

Erasing Undesirable Concepts in Diffusion Models with Adversarial Preservation

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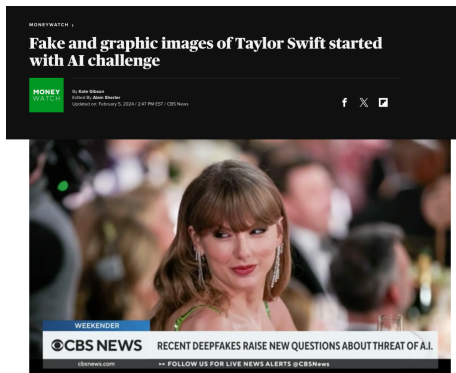
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- 1 Why we need to erase concepts?
- 2 Background
- 3 Empirical Analysis on Impact of Erasing Concepts
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Prevent misuse of AI-generated content



- **Sexually explicit AI-generated** images of Taylor Swift shared on X (Twitter). Attracted more than 45 million views, 24,000 reposts, remained live for about 17 hours before its removal. (The Verge)

Prevent misuse of AI-generated content



With just a single reference image, our Infinite-ID framework excels in synthesizing high-quality images while maintaining superior identity fidelity and text semantic consistency in various styles.

- **Personalization-GenAI** becomes extremely good¹. The risk is now for everyone.

¹Wu, et al. "Infinite-ID: Identity-preserved Personalization via ID-semantics Decoupling Paradigm." arxiv 2024

Prevent misuse of AI-generated content

- **Personalization-GenAI** becomes extremely good¹. The risk is now for everyone. And it is already happening as reported here and here

LIFEHACKER

LATEST TECH FOOD ENTERTAINMENT HEALTH MONEY HOME & GARDEN

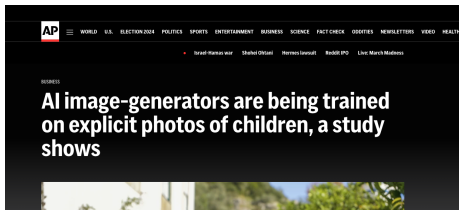
Evil Week: You Can Make Personalized Porn Images With AI

It's hard to generate dirty words with artificial intelligence, but you can make all the images you want.

Stephen Johnson November 1, 2023



Credit: Unstable Diffusion/Stephen Johnson



1 of 1 David Thiel, chief technology officer of the Stanford Internet Observatory and author of a report that discovered images of child sexual abuse in the data used to train artificial intelligence image generators, poses for a photo on Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal. (Cristina Mendes/Reuters via AP)

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Denosing Diffusion Models

In a nutshell, training a diffusion model involves two processes: a forward diffusion process where noise is gradually added to the input image, and a reverse denoising diffusion process where the model tries to predict a noise ϵ_t which is added in the forward process. More specifically, given a chain of T diffusion steps x_0, x_1, \dots, x_T , the denoising process can be formulated as follows:

$$p_{\theta}(x_{T:0}) = p(x_T) \prod_{t=T}^1 p_{\theta}(x_{t-1} | x_t) \quad (1)$$

The model is trained by minimizing the difference between the predicted noise ϵ_t and the true noise ϵ as follows:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{x_0 \sim p_{\text{data}}, t, \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I})} \|\epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(x_t, t)\|_2^2 \quad (2)$$

where $\epsilon_{\theta}(x_t, t)$ is the predicted noise at step t by the denoising model θ .

Latent Diffusion Models

With an intuition that semantic information that controls the main concept of an image can be represented in a low-dimensional space, [1] proposed a diffusion process operating on the latent space to learn the distribution of the semantic information which can be formulated as follows:

$$p_{\theta}(z_{T:0}) = p(z_T) \prod_{t=T}^1 p_{\theta}(z_{t-1} | z_t) \quad (3)$$

where $z_0 \sim \varepsilon(x_0)$ is the latent vector obtained by a pre-trained encoder ε . The objective function of the latent diffusion model as follows:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{z_0 \sim \varepsilon(x), x \sim p_{\text{data}}, t, \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I})} \|\epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(z_t, t)\|_2^2 \quad (4)$$

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Naive Approaches

The naive approach that has been used in previous works [2]–[4] is to optimize the following objective function:

$$\min_{\theta'} \mathbb{E}_{c_e \in \mathbf{E}} \left[\|\epsilon_{\theta'}(c_e) - \epsilon_{\theta}(c_n)\|_2^2 \right] \quad (5)$$

Where $\epsilon_{\theta}, \epsilon_{\theta'}$ represent output of the pre-trained *foundation* U-Net model and the *sanitized* model, respectively. c_e, c_n represent to-be-erased concept and a neutral/null input (e.g., "A photo" or " "), respectively.

Advantage: Simple yet effective in erasing concepts.

Drawback: Degradation in the quality of other concepts.

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Idea: Instead of preserving *neutral concepts*, can we preserve the *most sensitive concepts* to the erasing concept?

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Idea: Instead of preserving *neutral concepts*, can we preserve the *most sensitive concepts* to the erasing concept?

Question: *But how to measure the impact of erasing a concept on the generation of other concepts?*

Impact on the model's capability: How to measure?

Settings:

- $\epsilon_{\theta}(z_t, c, t)$ is the output of the model at step t with the input z_t and the concept c .
- $\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{E} \subset \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{R} = \mathcal{C} \setminus \mathbf{E}$: the **entire** concept space, the set of **to be erased** and **remaining** concepts, respectively.
- $\epsilon_{\theta'}(z_t, c, t)$ is the output of the *sanitized* model by removing the set of concepts \mathbf{E} from the model $\epsilon_{\theta}(z_t, c, t)$.
- $c_e \in \mathbf{E}, c_n \in \mathcal{R}$: the **to-be-erased** and **neutral** concepts ("a photo" or " "), respectively.

Impact on the model's capability: How to measure?

Measuring Generation Capability with CLIP Alignment Score:

- For each concept $c \in \mathcal{C}$, generate k samples $\{G(\theta, c, z_T^i)\}_{i=1}^k$.
- Compute the CLIP alignment score $S_{\theta, i, c} = S(G(\theta, c, z_T^i), c)$
- Interpretation: The higher the score, the better the model can generate the concept c .

Impact on the model's capability: How to measure?

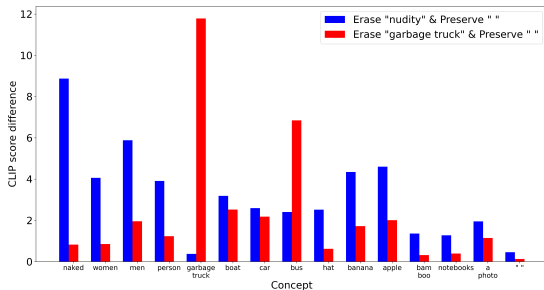
Measuring Generation Capability with CLIP Alignment Score:

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How to measure the impact of erasing a concept c_e on the generation of other concepts $c \in \mathcal{R}$?

- Obtained the sanitized model θ' by erasing the concept c_e .
- Compute the CLIP alignment score $S_{\theta', i, c} = S(G(\theta', c, z_T^i), c)$.
- Compute the difference $\delta_{c_e}(c) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k (S_{\theta, i, c} - S_{\theta', i, c})$.
- Interpretation: The higher the score, the more the model's capability is affected by erasing the concept c_e (negatively).

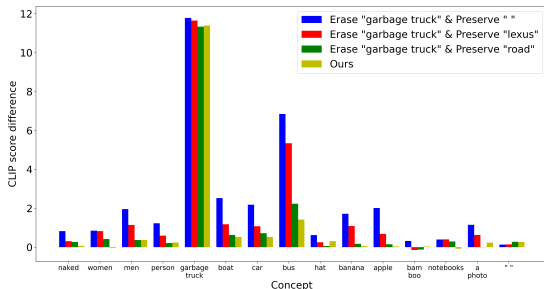
Impact on the model's capability: Results



Impact of erasing "nudity" or "garbage truck" to other concepts:

- The impact varies across different concepts.
- Affecting more related concepts than unrelated ones, i.e., erasing "nudity" affects "women", "men" than "bamboo", "notebooks", while erasing "garbage truck" affects "bus".
- Neutral concepts are very resistant to changes.

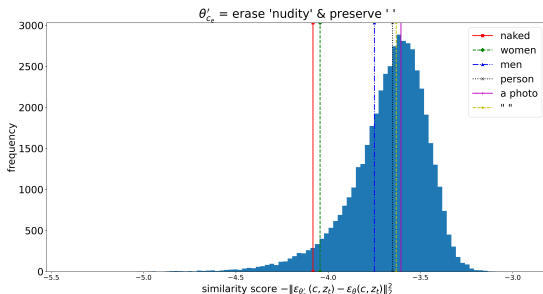
Impact on the model's capability: Results



Impact of choosing different concepts to preserve:

- Choosing the right concept to preserve is crucial.
- Preserving "road" > "lexus" > " " in maintaining the quality of other concepts.
- Early advertisement: our adaptive preservation is the best :D

Sensitivity Spectrum



Sensitivity spectrum of concepts to the target concept "nudity":

- Scanning through entire 50k concepts.
- Similarity score $-\|\epsilon_{\theta'_{c_e}}(c, z_t) - \epsilon_{\theta}(c, z_t)\|_2^2$. Interpretation: the higher the score, the more similar the output of two models, i.e., the less the impact of erasing the concept c_e on the concept c .

Neutral concepts lie in the middle of the spectrum. Again, not a good choice to preserve!

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Objective Function: First Attempt

$$\min_{\theta'} \max_{c_a \in \mathcal{R}} \mathbb{E}_{c_e \in \mathbf{E}} \left[\underbrace{\|\epsilon_{\theta'}(c_e) - \epsilon_{\theta}(c_n)\|_2^2}_{L_1} + \lambda \underbrace{\|\epsilon_{\theta'}(c_a) - \epsilon_{\theta}(c_a)\|_2^2}_{L_2} \right] \quad (6)$$

- Minimizing L_1 : Erasing the concept c_e .
- Minimizing L_2 : Preserving the adversarial concept c_a .
- Maximizing L_2 w.r.t. c_a : Searching for the most sensitive concept to the erasing concept c_e .

Objective Function: Solving with PGD



$$\min_{\theta'} \max_{c_a \in \mathcal{R}} \mathbb{E}_{c_e \in \mathbf{E}} \left[\underbrace{\|\epsilon_{\theta'}(c_e) - \epsilon_{\theta}(c_n)\|_2^2}_{L_1} + \lambda \underbrace{\|\epsilon_{\theta'}(c_a) - \epsilon_{\theta}(c_a)\|_2^2}_{L_2} \right] \quad (7)$$

Solving the optimization problem with PGD:

- Init $c_{a,t=0} = c_e = \tau(\text{"garbage truck"})$.
- The adversarial concept c_a quickly converges to background noise type of concept.

Continuous concept space is not suitable for adversarial preservation.

Objective Function: Relaxation with Gumbel-Softmax

$$\min_{\theta'} \max_{\pi \in \Delta_{\mathcal{R}}} \mathbb{E}_{c_e \in \mathbf{E}} \left[\underbrace{\|\epsilon_{\theta'}(c_e) - \epsilon_{\theta}(c_n)\|_2^2}_{L_1} + \lambda \underbrace{\|\epsilon_{\theta'}(\mathbf{G}(\pi) \odot \mathcal{R}) - \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{G}(\pi) \odot \mathcal{R})\|_2^2}_{L_2} \right] \quad (8)$$

Where $\mathbb{P}_{\mathcal{R}, \pi} = \sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{R}|} \pi_i \delta_{e_i}$ is the distribution over the concept space \mathcal{R} , $\mathbf{G}(\pi)$ is the Gumbel-Softmax distribution over the concept space \mathcal{R} .

Instead of directly searching c_a in the continuous concept space, we switch to searching for the embedding distribution π on the simplex $\Delta_{\mathcal{R}}$.

Adversarial Concept Preservation Algorithm

Algorithm 1 Find Adversarial Concept

Input: θ, \mathcal{R} . Searching hyperparameters: η, N_{iter} . Current state θ'_k

Output: Adversarial concept c_a

for $i = 1$ to N_{iter} **do**

$$\pi \leftarrow \pi + \eta \nabla_{\pi} \left[\|\epsilon_{\theta'}(\mathbf{G}(\pi) \odot \mathcal{R}) - \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{G}(\pi) \odot \mathcal{R})\|_2^2 \right] \quad \triangleright \text{Maximize } L_2$$

end for

$$c_a = \mathbf{G}(\pi^*) \odot \mathcal{R}$$

Algorithm 2 Adversarial Erasure Training

Input: $\theta, \mathcal{R}, \mathbf{E}, \lambda$. Searching hyperparameters: η, N_{iter} .

Output: θ'

$$k \leftarrow 0, \theta'_k \leftarrow \theta$$

while Not Converged **do**

$$c_e \sim \mathbf{E}$$

$$c_a \leftarrow \text{FindAdversarialConcept}(\theta'_k, \theta, \mathcal{R}, \eta, N_{\text{iter}})$$

$$\theta'_{k+1} \leftarrow \theta'_k - \alpha \nabla_{\theta'} [\|\epsilon_{\theta'}(c_e) - \epsilon_{\theta}(c_n)\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\epsilon_{\theta'}(c_a) - \epsilon_{\theta}(c_a)\|_2^2]$$

\triangleright Outer min

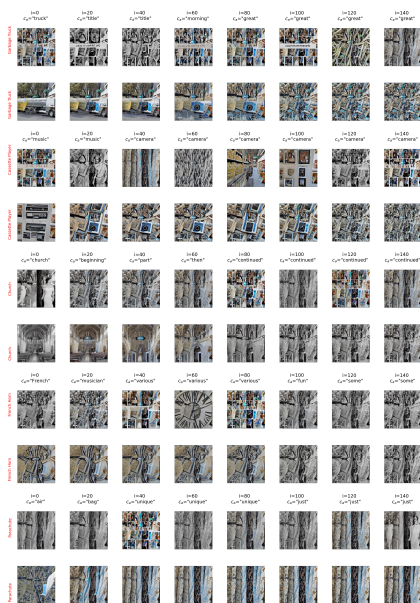
end while

Adversarial Concept Preservation Algorithm - Behavior



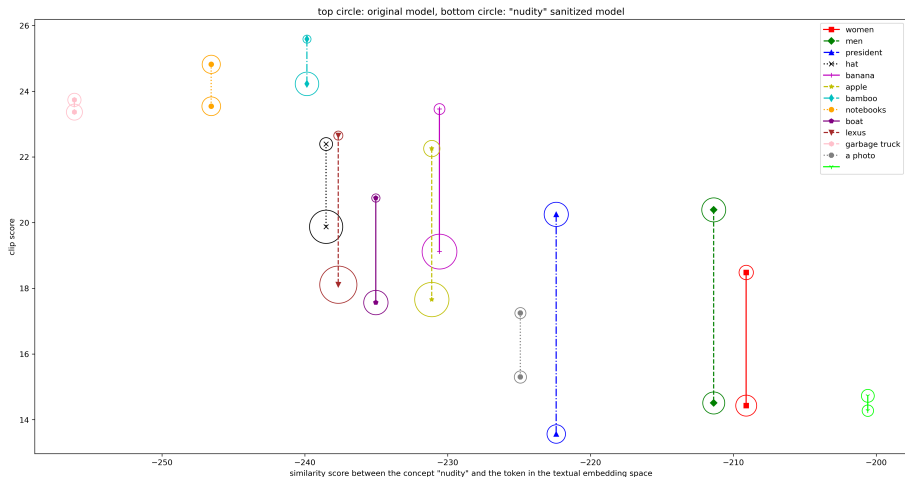
- At early iterations, the adversarial concept c_a is close to the erasing concept c_e , i.e., "truck", "road".
- The adversarial concepts adapt through fine-tuning steps. Interestingly, while the textual concept changes, the visual concept changes smoothly. → Finding **visual adversarial concepts** rather than sticking to specific textual concepts.

Adversarial Concept Preservation Algorithm - Behavior



- At early iterations, the adversarial concept c_a is close to the erasing concept c_e , i.e., "truck", "road".
- The adversarial concepts adapt through fine-tuning steps. Interestingly, while the textual concept changes, the visual concept changes smoothly. → Finding **visual adversarial concepts** rather than sticking to specific textual concepts.
- The to-be-erased concepts tend to collapse into the same concept.

Difficulties in Searching for Adversarial Concepts



- Can we use the similarity in the textual embedding space to find the most sensitive concept?

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Erasing Concepts Related to Physical Objects

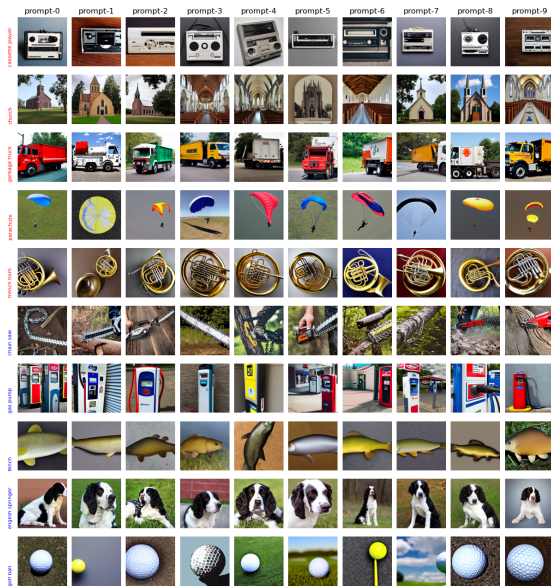
Setting:

- **Dataset:** Imagenette, 10 easily recognizable classes, i.e., Cassette Player, Church, Garbage Truck, etc. 5 for erasing, 5 for preserving.
- **Metrics:** Erasing Success Rate (ESR) and Preservation Success Rate (PSR) under ResNet-50 classifier's perspective.
- **Baselines:** SD, ESD, CA, UCE.

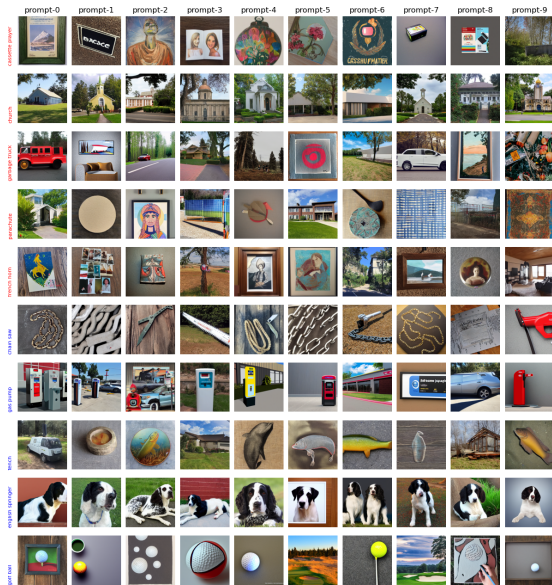
Quantitative results:

Method	ESR-1 \uparrow	ESR-5 \uparrow	PSR-1 \uparrow	PSR-5 \uparrow
SD	22.0 \pm 11.6	2.4 \pm 1.4	78.0 \pm 11.6	97.6 \pm 1.4
ESD	95.5 \pm 0.8	88.9 \pm 1.0	41.2 \pm 12.9	56.1 \pm 12.4
UCE	100 \pm 0.0	100 \pm 0.0	23.4 \pm 3.6	49.5 \pm 8.0
CA	98.4 \pm 0.3	96.8 \pm 6.1	44.2 \pm 9.7	66.5 \pm 6.1
Ours	98.6 \pm 1.1	96.1 \pm 2.7	55.2 \pm 10.0	79.9 \pm 2.8

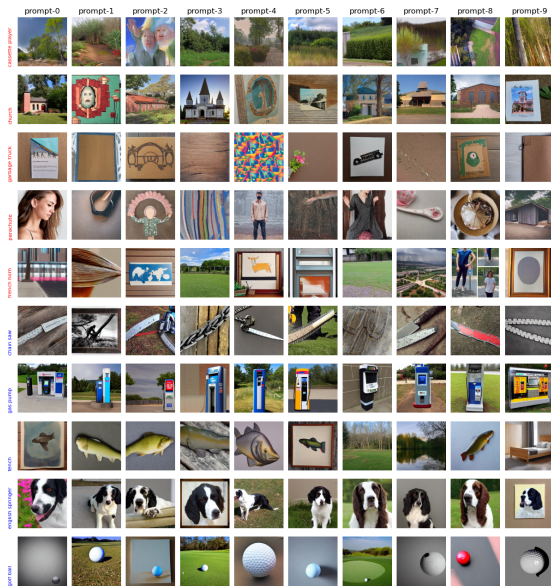
Qualitative Results - SD



Qualitative Results - ESD



Qualitative Results - Ours

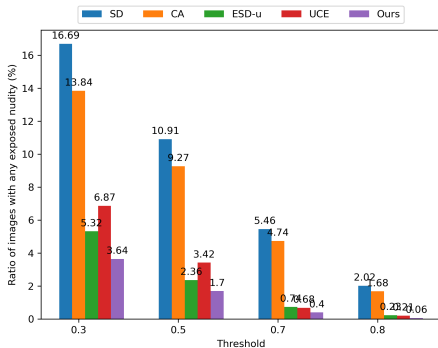
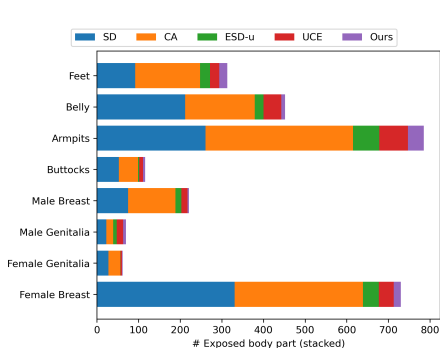


Mitigating Unethical Content

Setting:

- **Dataset:** I2P prompts [5] to generate NSFW content. Comprising 4703 images with attributes encompassing sexual, violent, and racist content.
- **Metrics:** Using Nudenet [6] as the detector. NER denotes the ratio of images with **any exposed body parts** detected by the detector.

Quantitative results:



Mitigating Unethical Content

Quantitative results:

	NER-0.3↓	NER-0.5↓	NER-0.7↓	NER-0.8↓	FID↓
CA	13.84	9.27	4.74	1.68	20.76
UCE	6.87	3.42	0.68	0.21	15.98
ESD	5.32	2.36	0.74	0.23	17.14
Ours	3.64	1.70	0.40	0.06	15.52

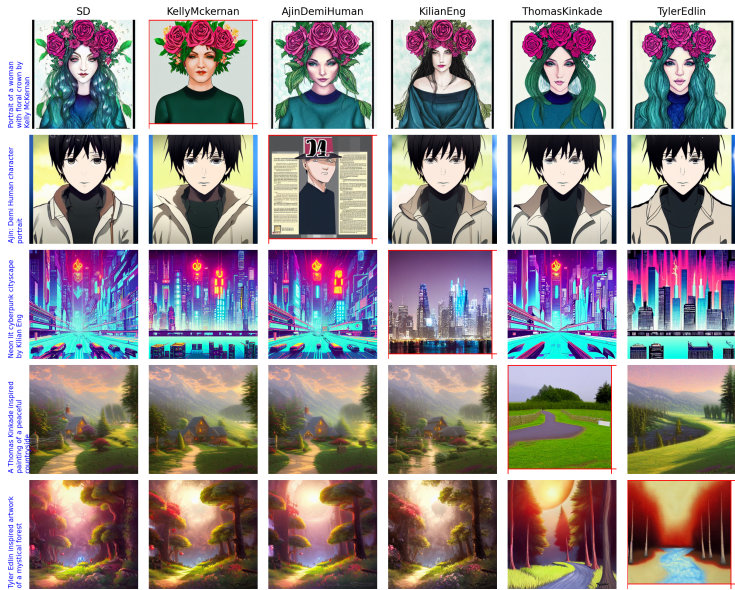
Erasing Artistic Concepts

Setting:

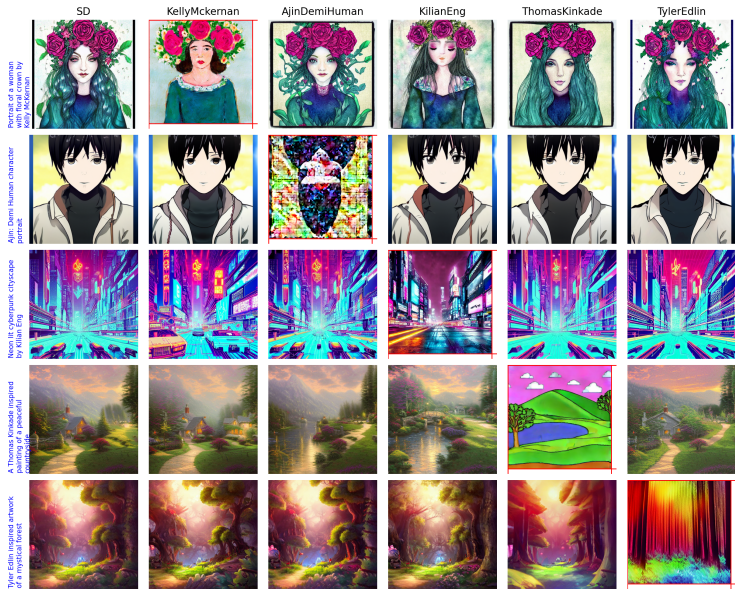
- **Concepts:** "Kelly Mckernan", "Thomas Kinkade", "Tyler Edlin", "Kilian Eng", and "Ajin: Demi Human".
- **Metrics:** CLIP alignment score [7] and LPIPS [8] to measure the distortion in generated images by the original SD model and editing methods.

	To Erase		To Retain	
	CLIP ↓	LPIPS ↑	CLIP ↑	LPIPS ↓
ESD	23.56 ± 4.73	0.72 ± 0.11	29.63 ± 3.57	0.49 ± 0.13
CA	27.79 ± 4.67	0.82 ± 0.07	29.85 ± 3.78	0.76 ± 0.07
UCE	24.47 ± 4.73	0.74 ± 0.10	30.89 ± 3.56	0.40 ± 0.13
Ours	21.57 ± 5.46	0.78 ± 0.10	30.13 ± 3.44	0.47 ± 0.14

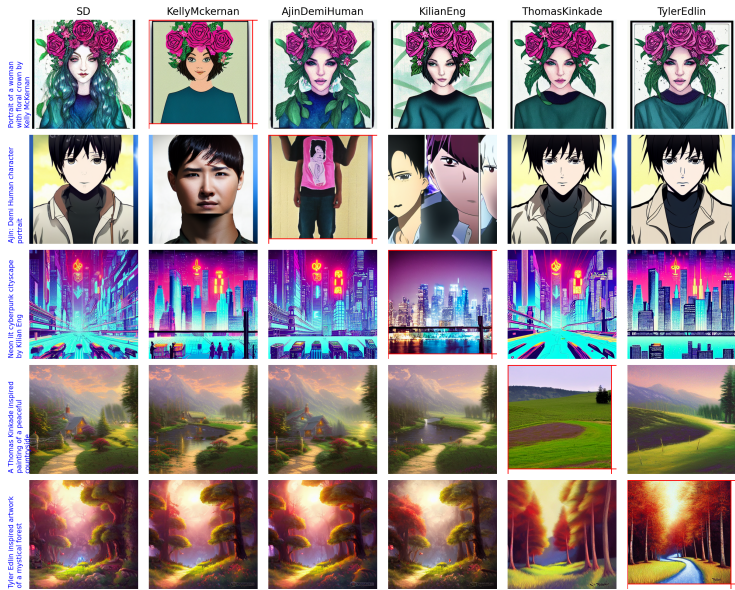
Qualitative Results - Ours



Qualitative Results - UCE



Qualitative Results - ESD



- [1] R. Rombach, A. Blattmann, D. Lorenz, P. Esser, and B. Ommer, “High-resolution image synthesis with latent diffusion models,” in *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF conference on computer vision and pattern recognition*, 2022, pp. 10 684–10 695.
- [2] R. Gandikota *et al.*, “Erasing concepts from diffusion models,” *ICCV*, 2023.
- [3] H. Orgad, B. Kawar, and Y. Belinkov, “Editing implicit assumptions in text-to-image diffusion models,” in *IEEE International Conference on Computer Vision, ICCV 2023, Paris, France, October 1-6, 2023*, IEEE, 2023, pp. 7030–7038. DOI: 10.1109/ICCV51070.2023.00649.
- [4] R. Gandikota, H. Orgad, Y. Belinkov, J. Materzyńska, and D. Bau, “Unified concept editing in diffusion models,” in *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision*, 2024, pp. 5111–5120.
- [5] P. Schramowski *et al.*, “Safe latent diffusion: Mitigating inappropriate degeneration in diffusion models,” in *CVPR*, 2023.
- [6] B. Praneet, “Nudenet: Neural nets for nudity classification, detection and selective censorin,” , 2019.