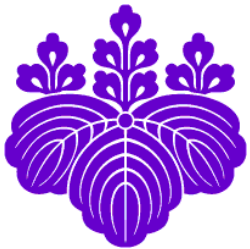


A Study on Image in-betweening using Generative Model

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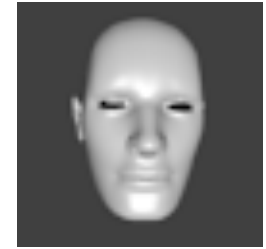


Objective

- This work focus on generating an image in-betweening using latent model.



First Frame



In-between
Frame



Second Frame



Introduction

- Existing Methods:

- Optical flow
- Pixel to pixel-based approach

- Issue:

- They can not capture what is not present in the frame.
- When frames are non-consecutive, they do not perform well.

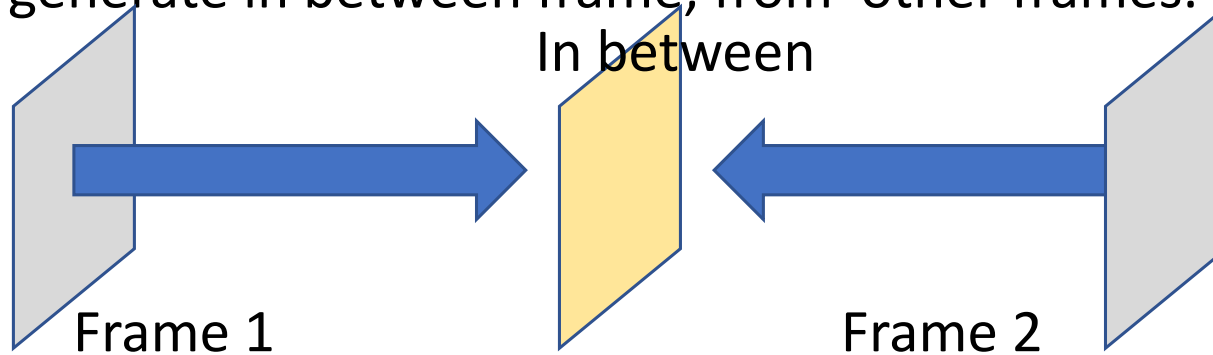
- In this work:

- We design a new network architecture (based on VAE) which generates the image inbetween
- This model can make assumption about the objects in the images

Proposed Method – Overview Latent-variable based in-betweening

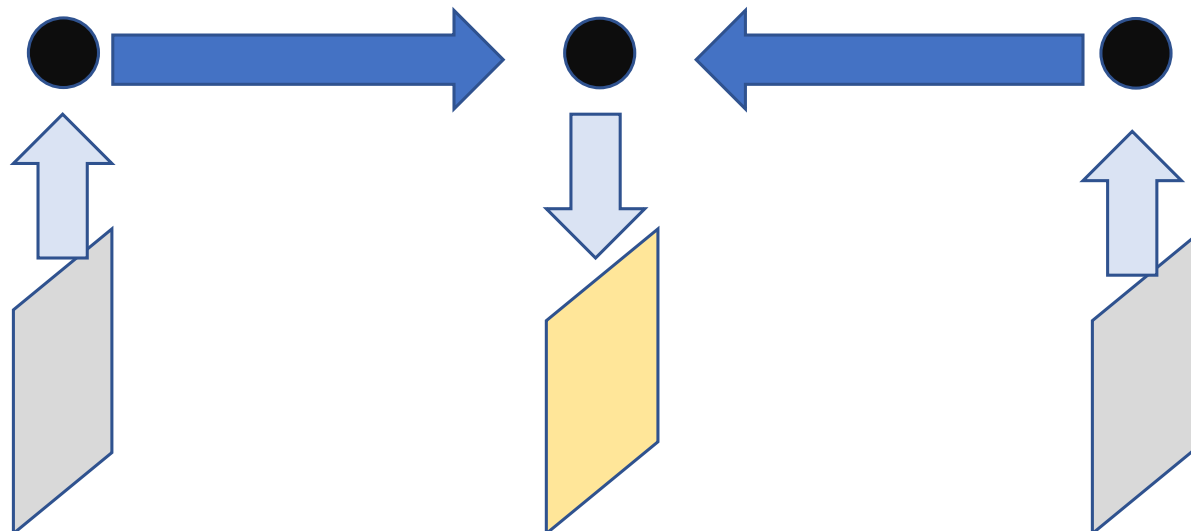
- Existing methods: 'pixel-based'

- Directly generate in between frame, from other frames.



- 'Latent-variable' based method

- Interpolate in the latent space and generate in-between frame.

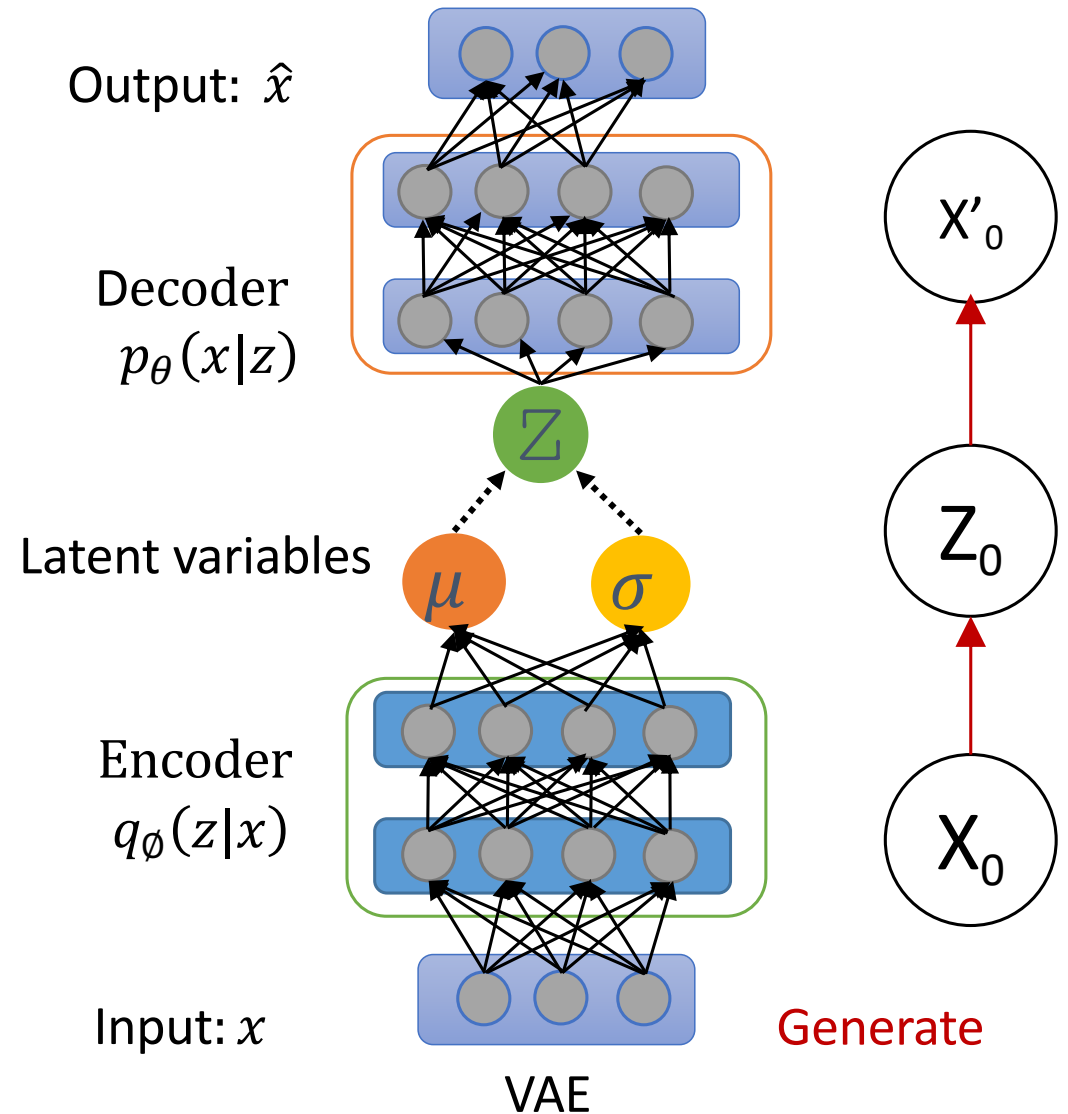


Content list

- Background
- Proposed Method
- Evaluation
- Conclusion
- Future Work

Variational autoencoder (VAE)

- VAE is a modern version of autoencoder
- Learns a latent representation of the hidden structures of its input data.
- Issue of VAE
 - It is hard to define exactly what information the latent variables care to capture latent information.

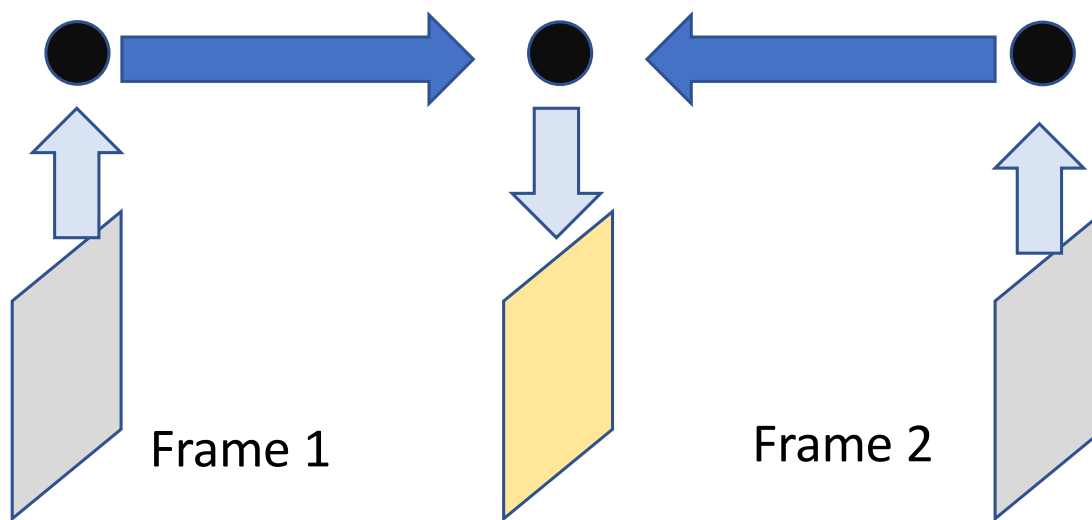


Content list

- Background
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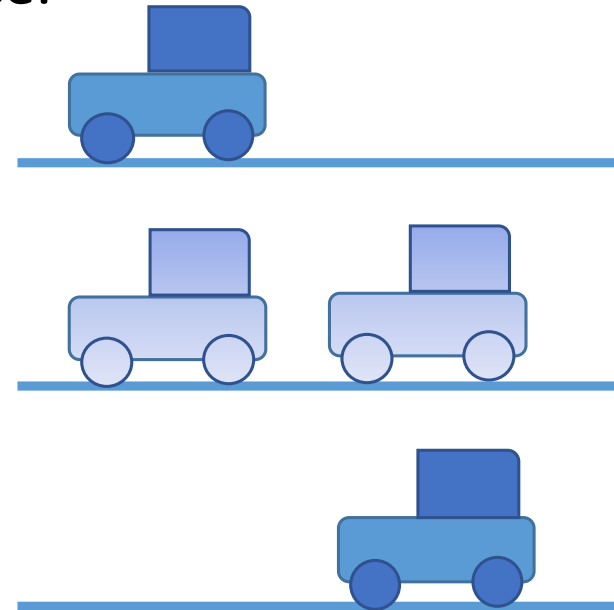
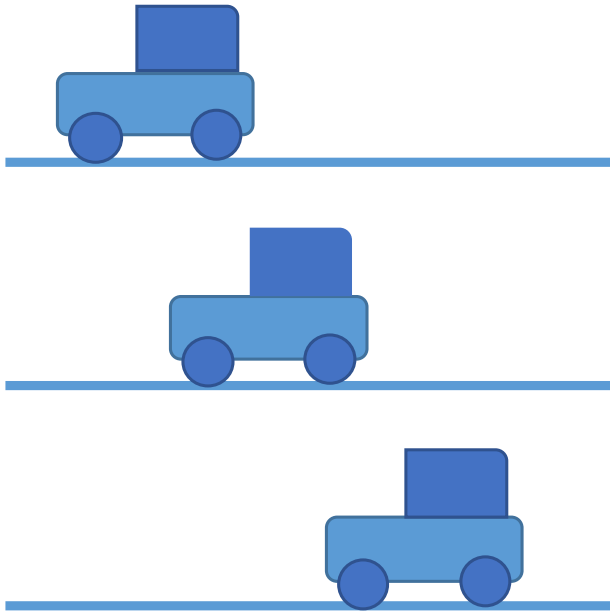
Proposed Method Latent-variable based in-betweening

- ‘Latent-variable’ based method
 - Interpolate in the latent space and generate in-between frame.



How to have 'such' latent space?

- We need to have latent space such that,
 - Interpolation in the latent space
 - In-betweening in the image space
- Naïve VAE does not give you such latent space.

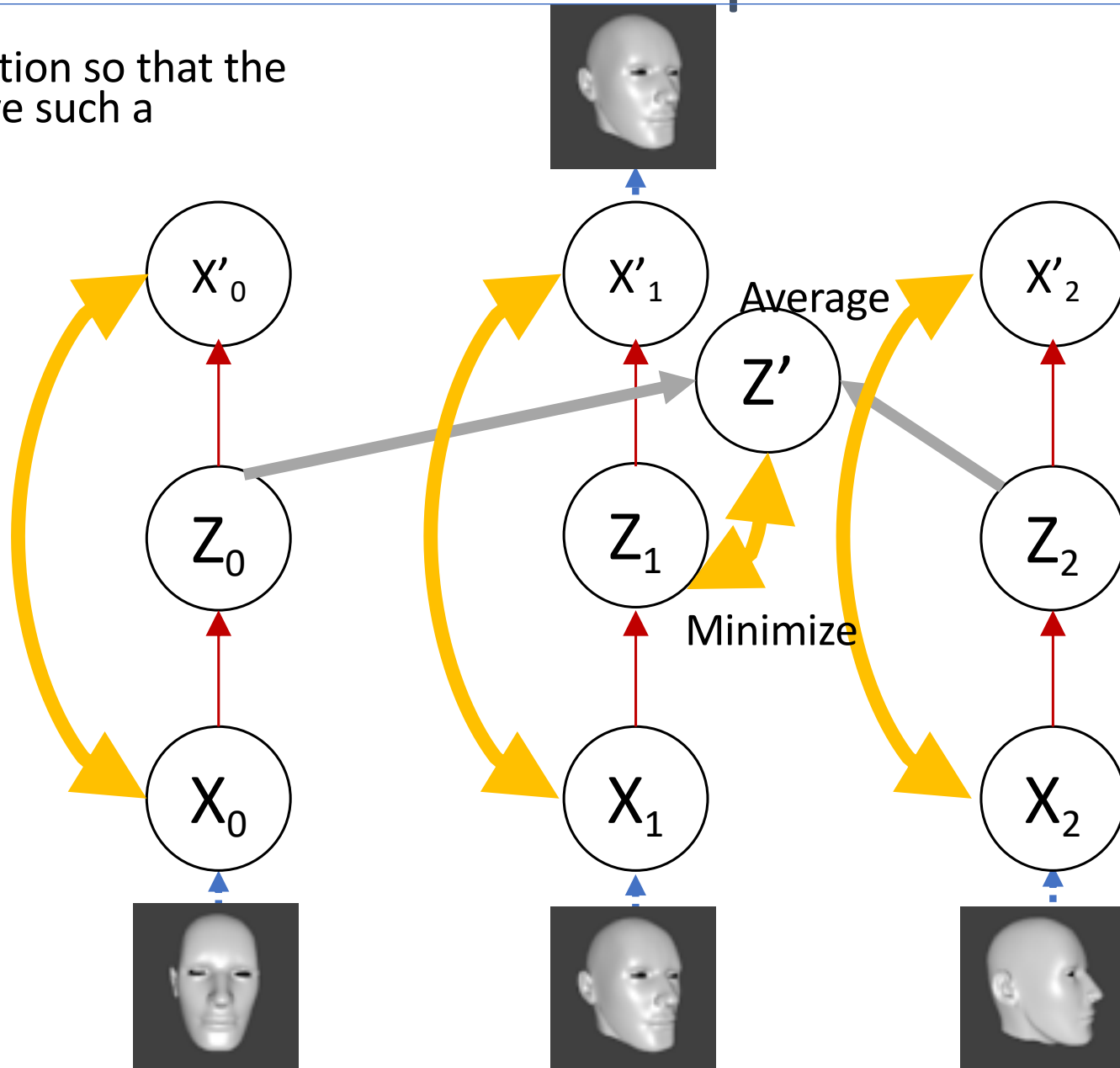


We might actually get..

→ Need to control the latent space structure

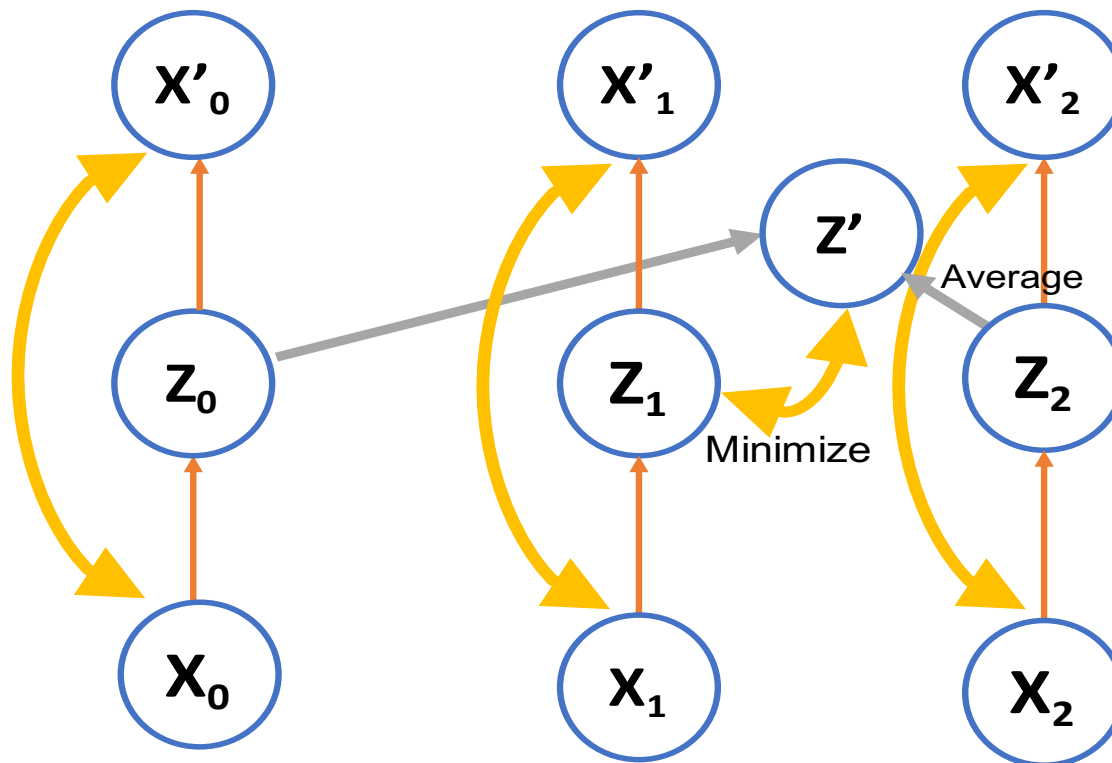
How to have 'such' latent space?

- Design loss function so that the latent space have such a structure.



Proposed - Loss Function

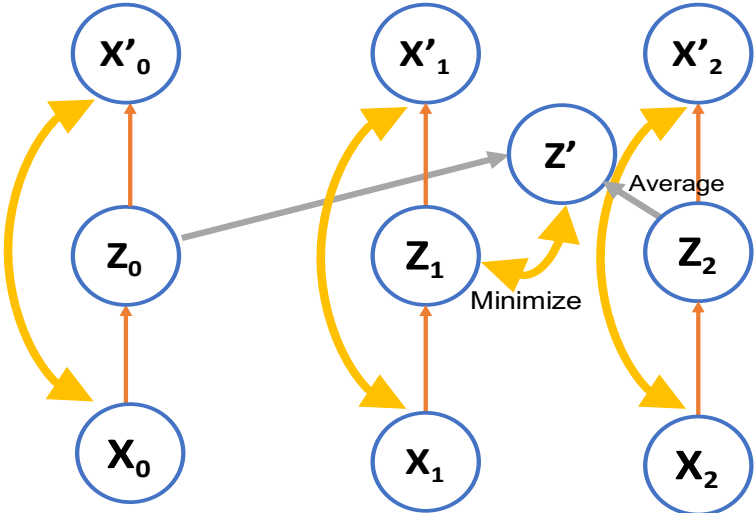
- $l_{(x_0, x_1, x_2)} = l_{VAE}(x_0) + l_{VAE}(x_1) + l_{VAE}(x_2) + \alpha \left(D_{KL} \left(q(x_1) \parallel \frac{q(x_0) + q(x_2)}{2} \right) \right)$
- Minimize: difference of latent variables (Z_1 and Z')



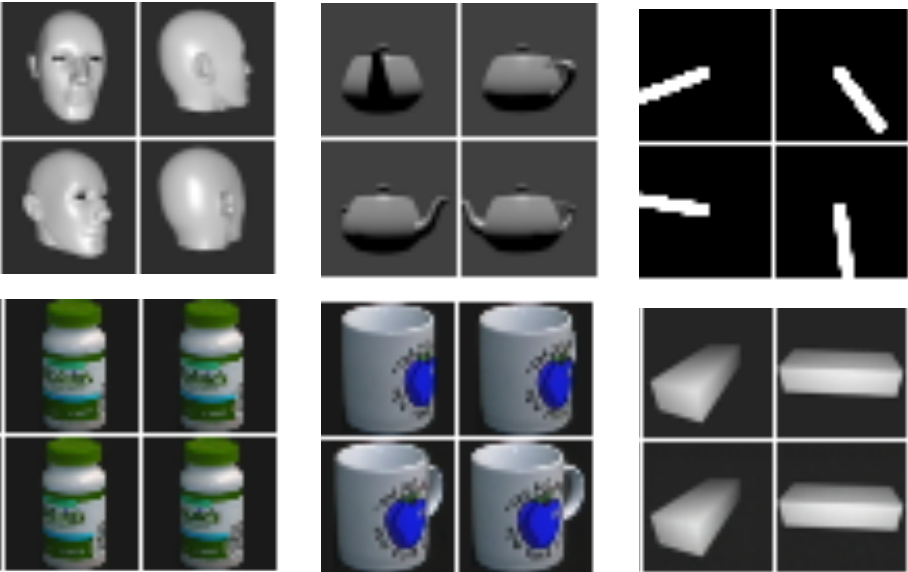
Content list

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Dataset



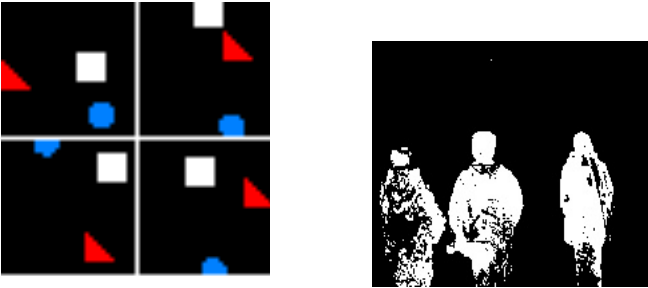
First phase – One degree of freedom



Second phase – Two degrees of freedom

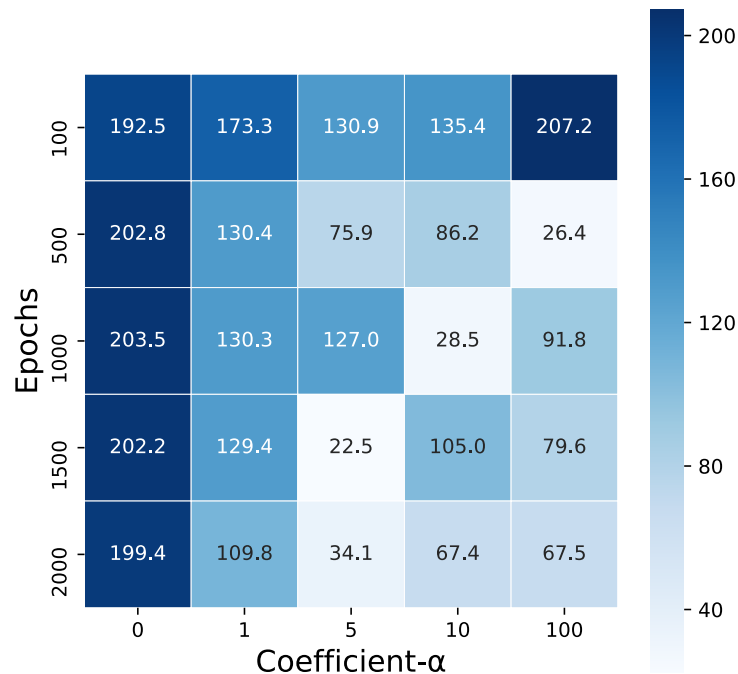


6 and above degrees of freedom



Evaluation

- Claim: This loss function generates an image inbetween.
- Adding adjustable hyper-parameter α is very important to generate a plausible image inbetween.



For evaluation:

- Image reconstruction
- Image in-between
- Evaluation Metrics
 - MSE

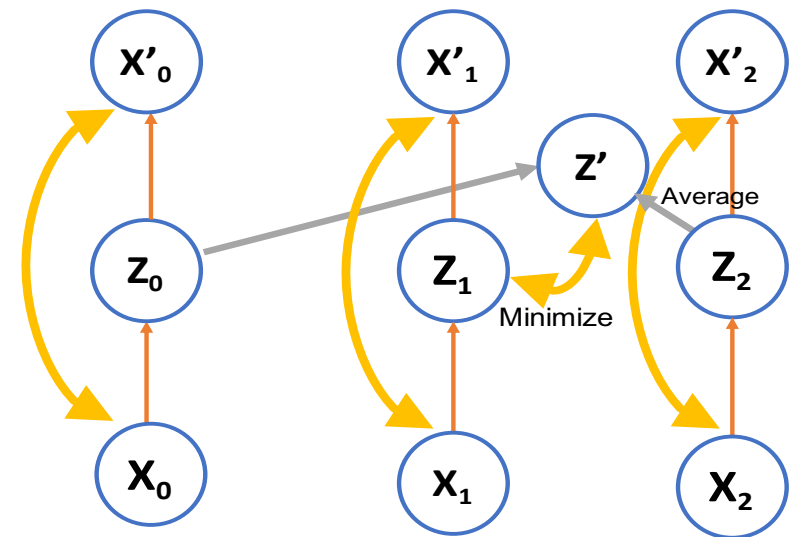
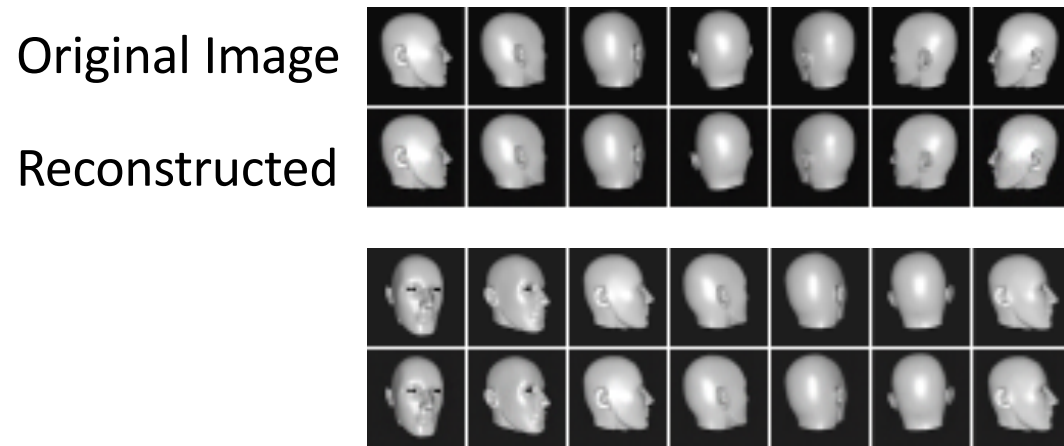


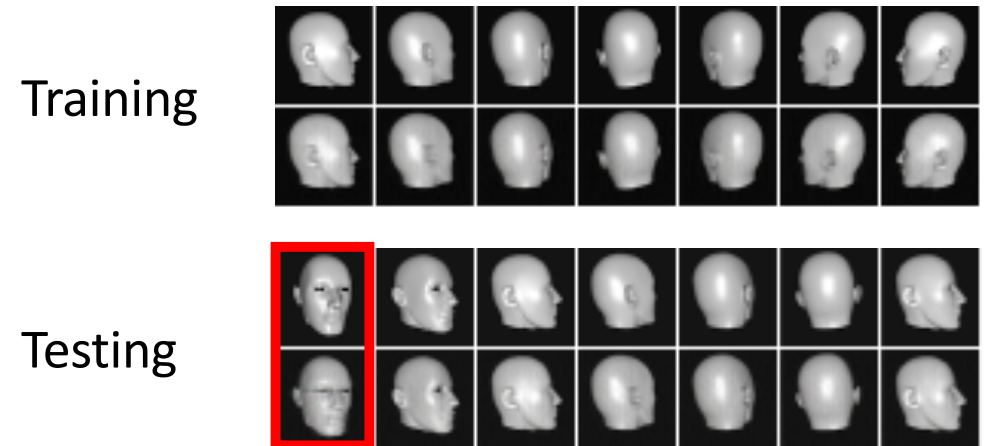
Image Reconstruction

- Goal - Test the reconstruction location accuracy

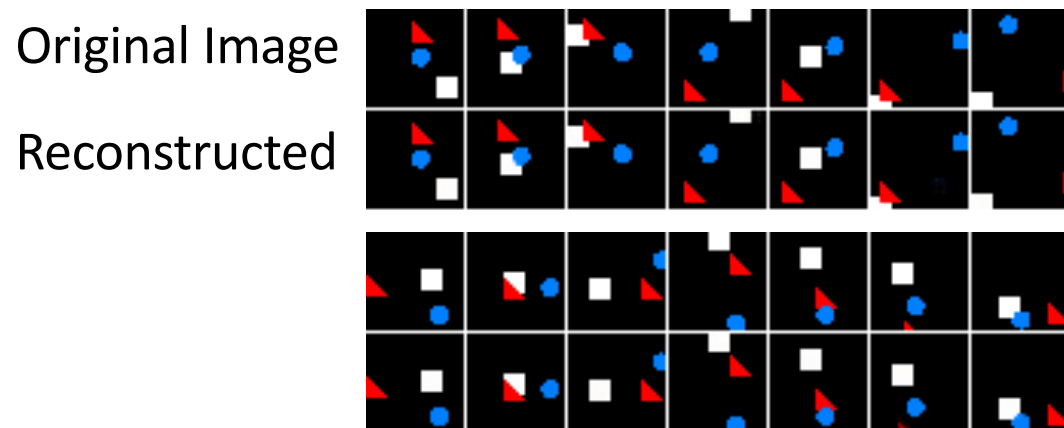
Alpha: 0, epochs:1500



Our model - Alpha: 5, epochs:1500



Alpha: 0, epochs:1500



Our model - Alpha: 100, epochs:1500

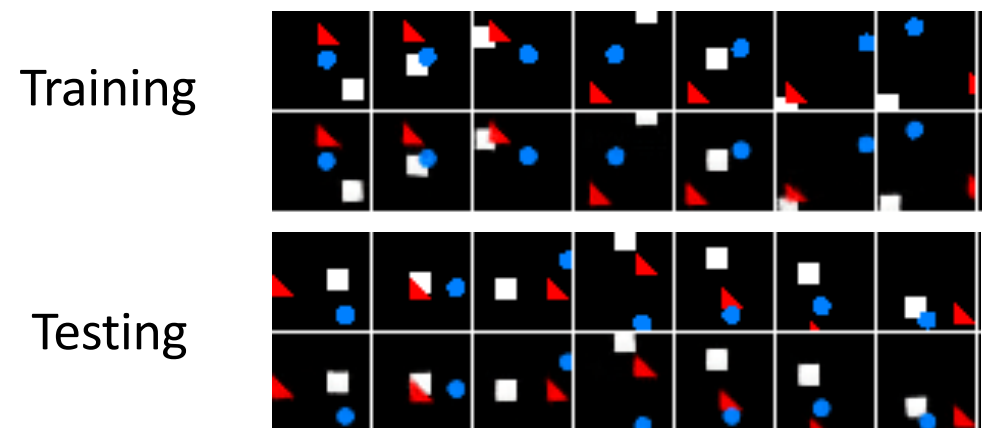
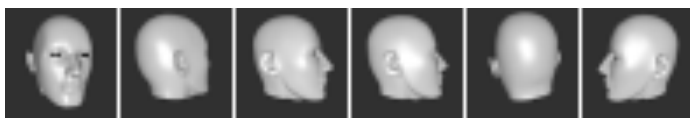


Image In-between

- Goal – Test Image in-between

Alpha: 0, epochs:1500

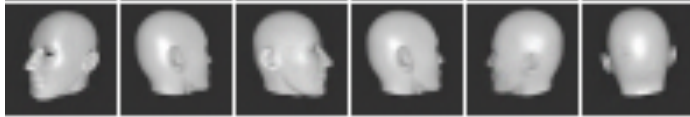
First frame



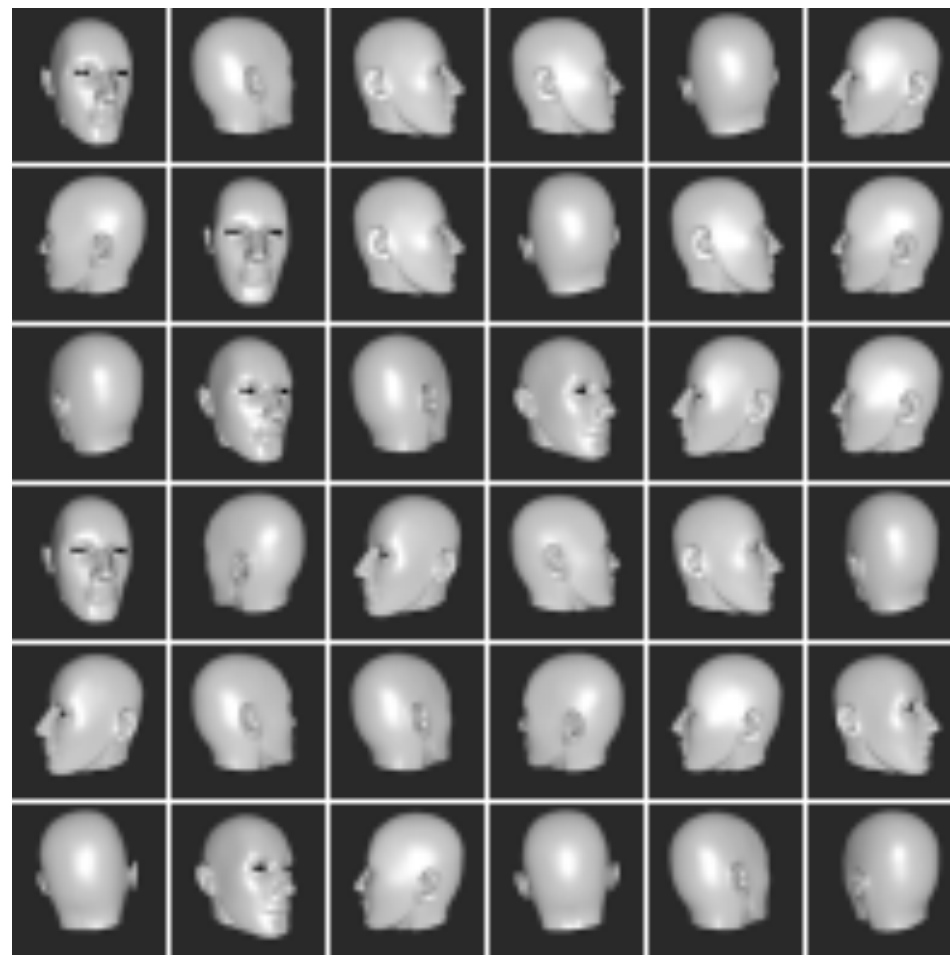
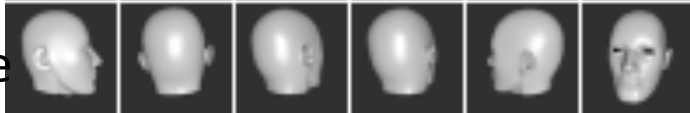
Ground Truth



Inbetween frame



Second frame



Our model - Alpha: 5, epochs:1500

First frame



Ground Truth



Inbetween frame



Second frame

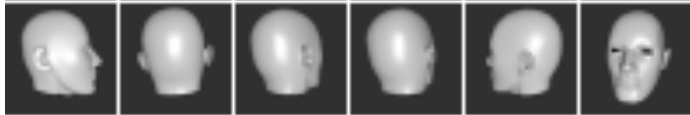
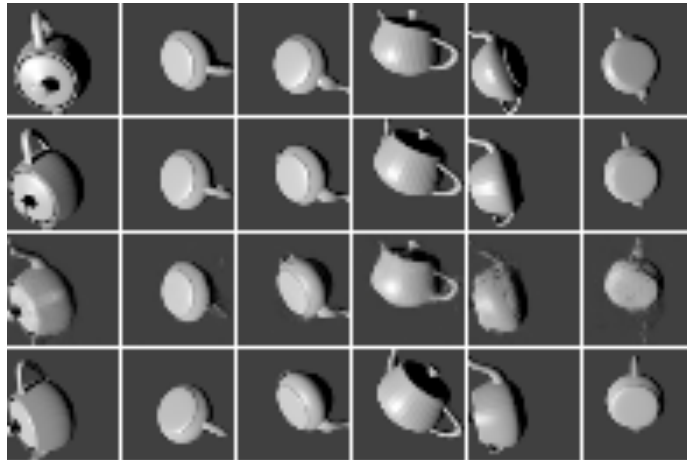


Image In-between - Two degrees of freedom

- Goal – test the image in-between

Alpha: 0, epochs:2000

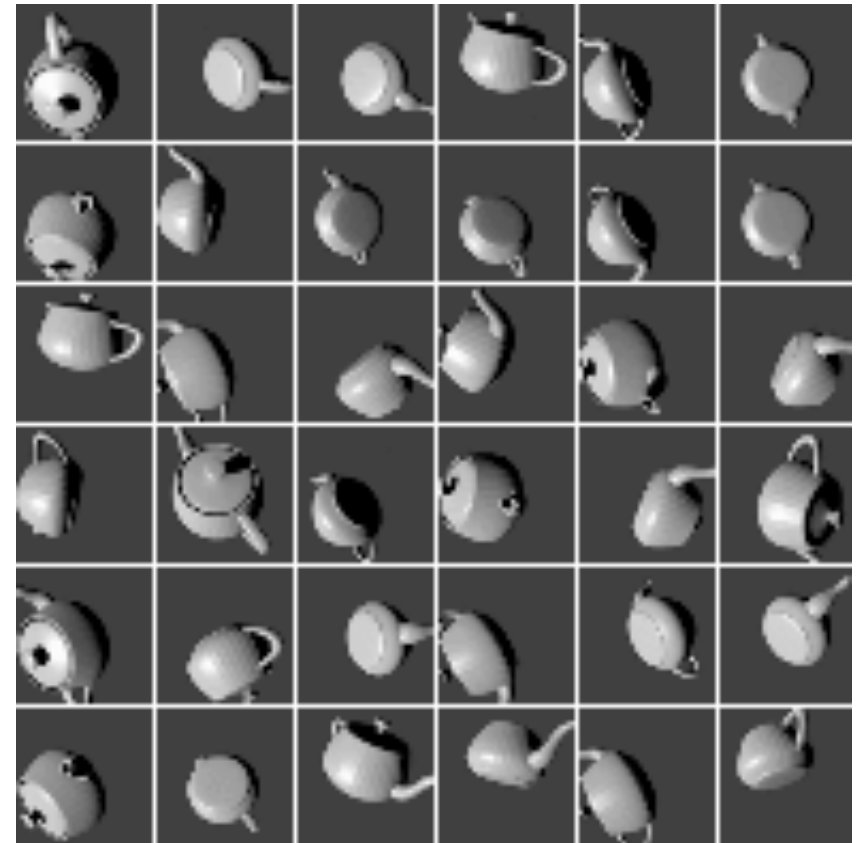
First frame



Ground Truth

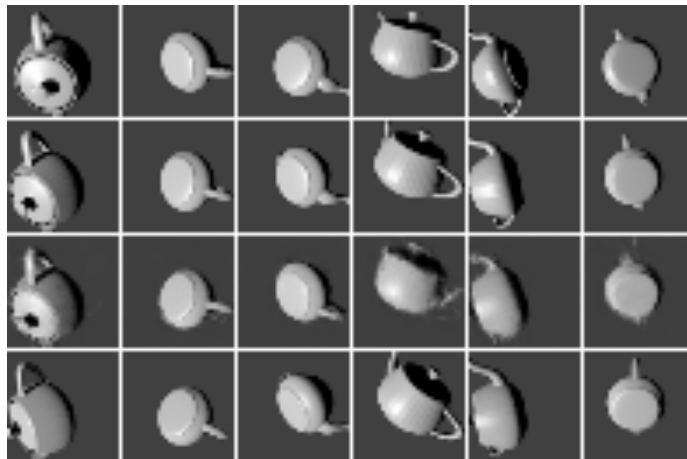
Inbetween frame

Second frame



Our model - Alpha: 10, epochs:2000

First frame



Ground Truth

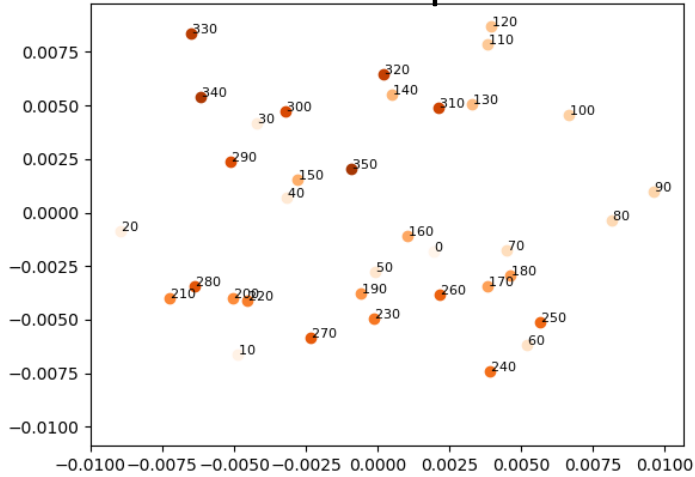
Inbetween frame

Second frame

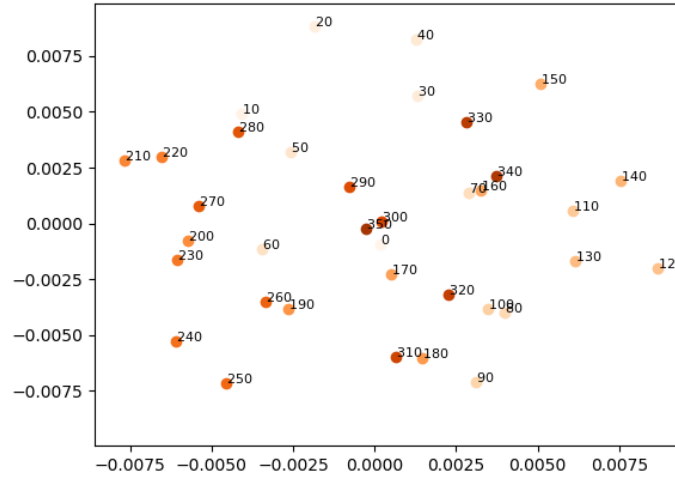
Latent Space Visualization - PCA

coeff.=0, Z=5

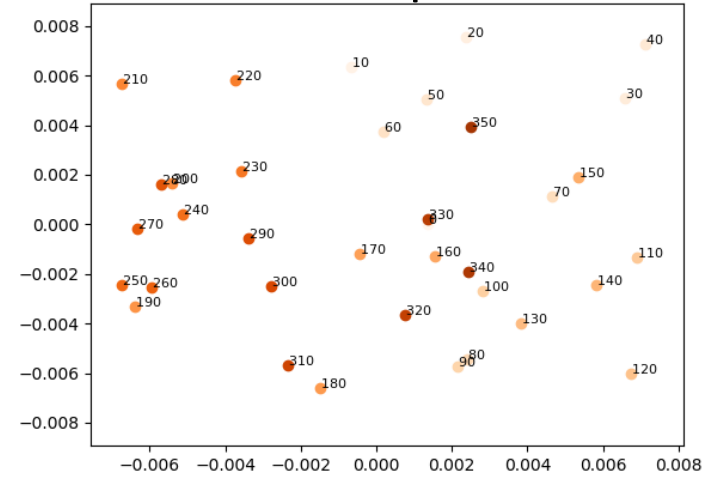
50 epochs



100 epochs

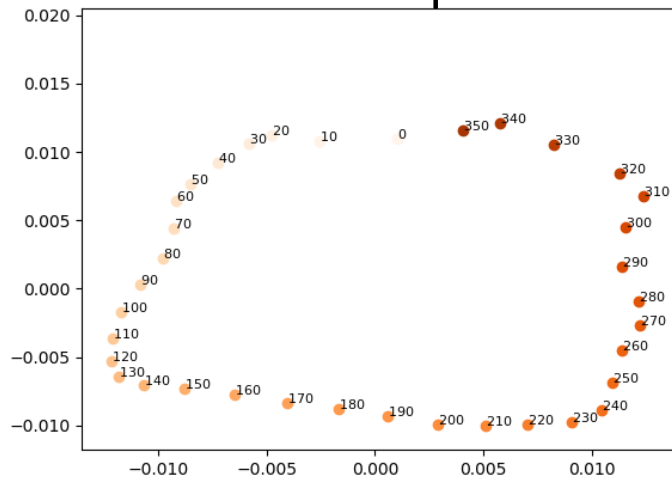


300 epochs

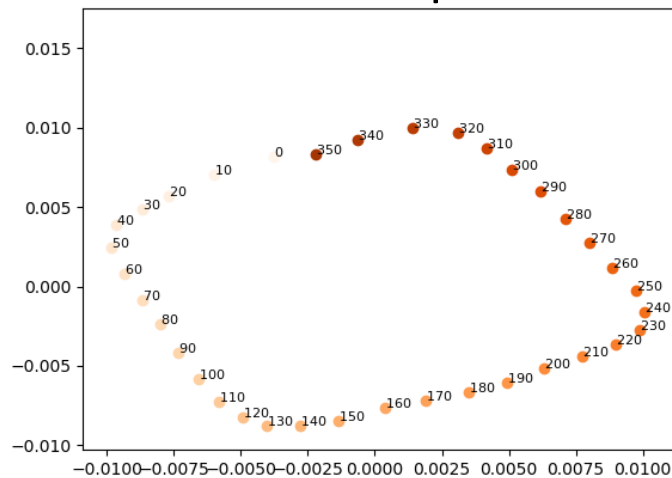


coeff.=10, Z=5

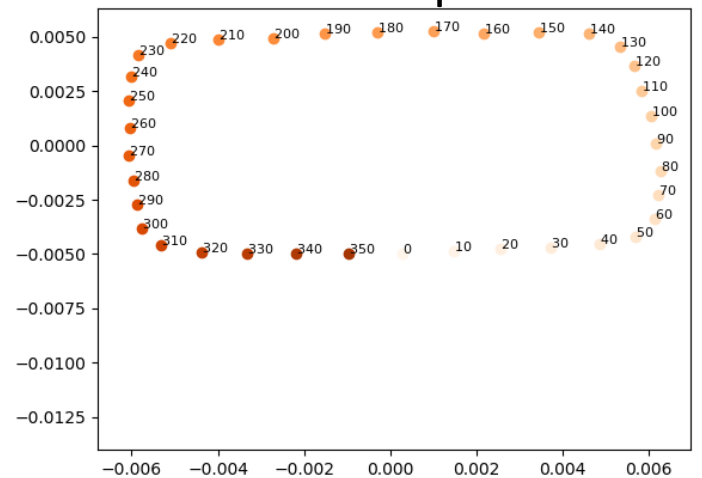
50 epochs



100 epochs

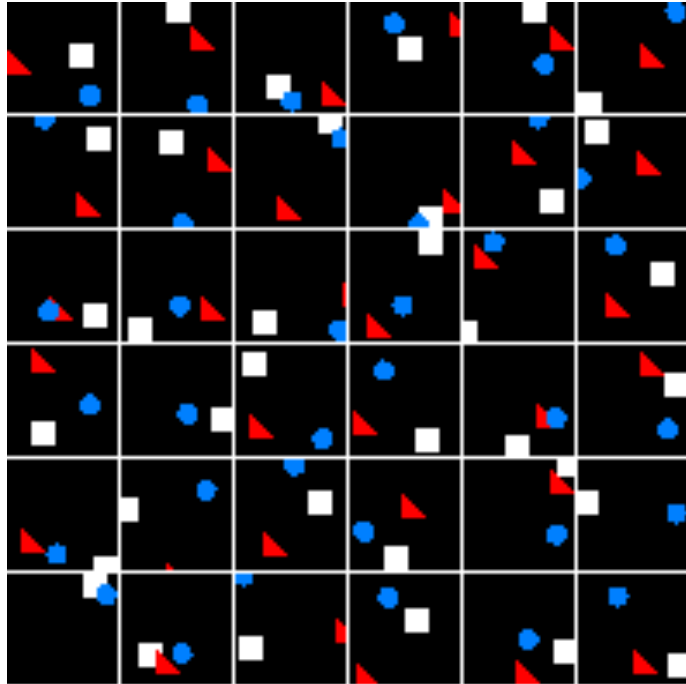


300 epochs

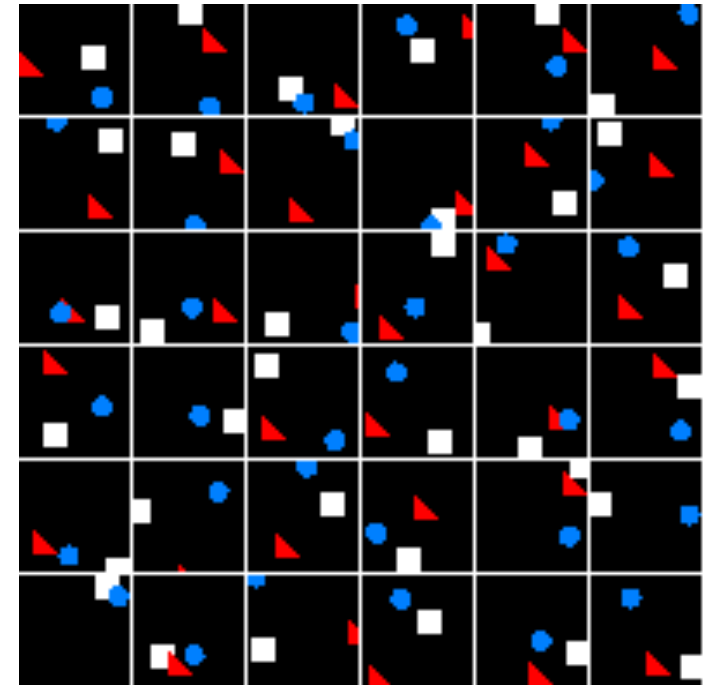


Multiple objects image inbetween

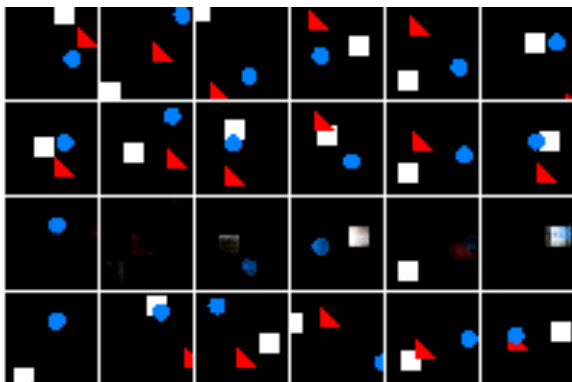
Coeff.0



Coeff.100



1st frame

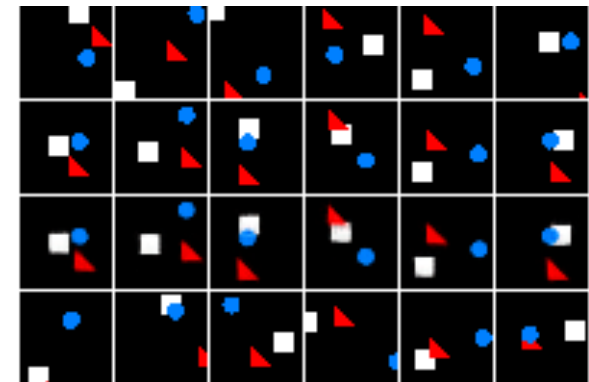


GT

Inbetween

2nd frame

1st frame

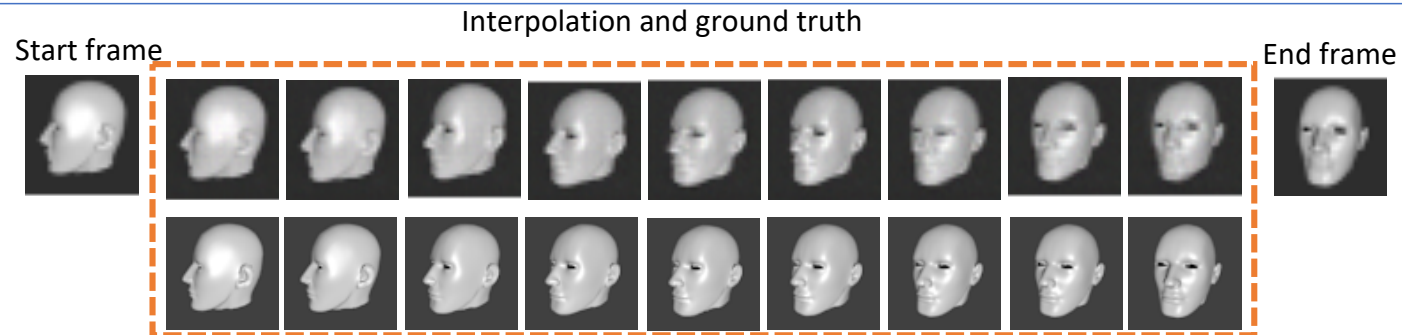


GT

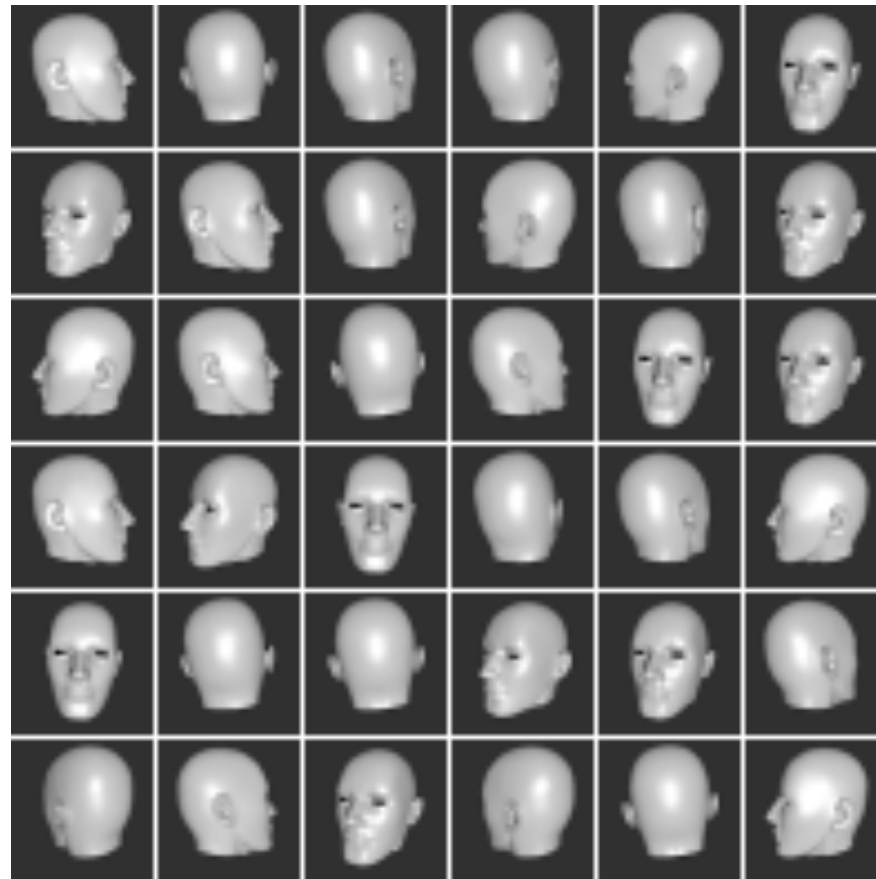
Inbetween

2nd frame

Linear Long-term Latent Interpolation

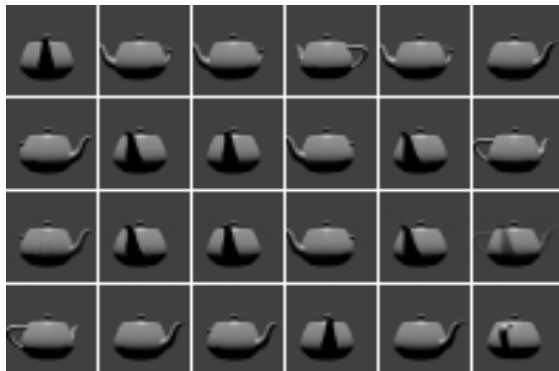
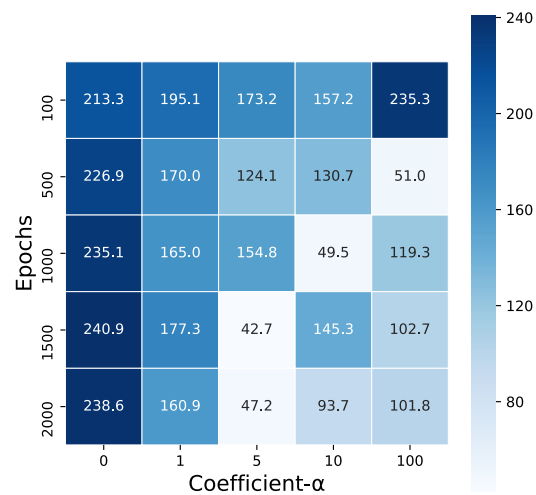


Testing

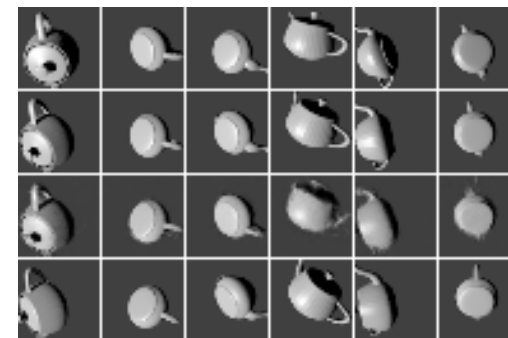
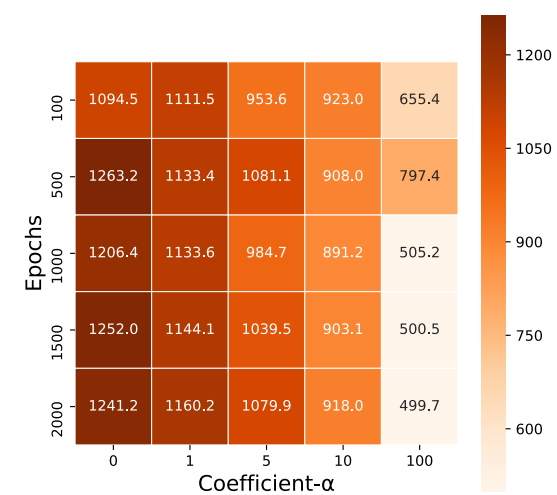


Evaluation based on metrics - MSE

- “Teapot” dataset – **One** degree of freedom



- “Teapot” dataset – **Two** degrees of freedom

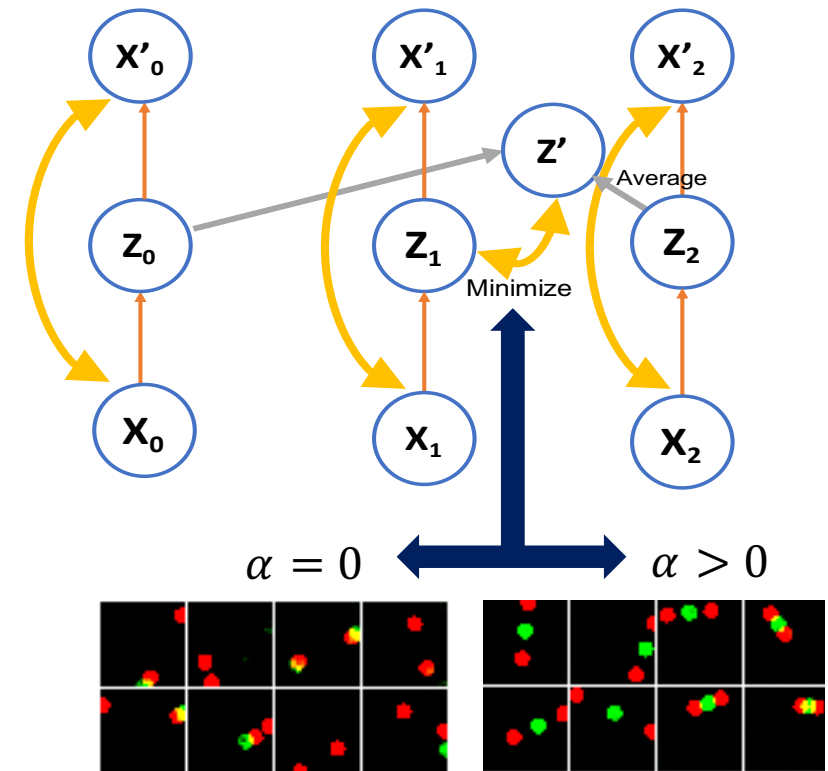


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Conclusion

- We presented an alternative approach for generating an image interpolation by giving nearby frames which are non-consecutive images using a latent model.
- This model excels at predicting the interpolated image spatial location of the object in the image in addition the model generalizes for different datasets.
- Being able to twist the latent model gave us a desired outcome.



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Future Work

- Try it with:
 - More complex physical models, such as linked arms.
 - Non-image data, for instance: text and audio data
 - Complex video i.e. video with fast motions and more moving objects.

Acknowledgement

- This paper is based on results obtained from a project commissioned by the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO).
- This work was supported by JSPS KAKENHI Grant Number JP16K00116.