CSCI 1470

Eric Ewing

Wednesday, 4/9/25

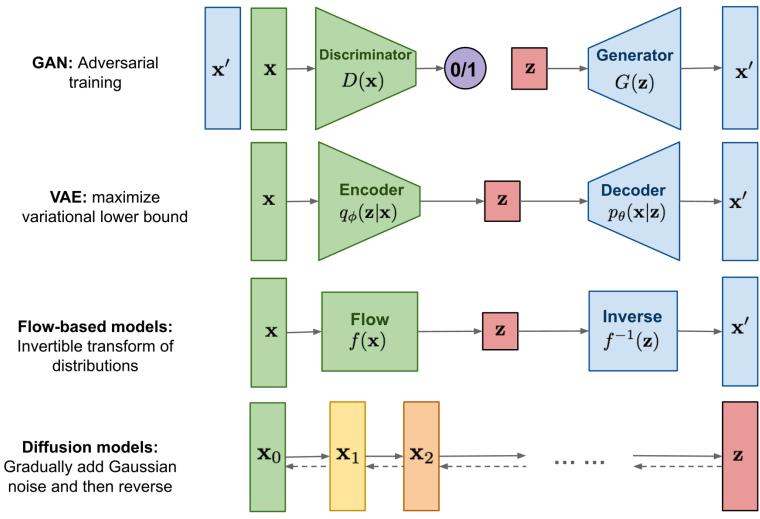
Deep Learning

Day 29: Conditional DMs and Reinforcement Learning

Logistics

• Weekly Quiz #9 is available now

Review of Generative Models



Source: https://lilianweng.github.jo/posts/2021-07-11-diffusion-models/

But How do we specify what we want?

Can you generate an image of deep space for me?

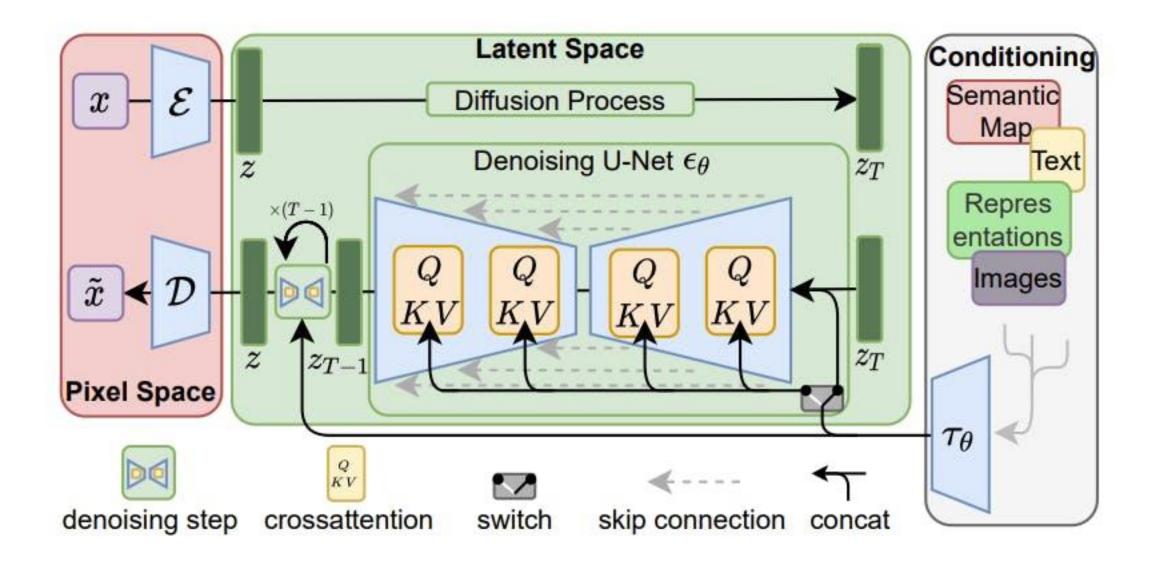
Can you remove the people from this image?

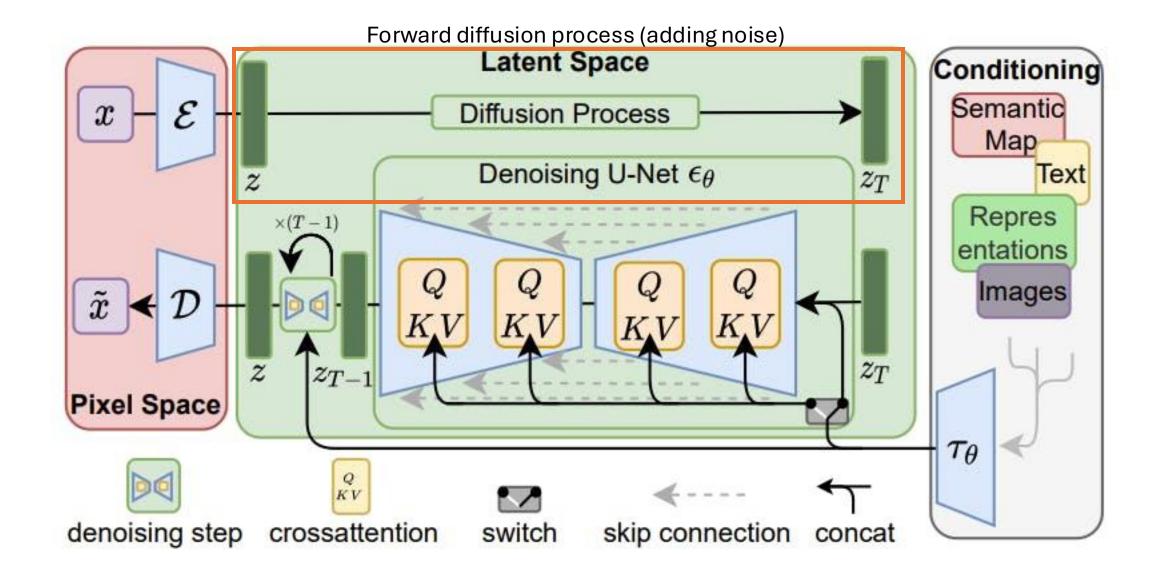
Can you give me your best joke in image format?

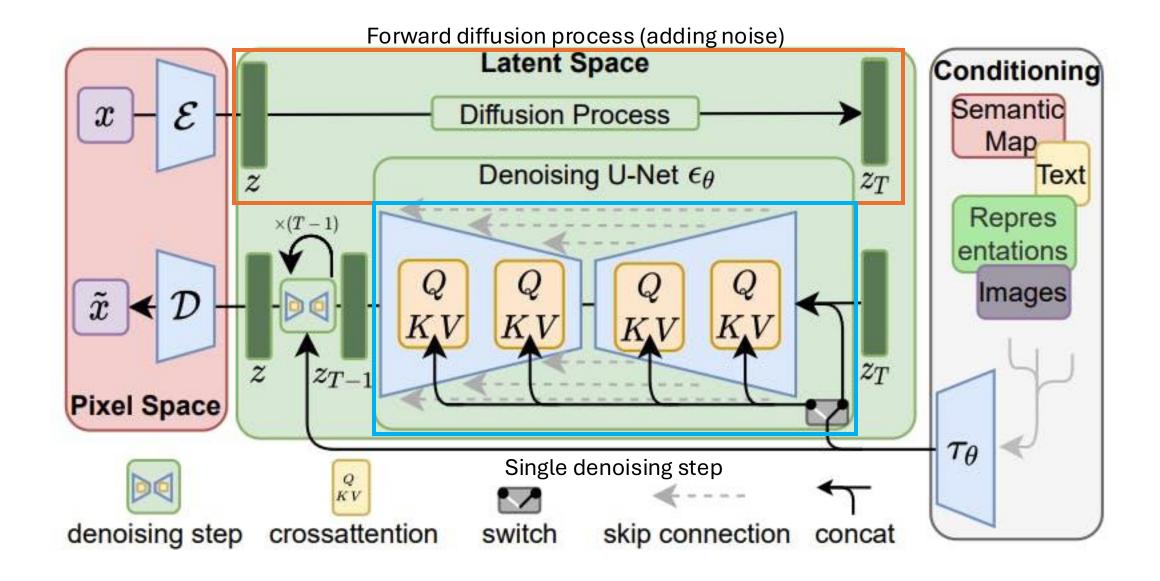


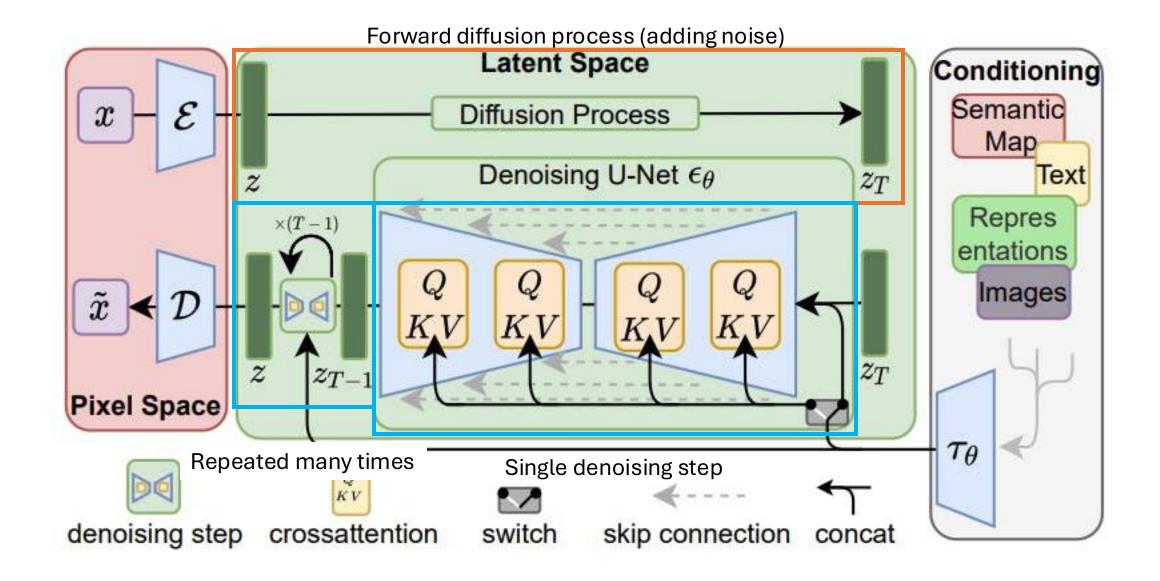
Source: chatgpt

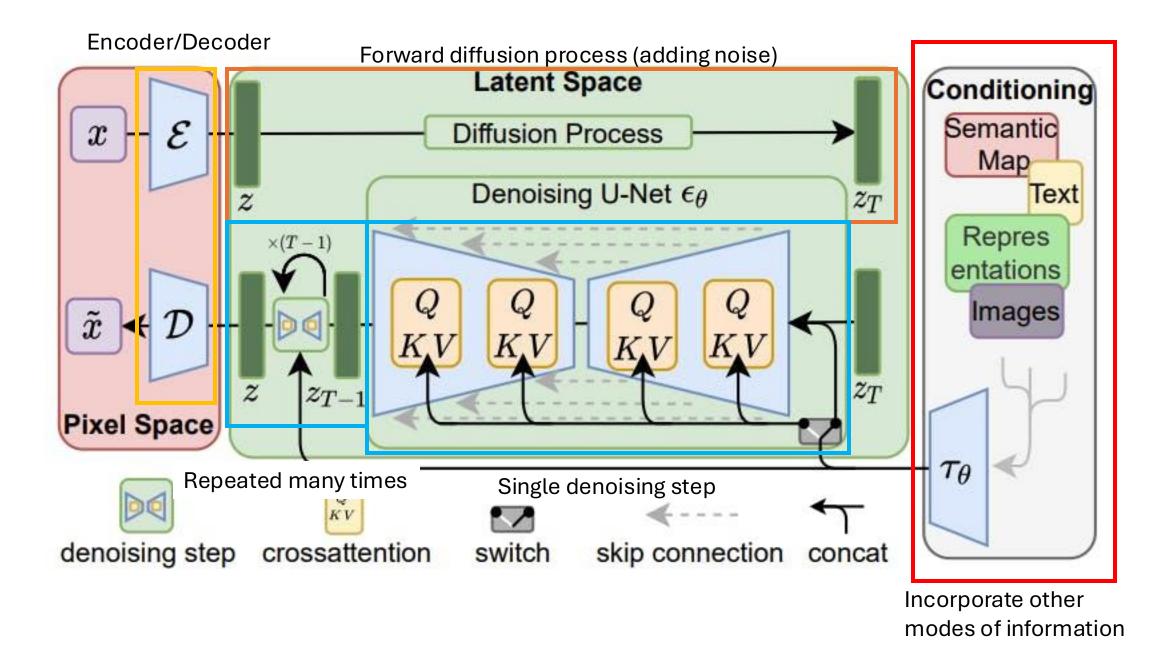
This is just one specific implementation





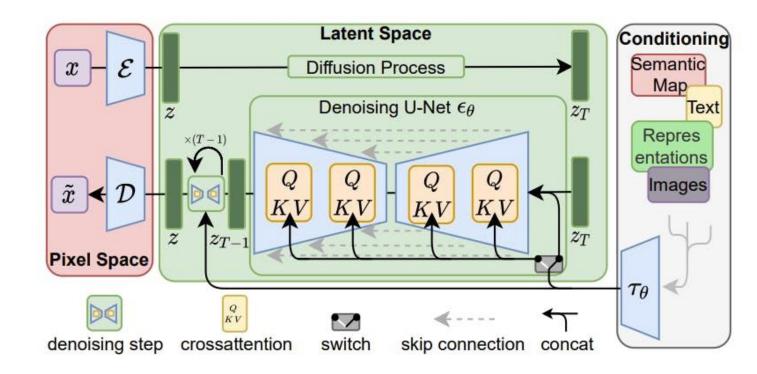






Encoders and Decoders are back!

Why might encoders and decoders be useful now?

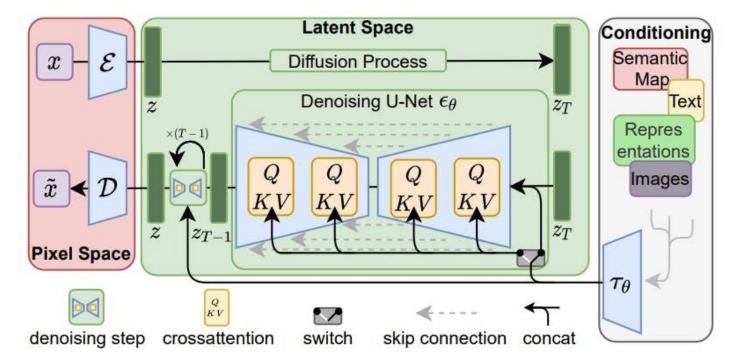


Encoders and Decoders are back!

These are intended to be very general models

- Work with language prompting
- Incorporate existing images
- And any other mode of input you can think of

Why might encoders and decoders be useful now?

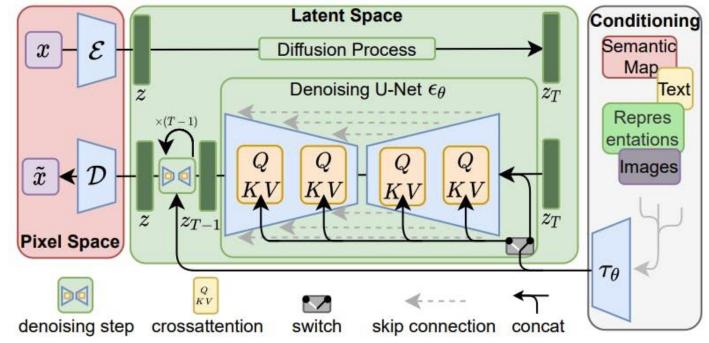


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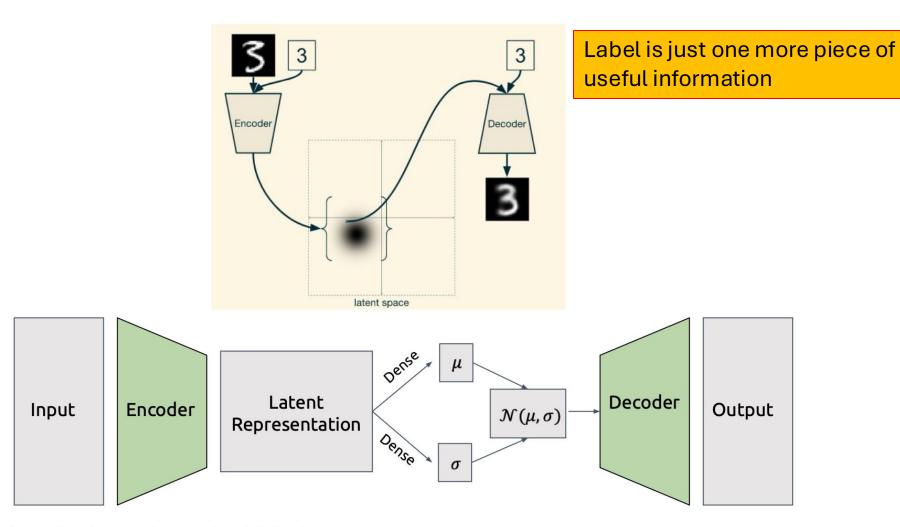
Why might encoders and decoders be useful now?

Embeddings are a sort of "common language" for all types of input



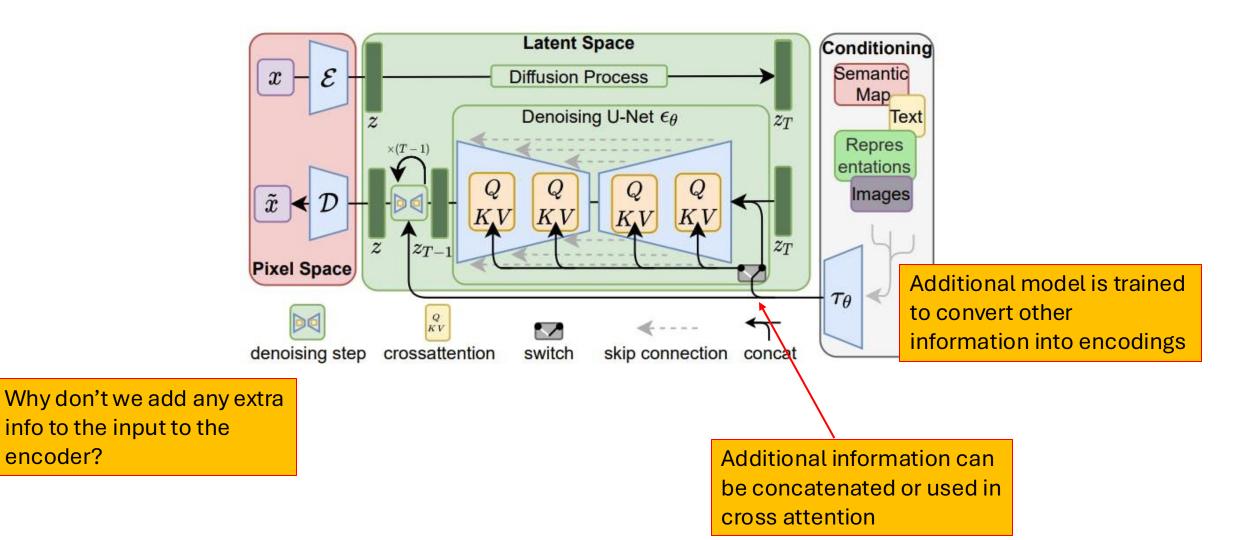
Conditional VAE

Label is concatenated to input of encoder and decoder (or an embedding based on the label)

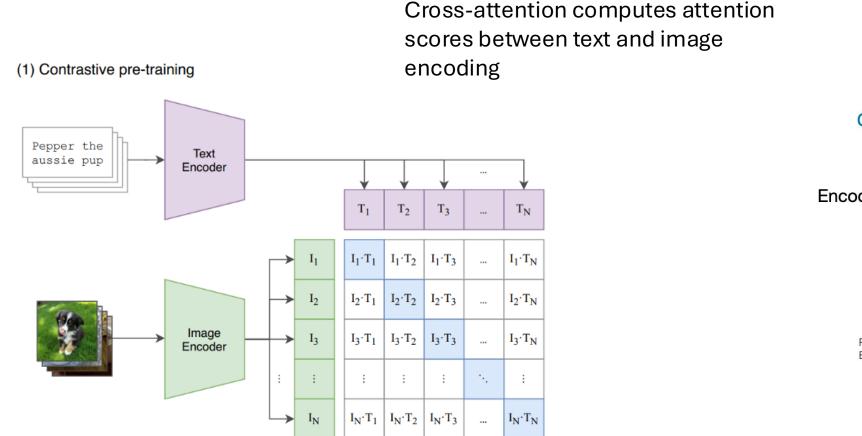


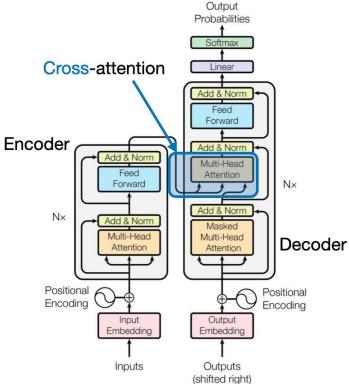
https://towardsdatascience.com/understanding-conditional-variational-autoencoders-cd62b4f57bf8

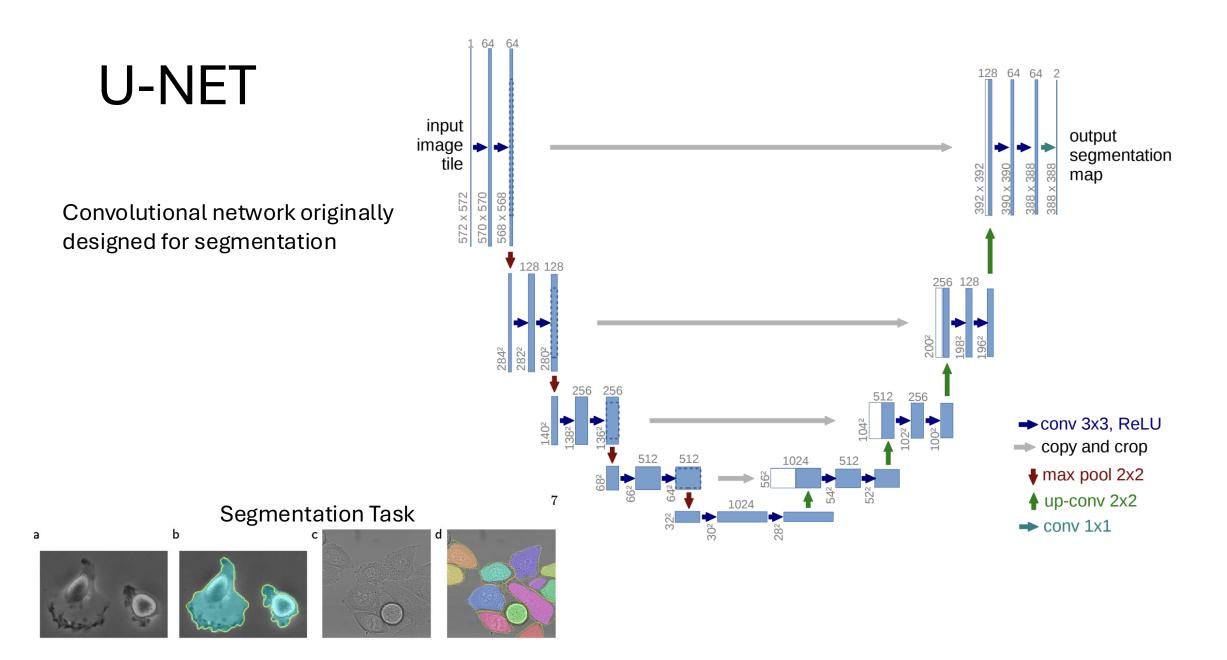
Conditioning in Diffusion Models



Cross attention in Language Diffusion Models







Source: U-Net: Convolutional Networks for Biomedical Image Segmentation

Quick Detour into segmentation

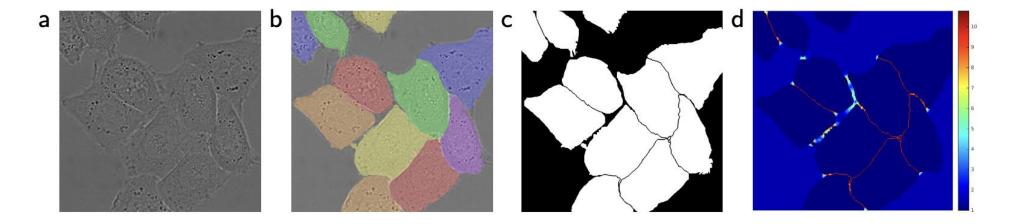


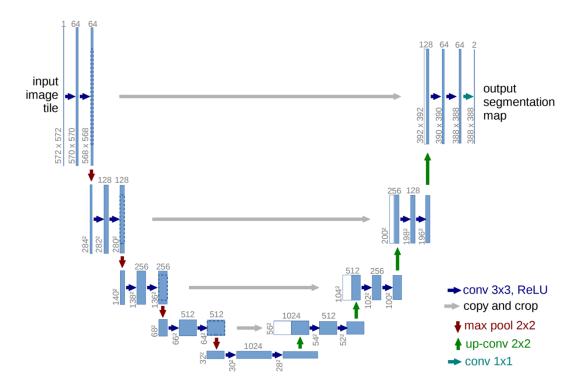
Fig. 3. HeLa cells on glass recorded with DIC (differential interference contrast) microscopy. (a) raw image. (b) overlay with ground truth segmentation. Different colors indicate different instances of the HeLa cells. (c) generated segmentation mask (white: foreground, black: background). (d) map with a pixel-wise loss weight to force the network to learn the border pixels.

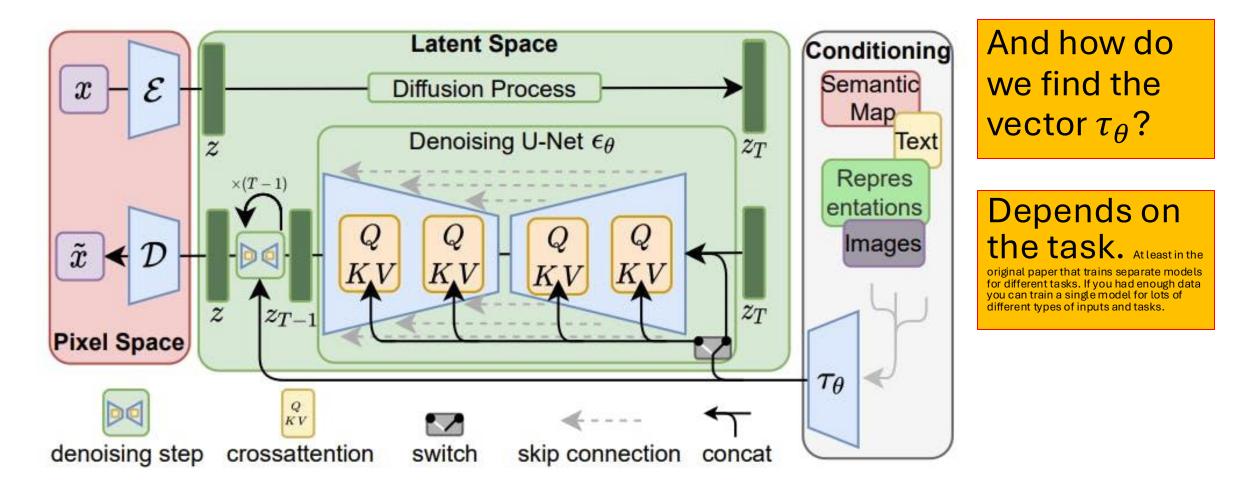
U-Nets

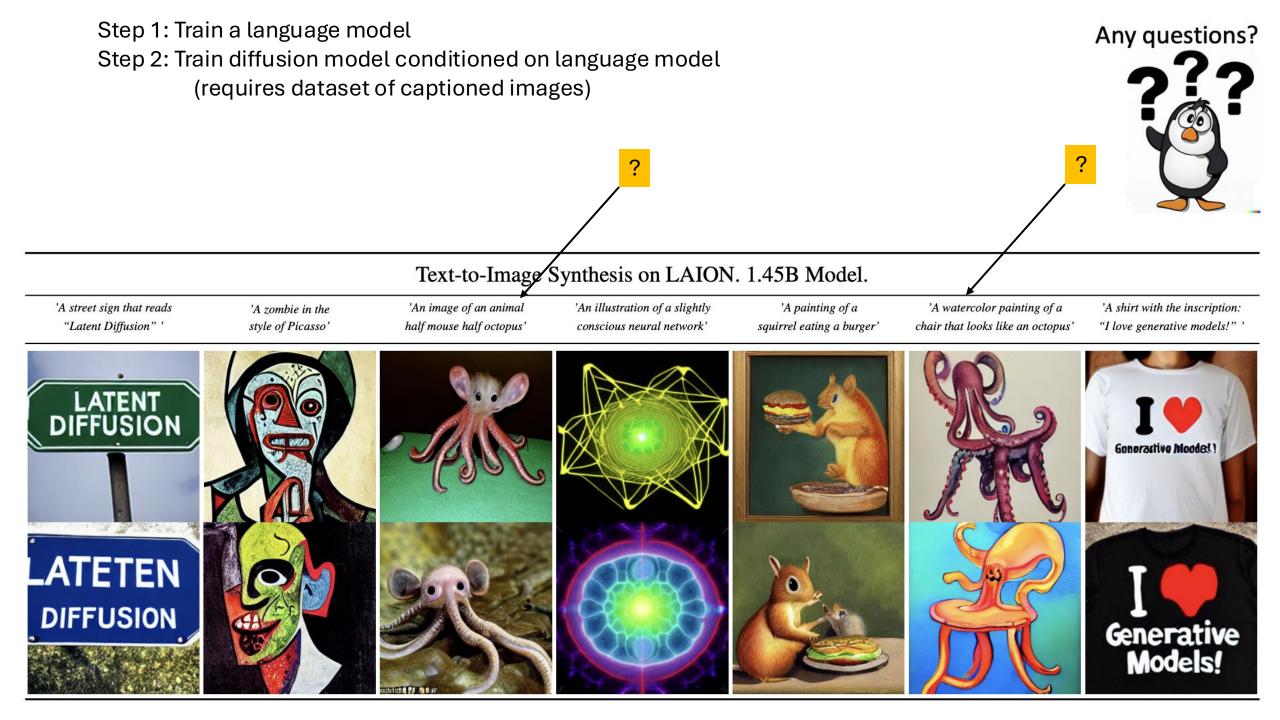
Last class, we were agnostic on what the neural network in a diffusion model actually is...

Why use a U-net?

- 1. Convolutions > MLPs
- 2. Learn hierarchical features (with skip/residual connections)
- 3. Good at handling multi-scale information



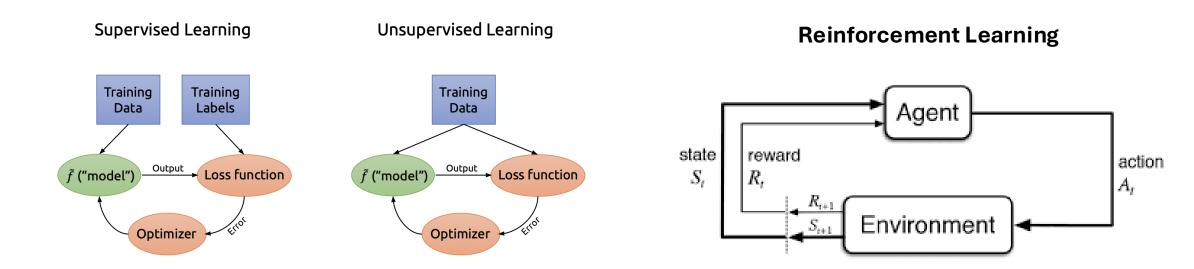




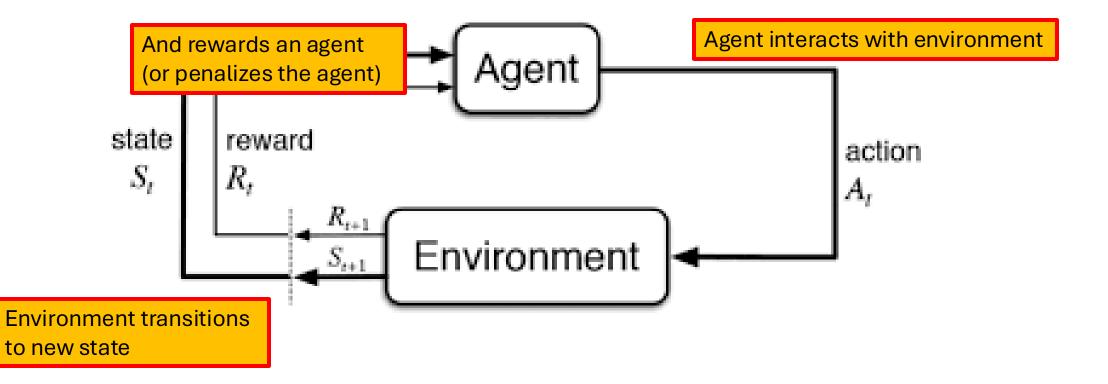
AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT

What we've done so far

Different Learning Paradigms

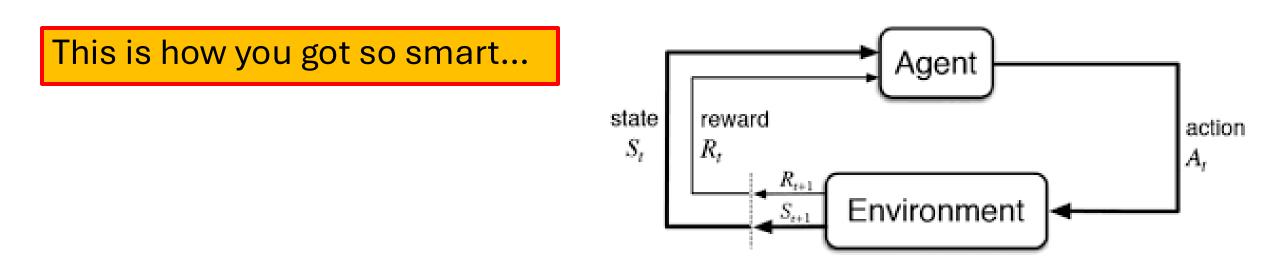


We've focused on this thus far...



Why Reinforcement Learning?

- Reinforcement learning doesn't require data in the same way that supervised and unsupervised learning do
- There is no dataset X required, just a model of the environment
- Agents learn from interacting with the environment



RL: Sequential Decision Making World 0 a_1 a_4 Goal a_2 a_3 Agent Sequential decision making describes a situation where the

decision maker (DM) makes successive observations of a process before a final decision is made.

What's a common example of a sequential decision making process?

- Playing games!
- Let's look at a specific example...



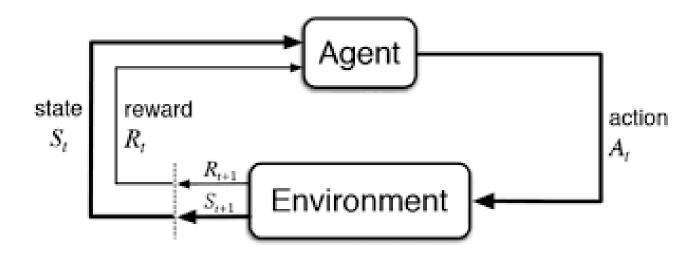
This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA-NC



Mnih et al. Playing Atari with Deep Reinforcement Learning, 2013

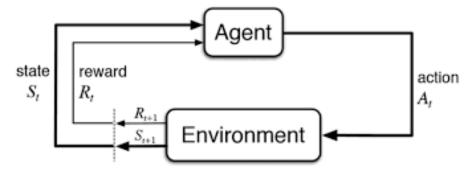
Markov Decision Processes (MDPs)

How can we formalize the problem we are trying to solve? What components does it have?



Markov Decision Processes (MDPs)

- Set of States: S
 - All possible configurations the world can be in
- Set of Actions: A
 - All possible actions the agent is able to take
- Reward Function: $R: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 - Reward function takes in a state and returns a number
- Transition Function: T: $S \times A \times S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 - If you take an action in a specific state, what's the probability you transition to any other state?

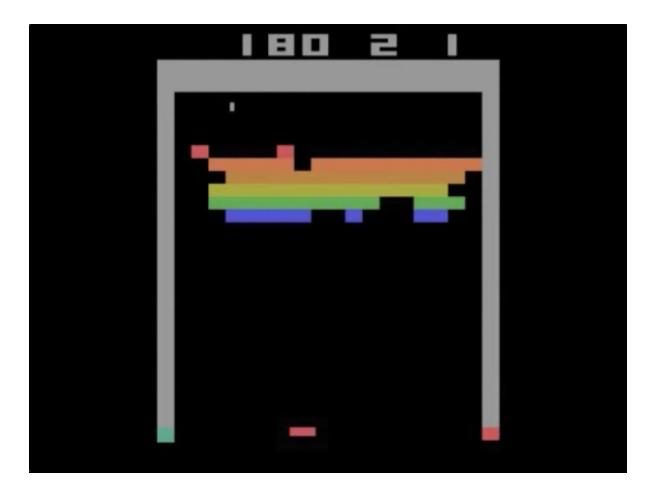


States

What would the state for breakout be?

Option: Location of paddle, ball, and all breakable blocks

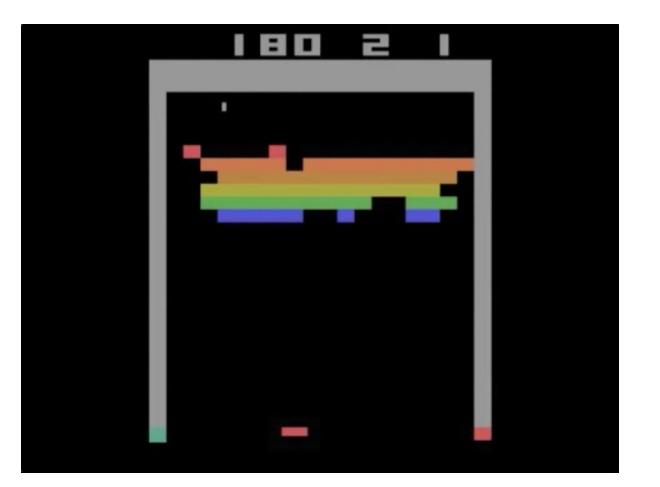
Option: The image of the game...



Actions

What actions can the agent take?

A = Left or Right



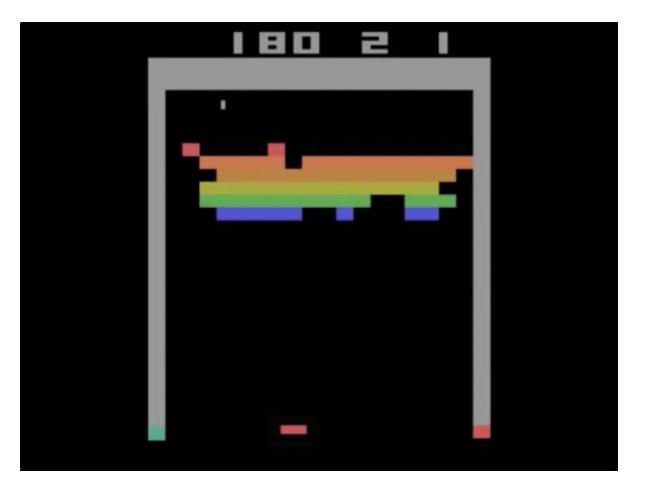
Reward Function

What is the reward function?

There is no predefined reward function necessarily

We can use:

- 1. The score (get reward when a block is broken)
- 2. Large penalty for losing, Large reward for winning
- 3. And many other combinations of things



Transition Function

In general, MDPs describe stochastic processes. There can be randomness in what happens.

Breakout is deterministic, the physics of the ball is known and when you tell your paddle to go left it goes left.

Solving MDPs

What would it mean to solve an MDP, like breakout?

Policy: A function $\pi: S \to A$, that takes in a state and returns an action

We seek the best possible policy π^* , that could tell us the best action to take in any state.

But how do we know one policy is better than another? If we try to learn a policy, what would our loss function be? And many many more remaining questions... for next time