

DEMYSTIFYING MMD GANS

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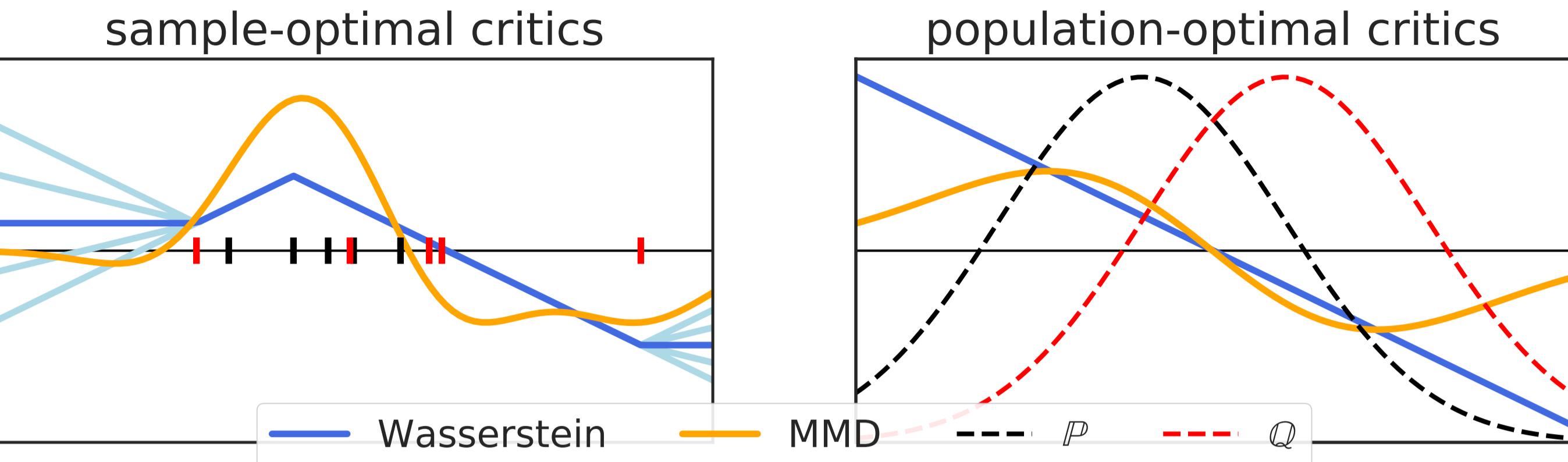
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OVERVIEW

- MMD GANs are related to WGANs, but with part of critic function optimization done in closed form.
- Outperform WGAN-GP, especially with smaller critic network.
- Clarify gradient bias situation: “outer loop” generator gradients are biased, but each step is unbiased.
- New GAN performance metric, KID, with better estimator than FID; use it to adapt the learning rate during training.



THEORY: BIASED GRADIENT ESTIMATES

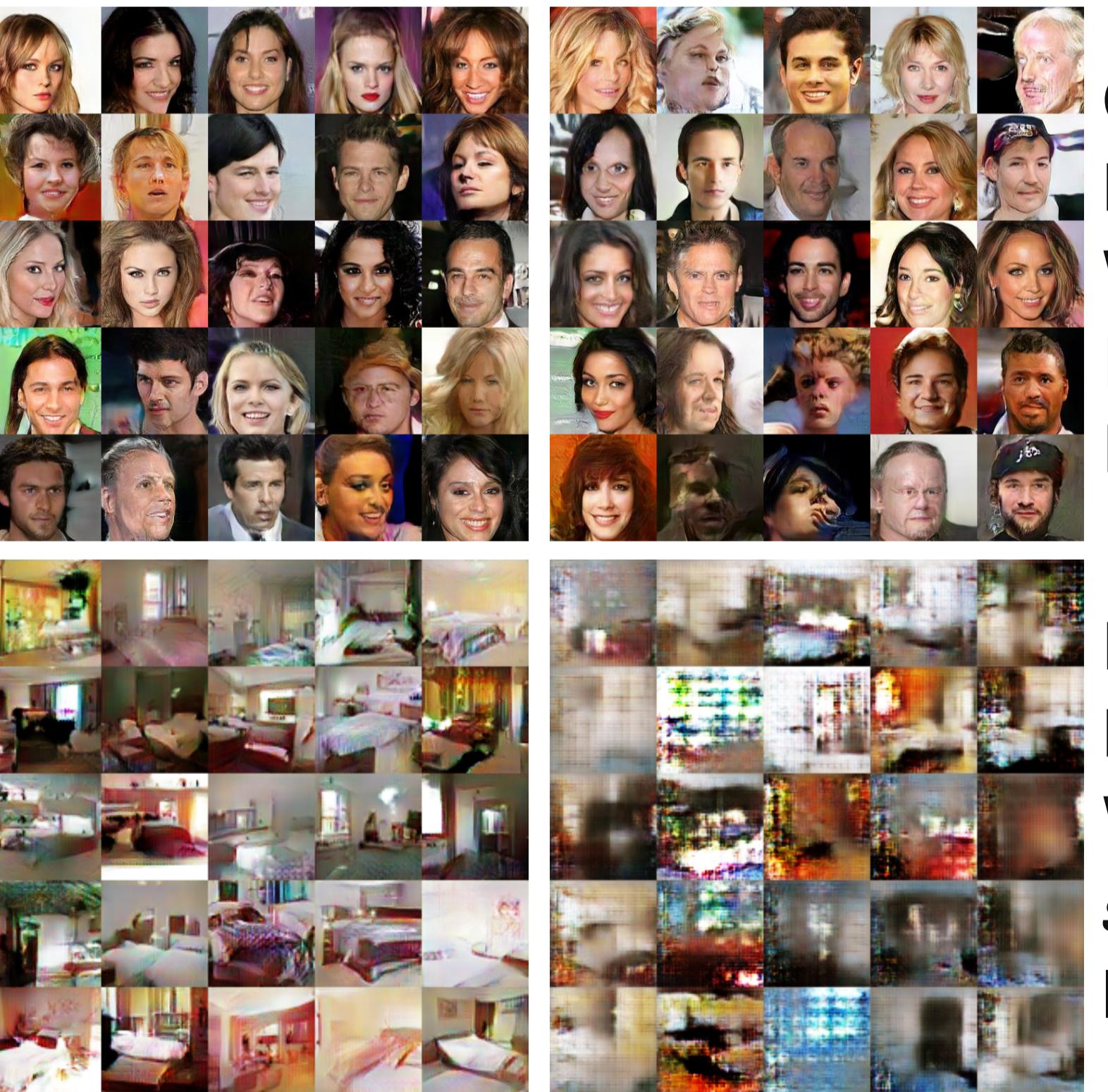
Bellec et al. [2] claim that WGANs have biased generator gradients, while Cramér GANs do not. We show:

- For a *fixed* kernel/critic, generator gradient steps are unbiased.
- “Outer loop” gradient steps, $\nabla_\psi \hat{\mathcal{D}}(X, G_\psi(Z))$, are biased.
 - Estimators with non-constant bias have biased gradients.
 - Optimization-based estimators are biased:

$$\mathbb{E} \hat{\mathcal{D}} = \mathbb{E} \hat{\mathcal{D}}_{\hat{f}_{tr}}(X_{te}, Y_{te}) = \mathbb{E} \mathcal{D}_{\hat{f}_{tr}}(\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{Q}) \leq \sup_f \mathcal{D}_f = \mathcal{D}.$$
- Small minibatch sizes *don't* introduce bias: bias vanishes as critic becomes optimal.

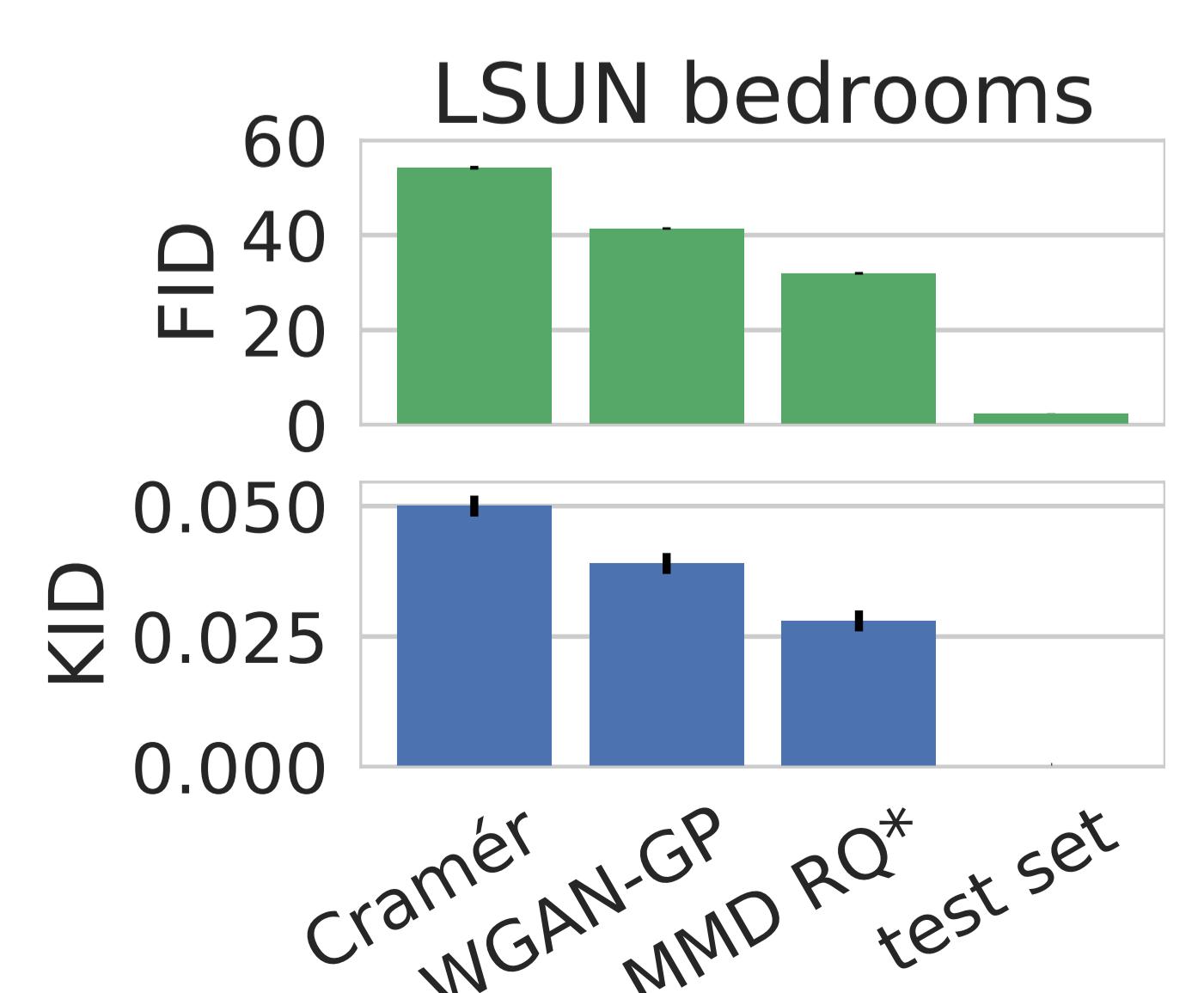
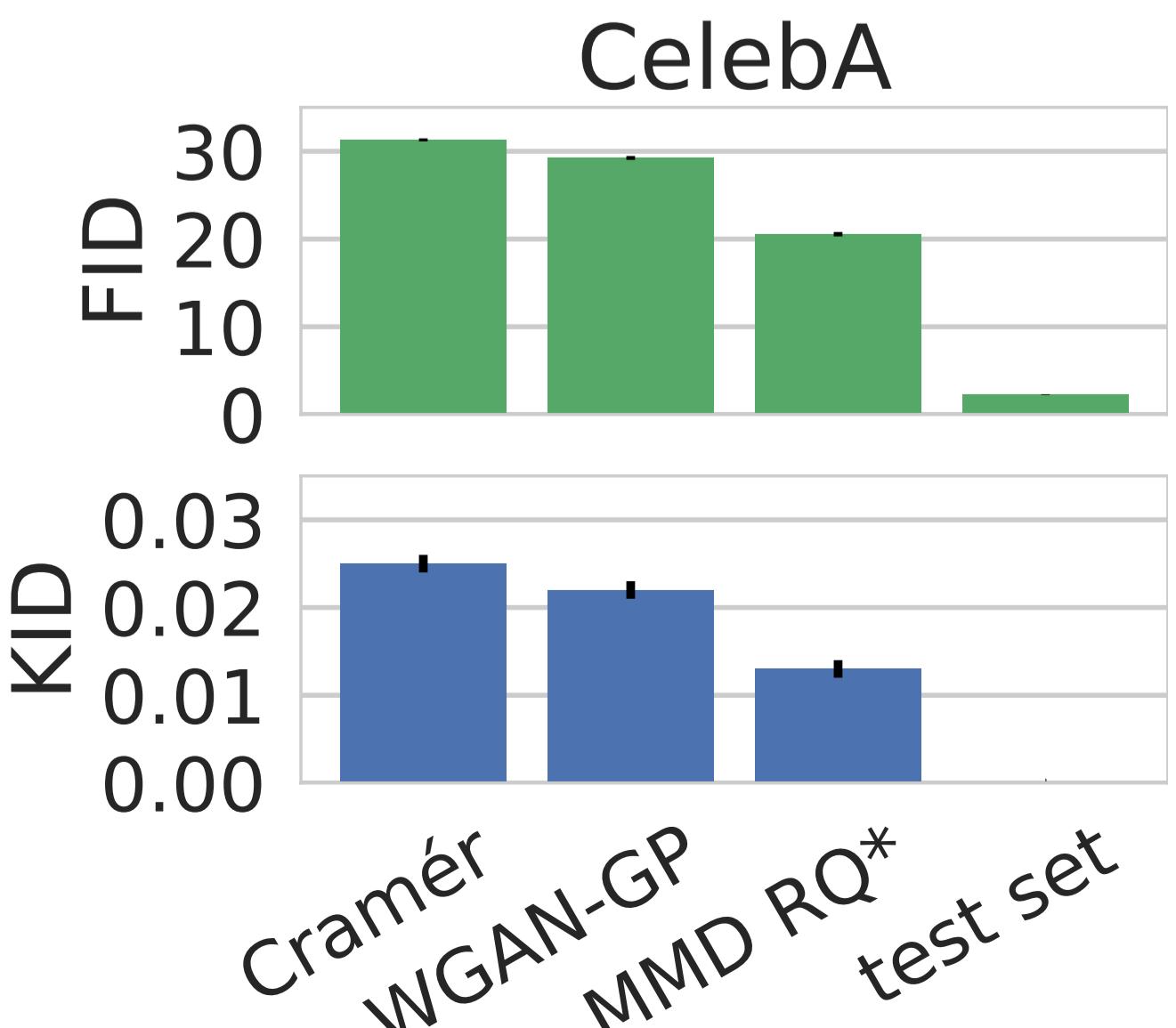
EXPERIMENTAL COMPARISON

MMD GANs outperform WGAN-GP, especially with *smaller* critic networks (faster to train), probably by “offloading” work to closed-form kernel optimization.



CelebA, 160×160 .
MMD GAN (left) and
WGAN-GP (right), with
ResNet generator and
DCGAN critic.

LSUN bedrooms, 64×64 .
MMD GAN (left) and
WGAN-GP (right), with
small critic DCGANs (4x
less convolutional filters).



RELATION TO WASSERSTEIN AND CRAMÉR GANS

Integral Probability Metrics (IPMs) are distances between distributions defined by a class of *critic* functions \mathcal{F} :

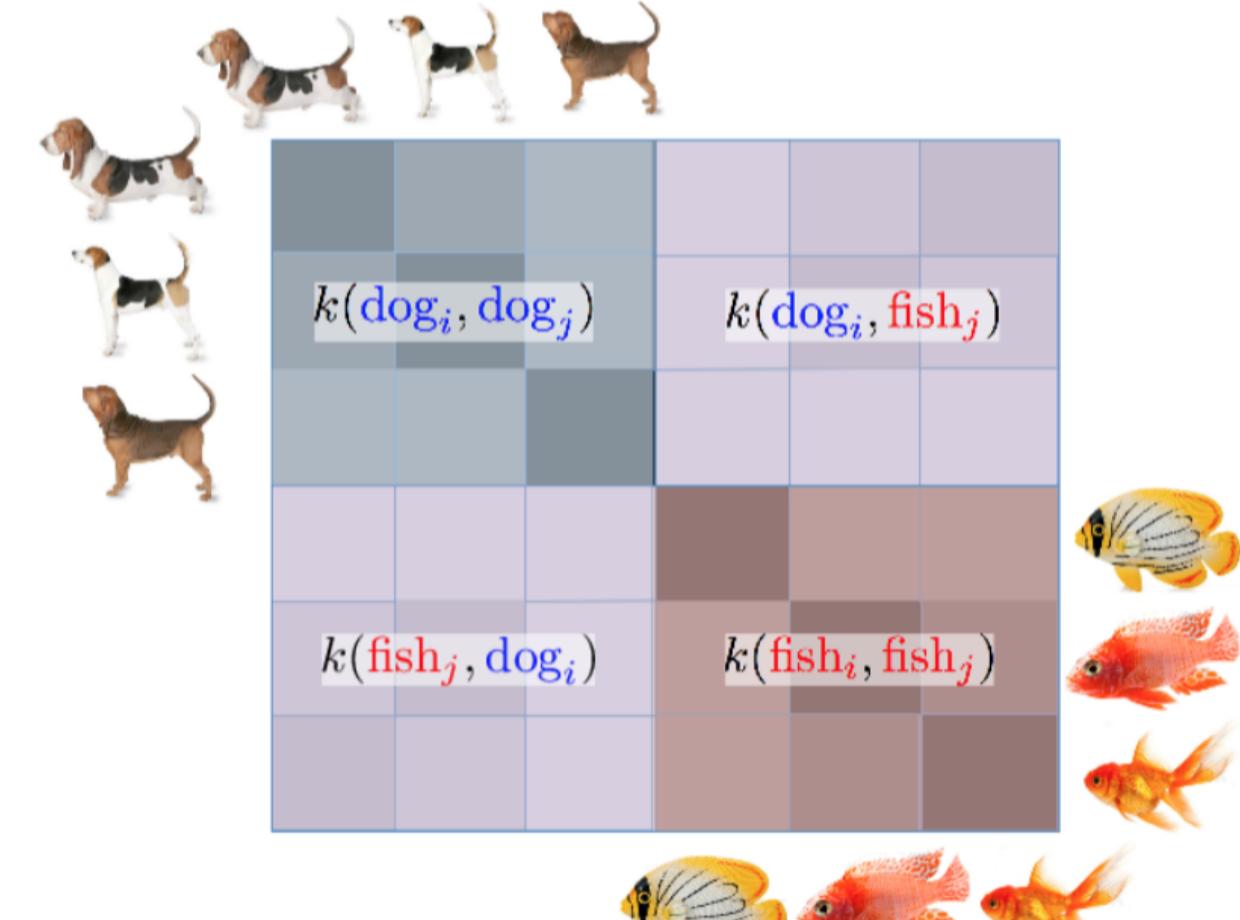
$$\mathcal{D}(\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{Q}) = \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \mathcal{D}_f(\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{Q}) = \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \mathbb{E}_{X \sim \mathbb{P}} [f(X)] - \mathbb{E}_{Y \sim \mathbb{Q}} [f(Y)].$$

- **Wasserstein distance** has \mathcal{F} the set of 1-Lipschitz functions

$$\mathcal{F} = \left\{ f : \sup_{x,y} \frac{|f(x) - f(y)|}{\|x - y\|} \leq 1 \right\}.$$

WGANS approximate f with a critic network, made approximately Lipschitz with weight clipping [1] or gradient penalty [4].

- **Maximum Mean Discrepancy (MMD)** has \mathcal{F} a unit ball in a *Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)* \mathcal{H} with kernel k :



- MMD GANs [6] optimize representation in kernel

$$k_\theta(x, y) = k_{\text{base}}(h_\theta(x), h_\theta(y)),$$

corresponding to distance

$$\mathcal{D}(\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{Q}) = \sup_\theta \mathcal{D}_\theta(\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{Q}) = \sup_\theta \text{MMD}_{k_\theta}^2(\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{Q}).$$

- Cramér GAN [2] almost same, with *Energy Distance* k_{base} .

MMD GAN WITH GRADIENT PENALTY

Like WGAN-GPs [4], we penalize gradient of the critic function:

$$\text{Loss}^{\text{critic}}(\theta) = \widehat{\text{MMD}}_\theta^2(\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{Q}_\psi) + \lambda \mathbb{E}_{\tilde{X}} (\|\nabla_{\tilde{X}} f^*(\tilde{X})\| - 1)^2.$$

With linear k_{base} , *almost* the same as a WGAN-GP.

NEW EVALUATION METHOD: KID

Inception scores aren't meaningful for LSUN or CelebA.

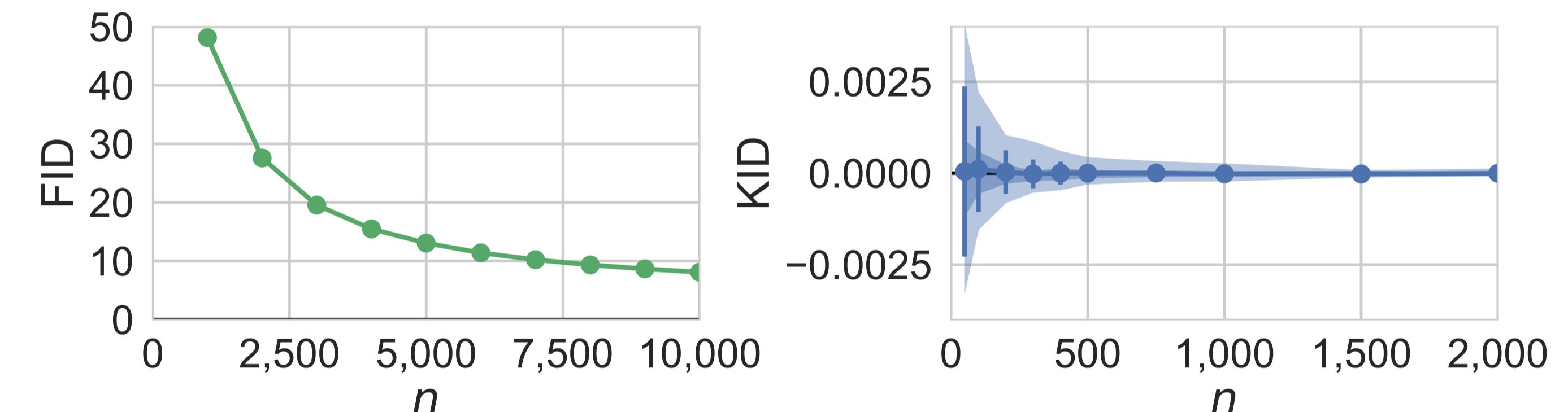
Fréchet Inception Distance (FID) [5] better, but biased estimator:

- Estimator has very strong bias, almost no variance.
- Easy to find $\mathbb{P}_1, \mathbb{P}_2, \mathbb{Q}$ where for reasonable sample sizes $\text{FID}(\mathbb{P}_1, \mathbb{Q}) < \text{FID}(\mathbb{P}_2, \mathbb{Q})$ but $\mathbb{E} \text{FID}(\hat{\mathbb{P}}_1, \mathbb{Q}) > \mathbb{E} \text{FID}(\hat{\mathbb{P}}_2, \mathbb{Q})$.
- Monte Carlo “confidence intervals” are meaningless.

Proposed *Kernel Inception Distance (KID)*: MMD² estimate with kernel $k(x, y) = (x^T y / d + 1)^3$ between Inception representations.

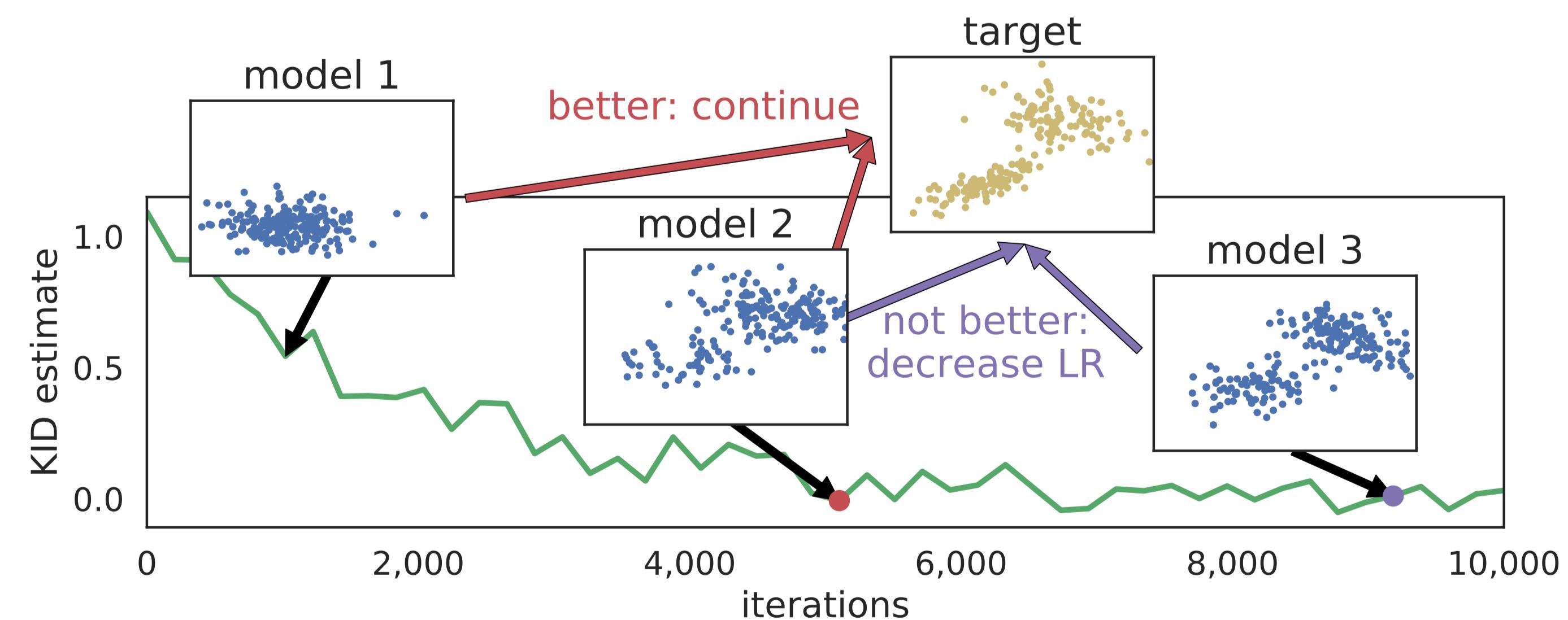
- Estimator has no bias, small variance.
- Computationally faster, needs fewer samples than FID.
- Asymptotically normal: easy Monte Carlo confidence intervals.

CIFAR-10 train to test estimates, increasing sample sizes:



LEARNING RATE ADAPTATION

Automatic learning rate adaptation using 3-sample test [3]:



IMPLEMENTATION

github.com/mbinkowski/MMD-GAN/

REFERENCES

- [1] M. Arjovsky, S. Chintala, and L. Bottou. “Wasserstein Generative Adversarial Networks”. *ICML*. 2017.
- [2] M. G. Bellemare et al. *The Cramér Distance as a Solution to Biased Wasserstein Gradients*. 2017.
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- [5] M. Heusel et al. “GANs Trained by a Two Time-Scale Update Rule Converge to a Nash Equilibrium”. *NIPS*. 2017.
- [6] C.-L. Li et al. “MMD GAN: Towards Deeper Understanding of Moment Matching Network”. *NIPS*. 2017.