

Optimizing Functionals on the Space of Probabilities with Input Convex Neural Networks

David Alvarez-Melis (MSR)

Yair Schiff (IBM Watson)

Youssef Mroueh (IBM Research AI)

OTML @ NeurIPS 2021

Motivation: Distribution fitting

Many problems in ML amount to optimizing over distributions.

E.g., generative modeling:

$$\min_{\rho_\theta \in \mathcal{F}} D(\rho_\theta, \rho_{\text{data}})$$

parametrized class of distributions

Divergence

Jensen-Shannon \Rightarrow GAN

1-Wasserstein \Rightarrow WGAN

KL \Rightarrow Maximum Likelihood

The diagram shows the optimization of a divergence function. On the left, there is a bracket labeled "parametrized class of distributions" pointing to the term $\rho_\theta \in \mathcal{F}$. On the right, there is a bracket labeled "Divergence" pointing to the term $D(\rho_\theta, \rho_{\text{data}})$. To the right of the main equation, there is a vertical brace grouping three entries: "Jensen-Shannon \Rightarrow GAN", "1-Wasserstein \Rightarrow WGAN", and "KL \Rightarrow Maximum Likelihood".

More generally:

$$\min_{\rho \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})} F(\rho)$$

Note we might not have samples of optimal ρ^* , known only implicitly as minimizer of F

a functional $F : \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

how to optimize this?

The diagram shows a general optimization problem where the goal is to minimize a functional F over the space of probability measures $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})$. A note on the left states: "Note we might not have samples of optimal ρ^* , known only implicitly as minimizer of F ". An arrow points from this note to the term F in the main equation. Another arrow points from the term F to the text "a functional $F : \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ". Below the equation is a rounded rectangle containing the text "how to optimize this?".

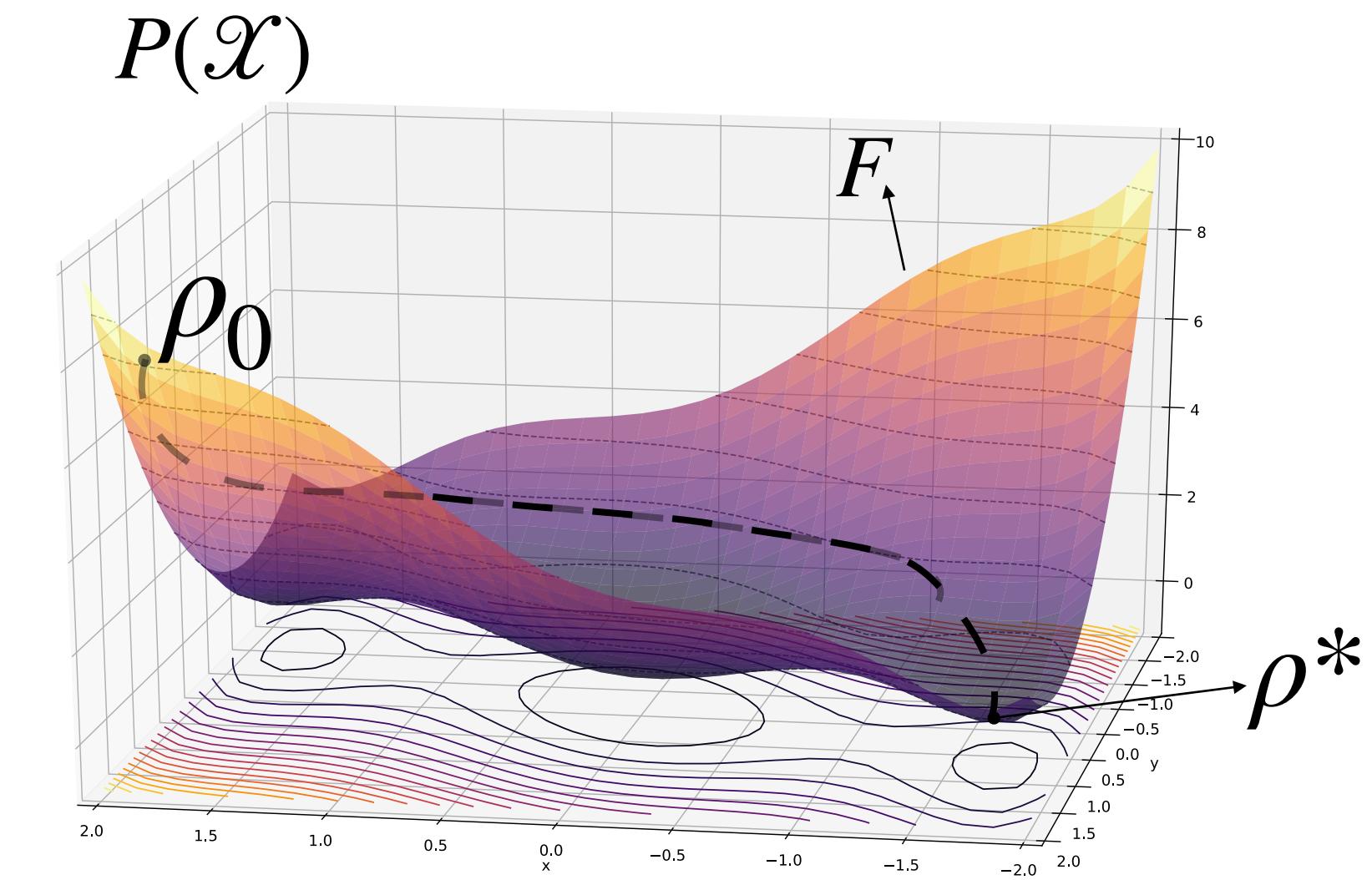
Approach: follow **gradient flow** of F using JKO scheme [Jordan et al. '98], parametrized via ICNN [Amos et al. '17]

Background: Gradient Flows in Wasserstein Space

Gradient Flow: curve of steepest descent of some functional F

In probability space: [Ambrosio et al. '05; Santambrogio '17; Figalli; Villani; etc]

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t \rho(t) &= -\nabla_{W_2} F(\rho(t)) = -\nabla \cdot \left(\rho(t) \nabla \frac{\delta F}{\delta \rho}(\rho(t)) \right) \\ \rho(0) &= \rho_0\end{aligned}$$



Class	PDE $\partial_t \rho =$	Flow Functional $F(\rho) =$
Heat Equation	$\Delta \rho$	$\int \rho(x) \log \rho(x) dx$
Advection	$\nabla \cdot (\rho \nabla V)$	$\int V(x) d\rho(x)$
Fokker-Planck	$\Delta \rho + \nabla \cdot (\rho \nabla V)$	$\int \rho(x) \log \rho(x) dx + \int V(x) d\rho(x)$
Porous Media	$\Delta(\rho^m) + \nabla \cdot (\rho \nabla V)$	$\frac{1}{m-1} \int \rho(x)^m dx + \int V(x) d\rho(x)$
Adv.+Diff.+Inter.	$\nabla \cdot [\rho(\nabla f'(\rho) + \nabla V + (\nabla W) * \rho)]$	$\int V(x) d\rho(x) + \int f(\rho(x)) dx + \frac{1}{2} \iint W(x - x') d\rho(x) d\rho(x')$

Equivalence
between PDE's
and Gradient
Flows

Our Approach: JKO-ICNN

Setting: $\min_{\rho \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})} F(\rho)$, one of: $\mathcal{V}(\rho) = \int V(x)d\rho$ (potential), $\mathcal{W}(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \iint W(x - x')d\rho \otimes \rho$ (interaction), $\mathcal{F}(\rho) = \int f(\rho(x))dx$ (internal energy)

Base: JKO scheme to discretize gradient flow in probability space: $\rho_{t+1}^\tau \in \arg \min_{\rho \in \mathbb{W}_2(\mathcal{X})} F(\rho) + \frac{1}{2\tau} \mathbf{W}_2^2(\rho, \rho_t^\tau)$

From Measures to Convex Functions

Under some assumptions, Brenier theorem yields:

$$\mathbf{W}_2^2(\alpha, (\nabla u)_\# \alpha) = \int_{\mathcal{X}} \|\nabla u(x) - x\|_2^2 d\alpha, \quad u \in \text{CVX}(\mathcal{X})$$

So JKO scheme can be written as [Benamou et al. '14]:

$$\min_{u \in \text{CVX}(\mathcal{X})} F((\nabla u)_\# \rho_t^\tau) + \frac{1}{2\tau} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \|\nabla u(x) - x\|_2^2 d\rho_t^\tau$$

Measures implicitly defined via $\rho_{t+1}^\tau = (\nabla u_{t+1}^\tau)_\#(\rho_t^\tau)$

From Convex Functions to ICNN

Parametrize CVX w/ input-convex neural nets [Amos et al. '17]:

$$\min_{u_\theta \in \text{ICNN}(\mathcal{X})} F((\nabla_x u_\theta(x))_\# \rho_t^\tau) + \frac{1}{2\tau} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \|\nabla_x u_\theta(x) - x\|_2^2 d\rho_t^\tau$$

Simple form for potential/interaction functionals:

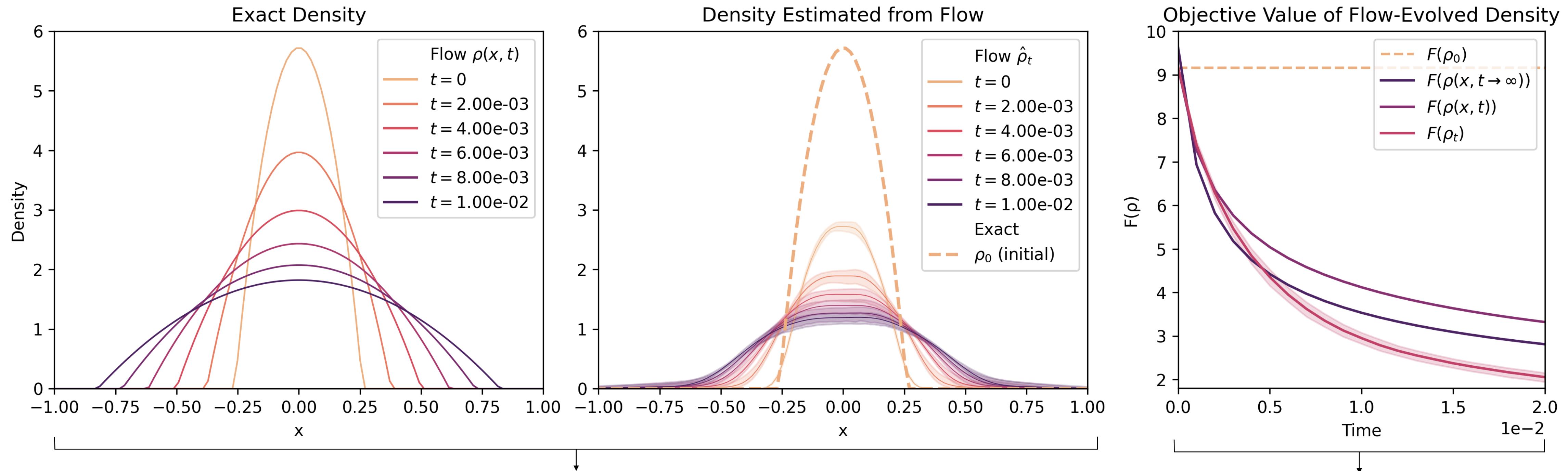
$$\mathcal{V}((\nabla_x u_\theta)_\# \rho_t^\tau) = \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \rho_t^\tau} V(\nabla_x u_\theta(x))$$

$$\mathcal{W}((\nabla_x u_\theta)_\# \rho_t^\tau) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_{x, y \sim \rho_t^\tau} W(\nabla_x u_\theta(x) - \nabla_x u_\theta(y))$$

Surrogate objectives for certain internal energies

Evaluation: Evolving PDEs with known solutions

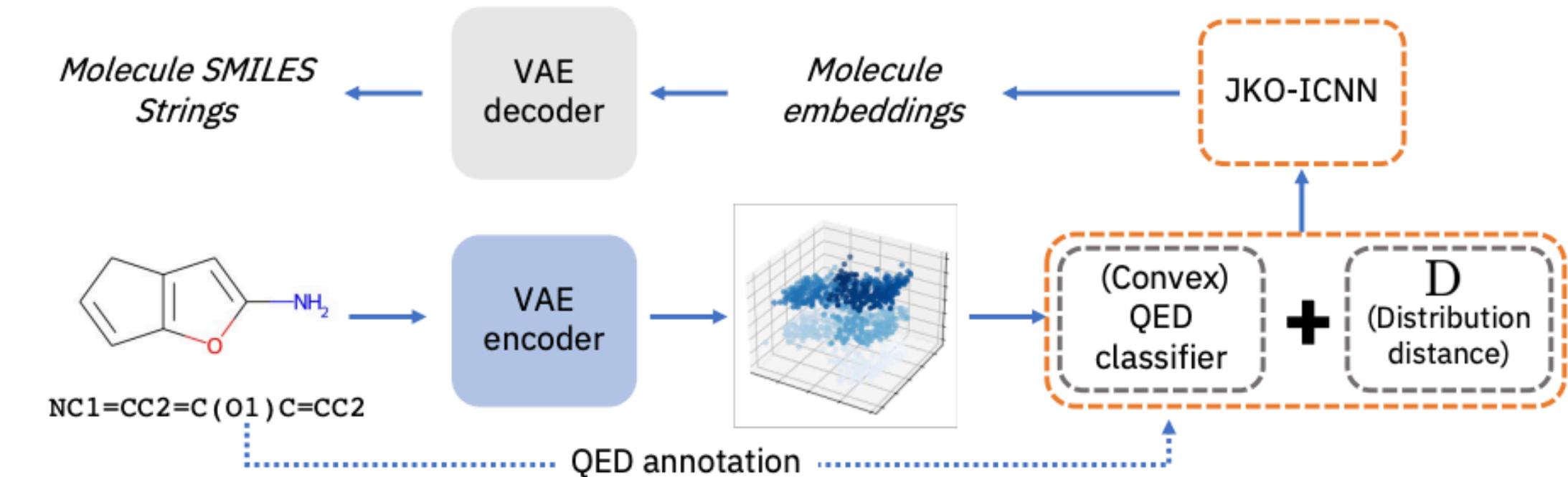
Porous medium equation: $\partial_t \rho = \Delta \rho^m, m > 1$, corresponds to gradient flow of $\mathcal{F}(\rho) = \frac{1}{m-1} \int \rho^m(x) dx$
 Family of exact solutions: Barenblatt profiles $\rho(x, t) = t^{-\alpha} (C - k \|x\|^2 t^{-2\beta})_+^{\frac{1}{m-1}}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^d, t > 0$



JKO-ICNN flow tracks true solution, distributionally...

...and in objective value!

Application: Molecule Discovery



Goal: Transport molecular embeddings to areas with desirable properties (encoded via convex potential V)
while staying close to original (feasible) distribution

Functional:

$$\min_{\rho \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{X})} F(\rho) := \lambda_1 \mathbb{E}_{\rho} V(x) + \lambda_2 D(\rho, \rho_0)$$

encodes 'drug-likeness' (QED) enforce proximity to original molecules

λ_2	LR	Validity	Uniqueness	QED Median	Final SD
ρ_0	N/A	100.000 ± 0.000	99.980 ± 0.045	0.630 ± 0.001	N/A
<i>JKO-ICNN</i>	$1e^4$	93.940 ± 0.336	100.000 ± 0.000	0.750 ± 0.001	0.620 ± 0.010
<i>Baseline - SGD</i>					
0	$5e^{-1}$	43.440 ± 1.092	100.000 ± 0.000	0.772 ± 0.004	9792.93 ± 76.913
1	$5e^{-1}$	49.440 ± 1.128	100.000 ± 0.000	0.768 ± 0.006	8881.38 ± 69.736
$1e^3$	$5e^{-1}$	87.240 ± 0.777	100.000 ± 0.000	0.767 ± 0.002	2515.08 ± 49.870
<i>Baseline - ADAM</i>					
0	$1e^{-1}$	92.080 ± 0.973	100.000 ± 0.000	0.793 ± 0.005	18.261 ± 0.134
0	$1e^{-2}$	93.900 ± 0.781	99.979 ± 0.048	0.758 ± 0.006	1.650 ± 0.006
1	$1e^{-1}$	91.200 ± 0.539	99.978 ± 0.049	0.792 ± 0.005	17.170 ± 0.097
$1e^3$	$1e^{-1}$	99.980 ± 0.045	99.980 ± 0.045	0.630 ± 0.001	0.077 ± 0.003
$1e^4$	$1e^{-1}$	99.900 ± 0.122	99.980 ± 0.045	0.630 ± 0.001	0.240 ± 0.019

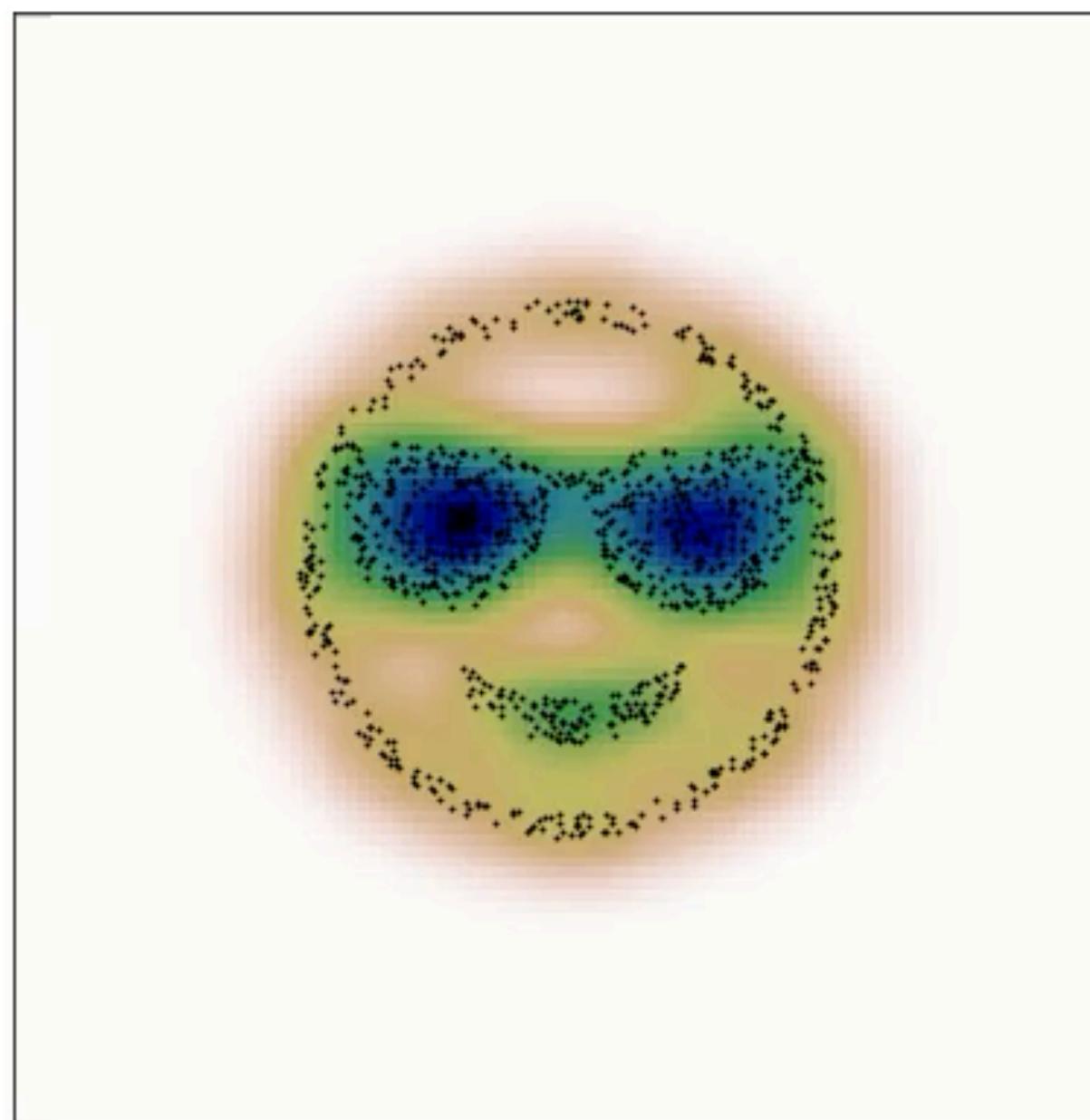
"Direct" (particle)
optimization of F

Our method provides a
strictly better tradeoff
between the two
objectives

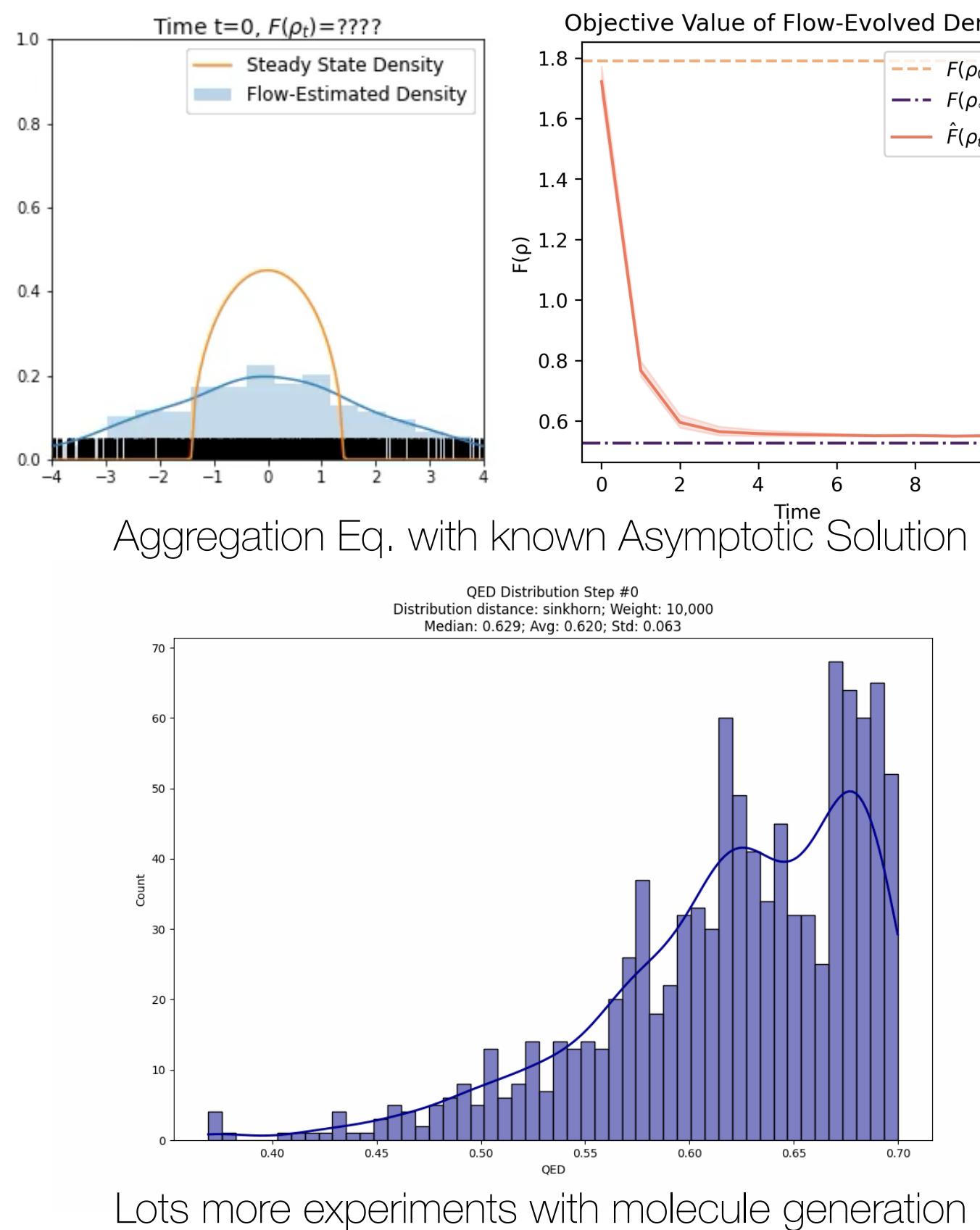
Wrap-Up and pointers

See the paper ([arXiv:2106.00774](https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.00774)) for more experiments ...

... and implementation details



Aggregation/Fokker-Planck/Heat EQ. In 2D



surrogate objectives

density estimation

out-of-sample mapping

efficient computation