

# Generative Adversarial Ranking Nets

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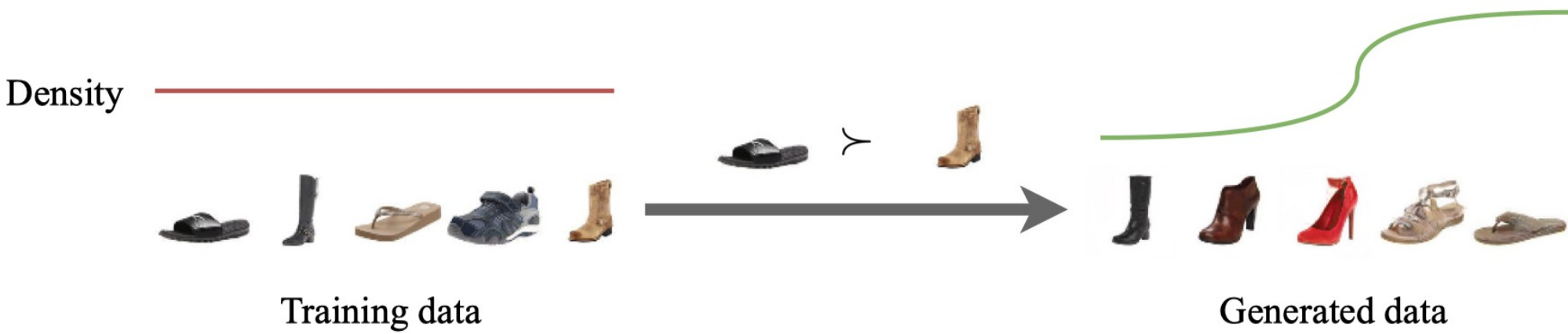
Joint work with Yuangang Pan, Jing Li, Ivor W. Tsang, Xin Yao

# Generative Modeling conditioned on Human Preferences



Model a conditional distribution  $p(x|C)$ :  $C$  is a single condition ✓

How about conditioning on a comparison  $S := s^1 > s^2 > \dots > s^l, s^i \in X = \{x_n\}_{n=1}^N, l < N$  ?



**Given:** training samples  $X = \{x_n\}_{n=1}^N$ ; listwise preferences  $S = \{s_m\}_{m=1}^M$

$$s := s^1 > s^2 > \dots > s^l, \quad s^i \in X, \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, l, l \ll N. \quad (1)$$

**Learning goal:** the distribution learned by the generative model  $P_g(x)$  is identical to the distribution of the desired data  $P_u(x)$ , i.e.,  $P_g(x) = P_u(x)$ .

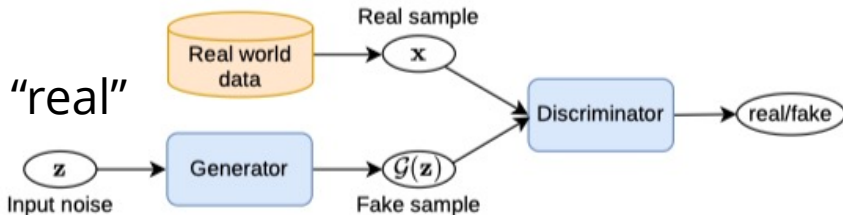
- $P_u(x)$  allocates high density to high-ranked data while low or zero density to low-ranked data.

# Generative Adversarial Ranking Nets (GARNet)



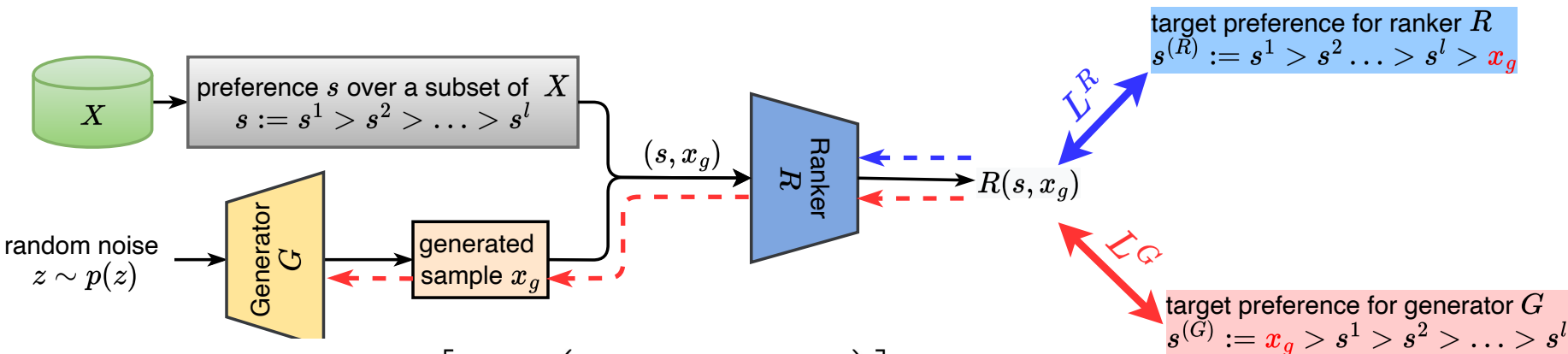
The adversarial goal in GAN:

- Generator fools discriminator to classify generated samples as “real”
- Discriminator classifies generated samples as “fake”



Motivate our generative adversarial ranking:

- Generator fools ranker to rank generated samples  $x_g$  “top”
- Ranker ranks generated samples  $x_g$  “bottom”



$$\text{Ranker } \sup_{R: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}} \mathbb{E}_{\substack{s \sim \mathcal{S} \\ x_g \sim P_g}} \left[ \mathcal{L}_{L2R} \left( \pi(s^{(R)}), R(s^{(R)}) \right) \right]$$

$$\text{Generator } \sup_{G: \mathcal{Z} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}} \mathbb{E}_{\substack{s \sim \mathcal{S} \\ x_g \sim P_g}} \left[ \mathcal{L}_{L2R} \left( \pi(s^{(G)}), R(s^{(G)}) \right) \right]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{L2R}(\pi(s), R(s)) = \sum_{i=1}^l \sigma(\pi(s))_i \log \sigma(R(s))_i$$

# GARNet Defines a Relativistic $f$ -Divergence

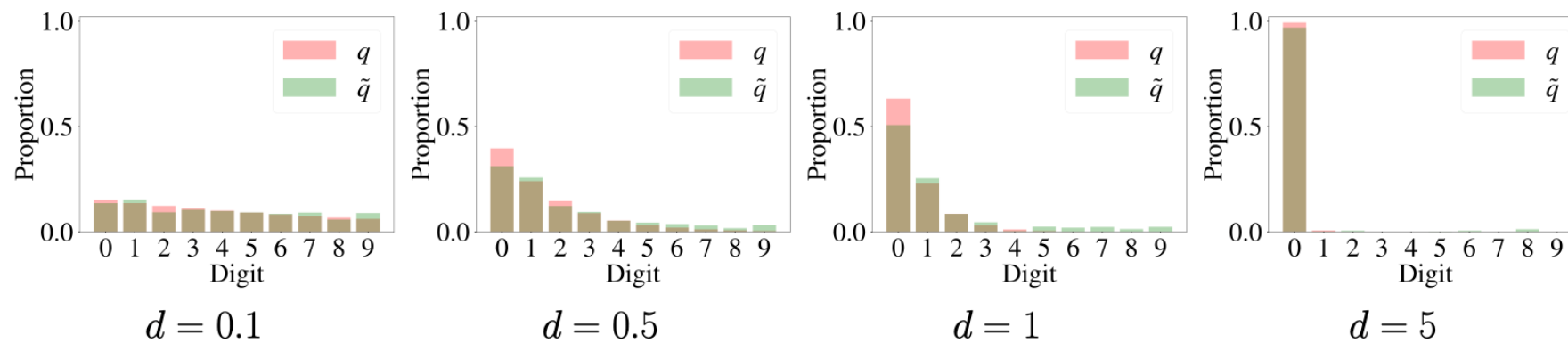


The optimal ranker in GARNet estimates a relativistic  $f$ -divergence between the user-preferred data distribution  $P_u$  and the generated data distribution  $P_g$ :

$$D_f(P_u, P_g) = \sup_{R: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}} \mathbb{E}_{\substack{s \sim S \\ x_g \sim P_g}} \left[ \mathcal{L}_{L2R} \left( \pi(s^{(R)}), R(s^{(R)}) \right) \right]$$

Different from GAN:  $D_f(P_{data}, P_g)$   
distribution of given training data

- $P_u$  allocates higher density to higher-ranked data
- $\pi(s^{(R)})$  is arithmetic sequence with a common difference  $d$   $\pi(s^{(R)}) = [a + (T - 1)d, a + (T - 2)d, \dots, a, b]$
- For a sufficient large  $d$ , GARNet converges to the distribution of top-ranked data

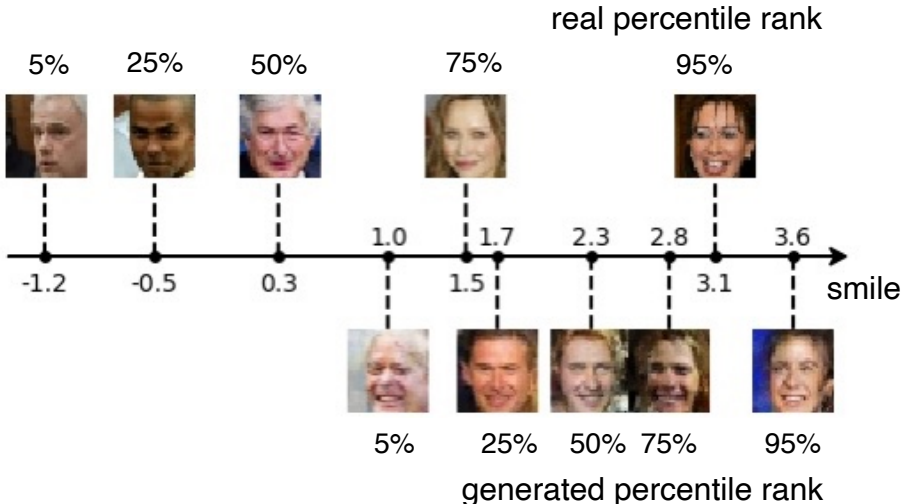


MNIST (preferring small digits, i.e.,  $0 > 1 > 2 > \dots > 9$ ).

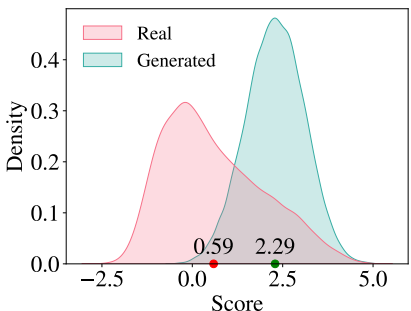
$q = \sigma(\pi(s))$  calculates the user-specified top-1 probability of each digit.  
 $\tilde{q}$  calculates the proportion of different digit classes for generated data.



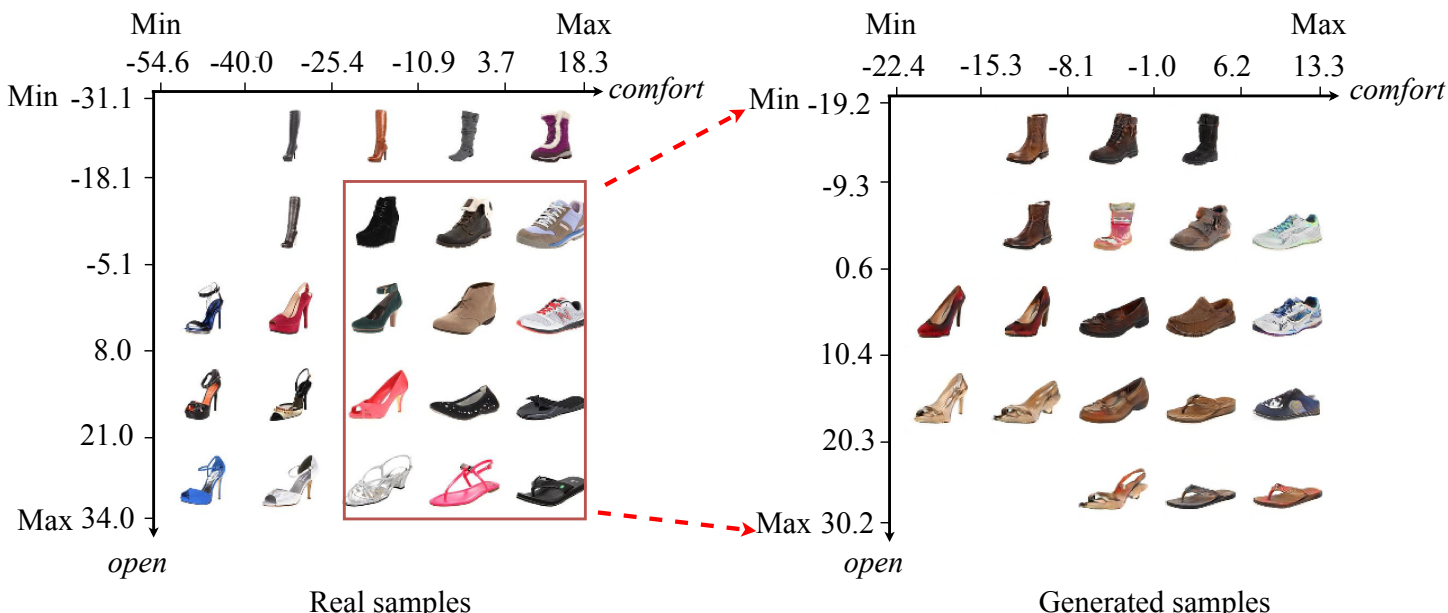
# GARNet with Continuous Properties (single/multiple) *a*★



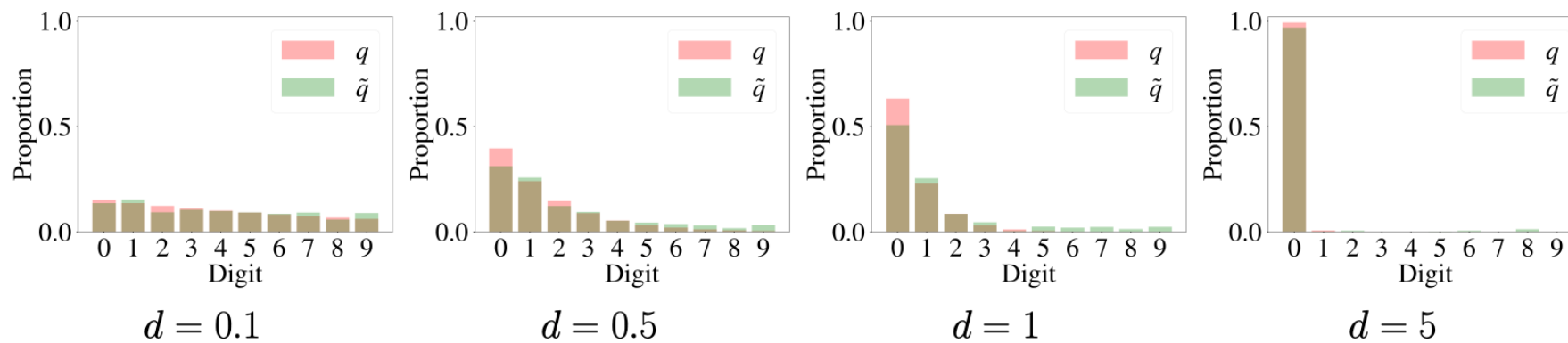
Smiling faces are preferred. The percentile rank of a given score is the percentage of scores in its frequency distribution that are less than that score.



Both open and comfortable shoes are preferred simultaneously.



- The generated data distribution converges to the user-preferred data distribution based on **full/partial** preferences involving **single/multiple discrete/continuous** properties, supported by theoretical guarantees.
- Diffusion model with preference alignment is proven to converge to the distribution of top-ranked data
- Our GARNet demonstrates distribution learning of user-preferred data in a finer-grained manner.







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# THANK YOU

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