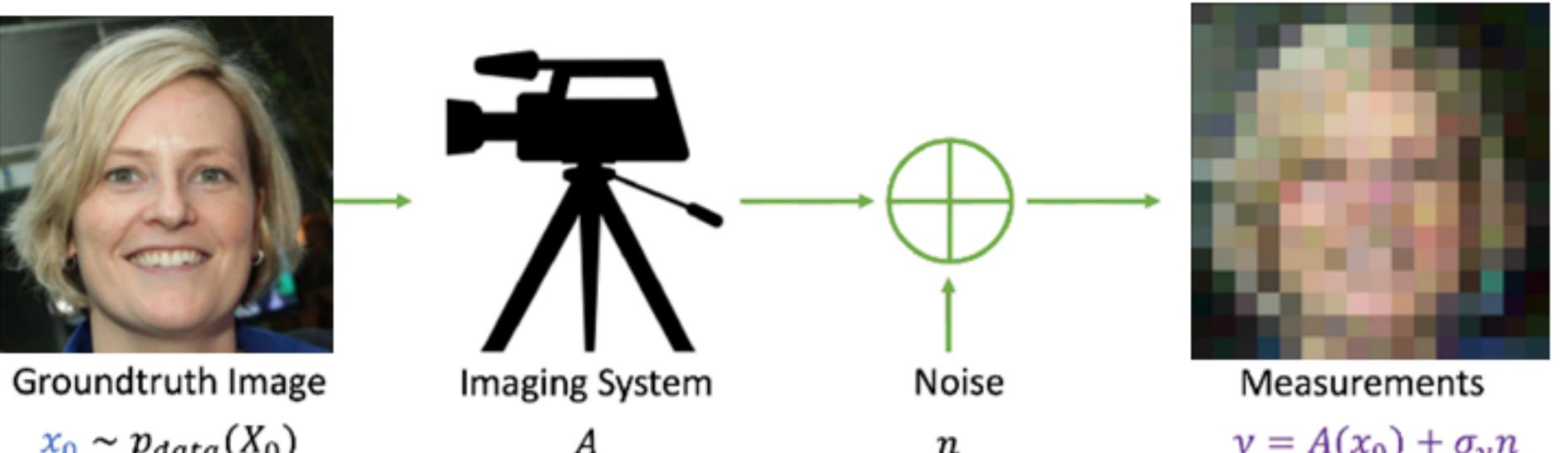


Towards Frugal Zero-Shot Diffusion Based Image Restoration

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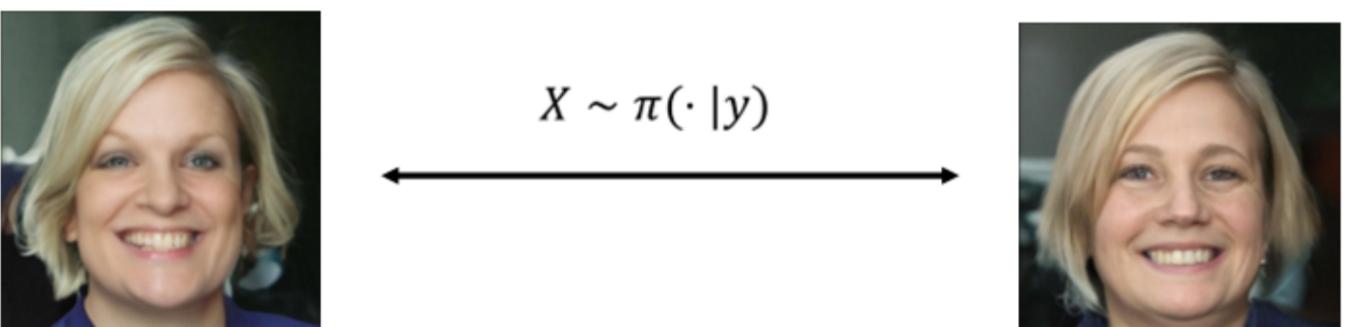
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Introduction to Inverse Problems



Problem: Reconstruct groundtruth image x_0 from noisy measurements y

Challenge: Problem is **ill-posed**, that is infinitely many solutions x_0 exist

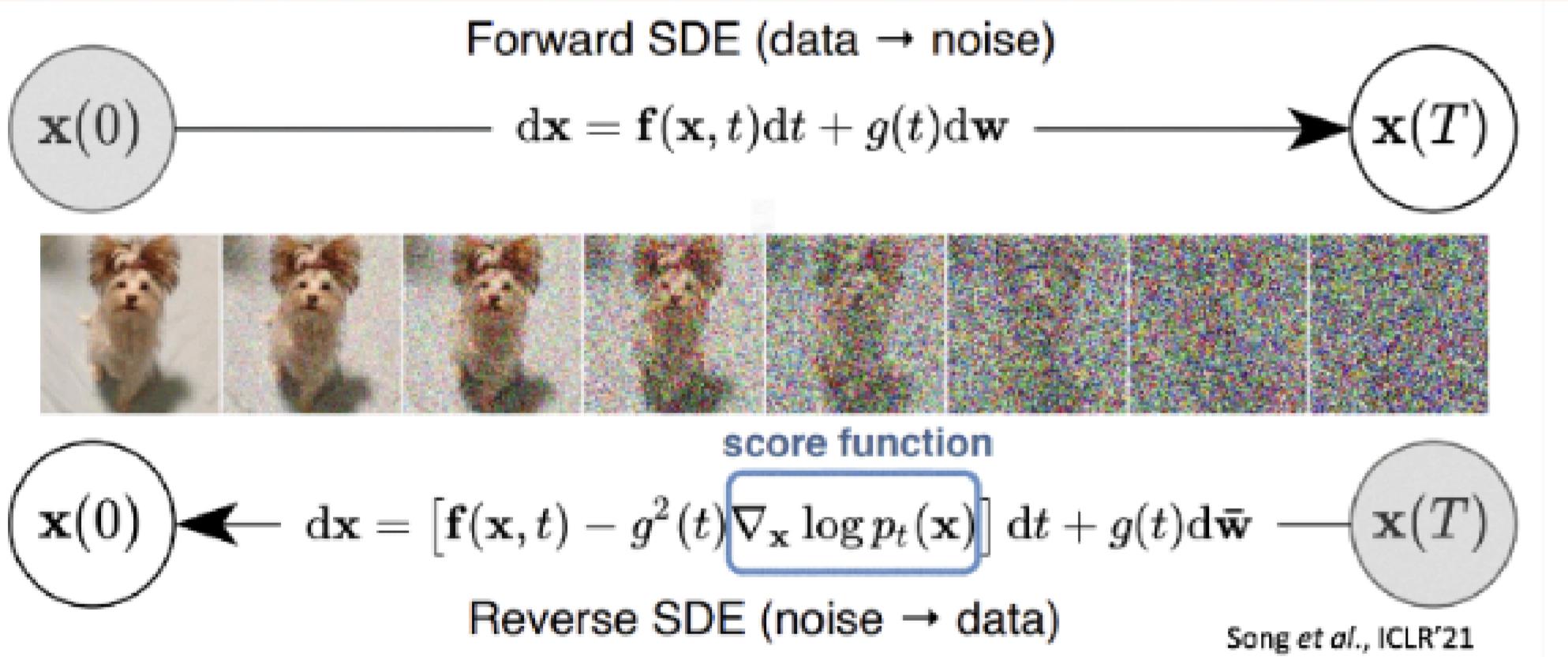


Approach: Use **prior** knowledge $p(x_0)$ of how the image should look like

Applications: Denoising, Colorization, Superresolution, Deblurring, Inpainting, Outpainting

Background on Diffusion Models

Diffusion models have emerged as powerful priors for inverse problems!



Posterior Sampling Using Diffusion Models

Problem: Sample $p_0(x_0 | y)$ instead of $p(x_0)$

$$dx_t = (-x_t - 2\nabla \log p_t(x_t | y)) dt + \sqrt{2}d\bar{W}_t, \quad t = T, \dots, 0$$

$$dx_t = (-x_t - 2\nabla \log p_t(y | x_t) - 2\nabla \log p_t(x_t)) dt + \sqrt{2}d\bar{W}_t \quad (\text{Bayes rule})$$

Unknown: $\nabla \log p_t(y | x_t)$

Known: $\nabla \log p_t(x_t) \approx s_\theta(x_t, t)$

Approach: Sample $p_0(x_0 | y)$ using $\nabla \log p(x_t)$ without having to re-train:

1. a new score function $\nabla \log p_t(x_t | y)$ or

2. a noise-conditional measurement model: $\nabla \log p_t(y | x_t)$

How well can we approximate $\nabla \log p_t(y | x_t)$?

Methodology

To have a DDM for the posterior $\pi(\cdot | y)$, we need a parametric approximation of

$$\mathbb{E}[x_0 | x_k = x_k, y = y] = \int x_0 q_{0|k}(x_0 | x_k, y) dx_0, \quad (1)$$

where $q_{0|k}(x_0 | x_k, y) \propto \pi(x_0 | y) q_{k|0}(x_k | x_0)$ and $0 \leq k \leq t$.

Via Tweedie's formula, one can show that [4]

$$\mathbb{E}[x_0 | x_k, y] = \mathbb{E}[x_0 | x_k] + \frac{1 - \bar{\alpha}_k}{\bar{\alpha}_k^{1/2}} \nabla_{x_k} \log \int p(y | x_0) q_{0|k}(x_0 | x_k) dx_0 \quad (2)$$

1. [2] proposed **Diffusion Posterior Sampling (DPS)** method:

$$\nabla_k \log \int p(y | x_0) q_{0|k}(x_0 | x_k) dx_0 \approx \nabla_{x_k} \log p(y | \mathbb{E}[x_0 | x_k]), \quad (3)$$

which implicitly assumes that $q_{0|k}(\cdot | x_k) \approx \delta_{x_{0|k}^\theta(x_k)}$.

2. [3] propose **Diffusion Model Based Posterior Sampling (DMPS)** which claims to be 3x faster per function evaluation than DPS. They make the uninformative prior assumption:

$$p(x_0 | x_t) \propto p(x_t | x_0) = \mathcal{N}(x_0; \frac{x_t}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_t}}, \frac{1 - \bar{\alpha}_t}{\bar{\alpha}_t} \mathbf{I}). \quad (4)$$

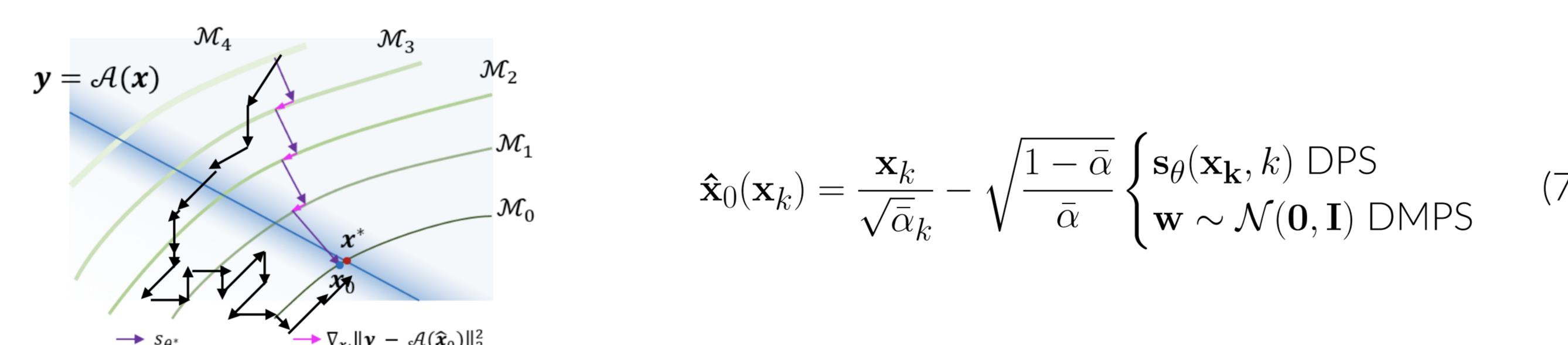
This allows us to form an analytical expression for the second term of Eq 2.

$$\nabla_{x_k} \log \int p(y | x_0) q_{0|k}(x_0 | x_k) dx_0 \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}}} \mathbf{A}^T (\sigma^2 \mathbf{I} + \frac{1 - \bar{\alpha}_k}{\bar{\alpha}_k} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} (y - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_k}} \mathbf{A} x_k) \quad (5)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}}} \mathbf{V} \Sigma (\sigma^2 \mathbf{I} + \frac{1 - \bar{\alpha}_k}{\bar{\alpha}_k} \Sigma^2)^{-1} (\mathbf{U}^T y - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_k}} \Sigma \mathbf{V}^T x_k) \quad (6)$$

The SVD in Eq 6 circumvents inversion of \mathbf{A} . It only needs to be computed once.

DMPS makes a crude assumption, in that it implicitly assumes that $\frac{p(x_0)}{p(x_k)} \propto 1$. For this reason, [3] were unable to perform difficult tasks such as inpainting and outpainting.



The equation above indicates that the samples $x_0 | x_k$ for DPS are driven by the score $s_\theta(x_k, k)$ highlighting **exploitation**, whereas DMPS is driven by $\mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$ relies on **exploration**. The black arrows in the figure above [2] is an instance where it chances upon the optimal generative manifold $\mathbf{y} = \mathcal{A}(x^*)$. This is not guaranteed in the case where the prior $p_\theta(x)$ and posterior $\pi(\cdot | y)$ are significantly different e.g. inpainting.

Idea

Use DPS to sample from time t to k and DMPS to sample from time k to 0 .

Motivation: [1] theorizes that the generative dynamics of diffusion models starts from pure noise and encounters first a 'speciation' transition at time t_S where the gross structure of data is unraveled, and then a 'collapse' transition at time t_C where the trajectories of the dynamics become attracted to one of the memorized data points. \therefore at t_C , it is reasonable to assume $p(x_0 | x_k) \propto p(x_k | x_0)$ for $k << t$ i.e., $k = t_C$. We develop a heuristic to determine t_C by finding k for which: $\text{pSNR}(x_0 | x_k - x_0 | x_{k-1}) \geq 20$, which we determined empirically for CelebA.

Numerical Experiments

We used a pre-trained CelebA diffusion model and evaluated on tasks that [3] did not.

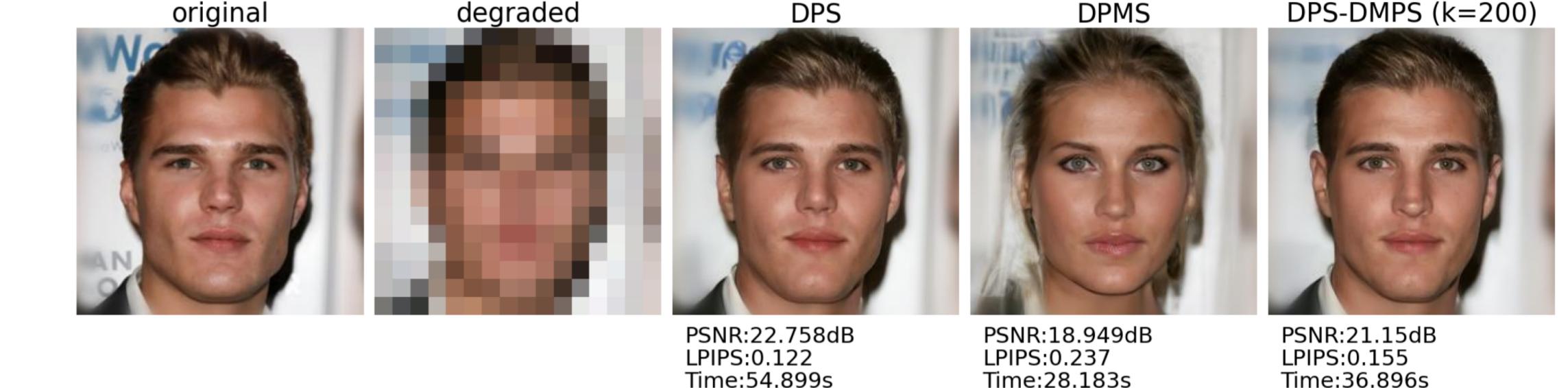


Figure 1. Super-resolution x16, using $\sigma = 0.01$, $t = 300$.

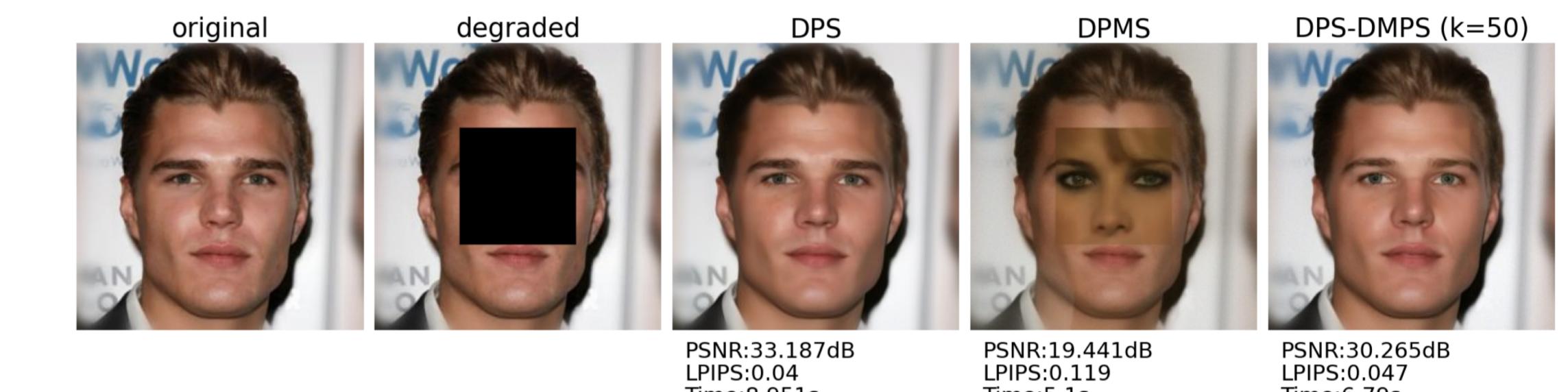


Figure 2. Inpainting, using $\sigma = 0.01$, $t = 100$.

	Time (s) \downarrow	pSNR (db) \uparrow	LPIPS \downarrow
DPS	17.72	19.37	0.25
DMPS	9.19	15.63	0.41
DPS+DPMS	13.42	19.97	0.24

Table 1. SR-16 metrics averaged over 20 in-distribution images for $t = 100$, $k = 50$, $\sigma = 0.01$

We achieve, on average, better metrics on in-distribution images than DPS in a shorter time.

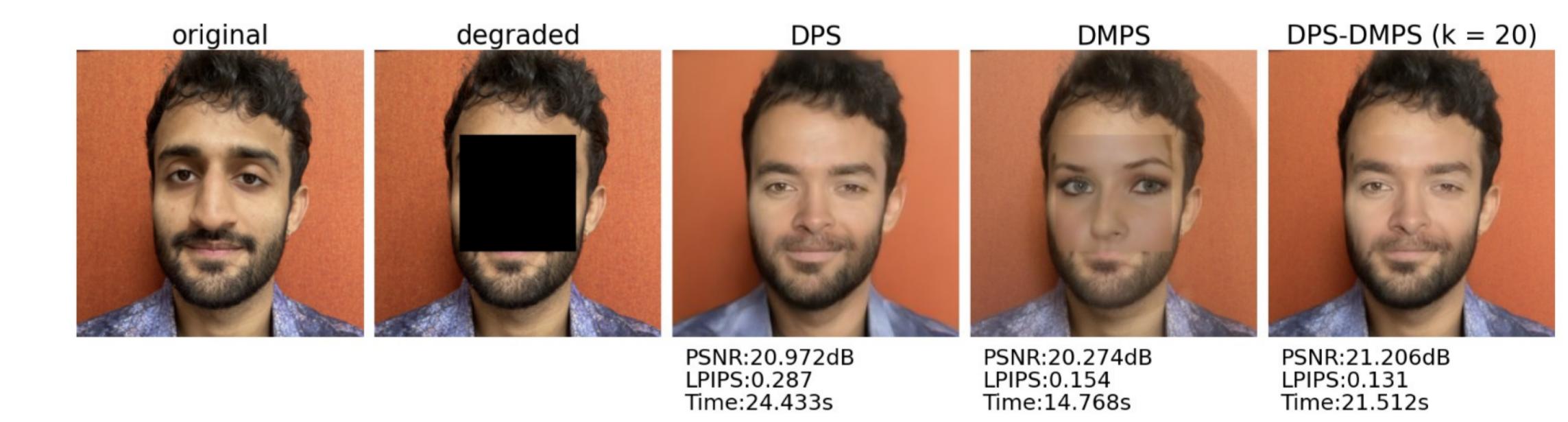


Figure 3. OOD inpainting using $\sigma = 0.01$, $t = 100$.

As indicated by the out-of-distribution task in Fig 3, our method is more robust (lower LPIPS) than DPS because it promotes exploration once a mode is found (escaping sharp local minima).

References

- [1] Giulio Birolini, Tony Bonnaire, Valentin de Bortoli, and Marc Mézard. Dynamical regimes of diffusion models, 2024.
- [2] Hyungjin Chung, Jeongsik Kim, Michael T. McCann, Marc L. Klasky, and Jong Chul Ye. Diffusion posterior sampling for general noisy inverse problems, 2024.
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