

What the DAAM: Interpreting Stable Diffusion Using Cross Attention

Raphael Tang Linqing Liu Akshat Pandey Zhiying Jiang Gefei Yang et al.

Comcast Applied AI

University College London

University of Waterloo

- Find out how individual words from the text prompt affects each output pixel, i.e., understand the conditional part of Stable Diffusion.

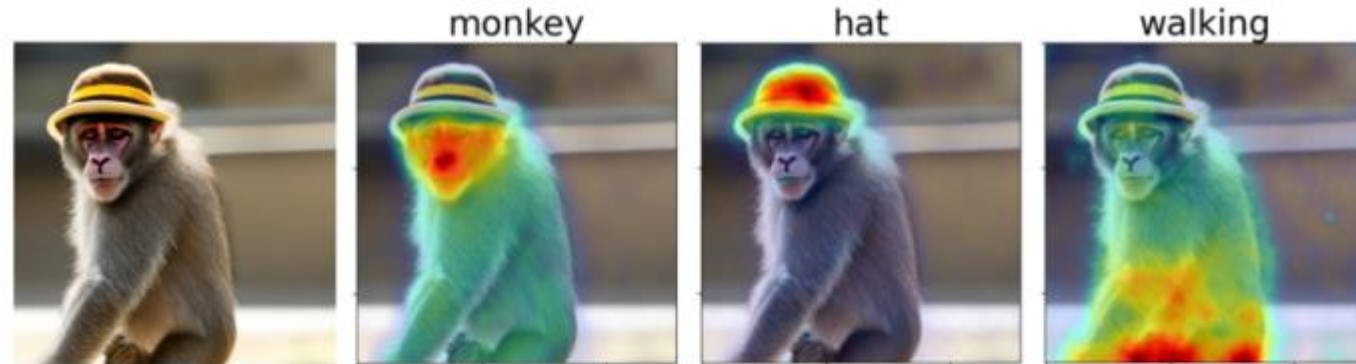
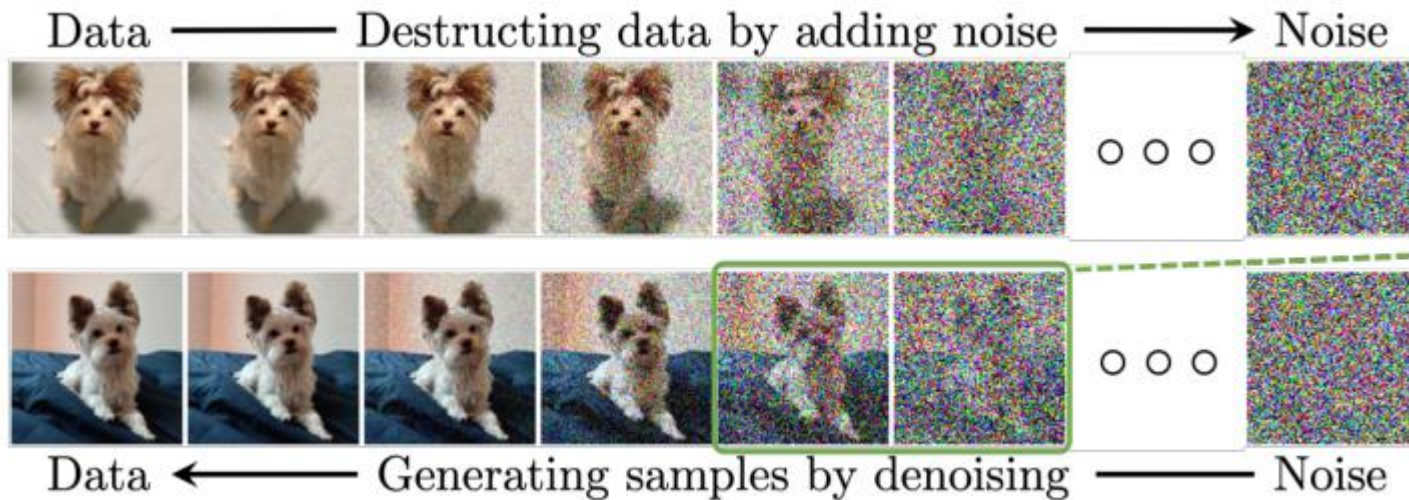


Figure 1: The original synthesized image and three DAAM maps for “monkey,” “hat,” and “walking,” from the prompt, “monkey with hat walking.”

Background: Diffusion Models

- Generative Model capable of state-of-the-art generation of pictures, videos, 3D models, etc.
- Consists of a *forward process*, where a datum is progressively noised, and a *reverse process*, where the datum is restored from noise.



Yang, Ling, et al. "Diffusion models: A comprehensive survey of methods and applications."
arXiv preprint arXiv:2209.00796 (2022).

The *forward process*:

$$q(\mathbf{x}_t \mid \mathbf{x}_{t-1}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_t; \sqrt{1 - \beta_t} \mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \beta_t \mathbf{I})$$

progressively adds noise, until $q(\mathbf{x}_T) \approx \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_T; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$

i.e., data is transformed in to zero-mean isotropic Gaussian.

The *reverse process* transforms unit Gaussian noise back to original data by traversing the path backwards using a learnable kernel:

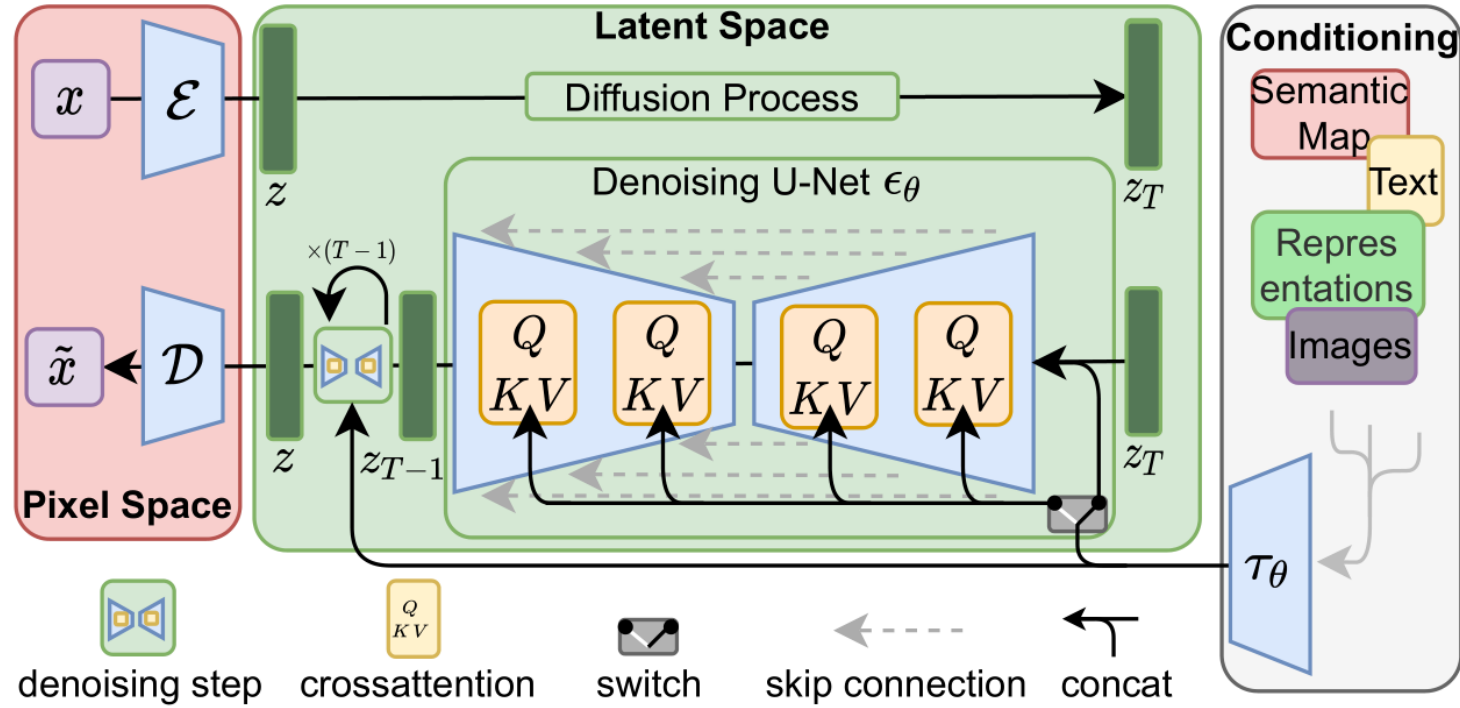
$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1} \mid \mathbf{x}_t) := \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t))$$

Background: Stable Diffusion

- Rombach, Robin, et al. "High-resolution image synthesis with latent diffusion on models." *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*. 2022.
- Generates high-quality image given a text prompt (and others)



Background: Stable Diffusion

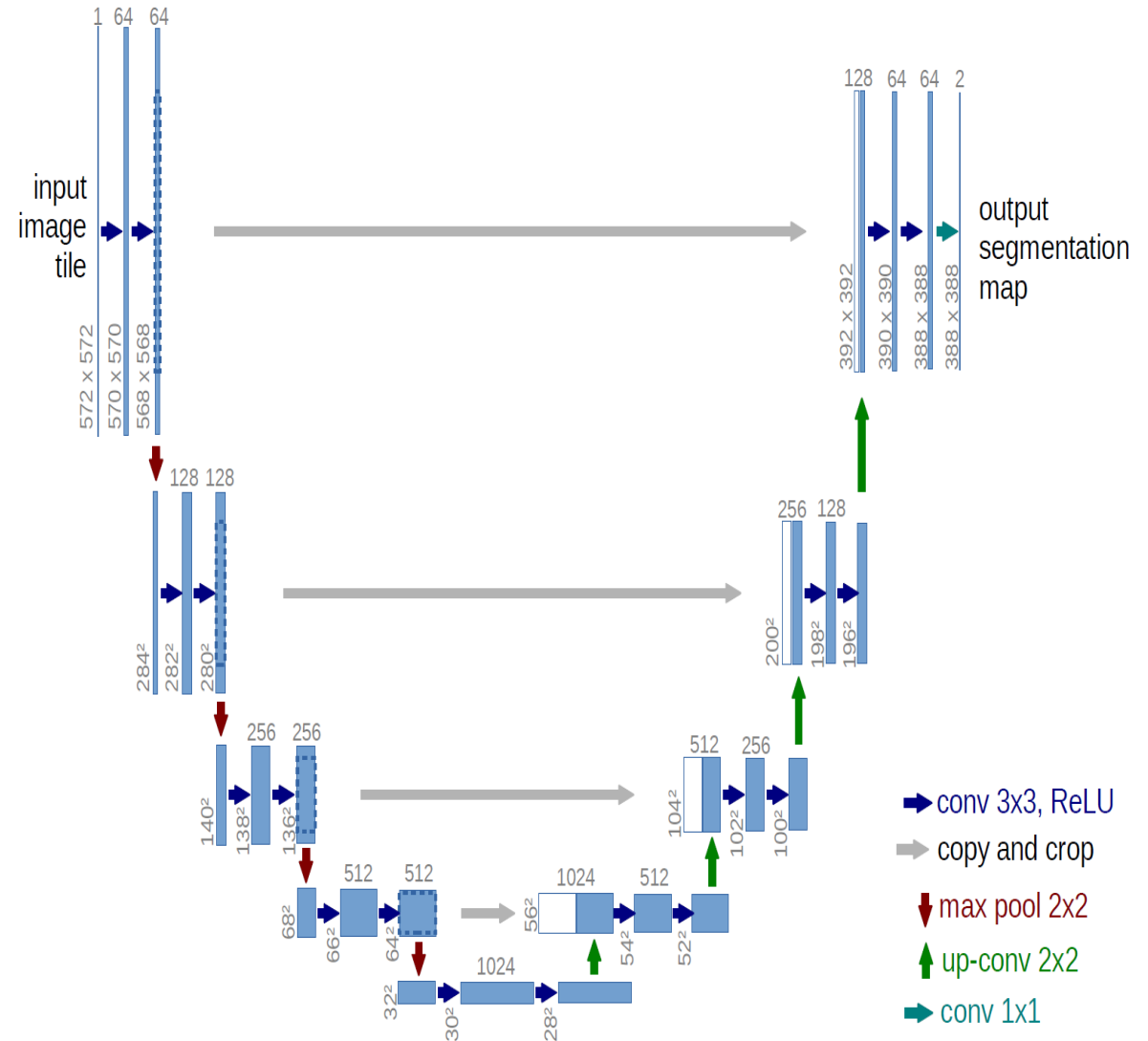


Observations:

- Image is generated in latent space, and restored via Convolutional VAE.
- Denoising kernel is conditioned on the prompt text.

Approach: Denoiser

- Denoiser $\epsilon_{\theta}(l, t; X)$
- Where X is a list of word (CLIP) embeddings: $X = [x_1; \dots; x_{l_w}]$
- Denoiser is a convolutional U-Net:
 - Downsampling block i ($i = 1, \dots, K$) output: $\mathbf{h}_{i,t}^{\downarrow} \in \mathbf{R}^{\lfloor \frac{w}{c^i} \rfloor \times \lfloor \frac{h}{c^i} \rfloor}$
 - Using multi-headed cross-attention layer: $\mathbf{h}_{i,t}^{\downarrow} = F_t^{(i)}(\hat{\mathbf{h}}_{i,t}^{\downarrow}, X) \cdot (W_v^{(i)} X)$, i.e., att. scores btw $\hat{\mathbf{h}}_{i,t}^{\downarrow}$ (Q) are calculated for each word embedding X (K, V).



- Due to the convolutional nature of the U-Net and the VAE, we can upscale each U-Net block to original image size and aggregate them:

$$D_k^{\mathbb{R}}[x, y] := \sum_{i, j, \ell} \tilde{F}_{t_j, k, \ell}^{(i)\downarrow}[x, y] + \tilde{F}_{t_j, k, \ell}^{(i)\uparrow}[x, y], \quad (6)$$

k: word, l: head

- Thresholded for segmentation tasks:

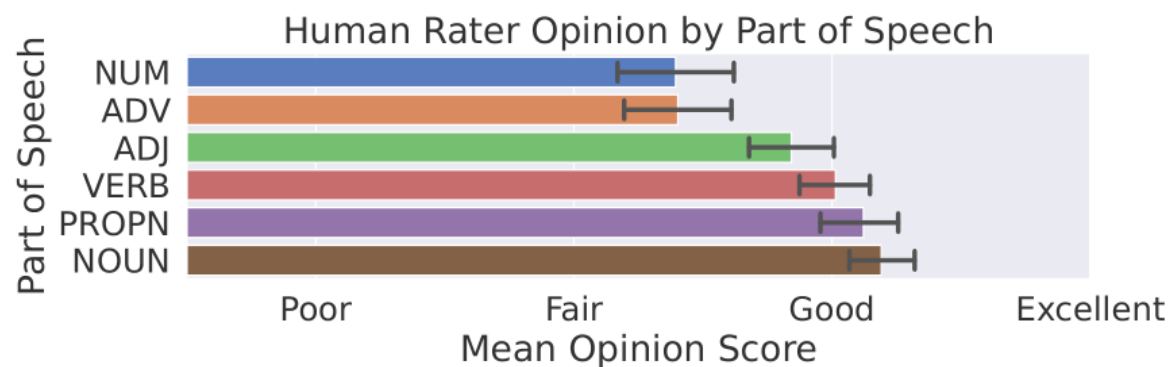
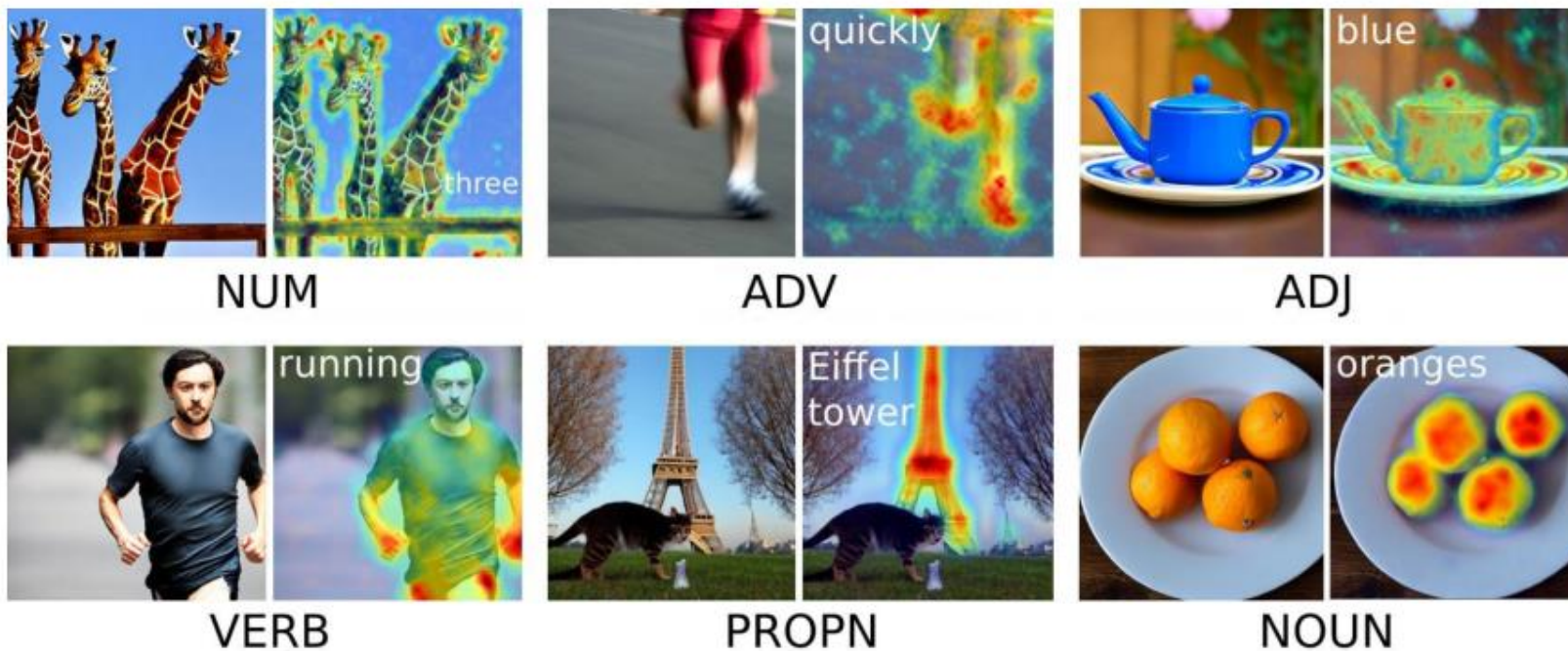
$$D_k^{\mathbb{I}^\tau}[x, y] := \mathbb{I} \left(D_k^{\mathbb{R}}[x, y] \geq \tau \max_{i, j} D_k^{\mathbb{R}}[i, j] \right), \quad (7)$$

Result: Object Attribution

- Synthesize images based on COCO image captions dataset, hand-segment each **noun**, and compare results with image segmentation models:

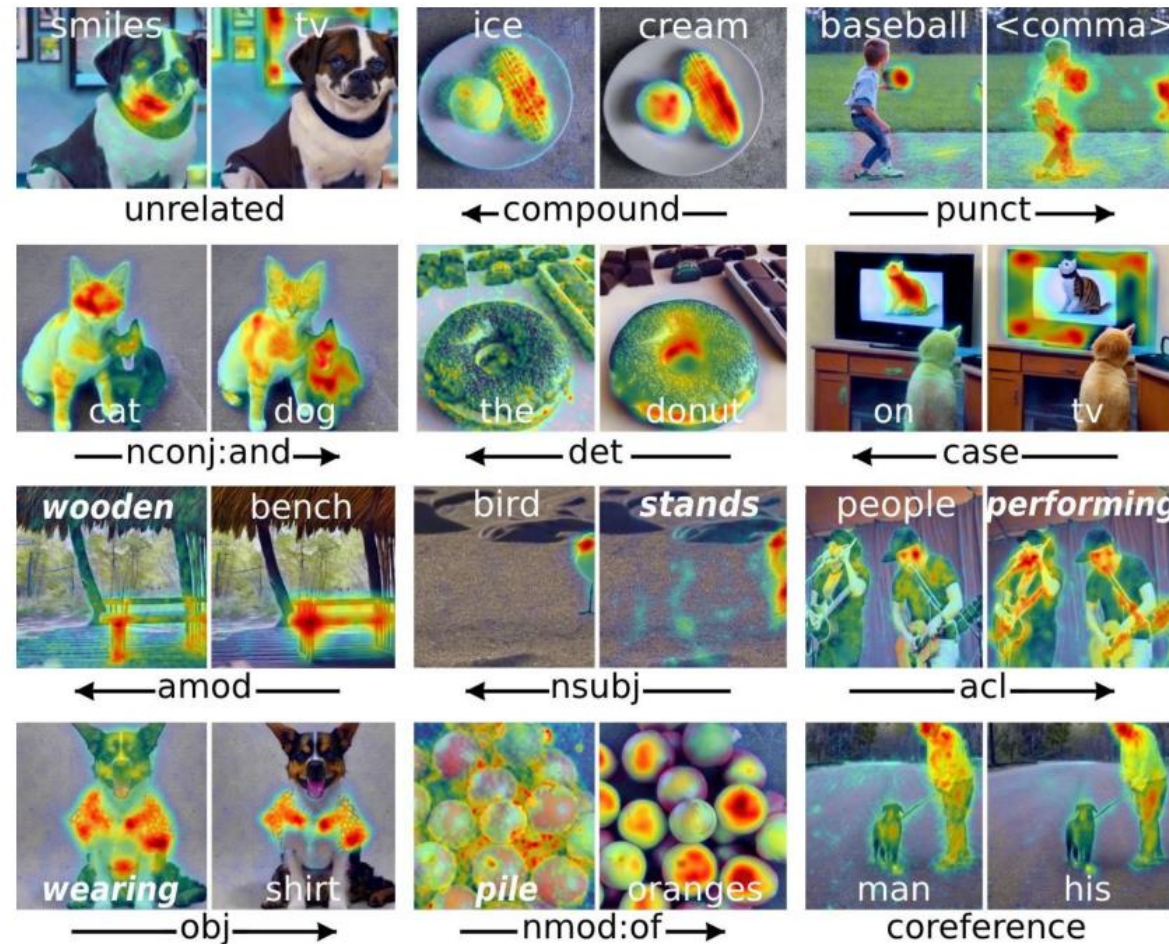
# Method	COCO-Gen		Unreal-Gen	
	mIoU ⁸⁰	mIoU [∞]	mIoU ⁸⁰	mIoU [∞]
Supervised Methods				
1 Mask R-CNN (ResNet-101)	82.9	32.1	76.4	31.2
2 QueryInst (ResNet-101-FPN)	80.8	31.3	78.3	35.0
3 Mask2Former (Swin-S)	84.0	32.5	80.0	36.7
4 CLIPSeg	78.6	71.6	74.6	70.9
Unsupervised Methods				
5 Whole image mask	20.4	21.1	19.5	19.3
6 PiCIE + H	31.3	25.2	34.9	27.8
7 STEGO (DINO ViT-B)	35.8	53.6	42.9	54.5
8 Our DAAM-0.3	64.7	59.1	59.1	58.9
9 Our DAAM-0.4	64.8	60.7	60.8	58.3
10 Our DAAM-0.5	59.0	55.4	57.9	52.5

Result: Generalized Attribution



Visuosyntactic Analysis

- How syntax relates to generated pixels by measuring mIoU ($\frac{|A \cap B|}{|A \cup B|}$), mIoD ($\frac{|A \cap B|}{|A|}$), and mIoH ($\frac{|A \cap B|}{|B|}$).



Visuosemantic Analysis: Cohyponym Entanglement

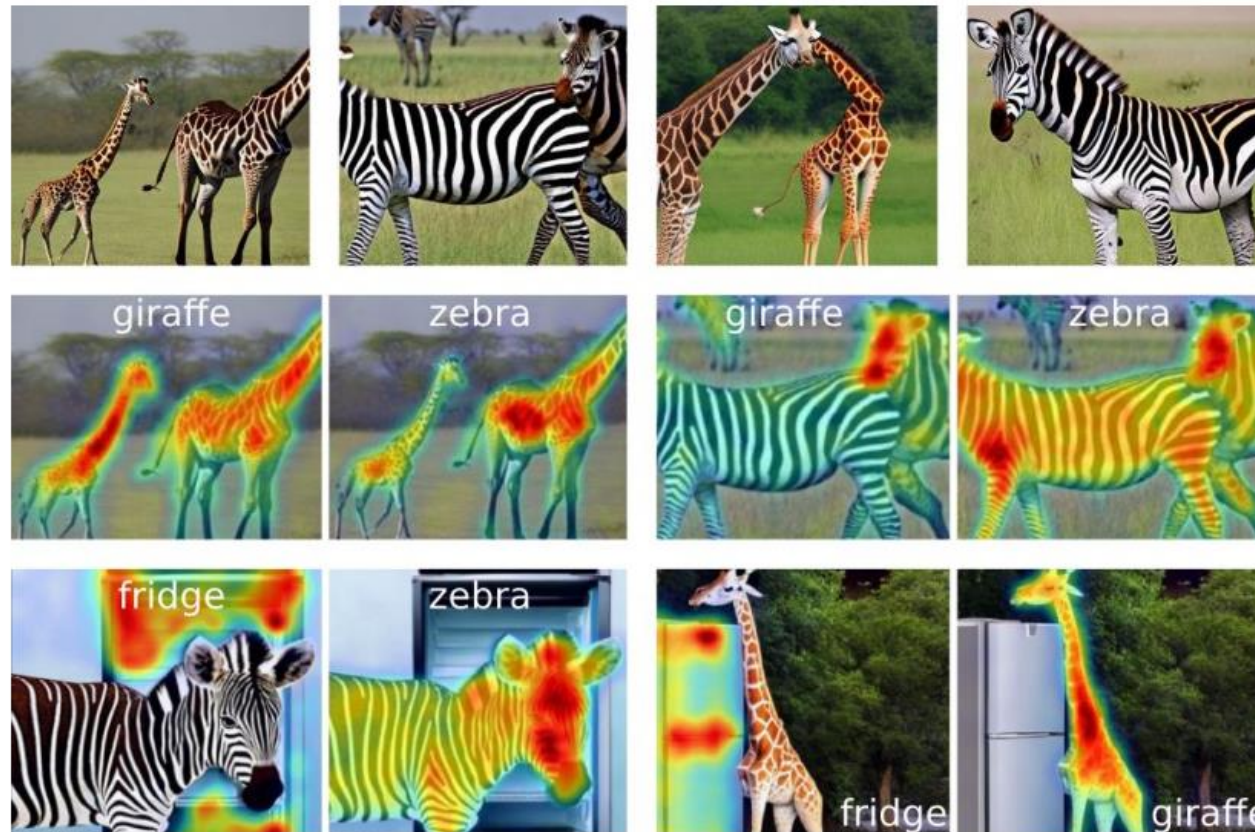


Figure 7: Rows starting from the top: generated images for cohyponyms “a giraffe and a zebra,” heat maps for the first two images, and heat maps for non-cohyponymic zebra–fridge and giraffe–fridge prompts.



Figure 8: First row: a DAAM map for “rusty” and three generated images for “a <adj> shovel sitting in a clean shed;” second row: a map for “bumpy” and images for “a <adj> ball rolling down a hill.”

- Study visuolinguistic phenomena in diffusion models by interpreting word-pixel cross-attention maps, and the attribution method is proven correct using experiments.
- Find feature entanglement.