Investigating Conceptual Blending of a Diffusion Model for Improving Nonword-to-Image Generation Ê,



P047

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Conceptual Blending

- Diffusion models blend concepts in images^[3]
- When interpolated embedding is input
- Problem: Only qualitatively studied

CLIP Text Embedding Space



Nonword-to-Image Generation

- Generate intuitive images for **nonwords**^[1]
 - Nonwords := Non-existing words (e.g., "flike"^[2])
 - For better language understanding
 - > Nonwords can evoke impressions in humans
- Idea: Associate with similar-sounding words
 - Conceptual blending could improve intuitiveness









Concept of "calf"

Aim: Investigate conceptual blending for more intuitive nonword-to-image generation

- Experiment 1: Evaluate quantitatively how often conceptual blending emerges in diffusion models
- Experiment 2: Exploit conceptual blending for generating intuitive images for nonwords

Exp. 1: Conceptual Blending in Stable Diffusion-v1.4

- Preparation: 1,000 interpolated embeddings
 - Created by interpolating the embeddings of

two concepts





- Seed concepts: Highly-imageable English nouns
- 10 images generated for each interpolated embedding

Metric: Concept Depiction Probability

- Inspect each set of 10 generated images
- Count how often 2 or more images depict seed concepts A, B, and blended concept Concept A: "Armour" Concept B: "Spider" Blended Concept





Concepts to Detect

Result: With different interpolation ratios



Exp. 2: Conceptual Blending for Randomly Created English Nonwords^[2] Nonword: /'brɔɪn/ ("broin") Nonword: /'kæv/ ("calve") Nonword: /'blaʊəɹ/ ("blour/blower")



Blend: "calf" and "cave"

Blend: "brain" and "bone"

Blend: "flour" and "flower"

Succeeded in generating blended concepts of similar-sounding words

[1] Matsuhira et al.: Interpolating the text-to-image correspondence based on phonetic and phonological similarities for nonword-to-image generation, IEEE Access, 2024. [2] Sabattino et al., "'splink' is happy and 'phrouth' is scary: Emotion intensity analysis for nonsense words", WASSA 2022. mail: matsuhirac@cs.is.i.nagoya-u.ac.jp [3] Melzi et al., "Does Stable Diffusion dream of electric sheep?", Image Schema Day 2023.