



Amortised MAP Inference for Image Super-resolution

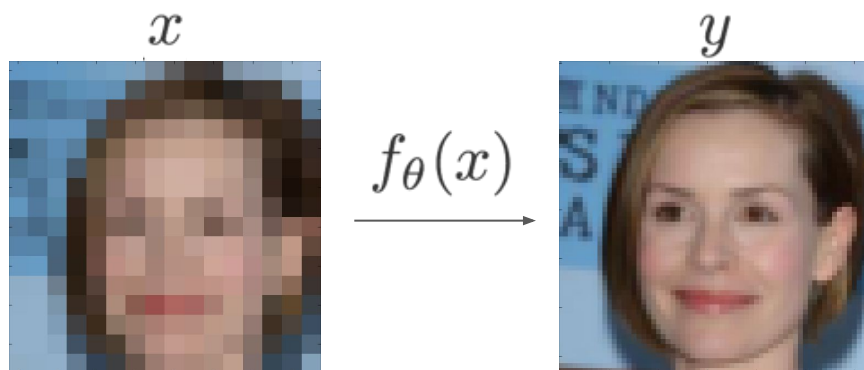
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Theis, Wenzhe Shi & Ferenc Huszár**
ICLR 2017



MAGICPONY
TECHNOLOGY

Super Resolution

- Inverse problem: Given low resolution representation x reconstruct high resolution image y



Ranked Inference Choices

1. **Empirical Risk Minimization: minimize a loss function measuring what we care about**

(We don't know the right loss function, in fact we can't even measure perceptual quality)

$$\min_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{y,x} [\ell(y, f_{\theta}(x))] = \min_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{y,x} [\ell(y, \hat{y})]$$

2. **Maximum a Posteriori (MAP) inference using knowledge of image prior**

(We don't know the prior)

3. **Approximate MAP**

Motivation: Blurry Images

- MSE is the wrong objective for photo-realistic results



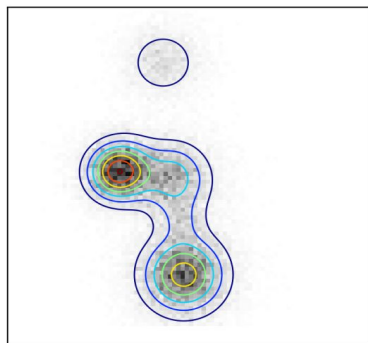
MSE Super-Resolution (4x)



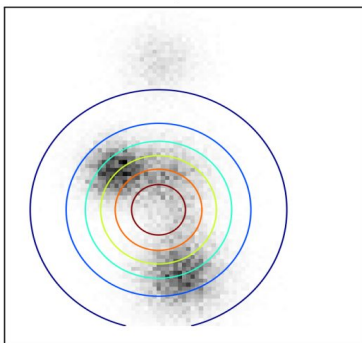
Original HR

Motivation: The Divergence Perspective

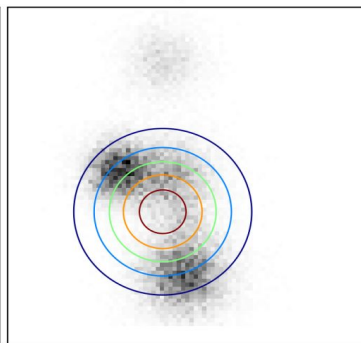
Data



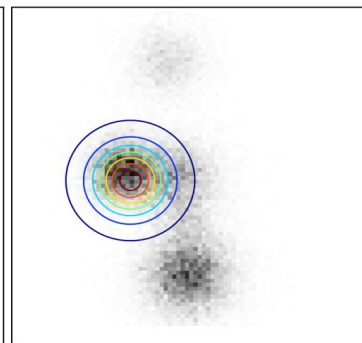
$KL[P|Q]$
Maximum Likelihood
(overdispersed)



$JSD[PIQ]$
Original GAN criterion
(in between)



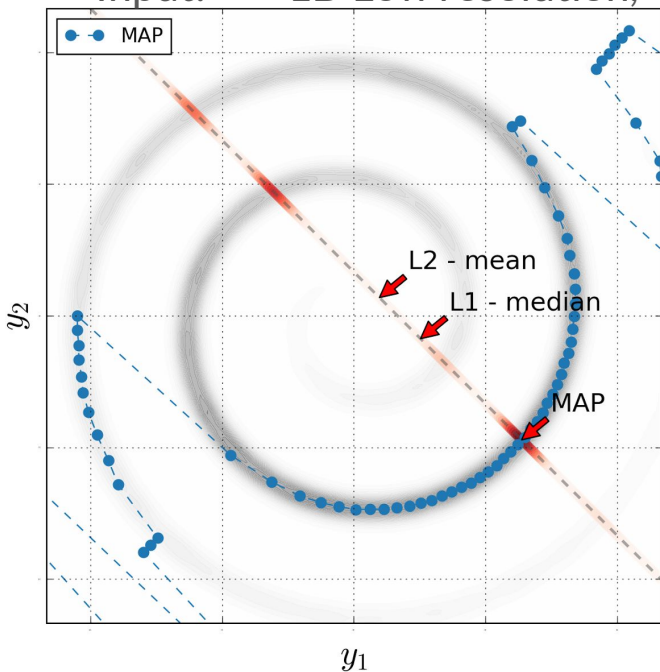
$KL[Q|P]$
Modified GAN criterion
(mode seeking)



Motivation: The 2D Perspective

Target: 2D High resolution, $y = [y_1, y_2]$ drawn from a Swiss-roll

Input: 1D Low resolution, $x = (y_1 + y_2)/2$, average of high resolution



Example

Input: $x = 0.5$

Valid outputs fall on the line: $y_1 = 1 - y_2$

Approximate Amortized MAP Inference

- Maximize Log-posterior evaluated at the predicted output

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_x} \log p_{Y|X}(\underbrace{f_{\theta}(x)}_{\hat{y}} | x)$$

- Decomposed via Bayes' rule

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \left\{ \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p_{X|Y}(x | f_{\theta}(x))}_{\substack{\text{Likelihood} \\ \text{data consistency}}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p_Y(f_{\theta}(x))}_{\substack{\text{Prior} \\ \text{plausible output}}} \right\}$$

Data Consistency: affine projections

- Input $x = \underbrace{A}y$

Linear downsampling
(strided convolution)

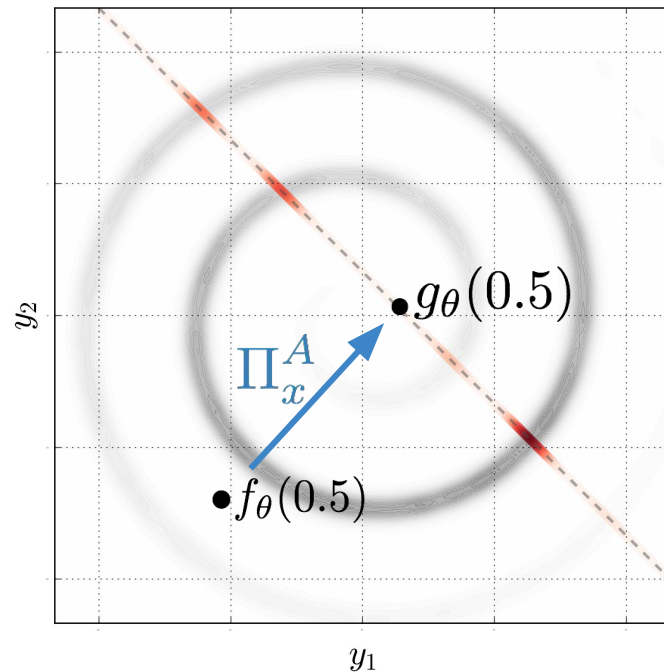
- Affine Projected Network

$$\begin{aligned}g_{\theta}(x) &= \Pi_x^A f_{\theta}(x) \\ &= (I - \underbrace{A^+}_A A) f_{\theta}(x) + A^+ x\end{aligned}$$

Moore-Penrose pseudo inverse of A
(subpixel (transposed) convolution)

- For Affine projected networks the likelihood is always maximally satisfied and can be ignored

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \left\{ \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p_{X|Y}(x|g_{\theta}(x))}_{\text{blue}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p_Y(g_{\theta}(x))}_{\text{orange}} \right\}$$



Plausible output: Cross Entropy

- Cross Entropy objective

$$\begin{aligned}\operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_X} \log p_Y(g_{\theta}(x)) &= \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{\hat{y} \sim q_{\theta}} \log p_Y(\hat{y}) \\ &= \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \mathbb{H}[q_{\theta}, p_Y], \quad \forall x : A g_{\theta}(x) = x\end{aligned}$$

- We propose three methods to optimize this

1. AffGAN: GAN using modified update rule minimizing $\text{KL}[q_{\theta} || p_Y] = \mathbb{H}[q_{\theta}, p_Y] - \mathbb{H}[q_{\theta}]$

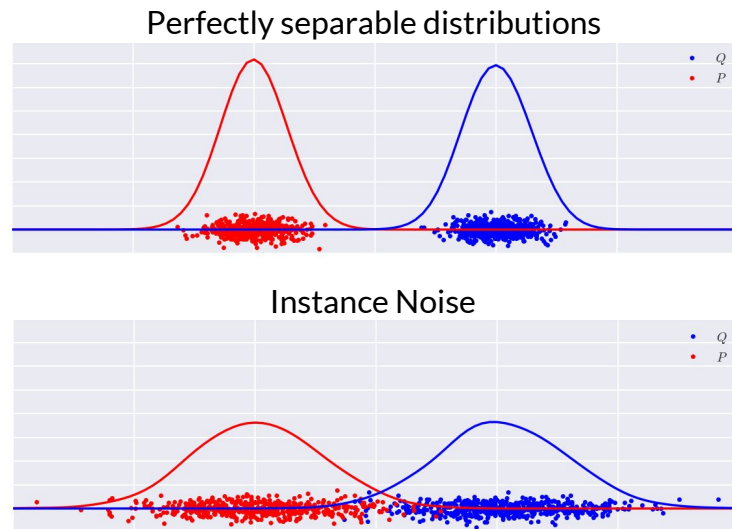
2. AffDAE: Optimize using gradients from denoiser $\frac{\partial \log p(y)}{\partial y} = \frac{f_{\sigma}^*(\tilde{y}) - y}{\sigma^2} + \mathcal{O}(\sigma^2)$ as $\sigma \rightarrow 0$

3. AffLL: Fit differentiable parametric density model to the image distribution and get gradient estimates directly.

Fix GAN Instability: Instance Noise

- The data and model distributions will most likely not share support
 - Discriminator can always perfectly separate the samples
 - KL-divergence is undefined and in general the GAN convergence proof does not hold
 - No gradient to train generator
- Instance Noise: Broaden support of model and data distributions by adding gaussian noise
 - Minimises: $\operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \text{KL} [q_{\theta} * p_n || p_Y * p_n]$

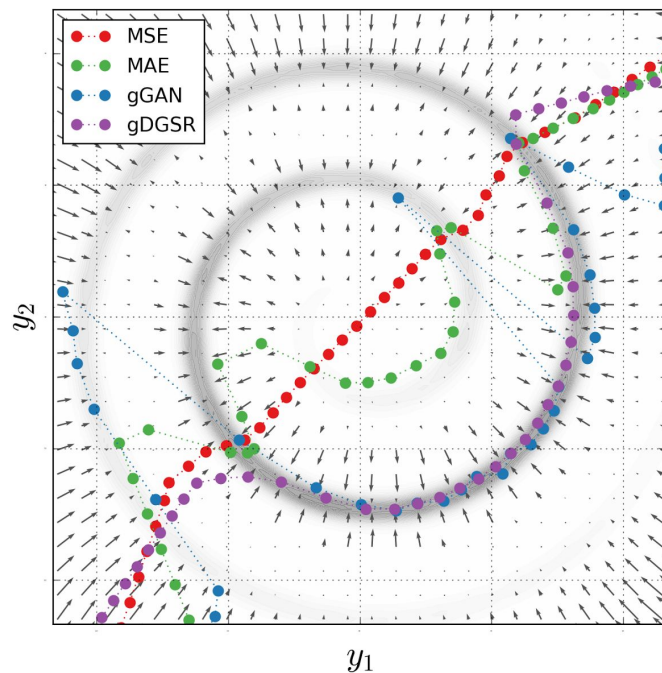
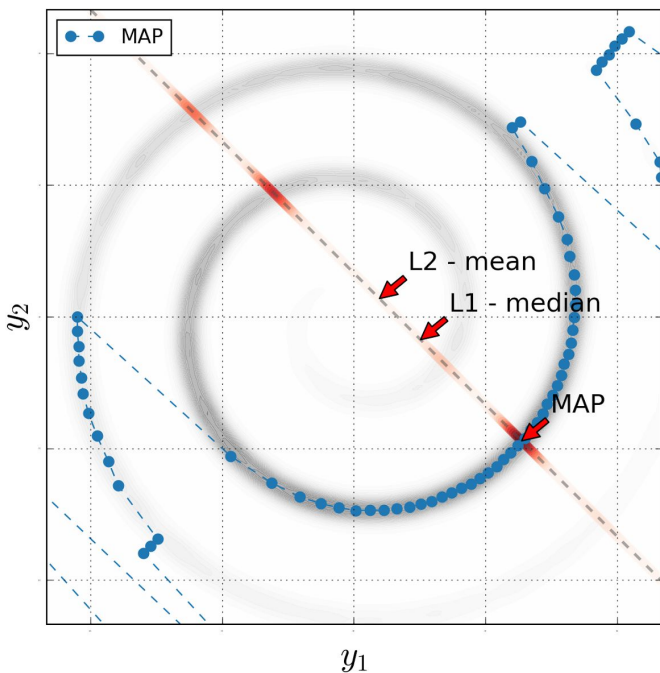
(Arjovsky & Bottou, ICLR 2017 arrives at the same solution)



2D Super resolution - Revisited

Target: 2D High resolution, $y = [y_1, y_2]$ drawn from a Swiss-roll

Input: 1D Low resolution, $x = (y_1 + y_2)/2$, average of high resolution



Results - Grass textures

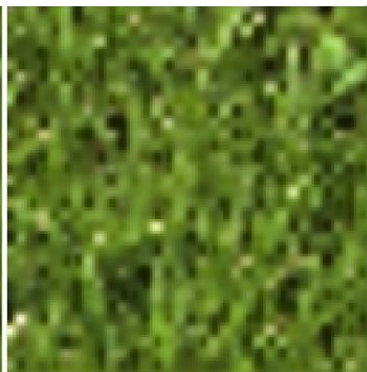
y

MSE

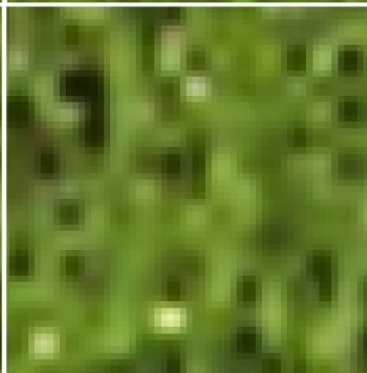
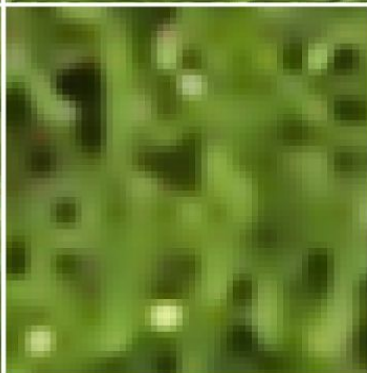
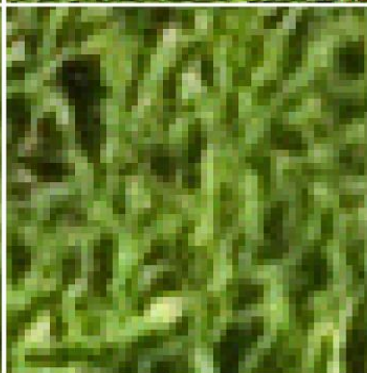
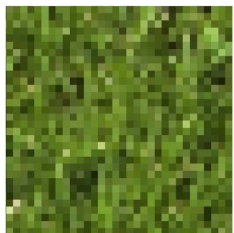
AffGAN

AffDG

AffLL



x



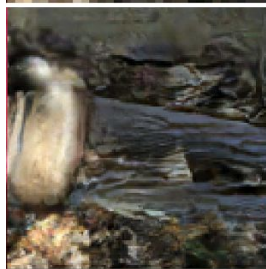
Natural Images

- Mode seeking behavior
- Correct output is often ambiguous
 - Stochastic extension

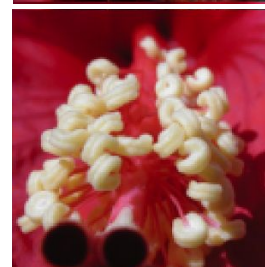
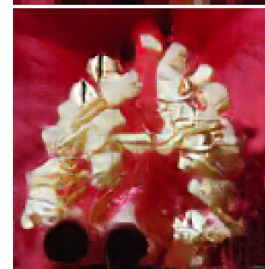
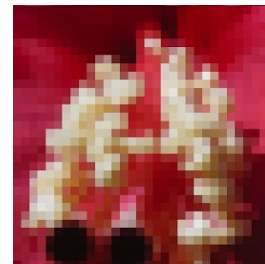
Input:
Low-res



Output
High-res



Target
High-res



AffGAN as Variational Inference

- Stochastic Affine Projected GAN (StAffGAN)

(All two letter GAN acronyms were occupied)

- Add noise source z in addition to input x

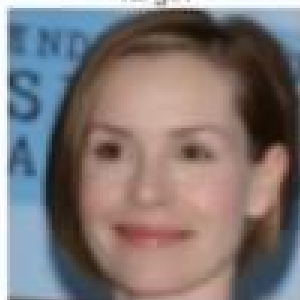
$$q_{Y;\theta} = \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_X} \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p_Z} \delta(y - g_\theta(x, z))$$

- For super-resolution we can show that

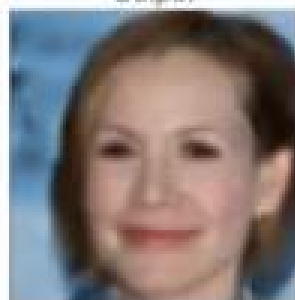
$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \text{KL}[q_{Y;\theta} \| p_Y] = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \text{KL}[q_{Y|X;\theta} \| p_{Y|X}]$$

- Consequence: StAffGAN performs **Variational Inference** for image super-resolution only requiring samples from p_X and p_Y

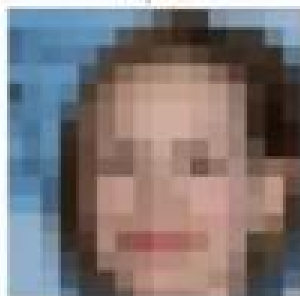
Target



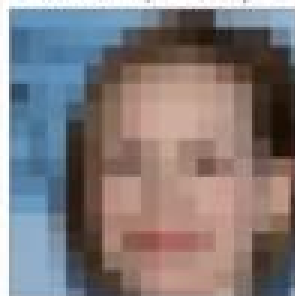
Output



Input



Downsampled output





AffGAN

BS-GAN

Conditional GAN

DCGAN

EBGAN

f-GAN

InfoGAN

GAN

Mode-seeking GAN

LSGAN

JS-GAN

Temporal GAN

GRAN

StaffGAN

Unrolled GAN

VEGAN

SRGAN

VGAN

Wasserstein GAN

Conclusion

- Affine projections restricting model to the affine subspace of valid solutions
- We proposed three methods for amortized MAP inference in image super-resolution
 - A modified GAN objective
 - Denoiser guided optimization
 - Direct parametric likelihood modelling
- In practice the GAN based objective produced the visually most appealing results
- Provide theoretical grounding for GANs in generative models
- We showed how GAN models be seen as performing Amortized Variational Inference

Further Slides

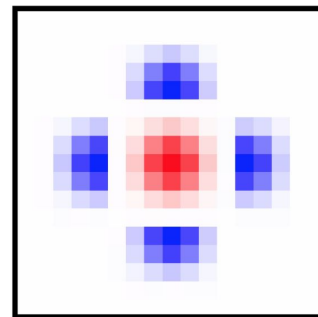
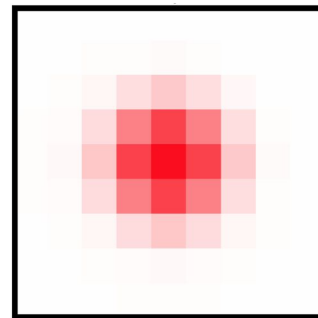
How to compute A^+

- In the language of Deep Learning:
 - A is a strided convolution with, say, Gaussian kernel
 - A^+ is a subpixel (transposed) convolution
- For fixed A , we find A^+ via numerical optimization:

$$\ell_1(B) = \mathbb{E}_{y \sim \mathcal{N}_{rd}} \|Ay - AB Ay\|_2^2$$

$$\ell_2(B) = \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mathcal{N}_d} \|Bx - BABx\|_2^2$$

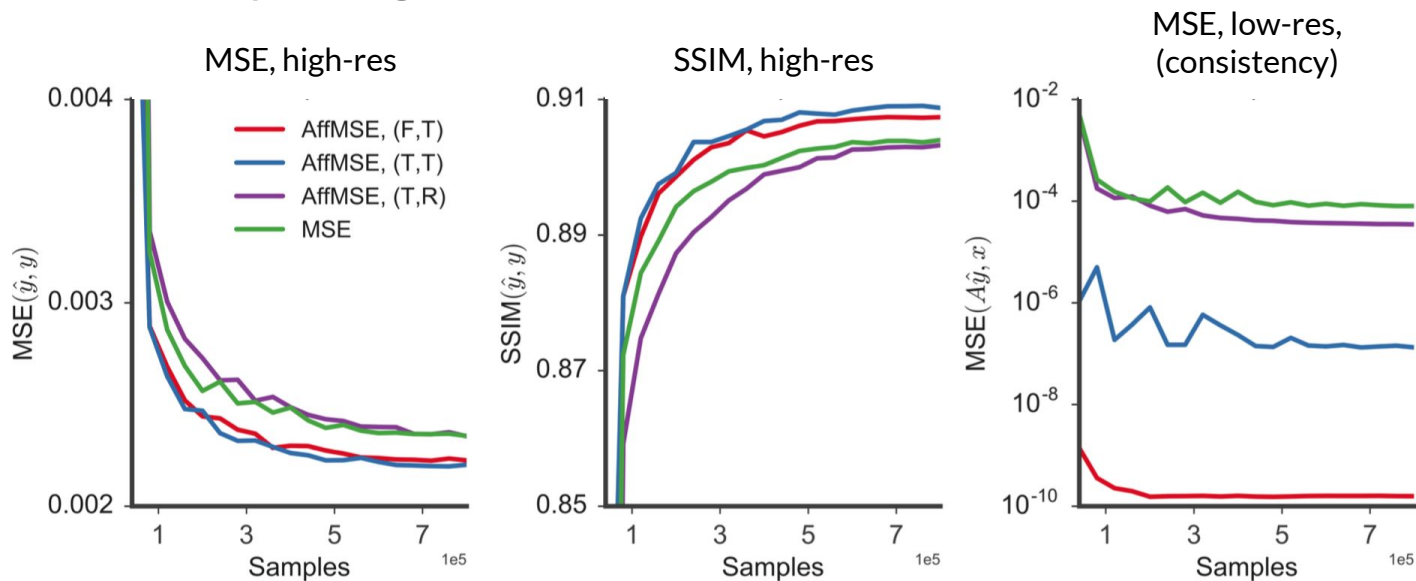
$$A^+ = \operatorname{argmin}_B (\ell_1(B) + \ell_2(B))$$



$$\max_{\theta} \left\{ \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p(x|\hat{y})}_{\text{Likelihood}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p(\hat{y})}_{\text{Prior}} - \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p(x)}_{\text{Evidence}} \right\}$$

Can Affine Projected Networks learn?

- Proof of Concept using MSE



Legend tuple indicate:

(F)ixed / (T)rainable affine transformation, (R)andom / (T)rained initialization of transformation

Approximate MAP inference - Method 1: Model $p(y)$

- Directly model $\log[p(y)]$ using maximum likelihood learning
 - Fit differentiable parametric model to $\log[p(y)]$
 - maximize $f(x)$ using gradients of $\log[p(y)]$
- We use with PixelCNN + MCGSM
 - PixelCNN: Convolutional Network satisfying the Chain Rule*
 - MCGSM: Mixture of Conditional Gaussians Scale Mixture model**

*Aaron van den Oord, Nal Kalchbrenner, and Koray Kavukcuoglu. Pixel recurrent neural networks. arXiv preprint arXiv:1601.06759, 2016.

** Theis, Lucas, and Matthias Bethge. Generative image modeling using spatial lstms. Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems. 2015.

$$\max_{\theta} \left\{ \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p(x|\hat{y})}_{\text{Likelihood}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p(\hat{y})}_{\text{Prior}} - \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p(x)}_{\text{Evidence}} \right\}$$

Approximate MAP inference - Method 2: DAE

- To maximize the prior we need the gradients

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \mathbb{E}_x [\log p(\hat{y})] = \mathbb{E}_x \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \log p(y) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \hat{y} \right]$$

- Luckily these can be approximated using a Denoising Autoencoder *

$$\frac{\partial \log p(y)}{\partial y} = \frac{f_{\sigma}^*(\tilde{y}) - y}{\sigma^2} + \mathcal{O}(\sigma^2) \quad \text{as } \sigma \rightarrow 0$$

$$\max_{\theta} \left\{ \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p(x|\hat{y})}_{\text{Likelihood}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p(\hat{y})}_{\text{Prior}} - \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p(x)}_{\text{Evidence}} \right\}$$

*Guillaume Alain and Yoshua Bengio. What regularized auto-encoders learn from the data-generating distribution. Journal of Machine Learning Research, 15(1):3563–3593, 2014.

Approximate MAP inference - Method 3: GAN

- We propose a modified GAN update rule that minimizes $KL[Q|P]$

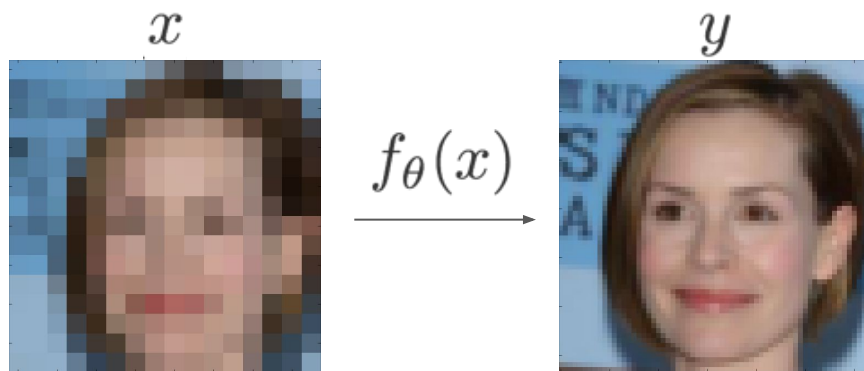
$$\begin{aligned} KL[Q|P] &= \mathbb{E}_{y \sim Q} [\log Q(y) - \log P(y)] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{y \sim Q} [\log Q(y)] - \mathbb{E}_{y \sim Q} [\log P(y)] \\ &= -H_y(Q) - \mathbb{E}_{y \sim Q} [\log P(y)] \end{aligned}$$

- Minimizing $KL[Q|P] \Rightarrow$ Maximize MAP + Entropy-term

$$\max_{\theta} \left\{ \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p(x|\hat{y})}_{\text{Likelihood}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p(\hat{y})}_{\text{Prior}} - \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_x \log p(x)}_{\text{Evidence}} \right\}$$

Super Resolution

- Inverse problem: Given low resolution representation x reconstruct high resolution image y



- Ambiguous / Multimodal

