

Hybrid Regularization Improves Diffusion-based Inverse Problem Solving

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<https://github.com/deng-ai-lab/HRDIS>

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Background: Inverse problems

	Super-resolution	Inpainting	Deblurring	
Observations (Inputs) $\mathbf{y}$				
Outputs from our method $\mathbf{x}_0$				

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{x}_0) + \boldsymbol{\eta}, \quad \mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\eta} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

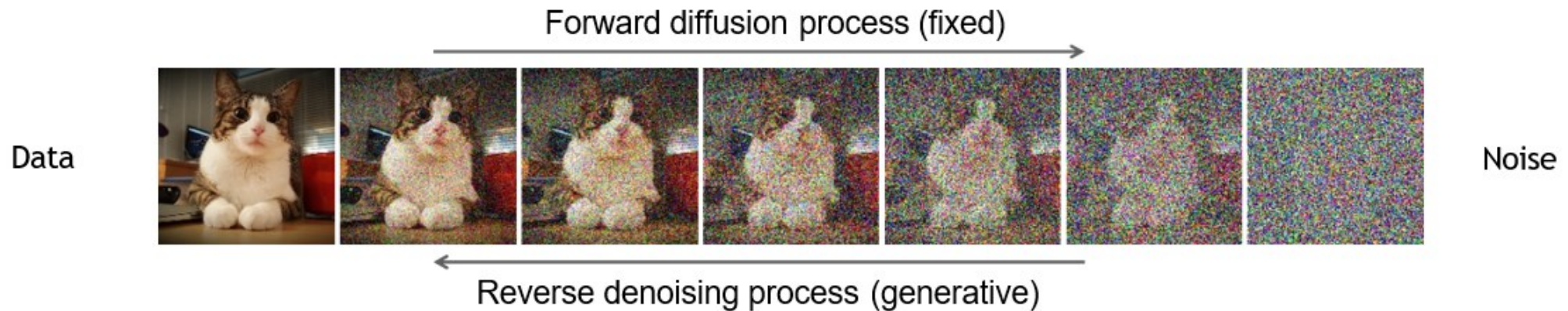
Background: Diffusion models

Denoising Diffusion Models

Learning to generate by denoising

Denoising diffusion models consist of two processes:

- Forward diffusion process that gradually adds noise to input
- Reverse denoising process that learns to generate data by denoising



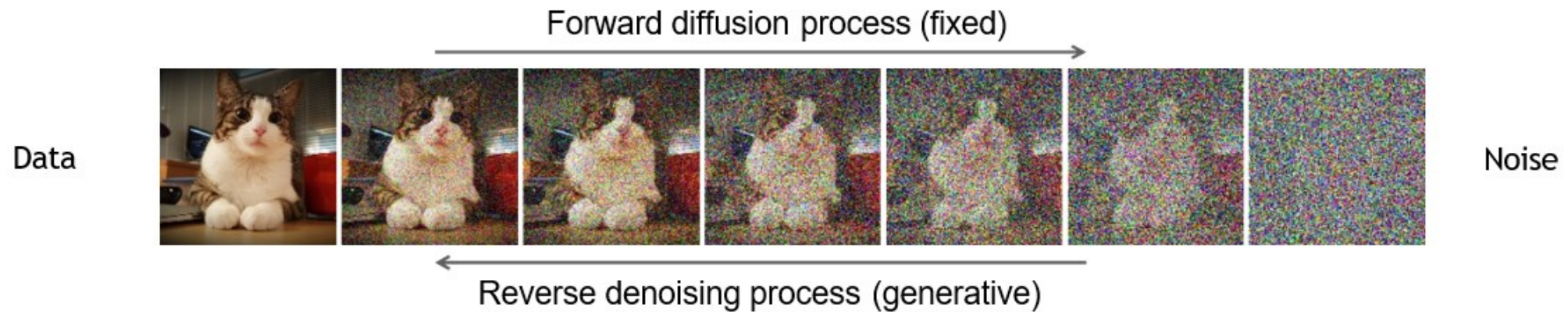
[Sohl-Dickstein et al., Deep Unsupervised Learning using Nonequilibrium Thermodynamics, ICML 2015](#)

[Ho et al., Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models, NeurIPS 2020](#)

[Song et al., Score-Based Generative Modeling through Stochastic Differential Equations, ICLR 2021](#)

Background: Diffusion models

$$d\mathbf{x}_t = -\frac{1}{2}\beta(t)\mathbf{x}_t dt + \sqrt{\beta(t)} d\omega_t$$



$$d\mathbf{x}_t = \underbrace{\left[-\frac{1}{2}\beta(t)\mathbf{x}_t - \beta(t) \underbrace{\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log q_t(\mathbf{x}_t)}_{\text{"Score Function"}} \right]}_{\text{drift term}} dt + \underbrace{\sqrt{\beta(t)} d\bar{\omega}_t}_{\text{diffusion term}}$$

[Sohl-Dickstein et al., Deep Unsupervised Learning using Nonequilibrium Thermodynamics, ICML 2015](#)

[Ho et al., Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Models, NeurIPS 2020](#)

[Song et al., Score-Based Generative Modeling through Stochastic Differential Equations, ICLR 2021](#)

Diffusion models for inverse problem

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{x}) + \boldsymbol{\eta}$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})p(\mathbf{x})}{p(\mathbf{y})}$$

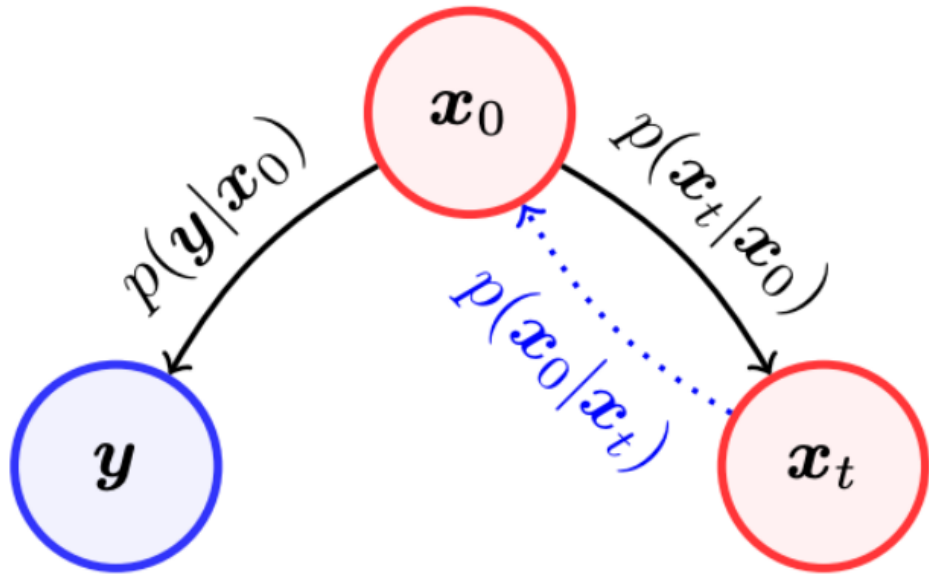
$$\mathbf{x} \sim p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}) = \log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}) + \log p(\mathbf{x}) - \log p(\mathbf{y})$$

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}) = \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}) + \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log p(\mathbf{x})$$

Measurement
process

$$\simeq \mathbf{s}_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{x})$$

Diffusion Posterior Sampling (DPS)

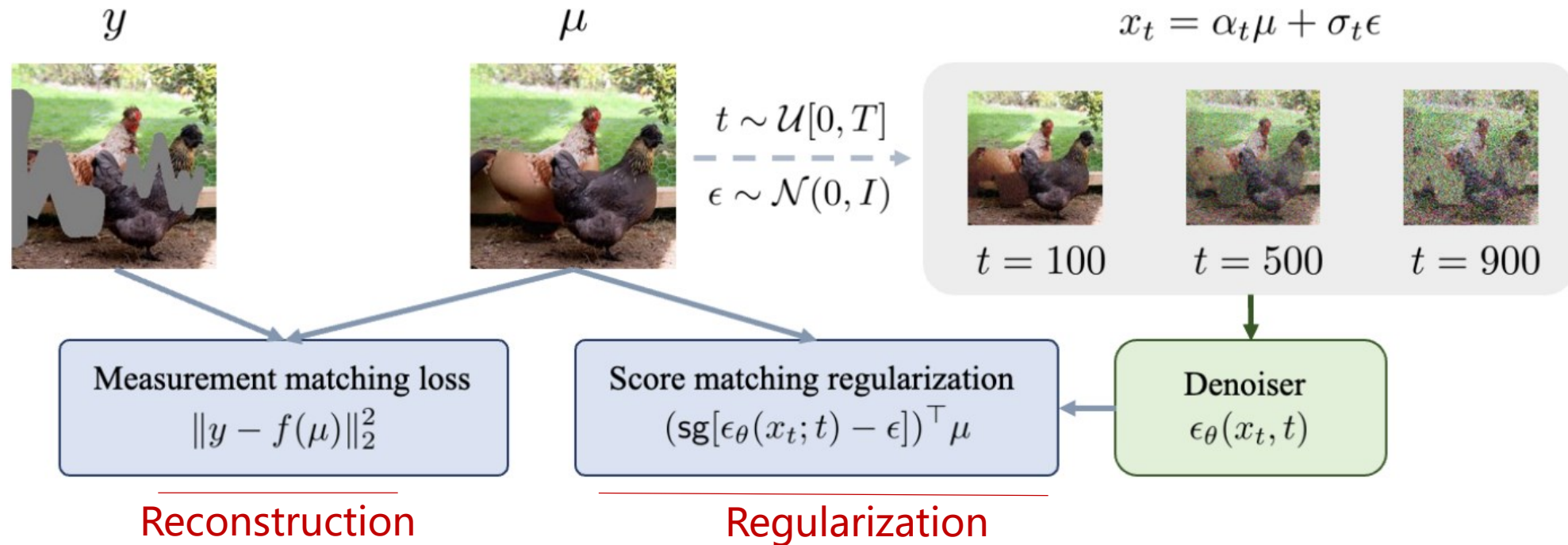


$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{y}) &= \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p(\mathbf{x}_t) + \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x}_t) \\ &\simeq s_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) + \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log p(\mathbf{y} | \hat{\mathbf{x}}_0)\end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0 = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}_0 | \mathbf{x}_t]$$

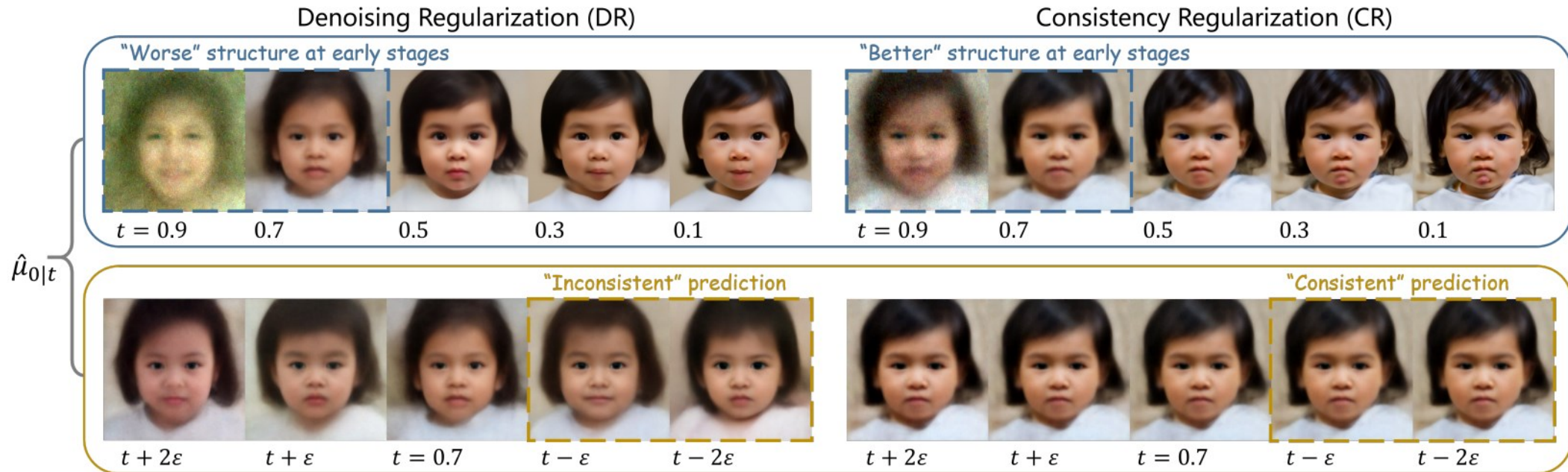
Requires denoising network backpropagation!

RED-diff

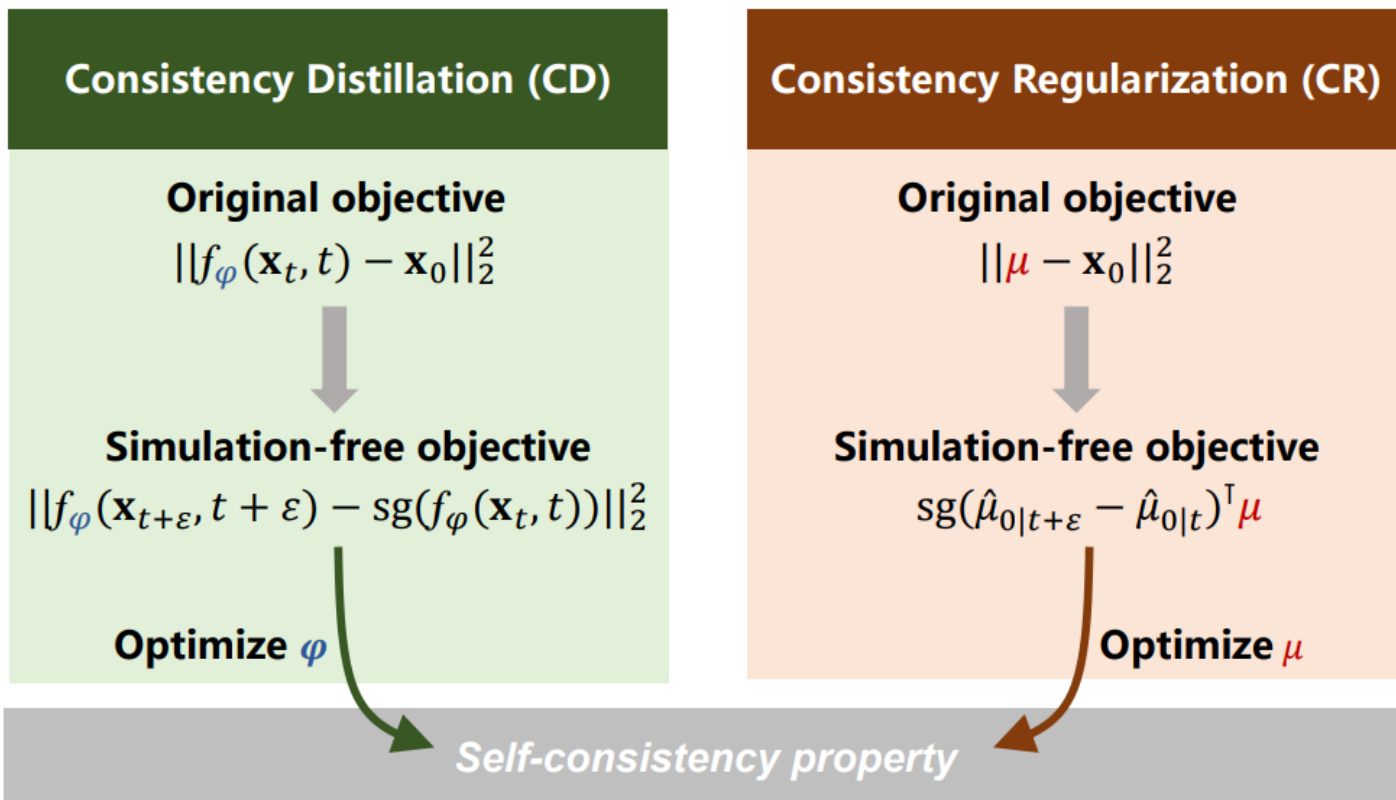
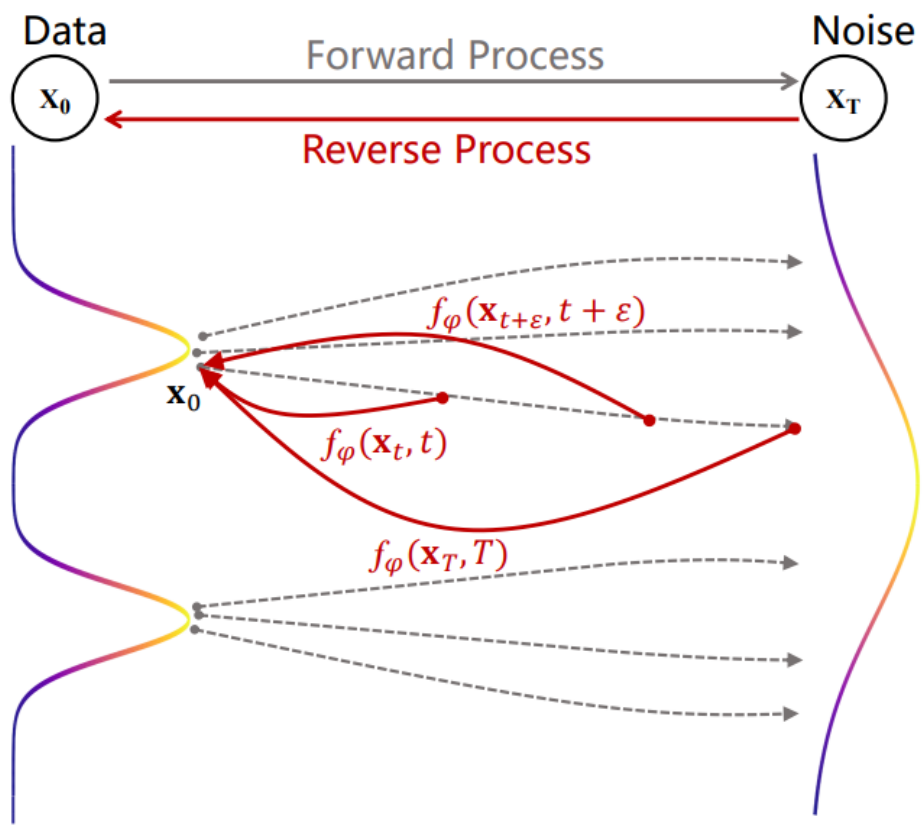


RED-diff

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_{\mu} \mathcal{L}_{\text{DR}} &= \nabla_{\mu} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathcal{A}(\mu)\|_2^2 + \mathbb{E}_{t, \epsilon} [\omega_t (\epsilon_{\theta}(\mu_t, t) - \epsilon)] \\ &= (\mu_t - \sigma_t \epsilon) / \alpha_t - (\mu_t - \sigma_t \epsilon_{\theta}(\mu_t, t)) / \alpha_t \\ &= \mu - \hat{\mu}_{0|t} = \nabla_{\mu} \|\mu - \text{sg}(\hat{\mu}_{0|t})\|_2^2,\end{aligned}$$



Consistency Regularization (CR)



$$\nabla_\mu \mathcal{L}_{\text{CR}} = \nabla_\mu \|\mathbf{y} - \mathcal{A}(\mu)\|_2^2 + \mathbb{E}_{t, \epsilon} [\hat{\mu}_{0|t+\epsilon} - \hat{\mu}_{0|t}]$$

$$= \hat{\mu}_{0|t+\epsilon} - (\mu_t - \sigma_t \epsilon_\theta(\mu_t, t)) / \alpha_t$$

$$= \omega_t (\epsilon_\theta(\mu_t, t) - \epsilon_\theta(\mu_{t+\epsilon}, t+\epsilon))$$

Hybrid Regularization (HR)

DDIM
Solver

$$\mathbf{x}_t = \alpha_t \underbrace{\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{0:t+\varepsilon}}_{\text{predicted } \mathbf{x}_0} + \underbrace{\sqrt{\sigma_t^2 - \beta_t^2} \epsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_{t+\varepsilon}, t + \varepsilon)}_{\text{deterministic noise}} + \underbrace{\beta_t \epsilon}_{\text{random noise}}$$

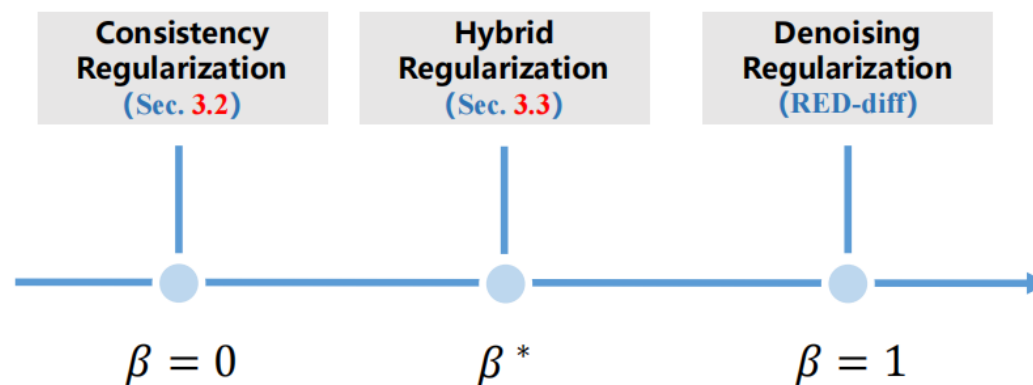


Total variance σ_t^2

$$\sqrt{(\sigma_t^2 - \beta_t^2)^2 + \beta_t^2} = \sigma_t^2$$

Hybrid noise

$$\nabla_\mu \mathcal{L}_{\text{HR}} = \nabla_\mu \|\mathbf{y} - \mathcal{A}(\mu)\|_2^2 + \mathbb{E}_{t, \epsilon} [\omega_t(\epsilon_\theta(\mu_t, t) - \epsilon_{\text{hybrid}})]$$
$$\epsilon_{\text{hybrid}} \triangleq \sqrt{1 - \beta} \epsilon_\theta(\mu_{t+\varepsilon}, t + \varepsilon) + \sqrt{\beta} \epsilon$$

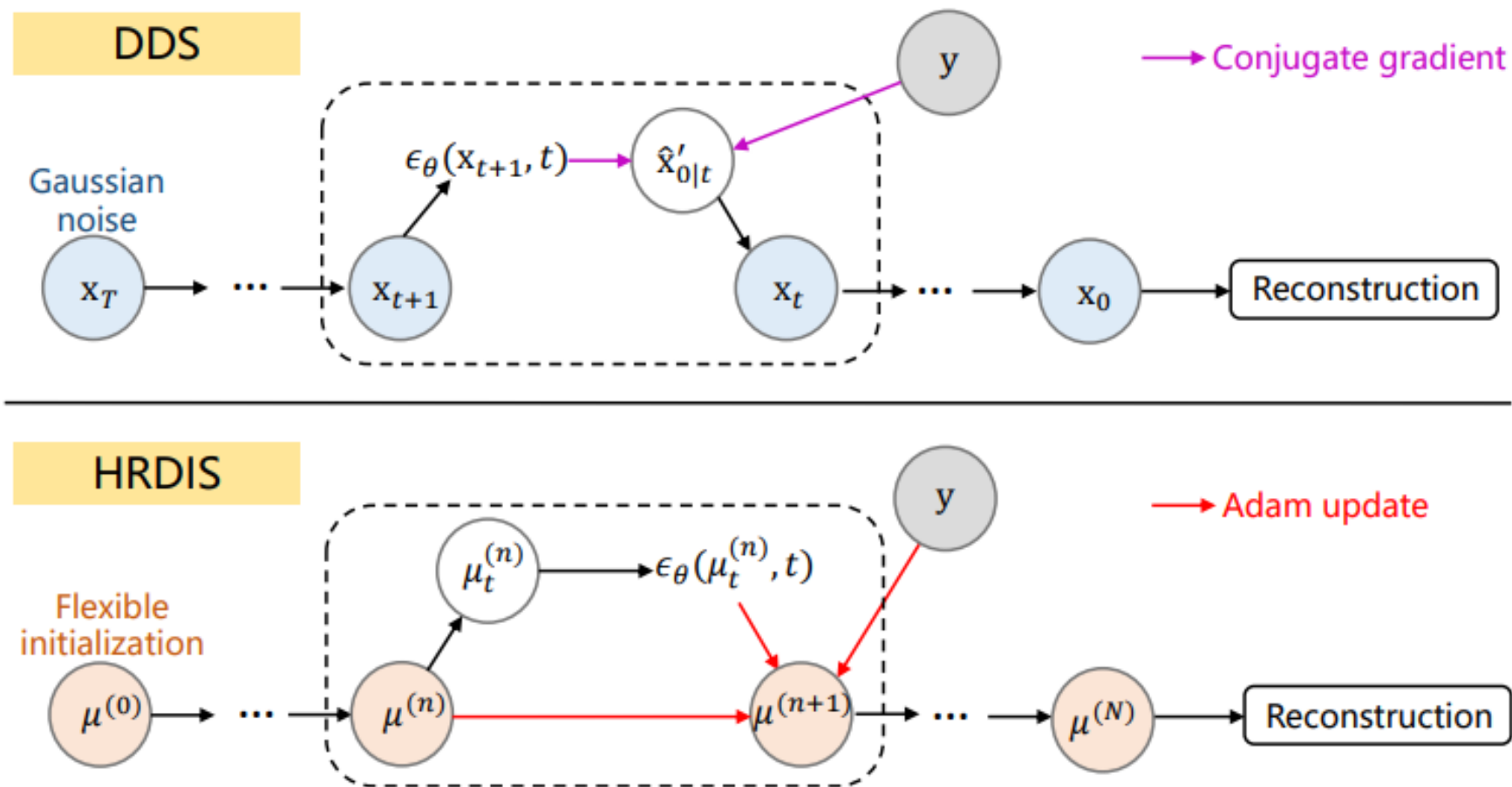


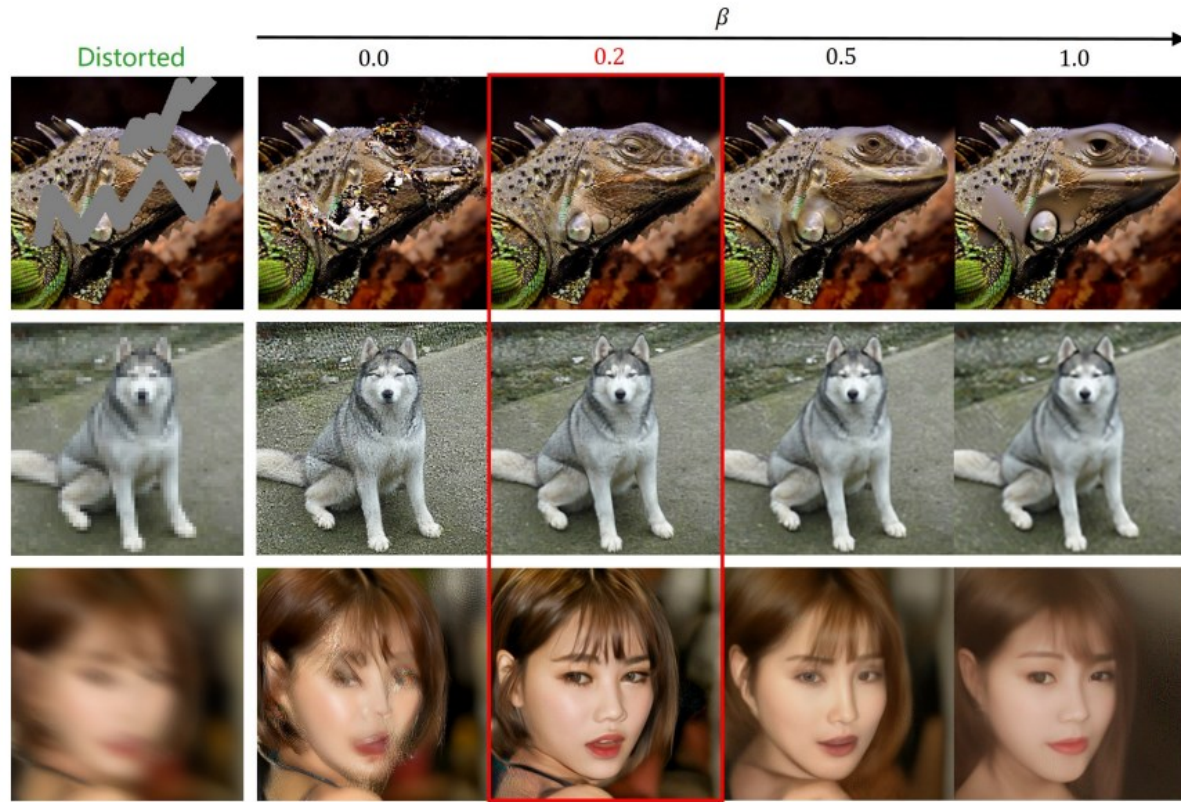
Algorithm 1 Sampling procedure for HRDIS.

Input: observation $\mathbf{y}$, measurement operator $\mathcal{A}(\cdot)$, number of iterations N , timesteps sampling strategy $\{s_n\}_{n=1}^N$, pretrained model $\epsilon_\theta(\cdot, \cdot)$, β , ω_t

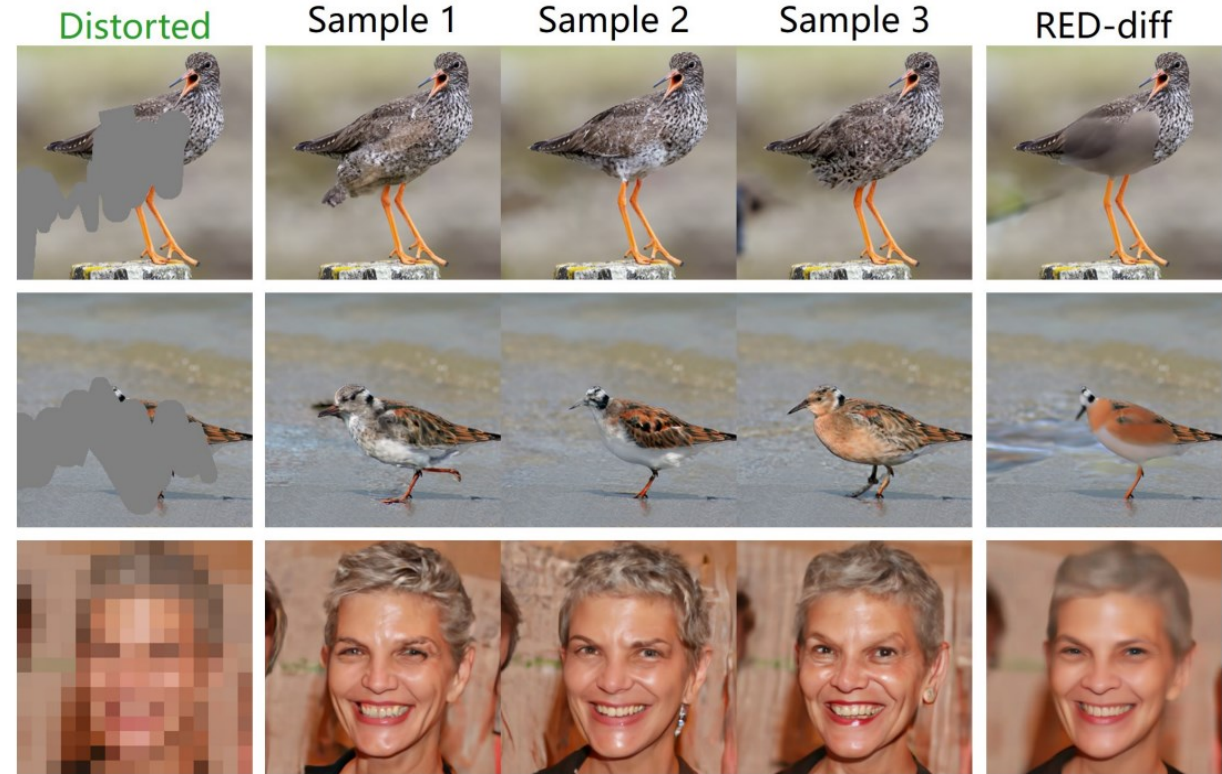
- 1: Initialize $\mu \leftarrow \mathcal{A}^{-1}(\mathbf{y})$
- 2: **for** $n = 1, \dots, N$ **do**
- 3: $t \leftarrow s_n$
- 4: **if** $n = 1$ **then**
- 5: Initialize hybrid noise $\epsilon_{\text{hybrid}} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I})$
- 6: **end if**
- 7: Forward perturb $\mu_t \leftarrow \alpha_t \mu + \sigma_t \epsilon_{\text{hybrid}}$
- 8: Calculate gradient $d_\mu \leftarrow \nabla_\mu \|\mathbf{y} - \mathcal{A}(\mu)\|_2^2 + \omega_t (\epsilon_\theta(\mu_t, t) - \epsilon_{\text{hybrid}})$
- 9: Optimize mean $\mu \leftarrow \text{AdamUpdate}(\mu, d_\mu)$
- 10: Sample fresh noise $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I})$
- 11: Calculate hybrid noise $\epsilon_{\text{hybrid}} \leftarrow \sqrt{1 - \beta} \epsilon_\theta(\mu_t, t) + \sqrt{\beta} \epsilon$
- 12: **end for**

Output: μ





Ablation of β



HRDIS can produce diverse and clear inversion results

We address the challenges associated with solving diffusion-based inverse problems using Denoising Regularization (DR):

- We introduce the Consistency Regularization (CR) method, which effectively mitigates the issue of inaccurate gradient estimations.
- We explore the integration of hybrid noise, resulting in the development of a unified HRDIS framework that fosters synergy between the two regularization techniques
- The proposed framework is versatile, making it applicable to both linear and nonlinear inverse problems. HRDIS not only surpasses current state-of-the-art methods but also maintains high computational efficiency

- An enticing avenue for future exploration is the extension of our approach to tackling **blind inverse problems**.
- Additionally, a promising direction for advancement involves extending our methodology to encompass **latent diffusion models**.
- Since HRDIS involves stochastic optimization for non-convex problems, its **convergence behavior** remains an open theoretical question and warrants further investigation.

Thank you for listening!

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