A watercolor illustration featuring several stylized robots and a woman. The robots are depicted in various colors and designs, including blue, red, and grey. One robot in the center is blue with a red square on its chest. To its right is a robot in a red shirt and black pants. On the far right is a woman with blonde hair wearing a red top and an orange skirt. The background is a light, textured surface.

# Human AI Interaction

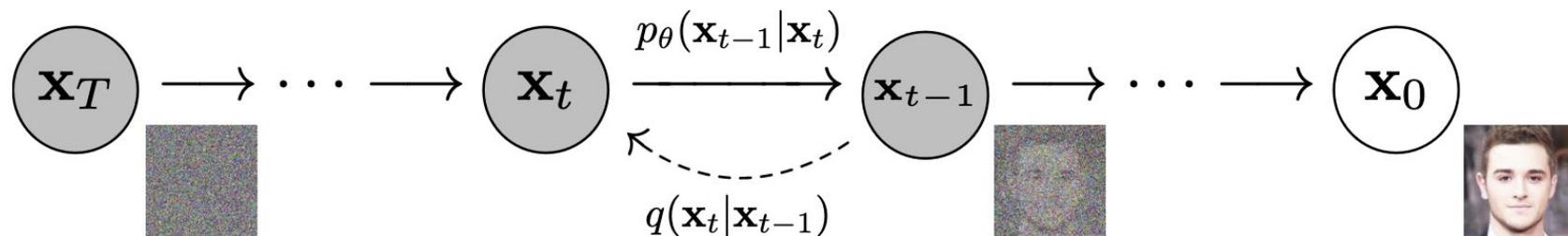
Lecture 11: Seeing and creating images  
[aidesignclass.org](http://aidesignclass.org)

# Today

- Image generation
  - What is possible and why (gentle ML intro)
  - User goals with image generation - and tying it back to ML tasks
  - Images and culture
  - Questions of credit and copyright
- Computer vision
  - What is possible and why
  - User goals with vision - and tying it back to ML tasks
  - Vision and bias
  - Privacy

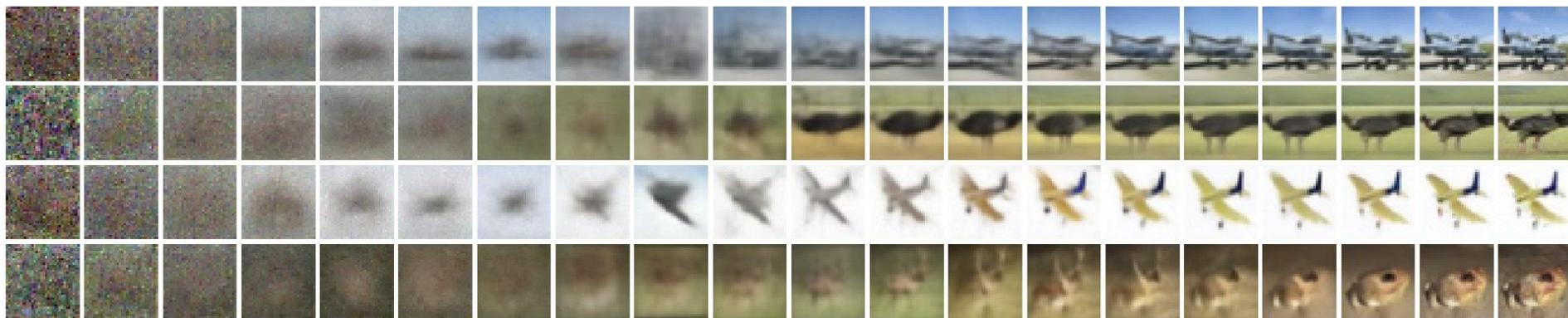
# Basic idea behind diffusion

Learn how to “denoise” an image



# Some fun outcomes of diffusion models

Which features are preserved?



# Some fun outcomes of diffusion models

How does this face look like? Are they wearing sunglasses? Color of hair?  
Possible gender?



# Some fun outcomes of diffusion models

How does this face look like? Are they wearing sunglasses? Color of hair?  
Possible gender?



# Some fun outcomes of diffusion models

How does this face look like? Are they wearing sunglasses? Color of hair?  
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# Some fun outcomes of diffusion models

How does this face look like? Are they wearing sunglasses? Color of hair?  
Possible gender?



# Some fun outcomes of diffusion models

What variants emerge from the same noise?

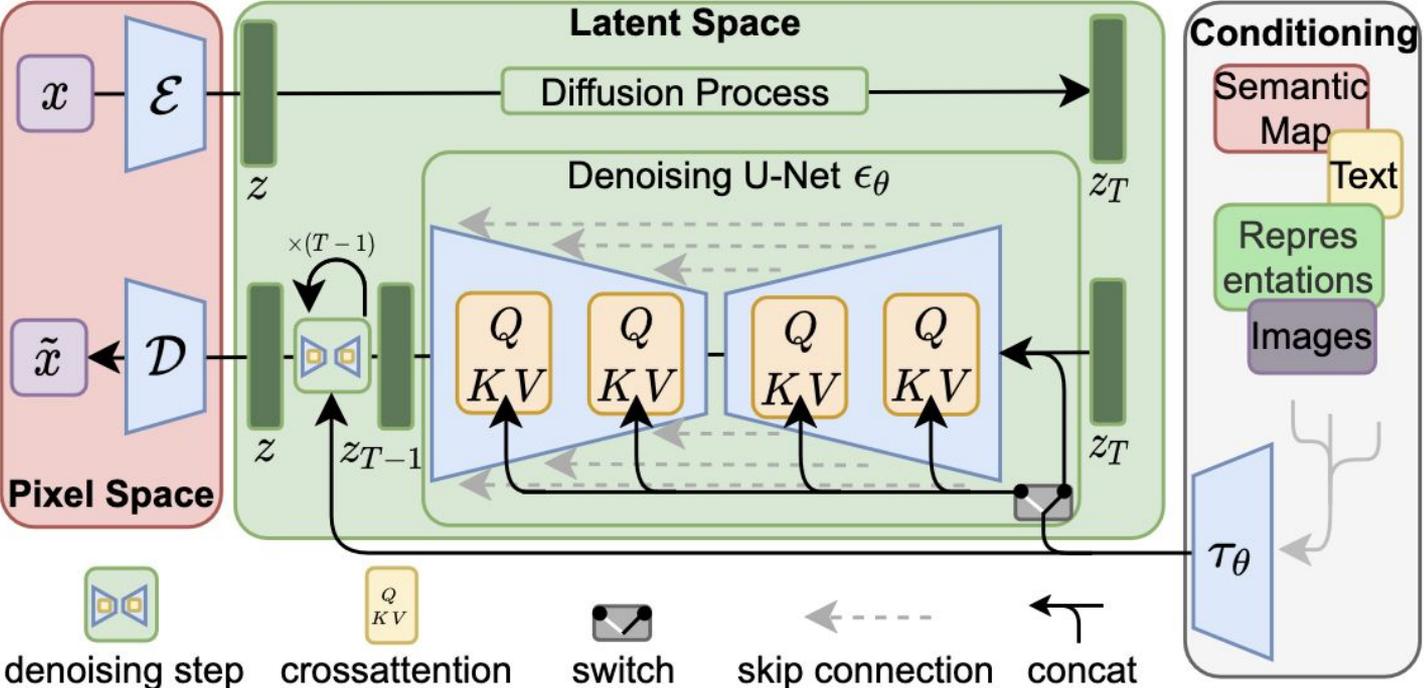


# Some fun outcomes of diffusion models

What variants emerge from the same noise?



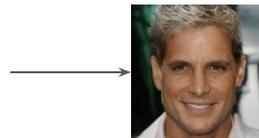
# Guiding diffusion with text



# At a conceptual level



+ “There is a guy in this image, wearing a white shirt. He has graying hair”



+ “There is a woman in this image, with dark hair”

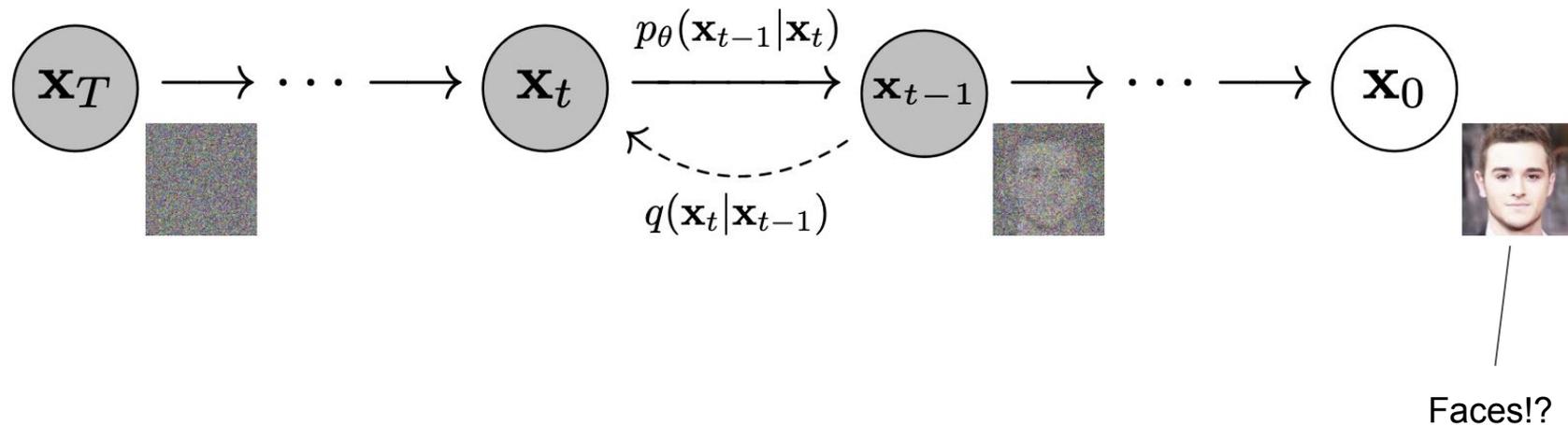


# What can we do with this?

- Generate an image given a text description: start with text + 
- Extend an image (start with image, add noise to edges, help with text)
- Replace an object in the image - how?
- Change “style” – e.g. photo to painting – how?

Brainstorm a few other ideas!

# What data should we train on?



# Some options

- Photographs of Faces
- Good photos you have taken
- All the photos you have taken
- Just all the photos ever
- Paintings of historic (no longer alive) artists
- Paintings by live artists
- Your own paintings
- All the images in the world
- ...

# What makes an image a “good” image?

Image from:

<https://ai.meta.com/research/publications/emu-enhancing-image-generation-models-using-photogenic-needles-in-a-haystack/>



Figure 1. With quality-tuning, Emu generates *highly* aesthetic images. Prompts: (top) a glass of orange juice; a woman in an apron works at a local bar; a coffee mug; (bottom) an egg and a bird made of wheat bread; a corgi; a shake is next to a cake.

## Meta's choice of "good"

"In the first stage, we train generalist annotators to down select the image pool to 20K images. Our primary goal during this stage is to optimize recall, ensuring the exclusion of medium and low quality that may have passed through the automatic filtering. In the second stage, we engage specialist annotators who have a good understanding of a set of photography principles. Their task is to filter and select images of the highest aesthetic quality (see Figure). During this stage, we focus on optimizing precision, meaning we aim to select only **the very best images.**" (emphasis mine)

Ended up with 2000 "finetuning" images

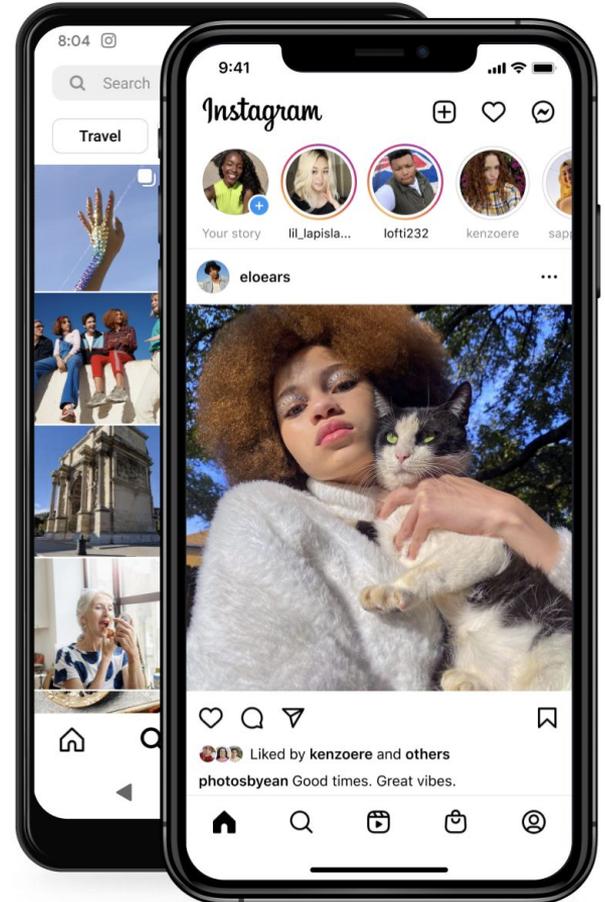


Figure 4. **Visual Appealing Data.** Examples of visually appealing data that can meet our human filtering criterion.

# What else is possible for good images?

Image from Instagram on right

How would you choose “good” images if you wanted to use text-to-image for Instagram?



# What is a good image?



[Native American chiefs, 1865](#)

From <https://medium.com/@socialcreature/ai-and-the-american-smile-76d23a0fbfaf>

# What is a good image?

How people depict themselves in a photo is culturally informed

- Do you smile?
- What kind of smile?

What we choose as a good image is our choice about how we think the world looks. Perhaps we shouldn't be so arrogant about our choices.



[Native American chiefs, 1865](#)

From <https://medium.com/@socialcreature/ai-and-the-american-smile-76d23a0fbfaf>

# Recognizing a cat

The original idea is to not teach a computer exactly what to look for... instead let it discover high level features from pixels.

The paper below used frames from 10 million YouTube videos.

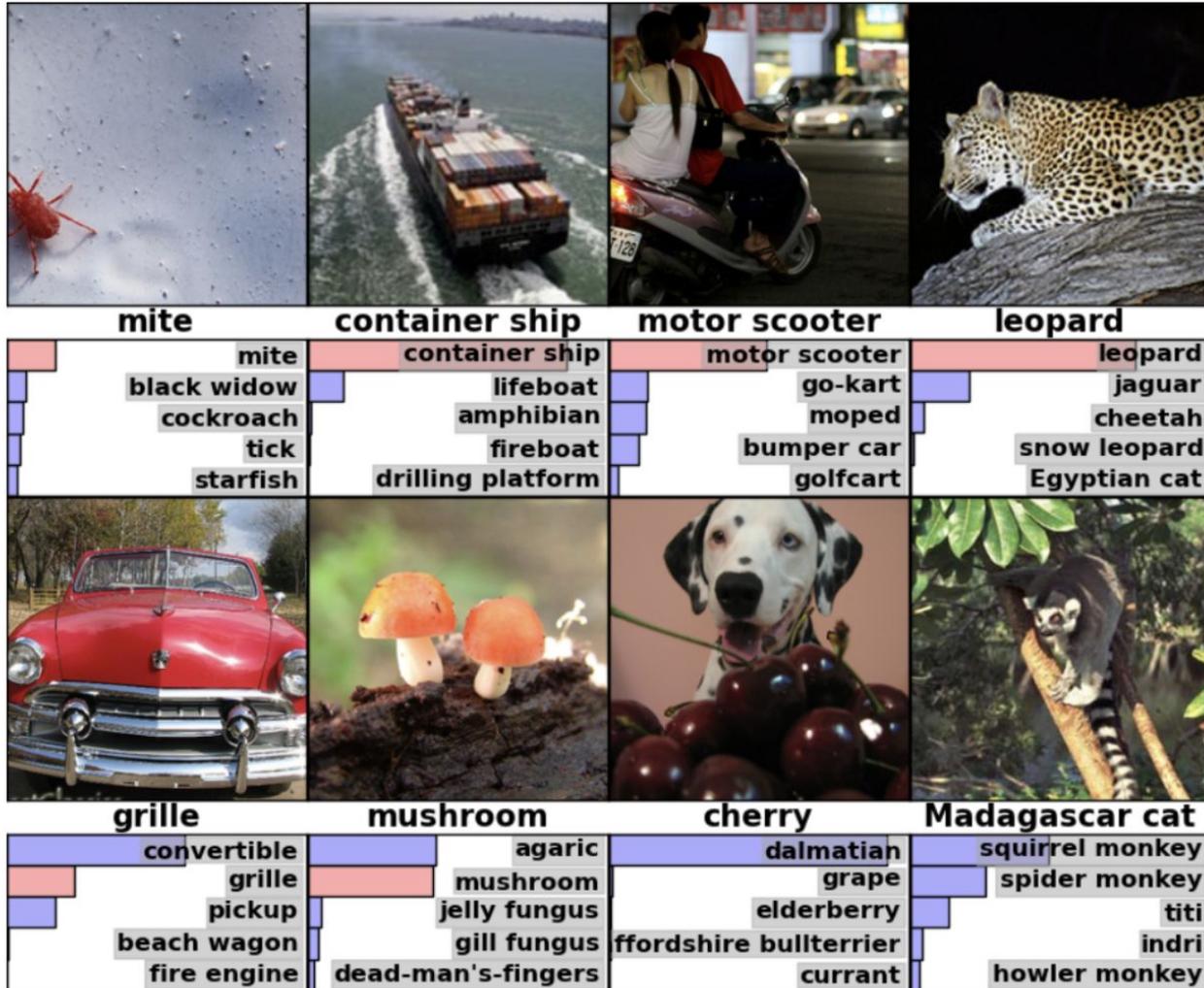
From [Building High-level Features Using Large Scale Unsupervised](#)



# Recognize -> classify

To learn a lot of categories, you need to know the name and how they look

ImageNet has ~22k categories

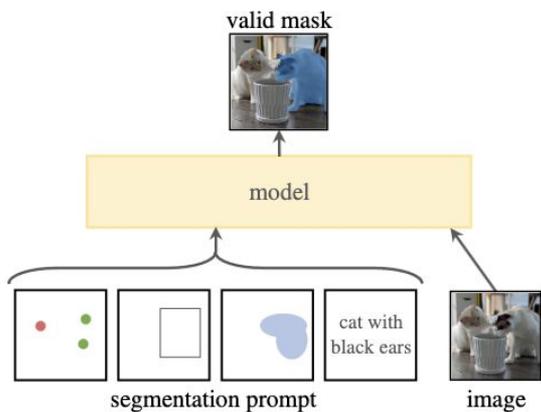


From [ImageNet Classification with Deep Convolutional Neural Networks](#)

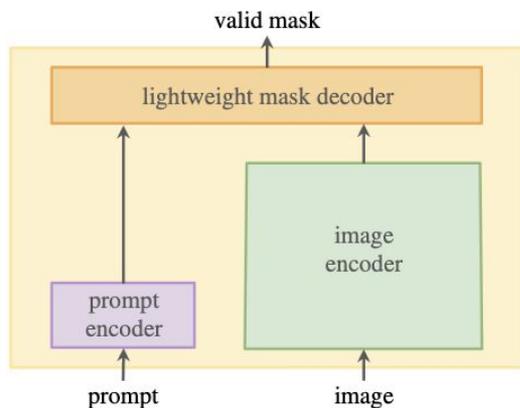
# Segmentation



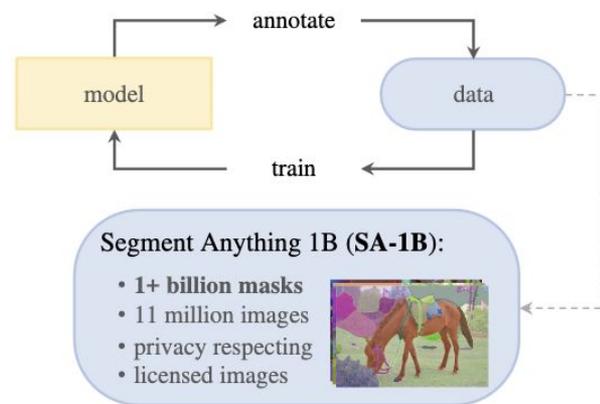
# How it works



(a) **Task:** promptable segmentation



(b) **Model:** Segment Anything Model (SAM)



(c) **Data:** data engine (top) & dataset (bottom)

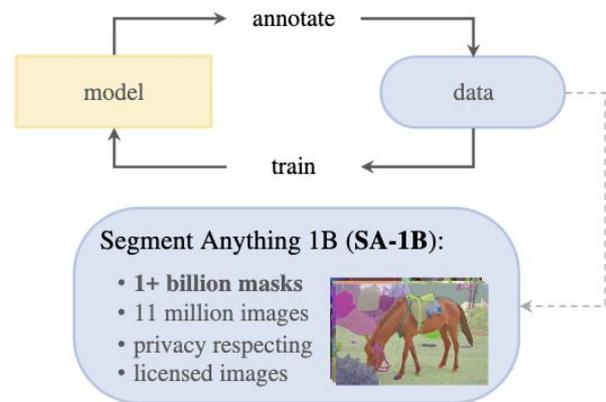
Figure 1: We aim to build a foundation model for segmentation by introducing three interconnected components: a promptable segmentation *task*, a segmentation *model* (SAM) that powers data annotation and enables zero-shot transfer to a range of tasks via prompt engineering, and a *data* engine for collecting SA-1B, our dataset of over 1 billion masks.

Remember the prompt encoder from diffusion models?

# The most important advancement is a data flywheel

A “data-engine” or flywheel is a setup that helps you best allocate human effort.

“we first automatically detected confident masks. Then we presented annotators with images prefilled with these masks and asked them to annotate any additional unannotated objects” (from their paper)



(c) **Data:** data engine (top) & dataset (bottom)  
The interconnected components: a prompt- and enables zero-shot transfer to a range of objects and classes, and a dataset of over 1 billion masks.

Interactive applications need both image understanding and creation

“Replace an object” = label + segment + “in-fill” painting

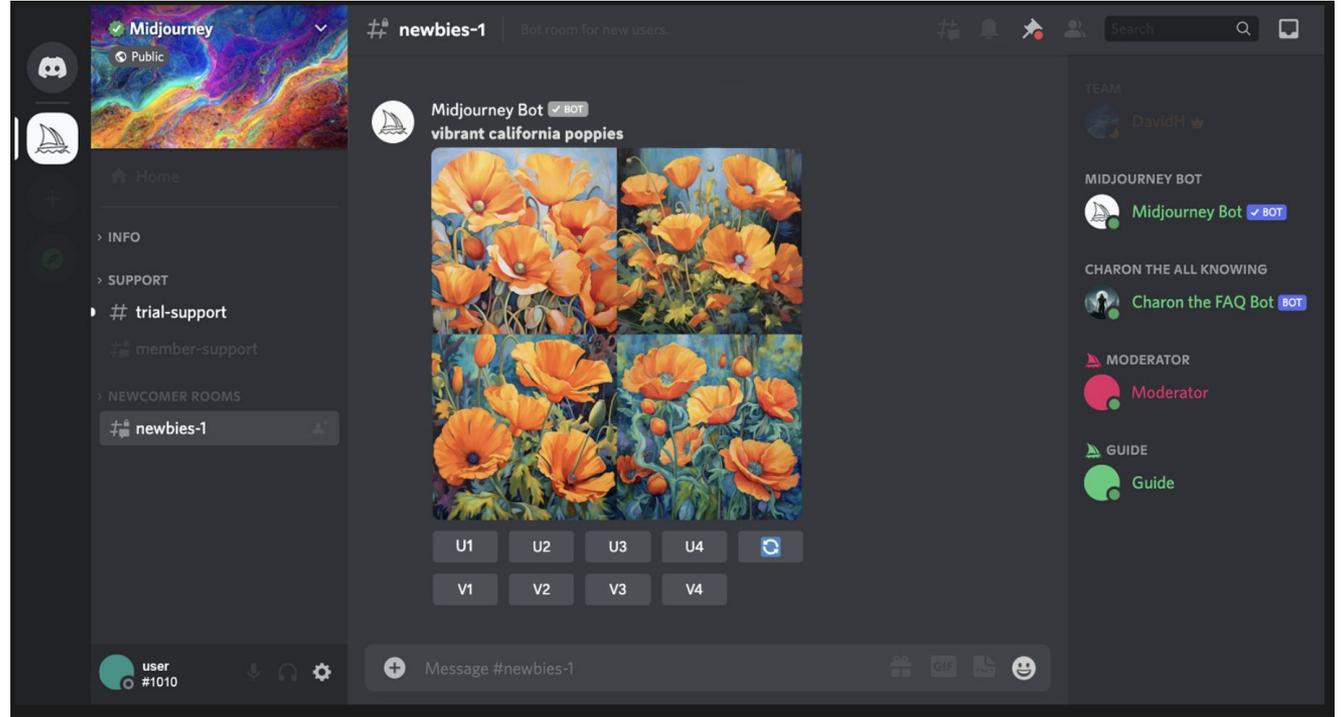
# What does the interaction model for image applications

## look like?

Image from  
Midjourney

What is good about  
this interface?

What is not?



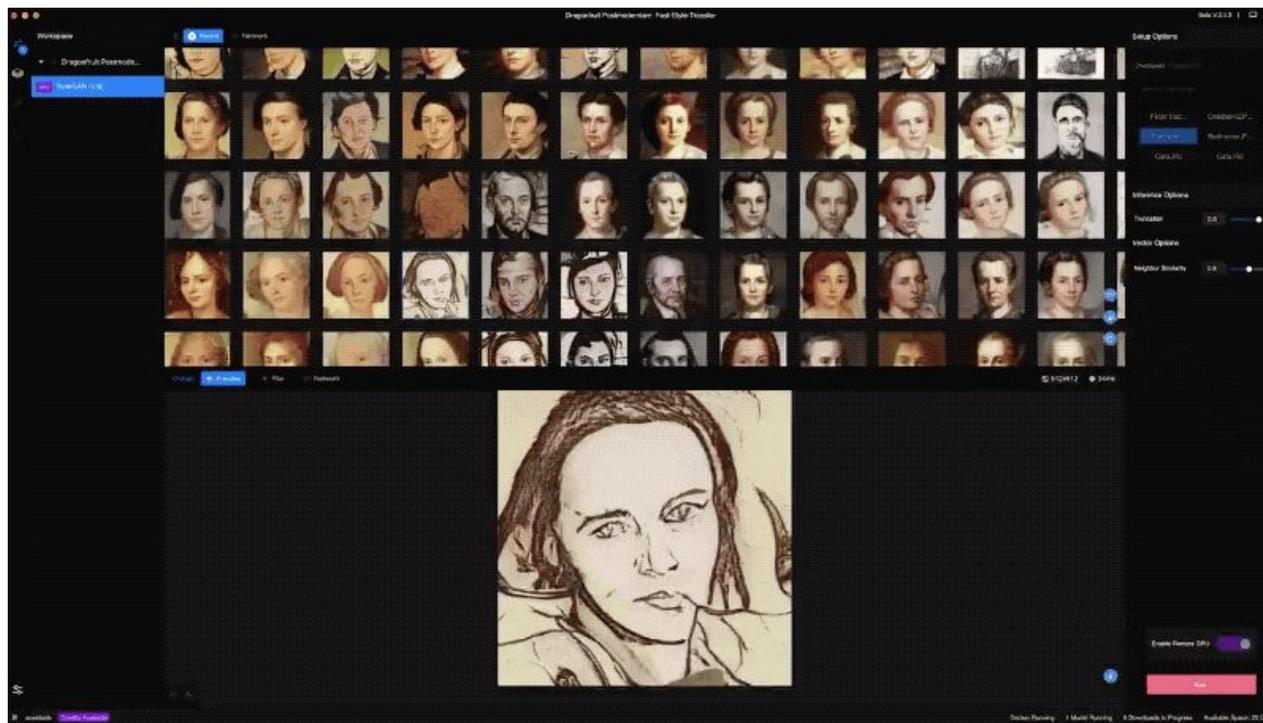
# UX for images

RunwayML

Image from [Verge](#)

What is good about this UX?

What isn't?



# Key takeaways

- Datasets matter – what is aesthetic is not a trivial question
- Joint understanding (text + image, etc) can allow for a variety of new tasks
  - With creative tasks, examples of work are a powerful learning mechanism
- What UX you choose depends on how you want users to learn the creative power of the medium