## Nonparametric Density Estimation & Convergence of GANs under Besov IPM Losses

Ananya Uppal, **Shashank Singh**\*, & Barnabás Póczos

Carnegie Mellon University

NeurIPS 2019 Oral Presentation December 12, Vancouver

\* Now at Google

Theoretical Guarantees for GANs



# Theoretical Guarantees for GANs through the lens of nonparametric density estimation



# Theoretical Guarantees for GANs through the lens of nonparametric density estimation



- 1. New generalization of density estimation
  - Besov IPMs new losses motivated partly by GAN discriminators

- 1. New generalization of density estimation
  - Besov IPMs new losses motivated partly by GAN discriminators
- 2. New minimax rates under these losses
  - Reduced curse of dimensionality

- 1. New generalization of density estimation
  - Besov IPMs new losses motivated partly by GAN discriminators
- 2. New minimax rates under these losses
  - Reduced curse of dimensionality
- 3. Many classical estimators are provably sub-optimal
  - e.g., kernel density estimator
  - $\cdot$  gap increases with dimension

- 1. New generalization of density estimation
  - Besov IPMs new losses motivated partly by GAN discriminators
- 2. New minimax rates under these losses
  - Reduced curse of dimensionality
- 3. Many classical estimators are provably sub-optimal
  - e.g., kernel density estimator
  - $\cdot$  gap increases with dimension
- 4. Certain GANs are minimax optimal

- 1. New generalization of density estimation
  - Besov IPMs new losses motivated partly by GAN discriminators
- 2. New minimax rates under these losses
  - Reduced curse of dimensionality
- 3. Many classical estimators are provably sub-optimal
  - e.g., kernel density estimator
  - gap increases with dimension
- 4. Certain GANs are minimax optimal
- 5. Besov IPMs also have important theoretical roles in math-stats.
  - Unify several previous works in nonparametric density est.

- 1. New generalization of density estimation
  - Besov IPMs new losses motivated partly by GAN discriminators
- 2. New minimax rates under these losses
  - Reduced curse of dimensionality
- 3. Many classical estimators are provably sub-optimal
  - e.g., kernel density estimator
  - gap increases with dimension

#### 4. Certain GANs are minimax optimal

- 5. Besov IPMs also have important theoretical roles in math-stats.
  - Unify several previous works in nonparametric density est.

## **Density Estimation**

- Observe *n* independent samples  $X_1, ..., X_n \sim P$ .
- Assume  $P \in \mathcal{P}$ .
- Want to estimate P.





Figure from http://www.lherranz.org/2018/08/07/imagetranslation/.

#### GANs



Figure from http://www.lherranz.org/2018/08/07/imagetranslation/.

## GANs as Regularized ERM Density Estimators

$$\widehat{P}_{\mathsf{GAN}} := \underset{\substack{Q \in \mathcal{P} \\ f \in \mathcal{F}}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \underset{X \sim Q}{\mathbb{E}} [f(X)] - \underset{X \sim P_n}{\mathbb{E}} [f(X)]$$

## GANs as Regularized ERM Density Estimators

$$\widehat{P}_{GAN} := \underset{Q \in \mathcal{P}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \underset{f \in \mathcal{F}}{\sup} \underset{X \sim Q}{\mathbb{E}} [f(X)] - \underset{X \sim P_n}{\mathbb{E}} [f(X)]$$
$$= \underset{Q \in \mathcal{P}}{\operatorname{argmin}} d_{\mathcal{F}}(Q, P_n)$$

Empirical Risk Minimization (ERM)

- $\cdot$  Hypothesis class  ${\cal P}$
- $\cdot \ \text{Loss} \ d_{\mathcal{F}}$
- regularize data before feeding to GAN
  - instance noise (Sønderby et al. (2017), ICLR)

## Integral Probability Metrics (IPMs)

 $\cdot \, \mathcal{F}$  – class of discriminator functions

The metric  $d_{\mathcal{F}}:\mathcal{P}\times\mathcal{P}\rightarrow [0,\infty]$  is defined by

$$d_{\mathcal{F}}(P,Q) = \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \left| \underset{X \sim P}{\mathbb{E}} [f(X)] - \underset{X \sim Q}{\mathbb{E}} [f(X)] \right|, \quad \text{for all } P,Q \in \mathcal{P}.$$

### Integral Probability Metrics (IPMs)

 $\cdot$   $\mathcal{F}$  – class of discriminator functions

The metric  $d_{\mathcal{F}}:\mathcal{P}\times\mathcal{P}\rightarrow [0,\infty]$  is defined by

$$d_{\mathcal{F}}(P,Q) = \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \left| \underset{X \sim P}{\mathbb{E}} \left[ f(X) \right] - \underset{X \sim Q}{\mathbb{E}} \left[ f(X) \right] \right|, \quad \text{for all } P,Q \in \mathcal{P}.$$



- 1-Wasserstein<sup>1</sup>
- Max. Mean Discrepancy (MMD)<sup>2</sup>
- L<sup>r</sup> distances <sup>3</sup>
- Kolmogorov-Smirnov
- Hilbert-Sobolev distances
- Besov distances
- Neural net distance (GANs)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>a.k.a. optimal transport or earthmover's distance

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Including energy distances

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Including total variation distance

- $\cdot$  2-parameter family of function spaces  $\mathcal{B}^{s}_{p}$ 
  - $s \in (0,\infty)$ ,  $p \in [1,\infty]$

- $\cdot$  2-parameter family of function spaces  $\mathcal{B}^s_p$ 
  - $s \in (0,\infty), p \in [1,\infty]$

For integer s

$$\mathcal{B}_p^{\mathrm{s}} \approx \{f \in \mathcal{L}^p : \|f^{(\mathrm{s})}\|_p \le C\}$$

where  $f^{(s)} = s^{th}$  derivative of f.

- $\cdot$  2-parameter family of function spaces  $\mathcal{B}^s_p$ 
  - · s \in (0, \infty), p \in [1, \infty]

For integer s

$$\mathcal{B}_p^{s} \approx \{f \in \mathcal{L}^p : \|f^{(s)}\|_p \le C\}$$

where  $f^{(s)} = s^{th}$  derivative of f.

Examples:

Ex. 1: Lipschitz/Hölder spaces:  $\mathcal{B}^{s}_{\infty} \approx \mathcal{C}^{s}$ 

Ex. 2: Sobolev spaces:  $\mathcal{B}_2^s \approx \mathcal{H}^s$ 

 $\underset{Q\in\mathcal{P}}{\operatorname{argmin}} d_{\mathcal{F}}(Q, P_n).$ 

 $\underset{Q\in\mathcal{P}}{\operatorname{argmin}} d_{\mathcal{F}}(Q, P_n).$ 

 ${\mathcal P}$  and  ${\mathcal F}$  are  $\infty\text{-dimensional...}$  How to approximate?

 $\underset{Q\in\mathcal{P}}{\operatorname{argmin}} d_{\mathcal{F}}(Q, P_n).$ 

 $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  are  $\infty$ -dimensional... How to approximate? ReLU Neural Networks (Suzuki (2019), ICLR):

 $\mathcal{B}_p^{s} \approx \Phi(L, W, S, B)$ 

 $\Phi(L, W, S, B) =$  class of fully-connected ReLU networks of size:

- L = # of layers (depth)
- *W* = # neurons/layer (width)
- S = # nonzero weights/layer (sparsity)
- B =largest weight value

 $\underset{Q\in\mathcal{P}}{\operatorname{argmin}} d_{\mathcal{F}}(Q, P_n).$ 

 ${\mathcal P}$  and  ${\mathcal F}$  are  $\infty\text{-dimensional...}$  How to approximate?

ReLU Neural Networks (Suzuki (2019), ICLR):

 $\mathcal{B}_p^s \approx \Phi(L, W, S, B)$ 

 $\Phi(L, W, S, B) =$  class of fully-connected ReLU networks of size  $L \in O(\log n), W, S, B \in O(\operatorname{poly}(n)).$ 

$$\widehat{P}_{\text{GAN}} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{Q \in \Phi(L_g, W_g, S_g, B_g)} d_{\Phi(L_d, W_d, S_d, B_d)}(Q, P_n).$$

$$\widehat{P}_{\text{GAN}} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{Q \in \Phi(L_g, W_g, S_g, B_g)} d_{\Phi(L_d, W_d, S_d, B_d)}(Q, P_n).$$

$$\widehat{P}_{\text{GAN}} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{Q \in \Phi(L_g, W_g, S_g, B_g)} d_{\Phi(L_d, W_d, S_d, B_d)}(Q, P_n).$$

\*\*\*Caveats:

1. Well-optimized (maybe computationally challenging)

$$\widehat{P}_{\text{GAN}} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{Q \in \Phi(L_g, W_g, S_g, B_g)} d_{\Phi(L_d, W_d, S_d, B_d)}(Q, P_n).$$

\*\*\*Caveats:

- 1. Well-optimized (maybe computationally challenging)
- 2. Well-tuned (neural network sizes)

$$\widehat{P}_{\text{GAN}} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{Q \in \Phi(L_g, W_g, S_g, B_g)} d_{\Phi(L_d, W_d, S_d, B_d)}(Q, P_n).$$

\*\*\*Caveats:

- 1. Well-optimized (maybe computationally challenging)
- 2. Well-tuned (neural network sizes)
- 3. Assumes fully-connected ReLU networks

### Summary

- 1. New generalization of density estimation
  - Besov IPMs new losses motivated partly by GAN discriminators
- 2. New minimax rates under these losses
  - Reduced curse of dimensionality
- 3. Many classical estimators are provably sub-optimal
  - e.g., kernel density estimator
- 4. Certain GANs are minimax optimal
- 5. Besov IPMs also have important theoretical roles in math. stats.
  - Unify several previous works in nonparametric density est.

## Poster #243 tonight

- Liang, Tengyuan. (2019) "On how well generative adversarial networks learn densities: Nonparametric and parametric results." arXiv
- Bauer & Kohler. "On deep learning as a remedy for the curse of dimensionality in nonparametric regression." *Annals of Statistics*.
- Johannes Schmidt-Hieber. "Nonparametric regression using deep neural networks with ReLU activation function." *Annals of Statistics*.

Implicit generative model (sampler):



Output distribution: conditional distribution  $P_{\hat{X}(X_1,...,X_n,Z)|X_1,...,X_n}$  of novel sample  $X_{n+1}$  given training data  $X_1,...,X_n$ .

Define the *implicit risk of*  $\hat{X}$  at P by

$$R_{I}(P,\widehat{X}) := \mathop{\mathbb{E}}_{X_{1},\ldots,X_{n} \stackrel{||D|_{P}}{\sim}} \left[ \ell(P, P_{\widehat{X}(X_{1},\ldots,X_{n},Z)|X_{1},\ldots,X_{n}}) \right].$$

**Theorem (When do good samplers imply good density estimators?)** Let  $\mathcal{F}_G$  be a family of probability distributions on a sample space  $\mathcal{X}$ . Suppose

- 1. Loss  $\ell:\mathcal{P}\times\mathcal{P}\to[0,\infty]$  satisfies a weak triangle inequality
- 2.  $M_D(\mathcal{F}_G, \ell, m) \to 0$  as  $m \to \infty$ . (i.e., there exists a uniformly consistent density estimator)
- 3. we can draw arbitrarily many IID samples Z<sub>1</sub>, Z<sub>2</sub>, ... of the latent variable Z
- 4. Output distributions of (nearly) minimax samplers lie in  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{G}}$

Then,  $M_D(\mathcal{F}_G, \ell, n) \lesssim M_I(\mathcal{F}_G, \ell, n)$ .

**Theorem (When do good samplers imply good density estimators?)** Let  $\mathcal{F}_G$  be a family of probability distributions on a sample space  $\mathcal{X}$ . Suppose

- 1. Loss  $\ell:\mathcal{P}\times\mathcal{P}\to[0,\infty]$  satisfies a weak triangle inequality
- 2.  $M_D(\mathcal{F}_G, \ell, m) \to 0$  as  $m \to \infty$ . (i.e., there exists a uniformly consistent density estimator)
- 3. we can draw arbitrarily many IID samples *Z*<sub>1</sub>, *Z*<sub>2</sub>, ... of the latent variable *Z*
- 4. Output distributions of (nearly) minimax samplers lie in  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{G}}$

Then,  $M_D(\mathcal{F}_G, \ell, n) \lesssim M_I(\mathcal{F}_G, \ell, n)$ .

**Proof:** Train a new density estimator  $\widehat{P}$  with *m* IID samples drawn from the sampler  $\widehat{X}$ . Then,  $R(\widehat{P}) \leq R(\widehat{X}) + \varepsilon_m$ .