Monkey🐵: Image Resolution and Text Label Are Important Things for Large Multi-modal Models

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Abstract

Large Multimodal Models (LMMs) have shown promise in vision-language tasks but struggle with high-resolution input and detailed scene understanding. Addressing these challenges, we introduce Monkey to enhance LMM capabilities. Firstly, Monkey processes input images by dividing them into uniform patches, each matching the size (e.g., 448×448) used in the original training of the well-trained vision encoder. Equipped with individual adapter for each patch, Monkey can handle higher resolutions up to 1344×896 pixels, enabling the detailed capture of complex visual information. Secondly, it employs a multi-level description generation method, enriching the context for scene-object associations. This two-part strategy ensures more effective learning from generated data: the higher resolution allows for a more detailed capture of visuals, which in turn enhances the effectiveness of comprehensive descriptions. Extensive ablative results validate the effectiveness of our designs. Additionally, experiments on 18 datasets further demonstrate that Monkey surpasses existing LMMs in many tasks like Image Captioning and various Visual Question Answering formats. Specially, in qualitative tests focused on dense text question answering, Monkey has exhibited encouraging results compared with GPT4V. Code is available at https://github.com/Yuliang-Liu/Monkey.
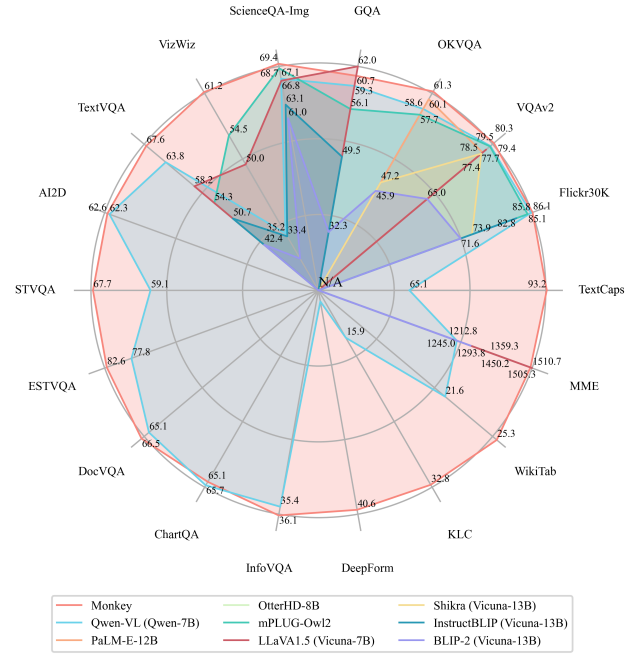
Figure 1. The performance of Monkey on a broad range of multi-modal tasks compared with existing models.

1. Introduction

The field of large multimodal models (LMMs) is advancing quickly because of their skill in handling different types of data, like images and text. Their success in various tasks, including image captioning and visual question answering, is attracting attention in the academic community.

Training LMMs benefits greatly from high-resolution images [3], because higher resolution allows these models to detect more nuanced visual details, leading to accurate recognition of objects, their interrelationships, and the broader context within the image. Additionally, the improved visual clarity of high-resolution images aids in effectively capturing and representing complex details essential for detailed captioning. Despite advancements, handling the wide range of image resolutions and training data quality is still challenging, especially in complex situations. Solutions include using pre-trained visual modules with

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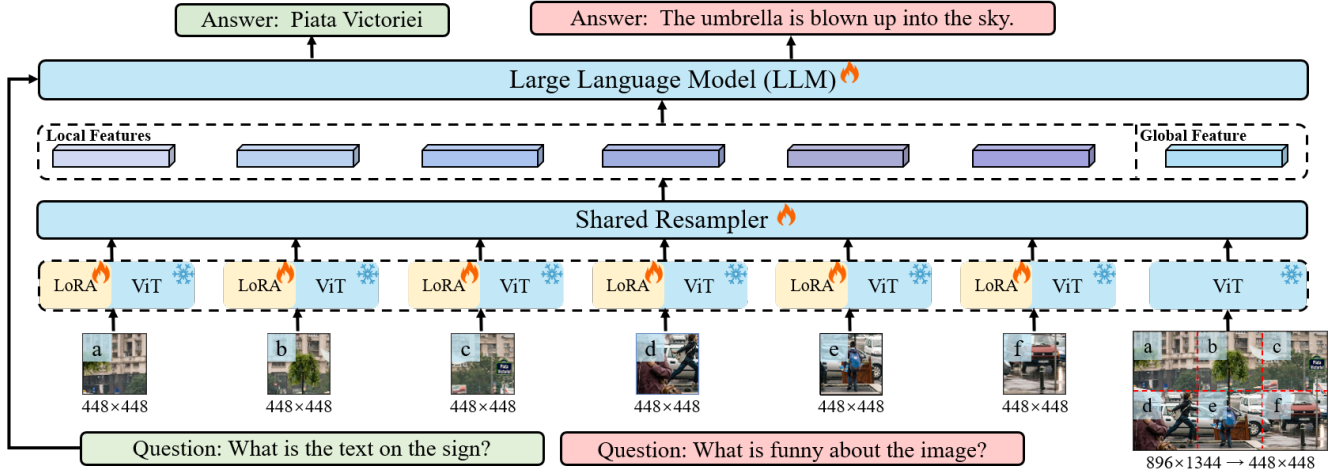[*][†]equal contribution; [*]corresponding authors

Figure 2. The overall architecture of Monkey. It enables high resolution by capturing global feature from original image and local features from divided patches. All patches are processed through the shared static Vit encoder, such as Vit-BigG with 2b parameters.

larger input resolution (like LLaVA1.5 [28]) and gradually increasing the resolution of the training process through curriculum learning (like Qwen-VL [3], PaLI-3 [10] and PaLI-X [9]) have been explored, but they demand significant training resources and still face challenges in handling larger image sizes. To fully leverage the benefits of large input resolution, it is crucial to have more detailed image descriptions, which can enhance the understanding of image-text relationships. However, the short captions in widely used datasets such as COYO [6] and LAION [43] are usually intuitively insufficient.

We introduce Monkey, a resource-efficient approach to increase input resolution within the Large Multimodal Model frameworks. Compared to the approach of directly interpolating the ViT to increase input resolution, Monkey utilizes a new module that divides high-resolution images into smaller patches using a sliding window method. Each patch is processed independently by a static visual encoder, enhanced with LoRA [18] adjustments and a trainable visual resampler. This technique leverages existing LMMs while circumventing the need for extensive pre-training. The key idea is that these encoders are typically trained on smaller resolutions (like 448×448), which is costly to train from scratch. By resizing each patch to its supported resolution, we maintain the training data distribution for the encoder. Our method, which uses various trainable patches to enhance resolution, shows a clear advantage over traditional interpolation techniques for positional embedding, as demonstrated by our quantitative analysis.

To further leverage the advantage of large resolution, we have also proposed an automatic multi-level description generation method. This method is designed to produce high-quality, abundant caption data by seamlessly combining insights from multiple generators. It utilizes the strengths of a diverse array of advanced systems: BLIP2 [27], known for its nuanced image-text understanding; PPOCR [14], a robust optical character recognition system; GRIT [51], which excels in granular image-text alignments; SAM [24], a dynamic model for semantic alignment; and ChatGPT [39], an AI renowned for its contextual understanding and language generation capabilities. By integrating the unique capabilities of these systems, our method offers a comprehensive and layered approach to caption generation, capturing a wide spectrum of visual details.

We summarize the advantages of the Monkey as follows:

1. **Support resolution up to 1344×896 without pretraining**. By going beyond the usual 448×448 resolution used in LMMs, the higher resolution helps to better identify and understand small or closely grouped objects and dense text.
2. **Contextual associations**. We introduce a multi-level description generation method that improves the model's ability to grasp the relationships among multiple targets and more effectively utilize common knowledge in generating text descriptions.
3. **Performance enhancements on many evaluation datasets**. As shown in Fig. 1, we carried out testing across 18 diverse datasets, leading to a very competitive performance by our Monkey model in tasks such as Image Captioning, General Visual Question Answering, Scene Text-centric Visual Question Answering, and Document-oriented Visual Question Answering. In particular, during qualitative evaluations centered on dense text question answering, Monkey has shown promising results, comparing with GPT4V.
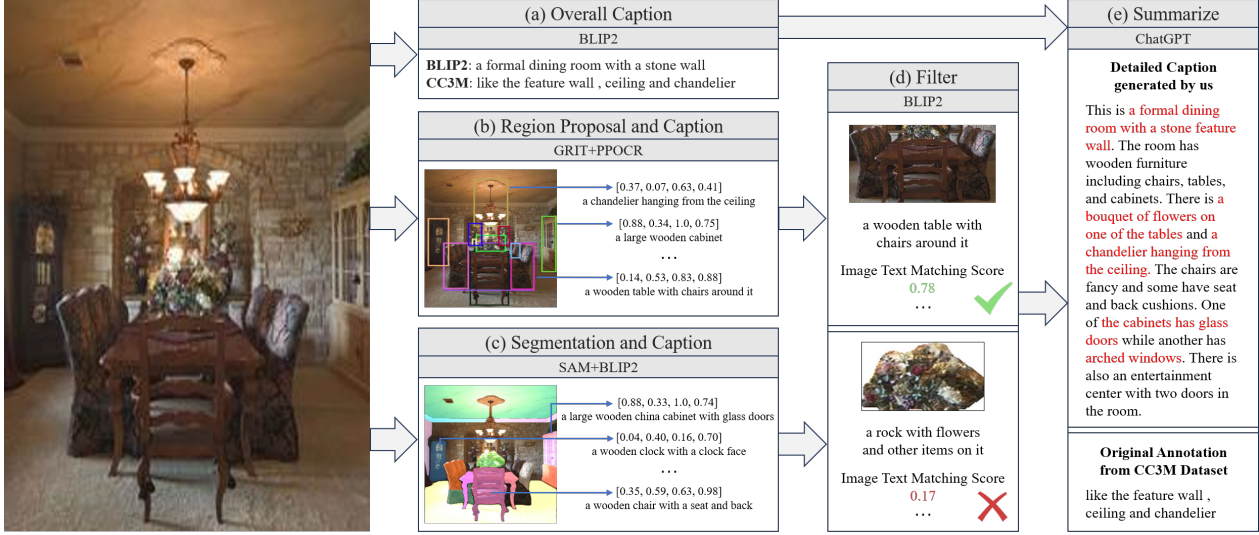
Figure 3. The pipeline for multi-level description generation for images.

2. Related Work

The Large Multimodal Models (LMMs) field has seen significant progress, particularly in enhancing visual and language processing. Methods like Flamingo [1] and OpenFlamingo [2] have advanced visual representation by integrating a Perceiver Resampler with vision encoders. BLIP2 [27] employs a Q-Former to link the frozen LLM and vision encoder. Unified-IO [32] demonstrates versatility by training across over 80 diverse datasets, widening its domain applicability. PaLM-E [13] adopts a unique approach by treating images and text as "multimodal sentences" to improve visual-language tasks. MiniGPT4 [57] bridges visual modules and LLMs, enhancing multimodal capabilities. InstructBLIP [12], starting from BLIP2, adds instructional inputs to the Q-Former for task-relevant visual features. MME [15] introduces a benchmark for evaluating LMMs' perception and cognition.

Additionally, there has been significant progress in leveraging large language models. The LLaVA series, including LLaVA [29] and LLaVA1.5 [28], align vision encoders and LLMs for better image-text understanding. mPLUG-Owl [53] focuses on fine-tuning with mixed text and visual-text data. mPLUG-Owl2 [54] introduces shared modules for better modality collaboration. KOSMOS-2 [42] enables visual answers like detection boxes. Shikra [7] specializes in Referential Dialogue, adept at processing positional inputs and outputs. BLiVA [19] combines task-related and global features for enhanced multimodal task processing. Qwen-VL [3] improves visual module resolution to 448. OtterHD [26] fine-tunes Fuyu-8B [4] with instruction/response pairs, maintaining the original image size during inference.

Despite these advancements, challenges remain in extracting finer image features, as noted by [30, 52], which indicate the need for ongoing development in the field.

3. Methods

Fig. 2 illustrates the comprehensive architecture of Monkey. Initially, the input image is segmented into patches. These patches are then processed through a shared Vision Transformer (ViT) equipped with distinct adapters. Subsequently, both local and global features, along with the question, are processed using the shared resampler and the Large Language Model (LLM), resulting in the generation of the desired answers.

3.1. Enhancing Input Resolution

Input resolution is crucial for accurately interpreting text and detailed image features. Previous studies [3, 10] have shown the effectiveness of starting with smaller resolutions and progressively advancing to larger ones through curriculum learning. However, this approach can be highly resource-demanding, often necessitating comprehensive pretraining with large-scale data (as seen in Qwen-VL, which supports resolutions up to 448×448). To address these issues and efficiently enhance resolution, we introduce a simple yet more effective technique.

Given an image $I \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times W \times 3}$, we employ a sliding window $W \in \mathbb{R}^{H_v \times W_v}$ (where H_v, W_v denote the supported resolution of the original LMM) to partition the image into smaller, local sections. We also leverage LoRA [18] within each shared encoder to address the varied visual elements in different parts of an image. This integration of LoRA is to help our encoders to recognize and assimilate detail-

sensitive features from each image area effectively, which enhances the understanding of spatial and contextual relationships without a substantial increase in parameters or computational demand.

To preserve the overall structural information of input image, we resize the original image to dimensions (H_v, W_v), maintaining it as a global image. Following this, both the individual patches and the global image are processed through the visual encoder and resampler concurrently. Here, the visual resampler, inspired by Flamingo [1], is a mechanism that performs two main functions: summarizing visual information and obtaining higher semantic visual representations in a language feature space. It achieves this by leveraging a cross-attention module. The module employs trainable vectors (embeddings) as query vectors, along with image features from the visual encoder serving as keys for cross-attention operations.

This approach strikes a balance between detailed and holistic perspectives of the images, thereby enhancing the model performance while avoiding a substantial increase in computational demand.

3.2. Multi-level Description Generation

Previous models such as LLaVA [29] and Qwen-VL [3] used large datasets like LAION [43], COYO [6], and CC3M [44] for their initial training. However, these datasets often offer image-text pairs that are too simple (e.g., one short sentence to describe a complicated image), lacking in detailed imagery. As a result, even when these models are trained with high-resolution images, they struggle to accurately link visual features with basic captions. This limitation affects the models to effectively combine visual processing with language understanding.

To bridge this gap, we develop a novel approach for generating multi-level descriptions automatically. This technique is designed to create rich and high-quality caption data by effectively blending the outputs from various generators. We utilize a combination of several advanced systems, each bringing its own strength to the process: BLIP2 [27], which provides a deep understanding of the relationship between images and text; PPOCR [14], a strong performer in optical character recognition; GRIT [51], specializing in detailed image-text matching; SAM [24], focused on semantic alignment; and ChatGPT [39], known for its exceptional ability in contextual language generation.

As shown in Fig. 3, the image description process begins with BLIP2 creating overall captions using a Q-former for tight integration with the vision encoder and LLM, while retaining original CC3M annotations for context. Next, GRIT, a region-to-text model, generates detailed descriptions of specific regions, objects, and their characteristics. PPOCR extracts text from the images, and SAM segments and identifies objects and their parts. These objects are then

Task	Dataset	Smaples
Image Caption	Detailed Caption	213k
	COCO Caption [22]	82k
	TextCaps [45]	109k
General VQA	VQAV2 [16]	100k
	OKVQA [34]	18k
	GQA [20]	150k
	ScienceQA [33]	18k
	VizWiz [17]	20k
Scene Text-centric VQA	TextVQA [46]	34k
	OCRVQA [38]	250k
	AI2D [23]	24k
Doc-oriented VQA	DocVQA [36]	118k
	ChartQA [35]	84k
	InfoVQA [37]	47k
	DeepForm [48]	7k
	KLC [47]	27k
	WTQ [41]	28k
	TabFact [8]	91k
	VisualMRC [49]	21k
Total	-	1.44m

Table 1. Details on the Monkey training data, derived entirely from publicly available datasets.

individually described by BLIP2. However, to counter potential inaccuracies from these tools, especially in zero-shot settings, we find it essential to further use BLIP2 to check for consistency between image areas, objects, and their descriptions, filtering out low-scoring matches. Finally, all data, including global captions, localized descriptions, text extracts, and object details with spatial coordinates, are fed into the ChatGPT API for fine-tuning, enabling ChatGPT to generate accurate and contextually rich image descriptions.

By merging the unique features of these systems, our approach achieves a layered and comprehensive style of caption creation. It captures an extensive range of visual and textual nuances, resulting in captions that are not just elaborate, but also contextually diverse and engaging.

3.3. Multi-task Training

Our goal is to train a model that is both cost-effective and capable of understanding different types of images for various tasks. By integrating various datasets and employing uniform instructions for all tasks, as guided by [3], we enhance the model's learning ability and training efficiency.

We focus on tasks such as creating image captions, responding to image-based questions, and other activities requiring the model to process both text and images. For captioning, we instruct the model with "Generate the caption in English:" for basic captions, and "Generate the detailed caption in English:" for more intricate ones. When it comes to answering questions about images, we use a straightfor-

Model	Image Caption		General VQA				
	Flickr30K	TextCaps	VQAv2	OKVQA	GQA	ScienceQA	VizWiz
Flamingo-80B [1]	67.2	-	56.3	50.6	-	-	31.6
Palm-E-12B [13]	-	-	77.7	<u>60.1</u>	-	-	-
BLIP-2 (Vicuna-13B) [27]	71.6	-	65.0	45.9	32.3	61.0	19.6
InstructBLIP (Vicuna-13B) [12]	82.8	-	-	-	49.5	63.1	33.4
Shikra (Vicuna-13B) [7]	73.9	-	77.4	47.2	-	-	-
mPLUG-Owl2 [54]	85.1	-	79.4	57.7	56.1	<u>68.7</u>	<u>54.5</u>
LLaVA1.5 (Vicuna-7B) [28]	-	-	78.5	-	**62.0**	66.8	50.0
Qwen-VL(Qwen-7B) [3]	<u>85.8</u>	<u>65.1</u>	<u>79.5</u>	58.6	59.3	67.1	35.2
Qwen-VL-Chat [3]	81.0	-	78.2	56.6	57.5	68.2	38.9
Monkey	**86.1**	**93.2**	**80.3**	**61.3**	<u>60.7</u>	**69.4**	**61.2**

Table 2. Results on Image Caption and General VQA.

Model	TextVQA	AI2D	STVQA	ESTVQA
Pix2Struct-Large [25]	-	42.1	-	-
BLIP-2 [27]	42.4	-	-	-
InstructBLIP [12]	50.7	-	-	-
mPLUG-DocOwl [53]	52.6	-	-	-
mPLUG-Owl2 [54]	54.3	-	-	-
Qwen-VL [3]	<u>63.8</u>	<u>62.3</u>	<u>59.1</u>	<u>77.8</u>
Qwen-VL-Chat [3]	61.5	57.7	-	-
LLaVA-1.5 [28]	58.2	-	-	-
Monkey	**67.6**	**62.6**	**67.7**	**82.6**

Table 3. Results on Scene Text-centric VQA.

Model	DocVQA	ChartQA	InfoVQA	DeepForm	KLC	WTQ
Qwen-VL	65.1	**65.7**	35.4	4.1	15.9	21.6
Monkey	**66.5**	65.1	**36.1**	**40.6**	**32.8**	**25.3**

Table 4. Results on Doc-oriented VQA.

ward format: "{question} Answer: {answer}."

In our training process, we use a variety of public datasets tailored to specific tasks. For image captioning, we include both our own detailed captions and established datasets like COCO caption [22] and TextCaps [45]. For general Visual Question Answering (VQA), we utilize datasets such as VQAV2 [16], OKVQA [34], GQA [20], ScienceQA [33], and VizWiz [17]. For Text-centric VQA tasks, we select TextVQA [46], OCRVQA [38], and AI2D [23]; while for document-related VQA, we employ datasets like DocVQA [36], ChartQA [35], InfoVQA [37], DeepForm [48], Kleister Charity (KLC) [47], WikiTable-Questions (WTQ) [41], TableFact [8], and VisualMRC [49]. We use our multi-level description generation method to regenerate around 427k image-text pairs from the CC3M dataset, previously used in LLaVA's pretraining phase. To ensure balanced training, we control the image count for each task as detailed in Tab. 1. Our compiled dataset,

with around 1.44 million examples, is designed to train our model effectively in understanding and executing various instructions.

4. Experiment

We evaluate our model by testing it across a spectrum of standard vision-language tasks, including the generation of image descriptions, answering diverse visual questions, and comprehending targeted phrases in images.

4.1. Implementation Details

Model Configuration. We conduct experiments based on the well-trained Vit-BigG [21] and LLM from Qwen-VL [3], the pre-trained large multimodal model. Since the vision encoder has already been well pretrained, we proceed directly to the instruction-tuning stage. During instruction tuning, H_v, W_v are set to 448 to match the encoder of Qwen-VL. We employ a consistent resampler across all crops. The learnable queries engage with local features, utilizing the same set of 256 learnable queries for each crop. Due to limitations in training time, our main experiments were mainly conducted using images of size 896×896 unless specify. For LoRA, we set the rank to 16 for the attention module and 32 for MLP in the encoder. Monkey includes 7.7B parameters for a large language model, with 90M parameters for the resampling module, an encoder with 1.9B parameters, and 117M parameters for LoRA. The overall parameters for Monkey is 9.8B.

Training. During the training process, we utilize the AdamW optimizer [31] with a learning rate of 1e-5 and the cosine learning rate schedule. Additionally, we set the values of β_1 and β_2 to 0.9 and 0.95, respectively. We incorporate a warmup period of 100 steps and employ a batch size of 1024. To control overfitting, we apply a weight decay of 0.1. The whole training process takes 40 A800 days for one epoch.

	Resolution	LoRA	Throughout	FLOPS (e20)	VQAv2	GQA	TextVQA	STVQA	DocVQA	DeepForm	InfoVQA	WTQ
r1	896×896*	0	43.452	1.608	74.1	55.2	44.7	41.5	53.9	11.4	32.7	16.8
r2	896×896*	1	37.429	1.614	71.4	54.0	41.7	38.5	47.5	7.2	31.5	17.1
r3	672×672	4	43.604	1.617	80.0	59.6	67.3	_67.2_	66.4	31.3	35.9	25.0
r4	784×784	4	42.851	1.617	79.9	59.8	67.5	**67.7**	_66.5_	38.9	35.5	25.1
r5	896×1344	6	28.542	1.622	80.1	_61.1_	67.3	66.7	66.3	**42.3**	**39.6**	**26.6**
r6	1344×896	6	28.842	1.622	_80.2_	**61.8**	**67.7**	66.3	64.5	_41.4_	35.7	25.2
r7	896×896	0	49.634	1.613	80.1	60.4	67.5	65.1	66.1	36.8	36.1	24.9
r8	896×896	1	42.885	1.614	80.0	60.3	_67.6_	67.0	**66.7**	36.9	_36.5_	24.7
r9	896×896	4	42.542	1.617	**80.3**	60.7	_67.6_	**67.7**	_66.5_	40.6	36.1	_25.3_

Table 5. Ablation study on enhancing input resolution and the number of trainable adapters using Qwen-VL (originally trained using 448×448). * refers to directly scaling the input size of the visual encoder from 448 to 896 using traditional positional position interpolation.

4.2. Results

We report the results on Image Caption, General VQA, Scene Text-centric VQA, and Document-oriented VQA. We also conduct testing on the MME benchmark and achieve a perception score of 1505.3, ranking second, as shown in Fig. 1. The details of each dataset can be found in Appendix.

Image Caption. Image captioning is vital for connecting visual content with the understanding of natural language. In our study, we select Flickr30K [55] and TextCaps [45] as the benchmark for testing the image captioning task. TextCaps challenges the model to interpret and reason text within images effectively. We present our model's performance on Flickr30K and TextCaps in Tab. 2, where the results indicate that Monkey demonstrates enhanced performance on these datasets. We also qualitatively show effectiveness of our method in offering detailed image descriptions in Sec. 4.4 and Appendix.

General VQA. General visual question answering (VQA) requires ability to learn visual and textual information, showing a deep understanding of how they interrelate. For General VQA, we validate on five benchmarks: VQAv2 [16], OKVQA [34], GQA [20], ScienceQA [33], and VizWiz [17]. The performance results are shown in Tab. 2. Our model shows remarkable proficiency in VQAV2, OKVQA, ScienceQA, and VizViz, surpassing the nearest competing method by an average of 1.62%. These results highlight the effectiveness of our method, emphasizing its use of high input resolution and detailed data.

Scene Text-centric VQA. Text information is commonly found in real-world scenes, making the ability to answer questions about text in images a crucial aspect of question-answering tasks. For our evaluation, we employ four datasets: TextVQA [46], AI2D [23], STVQA [5], and ESTVQA [50]. The results, shown in Tab. 3, indicate that our model leads in performance on these datasets, outperforming the nearest competitor by an average of 4.37%. Based on our observation, this enhanced performance is mainly attributed to the increased image resolution, which brings smaller text and finer details into clearer view. Moreover, the inclusion of detailed caption data during training provides valuable textual context, further boosting the robustness of the model.

Document-oriented VQA. Despite the clean backgrounds of documents, their densely packed text poses distinct challenges. To effectively evaluate our model, we select representative benchmarks including DocVQA [36], ChartQA [35], InfographicVQA [37], DeepForm [48], KLC [47], and WTQ [41]. The results, as detailed in Tab. 4, show that Monkey surpasses Qwen-VL in most Document-oriented VQA tasks, achieving an averagely significant improvement of 9.77%. The higher resolution of documents reveals more intricate details and a denser concentration of information. Monkey's capability to process larger input resolutions enhances its spatial perception, thereby improving its recognition and comprehension of various document elements like text, charts, infographics, and forms.

4.3. Ablation Study

We conduct thorough experiments to validate the effectiveness of our designs.

Ablation study on strategies of enhancing input resolution. We first evaluate the existing technique of improving input resolution, as illustrated in Tab. 5. Resizing the visual encoder using traditional positional position interpolation to a size of 896 results in worse performance compared with our method under the same settings (r1 vs. r9). Interestingly, applying LoRA to the encoder for this traditional interpolation method appears to be less effective than not using it (r1 vs. r2). This may due to the inherited parameters from the previous encoder are specifically tuned by lower resolution, changing it by force may necessitate more training resources.

For our method (r3-r9), as we increase the input size, there is a noticeable boost in performance, especially demonstrated in the DeepForm dataset. It can be observed that adding LORA does not significantly increase FLOPs
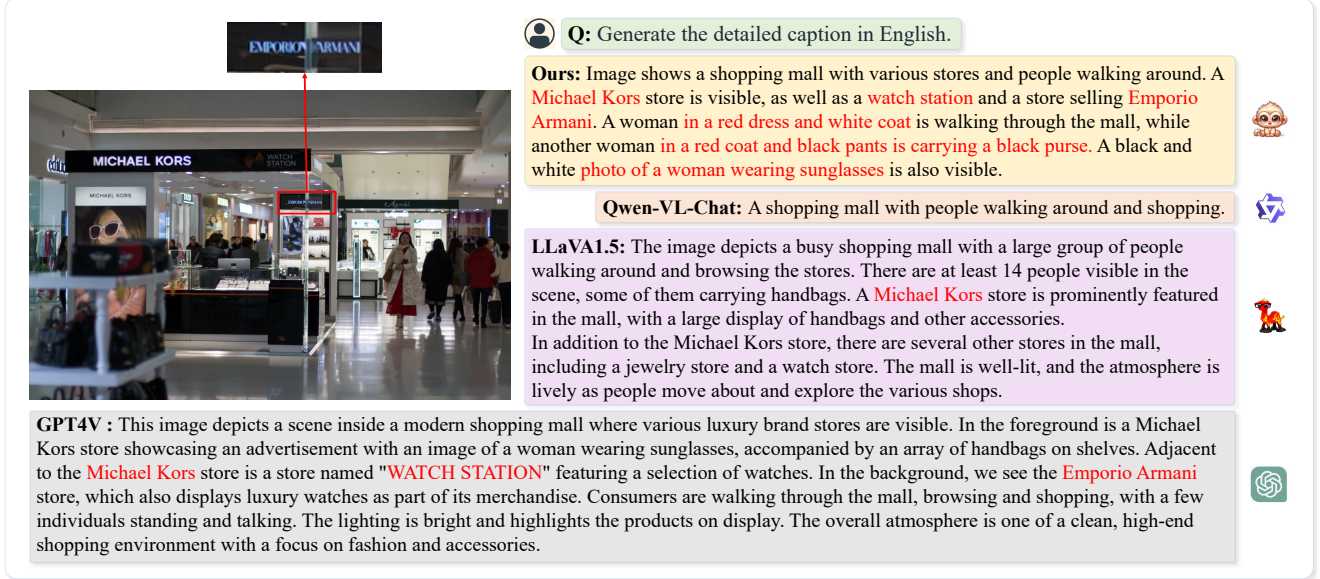
Q: Generate the detailed caption in English.

Ours: Image shows a shopping mall with various stores and people walking around. A Michael Kors store is visible, as well as a watch station and a store selling Emporio Armani. A woman in a red dress and white coat is walking through the mall, while another woman in a red coat and black pants is carrying a black purse. A black and white photo of a woman wearing sunglasses is also visible.

Qwen-VL-Chat: A shopping mall with people walking around and shopping.

LLaVA1.5: The image depicts a busy shopping mall with a large group of people walking around and browsing the stores. There are at least 14 people visible in the scene, some of them carrying handbags. A Michael Kors store is prominently featured in the mall, with a large display of handbags and other accessories.
In addition to the Michael Kors store, there are several other stores in the mall, including a jewelry store and a watch store. The mall is well-lit, and the atmosphere is lively as people move about and explore the various shops.

GPT4V : This image depicts a scene inside a modern shopping mall where various luxury brand stores are visible. In the foreground is a Michael Kors store showcasing an advertisement with an image of a woman wearing sunglasses, accompanied by an array of handbags on shelves. Adjacent to the Michael Kors store is a store named "WATCH STATION" featuring a selection of watches. In the background, we see the Emporio Armani store, which also displays luxury watches as part of its merchandise. Consumers are walking through the mall, browsing and shopping, with a few individuals standing and talking. The lighting is bright and highlights the products on display. The overall atmosphere is one of a clean, high-end shopping environment with a focus on fashion and accessories.

Figure 4. Visualization comparisons with existing LMMs on Detailed Caption task. Accurate and specific descriptions ar marked in red. More examples refer to Appendix.

and the use of one LORA or four LORAs results in a minimal difference in throughput (r7-r9). The model's ability to discern intricate details and sharper images enhances its understanding of visual aspects such as objects, shapes, and textures, thereby improving its overall visual perception. When we further push the input resolution to 1344×896, which is the highest resolution the device can support, the model shows further improvements on high-resolution datasets like DeepForm, InfoVQA, and WTQ, as detailed in Tab. 5. However, we can note that for some datasets, such as TextVQA, using the largest resolution results in a slight decline in performance; nevertheless, the original average resolution in the TextVQA dataset is around 950 pixels in width and 811 pixels in height, further increasing its input resolution seems unnecessary for these images.

Furthermore, as shown in Tab. 6, we consistently demonstrate the effectiveness of our method on LLaVA1.5. Impressively, we noticed significant improvements when we increased the input resolution from 224 to 448, demonstrating the efficiency of our approach.

Trainable Adapters. As shown in Tab. 5, reducing the LoRA number causes a performance decrease. Using one LoRA for all patches compared to not using LoRA provides a better perception of local details (r7 vs. r8), especially with a significant improvement in STVQA. Utilizing four LoRA modules leads to a better performance, which may because this approach enables the model to learn a better understanding of the spatial relationships and contextual information within distinct image regions.

Collaboration between High Resolution and Multi-

Res.	PT	GQA	TextVQA	MMVet
224	CC3M	62	56.1	33.2
224	Ours	62.1(+0.1)	56.3(+0.2)	33.7(+0.5)
336	CC3M	63.4	59.8	33.5
336	Ours	63.7 **(+0.3)**	60.4(+0.6)	36.1 **(+2.6)**
448	CC3M	64.3	60.2	33.6
448	Ours	64.6 **(+0.3)**	62.0 **(+1.8)**	36.2 **(+2.6)**

Table 6. Ablation study on LLaVA1.5. "Res." denotes resolution. "PT" refers to pretrain data.

level Description. To validate the collaboration between High Resolution and Multi-level Description, we conduct ablation studies on LLaVA1.5. We employ a ViT-L as our vision encoder and Vicuna13B [11] as the language model. By replacing the original annotation from CC3M with our generated annotations in the pretraining, we consistently achieved better results on GQA, TextVQA and MMVet [56], as demonstrated in Tab. 6. Furthermore, we have observed that detailed descriptions consistently yield greater performance enhancements at resolutions of 336 and 448, compared to a resolution of 224. In Appendix, we provide visualization results for Monkey at different resolutions. These results show that models with high resolution shines when trained with more comprehensive descriptions.

4.4. Visualization

In a side-by-side qualitative analysis, we compared Monkey with GPT4V and other LMMs on a task of generating
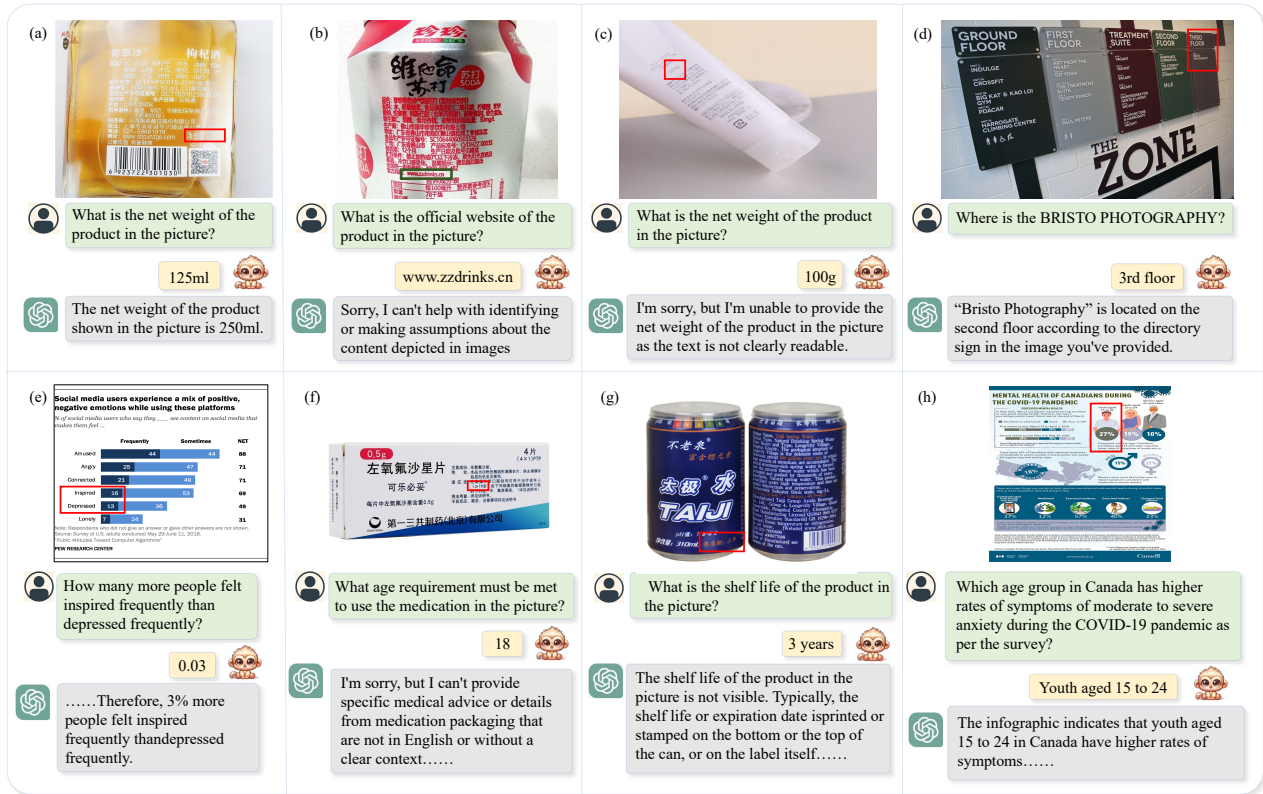
Figure 5. On some testing samples with dense text, Monkey has demonstrated impressive performance when compared to GPT4V.

detailed captions. The results, illustrated in Fig. 4, demonstrate Monkey's superior capability in providing exhaustive descriptions of images. For instance, in the image from Fig. 4, both Monkey and GPT4V successfully identified an "Emporio Armani" store in the background. Moreover, Monkey went further in detailing various elements in the scene, such as describing "another woman in a red coat and black pants carrying a black purse".

Additionally, as shown in Fig. 5, we qualitatively observe that in many cases for understanding complex text-based inquiries, Monkey has shown impressive performance when compared to GPT4V. More visualization results of Monkey can be found in Appendix.

4.5. Limitation

The capability of our method to process input images is constrained to a maximum of six patches due to the limited input length of the language model. This restriction hampers the further expansion of input resolution.

Moreover, for the multi-level description generation approach, it is capable of describing only the scene presented in the image and its scope is bound by the world knowledge encapsulated in BLIP2 and the original CC3M annotations. For instance, when provided with a photo of a location in a country, the method can describe the visual aspects of the

scene, but it lacks the ability to identify and specify that the scene is indeed in which country.

5. Conclusion

This paper proposes a training-efficient approach to effectively improve the input resolution capacity up to 1344×896 pixels without pretraining from the start. To bridge the gap between simple text labels and high input resolution, we propose a multi-level description generation method, which automatically provides rich information that can guide the model to learn the contextual association between scenes and objects. With the synergy of these two designs, our model achieved excellent results on multiple benchmarks. By comparing our model with various LMMs, including GPT4V, our model demonstrates promising performance in image captioning by paying attention to textual information and capturing fine details within the images; its improved input resolution also enables remarkable performance in document images with dense text.

Acknowledgements

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A. Summary of the Evaluation Benchmarks.

We present a comprehensive overview of the evaluation benchmarks utilized, along with their corresponding metrics in Tab. 7. For the Image Caption task, we selected two datasets: Flickr30K [55], which is an image caption dataset for natural images, and TextCaps [45], which is an image caption dataset for natural images with text. For general Visual Question Answering (VQA), we chose five commonly used datasets. VQAV2 [16] is an open-ended VQA dataset focused on natural images, while OKVQA [34] requires additional world knowledge. GQA [20] is a dataset designed for real-world visual reasoning and compositional question answering. ScienceQA [33] involves multimodal multiple-choice VQA on science topics, and VizWiz [17] aims to answer questions from blind individuals. In the domain of Scene Text-centric VQA, our selection includes TextVQA [46], AI2Diagram [23], STVQA [5], and ESTVQA [50]. AI2D is a multiple-choice VQA dataset that focuses on science diagrams, while the others involve reading and reasoning about text in natural images. For the STVQA and ESTVQA datasets, we followed the split provided by [30]. Regarding Doc-oriented VQA, we encompass various document images, including documents, charts, infographics, reports, and HTML tables. In the case of DeepForm [48] and KLC [47], we transform the Key Information Extraction task into a Visual Question Answering (VQA) task. Additionally, we evaluate Monkey on the MME benchmark [15], which measures perception and cognition abilities. Furthermore, for the ablation study on LLaVA1.5 [28], we adhere to the evaluation settings specified by LLaVA1.5.

Task	Dataset	Description	Split	Metric
Image Caption	Flickr30K [55]	Image caption for natural images	karpathy-test	CIDEr(↑)
	TextCaps [45]	Image caption for natural images with text	val	CIDEr(↑)
General VQA	VQAv2 [16]	Open-ended VQA about natural images	val	VQA Score(↑)
	OKVQA [34]	VQA involving world knowledge on natural images	val	VQA Score(↑)
	GQA [20]	Real-world visual reasoning and compositional question answering	test-dev	Accuracy(↑)
	ScienceQA [33]	Multimodal multiple choice VQA on science topics	test	Accuracy(↑)
	VizWiz [17]	Answering visual questions from blind people	val	VQA Score(↑)
Scene Text-centric VQA	TextVQA [46]	VQA involving reading and reasoning about text	val	VQA Score(↑)
	AI2Diagram [23]	Multiple choice VQA on science diagrams	test	Accuracy(↑)
	STVQA [5]	VQA involving reading and reasoning about text	test*	ANLS(↑)
	ESTVQA [50]	VQA involving reading and reasoning about text	test(English)*	ANLS(↑)
Doc-oriented VQA	DocVQA [36]	VQA on document images	test	ANLS(↑)
	ChartQA [35]	VQA on charts with visual and logical reasoning	test	Relaxed Accuracy(↑)
	InfoVQA [37]	VQA on infographic images	test	ANLS(↑)
	DeepForm [48]	Key Information Extraction on charity organizations' reports	test	Accuracy(↑)
	KLC [47]	Key Information Extraction on documents related to election spending	test	Accuracy(↑)
	WTQ [41]	VQA on semi-structured HTML tables sourced from Wikipedia	test	Accuracy(↑)
Evaluation Benchmark	MME [15]	Evaluation benchmark measuring perception and cognition abilities	Perception	Accuracy (↑)

Table 7. Summary of the evaluation benchmarks.

B. More Visualization Results

Figure 6. Visualization results.

We presented additional visualization results, where Fig. 6 demonstrates Monkey's capabilities in various VQA tasks. Monkey analyzes the question, identifies the key elements in the image relevant to answering the question, and exhibits the ability to perceive even minute text within the image. Moreover, Monkey can reason about the objects present in the scene and possesses a strong understanding of visual charts. In addition, Fig. 6 also showcases Monkey's impressive captioning ability, accurately describing various objects in the image and providing appropriate summaries.

C. More Examples of our Generated Data

Detailed Caption generated by us: This image depicts a wedding scene where a groom is kissing his bride on the forehead while her veil is blowing in the wind. The bride is wearing a white wedding veil with lace on it. They are standing in front of a white house with a brown roof, and there are bushes in front of it. A window can be seen on the building, and there is a number written in white color. The man in the image is balding and wearing a tan suit. Additionally, there are two texts visible on the image: "cp" and "CURETON".

Original Annotation from CC3M Dataset: groom kissing his bride on the forehead with her veil blowing in the wind .

Detailed Caption generated by us: In this indoor water park, a woman wearing a black bathing suit relaxes with her eyes closed in a hot tub. Her hair is tied up neatly. Around her, there are several white railings with decorative balusters and fences. In the background, there is a white marble column with a curved top. She seems to be enjoying her time in the warm water on this beautiful day.

Original Annotation from CC3M Dataset: in the water park the girl enjoys a hot tub

Detailed Caption generated by us: This image shows the iconic Batmobile cruising around with the wind in its cape, as seen in a popular TV series from the 60s. The car has a silver rimmed black tire and a chrome wheel with an orange bat symbol. A red and white logo can be seen on one of its tires, while another car with a red cross on it is also visible. In the background, there's a hill with dry grass and bushes, along with various rocks and plants scattered around.

Original Annotation from CC3M Dataset: in the60s tv series , actor cruised around in style with the wind in his cape .

Detailed Caption generated by us: In this image, we see a group of creative professionals working together late into the night. They are all gathered around a table, with a man standing behind a computer monitor. A green plant can be seen behind him. There is also a small wooden table in the background and a chair whose back is partially visible. In the foreground, we see a blue curtain and on one of the computer screens, there is an interesting drawing of a person. Overall, it appears that this team is hard at work on some sort of design project in their office space.

Original Annotation from CC3M Dataset: 4k portrait smiling creative design team working late in a meeting',

Detailed Caption generated by us: A woman in a red shirt and gray pants is seen jogging on a white sand beach near the ocean. She takes a break to rest with her hands on her hips, while wearing a gray capri pant. In the distance, trees can be spotted. A boat can also be seen in the water nearby.

Original Annotation from CC3M Dataset: female jogger resting during jogging on the beach

Detailed Caption generated by us: The image captures a joyous moment as the bride and groom make their entrance into the reception with sparklers held by friends and family. The bride is dressed in a white gown, while the groom wears a white shirt. A bouquet of white roses can be seen in the bride's hands. The area is decorated with string lights hanging from the ceiling, and wooden chairs with padded seats for guests to sit on. In one corner, a person can be seen holding a white paper.

Original Annotation from CC3M Dataset: bride and groom entrance into the reception with friends and family holding sparklers around them

Detailed Caption generated by us: In the image, a young boy wearing a blue shirt and green shorts is standing in the water. His mother recently cut his blonde hair short, which made headlines. Other objects in the image include a computer screen displaying two different types of buttons, a pair of green and pink pants with a lobster print, and a black rock. The text in the image contains Jessica Simpson's Instagram post about her son's first haircut, which received over 50,000 likes.

Original Annotation from CC3M Dataset: loves her kids : the mom recently made headlines after posting a photo with his hair cut short for the first time as she had let her little boy 's blonde hair grow long

Detailed Caption generated by us: At an awards show, a hard rock artist and a blues artist are performing on stage. The blues artist is accompanied by a rhythm and blues artist. A man in costume is holding a guitar and wearing a brown woolen hat. Mick Jagger of The Rolling Stones is also present on stage. The image contains text from Getty Images and the identification number 104606779.

Original Annotation from CC3M Dataset: hard rock artist and blues artist perform at awards

Detailed Caption generated by us: In the living room, a tall Christmas tree with colorful lights and ornaments stands next to a staircase. Red and white stockings are hung on the wall, one of which has the name "Sue" written on it. The TV is turned off in the corner while a row of Christmas lights adds a festive touch to the room.

Original Annotation from CC3M Dataset: a tall christmas tree rises next to a set of stairs decked out with stockings .

Detailed Caption generated by us: This image shows a woman in a lovely crimson dress posing for a photo in front of a white Christmas tree with red and silver ornaments. She stands next to a Heart Radio banner and wears a red cape with a bow on it. The iHeartRadio logo and the word "RADIO" can be seen throughout the image.

Original Annotation from CC3M Dataset: looking lovely : skin glowed in a-crimson dress , complete with a tie at its hem'
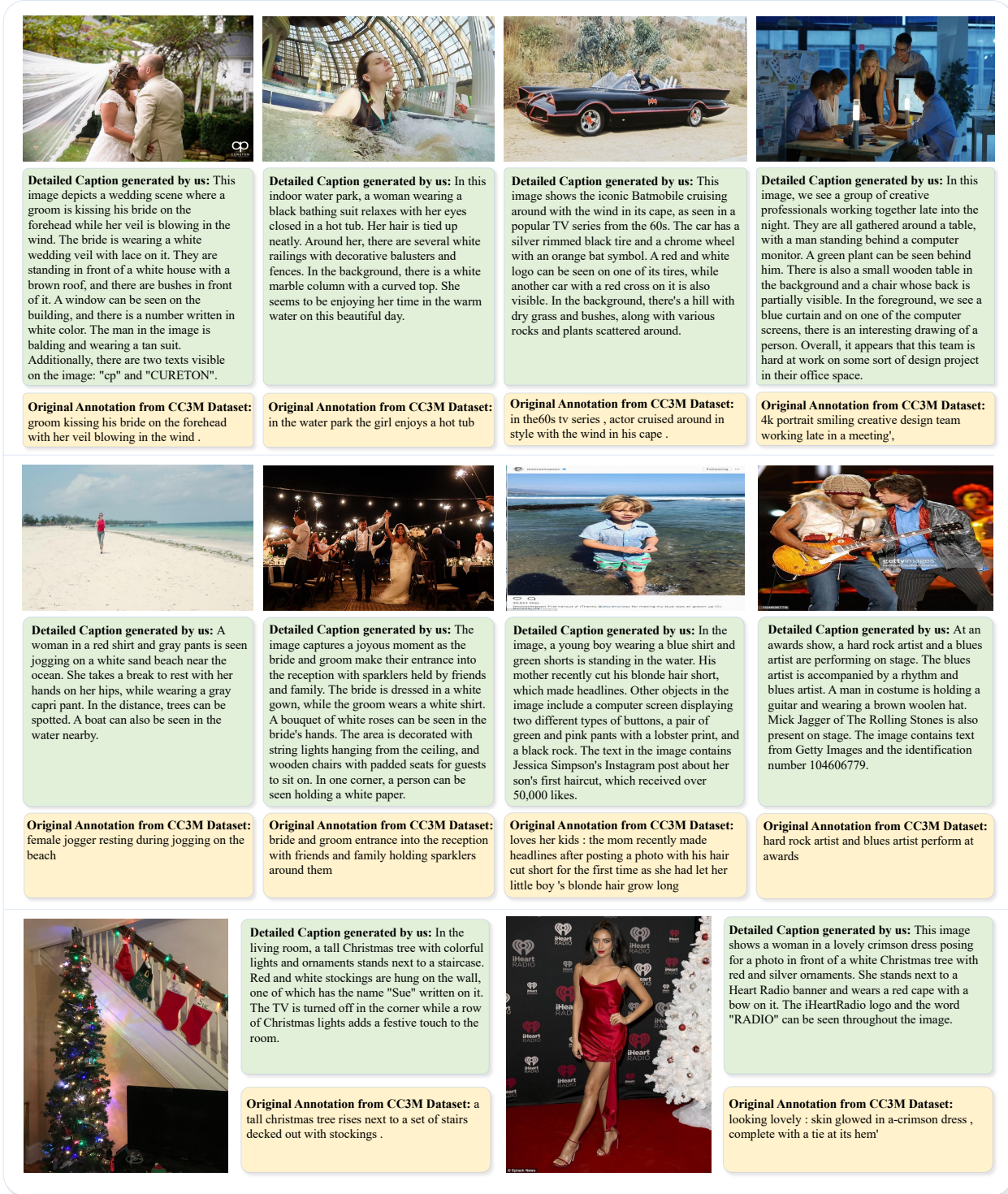
Figure 7. Detailed captions generated by us.

In Fig. 7, we present the detailed captions generated by our method. Compared to the original annotations from the CC3M [44], our generated descriptions cover many more details of the image, providing a more detailed description of the image.

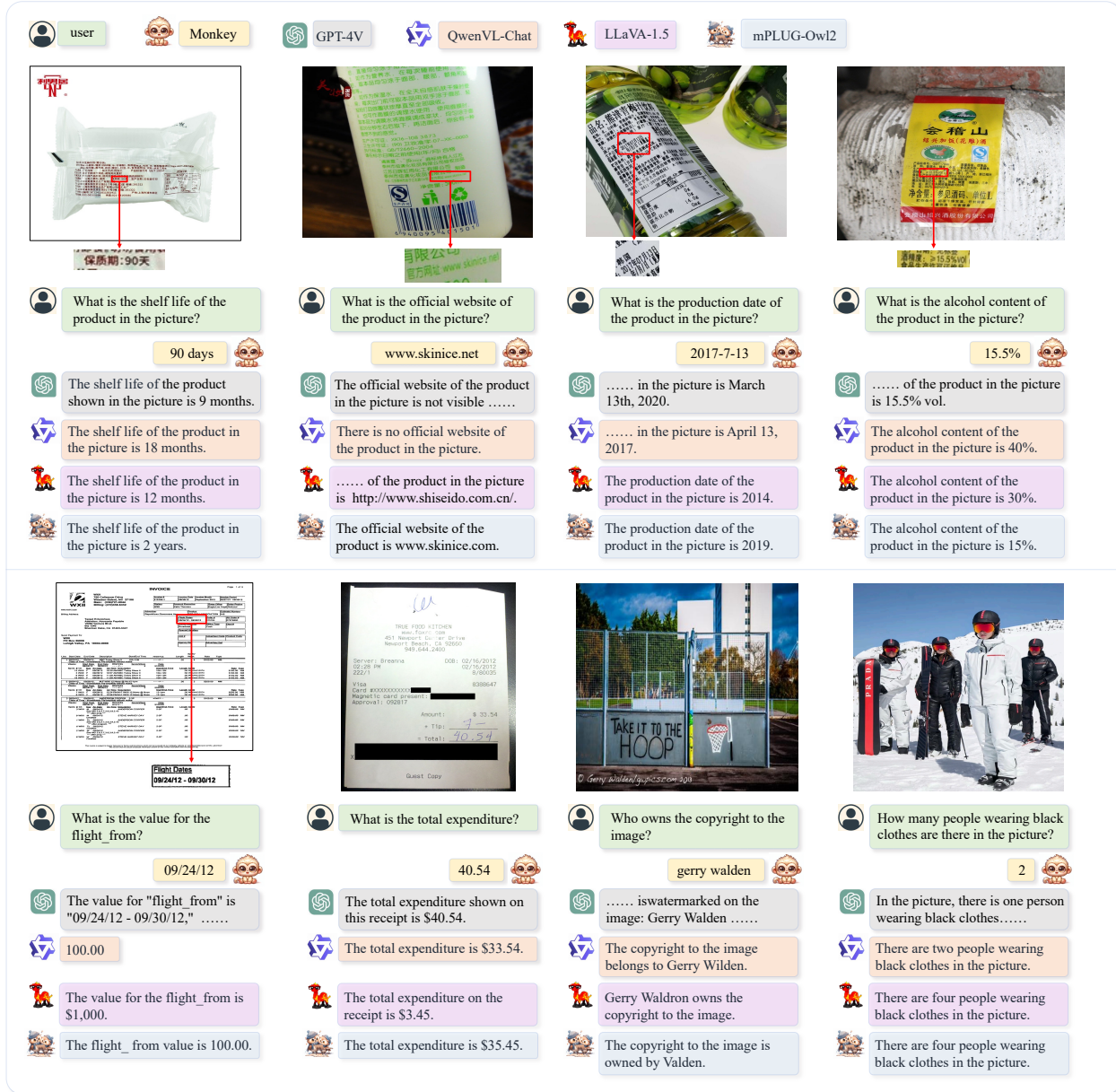# D. Comparison with other LMMs.

Figure 8. Visualization of Monkey's comparison with GPT-4V, QwenVL-Chat, LLaVA-1.5, and mPLUG-Owl2 on VQA task.

The comparison results of the VQA task in Fig. 8 indicate that after applying our method of scaling up the model size, Monkey has achieved significant performance advantages in tasks related to dense text. It not only surpasses the performance of QwenVL-Chat [3], LLaVA-1.5 [28], and mPLUG-Owl2 [54] but also achieves promising results compared to GPT-4V [40] in tasks related to dense text. This clearly demonstrates the importance of scaling up the model size for performance improvement in multimodal large models. It further validates the effectiveness of our method in enhancing the performance of multimodal large models.

In Fig. 9, the comparison between Monkey and GPT-4V, QwenVL-Chat, LLaVA-1.5, and mPLUG-Owl2 on Detailed Caption task is shown. It can be observed that Monkey accurately describes the content of the image and exhibits high sensitivity to the text within the image. It provides detailed descriptions of the image while ensuring accuracy.

user	Monkey	GPT-4V	QwenVL-Chat	LLaVA-1.5

mPLUG-Owl2

Generate the detailed caption in English.

Monkey: This is an image of a painting of the Eiffel Tower in Paris. The painting is colorful and vibrant, with a blue and yellow sky in the background. There are also several other objects in the painting, including a yellow and blue building, a red and yellow flower, and a blue and yellow star. The painting is signed by the artist Aja.

GPT-4V: This is a vibrant and colorful impressionist painting of the Eiffel Tower in Paris. The artwork is characterized by bold, dynamic brush strokes and a vivaciously expressive color palette. The sky is a swirl of deep blues and bright yellows, reminiscent of Van Gogh's Starry Night, with hints of green and light blue creating a sense of motion and energy. Below the swirling sky, there is a dramatic sunset with vivid shades of pink, orange, and yellow blending into each other, evoking the feeling of a fiery Parisian evening. The Eiffel Tower itself is painted in warm yellow and orange tones, contrasting with the cool colors of the sky and providing a strong central focal point for the composition. In the foreground, there's a bridge over the Seine River with silhouettes of lampposts and trees lining the walkway, while the reflection on the water suggests calmness amidst the dynamism of the textures and colors above. The painting is signed "Aja '15" in the lower left corner, indicating the artist and year of creation.

QwenVL-Chat: Eiffel Tower Starry Night, Paris, France, original oil painting on canvas, palette knife textured modern Impressionism, by Ana Maria Edulescu

LLaVA-1.5: The image is a painting of the Eiffel Tower at night, with a colorful sky in the background. The tower is prominently featured in the center of the painting, with its height and grandeur emphasized. The sky is filled with vibrant colors, creating a captivating and lively atmosphere. There are several people scattered throughout the painting, likely enjoying the view of the tower and the beautiful sky. Some of them are closer to the tower, while others are further away, adding depth and interest to the scene. The combination of the tower, the sky, and the people creates a captivating and dynamic painting.

mPLUG-Owl2: The image is a painting of the Eifel tower, a famous landmark in Paris, France. The tower is prominently featured in the center of the painting, with its distinctive shape and structure. The sky in the background is painted in a vibrant and colorful manner, creating a lively and dynamic atmosphere. The painting captures the essence of the Eiffel tower and the beauty of the Parisian skyline.

Generate the detailed caption in English.

Monkey: A sign at an airport with various directions written in different languages, including English, Chinese, and Thai. The sign has arrows pointing to different areas such as baggage claim, immigration, and transfer counters. There are also various signs with different colors and shapes, including a yellow sign arrow pointing to the right.

GPT-4V: The image shows an airport information signboard with directions and labels in multiple languages including English, Chinese, and Thai. The top part of the sign displays arrows pointing to the left for "Immigration" and to the right for "Baggage Claim." Below this, the sign is divided into two sections, with the left side indicating "Transfer Counter Area" and the right side divided into "EAST" and "WEST" directions. Each section includes floor indicators, with the transfer counter and gates located on the 3rd floor. The gate areas are further divided with colorful squares labeled A, B, C, D (gates 1-10) and D, E, F, G (gates 1-6) with corresponding arrows indicating their direction. The bottom part of the sign provides information on transfers to various Thai cities such as Chiangmai, Chiangrai, Phuket, Krabi, Samui, and HatYai, accompanied by Chinese translations. The layout is clear, providing straightforward navigation for travelers within the airport.

QwenVL-Chat: An airport sign showing the way to different gates at the airport.

LLaVA-1.5: The image showcases a large signboard with directions and information for travelers. The signboard is written in both English and Chinese, catering to a diverse audience. It is divided into sections, each displaying various destinations and their corresponding gate numbers. Numerous arrows are pointing towards the different destinations, making it simple for travelers to navigate the airport. The signboard is situated in a public area, most likely within an airport, to help passengers find their way to their desired locations.

mPLUG-Owl2: The image features a sign with various directions and arrows pointing in different directions. The sign is likely to be found in an airport or a transportation hub, providing guidance to travelers. The arrows are arranged in a way that makes it easy for people to understand the different routes and destinations.

Figure 9. Visualization of Monkey's comparison with GPT-4V, QwenVL-Chat, LLaVA-1.5, and mPLUG-Owl2 on Detailed Caption task. Accurately described text is marked in red, while inaccurately described text is marked in blue.

E. Visualization results for models at different resolutions.

Figure 10. Visualization results of the VQA task at resolutions of 896, 784, and 672 respectively.

In Fig. 10, we performed VQA tasks testing at three different resolutions: 896, 784, and 672. The visual results obtained further validate the importance of our size expansion method for improving the performance of LMMs. While using a resolution of 896 for VQA tasks testing yielded correct results, using resolutions of 784 and 672 resulted in errors, with the smallest size of 672 showing more errors.

In Fig. 11, we conducted tests at three different resolutions: 896, 784, and 672. It can be observed that as the resolution decreases, the details in the images gradually become less visible to the model.

Figure 11. Visualization results of the detailed caption task at resolutions of 896, 784, and 672 respectively. Accurately described text is marked in red, while inaccurately described text is marked in blue.

F. Data Generation.

Hyperparameter Control in Data Generation Pipeline. The appropriate selection of hyperparameters is crucial. We empirically selected them based on qualitative results, finding SAM's default threshold and a 0.5 Image-Text Matching Score to be effective. We conducted a quantitative validation on 80 samples using the GPT-4V evaluation. The results shown in Tab. 8 reveal that SAM's threshold is relatively robust, and the 0.5 threshold for Image-Text Matching Score offers a better performance.

Pred-IOU-Thresh of SAM	0.4	0.6	0.88 (default)
GPT-4V Score	6.388	6.425	6.625
Image-Text Matching Score	0.2	0.5	0.7
GPT-4V Score	5.825	6.625	6.550

Table 8. Hyperparameter Control.

Comparison with LLaVA's GPT4 Method. While the GPT4 method in LLaVA is dependent on using manually annotated captions from the COCO dataset as a foundational basis for data generation, our approach focuses on generating original, detailed captions autonomously. Additionally, our detectors are skilled in revealing a spectrum of details in images, from text to nuanced object characteristics, which enables to enrich unlabeled data by extracting complex, multi-level details, paving the way for the creation of both cost-effective and accurate image descriptions.

Why choose BLIP2? We found that the performance is very similar in the GPT-4V evaluation when utilizing brief descriptions of local areas from other VLMs, as shown in Tab. 9. However, for generating approximately 5M descriptions, using BLIP2 takes approximately 3 days, while LLaVA and mPLUG-Owl require about 21 days and 32 days, respectively. For the sake of saving time, we choose BLIP2.

Model	LLaVA	mPLUG-Owl	Blip2
GPT-4V Score	6.663	6.225	6.625

Table 9. Performance of Different LMM.

G. Ablation study on Global Feature.

We conducted experiments on the presence or absence of global features at a resolution of 896. By adding global features, the results showed a 7.5% performance gain on TextVQA, a 0.6% performance gain on GQA, and a 6.2% performance gain on DocVQA. This demonstrated that global features contribute to enhancing the overall performance.