

# SketchDNN: Joint Continuous-Discrete Diffusion for CAD Sketch Generation

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Paper



Code

## Introduction

2D sketch/blueprint design is a tedious and manual aspect of CAD modelling that is an ideal domain for generative AI.

Prior solutions have relied on tokenization and autoregressive approaches, which can't accommodate both the **heterogeneous parameterizations** nor **permutation invariance** of primitives.

We propose a novel discrete diffusion method that addresses these limitations through **superposition** and **permutation invariant denoising**. Our contributions are namely:

- 1 The **first** data-space **diffusion** model for CAD sketch generation
- 2 A **novel discrete diffusion framework** based on the Gaussian-Softmax distribution
- 3 **State-of-the-art** results in terms of **NLL, FID, and Recall**

## Gaussian-Softmax Distribution

We introduce the Gaussian-Softmax distribution ( $\mathcal{GS}$ ) as a **continuous relaxation** of the Categorical distribution, where if  $\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$  then  $\mathbf{x} = \text{softmax}\{\mathbf{y}\} \sim \mathcal{GS}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$  with pdf:

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\mu}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}) = Z(\sigma)^{-1} \left( \prod_{i=1}^D y_i \right) \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[ \|\tilde{\mathbf{y}} - \boldsymbol{\mu}'\|^2 - \frac{1}{D} \left( \mathbf{1}^T (\tilde{\mathbf{y}} - \boldsymbol{\mu}') \right)^2 \right] \right)$$

$$\text{where } Z(\sigma) = \sqrt{D(2\pi\sigma^2)^{(D-1)}}, \boldsymbol{\mu}' = \boldsymbol{\mu} - (\mu_D)\mathbf{1}, \tilde{\mathbf{y}} = \log \mathbf{y} - (\log y_D)\mathbf{1}$$

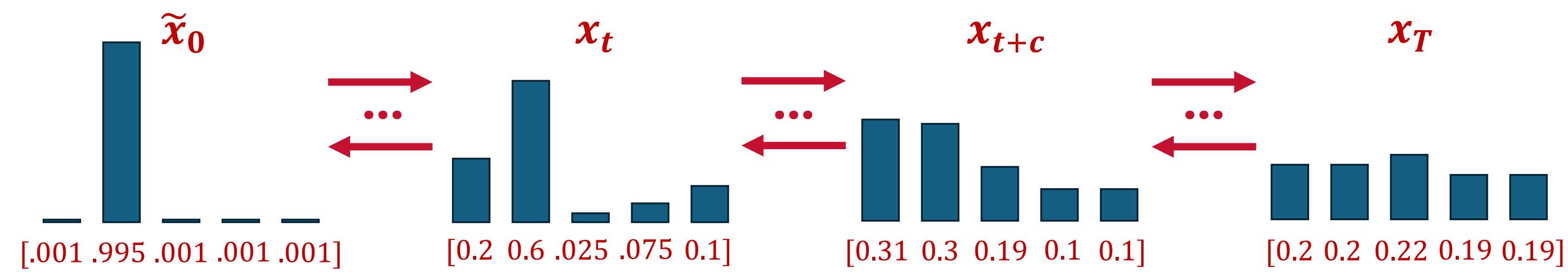
The **support** of the  $\mathcal{GS}$  distribution is the entire **probability simplex**, unlike the Categorical distribution whose support is only its vertices, which enables  $\mathbf{x}$  to encode uncertainty.

## Discrete Diffusion

$$\textbf{Forward: } \mathbf{x}_t = \text{softmax} \left\{ \sqrt{\bar{b}_t} \log \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_0 + \sqrt{(1 - \bar{b}_t)} \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \right\} \sim \mathcal{GS} \left( \sqrt{\bar{b}_t} \log \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_0, (1 - \bar{b}_t) \mathbf{I} \right)$$

$$\textbf{Reverse: } \mathbf{x}_{t-1} = \text{softmax} \left\{ \frac{\sqrt{\bar{b}_t}(1 - \bar{b}_{t-1}) \log(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_0) + \sqrt{\bar{b}_{t-1}}(1 - \bar{b}_t) \log(\mathbf{x}_0^0(\mathbf{x}_t, t))}{1 - \bar{b}_t} + \sqrt{\frac{(1 - \bar{b}_t)(1 - \bar{b}_{t-1})}{1 - \bar{b}_t}} \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \right\}$$

Thus, when entropy is maximized at the **end of the forward process**, the class label follows the **uniform distribution** i.e.,  $\text{argmax}\{\mathbf{x}_T\} \sim \text{Cat}\left(\frac{1}{D}\right)$ . To avoid singularities near  $t = 0$ , we slightly **label smooth**  $\mathbf{x}_0$  so that:  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_0 = k\mathbf{x}_0 + \frac{1-k}{D}\mathbf{1}$  where we set  $k = .99$

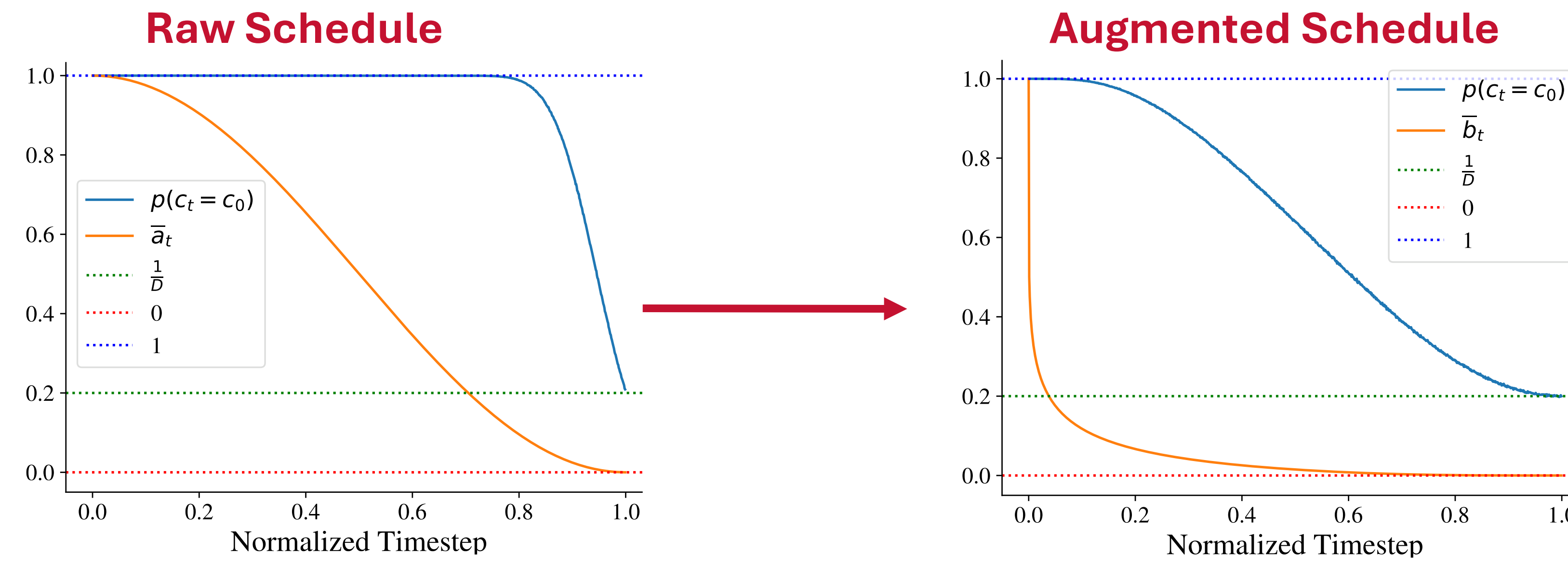


## Variance Schedule Augmentation

In Gaussian-Softmax diffusion, we observed that **variance schedules cannot be used directly** as-is, due to the **distortion introduced** by the softmax operation on the injected noise. To rectify this, we propose the following variance schedule augmentation:

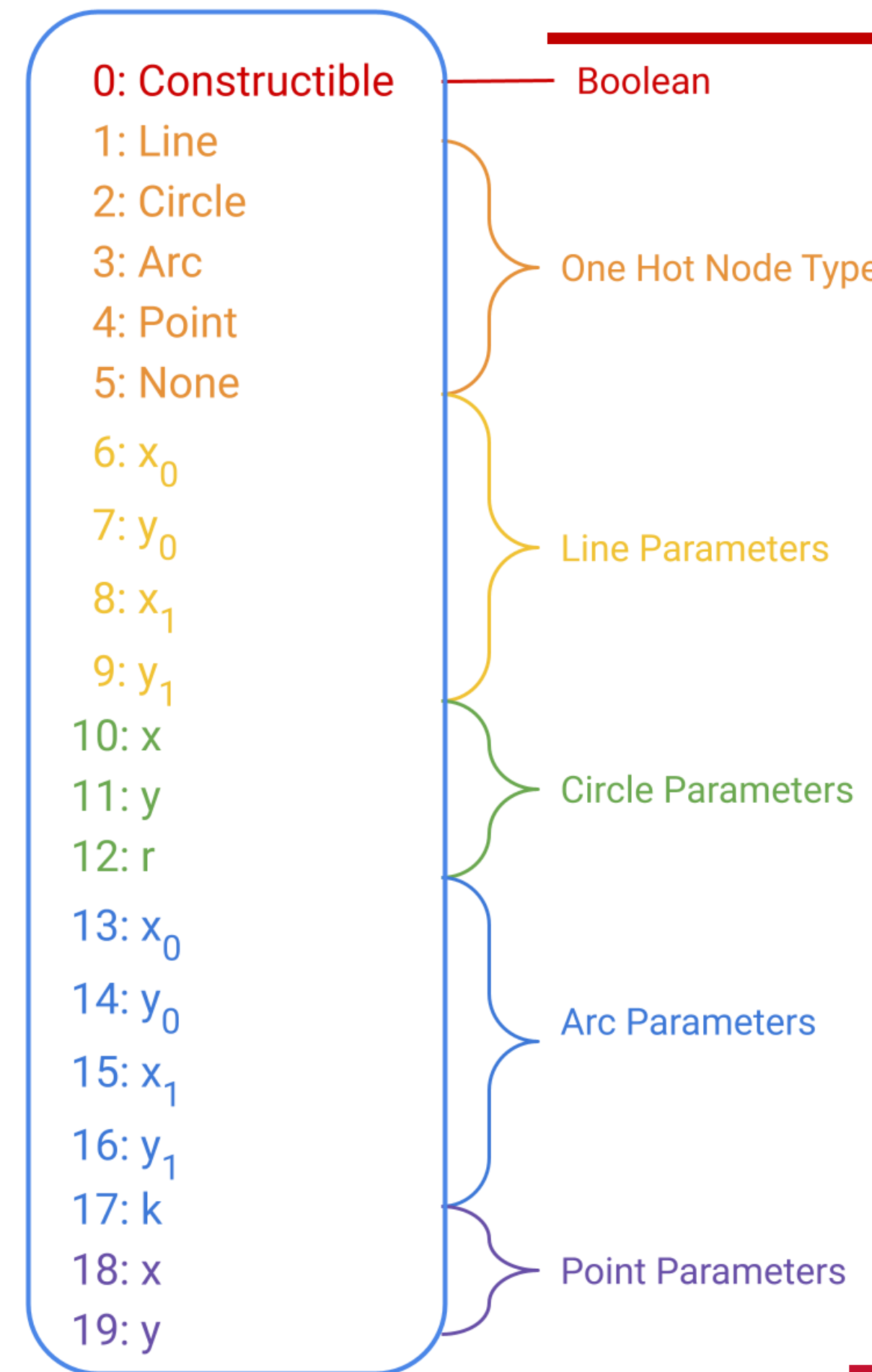
$$\bar{b}_t = \frac{f(\bar{a}_t)^2}{f(\bar{a}_t)^2 + f(k)^2} \text{ where } f(y) = \log \left( \frac{1-y}{(D-1)y+1} \right)$$

which ensures that the class label is noised according to the chosen schedule  $\bar{a}_t$  i.e.,  $\text{argmax}\{\mathbf{x}_t\} \sim \text{Cat} \left( \bar{a}_t \mathbf{x}_0 + (1 - \bar{a}_t) \frac{1}{D} \right)$



**Fig 1.** The blue line depicts the probability of the class label remaining unchanged, computed using Monte-Carlo estimation with 10,000 samples. **Left:** The cosine variance schedule is used directly. **Right:** The cosine schedule is augmented, resulting in information degrading more gradually.

## Architecture



- **Heterogeneous Primitive Parameterizations**
  - We represent each primitive as a **superposition (probabilistic mixture)** of all primitive types.
  - Not only does this approach provide a **generic representation** of all primitives, but it also allows our model to **explore all possible realizations** of a primitive concurrently.
- **Permutation Invariant Denoising**
  - We employ the **DiT** architecture and simply omit positional encodings. Since, all the attention and feed-forward blocks are permutation equivariant, the model is as well.
  - **Given the predicted noiseless sketch**, each primitive is **independently denoised** with respect to its noiseless counterpart. This makes the denoising process invariant to the relative primitive orderings.

## Training and Inference

For **continuous variables (x)** we employ standard **Gaussian diffusion**, whereas for **discrete variables (y)** we use **Gaussian-Softmax diffusion**. Accordingly, we employ MSE loss for parameters and CE loss for class labels.

### Algorithm 1 Training Procedure

**Require:** Data with continuous and discrete information  $(x_0||y_0)$ , Denoiser model  $M_\theta(X)$ , variance schedule  $\bar{a}$ , augmented variance schedule  $\bar{b}$

- 1: **while** not converged **do**
- 2: Sample timestep  $t \sim U(1, T)$
- 3: Add noise to parameters and labels  $x_t||y_t = \text{forward}(x_0||y_0, t)$

$$x_t||y_t \sim \mathcal{N}(\sqrt{\bar{a}_t}x_0, (1 - \bar{a}_t) \mathbf{I}) \times \mathcal{GS} \left( \sqrt{\bar{b}_t} \log y_0, (1 - \bar{b}_t) \mathbf{I} \right)$$

- 4: Reconstruct original sketch  $(x'||y') = M_\theta(x_t||y_t, t)$
- 5: Mask out irrelevant parameters in  $x'$  according to true class label  $y_0$

$$x' \leftarrow \text{mask}(x', y_0)$$

- 6: Compute reconstruction loss:  $MSE(x', x_0) + CE(y', y_0)$
- 7: Update  $\theta$  using gradient descent

### Algorithm 2 Inference Procedure

**Require:** Denoiser model  $M_\theta(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ , Random seed  $x_T||y_T \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}) \times \mathcal{GS}(0, \mathbf{I})$

- 1: **for**  $t = T - 1$  to 1 **do**
- 2: Predict noiseless datapoint  $(x'||y') = M_\theta(x_t||y_t, t)$
- 3: Weight parameters in  $x'$  by corresponding label confidence in  $y'$ , rescaled such that the maximum element is exactly 1

$$x' \leftarrow x' * y' / \max(y')$$

- 4: Interpolate noisy data with prediction according to the reverse transition

$$x_{t-1}||y_{t-1} = \text{reverse}(x_t||y_t, x'||y', t)$$

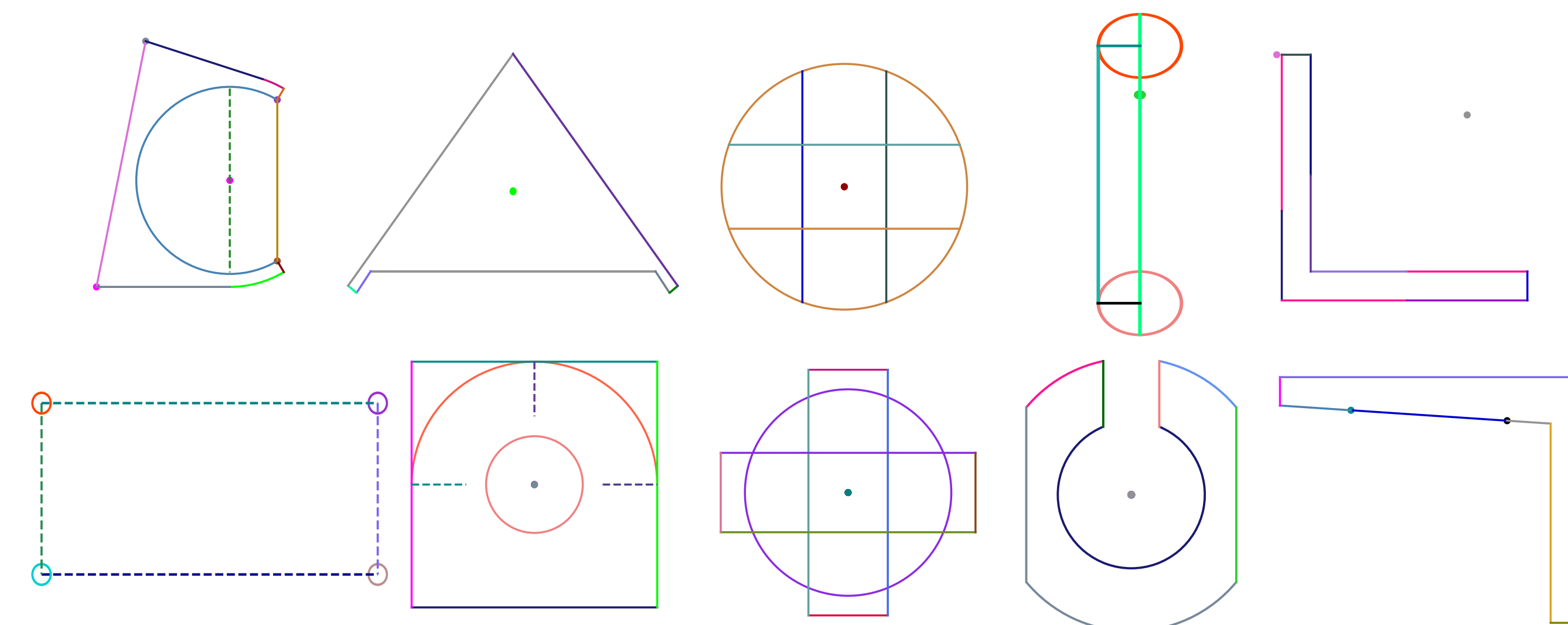
## Quantitative Results

Method	Bits/Sketch↓	Bits/Primitive↓
<b>SketchDNN (Ours)</b>	<b>81.33</b>	<b>5.08</b>
SketchDNN (Pos.)	83.03	5.18
SketchDNN (Cat.)	106.10	6.63
Vitruvion	84.80	8.19
SketchGen	88.22	8.60

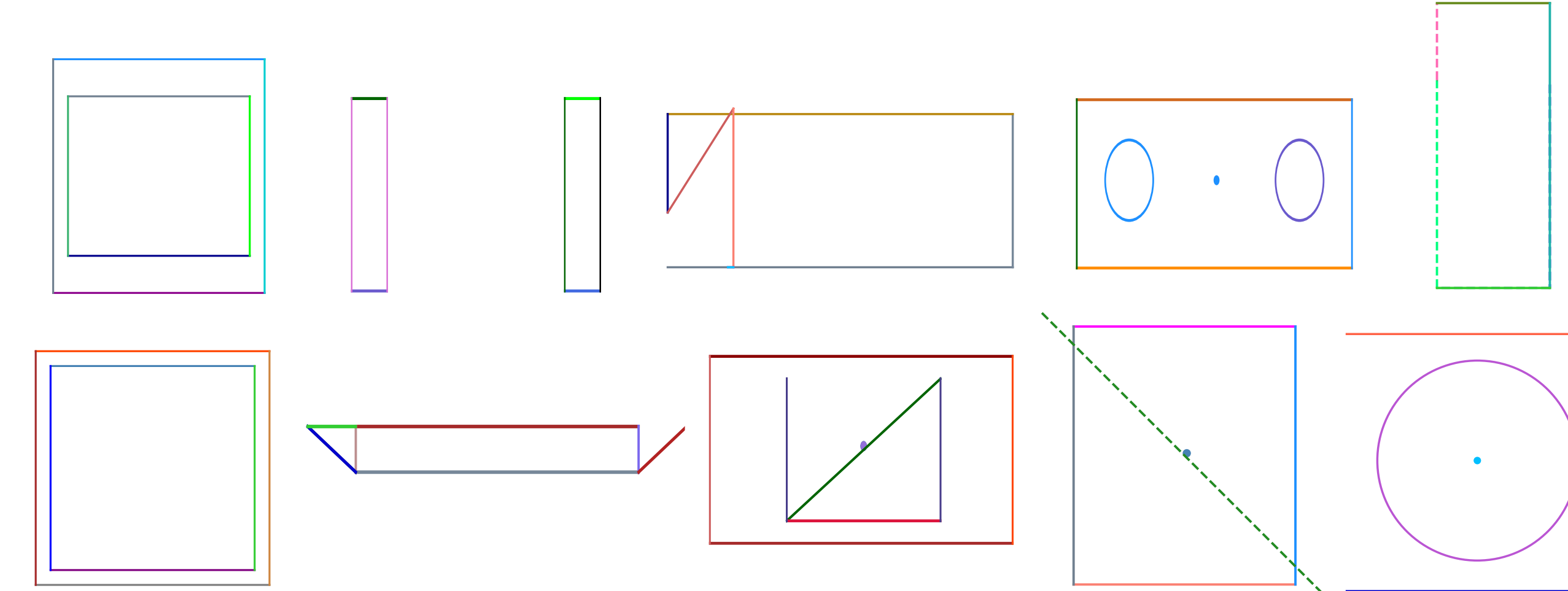
Method	FID 10K↓	Precision↑	Recall↑
<b>SketchDNN (Ours)</b>	<b>7.80</b>	<u><b>0.246</b></u>	<b>0.266</b>
SketchDNN (Pos)	10.26	0.230	<u>0.245</u>
Latent Diffusion	93.34	0.134	0.033
SketchDNN (Cat.)	148.93	0.117	0.028
Vitruvion	16.04	<b>0.294</b>	0.176

## Qualitative Comparison

### Samples from SketchGraphs Dataset



### Samples from Vitruvion (Previous SOA)



### Samples from SketchDNN (Ours)

