

Generative Modeling

Normalizing flows

Denis Derkach, Artem Ryzhikov, Sergei Popov

Laboratory for methods of big data analysis



LAMBDA • HSE

Spring 2022

In this Lecture

- ▶ Normalizing flows problem statement.
- ▶ Block schemes for Normalizing flows.
- ▶ MAF/IAF duality

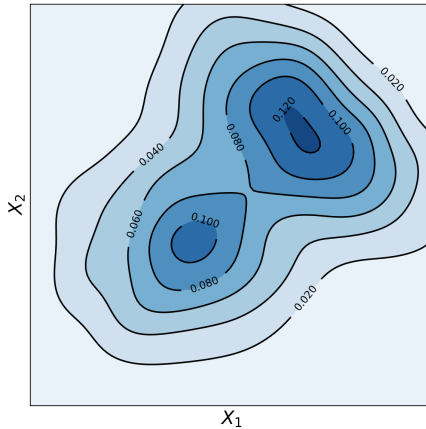
Motivation



Motivation

$$x_i \sim p_x(x)$$

$$p_x(x) - ?$$



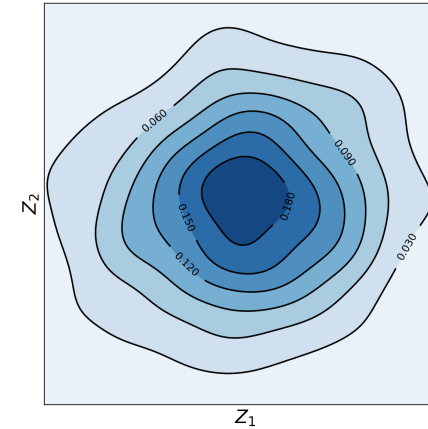
$$z = f(x)$$



$$x = T(z)$$

$$z_i \sim p_z(z)$$

$$p_z(z) - \text{known}$$



- Generative model:
 - Likelihood evaluation;
 - Sampling procedure.
- Use **deterministic map** to known distribution.

Change of variables

For $p_z(z)$ some pdf and $z = f(x)$ known then $p_x(x)$:

$$p_x(x_i) = p_z(f(x_i)) \left| \det \frac{\partial f(x_i)}{\partial x_i} \right|,$$

Ratio of volume ∂z to
new volume ∂x

1st derivative matrix:

$$\frac{\partial f(x_i)}{\partial x_i} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f(x_i)_1}{\partial x_{i1}} & \dots & \frac{\partial f(x_i)_1}{\partial x_{in}} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f(x_i)_m}{\partial x_{i1}} & \dots & \frac{\partial f(x_i)_m}{\partial x_{in}} \end{pmatrix}.$$

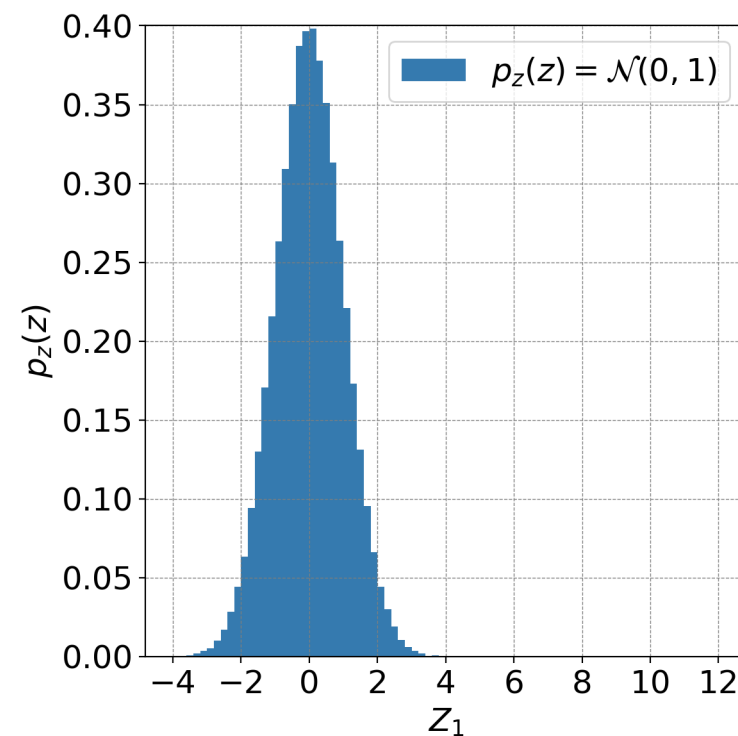
1D example



$$x_i \sim p_x(x)$$

$p_x(x)$ - ?

$$z = f(x) = 0.5x - 2.5$$



$$z_i \sim p_z(z)$$

$$p_z(z) = \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$$

1D example

For function $f(x)$:

$$z = f(x) = 0.5x - 2.5$$

Jacobi matrix:

$$\frac{\partial f(x_i)}{\partial x_i} = (0.5)$$

Jacobian:

$$\left| \det \frac{\partial f(x_i)}{\partial x_i} \right| = 0.5$$

1D example

Change of variables formulas:

$$p_x(x_i) = \mathbf{p_z}(\mathbf{f}(x_i)) \left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(x_i)}{\partial x_i} \right|,$$

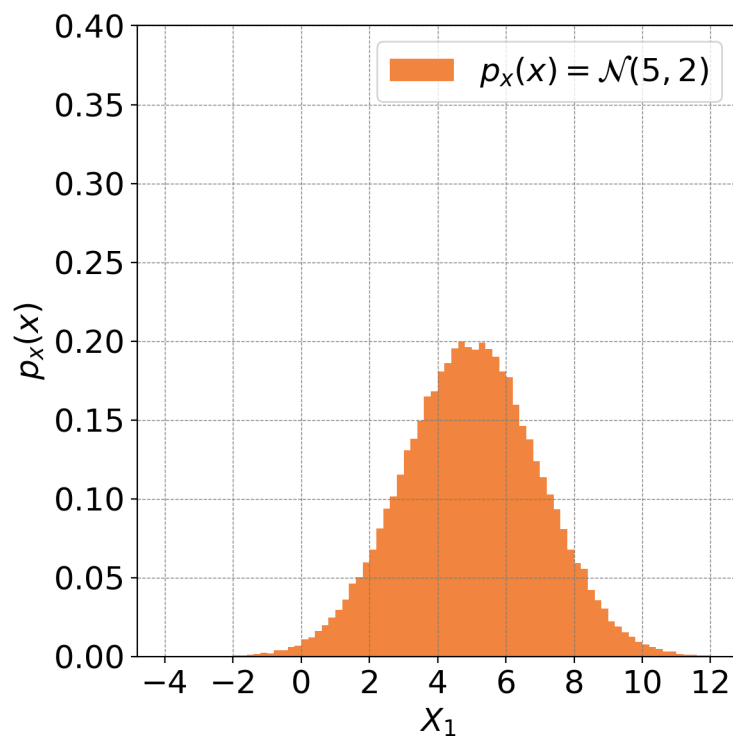
Using normal distribution definition:

$$\mathbf{p_z}(z_i) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(z_i)^2}{2}}$$

$$p_x(x_i) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(0.5x_i - 2.5)^2}{2}} * 0.5$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x_i - 5)^2}{2 * 2^2}} = \mathcal{N}(5, 2)$$

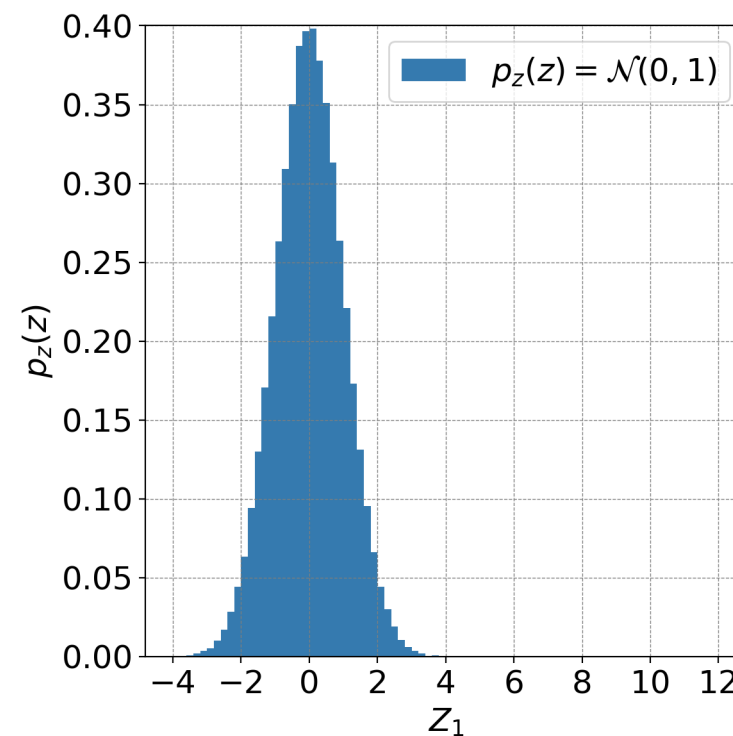
1D example



$$x_i \sim p_x(x)$$

$$p_x(x) = \mathcal{N}(5, 2)$$

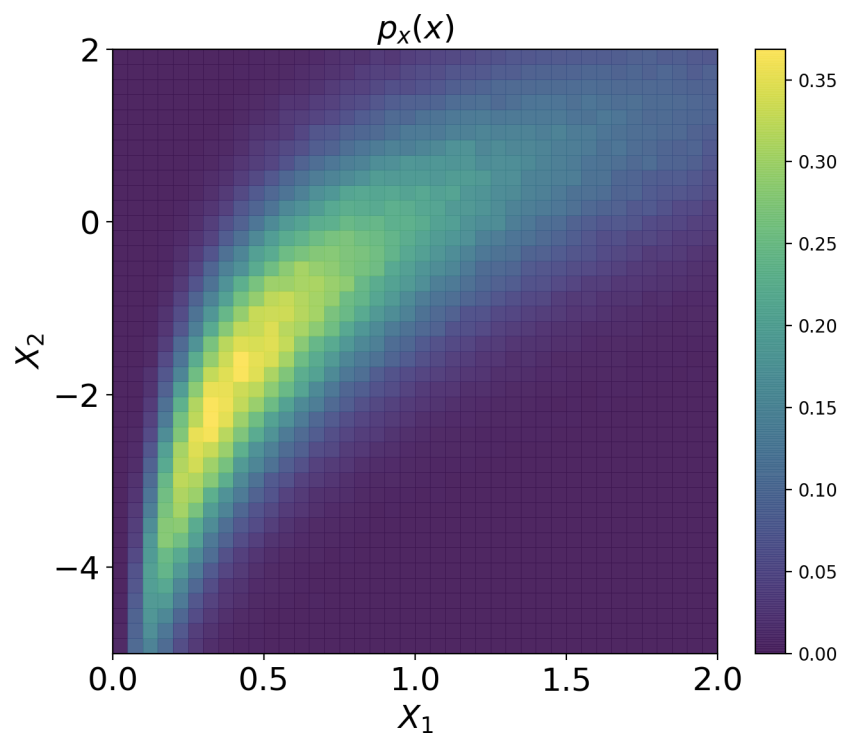
$$z = \textcolor{red}{f}(x) = 0.5x - 2.5$$



$$z_i \sim p_z(z)$$

$$p_z(z) = \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$$

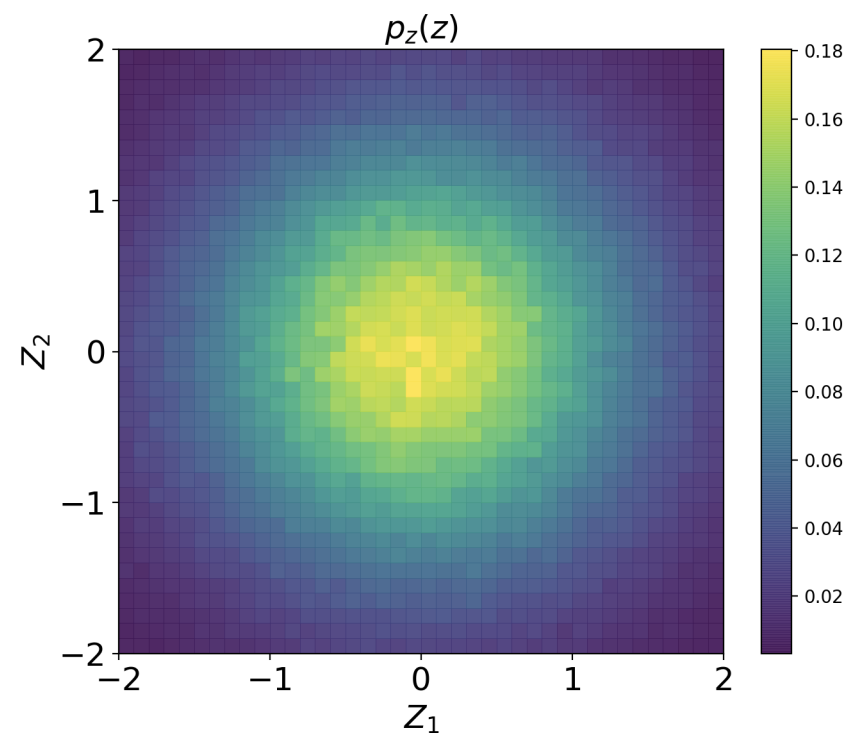
2D example



$$x_i \sim p_x(x)$$

$$p_x(x) - ?$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} z_1 = \ln x_1 \\ z_2 = x_2 - 2 \ln x_1 \end{cases}$$



$$z_i \sim p_z(z)$$

$$p_z(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-\frac{z_1^2 + z_2^2}{2}}$$

2D example

For function:

$$z = \mathbf{f}(x) = \begin{cases} z_1 = \ln x_1 \\ z_2 = x_2 - 2 \ln x_1 \end{cases}$$

Linear derivatives are:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(x)}{\partial x} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/x_1 & 0 \\ -2/x_{x1} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Jacobian:

$$\left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(x)}{\partial x} \right| = \frac{1}{x_1}$$

2D example

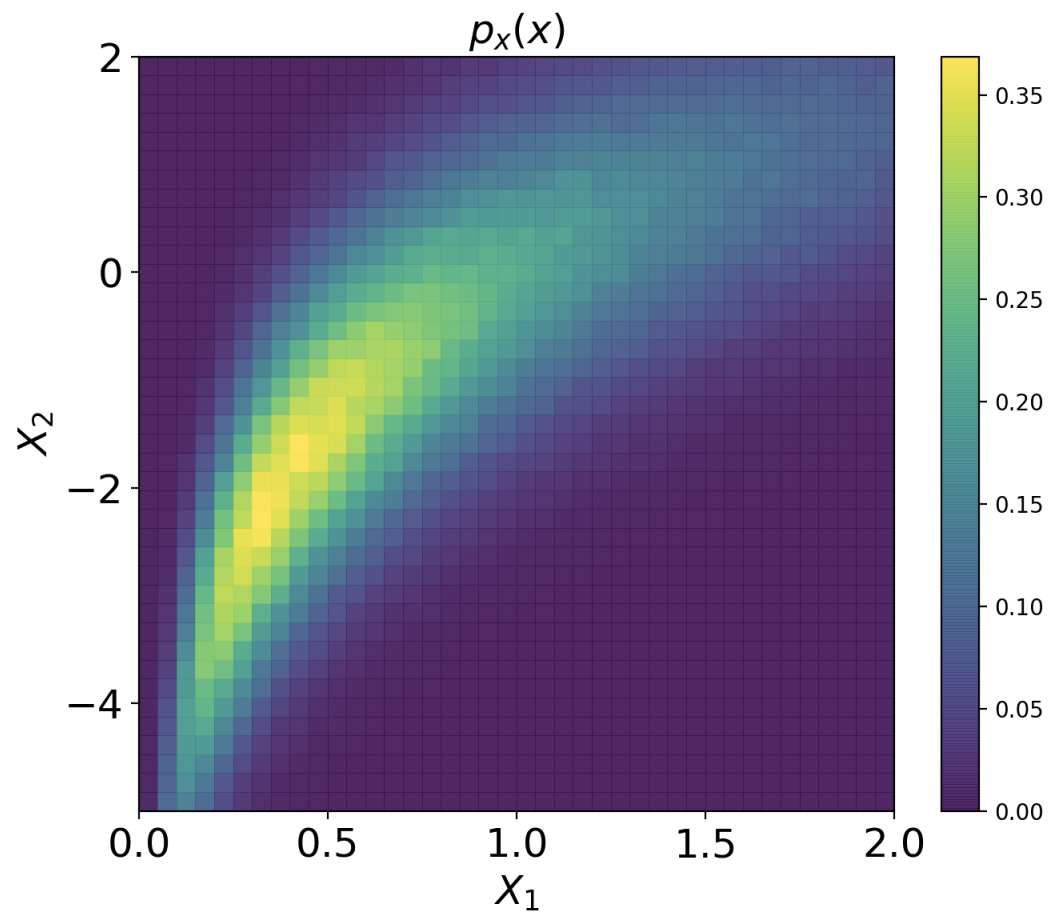
Change of variables:

$$p_x(x_i) = \mathbf{p_z}(\mathbf{f}(x_i)) \left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(x_i)}{\partial x_i} \right|,$$

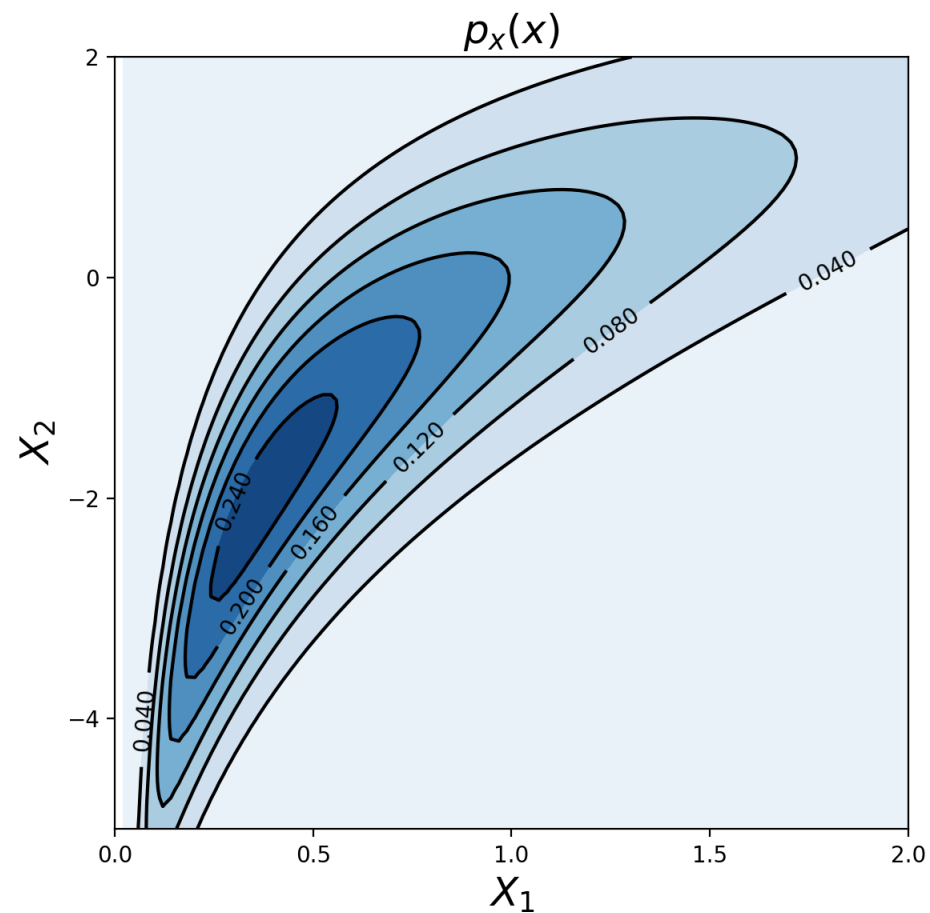
Insert known shapes:

$$\mathbf{p_z}(z_i) = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-\frac{z_1^2 + z_2^2}{2}}$$
$$p_x(x_i) = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-\frac{(\ln x_1)^2 + (x_2 - 2\ln x_1)^2}{2}} * \frac{1}{x_1}$$

2D example



Experiment



Theory

Motivation recap

- ▶ Use **deterministic map** to known distribution:

$$\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}).$$

- ▶ In this case, change of variables formula:

$$p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}) = p_{\mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})) \left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right|.$$

- ▶ Inverse map:

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{z}).$$

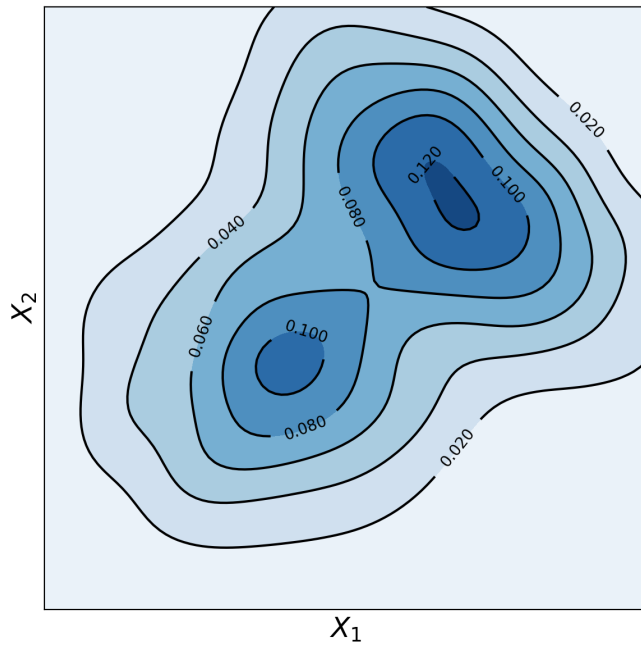
- ▶ In this case, change of variables formula:

$$p_{\mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z}) = p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{z})) \left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{z})}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \right|.$$

Motivation

$$x_i \sim p_x(x)$$

$$p_x(x) - ?$$



Sampling



$$x = T(z)$$

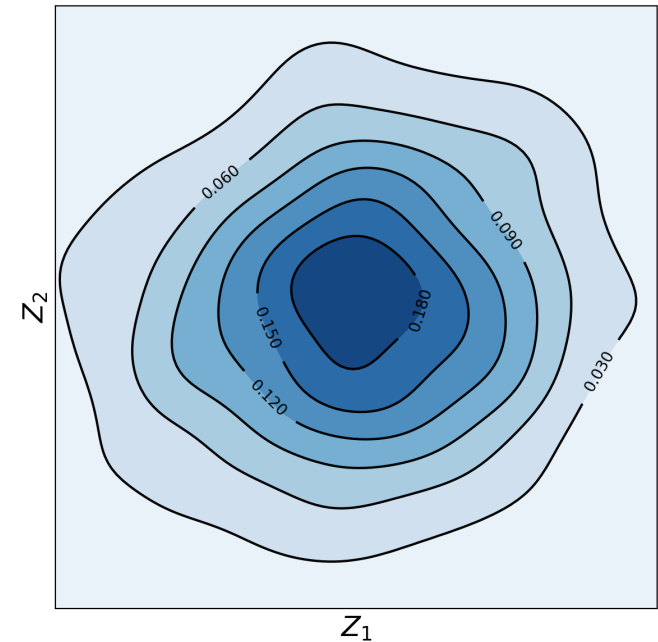
Likelihood
evaluation



$$z = f(x)$$

$$z_i \sim p_z(z)$$

$$p_z(z) - \text{known}$$



Can we have invertible function?

Motivation recap

- ▶ Use **deterministic map** to known distribution:

$$\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}).$$

- ▶ In this case, change of variables formula:

$$p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{p}_{\mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})) \left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right|.$$

- ▶ Inverse map:

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{f}^{-1}(\mathbf{z}).$$

- ▶ In this case, change of variables formula:

$$\mathbf{p}_{\mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z}) = p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{f}^{-1}(\mathbf{z})) \left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}^{-1}(\mathbf{z})}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \right| = p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{f}^{-1}(\mathbf{z})) \left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z})}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \right|^{-1}.$$

\mathbf{f} :

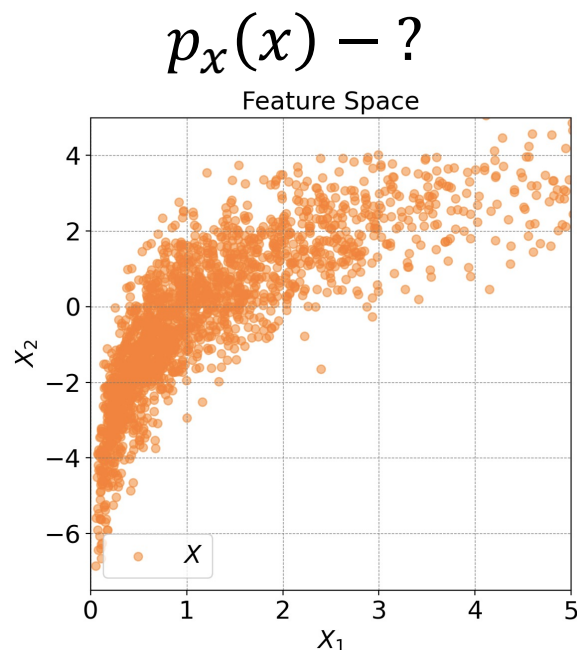
- ▶ Invertible.
- ▶ Differentiable.

Normalizing flows



Problem Statement

$x_i \sim p_x(x)$ – data



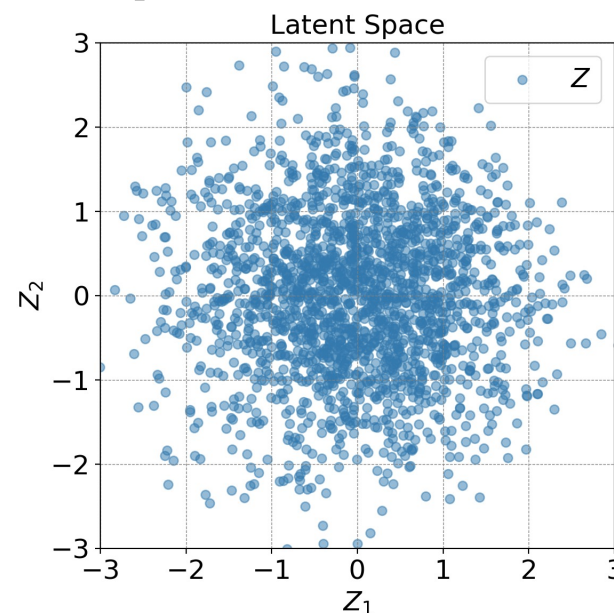
$$z = f(x) - ?$$



$$x = f^{-1}(z) - ?$$

$z_i \sim p_z(z)$

$p_z(z)$ known



- **We have:** real objects $\{x_i\}$
- **Task:** find invertible and differentiable $f: z_i = f(x_i)$, such that $z_i \sim p_z(z)$. For some known: $p_z(z)$.

Loss function

Use log-likelihood:

$$\log \mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_x(x_i)$$

Change of variables:

$$p_x(x_i) = \mathbf{p}_z(\mathbf{f}(x_i)) \left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(x_i)}{\partial x_i} \right|$$

Thus:

$$\log \mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\log \mathbf{p}_z(\mathbf{f}(x_i)) + \log \left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(x_i)}{\partial x_i} \right| \right)$$

Training Algorithm

for number of training iterations **do**:

- ▶ Sample m of real objects $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$.
- ▶ Calculate loss function:

$$L = -\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \left(\log \mathbf{p}_z(\mathbf{f}(x_i)) + \log \left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(x_i)}{\partial x_i} \right| \right)$$

- ▶ Update parameters of the function $z_i = \mathbf{f}(x_i)$:

$$\theta_f = \theta_f - \nabla_{\theta_f} L$$

Generation Algorithm

- ▶ Sample m objects $\{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_m\}$.
- ▶ Generate new objects using the learned function:

$$x_i = \boldsymbol{f}^{-1}(z_i)$$

Planar flows

- Transformation:

$$x = f_{\theta}^{-1}(z) = z + uh(w^T z + b),$$

$\theta = (w \in \mathbb{R}^D, u \in \mathbb{R}^D, b \in \mathbb{R})$ – parameters, $h(\cdot)$ – elementwise nonlinearity.

- Linear derivative matrix:

$$\frac{\partial f_{\theta}^{-1}}{\partial z} = I + uh'(w^T z + b)w^T.$$

- Jacobian:

$$\det \frac{\partial f_{\theta}^{-1}}{\partial z} = 1 + h'(w^T z + b)w^T u.$$

Is it invertible? For $h(\cdot) = \tanh(\cdot)$ need $w^T u > -1$.

Planar flows: grid behavior

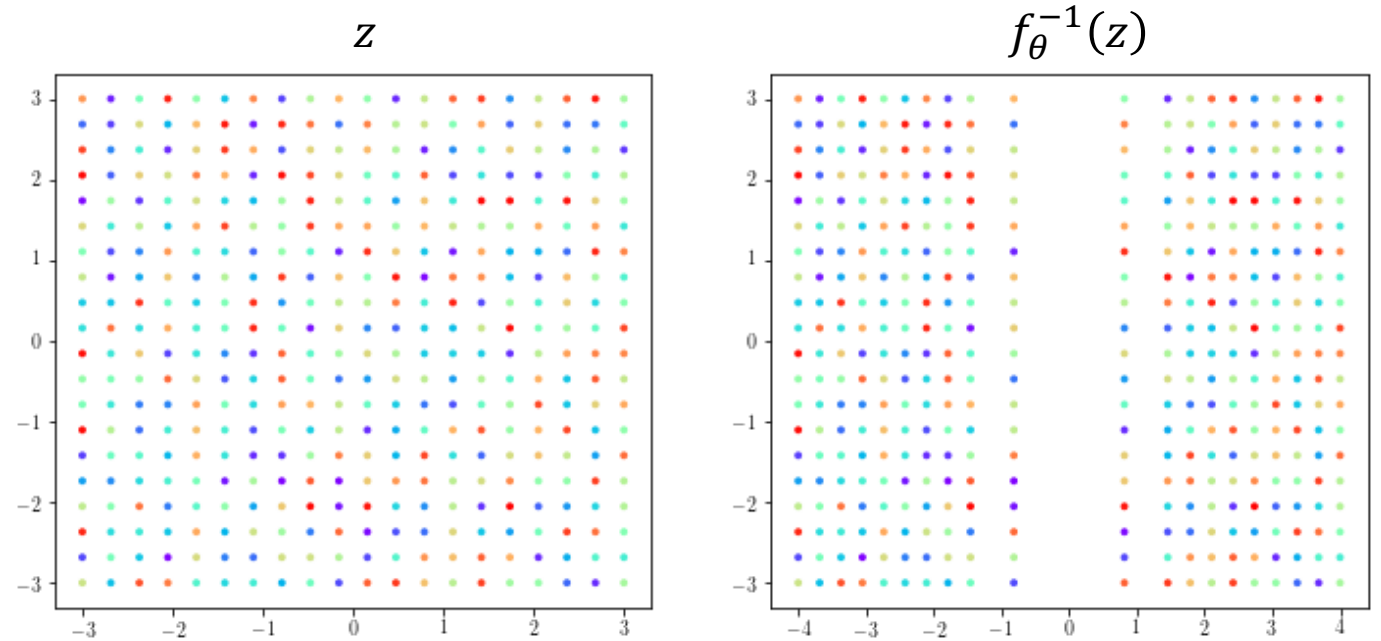
$$x = f_{\theta}^{-1}(z) = z + uh(w^T z + b)$$

$$w = [5; 0]^T$$

$$u = [1; 0]^T$$

$$b = 0$$

$$h(x) = \tanh(x)$$

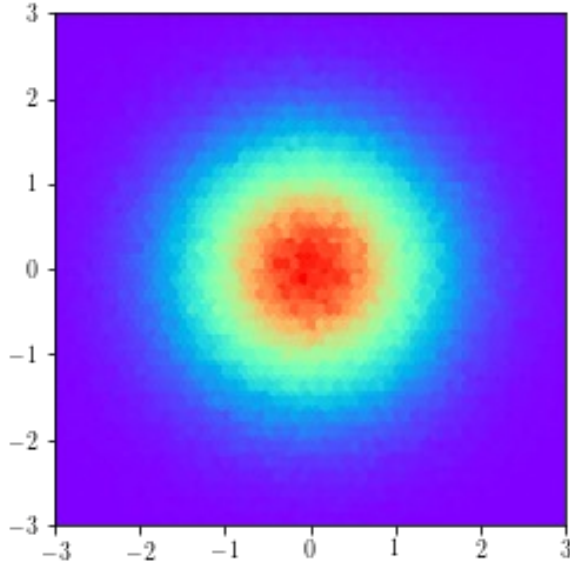


$$x = f_{\theta}^{-1}(z) = \begin{cases} z_1 + \tanh(5z_1) \\ z_2 \end{cases}$$

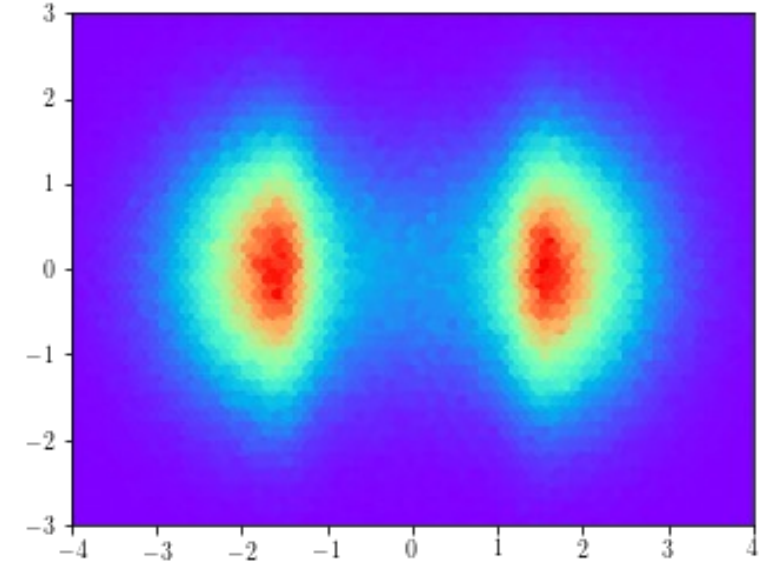
Grid will be pushed away from zero.

Planar flows: one step

$$x = f_{\theta}^{-1}(z) = \begin{cases} z_1 + \tanh(5z_1) \\ z_2 \end{cases}$$



$$x = f^{-1}(z)$$

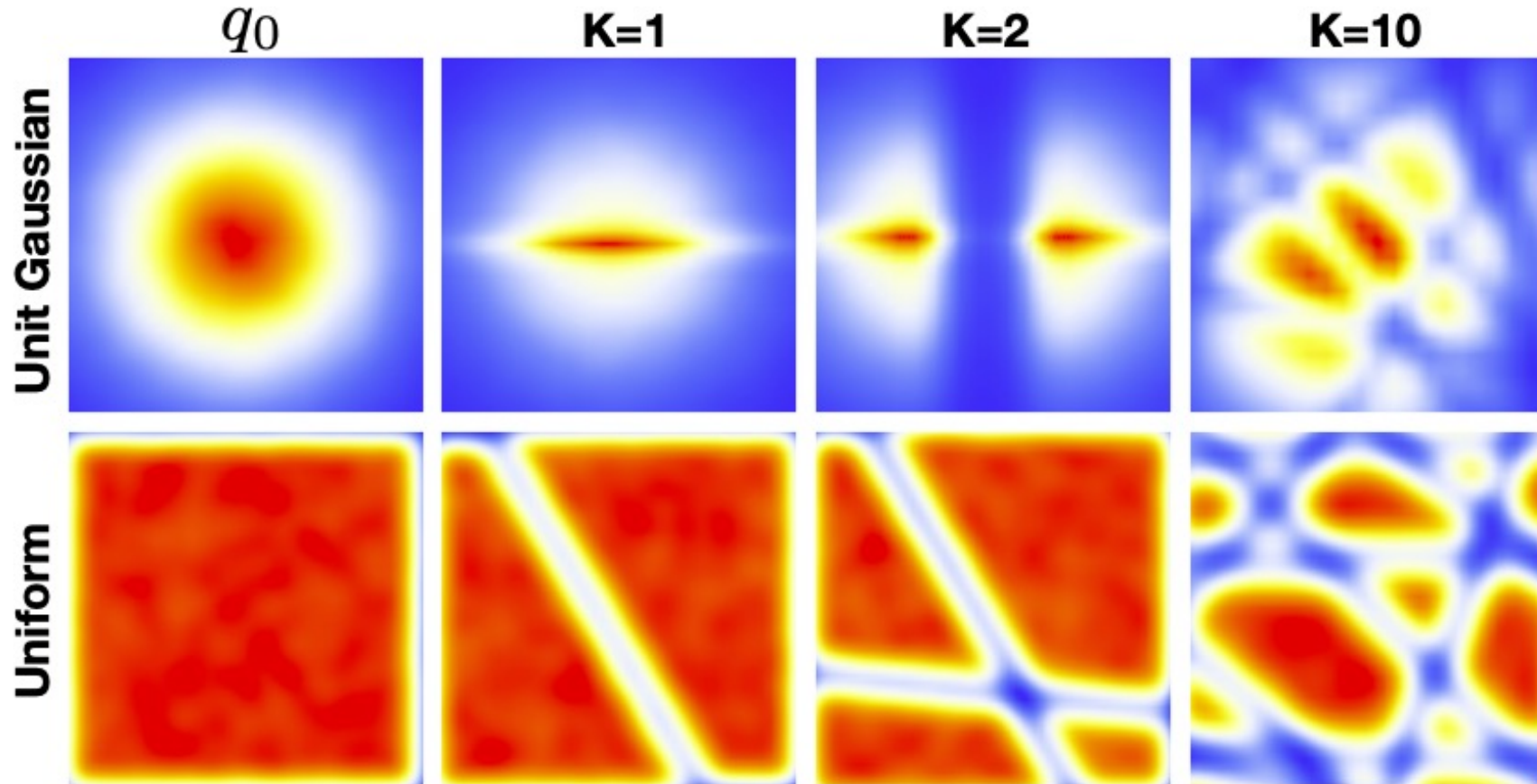


We can obtain a more complicated figure.

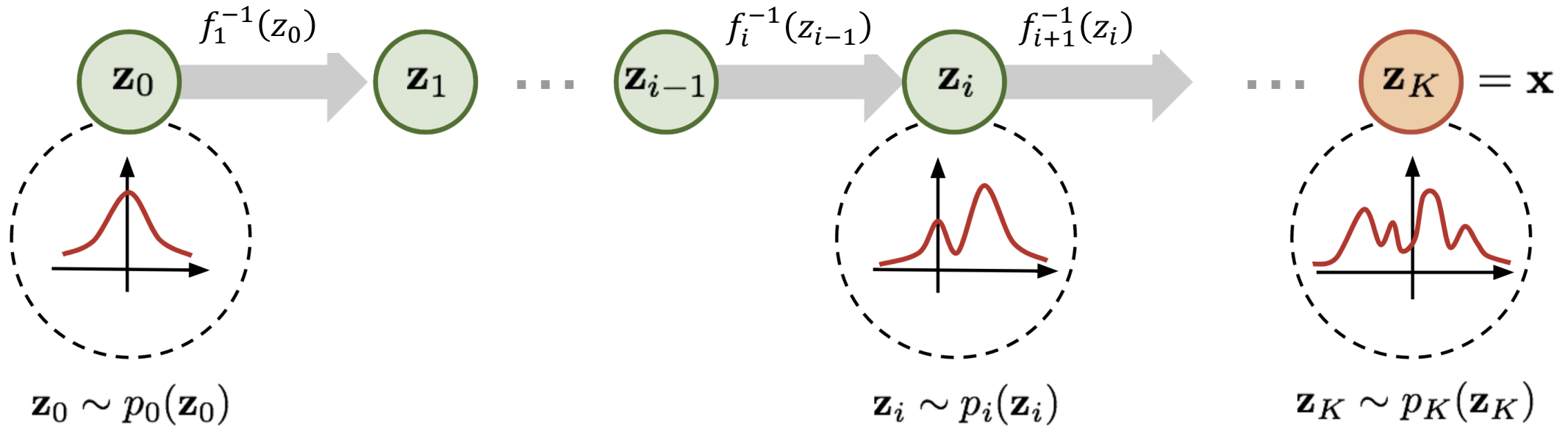
Planar flows: more steps

$$x = f_{\theta}^{-1}(z) = z + uh(w^T z + b)$$

Change transformation parameters at each step K for any prior distribution.

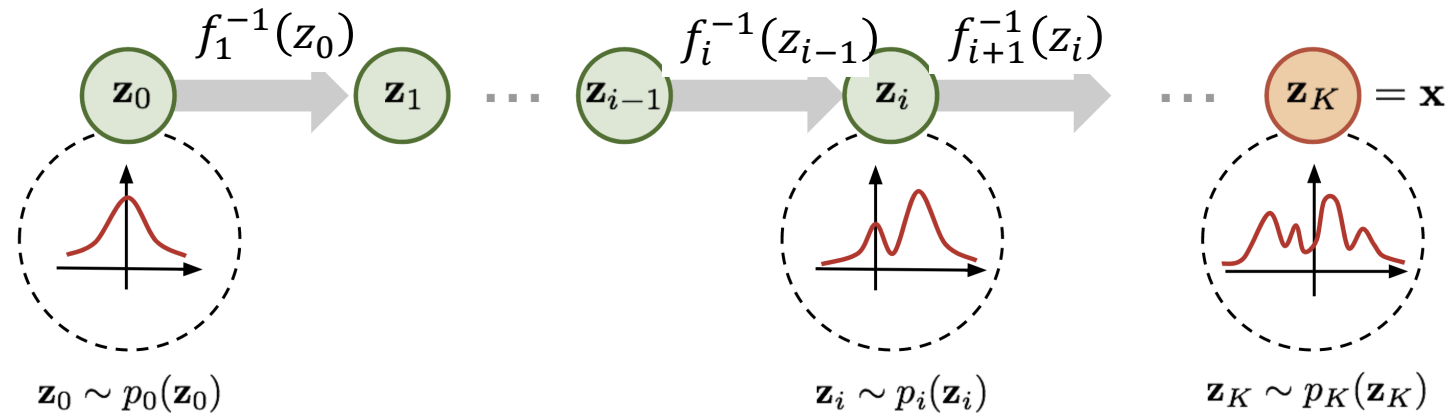


Stack more layers



- ▶ We take several transformations consecutively.
- ▶ At each layer we have new function.

Layers in Flows



Let $z_0 = \mathbf{f}_1(z_1), z_1 = \mathbf{f}_2(x)$.

Then:

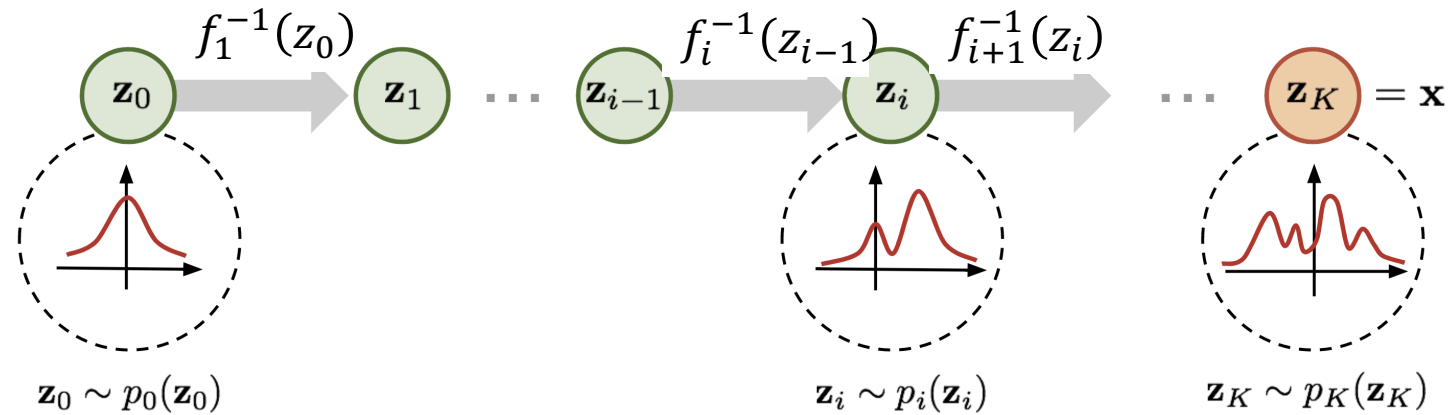
$$p_x(x) = \mathbf{p}_y(\mathbf{f}_2(x)) \left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_2(x)}{\partial x} \right|$$

$$p_{z_1}(z_1) = \mathbf{p}_{z_0}(\mathbf{f}_1(z_1)) \left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_1(z_1)}{\partial z_1} \right|$$

Which means:

$$p_x(x) = \mathbf{p}_{z_0}(\mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{f}_1(x))) \left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_1(z_1)}{\partial z_1} \right| \left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_2(x)}{\partial x} \right|$$

Layers in Flows



Let $z_0 = f_1(z_1)$, $z_1 = f_2(x)$.

Then:

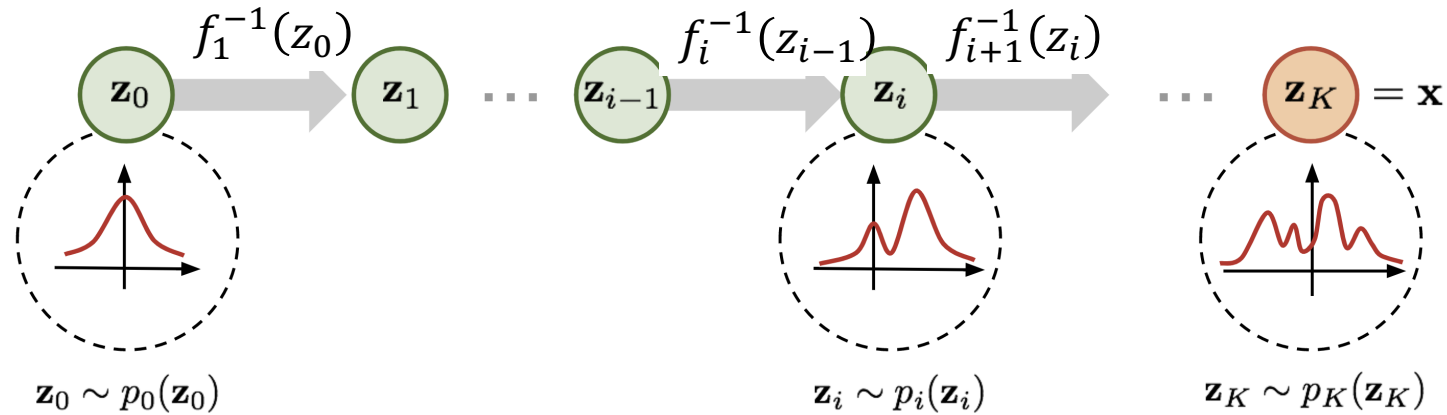
$$p_x(x) = p_y(f_2(x)) \left| \det \frac{\partial f_2(x)}{\partial x} \right|$$

$$p_{z_1}(z_1) = p_{z_0}(f_1(z_1)) \left| \det \frac{\partial f_1(z_1)}{\partial z_1} \right|$$

Which means:

$$p_x(x) = p_{z_0}(f_2(f_1(x))) \left| \det \frac{\partial f_1(z_1)}{\partial z_1} \right| \left| \det \frac{\partial f_2(x)}{\partial x} \right|$$

Flow discussion



$$p_x(x) = p_{z_0}(f_K(\dots(f_1(x)))) \left| \det \frac{\partial f_1(z_1)}{\partial z_1} \right| \dots \left| \det \frac{\partial f_K(z_k)}{\partial z_k} \right|.$$

- ▶ It is possible to obtain $p_x(x)$ consecutively changing observables.
- ▶ The overall transformation is invertible if individual layers are invertible.
- ▶ Dimensions of each observable is the same.
- ▶ Fit is performed using ML estimate.
- ▶ Need to calculate determinant.

Jacobian Problems

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(x_i)}{\partial x_i} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(x_i)_1}{\partial x_{i1}} & \dots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(x_i)_1}{\partial x_{in}} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(x_i)_m}{\partial x_{i1}} & \dots & \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(x_i)_m}{\partial x_{in}} \end{pmatrix}$$

- ▶ $d \times d$ determinant is **too expensive** to compute with $\mathcal{O}(d^3)$ computations.
- ▶ **Idea: take only transformations with triangular matrix, in this case $\mathcal{O}(d)$ computations.**
- ▶ **Bogachev theorem:** There always exists a unique (up to ordering) increasing triangular map that transforms a source density to a target density.

We came to autoregressive models.

Block models



Block matrix for Jacobian

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(x)}{\partial x} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{I}_d & 0 \\ \frac{\partial z_{d+1:D}}{\partial x_{d+1:D}} & S \end{pmatrix}$$

- ▶ Randomly choose d such that we have two disjoint subsets of observables: $z_{1:d}$ and $z_{d+1:D}$.
- ▶ Insert a block transform.
- ▶ Repeat for several layers.
- ▶ If needed insert scaling layers.
- ▶ Fit simultaneously.

Non-linear Independent Components Estimation

$$z = \textcolor{red}{f}(x) = \begin{cases} z_{1:d} = x_{1:d} \\ z_{d+1:D} = x_{d+1:D} - m(x_{1:d}) \end{cases}$$

- ▶ $m(x_{1:d})$ – **neural networks** with d inputs and $D - d$ outputs;
- ▶ easy to invert;
- ▶ scaling layer $x_i = s_i z_i$ can be added.
- ▶ $\det J = \prod_{i=1}^n s_i$.
- ▶ Based on NADE autoregressive model.

Non-linear Independent Components Estimation



(a) Model trained on MNIST



(b) Model trained on TFD

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1410.8516>

Real-NVP

$$z = \textcolor{red}{f}(x) = \begin{cases} z_{1:d} = x_{1:d} \\ z_{d+1:D} = x_{d+1:D} \odot \exp(\textcolor{blue}{s}(x_{1:d})) + \textcolor{blue}{t}(x_{1:d}) \end{cases}$$

- ▶ $\textcolor{blue}{s}(x_{1:d})$ и $\textcolor{blue}{t}(x_{1:d})$ – **neural networks** with d inputs and $D - d$ outputs.
- ▶ Invertible.
- ▶ $\det J_k = \exp \sum_{i=d+1}^D (\alpha_\theta(z_{1:d}))_i$ for k -th layer.
- ▶ Inspired by RNADE.

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1605.08803>

R-NVP: results



Рис.: https://github.com/laurent-dinh/laurent-dinh.github.io/blob/master/img/real_nvp_fig/celeba_samples.png

Discussion

- ▶ Normalizing flows based on block scheme have nice results.
- ▶ Block scheme allows for autoregressive model insertion.
- ▶ Fairly fast: need only one pass to get the sampling and likelihood evaluation, can run in parallel.
- ▶ Autoregressive quality is not conserved in multiple layers.

Masked Autoregressive Flow (MAF)



Masked Autoregressive Flow (MAF)

$$z = \textcolor{red}{f}(x) = \begin{cases} z_1 = (x_1 - \mu_1) \exp(-s_1) \\ \dots \\ z_k = (x_k - \textcolor{blue}{\mu}_k(x_{1:k-1})) \odot \exp(-\textcolor{blue}{s}_k(x_{1:k-1})) \\ \dots \end{cases}$$

- ▶ $\textcolor{blue}{\mu}_d(x_{1:d-1})$ и $\textcolor{blue}{s}_d(x_{1:d-1})$ – **neural networks**.
- ▶ MADE architecture inspired.
 - Fast in likelihood evaluation.
 - Slow ancestral sampling.

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1705.07057>

Masked Autoregressive Flow (MAF): Jacobian

- ▶ Low-triangular matrix

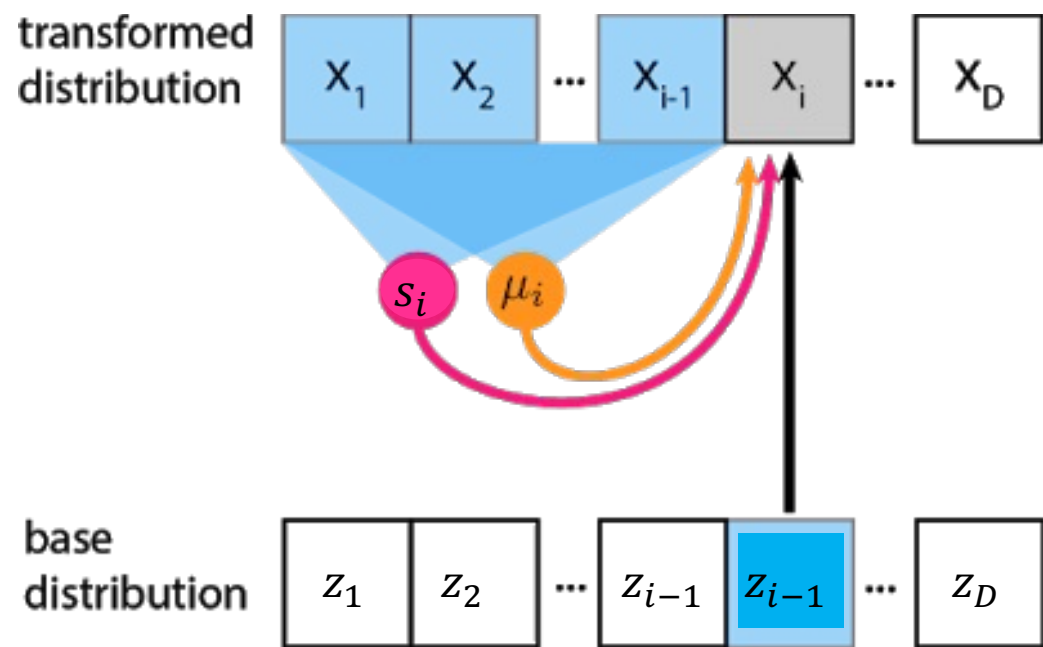
$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(x)}{\partial x} = \begin{pmatrix} \exp(-\mathbf{s}_1) & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial z_D}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \exp(-\mathbf{s}_D(x_{1:D-1})) \end{pmatrix}$$

- ▶ Jacobian:

$$\left| \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(x)}{\partial x} \right| = \exp\left(-\sum_{j=1}^D \mathbf{s}_d(x_{1:d-1})\right)$$

MAF sampling

$$x = f^{-1}(z) = \begin{cases} x_1 = z_1 \exp(s_1) + \mu_1 \\ x_d = z_d \exp(s_d(x_{1:d-1})) + \mu_d(x_{1:d-1}) \end{cases}$$



► Forward pass:

$$z \sim N(0; 1)$$

$$x_1 = \exp(s_1) z_1 + \mu_1$$

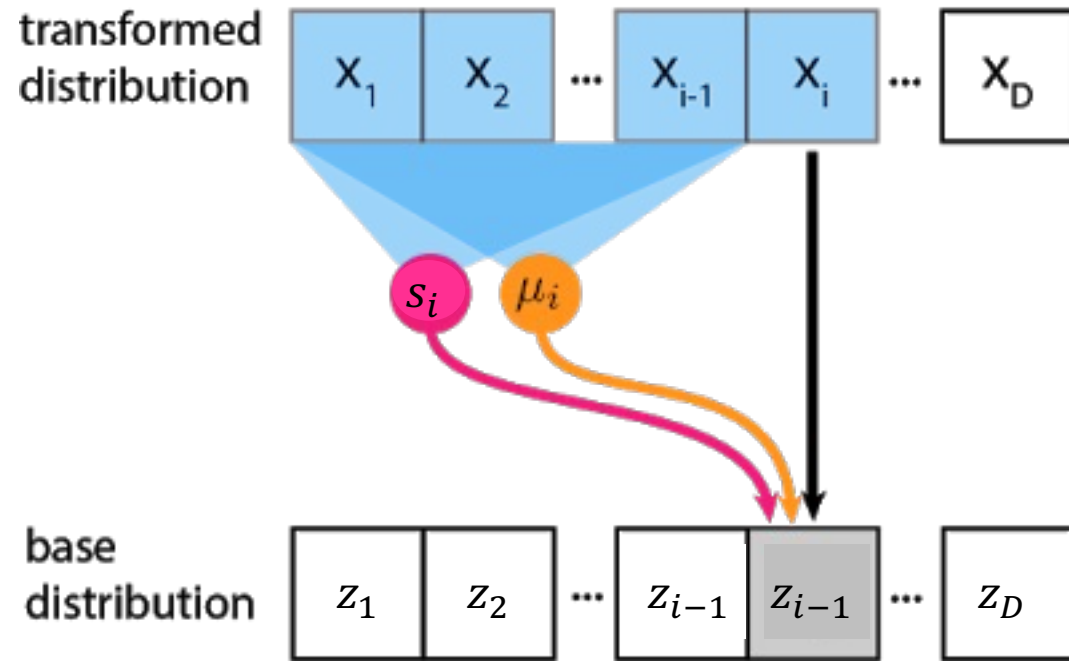
$$x_2 = \exp(s_2(x_1)) z_2 + \mu_2(x_1)$$

And so on.

Consecutive and slow.

MAF Likelihood evaluation

$$z = \mathbf{f}(x) = \begin{cases} z_1 = (x_1 - \mu_1) \exp(-s_1) \\ z_k = (x_k - \mu_k(x_{1:k-1})) \odot \exp(-s_k(x_{1:k-1})) \end{cases}$$



- Inverse pass:
 - compute all μ and s ;
 - evaluate z .

Likelihood evaluation is fast and parallelizable.

Training is fast.

MAF: results

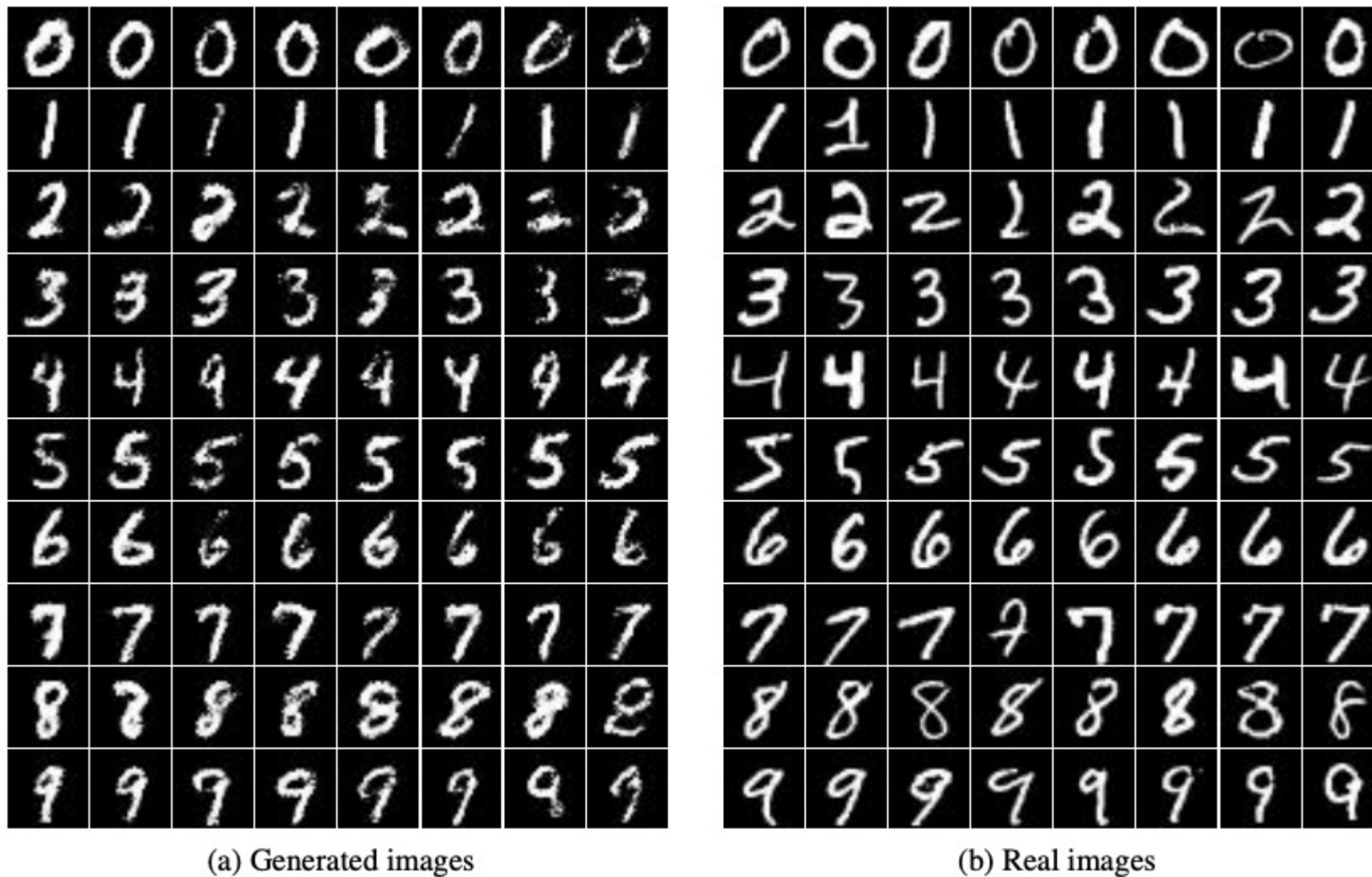


Figure 3: Class-conditional generated and real images from MNIST. Rows are different classes. Generated images are sorted by decreasing log likelihood from left to right.

Inverse Autoregressive Flow (IAF)

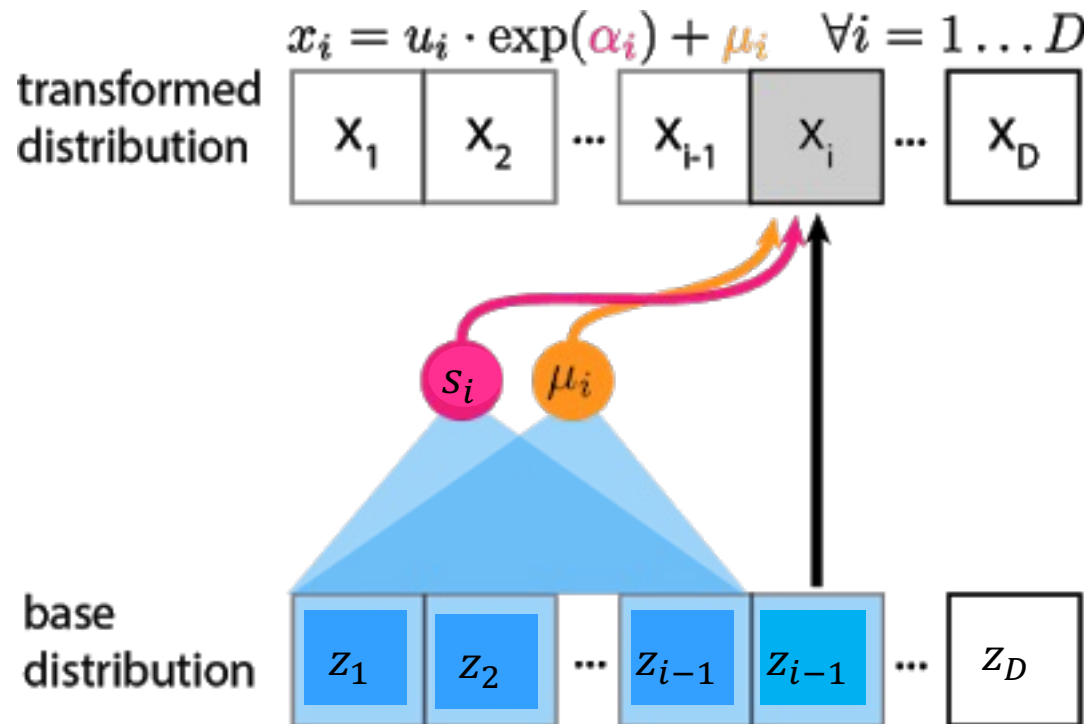
$$z = \mathbf{f}(x) = \begin{cases} z_1 = (x_1 - \mu_1) \exp(-s_1) \\ z_d = (x_d - \boldsymbol{\mu}_d(z_{1:d-1})) \exp(-\mathbf{s}_d(z_{1:d-1})) \end{cases}$$

- ▶ $\boldsymbol{\mu}_d(z_{1:d-1})$ и $\mathbf{s}_d(z_{1:d-1})$ – **neural networks**.
- ▶ Similar to MAF but with inverse problems by construction:
 - Fast to sample.
 - Slow to evaluate likelihood.

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1606.04934>

Inverse Autoregressive Flow (IAF)

$$x = f^{-1}(z) = \begin{cases} x_1 = z_1 \exp(s_1) + \mu_1 \\ x_d = z_d \exp(s_d(z_{1:d-1})) + \mu_d(z_{1:d-1}) \end{cases}$$



► Forward pass:

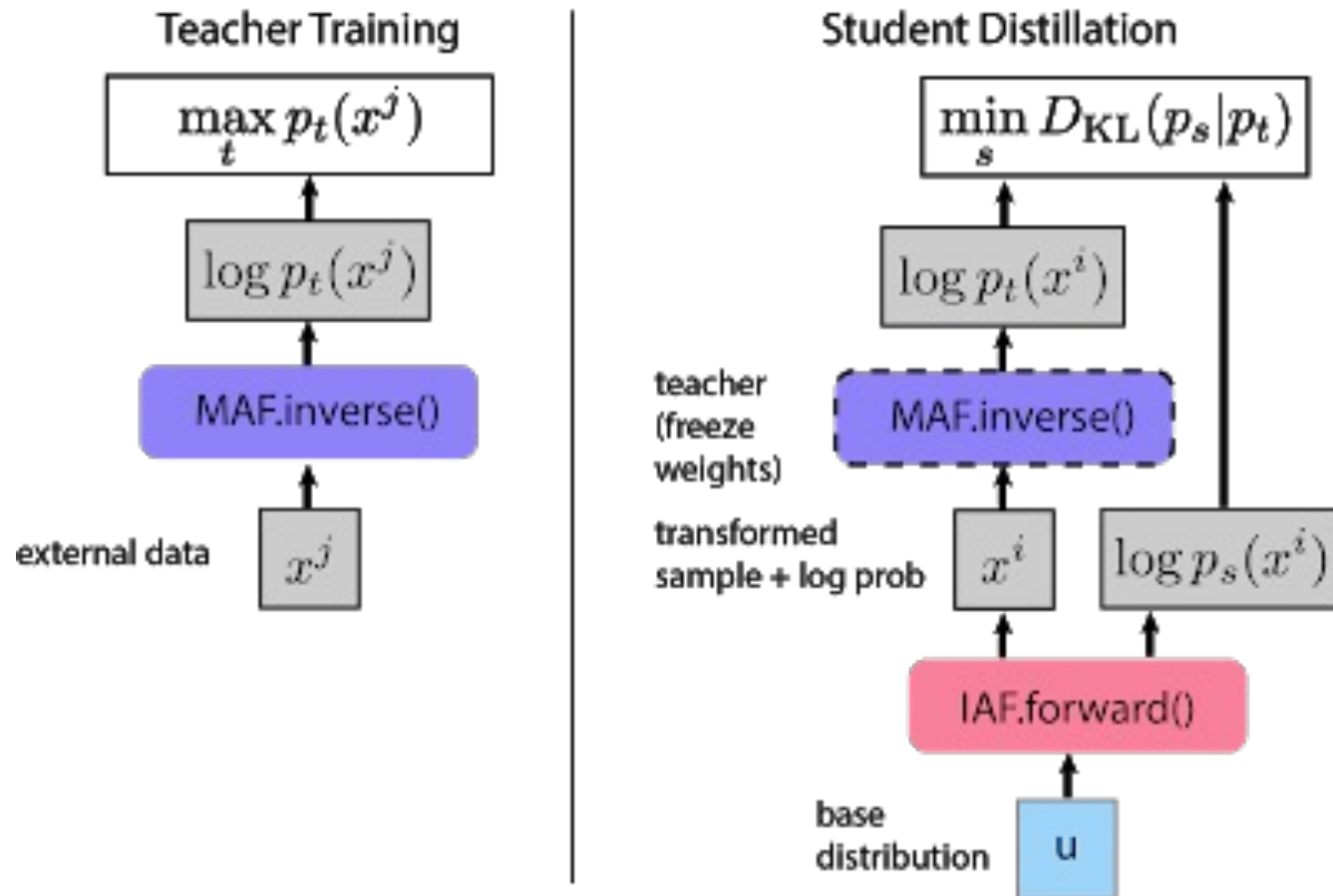
compute all μ and s ;

evaluate x .

Sampling is fast and parallelizable.

Training is slow.

Probability Density Distillation



- ▶ Two-part training with a teacher and student model.
- ▶ Teacher (MAF) trained first, then student (IAF) initialized.
- ▶ Student, s , is trained to match the teachers' distribution t using KL divergence:

$$KL(p_s || p_t) = H(p_s, p_t) - H(p_s).$$

Which is evaluated using MAF.

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1711.10433.pdf>

Conclusions



Conclusions

1. Det Identities

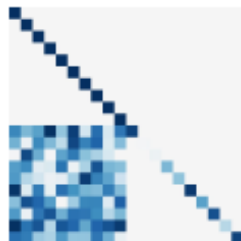
Planar NF
Sylvester NF
...



(Low rank)

2. Coupling Blocks

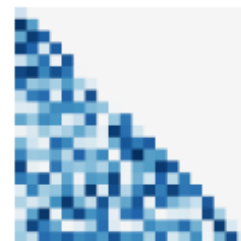
NICE
Real NVP
Glow
...



(Lower triangular +
structured)

3. Autoregressive

Inverse AF
Neural AF
Masked AF
...



(Lower triangular)

4. Unbiased Estimation

FFJORD
Residual Flows



(Arbitrary)