

High-Resolution Image Synthesis with Latent Diffusion Models (Stable Diffusion) Robin Rombach, Andreas Blattman, Dominik Lorenz, Patrick Esser, Björn Ommer

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Generative models for image synthesis

Discriminator Generator GAN: Adversarial \mathbf{x}' (0/1 \mathbf{Z} х \mathbf{X} $D(\mathbf{x})$ $G(\mathbf{z})$ training Encoder Decoder VAE: maximize \mathbf{z} \mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}' $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})$ $q_{\phi}(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})$ variational lower bound Inverse Flow Flow-based models: \mathbf{x}' \mathbf{Z} \mathbf{x} $f^{-1}(z)$ $f(\mathbf{x})$ Invertible transform of distributions Diffusion models: \mathbf{x}_0 $\rightarrow \mathbf{x}_1 \longrightarrow \mathbf{x}_2$ \mathbf{Z} Gradually add Gaussian Figure 1: Generated samples on CelebA-HQ 256 × 256 (left) and unconditional CIFAR10 (right) noise and then reverse

Fig. 1. Overview of different types of generative models.

Image credit: Weng, Lilian. (Jul. 2021)

Image credit: Ho, et.al. (2020)



Background – Diffusion Model (DM)

Goal: Learn data distribution $\mathbf{x}_0 \sim q(\mathbf{x}_0)$

Forward diffusion process

• Fixed to a Markov chain

$$q(\mathbf{x}_{1:T}|\mathbf{x}_0) \coloneqq \prod_{t=1}^T q(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_{t-1})$$

Adds Gaussian noise in each timestep

 $q(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{t-1}) \coloneqq \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_t; \sqrt{1 - \beta_t} \mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \beta_t \mathbf{I})$

• Admits sampling at arbitrary timestep in closed form $q(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_0) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_t; \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{x}_0, (1 - \bar{\alpha}_t) \mathbf{I})$ $\alpha_t \coloneqq 1 - \beta_t \qquad \bar{\alpha}_t \coloneqq \prod_{s=1}^t \alpha_s$ Everything is Gaussian

Reverse process

- Defined as a Markov chain $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{0:T}) \coloneqq p(\mathbf{x}_{T}) \prod_{t=1}^{T} p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1} | \mathbf{x}_{t})$
- Diffusion Model is defined as $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_0) \coloneqq \int p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{0:T}) d\mathbf{x}_{1:T}$
- Gaussian transitions in each timestep $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_{t}) \coloneqq \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t}, t), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t}, t))$ $p(\mathbf{x}_{T}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{T}; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$



Figure 2: The directed graphical model considered in this work.

Image credit: Ho, et.al. (2020)

Background – Diffusion model

Training

• Variational bound on negative log likelihood:

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

$$\mathbb{E}_{q}\left[\underbrace{D_{\mathrm{KL}}(q(\mathbf{x}_{T}|\mathbf{x}_{0}) \parallel p(\mathbf{x}_{T}))}_{L_{T}} + \sum_{t>1}\underbrace{D_{\mathrm{KL}}(q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_{t},\mathbf{x}_{0}) \parallel p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_{t}))}_{L_{t-1}} \underbrace{-\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{0}|\mathbf{x}_{1})}_{L_{0}}\right]$$

- Condition $q(x_{t-1}|x_t)$ on x_0 (Bayes Theorem) $q(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}; \tilde{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_t(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0), \tilde{\beta}_t \mathbf{I})$
- Parameterization of reverse process

$$(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}; \tilde{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_t(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0), \tilde{\beta}_t \mathbf{I}),$$
$$\boldsymbol{\mathcal{X}}$$

$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_t) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t), \sigma_t^2 \mathbf{I})$$

• KL-divergence between two Gaussians

$$L_{t-1} = \mathbb{E}_q \left[\frac{1}{2\sigma_t^2} \| \tilde{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_t(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \|^2 \right] + C$$



Background – Diffusion model

Recall: $q(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{x}_0) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_t; \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}\mathbf{x}_0, (1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)\mathbf{I})$

- Reparameterization trick $\mathbf{x}_t(\mathbf{x}_0, \boldsymbol{\epsilon}) = \sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 \bar{\alpha}_t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \text{ for } \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$
- Rewrite parameterization $\mu_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t},t) = \tilde{\mu}_{t} \left(\mathbf{x}_{t}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_{t}}} (\mathbf{x}_{t} \sqrt{1 \bar{\alpha}_{t}} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t})) \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_{t}}} \left(\mathbf{x}_{t} \frac{\beta_{t}}{\sqrt{1 \bar{\alpha}_{t}}} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t},t) \right)$

$$L_{t-1} = \mathbb{E}_q \left[\frac{1}{2\sigma_t^2} \| \tilde{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_t(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \|^2 \right] \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}_0, \boldsymbol{\epsilon}} \left[\frac{\beta_t^2}{2\sigma_t^2 \alpha_t (1 - \bar{\alpha}_t)} \left\| \boldsymbol{\epsilon} - \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{\theta} (\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{x}_0 + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, t) \right\|^2 \right]$$

Simplified objective

$$L_{\text{simple}}(\theta) \coloneqq \mathbb{E}_{t,\mathbf{x}_{0},\boldsymbol{\epsilon}} \Big[\left\| \boldsymbol{\epsilon} - \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{\theta} (\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_{t}} \mathbf{x}_{0} + \sqrt{1 - \bar{\alpha}_{t}} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, t) \right\|^{2} \Big]$$



Background – Diffusion model

Recall parameterization of reverse process and training objective

$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}|\mathbf{x}_{t}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1};\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t},t),\sigma_{t}^{2}\mathbf{I})$$

$$\mu_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t},t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_{t}}} \left(\mathbf{x}_{t} - \frac{\beta_{t}}{\sqrt{1-\bar{\alpha}_{t}}} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t},t) \right)$$

$$L_{\text{simple}}(\theta) \coloneqq \mathbb{E}_{t,\mathbf{x}_{0},\boldsymbol{\epsilon}} \left[\left\| \boldsymbol{\epsilon} - \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{\theta}(\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_{t}}\mathbf{x}_{0} + \sqrt{1-\bar{\alpha}_{t}}\boldsymbol{\epsilon},t) \right\|^{2} \right]$$

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

Image credit: Ho, et.al. (2020)



UNet

- Contracting path
 - encoder layers
 - capture contextual information
 - reduce the spatial resolution
- Expansive path
 - decoder layers
 - decode encoded information



Image credit: Aditya Taparia (2023)

• Due to the UNet backbone of DMs, they offer excellent inductive biases for spatial data

Motivation – Latent Diffusion Models

- Diffusion models achieves state-of-the-art synthesis results on image data
- Powerful, yet simple model architecture

Problems

- Mode-covering behaviour (likelihood-based model)
- Operates directly in the high-dimensional pixel space
- Requires massive computational resources
- Expensive in time and memory

Proposed Method: Latent Diffusion Models

- Operates in a lower-dimensional latent space
- Reduces resource consumption for both training and sampling
- Detail preservation



Main contributions of the paper

- 1. LDMs scales more gracefully to higher dimensional data
- 2. Reducing computational costs, while retaining competitive performance
- 3. Reducing inference costs compared to pixel-based diffusion approaches
- 4. Does not require a delicate weighting of reconstruction and generative abilities
- 5. Can be applied in a convolutional fashion
- 6. Enables multi-modal training via cross-attention



LDMs require less aggressive downsampling

Analysis of trained Diffusion Models in pixel space

Two-stage learning process:

- 1. Perceptual compression
 - Removes high-frequency details
 - Learns a little semantic variation
- 2. Semantic compression
 - Learns the semantic and conceptual composition of the data

Idea:

• Find a perceptually equivalent, but computationally more suitable space to train diffusion models for high-resolution image synthesis



Latent diffusion models (LDMs)

Goal: Learn data distribution $z_0 \sim p(z_0)$

Two-phased learning process

1. Train an autoencoder to obtain a low-dimensional latent space

Pixel-spaceLatent spacePixel-space $x \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times W \times 3}$ $\mathcal{E}(x)$ $z \in \mathbb{R}^{h \times w \times c}$ $\mathcal{D}(z)$ $\tilde{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times W \times 3}$

Downsampling factor: f = H/h = W/w

Model architecture



Image credit: Rombach, et.al. (2022)

2. Train DMs in the learned latent space





Autoencoder model – Regularization of latent space

Adversarial training objective

$$L_{\text{Autoencoder}} = \min_{\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D}} \max_{\psi} \left(L_{rec}(x, \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{E}(x))) - L_{adv}(\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{E}(x))) + \log D_{\psi}(x) + L_{reg}(x; \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D}) \right)$$

Reconstruction loss: $L_{rec}(x, \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{E}(x)))$

Adversarial loss: $-L_{adv}(\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{E}(x))) + \log D_{\psi}(x)$

Regularization term: $L_{reg}(x; \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$

KL-regularization

 Imposes a slight KL-penalty towards a standard normal on the learned latent



Image credit: Joseph Rocca (2019)

VQ-regularization

 Learns a codebook of |Z| different exemplars



Transformers and Cross-Attention

Attention mechanism

Attention $(Q, K, V) = \operatorname{softmax}(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}})V$

Multi-head Attention

 $\begin{aligned} \text{MultiHead}(Q, K, V) &= \text{Concat}(\text{head}_1, ..., \text{head}_h) W^O \\ \text{where head}_i &= \text{Attention}(QW_i^Q, KW_i^K, VW_i^V) \end{aligned}$

Scaled Dot-Product Attention





Image credit: Vaswani, et.al. (2017)

Conditional Latent Distance Models

Conditioning mechanisms

- DMs can also model conditional distributions p(z|y)
- Pre-processing \rightarrow domain specific encoder
- Augment the UNet backbone with a cross-attention mechanism

Attention $(Q, K, V) = \operatorname{softmax}\left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d}}\right) \cdot V$, with

$$Q = W_Q^{(i)} \cdot \varphi_i(z_t), \ K = W_K^{(i)} \cdot \tau_\theta(y), \ V = W_V^{(i)} \cdot \tau_\theta(y)$$

Training objective

$$L_{LDM} := \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{E}(x), y, \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1), t} \left[\| \epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(z_t, t, \tau_{\theta}(y)) \|_2^2 \right]$$

Model architecture



Image credit: Rombach, et.al. (2022)

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Advantages of the learning process for Latent Diffusion Models

- 1. Train the universal autoencoding stage only once
- 2. Does not require excessive spatial compression
- 3. Efficient image generation from the latent space with a single network pass
- 4. Does not require a delicate weighting of reconstruction and generative abilities
- 5. Reduces computational demands
- 6. Exploits the inductive bias of DMs
- 7. Obtain general-purpose compression models



LDMs require less aggressive downsampling

Experiments – Perceptual Compression Tradeoffs

Training



Evaluated on the ImageNet dataset

- Low perceptual compression (i.e. low f) \rightarrow large train times
- High perceptual compression (i.e. high f) \rightarrow limits overall sample quality
- Optimal compression tradeoff: LDM-{4-16}

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Experiments – Perceptual Compression Tradeoffs

Sampling



Different markers indicate {10,20,50,100,200} sampling steps using DDIM from right to left

- Low perceptual compression (i.e. low f) \rightarrow lower sample throughput
- High perceptual compression (i.e. high f) \rightarrow limits overall sample quality, higher sample throughput
- Optimal compression rate: LDM-{4-16} (left) and LDM-{4-8} (right)

Experiments – Effects of regularization

KL-Regularization vs. VQ-Regularization

- Better reconstruction capabilities (KL)
- Better sample quality (KL)

| f | $ \mathcal{Z} $ | c | R-FID↓ | R-IS ↑ | PSNR ↑ | PSIM ↓ | SSIM ↑ |
|---------------|-----------------|-----|--------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 16 VQGAN [23] | 16384 | 256 | 4.98 | _ | 19.9 ± 3.4 | $1.83{\scriptstyle~\pm 0.42}$ | 0.51 ± 0.18 |
| 16 VQGAN [23] | 1024 | 256 | 7.94 | - | 19.4 ±3.3 | 1.98 ± 0.43 | $0.50{\scriptstyle~\pm 0.18}$ |
| 8 DALL-E [66] | 8192 | - | 32.01 | - | 22.8 ± 2.1 | $1.95{\scriptstyle~\pm 0.51}$ | $0.73 \pm \scriptscriptstyle 0.13$ |
| 32 | 16384 | 16 | 31.83 | $40.40{\scriptstyle~\pm1.07}$ | 17.45 ± 2.90 | $2.58{\scriptstyle~\pm 0.48}$ | 0.41 ± 0.18 |
| 16 | 16384 | 8 | 5.15 | 144.55 ± 3.74 | 20.83 ± 3.61 | 1.73 ± 0.43 | 0.54 ± 0.18 |
| 8 | 16384 | 4 | 1.14 | 201.92 ± 3.97 | 23.07 ± 3.99 | 1.17 ± 0.36 | 0.65 ± 0.16 |
| 8 | 256 | 4 | 1.49 | 194.20 ± 3.87 | $22.35{\scriptstyle~\pm3.81}$ | 1.26 ± 0.37 | 0.62 ± 0.16 |
| 4 | 8192 | 3 | 0.58 | 224.78 ± 5.35 | 27.43 ± 4.26 | 0.53 ± 0.21 | 0.82 ± 0.10 |
| 4† | 8192 | 3 | 1.06 | 221.94 ± 4.58 | 25.21 ± 4.17 | 0.72 ± 0.26 | $0.76{\scriptstyle~\pm0.12}$ |
| 4 | 256 | 3 | 0.47 | 223.81 ± 4.58 | 26.43 ± 4.22 | 0.62 ± 0.24 | 0.80 ± 0.11 |
| 2 | 2048 | 2 | 0.16 | 232.75 ±5.09 | $30.85{\scriptstyle~\pm4.12}$ | 0.27 ± 0.12 | $0.91{\scriptstyle~\pm 0.05}$ |
| 2 | 64 | 2 | 0.40 | $226.62 \scriptstyle \pm 4.83$ | $29.13{\scriptstyle~\pm3.46}$ | $0.38{\scriptstyle~\pm 0.13}$ | 0.90 ± 0.05 |
| 32 | KL | 64 | 2.04 | 189.53 ± 3.68 | 22.27 ± 3.93 | 1.41 ± 0.40 | 0.61 ± 0.17 |
| 32 | KL | 16 | 7.3 | 132.75 ± 2.71 | 20.38 ± 3.56 | 1.88 ± 0.45 | 0.53 ± 0.18 |
| 16 | KL | 16 | 0.87 | 210.31 ± 3.97 | 24.08 ± 4.22 | 1.07 ± 0.36 | 0.68 ± 0.15 |
| 16 | KL | 8 | 2.63 | 178.68 ± 4.08 | 21.94 ±3.92 | 1.49 ± 0.42 | $0.59{\scriptstyle~\pm 0.17}$ |
| 8 | KL | 4 | 0.90 | 209.90 ± 4.92 | 24.19 ± 4.19 | 1.02 ± 0.35 | 0.69 ± 0.15 |
| 4 | KL | 3 | 0.27 | 227.57 ± 4.89 | 27.53 ± 4.54 | 0.55 ± 0.24 | $0.82{\scriptstyle~\pm0.11}$ |
| 2 | KL | 2 | 0.086 | 232.66 ± 5.16 | 32.47 ± 4.19 | $0.20{\scriptstyle~\pm 0.09}$ | $0.93{\scriptstyle~\pm 0.04}$ |

Table 8. Complete autoencoder zoo trained on OpenImages, evaluated on ImageNet-Val. † denotes an attention-free autoencoder.



Experiments – Image Generation with Latent Diffusion

Setup

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• Train unconditional models of 256² images on CelebA-HQ, FFHQ, LSUN-Churches and – Bedrooms dataset

Evaluation metrics

1. sample quality (FID score)

2. coverage of data manifold (Precision and Recall)

| CelebA-H | IQ 256 \times | 256 | | FFHQ 256 × 256 | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|----------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Method | $\mathrm{FID}\downarrow$ | Prec. ↑ | Recall † | | Method $FID \downarrow$ | | Prec. ↑ | Recall ↑ |
| DC-VAE [63] | 15.8 | - | - | | ImageBART [21] | 9.57 | - | - |
| VQGAN+T. [23] (k=400) | 10.2 | - | - | U | -Net GAN (+aug) [77] | 10.9 (7.6) | - | - |
| PGGAN [39] | 8.0 | - | - | | UDM [43] | 5.54 | - | - |
| LSGM [93] | 7.22 | - | - | | StyleGAN [41] | 4.16 | 0.71 | 0.46 |
| UDM [43] | 7.16 | - | - | | ProjectedGAN [76] | 3.08 | 0.65 | <u>0.46</u> |
| <i>LDM-4</i> (ours, 500-s [†]) | 5.11 | 0.72 | 0.49 | | LDM-4 (ours, 200-s) | 4.98 | 0.73 | 0.50 |
| LSUN-Chu | rches 25 | 6×256 | | LSUN-Bedrooms 256×256 | | | | |
| Method | $\mathrm{FID}\downarrow$ | Prec. ↑ | Recall ↑ | | Method | $FID\downarrow$ | Prec. ↑ | Recall ↑ |
| DDPM [30] | 7.89 | - | - | | ImageBART [21] | 5.51 | - | - |
| ImageBART [21] | 7.32 | - | - | | DDPM [30] | 4.9 | - | - |
| PGGAN [39] | 6.42 | - | - | | UDM [43] | 4.57 | - | - |
| StyleGAN [41] | 4.21 | - | - | | StyleGAN [41] | 2.35 | 0.59 | 0.48 |
| StyleGAN2 [42] | 3.86 | - | - | | ADM [15] | 1.90 | 0.66 | 0.51 |
| ProjectedGAN [76] | 1.59 | 0.61 | <u>0.44</u> | | ProjectedGAN [76] | 1.52 | <u>0.61</u> | 0.34 |
| LDM-8* (ours, 200-s) | 4.02 | 0.64 | 0.52 | | LDM-4 (ours, 200-s) | 2.95 | 0.66 | <u>0.48</u> |



Class-conditional ImageNet

• Using downsampling factor f=4

ImageNet



| Method | FID↓ | IS↑ | Precision↑ | Recall↑ | Nparams | |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| BigGan-deep [3] | 6.95 | $\frac{203.6 \pm 2.6}{100.98}$ 186.7 | 0.87 | 0.28 | 340M | - |
| ADM [15] | 10.94 | | 0.69 | 0.63 | 554M | 250 DDIM steps |
| ADM-G [15] | <u>4.59</u> | | <u>0.82</u> | 0.52 | 608M | 250 DDIM steps |
| LDM-4 (ours) | 10.56 | 103.49±1.24 | 0.71 | $\frac{0.62}{0.48}$ | 400M | 250 DDIM steps |
| LDM-4-G (ours) | 3.60 | 247.67±5.59 | 0.87 | | 400M | 250 steps, c.f.g [32], $s = 1.5$ |



Transformer Encoders for LDMs

- Text-to-image modeling
 - 1.45B parameter KL-regularized LDM conditioned on language prompts
 - BERT-tokenizer
 - Domain specific encoder as a transformer
 - MS-COCO validation set



| Text-Conditional Image Synthesis | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|---------|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Method | $\mathrm{FID}\downarrow$ | IS↑ | Nparams | | | | |
| CogView [†] [17] | 27.10 | 18.20 | 4B | self-ranking, rejection rate 0.017 | | | |
| LAFITE [†] [109] | 26.94 | <u>26.02</u> | 75M | | | | |
| GLIDE* [59] | <u>12.24</u> | - | 6B | 277 DDIM steps, c.f.g. [32] $s = 3$ | | | |
| Make-A-Scene* [26] | 11.84 | | 4B | c.f.g for AR models [98] $s = 5$ | | | |
| LDM-KL-8 | 23.31 | $20.03 {\scriptstyle \pm 0.33 \\ \textbf{30.29} {\scriptstyle \pm \textbf{0.42}}}$ | 1.45B | 250 DDIM steps | | | |
| LDM-KL-8-G* | 12.63 | | 1.45B | 250 DDIM steps, c.f.g. [32] $s = 1.5$ | | | |

Convolutional Sampling Beyond 256²

- Concatenate spatially aligned conditioning information to the input of ϵ_{θ}
- LDMs can serve as a general purpose image-toimage translation model
- Useful for semantic synthesis, super-resolution and image inpainting



Figure 9. A *LDM* trained on 256^2 resolution can generalize to larger resolution (here: 512×1024) for spatially conditioned tasks such as semantic synthesis of landscape images. See Sec. 4.3.2.



Super-Resolution with Latent Diffusion (LDM-SR)

- Condition on low-resolution images via concatenation, i.e. τ_{θ} is the identity function
- Fix the image degradation to a bicubic interpolation with 4x downsampling
- Autoencoding model pretrained on OpenImages (VQ-reg.)

| bicubic | LDM-SR | SR3 |
|---------|--------|-----|
| | | |
| | | |

Figure 10. ImageNet $64 \rightarrow 256$ super-resolution on ImageNet-Val. *LDM-SR* has advantages at rendering realistic textures but SR3 can synthesize more coherent fine structures. See appendix for additional samples and cropouts. SR3 results from [72].

| | SR on ImageNet | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------|--|--|
| User Study | Pixel-DM (f1) | LDM-4 | | |
| Task 1: Preference vs GT ↑ | 16.0% | 30.4% | | |
| Task 2: Preference Score ↑ | 29.4% | 70.6% | | |

| Method | $\mathrm{FID}\downarrow$ | IS \uparrow | $\mathbf{PSNR}\uparrow$ | $\mathbf{SSIM} \uparrow$ | Nparams | $\left[\frac{\text{samples}}{s}\right](*)$ |
|--|---|--------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|--|
| Image Regression [72] SR3 [72] | 15.2 5.2 | 121.1 180.1 | 27.9 <u>26.4</u> | 0.801 <u>0.762</u> | 625M 625M | N/A N/A |
| LDM-4 (ours, 100 steps) emphLDM-4 (ours, big, 100 steps) LDM-4 (ours, 50 steps, guiding) | $\frac{2.8}{2.4}^{\dagger} / \frac{4.8}{4.3}^{\ddagger}$ $4.4^{\dagger} / 6.4^{\ddagger}$ | 166.3 <u>174.9</u> 153.7 | $\begin{array}{c} 24.4{\scriptstyle\pm}3.8\\ 24.7{\scriptstyle\pm}4.1\\ 25.8{\scriptstyle\pm}3.7\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{c} 0.69 {\pm} 0.14 \\ 0.71 {\pm} 0.15 \\ 0.74 {\pm} 0.12 \end{array}$ | 169M 552M <u>184M</u> | 4.62 4.5 0.38 |

Image Inpainting with LDMs

• Latent diffusion models improves sample throughput and sample quality for image inpainting tasks

| Model (regtype) | train throughput samples/sec. | sampling @256 | throughput [†] @512 | train+val hours/epoch | FID@2k epoch 6 |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| LDM-1 (no first stage) | 0.11 | 0.26 | 0.07 | 20.66 | 24.74 |
| LDM-4 (KL, w/ attn) | 0.32 | 0.97 | 0.34 | 7.66 | 15.21 |
| LDM-4 (VQ, w/ attn) | 0.33 | 0.97 | 0.34 | 7.04 | 14.99 |
| LDM-4 (VQ, w/o attn) | 0.35 | 0.99 | 0.36 | 6.66 | 15.95 |

| | Inpainting on Places | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| User Study | LAMA [88] | LDM-4 | | | |
| Task 1: Preference vs GT ↑ | 13.6% | 21.0% | | | |
| Task 2: Preference Score ↑ | 31.9% | 68.1% | | | |



Figure 11. Qualitative results on object removal with our *big*, *w*/*ft* inpainting model. For more results, see Fig. 22.



Related work

Generative Models for image synthesis

- Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)
 - + efficient sampling of high-dimensional images and good perceptual quality
 - difficult to optimize and doesn't capture full data distribution (mode-collapse)
- Variational autoencoders (VAEs)
 - + efficient synthesis of images
 - worse sample quality than GANs
- Autoregressive models (ARM)
 - + strong performance in density estimation
 - computationally demanding architecture and sequential sampling process

Assessment of paper and model

Pros

- Ground-breaking paper in the field of image synthesis
- Offers a method for powerful high-resolution image generation using fewer computational resources
- Applications in a diverse range of settings (cross-attention and conditioning mechanisms)
 - Text-to-image generation
 - Image inpainting
 - Image super-resolution

Cons

- Some segments are explained very briefly with few details regarding implementation
- Slower sampling speed compared to GANs
- Limited performance in cases where fine-grained accuracy in pixel-space is crucial (e.g. superresolution)





Thanks for listening to my presentation!

Feel free to ask any questions

A pikachu fine dining with a view over Zurich

Generate image

low quality

