

At the Intersection of Conceptual Art and Deep Learning: The End of Signature

Jose Javier Gonzalez Ortiz*, Divya Shanmugam*, Katie Lewis*, Agnieszka Kurant, John Guttag



Using an “artist-in-the-loop” process, a team of ML researchers worked with conceptual artist Agnieszka Kurant to produce two, large-scale sculptures. The two sculptures are collective signatures, generated from a dataset of signatures drawn from the MIT and Cambridge communities.

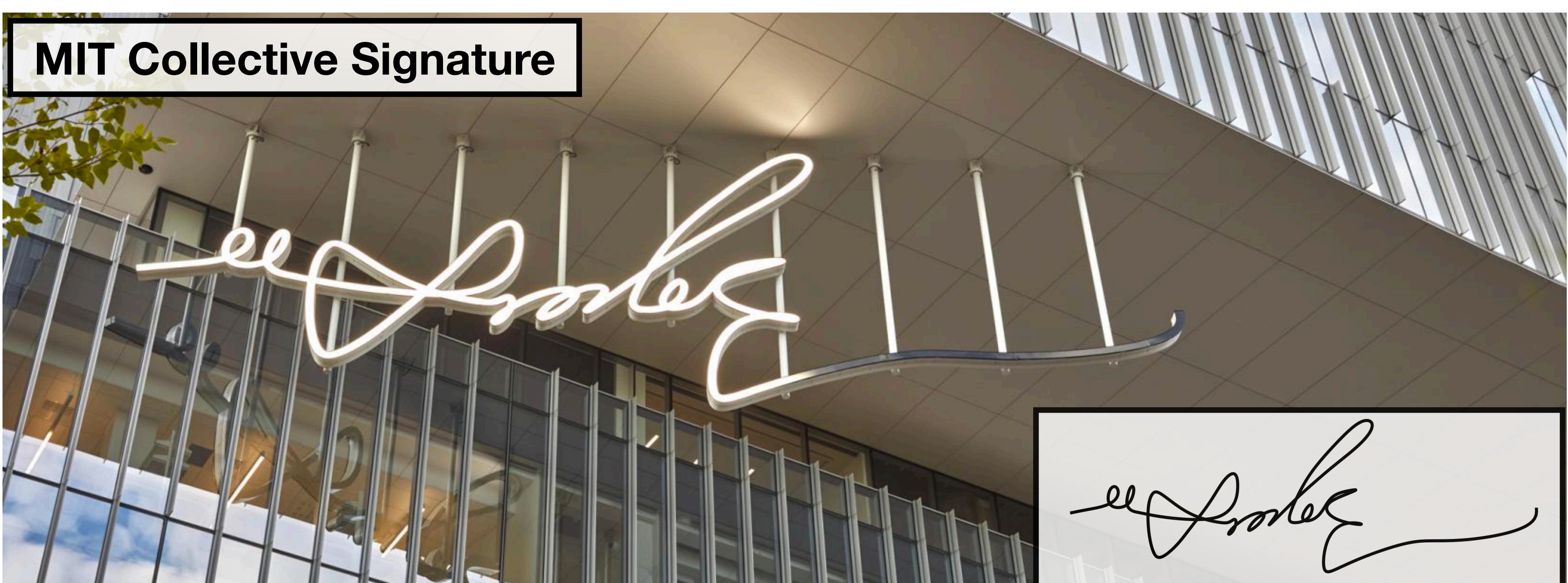
Cambridge Collective Signature



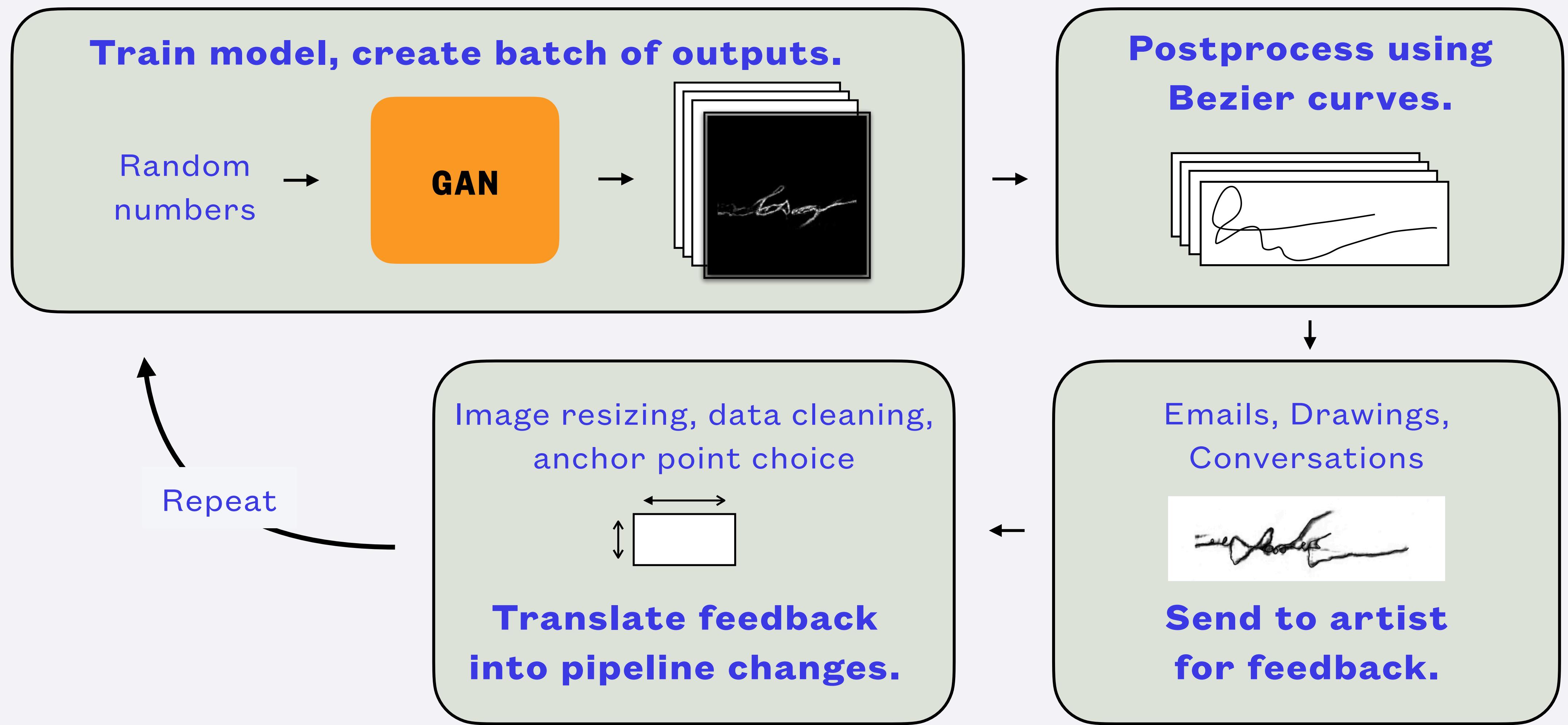
End of Signature alludes to the impact of technology on art and society, and how in 20 years, the concept of an “individual signature” may not exist.

The sculptures reflect how scientific discovery is often the result of many individual contributions, both acknowledged and unacknowledged.

MIT Collective Signature



Collaborative Process



Tools to mediate communication between artists and computer scientists are critical towards encouraging collaboration between the communities. These tools should help to facilitate interplay between artistic and technical ideas throughout the machine learning pipeline.