# Deep Generative Models

## Lecture 5

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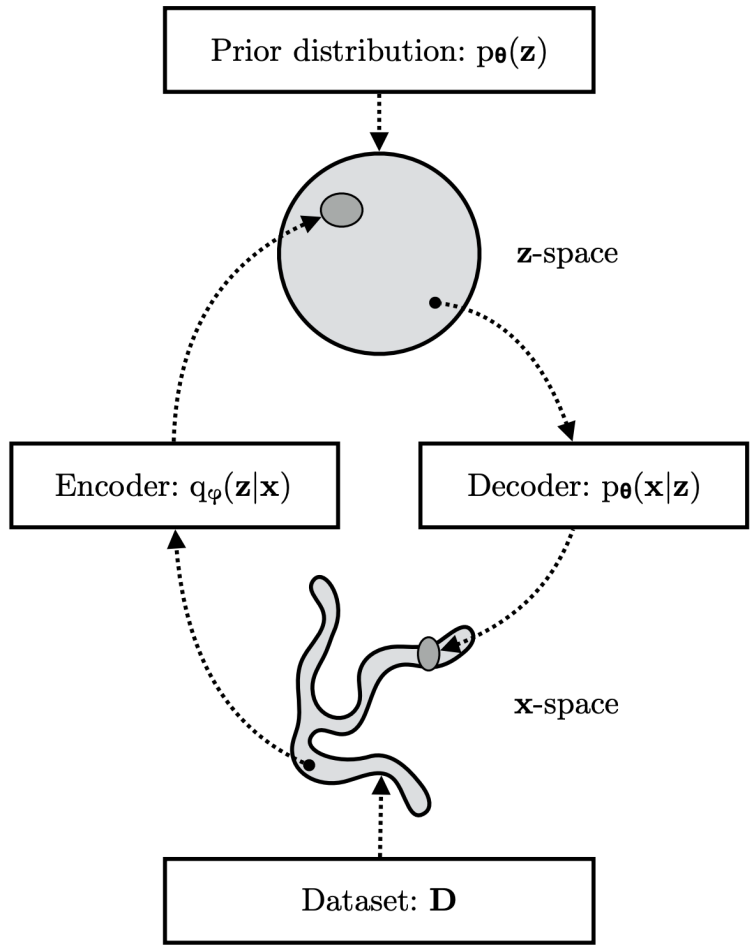
# Recap of previous lecture

## Variational autoencoder (VAE)

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




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

# Recap of previous lecture

## LVM

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

- More powerful $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$ leads to more powerful generative model $p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$.
- Too powerful $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$ could lead to posterior collapse: $q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})$ will not carry any information about $\mathbf{x}$ and close to prior $p(\mathbf{z})$.

## Autoregressive decoder

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

- Global structure is captured by latent variables.
- Local statistics are captured by limited receptive field autoregressive model.

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*Gulrajani I. et al. PixelVAE: A Latent Variable Model for Natural Images, 2016*

# Recap of previous lecture

## Decoder weakening

- Powerful decoder $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$ makes the model expressive, but posterior collapse is possible.
- PixelVAE model uses the autoregressive PixelCNN model with small number of layers to limit receptive field.

## KL annealing

$$\mathcal{L}(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}, \beta) = \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x},\boldsymbol{\phi})} \log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) - \beta \cdot KL(q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi})||p(\mathbf{z}))$$

Start training with $\beta = 0$, increase it until $\beta = 1$ during training.

## Free bits

Ensure the use of less than $\lambda$ bits of information:

$$\mathcal{L}(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}, \lambda) = \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x},\boldsymbol{\phi})} \log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) - \max(\lambda, KL(q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi})||p(\mathbf{z}))).$$

This results in $KL(q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi})||p(\mathbf{z})) \geq \lambda$.

# Recap of previous lecture

## VAE objective

$$\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \geq \mathcal{L}(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x},\boldsymbol{\phi})} \log \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi})} \to \max_{q,\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

## IWAE objective

$$\mathcal{L}_K(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{z}_K \sim q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x},\boldsymbol{\phi})} \log \left( \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}_k|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{q(\mathbf{z}_k|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi})} \right) \to \max_{\boldsymbol{\phi},\boldsymbol{\theta}}.$$

## Theorem

1. $\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \geq \mathcal{L}_K(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \geq \mathcal{L}_M(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \geq \mathcal{L}(q, \boldsymbol{\theta}), \quad$ for $K \geq M$;
2. $\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \lim_{K\to\infty} \mathcal{L}_K(q, \boldsymbol{\theta})$ if $\frac{p(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x},\boldsymbol{\phi})}$ is bounded.

- IWAE makes the variational bound tighter and extends the class of variational distributions.
- Gradient signal becomes really small, training is complicated.
- IWAE is a standard quality measure for VAE models.

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*Burda Y., Grosse R., Salakhutdinov R. Importance Weighted Autoencoders, 2015*

# Outline

1. Normalizing flows
2. Forward and Reverse KL for Normalizing flows
3. Residual and Linear flows

# Outline

# Likelihood-based models so far...

## Autoregressive models

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

- tractable likelihood,
- no inferred latent factors.

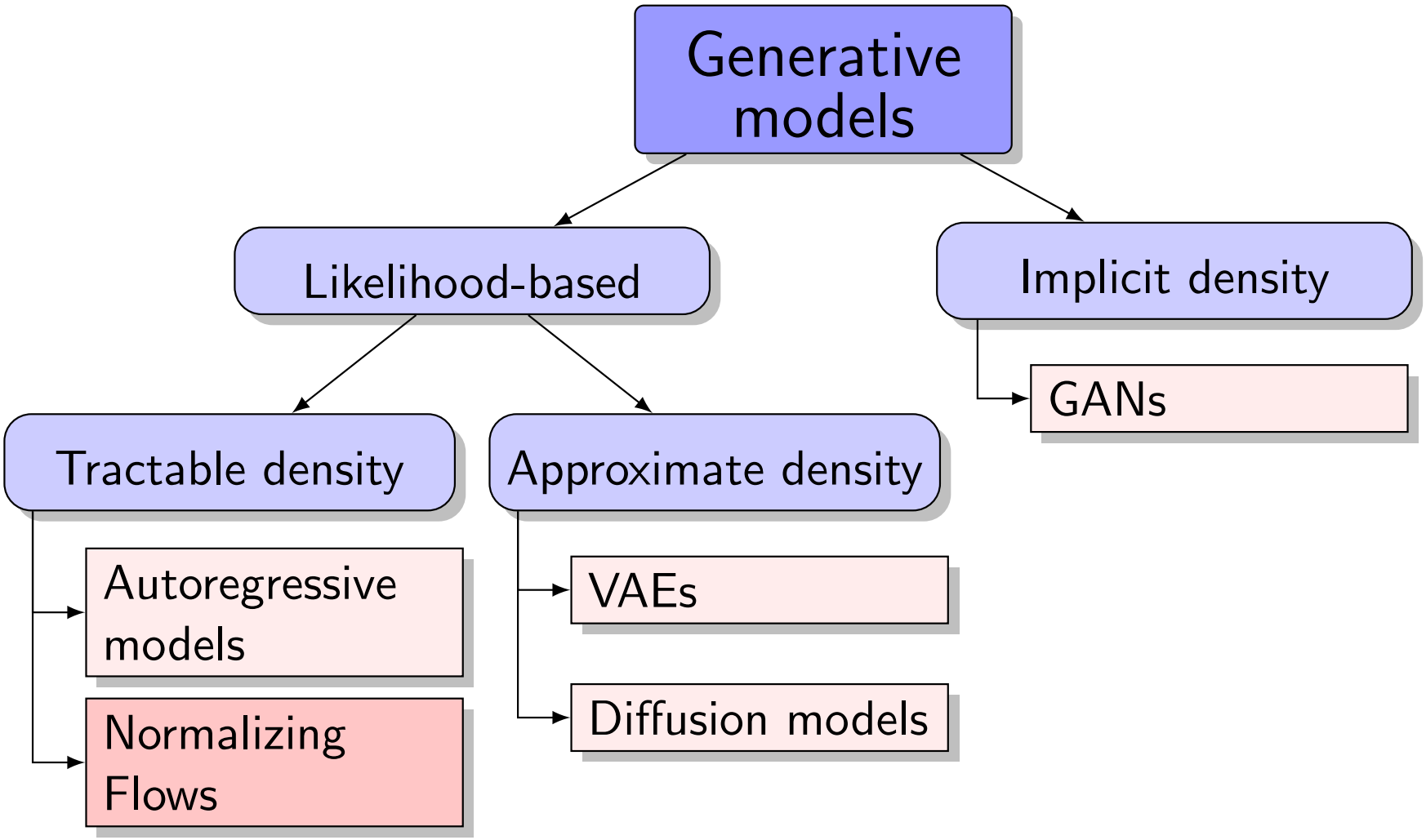
## Latent variable models

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

- latent feature representation,
- intractable likelihood.

How to build model with latent variables and tractable likelihood?

# Generative models zoo



# Normalizing flows prerequisites

## Jacobian matrix

$$\mathbf{z} = f(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{J} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial z_1}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial z_1}{\partial x_m} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ \frac{\partial z_m}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial z_m}{\partial x_m} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$$

## Change of variable theorem (CoV)

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

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = p(\mathbf{z}) |\det(\mathbf{J}_f)| = p(\mathbf{z}) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right| = p(f(\mathbf{x})) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right|$$

$$p(\mathbf{z}) = p(\mathbf{x}) |\det(\mathbf{J}_g)| = p(\mathbf{x}) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \right) \right| = p(g(\mathbf{z})) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{z})}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \right) \right|.$$

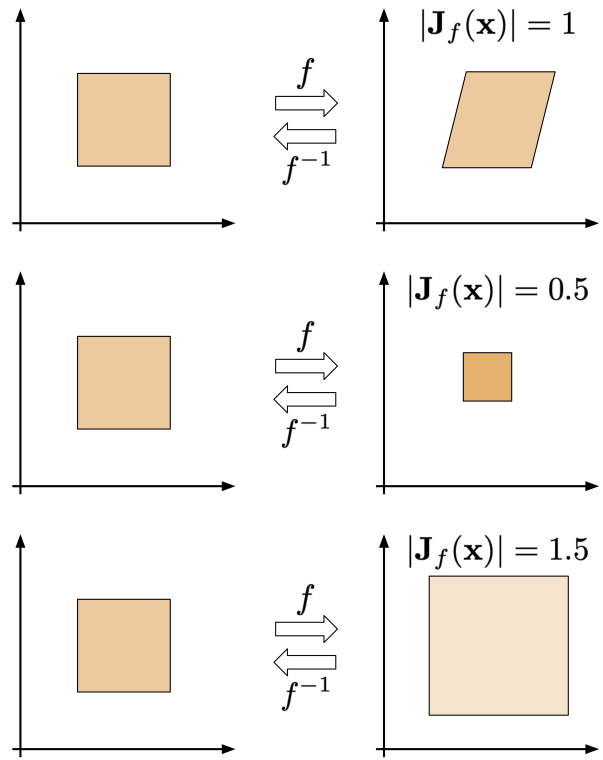
# Jacobian determinant

## Inverse function theorem

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

$$\mathbf{J}_f = \mathbf{J}_{g^{-1}} = \mathbf{J}_g^{-1}, \quad |\det(\mathbf{J}_f)| = \frac{1}{|\det(\mathbf{J}_g)|}$$

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



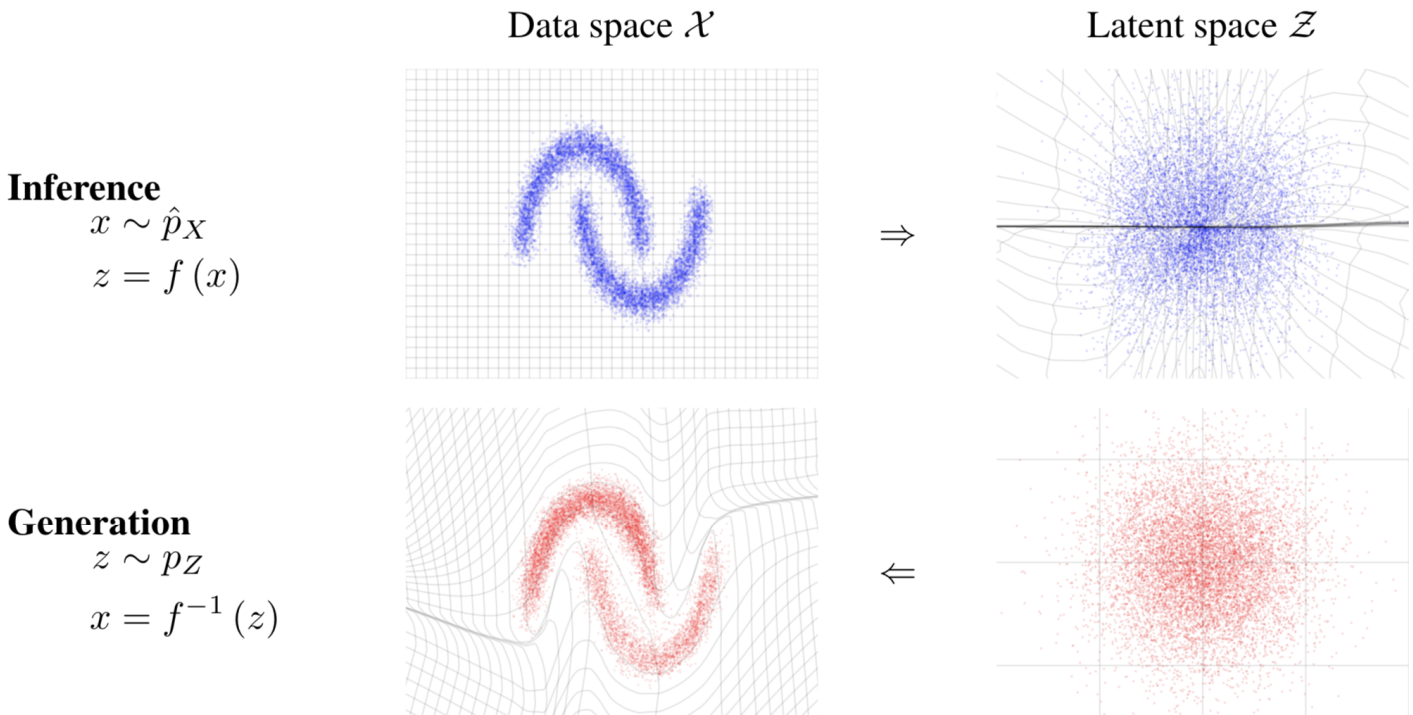

*https://jmtomczak.github.io/blog/3/3_flows.html*

# Fitting flows

## MLE problem

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

$$\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \log p(f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})) + \log |\det(\mathbf{J}_f)| \to \max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$




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

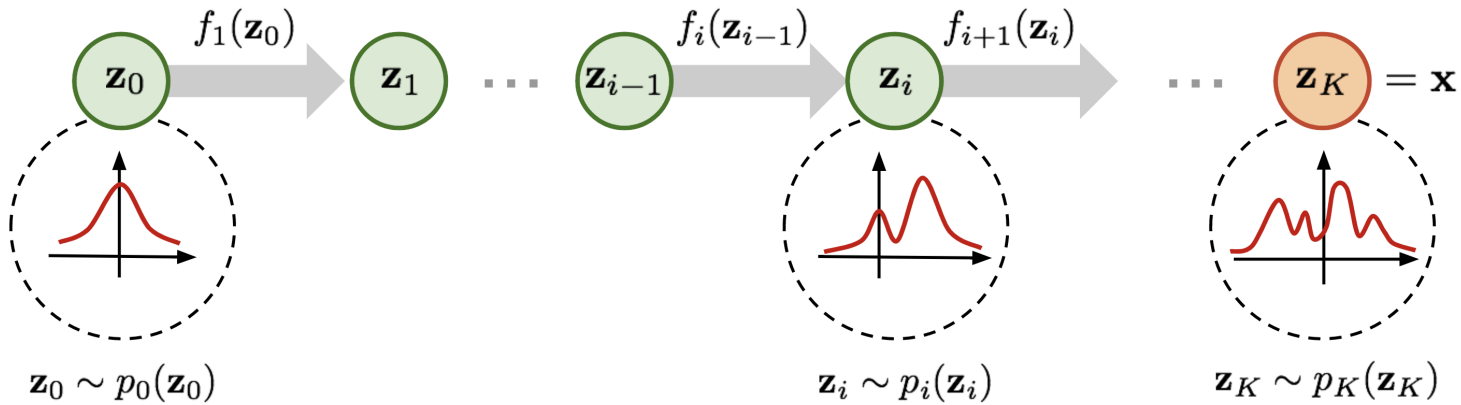
# Composition of flows

## Theorem

Diffeomorphisms are **composable** (If $\{f_k\}_{k=1}^K$ satisfy conditions of the change of variable theorem, then $\mathbf{z} = f(\mathbf{x}) = f_K \circ \cdots \circ f_1(\mathbf{x})$ also satisfies it).

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = p(f(\mathbf{x})) \left|\det \left(\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}}\right)\right| = p(f(\mathbf{x})) \left|\det \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_K}{\partial \mathbf{f}_{K-1}} \cdots \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_1}{\partial \mathbf{x}}\right)\right| =$$

$$= p(f(\mathbf{x})) \prod_{k=1}^{K} \left|\det \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_k}{\partial \mathbf{f}_{k-1}}\right)\right| = p(f(\mathbf{x})) \prod_{k=1}^{K} |\det(\mathbf{J}_{f_k})|$$




*https://lilianweng.github.io/lil-log/2018/10/13/flow-based-deep-generative-models.html*

# Flows

$$\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \log p(f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})) + \log |\det(\mathbf{J}_f)|$$

## 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 $\pi(\mathbf{x})$ and normalizes them into samples from the 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

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

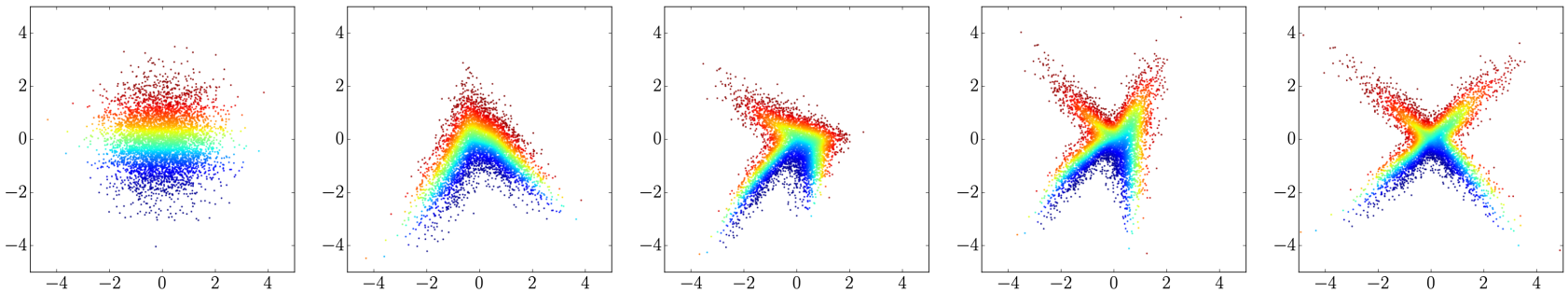
## Log likelihood

$$\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \log p(f_K \circ \cdots \circ f_1(\mathbf{x})) + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \log |\det(\mathbf{J}_{f_k})|,$$

where $\mathbf{J}_{f_k} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_k}{\partial \mathbf{f}_{k-1}}$.

# Flows

## Example of a 4-step flow



## Flow log likelihood

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

What is the complexity of the determinant computation?

## What we want

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

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

# Outline

1. Normalizing flows

2. Forward and Reverse KL for Normalizing flows

3. Residual and Linear flows

# Forward KL vs Reverse KL

## Forward KL

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

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

## Forward KL for flow model

$$\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \log p(f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})) + \log |\det(\mathbf{J}_f)|$$

- 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

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

## Reverse KL for flow model

$$\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \log p(\mathbf{z}) + \log |\det(\mathbf{J}_f)| = \log p(\mathbf{z}) - \log |\det(\mathbf{J}_g)|$$

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

- 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) and to evaluate(!) $\pi(\mathbf{x})$.
- We don't need to think about computing the function $f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$.

# Flow KL duality

## Theorem

Fitting flow model $p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$ to the target distribution $\pi(\mathbf{x})$ using forward KL (MLE) is equivalent to fitting the induced distribution $p(\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$ to the base $p(\mathbf{z})$ using reverse KL:

$$\arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} KL(\pi(\mathbf{x})||p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})) = \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} KL(p(\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})||p(\mathbf{z})).$$

- $p(\mathbf{z})$ is a base distribution; $\pi(\mathbf{x})$ is a data distribution;
- $\mathbf{z} \sim p(\mathbf{z})$, $\mathbf{x} = g(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$, $\mathbf{x} \sim p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$;
- $\mathbf{x} \sim \pi(\mathbf{x})$, $\mathbf{z} = f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$, $\mathbf{z} \sim p(\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$;

$$\log p(\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \log \pi(g(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})) + \log |\det(\mathbf{J}_g)|;$$
$$\log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \log p(f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})) + \log |\det(\mathbf{J}_f)|.$$

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

# Flow KL duality

## Theorem

Fitting flow model $p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$ to the target distribution $\pi(\mathbf{x})$ using forward KL (MLE) is equivalent to fitting the induced distribution $p(\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$ to the base $p(\mathbf{z})$ using reverse KL:

$$\arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} KL(\pi(\mathbf{x})||p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})) = \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} KL(p(\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})||p(\mathbf{z})).$$

## Proof

$$\begin{aligned} KL\left(p(\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})||p(\mathbf{z})\right) &= \mathbb{E}_{p(\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}\left[\log p(\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \log p(\mathbf{z})\right] = \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{p(\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}\left[\log \pi(g(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})) + \log\left|\det(\mathbf{J}_g)\right| - \log p(\mathbf{z})\right] = \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\pi(\mathbf{x})}\left[\log \pi(\mathbf{x}) - \log\left|\det(\mathbf{J}_f)\right| - \log p(f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}))\right] = \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\pi(\mathbf{x})}\left[\log \pi(\mathbf{x}) - \log p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})\right] = KL(\pi(\mathbf{x})||p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})). \end{aligned}$$

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*Papamakarios G., Pavlakou T., Murray I. Masked Autoregressive Flow for Density Estimation, 2017*

# Outline

# Jacobian structure

## Flow log-likelihood

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

The main challenge is a determinant of the Jacobian matrix.

## What is the $det(\mathbf{J})$ in the following cases?

1. Consider a linear layer $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x}$.
2. Let $\mathbf{z}$ be a permutation of $\mathbf{x}$.
3. Let $z_j$ depend only on $\mathbf{x}_j$.

$$\log \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right) \right| = \log \left| \prod_{j=1}^{m} f_j'(x_j, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right| = \sum_{j=1}^{m} \log \left| f_j'(x_j, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right|.$$

4. Let $z_j$ depend only on $\mathbf{x}_{1:j}$ (autoregressive dependency).

# Linear flows

$$\mathbf{z} = f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}, \quad \boldsymbol{\theta} = \mathbf{W}, \quad \mathbf{J}_f = \mathbf{W}$$

In general, we need $O(m^3)$ to invert matrix.

## Invertibility

- Diagonal matrix $O(m)$.
- Triangular matrix $O(m^2)$.
- It is impossible to parametrize all invertible matrices.

## Invertible 1x1 conv

$\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{c \times c}$ - kernel of 1x1 convolution with $c$ input and $c$ output channels. The computational complexity of computing or differentiating $\det(\mathbf{W})$ is $O(c^3)$. Cost to compute $\det(\mathbf{W})$ is $O(c^3)$. It should be invertible.

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*Kingma D. P., Dhariwal P. Glow: Generative Flow with Invertible 1x1 Convolutions, 2018*

# Linear flows

$$\mathbf{z} = f(\mathbf{x}, \theta) = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}, \quad \theta = \mathbf{W}, \quad \mathbf{J}_f = \mathbf{W}$$

## Matrix decompositions

- LU-decomposition

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{PLU},$$

  where $\mathbf{P}$ is a permutation matrix, $\mathbf{L}$ is lower triangular with positive diagonal, $\mathbf{U}$ is upper triangular with positive diagonal.

- QR-decomposition

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{QR},$$

  where $\mathbf{Q}$ is an orthogonal matrix, $\mathbf{R}$ is an upper triangular matrix with positive diagonal.

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*Kingma D. P., Dhariwal P. Glow: Generative Flow with Invertible 1x1 Convolutions, 2018*

*Hoogeboom E., Van Den Berg R., and Welling M. Emerging convolutions for generative normalizing flows, 2019*

# Residual Flows

## Matrix determinant lemma

$$\det\left(\mathbf{I}_m + \mathbf{V}\mathbf{W}^T\right) = \det(\mathbf{I}_d + \mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{V}), \quad \text{where } \mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}.$$

## Planar flow

$$\mathbf{x} = g(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{v}\,\sigma(\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{z} + b).$$

Here $\boldsymbol{\theta} = \{\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}, b\}$, $\sigma(\cdot)$ is a smooth element-wise non-linearity.

$$\left|\det\left(\frac{\partial g(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \mathbf{z}}\right)\right| = \left|\det\left(\mathbf{I} + \sigma'(\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{z} + b)\mathbf{v}\mathbf{w}^T\right)\right| = \left|1 + \sigma'(\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{z} + b)\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{v}\right|$$

The transformation is invertible, for example, if

$$\sigma = \tanh; \quad \sigma'(\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{z} + b)\mathbf{w}^T\mathbf{v} \geq -1.$$

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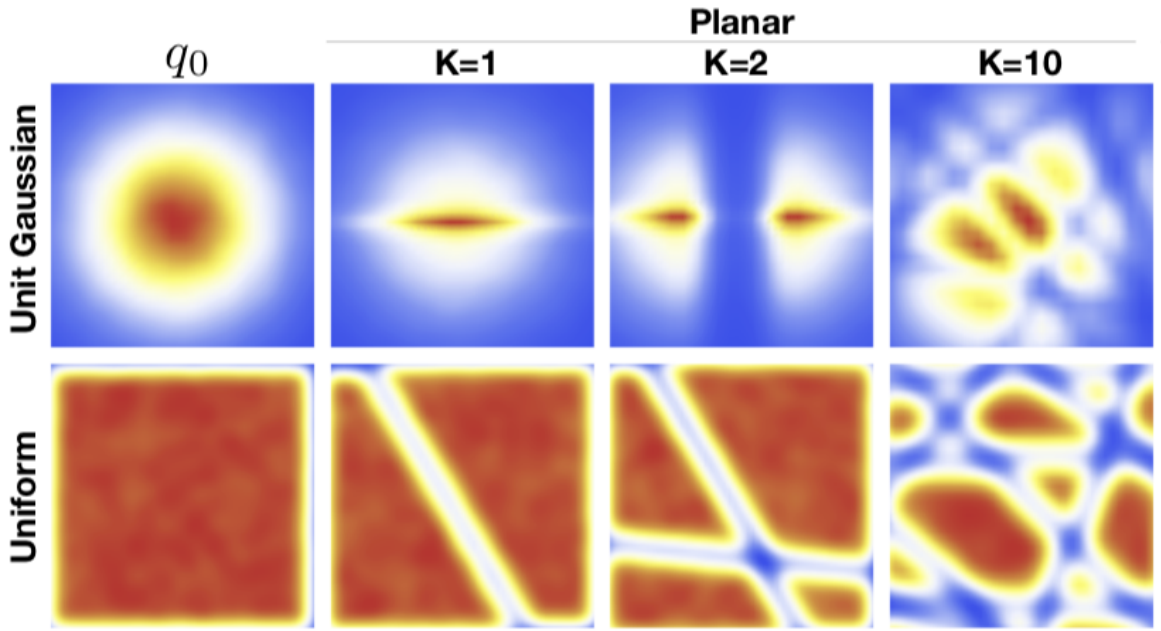
*Rezende D. J., Mohamed S. Variational Inference with Normalizing Flows, 2015*

# Residual Flows

## Expressiveness of planar flows

$$\mathbf{z}_K = g_1 \circ \cdots \circ g_K(\mathbf{z}); \quad g_k = g(\mathbf{z}_k, \theta_k) = \mathbf{z}_k + \mathbf{v}_k \, \sigma(\mathbf{w}_k^T \mathbf{z}_k + b_k).$$




## Sylvester flow: planar flow extension

$$g(\mathbf{z}, \theta) = \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{V} \, \sigma(\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{b}).$$

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*Rezende D. J., Mohamed S. Variational Inference with Normalizing Flows, 2015*
*Berg R. et al. Sylvester normalizing flows for variational inference, 2018*

# Summary

- Flow models transform a simple base distribution to a complex one via a sequence of invertible transformations with tractable Jacobian.
- Flow models have a tractable likelihood that is given by the change of variable theorem.
- Flows could be fitted using forward and reverse KL minimization. We will consider each of the scenarios later in the course.
- Linear flows try to parametrize set of invertible matrices via matrix decompositions.
- Planar and Sylvester flows are residual flows which use matrix determinant lemma.