

# Addressing Asynchronicity in Clinical Multimodal Fusion via Individualized Chest X-ray Generation

Diffusion-based **D**ynamic **L**atent **C**hest **X**-ray Image Generation (**DDL-CXR**)

Wenfang Yao<sup>\*1</sup>, Chen Liu <sup>\*1,3</sup>, Kejing Yin<sup>2</sup>✉, William K. Cheung<sup>2</sup>, Jing Qin<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

<sup>2</sup>Department of Computer Science, Hong Kong Baptist University

<sup>3</sup>School of Software Engineering, South China University of Technology

<https://github.com/Chenliu-svg/DDL-CXR>

# Challenge 1 - Clinical data are inherently highly asynchronous



ICU settings:  
rapid changes

“Carry-forward” :  
outdated CXR

Sub-optimal  
prediction performance



(a) Initial Chest X-ray



(b) CXR taken after 34 hours



(c) Generated by DDL-CXR

# Challenge 2 - Patient-specific CXR generation

Text-to-audio / text-to-image generation

Explicit controllable attributes\*:



A cat in **Monet** style



A cat in **Van Gogh** style



A happy **blue** cat

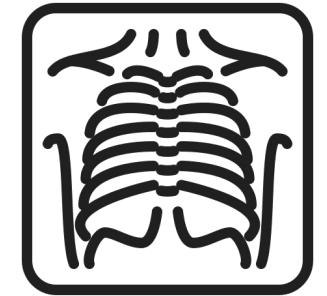


A sad **orange** cat

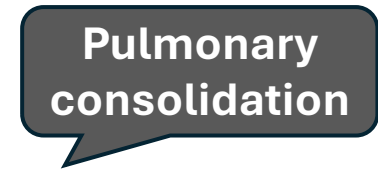
VS

Individual clinical image generation

Explicit description of:

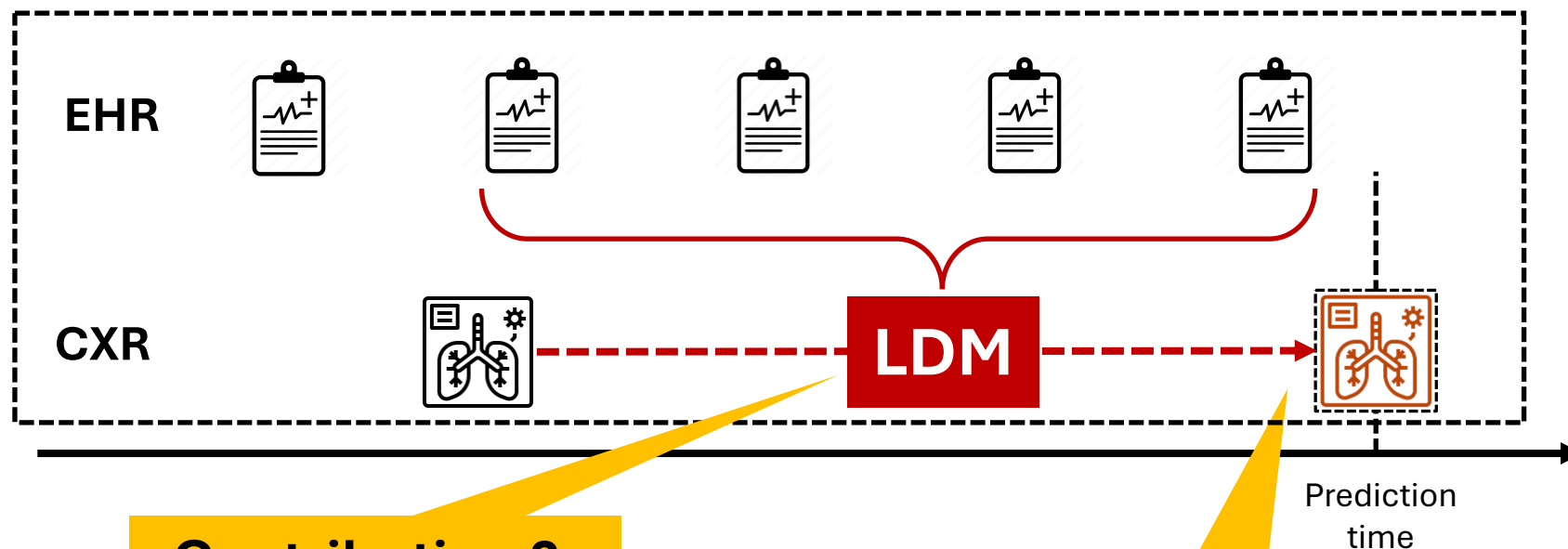


anatomical structures **X**



disease progression **X**

# Contributions



## Contribution 2: Contrastive training of LDM

- Capture the disease course in EHR modality
- Enhance cross-modal interaction

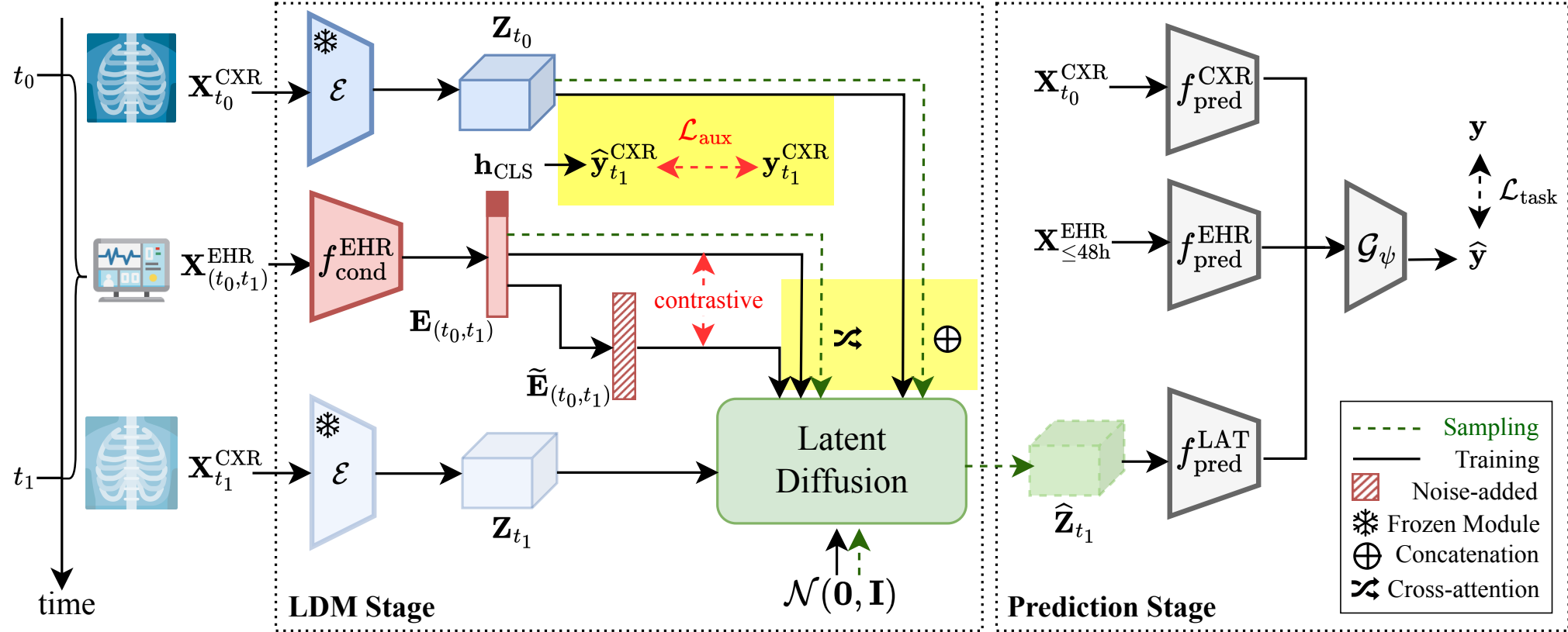
## Contribution 1: Individualized CXR generation

- Tackle the asynchronicity between EHR and CXR
- Capture interaction in a highly heterogeneous setting

## Contribution 3 Improved prediction performance

- Outperform SOTA on: mortality prediction, phenotype classification
- Excel in individual CXR generation

# The Proposed Method: DDL-CXR



## LDM stage: dynamic latent CXR generation

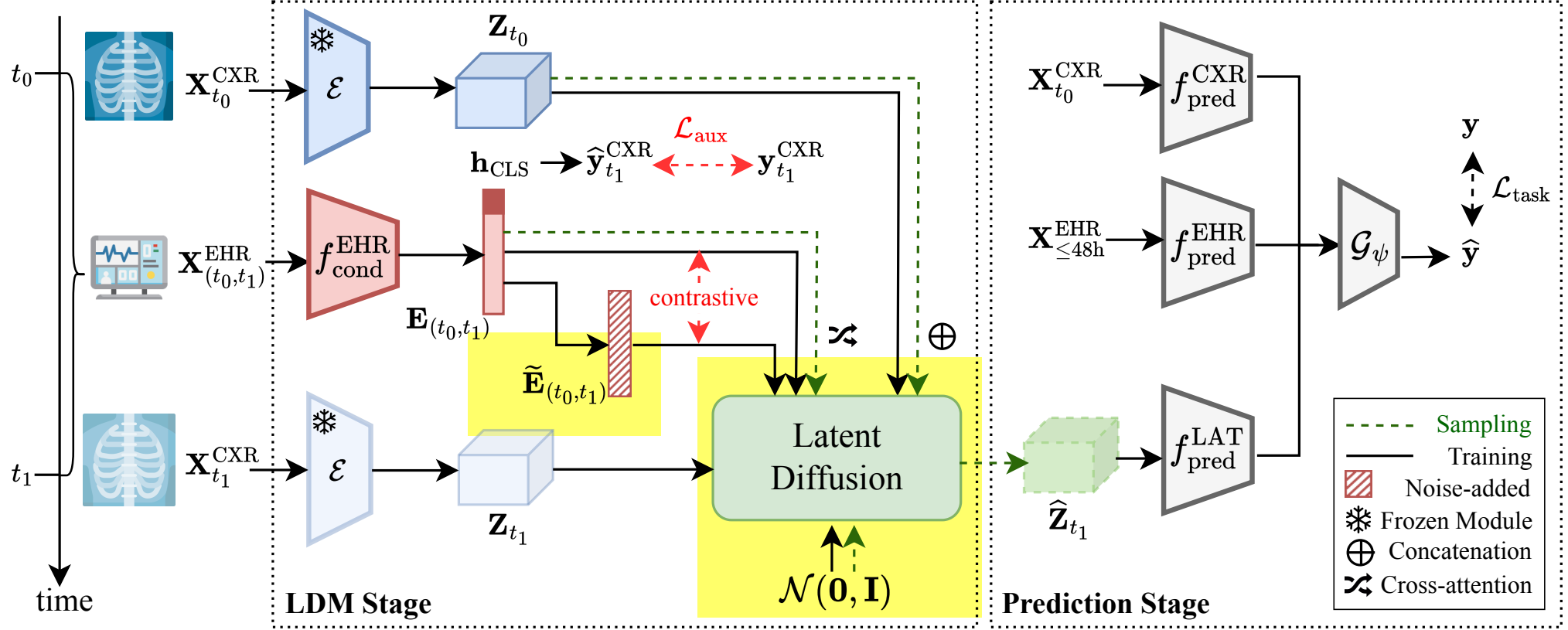
Conditioning mechanisms

$$\text{Attention}(\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{K}, \mathbf{V}) = \text{softmax}\left(\frac{\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{K}^\top}{\sqrt{d}}\right) \cdot \mathbf{V},$$

$$\text{with } \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{W}_Q \cdot \varphi\left(\mathbf{z}_{t_1}^{(n)} \parallel \mathbf{z}_{t_0}\right), \mathbf{K} = \mathbf{W}_K \cdot f_{\text{cond}}^{\text{EHR}}\left(\mathbf{X}_{(t_0, t_1)}^{\text{EHR}}\right), \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{W}_V \cdot f_{\text{cond}}^{\text{EHR}}\left(\mathbf{X}_{(t_0, t_1)}^{\text{EHR}}\right)$$

Capturing disease course via EHR time series:  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{aux}} := \frac{1}{M} \frac{1}{L} \sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{l=1}^L y_{ml}^{\text{CXR}} \log(\hat{y}_{ml}^{\text{CXR}}) + (1 - y_{ml}^{\text{CXR}}) \log(1 - \hat{y}_{ml}^{\text{CXR}})$

# The Proposed Method: DDL-CXR



## LDM stage: dynamic latent CXR generation

Enhancing semantic multimodal fusion via contrastive LDM learning:  $\tilde{\mathbf{E}}_{(t_0, t_1)} = (1 - \beta)\mathbf{E}_{(t_0, t_1)} + \beta\delta$ , where  $\delta \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$

LDM training loss:  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{LDM}} := \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{Z}_{t_1}, \mathbf{Z}_{t_0}, \mathbf{X}_{(t_0, t_1)}^{\text{EHR}}, \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}), n} \left[ \left\| \epsilon - \epsilon_\theta \left( \mathbf{Z}_{t_1}^{(n)}, \mathbf{Z}_{t_0}, f_{\text{cond}}^{\text{EHR}}(\mathbf{X}_{(t_0, t_1)}^{\text{EHR}}), n \right) \right\|_2^2$

$$+ \lambda_1 \max \left( \left\| \epsilon - \epsilon_\theta \left( \mathbf{Z}_{t_1}^{(n)}, \mathbf{Z}_{t_0}, \mathbf{E}_{(t_0, t_1)}, n \right) \right\|_2^2 - \left\| \epsilon - \epsilon_\theta \left( \mathbf{Z}_{t_1}^{(n)}, \mathbf{Z}_{t_0}, \tilde{\mathbf{E}}_{(t_0, t_1)}, n \right) \right\|_2^2 + \alpha, 0 \right)$$



# Results – Clinical Prediction (overall performance)

	Phenotyping		Mortality	
	AUPRC	AUROC	AUPRC	AUROC
Uni-EHR [23]	0.434 ±0.009	0.720 ±0.006	0.498 ±0.007	0.815 ±0.007
MMTM [52]	0.430 ±0.005	0.715 ±0.003	0.422 ±0.014	0.785 ±0.004
DAFT [9]	0.435 ±0.002	0.720 ±0.003	0.448 ±0.004	0.800 ±0.003
MedFuse [10]	0.437 ±0.001	0.718 ±0.002	0.443 ±0.009	0.793 ±0.003
DrFuse [13]	0.459 ±0.003	0.729 ±0.004	0.460 ±0.004	0.773 ±0.008
GAN-based [53]	0.453 ±0.010	0.728 ±0.008	0.505 ±0.018	0.816 ±0.010
DDL-CXR (ours)	<b>0.470</b> ±0.003	<b>0.740</b> ±0.002	<b>0.523</b> ±0.011	<b>0.822</b> ±0.009

## DDL-CXR obtains the best overall performance

- Generating an updated CXR is beneficial for prediction.
- Performance gain in terms of AUPRC: identifying the positive class in imbalanced medical datasets.
- Relative improvements: 2.4% (phenotype classification); 3.56% (mortality prediction)

# Results – Mortality prediction with varying time interval



- **Dynamic generation - different ranges of  $\delta$ : time interval (hour) between the prediction time and the time of last CXR.**

<i>prevalence</i>	Overall 14.7%	$\delta < 12$ 16.6%	$12 \leq \delta < 24$ 19%	$24 \leq \delta < 36$ 15.9%	$\delta \geq 36$ 9.26%
Uni-EHR [23]	0.815 $\pm$ 0.007	0.854 $\pm$ 0.010	0.799 $\pm$ 0.013	0.756 $\pm$ 0.019	0.796 $\pm$ 0.008
MMTM [52]	0.785 $\pm$ 0.004	0.798 $\pm$ 0.008	0.763 $\pm$ 0.004	0.760 $\pm$ 0.012	0.772 $\pm$ 0.014
DAFT [9]	0.800 $\pm$ 0.003	0.803 $\pm$ 0.010	0.782 $\pm$ 0.009	<b>0.776</b> $\pm$ 0.006	0.796 $\pm$ 0.008
MedFuse [10]	0.793 $\pm$ 0.003	0.812 $\pm$ 0.004	0.762 $\pm$ 0.007	0.760 $\pm$ 0.009	0.800 $\pm$ 0.010
DrFuse [13]	0.773 $\pm$ 0.008	0.802 $\pm$ 0.012	0.717 $\pm$ 0.023	0.757 $\pm$ 0.041	0.723 $\pm$ 0.013
GAN-based [53]	0.816 $\pm$ 0.010	0.846 $\pm$ 0.010	<b>0.800</b> $\pm$ 0.011	0.760 $\pm$ 0.026	0.806 $\pm$ 0.016
DDL-CXR (ours)	<b>0.822</b> $\pm$ 0.009	<b>0.867</b> $\pm$ 0.015	<b>0.800</b> $\pm$ 0.008	0.753 $\pm$ 0.015	<b>0.830</b> $\pm$ 0.011

- **DDL-CXR receives a noticeable performance increase (in AUROC) when  $\delta \geq 36$ h.**



**More details can be found at**

**Project Page**



**ArXiv**



**Poster session: Dec 12, 4:30pm – 7:30pm**

**Thank you!**