

Sample Complexity of Diffusion Models for Learning Distributions on Low Dimensional Manifolds

Zixuan Zhang

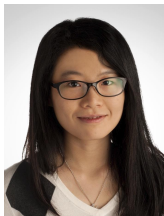
Georgia Tech ISyE

Oct. 2024

Joint Work with



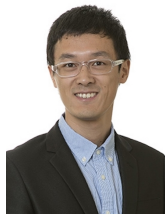
Kaixuan Huang
Princeton Univ.



Mengdi Wang
Princeton Univ.

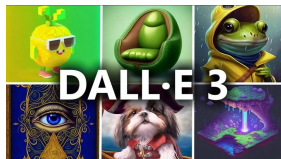


Tuo Zhao
Georgia Tech

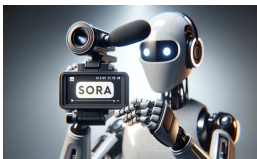


Minshuo Chen
Northwestern Univ.

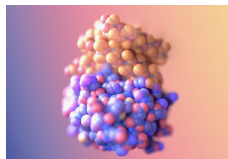
Transformative Power of Diffusion Models



DALL-E 3 by OpenAI
Image Generation



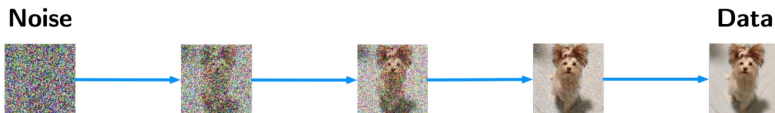
Sora by OpenAI
Video Generation



RFdiffusion by UW
Protein Design

Diffusion Model in Generation

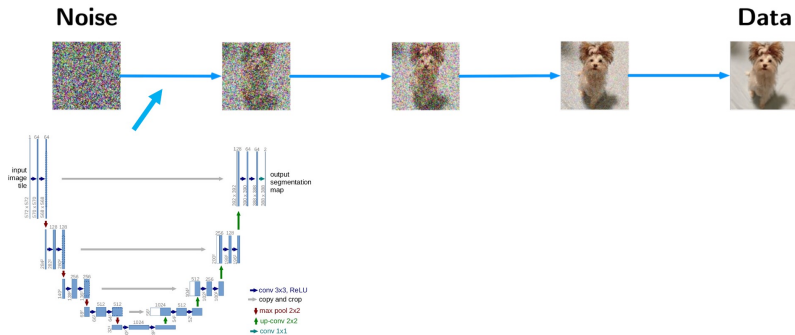
- Generate samples from noise.
- Sequential transformation.



(Sohl-Dickstein et. al., 2015, Song and Ermon, 2019, Ho et. al., 2020)

Diffusion Model in Generation

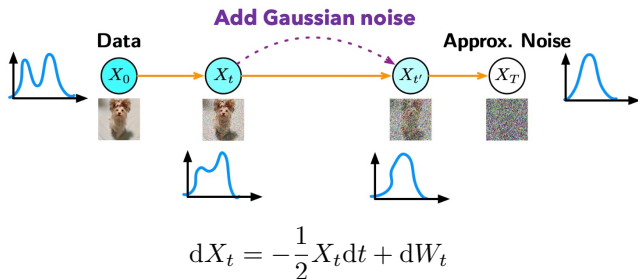
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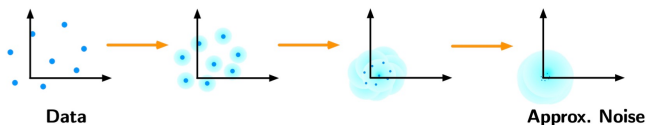
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Forward Process - Noise Corruption

- Noise corruption process

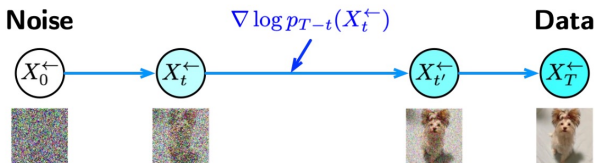


- Data distribution transformed into centered Gaussian



Backward Process - Sample Generation

- Time reversal in distribution

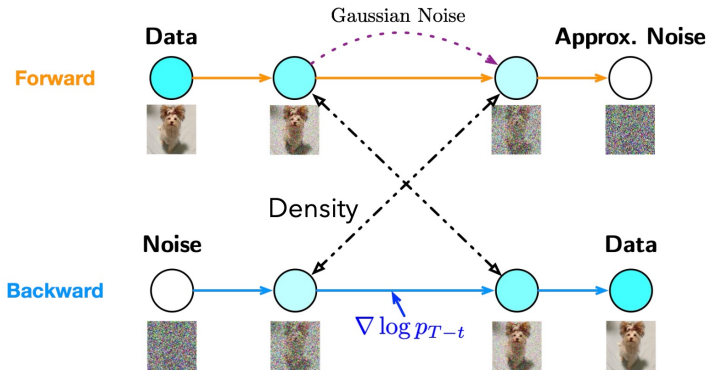


Forward Process $dX_t = -\frac{1}{2}X_t dt + dW_t$

Backward Process $dX_t^← = \left[\frac{1}{2}X_t + \nabla \log p_{T-t}(X_t^←) \right] dt + d\bar{W}_t$
Score function

(Anderson, 1982; Haussmann and Pardoux, 1986)

Forward and Backward Coupling



Success Despite Curse of Dimensionality

- Sample size (Niles-Weed and Berthet, 2022).

$$\#\text{samples} \asymp \epsilon^{-\frac{D+2s}{s+1}}.$$

- ImageNet resolution: $D = 224 \times 224 \times 3$.

$$\#\text{samples} \geq 10^{224 \times 224}.$$



- However, diffusion models are trained with $< 7\text{B}$ samples (Schuhmann et. al., 2022).

ϵ – error level; D – data dimensional; s – smoothness.

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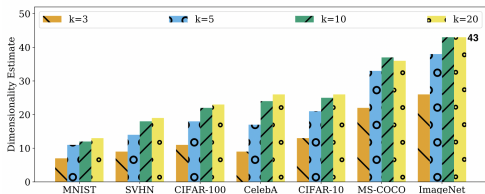
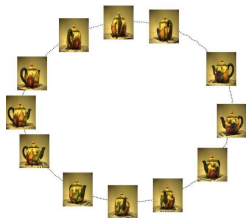


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Good News: Low-Dimensional Data Structures



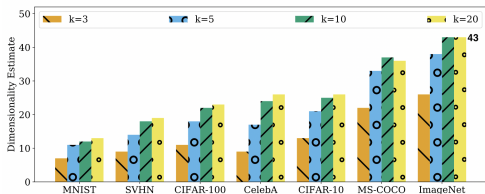
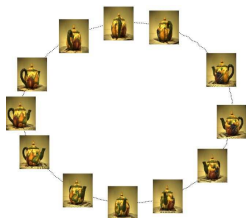
– Credit: Phillip Pope et al. ICLR 2021.

Intrinsic dimension $d \ll$ Ambient dimension D .

- Deep neural networks are **adaptive** in supervised learning (Chen et. al., 2022; Liu et. al., 2023; Ji et. al., 2023).
- Sample complexity **scales with d instead of D .**

Can we establish the **sample complexity** of diffusion models, free of curse of ambient dimensionality?

Good News: Low-Dimensional Data Structures



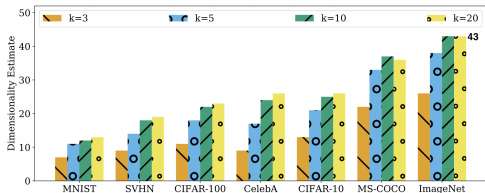
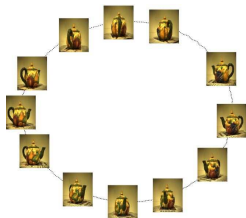
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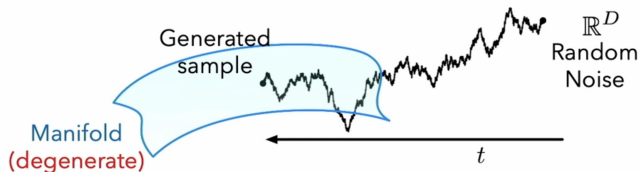
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However...

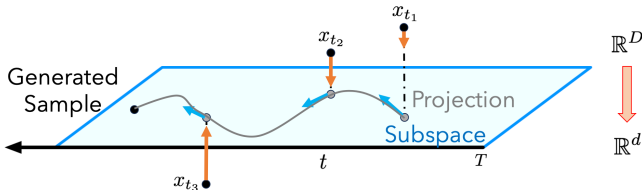
- Prior arts are not enough to explain diffusion models.
 - Diffusion model is unsupervised learning.
 - Diffusion model is a dynamic system, implemented in \mathbb{R}^D .



Simple but Insightful: Linear Subspace

- The score function consists of two components, on-subspace score and orthogonal score (Chen et. al., 2023).

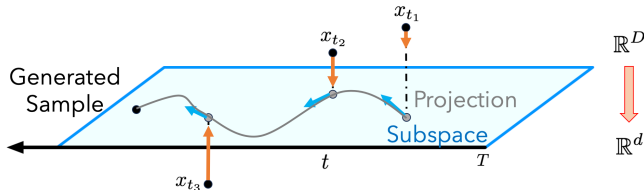
$$\nabla \log p_t(x) = \underbrace{A \nabla \log p_t^z(A^\top x)}_{\text{On-subspace}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{1 - e^{-t}} (I_D - AA^\top)}_{\text{Orthogonal}} x$$



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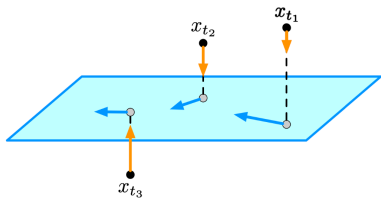
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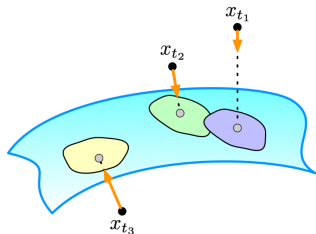
Delve into Manifolds

Linear Subspace



$$\text{Score} = \text{On-subspace} + \text{Orthogonal}$$

Manifold

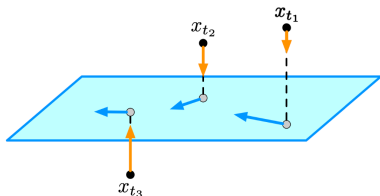


$$\text{Score} = \text{On-manifold} + \text{Orthogonal} \\ + \text{interaction-term}$$

Curvature dependent!

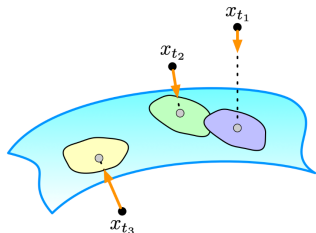
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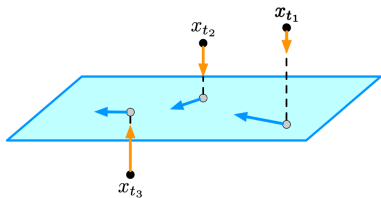


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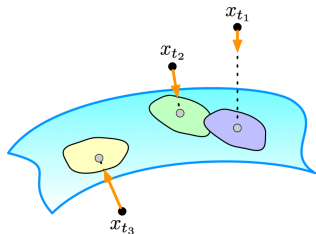
Delve into Manifolds

Linear Subspace



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Manifold



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Curvature dependent!

Score Decomposition

- Score decomposition via projection Π_t onto manifold:

$$\nabla \log p_t(x) = \underbrace{s_{\mathcal{M}}(\Pi_t(x); t)}_{\text{On-Manifold}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{1 - e^{-t}}(x - \Pi_t(x))}_{\text{Orthogonal}} + \text{interaction.}$$

- Orthogonal score **blows up** when time approaches zero.
- Only holds for inputs near manifold.

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On-Manifold

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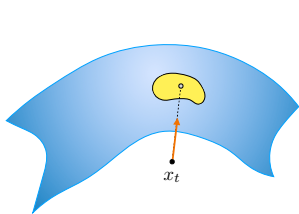
On-Manifold

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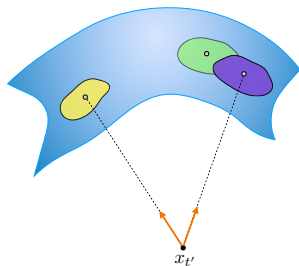
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Score Behavior for “Faraway” Inputs

- Score locates corrupted data to nearby neighborhoods.
- For each neighborhood, score consists of **on tangent-space score** and **orthogonal score**.



x_t close to manifold



$x_{t'}$ far from manifold

Distribution Recovery

Theorem

Assume P_0 is supported on a d -dimensional manifold with $d \ll D$.

1. Score network (overparameterized) converges at the rate

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}} \left([\text{curv}(\mathcal{M}) + 1] n^{-\frac{s}{d+2s}} \right).$$

2. Estimated distribution converges at the rate

$$W_1(\hat{P}, P_0) = \tilde{\mathcal{O}} \left([\text{curv}(\mathcal{M}) + 1] n^{-\frac{s+1}{d+2s}} \right).$$

Here s is the smoothness of P_0 .

- **Adaptive** to data intrinsic structures.
- **Efficient** in learning data distributions.
Matches the minimax rate (Tang and Yang, 2022).

Summary

- Score behavior.
- NN score estimation.
- Sample complexity of distribution estimation.

Reference

- [1] Chen, M., Huang, K., Zhao, T., and Wang, M. “Score approximation, estimation and distribution recovery of diffusion models on low-dimensional data”, *In International Conference on Machine Learning*, 2023.

- [2] M. Chen, H. Jiang, W. Liao and Tuo Zhao, “Nonparametric Regression on Low-Dimensional Manifolds using Deep ReLU Networks”, *IMA Information and Inference*, 2021.

- [3] Zhang, K., Zhang, Z., Chen, M., Takeda, Y., Wang, M., Zhao, T., and Wang, Y. X. “Nonparametric Classification on Low Dimensional Manifolds using Overparameterized Convolutional Residual Networks”, *arXiv preprint*, 2023.

- [4] Liu, H., Chen, M., Zhao, T. and Liao, W. “Besov function approximation and binary classification on low-dimensional manifolds using convolutional residual networks”, *In International Conference on Machine Learning*, 2021.

Thank You!