



# Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models

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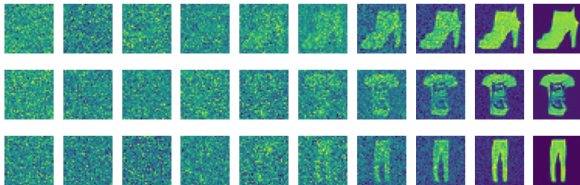
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# Outline

- 1 What are DDPMs
- 2 Forward Process
- 3 Reverse Process
- 4 Training Algorithm
- 5 Sampling Algorithm
- 6 Bibliography

# Overview

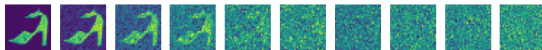
- Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models (DDPMs) generate images by iteratively removing noise from a signal until it looks like a real image.



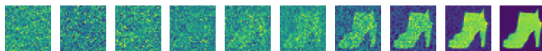
# DDPMs Building Blocks

DDPMs are made of **two iterative processes** defined by different Markov Chains: a **forward** and a **reversion** process.

- 1 **Forward Process:** gradually adds noise to a image by sampling from a normal distribution according to a Markov Chain



- 2 **Reverse Process:** removes noise by sampling from a normal distribution according to another Markov Chain



# DDPMs Building Blocks

## 1 Forward Process' Distribution

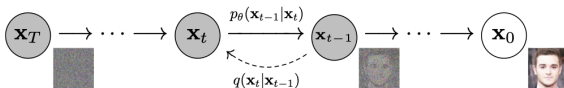
$$q(x_t|x_{t-1}) := \mathcal{N}(x_t; \sqrt{1 - \beta_t} \times x_{t-1}; \beta_t I) \quad (1)$$

## 2 Reverse Process' Distribution

$$p(x_T) = \mathcal{N}(x_T; 0; 1) \quad (2)$$

$$p_\theta(x_{0:T}) := p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t) \quad (3)$$

$$p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t) := \mathcal{N}(x_{t-1}; \mu_\theta(x_t, t); \Sigma_\theta(x_t, t)) \quad (4)$$



# Forward Process' Distribution

In order to produce signals that are pure Gaussian Noise, we need to sample from the following Normal Distribution which we will simply call forward (**q**):

$$\mathbf{x}_t \sim \mathcal{N}(\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{x}_0, (\mathbf{1} - \bar{\alpha}_t)\mathbf{I}) \quad (5)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_t \sim \mathbf{q}(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_0) \quad (6)$$

- The forward process produces a noisy image  $\mathbf{x}_t$  by sampling from a normal distribution from which the mean is a function of the noisy-free image  $\mathbf{x}_0$

$$\text{img}_{\mathbf{x}_t} \sim \mathcal{N}(\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} \text{img}_{\mathbf{x}_0}, (\mathbf{1} - \bar{\alpha}_t)\mathbf{I})$$

# Forward $q$ 's Parameters

```
1 class DDPMScheduler(nn.Module):
2     def __init__(self, num_time_steps: int=1000):
3
4         super().__init__()
5         self.beta = torch.linspace(1e-4, 0.02, num_time_steps, requires_grad=False)
6
7         # Alpha is defined as 1 - beta, i.e., 1 - Variance at step t
8         alpha = 1 - self.beta
9
10        # The variances are held constant during training, requires_grad = False
11        self.alpha = torch.cumprod(alpha, dim=0).requires_grad_(False)
12
13    def forward(self, t):
14        return self.beta[t], self.alpha[t]
```

Given an input tensor  $\mathbf{x}_0$  one can sample from  $q(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0)$  by making the attribution:

```
1 scheduler = DDPMScheduler()
2 a = scheduler.alpha[t].view(batch_size,1,1,1)
3 #Adds the gaussian noise to the input according to the variance schedule,
4 # which is the actual forward pass
5 x = (torch.sqrt(a)*x) + (torch.sqrt(1-a)*e)
```

# Reverse Process' Transitions Distribution

- 

$$p(x_T) = \mathcal{N}(x_T; 0; 1) \quad (7)$$

$$p_{\theta}(x_{0:T}) := p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_{\theta}(x_{t-1}|x_t) \quad (8)$$

$$p_{\theta}(x_{t-1}|x_t) := \mathcal{N}(x_{t-1}; \mu_{\theta}(x_t, t); \Sigma_{\theta}(x_t, t)) \quad (9)$$

- What we ultimately want is to have a  $\mathbf{x}_0$  that is as likely as possible. We can marginalize  $\mathbf{x}_0$  using the latent variables  $\mathbf{x}_{1:T}$ , i.e., by using the noisy images.



# Reverse Process' Prior

- Ideally, the Reverse Process would enable us to sample from:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_0) = \int p(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_{1:T}) d\mathbf{x}_{1:T} \quad (10)$$

(11)

- **From the definition above, we see that  $p(\mathbf{x}_0)$  is very complex due to its multidimensionality, which makes it intractable. That is why in DDPMs,  $p(\mathbf{x}_0)$  is never computed directly, but instead its lower bound.**

# Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO)

- DDPMs are not trained to sample from  $p(\mathbf{x}_0)$ , but instead to maximize its lower bound ELBO ( $L$ )

$$\log[p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_0)] = \log \int_{\mathbf{x}_{1:T}} p(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_{1:T}) d\mathbf{x}_{1:T} \quad (12)$$

$$\log[p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_0)] = \log \int_{\mathbf{x}_{1:T}} p(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_{1:T}) \frac{q(\mathbf{x}_{1:T}|\mathbf{x}_0)}{q(\mathbf{x}_{1:T}|\mathbf{x}_0)} d\mathbf{x}_{1:T} \quad (13)$$

$$\text{by definition,} \quad (14)$$

$$\mathbb{E}_q[f(\mathbf{x}_{1:T})] = \int q(\mathbf{x}_{1:T}|\mathbf{x}_0) f(\mathbf{x}_{1:T}) d\mathbf{x}_{1:T} \quad (15)$$

$$\implies \log[p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_0)] = \log(\mathbb{E}_q \left[ \frac{p(\mathbf{x}_{0:T})}{q(\mathbf{x}_{1:T}|\mathbf{x}_0)} \right]) \quad (16)$$

$$\text{the Jensen's inequality tells us} \quad (17)$$

$$f(\mathbb{E}(\mathbf{X})) \geq \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X})) \quad (18)$$

$$\text{for any concave function } f. \log \text{ is concave, hence:} \quad (19)$$

$$\log[p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_0)] \geq \mathbb{E}_q \left[ \log \frac{p(\mathbf{x}_{0:T})}{q(\mathbf{x}_{1:T}|\mathbf{x}_0)} \right] \quad (20)$$

$$\text{We define the Evidence Lower Bound } L \text{ as:} \quad (21)$$

$$L := \mathbb{E}_q \left[ -\log \frac{p(\mathbf{x}_{0:T})}{q(\mathbf{x}_{1:T}|\mathbf{x}_0)} \right] \quad (22)$$

# Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO)

- DDPMs are not trained to sample from  $p(\mathbf{x}_0)$ , but instead to maximize its lower bound ELBO ( $L$ )
- With more algebraic manipulation and using the fact that both the forward and reverse processes are Markov Chains, one can derive the following equation:

$$L := \mathbb{E}_q \left[ -\log \frac{p(\mathbf{x}_{0:T})}{q(\mathbf{x}_{1:T}|\mathbf{x}_0)} \right] \quad (24)$$

$$L = \mathbb{E}_q \left[ -\log \frac{p(\mathbf{x}_T)}{q(\mathbf{x}_T|\mathbf{x}_0)} \right] - \log p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_1) - \mathbb{E}_q \left[ \sum_{t=2}^T \mathbf{D}_{\text{KL}} [q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) || p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t)] \right] \quad (25)$$

- **We can conclude that maximizing ELBO ( $L$ ) is equivalent to minimizing the KL-Divergence between  $q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0)$  and  $p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t)$ , i.e., minimizing the divergence between the forward and reverse processes' distributions.**

# Defining $q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0)$

$$q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{q(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \mathbf{x}_0)q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_0)}{q(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0)} \quad (26)$$

we know the  $q$  distribution from Definition, hence (27)

$q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0)$  is a product of known Gaussians over another known Gaussian (28)

$$\mu_q(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t-1})\sqrt{\alpha_t}\mathbf{x}_t + (1 - \alpha_t)\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_{t-1}}\mathbf{x}_0}{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)} \quad (29)$$

$$\Sigma_q(t) = \frac{(1 - \alpha_t)(1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t-1})}{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{I} \quad (30)$$

$$\implies q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}; \mu_q(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0); \Sigma_q(t)) \quad (31)$$

# Defining $p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t)$

$$p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}; \mu_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t); \Sigma_\theta(t)) \quad (32)$$

from DDPM's paper: (33)

$$\Sigma_\theta(t) = \Sigma_q(t) \quad (34)$$

we are only left with the distribution's mean  $\mu_\theta$  (35)

$$\implies p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}; \mu_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t); \Sigma_q(t)) \quad (36)$$

## Computing the KL Divergence Between $q$ and $p_\theta$

- Now we know we are trying to compute the KL Divergence between two Gaussians with the exact same variance.
- For that, there is the following result that arises from the definition of such divergence

$$d_1(x) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma^2) \quad (37)$$

$$d_2(x) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \sigma^2) \quad (38)$$

$$\text{The KL divergence } D_{KL}(d_1 | d_2) \text{ is given by:} \quad (39)$$

$$D_{KL}(d_1 | d_2) = \frac{(\mu_1 - \mu_2)^2}{2\sigma^2} \quad (40)$$

$$\text{Hence,} \quad (41)$$

$$\mathbf{D}_{KL}[q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1} | \mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) || p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_{t-1} | \mathbf{x}_t)] = \mathbf{D}_{KL}(\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}; \mu_q(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0); \Sigma_q(t)), \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}; \mu_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t); \Sigma_q(t))) \quad (42)$$

$$= \frac{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}{2(1 - \alpha_t)(1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t-1})} ||(\mu_q - \mu_\theta)_2^2|| \quad (43)$$

- We just need to minimize the difference between the means of the reverse and forward processes' distributions, i.e., minimize  $||(\mu_q - \mu_\theta)_2^2||$ .**

# Defining The Model's Prediction

- We can use the prediction of our model as the forward process' mean
- 

$$\mu_q(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t-1})\sqrt{\alpha_t}\mathbf{x}_t + (1 - \alpha_t)\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_{t-1}}\mathbf{x}_0}{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)} \quad (44)$$

we can define the prediction (45)

$$\mu_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t) := \hat{\mu}_q(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) \quad (46)$$

$$= \frac{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t-1})\sqrt{\alpha_t}\mathbf{x}_t + (1 - \alpha_t)\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_{t-1}}\mathbf{x}_\theta}{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)} \quad (47)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{D}_{\text{KL}}(\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}; \mu_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t); \Sigma_q(t)), \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}; \mu_q(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0); \Sigma_q(t))) \quad (48)$$

$$= \frac{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)(\bar{\alpha}_{t-1})}{2(1 - \alpha_t)(1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t-1})} \|\mathbf{x}_\theta - \mathbf{x}_0\|_2^2 \quad (49)$$

- **Theoretically, this equation could be used as the loss function directly, but we can rewrite the images  $\mathbf{x}_\theta$  and  $\mathbf{x}_0$  in function of the Gaussian noises.**

# Defining The Model's Prediction

- We can rewrite  $\mathbf{x}_t$  and  $\mathbf{x}_0$  as functions of the added gaussian noises
- 

$$q(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0) := \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_t; \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} \times \mathbf{x}_0; (1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)\mathbb{I}) \quad (50)$$

which let's us write (51)

$$\mathbf{x}_t = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\epsilon \quad (52)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{x}_0 = \frac{\mathbf{x}_t - \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\epsilon}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}} \quad (53)$$

for a Standard Gaussian Noise  $\epsilon$ . (54)

We can now define our prediction  $\hat{\epsilon} = \epsilon_\theta$  (55)

$$\mathbf{x}_\theta = \frac{\mathbf{x}_t - \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\epsilon_\theta}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}} \quad (56)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)(\bar{\alpha}_{t-1})}{2(1 - \alpha_t)(1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t-1})} \|(\mathbf{x}_\theta - \mathbf{x}_0)_2\|^2 = \frac{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)(\bar{\alpha}_{t-1})}{2(1 - \alpha_t)(1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t-1})} \frac{(1 - \alpha_t)^2}{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)\alpha_t} \|(\epsilon_\theta - \epsilon)_2\|^2 \quad (57)$$

- **The DDPM paper authors mention that optimizing  $\|(\epsilon_\theta - \epsilon)_2\|^2$  without the scaling factor with the cumulative noise  $\alpha_t$  is enough.**



# Noise Predictor Training

- 1: **repeat**
- 2:  $\mathbf{x}_0 \sim \mathbf{q}(\mathbf{x}_0)$  ▷ Sample image from training set
- 3:  $\mathbf{t} \sim \mathbf{Uniform}(\{1, \dots, T\})$  ▷ Sample the step of the Forward Process Markov Chain
- 4:  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$  ▷ Sample standard gaussian noise to be added to the input
- 5:  $\mathbf{x}_t = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \epsilon$  ▷ Forward Process/ Generating Noisy Image
- 6: Take Gradient Descent Step on  $\nabla_{\theta}(\|\epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{t})\|)$
- 7: **until** converged

# Sampling Algorithm Derivation

$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}; \mu_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t); \Sigma_q(t)) \quad (58)$$

$$\mu_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t) = \frac{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t-1})\sqrt{\alpha_t}\mathbf{x}_t + (1 - \alpha_t)\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_{t-1}}\mathbf{x}_{\theta}}{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)} \quad (59)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{\theta} = \frac{\mathbf{x}_t - \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\epsilon_{\theta}}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}} \quad (60)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t) = \frac{\mathbf{x}_t}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} - \frac{(1 - \alpha_t)(\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t})}{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)(\sqrt{\alpha_t})}\epsilon_{\theta} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}}\left(\mathbf{x}_t - \frac{1 - \alpha_t}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}}\epsilon_{\theta}\right) \quad (61)$$

$$\Sigma_{\theta}(t) = \Sigma_q(t) = \frac{(1 - \alpha_t)(1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t-1})}{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{I} \quad (62)$$

We now have defined  $\mathbf{x}_{t-1}$ 's mean and variance given  $\mathbf{x}_t$  which let's us write it as (63)

$$\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \mu_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t) + \sqrt{\Sigma_{\theta}(t)}\mathbf{z} \quad (64)$$

$$\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}) \quad (65)$$

# Sampling Algorithm

```
1: repeat  
2:  $\mathbf{x}_T \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$  ▷ Sample random noisy image  
3:  $T \sim \text{Uniform}(\{1, \dots, 1000\})$  ▷ Sample random length of the Denoising Chain  
4: for  $t = T, \dots, 1$  do  
5:  $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$  if  $t > 1$  else  $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{0}$   
6:  $\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{1-\alpha_t}{\sqrt{1-\bar{\alpha}_t}} \epsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right) + \sqrt{\Sigma_\theta(t)} \mathbf{z}$  ▷ Sampling  $\mathbf{x}_{t-1}$  from  $p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_{t-1} | \mathbf{x}_t)$   
7: end for  
8: return  $\mathbf{x}_0$ 
```

# References I

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## References II

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- [7] AI Coffee Break with Letitia. (n.d.). *Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models — DDPM Explained (YouTube)*.  
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# Hora da Implementação :)