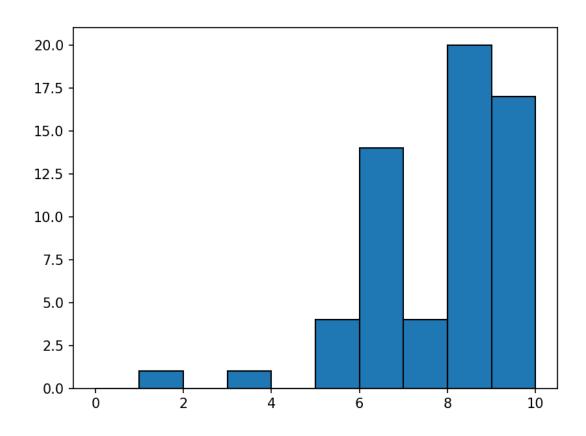
# Deep Learning lecture 5 Normalizing Flows

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## Coding Project 1



#### Logistics

- Coding Project 2 due Tomorrow!
  - You can modify any code (except evaluation script) you like for training.
- Always keep track of your training stats!
  - E.g., loss, accuracy, validation/test error
  - Store your model stats as well
    - Check points, hyper-params, gradient norm, parameter norm, samples
    - Use a spreadsheet to manage your experiments
- 2 homework assignments will be released today
- Get prepared for Coding Project 3
  - You will need to implement generative models ©

## Today's Lecture

- Sampling Methods
  - Draw samples from a distribution

- Normalizing Flow Model
  - A model class that we can easily draw samples from

Auto-Regressive Flow

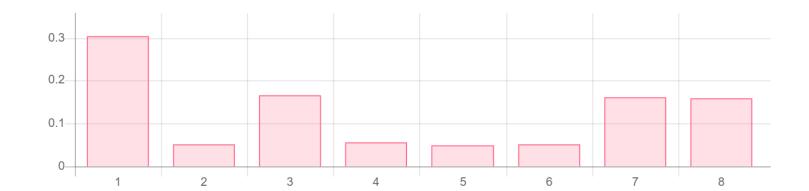
## Energy-Based Model (Recap)

A particular class of density function

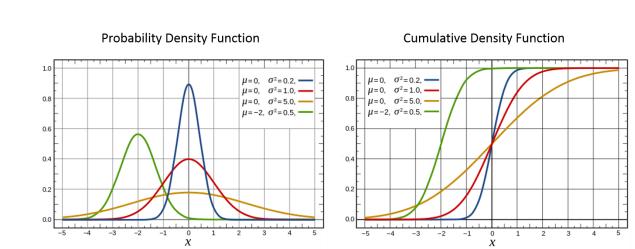
$$P(x) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp(-E(x; \theta))$$

- Maximum Likelihood Training
  - $L(\theta) = \log P(x) = -E(x; \theta) \log Z(\theta)$
  - Z: partition function
- Contrastive Divergence Algorithm
  - $\nabla_{\theta} L(\theta) \approx \nabla_{\theta} \left( -E(x_{train}; \theta) + E(x_{sample}; \theta) \right)$
- How to sample from an energy-based model?
  - Or in general: sample from p(x)

- Goal: sampling from P(x)
  - Assume we have a valid probability measure
  - P(x) can be arbitrarily complex (e.g., high-dimensional, continuous, etc)
- Let's start from an easy example
  - Categorical distribution?
  - Solution: uniform sampling, find the category with cumulative density
    - The mapping from CDF to value is called Inverse distribution function (quantile function)



- Goal: sampling from P(x)
  - Assume we have a valid probability measure
  - P(x) can be arbitrarily complex (e.g., high-dimensional, continuous, etc)
- Let's start from an easy example
  - Categorical distribution
  - Gaussian distribution?
    - No closed-form CDF!
    - Central-limit theorem
      - Sample  $X_i \sim Beroulli(0.5)$
      - $E[X_i] = 0.5$ ;  $Var[X_i] = 0.5^2$
      - $S_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_i$
      - As  $N \to \infty$ ,  $\sqrt{N}(S_N 0.5) \sim N(0, 0.5^2)$



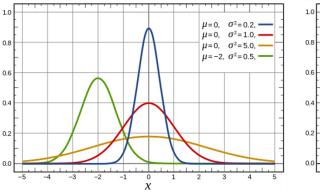
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  - Gaussian distribution?
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    - Central-limit theorem
    - Box–Muller transform
      - Most practical method (FYI)
      - Uniform → Normal
      - Polar form transformation

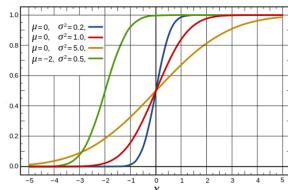
```
def box_muller():
    # Avoid getting u == 0.0
    u1, u2 = 0.0, 0.0
    while u1 < epsilon or u2 < epsilon:
        u1 = random.random()
        u2 = random.random()

    n1 = math.sqrt(-2 * math.log(u1)) * math.cos(2 * math.pi * u2)
    n2 = math.sqrt(-2 * math.log(u1)) * math.sin(2 * math.pi * u2)
    return n1, n2</pre>
```

#### **Probability Density Function**

**Cumulative Density Function** 



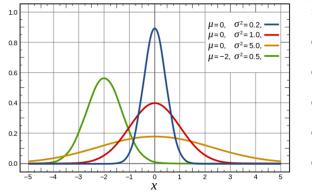


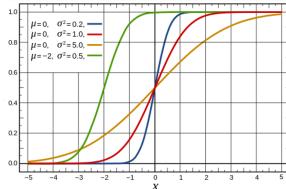
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- Let's start from an easy example
  - Categorical distribution
  - Gaussian distribution?
    - No closed-form CDF!
    - Central-limit theorem
    - Box–Muller transform
    - General case  $x \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$
    - High-dimensional case  $x \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$ 
      - $z \sim N(0, I)$
      - $x = \Sigma z + \mu$

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#### **Probability Density Function**

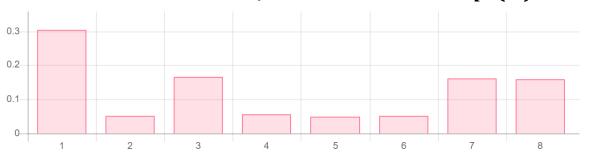
**Cumulative Density Function**  $\mu = 0$ ,  $\sigma^2 = 0.2$ , —

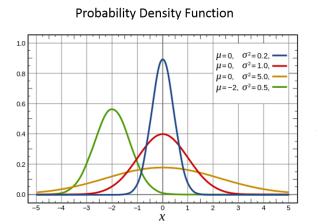


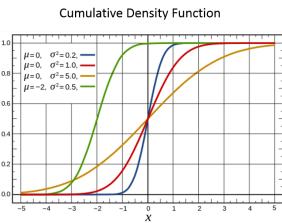


- Goal: sampling from P(x)
  - Assume we have a valid probability measure
  - P(x) can be arbitrarily complex (e.g., high-dimensional, continuous, etc)
- Let's start from an easy example
  - Categorical distribution
  - Gaussian distribution
    - Idea: (1) use "easy" distributions to draw sample & (2) apply mathematical transform

• More complex distribution p(x)?

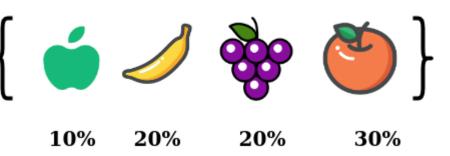


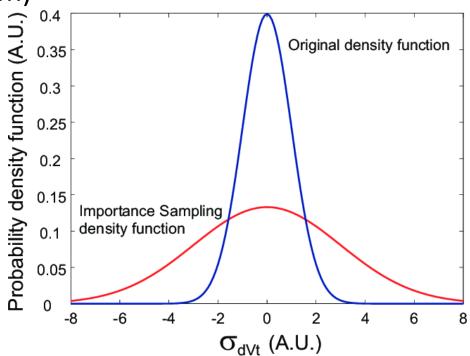




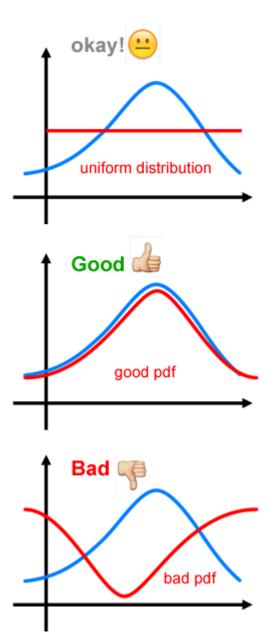
- Goal: sampling from p(x)
  - No CDF or nice mathematical property available
- Idea: weighted samples
  - sample from "easy" distribution q(x) (e.g. uniform)
  - Use p(x)/q(x) as the weight for the sample
- Importance Sampling
  - q(x) proposal distribution
  - $\frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$  importance weight
  - $E_{x \sim p}[f(x)] = E_{x \sim q} \left[ \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} f(x) \right]$
  - Quiz: what if partition function Z is unknown?

#### **Weighted Sampling**



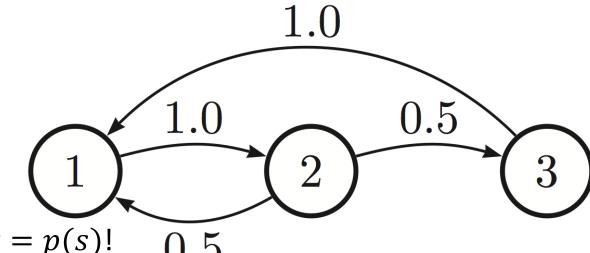


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- Importance Sampling
  - q(x) proposal distribution
  - How to choose q(x)???
  - q(x) needs to similar to p(x)
    - Your homework ©



What if we don't have a good proposal?

- Markov Chain
  - A state space S, a transition probability  $P(s_i | s_i) = T_{ij}$
  - T is the transition matrix
  - We also use  $T(s_i \rightarrow s_j)$  to denote  $T_{ij}$
- ullet A Markov Chain has a stationary distribution with a proper T
  - Current distribution over states  $\pi_t$
  - Single step transition  $\pi_{t+1} = T\pi_t$
  - Stationary distribution  $\pi = T^{\infty}\pi_0$
- Sampling is easy!
- Goal: construct a Markov Chain
  - With a desired stationary distribution  $\pi = p(s)!$



- How to ensure  $\pi$  is a stationary distribution of a Markov Chain?
  - Detailed Balance (sufficient condition)

$$\pi(s)T(s \to s') = \pi(s')T(s' \to s)$$

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• Design a Markov chain satisfying detailed balance for desired density p(s)!

- How to ensure  $\pi$  is a stationary distribution of a Markov Chain?
  - Detailed Balance (sufficient condition)

$$\pi(s)T(s \to s') = \pi(s')T(s' \to s)$$

- Design a Markov chain satisfying detailed balance for desired density p(s)!
- How to ensure a unique stationary distribution exist?
  - The Markov chain is ergodic (遍历性)!

$$\min_{z} \min_{z':\pi(z')>0} \frac{T(z \to z')}{\pi(z')} = \delta > 0$$

Intuitively: you can visit any desired state with positive probability from any state

• Examples:

#### Metropolis Hastings Algorithm

- Construct a valid Markov Chain for p(s)
  - Detailed balance:  $p(s)T(s \rightarrow s') = p(s')T(s' \rightarrow s)$
  - Ergodicity
- Metropolis Hastings Algorithm
  - A proposal distribution q(s'|s) to produce next state s' based on s
  - Draw  $s' \sim q(s'|s)$
  - $\alpha = \min\left(1, \frac{p(s')q(s'\to s)}{p(s)q(s\to s')}\right)$   $(q(s\to s') \text{ to denotes } q(s'|s) \text{ for simplicity})$
  - Transition to s' (accept) with probability  $\alpha$  (acceptance ratio);
  - O.w., stays at s (reject)
- MH constructs a valid Markov chain with a proper proposal q!
  - Homework ☺

- Choice of  $q(s \rightarrow s')$ 
  - Random proposal  $q(s \rightarrow s') = s + \text{noise}$  (i.e., Gaussian/Uniform Noise)
- Acceptance ratio for  $s \to s'$

• 
$$\alpha(s \to s') = \min\left(1, \frac{p(s')q(s'\to s)}{p(s)q(s\to s')}\right) = \min\left(1, \frac{p(s')}{p(s)}\right)$$

- MH sampling for the energy-based model  $p(s) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp(-E(s))$ 
  - Random initialize  $s^0$
  - $s' \leftarrow q(s \rightarrow s')$
  - Transition to s' with probability  $\alpha(s \to s')$ ;
  - O.w., stays at *s*
  - Repeat

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- MH sampling for the energy-based model  $p(s) = \frac{1}{z} \exp(-E(s))$ 
  - Random initialize  $s^0$
  - $s' \leftarrow s^t + \text{noise}$
  - If  $E(s') < E(s^t)$ ; then accept  $s^{t+1} \leftarrow s'$
  - Else accept s' with probability  $\exp(E(s^t) E(s'))$
  - Repeat

Presented last week ©

#### Metropolis Hastings Algorithm

- The simplest way to construct a valid Markov chain
  - Flexible, simple and general
  - Quiz: proposal q in MH v.s. Importance Sampling
    - A: q(s'|s) v.s. q(s); in MH, q generates local samples; in IS, q outputs "blind" guesses
- Issue
  - Curse of dimensionality: samples a completely new state
  - Acceptance ratio: what if acceptance rate is low?

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- Issue
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  - Acceptance ratio: what if acceptance rate is low?
- Can we design a proposal distribution  $q(s \rightarrow s')$  such that it always gets accepted?

## Gibbs Sampling

- Gibbs sampling
  - $s = (s_0, s_1, ..., s_N)$ , we construct a coordinate-wise  $q(s_i \rightarrow s_i')$
  - $q(s_i \rightarrow s_i') = p(s_i'|s_{i\neq i})$  (conditional distribution)
- Dimensionality
  - Sample a single coordinate per step.
- Gibbs sampling always get accepted!
  - Acceptance ratio is always 1,  $\alpha(s_i \to s_i') = 1$  Prove it in your homework  $\odot$
- Assumption
  - An easy to sample conditional distribution
    - Conjugate Prior and Exponential Family (<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conjugate\_prior">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conjugate\_prior</a>)
  - What if no closed-form posterior?
    - Learn a neural proposal to approximate the true posterior! © (meta-learning MCMC proposals, Wang, Wu, et al NIPS2018)

- Story so far
  - Importance Sampling
    - Simplest solution
  - Metropolis-Hastings algorithm
    - Good local proposal → high acceptance ratio
  - Gibbs sampling
    - Posterior is easy-to-sample
    - The "default" method for machine learning among 2002~2012
- General Issues for MCMC
  - Slow convergence due to sampling (recap: SGD v.s. GD)
  - Can we use gradient information for MCMC?
    - Energy function is differentiable!

#### Stochastic Gradient MCMC

- MCMC with Langevin dynamics
  - "Bayesian learning via stochastic gradient langevin dynamics"
    - ICML 2011, Max Welling& Yee Whye The (ICML 2021 test-of-time award)

• Given 
$$N$$
 data  $X_1, \dots, X_N$ , define  $p(\theta \to \theta')$  by 
$$\theta' \leftarrow \theta + \frac{\epsilon_t}{2} \left( \log p(\theta) + \sum_i \nabla_\theta \log P(x_i | \theta) \right) + N(0, \epsilon_t I)$$

- Condition for a valid Markov Chain
  - $\sum_{t} \epsilon_{t} = \infty$  and  $\sum_{t} \epsilon_{t}^{2} < \infty$
  - Interpretation
    - (stochastic) gradient descent first ( $\nabla_{\theta}$  is large); MCMC around local minimum ( $\nabla_{\theta} \approx 0$ )
  - No need of MH acceptance rule
- Additional Reading:
  - Hamiltonian Monte Carlo (SGD with momentum): https://arxiv.org/pdf/1701.02434.pdf
  - https://arogozhnikov.github.io/2016/12/19/markov chain monte carlo.html

#### Non-Sampling Methods

- Approximate Bayesian Inference
  - Mean-field methods
  - Message Passing
  - Variational Inference (next lecture ②)
- Scoring Matching
  - Match the first order component of model and data (lecture 9)
- Design a model from which we can easily draw sample!

#### Energy-Based Models (Recap)

- Pros: powerful & flexible
  - An arbitrarily complex density function  $p(x) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp(-E(x))$
- Cons: hard to sample/train
  - Hard to sample
    - MCMC sampling
  - Partition function
    - No closed-form calculation for likelihood
    - Cannot optimize MLE loss exactly
    - MCMC sampling
- Easy to sample & tractable likelihood?

#### Intuition

- Goal: design p(x) s.t.
  - Easy to sample
  - Tractable likelihood (density function)

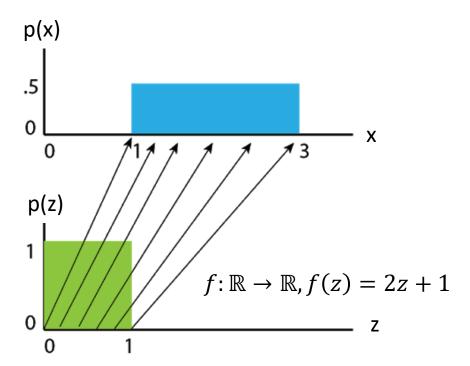
#### Intuition

- Goal: design p(x) s.t.
  - Easy to sample
  - Tractable likelihood (density function)
- Easy to sample?
  - Assume a continuous variable z
  - Uniform & Gaussian!  $z \sim \text{Unif}(0,1)$  or  $z \sim N(0,1)$ 
    - Also closed-form density function
  - x = f(z), x is also easy to sample

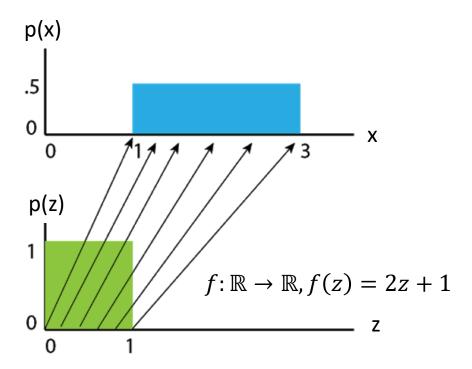
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- Tractable Density?

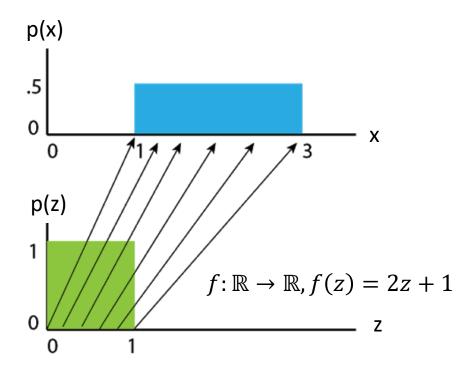
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  - Assume z is from an "easy" distribution
  - $p(x) = p(f(z; \theta))$  has tractable likelihood
- Uniform:  $z\sim$ unif (0,1)
  - Density p(z) = 1
  - x = 2z + 1, then p(x) = ?



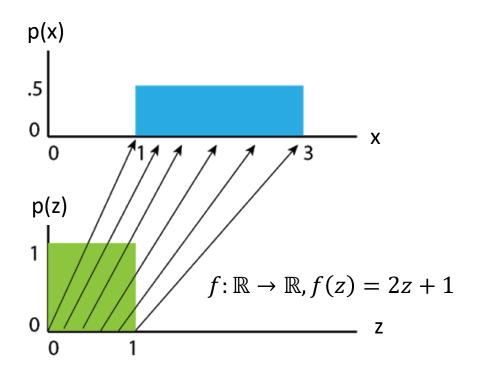
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  - x = 2z + 1, then  $p(x) = \frac{1}{2}$ 
    - $x = a \cdot z + b$ , then p(x) = 1/|a| (for  $a \neq 0$ )
  - x = f(z), p(x) = ?
    - Assume f(z) is a bijection



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    - p(x)dx = p(z)dz



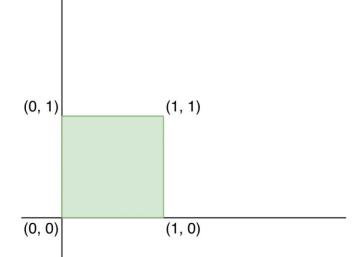
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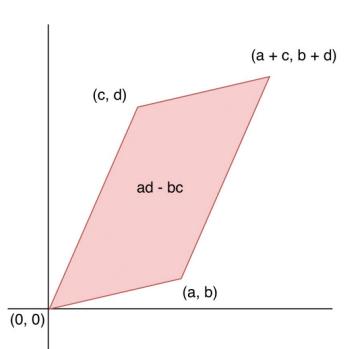


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  - Density p(z) = 1
  - x = Az, then p(x) = ?
    - $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$

## 2-D Example

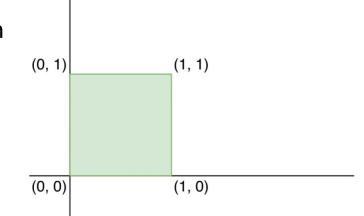
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    - $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$
    - z is mapped to a parallelogram

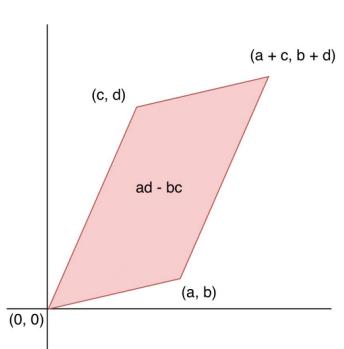




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  - Density p(z) = 1
  - x = Az, then p(x) = 1/S
    - $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$
    - z is mapped to a parallelogram
    - S = |ad bc|, the area





## 2-D Geometry

ullet The area of the parallelogram is equivalent to the determinant of A

$$\det A = \det \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = ad - bc$$

- For any linear transformation x = Az + b
  - The following holds (for space of any dimensions)

$$p(x) = |\det A|^{-1} \cdot p(z)$$

• More general case: the change of variable

# Change of Variable

- Suppose x = f(z) w.r.t. general non-linear  $f(\cdot)$

• the linearized change in volume is determined by the Jacobian of 
$$f(\cdot)$$
 
$$\frac{\partial f(z)}{\partial z} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1(z)}{\partial z_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1(z)}{\partial z_d} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_d(z)}{\partial z_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_d(z)}{\partial z_d} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Given a bijection  $f(z): \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$ 
  - $z = f^{-1}(x)$  $p(x) = p(f^{-1}(x)) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f^{-1}(x)}{\partial x} \right) \right| = p(z) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f^{-1}(x)}{\partial x} \right) \right|$

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• the linearized change in volume is determined by the Jacobian of 
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$$\frac{\partial f(z)}{\partial z} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1(z)}{\partial z_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1(z)}{\partial z_d} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_d(z)}{\partial z_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_d(z)}{\partial z_d} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Given a bijection  $f(z): \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$ 
  - $z = f^{-1}(x)$  $p(x) = p(f^{-1}(x)) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f^{-1}(x)}{\partial x} \right) \right| = p(z) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f^{-1}(x)}{\partial x} \right) \right|$
  - Since  $\frac{\partial f^{-1}}{\partial x} = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}\right)^{-1}$  (Jacobian of invertible function)

$$p(x) = p(z) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f(z)}{\partial z} \right)^{-1} \right| = p(z) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f(z)}{\partial z} \right) \right|^{-1}$$

# Change of Variable

- Suppose x = f(z) w.r.t. general non-linear  $f(\cdot)$

• the linearized change in volume is determined by the Jacobian of 
$$f(\cdot)$$
 
$$\frac{\partial f(z)}{\partial z} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1(z)}{\partial z_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1(z)}{\partial z_d} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_d(z)}{\partial z_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_d(z)}{\partial z_d} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Given a bijection  $f(z): \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$ 
  - $z = f^{-1}(x)$

$$p(x) = p(f^{-1}(x)) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f^{-1}(x)}{\partial x} \right) \right| = p(z) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f^{-1}(x)}{\partial x} \right) \right|$$

• Since  $\frac{\partial f^{-1}}{\partial x} = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}\right)^{-1}$  (Jacobian of invertible function)

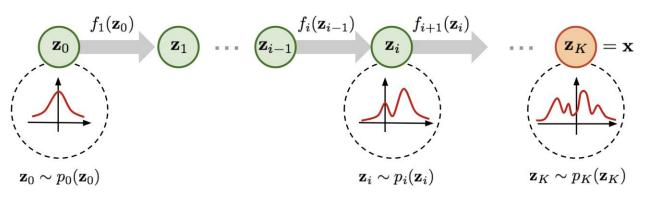
$$p(x) = p(z) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f(z)}{\partial z} \right)^{-1} \right| = p(z) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f(z)}{\partial z} \right) \right|^{-1}$$

### • Idea

- Sample  $z_0$  from an "easy" distribution, i.e., Standard Gaussian
- Apply K bijections  $z_i = f_i(z_{i-1})$
- The final sample  $x = f_K(z_K)$  has tractable density

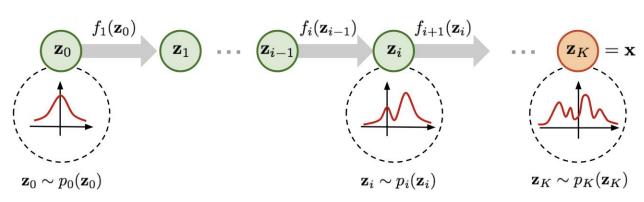
- $z_0 \sim N(0, I), z_i = f_i(z_{i-1}), x = z_K$  where  $x, z_i \in \mathbb{R}^d \& f_i$  is invertible
- Every revertible function produces a normalized density function

• 
$$p(z_i) = p(z_{i-1}) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial z_{i-1}} \right) \right|^{-1}$$



- Idea
  - Sample  $z_0$  from an "easy" distribution, i.e., Standard Gaussian
  - Apply K bijections  $z_i = f_i(z_{i-1})$
  - The final sample  $x = f_K(z_K)$  has tractable density
- Normalizing Flow
  - $z_0 \sim N(0, I), z_i = f_i(z_{i-1}), x = z_K$  where  $x, z_i \in \mathbb{R}^d \& f_i$  is invertible
  - Every revertible function produces a normalized density function

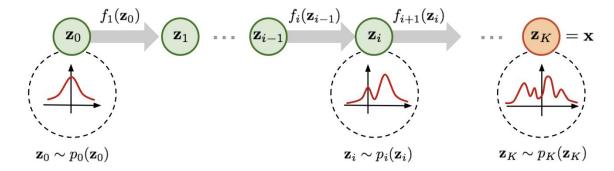
• 
$$p(z_i) = p(z_{i-1}) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial z_{i-1}} \right) \right|^{-1}$$



- Generation is trivial
  - Sample  $z_0$ , then apply the transformations
- Log-Likelihood

$$\log p(x) = \log p(z_{K-1}) - \log \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f_K}{\partial z_{K-1}} \right) \right|$$

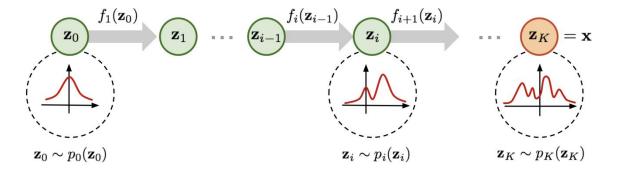
$$\log p(x) = \log p(z_0) - \sum_{i} \log \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial z_{i-1}} \right) \right|$$



- Generation is trivial
  - Sample  $z_0$ , then apply the transformations
- Log-Likelihood

$$\log p(x) = \log p(z_{K-1}) - \log \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f_K}{\partial z_{K-1}} \right) \right|$$

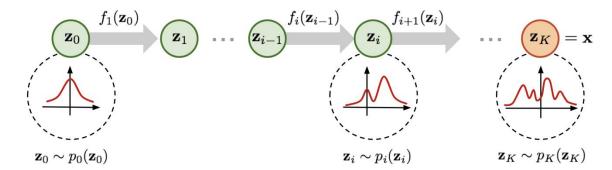
$$\log p(x) = \log p(z_0) - \sum_{i} \log \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial z_{i-1}} \right) \right|$$
Gaussian density



- Generation is trivial
  - Sample  $z_0$ , then apply the transformations
- Log-Likelihood

$$\log p(x) = \log p(z_{K-1}) - \log \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f_K}{\partial z_{K-1}} \right) \right|$$

 $\log p(x) = \log p(z_0) - \sum_{i} \log \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial z_{i-1}} \right) \right| \qquad \mathbf{O}(\mathbf{d}^3)!!!$ 



- Naïve flow model requires extremely expensive computation
  - Determinant of a  $d \times d$  matrix
- Idea
  - Design a good bijection  $f_i(z)$  such that the determinant is easy to compute
- Technical Keys
  - Bijection
    - Randomly constructed matrices are typically full-rank
  - Structured Jacobian
    - Desired Jacobian structures for fast determinant computation

## Planar Flow

Matrix Determinant Lemma

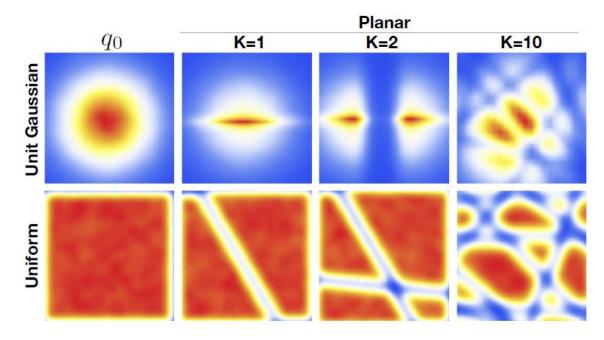
$$\det(A + uv^T) = (1 + v^T A^{-1}u) \det A$$

- Planar Flow (Rezende & Mohamed, 2016)
  - $f_{\theta}(z) = z + u \cdot h(w^T z + b)$  (element-wise product)
  - $h(\cdot)$  chosen to be  $tanh(\cdot)$   $(0 < h'(\cdot) \le 1)$
  - $\theta = [u, w, b], u, w \in \mathbb{R}^d, b \in \mathbb{R}$  $\det\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}\right) = \det(I + h'(w^T z + b)uw^T) = 1 + h'(w^T z + b)u^T w$
  - Computation is performed in O(d) time
  - Remark
    - $u^T w > -1$  to ensure invertibility
    - Normalization on u or w required

**Matrix determinant lemma** 

## Planar Flow

- Planar Flow (Rezende & Mohamed, 2016)
  - $f_{\theta}(z) = z + uh(w^Tz + b)$
  - 10 planar transformations can transform simple distributions into a more complex one



# Story So Far

- Normalizing Flow
  - A sequence of invertible functions applied to an easy-to-sample distribution
- Sampling
  - Starting from an "easy" distribution, e.g., isomorphic Gaussian
  - Efficient evaluation of transformations  $z \rightarrow x$
- Likelihood Estimate
  - Inference over the flow  $x \to z$
  - $\log p(x) = \log p(z) \sum_{i} \log |\det(\cdot)|$
  - Key idea: efficient determinant evaluation
    - Matrix determinant lemma

## Story So Far

- Normalizing Flow
  - A sequence of invertible functions applied to an easy-to-sample distribution
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  - Starting from an "easy" distribution, e.g., isomorphic Gaussian
  - Efficient evaluation of transformations  $z \rightarrow x$
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  - $\log p(x) = \log p(z) \sum_{i} \log |\det(\cdot)|$
  - Key idea: efficient determinant evaluation
    - Matrix determinant lemma
    - Triangular matrix

# Triangular Jacobian

• Given 
$$x = (x_1, \dots, x_d) = f(z) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\partial f_1} & \frac{1}{\partial z_1} & \frac{1}{\partial z_d} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{1}{\partial z_1} & \frac{1}{\partial z_d} & \frac{1}{\partial z_d} \end{bmatrix}$$

• Suppose 
$$x_i = f_i(z)$$
 only depends on  $z_{\leq i}$ , then 
$$\det J = \det \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right| = \det \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial z_1} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_d}{\partial z_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_d}{\partial z_d} \end{array} \right] = \det \operatorname{diag}(J) = \prod_i \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial z_i}$$

- Nonlinear Independent Components Estimation (Dinh et. al, 2014)
  - z = f(x)
    - Notational convention for MLE learning
  - we partition x into two disjoint subsets  $x_{1:m}$  and  $x_{m+1:d}$  for any  $1 \le m \le d$

 $J = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \begin{vmatrix} I_m & 0 \\ \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial x} & I_{d-m} \end{vmatrix}$ 

- Forward pass  $x \to z$  (inference)
  - $z_{1:m} = x_{1:m}$  (identity)
  - $z_{m+1:d} = x_{m+1:d} + \mu_{\theta}(x_{1:m})$  ( $\mu_{\theta}$  is a neural network)
- Backward pass  $z \to x$  (sampling)
  - $x_{1:m} = z_{1:m}$  (identity)
  - $x_{m+1:d} = z_{m+1:d} \mu_{\theta}(z_{1:m})$
- Volume preserving transformation
  - $\det J = 1$

- Coupling layers are introduced to ensure all dimensions are covered
  - Reverse (or randomly shuffle) the partition before each transformation layer
- First layer of NICE uses a re-scaling layer
  - $z_i = S_{ii}x_i$
  - Ensure non-unit volume transformation
  - Jacobian of forward pass

$$J = \operatorname{diag}(S)$$
$$\det J = \prod_{i} S_{ii}$$

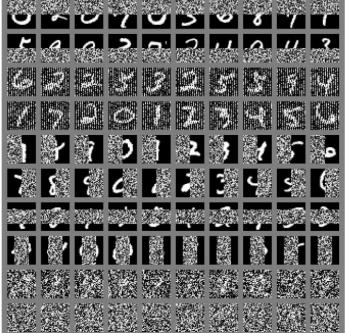
Generation Results





- Inpainting
  - $x = (x_v, x_h)$
  - We have tractable likelihood function  $p(x_v, x_h)$ !
    - Gradient ascent (stochastic gradient MCMC if you want samples)







- NICE: most layers maintain an unchanged volume
- Non-volume preserving extension of NICE (Dinh et al, 2016)
  - Two partitions over  $z: z_{1:m}$  and  $z_{m+1:d}$  for any  $1 \le m \le d$
  - Forward pass  $x \to z$  (inference)
    - $z_{1:m} = x_{1:m}$  (identity)
    - $z_{m+1:d} = x_{m+1:d} \cdot \exp(\alpha_{\theta}(x_{1:m})) + \mu_{\theta}(x_{1:m})$  ( $\mu_{\theta} \& \alpha_{\theta}$  neural network)
  - Backward pass  $z \to x$  (sampling)
    - $x_{1:m} = z_{1:m}$  (identity)
    - $x_{m+1:d} = (z_{m+1:d} \mu_{\theta}(z_{1:m})) \cdot \exp(-\alpha_{\theta}(x_{1:m}))$
  - Non-volume preserving transformation

$$\det J = \prod_{i=m+1}^{a} \exp(\alpha_{\theta}(x_{1:m})_{i})$$

• Fun Fact

Accepted as a workshop contribution at ICLR 2015

# NICE: NON-LINEAR INDEPENDENT COMPONENTS ESTIMATION

Laurent Dinh David Krueger Yoshua Bengio\* Département d'informatique et de recherche opérationnelle Université de Montréal Montréal, QC H3C 3J7 Published as a conference paper at ICLR 2017

#### DENSITY ESTIMATION USING REAL NVP

Laurent Dinh\*

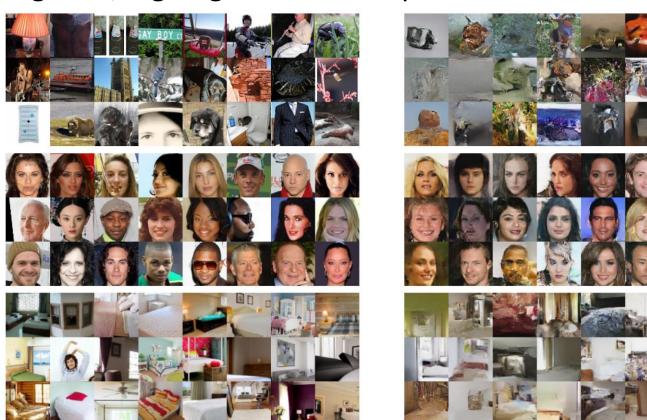
Montreal Institute for Learning Algorithms University of Montreal Montreal, QC H3T1J4

Jascha Sohl-Dickstein

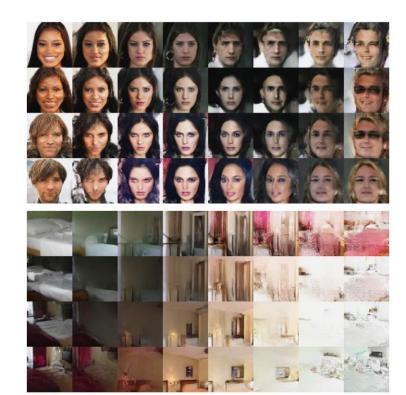
Google Brain

**Samy Bengio**Google Brain

- Generation Results
  - Left: training data; Right: generated samples



- Explore the latent space
  - 4 samples selected:  $z^0$ ,  $z^1$ ,  $z^2$ ,  $z^3$ , two interpolation parameters  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$
  - $z = \cos(\alpha) \left(\cos(\beta)z^1 + \sin(\beta)z^2\right) + \sin(\alpha)\left(\cos(\beta)z^3 + \sin(\beta)z^4\right)$

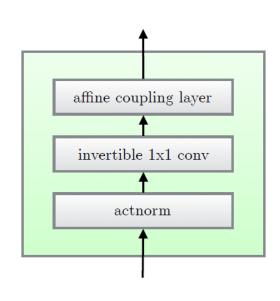






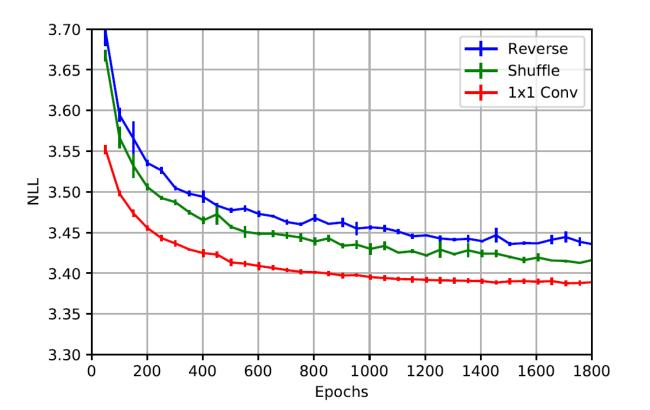
## **GLOW**

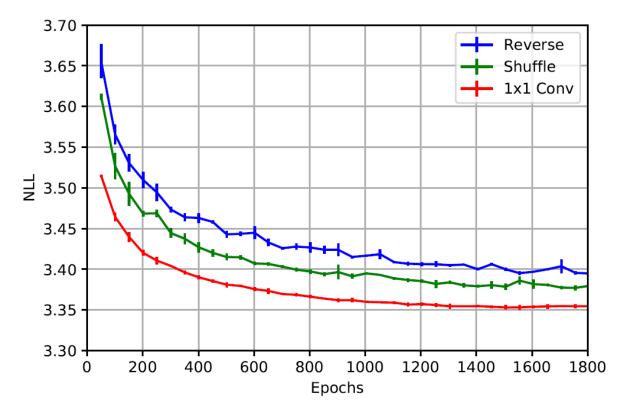
- Limited expressiveness of previous coupling layers
  - But a general non-linear transformation can be too expensive...
- Generative Flow with Invertible 1x1 Convolutions (Kingma et al. 2018)
  - Input:  $x = h \times w \times c$  (height, width, channel) (assume c is small)
  - Key idea: apply a 1x1 convolution when number of channels is small
  - 1x1 conv: a linear transformation for each pixel
    - Forward mapping:  $z_{ij} = Wx_{ij} + b$
    - ullet Inverse mapping: simply compute the inverse matrix of W
  - Computation  $O(c^3)$ 
    - $\log|\det J| = h \cdot w \cdot \log|\det W|$
  - Also use normalization layer to stabilizing training
    - Architecture details can be found in the paper



## **GLOW**

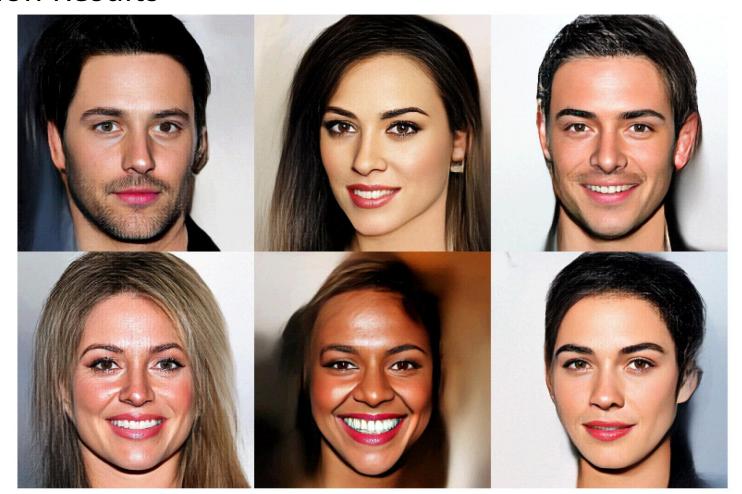
- Generative Flow with Invertible 1x1 Convolutions (Kingma et al. 2018)
  - 1x1 convolution generalizes channel-wise partition





# **GLOW**

Generation Results



# Triangular Jacobian (Revisit)

• Design 
$$x_i = f_i(z)$$
 only depends on  $z_{\leq i}$ , then 
$$\det J = \det \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right| = \det \left| \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial z_1} \right| \cdots 0$$
$$\vdots \qquad \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_d}{\partial z_1} \right| \cdots \left| \frac{\partial f_d}{\partial z_d} \right| = \det \operatorname{diag}(J) = \prod_i \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial z_i}$$

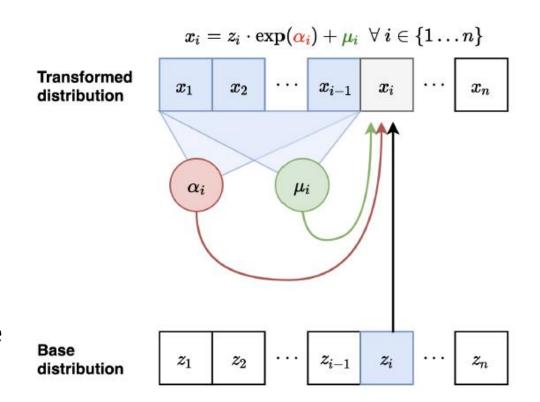
- Tractable likelihood
- Idea
  - Sequential generation  $x_1, x_2, ..., x_d$
  - $x_i$  only depends on  $x_{< i}$ , the likelihood can be easily tractable

$$p(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{d} p(x_i | x_{< i})$$

- Autoregressive model
  - $p(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{d} p(x_i | x_{< i})$
  - Fully tractable probability, easy to generate
    - Remark: AR model be re-visited in sequence modeling lectures
- Example: Gaussian Autoregressive model
  - $p(x_i|x_{< i}) = N(\mu_i(x_1, ..., x_{i-1}), \exp(\alpha_i(x_1, ..., x_{i-1}))^2)$
  - $\mu_i$ ,  $\alpha_i$  are neural networks for i>1 and constant for i=1
  - Connection to flow models?

- Autoregressive models as flow models
  - $p(x_i|x_{< i}) = N(\mu_i(x_1, ..., x_{i-1}), \exp(\alpha_i(x_1, ..., x_{i-1}))^2)$
  - Forward mapping (sampling)
    - Sample  $z_i \sim N(0,1)$  for  $i = 1 \dots d$
    - Let  $x_1 = \exp(\alpha_1)z_1 + \mu_1$
    - Let  $x_2 = \exp(\alpha_2)z_2 + \mu_2$  Compute  $\mu_2$ ,  $\alpha_2$  based on  $x_1$
    - Let  $x_3 = \exp(\alpha_3)z_3 + \mu_3$  Compute  $\mu_3$ ,  $\alpha_3$  based on  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$
    - •
  - $x_i$  and  $z_i$  are bijections
  - Flow interpretation
    - For each  $x_i$ , we have an invertible transformation using  $z_i \sim N(0,1)$  and  $x_{< i}$
    - $z \sim N(0, I) \rightarrow x \sim p(x)$  with non-linear transformations  $\mu_i$  and  $\alpha_i$

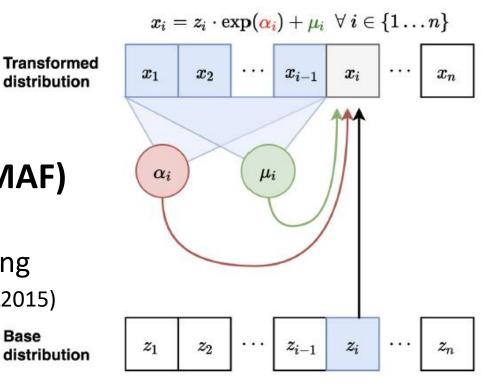
- Autoregressive Flow (AF)
  - $z \sim N(0, I)$
  - $x_i = \exp(\alpha_i(x_{< i})) z_i + \mu_i(x_{< i})$
- Forward mapping (sampling)
  - O(d) time: sequential generation
- Inverse mapping:  $x \to z$  (evaluate p(x))
  - Evaluate  $\alpha_i$  and  $\mu_i$  in parallel (since x is given)
  - $z_i \leftarrow (x_i \mu_i) / \exp(\alpha_i)$  in parallel
  - $p(x) = \prod_i p(x_i|x_{< i}) = p(z) \prod_i \exp(-\alpha_i)$
- Remark
  - Factorized Distribution (joint → sequential)
  - 1-D transformation for each dim, easy to inverse



- Autoregressive Flow (AF)
  - $z \sim N(0, I), x_i = \exp(\alpha_i(x_{< i})) z_i + \mu_i(x_{< i})$
- Forward mapping (sampling)
  - O(d) time: sequence generation
- Inverse mapping:  $x \to z$  (evaluate p(x))
  - $z_i \leftarrow (x_i \mu_i) / \exp(\alpha_i)$  in parallel
- Extension: Masked Autoregressive Flow (MAF)
  - Stack AF for multiple layers
  - Use MADE architecture for fast forward sampling MADE: Masked Autoencoder for Distribution Estimation (ICML2015)
  - Remark: relatively low-dimensional data

Base distribution

distribution



## Autoregressive Flow: Quantization

- Discrete values for x?
  - Pixel values are integers in {0,1, ..., 255}
  - If we apply Gaussian AR flow on image data, how to interpret  $p(x_i = 1.5)$ ?
    - Quantization at inference time!
      - E.g.,  $[x, x + 1) \to x$
    - Training? We only have discrete valued-x
      - No constraint at all on non-integer input value to the network!
- Goal: we want MLE training over the integral [x, x + 1) for x
  - $\hat{p}(x)$  an uncalibrated Gaussian AR model (i.e., neural network)

$$p(x) = \int_{[0,1)^d} \hat{p}(x+u)du$$

• We want to optimize p(x)!

## Autoregressive Flow: Quantization

- Goal: optimize the density over the integral of [v, v + 1]
  - $\hat{p}(x)$  an uncalibrated Gaussian AR model

$$p(x) = \int_{[0,1)^d} \hat{p}(x+u)du$$

- Solution: Dequantization (Theis, Oord, Bethge, 2016)
  - Data augmentation: add noise to data by randomly drawing  $u \sim [0,1)^d$
  - $x' \leftarrow x + u$

• 
$$L(\theta) = E_{x'}[\log \hat{p}(x')] = \sum_{x} p_{data}(x) \int_{[0,1)^d} \log \hat{p}(x+u) du$$

$$\leq \sum_{x} p_{data}(x) \log \int_{[0,1)^d} \hat{p}(x+u) du$$

$$= \mathrm{E}_{x}[\log p(x)]$$

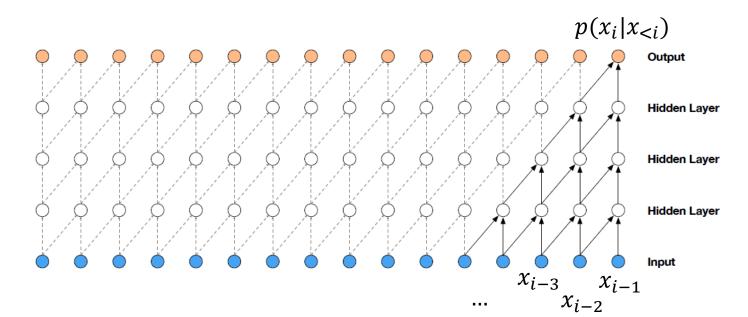
We are optimizing a lower-bound of true objective!

## Autoregressive Flow: Example

- WaveNet (DeepMind, 2016)
  - Goal: voice synthesis
  - $p(x) = \prod_{i} p(x_i | x_1, ..., x_{i-1})$
  - Idea: temporal convolution
    - Issue: how many layers do you need?



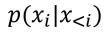
1 Second

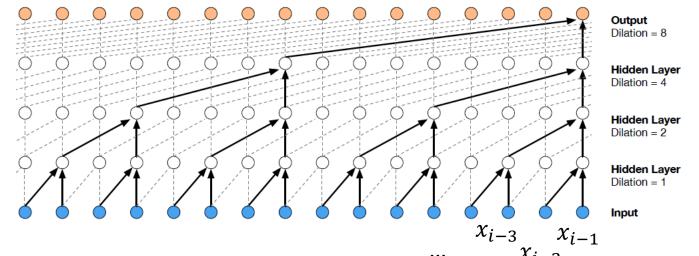


- WaveNet (DeepMind, 2016)
  - Goal: voice synthesis
  - $p(x) = \prod_{i} p(x_i | x_1, ..., x_{i-1})$
  - Idea: temporal convolution
    - Dilated Convolution!
    - $O(\log N)$  layers will be sufficient



1 Second



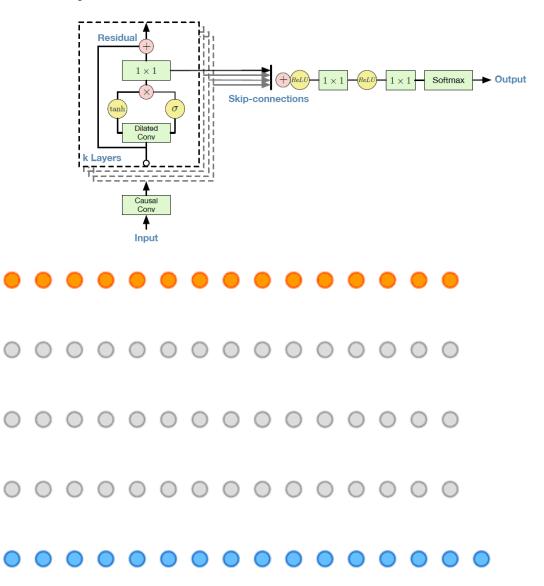


#### **Computation Cost**

- Generation
  - Sequential: O(N)
- Likelihood:
  - fully parallel (CNN)

- WaveNet (DeepMind, 2016)
  - $p(x) = \prod_i p(x_i|x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})$
  - Dilated Temporal Convolution
  - And more
    - Quantization
    - Residual connection
    - Conditioned generation
      - p(x|h)
  - Remark
    - First deep generative model that can generate raw signals

(also check newer ones Jukebox & Suno)

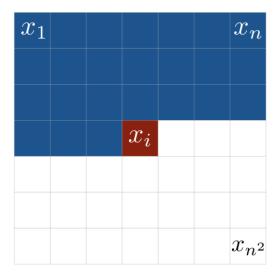


https://deepmind.com/blog/article/wavenet-generative-model-raw-audio https://openai.com/blog/jukebox/ https://www.suno.ai/

- PixelCNN (DeepMind, ICML 2016)
  - Autoregressive model over images

• 
$$p(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{N^2} p(x_i|x_1, ..., x_{i-1})$$

- CNN?
  - How to design the convolution filter?
  - Goal: the convolution filter only takes in previous values

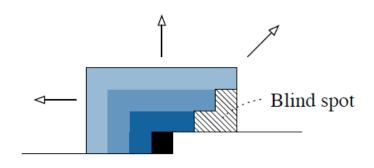


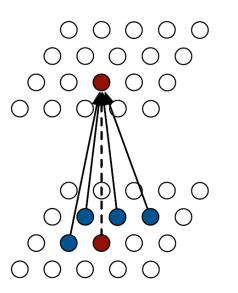
Context

- PixelCNN (DeepMind, ICML 2016)
  - Autoregressive model over images

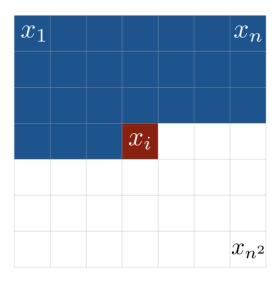
• 
$$p(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{N^2} p(x_i|x_1, ..., x_{i-1})$$

- Masked Convolution
  - Each pixel only takes in previous values
- Likelihood evaluation is in perfect parallel
- Issues?
  - Receptive fields have blind spots!

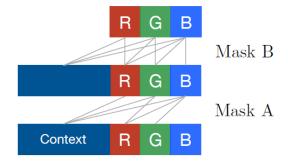




1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0
Mask				



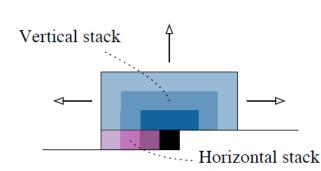
#### Context

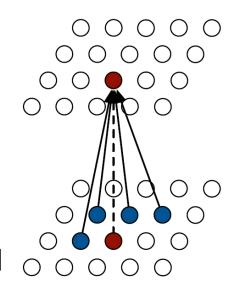


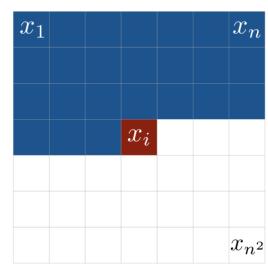
- PixelCNN (DeepMind, ICML 2016)
  - Autoregressive model over images
  - $p(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{N^2} p(x_i|x_1, ..., x_{i-1})$
  - Masked Convolution
    - Each pixel only takes in previous values
  - Likelihood evaluation is in perfect parallel

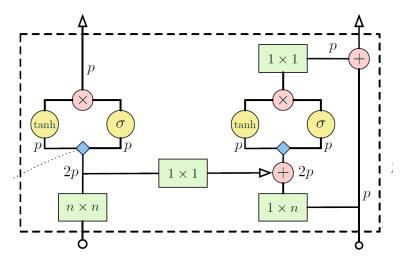


- Corrected receptive field (homework ©)
- Gated convolution
  - "Gating" technique
  - Inspired by LSTM
    - More in future lectures



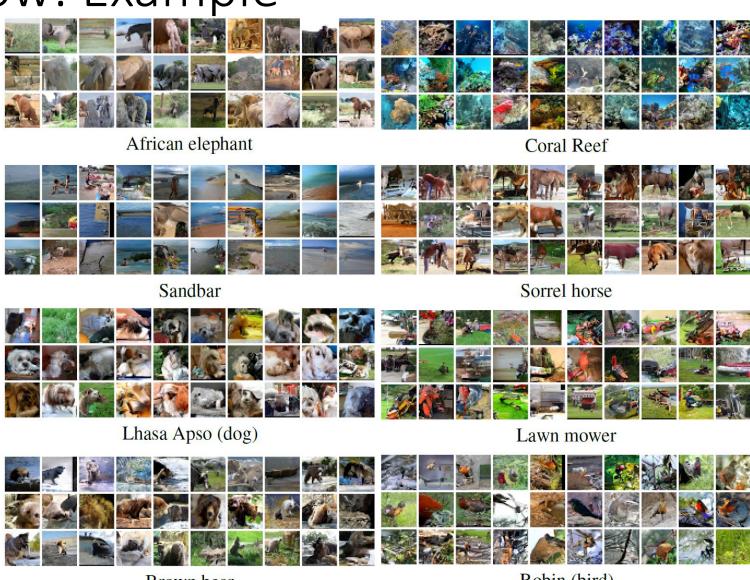






Conditioned generation

Gated PixelCNN

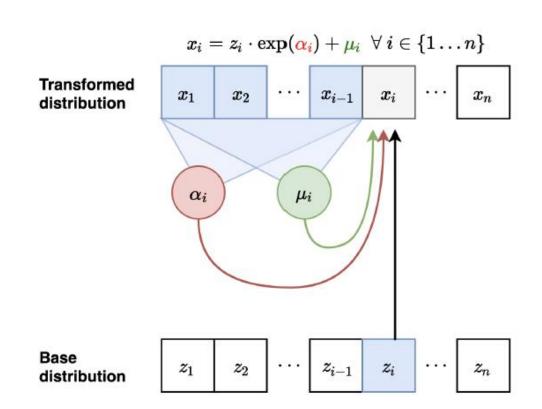


Brown bear

Robin (bird)

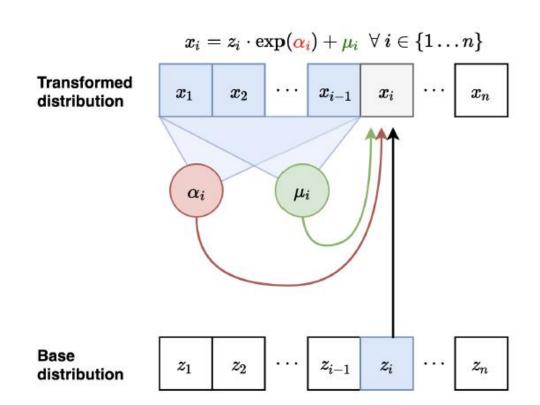
# Autoregressive Flow (Recap)

- Gaussian Autoregressive Flow (AF)
  - $z \sim N(0, I)$
  - $x_i = \exp(\alpha_i(x_{< i})) z_i + \mu_i(x_{< i})$
- Forward mapping (sampling)
  - O(d) time: sequential sampling
- Inverse mapping:  $x \rightarrow z$  (likelihood)
  - Likelihood evaluation is in perfect parallel
  - Training is fast!
- Faster sampling?



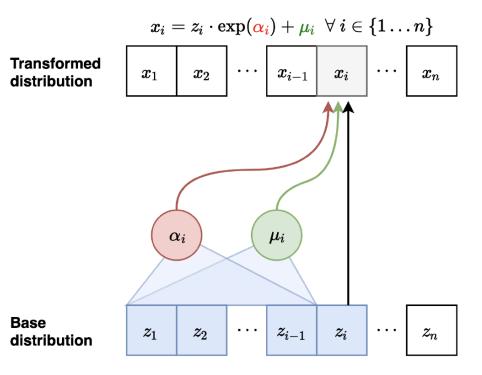
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- Inverse mapping:  $x \rightarrow z$  (likelihood)
  - Likelihood evaluation is in perfect parallel
  - Training is fast!
- Faster sampling?
  - We can let  $\alpha_i$ ,  $\mu_i$  condition on  $z_{< i}$ 
    - Remark: mapping between x and z is a bijection



# Inverse Autoregressive Flow (IAF)

- Gaussian Inverse Autoregressive Flow (IAF)
  - $z \sim N(0, I)$
  - $x_i = \exp(\alpha_i(z_{< i})) z_i + \mu_i(z_{< i})$
- Forward mapping  $z \to x$  (sampling)
  - $\alpha_i$  and  $\mu_i$  can be evaluated in parallel
  - Fast sampling!
- Inverse mapping  $x \to z$  (likelihood)
  - $z_i \leftarrow (x_i \mu_i) \cdot \exp(-\alpha_i)$
  - In order to evaluate  $p(x_i|z_{< i})$ , we need to generate all  $z_{< i}$
  - O(d) computation for evaluation (slow training)



### AF v.s. IAF

• Interchange x and z matches the forward mapping and inverse mapping of AF (MAF) and IAF

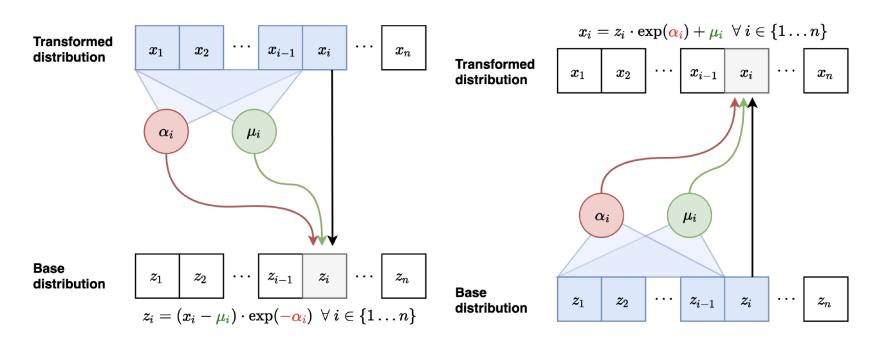


Figure: Inverse pass of MAF (left) vs. Forward pass of IAF (right)

#### AF v.s. IAF

- AF: fast evaluation (inverse mapping) + slow sampling (forward)
- IAF: slow evaluation (inverse mapping) + fast sampling (forward)
- Can we get positive sides from both frameworks?

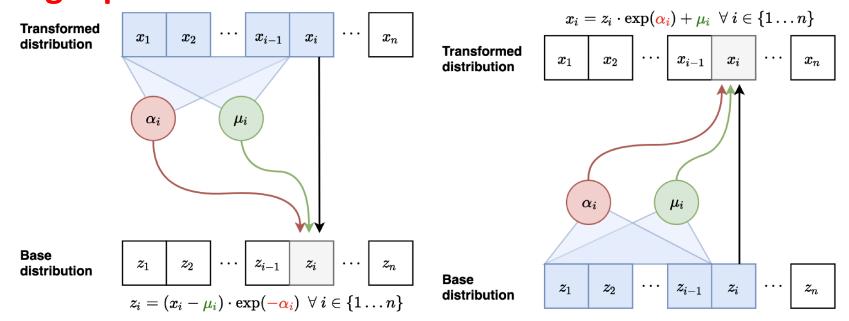


Figure: Inverse pass of MAF (left) vs. Forward pass of IAF (right)

- Parallel WaveNet (DeepMind, ICML 2018)
  - Original WaveNet is AF, slow sampling but train fast
  - We can convert WaveNet to an IAF, but it will be slow to train (evaluation)
  - Idea: teacher student framework!
    - Teacher:  $p_T(x_i|x_{< i})$  a standard WaveNet (fast training)
    - Student:  $p_S(x_i|z_{< i})$  a IAF WaveNet, and running imitation learning w.r.t.  $p_T$ 
      - i.e., minimize the difference between  $p_S(x)$  and  $p_T(x)$
    - Key observation: if z is given, evaluation of IAF is fast (Gaussian density)
  - Algorithm Sketch
    - Step 1: Train teacher  $p_T(x_i|x_{< i})$  network and fix it
    - Step 2: Minimize the difference between  $p_T(x)$  and  $p_S(x)$
    - Finally we use  $p_S(x)$  for fast sampling

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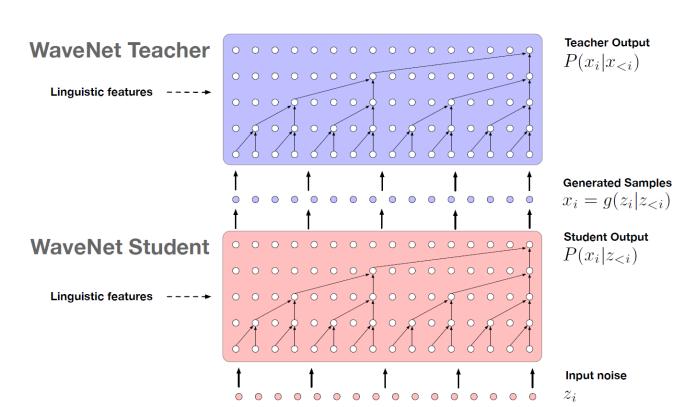
- Parallel WaveNet (DeepMind, ICML 2018)
  - Teacher-Student Learning
    - Pretrain  $p_T(x)$  and then train  $p_S(x)$  by imitation learning
  - Distance measure for two distributions
    - KL divergence:  $KL(p||q) = E_{x\sim p} \left[ \log \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} \right]$ 
      - Asymmetric measure!
      - Choose p such that p is easy to sample from
        - more to come in the next lecture ©

- Parallel WaveNet (DeepMind, ICML 2018)
  - Teacher-Student Learning
    - Pretrain  $p_T(x)$  and then train  $p_S(x)$  by imitation learning
  - Distance measure for two distributions
    - KL divergence:  $KL(p||q) = E_{x\sim p} \left[ \log \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} \right]$
  - Imitation learning

$$L(\theta) = KL(p_S||p_T) = \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_S}[\log p_S(x;\theta) - \log p_T(x)]$$

- Monte Carlo estimates for the expectation
  - Key: sample from the student network!
- Sample  $z \sim N(0, I)$ , generate  $x \sim p_S(x|z)$  (parallel)
- Evaluate  $p_S(x|z)$  (parallel since z is known)
- Evaluate  $p_T(x)$  (parallel since  $p_T(x)$  is AF)

- Parallel WaveNet (DeepMind, ICML 2018)
  - Teacher-Student Learning
    - Pretrain  $p_T(x)$  and then train  $p_S(x)$  by imitation learning
  - Combining AF & IAF
    - Also other tricks for performances
  - Speedup
    - 20x faster than real-time
    - 1000x faster than WaveNet
    - Google production



# Normalizing Flow: Summary

- Normalizing Flow
  - Easy to sample by iterative transforming a simple distribution
  - Invertible transformation for tractable likelihood
    - Enable straightforward MLE learning
  - Critical idea
    - Design non-linear transformation with easy-to-compute Jacobian determinant
- Autoregressive flow
  - Assumption: a factored distribution
    - So each layer  $p(x_i|x_{< i})$  results in a simple Jacobian
  - Can be interpreted as a special case of normalizing flow
  - AF v.s. IAF: trade-off between evaluation and sampling

# Normalizing Flow: Summary

- Energy-Based Model
  - Flexible density function
  - Arbitrary network structure, allowing (low-dimensional) feature learning
  - Hardest to sample and learn
    - No direct sampling
    - No direct MLE learning due to unknown partition function
- Normalizing Flow
  - Easy to sample by transforming from a simple distribution
  - Most restricted network structure (trade expressiveness for tractability)
    - But autoregressive model can be great ☺ (future lectures)

# Normalizing Flow: Summary

- Energy-Based Model
  - Flexible density function
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- Normalizing Flow
  - Easy to sample by transforming from a simple distribution
  - Most restricted network structure (trade expressiveness for tractability)
    - Tractability requirement due to MLE training
- Is MLE objective a must? Other learning objectives?
  - Next two lectures ©

# Thanks