



UNIVERSITEIT VAN AMSTERDAM

# Self Normalizing Flows

T. Anderson Keller, Jorn Peters, Priyank Jaini,  
Emiel Hoogeboom, Patrick Forré, Max Welling

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.07248>

International Conference on Machine Learning  
July 18<sup>th</sup> 2021



UVA - BOSCH  
**DELTA** LAB

# Self Normalizing Flows

T. Anderson Keller



Jorn Peters



Priyank Jaini



Emiel Hoogeboom

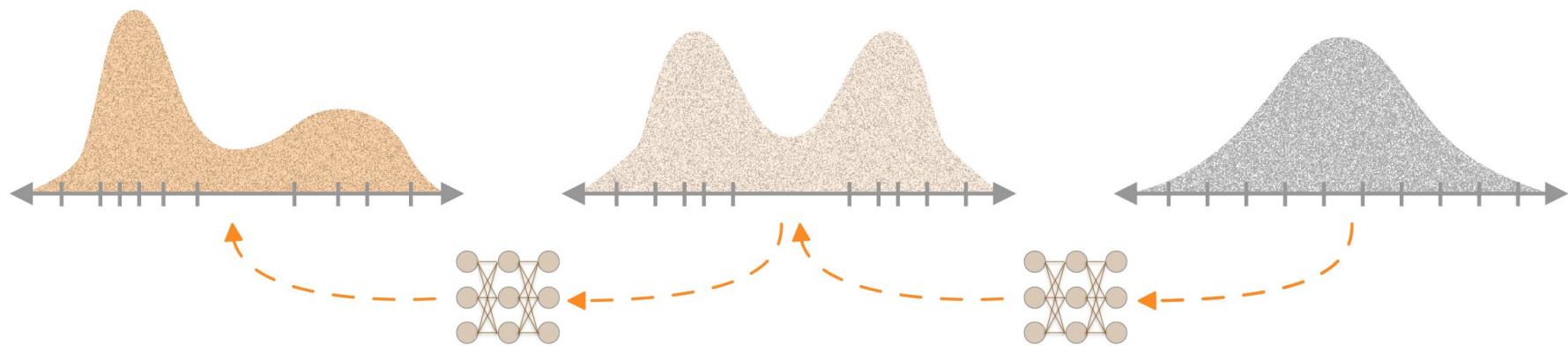


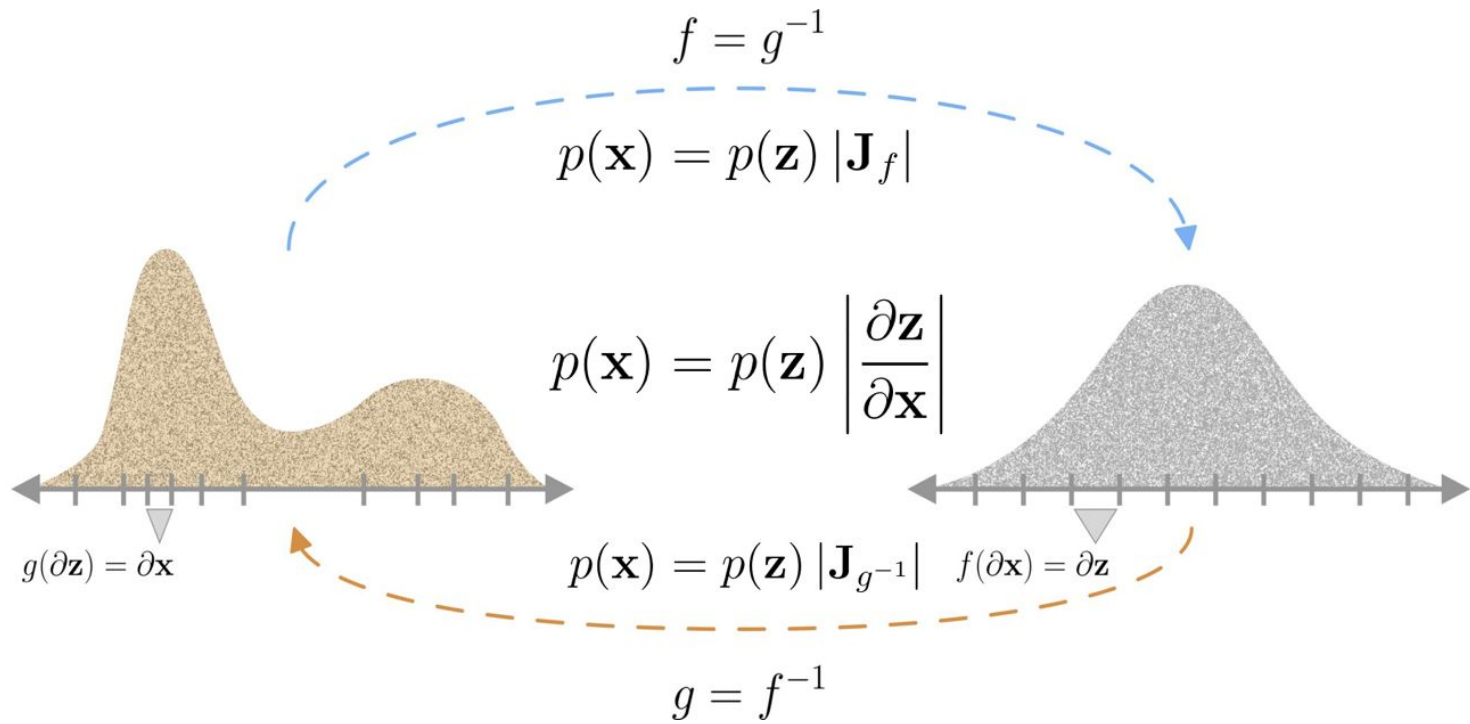
Patrick Forré

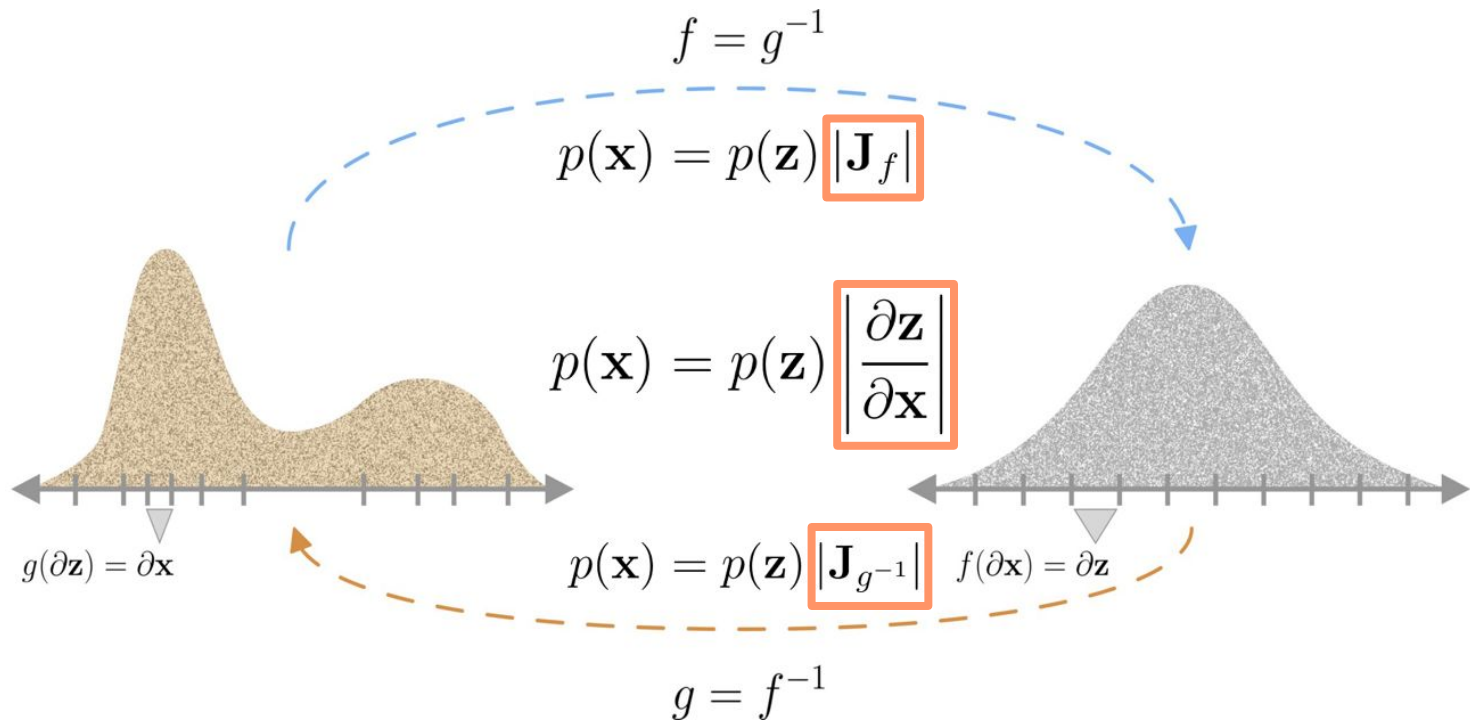


Max Welling









# Prior Work

- NICE (Non-linear independent components estimation) (Dinh et al., 2015)
- Real non-volume preserving flow (Real NVP) (Dinh et al., 2017)
- Inverse autoregressive flow (IAF) (Kingma et al., 2016)
- Masked autoregressive flow (MAF) (Papamakarios et al., 2017)
- Glow (Kingma and Dhariwal, 2018)
- Neural Autoregressive Flow (NAF) (Huang et al., 2018)
- block-NAF (B-NAF) (De Cao et al., 2019)
- Flow++ (Ho et al., 2019)
- Sums-of-squares Polynomial transformer (Jaini et al., 2019)

# Prior Work

- Neural Spline Flows (Durkan et al., 2019)
- Residual Flows (Chen et al., 2019)
- Invertible Residual Networks (Jens Behrmann et al., 2018)
- Sylvester Flows (van den Berd et al., 2018)
- Radial Flows (Tabak and Turner, 2013)
- Planar Flows (Rezende and Mohamed, 2015)
- Emerging Convolutions (Hoogeboom et al., 2019)
- Integer Discrete Flows (Hoogeboom et al., 2019)
- The Convolution Exponential (Hoogeboom et al., 2020)

$$\frac{\partial \log |\mathbf{J}_f|}{\partial \mathbf{J}_f}$$



$$\frac{\partial \log |\mathbf{J}_f|}{\partial \mathbf{J}_f} = \mathbf{J}_f^{-T}$$

$$\frac{\partial \log |\mathbf{J}_f|}{\partial \mathbf{J}_f} = \mathbf{J}_f^{-T} = \mathbf{J}_{f^{-1}}^T$$

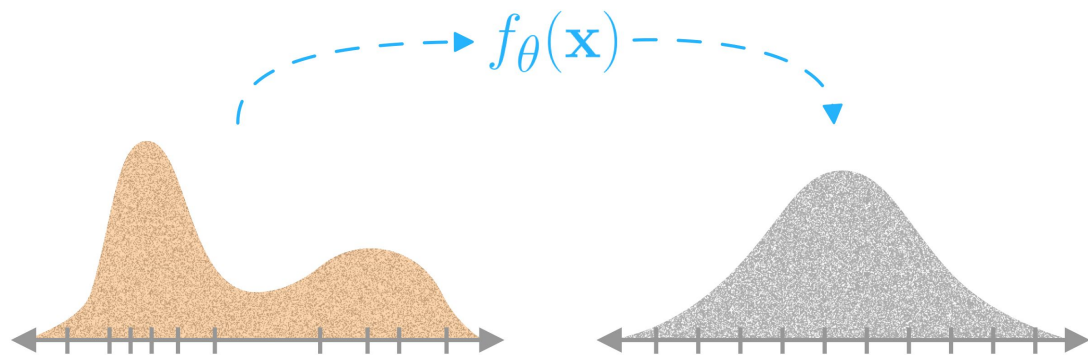
$$\frac{\partial \log |\mathbf{J}_f|}{\partial \mathbf{J}_f} = \mathbf{J}_f^{-T} = \mathbf{J}_{f^{-1}}^T$$

if  $g \approx f^{-1}$

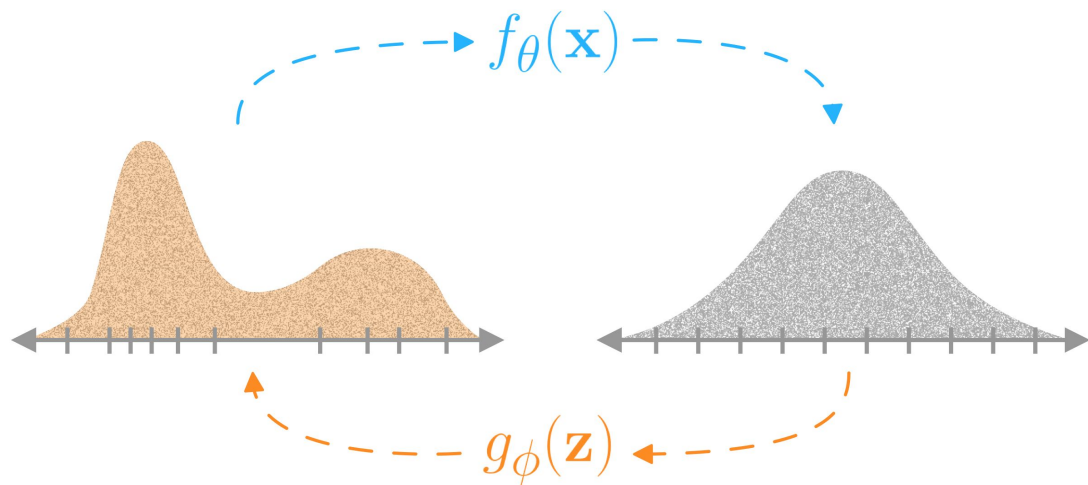
$$\frac{\partial \log |\mathbf{J}_f|}{\partial \mathbf{J}_f} = \mathbf{J}_f^{-T} = \mathbf{J}_{f^{-1}}^T \approx \mathbf{J}_g^T$$

if  $g \approx f^{-1}$

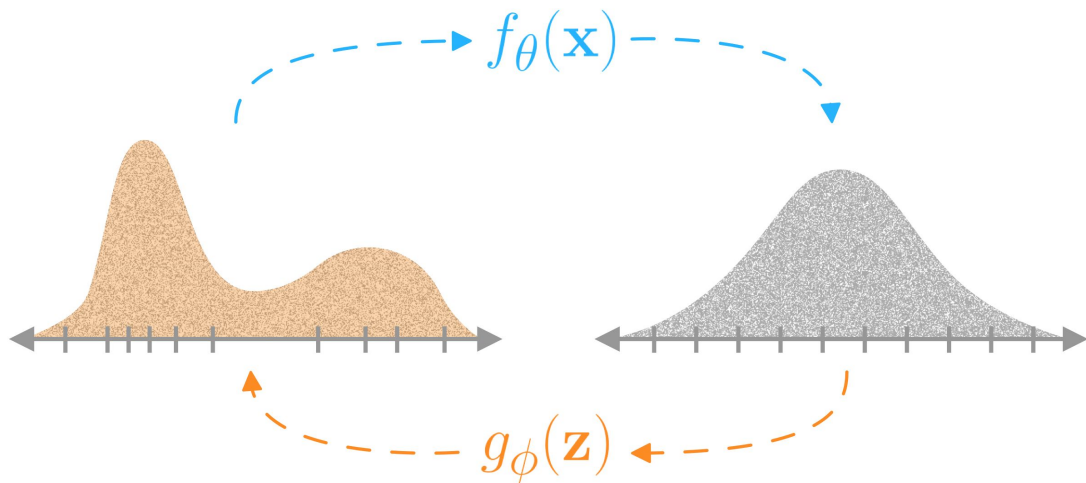
# Self-Normalizing Flows



# Self-Normalizing Flows

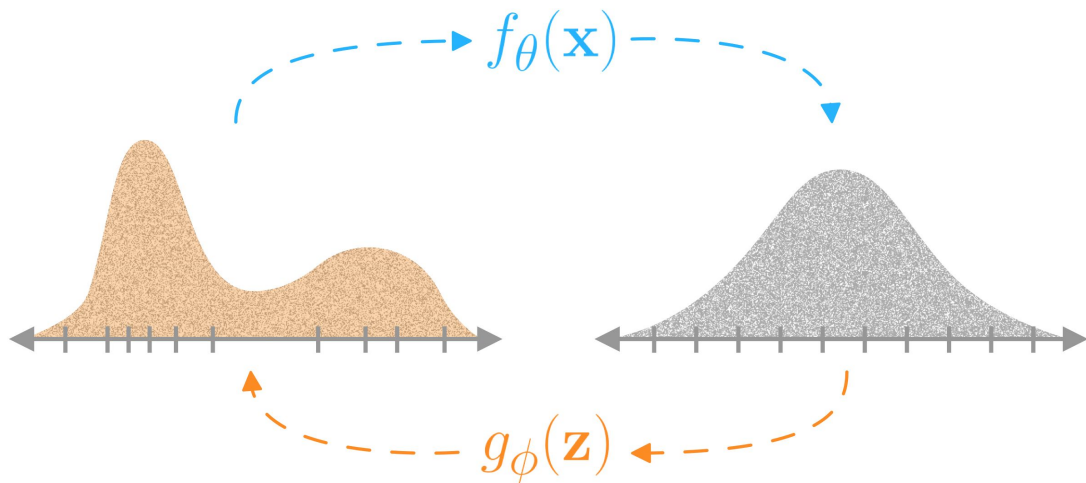


# Self-Normalizing Flows



$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}) = \|g_{\phi}(f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})) - \mathbf{x}\|_2^2$$

# Self-Normalizing Flows



$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}) = \left\| g_{\phi}(f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})) - \mathbf{x} \right\|_2^2$$

$$\log p_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \log p_{\mathbf{X}}^f(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \log p_{\mathbf{X}}^g(\mathbf{x})$$



# Self-Normalizing Flows

$$\log p_{\mathbf{X}}^f(\mathbf{x}) = \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})) + \log |\mathbf{J}_f|$$

$$\log p_{\mathbf{X}}^g(\mathbf{x}) = \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}\left(g_{\phi}^{-1}(\mathbf{x})\right) + \log |\mathbf{J}_{g^{-1}}|$$

# Self-Normalizing Flows

$$\log p_{\mathbf{X}}^f(\mathbf{x}) = \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})) + \log |\mathbf{J}_f|$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log p_{\mathbf{X}}^f(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})) + \frac{\partial(\text{vec } \mathbf{J}_f)^T}{\partial \theta} (\text{vec } \mathbf{J}_f^{-T})$$

$$\log p_{\mathbf{X}}^g(\mathbf{x}) = \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(g_{\phi}^{-1}(\mathbf{x})) + \log |\mathbf{J}_{g^{-1}}|$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \log p_{\mathbf{X}}^g(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(g_{\phi}^{-1}(\mathbf{z})) + \frac{\partial(\text{vec } \mathbf{J}_{g^{-1}})^T}{\partial \phi} (\text{vec } \mathbf{J}_{g^{-1}}^{-T})$$

# Self-Normalizing Flows

$$\log p_{\mathbf{X}}^f(\mathbf{x}) = \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})) + \log |\mathbf{J}_f|$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log p_{\mathbf{X}}^f(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})) + \frac{\partial(\text{vec } \mathbf{J}_f)^T}{\partial \theta} (\text{vec } \mathbf{J}_f^{-T}) \\ &\approx \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})) + \frac{\partial(\text{vec } \mathbf{J}_f)^T}{\partial \theta} (\text{vec } \mathbf{J}_g^T)\end{aligned}$$

$$\log p_{\mathbf{X}}^g(\mathbf{x}) = \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}\left(g_{\phi}^{-1}(\mathbf{x})\right) + \log |\mathbf{J}_{g^{-1}}|$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \log p_{\mathbf{X}}^g(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}\left(g_{\phi}^{-1}(\mathbf{z})\right) + \frac{\partial(\text{vec } \mathbf{J}_{g^{-1}})^T}{\partial \phi} (\text{vec } \mathbf{J}_{g^{-1}}^{-T}) \\ &\approx \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}\left(g_{\phi}^{-1}(\mathbf{z})\right) - \frac{\partial(\text{vec } \mathbf{J}_g)^T}{\partial \phi} (\text{vec } \mathbf{J}_f^T)\end{aligned}$$

# Fully-Connected

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{z}$$

$$g(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{z}$$

$$\mathbf{W}^{-1} \approx \mathbf{R}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{W}} \log p_{\mathbf{X}}^f(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{W}} \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{W}^{-T} \\ &\approx \delta_{\mathbf{z}}\mathbf{x}^T + \mathbf{R}^T\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{R}} \log p_{\mathbf{X}}^g(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{R}} \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(\mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{R}^{-T} \\ &\approx -\delta_{\mathbf{x}}\mathbf{z}^T - \mathbf{W}^T\end{aligned}$$

$$\delta_{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(\mathbf{z})}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$$

$$\delta_{\mathbf{z}} = \frac{\partial \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(\mathbf{z})}{\partial \mathbf{z}}$$

# Fully-Connected

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} = z$$

$$g(z) = \mathbf{R}z$$

$$\mathbf{W}^{-1} \approx \mathbf{R}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{W}} \log p_{\mathbf{X}}^f(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{W}} \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{W}^{-T} \\ &\approx \delta_z \mathbf{x}^T + \mathbf{R}^T \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{R}} \log p_{\mathbf{X}}^g(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{R}} \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(\mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{R}^{-T} \\ &\approx -\delta_x \mathbf{z}^T - \mathbf{W}^T \end{aligned}$$

$$\delta_x = \frac{\partial \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(z)}{\partial x}$$

$$\delta_z = \frac{\partial \log p_{\mathbf{Z}}(z)}{\partial z}$$

# Convolutional

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w} \star \mathbf{x} = z$$

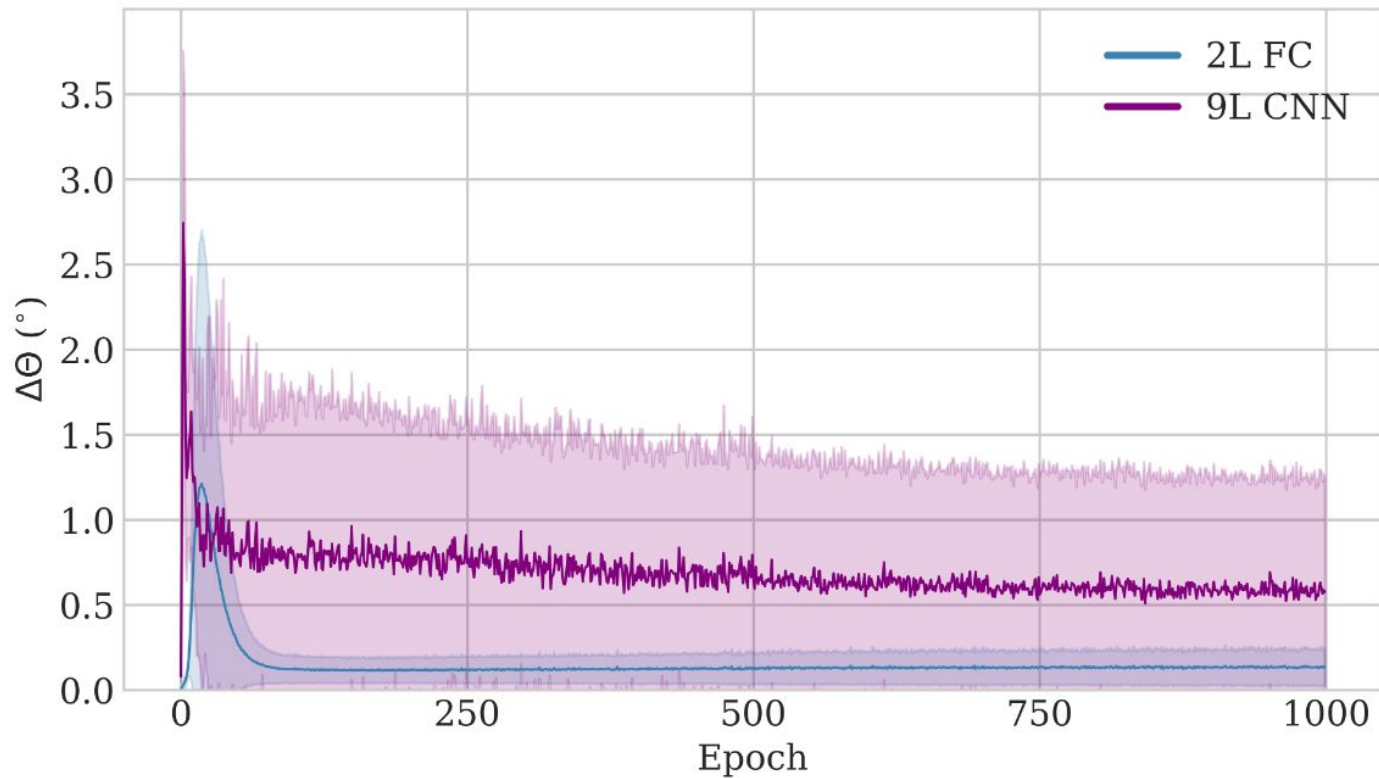
$$g(z) = \mathbf{r} \star z$$

$$f^{-1} \approx g$$

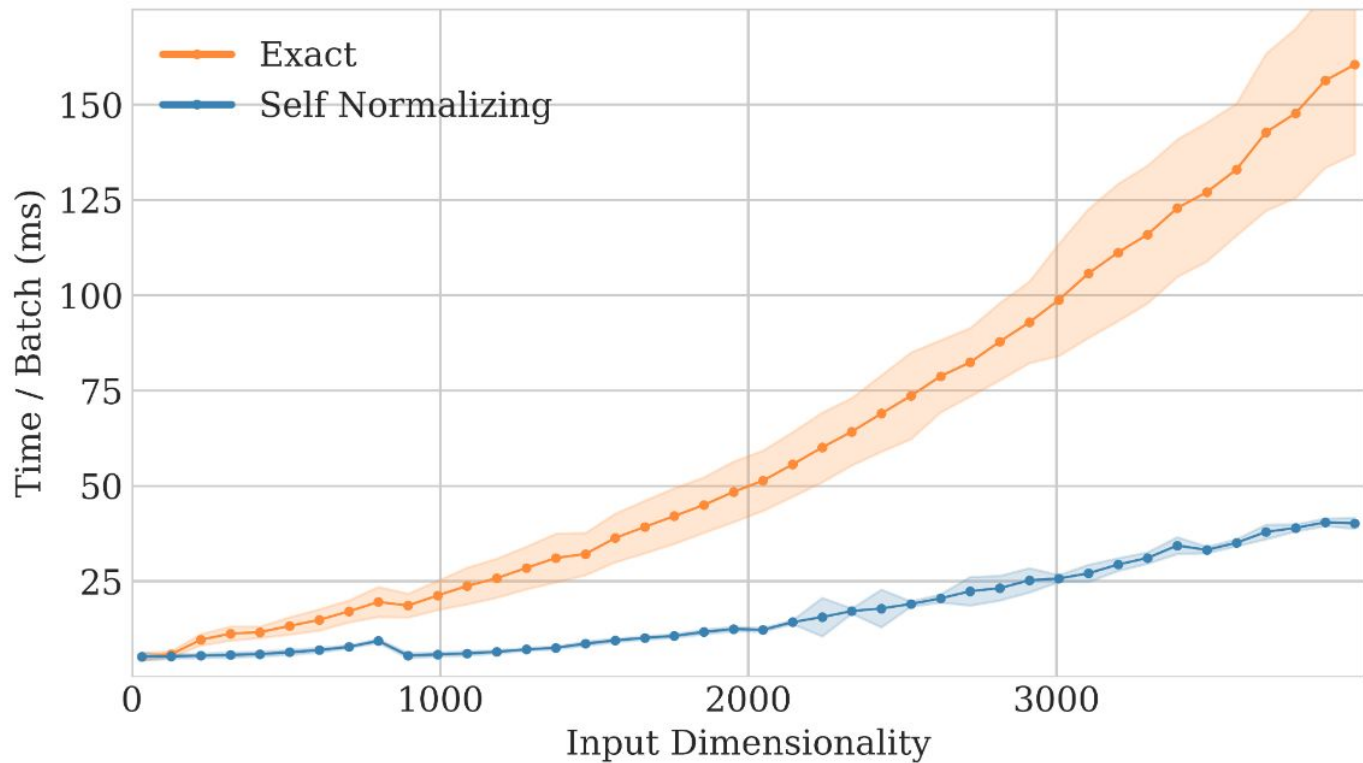
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \log p_{\mathbf{X}}^f(\mathbf{x}) &= \delta_z^f \star \mathbf{x} + \frac{\partial (\text{vec } \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{w}))^T}{\partial \mathbf{w}} (\text{vec } \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{w})^{-T}) \\ &\approx \delta_z \star \mathbf{x} + \text{flip}(\mathbf{r}) \odot \mathbf{m} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{r}} \log p_{\mathbf{X}}^g(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{\partial (\text{vec } \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}))^T}{\partial \mathbf{r}} (\text{vec } [-\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r})^{-T} \delta_z^g \mathbf{x}^T \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r})^{-T}] - \text{vec } \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r})^{-T}) \\ &\approx -\delta_x \star z - \text{flip}(\mathbf{w}) \odot \mathbf{m} \end{aligned}$$

# Experiments



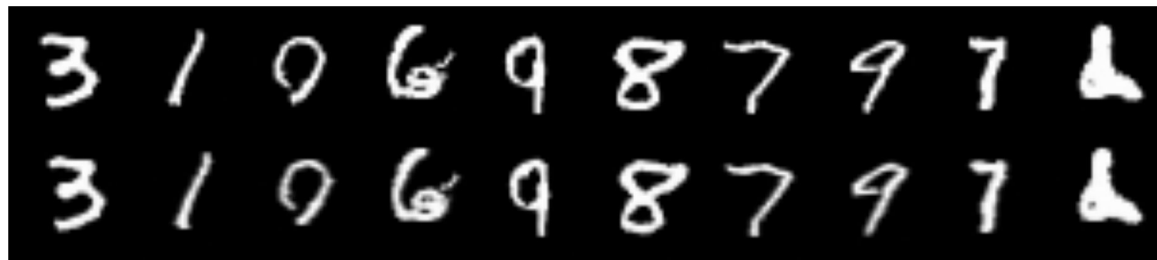
# Experiments



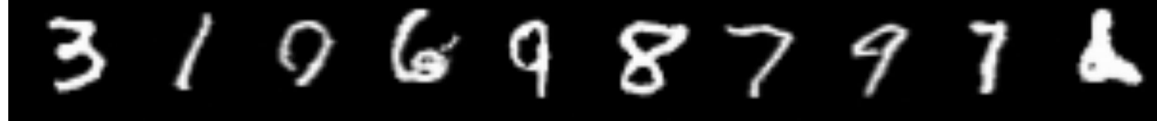
# Experiments

$$\mathbf{z} \sim p_{\mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z})$$

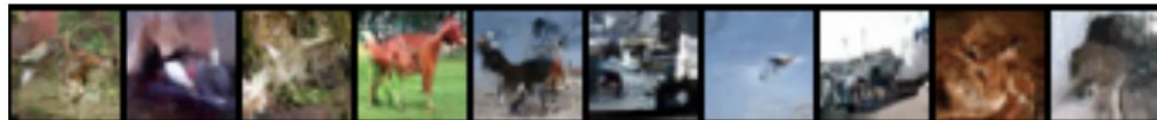
$f^{-1}(\mathbf{z})$



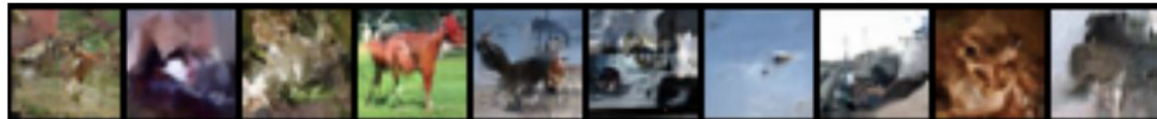
$g(\mathbf{z})$



$f^{-1}(\mathbf{z})$



$g(\mathbf{z})$





# Experiments

Model	$-\log p_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x})$
Relative Grad. FC 2-Layer [13]	$1096.5 \pm 0.5$
Exact Gradient FC 2-Layer	$947.6 \pm 0.2$
SNF FC 2-Layer (ours)	$947.1 \pm 0.2$
Emerging Conv. 9-Layer [16]	$645.7 \pm 3.6$
SNF Conv. 9-Layer (ours)	$638.6 \pm 0.9$
Conv. Exponential 9-Layer [15]	$638.1 \pm 1.0$
Exact Gradient Conv. 9-Layer	$637.4 \pm 0.2$
Glow-like 32-Layer [20]	$575.7 \pm 0.8$
SNF Glow 32-Layer (ours)	$575.4 \pm 1.4$

# Experiments

Model	CIFAR-10	ImageNet32
Glow	$3.36 \pm 0.002$	$4.12 \pm 0.002$
SNF Glow	$3.37 \pm 0.004$	$4.14 \pm 0.007$

# Thank you!

Paper: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.07248>

Code: <https://github.com/akandykeller/SelfNormalizingFlows>

Blog: <http://keller.org/research/2020-10-21-self-normalizing-flows/>

Contact: [T.Anderson.Keller@Gmail.com](mailto:T.Anderson.Keller@Gmail.com)