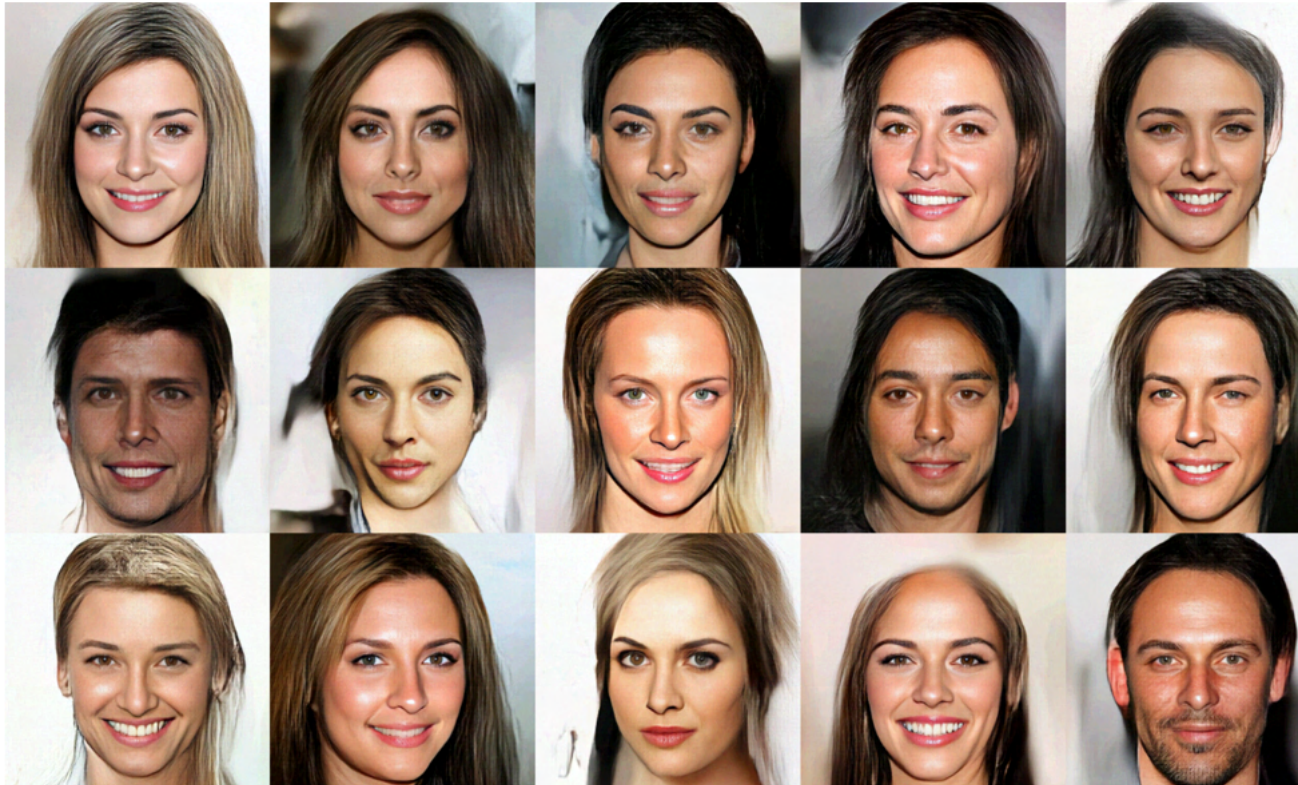


Go with the flow

An introduction to normalizing flows

These people are not
real they are
generated samples
using NF

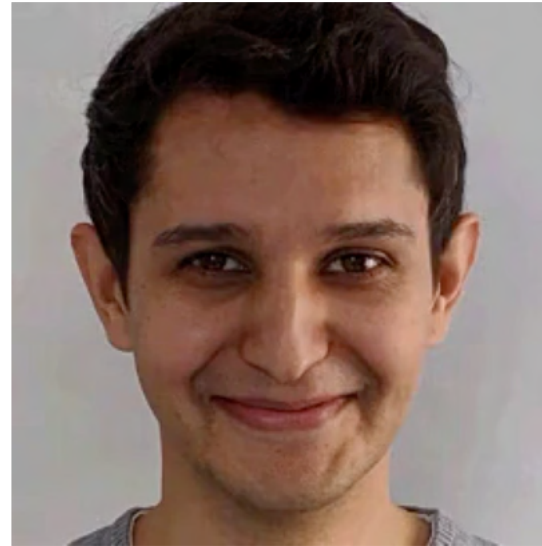


Oliver Dürr

Datalab BBS ZHAW 03/October/2019

A bit of Motivation

- At the End of the lecture, you can create and understand something like:



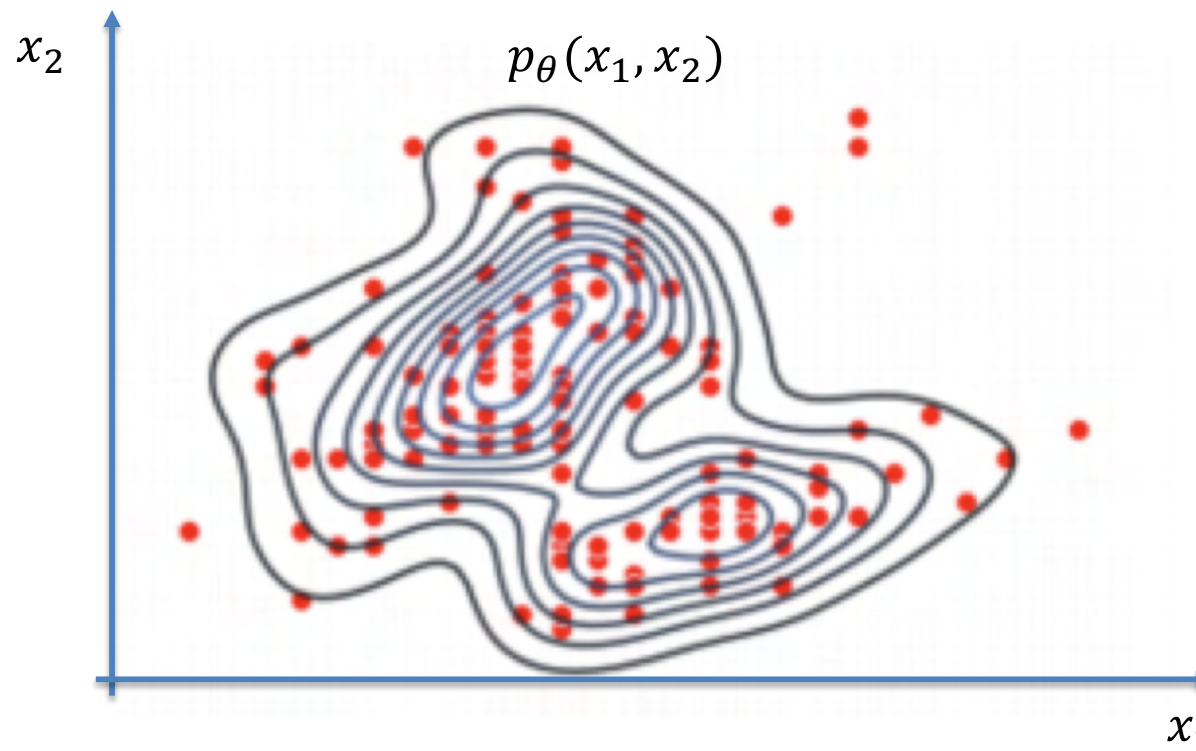
- Look at the intermediate pictures, they look real.
- Persons no celebrities (not part of celebA-HQ used for training)

Outline

- Classification and motivate NF
 - Density Estimation
 - Generative Models
 - Need for flexible distributions
- Change of Variables
- Using networks to control flows
 - RealNVP
 - If time Autoregressive Flows
- Glow for image data
- Demo code is currently in
 - https://github.com/tensorchiefs/dl_book_playground/tree/master/flow

Normalizing Flows

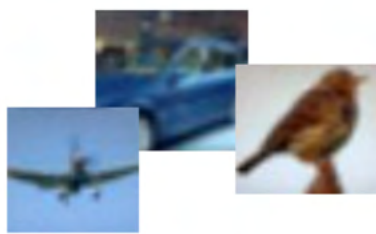
- An novel method of parametric density estimation
 - Example of parametric density estimation 2-D Gaussians with μ and Σ



- Density Estimations are generative models...

Definition: Generative Model [cs231n]

Given training data, generate new samples from same distribution.



Training data $\sim p_{\text{data}}(x)$



Generated samples $\sim p_{\text{model}}(x)$

Want to learn $p_{\text{model}}(x)$ similar to $p_{\text{data}}(x)$

Several flavors:

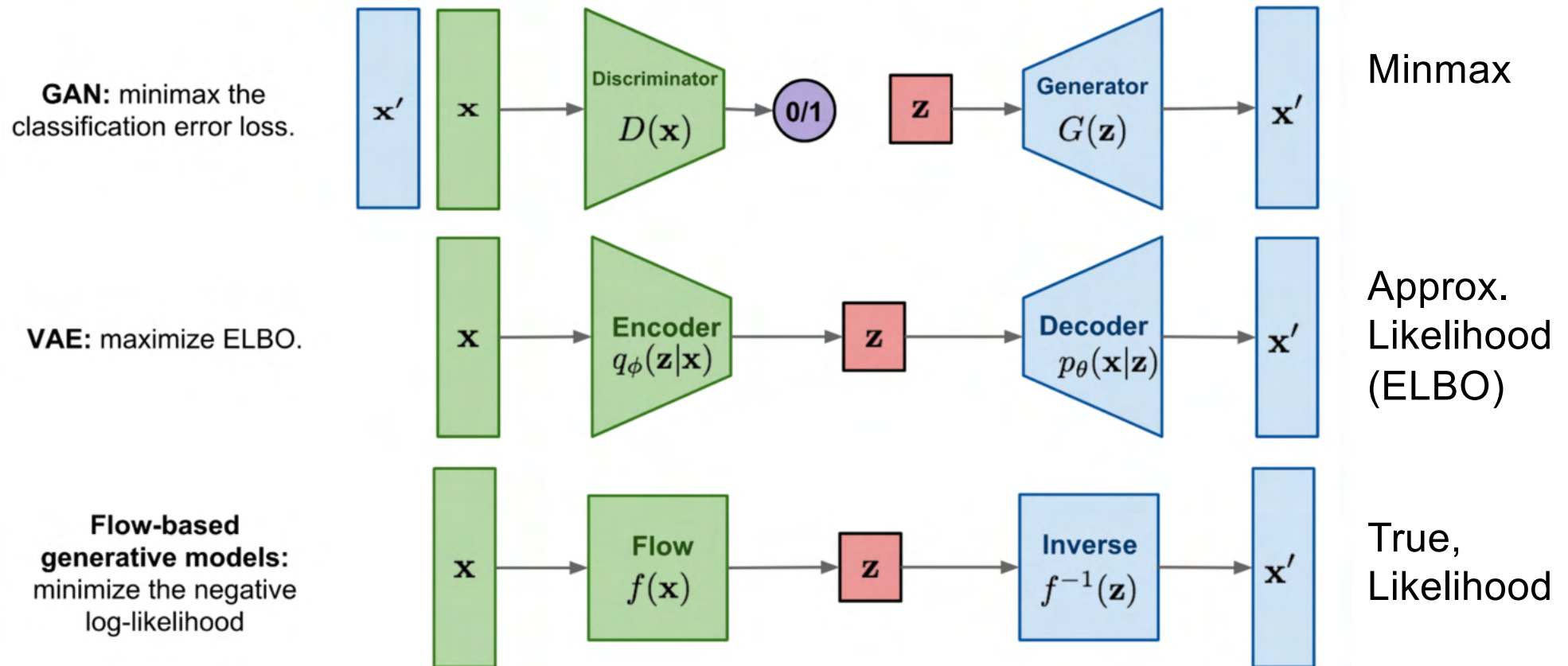
- **Explicit density estimation**: explicitly define and learn $p_{\text{model}}(x)$
- **Implicit density estimation**: learn model that can sample from $p_{\text{model}}(x)$ w/o explicitly having a density

Why Generative Models?

- Generation of new data
 - For fun create persons that does not exists
 - Additional training data
 - Private Data (anonymization)
 - Image and Audio synthesis Wavenet / PixelCNN
- Outlier detection $p_{ok}(x)$
 - Is image/vibration/... x from ok distribution?
 - Best with explicit models
- Semi-supervised Learning
 - Latent representation
- Flexible replacement for too simple functions
 - Pimp up prior of VAE



Generative models currently (2019) on vogue



VAEs and GANs have been covered in Datalab BBS

Generative models on vogue

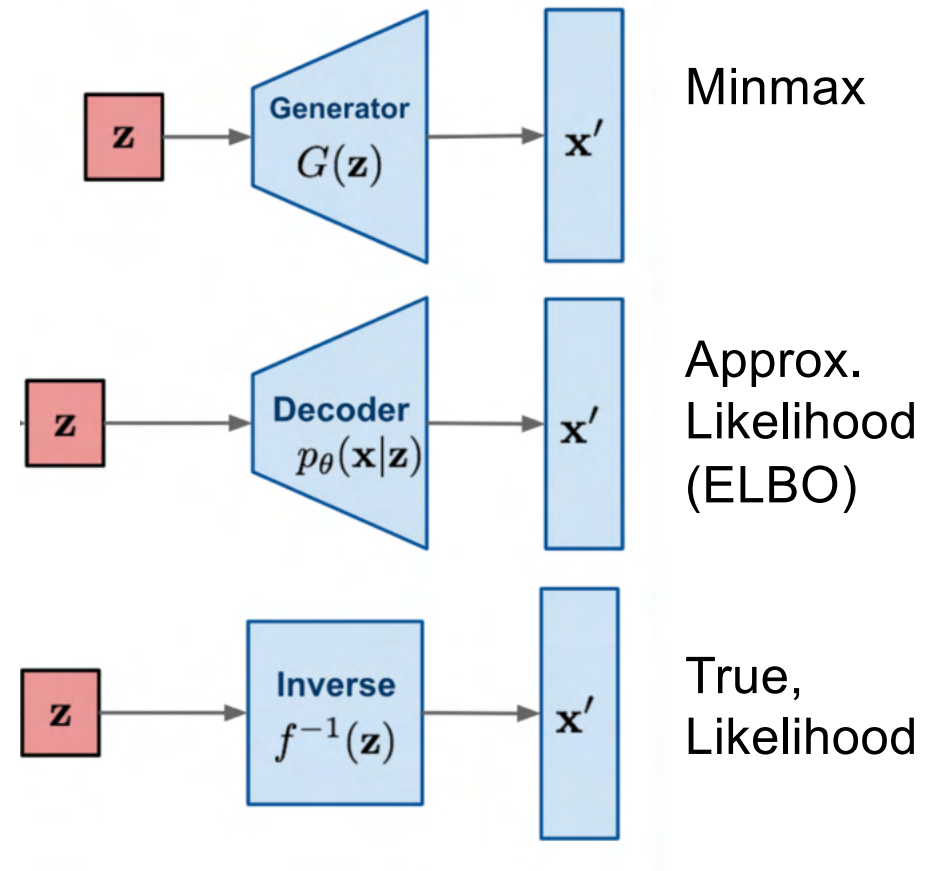
GAN: minimax the classification error loss.

VAE: maximize ELBO.

Flow-based generative models: minimize the negative log-likelihood

Different Training,
Same generative process

$z \rightarrow x$



VAEs and GANs have been covered in Datalab BBS

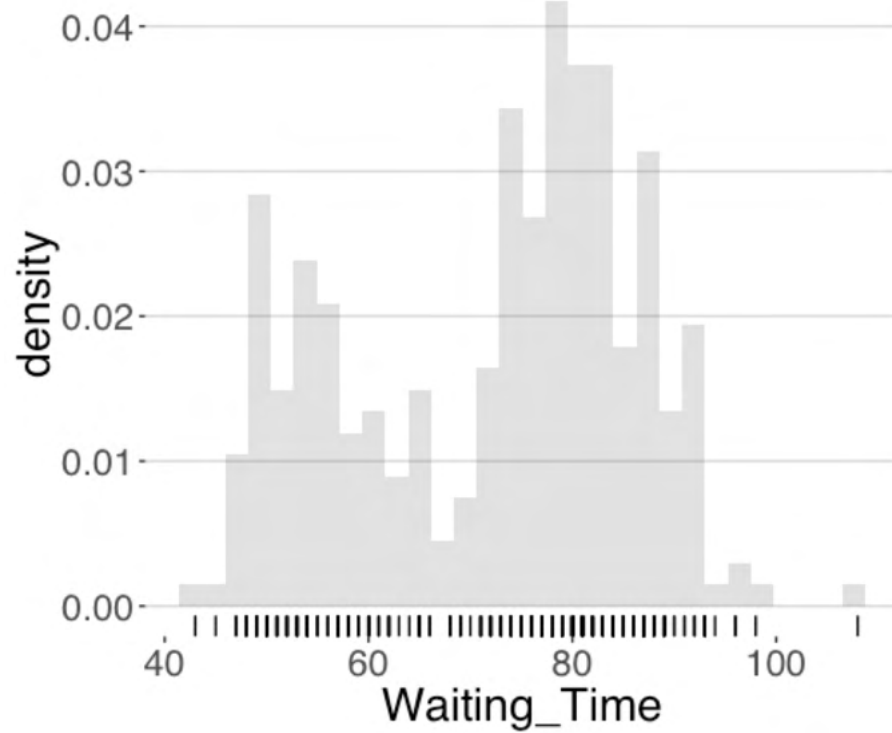
Theory: Name Some Distributions

- Gaussian
- Uniform
- Weibull
- Binomial
- Log-Normal

These are the distributions we have in our Toolbox.

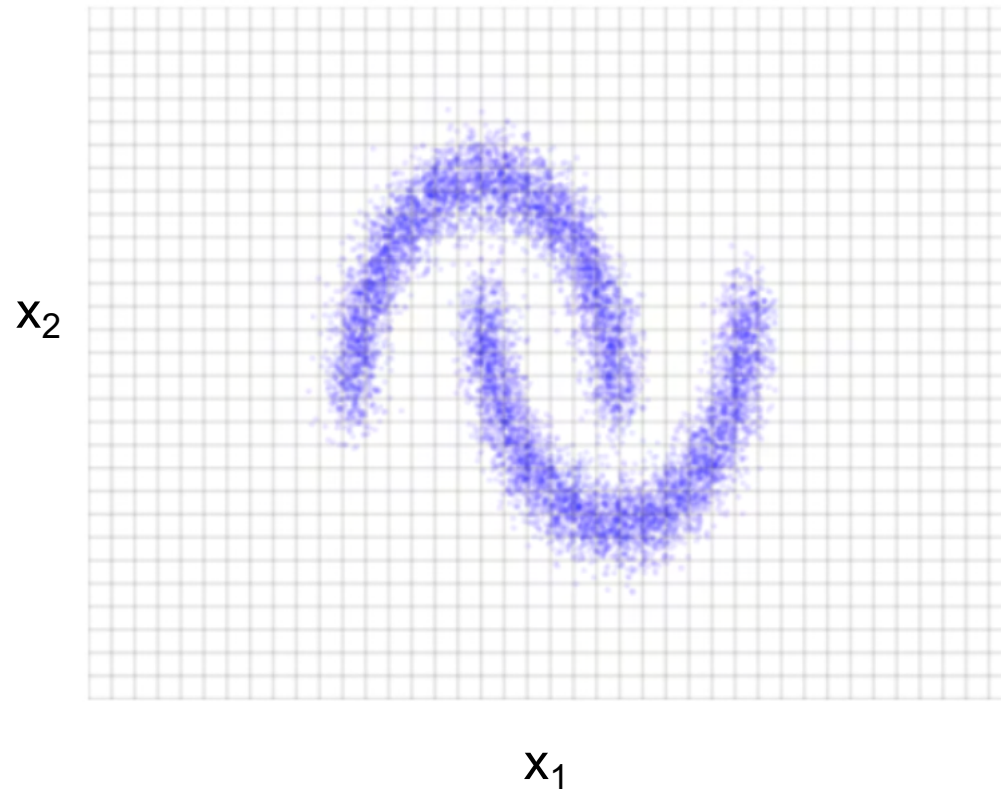
Is the reality like this?

Reality: Data (1-D)



What distribution can you use?

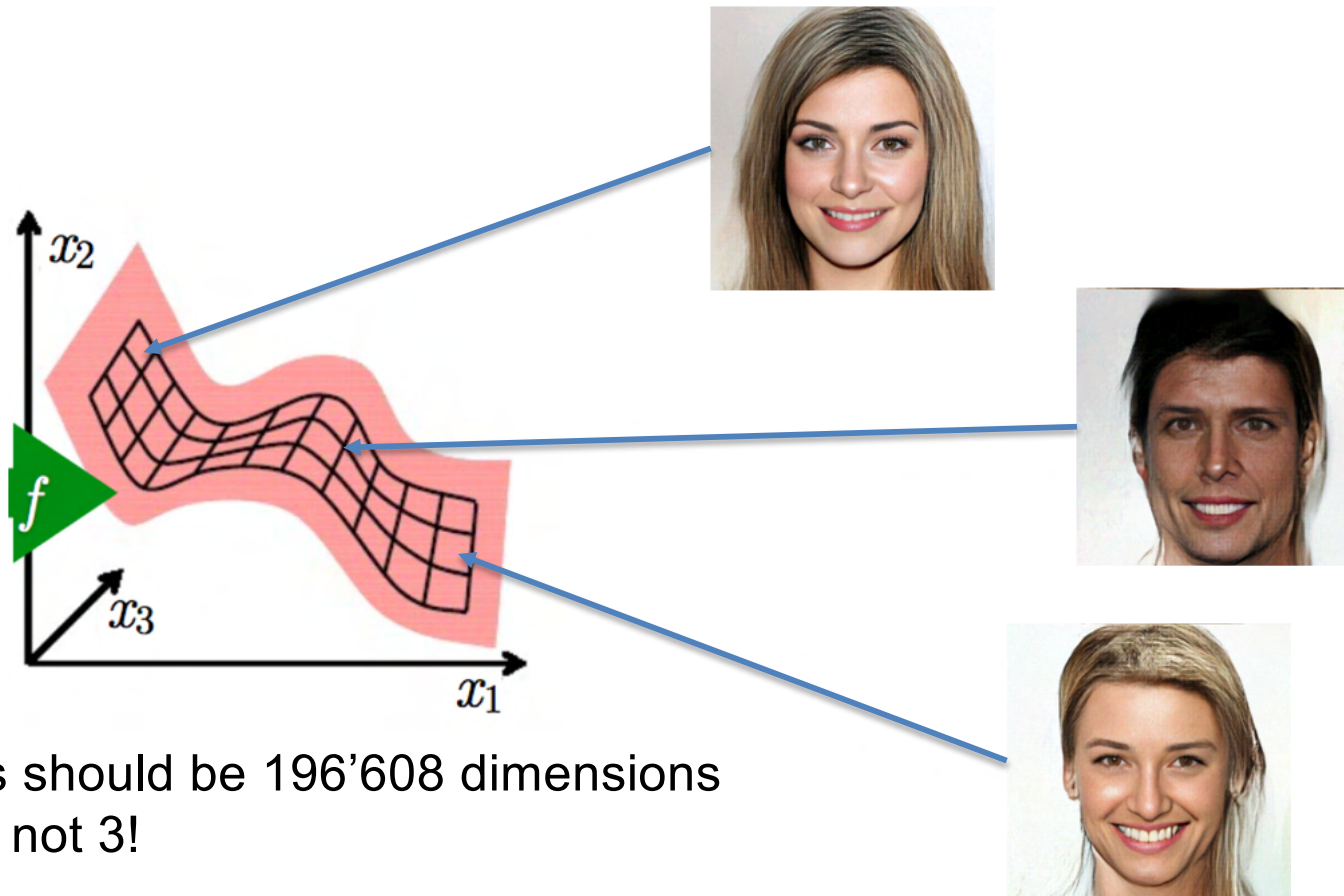
Reality: Data (2-D)



What distribution can you use?

Reality: Data ($256 \times 256 \times 3 = 196'608$ Dimensions)

3 data points sampled from the high dimensional distribution



This should be 196'608 dimensions
and not 3!

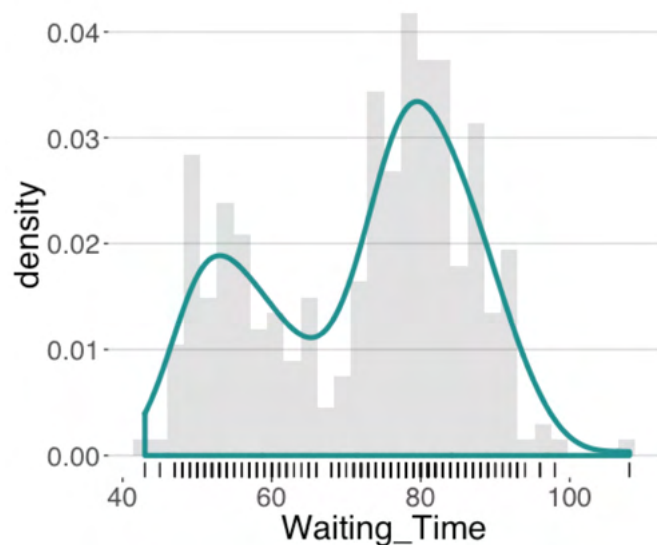
What distribution can you use?

Approches for Density Estimation task, we want $p_{\theta}(X)$:

- For easy cases fit normal “estimate mean and variance”
 - Limited to simple distributions
- Mixtures of simple Distributions such as Gaussian
 - Limited to fairly simple distribution
- Kernel Density estimation / Histograms
 - Non-Parametric, low dimensions (non-sparse)
- MCMC
 - Allows to sample from complicated distributions
 - Need pointwise $p(X)$ up to constant
 - Typical $p(W|X)$ in Bayes
- GANs (only have an *implicit* estimation can sample from $p(X)$)
- VAE (only have an approximation to $p(X)$)
 - $\log(p(x)) = L^v + D_{KL}(q(z|x)||p(z|x))$ the KL-Term is disregarded
- **Normalizing Flows**

Main Idea of Normalizing Flows

Data $x \sim \text{strange_function}$ in \mathbb{R}^1

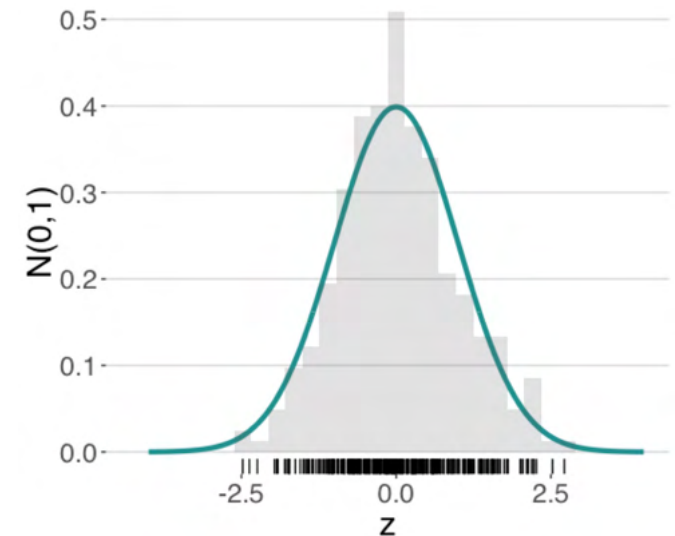


pdf $p(x)$

$f_{\theta}^{-1}(x)$

$f_{\theta}(z)$

Transformed function $z_1 \sim N(0,1)$



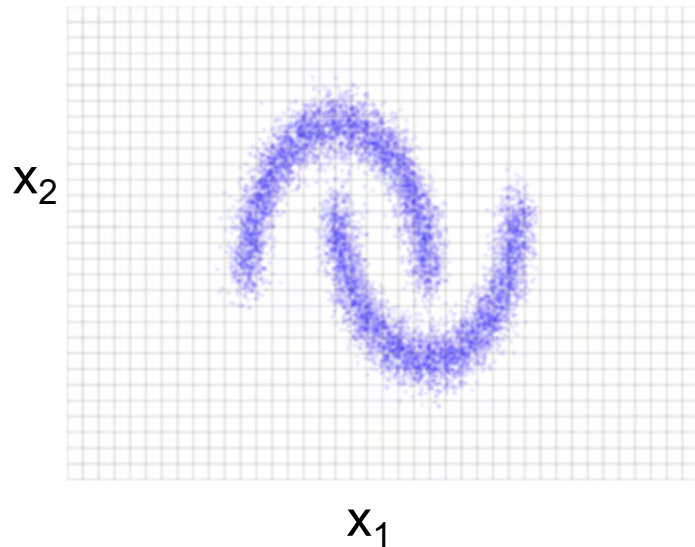
pdf $\pi(z)$

Idea: learn an *invertible* transformation to simple function usually Gaussian $N(0,1)$

- **Sampling** from $p(x)$: sample $z^* \sim \pi(z)$ then transform it via $f_{\theta}(z^*)$
- **Density of x^*** : calculate $z^* = f_{\theta}^{-1}(x^*)$ and evaluate $N(z^*; 0,1)$

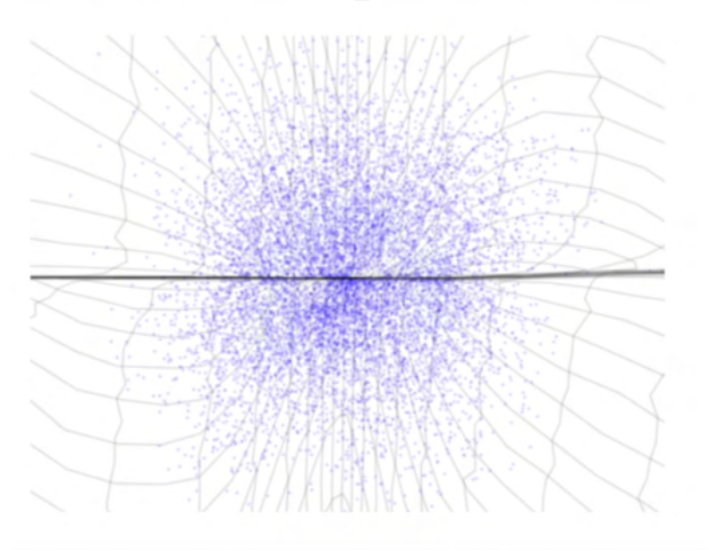
Main Idea of Normalizing Flows

Data $x \sim \text{strange_function}$ in \mathbb{R}^2



pdf $p(x)$

Transformed Data $z_1, z_2 \sim N(0,1)$



pdf $\pi(z)$

$$f_{\theta}^{-1}(x)$$

$$f_{\theta}(u)$$

Idea: learn an *invertible* transformation to simple function usually Gaussian $N(0,1)$

- Sampling from $p(x)$: sample $z^* \sim \pi(z)$ then transform it via $f_{\theta}(z^*)$
- Density of x^* : calculate $z^* = f_{\theta}^{-1}(x^*)$ and evaluate $N(z^*; 0,1)$

Main Idea of Normalizing Flows

Data $x \sim \text{strange_function}$ in \mathbb{R}^{196608}

$$f_{\theta}^{-1}(x)$$

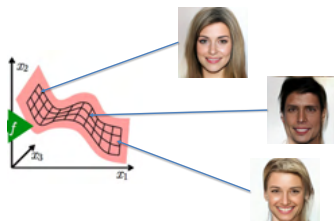


$x_1, x_2, x_{196608} \sim \text{strange_function}$

$z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{196608} \sim N(0,1)$

With many correlations

$$f_{\theta}(u)$$



pdf $p(x)$

pdf $\pi(z)$

Idea: learn an *invertible* transformation to simple function usually Gaussian $N(0,1)$

- Sampling from $p(x)$: sample $z^* \sim \pi(z)$ then transform it via $f_{\theta}(z^*)$
- Density of x^* : calculate $z^* = f_{\theta}^{-1}(x^*)$ and evaluate $N(z^*; 0,1)$

Transformation of Variables

-- Some math

Simple Transformation

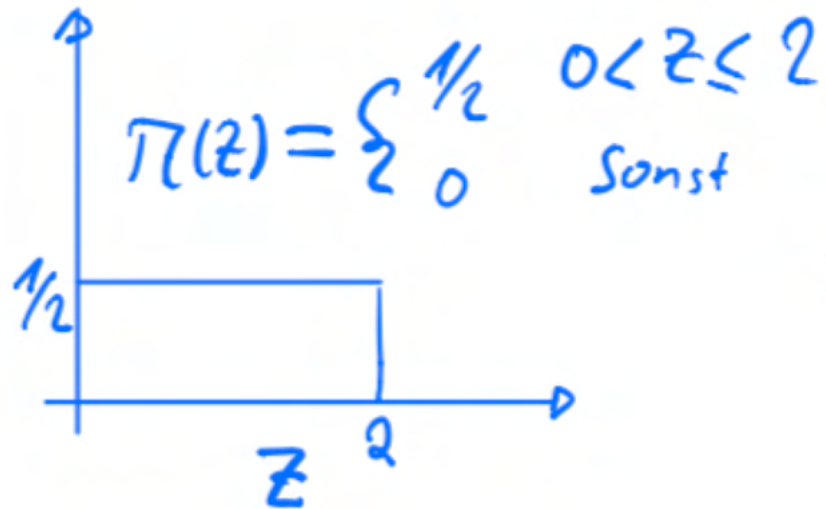
- Say you have $z \sim \text{Uniform}(0,2)$
- $f(z) = z^2$

```
N = 10000
```

```
d = tfd.Uniform(low=0, high=2)
```

```
zs = d.sample(N)
```

```
x = zs**2
```



$$f(z) = z^2$$



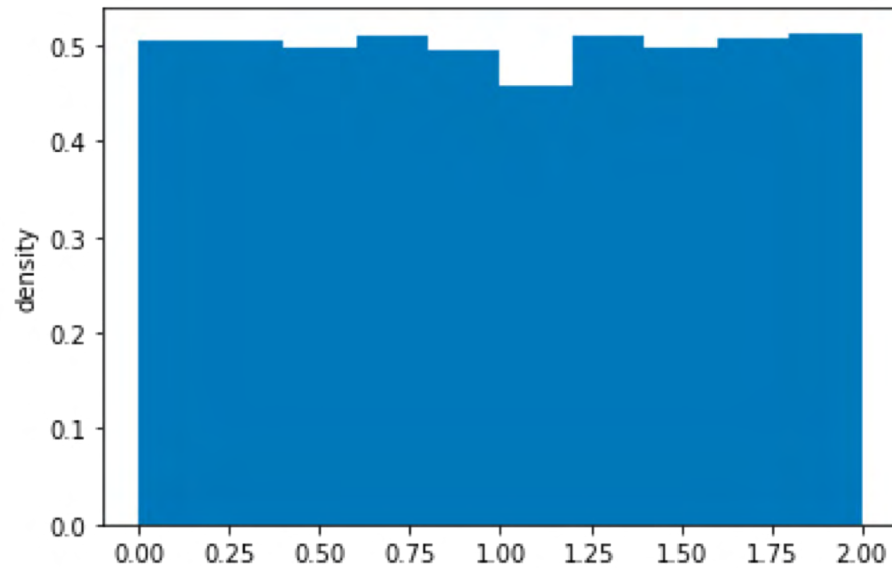
Try to come up with an answer, how is z distributed?

Try it

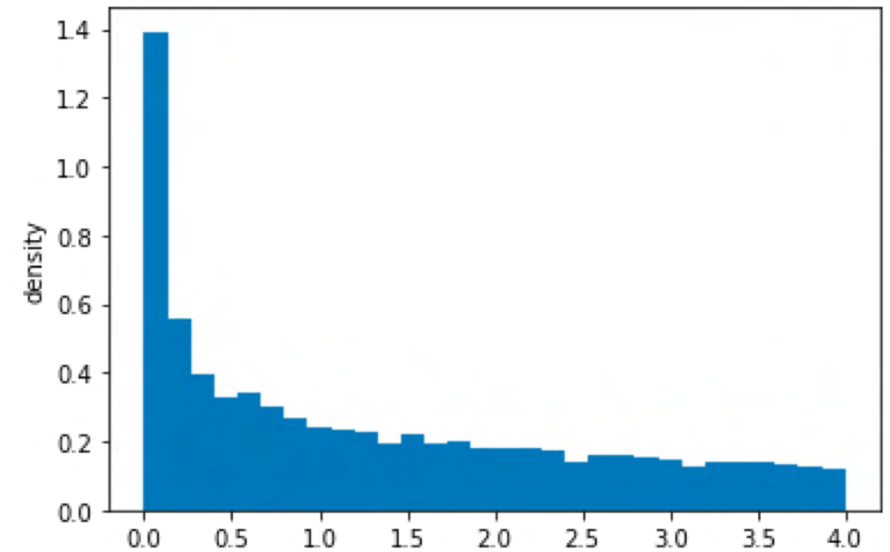
```
N = 10000  
d = tfd.Uniform(low=0, high=2)  
zs = d.sample(N)
```

```
x = zs**2
```

hist zs



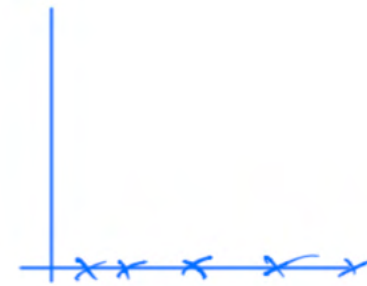
hist zs**2



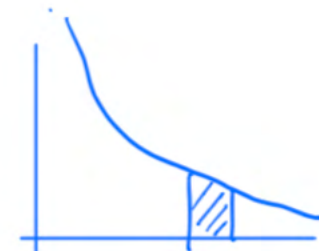
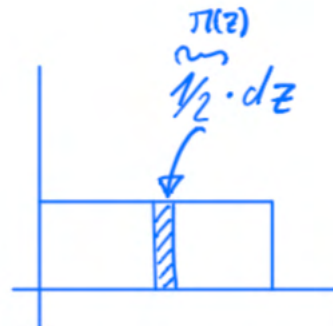
What happened?

Probability Mass needs to be conserved

Think of samples



Think of mass
needs to be conserved



$$p(x)dx$$

$$\pi(f^{-1}(x))df^{-1}(x)$$

$$\pi(z)dz = p(x)dx$$

1-D

$$\pi(z) dz = p(x) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow p(x) = \pi(z) \frac{dz}{dx}$$

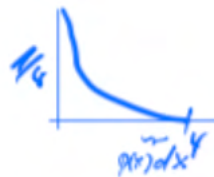
$$x = f(z) \Rightarrow z = f^{-1}(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{p(x) = \pi(f^{-1}(x)) \left| \frac{df^{-1}(x)}{dx} \right|}$$

Ex $x = z^2 \Rightarrow z = f^{-1}(x) = \sqrt{x}$

$$p(x) = \pi(\sqrt{x}) \frac{d\sqrt{x}}{dx}$$

$$p(x) = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \quad 0 < x \leq 4$$



Here $\left| \frac{df^{-1}(x)}{dx} \right|$ since $\frac{df^{-1}(x)}{dx}$ can be negative.

du and dx are positive by definition.

Transformation $D > 1$

Generally $f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ $x, z \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$f^{-1}(\vec{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} f_1^{-1}(\vec{x}) \\ f_2^{-1}(\vec{x}) \\ f_3^{-1}(\vec{x}) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ z_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{df^{-1}(x)}{dx} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1^{-1}(\vec{x})}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_1^{-1}(\vec{x})}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial f_1^{-1}(\vec{x})}{\partial x_3} \\ \frac{\partial f_2^{-1}(\vec{x})}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_2^{-1}(\vec{x})}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial f_2^{-1}(\vec{x})}{\partial x_3} \\ \frac{\partial f_3^{-1}(\vec{x})}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_3^{-1}(\vec{x})}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial f_3^{-1}(\vec{x})}{\partial x_3} \end{pmatrix}$$

In higher dimensions

$f: \mathbb{R}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^D$ from u (simple) to x (complicated)

$$p(x) = \pi(f^{-1}(x)) \cdot \left| \left(\frac{df^{-1}(x)}{\partial x} \right) \right| \longrightarrow p(x) = \pi(f^{-1}(x)) \cdot \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f_i^{-1}(x)}{\partial x_j} \right) \right|$$

$$\log p(x) = \log \pi(f^{-1}(x)) + \log \left(\left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f_i^{-1}(x)}{\partial x_j} \right) \right| \right)$$

$$c_{ij} = \frac{\partial f_i^{-1}(x)}{\partial x_j} = \text{is the Jacobian of } f^{-1}$$

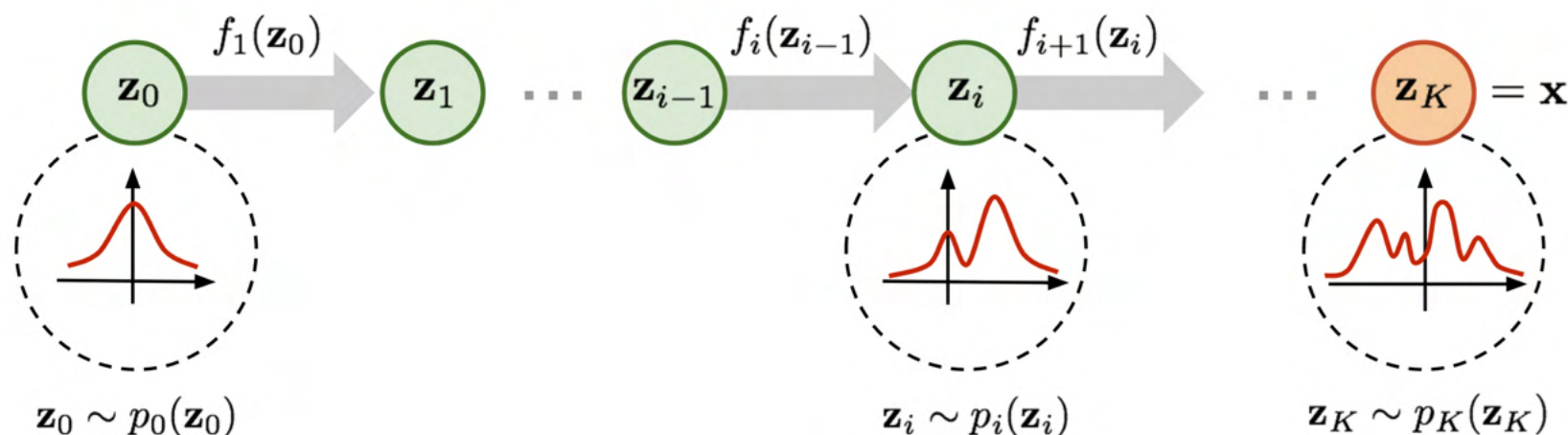
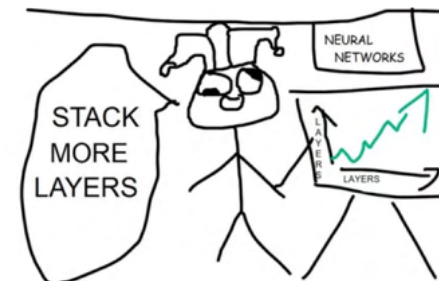
Intuition: The determinant of the Jacobian reflects the change of volume going from x to u . Going the other way, we get the reverse.

\implies “inverse function theorem” (Not surprisingly)

$$\left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f_i^{-1}(x)}{\partial x_j} \right) \right| = \frac{1}{\left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f_i(z)}{\partial z_j} \right) \right|} = \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f_i(z)}{\partial z_j} \right) \right|^{-1}$$

Normalizing Flows (Chaining Transformations)

- Start with a *simple distribution* for z_0
- Repeat change of variable K times to come to a complicated distribution z_K
- Chaining several bijectors as layers in neural networks
- This direction is sometimes referred to as “noise to data”



$$\log p(x) = \log p_0(z_0) - \sum \log \left(\det \left| \frac{\partial f_i(z_i)}{\partial z_{i-1}} \right| \right) \text{ with } z_i = f_i(z_{i-1})$$

The above equation needs a bit math (see blog post)

Normalizing Flows in TFP (examples)

$f(z) \rightarrow$ bijector (the Square in our case)

```
In [35]: f = tfb.Square() # This is a bijector
         f.forward(2.0) #4
         f.inverse(4.0) #2
```

```
Out[35]: <tf.Tensor: id=974, shape=(), dtype=float32, numpy=2.0>
```

Chaining several Bijectors

Using several bijectors

```
In [39]: chain = tfb.Chain([tfb.Square(), tfb.Square()], name="x4")
         chain.forward(2.0)
```

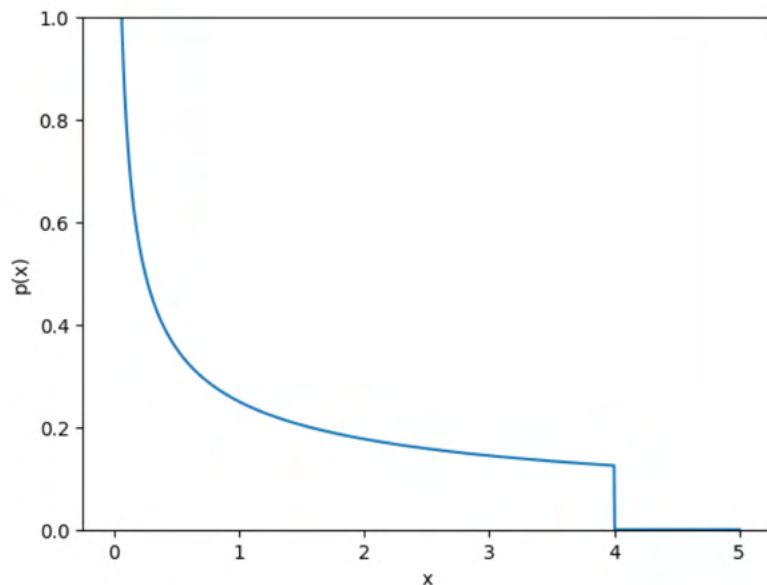
```
Out[39]: <tf.Tensor: id=1174, shape=(), dtype=float32, numpy=16.0>
```

Doing the Transformation

```
In [27]: base_dist = tfd.Uniform(0.0,2.0)
         mydist = tfd.TransformedDistribution(distribution=base_dist, bijector=f)
```

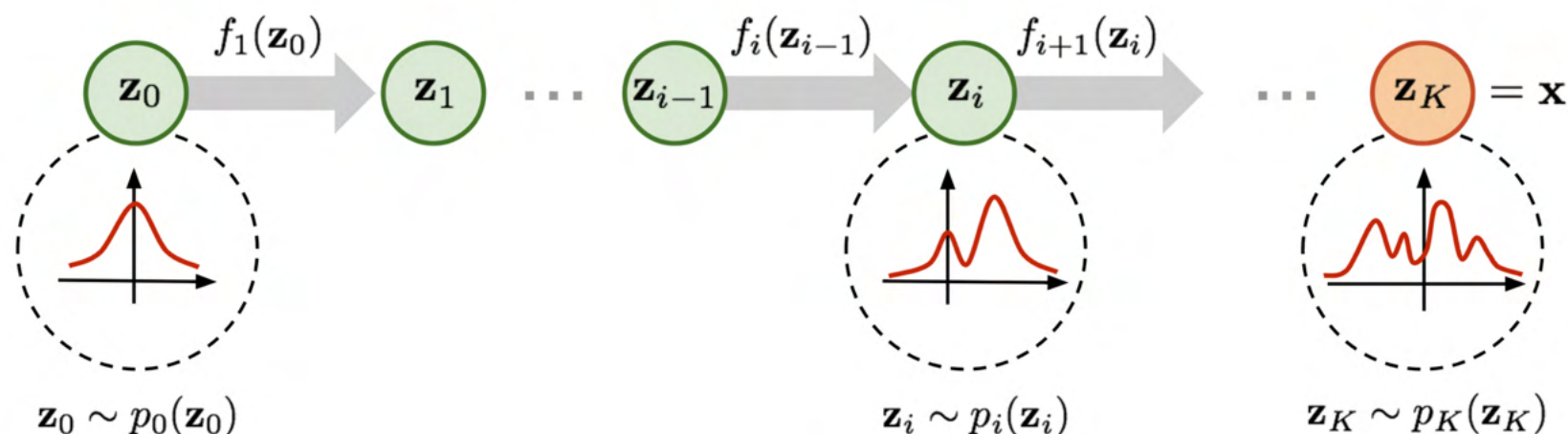
```
In [36]: xs = np.linspace(0.001, 5,1000)
         ps = mydist.prob(xs)
         plt.plot(xs,ps)
         plt.xlabel('x')
         plt.ylabel('p(x)')
         plt.ylim(0,1)
```

```
Out[36]: (0, 1)
```



Notebook Flow_101.ipynb

Learning to flow



$$\log p(x) = \log p(z_k) = \log p_0(z_0) - \sum \log \left(\det \left| \frac{\partial f_i(z_i)}{\partial z_{i-1}} \right| \right) \text{ with } z_i = f_i(z_{i-1})$$

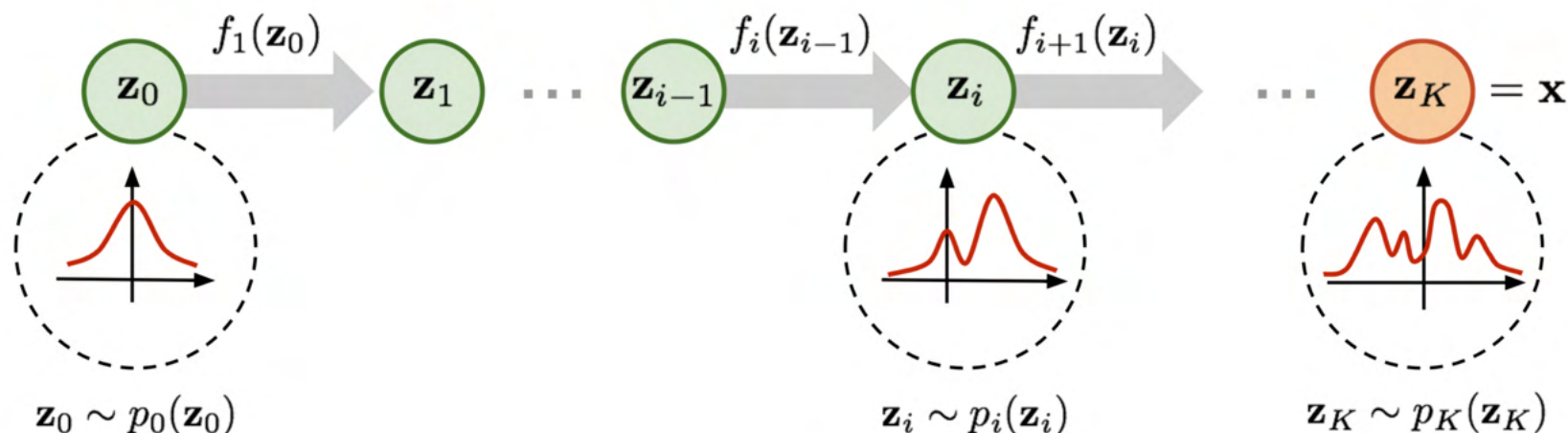
The log-probability $\log p(x)$ of a training sample x can be easily calculated from the Jacobian and the $\log p_0(z_0)$. You get z_0 by successively applying the reversed functions f_i^{-1} .

How to fit?



Tune the parameter(s) θ of the model M so that (observed) data is most likely!

Learning to flow



$$\log p(x) = \log p(z_K) = \log p_0(z_0) - \sum \log \left(\det \left| \frac{\partial f_i(z_i)}{\partial z_{i-1}} \right| \right) \text{ with } z_i = f_i(z_{i-1})$$

The log-probability $\log p(x)$ of a training sample x can be easily calculated from the Jacobian and the $\log p_0(z_0)$. You get u_0 by successively applying the reversed functions f_i^{-1} .

Maximum Likelihood: Minimize the Negative Log Likelihood $-\sum \log p(x^i)$ of all training data point x^i . Their parameters of the model, are in the transformations.

Simple example in NB Flow_101.ipynb

Requirements for the bijectors

A flow is composed of several possible different f 's, the bijectors in TFP language. The following restrictions apply for them

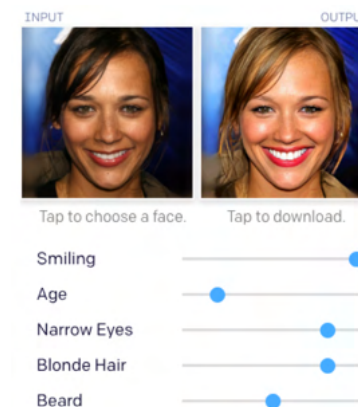
- f needs to be invertible (strict requirement)
- Training
 - Fast calculation of $f^{-1}(x)$
 - Fast calculation of Jacobi-Determinant
- Application:
 - Fast calculation of $f(z)$

Flows with networks

Flows using networks

2 Main lines of research

- Guided by autoregressive (AR) models
 - All AR models like Wavenet can be understood as normalizing flows
 - Mask Autoregressive Flow (MAF)
 - Inverse Mask Autoregressive Flow (IMAF)
- Using ‘handcrafted’ network based flows
 - NICE (1410.8516 Dinh, Krueger, Bengio)
 - RealNVP ([1605.08803](https://arxiv.org/abs/1605.08803) Dinh, Dickstein, Bengio)
 - Glow (<https://arxiv.org/abs/1807.03039> Kingma, Dhariwal)
- Unifying framework (Triangular Maps)
 - SOS paper ICML <https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.02325>



Requirement / Design considerations

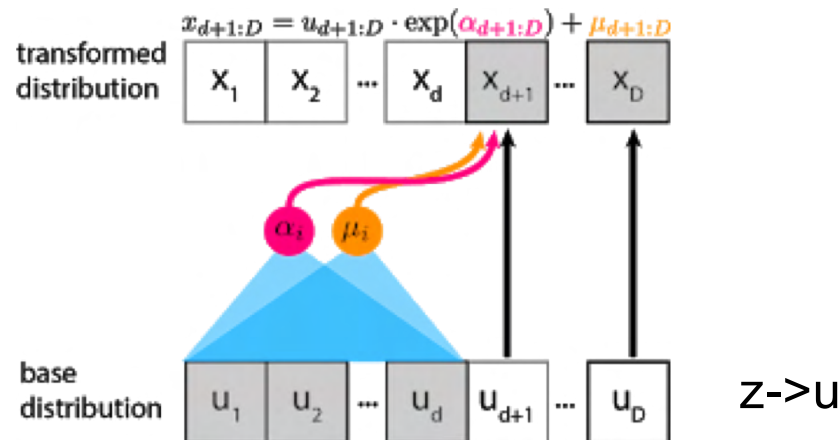
- Fast calculation of $f(z)$, $f^{-1}(x)$
- Crucial: We need fast calculation of Jacobi Matrix

$$- \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial f_i(z)}{\partial z_j} \right) \right|^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1(z)}{\partial z_1} & \frac{\partial f_1(z)}{\partial z_2} & \frac{\partial f_1(z)}{\partial z_3} \\ \frac{\partial f_2(z)}{\partial z_1} & \frac{\partial f_2(z)}{\partial z_2} & \frac{\partial f_2(z)}{\partial z_3} \\ \frac{\partial f_3(z)}{\partial z_1} & \frac{\partial f_3(z)}{\partial z_2} & \frac{\partial f_3(z)}{\partial z_3} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Lin. Alg.: The determinant of triangular matrix is sum of diagonal terms (trace)
 - Want triangular matrix $\frac{\partial f_1(z)}{\partial z_2} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$
 - $\Rightarrow f_1(z) = f_1(z_1, \cancel{z_2}, \cancel{z_3}), f_d(z) = f_1(z_1, \dots, z_d, \cancel{z_{d+1}}, \cancel{z_{d+2}}, \dots)$
 - Diagonal terms $\frac{\partial f_2(z)}{\partial z_2}$ easy to be calculated (no network!)
- $\frac{\partial f_2(z)}{\partial z_1}$ no restrictions, can be as complicated as hell (neural network)

Real-NVP (coupling layer)

- Main ingredient the coupling layer
- Consider (high) dimensional data with dimension D

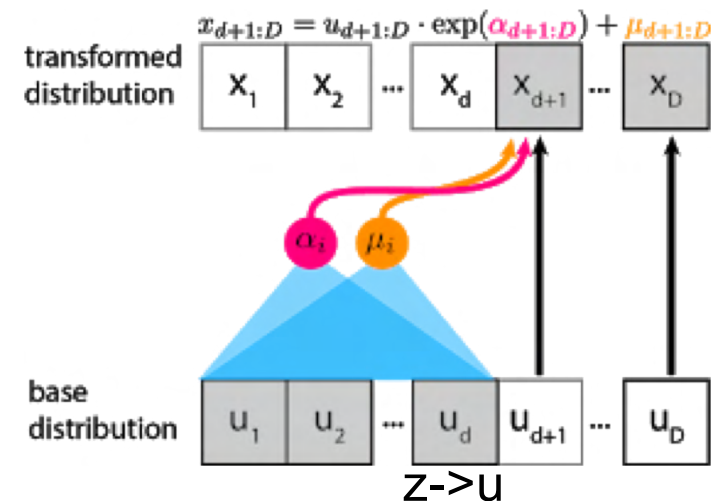


- Choose arbitrary $d < D$ $\alpha_i(z_{1:d})$ and $\mu_i(z_{1:d})$ are NNs with inputs $z_1 \dots z_d$ and outputs for $d + 1, \dots, D$.
- $x_1 = z_1 \quad x_2 = z_2 \quad \dots \quad x_d = z_d$
- $x_{d+1} = \mu_i(z_{1:d}) + \exp(\alpha_i(z_{1:d})) \cdot z_{d+1}$ # shift and scale transformation
- # $x_{d+1} \sim N(\mu = \mu_i(z_{1:d}), \sigma = \exp(\alpha_i(z_{1:d})))$ renormalisation trick
- $x_{d+2} = \mu_{i+1}(z_{1:d}) + \exp(\alpha_{i+1}) \cdot z_{d+2},$
- ...
- In short $x_{1:d} = z_{1:d}$ and $x_{d+1:D} = \mu_{i:i+d}(z_{1:d}) + \exp(\alpha_i) \cdot z_{d+1:D}$

Real-NVP (coupling layer, properties)

Inverse

- $z_{1:d} = x_{1:d}$ No network
- $z_{1:d} = x_{1:d}$
- $x_{d+1:D} = \mu(z_{1:d}) + \exp(\alpha_i(z_{1:d})) \cdot z_{d+1:D}$
- $z_{d+1:D} = (x_{d+1:D} - \mu(z_{1:d})) / \exp(\alpha_i(z_{1:d}))$

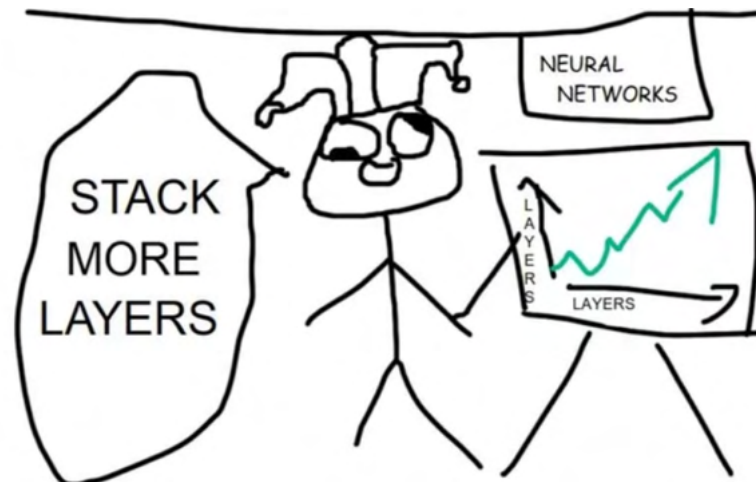


Jacobian for $D=5, d=2$ note that $\frac{\partial f_i(z)}{\partial z_j} = \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial z_j}$

$$\begin{array}{c} \downarrow i \end{array}
 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{j} \end{array}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 e & e & \exp(\alpha_1(z_{1:2})) & 0 & 0 \\
 e & e & e & \exp(\alpha_2(z_{1:2})) & 0 \\
 e & e & e & e & \exp(\alpha_3(z_{1:2}))
 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{array}{l}
 x_1 = z_1 \\
 x_2 = z_2 \\
 x_3 = \mu_i(z_{1:2}) + \exp(\alpha_i(z_{1:2})) \cdot z_3 \\
 x_4 = \mu_i(z_{1:2}) + \exp(\alpha_i(z_{1:2})) \cdot z_4 \\
 x_5 = \mu_i(z_{1:2}) + \exp(\alpha_i(z_{1:2})) \cdot z_5
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \frac{\partial \cdot}{\partial z_1} & \frac{\partial \cdot}{\partial z_2} & \frac{\partial \cdot}{\partial z_3} & \frac{\partial \cdot}{\partial z_4} & \frac{\partial \cdot}{\partial z_5}
 \end{array}$$

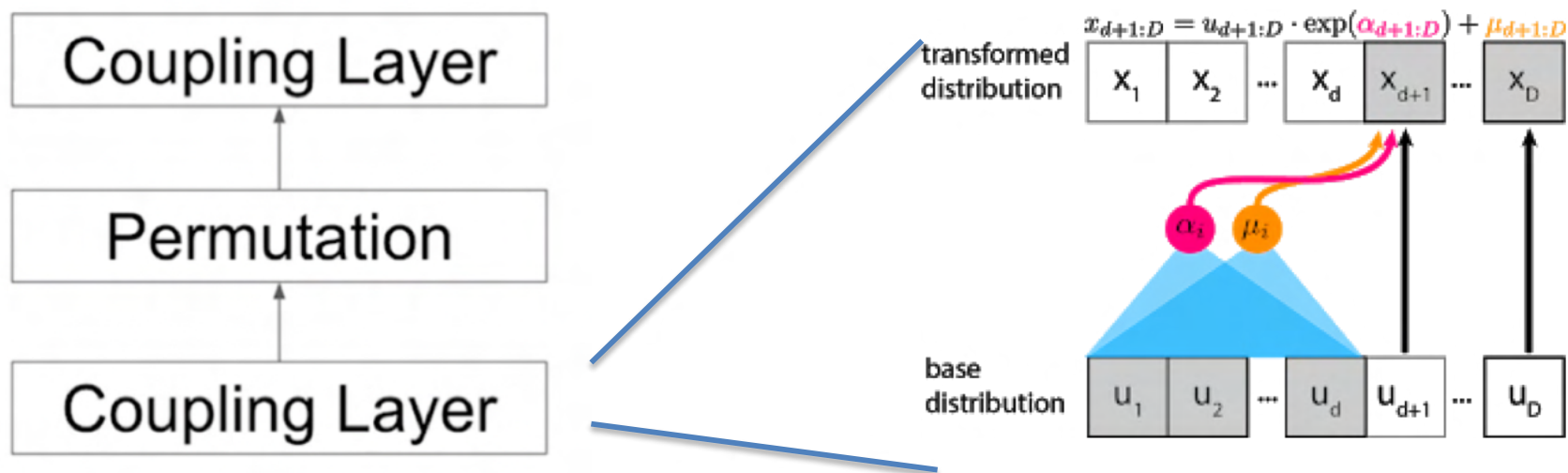
e =don't care



Do the DL-Trick

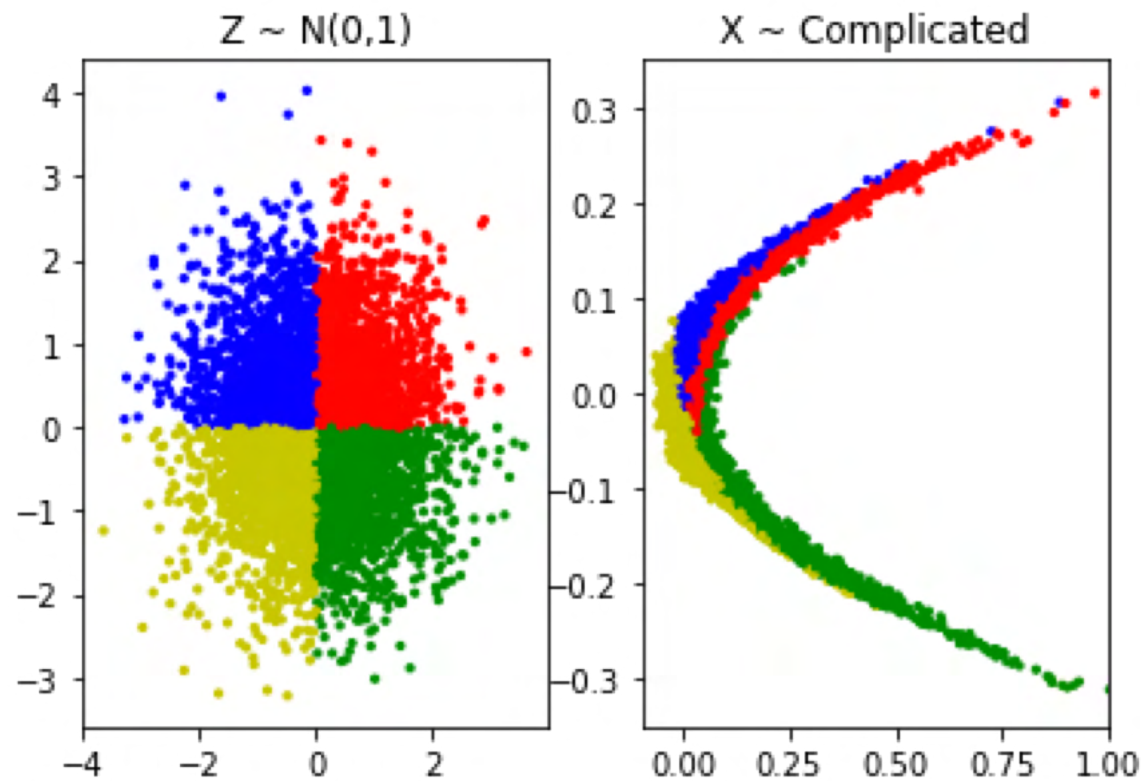
Stack more Layers (Permutation)

- In RealNVP
 - d is arbitrary and also the ordering
 - In AR-Flows ordering is arbitrary
- When stacking several coupling layers put fixed permutation of dimensions in between
- Fix permutation is invertible and $\det=1$ (If a bijection)



Demo

- See [Flow_101_learning_parameters_NVP](#)



Glow for image data

--arXiv:1807.03039

**Glow: Generative Flow
with Invertible 1×1 Convolutions**

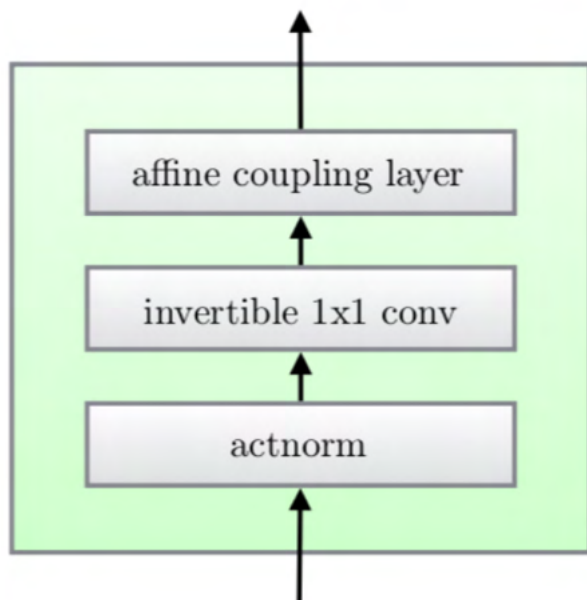
Diederik P. Kingma*, Prafulla Dhariwal*
OpenAI, San Francisco

Specialties of glow

- Use 1x1convolutions instead of Permutation
- Image Data
 - Multiscale Architecture (also in RealNVP Paper)
 - X and Z are now tensors (3 dimensional, shape w, h, c)
 - Keep the w, h dimension work on the channel dimension
 - The channel dimension get's larger by squeeze operation (see below)
 - As before (Affine coupling layer now with tensors)

Glow (new ingredients)

- Additional actnorm (like a batchnorm for batch size 1)
- Instead of a permutation 1x1 convolution is used (simple Matrix Multiplication)
- They stack 32 of those layers

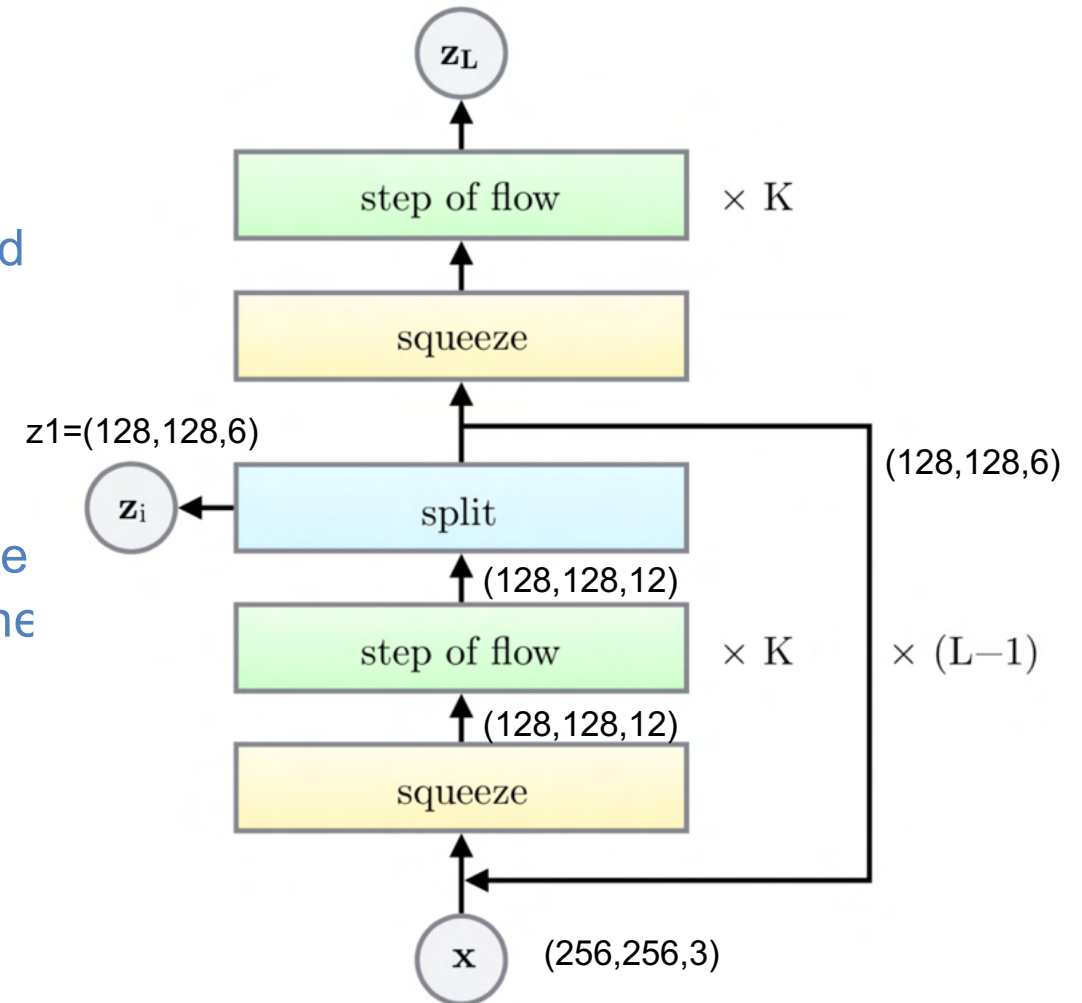


(a) One step of our flow.

Actnorm. See Section 3.1.	$\forall i, j : \mathbf{y}_{i,j} = \mathbf{s} \odot \mathbf{x}_{i,j} + \mathbf{b}$
Invertible 1×1 convolution. $\mathbf{W} : [c \times c]$. See Section 3.2.	$\forall i, j : \mathbf{y}_{i,j} = \mathbf{W} \mathbf{x}_{i,j}$

Multiscale Architecture

- Squeeze operation:
 - $s, s, c \rightarrow s/2, s/2, 4*c$
 - Reduces the spatial resolution
 - Keeps the number of entries fixed
- Split operation
 - Splits input tensor in two halves
 - 50% of the variables only observe one flow. These correspond to fine grade details.
 - The rest is squeezed and thus describes finer details
 - $L = 6$ in paper



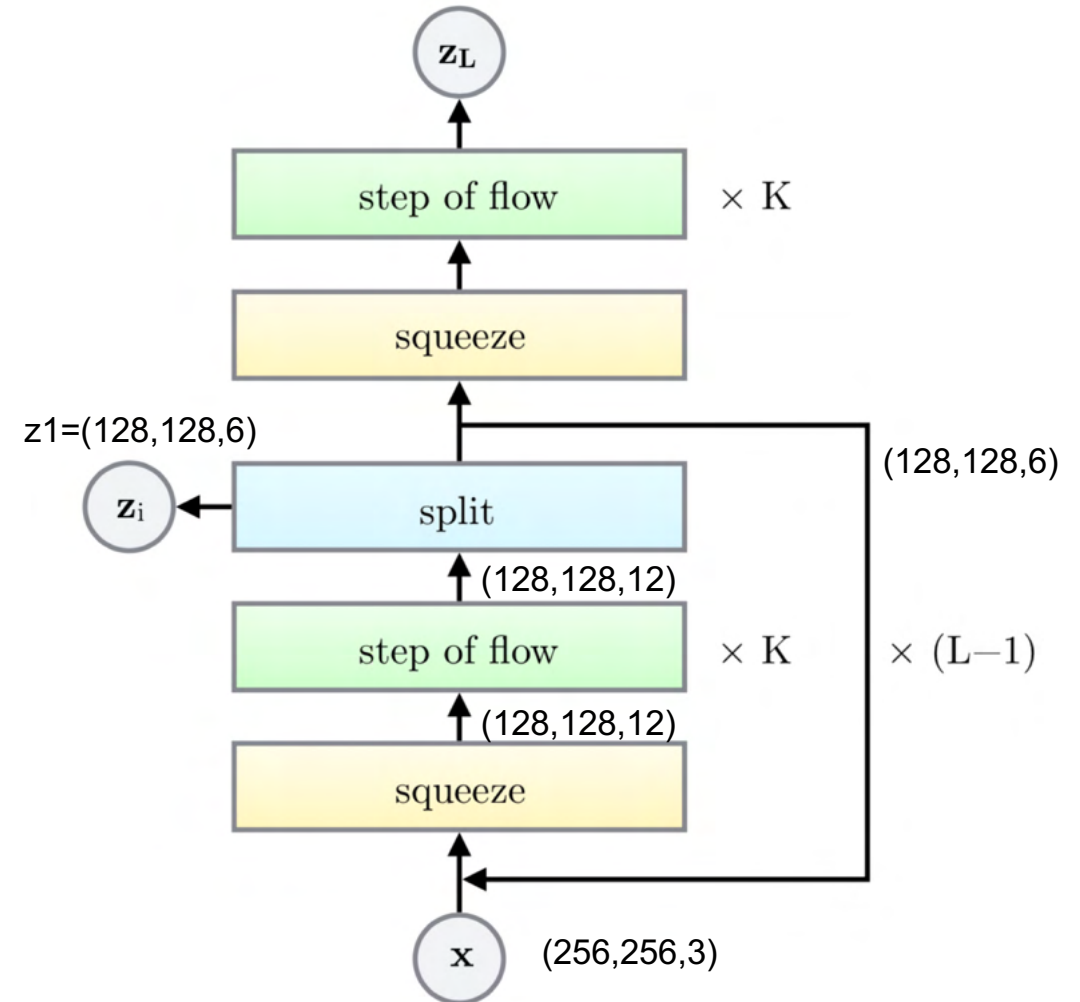
Multiscale Architecture

- Shapes of the Z

```
for i,e in enumerate(eps_shapes):  
    print('z_{}'.format(i+1),e)
```

```
z_1 (128, 128, 6)  
z_2 (64, 64, 12)  
z_3 (32, 32, 24)  
z_4 (16, 16, 48)  
z_5 (8, 8, 96)  
z_6 (4, 4, 384)
```

$$\Sigma = (256, 256, 3)$$



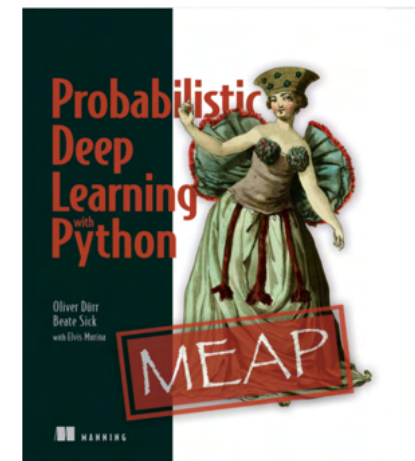
Demo

- Network has been trained on CelebA-HQ
 - 30000 (256x256x3) images of celebrities
 - Images have been aligned
- Sampling: draw $256*256*3$ numbers from $N(0,1)$
 - Reduced Temperature draw from $N(0,T*1)$
- Interpolation
 - Blackboard
- Demo
 - Uses pretrained network
 - **fun_with_glow**

Further reading

Some interesting reads and talks

- Eric Jang
 - Blog: [part1](#) (introduction) [part2](#) (modern flows)
 - 2019 [ICML Tutorial](#)
- Priyank Jaini
 - Lecture Waterloo University CS 480_680 8/24/2019 lecture 23 ([slides](#) | [youtube](#))
 - SOS paper ICML (<https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.02325>) [Talk](#)
- Arsenii Ashukha
 - Lecture at day 3 at deepbayes.ru summer school 2019 ([slides](#) | [video](#))
- Papers (relevant to this talk)
 - Density estimation using Real NVP: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1605.08803>
 - Glow: Generative Flow with Invertible 1×1 Convolutions <https://arxiv.org/abs/1807.03039>



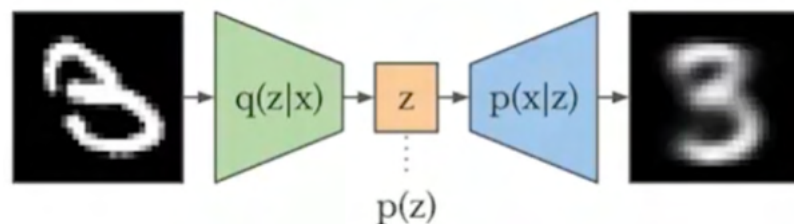
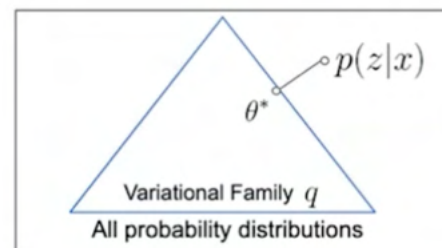
[Coming soon](#)

Thank you! Questions?

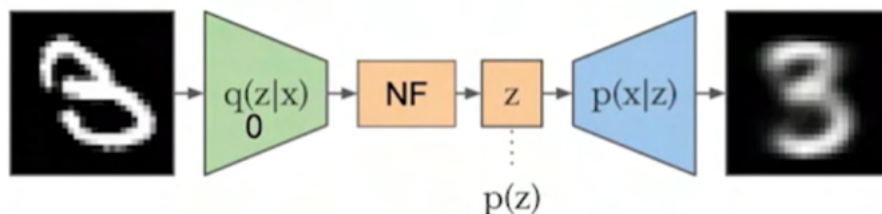
Further use of flows

- It's possible to use normalizing flow as a drop-in replacement for anywhere you would use a Gaussian, such as VAE priors [[evjang](#)]

$$\log p(X) = \mathcal{L}(X, \theta) + KL(q_{\theta}(z|x) || p(z|x))$$



$q(u|x)$ is network parameterizing Gaussian



Use NF to make this more expressive

Material to check

- Tutorial on normalizing flows, slideslive.com/38917907/tutorial-on-normalizing-flows
- • Tips for Training Likelihood Models, blog.evjang.com/2019/07/likelihood-model-tips.html
- • FFJORD tutorial, https://youtu.be/_ALdCSSVYkw
- • Must read papers:
 - • Variational Inference with Normalizing Flows, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1505.05770>
 - • Density estimation using Real NVP, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1605.08803>
 - • Glow: Generative Flow with Invertible 1×1 Convolutions <https://arxiv.org/abs/1807.03039>
 - • Sylvester Normalizing Flows for Variational Inference, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1803.05649>
 - • FFJORD: Free-form Continuous Dynamics for Scalable Reversible Generative Models, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.01367>
 - • Do Deep Generative Models Know What They Don't Know?, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.09136>
 - • Classification Accuracy Score, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.10887>