



Figure 20.7: Images generated by GANs trained on the LSUN dataset. (*Left*) Images of bedrooms generated by a DCGAN model, reproduced with permission from [Radford et al. \(2015\)](#). (*Right*) Images of churches generated by a LAPGAN model, reproduced with permission from [Denton et al. \(2015\)](#).

process into many levels of detail. It is possible to train conditional GANs ([Mirza and Osindero, 2014](#)) that learn to sample from a distribution $p(\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{y})$ rather than simply sampling from a marginal distribution $p(\mathbf{x})$. [Denton et al. \(2015\)](#) showed that a series of conditional GANs can be trained to first generate a very low-resolution version of an image, then incrementally add details to the image. This technique is called the LAPGAN model, due to the use of a Laplacian pyramid to generate the images containing varying levels of detail. LAPGAN generators are able to fool not only discriminator networks but also human observers, with experimental subjects identifying up to 40% of the outputs of the network as being real data. See figure 20.7 for examples of images generated by a LAPGAN generator.

One unusual capability of the GAN training procedure is that it can fit probability distributions that assign zero probability to the training points. Rather than maximizing the log probability of specific points, the generator net learns to trace out a manifold whose points resemble training points in some way. Somewhat paradoxically, this means that the model may assign a log-likelihood of negative infinity to the test set, while still representing a manifold that a human observer judges to capture the essence of the generation task. This is not clearly an advantage or a disadvantage, and one may also guarantee that the generator network assigns non-zero probability to all points simply by making the last layer of the generator network add Gaussian noise to all of the generated values. Generator networks that add Gaussian noise in this manner sample from the same distribution that one obtains by using the generator network to parametrize the mean of a conditional