

# Deep Generative Models for Text-to-Speech Synthesis

Xu Tan/谭旭

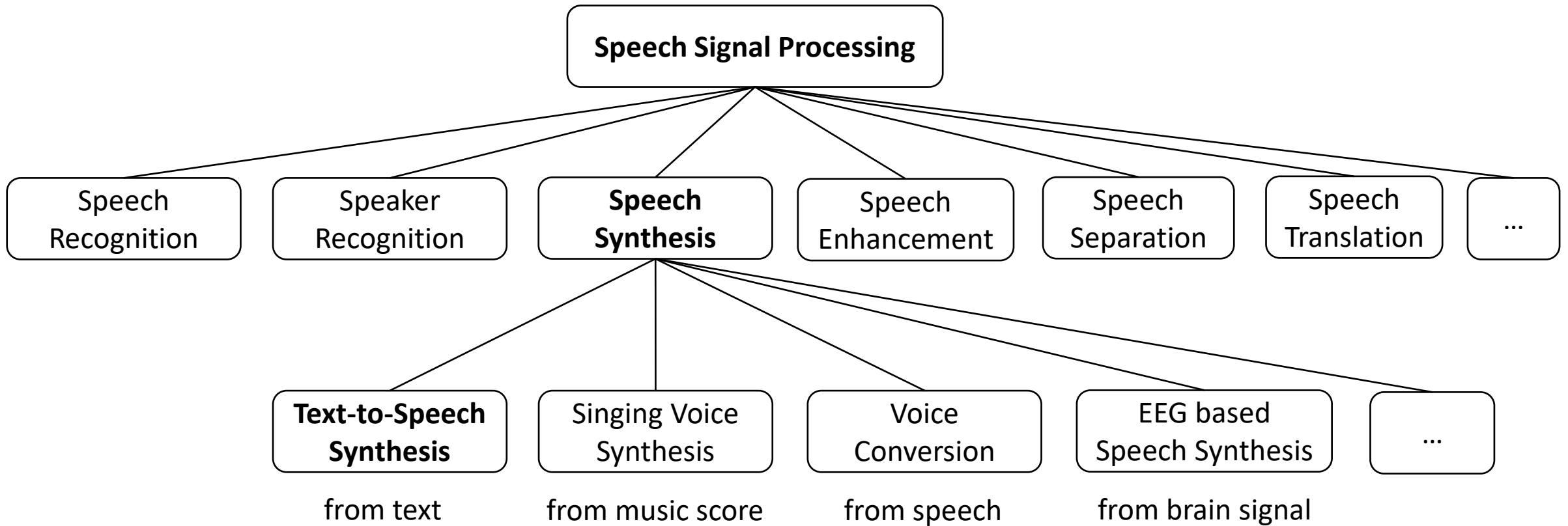
Microsoft Research Asia

Principal Research Manager

[xuta@microsoft.com](mailto:xuta@microsoft.com)

# Outline

- Background
  - Text-to-Speech Synthesis
  - Deep Generative Models
- Deep Generative Models for TTS
  - AR/Flow/GAN/VAE/Diffusion based TTS Models
  - Comparisons and Analyses
- Summary and Outlook



# Text-to-Speech Synthesis

- Text-to-speech (TTS): generate intelligible and natural speech from text

*“speech synthesis is awesome”*

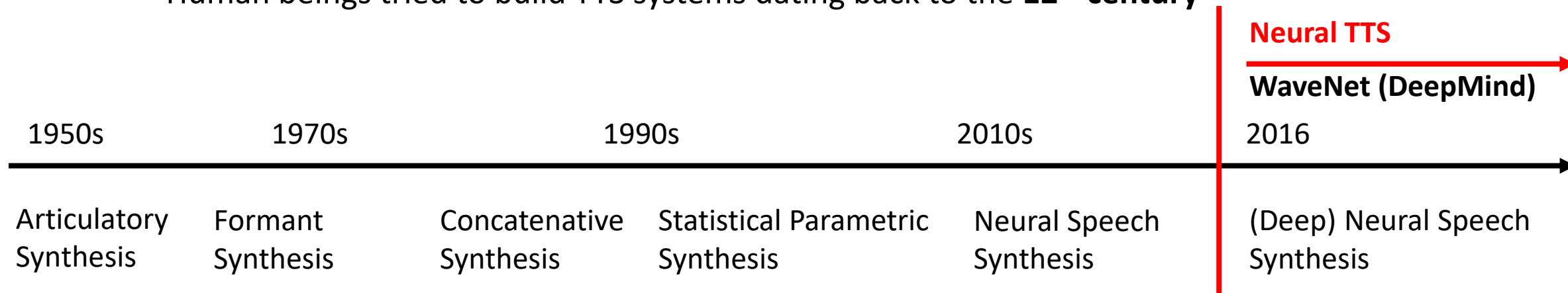
Text

TTS System

Speech



- Enabling machine to speak is an important part of AI
  - TTS (speaking)** is as important as **ASR (listening)**, **NLU (reading)**, **NLG (writing)**
  - Human beings tried to build TTS systems dating back to the **12<sup>th</sup> century**

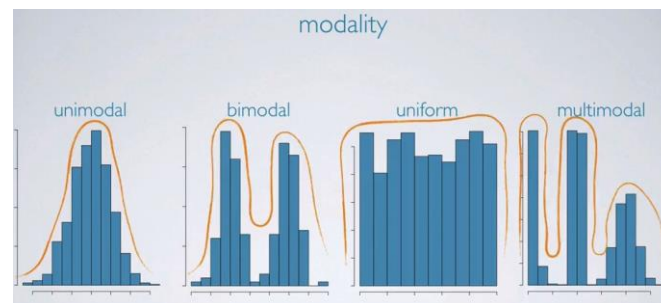


# Text-to-Speech Mapping is One-to-Many

- Speech contains much information that not exists in text
  - **What** to say: content
  - **Who** to say: speaker/timbre
  - **How** to say: prosody/emotion/style
  - **Where** to say: noisy environment
  - ...

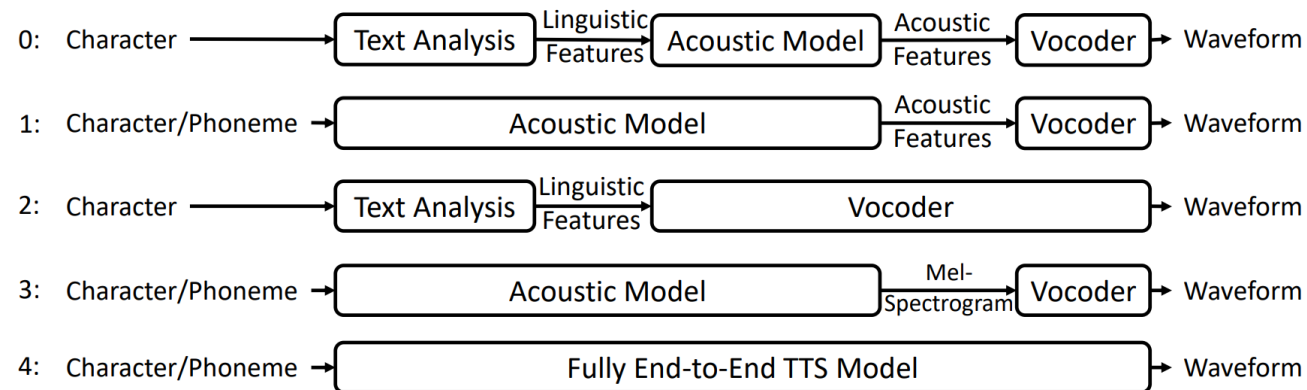
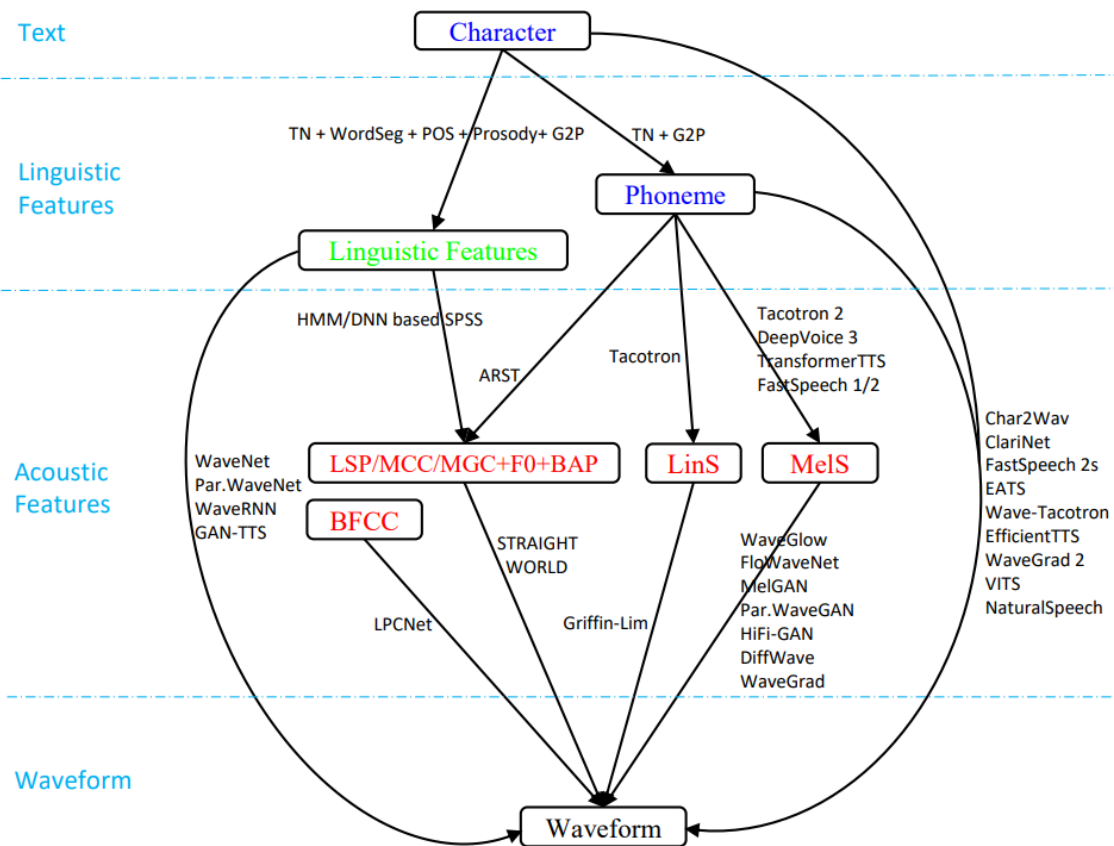
Text  $\xrightarrow{\text{duration, pitch, sound volume, prosody, speaker, style, emotion, etc}}$  Speech

- Text-to-speech mapping
  - Not point-wise, but **distribution-wise**
  - Usually not single-modal, but **multi-modal**



# Typical Methods to Handle One-to-Many Mapping in TTS

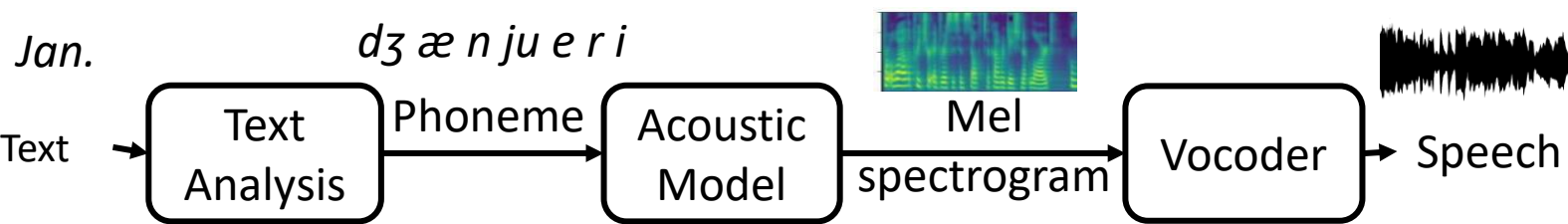
- Split text-to-speech conversion into **multiple stages**



Stage	Models
0	SPSS [418, 358, 417, 427, 359]
1	ARST [377]
2	WaveNet [255], DeepVoice 1/2 [8, 88], Par. WaveNet [256], WaveRNN [151], HiFi-GAN [23]
3	DeepVoice 3 [271], Tacotron 2 [304], FastSpeech 1/2 [291, 293], WaveGlow [280], FloWaveNet [164]
4	Char2Wav [316], ClariNet [270], FastSpeech 2s [293], EATS [70], VITS [161], NaturalSpeech [346]

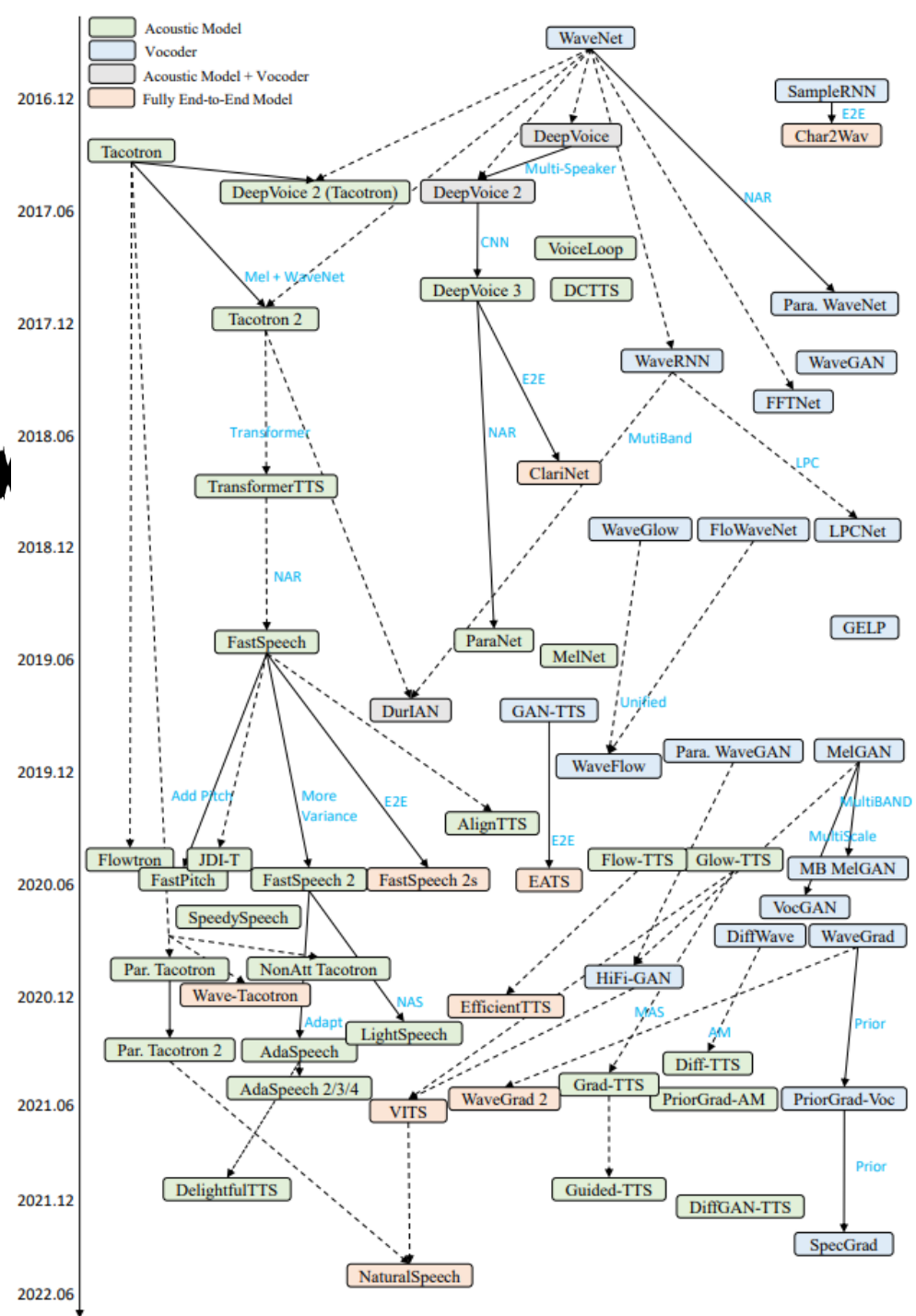
# Typical Neural TTS Pipeline

- Text analysis, acoustic model, and vocoder



- Text analysis: text → linguistic features
- Acoustic model: linguistic features → acoustic features
- Vocoder: acoustic features → speech

**One-to-many mapping is alleviated, but not eliminated!**



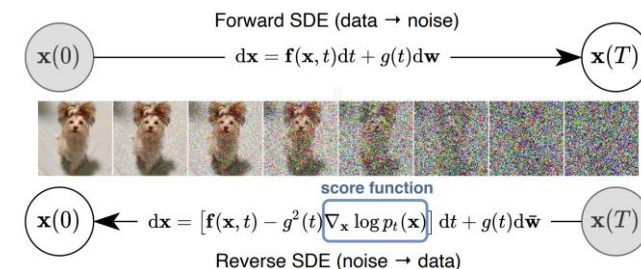
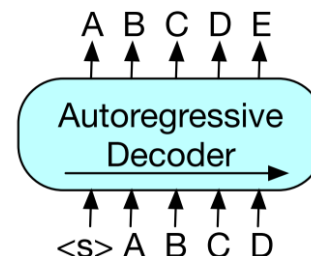
# How to Model One-to-Many Mapping (Multimodal Distribution)

- Providing more variance information

- Providing pitch/duration/speaker ID

- **Autoregressive models** ( $x_0 \rightarrow x_{0:1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow x_{0:t} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow x_{0:T}$ )

- **Diffusion models** ( $x_T \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow x_t \rightarrow x_{t-1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow x_0$ )

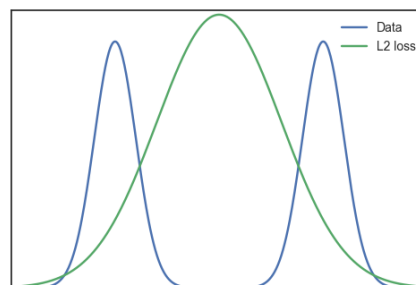


- Advanced loss function

- L1/L2 loss

- Distribution-wise loss (e.g., SSIM, GMM)

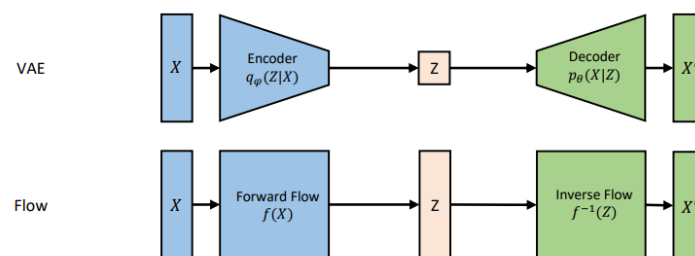
- **GAN loss** (match any distribution)



- Synthesis-by-analysis

- $X \rightarrow Z \rightarrow X'$

- **VAE, Flow**, etc





# Outline

- Background
  - Text-to-Speech Synthesis
  - Deep Generative Models
- Deep Generative Models for TTS
  - AR/Flow/GAN/VAE/Diffusion based TTS Models
  - Comparisons and Analyses
- Summary and Outlook

# Deep Learning and Generative Learning

1950s /1960s (Computer)

2022

CV/NLP/Speech/Machine Learning

2012 (AlexNet)

2022

Deep Learning (Representation Learning)

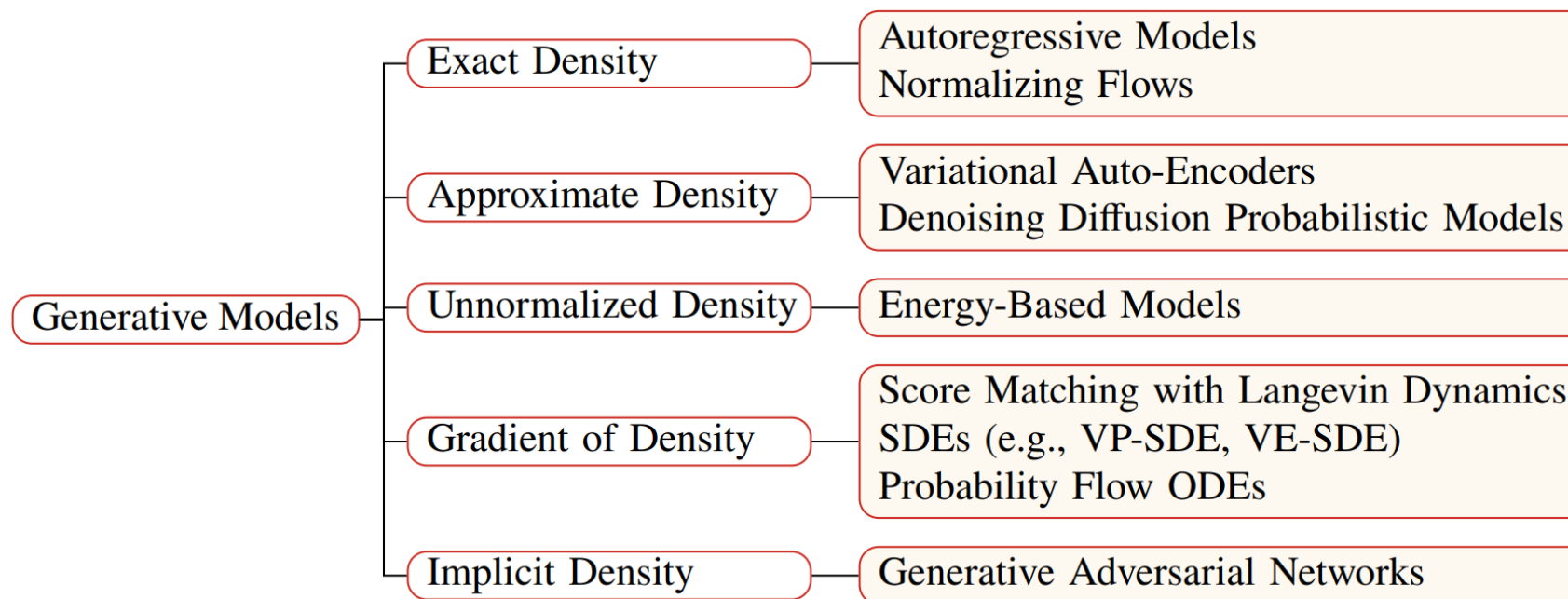
2013/2014/2015 (VAE/GAN/Flow/Diffusion)

2022

Deep Learning (Generative Learning)

# Generative Models

- Generative models are learnt to estimate the likelihood of data  $P_\theta$  to be close to the true data distribution  $P_D$ 
  - **Data generation:** sample new data from  $P_\theta$
  - **Density estimation:** predict the density/probability of a data point
- Taxonomy of deep generative models



# Deep Generative Models—GAN

- Generative Adversarial Networks

$$\min_{\theta} \max_{\phi} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_{\text{data}}} \log D(x; \phi) + \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_z} \log(1 - D(G(z; \theta); \phi))$$

- **Not to find a corresponding  $z$  for  $x$ , but to directly match the distribution of  $x$**

# Deep Generative Models—Flow

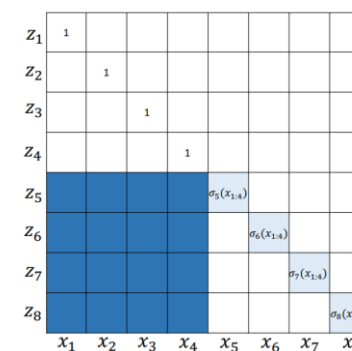
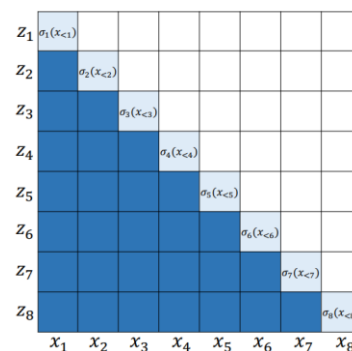
- Normalizing Flows: finding a  $z$  for  $x$ , and convert  $z$  back to  $x$ 
  - $z = f_k^{-1} f_{k-1}^{-1} \dots f_0^{-1}(x)$
  - $x = f_0 f_1 \dots f_k(z), z \sim N(0, 1)$
- Training: maximizing the log likelihood  $p(x)$ 
  - $\log p(x) = \log p(z) + \log \det \left( \frac{dz}{dx} \right) = \log p(z) + \sum_{i=1}^k \log | \det(J(f_i^{-1}(x))) |$
  - Flow can **estimate the data likelihood exactly**, as in autoregressive models
- The transformation function  $f$  should satisfy two requirements
  - It is **easily invertible**
  - Its **Jacobian determinant is easy to compute**

# Deep Generative Models—Flow

- Two types: **Coupling (bipartite)** and **Autoregressive (AR)** technologies

Flow		Evaluation $z = f^{-1}(x)$	Synthesis $x = f(z)$
AR	AF [42]	$z_t = \frac{x_t - \mu_t(x_{<t})}{\sigma_t(x_{<t})}$	$x_t = z_t \cdot \sigma_t(x_{<t}) + \mu_t(x_{<t})$
	IAF [38]	$z_t = x_t \cdot \sigma_t(z_{<t}) + \mu_t(z_{<t})$	$x_t = \frac{z_t - \mu_t(z_{<t})}{\sigma_t(z_{<t})}$
Bipartite	RealNVP [36]	$z_a = x_a,$	$x_a = z_a,$
	Glow [39]	$z_b = x_b \cdot \sigma_b(x_a; \theta) + \mu_b(x_a; \theta)$	$x_b = \frac{z_b - \mu_b(x_a; \theta)}{\sigma_b(x_a; \theta)}$

- It is easily invertible
  - See table above
- Its Jacobian determinant is easy to compute
  - The invertible functions have triangular Jacobians
  - It's easy to calculate from the diagonal elements



[Ping, 2019]

# Deep Generative Models—VAE

- Why Variational Autoencoders?
  - Naïve AE:  $\|x - dec(enc(x))\|^2$
  - No regularization: **z is irregular and non-smoothing, generalization is poor**
- Maximizing the log likelihood  $p(x)$

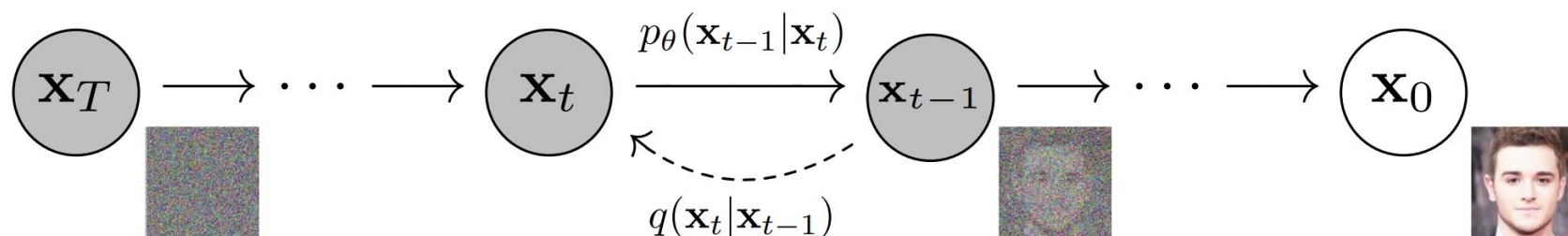
$$\begin{aligned}\log p(x) &= \log \int p(x|z)p(z)dz = \log \int q(z|x) \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} dz \\ &= \log \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \geq \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} \log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} \log p(x|z) - KL(q(z|x) || p(z)),\end{aligned}$$

- Maximize the ELBO

$$L(x; \theta, \phi) = -\mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x; \phi)} \log p(x|z; \theta) + KL(q(z|x; \phi) || p(z))$$

# Deep Generative Models—DDPM

- Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models



- Forward process

$$q(x_{1:T}|x_0) = \prod_{t=1}^T q(x_t|x_{t-1}), \quad q(x_t|x_{t-1}) = \mathcal{N}(x_t; \sqrt{1-\beta_t}x_{t-1}, \beta_t I)$$

- Backward process

$$p_\theta(x_{0:T}) = p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t), \quad p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t) = \mathcal{N}(x_{t-1}; \mu_\theta(x_t, t), \Sigma_\theta(x_t, t))$$



# Deep Generative Models—DDPM

- Maximizing the log likelihood  $p(x_0)$

$$\begin{aligned}\log p(x_0) &= \log \int p(x_{0:T}) dx_{1:T} = \log \int q(x_{1:T}|x_0) \frac{p(x_{0:T})}{q(x_{1:T}|x_0)} dx_{1:T} \\ &= \log \mathbb{E}_{x_{1:T} \sim q(x_{1:T}|x_0)} \frac{p(x_{0:T})}{q(x_{1:T}|x_0)} \geq \mathbb{E}_{x_{1:T} \sim q(x_{1:T}|x_0)} \log \frac{p(x_{0:T})}{q(x_{1:T}|x_0)} = ELBO\end{aligned}$$

- Maximize the ELBO

$$\begin{aligned}ELBO &= \mathbb{E}_{x_{1:T} \sim q(x_{1:T}|x_0)} \log \frac{p(x_{0:T})}{q(x_{1:T}|x_0)} \\ &= -\mathbb{E}_q \left[ \underbrace{KL(q(x_T|x_0) || p(x_T))}_{L_T} + \sum_{t=2}^T \underbrace{KL(q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0) || p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t))}_{L_{t-1}} - \underbrace{\log p_\theta(x_0|x_1)}_{L_0} \right]\end{aligned}$$

$$L_{\text{simple}}(\theta) := \mathbb{E}_{t, x_0, \epsilon} [\|\epsilon - \epsilon_\theta(x_t, t)\|^2]$$

# Deep Generative Models—DDPM

- Training and inference pipeline

---

## Algorithm 1 Training

---

**repeat**  
  Sample  $x_0 \sim q_{data}, \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$   
  Sample  $t \sim \mathcal{U}(\{1, \dots, T\})$   
   $\mathcal{L} = \|\epsilon - \epsilon_\theta(\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}x_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\epsilon, t)\|^2$   
  Update  $\theta$  with  $\nabla_\theta \mathcal{L}$   
**until** converged

---

---

## Algorithm 2 Sampling

---

Sample  $x_T \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$   
**for**  $t = T, T-1, \dots, 1$  **do**  
  Sample  $z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$  if  $t > 1$ ; else  $z = 0$   
   $x_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}}(x_t - \frac{1-\alpha_t}{\sqrt{1-\bar{\alpha}_t}}\epsilon_\theta(x_t, t)) + \sigma_t z$   
**end for**  
**return**  $x_0$

---

# Deep Generative Models—SMLD

- Score Matching with Langevin Dynamics (SMLD) [Song, 2020]
  - Score: the score of a probability density  $p(\mathbf{x})$  is  $\nabla \log p(\mathbf{x})$
- Training: score matching for score estimation

$$\mathbb{E}_{p(\mathbf{x})} \left[ \|\mathbf{s}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{x}) - \nabla \log p(\mathbf{x})\|_2^2 \right] \quad \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \sum_{t=1}^T \lambda(t) \mathbb{E}_{p_{\sigma_t}(\mathbf{x}_t)} \left[ \|\mathbf{s}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{x}, t) - \nabla \log p_{\sigma_t}(\mathbf{x}_t)\|_2^2 \right]$$

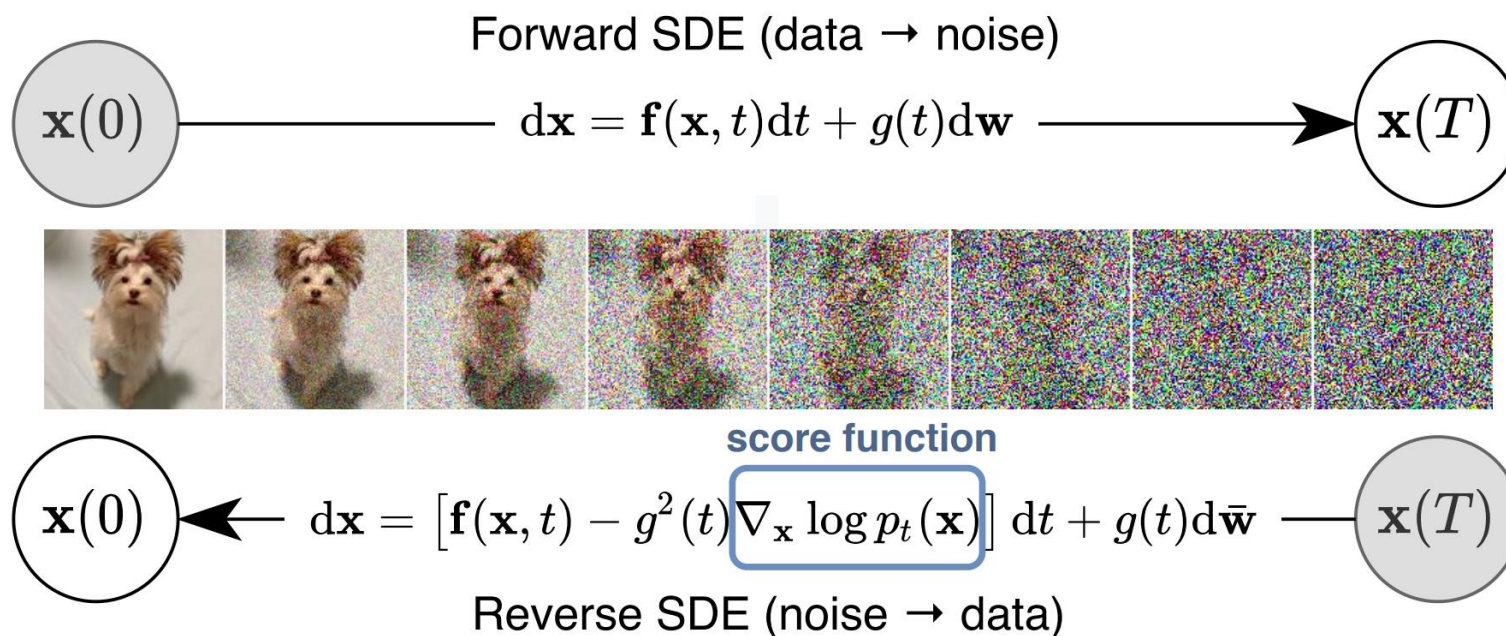
- Inference: sampling with Langevin dynamics

$$\mathbf{x}_{i+1} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_i + c \nabla \log p(\mathbf{x}_i) + \sqrt{2c\epsilon} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, K$$

$$\nabla \log p(\mathbf{x}_t) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

# Deep Generative Models—SDE

- Stochastic Differential Equation (SDE) [Song, 2020]
  - Extend discrete time to continuous time



$$\theta^* = \arg \min_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_t \left\{ \lambda(t) \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}(0)} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}(t)|\mathbf{x}(0)} \left[ \left\| \mathbf{s}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}(t), t) - \nabla_{\mathbf{x}(t)} \log p_{0t}(\mathbf{x}(t) | \mathbf{x}(0)) \right\|_2^2 \right] \right\}.$$

# Deep Generative Models—VE-SDE, VP-SDE

- VE-SDE (Variance-Exploding Stochastic Differential Equation) and SMLD [Song, 2020]

$$\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{x}_{i-1} + \sqrt{\sigma_i^2 - \sigma_{i-1}^2} \mathbf{z}_{i-1}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N, \quad d\mathbf{x} = \sqrt{\frac{d[\sigma^2(t)]}{dt}} d\mathbf{w}$$

- VP-SDE (Variance-Preserving Stochastic Differential Equation) and DDPM [Song, 2020]

$$\mathbf{x}_i = \sqrt{1 - \beta_i} \mathbf{x}_{i-1} + \sqrt{\beta_i} \mathbf{z}_{i-1}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N. \quad d\mathbf{x} = -\frac{1}{2} \beta(t) \mathbf{x} dt + \sqrt{\beta(t)} d\mathbf{w}$$

$$p_{0t}(\mathbf{x}(t) | \mathbf{x}(0)) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}(t); \mathbf{x}(0), [\sigma^2(t) - \sigma^2(0)]\mathbf{I}), & \text{(VE SDE)} \\ \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}(t); \mathbf{x}(0) e^{-\frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \beta(s) ds}, \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{I} e^{-\int_0^t \beta(s) ds}) & \text{(VP SDE)} \\ \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}(t); \mathbf{x}(0) e^{-\frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \beta(s) ds}, [1 - e^{-\int_0^t \beta(s) ds}]^2 \mathbf{I}) & \text{(sub-VP SDE)} \end{cases}$$

## Algorithm 2 PC sampling (VE SDE)

- 1:  $\mathbf{x}_N \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma_{\max}^2 \mathbf{I})$
- 2: **for**  $i = N - 1$  **to**  $0$  **do**
- 3:  $\mathbf{x}'_i \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_{i+1} + (\sigma_{i+1}^2 - \sigma_i^2) \mathbf{s}_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}, \sigma_{i+1})$
- 4:  $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
- 5:  $\mathbf{x}_i \leftarrow \mathbf{x}'_i + \sqrt{\sigma_{i+1}^2 - \sigma_i^2} \mathbf{z}$
- 6: **for**  $j = 1$  **to**  $M$  **do**
- 7:  $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
- 8:  $\mathbf{x}_i \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_i + \epsilon_i \mathbf{s}_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{x}_i, \sigma_i) + \sqrt{2\epsilon_i} \mathbf{z}$
- 9: **return**  $\mathbf{x}_0$

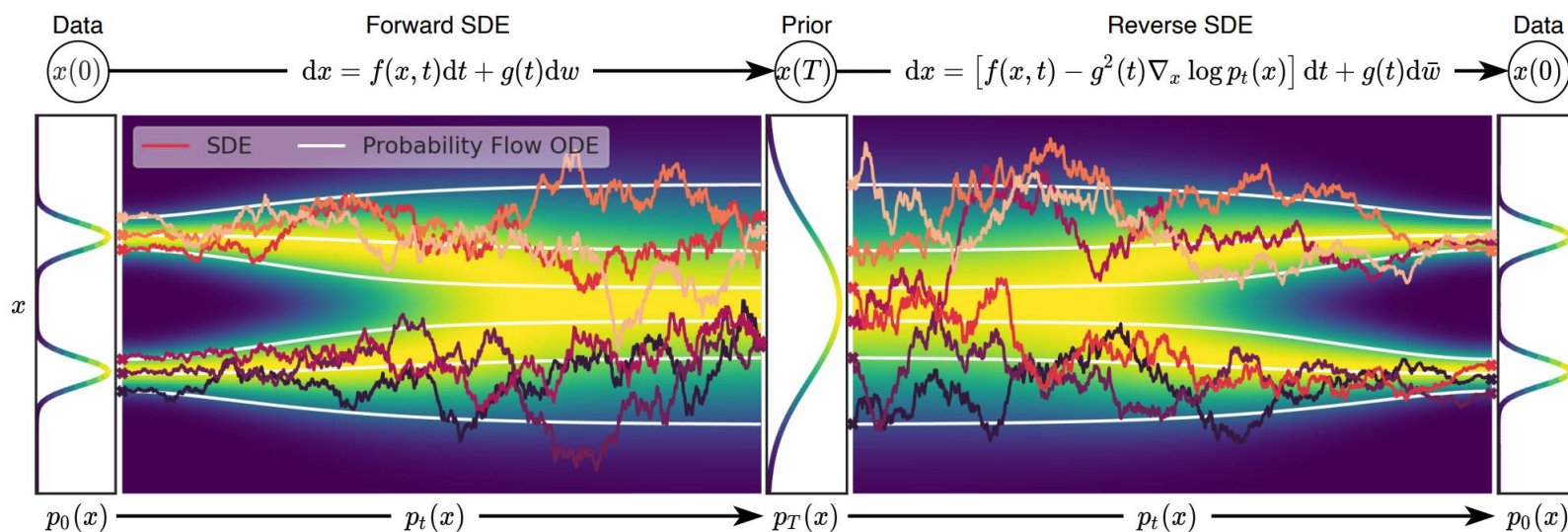
## Algorithm 3 PC sampling (VP SDE)

- 1:  $\mathbf{x}_N \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
- 2: **for**  $i = N - 1$  **to**  $0$  **do**
- 3:  $\mathbf{x}'_i \leftarrow (2 - \sqrt{1 - \beta_{i+1}}) \mathbf{x}_{i+1} + \beta_{i+1} \mathbf{s}_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}, i + 1)$
- 4:  $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
- 5:  $\mathbf{x}_i \leftarrow \mathbf{x}'_i + \sqrt{\beta_{i+1}} \mathbf{z}$  Predictor
- 6: **for**  $j = 1$  **to**  $M$  **do** Corrector
- 7:  $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
- 8:  $\mathbf{x}_i \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_i + \epsilon_i \mathbf{s}_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{x}_i, i) + \sqrt{2\epsilon_i} \mathbf{z}$
- 9: **return**  $\mathbf{x}_0$

# Deep Generative Models—Probability Flow ODE

- A corresponding deterministic process to SDE: ODE (Ordinary Differential Equation) [Song, 2020]

$$d\mathbf{x} = \left[ \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t) - \frac{1}{2}g(t)^2 \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}) \right] dt,$$



$$\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{x}_{i+1} + \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_{i+1}^2 - \sigma_i^2)\mathbf{s}_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}, \sigma_{i+1}), \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, N-1.$$

$$\mathbf{x}_i = (2 - \sqrt{1 - \beta_{i+1}})\mathbf{x}_{i+1} + \frac{1}{2}\beta_{i+1}\mathbf{s}_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}, i+1), \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, N-1.$$

# Outline

- Background
  - Text-to-Speech Synthesis
  - Deep Generative Models
- Deep Generative Models for TTS
  - AR/Flow/GAN/VAE/Diffusion based TTS Models
  - Comparisons and Analyses
- Summary and Outlook



# Deep Generative Models—Examples in Acoustic Model

- Autoregressive models
  - Tacotron 1/2, DeepVoice 3, TransformerTTS
- Non-autoregressive models: FastSpeech 1/2
- Flow
  - Glow-TTS
- VAE
  - Para. Tacotron 1/2
- GAN
- Diffusion
  - Diff-TTS, Grad-TTS, DiffGAN-TTS, PriorGrad

Acoustic Model	Input→Output	AR/NAR	Modeling	Structure	
<b>RNN</b>	Tacotron [382]	Ch→LinS	AR	Seq2Seq	Hybrid/RNN
	Tacotron 2 [303]	Ch→MelS	AR	Seq2Seq	RNN
	DurIAN [418]	Ph→MelS	AR	Seq2Seq	RNN
	Non-Att Tacotron [304]	Ph→MelS	AR	/	Hybrid/CNN/RNN
	MelNet [367]	Ch→MelS	AR	/	RNN
<b>CNN</b>	DeepVoice [8]	Ch/Ph→MelS	AR	/	CNN
	DeepVoice 2 [87]	Ch/Ph→MelS	AR	/	CNN
	DeepVoice 3 [270]	Ch/Ph→MelS	AR	Seq2Seq	CNN
	ParaNet [268]	Ph→MelS	NAR	Seq2Seq	CNN
	DCTTS [332]	Ch→MelS	AR	Seq2Seq	CNN
	SpeedySpeech [361]	Ph→MelS	NAR	/	CNN
	TalkNet 1/2 [19, 18]	Ch→MelS	NAR	/	CNN
	<b>Transformer</b>	TransformerTTS [192]	Ph→MelS	AR	Seq2Seq
MultiSpeech [39]		Ph→MelS	AR	Seq2Seq	Self-Att
FastSpeech 1/2 [290, 292]		Ph→MelS	NAR	Seq2Seq	Self-Att
AlignTTS [429]		Ch/Ph→MelS	NAR	Seq2Seq	Self-Att
JDI-T [197]		Ph→MelS	NAR	Seq2Seq	Self-Att
FastPitch [181]		Ph→MelS	NAR	Seq2Seq	Self-Att
AdaSpeech 1/2/3 [40, 403, 404]		Ph→MelS	NAR	Seq2Seq	Self-Att
DenoiSpeech [434]		Ph→MelS	NAR	Seq2Seq	Self-Att
DeviceTTS [126]		Ph→MelS	NAR	/	Hybrid/DNN/RNN
LightSpeech [220]		Ph→MelS	NAR	/	Hybrid/Self-Att/CNN
<b>Flow</b>		Flow-TTS [234]	Ch/Ph→MelS	NAR*	Flow
	Glow-TTS [159]	Ph→MelS	NAR	Flow	Hybrid/Self-Att/CNN
	Flowtron [366]	Ph→MelS	AR	Flow	Hybrid/RNN
	EfficientTTS [235]	Ch→MelS	NAR	Flow	Hybrid/CNN
<b>VAE</b>	GMVAE-Tacotron [119]	Ph→MelS	AR	VAE	Hybrid/RNN
	VAE-TTS [443]	Ph→MelS	AR	VAE	Hybrid/RNN
	BVAE-TTS [187]	Ph→MelS	NAR	VAE	CNN
	Para. Tacotron 1/2 [74, 75]	Ph→MelS	NAR	VAE	Hybrid/Self-Att/CNN
<b>GAN</b>	GAN exposure [99]	Ph→MelS	AR	GAN	Hybrid/RNN
	TTS-Stylization [224]	Ch→MelS	AR	GAN	Hybrid/RNN
	Multi-SpectroGAN [186]	Ph→MelS	NAR	GAN	Hybrid/Self-Att/CNN
<b>Diffusion</b>	Diff-TTS [141]	Ph→MelS	NAR*	Diffusion	Hybrid/CNN
	Grad-TTS [276]	Ph→MelS	NAR	Diffusion	Hybrid/Self-Att/CNN
	PriorGrad [185]	Ph→MelS	NAR	Diffusion	Hybrid/Self-Att/CNN



# Deep Generative Models—Examples in Vocoder

- Autoregressive models
  - WaveNet, SampleRNN, WaveRNN
- Flow
  - Par. WaveNet, WaveGlow, FloWaveNet
- GAN
  - MelGAN, Para. WaveGAN, HiFiGAN
- VAE
  - WaveVAE
- Diffusion
  - DiffWave, WaveGrad, PriorGrad, SpecGrad

	Vocoder	Input	AR/NAR	Modeling	Architecture
<b>AR</b>	WaveNet [260]	Linguistic Feature	AR	/	CNN
	SampleRNN [239]	/	AR	/	RNN
	WaveRNN [151]	Linguistic Feature	AR	/	RNN
	LPCNet [370]	BFCC	AR	/	RNN
	Univ. WaveRNN [221]	Mel-Spectrogram	AR	/	RNN
	SC-WaveRNN [271]	Mel-Spectrogram	AR	/	RNN
	MB WaveRNN [426]	Mel-Spectrogram	AR	/	RNN
	FFTNet [146]	Cepstrum	AR	/	CNN
	iSTFTNet [153]	Mel-Spectrogram	NAR	/	CNN
<b>Flow</b>	Par. WaveNet [261]	Linguistic Feature	NAR	Flow	CNN
	WaveGlow [285]	Mel-Spectrogram	NAR	Flow	Hybrid/CNN
	FloWaveNet [166]	Mel-Spectrogram	NAR	Flow	Hybrid/CNN
	WaveFlow [277]	Mel-Spectrogram	AR	Flow	Hybrid/CNN
	SqueezeWave [441]	Mel-Spectrogram	NAR	Flow	CNN
<b>GAN</b>	WaveGAN [69]	/	NAR	GAN	CNN
	GELP [150]	Mel-Spectrogram	NAR	GAN	CNN
	GAN-TTS [23]	Linguistic Feature	NAR	GAN	CNN
	MelGAN [182]	Mel-Spectrogram	NAR	GAN	CNN
	Par. WaveGAN [410]	Mel-Spectrogram	NAR	GAN	CNN
	HiFi-GAN [178]	Mel-Spectrogram	NAR	GAN	Hybrid/CNN
	VocGAN [416]	Mel-Spectrogram	NAR	GAN	CNN
	GED [97]	Linguistic Feature	NAR	GAN	CNN
	Fre-GAN [164]	Mel-Spectrogram	NAR	GAN	CNN
<b>VAE</b>	Wave-VAE [274]	Mel-Spectrogram	NAR	VAE	CNN
<b>Diffusion</b>	WaveGrad [41]	Mel-Spectrogram	NAR	Diffusion	Hybrid/CNN
	DiffWave [180]	Mel-Spectrogram	NAR	Diffusion	Hybrid/CNN
	PriorGrad [189]	Mel-Spectrogram	NAR	Diffusion	Hybrid/CNN
	SpecGrad [176]	Mel-Spectrogram	NAR	Diffusion	Hybrid/CNN

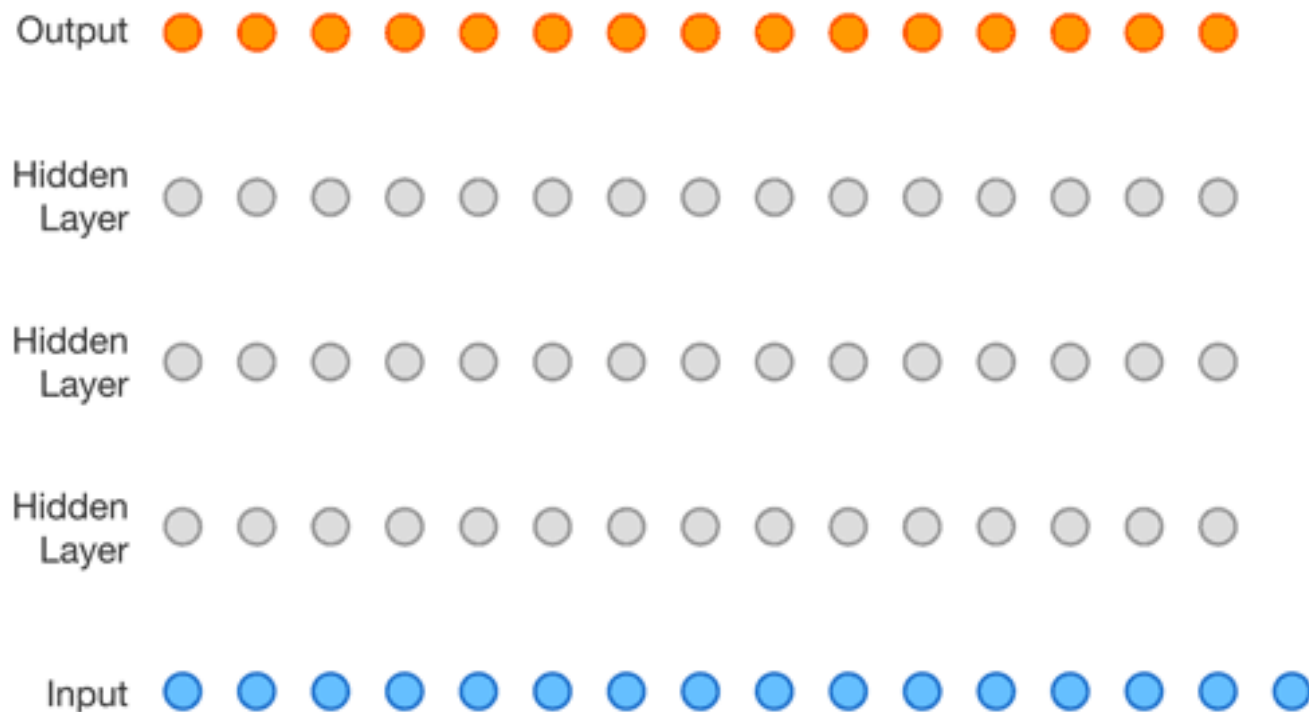
# Deep Generative Models—Examples in End-to-End TTS

- Autoregressive models
  - Char2Wav
- Flow
  - ClariNet, Wave-Tacotron
- GAN
  - FastSpeech 2s, EATS
- Diffusion
  - WaveGrad 2
- VAE+Flow+GAN
  - VITS, NaturalSpeech

Model	One-Stage Training	AR/NAR	Modeling	Architecture
Char2Wav [321]	N	AR	Seq2Seq	RNN
ClariNet [275]	N	AR	Flow	CNN
FastSpeech 2s [298]	Y	NAR	GAN	Self-Att/CNN
EATS [70]	Y	NAR	GAN	CNN
Wave-Tacotron [392]	Y	AR	Flow	CNN/RNN/Hybrid
EfficientTTS-Wav [241]	Y	NAR	GAN	CNN
VITS [163]	Y	NAR	VAE+Flow+GAN	CNN/Self-Att/Hybrid
NaturalSpeech [351]	Y	NAR	VAE+Flow+GAN	CNN/Self-Att/Hybrid

# Autoregressive Model for TTS

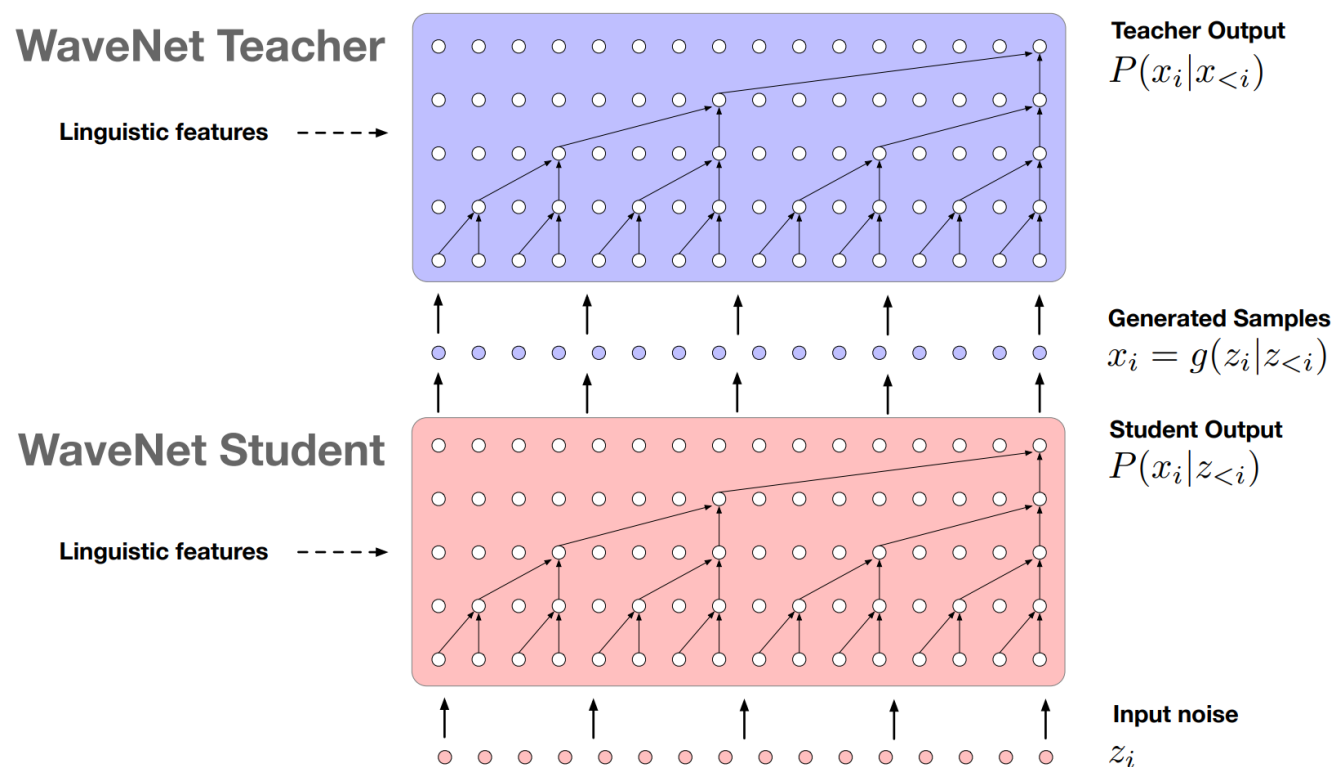
- WaveNet: autoregressive model with dilated causal convolution



- Other works
  - Acoustic model: Tacotron 1/2, DeepVoice 3, TransformerTTS
  - Vocoder: SampleRNN, WaveRNN

# Flow for TTS

- Parallel WaveNet (AR)
  - Knowledge distillation: Student (IAF), Teacher (AF)
  - Combine the best of both worlds
    - Parallel inference of IAF student
    - Parallel training of AF teacher
- Other works
  - ClariNet



# Flow for TTS

- WaveGlow (Bipartite)
  - Flow based transformation

$$z = f_k^{-1} \circ f_{k-1}^{-1} \circ \dots \circ f_0^{-1}(x) \quad x = f_0 \circ f_1 \circ \dots \circ f_k(z) \quad z \sim \mathcal{N}(z; 0, I)$$

- Affine Coupling Layer

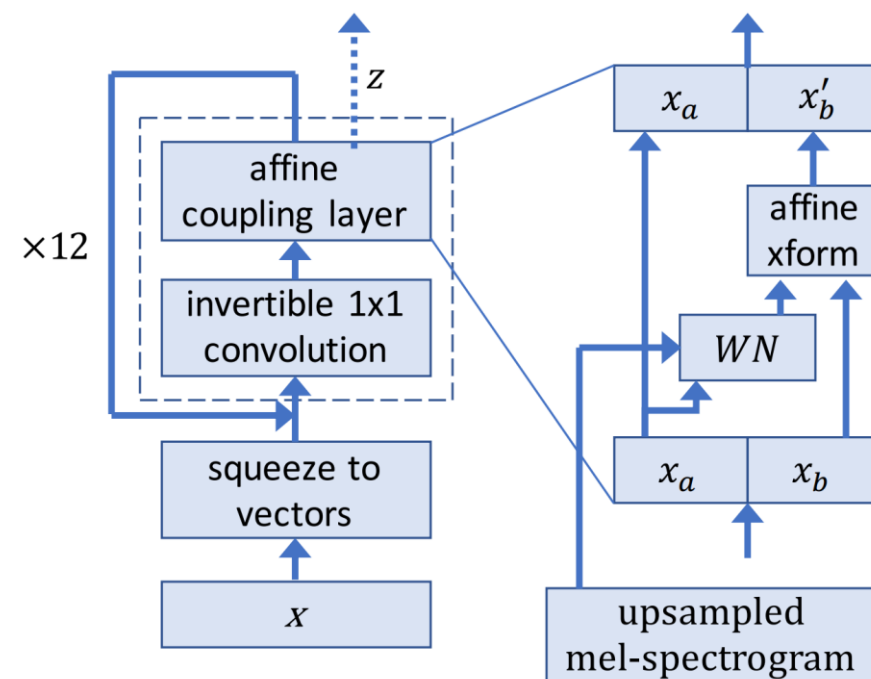
$$\mathbf{x}_a, \mathbf{x}_b = \text{split}(\mathbf{x})$$

$$(\log s, \mathbf{t}) = WN(\mathbf{x}_a, \text{mel-spectrogram})$$

$$\mathbf{x}_b' = s \odot \mathbf{x}_b + \mathbf{t}$$

$$f_{\text{coupling}}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{concat}(\mathbf{x}_a, \mathbf{x}_b')$$

- Other works
  - FloWaveNet, WaveFlow



# Flow for TTS

- Glow-TTS (Bipartite) for acoustic model

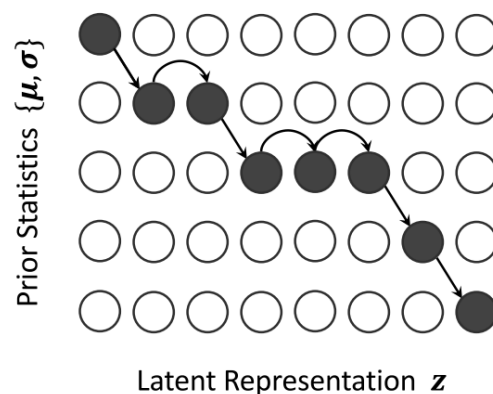
- Log likelihood

$$\log P_X(x|c) = \log P_Z(z|c) + \log \left| \det \frac{\partial f_{dec}^{-1}(x)}{\partial x} \right|$$

- Prior is learnt from phoneme text

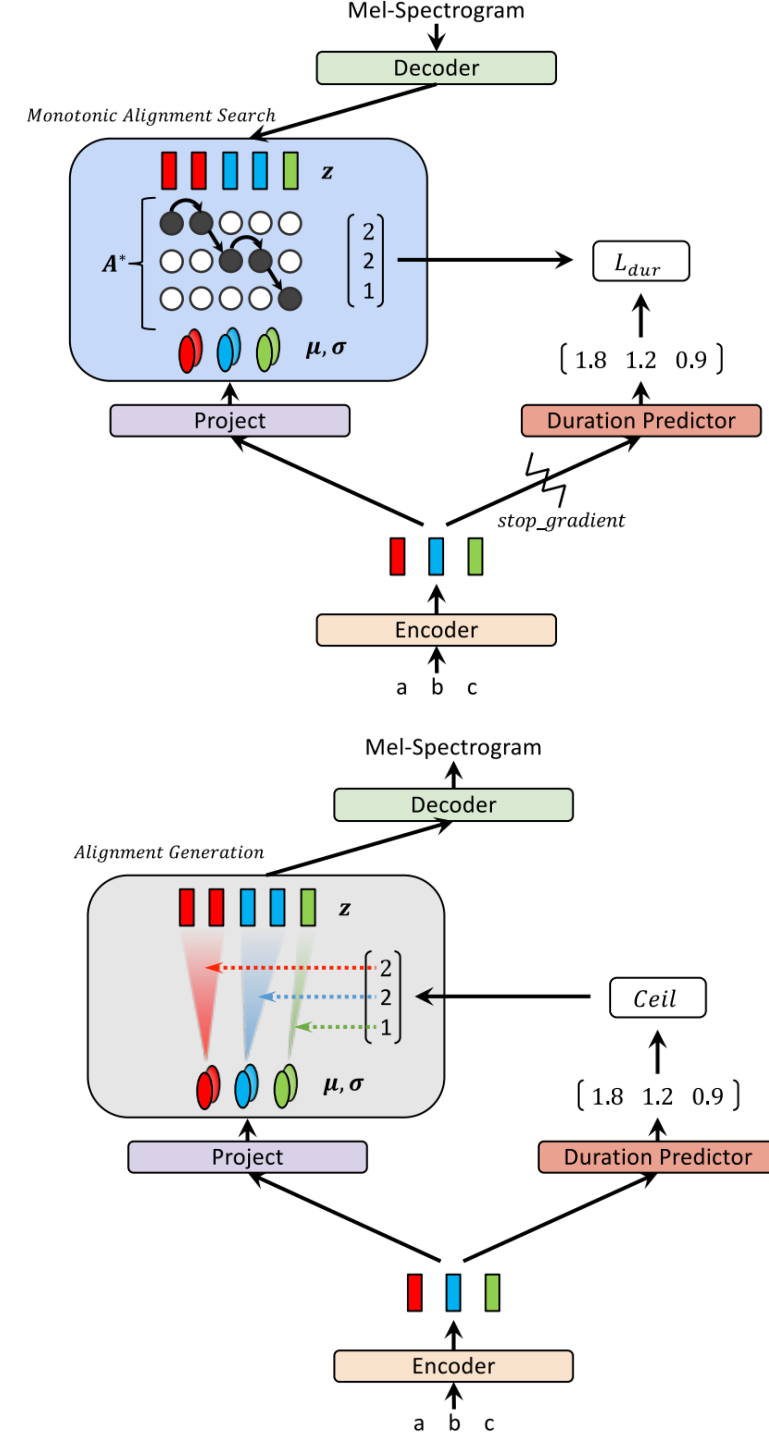
$$\log P_Z(z|c; \theta, A) = \sum_{j=1}^{T_{mel}} \log \mathcal{N}(z_j; \mu_{A(j)}, \sigma_{A(j)})$$

- Alignment A is obtained by monotonic alignment search



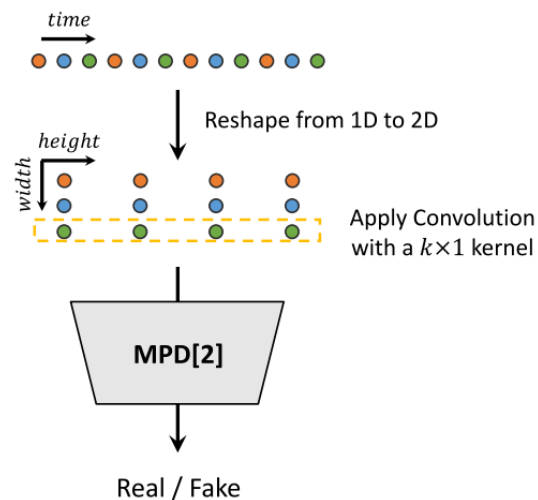
- Other works

- FlowTTS, Flowtron



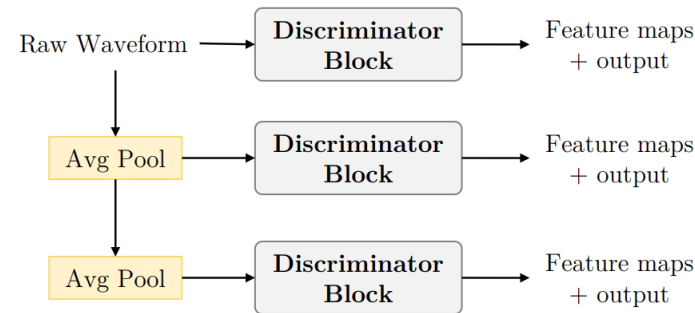
# GAN for TTS

- With specific designs on generators, discriminators, and loss functions
  - Multi-scale discriminator in MelGAN
  - Multi-period discriminator in HiFiGAN



- Other works
  - Para. WaveGAN, BigVGAN
  - FastSpeech 2s, EATS

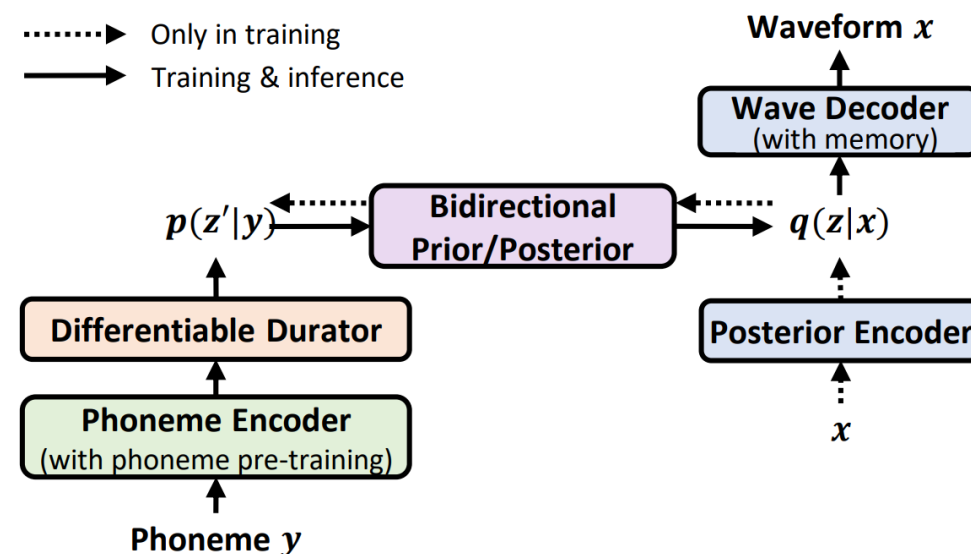
GAN	Generator	Discriminator	Loss
WaveGAN [68]	DCGAN [287]	/	WGAN-GP [97]
GAN-TTS [23]	/	Random Window D	Hinge-Loss GAN [198]
MelGAN [178]	/	Multi-Scale D	LS-GAN [231] Feature Matching Loss [182]
Par. WaveGAN [402]	WaveNet [254]	/	LS-GAN, Multi-STFT Loss
HiFi-GAN [174]	Multi-Receptive Field Fusion	Multi-Period D, Multi-Scale D	LS-GAN, STFT Loss, Feature Matching Loss
VocGAN [408]	Multi-Scale G	Hierarchical D	LS-GAN, Multi-STFT Loss, Feature Matching Loss
GED [96]	/	Random Window D	Hinge-Loss GAN, Repulsive loss



# VAE + Flow + GAN for TTS

- NaturalSpeech for fully end-to-end TTS
  - Reconstruction:  $z \sim q(z|x), x \sim p(x|z)$
  - Prior prediction:  $z \sim p(z|y)$
  - Solutions in NaturalSpeech
    - Phoneme encoder with phoneme pre-training
    - Differentiable durator
    - Bidirectional prior/posterior
    - Memory based VAE

- Other works
  - VITS, Glow-WaveGAN



Human Recordings	NaturalSpeech	Wilcoxon p-value
$4.58 \pm 0.13$	$4.56 \pm 0.13$	0.7145

Human Recordings	NaturalSpeech	Wilcoxon p-value
0	-0.01	0.6902

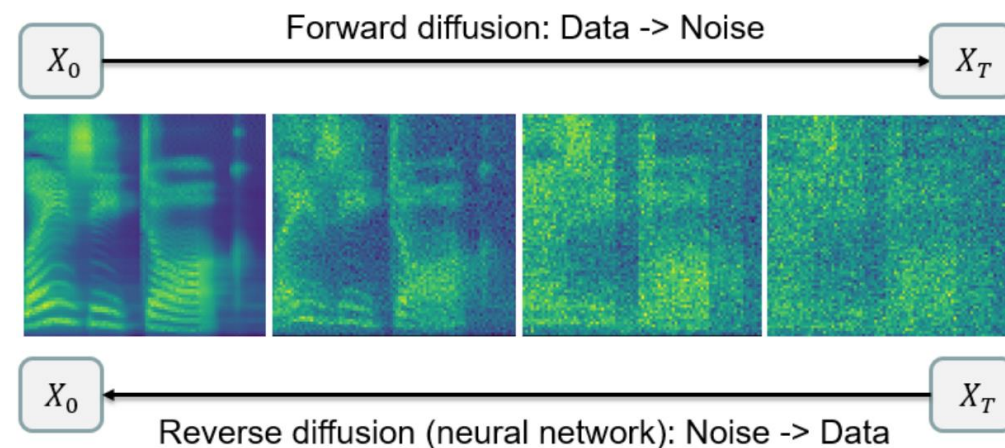
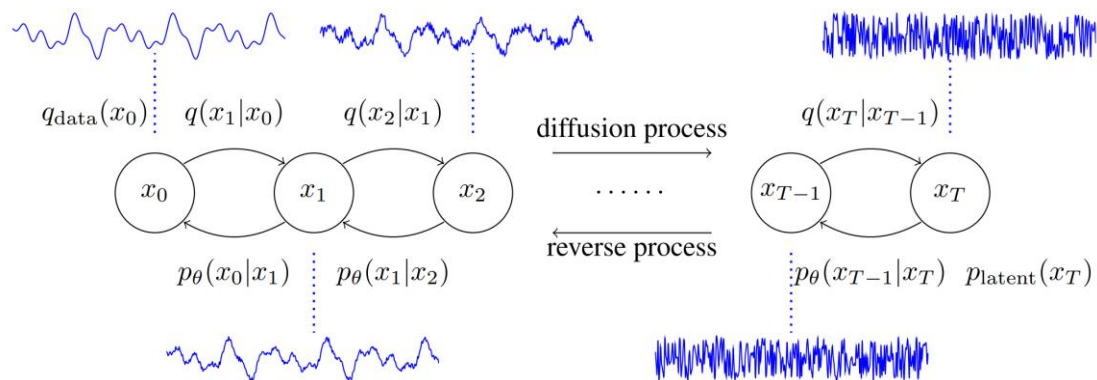
  

System	MOS	CMOS
FastSpeech 2 [18] + HiFiGAN [17]	$4.32 \pm 0.15$	-0.33
Glow-TTS [13] + HiFiGAN [17]	$4.34 \pm 0.13$	-0.26
Grad-TTS [14] + HiFiGAN [17]	$4.37 \pm 0.13$	-0.24
VITS [15]	$4.43 \pm 0.13$	-0.20
NaturalSpeech	$4.56 \pm 0.13$	0



# Diffusion for TTS

- Vocoder: DiffWave, WaveGrad
- Acoustic model: Diff-TTS, Grad-TTS

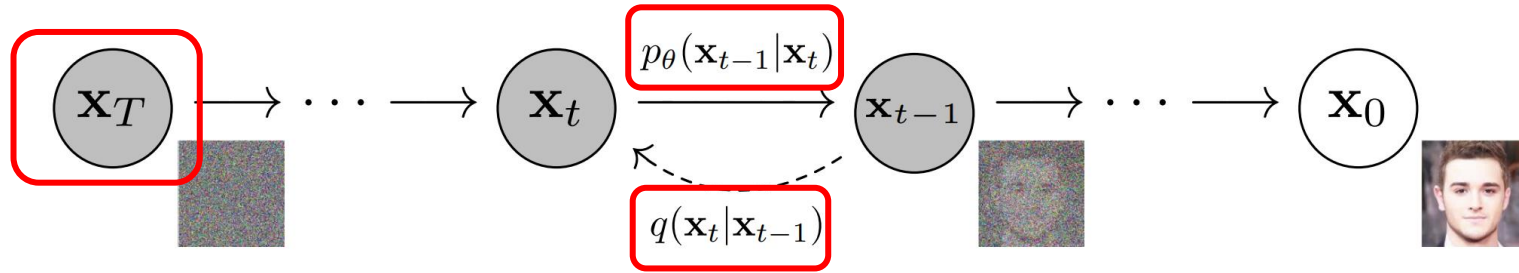


# Diffusion—Speedup

- Sampling steps, latency

System	RTF
FastSpeech 2 [18] + HiFiGAN [17]	0.011
Glow-TTS [13] + HiFiGAN [17]	0.021
Grad-TTS [14] (1000) + HiFiGAN [17]	4.120
Grad-TTS [14] (10) + HiFiGAN [17]	0.082
VITS [15]	0.014
NaturalSpeech	0.013

# Diffusion—Speedup



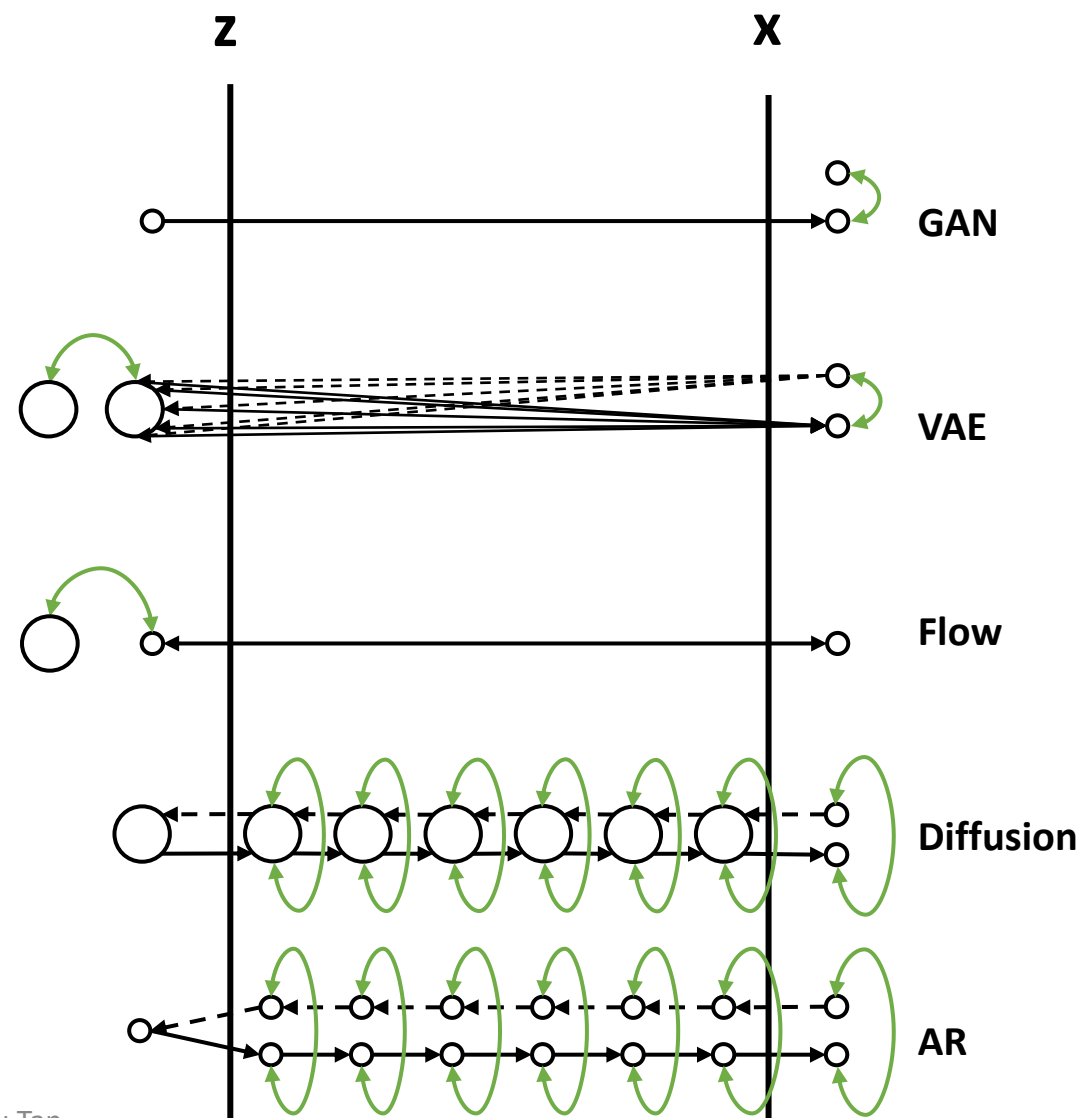
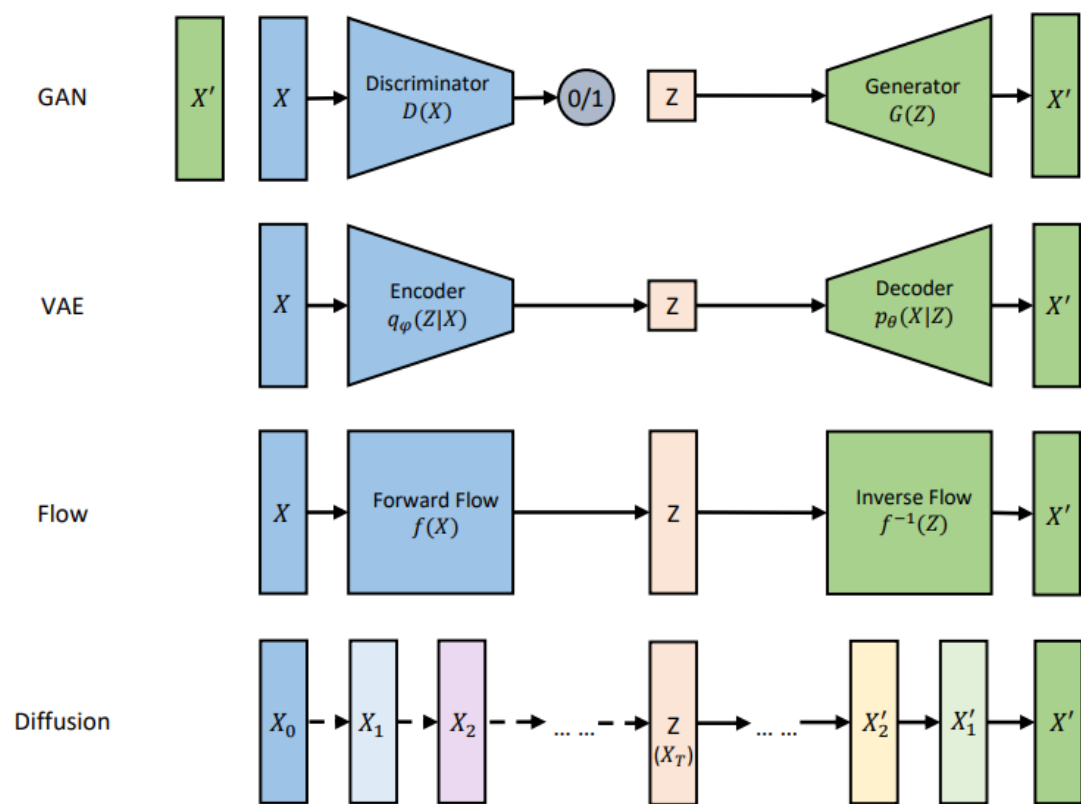
- **Prior distribution:** standard Gaussian  $\rightarrow$  non-standard, e.g., PriorGrad, SpecGrad, Grad-TTS, DDGM
- **Forward process:** fixed  $\rightarrow$  learnable, e.g., Variational diffusion models
- **Diffusion + X**
  - Diffusion + GAN: e.g., DiffusionGAN
  - Diffusion + VAE: e.g., Latent Diffusion
  - Diffusion + KD: e.g., Progressive Distillation
- **Diffusion assumption:** Markovian  $\rightarrow$  non-Markovian: e.g., DDIM
- **Reverse process** (noise levels, schedule, or variance): fixed  $\rightarrow$  learnable, e.g., BDDM, Improved DDPM
- **SDE/ODE solver:** e.g., Euler-Maruyama, Runge-Kutta, adaptive-size SDE, PNDM, DPM-Solver, DPM-Solver++

# Outline

- Background
  - Text-to-Speech Synthesis
  - Deep Generative Models
- **Deep Generative Models for TTS**
  - AR/Flow/GAN/VAE/Diffusion based TTS Models
  - Comparisons and Analyses
- Summary and Outlook

# Deep Generative Models—Comparisons

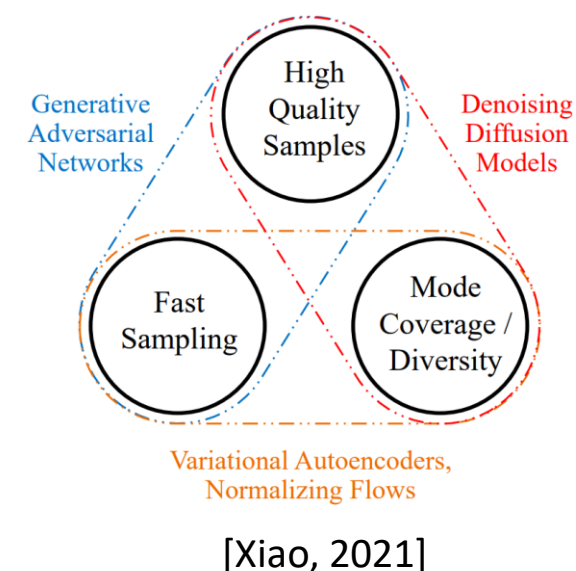
- Find a  $z$  and transform it into  $x$



# Deep Generative Models—Comparisons

- Pros and cons

Generative Models	AR Flow		VAE Diffusion		SMLD	SDE ODE		GAN
High-Quality	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Fast Sampling	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	N	Y
Mode Diversity	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Likelihood Estimation	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	N	N	Y	N
Latent Manipulation	N	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*
Error Propagation	Y	N*	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Stable Training	Y	Y	N*	Y	Y	Y	Y	N



# Outline

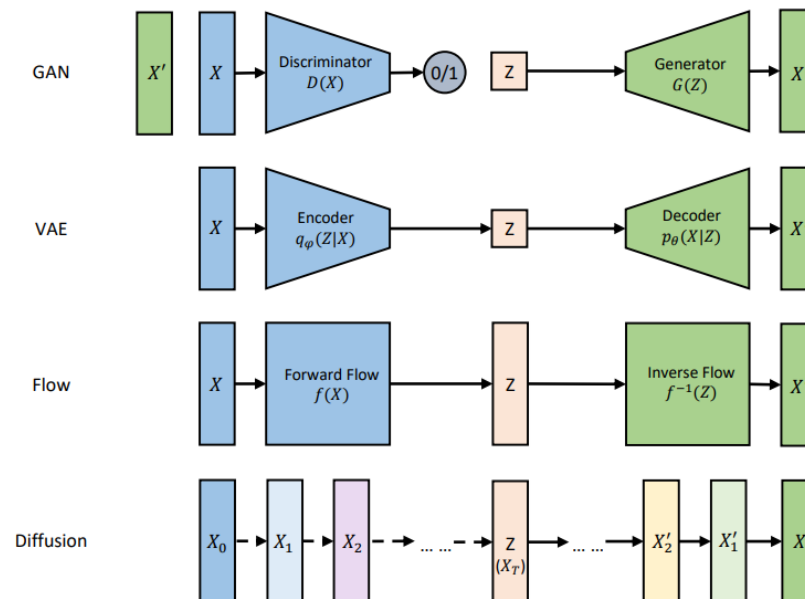
- Background
  - Text-to-Speech Synthesis
  - Deep Generative Models
- Deep Generative Models for TTS
  - AR/Flow/GAN/VAE/Diffusion based TTS Models
  - Comparisons and Analyses
- **Summary and Outlook**

# Summary

- Text-to-speech synthesis is a typical conditional data generation task
  - Suffer from one-to-many mapping

Text  $\xrightarrow{\text{duration, pitch, sound volume, prosody, speaker, style, emotion, etc}}$  Speech

- Usually handled by deep generative models
  - AR/Flow/GAN/VAE/Diffusion models





# Outlook—Exploiting Generative Models

- Considering the pros and cons of deep generative models, can we fully exploit them in different scenarios?

Generative Models	AR	Flow	VAE	Diffusion	SMLD	SDE	ODE	GAN
High-Quality	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Fast Sampling	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	N	Y
Mode Diversity	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Likelihood Estimation	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	N	N	Y	N
Latent Manipulation	N	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*
Error Propagation	Y	N*	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Stable Training	Y	Y	N*	Y	Y	Y	Y	N

- Find a killer application for each generative model?
- Will a specific kind of generative model take all? e.g., diffusion model

# Outlook—Exploiting Generative Models

- Understanding diffusion models
  - Why diffusion models are better than other models?
  - Difference between hierarchical VAEs and continuous normalizing flows
- Improving diffusion models
  - What is the limit of sampling steps? Is one step meaningful?
  - New diffusion or denoising process? e.g., non-diffusion
  - New training procedure?

# Outlook—Exploring Generative Models

- Considering the pros and cons of deep generative models, can we design brand-new models that inherit the advantages and avoid the disadvantages?

Generative Models	AR	Flow	VAE	Diffusion	SMLD	SDE	ODE	GAN
High-Quality	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Fast Sampling	N	Y*	Y	N	N	N	N	Y
Mode Diversity	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Likelihood Estimation	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	N	N	Y	N
Latent Manipulation	N	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*
Error Propagation	Y	N*	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Stable Training	Y	Y	N*	Y	Y	Y	Y	N

- e.g., AR + Flow, VAE + GAN, VAE + Flow, Diffusion + GAN, Diffusion + VAE
- Can we stop borrowing models from computer vision, invent something new for speech?

# The Landscape of Deep Generative Learning



Variational  
Autoencoders

Autoregressive  
Models

Normalizing  
Flows

Generative  
Adversarial Networks

Energy-based  
Models

Denoising  
Diffusion Models

# Reference

See the references in:

*A Survey on Neural Speech Synthesis*

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2106.15561.pdf>

---

## A Survey on Neural Speech Synthesis

---

**Xu Tan\*, Tao Qin, Frank Soong, Tie-Yan Liu**  
{xuta, taoqin, frankkps, tyliu}@microsoft.com  
Microsoft Research Asia

<https://speechresearch.github.io/>

## Speech Research

This page lists some speech related research at Microsoft Research Asia, conducted by the team led by [Xu Tan](#). The research topics cover text to speech, singing voice synthesis, music generation, automatic speech recognition, etc. Some research are open-sourced via [NeuralSpeech](#) and [Muzic](#).

We are hiring researchers on speech, NLP, and deep learning at Microsoft Research Asia. Please contact xuta@microsoft.com if you have interests.

[Machine Translation with Speech-Aware Length Control for Video Dubbing](#)

August 30, 2022

[BinauralGrad: A Two-Stage Conditional Diffusion Probabilistic Model for Binaural Audio Synthesis](#)

May 29, 2022

[NaturalSpeech: End-to-End Text to Speech Synthesis with Human-Level Quality](#)

May 03, 2022

[Mixed-Phoneme BERT: Improving BERT with Mixed Phoneme and Sup-Phoneme Representations for Text to Speech](#)

April 02, 2022

[AdaSpeech 4: Adaptive Text to Speech in Zero-Shot Scenarios](#)

March 06, 2022

[Speech-T: Transducer for Text to Speech and Beyond](#)

October 06, 2021

[TeleMelody: Lyric-to-Melody Generation with a Template-Based Two-Stage Method](#)

# A book on TTS

A book on “*Neural Text-to-Speech Synthesis*”, by Xu Tan

will be published soon!

Watch this repo for update: <https://github.com/tts-tutorial/book>

# We are hiring

- Research FTE (social/campus hire)
  - Speech/Audio/Music Generation, Machine Translation, etc
  - Digital Human Generation (Talking Face Generation, 3D Synthesis, etc)
  - Generative Models (AR, GAN, Flow, VAE, Diffusion, etc)
  - Machine Learning, Deep Learning
- Research Intern
  - Speech, Music, Machine Translation, Digital Human Generation, Machine Learning

Machine Learning Group, Microsoft Research Asia

Xu Tan [xuta@microsoft.com](mailto:xuta@microsoft.com)

# Thank You!

Xu Tan/谭旭

Principal Research Manager @ Microsoft Research Asia

[xuta@microsoft.com](mailto:xuta@microsoft.com)

[tan-xu.github.io](https://tan-xu.github.io)

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/people/xuta/>

<https://speechresearch.github.io/>