

Introduction to Diffusion Models and Probabilistic Inference with Path Measures

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05/11/2025

Episode 1

Diffusion Models as Probabilistic Models in Path Space

We will discuss:

- Recap of Probability Theory and Probabilistic Models
- Generative Models and Diffusion Models
- Path Measure
- Probabilistic Inference with Path Measures: Control your Generation
- Application Demo & What's Next?

Recap of Probability

- Random variable (RV):

A function mapping from a sample space e.g., $\{\text{rain tmr}, \text{not rain tmr}\}$ to a measurable space e.g., $\{0, 1\}$.

- Probability mass function (discrete RV), e.g.,

$$P(X = 1) = 0.7$$

$$P(X = 0) = 0.3$$

- Probability density function (continuous RV), e.g.,

$$N(x|0, 1) \propto \exp(-x^2/2)$$

Recap of Probability

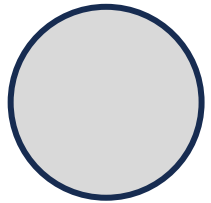
- Joint, Condition, marginal and Bayes' Rule:

$$p(x, y) = p(x)p(y|x) = p(y)p(x|y)$$

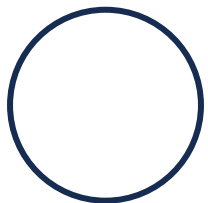
$$p(x) = \int p(x, y)dx$$

Recap of Probability

- Graphical Model:



Random Variable



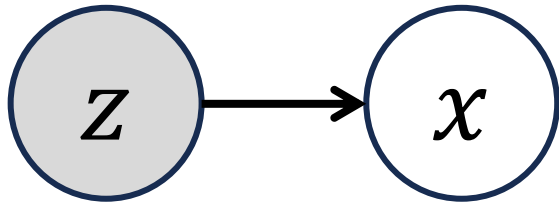
Observed Random Variable



Dependency (conditional distribution)

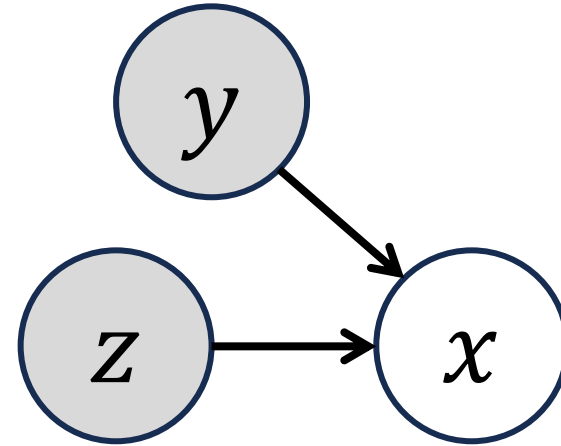
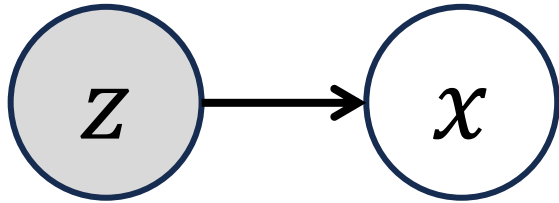
Recap of Probability

- Graphical Model:



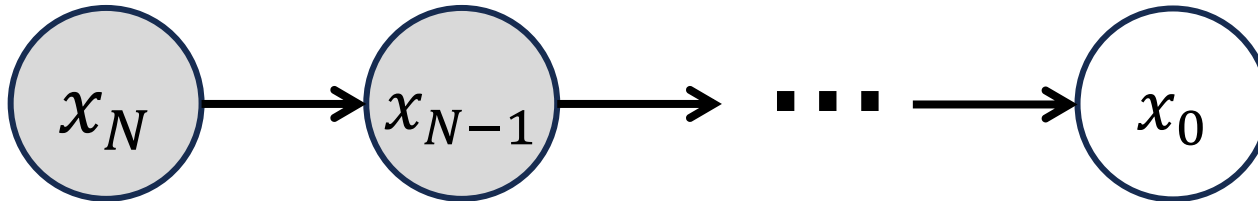
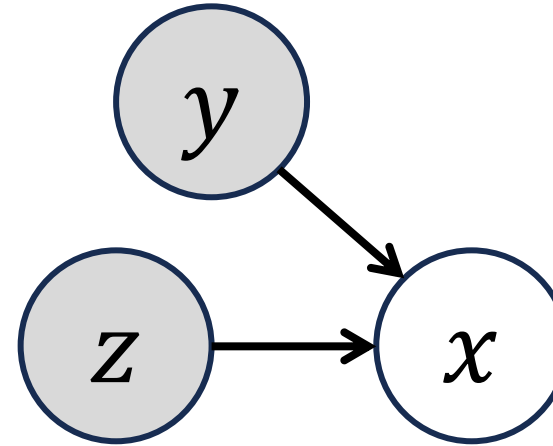
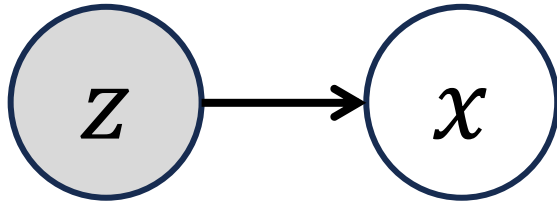
Recap of Probability

- Graphical Model:



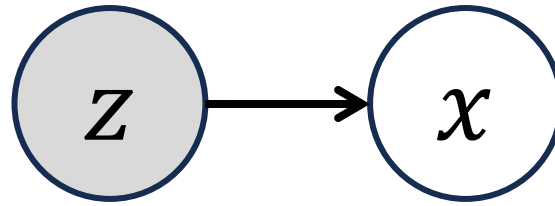
Recap of Probability

- Graphical Model:



Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Generative Model:



Prior: $p(z)$

Likelihood: $p(x|z)$

Posterior: $p(z|x) \approx q(z|x)$

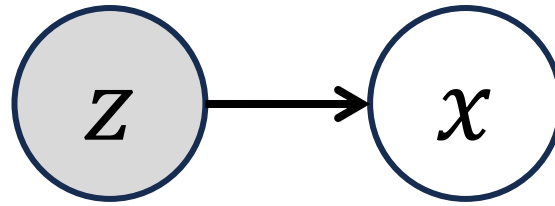
Variational Inference:

$$q(z|x)p(x) \approx p(z)p(x|z)$$

$$i.e., D_{KL}[q(z|x)p(x) || p(z)p(x|z)]$$

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Generative Model:



Prior: $p(z)$

Likelihood: $p(x|z)$

Posterior: $p(z|x) \approx q(z|x)$

Variational Inference:

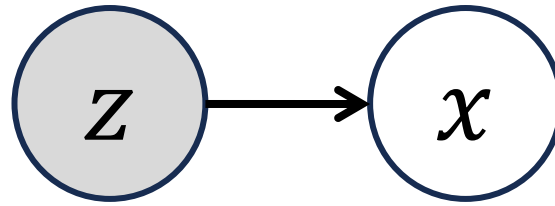
$$q(z|x)p(x) \approx p(z)p(x|z)$$

$$i. e., D_{KL}[q(z|x)p(x) || p(z)p(x|z)]$$

-> Evidence Lower Bound

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Generative Model:



Prior: $p(z)$

Fix prior and likelihood, infer posterior

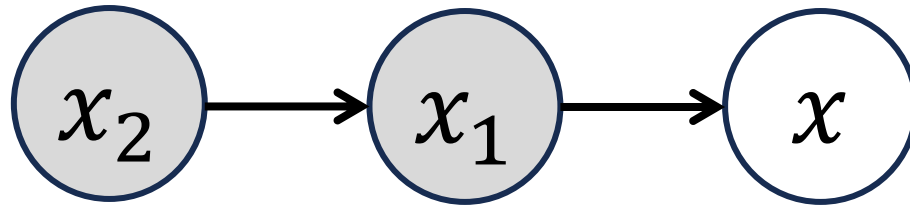
Likelihood: $p(x|z)$

Fix prior, learn likelihood and posterior

Posterior: $p(z|x) \approx q(z|x)$

Fix prior and posterior, learn likelihood

Generative Models and Diffusion Models



Prior: $p(x_2)p(x_1|x_2)$

Likelihood: $p(x|x_1, x_2) = p(x|x_1)$

Posterior: $p(x_1, x_2|x) \approx q(x_1|x)q(x_2|x_1)$

Variational Inference: $q(x_1|x)q(x_2|x_1)p(x) \approx p(x_2)p(x_1|x_2)p(x|x_1)$

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

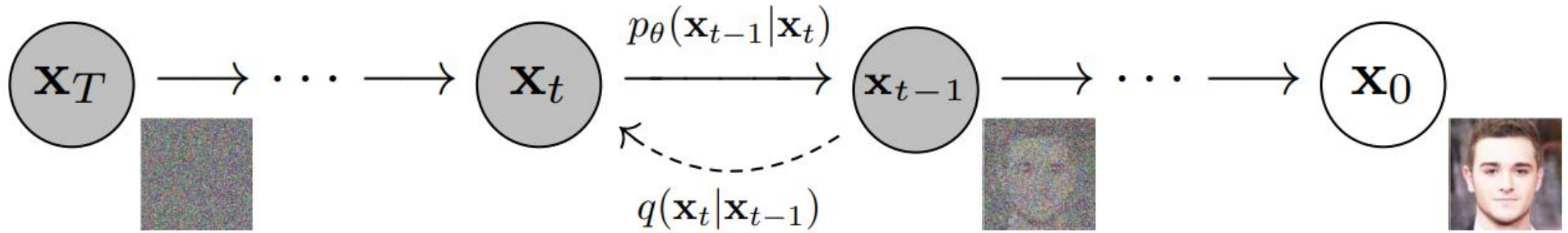


Figure 2: The directed graphical model considered in this work. Figure from [1].

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Posterior (data \rightarrow noise): $p(x_0)$



$p(x_0)$

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Posterior (data \rightarrow noise): $p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)$



$p(x_0)$



$q(x_1|x_0)$

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Posterior (data \rightarrow noise): $p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1)$



$p(x_0)$



$q(x_1|x_0)$



$q(x_2|x_1)$

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Posterior (data \rightarrow noise): $p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1) \dots$



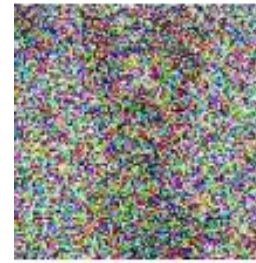
$p(x_0)$



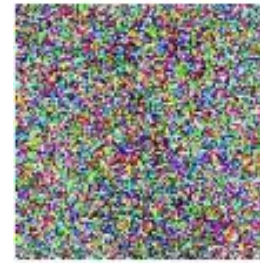
$q(x_1|x_0)$



$q(x_2|x_1)$



...



Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Posterior (data \rightarrow noise): $p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1) \dots q(x_T|x_{T-1})$



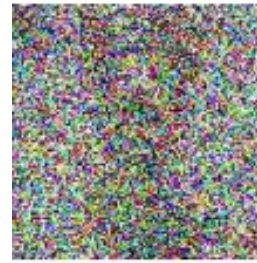
$p(x_0)$



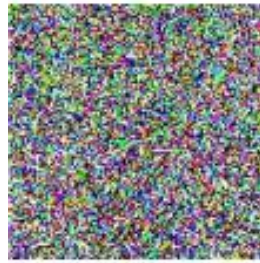
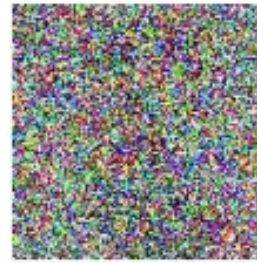
$q(x_1|x_0)$



$q(x_2|x_1)$



...



$q(x_T|x_{T-1})$

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Posterior (data \rightarrow noise): $p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1) \dots q(x_T|x_{T-1})$



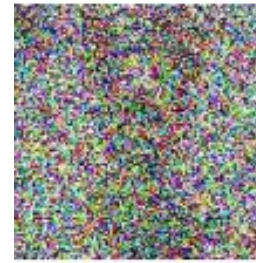
$p(x_0)$



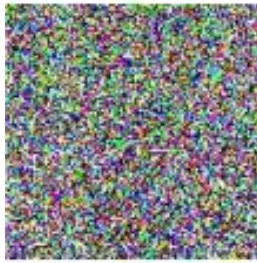
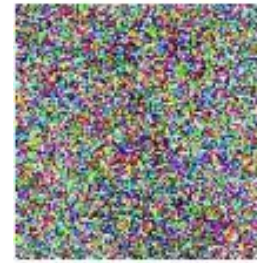
$q(x_1|x_0)$



$q(x_2|x_1)$



...



$q(x_T|x_{T-1})$

Generation (noise \rightarrow data): $p(x_T)$



$p(x_T)$

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Posterior (data \rightarrow noise): $p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1) \dots q(x_T|x_{T-1})$



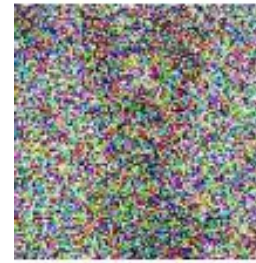
$p(x_0)$



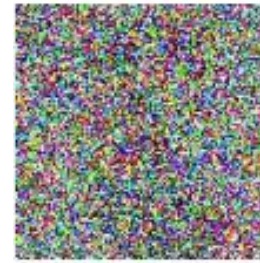
$q(x_1|x_0)$



$q(x_2|x_1)$



...

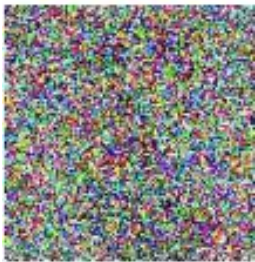


$q(x_T|x_{T-1})$

Generation (noise \rightarrow data): $p(x_T)p(x_{T-1}|x_T)$



$p(x_T)$



$p(x_{T-1}|x_T)$

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Posterior (data \rightarrow noise): $p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1) \dots q(x_T|x_{T-1})$



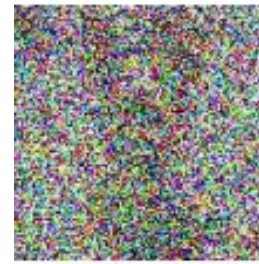
$p(x_0)$



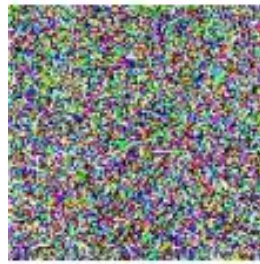
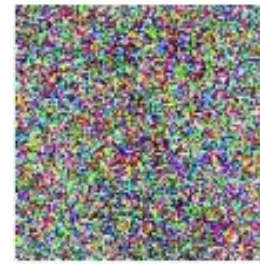
$q(x_1|x_0)$



$q(x_2|x_1)$



...



$q(x_T|x_{T-1})$

Generation (noise \rightarrow data): $p(x_T)p(x_{T-1}|x_T) \dots$



$p(x_T)$



$p(x_{T-1}|x_T)$



$p(x_{T-2}|x_{T-1})$



...



Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Posterior (data \rightarrow noise): $p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1) \dots q(x_T|x_{T-1})$



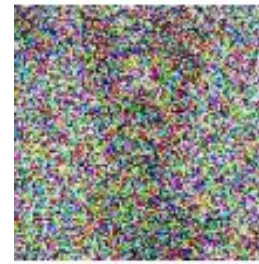
$p(x_0)$



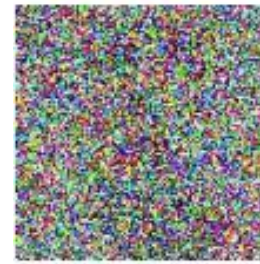
$q(x_1|x_0)$



$q(x_2|x_1)$



...



$q(x_T|x_{T-1})$

Generation (noise \rightarrow data): $p(x_T)p(x_{T-1}|x_T) \dots p(x_0|x_1)$



$p(x_T)$



$p(x_{T-1}|x_T)$



$p(x_{T-2}|x_{T-1})$



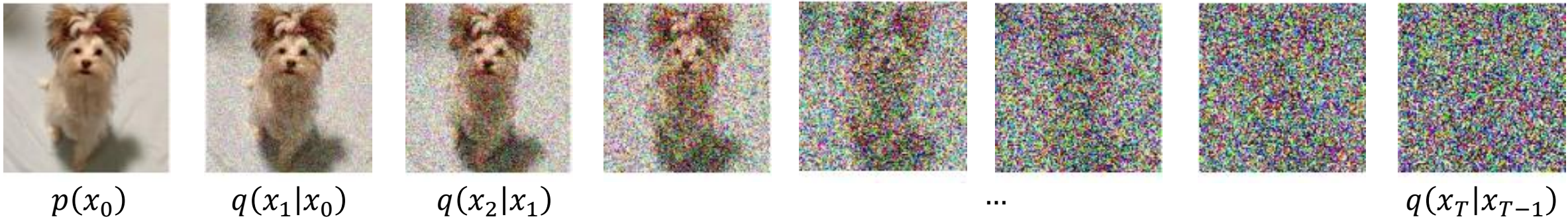
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$p(x_0|x_1)$

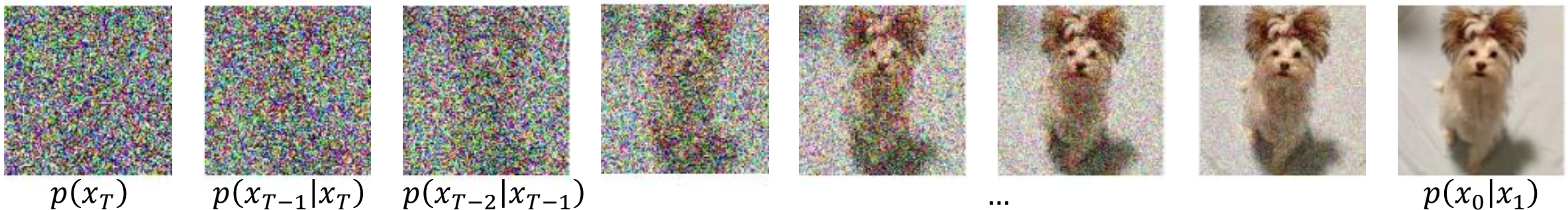
Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Forward SDE (data \rightarrow noise): $x_{t'} = x_t - \beta_t x_t dt + \sqrt{2\beta_t dt} \epsilon$

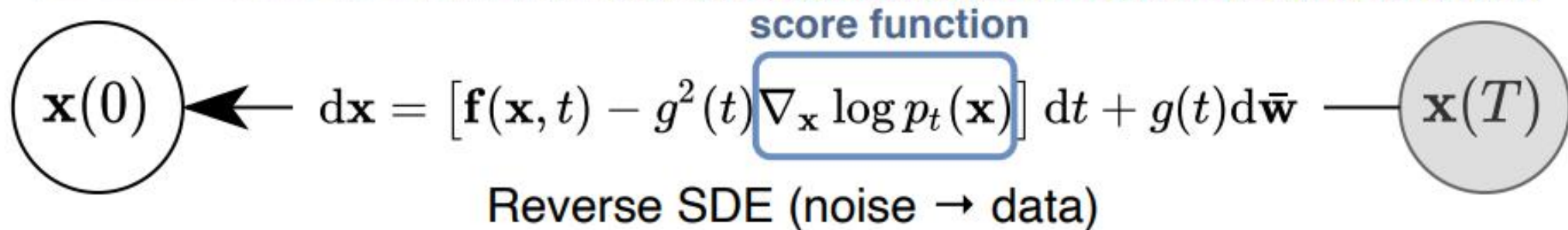
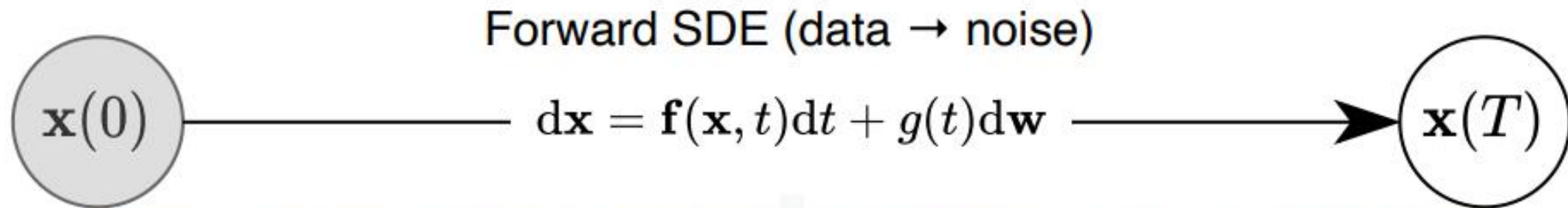


Backward SDE (noise \rightarrow data):

$$x_{t'} = x_t + [\beta_t x_t + 2\beta_t \nabla \log p_t(x_t)] dt + \sqrt{2\beta_t dt} \epsilon'$$



Generative Models and Diffusion Models



Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Forward SDE (data \rightarrow noise): $dx_t = -\beta_t x_t dt + \sqrt{2\beta_t} dW_t$

Backward SDE (noise \rightarrow data):

$$dx_t = [-\beta_t x_t - 2\beta_t \nabla \log p_t(x_t)] dt + \sqrt{2\beta_t} dW_t^-$$

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Forward SDE (data \rightarrow noise): $dx_t = -\beta_t x_t dt + \sqrt{2\beta_t} dW_t$

Backward SDE (noise \rightarrow data):

$$dx_t = [-\beta_t x_t - 2\beta_t \nabla \log p_t(x_t)] dt + \sqrt{2\beta_t} dW_t^-$$

The DDPM Kernel is one way to discretise the SDEs.

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Forward SDE (data \rightarrow noise): $dx_t = -\beta_t x_t dt + \sqrt{2\beta_t} dW_t$

Backward SDE (noise \rightarrow data):

$$dx_t = [-\beta_t x_t - 2\beta_t \nabla \log p_t(x_t)] dt + \sqrt{2\beta_t} dW_t^-$$

The DDPM Kernel is one way to discretise the SDEs.
Other options exist

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Forward SDE (data \rightarrow noise): $dx_t = f_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t$

Backward SDE (noise \rightarrow data): $dx_t = g_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t^-$

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Forward SDE (data \rightarrow noise): $dx_t = f_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t$

Backward SDE (noise \rightarrow data): $dx_t = g_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t^-$



Euler–Maruyama discretisation

$$x_{t+1} = x_t + f_t(x_t)\Delta t + \sqrt{\sigma_t \Delta t} \epsilon$$

$$x_{t-1} = x_t - g_t(x_t)\Delta t + \sqrt{\sigma_t \Delta t} \epsilon'$$

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Forward SDE (data \rightarrow noise): $dx_t = f_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t$

Backward SDE (noise \rightarrow data): $dx_t = g_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t^-$

Posterior (data \rightarrow noise): $p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1) \dots q(x_T|x_{T-1})$

Generation (noise \rightarrow data): $p(x_T)p(x_{T-1}|x_T) \dots p(x_0|x_1)$

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Forward SDE (data \rightarrow noise): $dx_t = f_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t$

Backward SDE (noise \rightarrow data): $dx_t = g_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t^-$

Posterior (data \rightarrow noise): $p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1) \dots q(x_T|x_{T-1})$

Generation (noise \rightarrow data): $p(x_T)p(x_{T-1}|x_T) \dots p(x_0|x_1)$

$$p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1) \dots q(x_T|x_{T-1}) \approx p(x_T)p(x_{T-1}|x_T) \dots p(x_0|x_1)$$

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Forward SDE (data \rightarrow noise): $dx_t = f_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t$

Backward SDE (noise \rightarrow data): $dx_t = g_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t^-$

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“Forward SDE and backward SDE define the same joint distribution”

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Forward SDE (data \rightarrow noise): $dx_t = f_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t$

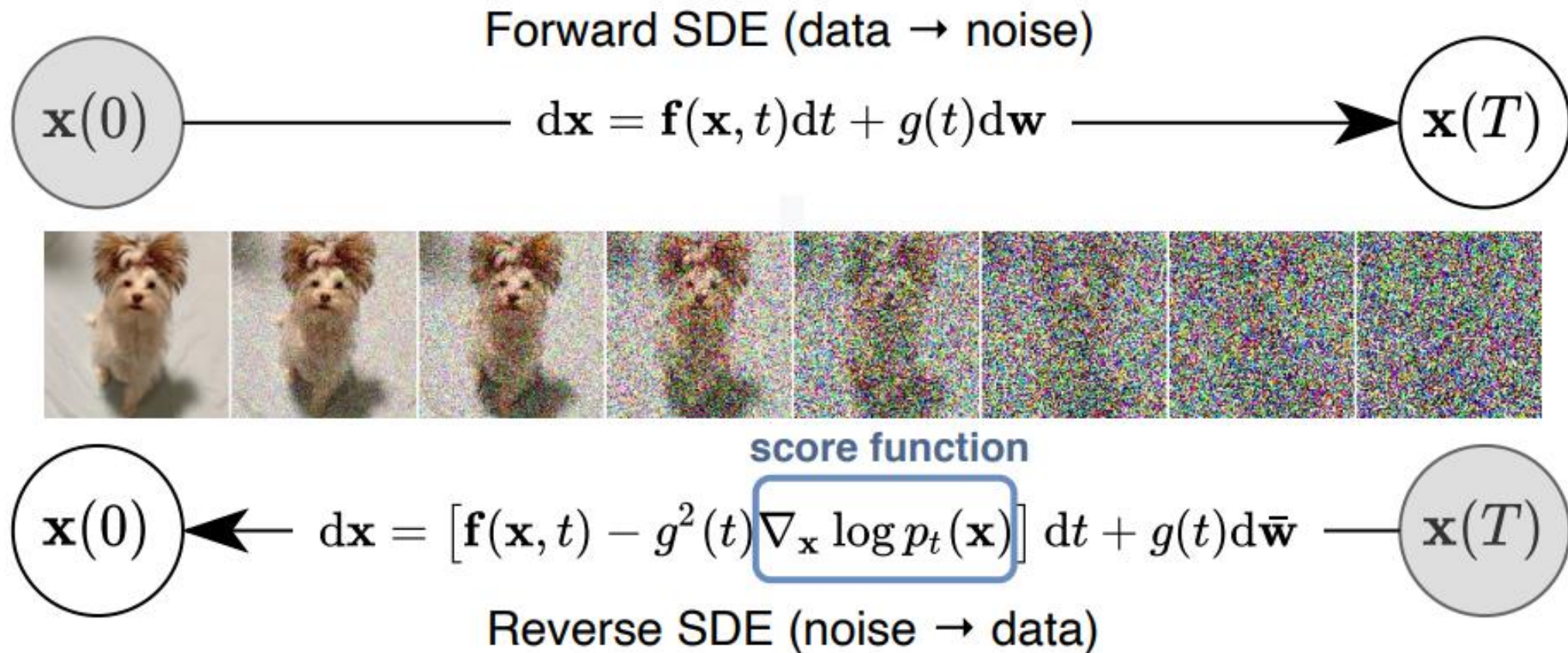
Backward SDE (noise \rightarrow data): $dx_t = g_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t^-$

*“Forward SDE and backward SDE define the same joint distribution”
iff.*

$$g_t = f_t - \sigma_t^2 \nabla \log p_t$$

Nelson's relation

Generative Models and Diffusion Models



Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Forward SDE (data \rightarrow noise): $dx_t = f_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t$

Backward SDE (noise \rightarrow data): $dx_t = g_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t^-$

Posterior (data \rightarrow noise): $p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1) \dots q(x_T|x_{T-1})$

Generation (noise \rightarrow data): $p(x_T)p(x_{T-1}|x_T) \dots p(x_0|x_1)$

$$p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1) \dots q(x_T|x_{T-1}) \approx p(x_T)p(x_{T-1}|x_T) \dots p(x_0|x_1)$$

*“Forward SDE and backward SDE define the **same joint distribution**”*

Generative Models and Diffusion Models

Forward SDE (data \rightarrow noise): $dx_t = f_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t$

Backward SDE (noise \rightarrow data): $dx_t = g_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t^-$

Posterior (data \rightarrow noise): $p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1) \dots q(x_T|x_{T-1})$

Generation (noise \rightarrow data): $p(x_T)p(x_{T-1}|x_T) \dots p(x_0|x_1)$

$$p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1) \dots q(x_T|x_{T-1}) \approx p(x_T)p(x_{T-1}|x_T) \dots p(x_0|x_1)$$

*“Forward SDE and backward SDE define the **same joint distribution**”*

same joint distribution over path x_0, x_1, \dots, x_T

Diffusion Models and **Path Measures**

Forward SDE (data \rightarrow noise): $dx_t = f_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t$

Backward SDE (noise \rightarrow data): $dx_t = g_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t^-$

Posterior (data \rightarrow noise): $p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1) \dots q(x_T|x_{T-1})$

Generation (noise \rightarrow data): $p(x_T)p(x_{T-1}|x_T) \dots p(x_0|x_1)$

$$p(x_0)q(x_1|x_0)q(x_2|x_1) \dots q(x_T|x_{T-1}) \approx p(x_T)p(x_{T-1}|x_T) \dots p(x_0|x_1)$$

*“Forward SDE and backward SDE define the **same joint distribution**”*

same joint distribution over path x_0, x_1, \dots, x_T

Path Measures and Ito's Calculus

Forward SDE (data \rightarrow noise): $dx_t = f_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t$

Backward SDE (noise \rightarrow data): $dx_t = g_t(x_t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t^-$

$$= \frac{p_0(X_0)}{p_T(X_1)} \exp \left(\int \frac{f_t(X_t)}{\sigma_t^2} \cdot dX_t - \frac{f_t^2(X_t)}{2\sigma_t^2} dt - \underbrace{\int \frac{g_t(X_t)}{\sigma_t^2} \cdot \overleftarrow{dX}_t + \frac{g_t^2(X_t)}{2\sigma_t^2} dt}_{\text{Backward Ito Integral}} \right)$$

Backward Ito Integral

$$\int a_t(X_t) \cdot \overleftarrow{dX}_t = \lim \sum a_{n+1}(X_{n+1}) \cdot (X_{n+1} - X_n)$$

Episode 1

Diffusion Models are

👉 Deep hierarchical VAEs

👉 Reverse SDEs

Path Measure is just

👉 Sequence of Gaussian densities (to the limit)

👉 something involving Ito's integral 🧛

More Math Details?

“Density Ratio” and Radon-Nikodym Derivative



Don't freak out about the name Radon-Nikodym Derivative
--- it's just the “*density ratio*”



Very informally, let **P** and **Q** be two measures with density p and q , their density ratio is the **Radon-Nikodym Derivative (RND)**, denoted as

$$\frac{p(x)}{q(x)} = \frac{d\mathbf{P}}{d\mathbf{Q}}(x)$$



The density is essentially the RND w.r.t to Lebesgue measure

$$p(x) = \frac{d\mathbf{P}}{d\mu}(x), q(x) = \frac{d\mathbf{Q}}{d\mu}(x)$$



RND is helpful for spaces without Lebesgue measure

Stochastic Differential Equations

▶▶ Forward SDE

$$dX_t = f(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t$$

◀◀ Backward SDE

$$dX_t = g(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW_t}$$



Intuitive understanding by **Eular-Maruyama Discretisation:**

$$X_{n+1} - X_n = f(X_n, t_n)\Delta t + \sigma_n \sqrt{\Delta t} \epsilon$$

$$X_{n+1} - X_n = g(X_{n+1}, t_{n+1})\Delta t + \sigma_{n+1} \sqrt{\Delta t} \epsilon'$$

From Gaussian Density Ratio to Path RND

$$X_{n+1} - X_n = f(X_n, t_n)\Delta t + \sigma_n\sqrt{\Delta t}\epsilon$$

? for a **discretised** path sample $\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N\}$, what is its density?

✓ **Transition density:** $p(X_{n+1}|X_n) = N(X_{n+1}|X_n + f(X_n, t_n)\Delta t, \sigma_n^2\Delta t)$

✓ **Full path density:** $p(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_N) = p(X_1)\prod p(X_{n+1}|X_n)$

From Gaussian Density Ratio to Path RND

Now take a closer look at

$$N(X_{n+1} | X_n + f(X_n, t_n)\Delta t, \sigma_n^2 \Delta t)$$

$$\log p = \frac{-(\sigma_n \sqrt{\Delta t} \epsilon)^2}{2\sigma_n^2 \Delta t} - \log \sigma_n - \boxed{\frac{1}{2} \log \Delta t} + C$$



density diverge when $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$

From Gaussian Density Ratio to Path RND

But what if we have another SDE:

$$p_1 = N(X_{n+1} | X_n + f(X_n, t_n)\Delta t, \sigma_n^2 \Delta t)$$

$$p_2 = N(X_{n+1} | X_n + h(X_n, t_n)\Delta t, \sigma_n^2 \Delta t)$$

$$\log p_1 - \log p_2 = \frac{(2X_{n+1} - 2X_n - h\Delta t - f\Delta t)(h\Delta t - f\Delta t)}{2\sigma_n^2 \Delta t}$$

 density ratio did NOT diverge when $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$

From Gaussian Density Ratio to Path RND

For solution X to one SDE: $dX_t = f(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t$,

we cannot define its density $p(X_0) \prod p(X_{t+dt}|X_t)$

But with another SDE: $dX_t = h(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t$,

we can define density ratio (**Radon-Nikodym Derivative**) as a whole:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{P}}{d\mathbf{Q}}(X)$$

Forward-forward RND and Girsanov

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{P} : dX_t &= f(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, X_0 \sim p_0 \\ \mathbf{Q} : dX_t &= h(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, X_0 \sim q_0\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{P}}{d\mathbf{Q}}(X) \approx \frac{p(X_0) \prod N_1(X_{n+1}|X_n)}{q(X_0) \prod N_2(X_{n+1}|X_n)}$$

Forward-forward RND and Girsanov

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{P} : dX_t &= f(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, X_0 \sim p_0 \\ \mathbf{Q} : dX_t &= h(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, X_0 \sim q_0\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{P}}{d\mathbf{Q}}(X) = \underbrace{\frac{p(X_0)}{q(X_0)}}_{\text{Initial density ratio}} \exp \left(\underbrace{\int \frac{f_t(X_t)}{\sigma_t^2} \cdot dX_t - \frac{f_t^2(X_t)}{2\sigma_t^2} dt}_{\text{Forward Ito Integral}} - \int \frac{g_t(X_t)}{\sigma_t^2} \cdot dX_t + \frac{g_t^2(X_t)}{2\sigma_t^2} dt \right)$$

Forward Ito Integral $\int a_t(X_t) \cdot dX_t = \lim \sum a_n(X_n) \cdot (X_{n+1} - X_n)$

Forward-backward RND

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{P} : dX_t &= f(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, X_0 \sim p_0 \\ \overleftarrow{\mathbf{Q}} : dX_t &= g(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t d\overleftarrow{W}_t, X_1 \sim q_1\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{P}}{d\overleftarrow{\mathbf{Q}}}(X) \approx \frac{p_0(X_0) \prod N_1(X_{n+1}|X_n)}{q_1(X_1) \prod N_2(X_n|X_{n+1})}$$

Forward-backward RND

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{P} : dX_t &= f(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, X_0 \sim p_0 \\ \overleftarrow{\mathbf{Q}} : dX_t &= g(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, X_1 \sim q_1\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{P}}{d\overleftarrow{\mathbf{Q}}}(X) = \underbrace{\frac{p_0(X_0)}{q_1(X_1)}}_{\text{Initial densities}} \exp \left(\int \frac{f_t(X_t)}{\sigma_t^2} \cdot dX_t - \frac{f_t^2(X_t)}{2\sigma_t^2} dt - \underbrace{\int \frac{g_t(X_t)}{\sigma_t^2} \cdot \overleftarrow{dX}_t + \frac{g_t^2(X_t)}{2\sigma_t^2} dt}_{\text{Backward Ito Integral}} \right)$$

$$\int a_t(X_t) \cdot \overleftarrow{dX}_t = \lim \sum a_{n+1}(X_{n+1}) \cdot (X_{n+1} - X_n)$$

Forward-backward RND

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P} : dX_t &= f(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, X_0 \sim p_0 \\ \overleftarrow{\mathbf{Q}} : dX_t &= g(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t d\overleftarrow{W}_t, X_1 \sim q_1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{P}}{d\overleftarrow{\mathbf{Q}}}(X) = \underbrace{\frac{p_0(X_0)}{q_1(X_1)}}_{\text{Initial densities}} \exp \left(\underbrace{\int \frac{f_t(X_t)}{\sigma_t^2} \cdot dX_t - \frac{f_t^2(X_t)}{2\sigma_t^2} dt - \int \frac{g_t(X_t)}{\sigma_t^2} \cdot d\overleftarrow{X}_t + \frac{g_t^2(X_t)}{2\sigma_t^2} dt}_{\lim \frac{\prod N_1(X_{n+1}|X_n)}{\prod N_2(X_n|X_{n+1})}} \right)$$

A Side Note on Stochastic Integrals

Ito forward integral

$$\int a_t(X_t) \cdot dX_t = \lim \sum a_n(X_n) \cdot (X_{n+1} - X_n)$$

Ito backward integral

$$\int a_t(X_t) \cdot \overleftarrow{dX}_t = \lim \sum a_{n+1}(X_{n+1}) \cdot (X_{n+1} - X_n)$$

Stratonovich integral

$$\int a_t(X_t) \circ dX_t = \lim \sum \frac{a_n(X_n) + a_{n+1}(X_{n+1})}{2} \cdot (X_{n+1} - X_n)$$

A Side Note on Stochastic Integrals

Ito forward integral

$$\int a_t(X_t) \cdot dX_t = \lim \sum a_n(X_n) \cdot (X_{n+1} - X_n)$$

Ito backward integral

$$\int a_t(X_t) \cdot \overleftarrow{dX}_t = \lim \sum a_{n+1}(X_{n+1}) \cdot (X_{n+1} - X_n)$$

Conversion rule:

$$\int a_t(X_t) \cdot dX_t - \int a_t(X_t) \cdot \overleftarrow{dX}_t = - \int \sigma_t^2 \nabla \cdot a_t dt$$

Time-reversal and Nelson's relation

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{P} : dX_t &= f(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, X_0 \sim p_0 \\ \overleftarrow{\mathbf{Q}} : dX_t &= g(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, X_1 \sim p_1\end{aligned}$$

$$\overleftarrow{\mathbf{Q}} = \mathbf{P}, \text{ i. e., } \frac{\overleftarrow{d\mathbf{Q}}}{d\mathbf{P}} = 1$$

iff

$$g(\cdot, t) = f(\cdot, t) - \sigma_t^2 \nabla \log p_t(\cdot)$$

Time-reversal and Nelson's relation

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{P} : dX_t &= f(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, X_0 \sim p_0 \\ \overleftarrow{\mathbf{Q}} : dX_t &= g(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW_t}, X_1 \sim p_1\end{aligned}$$

$$\overleftarrow{\mathbf{Q}} = \mathbf{P}, \text{ i. e., } \frac{\overleftarrow{d\mathbf{Q}}}{d\mathbf{P}} = 1$$

$$g(\cdot, t) = \overset{\text{iff}}{f(\cdot, t)} - \sigma_t^2 \nabla \log p_t(\cdot)$$

e.g., 0 in VE process score

Episode 2

Control Generation with Sequential Monte Carlo in Path Space

Generation Control of Diffusion Models

Backward SDE (noise->data):

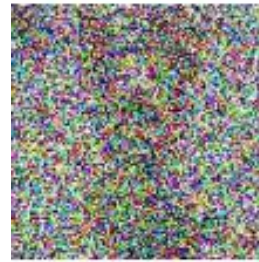
$$x_{t'} = x_t + [\beta_t x_t + 2\beta_t \nabla \log p_t(x_t)] dt + \sqrt{2\beta_t dt} \epsilon'$$



$p(x_T)$



$p(x_{T-1}|x_T)$



$p(x_{T-2}|x_{T-1})$



...



$p(x_0|x_1)$

Generation Control of Diffusion Models

Backward SDE (noise->data):

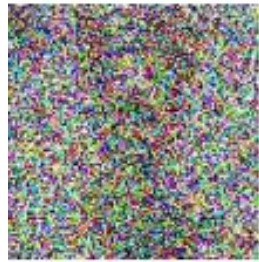
$$x_{t'} = x_t + [\beta_t x_t + 2\beta_t \nabla \log p_t(x_t)] dt + \sqrt{2\beta_t dt} \epsilon'$$



$p(x_T)$



$p(x_{T-1}|x_T)$



$p(x_{T-2}|x_{T-1})$



...



$p(x_0|x_1)$

What if I want to generate samples:

- 👉 satisfying certain constraint
- 👉 satisfying certain reward
- 👉 composing properties of two diffusion models
- 👉 has sharper distribution

...

Generation Control of Diffusion Models

Backward SDE (noise->data):

$$x_{t'} = x_t + [\beta_t x_t + 2\beta_t \nabla \log p_t(x_t)] dt + \sqrt{2\beta_t dt} \epsilon'$$



$p(x_T)$



$p(x_{T-1}|x_T)$



$p(x_{T-2}|x_{T-1})$



...



$p(x_0|x_1)$

What if I want to generate samples:

- 👉 satisfying certain constraint $q(x_0) \propto p(x_0) 1\{x_0 \in \text{constraint family}\}$
- 👉 satisfying certain reward $q(x_0) \propto p(x_0) \exp(r(x_0))$
- 👉 composing properties of two diffusion models $q(x_0) \propto p(x_0) p'(x_0)$
- 👉 has sharper distribution $q(x_0) \propto p(x_0)^\alpha$

...

Generation Control of Diffusion Models

Backward SDE (noise->data):

$$x_{t'} = x_t + [\beta_t x_t + 2\beta_t \nabla \log p_t(x_t)] dt + \sqrt{2\beta_t dt} \epsilon'$$



Options:

- Generate N samples, find the best set of samples

Generation Control of Diffusion Models

Backward SDE (noise->data):

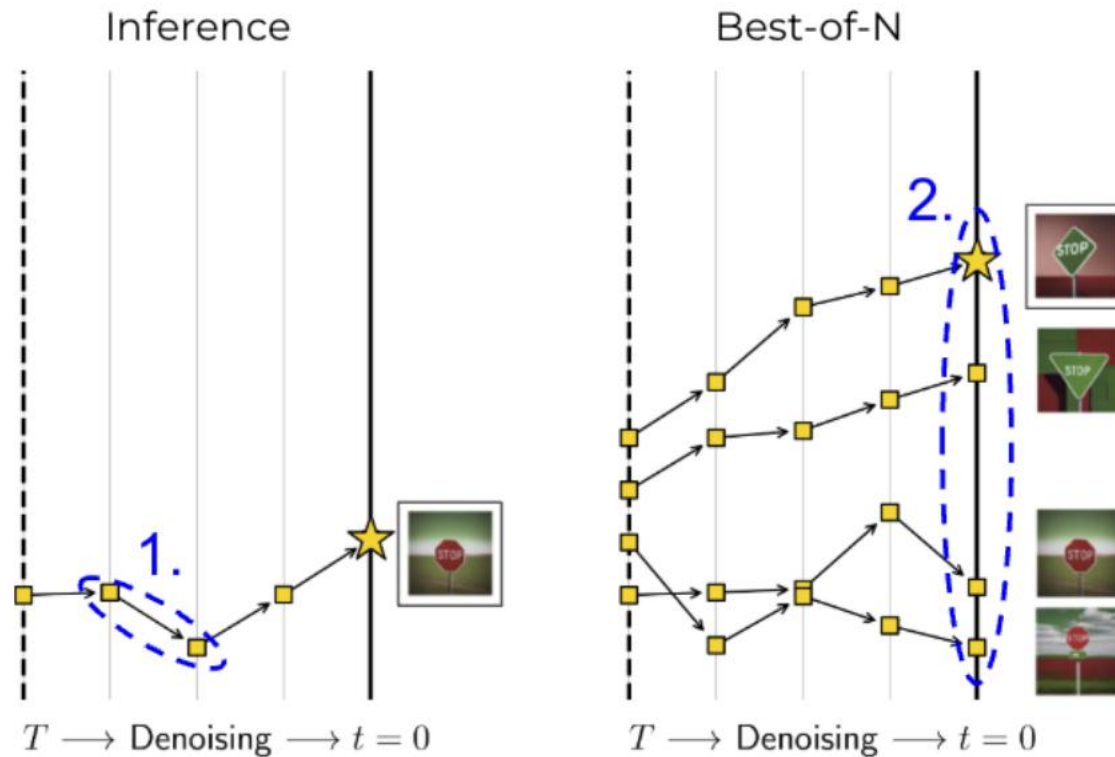
$$x_{t'} = x_t + [\beta_t x_t + 2\beta_t \nabla \log p_t(x_t)] dt + \sqrt{2\beta_t dt} \epsilon'$$



Options:

- Generate N samples, find the best set of samples
- Generate n samples at each step, find the best set of samples for next step

Generation Control of Diffusion Models



Generation Control of Diffusion Models

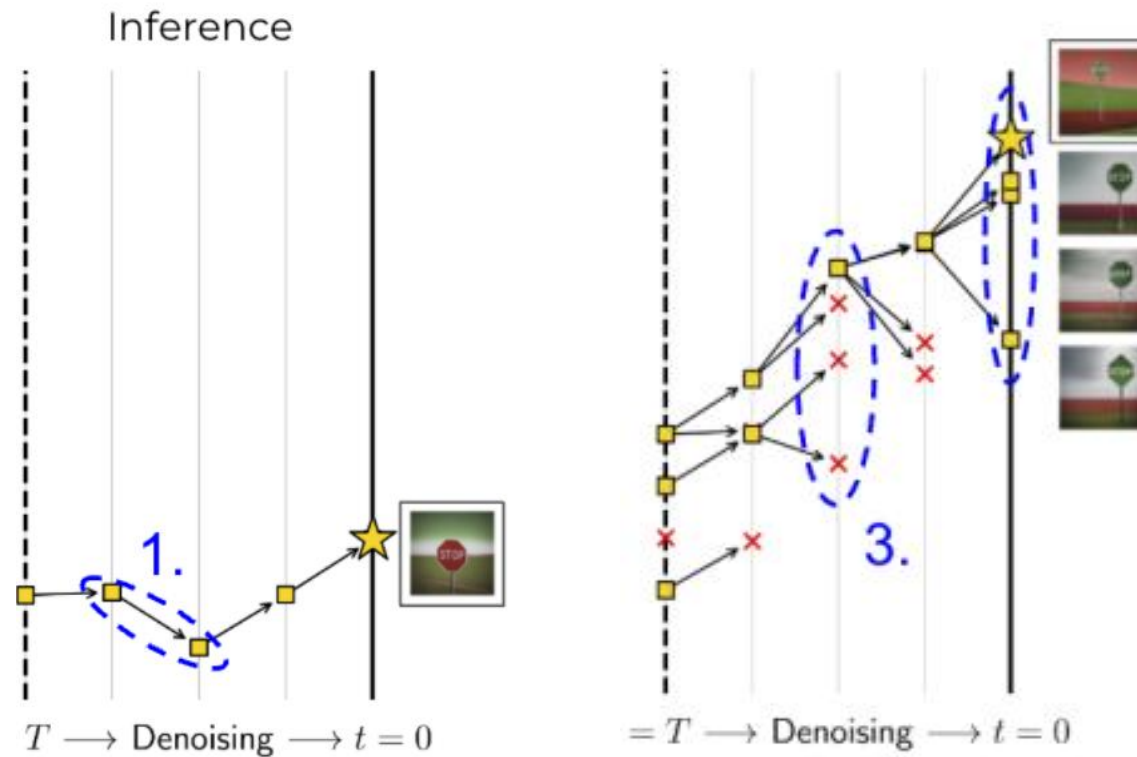
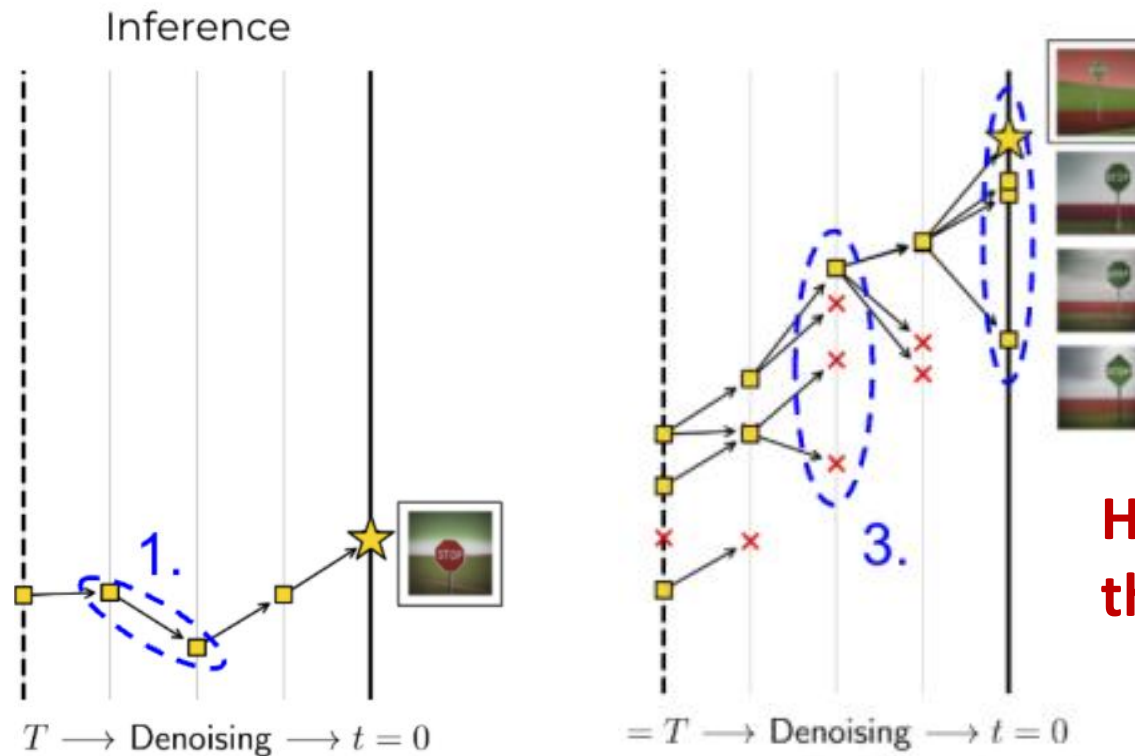


Figure taken from
Singhal, Raghav, et al. "A general framework for inference-time scaling and steering of diffusion models." *ICML 2025*

Generation Control of Diffusion Models



Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

We **are able to draw** sample from $q(x)$

But we **want to draw** sample from $p(x)$

HOW?

Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

We are able to draw sample from $q(x)$ --- *proposal*

But we want to draw sample from $p(x)$ --- *target*

HOW?

Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

We are able to draw sample from $q(x)$ --- *proposal*

But we want to draw sample from $p(x)$ --- *target*

HOW?

$$E_p[f(x)] = E_q \left[f(x) \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} \right]$$

Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

We are able to draw sample from $q(x)$ --- *proposal*

But we want to draw sample from $p(x)$ --- *target*

HOW?

$$E_p[f(x)] = E_q \left[f(x) \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} \right]$$

Importance Weight

Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

We are able to draw sample from $q(x)$ --- *proposal*

But we want to draw sample from $p(x)$ --- *target*

HOW?

$$E_p[f(x)] = E_q \left[f(x) \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} \right]$$

Importance Weight

- 💡 Requirements on $q(x)$: can sample & eval density
- 💡 Requirements on $p(x)$: can eval density

Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

We are able to draw sample from $q(x)$ --- *proposal*

But we want to draw sample from $p(x)$ --- *target*

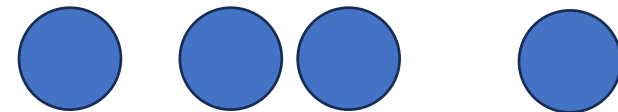
1. Draw $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N \sim q$
2. Calculate $\frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$ for all of the N samples
3. Draw $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_M \sim \text{Cat}\left(\frac{p(x_1)}{q(x_1)}, \frac{p(x_2)}{q(x_2)}, \dots, \frac{p(x_N)}{q(x_N)}\right)$
4. Return $x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_M}$

Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

We are able to draw sample from $q(x)$ --- *proposal*

But we want to draw sample from $p(x)$ --- *target*

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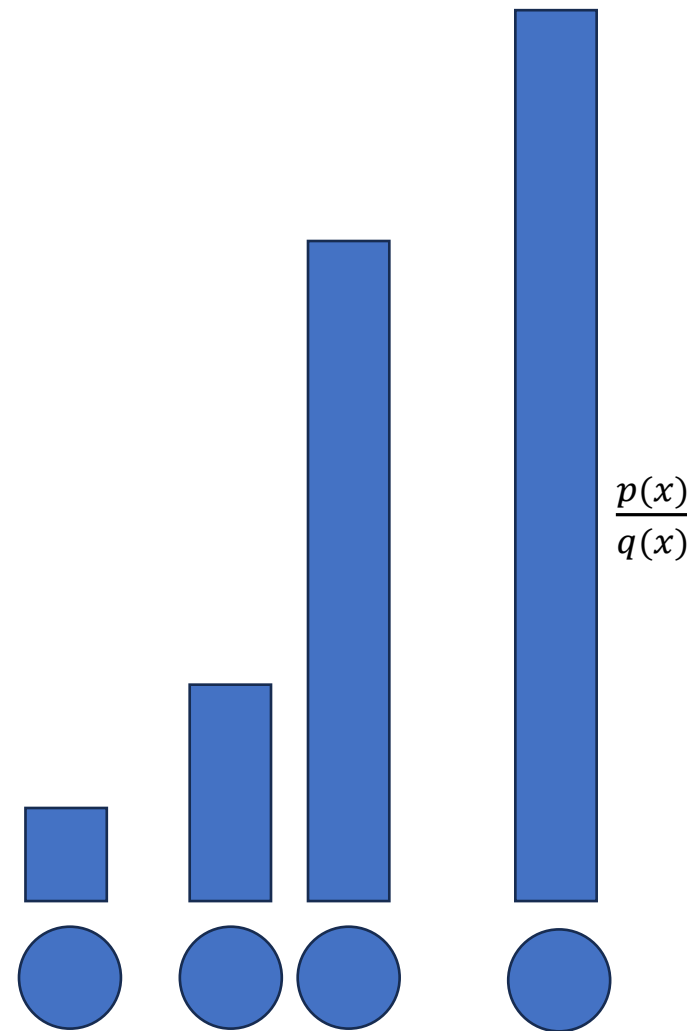


Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

We are able to draw sample from $q(x)$ --- *proposal*

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4. Return $x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_M}$

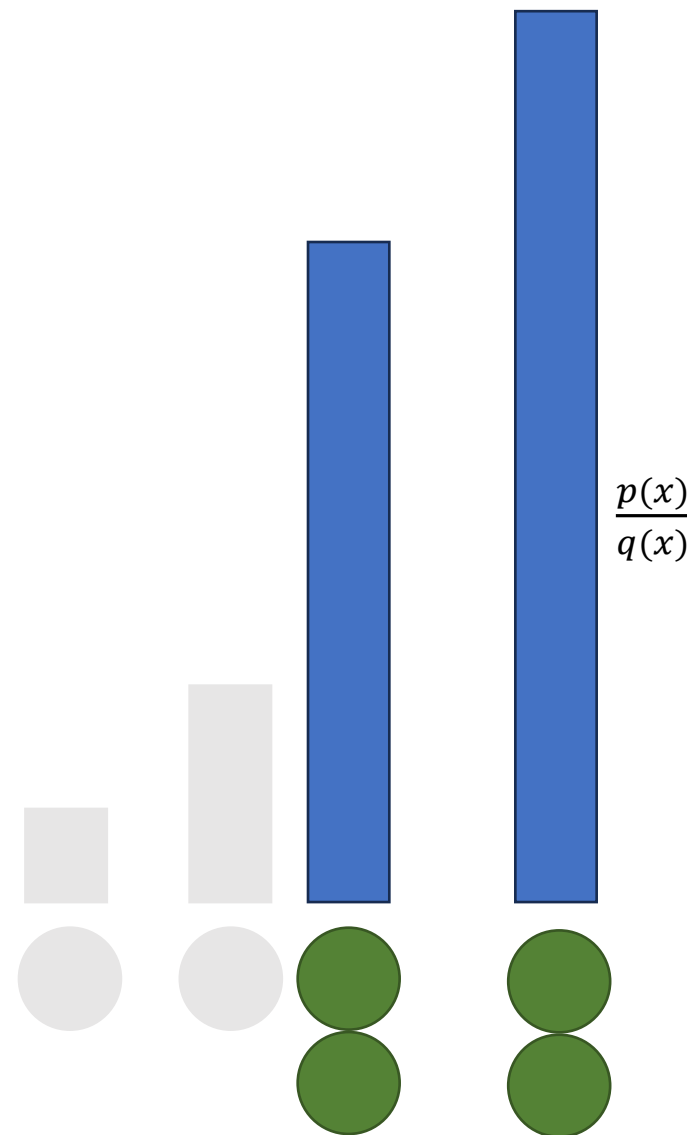


Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

We are able to draw sample from $q(x)$ --- *proposal*

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1. Draw $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N \sim q$
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4. Return $x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_M}$



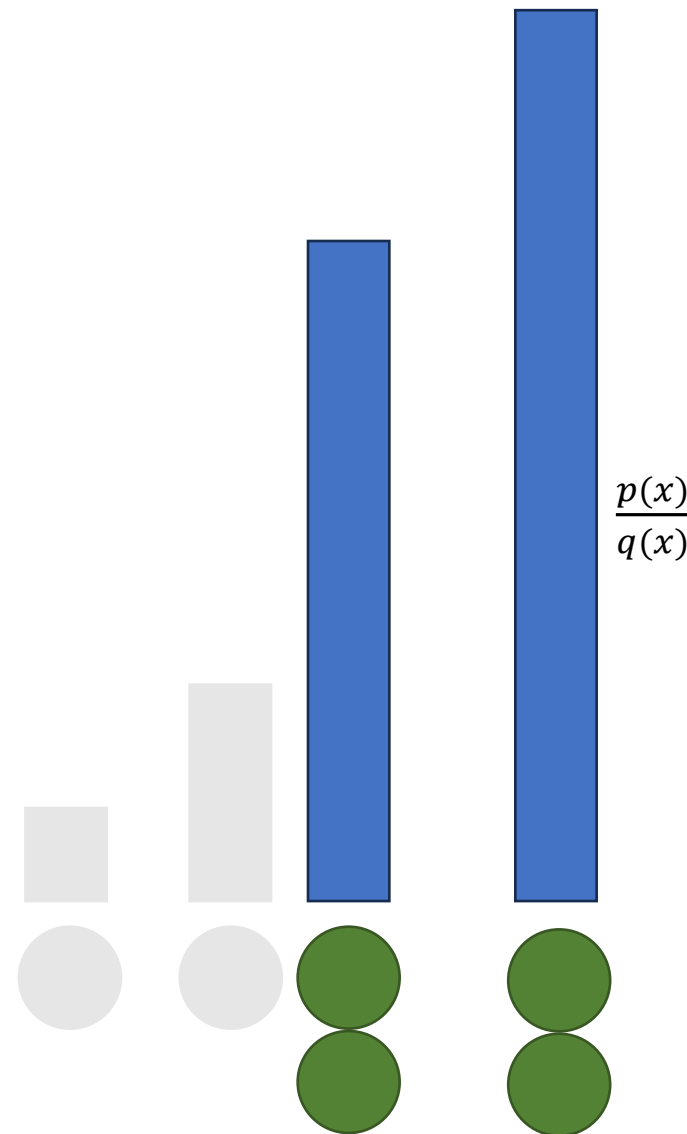
Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

We are able to draw sample from $q(x)$ --- *proposal*

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4. Return $x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_M}$

Exact when $N \rightarrow \infty$



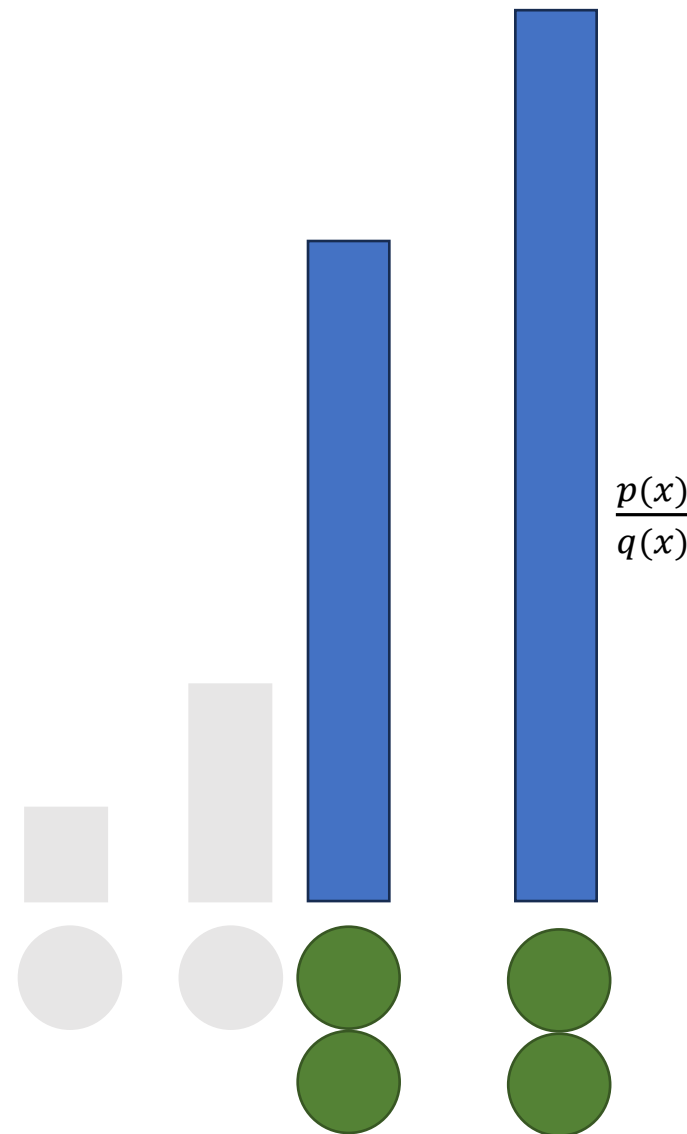
Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

We are able to draw sample from $q(x)$ --- *proposal*

But we want to draw sample from $p(x)$ --- *target*

1. Draw $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N \sim q$
2. Calculate $\frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$ for all of the N samples
3. Draw $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_M \sim \text{Cat}\left(\frac{p(x_1)}{q(x_1)}, \frac{p(x_2)}{q(x_2)}, \dots, \frac{p(x_N)}{q(x_N)}\right)$
4. Return $x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_M}$

Importance Re-sampling



Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

We are able to draw sample from $q(x)$ --- *proposal*

But we want to draw sample from $p(x)$ --- *target*

Then...

We are able to draw sample from $q(y|x)$ --- *proposal*

But we want to draw sample from $p(y)$ --- *target*

Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

We are able to draw sample from $q(x)$ --- *proposal*

But we want to draw sample from $p(x)$ --- *target*

Then...

We are able to draw sample from $q(y|x)$ --- *proposal*

But we want to draw sample from $p(y)$ --- *target*

Apply the previous procedure again!

Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

1. Draw $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_N \sim q(y|x)$
2. Calculate $\frac{p(y)p(x|y)}{p(x)q(y|x)}$ for all of the N samples
3. Draw $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_M \sim \text{Cat} \left(\frac{p(y_1)p(x_1|y_1)}{p(x_1)q(y_1|x_1)}, \frac{p(y_2)p(x_2|y_2)}{p(x_2)q(y_2|x_2)}, \dots, \frac{p(y_N)p(x_N|y_N)}{p(x_N)q(y_N|x_N)} \right)$
4. Return $y_{i_1}, y_{i_2}, y_{i_M}$.

We are able to draw sample from $q(y|x)$ --- *proposal*

But we want to draw sample from $p(y)$ --- *target*

Apply the previous procedure again!

Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

1. Draw $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_N \sim q(y|x)$

2. Calculate $\frac{p(y)p(x|y)}{p(x)q(y|x)}$ for all of the N samples

3. Draw $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_M \sim \text{Cat} \left(\frac{p(y_1)p(x_1|y_1)}{p(x_1)q(y_1|x_1)}, \frac{p(y_2)p(x_2|y_2)}{p(x_2)q(y_2|x_2)}, \dots, \frac{p(y_N)p(x_N|y_N)}{p(x_N)q(y_N|x_N)} \right)$

4. Return $y_{i_1}, y_{i_2}, y_{i_M}$.

We are able to draw sample from $q(y|x)$ --- *proposal*

But we want to draw sample from $p(y)$ --- *target*

Apply the previous procedure again!

Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

We are able to draw sample from $q(x_N), q(x_{N-1}|x_N), \dots$ --- *proposals*

But we want to draw sample from $p(x_N), p(x_{N-1}), \dots$ --- *targets*

Apply the previous procedure again and again and again!

Sequential Monte Carlo / Particle Filtering

Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo



We are able to draw sample from $q(x_N), q(x_{N-1}|x_N), \dots$ --- *proposals*

But we want to draw sample from $p(x_N), p(x_{N-1}), \dots$ --- *targets*

Apply the previous procedure again and again and again!

Sequential Monte Carlo / Particle Filtering

Importance Sampling and Sequential Monte Carlo

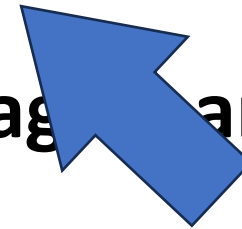
We are able to draw sample from $q(x_N), q(x_{N-1}|x_N), \dots$ --- *proposals*

But we want to draw sample from $p(x_N), p(x_{N-1}), \dots$ --- *targets*

Apply the previous procedure again and again and again!

Sequential Monte Carlo / Particle Filtering

Modified
Diffusion
Marginal



Generation Control of Diffusion Models

What kind of control we want to impose to our diffusion model?

What does this mean in terms of density functions?

Generation Control of Diffusion Models

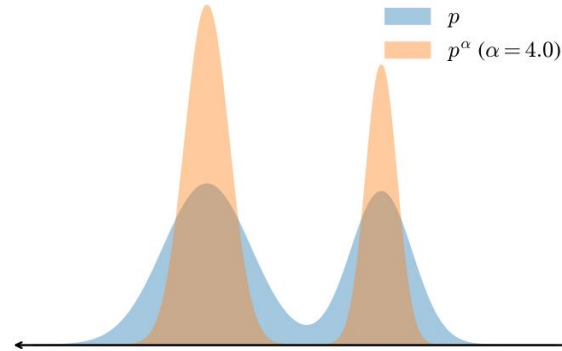
What kind of control we want to impose to our diffusion model?

What does this mean in terms of density functions?

Diffusion Model p_0

👉 Tempering: $p_0' \propto p_0^\alpha$

💡 Molecular simulation



Generation Control of Diffusion Models

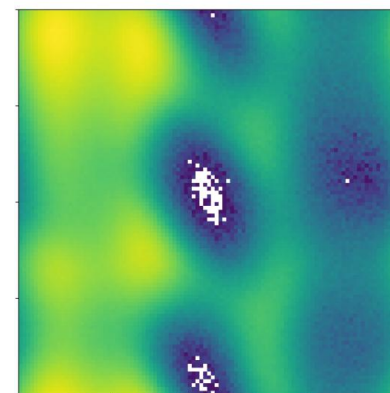
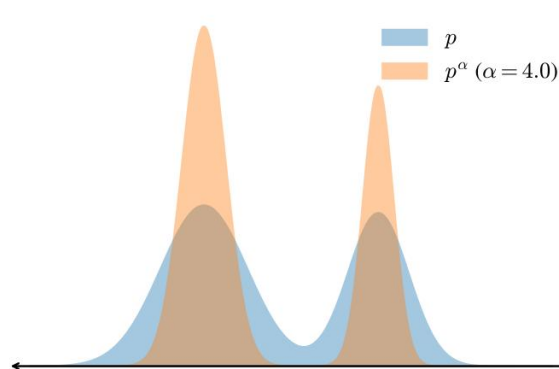
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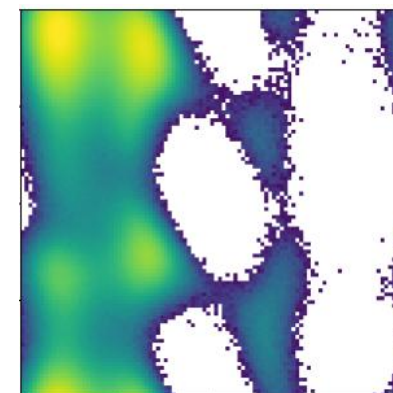
Diffusion Model p_0

👉 Tempering: $p_0' \propto p_0^\alpha$

💡 Molecular simulation



Alanine at 800K



Alanine at 300K

Generation Control of Diffusion Models

What kind of control we want to impose to our diffusion model?

What does this mean in terms of density functions?

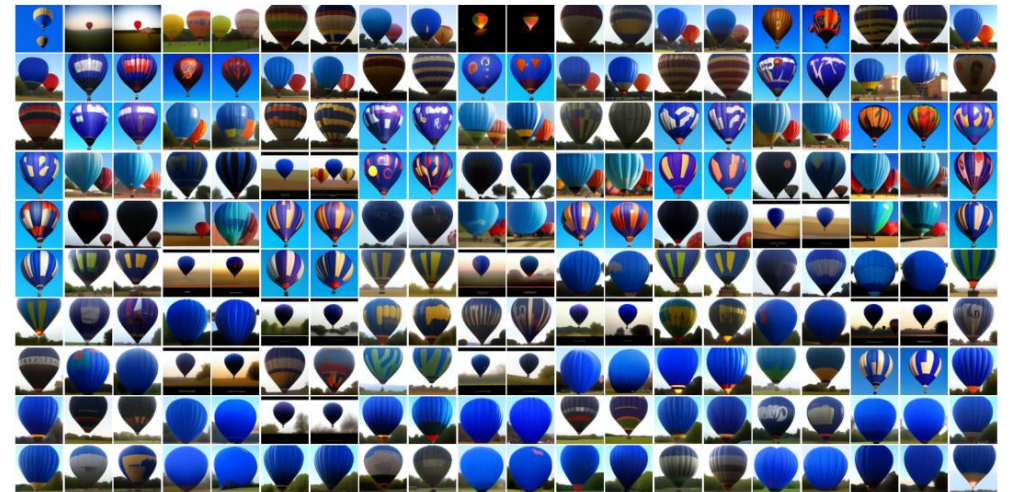
Diffusion Model p_0

👉 Tempering: $p_0' \propto p_0^\alpha$

💡 Molecular simulation

👉 Tilting: $p_0' \propto p_0 \exp(r_0(x_0))$

💡 Inpainting, infilling (motif-scaffolding),
reward-tilting, etc



(a) **class:** *balloon*;
Reward prompt: *a blue balloon*.

Generation Control of Diffusion Models

What kind of control we want to impose to our diffusion model?

What does this mean in terms of density functions?

Diffusion Model p_0

👉 Tempering: $p_0' \propto p_0^\alpha$

💡 Molecular simulation

👉 Tilting: $p_0' \propto p_0 \exp(r_0(x_0))$

💡 Inpainting, infilling (motif-scaffolding),
reward-tilting, etc

👉 Composition: $p_0' \propto \left(p_0^{(1)}\right)^\alpha \left(p_0^{(2)}\right)^\beta$

💡 Stitching / composing model properties
e.g., ligand binding to two protein pockets

Generation Control of Diffusion Models

What kind of control we want to impose to our diffusion model?

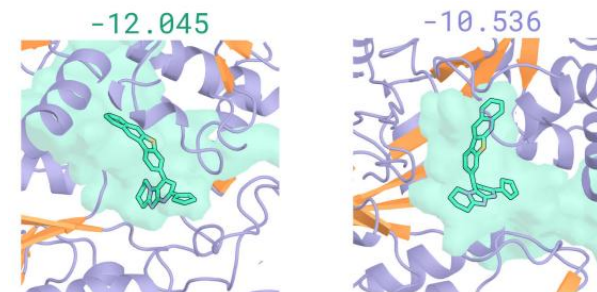
What does this mean in terms of density functions?

	Better than known. (↑)	(P ₁ * P ₂) (↑)	max(P ₁ , P ₂) (↓)
Sum score	0.345 \pm 0.288	65.110 \pm 17.802	-7.222 \pm 1.348
FKC	0.608 \pm 0.390	82.371\pm24.928	-8.296\pm1.450
RNC (<i>c_a</i> = 1, <i>c_b</i> = 0.0)	0.589 \pm 0.413	81.186 \pm 26.158	-8.122 \pm 1.588
RNC (<i>c_a</i> = 1, <i>c_b</i> = 0.2)	0.649\pm0.356	81.771 \pm 24.673	-8.112 \pm 1.660

P ₁ top-1 (↓)	P ₂ top-1 (↓)	Div. (↑)	Val. & Uniq. (↑)	Qual. (↑)
-9.411 \pm 1.574	-9.769 \pm 1.758	0.881 \pm 0.010	0.927 \pm 0.147	0.134 \pm 0.087
-9.437 \pm 1.733	-10.035 \pm 1.601	0.814 \pm 0.043	0.925 \pm 0.113	0.192 \pm 0.191
-9.650\pm1.608	-10.075 \pm 1.663	0.823 \pm 0.027	0.942 \pm 0.069	0.222 \pm 0.173
-9.585\pm1.885	-10.102\pm1.525	0.836\pm0.025	0.950\pm0.066	0.223\pm0.202

👉 Composition: $p_0' \propto \left(p_0^{(1)}\right)^\alpha \left(p_0^{(2)}\right)^\beta$

💡 Stitching / composing model properties
e.g., ligand binding to two protein pockets



Generation Control of Diffusion Models

What kind of control we want to impose to our diffusion model?

What does this mean in terms of density functions?

Diffusion Model p_0

👉 Tempering: $p_0' \propto p_0^\alpha$

💡 Molecular simulation

👉 Tilting: $p_0' \propto p_0 \exp(r_0(x_0))$

💡 Inpainting, infilling (motif-scaffolding),
reward-tilting, etc

👉 Composition: $p_0' \propto \left(p_0^{(1)}\right)^\alpha \left(p_0^{(2)}\right)^\beta$

💡 Stitching / composing model properties
e.g., ligand binding to two protein pockets

Sequential Monte Carlo Weight Calculation

Diffusion model generates $p_T(x_T), p_{T-1}(x_{T-1}), \dots, p_0(x_0)$
with denoising kernels $p(x_{T-1}|x_T), p(x_{T-2}|x_{T-1}), \dots, p(x_0|x_1)$

We want to generate from $p'_T(x_T), p'_{T-1}(x_{T-1}), \dots, p'_0(x_0)$
with proposal kernels $p'(x_{T-1}|x_T), p'(x_{T-2}|x_{T-1}), \dots, p'(x_0|x_1)$

$$\frac{p'(x_{t-1})p(x_t|x_{t-1})}{p'(x_t)p'(x_{t-1}|x_t)}$$

More Math?

Forward-backward RND

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P} : dX_t &= f(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, X_0 \sim p_0 \\ \overleftarrow{\mathbf{Q}} : dX_t &= g(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, X_1 \sim q_1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{P}}{d\overleftarrow{\mathbf{Q}}}(X) = \underbrace{\frac{p_0(X_0)}{q_1(X_1)}}_{\text{Initial densities}} \exp \left(\underbrace{\int \frac{f_t(X_t)}{\sigma_t^2} \cdot dX_t - \frac{f_t^2(X_t)}{2\sigma_t^2} dt - \int \frac{g_t(X_t)}{\sigma_t^2} \cdot \overleftarrow{dX}_t + \frac{g_t^2(X_t)}{2\sigma_t^2} dt}_{\lim \frac{\prod N_1(X_{n+1}|X_n)}{\prod N_2(X_n|X_{n+1})}} \right)$$

For simplicity, we hereafter call

$$R_f^g(X) = \exp \left(- \int \frac{f_t(X_t)}{\sigma_t^2} \cdot dX_t + \frac{f_t^2(X_t)}{2\sigma_t^2} dt + \int \frac{g_t(X_t)}{\sigma_t^2} \cdot \overleftarrow{dX}_t - \frac{g_t^2(X_t)}{2\sigma_t^2} dt \right)$$

Forward-backward RND

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{P} : dX_t &= f(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, X_0 \sim p_0 \\ \overleftarrow{\mathbf{Q}} : dX_t &= g(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, X_1 \sim q_1\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{P}}{d\overleftarrow{\mathbf{Q}}}(X) = \underbrace{\frac{p_0(X_0)}{q_1(X_1)}}_{\text{Initial densities}} \exp \left(\underbrace{\int \frac{f_t(X_t)}{\sigma_t^2} \cdot dX_t - \frac{f_t^2(X_t)}{2\sigma_t^2} dt - \int \frac{g_t(X_t)}{\sigma_t^2} \cdot \overleftarrow{dX}_t + \frac{g_t^2(X_t)}{2\sigma_t^2} dt}_{\lim \frac{\prod N_1(X_{n+1}|X_n)}{\prod N_2(X_n|X_{n+1})}} \right)$$

For simplicity, we hereafter call

$$R_f^g(X) = \lim \frac{\prod N_g(X_n|X_{n+1})}{\prod N_h(X_{n+1}|X_n)}$$

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND



Problem Setup:

Given a pretrained model for p_0 , generate samples $\sim p_0(x)\exp(r(x))$

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND



Problem Setup:

Given a pretrained model for p_0 , generate samples $\sim p_0(x)\exp(r(x))$



Strategy:

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND



Problem Setup:

Given a pretrained model for p_0 , generate samples $\sim p_0(x)\exp(r(x))$



Strategy:

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND



Problem Setup:

Given a pretrained model for p_0 , generate samples $\sim p_0(x)\exp(r(x))$



Strategy:

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;
- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND



Problem Setup:

Given a pretrained model for p_0 , generate samples $\sim p_0(x)\exp(r(x))$



Strategy:

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;
- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do importance-resampling to move samples at $q_{t'}$ to q_t ($t < t'$)

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND



Problem Setup:

Given a pretrained model for p_0 , generate samples $\sim p_0(x)\exp(r(x))$



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We already learned about this pipeline from Raghav (Feynman-Kac Steering); Marta (Feynman-Kac Corrector); Luhuan (RDSMC) during the talks

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

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- Choose a heuristic guidance process;
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- Do **importance-resampling**

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

$$dX_t = (\text{score} + \text{guidance}) dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, \quad X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t) \exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do **importance-resampling**

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“proposal”
$$dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, \quad X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do **importance-resampling**

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“**proposal**”
$$dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, \quad X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$$

“**target**”?
$$X_{\tau} \sim q_{\tau}$$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do **importance-resampling**

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“proposal” $dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, \quad X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$

“target”? $dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, \quad X_{\tau} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do **importance-resampling**

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“**proposal**” $dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, \quad X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$

“**target**”? $dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, \quad X_{\tau} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do **importance-resampling**

$$w \propto \frac{\text{target}}{\text{proposal}}$$

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“proposal” $dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, \quad X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$

“target”? $dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, \quad X_{\tau} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do **importance-resampling**

$$w \propto \frac{\text{target}}{q_{\tau'}(X_{\tau'}) \prod N_a(X_n | X_{n+1})}$$

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“proposal” $dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, \quad X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$

“target”? $dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, \quad X_{\tau} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do **importance-resampling**

$$w \propto \frac{q_{\tau}(X_{\tau}) \prod N_b(X_{n+1}|X_n)}{q_{\tau'}(X_{\tau'}) \prod N_a(X_n|X_{n+1})}$$

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“**proposal**” $dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, \quad X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$

“**target**”? $dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, \quad X_{\tau} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do **importance-resampling**

$$w \propto \frac{q_{\tau}(X_{\tau}) \prod N_b(X_{n+1}|X_n)}{q_{\tau'}(X_{\tau'}) \prod N_a(X_n|X_{n+1})}$$

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“proposal” $dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t,$

“target”? $dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target
- Do **importance-resampling**

$$R_f^g(X) = \lim \frac{\prod N_g(X_n | X_{n+1})}{\prod N_h(X_{n+1} | X_n)} \phi(x_t) \exp(r_t(x_t));$$

$$w \propto \frac{q_{\tau}(X_{\tau}) \prod N_b(X_{n+1} | X_n)}{q_{\tau'}(X_{\tau'}) \prod N_a(X_n | X_{n+1})}$$

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“proposal” $dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t,$

“target”? $dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t$

- Define a sequence of intermediate targets $p_t(x_t) \exp(r_t(x_t));$
- Do **importance-resampling**


$$1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

$$w \propto \frac{q_{\tau}(X_{\tau}) \prod N_b(X_{n+1}|X_n)}{q_{\tau'}(X_{\tau'}) \prod N_a(X_n|X_{n+1})}$$

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“**proposal**” $dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, \quad X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$

“**target**”? $dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, \quad X_{\tau} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do **importance-resampling**

$$w \propto \frac{q_{\tau}(X_{\tau})}{q_{\tau'}(X_{\tau'})} 1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“**proposal**” $dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, \quad X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$

“**target**”? $dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, \quad X_{\tau} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do **importance-resampling**

$$w \propto \frac{p_{\tau}(x_{\tau})\exp(r_{\tau}(x_{\tau}))}{p_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'})\exp(r_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'}))} 1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau,\tau']})$$

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“**proposal**” $dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, \quad X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$

“**target**”? $dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, \quad X_{\tau} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do **importance-resampling**

$$w \propto \frac{p_{\tau}(x_{\tau})\exp(r_{\tau}(x_{\tau}))}{p_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'})\exp(r_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'}))} 1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau,\tau']})$$

?

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

$\overleftarrow{\mathbf{P}}$: $dX_t = \text{diffusion denoising } dt + \sigma_t d\overleftarrow{W}_t$ $X_{\tau'} \sim p_{\tau'}$ $t \in [\tau, \tau']$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“proposal” $dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t d\overleftarrow{W}_t$, $X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$

“target”? $dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t d\overleftarrow{W}_t$, $X_{\tau} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do importance-resampling

$$w \propto \frac{p_{\tau}(x_{\tau})\exp(r_{\tau}(x_{\tau}))}{p_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'})\exp(r_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'}))} 1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

?

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

$\bar{\mathbf{P}}$: $dX_t = \text{diffusion denoising } dt + \sigma_t d\overleftarrow{W}_t$ $X_{\tau'} \sim p_{\tau'}$ $t \in [\tau, \tau']$

\mathbf{P} : $dX_t = \text{diffusion noising } dt + \sigma_t dW_t$ $X_{\tau} \sim p_{\tau}$ $t \in [\tau, \tau']$

“proposal”

$$dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t,$$

$$X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$$

“target”?

$$dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, \quad \frac{p_{\tau}(X_{\tau})}{p_{\tau'}(X_{\tau'})} = ?$$

$$X_{\tau} \sim q_{\tau}$$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do importance-resampling

$$w \propto \frac{p_{\tau}(x_{\tau})\exp(r_{\tau}(x_{\tau}))}{p_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'})\exp(r_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'}))} 1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

?

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

$$\overleftarrow{\mathbf{P}}: dX_t = g(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t d\overleftarrow{W}_t \quad X_{\tau'} \sim p_{\tau'} \quad t \in [\tau, \tau']$$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

$$\mathbf{P}: dX_t = f(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t \quad X_{\tau} \sim p_{\tau} \quad t \in [\tau, \tau']$$

“proposal”

$$dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t,$$

$$X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$$

“target”?

$$dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, \quad \frac{p_{\tau}(X_{\tau})}{p_{\tau'}(X_{\tau'})} = ?$$

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- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
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$$w \propto \frac{p_{\tau}(x_{\tau})\exp(r_{\tau}(x_{\tau}))}{p_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'})\exp(r_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'}))} 1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

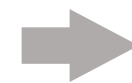
?

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

$$\overleftarrow{\mathbf{P}}: dX_t = g(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t d\overleftarrow{W}_t \quad X_{\tau'} \sim p_{\tau'} \quad t \in [\tau, \tau']$$

$$\mathbf{P}: dX_t = f(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t \quad X_{\tau} \sim p_{\tau} \quad t \in [\tau, \tau']$$



$$\overleftarrow{\frac{d\mathbf{P}}{d\mathbf{P}}}(X_{[\tau, \tau']}) = 1$$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“proposal”

$$dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, \quad X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$$

$$X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$$

“target”?

$$dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, \quad X_{\tau} \sim q_{\tau}$$

$$\frac{p_{\tau}(X_{\tau})}{p_{\tau'}(X_{\tau'})} = R_f^g(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do importance-resampling

$$w \propto \frac{p_{\tau}(x_{\tau})\exp(r_{\tau}(x_{\tau}))}{p_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'})\exp(r_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'}))} 1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

?

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

have $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau'}$, how to obtain exact sample $\{x\} \sim q_{\tau}$

$$\begin{aligned} \overleftarrow{\mathbf{P}}: dX_t &= g(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t d\overleftarrow{W}_t & X_{\tau'} &\sim p_{\tau'} & t \in [\tau, \tau'] \\ \mathbf{P}: dX_t &= f(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t & X_{\tau} &\sim p_{\tau} & t \in [\tau, \tau'] \end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{d\overleftarrow{\mathbf{P}}}{d\mathbf{P}}(X_{[\tau, \tau']}) = 1$$

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“proposal”

$$dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, \quad X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$$

“target”?

$$dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, \quad X_{\tau} \sim q_{\tau}$$

$$\frac{p_{\tau}(X_{\tau})}{p_{\tau'}(X_{\tau'})} = R_f^g(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t) \exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do importance-resampling

$$w \propto \boxed{R_f^g(X_{[\tau, \tau']})} \frac{\exp(r_{\tau}(x_{\tau}))}{\exp(r_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'}))} 1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

- Choose a heuristic guidance process;

“**proposal**” $dX_t = a(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t \overleftarrow{dW}_t, \quad X_{\tau'} \sim q_{\tau'}$

“**target**” $dX_t = b(X_t, t)dt + \sigma_t dW_t, \quad X_{\tau} \sim q_{\tau}$

- Define a sequence of intermediate target densities $q_t \propto p_t(x_t)\exp(r_t(x_t))$;
- Do **importance-resampling**

$$w \propto R_f^g(X_{[\tau, \tau']}) \frac{\exp(r_{\tau}(x_{\tau}))}{\exp(r_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'}))} 1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

$$w \propto R_f^g(X_{[\tau, \tau']}) \frac{\exp(r_\tau(x_\tau))}{\exp(r_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'}))} 1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

Summary:

- 👉 Define proposal and target process
- 👉 Define intermediate densities q_t (by steering diffusion's p_t)
- 👉 Replace ratio between p_t by forward-backward kernel ratio R

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

$$w \propto R_f^g(X_{[\tau, \tau']}) \frac{\exp(r_\tau(x_\tau))}{\exp(r_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'}))} 1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

Summary:

- 👉 Define proposal and target process
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Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

$$w \propto R_f^g(X_{[\tau, \tau']}) \frac{\exp(r_\tau(x_\tau))}{\exp(r_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'}))} 1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

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Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

$$w \propto R_f^g(X_{[\tau, \tau']}) \frac{\exp(r_\tau(x_\tau))}{\exp(r_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'}))} 1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

Summary:

- 👉 Define proposal and target process
- 👉 Define intermediate densities q_t (by steering diffusion's p_t)
- 👉 Replace ratio between p_t by forward-backward kernel ratio R

Example: Diffusion Inference-time Steering with Path RND

$$w \propto R_f^g(X_{[\tau, \tau']}) \frac{\exp(r_\tau(x_\tau))}{\exp(r_{\tau'}(x_{\tau'}))} 1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

🌟 Anneal target p_t^β

🌟 Composition/CFG between 2 diffusions $\left(p_t^{(1)}\right)^\beta \left(p_t^{(2)}\right)^\alpha$

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🌟 Composition/CFG between 2 diffusions $\left(p_t^{(1)}\right)^\beta \left(p_t^{(2)}\right)^\alpha$

$$w \propto \left[R_{f_1}^{g_1}(X_{[\tau, \tau']}) \right]^\beta \left[R_{f_2}^{g_2}(X_{[\tau, \tau']}) \right]^\alpha 1/R_b^a(X_{[\tau, \tau']})$$

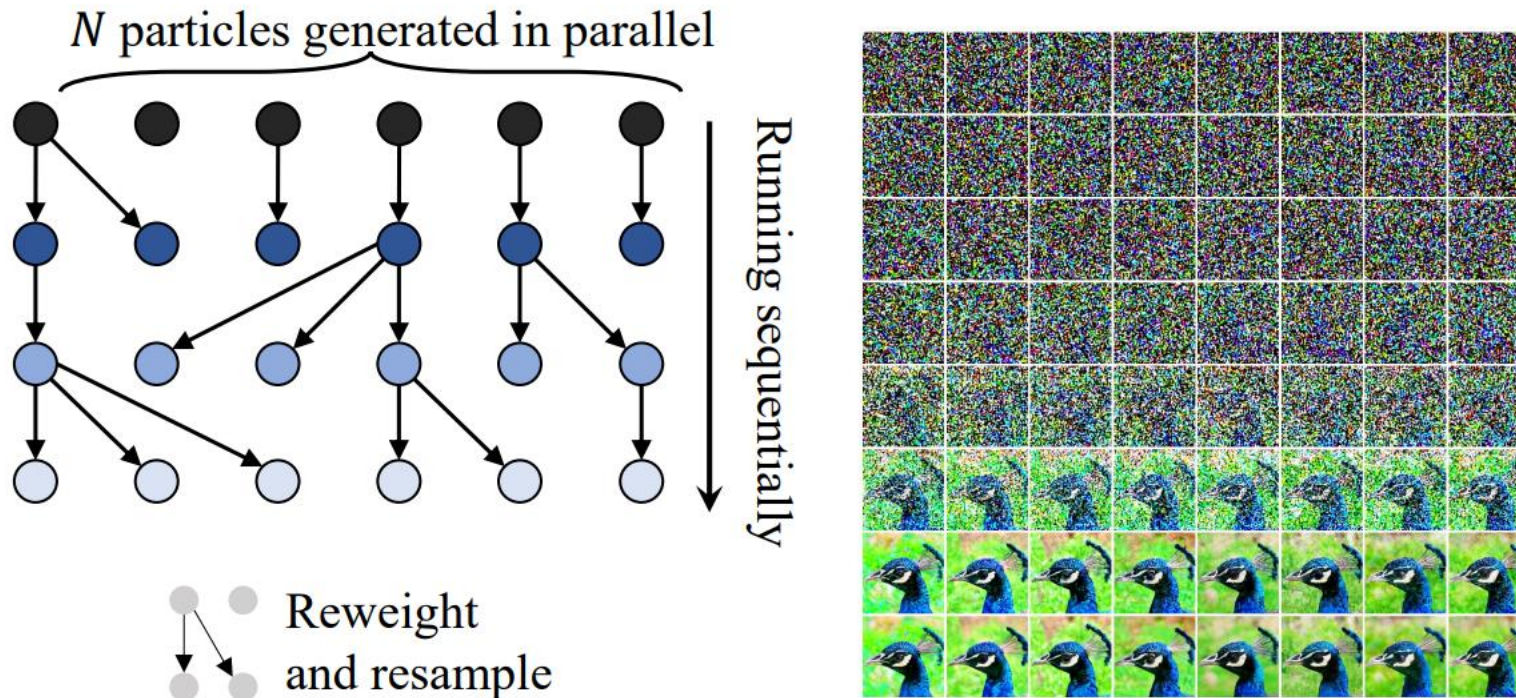
Episode 2

Control Generation with Sequential Monte Carlo in Path Space

💡 **Sequence of Importance Resampling (SMC)** along the denoising path

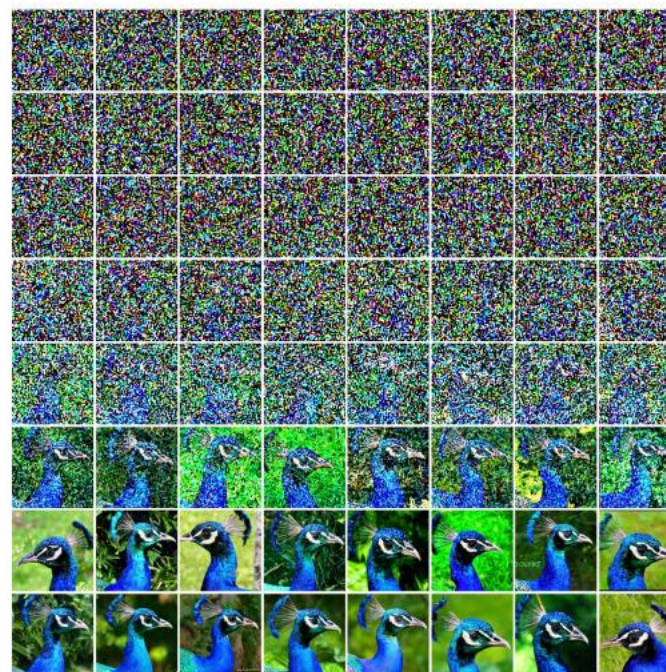
💡 Flexible Control of diffusion generation process

Sequel Episode: Curse of Diversity

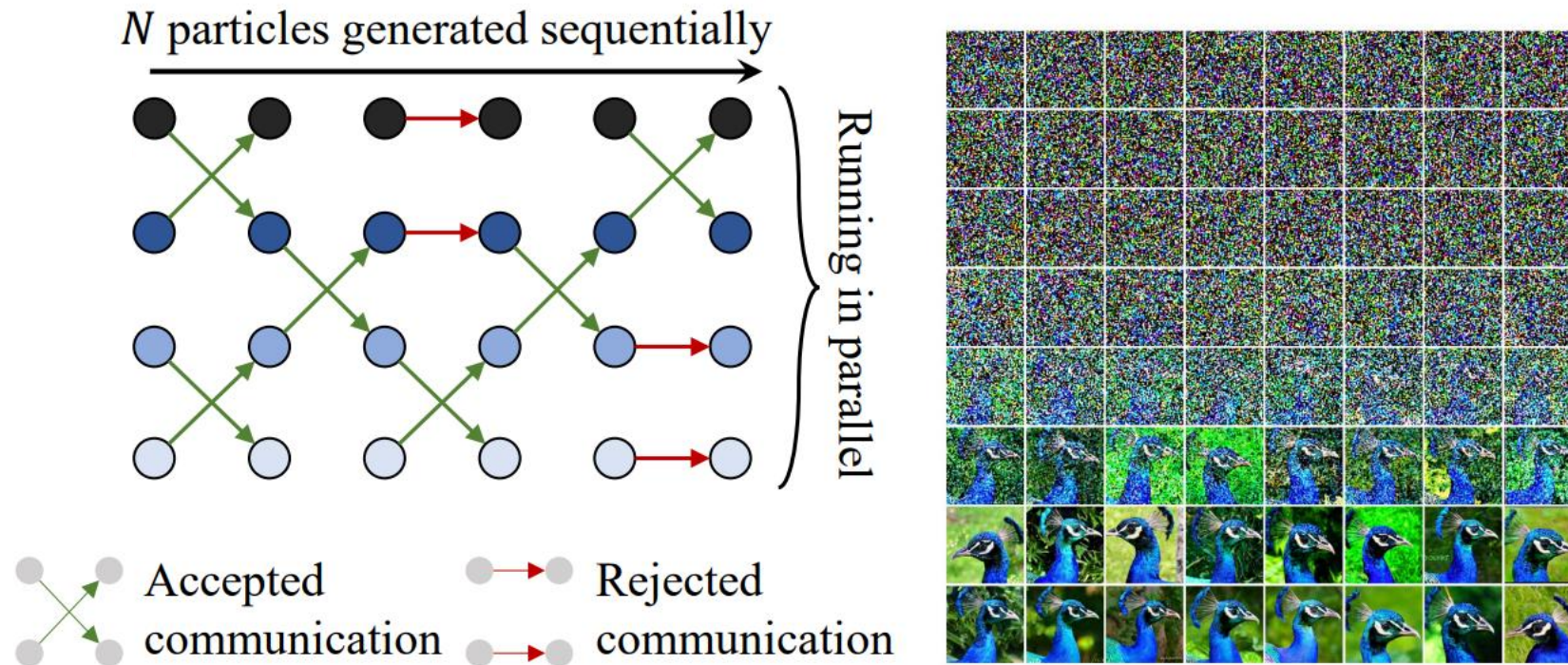


Sequel Episode: Curse of Diversity

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Sequel Episode: Curse of Diversity



Replica Exchange: Intuition

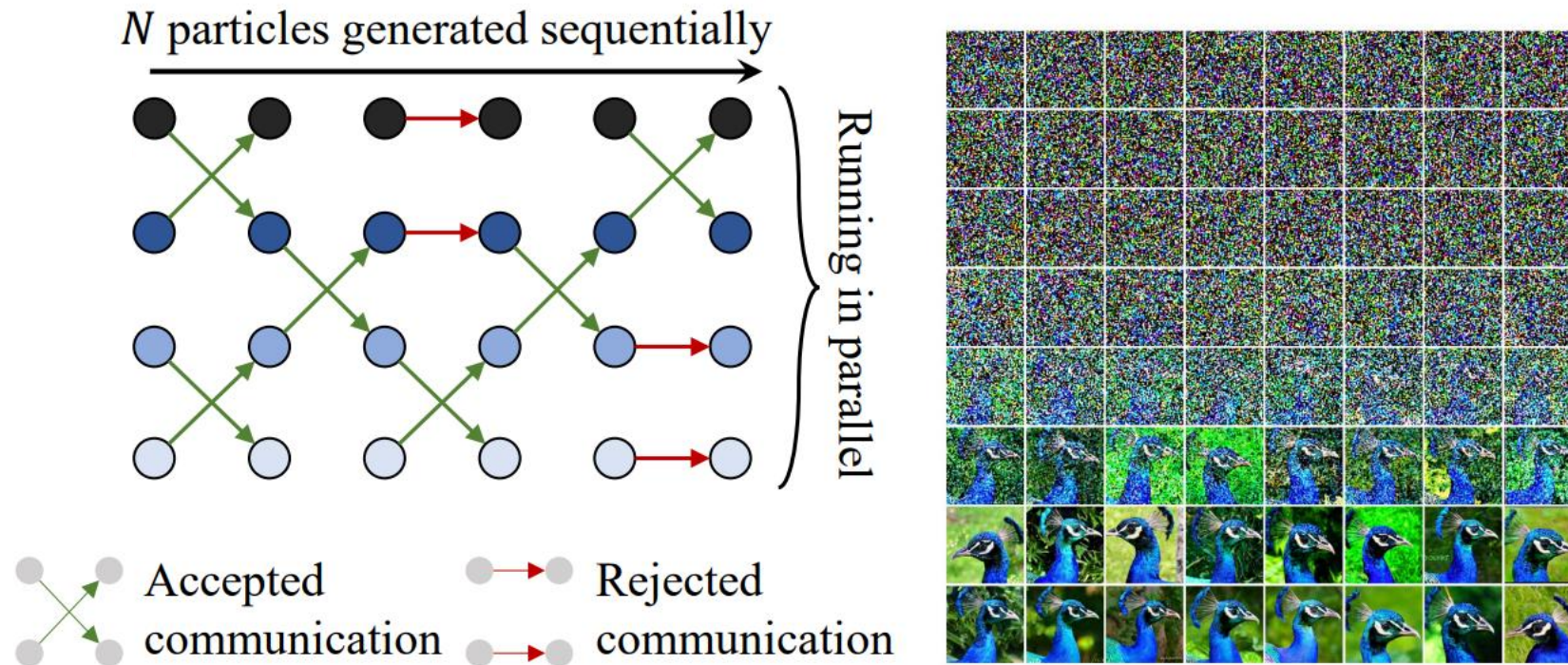
Sequential Monte Carlo:

Generate N samples at each step, select the “best” set, go to next step

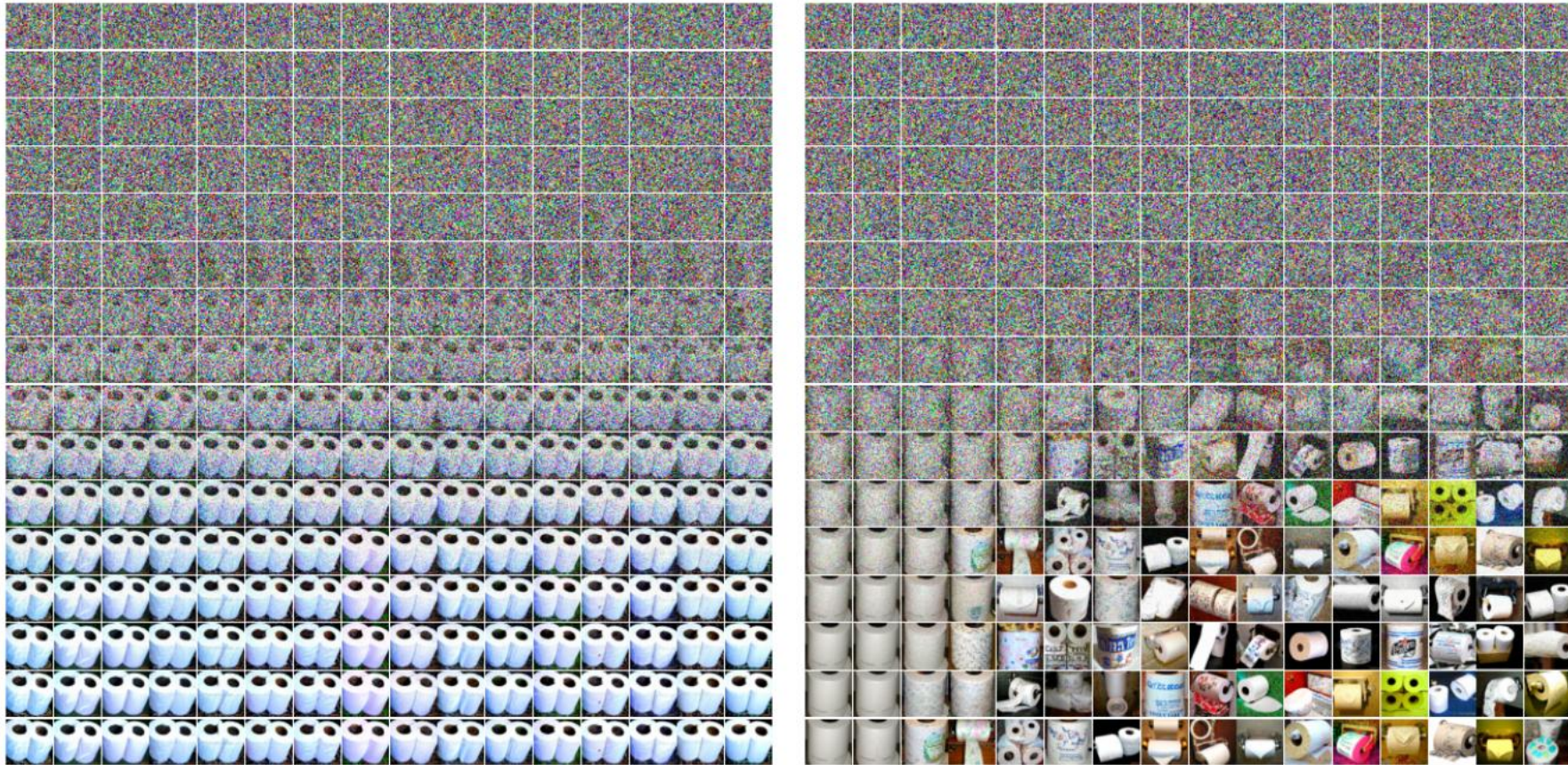
Replica Exchange (parallel Tempering):

Generate initial guess at all steps,
attempt to exchange guesses at adjacent steps,
accept exchange if the change makes the guess “better”,
otherwise reject

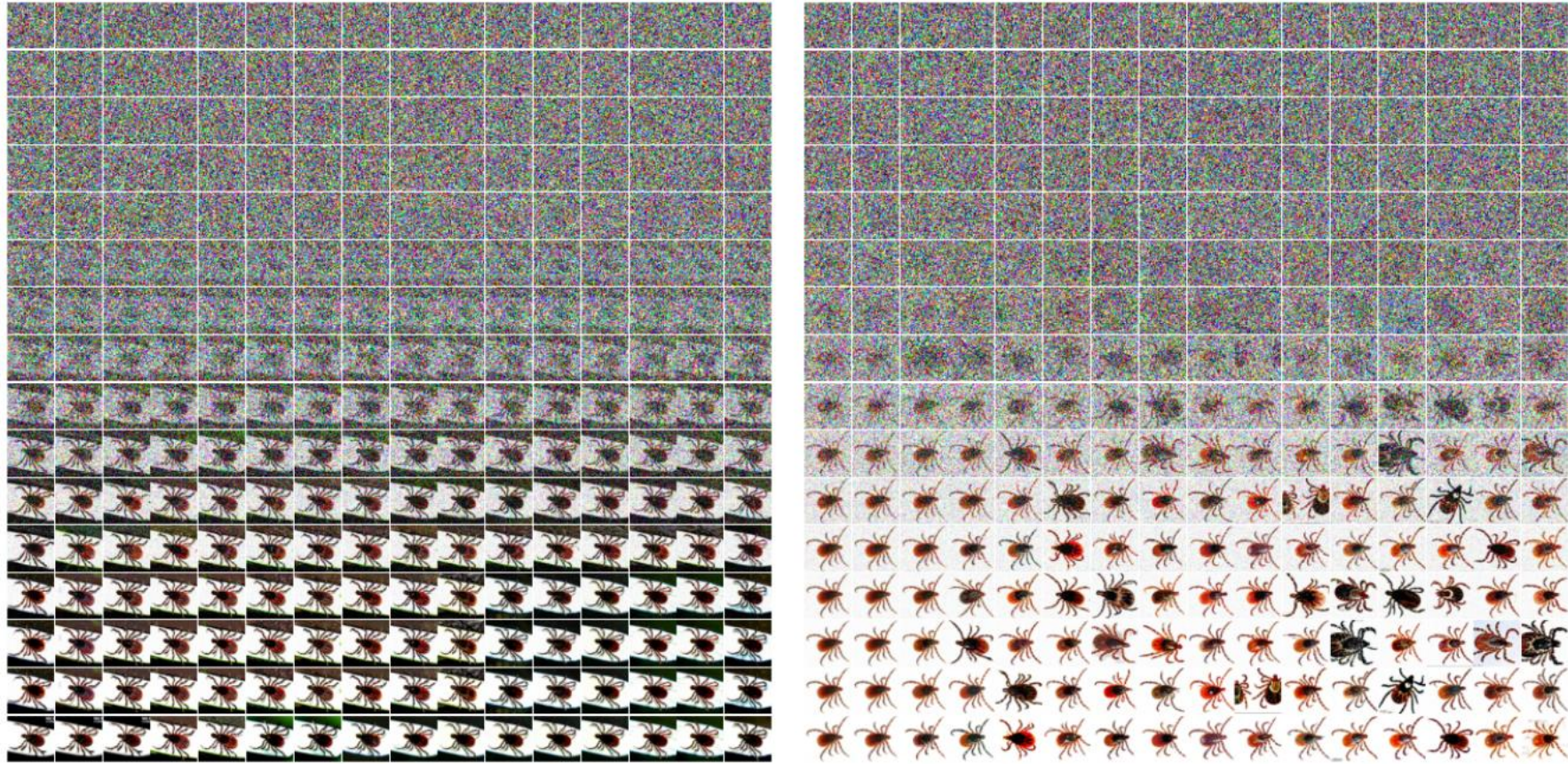
Sequel Episode: Curse of Diversity



Sequel Episode: Curse of Diversity



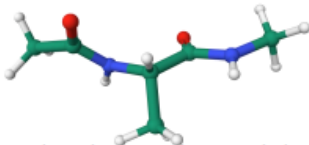
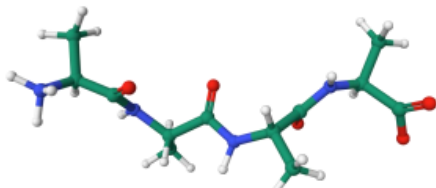
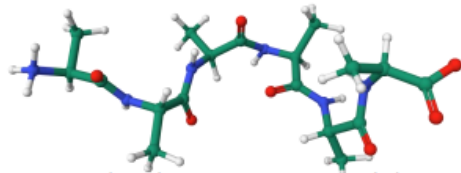
Sequel Episode: Curse of Diversity



Control Diffusion with Replica Exchange

👉 Tempering: $p_0' \propto p_0^\alpha$

Table 1: Inference-time tempering performance for Alanine Dipeptide, Tetrapeptide and Hexapeptide.

			FKC		RNE	CREPE (Ours)
			Anneal Score	Anneal Noise		
 Alanine Dipeptide	ALA Dipeptide (800K → 300K)	Energy TVD	0.345 ± 0.010	0.894 ± 0.002	0.391 ± 0.006	0.224 ± 0.005
		Distance TVD	0.023 ± 0.001	0.036 ± 0.001	0.024 ± 0.001	0.019 ± 0.000
		Sample W2	0.293 ± 0.001	0.282 ± 0.001	0.282 ± 0.001	0.264 ± 0.001
		TICA MMD	0.116 ± 0.003	0.108 ± 0.004	0.168 ± 0.007	0.096 ± 0.014
 Alanine Tetrapeptide	ALA Tetrapeptide (800K → 500K)	Energy TVD	0.122 ± 0.012	0.436 ± 0.007	0.154 ± 0.006	0.122 ± 0.004
		Distance TVD	0.014 ± 0.000	0.015 ± 0.000	0.013 ± 0.001	0.013 ± 0.001
		Sample W2	0.923 ± 0.008	0.892 ± 0.001	0.893 ± 0.005	0.856 ± 0.004
		TICA MMD	0.183 ± 0.020	0.138 ± 0.017	0.155 ± 0.009	0.035 ± 0.002
 Alanine Hexapeptide	ALA Hexapeptide (800K → 600K)	Energy TVD	0.091 ± 0.006	0.206 ± 0.005	0.087 ± 0.003	0.398 ± 0.001
		Distance TVD	0.018 ± 0.000	0.020 ± 0.001	0.010 ± 0.001	0.009 ± 0.001
		Sample W2	1.585 ± 0.001	1.652 ± 0.012	1.618 ± 0.001	1.299 ± 0.004
		TICA MMD	0.088 ± 0.004	0.068 ± 0.010	0.042 ± 0.004	0.009 ± 0.001

Control Diffusion with Replica Exchange

👉 reward-tilting: $p_0' \propto p_0 \exp(r_0)$

class condition: *balloon*; prompt: *a blue balloon*



class condition: *pinwheel*; prompt: *a colorful pinwheel*



class condition: *Christmas stocking*; prompt: *a green Christmas stocking*



class condition: *cab*; prompt: *a yellow cab with dark background*

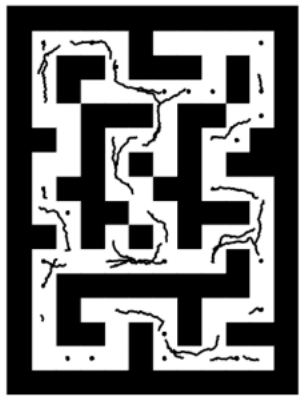


CREPE iteration →

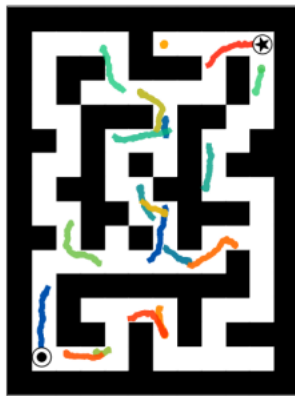
Figure 1: Trajectory of images generated using CREPE for prompted reward-tilting on ImageNet-512, thinned every 8 iterations. After burn-in, the samples align closely with the prompt.

Control Diffusion with Replica Exchange

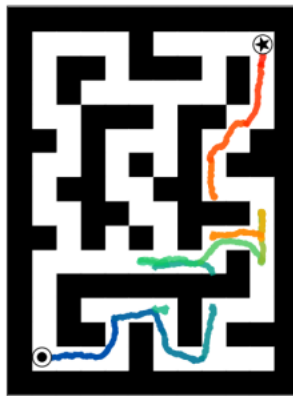
👉 Composition + reward-tilting: $p_0' \propto \prod p_0^{(i)} \exp(r_0)$



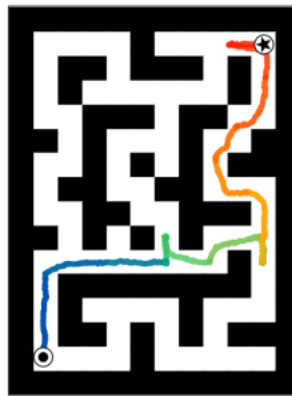
Example of training trajectories.



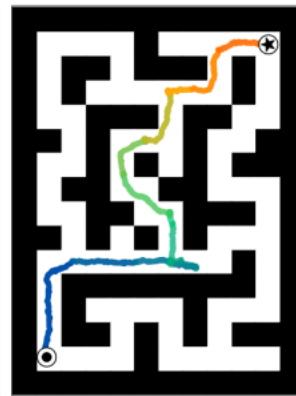
Trajectory after 1 PT iteration.



Trajectory after 10k PT iterations.



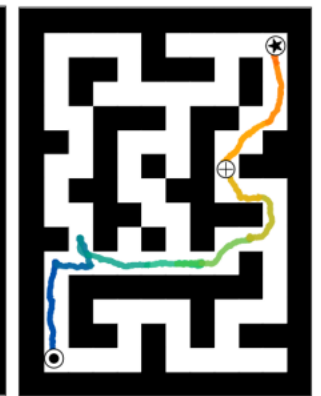
Trajectory after 50k PT iterations.



Trajectory after 100k PT iterations.



Trajectory after 101k PT iteration.



Trajectory after 150k PT iterations.

Summary

- Diffusion Model
- Path Measure
- Importance Sampling and SMC / Replica Exchange with Path Measures
- Control your Diffusion Model

What's next?