

# Variational Inference with Implicit Models

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# Variational inference vs variational learning

- Variational inference:

Given the joint  $p(x, z) = p(x|z)p(z)$ , find the posterior  $p(z|x)$

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \rightarrow \max_{\phi}$$

- Variational learning:

Approximately maximize the marginal log-likelihood  $\log p(x|\theta_{lh}, \theta_p)$ :

$$\log p(x|\theta_{lh}, \theta_p) \geq \mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \frac{p_{\theta_{lh}}(x|z)p_{\theta_p}(z)}{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \rightarrow \max_{\phi, \theta_{lh}, \theta_p}$$

# This talk

This talk **is** about:

- How to perform variational inference and / or learning in implicit models?

This talk **is not** about:

- How to apply variational inference and / or learning?
- How to apply implicit models?
- Fancy experiments
- Particular models

# Implicit variational learning

$$\log p(x|\theta_{lh}, \theta_p) \geq \mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_\phi(z|x)} \log \frac{p_{\theta_{lh}}(x|z)p_{\theta_p}(z)}{q_\phi(z|x)} \rightarrow \max_{\phi, \theta_{lh}, \theta_p}$$

We need:

- $\nabla_z \log q_\phi(z|x)$ , reparameterization
- $\nabla_{\theta_p} \log p_{\theta_p}(z)$ ,  $\nabla_z \log p_{\theta_p}(z)$
- $\nabla_{\theta_{lh}} \log p_{\theta_{lh}}(x|z)$ ,  $\nabla_z \log p_{\theta_{lh}}(x|z)$

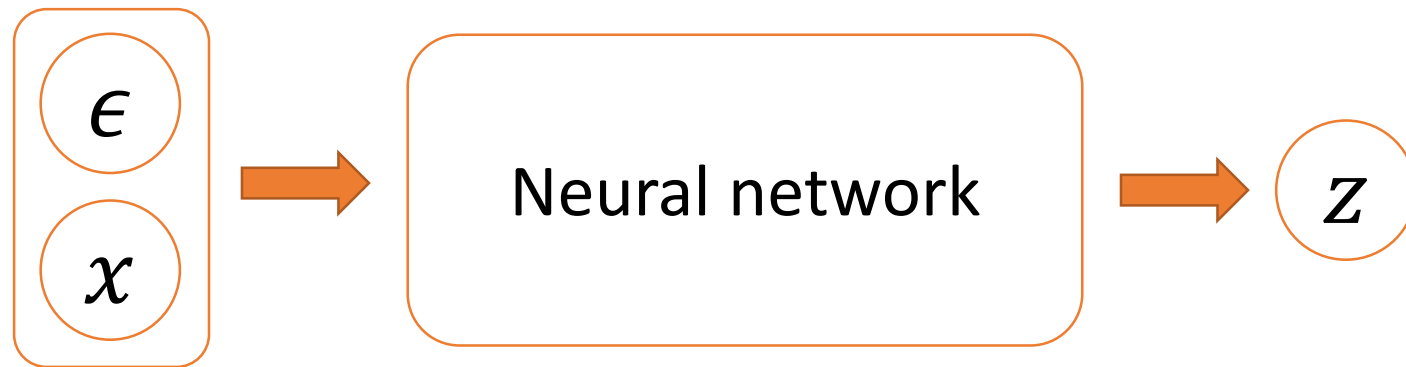
Enough for  
variational inference  
(not learning)

Implicit models: worst case

We only can **sample** from  $q_\phi(z|x)$ ,  $p_{\theta_p}(z)$ ,  $p_{\theta_{lh}}(x|z)$

# Implicit posterior

- Explicit posteriors are too simple (e.g. a fully-factorized Gaussian)
  - Exception: normalizing flows – alternative to implicit models
- Arbitrary implicit generator:



# Implicit prior

- Hierarchical prior induces an implicit prior

$$p(z) = \int p(z|\psi)p(\psi)d\psi$$

- Incremental learning with implicit posteriors

$$p_{t+1}(z) = q_t(z)$$

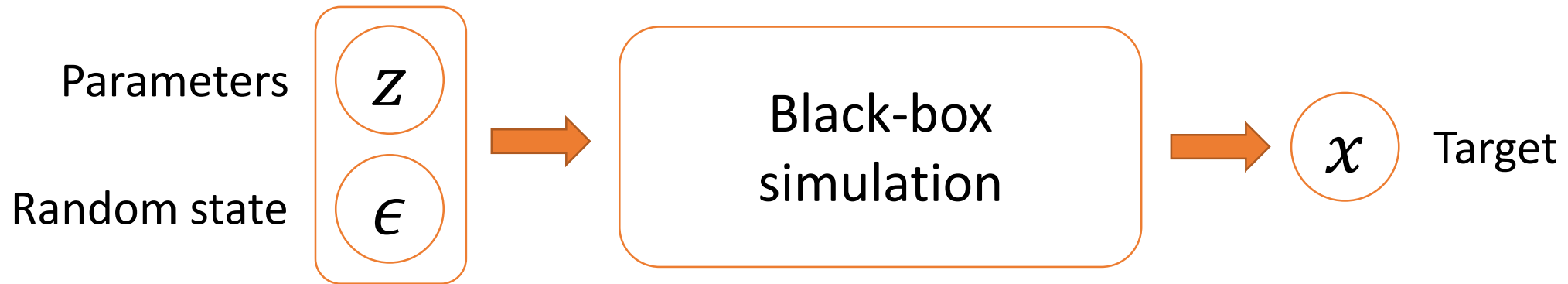
- Optimal prior may be implicit

$$p_{optimal}(z) = \int q_{\phi}(z|x)p(x)dx$$

# Implicit likelihood

(a.k.a. ABC, approximate Bayesian computation)

- We have a black-box simulator that samples  $x \sim p_{\theta_{lh}}(x|z)$
- $\log p_{\theta_{lh}}(x|z)$  and its  $\nabla$  are unknown



- How to find parameters  $z$ ?

A common scenario in practical applications (physics, biology, etc.)

# Approches to implicit modelling

- Discriminator-based density ratio estimation
- Approaches based on reverse models
  - Hierarchical variational inference
  - Unbiased implicit variational inference
- Denoising-based inference
- Other approaches (not mentioned here):
  - SIVI (semi-implicit VI)
  - KIVI (kernel implicit VI)
  - OPVI (operator VI)
  - ...



# Why these approaches?

- Discriminator-based density ratio estimation
  - The most wide-spread
  - The most general approach
- Hierarchical variational inference
  - The most simple approach
- Unbiased implicit variational inference
  - Finally feels like “the right way to do it”
- Denoiser-based gradient estimation
  - An unexpected beautiful result

# Discriminator-based density ratio estimation

$$\mathcal{D}(z) \approx \frac{q(z)}{p(z)}$$

Minimize discriminator loss:

$$\mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z)} \log(1 + \mathcal{D}(z)) - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z)} \log \frac{\mathcal{D}(z)}{1 + \mathcal{D}(z)} \rightarrow \min_{\mathcal{D}}$$

$$\int \left[ p(z) \log(1 + \mathcal{D}(z)) - q(z) \log \frac{\mathcal{D}(z)}{1 + \mathcal{D}(z)} \right] dz \rightarrow \min_{\mathcal{D}}$$

$$p(z) \log(1 + \mathcal{D}(z)) - q(z) \log \frac{\mathcal{D}(z)}{1 + \mathcal{D}(z)} \rightarrow \min_{\mathcal{D}}$$

$$\frac{p(z)}{1 + \mathcal{D}(z)} - \frac{q(z)}{\mathcal{D}(z)} + \frac{q(z)}{1 + \mathcal{D}(z)} = 0 \Leftrightarrow p(z)\mathcal{D}(z) - q(z)(1 + \mathcal{D}(z)) + q(z)\mathcal{D}(z) = 0$$
$$p(z)\mathcal{D}(z) - q(z) = 0$$

# Discriminator-based density ratio estimation

- Variational learning / inference is optimization of ELBO
- ELBO consists of expected log-density-ratios
- Intractable  $\Rightarrow$  train a discriminator to approximate density ratio

# Prior-contrastive vs joint-contrastive inference

- VAE ELBO:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q_{\phi}(z|x)}$$

$\text{KL}(q(z|x) || p(z))$

- Prior-contrastive formulation:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log p(x|z) - \mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \frac{q_{\phi}(z|x)}{p(z)}$$

- Joint-contrastive formulation:

$$\mathcal{L} = -\mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \frac{q_{\phi}(z|x)p(x)}{p(x, z)} - \mathcal{H}[p(x)]$$

$\text{KL}(q(z|x)p(x) || p(x, z))$

# Prior-contrastive adversarial

- Consider the prior-contrastive VAE formulation:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log p(x|z) - \mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \frac{q_{\phi}(z|x)}{p(z)}$$

- Approximate density ratio  $\mathcal{D}(z) \approx \frac{q_{\phi}(z|x)}{p(z)}$

- Approximate ELBO:

$$\mathcal{L} \approx \mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log p(x|z) - \mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \boxed{\log \mathcal{D}(z)}$$

↑  
Implicitly depends on  $\phi$  and  $\theta_p$ !

# Prior-contrastive adversarial

- Approximate ELBO:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log p(x|z) - \mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \mathcal{D}(z)$$

- Need explicit likelihood
- Implicit posterior and prior
- How to optimize?
  - $\mathcal{D}(z) = \mathcal{D}_{\phi, \theta_p}(z)$  depends on  $\phi$  and  $\theta_p$
  - $\nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \mathcal{D}_{\phi, \theta_p}(z) |_{\phi=\phi_0} = \nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \mathcal{D}_{\phi_0, \theta_p}(z) |_{\phi=\phi_0}$

# Prior-contrastive adversarial

$$\nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \mathcal{D}_{\phi, \theta_p}(z) \Big|_{\phi=\phi_0} = \nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \mathcal{D}_{\phi_0, \theta_p}(z) \Big|_{\phi=\phi_0}$$

Assume the optimal discriminator:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \mathcal{D}_{\phi, \theta_p}(z) \Big|_{\phi=\phi_0} &= \nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \frac{q_{\phi}(z|x)}{p(z)} \Big|_{\phi=\phi_0} = \\ &= \nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \frac{q_{\phi}(z|x) q_{\phi_0}(z|x)}{p(z) q_{\phi_0}(z|x)} \Big|_{\phi=\phi_0} = \\ &\nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \frac{q_{\phi_0}(z|x)}{p(z)} \Big|_{\phi=\phi_0} + \nabla_{\phi} \text{KL}(q_{\psi} || q_{\psi_0}) \Big|_{\phi=\phi_0} = \\ \nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \frac{q_{\phi_0}(z|x)}{p(z)} \Big|_{\phi=\phi_0} &= \nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \mathcal{D}_{\phi_0, \theta_p}(z) \Big|_{\phi=\phi_0} \end{aligned}$$

# Prior-contrastive adversarial

- Approximate ELBO:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log p(x|z) - \mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \mathcal{D}(z)$$

- Need explicit likelihood
- Implicit posterior and prior
- How to optimize?
  - $\mathcal{D}(z) = \mathcal{D}_{\phi, \theta_p}(z)$  depends on  $\phi$  and  $\theta_p$
  - $\nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \mathcal{D}_{\phi, \theta_p}(z) |_{\phi=\phi_0} = \nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \mathcal{D}_{\phi_0, \theta_p}(z) |_{\phi=\phi_0}$
  - Differentiate through SGD to obtain  $\nabla_{\theta_p}$ !



# Joint-contrastive adversarial

- Joint-contrastive formulation:

$$\mathcal{L} = -\mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \frac{q_{\phi}(z|x)p(x)}{p(x, z)} - \mathcal{H}[p(x)]$$

- Approximate density ratio:

$$\mathcal{D}(x, z) \approx \frac{q_{\phi}(z|x)p(x)}{p(x, z)}$$

- Approximate ELBO:

$$\mathcal{L} \tilde{\propto} -\mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \mathcal{D}(x, z)$$

# Joint-contrastive adversarial

- Approximate ELBO:

$$\mathcal{L} \approx -\mathbb{E}_{p(x)} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log \mathcal{D}(x, z)$$

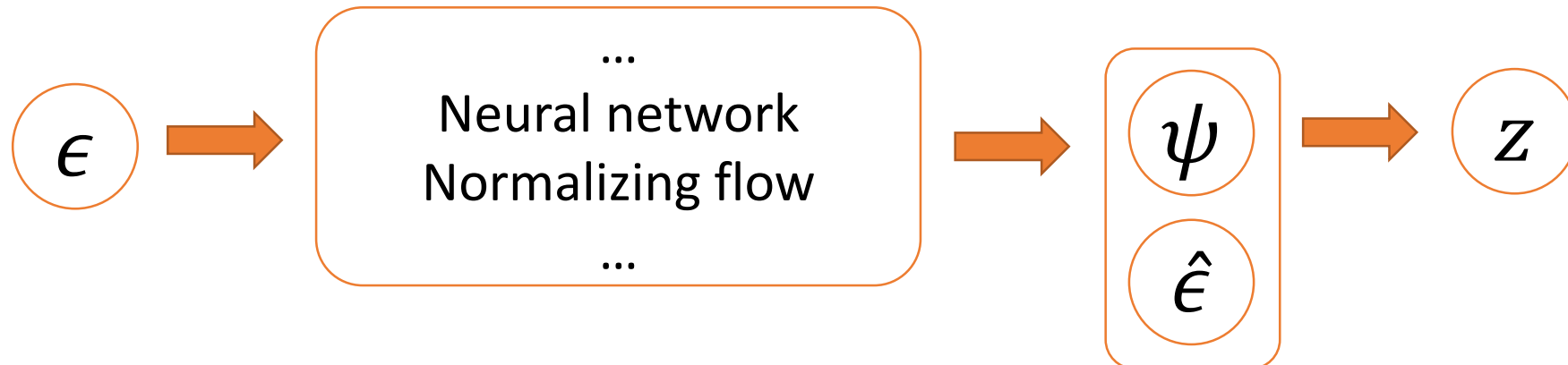
- All distributions may be implicit
- High-dimensional DRE is difficult
- How to optimize?
  - Same trick holds for  $\phi$
  - Need to differentiate through SGD to obtain  $\nabla_{lh}, \nabla_p$

# Semi-implicit formulation

- Semi-implicit distribution:

$$q(z) = \int q(z|\psi)q(\psi)d\psi$$

- Even if  $q(z|\psi)$  and  $q(\psi)$  are explicit,  $q(z)$  may be implicit
- If  $q(\psi)$  is implicit,  $q(z)$  can model any implicit distribution
  - Consider  $q(z|\psi) = \delta(z - \psi)$



# Hierarchical variational inference



- Semi-implicit distribution:

$$q_{\phi}(z) = \int q_{\phi}(z|\psi)q_{\phi}(\psi)d\psi$$

- Both  $q(z|\psi)$  and  $q(\psi)$  are explicit
  - Example:  $q(z|\psi) = \mathcal{N}(\psi, \sigma^2)$
  - Example:  $q(\psi) = \text{NF}(\epsilon)$

- ELBO:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z)} \log p(x|z)p(z) - \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z)} \log q_{\phi}(z)$$

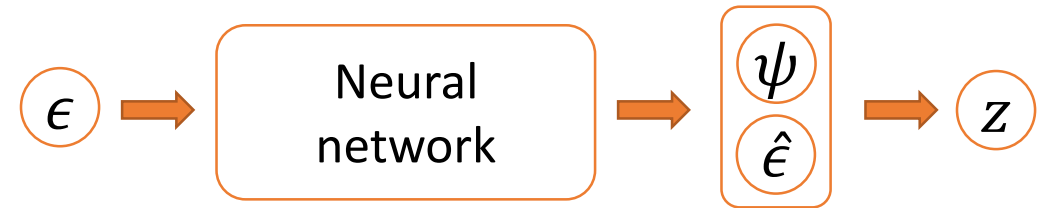
# HVI: bounding the entropy

$$\begin{aligned} -\mathbb{E}_{q(z)} \log q(z) &= -\mathbb{E}_{q(z,\psi)} \log \frac{q(z|\psi)q(\psi)}{q(\psi|z)} = \\ &= -\mathbb{E}_{q(z,\psi)} \log q(z|\psi)q(\psi) + \mathbb{E}_{q(z)q(\psi|z)} \log q(\psi|z) \geq \\ &\geq -\mathbb{E}_{q(z,\psi)} \log q(z|\psi)q(\psi) + \mathbb{E}_{q(z)q(\psi|z)} \log r_\theta(\psi|z) \end{aligned}$$

- $r_\theta(\psi|z)$  is a parametric **reverse model**
- New lower bound:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} \geq \mathcal{L}_{HVI} &= \mathbb{E}_{q_\phi(z)} \log p(x|z)p(z) - \\ &-\mathbb{E}_{q_\phi(z,\psi)} \log q_\phi(z|\psi)q_\phi(\psi) + \mathbb{E}_{q_\phi(z)q_\phi(\psi|z)} \log r_\theta(\psi|z) \rightarrow \max_{\phi,\theta} \end{aligned}$$

# Unbiased implicit variational inference



- Semi-implicit distribution:

$$q_{\phi}(z) = \int q_{\phi}(z|\psi)q_{\phi}(\psi)d\psi$$

- $q(z|\psi)$  is explicit
- What if  $q(\psi)$  is implicit?
- Equivalent reformulation:

$$z \sim q_{\phi}(z) = \int q_{\phi}(z|\psi = f_{\phi}(\epsilon))p(\epsilon)d\psi = \int q_{\phi}(z|\epsilon)p(\epsilon)d\epsilon$$

- $p(\epsilon)$  is explicit!

# Unbiased implicit variational inference

- Now we can perform HVI with implicit  $q_\phi(\psi)$ !
- ... Or go even further

- ELBO:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{q_\phi(z)} \log p(x|z)p(z) - \mathbb{E}_{q_\phi(z)} \log q_\phi(z)$$

- $\mathcal{L}$  is intractable
- But  $\nabla_\phi \mathcal{L}$  can be estimated efficiently!

# Unbiased implicit variational inference

Provides an unbiased gradient estimate for the ELBO

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z)} \log q_{\phi}(z) &= \nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{p(\epsilon)} \log q_{\phi}(f_{\phi}(\epsilon)) = \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{p(\epsilon)} \nabla_{\phi} \log q_{\phi}(z) \Big|_{z=f_{\phi}(\epsilon)} + \mathbb{E}_{p(\epsilon)} \nabla_z \log q_{\phi}(z) \Big|_{z=f_{\phi}(\epsilon)} \cdot \nabla_{\phi} f_{\phi}(\epsilon) = \\ &= \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z)} \nabla_{\phi} \log q_{\phi}(z)}_{=0} + \mathbb{E}_{p(\epsilon)} \nabla_z \log q_{\phi}(z) \Big|_{z=f_{\phi}(\epsilon)} \cdot \nabla_{\phi} f_{\phi}(\epsilon)\end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z)} \log q_{\phi}(z) = \mathbb{E}_{p(\epsilon)} \nabla_z \log q_{\phi}(z) \Big|_{z=f_{\phi}(\epsilon)} \cdot \nabla_{\phi} f_{\phi}(\epsilon)$$



# Unbiased implicit variational inference

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_z \log q_\phi(z) &= \frac{1}{q_\phi(z)} \nabla_z q_\phi(z) = \frac{1}{q_\phi(z)} \nabla_z \int q_\phi(z|\epsilon') p(\epsilon') d\epsilon' = \\ &= \frac{1}{q_\phi(z)} \int d\epsilon' p(\epsilon') \nabla_z q_\phi(z|\epsilon') = \frac{1}{\textcolor{blue}{q_\phi(z)}} \int d\epsilon' \textcolor{blue}{p(\epsilon') q_\phi(z|\epsilon')} \nabla_z \log q_\phi(z|\epsilon') = \\ &= \int d\epsilon' q_\phi(\epsilon'|z) \nabla_z q_\phi(z|\epsilon') = \mathbb{E}_{q(\epsilon'|z)} \nabla_\phi \log q_\phi(z|\epsilon')\end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla_z \log q_\phi(z) = \mathbb{E}_{q_\phi(\epsilon'|z)} \nabla_\phi \log q_\phi(z|\epsilon')$$

# Unbiased implicit variational inference

$$\nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z)} \log q_{\phi}(z) = \mathbb{E}_{p(\epsilon)} \nabla_z \log q_{\phi}(z) \Big|_{z=f_{\phi}(\epsilon)} \cdot \nabla_{\phi} f_{\phi}(\epsilon)$$

$$\nabla_z \log q_{\phi}(z) = \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(\epsilon'|z)} \nabla_{\phi} \log q_{\phi}(z|\epsilon')$$

- Joint density  $q_{\phi}(z, \epsilon') = q_{\phi}(z|\epsilon')q(\epsilon')$  is tractable!
  - We can now sample  $\epsilon' \sim q_{\phi}(\epsilon'|z)$  using MCMC
  - We can sample  $(z, \epsilon) \sim q_{\phi}(z, \epsilon)$  and use it to start HMC
  - No warm-up needed for MCMC!

# Unbiased implicit variational inference

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z)} \log q_{\phi}(z) &= \mathbb{E}_{p(\epsilon)} \nabla_z \log q_{\phi}(z) \Big|_{z=f_{\phi}(\epsilon)} \cdot \nabla_{\phi} f_{\phi}(\epsilon) \\ \nabla_z \log q_{\phi}(z) &= \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(\epsilon'|z)} \nabla_{\phi} \log q_{\phi}(z|\epsilon')\end{aligned}$$

How to estimate  $\nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z)} \log q_{\phi}(z)$ :

1. Sample  $\epsilon \sim p(\epsilon), z \sim q(z|\epsilon)$
2. Estimate  $\nabla_z \log q_{\phi}(z)$ :
  1. Use  $(z, \epsilon)$  to start a MC for  $q_{\phi}(\epsilon'|z)$
  2. Perform several MC steps to obtain  $\epsilon' \sim q_{\phi}(\epsilon'|z), \epsilon' \perp\!\!\!\perp \epsilon$
  3. Use  $\nabla_{\phi} \log q_{\phi}(z|\epsilon') \simeq \nabla_z \log q_{\phi}(z)$
3. Use  $\nabla_{\phi} \log q_{\phi}(z|\epsilon') \cdot \nabla_{\phi} f_{\phi}(\epsilon) \simeq \nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z)} \log q_{\phi}(z)$

# Overview

- Density ratio estimation
  - Prior-contrastive
  - Joint-contrastive
  - Any distribution can be made implicit
  - Variational learning is difficult (need to differentiate through SGD)
    - Has not been done in this setting?
  - Stability of DRE is a concern
- IVI using reverse models
  - Relatively simple optimization problem
  - Less broad applicability
    - Both HVI and UIVI should extend to implicit priors
    - Variational learning is not possible

# Denoiser-guided learning

Consider an arbitrary distribution  $p(z)$

A curious way to approximate  $\nabla_z \log p(z)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{DAE}(z) &= \arg \min_{D(z)} \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z)} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)} \|D(z + \epsilon) - z\|_2^2 = \\ &= z + \sigma^2 \nabla_z \log p(z) + o(\sigma^2) \end{aligned}$$

1. Train a denoising autoencoder  $D(z)$  with noise  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)$
2. Approximate  $\nabla_z \log p(z) \approx \frac{D(z) - z}{\sigma^2}$

# Denoiser-guided learning: optimal denoiser

$$\begin{aligned} L_{DAE} &= \int \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)} [q(z) \|D(z + \epsilon) - z\|_2^2] dz = [\tilde{z} = z + \epsilon] = \\ &= \int \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)} [p(\tilde{z} - \epsilon) \|D(\tilde{z}) - \tilde{z} + \epsilon\|_2^2] dz \\ 0 &= \nabla_D \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)} [p(\tilde{z} - \epsilon) \|D(\tilde{z}) - \tilde{z} + \epsilon\|_2^2] = \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)} [p(\tilde{z} - \epsilon) \nabla_D \|D(\tilde{z}) - \tilde{z} + \epsilon\|_2^2] = \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)} [p(\tilde{z} - \epsilon) 2(D(\tilde{z}) - \tilde{z} + \epsilon)] \\ \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)} [p(\tilde{z} - \epsilon) D(\tilde{z})] &= \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)} [p(\tilde{z} - \epsilon)(\tilde{z} - \epsilon)] \\ D(\tilde{z}) &= \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)} [p(\tilde{z} - \epsilon)(\tilde{z} - \epsilon)]}{\mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)} [p(\tilde{z} - \epsilon)]} \end{aligned}$$

# Denoiser-guided learning: intuition

$$D(\tilde{z}) = \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)}[p(\tilde{z} - \epsilon)(\tilde{z} - \epsilon)]}{\mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)}[p(\tilde{z} - \epsilon)]} = \tilde{z} - \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)}[p(\tilde{z} - \epsilon)\epsilon]}{\mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)}[p(\tilde{z} - \epsilon)]}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)}[p(\tilde{z} - \epsilon)] &\approx \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)}[p(\tilde{z}) - \epsilon p'(\tilde{z})] = p(\tilde{z}) \\ \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)}[p(\tilde{z} - \epsilon)\epsilon] &\approx \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)}[p(\tilde{z})\epsilon - \epsilon^2 p'(\tilde{z})] = -\sigma^2 p'(\tilde{z})\end{aligned}$$

$$D(\tilde{z}) \approx \tilde{z} + \sigma^2 \frac{p'(\tilde{z})}{p(\tilde{z})} = \tilde{z} + \sigma^2 \nabla_{\tilde{z}} \log p(\tilde{z})$$

$$\nabla_z \log p(z) \approx \frac{D(z) - z}{\sigma^2}$$

# Denoiser-based VI:

- Recall UIVI:

$$\nabla_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z)} \log q_{\phi}(z) = \mathbb{E}_{p(\epsilon)} \nabla_z \log q_{\phi}(z) \Big|_{z=f_{\phi}(\epsilon)} \cdot \nabla_{\phi} f_{\phi}(\epsilon)$$

- We can now approximate  $\nabla_z \log q_{\phi}(z)$  using a denoiser!
- Train a separate denoiser to estimate  $\nabla_z \log p(z)$  for an implicit prior!
  - Similar to prior-contrastive DRE
- Train a joint denoiser over  $(x, z)$  to estimate  $\nabla_z \log p(x, z)$ !
  - Similar to joint-contrastive DRE



# Literature

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