

# Flow Matching and Diffusion Models

Open DMQA Seminar  
2025.02.28

조한샘

# 발표자 소개

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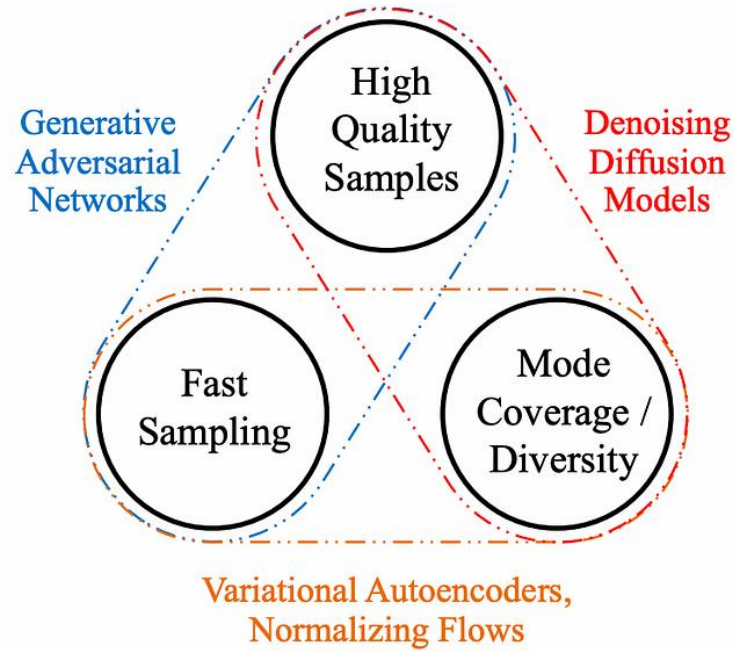


- **조한샘**
  - ✓ Data Mining & Quality Analytics Lab
  - ✓ 석·박통합과정 (2020.09~ )
- **관심 연구 분야**
  - ✓ Visual Generative Models
  - ✓ Controllable Generation
- **Contact**
  - ✓ chosam95@korea.ac.kr

# Introduction

## Generative Learning Trilemma

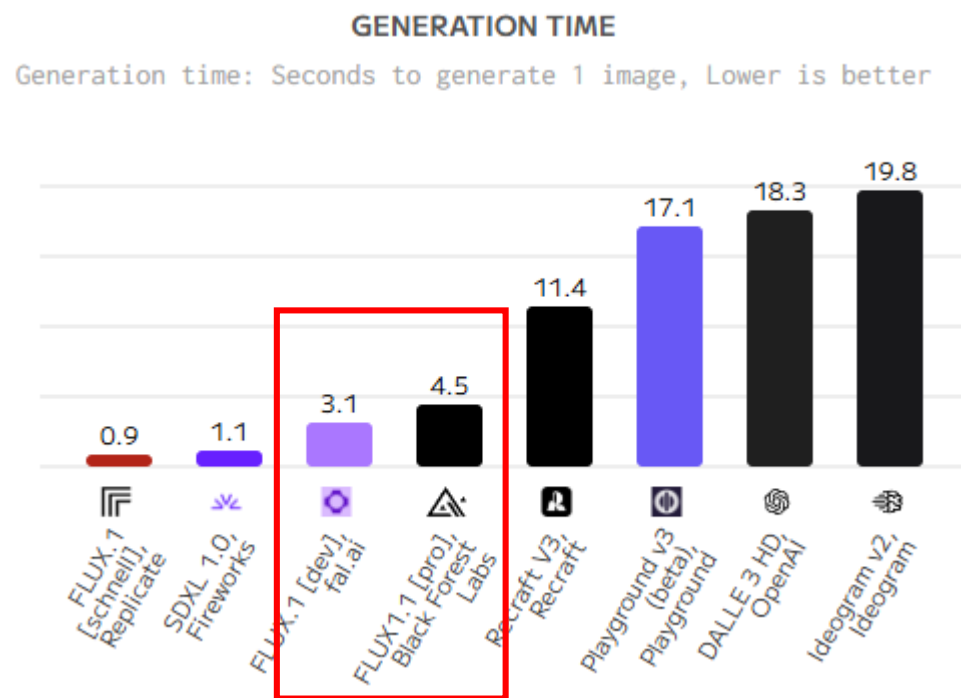
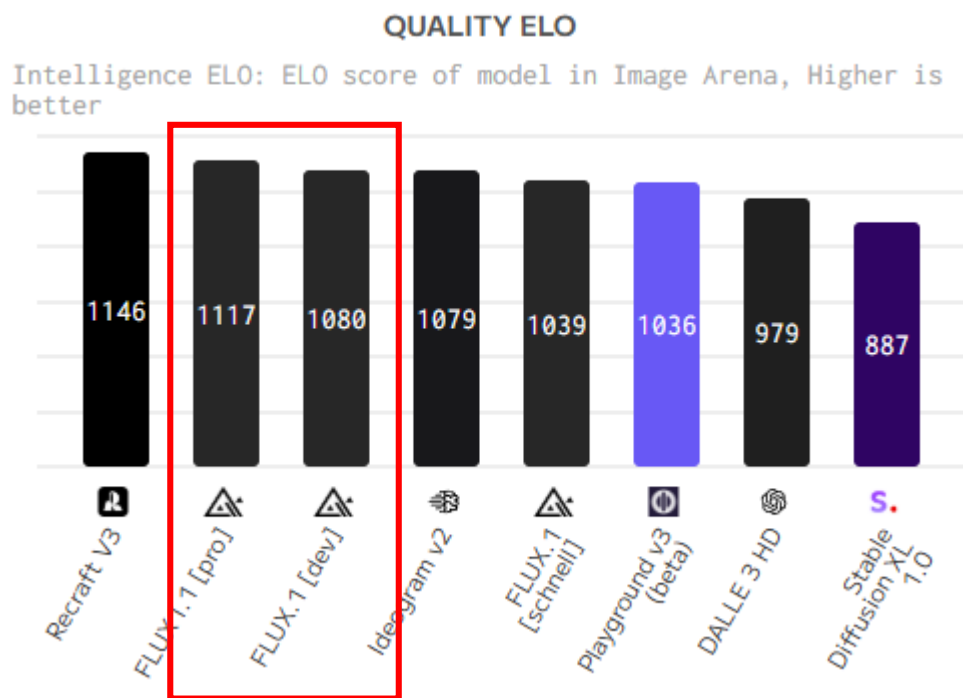
- 생성모델의 3가지 요소
- Diffusion model은 다양한 고품질의 데이터를 생성할 수 있지만 생성 속도가 느림



# Introduction

## Flow matching

- Flow matching을 기반으로 하는 FLUX같은 모델이 이미지 퀄리티가 높고 속도가 빠름



# Flow Models

## Reference: NeurIPS 2024 Tutorial

Tutorial

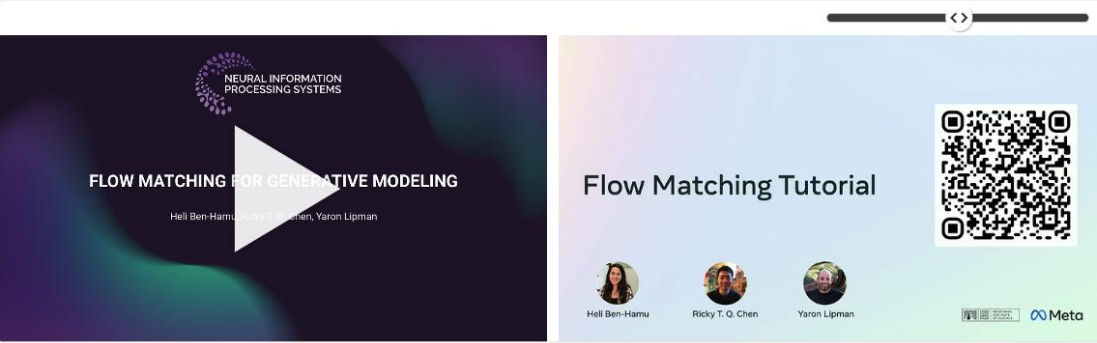
### Flow Matching for Generative Modeling

Ricky T. Q. Chen · Yaron Lipman · Heli Ben-Hamu  
East Exhibition Hall C

[\[ Abstract \]](#) [\[ Project Page \]](#)

[Slides](#)

Tue 10 Dec 9:30 a.m. PST – noon PST



Chat is not available.

<https://neurips.cc/virtual/2024/tutorial/99531>

## Flow Matching Guide and Code

Yaron Lipman<sup>1</sup>, Marton Havasi<sup>1</sup>, Peter Holderrith<sup>2</sup>, Neta Shaul<sup>3</sup>, Matt Le<sup>1</sup>, Brian Karrer<sup>1</sup>, Ricky T. Q. Chen<sup>1</sup>, David Lopez-Paz<sup>1</sup>, Heli Ben-Hamu<sup>3</sup>, Itai Gat<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>FAIR at Meta, <sup>2</sup>MIT CSAIL, <sup>3</sup>Weizmann Institute of Science

Flow Matching (FM) is a recent framework for generative modeling that has achieved state-of-the-art performance across various domains, including image, video, audio, speech, and biological structures. This guide offers a comprehensive and self-contained review of FM, covering its mathematical foundations, design choices, and extensions. By also providing a PyTorch package featuring relevant examples (*e.g.*, image and text generation), this work aims to serve as a resource for both novice and experienced researchers interested in understanding, applying and further developing FM.

**Date:** December 10, 2024

**Code:** `flow_matching` library at [https://github.com/facebookresearch/flow\\_matching](https://github.com/facebookresearch/flow_matching)



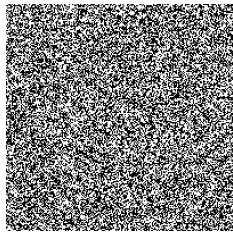
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2412.06264>

# Flow Models

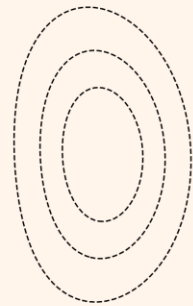
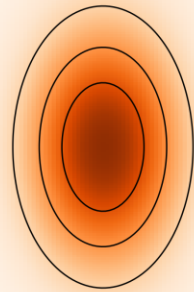
## Generative Models

- 생성모델: 데이터의 분포를 학습
- **Source 분포** (input,  $p_0$ ) / **Target 분포**(=데이터 분포) (output,  $p_1$ )
- Source 분포에서 target 분포로 변환되는 과정을 학습함으로써 데이터 분포 학습

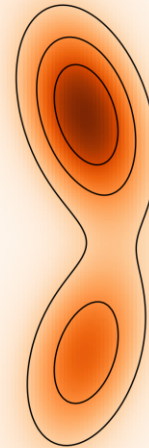
Image  
synthesis



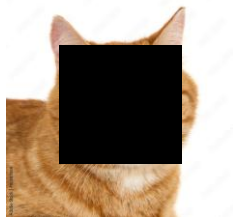
Source ( $p_0$ )



Target ( $p_1$ )



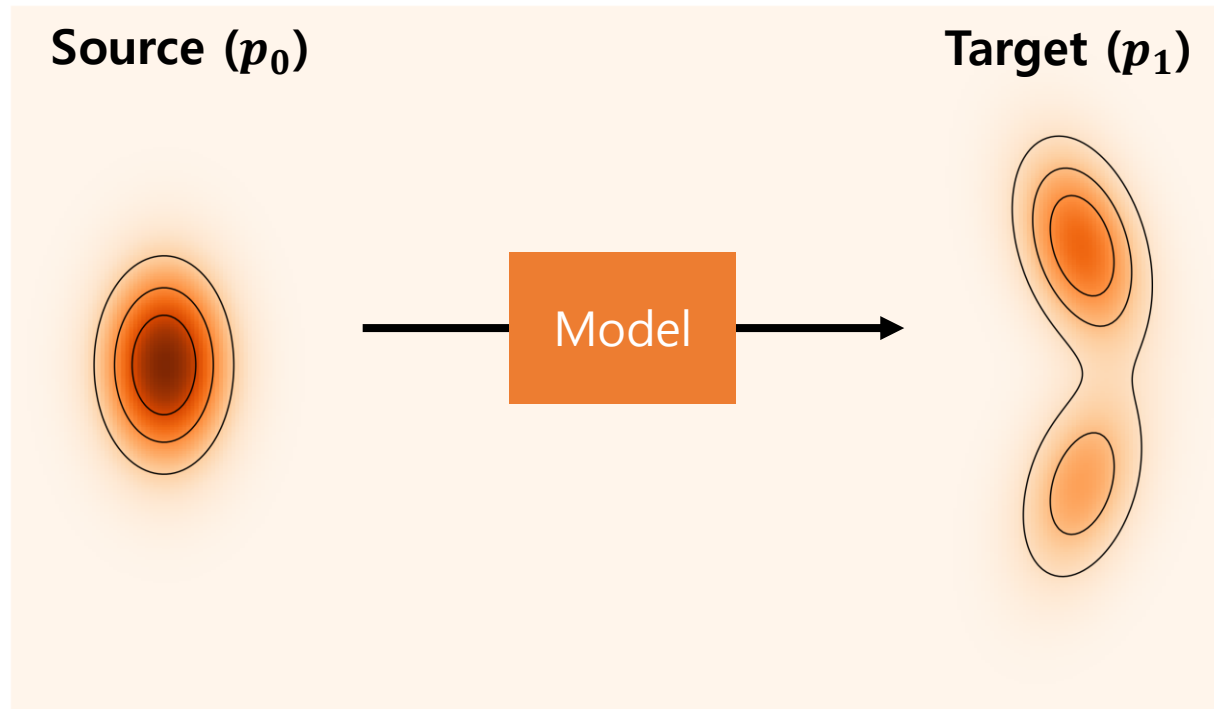
Inpainting



# Flow Models

## Generative Models

- GAN\*, VAE\*\* 같은 모델은 source 분포에서 target 분포를 한번에 mapping
- **장점:** 생성 속도가 빠름
- **단점:** 데이터 분포 학습이 어려움



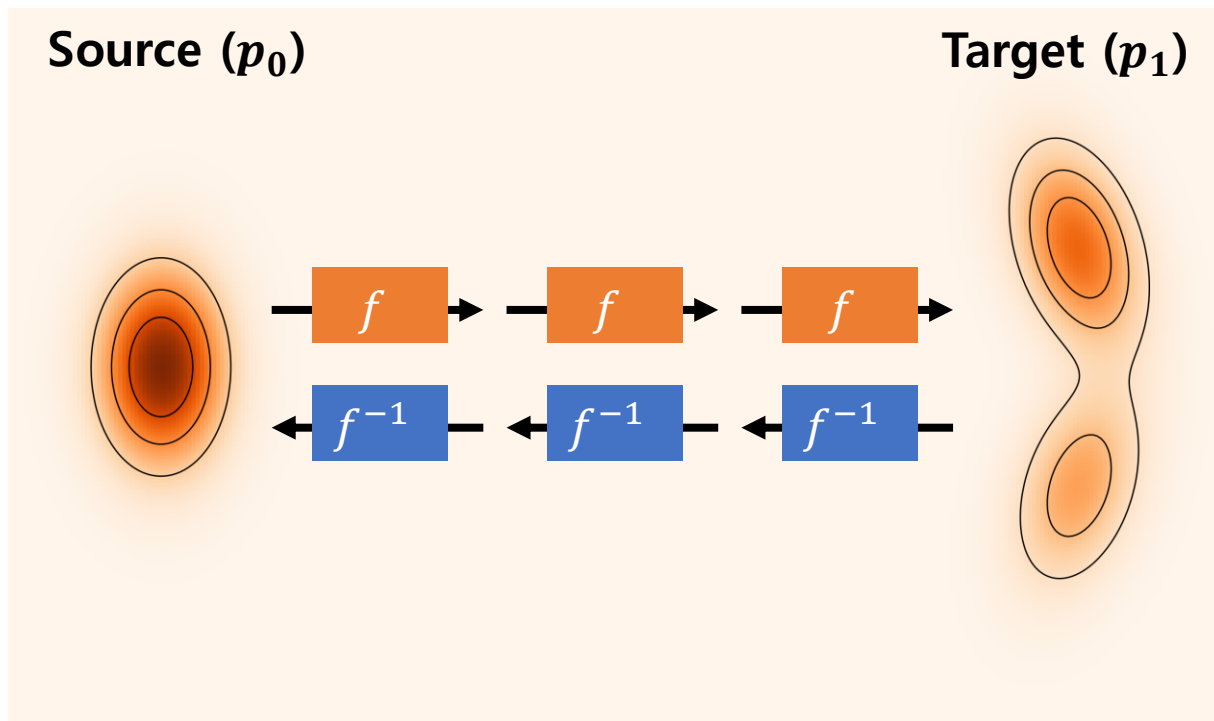
\*Goodfellow, I., Pouget-Abadie, J., Mirza, M., Xu, B., Warde-Farley, D., Ozair, S., ... & Bengio, Y. (2014). Generative adversarial nets. Advances in neural information processing systems, 27.

\*\*Kingma, D. P., & Welling, M. (2013, December). Auto-encoding variational bayes.

# Flow Models

## Generative Models

- Normalizing flow\* 모델은 source 분포에서 target 분포로 단계적으로 변화함
- **장점:** likelihood 계산 가능
- **단점:** 역변환이 가능한 모델 구조가 필요, 학습이 비효율적



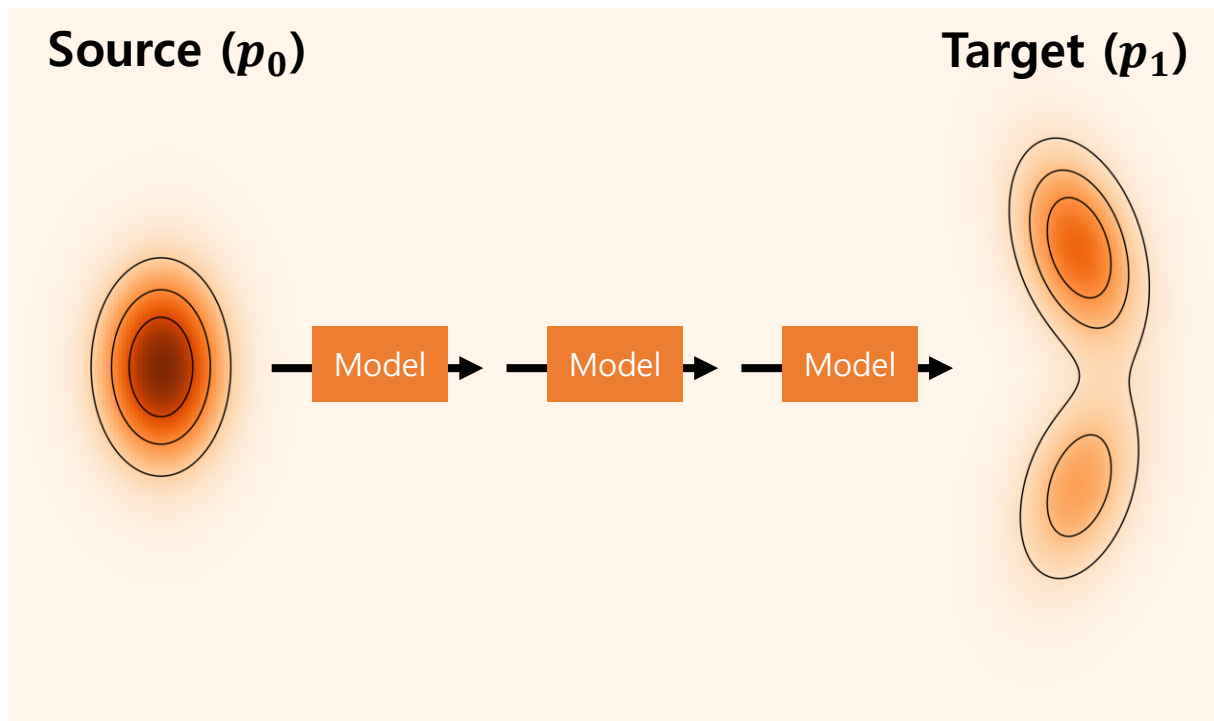
\*Rezende, D., & Mohamed, S. (2015, June). Variational inference with normalizing flows. In International conference on machine learning (pp. 1530-1538). PMLR.



# Flow Models

## Generative Models

- Diffusion models\*은 source 분포에서 target 분포로 단계적으로 변화함
- **장점:** 복잡한 데이터 분포 학습 가능, 학습이 효율적
- **단점:** 생성속도가 느림



\*Ho, J., Jain, A., & Abbeel, P. (2020). Denoising diffusion probabilistic models. Advances in neural information processing systems, 33, 6840-6851.

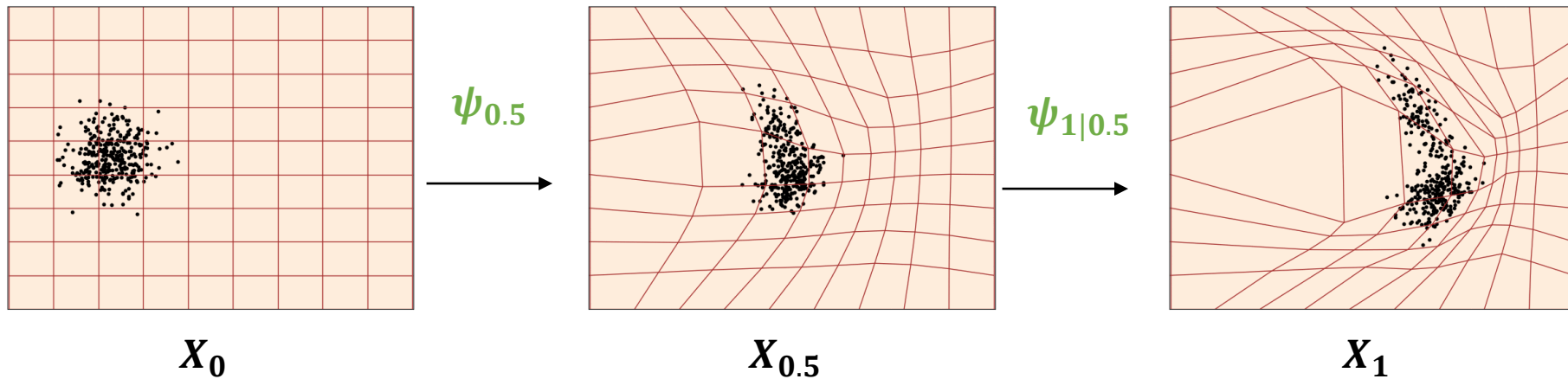
# Flow Models

## Flow Model

- **Flow model:** source 분포  $p_0$ 를 target 분포  $p_1$ 으로 변환해주는 **flow**( $\psi_t$ )를 찾는 모델
- **Flow**( $\psi_t$ ):  $X_0$ 를  $X_t$ 로 mapping해주는 함수 (diffeomorphism / 미분가능 / 역함수 존재)
- 하지만 continuous time 상황에서 flow를 직접적으로 학습하기는 어려움

$$X_t = \psi_t(X_0), \quad \text{where } X_0 \sim p_0$$

$$\psi_{s|t} = \psi_s \circ \psi_t^{-1}$$

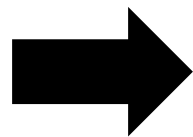


# Flow Models

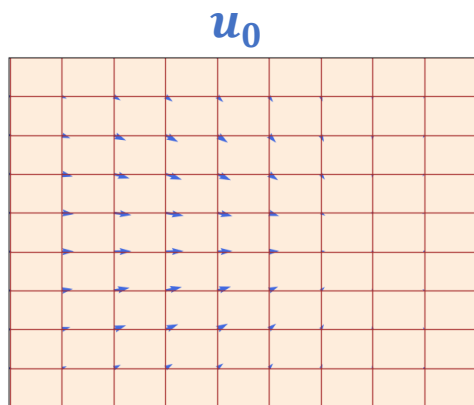
## Velocity Field

- Velocity field를 통해 flow를 간접적으로 계산
- **Velocity field( $u_t$ )**: flow의 미분으로 정의, t시점  $X_t$ 의 변화량인 ODE로 표현 가능

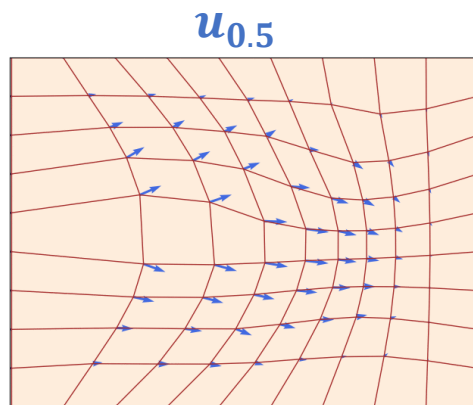
$$\frac{d}{dt} \psi_t(X_0) = u_t(\psi_t(X_0))$$



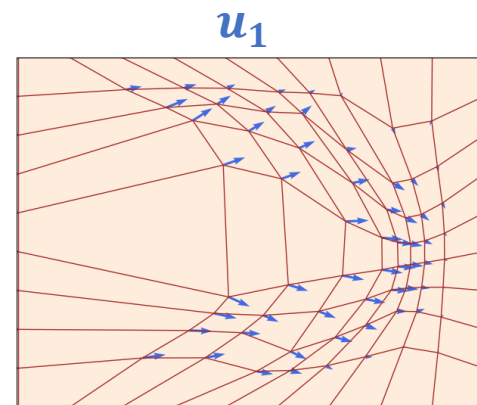
$$\frac{dX_t}{dt} = u_t(X_t)$$



$X_0$



$X_{0.5}$

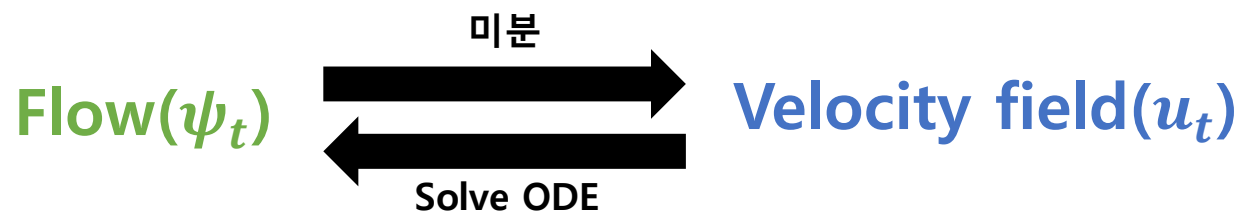


$X_1$

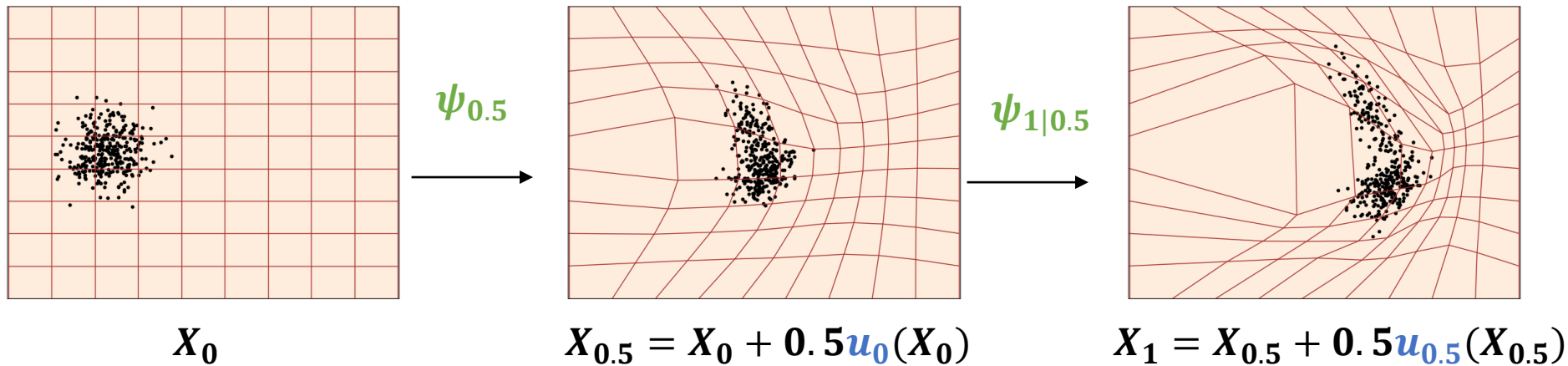
# Flow Models

## Flow and Velocity field

- Velocity field를 계산한 후 ODE를 풀면 flow를 계산할 수 있음
- Euler method와 같은 ODE solver을 통해서



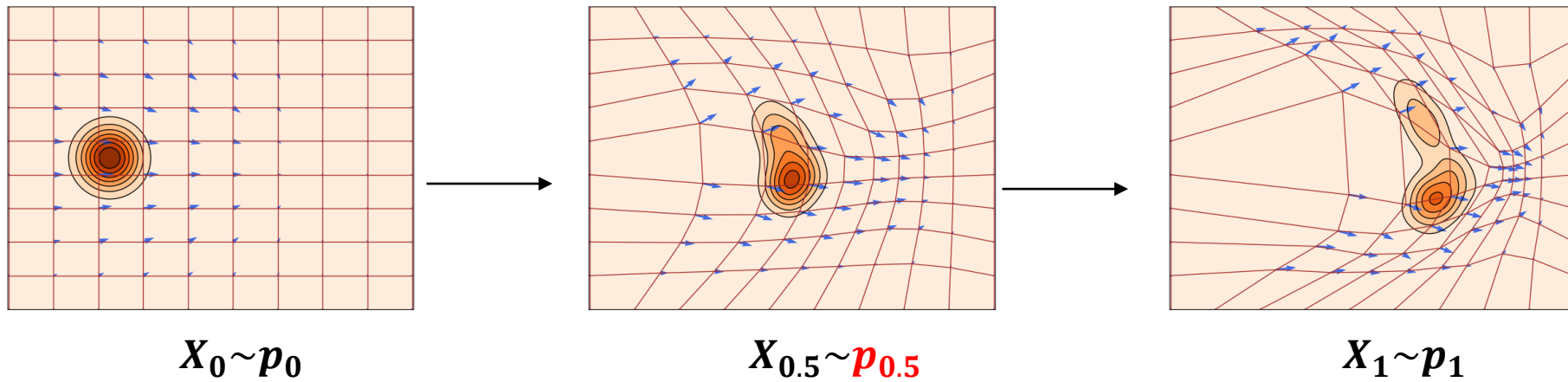
*Euler Solver:*  $X_{t+h} = X_t + h \cdot u_t(X_t)$



# Flow Models

## Probability Paths

- **Probability path( $p_t$ )**: source 분포  $p_0$ 를 target 분포  $p_1$ 으로 변환되는 과정의 중간  $t$ 시점 분포



# Flow Models

## Flow Matching (FM)

- **Flow model:** source 분포  $p_0$ 를 target 분포  $p_1$ 으로 변환해주는  $\text{flow}(\psi_t)$ 를 찾는 모델
- Flow는 velocity field를 통해서 계산됨
- Flow model은 velocity field를 학습함으로써 source 분포에서 target 분포로의 변환을 수행 할 수 있음
- 하지만 velocity field를 직접적으로 계산하기 어려움

Flow( $\psi_t$ )

$$X_t = \psi_t(X_0), \quad \text{where } X_0 \sim p_0$$

Velocity field( $u_t$ )

$$\frac{dX_t}{dt} = u_t(X_t) \quad \xrightarrow{\text{Solve ODE}} \quad X_{t+h} = X_t + h \cdot u_t(X_t)$$

$$L_{FM}(\theta) = E_{t \sim U(0,1), X_t \sim p_t} \left\| \underbrace{u_t^\theta(X_t)}_{\text{모델}} - \underbrace{u_t(X_t)}_{\text{타겟}} \right\|_2^2$$

# Flow Models

## Conditional Flow Matching (CFM)

- Target 분포  $X_1$ 에 대한 **condition**을 통해서 conditional velocity field를 학습
- 두 loss의 gradient는 동일 = **CFM loss로 학습하더라도 FM loss로 학습된 모델을 얻을 수 있음**

$$L_{FM}(\theta) = E_{t \sim U(0,1), X_t \sim p_t} \left\| \overset{\text{모델}}{u_t^\theta(X_t)} - \overset{\text{타겟}}{u_t(X_t)} \right\|_2^2$$



$$L_{CFM}(\theta) = E_{t \sim U(0,1), X_t \sim p_t, X_1 \sim p_1} \left\| u_t^\theta(X_t) - u_t(X_t|X_1) \right\|_2^2$$

$$\nabla_{\theta} L_{FM}(\theta) = \nabla_{\theta} L_{CFM}(\theta)$$

(Flow Matching\*, ICLR 2023)

\*Lipman, Y., Chen, R. T., Ben-Hamu, H., Nickel, M., & Le, M. Flow Matching for Generative Modeling. In The Eleventh International Conference on Learning Representations.

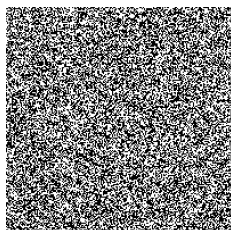
# Flow Models

## Training – 1. Data

- Source와 target 분포의 데이터 수집 및 관계 정의
- **Image synthesis**: source와 target이 독립 / **Inpainting**: source가 target에 의존적

Image  
synthesis

$X_0 \sim p_0$



Source ( $p_0$ )



$$\pi_{0,1}(X_0, X_1) = p(X_0)p(X_1)$$

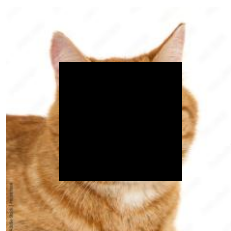
Target ( $p_1$ )



$X_1 \sim p_1$



Inpainting



$$\pi_{0,1}(X_0, X_1) = p(X_0|X_1)p(X_1)$$





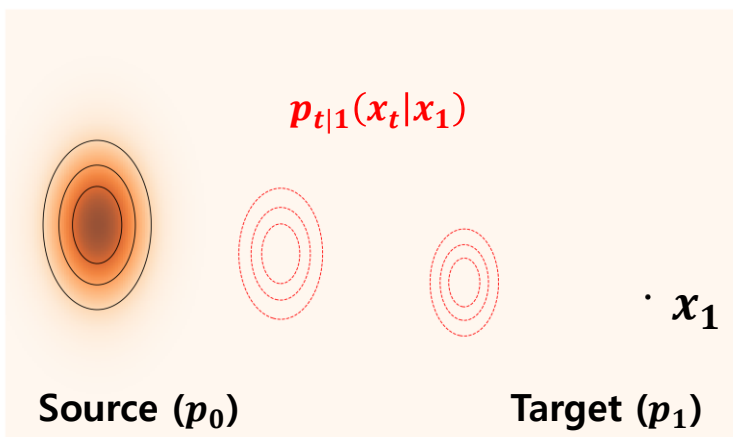
# Flow Models

## Training – 2. Probability Paths

- Source와 target 분포를 연결하는 방법 정의
- 직접 probability path( $p_t$ )를 정의하기는 어려움
- Target 분포  $x_1$ 을 condition으로 활용해서 conditional probability path( $p_{t|1}$ )를 정의
- Conditional probability path를 모든 target sample  $x_1$ 에 대해서 더해줌으로써 probability path를 정의

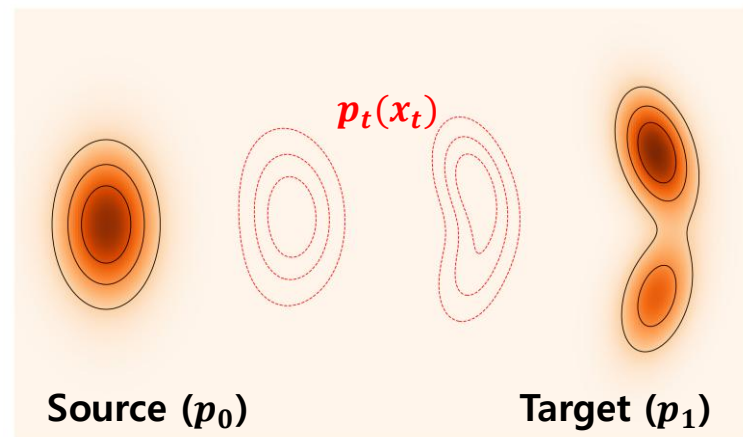
### Conditional Probability path

$$p_{t|1}(x_t|x_1) = N(x_t; tx_1, (1-t)^2I)$$



### Probability path

$$p_t(x_t) = \int p_{t|1}(x_t|x_1)p_1(x_1)dx_1$$



# Flow Models

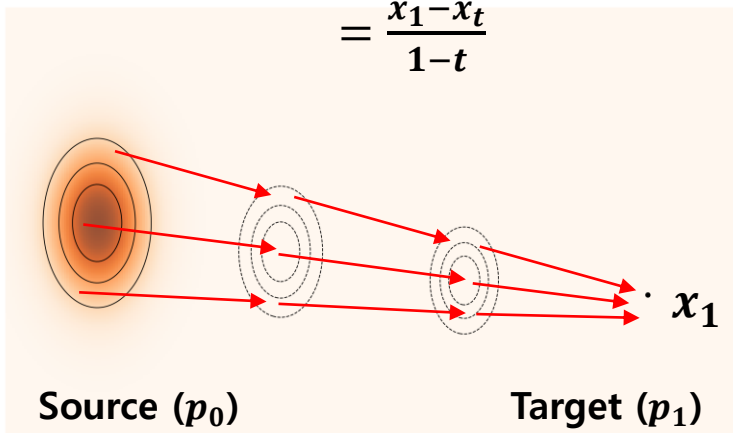
## Training – 3. Velocity Field

- Conditional velocity field 계산

### Conditional Velocity Field

$$\frac{dX_{t|1}}{dt} = u_t(X_{t|1}) = u(X_t|x_1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} u_t(x_t|x_1) &= x_1 - X_0 \\ &= x_1 - \frac{x_t - tx_1}{1-t} \\ &= \frac{x_1 - x_t}{1-t} \end{aligned}$$



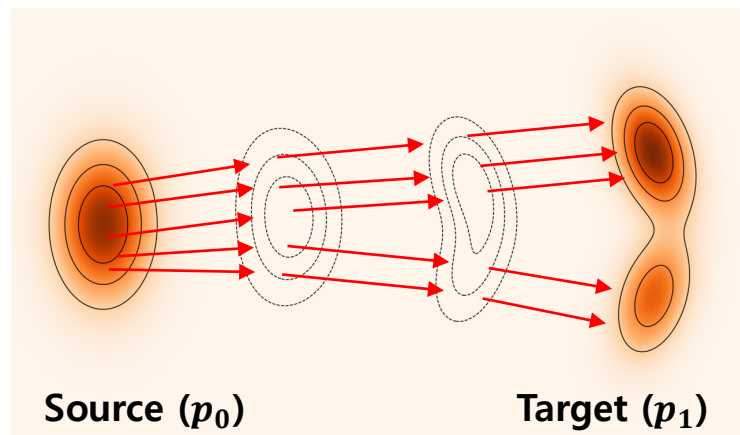
### Conditional Probability path

$$p_{t|1}(x|x_1) = N(x; tx_1, (1-t)^2 I) \longrightarrow X_{t|1} = tx_1 + (1-t)X_0$$

### Velocity Field

$$\frac{dX_t}{dt} = u_t(X_t)$$

$$u_t(x_t) = \int u_t(x_t|x_1) p_{1|t}(x_1|x_t) dx_1$$



# Flow Models

## Training – 4. Conditional Flow Matching

- Conditional velocity field를 활용해 학습

$$L_{CFM}(\theta) = E_{t \sim U(0,1), X_t \sim p_t, X_1 \sim p_1} \left\| \overset{\text{모델}}{u_t^\theta(X_t)} - \overset{\text{타겟}}{u_t(X_t|X_1)} \right\|_2^2$$



Conditional  
Probability path

$$p_{t|1}(x_t|x_1) = N(x_t; tx_1, (1-t)^2 I)$$

Conditional  
Velocity field

$$u_t(x_t|x_1) = x_1 - X_0$$

$$L_{CFM}(\theta) = E_{t \sim U(0,1), X_t \sim p_t, X_1 \sim p_1} \left\| u_t^\theta(X_t) - (X_1 - X_0) \right\|_2^2$$

# Flow Models

## Code

- Training

```
25 flow = Flow()
26 optimizer = torch.optim.Adam(flow.parameters(), 1e-2)
27 loss_fn = nn.MSELoss()
28
29 for _ in range(10000):
30     x_1 = Tensor(make_moons(256, noise=0.05)[0])
31     x_0 = torch.randn_like(x_1)
32     t = torch.rand(len(x_1), 1)
33     x_t = (1 - t) * x_0 + t * x_1
34     dx_t = x_1 - x_0
35     optimizer.zero_grad()
36     loss_fn(flow(x_t, t), dx_t).backward()
37     optimizer.step()
```

Conditional  
Probability path

$$p_{t|1}(x_t|x_1) = N(x_t; tx_1, (1-t)^2I)$$

Conditional  
Velocity field

$$u_t(x_t|x_1) = x_1 - x_0$$

30: target 분포  $p_1$ 에서  $x_1$  샘플링

31: source 분포  $p_0$ 에서  $x_0$  샘플링

32:  $t$ 를  $U(0,1)$ 에서 샘플링

33:  $x_t = (1-t)x_0 + tx_1$  (conditional probability path)

34: conditional velocity field  $x_1 - x_0$  계산

35~37: CFM loss 계산 후 모델 업데이트

# Flow Models

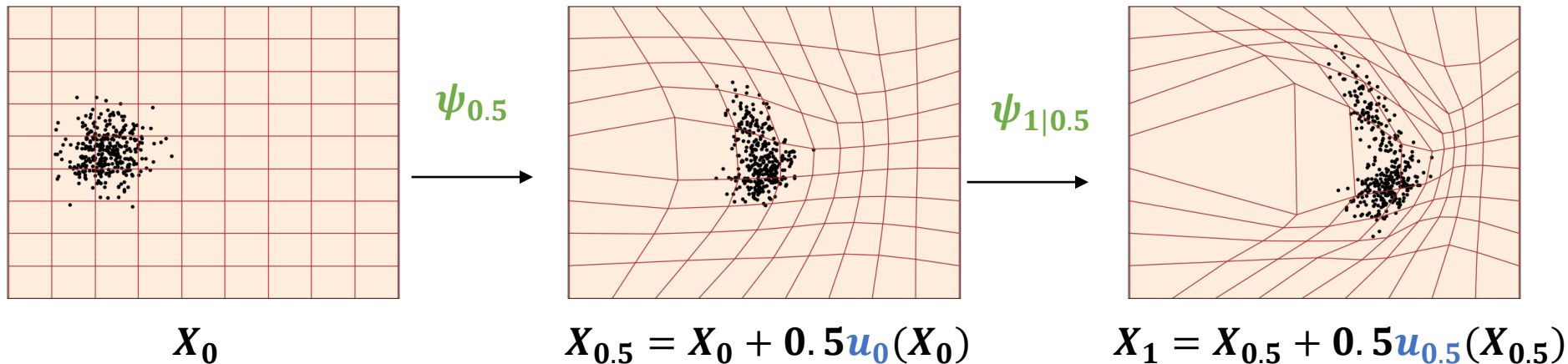
## Code

- Sampling
- Step은 다양한 ODE solver 적용가능 (Euler, Heun)

```
50 for i in range(n_steps):  
51     x = flow.step(x, time_steps[i], time_steps[i + 1])
```

51: 학습된 모델을 통해 정해진 step 수 만큼 진행

*Euler Solver:*  $X_{t+h} = X_t + h \cdot u_t(X_t)$



# Flow Matching and Diffusion Models

## Design space

- **Data coupling:**  $\pi_{0,1}(X_0, X_1) = p(X_0)p(X_1)$
- **Probability path:**  $p_{t|1}(x|x_1) = N(x; \mu_t(x_1), \sigma_t(x_1)^2 I)$
- **Velocity field:**  $u_t(x|x_1)$

### DDPM

$$\mu_t(x_1) = \alpha_{1-t}x_1, \quad \sigma_t(x_1) = \sqrt{1 - \alpha_{1-t}^2}$$

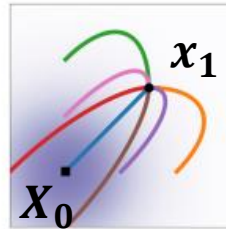


$$X_{t|1} = \alpha_{1-t}x_1 + \sqrt{1 - \alpha_{1-t}^2}X_0$$

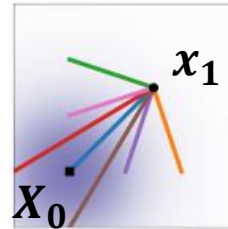


$$u_t(x_t|x_1) = \frac{\alpha'_{1-t}}{1 - \alpha_{1-t}^2} (\alpha_{1-t}x_t - x_1)$$

where  $a' = \frac{d}{dt} \alpha$



Diffusion



OT

### Flow matching

$$\mu_t(x_1) = tx_1, \quad \sigma_t(x_1) = 1 - t$$



$$X_{t|1} = tx_1 + (1 - t)X_0$$



$$u_t(x_t|x_1) = \frac{x_1 - x_t}{1 - t}$$

# Flow Matching and Diffusion Models

## Flow matching loss

- Velocity를 parameterize하는 방식의 차이
- **Flow matching** → velocity field에 대해서 학습
- **DDPM** → velocity field를  $x_0$  prediction (noise prediction)으로 변형한 후 학습 (Tutorial\* Section 4.8.1 참고)

$$u_t(x) = \dot{\alpha}_t \mathbb{E}[X_1 | X_t = x] + \dot{\sigma}_t \mathbb{E}[X_0 | X_t = x] \quad (4.55)$$

$$= \frac{\dot{\sigma}_t}{\sigma_t} x + \left[ \dot{\alpha}_t - \alpha_t \frac{\dot{\sigma}_t}{\sigma_t} \right] \mathbb{E}[X_1 | X_t = x] \quad x_1(\text{image}) \text{ prediction} \quad (4.56)$$

$$= \frac{\dot{\alpha}_t}{\alpha_t} x + \left[ \dot{\sigma}_t - \sigma_t \frac{\dot{\alpha}_t}{\alpha_t} \right] \mathbb{E}[X_0 | X_t = x], \quad x_0(\text{noise}) \text{ prediction} \quad (4.57)$$

\*Lipman, Y., Havasi, M., Holderrieth, P., Shaul, N., Le, M., Karrer, B., ... & Gat, I. (2024). Flow matching guide and code. arXiv preprint arXiv:2412.06264.

# Flow Matching and Diffusion Models

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## Flow Models as Generative Models

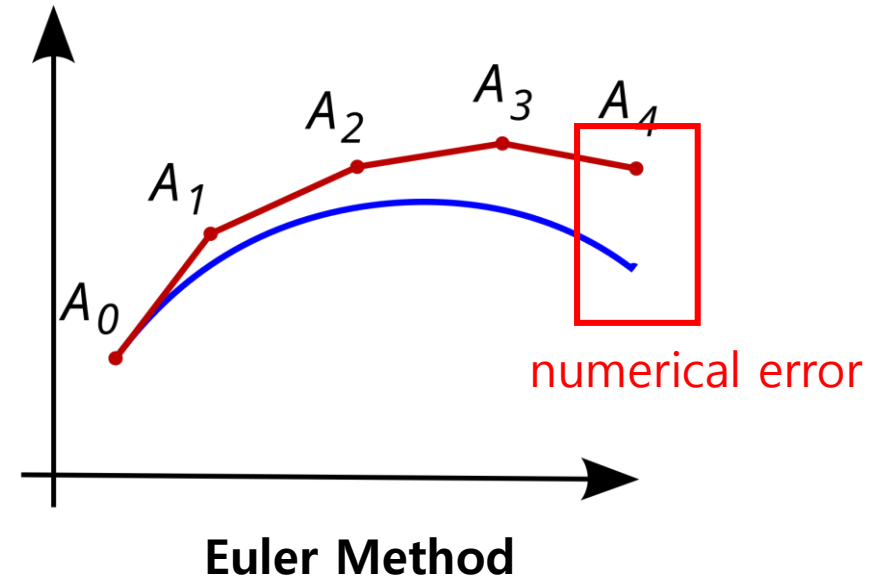
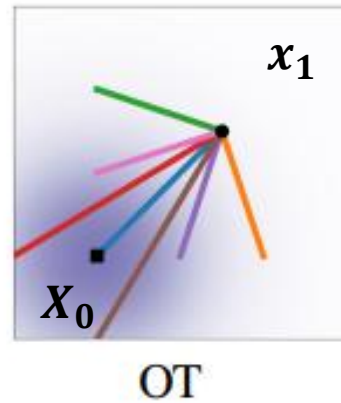
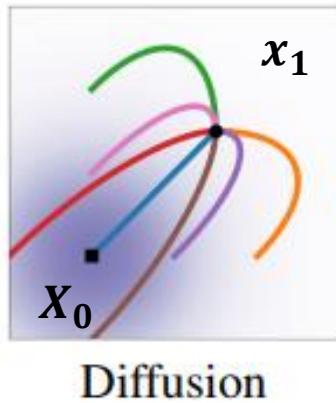
- **Data coupling:**  $\pi_{0,1}(X_0, X_1)$  / 임의의 source 분포에서 target 분포로의 변환 과정
- **Probability paths:**  $p_{t|1}(x|x_1) \rightarrow$  **Velocity field:**  $u_t(x|x_1)$
- **Velocity parameterization:** velocity,  $x_0$ -prediction,  $x_1$ -prediction



# Flow Matching and Diffusion Models

## Why Fast?

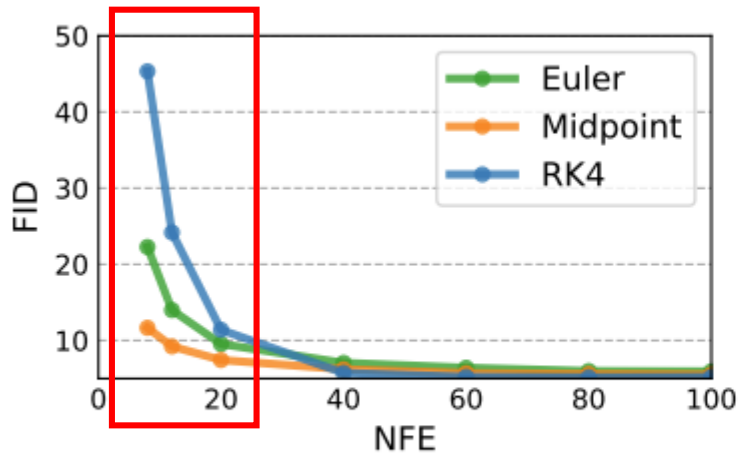
- ODE는 path가 직선에 가까울수록 numerical error가 감소
- Diffusion path보다는 OT path가 직선의 path를 만들



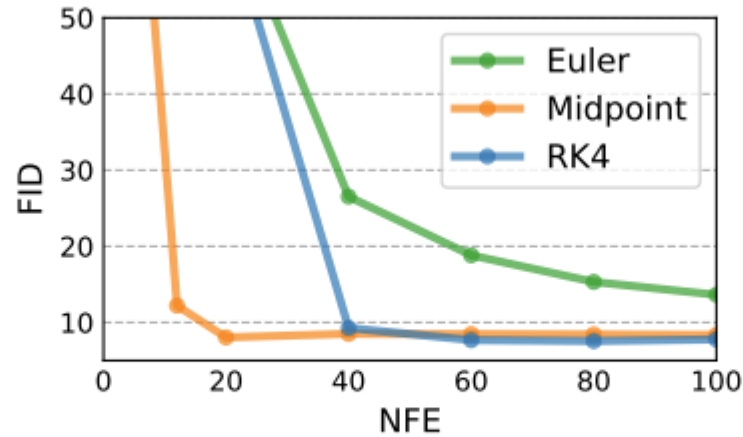
# Flow Matching and Diffusion Models

## Why Fast?

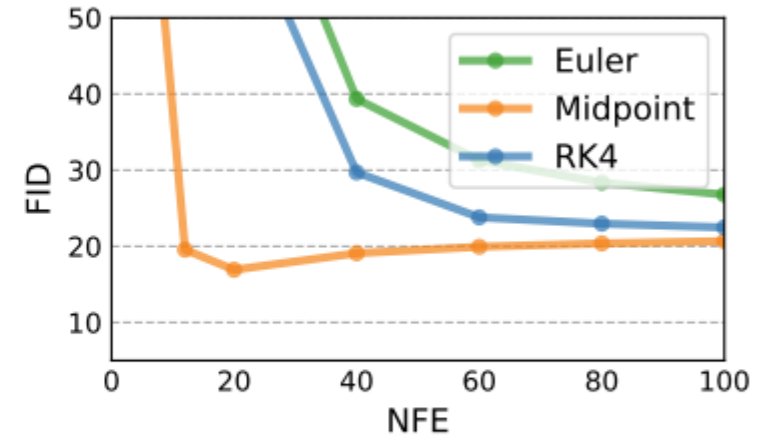
- Diffusion path를 사용하면 sampling step이 작은 경우 이미지 퀄리티가 좋지 않음



Flow matching <sup>w/</sup> OT



Flow matching <sup>w/</sup> Diffusion



Score matching <sup>w/</sup> Diffusion

# Conclusion

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## Flow Models

- **Flow model:** source 분포  $p_0$ 를 target 분포  $p_1$ 으로 변환해주는 **flow( $\psi_t$ )**를 찾는 모델
- **Velocity field**를 통해서 flow를 계산 → **flow model은 velocity field를 학습**
- Diffusion model도 flow model의 한 종류
- 유연한 design space를 가지고 있어 다양한 상황에 적합한 모델 설계 가능