



University
of Basel

Department of
Biomedical Engineering

A gentle introduction to **Diffusion Models for Medical Image Analysis**

30.01.2024

Paul Friedrich, MSc

Julia Wolleb, PhD

Center for medical Image Analysis and Navigation (CIAN), University of Basel

A Quick Recap on Generative Modelling

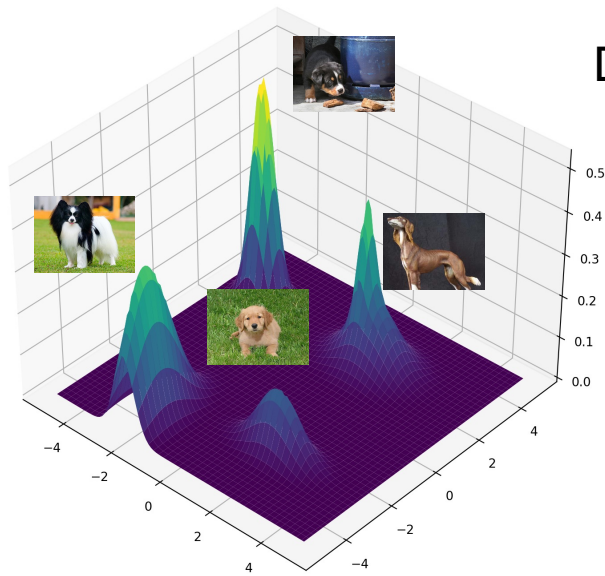


■ ■ ■

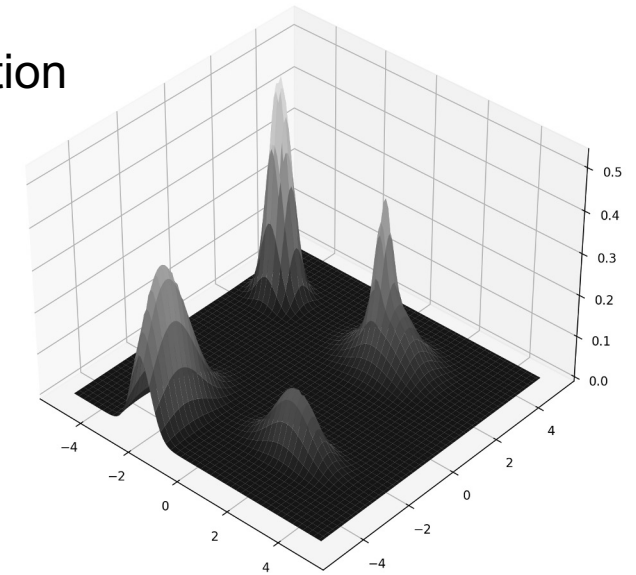


Data samples
(e.g. *Stanford Dogs*)

A Quick Recap on Generative Modelling



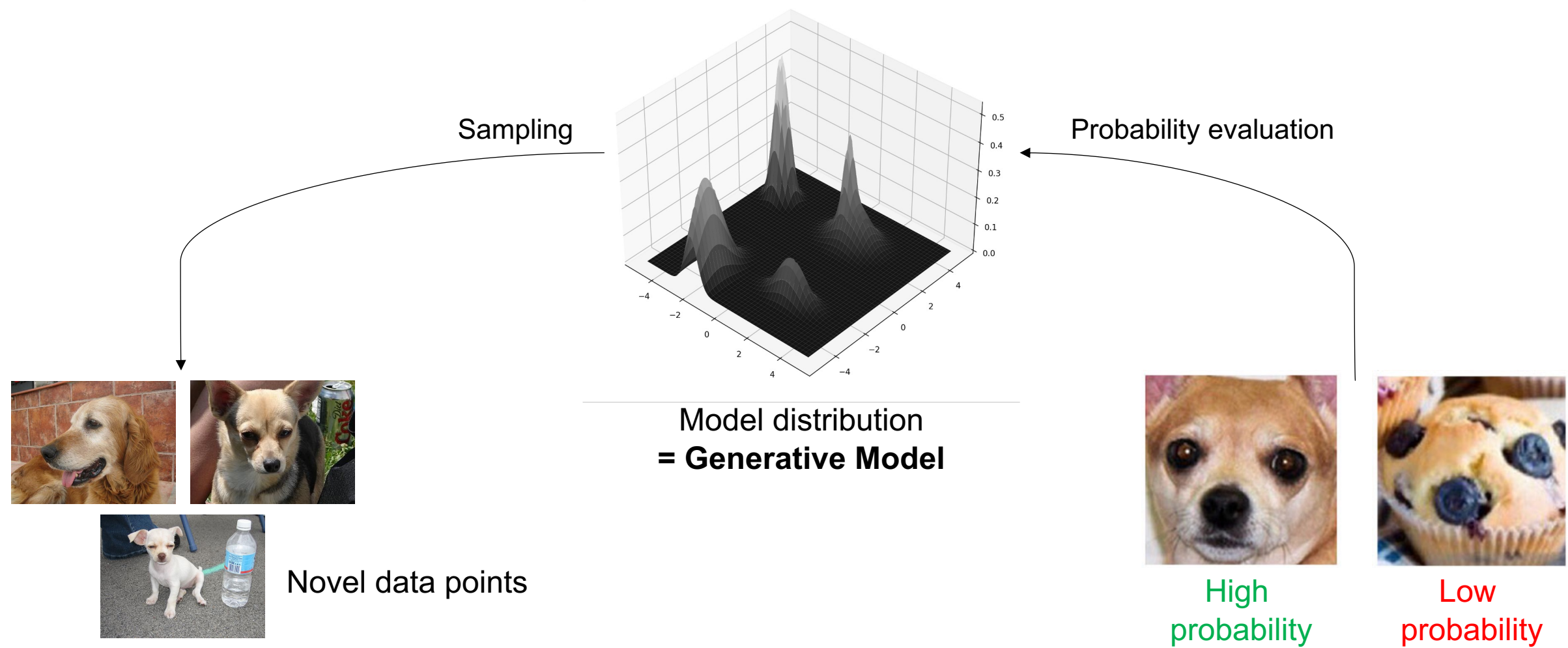
Data distribution $\longleftrightarrow \approx$ Model distribution
(unknown)



Datapoints are *i.i.d.* samples of this underlying data distribution

We can define a parameterized distribution that we tune to be close to the data distribution

A Quick Recap on Generative Modelling



The Landscape of Deep Generative Models

Denoising Diffusion Models

Generative Adversarial Networks

Variational Autoencoders

Normalizing Flows

Energy-based Models

Autoregressive Models

Restricted Boltzmann Machines

Agenda

☐ Introduction to Diffusion Models [~30 min]

- ☐ Physical Intuition & General Concepts
- ☐ Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models
- ☐ A Score-Based View on Diffusion Models

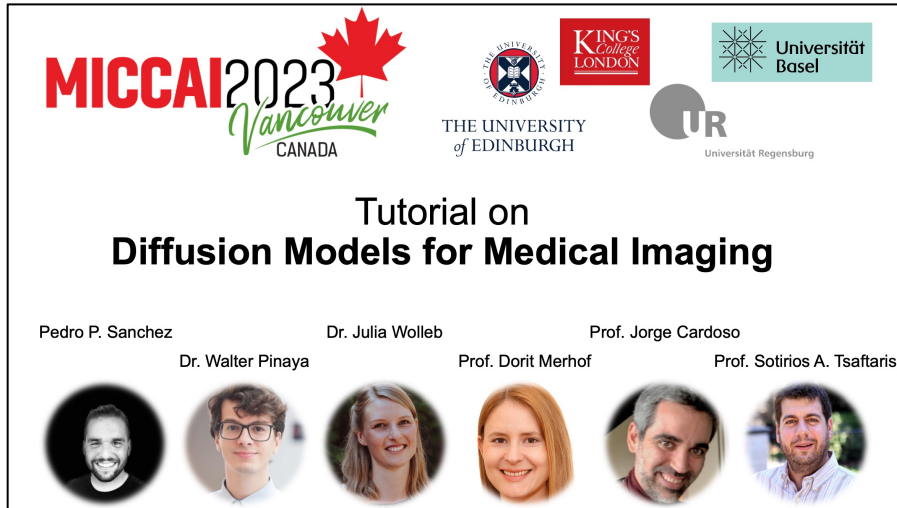
☐ Advanced Topics [~30 min]

- ☐ Sampling Strategies
- ☐ Inference-time Conditioning
- ☐ Training-time Conditioning

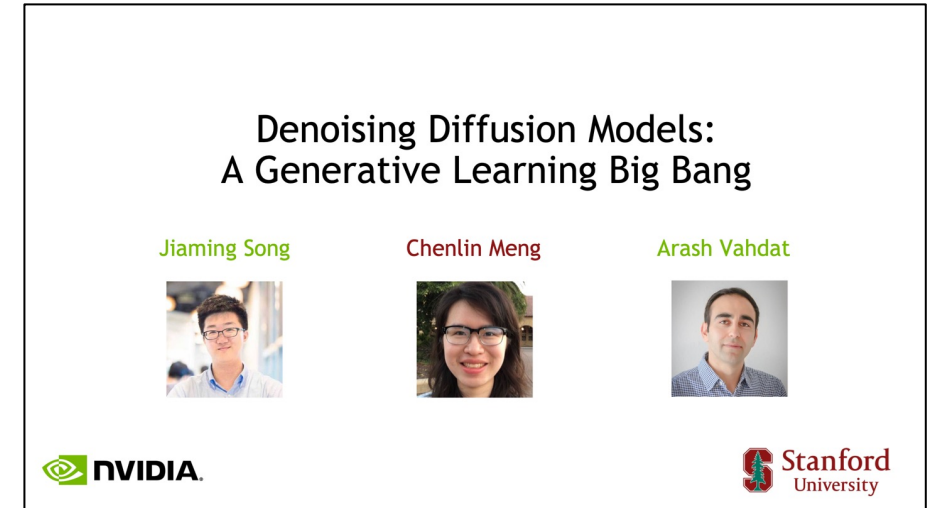
☐ Applications in Medical Imaging [~30 min]

- ☐ Synthesis
- ☐ Inpainting
- ☐ Segmentation
- ☐ Anomaly Detection
- ☐ Reconstruction
- ☐ Registration

Acknowledgement



MICCAI 2023 - Tutorial



CVPR 2023 - Tutorial

Some slides are adopted/inspired by/copied from these very nice tutorials!

The Physical Intuition behind Diffusion Models

**Deep Unsupervised Learning using
Nonequilibrium Thermodynamics**

Jascha Sohl-Dickstein
Stanford University

JASCHA@STANFORD.EDU

Eric A. Weiss
University of California, Berkeley

EWEISS@BERKELEY.EDU

Niru Maheswaranathan
Stanford University

NIRUM@STANFORD.EDU

Surya Ganguli
Stanford University

SGANGULI@STANFORD.EDU

PMLR (2015)

The Physical Intuition behind Diffusion Models (Macroscopic)



The dye density represents our probability density.

Goal: We want to *learn this probability density*

Observing this diffusion process:

- Original data distribution is perturbed over time
- Data distribution $\rightarrow$ Uniform distribution (mapping to a simple distribution)

The Physical Intuition behind Diffusion Models (Macroscopic)



The dye density represents our probability density.

Goal: We want to *learn this probability density*

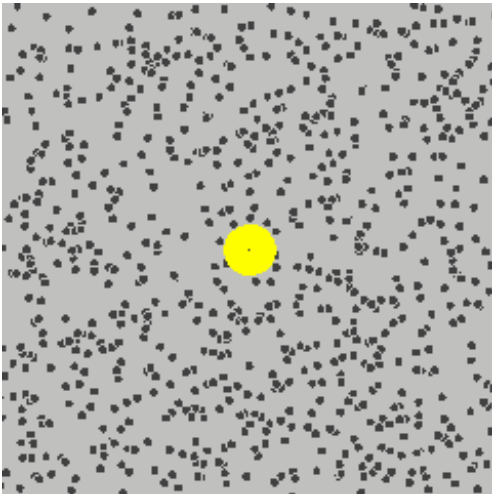
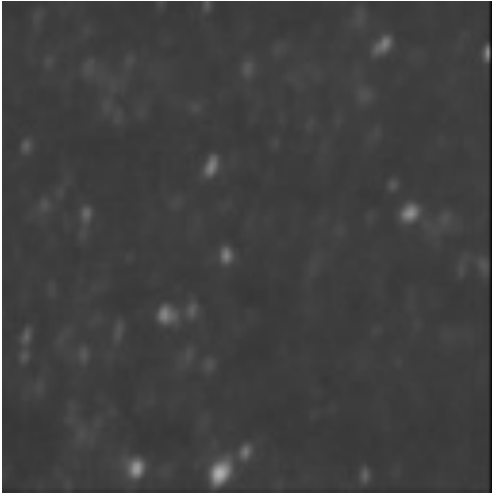
Observing this diffusion process:

- Original data distribution is perturbed over time
- Data distribution $\rightarrow$ Uniform distribution (mapping to a simple distribution)

Can we learn to revert this process (run it backwards)?

- Uniform distribution $\rightarrow$ Data distribution
- **Yes**, but we first need a way to model the system.

The Physical Intuition Behind Diffusion Models (Microscopic)



We can try to model the diffusion process by **modelling the Brownian motion** of single particles.

- We can observe that the position updates follow **small Gaussians**
- This holds true for the **forward as well as the reverse process** (for small enough Δt)
- We can define a known diffusion process with a chain of Gaussian position updates
- We try to learn the reverse process by estimating the mean and the covariance of the backward steps

→ Same mechanism is used in the Diffusion Models we will see today!

Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models

Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models

Jonathan Ho
UC Berkeley
jonathanho@berkeley.edu

Ajay Jain
UC Berkeley
ajayj@berkeley.edu

Pieter Abbeel
UC Berkeley
pabbeel@cs.berkeley.edu

NeurIPS (2020)

Improved Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models

Alex Nichol^{*1} Prafulla Dhariwal^{*1}

ICML (2021)

Diffusion Models Beat GANs on Image Synthesis

Prafulla Dhariwal^{*}
OpenAI
prafula@openai.com

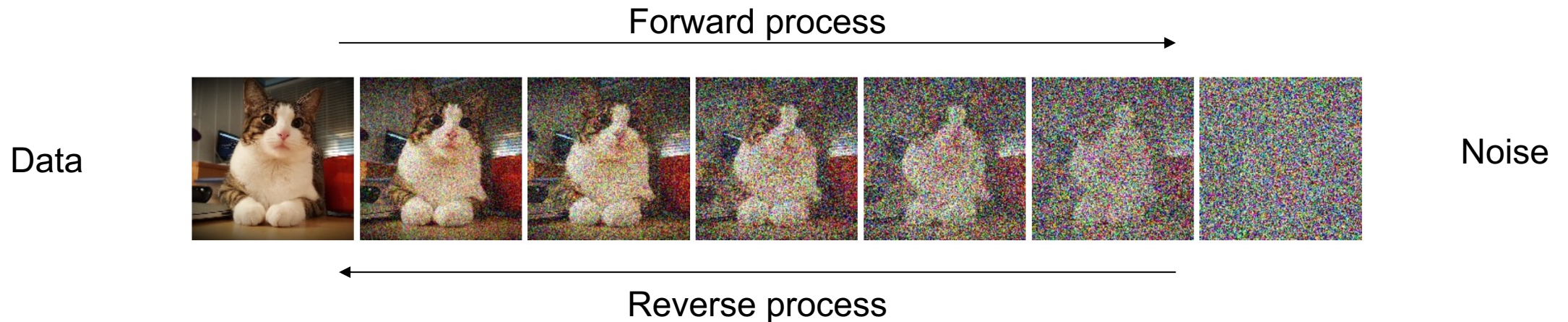
Alex Nichol^{*}
OpenAI
alex@openai.com

NeurIPS (2021)

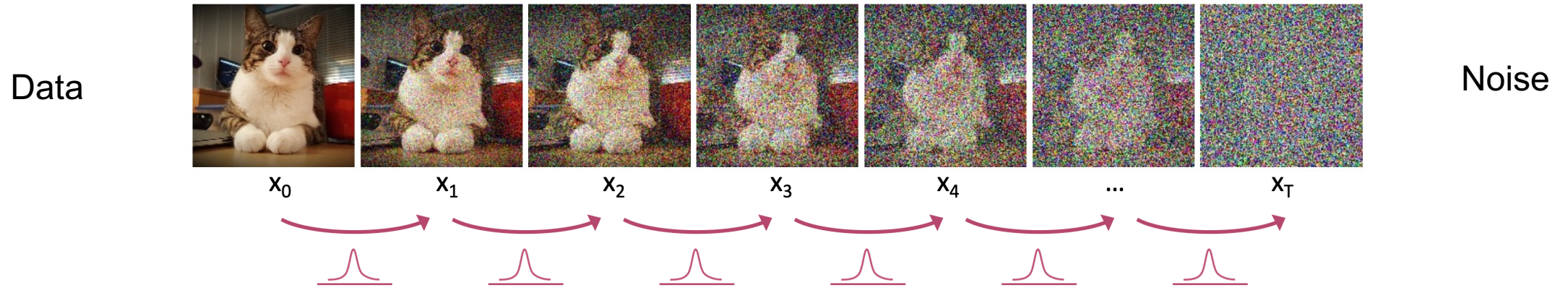
How do Diffusion Models work?

Diffusion Models consist of two main components:

- A ***fixed forward diffusion process*** that gradually adds noise to the image
- A ***learned reverse diffusion process*** that gradually removes noise from the image



The Forward Diffusion Process



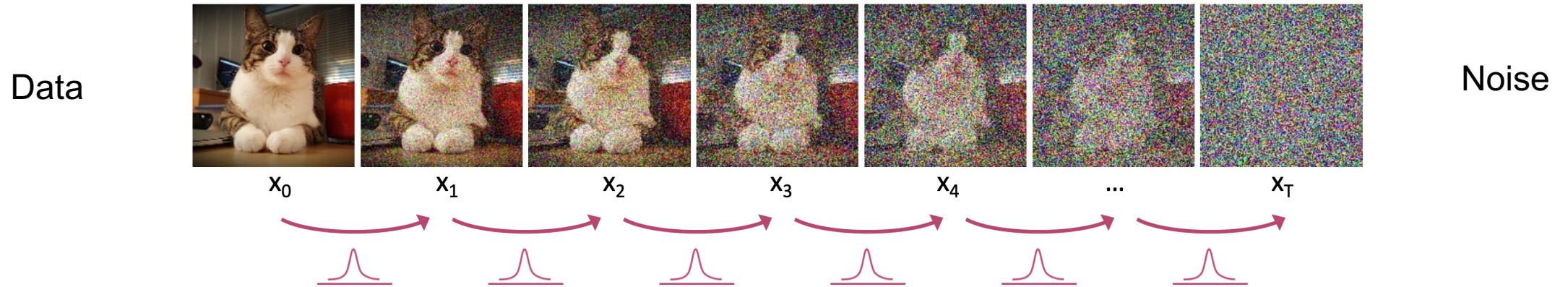
We model the **forward process** as a Markov chain:

$$q(x_{1:T}|x_0) = \prod_{t=1}^T q(x_t|x_{t-1})$$

with each transition being a parameterized Gaussian:

$$q(x_t|x_{t-1}) = N(\sqrt{1 - \beta_t} x_{t-1}, \beta_t \mathbf{I})$$

The Forward Diffusion Process



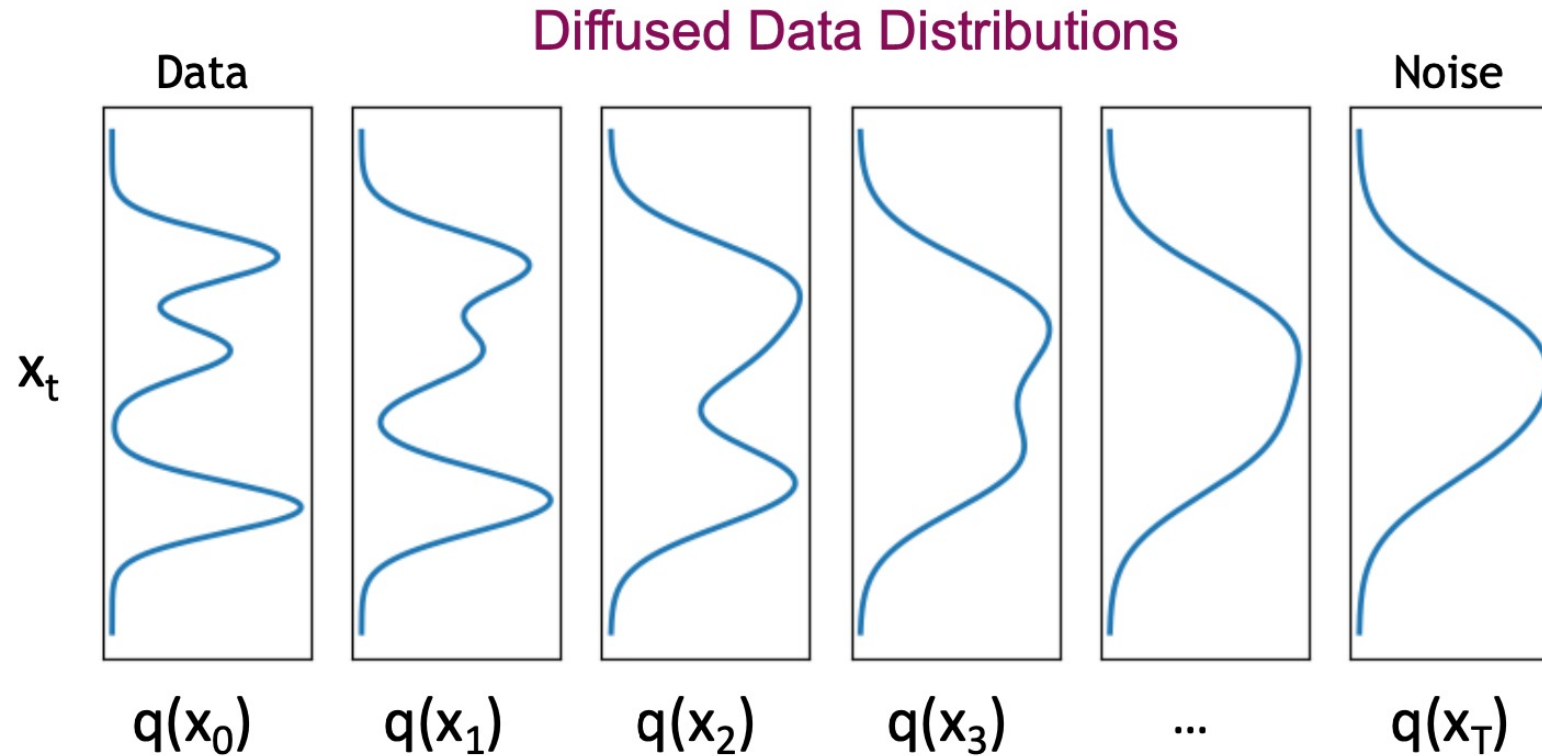
$$q(x_t|x_{t-1}) = N(\sqrt{1 - \beta_t} x_{t-1}, \beta_t \mathbf{I})$$

We define a variance schedule for β_t

$$q(x_T|x_0) \approx N(0, \mathbf{I})$$

We usually choose $T \approx 1000$ (this remains a design choice)

The Forward Diffusion Process



We defined a forward process that transforms our data distribution to noise.

The Reverse Diffusion Process

Recall, the diffusion process is designed in a way that:

$$q(x_T) \approx N(0, I)$$

We could generate new samples by:

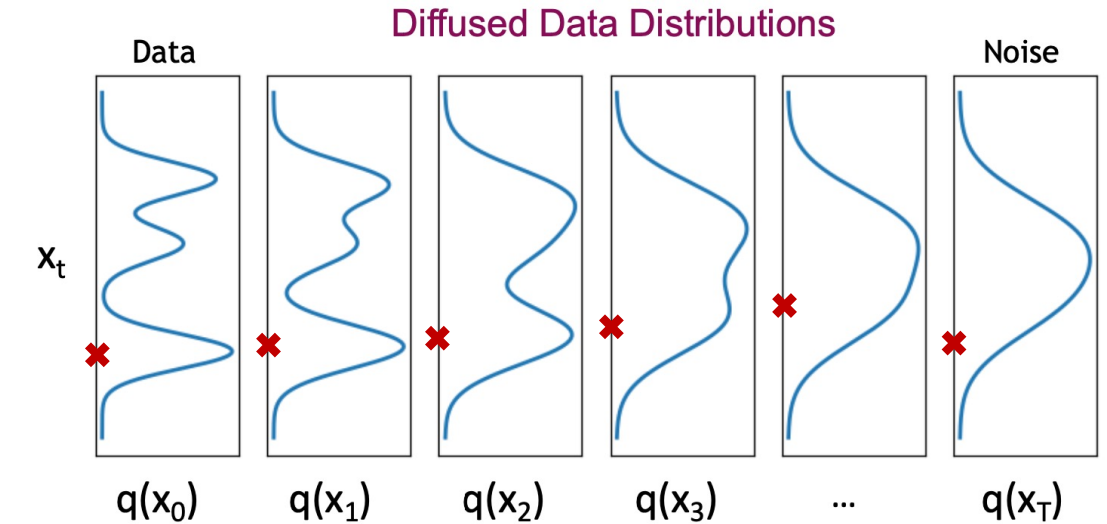
- Sampling x_T :

$$x_T \sim N(0, I)$$

- Iteratively sample x_{t-1} for T timesteps:

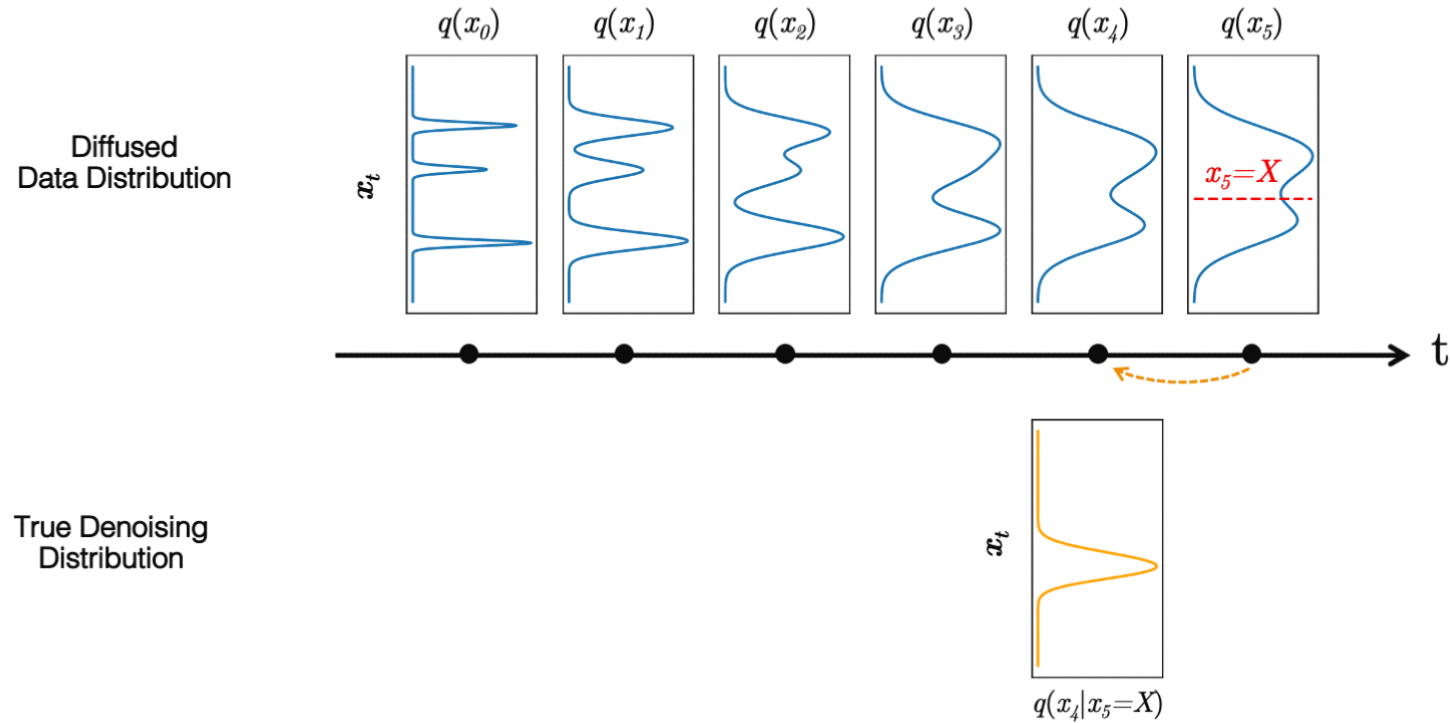
$$x_{t-1} \sim \underbrace{q(x_{t-1} | x_t)}$$

True denoising distribution



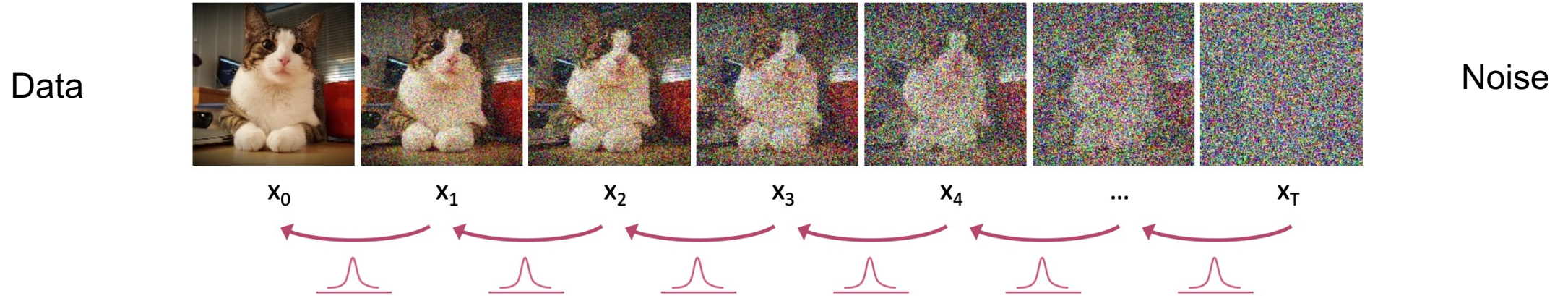
This distribution is unknown. Can we **estimate** it?

The Reverse Diffusion Process



YES! We can approximate the true denoising distribution (as a normal distribution) for small steps.

The Reverse Diffusion Process



We approximate the true denoising distribution $q(x_{t-1}|x_t)$ as being normal distributed:

$$p_{\theta}(x_{t-1}|x_t) = N(\underbrace{\mu_{\theta}(x_t, t)}_{\text{Mean is estimated by a neural network}}, \sigma_t^2 I)$$

Mean is estimated by a neural network

How can we train such a model?

Keep in mind: $p_\theta(x_{t-1}|x_t) = N(\mu_\theta(x_t, t), \sigma_t^2 \mathbf{I})$

Ho et al. (2020) found that we can parameterize $\mu_\theta(x_t, t)$ as follows:

$$\mu_\theta(x_t, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left(x_t - \frac{\beta_t}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}} \underbrace{\epsilon_\theta(x_t, t)}_{\text{the noise to be removed}} \right)$$

with $\alpha_t := 1 - \beta_t$ and $\bar{\alpha}_t := \prod_{s=1}^t \alpha_s$.

the noise to be removed

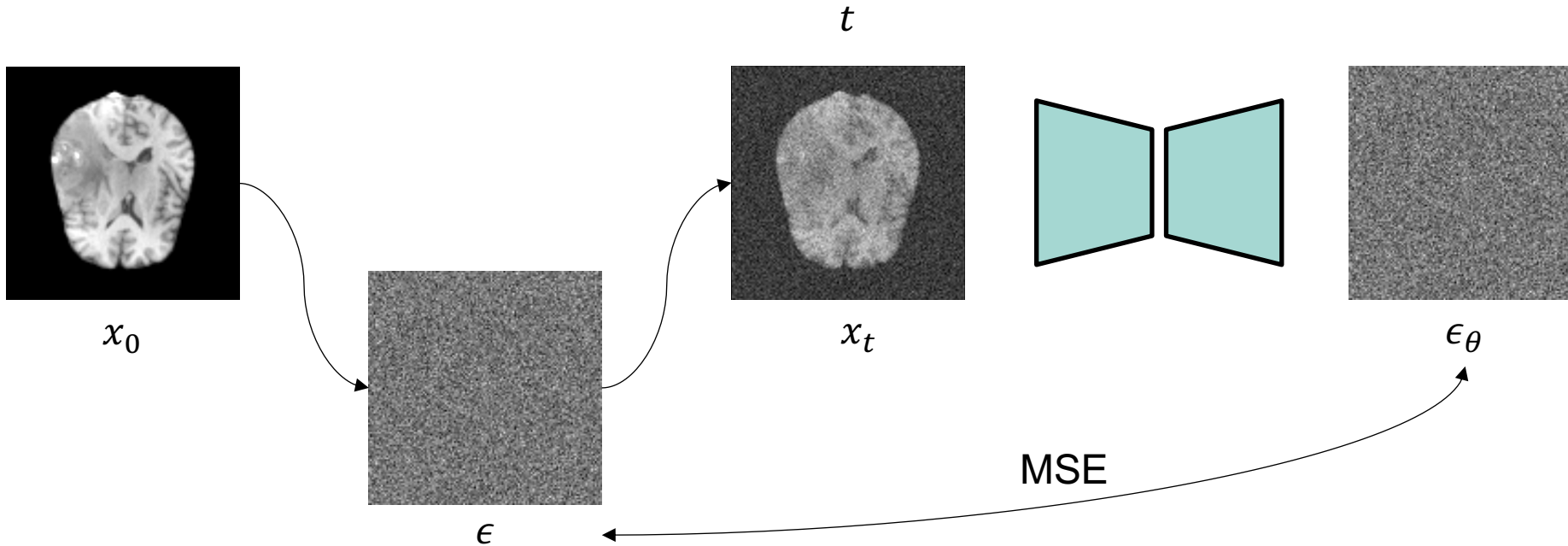
Algorithm 1 Training

```
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  $\mathbf{x}_0$ 
```

How can we train such a model?



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
```

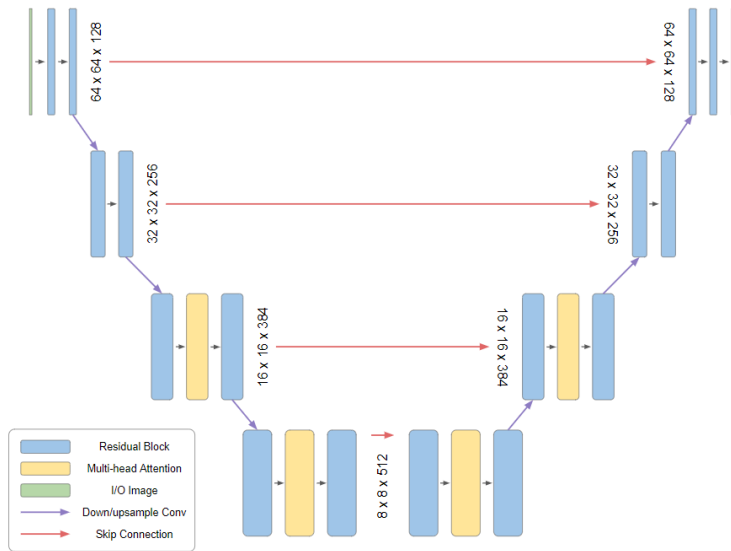
Algorithm 2 Sampling

```
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  $\mathbf{x}_0$ 
```

Implementation Details

Keep in mind: We want to predict the noise to be removed from a corrupted image.

$\epsilon_\theta(x_t, t)$ is usually implemented as a U-Net:

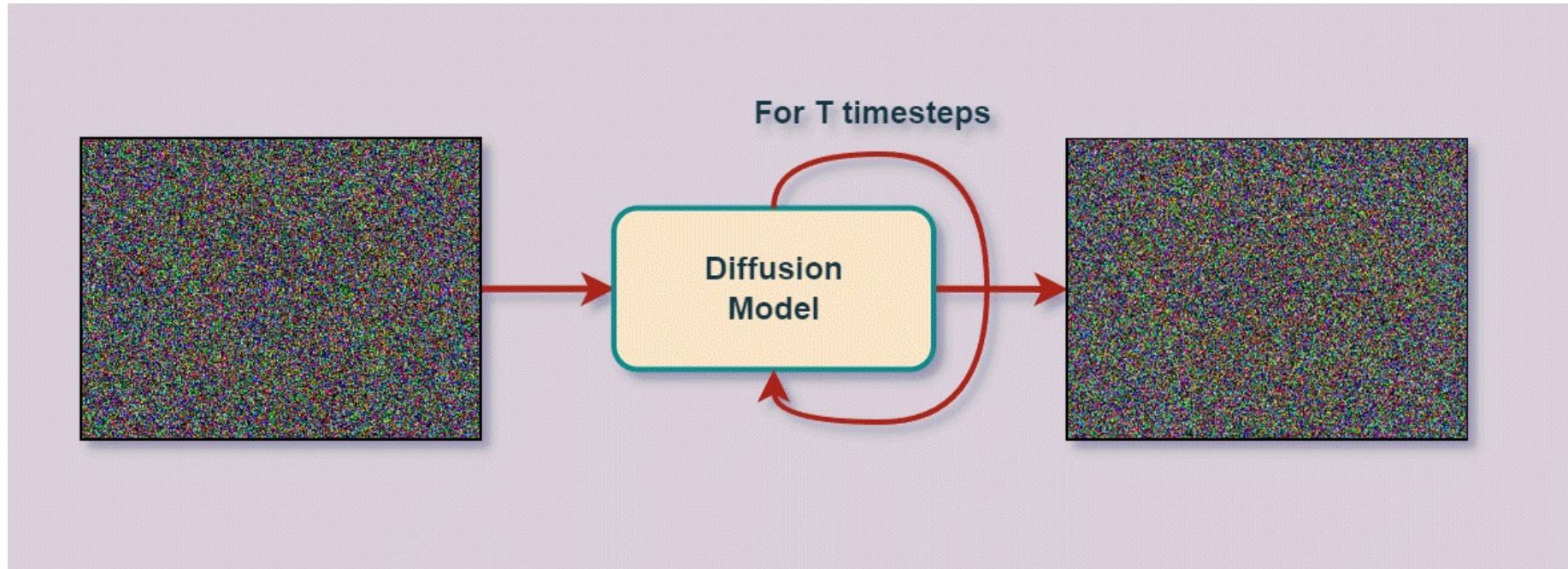


BUT, we could also use:

- Transformers
- VQ-VAEs
- ...

This remains a design choice.

Generating Samples



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  $\mathbf{x}_0$ 
```


Sample Quality



Samples from model trained on ImageNet (512 x 512)

Pros & Cons



Samples from model trained on
CelebA-HQ (256 x 256)

Pros:

- + High sample quality & diversity
- + Build on a strong theoretical foundation
- + Easy and stable to train (just a simple MSE Loss + just one network)

Cons:

- Very slow (sampling usually requires multiple model evaluations)
→ we will see some strategies to speed this process up

Playing Around with Diffusion Models



A Score-Based View on Diffusion Models

Generative Modeling by Estimating Gradients of the Data Distribution

Yang Song
Stanford University
yangsong@cs.stanford.edu

Stefano Ermon
Stanford University
ermon@cs.stanford.edu

NeurIPS (2019)

SCORE-BASED GENERATIVE MODELING THROUGH STOCHASTIC DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

Yang Song*
Stanford University
yangsong@cs.stanford.edu

Jascha Sohl-Dickstein
Google Brain
jaschasd@google.com

Diederik P. Kingma
Google Brain
durk@google.com

Abhishek Kumar
Google Brain
abhishk@google.com

Stefano Ermon
Stanford University
ermon@cs.stanford.edu

Ben Poole
Google Brain
pooleb@google.com

ICLR (2021)

Maximum Likelihood Training of Score-Based Diffusion Models

Yang Song*
Computer Science Department
Stanford University
yangsong@cs.stanford.edu

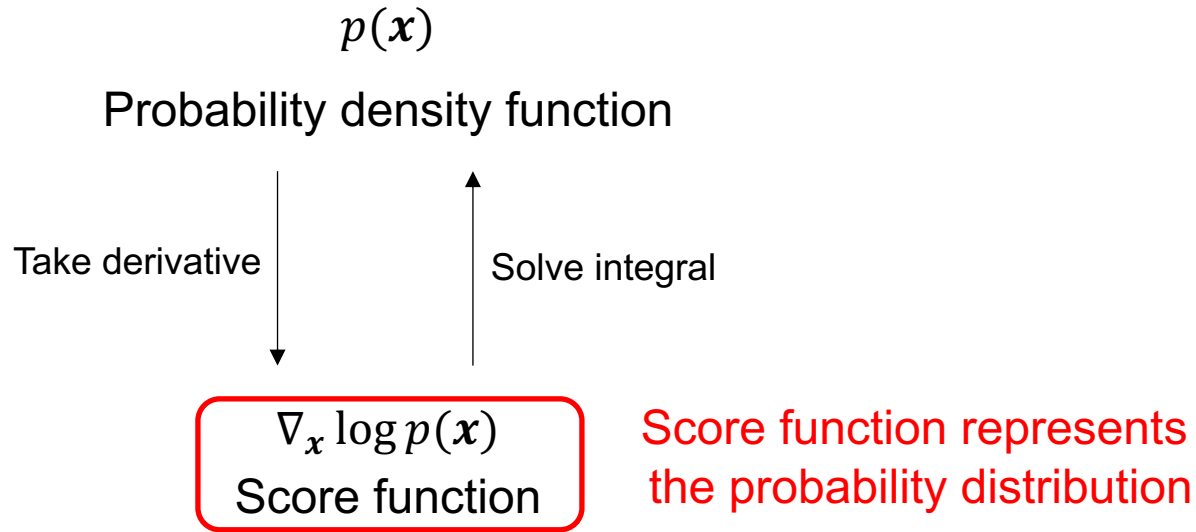
Conor Durkan*
School of Informatics
University of Edinburgh
conor.durkan@ed.ac.uk

Iain Murray
School of Informatics
University of Edinburgh
i.murray@ed.ac.uk

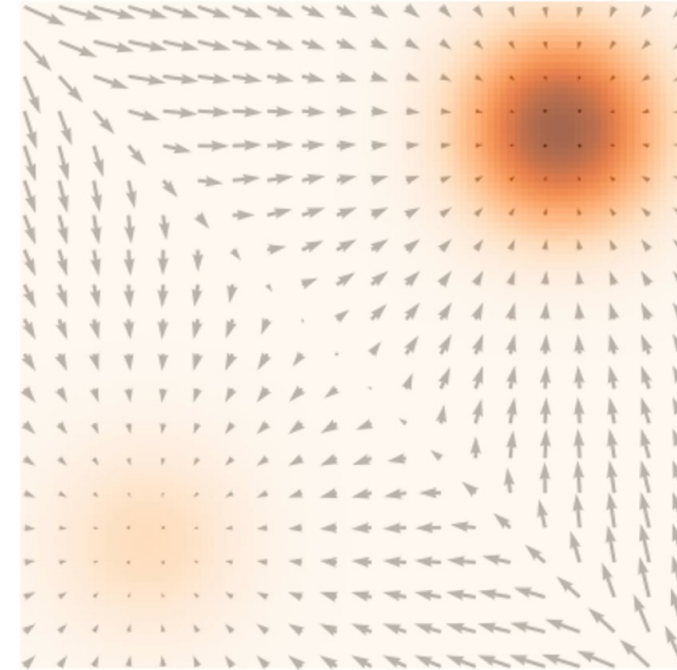
Stefano Ermon
Computer Science Department
Stanford University
ermon@cs.stanford.edu

NeurIPS (2021)

What do we mean when talking about a score function?

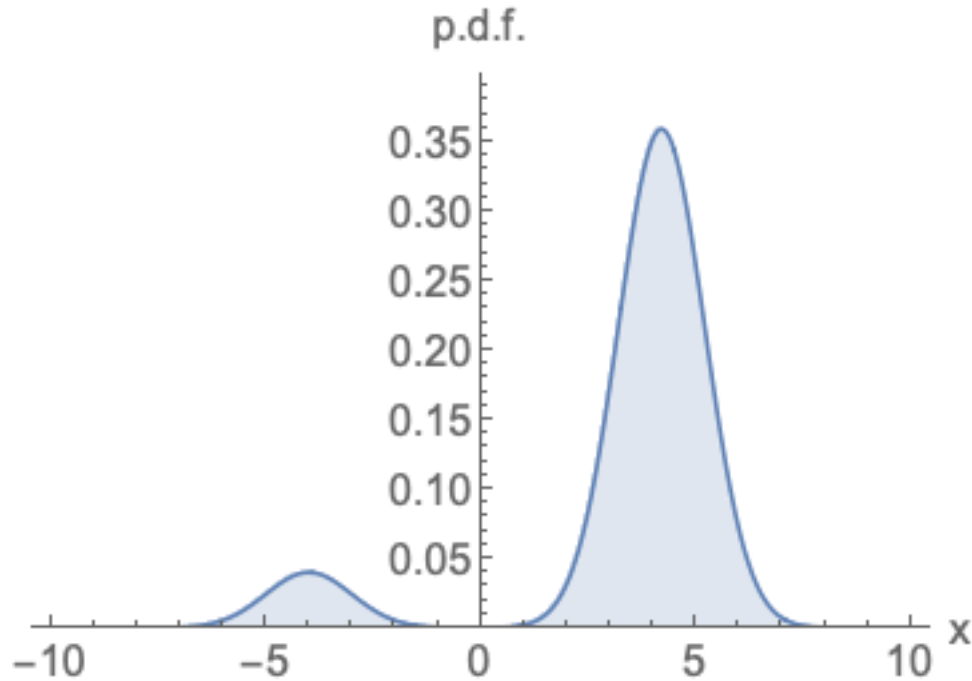


The score function **preserves all information** of the density function, but is much **easier to handle** → **why?**

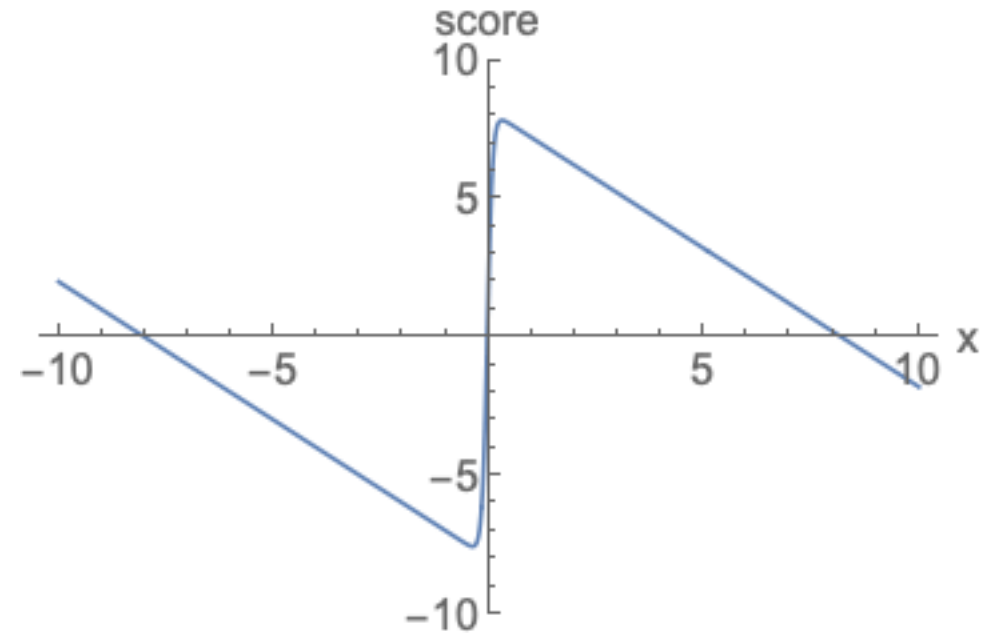
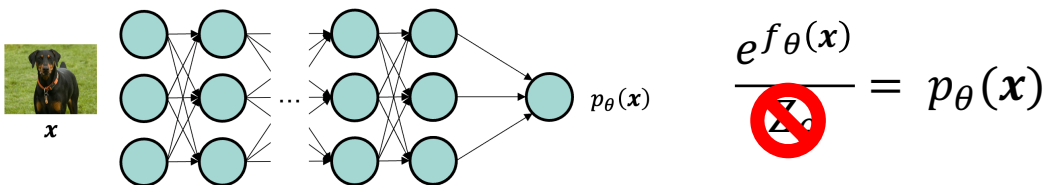


Probability density function (color coded)
Score function (vector field)

Score functions bypass the normalizing constant



Probability density function



Score function

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_x \log p_\theta(x) &= \nabla_x f_\theta(x) - \nabla_x \log Z_\theta \\ &= \nabla_x f_\theta(x) - 0\end{aligned}$$

We always need to ensure normalization.

Score function doesn't rely on normalizing constant.

Can we estimate such a score function from data?

We know it's possible to **train a properly normalized statistical model to estimate the data density function using maximum likelihood** → can we do something similar to estimate a score function/model?

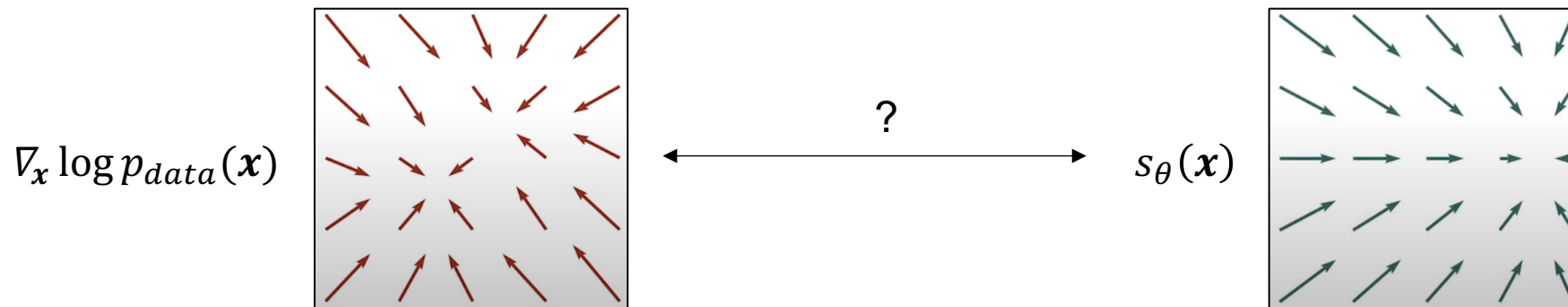
Given (Data): $\{\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N\} \sim p_{data}(\mathbf{x})$

Goal (Score function): $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log p_{data}(\mathbf{x})$

We can't compute this as we don't know $p_{data}(\mathbf{x})$

Score model: $s_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}): \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \approx \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log p_{data}(\mathbf{x})$

Objective: $\mathbb{E}_{p_{data}(\mathbf{x})} [\|\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log p_{data}(\mathbf{x}) - s_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})\|_2^2]$ (Fisher divergence to compare the vector fields)



Score matching

There exists a so-called **score matching objective**, that is similar to the Fisher divergence (up to a constant):

$$\mathbb{E}_{p_{data}(x)} \left[\frac{1}{2} \|s_{\theta}(x)\|_2^2 + \text{trace}(\nabla_x s_{\theta}(x)) \right] \longrightarrow \text{doesn't rely on the ground truth score}$$

As a constant doesn't matter for optimization, this score matching objective defines the same optimum as the Fisher divergence and can **effectively be estimated by the empirical mean over the training data set**:

$$\approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\frac{1}{2} \|s_{\theta}(x_i)\|_2^2 + \text{trace}(\nabla_x s_{\theta}(x_i)) \right]$$

Journal of Machine Learning Research 6 (2005) 695–709

Submitted 11/04; Revised 3/05; Published 4/05

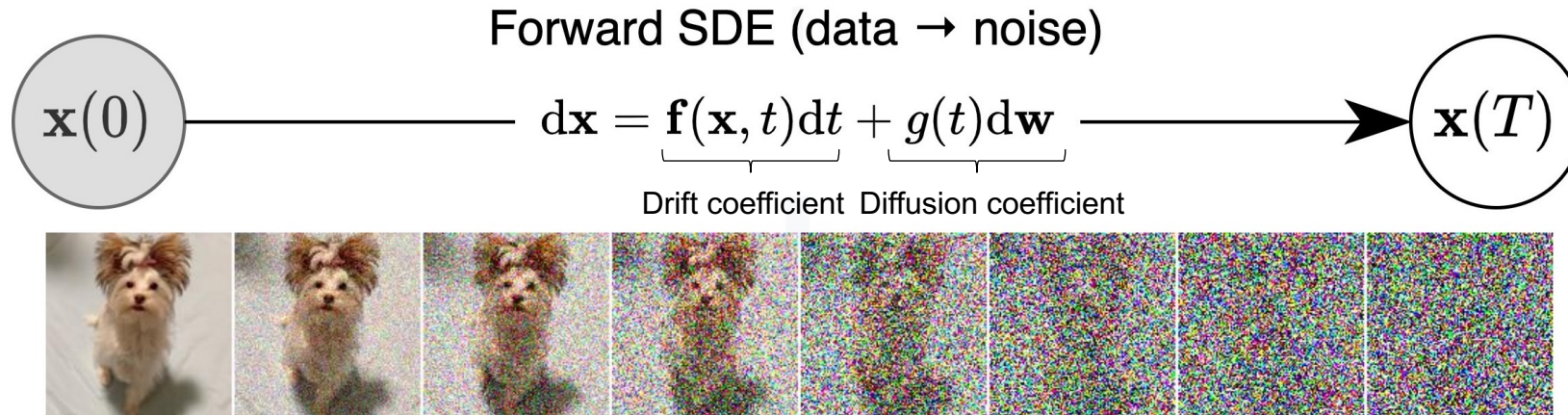
Estimation of Non-Normalized Statistical Models
by Score Matching

Aapo Hyvärinen
Helsinki Institute for Information Technology (BRU)
Department of Computer Science
FIN-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland

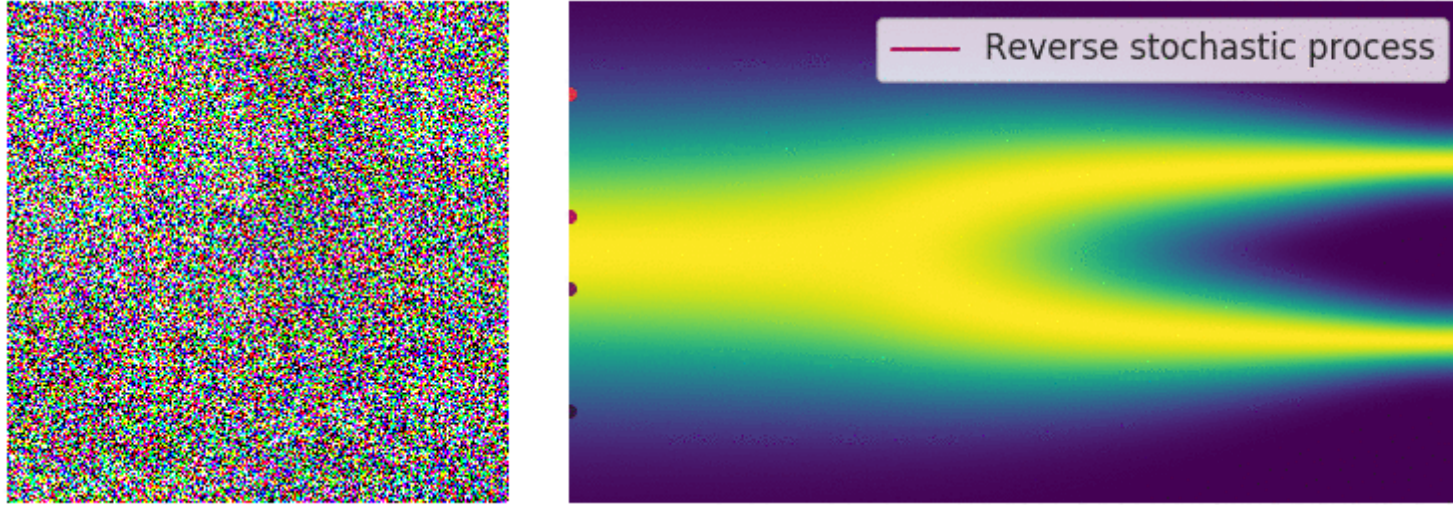
AAPO.HYVARINEN@HELSINKI.FI

<https://andrewcharlesjones.github.io/journal/21-score-matching.html>

Modelling the Diffusion Process with SDEs



Modelling the Diffusion Process with SDEs



$$d\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t) - \underbrace{g^2(t) \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log p_t(\mathbf{x})}]dt + g(t)d\mathbf{w}$$

If we can **model this score function**, we can **solve the reverse SDE** using Euler, Milstein or Runge-Kutta method.

<https://yang-song.net/blog/2021/score/> (More information on this very nice blog post)

Agenda

☐ Introduction to Diffusion Models [~30 min]

- ☐ Physical Intuition & General Concepts
- ☐ Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models
- ☐ A Score-Based View on Diffusion Models

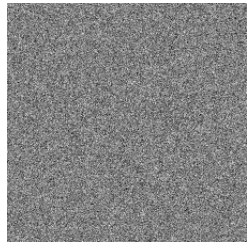
☐ Advanced Topics [~30 min]

- ☐ Sampling Strategies
- ☐ Inference-time Conditioning
- ☐ Training-time Conditioning

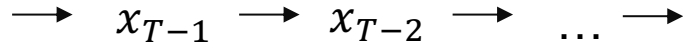
☐ Applications in Medical Imaging [~30 min]

- ☐ Synthesis
- ☐ Inpainting
- ☐ Segmentation
- ☐ Anomaly Detection
- ☐ Reconstruction
- ☐ Registration

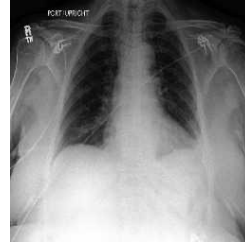
Fake Image Generation



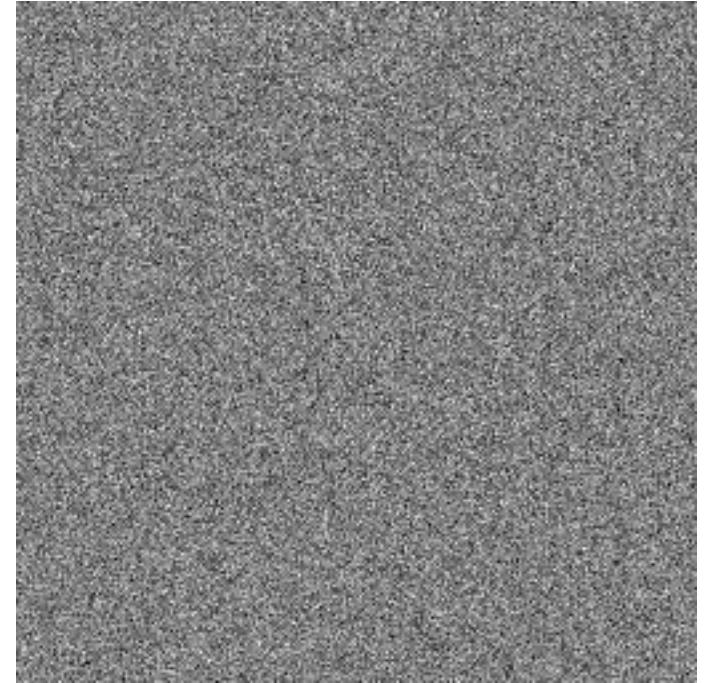
$$x_T \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I})$$



synthetic image



$$x_0$$

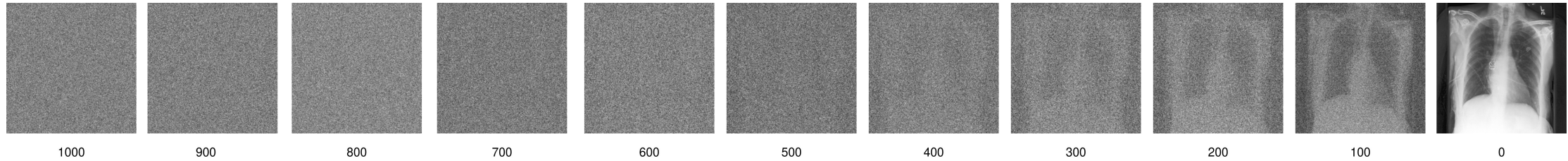


U-Net

$$x_{t-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \left(x_t - \frac{1 - \alpha_t}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}} \epsilon_{\theta}(x_t, t) \right) + \sigma_t \epsilon, \quad \text{with } \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}).$$

Random component

Schedulers: How to Accelerate Sampling?



Published as a conference paper at ICLR 2021

DENOISING DIFFUSION IMPLICIT MODELS

Jiaming Song, Chenlin Meng & Stefano Ermon
Stanford University
{tsong, chenlin, ermon}@cs.stanford.edu

ABSTRACT

Denoising diffusion probabilistic models (DDPMs) have achieved high quality image generation without adversarial training, yet they require simulating a Markov chain for many steps in order to produce a sample. To accelerate sampling, we present denoising diffusion implicit models (DDIMs), a more efficient class of iterative implicit probabilistic models with the same training procedure as DDPMs. In DDPMs, the generative process is defined as the reverse of a particular Markovian diffusion process. We generalize DDPMs via a class of non-Markovian diffusion processes that lead to the same training objective. These non-Markovian

"Denoising diffusion probabilistic models (DDPMs) have achieved high quality image generation, yet they require simulating a Markov chain for many steps in order to produce a sample."



We need to make the generation process faster.

From DDPMs to DDIMs

$$\mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \underbrace{\sqrt{\alpha_{t-1}} \left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_t - \sqrt{1 - \alpha_t} \epsilon_{\theta}^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_t)}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} \right)}_{\text{“predicted } \mathbf{x}_0\text{”}} + \underbrace{\sqrt{1 - \alpha_{t-1} - \sigma_t^2} \cdot \epsilon_{\theta}^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_t)}_{\text{“direction pointing to } \mathbf{x}_t\text{”}} + \underbrace{\sigma_t \epsilon_t}_{\text{random noise}}$$

DDPM sampling scheme

$$\sigma_t = \sqrt{(1 - \alpha_{t-1}) / (1 - \alpha_t)} \sqrt{1 - \alpha_t / \alpha_{t-1}}$$

DDIM sampling scheme

$$\sigma_t = 0$$



We remove the random component

The training process stays the same.

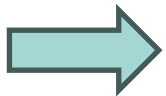
An Excursion into ODEs

- The connection to ordinary differential equations (ODEs) can be seen when we rewrite the DDIM denoising step as

$$\frac{x_{t-1}}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_{t-1}}} = \frac{x_t}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}} + \left(\sqrt{\frac{1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t-1}}{\bar{\alpha}_{t-1}}} - \sqrt{\frac{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}{\bar{\alpha}_t}} \right) \epsilon_{\theta}(x_t, t).$$

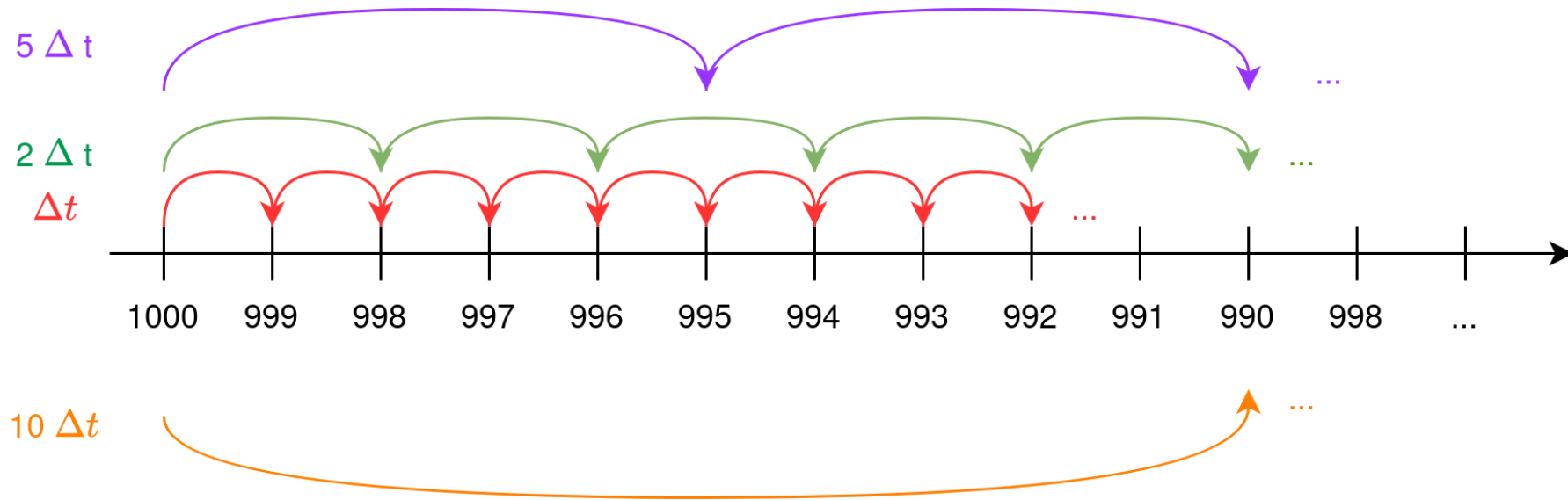
prediction previous value step size derivative

- This can be interpreted as the Euler approximation of an ODE.
- DDIM is a **probability flow** ODE from a SDE [1].
- We can speed up the generation process by choosing a larger step size.

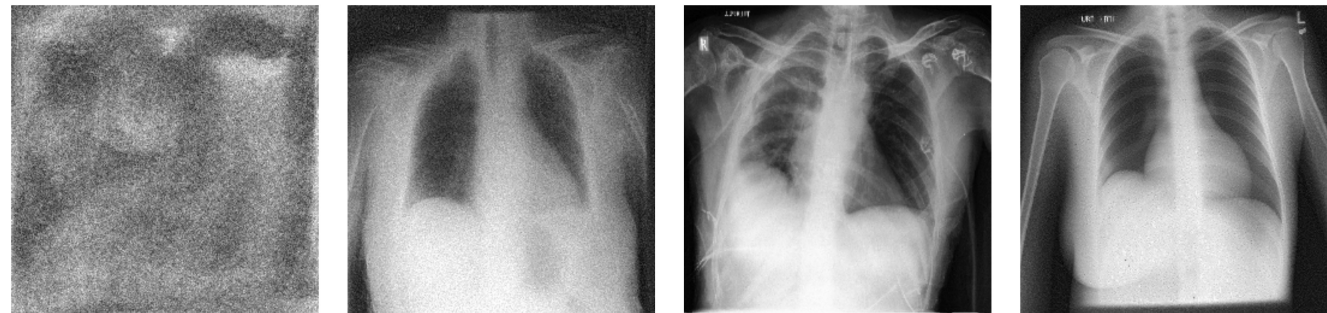


Faster, but less accurate

DDIM Accelerated Sampling



- By skipping k steps, we have a step size of $k\Delta t$.
- Sampling is k times faster.
- We trade image quality for speed.



Total amount of steps → 2

10

20

50

Various Schedulers...

Elucidating the Design Space of Diffusion-Based Generative Models

PSEUDO NUMERICAL METHODS FOR DIFFUSION MODELS ON MANIFOLDS

Luping Liu, Yi Ren
Zhejiang University
{luping.liu, yiren}@zhejiangu.edu.cn

Denoising samples up to thousands of steps successfully. Improved (e.g., Denoising method)

Published as a conference paper at ICLR 2022

PROGRESSIVE DISTILLATION FOR FAST SAMPLING OF DIFFUSION MODELS

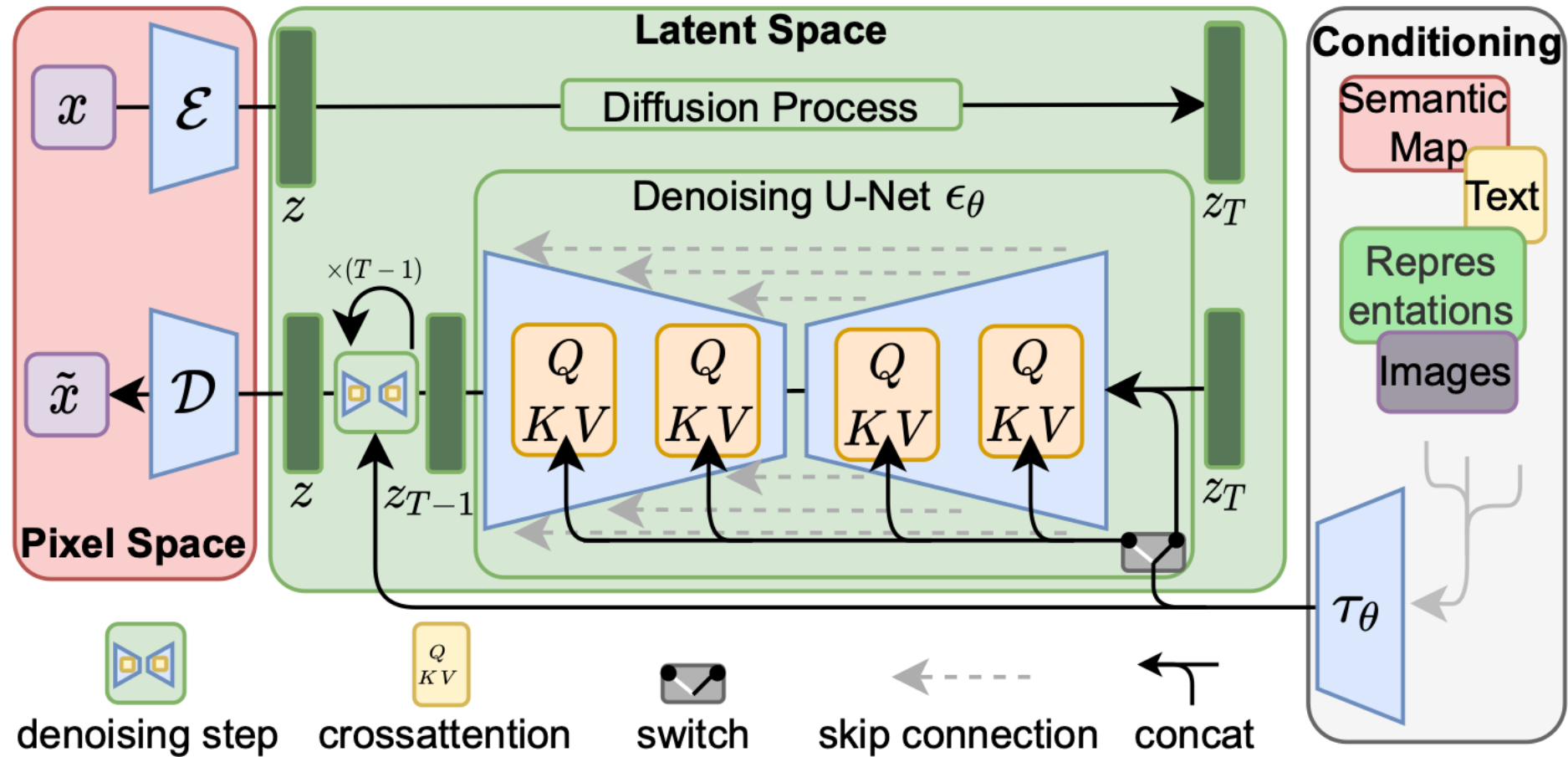
Tim Salimans & Jonathan Ho
Google Research, Brain team
{salimans, jonathanho}@google.com

ABSTRACT

Diffusion models have recently shown great promise for generative modeling, outperforming GANs on perceptual quality and autoregressive models at density estimation. A remaining downside is their slow sampling time: generating high quality samples takes many hundreds or thousands of model evaluations. Here we make two contributions to help eliminate this downside: First, we present new parameterizations of diffusion models that provide increased stability when using few sampling steps. Second, we present a method to distill a trained deterministic diffusion sampler, using many steps, into a new diffusion model that takes half as many sampling steps. We then keep progressively applying this distillation process.

- Choosing a different solver for the given ODE can improve speed and image quality.
- Other numerical approaches such as **Heun's Method** or **Runge Kutta** solvers can be explored.
- Knowledge distillation techniques can be used for fast sampling.

Diffusion Models in the Latent Space



Agenda

☐ Introduction to Diffusion Models [~30 min]

- ☐ Physical Intuition & General Concepts
- ☐ Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models
- ☐ A Score-Based View on Diffusion Models

☐ Advanced Topics [~30 min]

- ☐ Sampling Strategies
- ☐ Inference-time Conditioning
- ☐ Training-time Conditioning

☐ Applications in Medical Imaging [~30 min]

- ☐ Synthesis
- ☐ Inpainting
- ☐ Segmentation
- ☐ Anomaly Detection
- ☐ Reconstruction
- ☐ Registration

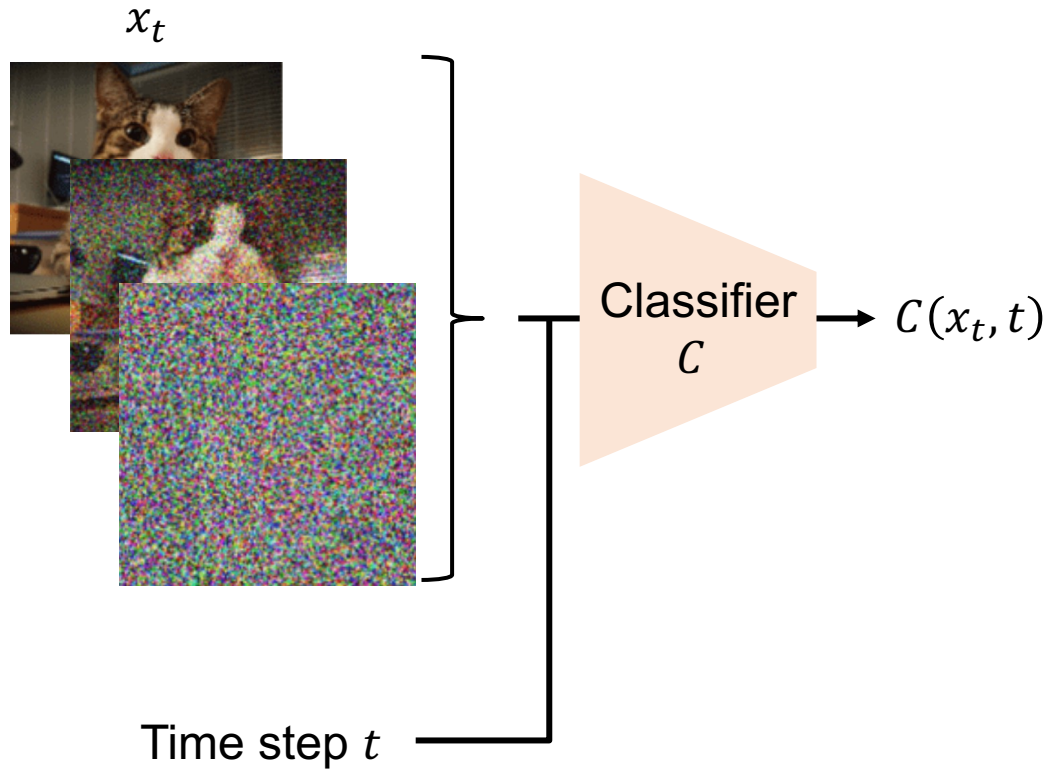
"mouse"

Diffusion
Model

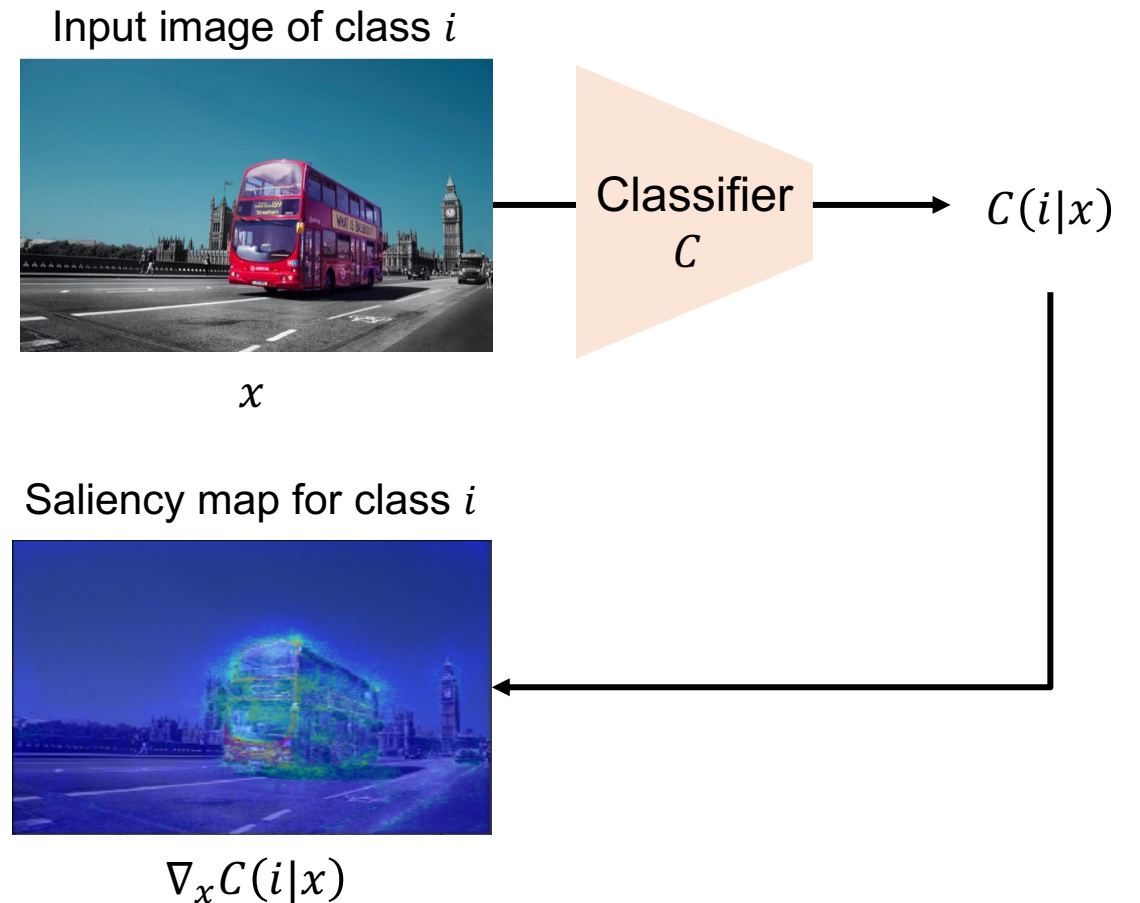


Example: Classifier Guidance

We want a class-conditional diffusion model.

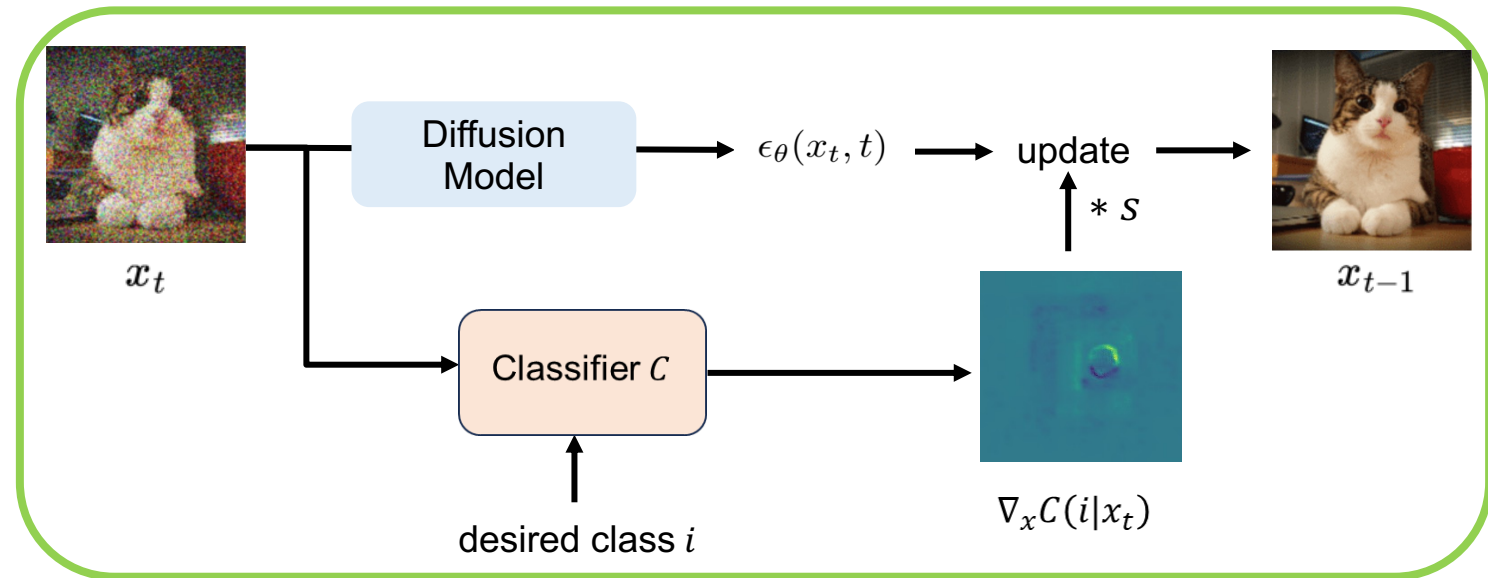
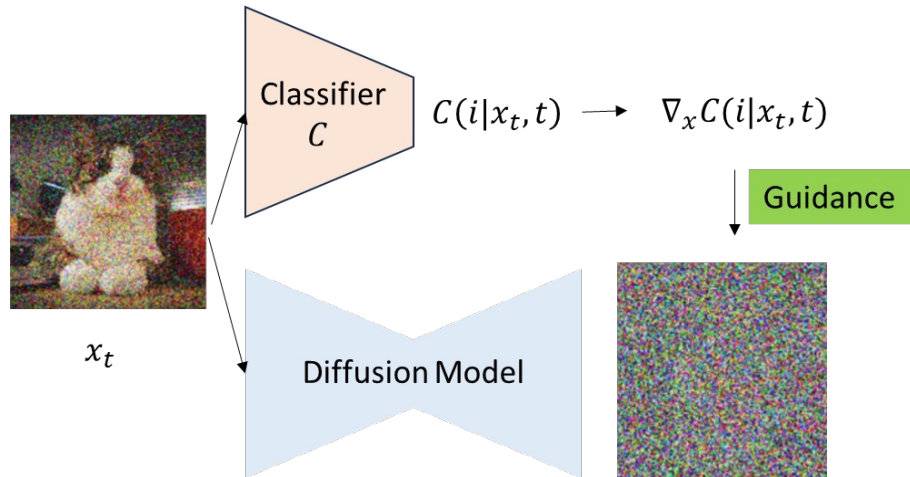


We consider the gradient with respect to the input pixels.



Classifier Guidance

We use the gradient to guide the generation process towards a desired class.



Gradient guidance is not restricted to classification models. Other models (e.g., regression, segmentation, ...) work just in the same way.

Classifier Guidance



goldfish

arctic fox

butterfly

African elephant

flamingo

tennis ball



cheeseburger

fountain

balloon

tabby cat

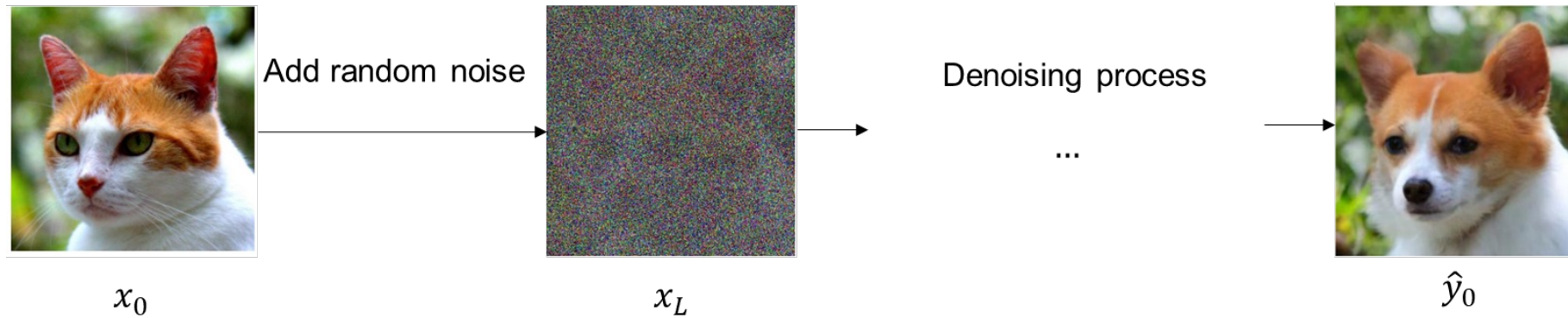
lorikeet

agaric

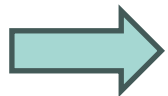
Check out this very nice tutorial: <https://sander.ai/2022/05/26/guidance.html>

Image-to-image translation

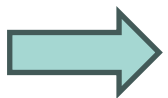
We might want to translate an image to another...



- We add L steps of noise to an input image x_0 .
- The smaller L , the less the image can be changed.
- The higher L , the more information is destroyed.



We need to find a way to keep the information of x_0 .



We consider Denoising Diffusion Implicit Models (DDIMs).

DDIM Inversion

- Under the DDIM sampling scheme, we remove the random component.
- The connection to ordinary differential equations (ODEs) can be seen when we rewrite the denoising step as

$$\frac{x_{t-1}}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_{t-1}}} = \frac{x_t}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}} + \left(\sqrt{\frac{1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t-1}}{\bar{\alpha}_{t-1}}} - \sqrt{\frac{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}{\bar{\alpha}_t}} \right) \epsilon_{\theta}(x_t, t). \quad \text{noise decoding}$$

- This can be interpreted as the Euler approximation of an ODE.
- Given infinitely small steps t , the reversed ODE can then be solved with

$$\frac{x_{t+1}}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_{t+1}}} = \frac{x_t}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}} + \left(\sqrt{\frac{1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t+1}}{\bar{\alpha}_{t+1}}} - \sqrt{\frac{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}{\bar{\alpha}_t}} \right) \epsilon_{\theta}(x_t, t). \quad \text{noise encoding}$$

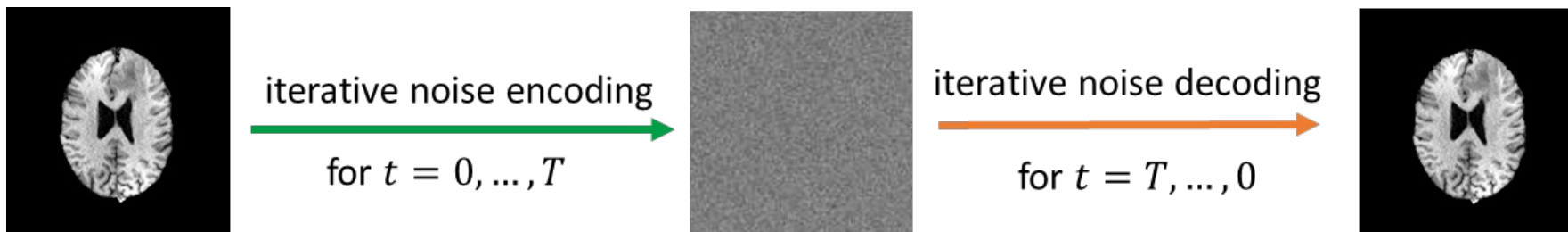
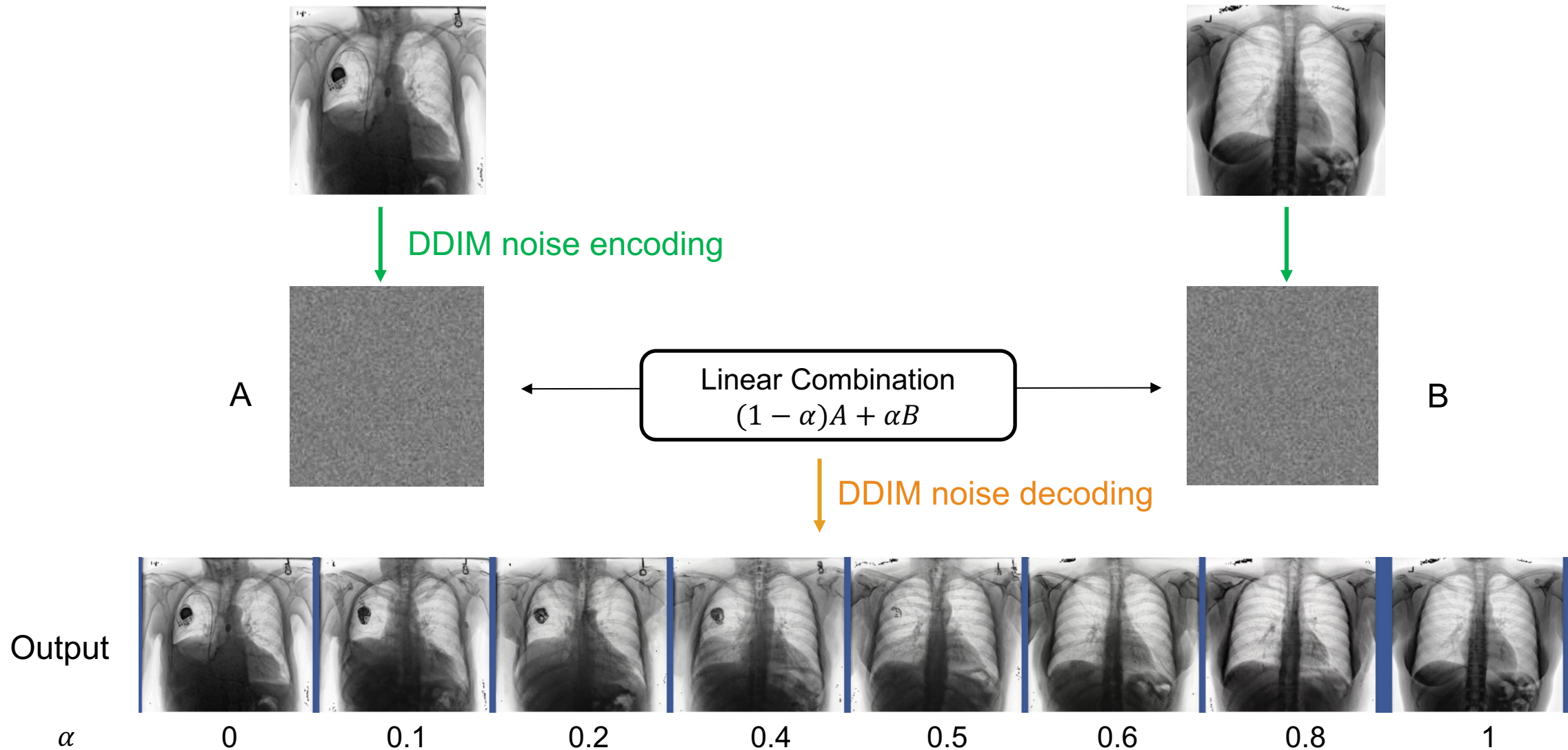
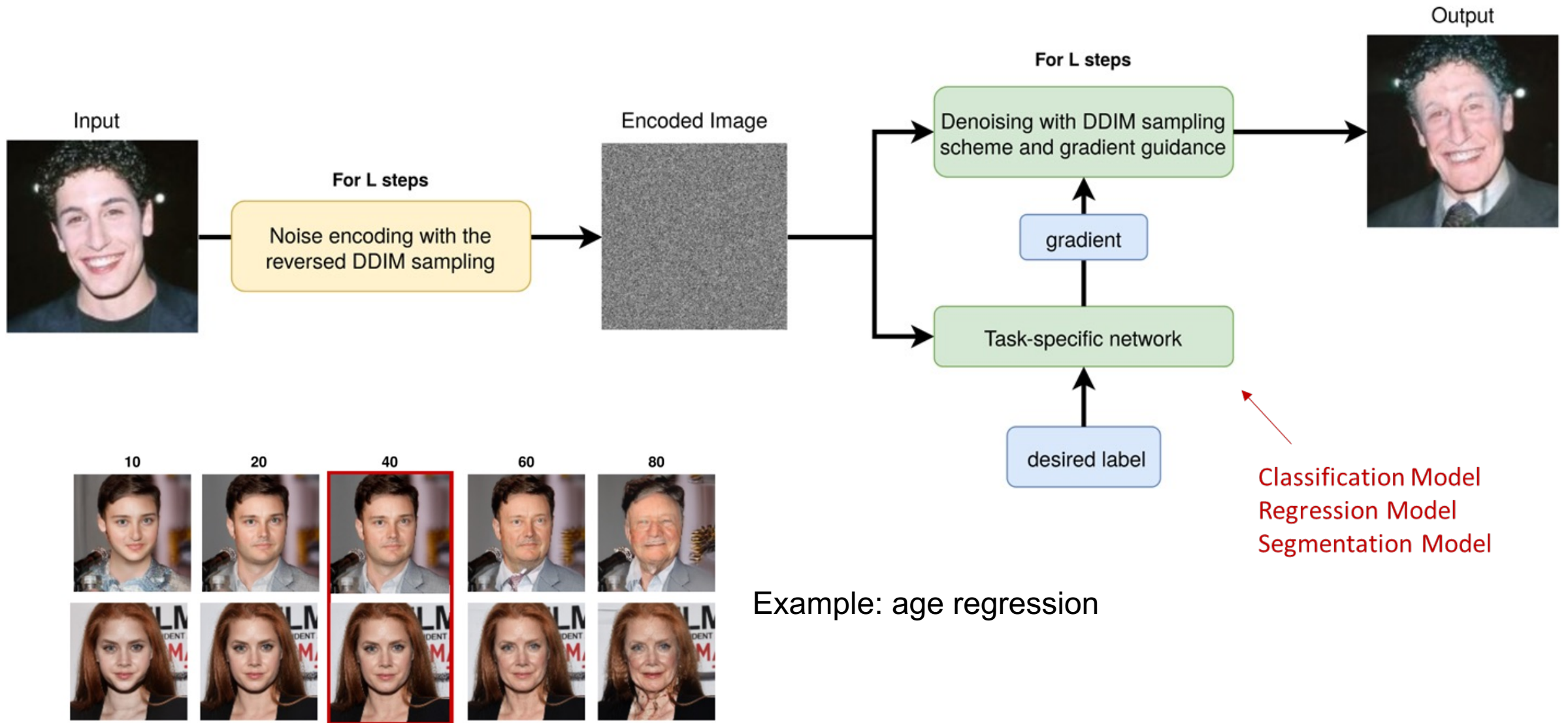


Image Interpolation



DDIM Inversion & Gradient Guidance



Agenda

☐ Introduction to Diffusion Models [~30 min]

- ☐ Physical Intuition & General Concepts
- ☐ Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models
- ☐ A Score-Based View on Diffusion Models

☐ Advanced Topics [~30 min]

- ☐ Sampling Strategies
- ☐ Inference-time Conditioning
- ☐ Training-time Conditioning

☐ Applications in Medical Imaging [~30 min]

- ☐ Synthesis
- ☐ Inpainting
- ☐ Segmentation
- ☐ Anomaly Detection
- ☐ Reconstruction
- ☐ Registration

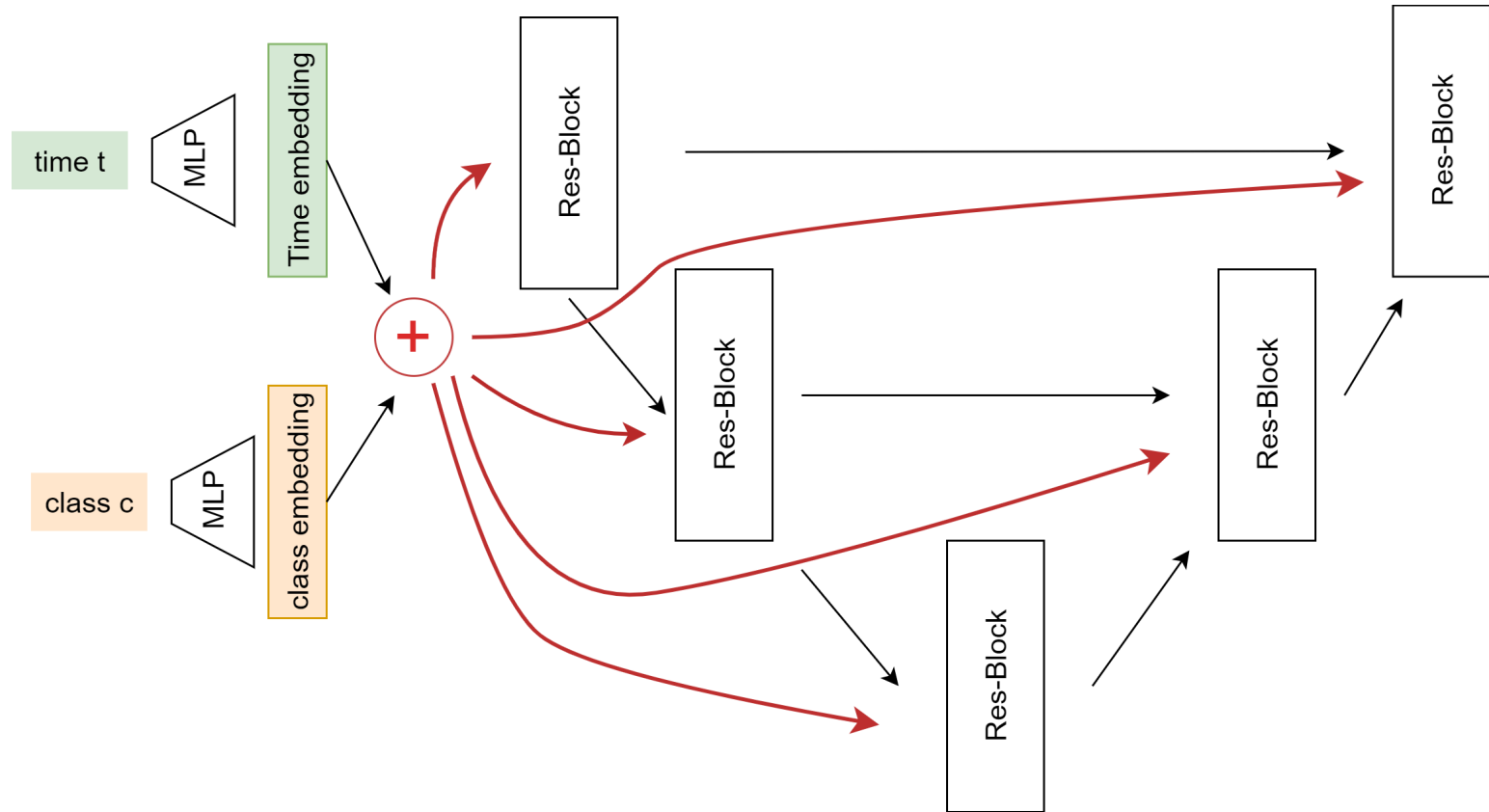
"mouse"

Diffusion
Model

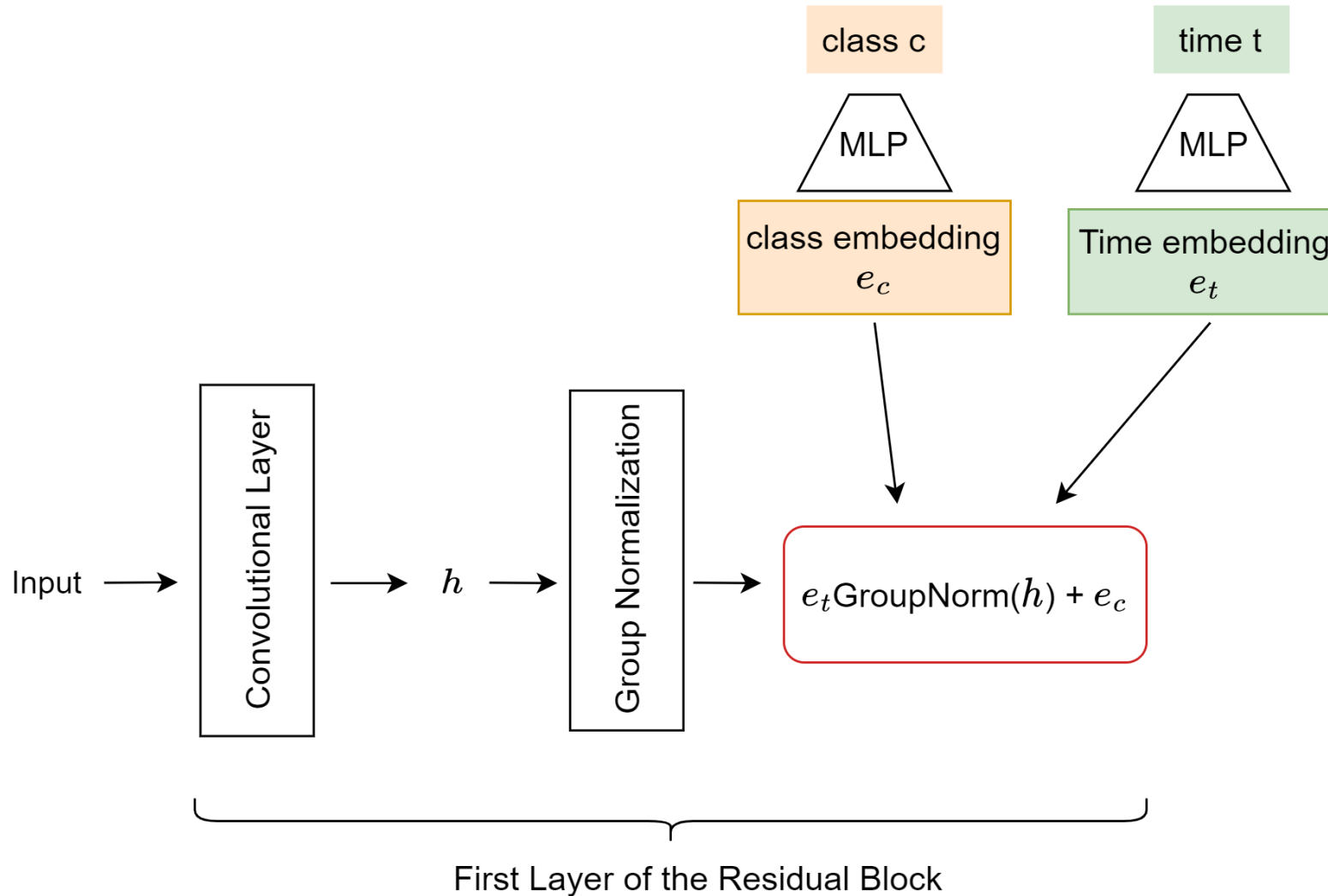


Scalar Conditioning via Spatial Addition

- We train a class-conditional diffusion model by including a class label c .
- We compute a class embedding, and pass it to the residual blocks by **spatial addition**.

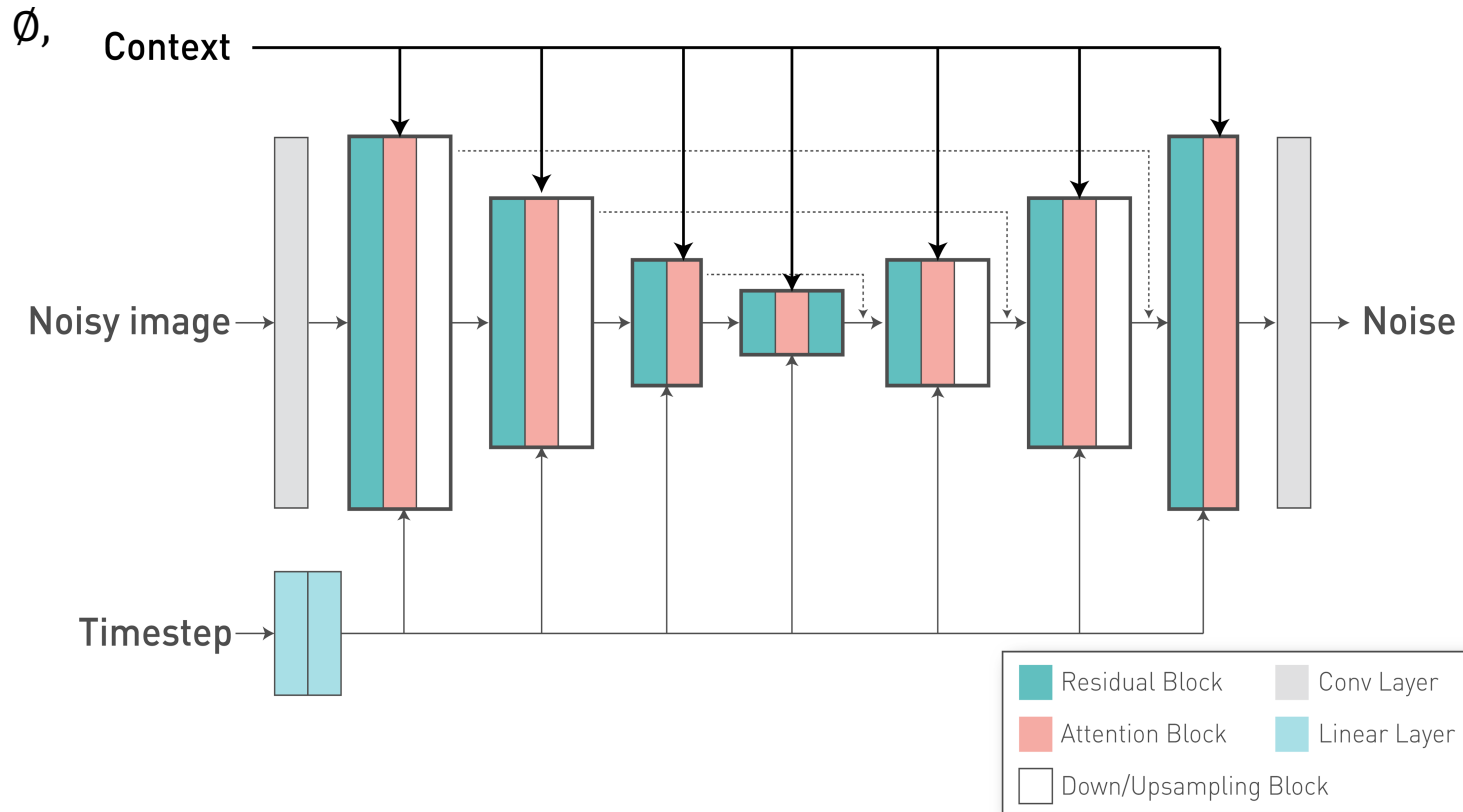


Scalar Conditioning via Adaptive Group Normalization



- Similar to StyleGAN, we add time and class information using a group normalization layer.
- This happens in all residual blocks of the U-Net.

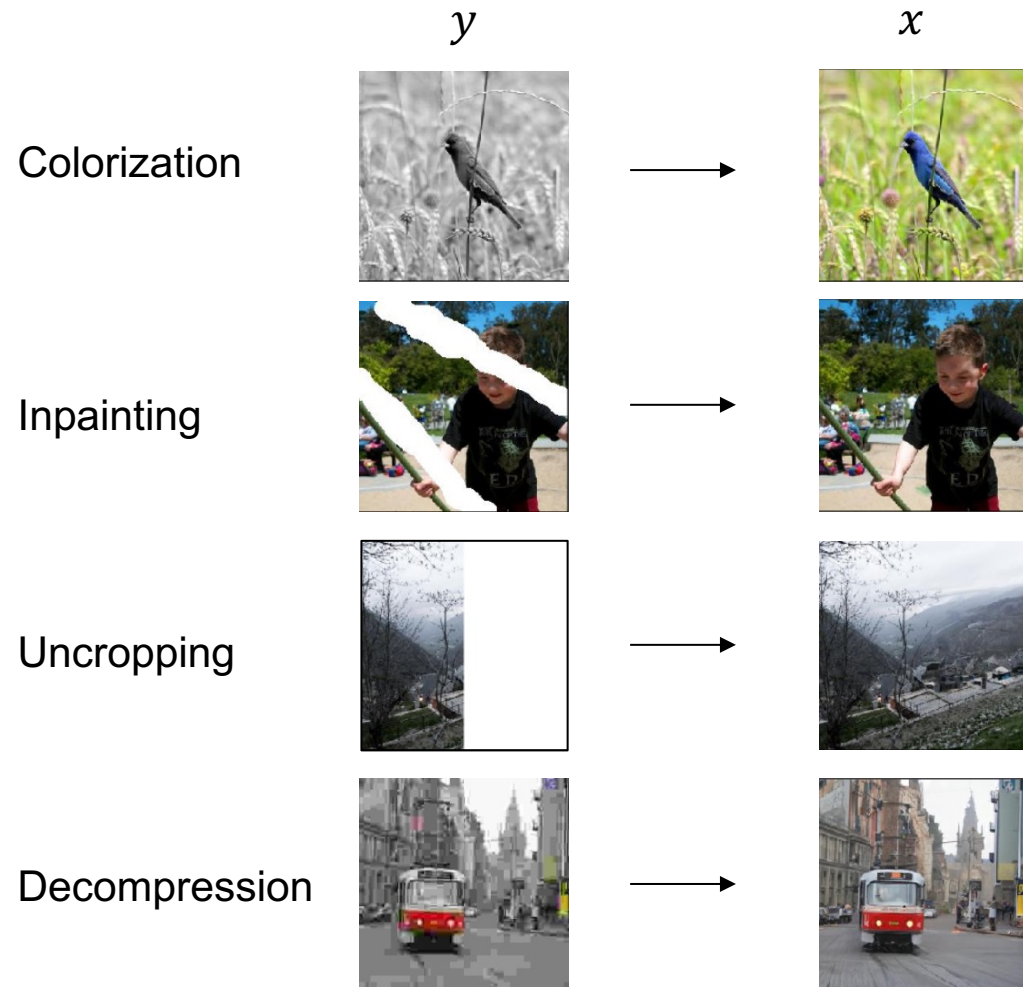
Classifier-free Guidance



$$\widetilde{\epsilon}_{\theta}(x_t|y) = \epsilon_{\theta}(x_t|\emptyset) + w[\epsilon_{\theta}(x_t|y) - \epsilon_{\theta}(x_t|\emptyset)]$$

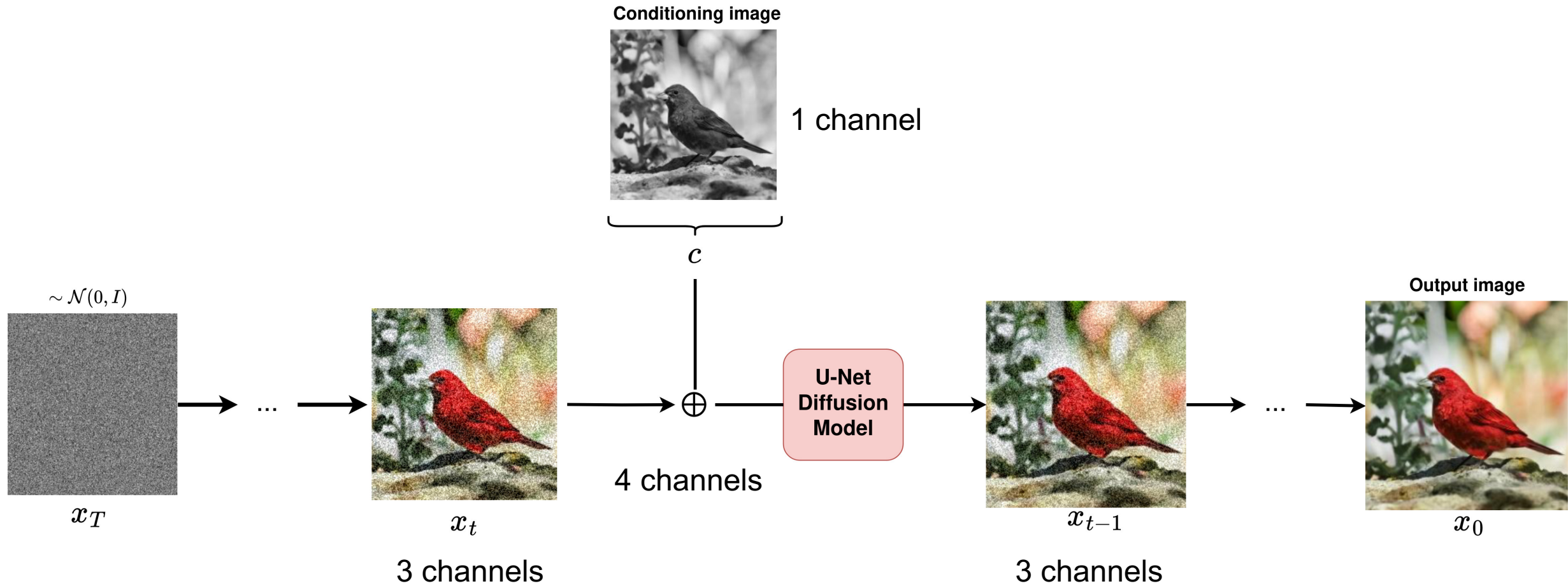
Check out this very nice tutorial: <https://sander.ai/2022/05/26/guidance.html>

Image Conditioning through Concatenation

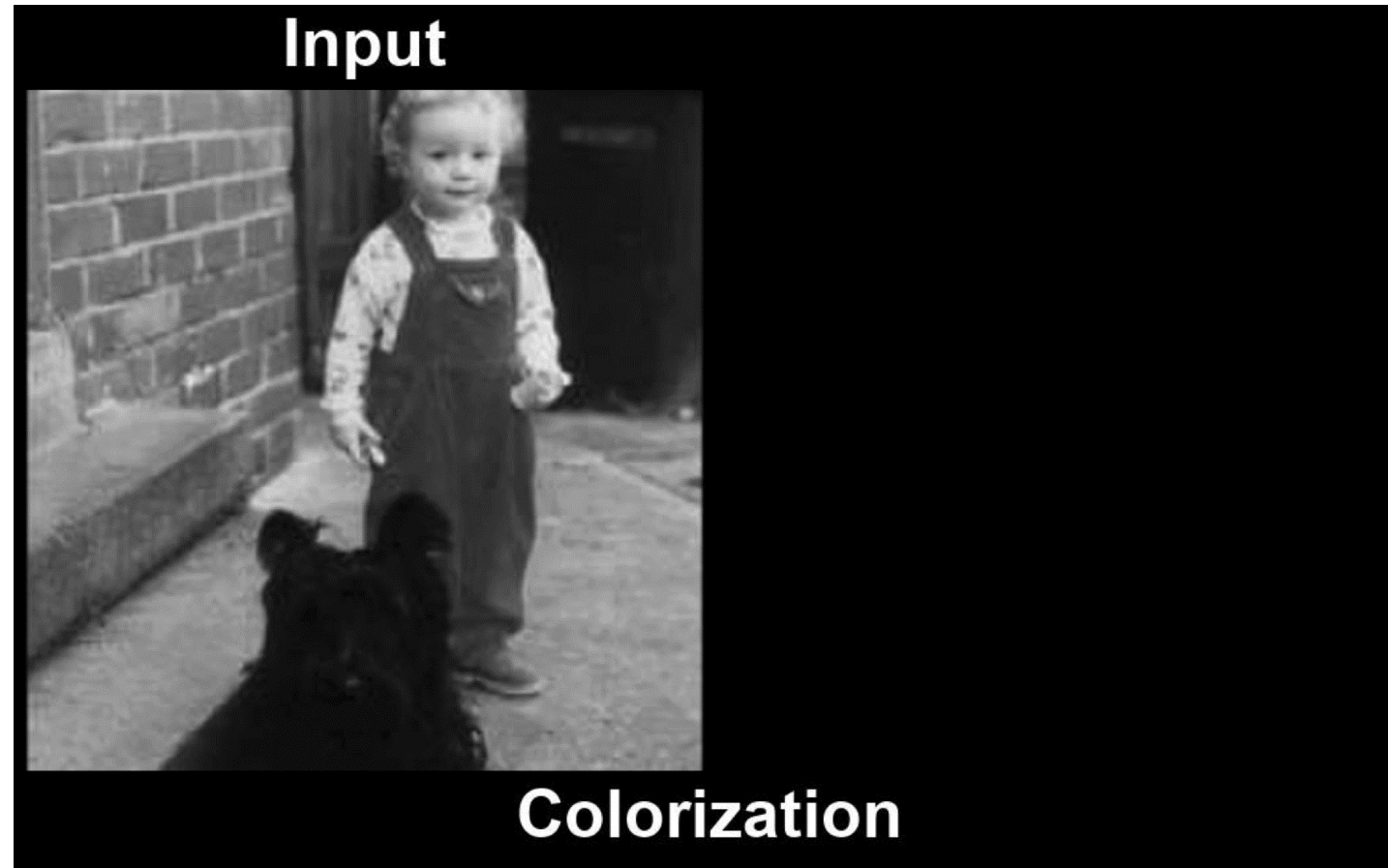


- For image generation of a fake image x , we can use a conditioning image y .
- This requires **paired** training.
- During training and sampling, we add information of the conditioning image x through **channel-wise concatenation**.

Image Conditioning through Concatenation



Palette: Image-to-Image Diffusion Models



Text Conditioning



"A small cactus wearing a straw hat and neon sunglasses in the Sahara desert."

CLIP

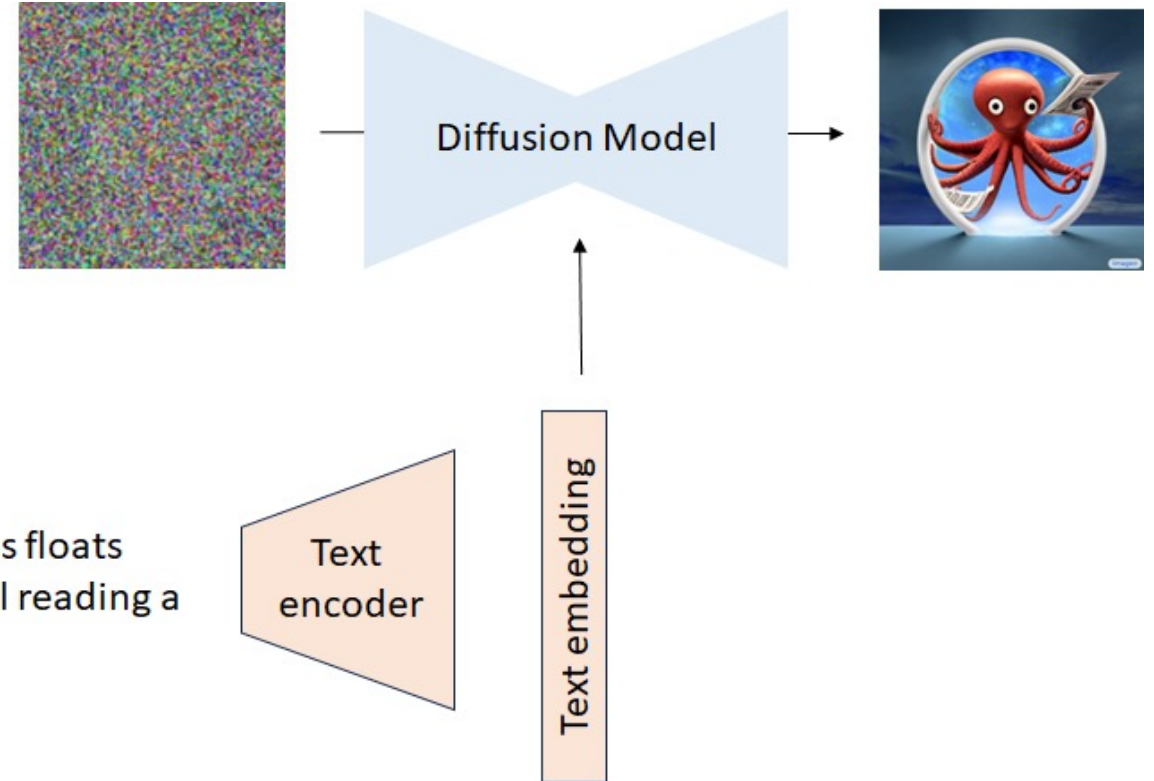
Dall-E

Stable Diffusion

Imagen

...

An alien octopus floats through a portal reading a newspaper.

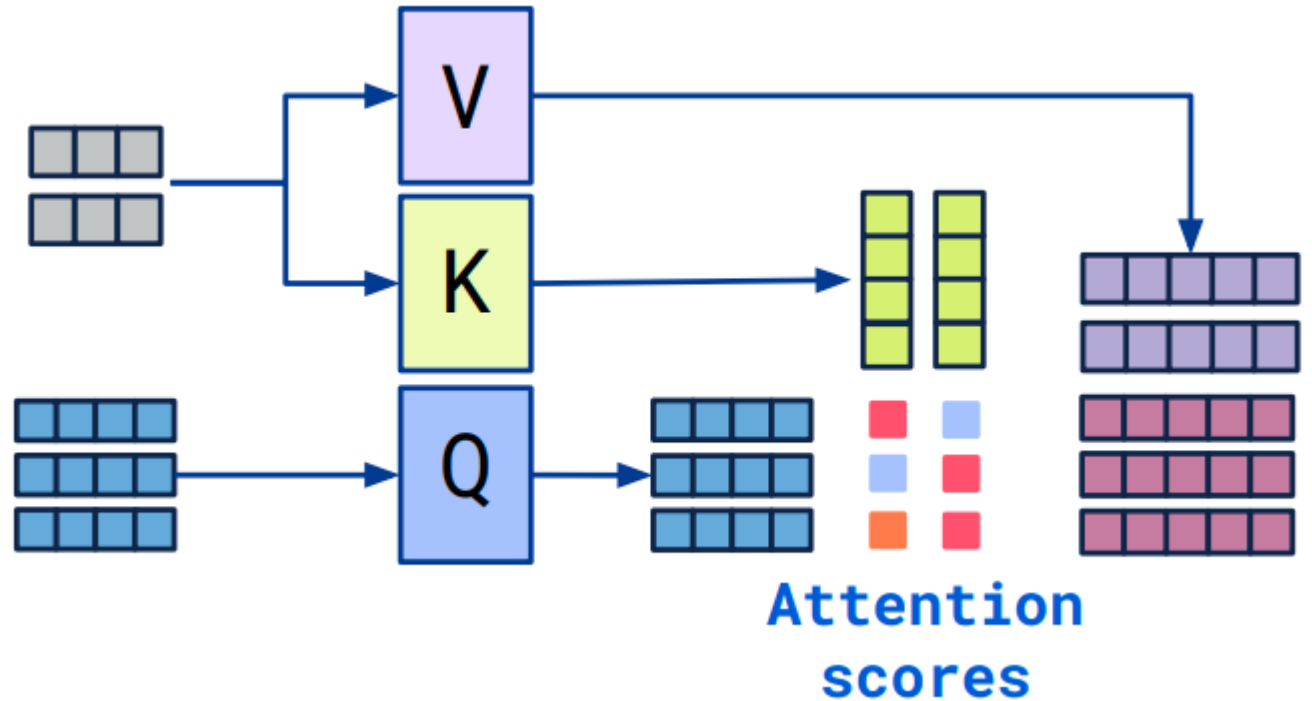


Architecture - Conditioning

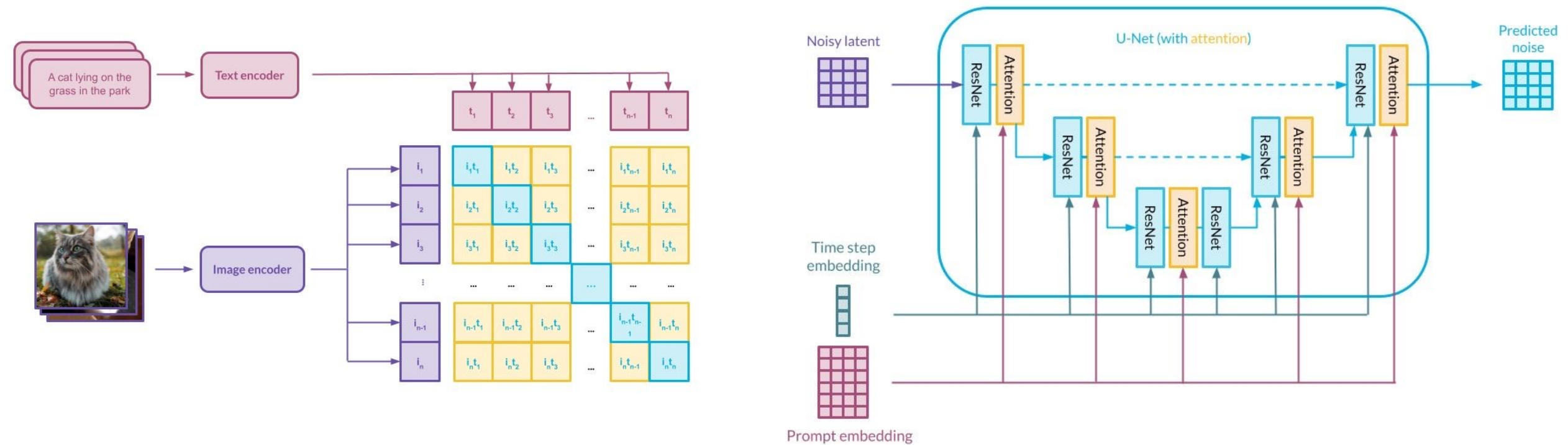
- Transformers **Cross-Attention**

- We use the text embedding to generate the key / value pair.

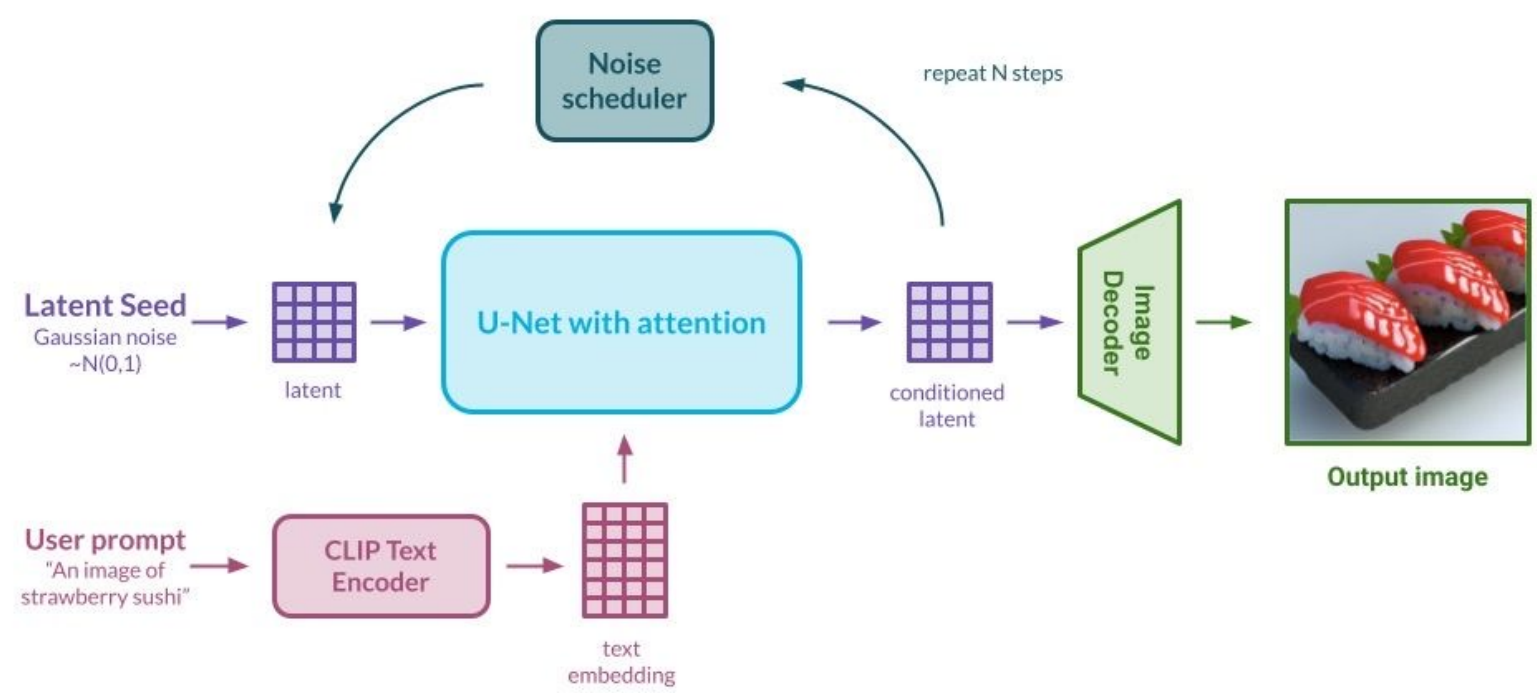
- We use the image embedding for the query.



Text Conditioning



Text Conditioning



Teddy bears swimming at the Olympics 400m Butterfly event.



A cute corgi lives in a house made out of sushi.

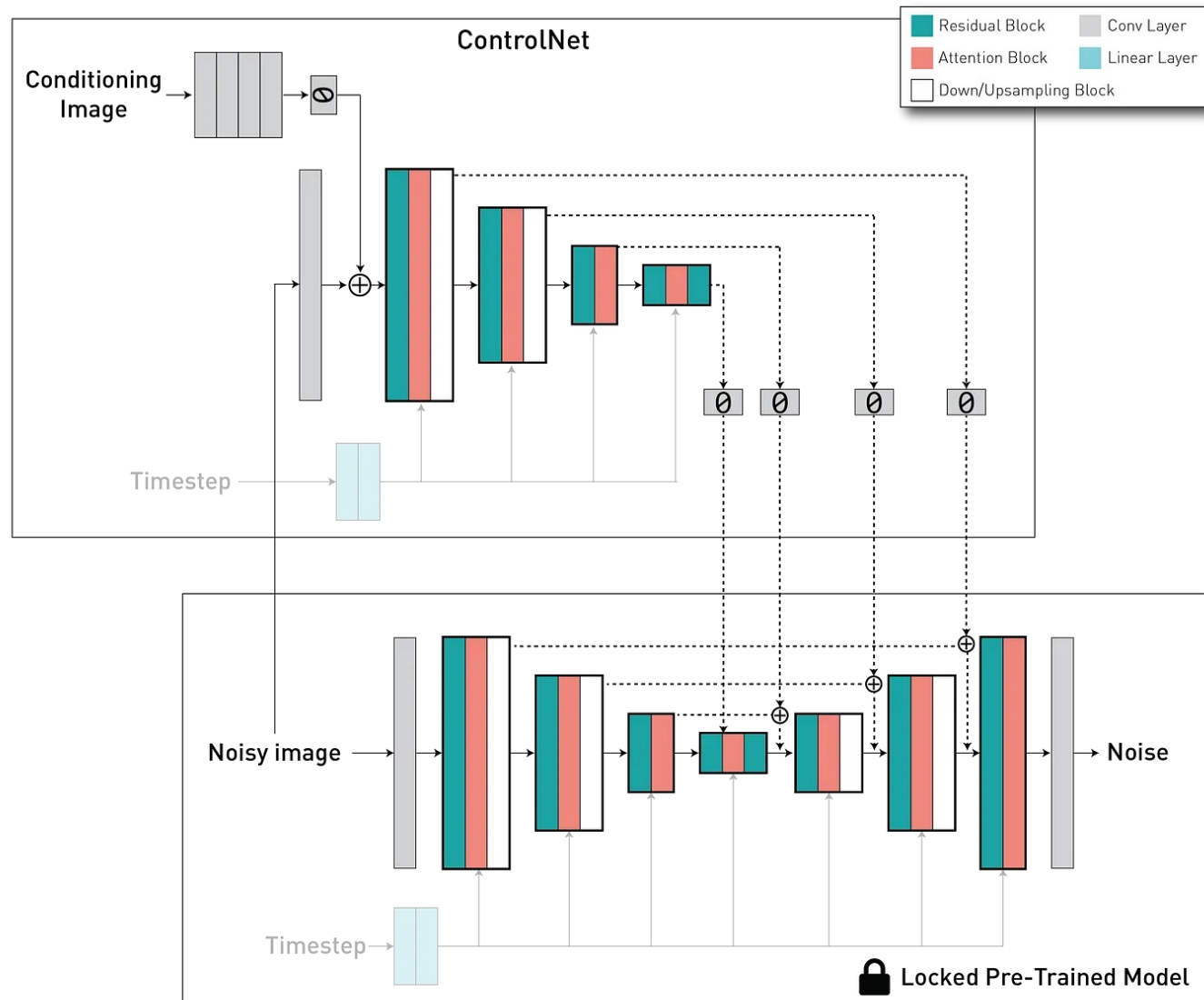


A brain riding a rocketship heading towards the moon.



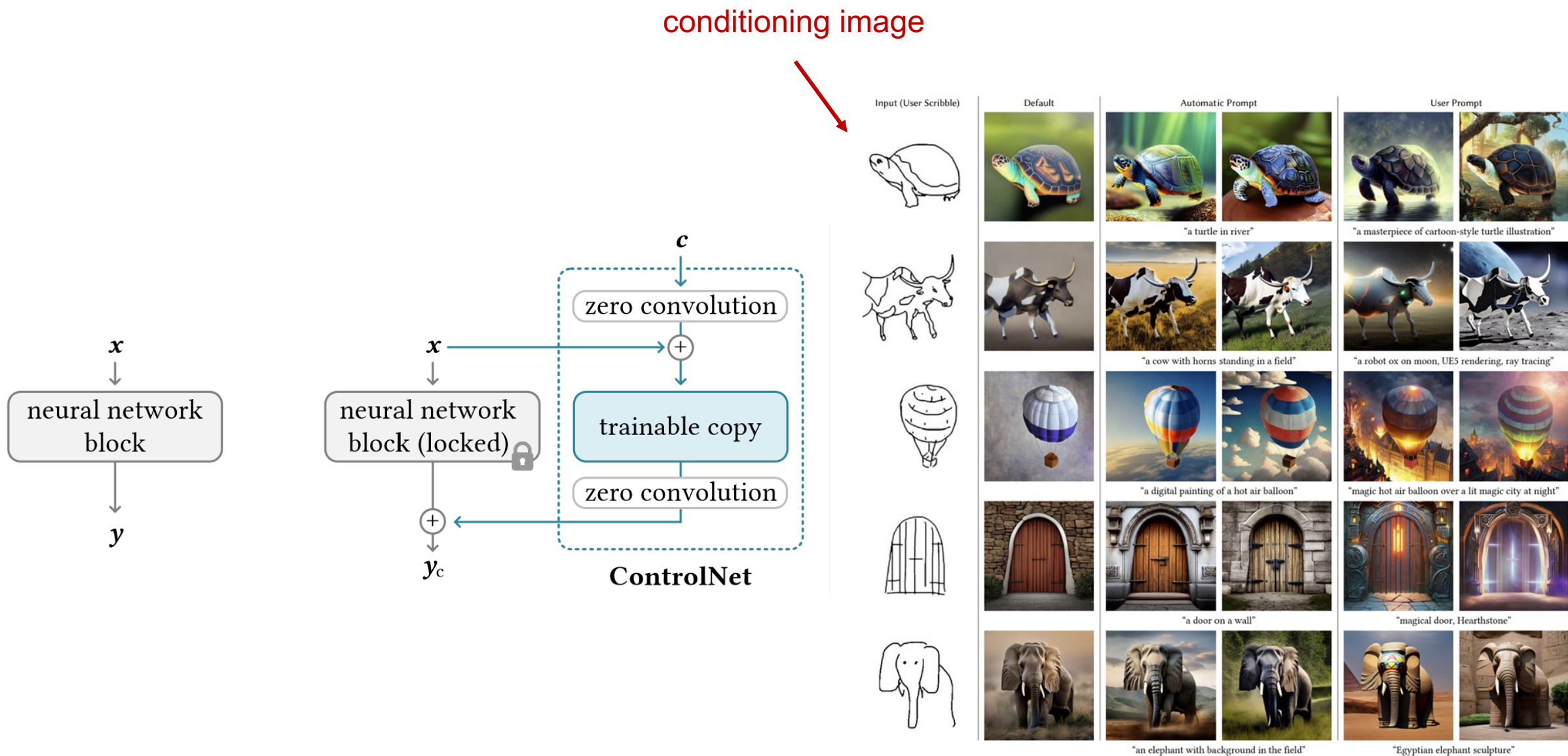
A dragon fruit wearing karate belt in the snow.

ControlNet

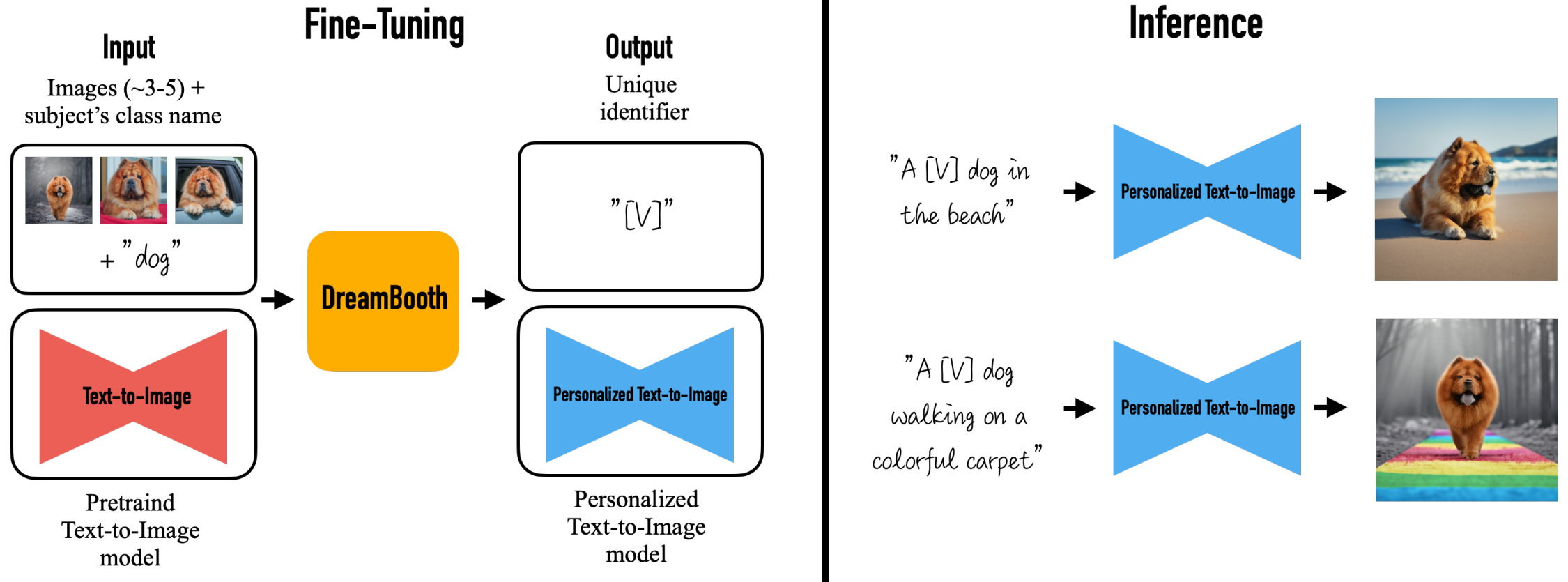


- We pretrain a diffusion model with text prompts.
- We freeze this model.
- We fine-tune a copy conditioned on c .
- We pass information to the frozen model through skip connections.

ControlNet



DreamBooth



Agenda

☐ Introduction to Diffusion Models [~30 min]

- ☐ Physical Intuition & General Concepts
- ☐ Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models
- ☐ A Score-Based View on Diffusion Models

☐ Advanced Topics [~30 min]

- ☐ Sampling Strategies
- ☐ Inference-time Conditioning
- ☐ Training-time Conditioning

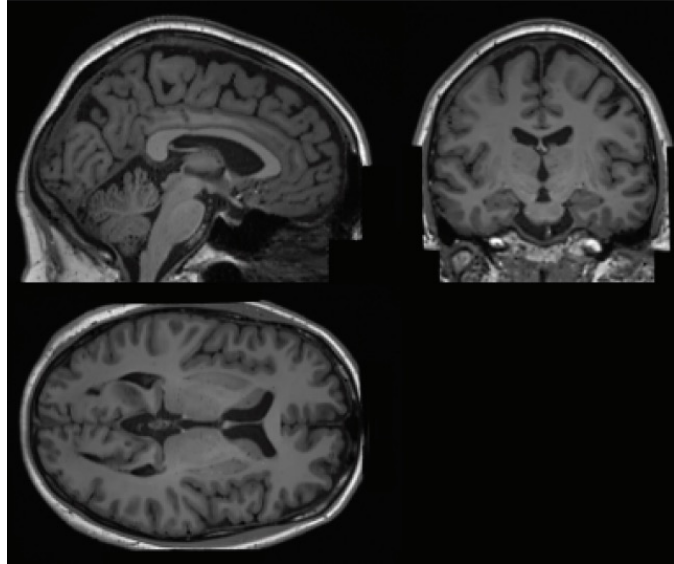
☐ Applications in Medical Imaging [~30 min]

- ☐ Synthesis
- ☐ Inpainting
- ☐ Segmentation
- ☐ Anomaly Detection
- ☐ Reconstruction
- ☐ Registration

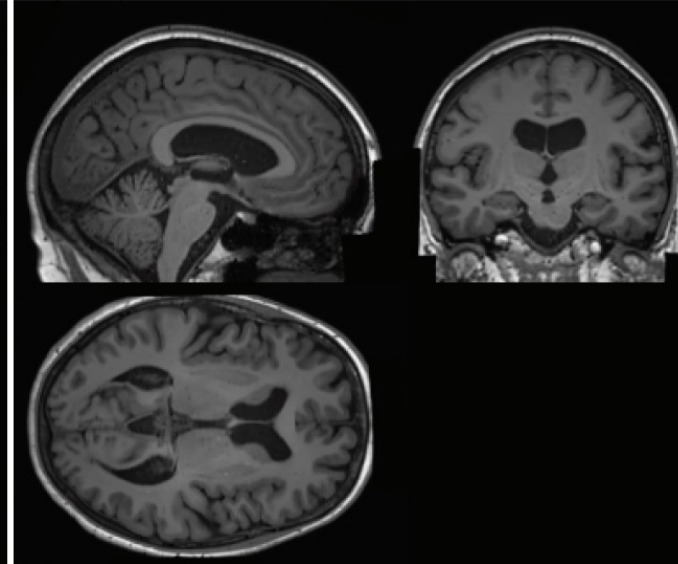
Image Synthesis

Examples from the Community

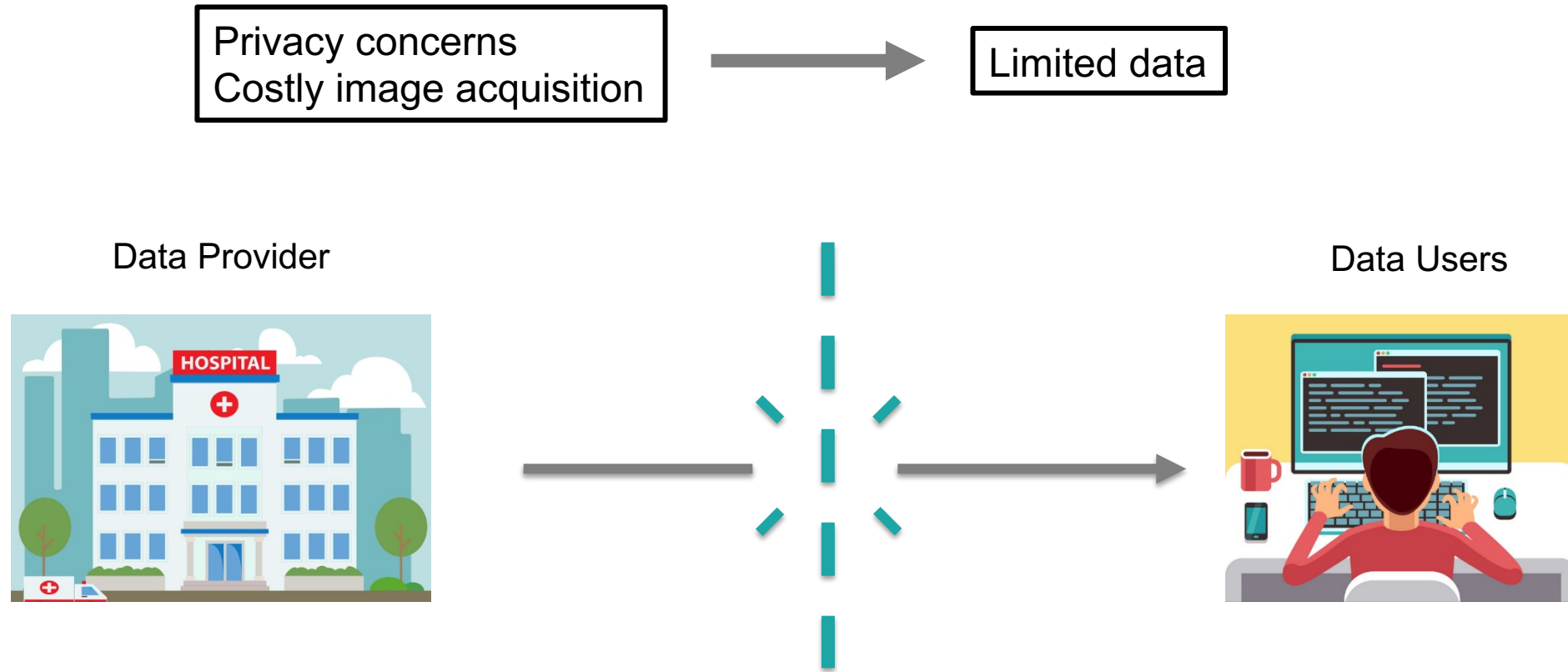
Real



Synthetic



Why? Medical Images are Rare!



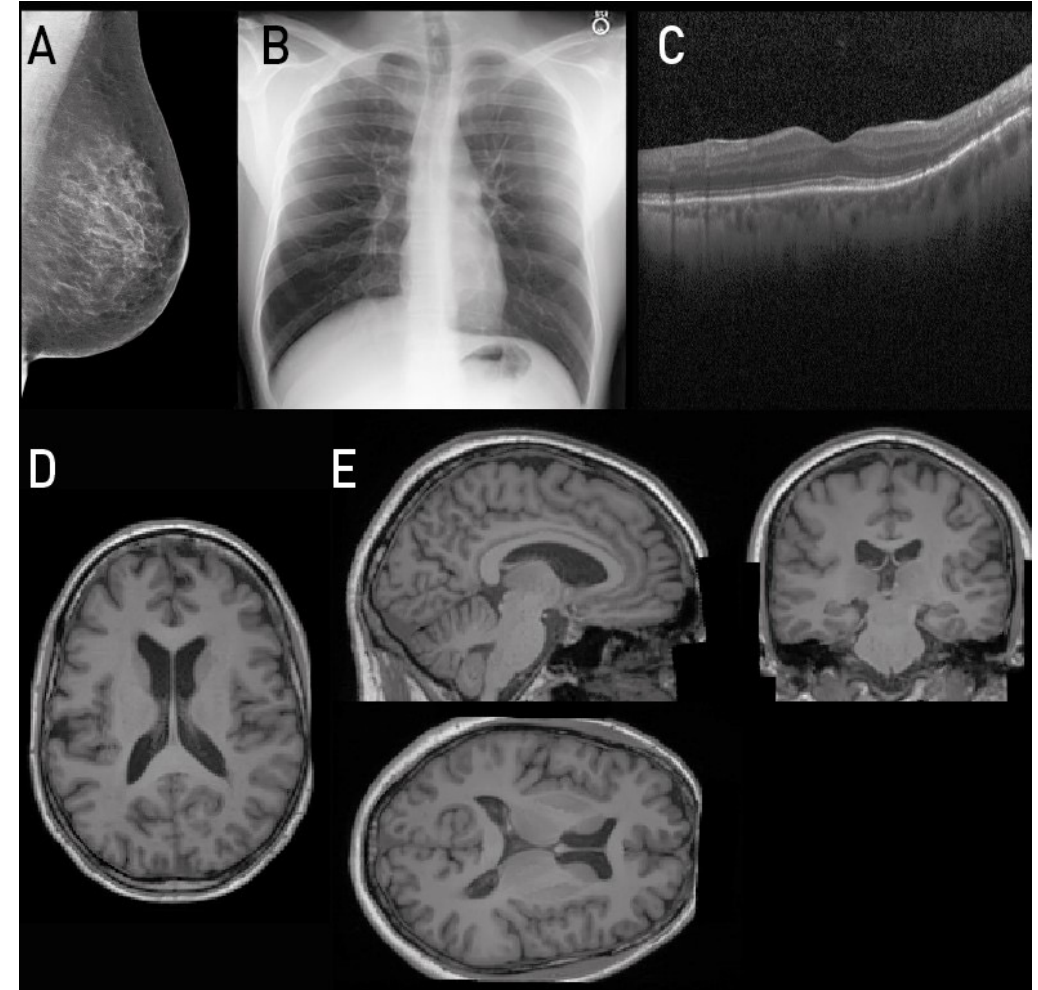
Use of Synthetic Data

What can we use generated images for?

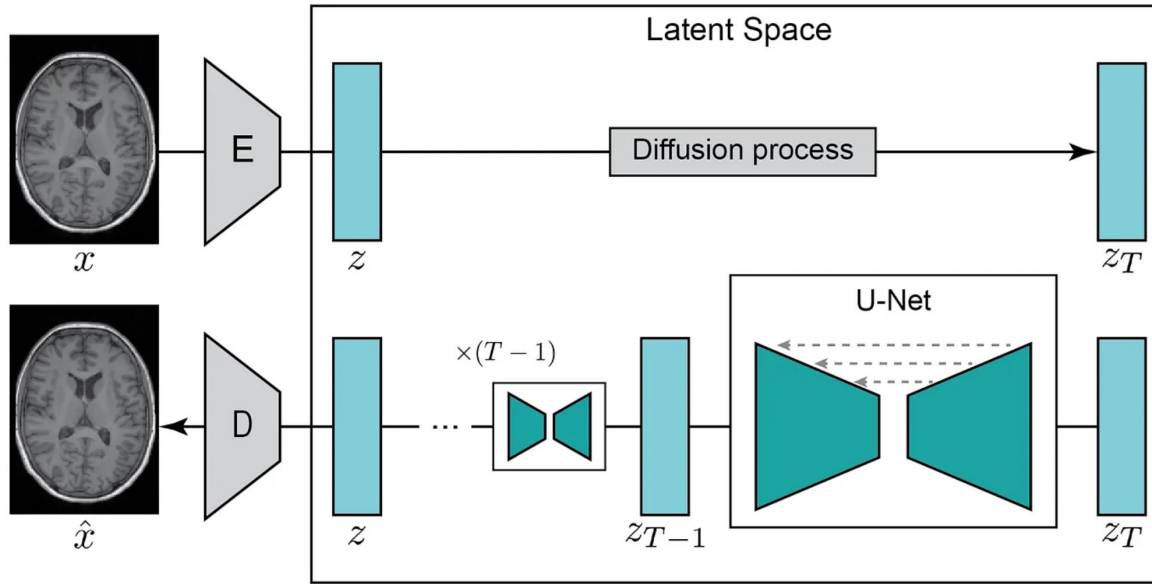
- Full private training
- Data augmentation
- Testing edge cases

Evaluation Criteria:

- Realism
- Diversity
- Privacy



Generating High-Resolution 3D Brain Data

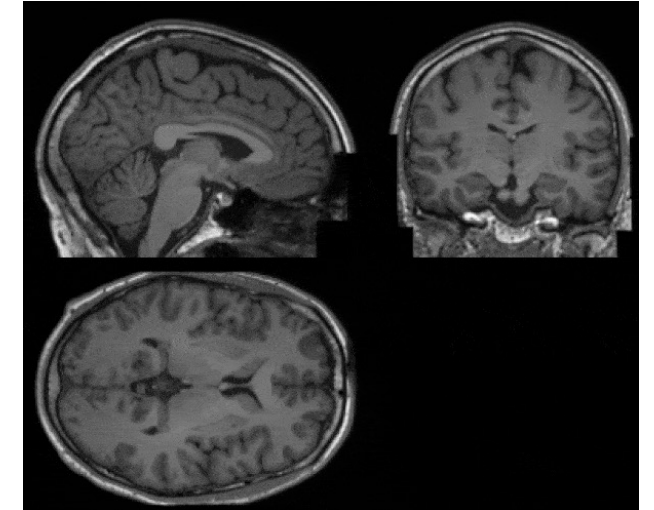
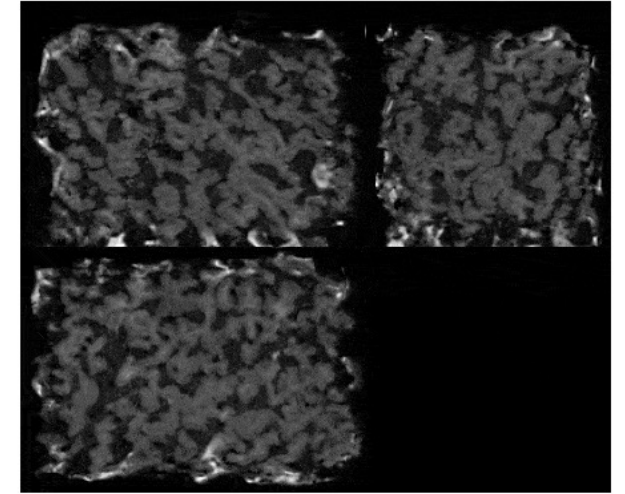


Latent Diffusion Model trained on data from UK Biobank (N = 31,740)

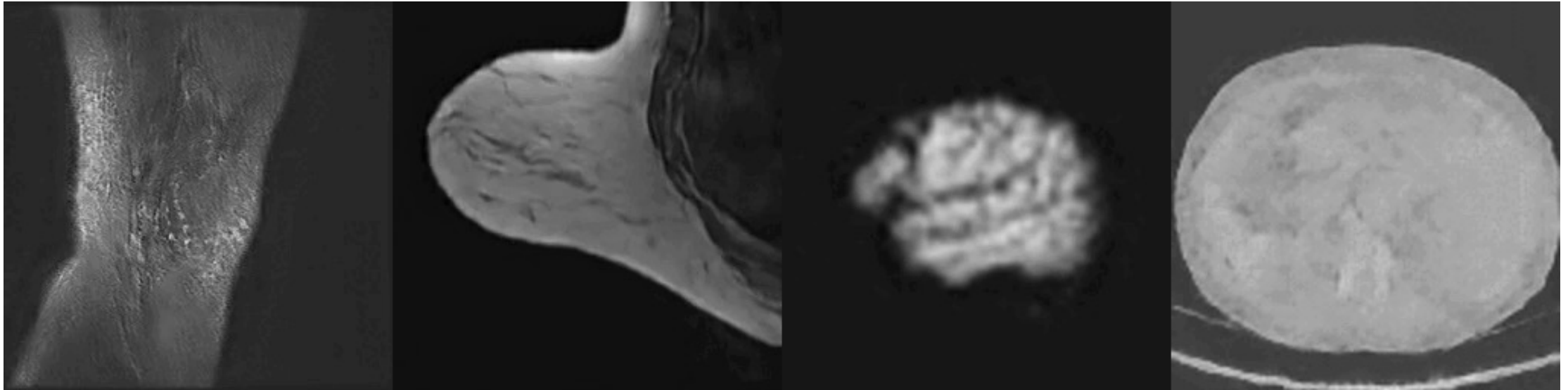
- Allows for the generation of T1-weighted brain MR images with a resolution of 160 x 224 x 160

Can be conditioned on covariates like:

- Age
- Gender
- Ventricular and Brain volumes



High-Resolution 3D Medical Image Generation with LDMs



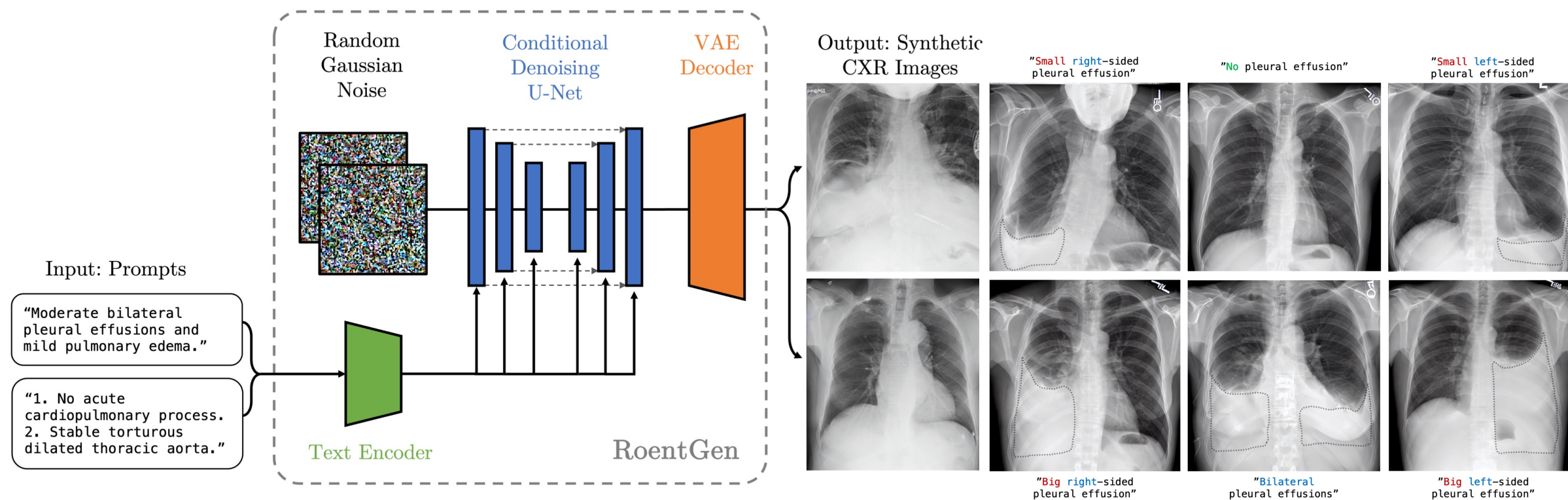
DUKE
(256 x 256 x 32)

MRNet
(256 x 256 x 32)

ADNI
(64 x 64 x 64)

LIDC-IDRI
(128 x 128 x 128)

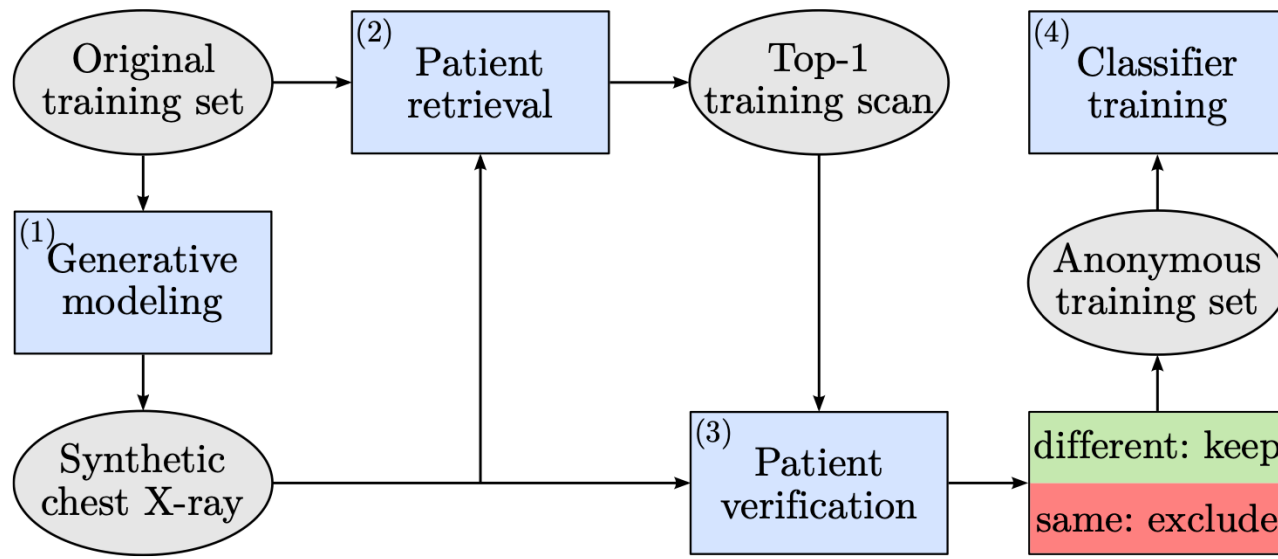
Fine-Tuning Stable Diffusion



Fine Tuned Stable Diffusion pipeline for text-conditioned chest X-Ray generation

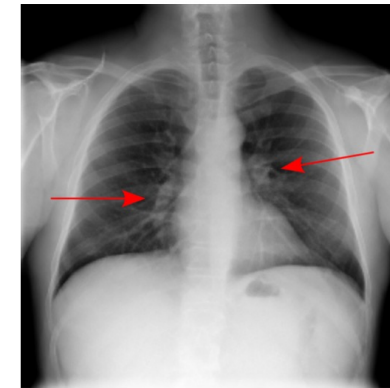
- U-Net and Text Encoder are jointly fine-tuned on the MIMIC-CXR dataset

Generation of Anonymous Chest Radiographs

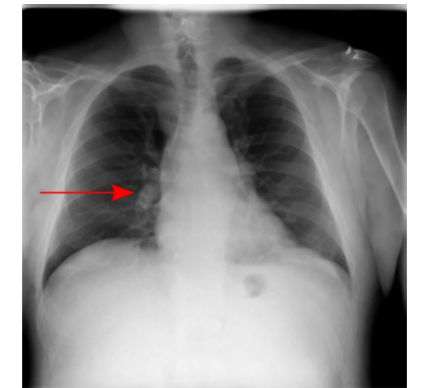


Privacy enhanced sampling strategy for conditional chest X-Ray generation

- Generated images are not per se private, as generative models may memorize training examples
- 1) Generate Image 2) Find most similar one from training data 3) Verify if patient is the same → include/exclude



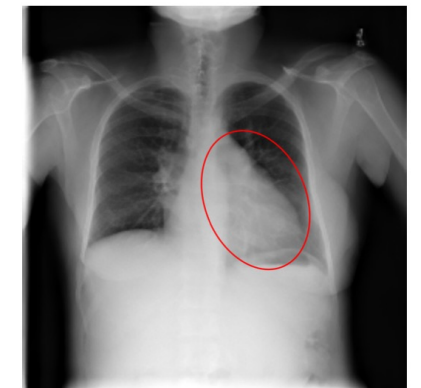
Infiltration



Nodule

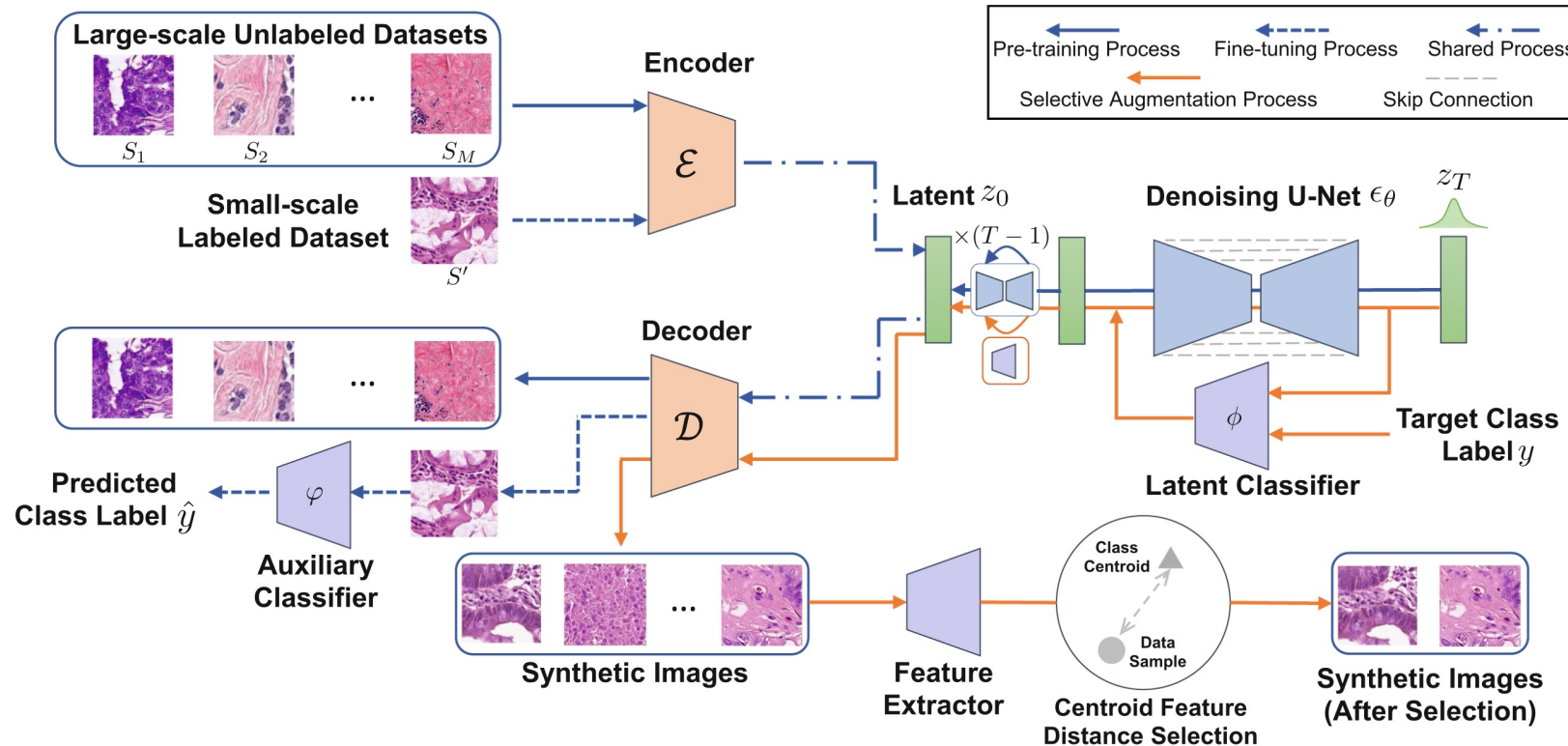


Mass



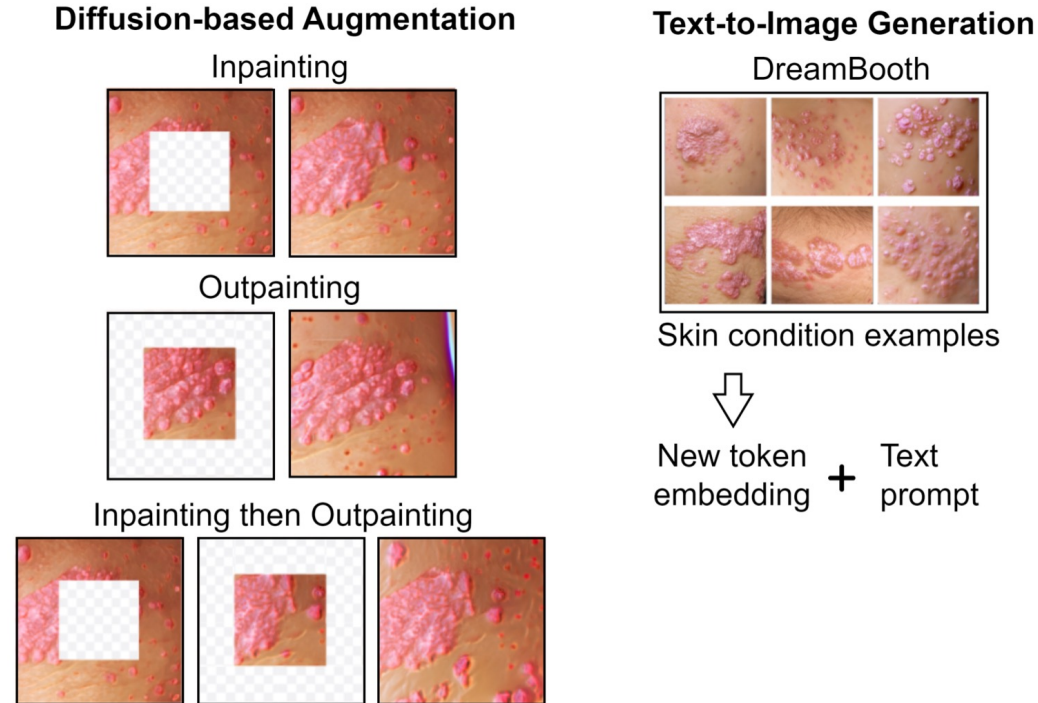
Cardiomegaly

Synthetic Data Augmentation



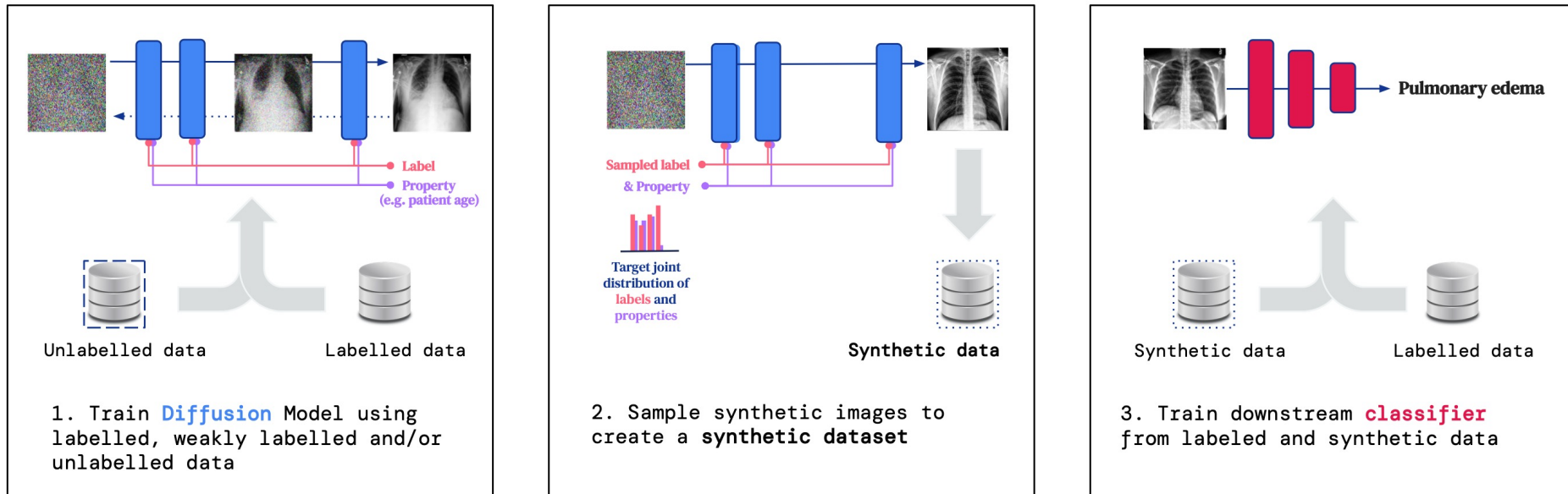
- 1) **Pre-training an unconditional Latent Diffusion Model** on a large unlabeled dataset
- 2) **Conditional fine-tuning** on an unseen labeled (small) dataset through a latent classifier
- 3) **Selection of the highly-confident synthetic samples** based on feature similarity with real data

Synthetic Image Augmentation – Performance Gain



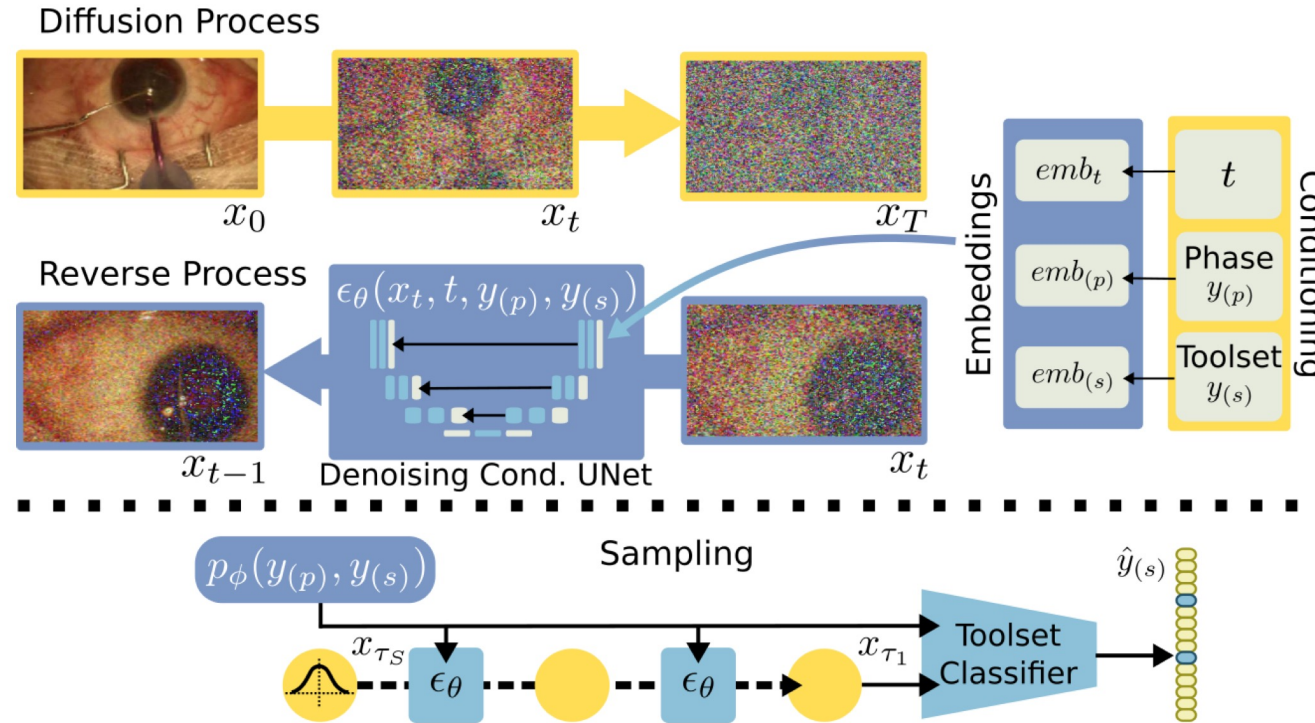
- Diffusion models can scalably generate images of skin disease and training models with that augmented data **improves performance in data-limited settings**
- Performance gains (in this setting) saturate at a **synthetic-to-real ratio of 10:1** and is substantially smaller than the gains obtained by adding real images → **collection of diverse real data remains more important**

Synthetic Data for Distribution Shifts – Improving Fairness in AI



- Learning realistic augmentations from data is possible in a label-efficient manner using diffusion models
- Unlabeled data can be used to capture the data distribution of different conditions and subgroups → **steer the distribution of synthetic examples according to specific requirements**
- Learned augmentations can surpass heuristic, manually implemented ones by making **models more robust and statistically fair in- and out- of-distribution**

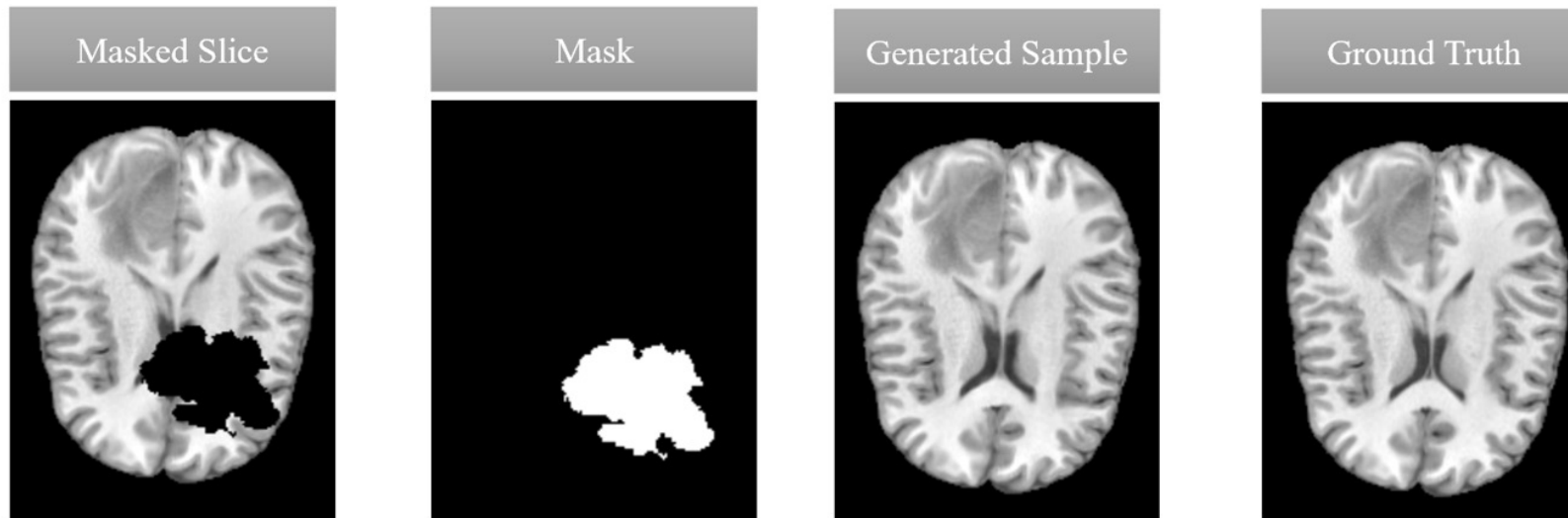
Synthesising Rare Samples – Testing Edge Cases



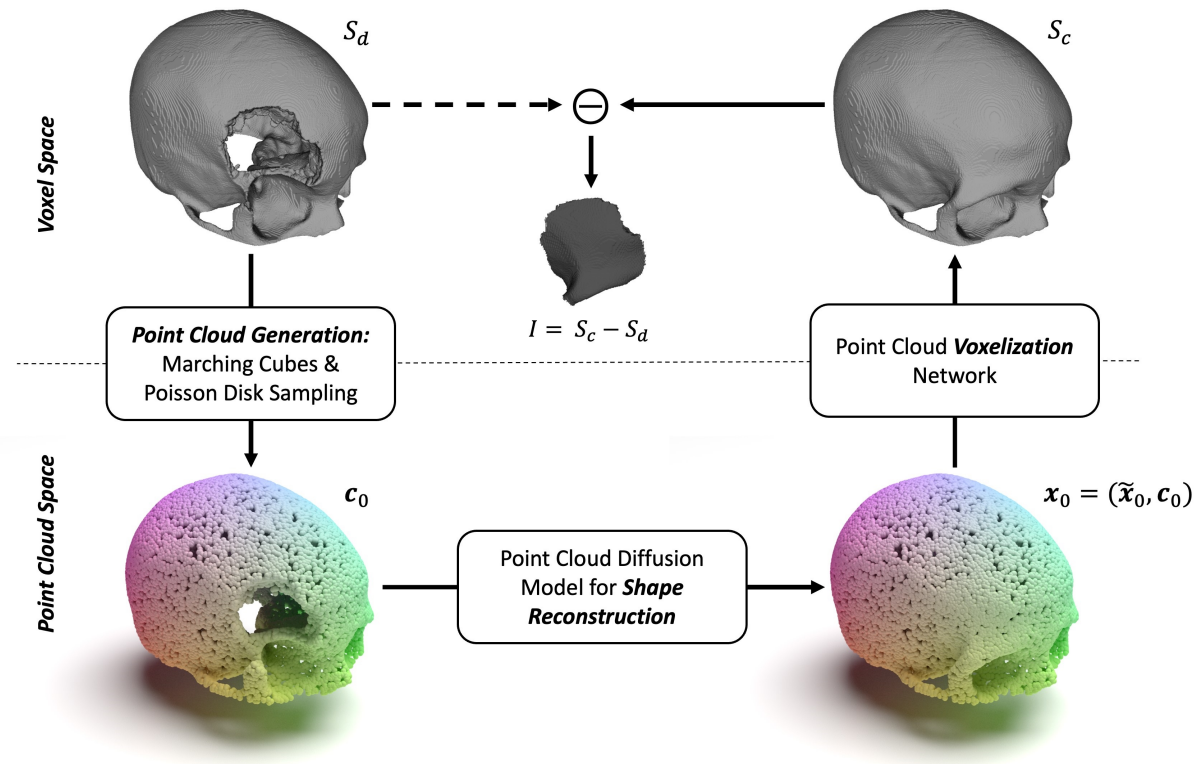
- Diffusion model is used to **synthesize rare cases** in instrument classification in cataract surgery
- Performance gain of $> 10\%$ for rare cases

Inpainting

Examples from the Community



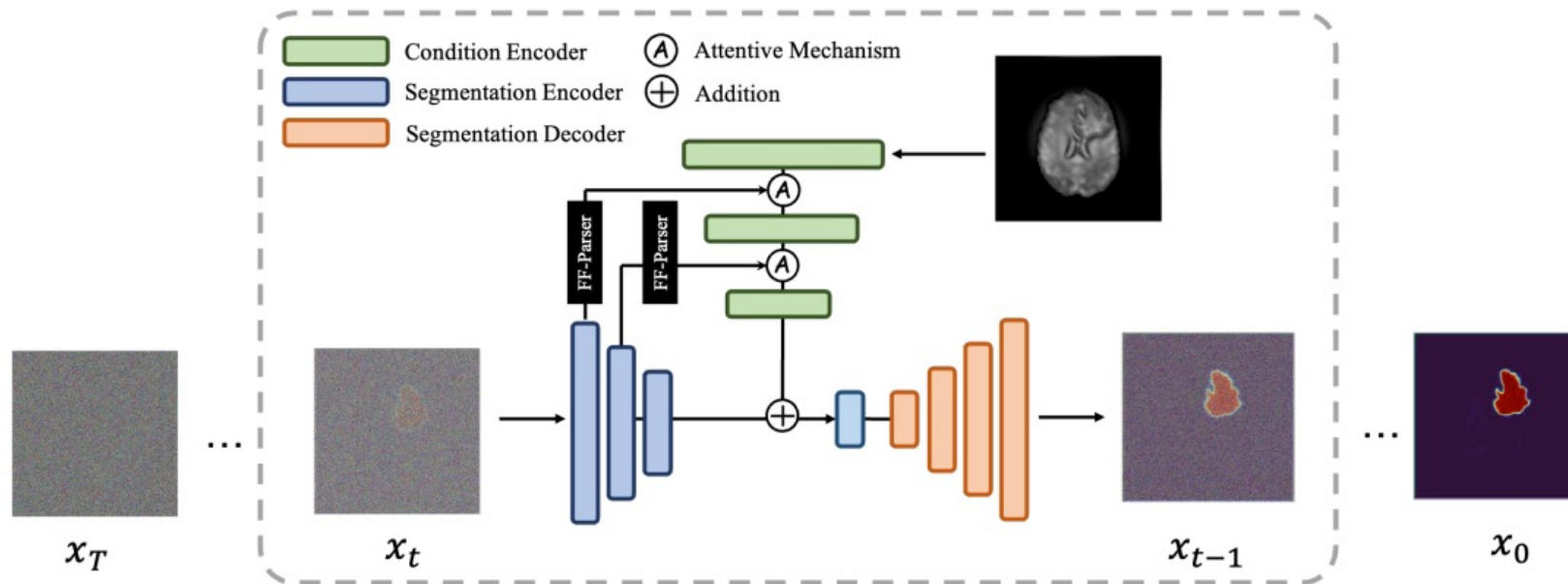
Point Cloud Diffusion Models for Automatic Implant Generation



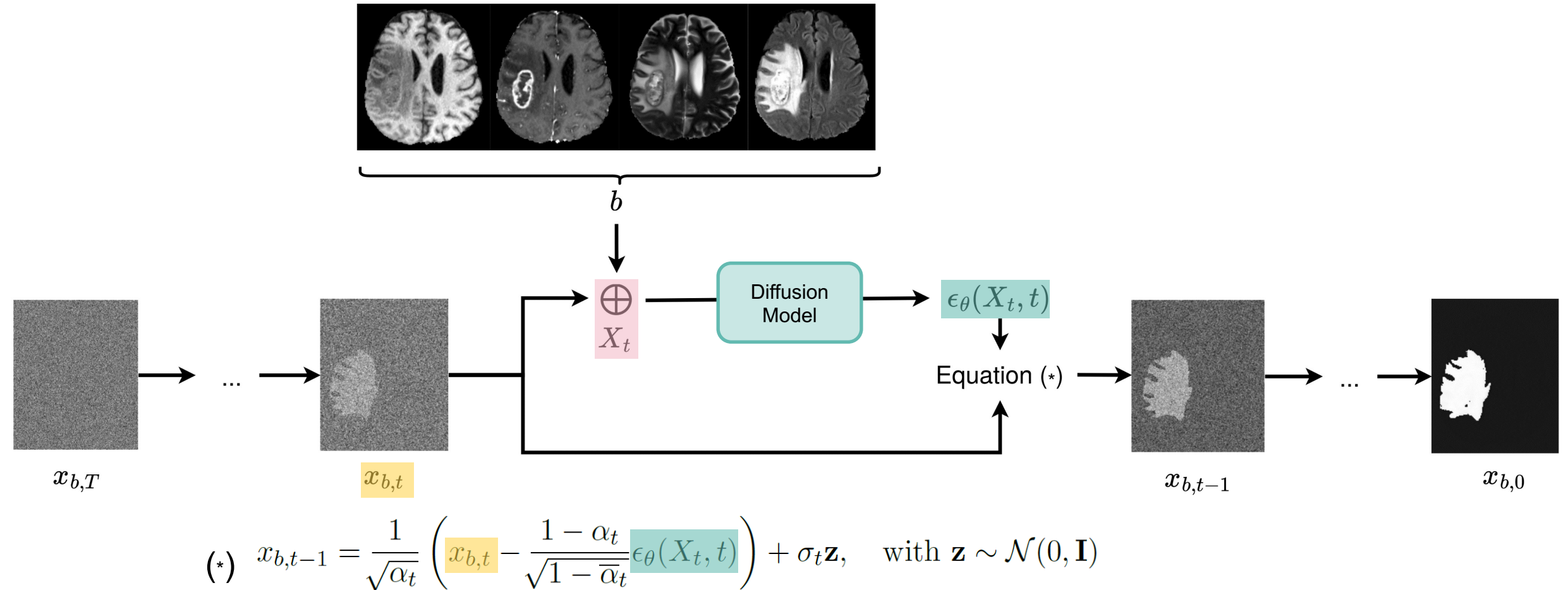
- Implant generation as shape completion task (basically 3D inpainting)
- Applying the diffusion model to high-resolution volumes (512 x 512 x 512) is impossible due to limited GPU memory
- Diffusion models **can be applied to a wide variety of different data types** (like point clouds)

Image Segmentation

Examples from the Community

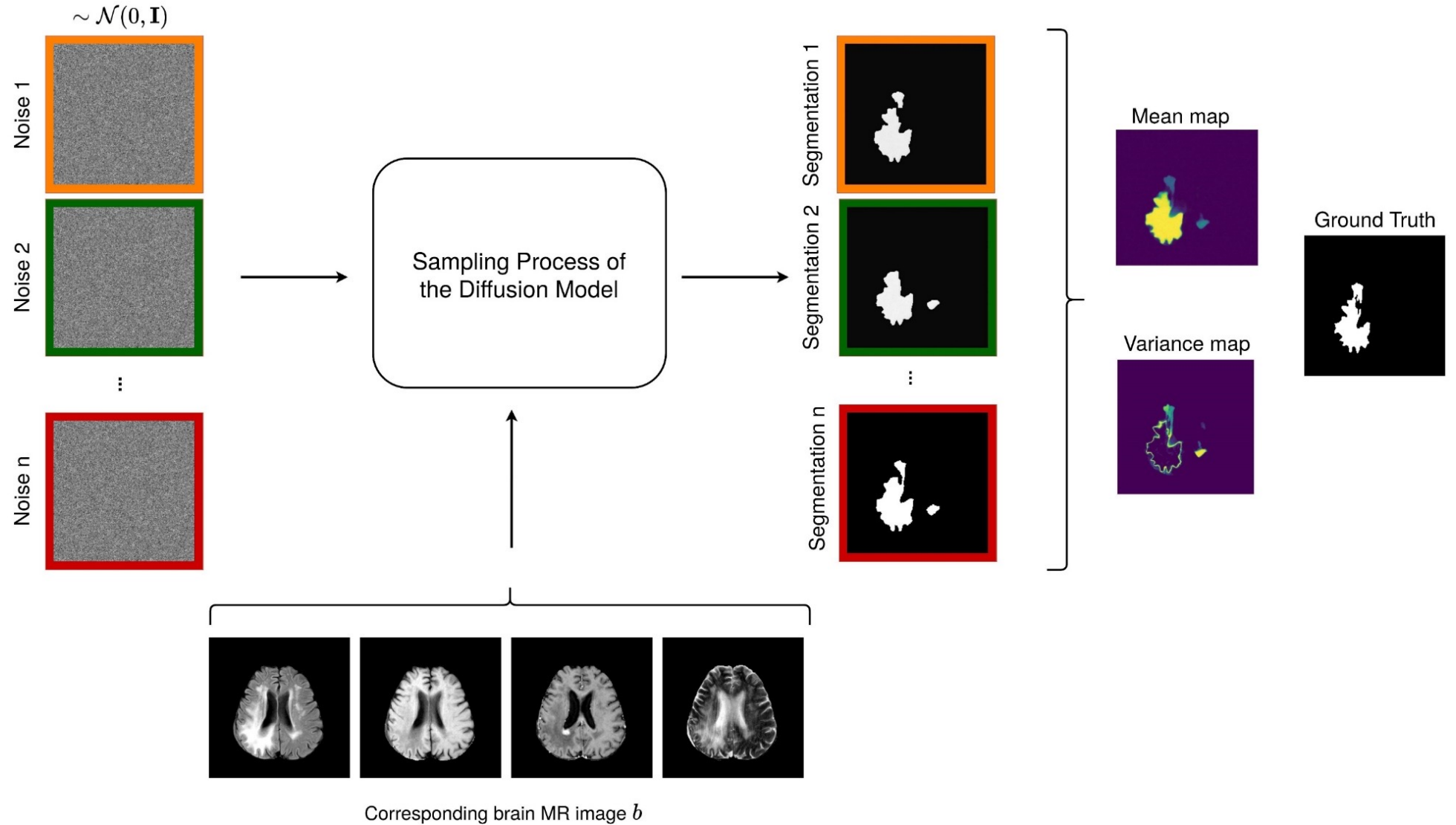


Diffusion Models for Segmentation Mask Generation

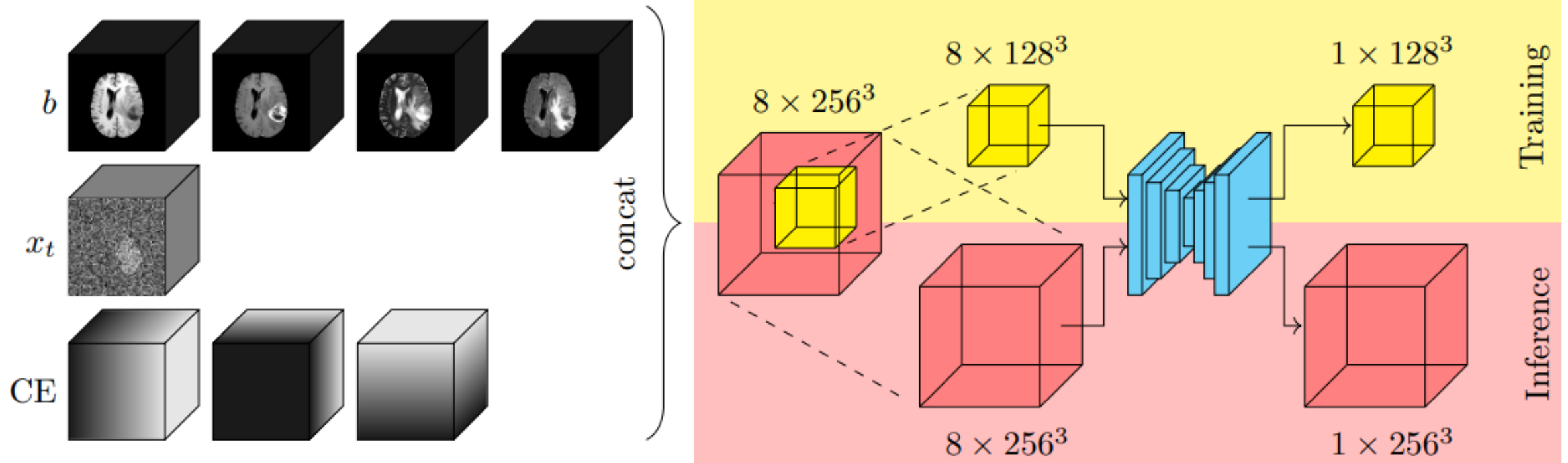


The anatomical information is added by concatenating the input images b to the noisy segmentation mask $x_{b,t}$ in every step t .

Generation of Segmentation Ensembles



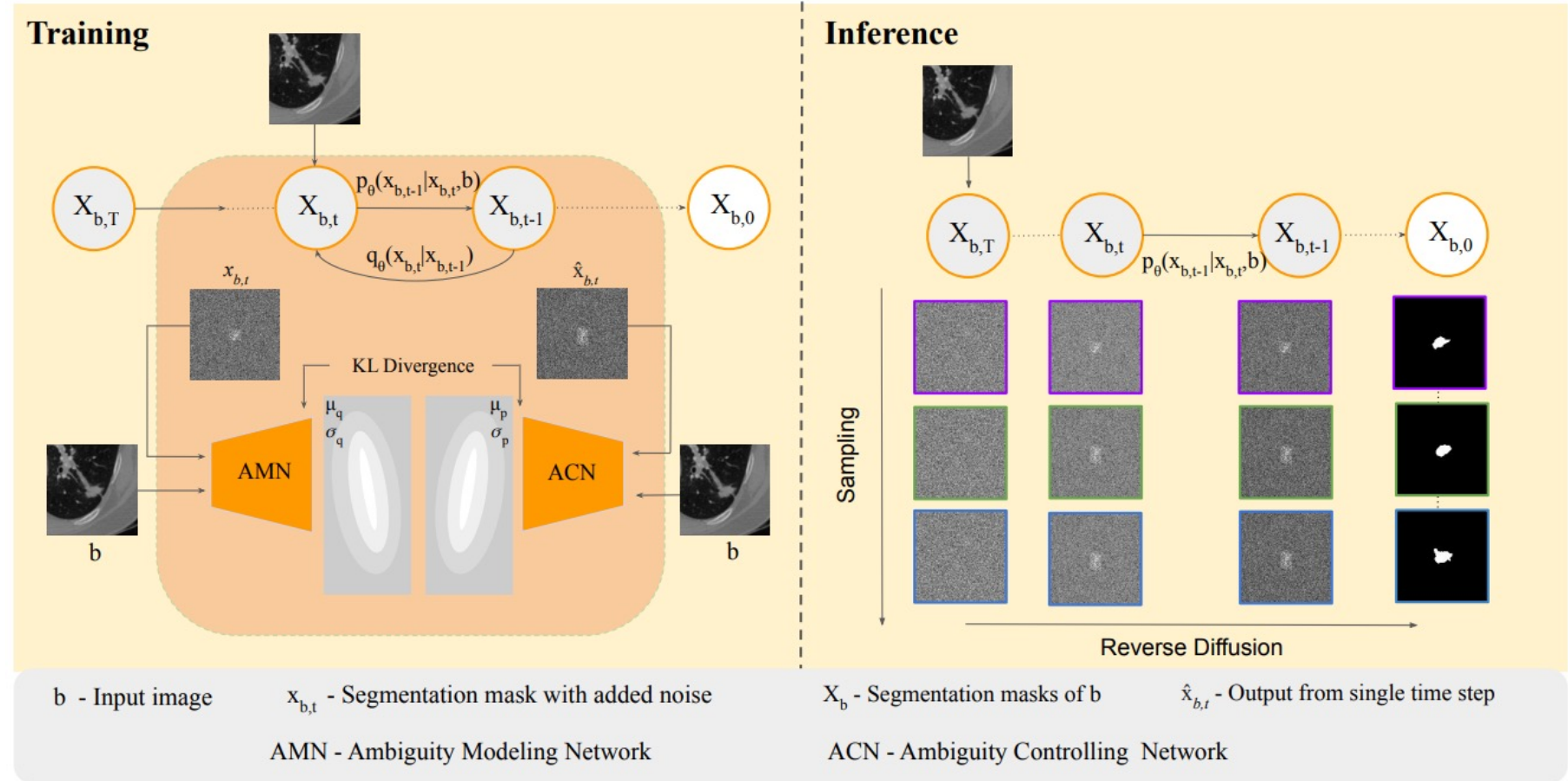
3D Segmentation with PatchDDM



- We add a position encoding in all 3 spatial dimensions.
- Training is on patches only, and saves memory and training time.
- Inference runs over the whole 3D volume.

Ambiguous Segmentation

- Ambiguity Modelling Network (AMN) models the distribution of ground truth masks given an input image.
- Ambiguity Controlling Network (ACN) models the noisy output from the diffusion model conditioning on an input image.



Segmentation with Diffusion Pre-training

Diffusion

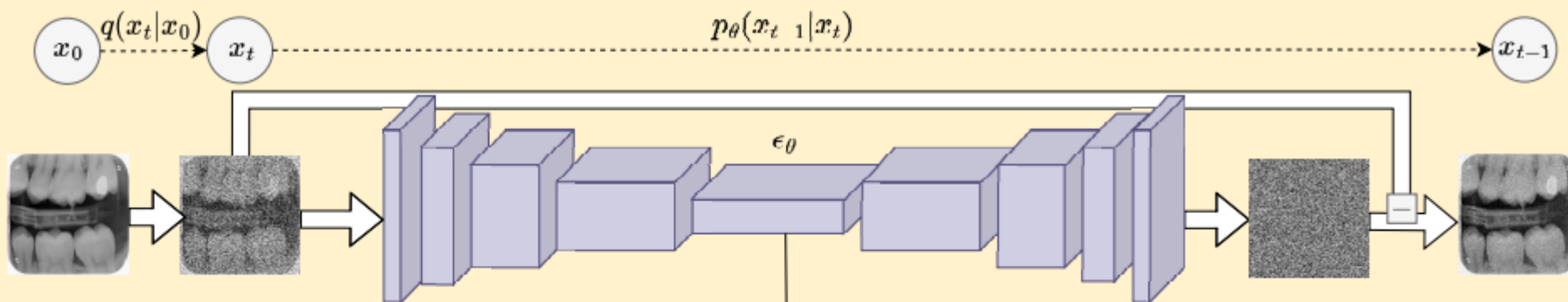
$$x_0 \in X_1$$

$$\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}_{0,I}$$

$$t \sim \mathcal{U}_{1,T}$$

$$\nabla_{\theta} \|\epsilon_{\theta}(x_t, t) - \epsilon\|^2$$

Pre-training



Few label

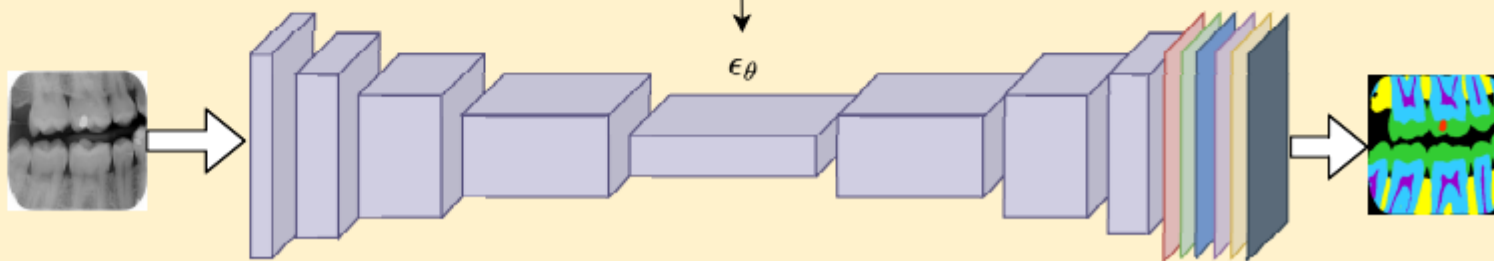
$$X_1 \cap X_2 = \emptyset$$

$$(x, y) \in X_2 \times Y$$

$$\hat{y} = \epsilon_{\theta}(x)$$

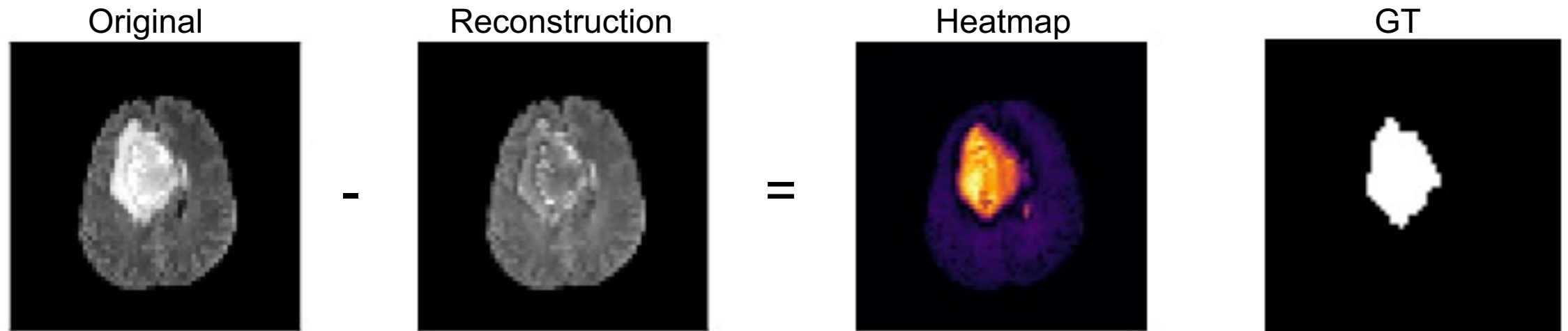
$$\nabla_{\theta} Loss(\hat{y}, y)$$

Finetuning



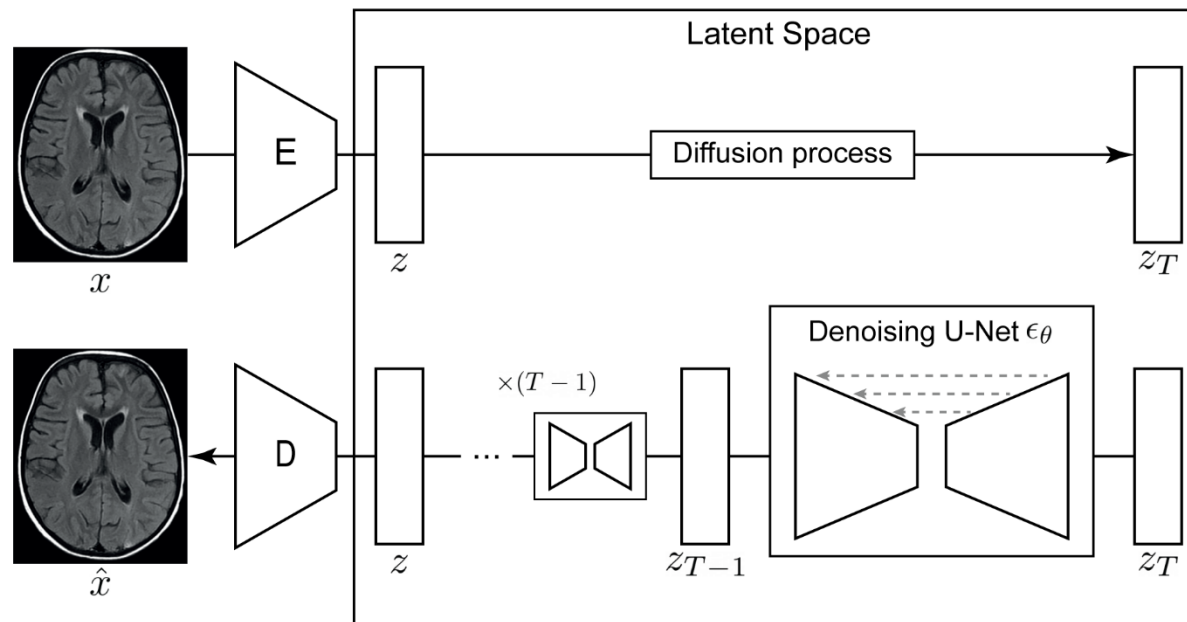
Anomaly Detection

Examples from the Community



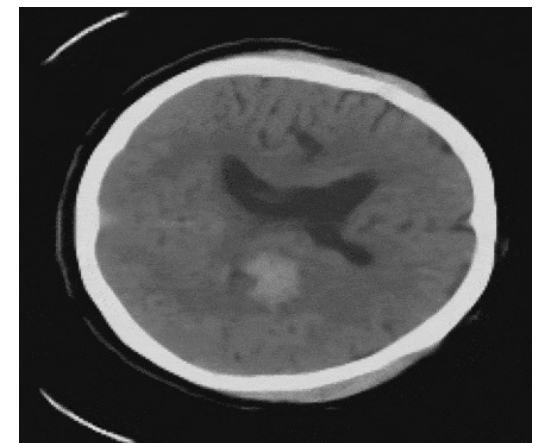
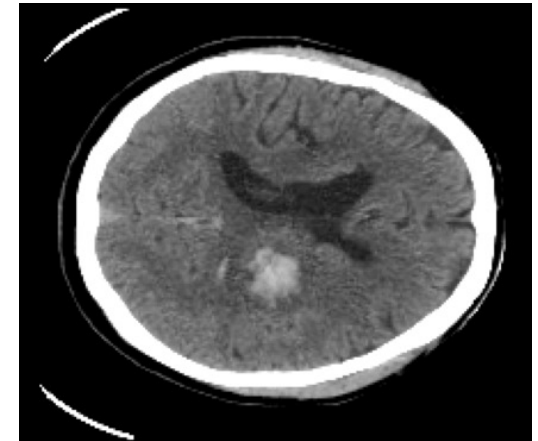
Unsupervised Anomaly Segmentation

Latent Diffusion Model (LDM) learns the distribution of healthy brain data
Compression (VQ-VAE) scales for high-resolution images



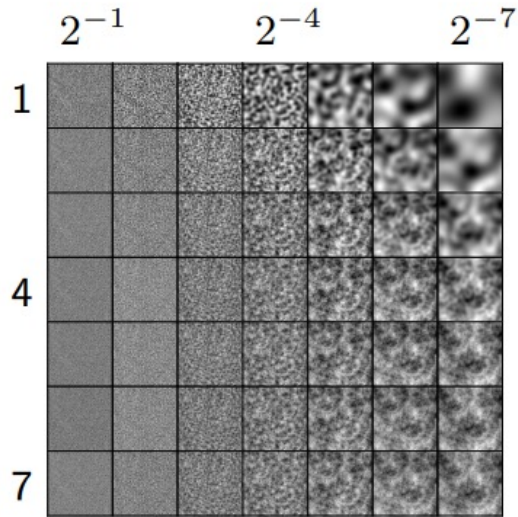
LDM identify regions with a low likelihood of being part of the healthy dataset

Reverse/denoising process is used to **inpaint** these regions and “**heal**” the possible anomalies

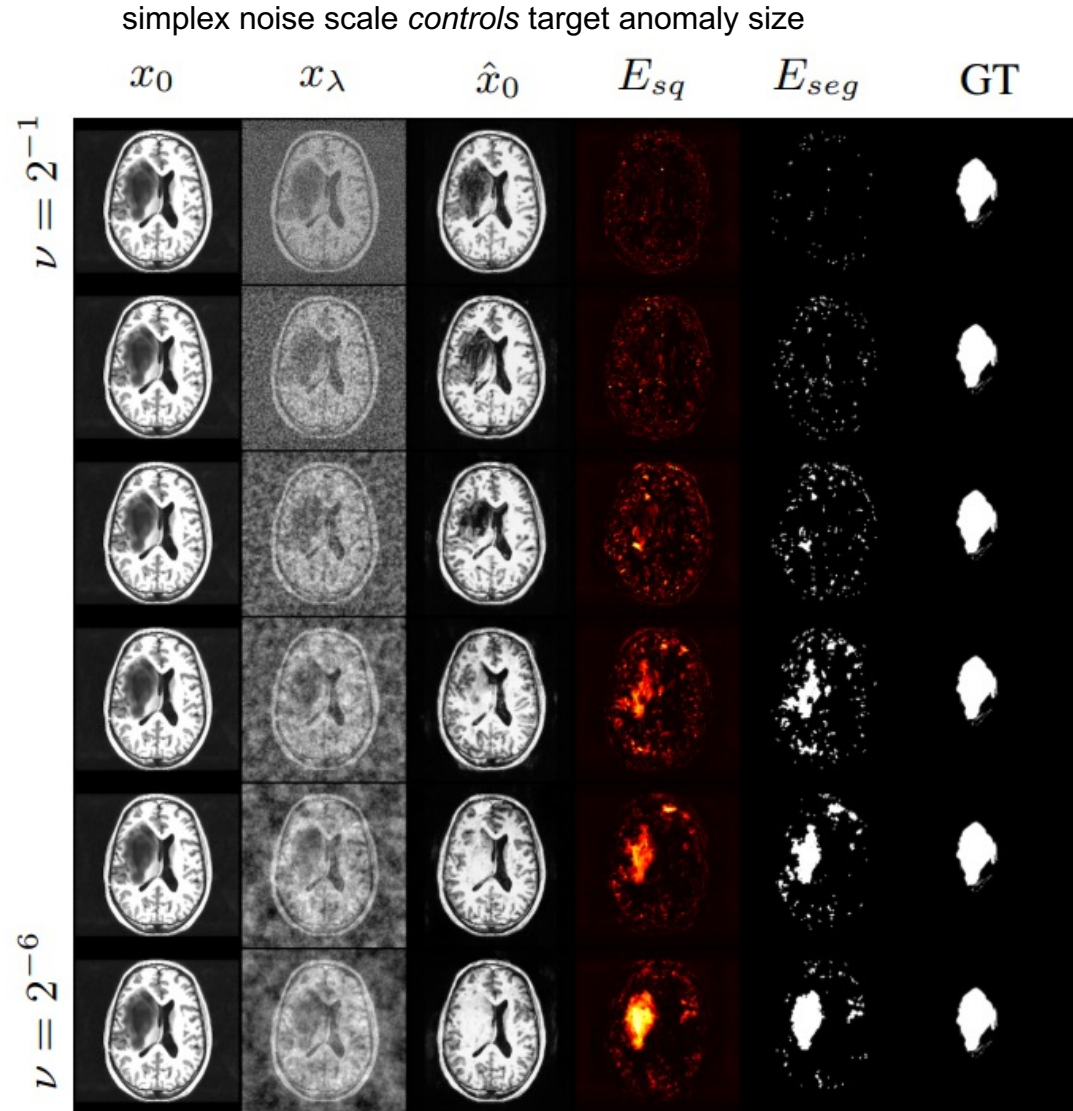


Anomaly Detection with Simplex Noise

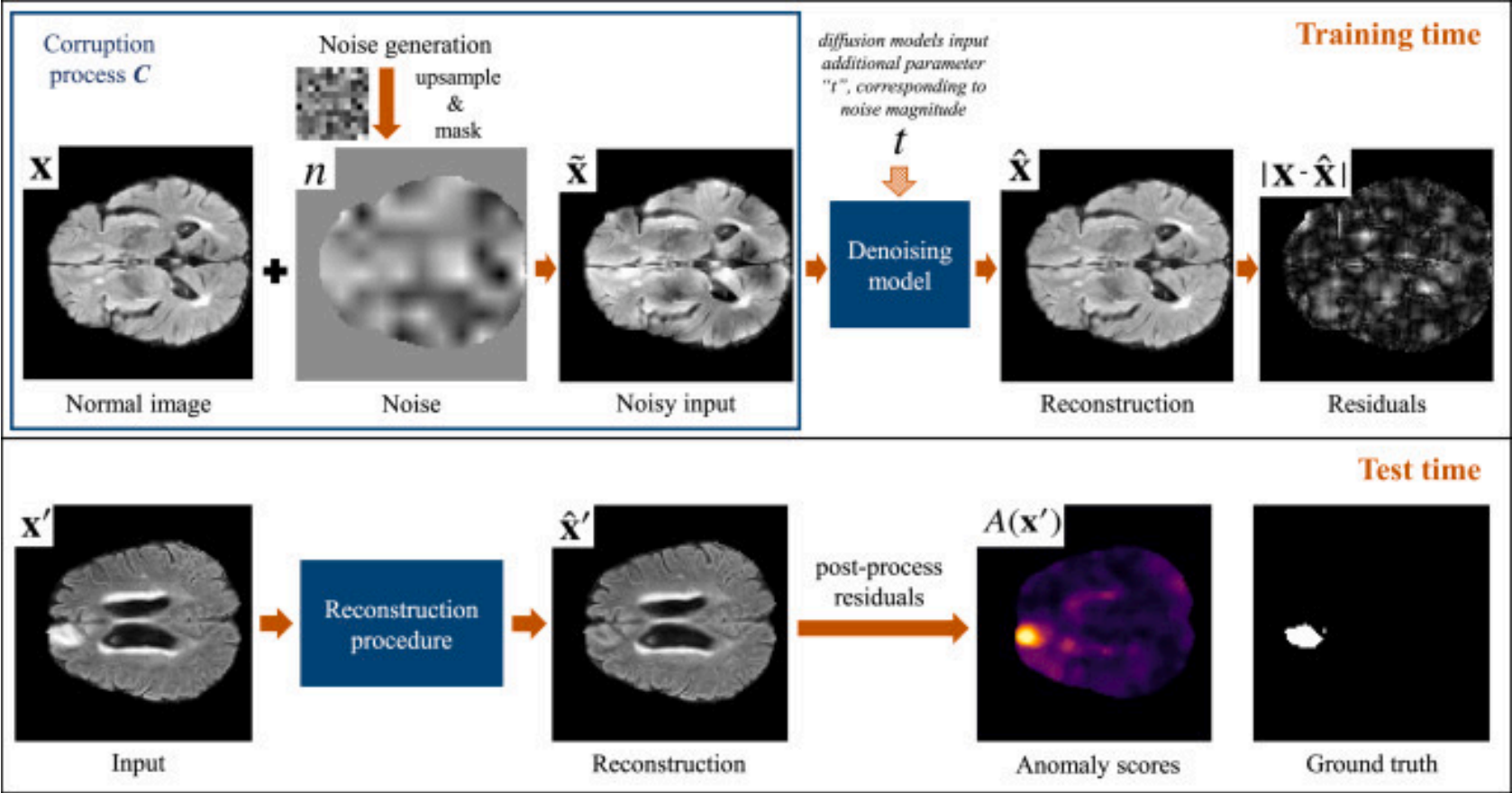
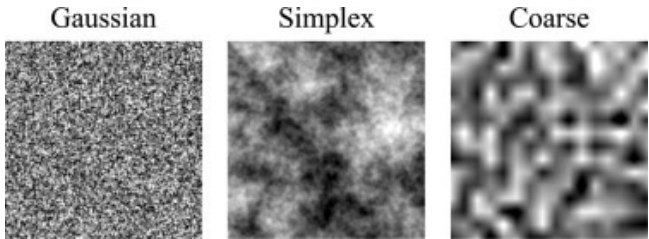
- Typical Gaussian noise is found to be insufficient for anomaly detection.
- Therefore, we explore the use of simplex noise for the corruption and sample generation of medical images.



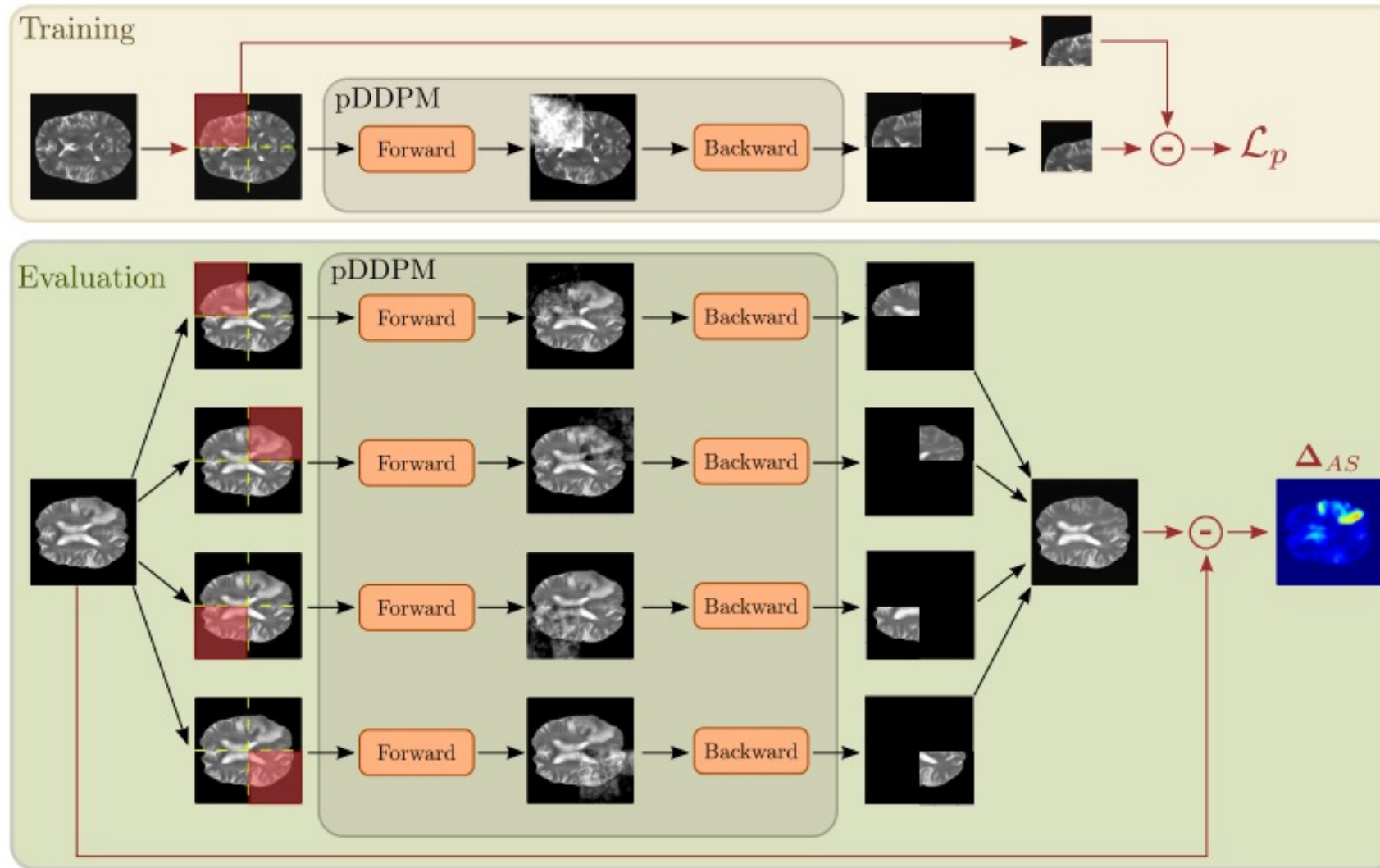
(a) Structures of simplex noise



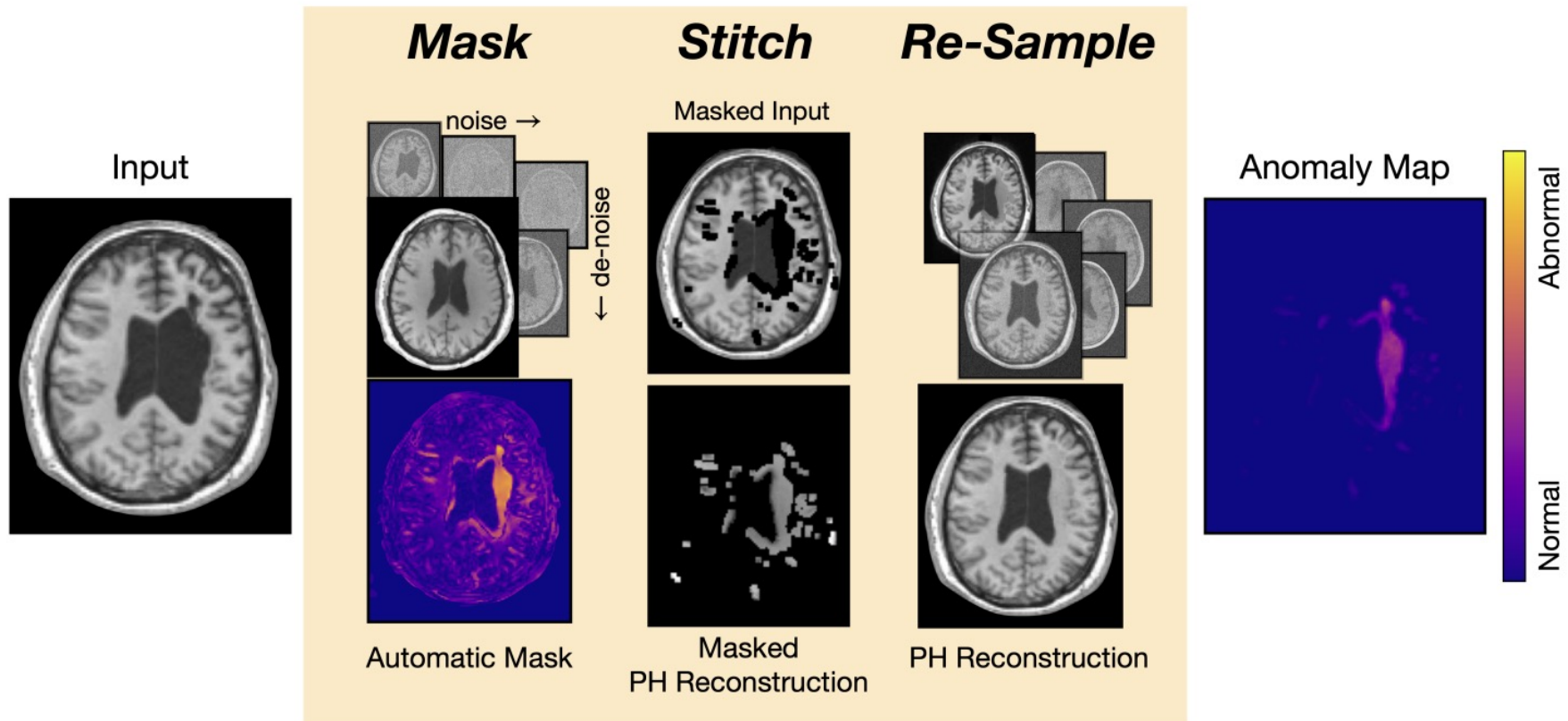
Anomaly Detection with Coarse Noise



Anomaly Detection from Patches

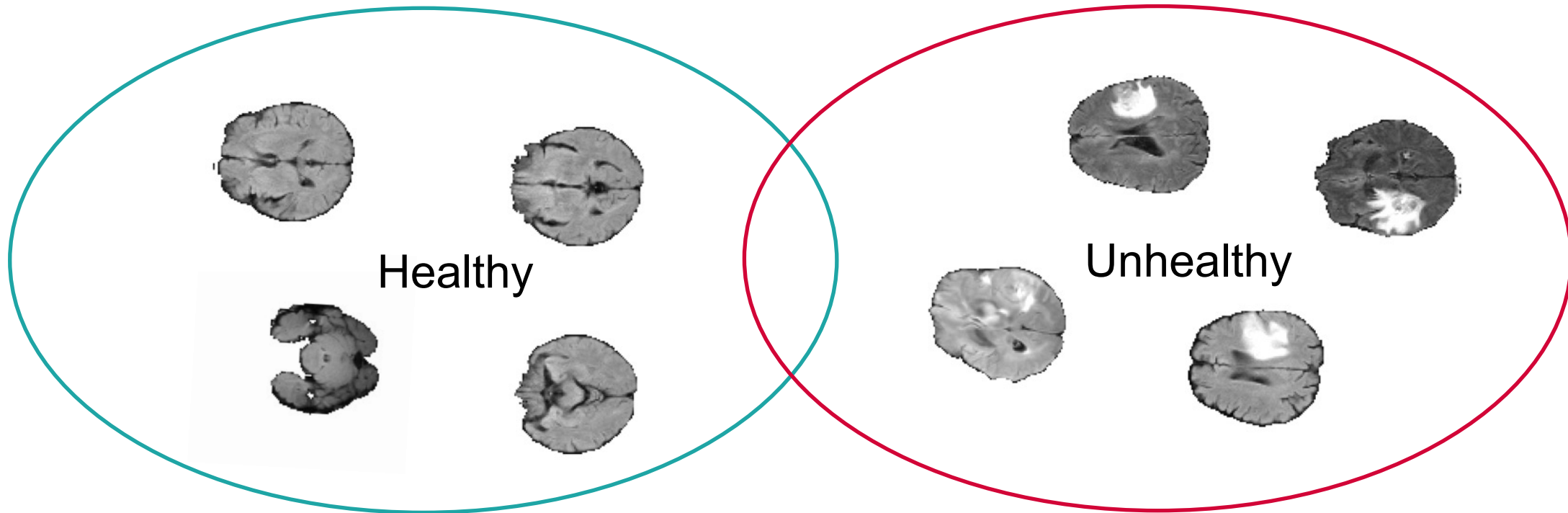


Mask, Stitch, and Re-Sample

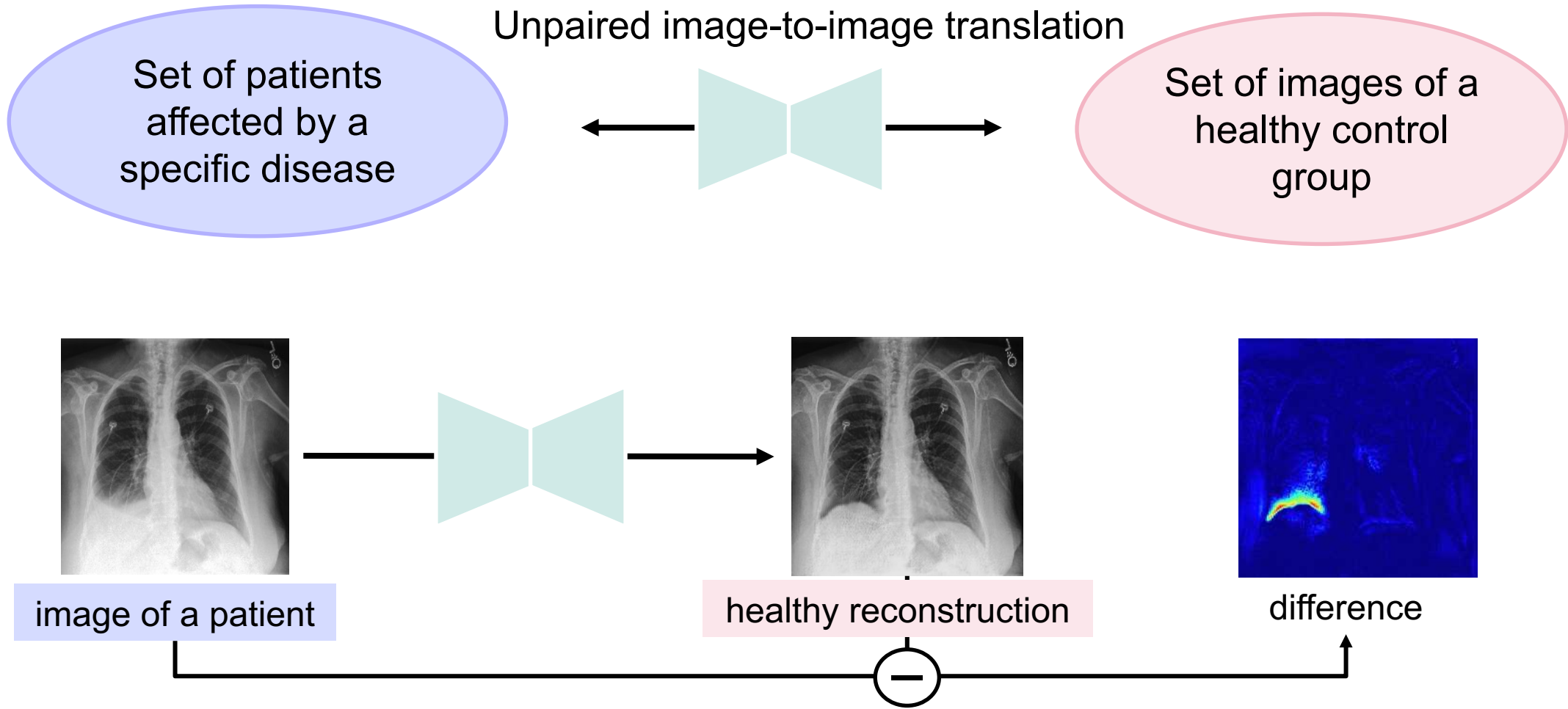


Weakly Supervised Lesion Detection

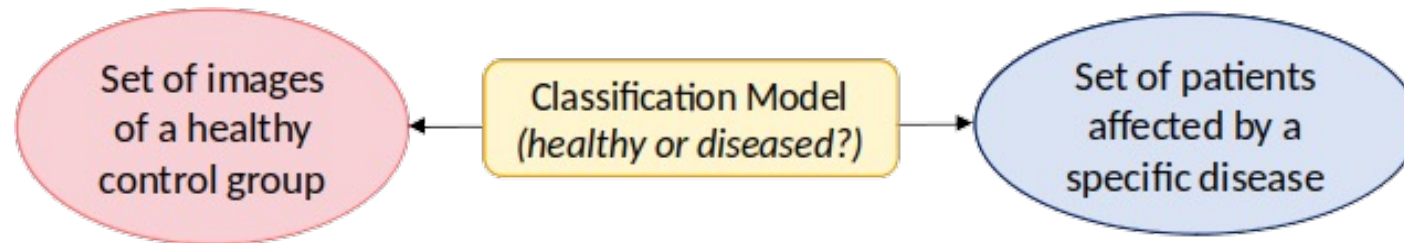
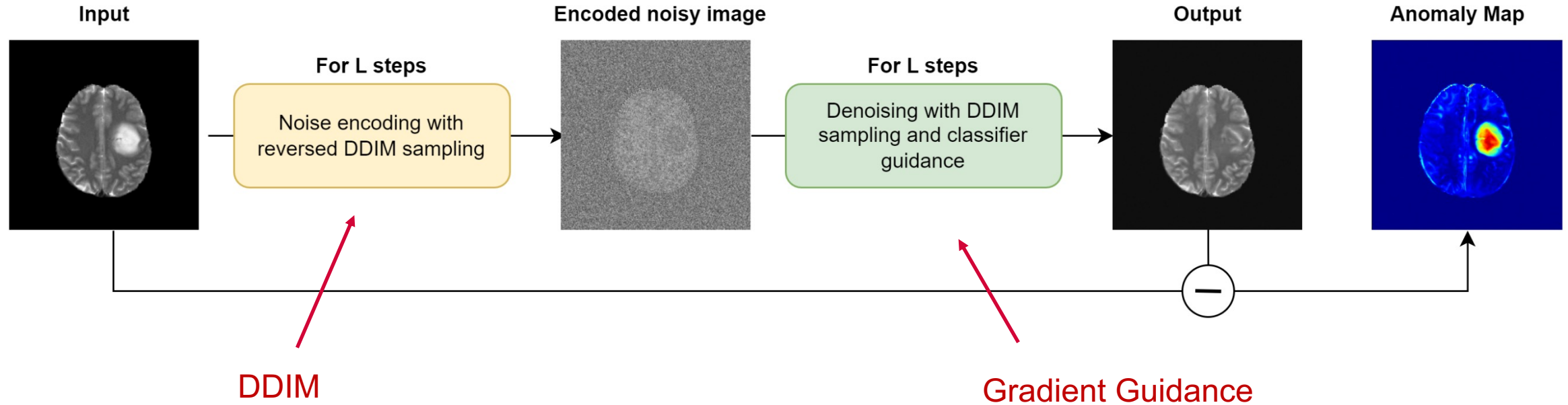
Goal: Pixel-wise anomaly detection using image-level labels only



Weakly Supervised Lesion Detection



Weakly Supervised Lesion Detection



Lesion Localization with Classifier-free Guidance

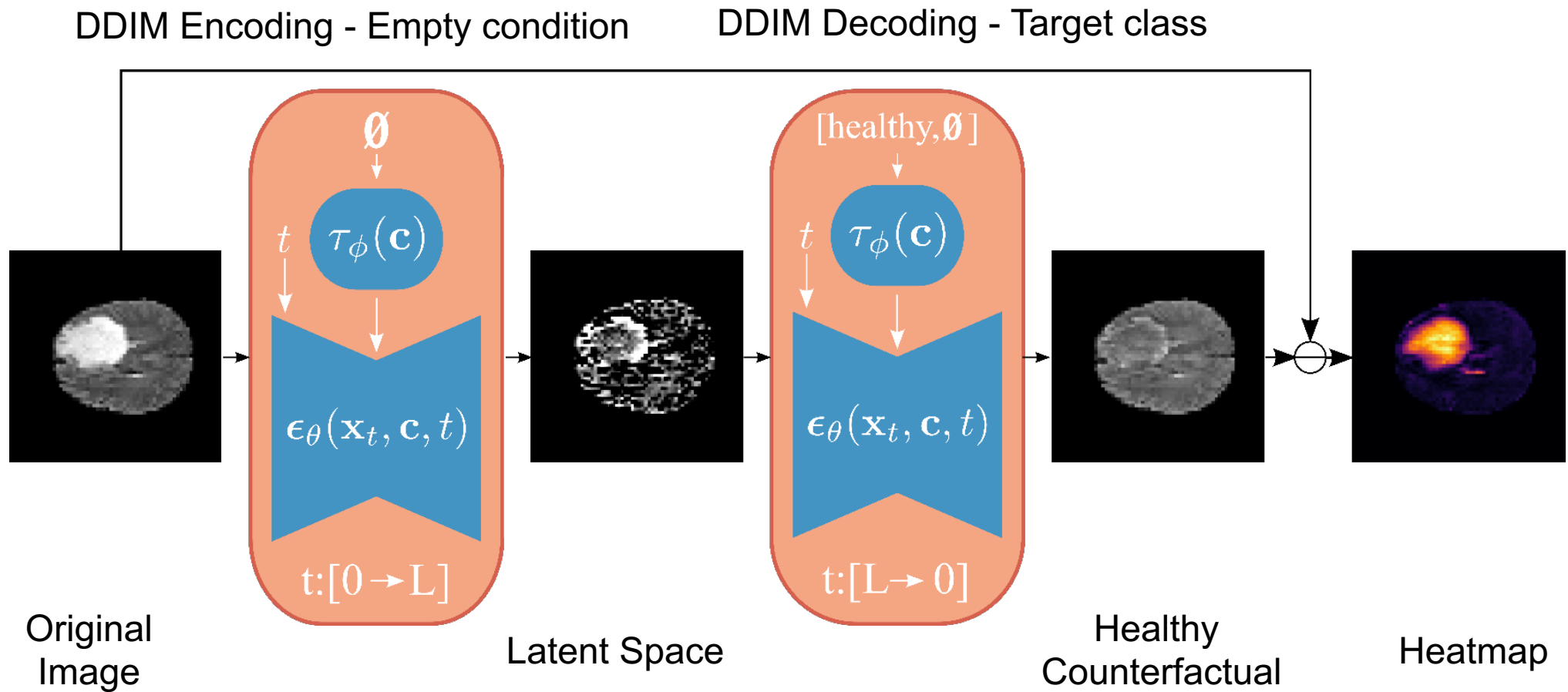
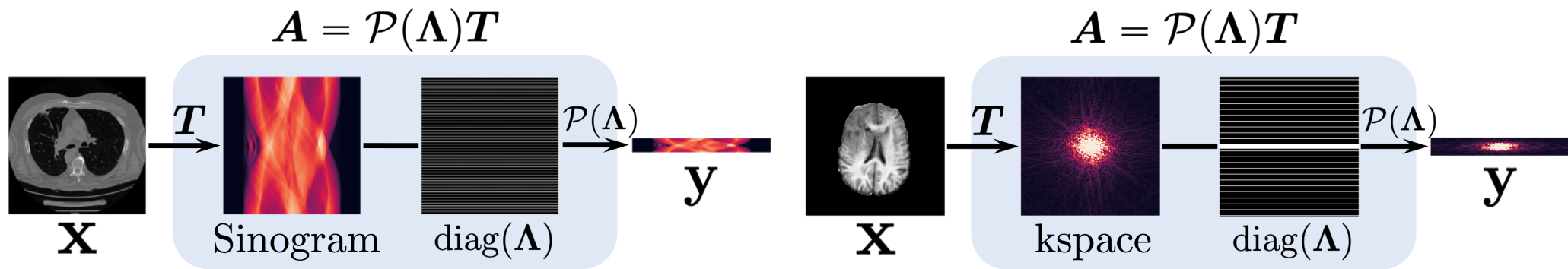
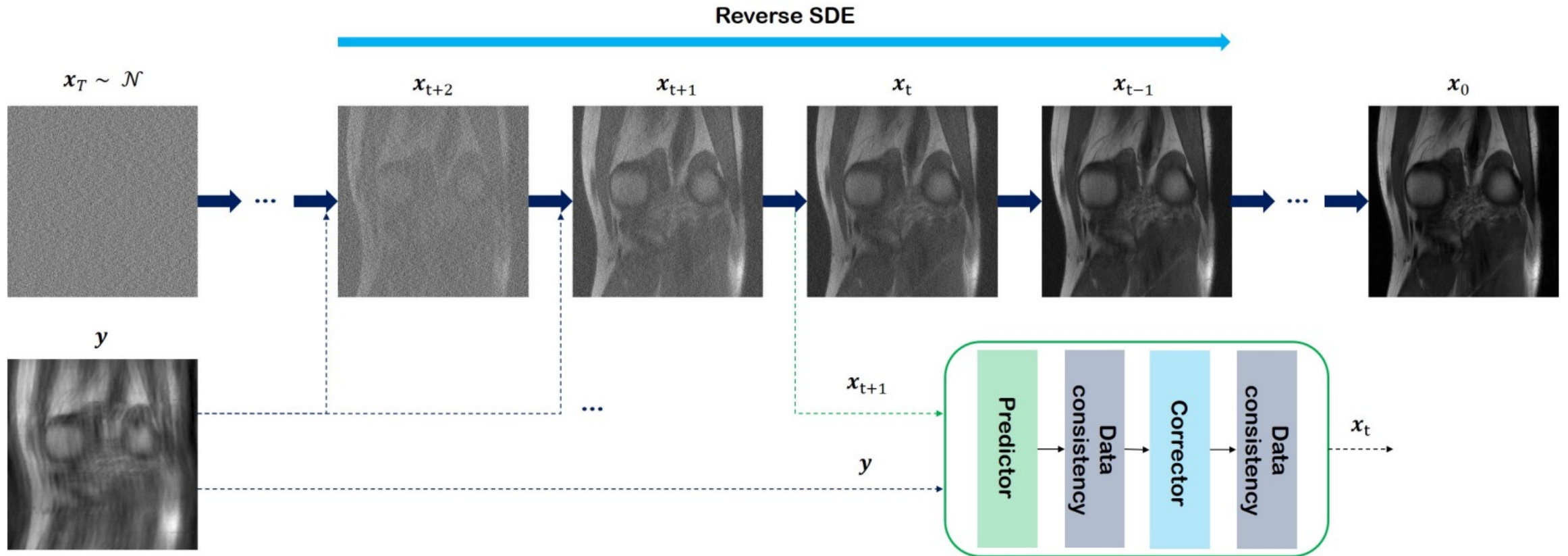


Image Reconstruction

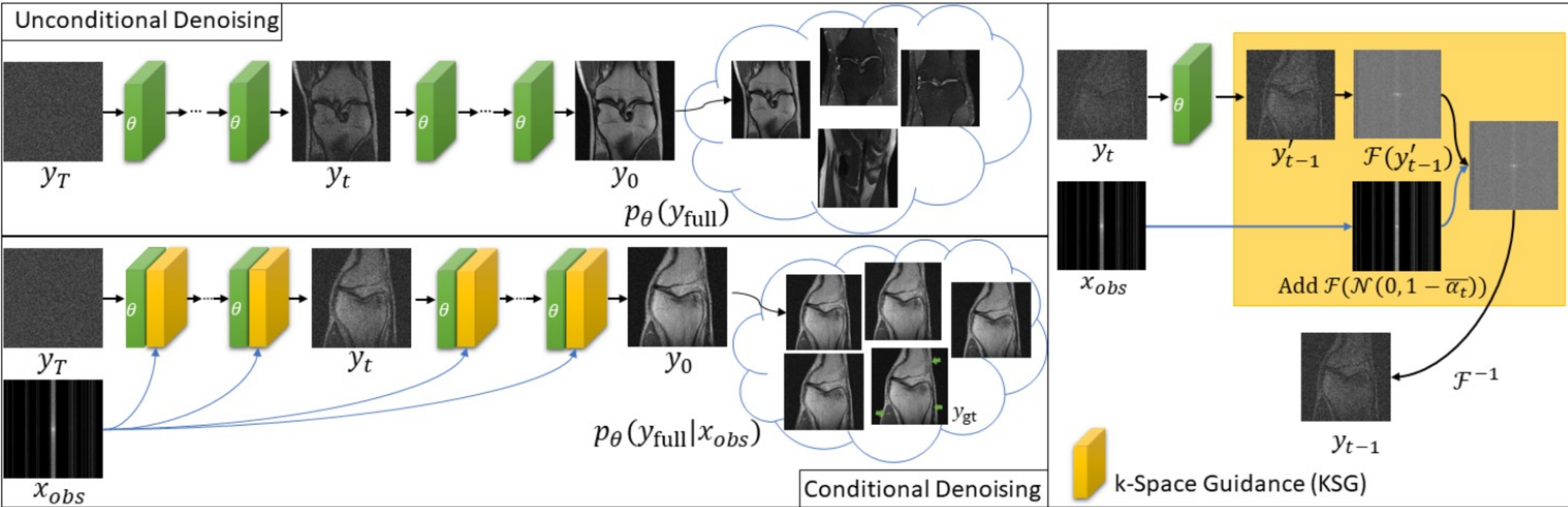
Examples from the Community



Score-based Diffusion Models for Accelerated MRI



Undersampled MR Reconstruction via Diffusion Model Sampling



K-space Cold Diffusion

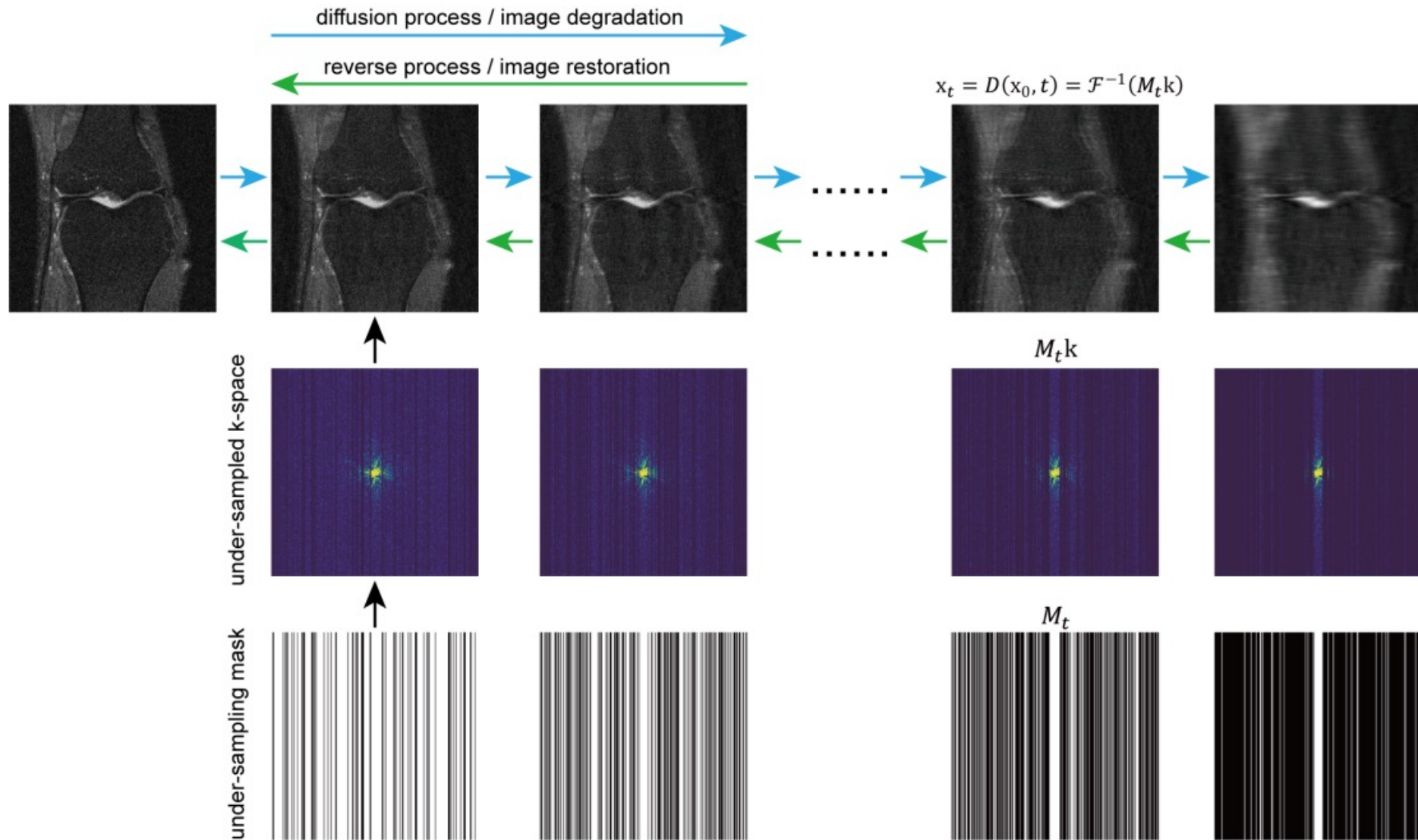
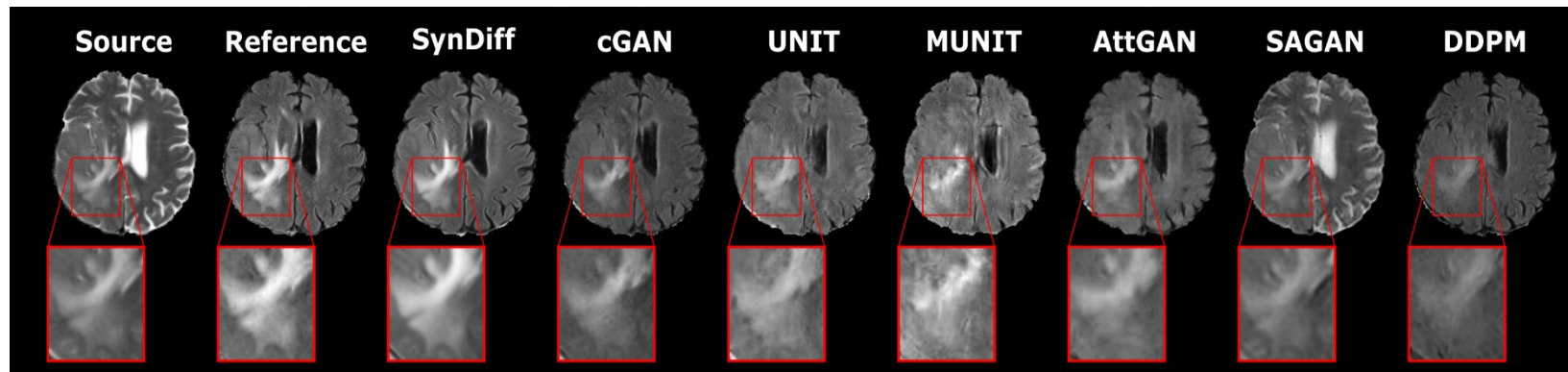


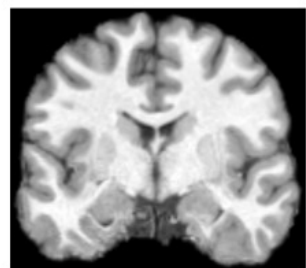
Image-to-Image Translation

Examples from the Community

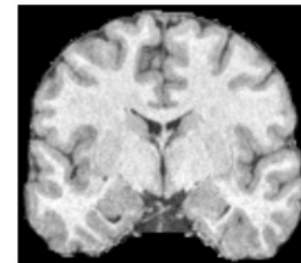
MRI Contrast Translation



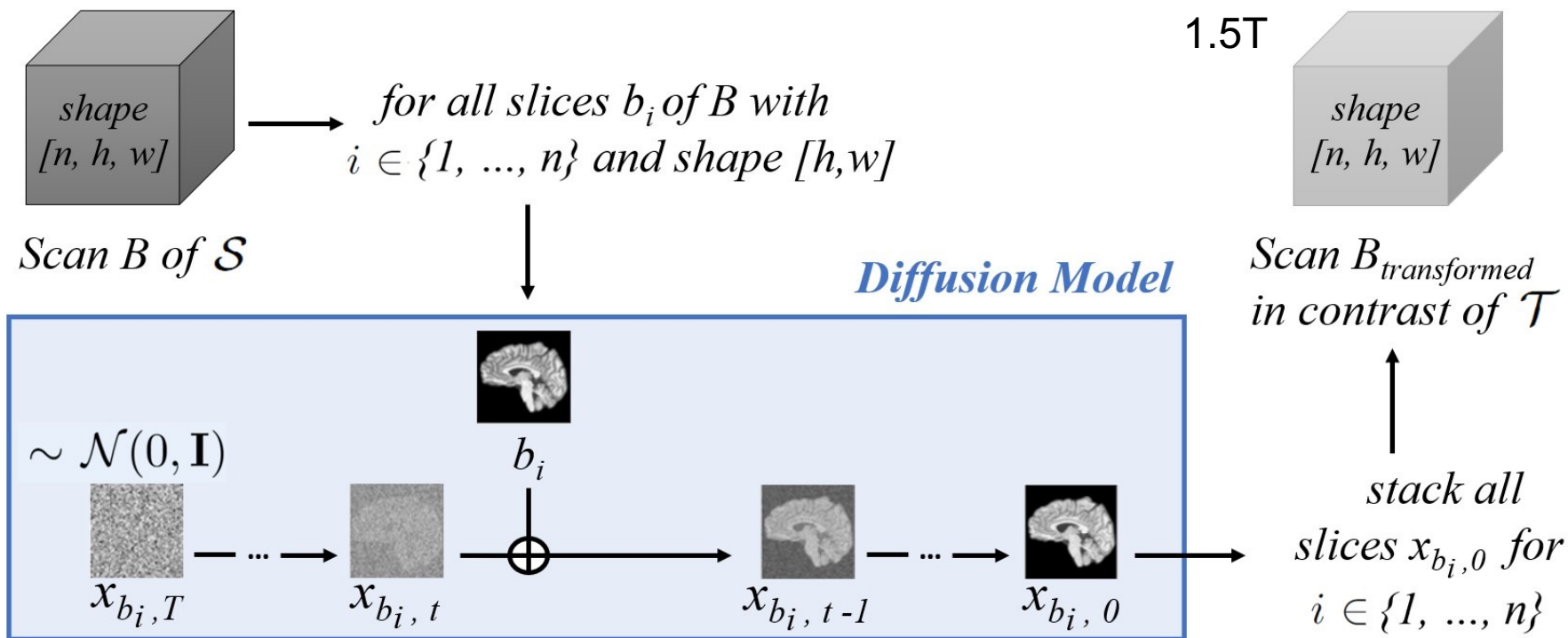
Diffusion Models for Contrast Harmonization



3T



1.5T



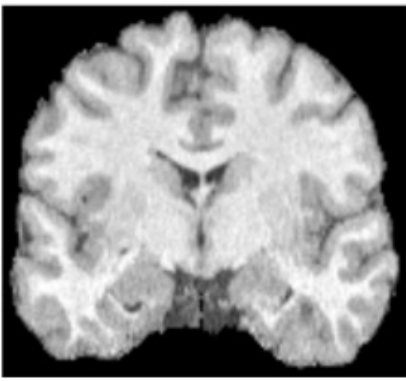
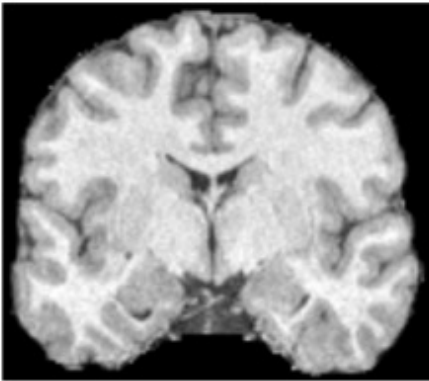
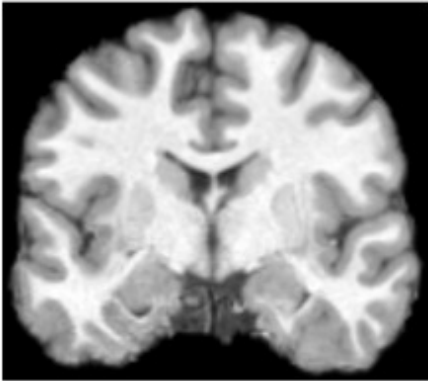
Contrast Harmonization Results

Input

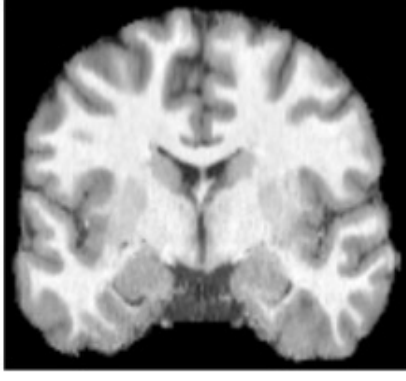
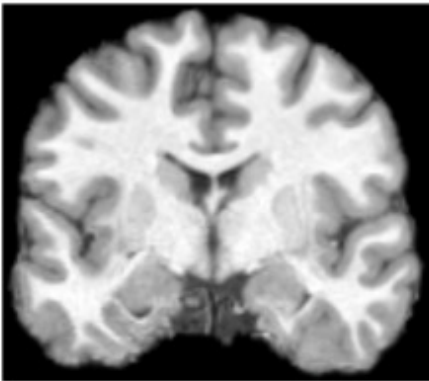
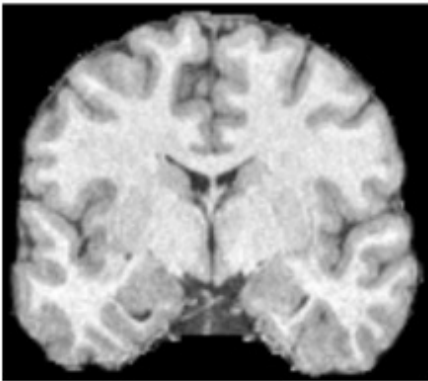
Ground Truth

Diffusion Model Output

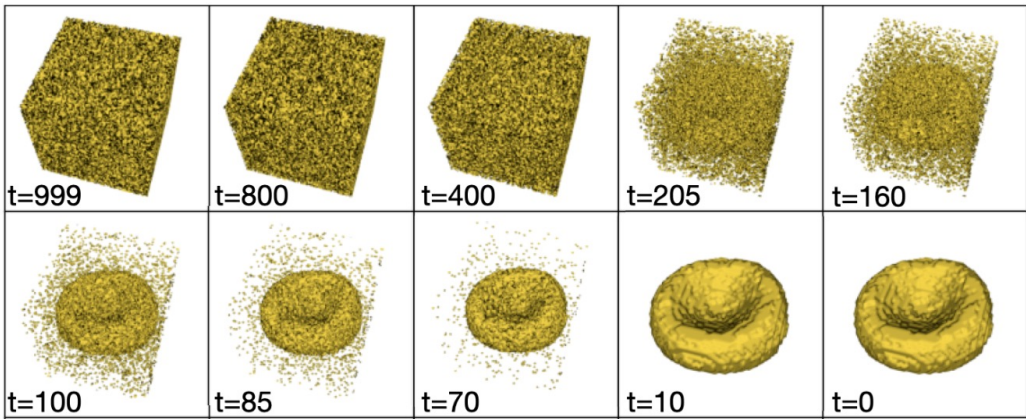
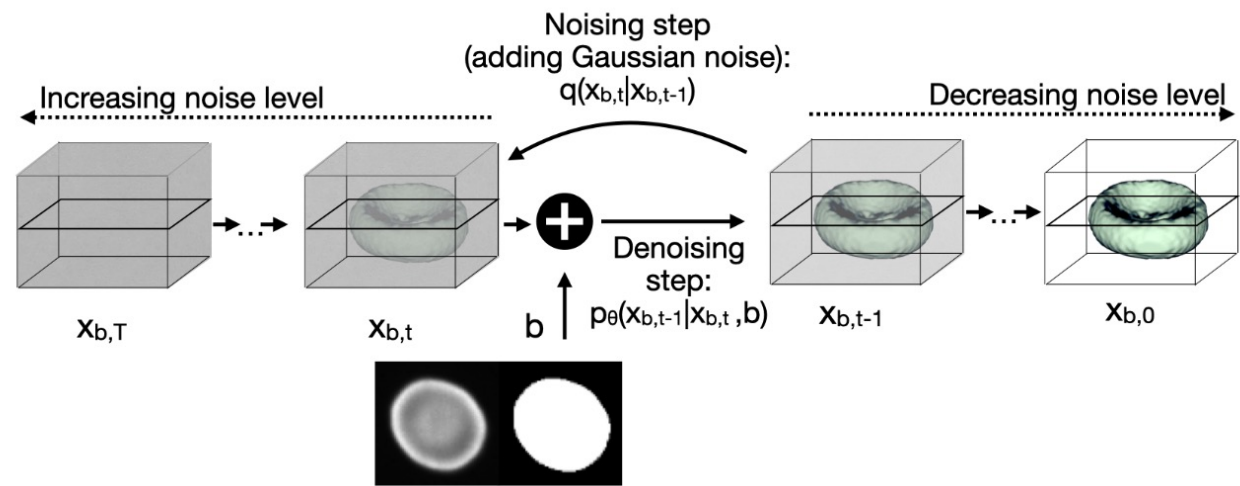
3 T to 1.5 T



1.5 T to 3 T



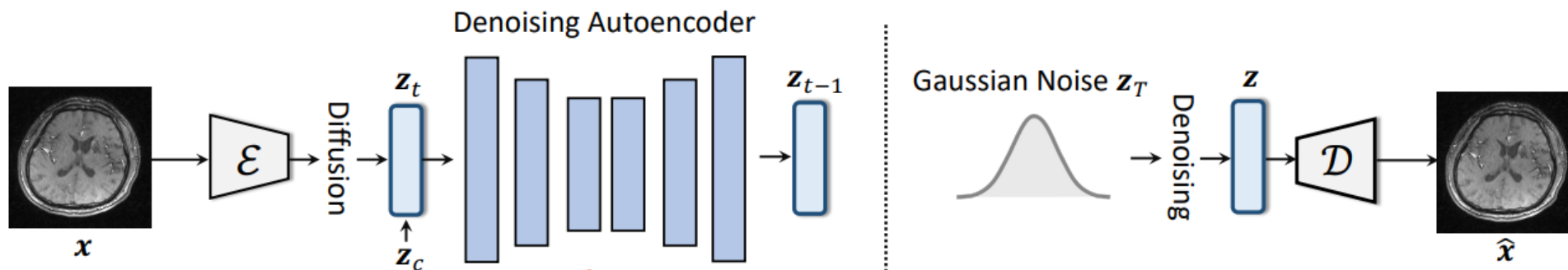
3D Shapes from 2D Microscopy



Class	2D input	3D groundtruth	3D predictions					
SDE-class	Spherocytes							
	Stomatocytes							
	Discocytes							
	Echinocytes							
Cell cluster								
Multilobate								
Keratocyte								
Krizocyte								
Acanthocyte								

3D with 2D model

Slice-wise Model



Insert & Quick Fine-tuning

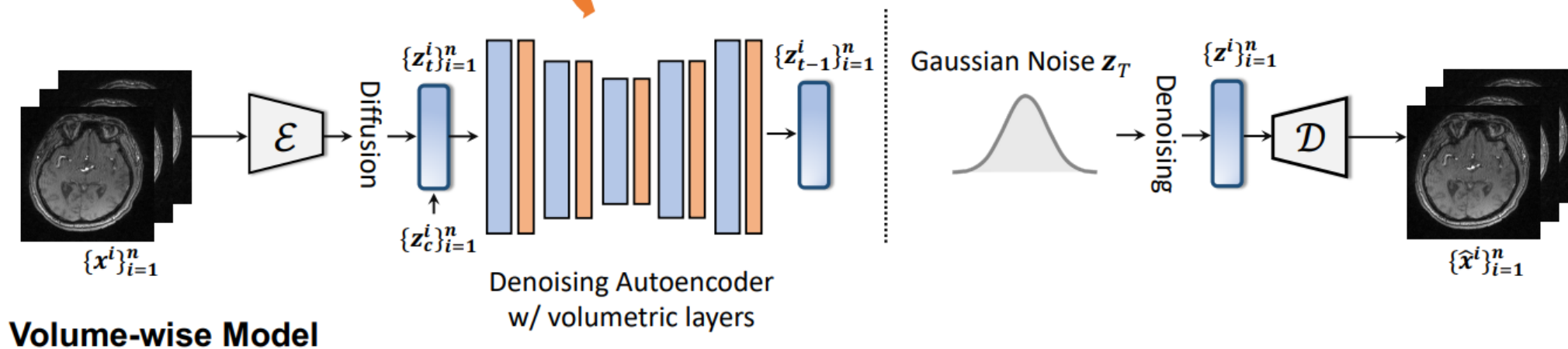
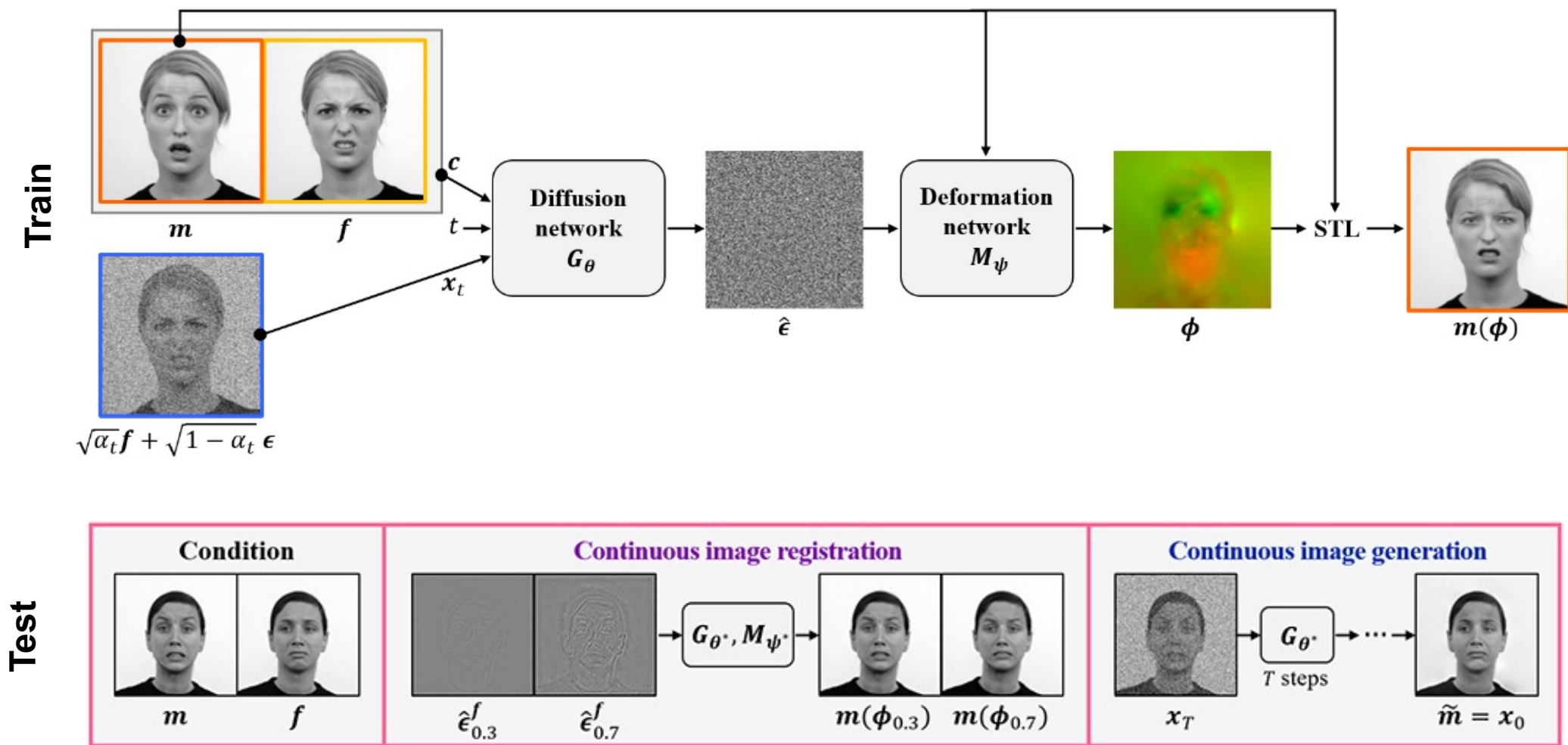


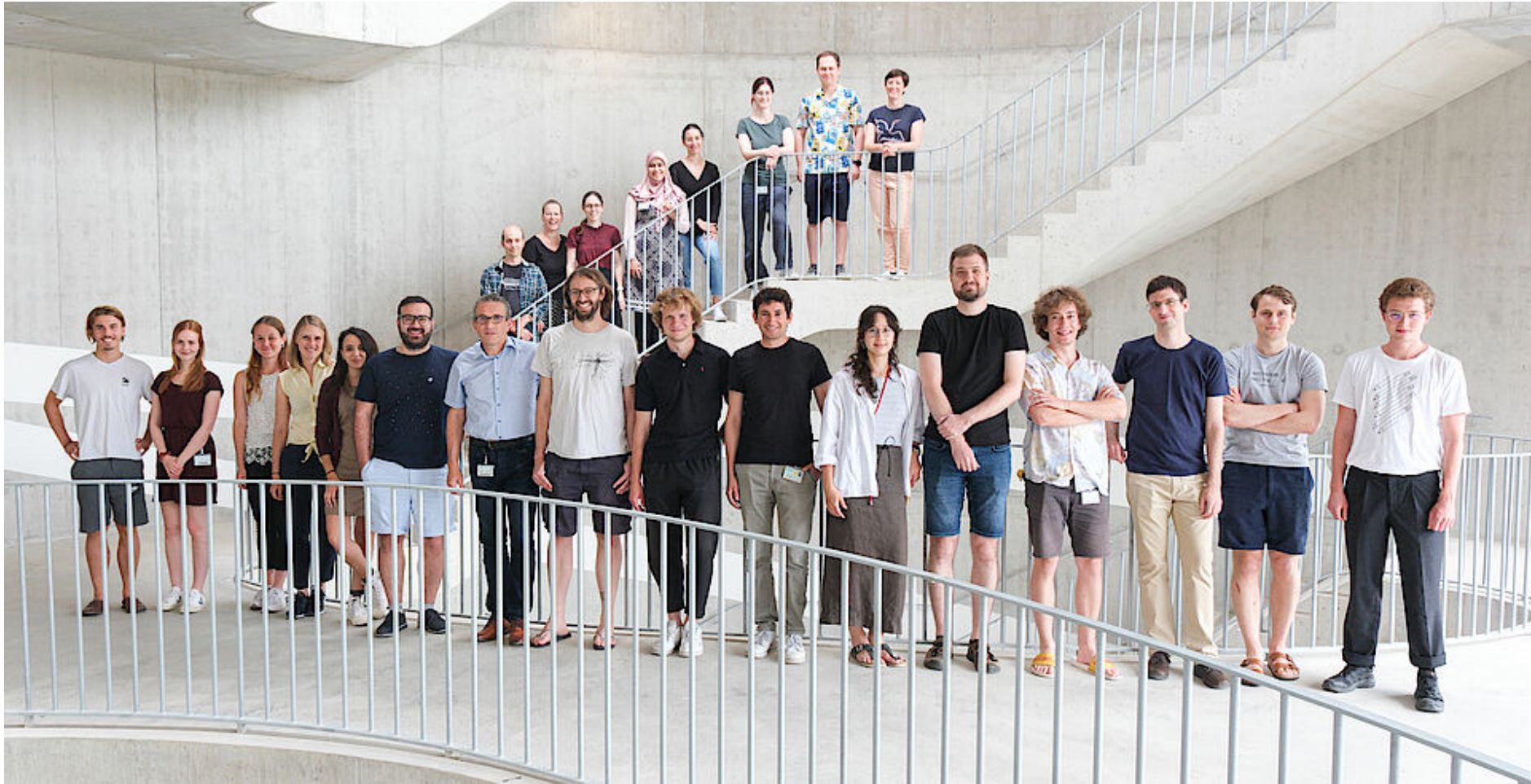
Image Registration

Examples from the Community

DiffuseMorph



Thank you!



Center for medical Image Analysis & Navigation (CIAN), Prof. Philippe C. Cattin
Universität Basel

Useful Key References, Gits to Watch, etc.

Surveys

- <https://arxiv.org/abs/2209.02646>
- <https://arxiv.org/abs/2209.00796>

Github

- <https://github.com/heejkoo/Awesome-Diffusion-Models>

Tutorials

- <https://cvpr2022-tutorial-diffusion-models.github.io>
- <https://huggingface.co/blog/annotated-diffusion>
- <https://huggingface.co/docs/diffusers>