Importance weights distribution in neural samplers

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Motivation



Motivation



Neural samplers

$$p(\phi) \qquad P(\phi) = Z \cdot p(\phi)$$
$$q(\phi|\theta) \approx p(\phi)$$
$$w(\phi) = \frac{P(\phi)}{q(\phi)}$$
$$\langle w \rangle_q = \int d\phi q(\phi) w(\phi) = Z \int d\phi p(\phi) = Z$$

Partition function

$$egin{aligned} Z &pprox \hat{Z} = rac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N w(\phi_i), \quad \phi_i \sim q(\phi_i) \ & ext{var} \left[\hat{Z}
ight]_q = rac{1}{N} ext{var} \left[w
ight]_q \end{aligned}$$

Importance sampling

$$\begin{split} \langle h \rangle_{p} &= \int \mathrm{d}\phi p(\phi) h(\phi) = \int \mathrm{d}\phi q(\phi) \overline{w}(\phi) h(\phi) = \langle \overline{w} \cdot h \rangle_{q} \\ &\overline{w}(\phi) = \frac{w(\phi)}{\langle w \rangle_{q}} \\ \langle h \rangle_{p} &\approx \hat{h} \equiv \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} w(\phi_{i}) h(\phi_{i})}{\sum_{i=1}^{N} w(\phi_{i})} \qquad \phi_{i} \sim q(\phi_{i}) \end{split}$$

Nicoli, K. A., et al. "Asymptotically unbiased estimation of physical observables with neural samplers." Physical Review E, (2019) 101(2)

Errors

$$\operatorname{var}\left[\hat{h}\right] \approx \frac{1}{N} \left(\frac{\langle w^2 \rangle_q}{\langle w \rangle_q^2} \operatorname{var}\left[h\right]_p + \frac{\langle \delta w \delta^2 h \rangle_p}{\langle w \rangle_q} \right)$$
$$\frac{1}{N} \operatorname{var}\left[\overline{w}\right] \ll 1$$
$$\operatorname{var}\left[\hat{h}\right]_q \approx \frac{\operatorname{var}\left[h\right]_p}{N \cdot \operatorname{ESS}}$$

A. Kong. A note on importance sampling using standarized weights. University of Chicago Technical Reports, 1992. Jun S. Liu. Metropolized independent sampling with comparisons to rejection sampling and importance sampling. Statistics and Computing, 6: 113–119, 1996.

Effective sample size - ESS

$$ESS = \frac{\langle w \rangle_q^2}{\langle w^2 \rangle_q} = \frac{\langle w \rangle_q^2}{\operatorname{var} [w]_q + \langle w \rangle_q^2} = \frac{1}{\operatorname{var} [\overline{w}]_q + 1}$$
$$ESS = \frac{1}{\operatorname{var} [\overline{w}]_q + 1}$$



$$S_{A}(\phi|\mu^{2},\lambda,\kappa) = -\sum_{i,j=0}^{L-1} (\phi_{i+1,j}\phi_{i,j} + \phi_{i,j+1}\phi_{i,j}) + \sum_{i,j=0}^{L-1} \left(\frac{\mu^{2}+4}{2}\phi_{i,j}^{2} + \frac{\lambda}{4!}\phi_{i,j}^{4}\right)$$

 $\mu^2 = -4$, $\lambda = 24.0 - 36.0$

Poorly trained network

Magnetization $\lambda = 27.0$



 $\mathsf{ESS} = 0.006\%$

Weights distribution $\lambda = 27.0$



Pareto and exponential distribution

$$p(w) = a^b \frac{b}{w^{b+1}}, \quad w > a$$

$$x = \log w$$

$$p(x) = a^b b e^{-bx}, \quad x \ge \log a$$

log w distribution $\lambda = 27.0$



log w distribution $\lambda = 27.0$



Magnetisation



Better trained network

Magnetization $\lambda = 27.0$



ESS = 9%

log w distribution $\lambda = 27.0$



log w distribution $\lambda = 27.0$



Magnetisation



Disordered phase

Magnetization $\lambda = 36.0$



ESS = 57%

log w distribution $\lambda = 36.0$



log w distribution $\lambda = 36.0$



Quotients (uncorrelated variables)

$$egin{aligned} w(\phi) &= rac{p(\phi)}{q(\phi)} \ &W &= rac{X}{Y}. \ &p_y(y) &pprox a \cdot y^{b-1} \quad y \ll 1 \ &p_W(w) &pprox rac{a''}{w^{b+1}} \quad 1 \gg w \end{aligned}$$

log w distribution $\lambda = 27$ (poorly trained)



log w distribution $\lambda = 27$ (poorly trained)



 $\log w$ distribution $\lambda = 27$



 $\log w$ distribution $\lambda = 27$



Summary

- Importance weights seem to have a power like (Pareto) distribution.
- The power exponent depends on the training results.
- Worst case (*b* < 2) appears to be associated associated with "partial" mode collapse.
- Similar results for Ising model, U(1) and Schwinger.

Effective support

$$\begin{split} \mathsf{supp}_{p,\epsilon}(q) &= \{\phi \in \mathsf{supp}(q) : q(\phi) > \epsilon p(\phi)\} \ &= \left\{\phi \in \mathsf{supp}(q) : w(\phi) < rac{1}{\epsilon}
ight\} \end{split}$$

"Detecting and Mitigating Mode-Collapse for Flow-based Sampling of Lattice Field Theories", Kim A. Nicoli et al. arXiv:2302.14082



NeuMC

https://github.com/nmcmc/nmcmc-code

NeuMC

Physics models (2D)

- Scalar fields
- Gauge fields
 - Different plaquette coupling layers
 - Different masking patterns
- Fermions (Schwinger model)
- Gradients estimators
 - Reparameterisation trick
 - REINFORCE
 - Path gradients
- Introductory notebooks