



UNIVERSITÄT  
LEIPZIG

# Manipulating Embeddings of Stable Diffusion Prompts to Control Image Compositionality

Bachelor Thesis  
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Supervised by Niklas Deckers  
Leipzig, 18.01.2024

# OVERVIEW

- Motivation
  - Problem Description
- Theoretical Background
- Related Works
- Approach
- Experimental Setup
- Results
- Further Approaches
- Summary
- Outlook

# MOTIVATION

## Image generation with Stable Diffusion

- User expectation: the generated image corresponds to the prompt

A picture of a white cat and a black cat



# MOTIVATION

## Image generation with Stable Diffusion

- Reality:

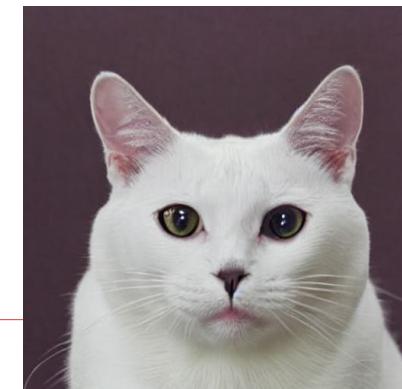
A picture of a white cat and a black cat



failed composition  
of multiple objects



failed attribute  
binding



missing objects

# MOTIVATION: PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

- Often failed image compositionality:
  - Color leakage
  - Incorrect number of objects
  - Missing objects
  - Failed attribute binding
  - Failed composition of multiple objects
- Problem: generated images do not satisfy the user



# MOTIVATION: PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

- Possible approaches:
  - Trying different seeds



seed = 154



seed = 510321



seed = 99

# MOTIVATION: PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

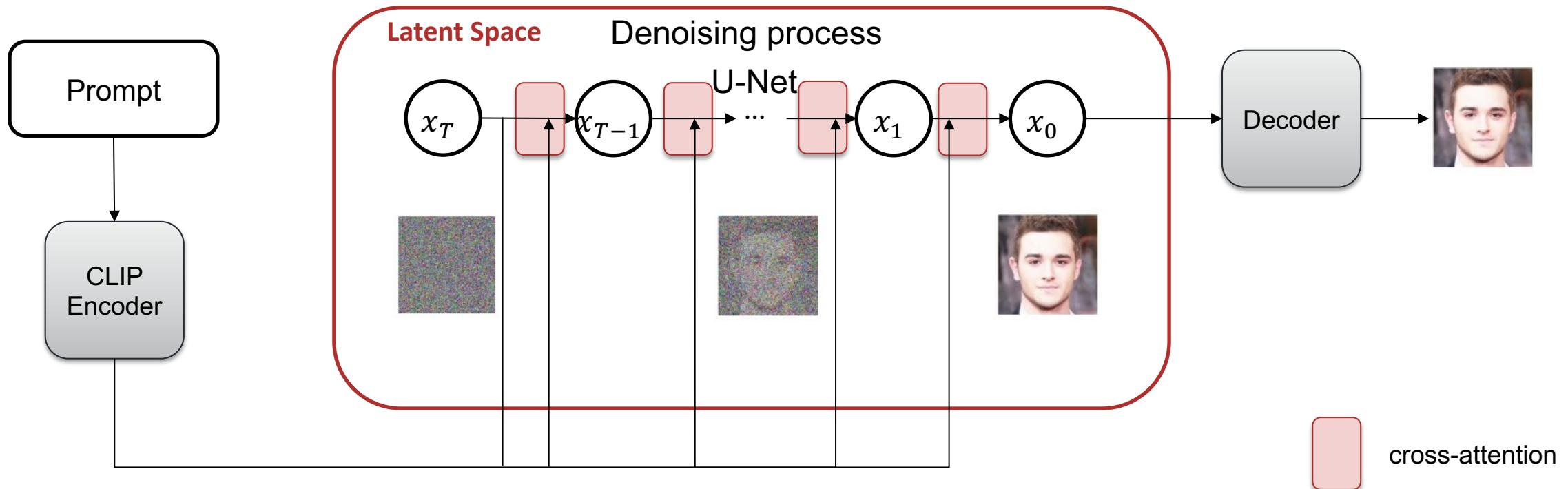
- Possible approaches:
  - Prompt engineering
- Requires sometimes many attempts
- Still not desired output
- No user control, user frustration



# THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

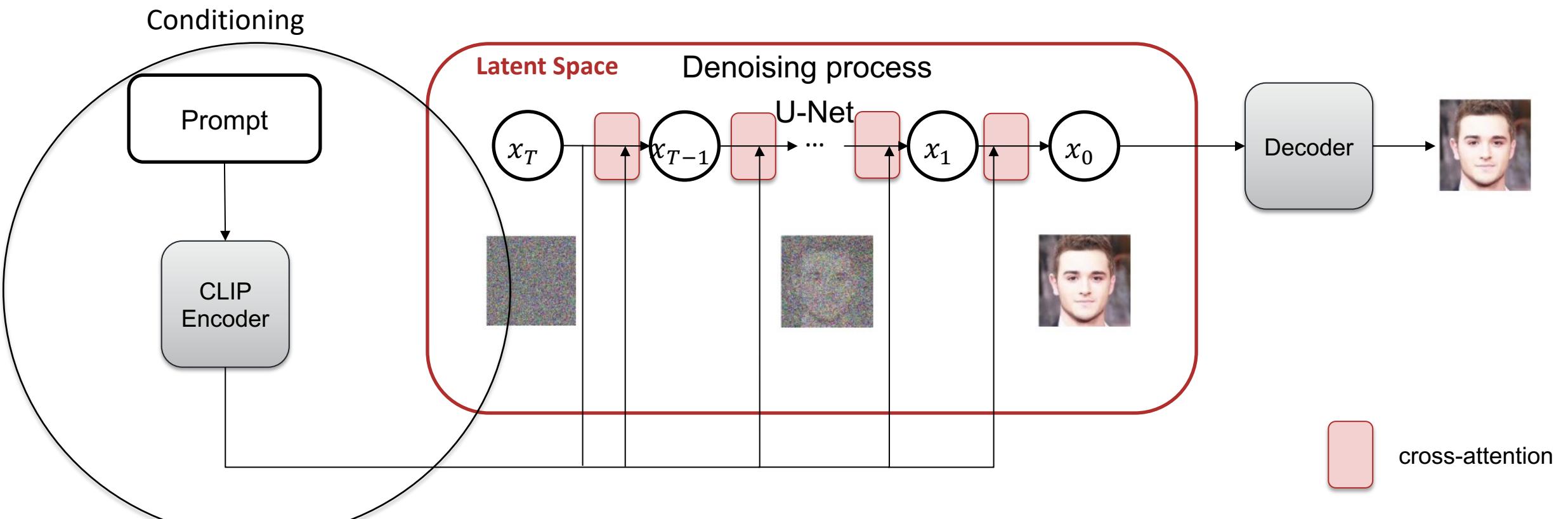
- Image generation with Stable Diffusion

Conditioning



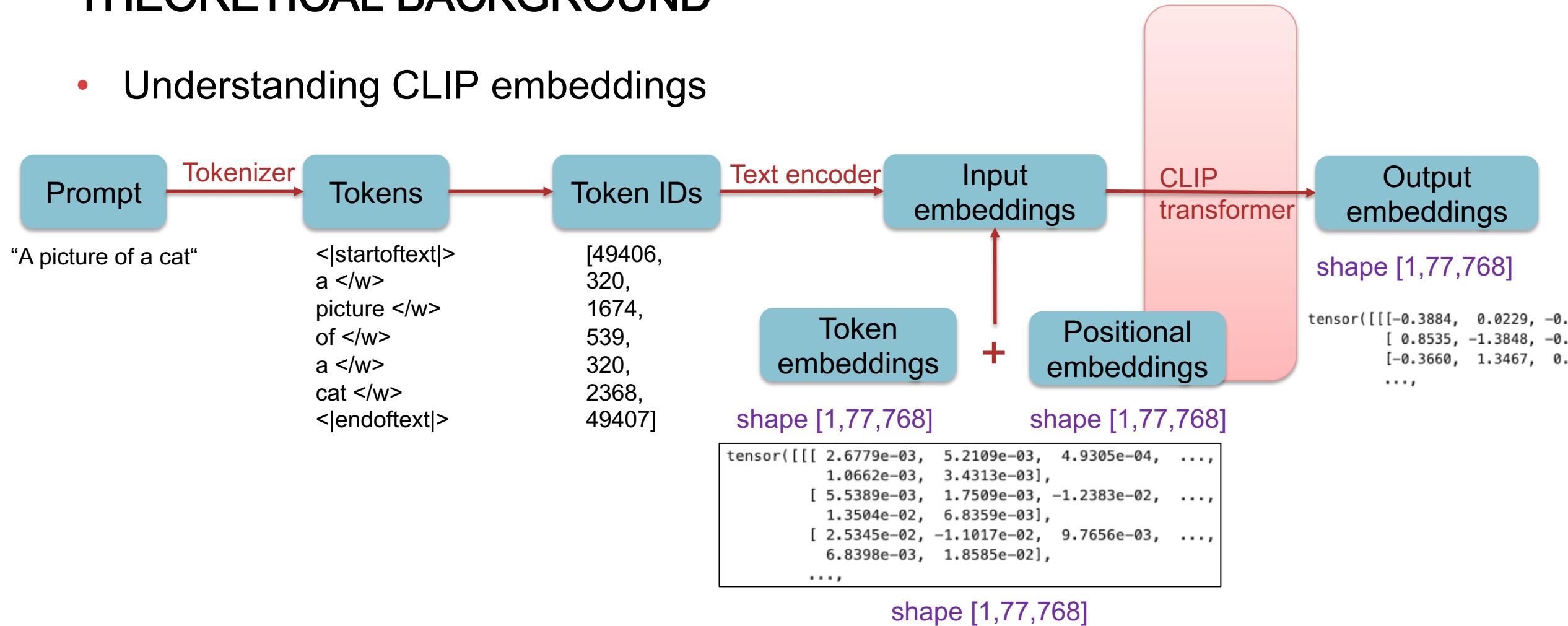
# THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

- Image generation with Stable Diffusion



# THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

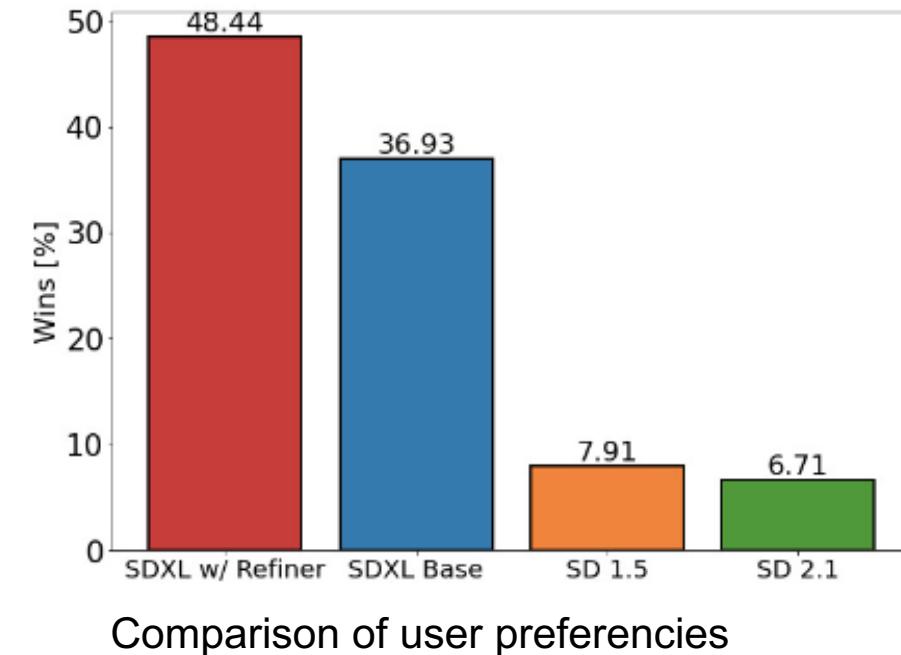
- Understanding CLIP embeddings



# THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

## Stable Diffusion XL

- Released in July 2023
- High-resolution image synthesis
- Higher fidelity
- Modified architecture:
  - Larger U-Net
  - 2 CLIP text encoders
- Additional refinement model

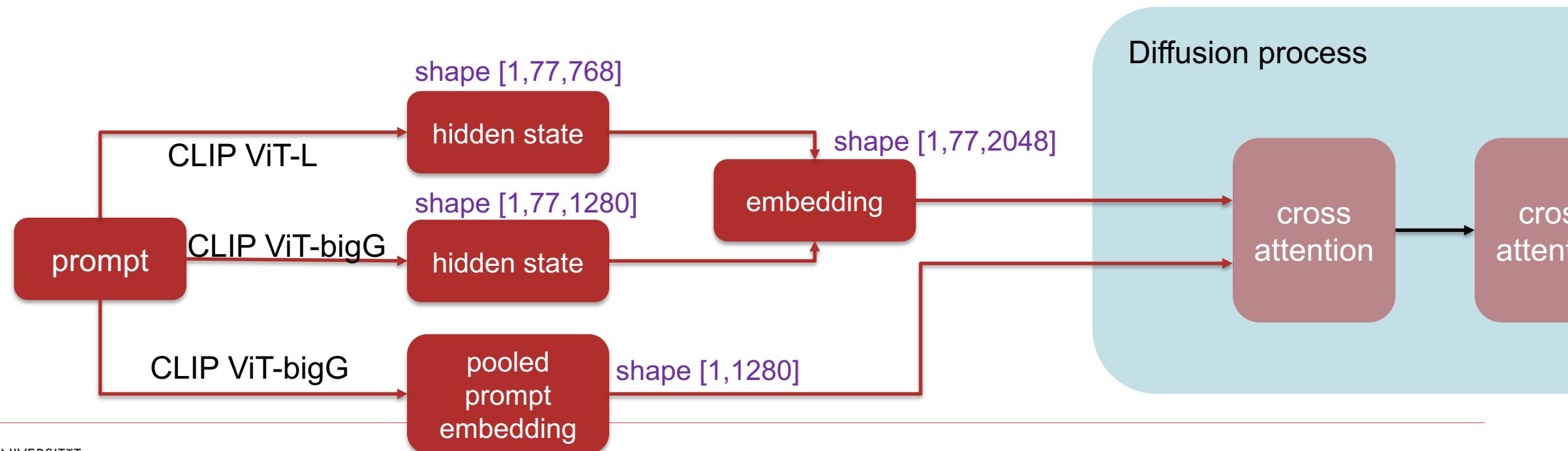


Source: Podell, D., English, Z., Lacey, K., Blattmann, A., Dockhorn, T., Müller, J., ... & Rombach, R. (2023). Sdxl: Improving latent diffusion models for high-resolution image synthesis. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2307.01952*.

# THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

## Stable Diffusion XL

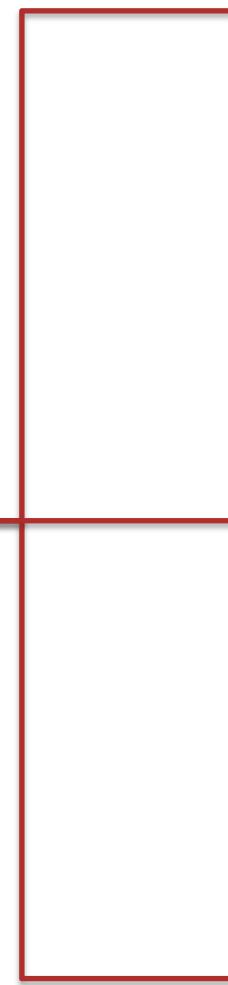
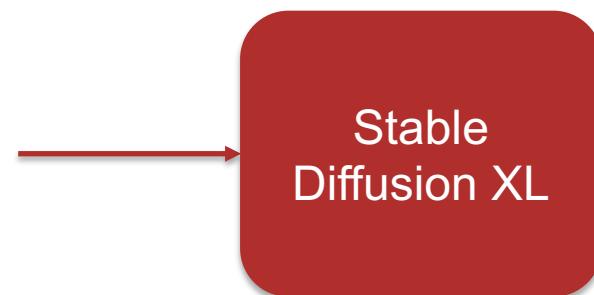
- 2 CLIP text encoders for high-resolution image synthesis
  - CLIP ViT-L
  - CLIP ViT-bigG



# THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

## Stable Diffusion XL

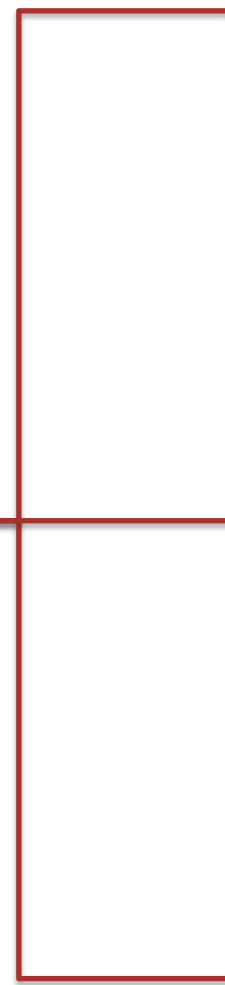
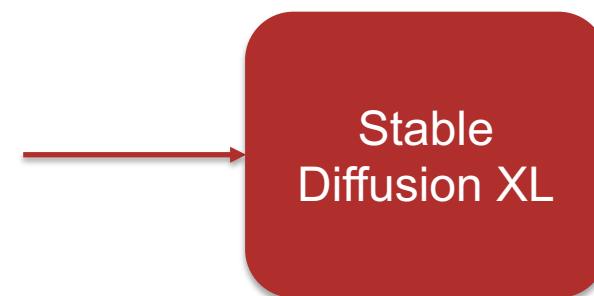
A picture of a white cat and a black cat



# THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

## Stable Diffusion XL

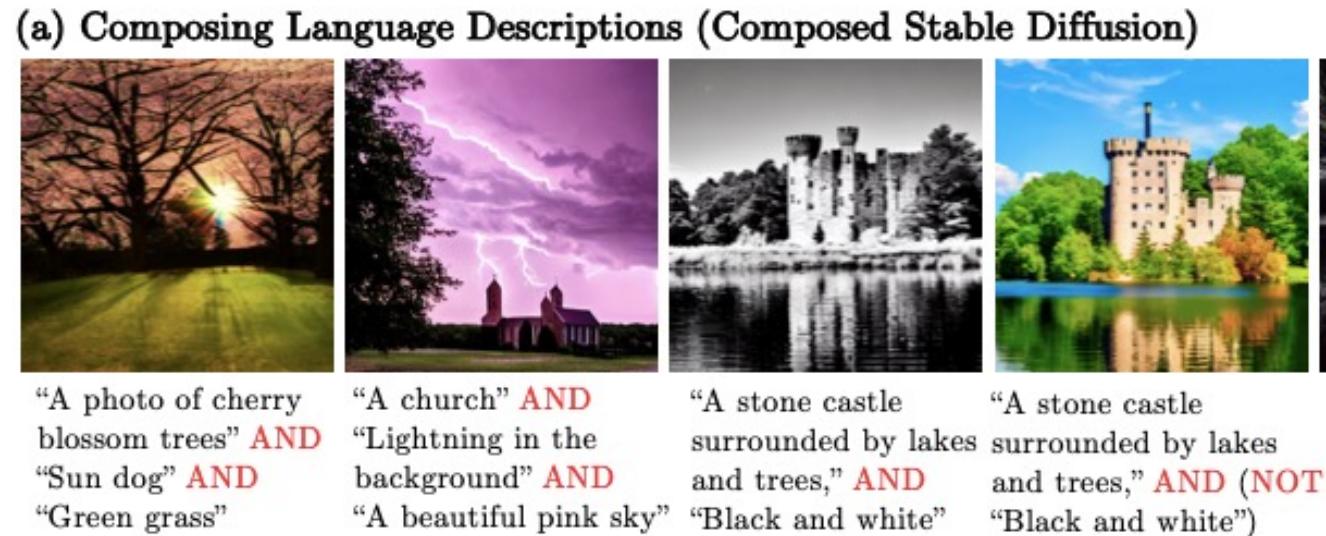
A picture of a white cat and a black cat



Still failed compositionality!

# RELATED WORKS: COMPOSABLE DIFFUSION

- Compositional image generation
- Each concept is generated separately
- 2 compositional operators: Conjunction and Negation



Source:Liu, N., Li, S., Du, Y., Torralba, A., & Tenenbaum, J. B. (2022, October). Compositional visual generation with composable diffusion models. In *European Conference on Computer Vision*(pp. 423-439). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.

# RELATED WORKS: STRUCTURED DIFFUSION

- Training-free guidance for compositional text-to-image synthesis
- Idea: separate encoding of noun phrases combined with manipulation in cross-attention layers
- 5-8% advantage compared to Stable Diffusion

**Stable  
Diffusion**



**Structured  
Diffusion**



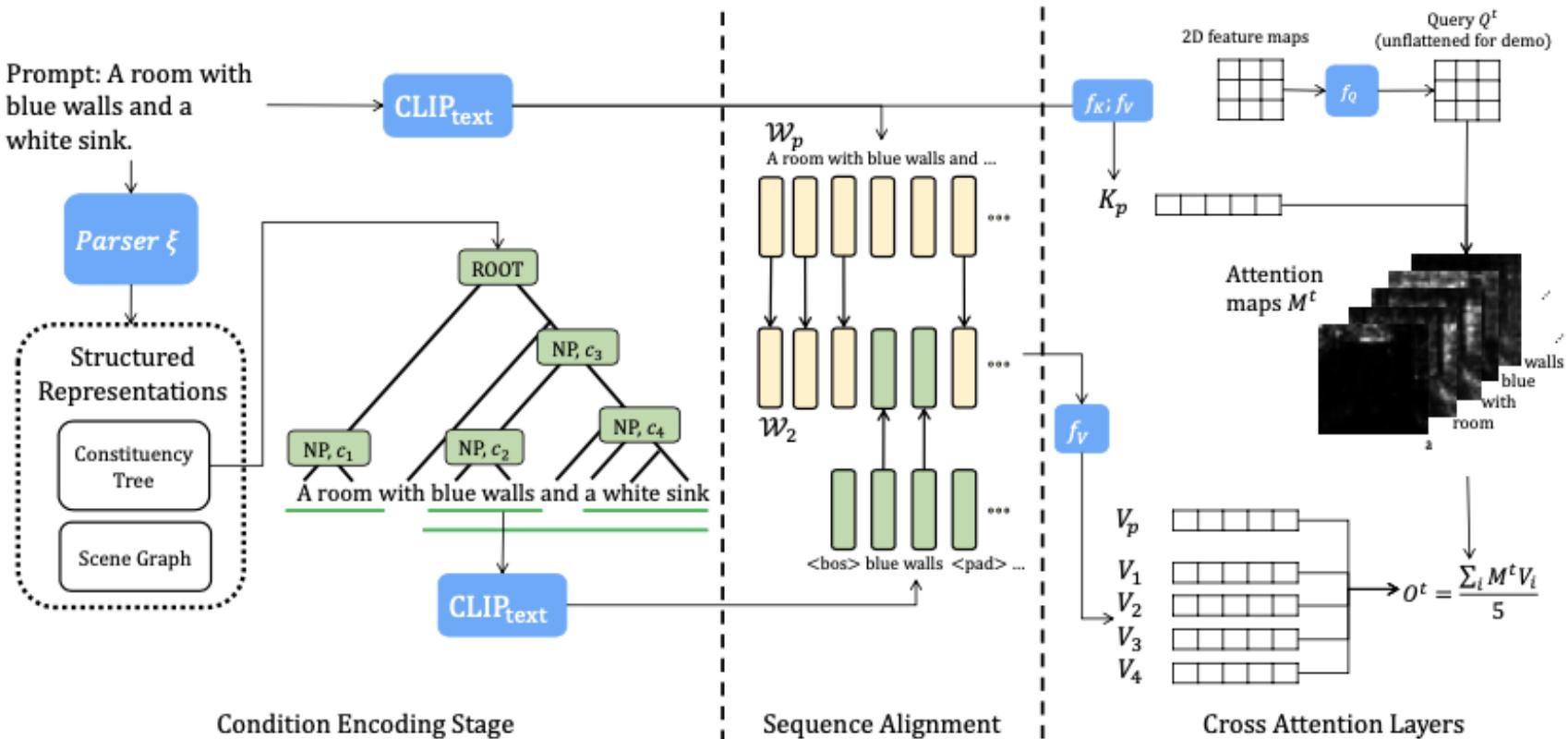
*A red car and a white sheep.*

*A brown bench sits in front of  
an old white building*

*A blue backpack and a brown  
elephant*

Source: Feng, W., He, X., Fu, T. J., Jampani, V., Akula, A., Narayana, P., ... & Wang, W. Y. (2022). Training-free structured diffusion guidance for compositional text-to-image synthesis. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2212.05032*.

# RELATED WORKS: STRUCTURED DIFFUSION



Source: Feng, W., He, X., Fu, T. J., Jampani, V., Akula, A., Narayana, P., ... & Wang, W. Y. (2022). Training-free structured diffusion guidance for compositional text-to-image synthesis. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2212.05032*.

## RELATED WORKS: POOLING

- Prompt manipulation by pooling the noun phrases
- Idea: additional attribute binding through pooling



green cubes in a pink bowl  
without NP pooling



green cubes in a pink bowl  
with NP pooling

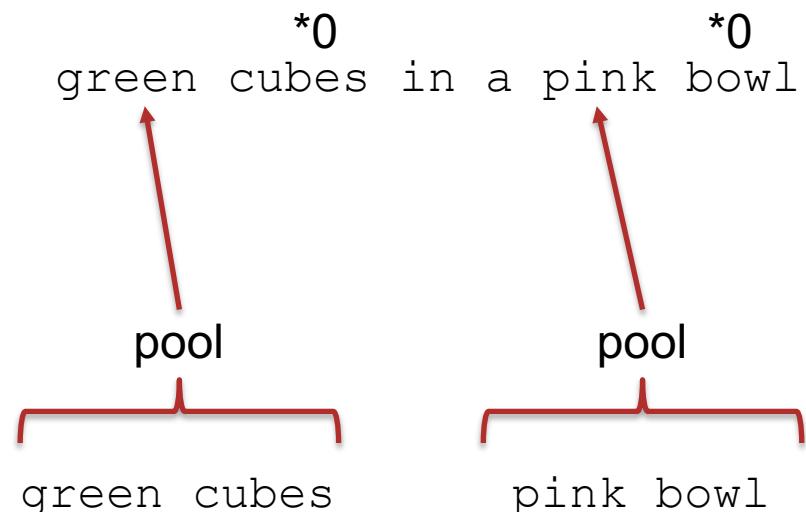
Source: <https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1izMKdvBMfThVSRp8Tg4Fc1eiGVP0NKZP?usp=sharing#scrollTo=wa3iaNL3Mq28>

## RELATED WORKS: POOLING

- Common technique in NLP
- Conversion of the NP embedding vectors into a single vector
- Pooling:
  - Maximum pooling
  - Mean square pooling
  - Mean pooling

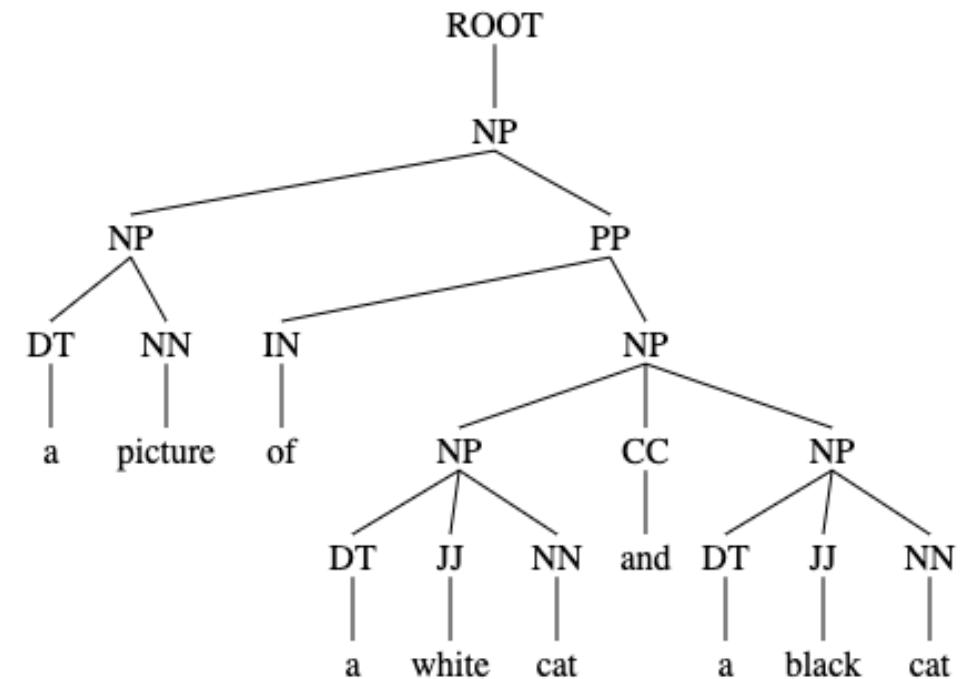
a – vector for green  
b – vector for cubes

$$[a,b].\text{mean}/\sqrt{2}$$

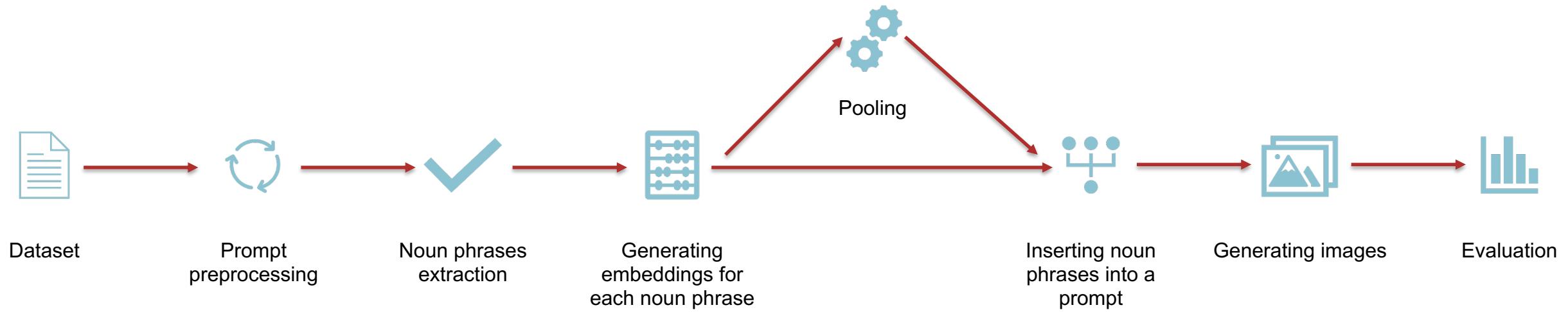


# APPROACH

- Combining Structured Diffusion approach with pooling
- Extract noun phrases from the constituency tree for each prompt
- Embedding manipulation:
  - Separate embedding of NPs
  - Additional pooling of NPs
- Adjusted approach for SDXL:
  - Generating embeddings with both CLIP encoders
  - No manipulation in pooled prompt embeddings



# EXPERIMENTAL SETUP



# EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

Not every prompt can demonstrate the problem

## Datasets

- CC-500 (Concept Conjunction dataset)
- Prompt format: “a [colorA] [objectA] and a [colorB] [objectB]”
- ABC-6K (Attribute Binding Contrast dataset)
- 3200 prompt pairs
  - „a kitchen with white appliances and brown cupboards“
  - „a kitchen with brown appliances and white cupboards“

# EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

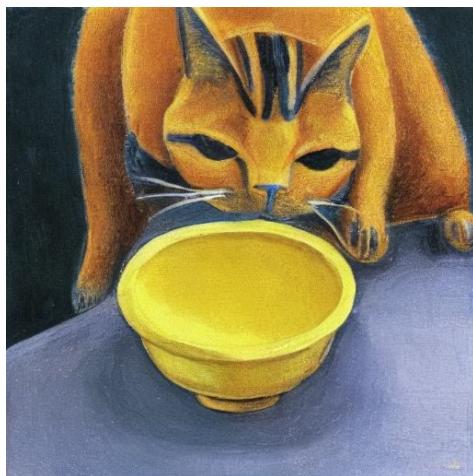
## Technical setup

- Stable Diffusion Model: "runwayml/stable-diffusion-v1-5"
- Stable Diffusion XL Base 0.9 (released July 2023)
- Fixed seed: 0

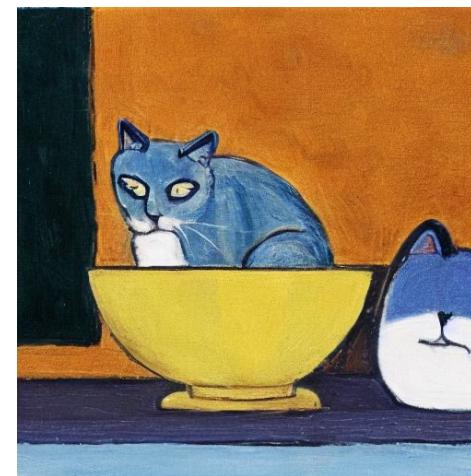
# RESULTS: CC500

SD 1.5

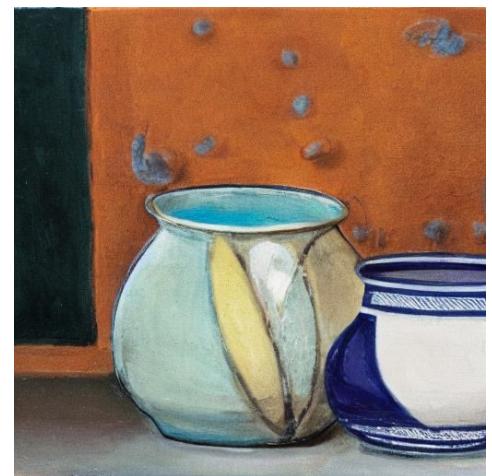
a yellow bowl and a  
blue cat



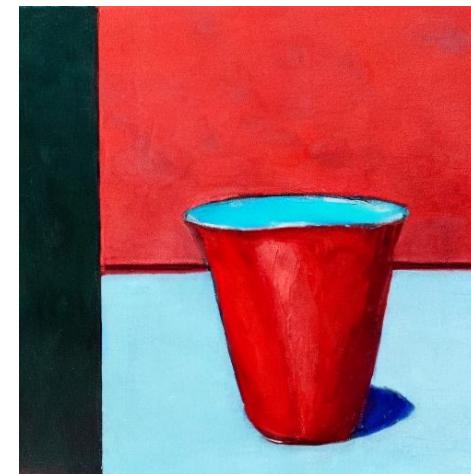
Embedding NPs



Embedding NPs + Pooling



a red bowl and a  
blue cup



# RESULTS: CC500

a yellow car and a red cat

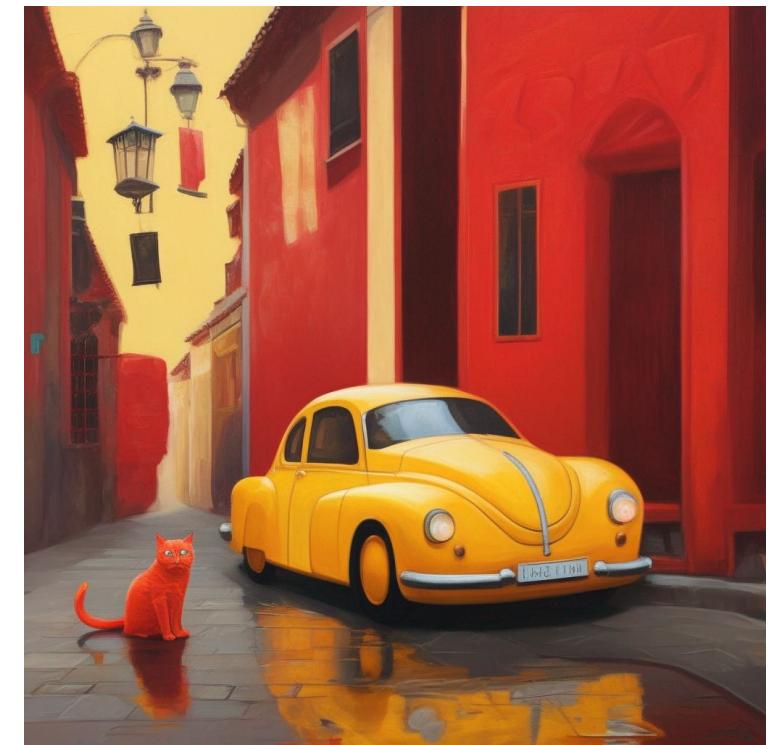
SD XL



Embedding NPs



Embedding NPs + Pooling



# RESULTS: CC500

a pink cow and a brown sheep

SD XL



Embedding NPs



Embedding NPs + Pooling



# RESULTS

## Evaluation criteria for manual evaluation on CC-500

- Adopted from Structured Diffusion

Categories:

1. Zero or one object is depicted
2. Two objects are depicted
3. Two objects are depicted with correct colors
4. Image looks natural

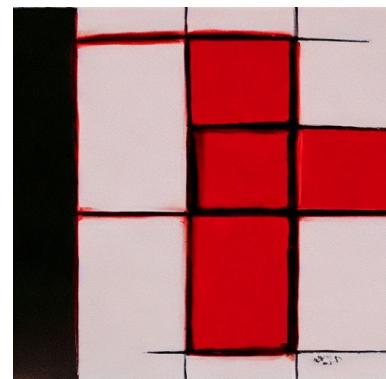
# RESULTS

SD 1.5	Zero/One object	Two objects	Two objects with correct color	Natural looking image
SD	82%	12%	6%	48%
NP embedding	82%	10%	8%	40%
NP embedding + pooling	94%	6%	0%	34%

SD XL	Zero/One object	Two objects	Two objects with correct color	Natural looking image
SD	40%	42%	18%	44%
NP embedding	42%	44%	14%	30%
NP embedding + pooling	40%	46%	14%	66%

## FURTHER APPROACHES: SECOND APPROACH

Idea: Can we subtract/add the color to improve attribute binding?



red cube



cube

+



car

=

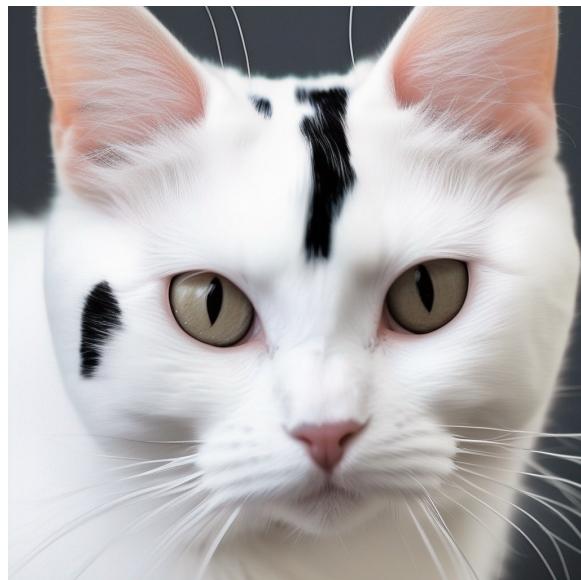


Generated by Stable Diffusion 1.5, seed = 0

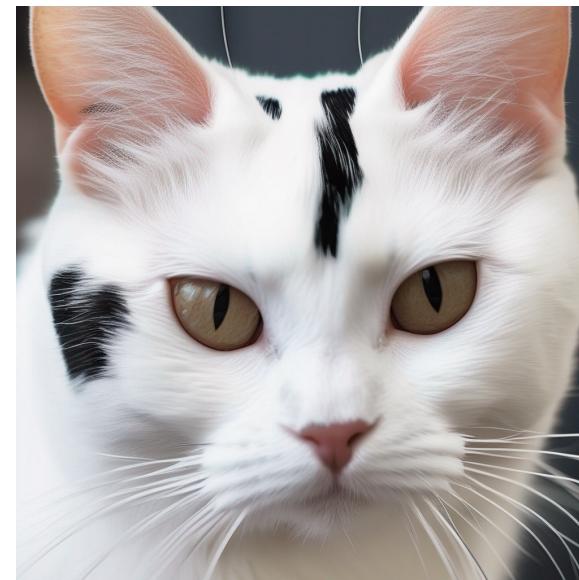
# FURTHER APPROACHES: SECOND APPROACH

## Experiment on SDXL

A white cat with black ears and markings



No modification



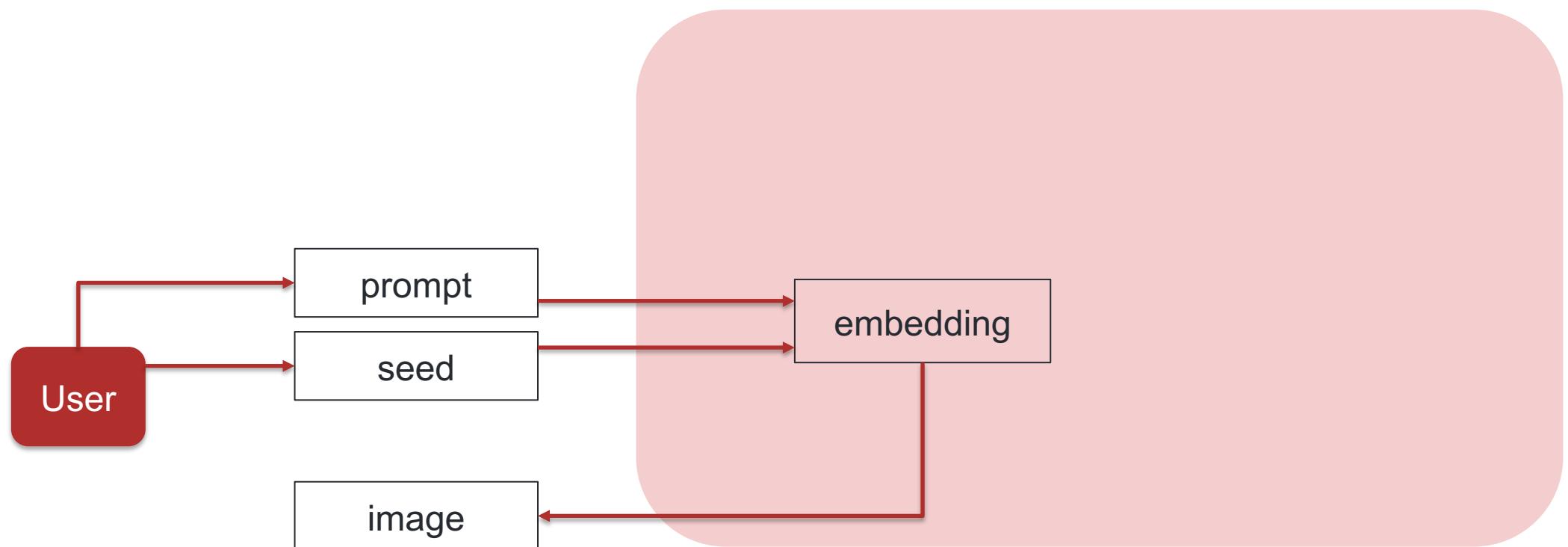
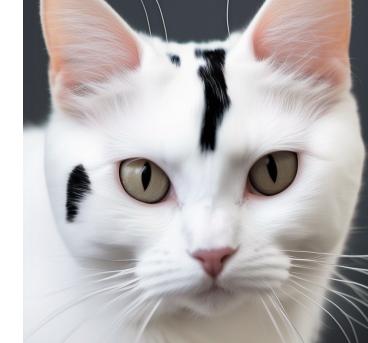
NP embedding + pooling



Adding black vector to the according NP

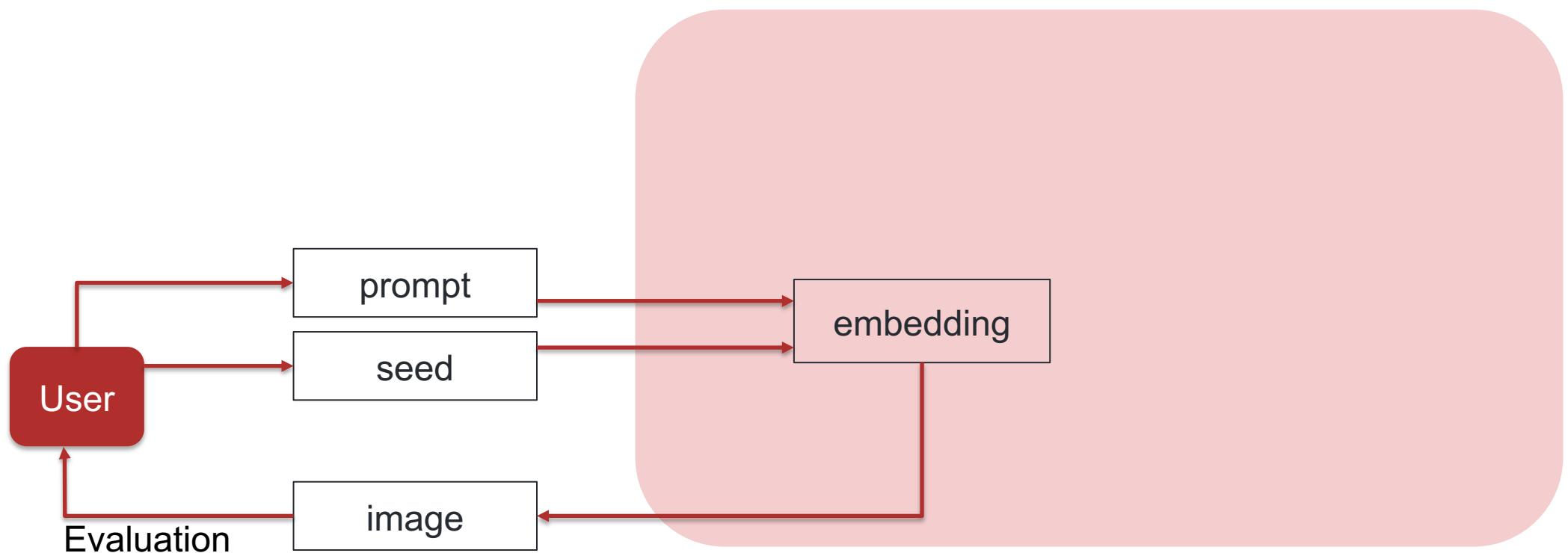
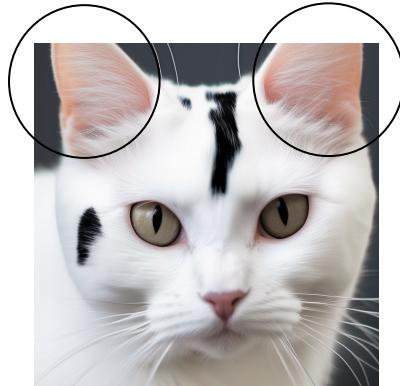
## FURTHER APPROACHES: SECOND APPROACH

Idea: User interaction interface for image adjustment



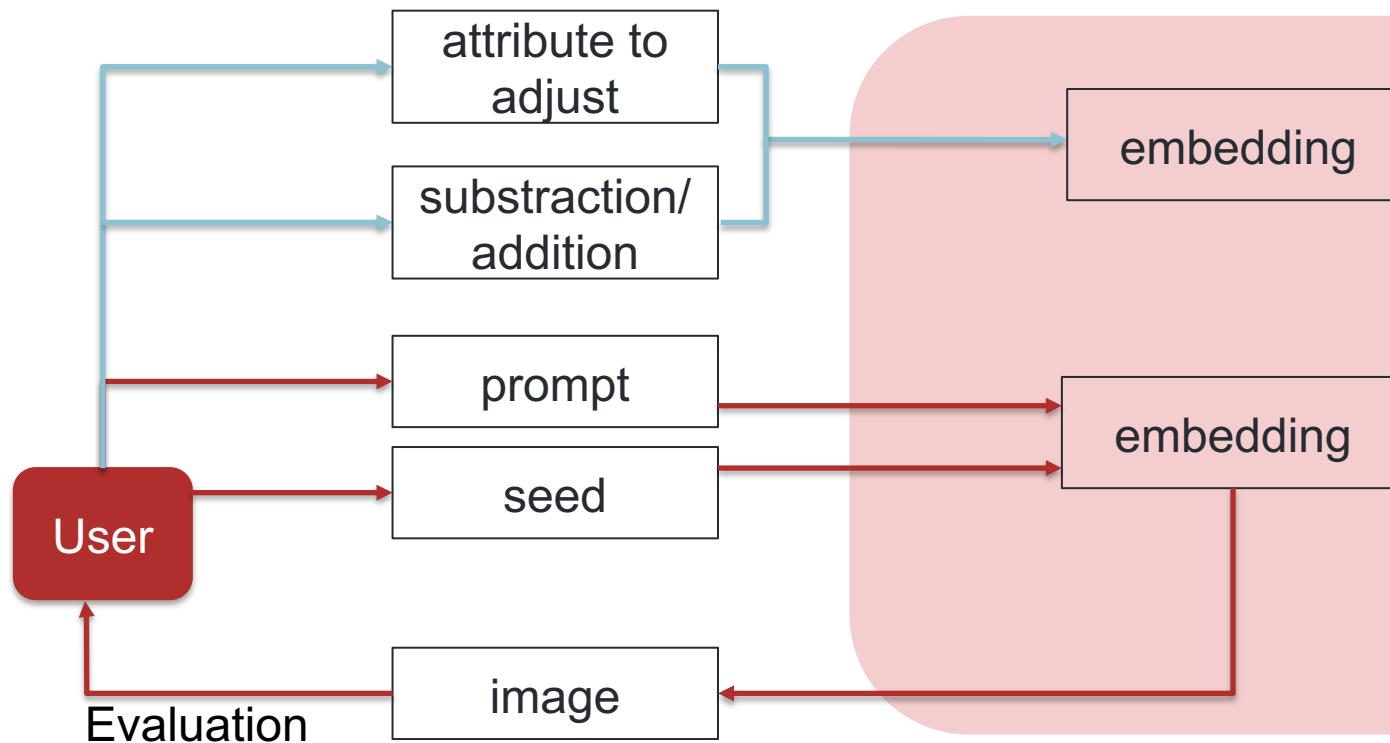
## FURTHER APPROACHES: SECOND APPROACH

Idea: User interaction interface for image adjustment



# FURTHER APPROACHES: SECOND APPROACH

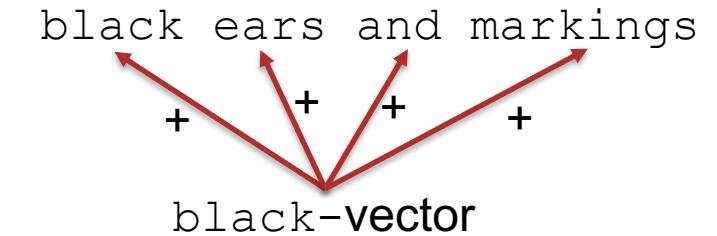
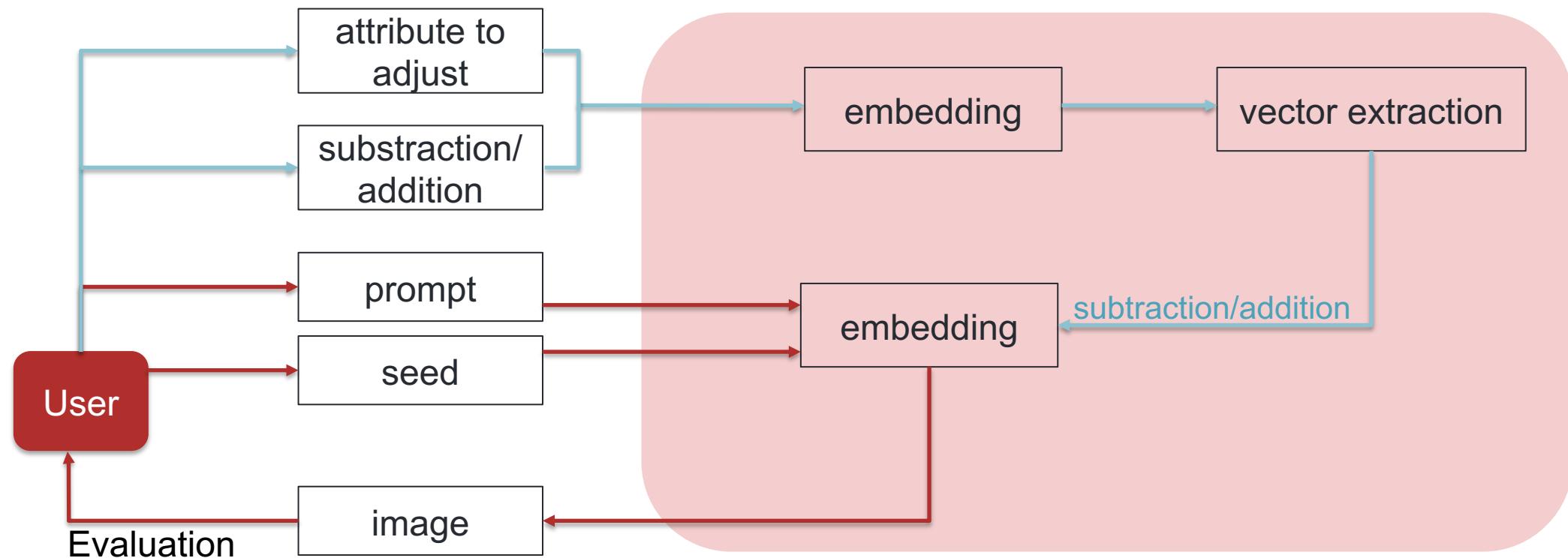
Idea: User interaction interface for image adjustment



black → CLIP → embedding  
([[-0.3884, 0.0229, -0.0522, ...  
[0.8535, -1.3848, -0.4604, ...  
[-0.3660, 1.3467, 0.8745, ...  
...,

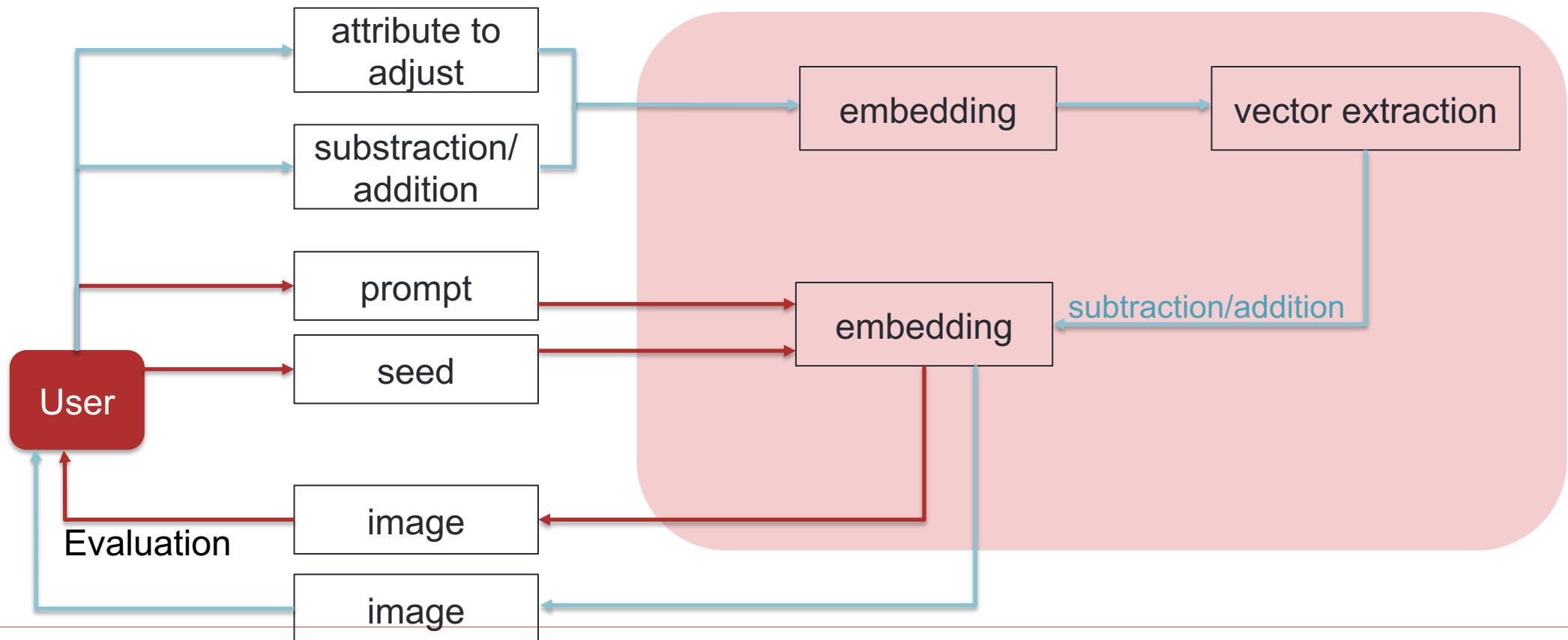
## FURTHER APPROACHES: SECOND APPROACH

Idea: User interaction interface for image adjustment



# FURTHER APPROACHES: SECOND APPROACH

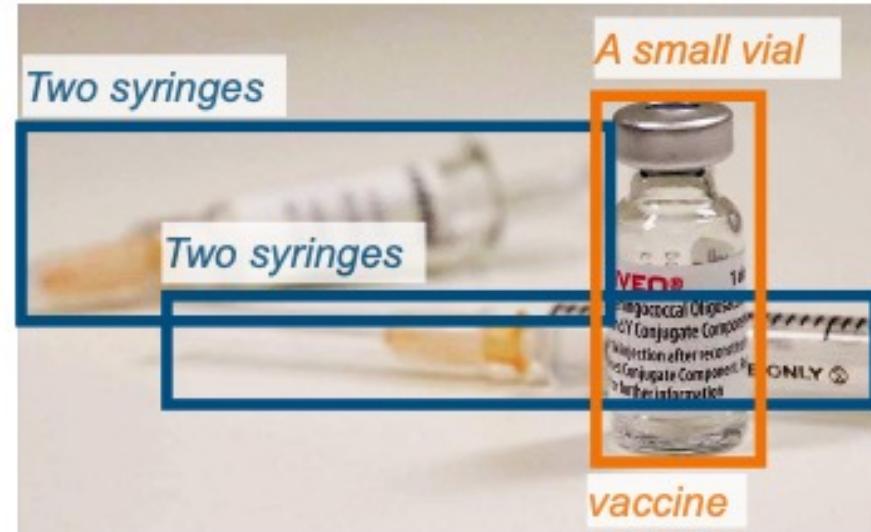
Idea: User interaction interface for image adjustment



# FURTHER APPROACHES: EVALUATION

## Automatic evaluation with GLIP

- Framework for object detection and phrase grounding
- Phrase grounding – identifying the correspondence between phrases in a prompt and objects in an image
- Object detection as a grounding task



**Two syringes and a small vial of vaccine.**

Source: Li, L. H., Zhang, P., Zhang, H., Yang, J., Li, C., Zhong, Y., ... & Gao, J. (2022). Grounded language-image pre-training. In *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition* (pp. 10965-10975).

# SUMMARY

- Failed compositionality problem limits user control over output
- Improving image compositionality approaches needed
- My approach:
  - Separate embedding of NPs
  - Additional pooling of NPs
- Limitation: architecture-dependent approach

# OUTLOOK

## Current Objectives:

- Further image generation and evaluation of results (CC-500 and ABC-6K)
- Implementation of automatic evaluation with GLIP

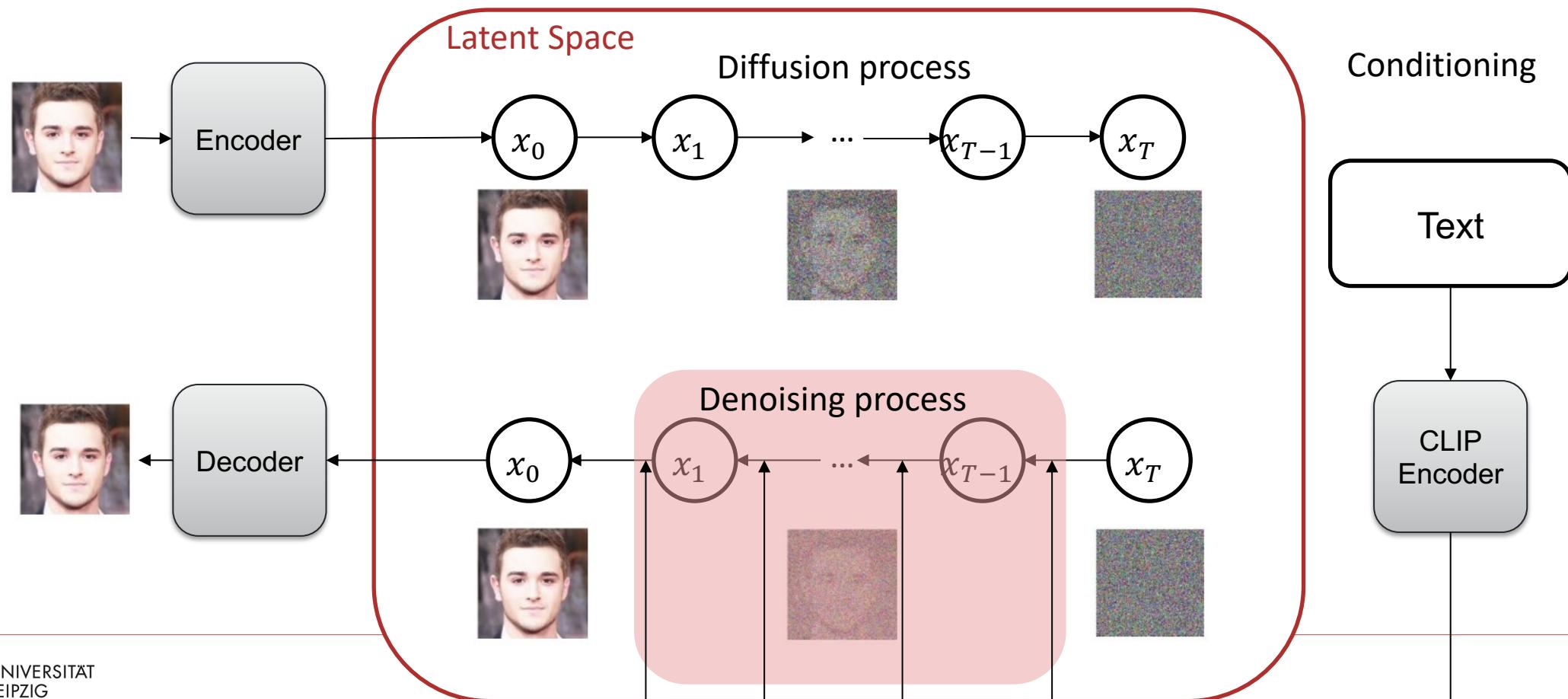
## Future Objectives (beyond thesis):

- Refinement of the second approach
- Implementation of a user interface

# BACKUP SLIDES

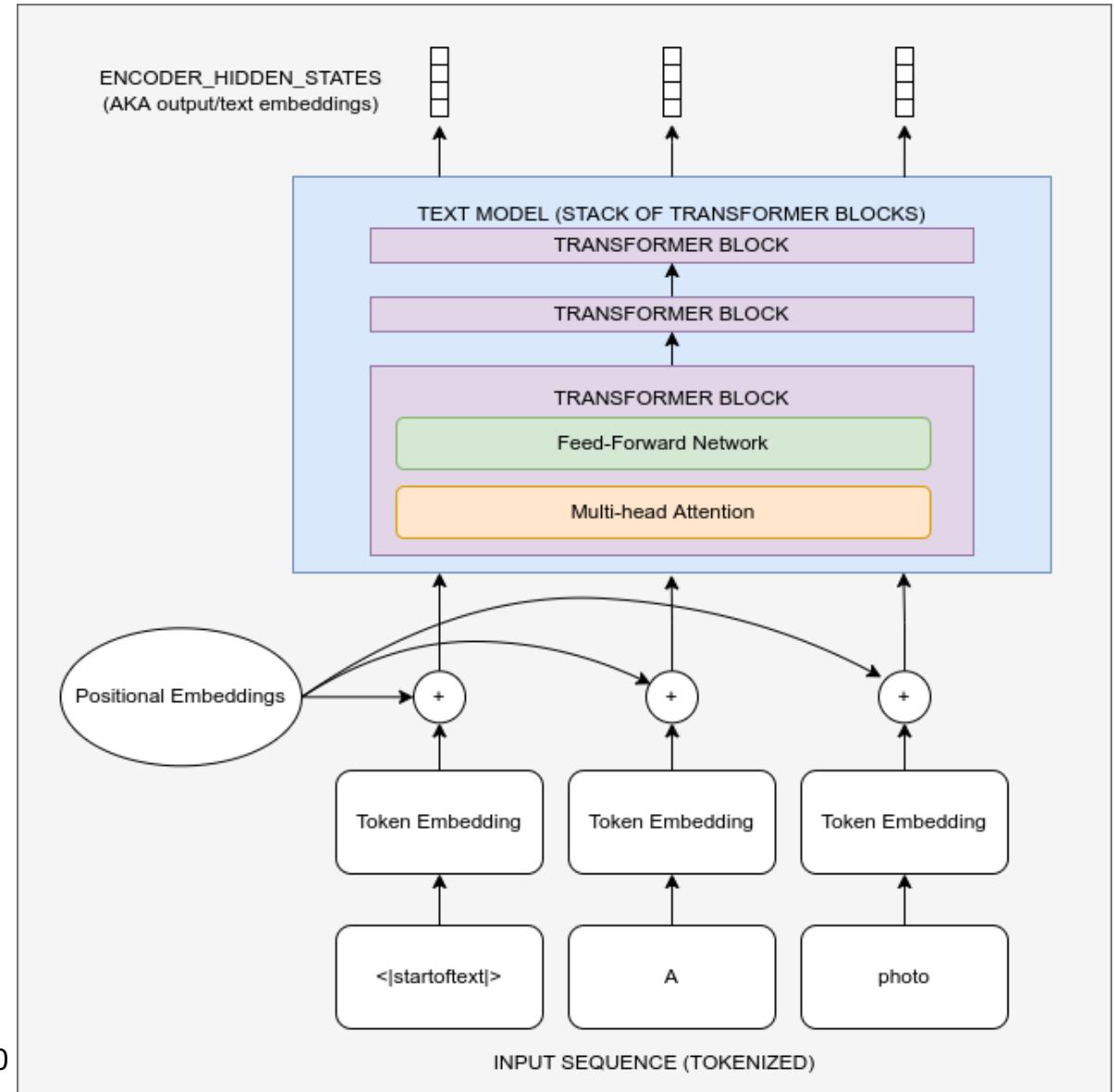
# TECHNICAL BACKGROUND

- Image generation with Stable Diffusion



# CLIP

- Prompt-embedding pipeline
- CLIP encoder has transformer architecture:
  - 12 layers
  - 8 attention-heads

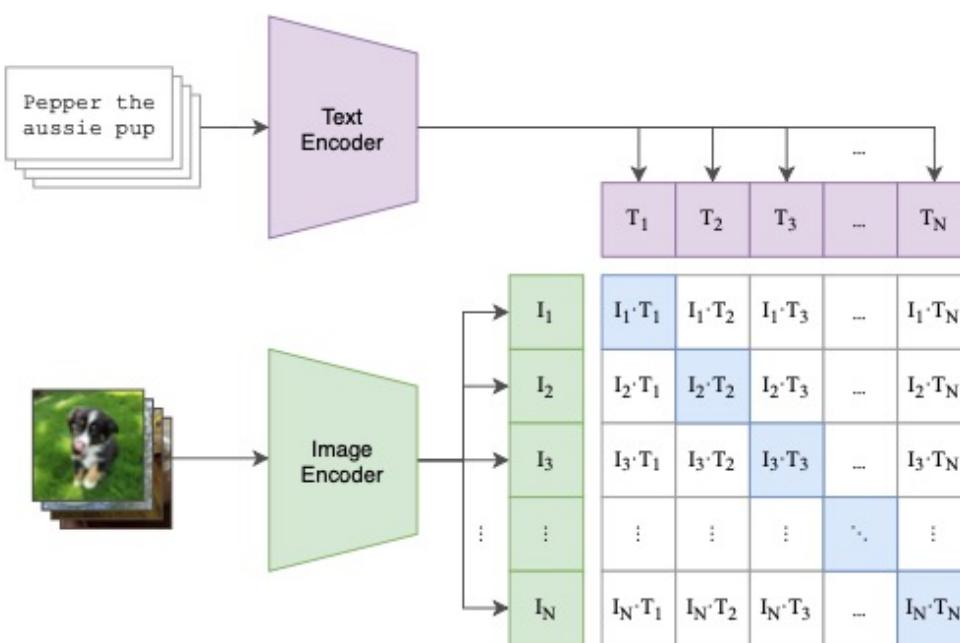


Source: <https://colab.research.google.com/github/fastai/diffusion-nbs/blob/master/Stable%20Diffusion%20Deep%20Dive.ipynb#scrollTo=297340b2-08ef-4fa4-a19a-0befffff7701b>

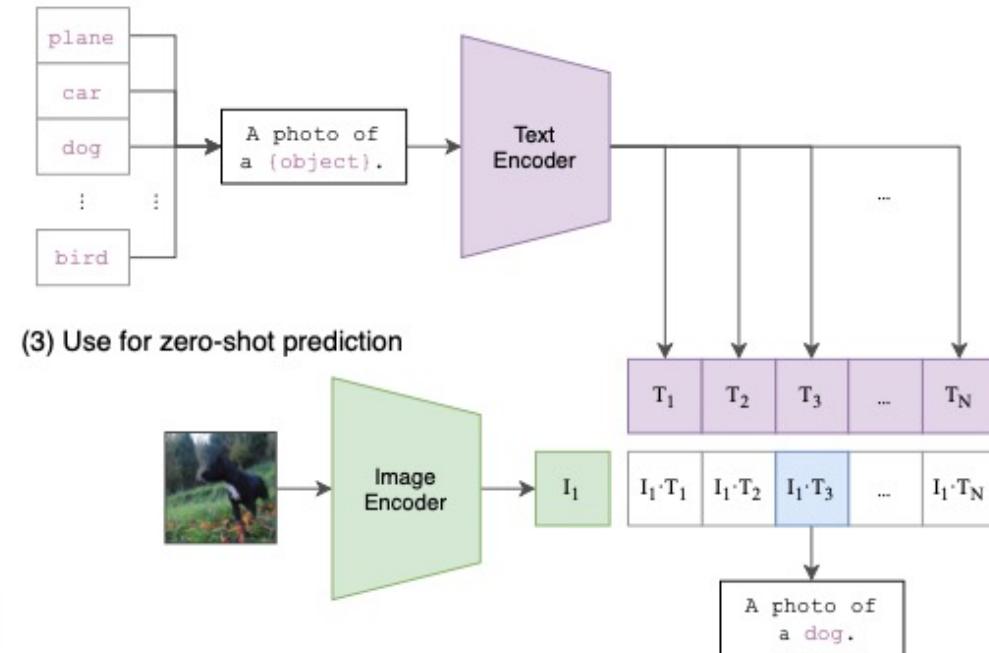
# CLIP

- CLIP text encoder = transformer
- Training in multimodal space

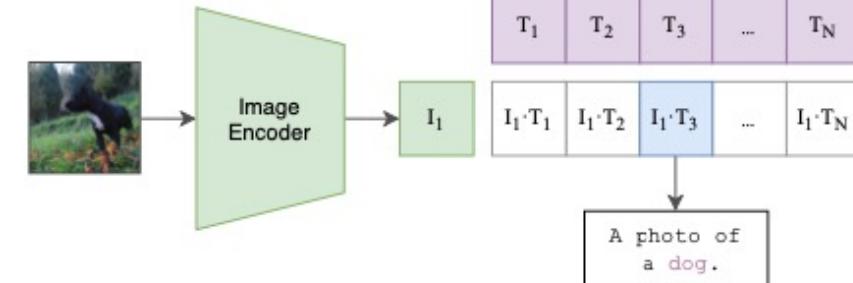
(1) Contrastive pre-training



(2) Create dataset classifier from label text

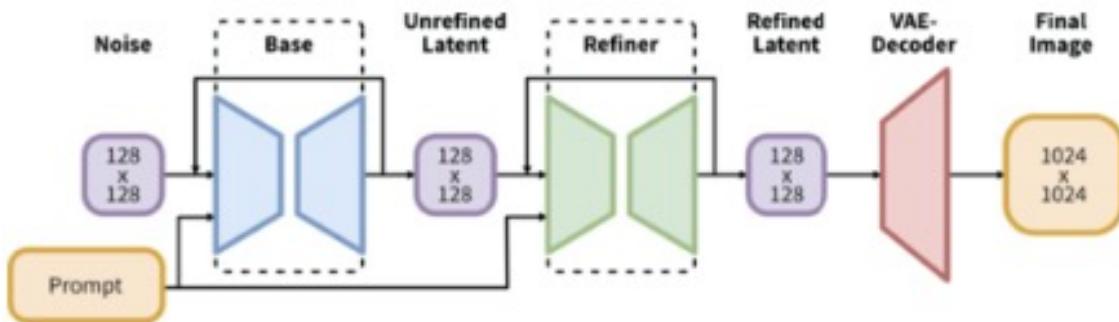


(3) Use for zero-shot prediction



# STABLE DIFFUSION XL

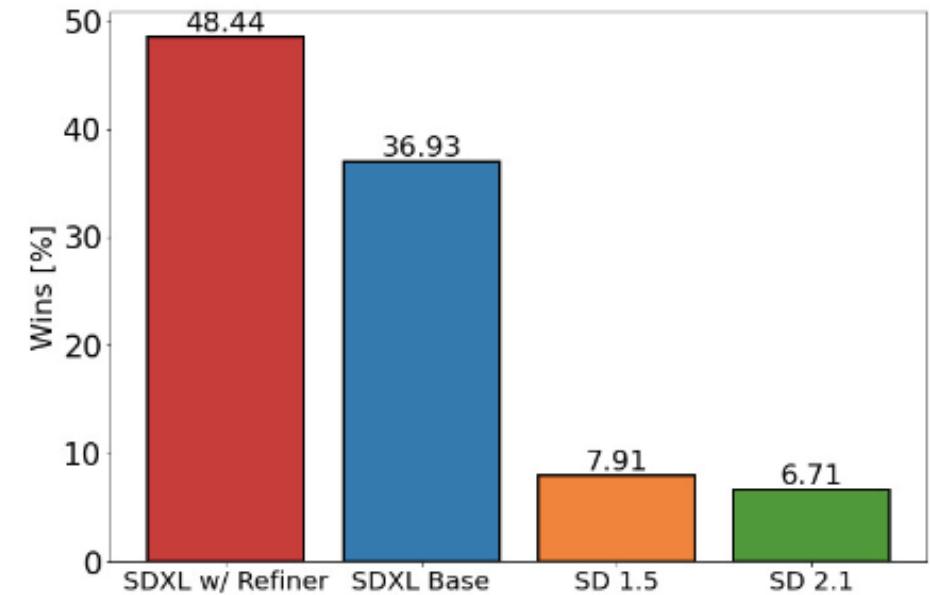
Two-stage-pipeline



Comparison between SD 1.5 and SDXL

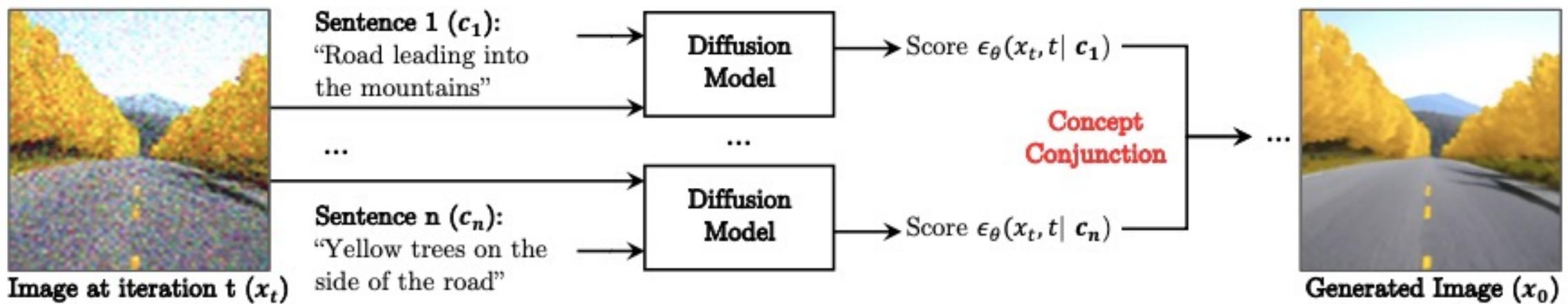
Model	SDXL	SD 1.4/1.5
# of UNet params	2.6B	860M
Transformer blocks	[0, 2, 10]	[1, 1, 1, 1]
Channel mult.	[1, 2, 4]	[1, 2, 4, 4]
Text encoder	CLIP ViT-L & OpenCLIP ViT-bigG	CLIP ViT-L
Context dim.	2048	768
Pooled text emb.	OpenCLIP ViT-bigG	N/A

Comparison of user preferences



Source: Podell, D., English, Z., Lacey, K., Blattmann, A., Dockhorn, T., Müller, J., ... & Rombach, R. (2023). Sdxl: Improving latent diffusion models for high-resolution image synthesis. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2307.01952*.

# COMPOSABLE DIFFUSION



# STRUCTURED DIFFUSION: CROSS-ATTENTION

---

**Algorithm 1** StructureDiffusion Guidance.

---

**Require:**

**Input:** Prompt  $\mathcal{P}$ , Parser  $\xi$ , decoder  $\psi$ , trained diffusion model  $\phi$ .

**Output:** Generated image  $x$ .

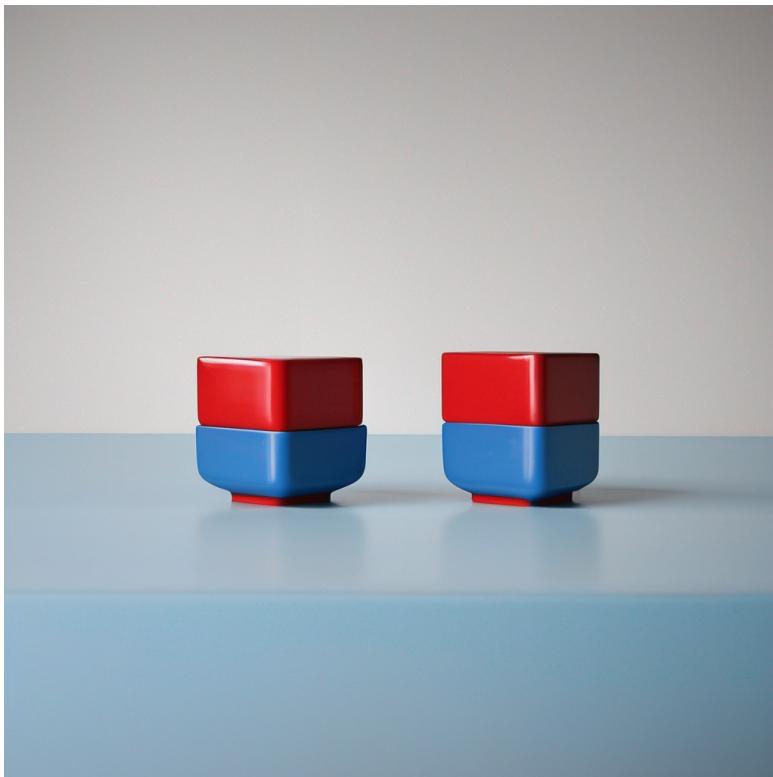
- 1: Retrieve concept set  $\mathcal{C} = [c_1, \dots, c_k]$  by traversing  $\xi(\mathcal{P})$ ;
  - 2:  $\mathcal{W}_p \leftarrow \text{CLIP}_{\text{text}}(\mathcal{P}), \mathcal{W}_i \leftarrow \text{CLIP}_{\text{text}}(c_i); \quad i = 1, \dots, k$
  - 3: **for**  $t = T, T - 1, \dots, 1$  **do**
  - 4:   **for** each cross attention layer in  $\phi$  **do**
  - 5:     Obtain previous layer's output  $\mathcal{X}^t$ .
  - 6:      $Q^t \leftarrow f_Q(\mathcal{X}^t), K_p \leftarrow f_K(\mathcal{W}_p), V_i \leftarrow f_V(\overline{\mathcal{W}}_i); \quad i = p, 1, \dots, k$
  - 7:     Obtain attention maps  $M^t$  from  $Q^t, K_p$ ; {Eq. 1}
  - 8:     Obtain  $O^t$  from  $M^t, \{V_i\}$ , and feed to following layers; {Eq. 4}
  - 9:   **end for**
  - 10: **end for**
  - 11: Feed  $z^0$  to decoder  $\psi(\cdot)$  to generate  $x$ .
-

# STABLE DIFFUSION XL

Why not modifying projected pooled embedding?

→ No visual improvement

Red cube in a blue bowl



Not manipulated



Manipulating both hidden states



Manipulating both hidden states +  
projected pooled layer

# STABLE DIFFUSION

Why not manipulating starttoken?

- Red cube in a blue bowl
- Impact of the start token



Pooling all tokens



Pooling all tokens without start token