Entropic Neural Optimal Transport

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We propose a novel neural algorithm for the fundamental problem of computing the entropic optimal transport (EOT) plan between probability distributions which are accessible by samples.

Introduction to optimal transport and Schrödinger Bridge problems

Entropic Neural Optimal Transport via Diffusion Processes

Experiments

Introduction to optimal transport and Schrödinger Bridge problems

Kantorovich's Formulation of Optimal Transport¹

Let
$$c: \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y} \to \mathbb{R}$$
 be a cost function, e.g., $c(x, y) = \frac{\|x - y\|^2}{2}$.



The optimal transport cost between measures $\mathbb P$ and $\mathbb Q$ is

$$\mathsf{Cost}(\mathbb{P},\mathbb{Q}) = \inf_{\pi\in\mathsf{\Pi}(\mathbb{P},\mathbb{Q})} \int_{\mathcal{X}\times\mathcal{Y}} c(x,y) d\pi(x,y).$$

The plan π^* attaining the minimum is called the optimal **transport plan** between \mathbb{P} and \mathbb{Q} .

¹Cédric Villani (2008). Optimal transport: old and new. Vol. 338. Springer Science & Business Media.

Entropy-regularized Optimal Transport

Let
$$c: \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y} \to \mathbb{R}$$
 be a cost function, e.g., $c(x, y) = \frac{\|x - y\|^2}{2}$.



The entropic optimal transport cost between measures $\mathbb P$ and $\mathbb Q$ is

$$\mathsf{Cost}(\mathbb{P},\mathbb{Q}) = \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mathbb{P},\mathbb{Q})} \int_{\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}} c(x,y) d\pi(x,y) - \epsilon H(\pi),$$

where $H(\pi) = -\int_{\mathcal{X}\times\mathcal{Y}} \log \frac{d\pi(x,y)}{d[x,y]} d\pi(x,y)$ and ϵ is a regularization strength.

The plan π^* attaining the minimum is called the optimal **transport plan** between \mathbb{P} and \mathbb{Q} .

NOT for entropy-regularized Optimal Transport

Entropy-regularized OT is equivalent to the weak OT with the weak cost:

$$C(x,\pi(\cdot|x)) = \int_{\mathcal{Y}} c(x,y) d\pi(y|x) - H(\pi(y|x)).$$

NOT objective for the weak cost:

$$\sup_{\omega} \inf_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(\omega, \theta) = \sup_{\omega} \inf_{\theta} \left[\int_{\mathcal{Y}} f_{\omega}(y) d\mathbb{Q}(y) + \int_{\mathcal{X}} \left(C(x, T_{\theta}(x, \cdot)_{\#} \mathbb{S}) - \int_{\mathcal{Z}} f_{\omega}(T_{\theta}(x, z)) d\mathbb{S}(z) \right) d\mathbb{P}(x) \right].$$

But we can not optimize such objective because there is no simple way to estimate $\pi(y|x)$ by samples. We denote $\mathbb{P}_0 = \mathbb{P}$ and $\mathbb{P}_1 = \mathbb{Q}$. We consider stochastic processes T_f , which is described by the following SDE:

 $dX_t = f(X_t, t)dt + \sqrt{\epsilon}dW_t$

Dynamic Schrödinger Bridge for this family of processes is formulated as follows:

$$\inf_{\mathcal{T}_f\in\mathcal{D}(\mathbb{P}_0,\mathbb{P}_1)}\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{T}_f}[\int_0^1\frac{1}{2\epsilon}||f(X_t,t)||^2dt]$$

The process T_{f^*} attaining the minimum has joint distribution $\pi_{T_{f^*}}$ which is the solution to the Entropic OT with regularization parameter ϵ .²

²Yongxin Chen, Tryphon T Georgiou, and Michele Pavon (2021). "Stochastic control liaisons: Richard sinkhorn meets gaspard monge on a schrodinger bridge". In: *SIAM Review* 63.2, pp. 249–313.

Entropic Neural Optimal Transport via Diffusion Processes Theorem (Minimax reformulation of the Dynamic Schrödinger Bridge)

$$\inf_{\mathcal{T}_f\in\mathcal{D}(\mathbb{P}_0,\mathbb{P}_1)}\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{T}_f}[\int_0^1\frac{1}{2\epsilon}||f(X_t,t)||^2dt]=\sup_{\beta}\inf_{\mathcal{T}_f\in\mathcal{D}(\mathbb{P}_0)}\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}(\beta,\mathcal{T}_f).$$

where the functional $\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}$ is defined by

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}(\beta, T_f) := \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{T}_f}[\int_0^1 \frac{1}{2\epsilon} ||f(X_t, t)||^2 dt] + \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \frac{\beta(y)}{2} d\mathbb{P}_1(y) - \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \frac{\beta(y)}{2} d\mathbb{P}_1^{T_f}(y)$$

and $d\mathbb{P}_1^{T_f}(y)$ is a marginal distribution of T_f at t = 1.

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{L}}(\beta, T_f) := \mathbb{E}_{T_f}[\int_0^1 \frac{1}{2\epsilon} ||f(X_t, t)||^2 dt] + \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \frac{\beta(y)}{2} d\mathbb{P}_1(y) - \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \frac{\beta(y)}{2} d\mathbb{P}_1^{T_f}(y)$$

We use ResNet³ β_{ω} : $\mathbb{R}^{3 \times W \times H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$;

We use UNet $f_{\theta}(X, t) : \mathbb{R}^{3 \times H \times W} \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{3 \times W \times H}$.

To condition on the time variable t we use positional encoding as in the transformer based models.⁴

For sampling from SDE we use Euler-Maruyama algorithm.

We solve the saddle point problem with the **stochastic gradient ascent-descent** by using random batches from $\mathbb{P}_0, \mathbb{P}_1$.

³Huidong Liu, Xianfeng Gu, and Dimitris Samaras (2019). "Wasserstein gan with quadratic transport cost". In: *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF International Conference on Computer Vision*, pp. 4832–4841. ⁴Ashish Vaswani et al. (2017). "Attention is all you need". In: *Advances in neural information processing systems* 30. Algorithm 1: Entropic Neural OT (ENOT)

repeat

$$\begin{split} & \text{Sample batches } X_0 \sim \mathbb{P}_0, \ Y \sim \mathbb{P}_1; \\ & \{X_n\}_{n=1}^N, \{f_n\}_{n=1}^N \leftarrow \textit{SDESolve}(X_0, \ f_\theta, \ N, \ \epsilon) \ ; \\ & \mathcal{L}_\beta \leftarrow \frac{1}{|X_N|} \sum_{x_N \in X_N} \beta_\phi(x_N) - \frac{1}{|Y|} \sum_{y \in Y} \beta_\phi(y) \ ; \\ & \text{Update } \phi \text{ by using } \frac{\partial L_\beta}{\partial \phi} \ ; \\ & \text{for } k = 1 \text{ to } K \text{ do} \\ & \text{Sample batches } X_0 \sim \mathbb{P}_0, \ Y \sim \mathbb{P}_1; \\ & \{X_n\}_{n=1}^N, \{f_n\}_{n=0}^{N-1} \leftarrow \textit{SDESolve}(X_0, \ f_\theta, \ N, \ \epsilon) \ ; \\ & \mathcal{L}_f \leftarrow \frac{1}{N|X_0|} \sum_{t=0}^{N-1} \sum_{f_{t,k} \in f_t} ||f_{t,k}||^2 - \frac{1}{|X_N|} \sum_{x_N \in X_N} \beta_\phi(x_N) \ ; \\ & \text{Update } \theta \text{ by using } \frac{\partial L_f}{\partial \theta} \ ; \end{split}$$

until converged;

Algorithm 2: Euler-Maruyama algorithm

Input : batch of initial states X_0 at time moment t = 0; SDE drift network f_{θ} : $^{D} \times [0, 1] \rightarrow ^{D}$: number of steps for the SDE solver N > 1; noise variance $\epsilon > 0$. **Output:** batches $\{X_n\}_{n=1}^N$ of intermediate states at $t = \frac{n}{N}$ simulating the process $dX_t = f(X_t, t)dt + \sqrt{\epsilon}dW_t$ batches $\{f_n\}_{n=0}^{N-1}$ of drift values $f(X_n, t_n)$ at $t = \frac{n-1}{N}$ simulating the process; $\Delta t \leftarrow \frac{1}{N}$; for t = 1, 2, ..., N do for $i = 1, 2, ..., |X_0|$ do Sample noise W from $\mathcal{N}(0, I)$; $\begin{vmatrix} f_{t-1,i} \leftarrow f(X_{t-1}, t-1) ; \\ X_{t,i} \leftarrow X_{t-1,i} + f_{t-1,i} \Delta t + \sqrt{\epsilon \Delta t} W ; \end{vmatrix}$

Experiments

Toy example I



Toy example II



We do the *unpaired* train-test split as follows:



Colored MNIST I



(a) ENOT (ours) samples, $\epsilon = 0$. (b) ENOT (ours) samples, $\epsilon = 1$. (c) ENOT (ours) samples, $\epsilon = 10$.

Figure 3: Samples of colored MNIST obtained by ENOT (ours) for different ϵ .



Figure 4: Trajectories from our learned ENOT for colored MNIST for different ϵ .

Celeba. Existing competitive algorithm - SCONES



(a) (b) (c) SCONES, $\epsilon = 100$

(d) SCONES, $\epsilon = 1250$

Figure 5: Faces produced by SCONEs for various ϵ .

Figure 5a shows test degraded images, 5b - their original high-resolution counterparts.

Competitive algorithm (SCONES) does not work for the small ϵ

Celeba. Our algorithm I



(a) (b) (c) ENOT (ours), $\epsilon = 0$ (d) ENOT (ours), $\epsilon = 1$ (e) ENOT (ours), $\epsilon = 10$

Figure 6: Faces produced by ENOT (ours) for various ϵ .

Figure 6a shows test degraded images, 6b - their original high-resolution counterparts.

Our algorithm (ENOT) does work for small $\epsilon~\epsilon$



Figure 7: Trajectories of samples learned by our Algorithm 1 for Celeba with $\epsilon = 0, 1, 10$.

- Chen, Yongxin, Tryphon T Georgiou, and Michele Pavon (2021). "Stochastic control liaisons: Richard sinkhorn meets gaspard monge on a schrodinger bridge". In: SIAM Review 63.2, pp. 249–313.
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