

# Idempotence and Perceptual Image Compression

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ICLR 2024 Spotlight

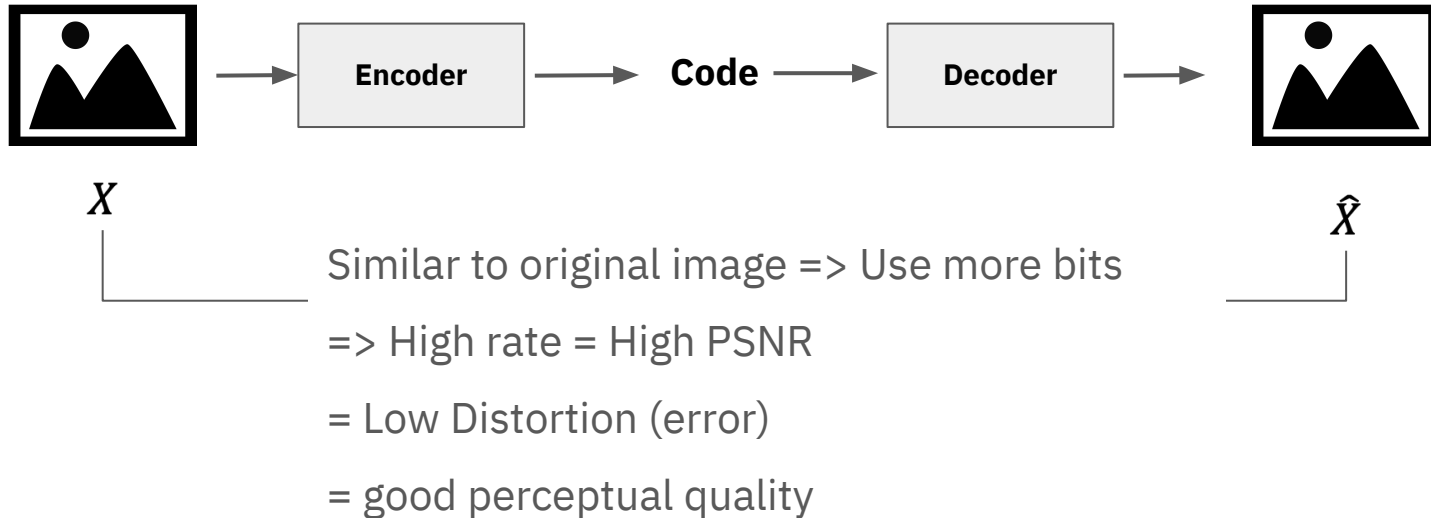
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.08920>

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EffL @POSTECH  
Hagyeong Lee



# Overview : Lossy Image Compression

- 3 Trade-off properties of lossy image compression  
=> Rate-Distortion-Perception

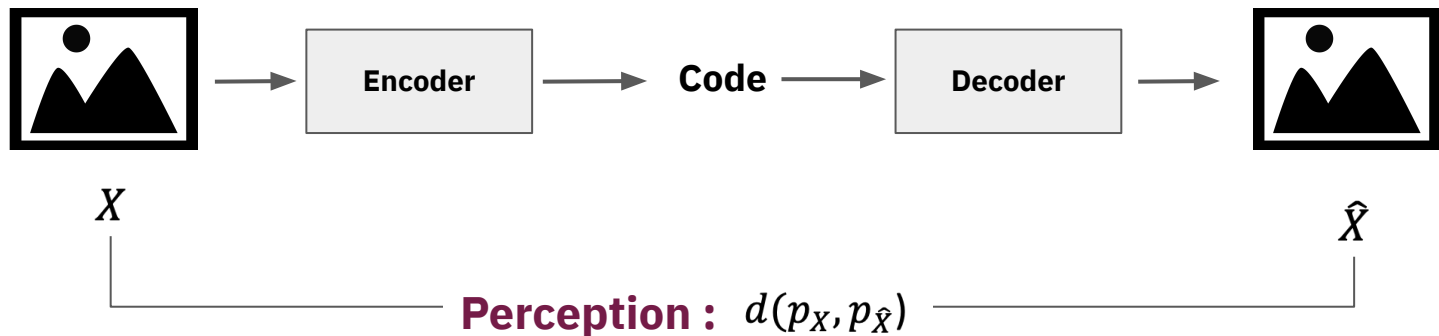


# Overview : Lossy Image Compression

- 3 Trade-off properties of lossy image compression

=> Rate-Distortion-**Perception**

:the distribution  $p_{\hat{X}}$  be similar to  $p_X$  (good perceptual quality)



# Idempotence of image compression

## Symbol Definition.

- $X$ : original image /  $f(\cdot)$ : encoder /  $g(\cdot)$ : decoder /  $Y$ : code as  $f(X)$  /  $\hat{X}$  reconstruction  
$$\hat{X} = g(Y)$$

If the codec is *idempotent*,

re-compression of reconstruction produces the same result with original image.

$$f(\hat{X}) = Y, \text{ or } g(f(\hat{X})) = \hat{X}$$

# Idempotence of image compression

## For better perceptual quality,

- Recent works(HiFiC, ILLM, CDC) train a conditional generative model to approximate the real image's posterior on the bitstream.

$$\hat{X} = g(Y) \sim p_{X|Y}, \text{ where } Y = f(X)$$

- The majority of perceptual codec achieves perfect quality by conditional generative:

$$p_{\hat{X}} = p_X$$

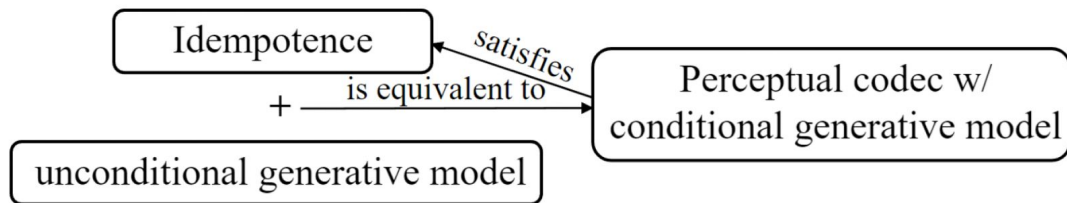


## ← HiFiC's Qualitative Result

# Idea: Perfect perceptual codec is idempotent.

To illustrate the main idea above, prove:

- I. Perceptual image compression brings idempotence.
- II. Idempotence brings perceptual image compression.



The relationship between idempotence and perceptual image compression.

# I. Perceptual image compression brings idempotence.

$$\hat{X} = g(Y) \sim p_{X|Y} \Rightarrow f(\hat{X}) \stackrel{a.s.}{=} Y$$

**Proof.**

Define the inverse image of  $y$  as :  $f^{-1}[y] = \{x | f(x) = y\}$

According to definition of idempotence, need to show  $\hat{X} \in f^{-1}[y]$

$Y = f(X)$  is a deterministic transform -> each  $x$  only corresponds to one  $y$

Then, the likelihood of  $Y$  can be written as

$$p_{Y|X}(Y = y | X = x) = \begin{cases} 1, & f(x) = y \\ 0, & f(x) \neq y \end{cases}$$

# I. Perceptual image compression brings idempotence.

$$\hat{X} = g(Y) \sim p_{X|Y} \Rightarrow f(\hat{X}) \stackrel{a.s.}{=} Y$$

**Proof.**

Then, for all  $x \notin f^{-1}[y]$ , the joint distribution is :

$$p_{XY}(X = x | Y = y) = p_X(X = x)p_{Y|X}(Y = y | X = x) = 0$$

Thus the posterior is :

$$\Downarrow$$
$$p_{X|Y}(X = x | Y = y) = 0$$

$$\Downarrow$$
$$\Pr(\hat{X} \notin f^{-1}[y]) = 0$$

$$\Pr(\hat{X} \in f^{-1}[y]) = 1$$

$$\Downarrow$$
$$f(\hat{X}) \stackrel{a.s.}{=} Y$$



## II. Idempotence brings perceptual image compression.

$$\underbrace{\hat{X} \sim p_X}_{\text{unconditional}} \text{, s.t. } \underbrace{f(\hat{X}) = Y}_{\text{idempotence constraint}} \Rightarrow \underbrace{\hat{X} \sim p_{X|Y}}_{\text{posterior}}$$

- The authors want to show sampling from unconditional generative model with idempotence constraint is equivalent to sampling from posterior

## II. Idempotence brings perceptual image compression.

$$\hat{X} \sim p_X, \text{ s.t. } f(\hat{X}) = Y \Rightarrow \hat{X} \sim p_{X|Y}$$

**Proof.**

(Similar to the proof of I)

Define the inverse image of  $y$  as :  $f^{-1}[y] = \{x | f(x) = y\}$

$Y = f(X)$  is a deterministic transform  $\rightarrow$  the likelihood of  $Y$  can be written as

$$p_{Y|X}(Y = y | X = x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \in f^{-1}[y], \\ 0, & x \notin f^{-1}[y]. \end{cases}$$

Then by Bayesian rule, for each  $(x, y) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} p_{X|Y}(X = x | Y = y) &\propto p_{Y|X}(Y = y | X = x) p_X(X = x) \\ &\propto \begin{cases} 1 \times p_X(X = x) = p_X(X = x), & x \in f^{-1}[y], \\ 0 \times p_X(X = x) = 0, & x \notin f^{-1}[y]. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

## II. Idempotence brings perceptual image compression.

Equivalent to sampling from  $p_X$  with the idempotence constraint  $x \in f^{-1}[y]$

Therefore, sampling from posterior :

$$\hat{X} \sim p_X, \text{ s.t. } f(\hat{X}) = Y$$



## Thinking different: inversion

Rewrite the left side of above Eq. as :

$$\hat{X} \sim p_X, \text{ s.t. } f(\hat{X}) = Y$$



$$\min ||f(\hat{X}) - Y||^2, \text{ s.t. } \hat{X} \sim p_X$$

=> same as generative model inversion form of super-resolution



## Thinking different: inversion

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{super-resolved} \\ \downarrow \\ \text{down-sampled} \\ \downarrow \\ \min ||f(\hat{X}) - Y||^2, \text{ s.t. } \hat{X} \sim p_X \end{array}$$

In **inversion**,  $f(\cdot)$  is down-sampling function.

In **compression**, the authors think  $f(\cdot)$  is the encoder,  
and  $Y$  is the bitstream.

# Encode and Decode procedure

1. The sender(encoder) sample image from source  $X \sim p_X$
2. The sender(encoder) encodes the image into bitstream  $Y = f_0(X)$
3.  $Y$  is transmitted from sender to receiver

# Encode and Decode procedure

1. The sender(encoder) sample image from source
2. The sender(encoder) encodes the image into bitstream
3.  $Y$  is transmitted from sender to receiver
4. Decoder inverses receiving  $Y$  using an **unconditional generative model** with idempotence constraint

↓  
sampling;  
approximate the source

$$\min ||f_0(\hat{X}) - Y||^2, \text{ s.t. } \hat{X} \sim q_X$$

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- Most generative inversion use the gradient:

$$\nabla_{\hat{X}} ||f_0(\hat{X}) - \boxed{Y}||^2 \quad \text{Not differentiable}$$



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\*\* For practical implementation,

- x-domain constraint =>  $\min ||g_0(f_0(\hat{X})) - g_0(Y)||^2, \text{ s.t. } \hat{X} \sim q_X$

# Unconditional generative model procedure

- StyleGAN2 + {PULSE, ILO}
- DDPM + {MCG, DPS}



Source (FFHQ)



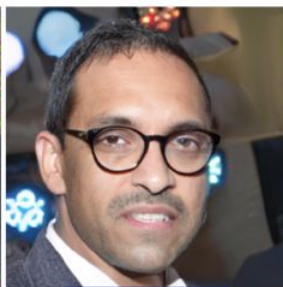
StyleGAN2 + PULSE



StyleGAN2 + ILO



DDPM + MCG

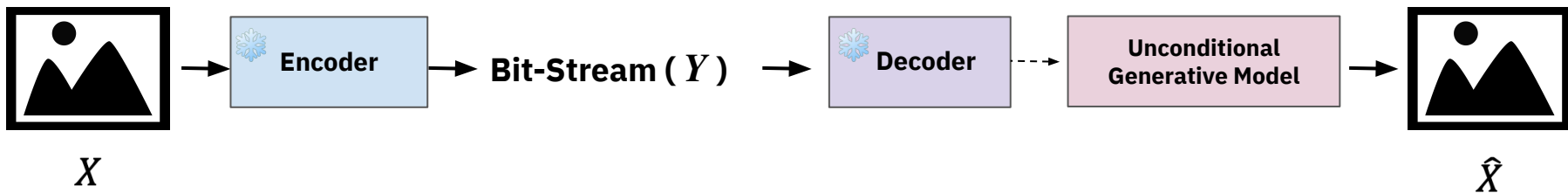


DDPM + DPS

# Overall Architecture

**Pre-trained MSE optimized (encoder, decoder) + Unconditional Generative Model**

- ELIC
- Hyper
- DDPM + DPS



# Experiment Setup

- Evaluation
  - 1000 images of FFHQ and ImageNet validation split
  - metrics:
    - MSE
    - BD-metrics (Bjontegaard, 2001)
      - BD-FID, BD-PSNR
- Train (only unconditional generative model)
  - FFHQ (the remaining unused data for testing)
  - ImageNet (training split)

# Experiment Setup

- Baselines
  - Perceptual Optimized  $\Rightarrow$  use conditional generative model
    - HiFiC
    - Po-ELIC
    - CDC
    - ILLM
  - MSE Optimized
    - Hyper
    - ELIC
  - (Handcraft)
    - VTM
    - BPG

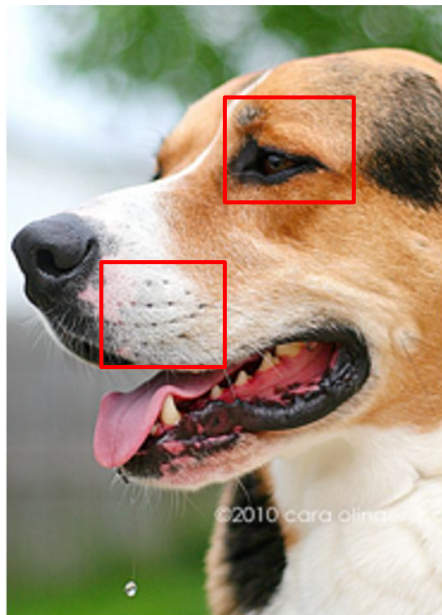
# Result : FID, PSNR

- Proposed method outperforms HiFiC and ILLM in terms of FID.
  - PSNR result could be explained by perception-distortion trade-off.

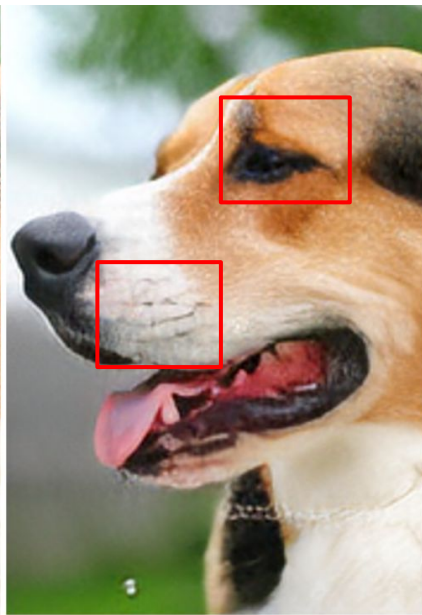
Method	FFHQ		ImageNet		COCO		CLIC	
	BD-FID ↓	BD-PSNR ↑	BD-FID ↓	BD-PSNR ↑	BD-FID ↓	BD-PSNR ↑	BD-FID ↓	BD-PSNR ↑
<i>MSE Baselines</i>								
Hyper	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
ELIC	-9.740	1.736	-10.50	1.434	-8.070	1.535	-10.23	1.660
BPG	-4.830	-0.8491	-8.830	-0.3562	-4.770	-0.3557	-4.460	-0.4860
VTM	-14.22	0.7495	-13.11	0.9018	-11.22	0.9724	-12.21	1.037
<i>Conditional Generative Model-based</i>								
HiFiC	-48.35	-2.036	-44.52	-1.418	-44.88	-1.276	-36.16	-1.621
HiFiC*	-51.85	-1.920	-47.18	-1.121	-	-	-	-
Po-ELIC	-50.77	0.1599	-48.84	0.1202	-50.81	0.2040	-42.96	0.3305
CDC	-43.80	-8.014	-41.75	-6.416	-45.35	-6.512	-38.31	-7.043
ILLM	-50.58	-1.234	-48.22	-0.4802	-50.67	-0.5468	-42.95	-0.5956
ILLM*	-52.32	-1.415	-47.99	-0.7513	-	-	-	-
<i>Unconditional Generative Model-based</i>								
Proposed (Hyper)	<u>-54.14</u>	-2.225	<u>-52.12</u>	-2.648	<u>-56.70</u>	-2.496	<u>-44.52</u>	-2.920
Proposed (ELIC)	<b>-54.89</b>	-0.9855	<b>-55.18</b>	-1.492	<b>-58.45</b>	-1.370	<b>-46.52</b>	-1.635

Table 2: Results on FFHQ, ImageNet, COCO and CLIC. \*: re-trained on corresponding dataset. **Bold**: lowest FID. Underline: second lowest FID.

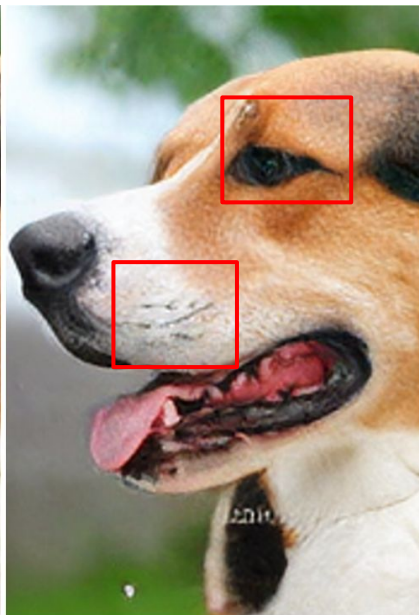
# Qualitative Result



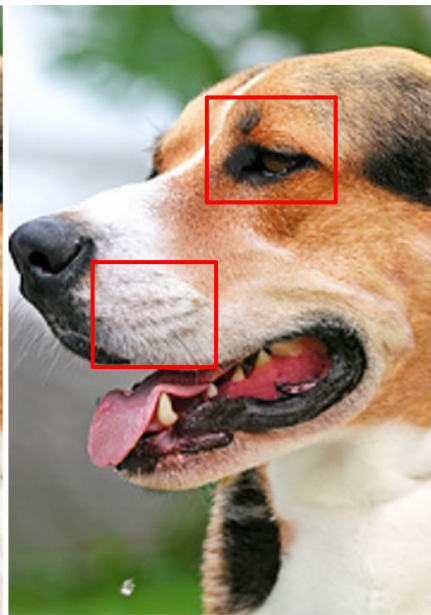
Source (ImageNet)



HiFiC 0.17 bpp



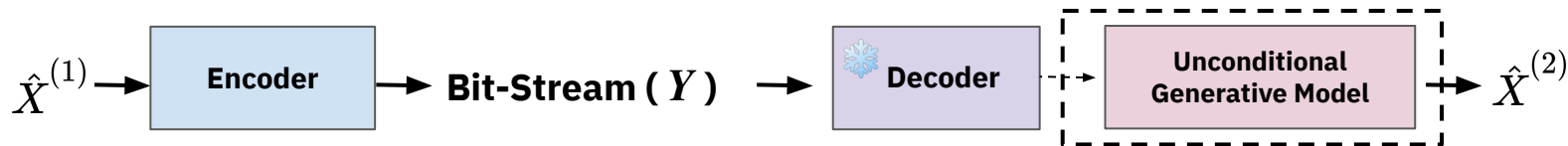
ILLM 0.11 bpp



Proposed 0.11 bpp

# Re-compression Experiment

- Evaluate idempotence by MSE between first time compression and re-compression.





# Result : MSE of Re-compression

- Proposed method re-compression MSE is **smaller** than the existed MSE optimized methods.

⇒ improve idempotence !

	Re-compression metrics	
	MSE ↓	PSNR (dB) ↑
Hyper	6.321	40.42
Hyper w/ Proposed	2.850	44.84
ELIC	11.80	37.60
ELIC w/ Proposed	7.367	40.93

# Limitation: Diversity of reconstruction

**! Note.** Differ a lot in detail but the authors say all have good visual quality



Original (COCO)

Alternative reconstructions

**Q&A**

# Appendix: Result of KID, LPIPS

Method	FFHQ		ImageNet		COCO		CLIC	
	BD-logKID ↓	BD-LPIPS ↓	BD-logKID ↓	BD-LPIPS ↓	BD-logKID ↓	BD-LPIPS ↓	BD-logKID ↓	BD-LPIPS ↓
<i>MSE Baselines</i>								
Hyper	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
ELIC	-0.232	-0.040	-0.348	-0.058	-0.236	-0.062	-0.406	-0.059
BPG	0.1506	-0.010	0.027	-0.010	0.126	-0.012	0.039	-0.008
VTM	-0.232	-0.031	-0.298	-0.048	-0.216	-0.050	-2.049	-0.048
<i>Conditional Generative Model-based</i>								
HiFiC	-3.132	-0.108	-2.274	-0.172	-2.049	-0.172	-1.925	-0.148
HiFiC*	-4.261	-0.110	-2.780	-0.173	-	-	-	-
Po-ELIC	-3.504	-0.104	-2.877	-0.167	-2.671	-0.168	-2.609	-0.145
CDC	-2.072	-0.060	-1.968	-0.099	-1.978	-0.101	-2.122	-0.084
ILLM	-3.418	-0.109	-2.681	-0.181	-2.620	-0.180	-2.882	-0.155
ILLM*	-4.256	-0.106	-2.673	-0.178	-	-	-	-
<i>Unconditional Generative Model-based</i>								
Proposed (Hyper)	<u>-5.107</u>	-0.086	<u>-4.271</u>	-0.058	<u>-4.519</u>	-0.083	<u>-3.787</u>	-0.056
Proposed (ELIC)	<b>-5.471</b>	-0.099	<b>-5.694</b>	-0.106	<b>-5.360</b>	-0.113	<b>-4.046</b>	-0.079

Table 7: Results on FFHQ, ImageNet, COCO and CLIC. \*: re-trained on corresponding dataset. **Bold**: lowest KID. Underline: second lowest KID.

# Appendix: Qualitative Result



Source (COCO)

HiFiC 0.17 bpp

ILLM 0.11 bpp

Proposed 0.11 bpp



Source (ImageNet)

HiFiC 0.17 bpp

ILLM 0.11 bpp

Proposed 0.10 bpp



Source (CLIC)

HiFiC 0.16 bpp

ILLM 0.11 bpp

Proposed 0.10 bpp