



From Physics-Informed AI to National Impact: Hybrid Approaches for Science, Security, and Energy

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Invitation to Collaborate

During my possible mini-sabbatical at LANL, I invite collaboration on a set of projects under the theme:

Physics-informed, Hybrid AI, and Mathematics for Engineering and Sciences (PHAMES)

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PHAMES aims to unite applied math, physics-based modeling, engineering, and social sciences to build a robust AI infrastructure – positioning the team as a leader in responsible, high-impact research for national security, energy, and societal resilience.

$\mathsf{AI} + \mathsf{Stat} \; \mathsf{Mech} \subset \mathsf{Applied} \; \mathsf{Math}$

Optimal Control -> Path Integral Diffusion -> Decision Flows Physics-informed, Hybrid AI, & Math for Eng & Sciences

Elephant in the Room

Math in AI & AI for Sciences & Engineering Score-Based Diffusion & Non-Eq. Stat Mech

AI – Elephant in the Room

- Dream New Al Models
- Explain the Models



Worth Climbing the Beanstalk

 <u>Grow</u> the Models from – Stochastic Calculus, Optimal Control, Non-Equil Stat Mech



From Ugly (?) Duck to Swan

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Artificial Intelligence C Applied Math

Applied Math '21

- Traditional Applied Math: Driven by sciences & engineering
- Contemporary Applied Math: Foundations and frontiers in Al
- Synthesis: Integration of Traditional and Contemporary Approaches



Upcoming Example of Advancing AI \subset Applied Math

- Sampling Decisions = Synthesis of Generative AI tools
 - Diffusion Models (Stochastic ODEs, Optimal Contol)
 - Transformers (Tokens + Auto-Regression)
 - Reinforcement Learning (Markov Decision Processes)

 $\label{eq:hardward} \begin{array}{c} AI + Stat \ Mech \subset Applied \ Math \\ \mbox{Optimal Control -> Path Integral Diffusion -> Decision Flows \\ \mbox{Physics-informed, Hybrid AI, & Math for Eng & Sciences \\ \end{array}$

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Instead of Introduction: Subjective = Personal Reflection on

- How Does Applied Math Enable AI? AM \rightarrow AI
- How Do We Use AI in Sciences & Engineering (Applications)? – AI \rightarrow AM
- MC, *Mixing artificial and natural intelligence: from statistical mechanics to AI and back to turbulence*, Topical Review in J. Phys. A: Math. Theor. 57, 33 (333001), 2024
- Automatic Differentiation (AD):
 - Computes derivatives efficiently using elementary operations and the chain rule.
 - Major engine behind efficient optimization (billions of parameters) critical for "everything" AI
- Deep Learning:
- Reinforcement Learning (RL):
- Generative Models:

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Optimal Control -> Path Integral Diffusion -> Decision Flows Physics-informed, Hybrid AI, & Math for Eng & Sciences

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- Focus on rare interruptions multi-scenario optimization under uncertainty + sensitivity analysis
- Progress: Augmenting AD with Symbolic Differentiation
- Neural Network Free/minimal
- Academy & Industry (NOGA energy system operator of Israel) Collaboration: Model Reduction & open-source via Julia
- Pipe Line Simulation Interest Group best student award C. Hyett, et al, arXiv:2304.01955, 2310.18507, 2311.08686
- Deep Learning:
- Reinforcement Learning (RL):
- Generative Models:

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 Al + Stat Mech ⊂ Applied Math
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 Optimal Control -> Path Integral Diffusion -> Decision Flows
 Math in Al & Al

 Physics-informed, Hybrid Al, & Math for Eng & Sciences
 Score-Based Diff

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• Automatic Differentiation (AD):

- Deep Learning:
 - Represents functions through many-layered (deep), parameterized nonlinear transformations, expressed via Neural Networks (NN).
 - Employs Automatic Differentiation for optimizing NNs.
- Reinforcement Learning (RL):
- Generative Models:

 $\label{eq:horizontal} \begin{array}{c} AI + Stat \ Mech \subset \ Applied \ Math \\ \mbox{Optimal Control} \ -> \ Path \ Integral \ Diffusion \ -> \ Decision \ Flows \\ \mbox{Physics-informed}, \ Hybrid \ AI, \ \& \ Math \ for \ Eng \ \& \ Sciences \end{array}$

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Deep Learning:

Physics-Informed Machine Learning for Electricity Market

 R. Ferrando, et al, IEEE Transactions on Energy Markets, 2/1 (2024), DOI: 10.1109/TEMPR.2023.3318197



- Identify least understood bottleneck (stressed power lines)
 - Reinforcement Learning (RL):
 - Generative Models:

• Utilize Deep Learning to resolve the bottleneck

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- Automatic Differentiation (AD):
- Deep Learning:
- Reinforcement Learning (RL):
 - A data-driven approach to optimal control under uncertainty using Deep Learning to predict and control actions.
 - Adaptive/dynamic approach reinforces decisions based on the information, e.g. reward, received in the process of learning/exploration, to get better inference/exploitation.
- Generative Models:

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- Automatic Differentiation (AD):
- Deep Learning:
- Reinforcement Learning (RL):

Physics-Guided Actor-Critic Reinforcement Learning for Swimming in Turbulence



• Generative Models:

- identify least understood bottleneck (weak NN critic)
- utilize Theory (Stochastic Hydrodynamics) to fix it
- C. Koh, L. Pagnier, MC, Phys. Rev. Research 7, 013121 (2025), 10.1103/PhysRevResearch.7.013121

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- Automatic Differentiation (AD):
- Deep Learning:
- Reinforcement Learning (RL):
- Generative Models:
- Outputs new data from existing (ground truth) data. The new data may be statistically similar to the ground truth (e.g., diffusion) or comes in response to prompts (e.g., transformers).
- Leverages Deep Learning to generate synthetic data and elements of optimal control/Reinforcement Learning, in achieving optimality



GPT-4 prompt: Show UArizona bobcat swimming butterfly style in a turbulent river.

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- Automatic Differentiation (AD):
- Deep Learning:
- Reinforcement Learning (RL):
- Generative Models:

Neural Smooth Particle Hydrodynamics = Tokens in Turbulence



- quasi-particles = tokens
- "physical" attentions via particles & fields
- Lagrangian Large Eddy Simulations = New Reduced Order Model of Turbulence – M. Woodward, et al, 10.1103/PhysRevFluids.8.054602 & Y. Tian, et al, 10.1073/pnas.2213638120

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- Automatic Differentiation (AD):
- Deep Learning:
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Lagrangian Attention Tensor NN – Auto-Regression in Turbulence



 $\hat{\boldsymbol{H}} = \sum_{n=1}^{10} \boldsymbol{g}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(n)}(\lambda_{1}, \dots, \lambda_{5}, \boldsymbol{c^{(1)}}, \dots, \boldsymbol{c^{(L)}})\boldsymbol{T}^{(n)} \\ \boldsymbol{c}^{(\ell)}\left(\boldsymbol{A^{(0)}}, \dots, \boldsymbol{A^{(M)}}\right) = \sigma\left(\boldsymbol{K}_{ij}^{(m,\ell)} \boldsymbol{A}_{ij}^{(m)}\right)$

Neural Representation of the Pressure Hessian, \hat{H} , via the Velocity Gradient, A, along Lagrangian Trajectories. The

tensor basis $\{T^{(n)}\}_{n=1}^{10}$ is according to Pope (1975).

- Physics-informed, Neural Stochastic ODE model for the Velocity Gradient Tensor in Turbulence
- LATN generalizes the Tensor Basis Neural Network (TBNN) by incorporating temporal memory through auto-regressive, convolutional – attention-like – structures that encode Lagrangian history
- LATN: Improving Velocity Gradient Statistical Topology using Parameterized Lagrangian Attention Tensor Networks – C. Hyett, et al, arxiv:2502.07078
- TBNN: Physics-informed machine learning of the Lagrangian dynamics of velocity gradient tensor – Y.
 Tian, D. Livescu, MC, Phys Rev Fluids (2021)

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Stat Phys \Rightarrow **AI: Score-Based Diffusion**



Train on Ensemble of Samples

Generate Synthetic Samples

Generate Synthetic Samples which are i.i.d. from a target probability distribution, $p_{target}(\cdot)$, represented

- implicitly via Ground Truth samples
- or explicitly via energy function, $p_{\text{target}}(\cdot) \propto \exp(-E(\textbf{\textit{x}}))$

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Diffusion Models = Non-Autonomous Stochastic ODE



• Continuous time SBD - state-of-the-art in GenAI [4]

¹B. Anderson, Reverse-time diffusion equation models, 1982

²H. Fölmer, Time Reversal on Wiener Spaces, 1986

³J. Sohl-Dickstein, et al, Deep Unsupervised Learning using Nonequilibrium Thermodynamics, 2015

⁴Y. Song, et.al., Score-Based Generative Modeling through Stochastic Differential Equations, 2021

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Dynamic Phase Transitions in Score Based Diffusion





- When to U-turn? Memorization/Collapse Transition [1,2]
- Spontaneous Choice of the Specie/Class Speciation Transition [2]



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 $\label{eq:Al-stat} \begin{array}{l} \mathsf{Al} + \mathsf{Stat} \; \mathsf{Mech} \subset \mathsf{Applied} \; \mathsf{Math} \\ \textbf{Optimal Control -> Path Integral Diffusion -> Decision Flows} \\ \mathsf{Physics-informed}, \; \mathsf{Hybrid} \; \mathsf{AI}, \; \& \; \mathsf{Math} \; \mathsf{for} \; \mathsf{Eng} \; \& \; \mathsf{Sciences} \end{array}$

Diffusions & Stochastic Optimal Control (SOC) Path Integral Diffusion = "Integrable" SOC Decision Flow: Unifying Diffusion, RL, and Transformers

Score Based Diffusion & Stochastic Optimal Control

Score Based Diffusion as "Integrable" Stochastic Optimal Control

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{u}(0\to1;\boldsymbol{x}(0\to1))} \mathbb{E}\left[\int_0^1 dt \frac{|\boldsymbol{u}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t))|^2}{2} \Big| \mathsf{Eqs.} (*,**)\right]$$
s.t. $t \in [0,1]: d\boldsymbol{x}(t) = \boldsymbol{u}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t)) dt + d\boldsymbol{W}(t), \ \boldsymbol{x}(0) = 0 (*)$

$$p(\boldsymbol{x}(1)) = p_{\mathsf{target}}(\boldsymbol{x}(1)) \qquad (**)$$

- Grow target distribution from point source
- Theory for sampling from $p_{target}(\cdot)$ [1], based on
 - "Integrability": Nonlinear HJB ⇒ Hopf '50 -Cole '51 ⇒ Diffusion (Mitter '81, Pavon '89)

¹M.Tzen, M.Ragynsky, Theoretical guarantees .. with latent diffusions, 2019

 $\label{eq:Al-stat} \begin{array}{l} \mathsf{Al}+\mathsf{Stat}\;\mathsf{Mech}\subset\mathsf{Applied}\;\mathsf{Math}\\ \\ \textbf{Optimal}\;\mathsf{Control}\:{-}{>}\;\mathsf{Path}\;\mathsf{Integral}\;\mathsf{Diffusion}\:{-}{>}\;\mathsf{Decision}\;\mathsf{Flows}\\ \\ \mathsf{Physics-informed},\;\mathsf{Hybrid}\;\mathsf{Al},\;\&\;\mathsf{Math}\;\mathsf{for}\;\mathsf{Eng}\;\&\;\mathsf{Sciences}\\ \end{array}$

Diffusions & Stochastic Optimal Control (SOC) Path Integral Diffusion = "Integrable" SOC Decision Flow: Unifying Diffusion, RL, and Transformers

Integrable SOC with Potential, Forced & Gauged

(Top Level) Integrable SOC in a Potential. Forced (& Gauged)

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{u}(\cdot;\boldsymbol{x}(\cdot))} \mathbb{E}\left[\int_{0}^{1} dt \left(\frac{|\boldsymbol{u}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t))|^{2}}{2} + V(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t)) + \dot{\boldsymbol{x}}^{T}(t)\boldsymbol{A}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t))\right)\right] |\text{Eqs. } (*,**)\right]$$

s.t.
$$t \in [0,1]$$
: $d\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{f}(t; \mathbf{x}(t)) + \mathbf{u}(t; \mathbf{x}(t))dt + d\mathbf{W}(t), \ \mathbf{x}(0) = 0 \ (*)$
 $p(\mathbf{x}(1)) = p_{\text{target}}(\mathbf{x}(1)) \qquad (**)$

Path Integral Diffusion – H. Behjoo, MC (2024, IEEE Access 2025)

- "Integrable" SOC in a Potential, Forced and Gauged
 - Grow target distribution from a point source
 - Based on Path Integral Control (PIC) [1]
 - control & diffusion are co-dimensional

¹H. J. Kappen, *Path integrals* ... for optimal control theory, 2005.

²V. Chernyak, MC, J. Bierkens, H.J. Kappen, *SOC as Non-Eq Stat Mech: Calculus of Variations over Density and Current*, 2013 **D** (**B**) (**B**) (**B**) (**B**) (**B**) (**C**)

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 $\label{eq:Al-stat} \begin{array}{l} \mathsf{Al}+\mathsf{Stat}\;\mathsf{Mech}\subset\mathsf{Applied}\;\mathsf{Math}\\ \\ \textbf{Optimal}\;\mathsf{Control}\:{-}{>}\;\mathsf{Path}\;\mathsf{Integral}\;\mathsf{Diffusion}\:{-}{>}\;\mathsf{Decision}\;\mathsf{Flows}\\ \\ \mathsf{Physics-informed},\;\mathsf{Hybrid}\;\mathsf{Al},\;\&\;\mathsf{Math}\;\mathsf{for}\;\mathsf{Eng}\;\&\;\mathsf{Sciences}\\ \end{array}$

Diffusions & Stochastic Optimal Control (SOC) Path Integral Diffusion = "Integrable" SOC Decision Flow: Unifying Diffusion, RL, and Transformers

Integrable SOC with Potential, Forced & Gauged

(Top Level) Integrable SOC in a Potential. Forced (& Gauged)

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s.t. $t \in [0,1]$: $d\boldsymbol{x}(t) = \boldsymbol{f}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t)) + \boldsymbol{u}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t))dt + d\boldsymbol{W}(t), \ \boldsymbol{x}(0) = 0 \ (*)$

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"Integrable" SOC in a Potential, Forced and Gauged

- Grow target distribution from a point source
- Based on Path Integral Control (PIC) [1]
- Field & Gauge Extension of PIC [2]

¹H. J. Kappen, *Path integrals ... for optimal control theory*, 2005.

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Diffusions & Stochastic Optimal Control (SOC) Path Integral Diffusion = "Integrable" SOC Decision Flow: Unifying Diffusion, RL, and Transformers

Path Integral Diffusion – (Top Level) Integrability

Hamilton-Jacobi Bellman for Cost-to-go (from t to 1)

$$-\partial_t J = V + \frac{1}{2} \left(\nabla^T (\nabla J + \mathbf{A}) - |\nabla J + \mathbf{A}|^2 \right) + \mathbf{f}^T (\nabla J + \mathbf{A})$$

Optimal Control: $\mathbf{u}^* = -\nabla J - \mathbf{A}$

Hopf-Cole: $J(t; \mathbf{x}) = -\log \psi(t; \mathbf{x})$

$$\begin{aligned} &-\partial_t \psi + \tilde{V}\psi + \tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}^T \nabla \psi = \frac{1}{2} \Delta \psi, \quad \psi(1; \boldsymbol{x}) = \exp\left(-\phi(\boldsymbol{x})\right), \ \phi(\cdot) \text{ is the terminal cost} \\ &\text{correspondent to } p_{\text{target}}(\cdot) \\ &\tilde{V} \doteq V + \frac{1}{2} \nabla^T \boldsymbol{A} + \boldsymbol{f}^T \boldsymbol{A} - \frac{1}{2} |\boldsymbol{A}|^2, \quad \tilde{\boldsymbol{A}} \doteq \boldsymbol{A} - \boldsymbol{f} \\ &\partial_t p^* + \nabla^T \left(p^* (\nabla \log \psi - \tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}) \right) = \frac{1}{2} \Delta p^*, \quad p^*(0; \boldsymbol{x}) = \delta(\boldsymbol{x}), \quad p^*(1; \boldsymbol{x}) = p_{\text{target}}(\boldsymbol{x}) \end{aligned}$$

Optimal Control via Green Functions: $u^{*}(t; \mathbf{x}(t)) = \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log \left(\int d\mathbf{y} \ p_{\text{target}}(\mathbf{y}) \frac{G_{-}(t; \mathbf{x}(t); \mathbf{y})}{G_{+}(1; \mathbf{y}; 0)} \right)$ $t \in [1 \to 0]: \quad -\partial_{t} G_{-} + \tilde{V}(\mathbf{x}; t) G_{-} + \tilde{\mathbf{A}}^{T} \nabla G_{-} = \frac{1}{2} \Delta G_{-}, \quad G_{-}(1; \mathbf{x}) = \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$ $t \in [0 \to 1]: \quad \partial_{t} G_{+} + \tilde{V}(\mathbf{x}; t) G_{+} - \nabla^{T} (\tilde{\mathbf{A}} G_{+}) = \frac{1}{2} \Delta G_{+}, \quad G_{+}(0; \mathbf{x}) = \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$

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Diffusions & Stochastic Optimal Control (SOC) Path Integral Diffusion = "Integrable" SOC Decision Flow: Unifying Diffusion, RL, and Transformers

Harmonic Path Integral Diffusion (H-PID) – Integrability

H-PID – Mid Level Integrability

- Green Functions are Gaussian when
 - Potential is Quadratic:

 $V(t; \mathbf{x}(t)) = \mathbf{x}^{T} \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(t) \mathbf{x}/2 + \text{linear and const terms}$

• Force and Gauge are <u>Affine</u> in *x*

• Akin to Quant Mech (in imag. time) in Harmonic Potential

•
$$u^*(t; \mathbf{x}(t)) = \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log \left(\int d\mathbf{y} \ p_{\text{target}}(\mathbf{y}) \frac{G_{-}(t; \mathbf{x}(t); \mathbf{y})}{G_{+}(1; \mathbf{y}; 0)} \right) = a(t) \mathbf{x}(t) - b(t) \hat{\mathbf{x}}(t; \mathbf{x}(t))$$

Special case, also discussed in [1] - Low Level Integrability

• $\boldsymbol{A}, \boldsymbol{f} = 0$ – zero gauge, zero force

¹A. Teter, W, Wang & A. Halder, Schrödinger bridge with quadratic state cost is exactly solvable, 2024

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Use Case – Harmonic, Uniform – Low Level Integrability

 $V(t; \mathbf{x}) = \beta |\mathbf{x}|^2 \Rightarrow \text{Explicit Expression for the Green Functions}$

•
$$u^*(t; \mathbf{x}(t)) = \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log \left(\int d\mathbf{y} \ \rho_{\text{target}}(\mathbf{y}) \frac{G_{-}(t; \mathbf{x}(t); \mathbf{y})}{G_{+}(1; \mathbf{y}; 0)} \right) = a(t)\mathbf{x}(t) - b(t)\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t; \mathbf{x}(t))$$

•
$$u^*(t; \mathbf{x}) = \frac{\sqrt{\beta}}{\sinh((1-t)\sqrt{\beta})} \left(\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t; \mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{x} \cosh((1-t)\sqrt{\beta}) \right)$$

- Weighted State: $\hat{x}(t; \mathbf{x}) \doteq \int d\mathbf{y} \mathbf{y} w(\mathbf{y}|t; \mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{y} \sim w(\cdot|t; \mathbf{x})}[\mathbf{y}]$
- Weight (probability): $w(y|t; x) \propto p_{\text{target}}(y) \frac{G_{-}(t;x;y)}{G_{+}(1;y;0)}$

$$\frac{\frac{G_{-}(\mathbf{t};\mathbf{x})}{G_{+}(\mathbf{t};\mathbf{y})}}{\sqrt{\frac{\sinh(\sqrt{\beta})}{\sinh((\mathbf{1}-t)\sqrt{\beta})}}} \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{\beta}}{2}\left((\mathbf{x}^{2}+\mathbf{y}^{2})\coth\left((1-t)\sqrt{\beta}\right)-\mathbf{y}^{2}\coth\left(\sqrt{\beta}\right)-\frac{2(\mathbf{x}^{T}\mathbf{y})}{\sinh((1-t)\sqrt{\beta})}\right)\right)$$

Experiments & Analysis (ask me about)

- Dependence on β strength of the potential
- What is the meaning/significance of the Weighted State

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Diffusions & Stochastic Optimal Control (SOC) Path Integral Diffusion = "Integrable" SOC Decision Flow: Unifying Diffusion, RL, and Transformers

(Harmonic) Path Integral Diffusion – Summary



• From zero to high-quality sample via <u>Stochastic Optimal Control</u> <u>Three Levels of Integrability:</u>

- <u>Top:</u> Any Potential, Force & Gauge [two linear ODEs for Green Functions]
- **Mid:** Equivalent to Quantum Harmonic Oscillator
- Low: Uniform Quadratic Potential [implemented in algorithm]

H. Behjoo, MC, IEEE Access 13, 42196 - 42213 (2025), 10.1109/ACCESS.2025.3548396

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Diffusions & Stochastic Optimal Control (SOC) Path Integral Diffusion = "Integrable" SOC Decision Flow: Unifying Diffusion, RL, and Transformers

Insight #1: Diffusions & Reinforcement Learning

Diffusions = GREAT tools of GenAI

- ... BUT ... time is artificial
- **Dream:** Can we link diffusion to a physical process of sample growth?
- and BTW ... Path Integral Diffusion links Diffusion to Stochastic Optimal Control (SOC)





• ... and in AI data-driven version of SOC = Reinforcement Learning

Key Insight #1: Path Integral Diffusion & Control bridge RL and Diffusion

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Insight #2: Reinforcement Learning & Auto-Regression

Generative Flow Networks (GFN)

- GFN [1]: view sampling as sequential decisions on a Directed Acyclic Graph
- Built on discrete space-time RL = Markov Decision Processes
- Samples are built step-by-step: $s_0 = \emptyset \rightarrow s1 \rightarrow ... \rightarrow s_T.$
- History-dependent, auto-regressive construction like transformers.

^aE. Bengio, et. al, Flow Network based Generative Models for Non-Iterative Diverse Candidate Generation, 2021





Key Insight #2: GFN bridges RL and Transformer paradigms

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Key Insight #2: GFN bridges RL and Transformer paradigms

• Can we brought it all together — Diffusions, RL, Auto-Regression?

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Diffusions & Stochastic Optimal Control (SOC) Path Integral Diffusion = "Integrable" SOC Decision Flow: Unifying Diffusion, RL, and Transformers





MC, S. Ahn, H. Behjoo, **Sampling Decisions**, arxiv:2503.14549

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Diffusions & Stochastic Optimal Control (SOC) Path Integral Diffusion = "Integrable" SOC Decision Flow: Unifying Diffusion, RL, and Transformers

Decision Flow Framework

Goal: Generate Samples: $\sigma \sim \exp(-E(\sigma))$ – from the Energy/Graph Model

• Sequentially: $\emptyset = s_0 \rightarrow \{s_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow s_T = \sigma, \text{ Given: Prior Markov Process } p^{\text{prior}}(\cdot | \cdot)$

Solution:
$$p_t^*(s_{t+1}|s_t) \propto p_t^{(\text{prior})}(s_{t+1}|s_t) \sum_{s_T'} \frac{e^{-E(s_T')} G_{t+1}(s_{t+1}|s_T')}{\pi_T^{(\text{prior})}(s_T')},$$

 $G_t(s_t|s_T) = \sum_{s_{t+1}} p_t^{(\text{prior})}(s_{t+1}|s_t) G_{t+1}(s_{t+1}|s_T), \quad G_T(s_T|s_T') = \delta(s_T, s_T')$



Integrable = Solution of a Markov Decision Process (MDP)

- $G_{\bullet}(\bullet|\bullet) (time-reverse)$ Green function of the prior MP
- Akin to a Linearly Solvable MDP [1] with an extra terminal condition, where [1] a Discrete Time & Space generalization of the Path Integral Control [2]

[1] E. Todorov, Linearly-solvable Markov decision problems, NeurIPS 2007

[2] H. J. Kappen, Path integrals ... for optimal control theory, 2005.

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AI + Stat Mech ⊂ Applied Math Optimal Control -> Path Integral Diffusion -> Decision Flows Physics-informed, Hybrid AI, & Math for Eng & Sciences

Diffusions & Stochastic Optimal Control (SOC) Path Integral Diffusion = "Integrable" SOC Decision Flow: Unifying Diffusion, RL, and Transformers

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Illustrative Example: Ising model : $E(\sigma) =$ $-\sum_{(a,b)\in\mathcal{E}}J_{ab}\sigma_a\sigma_b-\sum_{a\in\mathcal{V}}h_a\sigma_a$

$$\min_{p_{0 \to T-1}, \pi_{0 \to T-1}} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \sum_{s_{t}, s_{t+1}} \pi_{t}(s_{t}) p_{t}(s_{t+1}|s_{t}) \log \left(\frac{p_{t}(s_{t+1}|s_{t})}{p_{t}^{(\text{prior})}(s_{t+1}|s_{t})} \right)$$

s.t. $\pi_{t+1}(s_{t+1}) = \sum_{s_{t}} p_{t}(s_{t+1}|s_{t}) \pi_{t}(s_{t}),$
 $\sum_{s_{t+1}} p_{t}(s_{t+1}|s_{t}) = 1$

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Diffusions & Stochastic Optimal Control (SOC) Path Integral Diffusion = "Integrable" SOC Decision Flow: Unifying Diffusion, RL, and Transformers

NN-Free Decision Flow Algorithm

Solution:
$$\rho_t^*(s_{t+1}|s_t) \propto \rho_t^{(\text{prior})}(s_{t+1}|s_t) \sum_{s_T'} \frac{e^{-E(s_T')}G_{t+1}(s_{t+1}|s_T')}{\pi_T^{(\text{prior})}(s_T')}$$
 (1),
 $G_t(s_t|s_T) = \sum_{s_{t+1}} \rho_t^{(\text{prior})}(s_{t+1}|s_t)G_{t+1}(s_{t+1}|s_T), \quad G_T(s_T|s_T') = \delta(s_T, s_T'),$ (2)

• Given:
$$p_t^{(extsf{prior})}(ullet |ullet), \,\, t=1,\cdots,\, {\mathcal T}$$
 – pre-trained algorithm

• Generate K Paths from the algorithm, $\Xi^{(k)} = (s_0 = \emptyset, s_1^{(k)}, \cdots, s_T^{(k)}), \cdots k = 1, \cdots, K$

- Build $p_{\bullet}^{(\text{prior-emp})}(\bullet|\bullet)$
- Build empirical version of the Green function according to (1)
- Build $p_{\bullet}^{(\text{post-emp})}(\bullet|\bullet)$ according (2)
- Generate S posterior samples to test performance

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Diffusions & Stochastic Optimal Control (SOC) Path Integral Diffusion = "Integrable" SOC Decision Flow: Unifying Diffusion, RL, and Transformers

Decision Flow Example: Sampling from Ising

- Apply DFA to sample from Glassy Ising (3 × 3), h_a, J_{ab} ~ Uniform[-1, 1]
- $m_a^* = \frac{1}{5} \sum_{s=1}^{S} \sigma_{T;a}^{(s)}$ $c_{ab}^* = \frac{1}{5} \sum_{s=1}^{S} \sigma_{T;a}^{(s)} \sigma_{T;b}^{(s)}$
- $\begin{aligned} \bullet \quad \Delta_{\mathbf{1}} &= \sum_{a} \frac{\|m_{a} m_{a}^{(\text{ref})}\|}{T \|m_{a}^{(\text{ref})}\|}, \\ \Delta_{\mathbf{2}} &= \sum_{(a,b)} \frac{2\|c_{ab} c_{ab}^{(\text{ref})}\|}{T(T-1) \|c_{ab}^{(\text{ref})}\|} \end{aligned}$
- Posterior vs MCMC (benchmark) – better convergence in small-sample regime



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Diffusions & Stochastic Optimal Control (SOC) Path Integral Diffusion = "Integrable" SOC Decision Flow: Unifying Diffusion, RL, and Transformers

Conclusion and Path Forward

Key Takeaways

- Decision Flow (DF) provides a unifying framework for GenAl.
- Integrates core ideas from Diffusion Models, Reinforcement Learning, and Transformers.
- Rooted in stochastic control and Green function techniques.
- Especially suited for problems with:
 - an inherent time-line or sample growth process
 - emphasis on sampling rather than classical optimization

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Diffusions & Stochastic Optimal Control (SOC) Path Integral Diffusion = "Integrable" SOC Decision Flow: Unifying Diffusion, RL, and Transformers

Conclusion and Path Forward

Next Steps: Methodology & Applications

- Scalability: Neural implementations for large systems; batched empirical averaging
- Hybrid Input: Combine ground-truth samples with energy-based models
- Expert-Informed Models: Incorporate constraints, domain knowledge, and rare events
- Target Applications:
 - Material discovery and design
 - Control of physical (e.g., complex fluids) and engineered (e.g., power grids, drone swarms) systems
 - Modeling epidemics—both social and viral
 - Open to discuss other Applications

Applied Math @ UArizona



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- **Research** focused, since 1976, one of the US first in Applied Mathematics
- Interdisciplinary: 130+ professors/ 27 departments / 8 colleges across UA campus (Science & Engineering & Optics - top 3)
- Mixing traditional contemporary AM
- **65** PhD students (12/12/12/13/16/10 enrolled in 2024/23/22/21/20/19)
- 3 Core Courses to Qualify (Methods, Analysis, Algorithms) - re-designed to incorporate Al in 2019-20; + three research rotations in the first 3 semesters with at least two professors
- Strong collaborations with National DOE – & Industrial – DOD+ – Labs, e.g. via NSF (Graduate Innovation in Education) support – pipeline: recruitment, internerships, co-advising (triads), partial employment



Invitation to Collaborate

During my possible mini-sabbatical at LANL, I invite collaboration on a set of projects under the theme:

Physics-informed, Hybrid AI, and Mathematics for Engineering and Sciences (PHAMES)

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PHAMES aims to unite applied math, physics-based modeling, engineering, and social sciences to build a robust AI infrastructure – positioning the team as a leader in responsible, high-impact research for national security, energy, and societal resilience.

Physics-informed, Hybrid AI, and Math for Eng and Sciences (PHAMES):

Addressing National Defense, Security, and Energy

Focus Areas:

- Integrated Energy Systems: power, gas, nuclear, and fusion
- Flying Devices: airplanes, drones, satellites
- Communications & Computing: optical, radio, sound, quantum
- New Materials: tailored for the above
- Networks of Influence: disease, beliefs, behaviors
- 23 professors from 5 colleges of UArizona
- Under umbrella of RII Institutes & Applied Math GIDP
- UA "Big Idea" proposal

AI + Stat Mech ⊂ Applied Math Optimal Control -> Path Integral Diffusion -> Decision Flows Physics-informed, Hybrid AI, & Math for Eng & Sciences

UA Participants:

- M. Chertkov (Math) PI 4 4 % S
- F. Mashayek (AME) Co-PI 4 🕯 🛠
- 🔍 D. Apai (Astro) 🗳 💈
- J. Aubrey (Math) 4 5
- L. Brandimarte (MIS) ⁽⁵⁾
- OK Chan (Astro) 4 4
- G. Cipolloni (Math) 4
- P. Deymier (MSE) 🛠 🕸
- H. Fasel (AME) 🛠
- I. Gabitov (Math & Optics) 4 4 %
- Y. Ge (MIS) 4 ③

Legend:

- o ⊿ Math & Al
- 🔮 Physical Sciences
- K Engineering Sciences
- Social & EDU Sciences

- H. Hahn (MSE+RII) 🛠 🕯
- K. Hanquist (AME) *
- M. Latypov (MSE) 4 *
- X. Lu (IS) S
- B. Maccabe (Col+RII) 4 🛠
- 🔍 K. Muralidharan (MSE) 🛠 🕯
- 🔍 L. Pagnier (Math) 🗳 🛠
- M. Rychlik (Math) 4 4
- P. Shipman (Math) 4 \$
- M. Stepanov (Math) 4 \$
- J. Zavisca (Sociology) ⁽⁵⁾
- C. Zhang (CS) 4
- Hybrid AI + Physics/Math to tackle defense, and security challenges.
- Focus: Energy systems, aerospace, comms, materials, and social dynamics.
- Building shared AI infrastructure with National & Industrial Labs

• Looking for Los Alamos Partners !!

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Background & Existing Collaboration

- LANL UA MOU since March 2024
- History of Collaboration CNLS@LANL and AM GIDP@UA
 - Multiple interns, GRAs -> Postdocs
 - Annual Arizona Alamos Days
 - 40+ alumni of UA at LANL

Vision for Strategic Expansion

- Joint Strategic Appointments
- Triangle Model: LANL-UA-Grad Students
- LANL Teaching @ UA
 - Courses of joint interest (optimization, PIML)



Joint Project Potential

- Next Steps
 - UA & LANL leadership Meeting (07/25)
 - Align funding
- Targeted Outcomes
 - Co-sponsored
 - DOE/NSF proposals
 - Collaborative infrastructure

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Diffusion & Optimal Control

Score Based Diffusion & Stochastic Optimal Control

Score Based Diffusion as "Integrable" Stochastic Optimal Control

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{u}(0\to1;\boldsymbol{x}(0\to1))} \mathbb{E}\left[\int_{0}^{1} dt \frac{|\boldsymbol{u}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t))|^{2}}{2} |\mathsf{Eqs.}\;(*,**)\right]$$
s.t. $t \in [0,1]: \; d\boldsymbol{x}(t) = \boldsymbol{u}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t)) dt + d\boldsymbol{W}(t), \; \boldsymbol{x}(0) = 0 \; (*)$
 $p(\boldsymbol{x}(1)) = p_{\mathsf{target}}(\boldsymbol{x}(1)) \quad (**)$

- Grow target distribution from point source
- Theory for sampling from $p_{target}(\cdot)$ [1], based on
 - "Integrability": Nonlinear HJB ⇒ Hopf '50 -Cole '51 ⇒ Diffusion (Mitter '81, Pavon '89)

¹M.Tzen, M.Ragynsky, Theoretical guarantees .. with latent diffusions, 2019

Score Based Diffusion & Stochastic Optimal Control

Score Based Diffusion as "Integrable" Stochastic Optimal Control

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{u}(0\to1;\boldsymbol{x}(0\to1))} \mathbb{E}\left[\int_{0}^{1} dt \frac{|\boldsymbol{u}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t))|^{2}}{2} |\mathsf{Eqs.}(*,**)\right]$$
s.t. $t \in [0,1]$: $d\boldsymbol{x}(t) = \boldsymbol{u}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t))dt + d\boldsymbol{W}(t), \ \boldsymbol{x}(0) = 0 \ (*$
 $p(\boldsymbol{x}(1)) = p_{\mathsf{target}}(\boldsymbol{x}(1)) \qquad (**)$

- Grow target distribution from point source
- Efficient Algorithms
 - Path Integral Sampling Fitting Control with NN, Expansive (repetitive forward propagation of SDE) [3]
 - Iterative Denoising Energy Matching sampling to estimate score-function – [4]

³Q.Zhang, Y.Chen, Path Integral Sampler, 2022

⁴T. Akhound-Sadegh, et al, Iterative Denoising Energy Matching, 2024 📃 🔊 🧠

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Diffusion as "Integrable" Stochastic Optimal Control Harmonic Path Integral Diffusion Use Case – Harmonic, Uniform

Integrable SOC with Potential, Forced & Gauged

Integrable SOC with a "Potential"

$$\min_{\substack{\boldsymbol{u}(0\to1;\boldsymbol{x}(0\to1))}} \mathbb{E}\left[\int_{0}^{1} dt \left(\frac{|\boldsymbol{u}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t))|^{2}}{2} + V(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t))\right) \left| \mathsf{Eqs.}\;(*),(**)\right] \right]$$

s.t. $t \in [0,1]: \quad d\boldsymbol{x}(t) = \boldsymbol{u}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t))dt + d\boldsymbol{W}(t), \quad \boldsymbol{x}(0) = 0\;(*)$
 $p(\boldsymbol{x}(1)) = p_{\mathsf{target}}(\boldsymbol{x}(1)) \qquad (**)$

Path Integral Diffusion - HB, MC (2024)

"Integrable" SOC in a Potential, Forced and Gauged

- Grow target distribution from a point source
- Based on Path Integral Control (PIC) [1]
 - control & diffusion are co-dimensional

¹H. J. Kappen, *Path integrals* ... for optimal control theory, 2005. (=> =) = <

Diffusion as "Integrable" Stochastic Optimal Control Harmonic Path Integral Diffusion Use Case – Harmonic, Uniform

Integrable SOC with Potential, Forced & Gauged

(Top Level) Integrable SOC in a Potential. Forced (& Gauged)

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{u}(\cdot;\boldsymbol{x}(\cdot))} \mathbb{E} \left[\int_{0}^{1} dt \left(\frac{|\boldsymbol{u}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t))|^{2}}{2} + V(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t)) + \dot{\boldsymbol{x}}^{\mathsf{T}}(t)\boldsymbol{A}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t)) \right) \Big| \text{Eqs. } (*,**) \right]$$

s.t. $t \in [0,1]: d\boldsymbol{x}(t) = \boldsymbol{f}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t)) + \boldsymbol{u}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t))dt + d\boldsymbol{W}(t), \boldsymbol{x}(0) = 0 (*)$
 $p(\boldsymbol{x}(1)) = p_{\text{target}}(\boldsymbol{x}(1))$ (**)

Path Integral Diffusion – HB, MC (2024)

• "Integrable" SOC in a Potential, Forced and Gauged

- Grow target distribution from a point source
- Based on Path Integral Control (PIC) [1]
- Field & Gauge Extension of PIC [2]

¹H. J. Kappen, *Path integrals ... for optimal control theory*, 2005.

²V. Chernyak, MC, J. Bierkens, H.J. Kappen, *SOC as Non-Eq Stat Mech: Calculus of Variations over Density and Current*, 2013 **D** (**B**) (**B**) (**B**) (**B**) (**B**) (**C**)

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Diffusion as "Integrable" Stochastic Optimal Control Harmonic Path Integral Diffusion Use Case – Harmonic, Uniform

Path Integral Diffusion – (Top Level) Integrability

Hamilton-Jacobi Bellman for Cost-to-go (from t to 1)

$$-\partial_t J = V + \frac{1}{2} \left(\nabla^T (\nabla J + \mathbf{A}) - |\nabla J + \mathbf{A}|^2 \right) + \mathbf{f}^T (\nabla J + \mathbf{A})$$

Optimal Control: $\mathbf{u}^* = -\nabla J - \mathbf{A}$

Hopf-Cole: $J(t; \mathbf{x}) = -\log \psi(t; \mathbf{x})$

$$\begin{aligned} &-\partial_t \psi + \tilde{V}\psi + \tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}^T \nabla \psi = \frac{1}{2} \Delta \psi, \quad \psi(1; \boldsymbol{x}) = \exp\left(-\phi(\boldsymbol{x})\right), \ \phi(\cdot) \text{ is the terminal cost} \\ &\text{correspondent to } p_{\text{target}}(\cdot) \\ &\tilde{V} \doteq V + \frac{1}{2} \nabla^T \boldsymbol{A} + \boldsymbol{f}^T \boldsymbol{A} - \frac{1}{2} |\boldsymbol{A}|^2, \quad \tilde{\boldsymbol{A}} \doteq \boldsymbol{A} - \boldsymbol{f} \\ &\partial_t p^* + \nabla^T \left(p^* (\nabla \log \psi - \tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}) \right) = \frac{1}{2} \Delta p^*, \quad p^*(0; \boldsymbol{x}) = \delta(\boldsymbol{x}), \quad p^*(1; \boldsymbol{x}) = p_{\text{target}}(\boldsymbol{x}) \end{aligned}$$

Optimal Control via Green Functions: $u^{*}(t; \mathbf{x}(t)) = \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log \left(\int d\mathbf{y} \ p_{\text{target}}(\mathbf{y}) \frac{G_{-}(t; \mathbf{x}(t); \mathbf{y})}{G_{+}(1; \mathbf{y}; 0)} \right)$ $t \in [1 \rightarrow 0]: \quad -\partial_{t} G_{-} + \tilde{V}(\mathbf{x}; t) G_{-} + \tilde{\mathbf{A}}^{T} \nabla G_{-} = \frac{1}{2} \Delta G_{-}, \quad G_{-}(1; \mathbf{x}) = \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$ $t \in [0 \rightarrow 1]: \quad \partial_{t} G_{+} + \tilde{V}(\mathbf{x}; t) G_{+} - \nabla^{T}(\tilde{\mathbf{A}}G_{+}) = \frac{1}{2} \Delta G_{+}, \quad G_{+}(0; \mathbf{x}) = \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$

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From Physics-Informed AI to National Impact

Diffusion as "Integrable" Stochastic Optimal Control Harmonic Path Integral Diffusion Use Case – Harmonic, Uniform

Harmonic Path Integral Diffusion (H-PID) – Integrability

H-PID – Mid Level Integrability

- Green Functions are Gaussian when
 - Potential is Quadratic:

 $V(t; \mathbf{x}(t)) = \mathbf{x}^T \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(t) \mathbf{x}/2 + \text{linear and const terms}$

• Force and Gauge are <u>Affine</u> in *x*

• Akin to Quant Mech (in imag. time) in Harmonic Potential

•
$$u^*(t; \mathbf{x}(t)) = \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log \left(\int d\mathbf{y} \ p_{\text{target}}(\mathbf{y}) \frac{G_{-}(t; \mathbf{x}(t); \mathbf{y})}{G_{+}(1; \mathbf{y}; 0)} \right) = a(t) \mathbf{x}(t) - b(t) \hat{\mathbf{x}}(t; \mathbf{x}(t))$$

Special case, also discussed in [1] - Low Level Integrability

• $\boldsymbol{A}, \boldsymbol{f} = 0$ – zero gauge, zero force

¹A. Teter, W, Wang & A. Halder, Schrödinger bridge with quadratic state cost is exactly solvable, 2024

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Diffusion as "Integrable" Stochastic Optimal Control Harmonic Path Integral Diffusion Use Case – Harmonic, Uniform

Use Case – Harmonic, Uniform – Low Level Integrability

$V(t; \mathbf{x}) = \beta |\mathbf{x}|^2 \Rightarrow \text{Explicit Expression for the Green Functions}$

•
$$u^*(t; \mathbf{x}(t)) = \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log \left(\int d\mathbf{y} \ p_{\text{target}}(\mathbf{y}) \frac{G_{-}(t; \mathbf{x}(t); \mathbf{y})}{G_{+}(1; \mathbf{y}; 0)} \right) = a(t)\mathbf{x}(t) - b(t)\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t; \mathbf{x}(t))$$

•
$$u^*(t; \mathbf{x}) = \frac{\sqrt{\beta}}{\sinh((1-t)\sqrt{\beta})} \left(\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t; \mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{x} \cosh((1-t)\sqrt{\beta}) \right)$$

- Weighted State: $\hat{x}(t; x) \doteq \int dy y w(y|t; x) = \mathbb{E}_{y \sim w(\cdot|t;x)}[y]$
- Weight (probability): $w(y|t; x) \propto p_{\text{target}}(y) \frac{G_{-}(t;x;y)}{G_{+}(1;y;0)}$

$$\frac{G_{-}(1;\mathbf{x};\mathbf{y})}{\sqrt{\frac{\sinh(\sqrt{\beta})}{\sinh((\mathbf{1}-t)\sqrt{\beta})}}} \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{\beta}}{2}\left((\mathbf{x}^2+\mathbf{y}^2)\coth\left((1-t)\sqrt{\beta}\right)-\mathbf{y}^2\coth\left(\sqrt{\beta}\right)-\frac{2(\mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{y})}{\sinh((1-t)\sqrt{\beta})}\right)\right)$$

Next - Experiments & Analysis

- Dependence on β strength of the potential
- What is the meaning/significance of the Weighted State

Sampling Based on Energy Function Sampling Based on Ground Truth Samples Summary

How to estimate the optimal control?

 $p_{target}(\mathbf{x}) \propto \exp(-E(\mathbf{x}))$ – the Energy function is known explicitly

•
$$u^*(t; \mathbf{x}) = \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log \left(\int d\mathbf{y} \exp(-E(\mathbf{y})) \frac{G_{-}(t; \mathbf{x}; \mathbf{y})}{G_{+}(1; \mathbf{y}; 0)} \right)$$

• How to Estimate the Integral?

Importance Sampling !!

$$\int d\mathbf{y} \exp(-E(\mathbf{y})) \frac{G_{-}(t;\mathbf{x};\mathbf{y})}{G_{+}(\mathbf{1};\mathbf{y};\mathbf{0})} = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{y}\sim\mathcal{N}\left(\cdot;\mathbf{y}^{*};\hat{\mathbf{H}}^{-1}\right)} \left[\frac{\exp(-E(\mathbf{y}))}{\mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{y};\mathbf{y}^{*};\hat{\mathbf{H}}^{-1}\right)} \frac{G_{-}(t;\mathbf{x};\mathbf{y})}{G_{+}(\mathbf{1};\mathbf{y};\mathbf{0})} \right]$$

$$\nabla \mathbf{y} \log\left(\frac{G_{-}(t;\mathbf{x};\mathbf{y})}{G_{+}(\mathbf{1};\mathbf{y};\mathbf{0})}\right) = \sqrt{\beta} \left(\mathbf{y} \left(\coth(\sqrt{\beta}) - \coth\left((1-t)\sqrt{\beta}\right)\right) + \mathbf{x} \frac{\mathbf{1}}{\sinh((1-t)\sqrt{\beta})}\right) \right)$$

$$H_{ij} = -\partial_{y_{i}}\partial_{y_{j}} \log\left(\frac{G_{-}(t;\mathbf{x};\mathbf{y})}{G_{+}(\mathbf{1};\mathbf{x};\mathbf{0})}\right) \Big|_{\mathbf{y}\rightarrow\mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{x}}} = \delta_{ij}\sqrt{\beta} \left(\coth\left((1-t)\sqrt{\beta}\right) - \coth(\sqrt{\beta})\right)$$

 $\mathbf{y}_{*} = \hat{\frac{1}{\cosh((\mathbf{1}-t)\sqrt{\beta})-\sinh((\mathbf{1}-t)\sqrt{\beta})}} \cosh(\sqrt{\beta})$

- Rely on stationary-point approximation
- Exact asymptotically at t
 ightarrow 1
- Importance Samples are Universal do not depend on E(x)

Sampling Based on Energy Function Sampling Based on Ground Truth Samples Summary

Universal Harmonic Importance Sampling (UHIC)



- Gaussian Mixture over (3 × 3) grid
- Difficult for PIS Alg.
- $s = 1, \dots, 1000$ samples of UHIC: Red - exact Blue - $\mathbf{x}^{(s)}(t)$ Green $\hat{\mathbf{x}}^{(s)}(t; \mathbf{x}(t))$
- Rows:

 $\beta = {\rm 0}, {\rm 0.1}, {\rm 1}, {\rm 10}, {\rm 100}$

Energy Function Sampling

- **Speciation Transition**: 9 Gaussians = 9 species
- Seen earlier in $\hat{\mathbf{x}}^{(s)}(t; \mathbf{x}(t))$ the order parameter
- Transition time depends on β . Fastest at $\beta \approx 0.1$



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Sampling Based on Energy Function Sampling Based on Ground Truth Samples Summary

Sampling from Ground Truth Samples

$$u^{*}(t; \mathbf{x}) = \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log \left(\int d\mathbf{y} \, \rho_{\text{target}}(\mathbf{y}) \frac{G_{-}(t; \mathbf{x}; \mathbf{y})}{G_{+}(1; \mathbf{y}; 0)} \right)$$
$$\approx \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log \left(\frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^{S} \frac{G_{-}(t; \mathbf{x}; \mathbf{y}^{(s)})}{G_{+}(1; \mathbf{y}^{(s)}; 0)} \right)$$
$$\approx \frac{\sqrt{\beta} \left(\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t; \mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{x} \cosh((1-t)\sqrt{\beta}) \right)}{\sinh((1-t)\sqrt{\beta})}$$

- Memorization Regime \Rightarrow Ground Truth samples
- Focus on Analysis of Memorization transition [1,2]

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}(t;\boldsymbol{x}(t)) \doteq \sum_{s} \boldsymbol{y}^{(s)} w(\boldsymbol{y}^{(s)}|t;\boldsymbol{x}(t)) \\ w(\boldsymbol{y}|t;\boldsymbol{x}) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{\beta}}{2}\left((\boldsymbol{x}^{2}+\boldsymbol{y}^{2})\coth\left((1-t)\sqrt{\beta}\right)-\boldsymbol{y}^{2}\coth\left(\sqrt{\beta}\right)-\frac{2(\boldsymbol{x}^{T}\boldsymbol{y})}{\sinh\left((1-t)\sqrt{\beta}\right)}\right) \right)$$

¹HB, MC, U-turn Diffusion, 2023

²G. Biroli, et al, Dynamical Regimes of Diffusion Models, 2024 = → (=) → (=) → ()

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Sampling Based on Energy Function Sampling Based on Ground Truth Samples Summary

Sampling from CIFAR-10



 $\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}(t; \boldsymbol{x}(t)) \doteq \sum_{s} \boldsymbol{y}^{(s)} w(\boldsymbol{y}^{(s)}|t; \boldsymbol{x}(t))$

 $\boldsymbol{x}(t)$

Analysis of the Memorization Transition

Emergence of Two Phases

 $\beta = 0.1$

• See it earlier in the Weighted State = Order Parameter

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Sampling Based on Energy Function Sampling Based on Ground Truth Samples Summarv

Sampling from CIFAR-10

1.0

0.8

0.4

0.2

0.0

0.0

Autocorrelation 0.6 $\beta = 0$

B = 100

0.2

Auto-Correlations in Dynamics of a Single Sample

0.6

0.8

1.0

0.4

Analysis of the Memorization Transition

Emergence of Two Phases

 $(\hat{\mathbf{x}}^{\mathsf{T}}(t;\mathbf{x}(t))\mathbf{x}(1))$

- See it earlier in the Weighted State = Order Parameter
- Transition time increases with β

Sampling Based on Energy Function Sampling Based on Ground Truth Samples Summary

Sampling from CIFAR-10

 $\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}(t; \boldsymbol{x}(t)) \doteq \sum_{s} \boldsymbol{y}^{(s)} w(\boldsymbol{y}^{(s)}|t; \boldsymbol{x}(t))$

 $\boldsymbol{x}(t)$

naa

Analysis of the Memorization Transition

- Emergence of Two Phases
- See it earlier in the Weighted State = Order Parameter
- Transition time increases with β
- Much more of "exploration" meandering in $\hat{x}(t; x(t))$

Summary – Harmonic Path Integral Diffusion (H-PID) framework

- Expressive Stochastic Optimal Control for Bridge Diffusion
- "Integrable" Three Levels
 - Top Potential + Force + Gauge ⇒ Linearly Solvable = log-ratio-of backward & forward Green Functions
 - Mid Potential quadratic, Force + Gauge are affine ⇒ Green Functions are Gaussian = akin Quantum Harmonic Oscillators
 - Low Uniform Quadratic Potential ⇒ control is a **convolution** of the **Target Distribution** with a kernel expressed via **elementary functions**
- H-PID Algorithms is Neural Networks FREE, works better on CPUs
- Experiments on Gaussian mixtures and CIFAR-10: Weighted State is Order Parameter of a Dynamic Phase Transition
 - early pre-cursor of the resulting sample