



# **Private Image Generation with Dual-Purpose Auxiliary Classifier**

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## **Motivation**

• **Privacy-preserving image generation** has been important for segments such as medical domains that have sensitive and limited data.

#### **Research Gap**

 The benefits of guaranteed privacy come at substantial costs of generated images' quality and utility due to the privacy budget constraints.



Figure 3. Image generated at privacy budget  $\epsilon = 10$  for MNIST (Left) and F-MNIST (Right) by various methods.



Figure 4. Image generated at privacy budget  $\epsilon = 10$  for CelebA by various methods conditioned on gender. Left: Female. Right: Male.

#### **Research Gap**

- The commonly used utility metric is the Standard Utility: gen2real accuracy (g2r%), while the Reversed Utility: real2gen accuracy (r2g%) is neglected.
- No work so far has investigated whether incorporating utility measures in the model design would result in better utility performance under the given privacy budget.

 Incorporate a dual-purpose auxiliary classifier (DPAC) into the training of differentially private GAN (DP-GAN), making it a 3-player game.



 The DPAC alternates between learning from real and fake data sequentially, incorporates both g2r% and r2g% in the model design and accelerates Generator convergence.



• Quality (measured by IS and FID)

	MNIST		F-MNIST		CelebA	
Method	IS	FID	IS	FID	IS	FID
PATE-GAN [25]	1.46	253.55	2.35	229.25	-	-
DP-CGAN [36]	-	179.20	-	243.80	-	-
G-PATE [30]	5.16	150.62	4.33	171.90	1.37	350.92
DataLens [37]	5.78	137.50	4.58	167.70	1.42	320.84
DP-MERF [22]	-	121.40	-	110.40	-	-
GS-WGAN [8]	9.23	61.34	5.32	131.34	1.85	297.35
DPSinkhorn [6]	-	55.56	-	129.40	-	168.40
Ours	9.71	54.06	6.60	<b>90.77</b>	1.90	139.99

Table 1. Comparing IS  $\uparrow$  and FID  $\downarrow$  on various datasets.

• Utility (measured by downstream classification accuracy: gen2real & real2gen)

	MNIST		F-MNIST		CelebA	
Method	MLP	CNN	MLP	CNN	MLP	CNN
DP-CGAN [36]	0.60	0.63	0.50	0.46	-	-
G-PATE [30]	-	0.81	-	0.69	-	0.71
DataLens [37]	-	0.81	-	0.71	-	0.73
DP-MERF [22]	0.81	0.82	0.71	0.73	-	-
GS-WGAN [8]	0.79	0.80	0.65	0.65	0.68	0.66
DPSinkhorn [6]	0.80	0.83	0.73	0.71	0.76	0.76
Ours	0.85	0.88	0.75	0.73	0.80	0.85

Table 2. Comparing gen2real accuracy  $\uparrow$  on various datasets.

	MNIST		F-MNIST		CelebA	
Method ↑	MLP	CNN	MLP	CNN	MLP	CNN
GS-WGAN [8]	0.99	0.99	0.85	0.85	0.66	0.60
Ours	1.00	1.00	0.97	0.98	0.99	0.98

Table 3. Comparing real2gen accuracy  $\uparrow$  on various datasets.

## **Motivation**

- Machine learning applications have achieved success in many domains.
- However, this might not be the case for domains whose real data is too rare or contains sensitive information.
- Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) have been a successful data augmenter and privacy protector since their ability to generate synthetic images that can be difficult to tell from the real ones.
- However, GANs are subject to model inversion attacks and membership inference attacks in both white-box and black-box settings, thus may leak sensitive information about input data.

## **Motivation**

- Recent work: DPGANs have integrated the state-of-the-art (SOTA) privacy protection framework called differential privacy (DP) into GAN training, to provide GAN methods with rigorous privacy guarantee.
- However, the benefits of guaranteed privacy comes with substantial costs of generated images' quality and utility.

# **Background: DP**

- Differential Privacy (DP) is a strong technique for privacy guarantees.
- We define datasets  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  that only differ in one entry as adjacent datasets.
- For a general training algorithm  $f(\cdot)$ , its  $\mathcal{L}_2$  sensitivity on adjacent datasets  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  is

$$\Delta_2 f = max_{\mathcal{D},\mathcal{D}'} ||f(\mathcal{D}) - f(\mathcal{D}')||_2$$

• Gaussian sanitization mechanism  $\mathcal{M}(\cdot)$  with range  $\mathcal{R}$  simply adds Gaussian noise to  $f(\cdot)$  based on its sensitivity:

$$\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{D}) = f(\mathcal{D}) + \mathcal{N}(0, (\sigma \Delta_2 f)^2)$$

• To adopt DP in GAN training, we clip the gradient norm of the generator to bound its sensitivity, then correspondingly adding Gaussian noise to be differentially private.

# **Background: DP**

• This allows the mechanism to be  $(\varepsilon, \delta)$ -DP, where the following equation would hold for any subsets of the mechanism's output  $S \subseteq \mathcal{R}$  with  $\delta$  probability of failing the DP and privacy budget  $\varepsilon$ .

$$Pr[\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{D}) \subseteq \mathcal{S}] \leq e^{\epsilon} Pr[\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{D}') \subseteq \mathcal{S}] + \delta.$$

• Privacy accountant computes the privacy cost at each access to the training data and accumulates this cost as the training progresses, acting as a stopping criteria.

### **Research Gap**

- No work so far has investigated whether incorporating utility measure in the model design would result in better utility performance under the given privacy budget.
  - Can we incorporate utility measure in the model design? Yes!
  - How? By adding an auxiliary classifier network to common GAN architecture (i.e., changing GAN from a 2-player game to a 3-player game).
- The commonly used utility metric is the Standard Utility: gen2real accuracy (g2r%), while the Reversed Utility: real2gen accuracy (r2g%) is neglected.
  - Why r2g% matters? It evaluates the outputs' generalizability.
  - Can we incorporate it in the model design as well? Yes!
- The gained privacy largely sacrifices output quality and utility.
  - Can we do better? Yes, use sequential training strategy for faster convergence!

 Adds a dual-purpose auxiliary classifier (DPAC) into the training of differentially private GAN (DP-GAN), making it a 3-player game.



• When using fake data to train C:

 $\min_{G} \max_{D} \min_{C} V(G, D, C)$  $= -\beta \mathbb{E}_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}} \sim \mathcal{P}_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}}}} [D(G(\boldsymbol{z}, \boldsymbol{y}))] + \beta \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{x} \sim \mathcal{P}_{\boldsymbol{x}}} [D(\boldsymbol{x})]$  $- (1 - \beta) \mathbb{E}_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}} \sim \mathcal{P}_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}}}} [C(G(\boldsymbol{z}, \boldsymbol{y}), \boldsymbol{y})] \quad (4)$ 

When using real data to train C:

•

 $\min_{G} \max_{D} \min_{C} V(G, D, C)$  $= -\beta \mathbb{E}_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}} \sim \mathcal{P}_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}}}} [D(G(\boldsymbol{z}, \boldsymbol{y}))] + \beta \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{x} \sim \mathcal{P}_{\boldsymbol{x}}} [D(\boldsymbol{x})]$  $- (1 - \beta) \mathbb{E}_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}} \sim \mathcal{P}_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}}}} [C'(G(\boldsymbol{z}, \boldsymbol{y}), \boldsymbol{y})] - \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{x} \sim \mathcal{P}_{\boldsymbol{x}}} [C(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y})]$ (10)











 The DPAC alternates between learning from real and fake data sequentially, incorporates both g2r% and r2g% in the model design and accelerates Generator convergence.



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• Ablation studies

			gen2real ↑		real2	gen ↑
Method	IS ↑	$FID\downarrow$	MLP	CNN	MLP	CNN
Baseline	5.32	131.24	0.65	0.65	0.85	0.85
w/o g2r	6.33	88.17	0.73	0.68	0.94	0.95
w/o r2g	6.47	86.91	0.74	0.71	0.92	0.92
w/o seq	4.91	128.25	0.65	0.64	0.88	0.77
w/o init	6.56	101.69	0.72	0.65	0.97	0.95
Full	6.60	90.77	0.75	0.73	0.97	0.98

Table 4. Ablation studies.

## Conclusions

- The "reversed utility" is identified as a beneficial part of an improved design of private GANs.
- A dual-purpose auxiliary classifier is developed in alignment with both the standard and reversed utility.
- The classifier is trained with strategies like sequentialization to accelerate the convergence of generator.