# Beyond the Contact: Discovering Comprehensive Affordance for 3D Objects from Pre-trained 2D Diffusion Models



 $^{2}\,$  Naver Webtoon AI



**Fig. 1:** Given a 3D object, we generate numerous 3D Human-Object Interaction (HOI) samples using text prompts, and learn a novel affordance representation called *Comprehensive Affordance* (ComA) which models both contact and non-contact HOI patterns.

Abstract. Understanding the inherent human knowledge in interacting with a given environment (e.q., affordance) is essential for improving AI to better assist humans. While existing approaches primarily focus on human-object contacts during interactions, such affordance representation cannot fully address other important aspects of human-object interactions (HOIs), *i.e.* patterns of relative positions and orientations. In this paper, we introduce a novel affordance representation, named Comprehensive Affordance (ComA). Given a 3D object mesh, ComA models the distribution of relative orientation and proximity of vertices in interacting human meshes, capturing plausible patterns of contact. relative orientations, and spatial relationships. To construct the distribution, we present a novel pipeline that synthesizes diverse and realistic 3D HOI samples given any 3D target object mesh. The pipeline leverages a pre-trained 2D inpainting diffusion model to generate HOI images from object renderings and lifts them into 3D. To avoid the generation of false affordances, we propose a new inpainting framework, Adaptive Mask Inpainting. Since ComA is built on synthetic samples, it can extend to any object in an unbounded manner. Through extensive experiments, we demonstrate that ComA outperforms competitors that rely on human annotations in modeling contact-based affordance. Importantly, we also showcase the potential of ComA to reconstruct human-object interactions in 3D through an optimization framework, highlighting its advantage in incorporating both contact and non-contact properties.

 $\underbrace{\textbf{Keywords:}}_{\text{*Indicates equal contribution}} \text{ Affordance } \cdot \text{ Human-Object Interaction } \cdot \text{ Diffusion Models}$ 

# 1 Introduction

Humans possess an innate ability to perceive the functionalities provided by the environment or objects and efficiently utilize them—a concept known as affordance [17]. Affordance incorporates a variety of patterns typically observable in human-object interactions (HOIs), including not only plausible physical contact but also spatial and orientational non-contact relationships. For example, while using a laptop, the orientation and distance patterns between human face or other body parts and the screen can be considered part of affordance, alongside the hand regions touching the laptop keyboard. Teaching such affordance knowledge to machines is crucial for enabling them to better understand or mimic human behaviors. Consequently, numerous studies have been conducted to implement such affordance knowledge into AI and robotics [1,20,23,37,40,63,79,87,89].

Most previous approaches however, primarily focus on a limited spectrum of affordances. Some approaches represent the human and object regions in contact using contact scores on 2D images [1,40], 3D objects [87], and 3D humans [23,79] using direct supervision from human annotations. Others represent affordances by inferring [63] or generating [37,89] plausible human-object pairs in contactoriented object categories. While a few recent studies tackle learning the spatial relations [20,88] between a human and an object, these methods mainly focus on object categories where physical contact is dominant than non-contact patterns.

In this paper, we introduce *Comprehensive Affordance* (ComA), a novel representation of an affordance encompassing the various aspects of human-object interaction, including orientational tendencies and relative positions. The motivation for our design arises from the observation that there exist typical 3D relations between entire body parts and objects during HOIs. For instance, human faces, torsos, and arms often exhibit specific distances and orientations, with some variability, when interacting with certain object categories, as shown in Fig. 2. Our ComA is designed to model these patterns by constructing a distribution between each pair of object surface points and human surface points in 3D. This distribution represents the likelihood of human body parts displaying specific spatial and orientational relations with object points, as shown in Fig. 3.

Learning ComA requires various 3D HOI samples showing the way humans use the target object in 3D, from which pairwise distributions of 3D HOI relations can be constructed. Manually annotating such cues is challenging, compared to the annotations focusing solely on contact regions [40, 63, 79, 85, 87, 88]. As a key solution, we present a pipeline to synthesize a large-scale synthetic 3D HOI samples leveraging a pre-trained 2D diffusion model. Interestingly, we observe that a pre-trained 2D diffusion model captures the affordance knowledge in the form of 2D images, as shown in Fig. 2, where the images are synthesized from text prompts. However, leveraging these 2D HOI cues for construction of ComA (which requires 3D HOI samples) presents the following challenges: (1) the diffusion model needs to be applied for inpainting plausible humans without altering the original shape and pose of the target object, and (2) 3D HOI samples should be lifted from the synthesized 2D images. To address these challenges, we present



**Text Prompt**: 1 person using a laptop

Text Prompt: 1 person using a telescope

**Fig. 2:** Typically, people (1) view the screen (2) from relatively distant distance while using a laptop (Left), whereas they (1) peer into it (2) from a close distance while using a telescope (Right). Pre-trained diffusion model has a knowledge of these (1) orientational and (2) spatial relation between human and object during interaction.

Adaptive Mask Inpainting to insert humans without altering the appearance of target objects in 2D, along with a 3D lifting pipeline from 2D HOI cues.

We demonstrate the efficacy of our approach by learning ComA on 100 3D object meshes in diverse categories collected from various sources [2,9,29,52,71, 83]. We compare our ComA with existing approaches [79,87] on the BEHAVE dataset [2], demonstrating that ours learned from synthetic cues outperforms competitors trained on manual annotations for contact-based affordance. Additionally, we verify the advantage of ComA against contact-only representations, in the scenario of reconstructing HOIs via an optimization framework. We will release the results and our source code<sup>1</sup>.

In summary, our main contributions can be summarized as follows: (1) we introduce a new representation ComA, which models the distribution of both explicit contact and non-contact patterns during HOIs; (2) we present a pipeline to build ComA from synthetic datasets by leveraging a pre-trained 2D diffusion model, scalable to any 3D object without requiring laborious annotations; and (3) we propose *Adaptive Mask Inpainting*, a method for preserving the original context of an image in using inpainting diffusion model.

# 2 Related Work

Learning Visual Affordance. Affordance was introduced by Gibson [17] as a set of functionalities that the environment furnishes to an agent (*e.g.*, human, animal). The concept extends to the vision and robotics area, where the focus is on teaching embodied agents to interact with scenes [1, 15, 39, 56, 84], mimicking human-object [2, 7, 10, 13, 23, 28, 33, 42, 54, 63, 65, 69, 74, 91, 92], or hand-object [3-5, 76, 96] interactions. Earlier methods focused on learning action category labels [6, 25, 38] with bounding boxes but lacked a detailed description of affordance. Due to the limited affordance information available from text descriptions or labels, some studies depicted affordance as contact regions or heatmaps on objects [1, 40, 87] and humans [23, 79]. However, learning affordances beyond the contact was challenging since existing datasets created through a multi-camera system [2, 29],

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>https://github.com/snuvclab/coma

motion capture [22], and manual process [12,31,79,87] focused only on annotating contact information rather than capturing the holistic aspect of HOI. Following studies generate plausible HOI samples in 2D [37,89] or 3D [85,93] which has the potential for learning such broader HOI knowledge, but do not address the problem directly. In contrast, our method generates 3D HOI samples and extracts ComA for modelling beyond the contact.

Data Synthesis for Learning. There have been approaches to supplement data in fields lacking efficient annotation process by leveraging generative models, irrespective of the research area. Many methods employ GANs [18, 34] or diffusion models [27, 67, 73] to augment data [24, 78] for various vision tasks, including perception and representation learning [82], classification [8, 47, 77], segmentation [49, 80, 95], dense visual alignment [62], and further extending to 3D tasks, such as neural rendering [21, 94], shape reconstruction [60], and so forth. The major challenge in leveraging synthesized data (or generative models for cues) is controllability, as the generator, even when conditioned, typically produces free samples. Ali *et al.* [30] presents a method to control the viewpoint of the synthesized image by modeling the viewpoint-free latent space. CHORUS [20] applies cascaded filtering to the generated dataset to learn 3D human-object spatial relations, similar to our approach.

**Diffusion Model for Synthesizing HOI Images.** While diffusion models [27, 72, 73] excel at generating realistic images [64, 67], few address the generation of 2D human-object pairs (*i.e.*, HOI images). Inpainting models [46, 67], while a common choice for human insertion, often compromise scene details, resulting in images with false affordance. Image editing techniques [26, 50, 53] may offer an alternative but tend to prioritize style changes and struggle with creating new geometry. Recently, Ye et al. [89] employs an additional layout network to determine the inpainting region, and Kulal et al. [37] trains a diffusion model on video clips to generate HOI images. In contrast to these approaches, we create HOI images by inserting humans while maintaining the context of the original image, without additional network training. Concurrent work by Li *et al.* [41] introduces *Dynamic Mask Inpainting*, which uses attention masks to change inpainting masks over timesteps to insert human into a 3D scene, while we explicitly apply segmentation model to adapt the inpainting mask.

## 3 Method

Given an input 3D object mesh, our goal is to learn our novel affordance representation, ComA, which models the distribution of relative proximity and orientation between human and the object surface points. Our pipeline begins with creating 2D HOI images (Sec. 3.1). These images are then lifted to 3D, resulting large-scale synthetic 3D HOI samples (Sec. 3.2). From these 3D samples, we finally learn ComA (Sec. 3.3). An overview of our method is shown in Fig. 3.



Fig. 3: Method Overview. Our method can be divided into two parts: (1) Generating 3D HOI Samples and (2) Learning ComA from Generated 3D HOI Samples. In the first step, we utilize an inpainting diffusion model with our Adaptive Mask Inpainting to create 2D HOI images, and generate 3D HOI samples via uplifting pipeline. In the second step, the generated 3D HOI samples are aggregated to create distributions for relative proximity and orientation, which can be derived into various affordance forms.

#### 3.1 2D HOI Image Generation

Rendering Object from Multi-Viewpoints. Given a 3D object, we first render it from multiple viewpoints. We place the object and camera differently for two object types: *static* and *dynamic*. For objects that are presumed to be fixed on the ground during interaction (*e.g.*, chair), we fix the object on the ground plane, whereas objects with dynamic pose during interaction (*e.g.*, cup) are perturbed with sampled rotation and translation. Type of the object is inferred automatically by rendering the object at any direction first and then utilize vision-language model [59] for predicting. The rendering process can be fully automated, but we empirically find it beneficial to leverage a small amount of human labor, such as restricting the range of perturbation due to the inherent bias of pre-trained diffusion models. For rendering, we place weak perspective cameras  $\{\Pi_c\}_{c=1}^N$  around the object with equal azimuth interval and same elevation, where N is set as 8 for *static*, 40 for *dynamic* objects.

**Inpainting Mask Selection.** After rendering the images, we select the masks to inpaint a human interacting with the object. While our inpainting pipeline is quite robust to initial masks, we found that initial mask selection is beneficial for avoiding failure cases such as generating hallucinated objects or ambiguous interactions. Specifically, we move sliding windows around the object and choose the windows whose Intersection over Union (IoU) with the object segmentation mask falls within a specific range. See Supp. Mat. for more details.



Fig. 4: Adaptive Mask Inpainting. Without adaptive mask inpainting, the original object is damaged when inserting humans, resulting false affordances.

**Prompt Generation.** Inspired by CHORUS [20], we automatically generate the prompts that describe the possible interactions with humans and the given object, which are taken as guidance for inpainting. Specifically, we utilize the vision-language model [59] to infer the HOI prompt using the rendered object image and predefined template. We generate 3 prompts per given object.

Adaptive Mask Inpainting for Human Insertion. We synthesize 2D images of human-object interaction by inpainting the human into rendered object images using publicly available text-conditional inpainting diffusion models [67]. However, the challenge arises as the object geometry and details within the mask region are not preserved during inpainting, resulting false affordance. To mitigate this problem, we present Adaptive Mask Inpainting to progressively specify the inpainting region over diffusion timesteps. Let the sequence of denoised image latent be  $\{x_t\}_{t=T}^0$ , where  $x_T$  is the fully random noise and  $x_0$  is the denoised latent. Inspired by the observation that the quality of the predicted denoised image  $\hat{x}_0$  improves over progress of timestep, and creates a low-level structure of the target prompt (in this case, human) even at the early steps as shown in Fig. 4, we aim to adapt the inpainting region over timesteps by spatially discovering the mask from the low-level structure. Specifically, we apply PointRend [36] to decoded latent  $\mathbf{D}(\hat{x}_0)$  at specific timesteps to predict the human mask, and consequently use as the mask for the next denoising step.

#### 3.2 Lifting 2D Affordance to 3D

From the previous section, we obtain a set of 2D HOI images  $\{I_d\}_{d=1}^{D}$ . Even though we have multiple views with geometrically consistent object renderings, the inserted humans have diversity without multi-view consistency, and thus it is non-trivial to directly lift 3D humans from these 2D images.

To address this, we first utilize a single view 3D human prediction model to obtain a corresponding 3D human pose and shape of the image, and then estimate the depth of the human with weak auxiliary cue provided by the set of 2D HOI images, generating a 3D HOI sample corresponds to the image.

Single View 3D Human Prediction. To uplift the 2D HOI images into 3D, we first predict the pose and shape of 3D humans from the images. We apply off-the-shelf 3D human prediction model [55] (denoted as  $\mathbf{F}_{\text{human}}$ ) to predict

SMPL-X humans [61] from generated images:

$$\{\boldsymbol{\theta}_d, \boldsymbol{\beta}_d, \mathbf{j}_d, \mathbf{R}_d^h, \mathbf{s}_d^h, x_d, y_d\} = \mathbf{F}_{\text{human}}(I_d) \tag{1}$$

, where  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_d \in \mathbb{R}^{54 \times 3}, \boldsymbol{\beta}_d \in \mathbb{R}^{10}, \mathbf{j}_d \in \mathbb{R}^{67 \times 3}$  are the predicted SMPL-X pose, shape, and joints (see Supp. Mat. for the increased number of joints), respectively.  $\boldsymbol{R}_d^h \in \mathrm{SO}(3)$  is global rotation, and the  $\mathbf{s}_d^h, x_d, y_d$  are scale, and x, y direction offsets representing the parameters of weak perspective camera  $\Pi_{\gamma(d)}$  assigned to image  $I_d$ .  $\gamma(\cdot)$  is the function that maps the index of the 2D HOI image to the index of the weak perspective camera from which it is rendered. We additionally define  $\mathbf{j}_{d^\dagger}$  as joints in world coordinate, obtained by transforming inferred joints  $\mathbf{j}_d$  with the camera rotation and translation of  $\Pi_{\gamma(d)}$ . As 3D human lies within the weak perspective camera framework in world coordinate, there remains depth ambiguity to solve.

**Depth Optimization using Weak Auxiliary Cue.** To address the depth ambiguity of 3D human obtained from reference image, we leverage 2D HOI images generated in advance. Since the human poses in images are geometrically inconsistent, we select the largest subset inliers  $\mathcal{I}$  among them which are "semiconsistent" with the reference image by applying RANSAC [14] in terms of joint re-projection error. The joint triangulation is performed on two images, including the reference image. Note that we generate sufficiently large amount of 2D HOI images to ensure the existence of the inlier set. The inliers  $\mathcal{I}$  is used to estimate the human depth  $z_d$  by optimizing the joint re-projection loss defined below:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{re-projection}} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{I}|} \sum_{I_{\delta} \in \mathcal{I}} \|\Pi_{\gamma(\delta)}(\mathbf{j}_{d^{\dagger}} + z_d \mathbf{f}_d) - \Pi_{\gamma(\delta)}(\mathbf{j}_{\delta^{\dagger}})\|^2$$
(2)

where  $f_d \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is the normalized direction of the camera  $\Pi_{\gamma(d)}$ . Inspired by Jiang *et al.* [32], we leverage the human segmentation masks to reason about occlusion and promote a initial depth for human. We initialize SMPL-X [61] models along the camera direction and select the model with the best IOU between the rendered mask (regarding occlusion) and the segmented region to be an initial of optimization. This is useful when the optimal object position is in between two human body parts along the camera direction (*e.g.*, a motorcycle body between the legs while riding) as we use a collision loss term during optimization.

The collision loss is used to estimate fine-grained depth, as the collision cue can provide the physical plausibility of 3D HOI samples. We adopt collision loss from COAP [51] where the human body is represented as SDF [57] field. We set object vertices as query points to reduce the collision between human and object, namely  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{collision}}$ . We optimize depth  $z_d$  to minimize the total loss:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{re-projection}} + \lambda_{\text{collision}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{collision}} \tag{3}$$

**Filtering.** We filter out potentially low-quality 3D human samples in the cases of: (1) human rendering (regarding occlusion) and predicted human segmentation do not overlap much; (2) number of inliers during RANSAC [14] is small; (3) human and object collides significantly in 3D.

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## 3.3 Learning Comprehensive Affordance

Our main objective is to learn ComA, a new affordance representation which encompasses orientational and spatial affordance, along with contact-based affordance. In order to learn ComA from the previously generated 3D HOI samples, we first apply poisson disk sampling [48] to uniformly select 3D surface points for object surface and uniformly sample mesh vertices from SMPL-X [61] human, constructing ordered point sets for each object and human.

Given the ordered point sets, the density function on the *i*-th object point and the *j*-th human point, which we denote as  $\mathcal{P}_{ij}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{n})$ , represents the joint probability of the relative position  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  and relative normal orientation  $\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{S}^2$  of the *j*-th human point with respect to *i*-th object point within the 3D HOI samples. We obtain  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{n}$  by canonicalizing the orientation of the human surface normal  $\mathbf{n}_j^h$  and relative position  $\mathbf{p}^{o \to h}$ , assuming the object surface normal  $\mathbf{n}_i^o$ is rotated to face  $\hat{\mathbf{n}} = [0, 0, 1]^T$  (see Supp. Mat. for details on canonicalization). The distribution  $\mathcal{P}_{ij}$  sums up to 1 for all possible  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{n}$ :

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} \mathcal{P}_{ij}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{n}) d\mathbf{n} d\mathbf{p} = 1$$
(4)

In practice, we set the domain of  $\mathbf{p}$  as voxelized grid and domain of  $\mathbf{n}$  as equispaced grid on  $\mathbb{S}^2$ , obtained via Fibonacci Spirals [16], and compute the discrete probabilities by aggregating Gaussian Kernels calculated for  $\mathbf{n}$  and  $\mathbf{p}$  (we use geodesic metrics for  $\mathbf{n}$ ). Under the probability distribution  $\mathcal{P}_{ij}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{n})$ , we define three types of functions  $f(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{n})$  capturing different aspects of affordances: (1) Contact-based Affordance, (2) Orientational Affordance, (3) Spatial Affordance. Given each function  $f(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{n})$ , the pointwise affordance of *i*-th object point with respect to *j*-th human point is determined by computing its expectation:

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{n}\sim\mathcal{P}_{ij}}\left[f(\mathbf{p},\mathbf{n})\right] \tag{5}$$

**Contact-based Affordance.** From ComA, we can infer the contact score for human-object point pairs regarding proximity and normal alignment as:

$$f_{\text{contact}}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{n}) = \left(\frac{1 - \mathbf{n} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}}{2}\right) e^{-\|\mathbf{p}\|}$$
(6)

where  $e^{-||\mathbf{p}||}$  term encourages high score when distance  $||\mathbf{p}||$  is close. The  $\frac{1-\mathbf{n}\cdot\hat{\mathbf{n}}}{2}$  term, motivated by the fact that physical interactions are conducted via exerted normal force between contact points, encourages high score when the object normal  $\mathbf{n}_i^o$  and human normal  $\mathbf{n}_j^h$  align in an antiparallel direction. The normal alignment term improves the precision of the contact map, especially when small body parts (*e.g.*, fingertips) interact with an object and allows robust affordance learning even when using noisy HOI datasets, compared to prior work that only uses proximity for contact terms [2, 22, 23, 90, 93] or normal for computing only penetration [19, 86], without considering the alignment of surface normals.

**Orientational Affordance.** We aim to capture the pattern and tendency of the orientation of body parts with respect to the object based on the concept

of Shannon entropy [70]. Intuitively, low entropy means there exists more typical patterns of human body orientations during the interactions. To quantify the orientational tendency for ComA, we use negated normalized Shannon entropy [70] to enforce high value when the human surface normal shows consistent orientational tendency (low variance) with respect to the object surface normal:

$$f_{\text{orientation}}(\mathbf{n}) = 1 + \frac{\log \mathcal{P}_{ij}(\mathbf{n})}{\log n_b} \tag{7}$$

where  $n_b$  denotes the number of discretized bins of probability measure. Intuitively, the orientational affordance defined by  $\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{n}\sim\mathcal{P}_{ij}}[f_{\text{orientation}}(\mathbf{n})]$  has a low value when marginalized distribution  $\mathcal{P}_{ij}(\mathbf{n})$  is close to the uniform distribution, meaning that there is no dominant orientational pattern. Note that Eq. 7 is agnostic to the proximity term  $\mathbf{p}$ , which allows us to model the nonphysical orientational effects for even far-distance points.

**Spatial Affordance**. Following CHORUS [20], we also consider the 3D spatial occupancy distribution of a human surface point with respect to the object points by simply counting the occurrence:

$$f_{\text{spatial}}(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbb{1}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p})$$
 (8)

where  $\mathbb{1}(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^3 \to \{0, 1\}$  is a binary function that returns 1 if the argument is zero vector, else 0. Thus the spatial affordance  $\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{p}\sim\mathcal{P}_{ij}}[f_{\text{spatial}}(\mathbf{p})]$  outputs scalar occupancy for the spatial vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ . In practice, we implement the function as voxel array, counting 1 to the voxel that contains  $\mathbf{p}$ . Note that  $f_{\text{spatial}}$  is agnostic to the normal direction  $\mathbf{n}$  via marginalization. Learning the occupancy informs us about macro positioning of the human relative to the given object.

## 4 Experiments

In this section, we conduct experiments to demonstrate the efficacy of our representation ComA, and the method for learning it. In Sec. 4.3, we illustrate how ComA extends beyond contact-based affordance to learn distributions for orientational tendency and spatial relation, by visualizing it across various object categories. In Sec. 4.4, we perform quantitative comparisons with other baselines and verify the efficacy of our *Adaptive Mask Inpainting*. Finally, in Sec. 4.5, we introduce an optimization framework achievable through the knowledge provided by ComA, demonstrating the potential of our new affordance representation.

#### 4.1 Datasets

**3D** Object Datasets. We obtain 3D object meshes from various 3D object datasets for qualitative evaluation. Specifically, We utilize 20 from BEHAVE [2], 10 from InterCap [29], 2 from ShapeNet [9], and 8 from SAPIEN [83] to learn ComA individually. As textures were not available in InterCap [29], making the diffusion model difficult to inpaint, we used TEXTure [66] to generate textures on the meshes using text prompt automatically generated from ChatGPT [58].

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For quantitative evaluation, we utilize BEHAVE [2] as a ground-truth dataset to verify the quality of generated 3D HOI samples, assuming that interactions captured in lab-controlled environments exhibit the upper-bound quality of HOI. BEHAVE [2] contains video sequences of HOI scenarios for 20 object categories. Each video frame is annotated with a single 3D human and object, where each human is given as SMPL-H [44,68] format and objects as rotation and translation applied to the canonical mesh. We preprocess the dataset by transferring the SMPL-H annotations into SMPL-X format following Choutas *et al.* [61]. We use the 3D human-object pair in each frame as a sample, compute vertex-wise contact scores in the same way as our method, and use them as ground truth. **Internet Search Datasets.** We also collect 60 free 3D object meshes from Internet source, SketchFab [71] and learn ComA.

#### 4.2 Baselines and Metric

As previous studies focused on contact rather than learning the overall aspect of affordances, we use contact-based affordance derived from ComA to compare with them. However, most of them output 3D contact of a single HOI situation by inferring affordance from a given HOI sample (mostly an image), while we produce an overall affordance distribution for the given 3D object. To address this, we treat the contact inferred by state-of-the-art (SOTA) methods, DECO [79] (for the human) and IAGNet [87] (for the object) from the HOI image as a single sample, and aggregate them across multiple images to construct a distribution for comparison against BEHAVE [2].

Specifically, we aggregate the results of DECO [79] and IAGNet [87] on (1) 2D HOI images we've generated beforehand and (2) BEHAVE [2] test images, as these represent the usage of the BEHAVE [2] object. The aggregated scores are then normalized to form a distribution (summing up to 1), considering only the relative probability of potential contact, as the original scale of the scores varies between methods. Subsequently, we compare similarity scores (SIM) [75] and mean absolute error (MAE) [81] within these distributions.

#### 4.3 Qualitative Results

**Contact for Various Objects.** Similar to other studies, ComA can be derived into contact-based affordance as shown in Fig. 5. As our representation provides contact scores for all pairs of human-object vertices, we assign the contact score of each vertex as the maximum score among the pairs that include it. We can observe the conventional object usage patterns as heatmap, which fits with general human usages. Specifically, in case Fig. 5(b), where significant contact is absent, we can infer that the interaction does not frequently appear by contact. **Orientational Tendency for Various Objects.** ComA also contains information on orientational tendencies during the HOI. The last column in Fig. 5 visualizes the negated entropy of the vertex normal direction of human relative to the object as a heatmap. Fig. 5(a), Fig. 5(b), and Fig. 5(c) exhibit relatively high orientational tendency, while the rest show lower. This aligns with the fact that



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Fig. 5: Qualitative Results. ComA can model distributions of contact, orientation, and spatial relation exhibited during the interaction between humans and novel objects.

the human's orientation is fixed by the attachment to the back as in Fig. 5(a), and by the restrictions present on the back and side of the object as in Fig. 5(c). In Fig. 5(b), there exists an orientational tendency without attachments or restrictions, which arises due to long-distance interaction: viewing.

**Spatial Relation for Various Objects.** The relative position of the human during HOI can be also derived from ComA. Fig. 5 visualizes the distribution of the human's full body positions relative to the object. Specifically, as shown in Fig. 5(d), Fig. 5(e), and Fig. 5(f), we find that the spatial relations for the object with multiple utilities and geometries (*e.g.*, in the case of shovel, handle for holding and blade for digging) align with general human usage, demonstrating the plausibility of the results. Especially, in the case of tennis racket shown in Fig. 5(e), we can observe a relatively weak tendency in spatial relation, as the racket can move almost freely relative to humans during the interaction.





**Fig. 6: Pointwise Affordance Knowledge.** ComA can provide pointwise affordance knowledge such as corresponding contacts or plausible orientation of body parts.

Methods	${\rm SIM}_{\rm Human}(\%) \uparrow$	$\mathrm{SIM}_{\mathrm{Object}}(\%) \uparrow$	$\mathrm{MAE}_{\mathrm{Human}}(\times 100) \downarrow$	$\mathrm{MAE}_{\mathrm{Object}}(\times 100)\downarrow$
Ours	52.82	70.55	0.126	0.0288
IAGNet [87] on Our 2D HOI Images	-	66.34	-	0.0329
IAGNet [87] on BEHAVE Test Images	-	63.86	-	0.0353
DECO [79] on Our 2D HOI Images	21.66	-	0.246	-
DECO [79] on BEHAVE Test Images	17.39	-	0.259	-

**Table 1: Quantitative Results on BEHAVE.** We report SIM, MAE to evaluate the similarity of contact distribution (normalized contact scores) on BEHAVE sequences.

**Pointwise Affordance Knowledge.** Different from previous studies, ComA models the distribution of relative orientation and proximity for all humanobject vertex pairs, allowing it to provide pointwise affordance knowledge such as corresponding contacts and plausible orientation direction of specific body parts. As shown in Fig. 6(a), we can infer how each human parts and object parts contact. For the case of motorcycle, we can see that saddle and handle each contacts with human's hips and hands; while for the case of chair, the seat and backrest each contacts with human's hips and back. Also, we can utilize ComA to infer the probable direction of the head while using the monitor by computing the cosine similarity between the head direction and the vertex normal with highest orientational tendency. As illustrated in Fig. 6(b), we can see that the similarity maximizes when gazing towards the screen; which is a plausible head direction when interacting with the monitor.

Ablation on Adaptive Mask Inpainting. As shown in Fig. 4, without Adaptive Mask Inpainting, the original geometry of the object changes (left) or gets replaced by hallucinated objects (right), resulting in false affordances unfaithful to the original object. Consequently, the difference between the object in 2D and the original one existing in 3D causes the uplifted 3D HOI samples to fail to represent the right usage. This shows the importance of Adaptive Mask Inpainting as it prevents 2D inpainting diffusion model from generating false affordances.

### 4.4 Quantitative Results

**Comparison with Baselines.** We evaluate the similarity of contact distribution between BEHAVE [2] and each of DECO [79], IAGNet [87], and ours. We sample 2048 points from the 3D object mesh surface following IAGNet [87] and only consider the contact underneath the head for DECO [79], as DECO [79] uses SMPL [44] format, which only has vertex correspondence with SMPL-X [61] in

Inpainting Methods	$\mathrm{RMSE}_{\mathrm{Background}}$	$\downarrow  \mathrm{mIoU} \uparrow$	$\mathrm{mIoU}_{\mathrm{Occlusion}\ \mathrm{Aware}}\uparrow$
Vanilla	42.23	0.535	0.631
Adaptive Mask	15.33	<b>0.706</b>	<b>0.815</b>

**Table 2: Effects of Adaptive Mask Inpainting** We evaluate the performance of background preservation in vanilla inpainting and our Adaptive Mask Inpainting.

non-head regions. As shown in Tab. 1, the contact distribution from IAGNet [87] and DECO [79] using our 2D HOI images outperforms the one modeled from BEHAVE test images. This means that our generated HOI images represent the real-world affordance as well as BEHAVE [2] test images, demonstrating the efficacy of leveraging pre-trained diffusion model for generating affordance. Additionally, the contact distribution from our method outperforms the one modeled using IAGNet [87] and DECO [79] with our generated HOI images. Since we extract 3D contacts from the same image sets, we argue that our pipeline is better than other models trained on annotations for uplifting 2D affordance to 3D.

Efficacy of Adaptive Mask Inpainting. To verify the effectiveness of our Adaptive Mask Inpainting, we compare the amount of background preservation for our generated 2D HOI images with the vanilla inpainting diffusion model. We sample a maximum of 2 inpainted images with a single human detected, per each object categories from BEHAVE [2]; resulting in 691 images for vanilla inpainting and 692 images for Adaptive Mask Inpainting. We compute 3 metrics for these images; (1) RMSE<sub>Background</sub>: pixel error between images excluding the predicted human region; (2) mIoU: average IoU between object predictions in each inpainted image and original object image; (3) mIoU<sub>Occlusion Aware</sub>: same metric as (2) but excluding the predicted human region during computation. To ensure fairness, we use open vocabulary segmentation model [35, 43] to predict detailed human/object segmentation. As shown in Tab. 2, we demonstrate that our adaptive mask algorithm better preserves the background, not only pixelwise (RMSE<sub>Background</sub>), but also semantic-region-wise (mIOU, mIOU<sub>Occlusion Aware</sub>) than the vanilla inpainting baseline. This means that the generated images from adaptive mask inpainting are more likely to preserve the original object.

#### 4.5 Application

As ComA is a newly proposed affordance representation, we demonstrate its potential by showcasing an application. One possible task is to reconstruct HOI by optimizing the human pose and position to interact with an object. As shown in Fig. 7(a), it is nearly impossible to achieve the task with traditional methods which relies on contact affordance only. In contrast, ComA provides both relative orientation and contact during the HOI, making it possible to generate plausible 3D HOI samples from T-posed humans. For the objects with multiple modes of affordances, we apply mode seeking algorithm [11] on 3D HOI samples with their vertex normals and learn ComA separately; for example, swing in Fig. 7(a).

However, ComA learned on a specific object cannot be directly applied to other objects with different geometries. To address this, we transfer ComA through the process of (1) object canonicalization and (2) finding vertex cor-

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Fig. 7: Application. ComA can reconstruct HOI through optimization, which can be scaled to other objects in same category by transferring such knowledge between them.

respondences. Fig. 7(b) provides an example of transferring ComA learned from a specific motorcycle to other motorcycles with different geometries. We use objects from ShapeNet [9] which are already canonicalized and apply CPNet [45] to find vertex correspondences automatically for transferring the vertices with contact. As object canonicalization and vertex correspondence can each transfer macro orientation information and local contact information, we can transfer ComA and scale the human optimization task to other objects in the same category without any additional learning.

# 5 Conclusion

In this paper, we point out the importance of learning non-contact patterns in HOIs and propose a novel affordance representation called ComA which models both contact and non-contact patterns. To learn ComA, we utilize a pre-trained 2D diffusion model which already possesses prior knowledge of affordance. To leverage the affordance knowledge, we designed a Rendering-Inpainting-Uplifting pipeline to generate 3D HOI samples and learn ComA from the samples. The results show that ComA effectively models the common usage of objects in terms of contact, orientational, and spatial relations. Within the pipeline, we propose *Adaptive Mask Inpainting*, which allows insertion of human without damaging the original image, where we evaluate its efficacy both qualitatively and quantitatively. We expect ComA to be used as a prior knowledge for various downstream tasks, where we demonstrate its potential through human optimization framework and the possibility of transfer to various objects.

## Acknowledgements

This work was supported by Naver Webtoon. The work of SNU members was also supported by NRF grant funded by the Korean government (MSIT) (No. 2022R1A2C2092724 and No. RS-2023-00218601), and IITP grant funded by the Korean government (MSIT) [RS-2021-II211343, AI Graduate School Program (SNU)]. H. Joo is the corresponding author.

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