

# Diffusion models learn distributions generated by complex Langevin dynamics

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- Motivation
- Complex Langevin
- Diffusion Models
- Results
  - Gaussian case  $S_g = \frac{1}{2}\sigma x^2$
  - Quartic case  $S_q = S_g + \frac{1}{4}\lambda x^4$
- Summary / Outlook

- Systems with a complex Boltzmann weight face the **sign problem**
  - Cannot use conventional MC methods
  - Example: QCD at non-zero baryon density
- **Complex Langevin (CL)** dynamics extend system's degrees of freedom and explore a complexified space via a stochastic process.
  - Extension of Stochastic Quantisation [Parisi & Wu 1981](#)
  - Can be successful with models suffering from severe sign problem but can also fail with simple models
  - A lot of work done on testing correctness but issues remain
  - Distributions sampled by CL remain elusive
- **Diffusion Models (DMs)**, a machine learning method, have been successful in learning distributions from data.
- Their combination has potential to deepen understanding of CL dynamics.

# Complex Langevin

- Partition function  $Z = \int dx e^{-S(x)}$ ,  $S(x) \in \mathbb{C}$
- Complex Langevin dynamics complexify d.o.f :  
 $S(x) \mapsto S(z) = S(x + iy)$

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= K_x + \eta, & K_x &= -\text{Re}\partial_z S \\ \dot{y} &= K_y, & K_y &= -\text{Im}\partial_z S\end{aligned}$$

- Gaussian noise

$$\langle \eta(t) \rangle = 0, \quad \langle \eta(t)\eta(t') \rangle = 2\delta(t - t')$$

- Complex Langevin for  $x(t), y(t) \leftrightarrow$  Fokker-Planck for  $P(x, y; t)$

$$\partial_t P(x, y; t) = [\partial_x(\partial_x - K_x) - \partial_y K_y] P(x, y; t)$$

- Generic solution not guaranteed

# Complex Langevin

- Complex weight  $\rho(x) \leftrightarrow$  Real & positive weight  $P(x, y)$
- Considerable effort invested into criteria for correctness to justify results

Aarts, Seiler, Stamatescu 0912.3360, Aarts, James, Seiler, Stamatescu 1101.3270

$$\int dx \rho(x, t) O(x) = \int dx dy P(x, y; t) O(x + iy),$$

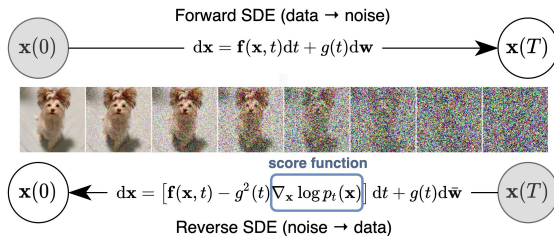
- Holds for holomorphic observables  $O(x + iy)$
- If equilibrium  $P(x, y)$  is known analytically,

$$\rho(x) = \int dy P(x - iy, y)$$

but hard to verify numerically

# Diffusion models

- Diffusion models are a class of generative AI which learn distributions from data
  - Popularly found in *DALL-E & Stable Diffusion*
  - Relies on a stochastic process to learn the score function
  - Relation between DMs and Stochastic Quantisation explored  
[Wang, Aarts, Zhou 2309.17082](#)



Source: Song et al. 2011.13456

# Diffusion models

Estimate the score of a distribution based on some sample dataset of the target distribution with score-matching

- Approximate score function with a time-dependent score-based model  $s_\theta(x, t)$
- Train using the Fisher objective [Hyvärinen 2005](#)

$$\mathcal{L}_\theta \propto \mathbb{E}_{p_t(x)} [ \|s_\theta(x, t) - \nabla \log p_t(x)\|^2 ]$$

- Approximate  $\nabla \log p_t(x)$  with the score of transition kernel,  $\nabla \log p_t(x_t|x_0)$
- In the case of an affine drift  $f(x, t)$ , the transition kernel is always a Gaussian distribution kernel
- Obtain samples from the target distribution using the estimated score,  $s_\theta(x, t) \approx \nabla \log p_t(x)$ , via reverse SDE

$$dx = [f(x, t) - g^2(t)\underline{s_\theta(x, t)}]dt + g(t)d\bar{w}$$

## Applications: Two simple examples



Gaussian action with complex mass parameter

$$S(x) = \frac{1}{2}\sigma x^2, \quad \sigma = A + iB. \quad (1)$$

This model can be analytically solved!

- CL equation

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -A & B \\ -B & A \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \eta \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

- Stationary solution of FPE:

$$P(x, y) = N \exp(-\alpha x^2 - \beta y^2 - 2\gamma xy) \quad (3)$$

where  $\alpha = A$ ,  $\beta = A \left(1 + \frac{2A^2}{B^2}\right)$  and  $\gamma = \frac{A^2}{B}$ .

Exact results obtained by

$$Z = \int dx e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sigma x^2 - \frac{1}{4}\lambda x^4} = \sqrt{\frac{4\xi}{\sigma}} e^{\xi} K_{-\frac{1}{4}}(\xi), \quad \sigma = A + iB \quad (4)$$

where  $\xi = \sigma^2/(8\lambda)$  and  $K_p(\xi)$  is the modified Bessel function of the second kind.

- Moments  $\langle x^n \rangle$  are obtained by differentiating w.r.t.  $\sigma$
- Odd moments vanish
- CL process is contained in a strip  $-y_- < y < y_-$ , provided  $B^2 < 3A^2$  [Aarts, Giudice, Seiler 1306:3075](#)

$$y_-^2 = \frac{A}{2\lambda} \left( 1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{B^2}{3A^2}} \right) \quad (5)$$

- But distribution  $P(x, y)$  from FPE is not analytically known.

- Variance Exploding SDE

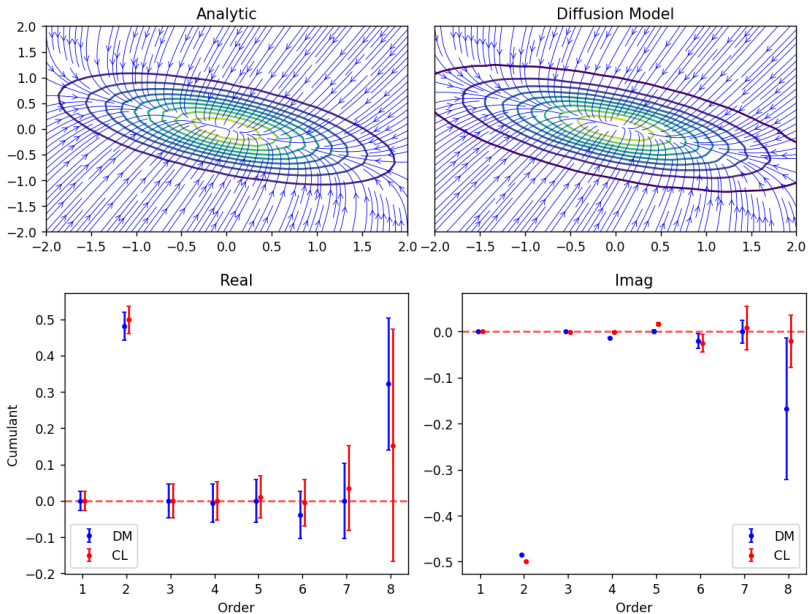
$$dx = \alpha^t d\mathbf{w}$$

- Score-based model  $s_\theta(x, t)$ 
  - Time-conditioned fully connected NN
  - Hidden layers: [64, 64, 64]
  - Time embedding dims: 128
  - Activation function: LeakyReLU
- Weighted training objective [Song et al. 2011.13456](#)

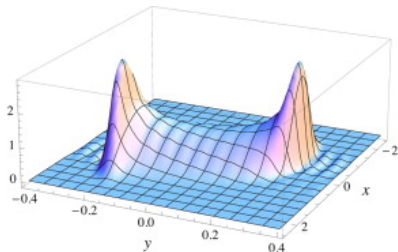
$$\mathcal{L}(\theta, \lambda) := \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \mathbb{E}_{p_t(x)} [\lambda(t) \|s_\theta(x, t) - \nabla \log p_t(x)\|_2^2] dt$$

We choose  $\lambda(t)$  to be the standard deviation of the noise at time  $t$ . For  $g(t) = \alpha^t$ ,  $\lambda(t) = \sqrt{\frac{\alpha^{2t}-1}{2 \log \alpha}}$ .

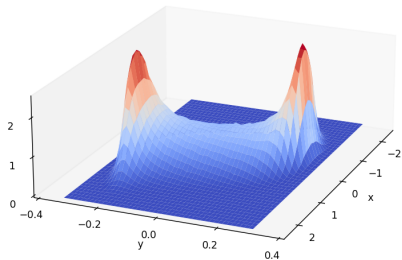
# Gaussian case



# Quartic case



Source: Aarts, Giudice, Seiler 1306:3075



DM obtained distribution

Table: Results of the observable  $\langle O_n(z) \rangle = \langle z^n \rangle / n$  for  $\sigma = 1 + i$ ,  $\lambda = 1$ .

n	2		4		6		8	
	re	-im	re	-im	re	-im	re	-im
DM	0.2134(3)	0.0745(1)	0.1053(3)	0.06999(13)	0.0964(5)	0.0975(3)	0.1209(11)	0.1741(9)
CL	0.2138(3)	0.0739(1)	0.1059(3)	0.07006(14)	0.0967(4)	0.0981(3)	0.1189(9)	0.1745(9)
Exact	0.214071	0.074005	0.105962	0.070033	0.096741	0.097958	0.118881	0.174170

# Quartic case

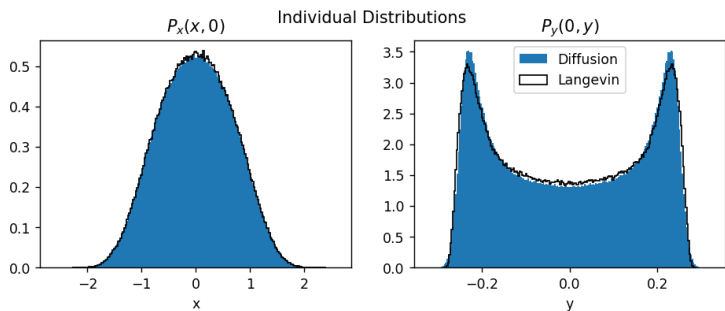


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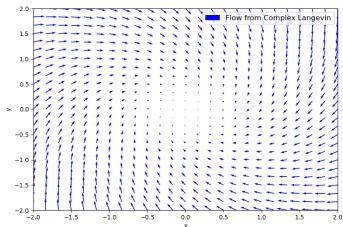
## Note

The model doesn't learn the drift of the theory, but instead an effective description of it on the complexified space

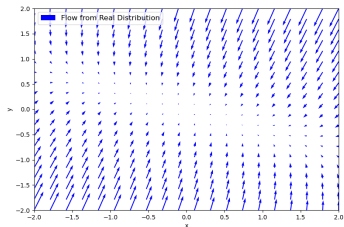
$$\nabla \log P_\theta(x, y) \neq -\partial_z S(z)$$

We can integrate for  $P_\theta(x, y)$  but cannot integrate the CL drift since

$$-\partial_y \text{Re} \partial_z S \neq -\partial_x \text{Im} \partial_z S$$



Complex weight flow



Real distribution flow

- Diffusion models obtain samples from target distribution
  - Models can't be better than the data they train on
  - Not a cure but we can supplement data using DMs
- Estimated score  $s_\theta(x, t) \approx \nabla \log p_t(x)$  lets us analyse properties of the theory
- Extend to lattice theories with sign problem
  - Applying DMs on the lattice has already been explored [Wang, Aarts, Zhou 2309.17082](#)
  - Explore conditioning DM on external parameters e.g. chemical potential
- DMs have connections to the renormalisation group flow [Colter, Rezchikov 2308.12355](#)

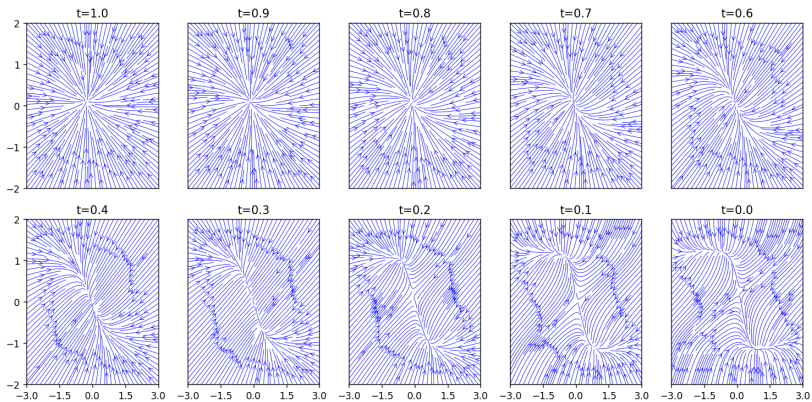


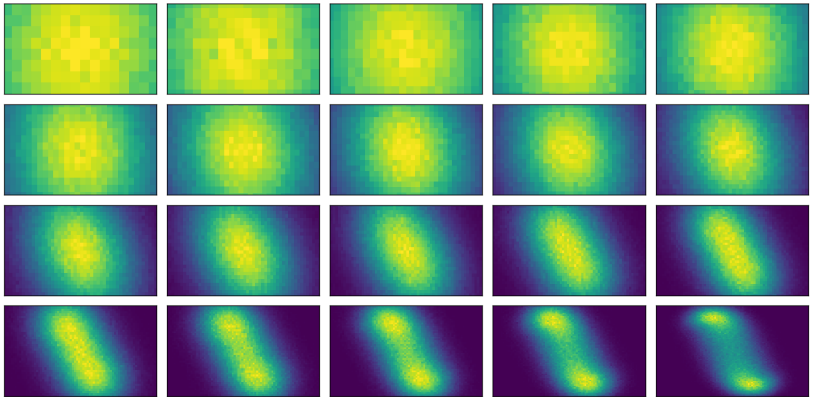
# Summary/Outlook

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  - Models can't be better than the data they train on
  - Not a cure but we can supplement data using DMs
- Estimated score  $s_\theta(x, t) \approx \nabla \log p_t(x)$  lets us analyse properties of the theory
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Thank you for listening!

## Backup slides





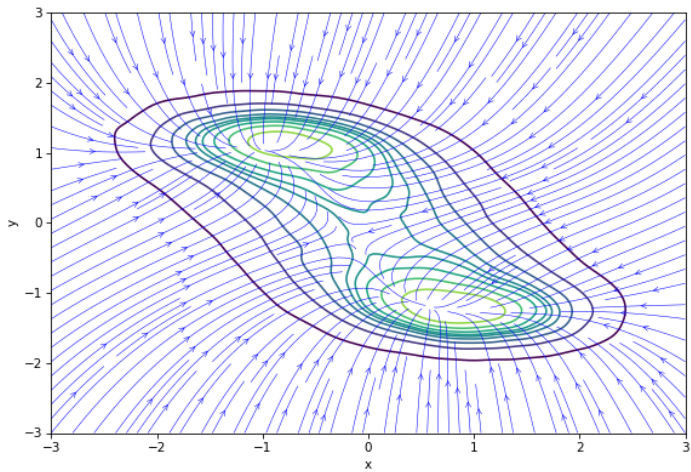


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n	2		4		6		8	
	re	-im	re	-im	re	-im	re	-im
DM	0.497(1)	0.491(1)	0.021(1)	1.476(7)	-3.645(26)	3.78(4)	-26.28(11)	0.81(68)
CL	0.4986(7)	0.4990(7)	-0.0018(1)	1.494(5)	-3.748(24)	3.750(26)	-26.42(30)	0.20(3)
Exact	1/2	1/2	0	3/2	-3.75	3.75	-26.25	0