



# The CLIP Model is Secretly an Image-to-Prompt Converter

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#### Introduction -- Background

- Stable Diffusion
  - As one of the most popular text-to-image generators, *Stable Diffusion* is built on the Latent Diffusion Model (LDM), which consists of a VAE compressor, a condition encoder, and a U-Net denoiser.
- Text Encoder
  - Stable Diffusion utilizes the *CLIP model* as its condition encoder, the text prompt is coded by the CLIP text transformer and then input into the cross-attention layers of U-Net.



Latent Diffusion Model (Rombach, Robin, *et al.*, 2022, *CVPR*)



Stable Diffusion (Rombach, Robin, *et al.*, 2022, *CVPR*)





#### Introduction -- Findings

- Stable Diffusion Generation
  - The generation results are highly related to the *end-token embedding*.
  - Masking the word-tokens in a sentence does not influence the generation results severely.
- Embedding Conversion in CLIP
  - Image embeddings and text embeddings are projected into a common space in the CLIP pipeline.
  - The image embedding can be converted into text embedding space with just a *pseudo-inverse matrix*.



Attention Visualization of Stable Diffusion.



The architecture of CLIP model.





#### Introduction -- Motivation

- Image Input for Stable Diffusion
  - Findings: 1) image embedding can be converted to text end-token. 2) generation can just rely on end-token embedding.
  - A naïve intuition is that the *image can directly input into the Stable Diffusion*.
- Stable Diffusion Reimagine (SD-R)
  - Generating multiple variations from an uploaded image.
  - The algorithm is built on the Stable-unCLIP model, which *fine-tunes the Stable Diffusion to adapt to the CLIP visual embeddings*.



Inputting image to Stable Diffusion.



SD-R is an algorithm for image variation. *https://stability.ai/news/stable-diffusion-reimagine* 





## Related Works – Image Variation & Customized Generation

- Image Variation
  - Generating images similar to the reference image.
  - SD-R (Rombach, Robin, et al., 2022, CVPR) needs expensive fine-tuning, which requires 200,000 GPU hours.
- Customized Generation
  - Synthesizing *specific objects or persons*.
  - DreamBooth (Ruiz, Nataniel, *et al.*, 2023, *CVPR*), Textual Inversion (Gal, Rinon, *et al.*, 2022, *ICLR*), and Custom Diffusion (Kumari, Nupur, *et al.*, 2023, *CVPR*) are recent methods.
- Image Editing
  - Attention-based methods: Prompt-to-Prompt (Hertz, Amir, et al., 2022, ICLR), Plug-and-Play (Tumanyan, Narek, et al., 2023, CVPR), etc.
  - Inversion-based methods: Null-Text Inversion (Mokady, Ron, et al., 2023, CVPR), Pix2Pix-Zero (Parmar, Gaurav, et al., 2023, SIGGRAPH), and etc.
  - InstructPix2Pix (Brooks, Tim, et al., 2023, CVPR) creates a dataset of image editing and fine-tunes Stable Diffusion for editing.





#### Methodology – SD-IPC

- Image-to-Prompt Conversion (SD-IPC)
  - Moore-Penrose pseudo-inverse.

$$\frac{\mathbf{f}_{img}^{c}}{\parallel \mathbf{f}_{img}^{c} \parallel} \approx \frac{\mathbf{f}_{txt}^{c}}{\parallel \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{c} \parallel}, \text{ with } \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{c} = W_{t} \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{t,\langle eos \rangle},$$
$$\mathbf{f}_{txt}^{t,\langle eos \rangle} \approx \frac{\parallel \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{c} \parallel}{\parallel \mathbf{f}_{img}^{c} \parallel} W_{t}^{+} \mathbf{f}_{img}^{c} \coloneqq \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{cnvrt}, \text{ where } W_{t}^{+} = \left(W_{t}^{\top} W_{t}\right)^{-1} W_{t}^{\top}.$$

• Constructing *converted image prompt*.

$$\mathbf{f}_{txt} \coloneqq \left[ \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{0,\langle sos \rangle}, \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{1,w_0}, ..., \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{t,\langle eos \rangle}, ..., \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{76,\langle eos \rangle} \right],$$
$$\mathbf{f}_{txt}' \coloneqq \left[ \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{0,\langle sos \rangle}, \emptyset, ..., \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{t,\langle eos \rangle}, ..., \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{76,\langle eos \rangle} \right],$$
$$\mathbf{f}_{txt}'' \coloneqq \left[ \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{0,\langle sos \rangle}, \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{1,\langle eos \rangle}, ..., \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{76,\langle eos \rangle} \right],$$
$$\mathbf{\tilde{f}}_{txt} \coloneqq \left[ \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{0,\langle sos \rangle}, \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{1,\langle eos \rangle}, ..., \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{76,\langle eos \rangle} \right],$$
$$\mathbf{\tilde{f}}_{txt} \coloneqq \left[ \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{0,\langle sos \rangle}, \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{1,\langle eos \rangle}, ..., \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{76,\langle eos \rangle} \right],$$
$$\mathbf{\tilde{f}}_{txt} = \left[ \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{0,\langle sos \rangle}, \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{1,w_0}, ..., \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{1,comb}, ..., \mathbf{f}_{txt}^{76,comb} \right].$$



Converting image embedding to text space by a pseudo-inverse matrix.

Emb. Space	Acc@1	Acc@5	<b>TR@1</b>	TR@5	IR@1	IR@5
C-space	71.41	91.78	74.58	92.98	55.54	82.39
$\mathcal{T}$ -space	69.48	90.62	71.62	92.06	54.82	82.20

No performance loss after conversion to text embedding space.





#### Methodology – SD-IPC-FT

- Fine-tuning with Image-to-Prompt Conversion
  - Approximation error in SD-IPC.
  - It is crucial to have a method that allows *control* of the content we wish to preserve, *e.g.* objects, scenes, styles, or identities.
  - CLIP prompt tuning & U-Net cross-attention layers finetuning.

$$\underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{\epsilon,\mathbf{z},x_{\text{ref}},t}\left[\left\|\boldsymbol{\epsilon}-\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{\theta}\left(\mathbf{z}_{t},\boldsymbol{c}_{img}\left(x_{\text{ref}}\right),t\right)\right\|^{2}\right]}_{\text{Finetuning with SD-IPC}}+\underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{\epsilon,\mathbf{z},p_{txt},t}\left[\left\|\boldsymbol{\epsilon}-\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{\theta}\left(\mathbf{z}_{t},\boldsymbol{c}_{txt}\left(p_{txt}\right),t\right)\right\|^{2}\right]}_{\text{Regularization term with text}}.$$



SD-IPC-FT can alleviate the error and preserve specific content.





### Methodology-SD-IPC-CT

- Fast Update for Customized Generation
  - Achieving customized generation by *online update with SD-IPC*.
  - Benefiting from the good initialization of SD-IPC, our method can generate customized images with *much fewer updates* (30 iterations *vs.* 250 iterations).
  - Quantitative analysis with the benchmark in DreamBooth.



SD-IPC-CT can get better performance with few updates.





#### Experimental Results – Image Variation

• Our SD-IPC holds the *same performance* 

with text-to-image Stable Diffusion.

Methods	FID	CLIP-Score
SD w/ Text	23.65	70.15
SD-IPC (Ours)	24.78	73.57

Our SD-IPC is close to the original Stable Diffusion on FID and CLIP-Score.



Image variation examples.





# Experimental Results – Text-edited Image Variation

- Our SD-IPC-FT *gets superior editing performance* compared to SD-R.
- SD-R *fails in image editing*, the results only show the variation but without editing. Even SD-IPC slightly outperforms SD-R.

Method	CLIP-T
$\operatorname{SD-IPC}$	26.84
SD-IPC-FT	28.69
SD-R	26.01

Superior editing performance of SD-IPC-FT.



Text editing performance. SD-R is prone to ignore the text condition.





# Experimental Results - Customized Generation

- DreamBooth is limited on editing, Textual Inversion and Custom Diffusion are challenging on subject details preservation.
- Our SD-IPC-CT strikes *a balance between*

subject fidelity and editing performance.

Methods	DNIO	CLIP-I	CLIP-T	C
$\operatorname{DreamBooth}$	60.11	77.78	25.81	Di
Textual Inversion	25.11	62.44	29.53	
Custom Diffusion	39.67	68.37	<b>30.90</b>	
SD-IPC-CT (Ours)	50.25	74.59	28.14	Т

SD-IPC-CT shows both good identity preservation and good editing performance.



Example of DreamBooth benchmark. DreamBooth overfits the input images, while Textual Inversion and Custom Diffusion can not preserve the subject.





## Experimental Results – Ablation Study

• CLIP prompt tuning & U-Net crossattention layers finetuning *both* 

contribute to extract correct information.

• Replacing our pseudo-inverse matrix with a *FC layer leads to overfitting*.



Visualization of image variation with different fine-tuning settings.

Method	DNIO	CLIP-I	CLIP-T
SD-IPC	44.60	77.44	25.47
SD-IPC-FT (C)	49.11	76.51	25.82
SD-IPC-FT (U)	48.53	79.06	26.17
SD-IPC-FT	52.03	<b>79.59</b>	25.90

Quantitative results of image variation.

Method	DNIO	CLIP-I	CLIP-T
SD-IPC	31.09	68.66	26.84
SD-IPC-FT (C)	29.10	67.03	27.99
SD-IPC-FT (U)	35.21	69.99	28.56
SD-IPC-FT	40.28	<b>71.97</b>	28.69

Quantitative results of text-edited image variation.





### **Future Directions**

- Better editing performance.
- Multi-concept generation.
- Story generation with consistency.
- Feature explainability of Stable Diffusion & CLIP.
- Image-to-prompt pathway in CLIPbased or LDM-based models.

- A little robot named Rusty went on an adventure to a big city.
- The robot found no other robot in the city but only people.
- The robot went to the village to find other robots.
- Then the robot went to the river.
- Finally, the robot found his friends.



Story generation example.





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