

# Geometric Deep Learning: From Pure Math to Applications

Jan E. Gerken

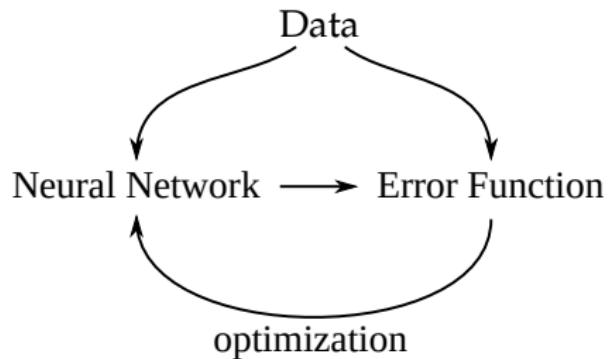


**CHALMERS**  
UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



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WASP Math/AI Meeting  
KTH Stockholm

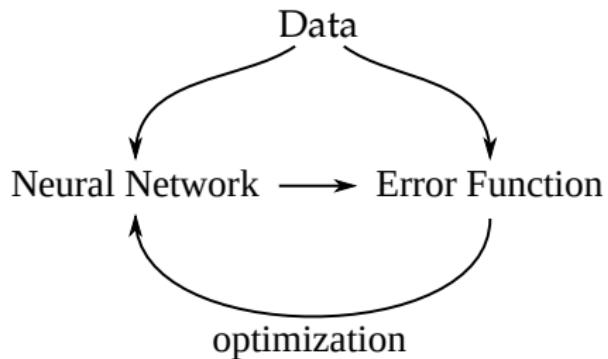
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Deep learning is lacking a strong theoretical foundation:

- ▶ Neural networks are complicated functions
- ▶ The training process is stochastic

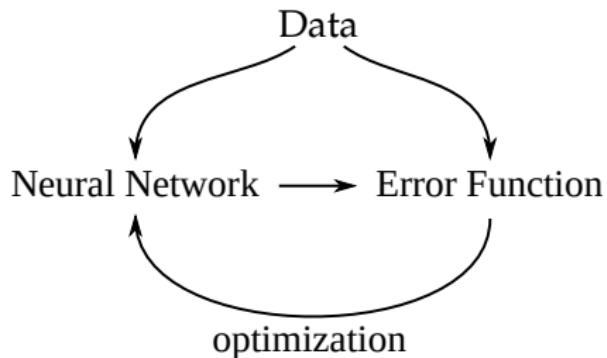


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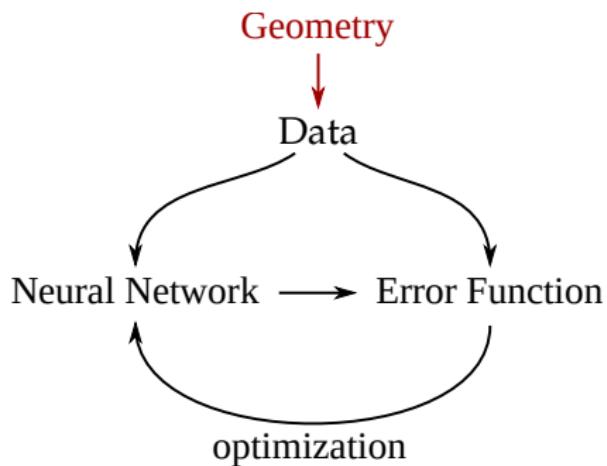


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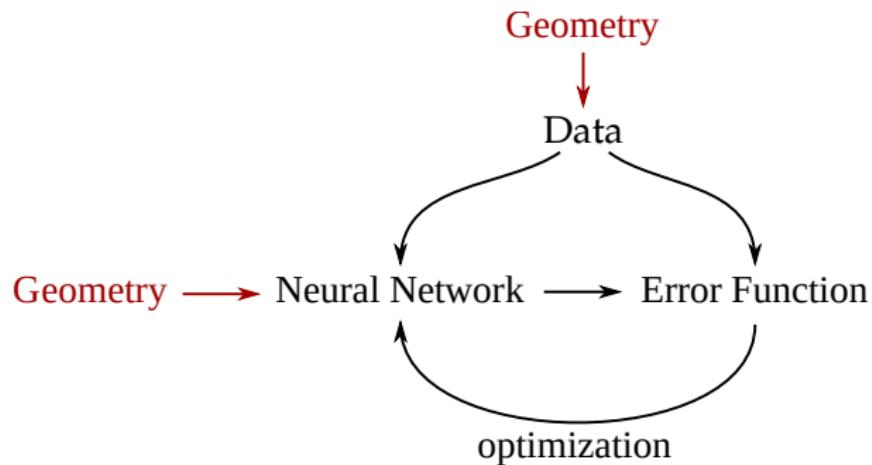


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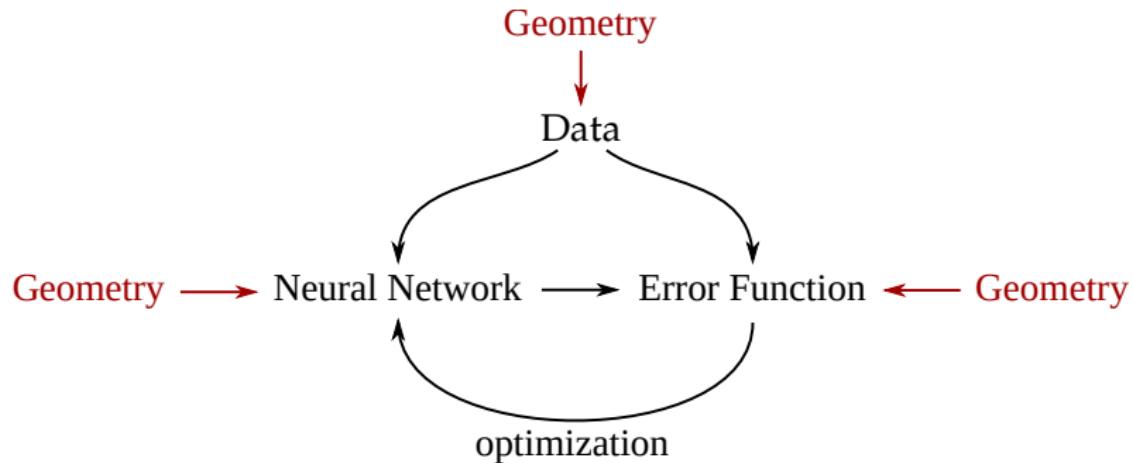


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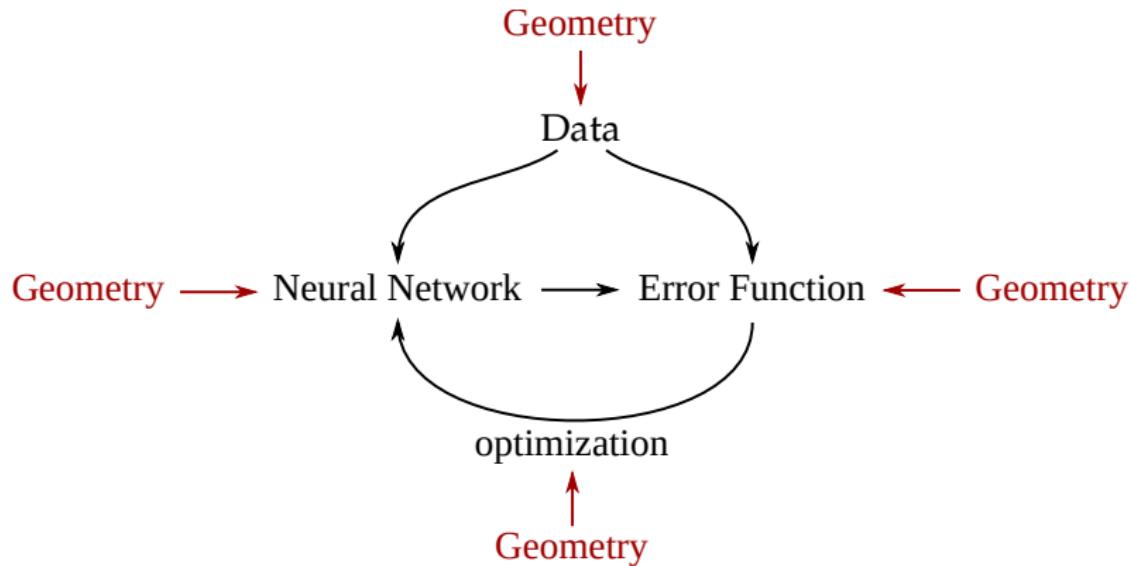


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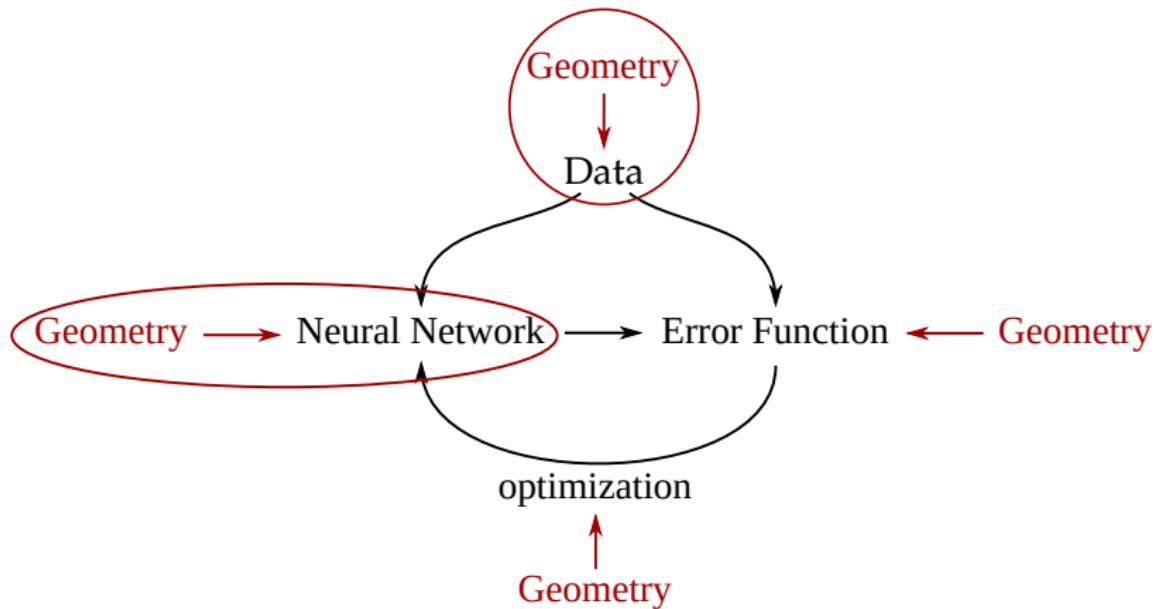


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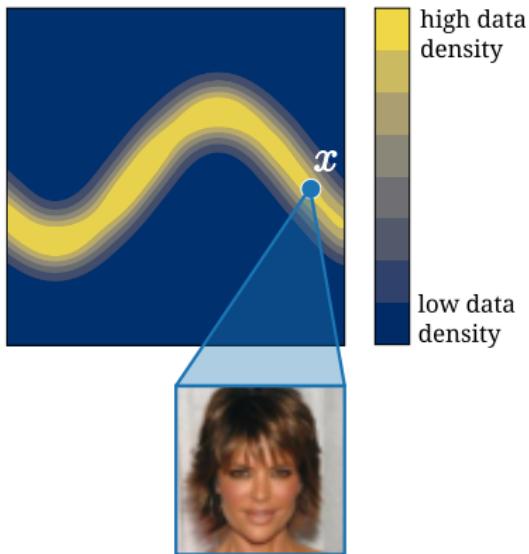
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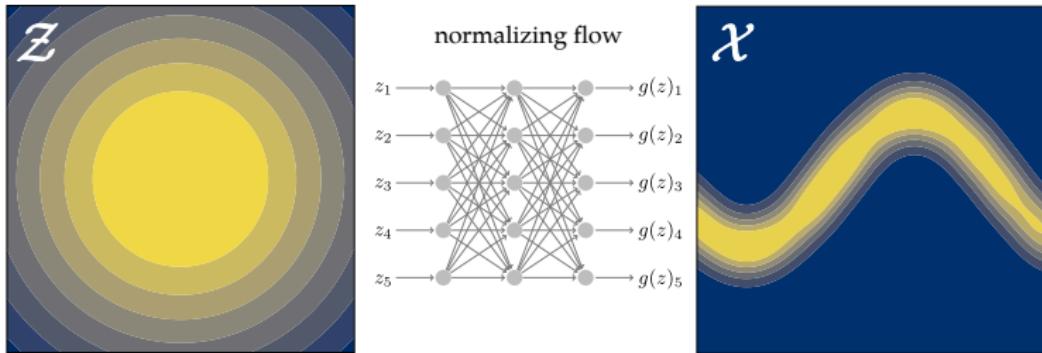
## Geometry of the training data



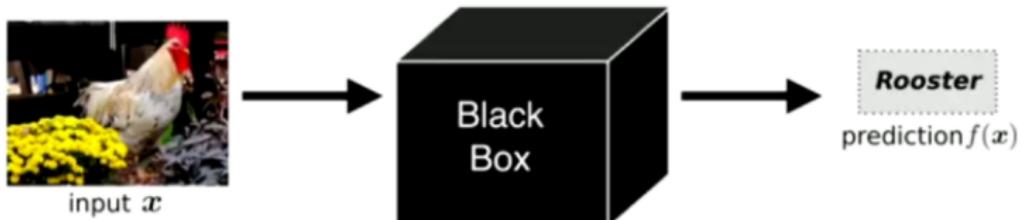
- ▶ Manifold Hypothesis: Data lies on low-dim. submanifold of high-dim. input space
- ▶ E.g. MNIST pictures lie on  $\sim 30$ -dim. submanifold of  $28 \times 28 = 784$  dim. input space



- ▶ How to characterize the data manifold?
- ▶ Can learn a diffeomorphism between a simple distribution and data distribution



- ▶ Diffeomorphism is given by another neural network, a *normalizing flow*
- ▶ Get access to the data manifold in a functional form
- ▶ Connections to shape matching [Jansson, Modin, 2022]
- ▶ Connections to optimal transport [Chen, Karlsson, Ringh, 2021]  
[Bauer, Joshi, Modin, 2017]  
[Onken, Fung, Li, Ruthotto 2020]



- ▶ Neural network classifiers lack inherent interpretability
- ▶ This is in contrast to more traditional methods like linear- or physical models
- ▶ For safety-critical applications this poses a serious challenge in practice
- ▶ Research progress can also be impeded
- ▶ Need explanations which provide insight into the neural network decisions

## Counterfactual explanations

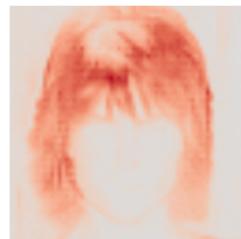
- ▶ **Counterfactual of a sample:** Data point close to original but with different classification
- ▶ Difference between original and counterfactual reveals features which led to classification
- ▶ Example from CelebA dataset, classified as not-blonde:



original  $x$



counterfactual  $x'$



$|x - x'|$

## Adversarial Examples

- ▶ Small perturbations can lead to misclassifications

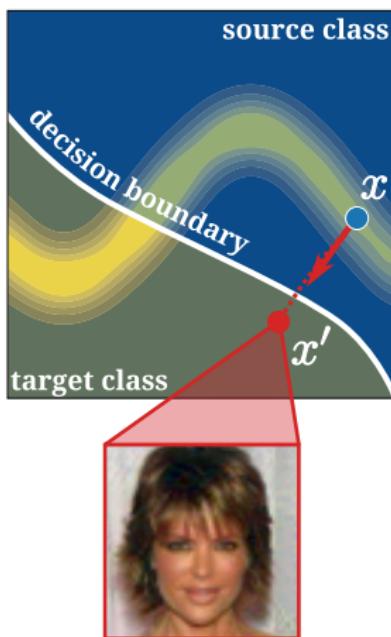
$$p_{\text{blonde}} \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Image of a woman with dark hair} \end{array} \right) = 0.01 \quad \text{but} \quad p_{\text{blonde}} \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Image of a woman with blonde hair} \end{array} \right) = 0.99$$

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$$p_{\text{blonde}} \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{original image} \\ \text{of a blonde woman} \end{array} \right) = 0.01 \quad \text{but} \quad p_{\text{blonde}} \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{image} \\ \text{perturbed by noise} \end{array} \right) = 0.99$$

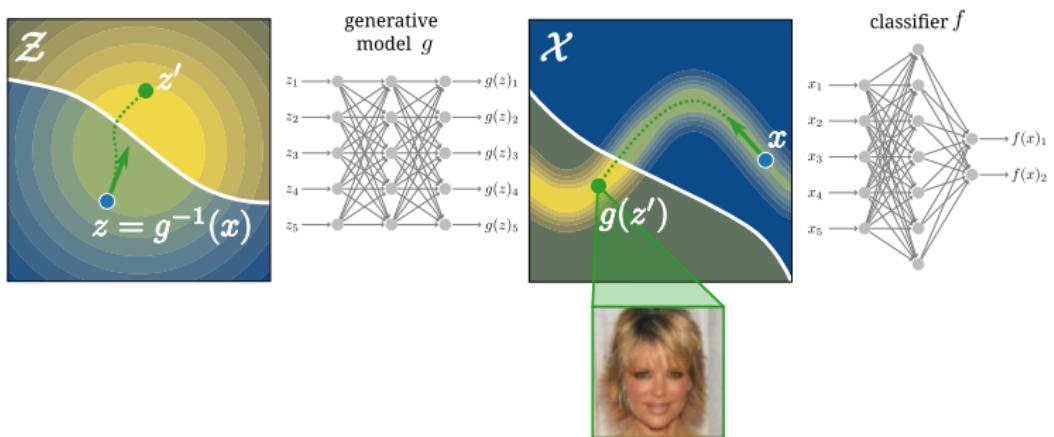
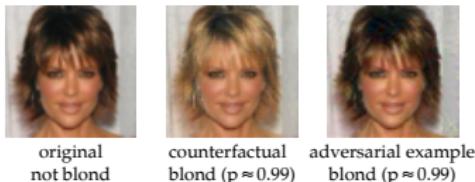
- ▶ Reason: Classifier only trained on the data manifold



# Counterfactuals

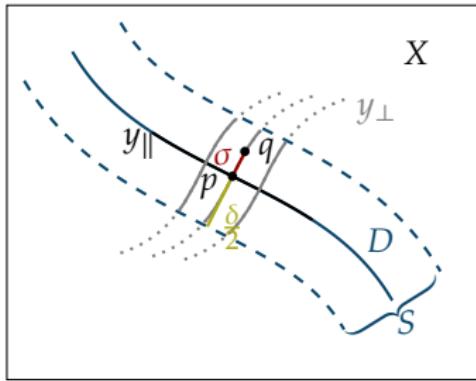
[Dombrowski, JG, Müller, Kessel, 2022]

- ▶ Can use normalizing flows to optimize along the data manifold  $\Rightarrow$  *counterfactuals*



$$x^{(i+1)} = x^{(i)} + \lambda \gamma^{-1} \frac{\partial f_t}{\partial x}(x^{(i)}) + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$$

## Data coordinates



- ▶ Assume that data lies in a region  $S = \text{supp}(p)$  around data manifold  $D$ , in data coordinates  $x^\alpha$

$$S_x = \left\{ x_D + x_\delta \mid x_D \in D_x, x_\delta^\alpha \in \left( -\frac{\delta}{2}, \frac{\delta}{2} \right) \right\}$$

with  $\delta \ll 1$ .

- ▶ Define normal coordinates  $y^\mu$  in a neighborhood of  $D$

## Gradient ascent in $y$ -coordinates

- By choosing  $\{n_i\}$  orthogonal wrt  $\gamma$ , the inverse induced metric takes the form

$$\gamma^{\mu\nu}(y) = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_D^{-1}(y) & & & \\ & \gamma_{\perp 1}^{-1} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \gamma_{\perp N_X - N_D}^{-1} \end{pmatrix}^{\mu\nu}.$$

- The gradient ascent update  $g^\alpha(z^{(i+1)}) = g^\alpha(z^{(i)}) + \lambda \gamma^{\alpha\beta} \frac{\partial f_t}{\partial x^\beta} + O(\lambda^2)$  becomes

$$\gamma^{\alpha\beta} \frac{\partial f_t}{\partial x^\beta} = \frac{\partial x^\alpha}{\partial y_\parallel^\mu} \gamma_D^{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial f_t}{\partial y_\parallel^\nu} + \frac{\partial x^\alpha}{\partial y_\perp^i} \gamma_{\perp i}^{-1} \frac{\partial f_t}{\partial y_\perp^i}$$

- For  $\gamma_{\perp i}^{-1} \rightarrow 0$  and  $\frac{\partial x}{\partial y_\perp}$  bounded we have

$$\gamma^{\alpha\beta} \frac{\partial f_t}{\partial x^\beta} \rightarrow \frac{\partial x^\alpha}{\partial y_\parallel^\mu} \gamma_D^{\mu\nu} \frac{\partial f_t}{\partial y_\parallel^\nu}$$

and hence the update step points along the data manifold.

$\Rightarrow$  In this case, obtain counterfactuals, not adversarial examples!

# The induced metric for well-trained generative models

## *Theorem (Diffeomorphic Counterfactuals)*

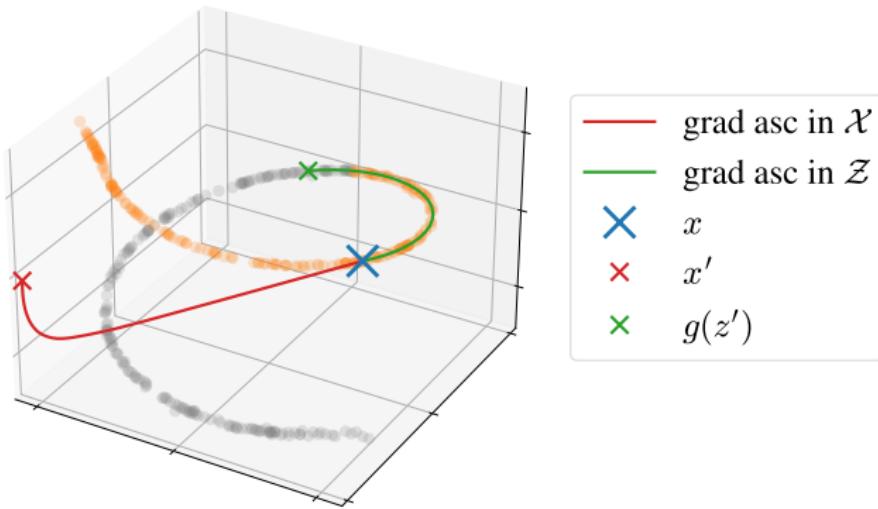
For  $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$  and  $g$  a normalizing flow with Kullback–Leibler divergence  $\text{KL}(p, q) < \epsilon$ ,

$$\gamma_{\perp_i}^{-1} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as} \quad \delta \rightarrow 0$$

for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, N_X - N_D\}$ .

$\Rightarrow$  For well-trained generative models, the gradient ascent update in  $Z$  stays on the data manifold

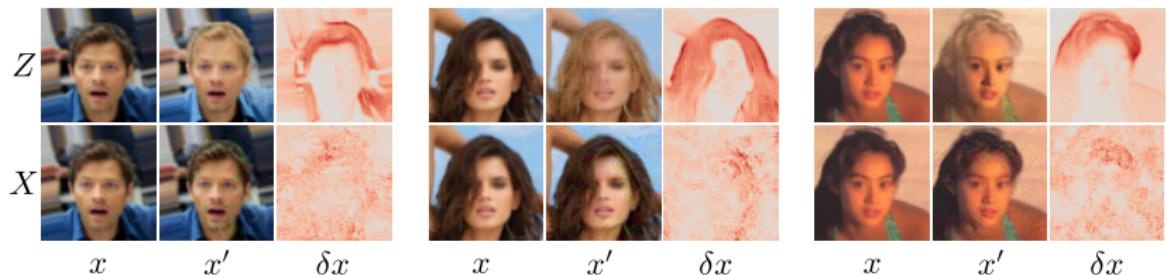
## Toy example



# Diffeomorphic Counterfactuals with CelebA

- ▶ Classifier: Binary CNN trained on *blonde/not blonde* attribute (test accuracy: 94%)
- ▶ Flow: Glow
- ▶ Task: Change classification from *not blonde* to *blonde*

[Kingma et al., NeurIPS 2018]



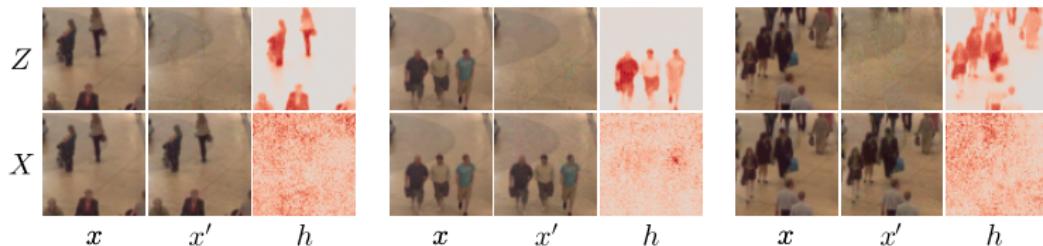
- ▶ Top row: Counterfactual computed in base space
- ▶ Bottom row: Adversarial example computed in data space

# Diffeomorphic Counterfactuals for regression

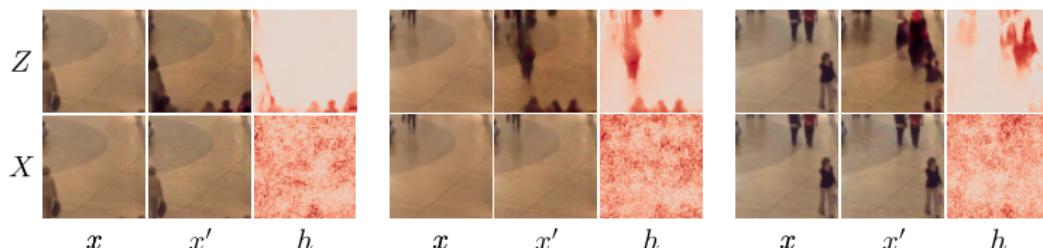
- ▶ Consider crowd-counting dataset of mall images
- ▶ Count number of people in the image
- ▶ Flow: Glow
- ▶ Optimize for low number of people

[Ribera et al., CVPR 2019]

[Kingma et al., NeurIPS 2018]



- ▶ Optimize for high number of people



## Conclusions

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- ▶ Geometry can help in several key parts of the learning process, bringing abstract mathematics to practical applications
  - ▶ Counterfactuals explain black-box classifiers by providing a realistic sample close to the original but with a different classification
  - ▶ Naive gradient ascent leads off the data manifold, yielding adversarial examples
  - ▶ Gradient ascent in the base space of a normalizing flow leads to optimization on the data manifold
  - ▶ Concept be used for a wide range of different problems

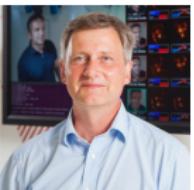
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  - ▶ Concept be used for a wide range of different problems
- ▶ New areas of mathematics enter the study of neural networks

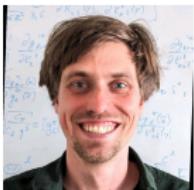
# Collaborators



Daniel Persson



Klaus-Robert Müller



Pan Kessel



Christoffer Petersson



Fredrik Ohlsson



Hampus Linander



Ann-Kathrin Dombrowsik



Oscar Carlsson



Jimmy Aronsson

*Thank you!*