Neural Inverse Transform Sampler

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Density Estimation

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$$p(x =) \propto$$

f(x, θ)



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 $f(x, \theta)$

 $\mathbf{p}(x) \ge 0 \quad x \in A$

Positivity

Easy



$$p(x =) \propto$$

 $f(x, \theta)$

 $\mathbf{p}(x) \ge 0 \quad x \in A$

 $\int_{A} \mathbf{p}(x) dx = 1$

Positivity

Easy

Integration to Unity

General case: NP Hard!

Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Let F be such that

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Integration Trick



 $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}, \theta)$

$$\int_{a}^{b} \mathbf{p}(x) dx = \int_{a}^{b} \frac{F'(x)}{F(b) - f(a)}$$





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(Inverse Transform Method.) Two step process:

1. draw
$$z \sim \text{Unif}[0, 1]$$

2. compute $x = \mathsf{cdf}^{-1}(z)$

Extension To Higher Dimensions

Lemma 3. (*Gradient Theorem*) Let $F : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ be a continuously differentiable function and $\varphi : [a,b] \to \mathbb{R}^n$ be a curve in \mathbb{R}^n , where $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\varphi(a), \varphi(b)$ are the endpoints of the curve. Then

$$\int_{\varphi[a,b]} \nabla F \cdot dr = F(\varphi(b)) - F(\varphi(a)).$$
(12)

Neural Inverse Transform Sampler



 $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}$ $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{B}$

Table 2. Test log likelihood for UCI datasets and BSDS300, with error bars corresponding to two standard deviations. The table is split into two halves: the upper half denotes flow-based models, and the lower half denotes autoregressive continuous density models. NITS-CONV is only applied to BSDS300, as the convolutional architecture is only readily applicable to images.

MODEL	POWER	GAS	HEPMASS	MINIBOONE	BSDS300
MAF	0.30 ± 0.01	9.59 ± 0.02	-17.39 ± 0.02	-11.68 ± 0.44	156.36 ± 0.28
TAN	0.48 ± 0.01	11.19 ± 0.02	-15.12 ± 0.02	-11.01 ± 0.48	157.03 ± 0.07
NAF	0.62 ± 0.02	11.91 ± 0.13	-15.09 ± 0.40	$\textbf{-8.86} \pm \textbf{0.15}$	157.73 ± 0.04
B-NAF	0.61 ± 0.01	12.06 ± 0.02	-14.71 ± 0.02	-8.95 ± 0.07	157.36 ± 0.03
FFJORD	0.46 ± 0.01	8.59 ± 0.12	-14.92 ± 0.08	-10.43 ± 0.04	157.40 ± 0.19
SOS	0.60 ± 0.01	11.99 ± 0.41	-15.15 ± 0.10	-8.90 ± 0.11	157.48 ± 0.41
NSF	$\textbf{0.66} \pm \textbf{0.01}$	13.09 ± 0.02	-14.01 ± 0.03	-9.22 ± 0.48	157.31 ± 0.28
REALNVP	0.17 ± 0.01	8.33 ± 0.14	-18.71 ± 0.02	-13.84 ± 0.52	153.28 ± 1.78
MADE MoG	0.40 ± 0.01	8.47 ± 0.02	-15.15 ± 0.02	-12.27 ± 0.47	153.71 ± 0.28
NITS-MLP (OURS)	$\textbf{0.66} \pm \textbf{0.01}$	$\textbf{13.20} \pm \textbf{0.01}$	$\textbf{-12.93} \pm \textbf{0.02}$	-10.85 ± 0.02	155.91 ± 0.21
NITS-CONV (OURS)	-	-	-	-	$\textbf{163.35} \pm \textbf{0.22}$

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Table 1. Negative log likelihood (in bits/dim) for CIFAR-10. The table is split into halves, with discretized density models above and continuous density models below. We obtain competitive results among both types of models.

MODEL	CIFAR-10
PIXEL CNN	3.14
GATED PIXEL CNN	3.03
ROW PIXEL RNN	3.00
PIXEL CNN++	2.92
IMAGE TRANSFORMER	2.90
PIXELSNAIL	2.85
DISCRETE NITS-CONV (OURS)	2.94
REALNVP	3.49
GLOW	3.35
FLOW++	3.08
NITS-CONV (OURS)	2.97



Figure 2. Randomly generated images from DISCRETE NITS-CONV (top left) and NITS-CONV (top right). Compare with competing discretized and continuous density models, Pixel CNN (bottom left) and Flow++ (bottom right), respectively.

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In Summary: Integration Trick



In Summary: Inverse Transform Method

1. draw $z \sim \text{Unif}[0, 1]$

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$$x = \mathsf{cdf}^{-1}(z)$$