

# Efficient Mobile Text-to-Image Diffusion Models

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Talk @ASU, Feb. 09, 2024 (Fri)

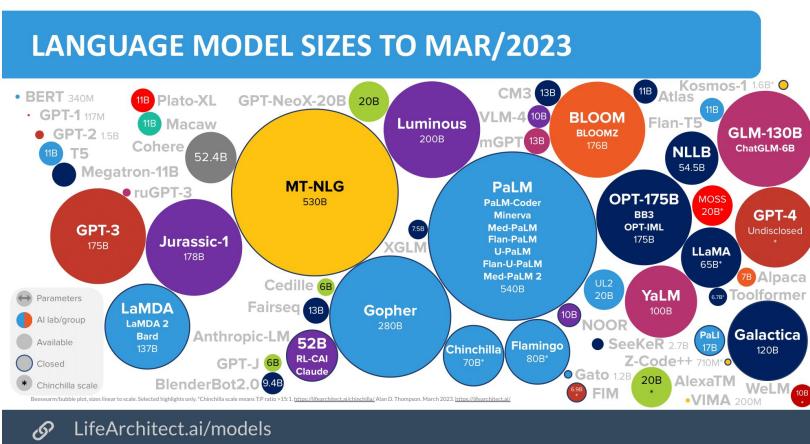


**Huan Wang**, final-year Ph.D. candidate at SMILE Lab, Northeastern University (Boston, USA), advised by Prof. Yun Raymond Fu.

- BE'16, MS'19 @ZJU, advised by Prof. Haoji Hu.
- Interned Google / Snap / MERL / Alibaba.
- Work on **efficient deep learning** (**pruning, distillation**) in CV & DL: **GenAI, 3D modelling**.

# Motivation: Deep Learning Model Size is Inflating (very) Quickly

- Parameters: Millions ⇒ **Billions** (Hundreds of Billions)
- Past (before 2020):** Hard to deploy on resource-constrained devices (mobile, IoT, wearable devices) -- **Inference**
- Now (after 2020):** The rise of **Generative AI** (e.g., Stable Diffusion, ChatGPT) causes more training cost -- **Inference + Training**
  - GPT-3, 175B params, training once: **tens of millions of dollars**.
  - Environmental impact.



SOTA LLMs size as of 2023/03. [src]

### Environmental Impact

**Stable Diffusion v1** Estimated Emissions Based on that information, we estimate the following CO<sub>2</sub> emissions using the [Machine Learning Impact calculator](#) presented in [Lacoste et al. \(2019\)](#). The hardware, runtime, cloud provider, and compute region were utilized to estimate the carbon impact.

- Hardware Type: A100 PCIe 40GB
- Hours used: 200000
- Cloud Provider: AWS
- Compute Region: US-east
- Carbon Emitted (Power consumption x Time x Carbon produced based on location of power grid): **15000 kg CO<sub>2</sub> eq.**

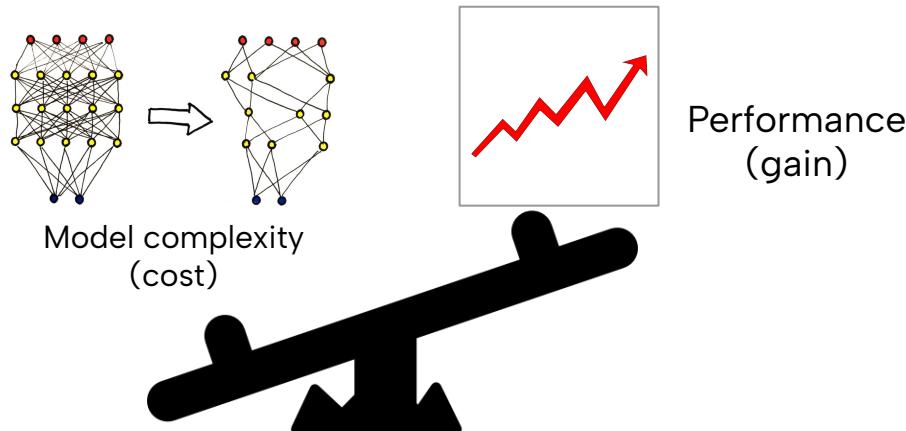
Training Stable Diffusion model emits **15,000 kg of CO<sub>2</sub>**.  
src: [modelcard.md - Stability-AI/stablediffusion · GitHub](#)



Now, more than ever, the world needs **efficient deep learning**.

# What is Efficient Deep Learning (EDL)?

Take away **model redundancy / complexity** while maintaining the **performance** as much as possible -- tradeoff!



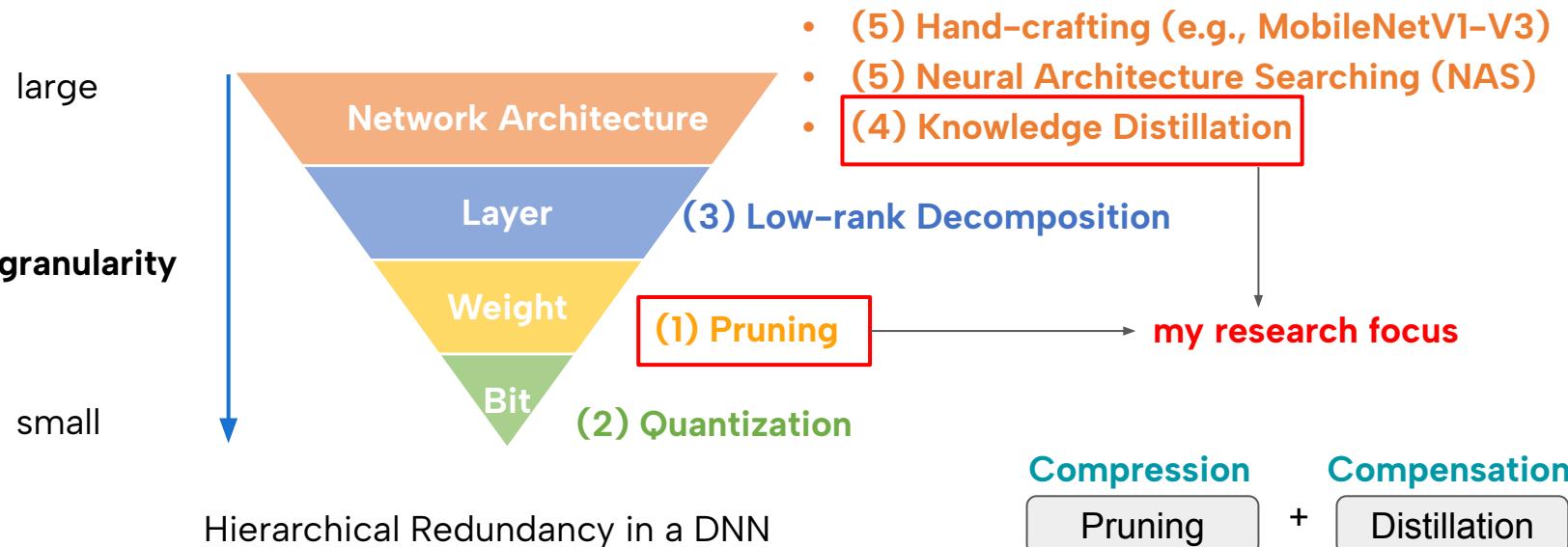
Essentially, EDL is about neural networks, not specific AI tasks.



capacity, optimization  $\Rightarrow$  generalization

EDL = better understanding of neural networks.

# The 5 Method Categories in EDL



Pruning + distillation: a **complete and generic pipeline** for designing efficient models.

## Outline of the Talk

- Background of two EDL techniques: pruning & distillation.
- **SnapFusion** from Snap [NeurIPS'23]
- **MobileDiffusion** from Google [Arxiv]
- Summary

# Background : Network Pruning

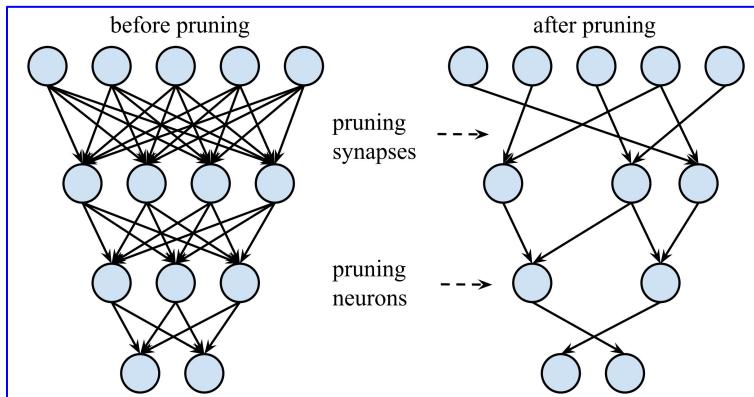


Illustration of pruning [Han et al., 2015, NeurIPS].

**Pruning** is probably **the earliest** mode compression method among the five.

- 1986: BP was popularized for training neural networks [Rumelhart et al., 1986, Nature].
- 1987: 1st NeurIPS conference.
- 1988: pruning papers appeared in the 2nd NeurIPS!

**The Typical 3-Stage Pruning Pipeline**  
(practiced for 30+ years)



(vs. **pruning at initialization** – not favored for foundation models.)

[Liu et al., ICLR, 2019]

# More Background: The 4 Key Questions in Network Pruning

## 1. What to prune?

(structured vs. unstructured)



## 2. How many to prune?

(layer-wise pruning ratio)



## 3. Which ones to prune?

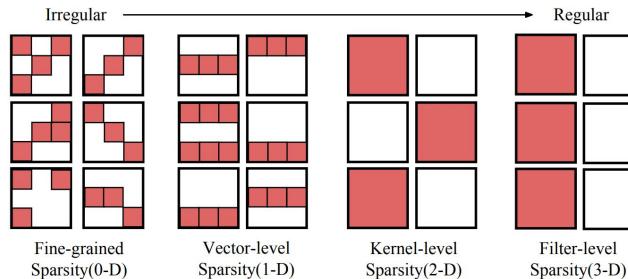
(pruning criterion)

most studied!



## 4. How to schedule the pruning process?

(e.g., one-shot vs. progressive)



Different sparsity structures.

[Mao et al., 2017, CVPRw]

Two groups of pruning methods:

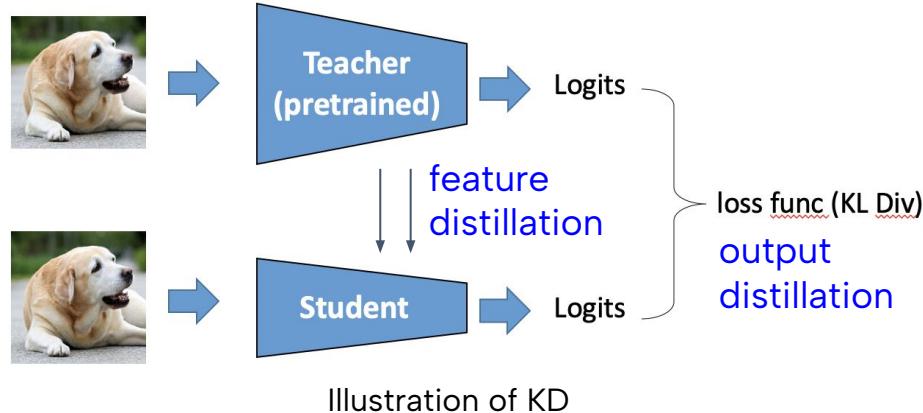
- Structured pruning  $\Rightarrow$  acceleration
- Unstructured pruning  $\Rightarrow$  compression

# Background of Knowledge Distillation (KD)

- Or called “teacher-student learning”
- Idea was invented in 2006 [1].
- Polished later by Hinton et al. in 2014 [2]

## Under-explored KD Problems:

1. The KD in **3D vision / neural rendering** is very much under-explored.
2. **KD in GenAI?**
3. How KD interacts with DA has not been well understood so far – **KD+DA, theory** [Wang et al., 2022, NeurIPS] – **not covered today**



The general spirit of KD: **function matching**  
Given the same input, we want the student to predict the same output as the teacher.

[1] Buciluă, C., Caruana, R., Niculescu-Mizil, A.: Model compression. In SIGKDD’06.

[2] Hinton, G., Vinyals, O., Dean, J.: Distilling the knowledge in a neural network. In NeurIPS Workshop’14.

# "Distillation is becoming a dominant tool in deep learning"



Alex Kendall (He/Him) • Following  
CEO at Wayve  
1mo •

Wrapping up an amazing week at **#CVPR2023**! It was great to chat with the authors of many impressive research papers. Some interesting trends I observed:

(1) neural rendering methods can now handle dynamic scenes (although w huge compute requirements, but I expect will become real-time within the year). Many examples of this, such as: <https://dynibar.github.io/>

(2) model distillation is becoming a dominant tool in deep learning, now even enabling continual learning as model architectures change <https://lnkd.in/erFA5Fi8> or turning diffusion models into single shot feed forward models <https://lnkd.in/e5xaUkM4>

(3) many new problems which lack comprehensive datasets are now able to be solved by tricks to train on heterogeneous datasets which only partially share modalities or label classes. A neat example was this paper learning human pose from egocentric videos:

<https://lnkd.in/e8tEg-6c>

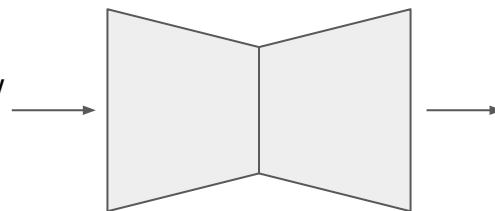
In CVPR'23, **2/12 Award Candidate**  
**Papers used distillation:**

- MobileNeRF – neural rendering
- W-conditioned distillation – diffusion models / GenAI

Post on LinkedIn, credit: Alex Kendall, CEO of Wayve

"A pikachu fine dining with a view  
to the Eiffel Tower"

**Prompt**



**Diffusion Model**



**Image**

# SnapFusion: Text-to-Image Diffusion Model on Mobile Devices within Two Seconds

Yanyu Li †

Snap Inc., Northeastern University

Huan Wang †

Snap Inc., Northeastern University

Qing Jin †

Snap Inc.

Ju Hu

Snap Inc.

Pavlo Chemerys

Snap Inc.

Yun Fu

Northeastern Univsity

Yanzhi Wang

Northeastern Univsity

Sergey Tulyakov

Snap Inc.

Jian Ren †

Snap Inc.

† Equal contribution.

## NeurIPS 2023

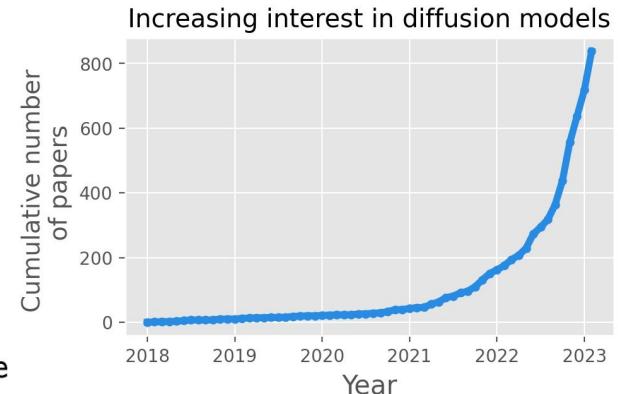


# The Rise of Diffusion Models

## Early pioneering works

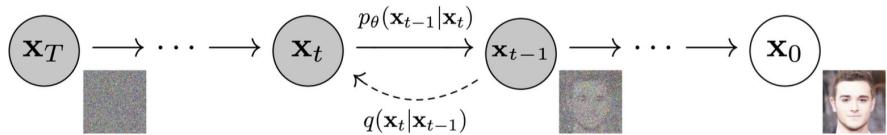
- **2015**-ICML-Deep Unsupervised Learning using Nonequilibrium Thermodynamics (Stanford & UCB) – CIFAR10
- **2020**-NIPS-Denoising diffusion probabilistic models (UCB) – DDPM, 1st demonstration of DM generating high-quality images
- **2021**-ICLR-Denoising Diffusion Implicit Models (Stanford) – DDIM
- **2021.01**-DALL-E 1 (OpenAI)
- **2021.05**-Diffusion Models Beat GANS on Image Synthesis (OpenAI)
- **2022.04**-DALL-E 2 (OpenAI)
- **2022.05**-Photorealistic Text-to-Image Diffusion Models with Deep Language Understanding (Google Imagen)
- **2022.08**-Stable Diffusion first release (CVPR'22, Runway + Stability AI)
- **2022.11**-eDiff-I: Text-to-Image Diffusion Models with Ensemble of Expert Denoisers (NVIDIA)

Papers exploding 🔥 now!



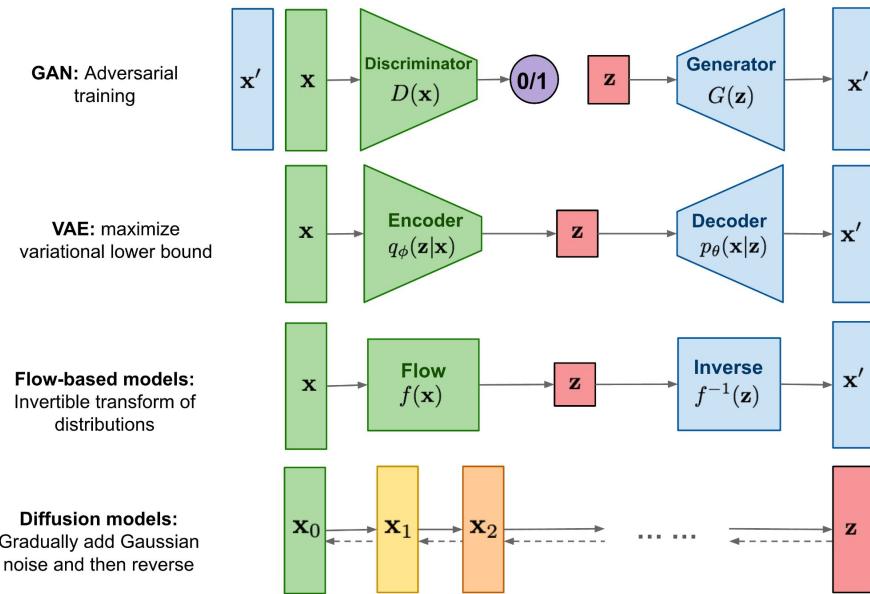
[src: [Sehwag's blog](#)]

# Prerequisites: Diffusion Model in the Generative Family



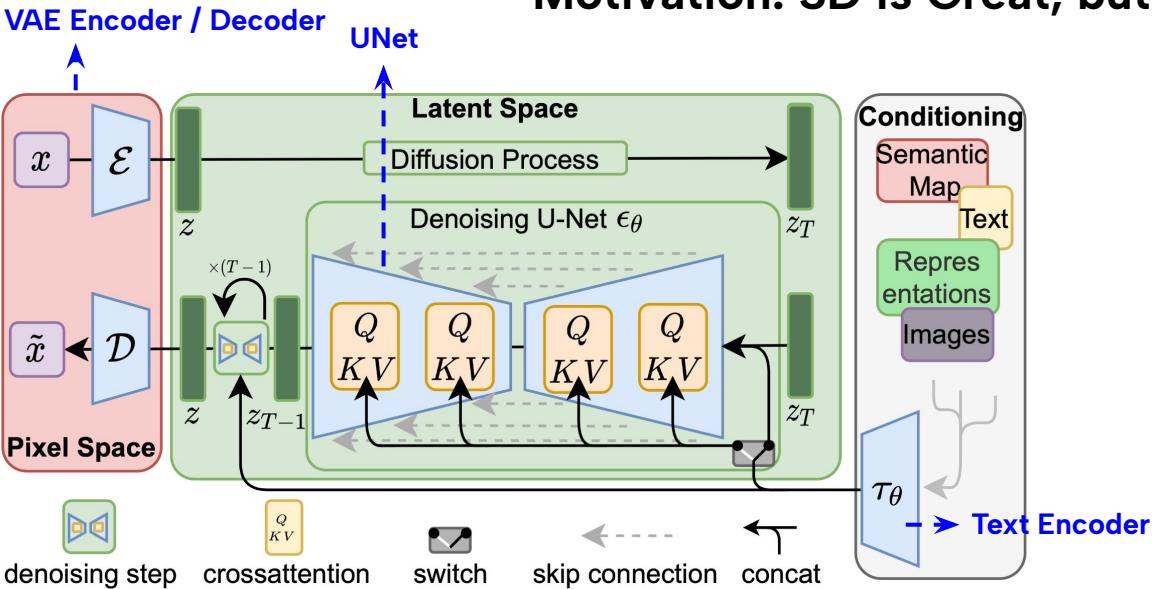
Src: DDPM [Ho et al., 2020, NeurIPS]

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



- Src: [What are Diffusion Models?](#) by **Lilian Weng** @OpenAI
- DM is featured by the **gradual (iterative) diffusion** and denoising process.
- DM: Feature or latent (z) has the same shape as the input (x).

# Motivation: SD is Great, but Huge and Slow



Overview of LDM / SD [Rombach et al., 2022, CVPR]

3 parts:

- Text encoder (from CLIP, frozen) -- input prompt
- **UNet (key!)** -- iterative denoising
- VAE encoder/decoder (frozen) -- generate image
- Inference:  $z_0 = \text{noise}$ ,  $c = \text{TextEnc}(\text{prompt}) \Rightarrow z' = \text{UNet}(t, z, c)$  (iterative)  $\Rightarrow \text{img} = \text{VAEDec}(z)$ .

Naively run SD on iOS: 1~2mins!

## **Early attempts for efficient on-device SD (Qualcomm & Google)**

**OnQ Blog**

**SD-v1.4, 15s, via full-stack AI optimization**

### **World's first on-device demonstration of Stable Diffusion on an Android phone**

Qualcomm AI Research deploys a popular 1B+ parameter foundation model on an edge device through full-stack AI optimization

**FEB 23, 2023**

Snapdragon and Qualcomm branded products are products of Qualcomm Technologies, Inc. and/or its subsidiaries.

# Early attempts for efficient on-device SD (Qualcomm & Google)

Google Research

Philosophy

Research Areas

Publications

People

Resources

Outreach

## SD-v1.5, 12s, via mobile GPU optimization

BLOG ›

Speed is all you need: On-device acceleration of large diffusion models via GPU-aware optimizations

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023

Posted by Juhyun Lee and Raman Sarokin, Software Engineers, Core Systems & Experiences

The proliferation of large **diffusion models** for **image generation** has led to a significant increase in model size and inference workloads. On-device ML inference in mobile environments requires meticulous performance optimization and consideration of trade-offs due to resource constraints. Running inference of large diffusion models (LDMs) on-device, driven by the need for cost efficiency and user privacy, presents even greater challenges due to the substantial memory requirements and computational demands of these models.

More of engineering optimizations – not change the **UNet arch.**, not optimize **loss**, no new **training pipeline** ⇒ **SnapFusion will optimize all these aspects.**

# Profiling – Where is the Speed Bottleneck?

Stable Diffusion v1.5	Text Encoder	UNet	VAE Decoder
Input Resolution	77 tokens	64 × 64	64 × 64
#Parameters (M)	123	860	50
Latency (ms)	4	~1,700*	369
Inference Steps	2	50	1
Total Latency (ms)	8	85,000	369

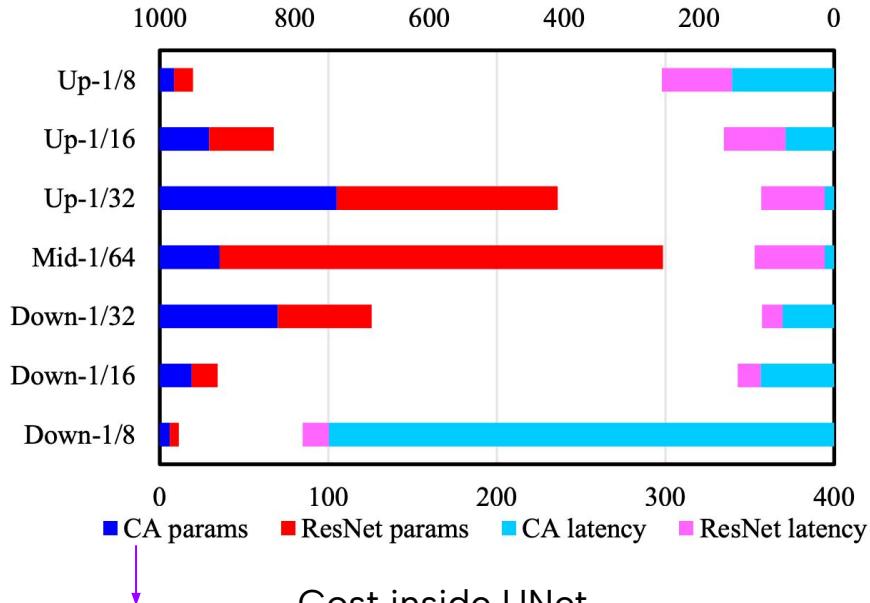
  

Our Model	Text Encoder	Our UNet	Our Image Decoder
Input Resolution	77 tokens	64 × 64	64 × 64
#Parameters (M)	123	848	13
Latency (ms)	4	230	116
Inference Steps	2	8	1
Total Latency (ms)	8	1,840	116

**Wanna accelerate SD? Two paths!**

- Reduce single inference cost – [Architecture efficiency](#)
- Reduce #inference steps – [Sampling efficiency](#)

# Profiling – Where is the Speed Bottleneck? (more fine-grained examination)



Attn: small #params, huge #latency!  
complexity of Attn:  $O(\text{feature map size}^2)$

A typo: Should be **Attention**  
(including Self-Attn and Cross-Attn)

# Methodology (1) – Efficient UNet

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## Algorithm 1 Optimizing UNet Architecture

---

**Require:** UNet:  $\hat{\epsilon}_\theta$ ; validation set:  $\mathbb{D}_{val}$ ; latency lookup table  $\mathbb{T} : \{Cross\text{-Attention}[i, j], ResNet[i, j]\}$ .

**Ensure:**  $\hat{\epsilon}_\theta$  converges and satisfies latency objective  $S$ .

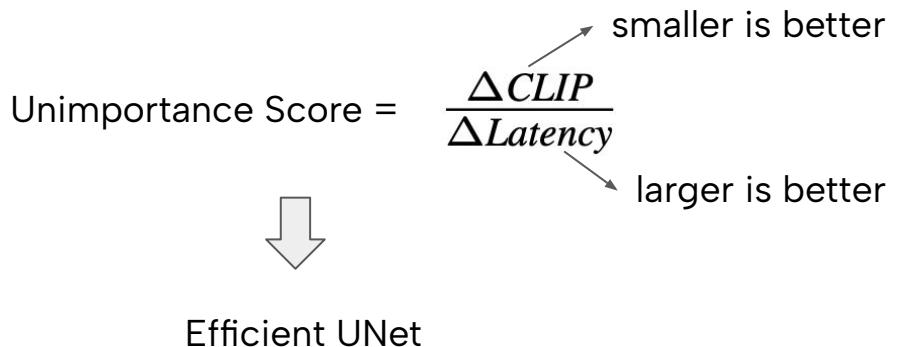
```

while  $\hat{\epsilon}_\theta$  not converged do
    Perform robust training.
    → Architecture optimization:
    if perform architecture evolving at this iteration then
        → Evaluate blocks:
        for each  $block[i, j]$  do
             $\Delta CLIP \leftarrow eval(\hat{\epsilon}_\theta, A_{block[i, j]}^-, \mathbb{D}_{val}),$ 
             $\Delta Latency \leftarrow eval(\hat{\epsilon}_\theta, A_{block[i, j]}^-, \mathbb{T})$ 
        end for
        → Sort actions based on  $\frac{\Delta CLIP}{\Delta Latency}$ , execute action, and evolve architecture to get latency  $T$ :
        if  $T$  not satisfied then
             $\{\hat{A}^-\} \leftarrow arg\ min_{A^-} \frac{\Delta CLIP}{\Delta Latency},$ 
        else
             $\{\hat{A}^+\} \leftarrow copy(arg\ max_{A^-} \frac{\Delta CLIP}{\Delta Latency}),$ 
             $\hat{\epsilon}_\theta \leftarrow evolve(\hat{\epsilon}_\theta, \{\hat{A}\})$ 
        end if
    end if
end while

```

---

We propose an **Automatic Architecture Evolving** Algorithm (General idea: **remove** the **unimportant** modules and **add** the **important** ones.)



# Methodology (1) – Efficient UNet (Final Arch.)

Table 3: Detailed architecture of our efficient UNet model.

Stage	Resolution	Type	Config	UNet Model	
				Origin	Ours
Down-1	$\frac{H}{8} \times \frac{W}{8}$	Cross Attention	Dimension	320	
			# Blocks	2	0
		ResNet	Dimension	320	
			# Blocks	2	2
Down-2	$\frac{H}{16} \times \frac{W}{16}$	Cross Attention	Dimension	640	
			# Blocks	2	2
		ResNet	Dimension	640	
			# Blocks	2	2
Down-3	$\frac{H}{32} \times \frac{W}{32}$	Cross Attention	Dimension	1280	
			# Blocks	2	2
		ResNet	Dimension	1280	
			# Blocks	2	1
Mid	$\frac{H}{64} \times \frac{W}{64}$	Cross Attention	Dimension	1280	
			# Blocks	1	1
		ResNet	Dimension	1280	
			# Blocks	7	4
Up-1	$\frac{H}{32} \times \frac{W}{32}$	Cross Attention	Dimension	1280	
			# Blocks	3	3
		ResNet	Dimension	1280	
			# Blocks	3	2
Up-2	$\frac{H}{16} \times \frac{W}{16}$	Cross Attention	Dimension	640	
			# Blocks	3	6
		ResNet	Dimension	640	
			# Blocks	3	3
Up-3	$\frac{H}{8} \times \frac{W}{8}$	Cross Attention	Dimension	320	
			# Blocks	3	0
		ResNet	Dimension	320	
			# Blocks	3	3

- Remove the Cross-Attention module at high resolution (the 1st downsample and last upsample).
- Add more modules for the upsample stage (Up-2).



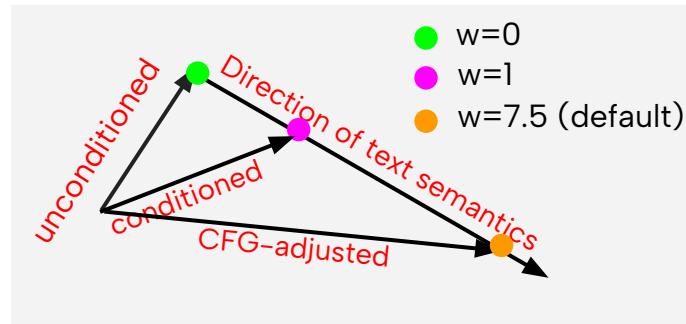
7.4x speedup! vs. SD-v1.5

## Methodology (2) – CFG-Aware Step Distillation (a new loss)

### What is CFG? (“classifier-free guidance”)

- A trick used to improve image quality (**for enhancing text semantics**).

How CFG works? A simple illustration.

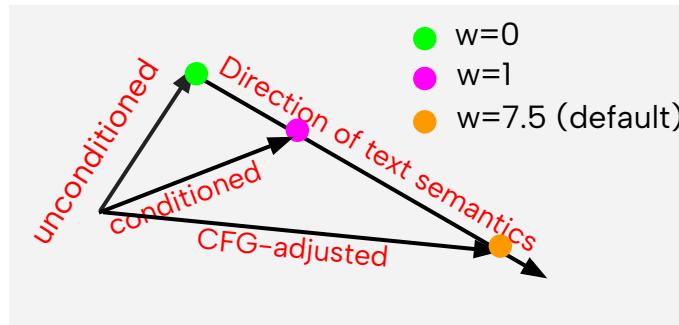


## Methodology (2) – CFG-Aware Step Distillation (a new loss)

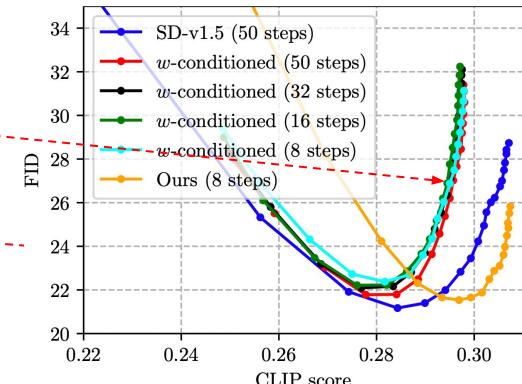
### CFG (“classifier-free guidance”)

- A trick used to improve image quality (**for enhancing text semantics**).

How CFG works? A simple illustration.



- **Problem / Motivation:** CFG is used in inference, *not in distilled training*  $\Rightarrow$  Student is CFG-unaware.
- **Solution:** We propose to apply CFG to the student during step distillation  $\Rightarrow$  Student is CFG-aware.



## Other Optimizations?

The major contributions are two:

- Efficient UNet
- CFG-aware Distillation, as presented above.

Please refer to the paper for more:

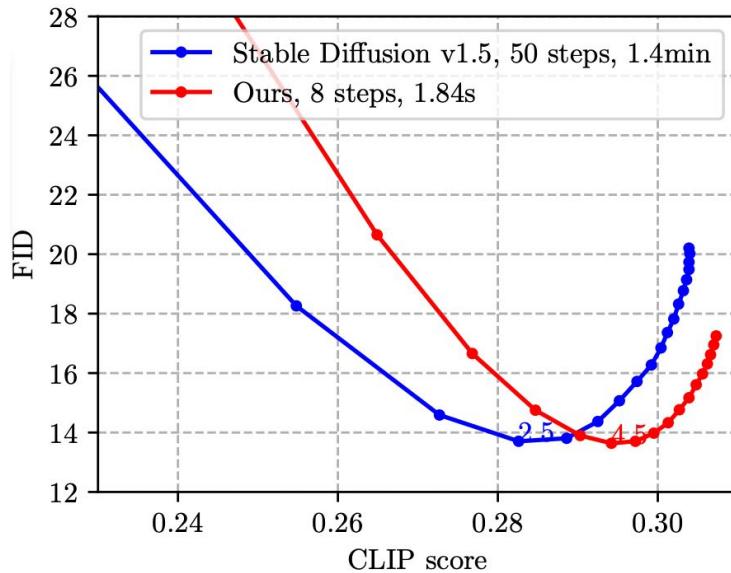
- Efficient VAE **decoder** via **structured pruning** (L1-norm pruning).
- **Training pipeline**. E.g., which teacher is used for distilling the 8-step student?

Stable Diffusion v1.5	Text Encoder	UNet	VAE Decoder
Input Resolution	77 tokens	64 × 64	64 × 64
#Parameters (M)	123	860	50
Latency (ms)	4	~1,700*	369
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# Experimental Results

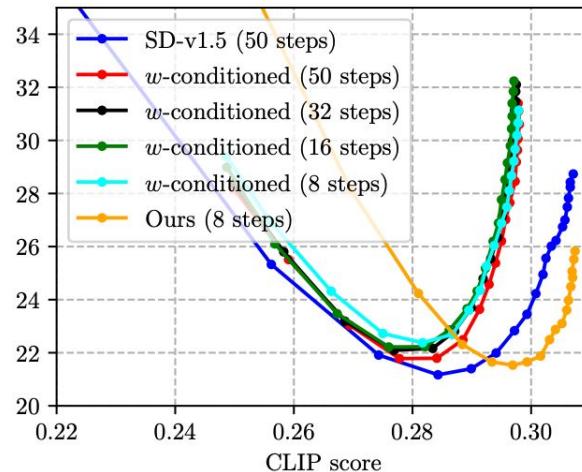


Ours vs. original SD-v1.5: **Better quality, and 46x faster!**

SnapFusion is the 1st mobile SD model that can run text-to-image generation <2s!

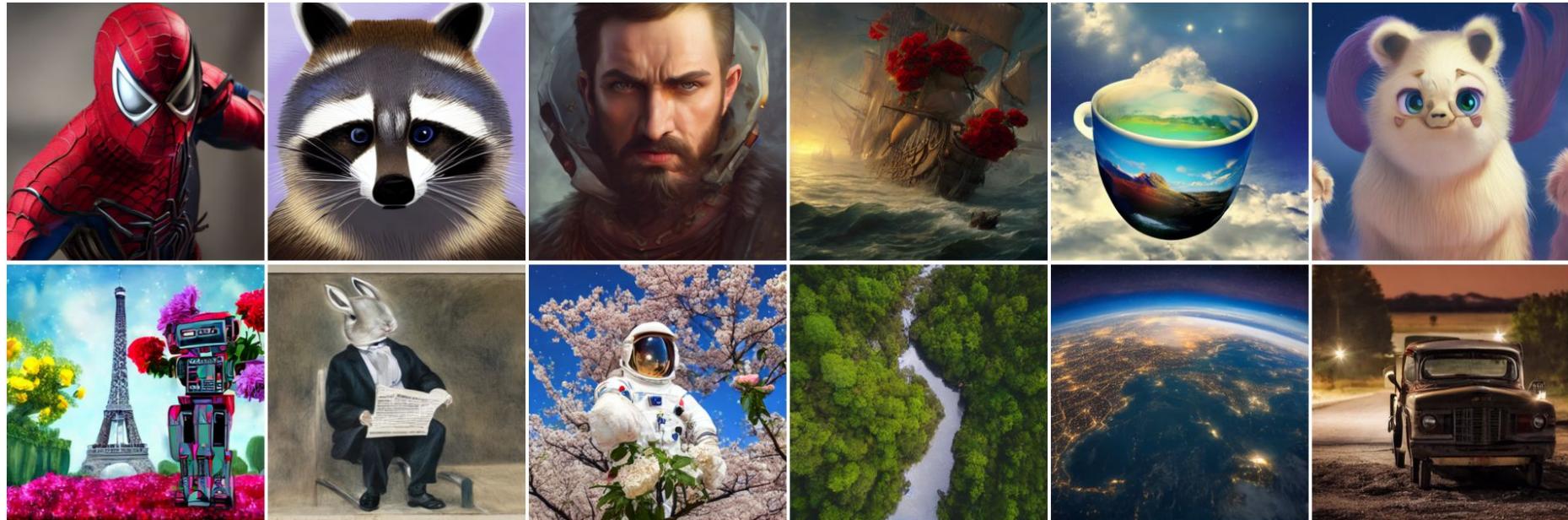
Method	Steps	FID	CLIP
DPM (Lu et al., 2022a)	8	31.7	0.32
DPM++ (Lu et al., 2022b)	8	25.6	0.32
Meng et al. (Meng et al., 2023)	8	26.9	0.30
Ours	8	<b>24.2</b>	0.30

Zero-shot evaluation on MS-COCO 2017 5K subset.



Comparison to w-conditioning [Meng et al., CVPR, 2023] 1/12 Award Candidates

## Examples of Generated Images



(See more results in the Appendix of [the paper on arxiv](#))

**SnapFusion is becoming a part in Snapchat, used by **hundreds of millions** of users.**



[video demo](#), iPhone14 Pro.

# More Recent Works – MobileDiffusion from Google

## MobileDiffusion: Subsecond Text-to-Image Generation on Mobile Devices

Yang Zhao, Yanwu Xu, Zhisheng Xiao, Tingbo Hou  
Google

{yzhaoeric, yanwuxu, zsxiao, tingbo}@google.com



512x512, 0.2s on iPhone15 Pro! Amazing!

[arXiv:2311.16567]

# Like SnapFusion, they optimize in two axes: Architecture & Sampling

## Attention Modules

1. More transformers in the middle of U-Net & less channels.  
⇒ 26% efficiency improvement, no quality drop!
2. Decouple SA from CA ⇒ 15% efficient improvement
3. Share key-value projections ⇒ 5% params. reduction.
4. Replace gelu with swish - gelu is unstable for low-bits.
5. Finetune softmax into relu in Attention. ⇒ More efficient.
6. Trim feed-forward layers ⇒ 10% params reduction.



- “Bag of tricks”
- More fine-grained optimization than SnapFusion.

## Conv Modules

1. Separable convolution ⇒ ~10% params. reduction
2. Prune redundant residual blocks ⇒ 19% efficiency improvement, 15% params reduction.

**Sampling:** Build upon prior works: [cfg-aware distillation](#) (8-step) and [UFOGen](#) [1] (1-step)

# Efficiency Comparison of MD

Models	#Channels	#ConvBlocks	#(SA+CA)	#Params(M)	#GFLOPs	Latency(ms)	Model Size (GB)
SD-XL [36]	(320, 640, 1280)	17	31+31	2,300	710	29.5	5.66
SD-1.4/1.5	(320, 640, 1280, 1280)	22	16+16	862	392	21.7	2.07
SnapFusion [23]	(320, 640, 1280, 1280)	18	14+14	848	285	15.0	1.97
MobileDiffusion	(320, 640, 1024)	11	15+18	386	182	9.9	1.04
MobileDiffusion-Lite	(320, 640, 896)	11	12+15	278	153	8.8	0.82

Table 1. Comparison with other recognized latent diffusion models. Latency and GFLOPs, computed with jit per forward step, are measured for an input latent size of  $64 \times 64$  on TPU v3. Model size (fp16) includes all, *i.e.*, UNet, text encoder and VAE decoder.

Models	Text Encoder	Decoder	UNet	Steps	Overall
SnapFusion [23] <sup>3</sup>	4	116	230	8	1960
UFOGen	4	285	1580	1	1869
MD	4	92	142	8 1	1232 238
MD-Lite	4	92	123	1	219

- Compared to SD-v1.5:
- ~2x faster
  - ~2x smaller

~1.6x faster than SnapFusion (8 steps)

Table 5. On-device latency (ms) measurements.

## Quantitatively, 8-step MD $\approx$ SD-v1.5, 1-step MD < SD-v1.5

Models	Sample	#Steps	FID-30K↓	#Params(B)	#Data(B)
GigaGAN [18]	GAN	1	9.09	0.9	0.98
LAFITE [62]	GAN	1	26.94	0.23	0.003
Parti [59]	AR	-	7.23	20.0	5.00
DALL-E-2 [38]	DDPM	292	10.39	5.20	0.25
GLIDE [34]	DDPM	250	12.24	5.00	0.25
Imagen [42]	DDPM	256	7.27	3.60	0.45
SD [39]	DDIM	50	8.59	0.86	0.60
SnapFusion [23]	Distilled	8	13.5	0.85	-
PIXART- $\alpha$ [4]	DPM	20	10.65	0.6	0.025
BK-SDM [21]	DDIM	50	16.54	0.50	-
SD-replicated <sup>1</sup>	DDIM	50	8.43	0.86	0.15
<b>MD</b>	DDIM	50	8.65		
	Distilled	8	9.01	0.40	0.15
	UFOGen	1	11.67		
<b>MD-Lite</b>	DDIM	50	9.45		
	Distilled	8	9.87	0.26	0.15
	UFOGen	1	12.89		

Table 4. Quantitative evaluations on zero-shot MS-COCO.

# Some samples of MD

**SD-1.5(865M)**  
DDIM 50 steps



**MD-Lite (278M)**  
DDIM 50 steps



**MD (386M)**  
DDIM 50 steps



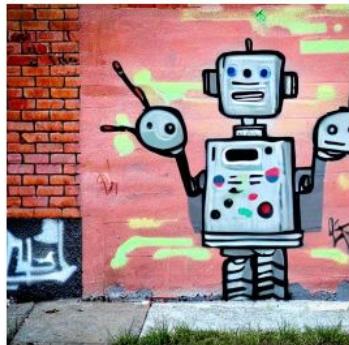
**MD (386M)**  
Distilled 8 steps



**MD (386M)**  
UFOGen 1 step



*A sunflower wearing sunglasses*



*A robot painted as graffiti on a brick wall. a sidewalk is in front of the wall, and grass is growing out of cracks in the concrete.*

## Summary: Towards Efficient Mobile DMs

- Two major efficiency paths: **Architecture & Sampling**.
- **Architecture:** Hand-design or search or pruning - hardware/system oriented
  - a. SnapFusion: Coarse-grained
  - b. MobileDiffusion: Fine-grained
- **Sampling:** Few-step distillation or one-step fine-tuning. - algorithm oriented
  - a. SnapFusion: cfg-aware distillation (8-step)
  - b. MobileDiffusion: cfg-aware distillation (8-step), UFOGen (1-step)

### Take-aways:

1. Do profiling!
2. Hardware-algorithm co-design
3. No panacea – “bag of tricks”

**Thanks!  
Questions?**