

Multimodal Machine Learning Lab

Winter Semester 2025/2026

Niklas Deckers and Martin Potthast

Agenda

- ❑ CLIP as a Multimodal Model
- ❑ Homework Review: Emoji Keyboard
- ❑ Multimodal Scenarios

CLIP as a Multimodal Model

- CLIP and generative models [webis.de]

Homework Review: Emoji Keyboard



- ❑ Is there a natural order to emojis?
- ❑ How can the semantic meaning be inferred from emojis?
- ❑ Write a software that derives such a natural order
- ❑ Five-minute presentations (each student individually) on 05.11.2025:
Approach, results, visualizations
- ❑ Discussion: What ingredients are needed? What problems may arise?

Terminology

- ❑ Semiotics
- ❑ Sign, object, interpretant
- ❑ Peirce: Icons vs. indices vs. symbols
- ❑ Kress: Signifiers (forms) vs. signifieds (meanings)
- ❑ Encoding/decoding

Multimodal Scenarios: Task

- ❑ Many of the following scenarios describe forms of communication. How are the steps of Encoding and Decoding represented? What are the challenges given to sender or receiver?
- ❑ How is the communication (arbitrarily) made difficult? What makes the underlying concepts difficult to describe?
- ❑ What is the role of multimodality in the given scenarios? Is it used as a hurdle or as a bridge?
- ❑ What invariances w.r.t. the context are desired? (Invariant of individual person, culture, drawing style, ...)
- ❑ Are there important or particularly interesting scenarios missing?

Multimodal Scenarios

- ❑ Image search
- ❑ Image generation
- ❑ Symbolic images in news articles
- ❑ Pictograms [[imageclef.org](#)]
- ❑ (Traffic) Signs [[wikipedia.org](#)]
- ❑ Nuclear semiotics [[wikipedia.org](#)]
- ❑ Voyager Golden Record [[wikipedia.org](#)]
- ❑ Arecibo message [[wikipedia.org](#)]

Multimodal Games

- ❑ Movie Emoji Trivia
- ❑ 4 Pics 1 Word [[wikipedia.org](#)] and generative variants [[dalledle.com](#)], [[github.io](#)]
- ❑ ESP Game [[wikipedia.org](#)]
- ❑ Quick, Draw! [[quickdraw.withgoogle.com](#)]
- ❑ Skribbl.io [[skribbl.io](#)]
- ❑ Gartic Phone [[garticphone.com](#)]
- ❑ Guess Who? [[wikipedia.org](#)]
- ❑ Scribblenauts [[wikipedia.org](#)]
- ❑ Codenames [[wikipedia.org](#)]
- ❑ Portrayal [[wikipedia.org](#)]

Multimodal Datasets

- ❑ Web data [arxiv.org]
- ❑ Stock images
- ❑ The Noun Project [thenounproject.com]
- ❑ OpenMoji [openmoji.org]
- ❑ ARASAAC Pictograms [arasaac.org]

Mining for Abstract Concepts

- ❑ Dictionaries
- ❑ Reddit: r/captionthis [[reddit.com](https://www.reddit.com/r/captionthis)]
- ❑ Giving game instructions for games like Unfair Mario [[archive.org](https://archive.org/details/unfair_mario)] or The Witness [[wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Witness_(video_game))] – is this easier with words or with graphs?

Restricting the Set of Forms

- ❑ Emojis
- ❑ GIFs (in chat context)
- ❑ Toki Pona [[wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)]
- ❑ Vector graphics
- ❑ Pixel art, voxel art

Next Steps

- ❑ Designing a form of Turing test
- ❑ How can we find difficult task in terms of the boundary of what humans and machines can do?
- ❑ Game design
- ❑ Bringing this into context of Semiotics literature