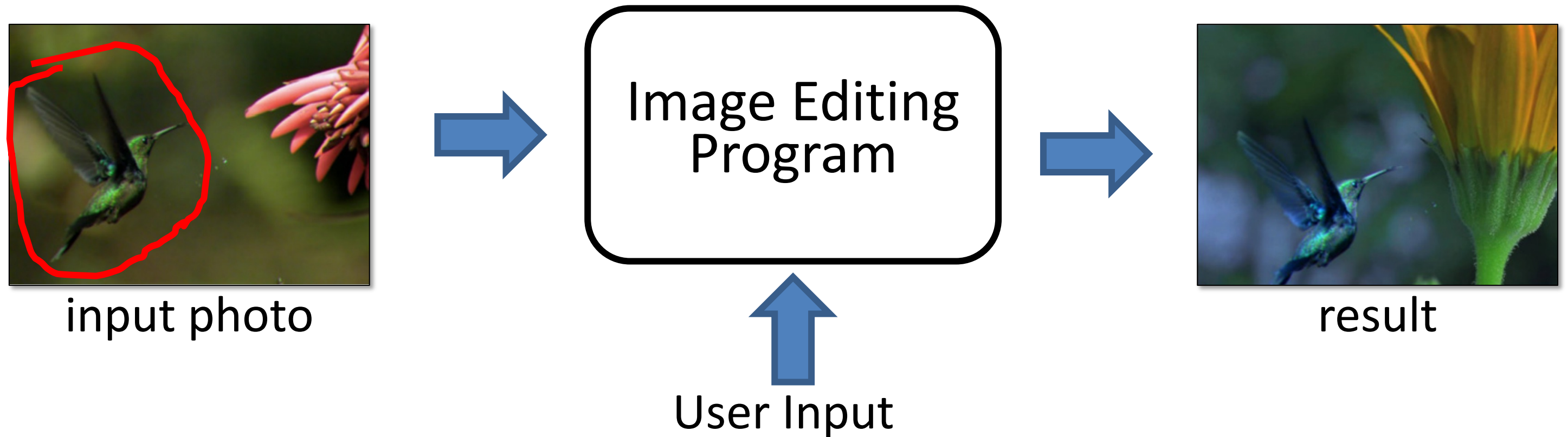


Image Editing with Optimization (part I)

Jun-Yan Zhu

16-726, Spring 2025

Image Editing with Optimization



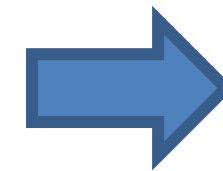
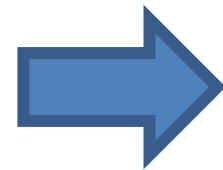
$$\arg \min_{\hat{y}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{background_boundary}}(\hat{y}, y) + \lambda \mathcal{L}_{\text{source_gradient}}(\hat{y}, x)$$

result ← background result ← object

Image Editing with Optimization



input photo



result



User Input

- Desired output:
- stay close to the input.
 - satisfy user's constraint.

Image Editing with Optimization

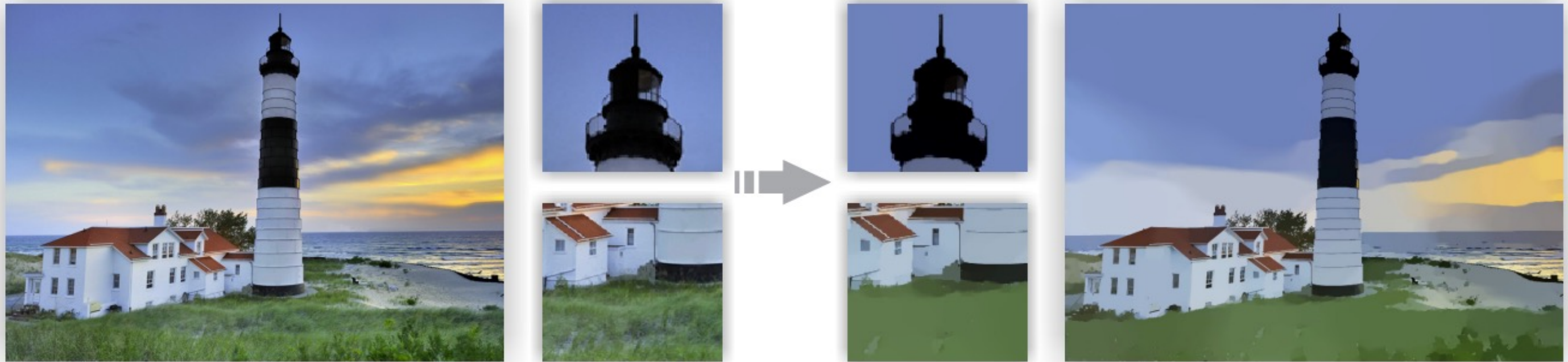
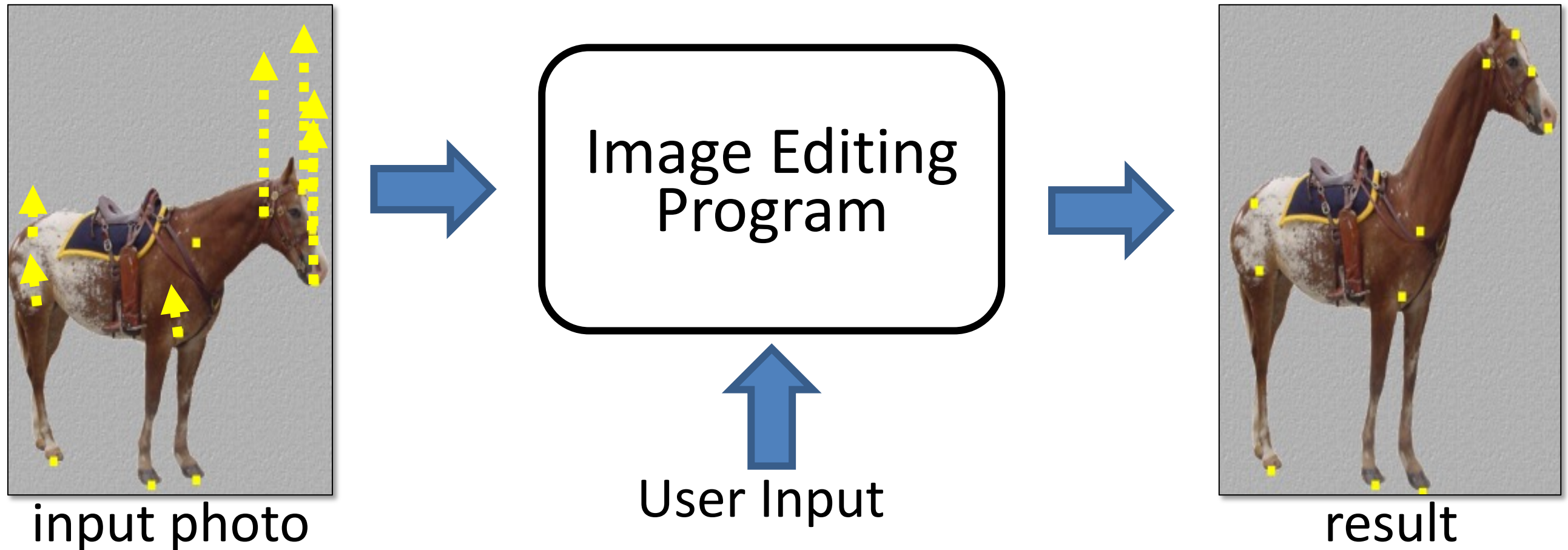


Image Smoothing via L0 Gradient Minimization [Xu et al., SIGGRAPH Asia 2011]

$$\arg \min_{\hat{y}} \left\{ \left\| \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{output}}}{\hat{y}} - \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{input}}}{x} \right\| + \lambda C(\hat{y}) \right\}$$

L0 norm on image gradients
(the total number of nonzero elements)

Image Editing with Optimization



Moving least squares + transformation parameters.

- Desired output:
- stay close to the input.
 - satisfy user's constraint.

So far so good

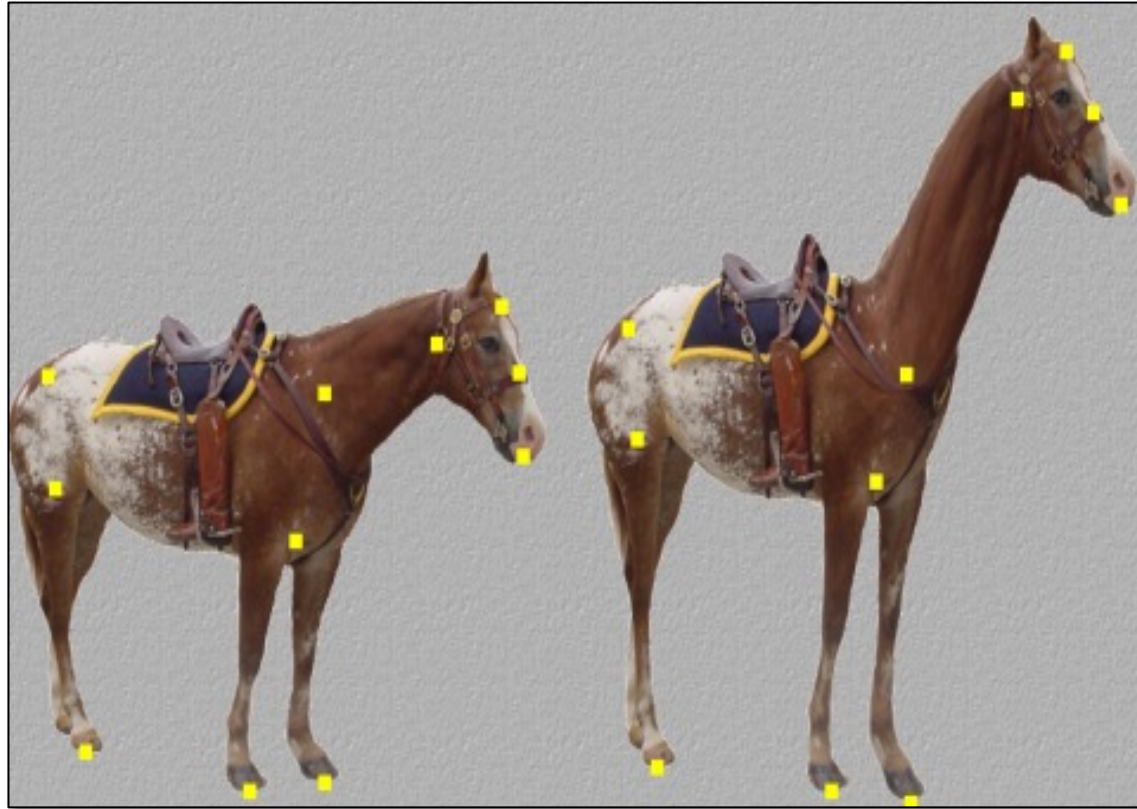


Image Warping



Image Composition

Things can get really bad



Image Warping



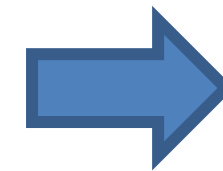
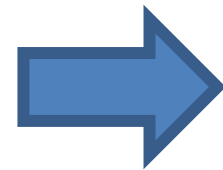
Image Composition

The lack of “safety wheels”

Adding the “safety wheels”



Input Photo



Output Result



User Input



- A desired output:
- stay close to the input.
 - satisfy user's constraint.
 - Lie on the natural image manifold

Learning Natural Image Manifold

- Deep generative models: $G(z) : z \rightarrow x$
 - Generative Adversarial Network (**GAN**)
(e.g., DCGAN, StyleGAN2, BigGAN)
 - Variational Auto-Encoder (**VAE**)
(e.g., VQ-VAE2)
 - Flow-based models (e.g., RealNVP, Glow)...
 - Diffusion models (e.g., DDPM, DDIM)
 - ...

Projecting and Editing an Image



original photo

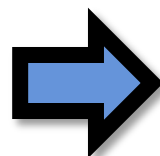


different degree of image manipulation

Project 



projection on manifold



 Edit Transfer



transition between the original and edited projection


Projecting and Editing an Image



original photo

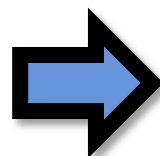


different degree of image manipulation

Project 



projection on manifold



 Edit Transfer



transition between the original and edited projection

Projecting an Image into GAN Manifold

Input: real image x
Output: latent vector z

Optimization
$$z^* = \arg \min_z \mathcal{L}(G(z), x)$$

Reconstruction loss

Generative model



0.196



0.238



0.332

Projecting an Image into GAN Manifold

Input: real image x
Output: latent vector z

Optimization

$$z^* = \arg \min_z \mathcal{L}(G(z), x)$$

Inverting Network $z = E(x)$

$$E = \arg \min_E \mathbb{E}_x \underbrace{\mathcal{L}(G(E(x)), x)}$$

Auto-encoder
with a fixed decoder



0.196



0.238



0.332



0.218



0.242



0.336

Projecting an Image into GAN Manifold

Input: real image x
Output: latent vector z

Optimization

$$z^* = \arg \min_z \mathcal{L}(G(z), x)$$

Inverting Network $z = E(x)$

$$E = \arg \min_E \mathbb{E}_x \mathcal{L}(G(E(x)), x)$$

Hybrid Method

Use the **network** as initialization
for the **optimization** problem



0.196



0.238



0.332



0.218



0.242



0.336



0.153



0.167



0.268

Manipulating the Latent Code



original photo

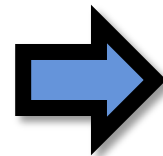


different degree of image manipulation

Project 



projection on manifold



 Edit Transfer



transition between the original and edited projection

Manipulating the Latent Code

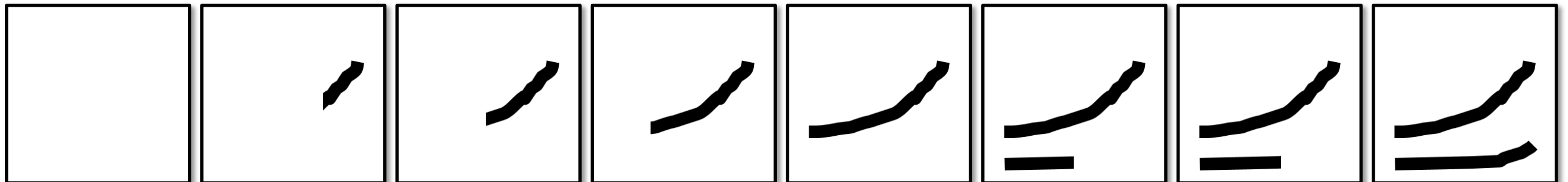
constraint violation loss L_g

user guidance image

Objective:
$$z^* = \arg \min_{z \in \mathbb{Z}} \left\{ \underbrace{\sum_g (\mathcal{L}_g(G(z)) v_g)}_{\text{data term}} + \underbrace{\lambda_s \cdot \|z - z_0\|_2^2}_{\text{manifold smoothness}} \right\}.$$

Guidance

v_g



$G(z)$



z_0

Post-Processing



original photo

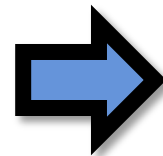


different degree of image manipulation

Project 



projection on manifold



 Edit Transfer

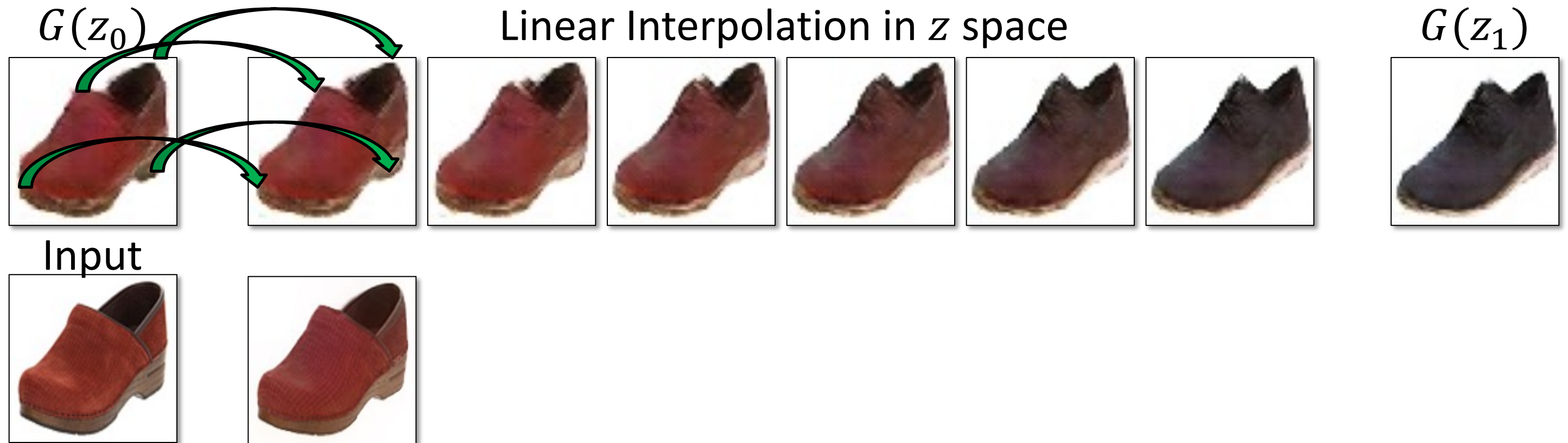


transition between the original and edited projection

Edit Transfer

Motion (u, v) + **Color** ($A_{3 \times 4}$): estimate per-pixel geometric and color variation

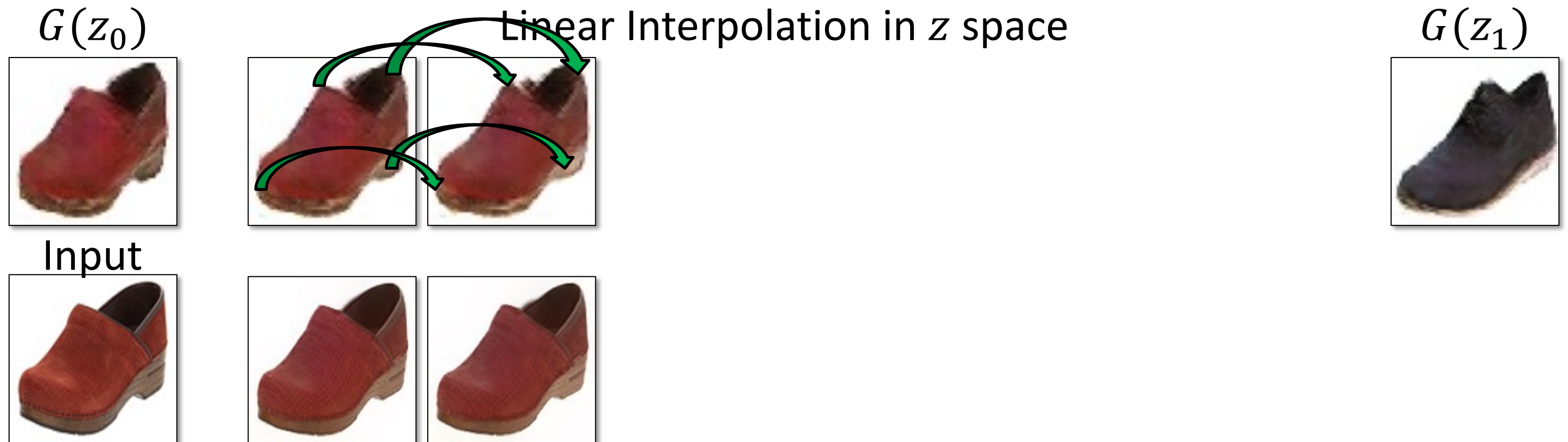
$$\iint \underbrace{\|I(x, y, t) - A \cdot I(x + u, y + v, t + 1)\|^2}_{\text{data term}} + \underbrace{\sigma_s (\|\nabla u\|^2 + \|\nabla v\|^2)}_{\text{spatial reg}} + \underbrace{\sigma_c \|\nabla A\|^2}_{\text{color reg}} dx dy$$



Edit Transfer

Motion (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) + **Color** ($A_{3 \times 4}$): estimate per-pixel geometric and color variation

$$\iint \underbrace{\|I(x, y, t) - A \cdot I(x + u, y + v, t + 1)\|^2}_{\text{data term}} + \underbrace{\sigma_s (\|\nabla u\|^2 + \|\nabla v\|^2)}_{\text{spatial reg}} + \underbrace{\sigma_c \|\nabla A\|^2}_{\text{color reg}} dx dy$$



Edit Transfer

Motion (u, v) + **Color** ($A_{3 \times 4}$): estimate per-pixel geometric and color variation

$$\iint \underbrace{\|I(x, y, t) - A \cdot I(x + u, y + v, t + 1)\|^2}_{\text{data term}} + \underbrace{\sigma_s (\|\nabla u\|^2 + \|\nabla v\|^2)}_{\text{spatial reg}} + \underbrace{\sigma_c \|\nabla A\|^2}_{\text{color reg}} dx dy$$

$G(z_0)$

Linear Interpolation in z space

$G(z_1)$



Input

Result



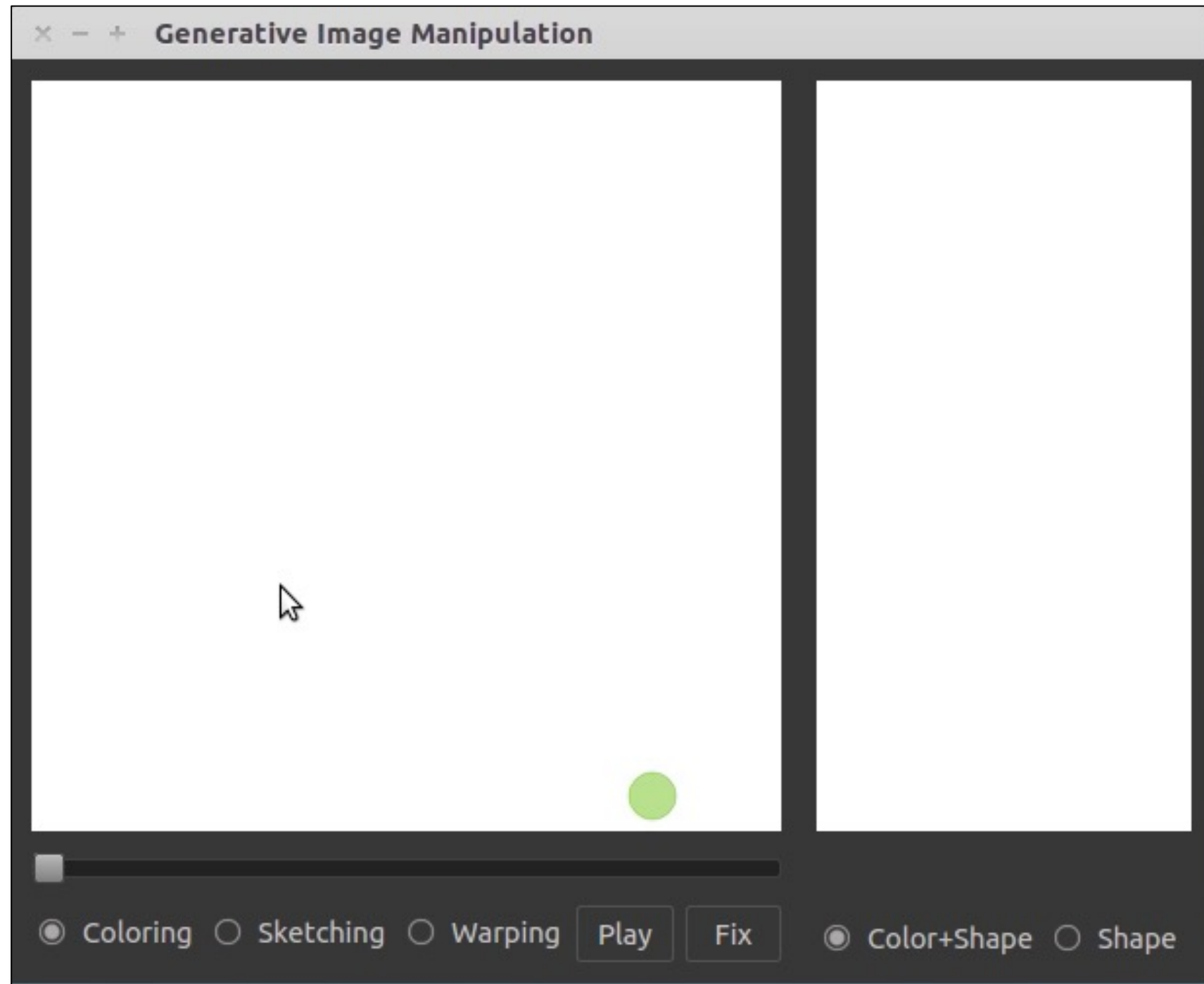
Image Manipulation Demo



Image Manipulation Demo



Interactive Image Generation



User edits



Generated images



 Color

 Sketch

Projecting and Editing an Image



original photo

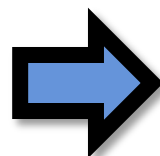


different degree of image manipulation

Project 



projection on manifold



 Post-processing



transition between the original and edited projection

Image Editing with GANs

- Step 1: Image Projection/Reconstruction

$$z_0 = \arg \min_z \mathcal{L}(G(z), x)$$

- Step 2: Manipulating the latent code

$$z_1 = z_0 + \Delta z$$

- Step 3: Generate the edited result

$$G(z_1)$$

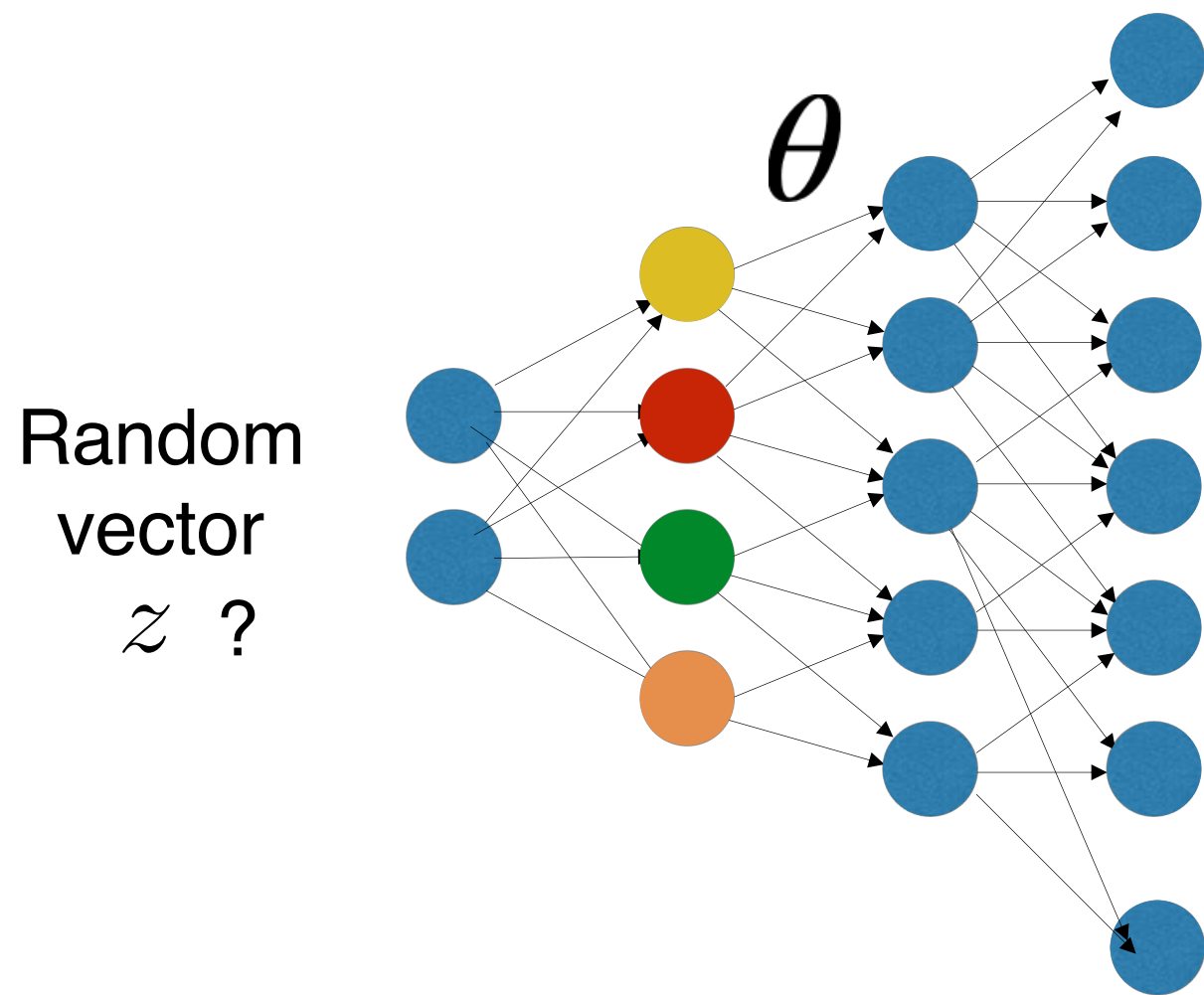
Image Projection with GANs

Image Reconstruction (high-res images, Big Models)



Original image x

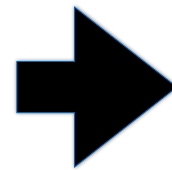
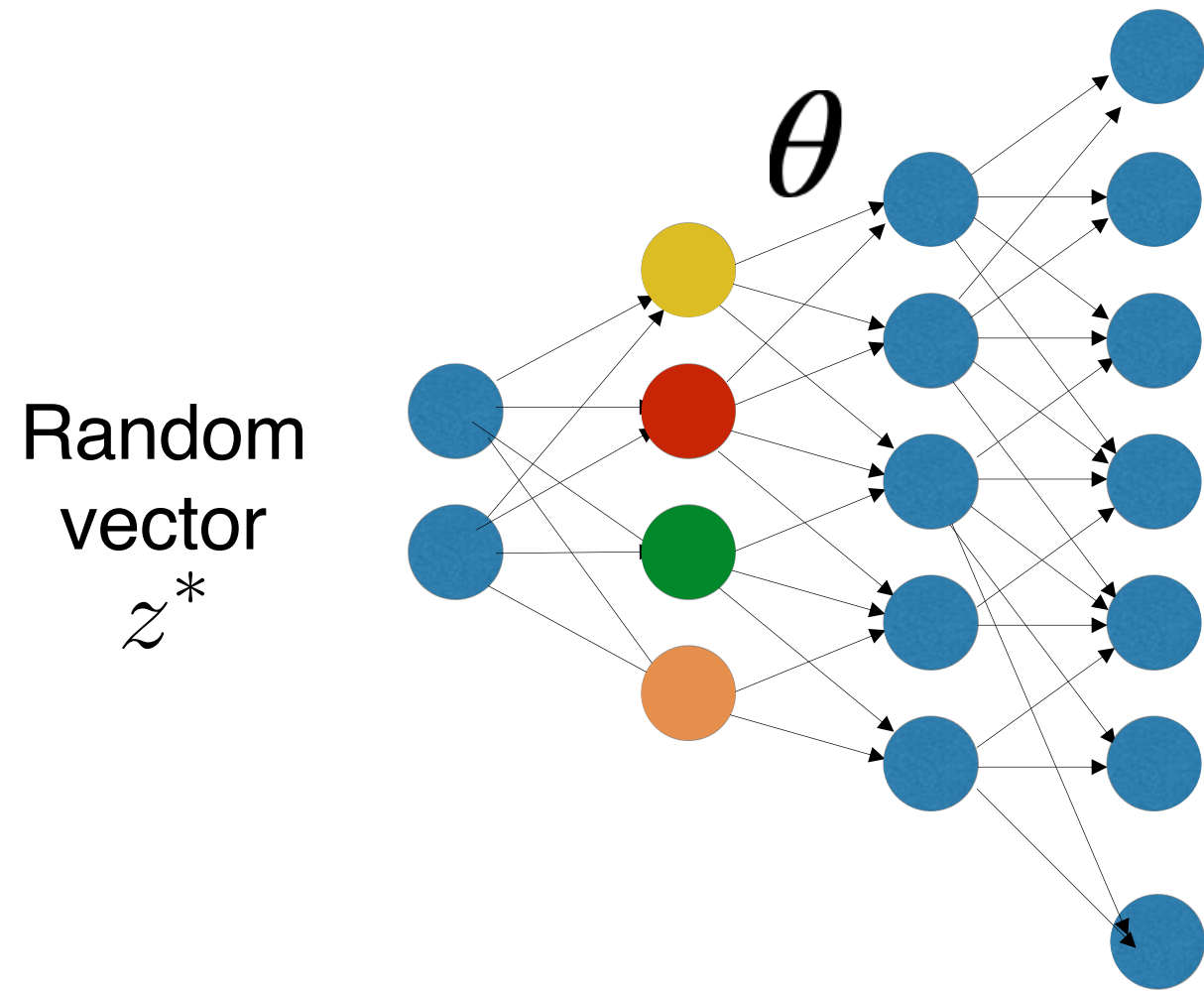
Image Reconstruction (high-res images, Big Models)



Original image x

$$z^* = \arg \min_z \mathcal{L}(G(z; \theta), x)$$

Image Reconstruction (high-res images, Big Models)



Reconstructed image $G(z^*; \theta)$

$$z^* = \arg \min_z \mathcal{L}(G(z; \theta), x)$$

Find the Differences...



Original image



GAN reconstructed image

Find the Differences...



Original image



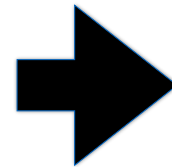
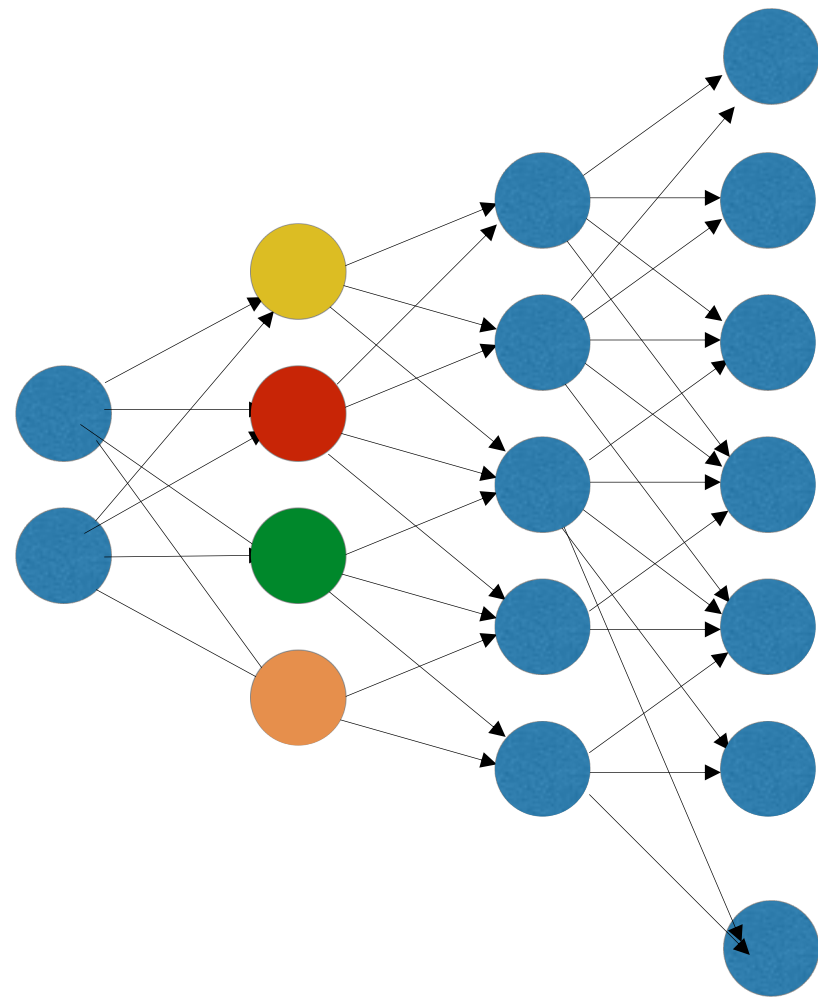
GAN reconstructed image

Reconstructing a Real Photo



Original image

Random vector z^*



Reconstructed image $G(z^*; \theta)$

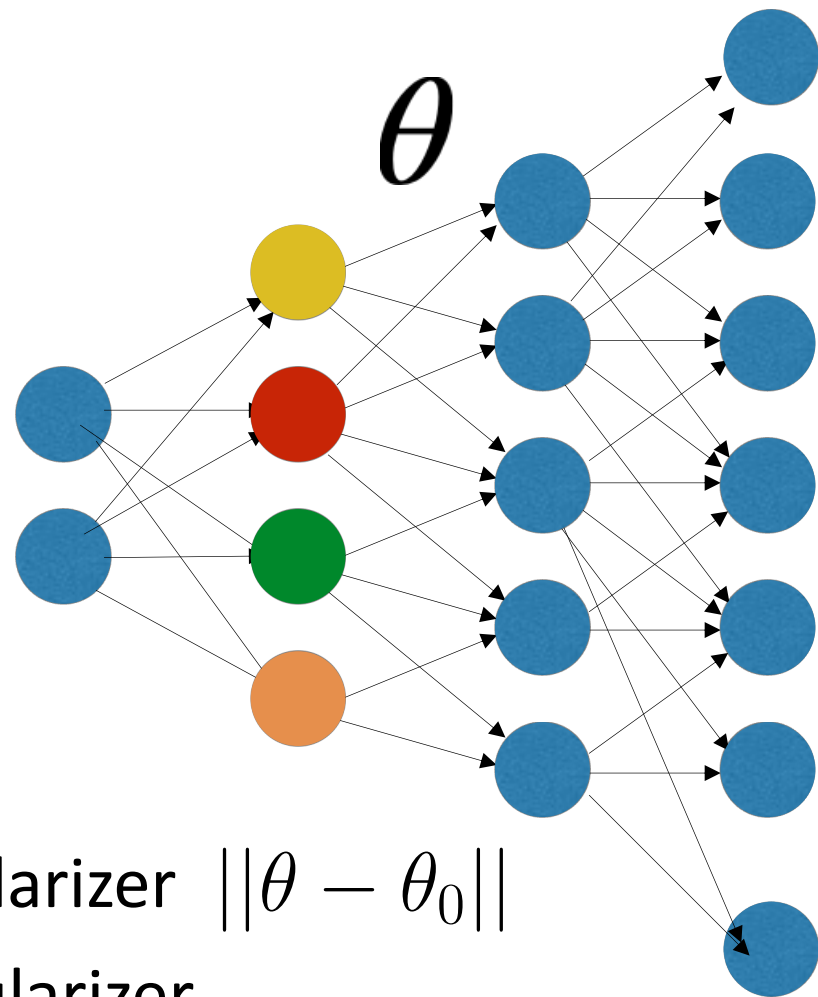
$$z^* = \arg \min_z \mathcal{L}(G(z; \theta), x)$$

Reconstructing a Real Photo



Original image

Random vector z^*



Weight space regularizer $\|\theta - \theta_0\|$

Feature space regularizer



Reconstructed image $G(z^*; \theta)$

$$z^*, \theta^* = \arg \min_{z, \theta} \mathcal{L}(G(z; \theta), x)$$

← Regularizer

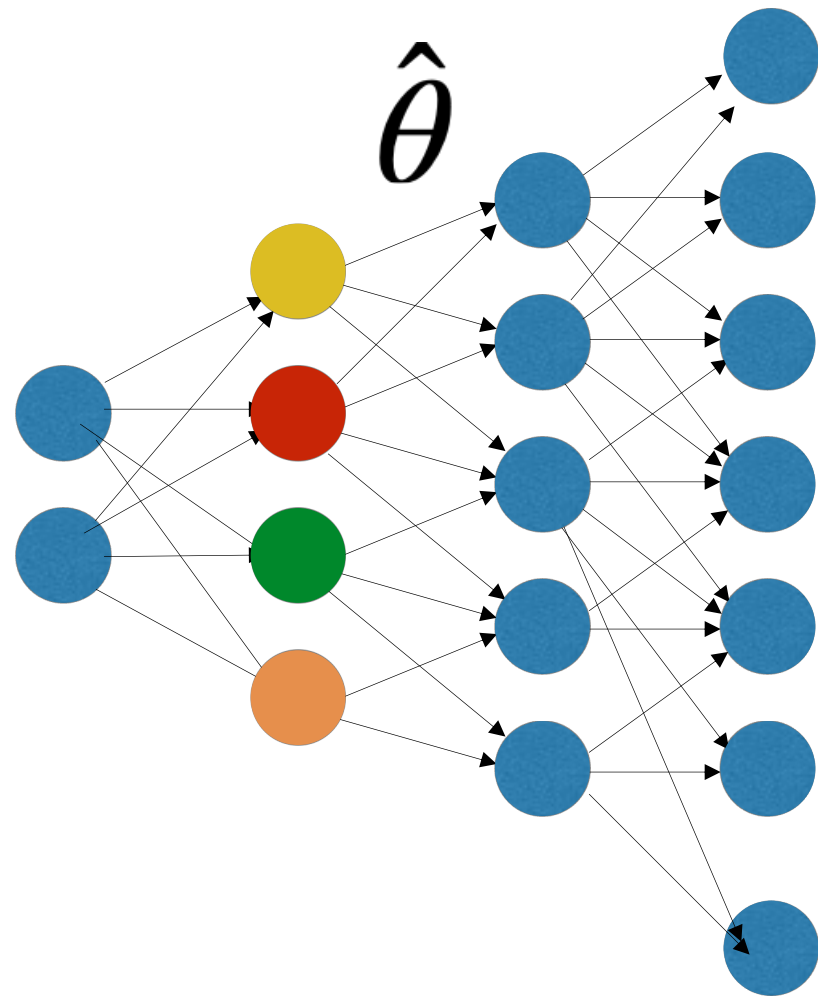


Reconstructing a Real Photo



Original image

Random vector z^*



Reconstructed image $G(z^*; \theta^*)$

$$z^*, \theta^* = \arg \min_{z, \theta} \mathcal{L}(G(z; \theta), x) + R(\theta) \leftarrow \text{Regularizer}$$

Reconstructing a Real Photo



Original image



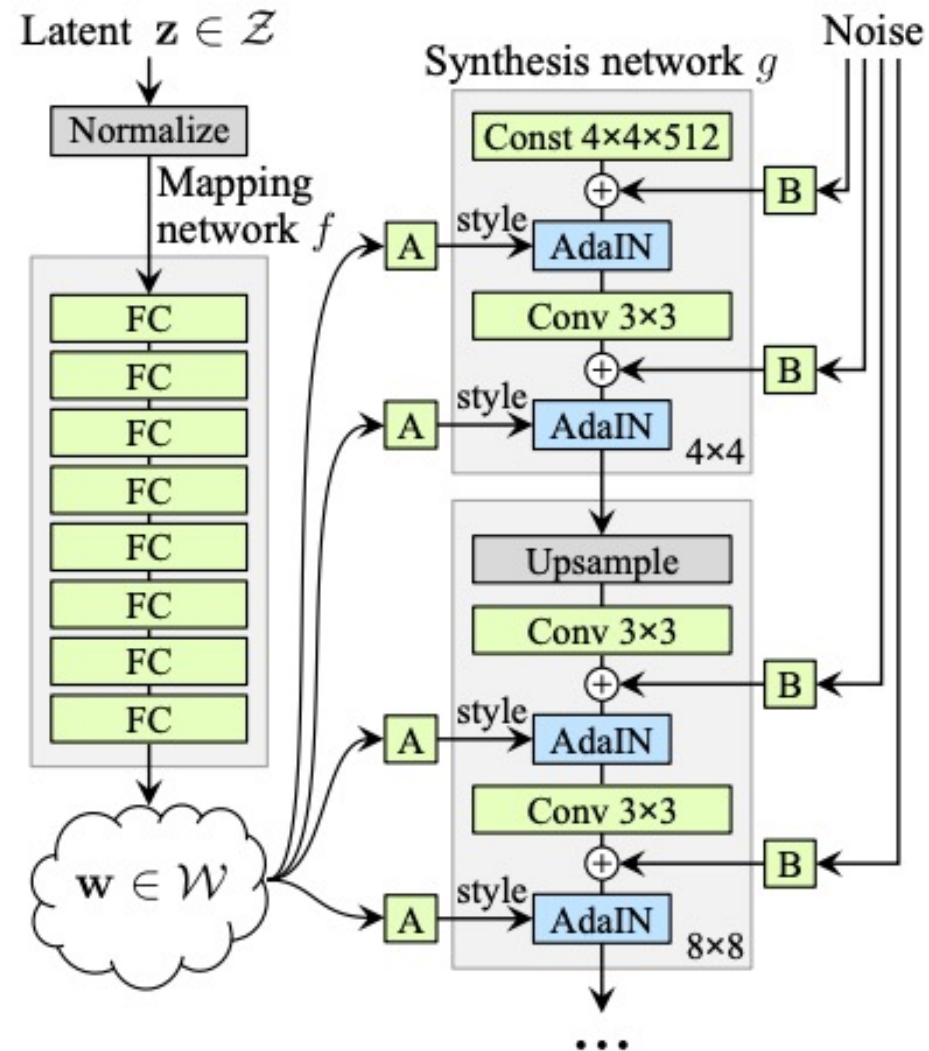
With z^*



With z^* and θ^*

Semantic Photo Manipulation [Bau, Strobel, Peebles, Wulff, Zhou, Zhu, Torralba, SIGGRAPH 2019]
Inspired by Deep Image Prior [Ulyanov et al.] and Deep Internal learning [Shocher et al.]

Using Different Layers



Optimizing the latent code

$$z^* = \arg \min_z \mathcal{L}(G(z), x)$$

Optimizing the style code

$$w^* = \arg \min_w \mathcal{L}(g(w), x)$$

Optimizing the extended style code

$$w_+^* = \arg \min_{w_+} \mathcal{L}(g(w_+), x)$$

Using Different Layers: w space



StyleGAN — generated images



StyleGAN2 — generated images

Using Different Layers: w space



StyleGAN2 — real images

Using Different Layers: w+ space



All the results are reconstructed using Face Model

Reconstruction \neq Editing



Interpolations between two images

Reconstruction \neq Editing



Interpolations between two images

How to Improve GANs Projection

- Baseline: Optimizing the latent code

$$z^* = \arg \min_z \mathcal{L}(G(z; \theta), x)$$

- Generator fine-tuning:

$$z^*, \theta^* = \arg \min_{z, \theta} \mathcal{L}(G(z; \theta), x) + R(\theta)$$

- Optimizing intermediate features

$$w_+^* = \arg \min_{w_+} \mathcal{L}(g(w_+), x)$$

How to Improve GANs Projection

- Baseline: Optimizing the latent code

$$z^* = \arg \min_z \mathcal{L}(G(z; \theta), x)$$

- Generator fine-tuning:

$$z^*, \theta^* = \arg \min_{z, \theta} \mathcal{L}(G(z; \theta), x) + R(\theta)$$

- Optimizing intermediate features

$$w_+^* = \arg \min_{w_+} \mathcal{L}(g(w_+), x)$$



Used together

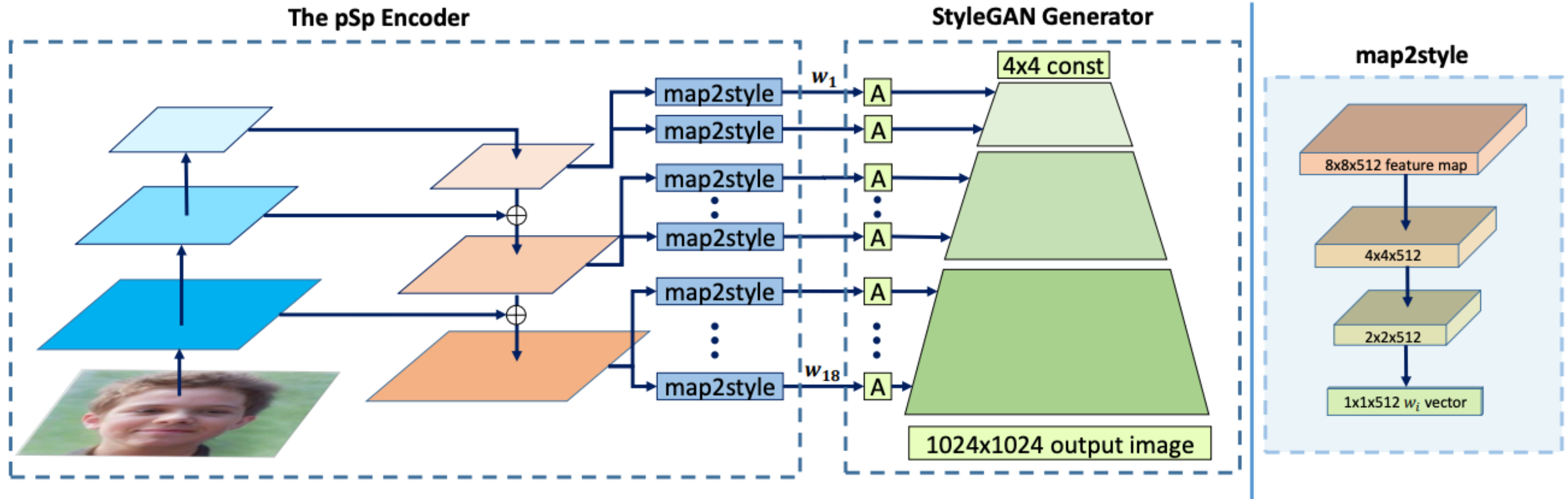
How to Improve GANs Projection

- Baseline: Optimizing the latent code

$$z^* = \arg \min_z \mathcal{L}(G(z; \theta), x)$$

- Training an encoder $E(x)$. Advantages?
 - Faster inference
 - More reliable initialization
- Encoder design depends on
 - Generator architecture.
 - Which latent space: z , w , w^+ .
 - Pre-trained network weights.

Example: An StyleGAN Encoder



Encoding in Style: a StyleGAN Encoder for Image-to-Image Translation
[Richardson et al., CVPR 2021]

Example: An StyleGAN Encoder



Input

W

Naive $W+$

pSp

Image Editing with GANs

- Step 1: Image Projection/Reconstruction

$$z^*, \theta^* = \arg \min_{z, \theta} \mathcal{L}(G(z; \theta), x) + R(\theta)$$

- Step 2: Manipulating the latent code

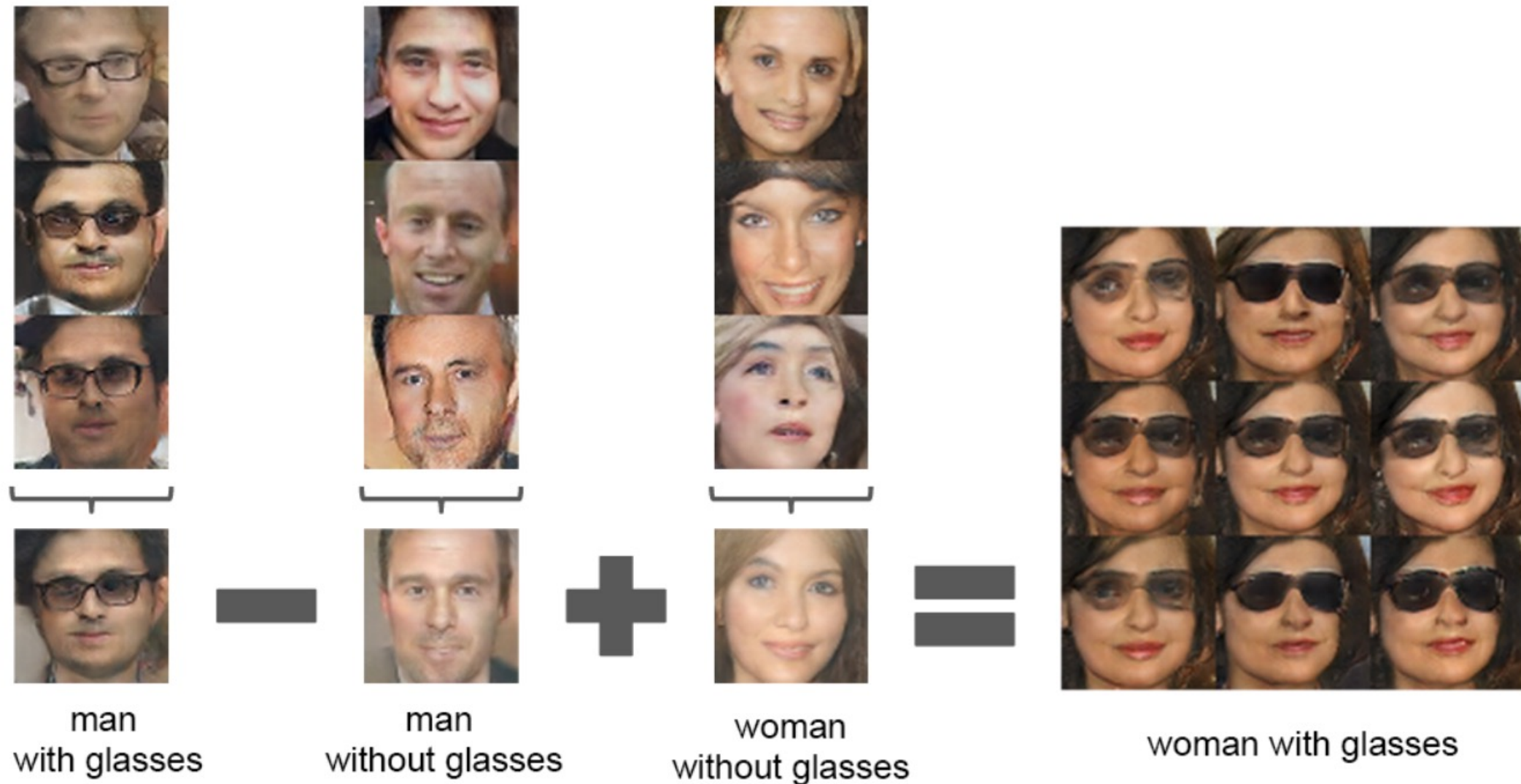
$$z_1 = z_0 + \Delta z$$

- Step 3: Generate the edited result

$$G(z_1)$$

Manipulating Latent code/layer
(computing directions offline)

Compute Δz



Step 1: annotate images (manually or via a pre-trained classifier)

Step 2: compute directions

Manipulating Latent code/layer (PCA directions)

GANSpace: Discovering PCA directions

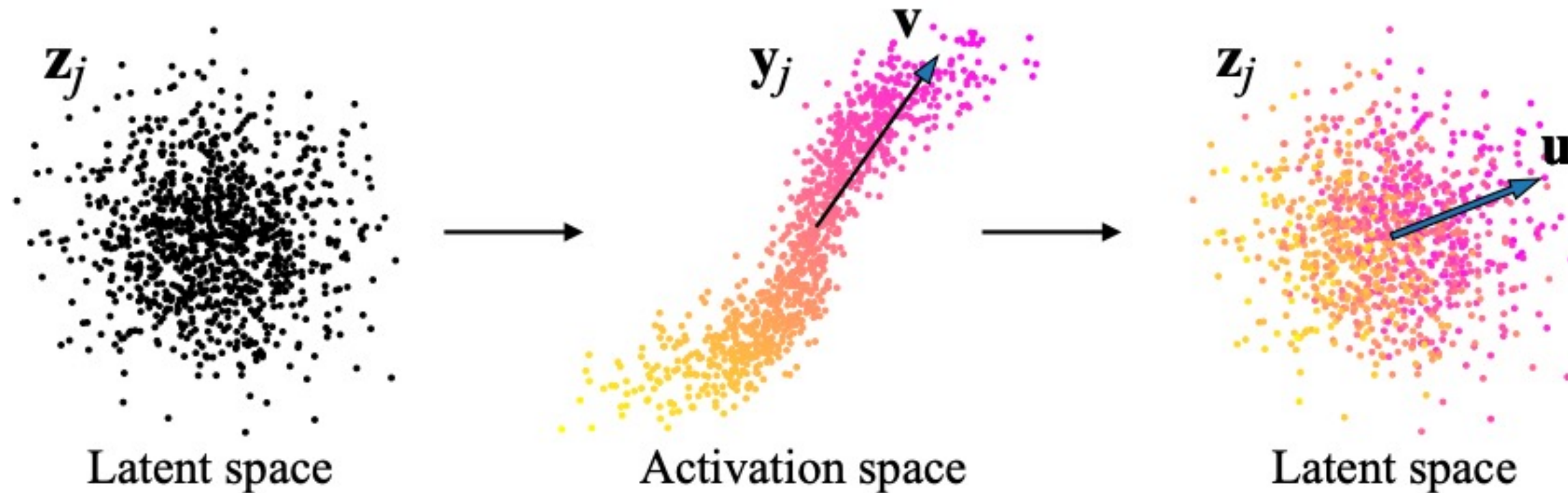


First compute potential directions (PCA), then name them

GANSpace: Discovering PCA directions

z : latent codes. y : intermediate features.

v : PCA direction in feature space, u : PCA direction in latent space



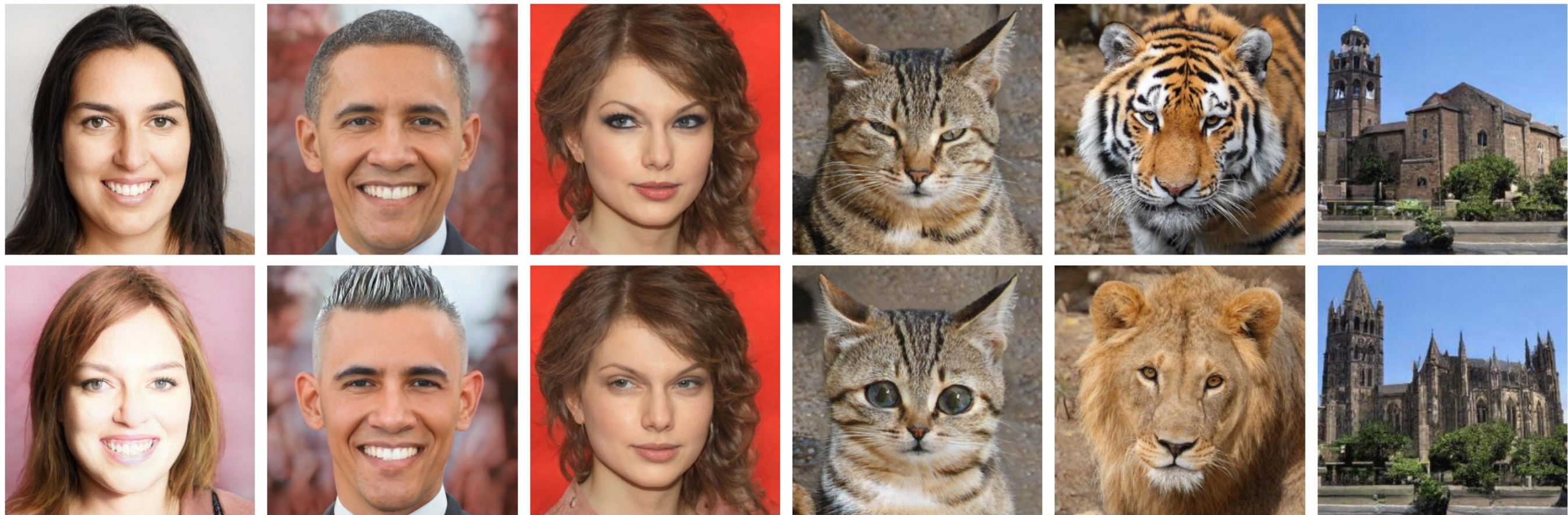
Also see “Editing in Style: Uncovering the Local Semantics of GANs”, Collins et al., CVPR 2020
“Closed-Form Factorization of Latent Semantics in GANs”, Shen and Zhou. CVPR 2021

GANSpace: Discovering PCA directions



Manipulating Latent code/layer (Text-guided optimization)

CLIP-guided Directions



“Emma Stone”

“Mohawk hairstyle”

“Without makeup”

“Cute cat”

“Lion”

“Gothic church”

$$\arg \min_{w \in \mathcal{W}^+} D_{\text{CLIP}}(G(w), t) + \lambda_{\text{L2}} \|w - w_s\|_2 + \lambda_{\text{ID}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{ID}}(w)$$

$w \in \mathcal{W}^+$ Output is close to the text

Close to the original latent

Output is close to input

CLIP-guided Directions



$$\arg \min_{w \in \mathcal{W}} D_{\text{CLIP}}(G(w), t) + \lambda_{\text{L2}} \|w - w_s\|_2 + \lambda_{\text{ID}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{ID}}(w)$$

$w \in \mathcal{W} +$ Output is close to the text

Close to the original latent

Output is close to input