

Diffusion Model
CMSC 25025 Final Project
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Question 1

As given in the paper, $q_{t|t-1}(x_t|x_{t-1}) = \mathcal{N}(\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1}, (1 - \alpha_t)I_d)$. But through the reparameterization trick, we can write the above as

$$\begin{aligned} q_{t|t-1}(x_t|x_{t-1}) &= \sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} + \varepsilon_1\sqrt{(1 - \alpha_t)} \\ q_{t-1|t-2}(x_{t-1}|x_{t-2}) &= \sqrt{\alpha_{t-1}}x_{t-2} + \varepsilon_2\sqrt{(1 - \alpha_{t-1})} \\ \Rightarrow q_{t|t-2}(x_t|x_{t-2}) &= \sqrt{\alpha_t}\sqrt{\alpha_{t-1}}x_{t-2} + \sqrt{\alpha_t}\sqrt{1 - \alpha_{t-1}}\varepsilon_2 + \sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}\varepsilon_1 \end{aligned}$$

where $\varepsilon_i \in \mathcal{N}(0, I)$. Furthermore, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} q_{t-2|t-3}(x_{t-2}|x_{t-3}) &= \sqrt{\alpha_{t-2}}x_{t-3} + \varepsilon_3\sqrt{1 - \alpha_{t-2}} \\ \Rightarrow q_{t|t-3}(x_t|x_{t-3}) &= \sqrt{\alpha_t\alpha_{t-1}\alpha_{t-2}}x_{t-3} + \sqrt{\alpha_t\alpha_{t-1}(1 - \alpha_{t-2})}\varepsilon_3 + \sqrt{\alpha_t(1 - \alpha_{t-1})}\varepsilon_2 + \sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}\varepsilon_1 \end{aligned}$$

In this form a clear expression forms for $q_{t|0}$ from the xpatterns above (with the substitution that $\bar{\alpha}_t = \prod_{s=1}^t \alpha_s$):

$$q_{t|0}(x_t|x_0) = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}x_0 + \sum_{i=1}^t \beta_i \varepsilon_i \text{ where } \beta_i = \sqrt{(1 - \alpha_{t-i+1}) \prod_{j=0}^{i-2} \alpha_{t-j}}$$

The sum is simply the sum of several standard normal distributions with variance β_i^2 which is equivalent to a single normal distribution with mean 0 and the variance equal to the sum of all the individual variances.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^3 \beta_i^2 &= \alpha_t\alpha_{t-1}(1 - \alpha_{t-2}) + \alpha_t(1 - \alpha_{t-1}) + (1 - \alpha_t) = 1 - \alpha_t\alpha_{t-1}\alpha_{t-2} \\ \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^t \beta_i^2 &= 1 - \prod_{s=1}^t \alpha_s = 1 - \bar{\alpha}_t \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we can then write $q_{t|0}(x_t|x_0) = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}x_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon$ where $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, (1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)I_d)$ which implies that $q_{t|0} \sim \mathcal{N}(\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}x_0, (1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)I_d)$ by the reparameterization trick.

Question 2

We are given that Eq 1 is

$$\int_{x_1, \dots, x_T} \log \left[\frac{\prod_{s=1}^T p_{t-1|t}(x_{t-1}|x_t; \theta) p_T(x_T)}{\prod_{t=1}^T q_{t|t-1}(x_t|x_{t-1})} \right] \prod_{t=1}^T q_{t|t-1}(x_t|x_{t-1}) dx_1 \dots dx_T$$

Letting $z = (x_1, \dots, x_T)$ for a given x_0 , we know that $p(z) = \prod_{t=1}^T q_{t|t-1}(x_t|x_{t-1})$. Hence the above expression can be viewed as an expected value function:

$$= \mathbb{E}_{z \sim (x_1, \dots, x_T)} \left[\log \left[\frac{\prod_{s=1}^T p_{t-1|t}(x_{t-1}|x_t; \theta) p_T(x_T)}{\prod_{t=1}^T q_{t|t-1}(x_t|x_{t-1})} \right] \right]$$