Accelerated Flow for Probability Distributions

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Objective and main idea



Euclidean space	Space of probability distributions
Gradient descent	Wasserstein gradient flow
Accelerated methods	?

Objective: Construct accelerated flows for probability distribution

Approach:

- (Wibisono, et. al. 2017) proposed a variational formulation to construct accelerated flows on Euclidean space
- Our approach is to extend the variational formulation for probability distributions

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Variational formulation for Euclidean space



	vector variables \mathbb{R}^d	probability distribution $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$
Objective funct.	f(x)	?
Gradient flow	$\dot{x}_t = -\nabla f(x_t)$?
Lagrangian	$t^{3}(\frac{1}{2} \dot{x}_{t} ^{2} - f(x_{t}))$?
Accelerated flow	$\ddot{x}_t = -\frac{3}{t}\dot{x}_t - \nabla f(x_t)$?

Accelerated flow is obtained by minimizing the action integral of the Lagrangian

Wasserstein gradient flow



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- The Wasserstein gradient flow with respect to relative entropy is the Fokker-Planck equation (Jordan, et. al. 1998)
- The Fokker-Planck equation is realized with the Langevin sde
- The goal is to obtain accelerated forms of the sde

Wasserstein gradient flow



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- The accelerated flow involves a mean-field term $\nabla \log \rho_t(X_t)$ which depends on the distribution of X_t
- The numerical algorithm involves a system of interacting particle
- The mean-field term is approximated in terms of particles



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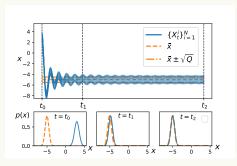
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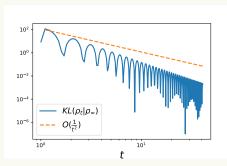
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Numerical example Gaussian



■ The target distribution is Gaussian

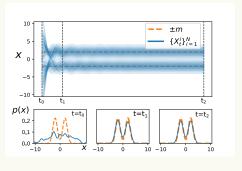


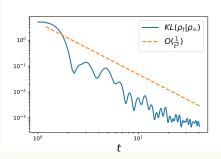


Numerical example non-Gaussian



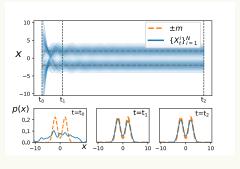
■ The target distribution is mixture of two Gaussians

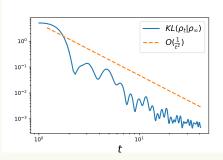




Thanks for your attention. For more details come to see poster #206

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