



# An Expectation-Maximization Algorithm for Training Clean Diffusion Models from Corrupted Observations

Weimin Bai, Yifei Wang, Wenzheng Chen, He Sun

Peking University



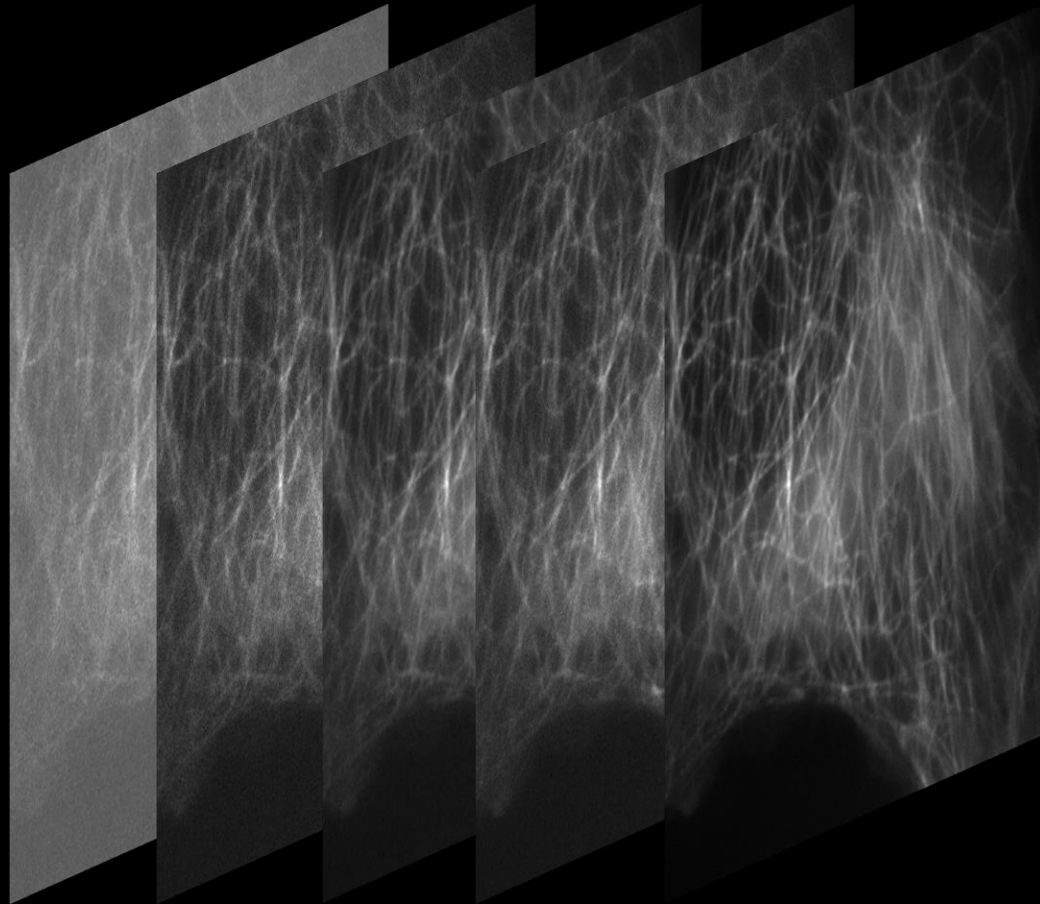
# Diffusion Models



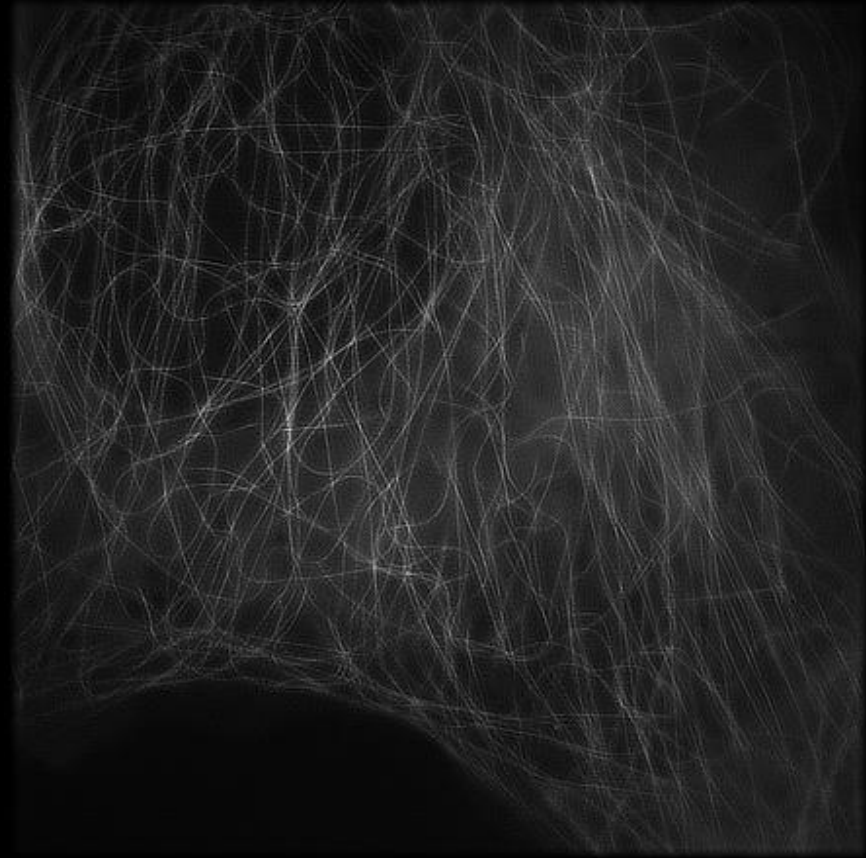


What about **few clean images** for training?

# Corrupted Observations are Sufficient



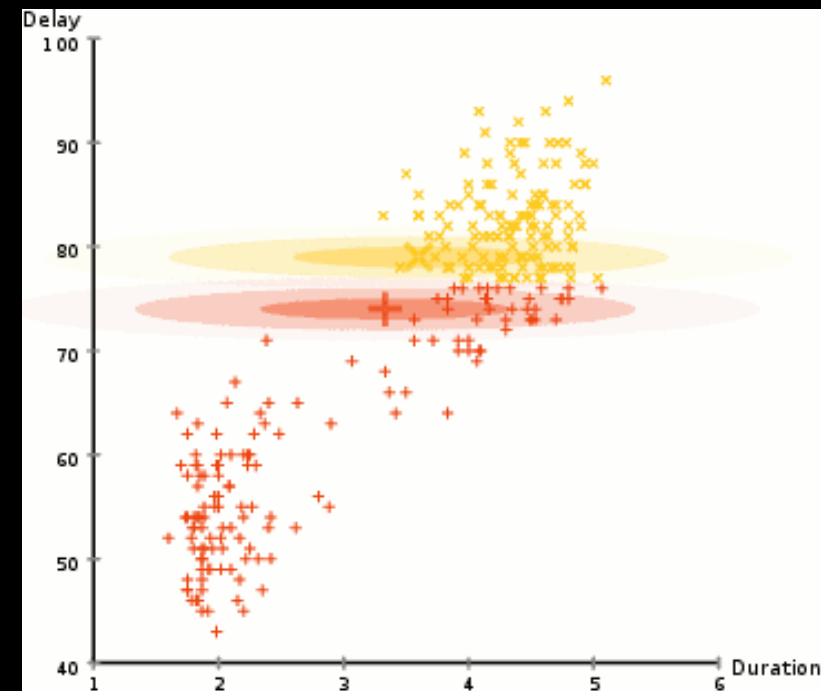
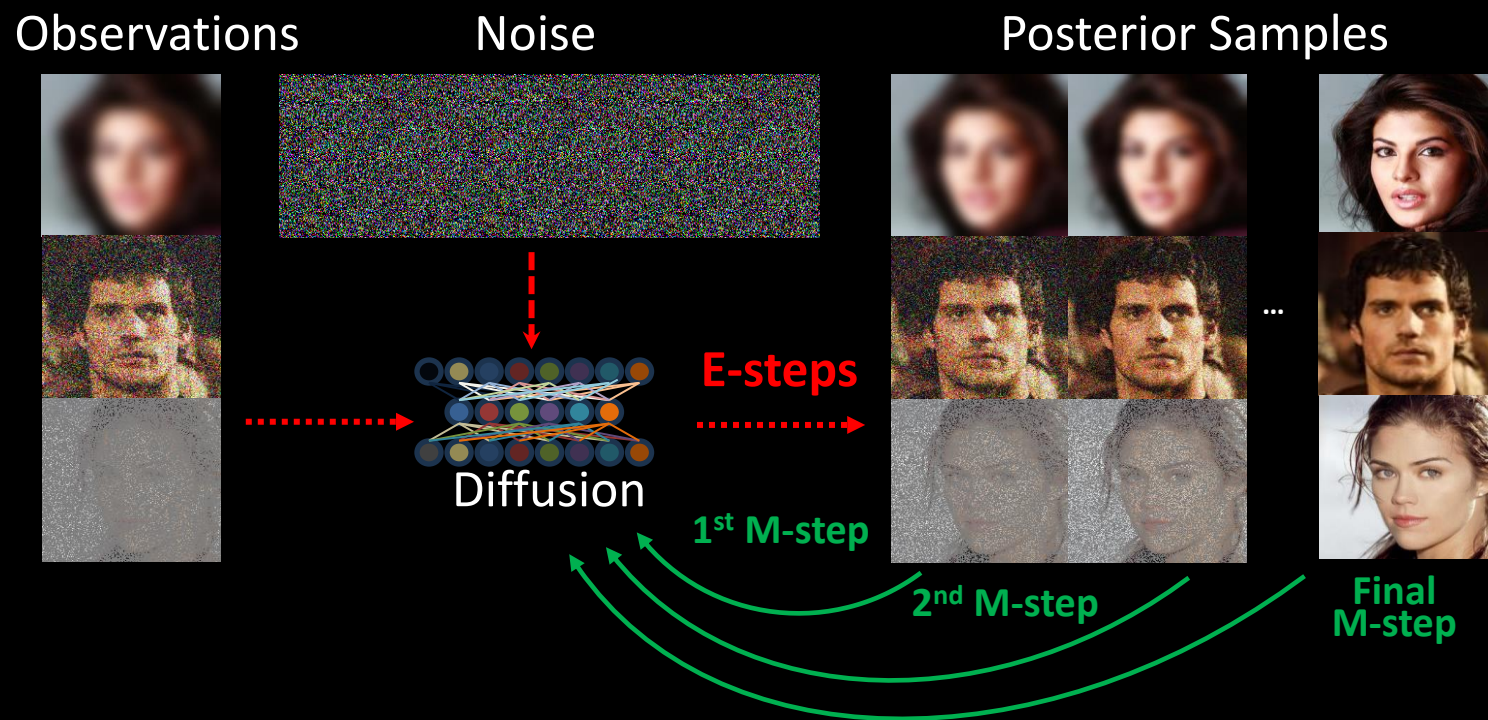
Corrupted Observations



Clean Image

An example in super-resolution fluorescent microscopy

# EMDiffusion: Learn Generative Image Priors from Corrupted Observations



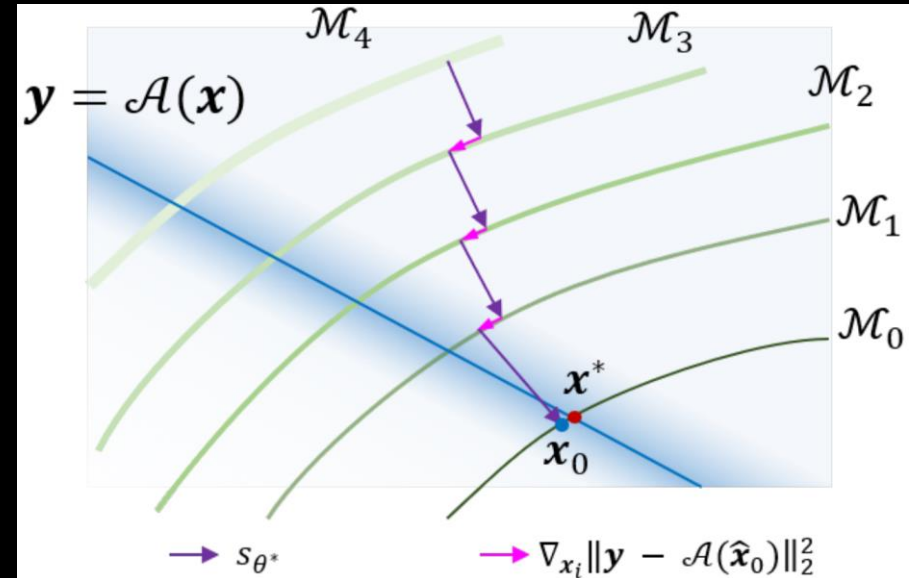
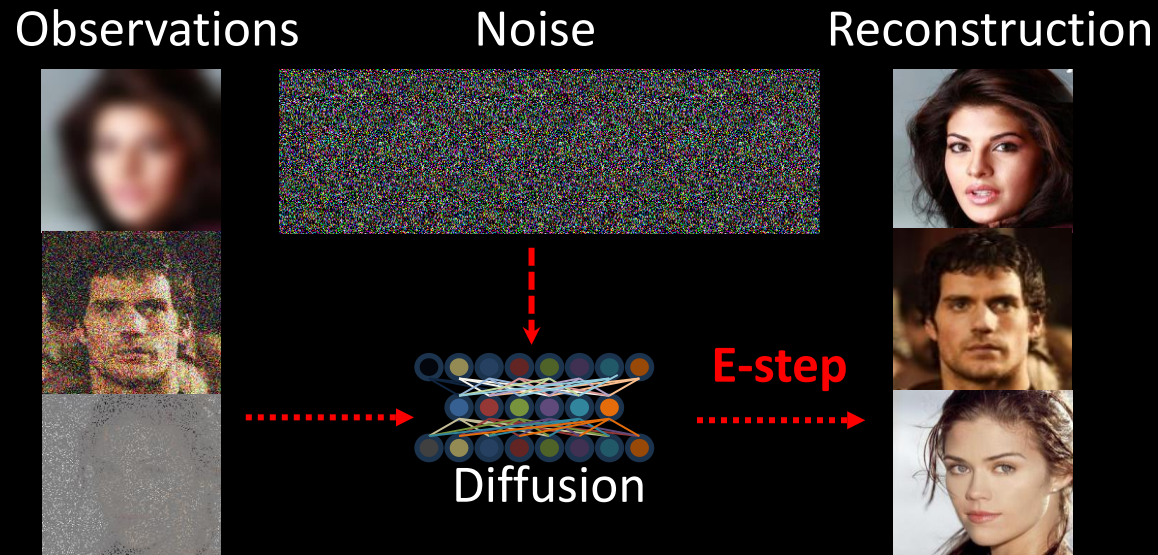
[1] *An Expectation-Maximization Algorithm for Training Clean Diffusion Models from Corrupted Observations*. Weimin Bai, Yifei Wang, Wenzheng Chen, He Sun. NeurIPS 2024.





# E-step: Diffusion Posterior Sampling

$$p(x|y) \propto p(y|x) p(x)$$



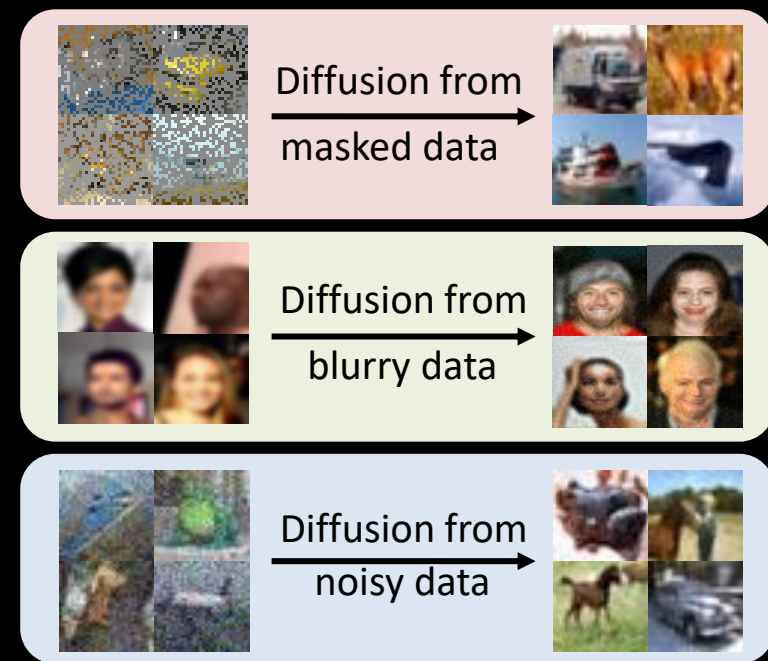
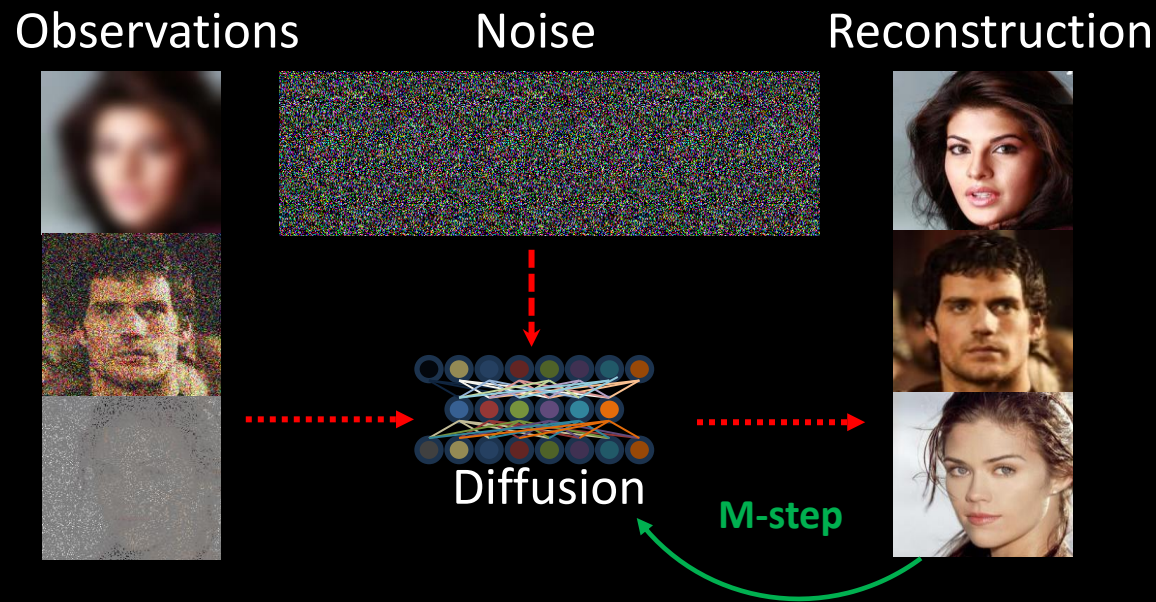
**E-step:** Reconstruct images from corrupted observations using current generative image prior

[1] *Diffusion Posterior Sampling for General Noisy Inverse Problems*. Hyungjin Chung, et al. ICLR 2023.



# M-step: Updating Diffusion Model's Weights

$$p(x|y) \propto p(y|x) p(x)$$

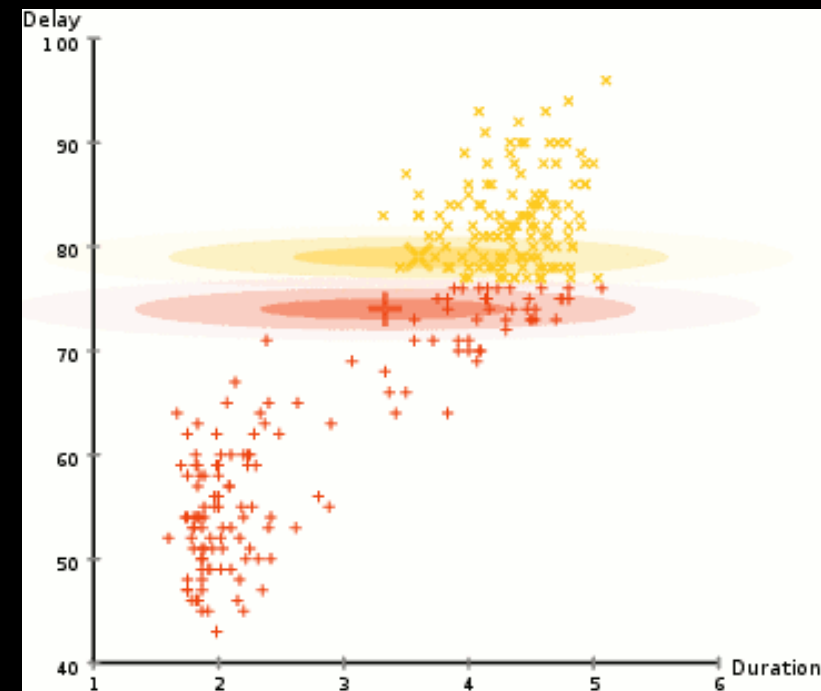
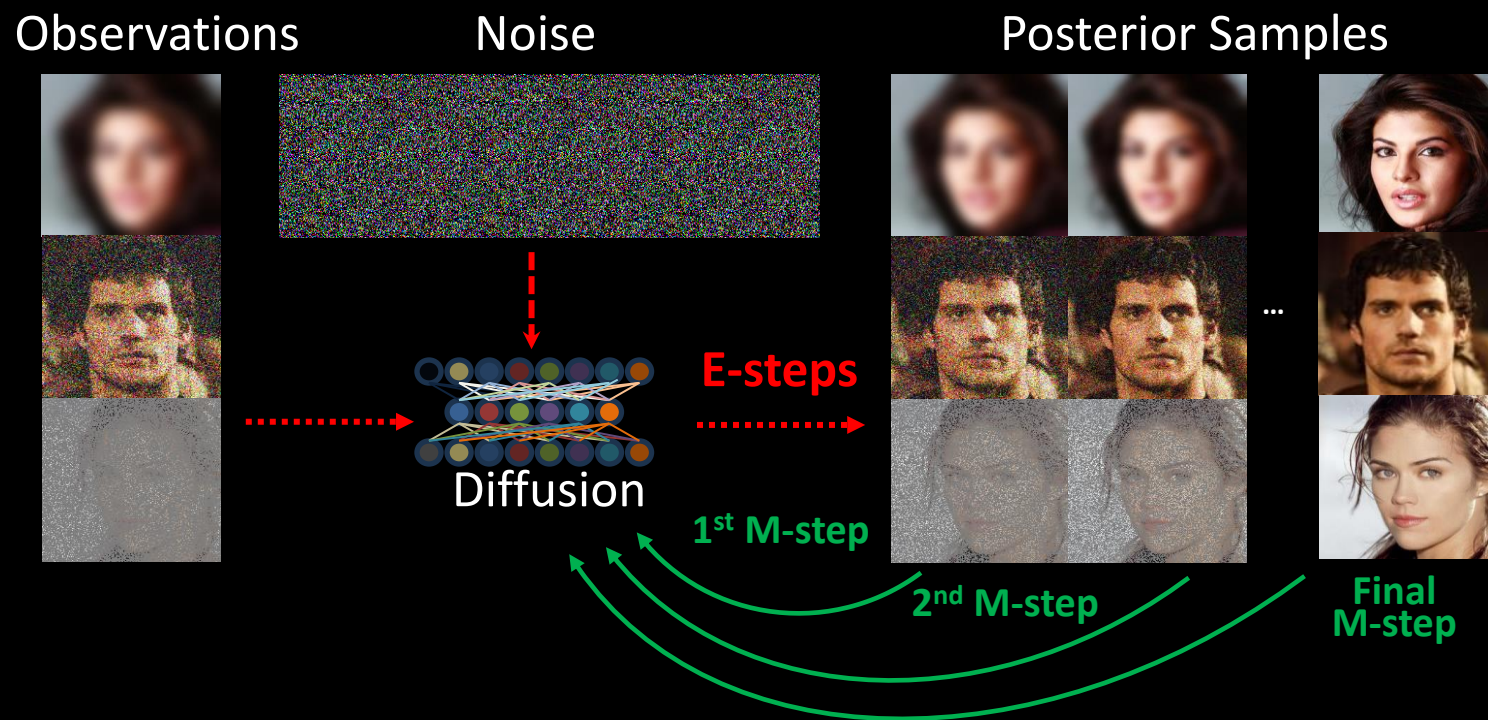


**M-step: Refining generative image prior using reconstructions**

[1] *An Expectation-Maximization Algorithm for Training Clean Diffusion Models from Corrupted Observations.* Weimin Bai, Yifei Wang, Wenzheng Chen, He Sun. NeurIPS 2024.



# EMDiffusion: Learn Generative Image Priors from Corrupted Observations



[1] *An Expectation-Maximization Algorithm for Training Clean Diffusion Models from Corrupted Observations*. Weimin Bai, Yifei Wang, Wenzheng Chen, He Sun. NeurIPS 2024.

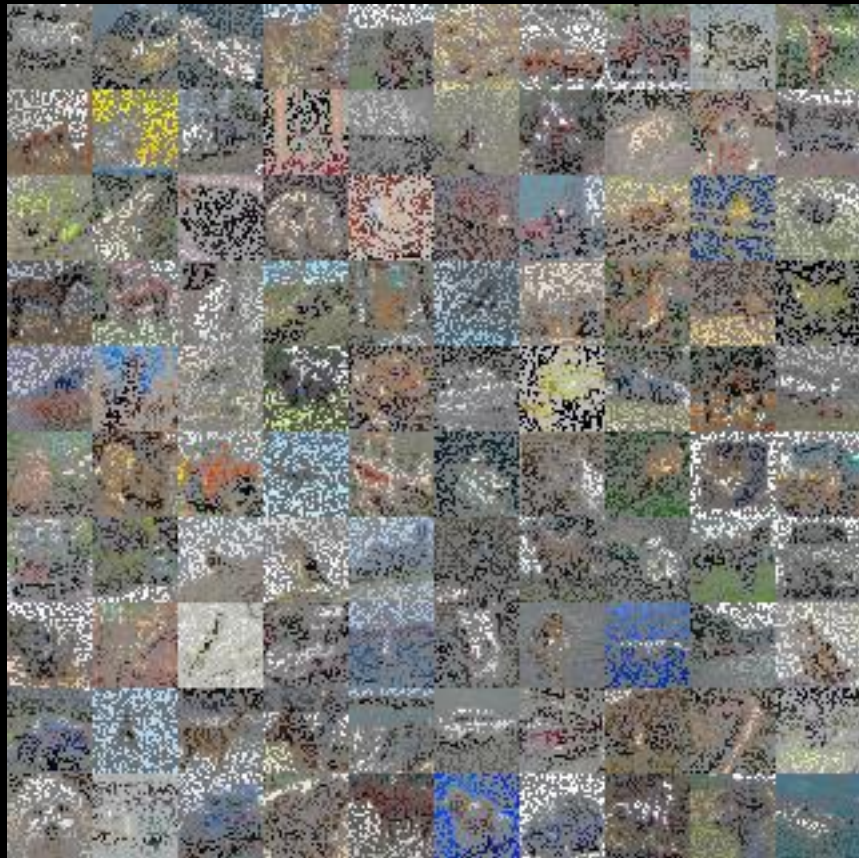
# Progressive Learning Process

$$p(x|y) \propto p(y|x) p(x)$$

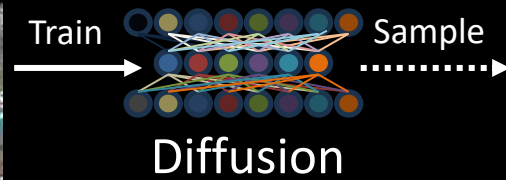




# Learned Diffusion Model



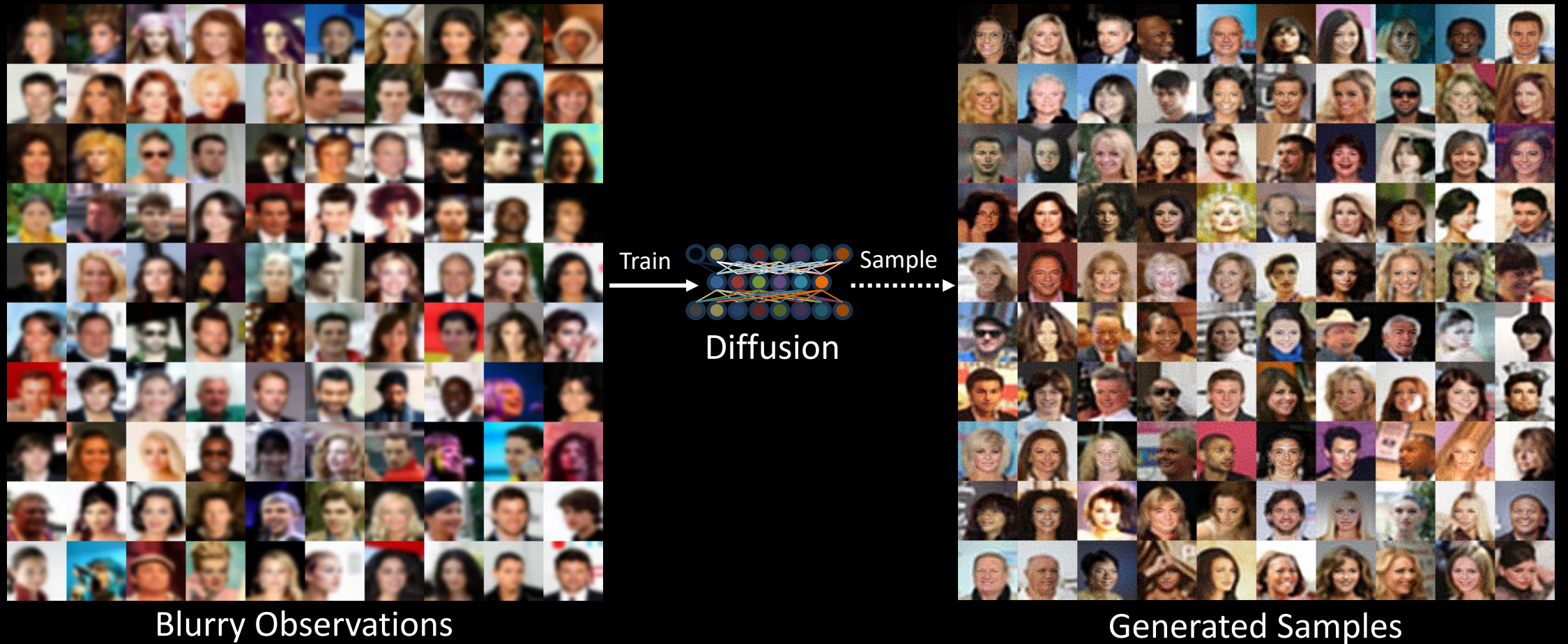
Masked Observations



Generated Samples



# Learned Diffusion Model

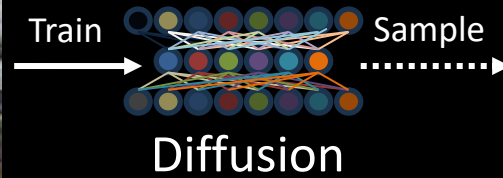




# Learned Diffusion Model



Noisy Observations



Generated Samples

# Quantitative Comparison

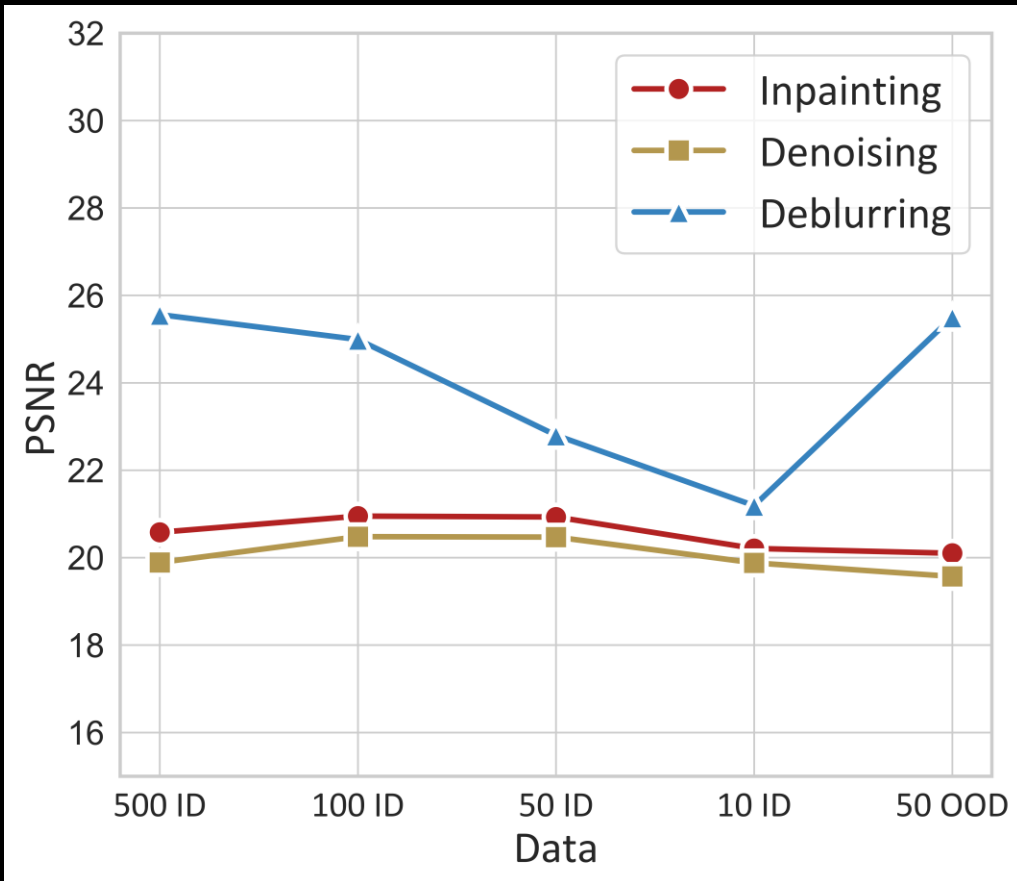
Method	CIFAR10-Inpainting			CIFAR10-Denoising			CelebA-Deblurring		
	PSNR $\uparrow$	LPIPS $\downarrow$	FID $\downarrow$	PSNR $\uparrow$	LPIPS $\downarrow$	FID $\downarrow$	PSNR $\uparrow$	LPIPS $\downarrow$	FID $\downarrow$
Observations	13.49	0.295	234.47	18.05	0.047	132.59	22.47	0.365	72.83
DPS w/ clean prior	25.44	0.008	7.08	25.91	0.010	7.08	29.05	0.013	10.24
Noise2Self [3]	-	-	-	21.32	0.227	<u>92.06</u>	-	-	-
SURE-Score [1]	15.75	0.182	220.01	<u>22.42</u>	0.138	132.61	<u>22.07</u>	0.383	191.96
AmbientDiffusion [14]	<u>20.57</u>	<u>0.027</u>	<u>28.88</u>	21.37	<u>0.033</u>	114.13	21.16	<u>0.158</u>	<b>83.99</b>
Ours	<b>24.70</b>	<b>0.009</b>	<b>21.08</b>	<b>23.16</b>	<b>0.022</b>	<b>86.47</b>	<b>23.74</b>	<b>0.103</b>	<u>91.89</u>

[1] *An Expectation-Maximization Algorithm for Training Clean Diffusion Models from Corrupted Observations.* Weimin Bai, Yifei Wang, Wenzheng Chen, He Sun. NeurIPS 2024.

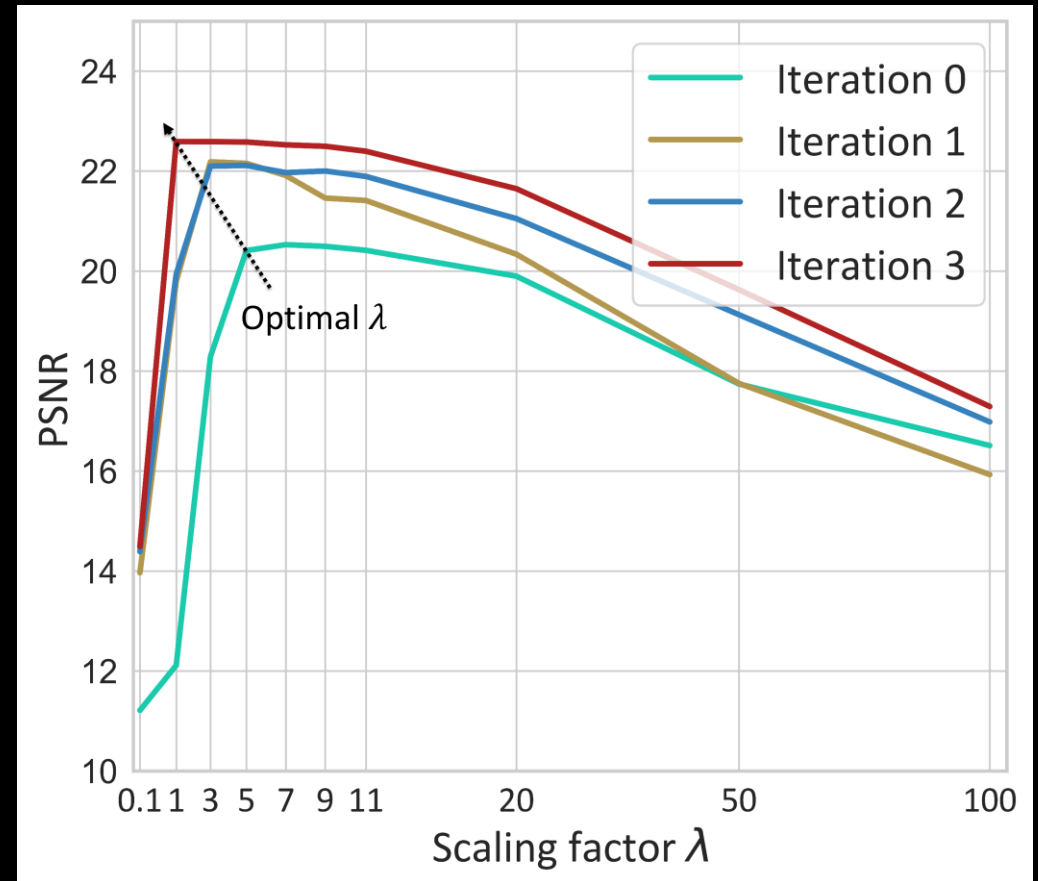


# Initialization and Annealing of Diffusion Prior

$$p(x|y) \propto p(y|x) p^\lambda(x)$$

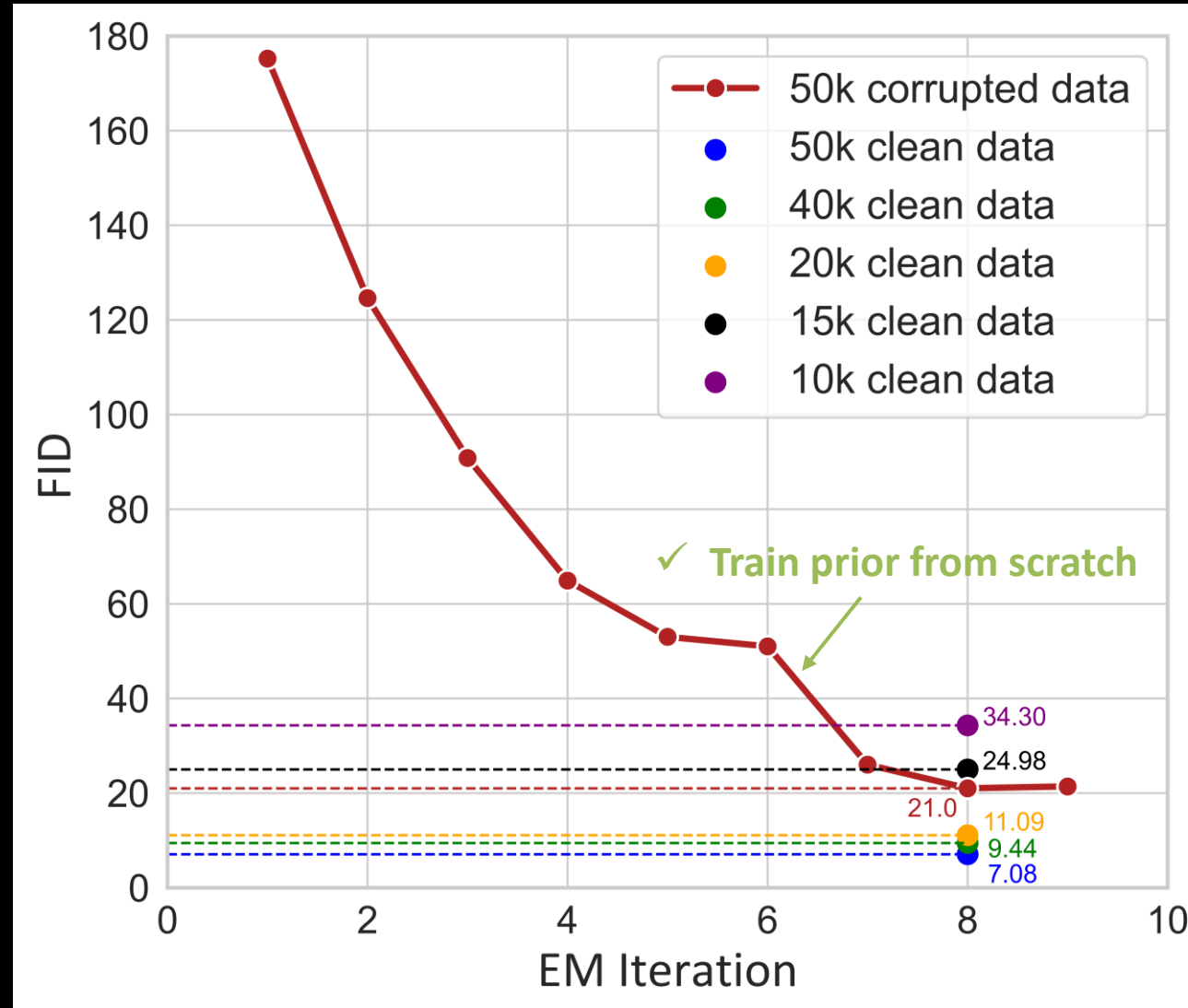


**ID: In-distribution clean images**  
**OOD: Out-of-distribution clean images**



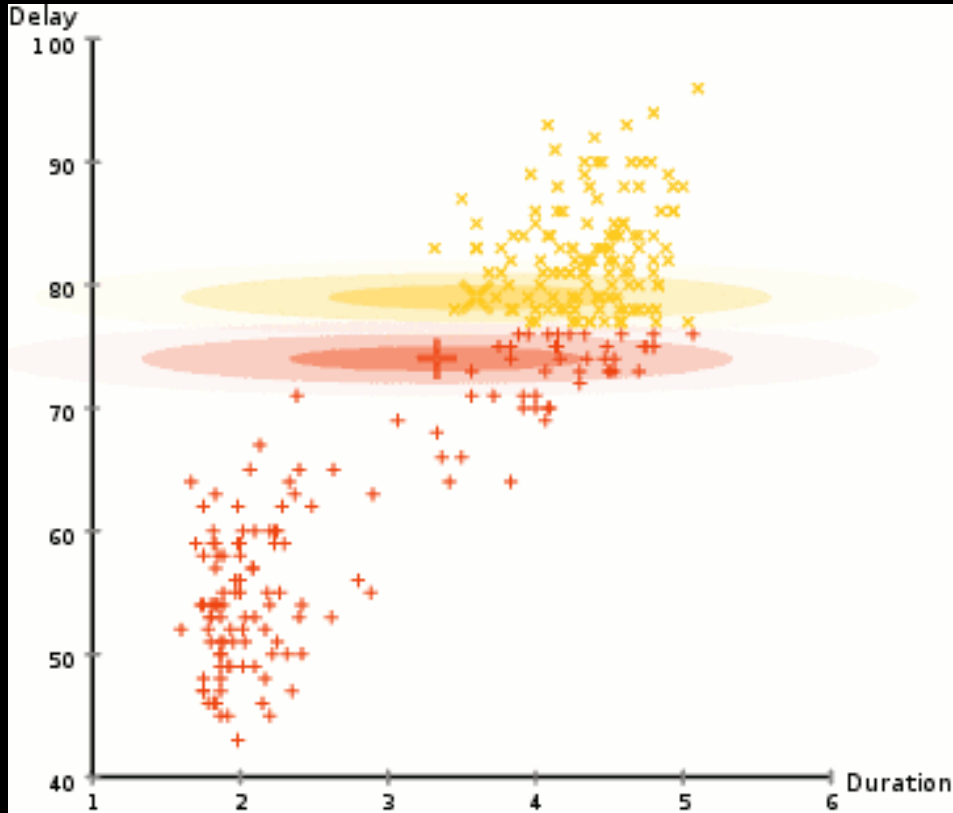
**Scaling factor controls the strength of prior**

# Reset of Diffusion Model Weights





# Conclusion



EMDiffusion: Learn from Corruption

Without large-scale clean images,  
Diffusion models can still be **trained**

- **EM-Diffusion:** E-step (DPS) + M-step (Diffusion Model Training);
- Training data: large-scale corrupted observations
- Future work: eliminate the initialization dependency on clean data.

$$p(x|y) \propto p(y|x) p(x)$$