

---

# PromptCoT: Align Prompt Distribution via Adapted Chain of Thought

---

Anonymous Author(s)

Affiliation

Address

email

## Abstract

1 Diffusion-based generative models have exhibited remarkable capability in the  
2 production of high-fidelity visual content such as images and videos. However,  
3 their performance is significantly contingent upon the quality of textual inputs,  
4 commonly referred to as "prompts". The process of traditional prompt engineering,  
5 while effective, necessitates empirical expertise and poses challenges for inexpe-  
6 rienced users. In this paper, we introduce PromptCoT, an innovative enhancer  
7 that autonomously refines prompts for users. The design of PromptCoT is based  
8 on the observation that, prompts resembling textual information corresponding to  
9 high-quality images within the training set tend to yield superior generation perfor-  
10 mance. As such, we fine-tune the pre-trained Large Language Models (LLM) using  
11 a curated text dataset comprising solely of high-quality visual content descriptions.  
12 By doing so, the LLM becomes capable of capturing the distribution of high-quality  
13 training texts, enabling it to generate aligned continuations and revisions to boost  
14 the original texts. Nonetheless, one drawback of pre-trained LLMs is their tendency  
15 to generate extraneous or irrelevant information. To enhance the alignment between  
16 the original text prompts and the refined counterparts, we leverage the Chain-of-  
17 Thought (CoT) mechanism. CoT can extract and amalgamate crucial information  
18 from the aligned continuation and revision, enabling reasonable inferences based  
19 on the contextual cues to produce a more comprehensive and nuanced final output.  
20 Considering computational efficiency, instead of allocating a dedicated LLM for  
21 prompt enhancement to each individual model or dataset, we integrate adapters  
22 that facilitate dataset-specific adaptation, leveraging a shared pre-trained LLM as  
23 the foundation for this process. By fine-tuning these adapters independently, we  
24 can adapt PromptCoT to new datasets with minimal increase in training cost and  
25 memory usage. We assess the performance of PromptCoT on widely-used latent  
26 diffusion models for image and video generation to validate the effectiveness. The  
27 results demonstrate significant improvements in key performance metrics.

## 28 1 Introduction

29 In recent years, deep generative models have made notable advancements, specifically with the  
30 introduction of diffusion probabilistic models (DPMs). These models have exhibited exceptional  
31 capabilities in generating a wide range of visually compelling and high-fidelity visual contents, such  
32 as images and videos, as evidenced by notable contributions in the literature [37, 12, 38, 36, 7, 28,  
33 32, 30].

34 By harnessing textual inputs as conditional guidance, diffusion models have the ability to generate  
35 visual outputs that align with the corresponding input text, utilizing an iterative denoising procedure.  
36 This technological advancement has paved the way for revolutionary applications, including notable  
37 examples such as DALL-E 2 [28], Stable Diffusion [30], MagicVideo [50], among others.

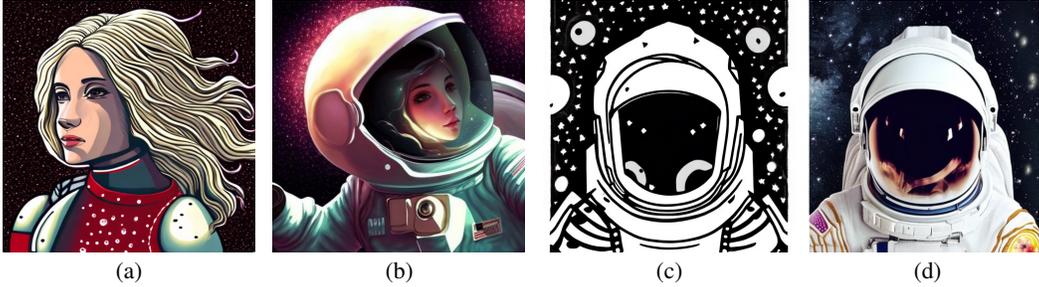


Figure 1: **Impacts of PromptCoT.** (a) and (c) shows the images generated with the original text prompts, and (b) and (d) show the images generated with the text prompts refined by PromptCoT. The text prompt for (a), (b), (c) and (d) are: 1) "highly detailed portrait of a hopeful pretty astronaut lady with a wavy blonde hair, by Jamini Roy , 4k resolution, nier:automata inspired, bravely default inspired, vibrant but dreary but uplifting red, black and white color scheme!!! ((Space nebula background))" ; 2) "Astronaut portrait of Silica from the game Bravely Default II by Jamini Roy", and 3) "highly detailed portrait of a hopeful pretty astronaut lady with a wavy blonde hair, by Pablo Picasso, 4k resolution, nier:automata inspired, bravely default inspired, vibrant but dreary but uplifting red, black and white color scheme!!! ((Space nebula background))",and 4)"Portrait Of A Beautiful Astronaut Girl Canvas Art Print" respectively.

38 Nevertheless, the quality of the generated content is intricately tied to the caliber of the textual  
 39 prompts provided to the generative model. Human inputs tend to be informal and straightforward,  
 40 which may impede the expression of the desired scene with the desired level of depth. Additionally,  
 41 the text encoder within the generative model may not fully comprehend the semantic nuances present  
 42 in the human-generated text, resulting in notable disparities between the encoded textual guidance  
 43 and the user’s intended meaning. Diffusion probabilistic models (DPMs) are commonly trained on  
 44 extensive text-vision pairs acquired through web-scraping techniques [35]. Our observation reveals  
 45 that the distribution of the text dataset might not be congruent with the linguistic style employed by  
 46 layman users. Furthermore, even in cases where the training text data aligns with the desired style,  
 47 the quality can exhibit substantial variations due to the presence of meaningless words or extraneous  
 48 information within the text data. This intricacy further complicates the establishment of a clear and  
 49 unambiguous mapping between the text and the corresponding image.

50 As a result, there is an immediate imperative to develop a methodology that can effectively align  
 51 prompts, consequently augmenting the image generation performance in generative models. Although  
 52 data cleaning and model fine-tuning have been considered potential solutions, these methods often  
 53 entail drawbacks such as high costs, instability, and time intensiveness. Another alternative is manual  
 54 prompt engineering, which involves refining prompts to optimize generation performance. However,  
 55 this empirical task traditionally demands the expertise of experienced professionals, thereby posing a  
 56 significant challenge for individuals lacking relevant experience.

57 In our study, we observe a noticeable trend that prompts, which resemble those found in the training  
 58 set, usually lead to superior generative performance. Stemming from this observation, we propose  
 59 PromptCoT, a novel prompt booster that leverages the power of pre-trained Large Language Models  
 60 (LLMs) and incorporates the Chain-of-Thought (CoT) mechanism to learn high-quality prompt  
 61 expressions from the training texts of generative models. Specifically, we carry out the fine-tuning  
 62 of LLaMA [40], a widely-used pre-trained Large Language Model, on two distinct datasets we’ve  
 63 prepared. With a text-continuation dataset that appends aligned details to original prompts, and a  
 64 text-revision dataset that rewrites original prompts to aligned prompts, we enable LLaMA to refine  
 65 prompts that better match the distribution of the text data used for training the diffusion models. To  
 66 further enhance the performance of LLMs by combining the advantages of both text-continuation  
 67 and text-revision, we construct a dataset using the CoT mechanism assisted by ChatGPT. This CoT  
 68 dataset is designed to enable LLMs to reason and generate text that follows a logical and coherent  
 69 flow. By fine-tuning LLMs on this CoT dataset, we can enhance their reasoning ability and augments  
 70 their capacity to generate high-quality text that is both contextually relevant and logically coherent.

71 To accommodate the varying training sets of different generative models, we incorporate a parameter-  
 72 efficient adaptation design into the training pipeline of PromptCoT, augmenting a pre-trained base

73 booster with specific lightweight adapters that are capable of aligning text distributions for various  
74 generative models across multiple tasks. We demonstrate the effectiveness of PromptCoT through  
75 extensive experiments on widely-used latent diffusion models for image and video generation,  
76 showing significant improvements in key performance metrics such as Fréchet Inception Distance,  
77 aesthetic score, and CLIP-similarity.

78 Our main contributions are:

- 79 • We propose PromptCoT, an innovative prompt refiner that aligns input prompts with the text  
80 distribution employed during the training of diffusion models. By accomplishing this alignment,  
81 PromptCoT effectively activates generative models and enhances their performance.
- 82 • We explore a new optimization scheme for improving prompt quality by leveraging the power  
83 of pre-trained LLMs and CoT mechanisms. And we construct datasets to facilitate the learning of  
84 high-quality prompt distribution from the training texts of generative models.
- 85 • We demonstrate that allocating a dedicated Large Language Model (LLM) for each diffusion  
86 model is not a requirement. Instead, we propose an innovative scheme where a set of lightweight  
87 adapter weights suffices for each dedicated diffusion model. These adapters can share a shared base  
88 pre-trained LLM, resulting in a considerable reduction in memory footprint.
- 89 • We show the effectiveness of PromptCoT through extensive experiments on widely-used latent dif-  
90 fusion models for image and video generation, showing significant improvements in key performance  
91 metrics.

## 92 **2 Related Work**

### 93 **2.1 Text-to-Image Generative Models**

94 Text-to-Image Generative Models operate by taking natural language descriptions as input and  
95 generating corresponding images as output. One of the recent popular model is DALL-E 2 [29].  
96 It utilize CLIP [26] to align the text and image embeddings. By conditioning the diffusion prob-  
97 abilistic generator on the textual embedding, DALL-E 2 is able to produce photorealistic images  
98 that correspond to the given textual description. Later, Google’s Imagen [32] and Parti [46] were  
99 proposed by gradually simulating the spread of noise into the original image to reveal the desired  
100 image. Specifically, both Parti and Imagen combine autoregressive and diffusion. The application  
101 of diffusion probabilistic models has also been extended to the domain of video generation. The  
102 Video Diffusion Model [13], built upon the foundations of diffusion models, enables the sequential  
103 generation of high-quality video frames. To address the substantial computational requirements  
104 associated with video generation, MagicVideo [51] was introduced, combining latent diffusion and  
105 attention models. MagicVideo utilizes a frame-wise lightweight adapter and an attention module to  
106 effectively adjust the image-to-video distribution and capture temporal dependencies across frames.

### 107 **2.2 Large Language Models**

108 Large Language Models (LLMs) are powerful deep learning models for various natural language  
109 processing tasks. The most popular LLMs are the GPT [27, 5] series models developed by OpenAI,  
110 which are based on the decoder component of the transformer architecture. Another LLM is Meta’s  
111 OPT [49], which is open-sourced and performs similarly in performance to GPT-3. However, GPT-3’s  
112 massive size of 175B parameters requires significant computing power and resources, which makes  
113 it challenging for researchers to explore. In contrast, LLaMA [40, 41], StableLM [2], as well as  
114 the instruction-following Alpaca model [39] are smaller and more performant, achieve comparable  
115 results to ChatGPT with far fewer parameters (7B). For specific tasks like conversational applications,  
116 ChatGLM [47, 9] can generate coherent and contextually relevant responses in dialogue systems.

### 117 **2.3 Parameter-Efficient Fine-Tuning**

118 The goal of parameter-efficient fine-tuning is to attain comparable performance to fine-tuning on a  
119 specific downstream task while using the fewest trainable parameters possible. According to [1],  
120 common pre-trained models generally have a very low intrinsic dimension, and LoRA [15] learns  
121 low-rank parameterizations to enhance tuning efficiency based on that. Except reducing the number  
122 of parameters needed for fine-tuning, other approaches try to attach pre-trained parameters to reduce  
123 training time. Adapter training [14, 24] utilizes dynamic pre-trained adapters for different tasks and  
124 languages to reduce adaptation time. Compacter [21] combines both concepts and builds on top of  
125 adapters, low-rank optimization, and parameterized hypercomplex multiplication layers.

126 **2.4 Prompt Engineering**

127 Prompt Engineering is to optimize the outputs of language models with specific input prompts  
128 [4, 33, 20, 8]. Discrete text prompts [16] serve as starting points for the model’s language generation,  
129 and are used to generate responses in dialogue systems. Beyond discrete prompts, [17, 43] explores  
130 prompt tuning to learn soft prompts to perform specific downstream tasks, which provide more  
131 context-aware guidance to the model. [25] extends the idea of learning soft prompts and demonstrates  
132 that the implicit factual knowledge in language models was underestimated. Given that manually  
133 designing prompts can be cumbersome, automatically generating prompts gives a chance avoid  
134 intensive labor and enhance efficiency [33, 34]. [10] proposes to generate all prompt candidates  
135 and selectively incorporate them into each context using a refined strategy. [11] introduces a more  
136 efficient method to construct prompts with several sub-prompts that employs prompt tuning with  
137 rules without searching. Overall, prompt engineering is an efficient approach that helps bridge the  
138 gap between pre-training and fine-tuning.

139 **2.5 Chain-of-Thought**

140 Chain-of-Thought is a specialized tool designed for the task of multi-step reasoning and decision-  
141 making [44]. The traditional prompting method [4] performs poorly when it comes to tasks that  
142 require reasoning abilities. Inspired by the concept of using intermediate steps to solve reasoning  
143 problems [19, 6], the chain of thought method mimics a step-by-step thinking process and breaks  
144 down multi-step problems into intermediate steps, enabling the model to deduce more accurate  
145 results [23]. Additionally, [52] address the challenge of dealing with tasks that are more complex  
146 than example prompts, and proposes the least-to-most prompting approach which breaks down  
147 complex problems into smaller and easier subproblems. Moreover, [42] introduces self-consistency  
148 as a replacement for the greedy decoding algorithm, which samples and selects the most consistent  
149 reasoning paths to replace the greedy set.

150 **3 Method**

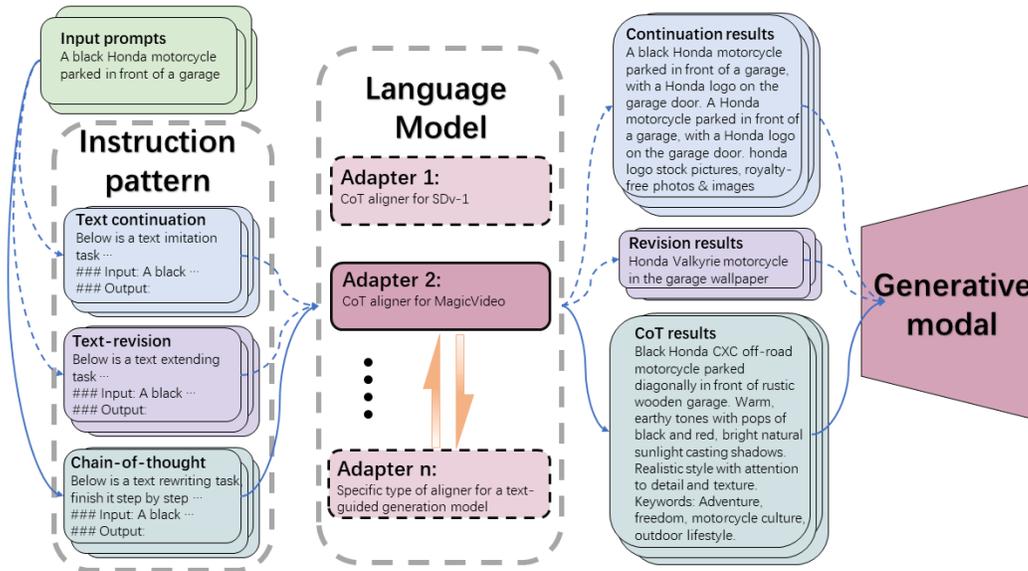


Figure 2: Pipeline of PromptCoT. (Left) We build three types of instruction patterns for training. (Middle) We utilize adapters for multi-task adaptation. (Right) Results of t-continue, t2t booster and PromptCoT.

151 **3.1 Overview**

152 Text-to-image diffusion models serve as an illustrative example for showcasing the functionality of  
153 PromptCoT. However, it is important to note that the same methodology can be extended and applied  
154 to other diffusion-based generative models, including text-to-video and various other domains. In

155 the context of training text-to-image diffusion-based models, which involve image-text pairs and  
 156 employ an iterative denoising process to reconstruct images based on corresponding prompts, our  
 157 hypothesis posits that prompts aligned with high-quality images within the training set are more  
 158 inclined to yield visually superior outputs. We randomly select 5 sets of 50 prompts corresponding to  
 159 images with varying levels of quality from the Stable Diffusion training set, LAION [35], for image  
 160 generation. The aesthetic score, an image quality metric introduced by [31], is used to represent  
 161 the quality of individual images. As shown in Table 1, the generation performance is highly related  
 162 to the prompts corresponding to the original image quality. For convenience, we refer to them as  
 “high-quality prompts”. In the following sections, we explain the key components of PromptCoT,

Table 1: Comparison of Aesthetic Scores between Generated Images and Corresponding Training Images.

	Aesthetic Score			
Training images	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8
Generated images	5.2	5.5	6.1	6.3

163 which is a prompt booster that can align input prompts with high-quality prompts in the training set,  
 164 and in turn, improve generation performance.  
 165

### 166 3.2 Aligning Prompt Distribution with LLM

167 LLMs are extremely powerful tools that are capable of generating human-like language and complet-  
 168 ing tasks such as translation, summarization, question answering, etc. They are trained on massive  
 169 amounts of text data and can learn from unstructured data to generalize to new tasks and domains.  
 170 LLMs can also be fine-tuned on specific tasks with relatively small amounts of task-specific data,  
 171 making them highly versatile. In this paper, we leverage this ability to align the distribution of  
 172 high-quality prompts via fine-tuning a popular LLM LLaMA [40], on text continuation and revision  
 173 tasks. To fine-tune LLaMA on text continuation, we use an instruction tuning template that includes  
 174 incomplete text descriptions and a goal to provide a compelling continuation. The instruction tuning  
 175 template is shown in Figure 3. We feed truncated text prompts placed in the *input* field to the LLM,  
 176 supervised by the complete prompts. This enables the LLM to generate continuations containing  
 177 more details.

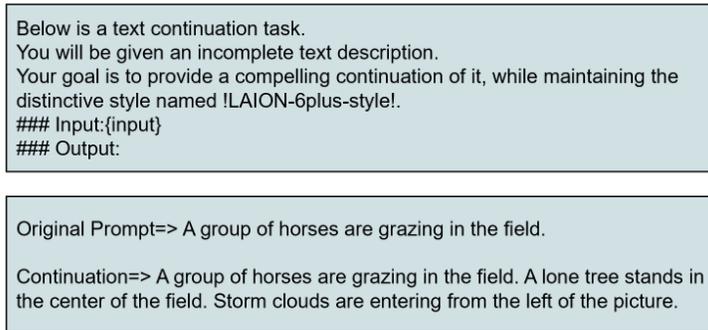


Figure 3: Template of text-continuation dataset (Up) and corresponding output (Bottom).

178 For text revision, we train the LLM to map human-like input texts to high-quality prompts. However,  
 179 acquiring a large amount of human-written input text can be costly. Therefore, we leverage image  
 180 captions from BLIP as a low-cost source of "human-like" input texts. The details of collecting  
 181 and filtering data pairs are described in the later section. For training, we construct the instruction  
 182 tuning template in Figure 4. The training pipeline is similar to continuation, but with the input being  
 183 human-like prompts. As a result, we obtain a booster capable of performing revision tasks.

### 184 3.3 Enhancement with CoT

185 Instruction tuning enables the LLM to add details and align text distribution, however, it tends to  
 186 generate extraneous information that degrades performance. As such, we introduce the Chain-of-  
 187 Thought (CoT) mechanism in the pipeline to address this issue. We set up five steps to make the

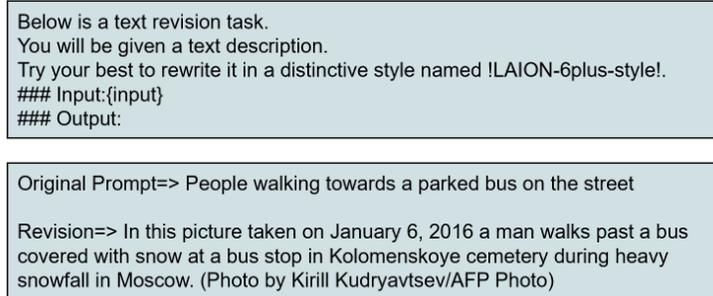


Figure 4: Template of text-revision dataset (Up) and corresponding output (Bottom).

188 LLM yield the expected production: (i) Extract key information from the original prompt, such as  
 189 visual medium and main elements, (ii) Leverage the text-continuation model to append reasonable  
 190 details, (iii) Extract additional concepts (for example, the color scheme) from the extended prompt  
 191 and emphasize crucial concepts, (iv) With improved key information and crucial concepts, the LLM  
 192 can generate a fluent prompt, remaining to be aligned, (v) Leverage the text-revision model to align  
 193 prompts to the specific distribution. This mechanism extracts and amalgamates crucial information  
 194 from the aligned continuation and revision, enabling reasonable inferences based on the contextual  
 195 cues. As a result, a more comprehensive and nuanced final output is produced.

### 196 3.4 Multi-task Adaptation

197 As the training set of different generative models can vary greatly, one approach to adapt to these  
 198 new datasets is to fine-tune the entire LLM on the task-specific dataset. However, LLMs are typically  
 199 models with billions of parameters, and allocating a dedicated LLM to each individual model proves  
 200 impractical due to computational constraints. Moreover, there are plenty of text-to-image generative  
 201 models trained on different datasets, and a single LLM cannot cover a diverse distribution of these  
 202 datasets. As an alternative, we integrate adapters that facilitate dataset-specific adaptation, leveraging  
 203 a shared pre-trained LLM as the foundation for this process. Adapters are lightweight modules that  
 204 can be independently fine-tuned and subsequently added to the base model. Keeping adapters instead  
 205 of the whole model significantly reduces memory usage, while enabling the adaptation of the LLM to  
 206 different datasets.

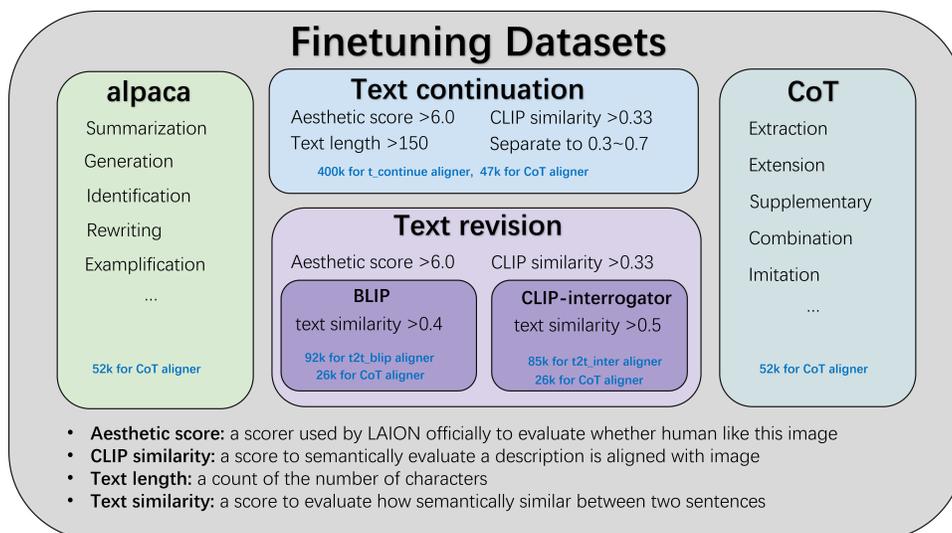


Figure 5: Composition of fine-tuning tasks including text-continuation, text-revision, text-CoT, and self-instruction of Alpaca.

207 **3.5 Dataset Preparation**

208 We build three types of datasets: text-continuation, text-revision, and text-CoT.

209 **Text-continuation dataset.** To create this dataset, we filter high-quality prompts from the training  
210 data of existing generative models, using criteria such as high CLIP similarity and proper length. In  
211 the case of the LAION dataset, we also consider aesthetic scores to ensure a higher quality of prompts.  
212 Once high-quality prompts are identified, we truncate a portion of the text, with the remaining front  
213 part assigned as input data. The LLM is then trained to generate the missing information and complete  
214 the text. This process enables the LLM to learn how to effectively continue text prompts in a manner  
215 that is consistent with the style and context of the original text.

216 **Text-revision dataset.** The dataset consists of human-like texts and corresponding high-quality  
217 prompts which are described in the text-continuation dataset. To acquire human-like prompts, we  
218 leverage BLIP and CLIP-interrogator for image captioning. Furthermore, we calculate the text  
219 distance with the text encoder of CLIP, ensuring a score greater than 0.4 to guarantee semantic  
220 relevance between the two prompts.

221 **Text-CoT dataset.** We use GPT-3.5-Turbo to build a task-specific dataset. Initially, we design a  
222 step-by-step interaction with GPT-3.5-Turbo to extract and guide the prompt booster to finish the  
223 alignment task, due to the fact that CoT is still difficult for alpaca with a simple finetuning on datasets  
224 above. Following the alpaca’s thought, 52k pairs are all generated from gpt-3.5-turbo.

225 **4 Experimental Results**

226 In this section, we first introduce the details on the datasets, pre-trained models, and the training  
227 hyperparameters used for all our experiments in Section 4.1. Then we demonstrate the results of  
228 applying PromptCoT to text-to-image and text-to-video pre-trained generative models in Section 4.2  
229 and Section 4.3 respectively.

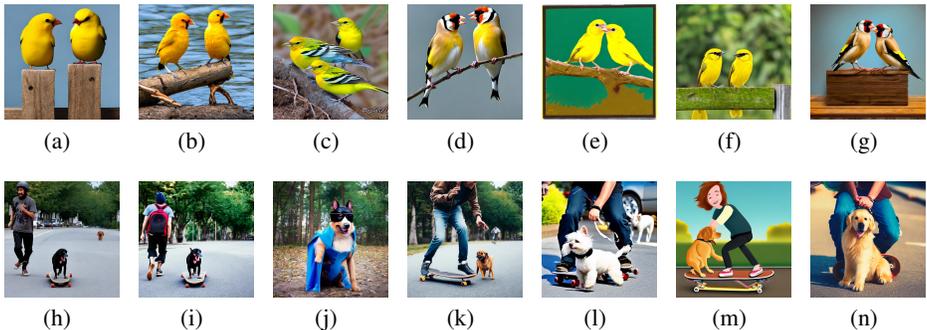


Figure 6: Generated images from prompts refined by different aligners. (a) and (h) show the images generated with the original text prompts. (b-g) and (i-n) denote the images generated with text prompts refine by ‘t-continue’, ‘t2t-blip’, ‘t2t-inter’, ‘davinci’, ‘CoT\_d’, and ‘CoT’ respectively.

230 **4.1 Setup**

231 **Dataset.** For training, we build Text-revision and Text-continuation dataset from LAION-  
232 aes6plus [35], and Text-CoT dataset with the help of GPT-3.5-turbo. LAION-aes6plus is the subset  
233 of LAION, containing 12M image-text pairs with predicted aesthetics scores of 6 or higher. As a  
234 supplement, we also train with Text-revision, Text-continuation, and Text-CoT datasets from the  
235 WebVid-10M dataset [3] for video generation. For evaluation, we conduct experiments on COCO [18]  
236 validation set and MSR-VTT [45] for FID, FVD, aesthetic score, CLIP score, and PickScore.

237 **Models.** The pre-trained LLaMA-7B is used as the base model and we employ the adapter design  
238 outlined in [48] to facilitate multi-task adaptation. Two versions of Stable Diffusion [31], v1.4 and  
239 v2.1, are used for image generation. MagicVideo [50] is used for video generation.

240 **Implementation Details.** We finetune the LLaMA following alpaca’s [39] strategy and instruction  
241 pattern, which has been verified powerful for text generation tasks. We validate the viability of

our two initial ideas by finetuning three task-specific LLaMA for prompt refining works shown in experiments 2. One is trained on the self-constructed text-continuation dataset while the other two are trained on two types of text-revision dataset. While combining such basic methods by CoT, we include a dataset from alpaca, a subset of the text-continuation dataset, and the text-revision dataset with higher text similarity and the CoT dataset as a whole. We evaluate our alignment work on three diffusion models and on different parameters. Furthermore, we evaluate the portability of promptCoT through an adapter by comparing its performance with the fully-finetuned model.

Table 2: **Text-to-image generation performance.** We evaluate the generation performance on Stable Diffusion v1.4 and v2.1 on key metrics including aesthetic score, FID, IS, CLIP score and PickScore.

Generation Model	Booster	Aesthetic Score	FID	IS	CLIP Score	PickScore (avg/recall)
SD v1.4 ddim step=50 scale=7.0	baseline	5.40	59.15	39.13 $\pm$ 0.84	0.268	27.3%/35.7%
	t-continue	5.54	44.66	35.81 $\pm$ 0.96	0.290	39.5%/61.5%
	t2t-blip	5.62	40.77	38.56 $\pm$ 0.77	0.293	51.4%/77.5%
	t2t-inter	5.44	55.76	41.00 $\pm$ 1.17	0.271	34.3%/49.0%
	cot_d	5.64	49.58	37.43 $\pm$ 0.94	0.289	40.6%/62.2%
SD v2.1 ddim step=50 scale=7.0	baseline	5.60	58.02	37.51 $\pm$ 1.00	0.266	29.4%/41.7%
	t-continue	5.70	45.62	34.44 $\pm$ 0.71	0.287	44.3%/69.9%
	t2t-blip	5.79	40.59	37.38 $\pm$ 1.08	0.292	56.3%/82.5%
	t2t-inter	5.64	54.93	38.60 $\pm$ 0.85	0.269	37.1%/55.6%
	cot_d	5.78	50.41	34.88 $\pm$ 0.95	0.290	42.9%/66.2%
SD v2.1 ddim step=250 scale=12.0	baseline	5.60	58.17	36.37 $\pm$ 0.81	0.267	-
	t-continue	5.64	46.59	33.29 $\pm$ 0.68	0.287	-
	t2t-blip	5.76	40.89	36.16 $\pm$ 0.84	0.292	-
	t2t-inter	5.64	55.37	38.10 $\pm$ 1.16	0.269	-
	cot_d	5.75	50.41	34.88 $\pm$ 0.94	0.290	-

Table 3: **Text-to-image generation performance with adapters.** We fine-tune adapters by 5 epochs and compare them with fully fine-tuned Alpaca. Model with adapters achieves comparable results.

Model	Booster	Aesthetic Score	FID	IS	CLIP Score	PickScore
Alpaca epochs = 3	t-continue	5.70	45.62	34.44 $\pm$ 0.71	0.287	44.3%/69.9%
	t2t-blip	5.79	40.59	37.38 $\pm$ 1.08	0.292	56.3%/82.5%
	t2t-inter	5.64	54.93	38.60 $\pm$ 0.852	0.269	37.1%/55.6%
	cot_d	5.78	50.41	34.88 $\pm$ 0.95	0.290	42.9%/66.2%
Adapter epochs = 5	t-continue	5.69	48.00	35.8 $\pm$ 0.57	0.283	-
	t2t-blip	5.70	46.86	38.0 $\pm$ 0.66	0.289	-
	t2t-inter	5.64	56.28	39.0 $\pm$ 0.64	0.269	-
	cot_d	5.85	51.06	31.8 $\pm$ 0.65	0.251	-

## 4.2 Text-to-image Evaluation

The COCO [18] validation set is the standard benchmark for evaluating text-to-image models. The key automated performance metrics used are FID to measure image fidelity, CLIP score, PickScore to measure image-text alignment, aesthetic score [22] to predict the aesthetic quality, and Inception Score (IS) to evaluate the diversity. We utilize two versions of Stable Diffusion for image generation with prompts from COCO and our PromptCoT. Table 2 presents the evaluation results for each metric with different single-function boosters including t-continue, t2t-blip, and t2t-inter, as well as a baseline. The results show that incorporating the alignment method proposed in our paper consistently improved the generated image quality across all metrics compared to the baseline. Among the single-function boosters, the t2t-blip booster demonstrates the best performance, as it is able to achieve alignment to a greater extent. For example, it transfers “Boxes of fruit displayed at an open-air market” to “A view of stalls selling fruit at the Harare International Market in Harare, Zimbabwe” by rephrasing

Table 4: **Text-to-image generation performance.** We compare finetuned CoT aligner and davinci-003 model from OpenAI. All metrics are evaluated on a subset of the COCO validation dataset which contains 1k images.

Booster	Aesthetic Score	CLIP Score	PickScore
baseline	5.62	0.231	16.8%/26.1%
tcontinue	5.72	0.285	37.8%/66.2%
t2t_blip	5.80	0.293	50.6%/81.5%
t2t_inter	5.66	0.269	30.7%/52.5%
cot_d	5.79	0.291	34.9%/59.5%
cot	5.80	0.293	36.4%/59.0%
davinci	5.69	0.277	26.0%/47.5%

261 the expression and adding reasonable details. In contrast, the t2t-inter booster, which has a similar  
 262 function to t2t-blip, shows inferior performance, although it still outperforms the baseline. This could  
 263 be due to the CLIP-interrogator used to create the text-revision dataset introducing irrelevant entities.  
 264 Furthermore, we test with different factors of classifier-free guidance to prove the generality of our  
 265 PromptCoT. Varying the scale of classifier-free guidance results in consistent performance.

### 266 4.3 Text-to-video Evaluation

267 In addition, we experiment with the text-to-video evaluation task to demonstrate the effectiveness of  
 268 our approach. We employ two single-function boosters, t-continue, and t2t-blip on the WebVid-10M  
 269 dataset [3]. For t2t-blip, we uniformly sample the video and randomly select five frames, which  
 270 serve as input for the blip model and be used to generate the revision result. Then, we finetune  
 271 the LLaMA model following alpaca’s [39] strategy and build prompts from MSR-VTT with the  
 272 fine-tuned model. We use MagicVideo [50] as the base model to test the effectiveness of our prompts.  
 273 The results are shown in Table 5. The results indicate that the boosters are effective in enhancing  
 274 the quality of the generated videos compared to the baseline, at least they "do no harm". Among  
 275 the boosters, the booster better aligns the prompts and achieves the best performance overall. For  
 276 cot\_d, we generate 21k data with the help of GPT-3.5-turbo. Similar to text, we utilize a chain of five  
 277 questions to generate the expected production, but with subtle differences to encourage GPT-3.5-turbo  
 278 to generate more video-related features, e.g., movement. Similar to text generation, we adopt a chain  
 279 of five questions to generate the expected production for video prompts. However, there are subtle  
 280 differences in the question prompts to encourage GPT-3.5-turbo to incorporate more video-related  
 281 features, such as movement, into its generated content. For example, "a large passenger jet flying  
 282 in the sky at sunset" can be refined to "Boeing 747 flying across a vibrant sunset backdrop in a  
 283 captivating, cinematic 4K video. Slowly gaining altitude with wings tilting slightly, this footage  
 284 captures the plane’s majesty". The scores of cot\_d will be included in the supplementary material.

Table 5: **Text-to-video generation performance.** We evaluate the generation performance on MagicVideo on key metrics including FID, FVD, and CLIP score.

Model	Dataset	Booster	FID	FVD	CLIP Score
MagicVideo	MSR-VTT	baseline	36.5	998	0.284
		t-continue	33.2	951	0.296

## 285 5 Conclusion

286 In this paper, we present PromptCoT, an innovative system designed to autonomously enhance the  
 287 quality of prompts used in diffusion-based generative models, which are critical for high-fidelity  
 288 visual content generation. PromptCoT leverages pre-trained Large Language Models (LLMs) and  
 289 a unique Chain-of-Thought (CoT) mechanism to refine prompts, thereby improving the alignment  
 290 between the original and refined prompts. To balance computational efficiency, we employ adapters to  
 291 allow for efficient adaptation to new datasets or models. Our evaluations demonstrate that PromptCoT  
 292 can achieve superior performance compared to the baselines.

## 293 References

- 294 [1] Armen Aghajanyan, Luke Zettlemoyer, and Sonal Gupta. Intrinsic dimensionality explains the effectiveness  
295 of language model fine-tuning, 2020.
- 296 [2] Alex Andonian, Quentin Anthony, Stella Biderman, Sid Black, Preetham Gali, Leo Gao, Eric Hallahan,  
297 Josh Levy-Kramer, Connor Leahy, Lucas Nestler, Kip Parker, Michael Pieler, Shivanshu Purohit, Tri  
298 Songz, Wang Phil, and Samuel Weinbach. GPT-NeoX: Large Scale Autoregressive Language Modeling in  
299 PyTorch, 8 2021.
- 300 [3] Max Bain, Arsha Nagrani, Gül Varol, and Andrew Zisserman. Frozen in time: A joint video and image  
301 encoder for end-to-end retrieval, 2022.
- 302 [4] Tom B. Brown, Benjamin Mann, Nick Ryder, Melanie Subbiah, Jared Kaplan, Prafulla Dhariwal, Arvind  
303 Neelakantan, Pranav Shyam, Girish Sastry, Amanda Askell, Sandhini Agarwal, Ariel Herbert-Voss,  
304 Gretchen Krueger, T. J. Henighan, Rewon Child, Aditya Ramesh, Daniel M. Ziegler, Jeff Wu, Clemens  
305 Winter, Christopher Hesse, Mark Chen, Eric Sigler, Mateusz Litwin, Scott Gray, Benjamin Chess, Jack  
306 Clark, Christopher Berner, Sam McCandlish, Alec Radford, Ilya Sutskever, and Dario Amodei. Language  
307 models are few-shot learners. *ArXiv*, abs/2005.14165, 2020.
- 308 [5] Tom B. Brown, Benjamin Mann, Nick Ryder, Melanie Subbiah, Jared Kaplan, Prafulla Dhariwal, Arvind  
309 Neelakantan, Pranav Shyam, Girish Sastry, Amanda Askell, Sandhini Agarwal, Ariel Herbert-Voss,  
310 Gretchen Krueger, Tom Henighan, Rewon Child, Aditya Ramesh, Daniel M. Ziegler, Jeffrey Wu, Clemens  
311 Winter, Christopher Hesse, Mark Chen, Eric Sigler, Mateusz Litwin, Scott Gray, Benjamin Chess, Jack  
312 Clark, Christopher Berner, Sam McCandlish, Alec Radford, Ilya Sutskever, and Dario Amodei. Language  
313 models are few-shot learners. 2020.
- 314 [6] Karl Cobbe, Vineet Kosaraju, Mohammad Bavarian, Mark Chen, Heewoo Jun, Lukasz Kaiser, Matthias  
315 Plappert, Jerry Tworek, Jacob Hilton, Reiichiro Nakano, Christopher Hesse, and John Schulman. Training  
316 verifiers to solve math word problems, 2021.
- 317 [7] Prafulla Dhariwal and Alexander Nichol. Diffusion models beat gans on image synthesis. *Advances in  
318 Neural Information Processing Systems*, 34, 2021.
- 319 [8] Ning Ding, Yujia Qin, Guang Yang, Fu Wei, Zonghan Yang, Yusheng Su, Shengding Hu, Yulin Chen,  
320 Chi-Min Chan, Weize Chen, Jing Yi, Weilin Zhao, Xiaozhi Wang, Zhiyuan Liu, Haitao Zheng, Jianfei  
321 Chen, Yang Liu, Jie Tang, Juan Li, and Maosong Sun. Delta tuning: A comprehensive study of parameter  
322 efficient methods for pre-trained language models. *ArXiv*, abs/2203.06904, 2022.
- 323 [9] Zhengxiao Du, Yujie Qian, Xiao Liu, Ming Ding, Jiezhong Qiu, Zhilin Yang, and Jie Tang. Glm: General  
324 language model pretraining with autoregressive blank infilling. In *Proceedings of the 60th Annual Meeting  
325 of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Volume 1: Long Papers)*, pages 320–335, 2022.
- 326 [10] Tianyu Gao, Adam Fisch, and Danqi Chen. Making pre-trained language models better few-shot learners.  
327 *ArXiv*, abs/2012.15723, 2021.
- 328 [11] Xu Han, Weilin Zhao, Ning Ding, Zhiyuan Liu, and Maosong Sun. Ptr: Prompt tuning with rules for text  
329 classification. *ArXiv*, abs/2105.11259, 2021.
- 330 [12] Jonathan Ho, Ajay Jain, and Pieter Abbeel. Denoising diffusion probabilistic models. *Advances in Neural  
331 Information Processing Systems*, 33:6840–6851, 2020.
- 332 [13] Jonathan Ho, Tim Salimans, Alexey Gritsenko, William Chan, Mohammad Norouzi, and David J. Fleet.  
333 Video diffusion models, 2022.
- 334 [14] Neil Houlsby, Andrei Giurgiu, Stanislaw Jastrzebski, Bruna Morrone, Quentin De Laroussilhe, Andrea  
335 Gesmundo, Mona Attariyan, and Sylvain Gelly. Parameter-efficient transfer learning for NLP. In Kamalika  
336 Chaudhuri and Ruslan Salakhutdinov, editors, *Proceedings of the 36th International Conference on  
337 Machine Learning*, volume 97 of *Proceedings of Machine Learning Research*, pages 2790–2799. PMLR,  
338 09–15 Jun 2019.
- 339 [15] Edward J. Hu, Yelong Shen, Phillip Wallis, Zeyuan Allen-Zhu, Yuanzhi Li, Shean Wang, Lu Wang, and  
340 Weizhu Chen. Lora: Low-rank adaptation of large language models, 2021.
- 341 [16] Zhiting Hu, Zichao Yang, Xiaodan Liang, Ruslan Salakhutdinov, and Eric P. Xing. Toward controlled  
342 generation of text. In *International Conference on Machine Learning*, 2017.
- 343 [17] Brian Lester, Rami Al-Rfou, and Noah Constant. The power of scale for parameter-efficient prompt tuning,  
344 2021.

- 345 [18] Tsung-Yi Lin, Michael Maire, Serge J. Belongie, James Hays, Pietro Perona, Deva Ramanan, Piotr Dollár,  
346 and C. Lawrence Zitnick. Microsoft coco: Common objects in context. In *European Conference on*  
347 *Computer Vision*, 2014.
- 348 [19] Wang Ling, Dani Yogatama, Chris Dyer, and Phil Blunsom. Program induction by rationale generation:  
349 Learning to solve and explain algebraic word problems. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1705.04146*, 2017.
- 350 [20] Pengfei Liu, Weizhe Yuan, Jinlan Fu, Zhengbao Jiang, Hiroaki Hayashi, and Graham Neubig. Pre-train,  
351 prompt, and predict: A systematic survey of prompting methods in natural language processing. *ACM*  
352 *Computing Surveys*, 55:1 – 35, 2021.
- 353 [21] Rabeeh Karimi Mahabadi, James Henderson, and Sebastian Ruder. Compacter: Efficient low-rank  
354 hypercomplex adapter layers, 2021.
- 355 [22] Naila Murray, Luca Marchesotti, and Florent Perronnin. Ava: A large-scale database for aesthetic visual  
356 analysis. In *2012 IEEE conference on computer vision and pattern recognition*, pages 2408–2415. IEEE,  
357 2012.
- 358 [23] Sharan Narang, Colin Raffel, Katherine Lee, Adam Roberts, Noah Fiedel, and Karishma Malkan. Wt5?!  
359 training text-to-text models to explain their predictions, 2020.
- 360 [24] Jonas Pfeiffer, Andreas Rücklé, Clifton Poth, Aishwarya Kamath, Ivan Vulić, Sebastian Ruder, Kyunghyun  
361 Cho, and Iryna Gurevych. Adapterhub: A framework for adapting transformers, 2020.
- 362 [25] Guanghui Qin and Jas’ Eisner. Learning how to ask: Querying lms with mixtures of soft prompts. *ArXiv*,  
363 *abs/2104.06599*, 2021.
- 364 [26] Alec Radford, Jong Wook Kim, Chris Hallacy, Aditya Ramesh, Gabriel Goh, Sandhini Agarwal, Girish  
365 Sastry, Amanda Askell, Pamela Mishkin, Jack Clark, et al. Learning transferable visual models from  
366 natural language supervision. 2021.
- 367 [27] Alec Radford, Jeff Wu, Rewon Child, David Luan, Dario Amodei, and Ilya Sutskever. Language models  
368 are unsupervised multitask learners. 2019.
- 369 [28] Aditya Ramesh, Prafulla Dhariwal, Alex Nichol, Casey Chu, and Mark Chen. Hierarchical text-conditional  
370 image generation with clip latents. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2204.06125*, 2022.
- 371 [29] Aditya Ramesh, Mikhail Pavlov, Gabriel Goh, Scott Gray, Chelsea Voss, Alec Radford, Mark Chen, and  
372 Ilya Sutskever. Dall-e 2: Exploring cross-modal transformers for image generation. *OpenAI Blog*, 2021.
- 373 [30] Robin Rombach, A. Blattmann, Dominik Lorenz, Patrick Esser, and Björn Ommer. High-resolution image  
374 synthesis with latent diffusion models. *2022 IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern*  
375 *Recognition (CVPR)*, pages 10674–10685, 2021.
- 376 [31] Robin Rombach, Andreas Blattmann, Dominik Lorenz, Patrick Esser, and Björn Ommer. High-resolution  
377 image synthesis with latent diffusion models, 2022.
- 378 [32] Chitwan Saharia, William Chan, Saurabh Saxena, Lala Li, Jay Whang, Emily Denton, Seyed Kamyar Seyed  
379 Ghasemipour, Burcu Karagol Ayan, S. Sara Mahdavi, Rapha Gontijo Lopes, Tim Salimans, Jonathan Ho,  
380 David J Fleet, and Mohammad Norouzi. Photorealistic text-to-image diffusion models with deep language  
381 understanding, 2022.
- 382 [33] Timo Schick, Helmut Schmid, and Hinrich Schütze. Automatically identifying words that can serve as  
383 labels for few-shot text classification. In *International Conference on Computational Linguistics*, 2020.
- 384 [34] Timo Schick and Hinrich Schütze. Exploiting cloze-questions for few-shot text classification and natural  
385 language inference. In *Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational*  
386 *Linguistics*, 2020.
- 387 [35] Christoph Schuhmann, Romain Beaumont, Richard Vencu, Cade Gordon, Ross Wightman, Mehdi Cherti,  
388 Theo Coombes, Aarush Katta, Clayton Mullis, Mitchell Wortsman, et al. Laion-5b: An open large-scale  
389 dataset for training next generation image-text models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2210.08402*, 2022.
- 390 [36] Jiaming Song, Chenlin Meng, and Stefano Ermon. Denoising diffusion implicit models. *arXiv preprint*  
391 *arXiv:2010.02502*, 2020.
- 392 [37] Yang Song and Stefano Ermon. Generative modeling by estimating gradients of the data distribution.  
393 *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 32, 2019.

- 394 [38] Yang Song, Jascha Sohl-Dickstein, Diederik P Kingma, Abhishek Kumar, Stefano Ermon, and Ben  
395 Poole. Score-based generative modeling through stochastic differential equations. *arXiv preprint*  
396 *arXiv:2011.13456*, 2020.
- 397 [39] Rohan Taori, Ishaan Gulrajani, Tianyi Zhang, Yann Dubois, Xuechen Li, Carlos Guestrin, Percy Liang,  
398 and Tatsunori B. Hashimoto. Stanford alpaca: An instruction-following llama model. [https://github.com/tatsu-lab/stanford\\_alpaca](https://github.com/tatsu-lab/stanford_alpaca), 2023.  
399
- 400 [40] Hugo Touvron, Thibaut Lavril, Gautier Izacard, Xavier Martinet, Marie-Anne Lachaux, Timothée Lacroix,  
401 Baptiste Rozière, Naman Goyal, Eric Hambro, Faisal Azhar, Aurelien Rodriguez, Armand Joulin, Edouard  
402 Grave, and Guillaume Lample. Llama: Open and efficient foundation language models, 2023.
- 403 [41] Leandro von Werra, Alex Havrilla, Max reciprocated, Jonathan Tow, Aman cat state, Duy V. Phung,  
404 Louis Castricato, Shahbuland Matiana, Alan, Ayush Thakur, Alexey Bukhtiyarov, aaronrmm, Fabrizio  
405 Milo, Daniel, Daniel King, Dong Shin, Ethan Kim, Justin Wei, Manuel Romero, Nicky Pochinkov, Omar  
406 Sanseviero, Reshinth Adithyan, Sherman Siu, Thomas Simonini, Vladimir Blagojevic, Xu Song, Zack  
407 Witten, alexandremuzio, and crumb. CarperAI/trlx: v0.6.0: LLaMa (Alpaca), Benchmark Util, T5 ILQL,  
408 Tests, March 2023.
- 409 [42] Xuezhi Wang, Jason Wei, Dale Schuurmans, Quoc Le, Ed Huai hsin Chi, and Denny Zhou. Self-consistency  
410 improves chain of thought reasoning in language models. *ArXiv*, abs/2203.11171, 2022.
- 411 [43] Jason Wei, Maarten Bosma, Vincent Zhao, Kelvin Guu, Adams Wei Yu, Brian Lester, Nan Du, Andrew M.  
412 Dai, and Quoc V. Le. Finetuned language models are zero-shot learners. *ArXiv*, abs/2109.01652, 2021.
- 413 [44] Jason Wei, Xuezhi Wang, Dale Schuurmans, Maarten Bosma, Brian Ichter, Fei Xia, Ed Chi, Quoc Le, and  
414 Denny Zhou. Chain-of-thought prompting elicits reasoning in large language models, 2023.
- 415 [45] Jun Xu, Tao Mei, Ting Yao, and Yong Rui. Msr-vtt: A large video description dataset for bridging video  
416 and language. In *Proceedings of the IEEE conference on computer vision and pattern recognition*, pages  
417 5288–5296, 2016.
- 418 [46] Jiahui Yu, Yuanzhong Xu, Jing Yu Koh, Thang Luong, Gunjan Baid, Zirui Wang, Vijay Vasudevan,  
419 Alexander Ku, Yinfei Yang, Burcu Karagol Ayan, Ben Hutchinson, Wei Han, Zarana Parekh, Xin Li, Han  
420 Zhang, Jason Baldridge, and Yonghui Wu. Scaling autoregressive models for content-rich text-to-image  
421 generation, 2022.
- 422 [47] Aohan Zeng, Xiao Liu, Zhengxiao Du, Zihan Wang, Hanyu Lai, Ming Ding, Zhuoyi Yang, Yifan Xu, Wendi  
423 Zheng, Xiao Xia, et al. Glm-130b: An open bilingual pre-trained model. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2210.02414*,  
424 2022.
- 425 [48] Renrui Zhang, Jiaming Han, Aojun Zhou, Xiangfei Hu, Shilin Yan, Pan Lu, Hongsheng Li, Peng Gao, and  
426 Yu Qiao. Llama-adapter: Efficient fine-tuning of language models with zero-init attention. *arXiv preprint*  
427 *arXiv:2303.16199*, 2023.
- 428 [49] Susan Zhang, Stephen Roller, Naman Goyal, Mikel Artetxe, Moya Chen, Shuohui Chen, Christopher  
429 Dewan, Mona Diab, Xian Li, Xi Victoria Lin, Todor Mihaylov, Myle Ott, Sam Shleifer, Kurt Shuster,  
430 Daniel Simig, Punit Singh Koura, Anjali Sridhar, Tianlu Wang, and Luke Zettlemoyer. Opt: Open  
431 pre-trained transformer language models, 2022.
- 432 [50] Daquan Zhou, Weimin Wang, Hanshu Yan, Weiwei Lv, Yizhe Zhu, and Jiashi Feng. Magicvideo: Efficient  
433 video generation with latent diffusion models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2211.11018*, 2022.
- 434 [51] Daquan Zhou, Weimin Wang, Hanshu Yan, Weiwei Lv, Yizhe Zhu, and Jiashi Feng. Magicvideo: Efficient  
435 video generation with latent diffusion models, 2023.
- 436 [52] Denny Zhou, Nathanael Scharli, Le Hou, Jason Wei, Nathan Scales, Xuezhi Wang, Dale Schuurmans,  
437 Olivier Bousquet, Quoc Le, and Ed Huai hsin Chi. Least-to-most prompting enables complex reasoning in  
438 large language models. *ArXiv*, abs/2205.10625, 2022.