

# Solving Linear Inverse Problems Provably via Posterior Sampling using Latent Diffusion Model

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TEXAS

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IFML

## Problem Setup

Given measurements  $y$  and a measurement operator  $A$ , find a sample  $x$  that satisfies

$$y = Ax + n,$$

where  $x \in R^d$ ,  $A \in R^{k \times d}$ ,  $y \in R^k$ ,  $n \in N(0, \sigma_y^2 I_k)$ .

## Posterior Sampling & Optimization

For any  $x \sim P$ , let us denote by  $P(y|x) := N(y; Ax, \sigma_y^2 I)$  the probability density of the measurement  $y$  given  $x$ . Given  $y \sim P(y|x)$ , the goal is to sample from  $P(x|y)$ .

$$x^* = \arg \max_x \log P(x|y) \propto \log(P(y|x)P(x)) = \log P(y|x) + \log P(x)$$

Posterior

Bayes' theorem

Likelihood

Prior

Stable Diffusion model has emerged as a powerful new prior for sampling  $P(x|y)$ .

Posterior sampling present **two** unique challenges:

- i. **Challenge 1:** Inexact score function

$$dx = (f(x, t) - g^2(t)\nabla_{x_t} \log P_t(x_t|y)) dt + g(t) dw$$

- Require  $\nabla_{x_t} \log P_t(x_t|y)$ , have access to  $\nabla_{x_t} \log P_t(x_t) \approx S_\theta(x_t, t)$

Get from  
Diffusion  
Model 😊

- i. **Challenge 2:** Likelihood approximation

- Posterior sampling requires samples from  $P(x|y)$ :

$$dx = (f(x, t) - g^2(t)(\nabla_{x_t} \log P_t(x_t) + \nabla_{x_t} \log P_t(y|x_t))) dt + g(t) dw$$

Question: How well can we approximate  $\nabla_{x_t} \log P_t(y|x_t)$  ?

## Posterior sampling using Pixel-Space Diffusion Models

- Posterior sampling requires samples from  $P(x|y)$ :

$$dx = (f(x, t) - g^2(t)(\nabla_{x_t} \log P_t(x_t) + \nabla_{x_t} \log P_t(y|x_t))) dt + g(t) dw$$

Question: How well can we approximate  $\nabla_{x_t} \log P_t(y|x_t)$  ?

DPS approximation [Chung *et al.* ICLR'2023]:

$$P_t(y|x_t) \approx P(y|\hat{x}_0 = E[x_0|x_t]) = N(y; \mu = A\hat{x}_0, \sigma = \sigma_y I)$$

$$\text{where } \hat{x}_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} (x_t + (1 - \bar{\alpha}_t) S_\theta(x_t, t))$$

Tweedie's formula

Get from  
Diffusion  
Model 😊

**Challenge iii.** Computationally very expensive. Requires gradients to be computed in the pixel space. Hard to scale to higher resolution images.

## Posterior sampling using Latent-Space Diffusion Models (e.g. Stable Diffusion)

- Posterior sampling requires samples from  $P(x|y)$ :

$$dz = (f(z, t) - g^2(t)(\nabla_{z_t} \log P_t(z_t) + \nabla_{z_t} \log P_t(y|z_t))) dt + g(t) dw$$

Question: How well can we approximate  $\nabla_{z_t} \log P_t(y|z_t)$  ?

Latent-DPS approximation [RRDCDS'2023]:

$$P_t(y|z_t) \approx P(y|Dec(\hat{z}_0)) = N(y; \mu = ADec(\hat{z}_0), \sigma = \sigma_y^2 I)$$

Stable Diffusion V-1.5

$z_t \in R^{64 \times 64}$  and  
 $x_t \in R^{512 \times 512}$

$$\text{where } \hat{z}_0 = E[z_0|z_t] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} (z_t + (1 - \alpha_t) \widehat{S}_\theta(z_t, t))$$

Tweedie's formula

Get from  
Stable  
Diffusion 😊

**Challenge iv.** Many-to-one mapping of encoder. Training is unstable. Does not converge to the true underlying sample.

## Posterior sampling using Latent-Space Diffusion Models (e.g. Stable Diffusion)

- Posterior sampling requires samples from  $P(x|y)$ :

$$dz = (f(z, t) - g^2(t)(\nabla_{z_t} \log P_t(z_t) + \nabla_{z_t} \log P_t(y|z_t))) dt + g(t) dw$$

Question: How well can we approximate  $\nabla_{z_t} \log P_t(y|z_t)$  ?

GML-DPS approximation [RRDCDS'2023]:

$$\nabla_{z_t} \log P(y|z_t) = \nabla_{z_t} P(y|x_0 = Dec(E[z_0|z_t])) + \gamma_t \nabla_{z_t} ||E[z_0|z_t] - Enc(Dec(E[z_0|z_t]))||$$

Look for a fixed point of the VAE

$$\text{where } \hat{z}_0 = E[z_0|z_t] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} (z_t + (1 - \bar{\alpha}_t) \widehat{S}_\theta(z_t, t))$$

Get from Stable Diffusion 😊

Stable Diffusion V-1.5

$$z_t \in R^{64 \times 64} \text{ and } x_t \in R^{512 \times 512}$$

Tweedie's formula

**Challenge v.** Many potential solutions exist. Requires a specific choice of step size  $\gamma_t$ , see Theorem 3.7 [RRDCDS'2023]

## Posterior sampling using Latent-Space Diffusion Models (e.g. Stable Diffusion)

- Posterior sampling requires samples from  $P(x|y)$ :

$$dz = (f(z, t) - g^2(t)(\nabla_{z_t} \log P_t(z_t) + \nabla_{z_t} \log P_t(y|z_t))) dt + g(t) dw$$

Question: How well can we approximate  $\nabla_{z_t} \log P_t(y|z_t)$  ?

Look for the fixed point of the VAE using gluing objective

PSLD approximation [RRDCDS'2023]:

$$\nabla_{z_t} \log P(y|z_t) = \nabla_{z_t} P(y|x_0 = Dec(E[z_0|z_t])) + \gamma_t \nabla_{z_t} \|E[z_0|z_t] - Enc(A^T y + (I - A^T A) Dec(E[z_0|z_t]))\|$$

Stable Diffusion V-1.5

$$z_t \in R^{64 \times 64} \text{ and } x_t \in R^{512 \times 512}$$

$$\text{where } \hat{z}_0 = E[z_0|z_t] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_t}} (z_t + (1 - \bar{\alpha}_t) \widehat{S}_\theta(z_t, t))$$

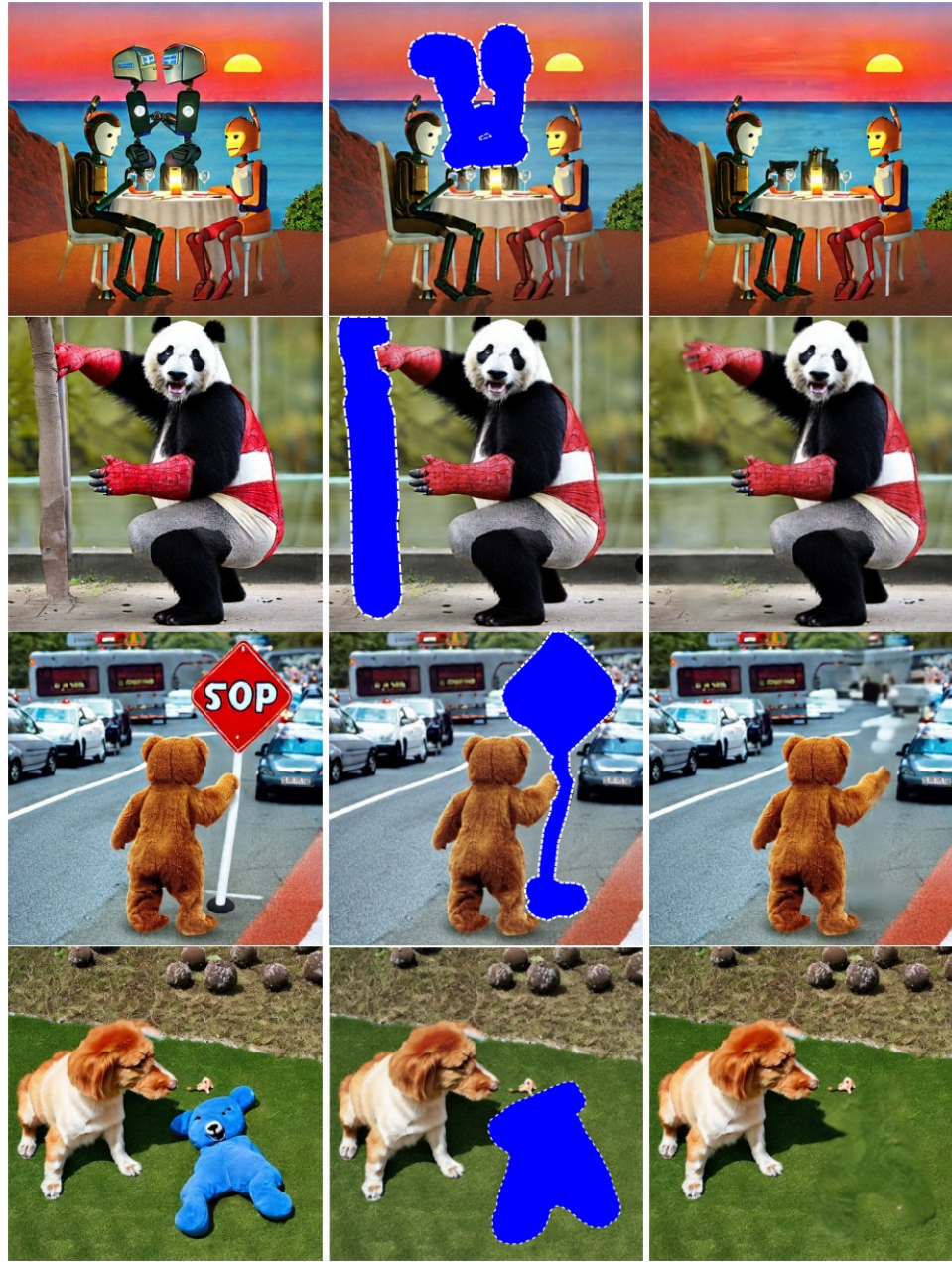
Tweedie's formula

Get from Stable Diffusion 😊

**Solution:** Gluing objective converges to unique solution if it exists. Works with any choice of step size  $\gamma_t$ , see Theorem 3.8 [RRDCDS'2023].



# Experimental Results: Overall pipeline of our proposed framework from left to right





# Experimental Results: Comparison with commercial inpainting services that use Stable Diffusion



(a) Input

(b) Groundtruth

(c) Comm. Serv. 1

(d) Comm. Serv. 2

(e) PSLD (Ours)

Quantitative results on FFHQ 256x256 using Stable Diffusion V-1.5

Method	Inpaint (random)		Inpaint (box)		SR (4×)		Gaussian Deblur	
	FID (↓)	LPIPS (↓)	FID (↓)	LPIPS (↓)	FID (↓)	LPIPS (↓)	FID (↓)	LPIPS (↓)
PSLD (Ours)	<b>21.34</b>	<b>0.096</b>	43.11	<b>0.167</b>	<b>34.28</b>	<b>0.201</b>	<b>41.53</b>	<b>0.221</b>
DPS [11]	33.48	<u>0.212</u>	<b>35.14</b>	0.216	<u>39.35</u>	<u>0.214</u>	<u>44.05</u>	<u>0.257</u>
DDRM [26]	69.71	0.587	42.93	<u>0.204</u>	62.15	0.294	74.92	0.332
MCG [13]	<u>29.26</u>	0.286	<u>40.11</u>	0.309	87.64	0.520	101.2	0.340
PnP-ADMM [6]	123.6	0.692	151.9	0.406	66.52	0.353	90.42	0.441
Score-SDE [47]	76.54	0.612	60.06	0.331	96.72	0.563	109.0	0.403
ADMM-TV	181.5	0.463	68.94	0.322	110.6	0.428	186.7	0.507




# Experimental Results: Web application for user defined masks

## PSLD Image Inpainting


Image inpainting by Posterior Sampling with Latent Diffusion (PSLD)

Given an image (square size preferred) and a user defined mask, click on Inpaint to generate missing parts.


Upload



Output1



Output2



Number of diffusion steps (e.g. 200)

Gluing factor (e.g. 1e-1)

Gluing kernel size (e.g. 15)

Gluing kernel sigma (e.g. 7)

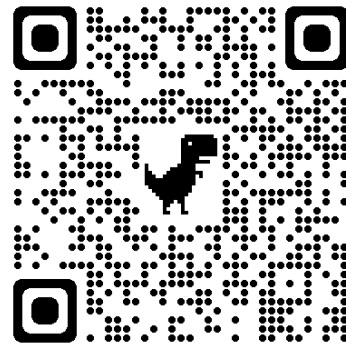
Measurement factor (e.g. 1)

Your prompt (leave empty for posterior sampling)

**Inpaint!**

# Thanks for listening!

Any questions can be sent to:  
[litu.rout@utexas.edu](mailto:litu.rout@utexas.edu)



Solving Linear Inverse Problems Provably via  
Posterior Sampling with Latent Diffusion Models

[arXiv:2307.00619](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.00619)

[OpenReview](#)

[Code Demo](#)