

# Geometric Neural Diffusion Processes

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Uncertainty Quantification for Generative Modelling



# Papers of Reference and Collaborators

Neural Diffusion Processes. ICML 2023.



Vincent  
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Alan  
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Zoubin  
Ghahramani



Fergus  
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Geometric Neural Diffusion Processes. Under submission.



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De Bortoli



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Teh



Richard E.  
Turner

# Rise of Diffusion Models

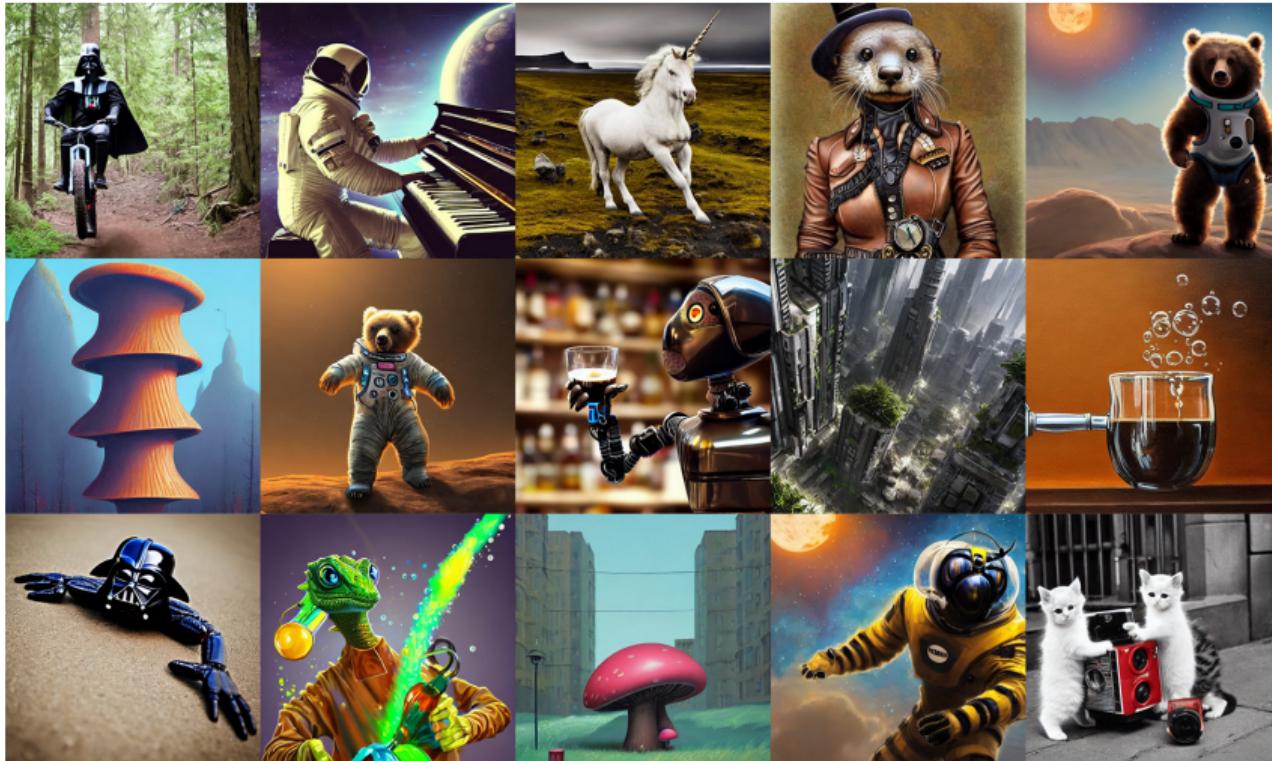
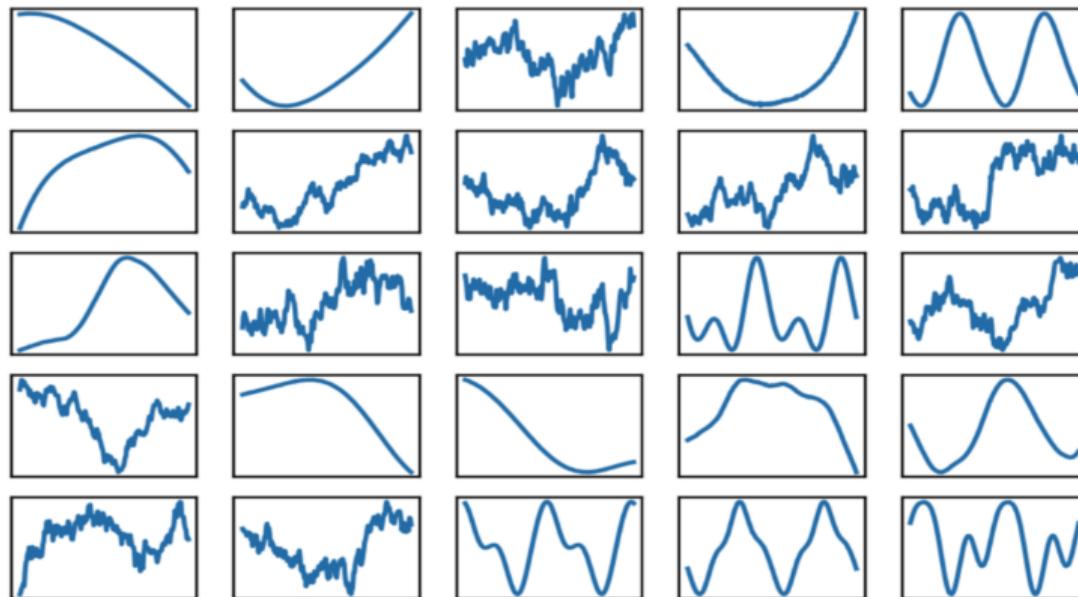
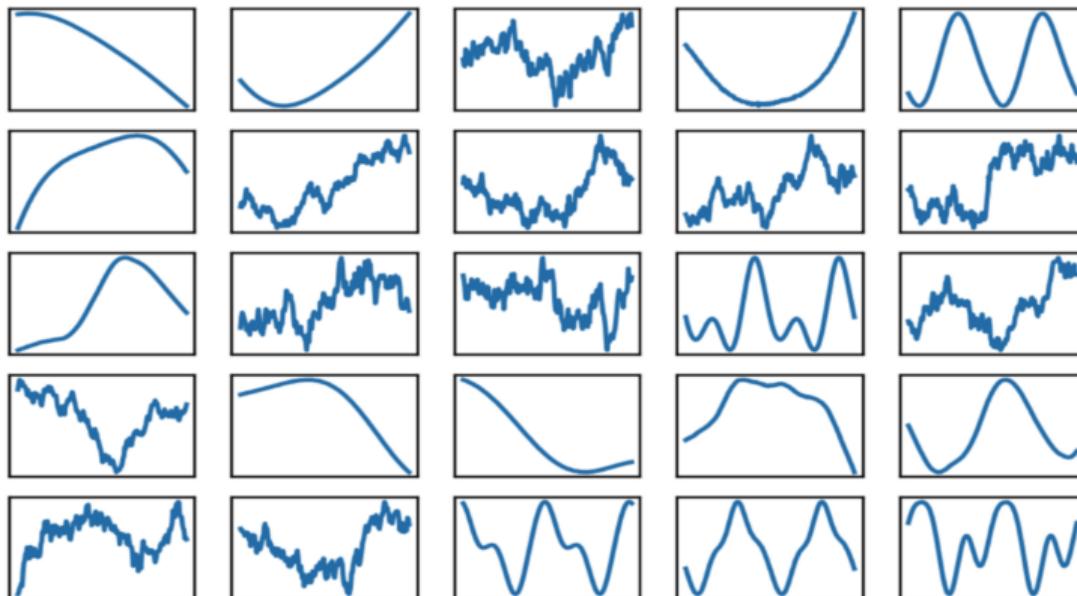


Figure 1: Samples from stable diffusion

# Goal



## Goal

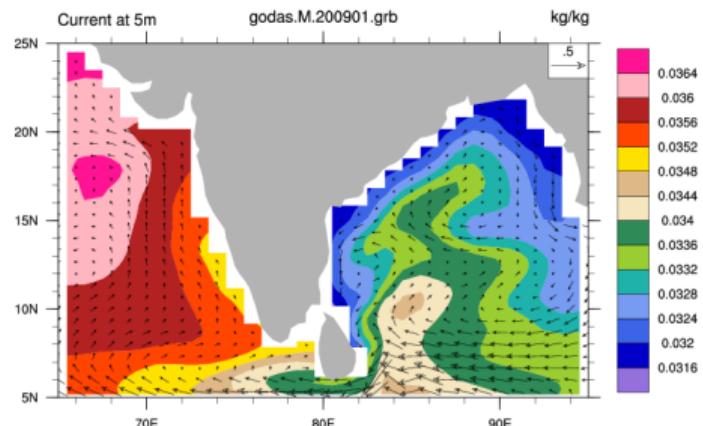


## Why

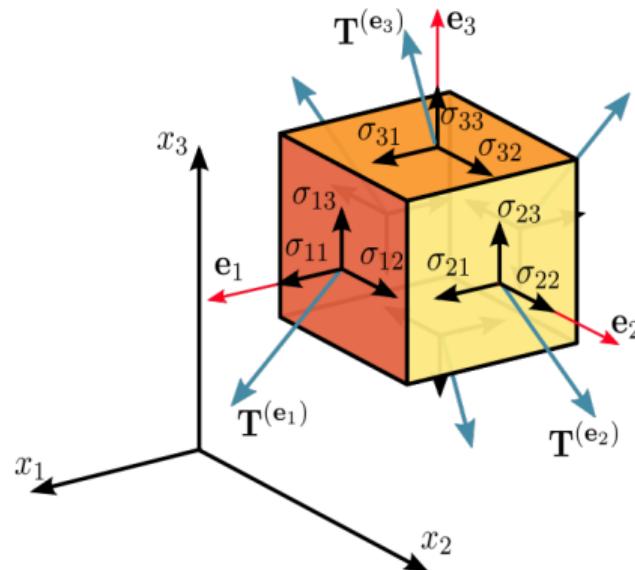
- Many physical and natural phenomena are better characterised as functions.
- Meta-learn and treat limited data as originating from a function.

## Feature Fields: $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$

- Mathematical framework for modelling natural phenomena.
- Examples: Temperature  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , and wind direction on globe  $f : \mathcal{S}^2 \rightarrow T\mathcal{S}^2$ .



(a) Temperature map and wind vector fields.



(b) 3D stress tensor (type-2) diagram.

## Prior invariances

Encode invariances w.r.t. group transformations. For a group  $G$ , we want  $\forall g \in G$

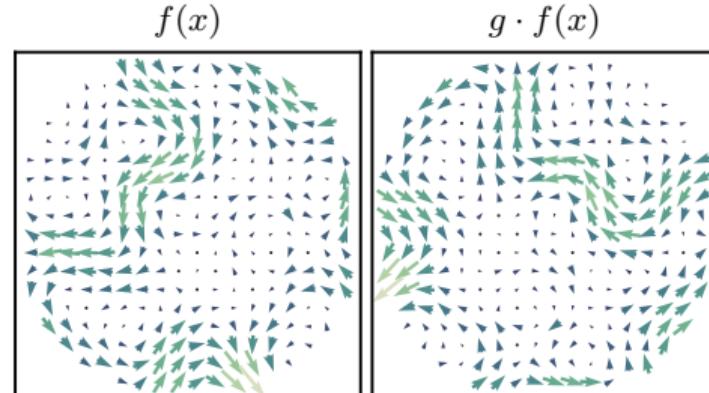
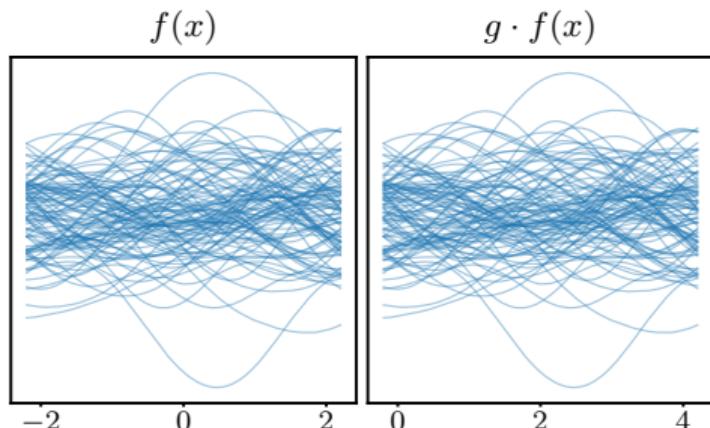
$$p(f) = p(g \cdot f) \quad \text{with} \quad g \cdot f = \rho(g)f(g^{-1}x).$$

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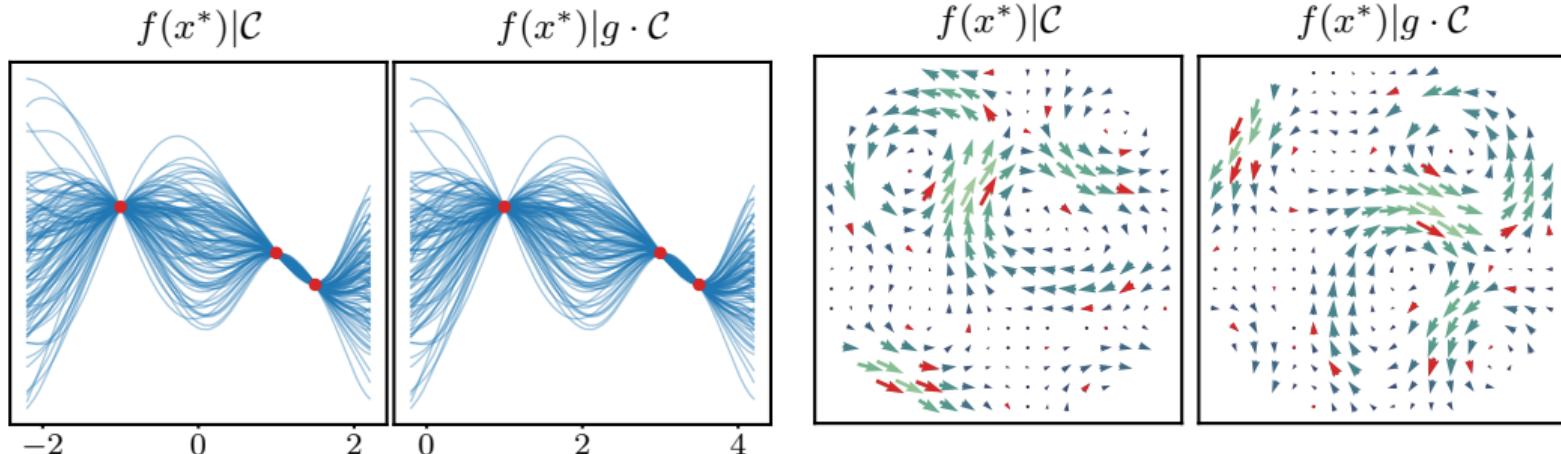
**Examples** translation invariance (stationarity) and rotational invariance.



## Conditional process

- Interested in the conditional process given a set of observations  $\mathcal{C} = \{(x_n, y_n)\}_{n=1}^N$ .
- If the prior is  $G$ -invariant, then the conditional is  $G$ -equivariant:

$$p(f \mid \mathcal{C}) = p(g \cdot f \mid g \cdot \mathcal{C}) \quad \text{where} \quad g \cdot \mathcal{C} = \{(g \cdot x_n, \rho(g)y_n)\}.$$



## Continuous diffusion models

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## Principles of continuous diffusion models

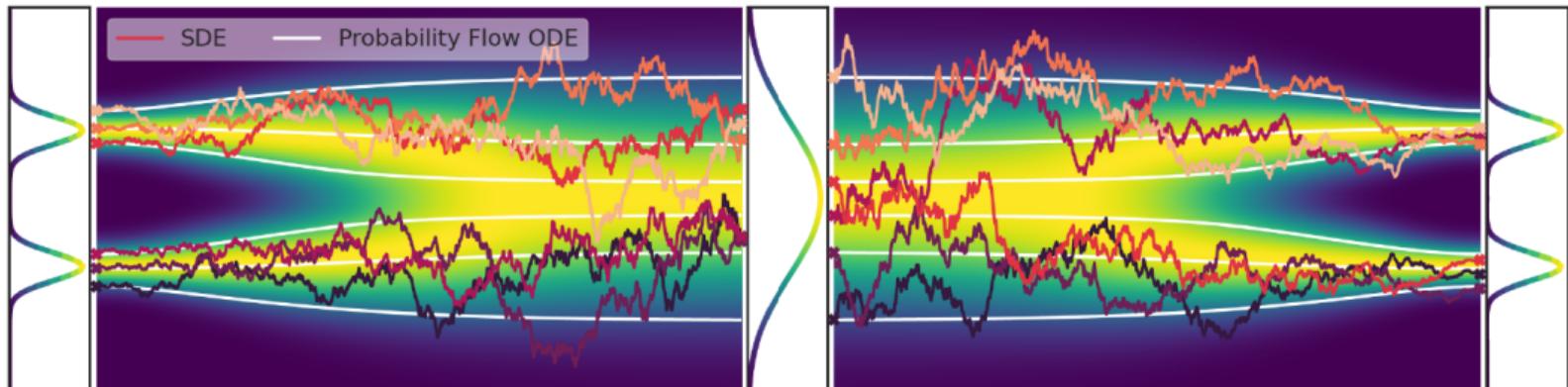


Figure 5: (Song et al., 2021)

- ▶ Idea: Destruct data with *continuous* series of noise.
- ▶ Do this by constructing an **SDE** forward noising process  $(\mathbf{Y}_t)_{t \in [0, T]}$ .
- ▶ Have this noising converge to a **known distribution**.
- ▶ **Invert** this SDE noising process to get **denoising** process.

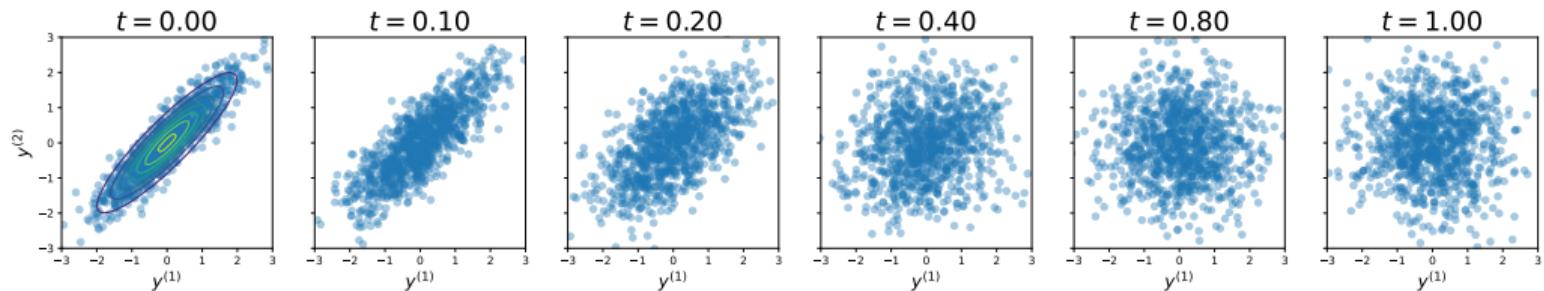
# Continuous noising processes

The **Forward process** progressively perturbs the data following a SDE

$$d\mathbf{Y}_t = -\mathbf{Y}_t dt + \sqrt{2} dB_t, \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathbf{B}_t$  is Brownian motion (think of it conceptually as  $d\mathbf{B}_t/dt \sim \mathcal{N}(0, dt)$ ).

## Example: 2D Gaussian data



**Figure 6:** Forward process

## Continuous score-based models: Time reversal process

Theorem 1: (Cattiaux et al., 2021; Haussmann and Pardoux, 1986)

The time-reversed process  $(\bar{\mathbf{Y}}_t)_{t \geq 0} = (\mathbf{Y}_{T-t})_{t \in [0, T]}$ , with forward process  $d\mathbf{Y}_t = -\mathbf{Y}_t dt + \sqrt{2}dB_t$ , also satisfies an SDE given by

$$d\bar{\mathbf{Y}}_t = \left[ -\bar{\mathbf{Y}}_t + 2 \nabla \log p_t(\bar{\mathbf{Y}}_t) \right] dt + \sqrt{2}dB_t,$$

assuming  $\bar{\mathbf{Y}}_0$  is distributed the same as  $\mathbf{Y}_T$ .

## Continuous score-based models: Time reversal process

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assuming  $\bar{\mathbf{Y}}_0$  is distributed the same as  $\mathbf{Y}_T$ .

**Problem** The Stein score  $\nabla \log p_t = \nabla \log \int p_{data}(\mathbf{Y}_0) p_{t|0}(\mathbf{Y}_t | \mathbf{Y}_0) d\mathbf{Y}_0$  is intractable.

# Denoising Score Matching

Parameterise score using neural network  $s_\theta : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  and learn score using the Denoising Score Matching objective

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta) = \mathbb{E}[\| s_\theta(t, \mathbf{Y}_t) - \nabla \log p_t(\mathbf{Y}_t | \mathbf{Y}_0) \|^2]. \quad (2)$$

## Example

$$d\bar{\mathbf{Y}}_t = \left[ -\bar{\mathbf{Y}}_t + 2 s_\theta(t, \bar{\mathbf{Y}}_t) \right] dt + \sqrt{2} dB_t,$$

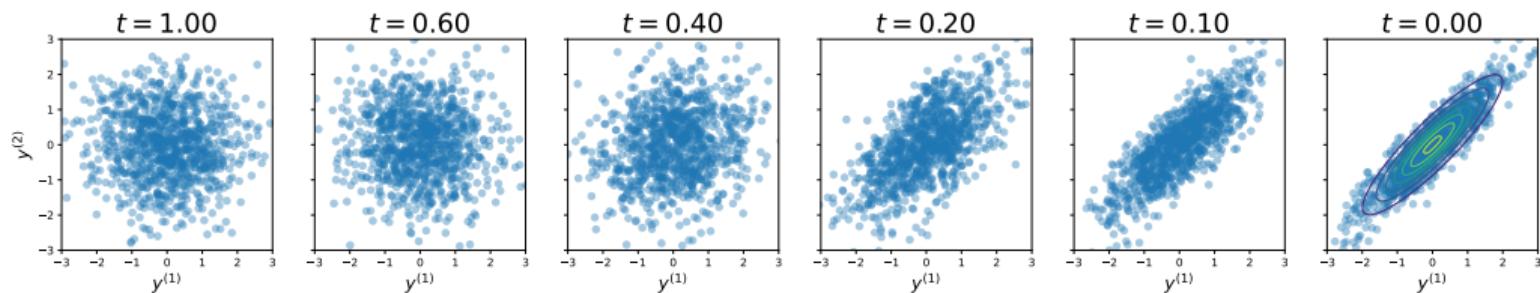
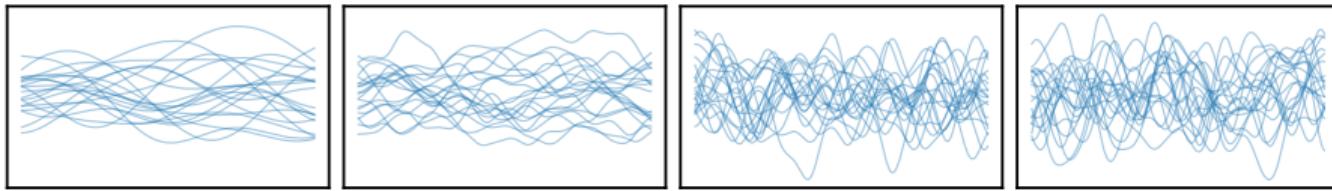


Figure 7: Reverse process

## **Diffusion on Function Spaces**

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## Continuous noising process

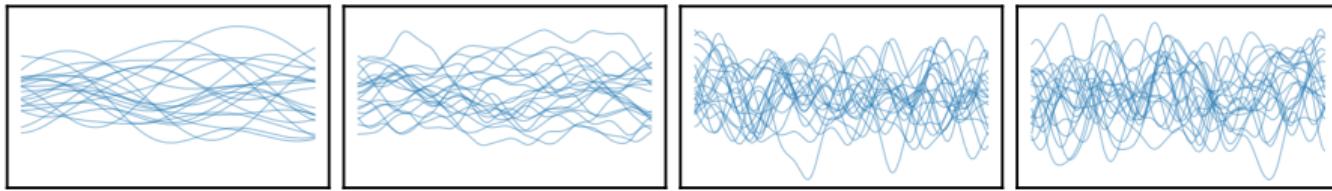


We construct the forward **noising process**  $(\mathbf{Y}_t(x))_{t \geq 0} \triangleq (\mathbf{Y}_t(x^1), \dots, \mathbf{Y}_t(x^n))_{t \geq 0}$  defined by the multivariate SDE (multivariate Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process)

$$d\mathbf{Y}_t(x) = \frac{1}{2} \{m(x) - \mathbf{Y}_t(x)\} \beta_t dt + \beta_t^{1/2} K(x, x)^{1/2} dB_t, \quad (3)$$

where  $K(x, x)_{i,j} = k(x^i, x^j)$  with  $k : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  a kernel and  $m : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ .

## Continuous noising process



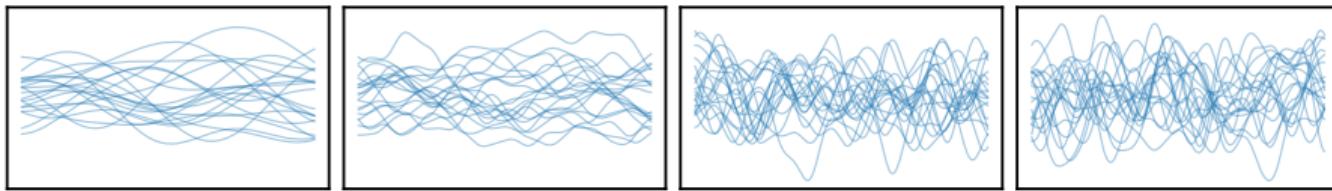
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- $\mathbf{Y}_t(x) \rightarrow N(m(x), K(x, x))$  with geometric rate, for any  $x \in \mathcal{X}^n$ .
- $\mathbf{Y}_t \rightarrow GP(m, k) \triangleq \mathbf{Y}_\infty$  (Phillips et al., 2022).

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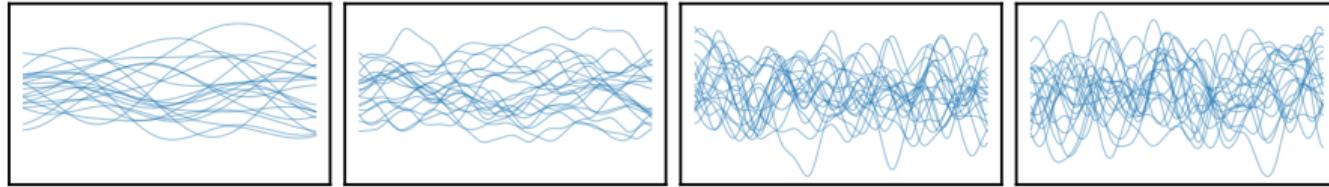
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- $\mathbf{Y}_t \rightarrow GP(m, k) \triangleq \mathbf{Y}_\infty$  (Phillips et al., 2022).
- $\mathbf{Y}_t$  interpolates between  $\mathbf{Y}_0$  and  $\mathbf{Y}_\infty$ .

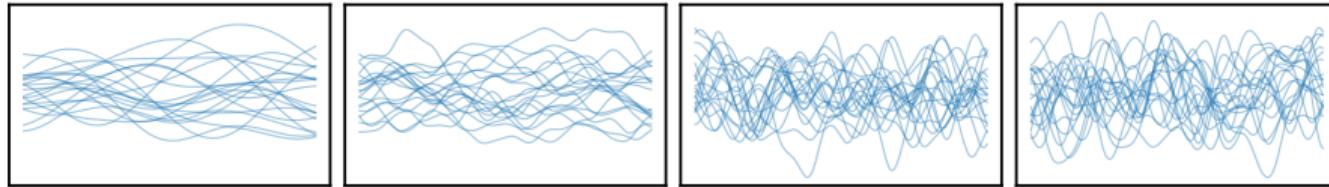
## Continuous noising process

$$k(x, x') = k_{\text{rbf}}(x, x') = \sigma^2 \exp\left(\frac{\|x-x'\|^2}{2l^2}\right), \text{ with } l = 1.$$

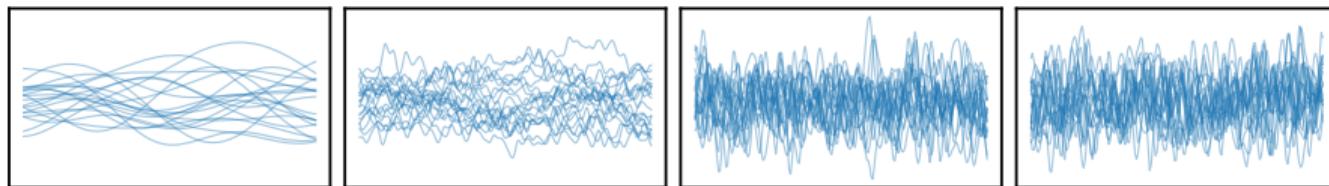


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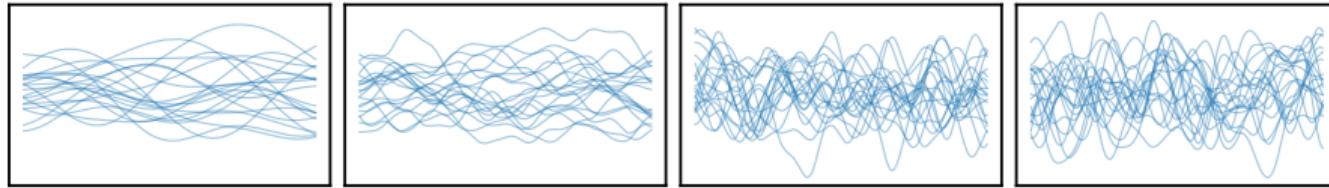


$$k(x, x') = k_{\text{rbf}}(x, x'), \text{ with } l = 0.2.$$

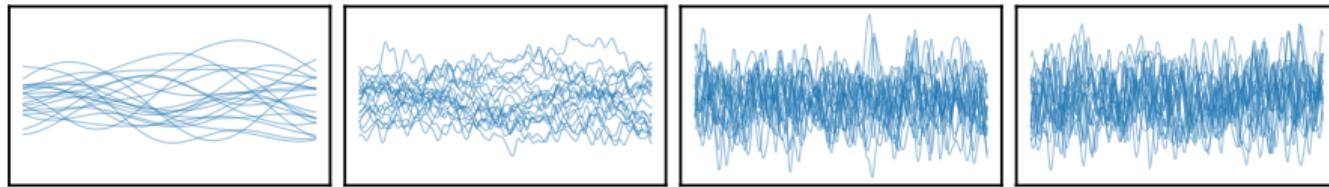


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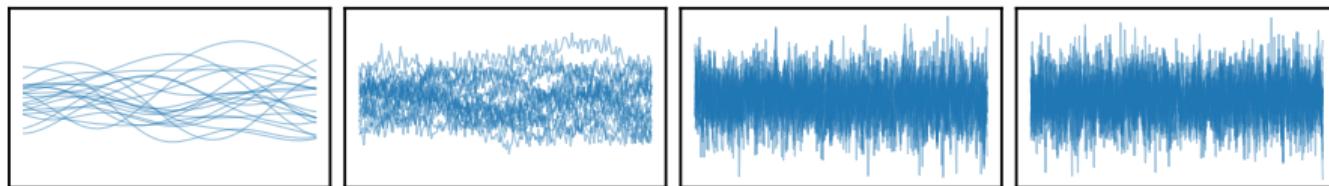
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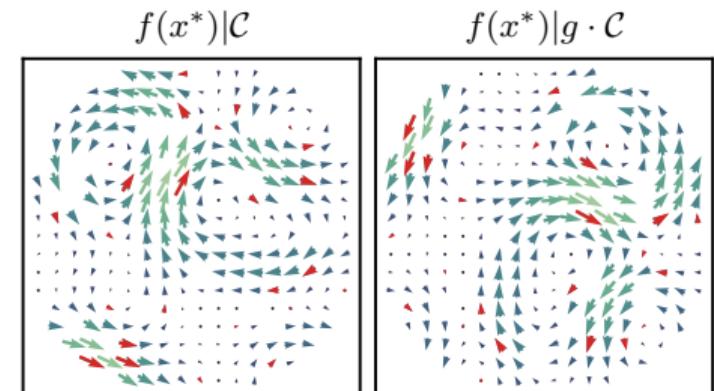
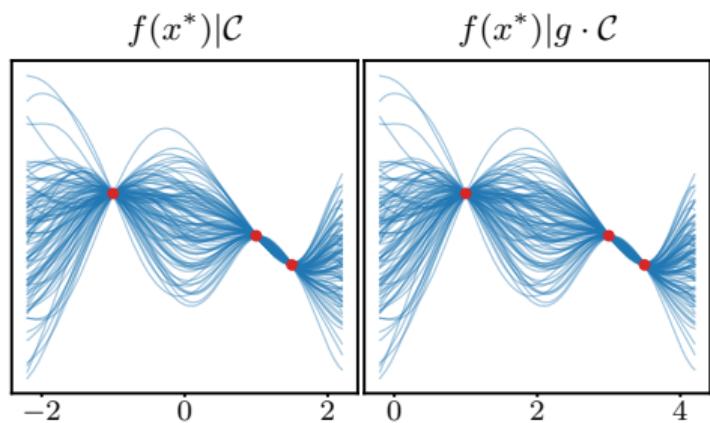
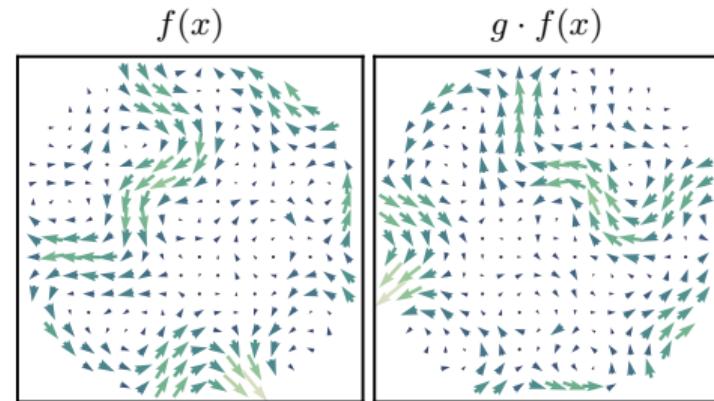
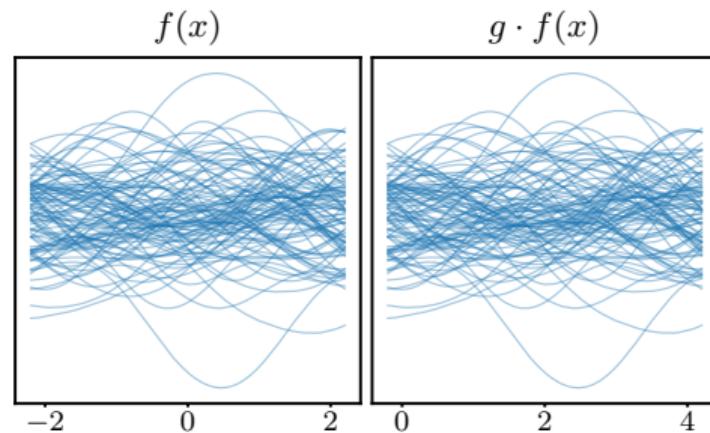
$$k(x, x') = \delta_x(x') \text{ (The traditional DDPM settings).}$$



## Encoding Invariances

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# Prior and Conditional Symmetries



## Invariant neural diffusion processes

### Proposition 1: Invariant Neural Diffusion Processes

The denoising process on functions as defined above and with initial sample given by  $p(\bar{\mathbf{Y}}_0) = \text{GP}(m, k)$  is  $G$ -invariant if

1.  $m$  and  $k$  are both  $G$ -equivariant (i.e.  $G$ -invariant Gaussian process), i.e.

$$m(g \cdot x) = \rho(g)m(x) \quad \text{and} \quad k(g \cdot x, g \cdot x') = \rho(g)k(x, x')\rho(g)^\top,$$

2. the score network is  $G$ -equivariant vector field, i.e.

$$\mathbf{s}_\theta(t, g \cdot x, \rho(g)y) = \rho(g)\mathbf{s}_\theta(t, x, y),$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}, g \in G$ .

## Conditional Process

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## Conditional sampling in diffusion models

**Goal:** Sample from  $y \sim p(\cdot | \mathcal{C})$  given a condition  $\mathcal{C}$ .

# Conditional sampling in diffusion models

**Goal:** Sample from  $y \sim p(\cdot | \mathcal{C})$  given a condition  $\mathcal{C}$ .



“a hedgehog using a calculator”



“a corgi wearing a red bowtie and a purple party hat”



“robots meditating in a vipassana retreat”



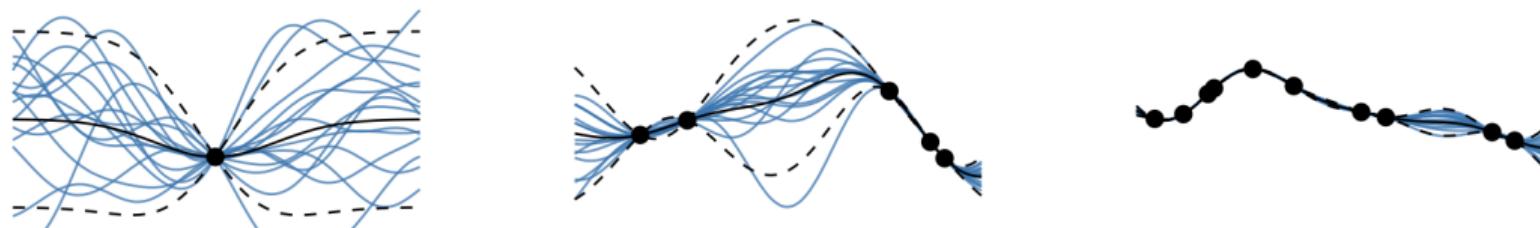
“a fall landscape with a small cottage next to a lake”

**Figure 10:**  $p(\text{image} | \text{text})$

Often the condition is a property (e.g., caption).

## Conditional sampling in Neural Diffusion Processes

Condition is a subspace of the state space:  $\mathbf{Y}^{\mathcal{C}} = (y^{(1)}, \dots, y^{(m)})$ .



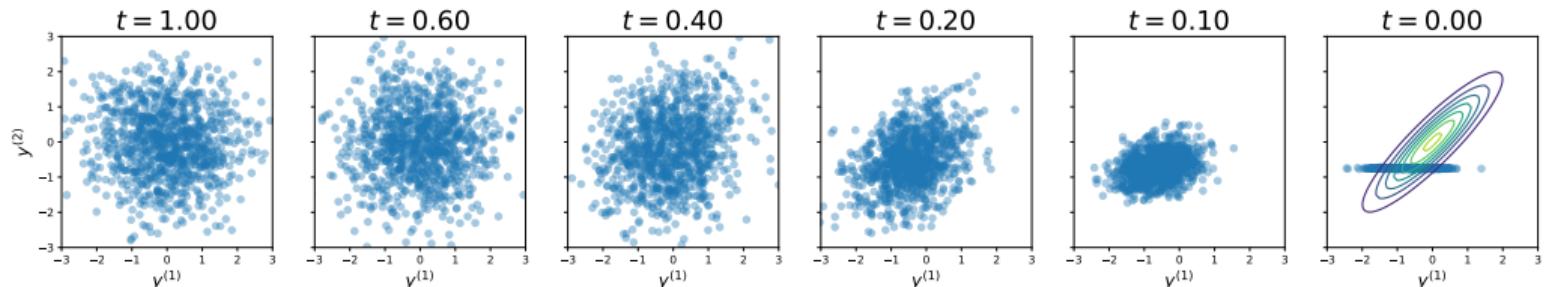
**Figure 11:** Conditional samples  $p(\cdot | \mathbf{Y}^{\mathcal{C}})$ .

# Conditional sampling in Neural Diffusion Processes

- We need the **conditional score**  $\nabla \log p_t(\mathbf{Y}_t) \implies \nabla \log p_t(\mathbf{Y}_t | \mathbf{Y}^C)$
- Applying Bayes rule to the conditional score

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{Y}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{Y}_t | \mathbf{Y}^C) = \nabla_{\mathbf{Y}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{Y}_t, \mathbf{Y}^C) - \nabla_{\mathbf{Y}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{Y}^C) = \nabla_{\mathbf{Y}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{Y}_t, \mathbf{Y}^C)$$

- Use standard reverse process with score  $s_\theta(t, [\mathbf{Y}_t, \mathbf{Y}^C])$ .

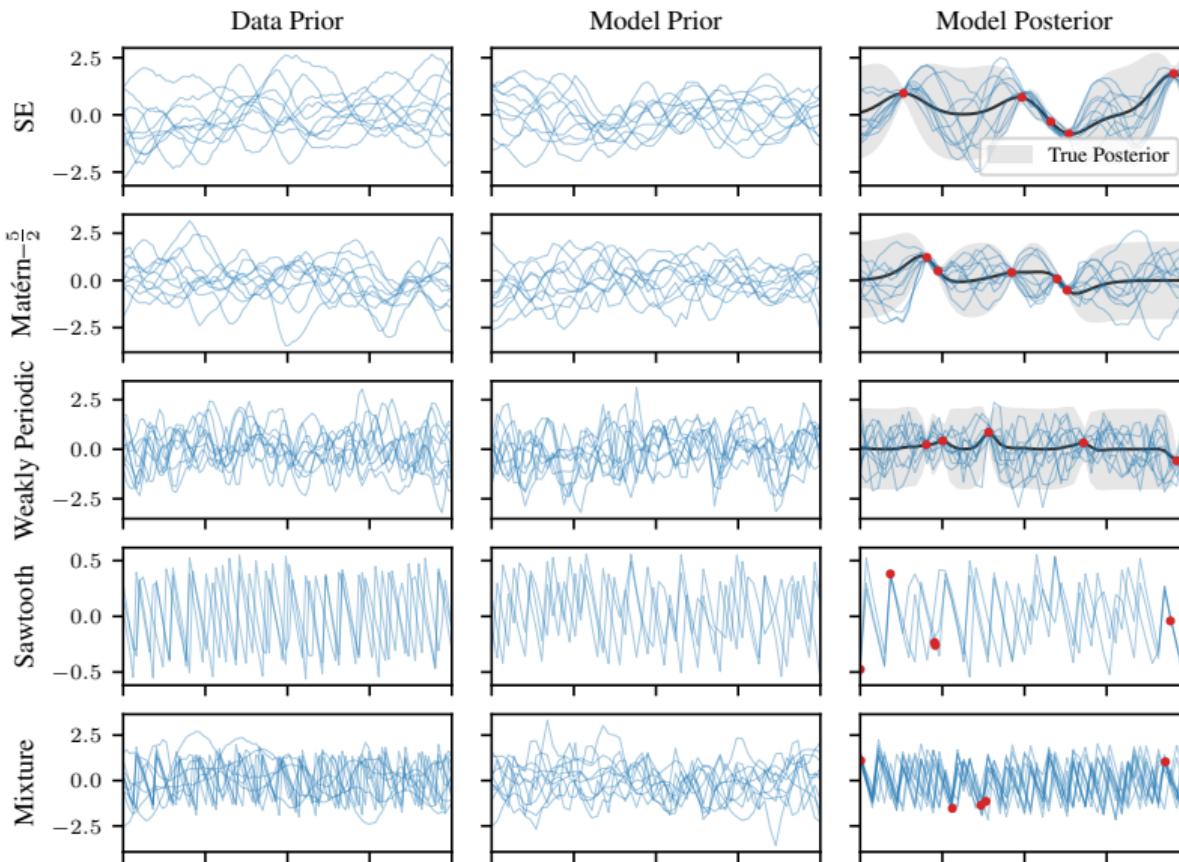


**Figure 12:** Conditional reverse process  $p(\mathbf{Y}_0 | y^{(2)} = -1)$

## Experimental results

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# 1D regression: Datasets



## 1D regression: Predictive log-likelihood (Cont'd)

**Table 1:** Mean test log-likelihood (TLL) (higher is better)

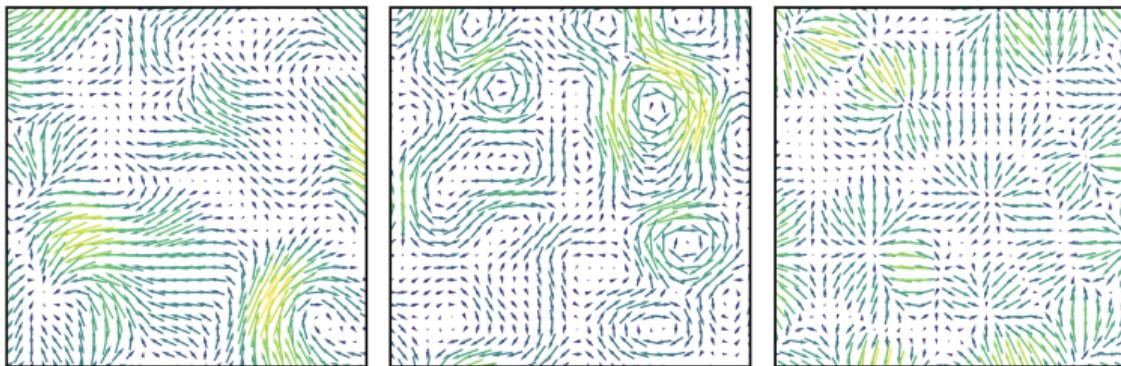
	SE	MATÉRN( $\frac{5}{2}$ )	WEAKLY PER.	SAWTOOTH	MIXTURE
INTERPOLAT.	GP (OPTIMUM)	0.70±0.00	0.31±0.00	-0.32±0.00	-
	T(1)-GEOMNDP	<b>0.72</b> ±0.03	<b>0.32</b> ±0.03	<b>-0.38</b> ±0.03	<b>3.39</b> ±0.04
	NDP*	<b>0.71</b> ±0.03	<b>0.30</b> ±0.03	<b>-0.37</b> ±0.03	<b>3.39</b> ±0.04
	GNP	<b>0.70</b> ±0.01	<b>0.30</b> ±0.01	-0.47±0.01	0.42±0.01
	CONVNP	-0.46±0.01	-0.67±0.01	-1.02±0.01	1.20±0.01

## 1D regression: Predictive log-likelihood (Cont'd)

**Table 2:** Mean test log-likelihood (TLL) (higher is better)

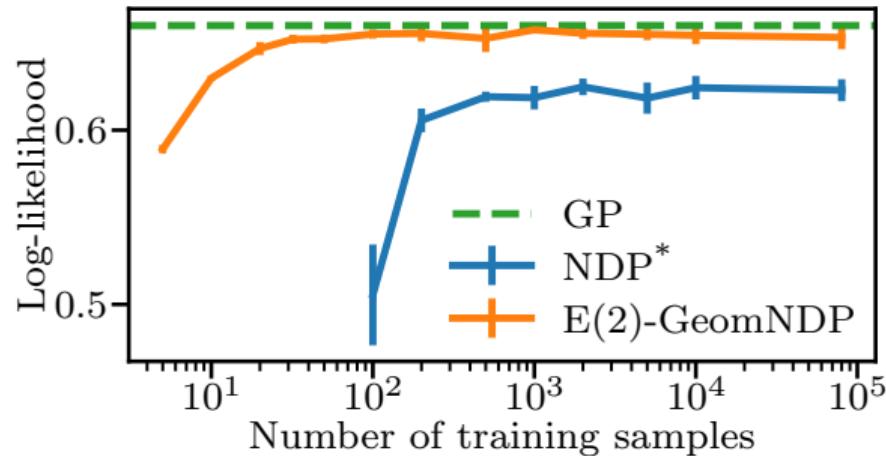
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GENERALISAT.	GP (OPTIMUM)	0.70±0.00	0.31±0.00	-0.32±0.00	-
	T(1)-GEOMNDP	<b>0.70</b> ±0.02	<b>0.31</b> ±0.02	<b>-0.38</b> ±0.03	<b>3.39</b> ±0.03
	NDP*	*	*	*	*
	GNP	<b>0.69</b> ±0.01	<b>0.30</b> ±0.01	-0.47±0.01	0.42±0.01
	CONVNP	-0.46±0.01	-0.67±0.01	-1.02±0.01	1.19±0.01

## 2D invariant Gaussian vector fields



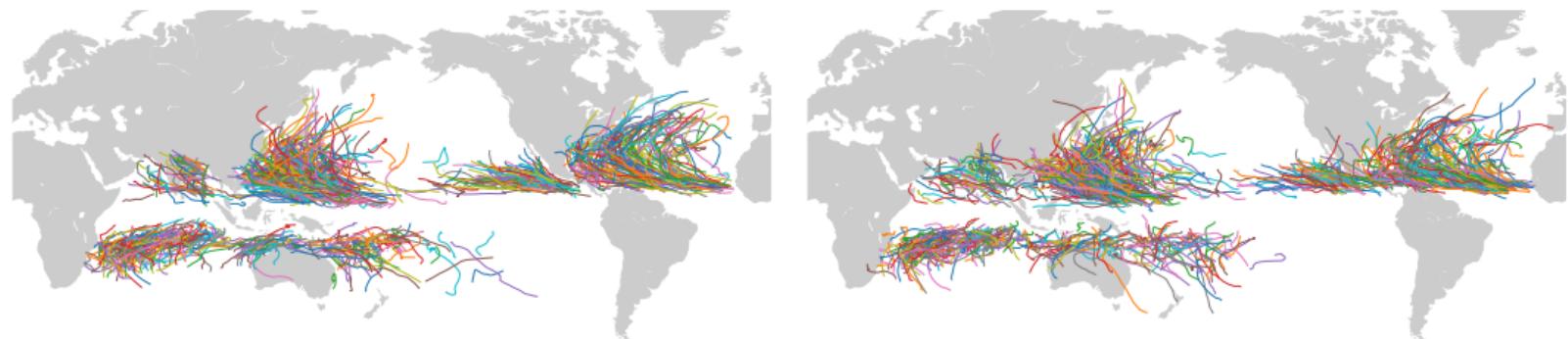
MODEL	SE	CURL-FREE	DIV-FREE
GP	$0.56 \pm 0.00$	$0.66 \pm 0.00$	$0.66 \pm 0.00$
NDP	$0.55 \pm 0.00$	$0.62 \pm 0.01$	$0.62 \pm 0.01$
E(2)-GEOMNDP	<b><math>0.56 \pm 0.01</math></b>	<b><math>0.65 \pm 0.01</math></b>	<b><math>0.66 \pm 0.01</math></b>

## 2D invariant Gaussian vector fields (Cont'd)



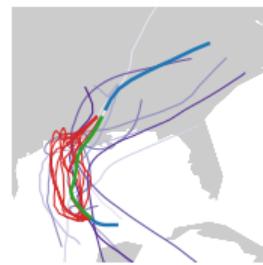
# Global tropical cyclone trajectory prediction

Learn  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}^2$  from hurricane trajectory data (Knapp et al., 2018).

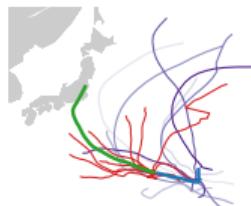
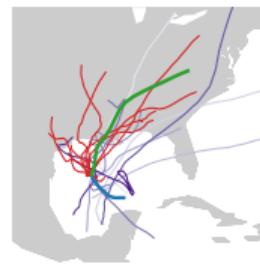


**Figure 13:** *Left:* 1000 samples from the training data. *Right:* 1000 samples from trained model.

## Global tropical cyclone trajectory prediction (Cont'd)



(a) Interpolation



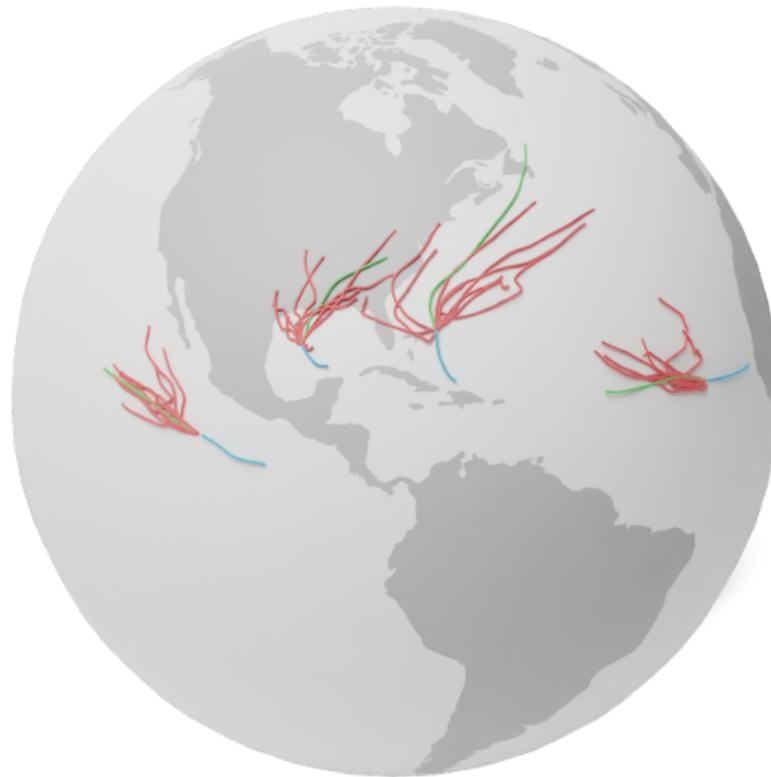
(b) Extrapolation

Model	TEST DATA Likelihood	INTERPOLATION		EXTRAPOLATION	
		Likelihood	MSE (km)	Likelihood	MSE (km)
GEOMNDP( $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}^2$ )	$802_{\pm 5}$	$535_{\pm 4}$	$162_{\pm 6}$	$536_{\pm 4}$	$496_{\pm 14}$
STEREO GP ( $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 / \{0\}$ )	$393_{\pm 3}$	$266_{\pm 3}$	$2619_{\pm 13}$	$245_{\pm 2}$	$6587_{\pm 55}$
NDP ( $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ )	-	-	$166_{\pm 22}$	-	$769_{\pm 48}$
GP ( $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ )	-	-	$6852_{\pm 41}$	-	$8138_{\pm 87}$

## Recap: Geometric diffusion neural processes

- Aim: probabilistic model over features fields.
- Constructed diffusion models over function space by correlating finite marginals
- Incorporating group invariance by
  - targetting invariant Gaussian processes and
  - parameterising the score with an equivariant neural network
- Sampling from the conditional process
- Empirically demonstrated modelling capacity on scalar and vector fields, with Euclidean and spherical output space

Thank you for your attention. Questions?



Credits to Michael Hutchinson for this 3D render.

## References

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