



Smoothed Energy Guidance: Guiding Diffusion Models with Reduced Energy Curvature of Attention

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Introduction



Song, Yang, et al. "Score-based generative modeling through stochastic differential equations." ICLR 2021.

Introduction

Classifer-Free Guidance [Ho and Salimans, 2022]

- Guidance without a classifier
- Reverse SDE

$$d\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t) - g(t)^2 (\gamma_{\text{cfg}} \mathbf{s}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}, t, c) - (\gamma_{\text{cfg}} - 1) \mathbf{s}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}, t))]dt + g(t)d\bar{\mathbf{w}}$$

Introduction

Classifer-Free Guidance [Ho and Salimans, 2022]

• Moves samples towards "sharper" class-conditional distributions



Ho, Jonathan, and Tim Salimans. "Classifier-free diffusion guidance." arXiv preprint arXiv:2207.12598 (2022).

We propose using the energy of the attention weights, inspired by the modern (continuous) **Hopfield networks** (Definition 2.1)

$$E(\mathbf{A}) := \sum_{i=1}^{H} \sum_{j=1}^{W} E'(\mathbf{a}_{:(i,j)})$$
$$E'(\mathbf{a}) := -\operatorname{lse}(\mathbf{a}) = -\log\left(\sum_{k=1}^{H} \sum_{l=1}^{W} e^{a_{(k,l)}}\right)$$

Blurring attention weights

- Preserves the mean and decreases the variance (Lemma 3.1)
- Increases the value of the energy function (Lemma 3.2)
- Results in decreasing the Gaussian curvature of the energy landscape (Theorem 3.1)

Blurring attention weights

• Is equivalent to blurring queries (Proposition 3.1)

$$G * (\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{K}^{\top}) = \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{K}^{\top})$$
$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{K}^{\top}) = (\mathbf{B}\mathbf{Q})\mathbf{K}^{\top} = (G * \mathbf{Q})\mathbf{K}^{\top}$$

Smoothed Energy Guidance



Smoothed Energy Guidance

• We propose training- and condition-free guidance

$$d\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x},t) - g(t)^2(\gamma_{\text{seg}}\mathbf{s}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x},t) - (\gamma_{\text{seg}}-1)\tilde{\mathbf{s}}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x},t))]dt + g(t)d\bar{\mathbf{w}}$$

• We can control the effect with $\sigma \in (0, \infty)$ of the Gaussian blur



(a) Vanilla SDXL



(b) SDXL + Smoothed Energy Guidance (Ours)





Hong, Susung. "Smoothed Energy Guidance: Guiding Diffusion Models with Reduced Energy Curvature of Attention." NeurIPS 2024.
Ahn, Donghoon, et al. "Self-Rectifying Diffusion Sampling with Perturbed-Attention Guidance." ECCV 2024.
Hong, Susung, et al. "Improving sample quality of diffusion models using self-attention guidance." ICCV 2023.



