximation of the gradient of the "smoothed" likelihood:

$$p_{\mathbf{y}|t}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}_{t}) = \int p_{\mathbf{y}|0}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}_{0})p_{0|t}(\mathbf{x}_{0}|\mathbf{x}_{t})d\mathbf{x}_{t}$$
$$\approx \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{y}; \mathbf{H}\mathbf{m}_{0|t}, \mathbf{H}\frac{\nu_{t}}{\sqrt{\alpha_{t}}}\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_{t}}\mathbf{m}_{0|t}\mathbf{H}^{\top} + \sigma_{y}^{2}\mathbf{I}_{d_{y}}\right)$$

which leads to the approximation

$$\begin{split} f^{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{x}_{t}) &:= \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_{t}} \mathbf{m}_{0|t} \mathbf{H}^{\top} (\mathbf{H} \frac{\nu_{t}}{\sqrt{\alpha_{t}}} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_{t}} \mathbf{m}_{0|t} \mathbf{H}^{\top} + \sigma_{y}^{2} \mathbf{I}_{d_{y}})^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{H} \mathbf{m}_{0|t}) \\ &\approx \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_{t}} \log p_{\mathbf{y}|t}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}_{t}), \end{split}$$

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Many approximations... This is because things are hard otherwise.

Note that this framework subsumes the previous ones:

Denoising posterior sampling (Chung et al., 2022)

$$\mathbf{m}_{0|t}^{\text{DPS-D}} = \mathbf{m}_{0|t}$$
 and  $\mathbf{C}_{0|t}^{\text{DPS-D}} = 0.$ 

Pseudo-inverse Guided Diffusion (Song et al., 2023)

$$\mathbf{m}_{0|t}^{\Pi \mathrm{G}} = \mathbf{m}_{0|t}$$
 and  $\mathbf{C}_{0|t}^{\Pi \mathrm{G}} = r_t^2 \mathbf{I}_{d_t}$ 



$$\begin{split} \mathbf{H} : \mathbb{R}^{d_x} &\to \mathbb{R}^{d_y} \quad \text{project to low dimensional subspace (low resolution)} \\ \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x} + \varepsilon, \quad \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_\mathbf{y}^2 \mathbf{I}) \quad \text{corrupt with Gaussian noise} \end{split}$$

Measurement, y is a corrupted image from the FFHQ validation set.





$$\begin{split} \mathbf{H} : \mathbb{R}^{d_x} &\to \mathbb{R}^{d_y} \quad \text{project to low dimensional subspace (e.g., 'box' mask)} \\ \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x} + \varepsilon, \quad \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_{\mathbf{y}}^2 \mathbf{I}) \quad \text{corrupt with Gaussian noise} \end{split}$$

Measurement, y is a corrupted image from the FFHQ validation set.





$$\begin{split} \mathbf{H} &: \mathbb{R}^{d_x} \to \mathbb{R}^{d_x/3} \quad \text{project to low dim. subspace (from RGB to gray-scale)} \\ \mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x} + \varepsilon, \quad \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_\mathbf{y}^2 \mathbf{I}) \quad \text{corrupt with Gaussian noise} \end{split}$$

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