

# Flow-GAN

## Combining Maximum Likelihood and Adversarial Learning in Generative Models

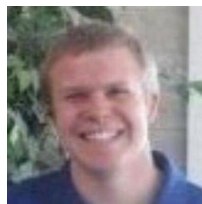
Aditya Grover, Manik Dhar, Stefano Ermon

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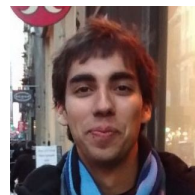
Presented by:



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# Motivation

GANs can generate pretty pictures...



Progressive Growing of GANs for Improved Quality, Stability, and Variation.  
Karras et al. ICLR 2018

# Motivation

... but how do you quantify their performance?



<http://torch.ch/blog/2015/11/13/gan.html>

# Motivation

In this presentation we'll see:

→ A GAN model with a tractable likelihood

# Motivation

In this presentation we'll see:

- A GAN model with a tractable likelihood
- A comparative analysis with models trained with Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE)

# Outline

- **Quantitative evaluation of generative models**
- Alternatives for computing the data likelihood
- Normalizing Flows and FlowGAN
- Experiments and Analysis
- Conclusions

# Evaluating a Generative Model

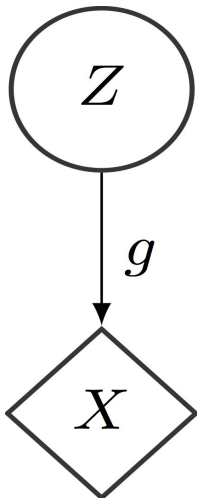
Compute the test data probability:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_{\text{test}}; \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^N p(x_i; \theta)$$

How likely the test data is under our model, i.e. what is the probability of our model generating the test data

# Computing the data probability with latent variables

Marginalize over the latent variables



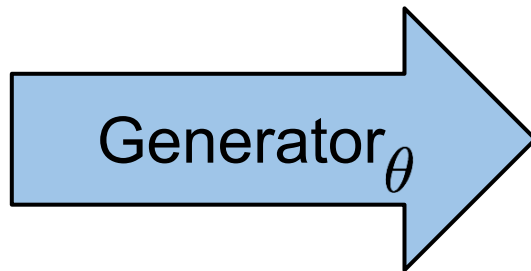
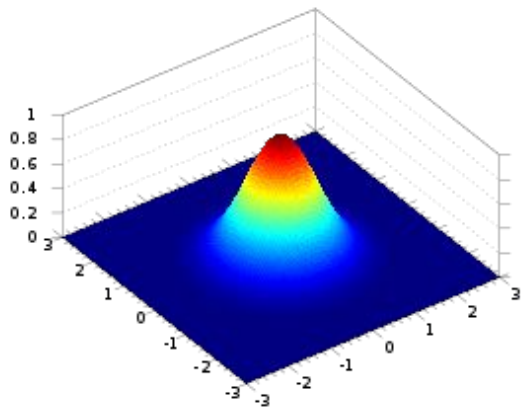
$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz$$



# Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)

Prior

$$z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$



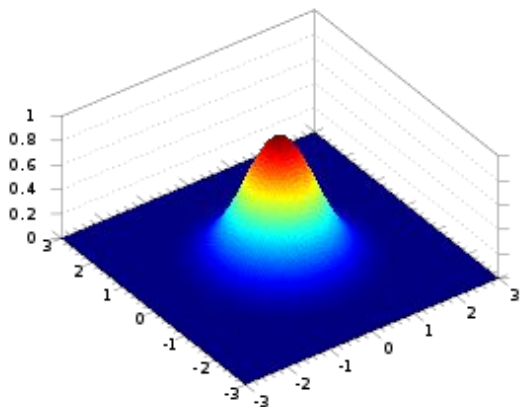
Sample  $x$



# Variational Autoencoders (VAEs)

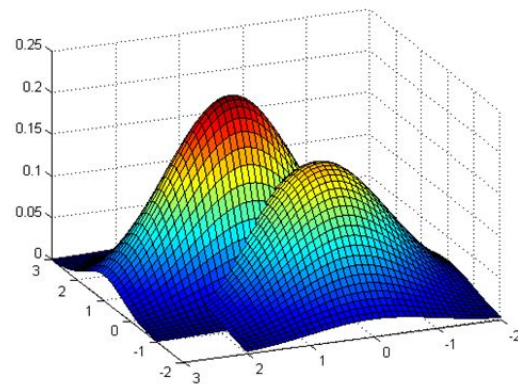
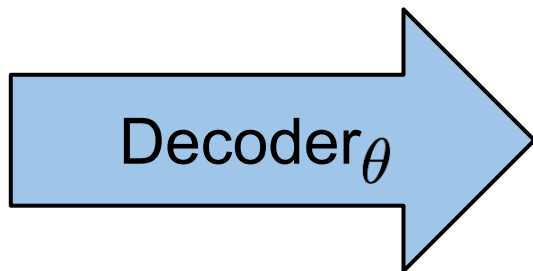
Prior

$$z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$



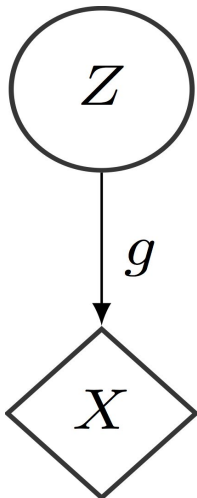
Likelihood

$$p(x|z) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_\theta, \sigma_\theta)$$



# Computing the data probability with latent variables

Marginalize over the latent variables



$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz$$

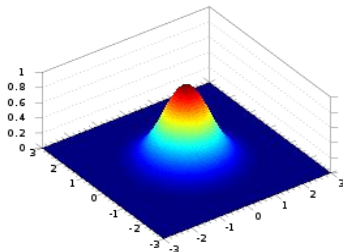
# Variational Autoencoders (VAEs)

Monte Carlo estimate of the integral:

$$p(x) = \int p(x|z)p(z)dz = \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z)} [p(x|z)] \approx \sum_{i=1}^N p(x|z_i)$$

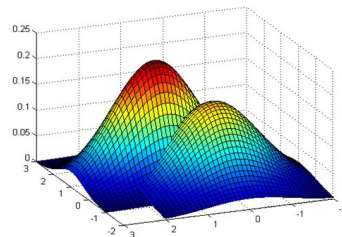
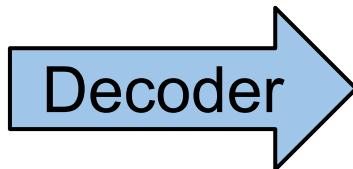
Prior

$$z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$



Likelihood

$$p(x|z) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_\theta, \sigma_\theta)$$

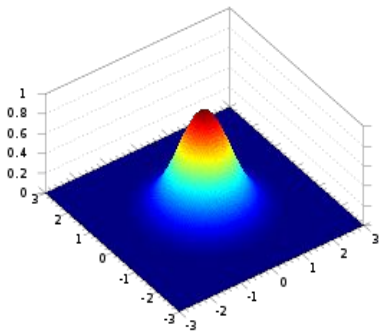


# Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)

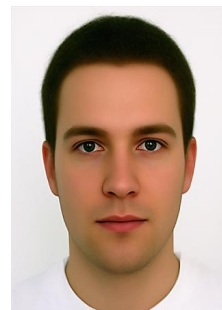
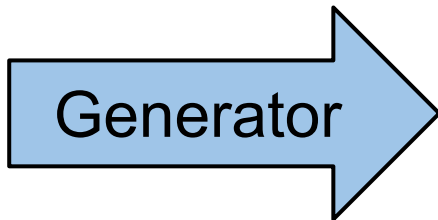
We don't have access to  $p(x|z)$ , just samples!

Prior

$$z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$



Sample  $x$



# Outline

- Quantitative evaluation of generative models
- **Alternatives for computing the data likelihood**
- Normalizing Flows and FlowGAN
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# Alternatives for computing the data likelihood

- Kernel Density Estimation (KDE)
- Annealed Importance Sampling (AIS)

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- Reversible Decoders/Normalizing Flows



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## Proxys for Sample Quality

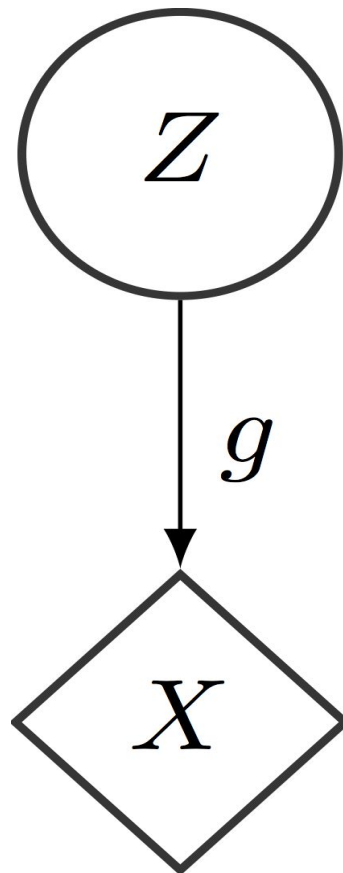
- Inception score
- MODE

# Outline

- Quantitative evaluation of generative models
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- Future directions

# Thinking in Transformations

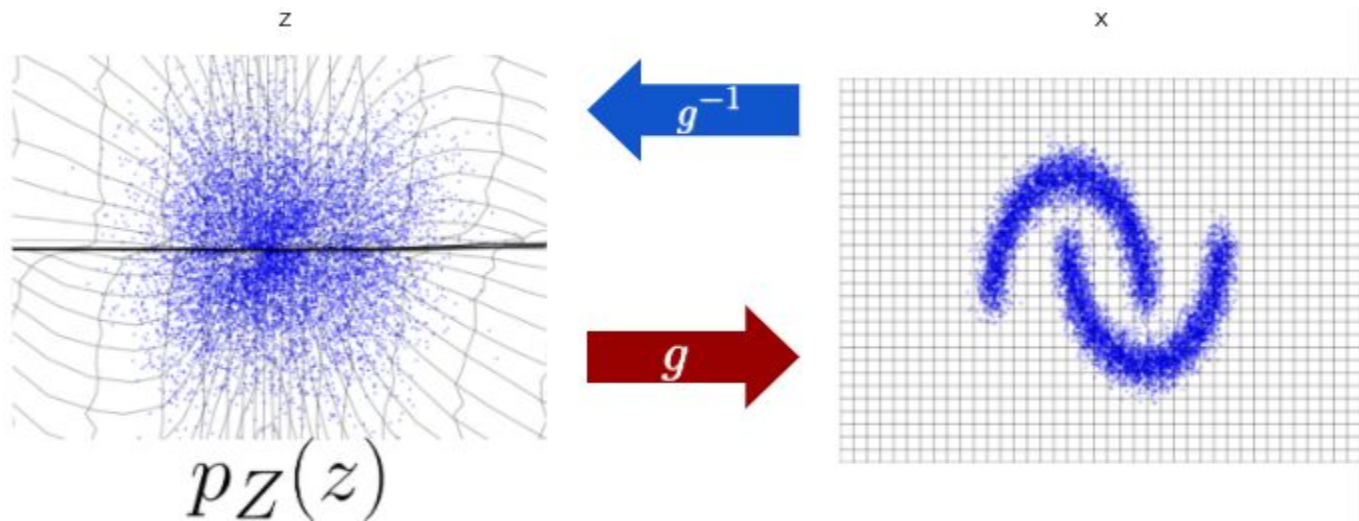
- Introduce a latent variable  $Z$
- Choose simple distribution for  $Z$
- Sample  $\sim Z$ , transform into  $\sim X$ 
  - As in VAE, GAN, many more
- What about data (log) likelihood?



# Transformation

- What if  $g$  is invertible?
- How can we craft invertible  $g$ ?

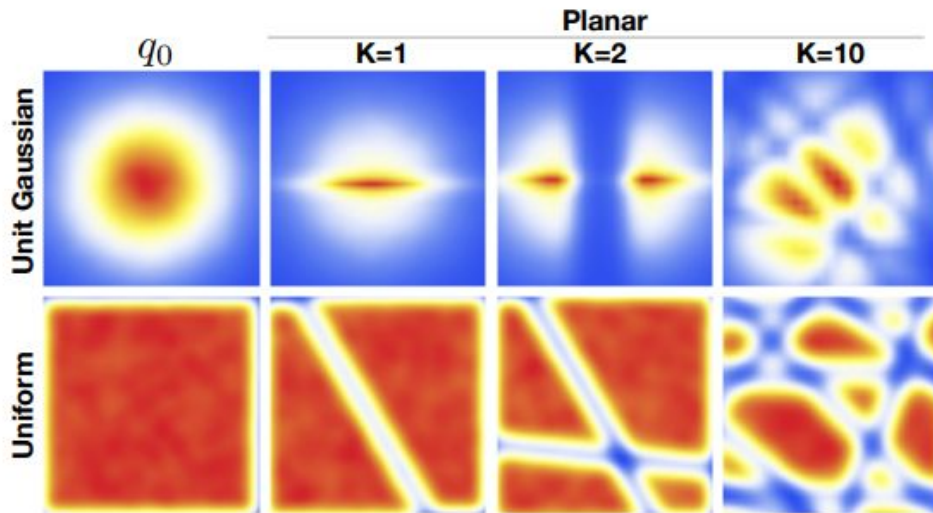
$$x = g(z)$$
$$z = g^{-1}(x)$$



Graphics Credit: Laurent Dinh

# Normalizing Flows

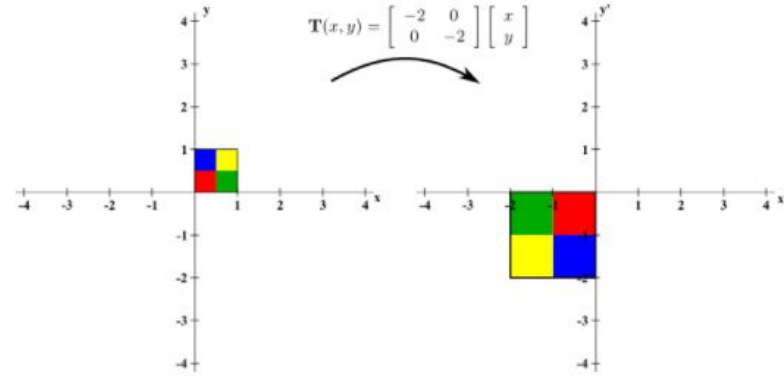
- Density “flows” through invertible transforms
- Still a valid (log) probability: “normalizing flow”



Graphics Credit: Danilo Rezende and Shakir Mohamed

# Change of Variables

$$p_X(x) = p_Z(f(x)) \left| \det \left( \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x^T} \right) \right|$$



- Requirements:  $f$  is bijective, differentiable at  $x$
- Determinants **can** be expensive to compute
- But certain functions have trivial determinants!

\* See Matrix Determinant Lemma for examples

\*\* invertible iff bijective <https://math.stackexchange.com/questions/289452/invertible-if-and-only-if-bijective>

Graphics Credit: mathinsight.com

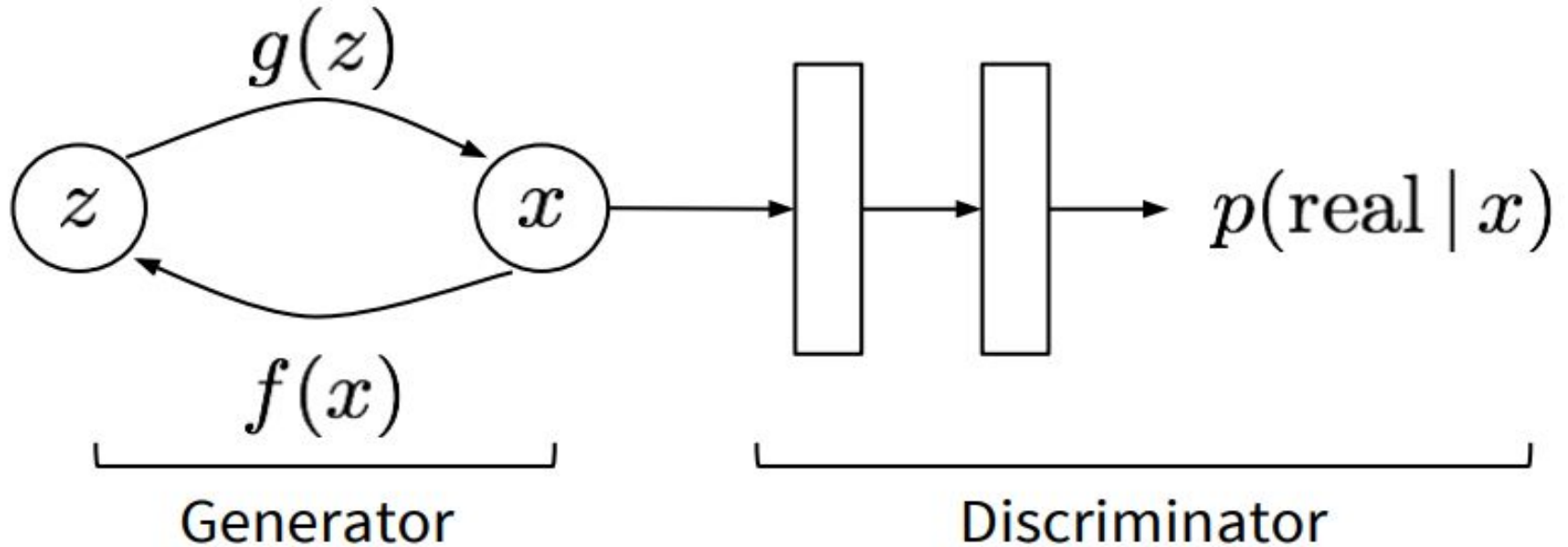
# Bringing it Back To FlowGAN

- Use a normalizing flow for the generator
  - Real NVP in this paper
- This means learning can be done using
  - Only the generator (Real NVP, disc. unused)
  - GAN style training, adversarial loss (WGAN)
  - Hybrid combining each loss

Historical - see section 6.1, Yoshua Bengio's PhD thesis (1991) about change of variables

Normalizing Flows: <https://math.nyu.edu/faculty/tabak/publications/Tabak-Turner.pdf>

# Visually



Graphics Credit: David Duvenaud

<https://www.cs.toronto.edu/~duvenaud/courses/csc2541/slides/lec3-autoregressive.pdf>



# Coupling Layer, Real Non-Volume Preserving Transform

$$b \odot x + (1 - b) \odot \left( x \odot \exp(s(b \odot x)) + t(b \odot x) \right)$$

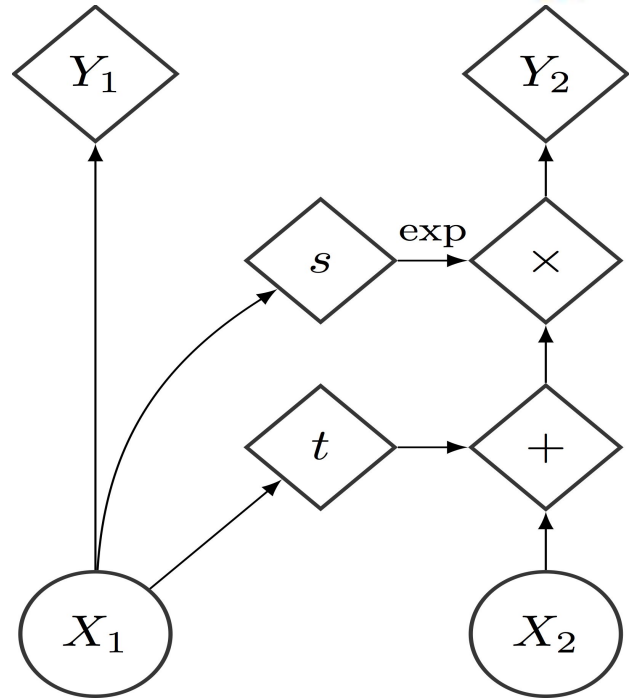
- has Jacobian determinant

$$\exp \left[ \sum_j s(x_{1:d})_j \right]$$

- Part unchanged, so chain them

$$\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$$

Graphics Credit: Laurent Dinh



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# Results and Evaluation

## Inception:

Run the generated sample through a classifier (Inception model) to get  $p(y|x)$ , and  $p(y)$  is typically assumed uniform. Higher scores are better.

$$\exp(\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \in P_\theta} [KL(p(y|\mathbf{x}) || p(y))])$$

## MODE:

Inception score including ground truth distribution of labels

$$\exp(\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \in P_\theta} [KL(p(y|\mathbf{x}) || p^*(y)) - KL(p^*(y) || p(y))])$$

Hybrid Objective:

$$\min_{\theta} \max_{\phi} V(G_{\theta}, D_{\phi}) - \lambda \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim P_{\text{data}}} [\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})]$$

- Analyze three models using Real NVP
- MNIST: Hybrid is best of both worlds
- CIFAR-10: Hybrid is in between MLE and ADV for both metrics

Table 1: Best MODE scores and test negative log-likelihood estimates for Flow-GAN models on MNIST.

Objective	MODE Score	Test NLL (in nats)
MLE	7.42	-3334.56
ADV	9.24	-1604.09
Hybrid ( $\lambda = 0.1$ )	<b>9.37</b>	<b>-3342.95</b>

Table 2: Best Inception scores and test negative log-likelihood estimates for Flow-GAN models on CIFAR-10.

Objective	Inception Score	Test NLL (in bits/dim)
MLE	2.92	<b>3.54</b>
ADV	<b>5.76</b>	8.53
Hybrid ( $\lambda = 1$ )	3.90	4.21

- Training curves wrt NLL
- NLL goes down (as expected) for MLE
- NLL goes UP for ADV even after WGAN loss stabilizes

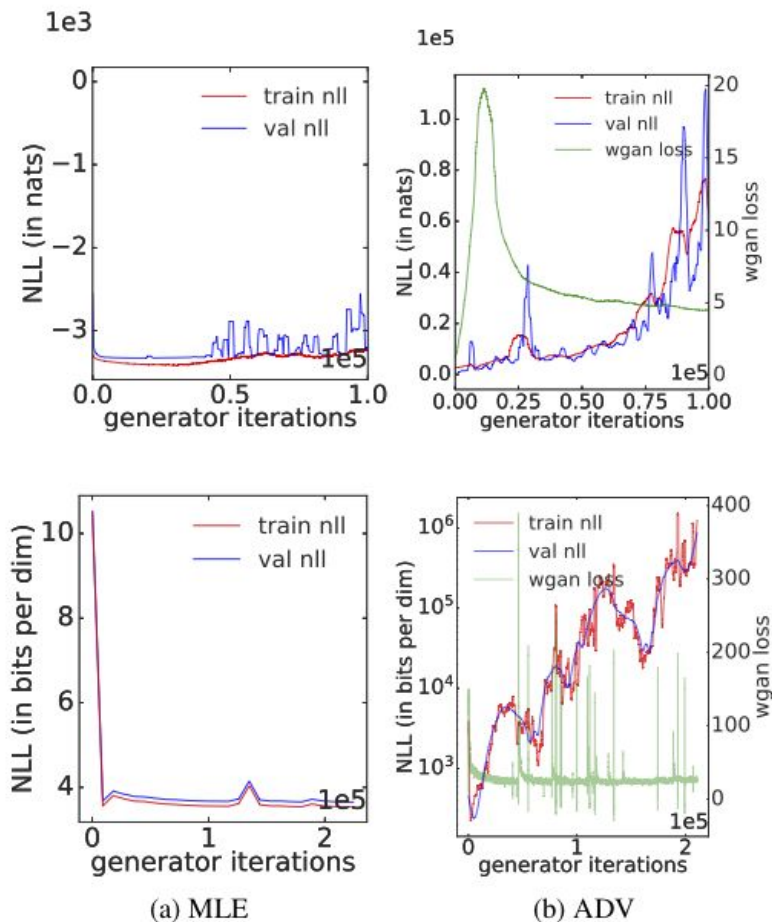


Figure 2: Learning curves for negative log-likelihood (NLL) evaluation on MNIST (**top**, in nats) and CIFAR (**bottom**, in bits/dim). Lower NLLs are better.

# Explaining log-likelihood trends: Analyzing the Jacobian

Adversarial methods have ill-conditioned Jacobians, likely due to mode collapse.

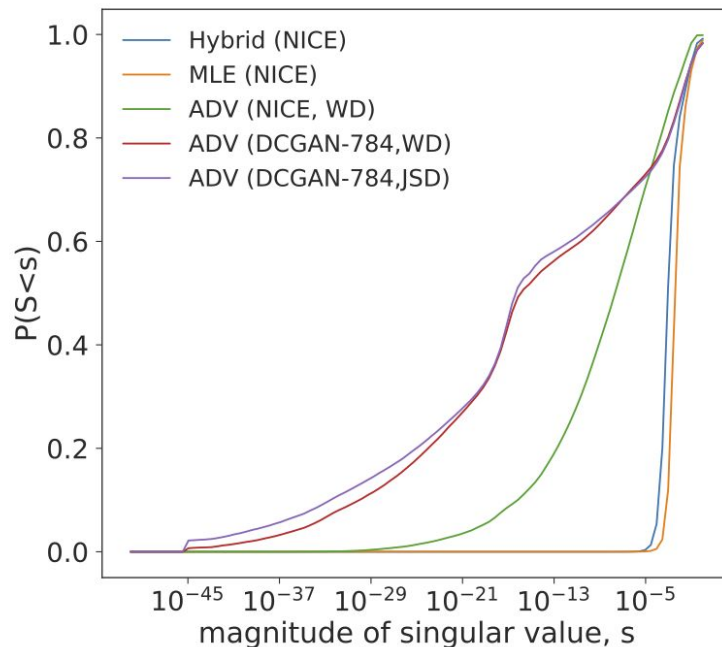


Figure 4: CDF of the singular values magnitudes for the Jacobian of the generator functions trained on MNIST.

# True NLL vs. AIS and KDE estimates

AIS and KDE don't give nll estimates that have the same ranking!

AIS: ADV > Hybrid > MLE

KDE: Hybrid > MLE > ADV

Flow-GAN: MLE > Hybrid > ADV

Table 3: Comparison of inference techniques for negative log-likelihood estimation of Flow-GAN models on MNIST.

Objective	Flow-GAN NLL	AIS	KDE
MLE	-3287.69	-2584.40	-167.10
ADV	26350.30	-2916.10	-3.03
Hybrid	-3121.53	-2703.03	-205.69

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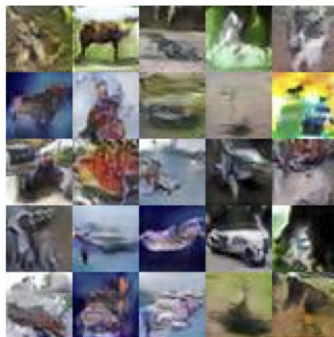
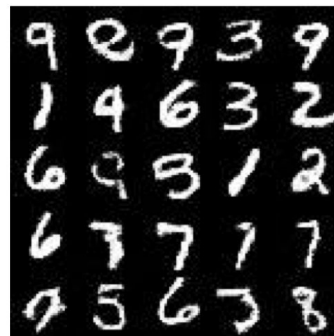
# Conclusions

- Regular GANs have intractable data likelihoods
- Using Normalizing Flows we can estimate  $p(x|z)$  in a GAN
- FlowGAN: RealNVP (normalizing flows) + GAN
- GANs have high NLL (mode collapse?) but produce better sample quality
- Hybrid model offers a trade-off between MLE and ADV models

# References

- Review of determinants  
[https://mathinsight.org/determinant\\_linear\\_transformation](https://mathinsight.org/determinant_linear_transformation)
- A family of non-parametric density estimation algorithms  
<https://math.nyu.edu/faculty/tabak/publications/Tabak-Turner.pdf>
- Tutorial on Generative Models, Shakir Mohamed  
<http://auai.org/uai2017/media/tutorials/shakir.pdf>
- NICE <https://arxiv.org/abs/1410.8516>
- Variational Inference with Normalizing Flows <https://arxiv.org/abs/1505.05770>
- Density Estimation using Real NVP <https://arxiv.org/abs/1605.08803>
- DCGAN <https://arxiv.org/abs/1511.06434>
- Autoencoding beyond pixels <https://arxiv.org/abs/1512.09300>

# Thank You!



(a) MLE

(b) ADV

(c) Hybrid

Figure 1: Samples generated by Flow-GAN models with different objectives for MNIST (**top**) and CIFAR-10 (**bottom**).