

TTIC 31230, Fundamentals of Deep Learning

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Diffusion Model Basics

Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models (DDPM)

Ho, Jain and Abbeel, June 2020



Markovian VAEs

A diffusion model (DDPM) is a Markovian VAE.

We model y with a latent variable $z = (z_0, z_1, \dots, z_L)$.

The encoder is defined by $z_0 = y$ and $P_{\text{enc}}(z_\ell | z_{\ell-1})$.

The prior is defined by $P_{\text{pri}}(z_L)$ and $P_{\text{pri}}(z_{\ell-1} | z_\ell)$ and subsumes the decoder as $P_{\text{pri}}(z_0 | z_1)$.

Markovian VAEs

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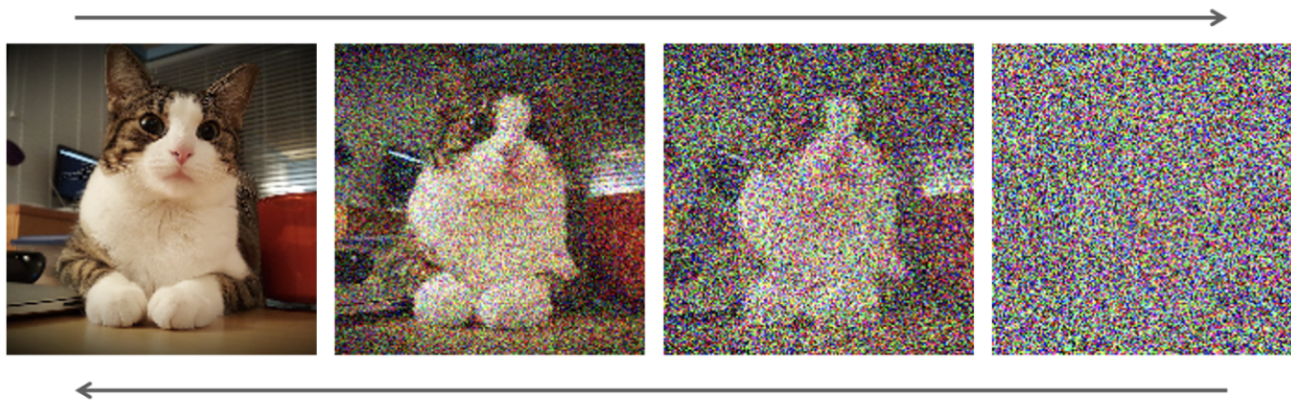
The prior is defined by $P_{\text{pri}}(z_L)$ and $P_{\text{pri}}(z_{\ell-1} | z_\ell)$.

We can generate y by sampling from the prior.

Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models (DDPM)

We model y with a latent variable $z = (z_0, z_1, \dots, z_L)$ with $z_0 = y$.

In a DDPM we have that z_ℓ is the result of adding noise to the given image y .



DDPM SDE

The DDPM stochastic differential equation (SDE) provides the formal motivation for DDPM models.

For the DDPM SDE one can show analytically that the true reverse process probabilities $P(z_{\ell-1}|z_{\ell})$ (as defined by the forward process) are Gaussians with a known variance.

This implies that in the SDE limit we can model any population **exactly** by a model in which $P(z_{\ell-1}|z_{\ell})$ is taken to be Gaussian.

DDPM SDE

To formulate the DDPM SDE we will use the same σ at all levels.

$$\text{for } \ell \geq 1 \quad z_\ell = \sqrt{1 - \sigma^2} z_{\ell-1} + \sigma \epsilon \quad \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$

This is designed so that if $z_{\ell-1}$ has unit variance in each dimension then z_ℓ also has unit variance in each dimension.

$z_0 = y$ is scaled so that each coordinate is in the interval $[0, 1]$ so that all z_ℓ have approximately unit variance.

DDPM SDE

$$\text{for } \ell \geq 1 \quad z_\ell = \sqrt{1 - \sigma^2} z_{\ell-1} + \sigma \epsilon \quad \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$

Unit Variance is desired because in implementations the same prior network is used for all levels and it is then important that z_ℓ has the same scale and variance for all ℓ .

DDPM SDE

Because a sum of independent Gaussians is also a Gaussian, we can sample z_ℓ directly from z_0 .

$$\text{define } \alpha = \sqrt{1 - \sigma^2}$$

$$z_\ell = \alpha^\ell z_0 + \sqrt{1 - \alpha^{2\ell}} \epsilon \quad \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$

The variance of the noise term follows from the fact that z_ℓ has unit variance in each dimension when $z_{\ell-1}$ does.

DDPM SDE

We select the endpoint L such that z_L is essentially all noise.

$$z_L = \alpha^L z_0 + \sqrt{1 - \alpha^{2L}} \epsilon \quad \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$

For some limit δ we select L to be the least integer satisfying

$$\alpha^L = \sqrt{1 - \sigma^2}^L < \delta \tag{1}$$

The stochastic differential equation is defined by simultaneously taking $\sigma \rightarrow 0$ and $L \rightarrow \infty$ while satisfying (??).

DDPM SDE

$$z_t = e^{-t} z_0 + \sqrt{1 - e^{-2t}} \epsilon_1$$

$$\Delta z = -z_t \Delta t + \sqrt{2\Delta t} \epsilon_2$$

A first observation is that for infinitesimal Δt we have that Δt is infinitesimal compared to $\sqrt{2\Delta t}$. **Hence the distribution $P(\Delta z|z_t, \Delta t)$ is Gaussian with variance $\sigma = \sqrt{2\Delta t}$ and with mean infinitesimal with respect to the variance.**

DDPM SDE

$$z_\ell = \sqrt{1 - \sigma^2} z_{\ell-1} + \sigma \epsilon$$

As we take $\sigma \rightarrow 0$ we can rewrite $\sqrt{1 - \sigma^2}$ using the first order Taylor expansion of the square root function.

$$z_\ell = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2\right) z_{\ell-1} + \sigma \epsilon$$
$$\Delta z = -\frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 z_{\ell-1} + \sigma \epsilon$$

DDPM SDE

$$\Delta z = -\frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 z_{\ell-1} + \sigma \epsilon$$

Here we are taking $\sigma \rightarrow 0$ which means that the second order term $(1/2)\sigma^2 z_\ell$ is infinitesimal compared to the noise term $\sigma\epsilon$. This is the hallmark of a stochastic differential equation.

Here Δz is distributed as a Gaussian with variance σ and an infinitesimal mean (relative to its variance). The mean is infinitesimal compared to the variance, the mean accumulates over the (very large) sequence z_0, \dots, z_L .

Rewriting the ELBO

We will derive the structure of the prior by optimizing the ELBO loss.

The following is a standard reformulation of the ELBO loss that is valid for all Markovian VAEs.

$$\begin{aligned} H(z_0) &\leq E_{y,z} - \ln \frac{p_{\text{pri}}(z_0, \dots, z_L)}{p_{\text{enc}}(z_1, \dots, z_L | z_0)} \\ &= E_{y,z} - \ln p_{\text{pri}}(z_L) - \sum_{\ell \geq 1} \frac{\ln p_{\text{pri}}(z_{\ell-1} | z_\ell)}{\ln p_{\text{enc}}(z_\ell | z_{\ell-1})} \end{aligned}$$

Rewriting the ELBO

$$\begin{aligned} H(z_0) &\leq E_{y,z} - \ln p_{\text{pri}}(z_L) - \sum_{1 \leq \ell \leq L} \ln \frac{p_{\text{pri}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell)}{p_{\text{enc}}(z_\ell|z_{\ell-1})} \\ &= E_{y,z} - \ln p_{\text{pri}}(z_L) - \sum_{1 \leq \ell \leq L} \ln \frac{p_{\text{pri}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell)}{p_{\text{enc}}(z_\ell|z_{\ell-1}, z_0)} \\ &= E_{y,z} - \ln p_{\text{pri}}(z_L) - \sum_{1 \leq \ell \leq L} \ln \frac{p_{\text{pri}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell)p(z_{\ell-1}|z_0)}{p_{\text{enc}}(z_\ell, z_{\ell-1}|z_0)} \\ &= E_{y,z} - \ln p_{\text{pri}}(z_L) - \sum_{1 \leq \ell \leq L} \ln \frac{p_{\text{pri}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell)p_{\text{enc}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_0)}{p_{\text{enc}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell, z_0)p_{\text{enc}}(z_\ell|z_0)} \end{aligned}$$

Rewriting the ELBO

$$\begin{aligned}
H(z_0) &\leq E_{y,z} - \ln p_{\text{pri}}(z_L) - \sum_{1 \leq \ell \leq L} \ln \frac{p_{\text{pri}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell)}{p_{\text{enc}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell, z_0)} - \ln \frac{p_{\text{pri}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_0)}{p_{\text{enc}}(z_\ell|z_0)} \\
&= E_{y,z} - \ln \frac{p_{\text{pri}}(z_L)}{p_{\text{enc}}(z_L|z_0)} - \sum_{\textcolor{red}{2} \leq \ell \leq L} \ln \frac{p_{\text{pri}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell)}{p_{\text{enc}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell, z_0)} - \ln p_{\text{pri}}(z_0|z_1) \\
&= E_{y,z} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \textcolor{red}{KL}(p_{\text{enc}}(z_L|z_0), p_{\text{pri}}(z_L)) \\ + \sum_{\textcolor{red}{2} \leq \ell \leq L} \textcolor{red}{KL}(p_{\text{enc}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell, z_0), p_{\text{pri}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell)) \\ - \ln p_{\text{pri}}(z_0|z_1) \end{array} \right.
\end{aligned}$$

Using The Gaussian Model

The ELBO loss is optimized by

$$\text{pri}^*(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell) = \underset{\text{pri}}{\operatorname{argmin}} E_{y,z} \ln \frac{p_{\text{enc}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell, y)}{p_{\text{pri}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell)}$$

In the DDPM SDE both distributions are Gaussians with variance σ . The KL divergence then becomes.

$$\text{pri}^* = \underset{\text{pri}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{\ell} E_{y,z} \frac{||\mu_{\text{pri}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell) - \mu_{\text{enc}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_\ell, y)||^2}{2\sigma^2}$$

Setting the Variance to σ in the prior.

$$\text{pri}^* = \underset{\text{pri}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{\ell} E_{y,z} \frac{||\mu_{\text{pri}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_{\ell}) - \mu_{\text{enc}}(z_{\ell-1}|z_{\ell}, y)||^2}{2\sigma^2}$$

$$\text{pri}^* = \underset{\text{pri}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{\ell} E_{z_0, \ell, z_{\ell-1}, z_{\ell}} \frac{||\mu_{\text{pri}}(\ell, z_{\ell}) - z_{\ell-1}||^2}{2\sigma^2}$$

The natural thing now is to train $\mu_{\text{pri}}(\ell, z_{\ell})$ to predict $z_{\ell-1}$.

Reducing the Prior's Dependence on ℓ .

We have already reduced the prior's dependence on ℓ by making z_ℓ have unit variance for all ℓ .

But additional dependence on ℓ can still be removed.

First we solve for $z_{\ell-1}$ in terms of z_ℓ and ϵ .

$$z_\ell = \sqrt{1 - \sigma_\ell^2} z_{\ell-1} + \sigma \epsilon \quad \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$

$$z_{\ell-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \sigma^2}} (z_\ell - \sigma \epsilon)$$

$$\mu_{\text{pri}}(\ell, z_\ell) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \sigma^2}} (z_\ell - \sigma \epsilon_{\text{pri}}(\ell, z_\ell))$$

Here $\epsilon_{\text{pri}}(\ell, z_\ell)$ is a trained network whose target value has the same behavior at all levels of ℓ .

An ϵ -Prior

$$\mu_{\text{pri}}(\ell, z_\ell) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \sigma^2}} (z_\ell - \sigma \epsilon_{\text{pri}}(\ell, z_\ell))$$

However, SGD on the loss $\|z_{\ell-1} - \mu_{\text{pri}}(\ell, z_\ell)\|^2$ now scales the SGD gradients on Φ differently for different ℓ .

We effectively have different learning rates for different ℓ .

Training the ϵ -Prior

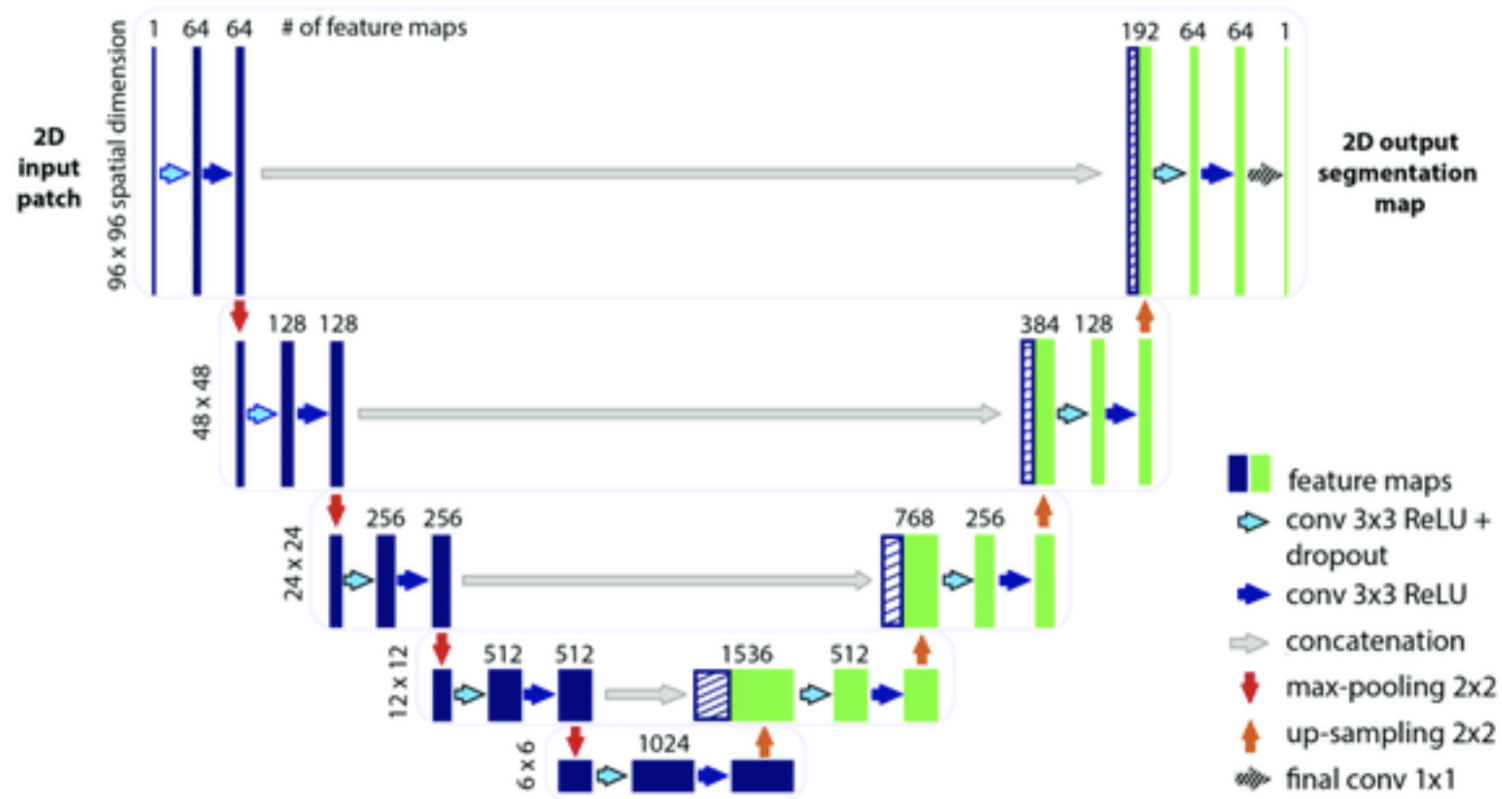
To make the scale of the SGD gradients independent of ℓ we use the following loss.

$$\Phi^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{\Phi} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} E_{z_0, \ell, z_{\ell-1}, \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)} \\ \left| \left| \epsilon - \epsilon_{\text{pri}}(\ell, z_{\ell}(z_{\ell-1}), \ell) \right| \right|^2 \end{array} \right.$$

We now repeatedly sample z_0 , ℓ , $z_{\ell-1}$ and ϵ and do gradient updates on Φ .

ϵ -Prior Architecture

The ϵ -decoder is a U-Net.



Generating Faces



But this is “mearly” a face generator. DALL·E and DALL·E-2 do text-conditioned image generation. Also, here we are using $L = 1000$.

END