

Some Challenges around Retraining Generative Models on their own Data

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Équipe MALICE

Joint work with D. Ferbach, J. A. Bose, M. Jiralerspong, A. Duplessis and G. Gidel

What are Generative Models? 1/3

Data x_1, \dots, x_n



Goal: new synthetic samples \tilde{x}_i



Generative Model 101

► Setting: Access to $\overbrace{\text{unlabelled data}}^{x_1, \dots, x_n}$

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What are Generative Models? 2/3

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Goal: new synthetic samples $\tilde{x}_i | y_i$



Generative Model 201 (Class Conditional Generative Models)

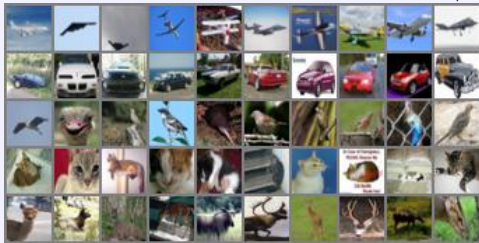
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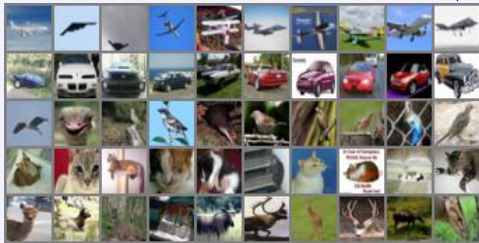
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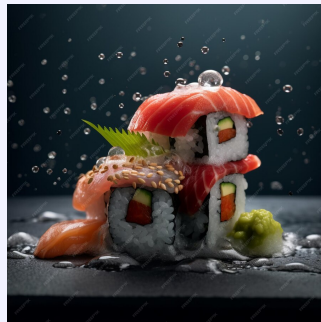
What are Generative Models? 3/3



MALICE team logo



An avocado chair



A house made of sushi

Text-to-Image Models

► Setting: trained on $\overbrace{\text{pairs (image, caption)}}^{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)}$

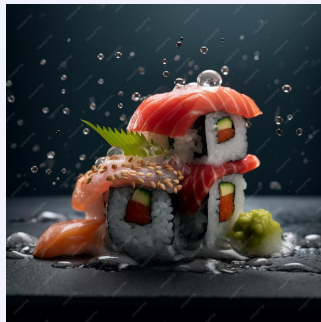
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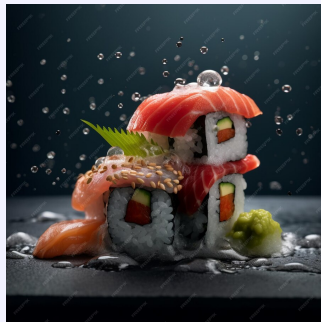
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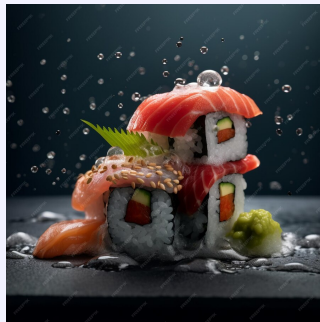
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Applications of Generative Models 1/2

Until 2021, mostly Image-Based Applications, mostly GANs^a

^aI. Goodfellow et al. "Generative adversarial nets". In: *NeurIPS* (2014).

- ↪ Generate Photorealistic Images
 - ↪ Semantic Segmentation^a
 - ↪ Image-to-Image (Inpainting, Denoising, Style Transfer)
 - ↪ Text-to-Image^b
-

^aP. Luc et al. "Semantic segmentation using adversarial networks". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:1611.08408* (2016).

^bH. Zhang et al. "StackGAN: Text to photo-realistic image synthesis with stacked generative adversarial networks". In: *ICCV*. 2017.

Applications of Generative Models 2/2

More Recent Applications

- ▶ Large Language Models^a (Chat GPT)
- ▶ Text-to-Image^b (Stable Diffusion)
- ▶ Protein Generation^{c,d} (Graphs)
- ▶ Data augmentation^e

^aJ. Achiam et al. "Gpt-4 technical report". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:2303.08774* (2023).

^bStability AI. <https://stability.ai/stablediffusion>. Version Stable Diffusion XL. Accessed: 2023-09-09. 2023.

^cJ. L. Watson et al. "De novo design of protein structure and function with RFdiffusion". In: *Nature* 620 (2023).

^dA. J. Bose et al. "SE(3)-Stochastic Flow Matching for Protein Backbone Generation". In: *ICLR* (2023).

^eZ. Wang et al. "Better diffusion models further improve adversarial training". In: *ICML*. 2023.

Reasons of the Success of Generative Models

$$\text{Deep generative models} = \underbrace{\text{Compute}}_{\text{GPU}} + \underbrace{\text{Algorithms}}_{\text{e.g., Diffusion}} + \underbrace{\text{Data}}_{\text{Web Scrapping}}$$

Generative Models Everywhere

- ▶ Powerful generative models (Diffusion, Flow Matching)
- ▶ Easy access (Midjourney, Stablediffusion, DALL·E)
- ▶ Populates the WEB with **synthetically generated images**

Inevitably Train on Synthetic Data

The Lion¹ dataset already contains synthetically generated images²



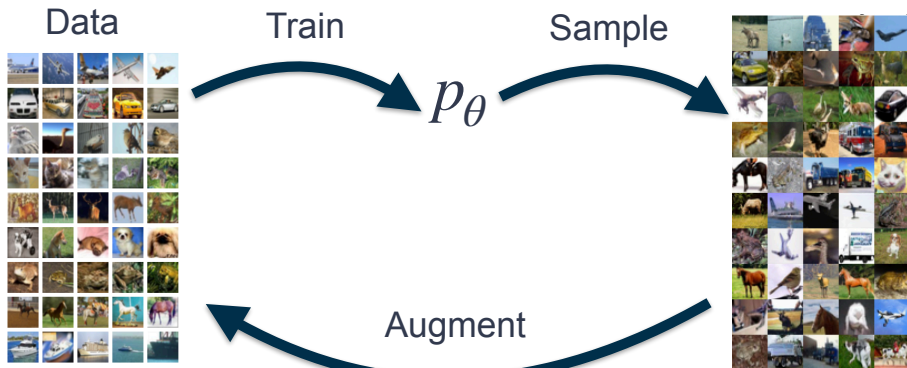
¹C. Schuhmann et al. "Laion-5b: An open large-scale dataset for training next generation image-text models". In: *NeurIPS* (2022).

²S. Alemohammad et al. "Self-Consuming Generative Models Go MAD". In: (2023). *arXiv: 2307.01850 [cs.LG]*.

What about training Generative models on their own data?



CIFAR



Training on Synthetic Data, Good or Bad?

Iterative Retraining is **Bad**

- ▶ The **curse of recursion**: Training on generated data makes models forget^a
- ▶ Self-Consuming Generative Models **MAD**^b

^aI. Shumailov et al. "The Curse of Recursion: Training on Generated Data Makes Models Forget". In: (2023). arXiv: 2305.17493 [cs.LG].

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- ▶ Data augmentation for downstream tasks
 - ↔ Adversarial training^a
 - ↔ Classification with imbalanced datasets^b
 - ↔ Generative modelling: improves performances for LLMs^c

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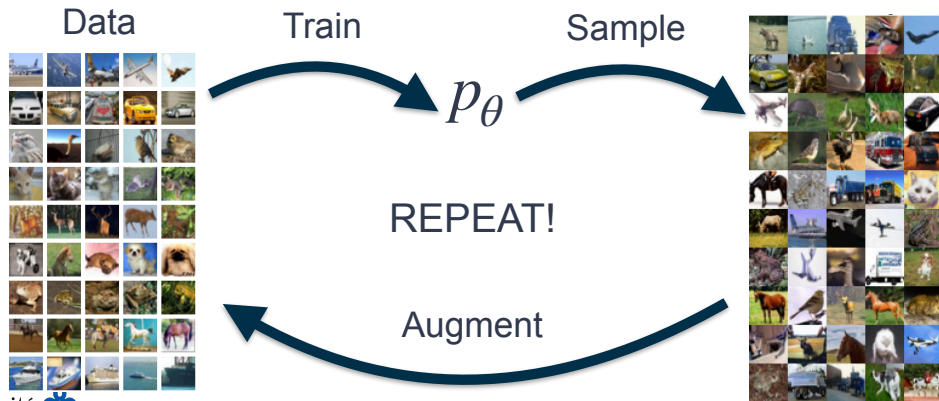
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Iterative retraining



Setting

Notation

- ▶ \hat{p}_{data} Empirical data distribution
- ▶ n Data points
- ▶ θ^n Parameters of the model
- ▶ p_{θ} Likelihood of the model

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$$\theta_0^n \in \arg \max_{\theta' \in \Theta} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \hat{p}_{\text{data}}} [\log p_{\theta'}(x)]$$

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Practical Algorithm

Algorithm: Iterative Retraining of Generative Models

input : $\mathcal{D}_{\text{real}} := \{x_i\}_{i=1}^n, \mathcal{A}$ // True data, learning procedure
param: $n_{\text{retrain.}}, \lambda$ // Number of retraining, proportion of gen. data
 $p_{\theta_0} = \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{D}_{\text{real}})$ // Learn generative model on true data
for t **in** $1, \dots, n_{\text{retrain.}}$ **do**
 $\mathcal{D}_{\text{synth}} = \{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i\}_{i=1}^{\lfloor \lambda \cdot n \rfloor}$, with $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i \sim p_{\theta_{t-1}}$ // Sample $\lfloor \lambda \cdot n \rfloor$ synth. data points
 $p_{\theta_t} = \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{D}_{\text{real}} \cup \mathcal{D}_{\text{synth}})$ // Learn gen. model on synth. and true data
return $p_{\theta_{n_{\text{retrain.}}}}$

Warm Up: Only Retrain on your Own Data 1/3

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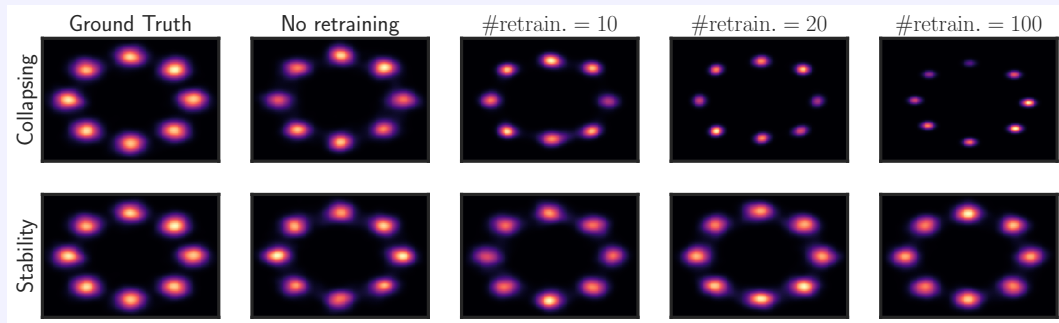
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Warm Up: Only Retrain on your Own Data 2/3

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A: Mode Collapse



Warm Up: Only Retrain on your Own Data 3/3

Single unidimensional Gaussian, unbiased estimator

Initialization: μ_0, σ_0

Data: $X_j^0 = \mu_0 + \sigma_0 Z_j$, with $Z_j \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}_{0,1}$, $1 \leq j \leq n$

Learning step:
$$\begin{cases} \mu_{t+1} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_j X_j^t \\ \sigma_{t+1}^2 &= \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_j (X_j^t - \mu_{t+1})^2 \end{cases}$$

Sampling step: $\{X_j^{t+1} = \mu_{t+1} + \sigma_{t+1} Z_j^{t+1}, \text{ with } Z_j^{t+1} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}_{0,1}, 1 \leq j \leq n$

Result

$$\mathbb{E}(\sigma_t) \leq \alpha^t \sigma_0 \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow +\infty]{} 0, \quad 0 \leq \alpha < 1$$

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Same type of results holds for a single multidimensional Gaussian

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Retrain of Generative Models: Informal

Assumptions

- ▶ Regularity of the log-likelihood
 - \hookrightarrow Local Lipschitzness and strong convexity
- ▶ The first generative model is "good enough"
 - $\hookrightarrow \mathcal{W}(p_{\text{data}}, p_{\theta_0}) < \epsilon$
- ▶ Infinite Data

Result

- ▶ Regularity + good enough model + infinite data
- ▶ \implies stability of the fixed-point $\mathcal{G}(\theta)$

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- ▶ Infinite Data

Result

- ▶ Regularity + good enough model + infinite data
- ▶ \implies stability of the fixed-point $\mathcal{G}(\theta)$

- ▶ Can be extended with finite sample
- ▶ Requires extra sample complexity assumption

Retrain of Generative Models: Informal

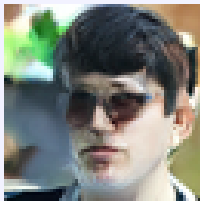
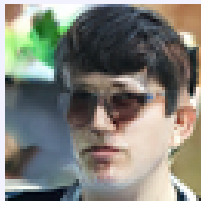
Assumptions

- ▶ Regularity of the log-likelihood
 - \hookrightarrow Local Lipschitzness and strong convexity
- ▶ The first generative model is "good enough"
 - $\hookrightarrow \mathcal{W}(p_{\text{data}}, p_{\theta_0}) < \epsilon$
- ▶ Infinite Data

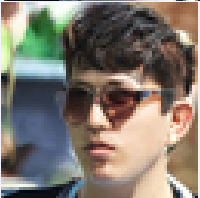
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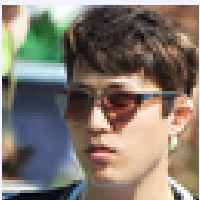
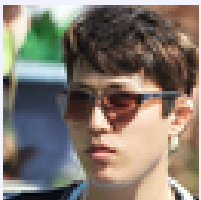
Fully synth.



$\lambda = 0.5$



$\lambda = 0$



0 retrain.

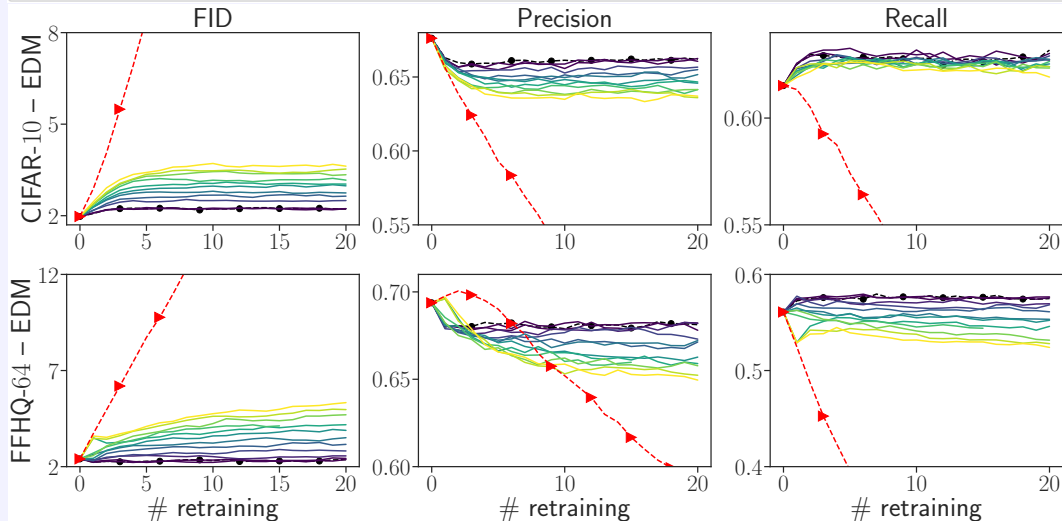
5 retrain.

10 retrain.

15 retrain.

20 retrain.

Experiments



Conclusion and Future Work

Future Work

- ▶ Data augmentation? → Filtering Procedure
 - ↪ Score for each samples? Downstream-task specific?
 - ↪ Feature Likelihood Score (FLS)^a
 - ↪ Classifier to score the samples^b
 - ↪ Correlation between accuracy and sample quality?
 - ↪ Theory?
- ▶ Links with reinforcement learning / semi-supervised learning^c

^aM. Jiralerspong et al. "Feature Likelihood Score: Evaluating Generalization of Generative Models Using Samples". In: *NeurIPS* (2023).

^bR. A. Hemmat et al. "Feedback-guided Data Synthesis for Imbalanced Classification". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:2310.00158* (2023).

^cD. Ferbach et al. "Self-Consuming Generative Models with Curated Data Provably Optimize Human Preferences". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:2407.09499* (2024).

Thank You!

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Thank You!

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