

Project Document: Deep(FAMS)

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Contents

1	Milestone 1: Project Ideas	1
1.1	Introduction	1
1.1.1	Project Idea 1	1
1.1.2	Project Idea 2	1
1.2	Project Idea 1: Evaluating the Reproducibility of Training GAN With Limited Data	2
1.3	Project Idea 2: Using App Data to Model Bicycling Patterns in Nebraska	4
1.4	Conclusions	5
1.4.1	Project Idea 1	5
1.4.2	Project Idea 2	5
2	Milestone 2: Project Selection	6
2.1	Introduction	6
2.2	Problem Specification	7
2.3	Proposed Method:	8
2.4	Conclusions	10
3	Milestone 3: Progress Report 1	13
3.1	Introduction	13
3.2	Experimental Setup	14
3.3	Experimental Results	16
3.4	Discussion	17
3.5	Conclusion	18
4	Milestone 4: Progress Report 2	22
4.1	Introduction	22
4.2	Experimental Setup	23
4.3	Experimental Results	26
4.4	Discussion	27
4.5	Conclusion	28
	Bibliography	33

Abstract

In this project, we used generative adversarial networks to generate good results with limited data using a recently proposed mechanism, the adaptive discriminator augmentation (ADA). This project aims to evaluate the reproducibility and generalizability of the results generated by this proposed mechanism. Using several small datasets, we demonstrate that dynamically changing the amount of image augmentation during training improves the generator's output. The use of an adaptive discriminator augmentation that performs non-leaking image augmentations during training improved the model's FID score and training time compared to baseline StyleGAN2, indicating the effectiveness of the adaptive discriminator augmentation mechanism.

Chapter 1

Milestone 1: Project Ideas

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Project Idea 1

Generative adversarial networks always seek to increase the dataset size to generate desirable results as an approach to generative modeling. The massive demand for data is challenging to lots of areas, and thus placing constraints on more widely being used of this practical approach. However, the dataset size reduction can cause overfitting issues in checking step by discriminator sub-model. Applying dataset augmentation can generate the augmented distribution, which is highly undesirable to generate samples. An attempt to apply a wide range of augmentation by Karras et al. is trying to demonstrate GAN can use a smaller dataset size but prevent the augmentation ‘leaking’ at the same time. In this project, we will follow Karras et al. methods of adaptive discriminator augmentation mechanism [1] to try to reproduce their result.

1.1.2 Project Idea 2

There is a great interest in improving the cycling infrastructure in Nebraska by analyzing cyclic data. Toward this goal, we acquired the Strava Metro data covering Nebraska’s state from January 2017 to December 2019. Strava provides data into four categories edges, nodes, origin-destination polygons, and shapefiles that contain spatial attributes to create maps using GIS software. Edges are street segments between nodes. In other words, a set of edges form a street. Nodes are the intersections between edges, and origin-destination polygons divide a space into smaller areas. Every category of Strava data is divided into yearly, monthly, and hourly data. The Strava data, made available by the social fitness network company Strava, includes raw data for the hour-by-hour counts for bicycle trips that have been mostly incorporated into existing maps for better visualization. In this project, we propose building a deep learning regression model that utilizes Strava data in addition to weather data to predict

the number of cycling trips in Nebraska.

1.2 Project Idea 1: Evaluating the Reproducibility of Training GAN With Limited Data

Generative adversarial networks (GAN) is a generative modeling approach that uses deep learning techniques to automatically discover and learn the input patterns to generate an output that would plausibly appear as if it was sampled from the original input data [2]. For example, a GAN that uses convolutional neural networks (CNNs) can take pictures of humans as input data and generate new pictures of humans with plausible characteristics that look superficially genuine. This approach gained popularity after it was introduced by Goodfellow and his colleagues in 2014 [2]. In their paper, they describe GAN as a structure with two essential sub-models: (1) a generator model that learns to generate superficially plausible data, which the discriminator takes as negative training examples, and (2) a discriminator model that learns to discriminate between generated and real data, and penalizes the generator if an implausible result is detected [3]. The generator and the discriminator are neural networks that are directly connected. This connection allows the discriminator to send a signal, through backpropagation, that the generator uses to update its weights. Specifically, the generator samples a vector that is randomly drawn from a Gaussian distribution and use it to seed its generative process and match it to a distribution of interest, creating a ‘latent space.’ With sufficient training, the generator model can learn the input data’s statistical latent space and create output data similar to what is observed in the input data [4]. An example of such data is then processed by the discriminator model and attempt to distinguish it from the real distribution of the data (i.e., a binary class of fake/real). The generator model’s goal here is to maximize the error of the discriminator model. In other words, the generator model becomes more effective the more the discriminator process fake data as real data. The GAN approach has been used in fashion, science, and video games with impressive results [5].

However, a significant challenge in this area is the large number of data required to build a good GAN model, which is in some cases not available for researchers interested in applying GAN to their research question. GAN typically requires a large dataset because, with smaller datasets, the discriminator model ends up overfitting to training data examples, and the training eventually diverges [6]. While dataset augmentation is typically applied in such situations to solve overfitting [7], it cannot achieve this in GAN models. The inability to solve this problem with dataset augmentation stems from GAN’s ability to employ this technique without learning the augmented distribution and leaking these results to the model [6] causing undesirable outcomes. Therefore, the challenge is to demonstrate that GAN can be used with smaller datasets without the pitfalls mentioned above.

A recent attempt to solve this problem was proposed by Keras et al. [1],

demonstrating that it is possible to obtain good results using limited data. The critical point in their proposed approach is that we can prevent overfitting and augmentations leak by applying a wide variety of augmentation methods. Their work demonstrates the validity of their approach by describing a set of conditions that allows controlling the augmentations leak problem and then proposes an adaptive discriminator augmentation pipeline that can dynamically control the strength of the augmentation. This is a novel approach they propose contrasting the convention of tuning the augmentation strength manually, a resources-consuming process. The process of building an adaptive discriminator augmentation mechanism, as described by the authors, is achieved by (a) Declare an overfitting heuristic, r , in which a value of zero represents no overfitting and a value of 1 means perfect overfitting. (b) Adjust augmentation probability (p) until the heuristic reaches a target value, which in turn can be processed by: (1) initializing the augmentation strength to zero, then adjusting p every four mini-batches based on an overfitting heuristic (rf). (2) if rf shows too much overfitting, it is countered by a fixed increment of p (or fixed decrement if rf shows too little overfitting). (3) The adjustment size is then set in a way that allows p to quickly rise from 0 to 1 while clamping p after every step from below to zero (adaptive). (4) The results from adaptive versus fixed p are then compared. Using such mechanisms on limited data, the authors demonstrated that their adaptive discriminator augmentation approach improved the quality of the result and stabilized training with a minimal effect on resources consumption, showing that their strategy is both viable and cost-efficient [1].

In this project, we will attempt to reproduce the results reported by Karras et al. using their adaptive discriminator augmentation mechanism. We expect our reproduced work to support Karras et al.'s claim made in the paper; that is, good results can be obtained in a GAN model with only a few thousand training images. The original article's hypothesis was tested using five small datasets (METFACES, BRECAHAD, AFHQ, and CIFAR-10). Here, we plan to test adaptive discriminator augmentation on additional datasets to find out whether the scope of Karras et al. paper is generalizable. This would be a pivotal point in our project because the authors of the article claim that their model's strength stems from its ability to work despite variations between datasets in content and size. This is a central argument to their approach. They experimentally demonstrate that a set of fixed augmentation parameters (as opposed to adaptive parameters) will miss the utmost advantage a GAN model can achieve. Overall, our results will allow us to evaluate the reproducibility of the results, the readability of the source code, and experiment with the ability to generalize the approach described in the paper with different datasets.

1.3 Project Idea 2: Using App Data to Model Bicycling Patterns in Nebraska

Across the United States, cycling is becoming increasingly popular as users shift travel modes amid concerns of health, physical activity, air, and environmental quality, and to escape roadway congestion. Unfortunately, the infrastructure in the U.S. traditionally caters to automobile traffic creating impediments for bikers and impacting their safety. To accommodate cycling, a major challenge is the lack of machine learning model representation of the available data to assess the attributes of present assets accurately and to inform additional investments to integrate bicycles into our transportation system. Toward that end, this project uses citywide bicycle travel data (i.e., Strava Metro Data) to provide a comprehensive description of daily cycling in a mid-size American state as a proof-of-concept approach to planning for cycling.

Various governments and organizations utilize big data to evaluate their cycling infrastructure [8]. Big cycling data are usually collected using live point data, journey data, Bike-Share Programs (BSP), and GPS. Live point data are collected on intersections using cameras on traffic lights, counting stations, or even sensors. While the journey data provide information about the origin and the destination of the trip, it does not provide the trip details. This set of data could be collected from BSP or by other sources like online questionnaires. BSP data are complete and in real-time. However, these data only give information within the area of its location [9, 10]. Strava is considered a GPS program that is made available by the social fitness network company Strava. Strava utilizes the Open Street Map (OSM) to deliver its data. These GPS data are very detailed and historical but represent a small sample of the cyclists' total population. Strava app data contains a vast amount of spatial and temporal details to predict cycling activity patterns. It provides a good approximation of the most-used routes and the peak months and hours. To protect privacy, the Strava data set is combined into population datasets. While a small portion of cyclic may use Strava to log their trips or the app might track trips for users using other transportation methods [8, 9, 11], several studies showed that there is a strong correlation between the Strava data and the ground-truth data obtained from counting stations [12, 13]. Cycling is affected by several factors such as weather, time of the day, infrastructure, congestion, environment, income, public transportation, health, population density, the slope of the street, and cultural view towards cycling [14–16]. But traditionally, access to high-quality data has limited our understanding of cycling behavior and route choice in the face of these myriad factors. In this project, we explore the weather effects and weather parameters sensitivity to cycling in Nebraska. This work aims to specify cycling behavior further as it relates to specific factors, but more importantly, to determine the quality of the specified factors in determining the number of cycling trips over a vast area like the State of Nebraska. Using data visualization techniques and Deep learning regression (e.g., ANN, RNN, LSTM, and GRU) [17, 18] we study the most influential time-related factors affecting the

cycling patterns in Nebraska. Moreover, cycling is usually categorized into two classes, commuting and recreational. The proposed study will take advantage of the data shared by Strava to predict the number of commutes and recreational activities across all streets.

1.4 Conclusions

1.4.1 Project Idea 1

The core of this project is to test if the methods proposed by Karras et al. can solve the problem of augmentation leak and then ease the burden of huge datasets required by GAN. Given that the proposed mechanism is relatively new and paradigm-shifting, we believe that the idea of reproducing the paper's results would be greatly valuable. Studying such an approach to solve overfitting and subsequent problems while using limited datasets in GAN allows any researcher access to cost-efficient models.

1.4.2 Project Idea 2

This project provides an exciting idea: to create a deep learning model that predicts Nebraska's cycling patterns. With the help of high-quality data sources (e.g., Strava Data and Weather Data), this project's outcomes could be essential towards understanding how cyclists react to temporal variations. However, the spatial factors affecting cycling should also be studied, adding more complexity to the problem. The spatial representation of the data could be tough to map during this short period. Additionally, this idea is essential considering the current situation with COVID-19, adding more complexity and difficulty to reproducing the analysis to agree with the latest status.

Chapter 2

Milestone 2: Project Selection

2.1 Introduction

Our group semester project is Evaluating the Reproducibility of Training GAN with Limited Data. As mentioned in the last chapter, GAN, representing Generative Adversarial Networks, is a generative modeling approach using deep learning techniques to automatically discover and learn the input patterns to generate an output that would plausibly appear as it was sampled from the original dataset [2]. The GAN approach has gained its popularity in diverse areas including but not limited to fashion, science, and video games [5]. The success of the GAN approach can be attributed to its structure: a generator model and discriminator model connecting, where the generator model learns to generate superficially plausible data, and the discriminator model takes the generated data to discriminate with the real data and penalizes the generator if there's an implausible result detected [3]. The connection between the two models allows the updating of the generator based on the discrimination of discriminator and generating the more plausible outputs [4]. However, its success is still weakened by the challenge of its need for the large dataset to ensure the GAN approach's efficiency. The applying of a small dataset makes the discriminator ended up overfitting to training data examples, and the training diverged [6]. What's more, if the augmentation of the dataset is introduced to resolve the overfitting, the augmented distribution can be caused, which is highly undesirable for sample generation. [6] Therefore, it is a challenge that applying the GAN approach with the smaller dataset and avoid the mentioned pitfalls at the same time. In the research by Keras et al. [1], one method was come up to realize obtaining good results using a smaller dataset. The research was applying a wide variety of augmentation methods. The results demonstrated the validity by describing conditions that control the augmentations leak problem and then proposed an adaptive discriminator augmentation pipeline that can control the strength of the augmentation.

The paper provides a small dataset to obtain good results from the GAN

approach; this possibility is valuable since the broke of dataset size limitation will help the GAN approach spread in more areas, and correspondingly those areas will obtain an efficient way to solve their problems. The offered methods provide us with the prospect for similar problems, which is an excellent chance for us to learn about model learning. Additionally, the decision on Evaluating the Reproducibility of Training GAN with Limited Data is also the result of considering the feasibility within the limited one-semester timeline.

2.2 Problem Specification

The work presented in this project provides a complete evaluation of the proposed generative image training models by Karras et al. in [1]. The idea is to reproduce the generative image models trained on significantly fewer data than other approaches in the past. We are going to use the adaptive discriminator augmentation mechanism proposed in the paper, following the codes provided in [1], to assess its reproducibility and ability to classify relatively small (few thousands) datasets.

In many application fields, it is challenging to collect large datasets to perform data training. For example, in medicine, there is an ongoing challenge in modeling the possible appearance of biological specimens (tissues, tumors, etc.) This is a growing body of research that seems to suffer from limited high-quality data constantly. As introduced above, GAN has a great performance in training unlimited online data [2, 19–24], as a result, it cannot be used for lots of specific applications that only collected around hundreds or thousands of samples, where collecting more samples can be very complicated and costly. If the small datasets are applied for the GAN approach, the overfitting will occur in the discriminator. The dataset augmentation always used for overfitting can lead to training divergence in this GAN approach situation, which will not get a good result in the end. The method proposed by Karras et al. has been providing the chance to break this deadlock. To make the GAN approach more suitable for small datasets, this method makes use of a wide range of augmentations to ensure that the discriminator does not overfit while the generator does not also leak. This method’s success will make the GAN approach more available for those specific applications with relatively small datasets, where’s great potential to solve more problems. Thus, in this project, we evaluate the GAN augmentations proposed by Karras et al. and reproduce their approaches in terms of model architecture and code. Moreover, we test the model on several additional small datasets and compare our results with the original paper authors’ results to find out if the scope of the model is generalizable. From an applied point of view, this work contributes to efficiency; by testing the GAN augmentations proposed, this work will further confirm the elimination of the barrier for applying GAN-type models in many applied fields of research.

In this project, there are some requirements mentioned in the original paper

to make sure reproduce the study successfully:

- Python 3.7
- TensorFlow 1.14 to develop and train ML models.
- `Numpy>=1.14.3` for working with arrays.
- `tensorflow_ds` and `pandas>=1.0` to load datasets.
- High-end NVIDIA GPUs with at least 12 GB of GPU memory, NVIDIA drivers, CUDA 10.0 toolkit and cuDNN 7.5.

We will use several datasets that consist of a limited number of training images, including:

1. METFACES [1]
2. AFHQ [25]
3. CIFAR-10 [26]
4. StandfordDogs [27, 28]
5. Cars196 [29]
6. OxfordFlowers102 [30]

2.3 Proposed Method:

In this section, since we are attempting to reproduce an article that proposes one specific method, we provide extended details for this one method.

- **Datasets.** In our experiments, we will use three out of the six datasets used in the original paper. That is, METFACES, the Animal Faces-HQ (AFHQ) dataset, and CIFAR-10. In addition to these three datasets, we will test the generalizability of the original paper’s findings by using three other small datasets that were not tested in Keras et al. paper. These are the `StanfordDogs` dataset, the `Cars196` dataset, and the `OxfordFlowers102` dataset. See Table 1 for more details about the datasets we plan to use in the present project. The datasets will be either downloaded from Tensorflow datasets collection (CIFAR-10, Cars196, OxfordFlowers102, and StanfordDogs) or from source (AFHQ and METFACES).
- **Preprocessing.** The METFACES dataset is available in both raw and process format. We will use the raw format and process it by aligning and cropping images at 1024×1024 pixels, then use various automatic filters to prune the dataset. The AFHQ dataset will be split into three subsets: CAT, DOG, and WILD. All datasets will be standardized to make the training faster and reduce the probability of getting stuck in local optima.

Table 2.1: Datasets Information

Dataset	No. of images	Brief Description
METFACES	1,336	The dataset contains human faces extracted from works of art. The images are aligned and cropped images at 1024×1024 .
AFHQ	CAT: 5153 DOG: 4739 WILD: 4738	The dataset contains images at 512×512 resolution, with three domains of classes (CAT, DOG, and WILD).
CIFAR-10	60,000	Colour images in 10 classes, with 6000 images per class. 50,000 training images and 10,000 test images.
StanfordDogs	20,580	The dataset contains images of 120 breeds of dogs with 12,000 training images and 8,580 test images.
Cars196	16,185	The Cars dataset contains 196 classes of cars. The data is split into 8,144 training and 8,041 testing images. Classes are at the level of Make, Model, Year.
OxfordFlowers102	6,149	The dataset contains 102 classes of flowers typically found in the United Kingdom. Each class contains 40-258 images.

- **Pipeline.** The authors of the paper implemented their techniques on top of the StyleGAN2 official TensorFlow implementation and kept most of the network architecture unchanged. For this project, we will use the baseline StyleGAN2 as illustrated in Figure 2.1.

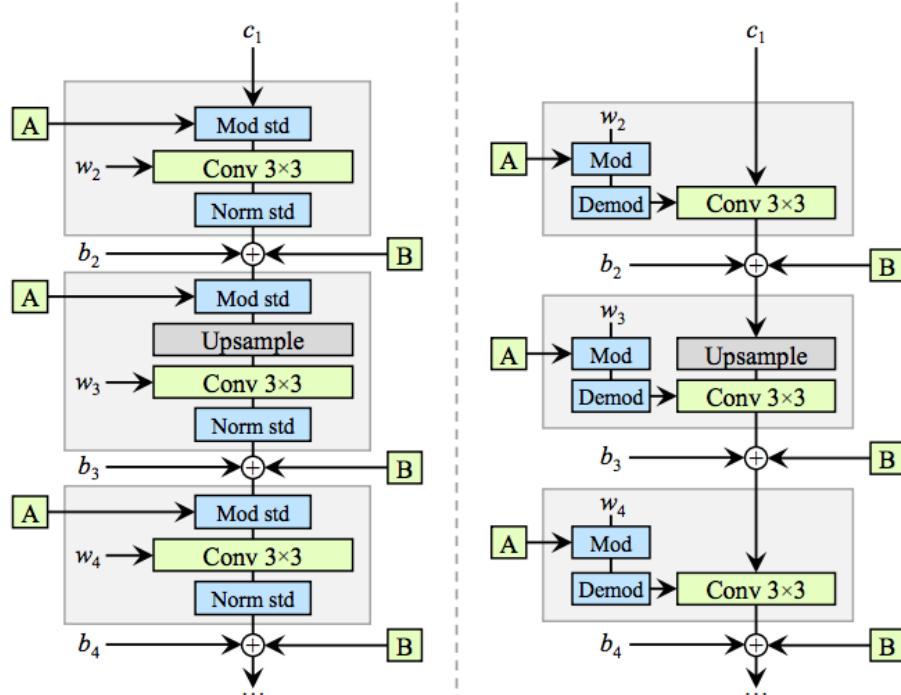


Figure 2.1: StyleGAN2 architecture

1. ***The generator model.*** The generator model starts with an input layer that takes an image as input and a vector as an output in the latent space and gets normalized. We follow this with two fully connected layers (Dense layers), then we add a 4×4 convolutional layer, upsample, a 4×4 ToRGB layer, then a UpConv layer (upsampling + Sum + Residual Unit). We repeat this six more times while increasing the kernel size to the power of 2 (8×8 , 16×16 , 32×32 , etc.).
2. ***The discriminator model.*** For the discriminator model, following the input layer, we will add a FromRGB layer with a kernel size of 256×256 , followed by a DownConv layer (convolutional layer + Residual Unit + downsampling), a skip connection. We will repeat this six times before adding a mini-batch standard deviation, a convolutional layer then a fully connected layer.
3. ***Quality metrics.*** In this project, we will use multiple metrics to evaluate the performance of our GANs.

We will compute Frechet Inception Distance (FID) against the full dataset for each network to evaluate it. FID is a metric that calculates the distance between feature vectors calculated for real and generated images. Low FID score indicates that the images generated by the generator is similar to the real ones. We expect the FID result to be minimal and comparable to results from the original paper (5.59 to 2.42). To calculate FID, we will perform the following:

- (a) Use the Inception v3 pre-trained model and extract the feature vectors of real and generated images.
- (b) Find the mean feature-wise of the vectors generated in the previous step.
- (c) Generate the feature vectors' covariance matrices.
- (d) Calculate the sum of the elements along the main diagonal of the square matrix.
- (e) Calculate the squared difference of the mean vectors.
- (f) Add the output from the previous two steps.

- ***Timeline.*** The project timeline is described in Figure 2.2.

2.4 Conclusions

GAN approach is an efficient generative modeling approach, but its high demand for dataset size limits small-sized datasets applications. The experiments in Keras et al. proposed ADA as a method to increase the GAN approach's feasibility for small-size datasets. By applying an adaptive discriminator augmentation mechanism, the GAN approach can generate good results with small datasets. In our project, we will attempt to reproduce similar results to the models' performance reported in the paper, following the source code and the methodology reported in the paper, we will test ADA on three datasets from

the original paper and three additional new datasets. As described above, after the preprocessing of data, we will follow the pipeline where the baseline is StyleGAN2. The paper provides good details of the methodology and well-documented source code that will allow us to test whether we can reproduce the results.

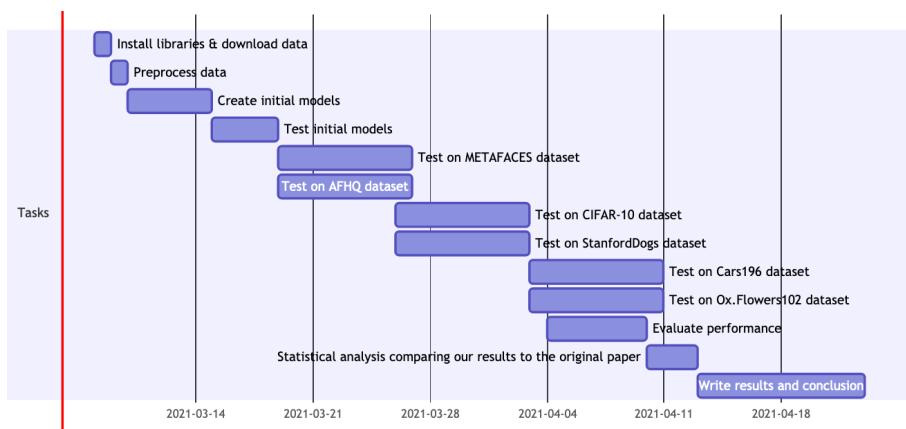


Figure 2.2: Project Timeline

Chapter 3

Milestone 3: Progress Report 1

3.1 Introduction

As described in the previous chapters, our project aims to evaluate the ADA mechanism's reproducibility and replicability in training GAN with limited data.

Generative Adversarial Networks (GAN) is a generative modeling approach using deep learning techniques to automatically discover and learn the input patterns to generate an output that would plausibly appear as if it was sampled from the original dataset [2]. The structure constructed in GAN has a generator model and discriminator model connected, allowing the superficially plausible data generated by the generator to proceed to the discriminator model to do discrimination with the real data and penalize the generator if there's an implausible result detected [3]. The built-in structure makes GAN approach powerful to generate a sample; however, GAN's strong power cannot be performed appropriately for the limited dataset problems. When the GAN approach is applied on limited datasets, the discriminator will overfit to training data examples, and the training eventually diverges. Furthermore, when the augmentation of the dataset is introduced to resolve the overfitting, the augmented distribution can be induced, which is undesirable for sample generation [6]. To eliminate the obstruction of the overfitting problem in a limited dataset for the GAN approach, the research by Keras et al. came up with one method to do this by applying a wide variety of augmentation methods [1].

Our project is to provide a complete evaluation of the proposed generative image training models by Keras et al. We are following the method and code provided in the paper, using the StyleGAN2-ADA architecture to assess its reproducibility and ability to classify datasets with limited data. The datasets we are using in this project include METFACES [1], AFHQ (WILD, DOG, CAT) [25], CIFAR-10 [26], StandfordDogs [27, 28], Cars196 [29], and Oxford-Flowers102 [30]. We have preprocessed the images of all these datasets and

trained three datasets for at least one day. Here, we report results from these three datasets:

1. METFACES
2. AFHQ-WILD
3. OxfordFlowers102

We used the results that we have so far to calculate and report the Frechet Inception Distance (FID) alongside the hyperparameters that were used in each dataset. We found that we're able to reproduce two datasets presented in the original paper – METFACES and AFHQ-WILD. We also found that the model can produce good results from the new dataset (i.e., datasets that were not tested in the original paper) based on our results from the OxfordFlowers102 dataset. We report and discuss these results about the adaptive discriminator augmentation (ADA) mechanism.

3.2 Experimental Setup

- **Environment setup.** This project creates an Anaconda3 environment to install required packages and dependencies to compile and train the StyleGAN2-ADA architecture. Specifically, we loaded GCC 6.1 and built a GPU-capable TensorFlow 1.14 environment with Python 3.7, Numpy 1.14.3, CUDA 10.0 toolkit, and cuDNN 7.5.
- **Data sources.** In this project, we use multiple datasets to test the StyleGAN2-ADA architecture proposed by Karras et al. The datasets we report here are the ones we sufficiently trained using the StyleGAN2-ADA architecture, and these datasets are:
 1. *Metfaces*, which consists of 1336 high-quality faces extracted from the collection of Metropolitan Museum of Art with (1024×1024) resolution.
 2. *AFHQ-Wild*, which consists of 4738 images of wildlife animals, with (512×512) resolution.
 3. *OxfordFlowers102*, which consists of 8189 images of flowers commonly occurring in the United Kingdom in various image resolutions.

• Preprocessing.

- **Resizing.** We resize our dataset to half the original size that was used in the paper, that is, a resized resolution of (256×256) for all datasets except for the METFACES dataset, which we resized to (512×512) . We have decided to resize the images to a smaller size due to the GPUs resources' limitation and overall computing power compared to the original paper.

– **Dataset Augmentation.** The augmentation itself is considered a part of the preprocessing task. However, we decide to dedicate a subsection because it is the core of the original paper. In this project, we follow the same augmentations proposed by Karras et al. in the original paper. These augmentations consist of 18 transformations: geometric (7), color (5), filtering (4), and corruption (2). Figure 3.1 shows a visual demonstration of each transformation effect.

1. Geometric and color transformations.

- (a) ***Pixel blitting.*** We begin by using pixel blitting to copy existing pixels as-is without blending between adjacent pixels. This process consists of x-flips, 90 degrees rotations, and integer translations. This produces a 3×3 matrix. Moreover, each transformation with probability (p) by sampling its parameters from uniform distribution (5th, 35th, 65th, 95th) percentiles.
- (b) ***General geometric transformations.*** This process consists of isotropic scaling, arbitrary rotation, anisotropic scaling, and fractional translation. Here, rotations are applied less frequently (at least one rotation is equal (p)). Afterward, we use a low pass filter to ensure that interpolating at the original resolution filters out frequencies above Nyquist.
- (c) ***Color Transformation.*** This process consists of adjusting brightness, contrast, and saturation. Moreover, it consists of flipping the luma axis while keeping the chroma unchanged and rotating the hue axis by an arbitrary amount.

2. Image-space filtering and corruptions.

- (a) ***Image-space filtering.*** This process turns the content of the images to 4 non-overlapping band through 4 transformations. Afterwards, we perform filtering using amplifying filters. Then, we add separable convolutions for images using reflection padding.
- (b) ***Image-space corruptions.*** Image corruptions is introduced by applying RGB noise and cutouts. The is introduced in using its standard deviation from half of the normal distribution. Cutout are performed by setting pixels to zero within a rectangular area of a predefined size depending on the image dimension.

- **Hyperparameters.** The hyperparameters that we used to train our models are described in Table 3.1.

- **Performance measure.**



Figure 3.1: Visual Sample demonstrating different augmentations proposed by Karras et al. and used by the ADA mechanism.

To test our model performance, we use FID as a function of training set size and compare our results against the original paper’s FID scores.

3.3 Experimental Results

In this section, we provide results of training multiple small datasets using the StyleGAN2-ADA architecture as proposed by Karras et al. Table 3.2 shows details about training time, our model’s FID score per dataset, and the original paper’s FID scores.

In Figure 3.2 to Figure 3.4, we are showing the comparison between the output images and the real ones, where (a) part representing real images, and (b) part representing the fake images reported at this point. The high similarity between fake and real images and the good FID are supporting each other.

Table 3.1: Hyperparameters used in each experiment.

Parameter	Metfaces	AFHQ-WILD	OxfordFlowers102
Resolution	512×512	256×256	256×256
No. of GPUs (Tesla V100)	2	2	2
Base feature maps	16384	8192	8192
Training time (hrs)	22.42	35.14	20.71
Minibatch size	16	32	32
Minibatch stddev	4	4	4
Learning rate	0.0025	0.0025	0.0025
R1 regularization	3.2768	0.4096	0.4096
Dataset x-flips	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mixed-precision	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mapping net depth	Yes	Yes	Yes
Style mixing reg.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Path length reg.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Resnet D	Yes	Yes	Yes

Table 3.2: Fréchet inception distance (FID) results

Dataset	Training time (hrs)	Our FID	Original paper FID
METFACES	22.42	20.07	18.22
AFHQ-WILD	35.14	2.31	3.05
OxfordFlowers102	20.71	8.19	NA (new dataset)

3.4 Discussion

Standard data augmentation methods can sometimes have undesirable drawbacks, such as when the transformations can leak into the generated images which may not be desirable. For example, generating painting like the ones in the METFACES dataset with 90° rotation to augment the training data could result in a rotated generated paintings. Karras et al. implemented a mechanism in which augmentations can be designed to be non-leaking as long as they are skipped with a non-zero probability. For example, if a lot of the images that the discriminator model receives are not rotated for augmentation, the generator model will learn to avoid creating images that are rotated. The ADA mechanism that we used here, however, is able to perform non-leaking image augmentations during training controlling how much and how often augmentations are to be applied to both the real images and the fake images during training. In other words, StyleGAN2-ADA mitigates issues related to the overfitting of the discriminator and undesirable distortions associated with StyleGAN2 through the ADA mechanism, which allows it to be trained on a few thousand images while preserving the same quality of the images as generated by StyleGAN2. However, to be able to experimentally compare our results with StyleGAN2-ADA to StyleGAN2, we will attempt to train a separate model without the ADA

mechanism and compare the results obtained from that model to the one with the ADA mechanism. If the ADA mechanism is indeed superior to StyleGAN2 alone, we expect a significantly less training time and fewer distortions in the generated fake images, and higher FID scores. We plan to implement a statistical comparison between the two architectures in the next milestone of this project.

In Section 3.3, we demonstrated that we were able to use the StyleGAN2-ADA architecture to reproduce and replicate comparable results to the original paper. The time and results suggests that StyleGAN2-ADA may indeed provide a significant improvement over the baseline algorithm of StyleGAN2 since the FID results we obtained were better than the state of the art results produced by StyleGAN2 in the AFHQ-WILD datasets, at least.

The two datasets tested in the original paper, METFACES and AFHQ-WILD, returned comparable FID scores to what is reported in the paper. We believe that although resizing the images decreased the output quality, it did noticeably speed up the training time required to reach reasonably good results in the two datasets with FID scores of 20.07 and 2.32, respectively. We also demonstrate that we could achieve an FID score of 8.19 after training the Oxford-flowers dataset for about 29 hours.

3.5 Conclusion

We demonstrated that we could reproduce FID scores with the METFACES and AFHQ-WILD datasets comparable to the original paper’s results and good FID scores with a new OxfordFlowers102 dataset. In the next report, we will test if the results from StyleGAN2-ADA against results generated with StyleGAN2 and use the appropriate statistical test to demonstrate whether StyleGAN2-ADA is significantly better (i.e., returns better FID scores) than StyleGAN2. Then, we will attempt to reproduce results from the other two AFHQ datasets and CIFAR-10, this time without resizing the images. We will also further test the replicability of the model using additional datasets, including StanfordDogs and Cars196. Overall, in the next report, we will include results from datasets without image resizing and different sets of hyperparameters, results from StyleGAN2 to statistically compare it against StyleGAN2-ADA, and results from new datasets to evaluate the model’s replicability.



(a) Real images

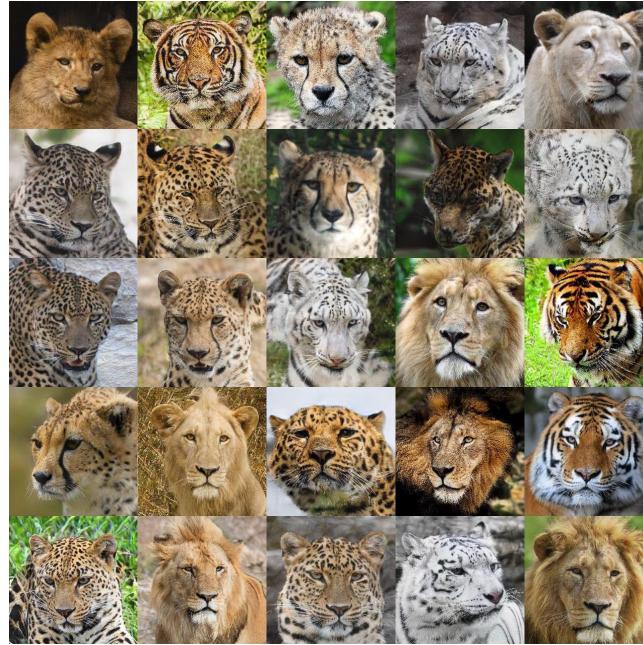


(b) Fake images

Figure 3.2: Snapshots of METFACES real and fake images.



(a) Real images



(b) Fake images

Figure 3.3: Snapshots of AFHQ-WILD real and fake images.



(a) Real images



(b) Fake images

Figure 3.4: Snapshots of OxfordFlowers102 real and fake images.

Chapter 4

Milestone 4: Progress Report 2

4.1 Introduction

In this report, we will continue our evaluation of the ADA mechanism’s reproducibility and replicability in training GAN with limited datasets proposed by Karras et al. [1]. We report the latest results from the datasets we presented in the previous milestone after training the model on these datasets for a longer time. We also compare and contrast results achieved by training a baseline StyleGAN2 model to results from a StyleGAN2 model with the ADA mechanism to evaluate the reproducibility of this comparison as reported in the original paper.

As explained in previous chapters, the Generative Adversarial Network (GAN) is a generative modeling approach using deep learning techniques to automatically discover and learn the input patterns to generate an output that would plausibly appear as if it was sampled from the original dataset [2]. The GAN approach is always limited with dataset size. For example, when the dataset is small, the discriminator can overfit to training data examples, causing the model to diverge. Another problem is that even when attempting to resolve the issue of overfitting by augmenting the dataset, this process can lead to an augmented distribution, which is also a poor quality for sample generation [6]. Karras et al. proposed a method to eliminate the overfitting problem in the smaller-sized datasets by applying a wide variety of augmentation methods, the adaptive discriminator augmentation. [1].

In addition to reporting the latest results of datasets that we had previously reported their initial results (i.e., METFACES [1], AFHQ-WILD and Oxford-Flowers102 [30]), we report results from two new datasets that we trained from scratch using the StyleGAN2-ADA model. These datasets are:

1. AFHQ-DOG [25]

2. Cars196 [29]

As we did in the previous report, we report the hyperparameters used in each dataset and the Frechet Inception Distance (FID) that we used to evaluate the performance of our model. We were able to reproduce comparable results with the AFHQ-DOG dataset to what is reported in the original paper. For the new dataset, Cars196, our model also produced good results surpassing the current state-of-the-art that we will discuss in later sections.

4.2 Experimental Setup

- **Environment setup.** In addition to the StyleGAN2-ADA Anaconda3 environment that we previously created to run and train our StyleGAN2-ADA model, we created a new Anaconda3 environment for the original baseline StyleGAN2 model. Like StyleGAN2-ADA environment, we installed a GPU-capable TensorFlow 1.14, but this time with Python 3.6. We also installed Numpy 1.14.3, CUDA 10.0 toolkit, cuDNN 7.5, and GCC 6.1.
- **Data sources.** This project uses multiple datasets to test the StyleGAN2-ADA architecture and compare it with results from the original baseline StyleGAN2 architecture. The datasets we report here are sufficiently trained using the StyleGAN2 and/or StyleGAN2-ADA architectures. These datasets are:
 1. *METFACES*, which consists of 1336 high-quality faces extracted from the collection of Metropolitan Museum of Art with (1024×1024) resolution.
 2. *AFHQ-Wild*, which consists of 4738 images of wildlife animals, with (512×512) resolution.
 3. *OxfordFlowers102*, which consists of 8189 images of flowers commonly occurring in the United Kingdom in various image resolutions.
 4. *AFHQ-DOG*, which consists of 5000 images of dogs, with (512×512) resolution.
 5. *cars196*, this Cars dataset contains 16,185 images of 196 classes of cars.
- **Preprocessing.**
 - **Resizing.** We resize our dataset to half the original size that was used in the paper, that is, a resized resolution of (256×256) for all datasets except for the METFACES dataset, which we resized to (512×512) . We have decided to resize the images to a smaller size due to the GPUs resources' limitation and overall computing power compared to the original paper. We used the resized images in both StyleGAN2 and StyleGAN2-ADA.

- **Dataset Augmentation.** As stated in our previous report, the augmentation itself is considered a part of the preprocessing task. However, we chose to add it as a subsection as it represents the core point of the original paper. The augmentations are what differentiates StyleGAN2-ADA from StyleGAN2. These augmentations consist of 18 transformations: geometric (7), color (5), filtering (4), and corruption (2). Figure 3.1 shows a visual demonstration of each transformation effect. It is worth reiterating that the network architecture of StyleGAN2-ADA is based on StyleGAN2 implementation. This includes using the same weight demodulation, path regularization, lazy regularization, bi-linear filtering, learning rate, the exponential moving average of generator weights, R1 regularization, and Adam optimizer. Figure 3.1 shows a simple demonstration of the augmentations and how they work.
- **StyleGAN Architecture.** Since we will compare results obtained from StyleGAN2 against those from StyleGAN2-ADA, therefore, it is important to explain the architecture of StyleGAN, which precedes StyleGAN2. [23]. In StyleGAN, the input is mapped to an intermediate latent space; then, the generator is controlled through adaptive instance normalization (AdaIN) at each convolutional layer. After each convolutional layer, a gaussian noise is added before evaluating the nonlinearity. Figure 4.1.a, (A) stands for a learned affine transform, (B) applies learned per channel scaling factors to the noise input. This generator architecture consists of 26.2 Million trainable parameters.
- **StyleGAN2 Architecture.** StyleGAN2 is an improved version of StyleGAN. For instance, the original StyleGAN consisted of style blocks, as in Figure 4.1. On the other hand, StyleGAN2 applies bias and noise within the style block, causing an inversely proportional relative impact to the current style’s magnitudes. Moreover, unlike StyleGAN, the additional blocks are moved outside the style blocks, resulting in more predictable results. The normalization artifacts were also removed in StyleGAN2, allowing for a smoothed image quality. Furthermore, StyleGAN2 is faster because of the simplified data flow due to weight demodulation, lazy regularization, and code optimizations. Here, we use the network architecture as described by [24] to train StyleGAN2 on some of our datasets for comparison. This step will provide a reference that we will use later to improve the adaptive discriminator augmentation compared to the original baseline configuration. We expect significant improvement of using ADA over baseline, as shown in the original paper.
- **Hyperparameters.** The hyperparameters that we used to train our StyleGAN2 and StyleGAN2-ADA models are described in Table 4.1 and 4.2. As we mentioned earlier, except for the new augmentation methods

introduced in StyleGAN2-ADA, the two architectures have many common features. Likewise, the hyperparameters used to train the StyleGAN2-ADA model are also very similar to those used in StyleGAN2.

- **Performance measure.**

To test our model performance, we followed the same steps we used in our previous report to calculate the Fréchet inception distance (FID), then compared our results against the original paper’s FID scores for the datasets that were used in the original paper and the state-of-the-art FID scores for new datasets.

Table 4.1: Hyperparameters used to train StyleGAN2-ADA models.

Parameter	METFACE	SAFHQ-WILD	Oxford-Flowers102	AFHQ-DOG	cars196
Resolution	512×512	256×256	256×256	256×256	256×256
No. of GPUs (Tesla V100)	2	2	2	2	2
Base feature maps	16384	8192	8192	5000	16185
Training time (hrs)	22.42	35.14	20.71	43.59	27.67
Minibatch size	16	32	32	32	32
Minibatch stddev	4	4	4	16	16
Learning rate	0.0025	0.0025	0.0025	0.0025	0.0025
R1 regularization	3.2768	0.4096	0.4096	0.4096	0.4096
Dataset x-flips	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mixed-precision	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mapping net depth	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Style mixing reg.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Path length reg.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Resnet D	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Table 4.2: Hyperparameters used to train the baseline StyleGAN2 models.

Parameter	AFHQ-WILD	AFHQ-DOG
Resolution	256×256	256×256
No. of GPUs (Tesla V100)	2	2
Base feature maps	8192	5000
Minibatch size	32	32
Minibatch stddev	4	4
Learning rate	0.002	0.002
R1 regularization	0.4096	0.4096
Mixed- precision	No	No
Mapping net depth	Yes	Yes
Style mixing reg.	Yes	Yes
Path length reg.	Yes	Yes
Resnet D	Yes	Yes

4.3 Experimental Results

In this section, we provide results obtained from training our datasets using the StyleGAN2-ADA and/or StyleGAN2 architectures. Details about training time, our models’ FID scores, and the original paper’s or the state-of-the-art FID scores are shown in Tables 4.3 and Table 4.4. Due to technical issues in Crane (the University of Nebraska’s high-performance computing system that we use to train our models), we were only able to train StyleGAN2 for a limited amount of time. However, we make comparisons against snapshots of StyleGAN2-ADA models that were saved as checkpoints from approximately the same time that was spent in training StyleGAN2 models for a fair comparison.

In Figure 4.2 to Figure 4.3, we are showing the comparison between the output images from the StyleGAN2-ADA architecture and the real ones, where (a) part representing real images, and (b) part representing the fake images reported at this point. The high similarity between fake and real images and the good FID are supporting each other. Figure 4.5 shows a comparison between StyleGAN2 output and real AFHQ-Wild pictures.

Table 4.3: Latest FID results of StyleGAN2-ADA Implementation

Dataset	Training time (hrs)	Our FID	Original paper/State-of-the-art FID
METFACES	102	20.89	18.22
AFHQ-WILD	132	2.23	3.05
OxfordFlowers102	120	7.53	19.60 [31]
AFHQ-DOG	93	10.83	7.40
Cars196	146	7.53	16.03 [31]

Table 4.4: FID results of StyleGAN2 Implementation compared to StyleGAN2-ADA

Dataset	Training time (hrs)	Baseline-StyleGAN2 FID	StyleGAN2-ADA FID
AFHQ-WILD	50	3.19	3.38
AFHQ-DOG	28	19.23	14.1

4.4 Discussion

Our results demonstrate that we were able to reproduce and replicate StyleGAN2-ADA as described by Karras et al. [1] evident from the similar results we obtained compared to the original paper. In this report, we used two additional small datasets (AFHQ-DOG and cars196) to what we have reported before to reproduce results from the original paper. Similar to what we have shown in the previous report using METFACES, AFHQ-WILD, and OxfordFlowers102 datasets, we were able to obtain comparable FID results by training the models from scratch. Moreover, we show that StyleGAN2-ADA is remarkable better than StyleGAN2 in terms of training time (about 1.8 times faster) and in reaching a convergence point in a shorter time, as shown in Figure 4.3. Also, the out-of-the-box default hyperparameters for StyleGAN2-ADA appear to produce good results even after resizing the images.

Overall, the results we obtained so far match what the authors proposed in the original paper. We saw that dynamically changing the amount of image augmentation during training does indeed improve the results. We also noticed that using an adaptive discriminator augmentation that performs non-leaking image augmentations during training improves the outcomes, indicating the effectiveness of the proposed augmentation methods proposed by the original paper’s authors.

However, since we were only able to train two datasets for a short time using baseline StyleGAN2, we should sound a note of caution with regard to such results. For this, we will continue to train the baseline StyleGAN2 models for a period of time comparable to our latest StyleGAN2-ADA results for a full comparison.

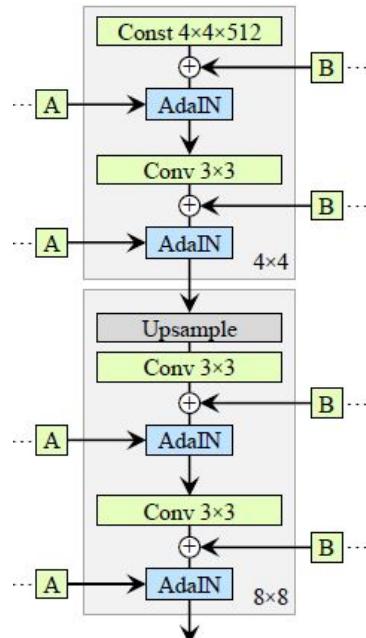
Table 4.5: Contributions by team member for Milestone 4.

Team Member	Contribution
M. Alyetama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building and training the model. - Writing helper functions code. - Visualizing results. - Writing introduction, setup, discussion, results, and conclusion. - Revising the document.
A. Al-Ramini	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Writing setup, result, and discussion.
F. Li	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Writing intro., and conclusion. - Revising the document.

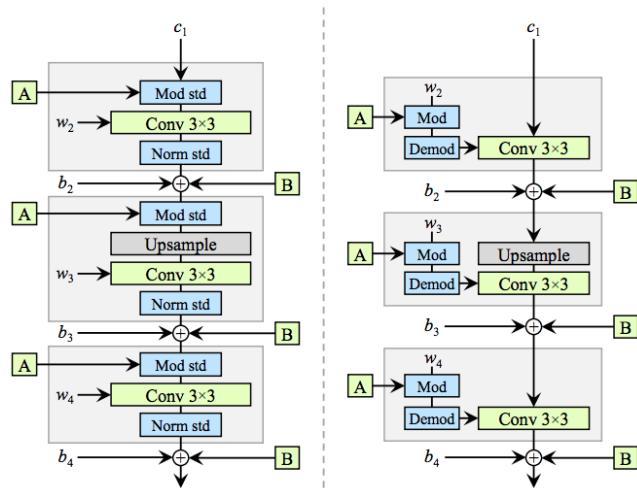
4.5 Conclusion

In our previous report, we demonstrated that we can reproduce good results comparable to the original paper/state-of-the-art FID scores by training the StyleGAN2-ADA model from scratch with the METFACES AFHQ-WILD and OxfordFlowers102 datasets. In this progress report, we have once again shown that the paper’s results are reproducible evident from results obtained by training the AFHQ-DOG dataset from scratch. We also demonstrate that FID results obtained from training StyleGAN2-ADA on the Cars196 dataset surpass the current state-of-the-art.

In the next step, we plan to train subsets of some of the datasets we have trained with StyleGAN2-ADA. This is because the key premise of the paper is that the ADA mechanism is capable of producing good results with limited data. Thus, we will train the model with smaller subsets of the datasets that we used in previous training runs, then calculate the FID scores obtained from training these models on the small subsets to see if the ADA mechanism can produce good results even with very small datasets.



(a) StyleGAN



(b) StyleGAN2

Figure 4.1: (a) Original StyleGAN and (b) StyleGAN2 architectures



(a) Real images



(b) Fake images using StyleGAN-ADA



(c) Baseline StyleGAN2

Figure 4.2: Uncurated results generated for AFHQ-DOG with and without ADA, along with real images from the training set.



(a) Real images

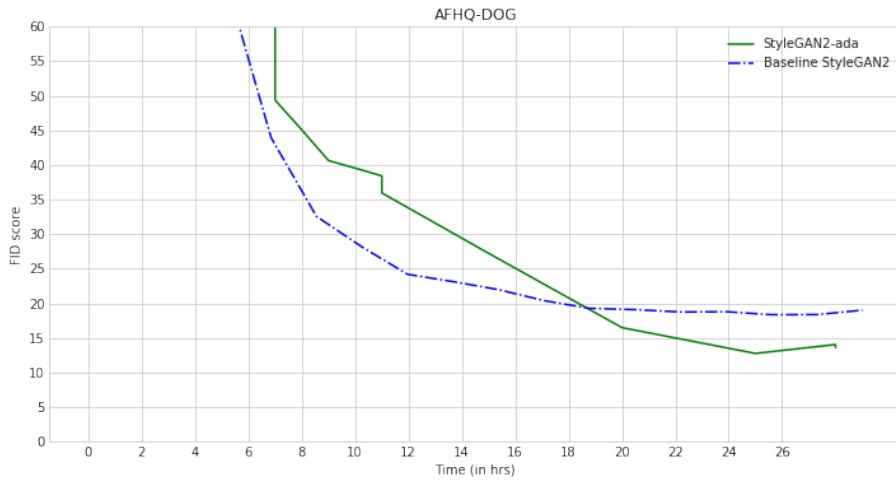


(b) Fake images using StyleGAN-ADA

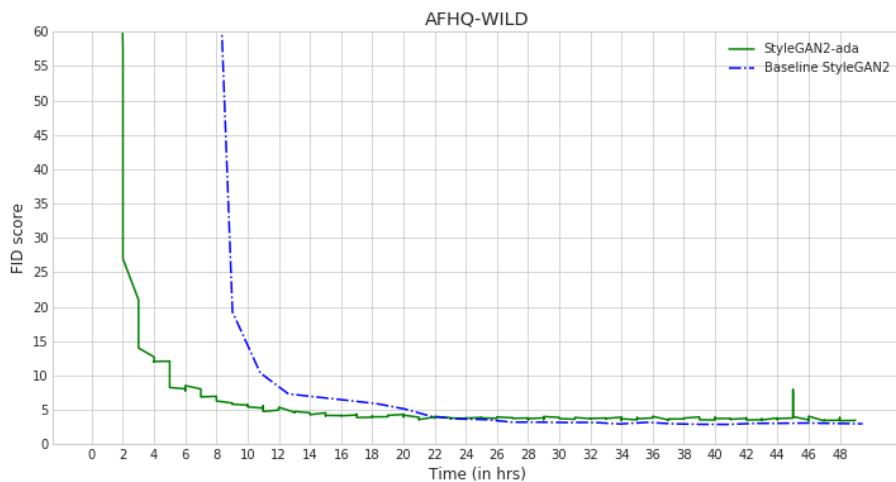


(c) Fake images using StyleGAN2

Figure 4.3: Uncurated results generated for AFHQ-WILD with and without ADA, along with real images from the training set.



(a) AFHQ-DOG



(b) AFHQ-WILD

Figure 4.4: Comparison between StyleGAN2-ADA and baseline StyleGAN2 models trained on AFHQ-DOG and AFHQ-WILD.

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