



## MOTIVATION AND BACKGROUND

- To improve diffusion sample quality and meet user requirements, two common methods are widely used:
  - Alignment:** Fine-tuning model to align it with rewards.
  - Composition:** Combining several pre-trained models, each emphasizing a desirable attribute of samples.
- Trade-off arises when optimizing for multiple rewards or combining multiple models, as they often represent competing properties.

We propose a **constrained optimization framework unifying alignment and composition** of diffusion models by imposing constraints on rewards and/or proximity to pre-trained models.

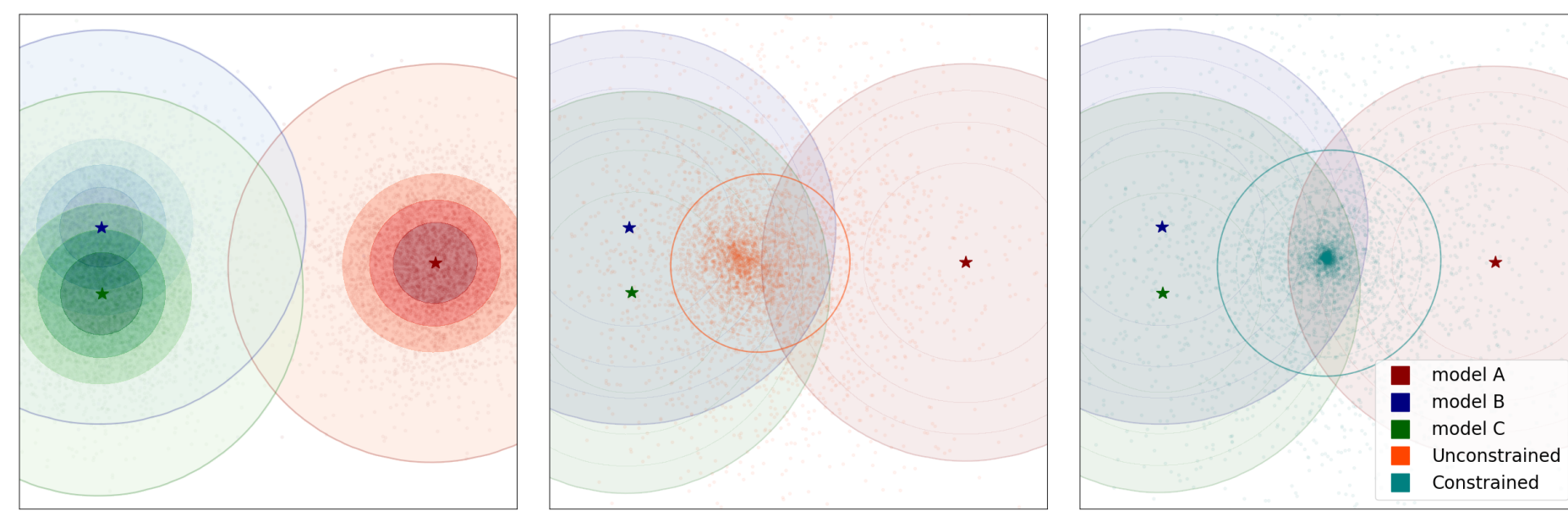
## CONSTRAINED OPTIMIZATION FRAMEWORK

### Product Composition (AND)

- Constraining the **reverse KL divergence** to multiple pre-trained models to be smaller than a common threshold.

$$\min_{p, u} u$$

$$\text{s.t. } D_{\text{KL}}(p \| q_i) \leq u \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m.$$



### Reward Alignment

- Constraining **expected rewards** to be above user-specified (or expert-chosen) thresholds while minimizing deviation from pre-trained model.

$$\min_p D_{\text{KL}}(p \| q)$$

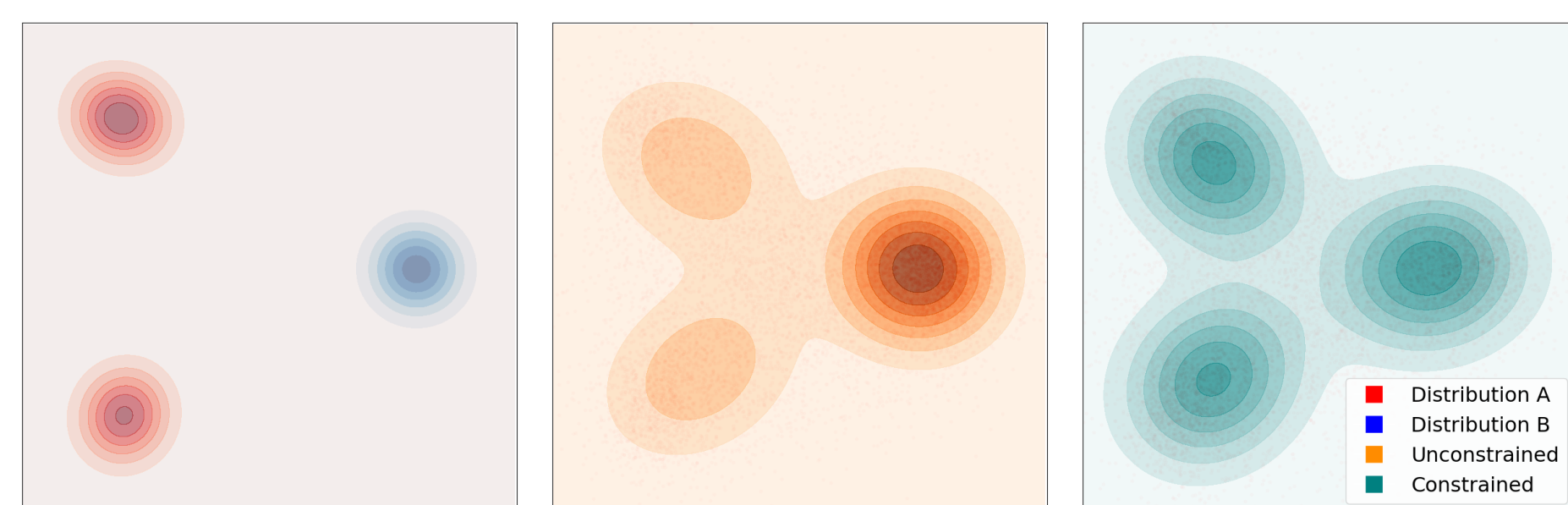
$$\text{s.t. } \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p}[r_i(x)] \geq b_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m.$$

### Mixture Composition (OR)

- Constraining the **forward KL divergence** to multiple data distributions to be smaller than a common threshold.
- We study mixture composition in our NeurIPS2024 paper [Khalafi S, Ding D, Ribeiro A. Constrained diffusion models via dual training. NeurIPS, 2024].

$$\min_{p, u} u$$

$$\text{s.t. } D_{\text{KL}}(q_i \| p) \leq u \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m.$$



## REWARD ALIGNMENT OF DIFFUSION MODELS

- Theorem 1 allows us to characterize the solution to the alignment problem in distribution space:

### Theorem 1. Reward Alignment

The constrained alignment problem can be written as:

$$\min_{p \in \mathcal{P}} D_{\text{KL}}(p \| q_{\text{rw}}^{(\lambda^*)})$$

where  $q_{\text{rw}}^{(\lambda)} \propto q \cdot e^{\lambda^T r}$ .

- The optimal dual variable  $\lambda^*$  ensures we can achieve the smallest possible objective while satisfying the constraints.
- From generic distributions to score-based diffusion models:

$$\min_{s_p} D_{\text{KL}}(p_{0:T}(\cdot; s_p) \| q_{0:T}(\cdot; s_q))$$

$$\text{s.t. } \mathbb{E}_{x_0 \sim p_{0:T}(\cdot; s_p)}[r_i(x_0)] \geq b_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m.$$

- The **path-wise** KL between the joint distributions  $p_{0:T}, q_{0:T}$  over the whole backward process is straightforward:

$$D_{\text{KL}}(p_{0:T}(\cdot; s_p) \| q_{0:T}(\cdot; s_q)) = \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim p_t(\cdot; s_p)} \left[ \frac{1}{2\sigma_t^2} \|s_p(x_t, t) - s_q(x_t, t)\|^2 \right]$$

## PRODUCT COMPOSITION OF DIFFUSION MODELS

- Theorem 2 characterizes the solution of product composition:

### Theorem 2. Product Composition

The Product Composition problem can be written as:

$$\min_{p \in \mathcal{P}} D_{\text{KL}}(p \| q_{\text{AND}}^{(\lambda^*)})$$

where  $q_{\text{AND}}^{(\lambda)} \propto \prod_{i=1}^m (q_i)^{\frac{\lambda_i}{\lambda^T \mathbf{1}}}$ .

- The composed model's support is the **intersection of the individual supports**, with  $\lambda^*$  preventing excessive deviation from any one distribution.
- From generic distributions to score-based diffusion models:

$$\min_{u, s_p} u$$

$$\text{s.t. } D_{\text{KL}}(p_0(x_0; s_p) \| q_0(x_0; s_q^i)) \leq u, i = 1, \dots, m.$$

- In constrained composition, we care about the **point-wise** KL between marginal distributions at time  $t = 0$ :  $p_0$  and  $q_0$ .

## MIXTURE COMPOSITION OF DIFFUSION MODELS

- Theorem 3 allows us to characterize the solution to the mixture composition in distribution space:

### Theorem 3. Mixture Composition

The Mixture Composition problem can be written as:

$$\min_{p \in \mathcal{P}} D_{\text{KL}}(q_{\text{mix}}^{(\lambda^*)} \| p)$$

where  $q_{\text{mix}}^{(\lambda)} = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\lambda_i}{\lambda^T \mathbf{1}} q^i(\cdot)$ .

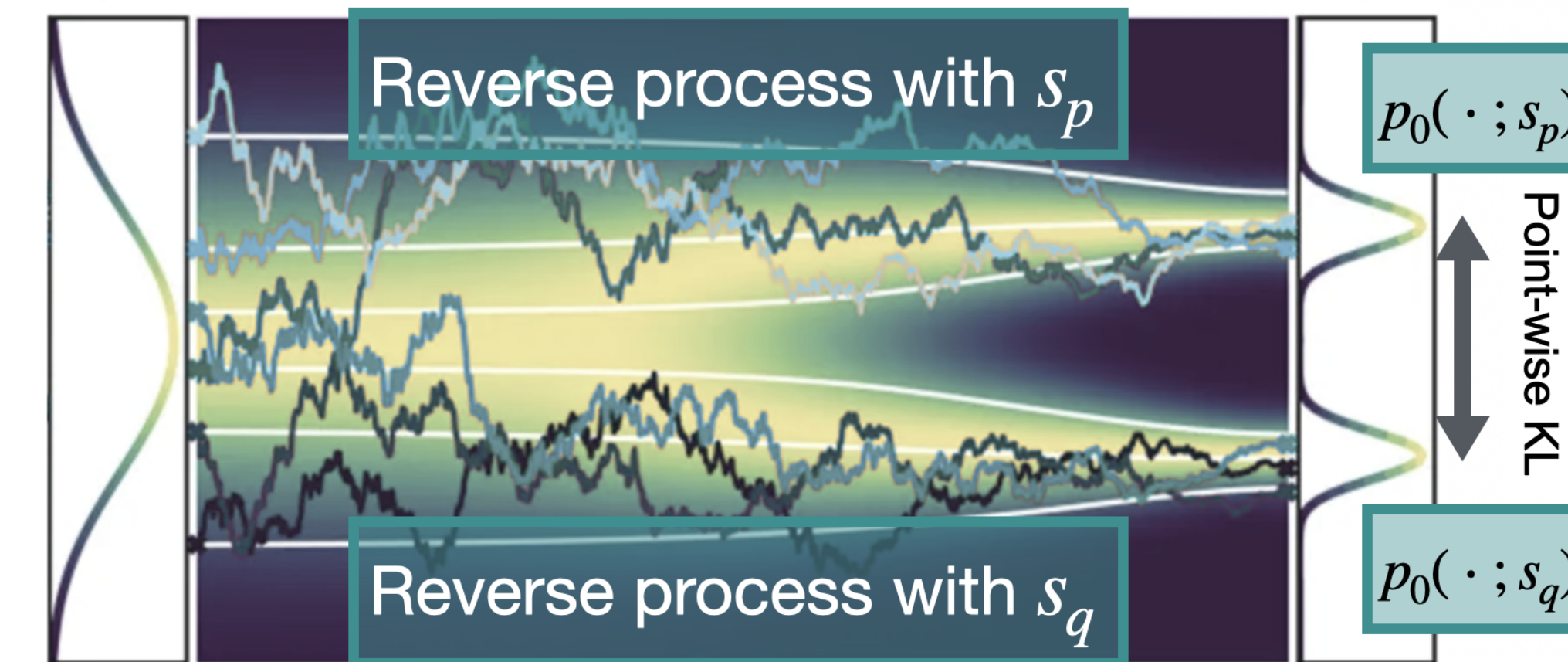
- We can characterize the optimal dual variable  $\lambda^*$ :

$$\lambda^* = \underset{\lambda \geq 0}{\operatorname{argmax}} H(q_{\text{mix}}^{(\lambda)})$$

where maximizing entropy yields the most diverse mixture.

## PATH-WISE VS POINT-WISE KL DIVERGENCE

$$X_T \quad X_{t-1} = \sqrt{\alpha_{t-1}/\alpha_t} X_t + \gamma_t s(X_t, t) + \sigma_t \epsilon_t \quad X_0$$



$$p_T(x) \longrightarrow p_t(x) \longrightarrow p_0(x)$$

- We compute the point-wise KL between sample distributions of two diffusion models via the following lemma:

### Lemma 1. Point-wise KL Computation

Consider two backward diffusion processes with score functions  $s_p(x, t)$  and  $s_q(x, t)$ . Then:

$$D_{\text{KL}}(p_0(\cdot; s_p) \| p_0(\cdot; s_q)) = \sum_{t=0}^T \tilde{\omega}_t \mathbb{E}_{x_t \sim p_t(\cdot; s_p)} \left[ \|s_p(x_t, t) - s_q(x_t, t)\|_2^2 \right] + \epsilon_T$$

where  $\tilde{\omega}_t$  is a time-dependent constant and  $\epsilon_T = \mathcal{O}(1/T)$  is a discretization error.

## PRIMAL DUAL ALGORITHM

- All three problems can be shown to exhibit **strong duality**: the optimal values of the primal and dual problems are equal, which motivates our primal-dual algorithm.
- For alignment, define the **path-wise** KL-based Lagrangian as:
 
$$L_{\text{ALI}}(p, \lambda) = D_{\text{KL}}(p_{0:T}(\cdot) \| q_{0:T}(\cdot)) - \lambda^T (\mathbb{E}_{x \sim p}[r(x)] - b).$$

- Primal Step:** Minimize the Lagrangian for fixed dual variable  $\lambda = \lambda^{(n)}$ .

$$p^{(n+1)} \in \underset{p \in \mathcal{P}}{\operatorname{argmin}} L_{\text{ALI}}(p, \lambda^{(n)}).$$

- Dual Step:** Evaluate the constraints with  $p^{(n+1)}$  and update the dual variable:

$$\lambda^{(n+1)} = \left[ \lambda^{(n)} + \eta (\mathbb{E}_{x \sim p^{(n+1)}}[r(x)] - b) \right]_+.$$

- For composition, the algorithm is similar but minimizing the Lagrangian is trickier: computing the **point-wise** KL requires  $s_p$  to be a valid score function of a diffusion process.

### Lemma 2. Point-wise KL-based Lagrangian

The Lagrangian for Constrained Composition can be written as:

$$L_{\text{AND}}(s, \lambda) = D_{\text{KL}}(p_0(x_0; s) \| q_{\text{AND}}^{(\lambda)}(x_0)) - \log Z_{\text{AND}}(\lambda).$$

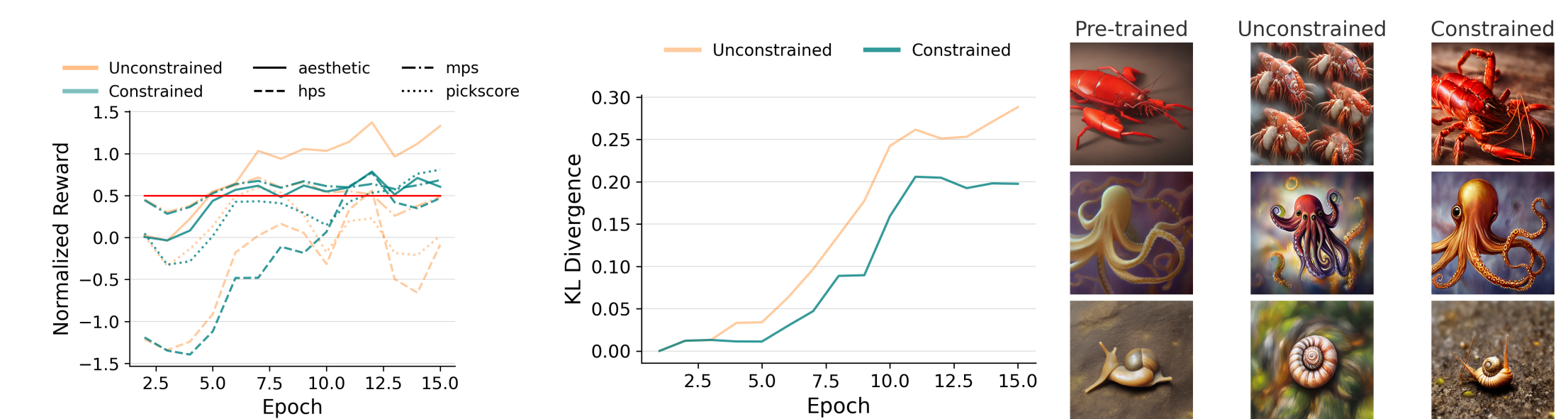
where  $Z_{\text{AND}}(\lambda)$  is a normalization factor dependent on  $\lambda$ .

- With Lemma 2, we can minimize the Lagrangian using standard score matching with samples from  $q_{\text{AND}}^{(\lambda)}$  obtained using sampling methods like Markov Chain Monte Carlo.

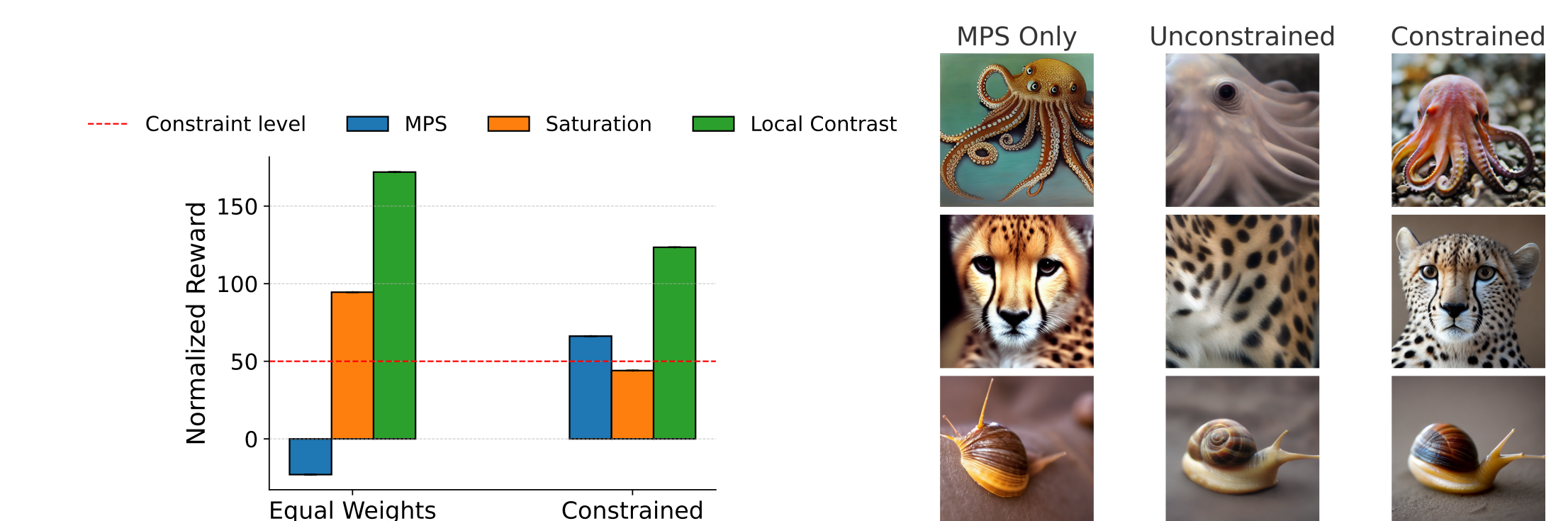
## NUMERICAL EXPERIMENTS

- Alignment with Multiple Rewards:** We align pre-trained stable diffusion with multiple rewards via constraints.

- Setting #1: Aligning with multiple aesthetic rewards.
- Constraints **minimize deviation from pre-trained** model while **satisfying reward requirements**.

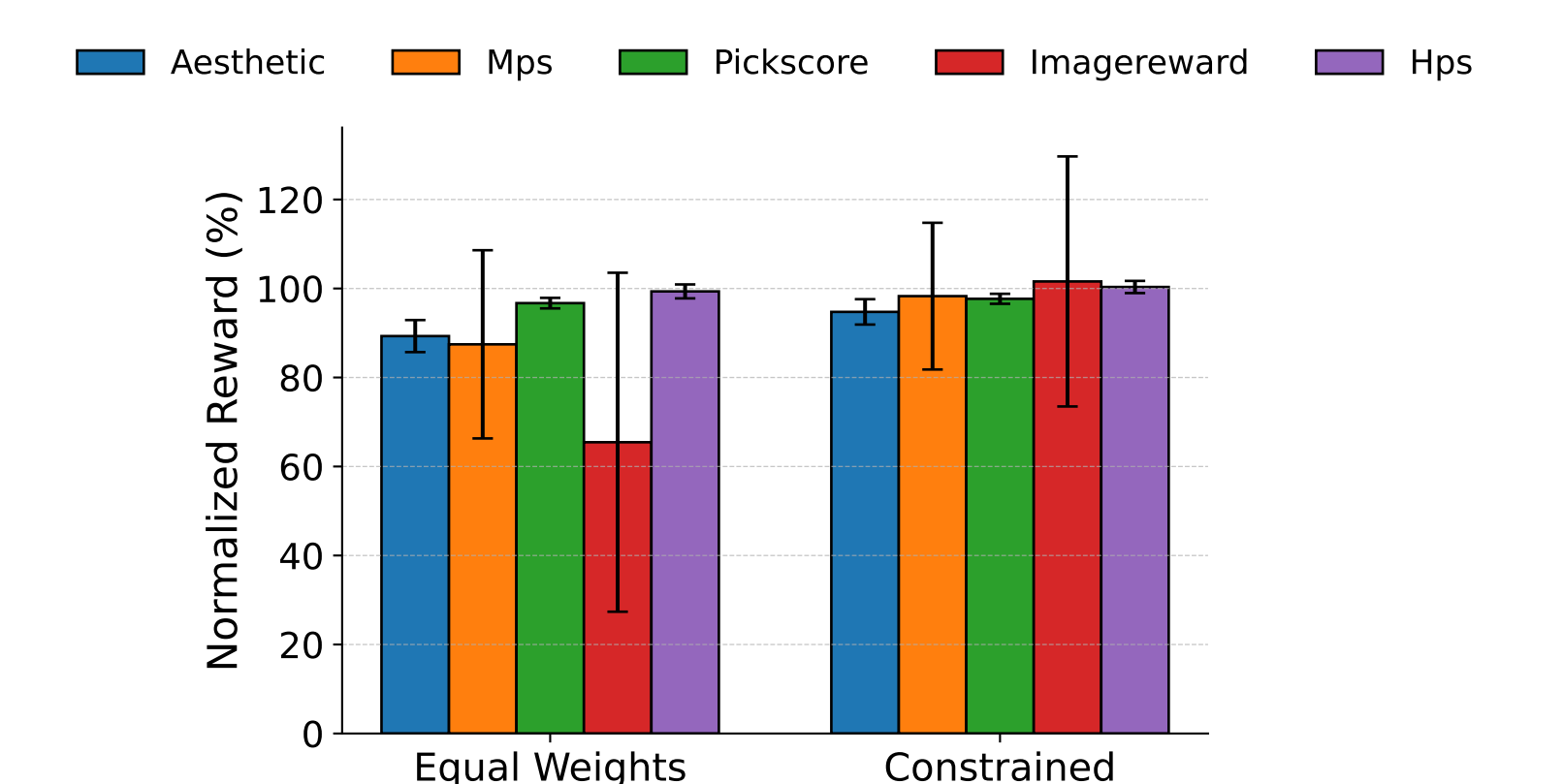


- Setting #2: We constrain saturation and contrast when aligning with a type of aesthetic reward (MPS) to images with excessively high saturation and contrast.
- Constraints enforce reward requirements, **preventing overfitting and imbalance** among multiple rewards.



- Composition of Multiple Pre-trained Models:** We compose multiple models each fine-tuned using a different reward function.

- Constraints **balance KL divergence** from each model, leading to **more uniform expected rewards** for the composed model.



- Concept Composition:** We compose stable diffusion conditioned on different prompts.

- Constraints promote **closeness** to each model, thereby reducing the chances of some concepts/models being ignored in favor of others.

	Min. CLIP (↑)	Min. BLIP (↑)
Joint Prompt	21.52	0.206
Eq. Weights	22.18	0.203
Constrained	<b>22.45</b>	<b>0.221</b>

**Above:** Average minimum CLIP and BLIP score among the composed concepts.

**Right:** Examples of concept composition, (Row 1: 'volcano', 'pineapple'), (Row 2: 'donut', 'turtle'), (Row 3: 'dandelion', 'spider-web', 'cinnamon roll').

