

Adversarial Variational Optimization of Non-Differentiable Simulators

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Tomorrow on the arXiv!



Likelihood-free assumptions

Operationally,

$$\mathbf{x} \sim p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \equiv \mathbf{z} \sim p(\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta}), \mathbf{x} = g(\mathbf{z}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$$

where

- \mathbf{z} provides a source of randomness;
- g is a non-differentiable deterministic function (e.g. a computer program).

Accordingly, the density $p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$ can be written as

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \int_{\{\mathbf{z}:g(\mathbf{z};\boldsymbol{\theta})=\mathbf{x}\}} p(\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})\mu(d\mathbf{z})$$

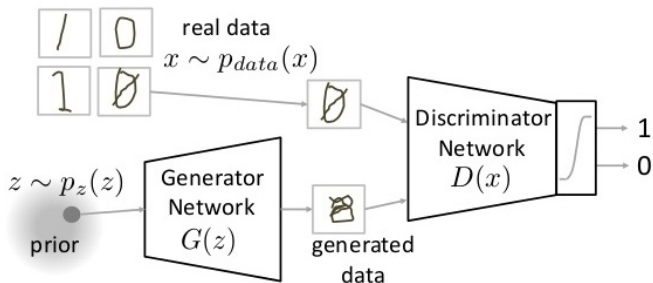
Evaluating the integral is often **intractable**.

Problem statement

Given observations $\mathbf{x} \sim p_r(\mathbf{x})$, we seek:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^* = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \rho(p_r(\mathbf{x}), p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}))$$

Generative Adversarial Networks



$$\mathcal{L}_W = \mathbb{E}_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \sim p(\mathbf{x}|\theta)} [d(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}; \phi)] - \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim p_r(\mathbf{x})} [d(\mathbf{x}; \phi)]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_d = \mathcal{L}_W + \lambda \Omega(\phi)$$

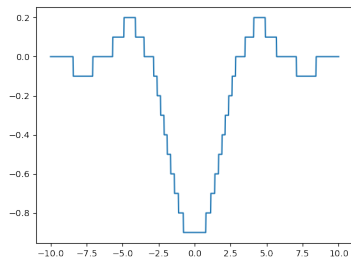
$$\mathcal{L}_g = -\mathcal{L}_W$$

What if g isn't a neural net, but a non-differentiable simulator?

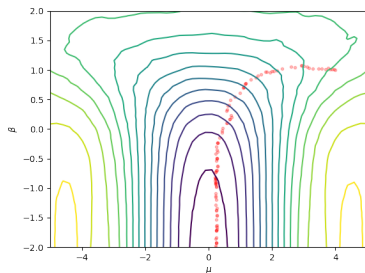
Variational Optimization

$$\min_{\theta} f(\theta) \leq \mathbb{E}_{\theta \sim q(\theta|\psi)} [f(\theta)] = U(\psi)$$

$$\nabla_{\psi} U(\psi) = \mathbb{E}_{\theta \sim q(\theta|\psi)} [f(\theta) \nabla_{\psi} \log q(\theta|\psi)]$$



Piecewise constant $-\frac{\sin(\mathbf{x})}{\mathbf{x}}$



$q(\theta|\psi = (\mu, \beta)) = \mathcal{N}(\mu, e^{\beta})$

Adversarial Variational Optimization

- Replace the generative network in a non-differentiable forward simulator $g(\mathbf{z}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$.
- With VO, optimize upper bounds of the adversarial objectives:

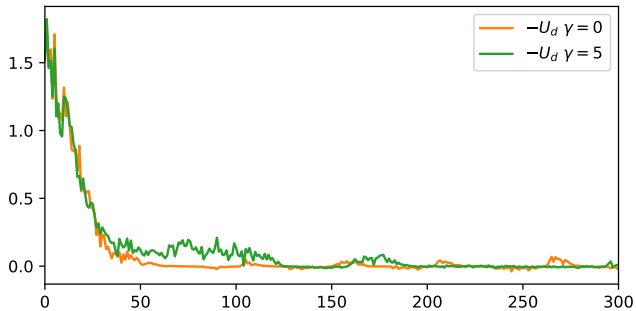
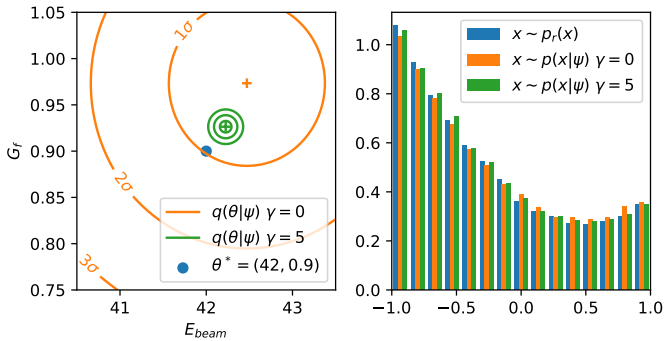
$$U_d = \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \sim q(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{\psi})}[\mathcal{L}_d] \quad (1)$$

$$U_g = \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \sim q(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{\psi})}[\mathcal{L}_g] \quad (2)$$

respectively over $\boldsymbol{\phi}$ and $\boldsymbol{\psi}$.

Operationally, we get the marginal model:

$$\mathbf{x} \sim q(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\psi}) \equiv \boldsymbol{\theta} \sim q(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{\psi}), \mathbf{z} \sim p(\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta}), \mathbf{x} = g(\mathbf{z}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$$



Summary

- We provide a new likelihood-free inference algorithm:
 - That works for non-differentiable forward simulators.
 - Combines adversarial training with variational optimization.
- Needs further validation on realistic simulators.