

$$x_0 \sim q_{\text{data}}(x)$$

define markov chain

$$x_0 \rightarrow x_1 \rightarrow x_2 \rightarrow x_3 \rightarrow x_4 \rightarrow x_5 \rightarrow x_T$$

$x_0 =$  Real data

$x_T \approx \mathcal{N}(0, I)$  (pure Gaussian Noise)

## THE FORWARD PROCESS

$$q(x_t | x_{t-1}) = \mathcal{N}(\underbrace{\sqrt{\alpha_t} x_{t-1}}_{\text{means}}, \underbrace{(1 - \alpha_t) I}_{\text{variance}})$$

means

$$x_t = \sqrt{\alpha_t} x_{t-1} + \sqrt{1 - \alpha_t} \epsilon_t$$

$$\epsilon_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$

$$\alpha_t = 1 - \beta_t$$

$$\beta_t \in (0, 1)$$

Small variance  
schedule

$T =$  Total diffusion  
steps

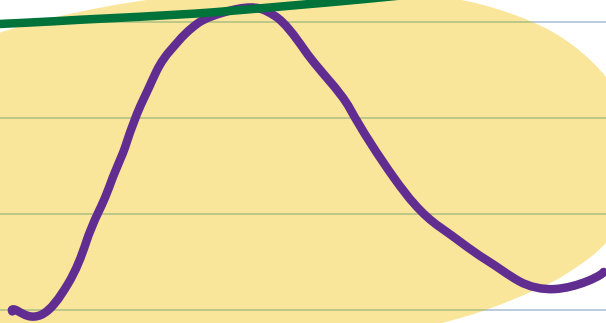
Compute variance

$$\text{Var}(x_t) = \alpha_t \text{Var}(x_{t-1}) + (1 - \alpha_t) \text{Var}(\epsilon_t)$$

Both variances are  $I$ ,

$$\text{Var}(x_t) = \alpha_t I + (1 - \alpha_t) I = I$$

Variance



how much spread out random values are

$$x \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1) \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

Mean = 0

Variance = 1

} values may be -3 to 3

$$x \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 100) \quad \text{--- (ii)}$$

+ much more spread out  
values around -30 to 30

variance  $\rightarrow$  scale of randomness

Scaling a random variable

$$y = ax$$

$$\underline{\text{Var}(y) = a^2 \text{Var}(x)}$$

if  $a=2$

$$\text{Var}(x) = 1$$

$$\text{Var}(2x) = 4$$

Secondly

$$\underline{\text{Var}(y) = \text{Var}(u) + \text{Var}(z)}$$

$$\underline{y = u + z}$$

$$x_t = \sqrt{\alpha} x_{t-1} + \sqrt{1-\alpha} \epsilon$$

variance  $= \alpha$

variance  $(1-\alpha)$

$$\text{Add} \rightarrow \text{Var}(x_t) = \alpha + 1 - \alpha = 1$$

Because we want

$$x_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$$

if variance keep on increasing

↳ Distribution would explode

↳ Reverse process becomes unstable

If variance shrink:

↳ everything collapses to zero

If we don't use square roots then

$$x_t = \alpha x_{t-1} + (1-\alpha) \epsilon$$

$$\text{Var} = \alpha^2 + (1-\alpha)^2$$

Not equal to 1.

$$\alpha = 0.9$$

$$0.9^2 + 0.1^2 = 0.81 + 0.01 \\ = 0.82$$

Variance shrinks

Think of variance like  
energy

total energy = signal energy + Noise energy

$$x_t = \sqrt{\alpha} x_{t-1} + \sqrt{1-\alpha} \epsilon_t$$

Forward process of a  
DDPM

This is Not a linear  
Schedule

All will look similar

one can define

$$q(x_t | x_{t-1})$$

series of  
conditional  
distributions

$$= \mathcal{N}\left(x_t; \underbrace{\sqrt{\alpha_t} x_{t-1}}_{\text{mean}}, \underbrace{(1-\alpha_t) I}_{\text{var}}\right)$$

output

Forward,  
encoding  
distribution

$\beta_t \in (0, 1)$   
small  
variance

variance / small variance

$$\alpha_t + \beta_t = 1$$

$$\beta_t = 1 - \alpha_t$$

$$\sqrt{\alpha_t}$$

$$\alpha_t$$

)  
,