



Goal

To generate visually relevant and high-fidelity sounds

Challenges

- Generation of long sounds
- Many video categories (10s or 100s)
- Generation in real-time
- Lack of human-free evaluation procedures for audio synthesis

Contributions

Model for controlled sound generation based on visual cues

- supports multiple data classes
- generates the sound faster than it takes to play it

Perceptual loss for spectrogram-based sound synthesis

- designed for the open-domain spectrogram generation
- helps VQVAE to reconstruct input from a smaller bottleneck size

Family of metrics for conditional sound generation

- evaluates *relevance* and *fidelity*
- supports evaluation of general-purpose spectrogram generative models

Datasets

Requirement: strong audio-visual correspondence

VAS

- Human-curated
- ~12.5k <10-second clips
- 8 classes: Dog, Fireworks, Drum, Baby, Gun, Sneeze, Cough, Hammer

VGGSound

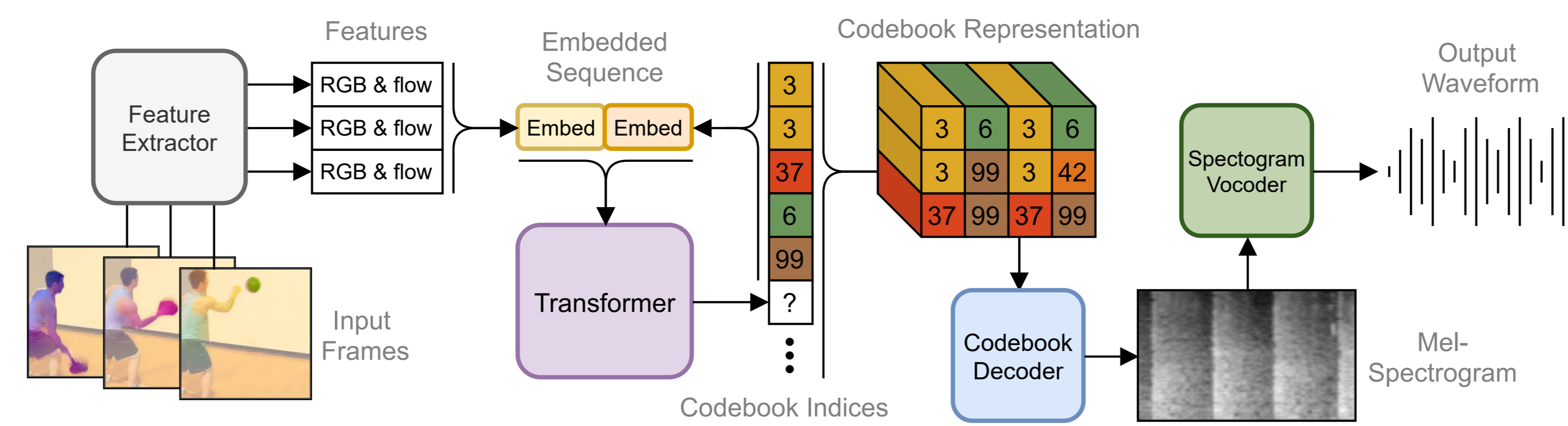
- Automatically collected
- ~190k 10-second clips from YouTube
- 300+ classes grouped as: *people, sports, nature, home, tools, vehicles, music*, etc.

The Longest and Greatest Generated Drum Solo You've Seen (maybe)

Our Model

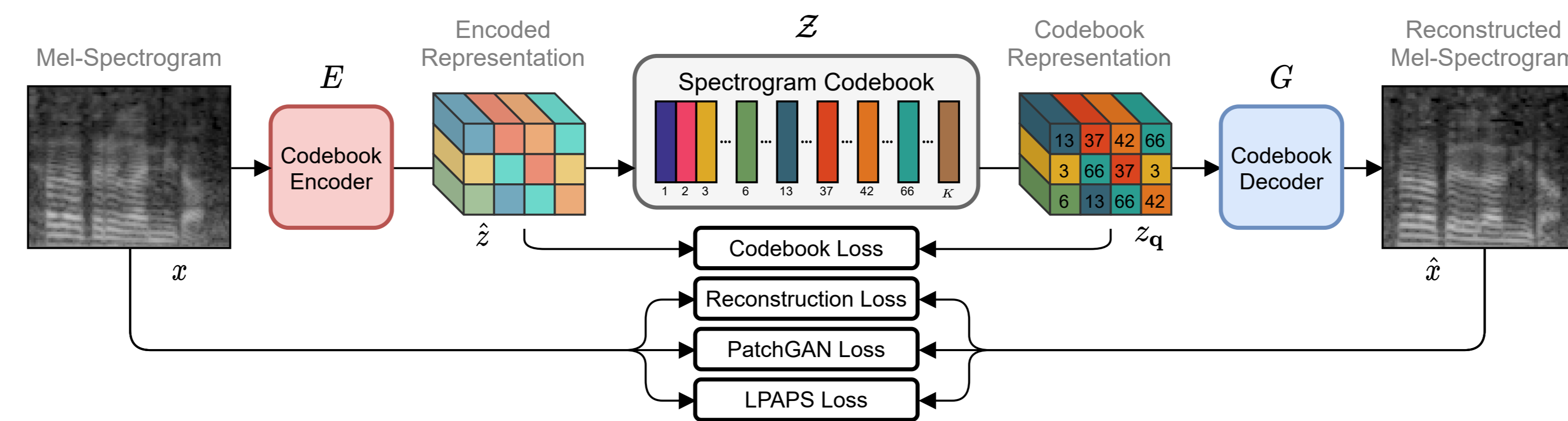
Duration: 120+ seconds

Overview



- Primed with a set of visual features, the transformer samples indices to a codebook
- The indices are replaced with the items from the codebook
- The codebook representation is decoded into the spectrogram
- The spectrogram is vocoded into a waveform

Spectrogram Codebook Pre-training



Spectrogram Codebook is trained on spectrograms from the VGGSound dataset using the following loss

$$\mathcal{L} = \underbrace{\|sg[E(x)] - z_q\|_2^2 + \beta \|E(x) - sg[z_q]\|_2^2}_{\text{codebook loss}} + \underbrace{\|x - \hat{x}\|}_{\text{recons loss}} + \underbrace{\log D(x) + \log(1 - D(\hat{x}))}_{\text{patch-based adversarial loss}} + \underbrace{\sum_s \frac{1}{F^s T^s} \|x^s - \hat{x}^s\|_2^2}_{\text{LPAPS loss}}$$

Learned Perceptual Audio Patch Similarity (LPAPS) with VGGish-ish

We train a VGG16 spectrogram classifier on VGGSound (300+ classes), we call it VGGish-ish. LPAPS is defined a distance in feature space between generated and real spectrograms (see above).

Window-based Spectrogram Vocoder

- Goal** Vocoder reconstructs a waveform from a spectrogram
- Solution 1** The Griffin-Lim algorithm that is fast and can handle open-domain samples
- Problem 1** Low quality of reconstruction from mel-spectrograms due to the intermediate algorithm
- Solution 2** WaveNet produces high-fidelity samples
- Problem 2** It is relatively slow (25 mins per 10-second sample on a GPU)
- Solution 3** To train MelGAN from scratch on VGGSound (1 sec per high-quality 10-second sample on a CPU)

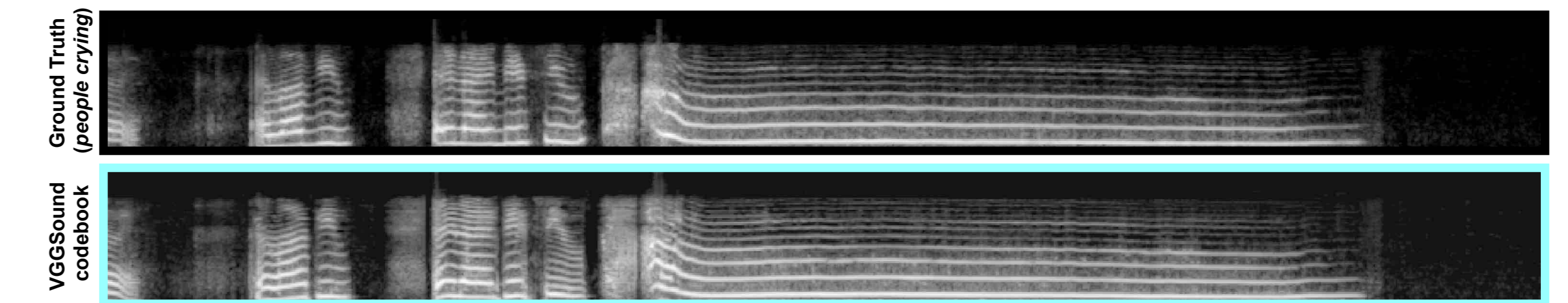
Evaluating Conditional Sound Generation

We train a variant of InceptionV3 on VGGSound dataset from scratch and call it Melception. Melception is used in evaluation of

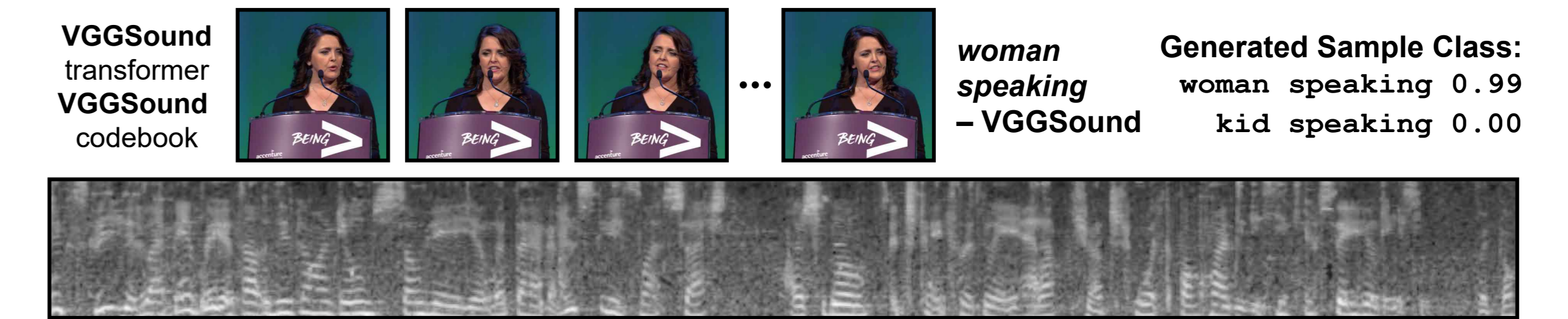
- Fidelity** in a form of Inception Score, Fréchet- and Kernel Inception Distances
- Relevance** as an individual distance between class distributions of fake and real audios associated with a condition

Results on VGGSound

Codebook Reconstruction



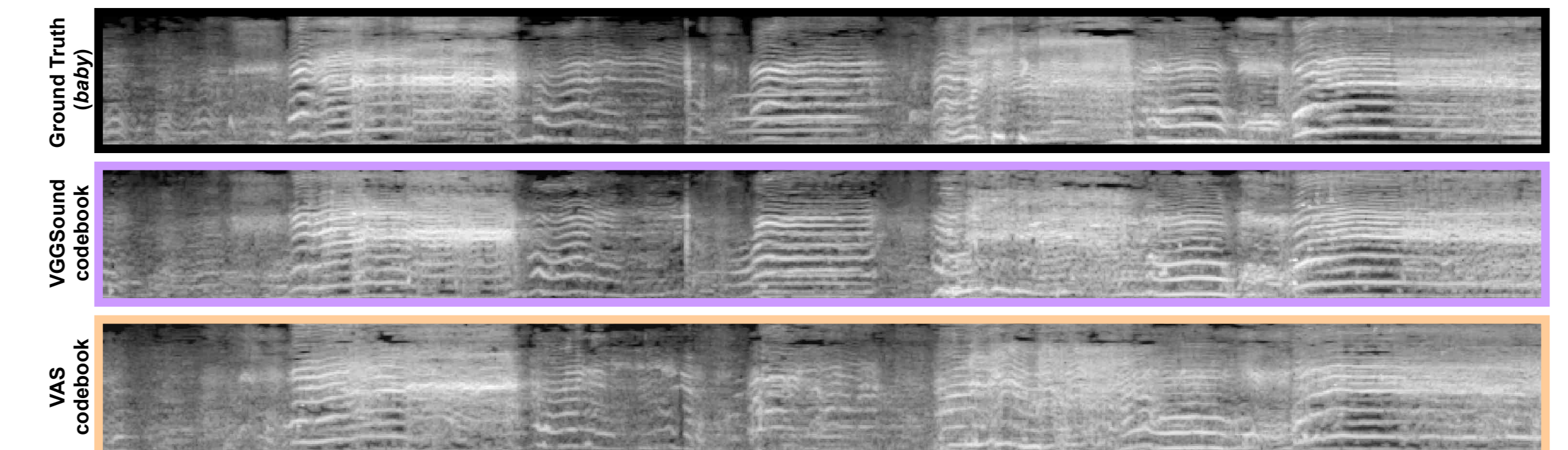
Visually-Guided Sound Generation



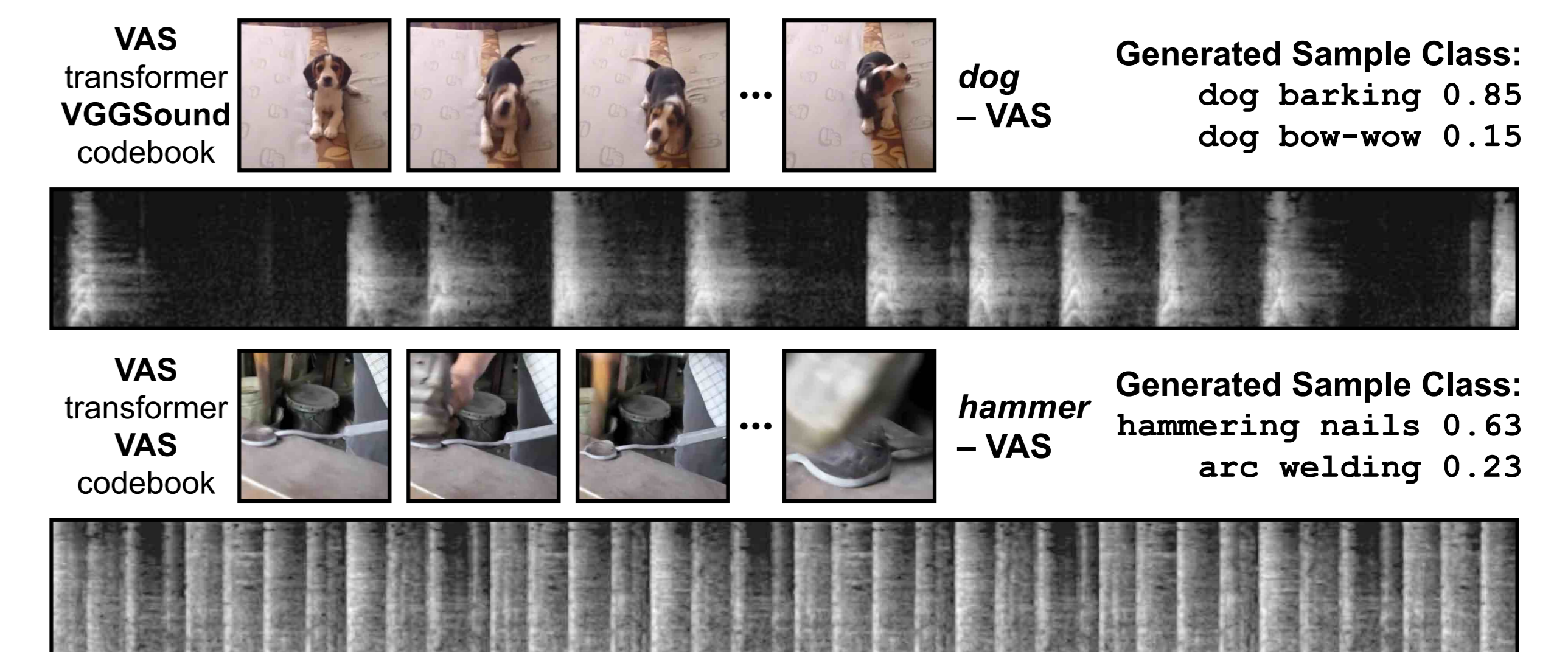
We are the first to apply VGGSound on sound generation, to the best of our knowledge

Results on VAS

Codebook Reconstruction



Visually-Guided Sound Generation



Comparison to State-of-the-art

RegNet supports only one class at once while Ours supports all 8 classes.

| | Params | FID↓ | MKL↓ |
|------------|----------|------|------|
| RegNet [1] | 8 × 105M | 78.8 | 5.7 |
| Ours | 377M | 25.4 | 5.9 |
| Ours + cls | 377M | 24.9 | 5.5 |

All models use the same set of visual feats. [1] Chen et. al, in IEEE TIP, 2020.

