

PDF = "probability per unit volume"

- 1D: RV w/ PDF  $p_X(x) \Rightarrow \Pr(X \in [x, x+\Delta x]) \approx p_X(x) \Delta x$
- nD: "  $\Rightarrow \Pr(X \in \text{tiny box around } x) \approx p_X(x) \cdot (\text{volume of that box})$

Jacobian determinant = local volume scaling

- For a smooth map  $f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ , near a point  $x$ , the map is approximately linear:

$$\hookrightarrow f(x+\delta) \approx f(x) + J_f(x) \delta \Rightarrow \text{(new volume)} \approx |\det J_f(x)| \cdot \text{(old volume)} \quad \text{Jacobian formula}$$

change-of-var. gives the flow likelihood: Define  $z = f_\theta(q; h)$ , choose simple PDF for  $z$ :  $p_z(z) = \mathcal{N}(0, I)$

$\hookrightarrow$  Take a tiny region  $A$  around  $q \Rightarrow$  its img in  $z$ -space =  $B = f(A)$

$\hookrightarrow \therefore$  this is reparameterizing the same outcomes:  $\Pr(q \in A | h) = \Pr(z \in B | h)$

Approximating both sides

using  $\Pr(X \in \text{tiny box around } x) \approx p_X(x) \cdot (\text{volume of that box})$

$$: p_\theta(q | h) \text{Vol}(A) \approx p_z(z | h) \text{Vol}(B)$$

$$\text{since } z = f(q; h) : \text{Vol}(B) \approx |\det J_f(q; h)| \text{Vol}(A)$$

$$\therefore p_\theta(q | h) \text{Vol}(A) \approx p_z(f(q; h)) |\det J_f(q; h)| \text{Vol}(A)$$

$\hookrightarrow$  Taking logs (base e) & using Gaussian  $p_z$ :  $-\log p_\theta(q | h) = \frac{1}{2} \|z\|^2 - \log |\det J_f(q; h)| + \text{const.}$

$\nwarrow$  Flow training objective  
 $\swarrow$  make  $z$  look Gaussian      volume correction

△ Generic neural nets can't model  $f_\theta(q; h)$

- $\hookrightarrow$  Problems:
1. Computing  $\det(J_f(q; h))$  is inefficient
  2.  $f$  is not invertible

e.g. if using MLP

$\hookrightarrow$  Need special architecture for flow models  $\Rightarrow$  e.g. coupling layers!

Coupling layers:

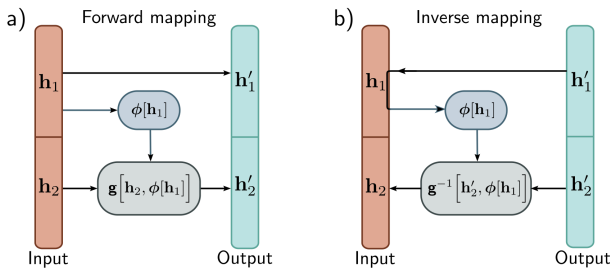


Figure 16.6 Coupling flows. a) The input (orange vector) is divided into  $h_1$  and  $h_2$ . The first part  $h'_1$  of the output (cyan vector) is a copy of  $h_1$ . The output  $h'_2$  is created by applying an invertible transformation  $g[\bullet, \phi]$  to  $h_2$ , where the parameters  $\phi$  are themselves a (not necessarily invertible) function of  $h_1$ . b) In the inverse mapping,  $h_1 = h'_1$ . This allows us to calculate the parameters  $\phi[h_1]$  and then apply the inverse  $g^{-1}[h'_2, \phi]$  to retrieve  $h_2$ .

- Additive coupling is invertible &  $\det(J)$  efficient to compute, but it can't expand/contract volume  $\hookrightarrow \therefore$  limited expressiveness

$\Rightarrow$  e.g. Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d \Rightarrow$  Split into  $x = (x_a, x_b)$ ,  $x_a \in \mathbb{R}^{d_a}$ ,  $x_b \in \mathbb{R}^{d_b}$

• Additive coupling: Define  $y = g(x; c) \begin{cases} y_a = x_a \\ y_b = x_b + t_\theta(x_a, c) \end{cases}$

$\hookrightarrow$  where  $t_\theta =$  any NN outputting a vector  $\in \mathbb{R}^{d_b}$

> Invertible:  $\checkmark$  can recover  $x$  from  $y$   $\begin{cases} x_a = y_a \\ x_b = y_b - t_\theta(y_a, c) \end{cases} \Rightarrow g^{-1}$  exists & is easy to compute

> Jacobian w/ easy det:  $\checkmark$

$$J = \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = \begin{bmatrix} \partial y_a / \partial x_a & \partial y_a / \partial x_b \\ \partial y_b / \partial x_a & \partial y_b / \partial x_b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ \partial t / \partial x_a & I \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(\text{triangular mtrix}) = \prod \text{diag. entries} \\ \therefore \det(J) = \det(I) \cdot \det(I) = 1$$

★ FREIA All In One Block combines affine coupling, permutation, ... etc. common normalizing flow ops.

• Affine coupling:  $y = g(x; c) \begin{cases} y_a = x_a \\ y_b = x_b \odot \exp(s_\theta(x_a, c)) + t_\theta(x_a, c) \end{cases}$  elementwise mult. ( $y = ax + b \Rightarrow$  "affine")  
 $\hookrightarrow s_\theta = \text{scale network} \Rightarrow s_\theta(x_a, c) = (s_1, \dots, s_{d_b})$

> Invertible:  $x_a = y_a$   
 $x_b = (y_b - t_\theta(x_a, c)) \odot \frac{1}{\exp(s_\theta(x_a, c))} = (y_b - t_\theta(x_a, c)) \odot \exp(-s_\theta(x_a, c))$

> Jacobian w/ easy det:  $(y_b)_k = (x_b)_k \cdot \exp(s_k(x_a, c)) + t_k(x_a, c)$

when differentiating w.r.t.  $x_b$ :  $\frac{\partial (y_b)_k}{\partial (x_b)_k} = \exp(s_k(x_a, c))$ , for  $j \neq k$ :  $\frac{\partial (y_b)_k}{\partial (x_b)_j} = 0$

$\therefore \frac{\partial y_b}{\partial x_b} = \text{diag}(\exp(s_1), \dots, \exp(s_{d_b}))$

$\Rightarrow J = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ * & \text{diag}(\exp(s)) \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \det(J) = \det(I) \cdot \det(\text{diag}(\exp(s))) = \prod_{k=1}^{d_b} \exp(s_k) = \exp\left(\sum_{k=1}^{d_b} s_k\right)$   
 $\Rightarrow \log |\det J| = \sum_{k=1}^{d_b} s_k$  ✓ easy to compute

△ But half the vars don't change?!  $\rightarrow$

↓  
 In one coupling layer,  $x_a$  stays exactly the same ( $y_a = x_a$ )  $\Rightarrow$  only  $x_b$  changes

↳ Fix: after each coupling layer, permute s.t. different subset of  $x$  becomes  $x_a$  next layer  
 $\Rightarrow$  Over multiple layers, every coord. gets to be in the "changed group" multiple times

Conditioning preserves invertibility: [Recall: coupling layer requires generating  $s$  &  $t$  from  $NN$ ]  
 $\hookrightarrow y_b = x_b \odot \exp(s) + t$

• Unconditional case:  $(s, t) = NN_\theta(x_a)$

• Conditional case:  $(s, t) = NN_\theta(x_a, c)$

$\Rightarrow c$  is like a hyperparam: we only need  $x \mapsto y = g_c(x)$  to be invertible for each fixed  $c$   
 $\hookrightarrow c$  is given @ both forward & reverse time

↓  
 e.g. affine coupling w/ conditioning:  $y_a = x_a$ ,  $(s, t) = NN_\theta(x_a, c)$ ,  $y_b = x_b \odot \exp(s) + t$

↓  
 Showing this is invertible:

1.  $x_a = y_a$
2.  $(s, t) = NN_\theta(y_a, c)$
3. Solve for  $x_b$ :  $y_b = x_b \odot \exp(s) + t$

Intuition for applying flow models to our reachability problem:

↳ Goal post-training: for given  $H = c$ , sampling different  $z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$  gives different valid  $Q$

↓  
 Flow model learns a geometry-aware warp s.t. the solution distr. becomes simple in latent space

Concrete cINN example w/ our setup: e.g. choose a split for one layer:  $x_a = (x, y)$ ,  $x_b = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta)$

↳ e.g. affine coupling layer:  $y_a = x_a$ ,  $(s, t) = NN_\theta(x_a, H)$  where  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $y_b = x_b \odot \exp(s) + t$

aka. given position + target, you rescale/shift angle features

↳ next layer can permute to  $x_a = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta)$ ,  $x_b = (x, y) \Rightarrow$  angle features control how you rescale/shift position features

↓  
 Stack enough of these & we get a rich coupling b/w parts of  $Q$  relative to  $H$

clamp exists in FrEIA  $\because$  affine coupling uses  $\exp(s) \rightarrow$  if  $s$  gets big,  $\exp(s)$  blows up

↳ Implementations squash  $s$  into a bounded range

Why cINN is potentially good for our problem:

- Multi-modal: different modes correspond to different  $z$ -values

↓

Training is max. likelihood: penalizes missing prob. mass (dropping modes)

Dimensions in our simplified setup: (maps to code implementation)

- Input to flow:  $x = \mathbf{Q}_{\text{feat}} \in \mathbb{R}^4$
- Condition:  $c = H \in \mathbb{R}^2$
- Output (forward):  $z \in \mathbb{R}^4$
- sampling (reverse): sample  $z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I) \Rightarrow$  compute  $x = f^{-1}(z; c)$
- convert  $x = (x, y, \cos \theta, \sin \theta)$  back to  $\mathbf{Q} = (x, y, \theta)$  w/  $\theta = \text{atan2}(\sin \theta, \cos \theta)$   
|  
normalize to unit len. before  $\text{atan2}$  for stability