GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄ GÖTTINGEN 18 1927

# Flow Matching

Paul Wollenhaupt Optimal Transport Seminar

May 7th, 2024

Lipman et al. 2023; Brown et al. 2020; Bubeck et al. 2023

• Given a dataset  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} p_x$ 

Lipman et al. 2023; Brown et al. 2020; Bubeck et al. 2023

- Given a dataset  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} p_x$
- Generate new datapoints  $x_{n+1} \sim p_x$

- Given a dataset  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} p_x$
- Generate new datapoints  $x_{n+1} \sim p_x$
- Better understanding of data

- Given a dataset  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} p_x$
- Generate new datapoints  $x_{n+1} \sim p_x$
- Better understanding of data
- Can be very versatile

- Given a dataset  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} p_X$
- Generate new datapoints  $x_{n+1} \sim p_x$
- Better understanding of data
- Can be very versatile
  - ChatGPT

- Given a dataset  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} p_x$
- Generate new datapoints  $x_{n+1} \sim p_x$
- Better understanding of data
- Can be very versatile
  - ChatGPT
  - Text to Image

- Given a dataset  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} p_x$
- Generate new datapoints  $x_{n+1} \sim p_x$
- Better understanding of data
- Can be very versatile
  - ChatGPT
  - Text to Image



Lipman et al. 2023; Brown et al. 2020; Bubeck et al. 2023

- Given a dataset  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} p_x$
- Generate new datapoints  $x_{n+1} \sim p_x$
- Better understanding of data
- Can be very versatile
  - ChatGPT
  - Text to Image  $\rightarrow$  Flow Matching



Lipman et al. 2023; Brown et al. 2020; Bubeck et al. 2023

• Start with known distribution  $z \sim p_z$ 

- Start with known distribution  $z \sim p_z$
- Apply diffeomorphism  $f_{\theta}$  to z

$$p_{ heta}(x) = p_z(f_{ heta}^{-1}(x)) \cdot \left| \det \frac{\partial f_{ heta}^{-1}(x)}{\partial x} \right|$$

- Start with known distribution  $z \sim p_z$
- Apply diffeomorphism  $f_{\theta}$  to z

$$p_{ heta}(x) = p_z(f_{ heta}^{-1}(x)) \cdot \left| \det \frac{\partial f_{ heta}^{-1}(x)}{\partial x} \right|$$



Rezende and Mohamed 2016

- Start with known distribution  $z \sim p_z$
- Apply diffeomorphism  $f_{\theta}$  to z

$$p_{ heta}(x) = p_z(f_{ heta}^{-1}(x)) \cdot \left| \det \frac{\partial f_{ heta}^{-1}(x)}{\partial x} \right|$$

• Maximize likelihood of data

$$heta^* = rg\max_{ heta} \sum_{i=1}^N \log p_{ heta}(x_i)$$



Rezende and Mohamed 2016

Chen et al. 2019; Grathwohl et al. 2018; Hutchinson 1990

• Define the transformation as an ODE

$$x = z(t_1) = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} v_{\theta}(z(t), t) dt$$

Chen et al. 2019; Grathwohl et al. 2018; Hutchinson 1990

• Define the transformation as an ODE

$$x = z(t_1) = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} v_{ heta}(z(t), t) dt$$



Chen et al. 2019; Grathwohl et al. 2018; Hutchinson 1990

• Define the transformation as an ODE

$$x = z(t_1) = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} v_{\theta}(z(t), t) dt$$

• Instantaneous change of density

$$rac{\partial \log p_t(z(t))}{\partial t} = - 
abla \cdot v_ heta(z(t), t)$$



Chen et al. 2019; Grathwohl et al. 2018; Hutchinson 1990

• Define the transformation as an ODE

$$x = z(t_1) = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} v_{\theta}(z(t), t) dt$$

- Instantaneous change of density  $\frac{\partial \log p_t(z(t))}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot v_\theta(z(t), t)$
- Solve the ODE for  $\log p_t(z(t_1))$

$$\log 
ho_t(z(t_0)) - \int_{t_0}^{t_1} 
abla \cdot v_ heta(z(t), t) \, \mathrm{d}t$$



Chen et al. 2019; Grathwohl et al. 2018; Hutchinson 1990

• Gradually add normal noise to data

 $dx = f(x, t) dt + g(t) d\omega$ 

Sohl-Dickstein et al. 2015; Ho, Jain, and Abbeel 2020; Song et al. 2021; Anderson 1982

• Gradually add normal noise to data

 $dx = f(x, t) dt + g(t) d\omega$ 



Sohl-Dickstein et al. 2015; Ho, Jain, and Abbeel 2020; Song et al. 2021; Anderson 1982

Speneration

• Gradually add normal noise to data

 $dx = f(x, t) dt + g(t) d\omega$ 

• Reverse the diffusion process

$$\mathrm{d}x = \left(f(x,t) - g^2(t) 
abla_x \log p_t(x)
ight) \mathrm{d}t \ + g(t) \mathrm{d}ar{\omega}$$



Sohl-Dickstein et al. 2015; Ho, Jain, and Abbeel 2020; Song et al. 2021; Anderson 1982

Speneration

• Gradually add normal noise to data

 $dx = f(x, t) dt + g(t) d\omega$ 

• Reverse the diffusion process

$$\mathsf{d} x = \left( f(x,t) - g^2(t) 
abla_x \log p_t(x) 
ight) \mathsf{d} t \ + g(t) \mathsf{d} ar \omega$$

• Learn the score function  $\nabla_x \log p_t(x)$ 



Sohl-Dickstein et al. 2015; Ho, Jain, and Abbeel 2020; Song et al. 2021; Anderson 1982

Speneration



• Two modes



• Two modes

Imbalanced





- Imbalanced
- Far apart





Paul Wollenhaupt

#Datapoints / Area
 p(x)



- #Datapoints / Area
  - p(x)
- New datapoints?



• #Datapoints / Area

p(x)

- New datapoints?
- ▷ Optimize density



# Solution: Gradient Ascent

# Solution: Gradient Ascent


• Steepest ascent direction



• Steepest ascent direction

 $\nabla_x p(x)$ 

• Take a small Step



• Steepest ascent direction

- Take a small Step
- Repeat until converged



• Steepest ascent direction

- Take a small Step
- Repeat until converged



• Steepest ascent direction

- Take a small Step
- Repeat until converged



• Steepest ascent direction

- Take a small Step
- Repeat until converged





• Better for small numbers





• Better for small numbers

 $\log p(x)$ 

- Better behaved gradient
  - $\nabla_x \log p(x)$



• Better for small numbers

 $\log p(x)$ 

- Better behaved gradient
  - $\nabla_x \log p(x)$



• Better for small numbers

 $\log p(x)$ 

• Better behaved gradient

 $\nabla_x \log p(x)$ 

 $\triangleright$  Score Function



• Better for small numbers

 $\log p(x)$ 

• Better behaved gradient

 $\nabla_x \log p(x)$ 

 $\triangleright$  Score Function



• Better for small numbers

 $\log p(x)$ 

• Better behaved gradient

 $\nabla_x \log p(x)$ 

 $\triangleright$  Score Function



• Add normal noise

- Add normal noise
- In each step

- Add normal noise
- In each step



- Add normal noise
- In each step



- Add normal noise
- In each step
- ▷ Langevin Dynamics



• Noisy Dataset

• Noisy Dataset



- Noisy Dataset
- Denoising Model

$$\mathsf{E}\left[\|m_{ heta}( ilde{x}) - x\|_2^2
ight]$$



- Noisy Dataset
- Denoising Model

$$\mathsf{E}\left[\|m_{ heta}( ilde{x}) - x\|_2^2
ight]$$



- Noisy Dataset
- Denoising Model

$$\mathsf{E}\left[\|m_{\theta}(\tilde{x})-x\|_{2}^{2}
ight]$$



- Noisy Dataset
- Denoising Model

$$\mathsf{E}\left[\|m_{ heta}( ilde{x}) - x\|_2^2
ight]$$

Approximates Score

$$\frac{\tilde{x} - m_{\theta}(\tilde{x})}{\sigma^2}$$







# Annealing I

Annealing I



Annealing I



# Annealing II

Annealing II



Score Function Norm

Annealing II



#### Probability Flow ODE
• Infinite number of noise levels

 $\mathrm{d}x = -\sigma(t)^2 
abla_x \log p_t(x) \,\mathrm{d}t + \sigma(t) \,\mathrm{d}ar\omega$ 

• Infinite number of noise levels

 $\mathrm{d} x = -\sigma(t)^2 
abla_x \log p_t(x) \, \mathrm{d} t + \sigma(t) \, \mathrm{d} ar\omega$ 



Song et al. 2021

Generation

• Infinite number of noise levels

 $\mathrm{d} x = -\sigma(t)^2 
abla_x \log p_t(x) \, \mathrm{d} t + \sigma(t) \, \mathrm{d} ar\omega$ 

• ODE with same marginal distributions

$$\mathrm{d}x = -\frac{\sigma(t)^2}{2} \nabla_x \log p_t(x) \,\mathrm{d}t$$



Generation

• Infinite number of noise levels

 $\mathrm{d} x = -\sigma(t)^2 
abla_x \log p_t(x) \, \mathrm{d} t + \sigma(t) \, \mathrm{d} ar\omega$ 

• ODE with same marginal distributions

$$\mathrm{d}x = -\frac{\sigma(t)^2}{2} \nabla_x \log p_t(x) \,\mathrm{d}t$$

 $\,\triangleright\,$  Defines a continuous normalising flow



Generation

• Sample noise  $x_0$ , data  $x_1$ 

• Sample noise  $x_0$ , data  $x_1$ 



- Sample noise  $x_0$ , data  $x_1$
- Interpolate with  $t \in [0, 1]$

$$x_t = tx_1 + (1-t)x_0$$



- Sample noise  $x_0$ , data  $x_1$
- Interpolate with  $t \in [0, 1]$

 $x_t = tx_1 + (1-t)x_0$ 

• Model the denoising direction

 $\mathsf{E}_{x_t,t}\left[x_1 \mid x_t, t\right]$ 



- Sample noise  $x_0$ , data  $x_1$
- Interpolate with  $t \in [0, 1]$

 $x_t = tx_1 + (1-t)x_0$ 

• Model the denoising direction

 $\mathsf{E}_{x_t,t}\left[x_1 \mid x_t, t\right]$ 

Flow ν<sub>θ</sub> points in that direction



• Batch sample 
$$\left\{x_{0}^{(i)}, x_{1}^{(i)}\right\}_{i=1}^{n}$$

• Batch sample 
$$\left\{x_{0}^{(i)}, x_{1}^{(i)}\right\}_{i=1}^{n}$$



Tong et al. 2024

- Batch sample  $\left\{x_0^{(i)}, x_1^{(i)}\right\}_{i=1}^n$
- Compute OT assignments  $\Pi$



- Batch sample  $\left\{x_{0}^{(i)}, x_{1}^{(i)}\right\}_{i=1}^{n}$
- Compute OT assignments  $\Pi$
- Construct geodesic points  $x_t^{(i)}$

$$x_t = t x_1^{(j)} + (1 - t) x_0^{(i)}$$
,  $(x_0^{(i)}, x_1^{(j)}) \in \Pi$ 



- Batch sample  $\left\{x_{0}^{(i)}, x_{1}^{(i)}\right\}_{i=1}^{n}$
- Compute OT assignments  $\Pi$
- Construct geodesic points  $x_t^{(i)}$

$$x_t = t x_1^{(j)} + (1\!-\!t) x_0^{(i)}$$
,  $(x_0^{(i)}, x_1^{(j)}) \in \Pi$ 

• Learn denoising direction



- Batch sample  $\left\{x_{0}^{(i)}, x_{1}^{(i)}\right\}_{i=1}^{n}$
- Compute OT assignments  $\Pi$
- Construct geodesic points  $x_t^{(i)}$

$$x_t = t x_1^{(j)} {+} (1{-}t) x_0^{(i)}$$
,  $(x_0^{(i)}, x_1^{(j)}) \in \Pi$ 

- Learn denoising direction
- ODE paths become straight lines, as  $n \to \infty$



### Summary

- Generative Models can take the form of velocity fields
- Simulation-based training is computationally expensive
- Therefore we fix intermediate distributions
- Diffusion models add noise to the source distribution
- Flow matching interpolates between source and target points
- Both learn denoising models for sampling
- Improve flow matching using mini batch OT

#### Thanks! Questions?

#### References

Anderson, Brian D.O. (1982). "Reverse-time diffusion equation models". In: Stochastic Processes and their Applications 12.3, pp. 313–326. ISSN: 0304-4149.

Brown, Tom B. et al. (2020). Language Models are Few-Shot Learners. arXiv: 2005.14165 [cs.CL].

Bubeck, Sébastien et al. (2023). Sparks of Artificial General Intelligence: Early experiments with GPT-4. arXiv: 2303.12712 [cs.CL].

Chen, Ricky T. Q. et al. (2019). Neural Ordinary Differential Equations. arXiv: 1806.07366 [cs.LG].

Grathwohl, Will et al. (2018). FFJORD: Free-form Continuous Dynamics for Scalable Reversible Generative Models. arXiv: 1810.01367 [cs.LG].

Ho, Jonathan, Ajay Jain, and Pieter Abbeel (2020). Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models. arXiv: 2006.11239 [cs.LG].

Hutchinson, M.F. (1990). "A stochastic estimator of the trace of the influence matrix for laplacian smoothing splines". In: Communications in Statistics

- Simulation and Computation 19.2, pp. 433-450.

Lipman, Yaron et al. (2023). Flow Matching for Generative Modeling. arXiv: 2210.02747 [cs.LG].

Rezende, Danilo Jimenez and Shakir Mohamed (2016). Variational Inference with Normalizing Flows. arXiv: 1505.05770 [stat.ML].

Sohl-Dickstein, Jascha et al. (2015). Deep Unsupervised Learning using Nonequilibrium Thermodynamics. arXiv: 1503.03585 [cs.LG].

Song, Yang et al. (2021). Score-Based Generative Modeling through Stochastic Differential Equations. arXiv: 2011.13456 [cs.LG].

Tong, Alexander et al. (2024). Improving and generalizing flow-based generative models with minibatch optimal transport. arXiv: 2302.00482 [cs.LG].