

# Generative models for images II

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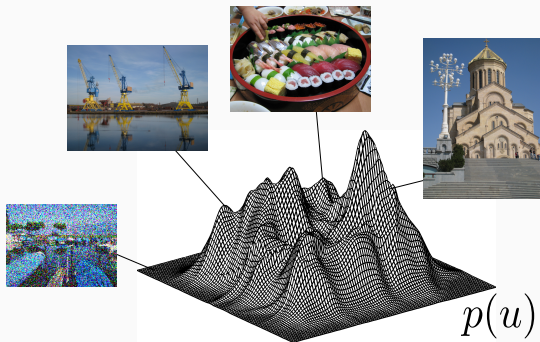
Institut universitaire de France (IUF)

**Material for the course is here:**

<https://www.idpoisson.fr/galerie/caen2024/index.html>

# Generative models

1. Model and/or learn a distribution  $p(u)$  on the space of images.



(source: Charles Deledalle)

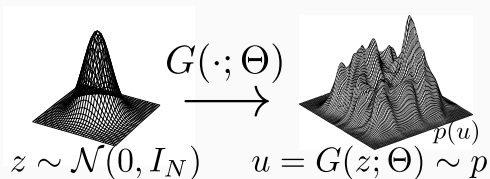
The images may represent:

- different instances of the same texture image,
- all images naturally described by a dataset of images,
- any image

2. Generate samples from this distribution.

# Generative models

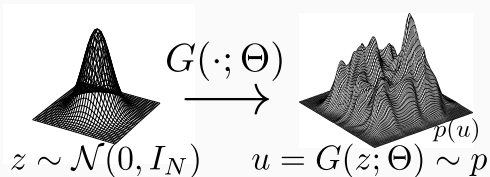
1. Model and/or learn a distribution  $p(u)$  on the space of images.
2. Generate samples from this distribution.



- $z$  is a generic source of randomness, often called the latent variable.
- If  $G(\cdot; \Theta)$  is known, then  $p = G(\cdot; \Theta)_\# \mathcal{N}(0, I_n)$  is the push-forward of the latent distribution.

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The generator  $G(\cdot; \Theta)$  can be:

- A deterministic function (e.g. convolution operator),
- A neural network with learned parameter,
- An iterative optimization algorithm (gradient descent,...),
- A stochastic sampling algorithm (e.g. MCMC, Langevin diffusion,...).

## Basics on diffusion models

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# Adding noise to images

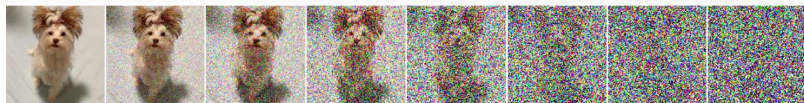
- We are given an input dataset

$$\mathcal{D} = \{\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, i = 1, \dots, N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$$

- We assume that these images are independent samples of a common distribution  $p_0$  over  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .
- Consider the random process that consists of adding noise to images:

$$\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{w}_t, \quad t \in [0, T]$$

where  $\mathbf{x}_0 \sim p_0$  is a sample image and  $\mathbf{w}_t$  is a Brownian motion (also called Wiener process).



(source: [\(Song et al., 2021b\)](#))

**Real-valued:** A standard (real-valued) **Brownian motion** (also called **Wiener process**) is a stochastic process  $(w_t)_{t \geq 0}$  such that

- $w_0 = 0$ .
- With probability one, the function  $t \mapsto w_t$  is continuous.
- The process  $(w_t)_{t \geq 0}$  has stationary independent increments.
- $w_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, t)$ .

Direct consequences:

- For  $s < t$ ,  $w_s$  and  $w_t - w_s$  are independent and  $w_{t-s} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, t - s)$ .
- Markovian random field.

**$\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued:** A standard  $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued Brownian motion  $(\mathbf{w}_t)_{t \geq 0}$  is made of  $d$  independent real-valued Brownian motions

$$\mathbf{w}_t = (w_{t,1}, \dots, w_{t,d}) \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

### Ito integral on $[0, T]$ :

Given a process  $(\mathbf{x}_t)_{t \in [0, T]}$  adapted to the filtration  $\mathcal{F}_t = \sigma(\mathbf{w}_s, s \leq t)$ , one defines

$$\int_0^t \mathbf{x}_s d\mathbf{w}_s \quad \text{as the } L^2 \text{ limit of } \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \mathbf{x}_{t_j} \odot (\mathbf{w}_{t_{j+1}} - \mathbf{w}_{t_j})$$

when the minimal step of the partition  $0 \leq t_0 \leq \dots \leq t_k \leq T$  tends to 0.

- In particular, for a deterministic function  $s \mapsto g(s)$ ,  $\int_0^t g(s) d\mathbf{w}_s$  is a normal variable with mean 0 and variance  $\sigma^2 = \int_0^t g^2(s) ds$ .



- Adding noise to images:  $\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{w}_t$ ,  $t \in [0, T]$ .
- This corresponds to the stochastic differential equation (SDE):

$$d\mathbf{x}_t = d\mathbf{w}_t \quad \text{with initial condition } \mathbf{x}_0 \sim p_0.$$

- We denote by  $p_t$  the distribution of  $\mathbf{x}_t$  at time  $t \in [0, T]$ . What is  $p_t$ ?

$$p_t = p_0 * \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, tI_d)$$

- This corresponds to applying the heat equation starting from  $p_0$ :

$$\partial_t p_t(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \Delta_{\mathbf{x}} p_t(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{with } p_{t=0} = p_0.$$

This PDE is called the **Fokker-Planck equation** associated with the SDE.

- This is an example of diffusion equation.

# Diffusion SDE and Fokker-Planck equation

- More generally we will consider diffusion SDE of the form (Song et al., 2021b):

$$dx_t = f(x_t, t)dt + g(t)dw_t$$

where

- $f : \mathbb{R}^d \times [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is called the **drift**: External deterministic force that drives  $x_t$  in the direction  $f(x_t, t)$ ,
  - $g : [0, T] \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  is the **diffusion coefficient**.
- The corresponding Fokker-Planck equation is

$$\partial_t p_t(\mathbf{x}) = -\operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} (f(\mathbf{x}, t)p_t(\mathbf{x})) + \frac{1}{2}g(t)^2 \Delta_{\mathbf{x}} p_t(\mathbf{x})$$

that is,

$$\partial_t p_t(\mathbf{x}) = -\sum_{k=1}^d \partial_{x_k} [f_k(\mathbf{x}, t)p_t(\mathbf{x})] + \frac{1}{2}g(t)^2 \sum_{k=1}^d \partial_{x_k}^2 p_t(\mathbf{x}).$$

$$dx_t = f(x_t, t)dt + g(t)dw_t$$

**Example 1:** Variance exploding diffusion (VE-SDE)

SDE:  $dx_t = dw_t$

Solution:  $x_t = x_0 + w_t$

Variance:  $\text{Var}(x_t) = \text{Var}(x_0) + t$

**Example 2:** Variance preserving diffusion (VP-SDE)

SDE:  $dx_t = -\beta_t x_t dt + \sqrt{2\beta_t} dw_t$

Solution:  $x_t = e^{-B_t} x_0 + \int_0^t e^{B_s - B_t} \sqrt{2\beta_s} dw_s$  with  $B_t = \int_0^t \beta_s ds$

Variance:  $\text{Var}(x_t) = e^{-2B_t} \text{Var}(x_0) + 1 - e^{-2B_t} = 1$  if  $\text{Var}(x_0) = 1$ .

Both variants have the form  $x_t = a_t x_0 + b_t Z_t$ :  $x_t$  is a rescaled noisy version of  $x_0$  and the noise is more and more predominant as time grows.

$$dx_t = f(x_t, t)dt + g(t)dw_t$$

In general we do not have a close form formula for  $x_t$ .

Diffusion SDEs can be approximately simulated using numerical schemes such as the **Euler-Maruyama scheme**:

- Using the time step  $h = T/N$  with  $N + 1$  times  $t_n = nh$ ,  $n \in \{0, \dots, N\}$ , define  $X_0 = x_0$  and

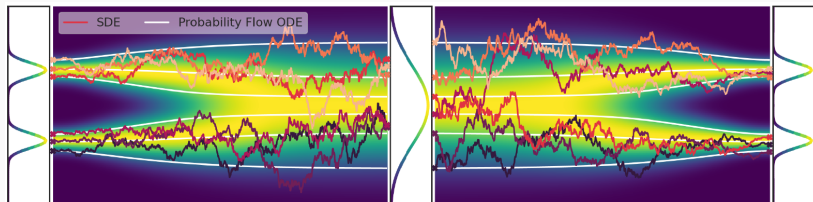
$$X_{n+1} = X_n + f(X_n, t_n)h + g(t_n) (w_{t_{n+1}} - w_{t_n}), \quad n = 1, \dots, N - 1.$$

- Remark that  $w_{t_{n+1}} - w_{t_n} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, hI_d)$  and is independent of  $X_n$ :

$$X_{n+1} = X_n + f(X_n, t_n)h + g(t_n)\sqrt{h}Z_n, \quad \text{with } Z_n \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, I_d), \quad n = 1, \dots, N - 1.$$

# Reversed diffusion

- For diffusion SDEs, as  $t$  grows  $p_t$  is closer and closer to a normal distribution.
- We will consider that at the final time  $t = T$  large enough so that  $p_T$  can be considered to be a normal distribution.
- For generative modeling, we want to reverse the process:
  - Start by generating  $\mathbf{x}_T \sim p_T \approx \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma_T^2 \mathbf{I}_d)$ .
  - Simulate  $(\mathbf{x}_{T-t})_{t \in [0, T]}$  such that  $\mathbf{x}_{T-t} \sim p_{T-t}$ .



(source: (Song and Ermon, 2020))

Reversed diffusion: What is the SDE satisfied by  $\mathbf{x}_{T-t}$ ?

$$d\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_t, t)dt + g(t)d\mathbf{w}_t$$

has the associated Fokker-Planck equation

$$\partial_t p_t(\mathbf{x}) = -\operatorname{div}_x (\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t)p_t(\mathbf{x})) + \frac{1}{2}g(t)^2 \Delta_x p_t(\mathbf{x}).$$

Let us derive the Fokker-Planck equation for  $q_t = p_{T-t}$  the distribution function of  $\mathbf{y}_t = \mathbf{x}_{T-t}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t q_t(\mathbf{x}) &= -\partial_t p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x}) \\ &= \operatorname{div}_x (\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, T-t)p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x})) - \frac{1}{2}g(T-t)^2 \Delta_x p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x}) \\ &= \operatorname{div}_x (\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, T-t)q_t(\mathbf{x})) - \frac{1}{2}g(T-t)^2 \Delta_x q_t(\mathbf{x}) \\ &= \operatorname{div}_x (\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, T-t)q_t(\mathbf{x})) + \left(-1 + \frac{1}{2}\right)g(T-t)^2 \Delta_x q_t(\mathbf{x})\end{aligned}$$

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This is the Fokker-Planck equation associated with the diffusion SDE:

$$dy_t = \left[-\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_t, T-t) + g(T-t)^2 \nabla_x \log p_{T-t}(\mathbf{y}_t)\right] dt + g(T-t) d\mathbf{w}_t.$$

# Reversed diffusion

Forward diffusion:

$$dx_t = f(x_t, t)dt + g(t)dw_t$$

Backward diffusion:  $y_t = x_{T-t}$

$$dy_t = \left[ -f(y_t, T-t) + g(T-t)^2 \nabla_x \log p_{T-t}(y_t) \right] dt + g(T-t)dw_t.$$

- Same diffusion coefficient.
- Opposite drift term with additional distribution correction:

$$g(T-t)^2 \nabla_x \log p_{T-t}(y_t)$$

drives the diffusion in regions with high  $p_{T-t}$  probability.

- $x \mapsto \nabla_x \log p_t(x)$  is called the (Stein) **score** of the distribution.
- Rigorous results from SDE literature ((Anderson, 1982) (Hausmann and Pardoux, 1986)) (measurability issues, the filtration is also reversed...).



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- Rigorous results from SDE literature ((Anderson, 1982) (Haussmann and Pardoux, 1986)) (measurability issues, the filtration is also reversed...).
- Can we simulate this backward diffusion using Euler-Maruyama ?

$$X_{n+1} = X_n + f(X_n, t_n)h + g(t_n)\sqrt{h}Z_n, \quad \text{with } Z_n \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, I_d), \quad n = 1, \dots, N-1.$$

# Learning the score function: Denoising score matching

- **Goal:** Estimate the score  $\mathbf{x} \mapsto \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log p_t(\mathbf{x})$  using only available samples  $(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_t)$ .
- For the models of interests,  $\mathbf{x}_t = a_t \mathbf{x}_0 + b_t \mathbf{Z}_t$  is a rescaled noisy version of  $\mathbf{x}_0$  (both  $a_t$  and  $b_t$  have known analytical expressions).
- Explicit conditional distribution:  $p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0) = \mathcal{N}(a_t \mathbf{x}_0, b_t^2 I_d)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} p_t(\mathbf{x}_t) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} p_{0,t}(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_t) d\mathbf{x}_0 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0) p_0(\mathbf{x}_0) d\mathbf{x}_0 \\ \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} p_t(\mathbf{x}_t) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0) p_0(\mathbf{x}_0) d\mathbf{x}_0 \\ \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}_t) &= \frac{\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} p_t(\mathbf{x}_t)}{p_t(\mathbf{x}_t)} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0) \frac{p_0(\mathbf{x}_0)}{p_t(\mathbf{x}_t)} d\mathbf{x}_0 \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} [\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0)] p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0) \frac{p_0(\mathbf{x}_0)}{p_t(\mathbf{x}_t)} d\mathbf{x}_0 \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} [\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0)] p_{0|t}(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_t) d\mathbf{x}_0 \end{aligned}$$

**Conclusion:**

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}_t) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}_0 \sim p_{0|t}(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_t)} [\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0)] = \mathbb{E} [\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0) | \mathbf{x}_t]$$

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- $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0)$  is explicit (forward transition): For  $\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0 \sim \mathcal{N}(\alpha_t \mathbf{x}_0, \beta_t^2 I_d)$ ,

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0) = \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \left[ -\frac{1}{2\beta_t^2} \|\mathbf{x}_t - \alpha_t \mathbf{x}_0\|^2 + C \right] = -\frac{1}{\beta_t^2} (\mathbf{x}_t - \alpha_t \mathbf{x}_0) = -\frac{1}{\beta_t} \mathbf{Z}_t$$

- But the distribution  $p_{0|t}(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_t)$  is not explicit (backward conditional)!

$$\mathbb{E} [\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0)|\mathbf{x}_t] = -\frac{1}{\beta_t^2} (\mathbf{x}_t - \alpha_t \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_t])$$

- $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_t]$  is the best estimate of the initial noise-free  $\mathbf{x}_0$  given its noisy version  $\mathbf{x}_t$ .

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}_t) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}_0 \sim p_{0|t}(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_t)} [\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0)] = \mathbb{E} [\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0)|\mathbf{x}_t]$$

We use the following properties of the **conditional expectation**.

- $Y = \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{F}]$  if and only if  $Y = \operatorname{argmin}\{\mathbb{E}\|X - Z\|^2, Z \in L^2(\mathcal{F})\}$ .
- $Y \in \sigma(X)$  iff there exists  $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  (measurable) with  $Y = f(X)$ .
- $Y = \mathbb{E}[X|U]$  if  $Y = f(U)$  with  $f = \operatorname{argmin}\{\mathbb{E}\|X - f(U)\|^2, f \in L^2(U)\}$ .

Hence the function  $\mathbf{x}_t \mapsto \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}_t)$  is the solution

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_t = \operatorname{argmin}\{\mathbb{E}_{p_{0,t}} \|f(\mathbf{x}_t) - \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0)\|^2, f \in L^2(p_t)\}$$

- We obtain a **loss function** to learn the function  $f$  using Monte Carlo approximation with samples  $(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_t)$  for the expectation.

# Learning the score function: Denoising score matching

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_t = \operatorname{argmin}\{\mathbb{E}_{p_{0,t}}\|f(\mathbf{x}_t) - \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0)\|^2, f \in L^2(p_t)\}$$

- $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  will be approximated with a neural network such as a (complex) U-net (Ho et al., 2020).
- But we need to have an approximation of  $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_t$  for all time  $t$  (at least for the times  $t_n$  in our Euler-Maruyama scheme).
- In practice we share the same network architecture for all time  $t$ : one learns a network  $s_\theta(\mathbf{x}, t)$  such that

$$s_\theta(\mathbf{x}, t) \approx \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d, t \in [0, T].$$

Final loss for denoising score matching: (Song et al., 2021b)

$$\theta^* = \operatorname{argmin} \mathbb{E}_t \left( \lambda_t \mathbb{E}_{(x_0, x_t)} \|s_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) - \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0)\|^2 \right)$$

where  $t$  is chosen uniformly in  $[0, T]$  and  $t \mapsto \lambda_t$  is a weighting term to balance the importance of each  $t$ .

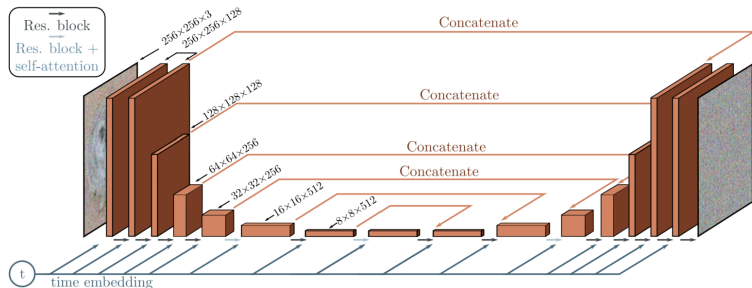
## **Practical aspects of diffusion models: Training and sampling**

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# Score architecture

$$\theta^* = \operatorname{argmin} \mathbb{E}_t \left( \lambda_t \mathbb{E}_{(x_0, x_t)} \|s_\theta(x_t, t) - \nabla_{x_t} \log p_{t|0}(x_t|x_0)\|^2 \right)$$

- $s_\theta : \mathbb{R}^d \times [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is a (complex) U-net (Ronneberger et al., 2015), eg in (Ho et al., 2020) “All models have two convolutional residual blocks per resolution level and self-attention blocks at the  $16 \times 16$  resolution between the convolutional blocks”.
- Diffusion time  $t$  is specified by adding the Transformer sinusoidal position embedding into each residual block (Vaswani et al., 2017).



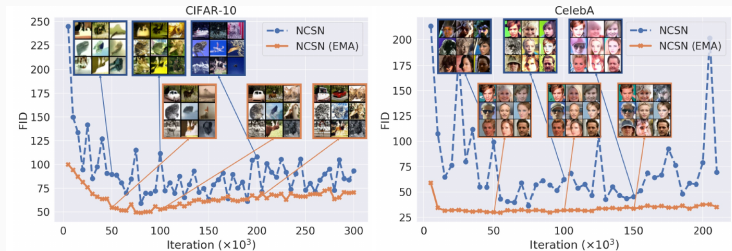
(source: learnopencv.com)

# Exponential Moving Average

- Several choices for  $t \mapsto \lambda_t$ , linked to ELBO and data augmentation (Kingma and Gao, 2023).
- Training using Adam algorithm (Kingma and Ba, 2015), but still **unstable**.
- To regularize: **Exponential Moving Average** (EMA) of weights.

$$\bar{\theta}_{n+1} = (1 - m)\bar{\theta}_n + m\theta_n.$$

- Typically  $m = 10^{-4}$  (more than  $10^4$  iterations are averaged).
- The final averaged parameters  $\bar{\theta}_K$  are used at **sampling**.



Training instabilities

(source: (Song and Ermon, 2020))



# Sampling strategy

- The score function of a distribution is generally used for Langevin sampling (ULA or MALA):

$$X_{n+1} = X_n + \gamma \nabla_x \log p(X_n) + \sqrt{2\gamma} Z_n$$

- (Song et al., 2021b) propose to add one step of Langevin diffusion (same  $t = t_n$ ) after each step Euler-Maruyama step ( $t_n$  to  $t_{n+1}$ ).
- This means that we jump from one trajectory to the other, but we correct some defaults from the Euler scheme.
- This is called a Predictor-Corrector sampler.

Algorithm 2 PC sampling (VE SDE)	Algorithm 3 PC sampling (VP SDE)
1: $\mathbf{x}_N \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma_{\max}^2 \mathbf{I})$	1: $\mathbf{x}_N \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
2: <b>for</b> $i = N - 1$ <b>to</b> $0$ <b>do</b>	2: <b>for</b> $i = N - 1$ <b>to</b> $0$ <b>do</b>
3: $\mathbf{x}'_i \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_{i+1} + (\sigma_{i+1}^2 - \sigma_i^2) \mathbf{s}_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}, \sigma_{i+1})$	3: $\mathbf{x}'_i \leftarrow (2 - \sqrt{1 - \beta_{i+1}}) \mathbf{x}_{i+1} + \beta_{i+1} \mathbf{s}_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}, i + 1)$
4: $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$	4: $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
5: $\mathbf{x}_i \leftarrow \mathbf{x}'_i + \sqrt{\sigma_{i+1}^2 - \sigma_i^2} \mathbf{z}$	5: $\mathbf{x}_i \leftarrow \mathbf{x}'_i + \sqrt{\beta_{i+1}} \mathbf{z}$ <span style="float: right;">Predictor</span>
6: <b>for</b> $j = 1$ <b>to</b> $M$ <b>do</b>	6: <b>for</b> $j = 1$ <b>to</b> $M$ <b>do</b> <span style="float: right;">Corrector</span>
7: $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$	7: $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
8: $\mathbf{x}_i \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_i + \epsilon_i \mathbf{s}_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{x}_i, \sigma_i) + \sqrt{2\epsilon_i} \mathbf{z}$	8: $\mathbf{x}_i \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_i + \epsilon_i \mathbf{s}_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{x}_i, i) + \sqrt{2\epsilon_i} \mathbf{z}$
9: <b>return</b> $\mathbf{x}_0$	9: <b>return</b> $\mathbf{x}_0$

(source: (Song et al., 2021b))

- (Song et al., 2021b) achieved SOTA in terms of FID for CIFAR-10 unconditional sampling.
- Very good results for  $1024 \times 1024$  portrait images.
- See also “Diffusion Models Beat GANs on Image Synthesis” (Dhariwal and Nichol, 2021) (self-explanatory title).



(source: FFHQ  $1024 \times 1024$  samples (Song et al., 2021b))

Many approximations in the full generative pipelines:

- The final distribution  $p_T$  is not exactly a normal distribution.
- The learnt Unet model  $s_\theta$  is far from being the exact score function: Sample-based, limitations from the architecture...
- Discrete sampling scheme (Euler-Maruyama, Predictor-Corrector,...).
- Score function may behave badly near  $t = 0$  (irregular density in case of manifold hypothesis).

But we do have theoretical guarantees if all is well controlled!

## **Theorem (Convergence guarantees (De Bortoli, 2022))**

*Let  $p_0$  be the data distribution having a compact manifold support and let  $q_T$  be the generator distribution from the reversed diffusion. Under suitable hypotheses, the 1-Wasserstein distance  $W_1(p_0, q_T)$  can be explicitly bounded and tends to zero when all the parameters are refined (more Euler steps, better score learning, etc.).*

**The deterministic approach:  
Probability flow ODE**

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We derived the Fokker-Planck equation for  $q_t = p_{T-t}$  of reversed diffusion  $\mathbf{y}_t = \mathbf{x}_{T-t}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t q_t(\mathbf{x}) &= -\partial_t p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x}) \\ &= \operatorname{div}_x (\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, T-t) p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x})) - \frac{1}{2} g(T-t)^2 \Delta_x p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x}) \\ &= \operatorname{div}_x (\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, T-t) p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x})) + \left(-1 + \frac{1}{2}\right) g(T-t)^2 \Delta_x p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x}) \\ &= -\operatorname{div}_x \left( \left[ -\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, T-t) + g(T-t)^2 \nabla_x \log p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x}) \right] p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x}) \right) + \frac{1}{2} g(T-t)^2 \Delta_x p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x})\end{aligned}$$

This is the Fokker-Planck equation associated with the diffusion SDE:

$$d\mathbf{y}_t = \left[ -\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_t, T-t) + g(T-t)^2 \nabla_x \log p_{T-t}(\mathbf{y}_t) \right] dt + g(T-t) d\mathbf{w}_t.$$

We derived the Fokker-Planck equation for  $q_t = p_{T-t}$  of reversed diffusion

$\mathbf{y}_t = \mathbf{x}_{T-t}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t q_t(\mathbf{x}) &= -\partial_t p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x}) \\ &= \operatorname{div}_x (\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, T-t) p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x})) - \frac{1}{2} g(T-t)^2 \Delta_x p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x}) \\ &= \operatorname{div}_x (\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, T-t) p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x})) + \left(-1 + \frac{1}{2}\right) g(T-t)^2 \Delta_x p_{T-t}(\mathbf{x})\end{aligned}$$

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We derived the Fokker-Planck equation for  $q_t = p_{T-t}$  of reversed diffusion  $\mathbf{y}_t = \mathbf{x}_{T-t}$ .

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This is the Fokker-Planck equation associated with the diffusion SDE:

$$d\mathbf{y}_t = \left[ -\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_t, T-t) + \frac{1}{2} g(T-t)^2 \nabla_x \log p_{T-t}(\mathbf{y}_t) \right] dt.$$

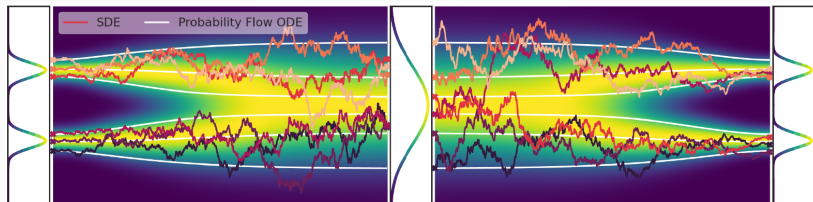
which is an **Ordinary Differential Equation (ODE)** (no stochastic term) !



## Reverse diffusion via an ODE

$$dy_t = \left[ -f(y_t, T - t) + \frac{1}{2}g(T - t)^2 \nabla_x \log p_{T-t}(y_t) \right] dt.$$

This ODE is called a **probability flow ODE**.



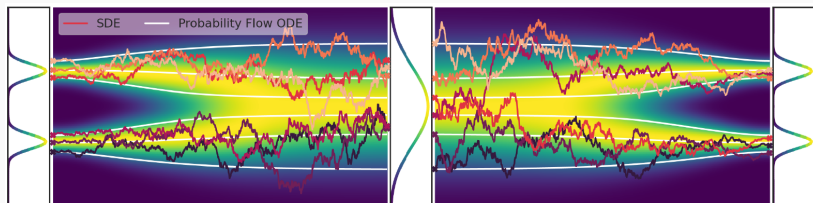
(source: (Song and Ermon, 2020))

- Like with normalizing flows, we get a deterministic mapping between initial noise and generated images.
- We do not simulate the (chaotic) path of the stochastic diffusion **but we still have the same marginal distribution**  $p_t$ .
- We can use **any ODE solver**, with higher order than Euler scheme.

## Reverse diffusion via an ODE

$$dy_t = \left[ -f(y_t, T - t) + \frac{1}{2}g(T - t)^2 \nabla_x \log p_{T-t}(y_t) \right] dt.$$

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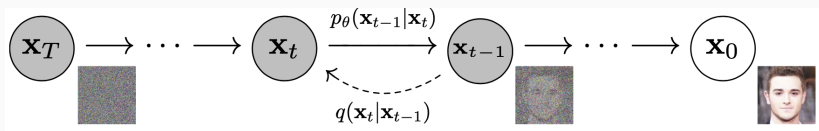
(source: (Song and Ermon, 2020))

- From (Karras et al., 2022) “Through extensive tests, we have found Heun’s 2nd order method (a.k.a. improved Euler, trapezoidal rule) [...] to provide an excellent tradeoff between truncation error and NFE.”
- Requires much less NFE than stochastic samplers (eg around 50 steps instead of 1000), see also Denoising Diffusion Implicit Models (DDIM) (Song et al., 2021a) for a deterministic approach.

**The discrete approach for diffusion  
models:  
Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic  
Models**

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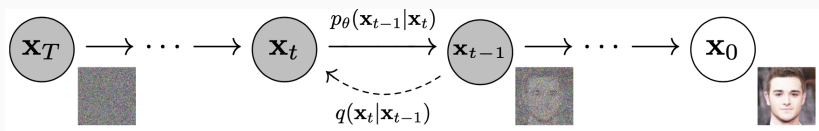
# Denosing Diffusion Probabilistic Models



(source: (Ho et al., 2020))

Denosing Diffusion Probabilistic Models (**DDPM** (Ho et al., 2020)) is a discrete model with a fixed number of  $T = 10^3$  steps that performs discrete diffusion.

# Denosing Diffusion Probabilistic Models



(source: (Ho et al., 2020))

Denosing Diffusion Probabilistic Models (**DDPM** (Ho et al., 2020)) is a discrete model with a fixed number of  $T = 10^3$  steps that performs discrete diffusion.

**WARNING: Slight change of notation**

## Forward model: Discrete variance preserving diffusion

- Distribution of samples:  $q(x_0)$ .
- Conditional Gaussian noise:  $q(x_t|x_{t-1}) = \mathcal{N}(\sqrt{1 - \beta_t}x_{t-1}, \beta_t I_d)$

$$x_t = \sqrt{1 - \beta_t}x_{t-1} + \sqrt{\beta_t}z_t$$

where the variance schedule  $(\beta_t)_{1 \leq t \leq T}$  is fixed.

- One step noising  $q(x_t|x_0)$ : With  $\alpha_t = 1 - \beta_t$  and  $\bar{\alpha} = \text{cumprod}(\alpha)$

$$x_t = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}x_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}z \quad \text{where } z \text{ is standard.}$$

- We consider the diffusion as a fixed stochastic encoder
- We want to learn a **stochastic decoder**  $p_\theta$ :

$$p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_{0:T}) = \underbrace{p(\mathbf{x}_T)}_{\text{fixed latent prior}} \prod_{t=1}^T \underbrace{p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t)}_{\text{learnable backward transitions}} .$$

$$\text{with } p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t), \beta_t I_d)$$

$$\text{Compare with: } q(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_{t-1}) = \mathcal{N}(\sqrt{1 - \beta_t}\mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \beta_t I_d)$$

- Recall same diffusion coefficient, new backward drift to be learnt,...
- Oversimplified version compare to (Ho et al., 2020), there are ways to also learn the variance for each pixel, see (Nichol and Dhariwal, 2021).
- Then we look for training the decoder by maximizing an **ELBO**.

$$\mathbb{E}(-\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_0)) \leq \mathbb{E}_q \left[ -\log \left[ \frac{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{0:T})}{q(\mathbf{x}_{1:T}|\mathbf{x}_0)} \right] \right] := L$$

We have

$$L = \mathbb{E}_q \left[ -\log p(\mathbf{x}_T) - \sum_{t=1}^T \log \frac{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t)}{q(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_{t-1})} \right]$$

$$\mathbb{E}(-\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_0)) \leq \mathbb{E}_q \left[ -\log \left[ \frac{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{0:T})}{q(\mathbf{x}_{1:T}|\mathbf{x}_0)} \right] \right] := L$$

We have

$$L = \mathbb{E}_q \left[ -\log p(\mathbf{x}_T) - \sum_{t=1}^T \log \frac{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t)}{q(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_{t-1})} \right]$$

= ... (see [\(Ho et al., 2020\)](#) Appendix A)



$$\mathbb{E}(-\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_0)) \leq \mathbb{E}_q \left[ -\log \left[ \frac{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{0:T})}{q(\mathbf{x}_{1:T}|\mathbf{x}_0)} \right] \right] := L$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \mathbb{E}_q \left[ -\log p(\mathbf{x}_T) - \sum_{t=1}^T \log \frac{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t)}{q(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_{t-1})} \right] \\ &= \dots \quad (\text{see (Ho et al., 2020) Appendix A}) \\ &= \mathbb{E}_q \left[ D_{\text{KL}}(q(\mathbf{x}_T|\mathbf{x}_0) \| p(\mathbf{x}_T)) + \sum_{t=2}^T D_{\text{KL}}(q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) \| p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t)) - \log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_1) \right] \end{aligned}$$

## Computation of $D_{\text{KL}}(q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0)||p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t))$

By Bayes rule,

$$q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) = q(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \mathbf{x}_0) \frac{q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_0)}{q(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0)} = q(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_{t-1}) \frac{q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_0)}{q(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0)}$$

Computation shows that this is a normal distribution  $\mathcal{N}(\tilde{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0), \tilde{\beta}_t I_d)$  with

$$\tilde{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_{t-1}}\beta_t}{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{x}_0 + \frac{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}(1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t-1})}{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{x}_t \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\beta}_t = \frac{1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t-1}}{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \beta_t.$$

Using the expression of the KL-divergence between Gaussian distributions,

$$D_{\text{KL}}(q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0)||p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t)) = \frac{1}{\beta_t} \|\mu_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) - \tilde{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0)\|^2 + C$$

$$L_t = \mathbb{E}_q [D_{\text{KL}}(q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0)||p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t))] = \frac{1}{\beta_t} \mathbb{E}_q \left[ \|\mu_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) - \tilde{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0)\|^2 \right] + C$$

# DDPM: Noise reparameterization

Rewrite everything **in function of the added standard noise  $\varepsilon$** :

$$\mathbf{x}_t(\mathbf{x}_0, \varepsilon) = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon$$

Then  $\mu_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  must predict

$$\tilde{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{\beta_t}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}} \varepsilon \right)$$

If we parameterize

$$\mu_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{\beta_t}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}} \varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right)$$

Then the loss is simply

$$\begin{aligned} L_t &= \frac{\beta_t}{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbb{E}_q \left[ \|\varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) - \varepsilon\|^2 \right] + C \\ &= \frac{\beta_t}{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}_0, \varepsilon} \left[ \|\varepsilon_\theta(\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon, t) - \varepsilon\|^2 \right] + C \end{aligned}$$

That is we must predict the noise  $\varepsilon$  added to  $\mathbf{x}_0$  (without knowing  $\mathbf{x}_0$ ).

# DDPM: Training and sampling

$$L = \mathbb{E}_q \left[ D_{\text{KL}}(q(\mathbf{x}_T|\mathbf{x}_0)||p(\mathbf{x}_T)) + \sum_{t=2}^T D_{\text{KL}}(q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0)||p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t)) - \log p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{x}_1) \right]$$
$$= \sum_{t=2}^T L_t + L_1 + C$$

- The  $L_1$  term is dealt differently (to account for discretization of  $\mathbf{x}_0$ ).
- (Ho et al., 2020) proposes to simplify the loss (no constants):

$$L_{\text{simple}} = \mathbb{E}_{t, \mathbf{x}_0, \epsilon} \left[ \|\epsilon_\theta(\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\epsilon, t) - \epsilon\|^2 \right]$$

## 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:  $\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{1 - \alpha_t}{\sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}} \epsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right) + \sigma_t \mathbf{z}$
- 5: **end for**
- 6: **return**  $\mathbf{x}_0$

$\sigma_t = \sqrt{\beta_t}$  here.

(source: (Ho et al., 2020))

## DDPM: Denoiser

The Unet  $\varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  is a (residual) denoiser that gives an estimation of the noise  $\varepsilon$  from

$$\mathbf{x}_t(\mathbf{x}_0, \varepsilon) = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon.$$

We get the associated estimation of  $\mathbf{x}_0$ :

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}}\mathbf{x}_t - \sqrt{\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}_t} - 1}\varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t).$$



$x_t$

$\hat{x}_0$

$x_0$

$t = 11$

## DDPM: Denoiser

The Unet  $\varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  is a (residual) denoiser that gives an estimation of the noise  $\varepsilon$  from

$$\mathbf{x}_t(\mathbf{x}_0, \varepsilon) = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon.$$

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$\mathbf{x}_t$



$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$



$\mathbf{x}_0$

$t = 100$

# DDPM: Denoiser

The Unet  $\varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  is a (residual) denoiser that gives an estimation of the noise  $\varepsilon$  from

$$\mathbf{x}_t(\mathbf{x}_0, \varepsilon) = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon.$$

We get the associated estimation of  $\mathbf{x}_0$ :

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}}\mathbf{x}_t - \sqrt{\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}_t} - 1}\varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t).$$



$\mathbf{x}_t$



$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$



$\mathbf{x}_0$

$t = 200$

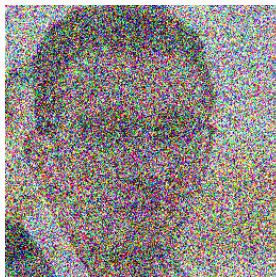
## DDPM: Denoiser

The Unet  $\varepsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  is a (residual) denoiser that gives an estimation of the noise  $\varepsilon$  from

$$\mathbf{x}_t(\mathbf{x}_0, \varepsilon) = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon.$$

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$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}}\mathbf{x}_t - \sqrt{\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}_t} - 1}\varepsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t).$$



$\mathbf{x}_t$



$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$



$\mathbf{x}_0$

$t = 400$



## DDPM: Denoiser

The Unet  $\varepsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  is a (residual) denoiser that gives an estimation of the noise  $\varepsilon$  from

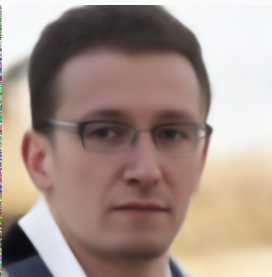
$$\mathbf{x}_t(\mathbf{x}_0, \varepsilon) = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon.$$

We get the associated estimation of  $\mathbf{x}_0$ :

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}}\mathbf{x}_t - \sqrt{\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}_t} - 1}\varepsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t).$$



$\mathbf{x}_t$



$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$



$\mathbf{x}_0$

$t = 500$

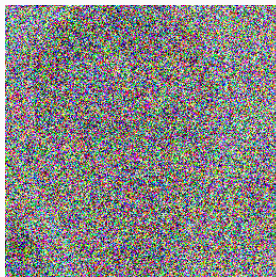
## DDPM: Denoiser

The Unet  $\varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  is a (residual) denoiser that gives an estimation of the noise  $\varepsilon$  from

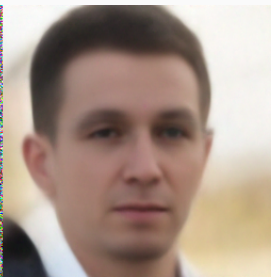
$$\mathbf{x}_t(\mathbf{x}_0, \varepsilon) = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon.$$

We get the associated estimation of  $\mathbf{x}_0$ :

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}}\mathbf{x}_t - \sqrt{\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}_t} - 1}\varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t).$$



$\mathbf{x}_t$



$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$



$\mathbf{x}_0$

$t = 600$

## DDPM: Denoiser

The Unet  $\varepsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  is a (residual) denoiser that gives an estimation of the noise  $\varepsilon$  from

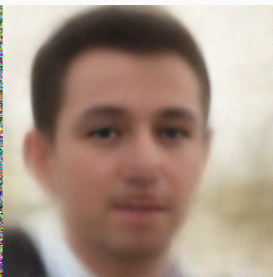
$$\mathbf{x}_t(\mathbf{x}_0, \varepsilon) = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon.$$

We get the associated estimation of  $\mathbf{x}_0$ :

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}}\mathbf{x}_t - \sqrt{\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}_t} - 1}\varepsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t).$$



$\mathbf{x}_t$



$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$



$\mathbf{x}_0$

$t = 700$

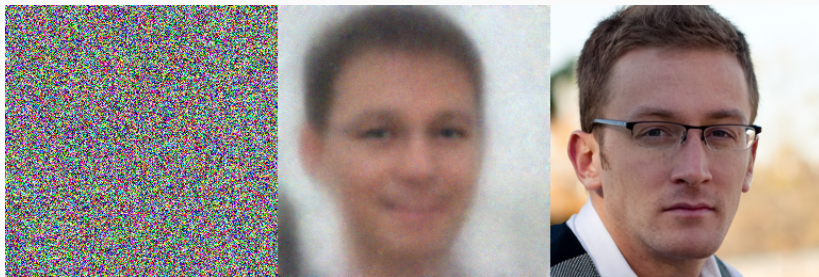
## DDPM: Denoiser

The Unet  $\varepsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  is a (residual) denoiser that gives an estimation of the noise  $\varepsilon$  from

$$\mathbf{x}_t(\mathbf{x}_0, \varepsilon) = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon.$$

We get the associated estimation of  $\mathbf{x}_0$ :

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}}\mathbf{x}_t - \sqrt{\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}_t} - 1}\varepsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t).$$



$x_t$

$\hat{x}_0$

$x_0$

$t = 800$

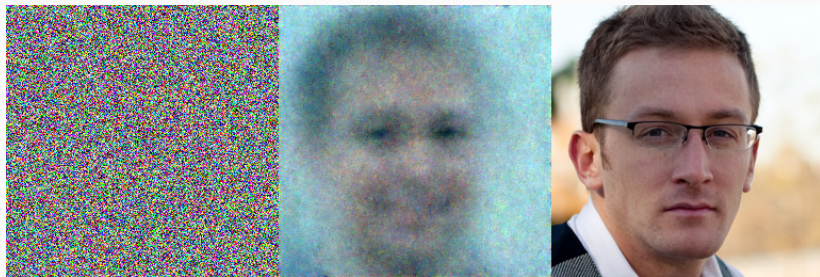
## DDPM: Denoiser

The Unet  $\varepsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  is a (residual) denoiser that gives an estimation of the noise  $\varepsilon$  from

$$\mathbf{x}_t(\mathbf{x}_0, \varepsilon) = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon.$$

We get the associated estimation of  $\mathbf{x}_0$ :

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}}\mathbf{x}_t - \sqrt{\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}_t} - 1}\varepsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t).$$



$x_t$

$\hat{x}_0$

$x_0$

$t = 900$

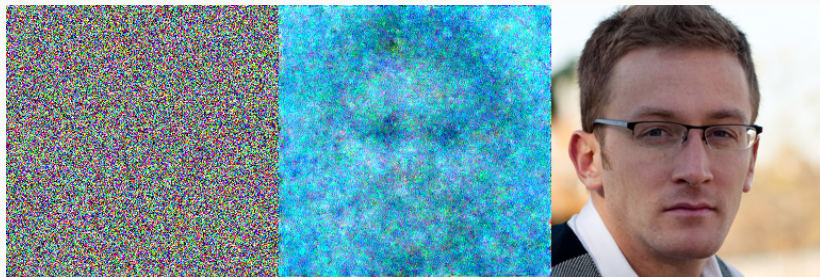
## DDPM: Denoiser

The Unet  $\varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  is a (residual) denoiser that gives an estimation of the noise  $\varepsilon$  from

$$\mathbf{x}_t(\mathbf{x}_0, \varepsilon) = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon.$$

We get the associated estimation of  $\mathbf{x}_0$ :

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}}\mathbf{x}_t - \sqrt{\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}_t} - 1}\varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t).$$



$\mathbf{x}_t$

$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$

$\mathbf{x}_0$

$t = 1000$

# DDPM: Sampling

## Algorithm 1 Training

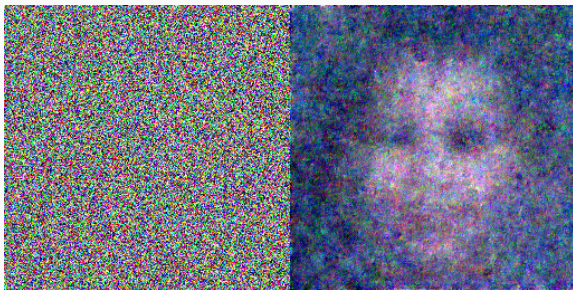
- 1: **repeat**
- 2:  $\mathbf{x}_0 \sim q(\mathbf{x}_0)$
- 3:  $t \sim \text{Uniform}(\{1, \dots, T\})$
- 4:  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
- 5: Take gradient descent step on  
 $\nabla_{\theta} \|\epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}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

$\sigma_t = \sqrt{\beta_t}$  here.

(source: (Ho et al., 2020))



$\mathbf{x}_t$

$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$

$t = 999$

# DDPM: Sampling

## Algorithm 1 Training

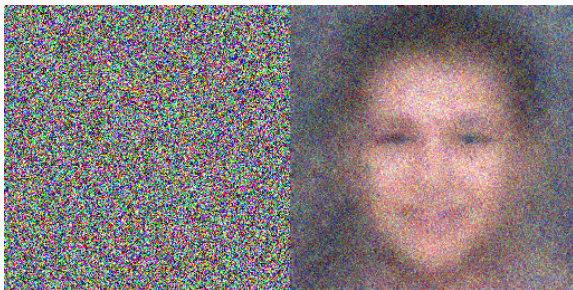
- 1: **repeat**
- 2:  $\mathbf{x}_0 \sim q(\mathbf{x}_0)$
- 3:  $t \sim \text{Uniform}(\{1, \dots, T\})$
- 4:  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
- 5: Take gradient descent step on  
 $\nabla_{\theta} \|\epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(\sqrt{\alpha_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}\epsilon, t)\|^2$
- 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:  $\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{1 - \alpha_t}{\sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}} \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right) + \sigma_t \mathbf{z}$
- 5: **end for**
- 6: **return**  $\mathbf{x}_0$

$\sigma_t = \sqrt{\beta_t}$  here.

(source: (Ho et al., 2020))



$\mathbf{x}_t$

$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$

$t = 900$



# DDPM: Sampling

## Algorithm 1 Training

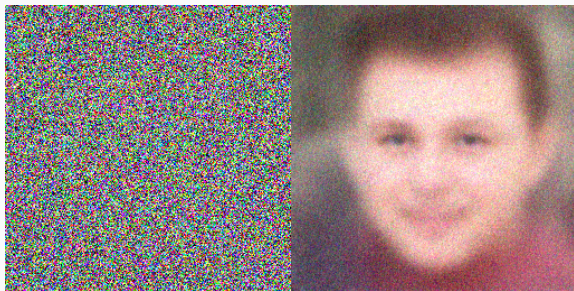
- 1: **repeat**
- 2:  $\mathbf{x}_0 \sim q(\mathbf{x}_0)$
- 3:  $t \sim \text{Uniform}(\{1, \dots, T\})$
- 4:  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
- 5: Take gradient descent step on  
 $\nabla_{\theta} \|\epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \epsilon, t)\|^2$
- 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:  $\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{1 - \alpha_t}{\sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}} \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right) + \sigma_t \mathbf{z}$
- 5: **end for**
- 6: **return**  $\mathbf{x}_0$

$\sigma_t = \sqrt{\beta_t}$  here.

(source: (Ho et al., 2020))



$\mathbf{x}_t$

$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$

$t = 800$

# DDPM: Sampling

## Algorithm 1 Training

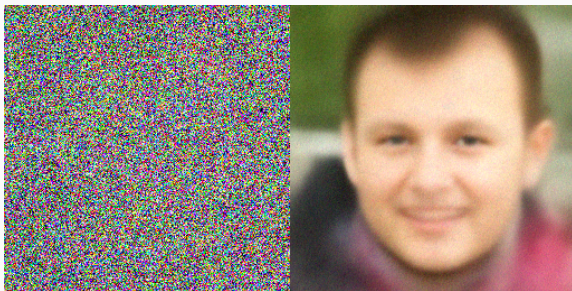
- 1: **repeat**
- 2:  $\mathbf{x}_0 \sim q(\mathbf{x}_0)$
- 3:  $t \sim \text{Uniform}(\{1, \dots, T\})$
- 4:  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
- 5: Take gradient descent step on  
 $\nabla_{\theta} \|\epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(\sqrt{\alpha_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}\epsilon, t)\|^2$
- 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:  $\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{1 - \alpha_t}{\sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}} \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right) + \sigma_t \mathbf{z}$
- 5: **end for**
- 6: **return**  $\mathbf{x}_0$

$\sigma_t = \sqrt{\beta_t}$  here.

(source: (Ho et al., 2020))



$\mathbf{x}_t$

$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$

$t = 700$

# DDPM: Sampling

## Algorithm 1 Training

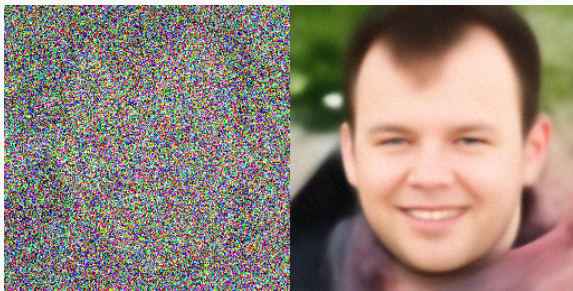
- 1: **repeat**
- 2:  $\mathbf{x}_0 \sim q(\mathbf{x}_0)$
- 3:  $t \sim \text{Uniform}(\{1, \dots, T\})$
- 4:  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
- 5: Take gradient descent step on  
 $\nabla_{\theta} \|\epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\epsilon,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

$\sigma_t = \sqrt{\beta_t}$  here.

(source: (Ho et al., 2020))



$\mathbf{x}_t$

$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$

$t = 600$

# DDPM: Sampling

## 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:  $\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{1 - \alpha_t}{\sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}} \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right) + \sigma_t \mathbf{z}$
- 5: **end for**
- 6: **return**  $\mathbf{x}_0$

$\sigma_t = \sqrt{\beta_t}$  here.

(source: (Ho et al., 2020))



$\mathbf{x}_t$

$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$

$t = 500$

## 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  
$$\nabla_{\theta} \|\epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(\sqrt{\alpha_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}\epsilon, t)\|^2$$
- 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:  $\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{1 - \alpha_t}{\sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}} \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right) + \sigma_t \mathbf{z}$
- 5: **end for**
- 6: **return**  $\mathbf{x}_0$

$\sigma_t = \sqrt{\beta_t}$  here.

(source: (Ho et al., 2020))



$\mathbf{x}_t$

$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$

$t = 400$

## 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:  $\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}} \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right) + \sigma_t \mathbf{z}$
- 5: **end for**
- 6: **return**  $\mathbf{x}_0$

$\sigma_t = \sqrt{\beta_t}$  here.

(source: (Ho et al., 2020))



$\mathbf{x}_t$

$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$

$t = 300$

# DDPM: Sampling

## 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  
 $\nabla_{\theta} \|\epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(\sqrt{\alpha_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}\epsilon, t)\|^2$
- 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:  $\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{1 - \alpha_t}{\sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}} \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right) + \sigma_t \mathbf{z}$
- 5: **end for**
- 6: **return**  $\mathbf{x}_0$

$\sigma_t = \sqrt{\beta_t}$  here.

(source: (Ho et al., 2020))



$\mathbf{x}_t$

$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$

$t = 200$

# DDPM: Sampling

## 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  
 $\nabla_{\theta} \|\epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(\sqrt{\alpha_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}\epsilon, t)\|^2$
- 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:  $\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{1 - \alpha_t}{\sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}} \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right) + \sigma_t \mathbf{z}$
- 5: **end for**
- 6: **return**  $\mathbf{x}_0$

$\sigma_t = \sqrt{\beta_t}$  here.

(source: (Ho et al., 2020))



$\mathbf{x}_t$

$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$

$t = 100$



# DDPM: Sampling

## 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  
$$\nabla_{\theta} \|\epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(\sqrt{\alpha_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}\epsilon, t)\|^2$$
- 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:  $\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{1 - \alpha_t}{\sqrt{1 - \alpha_t}} \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right) + \sigma_t \mathbf{z}$
- 5: **end for**
- 6: **return**  $\mathbf{x}_0$

$\sigma_t = \sqrt{\beta_t}$  here.

(source: (Ho et al., 2020))



$\mathbf{x}_t$

$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$

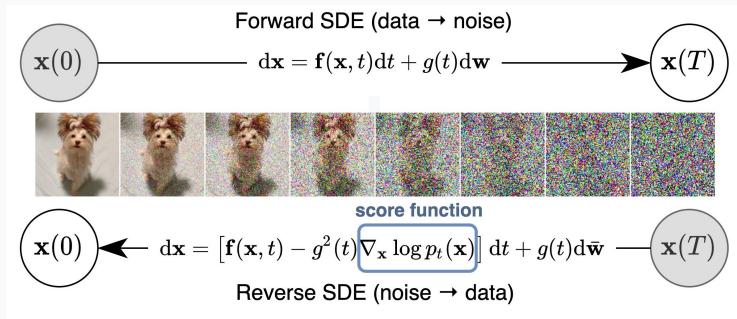
$t = 0$

## **Continuous and discrete diffusion models**

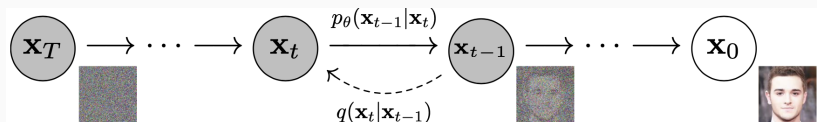
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# Recap on diffusion models

## Diffusion model via SDE: (Song et al., 2021b)



## Diffusion model via Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models (DDPM): (Ho et al., 2020) Discrete model with a fixed number of $T = 10^3$ .



Forward diffusion:

$$dx_t = f(x_t, t)dt + g(t)dw_t$$

Backward diffusion:  $y_t = x_{T-t}$

$$dy_t = \left[ -f(y_t, T-t) + g(T-t)^2 \nabla_x \log p_{T-t}(y_t) \right] dt + g(T-t)dw_t.$$

- Learn score by denoising score matching:

$$\theta^* = \operatorname{argmin} \mathbb{E}_t \left( \lambda_t \mathbb{E}_{(x_0, x_t)} \|s_{\theta}(x_t, t) - \nabla_{x_t} \log p_{t|0}(x_t|x_0)\|^2 \right) \quad \text{with } t \sim \operatorname{Unif}([0, T])$$

- Generate samples by SDE discrete scheme (e.g. Euler-Maruyama):

$$Y_{n-1} = Y_n - hf(Y_n, t_n) + hg(t_n)^2 s_{\theta}(Y_n, t_n) + g(t_n) \sqrt{h} Z_n \quad \text{with } Z_n \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, I_d)$$

- Associated deterministic probability flow:

$$dy_t = \left[ -f(y_t, T-t) + \frac{1}{2}g(T-t)^2 \nabla_x \log p_{T-t}(y_t) \right] dt$$

# Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models (DDPM)

Forward diffusion:

$$q(x_{0:T}) = \underbrace{q(x_0)}_{\text{data distribution}} \prod_{t=1}^T \underbrace{q(x_t|x_{t-1})}_{\text{fixed forward transitions}} \quad \text{with} \quad q(x_t|x_{t-1}) = \mathcal{N}(\sqrt{1 - \beta_t}x_{t-1}, \beta_t I_d)$$

Backward diffusion: **stochastic decoder**  $p_\theta$ :

$$p_\theta(x_{0:T}) = \underbrace{p(x_T)}_{\text{fixed latent prior}} \prod_{t=1}^T \underbrace{p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)}_{\text{learnt backward transitions}} \quad \text{with} \quad \underbrace{p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t)}_{\text{Gaussian approximation of } q(x_{t-1}|x_t)} = \mathcal{N}(\mu_\theta(x_t, t), \beta_t I_d)$$

- Learn the score by minimizing the ELBO (like for VAE): This boils down to denoising the diffusion iterations  $x_t = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}x_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\epsilon$ :

$$\theta^* = \operatorname{argmin} \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{\beta_t}{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbb{E}_q \left[ \|\epsilon_\theta(x_t, t) - \epsilon\|^2 \right] + C$$

- Sampling through the stochastic decoder with

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

**Posterior mean training:** Recall that  $\mu_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  minimizes

$$\mathbb{E}_q [D_{\text{KL}}(q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0)||p_\theta(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t))] = \frac{1}{\beta_t} \mathbb{E}_q \left[ \|\mu_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) - \tilde{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0)\|^2 \right] + C$$

where  $\tilde{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0)$  is the mean of  $q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0)$ . Hence ideally,

$$\mu_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) = \mathbb{E} [\tilde{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0)|\mathbf{x}_t] = \mathbb{E} [\mathbb{E} [\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0]|\mathbf{x}_t] = \mathbb{E} [\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t].$$

**Noise prediction training:**  $\varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  minimizes

$$\mathbb{E}_q \left[ \|\varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) - \varepsilon\|^2 \right]$$

where  $\varepsilon$  is a function of  $(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0)$  (since  $\mathbf{x}_t = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}\varepsilon$ ). Hence ideally,

$$\varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) = \mathbb{E} [\varepsilon|\mathbf{x}_t]$$

**Score matching training:** Ideally,

$$s_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) = \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}_t) = \mathbb{E} [\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_{t|0}(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0)|\mathbf{x}_t]$$

We derived the formulas for DDPM training without considering the score function... but denoising and score functions are linked by **Tweedie formulas**:

## Theorem (Tweedie formulas)

*If  $Y = aX + \sigma Z$  with  $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, I_d)$  independent of  $X$ ,  $a > 0$ ,  $\sigma > 0$ , then*

***Tweedie denoiser:*** 
$$\mathbb{E}[X|Y] = \frac{1}{a} \left( Y + \sigma^2 \nabla_y \log p_Y(Y) \right)$$

***Tweedie noise predictor:*** 
$$\mathbb{E}[Z|Y] = -\sigma \nabla_y \log p_Y(Y)$$

If  $Y = aX + \sigma Z$ , **Tweedie denoiser:**  $\mathbb{E}[X|Y] = \frac{1}{a} \left( Y + \sigma^2 \nabla_y \log p_Y(Y) \right)$

**Tweedie noise predictor:**  $\mathbb{E}[Z|Y] = -\sigma \nabla_y \log p_Y(Y)$

**Tweedie for noise prediction:** Predict the noise  $\varepsilon$  from  $\mathbf{x}_t$ :

$$\mathbf{x}_t = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \varepsilon \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[\varepsilon | \mathbf{x}_t] = -\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}_t)$$

**Tweedie for one-step denoising:** Predict  $\mathbf{x}_{t-1}$  from  $\mathbf{x}_t$ :

$$\mathbf{x}_t = \sqrt{\alpha_t} \mathbf{x}_{t-1} + \sqrt{\beta_t} \mathbf{z}_t \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}_{t-1} | \mathbf{x}_t] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t + \beta_t \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}_t) \right)$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}_{t-1} | \mathbf{x}_t] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{\beta_t}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}} \mathbb{E}[\varepsilon | \mathbf{x}_t] \right)$$



If  $Y = aX + \sigma Z$ , **Tweedie denoiser:**  $\mathbb{E}[X|Y] = \frac{1}{a} \left( Y + \sigma^2 \nabla_y \log p_Y(Y) \right)$

**Tweedie noise predictor:**  $\mathbb{E}[Z|Y] = -\sigma \nabla_y \log p_Y(Y)$

**Tweedie for noise prediction:** Predict the noise  $\varepsilon$  from  $\mathbf{x}_t$ :

$$\mathbf{x}_t = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \varepsilon \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[\varepsilon | \mathbf{x}_t] = -\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}_t)$$

**Tweedie for one-step denoising:** Predict  $\mathbf{x}_{t-1}$  from  $\mathbf{x}_t$ :

$$\mathbf{x}_t = \sqrt{\alpha_t} \mathbf{x}_{t-1} + \sqrt{\beta_t} \mathbf{z}_t \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}_{t-1} | \mathbf{x}_t] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t + \beta_t \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}_t) \right)$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}_{t-1} | \mathbf{x}_t] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{\beta_t}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}} \mathbb{E}[\varepsilon | \mathbf{x}_t] \right)$$

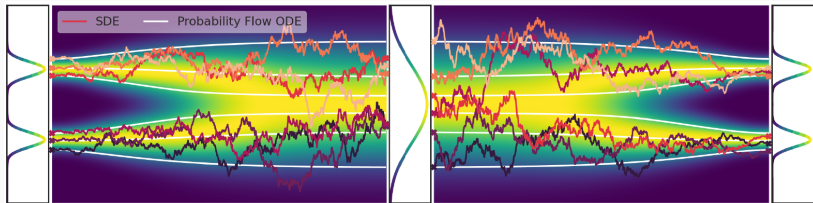
$$\mu_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{\beta_t}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}} \varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right)$$

**Remarks:** We recover the expression of  $\mu_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  without using the one of

$$\tilde{\mu}(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{\beta_t}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}} \varepsilon \right)$$

## To sum up:

- The three trainings strategies are the same (up to weighting constants).
- The only difference between the continuous SDE model and the discrete DDPM model are the time values:  $t \in [0, T]$  VS.  $t = 1, \dots, T = 10^3$ .
- **Good news:** We can train a DDPM and use it for a deterministic probability flow ODE (this is what is done by the DDIM model (Song et al., 2021a)).



(source: (Song and Ermon, 2020))

## **Diffusion models for imaging inverse problems**

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# Diffusion posterior sampling

We present **Diffusion Posterior Sampling (DPS)** for general noisy inverse problems ([Chung et al., 2023](#))

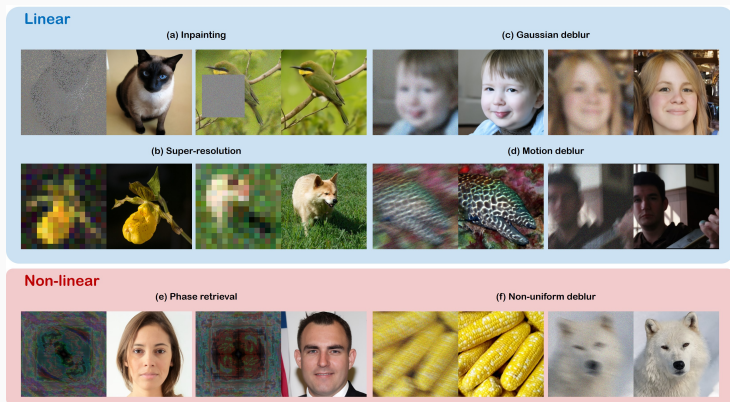


Figure 1: Solving noisy linear, and nonlinear inverse problems with diffusion models. Our reconstruction results (right) from the measurements (left) are shown.

(source: [Chung et al., 2023](#))

See also ([Song et al., 2023](#)), ([Kawar et al., 2022](#)) for alternative methods.

Let  $A$  be a linear operator from an inverse problem (masking operator for inpainting, blur operator for deblurring, subsampling for SR, ...).

Given some observation

$$\mathbf{y} = A\mathbf{x}_{\text{unknown}} + \mathbf{n}$$

where  $\mathbf{n}$  is some additive white Gaussian noise with variance  $\sigma^2$ , we would like to sample

$$p_0(\mathbf{x}_0 | A\mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{y}) = p_0(\mathbf{x}_0 | \mathbf{y})$$

to estimate  $\mathbf{x}_{\text{unknown}}$  in accordance with the prior of the generative model.

## Conditional sampling

From (Song et al., 2021b), we can consider the SDE for the conditional distribution  $p_0(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{y})$ :

Backward diffusion for VP-SDE:  $\mathbf{y}_t = \mathbf{x}_{T-t}$

$$d\mathbf{y}_t = [\beta_{T-t}\mathbf{y}_t + \beta_{T-t}\nabla_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{y}_t} \log p_{T-t}(\mathbf{y}_t)] dt + \beta_{T-t}d\mathbf{w}_t.$$

Conditional backward diffusion for VP-SDE:  $\mathbf{y}_t = \mathbf{x}_{T-t}$

$$d\mathbf{y}_t = [\beta_{T-t}\mathbf{y}_t + \beta_{T-t}\nabla_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{y}_t} \log p_{T-t}(\mathbf{y}_t|\mathbf{y})] dt + \beta_{T-t}d\mathbf{w}_t.$$

By Bayes rule:

$$\log p_{T-t}(\mathbf{y}_t|\mathbf{y}) = \log p_{T-t}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{y}_t) + \log(p_{T-t}(\mathbf{y}_t)) - \log(p_{T-t}(\mathbf{y}))$$

Thus,

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{y}_t} \log p_{T-t}(\mathbf{y}_t|\mathbf{y}) = \underbrace{\nabla_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{y}_t} \log p_{T-t}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{y}_t)}_{\text{intractable}} + \underbrace{\nabla_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{y}_t} \log(p_{T-t}(\mathbf{y}_t))}_{\text{usual score function}}$$

For clarity, let us write the new term with forward notation:

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{y}_t} \log p_{T-t}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{y}_t) = \nabla_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}_t)$$

(Chung et al., 2023) propose the following approximation:

$$\log p_t(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}_t) \approx \log p_t(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}_0 = \hat{\mathbf{x}}_0(\mathbf{x}_t, t))$$

with  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  the estimate of the original image from the network.

Since

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{\frac{n}{2}}} \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{y} - A\mathbf{x}_0\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

we finally approximate

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}_t} \log p_t(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}_t) = -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \|\mathbf{y} - A\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0(\mathbf{x}_t, t)\|^2$$

- Computing  $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \|\mathbf{y} - A\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0(\mathbf{x}_t, t)\|^2$  involves a backpropagation through the Unet.
- One can expect this approximate conditional sampling to be twice as long as the sampling procedure.

## Algorithm 1 DPS - Gaussian

**Require:**  $N, \mathbf{y}, \{\zeta_i\}_{i=1}^N, \{\tilde{\sigma}_i\}_{i=1}^N$

1:  $\mathbf{x}_N \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$

2: **for**  $i = N - 1$  **to** 0 **do**

3:    $\hat{\mathbf{s}} \leftarrow \mathbf{s}_\theta(\mathbf{x}_i, i)$

4:    $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0 \leftarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_i}}(\mathbf{x}_i + (1 - \bar{\alpha}_i)\hat{\mathbf{s}})$

5:    $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$

6:    $\mathbf{x}'_{i-1} \leftarrow \frac{\sqrt{\alpha_i(1-\bar{\alpha}_{i-1})}}{1-\bar{\alpha}_i}\mathbf{x}_i + \frac{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_{i-1}\beta_i}}{1-\bar{\alpha}_i}\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0 + \tilde{\sigma}_i\mathbf{z}$

7:    $\mathbf{x}_{i-1} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}'_{i-1} - \zeta_i \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_i} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathcal{A}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0)\|_2^2$

8: **end for**

9: **return**  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$

(source: (Chung et al., 2023))

- Usual DDPM sampling (notation with  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  instead of  $\varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$ ).

$$\mu_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left( \mathbf{x}_t - \frac{\beta_t}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}} \varepsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \right) = \frac{\sqrt{\alpha_t}(1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t-1})}{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{x}_t + \frac{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_{t-1}\beta_t}}{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_0(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$$

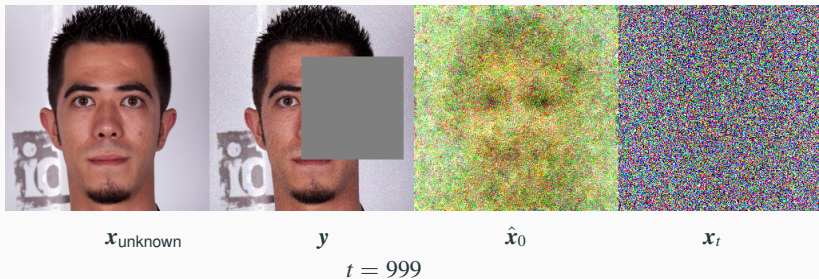
- Add a correction term to drive  $A\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$  close to  $\mathbf{y}$ .
- In practice  $\zeta_i = \zeta_t \propto \|\mathbf{y} - A\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0(\mathbf{x}_t, t)\|^{-1}$ .



# Diffusion posterior sampling: Results

- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).

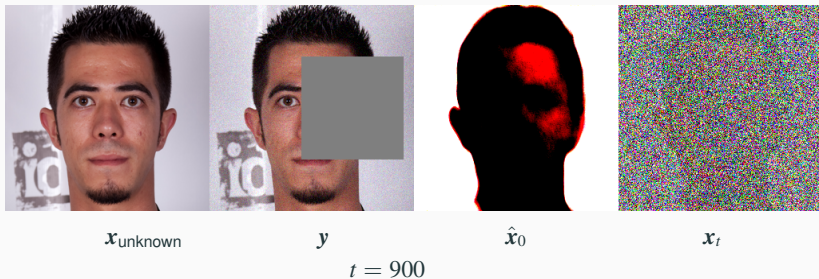
## Inpainting:



# Diffusion posterior sampling: Results

- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).

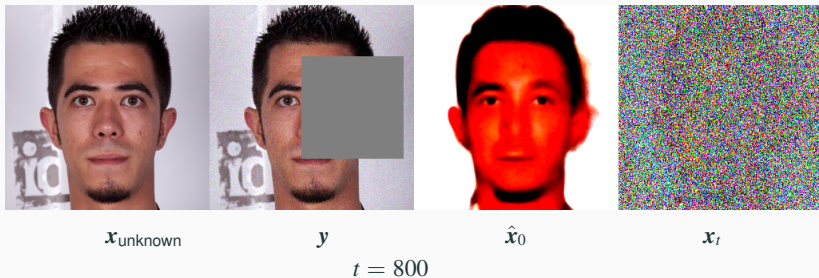
## Inpainting:



# Diffusion posterior sampling: Results

- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).

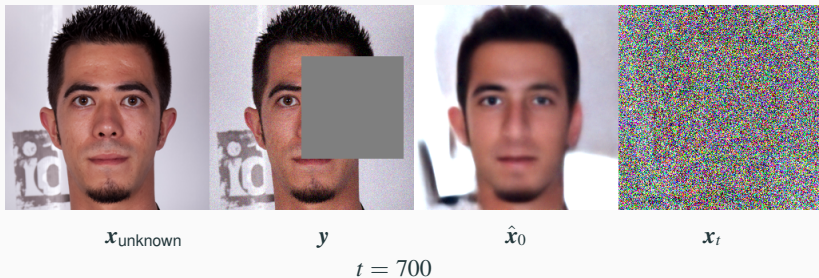
## Inpainting:



# Diffusion posterior sampling: Results

- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).

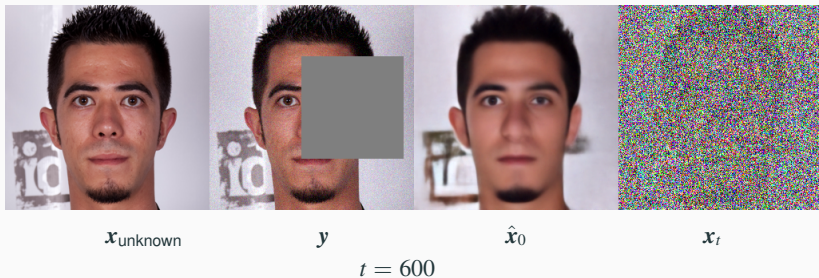
## Inpainting:



# Diffusion posterior sampling: Results

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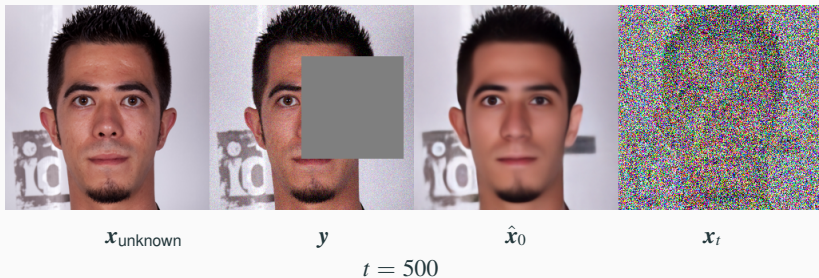
## Inpainting:



# Diffusion posterior sampling: Results

- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).

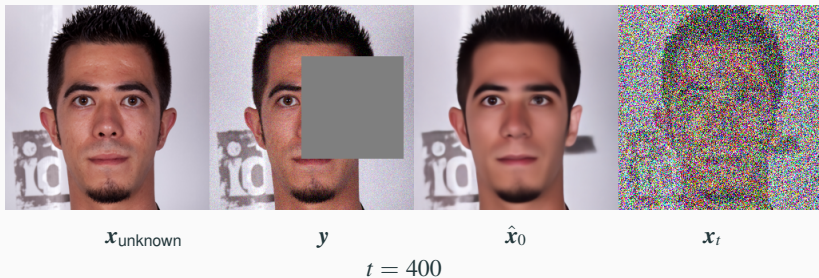
## Inpainting:



# Diffusion posterior sampling: Results

- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).

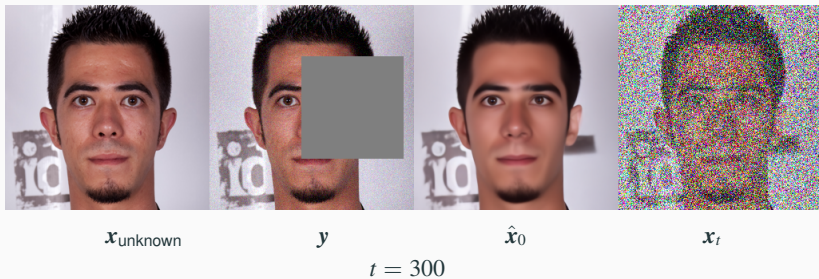
## Inpainting:



# Diffusion posterior sampling: Results

- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).

## Inpainting:

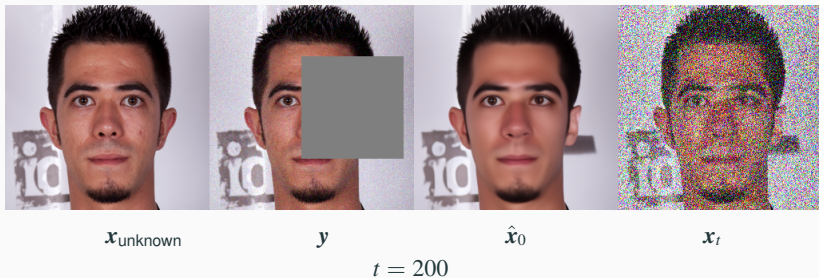




# Diffusion posterior sampling: Results

- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).

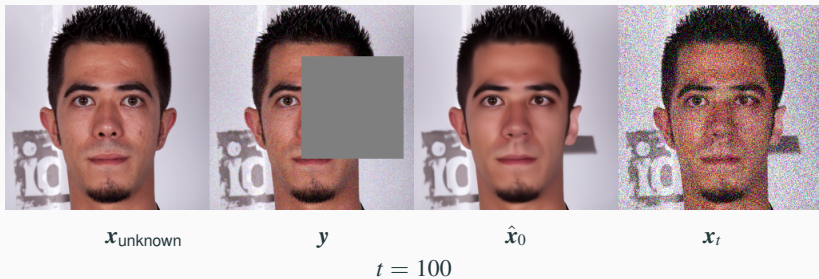
## Inpainting:



# Diffusion posterior sampling: Results

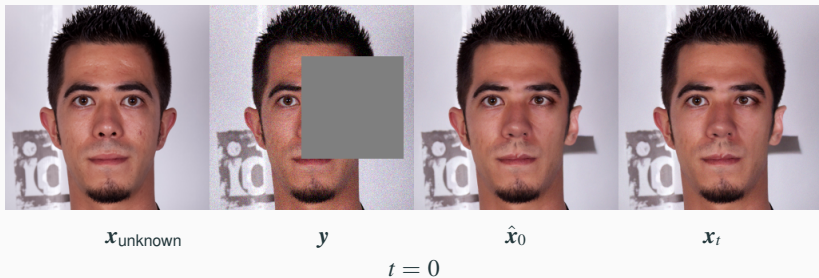
- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).

## Inpainting:



- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).

## Inpainting:

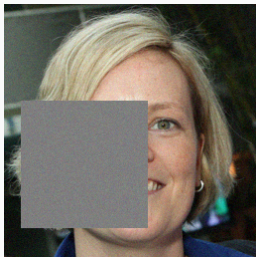


## Diffusion posterior sampling: Inpainting results

- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).
- Lack of symmetry.
- It can sometimes be really bad though!



original  $x_{\text{unknown}}$



input  $y$



output  $x_0$

## Diffusion posterior sampling: Inpainting results

- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).
- Lack of symmetry.
- It can sometimes be really bad though!



original  $x_{\text{unknown}}$



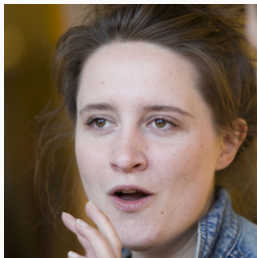
input  $y$



output  $x_0$

## Diffusion posterior sampling: Inpainting results

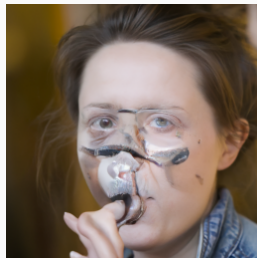
- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).
- Lack of symmetry.
- It can sometimes be really bad though!



original  $x_{\text{unknown}}$



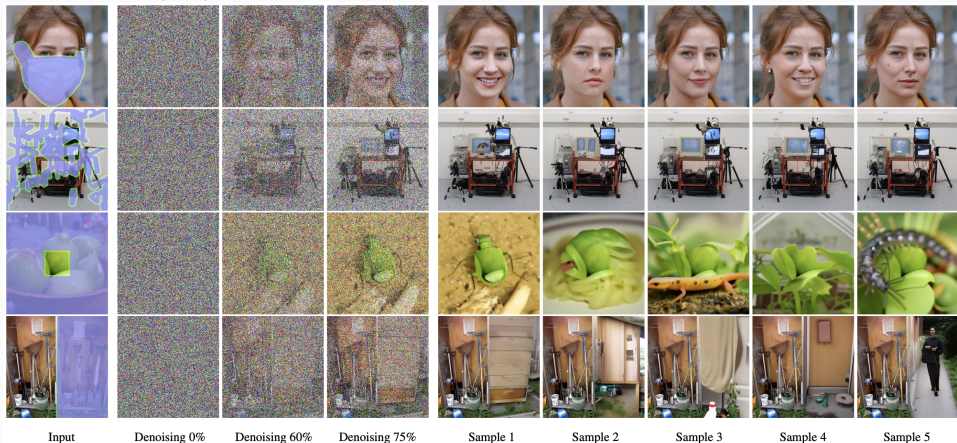
input  $y$



output  $x_0$

# Diffusion posterior sampling: Inpainting results

- For inpainting it can help to go back and forth in the diffusion process (Lugmayr et al., 2022).



(source: (Lugmayr et al., 2022))

## Diffusion posterior sampling: Super-resolution results

- Super-resolution with a factor  $\times 4$ .
- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).
- Loss of details (skin defaults, etc.).



original  $x_{\text{unknown}}$



input  $y$



output  $x_0$



## Diffusion posterior sampling: Super-resolution results

- Super-resolution with a factor  $\times 4$ .
- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).
- Loss of details (skin defaults, etc.).



original  $x_{\text{unknown}}$



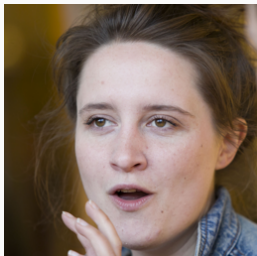
input  $y$



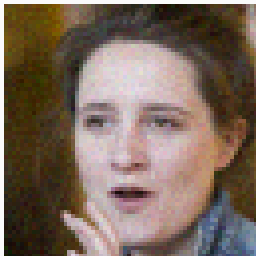
output  $x_0$

## Diffusion posterior sampling: Super-resolution results

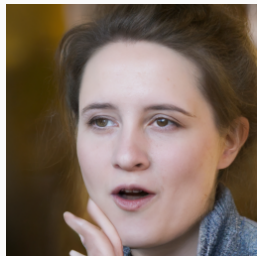
- Super-resolution with a factor  $\times 4$ .
- Very good results in terms of perceptual metric (LPIPS).
- Loss of details (skin defaults, etc.).



original  $x_{\text{unknown}}$



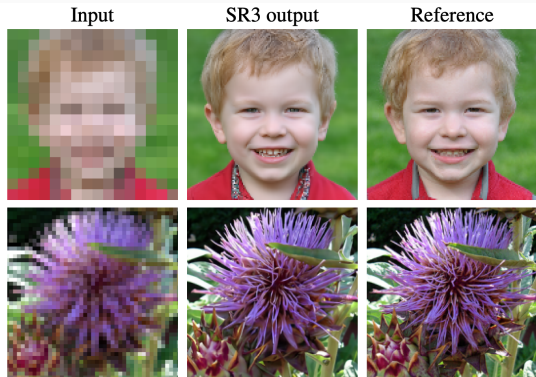
input  $y$



output  $x_0$

# Conditional DDPM for super-resolution

- Super-resolution is often used to improve the quality of generated images.
- One can train a specific DDPM for this task by conditioning the Unet with the low resolution image  $\varepsilon_{\theta}(x_t, y_{LR}, t)$ .

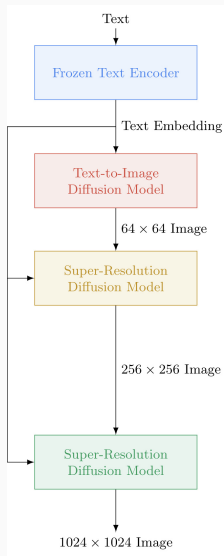


**Figure 1:** Two representative SR3 outputs: (top)  $8\times$  face super-resolution at  $16\times 16 \rightarrow 128\times 128$  pixels (bottom)  $4\times$  natural image super-resolution at  $64\times 64 \rightarrow 256\times 256$  pixels.

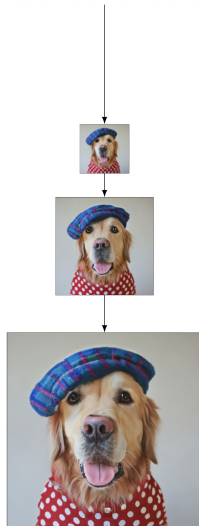
From (Saharia et al., 2023):  
“To condition the model on the input  $y_{LR}$ , we upsample the low-resolution image to the target resolution using bicubic interpolation. The result is concatenated with  $x_t$  along the channel dimension.”

# Conditional DDPM for super-resolution

**Imagen pipeline:**  
Text conditioning  
&  
Conditional  
super-resolution  
via DDPM



“A Golden Retriever dog wearing a blue checkered beret and red dotted turtleneck.”



(source: (Saharia et al., 2022))

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