

Diffusion Prior-Based Amortized Variational Inference for Noisy Inverse Problems

Sojin Lee*, Dogyun Park*, Inho Kong, Hyunwoo J. Kim†

Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Korea University



KOREA
UNIVERSITY



MLV
Machine Learning & Vision Lab



Sojin Lee



Dogyun Park



Inho Kong



Hyunwoo J. Kim

Problem definition



Degradation matrix

H

✓ **Forward model**

$$y = Hx_0$$



Input image x_0
(clean signal)



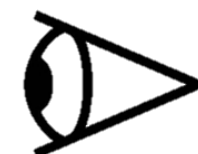
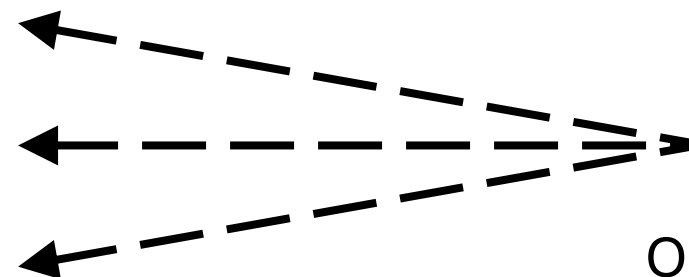
Observation y
(degraded signal)

Many-to-one mapping

✓ **Inverse problem**



Estimated \hat{x}



Observation y
(degraded signal)

Problem definition

degradation matrix $\mathbf{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_y \times d_{x_0}}$ i.i.d white Gaussian noise $\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_y}$

✓ **Forward model** $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{n}, \quad \mathbf{n} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma_y^2 \mathbf{I})$

Measurement $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_y}$ clean image $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{x_0}}$

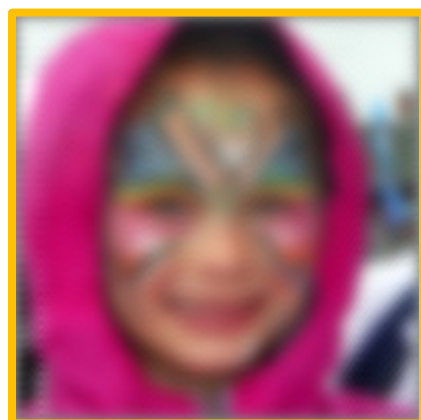


$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0$



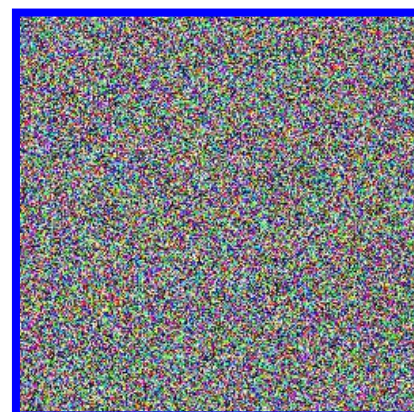
\mathbf{x}_0

\mathbf{H}



$\mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}_0$

+



\mathbf{n}

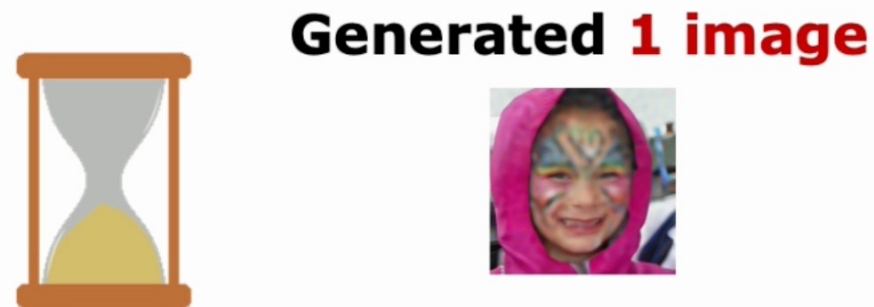
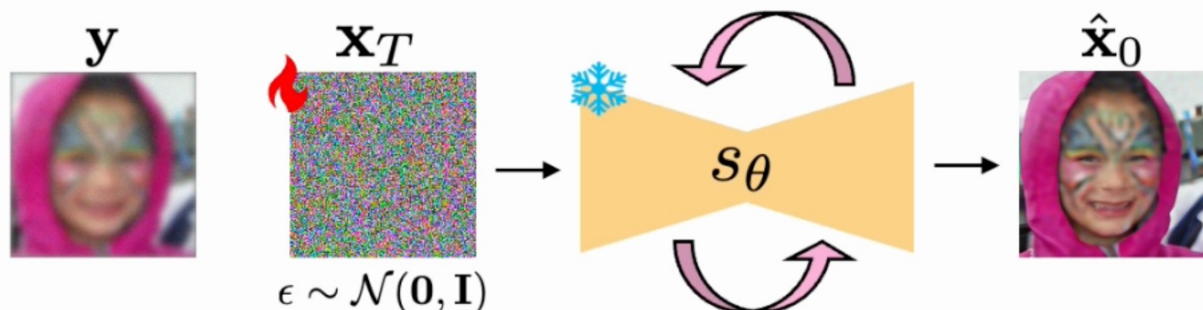
=



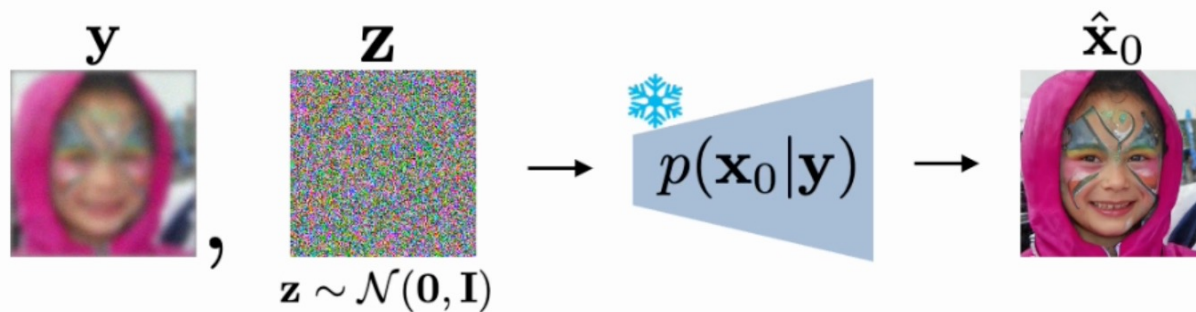
\mathbf{y}

Inference speed

✓ **Previous methods** $\times T$ iterations

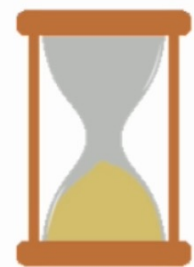
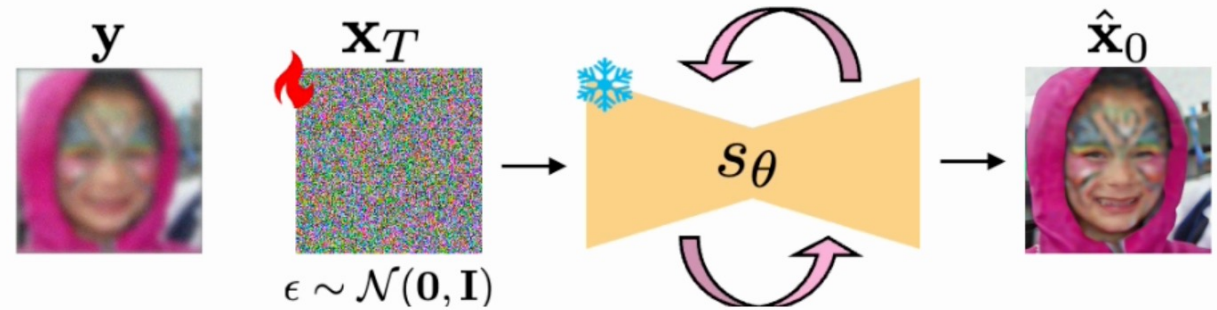


✓ **DAVI**



Inference speed

✓ **Previous methods** $\times T$ iterations



Generated **1** image



Generated **1,000** images

✓ **DAVI**



RED-diff 1 image \leftrightarrow DAVI 1,000 images

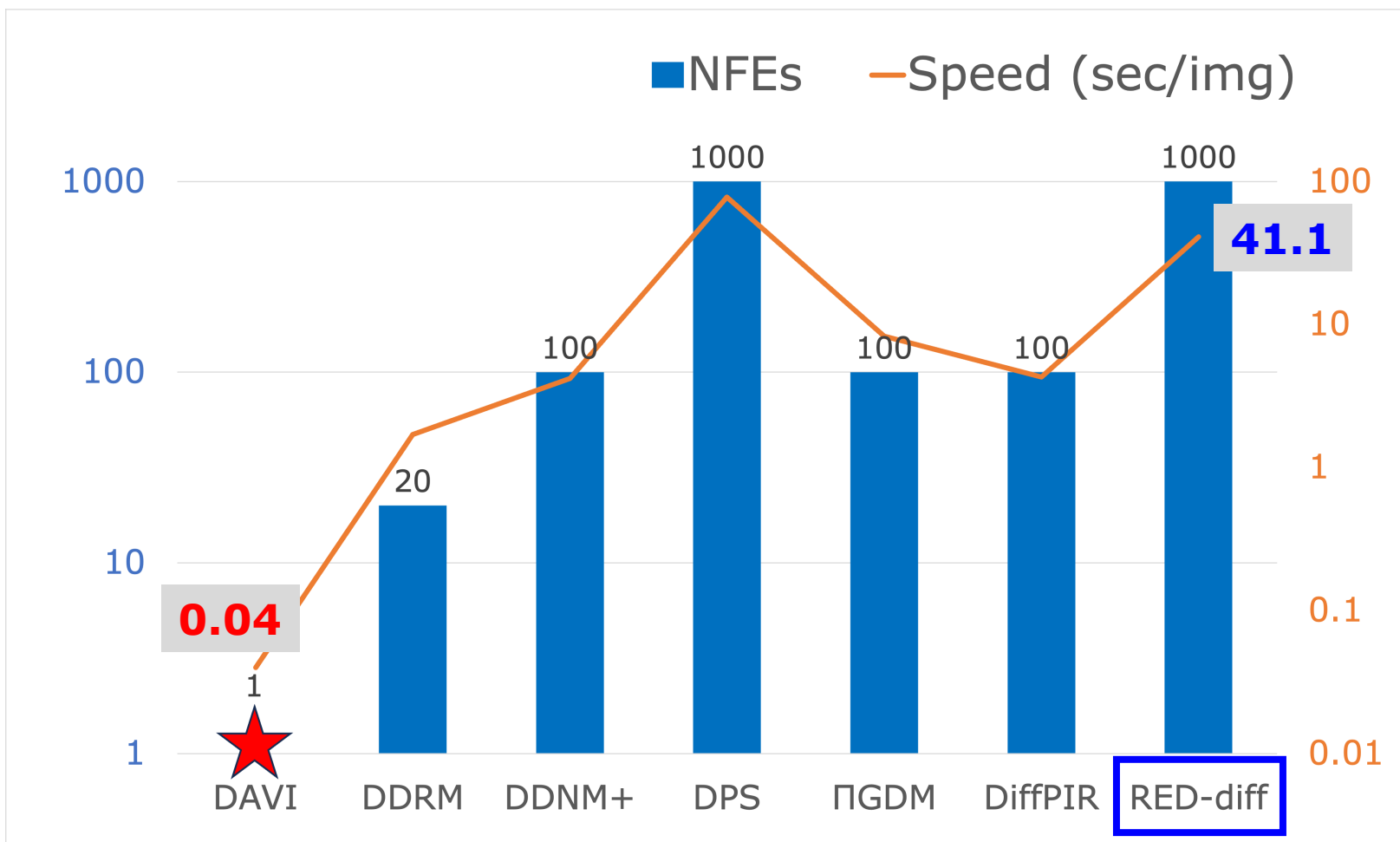
DAVI shows 1000x faster inference speed



Inference speed



DAVI requires **20~1,000 times fewer steps** than baselines



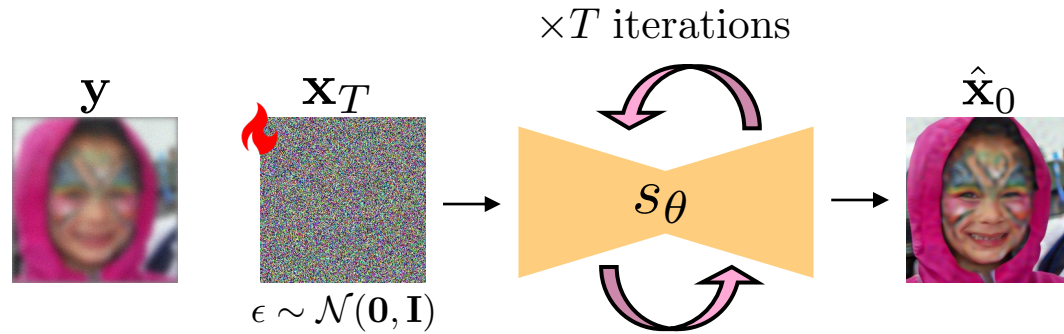
Qualitative results



Comparison with baselines



✓ Previous methods



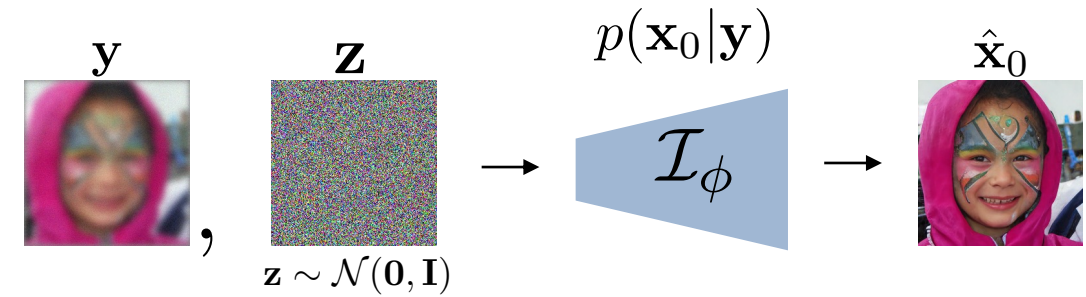
Inference

- ✓ **Iterative sampling** along reverse diffusion process
- ✓ Pre-trained **diffusion model** S_θ

Optimization

- ✓ **Measurement-wise optimization** \mathbf{x}_T
- ✓ **Test-time optimization** for each sample

✓ DAVI



- ✓ **Single-step sampling**
- ✓ Parameterized **Implicit distribution** \mathcal{I}_ϕ

- ✓ **Amortized Optimization** \mathcal{I}_ϕ
- ✓ **No additional optimization** at test-time

Proposed method



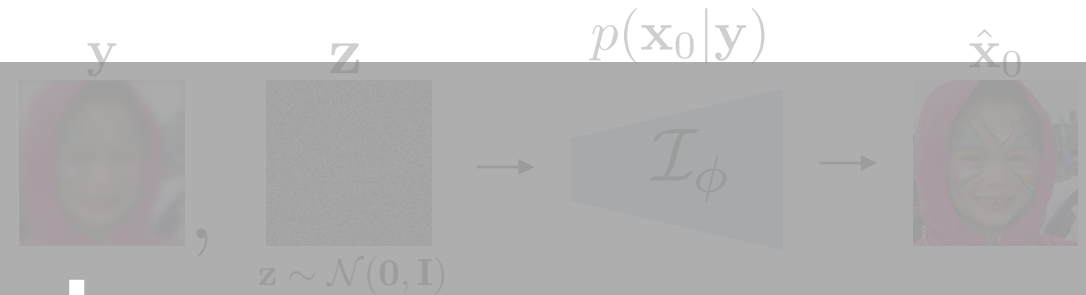
✓ Previous methods



Diffusion Prior-Based Amortized Variational Inference (DAVI)

Inference

✓ DAVI



✓ Iterative sampling along reverse diffusion process

✓ Single-step sampling

✓ Pre-trained diffusion model S_θ

✓ Parameterized Implicit distribution \mathcal{I}_ϕ

Optimization

✓ Measurement-wise optimization x_T

✓ Amortized Optimization \mathcal{I}_ϕ

✓ Test-time optimization for each sample

✓ No additional optimization at test-time

Method



- **[Goal] Variational Optimization between $q_\phi(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{y})$ and $p(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{y})$**

Implicit distribution



$$\phi^* = \arg \min_{\phi} [D_{KL}(q_\phi(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{y}) || p(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{y}))]$$



True posterior distribution

Method



- Expand the KL divergence and drop the constant term $\log p(\mathbf{y})$

Implicit distribution True posterior

$$D_{KL}(q_\phi(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{y}) || p(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{y}))$$

Data consistency term

$$-\mathbb{E}_{q_\phi(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{y})} [\log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}_0)]$$

KL divergence

$$D_{KL}(q_\phi(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{y}) || p(\mathbf{x}_0))$$

Eq. Forward model

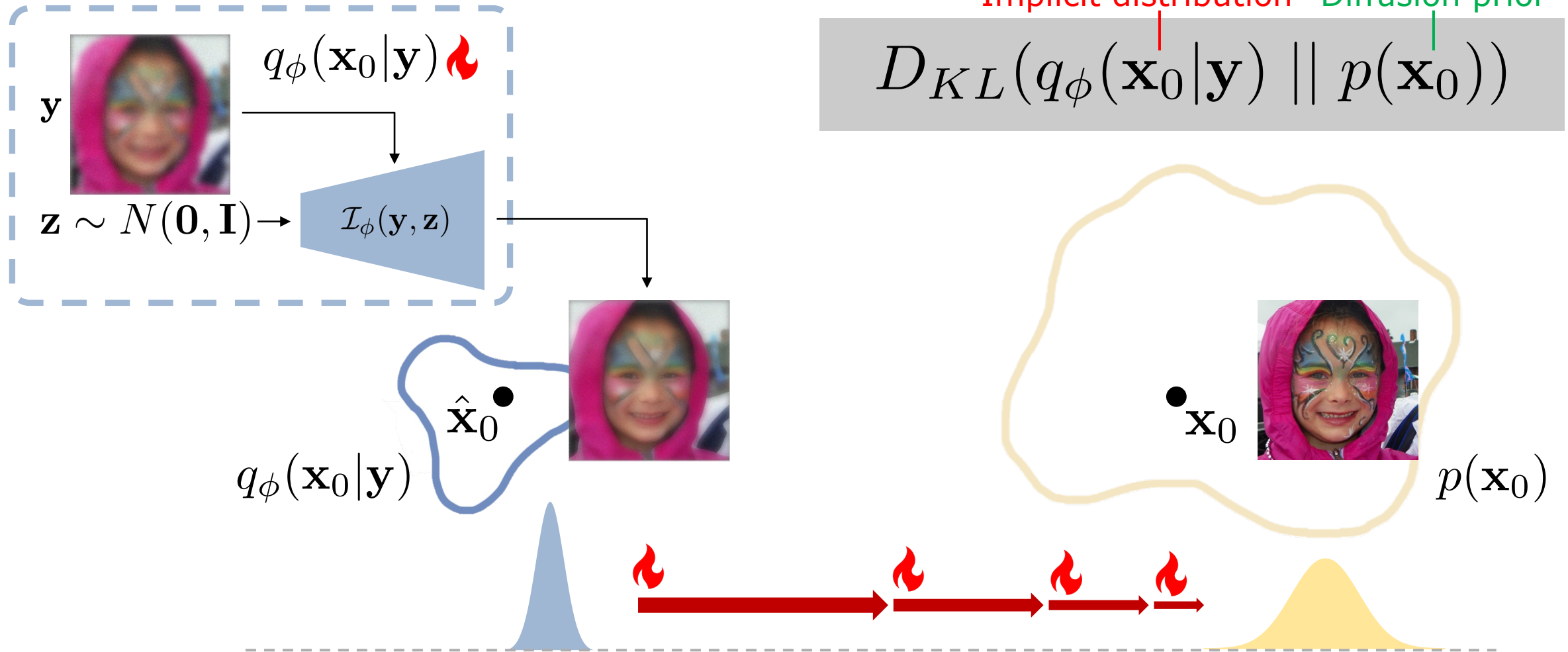
known estimated unknown

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{n}, \quad \mathbf{n} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma_y^2 \mathbf{I})$$

clean image prior
 \approx **diffusion prior**

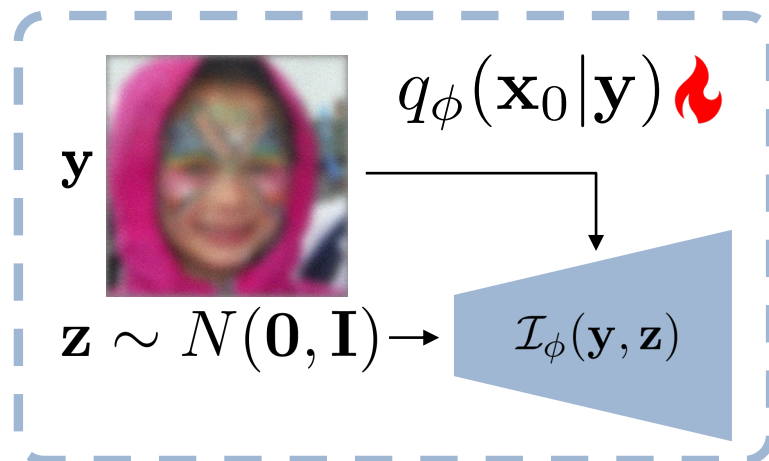
Method

- **Optimize $q_\phi(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{y})$ to align with the clean image distribution $p(\mathbf{x}_0)$**



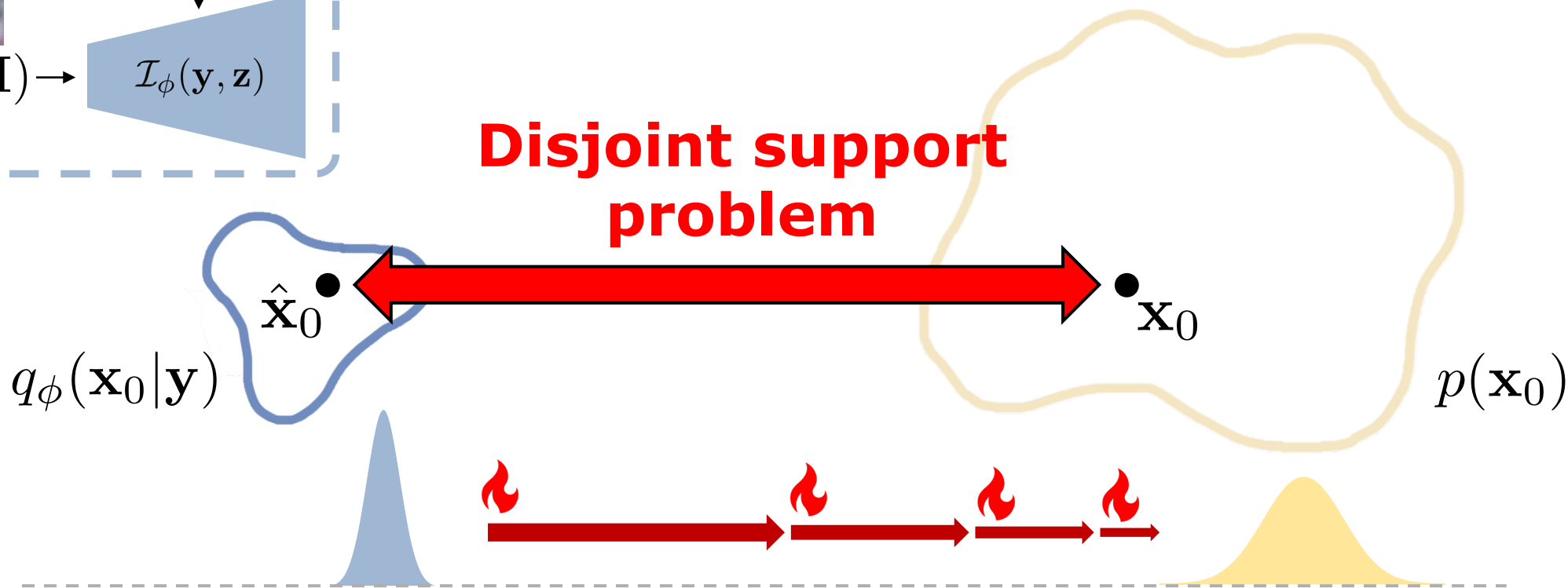
Method

- **Optimize** $q_\phi(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{y})$ **to align with the clean image distribution** $p(\mathbf{x}_0)$



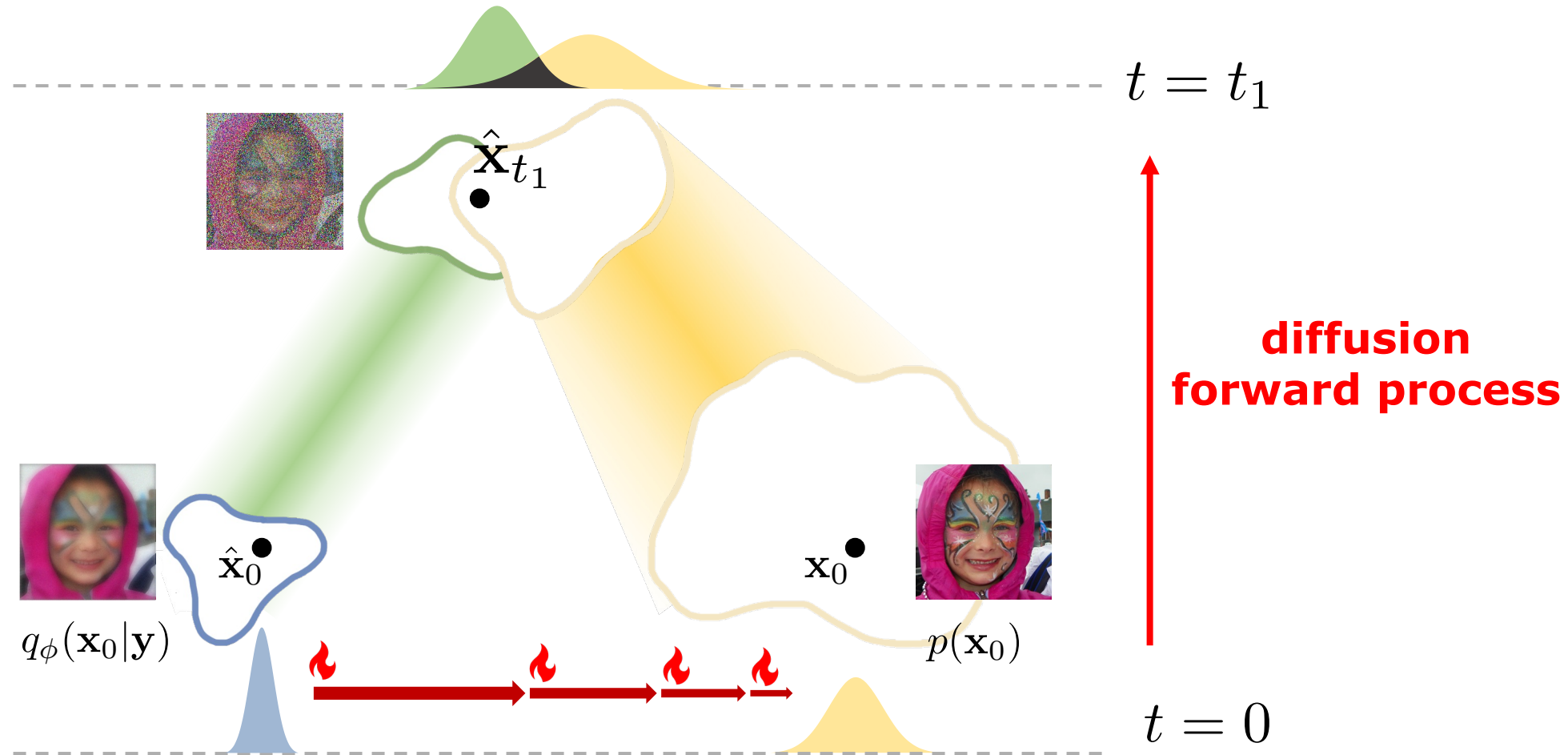
Implicit distribution Diffusion prior

$$D_{KL}(q_\phi(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{y}) || p(\mathbf{x}_0))$$



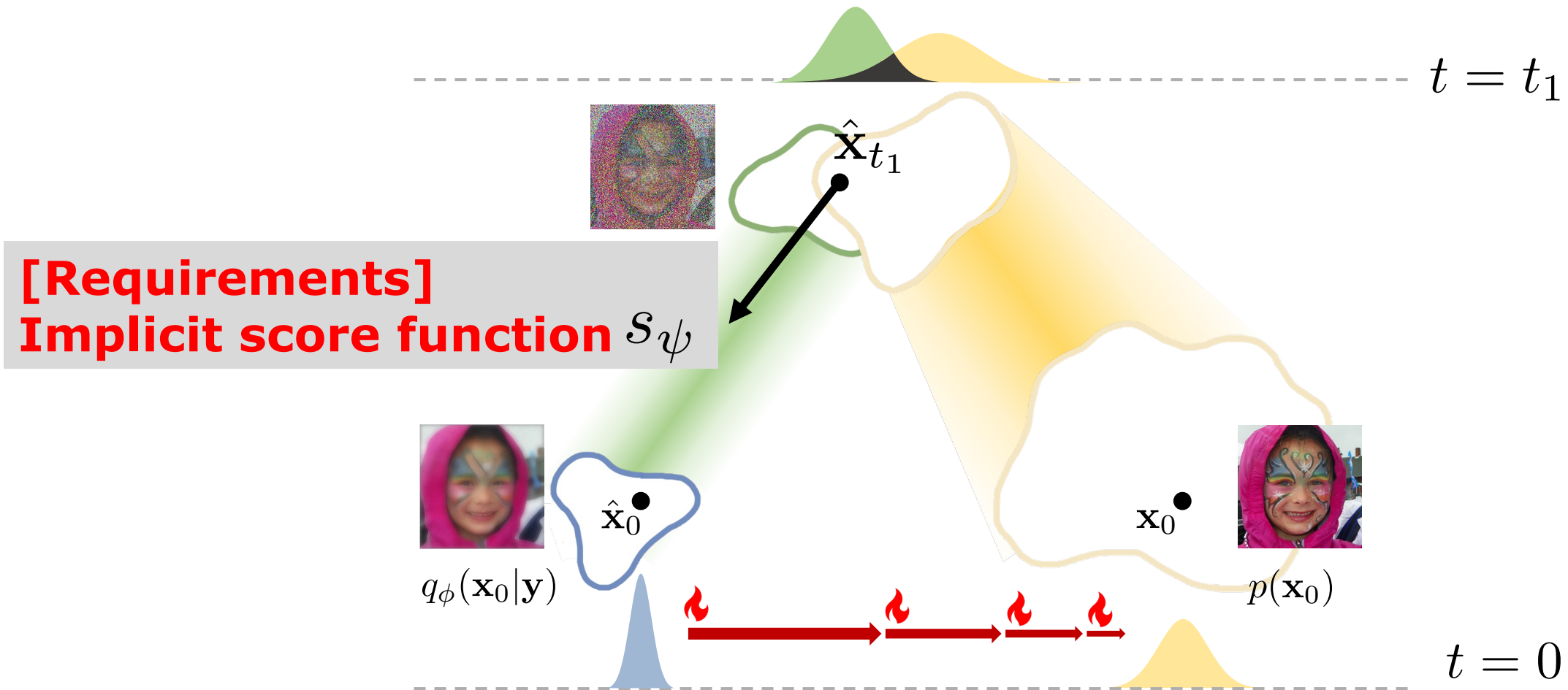
Integrated KL divergence (IKL)

- Alleviate the disjoint support problem by smoothing the distributions



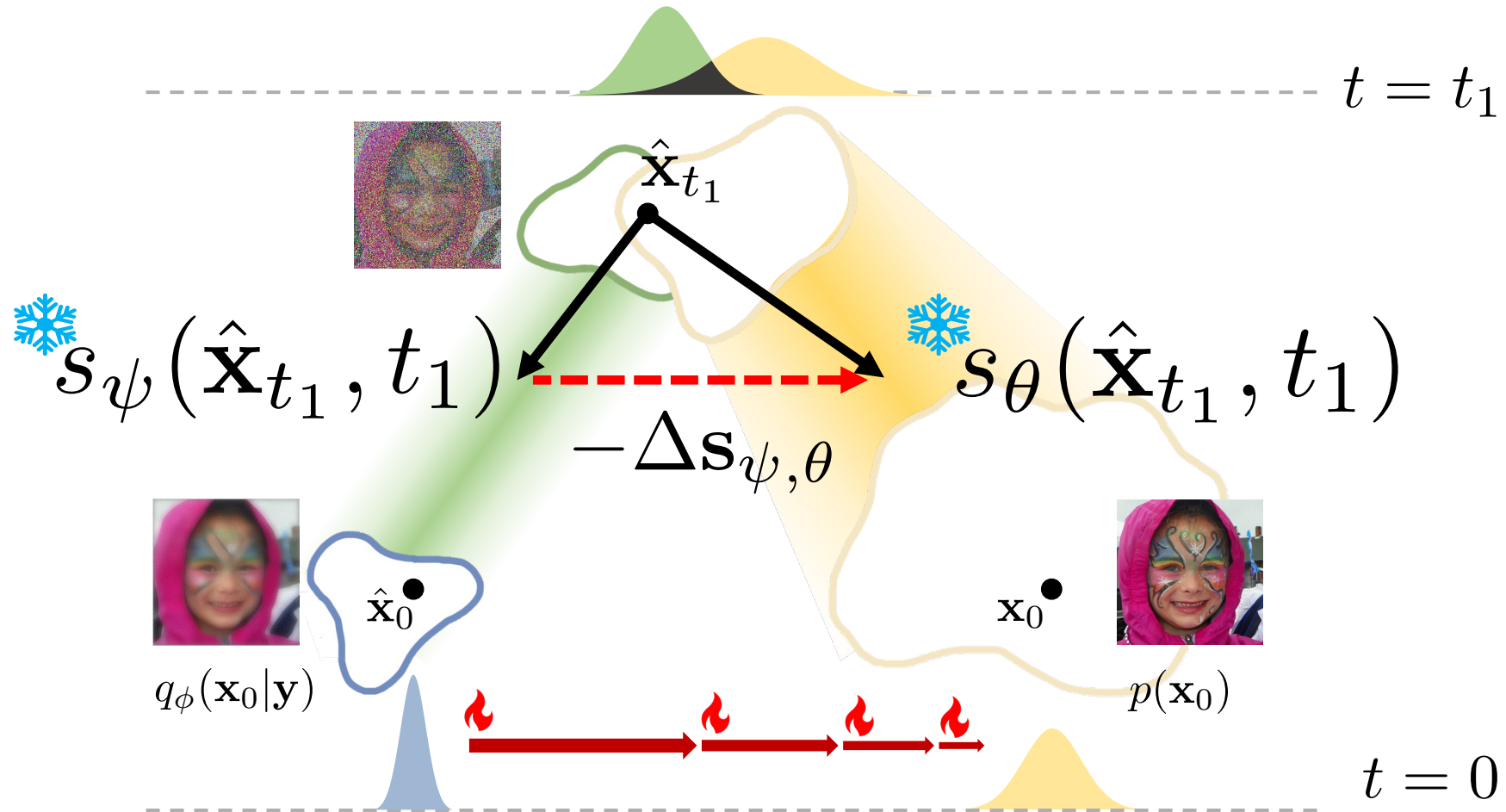
Score distillation gradient

- Minimize the discrepancy between $q_\phi(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{y})$ and $p(\mathbf{x}_0)$



Score distillation gradient

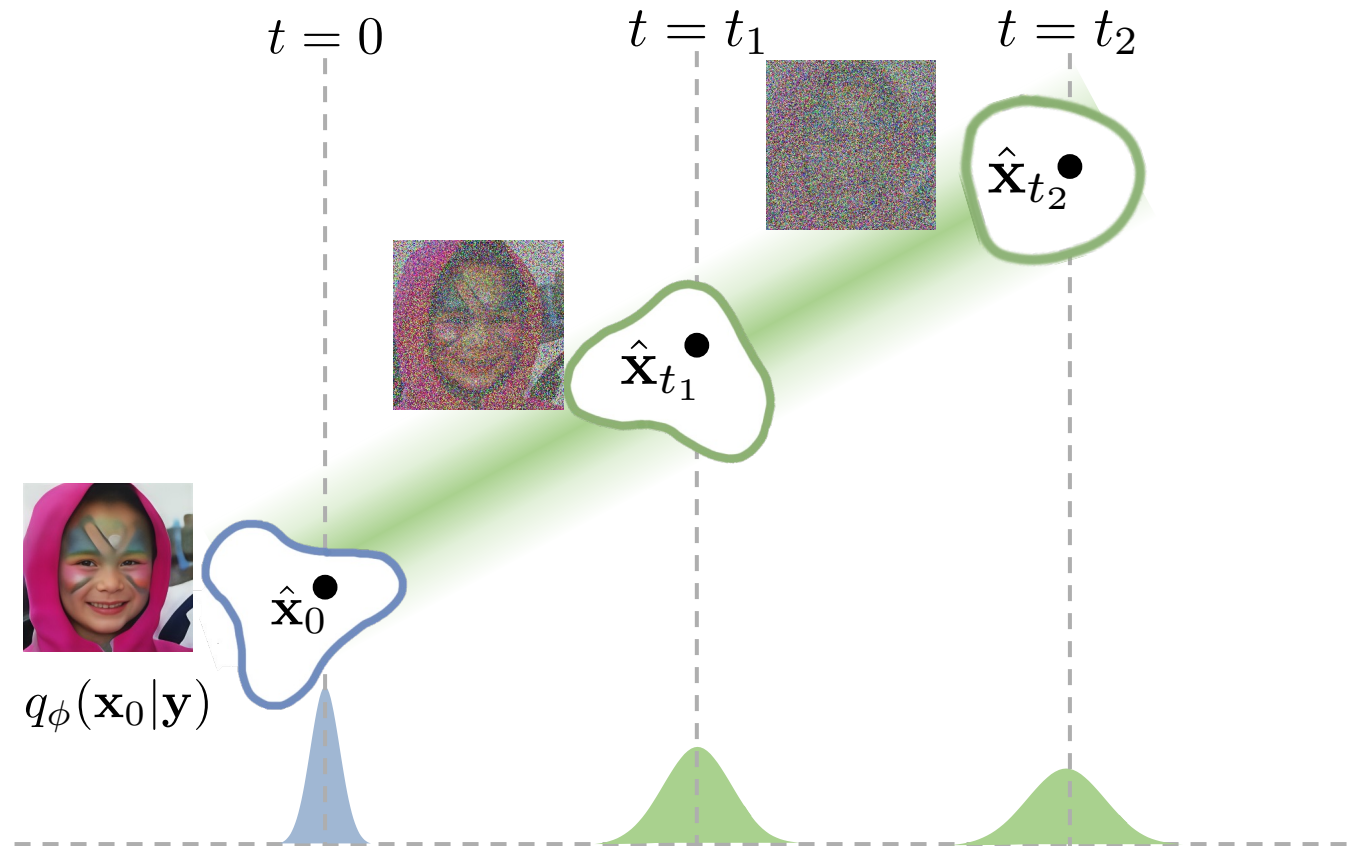
- Minimize the discrepancy between $q_\phi(\mathbf{x}_0|\mathbf{y})$ and $p(\mathbf{x}_0)$



Denoising score matching loss

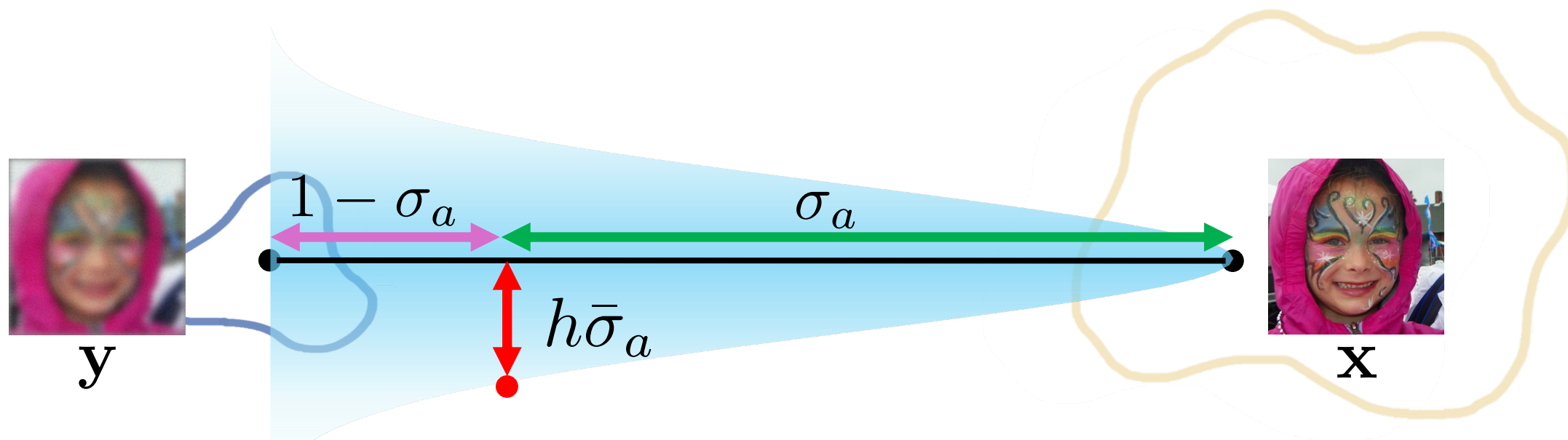
- Optimize the implicit score function \mathbf{s}_ψ 🔥

$$\mathbb{E}_{q_\phi(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{y}), t} [\|\mathbf{s}_\psi(\mathbf{x}_t, t) - \nabla_{\mathbf{x}_t} \log q_\phi(\mathbf{x}_t|\mathbf{y})\|_2^2]$$



Perturbed Posterior Bridge (PPB)

- Improve the robustness of the implicit neural network to diverse y



$$y_a = \underbrace{(1 - \sigma_a)}_{\text{pink}} y + \underbrace{\sigma_a}_{\text{green}} X + \underbrace{h\bar{\sigma}_a}_{\text{red}} z, \quad z \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$$

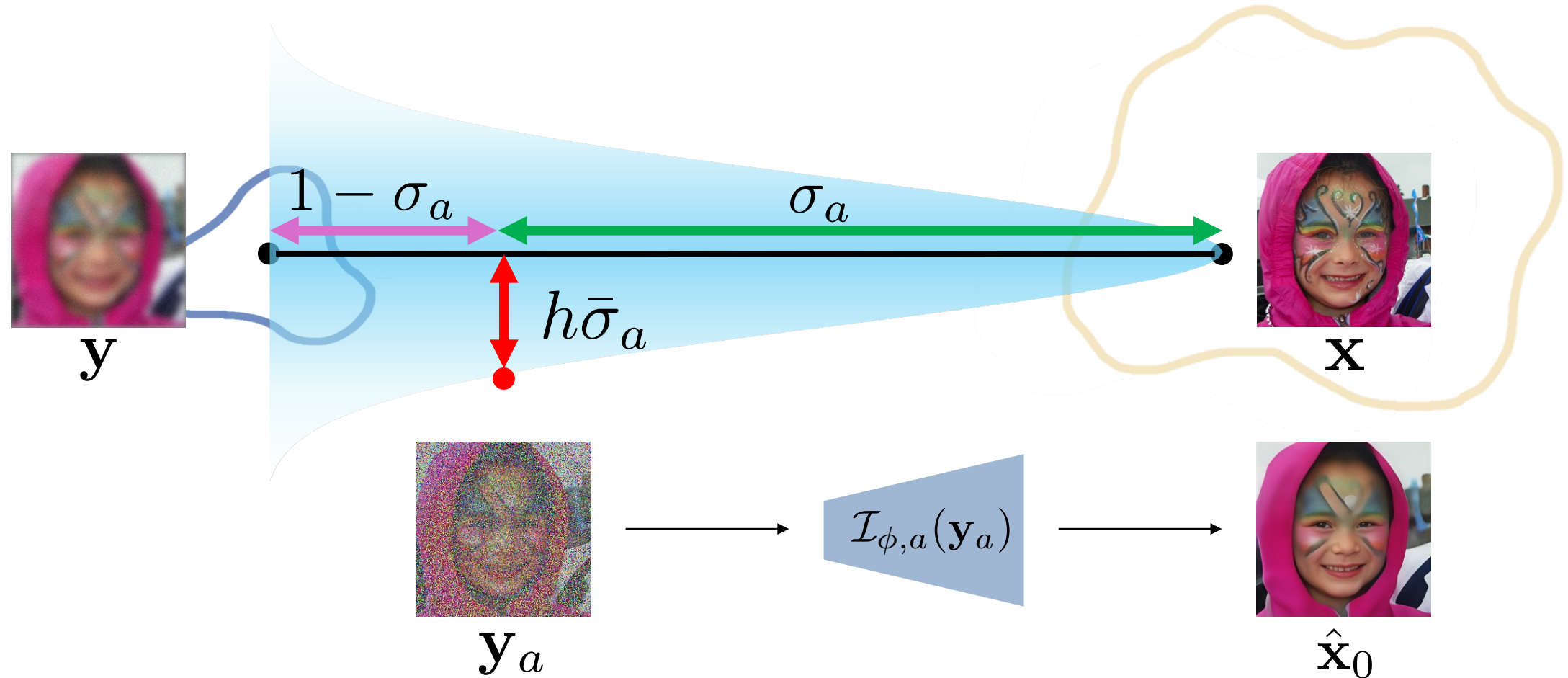
$$\sigma_a = \frac{\int_a^1 \beta_t dt}{\int_0^a \beta_t dt + \int_a^1 \beta_t dt}$$

Perturbation schedule $\bar{\sigma}_a = 1 - \prod_{i=1}^a \beta_i$

hyperparameter a and h

Perturbed Posterior Bridge (PPB)

- Intermediary set of trajectories between y and x



Out-of-distribution (OOD)



[Train] FFHQ / [Test] CelebA-HQ



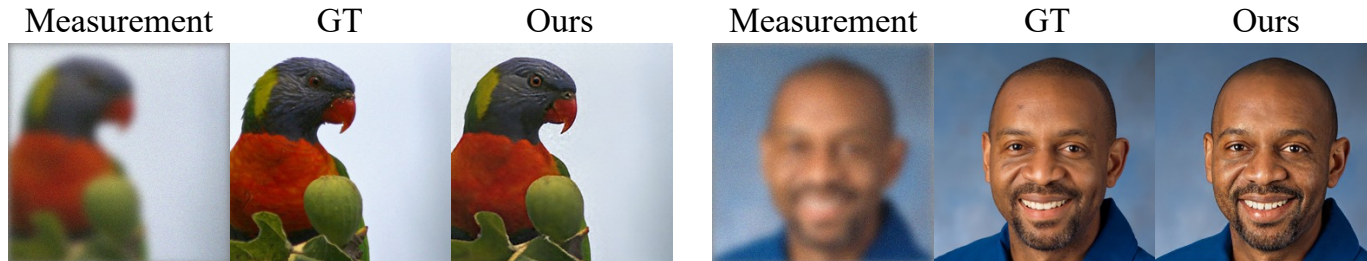
[Train] ImageNet / [Test] GoPro



Experiments



Gaussian deblur



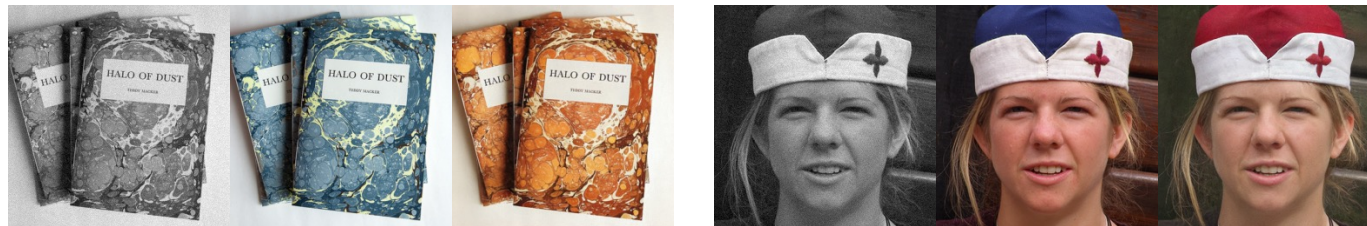
Super-resolution



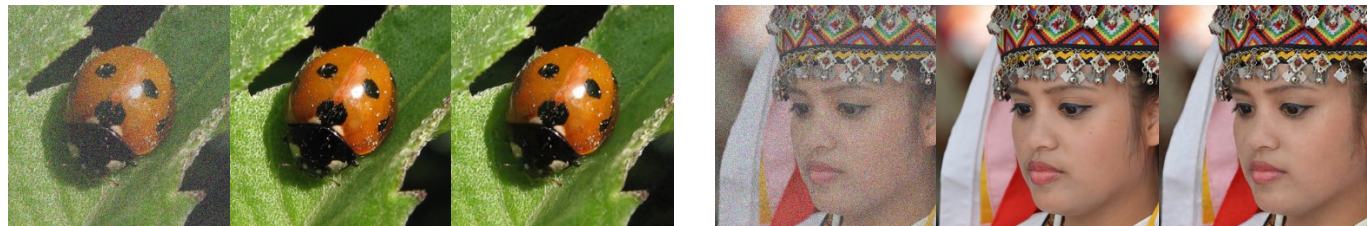
Box inpainting



Colorization



Denoising



Conclusion



- **Diffusion prior-based Amortized Variational Inference (DAVI)**
- **Efficient posterior sampling by a single neural network evaluation**
- **Generalization** for both seen and unseen measurements **without any optimization at test-time**
- **Perturbed Posterior Bridge** further enhances the generalization capabilities

Thank you 😊



Paper



GitHub