Deep Generative Models

Lecture 4

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Recap of previous lecture

Latent variable models (LVM)

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \int p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) d\mathbf{z} = \int p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z}.$$

MLE problem for LVM

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^* = \arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \log p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log p(\mathbf{x}_i|\boldsymbol{\theta}) =$$

$$= \arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \log \sum_{i=1}^{n} \int p(\mathbf{x}_i|\mathbf{z}_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\mathbf{z}_i) d\mathbf{z}_i.$$

Naive Monte-Carlo estimation

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \int p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z} = \mathbb{E}_{p(\mathbf{z})} p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^{K} p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}_k, \boldsymbol{\theta}),$$

where $\mathbf{z}_k \sim p(\mathbf{z})$.

Recap of previous lecture

Variational lower Bound (ELBO)

$$\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathcal{L}(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + KL(q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \geq \mathcal{L}(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}).$$

$$\mathcal{L}(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \int q(\mathbf{z}) \log \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{q(\mathbf{z})} d\mathbf{z} = \mathbb{E}_q \log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) - KL(q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z}))$$

Log-likelihood decomposition

$$\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbb{E}_q \log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) - KL(q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z})) + KL(q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})).$$

- Instead of maximizing incomplete likelihood, maximize ELBO

$$\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \quad \rightarrow \quad \max_{q, \boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}(q, \boldsymbol{\theta})$$

- Maximization of ELBO by variational distribution q is equivalent to minimization of KL

$$\max_q \mathcal{L}(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \equiv \min_q KL(q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})).$$

Recap of previous lecture

EM-algorithm

- E-step

$$q^*(\mathbf{z}) = \arg\max_q \mathcal{L}(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}^*) = \arg\min_q KL(q(\mathbf{z}) || p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^*));$$

- M-step

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^* = \arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}(q^*, \boldsymbol{\theta});$$

Amortized variational inference

Restrict a family of all possible distributions $q(\mathbf{z})$ to a parametric class $q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \phi)$ conditioned on samples $\mathbf{x}$ with parameters ϕ.

Variational Bayes

- E-step

$$\boldsymbol{\phi}_k = \boldsymbol{\phi}_{k-1} + \eta \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{k-1})|_{\boldsymbol{\phi}=\boldsymbol{\phi}_{k-1}}$$

- M-step

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}_k = \boldsymbol{\theta}_{k-1} + \eta \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\phi}_k, \boldsymbol{\theta})|_{\boldsymbol{\theta}=\boldsymbol{\theta}_{k-1}}$$

ELBO gradients

$$\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbb{E}_q \left[\log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \log \frac{p(\mathbf{z})}{q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi})} \right] \rightarrow \max_{\boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\theta}}.$$

M-step: $\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$

$$\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \int q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi}) \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) d\mathbf{z} \approx$$
$$\approx \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}^*, \boldsymbol{\theta}), \quad \mathbf{z}^* \sim q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi}).$$

E-step: $\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$

Difference from M-step: density function $q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi})$ depends on the parameters $\boldsymbol{\phi}$, it is impossible to use the Monte-Carlo estimation:

$$\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \int q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi}) \left[\log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \log \frac{p(\mathbf{z})}{q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi})} \right] d\mathbf{z}$$
$$\neq \int q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi}) \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \left[\log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \log \frac{p(\mathbf{z})}{q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi})} \right] d\mathbf{z}$$

Reparametrization trick

Law of the unconscious statistician (LOTUS)

Let X be a random variable and let $Y = g(X)$. Then

$$\mathbb{E}_{p_Y} Y = \mathbb{E}_{p_X} g(X) = \int g(\mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}.$$

Examples

- $r(x) = \mathcal{N}(x|0, 1)$, $y = \sigma \cdot x + \mu$, $p_Y(y|\theta) = \mathcal{N}(y|\mu, \sigma^2)$, $\theta = [\mu, \sigma]$.
- $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}^* \sim r(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}), \quad \mathbf{z} = g(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \boldsymbol{\phi}), \quad \mathbf{z} \sim q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi})$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \int q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi}) f(\mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z} &= \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \int r(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}) f(\mathbf{z}) d\boldsymbol{\epsilon} \\ &= \int r(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}) \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\phi}} f(g(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \boldsymbol{\phi})) d\boldsymbol{\epsilon} \approx \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\phi}} f(g(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\epsilon}^*, \boldsymbol{\phi})) \end{aligned}$$

ELBO gradient (E-step, $\nabla_\phi \mathcal{L}(\phi, \boldsymbol{\theta})$)

$$\nabla_\phi \mathcal{L}(\phi, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \nabla_\phi \int q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \phi) \log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) d\mathbf{z} - \nabla_\phi \mathrm{KL}(q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \phi) || p(\mathbf{z}))$$

$$= \int r(\epsilon) \nabla_\phi \log p(\mathbf{x}|g(\mathbf{x}, \epsilon, \phi), \boldsymbol{\theta}) d\epsilon - \nabla_\phi \mathrm{KL}(q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \phi) || p(\mathbf{z}))$$

$$\approx \nabla_\phi \log p(\mathbf{x}|g(\mathbf{x}, \epsilon^*, \phi), \boldsymbol{\theta}) - \nabla_\phi \mathrm{KL}(q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \phi) || p(\mathbf{z}))$$

Variational assumption

$$r(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}) = \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}); \quad q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \phi) = \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_\phi(\mathbf{x}), \boldsymbol{\sigma}^2_\phi(\mathbf{x})).$$

$$\mathbf{z} = g(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \phi) = \boldsymbol{\sigma}_\phi(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\epsilon} + \boldsymbol{\mu}_\phi(\mathbf{x}).$$

Here $\boldsymbol{\mu}_\phi(\cdot), \boldsymbol{\sigma}_\phi(\cdot)$ are parameterized functions (outputs of neural network).

- $p(\mathbf{z})$ – prior distribution on latent variables $\mathbf{z}$. We could specify any distribution that we want. Let say $p(\mathbf{z}) = \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I})$.
- $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$ - generative distibution. Since it is a parameterized function let it be neural network with parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$.

Variational autoencoder (VAE)

Final algorithm

- pick random sample $\mathbf{x}_i$, $i \sim U[1, n]$.
- compute the objective:

$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon}^* \sim r(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}); \quad \mathbf{z}^* = g(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\epsilon}^*, \boldsymbol{\phi});$$

$$\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx \log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}^*, \boldsymbol{\theta}) - KL(q(\mathbf{z}^*|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi})||p(\mathbf{z}^*)).$$

- compute a stochastic gradients w.r.t. $\boldsymbol{\phi}$ and $\boldsymbol{\theta}$

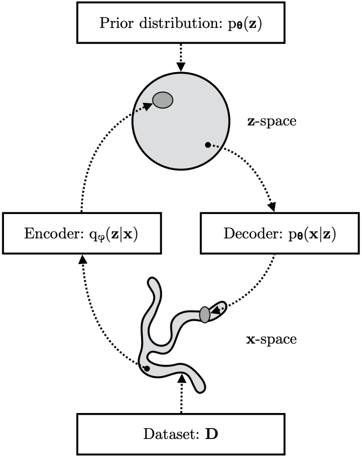
$$\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \log p(\mathbf{x}|g(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\epsilon}^*, \boldsymbol{\phi}), \boldsymbol{\theta}) - \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \mathrm{KL}(q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi})||p(\mathbf{z}));$$
$$\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}^*, \boldsymbol{\theta}).$$

- update $\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\phi}$ according to the selected optimization method (SGD, Adam, RMSProp):

$$\boldsymbol{\phi} := \boldsymbol{\phi} + \eta \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\theta}),$$
$$\boldsymbol{\theta} := \boldsymbol{\theta} + \eta \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\theta}).$$

Variational autoencoder (VAE)

- VAE learns stochastic mapping between $\mathbf{x}$-space, from complicated distribution $\pi(\mathbf{x})$, and a latent $\mathbf{z}$-space, with simple distribution.
- The generative model learns a joint distribution $p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = p(\mathbf{z})p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$, with a prior distribution $p(\mathbf{z})$, and a stochastic decoder $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$.
- The stochastic encoder $q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \phi)$ (inference model), approximates the true but intractable posterior $p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$ of the generative model.



Kingma D. P., Welling M. An introduction to variational autoencoders, 2019

Variational Autoencoder

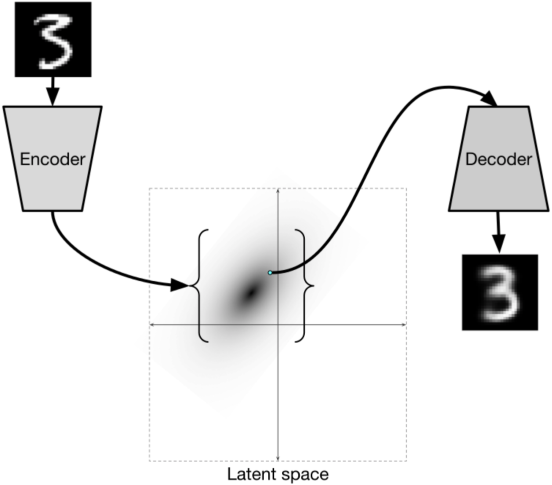


image credit: *http://ijdykeman.github.io/ml/2016/12/21/cvae.html*

Variational autoencoder (VAE)

- Encoder $q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \phi) = \mathrm{NN}_e(\mathbf{x}, \phi)$ outputs $\boldsymbol{\mu}_\phi(\mathbf{x})$ and $\boldsymbol{\sigma}_\phi(\mathbf{x})$.
- Decoder $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathrm{NN}_d(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$ outputs parameters of the sample distribution.

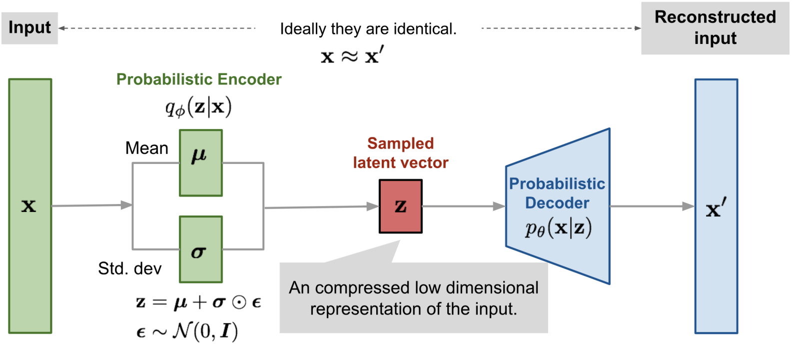


image credit: https://lilianweng.github.io/lil-log/2018/08/12/from-autoencoder-to-beta-vae.html

Bayesian framework

Posterior distribution

$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{X}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})p(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(\mathbf{X})} = \frac{p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})p(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\int p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})p(\boldsymbol{\theta})d\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

Bayesian inference

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{X}) = \int p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{X})d\boldsymbol{\theta}$$

Maximum a posteriori (MAP) estimation

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^* = \arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \log p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{X}) = \arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \big(\log p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \log p(\boldsymbol{\theta})\big)$$

MAP inference

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{X}) = \int p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{X})d\boldsymbol{\theta} = \int p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})\delta(\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}^*)d\boldsymbol{\theta} \approx p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}^*).$$

VAE as Bayesian model

Posterior distribution

$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{X}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})p(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(\mathbf{X})}$$

ELBO

$$\begin{aligned}
\log p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{X}) &= \log p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \log p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \log p(\mathbf{X}) \\
&= \mathcal{L}(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + KL(q||p) + \log p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \log p(\mathbf{X}) \\
&\geq [\mathcal{L}(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \log p(\boldsymbol{\theta})] - \log p(\mathbf{X}).
\end{aligned}$$

EM-algorithm

- E-step

$$q(\mathbf{z}) = \arg\max_{q} \mathcal{L}(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}^*) = \arg\min_{q} KL(q||p) = p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^*);$$

- M-step

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^* = \arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left[\mathcal{L}(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \log p(\boldsymbol{\theta})\right].$$

VAE limitations

- Poor variational posterior distribution (inference model encoder)
$$q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \phi) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\phi}}(\mathbf{x}), \boldsymbol{\sigma}^2_{\boldsymbol{\phi}}(\mathbf{x})).$$
- Poor prior distribution
$$p(\mathbf{z}) = \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}).$$
- Poor probabilistic model (generative model, decoder)
$$p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{z}), \boldsymbol{\sigma}^2_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{z})).$$
- Loose lower bound
$$\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \mathcal{L}(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = (?).$$

Likelihood-based models so far...

Autoregressive models

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \prod_{i=1}^{m} p(x_i|\mathbf{x}_{1:i-1}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$$

- tractable likelihood,
- no inferred latent factors.

Latent variable models

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \int p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) d\mathbf{z}$$

- latent feature representation,
- intractable likelihood.

How to build model with latent variables and tractable likelihood?

Normalizing flows prerequisites

Change of variable theorem

Let $\mathbf{x}$ be a random variable with density function $p(\mathbf{x})$ and $f : \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^m$ is a differentiable, invertible function (diffeomorphism). If $\mathbf{z} = f(\mathbf{x})$, $\mathbf{x} = f^{-1}(\mathbf{z}) = g(\mathbf{z})$, then

$$
\begin{aligned}
p(\mathbf{x}) &= p(\mathbf{z}) \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right| = p(f(\mathbf{x})) \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right| \\
p(\mathbf{z}) &= p(\mathbf{x}) \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \right) \right| = p(g(\mathbf{z})) \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{z})}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \right) \right| .
\end{aligned}
$$

Inverse function theorem

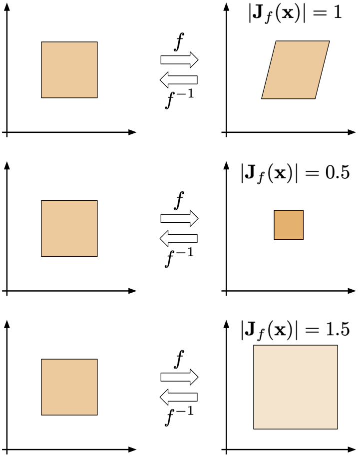
If function f is invertible and Jacobian is continuous and non-singular, then

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

Jacobian-determinant

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = p(f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right|$$

- $\mathbf{x}$ and $\mathbf{z}$ have the same dimensionality ($\mathbb{R}^m$).
- $f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$ could be parametric function.
- Determinant of Jacobian $\mathbf{J} = \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$ shows how the volume changes under the transorfmation.



https://jmtomczak.github.io/blog/3/3_flows.html

Fitting flows

MLE problem

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^* = \arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} p(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(\mathbf{x}_i|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log p(\mathbf{x}_i|\boldsymbol{\theta}).$$

Challenge

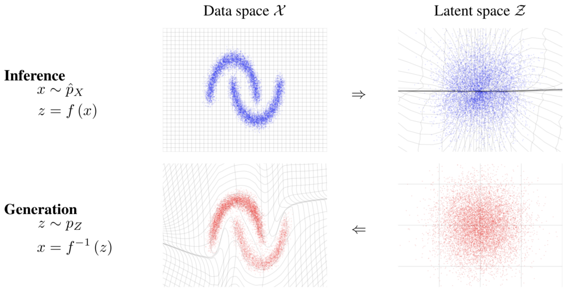
$p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$ can be intractable.

Fitting flow to solve MLE

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = p(\mathbf{z}) \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right| = p(f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right|$$

$$\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \log p(f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})) + \log \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right|$$

Flows



Computational requirement

- Evaluating model density $p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$ requires computing the transformation $\mathbf{z} = f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$ and its Jacobian determinant $\left|\det\left(\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x},\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \mathbf{x}}\right)\right|$, and evaluating the density $p(\mathbf{z})$.
- Sampling $\mathbf{x}$ from the model requires the ability to sample from $p(\mathbf{z})$ and to compute the transformation $\mathbf{x} = g(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = f^{-1}(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$.

Dinh L., Sohl-Dickstein J., Bengio S. Density estimation using Real NVP, 2016

Forward KL vs Reverse KL

Forward KL

$$
\begin{aligned}
KL(\pi || p) &= \int \pi(\mathbf{x}) \log \frac{\pi(\mathbf{x})}{p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})} d\mathbf{x} \\
&= -\mathbb{E}_{\pi(\mathbf{x})} \log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \text{const} \rightarrow \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}
\end{aligned}
$$

Maximum likelihood estimation is equivalent to minimization of the Monte-Carlo estimation of forward KL.

Forward KL for flow model

$$
\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \log p(f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})) + \log \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right|
$$

- We need to be able to compute $f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$ and its Jacobian.
- We need to be able to compute the density $p(\mathbf{z})$.
- We don't need to think about computing the function $g(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = f^{-1}(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$ until we want to sample from the flow.

Forward KL vs Reverse KL

Reverse KL

$$
\begin{aligned}
KL(p||\pi) &= \int p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \log \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\pi(\mathbf{x})} d\mathbf{x} \\
&= \mathbb{E}_{p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})} \left[\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \log \pi(\mathbf{x})\right] \to \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}
\end{aligned}
$$

Reverse KL for flow model

$$
\log p(\mathbf{z}) = \log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \log \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \right) \right|
$$

$$
KL(p||\pi) = \mathbb{E}_{p(\mathbf{z})} \left[\log p(\mathbf{z}) - \log \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \right) \right| - \log \pi(g(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \right]
$$

- We need to be able to compute $g(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$ and its Jacobian.
- We need to be able to sample from the density $p(\mathbf{z})$ (do not need to evaluate it).
- We don't need to think about computing the function $f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$.

Composition of flows

Theorem

Diffeomorphisms are **composable** (If f_1, f_2 satisfy conditions of the change of variable theorem (differentiable and invertible), then $\mathbf{z} = f(\mathbf{x}) = f_2 \circ f_1(\mathbf{x})$ also satisfies it).

$$
\begin{aligned}
p(\mathbf{x}) = p(\mathbf{z}) \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right| &= p(f(\mathbf{x})) \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right| = \\
= p(f(\mathbf{x})) \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f_2 \circ f_1(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right| &= p(f(\mathbf{x})) \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_2}{\partial \mathbf{f}_1} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_1}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right| = \\
&= p(f(\mathbf{x})) \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_2}{\partial \mathbf{f}_1} \right) \right| \cdot \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_1}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right|
\end{aligned}
$$

Flows

$$\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \log p(f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})) + \log \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right|$$

Definition

Normalizing flow is a *differentiable, invertible* mapping from data $\mathbf{x}$ to the noise $\mathbf{z}$.

- **Normalizing** means that the inverse flow takes samples from $p(\mathbf{x})$ and normalizes them into samples from density $p(\mathbf{z})$.
- **Flow** refers to the trajectory followed by samples from $p(\mathbf{z})$ as they are transformed by the sequence of transformations

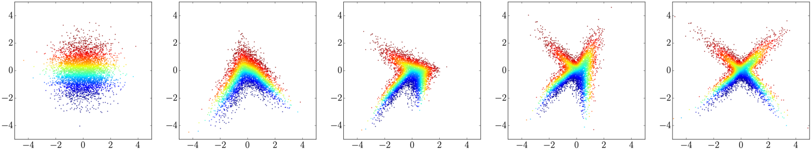
$$\mathbf{z} = f_K \circ \cdots \circ f_1(\mathbf{x}); \quad \mathbf{x} = f_1^{-1} \circ \cdots \circ f_K^{-1}(\mathbf{z}) = g_1 \circ \cdots \circ g_K(\mathbf{z})$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = p(f_K \circ \cdots \circ f_1(\mathbf{x})) \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f_K \circ \cdots \circ f_1(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right| =$$

$$= p(f_K \circ \cdots \circ f_1(\mathbf{x})) \prod_{k=1}^{K} \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_k}{\partial \mathbf{f}_{k-1}} \right) \right|.$$

Flows

Example of a 4-step flow



Flow likelihood

$$\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \log p(f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})) + \log \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right|$$

What is the complexity of the determinant computation?

What we want

- Efficient computation of Jacobian $\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$;
- Efficient sampling from the base distribution $p(\mathbf{z})$;
- Efficient inversion of $f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$.

Papamakarios G. et al. Normalizing flows for probabilistic modeling and inference, 2019

Summary

- The reparametrization trick gets unbiased gradients w.r.t to a variational posterior distribution.
- The VAE model is an LVM with two neural network: for stochastic encoder $q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \phi)$ and for stochastic decoder $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$.
- VAE is not a "true" bayesian model since parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ do not have a prior distribution.
- Standart VAE has several limitations that we will address later in the course.
- Forward KL minimization is equivalent to MLE. Reverse KL is used in variational inference.
- Flow models transform a simple base distribution to a complex one via a sequence of invertible transformations.
- Flow models have a tractable likelihood that is given by the change of variable theorem.