Adapting to Unknown Low-Dimensional Structures in Score-Based Diffusion Models

Gen Li[*]
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
genli@cuhk.edu.hk

Yuling Yan[*]
University of Wisconsin-Madison
yuling.yan@wisc.edu

Abstract

This paper investigates score-based diffusion models when the underlying target distribution is concentrated on or near low-dimensional manifolds within the higher-dimensional space in which they formally reside, a common characteristic of natural image distributions. Despite previous efforts to understand the data generation process of diffusion models, existing theoretical support remains highly suboptimal in the presence of low-dimensional structure, which we strengthen in this paper. For the popular Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Model (DDPM), we find that the dependency of the error incurred within each denoising step on the ambient dimension d is in general unavoidable. We further identify a unique design of coefficients that yields a converges rate at the order of $O(k^2/\sqrt{T})$ (up to log factors), where k is the intrinsic dimension of the target distribution and T is the number of steps. This represents the first theoretical demonstration that the DDPM sampler can adapt to unknown low-dimensional structures in the target distribution, highlighting the critical importance of coefficient design. All of this is achieved by a novel set of analysis tools that characterize the algorithmic dynamics in a more deterministic manner.

1 Introduction

Score-based diffusion models are a class of generative models that have gained prominence in the field of machine learning and artificial intelligence for their ability to generate high-quality new data instances from complex distributions, such as images, audio, and text [23, 11, 25, 24, 9]. These models operate by gradually transforming noise into samples from the target distribution through a denoising process guided by pre-trained neural networks that approximate the score functions. In practice, score-based diffusion models have demonstrated remarkable performance in generating realistic and diverse content across various domains [19, 20, 21, 7], achieving state-of-the-art performance in generative AI.

1.1 Diffusion models

The development of score-based diffusion models is deeply rooted in the theory of stochastic processes. At a high level, we consider a forward process:

$$X_0 \overset{\text{add noise}}{\longrightarrow} X_1 \overset{\text{add noise}}{\longrightarrow} \cdots \overset{\text{add noise}}{\longrightarrow} X_T, \tag{1.1}$$

which draws a sample from the target data distribution (i.e., $X_0 \sim p_{\mathsf{data}}$), then progressively diffuses it to Gaussian noise over time. The key aspect of the diffusion model is to construct a reverse process:

$$Y_T \overset{\text{denoise}}{\longrightarrow} Y_{T-1} \overset{\text{denoise}}{\longrightarrow} \cdots \overset{\text{denoise}}{\longrightarrow} Y_0 \tag{1.2}$$

---

[*]Equal contribution. Corresponding author: Yuling Yan (Email: yuling.yan@wisc.edu).

satisfying $Y_t \overset{\mathrm{d}}{\approx} X_t$ for all t, which starts with pure Gaussian noise (i.e., $Y_T \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_d)$) and gradually converts it back to a new sample Y_0 sharing a similar distribution to p_{data}.

The classical results on time-reversal of SDEs [1, 10] provide the theoretical foundation for the above task. Consider a continuous time diffusion process:

$$\mathrm{d}X_t = -\frac{1}{2}\beta(t)X_t\mathrm{d}t + \sqrt{\beta(t)}\mathrm{d}W_t \quad (0 \leq t \leq T), \qquad X_0 \sim p_{\mathsf{data}} \qquad (1.3)$$

for some function $\beta : [0, T] \to \mathbb{R}^+$, where $(W_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ is a standard Brownian motion. For a wide range of functions β, this process converges exponentially fast to a Gaussian distribution. Let $p_{X_t}(\cdot)$ be the density of X_t. One can construct a reverse-time SDE:

$$\mathrm{d}\widetilde{Y}_t = -\frac{1}{2}\beta(t)\big(\widetilde{Y}_t + 2\nabla \log p_{X_{T-t}}(\widetilde{Y}_t)\big) + \sqrt{\beta(t)}\mathrm{d}Z_t \quad (0 \leq t \leq T), \qquad \widetilde{Y}_0 \sim p_{X_T}, \quad (1.4)$$

where $(Z_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ is another standard Brownian motion. Define $Y_t = \widetilde{Y}_{T-t}$. It is well-known that $X_t \overset{\mathrm{d}}{=} Y_t$ for all $0 \leq t \leq T$. Here, $\nabla \log p_{X_t}$ is called the score function for the law of X_t, which is not explicitly known.

The above result motivates the following paradigm: we can construct the forward process (1.1) by time-discretizing the diffusion process (1.3), and construct the reverse process (1.2) by discretizing the reverse-time SDE (1.4) and learning the score functions from the data. This approach leads to the popular DDPM sampler [11, 16]. Although the idea of the DDPM sampler is rooted in the theory of SDEs, the algorithm and analysis presented in this paper do not require any prior knowledge of SDEs.

This paper examines the accuracy of the DDPM sampler by establishing the proximity between the output distribution of the reverse process and the target data distribution. Since these two distributions are identical in the continuous time limit with perfect score estimation, the performance of the DDPM sampler is influenced by two sources of error: discretization error (due to a finite number of steps) and score estimation error (due to imperfect estimation of the scores). This paper views the score estimation step as a black box (often addressed by training a large neural network) and focuses on understanding how time discretization and imperfect score estimation affect the accuracy of the DDPM sampler.

1.2 Inadequacy of existing results

The past few years have witnessed a significant interest in studying the convergence guarantees for the DDPM sampler [4, 6, 3, 14, 13]. To facilitate discussion, we consider an ideal setting with perfect score estimation. In this context, existing results can be interpreted as follows: to achieve ε-accuracy (i.e., the total variation distance between the target and the output distribution is smaller than ε), it suffices to take a number of steps exceeding the order of $\mathrm{poly}(d)/\varepsilon^2$ (ignoring logarithm factors), where d is the problem dimension. Among these results, the state-of-the-art is given by [3], which achieved linear dependency on the dimension d.

However, there seems to be a significant gap between the practical performance of the DDPM sampler and the existing theory. For example, for two widely used image datasets, CIFAR-10 (dimension $d = 32 \times 32 \times 3$) and ImageNet (dimension $d \geq 64 \times 64 \times 3$), it is known that 50 and 250 steps (also known as NFE, the number of function evaluations) are sufficient to generate good samples [16, 9]. This is in stark contrast with the existing theoretical guarantees discussed above, which suggest that the number of steps T should exceed the order of the dimension d to achieve good performance.

Empirical evidence suggests that the distributions of natural images are concentrated on or near low-dimensional manifolds within the higher-dimensional space in which they formally reside [22, 18]. In view of this, a reasonable conjecture is that the convergence rate of the DDPM sampler actually depends on the intrinsic dimension rather than the ambient dimension. However, the theoretical understanding of diffusion models when the support of the target data distribution has a low-dimensional structure remains vastly under-explored. As some recent attempts, [8] established the first convergence guarantee under the Wasserstein-1 metric. However, their error bound has linear dependence on the ambient dimension d and exponential dependence on the diameter of the low-dimensional manifold. Another line of works [5, 26, 17] focused mainly on score estimation with properly chosen neural networks that exploit the low-dimensional structure, which is also different from our main focus.

1.3 Our contributions

In light of the large theory-practice gap and the insufficiency of prior results, this paper takes a step towards understanding the performance of the DDPM sampler when the target data distribution has low-dimensional structure. Our main contributions can be summarized as follows:

- We show that, with a particular coefficient design, the error of the DDPM sampler, evaluated by the total variation distance between the laws of X_1 and Y_1, is upper bounded by

$$\frac{k^2}{\sqrt{T}} + \sqrt{\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \mathbb{E}\big[\, \|s_t(X_t) - s_t^\star(X_t)\|_2^2 \,\big]},$$

  up to some logarithmic factors, where k is the intrinsic dimension of the target data distribution (which will be rigorously defined later), and $s_t^\star$ (resp. s_t) is the true (resp. learned) score function at each step. The first term represents the discretization error (which vanishes as the number of steps T goes to infinity), while the second term should be interpreted as the score matching error. This bound is nearly dimension-free — the ambient dimension d only appears in logarithmic terms.

- We also show that our choice of the coefficients is, in some sense, the unique schedule that does not incur discretization error proportional to the ambient dimension d at each step. This is in sharp contrast with the general setting without a low-dimensional structure, where a fairly wide range of coefficient designs can lead to convergence rates with polynomial dependence on d. Additionally, this confirms the observation that the performance of the DDPM sampler can be improved through carefully designing coefficients [2, 16].

As far as we know, this paper provides the first theory demonstrating the capability of the DDPM sampler in adapting to unknown low-dimensional structures.

2 Problem set-up

In this section, we introduce some preliminaries and key ingredients for the diffusion model and the DDPM sampler.

Forward process. We consider the forward process (1.1) of the form

$$X_t = \sqrt{1 - \beta_t} X_{t-1} + \sqrt{\beta_t} W_t \quad (t = 1, \dots, T), \qquad X_0 \sim p_{\mathsf{data}}, \tag{2.1}$$

where $W_1, \dots, W_T \overset{\mathrm{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, I_d)$, and the learning rates $\beta_t \in (0, 1)$ will be specified later. For each $t \geq 1$, X_t has a probability density function (PDF) supported on $\mathbb{R}^d$, and we will use q_t to denote the law or PDF of X_t. Let $\alpha_t := 1 - \beta_t$ and $\overline{\alpha}_t := \prod_{i=1}^{t} \alpha_i$. It is straightforward to check that

$$X_t = \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t} X_0 + \sqrt{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}\, \overline{W}_t \qquad \text{where} \qquad \overline{W}_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_d). \tag{2.2}$$

We will choose the learning rates β_t to ensure that $\overline{\alpha}_T$ becomes vanishingly small, such that $q_T \approx \mathcal{N}(0, I_d)$.

Score functions. The key ingredients for constructing the reverse process with the DDPM sampler are the score functions $s_t^\star : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$ associated with each q_t, defined as

$$s_t^\star(x) := \nabla \log q_t(x) \quad (t = 1, \dots, T).$$

These score functions are not explicitly known. Here we assume access to an estimate $s_t(\cdot)$ for each $s_t^\star(\cdot)$, and we define the averaged ℓ_2 score estimation error as

$$\varepsilon_{\mathsf{score}}^2 := \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \mathbb{E}_{X \sim q_t} \left[\|s_t(X) - s_t^\star(X)\|_2^2 \right].$$

This quantity captures the effect of imperfect score estimation in our theory.

The DDPM sampler. To construct the reverse process (1.2), we use the DDPM sampler

$$Y_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left(Y_t + \eta_t s_t(Y_t) + \sigma_t Z_t \right) \quad (t = T, \ldots, 1), \qquad Y_T \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_d) \tag{2.3}$$

where $Z_1, \ldots, Z_T \overset{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, I_d)$. Here $\eta_t, \sigma_t > 0$ are the hyperparameters that play an important role in the performance of the DDPM sampler, especially when the target data distribution has low-dimensional structure. As we will see, our theory suggests the following choice

$$\eta_t^\star = 1 - \alpha_t \qquad \text{and} \qquad \sigma_t^{\star 2} = \frac{(1 - \alpha_t)(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}. \tag{2.4}$$

For each $1 \leq t \leq T$, we will use p_t to denote the law or PDF of Y_t.

Target data distribution. Let $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ be the support set of the target data distribution p_{data}, i.e., the smallest closed set $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ such that $p_{\text{data}}(C) = 1$. To allow for the greatest generality, we use the notion of ε-net and covering number (see e.g., [27]) to characterize the intrinsic dimension of $\mathcal{X}$. For any $\varepsilon > 0$, a set $\mathcal{N}_\varepsilon \subseteq \mathcal{X}$ is said to be an ε-net of $\mathcal{X}$ if for any $x \in \mathcal{X}$, there exists some x' in $\mathcal{N}_\varepsilon$ such that $\|x - x'\|_2 \leq \varepsilon$. The covering number $N_\varepsilon(\mathcal{X})$ is defined as the smallest possible cardinality of an ε-net of $\mathcal{X}$.

- **(Low-dimensionality)** Fix $\varepsilon = T^{-c_\varepsilon}$, where $c_\varepsilon > 0$ is some sufficiently large universal constant. We define the intrinsic dimension of $\mathcal{X}$ to be some quantity $k > 0$ such that

$$\log N_\varepsilon(\mathcal{X}) \leq C_{\text{cover}} k \log T$$

  for some constant $C_{\text{cover}} > 0$.

- **(Bounded support)** Suppose that there exists a universal constant $c_R > 0$ such that

$$\sup_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \|x\|_2 \leq R \qquad \text{where} \qquad R := T^{c_R}.$$

  Namely we allow polynomial growth of the diameter of $\mathcal{X}$ in the number of steps T.

Our setting allows $\mathcal{X}$ to be concentrated on or near low-dimensional manifolds, which is less stringent than assuming an exact low-dimensional structure. In fact, our definition of the intrinsic dimension k is the metric entropy of $\mathcal{X}$ (see e.g., [28]), which is widely used in statistics and learning theory to characterize the complexity of a set or a class. The low-dimensionality is also a concept of complexity, therefore it is natural to use covering number, or metric entropy to characterize the intrinsic dimension. As a sanity check, when $\mathcal{X}$ resides in an r-dimensional subspace of $\mathbb{R}^d$, a standard volume argument (see e.g., [27, Section 4.2.1]) gives $\log N_\varepsilon(\mathcal{X}) \asymp r \log(R/\varepsilon) \asymp r \log T$, suggesting that the intrinsic dimension k is of order r in this case. In addition, in applications like image generation, the data is naturally bounded, as pixel values are typically normalized within the range $[-1, 1]$. For example, the ℓ_2 norm of an image from the CIFAR dataset is typically below 60.

Learning rate schedule. Following [14], we adopt the following learning rate schedule

$$\beta_1 = \frac{1}{T^{c_0}}, \qquad \beta_{t+1} = \frac{c_1 \log T}{T} \min \left\{ \beta_1 \left(1 + \frac{c_1 \log T}{T} \right)^t, 1 \right\} \quad (t = 1, \ldots, T - 1) \tag{2.5}$$

for some sufficiently large constants $c_0, c_1 > 0$. This schedule is not unique – any other schedule of β_t satisfying the properties in Lemma 8 can lead to the same result in this paper.

3 Main results

We are now positioned to present our main theoretical guarantees for the DDPM sampler.

3.1 Convergence analysis

We first present the convergence theory for the DDPM sampler. The proof can be found in Section 4.

Theorem 1. *Suppose that we take the coefficients for the DDPM sampler (2.3) to be $\eta_t = \eta_t^\star$ and $\sigma_t = \sigma_t^\star$ (cf. (2.4)), then there exists some universal constant $C > 0$ such that*

$$\mathsf{TV}(q_1, p_1) \leq C \frac{(k + \log d)^2 \log^3 T}{\sqrt{T}} + C \varepsilon_{\mathsf{score}} \log T. \tag{3.1}$$

Several implications of Theorem 1 follow immediately. The two terms in (3.1) correspond to discretization error and score matching error, respectively. Assuming perfect score estimation (i.e., $\varepsilon_{\mathsf{score}} = 0$) for the moment, our error bound (3.1) suggests an iteration complexity of order k^4 / ε^2 (ignoring logarithmic factors) for achieving ε-accuracy, for any nontrivial target accuracy level $\varepsilon < 1$. In the absence of low-dimensional structure (i.e., $k \asymp d$), our result also recovers the iteration complexity in [4, 6, 3, 14] of order $\mathsf{poly}(d)/\varepsilon^2$.[2] This suggests that our choice of coefficients (2.4) allows the DDPM sampler to adapt to any potential (unknown) low-dimensional structure in the target data distribution, and remains a valid criterion in the most general settings. The score matching error in (3.1) scales proportionally with $\varepsilon_{\mathsf{score}}$, suggesting that the DDPM sampler is stable to imperfect score estimation.

3.2 Uniqueness of coefficient design

In this section, we examine the importance of the coefficient design in the adaptivity of the DDPM sampler to intrinsic low-dimensional structure. Our goal is to show that, unless the coefficients η_t, σ_t of the DDPM sampler (2.3) are chosen according to (2.4), discretization errors proportional to the ambient dimension d will emerge in each denoising step.

In this paper, as well as in most previous DDPM literature, the analysis on the error $\mathsf{TV}(q_1, p_1)$ usually starts with the following decomposition

$$\mathsf{TV}^2(q_1, p_1) \overset{(i)}{\leq} \frac{1}{2} \mathsf{KL}\left(p_{X_1} \| p_{Y_1}\right) \overset{(ii)}{\leq} \frac{1}{2} \mathsf{KL}\left(p_{X_1, \dots, X_T} \| p_{Y_1, \dots, Y_T}\right) \tag{3.2}$$

$$\overset{(iii)}{=} \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\mathsf{KL}\left(p_{X_T} \| p_{Y_T}\right)}_{\text{initialization error}} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t}\left[\mathsf{KL}\left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}\left(\cdot \,|\, x_t\right) \| p_{Y_{t-1}|Y_t}\left(\cdot \,|\, x_t\right)\right)\right]}_{\text{error incurred in the } (T+1-t)\text{-th denoising step}}.$$

Here step (i) follows from Pinsker's inequality, step (ii) utilizes from the data-processing inequality, while step (iii) uses the chain rule of KL divergence. We may interpret each term in the above decomposition as the error incurred in each denoising step. In fact, this decomposition is also closely related to the variational bound on the negative log-likelihood of the reverse process, which is the optimization target for training DDPM [11, 2, 16].

We consider a target distribution $p_{\mathsf{data}} = \mathcal{N}(0, I_k)$, where $I_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ is a diagonal matrix with $I_{i,i} = 1$ for $1 \leq i \leq k$ and $I_{i,i} = 0$ for $k + 1 \leq i \leq d$. This is a simple distribution over $\mathbb{R}^d$ that is supported on a k-dimensional subspace.[3] Our second theoretical result provides a lower bound for the error incurred in each denoising step for this target distribution. The proof can be found in Appendix B.

Theorem 2. *Consider the target distribution $p_{\mathsf{data}} = \mathcal{N}(0, I_k)$ and assume that $k \leq d/2$. For the DDPM sampler (2.3) with perfect score estimation (i.e., $s_t(\cdot) = s_t^\star(\cdot)$ for all t) and arbitrary coefficients $\eta_t, \sigma_t > 0$, we have*

$$\mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t}\left[\mathsf{KL}\left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}\left(\cdot \,|\, x_t\right) \| p_{Y_{t-1}|Y_t}\left(\cdot \,|\, x_t\right)\right)\right] \geq \frac{d}{4}\left(\eta_t - \eta_t^\star\right)^2 + \frac{d}{40}\left(\frac{\sigma_t^{\star 2}}{\sigma_t^2} - 1\right)^2$$

for each $2 \leq t \leq T$. See (2.4) for the definitions of $\eta_t^\star$ and $\sigma_t^\star$.

---

[2]Our result exhibits a quartic dimension dependency, which is worse than the linear dependency in [3]. This is mainly because we use a completely different analysis. It is not clear whether their analysis, which utilizes the SDE and stochastic localization toolbox, can tackle the problem with low-dimensional structure.

[3]Although this is not a bounded distribution, similar results can be established if we truncate $\mathcal{N}(0, I_k)$ at the radius $R = T^{c_R}$. However this is not essential and will make the result unnecessarily complicated, hence is omitted for clarity.

Theorem 2 shows that, unless we choose η_t and σ_t^2 to be identical (or exceedingly close) to $\eta_t^\star$ and $\sigma_t^{\star 2}$, the corresponding denoising step will incur an undesired error that is linear in the ambient dimension d. This highlights the critical importance of coefficient design for the DDPM sampler, especially when the target distribution exhibits a low-dimensional structure.

Finally, we would like to make note that the above argument only demonstrates the impact of coefficient design on an *upper bound* (3.2) of the error $\mathsf{TV}(q_1, p_1)$, rather than the error itself. It might be possible that a broader range of coefficients can lead to dimension-independent error bound like (3.1), while the upper bound (3.2) remains dimension-dependent. This calls for new analysis tools (since we cannot use the loose upper bound (3.1) in the analysis), which we leave for future works.

4   Analysis for the DDPM sampler (Proof of Theorem 1)

This section is devoted to establishing Theorem 1. The idea is to bound the error incurred in each denoising step as characterized in the decomposition (3.2), namely for each $2 \leq t \leq T$, we need to bound

$$\mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\mathsf{KL} \left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t} \left(\cdot \,|\, x_t \right) \,\|\, p_{Y_{t-1}|Y_t} \left(\cdot \,|\, x_t \right) \right) \right].$$

This requires connecting the two conditional distributions $p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}$ and $p_{Y_{t-1}|Y_t}$. It would be convenient to decouple the errors from time discretization and imperfect score estimation by introducing auxiliary random variables

$$Y_{t-1}^\star := \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left(Y_t + \eta_t^\star s_t^\star \left(Y_t \right) + \sigma_t^\star Z_t \right) \qquad (2 \leq t \leq T). \tag{4.1}$$

On a high level, for each $2 \leq t \leq T$, our proof consists of the following steps:

1. Identify a typical set $\mathcal{A}_t \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d$ such that $(X_t, X_{t-1}) \in \mathcal{A}_t$ with high probability.

2. Establish point-wise proximity $p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1} \,|\, x_t) \approx p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1} \,|\, x_t)$ for $(x_t, x_{t-1}) \in \mathcal{A}_t$.

3. Characterize the deviation of $p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}$ from $p_{Y_{t-1}|Y_t}$ caused by imperfect score estimation.

4.1   Step 1: identifying high-probability sets

For simplicity of presentation, we assume without loss of generality that $k \geq \log d$ throughout the proof.[4] Let $\{x_i^\star\}_{1 \leq i \leq N_\varepsilon}$ be an ε-net of $\mathcal{X}$, and let $\{\mathcal{B}_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq N_\varepsilon}$ be a disjoint ε-cover for $\mathcal{X}$ such that $x_i^\star \in \mathcal{B}_i$. Let

$$\mathcal{I} := \left\{ 1 \leq i \leq N_\varepsilon : \mathbb{P}(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i) \geq \exp(-C_1 k \log T) \right\},$$

$$\mathcal{G} := \left\{ \omega \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|\omega\|_2 \leq 2\sqrt{d} + \sqrt{C_1 k \log T}, \quad \text{and} \right.$$

$$\left. |(x_i^\star - x_j^\star)^\top \omega| \leq \sqrt{C_1 k \log T} \|x_i^\star - x_j^\star\|_2 \quad \text{for all} \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq N_\varepsilon \right\},$$

where $C_1 > 0$ is some sufficiently large universal constants. Then $\cup_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \mathcal{B}_i$ and $\mathcal{G}$ can be interpreted as high probability sets for the variable X_0 and a standard Gaussian random variable in $\mathbb{R}^d$. For each $t = 1, \ldots T$, we define a typical set for each X_t as follows

$$\mathcal{T}_t := \left\{ \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t} x_0 + \sqrt{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \omega : x_0 \in \cup_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \mathcal{B}_i, \omega \in \mathcal{G} \right\},$$

and a typical set for (X_t, X_{t-1}) jointly as follows

$$\mathcal{A}_t := \left\{ (x_t, x_{t-1}) : x_t \in \mathcal{T}_t, \frac{x_t - \sqrt{\alpha_t} x_{t-1}}{\sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}} \in \mathcal{G} \right\}.$$

The following lemma shows that $\mathcal{A}_t$ is indeed a high-probability set for (X_t, X_{t-1}).

Lemma 1. *Suppose that $C_1 \gg C_{\mathsf{cover}}$. Then for each $1 \leq t \leq T$ we have*

$$\mathbb{P} \left((X_t, X_{t-1}) \notin \mathcal{A}_t \right) \leq \exp \left(-\frac{C_1}{4} k \log T \right).$$

Proof. See Appendix A.3. $\square$

---

[4] If $k < \log d$, we may redefine $k := \log d$, which does not change the desired bound (3.1).

4.2 Step 2: connecting conditional densities $p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}$ and $p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}$

Given the definition of $Y_{t-1}^\star$ in (4.1), we can write down the conditional density $p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}$ as follows

$$p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1} \,|\, x_t) = \left(\frac{\alpha_t}{2\pi\sigma_t^{\star 2}}\right)^{d/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\|\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - x_t - \eta_t^\star s_t^\star(x_t)\|_2^2}{2\sigma_t^{\star 2}}\right). \qquad (4.2)$$

Next, we will investigate the conditional density $p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}$ for the forward process. For each $x_0 \in \mathcal{X}$, we define the shorthand notation

$$\widehat{x}_0 := \mathbb{E}\left[X_0 \,|\, X_t = x_t\right] = \int_{x_0} x_0 p_{X_0|X_t}(x_0 \,|\, x_t)\,\mathrm{d}x_0, \qquad (4.3)$$

and define a function $\Delta_{x_t,x_{t-1}} : \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}$ as follows

$$\Delta_{x_t,x_{t-1}}(x_0) := -\frac{\sqrt{\alpha_t}}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t}\left(\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - x_t\right)^\top(\widehat{x}_0 - x_0) - \frac{(1-\alpha_t)\overline{\alpha}_t}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}\|\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\|_2^2$$

$$- \frac{(1-\alpha_t)\sqrt{\alpha_t}}{(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}\left(x_t - \sqrt{\alpha_t}\widehat{x}_0\right)^\top(\widehat{x}_0 - x_0). \qquad (4.4)$$

The next lemma provides a characterization for $p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}$ that shows an explicit connection with $p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}$.

Lemma 2. *For any pair $(x_t, x_{t-1}) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d$, we have*

$$p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1} \,|\, x_t) = \left(\frac{\alpha_t}{2\pi\sigma_t^{\star 2}}\right)^{d/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\|\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - x_t - \eta_t^\star s_t^\star(x_t)\|_2^2}{2\sigma_t^{\star 2}}\right)$$

$$\cdot \int_{\mathcal{X}} \exp\left(\Delta_{x_t,x_{t-1}}(x_0)\right) p_{X_0|X_t}(x_0 \,|\, x_t)\,\mathrm{d}x_0.$$

Proof. See Appendix A.4. □

Taking Lemma 2 and (4.2) collectively yields

$$\frac{p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1} \,|\, x_t)}{p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1} \,|\, x_t)} = \int_{\mathcal{X}} \exp\left(\Delta_{x_t,x_{t-1}}(x_0)\right) p_{X_0|X_t}(x_0 \,|\, x_t)\,\mathrm{d}x_0,$$

which allows us to control the density ratio by the magnitude of $\Delta_{x_t,x_{t-1}}$. By a careful analysis of the above integral for all $(x_t, x_{t-1}) \in \mathcal{A}_t$, we show in the next lemma that the density ratio is uniformly close to 1 within the typical set $\mathcal{A}_t$.

Lemma 3. *Suppose that $T \gg k^2 \log^3 T$. Then there exists some universal constant $C_5 > 0$ such that, for any $2 \leq t \leq T$ and any $(x_t, x_{t-1}) \in \mathcal{A}_t$, we have*

$$\left|\frac{p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1} \,|\, x_t)}{p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1} \,|\, x_t)} - 1\right| \leq C_5 \frac{k^2 \log^3 T}{T} \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

Proof. See Appendix A.5. □

For (x_t, x_{t-1}) outside the typical set $\mathcal{A}_t$, the following lemma gives a coarse uniform bound for the density ratio, which is already sufficient for our later analysis.

Lemma 4. *Suppose that $T \gg 1$. Then for any $2 \leq t \leq T$ and any pair $(x_t, x_{t-1}) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d$, we have*

$$\left|\log\frac{p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1} \,|\, x_t)}{p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1} \,|\, x_t)}\right| \leq T^{c_0 + 2c_R}\left(\|\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - x_t\|_2 + \|x_t\|_2 + 1\right).$$

Proof. See Appendix A.6. □

Armed with Lemmas 3 and 4, we are ready to bound the expected KL divergence between the two conditional distributions $p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}$ and $p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}$.

4.3 Step 3: bounding the KL divergence between $p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}$ and $p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}$

We first decompose the expected KL divergence between $p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}$ and $p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}$ into

$$
\mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\mathsf{KL} \left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \| p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \right) \right]
$$
$$
= \left(\int_{\mathcal{A}_t} + \int_{\mathcal{A}_t^c} \right) p_{X_{t-1}|X_t} \left(x_{t-1} \mid x_t \right) \log \left(\frac{p_{X_{t-1}|X_t} \left(x_{t-1} \mid x_t \right)}{p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t} \left(x_{t-1} \mid x_t \right)} \right) p_{X_t} \left(x_t \right) \mathrm{d}x_{t-1} \mathrm{d}x_t
$$
$$
=: \Delta_{t,1} + \Delta_{t,2},
$$

where $\Delta_{t,1}$ and $\Delta_{t,2}$ are the integrals over $\mathcal{A}_t$ and $\mathcal{A}_t^c$. It boils down to bounding these two terms.

By a direct application of Lemma 3 together with the first-order Taylor expansion of $\log(x)$ around $x = 1$, one can easily show that $|\Delta_{t,1}| \lesssim k^2 \log^3(T)/T$. However this naive bound will lead to a vacuous final bound on $\mathsf{TV}(q_1, p_1)$, which depends on the sum of $\Delta_{t,1}$ over all $2 \leq t \leq T$ according to (3.2). By a more careful analysis, we achieve a better bound for $\Delta_{t,1}$, as shown in the following lemma.

Lemma 5. *Suppose that* $T \gg k^2 \log^3 T$. *Then for each* $2 \leq t \leq T$, *we have*

$$
|\Delta_{t,1}| \leq 2C_5^2 \frac{k^4 \log^6 T}{T^2}.
$$

Proof. See Appendix A.7. $\qquad\square$

For $\Delta_{t,2}$, we can employ the course bound in Lemma 4 to show that it is exponentially small.

Lemma 6. *Suppose that* $T \gg 1$. *Then for each* $2 \leq t \leq T$, *we have*

$$
|\Delta_{t,2}| \leq \exp \left(-\frac{C_1}{16} k \log T \right).
$$

Proof. See Appendix A.8. $\qquad\square$

By putting together Lemma 5 and Lemma 6, we achieve

$$
\mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\mathsf{KL} \left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \| p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \right) \right] = \Delta_{t,1} + \Delta_{t,2} \leq 3C_5^2 \frac{k^4 \log^6 T}{T^2} \tag{4.5}
$$

provided that T is sufficiently large.

4.4 Step 4: bounding the KL divergence between $p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}$ and $p_{Y_{t-1}|Y_t}$

Since our goal is to bound the expected KL divergence between $p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}$ and $p_{Y_{t-1}|Y_t}$, we also need to upper bound the following difference

$$
\mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\mathsf{KL} \left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \| p_{Y_{t-1}|Y_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \right) \right] - \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\mathsf{KL} \left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \| p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \right) \right]
$$
$$
= \int \left[\int p_{X_{t-1}|X_t} \left(x_{t-1} \mid x_t \right) \log \frac{p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t} \left(x_{t-1} \mid x_t \right)}{p_{Y_{t-1}|Y_t} \left(x_{t-1} \mid x_t \right)} \mathrm{d}x_{t-1} \right] q_t \left(x_t \right) \mathrm{d}x_t \tag{4.6}
$$
$$
= \int p_{X_{t-1}, X_t} \left(x_{t-1}, x_t \right) \left(-\frac{\alpha_t \| x_{t-1} - \mu_t^\star \left(x_t \right) \|_2^2}{2\sigma_t^{\star 2}} + \frac{\alpha_t \| x_{t-1} - \mu_t \left(x_t \right) \|_2^2}{2\sigma_t^{\star 2}} \right) \mathrm{d}x_{t-1} \mathrm{d}x_t
$$
$$
= \frac{\eta_t^{\star 2}}{2\sigma_t^{\star 2}} \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\| \varepsilon_t \left(x_t \right) \|_2^2 \right] + \frac{\eta_t^\star \sqrt{\alpha_t}}{\sigma_t^{\star 2}} \underbrace{\int p_{X_{t-1}, X_t} \left(x_{t-1}, x_t \right) \left(x_{t-1} - \mu_t^\star \left(x_t \right) \right)^\top \varepsilon_t \left(x_t \right) \mathrm{d}x_{t-1} \mathrm{d}x_t}_{=:K_t},
$$

where we define

$$
\varepsilon_t \left(x_t \right) := s_t^\star \left(x_t \right) - s_t \left(x_t \right), \quad \mu_t^\star \left(x_t \right) := \frac{x_t + \eta_t^\star s_t^\star \left(x_t \right)}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}}, \quad \mu_t \left(x_t \right) := \frac{x_t + \eta_t^\star s_t \left(x_t \right)}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}}. \tag{4.7}
$$

It then boils down to bounding K_t, which is presented in the following lemma.

Lemma 7. *Suppose that $T \gg k^2 \log^3 T$. Then we have*

$$|K_t| \leq 4C_5 \frac{k^2 \log^3 T}{T} \sqrt{\frac{c_1 \log T}{T}} \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t}^{1/2} \left[\| \varepsilon_t (x_t) \|_2^2 \right].$$

Proof. See Appendix A.8. $\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\square$

Hence we know that for $2 \leq t \leq T$,

$$\mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\mathsf{KL} \left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \| p_{Y_{t-1}|Y_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \right) \right] - \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\mathsf{KL} \left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \| p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \right) \right]$$

$$\leq \frac{(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1 - \alpha_t)}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)} \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\| \varepsilon_t (x_t) \|_2^2 \right] + 4C_5 \frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t} \frac{k^2 \log^3 T}{T} \sqrt{\frac{c_1 \log T}{T}} \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t}^{1/2} \left[\| \varepsilon_t (x_t) \|_2^2 \right]$$

$$\leq \frac{4c_1 \log T}{T} \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\| \varepsilon_t (x_t) \|_2^2 \right] + 8C_5 \frac{k^2 \log^3 T}{T} \sqrt{\frac{c_1 \log T}{T}} \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t}^{1/2} \left[\| \varepsilon_t (x_t) \|_2^2 \right]. \tag{4.8}$$

Here the first relation follows from Lemma 7 and (2.4); while the second relation follows from Lemma 8 and holds provided that T is sufficiently large.

4.5 Step 5: putting everything together

By taking (4.5) and (4.8) collectively, we have

$$\mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\mathsf{KL} \left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \| p_{Y_{t-1}|Y_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \right) \right]$$

$$\leq 3C_5^2 \frac{k^4 \log^6 T}{T^2} + \frac{4c_1 \log T}{T} \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\| \varepsilon_t (x_t) \|_2^2 \right] + 8C_5 \frac{k^2 \log^3 T}{T} \sqrt{\frac{c_1 \log T}{T}} \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t}^{1/2} \left[\| \varepsilon_t (x_t) \|_2^2 \right]$$

$$\leq 7C_5^2 \frac{k^4 \log^6 T}{T^2} + \frac{8c_1 \log T}{T} \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\| \varepsilon_t (x_t) \|_2^2 \right]. \tag{4.9}$$

Here the last relation follows from an application of the AM-GM inequality

$$8C_5 \frac{k^2 \log^3 T}{T} \sqrt{\frac{c_1 \log T}{T}} \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t}^{1/2} \left[\| \varepsilon_t (x_t) \|_2^2 \right] \leq \frac{4c_1 \log T}{T} \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\| \varepsilon_t (x_t) \|_2^2 \right] + 4C_5^2 \frac{k^4 \log^6 T}{T^2}.$$

Finally we conclude that

$$\mathsf{TV}^2 (q_1, p_1) \leq \mathsf{KL} \left(p_{X_T} \| p_{Y_T} \right) + \sum_{t=2}^{T} \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\mathsf{KL} \left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \| p_{Y_{t-1}|Y_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \right) \right]$$

$$\leq 8C_5^2 \frac{k^4 \log^6 T}{T} + \frac{8c_1 \log T}{T} \sum_{t=2}^{T} \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\| \varepsilon_t (x_t) \|_2^2 \right],$$

as claimed. Here the first relation follows from (3.2), while the second relation follows from the fact that $\mathsf{KL}(p_{X_T} \| p_{Y_T}) \leq T^{-100}$ provided that T is sufficiently large (see Lemma 10).

5 Simulation study

We conducted a simple simulation to compare our coefficient design (2.4) with another design

$$\eta_t = \sigma_t^2 = 1 - \alpha_t \qquad \text{for} \qquad 1 \leq t \leq T, \tag{5.1}$$

which has been widely adopted in theoretical analysis of diffusion model (see e.g., [14, 15]). We consider the degenerated Gaussian distribution $p_{\mathsf{data}} = \mathcal{N}(0, I_k)$ in Theorem 2 as a tractable example, and run the DDPM sampler with exact score functions (so that the error only comes from discretization). We fix the intrinsic dimension $k = 8$, and let the ambient dimension d grow from 10 to 10^3. We implement the experiment for four different number of steps $T \in \{100, 200, 500, 1000\}$. Instead of using the learning rate schedule (2.5), which is chosen mainly to facilitate analysis, we use the schedule in [11] that is commonly used in practice. Figure 1 displays the error, in terms of both the TV distance $\mathsf{TV}(q_1, p_1)$ and KL divergence $\mathsf{KL}(q_1 \| p_1)$, as the ambient dimension d varies. As we can see, our design (2.4) leads to dimension-independent error while the other design (5.1) incures an error that grows as d increases. This provides empirical evidence that (2.4) represents a unique coefficient design for DDPM in achieving dimension-independent error.
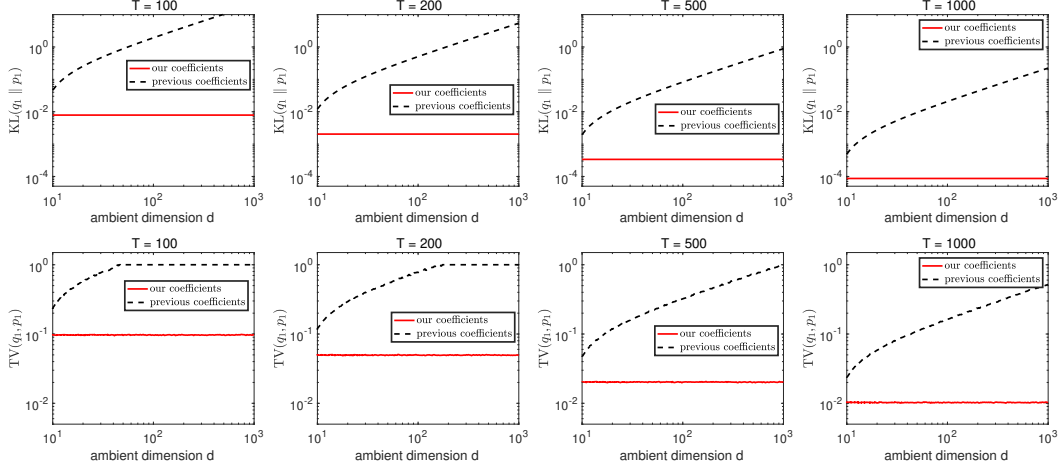
Figure 1: The KL divergence between q_1 and p_1 for $T \in \{100, 200, 500, 1000\}$, when $p_{\mathsf{data}} = \mathcal{N}(0, I_k)$. We fix the low intrinsic dimension $k = 8$, and let the ambient dimension d grow from 10 to 1000.

6   Discussion

The present paper investigates the DDPM sampler when the target distribution is concentrated on or near low-dimensional manifolds. We identify a particular coefficient design that enables the adaptivity of the DDPM sampler to unknown low-dimensional structures and establish a dimension-free convergence rate at the order of $k^2/\sqrt{T}$ (up to logarithmic factors). We conclude this paper by pointing out several directions worthy of future investigation. To begin with, our theory yields an iteration complexity that scales quartically in the intrinsic dimension k, which is likely sub-optimal. Improving this dependency calls for more refined analysis tools. Recent work [15] achieved a convergence rate of order $O(d/T)$, suggesting the potential for enhancing the dependence on T. Furthermore, as we have discussed in the end of Section 3.2, it is not clear whether our coefficient design (2.4) is unique in terms of achieving dimension-independent error $\mathsf{TV}(q_1, p_1)$. Finally, the analysis ideas and tools developed for the DDPM sampler might be extended to study another popular DDIM sampler.

Acknowledgments and Disclosure of Funding

References

[1] Brian DO Anderson. Reverse-time diffusion equation models. *Stochastic Processes and their Applications*, 12(3):313–326, 1982.

[2] Fan Bao, Chongxuan Li, Jun Zhu, and Bo Zhang. Analytic-DPM: an analytic estimate of the optimal reverse variance in diffusion probabilistic models. In *International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2022.

[3] Joe Benton, Valentin De Bortoli, Arnaud Doucet, and George Deligiannidis. Linear convergence bounds for diffusion models via stochastic localization. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2308.03686*, 2023.

[4] Hongrui Chen, Holden Lee, and Jianfeng Lu. Improved analysis of score-based generative modeling: User-friendly bounds under minimal smoothness assumptions. In *International Conference on Machine Learning*, pages 4735–4763. PMLR, 2023.

[5] Minshuo Chen, Kaixuan Huang, Tuo Zhao, and Mengdi Wang. Score approximation, estimation and distribution recovery of diffusion models on low-dimensional data. In *International Conference on Machine Learning*, pages 4672–4712. PMLR, 2023.

[6] Sitan Chen, Sinho Chewi, Jerry Li, Yuanzhi Li, Adil Salim, and Anru Zhang. Sampling is as easy as learning the score: theory for diffusion models with minimal data assumptions. In *The Eleventh International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2023.

[7] Florinel-Alin Croitoru, Vlad Hondru, Radu Tudor Ionescu, and Mubarak Shah. Diffusion models in vision: A survey. *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*, 2023.

[8] Valentin De Bortoli. Convergence of denoising diffusion models under the manifold hypothesis. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2208.05314*, 2022.

[9] Prafulla Dhariwal and Alexander Nichol. Diffusion models beat GANs on image synthesis. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 34:8780–8794, 2021.

[10] Ulrich G Haussmann and Etienne Pardoux. Time reversal of diffusions. *The Annals of Probability*, pages 1188–1205, 1986.

[11] Jonathan Ho, Ajay Jain, and Pieter Abbeel. Denoising diffusion probabilistic models. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 33:6840–6851, 2020.

[12] Beatrice Laurent and Pascal Massart. Adaptive estimation of a quadratic functional by model selection. *Annals of statistics*, pages 1302–1338, 2000.

[13] Gen Li and Changxiao Cai. Provable acceleration for diffusion models under minimal assumptions. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2410.23285*, 2024.

[14] Gen Li, Yuting Wei, Yuxin Chen, and Yuejie Chi. Towards non-asymptotic convergence for diffusion-based generative models. In *The Twelfth International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2024.

[15] Gen Li and Yuling Yan. $O(d/T)$ convergence theory for diffusion probabilistic models under minimal assumptions. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2409.18959*, 2024.

[16] Alexander Quinn Nichol and Prafulla Dhariwal. Improved denoising diffusion probabilistic models. In *International Conference on Machine Learning*, pages 8162–8171, 2021.

[17] Kazusato Oko, Shunta Akiyama, and Taiji Suzuki. Diffusion models are minimax optimal distribution estimators. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2303.01861*, 2023.

[18] Phillip Pope, Chen Zhu, Ahmed Abdelkader, Micah Goldblum, and Tom Goldstein. The intrinsic dimension of images and its impact on learning. In *9th International Conference on Learning Representations, ICLR 2021, Virtual Event, Austria, May 3-7, 2021*. OpenReview.net, 2021.

[19] Aditya Ramesh, Prafulla Dhariwal, Alex Nichol, Casey Chu, and Mark Chen. Hierarchical text-conditional image generation with CLIP latents. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2204.06125*, 2022.

[20] Robin Rombach, Andreas Blattmann, Dominik Lorenz, Patrick Esser, and Björn Ommer. High-resolution image synthesis with latent diffusion models. In *IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*, pages 10684–10695, 2022.

[21] Chitwan Saharia, William Chan, Saurabh Saxena, Lala Li, Jay Whang, Emily L Denton, Kamyar Ghasemipour, Raphael Gontijo Lopes, Burcu Karagol Ayan, Tim Salimans, et al. Photorealistic text-to-image diffusion models with deep language understanding. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 35:36479–36494, 2022.

[22] Eero P Simoncelli and Bruno A Olshausen. Natural image statistics and neural representation. *Annual review of neuroscience*, 24(1):1193–1216, 2001.

[23] Jascha Sohl-Dickstein, Eric Weiss, Niru Maheswaranathan, and Surya Ganguli. Deep unsupervised learning using nonequilibrium thermodynamics. In *International Conference on Machine Learning*, pages 2256–2265, 2015.

[24] Yang Song and Stefano Ermon. Generative modeling by estimating gradients of the data distribution. *Advances in neural information processing systems*, 32, 2019.

[25] Yang Song, Jascha Sohl-Dickstein, Diederik P Kingma, Abhishek Kumar, Stefano Ermon, and Ben Poole. Score-based generative modeling through stochastic differential equations. *International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2021.

[26] Rong Tang and Yun Yang. Adaptivity of diffusion models to manifold structures. In *International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics*, pages 1648–1656. PMLR, 2024.

[27] Roman Vershynin. *High-dimensional probability: An introduction with applications in data science*, volume 47. Cambridge university press, 2018.

[28] Martin J Wainwright. *High-dimensional statistics: A non-asymptotic viewpoint*, volume 48. Cambridge University Press, 2019.

A Proof of auxiliary lemmas for the DDPM sampler

A.1 Preliminaries

Fix any $x_t \in \mathcal{T}_t$, there exists an index $i(x_t) \in \mathcal{I}$, two points $x_0(x_t) \in \mathcal{B}_{i(x_t)}$ and $\omega \in \mathcal{G}$ such that

$$x_t = \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t} x_0(x_t) + \sqrt{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \omega. \tag{A.1}$$

For any $r > 0$, define a set

$$\mathcal{I}(x_t; r) := \left\{ 1 \leq i \leq N_\varepsilon : \overline{\alpha}_t \|x_i^\star - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2^2 \leq r \cdot k(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) \log T \right\}. \tag{A.2}$$

For some sufficiently large constant $C_3 > 0$, define

$$\mathcal{X}_t(x_t) := \bigcup_{i \in \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)} \mathcal{B}_i \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{Y}_t(x_t) := \bigcup_{i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)} \mathcal{B}_i.$$

Namely, $\mathcal{X}_t(x_t)$ (resp. $\mathcal{Y}_t(x_t)$) contains the indices of the ε-covering that are close (resp. far) from $\mathcal{B}_{i(x_t)}$. We require that

$$\varepsilon \ll \sqrt{\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}{\overline{\alpha}_t}} \min\left\{ 1, \sqrt{\frac{k \log T}{d}} \right\}, \tag{A.3}$$

which is guaranteed by our assumption that $\varepsilon = T^{-c_\varepsilon}$ for some sufficiently large constant $c_\varepsilon > 0$. Under this condition, for any $x, x' \in \mathcal{X}_t(x_t)$ we have

$$\|x - x'\|_2 \leq \|x - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2 + \|x' - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2 \leq 2\sqrt{\frac{C_3 k(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) \log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t}} + 2\varepsilon \leq 3\sqrt{\frac{C_3 k(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) \log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t}}$$

Hence for any $x, x' \in \mathcal{X}_t(x_t)$ we have

$$\overline{\alpha}_t \|x - x'\|_2^2 \leq 9 C_3 k (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) \log T. \tag{A.4}$$

In addition, for any $x, x' \in \mathcal{X}$, suppose that $x \in \mathcal{B}_i$ and $x' \in \mathcal{B}_j$. For any $\omega \in \mathcal{G}$, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left| \omega^\top (x - x') \right| &= \left| \omega^\top (x_i^\star - x_j^\star) \right| + \left| \omega^\top (x - x_i^\star) \right| + \left| \omega^\top (x_j^\star - x') \right| \\
&\overset{(i)}{\leq} \sqrt{C_1 k \log T} \|x_i^\star - x_j^\star\|_2 + \|x - x_i^\star\|_2 \|\omega\|_2 + \|x' - x_j^\star\|_2 \|\omega\|_2 \\
&\overset{(ii)}{\leq} \sqrt{C_1 k \log T} \|x_i^\star - x_j^\star\|_2 + 2 \left(2\sqrt{d} + \sqrt{C_1 k \log T} \right) \varepsilon \\
&\overset{(iii)}{\leq} \sqrt{C_1 k \log T} \|x - x'\|_2 + 2\sqrt{C_1 k \log T} \varepsilon + 2 \left(2\sqrt{d} + \sqrt{C_1 k \log T} \right) \varepsilon \\
&\leq \sqrt{C_1 k \log T} \|x - x'\|_2 + \left(4\sqrt{d} + 4\sqrt{C_1 k \log T} \right) \varepsilon. \tag{A.5}
\end{aligned}
$$

Here step (i) follows from $\omega \in \mathcal{G}$ and the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality; steps (ii) and (iii) follows from $\|x - x_i^\star\|_2 \leq \varepsilon$ and $\|x' - x_j^\star\|_2 \leq \varepsilon$, as well as $\|\omega\|_2 \leq \sqrt{d} + \sqrt{C_1 k \log T}$, which is a property for $\omega \in \mathcal{G}$.

A.2 Understanding the conditional density $p_{X_t|X_0}(\cdot \,|\, x_0)$

Conditional on $X_t = x_t$, for any $1 \leq i \leq N_\varepsilon$ we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{P}(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i \,|\, X_t = x_t) &= \frac{\mathbb{P}(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i, X_t = x_t)}{p_{X_t}(x_t)} = \frac{\mathbb{P}(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i, X_t = x_t)}{\sum_{1 \leq j \leq N_\varepsilon} \mathbb{P}(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_j, X_t = x_t)} \\
&\leq \frac{\mathbb{P}(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i, X_t = x_t)}{\mathbb{P}(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_{i(x_t)}, X_t = x_t)} = \frac{\mathbb{P}(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i) \, \mathbb{P}(X_t = x_t \,|\, X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i)}{\mathbb{P}(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_{i(x_t)}) \, \mathbb{P}(X_t = x_t \,|\, X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_{i(x_t)})} \\
&\leq \exp(C_1 k \log T) \cdot \frac{\mathbb{P}(X_t = x_t \,|\, X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i)}{\mathbb{P}(X_t = x_t \,|\, X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_{i(x_t)})} \cdot \mathbb{P}(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i). \tag{A.6}
\end{aligned}
$$

Here the last relation follows from $\mathbb{P}(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_{i(x_t)}) \geq \exp(-C_1 k \log T)$ due to $i(x_t) \in \mathcal{I}$. We have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(X_t = x_t \mid X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i\right) = \frac{\mathbb{P}\left(X_t = x_t, X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i\right)}{\mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i\right)} = \frac{1}{\mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i\right)} \int_{\tilde{x} \in \mathcal{B}_i} \mathbb{P}\left(X_t = x_t, X_0 = \tilde{x}\right) \mathrm{d}\tilde{x}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i\right)} \int_{\tilde{x} \in \mathcal{B}_i} \mathbb{P}\left(X_t = x_t \mid X_0 = \tilde{x}\right) \mathbb{P}\left(X_0 = \tilde{x}\right) \mathrm{d}\tilde{x}$$

$$\leq \max_{\tilde{x} \in \mathcal{B}_i} \mathbb{P}\left(X_t = x_t \mid X_0 = \tilde{x}\right). \tag{A.7}$$

For any $\tilde{x} \in \mathcal{B}_i$, since $X_t \mid X_0 = \tilde{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\tilde{x}, (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)I_d)$, we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(X_t = x_t \mid X_0 = \tilde{x}\right) = [2\pi\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)]^{-d/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\tilde{x}\|_2^2}{2\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)}\right)$$

$$\leq [2\pi\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)]^{-d/2} \exp\left(-\frac{(\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_i^\star\|_2 - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon)^2}{2\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)}\right). \tag{A.8}$$

Taking (A.7) and (A.8) collectively to achieve

$$\mathbb{P}\left(X_t = x_t \mid X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i\right) \leq [2\pi\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)]^{-d/2} \exp\left(-\frac{(\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_i^\star\|_2 - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon)^2}{2\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)}\right). \tag{A.9}$$

By similar argument in (A.7), (A.8) and (A.9), we can show that

$$\mathbb{P}\left(X_t = x_t \mid X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_{i(x_t)}\right) \geq [2\pi\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)]^{-d/2} \exp\left(-\frac{(\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2 + \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon)^2}{2\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)}\right). \tag{A.10}$$

Combine (A.9) and (A.10) to achieve

$$\frac{\mathbb{P}\left(X_t = x_t \mid X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i\right)}{\mathbb{P}\left(X_t = x_t \mid X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_{i(x_t)}\right)} \tag{A.11}$$

$$\leq \exp\left[-\frac{(\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_i^\star\|_2 - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon)^2}{2\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)} + \frac{(\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2 + \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon)^2}{2\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)}\right]$$

$$\leq \exp\left[-\frac{\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_i^\star\|_2^2 - \|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2^2 - 2\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon(\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_i^\star\|_2 + \|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2)}{2\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)}\right].$$

Next, we will discuss the implication of the above analysis for any $i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)$, i.e., $\mathcal{B}_i \subseteq \mathcal{Y}_t(x_t)$.

For any $i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)$, we have

$$\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_i^\star\|_2^2 - \|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2^2 = \overline{\alpha}_t\|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2^2 + 2\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}(x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star)^\top(x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_{i(x_t)}^\star)$$

$$\overset{(i)}{=} \overline{\alpha}_t\|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2^2 + 2\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)}(x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star)^\top\omega + 2\overline{\alpha}_t\sqrt{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}(x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star)^\top(x_0(x_t) - x_{i(x_t)}^\star)$$

$$\overset{(ii)}{\geq} \overline{\alpha}_t\|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2^2 - 2\sqrt{C_1\overline{\alpha}_t(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)}\sqrt{k \log T}\|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2 - 2\overline{\alpha}_t\sqrt{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon\|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2$$

$$\overset{(iii)}{\geq} \frac{1}{2}\overline{\alpha}_t\|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2^2. \tag{A.12}$$

Here step (i) uses the decomposition (A.1); step (ii) follows from $\omega \in \mathcal{G}$, Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and the fact that $\|x_0(x_t) - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2 \leq \varepsilon$; while the correctness of step (iii) is equivalent to

$$\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2 \geq 4\sqrt{C_1\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)}\sqrt{k \log T} + 4\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)}\varepsilon,$$

which follows from $i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)$, the assumptions that $C_3 \gg C_1$, and (A.3). In addition, we also have

$$\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_i^\star\|_2 + \|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_{i(x_0)}^\star\|_2$$

$$\overset{(i)}{\leq} \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\|x_0(x_t) - x_i^\star\|_2 + \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\|x_0(x_t) - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2 + 2\sqrt{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}\|\omega\|_2$$

$$\overset{(ii)}{\leq} \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2 + 2\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\|x_0(x_t) - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2 + 2\sqrt{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}\left(2\sqrt{d} + \sqrt{C_1 k \log T}\right)$$

14

$$\overset{\text{(iii)}}{\leq} \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t} \|x^\star_{i(x_t)} - x^\star_i\|_2 + 3\sqrt{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}(2\sqrt{d} + \sqrt{C_1 k \log T}). \tag{A.13}$$

Here step (i) follows from the decomposition (A.1); step (ii) utilizes the triangle inequality; whereas step (iii) follows from $\|x_0(x_t) - x^\star_{i(x_t)}\|_2 \leq \varepsilon$ and the condition (A.3). We can substitute the bounds (A.12) and (A.13) into (A.11) to get

$$\frac{\mathbb{P}(X_t = x_t \mid X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i)}{\mathbb{P}(X_t = x_t \mid X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_{i(x_t)})} \leq \exp\left(-\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{8(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)}\|x^\star_{i(x_t)} - x^\star_i\|_2^2\right), \tag{A.14}$$

provided that (A.3) holds and C_3 is sufficiently large. Since $i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)$, we know that $\overline{\alpha}_t \|x^\star_{i(x_t)} - x^\star_i\|_2^2 > C_3 k(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) \log T$, hence when $C_3 \gg C_1$, we learn from (A.6) and (A.14) that

$$\mathbb{P}(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i \mid X_t = x_t) \leq \exp\left(C_1 k \log T - \frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{8(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)}\|x^\star_{i(x_t)} - x^\star_i\|_2^2\right) \mathbb{P}(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i)$$

$$\leq \exp\left(-\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{16(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)}\|x^\star_{i(x_t)} - x^\star_i\|_2^2\right) \mathbb{P}(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i). \tag{A.15}$$

A.3   Proof of Lemma 1

It is straightforward to check that

$$\mathbb{P}\left((X_t, X_{t-1}) \in \mathcal{A}_t\right) \overset{\text{(i)}}{=} \mathbb{P}\left(X_t \in \mathcal{T}_t, W_t \in \mathcal{G}\right) \overset{\text{(ii)}}{\leq} \mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \in \cup_{i \in \mathcal{I}}\mathcal{B}_i, W_t \in \mathcal{G}, \overline{W}_t \in \mathcal{G}\right),$$

where step (i) follows from the update rule (2.1), and step (ii) follows from the relation (2.2). Therefore we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left((X_t, X_{t-1}) \notin \mathcal{A}_t\right) \leq \mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \notin \cup_{i \in \mathcal{I}}\mathcal{B}_i\right) + \mathbb{P}\left(W_t \notin \mathcal{G}\right) + \mathbb{P}\left(\overline{W}_t \notin \mathcal{G}\right). \tag{A.16}$$

By definition of the set $\mathcal{I}$, we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \notin \cup_{i \in \mathcal{I}}\mathcal{B}_i\right) \leq N_\varepsilon \exp\left(-C_1 k \log T\right) \leq \exp\left(C_{\text{cover}} k \log T - C_1 k \log T\right)$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{3}\exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{4}k \log T\right) \tag{A.17}$$

as long as $C_1 \gg C_{\text{cover}}$. In addition, since $W_t, \overline{W}_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_d)$, by the definition of $\mathcal{G}$ we know that

$$\mathbb{P}\left(W_t \notin \mathcal{G}\right) \leq \mathbb{P}\left(\|W_t\|_2 > \sqrt{d} + \sqrt{C_1 k \log T}\right) + \sum_{i=1}^{N_\varepsilon}\sum_{j=1}^{N_\varepsilon} \mathbb{P}\left(|(x^\star_i - x^\star_j)^\top W_t| > \sqrt{C_1 k \log T}\|x^\star_i - x^\star_j\|_2\right)$$

$$\overset{\text{(i)}}{\leq} \left(N_\varepsilon^2 + 1\right)\exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{2}k \log T\right) \leq \left(\exp\left(2C_{\text{cover}} k \log T\right) + 1\right)\exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{2}k \log T\right)$$

$$\overset{\text{(ii)}}{\leq} \frac{1}{3}\exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{4}k \log T\right) \tag{A.18}$$

Here step (i) follows from concentration bounds for Gaussian and chi-square variables (see Lemma 9); while step (ii) holds as long as $C_1 \gg C_{\text{cover}}$. The same bound also holds for $\mathbb{P}(\overline{W}_t \notin \mathcal{G})$. Taking (A.16), (A.17) and (A.18) collectively yields

$$\mathbb{P}\left((X_t, X_{t-1}) \notin \mathcal{A}_t\right) \leq \exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{4}k \log T\right)$$

as claimed.

A.4   Proof of Lemma 2

For any deterministic pairs (x_t, x_{t-1}), we have

$$p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1} \mid x_t) = \frac{1}{p_{X_t}(x_t)}p_{X_{t-1}, X_t}(x_{t-1}, x_t) = \frac{p_{X_{t-1}}(x_{t-1})}{p_{X_t}(x_t)}p_{X_t|X_{t-1}}(x_t \mid x_{t-1}). \tag{A.19}$$

15

Recall that $X_t \mid X_{t-1} = x_{t-1} \sim \mathcal{N}(\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1}, (1-\alpha_t)I_d)$, therefore we have

$$p_{X_t \mid X_{t-1}}(x_t \mid x_{t-1}) = [2\pi(1-\alpha_t)]^{-d/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2(1-\alpha_t)}\|x_t - \sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1}\|_2^2\right). \qquad \text{(A.20)}$$

Next, we analyze the density ratio $p_{X_{t-1}}(x_{t-1})/p_{X_t}(x_t)$. It would be easier to do a change of variable

$$p_{X_{t-1}}(x_{t-1}) = \alpha_t^{d/2} p_{\sqrt{\alpha_t}X_{t-1}}(\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1}). \qquad \text{(A.21)}$$

Since $\sqrt{\alpha_t}X_{t-1} \mid X_0 = x_0 \sim \mathcal{N}(\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0, (\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)I_d)$, we can write

$$\frac{p_{\sqrt{\alpha_t}X_{t-1}}(\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1})}{p_{X_t}(x_t)} = \frac{1}{p_{X_t}(x_t)} \int_{x_0} p_{X_0}(x_0)\, p_{\sqrt{\alpha_t}X_{t-1} \mid X_0}(\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} \mid x_0)\, \mathrm{d}x_0$$

$$= \frac{1}{p_{X_t}(x_t)} \int_{x_0} p_{X_0}(x_0)\,[2\pi(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)]^{-d/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\|\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0\|_2^2}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)}\right)\mathrm{d}x_0. \quad \text{(A.22)}$$

We hope to connect the above quantity with the conditional density

$$p_{X_0 \mid X_t}(x_0 \mid x_t) = \frac{p_{X_0, X_t}(x_0, x_t)}{p_{X_t}(x_t)} = \frac{p_{X_0}(x_0)}{p_{X_t}(x_t)} p_{X_t \mid X_0}(x_t \mid x_0)$$

$$= \frac{p_{X_0}(x_0)}{p_{X_t}(x_t)} \frac{1}{[2\pi(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)]^{d/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0\|_2^2}{2(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}\right). \qquad \text{(A.23)}$$

Towards this, we can deduce that

$$\frac{p_{\sqrt{\alpha_t}X_{t-1}}(\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1})}{p_{X_t}(x_t)} \qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad \text{(A.24)}$$

$$\overset{\text{(i)}}{=} \left(\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t}\right)^{d/2} \int_{x_0} \frac{p_{X_0}(x_0)}{p_{X_t}(x_t)} [2\pi(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)]^{-d/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\|\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0\|_2^2}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)}\right)\mathrm{d}x_0$$

$$\overset{\text{(ii)}}{=} \left(\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t}\right)^{d/2} \int_{x_0} p_{X_0 \mid X_t}(x_0 \mid x_t) \exp\left(\frac{\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0\|_2^2}{2(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)} - \frac{\|\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0\|_2^2}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)}\right)\mathrm{d}x_0,$$

where step (i) follows from (A.22) and step (ii) utilizes (A.23). The terms in the exponent can be rearranged into

$$\frac{\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0\|_2^2}{2(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)} - \frac{\|\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0\|_2^2}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)}$$

$$= \frac{\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0\|_2^2 - \|\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0\|_2^2}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)} - \frac{(1-\alpha_t)\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0\|_2^2}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}$$

$$= -\frac{\|\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - x_t\|_2^2 + 2(\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - x_t)^\top(x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0)}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)} - \frac{(1-\alpha_t)\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0\|_2^2}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}$$

$$= -\frac{\|\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - x_t\|_2^2 + 2(\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - x_t)^\top(x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\widehat{x}_0)}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)} - \frac{(1-\alpha_t)\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\widehat{x}_0\|_2^2}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)} + \Delta_{x_t, x_{t-1}}(x_0)$$

where we define

$$\widehat{x}_0 := \mathbb{E}[X_0 \mid X_t = x_t] = \int_{x_0} x_0 p_{X_0 \mid X_t}(x_0 \mid x_t)\,\mathrm{d}x_0,$$

and

$$\Delta_{x_t, x_{t-1}}(x_0) := -\frac{\sqrt{\alpha_t}}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t}(\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - x_t)^\top(\widehat{x}_0 - x_0)$$

$$- \frac{(1-\alpha_t)\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}}{(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}(x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\widehat{x}_0)^\top(\widehat{x}_0 - x_0) - \frac{(1-\alpha_t)\overline{\alpha}_t}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}\|\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\|_2^2.$$

Substituting the above relation into (A.24) yields

$$\frac{p_{\sqrt{\alpha_t}X_{t-1}}(\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1})}{p_{X_t}(x_t)} = \left(\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t}\right)^{d/2} \exp\left[-\frac{\|\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - x_t\|_2^2}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)}\right]$$

16

$$\cdot \exp\left[-\frac{\left(\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - x_t\right)^\top \left(x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\widehat{x}_0\right)}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t} - \frac{(1-\alpha_t)\left\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\widehat{x}_0\right\|_2^2}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}\right]$$

$$\cdot \int_{x_0} p_{X_0|X_t}\left(x_0 \,|\, x_t\right) \exp\left(\Delta_{x_t, x_{t-1}}\left(x_0\right)\right) \mathrm{d}x_0. \tag{A.25}$$

Therefore we have

$$p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}\left(x_{t-1} \,|\, x_t\right) \overset{\text{(i)}}{=} \alpha_t^{d/2} \frac{p_{\sqrt{\alpha_t}X_{t-1}}\left(\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1}\right)}{p_{X_t}\left(x_t\right)} p_{X_t|X_{t-1}}\left(x_t \,|\, x_{t-1}\right) \tag{A.26}$$

$$\overset{\text{(ii)}}{=} \alpha_t^{d/2}\left(\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t}\right)^{d/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\left(\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - x_t\right)^\top \left(x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\widehat{x}_0\right)}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t} - \frac{(1-\alpha_t)\left\|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\widehat{x}_0\right\|_2^2}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}\right)$$

$$\cdot \left[2\pi(1-\alpha_t)\right]^{-d/2} \exp\left(-\frac{(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)\left\|x_t - \sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1}\right\|_2^2}{2(1-\alpha_t)(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)}\right) \int_{x_0} p_{X_0|X_t}\left(x_0 \,|\, x_t\right) \exp\left(\Delta_{x_t, x_{t-1}}\left(x_0\right)\right) \mathrm{d}x_0$$

$$\overset{\text{(iii)}}{=} \frac{\alpha_t^{d/2}}{\left(2\pi\sigma_t^{\star 2}\right)^{d/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{\left\|\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1} - x_t - \eta_t^\star s_t^\star\left(x_t\right)\right\|_2^2}{2\sigma_t^{\star 2}}\right) \int_{x_0} p_{X_0|X_t}\left(x_0 \,|\, x_t\right) \exp\left(\Delta_{x_t, x_{t-1}}\left(x_0\right)\right) \mathrm{d}x_0.$$

Here step (i) follows from (A.19) and (A.21); step (ii) follows from (A.20) and (A.25); whereas step (iii) follows from the definition of $\eta_t^\star$ and $\sigma_t^\star$ (cf. (2.4)) as well as the fact that

$$s_t^\star\left(x_t\right) = -\frac{1}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t} \int_{x_0} p_{X_0|X_t}\left(x_0 \,|\, x_t\right)\left(x - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0\right) \mathrm{d}x_0 = -\frac{1}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}\left(x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\widehat{x}_0\right).$$

A.5 Proof of Lemma 3

For any $(x_t, x_{t-1}) \in \mathcal{A}_t$, we know that $\omega' := (x_t - \sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1})/\sqrt{1-\alpha_t} \in \mathcal{G}$. We will upper bound the integral with two terms

$$\int_{x_0} p_{X_0|X_t}\left(x_0 \,|\, x_t\right) \exp\left(\Delta\left(x_t, x_{t-1}, x_0\right)\right) \mathrm{d}x_0 = \underbrace{\int_{\mathcal{X}_t(x_t)} p_{X_0|X_t}\left(x_0 \,|\, x_t\right) \exp\left(\Delta\left(x_t, x_{t-1}, x_0\right)\right) \mathrm{d}x_0}_{=:I_1}$$

$$+ \underbrace{\int_{\mathcal{Y}_t(x_t)} p_{X_0|X_t}\left(x_0 \,|\, x_t\right) \exp\left(\Delta\left(x_t, x_{t-1}, x_0\right)\right) \mathrm{d}x_0}_{=:I_2},$$

where we recall that

$$\Delta\left(x_t, x_{t-1}, x_0\right) = \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}(1-\alpha_t)}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t}\left(\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\right)^\top \omega'}_{=:\Delta_1(x_0)} - \underbrace{\frac{(1-\alpha_t)\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}}{(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)\sqrt{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}}\left(\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\right)^\top \omega}_{=:\Delta_2(x_0)}$$

$$- \underbrace{\frac{(1-\alpha_t)\overline{\alpha}_t}{(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}\left(x_0(x_t) - \widehat{x}_0\right)^\top \left(\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\right)}_{=:\Delta_3(x_0)} - \underbrace{\frac{(1-\alpha_t)\overline{\alpha}_t}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}\left\|\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\right\|_2^2}_{=:\Delta_4(x_0)}.$$

In what follows, we will use $\Delta(x_0)$ instead of $\Delta(x_t, x_{t-1}, x_0)$ when there is no confusion. Since $(x_t, x_{t-1}) \in \mathcal{A}_t$, we know that $\omega' := (x_t - \sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1})/\sqrt{1-\alpha_t} \in \mathcal{G}$. We decompose $\widehat{x}_0$ into

$$\widehat{x}_0 = \int_{x_0} x_0' p_{X_0|X_t}\left(x_0' \,|\, x_t\right) \mathrm{d}x_0' \tag{A.27}$$

$$= \underbrace{x_{i(x_t)}^\star + \int_{\mathcal{X}_t(x_t)} (x_0' - x_{i(x_t)}^\star) p_{X_0|X_t}\left(x_0' \,|\, x_t\right) \mathrm{d}x_0'}_{=:\overline{x}_0} + \underbrace{\int_{\mathcal{Y}_t(x_t)} (x_0' - x_{i(x_t)}^\star) p_{X_0|X_t}\left(x_0' \,|\, x_t\right) \mathrm{d}x_0'}_{=:\delta}.$$

Since $\mathcal{X}_t(x_t)$ is a ball in $\mathbb{R}^d$ centered at $x_{i(x_t)}^\star$, it is straightforward to check that $\overline{x}_0 \in \mathcal{X}_t(x_t)$. We also have

$$\|\delta\|_2 \leq \int_{\mathcal{Y}_t(x_t)} \|x_0' - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2 p_{X_0|X_t}\left(x_0 \,|\, x_t\right) \mathrm{d}x_0'$$

$$\overset{(i)}{\leq} \sum_{i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t;C_3)} \left(\|x_i^\star - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2 + \varepsilon \right) \mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i \,|\, X_t = x_t \right)$$

$$\overset{(ii)}{\leq} \sum_{i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t;C_3)} \left(\|x_i^\star - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2 + \varepsilon \right) \exp\left(-\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{16\,(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)} \|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2^2 \right) \mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i \right).$$

Here step (i) holds since for any $i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t;C_3)$ and $x_0' \in \mathcal{B}_i$,

$$\|x_0' - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2 \leq \|x_i^\star - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2 + \|x_0' - x_i^\star\|_2 \leq \|x_i^\star - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2 + \varepsilon;$$

while step (ii) follows from (A.15). For any $i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t;C_3)$, we know that $\overline{\alpha}_t \|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2^2 > C_3 k (1-\overline{\alpha}_t) \log T$, hence we can check that

$$\left(\|x_i^\star - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2 + \varepsilon \right) \exp\left(-\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{16\,(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)} \|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2^2 \right)$$

$$\leq \left(\sqrt{\frac{C_3 k (1-\overline{\alpha}_t) \log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t}} + \varepsilon \right) \exp\left(-\frac{C_3 k \log T}{16} \right) \leq \sqrt{\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}{\overline{\alpha}_t}} \exp\left(-\frac{C_3 k \log T}{32} \right)$$

as long as C_3 is sufficiently large and the condition (A.3) holds. Therefore

$$\|\delta\|_2 \leq \sum_{i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t;C_3)} \sqrt{\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}{\overline{\alpha}_t}} \exp\left(-\frac{C_3 k \log T}{32} \right) \mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i \right)$$

$$\leq \sqrt{\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}{\overline{\alpha}_t}} \exp\left(-\frac{C_3 k \log T}{32} \right). \tag{A.28}$$

A.5.1 Step 1: deriving an upper bound for $\Delta(x_0)$

Suppose that $x_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i$ for some $1 \leq i \leq N_\varepsilon$ (notice that here we are not requiring that $i \in \mathcal{I}$). We will bound each of $|\Delta_i(x_0)|$ for $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$. We first record two basic facts about the step sizes, which are immediate consequences of Lemma 8:

$$\frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t\,(1-\alpha_t)}}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t} = \sqrt{\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}} \sqrt{1 + \frac{1-\alpha_t}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t}} \sqrt{\frac{1-\alpha_t}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t}} \leq \sqrt{\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}} \sqrt{1 + \frac{8c_1 \log T}{T}} \sqrt{\frac{8c_1 \log T}{T}}$$

$$\leq 3\sqrt{\frac{c_1 \log T}{T}} \sqrt{\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}}, \tag{A.29}$$

as long as T is sufficiently large, and

$$\frac{(1-\alpha_t)\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}}{(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)\sqrt{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}} \leq \frac{8c_1 \log T}{T} \sqrt{\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}}. \tag{A.30}$$

We learn from (A.5) that

$$\max\left\{ \left| (\widehat{x}_0 - x_0)^\top \omega \right|, \left| (\widehat{x}_0 - x_0)^\top \omega' \right| \right\} \leq \sqrt{C_1 k \log T} \|\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\|_2 + \left(4\sqrt{d} + 4\sqrt{C_1 k \log T} \right)\varepsilon. \tag{A.31}$$

We also have

$$\|\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\|_2 \leq \|\overline{x}_0 - x_0\|_2 + \|\delta\|_2 \overset{(i)}{\leq} \|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2 + \|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - \overline{x}_0\|_2 + \varepsilon + \|\delta\|_2$$

$$\overset{(ii)}{\leq} \|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2 + 3\sqrt{\frac{C_3 k (1-\overline{\alpha}_t) \log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t}} + \varepsilon + \sqrt{\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}{\overline{\alpha}_t}} \exp\left(-\frac{C_3 k \log T}{32} \right)$$

$$\overset{(iii)}{\leq} \|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2 + 4\sqrt{\frac{C_3 k (1-\overline{\alpha}_t) \log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t}}. \tag{A.32}$$

Here step (i) holds since $x_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i$, hence $\|x_0 - x_i^\star\|_2 \leq \varepsilon$; step (ii) follows from (A.4) and the fact that $x_{i(x_t)}^\star, \overline{x}_0 \in \mathcal{X}_t(x_t)$; while step (iii) follows from (A.3) and holds provided that C_3 is sufficiently large. Then we have

$$|\Delta_1(x_0)| \leq \frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t\,(1-\alpha_t)}}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t} \left| (\widehat{x}_0 - x_0)^\top \omega \right| \tag{A.33a}$$

18

$$\overset{(a)}{\leq} 3\sqrt{\frac{c_1 \log T}{T}}\sqrt{\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}}\left(\sqrt{C_1 k \log T}\|\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\|_2 + \left(4\sqrt{d} + 4\sqrt{C_1 k \log T}\right)\varepsilon\right)$$

$$\overset{(b)}{\leq} 4\sqrt{\frac{c_1 \log T}{T}}\sqrt{\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}}\left(\sqrt{C_1 k \log T}\|x^\star_{i(x_t)} - x^\star_i\|_2 + 4\sqrt{C_1 C_3}k \log T\sqrt{\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}{\overline{\alpha}_t}}\right).$$

Here step (a) follows from (A.29) and (A.31); while step (b) utilizes (A.32), (A.3). Similarly we can use (A.30) to show that

$$|\Delta_2(x_0)| \leq \frac{9c_1 \log T}{T}\sqrt{\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}}\left(\sqrt{C_1 k \log T}\|x^\star_{i(x_t)} - x^\star_i\|_2 + 4\sqrt{C_1 C_3}k \log T\sqrt{\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}{\overline{\alpha}_t}}\right).$$
(A.33b)

Notice that

$$\left|(x_0(x_t) - \widehat{x}_0)^\top(\widehat{x}_0 - x_0)\right| \overset{(i)}{\leq} \|x_0(x_t) - \widehat{x}_0\|_2 \|\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\|_2 \leq \left(\|x_0(x_t) - \overline{x}_0\|_2 + \|\delta\|_2\right)\|\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\|_2$$

$$\overset{(ii)}{\leq} \left[3\sqrt{\frac{C_3 k(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)\log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t}} + \sqrt{\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}{\overline{\alpha}_t}}\exp\left(-\frac{C_3 k \log T}{32}\right)\right]\|\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\|_2$$

$$\overset{(iii)}{\leq} 4\sqrt{\frac{C_3 k(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)\log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t}}\|\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\|_2,$$

where step (i) utilizes the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality; step (ii) follows from (A.4), (A.28) and the fact that $x_0(x_t), \overline{x}_0 \in \mathcal{X}_t(x_t)$; step (iii) holds provided that C_3 is sufficiently large. Therefore we have

$$|\Delta_3(x_0)| \leq \frac{(1 - \alpha_t)\overline{\alpha}_t}{(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)}\left|(x_0(x_t) - \widehat{x}_0)^\top(\widehat{x}_0 - x_0)\right|$$
(A.33c)

$$\leq \frac{(1 - \alpha_t)\overline{\alpha}_t}{(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)} \cdot 4\sqrt{\frac{C_3 k(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)\log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t}}\|\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\|_2$$

$$\leq 32c_1\sqrt{C_3}\frac{\log T}{T}\sqrt{\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}}\sqrt{k \log T}\left(\|x^\star_{i(x_t)} - x^\star_i\|_2 + 4\sqrt{\frac{C_3 k(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)\log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t}}\right),$$

where the last relation follows from Lemma 8 and (A.32). Finally we have

$$|\Delta_4(x_0)| \leq \frac{(1 - \alpha_t)\overline{\alpha}_t}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)}\|\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\|_2^2$$

$$\leq \frac{8c_1 \log T}{T}\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}\left(\|x^\star_{i(x_t)} - x^\star_i\|_2^2 + 16\frac{C_3 k(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)\log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t}\right).$$
(A.33d)

Here step (a) follows from (A.32), step (b) follows from (A.4) and the fact that $x^\star_{i(x_t)}, x^\star_i \in \mathcal{X}_t(x_t)$ Taking the bounds in (A.33) collectively leads to

$$|\Delta(x_0)| \leq 5\sqrt{c_1 C_1}\sqrt{\frac{k}{T}}\log T\left(\sqrt{\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}}\|x^\star_{i(x_t)} - x^\star_i\|_2 + 4\sqrt{C_3 k \log T}\right)$$

$$+ \frac{8c_1 \log T}{T}\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}\|x^\star_{i(x_t)} - x^\star_i\|_2^2.$$
(A.34)

provided that T is sufficiently large.

A.5.2 Step 2: bounding I_1

For $x_0 \in \mathcal{X}_t(x_t)$, we know that $x_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i$ for some $i \in \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)$, hence $\overline{\alpha}_t\|x^\star_i - x^\star_{i(x_t)}\|_2^2 \leq C_3 k(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)\log T$. This combined with (A.34) gives

$$|\Delta(x_0)| \leq 25\sqrt{c_1 C_1 C_3}\sqrt{\frac{k^2 \log^3 T}{T}} + \frac{8c_1 C_3 k \log^2 T}{T} \leq 26\sqrt{c_1 C_1 C_3}\sqrt{\frac{k^2 \log^3 T}{T}}$$
(A.35)

provided that $T \gg k^2 \log^3 T$. Similarly we can check that for each $1 \le i \le 4$, $|\Delta_i(x_0)| \le 1$. Then we know that for $x_0 \in \mathcal{X}_t(x_t)$, we have $\exp(\Delta(x_0)) \le 1 + \Delta(x_0) + \Delta^2(x_0)$ as long as $T \gg k^2 \log^3 T$. Hence

$$
I_1 \le 1 + \int_{\mathcal{X}_t(x_t)} p_{X_0|X_t}(x_0 \mid x_t) \Delta(x_0) \, dx_0 + \int_{\mathcal{X}_t(x_t)} p_{X_0|X_t}(x_0 \mid x_t) \Delta^2(x_0) \, dx_0
$$

$$
= 1 + \int p_{X_0|X_t}(x_0 \mid x_t) \Delta_1(x_0) \, dx_0 - \int_{\mathcal{Y}_t(x_t)} p_{X_0|X_t}(x_0 \mid x_t) \Delta_1(x_0) \, dx_0
$$

$$
+ \int_{\mathcal{X}_t(x_t)} p_{X_0|X_t}(x_0 \mid x_t) \left[\Delta_2(x_0) + \Delta_3(x_0) + \Delta_4(x_0) + \Delta^2(x_0) \right] dx_0
$$

$$
\le 1 + \underbrace{\int_{\mathcal{Y}_t(x_t)} p_{X_0|X_t}(x_0 \mid x_t) |\Delta_1(x_0)| \, dx_0}_{=: I_{1,1}}
$$

$$
+ \underbrace{\int_{\mathcal{X}_t(x_t)} p_{X_0|X_t}(x_0 \mid x_t) \left[|\Delta_2(x_0) + \Delta_3(x_0) + \Delta_4(x_0)| + \Delta^2(x_0) \right] dx_0}_{=: I_{1,2}}.
$$

Here the last step follows from the fact that $\int p_{X_0|X_t}(x_0 \mid x_t)\Delta_1(x_0)dx_0 = 0$. The integral $I_{1,1}$ can be upper bounded similar to I_2, hence we defer its analysis to the next section. For the integral $I_{1,2}$, we have

$$
I_{1,2} \le \max_{x_0 \in \mathcal{X}_t(x_t)} \left\{ |\Delta_2(x_0) + \Delta_3(x_0) + \Delta_4(x_0)| + \Delta^2(x_0) \right\}
$$

$$
\overset{(i)}{\le} \max_{x_0 \in \mathcal{X}_t(x_t)} \left\{ 4\Delta_1^2(x_0) + 5|\Delta_2(x_0)| + 5|\Delta_3(x_0)| + 5|\Delta_4(x_0)| \right\}
$$

$$
\overset{(ii)}{\le} 128 \frac{c_1 \log T}{T} \frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \left(C_1 k \log T \frac{C_3 k (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) \log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t} + 16 C_1 C_3 k^2 \log^2 T \frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}{\overline{\alpha}_t} \right)
$$

$$
+ \frac{45 c_1 \log T}{T} \sqrt{\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}} \left(\sqrt{C_1 k \log T} \sqrt{\frac{C_3 k (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) \log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t}} + 4\sqrt{C_1 C_3} k \log T \sqrt{\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}{\overline{\alpha}_t}} \right)
$$

$$
+ 160 c_1 \sqrt{C_3} \frac{\log T}{T} \sqrt{\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}} \sqrt{k \log T} \left(\sqrt{\frac{C_3 k (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) \log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t}} + 4\sqrt{\frac{C_3 k (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) \log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t}} \right)
$$

$$
+ \frac{40 c_1 \log T}{T} \frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \left(\frac{C_3 k (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) \log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t} + 16 \frac{C_3 k (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) \log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t} \right)
$$

$$
\le 2181 c_1 C_1 C_3 \frac{k^2 \log^3 T}{T}. \tag{A.36}
$$

Here step (i) follows from the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and the facts that $|\Delta_i(x_0)| \le 1$ for $i = 2, 3, 4$, while step (ii) follows from the bounds (A.33) and the fact that $\overline{\alpha}_t \|x_i^\star - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2^2 \le C_3 k (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) \log T$.

A.5.3 Step 3: bounding I_2.

For $x_0 \in \mathcal{Y}_t(x_t)$, we know that $x_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i$ for some $i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)$, hence $\overline{\alpha}_t \|x_i^\star - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2^2 > C_3 k (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) \log T$. This combined with (A.34) gives

$$
|\Delta(x_0)| \le \left(5\sqrt{\frac{c_1 C_1}{C_3}} \sqrt{\frac{\log T}{T}} + 20\sqrt{\frac{c_1 C_1}{C_3}} \sqrt{\frac{\log T}{T}} + \frac{8 c_1 \log T}{T} \right) \frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2^2
$$

$$
\le 25\sqrt{\frac{c_1 C_1}{C_3}} \sqrt{\frac{\log T}{T}} \frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2^2 \tag{A.37}
$$

as long as T is sufficiently large. Therefore we have

$$
I_2 = \int_{\mathcal{Y}_t(x_t)} p_{X_0|X_t}(x_0 \mid x_t) \exp(\Delta(x_0)) \, dx_0 \tag{A.38}
$$

$$\leq \sum_{i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)} \mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i \mid X_t = x_t\right) \max_{x_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i} \exp\left(\Delta\left(x_0\right)\right)$$

$$\overset{\text{(i)}}{\leq} \sum_{i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)} \exp\left(-\left(\frac{1}{16} - 25\sqrt{\frac{c_1 C_1}{C_3}}\sqrt{\frac{\log T}{T}}\right)\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}\|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2^2\right)\mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i\right)$$

$$\overset{\text{(ii)}}{\leq} \sum_{i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)} \exp\left(-\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{32\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)}\|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2^2\right)\mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i\right) \overset{\text{(iii)}}{\leq} \exp\left(-\frac{C_3}{32}k\log T\right).$$

Here step (i) follows from (A.15) and (A.37); step (ii) holds as long as T is sufficiently large; while step (iii) uses the fact that $\overline{\alpha}_t\|x_i^\star - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2^2 > C_3 k(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)\log T$ for $i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)$. By similar analysis, we can show that

$$I_{1,1} = \int_{\mathcal{Y}_t(x_t)} p_{X_0|X_t}\left(x_0 \mid x_t\right)\left|\Delta_1\left(x_0\right)\right|\mathrm{d}x_0 \leq \sum_{i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)} \mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i \mid X_t = x_t\right) \max_{x_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i}\left|\Delta_1\left(x_0\right)\right|$$

$$\overset{\text{(a)}}{\leq} 20\sqrt{\frac{c_1 C_1 k\log^2 T}{T}}\sqrt{\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}} \sum_{i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)} \mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i \mid X_t = x_t\right)\|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2$$

$$\overset{\text{(b)}}{\leq} 20\sqrt{\frac{c_1 C_1 k\log^2 T}{T}}\sqrt{\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}} \sum_{i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)} \exp\left(-\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{16\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)}\|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2^2\right)\mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i\right)\|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2$$

$$\overset{\text{(c)}}{\leq} 20\sqrt{\frac{c_1 C_1 k\log^2 T}{T}} \sum_{i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)} \exp\left(-\frac{\overline{\alpha}_t}{32\left(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t\right)}\|x_{i(x_t)}^\star - x_i^\star\|_2^2\right)\mathbb{P}\left(X_0 \in \mathcal{B}_i\right)$$

$$\overset{\text{(d)}}{\leq} 20\sqrt{\frac{c_1 C_1 k\log^2 T}{T}}\exp\left(-\frac{C_3}{32}k\log T\right). \tag{A.39}$$

Here step (a) follows from (A.33a) and the fact that $\overline{\alpha}_t\|x_i^\star - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2^2 > C_3 k(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)\log T$ for $i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)$; step (b) follows from (A.15); step (c) holds provided that C_3 is sufficiently large; step (d) follows again from the fact that $\overline{\alpha}_t\|x_i^\star - x_{i(x_t)}^\star\|_2^2 > C_3 k(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)\log T$ for $i \notin \mathcal{I}(x_t; C_3)$.

A.5.4 Step 4: putting everything together

Taking (A.36), (A.38) and (A.39) collectively, we have

$$\int_{x_0} p_{X_0|X_t}\left(x_0 \mid x_t\right)\exp\left(\Delta\left(x_t, x_{t-1}, x_0\right)\right)\mathrm{d}x_0 = I_1 + I_2 \leq 1 + I_{1,1} + I_{1,2} + I_2$$

$$\leq 1 + 2182 c_1 C_1 C_3 \frac{k^2\log^3 T}{T},$$

provided that T is sufficiently large. By similar argument, i.e., using the lower bounding $\exp(\Delta(x_0)) \geq 1 + \Delta(x_0) - \Delta^2(x_0)$ in Step 2 and repeat the same analysis, we can show that

$$\int_{x_0} p_{X_0|X_t}\left(x_0 \mid x_t\right)\exp\left(\Delta\left(x_0\right)\right)\mathrm{d}x_0 \geq 1 - 2182 c_1 C_1 C_3 \frac{k^2\log^3 T}{T}.$$

This gives the desired result.

A.6 Proof of Lemma 4

Recall that

$$\log\frac{p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}\left(x_{t-1} \mid x_t\right)}{p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}\left(x_{t-1} \mid x_t\right)} = \log\left[\int_{x_0} p_{X_0|X_t}\left(x_0 \mid x_t\right)\exp\left(\Delta\left(x_t, x_{t-1}, x_0\right)\right)\mathrm{d}x_0\right].$$

For any $x_0 \in \mathcal{X}$, by the definition of $\Delta\left(x_t, x_{t-1}, x_0\right)$ in (4.4), we have

$$\left|\Delta\left(x_t, x_{t-1}, x_0\right)\right|$$

21

$$\leq \frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t} \|\sqrt{\alpha_t} x_{t-1} - x_t\|_2 \|\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\|_2 + \frac{(1 - \alpha_t)\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}}{(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)} \|x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\widehat{x}_0\|_2 \|\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\|_2$$

$$+ \frac{(1 - \alpha_t)\overline{\alpha}_t}{2(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)} \|\widehat{x}_0 - x_0\|_2^2$$

$$\overset{(i)}{\leq} 2R \frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t} \|\sqrt{\alpha_t} x_{t-1} - x_t\|_2 + 2R \frac{(1 - \alpha_t)\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}}{(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)} \|x_t\|_2 + \frac{(1 - \alpha_t)\overline{\alpha}_t}{(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)} 4R^2$$

$$\overset{(ii)}{\leq} 4RT^{c_0} \|\sqrt{\alpha_t} x_{t-1} - x_t\|_2 + 16c_1 RT^{c_0 - 1} \log T \|x_t\|_2 + 32c_1 R^2 T^{c_0 - 1} \log T.$$

Here step (i) follows from $\widehat{x}_0, x_0 \in \mathcal{X}$, hence $\max\{\|\widehat{x}_0\|_2, \|x_0\|_2\} \leq R$; while step (ii) follows from the facts that, for $2 \leq t \leq T$,

$$\frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t} \leq \frac{1}{\alpha_t - \prod_{i=1}^t \alpha_i} = \frac{1}{\alpha_t \left(1 - \prod_{i=1}^{t-1} \alpha_i\right)} \leq \frac{2}{1 - \alpha_1} \leq 2T^{c_0},$$

and in view of Lemma 8,

$$\frac{(1 - \alpha_t)\overline{\alpha}_t}{(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)} \leq \frac{(1 - \alpha_t)\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}}{(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)} \leq \frac{8c_1 \log T}{T} \frac{1}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \leq 8c_1 T^{c_0 - 1} \log T.$$

Hence we have

$$\left| \log \frac{p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)}{p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)} \right|$$

$$= \left| \log \left[\int_{x_0} p_{X_0|X_t}(x_0\,|\,x_t) \exp\left(\Delta\left(x_t, x_{t-1}, x_0\right)\right) \mathrm{d}x_0 \right] \right| \leq \sup_{x_0 \in \mathcal{X}} |\Delta\left(x_t, x_{t-1}, x_0\right)|$$

$$\leq 4RT^{c_0} \|\sqrt{\alpha_t} x_{t-1} - x_t\|_2 + 16c_1 RT^{c_0 - 1} \log T \|x_t\|_2 + 32c_1 R^2 T^{c_0 - 1} \log T$$

$$\leq T^{c_0 + 2c_R} \left(\|\sqrt{\alpha_t} x_{t-1} - x_t\|_2 + \|x_t\|_2 + 1 \right)$$

as long as T is sufficiently large.

A.7 Proof of Lemma 5

Regarding $\Delta_{t,1}$, we first utilize Lemma 3 to show that for any $(x_t, x_{t-1}) \in \mathcal{A}_t$,

$$\left| 1 - \frac{p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)}{p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)} \right| \leq C_5 \frac{k^2 \log^3 T}{T}.$$

Since $\log(1 - x) \geq -x - x^2$ holds for any $x \in [-1/2, 1/2]$, we know that when $T \gg k^2 \log^3 T$, we have

$$p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) \log \frac{p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)}{p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)}$$

$$= -p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) \log \left[1 - \left(1 - \frac{p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)}{p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)} \right) \right]$$

$$\leq p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) \left[1 - \frac{p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)}{p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)} + \left(1 - \frac{p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)}{p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$= p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) - p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) + p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) C_5^2 \frac{k^4 \log^6 T}{T^2}$$

Hence we have

$$\Delta_{t,1} \leq \int_{(x_t, x_{t-1}) \in \mathcal{A}_t} \left[-p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) + p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) \right] p_{X_t}(x_t)\,\mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t + C_5^2 \frac{k^4 \log^6 T}{T^2}$$

$$= \int_{(x_t, x_{t-1}) \in \mathcal{A}_t^c} \left[p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) - p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) \right] p_{X_t}(x_t)\,\mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t + C_5^2 \frac{k^4 \log^6 T}{T^2}$$

22

$$\leq \underbrace{\int_{(x_t,x_{t-1})\in\mathcal{A}_t^c} p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)\,p_{X_t}(x_t)\,\mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t}_{=:\Delta_{t,3}} + C_5^2\frac{k^4\log^6 T}{T^2}.$$

Here the penultimate step follows from the fact that

$$\int p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)\,p_{X_t}(x_t)\,\mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t = \int p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)\,p_{X_t}(x_t)\,\mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t = 1.$$

It boils down to bounding $\Delta_{t,3}$. In view of (A.26), we know that

$$\Delta_{t,3} = \int p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)\,p_{X_t}(x_t)\,\mathbb{1}\{x_t\notin\mathcal{T}_t\}\,\mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t$$

$$+ \int p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)\,p_{X_t}(x_t)\,\mathbb{1}\left\{x_t\in\mathcal{T}_t, \frac{x_t-\sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1}}{\sqrt{1-\alpha_t}}\notin\mathcal{G}\right\}\mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t$$

$$= \mathbb{P}\left(X_t\notin\mathcal{T}_t\right) + \mathbb{P}\left(X_t\in\mathcal{T}_t, \frac{X_t-(X_t+\eta_t^\star s_t^\star(X_t)+\sigma_t^\star Z)}{\sqrt{1-\alpha_t}}\notin\mathcal{G}\right) \quad\text{where}\quad Z\sim\mathcal{N}(0,I_d)$$

$$= \mathbb{P}\left(X_t\notin\mathcal{T}_t\right) + \mathbb{P}\left(X_t\in\mathcal{T}_t, -\frac{\eta_t^\star s_t^\star(X_t)+\sigma_t^\star Z}{\sqrt{1-\alpha_t}}\notin\mathcal{G}\right)$$

Here we use the fact that $Y_{t-1}^\star\,|\,Y_t = x_t \sim \mathcal{N}\big((x_t+\eta_t^\star s_t^\star(x_t))/\sqrt{\alpha_t}, (\sigma_t^{\star 2}/\alpha_t)I_d\big)$. Notice that

$$-\frac{\eta_t^\star s_t^\star(X_t)+\sigma_t^\star Z}{\sqrt{1-\alpha_t}} = -\sqrt{1-\alpha_t}s_t^\star(X_t) - \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_t-\overline{\alpha}_t}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}}Z.$$

The following claim is cricial for understanding this random variable.

Claim 1. For any $x_t\in\mathcal{T}_t$, we have

$$\left\|\sqrt{1-\alpha_t}s_t^\star(x_t)\right\|_2 \leq \frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{d}+\sqrt{C_1 k\log T}\right),$$

and for any $1\leq i\leq j\leq N_\varepsilon$,

$$\sqrt{1-\alpha_t}|(x_i^\star-x_j^\star)^\top s_t^\star(x_t)| \leq \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{C_1 k\log T}\|x_i^\star-x_j^\star\|_2.$$

Proof. See Appendix A.7.1. $\qquad\qquad\square$

Since $Z\sim\mathcal{N}(0,I_d)$, in view of Lemma 9, with probability exceeding $1-\exp\left(-(C_1/64)k\log T\right)$,

$$\sqrt{\frac{\alpha_t-\overline{\alpha}_t}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}}\|Z\|_2 \leq \|Z\|_2 \leq \sqrt{d}+\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{C_1 k\log T}$$

and for any $1\leq i\leq j\leq N_\varepsilon$,

$$\sqrt{\frac{\alpha_t-\overline{\alpha}_t}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}}|(x_i^\star-x_j^\star)^\top Z| \leq |(x_i^\star-x_j^\star)^\top Z| \leq \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{C_1 k\log T}\|x_i^\star-x_j^\star\|_2.$$

These combined with Claim 1 allow us to show that

$$\mathbb{P}\left(X_t\in\mathcal{T}_t, -\frac{\eta_t^\star s_t^\star(X_t)+\sigma_t^\star Z}{\sqrt{1-\alpha_t}}\notin\mathcal{G}\right) \leq \exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{64}k\log T\right).$$

Taking the above inequality collectively with Lemma 1 gives

$$\Delta_{t,3} \leq \exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{4}k\log T\right) + \exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{64}k\log T\right) \leq 2\exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{64}k\log T\right).$$

Hence we have

$$\Delta_{t,1} \leq \Delta_{t,3} + C_5^2\frac{k^4\log^6 T}{T^2} \leq 2\exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{64}k\log T\right) + C_5^2\frac{k^4\log^6 T}{T^2} \leq 2C_5^2\frac{k^4\log^6 T}{T^2}$$

as long as T is sufficiently large.

A.7.1 Proof of Claim 1

Consider the decomposition $x_t = \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0(x_t) + \sqrt{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}\,\omega$ as in Appendix A.1, where $x_0(x_t) \in \mathcal{B}_{i(x_t)}$ for some $i(x_t) \in \mathcal{I}$ and $\omega \in \mathcal{G}$. Notice that

$$
s_t^\star(x_t) = -\frac{1}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}\left(x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}\widehat{x}_0\right) = -\frac{1}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}\left[\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_0(x_t) + \sqrt{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}\,\omega - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}(\overline{x}_0 + \delta)\right]
$$

$$
= -\frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}(x_0(x_t) - \overline{x}_0) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}}\omega + \frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}\delta.
$$

where $\widehat{x}_0 := \mathbb{E}[X_0 \mid X_t = x_t]$ is defined in (4.3), whereas $\overline{x}_0 \in \mathcal{X}_t(x_t)$ and δ are defined in (A.27). Therefore we can check that

$$
\left\|\sqrt{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}s_t^\star(x_t)\right\|_2 \leq \frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}\|x_0(x_t) - \overline{x}_0\|_2 + \sqrt{\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}}\|\omega\|_2 + \frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}\|\delta\|_2
$$

$$
\overset{(i)}{\leq} \frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}3\sqrt{\frac{C_3 k(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)\log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t}} + \sqrt{\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}}\left(\sqrt{d} + \sqrt{C_1 k\log T}\right) + \sqrt{\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}}\exp\left(-\frac{C_3 k\log T}{32}\right)
$$

$$
\overset{(ii)}{\leq} \sqrt{\frac{8c_1\log T}{T}}\left[3\sqrt{C_3 k\log T} + \sqrt{d} + \sqrt{C_1 k\log T} + \exp\left(-\frac{C_3 k\log T}{32}\right)\right]
$$

$$
\overset{(iii)}{\leq} \frac{1}{2}\left(\sqrt{d} + \sqrt{C_1 k\log T}\right).
$$

Here step (i) follows from (A.4), the fact that $\omega \in \mathcal{G}$, and (A.28); step (ii) follows from Lemma 8; while step (iii) holds provided that T is sufficiently large. In addition, for any $1 \leq i \leq j \leq N_\varepsilon$ we have

$$
\sqrt{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}|(x_i^\star - x_j^\star)^\top s_t^\star(x_t)|
$$

$$
\overset{(a)}{\leq} \frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}\|x_0(x_t) - \overline{x}_0\|_2\|x_i^\star - x_j^\star\|_2 + \sqrt{\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}}\left|\omega^\top(x_i^\star - x_j^\star)^\top\right|
$$

$$
+ \frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}\|\delta\|_2\|x_i^\star - x_j^\star\|_2
$$

$$
\overset{(b)}{\leq} \frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}3\sqrt{\frac{C_3 k(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)\log T}{\overline{\alpha}_t}}\|x_i^\star - x_j^\star\|_2 + \sqrt{\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}}\sqrt{C_1 k\log T}\|x_i^\star - x_j^\star\|_2
$$

$$
+ \frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}}{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}\sqrt{\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}{\overline{\alpha}_t}}\exp\left(-\frac{C_3 k\log T}{32}\right)\|x_i^\star - x_j^\star\|_2
$$

$$
\overset{(c)}{\leq} \sqrt{\frac{8c_1\log T}{T}}\left[3\sqrt{C_3 k\log T} + \sqrt{C_1 k\log T} + \exp\left(-\frac{C_3 k\log T}{32}\right)\right]\|x_i^\star - x_j^\star\|_2
$$

$$
\overset{(d)}{\leq} \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{C_1 k\log T}\|x_i^\star - x_j^\star\|_2.
$$

Here step (a) utilizes the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality; step (b) follows from (A.4), the fact that $\omega \in \mathcal{G}$, and (A.28); step (c) follows from Lemma 8; while step (d) holds when T is sufficiently large.

A.8 Proof of Lemma 6

We can upper bound $|\Delta_{t,2}|$ by

$$
|\Delta_{t,2}| \overset{(i)}{\leq} T^{c_0+2c_R}\int\left(\|\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}x_{t-1} - x_t\|_2 + \|x_t\|_2 + 1\right)p_{X_{t-1},X_t}(x_{t-1},x_t)\mathbb{1}\left\{(x_t,x_{t-1}) \notin \mathcal{A}_t\right\}\mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t
$$

$$
= T^{c_0+2c_R}\mathbb{E}\left[\left(\|\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}X_{t-1} - X_t\|_2 + \|X_t\|_2 + 1\right)\mathbb{1}\left\{(X_t,X_{t-1}) \notin \mathcal{A}_t\right\}\right]
$$

$$
\overset{(ii)}{=} T^{c_0+2c_R}\mathbb{E}\left[\left(\sqrt{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}\|W_t\|_2 + \|X_t\|_2 + 1\right)\mathbb{1}\left\{(X_t,X_{t-1}) \notin \mathcal{A}_t\right\}\right]
$$

$$
\overset{(iii)}{\leq} T^{c_0+2c_R}\sqrt{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}\mathbb{E}^{1/2}\left[\|W_t\|_2^2\right]\mathbb{P}^{1/2}\left((X_t,X_{t-1}) \notin \mathcal{A}_t\right) + T^{c_0+2c_R}\mathbb{E}^{1/2}\left[\|X_t\|_2^2\right]\mathbb{P}^{1/2}\left((X_t,X_{t-1}) \notin \mathcal{A}_t\right)
$$

$$
+ T^{c_0+2c_R}\mathbb{P}\left((X_t,X_{t-1}) \notin \mathcal{A}_t\right). \tag{A.40}
$$

Here step (i) follows from Lemma 4; step (ii) follows from the update rule (2.1); step (iii) utilizes the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality. In view of (2.2), we have

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\|X_t\|_2^2\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\|\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}X_0 + \sqrt{1-\overline{\alpha}_t}\,\overline{W}_t\|_2^2\right] \leq \mathbb{E}\left[2\overline{\alpha}_t R^2 + 2\left(1-\overline{\alpha}_t\right)\|\overline{W}_t\|_2^2\right]$$
$$= 2\overline{\alpha}_t R^2 + 2\left(1-\overline{\alpha}_t\right)d \leq 2R^2 + 2d, \tag{A.41}$$

where we use the fact that $\mathbb{E}[\|\overline{W}_t\|_2^2] = d$. Then we have

$$|\Delta_{t,2}| \overset{(a)}{\leq} T^{c_0+2c_R}\left(\sqrt{d\left(1-\alpha_t\right)} + \sqrt{2R^2+2d}\right)\mathbb{P}^{1/2}\left(\left(X_t, X_{t-1}\right)\notin \mathcal{A}_t\right) + T^{c_0+2c_R}\mathbb{P}\left(\left(X_t, X_{t-1}\right)\notin \mathcal{A}_t\right)$$

$$\overset{(b)}{\leq} T^{c_0+2c_R}\left(2R + 3\sqrt{d}\right)\exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{8}k\log T\right) + T^{c_0+2c_R}\exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{4}k\log T\right)$$

$$\overset{(c)}{\leq} \exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{16}k\log T\right)$$

Here step (a) utilizes (A.41) and the fact that $\mathbb{E}[\|W_t\|_2^2] = d$; step (b) follows from Lemma 1; while step (c) makes use of the assumption that $k \geq \log d$ and holds provided that $C_1 \gg c_0 + c_R$.

A.9 Proof of Lemma 7

We first decompose K_t into

$$K_t = \int p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}\left(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t\right)p_{X_t}\left(x_t\right)\left(x_{t-1} - \mu_t^\star\left(x_t\right)\right)^\top \varepsilon_t\left(x_t\right)\mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t$$

$$\overset{(i)}{=} \int\left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}\left(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t\right) - p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}\left(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t\right)\right)p_{X_t}\left(x_t\right)\left(x_{t-1} - \mu_t^\star\left(x_t\right)\right)^\top \varepsilon_t\left(x_t\right)\mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t$$

$$\overset{(ii)}{=} \left(\int_{\mathcal{A}_t} + \int_{\mathcal{A}_t^c}\right)\left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}\left(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t\right) - p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}\left(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t\right)\right)p_{X_t}\left(x_t\right)\left(x_{t-1} - \mu_t^\star\left(x_t\right)\right)^\top \varepsilon_t\left(x_t\right)\mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t$$

$$=: K_{t,1} + K_{t,2}.$$

Here step (i) follows from the fact that $\int p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}\left(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t\right)\left(x_{t-1} - \mu_t^\star(x_t)\right)\mathrm{d}x_{t-1} = 0$ for any $x_t \in \mathbb{R}^d$, and K_1 and K_2 are defined to be the two integrals over $\mathcal{A}_t$ and $\mathcal{A}_t^c$ in step (ii). The following two claims provide bounds for the two integrals $K_{t,1}$ and $K_{t,2}$ respectively.

Claim 2. Suppose that $T \gg k^2\log^3 T$. Then for each $2 \leq t \leq T$, we have

$$|K_{t,1}| \leq 3C_5\frac{k^2\log^3 T}{T}\sqrt{\frac{c_1\log T}{T}}\mathbb{E}_{x_t\sim q_t}\left[\|\varepsilon_t\left(x_t\right)\|_2\right].$$

Proof. See Appendix A.9.1. □

Claim 3. Suppose that $T \gg 1$. Then for each $2 \leq t \leq T$, we have

$$|K_{t,2}| \leq 2\exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{32}k\log T\right)\mathbb{E}_{x_t\sim q_t}^{1/2}\left[\|\varepsilon_t\left(x_t\right)\|_2^2\right].$$

Proof. See Appendix A.9.2. □

Then we conclude that

$$|K_t| \leq |K_{t,1}| + |K_{t,2}|$$

$$\overset{(a)}{\leq} 3C_5\frac{k^2\log^3 T}{T}\sqrt{\frac{c_1\log T}{T}}\mathbb{E}_{x_t\sim q_t}\left[\|\varepsilon_t\left(x_t\right)\|_2\right] + 2\exp\left(-\frac{C_1}{32}k\log T\right)\mathbb{E}_{x_t\sim q_t}^{1/2}\left[\|\varepsilon_t\left(x_t\right)\|_2^2\right]$$

$$\overset{(b)}{\leq} 4C_5\frac{k^2\log^3 T}{T}\sqrt{\frac{c_1\log T}{T}}\mathbb{E}_{x_t\sim q_t}^{1/2}\left[\|\varepsilon_t\left(x_t\right)\|_2^2\right]$$

as claimed. Here step (a) follows from Claim 2 and Claim 3; while step (b) utilizes Jensen's inequality, and holds provided that T is sufficiently large.

25

A.9.1 Proof of Claim 2

The term $K_{t,1}$ can be upper bounded by

$$
\begin{aligned}
|K_{t,1}| &= \left| \int_{\mathcal{A}_t} \left(\frac{p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)}{p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)} - 1 \right) p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)\, p_{X_t}(x_t)\,(x_{t-1}-\mu_t^\star(x_t))^\top \varepsilon_t(x_t)\,\mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t \right| \\
&\overset{\text{(i)}}{\leq} \int_{\mathcal{A}_t} \left| 1 - \frac{p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)}{p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)} \right| p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)\, p_{X_t}(x_t) \left| (x_{t-1}-\mu_t^\star(x_t))^\top \varepsilon_t(x_t) \right| \mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t \\
&\overset{\text{(ii)}}{\leq} C_5 \frac{k^2 \log^3 T}{T} \int_{\mathcal{A}_t} p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)\, p_{X_t}(x_t) \left| (x_{t-1}-\mu_t^\star(x_t))^\top \varepsilon_t(x_t) \right| \mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t \\
&\overset{\text{(iii)}}{=} C_5 \frac{k^2 \log^3 T}{T} \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\sigma_t^\star}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left| Z^\top \varepsilon_t(X_t) \right| \mathbb{1}\left\{ \left(X_t, \frac{X_t + \eta_t s_t^\star(X_t) + \sigma_t^\star Z}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \right) \in \mathcal{A}_t \right\} \right] \\
&\leq C_5 \frac{k^2 \log^3 T}{T} \sqrt{\frac{(1-\alpha_t)(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)}{\alpha_t(1-\overline{\alpha}_t)}} \mathbb{E}\left[\left| Z^\top \varepsilon_t(X_t) \right| \right] \overset{\text{(iv)}}{\leq} C_5 \frac{k^2 \log^3 T}{T} \sqrt{\frac{8c_1 \log T}{T}} \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \mathbb{E}\left[\|\varepsilon_t(X_t)\|_2 \right] \\
&\leq 3 C_5 \frac{k^2 \log^3 T}{T} \sqrt{\frac{c_1 \log T}{T}} \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t}\left[\|\varepsilon_t(x_t)\|_2 \right].
\end{aligned}
$$

Here step (i) follows from Jensen's inequality; step (ii) utilizes Lemma 3; step (iii) follows from the definition of $Y_t^\star$ in (4.1) and of $\mu_t^\star$ in (4.7), and $Z_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_d)$ is independent of X_t; step (iv) follows from Lemma 8 and the fact that $Z_t^\top \varepsilon_t(X_t)\,|\,X_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \|\varepsilon_t(X_t)\|_2^2)$ and hence

$$
\mathbb{E}\left[\left| Z_t^\top \varepsilon_t(X_t) \right| \right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\mathbb{E}\left[\left| Z_t^\top \varepsilon_t(X_t) \right| \,|\, X_t \right] \right] = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \mathbb{E}\left[\|\varepsilon_t(X_t)\|_2 \right].
$$

A.9.2 Proof of Claim 3

The term $K_{t,1}$ can be upper bounded by

$$
\begin{aligned}
|K_{t,2}| &\leq \int_{\mathcal{A}_t^c} \left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) + p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) \right) p_{X_t}(x_t) \|x_{t-1}-\mu_t^\star(x_t)\|_2 \|\varepsilon_t(x_t)\|_2\, \mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t \\
&\leq \underbrace{\left[\int_{\mathcal{A}_t^c} \left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) + p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) \right) p_{X_t}(x_t) \|x_{t-1}-\mu_t^\star(x_t)\|_2^2\, \mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t \right]^{1/2}}_{=:\gamma_1} \\
&\quad \cdot \underbrace{\left[\int_{\mathcal{A}_t^c} \left(p_{X_{t-1}|X_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) + p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t) \right) p_{X_t}(x_t) \|\varepsilon_t(x_t)\|_2^2\, \mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t \right]^{1/2}}_{=:\gamma_2}.
\end{aligned}
$$

The second term γ_2 can be easily bounded by

$$
\gamma_2 \leq \sqrt{2} \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t}^{1/2}\left[\|\varepsilon_t(x_t)\|_2^2 \right].
$$

In what follows, we will bound the first term γ_1. Note that

$$
\gamma_1^2 = \underbrace{\int_{\mathcal{A}_t^c} p_{X_{t-1}, X_t}(x_{t-1}, x_t) \|x_{t-1}-\mu_t^\star(x_t)\|_2^2\, \mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t}_{=:\gamma_{1,1}}
$$
$$
+ \underbrace{\int_{\mathcal{A}_t^c} p_{Y_{t-1}^\star|Y_t}(x_{t-1}\,|\,x_t)\, p_{X_t}(x_t) \|x_{t-1}-\mu_t^\star(x_t)\|_2^2\, \mathrm{d}x_{t-1}\mathrm{d}x_t}_{=:\gamma_{1,2}}.
$$

We have

$$
\gamma_{1,1} = \mathbb{E}\left[\|X_{t-1}-\mu_t^\star(X_t)\|_2^2 \mathbb{1}\left\{ (X_t, X_{t-1}) \notin \mathcal{A}_t \right\} \right] \overset{\text{(i)}}{\leq} \mathbb{E}^{1/2}\left[\|X_{t-1}-\mu_t^\star(X_t)\|_2^4 \right] \mathbb{P}^{1/2}\left((X_t, X_{t-1}) \notin \mathcal{A}_t \right)
$$

$$\overset{(ii)}{\leq} \alpha_t^{-2} \mathbb{E}^{1/2} \left[\left\| \sqrt{1 - \alpha_t} W_t + \eta_t^\star s_t^\star (X_t) \right\|_2^4 \right] \exp \left(-\frac{C_1}{8} k \log T \right)$$

$$\overset{(iii)}{\leq} 4 \mathbb{E}^{1/2} \left[\left\| \sqrt{1 - \alpha_t} W_t + \eta_t^\star s_t^\star (X_t) \right\|_2^4 \right] \exp \left(-\frac{C_1}{8} k \log T \right)$$

Here step (i) follows from Cauchy-Schwarz inequality; step (ii) follows from Lemma 1 and the definition of $\mu_t^\star$ in (4.7); while step (iii) uses the fact that $\alpha_t \geq 1/2$ (see Lemma 8). Recall the definition of $s_t^\star(\cdot)$

$$s_t^\star (x_t) = -\frac{1}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \left(x_t - \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t} \mathbb{E} \left[X_0 \mid X_t = x_t \right] \right),$$

which leads to the following upper bound

$$\left\| s_t^\star (X_t) \right\| \leq \frac{1}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \left\| X_t \right\|_2 + \frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} R = \frac{1}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \left\| \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t} X_0 + \sqrt{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \, \overline{W}_t \right\|_2 + \frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} R$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t}} \left\| \overline{W}_t \right\|_2 + 2 \frac{\sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t}}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} R. \tag{A.42}$$

Hence we have

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\left\| \sqrt{1 - \alpha_t} W_t + \eta_t^\star s_t^\star (X_t) \right\|_2^4 \right] \overset{(i)}{\leq} 8 (1 - \alpha_t)^2 \, \mathbb{E} \left[\left\| W_t \right\|_2^4 \right] + (1 - \alpha_t)^4 \, \mathbb{E} \left[\left\| s_t^\star (X_t) \right\|_2^4 \right]$$

$$\overset{(ii)}{\leq} 8 \left(\frac{c_1 \log T}{T} \right)^2 \mathbb{E} \left[\left\| W_t \right\|_2^4 \right] + \left(\frac{8 c_1 \log T}{T} \right)^4 \mathbb{E} \left[\left(\left\| \overline{W}_t \right\|_2 + R \right)^4 \right]$$

$$\overset{(iii)}{\leq} \frac{1}{16} \left(d^2 + R^4 \right).$$

Here step (i) follows from the elementary inequality $8(x^4 + y^4) \geq (x + y)^2$; step (ii) follows from Lemma 8 and (A.42); step (iii) follows from $W_t, \overline{W}_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_d)$ and the proviso that T being sufficiently large. Hence we have

$$\gamma_{1,1} \leq \sqrt{d^2 + R^4} \exp \left(-\frac{C_1}{8} k \log T \right) \leq \exp \left(-\frac{C_0}{16} k \log T \right)$$

as long as $C_0 \gg c_R$ and $k \geq \log d$. Regarding $\gamma_{1,2}$, we have

$$\gamma_{1,2} \overset{(i)}{=} \mathbb{E} \left[\left\| \frac{X_t + \eta_t s_t^\star (X_t) + \sigma_t^\star Z_t}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} - \frac{X_t + \eta_t^\star s_t^\star (X_t)}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \right\|_2^2 \mathbb{1} \left\{ (X_t, X_{t-1}) \notin \mathcal{A}_t \right\} \right]$$

$$= \frac{\sigma_t^{\star 2}}{\alpha_t} \mathbb{E} \left[\left\| Z_t \right\|_2^2 \mathbb{1} \left\{ (X_t, X_{t-1}) \notin \mathcal{A}_t \right\} \right] \overset{(ii)}{\leq} \frac{(1 - \alpha_t)(\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)}{(1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) \alpha_t} \mathbb{E}^{1/2} \left[\left\| Z_t \right\|_2^4 \right] \mathbb{P}^{1/2} \left((X_t, X_{t-1}) \notin \mathcal{A}_t \right)$$

$$\overset{(iii)}{\leq} \frac{8 c_1 \log T}{T} \exp \left(-\frac{C_1}{8} k \log T \right) \mathbb{E}^{1/2} \left[\left\| Z_t \right\|_2^4 \right] \overset{(iv)}{\leq} \exp \left(-\frac{C_1}{16} k \log T \right).$$

Here step (i) follows from the definition of $Y_t^\star$ in (4.1) and of $\mu_t^\star$ in (4.7); step (ii) follows from the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality; step (iii) utilizes Lemma 8 and Lemma 1; while step (iv) follows from $Z_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_d)$ and holds provided that T is sufficiently large and $k \geq \log d$. Taking the above bounds collectively yields

$$\left| K_{t,2} \right| \leq \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \leq \sqrt{\gamma_{1,1} + \gamma_{1,2}} \, \gamma_2 \leq 2 \exp \left(-\frac{C_1}{32} k \log T \right) \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t}^{1/2} \left[\left\| \varepsilon_t (x_t) \right\|_2^2 \right].$$

B   Proof of Theorem 2

In view of the update rule (2.1), the variables $X_0, X_1, \ldots, X_T$ are jointly Gaussian, and we can check from (2.2) that

$$X_t = \sqrt{\overline{\alpha}_t} X_0 + \sqrt{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \, \overline{W}_t \sim \mathcal{N} \left(0, \overline{\alpha}_t I_k + (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) I_d \right), \tag{B.1}$$

hence the score functions

$$s_t^\star (x) = - \left(\overline{\alpha}_t I_k + (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) I_d \right)^{-1} x, \qquad \forall \, x \in \mathbb{R}^d. \tag{B.2}$$

We first derive the density of X_{t-1} conditional on $X_t = x_t$. Since the joint distribution of (X_{t-1}, X_t) is

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_{t-1} \\ X_t \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \overline{\alpha}_{t-1} I_k + (1 - \overline{\alpha}_{t-1}) I_d & \sqrt{\alpha_t} \left(\overline{\alpha}_{t-1} I_k + (1 - \overline{\alpha}_{t-1}) I_d \right) \\ \sqrt{\alpha_t} \left(\overline{\alpha}_{t-1} I_k + (1 - \overline{\alpha}_{t-1}) I_d \right) & \overline{\alpha}_t I_k + (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) I_d \end{bmatrix} \right),$$

we can derive that

$$X_{t-1} \mid X_t = x_t \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\sqrt{\alpha_t} \Big(I_k + \frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{t-1}}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \left(I_d - I_k \right) \Big) x_t, (1 - \alpha_t) \Big(I_k + \frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{t-1}}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \left(I_d - I_k \right) \Big) \right).$$

In addition, with perfect score estimation, we can use (2.3) and (B.2) to achieve

$$Y_{t-1} = \frac{Y_t + \eta_t s_t^\star (Y_t) + \sigma_t Z_t}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} = \frac{Y_t - \eta_t \left(\overline{\alpha}_t I_k + (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) I_d \right)^{-1} Y_t + \sigma_t Z_t}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}},$$

which indicates that

$$Y_{t-1} \mid Y_t = x_t \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left((1 - \eta_t) I_k + \left(1 - \frac{\eta_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \right) (I_d - I_k) \right) x_t, \frac{\sigma_t^2}{\alpha_t} I_d \right).$$

Then we can check that for any $x_t \in \mathbb{R}^d$,

$$\mathsf{KL} \left(p_{X_{t-1} \mid X_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \| p_{Y_{t-1} \mid Y_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \right)$$
$$= \frac{(1 - \alpha_t - \eta_t)^2}{2\sigma_t^2} \| I_k x_t \|_2^2 + \frac{k}{2} \left(\frac{\alpha_t (1 - \alpha_t)}{\sigma_t^2} - \log \frac{\alpha_t (1 - \alpha_t)}{\sigma_t^2} - 1 \right)$$
$$+ \frac{(1 - \alpha_t - \eta_t)^2}{2 (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)} \| (I_d - I_k) x_t \|_2^2 + \frac{d - k}{2} \left(\frac{(1 - \alpha_t) (\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)}{\sigma_t^2 (1 - \alpha_t)} - \log \frac{(1 - \alpha_t) (\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)}{\sigma_t^2 (1 - \alpha_t)} - 1 \right).$$

One can check that

$$z - \log z - 1 \geq 0.1 \min \left\{ 1, (z - 1)^2 \right\}, \qquad \forall z > 0.$$

We combine the above two relations as well as the assumption that $k \leq d/2$ to achieve

$$\mathsf{KL} \left(p_{X_{t-1} \mid X_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \| p_{Y_{t-1} \mid Y_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \right) \geq \frac{(1 - \alpha_t - \eta_t)^2}{2 (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t)} \| (I_d - I_k) x_t \|_2^2 + \frac{d}{40} \left(\frac{(1 - \alpha_t) (\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)}{\sigma_t^2 (1 - \alpha_t)} - 1 \right)^2.$$

By taking expectation w.r.t. x_t, we have

$$\mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\mathsf{KL} \left(p_{X_{t-1} \mid X_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \| p_{Y_{t-1} \mid Y_t} \left(\cdot \mid x_t \right) \right) \right] \geq \frac{d}{4} (1 - \alpha_t - \eta_t)^2 + \frac{d}{40} \left(\frac{(1 - \alpha_t) (\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t)}{\sigma_t^2 (1 - \alpha_t)} - 1 \right)^2,$$

where we use the fact that

$$\mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim q_t} \left[\| (I_d - I_k) x_t \|_2^2 \right] = (d - k) (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t) \geq \frac{d}{2} (1 - \overline{\alpha}_t).$$

C Technical lemmas

This section collects a few useful technical tools that are useful in the analysis.

Lemma 8. *When T is sufficiently large, for $1 \leq t \leq T$, we have*

$$\alpha_t \geq 1 - \frac{c_1 \log T}{T} \geq \frac{1}{2}.$$

In addition, for $2 \leq t \leq T$, we have

$$\frac{1 - \alpha_t}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_t} \leq \frac{1 - \alpha_t}{\alpha_t - \overline{\alpha}_t} \leq \frac{8 c_1 \log T}{T}.$$

Proof. See Appendix A.2 in [14]. $\qquad \square$

28

Lemma 9. *For $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$ and any $t \geq 1$, we know that Proposition 2.1.2*

$$\mathbb{P}\left(|Z| \geq t\right) \leq e^{-t^2/2}, \qquad \forall t \geq 1.$$

In addition, for a chi-square random variable $Y \sim \chi^2(d)$, we have

$$\mathbb{P}(\sqrt{Y} \geq \sqrt{d} + t) \leq e^{-t^2/2}, \qquad \forall t \geq 1.$$

Proof. See Proposition 2.1.2 in [27] and Section 4.1 in [12]. □

Lemma 10. *Suppose that T is sufficiently large. Then we have*

$$\mathsf{KL}\left(p_{X_T} \| p_{Y_T}\right) \leq T^{-100}.$$

Proof. See Lemma 3 in [14]. □

NeurIPS Paper Checklist

1. **Claims**

   Question: Do the main claims made in the abstract and introduction accurately reflect the paper's contributions and scope?

   Answer: [Yes]

   Justification: The claims made in the abstract and introduction reflect the paper's contributions and scope and are justified in the paper.

   Guidelines:

   - The answer NA means that the abstract and introduction do not include the claims made in the paper.
   - The abstract and/or introduction should clearly state the claims made, including the contributions made in the paper and important assumptions and limitations. A No or NA answer to this question will not be perceived well by the reviewers.
   - The claims made should match theoretical and experimental results, and reflect how much the results can be expected to generalize to other settings.
   - It is fine to include aspirational goals as motivation as long as it is clear that these goals are not attained by the paper.

2. **Limitations**

   Question: Does the paper discuss the limitations of the work performed by the authors?

   Answer: [Yes]

   Justification: We discuss the limitiation in Section 6.

   Guidelines:

   - The answer NA means that the paper has no limitation while the answer No means that the paper has limitations, but those are not discussed in the paper.
   - The authors are encouraged to create a separate "Limitations" section in their paper.
   - The paper should point out any strong assumptions and how robust the results are to violations of these assumptions (e.g., independence assumptions, noiseless settings, model well-specification, asymptotic approximations only holding locally). The authors should reflect on how these assumptions might be violated in practice and what the implications would be.
   - The authors should reflect on the scope of the claims made, e.g., if the approach was only tested on a few datasets or with a few runs. In general, empirical results often depend on implicit assumptions, which should be articulated.
   - The authors should reflect on the factors that influence the performance of the approach. For example, a facial recognition algorithm may perform poorly when image resolution is low or images are taken in low lighting. Or a speech-to-text system might not be used reliably to provide closed captions for online lectures because it fails to handle technical jargon.
   - The authors should discuss the computational efficiency of the proposed algorithms and how they scale with dataset size.
   - If applicable, the authors should discuss possible limitations of their approach to address problems of privacy and fairness.
   - While the authors might fear that complete honesty about limitations might be used by reviewers as grounds for rejection, a worse outcome might be that reviewers discover limitations that aren't acknowledged in the paper. The authors should use their best judgment and recognize that individual actions in favor of transparency play an important role in developing norms that preserve the integrity of the community. Reviewers will be specifically instructed to not penalize honesty concerning limitations.

3. **Theory Assumptions and Proofs**

   Question: For each theoretical result, does the paper provide the full set of assumptions and a complete (and correct) proof?

   Answer: [Yes]

   Justification: The full set of assumptions are provided in Section 2. The proof in Section 4 and the appendix is complete and correct.

Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the paper does not include theoretical results.
- All the theorems, formulas, and proofs in the paper should be numbered and cross-referenced.
- All assumptions should be clearly stated or referenced in the statement of any theorems.
- The proofs can either appear in the main paper or the supplemental material, but if they appear in the supplemental material, the authors are encouraged to provide a short proof sketch to provide intuition.
- Inversely, any informal proof provided in the core of the paper should be complemented by formal proofs provided in appendix or supplemental material.
- Theorems and Lemmas that the proof relies upon should be properly referenced.

4. **Experimental Result Reproducibility**

Question: Does the paper fully disclose all the information needed to reproduce the main experimental results of the paper to the extent that it affects the main claims and/or conclusions of the paper (regardless of whether the code and data are provided or not)?

Answer: [NA]

Justification: The paper does not include experiments.

Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.
- If the paper includes experiments, a No answer to this question will not be perceived well by the reviewers: Making the paper reproducible is important, regardless of whether the code and data are provided or not.
- If the contribution is a dataset and/or model, the authors should describe the steps taken to make their results reproducible or verifiable.
- Depending on the contribution, reproducibility can be accomplished in various ways. For example, if the contribution is a novel architecture, describing the architecture fully might suffice, or if the contribution is a specific model and empirical evaluation, it may be necessary to either make it possible for others to replicate the model with the same dataset, or provide access to the model. In general. releasing code and data is often one good way to accomplish this, but reproducibility can also be provided via detailed instructions for how to replicate the results, access to a hosted model (e.g., in the case of a large language model), releasing of a model checkpoint, or other means that are appropriate to the research performed.
- While NeurIPS does not require releasing code, the conference does require all submissions to provide some reasonable avenue for reproducibility, which may depend on the nature of the contribution. For example
  (a) If the contribution is primarily a new algorithm, the paper should make it clear how to reproduce that algorithm.
  (b) If the contribution is primarily a new model architecture, the paper should describe the architecture clearly and fully.
  (c) If the contribution is a new model (e.g., a large language model), then there should either be a way to access this model for reproducing the results or a way to reproduce the model (e.g., with an open-source dataset or instructions for how to construct the dataset).
  (d) We recognize that reproducibility may be tricky in some cases, in which case authors are welcome to describe the particular way they provide for reproducibility. In the case of closed-source models, it may be that access to the model is limited in some way (e.g., to registered users), but it should be possible for other researchers to have some path to reproducing or verifying the results.

5. **Open access to data and code**

Question: Does the paper provide open access to the data and code, with sufficient instructions to faithfully reproduce the main experimental results, as described in supplemental material?

Answer: [NA]

Justification: The paper does not include experiments.

Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that paper does not include experiments requiring code.

- Please see the NeurIPS code and data submission guidelines (`https://nips.cc/public/guides/CodeSubmissionPolicy`) for more details.
- While we encourage the release of code and data, we understand that this might not be possible, so "No" is an acceptable answer. Papers cannot be rejected simply for not including code, unless this is central to the contribution (e.g., for a new open-source benchmark).
- The instructions should contain the exact command and environment needed to run to reproduce the results. See the NeurIPS code and data submission guidelines (`https://nips.cc/public/guides/CodeSubmissionPolicy`) for more details.
- The authors should provide instructions on data access and preparation, including how to access the raw data, preprocessed data, intermediate data, and generated data, etc.
- The authors should provide scripts to reproduce all experimental results for the new proposed method and baselines. If only a subset of experiments are reproducible, they should state which ones are omitted from the script and why.
- At submission time, to preserve anonymity, the authors should release anonymized versions (if applicable).
- Providing as much information as possible in supplemental material (appended to the paper) is recommended, but including URLs to data and code is permitted.

6. **Experimental Setting/Details**

Question: Does the paper specify all the training and test details (e.g., data splits, hyperparameters, how they were chosen, type of optimizer, etc.) necessary to understand the results?

Answer: [NA]

Justification: The paper does not include experiments.

Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.
- The experimental setting should be presented in the core of the paper to a level of detail that is necessary to appreciate the results and make sense of them.
- The full details can be provided either with the code, in appendix, or as supplemental material.

7. **Experiment Statistical Significance**

Question: Does the paper report error bars suitably and correctly defined or other appropriate information about the statistical significance of the experiments?

Answer: [NA]

Justification: The paper does not include experiments.

Guidelines:

- The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.
- The authors should answer "Yes" if the results are accompanied by error bars, confidence intervals, or statistical significance tests, at least for the experiments that support the main claims of the paper.
- The factors of variability that the error bars are capturing should be clearly stated (for example, train/test split, initialization, random drawing of some parameter, or overall run with given experimental conditions).
- The method for calculating the error bars should be explained (closed form formula, call to a library function, bootstrap, etc.)
- The assumptions made should be given (e.g., Normally distributed errors).
- It should be clear whether the error bar is the standard deviation or the standard error of the mean.
- It is OK to report 1-sigma error bars, but one should state it. The authors should preferably report a 2-sigma error bar than state that they have a 96% CI, if the hypothesis of Normality of errors is not verified.
- For asymmetric distributions, the authors should be careful not to show in tables or figures symmetric error bars that would yield results that are out of range (e.g. negative error rates).
- If error bars are reported in tables or plots, The authors should explain in the text how they were calculated and reference the corresponding figures or tables in the text.

8. **Experiments Compute Resources**

   Question: For each experiment, does the paper provide sufficient information on the computer resources (type of compute workers, memory, time of execution) needed to reproduce the experiments?

   Answer: [NA]

   Justification: The paper does not include experiments.

   Guidelines:

   - The answer NA means that the paper does not include experiments.
   - The paper should indicate the type of compute workers CPU or GPU, internal cluster, or cloud provider, including relevant memory and storage.
   - The paper should provide the amount of compute required for each of the individual experimental runs as well as estimate the total compute.
   - The paper should disclose whether the full research project required more compute than the experiments reported in the paper (e.g., preliminary or failed experiments that didn't make it into the paper).

9. **Code Of Ethics**

   Question: Does the research conducted in the paper conform, in every respect, with the NeurIPS Code of Ethics https://neurips.cc/public/EthicsGuidelines?

   Answer: [Yes]

   Justification: The research conducted in the paper conformes, in every respect, with the NeurIPS Code of Ethics.

   Guidelines:

   - The answer NA means that the authors have not reviewed the NeurIPS Code of Ethics.
   - If the authors answer No, they should explain the special circumstances that require a deviation from the Code of Ethics.
   - The authors should make sure to preserve anonymity (e.g., if there is a special consideration due to laws or regulations in their jurisdiction).

10. **Broader Impacts**

    Question: Does the paper discuss both potential positive societal impacts and negative societal impacts of the work performed?

    Answer: [NA]

    Justification: This is a theory paper. There is no societal impact of the work performed.

    Guidelines:

    - The answer NA means that there is no societal impact of the work performed.
    - If the authors answer NA or No, they should explain why their work has no societal impact or why the paper does not address societal impact.
    - Examples of negative societal impacts include potential malicious or unintended uses (e.g., disinformation, generating fake profiles, surveillance), fairness considerations (e.g., deployment of technologies that could make decisions that unfairly impact specific groups), privacy considerations, and security considerations.
    - The conference expects that many papers will be foundational research and not tied to particular applications, let alone deployments. However, if there is a direct path to any negative applications, the authors should point it out. For example, it is legitimate to point out that an improvement in the quality of generative models could be used to generate deepfakes for disinformation. On the other hand, it is not needed to point out that a generic algorithm for optimizing neural networks could enable people to train models that generate Deepfakes faster.
    - The authors should consider possible harms that could arise when the technology is being used as intended and functioning correctly, harms that could arise when the technology is being used as intended but gives incorrect results, and harms following from (intentional or unintentional) misuse of the technology.

- If there are negative societal impacts, the authors could also discuss possible mitigation strategies (e.g., gated release of models, providing defenses in addition to attacks, mechanisms for monitoring misuse, mechanisms to monitor how a system learns from feedback over time, improving the efficiency and accessibility of ML).

11. **Safeguards**

    Question: Does the paper describe safeguards that have been put in place for responsible release of data or models that have a high risk for misuse (e.g., pretrained language models, image generators, or scraped datasets)?

    Answer: [NA]

    Justification: The paper poses no such risks.

    Guidelines:

    - The answer NA means that the paper poses no such risks.
    - Released models that have a high risk for misuse or dual-use should be released with necessary safeguards to allow for controlled use of the model, for example by requiring that users adhere to usage guidelines or restrictions to access the model or implementing safety filters.
    - Datasets that have been scraped from the Internet could pose safety risks. The authors should describe how they avoided releasing unsafe images.
    - We recognize that providing effective safeguards is challenging, and many papers do not require this, but we encourage authors to take this into account and make a best faith effort.

12. **Licenses for existing assets**

    Question: Are the creators or original owners of assets (e.g., code, data, models), used in the paper, properly credited and are the license and terms of use explicitly mentioned and properly respected?

    Answer: [NA]

    Justification: The paper does not use existing assets.

    Guidelines:

    - The answer NA means that the paper does not use existing assets.
    - The authors should cite the original paper that produced the code package or dataset.
    - The authors should state which version of the asset is used and, if possible, include a URL.
    - The name of the license (e.g., CC-BY 4.0) should be included for each asset.
    - For scraped data from a particular source (e.g., website), the copyright and terms of service of that source should be provided.
    - If assets are released, the license, copyright information, and terms of use in the package should be provided. For popular datasets, paperswithcode.com/datasets has curated licenses for some datasets. Their licensing guide can help determine the license of a dataset.
    - For existing datasets that are re-packaged, both the original license and the license of the derived asset (if it has changed) should be provided.
    - If this information is not available online, the authors are encouraged to reach out to the asset's creators.

13. **New Assets**

    Question: Are new assets introduced in the paper well documented and is the documentation provided alongside the assets?

    Answer: [NA]

    Justification: The paper does not release new assets.

    Guidelines:

    - The answer NA means that the paper does not release new assets.
    - Researchers should communicate the details of the dataset/code/model as part of their submissions via structured templates. This includes details about training, license, limitations, etc.
    - The paper should discuss whether and how consent was obtained from people whose asset is used.

- At submission time, remember to anonymize your assets (if applicable). You can either create an anonymized URL or include an anonymized zip file.

14. **Crowdsourcing and Research with Human Subjects**

    Question: For crowdsourcing experiments and research with human subjects, does the paper include the full text of instructions given to participants and screenshots, if applicable, as well as details about compensation (if any)?

    Answer: [NA]

    Justification: The paper does not involve crowdsourcing nor research with human subjects.

    Guidelines:

    - The answer NA means that the paper does not involve crowdsourcing nor research with human subjects.
    - Including this information in the supplemental material is fine, but if the main contribution of the paper involves human subjects, then as much detail as possible should be included in the main paper.
    - According to the NeurIPS Code of Ethics, workers involved in data collection, curation, or other labor should be paid at least the minimum wage in the country of the data collector.

15. **Institutional Review Board (IRB) Approvals or Equivalent for Research with Human Subjects**

    Question: Does the paper describe potential risks incurred by study participants, whether such risks were disclosed to the subjects, and whether Institutional Review Board (IRB) approvals (or an equivalent approval/review based on the requirements of your country or institution) were obtained?

    Answer: [NA]

    Justification: The paper does not involve crowdsourcing nor research with human subjects.

    Guidelines:

    - The answer NA means that the paper does not involve crowdsourcing nor research with human subjects.
    - Depending on the country in which research is conducted, IRB approval (or equivalent) may be required for any human subjects research. If you obtained IRB approval, you should clearly state this in the paper.
    - We recognize that the procedures for this may vary significantly between institutions and locations, and we expect authors to adhere to the NeurIPS Code of Ethics and the guidelines for their institution.
    - For initial submissions, do not include any information that would break anonymity (if applicable), such as the institution conducting the review.