

# Signal Recovery with Generative Priors

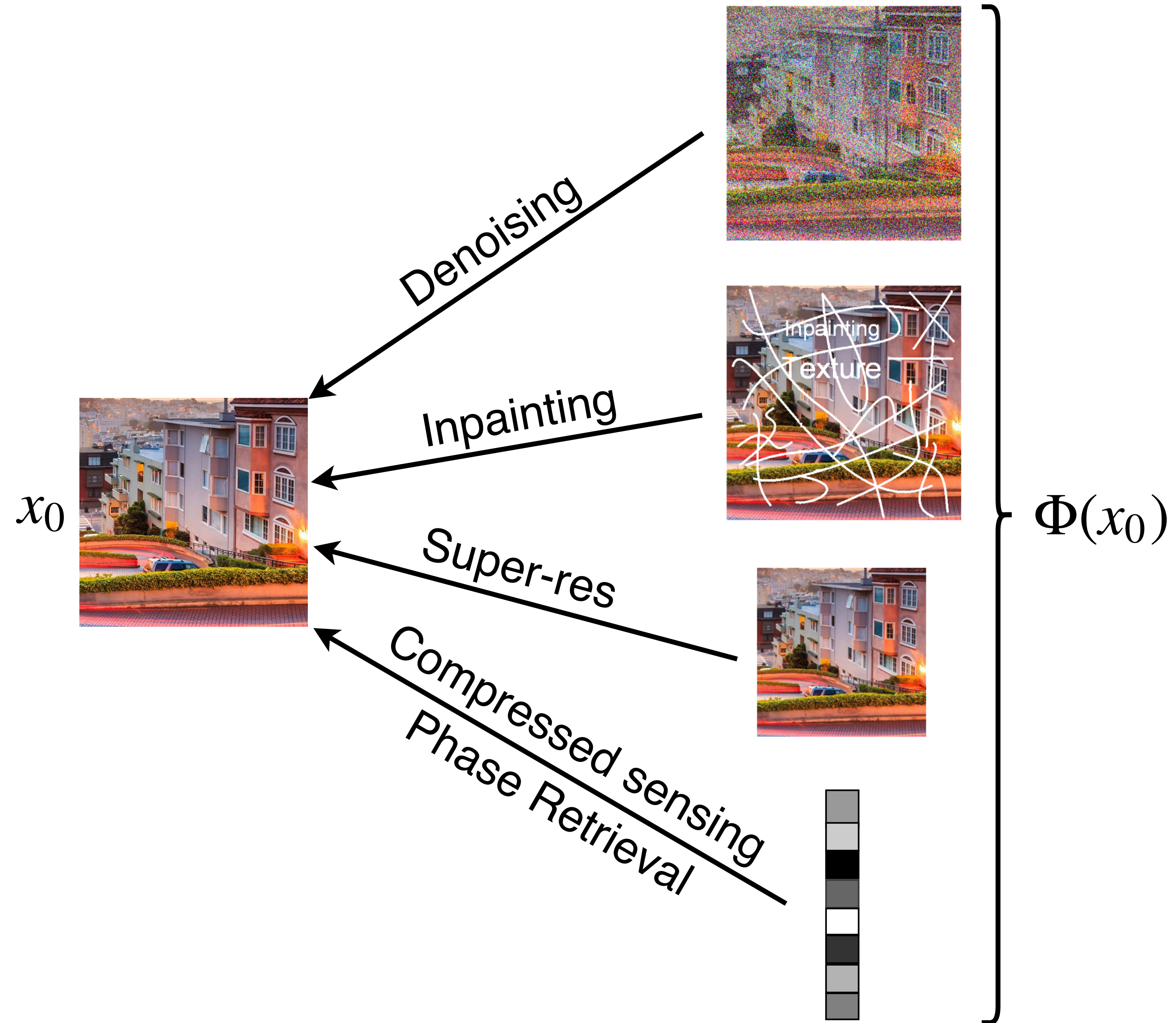
Paul Hand

Northeastern University

Collaborators: V. Voroninski, O. Leong, W. Huang, R. Heckel, A. Ahmed, M. Asim, J. Cocola, M. Daniels

Funding: National Science Foundation

# Examples of inverse problems



Sparsity can be sometimes be optimized via a convex relaxation

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \|x\|_0 & \xrightarrow{\text{Relaxation}} & \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \|x\|_1 \\ \text{s.t. } \Phi(x) = \Phi(x_0) & & \text{s.t. } \Phi(x) = \Phi(x_0) \end{array}$$

# Recovery Guarantee for Sparse Signals

Fix  $k$ -sparse vector  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  be a random gaussian matrix with  $m = \Omega(k \log n)$ .

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & \|x\|_1 \\ \text{s.t.} & Ax = Ax_0 \end{array} \quad (\text{L1})$$

Theorem (Candes, Romberg, Tao. 2004. Donoho, 2004.)

*The global minimizer of (L1) is  $x_0$  with high probability.*

# Sparsity appears to fail in Compressive Phase Retrieval

$$\begin{array}{c} \left[ \begin{array}{c} A \\ m \times n \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{c} x_0 \\ n \times 1 \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} b \\ m \text{ non-linear} \\ \text{measurements} \end{array} \end{array}$$

Open problem: there is no known efficient algorithm to recover  $s$ -sparse  $x_0$  from  $O(s)$  generic measurements

# With generic measurements, Sparse PhaseLift gives suboptimal sample complexity

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \lambda \operatorname{tr}(X) + \|X\|_1 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & a_i^* X a_i = a_i^* (x_0 x_0^*) a_i, \quad i = 1 \dots m \\ & X \succeq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Theorem (Li and Voroninski, 2012)

If  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is  $s$ -sparse with constant-magnitude coefficients, and  $a_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$ , then with high probability: If  $\exists \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $x_0 x_0^*$  minimizes Sparse PhaseLift,  $m = \Omega(s^2 / \log^2 n)$ .


nytimes.com

The New York Times

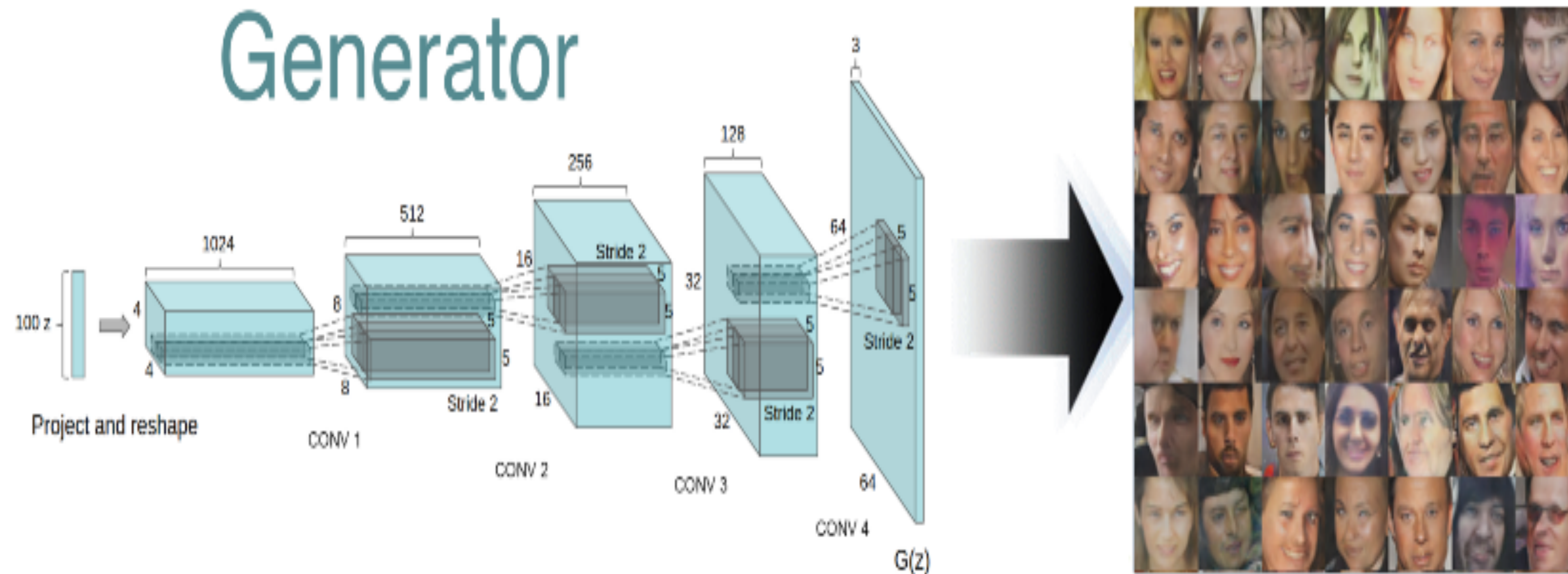
TECHNOLOGY SHARE 16

# How an A.I. 'Cat-and-Mouse Game' Generates Believable Fake Photos

By CADE METZ and KEITH COLLINS JAN. 2, 2018



# Deep Generative Models



- ▶ Given samples in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  from distribution  $\pi_0$ , learn  $\pi_0$ .
- ▶ Model  $\pi_0$  as  $G(Z)$ , where  $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_{k \times k})$  and  $G : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ .

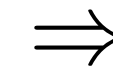


# Visualization of a generative model and its latent space

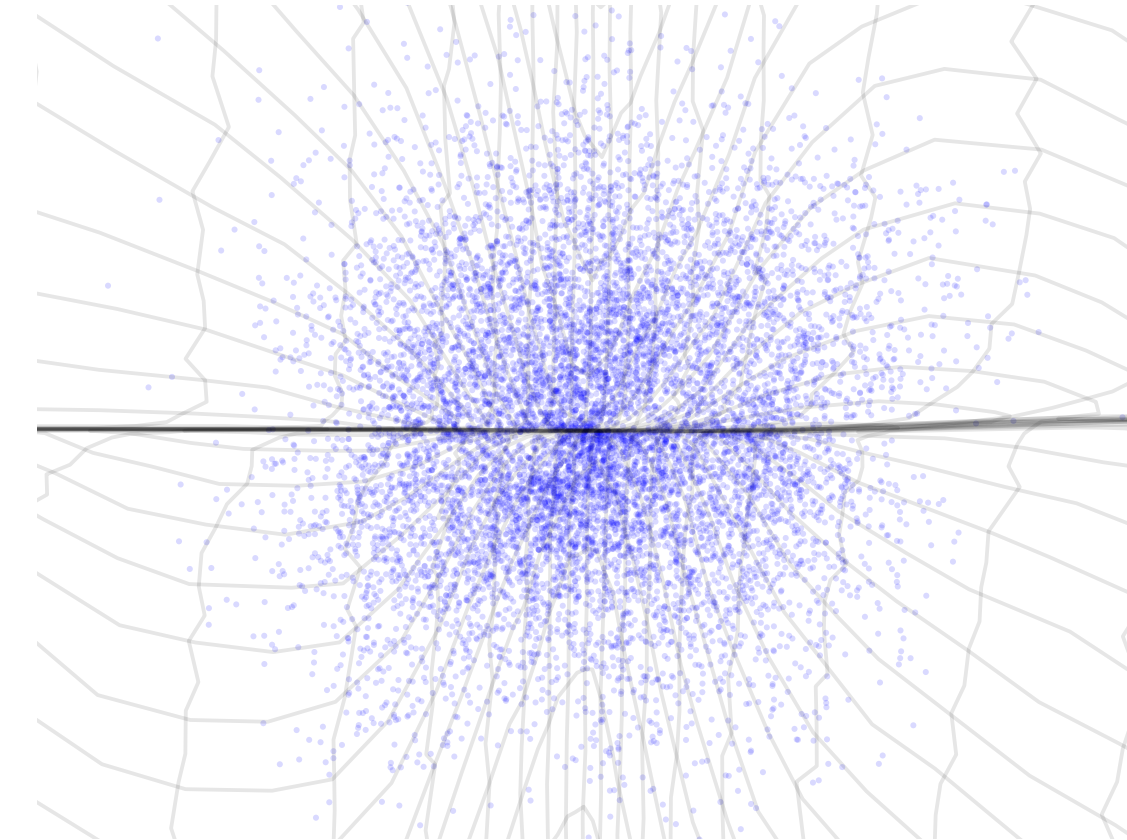
## Inference

$$x \sim \hat{p}_X$$
$$z = f(x)$$

Data space  $\mathcal{X}$

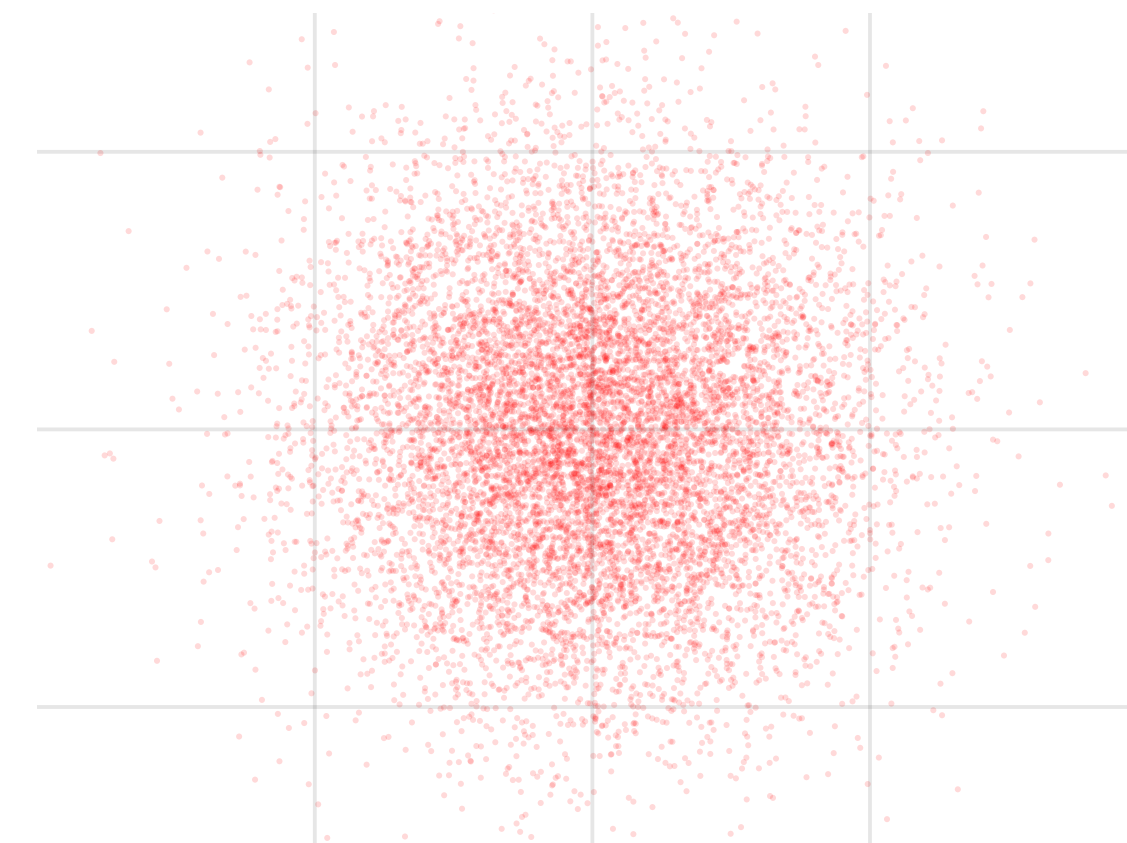
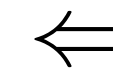
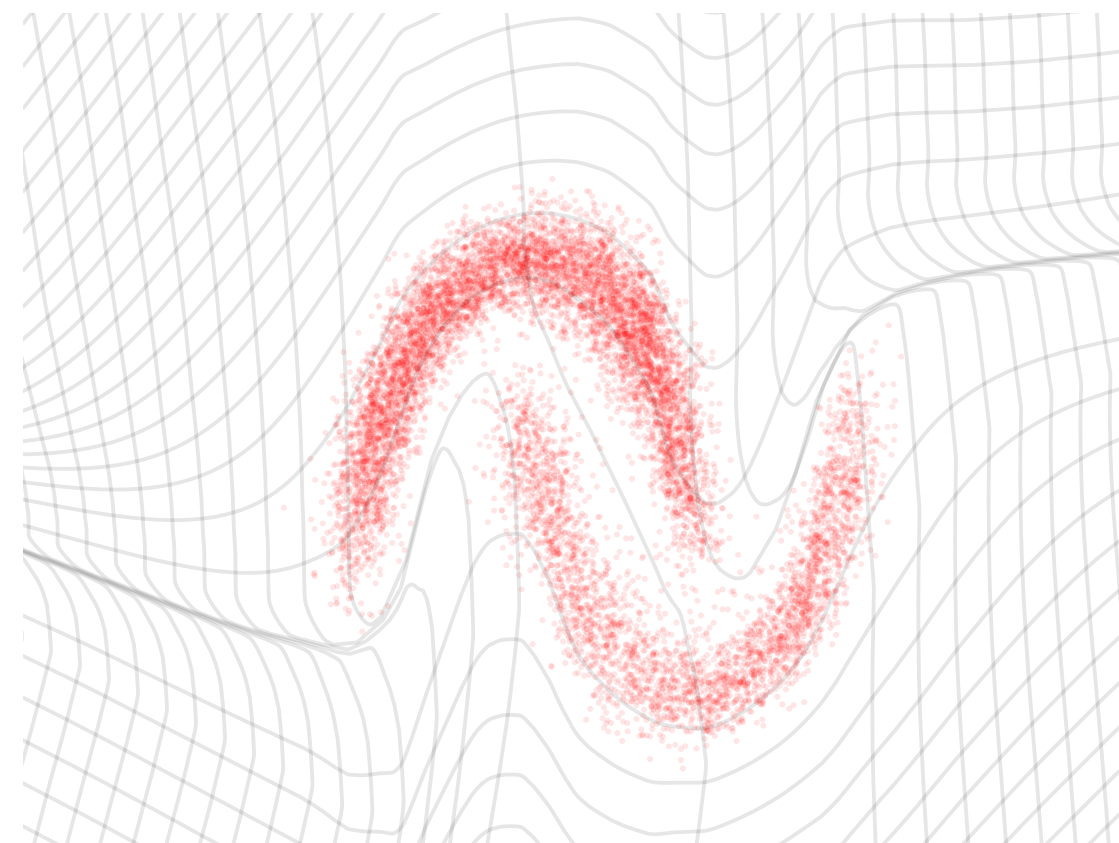


Latent space  $\mathcal{Z}$



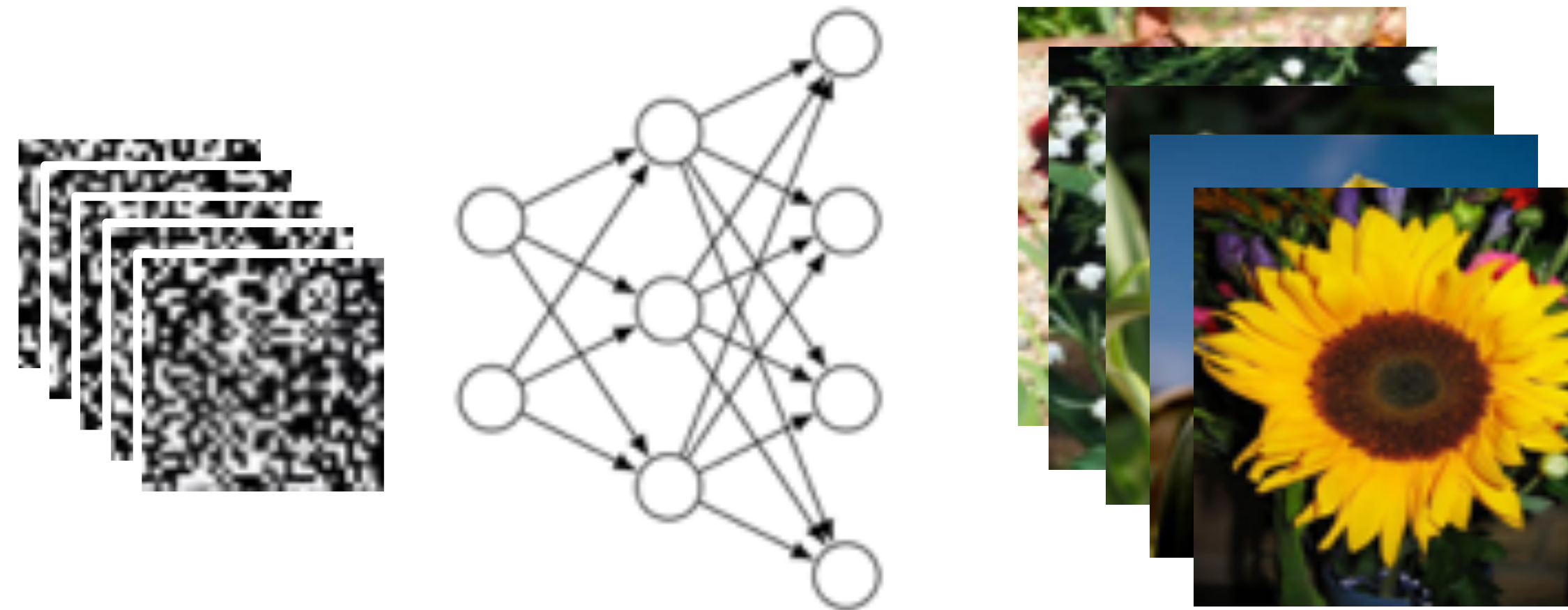
## Generation

$$z \sim p_Z$$
$$x = f^{-1}(z)$$



# How are generative models used in inverse problems?

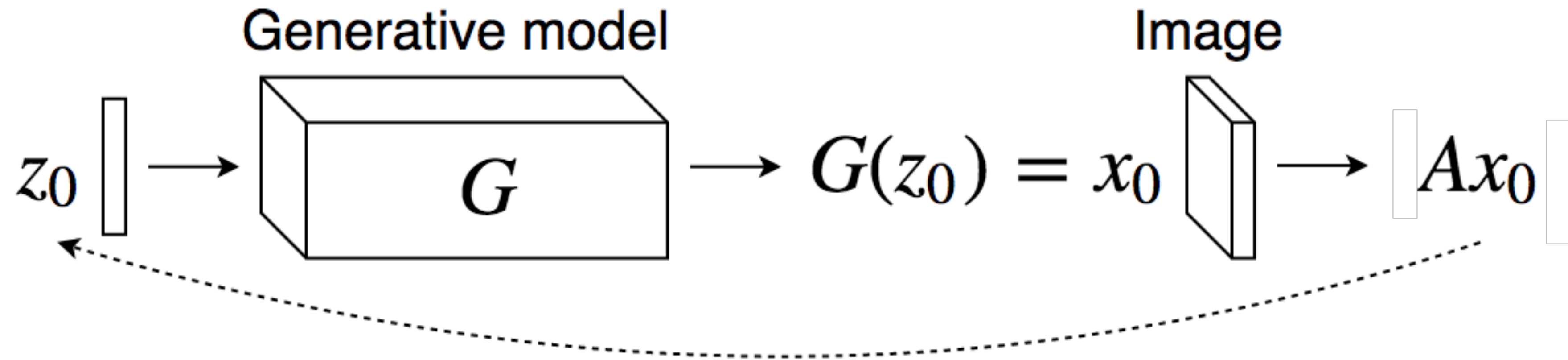
1. Train generative model to output signal class:



2. Directly optimize over range of generative model via empirical risk:

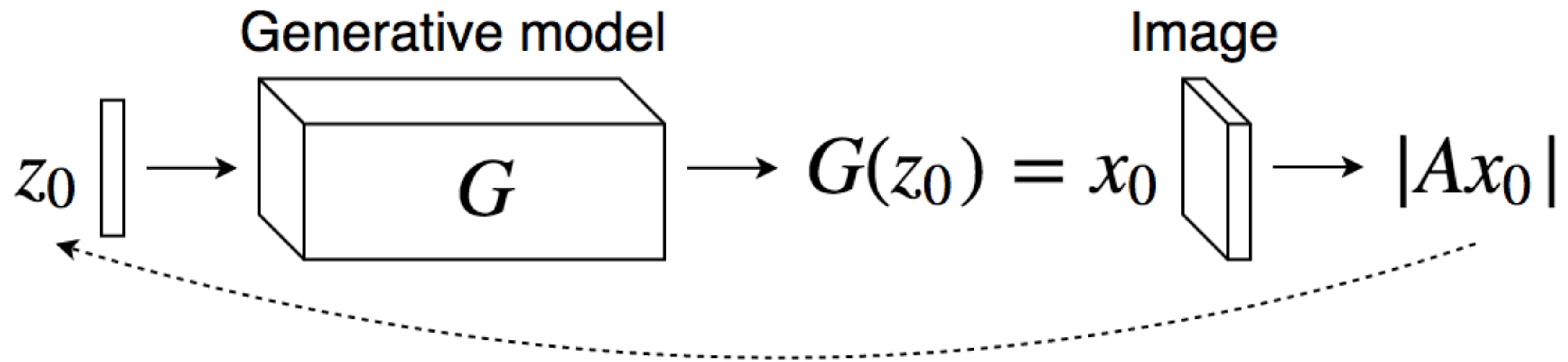
$$\min_{z \in \mathbb{R}^k} \left\| \Phi(G(z)) - \Phi(x_0) \right\|^2$$

# Compressed Sensing with Generative Models



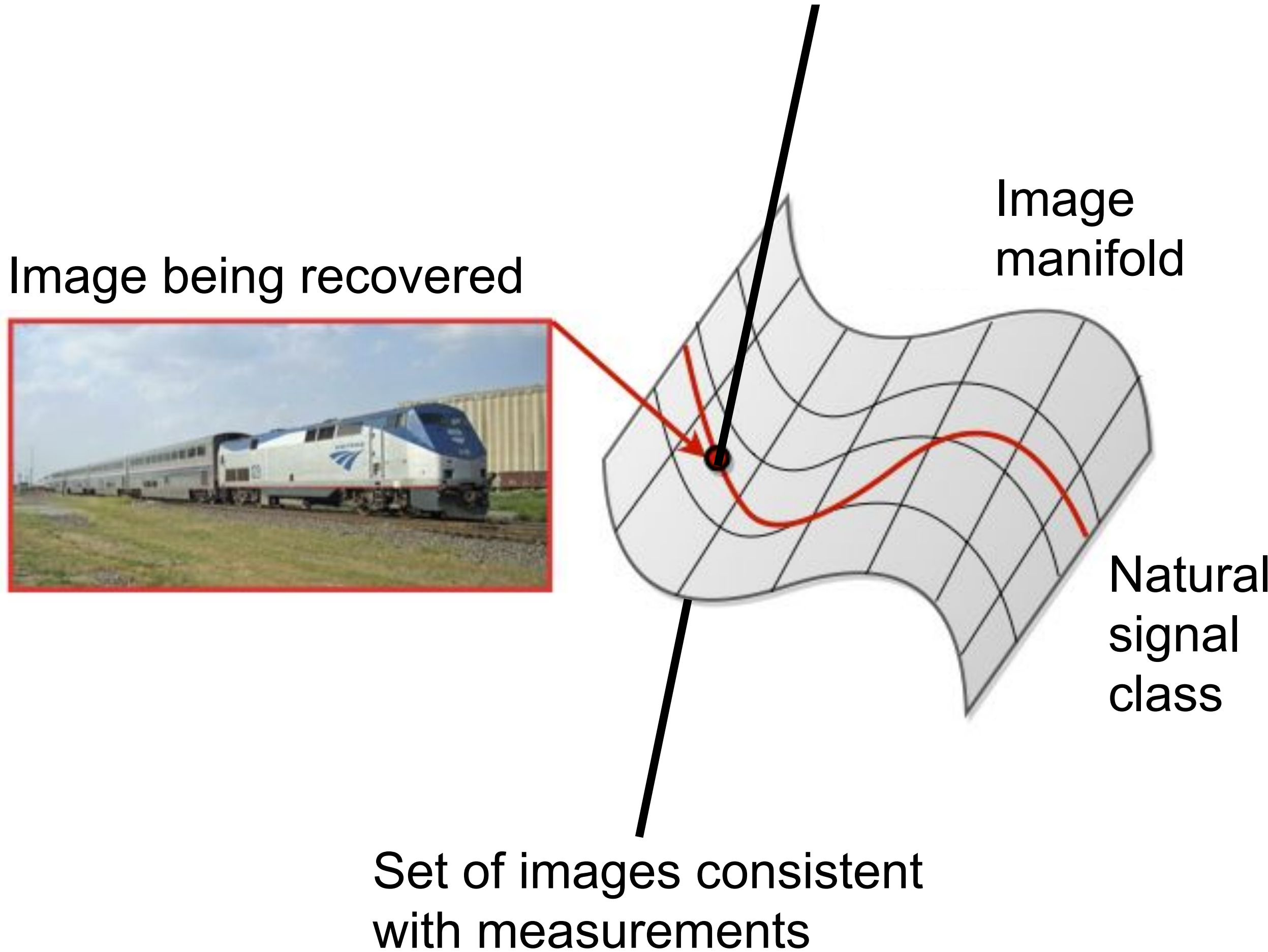
$$\min_{z \in \mathbb{R}^k} \left\| AG(z) - Ax_0 \right\|^2$$

# Our formulation: Phase Retrieval with Generative Models



$$\min_{z \in \mathbb{R}^k} \left\| |AG(z)| - |Ax_0| \right\|^2$$

# Geometric picture of signal recovery with a low-dimensional generative prior



# Random generative priors allow rigorous recovery guarantees

Let:  $\mathcal{G} : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\mathcal{G}(z) = \text{relu}(W_d \dots \text{relu}(W_2 \text{relu}(W_1 z)) \dots)$$

Given:  $W_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n_i \times n_{i-1}}$ ,  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $y := A\mathcal{G}(z_0) \in \mathbb{R}^m$

Find:  $x_0$

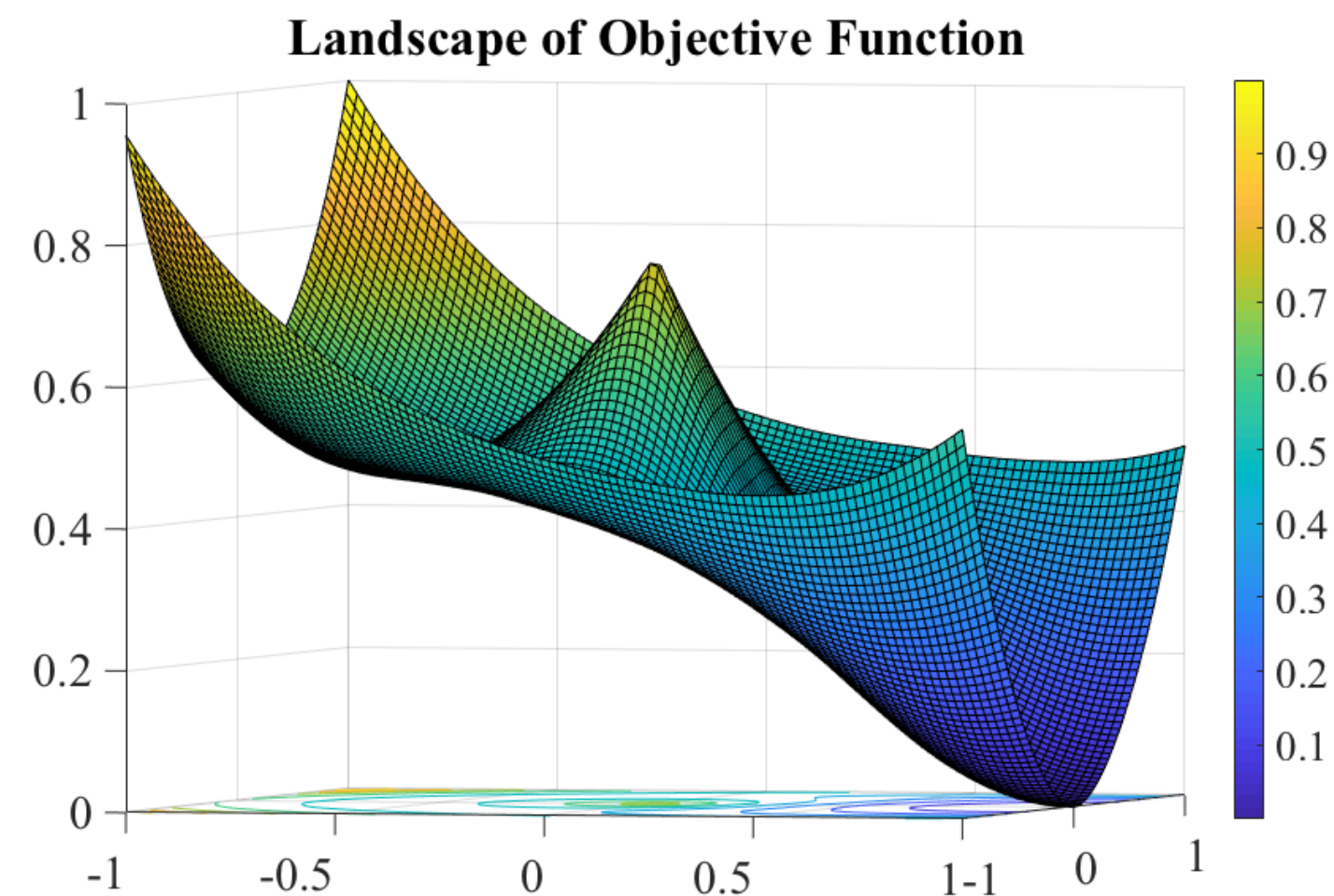
- ▶ **Expansivity:** Let  $n_i > cn_{i-1} \log n_{i-1}$
- ▶ **Gaussianity:** Let  $W_i$  and  $A$  have iid Gaussian entries.
- ▶ **Biasless:** No bias terms in  $\mathcal{G}$ .

# Compressive phase retrieval from generic measurements is possible at optimal sample complexity

1. # measurements =  $\Omega(k)$ , up to log factors
2. network layers are sufficiently expansive
3.  $A$  and weights of  $G$  have i.i.d. Gaussian entries

## Theorem (Hand, Leong, Voroninski)

*The objective function has a strict descent direction in latent space outside of two small neighborhoods of the minimizer and a negative multiple thereof, with high probability.*



# Proof requires concentration of discontinuous matrix-valued random functions

**Lemma:** Fix  $\epsilon$ . Let  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$  have i.i.d.  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1/n)$  entries. If  $n > ck \log k$ , then with probability at least  $1 - 8ne^{-\gamma k}$ , we have for all  $x, y \neq 0 \in \mathbb{R}^k$ ,

$$\left\| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n 1_{w_i \cdot x > 0} 1_{w_i \cdot y > 0} \cdot w_i w_i^T - \mathbb{E}[\dots] \right\| \leq \epsilon$$

The constants depend polynomially on  $\epsilon$ .



# Compressive Phrase Retrieval on MNIST

Original  
7 2 1 0 4 1 4 9 5 9

DPR with VAE (200 m)  
2 2 1 0 4 7 4 9 8 9

SPARTA (200 m)

A row of ten small, noisy grayscale images representing the reconstruction of the original digits (7, 2, 1, 0, 4, 1, 4, 9, 5, 9) using the SPARTA method. The reconstructions are significantly degraded and noisy.

Fienup (200 m)

A row of ten small, noisy grayscale images representing the reconstruction of the original digits using the Fienup method. The reconstructions are very noisy and lack clear digit structure.

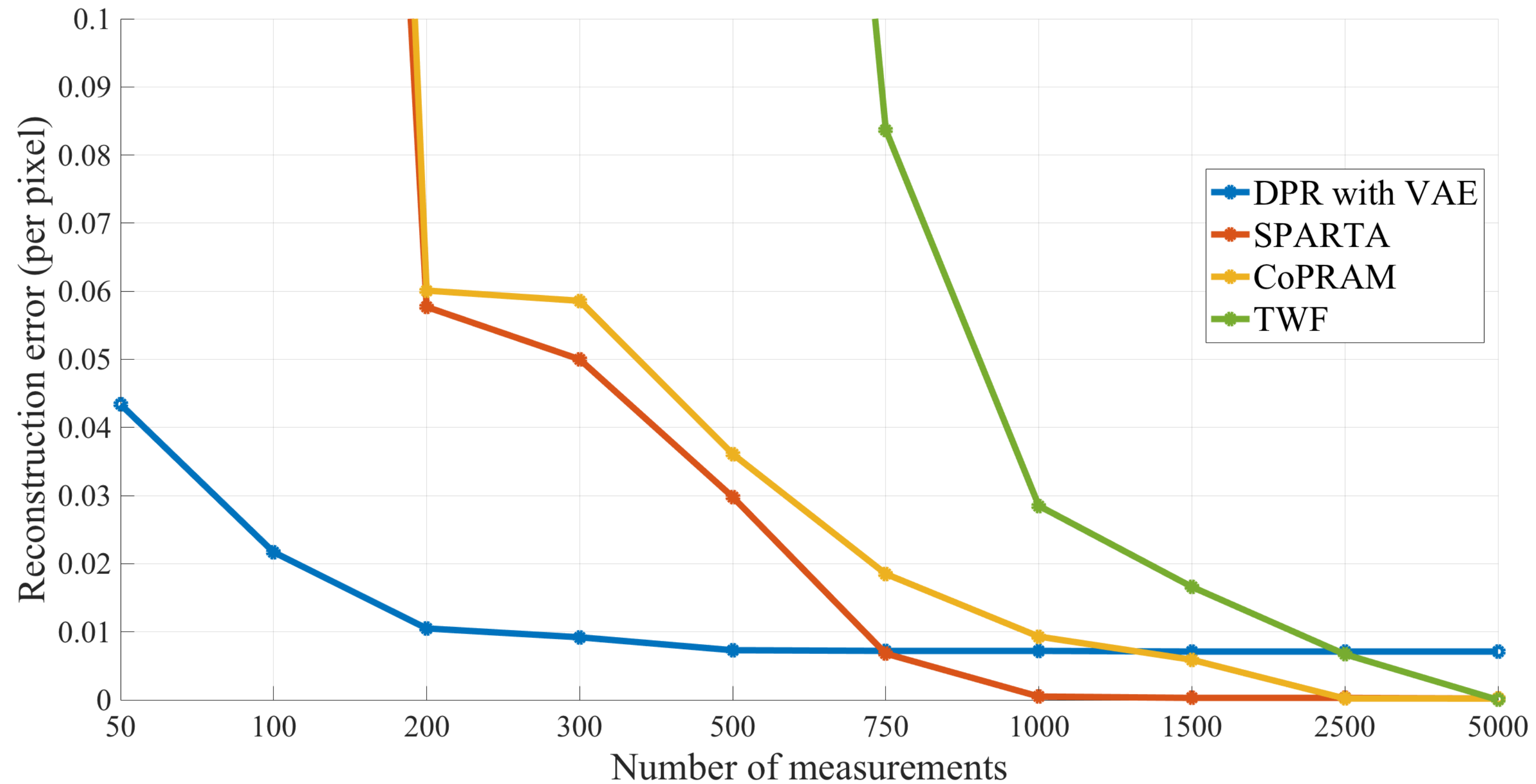
Gerchberg Saxton (200 m)

A row of ten small, noisy grayscale images representing the reconstruction of the original digits using the Gerchberg Saxton method. The reconstructions are very noisy and lack clear digit structure.

Wirtinger Flow (200 m)

A row of ten small, noisy grayscale images representing the reconstruction of the original digits using the Wirtinger Flow method. The reconstructions are very noisy and lack clear digit structure.

# Deep phase retrieval can outperform sparse phase retrieval in the low measurement regime



# Is there a catch?

Truth



DCGAN



**GANs can have significant representation error**



# Signal Recovery Under Generative Priors

- Generative priors can be optimally exploited for some nonlinear problems
- Generative priors could provide tighter representations of natural images
- Low dim. nonconvex optimization replaces high dim. convex optimization
- Generative priors may outperform sparsity priors for a variety of problems

# References

## Deep Compressive Sensing

- Bora et al. 2017 - *ICML*
- Hand and Voroninski 2019 - *IEEE Trans IT*
- Huang et al. 2021 - *J. Fourier Anal. App.*

## Other Inverse Problems

- Denoising:  
Heckel et al. 2020 - *Information and Inference*
- Phase Retrieval:  
Hand, Leong, and Voroninski 2018 - *NeurIPS*
- Spiked Matrix Recovery:  
Aubin et al. 2020 - *IEEE Trans IT*  
Cocola et al. 2020 - *NeurIPS, Entropy*
- Blind Demodulation:  
Hand and Joshi 2018 - *NeurIPS*

## Generalization of Assumptions

- Convolutional Generators  
Ma, Ayaz, and Karaman 2018 - *NeurIPS*
- Better Expansivity Condition  
Daskalakis et al. 2020 - *NeurIPS*

## Normalizing Flow Priors

- Asim et al. 2020 - *ICML*

## Review Articles

- Lucas et al. 2018 - *IEEE Sig. Proc. Mag.*
- Ongie et al. 2020 - *IEEE JSAIT*

## Workshops

- 2019, 2020, 2021 NeurIPS Workshops