

Introduction to flow marching - MIT class

6.S184

Base.
distribution

$$P_0 = \mathcal{N}(\vec{0}, I_d)$$

Target
dist $\vec{z}^{(1)}, \vec{z}^{(2)}, \dots, \vec{z}^{(N)} \sim P_{\text{data}}$

Probability
path P_t

Vector
field $\vec{u}_t(\vec{x}) = \vec{u}_t(\vec{x}, t) \in \mathbb{R}^d$

Interpolated
sample $\vec{x}_t = \vec{x}_0 + \int_0^t \vec{u}_s(\vec{x}_s) ds$

Goal: Find some vector field $\vec{u}_t^{\text{target}}$ s.t.

$$\vec{x}_0 \sim P_0$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}_1 \sim P_{\text{data}}$$

$$\vec{x}_t \sim P_t$$

Q1: What should be the form of $P_t, \vec{u}_t$?

Q2: How to train a NN u_t^0 to approximate $\vec{u}_t^{\text{target}}$?

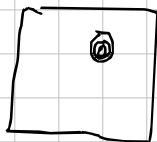
Q3: How to extend to stochastic dynamics?

Conditional probability path



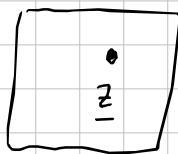
$t=0$

$$P_0(\cdot | \vec{z}) = P_0$$



$t=0.5$

$$P_t(\cdot | \vec{z}) ??$$



$t=1$

$$P_1(\cdot | \vec{z}) = \delta_z$$

Think about
1 sample :

$$\vec{X}_t = \alpha_t \vec{z} + \beta_t \vec{X}_0 \sim P_t(\cdot | \vec{z})$$

$$\alpha_0 = 0, \alpha_1 = 1 \quad \alpha_t = t$$

$$\beta_0 = 1, \beta_1 = 0 \quad \beta_t = 1-t$$

$$X_{t=0} = X_0 \sim P_0 \quad E[X_t] = \alpha_t z$$

$$X_{t=1} = z \sim \delta_z \quad \text{Var}[X_t] = \beta_t^2 I_d$$

$$P_t(\cdot | \vec{z}) = \mathcal{N}(\alpha_t z, \beta_t^2 I_d)$$

$$P_0(\cdot | \vec{z}) = \mathcal{N}(0, I_d) \quad \checkmark$$

$$P_1(\cdot | \vec{z}) = \mathcal{N}(z, 0) = \delta_z \quad \checkmark$$

Marginal probability path

We can sample from $P_t(x)$

We can evaluate $P_t(x)$:

$$\textcircled{1} \quad P_t(x) = \int P_t(x|z) P_{\text{data}}(z) dz$$

Intractable $\Rightarrow$ we don't know $P_{\text{data}}(z)$

Sampling from $P_t(x)$

$$P_t(x) \Rightarrow x_0, z \quad \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim P_t}[\dots]$$

$$P_t(\cdot | z) = \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim P_t(\cdot | z), t \sim \text{Unit}, z \sim P_{\text{data}}}[\dots]$$

$$\vec{x}_0, \vec{z} \Rightarrow \vec{x}_t = t \cdot \vec{z} + (1-t) \vec{x}_0$$

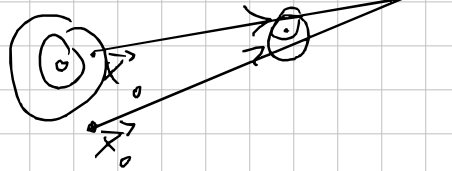
Conditional vector field

$$\vec{X}_t = \alpha_t \vec{z} + \beta_t \vec{X}_0$$

$$X_t \equiv X(t)$$

$$\dot{\vec{X}}_t = \dot{\alpha}_t \vec{z} + \dot{\beta}_t \vec{X}_0 \equiv u_t^{\text{target}}(X_t | \vec{z}) \quad \vec{u}_t(\vec{x}_0 | \vec{z}) \quad \vec{z}$$

$$\vec{u}_t(\vec{x} | \vec{z}) = \vec{z} - \vec{x}_0$$



Marginal vector field

$$(2) \quad \vec{u}_t^{\text{target}}(x) = \int \underbrace{\vec{u}_t^{\text{target}}(\vec{x} | \vec{z})}_{\text{conditional v.f.}} \underbrace{\frac{p_t(\vec{x} | \vec{z}) p_{\text{prior}}(\vec{z})}{p_t(\vec{x})}}_{\text{posterior distribution over } \vec{z} \quad p_t(\vec{z} | \vec{x})} d\vec{z}$$

But how do we know this is the correct field



$\Rightarrow$ Tractable: conditional Prob. Path + vec. field

$p_t(x | z), u_t^{\text{target}}(x | z) \Rightarrow$ choose form

$\Rightarrow$ Intractable: Marginal '1' + '1'

$p_t(x), u_t^{\text{target}}(x) \Leftrightarrow$ implies form

So far P_t , U_t^{target}

Theorem 1. Q1

If $\frac{d}{dt} X_t = U_t(X_t)$ define according to ②

$\Rightarrow X_t \sim P_t$ samples flow along marginal prob. path defined in ①

Proof:

$$\partial_t P_t(X) = -\nabla \cdot (U_t(X) P_t(X)) \quad \text{③}$$

inflow prob.
mass

$$\text{LHS: } \partial_t P_t(X) \stackrel{\text{①}}{=} \partial_t \int P_t(X|z) P_{\text{data}}(z) dz$$

$$= \int \partial_t P_t(X|z) P_{\text{data}}(z) dz$$

$$\stackrel{\text{③}}{=} - \int \nabla \cdot (P_t(X|z) U_t(X|z)) P_{\text{data}}(z) dz$$

$$= -\nabla \cdot \left(\int P_t(X|z) U_t(X|z) P_{\text{data}}(z) dz \right)$$

$$= -\nabla \cdot \left(P_t(X) \int U_t(X|z) \frac{P_t(X|z) P_{\text{data}}(z)}{P_t(X)} dz \right)$$

$$\stackrel{\text{②}}{=} -\nabla \cdot (P_t(X) U_t(X))$$

Q2: How to train U_t^θ to approximate U_t^{target} ?

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X_0 \sim p_0 & \xrightarrow[U_t \sim p_t]{U_t^{\text{target}}(x)} & X_1 \sim p_{\text{data}} \\
 t=0 & & t=1
 \end{array}$$

Flow matching loss

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{FM}}(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_t, t \sim \text{Unif}} \left[\|U_t^\theta(x) - U_t^{\text{target}}(x)\|^2 \right]$$

Conditional FM loss

$\Uparrow$ equivalent

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CFM}}(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{t \sim \text{Unif}, z \sim p_{\text{data}}, x \sim p_t(\cdot|z)} \left[\|U_t^\theta(x) - U_t^{\text{target}}(x|z)\|^2 \right]$$

Theorem 2.

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{FM}}(\theta) = \mathcal{L}_{\text{CFM}}(\theta) + C$$

$$\nabla_\theta \mathcal{L}_{\text{FM}}(\theta) = \nabla_\theta \mathcal{L}_{\text{CFM}}(\theta)$$

at The minimizer θ^* of $\mathcal{L}_{\text{CFM}}(\theta)$, $U_t^{\theta^*} = U_t^{\text{target}}$

Proof Thm. 2

$$\mathcal{L}_{FM}(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{t \sim \text{unif}, x \sim p_t} \left[\left\| u_t^\theta(\vec{x}) - u_t^{\text{target}}(\vec{x}) \right\|^2 \right]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{t, z, x} \left[\left\| u_t^\theta(x) \right\|^2 - 2 \underbrace{u_t^\theta(x)^T u_t^{\text{target}}(x)}_{C_1} + \underbrace{\left\| u_t^{\text{target}}(x) \right\|^2}_{C_1} \right]$$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \mathbb{E}_{t, x \sim p_t} \left[u_t^\theta(x)^T u_t^{\text{target}}(x) \right]$$

$$= \int_0^1 \int u_t^\theta(x)^T u_t^{\text{target}}(x) p_t(x) dx dt$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad = \int_0^1 \int p_t(x) u_t^\theta(x)^T \left[\int u_t^{\text{target}}(x|z) \frac{p_t(x|z) p_{\text{data}}(z)}{p_t(x)} dz \right] dx dt$$

$$= \int_0^1 \int \int u_t^\theta(x)^T u_t^{\text{target}}(x|z) p_t(x|z) p_{\text{data}}(z) dx dz dt$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{t \sim \text{unif}, z \sim p_{\text{data}}, x \sim p_t(\cdot|z)} \left[u_t^\theta(x)^T u_t^{\text{target}}(x|z) \right]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{FM}(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{t \sim \text{unit}, z \sim p_{\text{data}}, x \sim p_t(\cdot|z)} \left[\|u_t^o(x)\|^2 - 2 \underline{u}_t^o(\underline{x}) \underline{u}_t^{\text{target}}(\underline{x}|z) \right] + C_1$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{t, z \sim p_{\text{data}}, x \sim p_t(\cdot|z)} \left[\|u_t^o(x)\|^2 - 2 \underline{u}_t^o(x) \underline{u}_t^{\text{target}}(x|z) + \|\underline{u}_t^{\text{target}}(x|z)\|^2 - \|\underline{u}_t^{\text{target}}(x|z)\|^2 \right] + C_1$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{t, z \sim p_{\text{data}}, x \sim p_t(\cdot|z)} \left[\|\underline{u}_t^o(x) - \underline{u}_t^{\text{target}}(x|z)\|^2 \right] + C_1 + C_2$$

$$= \mathcal{L}_{CFM}(\theta) + C$$

Summary

① Construct conditional prob. path $P_t(x|z)$ that satisfies $P_0(x|z) = P_0(x)$, $P_1(x|z) = \delta_z$

② construct conditional v.f

$$\frac{d}{dt} X_t = U_t(x|z) \Rightarrow \text{Linear form } \alpha_t = t, \beta_t = 1-t \quad U_t(x|z) = z - x_0$$

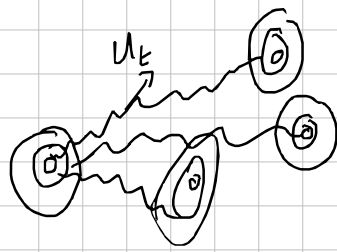
$$③ U_t(x) = \int U_t(x|z) \frac{P_t(x|z) P_{\text{data}}(z)}{P_t(x)} dz$$

satisfies $X_t \sim P_t$ Thm 1.

④ Regress marginal v.f using Thm 2.

$$\begin{aligned} J_{\text{FM}}(\theta) &= \mathbb{E}_{t \sim \text{unif}, z \sim P_{\text{data}}, x \sim P_t(\cdot|z)} \left[\|U_t^\theta(x) - U_t(x|z)\|^2 \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{t, z, x} \left[\|U_t^\theta(x) - (z - x_0)\|^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

Extension to SDEs



$$\text{FM: } \frac{d}{dt} X_t = u_t(X_t)$$

Score-matching : $dX_t = \tilde{u}_t(X_t) dt + \sigma_t dW_t$

↓
?

$\Rightarrow$ we want $X_t \sim P_t$

Fokker-Planck eqn.

$$\partial_t P_t(x_t) = -\nabla \cdot (P_t(x_t) \tilde{u}_t(x_t)) + \frac{\sigma_t^2}{2} \Delta P_t(x_t)$$

$$\tilde{u}_t = u_t + s_t \quad \text{LHS:}$$

from continuity: $\partial_t P_t(x_t) =$

$$\begin{aligned} -\nabla \cdot (P_t(x) u_t(x)) &= -\nabla \cdot (P_t(x) \tilde{u}_t(x)) + \frac{\sigma_t^2}{2} \Delta P_t(x) \\ &= -\nabla \cdot (P_t(x) u_t(x)) - \nabla \cdot (P_t(x) s_t(x)) + \frac{\sigma_t^2}{2} \Delta P_t(x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \nabla \cdot (P_t(x) s_t(x)) &= \frac{\sigma_t^2}{2} \nabla \cdot (\nabla P_t(x)) \\ &= \frac{\sigma_t^2}{2} \nabla \cdot \left(\frac{\nabla P_t(x)}{P_t(x)} P_t(x) \right) \\ &= \frac{\sigma_t^2}{2} \nabla \cdot (P_t(x) \nabla \log P_t(x)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow s_t(x) = \frac{\sigma_t^2}{2} \nabla \log P_t(x)$$

Hence SDE:

$$dX_t = u_t(x_t) dt + \underbrace{\frac{\sigma_t^2}{2} \nabla \log P_t(x)}_{\text{Score}}$$

We want to learn the score

$$\nabla \log p_t(\underline{x}) = \int \nabla \log p_t(\underline{x} | \underline{z}) \frac{p_t(\underline{x} | \underline{z}) p_{\text{data}}(\underline{z})}{p_t(\underline{x})} d\underline{z}$$

Proof

$$\nabla \log p_t(\underline{x}) = \frac{\nabla p_t(\underline{x})}{p_t(\underline{x})} = \frac{\nabla \int p_t(\underline{x} | \underline{z}) p_{\text{data}}(\underline{z}) d\underline{z}}{p_t(\underline{x})}$$

$$= \int \frac{\nabla p_t(\underline{x} | \underline{z}) p_{\text{data}}(\underline{z}) d\underline{z}}{p_t(\underline{x})}$$

$$= \int \nabla \log p_t(\underline{x} | \underline{z}) \frac{p_t(\underline{x} | \underline{z}) p_{\text{data}}(\underline{z})}{p_t(\underline{x})} d\underline{z}$$

Gaussian prob path

$$\nabla \log p_t(\underline{x} | \underline{z}) = \nabla \log \mathcal{N}(\underline{x}; \alpha_t \underline{z}, \beta_t^2 \mathbb{I}_d)$$

$$= - \frac{\underline{x} - \alpha_t \underline{z}}{\beta_t^2}$$

To obtain density/Likelihood

$$\log P_1(x_1) = \log P_0(x_0) - \int_0^1 \text{Tr} \left(\frac{\partial u_t^0(x_t)}{\partial x_t} \right) dt$$