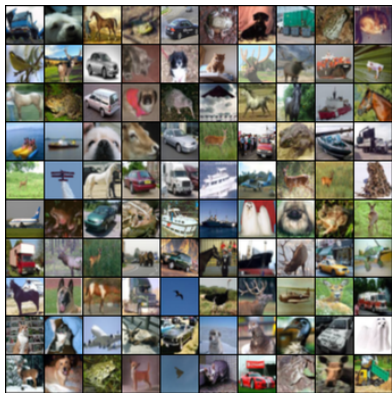


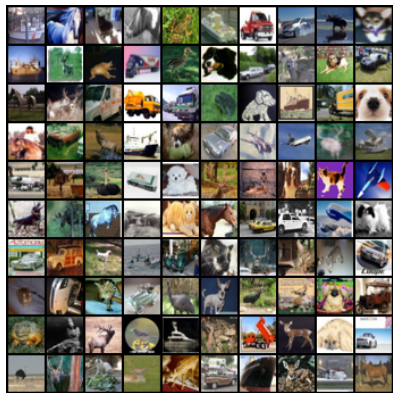
# Two-Sample Testing

# The problem



CIFAR-10 test set (Krizhevsky 2009)

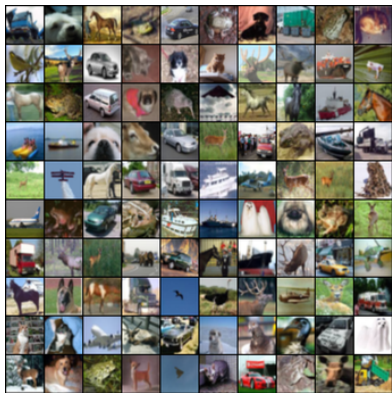
$$X \sim P$$



CIFAR-10.1 (Recht+ ICML 2019)

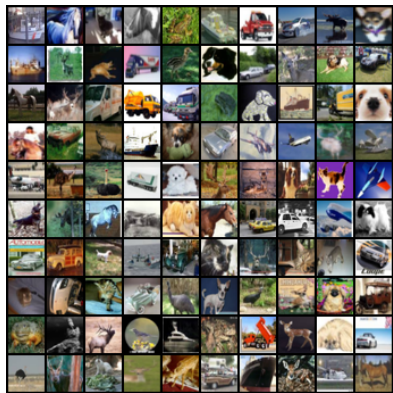
$$Y \sim Q$$

# The problem



CIFAR-10 test set (Krizhevsky 2009)

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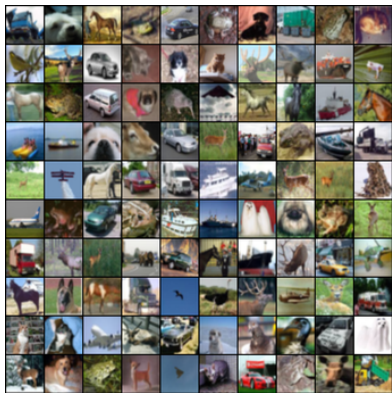


CIFAR-10.1 (Recht+ ICML 2019)

$$Y \sim Q$$

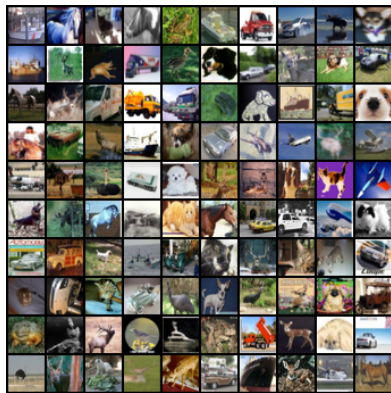
- Are the distributions  $P$  and  $Q$  the same?

# The problem



CIFAR-10 test set (Krizhevsky 2009)

$$X \sim P$$



CIFAR-10.1 (Recht+ ICML 2019)

$$Y \sim Q$$

- Are the distributions  $P$  and  $Q$  the same?
- Remember that  $MMD(P, Q) = 0$  iff  $P = Q$

## Estimating the MMD

$$\text{MMD}(P, Q)^2 = \|\mu_P - \mu_Q\|^2$$

## Estimating the MMD

$$\begin{aligned}MMD(P, Q)^2 &= \|\mu_P - \mu_Q\|^2 \\ &= \langle \mu_P, \mu_P \rangle - 2\langle \mu_P, \mu_Q \rangle + \langle \mu_Q, \mu_Q \rangle\end{aligned}$$

## Estimating the MMD

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MMD}(P, Q)^2 &= \|\mu_P - \mu_Q\|^2 \\ &= \langle \mu_P, \mu_P \rangle - 2\langle \mu_P, \mu_Q \rangle + \langle \mu_Q, \mu_Q \rangle \\ &= \mathbf{E} [\langle \varphi(X), \varphi(X') \rangle - 2\langle \varphi(X), \varphi(Y) \rangle + \langle \varphi(Y), \varphi(Y') \rangle] \end{aligned}$$

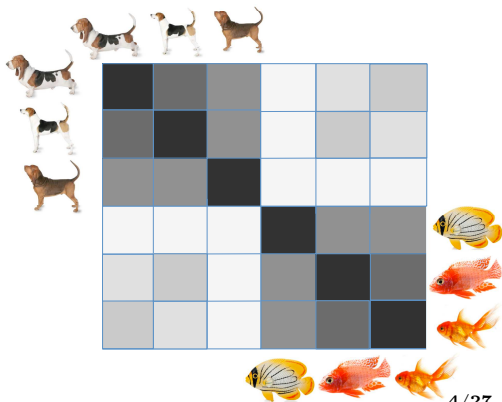
## Estimating the MMD

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MMD}(P, Q)^2 &= \|\mu_P - \mu_Q\|^2 \\ &= \langle \mu_P, \mu_P \rangle - 2\langle \mu_P, \mu_Q \rangle + \langle \mu_Q, \mu_Q \rangle \\ &= \mathbf{E} [\langle \varphi(X), \varphi(X') \rangle - 2\langle \varphi(X), \varphi(Y) \rangle + \langle \varphi(Y), \varphi(Y') \rangle] \\ &= \mathbf{E} [k(X, X') - 2k(X, Y) + k(Y, Y')] \end{aligned}$$



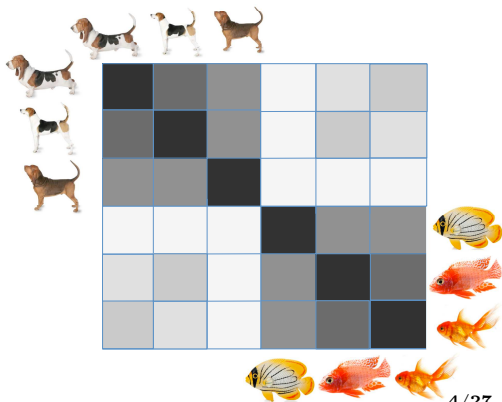
# Estimating the MMD

- Dogs ( $= P$ ) and fish ( $= Q$ ) example
- Each entry is one of  $k(\text{dog}_i, \text{dog}_j)$ ,  $k(\text{dog}_i, \text{fish}_j)$ , or  $k(\text{fish}_i, \text{fish}_j)$



## Estimating the MMD

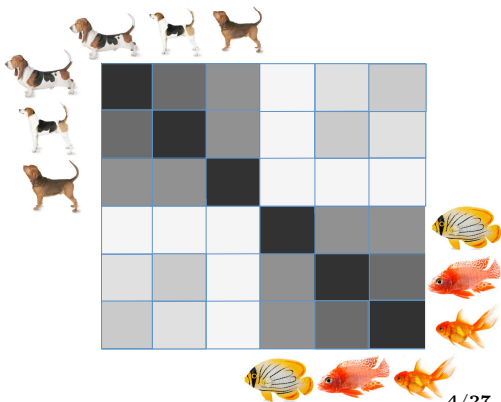
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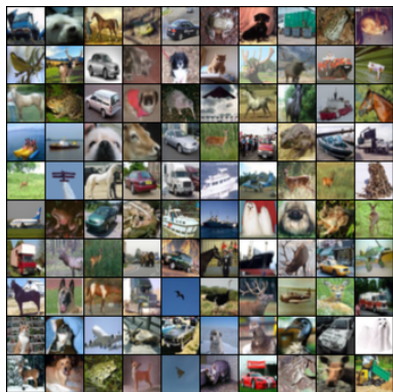
## Estimating the MMD

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$$\widehat{MMD}^2 = \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i \neq j} k(\text{dog}_i, \text{dog}_j) + \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i \neq j} k(\text{fish}_i, \text{fish}_j) - \frac{2}{n^2} \sum_{i,j} k(\text{dog}_i, \text{fish}_j)$$

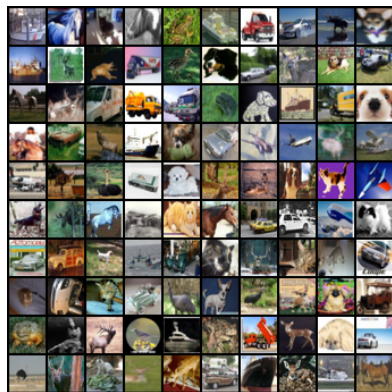


## Using a divergence estimator



CIFAR-10 test set (Krizhevsky 2009)

$$X \sim P$$

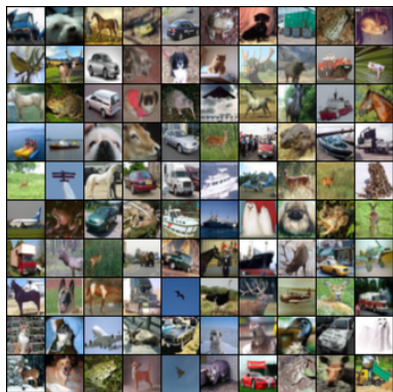


CIFAR-10.1 (Recht+ ICML 2019)

$$Y \sim Q$$

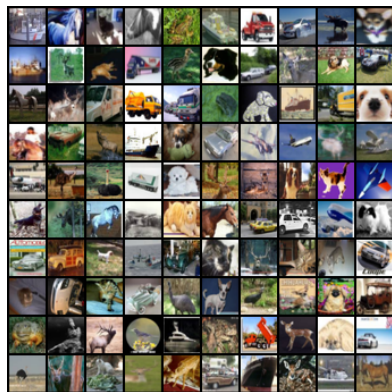
- Say we get  $\widehat{MMD}^2 = 0.09116$

## Using a divergence estimator



CIFAR-10 test set (Krizhevsky 2009)

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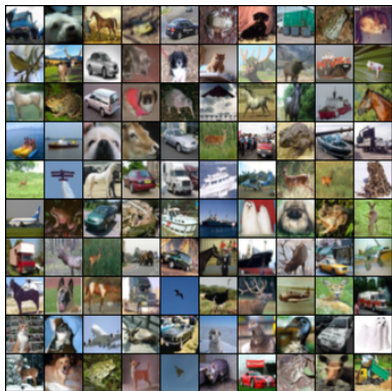


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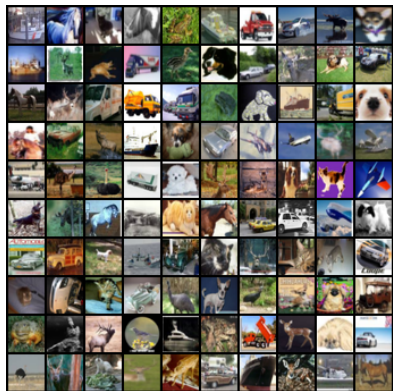
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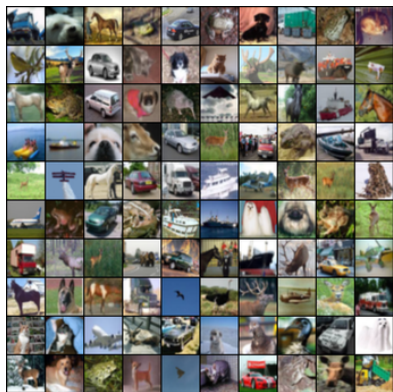


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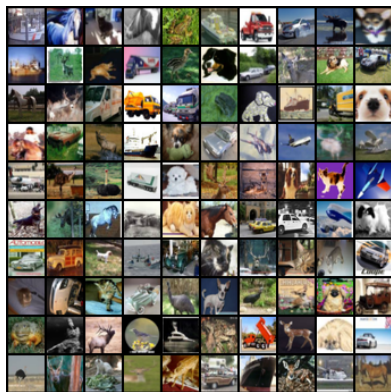
- Say we get  $\widehat{MMD}^2 = 0.09116$
- ...great. Is the true MMD zero? Equivalently: is  $P = Q$ ?

## Using a divergence estimator



CIFAR-10 test set (Krizhevsky 2009)

$$X \sim P$$



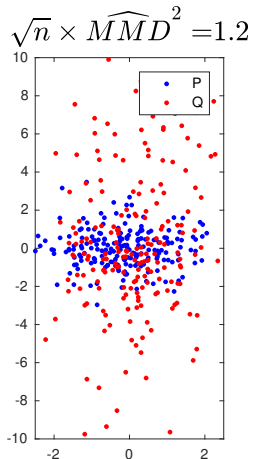
CIFAR-10.1 (Recht+ ICML 2019)

$$Y \sim Q$$

- Say we get  $\widehat{MMD}^2 = 0.09116$
- ...great. Is the true MMD zero? Equivalently: is  $P = Q$ ?
- We need to know “how random”  $\widehat{MMD}^2$  is...

## Behavior of $\widehat{MMD}^2$ when $P \neq Q$

- $P, Q$  Laplace with different variances in  $y$
- Draw  $n = 200$  i.i.d samples from  $P$  and  $Q$

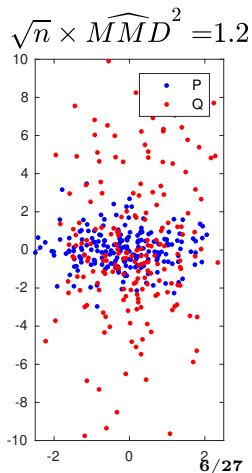
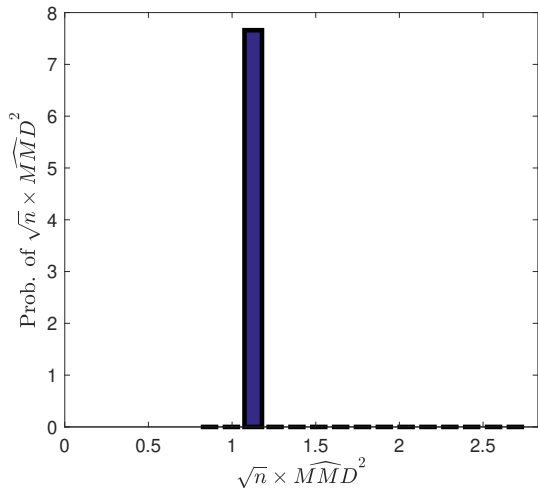




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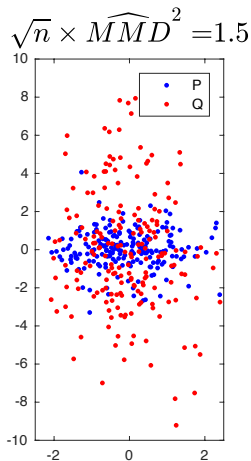
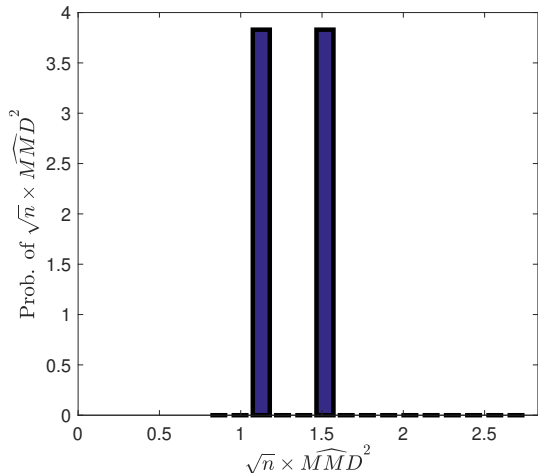
Number of MMDs: 1



# Behavior of $\widehat{MMD}^2$ when $P \neq Q$

- $P, Q$  Laplace with different variances in  $y$
- Draw  $n = 200$  new i.i.d samples from  $P$  and  $Q$

Number of MMDs: 2

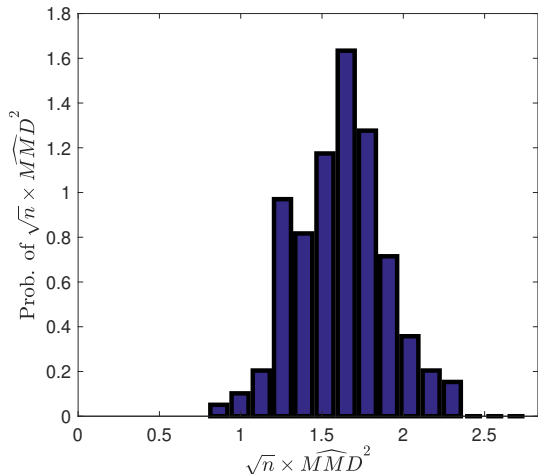


$$\sqrt{n} \times \widehat{MMD}^2 = 1.5$$

## Behavior of $\widehat{MMD}^2$ when $P \neq Q$

- $P, Q$  Laplace with different variances in  $y$
- Draw  $n = 200$  i.i.d samples from  $P$  and  $Q$ , 150 times

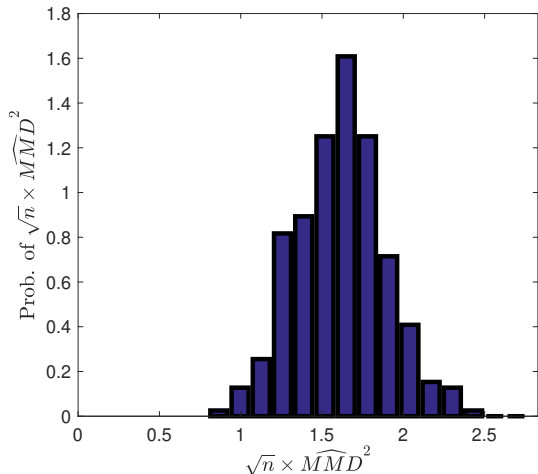
Number of MMDs: 150



## Behavior of $\widehat{MMD}^2$ when $P \neq Q$

- $P, Q$  Laplace with different variances in  $y$
- Draw  $n = 200$  i.i.d samples from  $P$  and  $Q$ , 300 times

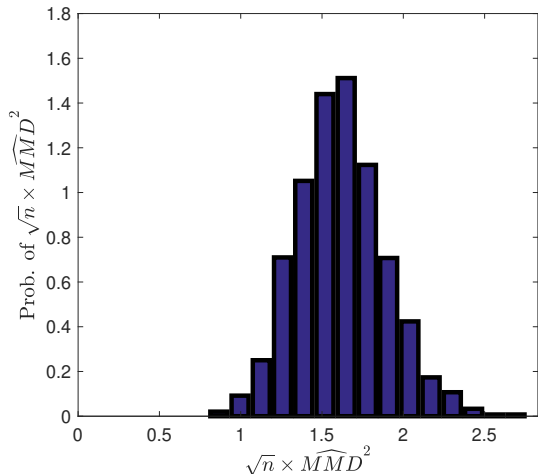
Number of MMDs: 300



## Behavior of $\widehat{MMD}^2$ when $P \neq Q$

- $P, Q$  Laplace with different variances in  $y$
- Draw  $n = 200$  i.i.d samples from  $P$  and  $Q$ , 3000 times

Number of MMDs: 3000



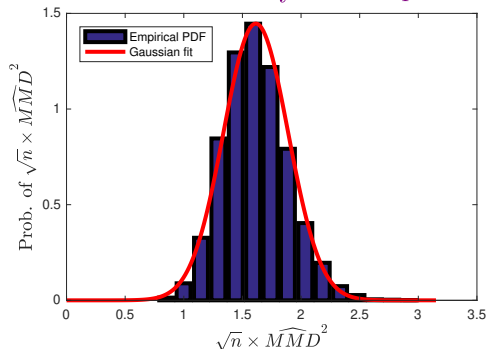
## Asymptotics of $\widehat{MMD}^2$ when $P \neq Q$

When  $P \neq Q$ , statistic is asymptotically normal,

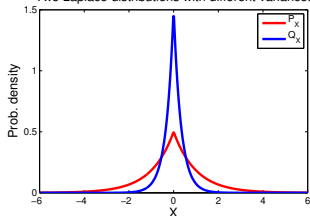
$$\sqrt{n} \frac{\widehat{MMD}^2 - \text{MMD}(P, Q)}{\sigma_{H_1}} \xrightarrow{D} \mathcal{N}(0, 1),$$

where  $\sigma_{H_1}^2/n$  is asymptotic variance (depends on  $P, Q, k$ ).

MMD density under  $\mathcal{H}_1$



Two Laplace distributions with different variances

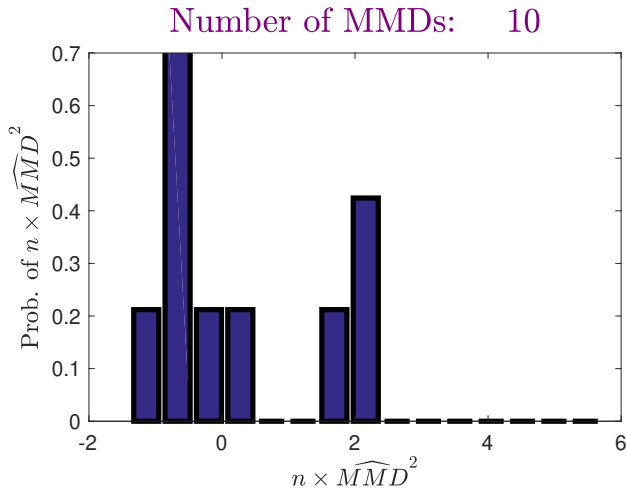


## Behavior of $\widehat{MMD}^2$ when $P = Q$

What about when  $P$  and  $Q$  are the same?

# Behavior of $\widehat{MMD}^2$ when $P = Q$

- Case of  $P = Q = \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

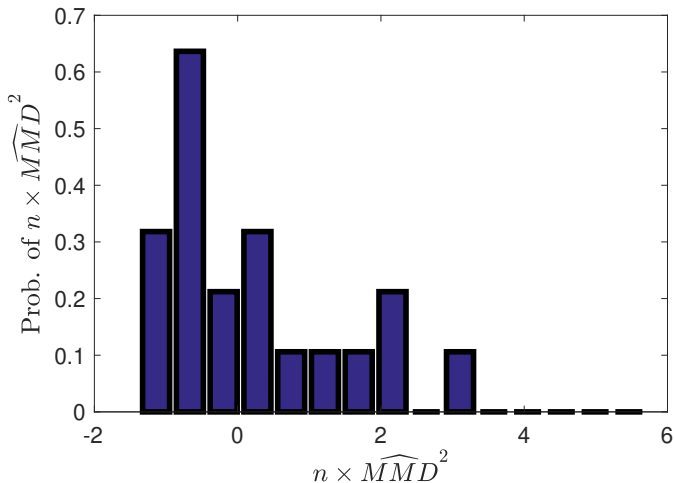




# Behavior of $\widehat{MMD}^2$ when $P = Q$

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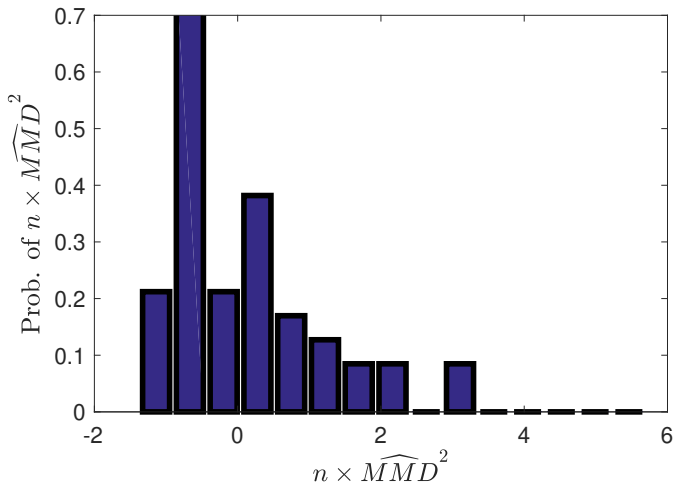
Number of MMDs: 20



# Behavior of $\widehat{MMD}^2$ when $P = Q$

- Case of  $P = Q = \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

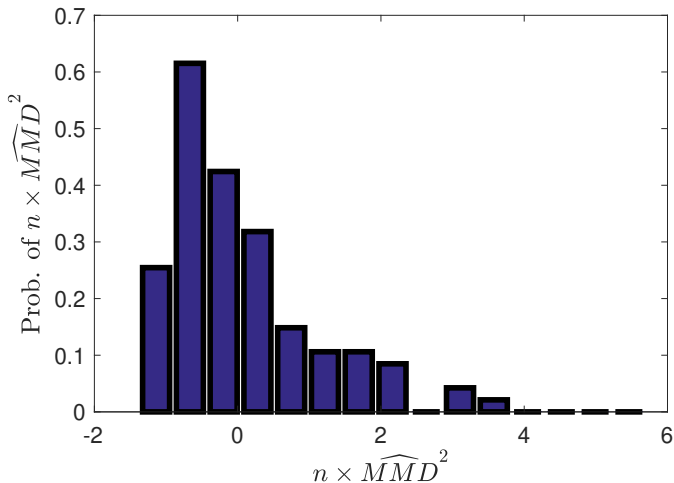
Number of MMDs: 50



# Behavior of $\widehat{MMD}^2$ when $P = Q$

- Case of  $P = Q = \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

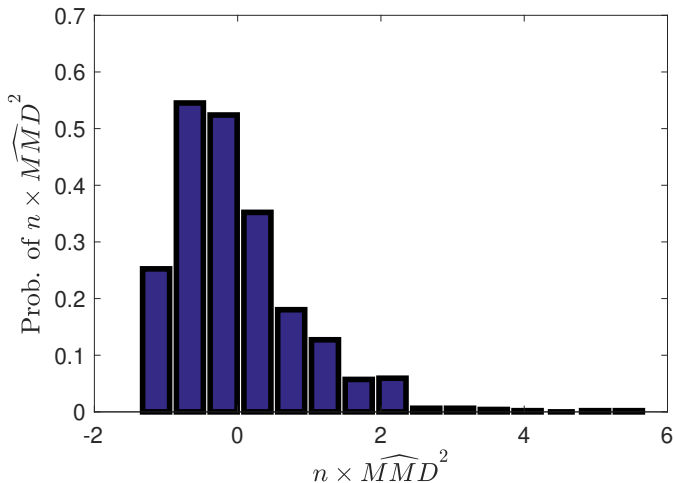
Number of MMDs: 100



# Behavior of $\widehat{MMD}^2$ when $P = Q$

- Case of  $P = Q = \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

Number of MMDs: 1000



## Asymptotics of $\widehat{MMD}^2$ when $P = Q$

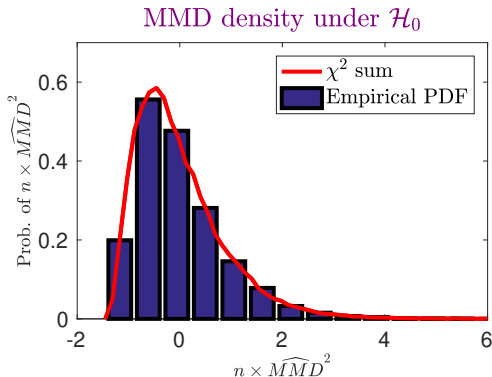
Where  $P = Q$ , statistic has asymptotic distribution

$$n\widehat{MMD}^2 \sim \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \lambda_l [z_l^2 - 2]$$

where

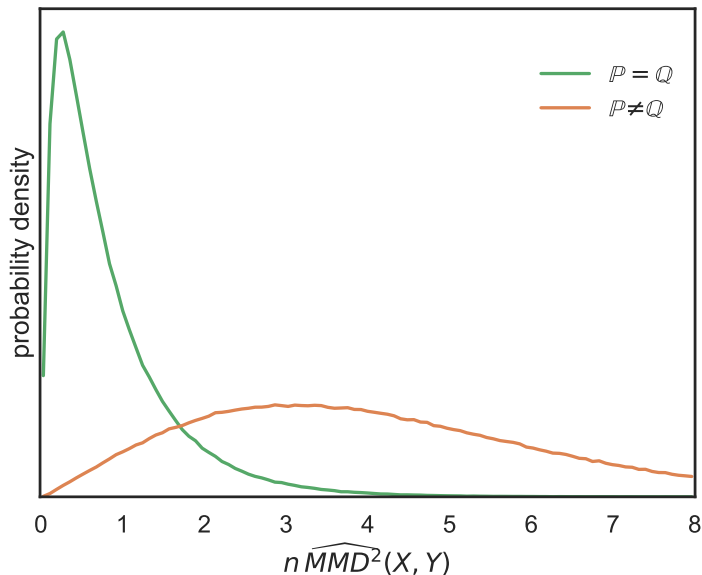
$$\lambda_l \psi_l(x') = \int_{\mathcal{X}} \underbrace{\tilde{k}(x, x')}_{\text{centered}} \psi_l(x) dP(x)$$

$$z_l \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 2) \quad \text{i.i.d.}$$



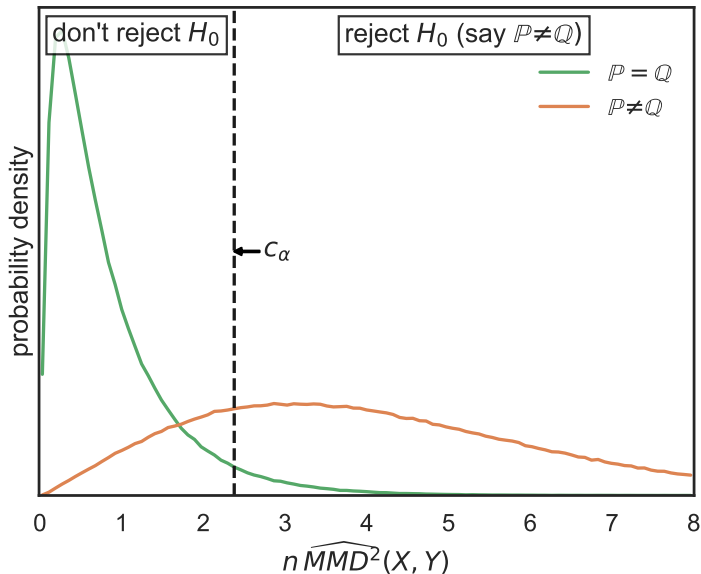
# Statistical testing

A summary of the asymptotics:



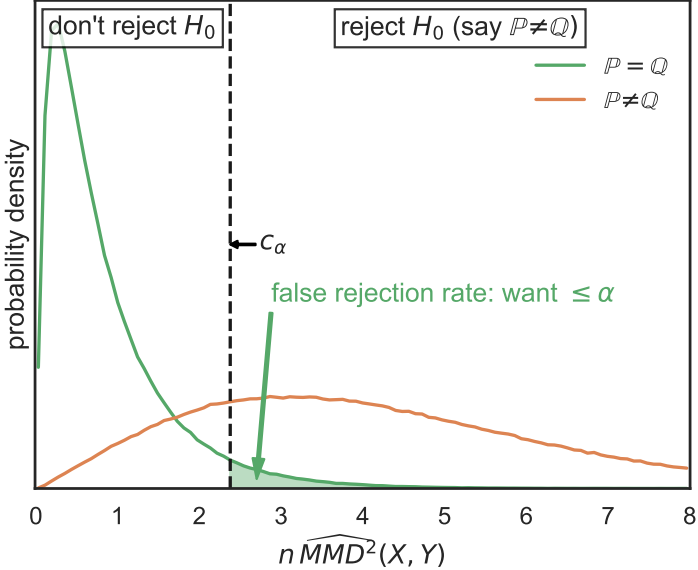
# Statistical testing

**Test construction:** (Gretton+, JMLR 2012)



# Statistical testing

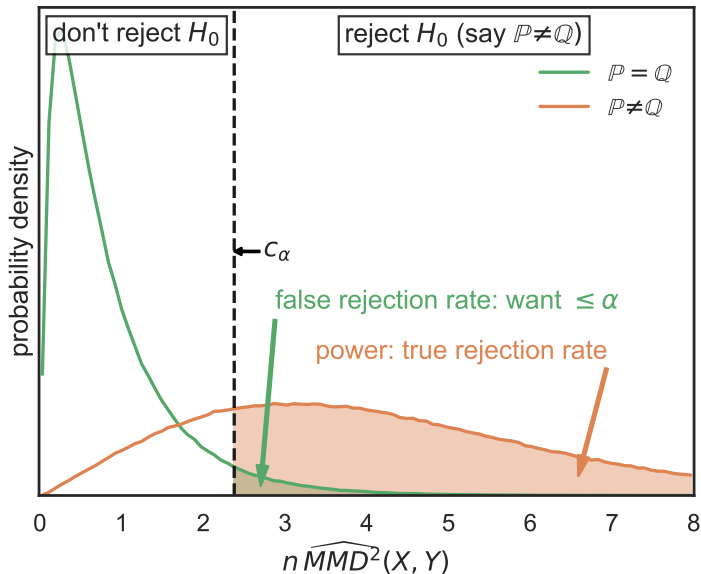
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# Statistical testing

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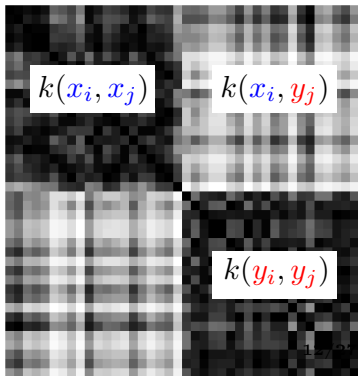
## How do we get the test threshold $c_\alpha$ ?

Original empirical MMD for dogs and fish:

$$X = [ \text{dog1} \text{ dog2} \text{ dog3} \dots ]$$

$$Y = [ \text{fish1} \text{ fish2} \text{ fish3} \dots ]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{MMD}^2 &= \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i \neq j} k(x_i, x_j) \\ &+ \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i \neq j} k(y_i, y_j) \\ &- \frac{2}{n^2} \sum_{i,j} k(x_i, y_j) \end{aligned}$$



## How do we get the test threshold $c_\alpha$ ?

Permuted dog and fish samples (**merdogs**):

$$\tilde{X} = [ \text{fish} \quad \text{dog} \quad \text{fish} \quad \dots ]$$

$$\tilde{Y} = [ \text{dog} \quad \text{fish} \quad \text{dog} \quad \dots ]$$



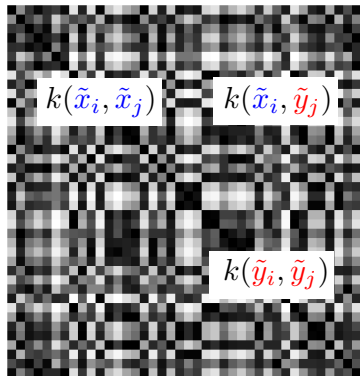
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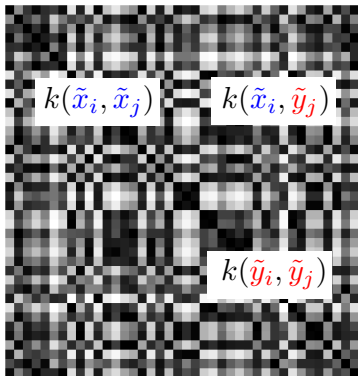


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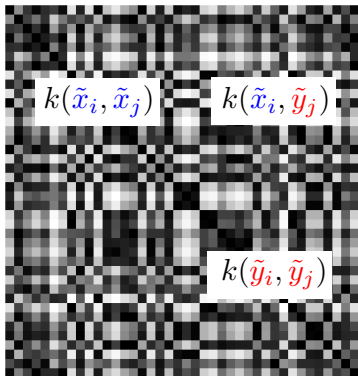
Permuted **dog** and **fish** samples (**merdogs**):

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- This simulates  $P = Q$



## How do we get the test threshold $c_\alpha$ ?

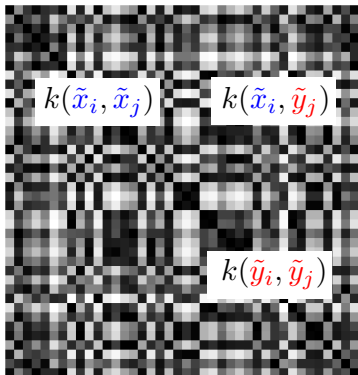
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- This simulates  $P = Q$
- Repeat, set  $c_\alpha$  to quantile



## Choosing a kernel for the test

- Simple choice: exponentiated quadratic

$$k(x, y) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}\|x - y\|^2\right)$$

- *Characteristic* for any  $\sigma$ : for any  $P$  and  $Q$ , power  $\rightarrow 1$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$



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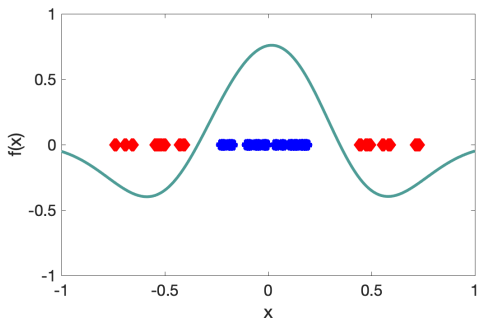
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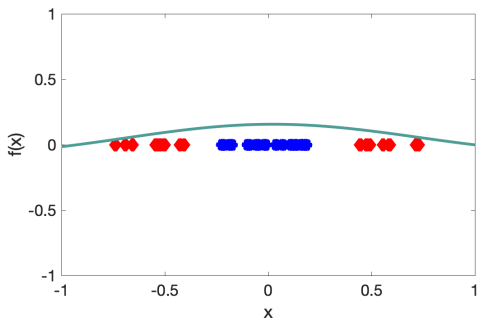


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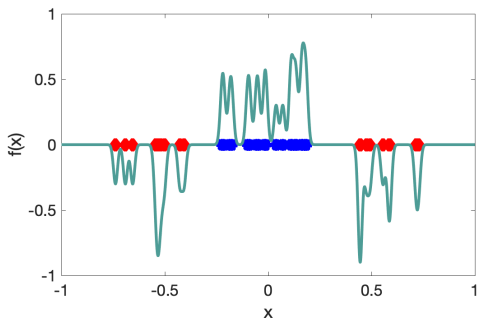


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## Choosing a kernel for the test

- Simple choice: exponentiated quadratic

$$k(x, y) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}\|x - y\|^2\right)$$

- *Characteristic* for any  $\sigma$ : for any  $P$  and  $Q$ , power  $\rightarrow 1$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$
- But choice of  $\sigma$  is very important for finite  $n$ ...
- ...and some problems (e.g. images) might have no good choice for  $\sigma$

## Choosing a kernel for the test

- Often helpful to use a relevant representation  $\Phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ , eg:

$$k(x, y) = k_{\text{top}}(\Phi(x), \Phi(y))$$

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  - KID (Bińkowski, Sutherland+ ICLR 2018), Xu+ (arXiv:1806.07755)

## Choosing a kernel for the test

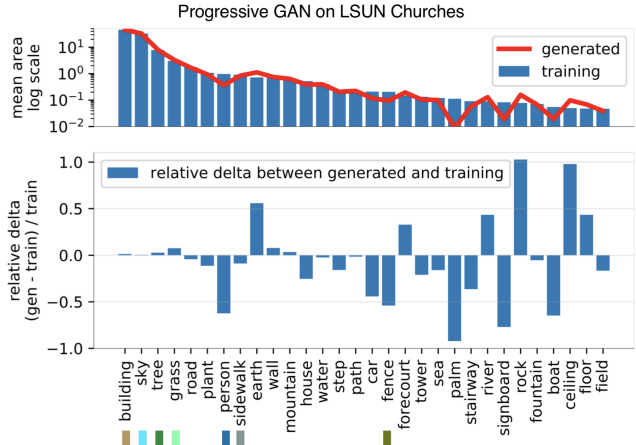
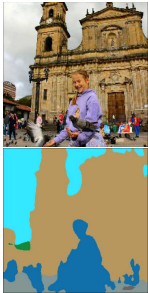
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  - Closely related to FID (Heusel+ NeurIPS 2017) but much nicer statistical properties, more correlated with human judgement (Zhou, Gordon+ NeurIPS 2019)

# Choosing a kernel for the test

- Bau et al. (ICCV 2019) compare counts of pixel categories



(a) generated vs training object segmentation statistics

## What about tests for other distances?

- Sometimes, nice closed forms for threshold (like a  $t$  test)
- Asymptotic behavior of KALE, Wasserstein, ... mostly unknown
- But permutation tests usually work!

# Choosing the best test

## The best test for the job

- A test's power depends on  $P$  and  $Q$  (and  $n$ )
- Many MMDs have power  $\rightarrow 1$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for any (fixed) problem
  - But, for many  $P$  and  $Q$ , will have terrible power with reasonable  $n$ !

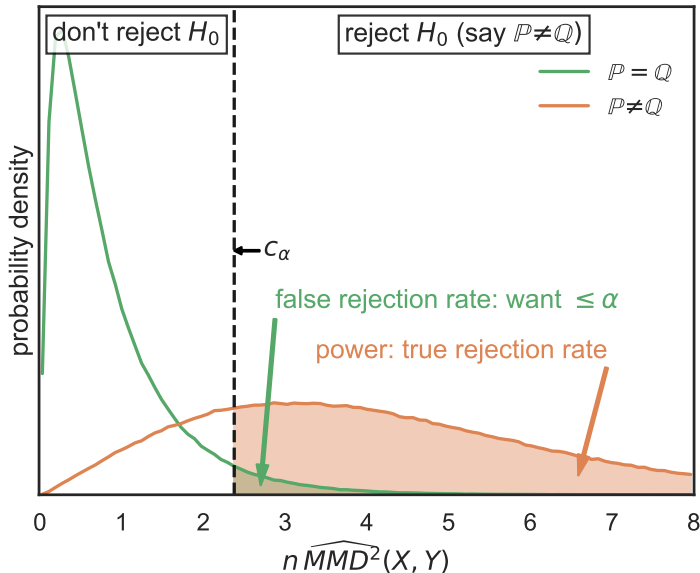
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  - But, for many  $P$  and  $Q$ , will have terrible power with reasonable  $n$ !
- Can maybe pick a good kernel manually for a given problem
- Can't get one that has good finite-sample power for all problems
  - No one test can have all that power



## Choosing test power

- Best test (of level  $\alpha$ ) is the one with highest test power



## Optimizing MMD for test power

The power of our test ( $\Pr_1$  denotes probability under  $P \neq Q$ ):

$$\Pr_1\left(n\widehat{MMD}^2 > \hat{c}_\alpha\right)$$

- $\hat{c}_\alpha$  is an estimate of the test threshold  $c_\alpha$

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- $\Phi$  is the CDF of the standard normal distribution

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- For large  $n$ , second term is negligible!

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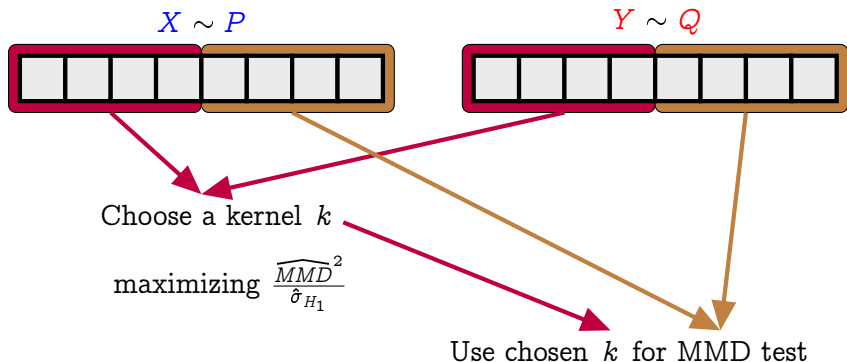
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- To maximize test power, choose  $k$  to maximize (Sutherland+ ICLR 2017)

$$\frac{MMD^2(P, Q)}{\sigma_{H_1}(P, Q)}$$

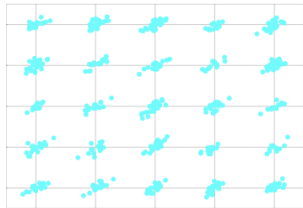
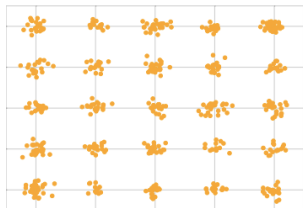
- Estimator is differentiable in kernel parameters!

## Data splitting

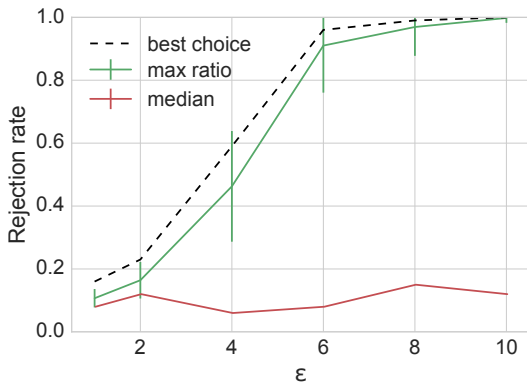


# Learning a kernel helps a lot

- Even just learning a bandwidth. . . (Sutherland+ ICLR 2017)



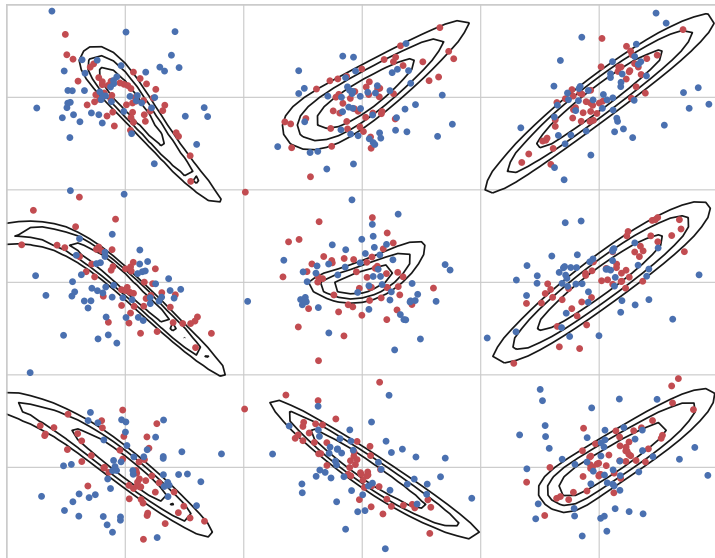
$\epsilon = 6$





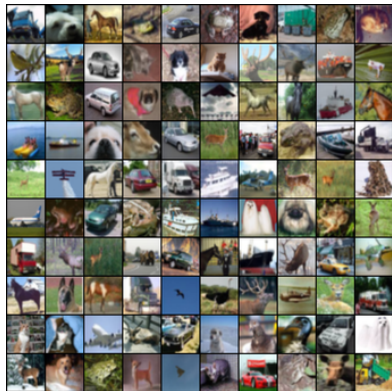
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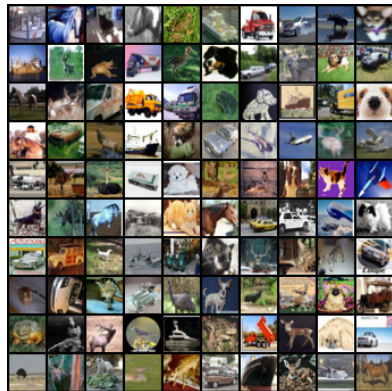
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  - Learning a deep kernel for CIFAR-10 vs CIFAR-10.1 rejects the null



CIFAR-10 test set (Krizhevsky 2009)

$$X \sim P$$

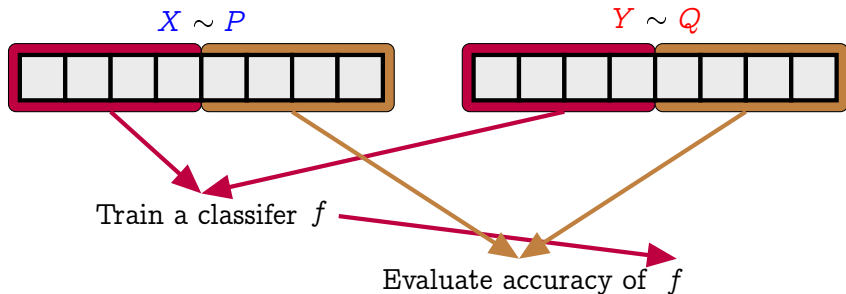


CIFAR-10.1 (Recht+ ICML 2019)

$$Y \sim Q$$

## Alternative approach: Classifier two-sample tests

- Train a classifier  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \{1, -1\}$  on  $P$  from  $Q$
- Test statistic: accuracy on test set (Lopez-Paz and Oquab, ICLR 2017)



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$$k_f(x, y) = \frac{1}{4} \mathbb{1}(f(x) > 0) \mathbb{1}(f(y) > 0)$$

gives

$$MMD(P, Q) = \left| \text{accuracy} - \frac{1}{2} \right|$$

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- $\sigma_{H_1}$  decreases with acc: maximizing  $\frac{MMD^2}{\sigma_{H_1}}$  exactly maximizes power

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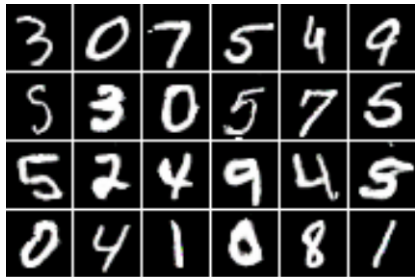
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- 0-1 kernel inflates variance, decreases test power
  - Intermediate option:  $k(x, y) = f(x) f(y)$
- Also trains for cross-entropy, instead of power directly(ish)
- Empirically: deep kernel  $>$  linear  $>$  0-1,  $\frac{\widehat{MMD}^2}{\hat{\sigma}_{H_1}} >$  cross-entropy

## Interpreting the learned kernel



MNIST samples



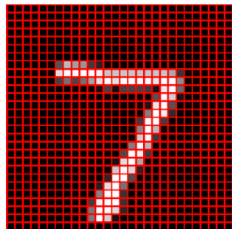
Samples from a GAN

## Interpreting the learned kernel

1 8 4 5 0 5

$\sigma_1$	$\sigma_2$	$\sigma_3$
$\sigma_i$	$\sigma_{i+1}$	$\sigma_{i+2}$

3 0 7 5 4 9



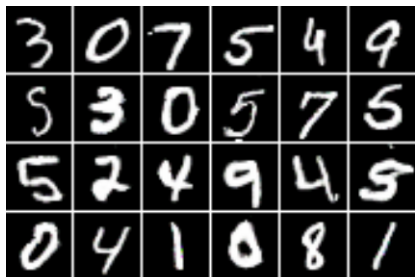
↓

$$k(\mathbf{4}, \mathbf{2}) = \prod_{i=1}^D \exp\left(\frac{-((\mathbf{4}[i] - \mathbf{2}[i])^2)}{\sigma_i^2}\right)$$

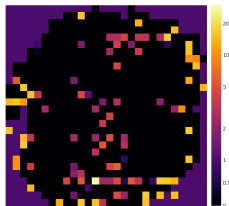
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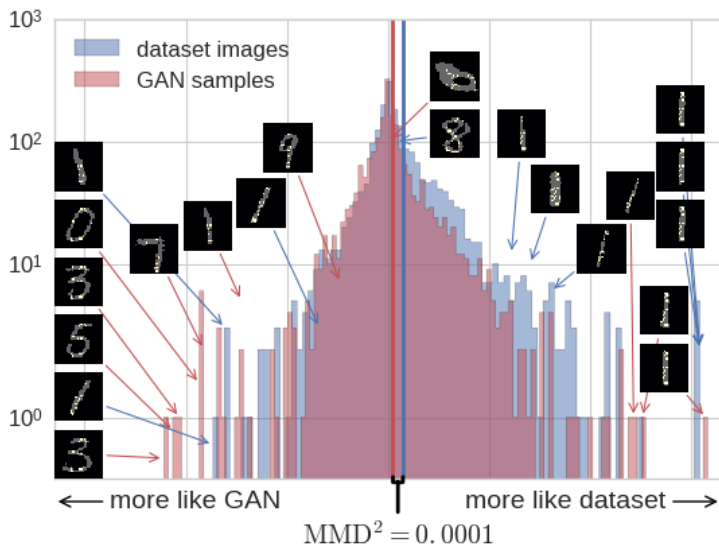
Samples from a GAN



ARD map

- Power for **optimized ARD kernel**: 1.00 at  $\alpha = 0.01$
- Power for optimized RBF kernel: 0.57 at  $\alpha = 0.01$

## Interpreting points with largest witness function values



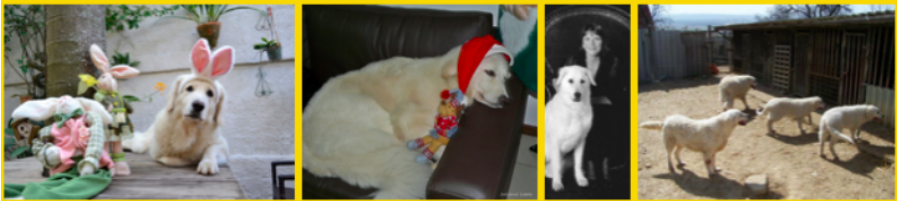
(Sutherland+ ICLR 2017)

# Interpreting points with largest witness function values

## Prototypes



## Criticisms



(Kim+ NeurIPS 2016)

## Main references and further reading

- **MMD asymptotics and test construction:**
  - Gretton, Borgwardt, Rasch, Schölkopf, Smola. A kernel two-sample test (2012)
- **Kernels for tests on images:**
  - Bińkowski, Sutherland, Arbel, Gretton. Demystifying MMD GANs (2018)
  - Bau, Zhu, Wulff, Peebles, Strobel, Zhou, Torralba. Seeing What a GAN Cannot Generate (2019)
- **Another approach: random 1d projection is almost surely consistent**
  - Heller, Heller. Multivariate tests of association based on univariate tests (2016)
- **Optimizing test kernels / classifiers:**
  - Sutherland, Tung, Strathmann, De, Ramdas, Smola, Gretton. Generative Models and Model Criticism via Optimized Maximum Mean Discrepancy (2017)
    - Also our not-quite-on-arXiv-yet followup...  
(with Feng Liu, Wenkai Xu, Jie Lu, Guangquang Zhang)
  - Lopez-Paz, Oquab. Revisiting Classifier Two-Sample Tests (2017)
- **Interpreting via witness functions:**
  - Lloyd, Ghahramani. Statistical Model Criticism using Kernel Two Sample Tests (2015)
  - Kim, Khanna, Koyejo. Examples are not Enough, Learn to Criticize! Criticism for Interpretability (2016)