



# GenAI for Sound Design

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Bē

Artwork by Daniel Mercadante



# Sound Design

A person with long dark hair, seen from behind, is wearing large blue headphones and sitting at a desk. On the desk are two large black speakers with prominent circular drivers and a multi-colored digital keyboard. The background is a vibrant, abstract digital space with streaks of light in blue, purple, orange, and green, resembling a cosmic or data-driven environment.

Art and practice of creating audio elements for various media, including films, television, video games, theater, etc.



# Sound Design



Art and practice of creating audio elements for various media, including films, television, video games, theater, etc.



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Art and practice of creating audio elements for various media, including films, television, video games, theater, etc.





# Sound Design AI Group (SODA)





# The SODA Team



Justin Salamon



Prem Seetharaman



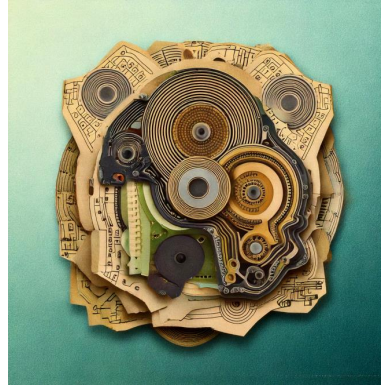
Oriol Nieto

# Generative Extend in Premiere Pro



# Outline

## Diffusion Models for Audio Generation



SILA



Sketch2Sound

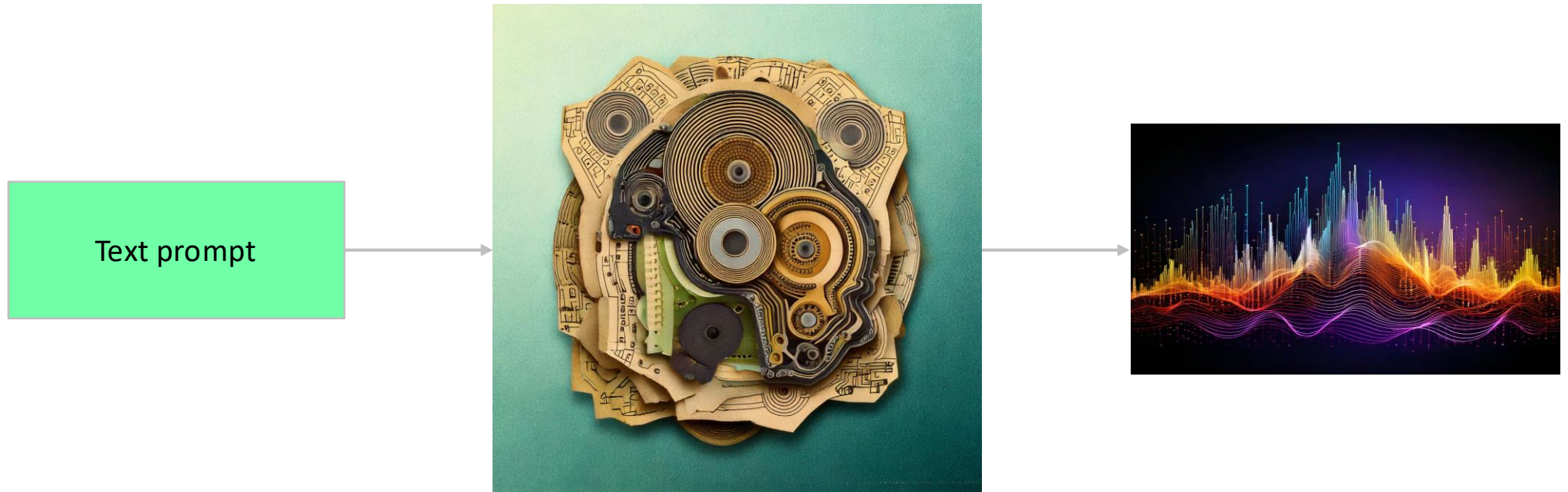


MultiFoley





# Diffusion Models for Audio Generation



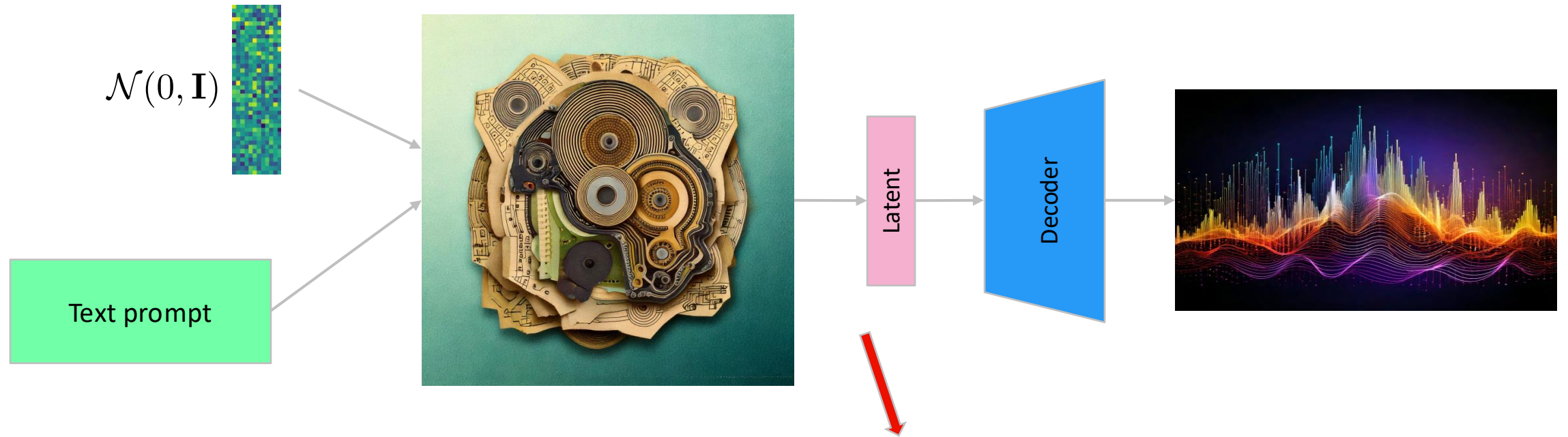


# Diffusion Models for Audio Generation





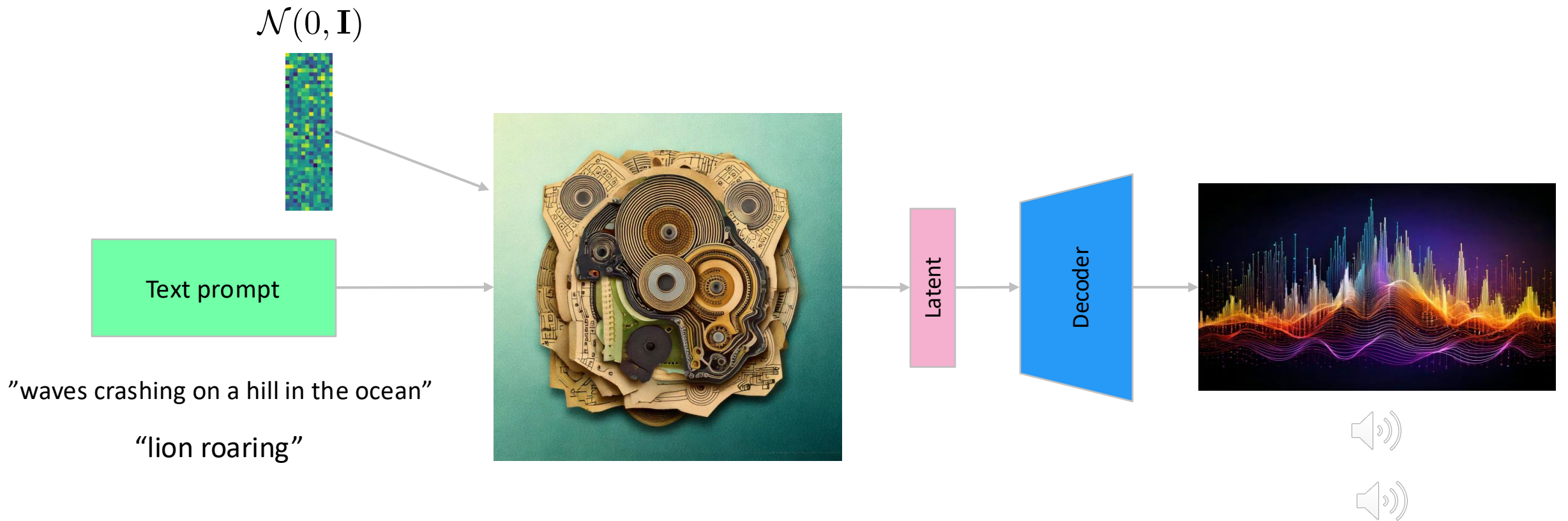
## \*Latent\* Diffusion Models for Audio Generation



- Audio **latent** space is much more compact ( $\sim 40\text{Hz}$ )
- E.g., VAEs [1], RVQ [2], DAC [3]

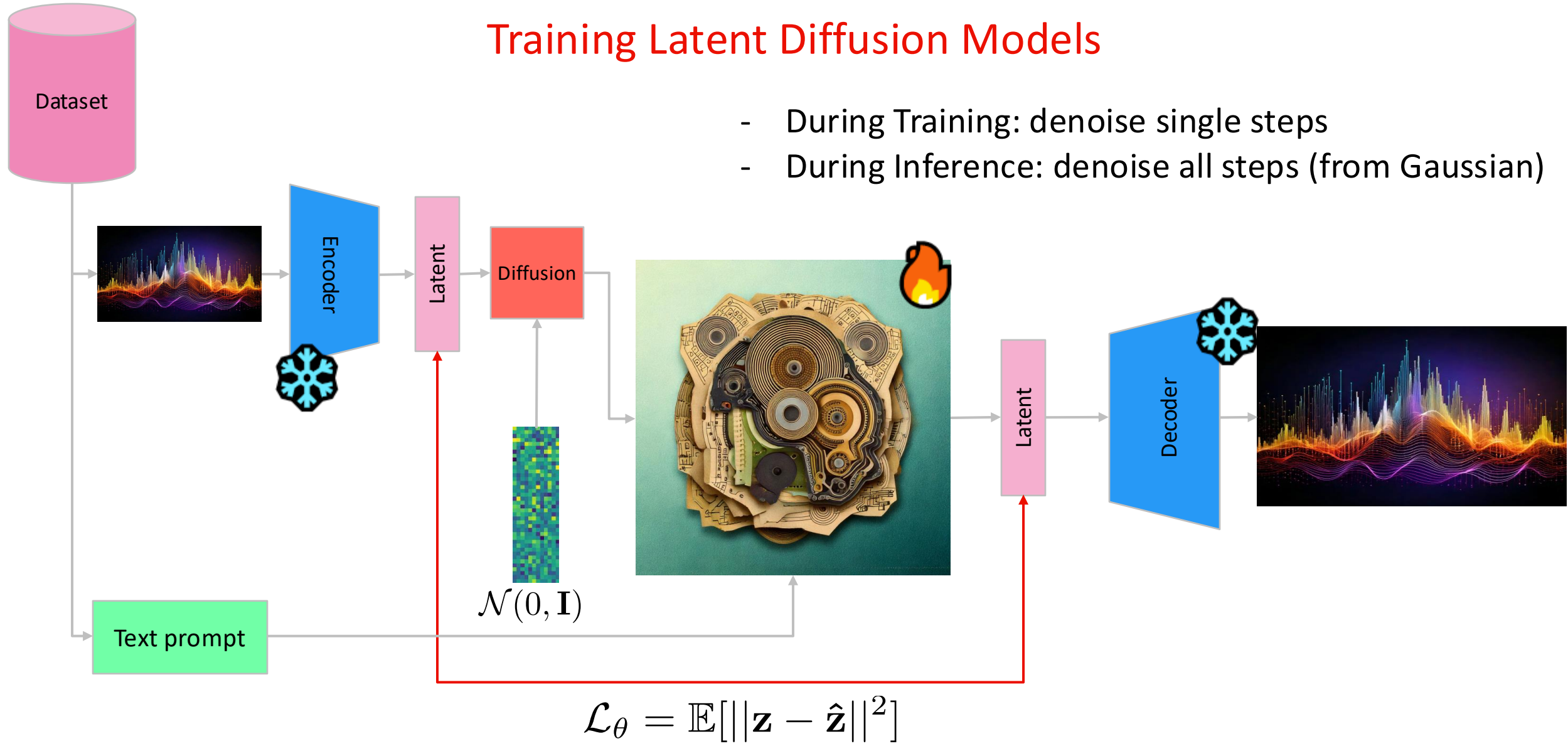


# Examples of Latent Diffusion Models for Audio Gen



# Training Latent Diffusion Models

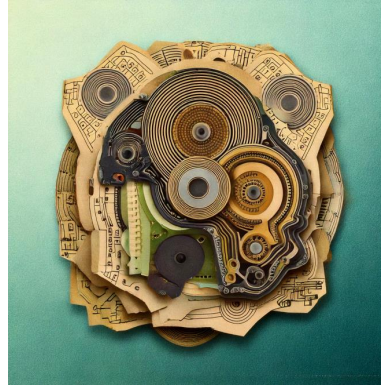
- During Training: denoise single steps
- During Inference: denoise all steps (from Gaussian)





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MultiFoley

SILA





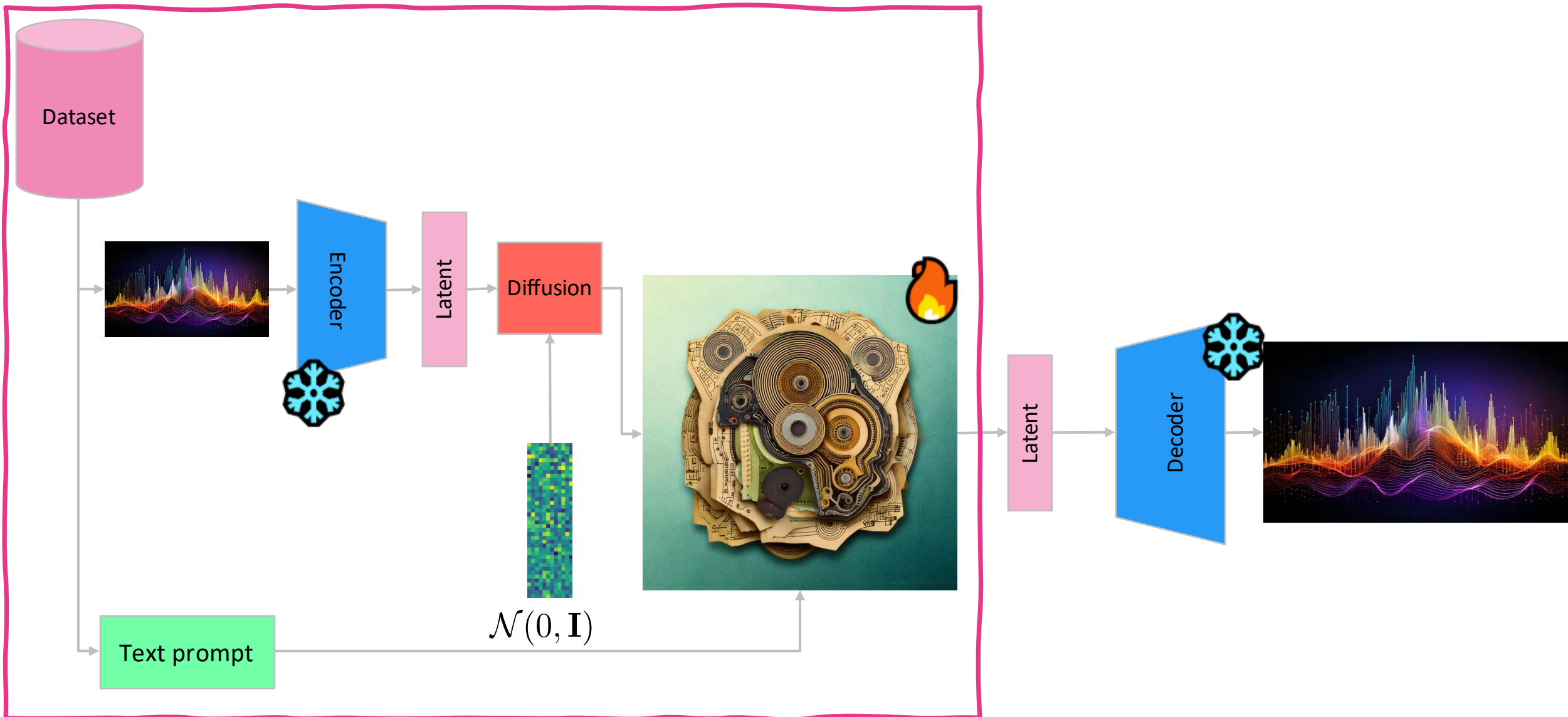
# SILA: Signal-to-Language Augmentation for Enhanced Control in Text-to-Audio Generation

- Text-based models have limited control
- Hard to obtain desired results with a single text prompt
- Can we add control with minimal impact in architecture/performance?

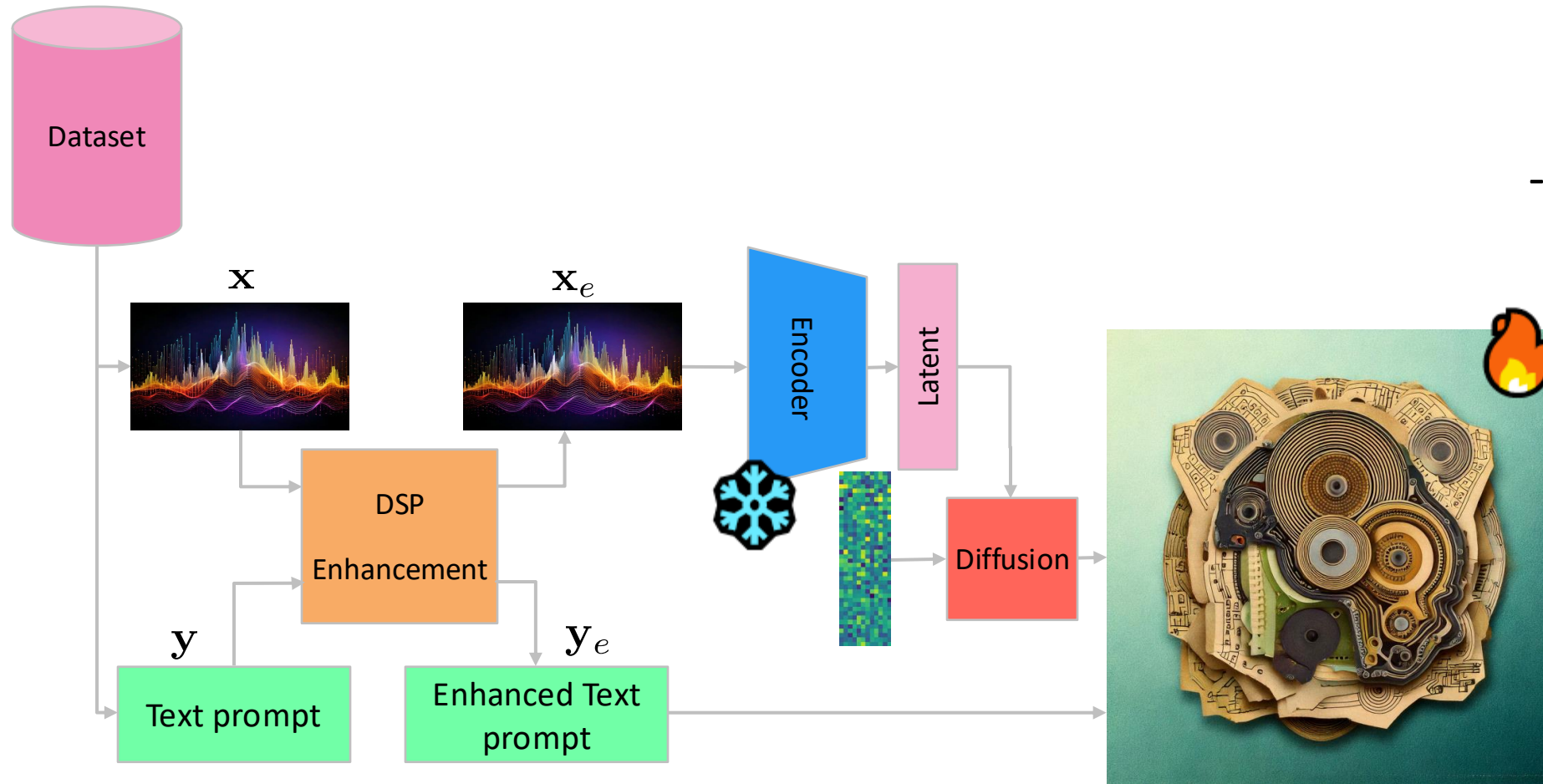




# SILA: Signal-to-Language Augmentation for Enhanced Control in Text-to-Audio Generation



# SILA: Signal-to-Language Augmentation for Enhanced Control in Text-to-Audio Generation



- DSP Enhancement:
  - Loudness
  - Pitch
  - Reverb
  - Noise
  - Brightness
  - Fade
  - Duration



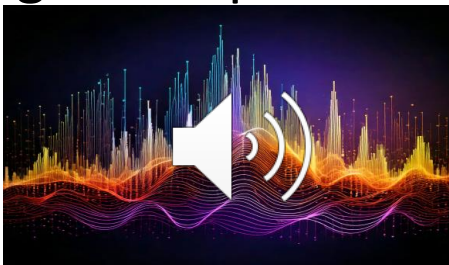
# SILA: Signal-to-Language Augmentation for Enhanced Control in Text-to-Audio Generation

- Signal



- Volume (LKFS): -10
- Brightness (SC): 65
- Reverb: Add a lot
- ...

- Signal output



- Language

- Original prompt:

- "A thunder echoes through the sky"
- + ", & loudness: very loud"
- + ", & brightness: bright"
- + ", & reverb: very wet"
- ...

- SILA prompt:

- "A thunder echoes through the sky, & loudness: very loud, & brightness: bright, & reverb: very wet, ..."

# SILA: Signal-to-Language Augmentation for Enhanced Control in Text-to-Audio Generation

## - Perceptual Evaluation Results (22 subjects)

| Model             | Loudness    | Pitch       | Reverb      | Noise       | Fade        | Duration    | All         |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Stable Audio Open | <u>0.17</u> | <u>0.23</u> | 0.09        | <u>0.20</u> | 0.18        | <u>0.26</u> | <u>0.12</u> |
| AudioGen          | 0.10        | 0.17        | <u>0.13</u> | 0.19        | <u>0.21</u> | 0.22        | 0.11        |
| Tango 2           | 0.03        | 0.10        | <u>0.07</u> | 0.14        | <u>0.10</u> | 0.16        | 0.05        |
| SILA              | <b>0.70</b> | <b>0.50</b> | <b>0.71</b> | <b>0.47</b> | <b>0.51</b> | <b>0.36</b> | <b>0.72</b> |



# SILA: Signal-to-Language Augmentation for Enhanced Control in Text-to-Audio Generation

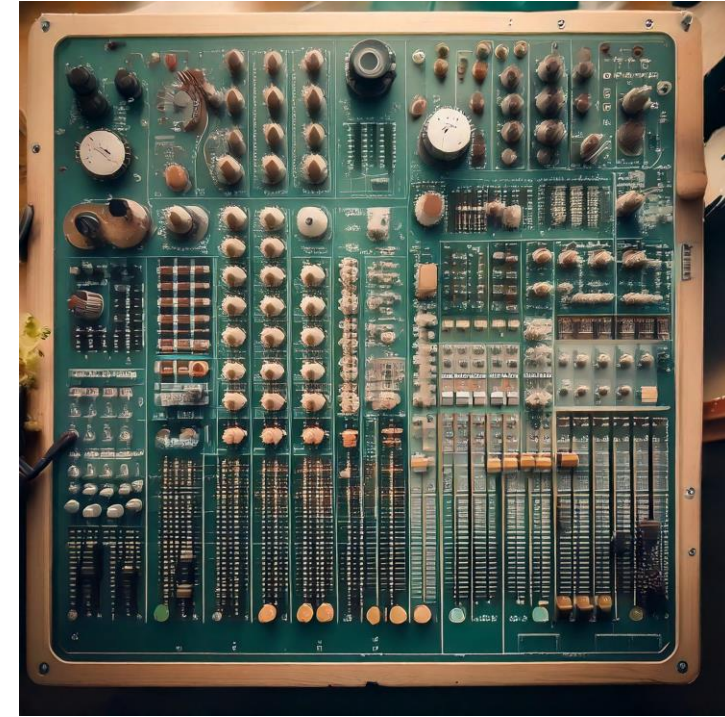
## Examples

“The deep rumble of the storm echoes through the sky, & loudness: soft”

“The deep rumble of the storm echoes through the sky, & loudness: very loud”

“A dog barking nearby, & reverb: dry”

“A dog barking nearby, & reverb: wet”



# SILA: Signal-to-Language Augmentation for Enhanced Control in Text-to-Audio Generation

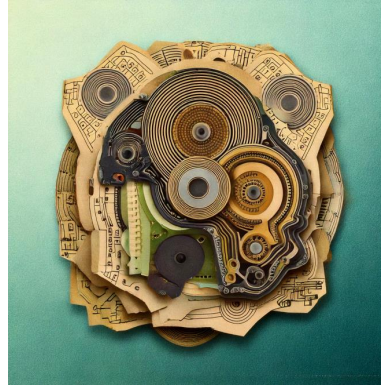
- Added control across several acoustic features
- Highly efficient
  - No added computation during inference
- Model agnostic





# Outline

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MultiFoley





# Sketch2Sound: Controllable Audio Generation via Time-Varying Signals and Sonic Imitations

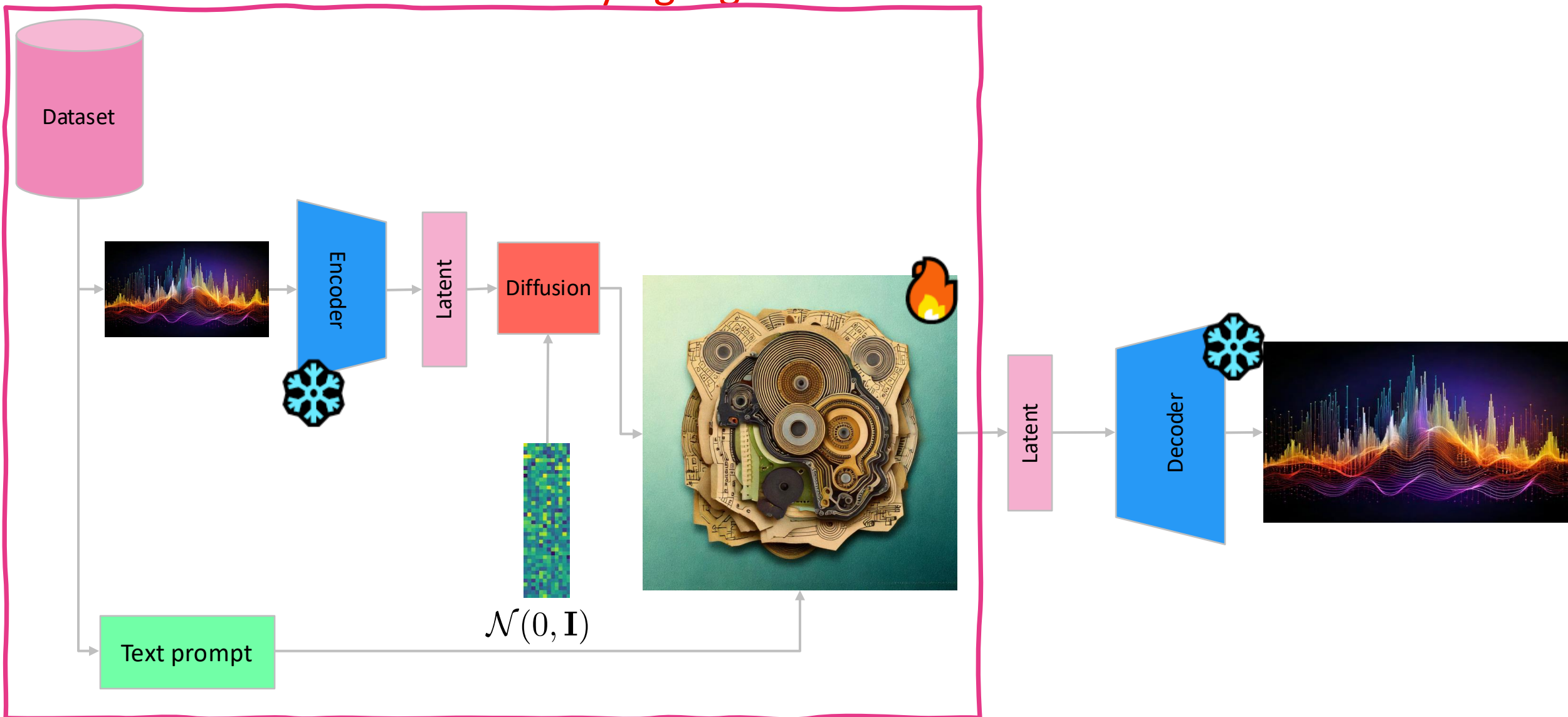
- Text prompts can be quite limiting
  - (Even with SILA alone!)
- Lack of fine-grained control/expression
- Can we control the generation via \*audio\*?



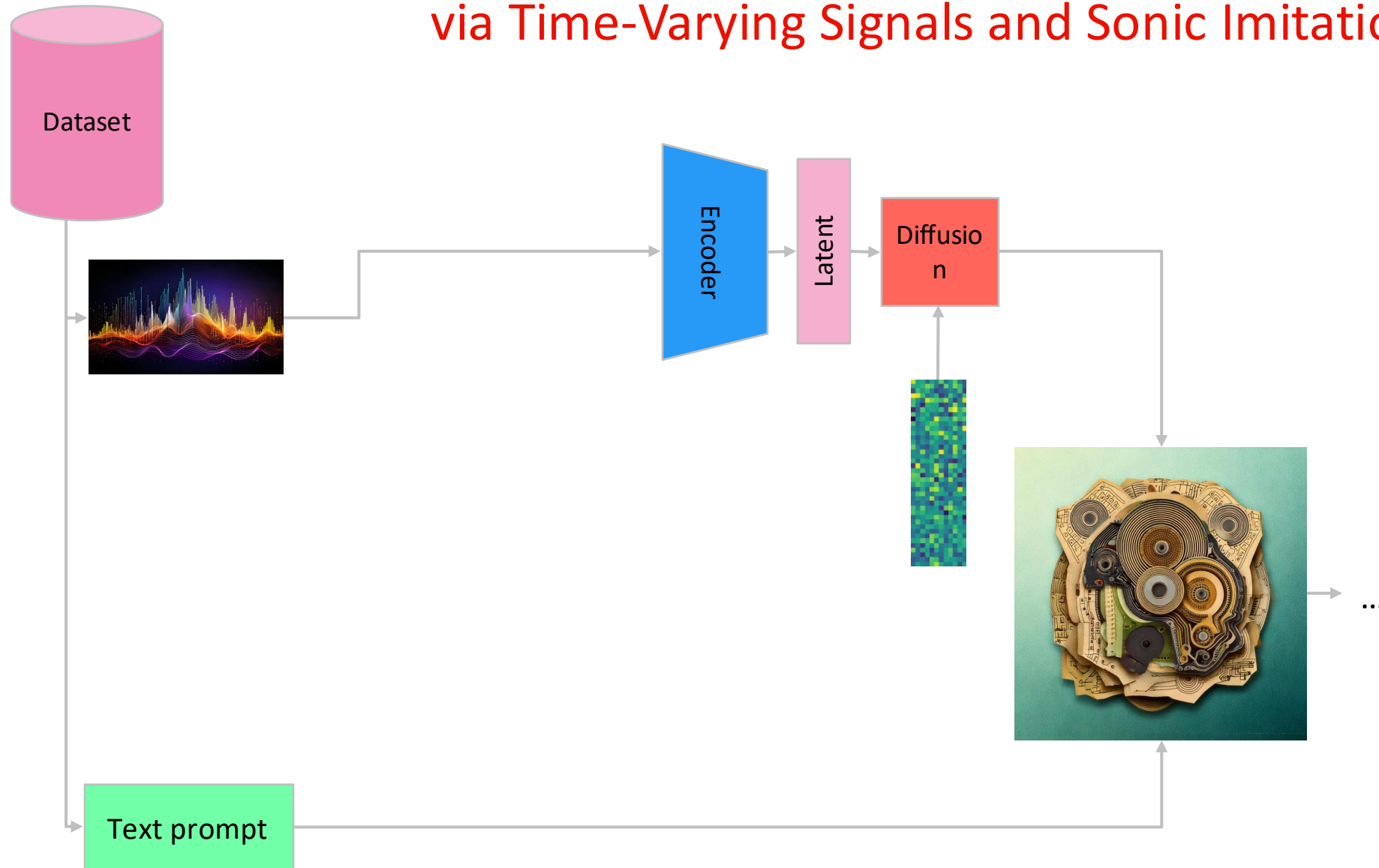
Flores García, H., Nieto, O., Salamon, J., Pardo, B., Seetharaman, P., Sketch2Sound: Controllable Audio Generation via Time-Varying Signals and Sonic Imitations, In Proc. of the 50th International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing (ICASSP), Hyderabad, India, 2025



# Sketch2Sound: Controllable Audio Generation via Time-Varying Signals and Sonic Imitations

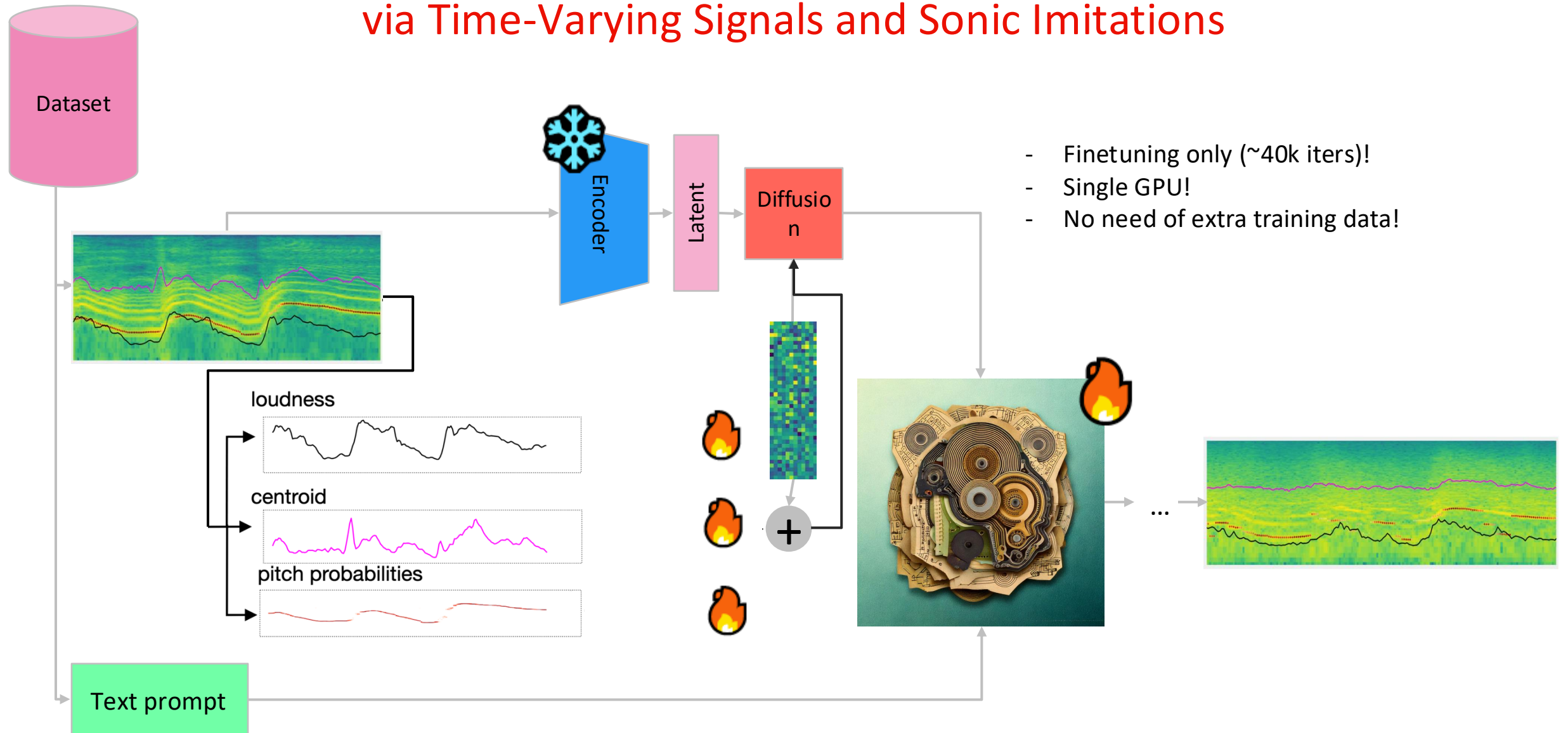


# Sketch2Sound: Controllable Audio Generation via Time-Varying Signals and Sonic Imitations





# Sketch2Sound: Controllable Audio Generation via Time-Varying Signals and Sonic Imitations



# Sketch2Sound: Controllable Audio Generation via Time-Varying Signals and Sonic Imitations

- Video examples:





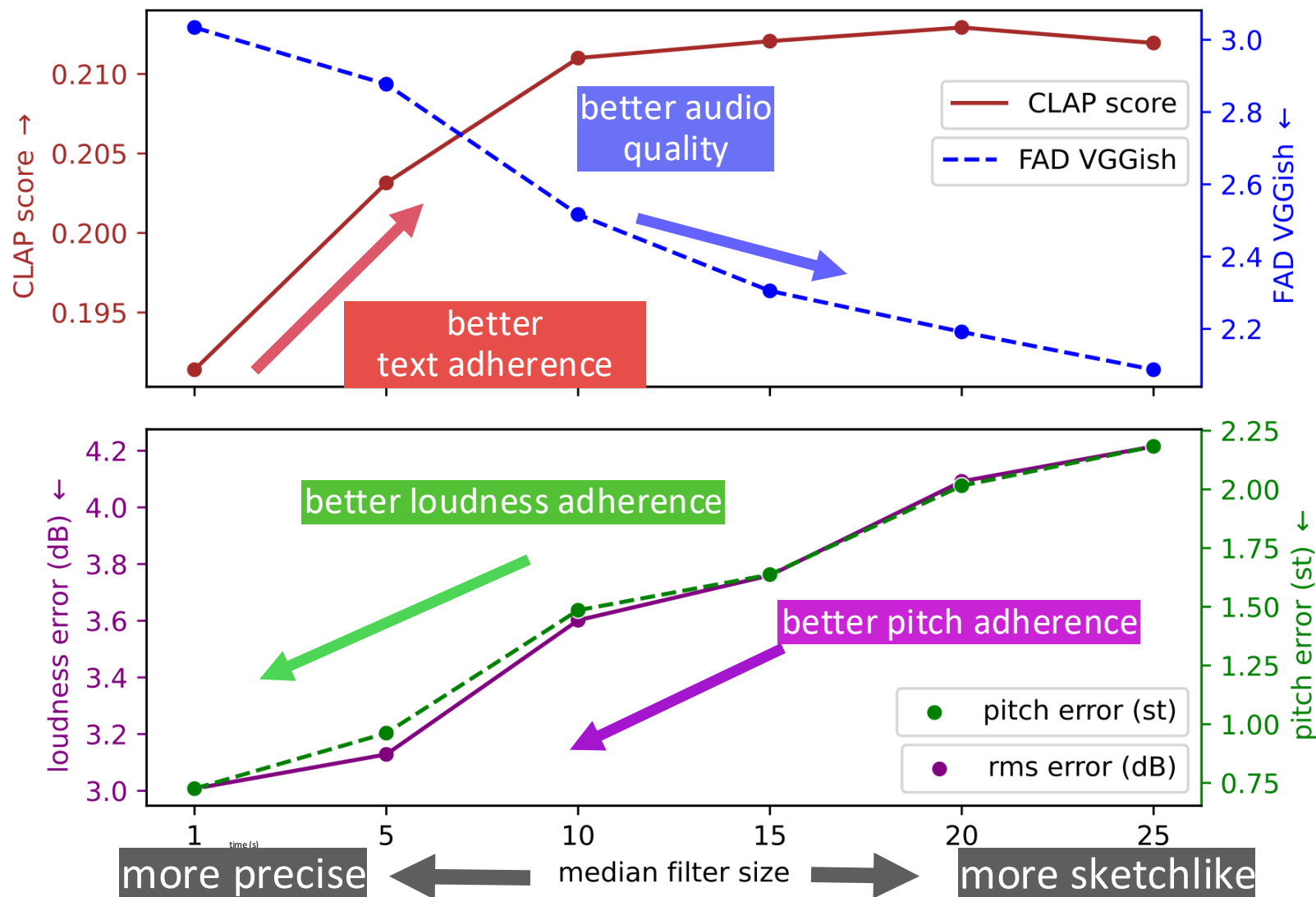
# Sketch2Sound: Controllable Audio Generation via Time-Varying Signals and Sonic Imitations

- Video examples:



## sketch types

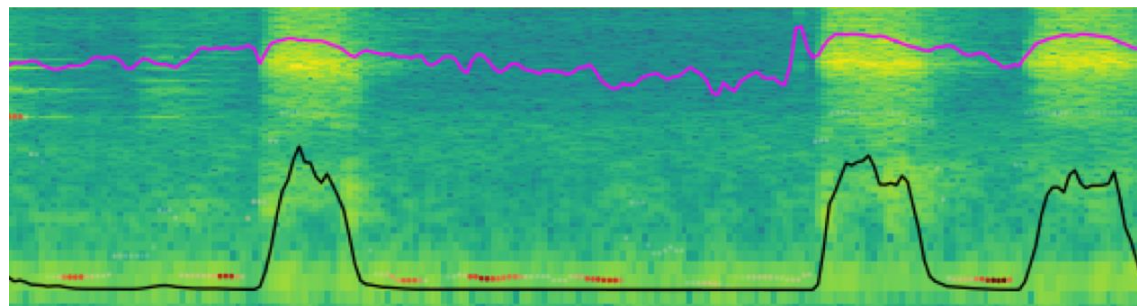
median filter size  
randomized during  
training!



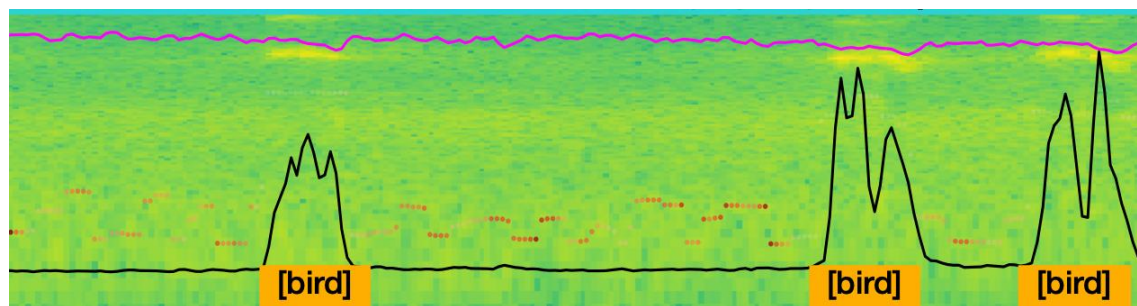


the semantics of control curves are implicitly modeled

input (sonic imitation)

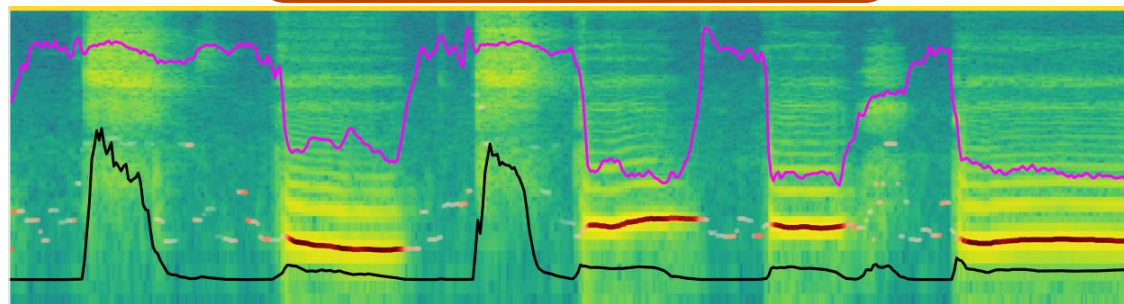


prompt: "forest ambience"

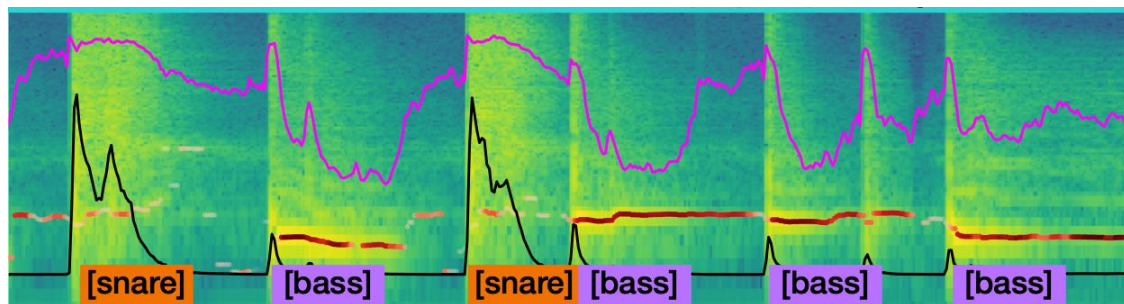


the semantics of control curves are implicitly modeled

input (sonic imitation)



prompt: "bass drum, snare drum"





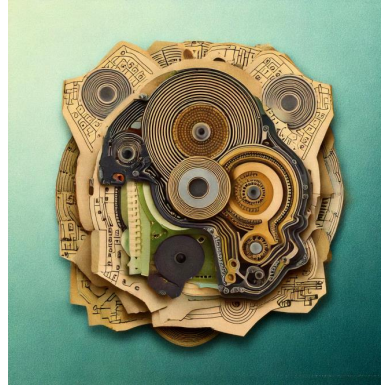
# Sketch2Sound: Controllable Audio Generation via Time-Varying Signals and Sonic Imitations

- Control generation with `*audio*`
  - Fine-grained control
- Keep human in the loop!
  - Expressive vocal input
  - Tunable sketch types (median filter)!
- Efficient method
  - Model agnostic!



# Outline

## Diffusion Models for Audio Generation



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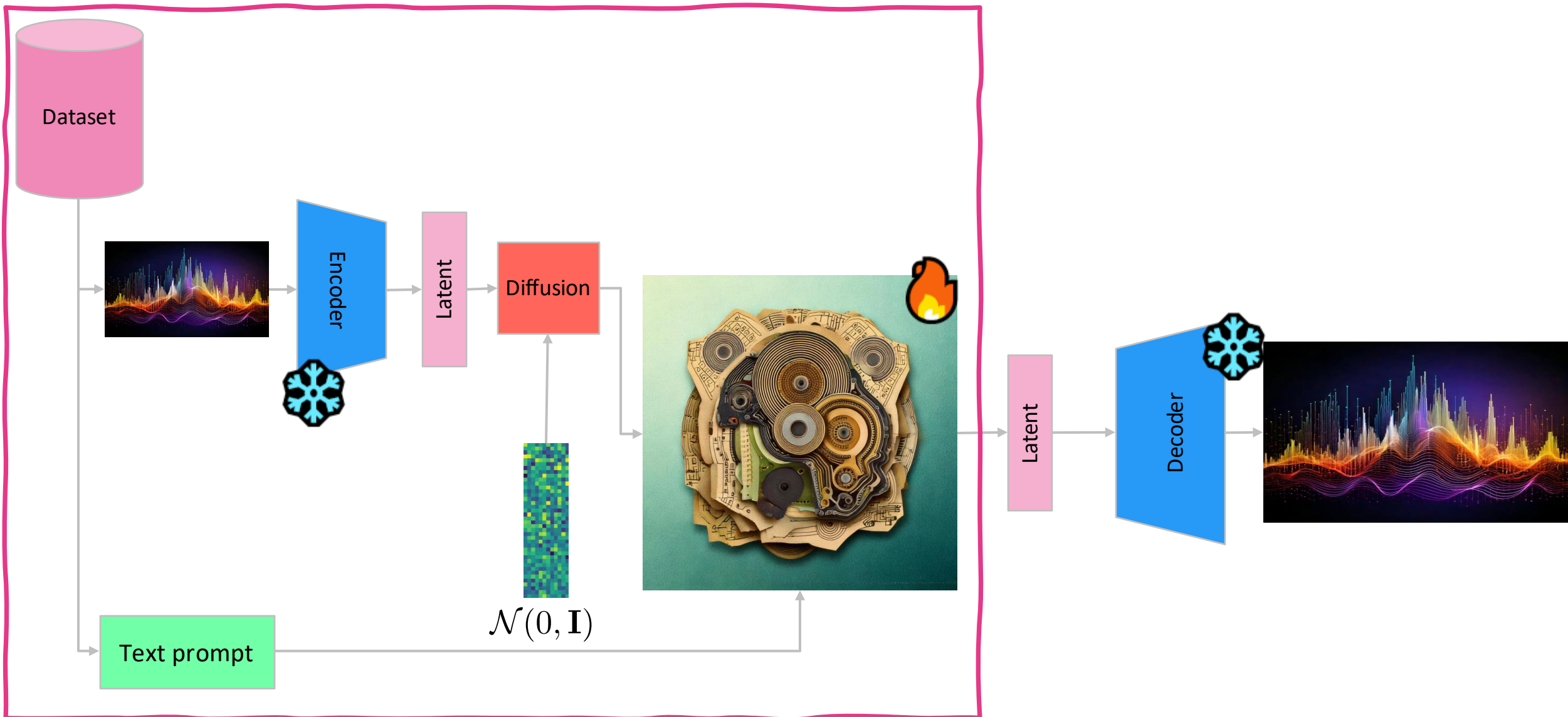
# MultiFoley: Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls

- Perfect synchronization with video can be tedious
- Can we use videos as an additional condition for the generation?
- How about a combination of **text, audio, and video** as conditions?



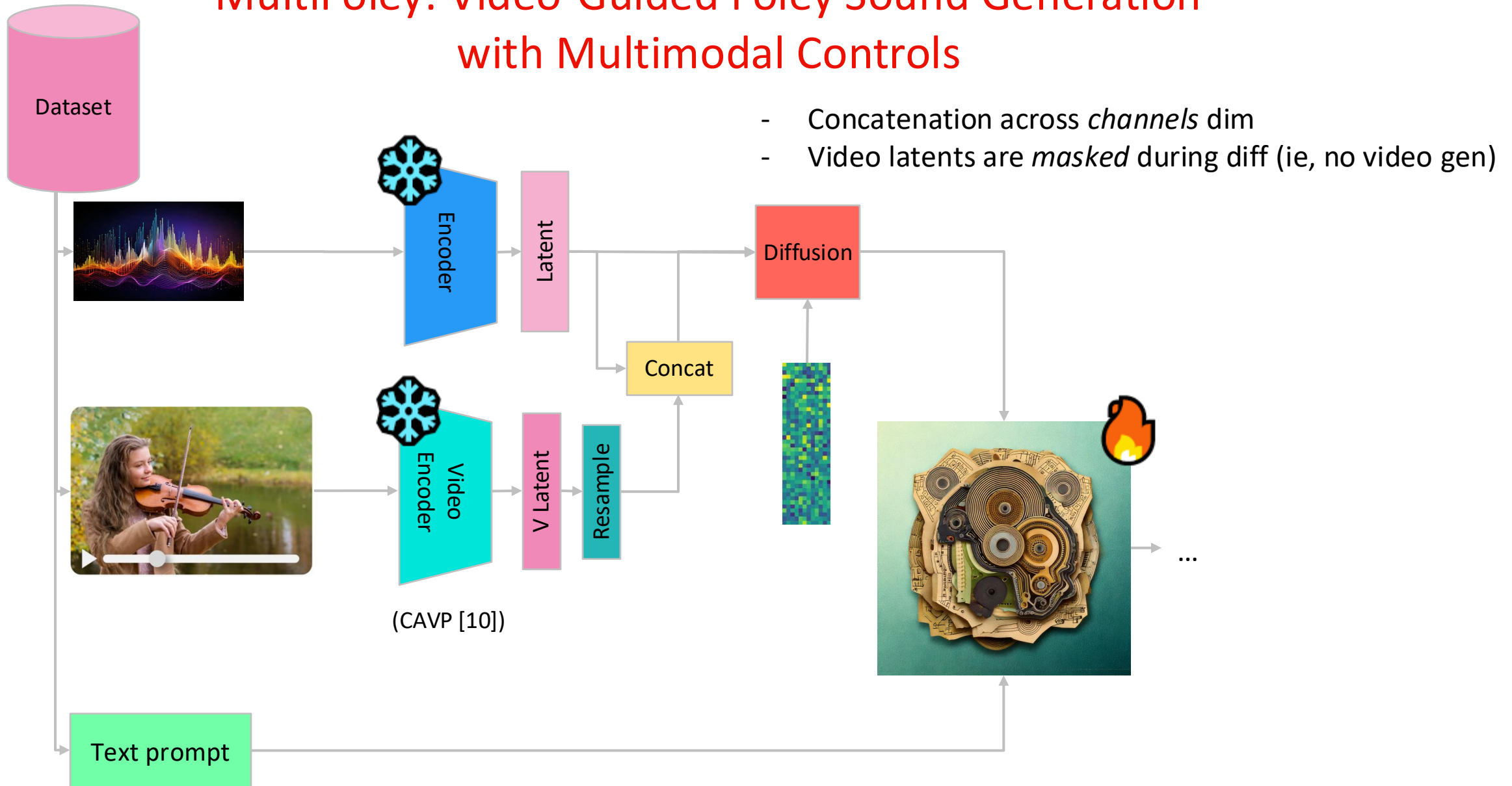
Chen, Z., Seetharaman, P., Russell, B., Nieto, O., Bourgin, D., Owens, A., Salamon, J., Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls, Submitted to IEEE / CVF Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Conference (CVPR), 2025

# MultiFoley: Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls





# MultiFoley: Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls



# MultiFoley: Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls



“Bird Chirping”

# MultiFoley: Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls



“Rooster Crowing”



# MultiFoley: Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls



“Male Speaking”

# MultiFoley: Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls



“Sheep Bleating”

# MultiFoley: Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls



“Typewriter”



# MultiFoley: Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls



“Piano”

# MultiFoley: Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls



“Keyboard”

# MultiFoley: Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls



“Cello”



# MultiFoley: Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls



“Erhu”

# MultiFoley: Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls



“Chainsaw”

# MultiFoley: Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls

Given this reference dog bark audio



We generate sound for this silent video





# MultiFoley: Video-Guided Foley Sound Generation with Multimodal Controls

- Method to generate audio from video
- Multimodal control: audio, video, and text!
- High quality output even when trained on low-quality video dataset (VGGSound)



## Closing Remarks

SILA  
(enhanced text control)



Sketch2Sound  
(voice control)



MultiFoley  
(video, text, and audio control)









# References

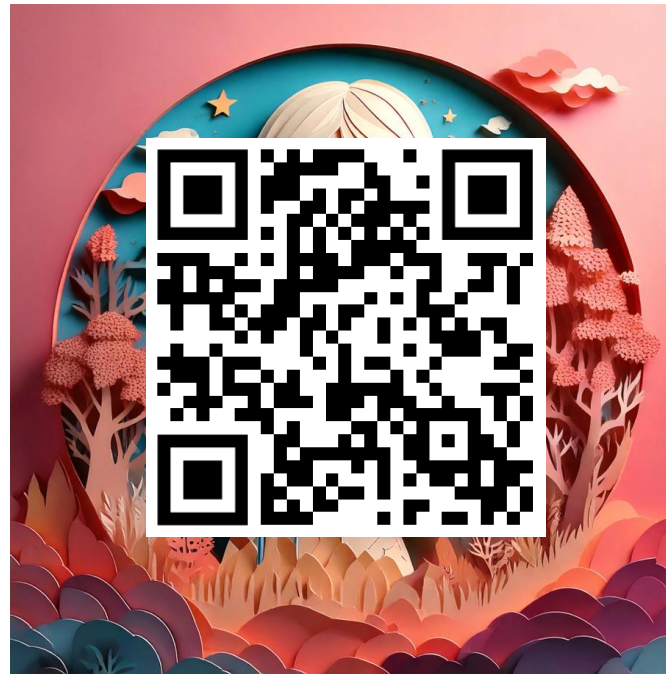
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- [3] Kumar, R., Seetharaman, P., Luebs, A., Kumar, I., Kumar, K., High-Fidelity Audio Compression with Improved RVQGAN, In Proc. of Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2023
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Thank you!

SILA  
(enhanced text control)



Sketch2Sound  
(voice control)



MultiFoley  
(video control)



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