

CS 4644-DL / 7643-A: LECTURE 19

DANFEI XU

Generative Models:
Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models (DDPMs)

Taxonomy of Generative Models

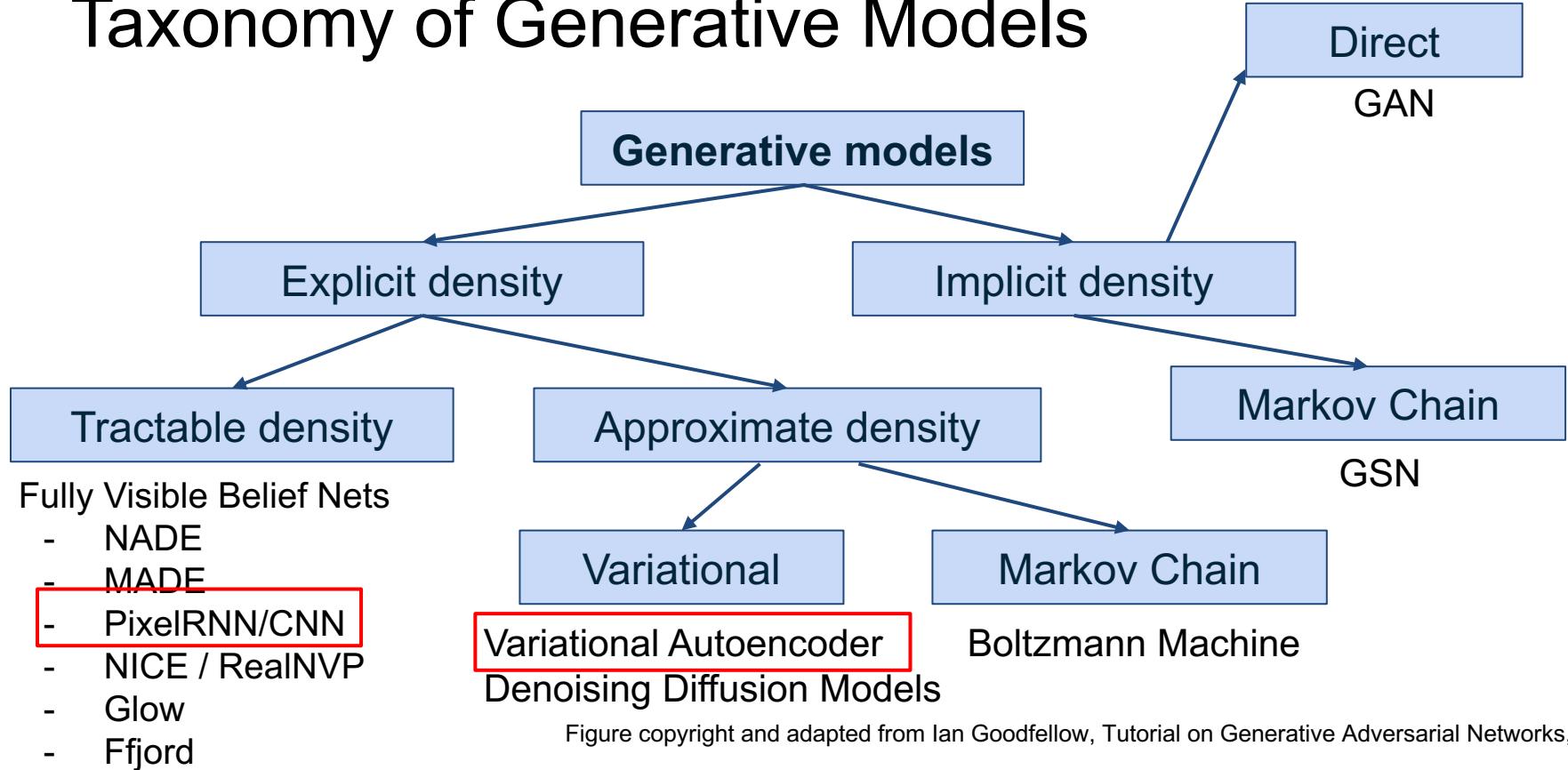


Figure copyright and adapted from Ian Goodfellow, Tutorial on Generative Adversarial Networks, 2017.

PixelCNN

[van der Oord et al. 2016]

Still generate image pixels starting from corner

Dependency on previous pixels now modeled using a CNN over context region
(masked convolution)

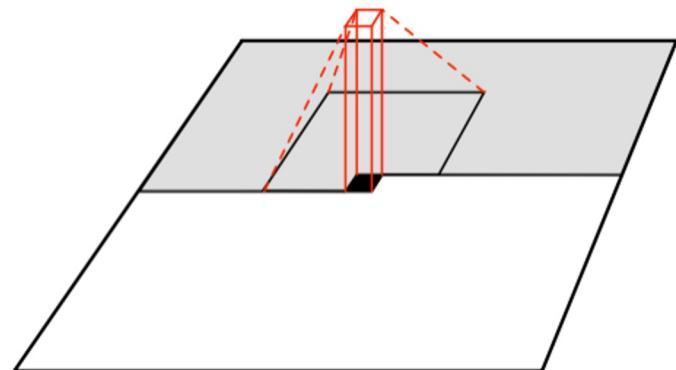
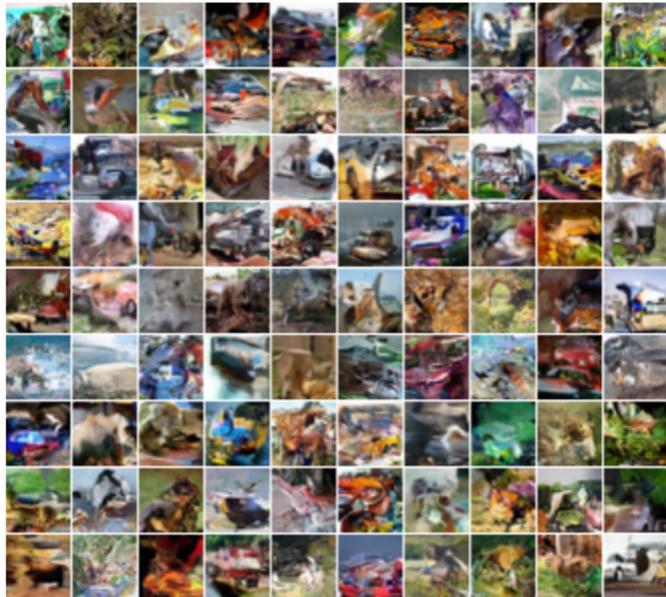
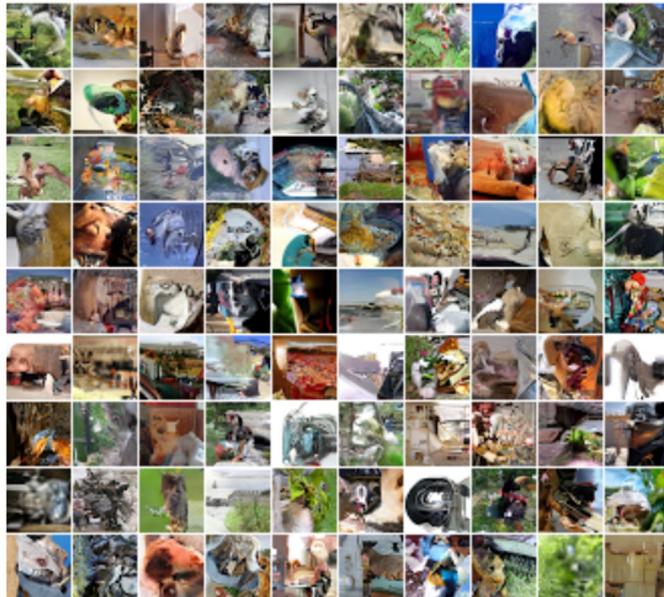


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Generation Samples



32x32 CIFAR-10



32x32 ImageNet

Figures copyright Aaron van der Oord et al., 2016. Reproduced with permission.

Variational Autoencoders

$$\log p_\theta(x^{(i)}) = \mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_\phi(z|x^{(i)})} [\log p_\theta(x^{(i)})] \quad (p_\theta(x^{(i)}) \text{ Does not depend on } z)$$

$$= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_\theta(x^{(i)} | z)p_\theta(z)}{p_\theta(z | x^{(i)})} \right] \quad (\text{Bayes' Rule})$$

Decoder:
reconstruct
the input data

$$= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_\theta(x^{(i)} | z)p_\theta(z)}{p_\theta(z | x^{(i)})} \frac{q_\phi(z | x^{(i)})}{q_\phi(z | x^{(i)})} \right] \quad (\text{Multiply by constant})$$

$$= \mathbf{E}_z [\log p_\theta(x^{(i)} | z)] - \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{q_\phi(z | x^{(i)})}{p_\theta(z)} \right] + \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{q_\phi(z | x^{(i)})}{p_\theta(z | x^{(i)})} \right] \quad (\text{Logarithms})$$

$$= \underbrace{\mathbf{E}_z [\log p_\theta(x^{(i)} | z)]}_{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)} - D_{KL}(q_\phi(z | x^{(i)}) || p_\theta(z)) + \underbrace{D_{KL}(q_\phi(z | x^{(i)}) || p_\theta(z | x^{(i)}))}_{\geq 0}$$

Encoder:
make approximate
posterior distribution
close to prior

Tractable lower bound which we can take
gradient of and optimize! ($p_\theta(x|z)$ differentiable,
KL term differentiable)

Variational Autoencoders

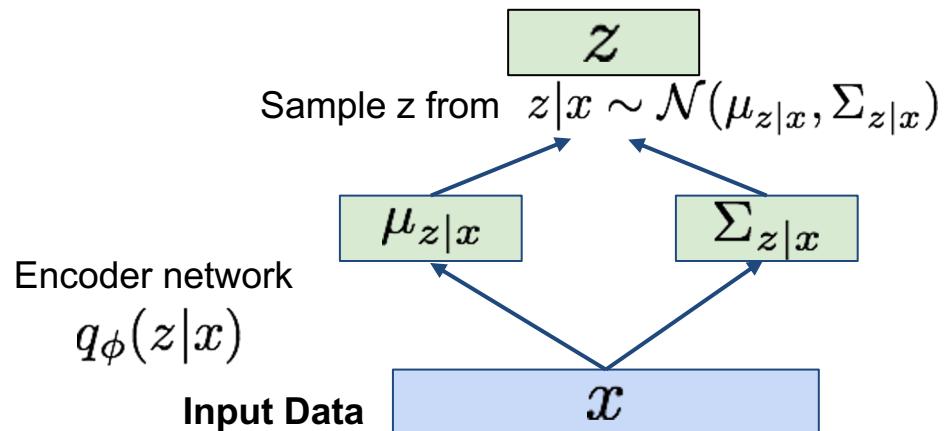
Putting it all together: maximizing the likelihood lower bound

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_\theta(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_\phi(z | x^{(i)}) || p_\theta(z))}_{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)}$$

Reparameterization trick to make sampling differentiable:

$$\text{Sample } \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$

$$z = \mu_{z|x} + \epsilon \sigma_{z|x}$$

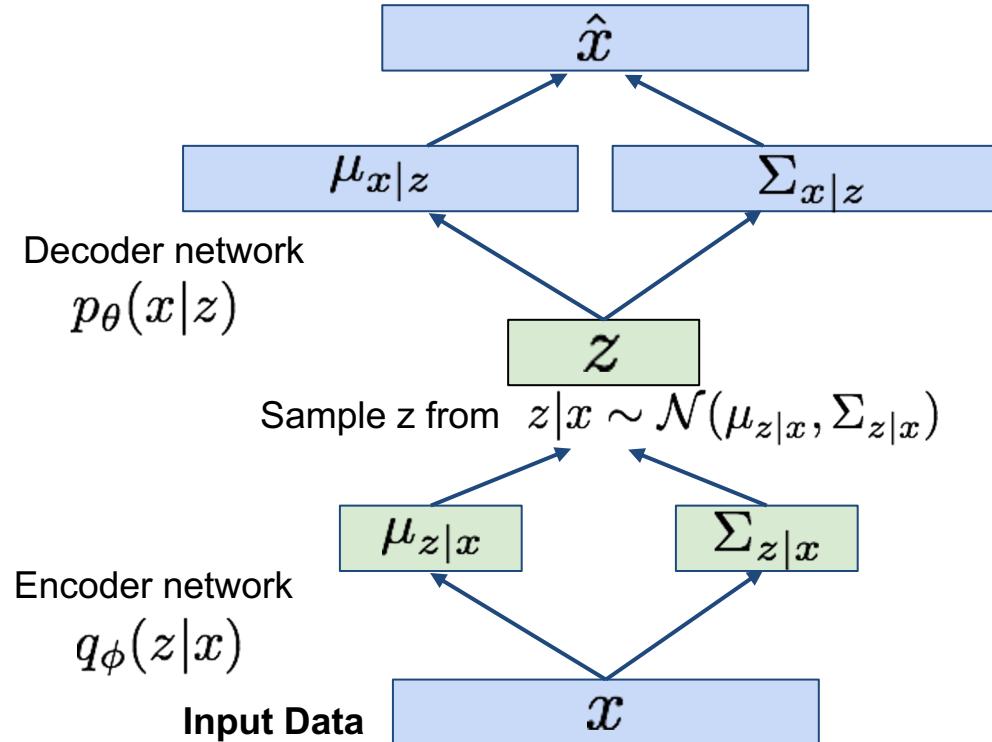


Variational Autoencoders

Putting it all together: maximizing the likelihood lower bound

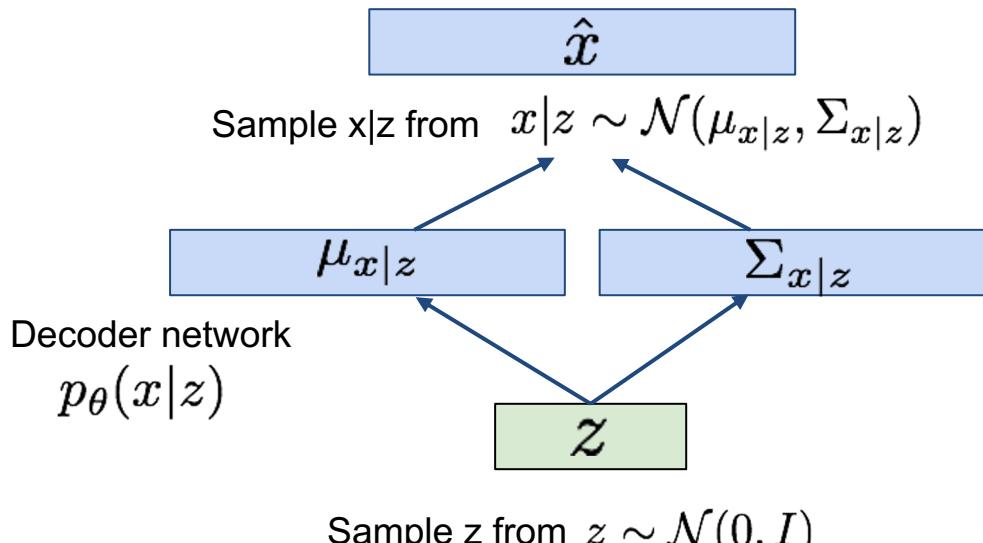
$$\mathbb{E}_z \left[\log p_\theta(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_\phi(z | x^{(i)}) || p_\theta(z)) \\ \mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)$$

For every minibatch of input data: compute this forward pass, and then backprop!

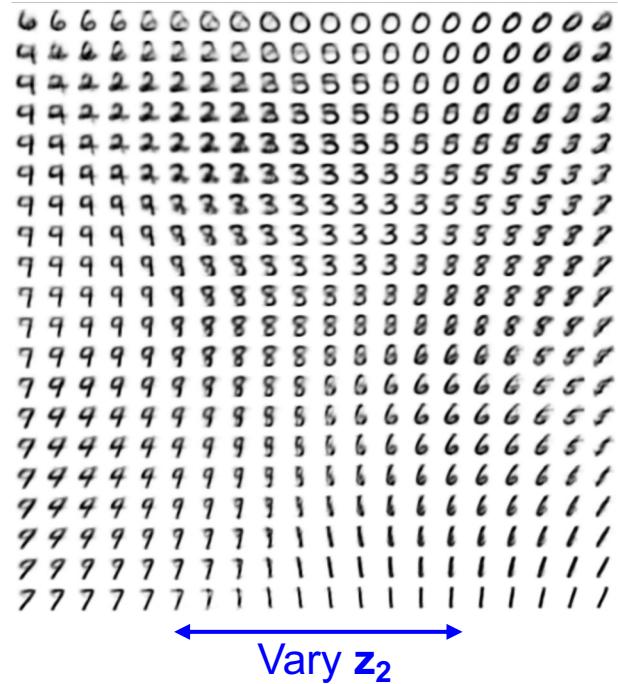


Variational Autoencoders: Generating Data!

Use decoder network. Now sample z from prior!



Data manifold for 2-d z



Kingma and Welling, "Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes", ICLR 2014

Taxonomy of Generative Models

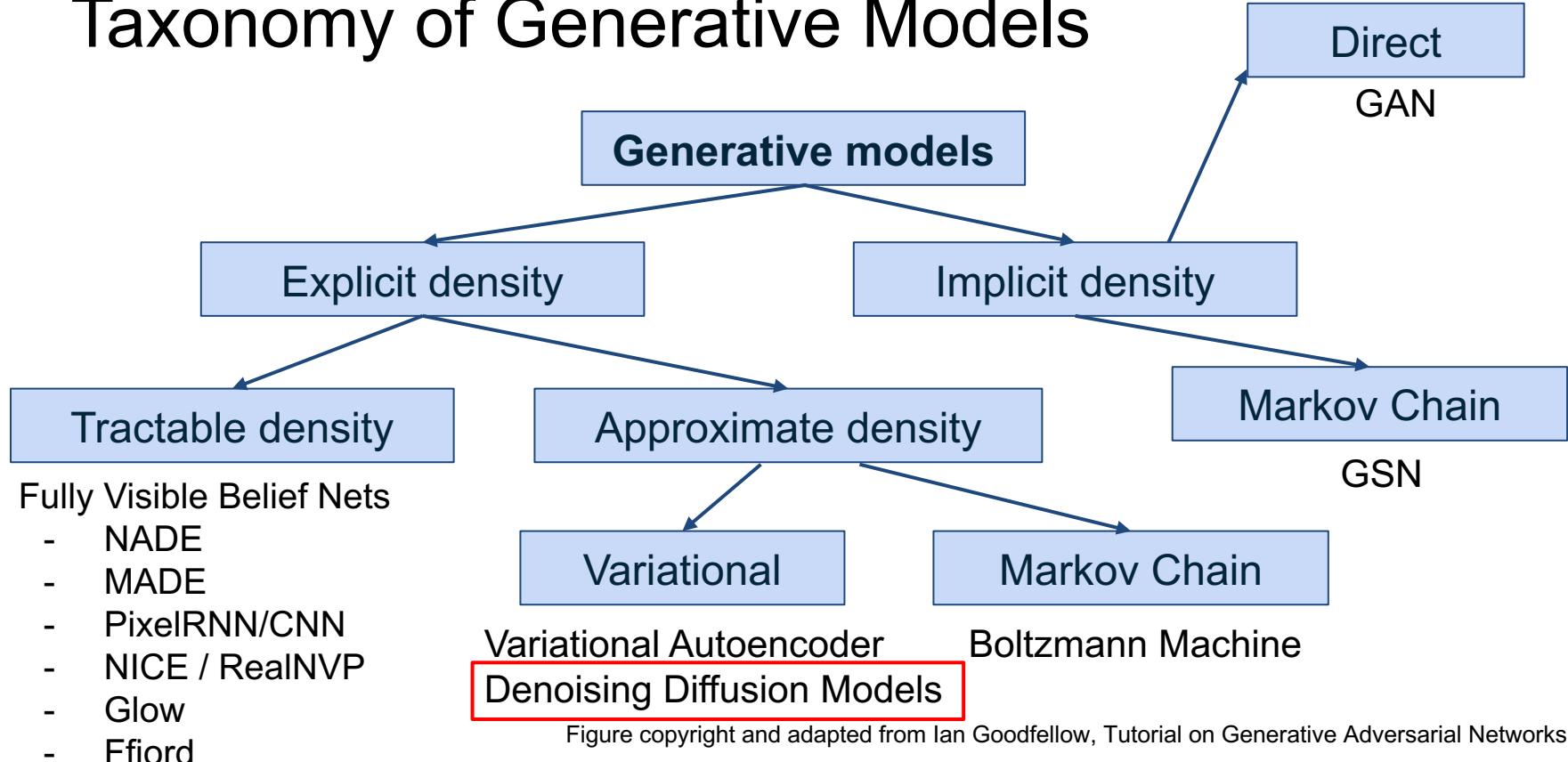


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Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models (DDPMs)

And Conditional Diffusion Models

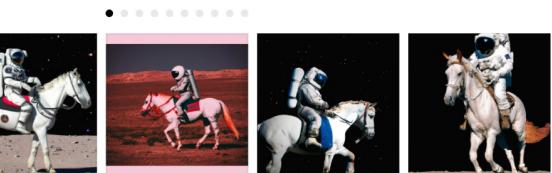
TEXT DESCRIPTION

DALL-E 2

An astronaut Teddy bears A bowl of
soup

riding a horse lounging in a tropical resort
in space playing basketball with cats in
space

in a photorealistic style in the style of Andy
Warhol as a pencil drawing



TEXT DESCRIPTION

An astronaut **Teddy bears** A bowl of
soup

mixing sparkling chemicals as mad
scientists shopping for groceries **working**
on new AI research

as kids' crayon art **on the moon in the**
1980s underwater with 1990s technology

DALL-E 2





<https://openai.com/dall-e-2/>

ity [Insights](#)[main](#) [1 branch](#) [0 tags](#)[Go to file](#)[Add file](#) ▾[Code](#) ▾ **pesser** Release under CreativeML Open RAIL M License ...69ae4b3 on Aug 22 [29 commits](#)

 assets	Release under CreativeML Open RAIL M License	2 months ago
 configs	stable diffusion	3 months ago
 data	stable diffusion	3 months ago
 ldm	stable diffusion	3 months ago
 models	add configs for training unconditional/class-conditional ldms	11 months ago
 scripts	Release under CreativeML Open RAIL M License	2 months ago
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 Stable_Diffusion_v1_Model_Card.md	Release under CreativeML Open RAIL M License	2 months ago
 environment.yaml	Release under CreativeML Open RAIL M License	2 months ago
 main.py	add configs for training unconditional/class-conditional ldms	11 months ago
 notebook_helpers.py	add code	11 months ago
 setup.py	add code	11 months ago

[README.md](#)

Stable Diffusion

Stable Diffusion was made possible thanks to a collaboration with [Stability AI](#) and [Runway](#) and builds upon our previous work:

[High-Resolution Image Synthesis with Latent Diffusion Models](#)

Robin Rombach*, Andreas Blattmann*, Dominik Lorenz, Patrick Esser, Björn Ommer

CVPR '22 Oral | [GitHub](#) | [arXiv](#) | [Project page](#)

About

A latent text-to-image diffusion model

[ommer-lab.com/research/latent-diffus...](#)

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Releases

No releases published

Packages

No packages published

Contributors



Languages



Landscape Highlights of Diffusion Models (Nov 2022)

- basic principles {
 - *Diffusion probabilistic models* ([Sohl-Dickstein et al., 2015](#))
 - *Noise-conditioned score network* (**NCSN**; [Yang & Ermon, 2019](#))
 - *Denoising diffusion probabilistic models* (**DDPM**; [Ho et al. 2020](#))
- conditional & high-res image generation {
 - *Classifier-guided conditional generation* ([Dhariwal and Nichole, 2021](#))
 - *Classifier-free Diffusion Guidance* ([Ho and Salimans, 2022](#))
 - *Latent-space Diffusion* (**StableDiffusion**; [Rombach and Blattmann et al., 2022](#))
- new applications {
 - *Planning with Diffusion for Flexible Behavior Synthesis* (**Diffuser**; [Janner et al., 2022](#))
 - *DreamFusion: Text-to-3D using 2D Diffusion* ([Poole and Jain et al., 2022](#))
 - *Make-A-Video: Text-to-Video Generation without Text-Video Data* ([Singer et al., 2022](#))

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The Denoising Diffusion Process

image from
dataset

x_0



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image from
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The “forward diffusion” process:
add Gaussian noise each step

$$x_0 \longrightarrow x_1 \longrightarrow$$



• • •

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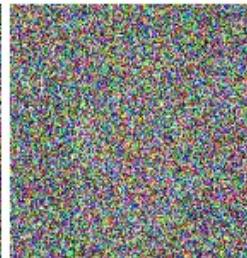
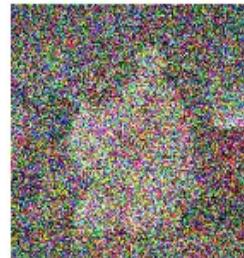
noise $\mathcal{N}(0, I)$

$$x_0 \longrightarrow x_1 \longrightarrow$$



...

$$\longrightarrow x_{T-1} \longrightarrow x_T$$

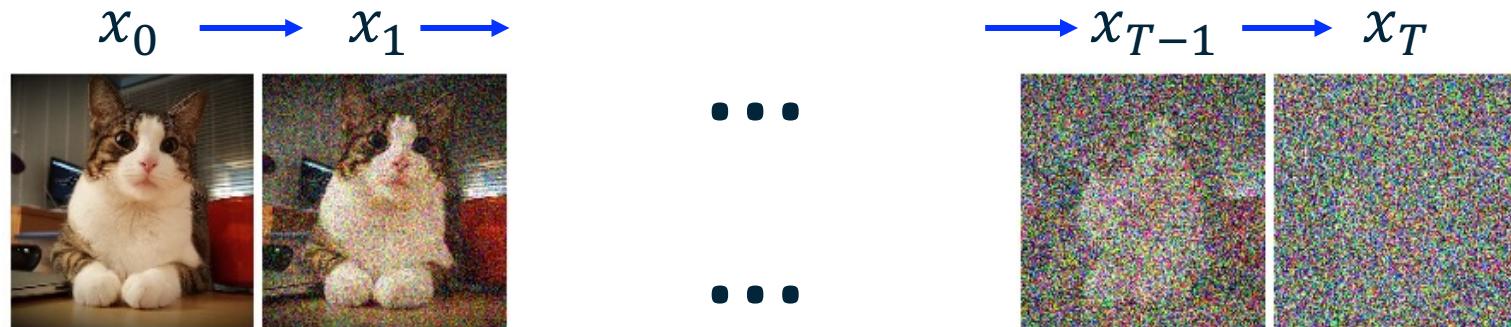


The Denoising Diffusion Process

image from
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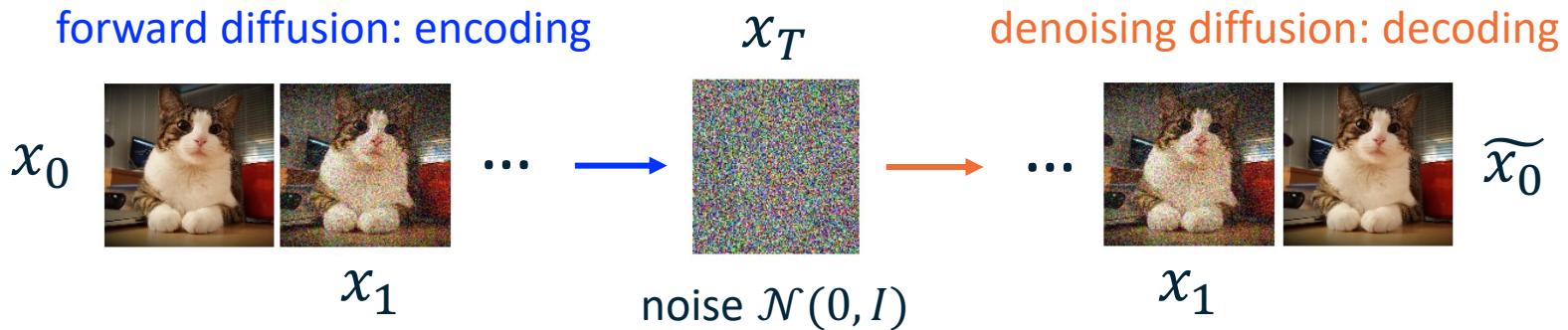
The “forward diffusion” process:
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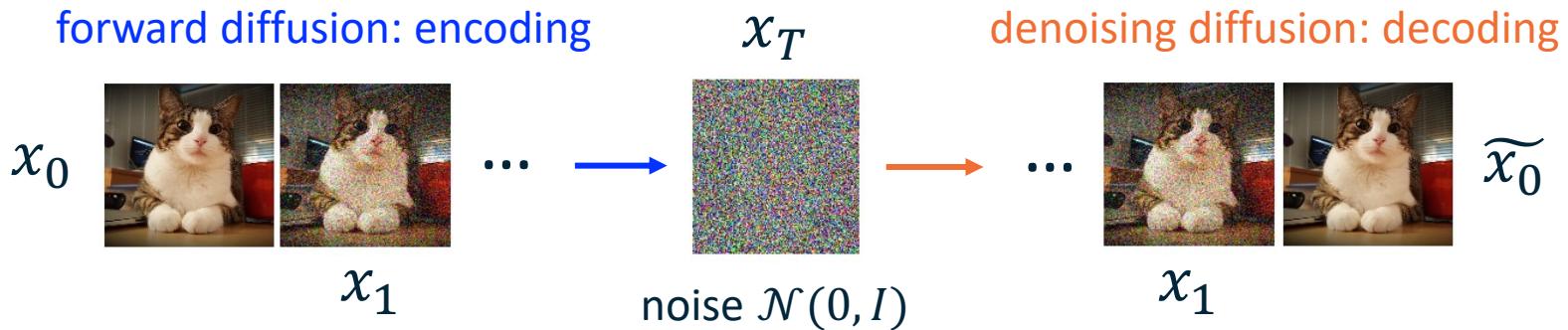


The “denoising diffusion” process:
generate an image from noise by
denoising the gaussian noises

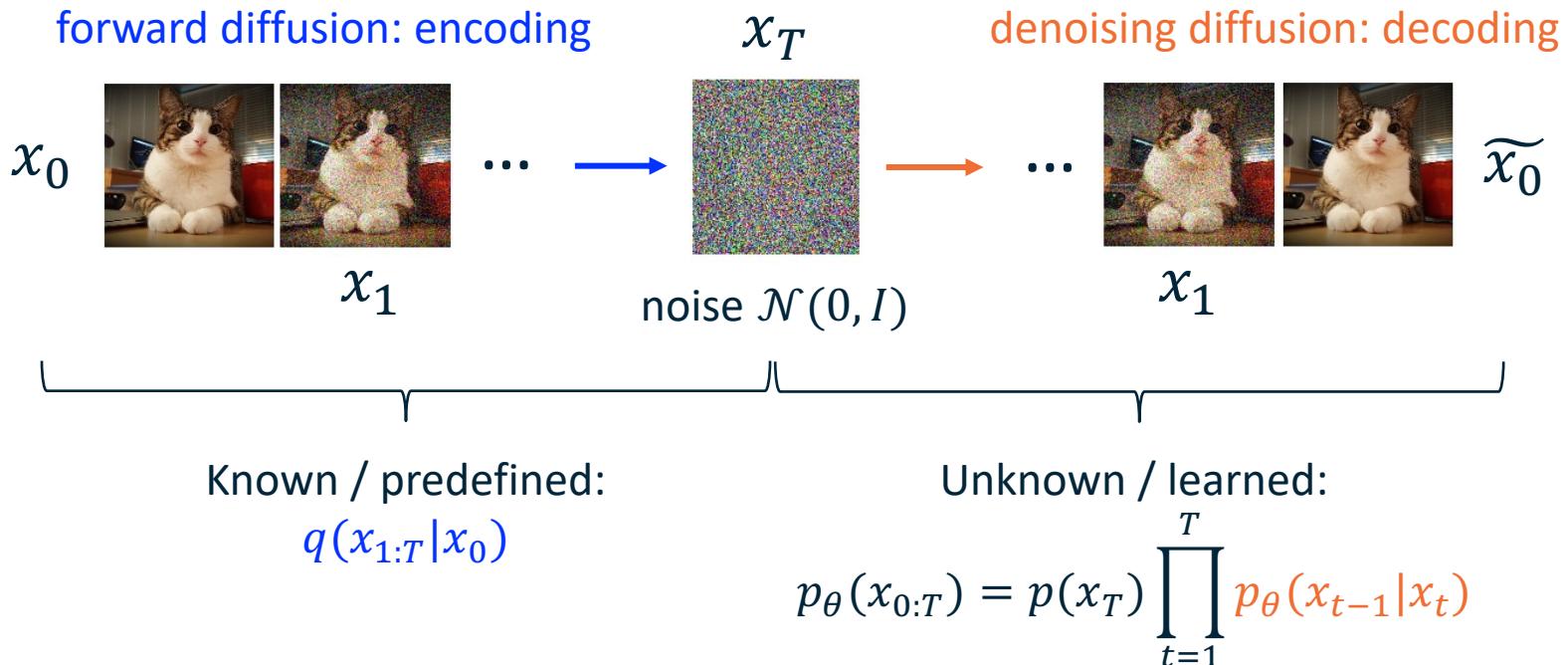
Connection to VAEs



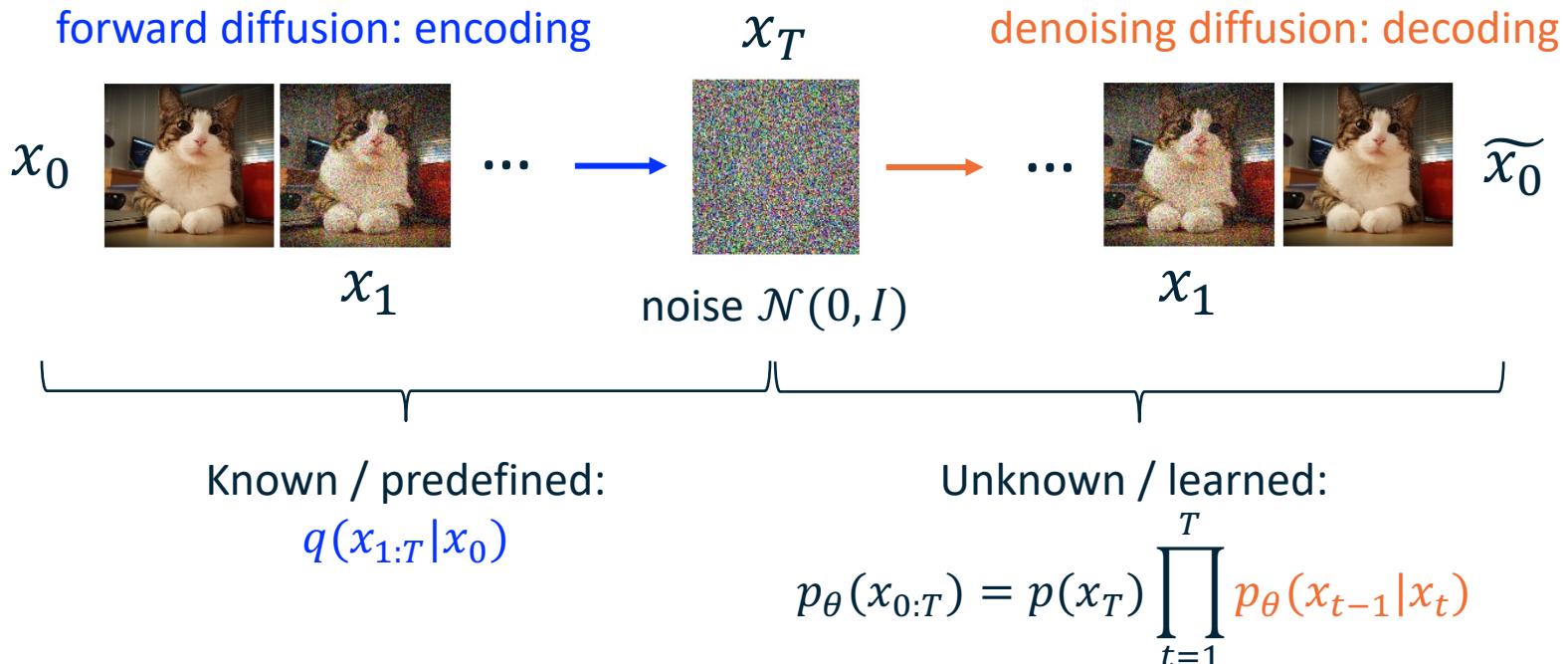
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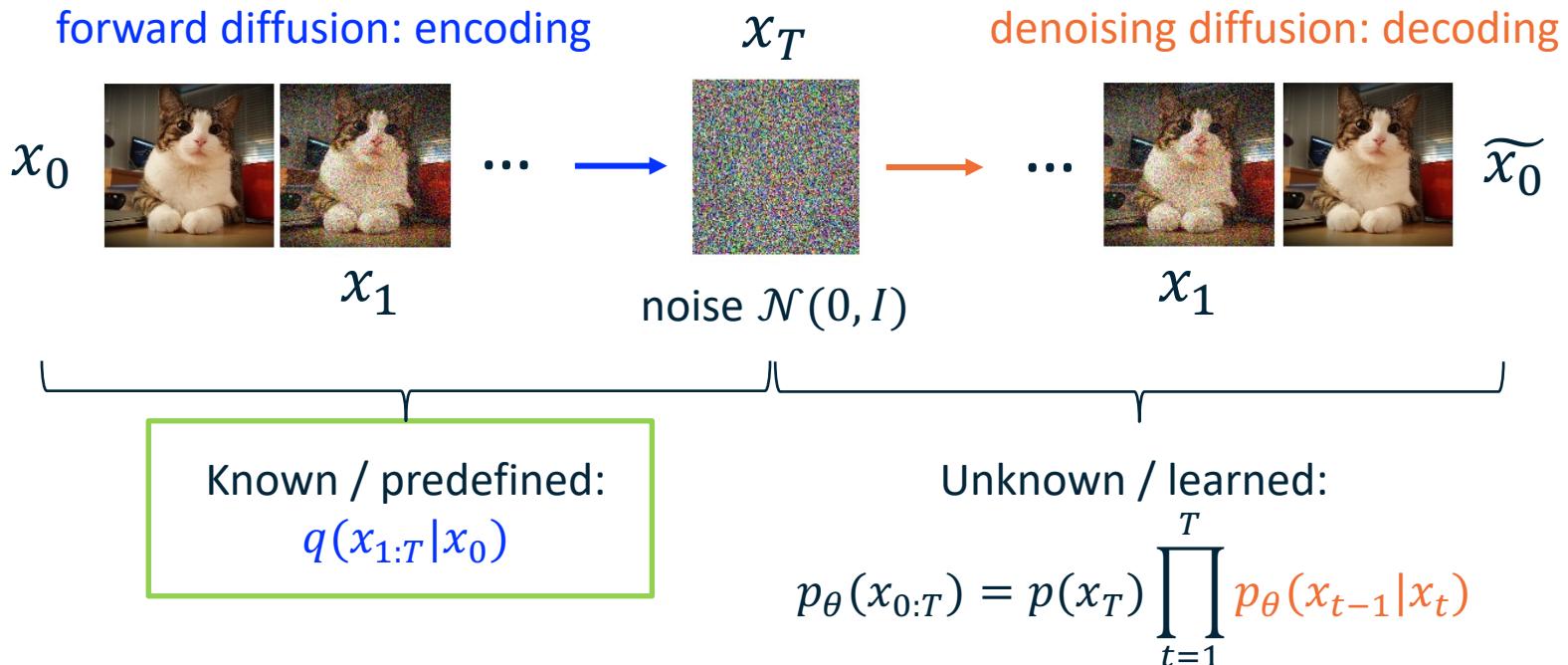


Connection to VAEs



Similar to VAEs, use the denoising decoding process to generate new images.

Connection to VAEs



The Diffusion (Encoding) Process

The **known** forward process

$$x_0 \longrightarrow x_1 \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow x_T$$

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Notation: A Gaussian distribution “for” x_t

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$0 < \beta_1 < \beta_2 < \dots < \beta_T < 1$, typical value range $[0.0001, 0.02]$, with $T = 1000$

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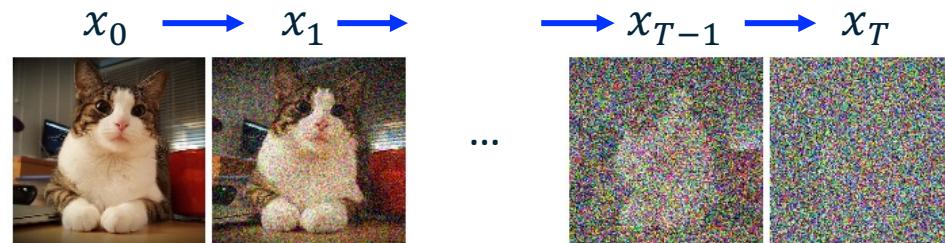
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Nice property: samples from an *arbitrary forward step* are also Gaussian-distributed!

$$q(x_t|x_0) = \mathcal{N}(x_t; \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}x_0, (1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)I)$$

, where $a_t = (1 - \beta_t)$, $\bar{\alpha}_t = \prod_{s=1}^t \alpha_s$

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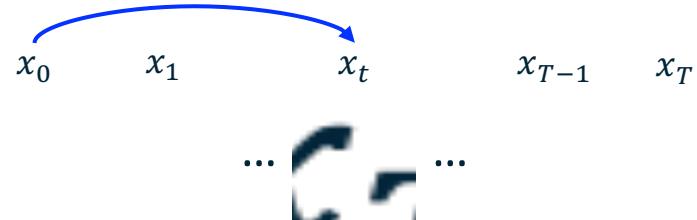
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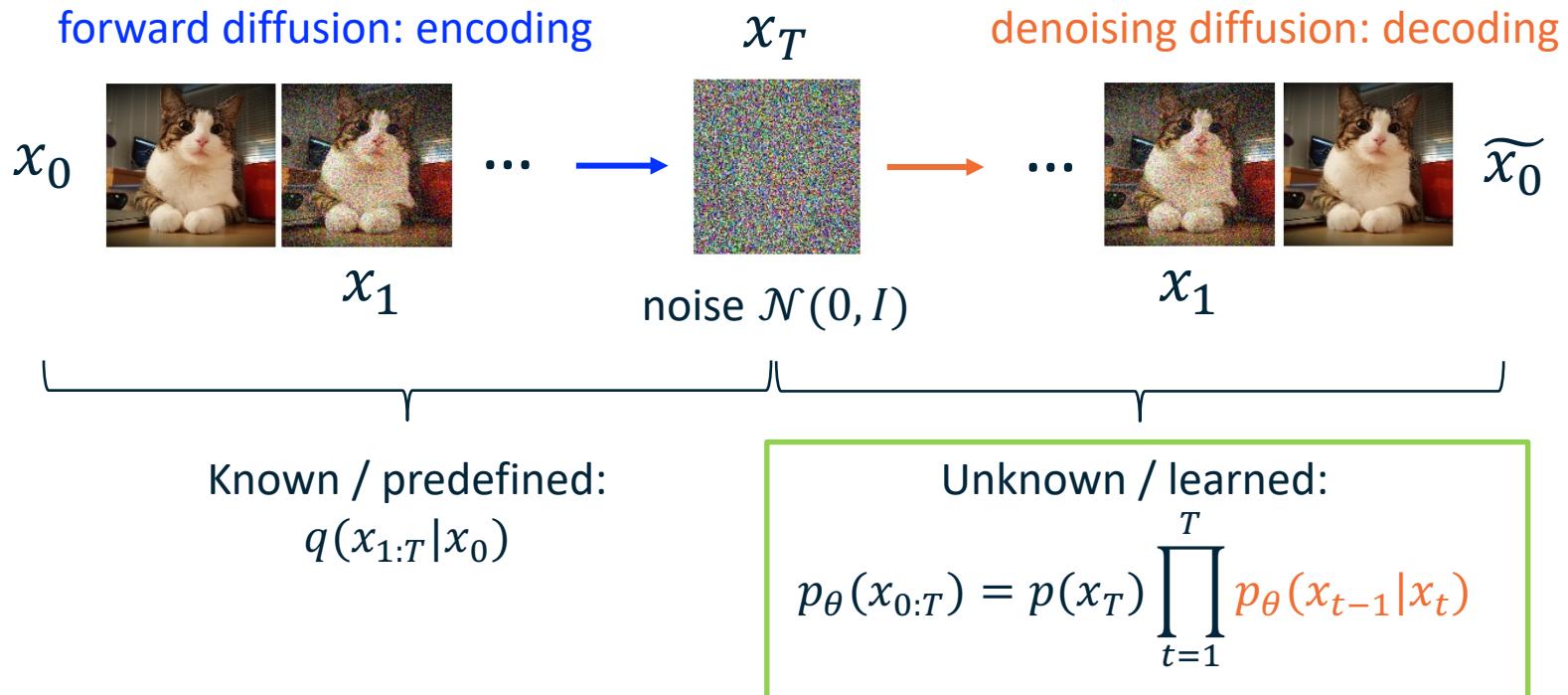
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$$q(x_t|x_0) = \mathcal{N}(x_t; \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}x_0, (1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)I)$$

Gaussian reparameterization trick (recall from VAEs!):

$$x_t = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}x_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\epsilon, \quad \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$

The Diffusion and Denoising Process



The Denoising (Decoding) Process

The **learned** denoising process $x_0 \leftarrow x_1 \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow x_T$

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Want to learn time-dependent mean

Assume fixed / known variance
(simplification)

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How do we form a learning objective?

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High-level intuition: derive a *ground truth denoising distribution* $q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0)$ and train a neural net $p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)$ to match the distribution.

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What does it look like? $q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0) = \mathcal{N}\left(x_{t-1}; \mu_q(t), \Sigma_q(t)\right)$

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The “ground truth” noise that brought x_{t-1} to x_t

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High-level intuition: derive a *ground truth denoising distribution* $q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0)$ and train a neural net $p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)$ to match the distribution.

The learning objective: $\text{argmin}_\theta D_{KL}(q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0) || p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t))$

What does it look like? $q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0) = \mathcal{N}(x_{t-1}; \mu_q(t), \Sigma_q(t))$

Assuming identical variance $\Sigma_q(t)$, we have:

$$\text{argmin}_\theta D_{KL}(q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0) || p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)) = \text{argmin}_\theta w \|\mu_q(t) - \mu_\theta(x_t, t)\|$$

Should be variance-dependent, but constant
works better in practice

The Denoising (Decoding) Process

The **learned** denoising process $x_0 \leftarrow x_1 \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow x_T$

$$p_\theta(x_{0:T}) = p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t) \quad \text{Probability Chain Rule (Markov Chain)}$$

$$p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t) = \mathcal{N}(x_{t-1}; \mu_\theta(x_t, t), \Sigma_q(t)) \quad \text{Conditional Gaussian}$$

We know how to learn

Assume fixed / known variance

The Denoising (Decoding) Process

The **learned** denoising process $x_0 \leftarrow x_1 \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow x_T$

$$p_\theta(x_{0:T}) = p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t) \quad \text{Probability Chain Rule (Markov Chain)}$$

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We know how to learn

Assume fixed / known variance

$$x_T \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$



$$p_\theta(x_T|x_{T-1})$$

$$x_{T-1}$$



$$p_\theta(x_{T-1}|x_{T-2})$$

...

$$p_\theta(x_1|x_0)$$

$$x_0$$



Generate new images!

The Denoising (Decoding) Process

The **learned** denoising process $x_0 \leftarrow x_1 \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow x_T$

$$p_\theta(x_{0:T}) = p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t) \quad \text{Probability Chain Rule (Markov Chain)}$$

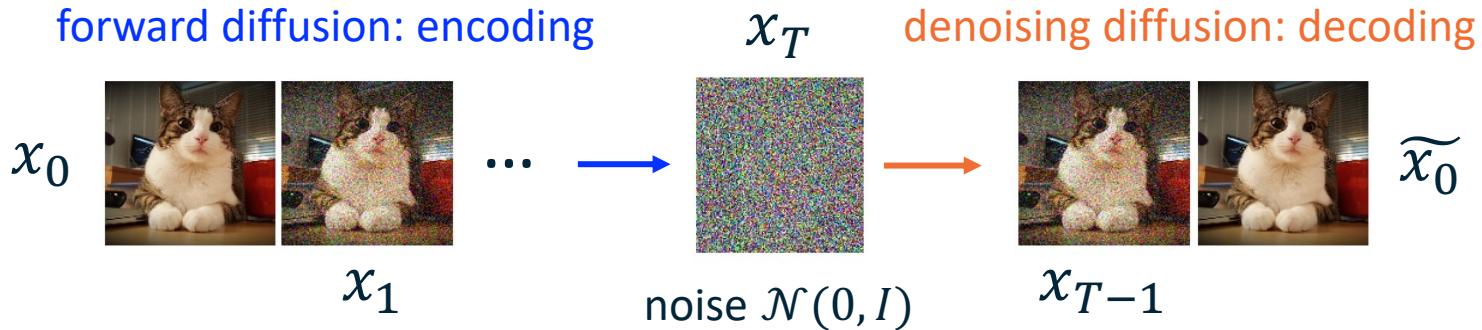
$$p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t) = \mathcal{N}(x_{t-1}; \mu_\theta(x_t, t), \Sigma_q(t)) \quad \text{Conditional Gaussian}$$

We know how to learn Assume fixed / known variance

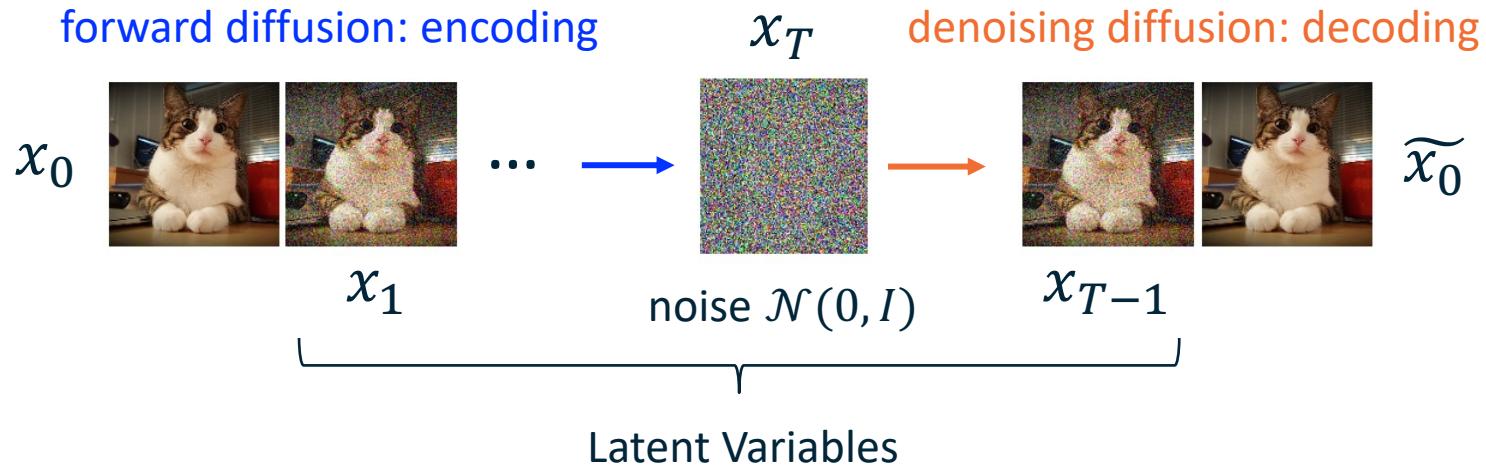
How did we arrive at the learning objective?

Let's go back to the basics of variational models ...

Connection to VAEs



Connection to VAEs



$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz \quad \text{Intractable to estimate!}$$

$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz \quad \text{Intractable to estimate!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x) &= E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] + D_{KL}(q(z|x) || p(z|x)) \\ &\geq E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] \end{aligned} \quad \text{Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO)}$$

$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz \quad \text{Intractable to estimate!}$$

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$$\log p(x_0) \geq \mathbb{E}_q \left[\log \frac{p(x_0|x_{1:T})p(x_{1:T})}{q(x_{1:T}|x_0)} \right] \quad x = x_0, z = x_{1:T}$$

$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz \quad \text{Intractable to estimate!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x) &= E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] + D_{KL}(q(z|x) || p(z|x)) \\ &\geq E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] \end{aligned} \quad \text{Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO)}$$

$$\log p(x_0) \geq E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x_0|x_{1:T})p(x_{1:T})}{q(x_{1:T}|x_0)} \right] \quad x = x_0, z = x_{1:T}$$

$$= E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)}{\prod_{t=1}^T q(x_t|x_{t-1})} \right]$$

← reverse denoising
← forward diffusion

$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz \quad \text{Intractable to estimate!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x) &= \mathbb{E}_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] + D_{KL}(q(z|x) || p(z|x)) \\ &\geq \mathbb{E}_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] \end{aligned} \quad \text{Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x_0) &\geq \mathbb{E}_q \left[\log \frac{p(x_0|x_{1:T})p(x_{1:T})}{q(x_{1:T}|x_0)} \right] \quad x = x_0, z = x_{1:T} \\ &= \mathbb{E}_q \left[\log \frac{p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)}{\prod_{t=1}^T q(x_t|x_{t-1})} \right] \end{aligned}$$

... (derivation omitted, see Sohl-Dickstein *et al.*, 2015 Appendix B)

$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz \quad \text{Intractable to estimate!}$$

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... (derivation omitted, see Sohl-Dickstein *et al.*, 2015 Appendix B)

$$= -\mathbb{E}_q [D_{KL}(q(x_T|x_0) || p(x_T))] - \sum_{t=2}^T D_{KL}(q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0) || p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)) + \log p_\theta(x_0|x_1)$$

$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz \quad \text{Intractable to estimate!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x) &= E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] + D_{KL}(q(z|x)||p(z|x)) \\ &\geq E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] \end{aligned} \quad \text{Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x_0) &\geq E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x_0|x_{1:T})p(x_{1:T})}{q(x_{1:T}|x_0)} \right] \quad x = x_0, z = x_{1:T} \\ &= E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)}{\prod_{t=1}^T q(x_t|x_{t-1})} \right] \end{aligned}$$

... (derivation omitted, see Sohl-Dickstein *et al.*, 2015 Appendix B)

$$= -E_q[D_{KL}(q(x_T|x_0)||p(x_T))] - \sum_{t=2}^T D_{KL}(q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0)||p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)) + \log p_\theta(x_0|x_1)$$



fixed

Easy to optimize / sometimes omitted

$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz \quad \text{Intractable to estimate!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x) &= E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] + D_{KL}(q(z|x) || p(z|x)) \\ &\geq E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] \end{aligned} \quad \text{Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x_0) &\geq E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x_0|x_{1:T})p(x_{1:T})}{q(x_{1:T}|x_0)} \right] \quad x = x_0, z = x_{1:T} \\ &= E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)}{\prod_{t=1}^T q(x_t|x_{t-1})} \right] \end{aligned}$$

... (derivation omitted, see Sohl-Dickstein *et al.*, 2015 Appendix B)

$$= -E_q[D_{KL}(q(x_T|x_0) || p(x_T))] - \boxed{\sum_{t=2}^T D_{KL}(q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0) || p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t))} + \log p_\theta(x_0|x_1)$$

Maximize the agreement between the predicted reverse diffusion distribution p_θ and the “ground truth” reverse diffusion distribution q

$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz \quad \text{Intractable to estimate!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x) &= \mathbb{E}_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] + D_{KL}(q(z|x) || p(z|x)) \\ &\geq \mathbb{E}_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] \end{aligned} \quad \text{Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x_0) &\geq \mathbb{E}_q \left[\log \frac{p(x_0|x_{1:T})p(x_{1:T})}{q(x_{1:T}|x_0)} \right] \quad x = x_0, z = x_{1:T} \\ &= \mathbb{E}_q \left[\log \frac{p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)}{\prod_{t=1}^T q(x_t|x_{t-1})} \right] \end{aligned}$$

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$$= -\mathbb{E}_q [D_{KL}(q(x_T|x_0) || p(x_T))] - \sum_{t=2}^T D_{KL}(q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0) || p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)) + \log p_\theta(x_0|x_1)$$

$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz \quad \text{Intractable to estimate!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x) &= E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] + D_{KL}(q(z|x) || p(z|x)) \\ &\geq E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] \end{aligned} \quad \text{Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO)}$$

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... (derivation omitted, see Sohl-Dickstein *et al.*, 2015 Appendix B)

$$\begin{aligned} &= -E_q[D_{KL}(q(x_T|x_0) || p(x_T))] - \sum_{t=2}^T D_{KL}(q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0) || p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)) + \log p_\theta(x_0|x_1) \\ q(x_{t-1}|x_t) &= q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0) \quad (\text{markov assumption}) \\ &= \frac{q(x_t|x_{t-1}, x_0)q(x_{t-1}|x_0)}{q(x_t|x_0)} \quad (\text{Bayes rule}) \\ &= \frac{\mathcal{N}(x_t; \sqrt{\alpha_t}x_{t-1}, \beta_t I) \mathcal{N}(x_{t-1}; \sqrt{\alpha_{t-1}}x_{t-1}, (1-\alpha_{t-1})I)}{\mathcal{N}(x_t; \sqrt{\alpha_t}x_0, (1-\alpha_{t-1})I)} \\ &\propto \mathcal{N}\left(x_{t-1}; \frac{\sqrt{\alpha_t}(1-\alpha_{t-1})x_t + \sqrt{\alpha_{t-1}}(1-\alpha_t)x_0}{1-\sqrt{\alpha_t}}, \Sigma_q(t)\right) \quad (\text{Property of Gaussian}) \end{aligned}$$

$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz \quad \text{Intractable to estimate!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x) &= E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] + D_{KL}(q(z|x) || p(z|x)) \\ &\geq E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] \end{aligned} \quad \text{Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x_0) &\geq E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x_0|x_{1:T})p(x_{1:T})}{q(x_{1:T}|x_0)} \right] \quad x = x_0, z = x_{1:T} \\ &= E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)}{\prod_{t=1}^T q(x_t|x_{t-1})} \right] \end{aligned}$$

... (derivation omitted, see Sohl-Dickstein *et al.*, 2015 Appendix B)

$$= -E_q[D_{KL}(q(x_T|x_0) || p(x_T))] - \sum_{t=2}^T D_{KL}(q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0) || p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)) + \log p_\theta(x_0|x_1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0) &= \mathcal{N}\left(x_{t-1}; \mu_q(t), \Sigma_q(t)\right) \\ \mu_q(t) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left(x_t - \frac{\beta_t}{\sqrt{(1-\bar{\alpha}_t)}} \epsilon \right), \quad \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I) \end{aligned}$$

Proof using bayes rule and gaussian reparameterization trick

$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz \quad \text{Intractable to estimate!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x) &= E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] + D_{KL}(q(z|x) || p(z|x)) \\ &\geq E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] \end{aligned} \quad \text{Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO)}$$

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Proof using bayes rule and gaussian reparameterization trick

The “ground truth” noise that brought x_{t-1} to x_t

$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz \quad \text{Intractable to estimate!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x) &= E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] + D_{KL}(q(z|x) || p(z|x)) \\ &\geq E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{q(z|x)} \right] \end{aligned} \quad \text{Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(x_0) &\geq E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x_0|x_{1:T})p(x_{1:T})}{q(x_{1:T}|x_0)} \right] \quad x = x_0, z = x_{1:T} \\ &= E_q \left[\log \frac{p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)}{\prod_{t=1}^T q(x_t|x_{t-1})} \right] \end{aligned}$$

... (derivation omitted, see Sohl-Dickstein *et al.*, 2015 Appendix B)

$$= -E_q[D_{KL}(q(x_T|x_0) || p(x_T))] - \boxed{\sum_{t=2}^T D_{KL}(q(x_{t-1}|x_t, x_0) || p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t))} + \log p_\theta(x_0|x_1)$$

Minimize the difference of distribution means (assuming identical variance)

$$\operatorname{argmin}_\theta w ||\mu_q(t) - \mu_\theta(x_t, t)||$$

Learning the Denoising Process

The **learned** denoising process $x_0 \leftarrow x_1 \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow x_T$

$$p_\theta(x_{0:T}) = p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)$$

$$p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t) = \mathcal{N}(x_{t-1}; \mu_\theta(x_t, t), \Sigma(t)) \quad \text{Conditional Gaussian}$$

Learning objective: $\operatorname{argmin}_\theta ||\mu_q(t) - \mu_\theta(x_t, t)||$

$$\mu_q(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left(x_t - \frac{\beta_t}{\sqrt{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)}} \epsilon \right), \quad \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$

Learning the Denoising Process

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$$\mu_q(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left(x_t - \frac{\beta_t}{\sqrt{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)}} \epsilon \right), \quad \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$

Do we actually need to learn the entire $\mu_\theta(x_t, t)$?

Learning the Denoising Process

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Learning objective: $\operatorname{argmin}_\theta ||\mu_q(t) - \mu_\theta(x_t, t)||$

$$\mu_q(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left(x_t - \frac{\beta_t}{\sqrt{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)}} \epsilon \right),$$

known during inference

Unknown during
inference

Recall: this is the “ground truth”
noise that brought x_{t-1} to x_t

Learning the Denoising Process

The **learned** denoising process $x_0 \leftarrow x_1 \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow x_T$

$$p_\theta(x_{0:T}) = p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)$$

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$$\mu_q(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left(x_t - \frac{\beta_t}{\sqrt{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)}} \epsilon \right), \quad \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$

known during inference Unknown during inference Recall: this is the “ground truth” noise that brought x_{t-1} to x_t

Idea: just learn ϵ with $\epsilon_\theta(x_t, t)!$

Learning the Denoising Process

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Simplified learning objective: $\operatorname{argmin}_\theta ||\epsilon - \epsilon_\theta(x_t, t)||$

Learning the Denoising Process

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Simplified learning objective: $\operatorname{argmin}_\theta ||\epsilon - \epsilon_\theta(x_t, t)||$

Recall: the simplified t -step forward sample:

$$x_t = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} x_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \epsilon$$

Learning the Denoising Process

The **learned** denoising process $x_0 \leftarrow x_1 \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow x_T$

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Simplified learning objective: $\operatorname{argmin}_\theta \|\epsilon - \epsilon_\theta(\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}x_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\epsilon, t)\|$

Recall: the simplified t -step forward sample:

$$x_t = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}x_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\epsilon$$

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$$p_\theta(x_{0:T}) = p(x_T) \prod_{t=1}^T p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)$$

$$p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t) = \mathcal{N}(x_{t-1}; \mu_\theta(x_t, t), \Sigma(t)) \quad \text{Conditional Gaussian}$$

Simplified learning objective: $\operatorname{argmin}_\theta \|\epsilon - \epsilon_\theta(\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}x_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\epsilon, t)\|$

$$\text{Inference time: } \mu_\theta(x_t, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left(x_t - \frac{\beta_t}{\sqrt{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)}} \epsilon_\theta(x_t, t) \right)$$

The Denoising Diffusion Algorithm

Algorithm 1 Training

- 1: **repeat**
 - 2: $\mathbf{x}_0 \sim q(\mathbf{x}_0)$
 - 3: $t \sim \text{Uniform}(\{1, \dots, T\})$
 - 4: $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
 - 5: Take gradient descent step on

$$\nabla_{\theta} \left\| \epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \epsilon, t) \right\|^2$$
 - 6: **until** converged
-

The Denoising Diffusion Algorithm

Algorithm 1 Training

```
1: repeat
2:    $\mathbf{x}_0 \sim q(\mathbf{x}_0)$ 
3:    $t \sim \text{Uniform}(\{1, \dots, T\})$ 
4:    $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$ 
5:   Take gradient descent step on
      
$$\nabla_{\theta} \left\| \epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \epsilon, t) \right\|^2$$

6: until converged
```

Algorithm 2 Sampling

```
1:  $\mathbf{x}_T \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$ 
2: for  $t = T, \dots, 1$  do
3:    $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$  if  $t > 1$ , else  $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{0}$ 
4:    $\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{1 - \alpha_t}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}} \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right) + \sigma_t \mathbf{z}$ 
5: end for
6: return  $\mathbf{x}_0$ 
```

The Denoising Diffusion Algorithm

Algorithm 1 Training

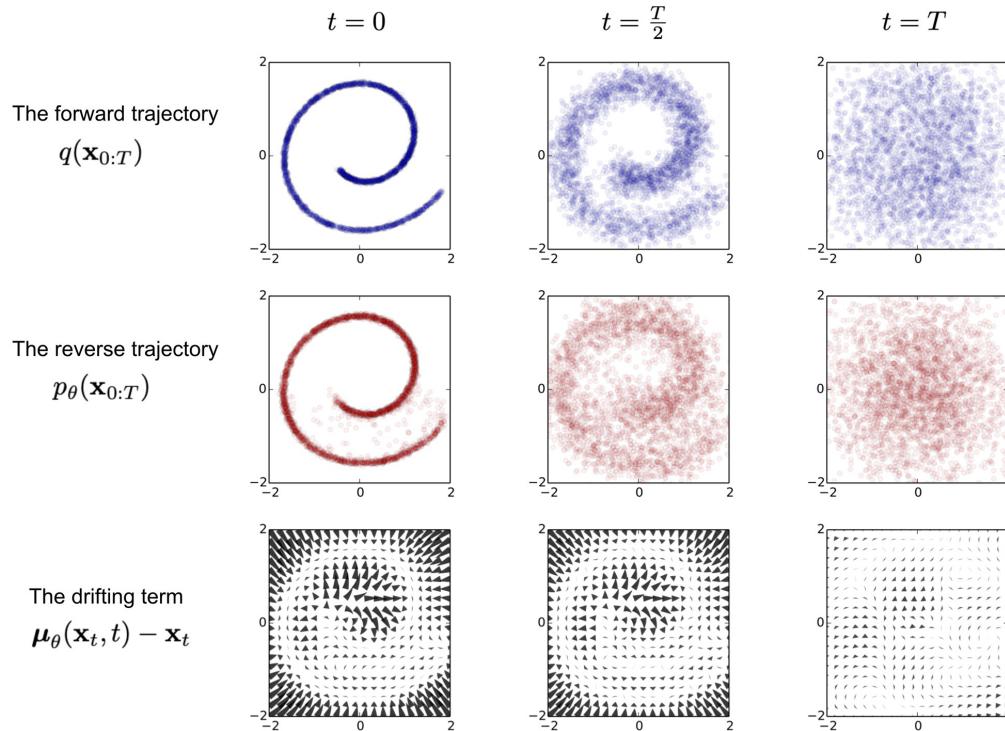
```
1: repeat
2:    $\mathbf{x}_0 \sim q(\mathbf{x}_0)$ 
3:    $t \sim \text{Uniform}(\{1, \dots, T\})$ 
4:    $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$ 
5:   Take gradient descent step on
       $\nabla_{\theta} \|\epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \epsilon, t)\|^2$ 
6: until converged
```

Algorithm 2 Sampling

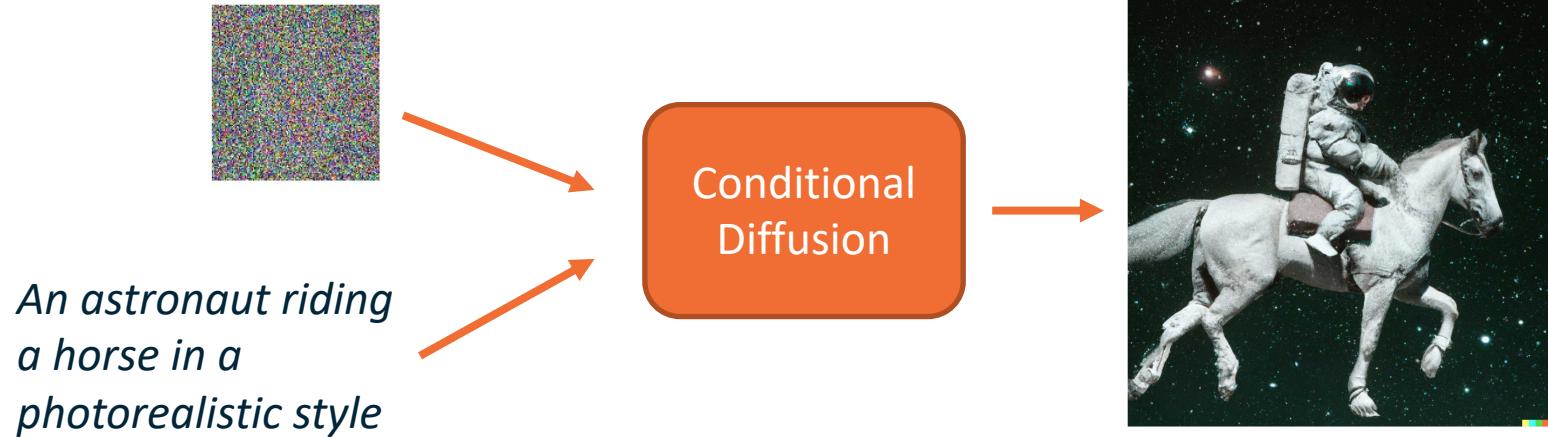
```
1:  $\mathbf{x}_T \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$ 
2: for  $t = T, \dots, 1$  do
3:    $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$  if  $t > 1$ , else  $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{0}$ 
4:    $\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{1 - \alpha_t}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}} \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right) + \sigma_t \mathbf{z}$ 
5: end for
6: return  $\mathbf{x}_0$ 
```

$$p_{\theta}(x_{t-1}|x_t) = \mathcal{N}(x_{t-1}; \mu_{\theta}(x_t, t), \Sigma(t))$$

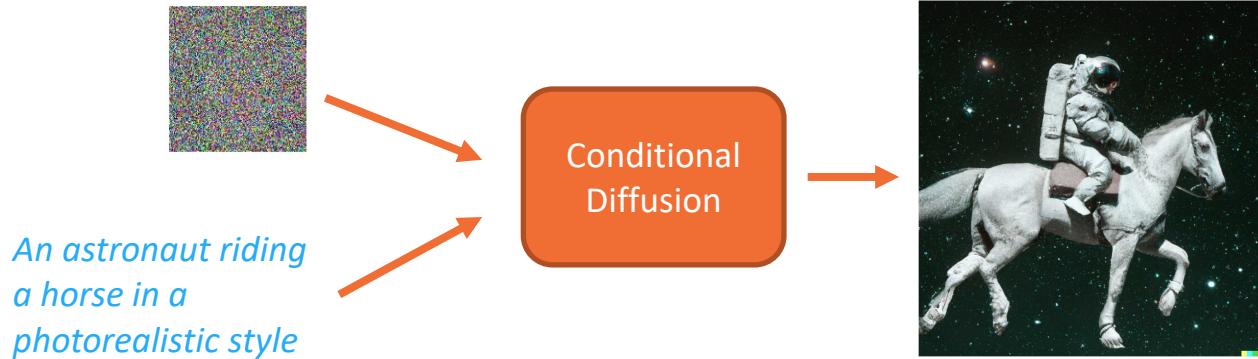
Visualizing the Diffusion Process on 2D data



Conditional Diffusion Models



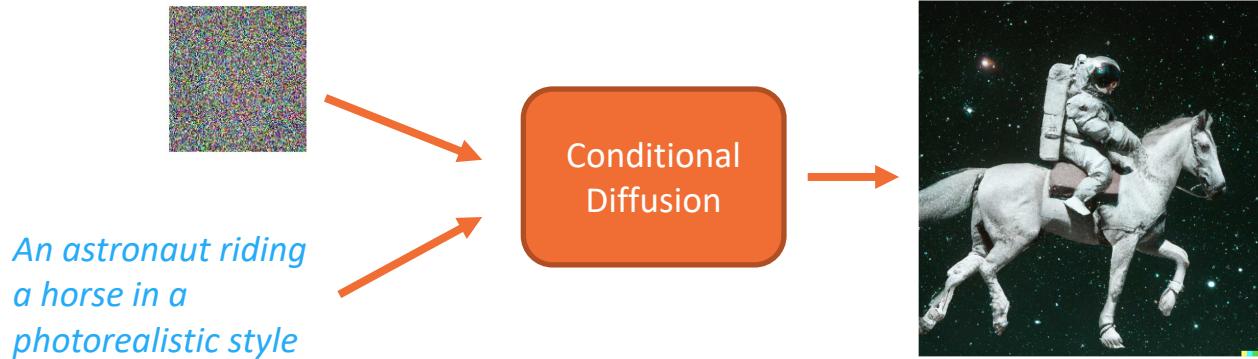
Conditional Diffusion Models



Simple idea: just condition the model on some text labels y !

$$\epsilon_\theta(x_t, y, t)$$

Conditional Diffusion Models

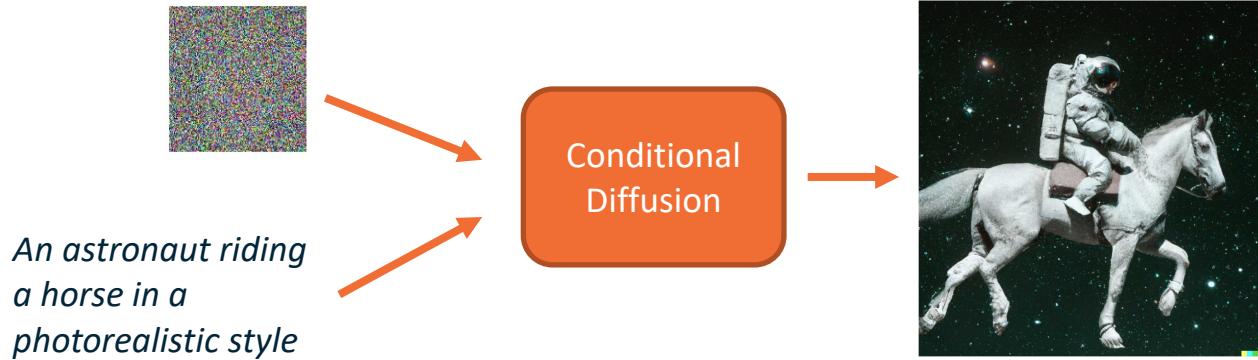


Simple idea: just condition the model on some text labels y !

$$\epsilon_{\theta}(x_t, y, t)$$

Problem: Very blurry generation

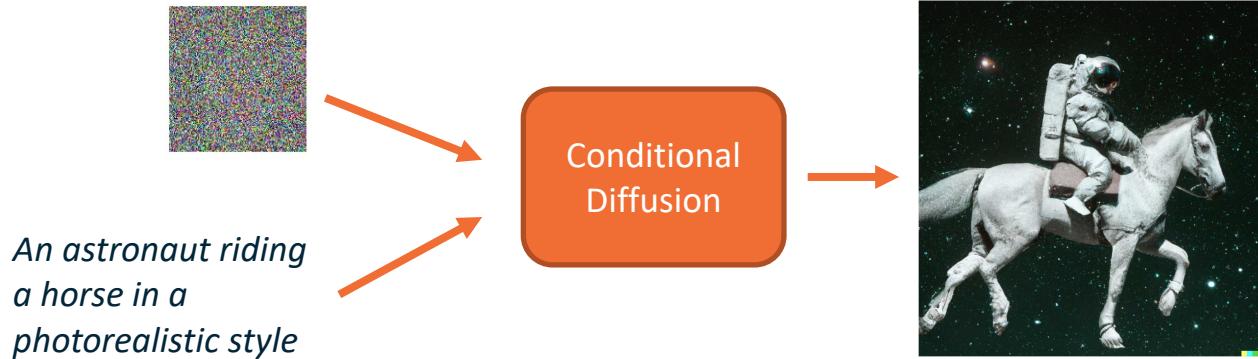
Classifier-guided Diffusion



Better idea: use the *gradients* from a image captioning model $f_\varphi(y|x_t)$ to guide the diffusion process!

$$\bar{\epsilon}_\theta(x_t, t) = \epsilon_\theta(x_t, t) - \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \nabla_{x_t} \log f_\varphi(y|x_t)$$

Classifier-guided Diffusion

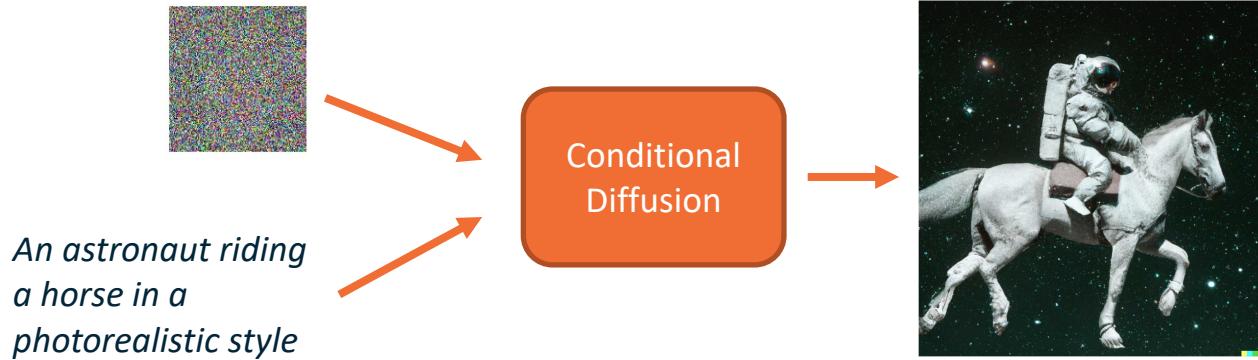


Better idea: use the *gradients* from a image captioning model $f_\varphi(y|x_t)$ to guide the diffusion process!

$$\bar{\epsilon}_\theta(x_t, t) = \epsilon_\theta(x_t, t) - \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \nabla_{x_t} \log f_\varphi(y|x_t)$$

Problem: need a classifier

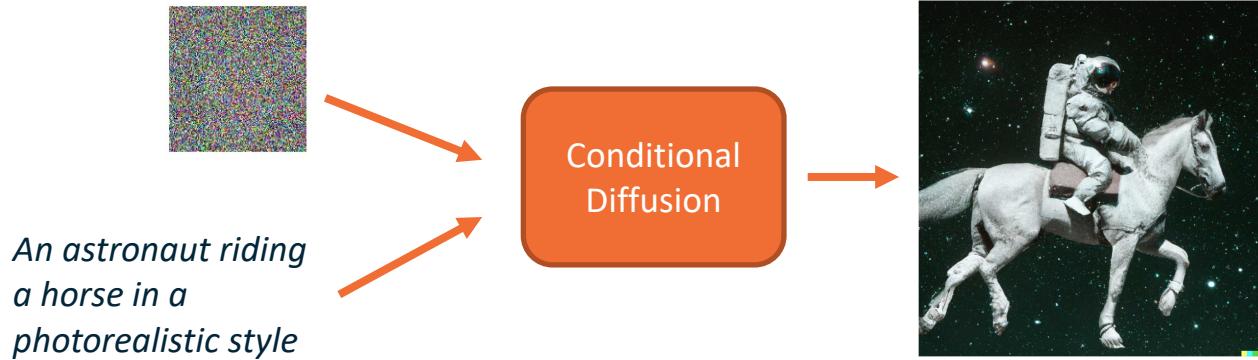
Classifier-free Guided Diffusion



Classifier-free Guided Diffusion: estimate the gradient of the classifier model with conditional diffusion models!

$$\nabla_{x_t} \log f_\varphi(y|x_t) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\bar{\alpha}_t}} (\epsilon_\theta(x_t, t, y) - \epsilon_\theta(x_t, t))$$

Classifier-free Guided Diffusion



Classifier-free Guided Diffusion: estimate the gradient of the classifier model with conditional diffusion models!

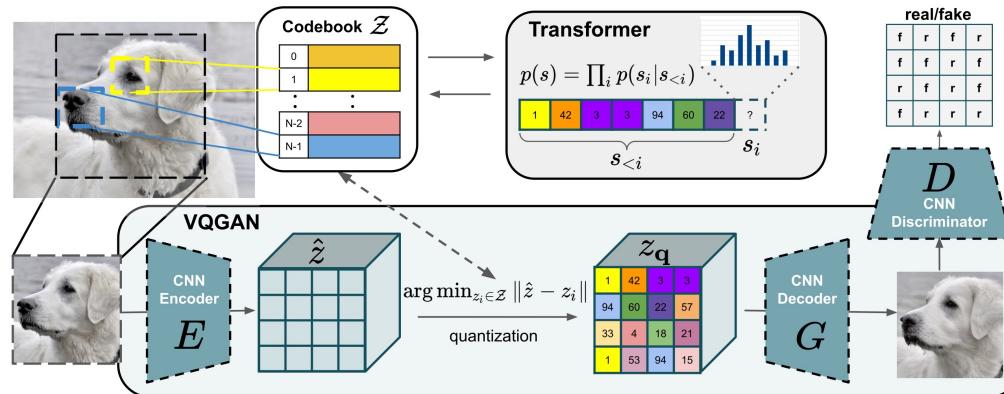
$$\nabla_{x_t} \log f_\varphi(y|x_t) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\bar{\alpha}_t}} (\epsilon_\theta(x_t, t, y) - \epsilon_\theta(x_t, t))$$

$$\bar{\epsilon}_\theta(x_t, t, y) = (w+1)\epsilon_\theta(x_t, t, y) - w\epsilon_\theta(x_t, t)$$

Latent-space Diffusion

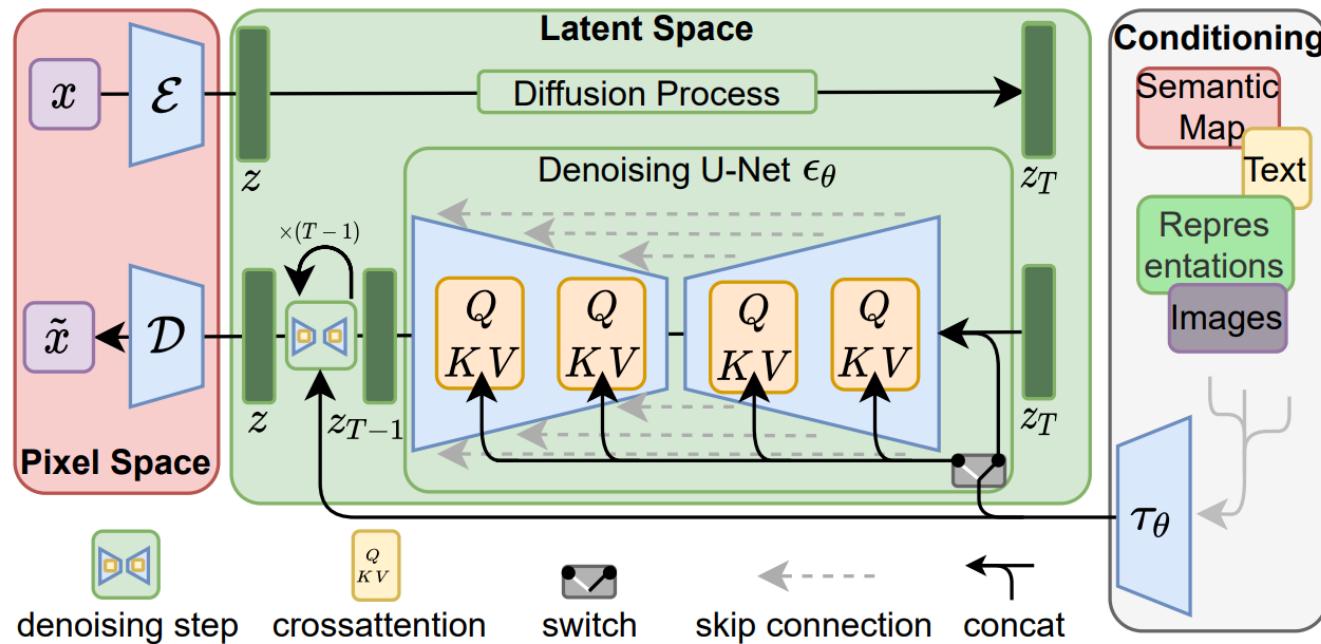
Problem: Hard to learn diffusion process on high-resolution images

Solution: learn a low-dimensional latent space using a ViT-based autoencoder and *do diffusion on the latent space!*

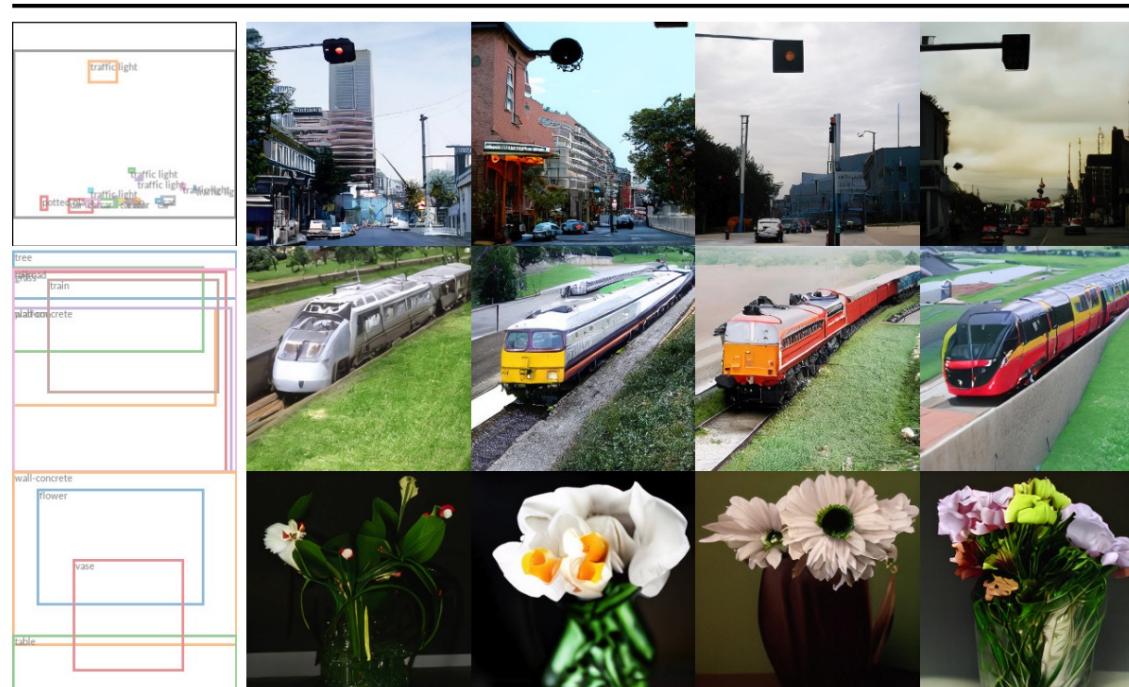


The latent space autoencoder

“StableDiffusion”



“StableDiffusion”



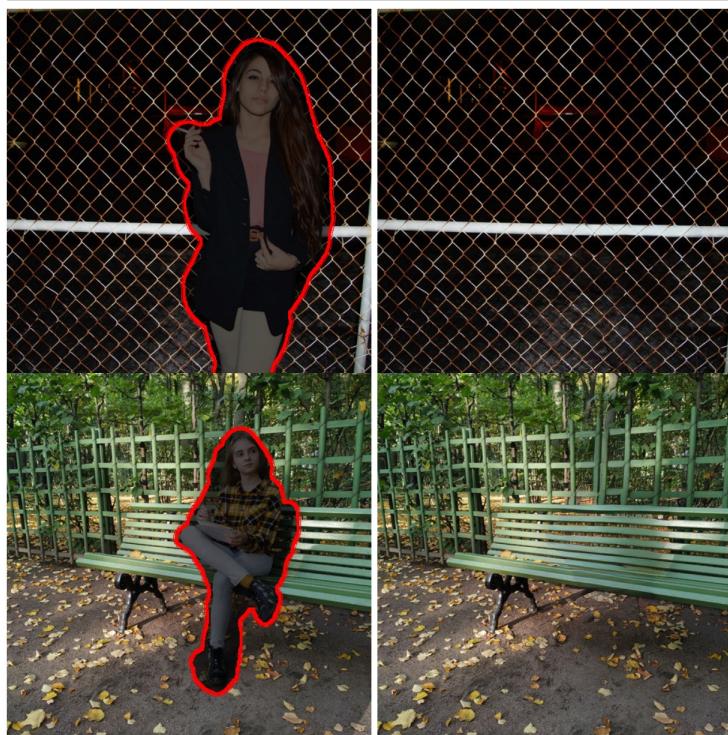
Layout-Conditional Generation

“StableDiffusion”



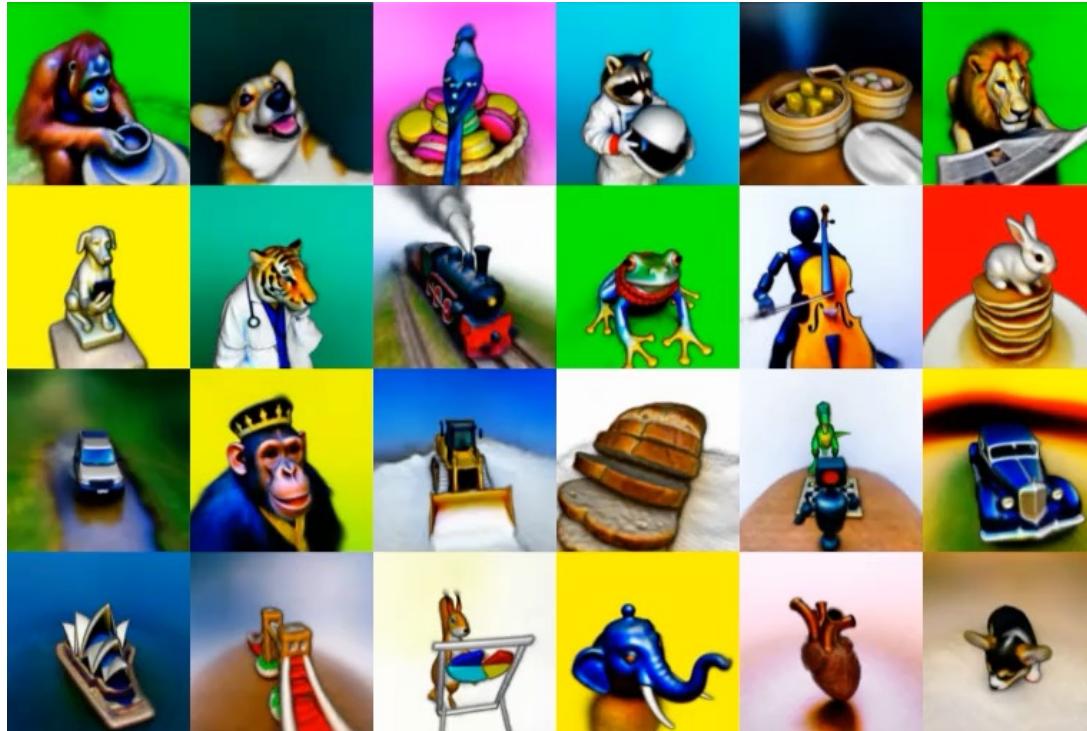
Segmentation-Conditional Generation

“StableDiffusion”



Inpainting

Beyond Image Generation

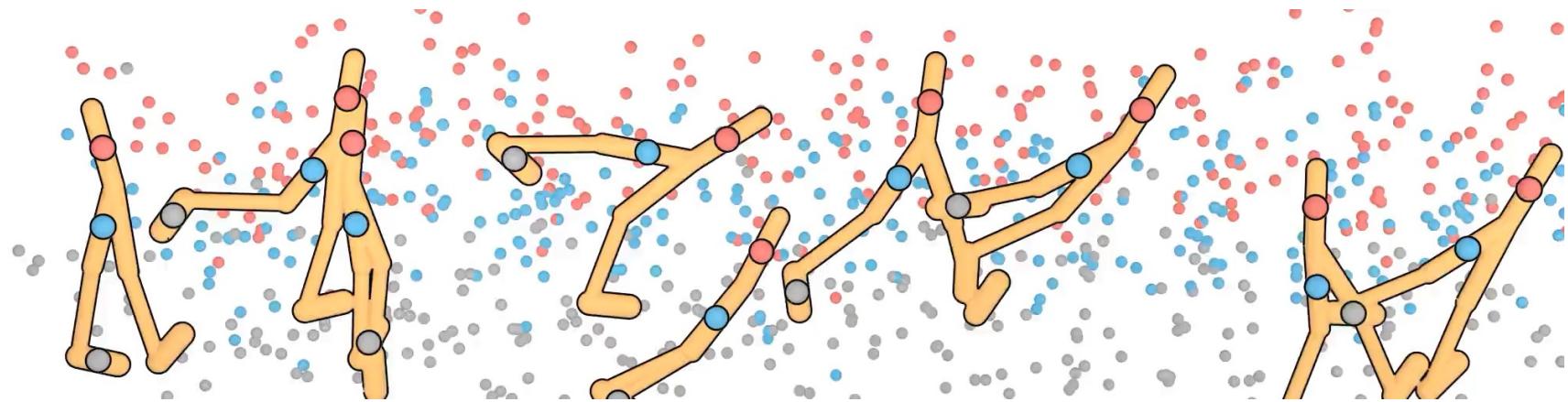


Beyond Image Generation



<https://ai.facebook.com/blog/generative-ai-text-to-video/>

Beyond Image Generation



Additional resources / tutorials

- Overview of the research landscape: [What are Diffusion Models?](#)
- More math! [Understanding Diffusion Models: A Unified Perspective](#)
- Tutorial with hands-on example: [The Annotated Diffusion Model](#)
- Nice introduction video: [What are Diffusion Models?](#)
- CVPR Tutorial: [Denoising Diffusion-based Generative Modeling: Foundations and Applications](#)

Summary

- Denoising Diffusion model is a type of generative model that learns the process of “denoising” a known noise source (Gaussian).
- We can construct a learning problem by deriving the evidence lower bound (ELBO) of the denoising process.
- The learning objective is to minimize the KL divergence between the “ground truth” and the learned denoising distribution.
- A simplified learning objective is to estimate the noise of the forward diffusion process.
- The diffusion process can be guided to generate targeted samples.
- Can be applied to many different domains. Same underlying principle.
- Very hot topic!

Next time: Guest Lecture on Large Language Models (LLMs)!



“The Practicalities of Building Large Language Models”

Zoom only (no in-person lecture)

Siddharth Karamcheti
Stanford University