# Discovering Interpretable Directions in the Semantic Latent Space of Diffusion Models René Haas<sup>1</sup> Inbar Huberman-Spiegelglas<sup>2</sup> • Rotem Mulayoff<sup>2</sup> • Stella Graßhof<sup>1</sup> • Sami S. Brandt<sup>1</sup> • Tomer Michaeli<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup> IT University of Copenhagen, Denmark • <sup>2</sup> Technion, Israel

# Background

#### **Problem:**

The latent space of diffusion models is not yet well understood.

#### Previous work: Kwon et al. [14]

- Introduces *h*-space as semantic latent space
- Semantic directions are found using CLIP

# Contributions

We propose 2 unsupervised and 3 supervised approaches for intuitive **semantically disentangled image editing without**:

- CLIP guidance
- Changes in diffusion model architecture and fine-tuning

#### Semantic Image Editing

### Unsupervised

### Supervised

## Global edits by PCA

Incremental PCA on bottleneck activation from images generally yields global semantic directions.

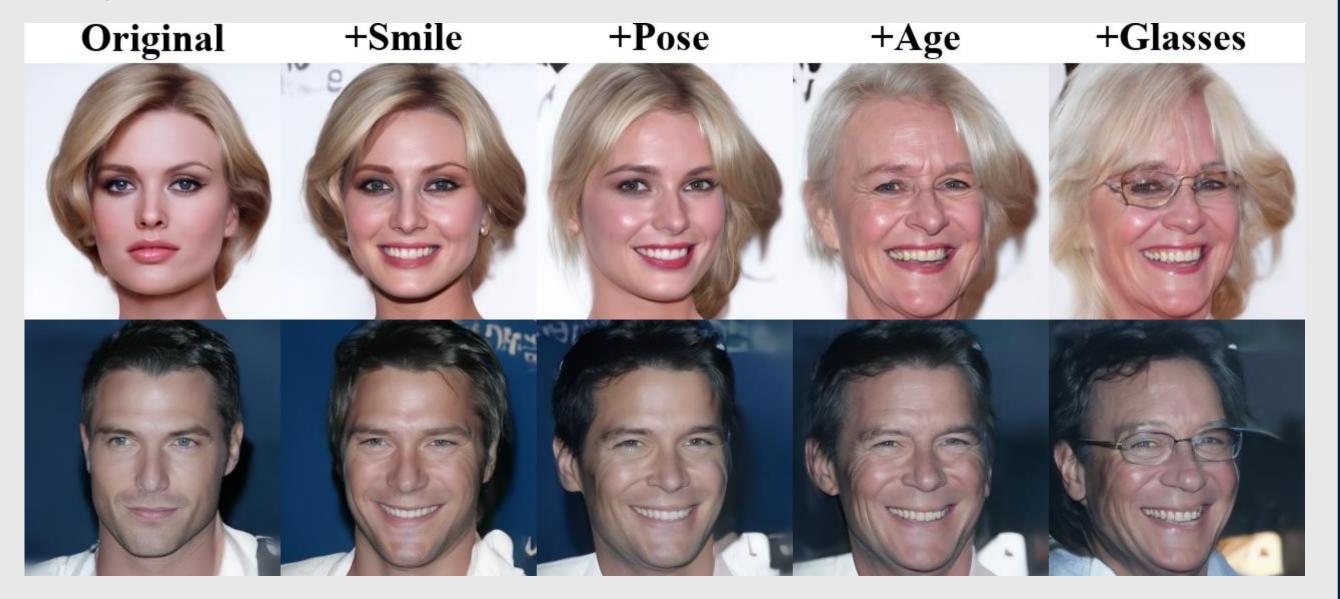
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## Edits by examples

Semantic directions based on latent representation of image with (+) and without (-) binary attribute:

$$\mathbf{w} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \mathbf{q}_i^+ - \mathbf{q}_i^- \right)$$

Sequential edits:



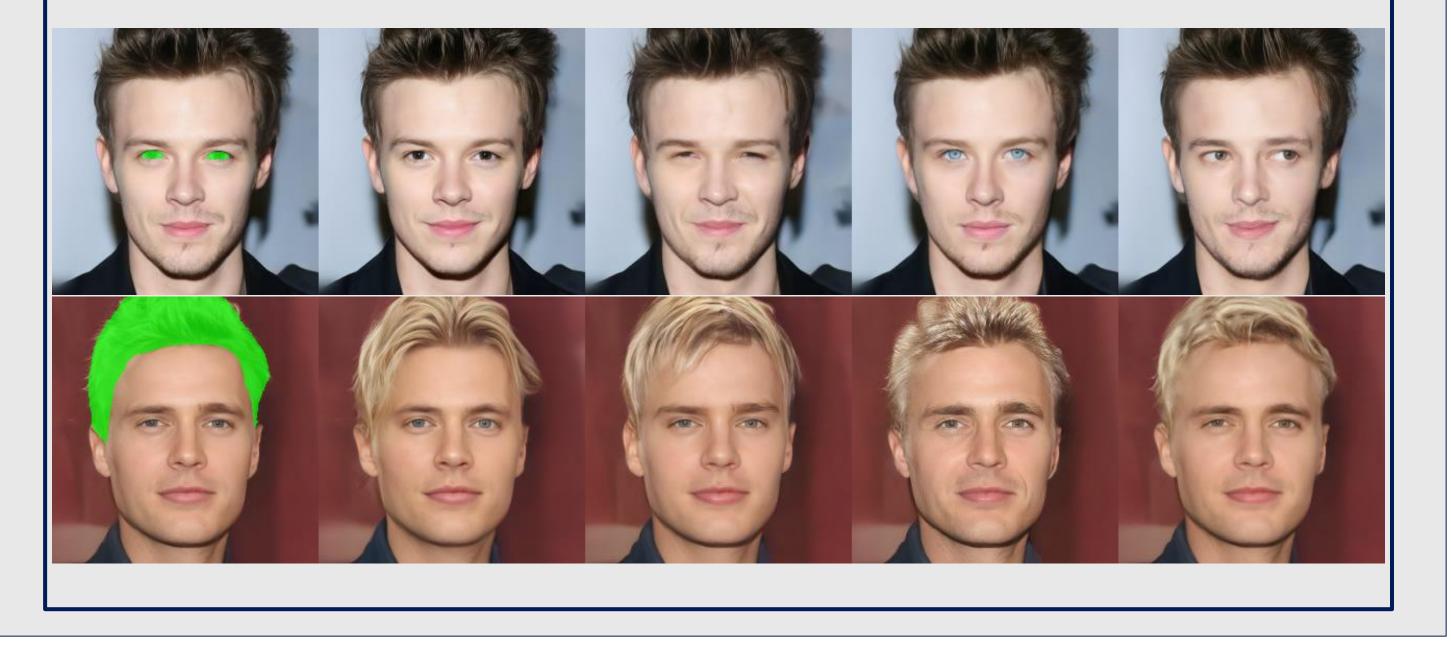
## Image-specific edits

- Directions in *h*-space that change  $\epsilon^{ heta}_t(\mathbf{x}_t)$  the most
- Eigenvectors of Jacobian of denoiser

$$\mathbf{J}_t \triangleq \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t^{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{h}_t)}{\partial \mathbf{h}_t} = \mathbf{U}_t \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t \mathbf{V}_t^{\mathrm{T}}$$

- Challenge: dimension of full bottleneck h-space.
- Solution: power iteration to circumvent the intractable computational cost

$$\mathbf{J}_{t}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{J}_{t} \mathbf{v} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{h}_{t}} \left\langle \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t}^{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t}, \mathbf{h}_{t}), \mathbf{J}_{t} \mathbf{v} \right\rangle$$
$$\mathbf{J}_{t} \mathbf{v} = \frac{\partial}{\partial a} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{t}^{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t}, \mathbf{h}_{t} + a\mathbf{v}) \Big|_{a=0}.$$



# Classifier Annotation

Addition: use a pre-trained attribute classifier on the model generated images to gather positive and negative examples

# Disentanglement

To remove effects of K directions  $\mathbf{w}_k$  from  $\mathbf{w}_0$ , project  $\mathbf{w}_0$ onto the orthogonal complement of  $\mathbf{W} = [\mathbf{w}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{w}_K]$ . This yields an updated direction  $\mathbf{w}_0$  disentangled from  $\mathbf{w}_k$ .







**Project Website** 

https://github.com/renhaa/semantic-diffusion

