



End-To-End Latent Variational Diffusion Models for Inverse Problems in High Energy Physics

Alexander Shmakov, Kevin Greif, Michael Fenton, Aishik Ghosh, Pierre Baldi, Daniel Whiteson

October 30 2023 Hammers and Nails 2023 Ascona, Switzerland

Unfolding At The LHC

- Large Hadron Collider (LHC) measures particle collisions which are key for answering open questions in particle physics.
- Detector effects introduce bias into results and must be corrected for measurements of particle characteristics.
- **Unfolding** is the inverse problem of converting *detector observations* into more fundamental theoretical quantities.
- Use a latent diffusion model to tackle this generative inverse problem.
- Map from ATLAS detector measurements to MadGraph parton momenta for simulated semi-leptonic ttbar events.

Detector



From Diffusion to Variational Latent Diffusion

- **Diffusion** models are a type of *conditional (c)* generative model which learns the reverse dynamics for a Gaussian stochastic differential equation.
- Given a *noise schedule* based on log signal-to-noise ratio γ , define our flow.

$$\sigma_t = \sqrt{\operatorname{sigmoid}(\gamma_\phi(t))} \text{ and } \alpha_t = \sqrt{\operatorname{sigmoid}(-\gamma_\phi(t))}$$
$$x(t) = \alpha(t)x(0) + \sigma(t)\epsilon_t \text{ where } \epsilon_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$$

• Train a network to estimate ϵ and sample according to inverse SDE.

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1), t \sim \mathcal{U}(0,1)} \left[\gamma'(t) \|\epsilon - \hat{\epsilon}(x_t, t, c)\|_2^2 \right]$$
$$\int_1^0 f(t) x(t) + \frac{g^2(t)\hat{\epsilon}(x_t, t, c)}{2\sigma} dt$$

[1] Yang Song, Jascha Sohl-Dickstein, Diederik P Kingma, Abhishek Kumar, Stefano Ermon, and Ben Poole. Score-based generative modeling through stochastic differential equations. ICLR 2021.

From Diffusion to Variational Latent Diffusion

• Latent Diffusion (LDM)² performs the forward and reverse SDE in a *latent* space from a pre-trained VAE. This VAE is usually pre-trained in either unsupervised manner with only the data or with a contrastive objective such as CLIP.

$$x \to z \sim VAE(x)$$

• Variational Diffusion (VDM)³ Interprets the entire diffusion model as a hierarchical variational model with infinite depth. This allows us to learn an optimal learning rate for our diffusion.

$$\gamma \to \gamma_{\phi}(t)$$
 with $\mathcal{L}_{\phi} = Var[\mathcal{L}_{\text{diffusion}}]$

[2] Robin Rombach, Andreas Blattmann, Dominik Lorenz, Patrick Esser, and Björn Ommer. High-resolution image synthesis with latent diffusion models, 2021.
[3] Diederik Kingma, Tim Salimans, Ben Poole, and Jonathan Ho. Variational diffusion models. Advances in neural information processing systems, 34:21696–21707, 2021.

From Diffusion to Variational Latent Diffusion

- We combine these ideas into a single unified end-to-end model.
- VAE is optimized to find ideal space to perform diffusion in.
 - Interpreted as another layer in the hierarchical VAE, introduce additional regularization loss.
 - Latent space may be **higher dimensional** than data space!
- Noise Schedule is optimized simultaneously as in VDM.
 - Continuous time diffusion process is used for training.
 - Inference is performed in discrete time.



Distribution-Free Metrics Results

- Compare each of these models to evaluate the effect of the latent space and unified training.
- Also compare the a simple Conditional VAE (CVAE) and a current SOTA normalizing flow-based model (CINN)⁴.
- Notice latent space is **very important** to model performance, and unified training outperformed pre-trained LDM.

| | Wasserstein | Energy | K-S | KL_{64} | KL_{128} | KL_{256} |
|--------|-------------|--------|-------|-----------|------------|------------|
| VLD | 108.76 | 7.59 | 4.08 | 3.47 | 3.74 | 4.53 |
| UC-VLD | 73.56 | 6.35 | 3.41 | 5.77 | 7.10 | 8.48 |
| C-VLD | 389.62 | 25.39 | 4.65 | 9.54 | 10.09 | 10.79 |
| LDM | 402.32 | 24.09 | 5.91 | 14.71 | 16.34 | 17.92 |
| VDM | 2478.35 | 181.35 | 17.14 | 29.28 | 32.29 | 35.60 |
| CVAE | 484.56 | 32.29 | 6.37 | 7.79 | 9.17 | 10.60 |
| CINN | 3009.08 | 185.13 | 15.74 | 28.55 | 30.19 | 32.37 |

[4] Marco Bellagente, Anja Butter, Gregor Kasieczka, Tilman Plehn, Armand Rousselot, Ramon Winterhalder, Lynton Ardizzone, and Ullrich Köthe. Invertible networks or partons to detector and back again. SciPost Phys., 9:074, 2020.

Testing Dataset Kinematics Distributions



Hadronic Top Quark Kinematics

Leptonic Top Quark Kinematics



Posterior Distribution Examples

- Compare posterior distributions produced by the LVD for individual example events to an empirical estimate of the posterior from the testing dataset.
- Notice that the LVD has very tight posteriors for challenging kinematics including the Mass and Pt.
- Notice that the LVD managed to discover a bi-modal posterior for neutrino eta!



Future Work

- Current method is limited to a specific topology, want to extend beyond this to perform **particle** level unfolding.
- We lose the definite fixed-length encoding available due to the parton's feynman diagram. **Particles are variable length!**
- Extend this method to be able to unfold an arbitrary number of objects simultaneously.

