

CS886: Diffusion Models

Lec 02: Stochastic Differential Equations

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Itô Process

$$d\mathbf{X}(t, \omega) = \mathbf{F}(t, \omega) dt + \mathbf{G}(t, \omega) dB(t, \omega)$$

$$\mathbf{X}(t, \omega) = \mathbf{X}(0, \omega) + \int_0^t \mathbf{F}(s, \omega) ds + \int_0^t \mathbf{G}(s, \omega) dB(s, \omega)$$

- The 1st integral is the familiar Riemann or Lebesgue integral
- The 2nd integral is Itô's stochastic integral

Itô's formula:

$$df(\mathbf{X}_t, \mathbf{V}_t) = f_x(\mathbf{X}_t, \mathbf{V}_t) d\mathbf{X}_t + f_y(\mathbf{X}_t, \mathbf{V}_t) d\mathbf{V}_t + \frac{1}{2} f_{xx}(\mathbf{X}_t, \mathbf{V}_t) d[\mathbf{X}]_t$$

- $[\mathbf{X}]_t := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^n (\mathbf{X}_{t_{k+1}} - \mathbf{X}_{t_k})^2 = \mathbf{G}^\top \mathbf{G} \cdot [\mathbf{B}]_t, \quad [\mathbf{B}]_t = t$

Martingale

(M_t, \mathcal{F}_t) is a martingale iff

- $M_t \in \mathcal{F}_t$, i.e., M_t determined by information \mathcal{F}_t up to t
 - e.g., $\mathcal{F}_t = \sigma(M_s : s \leq t)$, i.e., all (measurable) functions of $\{M_s : s \leq t\}$
- for all t , $\mathbb{E}|M_t| < \infty$
- for all $t \geq s$, $\mathbb{E}[M_t | \mathcal{F}_s] = M_s$
 - $\mathbb{E}[M_t | M_s] = \mathbb{E}[(M_t - M_s) + M_s | \mathcal{F}_s] = M_s \iff \mathbb{E}[M_t - M_s | \mathcal{F}_s] = 0$
 - given what we know (\mathcal{F}_s) at time s , changes in the future ($M_t - M_s$) are 0 in expectation
 - e.g. cumsum of independent r.v., $S_n := \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mathbb{E}[X_i])$, $\mathcal{F}_n := \sigma(X_i, i = 1, \dots, n)$

Itô's Integral is a Square Integrable Martingale

$$X_t = \int_0^t G_s dB_s$$

- If $t \mapsto G_t$ is continuous, so is $t \mapsto X_t$
- $X_0 := 0$, $\mathbb{E}[X_t] = \mathbb{E}[X_0] = 0$, $X_t \in \mathcal{F}_t$
- $\mathbb{E}[X_t^2 - X_s^2] = \mathbb{E}[X_t - X_s]^2$

Theorem: Martingale representation

Let (M_t, \mathcal{F}_t) be a square integrable martingale. Then, there exists a unique process G_t such that

$$M_t = \mathbb{E}[M_0] + \int_0^t G_s dB_s.$$

Itô's Stochastic Differential Equation (SDE)

$$d\mathbf{X}_t = \mathbf{b}(t, \mathbf{X}_t) dt + G(t, \mathbf{X}_t) dB_t$$

$$\mathbf{X}_t = \mathbf{X}_0 + \int_0^t \mathbf{b}_s(\mathbf{X}_s) ds + \int_0^t G_s(\mathbf{X}_s) dB_s$$

- We will see that $t \mapsto \mathbf{X}_t$ is continuous
- We assume \mathbf{b} and G are continuous
- The 1st integral is the usual Riemann integral
- The 2nd integral is Itô's stochastic integral

But, does such \mathbf{X}_t actually exist?

Geometric Brownian Motion

$$\frac{dS_t}{S_t} = b dt + \sigma dB_t, \text{ or equivalently } \boxed{dS_t = bS_t dt + \sigma S_t dB_t}$$

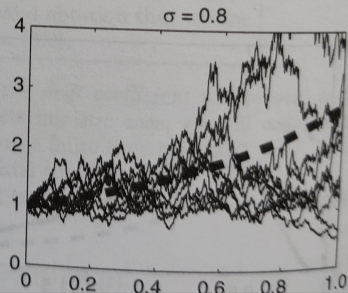
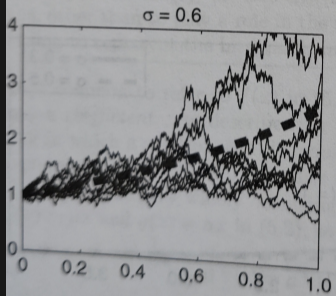
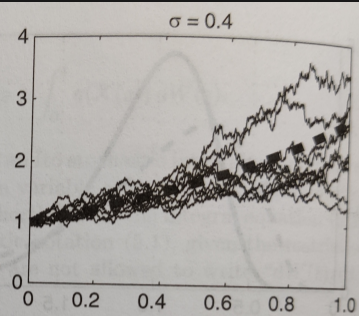
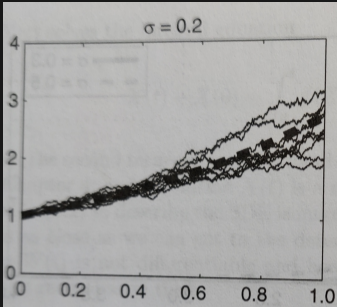
- $b(S_t) = bS_t$
- $G(S_t) = \sigma S_t$
- Apply Itô's formula to $f(S_t) = \ln(S_t)$:

$$d \ln(S_t) = \frac{1}{S_t} dS_t - \frac{1}{2S_t^2} d[S]_t = \frac{1}{S_t} dS_t - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} dt = (b - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) dt + \sigma dB_t$$

$$\boxed{S_t = S_0 \cdot \exp \left[(b - \frac{\sigma^2}{2})t + \sigma B_t \right]}$$

- Take expectation:

$$d\mathbb{E}[S_t] = b\mathbb{E}[S_t] \cdot dt \implies \mathbb{E}[S_t] = \mathbb{E}[S_0] \cdot \exp(bt)$$



Langevin's Equation

$$d\mathbf{X}_t = -b\mathbf{X}_t dt + \sigma d\mathbf{B}_t$$

- \mathbf{X}_t is the velocity of a particle
- b is the friction coefficient
- σ models random perturbation

$$\mathbf{X}_t = \exp(-bt) \cdot \mathbf{X}_0 + \sigma \int_0^t \exp[-b(t-s)] d\mathbf{B}_s$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}_t] = \exp(-bt) \cdot \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}_0], \quad \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}_t^2] = \exp(-2bt) \cdot \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}_0^2] + \frac{\sigma^2}{2b} [1 - \exp(-2bt)]$$

- As $t \rightarrow \infty$, $\mathbf{X}_t \rightarrow \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{\sigma^2}{2b})$

Brownian Motion on a Riemannian Manifold

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = (\cos B_t, \sin B_t)$$

$$\begin{cases} dX_1 &= -\frac{1}{2}X_1 dt - X_2 dB_t \\ dX_2 &= -\frac{1}{2}X_2 dt + X_1 dB_t \end{cases} \iff d\mathbf{X} = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{X} dt + J\mathbf{X} dB_t, \quad J = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$d\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}] = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}] dt \implies \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}(0)] \cdot \exp(-\frac{1}{2}t)$$

Brownian Bridge

$$dX_t = \frac{-X_t}{1-t} dt + dB_t, \quad 0 \leq t < 1, \quad X_0 = 0$$

$$X_t = \int_0^t \frac{1-s}{1-t} dB_s, \quad \mathbb{E}[X_t] \equiv 0$$

Constructing the Solution

$$\mathbf{X}_t = \mathbf{X}_0 + \int_0^t \mathbf{b}_s(\mathbf{X}_s) ds + \int_0^t G_s(\mathbf{X}_s) dB_s$$

$$\mathbf{X}^{k+1} := \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{X}^k) := \mathbf{X}_0^k + \int_0^t \mathbf{b}_s(\mathbf{X}_s^k) ds + \int_0^t G_s(\mathbf{X}_s^k) dB_s$$

- A solution \mathbf{X}_t is simply a fixed point of the mapping \mathcal{T}
- Perhaps the iterated sequence \mathbf{X}^k converges to a solution?

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\sup_{0 \leq s \leq t} |\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{Y}_s) - \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{Z}_s)|^2 \right] \lesssim \mathbb{E}[|\mathbf{Y}_0 - \mathbf{Z}_0|^2] + \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^t |\mathbf{Y}_s - \mathbf{Z}_s|^2 ds \right]$$

$$|\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{Y}_s) - \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{Z}_s)|^2 \lesssim |\mathbf{Y}_0 - \mathbf{Z}_0|^2 + \left| \int_0^t [G_s(\mathbf{Y}_s) - G_s(\mathbf{Z}_s)] d\mathbf{B}_s \right|^2 + \left| \int_0^t [b_s(\mathbf{Y}_s) - b_s(\mathbf{Z}_s)] ds \right|^2$$

$$\mathbb{E} \left| \int_0^t [G_s(\mathbf{Y}_s) - G_s(\mathbf{Z}_s)] d\mathbf{B}_s \right|^2 \lesssim \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^t |G_s(\mathbf{Y}_s) - G_s(\mathbf{Z}_s)|^2 ds \right] \lesssim \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^t |\mathbf{Y}_s - \mathbf{Z}_s|^2 ds \right]$$

$$\mathbb{E} \left| \int_0^t [b_s(\mathbf{Y}_s) - b_s(\mathbf{Z}_s)] ds \right|^2 \lesssim t \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^t |b_s(\mathbf{Y}_s) - b_s(\mathbf{Z}_s)|^2 ds \right] \lesssim \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^t |\mathbf{Y}_s - \mathbf{Z}_s|^2 ds \right]$$

- Existence

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\underbrace{\sup_{0 \leq s \leq t} |\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{X}_s^{n+1}) - \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{X}_s^n)|^2}_{D_t^{n+1}} \right] \lesssim \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^t \underbrace{|\mathbf{X}_s^{n+1} - \mathbf{X}_s^n|^2}_{\leq D_s^n} ds \right]$$

- apply recursion to obtain $D_t^n \lesssim \frac{t^n}{n!} + \frac{t^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}$
- it follows that $X^n \rightarrow X$, which is indeed a solution

- Uniqueness

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\sup_{0 \leq s \leq t} |Y_s - Z_s|^2 \right] \lesssim \mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^t |Y_s - Z_s|^2 ds \right]$$

- apply Gronwall's inequality: $D(t) \lesssim \int_0^t D(s) ds \implies D(t) \leq 0$

Existence and Uniqueness

$$\mathbf{X}_t = \mathbf{X}_0 + \int_0^t \mathbf{b}_s(\mathbf{X}_s) ds + \int_0^t G_s(\mathbf{X}_s) dB_s$$

There exists a **unique continuous** solution of SDE, if

- b and G are **locally** Lipschitz continuous (e.g., continuously differentiable)
 - i.e., $|b(\mathbf{x}) - b(\mathbf{y})| \leq L \cdot |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|$ for all $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in B(0, r)$
- b and G have **linear growth**
 - i.e., $|b(\mathbf{x})|^2 \leq K \cdot (1 + |\mathbf{x}|^2)$
 - trivially holds if b is linear in \mathbf{x}

Markov Process

$$\mathbf{X}_t = \mathbf{X}_0 + \int_0^t \mathbf{b}_s(\mathbf{X}_s) ds + \int_0^t G_s(\mathbf{X}_s) dB_s$$

For any bounded and continuous function f :

$$\mathbb{E}^{\mathbf{x}}[f(\mathbf{X}_{t+s}) | \mathcal{F}_s] = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbf{X}_s}[f(\mathbf{X}_t)]$$

- $\mathbb{E}^{\mathbf{x}}$: when we start with $\mathbf{X}_0 = \mathbf{x}$

Euler-Maruyama

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{X}_t &= \mathbf{X}_s + \int_s^t \mathbf{b}_\tau(\mathbf{X}_\tau) d\tau + \int_s^t G_\tau(\mathbf{X}_\tau) d\mathbf{B}_\tau \\ &\approx \mathbf{X}_s + \mathbf{b}_s(\mathbf{X}_s) \cdot [t - s] + G_s(\mathbf{X}_s)[\mathbf{B}_t - \mathbf{B}_s] \end{aligned}$$

- Divide $0 := t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_n < t_{n+1} = t$
- For $k = 1, \dots, n$, compute

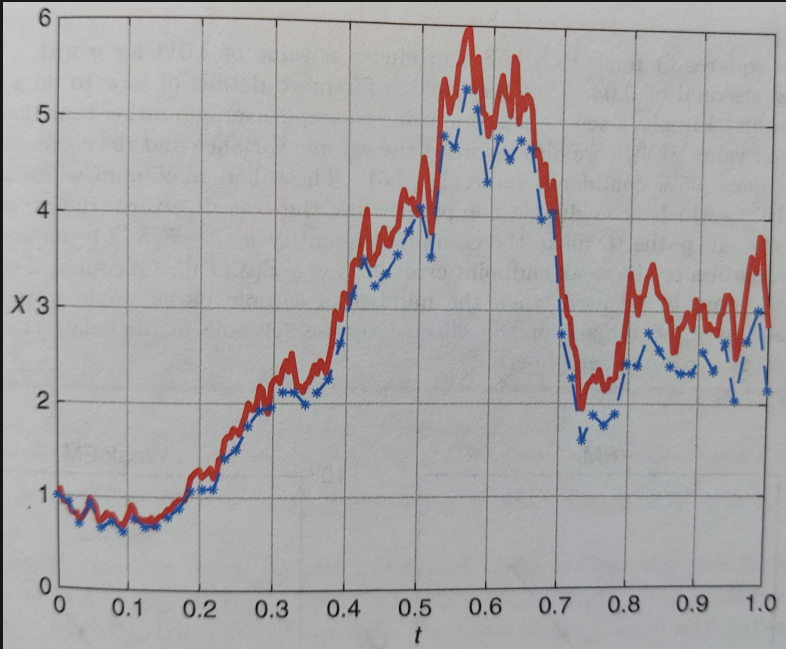
$$\mathbf{X}_{t_{k+1}} = \mathbf{X}_{t_k} + b_{t_k}(X_{t_k}) \cdot \Delta t_k + G_{t_k}(\mathbf{X}_{t_k}) \cdot \Delta B_{t_k}$$

$$- \Delta B_{t_k} \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\simeq} \mathcal{N}(0, \Delta t_k)$$

- Interpolate

$$- \hat{\mathbf{X}}_t := \sum_k \mathbf{X}_{t_k} \cdot \mathbb{I}[t_k \leq t < t_{k+1}]$$

$$- \bar{\mathbf{X}}_t := \mathcal{F}(\hat{\mathbf{X}}_t)$$



“I did not hear any reaction from other mathematicians about my paper until long after the end of the war, when [Gisiro Maruyama](#) told me in person that he had been drafted into the army and had read my paper in the barracks in 1942. Perhaps he and I were the only researchers then interested in the problem of sample paths.”

— [Kiyosi Itô](#)

Langevin again

$$d\mathbf{X}_t = -b(\mathbf{X}_t) dt + \sigma_t dB_t$$

- Euler-Maruyama:

$$\mathbf{X}_{k+1} = \mathbf{X}_k - b(\mathbf{X}_k)\Delta t_k + \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_k^2 \Delta t_k)$$

- Let $\Delta t_k =: \eta_k$ and $b(\mathbf{X}_k) =: \nabla f(\mathbf{X}_k)$

$$\mathbf{X}_{k+1} = \mathbf{X}_k - \eta_k [\nabla f(\mathbf{X}_k) + \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_k^2 / \eta_k)]$$

- In typical SGD, $\eta_k = O(1/\sqrt{k})$ and $\sigma_k^2 / \eta_k = O(1)$, meaning $\sigma_k = k^{-1/4}$
- In Langevin gradient, $\sigma_k \equiv 1$

Complexity

It can be shown that the Euler-Muruyama scheme has

- weak convergence of order $O(\Delta t)$
- strong convergence of order $O(\sqrt{\Delta t})$

More generally, for a scheme with convergence order $O(\Delta t)^p$, to achieve ϵ accuracy:

- Need $\Delta t = \epsilon^{1/p}$
- Need to evaluate b and G roughly $1/\Delta t$ times
- For $p = 1/2$, obtain the familiar rate $1/\epsilon^2$ for SGD

Implicit methods

$$\mathbf{X}_t = \mathbf{X}_s + \int_s^t \mathbf{b}_\tau(\mathbf{X}_\tau) d\tau + \int_s^t G_\tau(\mathbf{X}_\tau) dB_\tau$$

$$\mathbf{X}_{t_{k+1}} = \mathbf{X}_{t_k} + [(1 - \theta)b_{t_k}(\mathbf{X}_{t_k}) + \theta b_{t_{k+1}}(\mathbf{X}_{t_{k+1}})] \cdot \Delta t_k + G_{t_k}(\mathbf{X}_{t_k}) \cdot \Delta B_{t_k}$$

- $\theta = 0$: Euler-Muruyama
- $\theta = 1$: implicit method
- $\theta = \frac{1}{2}$: Trapezoid

Richardson Extrapolation

Suppose

$$\mathbb{E}[X_t^\Delta] - \mathbb{E}[X_t] = A\Delta + B\Delta^2 + \dots$$

Then, with half of Δ :

$$\mathbb{E}[X_t^{\Delta/2}] - \mathbb{E}[X_t] = A\Delta/2 + B\Delta^2/4 + \dots$$

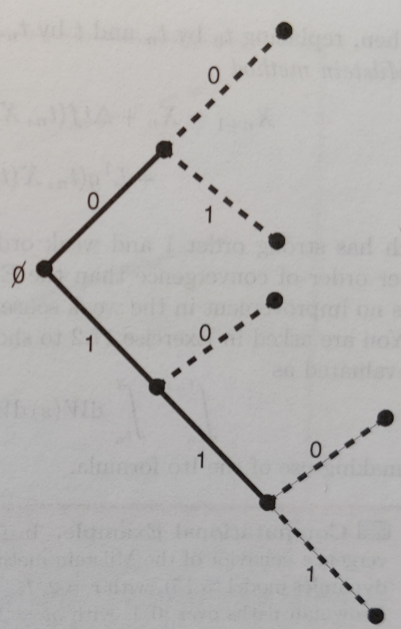
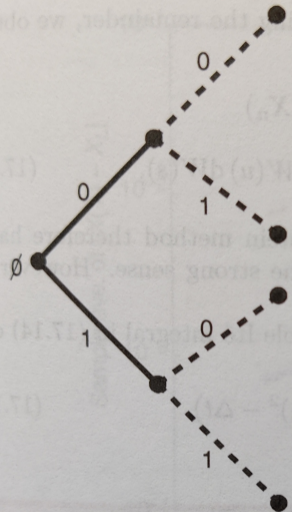
Thus,

$$\mathbb{E}[2X_t^{\Delta/2} - X_t^\Delta] - \mathbb{E}[X_t] = -B\Delta^2/2 + \dots$$

Extrapolation eliminates lower order terms!

Multi-level Monte Carlo

High order methods



Score Matching

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{F}(p||q) &:= \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X} \sim q} \|\partial_{\mathbf{x}} \log p(\mathbf{X}) - \partial_{\mathbf{x}} \log q(\mathbf{X})\|_2^2 \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X} \sim q} \left[\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{s}_p(\mathbf{X})\|_2^2 + \langle \partial_{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{s}_p(\mathbf{X}) \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{s}_q(\mathbf{X})\|_2^2 \right] \\ &\approx \hat{\mathbb{E}}_{\mathbf{X} \sim q} \left[\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{s}_p(\mathbf{X})\|_2^2 + \langle \partial_{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{s}_p(\mathbf{X}) \rangle \right]\end{aligned}$$

- Under mild conditions, $\mathbb{F}(p||q) = 0 \iff p \propto q$
- A Convenient way to estimate the score \mathbf{s}_q and hence the density q
- The model score function \mathbf{s}_p can be chosen as any NN

Score Matching for Exponential Family

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \hat{\mathbb{E}}_{\mathbf{X} \sim q} \left[\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{X}; \boldsymbol{\theta})\|_2^2 + \langle \partial_{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{X}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \rangle \right]$$

- If the model density p is in the exponential family:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) &= \partial_{\mathbf{x}} \langle \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{x}), \boldsymbol{\theta} \rangle = [\partial_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{x})]^\top \boldsymbol{\theta} \\ \langle \partial_{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \rangle &= \langle \partial_{\mathbf{x}}, \partial_{\mathbf{x}} \langle \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{x}), \boldsymbol{\theta} \rangle \rangle = \langle \partial_{\mathbf{x}}^2 \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{x}), \boldsymbol{\theta} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

- Can solve $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ in closed-form by simply setting the derivative w.r.t. $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ to $\mathbf{0}$:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = -\left\{ \hat{\mathbb{E}}_{\mathbf{X} \sim q} [\partial_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{x})]^\top [\partial_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{x})] \right\}^{-1} \cdot \hat{\mathbb{E}}_{\mathbf{X} \sim q} [\partial_{\mathbf{x}}^2 \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{x})]$$

- For multivariate Gaussian, $\boldsymbol{\theta} = (S^{-1}, S^{-1}\boldsymbol{\mu})$, $\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{x}) = (-\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}^\top, \mathbf{x})$ and

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{\mu}, S} \hat{\mathbb{E}}_{\mathbf{X} \sim q} \left[\frac{1}{2} \|S^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\|_2^2 - \text{tr}(S^{-1}) \right]$$

Denoising Auto-Encoder

- Suppose also have a latent variable Z with joint density $q(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})$
- Exchange differentiation with integration we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{F}(p||q) &:= \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X} \sim q} \|\partial_{\mathbf{x}} \log p(\mathbf{X}) - \partial_{\mathbf{x}} \log q(\mathbf{X})\|_2^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_{(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}) \sim q} [\|\mathbf{s}_p(\mathbf{X}) - \partial_{\mathbf{x}} \log q(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{Z})\|_2^2 + \|\mathbf{s}_q(\mathbf{X})\|_2^2 - \|\partial_{\mathbf{x}} \log q(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{Z})\|_2^2] \\ &\approx \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbb{E}}_{(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}) \sim q} \|\mathbf{s}_p(\mathbf{X}) - \partial_{\mathbf{x}} \log q(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{Z})\|_2^2\end{aligned}$$

- Useful when the conditional density $\partial_{\mathbf{x}} \log q(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{Z})$ is easy to obtain

