



# Face modeling

Jun-Yan Zhu

16-726 Learning-based Image Synthesis, Spring 2023

# Why Human Faces?

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- Face is an important subject.
  - We are humans.
  - Many commercial applications.
- Lots of useful tools
  - 3D data: geometry-based synthesis.
  - 2D/3D Computer vision works for faces.



# “100 Special Moments” by Jason Salavon

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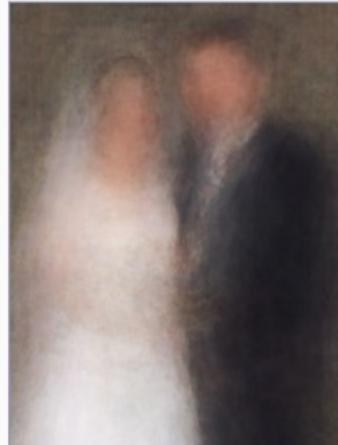
Little Leaguer



Kids with Santa



The Graduate



Newlyweds

Why  
blurry?

# Object-Centric Averages by Torralba (2001)



Manual Annotation and Alignment



Average Image

# Computing Means

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Two Requirements:

- Alignment of objects
- Objects must span a subspace

Useful concepts:

- Subpopulation means
- Deviations from the mean

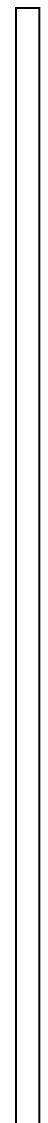
# Images as Vectors

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n



=



m

n\*m

# Vector Mean: Importance of Alignment

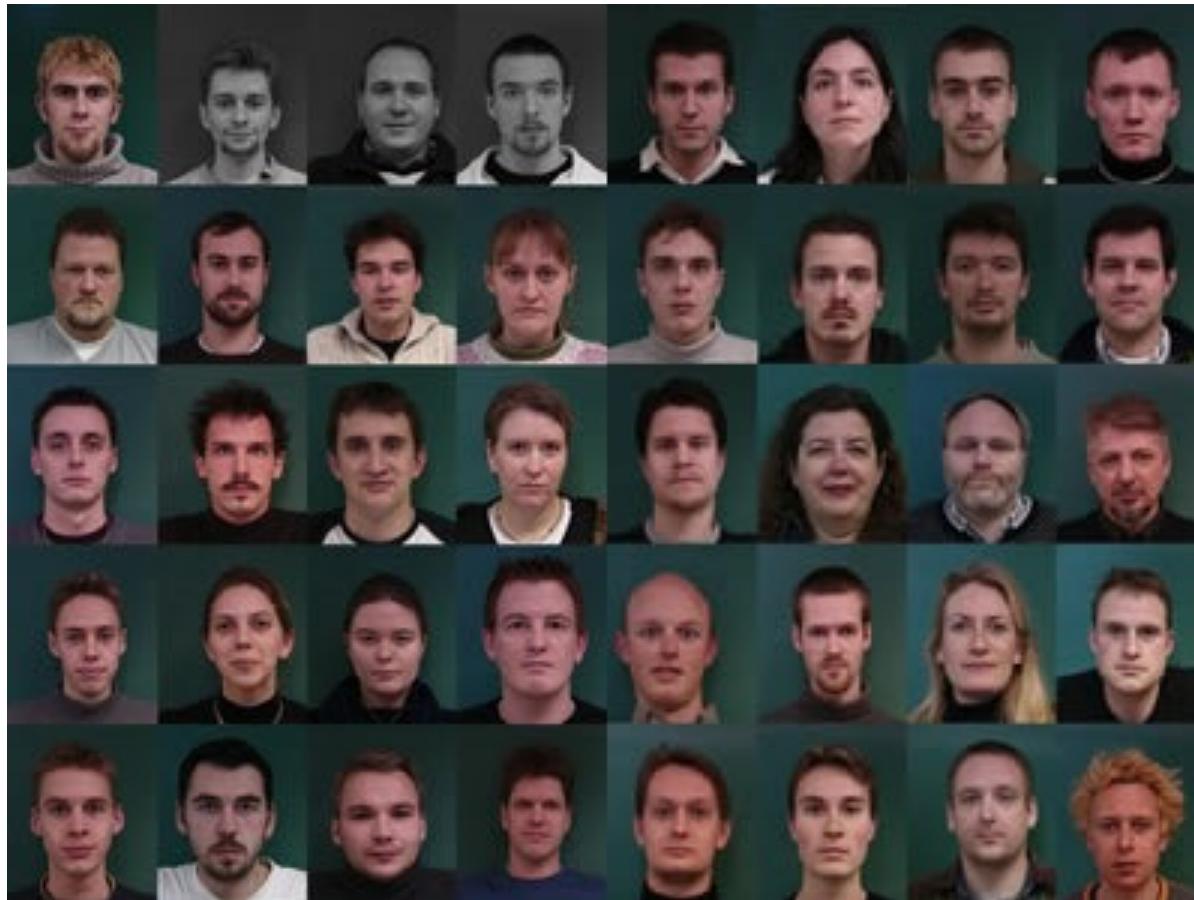
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$$\begin{matrix} n \\ m \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} n \\ m \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} n \\ m \end{matrix} = \text{mean image}$$

The diagram illustrates the calculation of a mean image from two input images. It shows two input images, each labeled with dimensions  $n$  (vertical) and  $m$  (horizontal). These are followed by assignment operators ( $=$ ) and addition operators ( $+$ ). The first addition term is labeled  $\frac{1}{2}$  above the input image and  $n*m$  below it. The second addition term is also labeled  $\frac{1}{2}$  above the input image and  $n*m$  below it. The final result is labeled "mean image".

# How to align faces?

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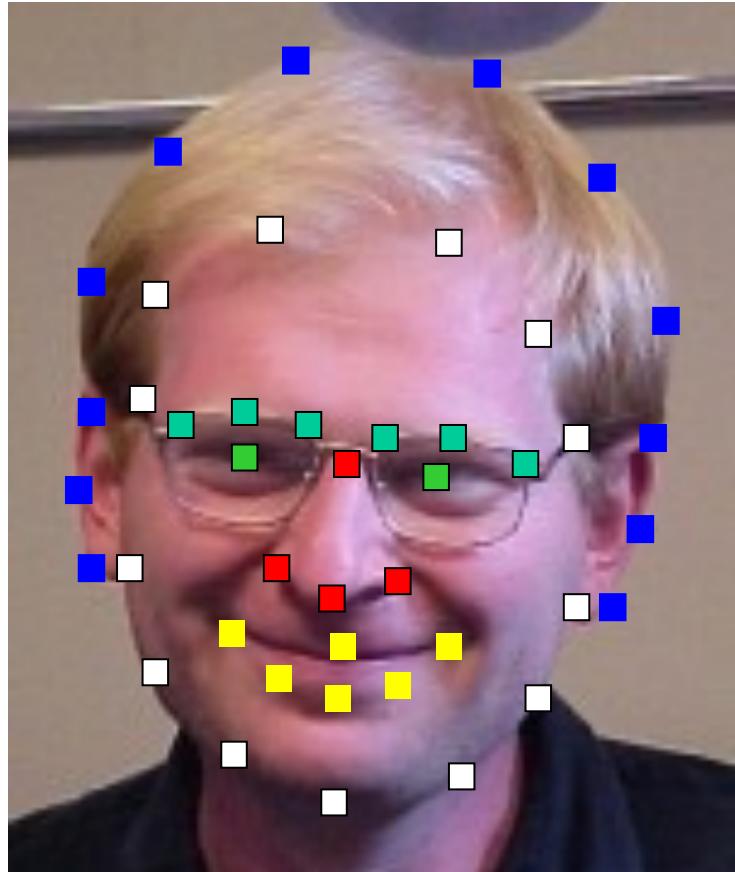


Students and staff from Technical University of Denmark

<http://www2.imm.dtu.dk/~aam/datasets/datasets.html>

# Shape Vector

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=



Landmark annotation

# Appearance Vectors vs. Shape Vectors

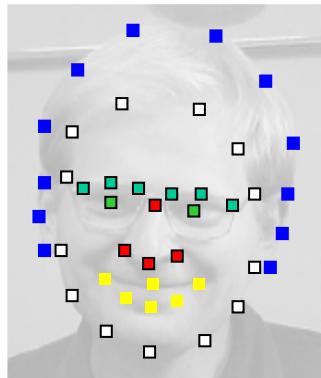
Appearance  
Vector



Vector of  
 $200 \times 150 \times 3$   
Dimensions

$200 \times 150$  pixels (RGB)

Shape  
Vector



Vector of  
 $43 \times 2$   
Dimensions

43 coordinates (x,y)

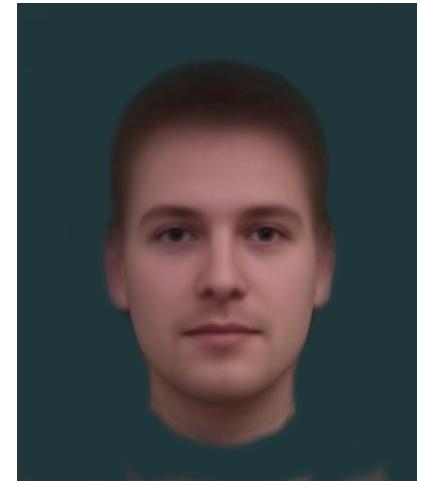
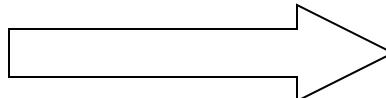
- Manual annotation.
- OR
- Face landmark detection.

# Average Face

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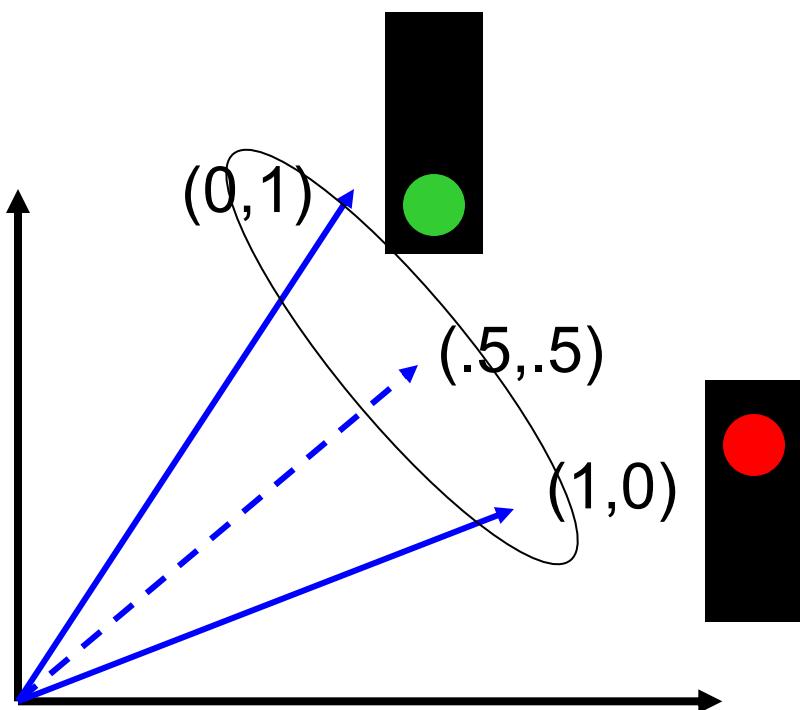


1. Warp to mean shape
2. Average pixels



# Objects must span a subspace

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# Subpopulation means

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Examples:

- Male vs. female
- Happy vs. said
- Average Kids
- Happy Males
- Etc.
- <http://www.faceresearch.org>



Average female



Average kid



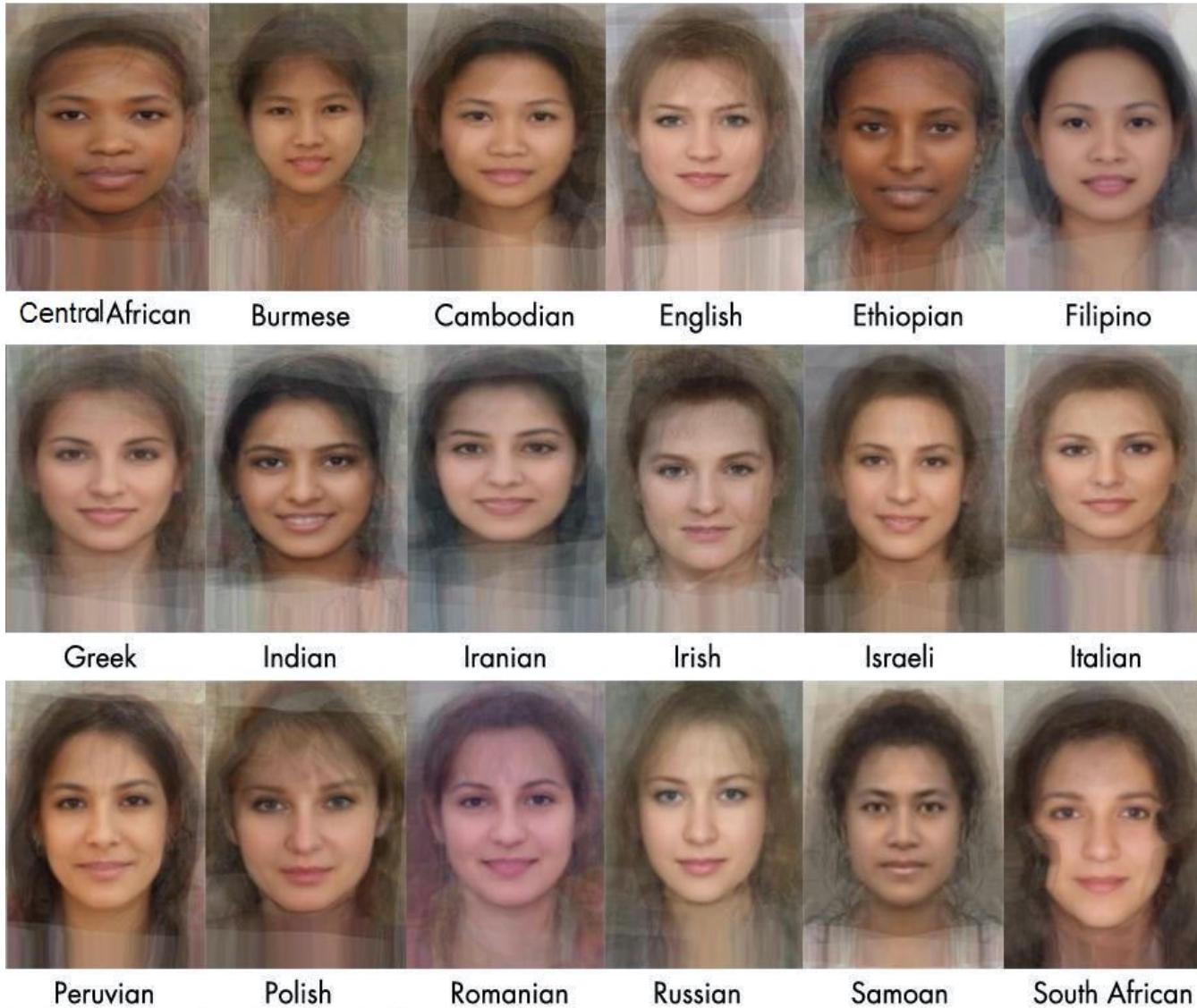
Average happy male



Average male<sup>3</sup>

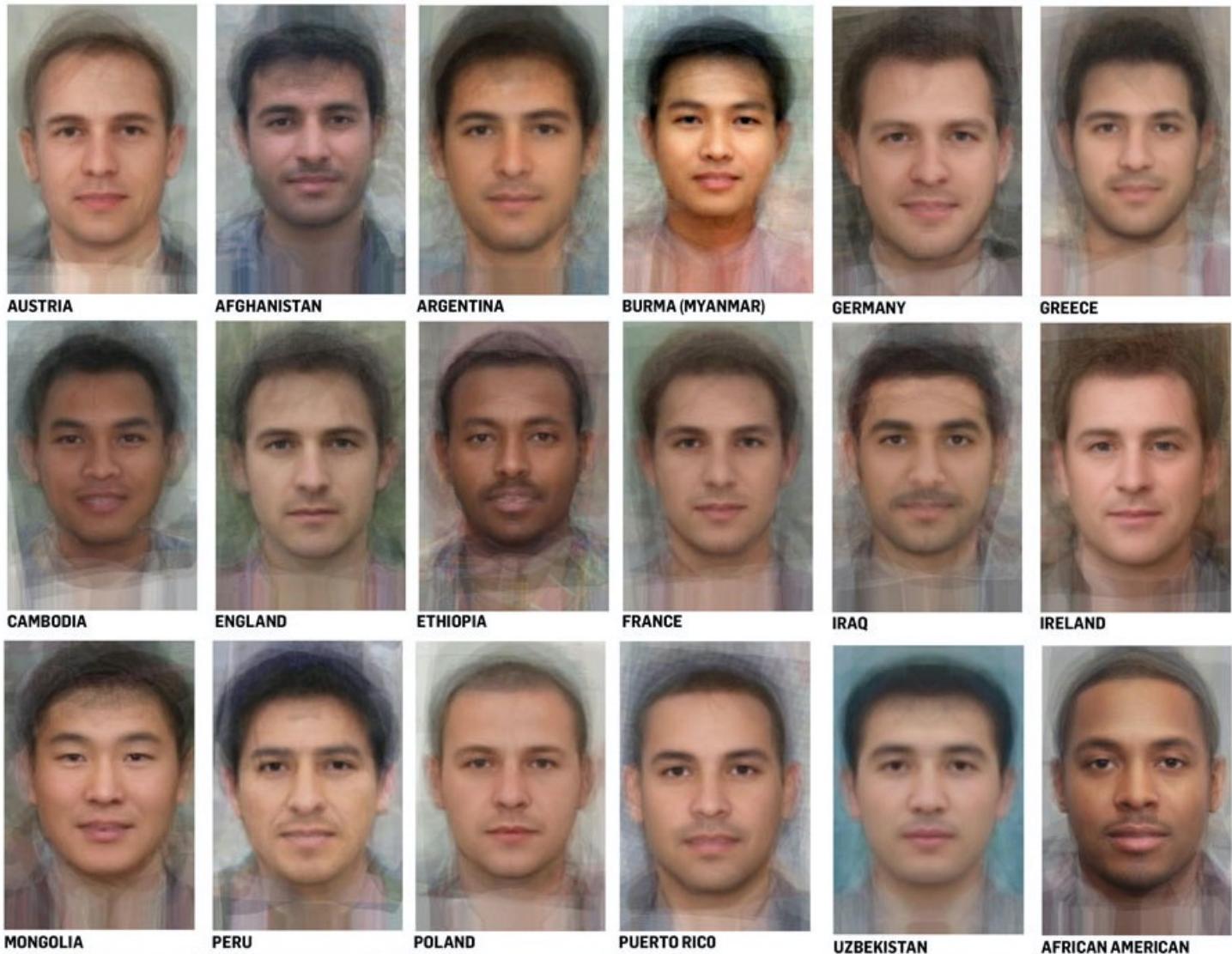
# Average Women of the world

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# Average Men of the world

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# Deviations from the mean

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Image X



Mean  $\underline{X}$

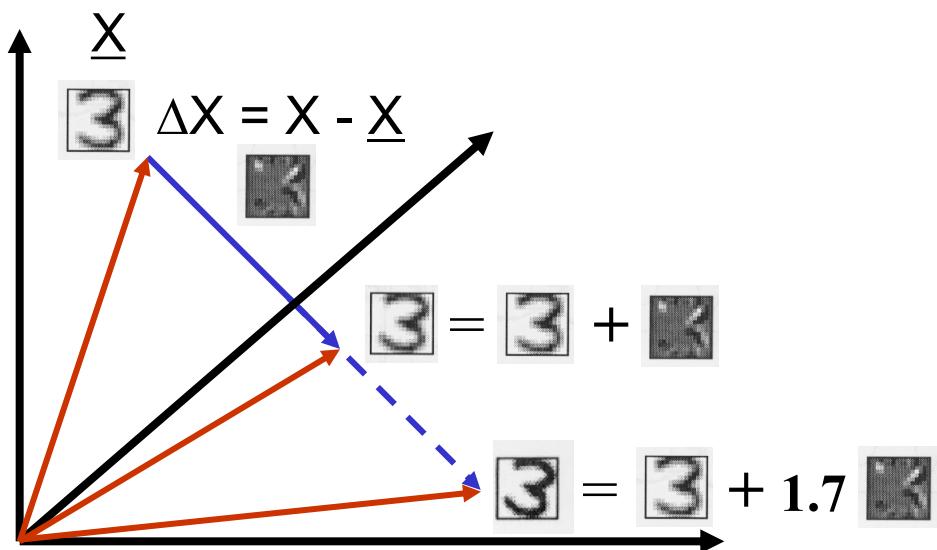
=



$$\Delta X = X - \underline{X}$$

# Deviations from the mean

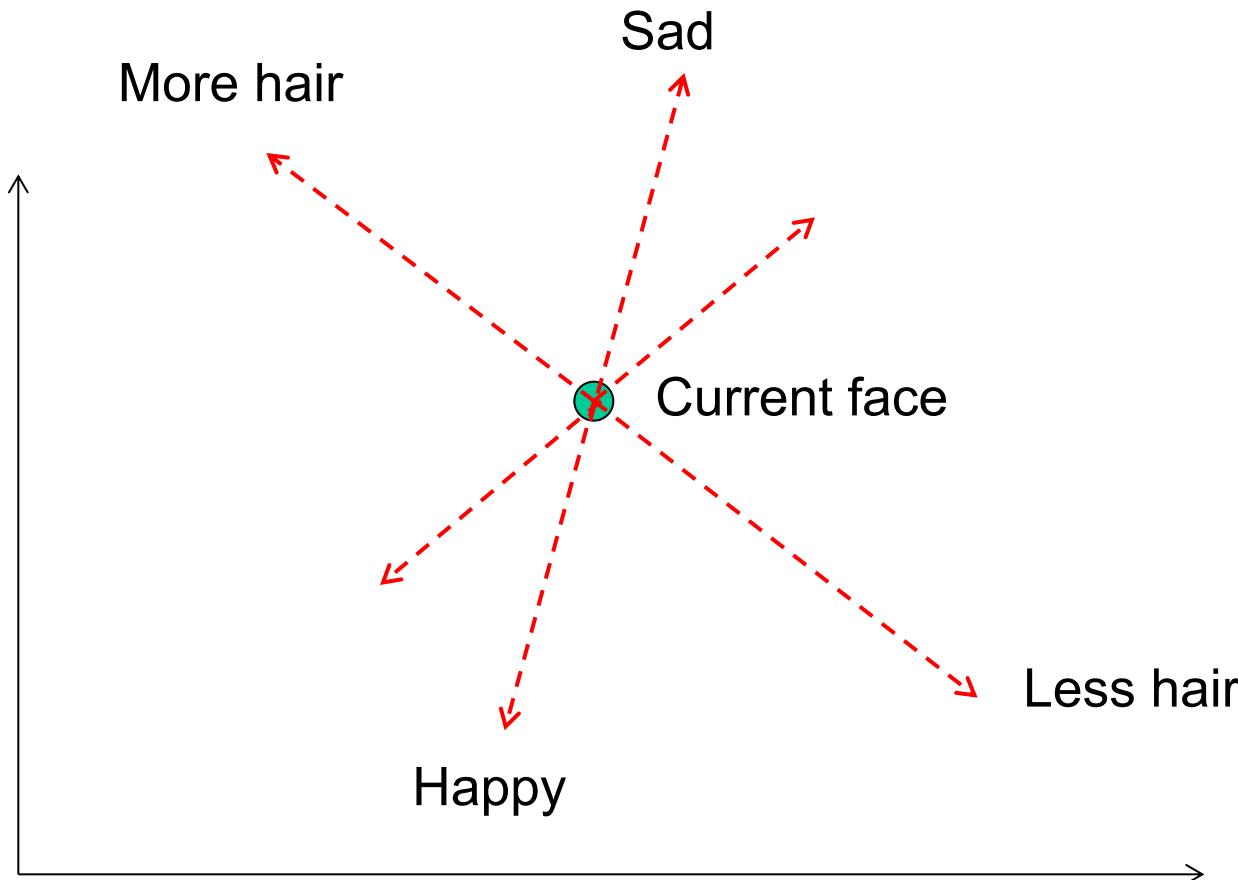
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# Extrapolating faces

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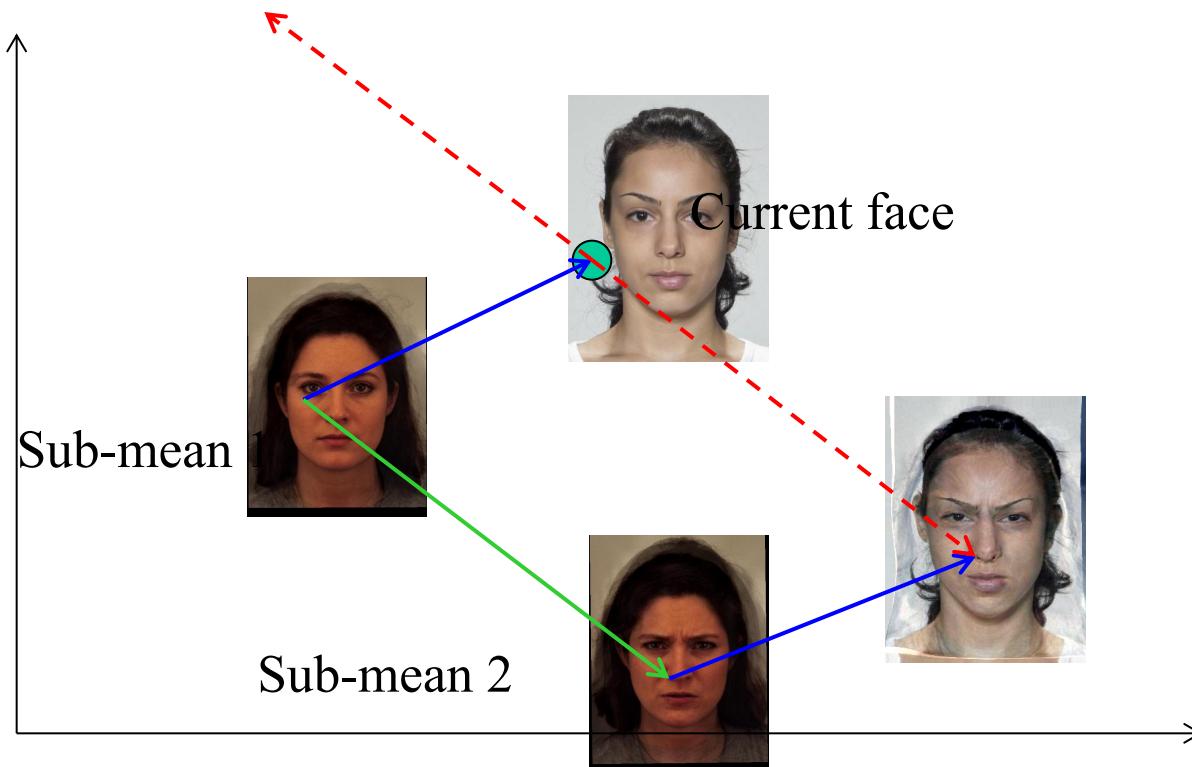
- We can imagine various meaningful directions.



# Manipulating faces

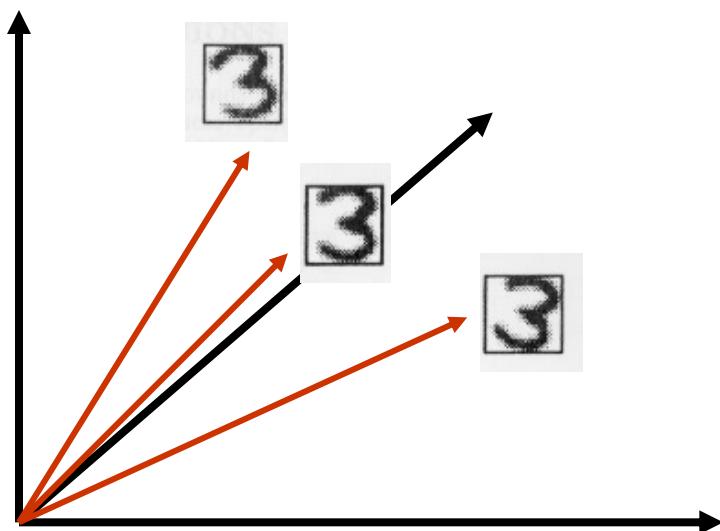
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- How can we make a face look younger/older, or happy/sad, etc.?
- <http://www.faceresearch.org/demos/transform>



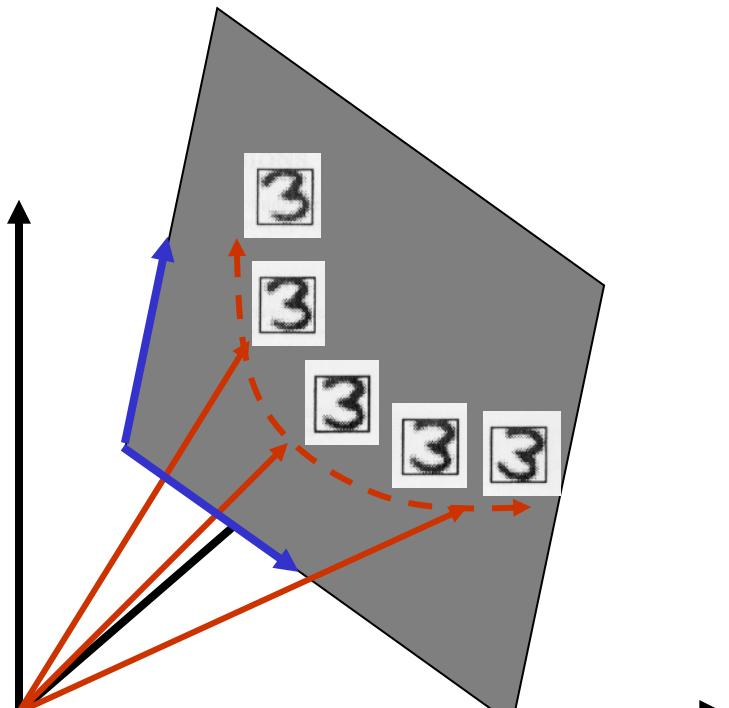
# Back to the Subspace

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# Linear Subspace: convex combinations

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Any new image  $X$  can be obtained as weighted sum of stored “basis” images.

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i X_i$$

Our old friend, change of basis!  
What are the new coordinates of  $X$ ?

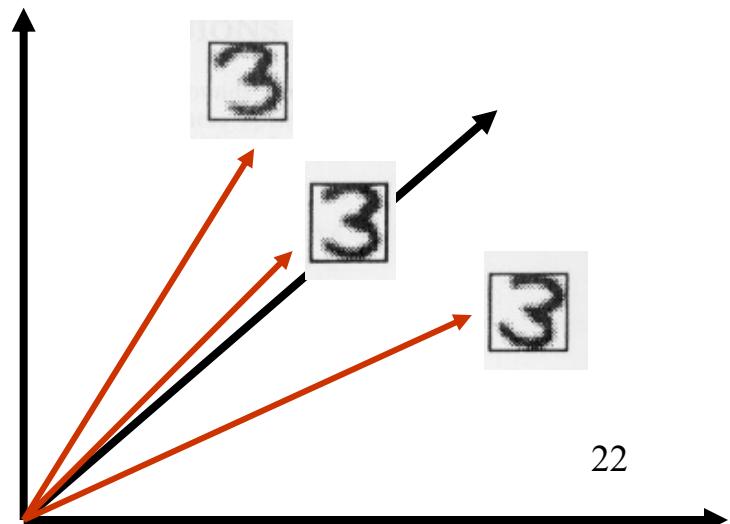
# Issues:

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1. How many basis images is enough?
2. Which ones should they be?
3. What if some variations are more important than others?
  - E.g. corners of mouth carry much more information than haircut

Need a way to obtain basis images automatically, in order of importance!

But what's important?

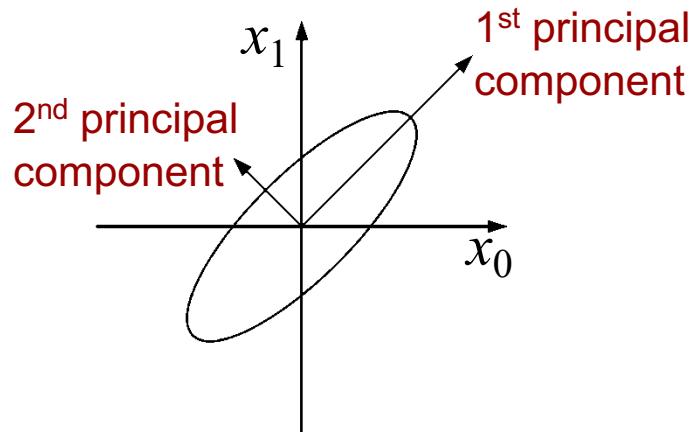
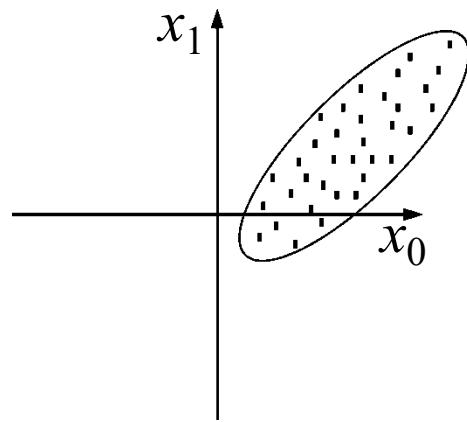


# Principal Component Analysis

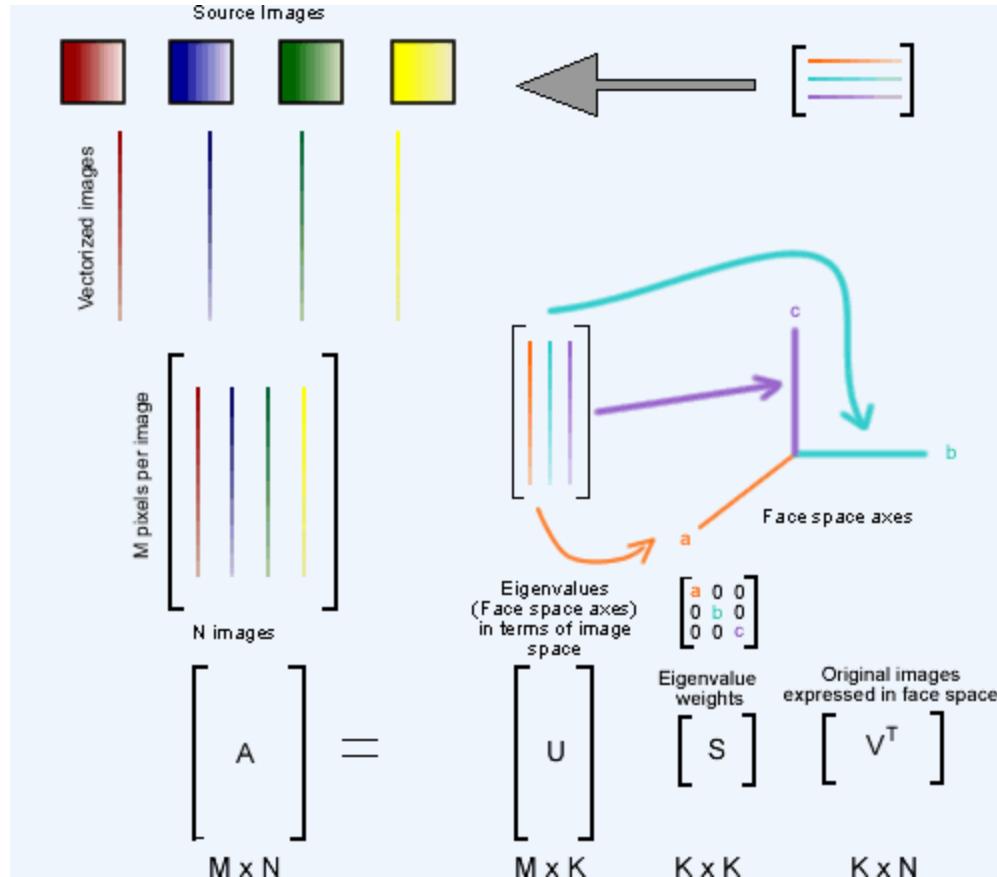
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Given a point set  $\{\vec{p}_j\}_{j=1\dots P}$ , in an  $M$ -dim space, PCA finds a basis such that

- coefficients of the point set in that basis are uncorrelated
- first  $r < M$  basis vectors provide an approximate basis that minimizes the mean-squared-error (MSE) in the approximation (over all bases with dimension  $r$ )



# PCA via Singular Value Decomposition



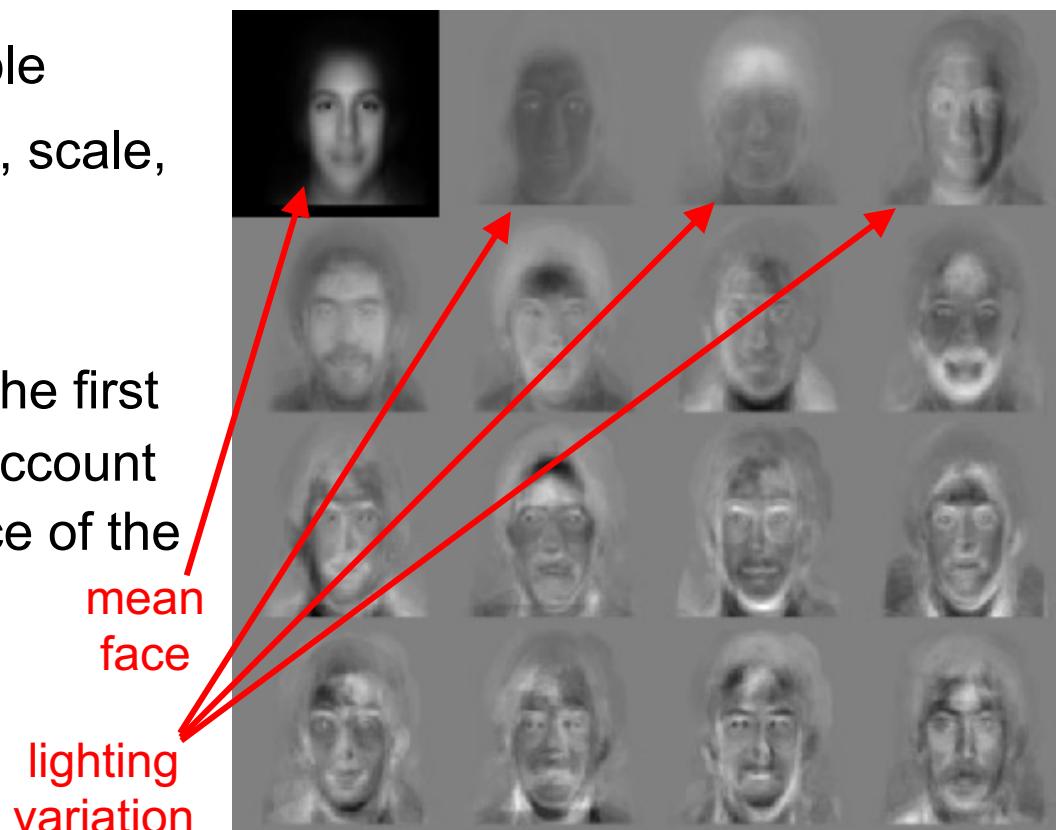
$$[u, s, v] = \text{svd}(A);$$

# EigenFaces

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First popular use of PCA on images was for modeling and recognition of faces [Kirby and Sirovich, 1990, Turk and Pentland, 1991]

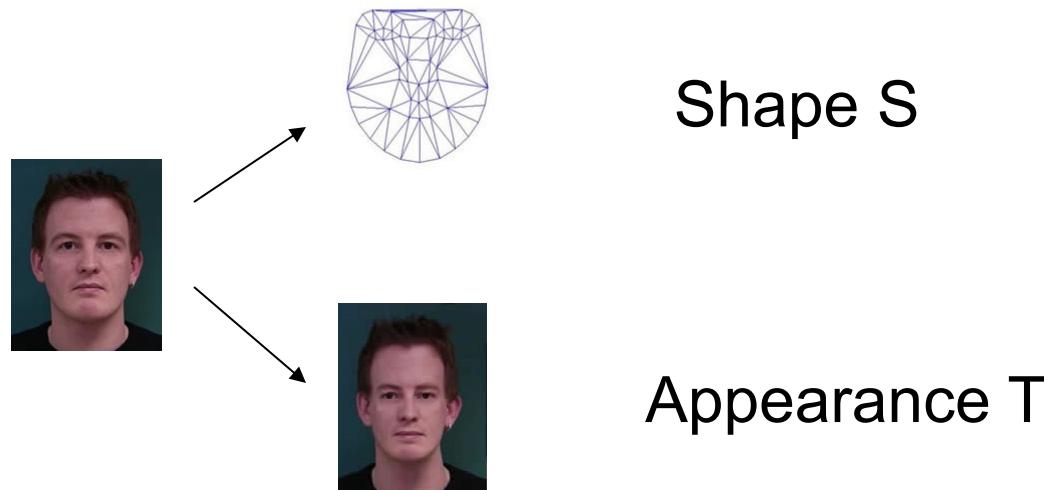
- Collect a face ensemble
- Normalize for contrast, scale, & orientation.
- Remove backgrounds
- Apply PCA & choose the first  $N$  eigen-images that account for most of the variance of the data.



# The Morphable Face Model

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The actual structure of a face is captured in the shape vector  $\mathbf{S} = (x_1, y_1, x_2, \dots, y_n)^T$ , containing the  $(x, y)$  coordinates of the  $n$  vertices of a face, and the appearance (texture) vector  $\mathbf{T} = (R_1, G_1, B_1, R_2, \dots, G_n, B_n)^T$ , containing the color values of the mean-warped face image.



# First 3 Shape Basis

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Mean appearance



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# The 3D Morphable Face Model

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Again, assuming that we have  $m$  such vector pairs in full correspondence, we can form new shapes  $\mathbf{S}_{model}$  and new appearances  $\mathbf{T}_{model}$  as:

$$\mathbf{S}_{model} = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i \mathbf{S}_i \quad \mathbf{T}_{model} = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i \mathbf{T}_i$$

$$s = \alpha_1 \cdot \text{face}_1 + \alpha_2 \cdot \text{face}_2 + \alpha_3 \cdot \text{face}_3 + \alpha_4 \cdot \text{face}_4 + \dots = \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{a}$$

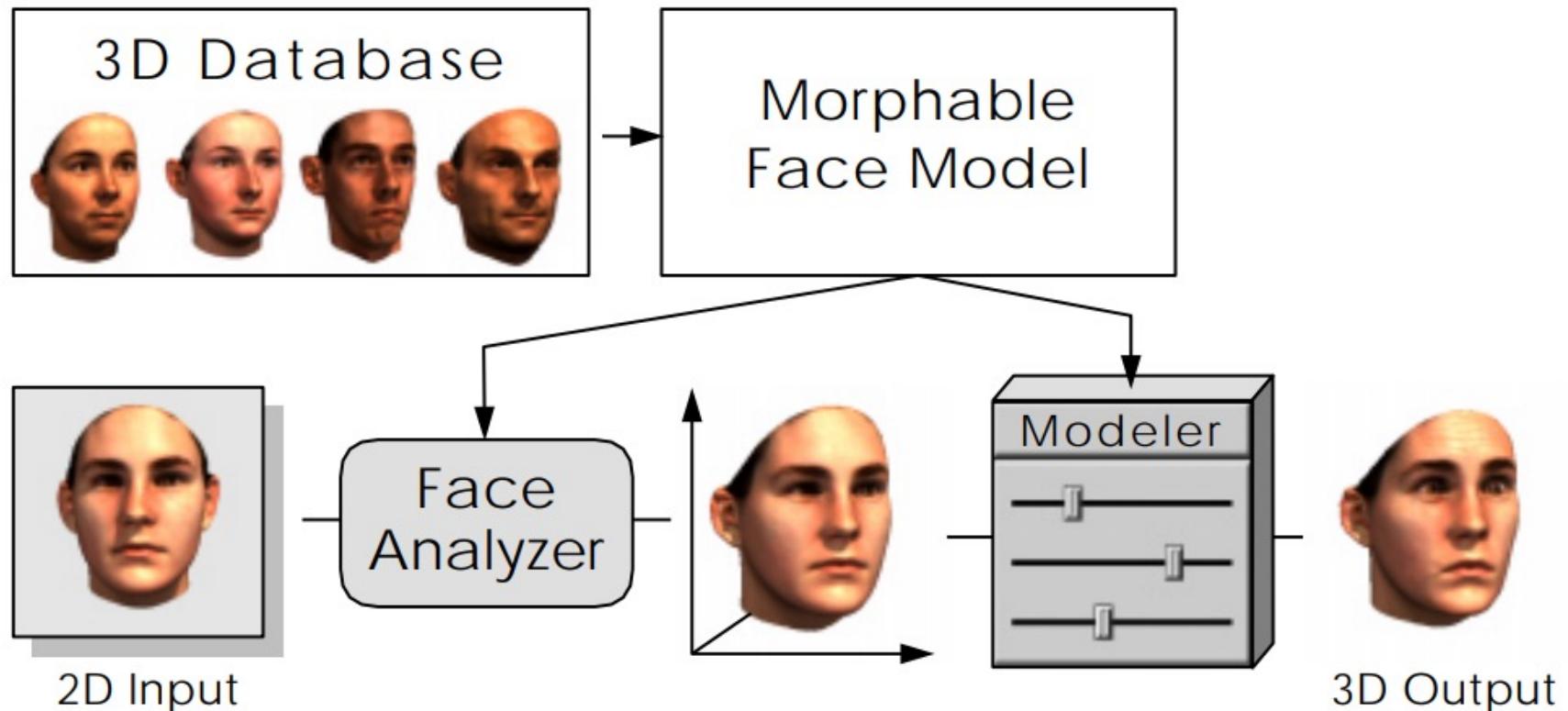
$$t = \beta_1 \cdot \text{face}_1 + \beta_2 \cdot \text{face}_2 + \beta_3 \cdot \text{face}_3 + \beta_4 \cdot \text{face}_4 + \dots = \mathbf{T} \cdot \mathbf{b}$$

If number of basis faces  $m$  is large enough to span the face subspace then:  
Any new face can be represented as a pair of vectors

$(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m)^T$  and  $(\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_m)^T$  !

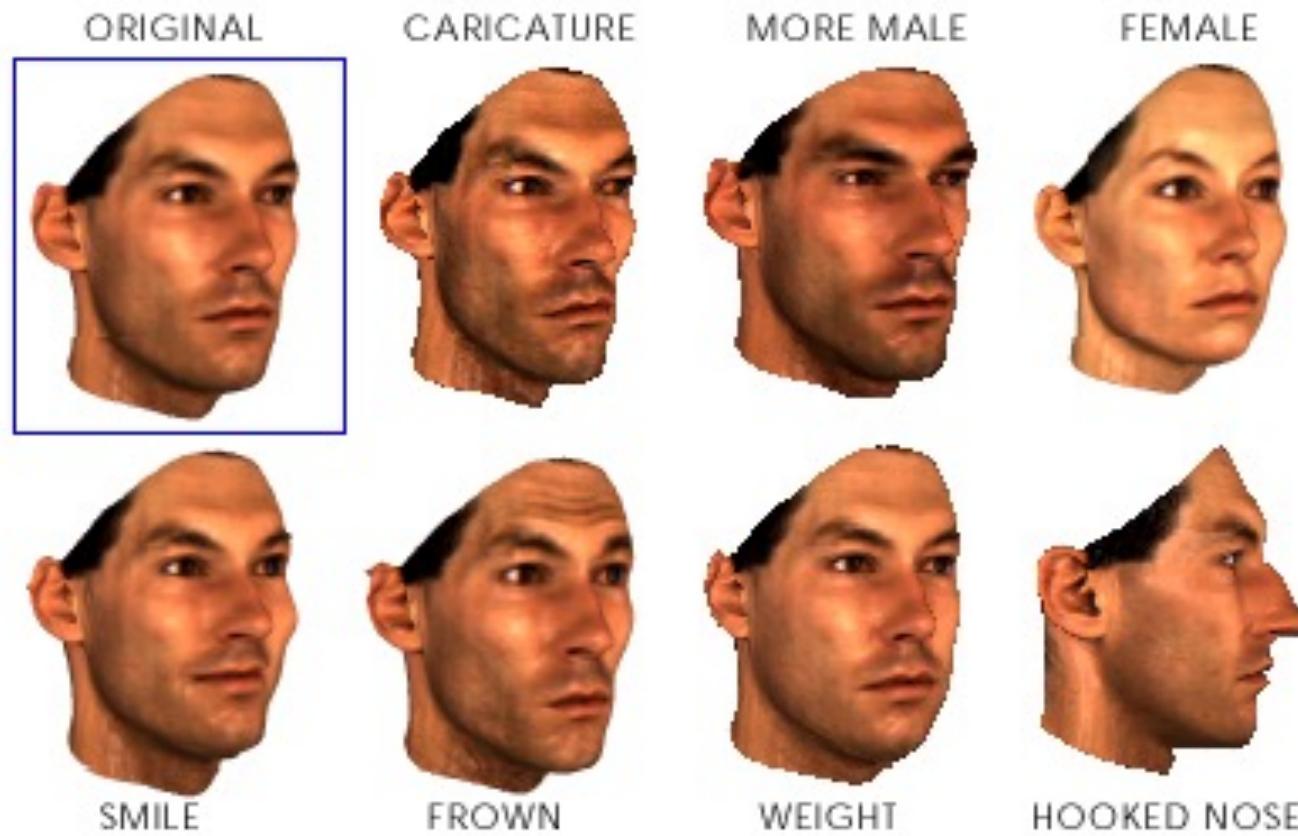
# Using 3D Geometry: Blanz & Vetter, 1999

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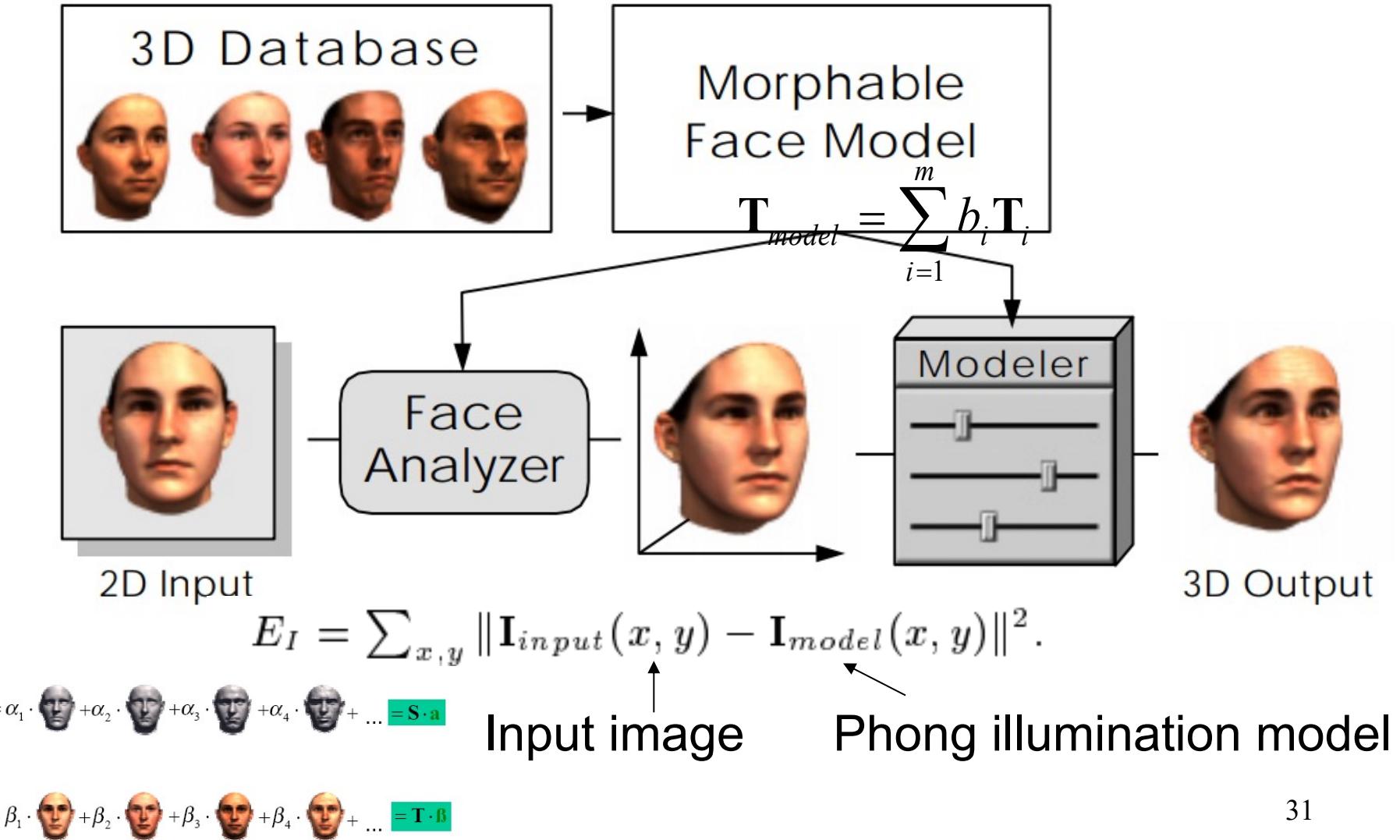


# Using 3D Geometry: Blanz & Vetter, 1999

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# Using 3D Geometry: Blanz & Vetter, 1999



# Using 3D Geometry: Blinz & Vetter, 1999

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# Image-Based Shaving

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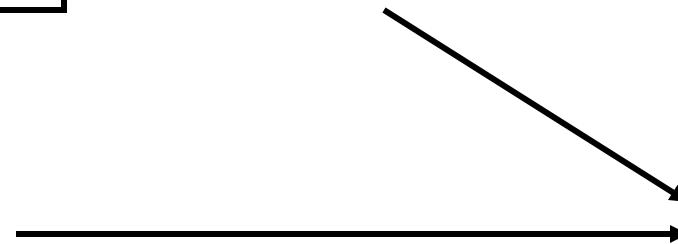
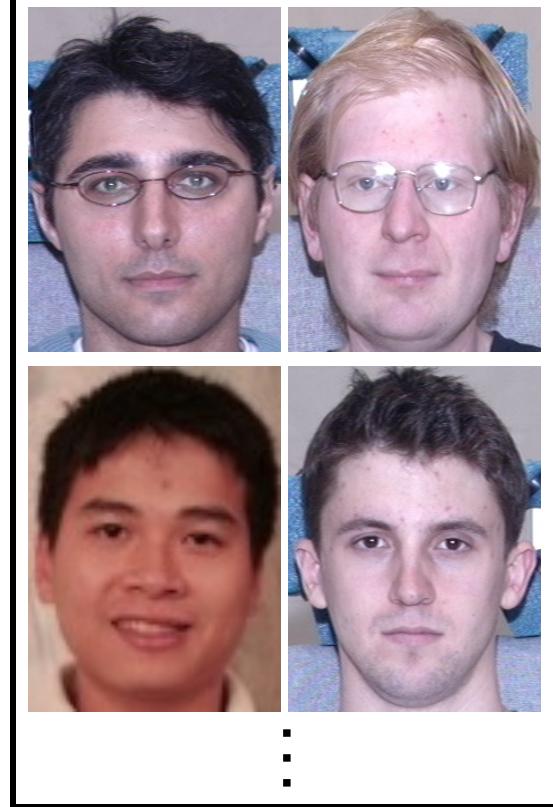


# The idea



Differences  
???

↓  
Beard Layer  
Model



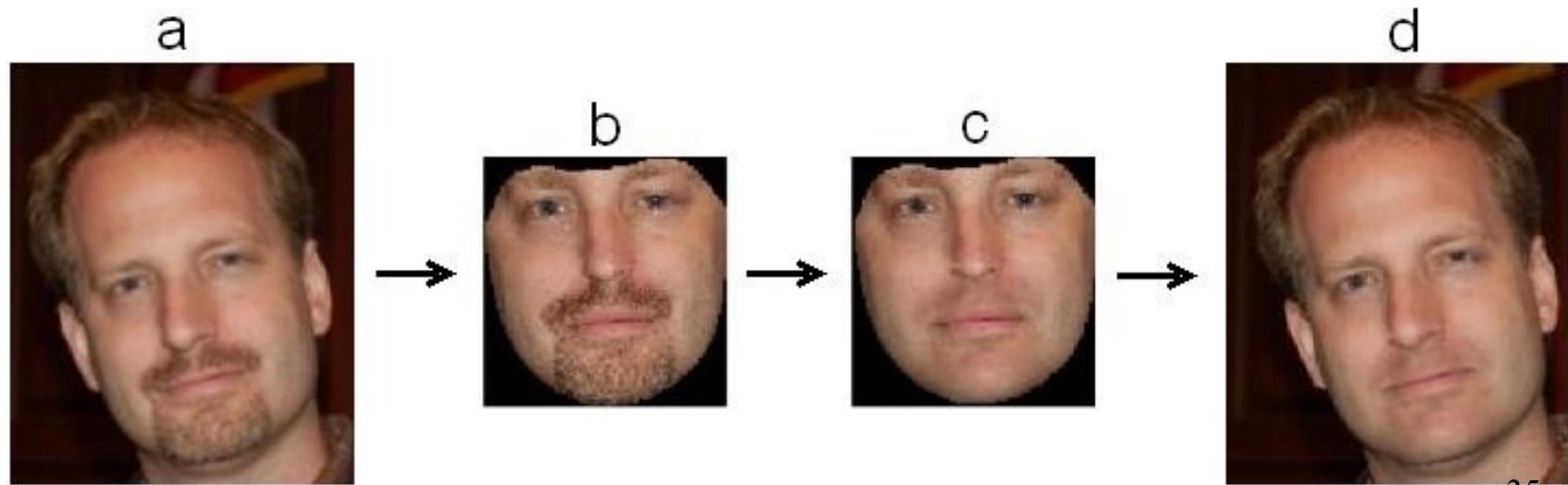
+



# Processing steps



68 landmarks



# Some results



# Classic Face Pipeline

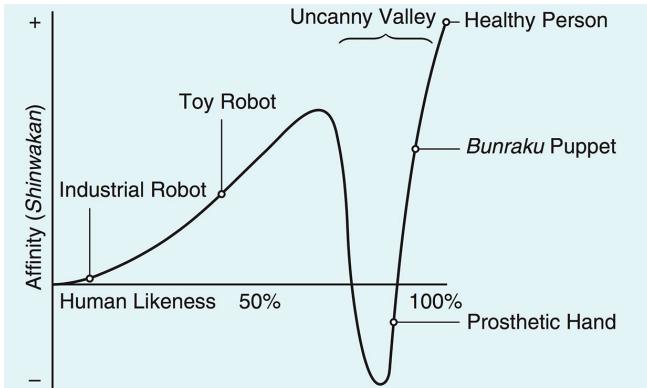
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- Alignment (2D and 3D): 3D is better than 2D.
- Shape + Texture representation.
- Subpopulation mean  $\bar{x}$  and deviation  $\Delta_x$
- 3D data and 3D shape representation helps!
  - Easy to change the viewpoint.
- Standard face pipeline:
  - Given: Input Image
  - Step 1: warp it to canonical pose (2D or 3D)
  - Step 2: Calculate distances between faces OR apply image manipulation operations.
  - Step 3: Unwarp the result back to the original image
  - Step 4: Post-processing (e.g., Poisson blending)

# Is Face Modeling Easy/Hard?

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- Face modeling is easy?
  - Plenty of aligned 3D face data.
  - 2D and 3D computer vision methods.
- Face modeling is hard?
  - Uncanny valley: Human eyes are extremely sensitive to any imperfections on faces.

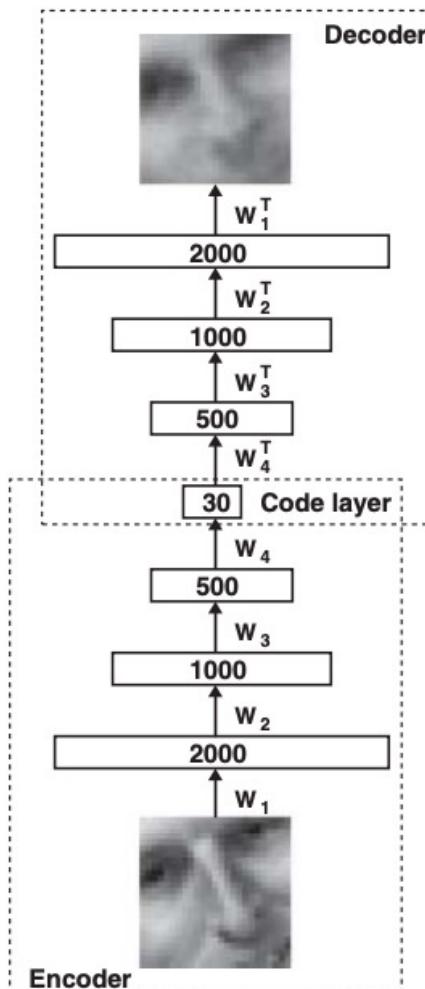


# How to Improve the results?

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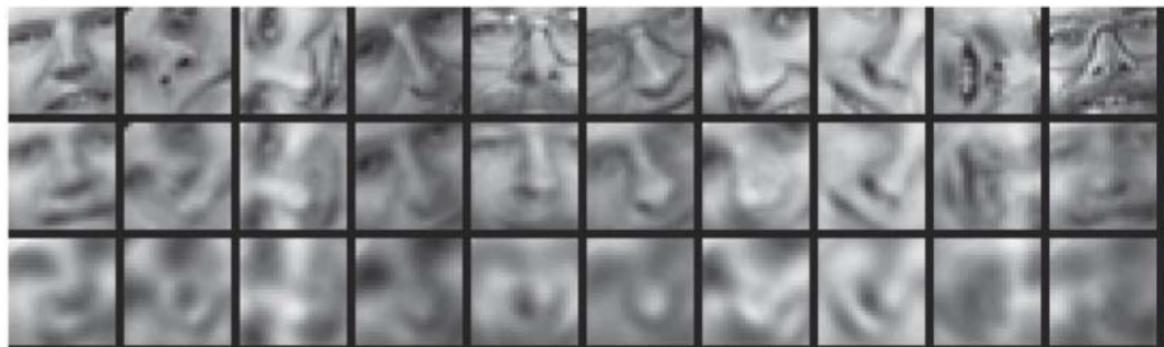
- Using Deep Learning?
- But how?
- Deep learning vision methods:
  - 2D/3D landmark detection
  - 3D pose estimation
  - Face shape reconstruction
- Deep learning graphics models
  - generative models
  - 3D-aware generative models

# Autoencoder vs. PCA



Training objective: E encoder, G decoder/generator

$$\arg \min_{E,G} \mathbb{E}_x \|G(E(x)) - x\|_2$$



Top: Input. Middle: Autoencoder. Bottom: PCA

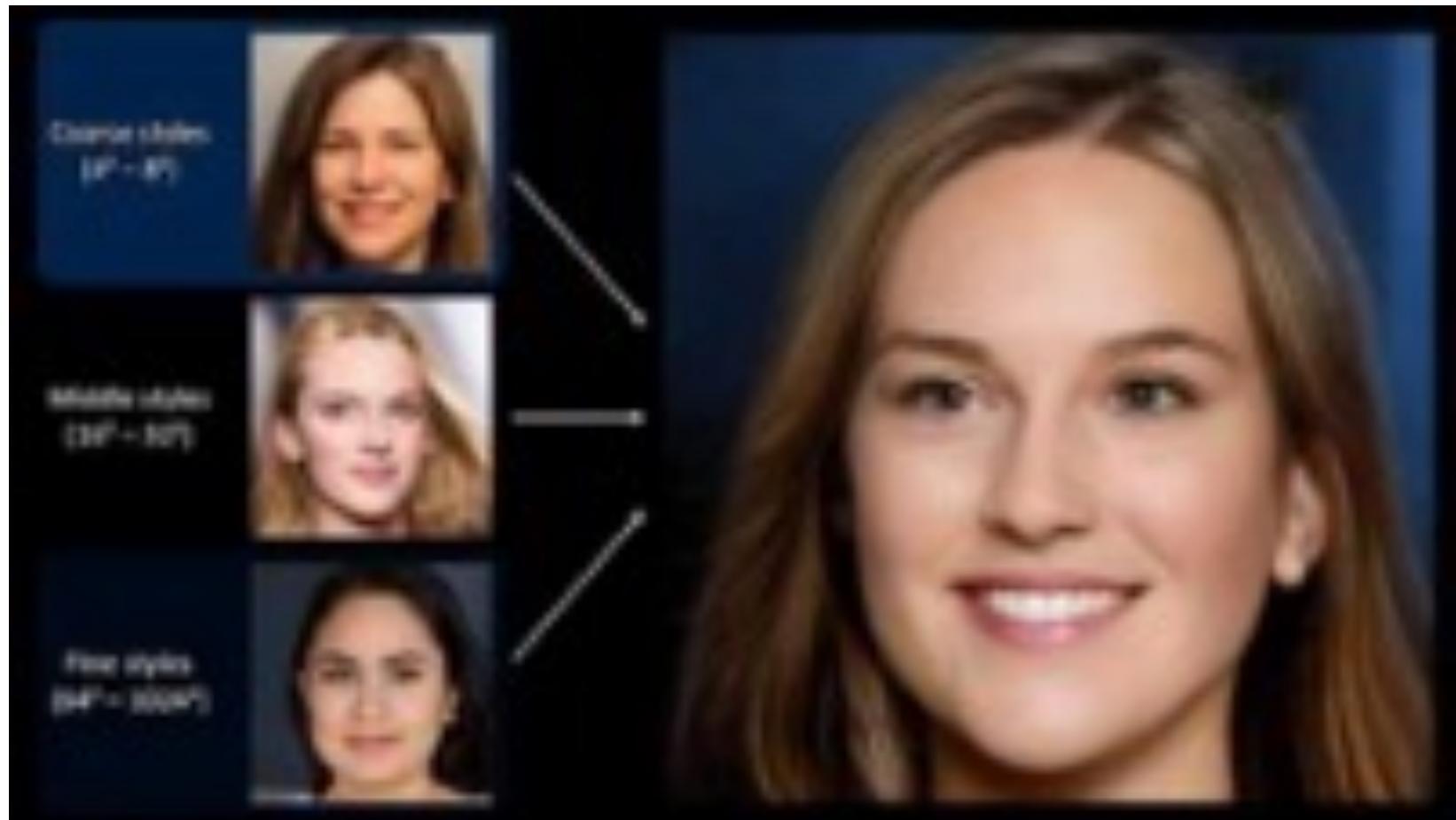
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# Deep learning method

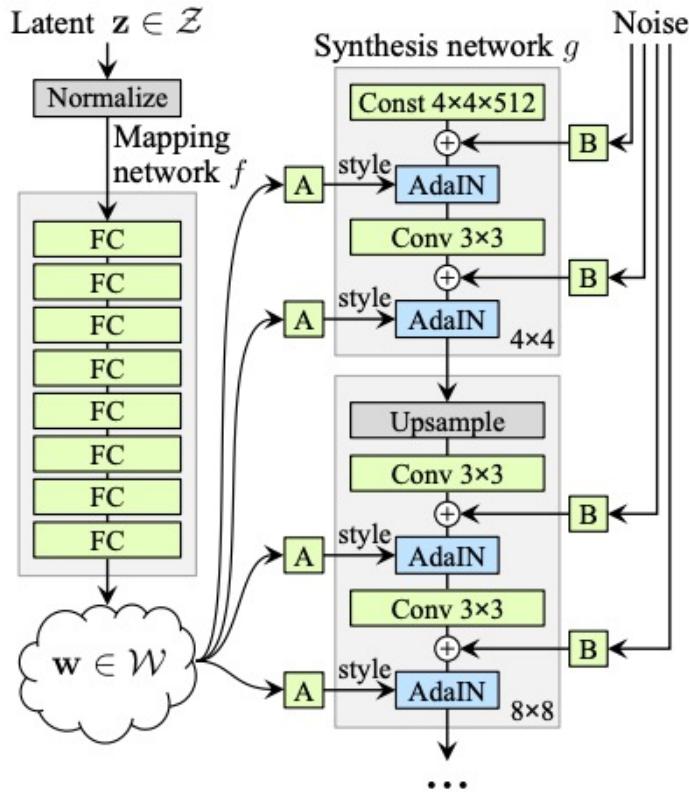
## PCA → Generative Model

# StyleGAN Face Results

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# Face Editing with GANs Projection



Optimizing the latent code

$$z^* = \arg \min_z \mathcal{L}(G(z), x)$$

Optimizing the style code

$$w^* = \arg \min_w \mathcal{L}(g(w), x)$$

Optimizing the extended style code

$$w_+^* = \arg \min_{w+} \mathcal{L}(g(w_+), x)$$

# Face Editing = latent space editing

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Interpolation between two faces in the  $w^+$  space

# Face Editing = latent space editing

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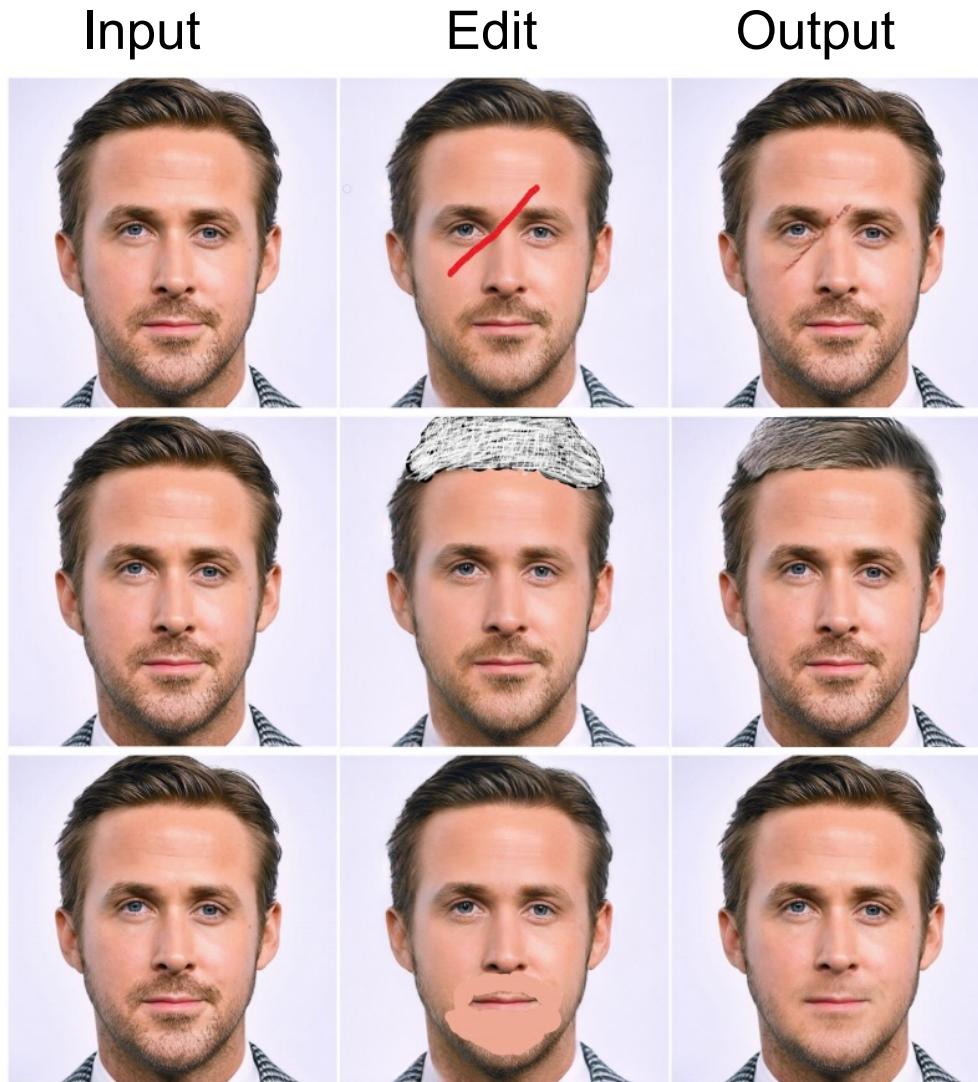
# Face Editing with GANs Projection

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# Face Editing with GANs Projection

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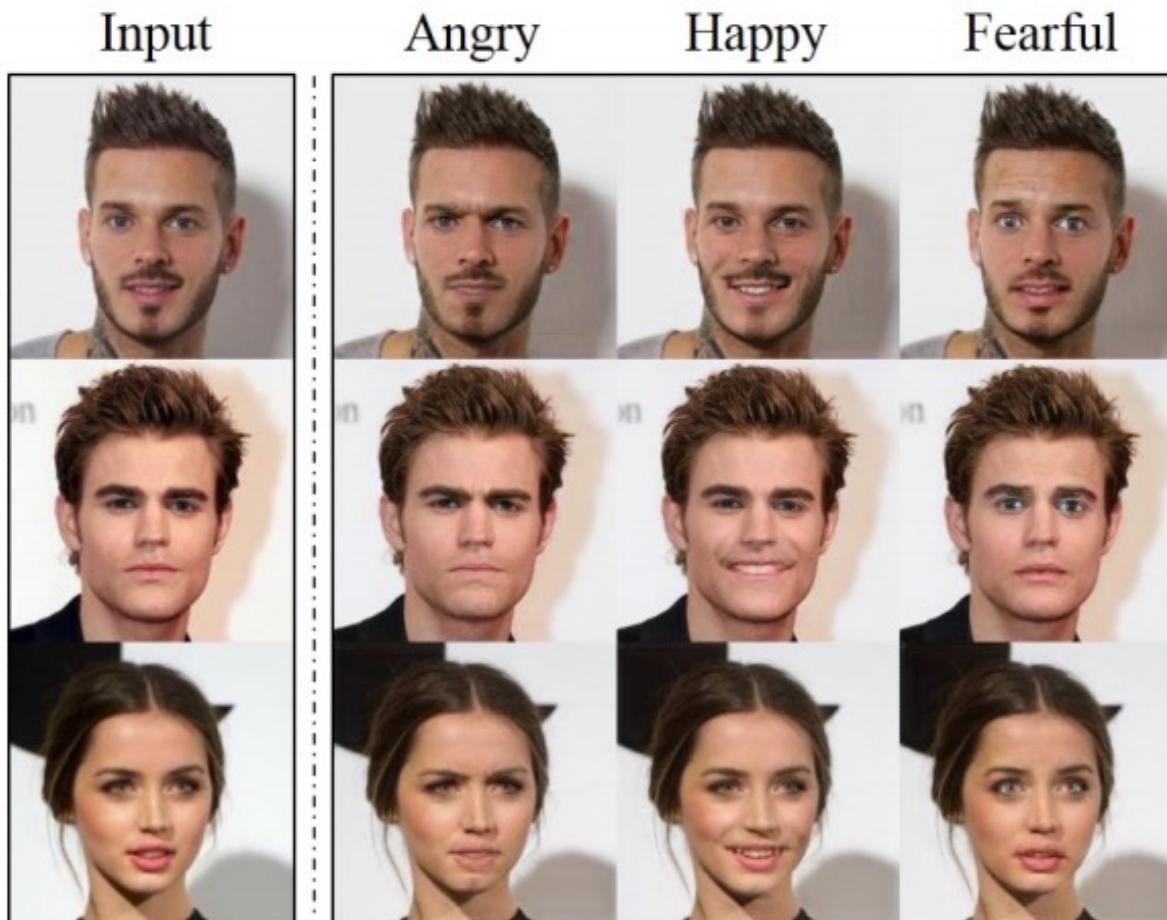
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# Deep learning method

## Image-to-Image Translation

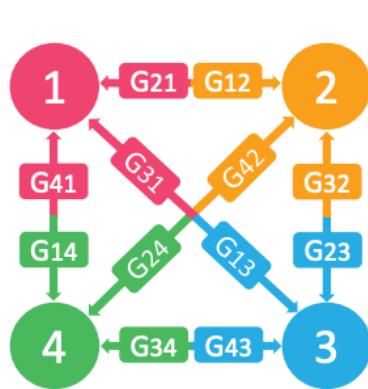
# Face Translation with StarGAN

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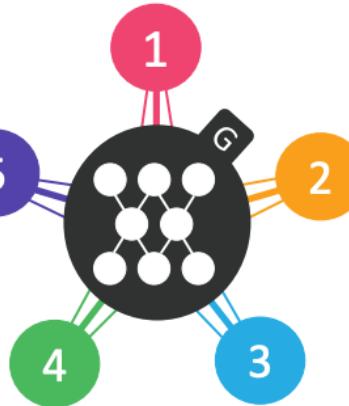


# Face Translation with StarGAN

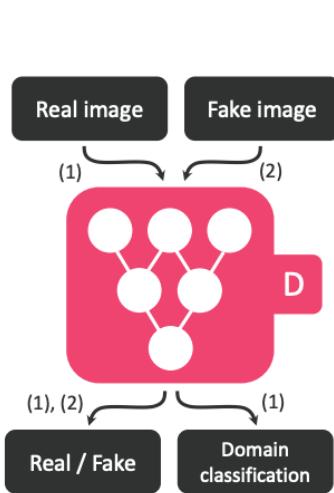
(a) Cross-domain models



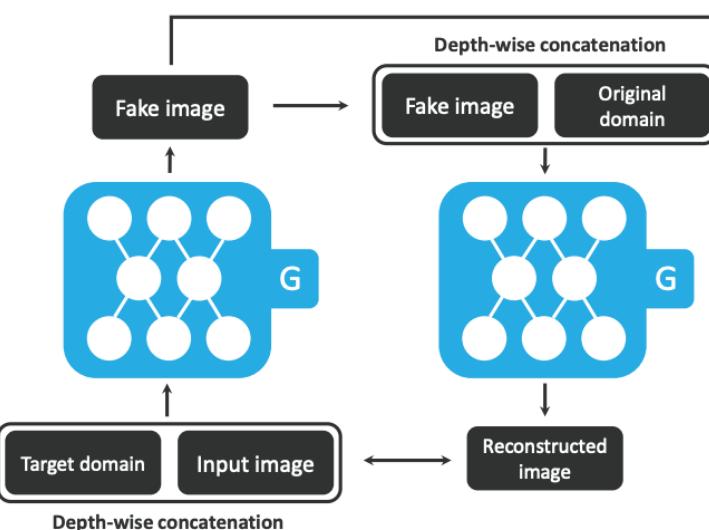
(b) StarGAN



(a) Training the discriminator

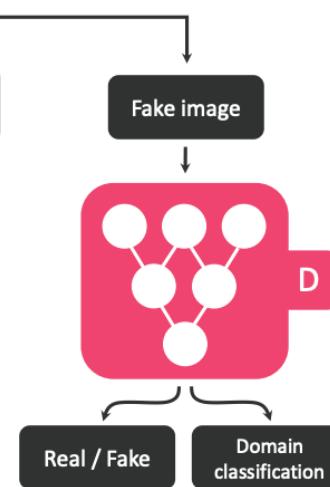


(b) Original-to-target domain



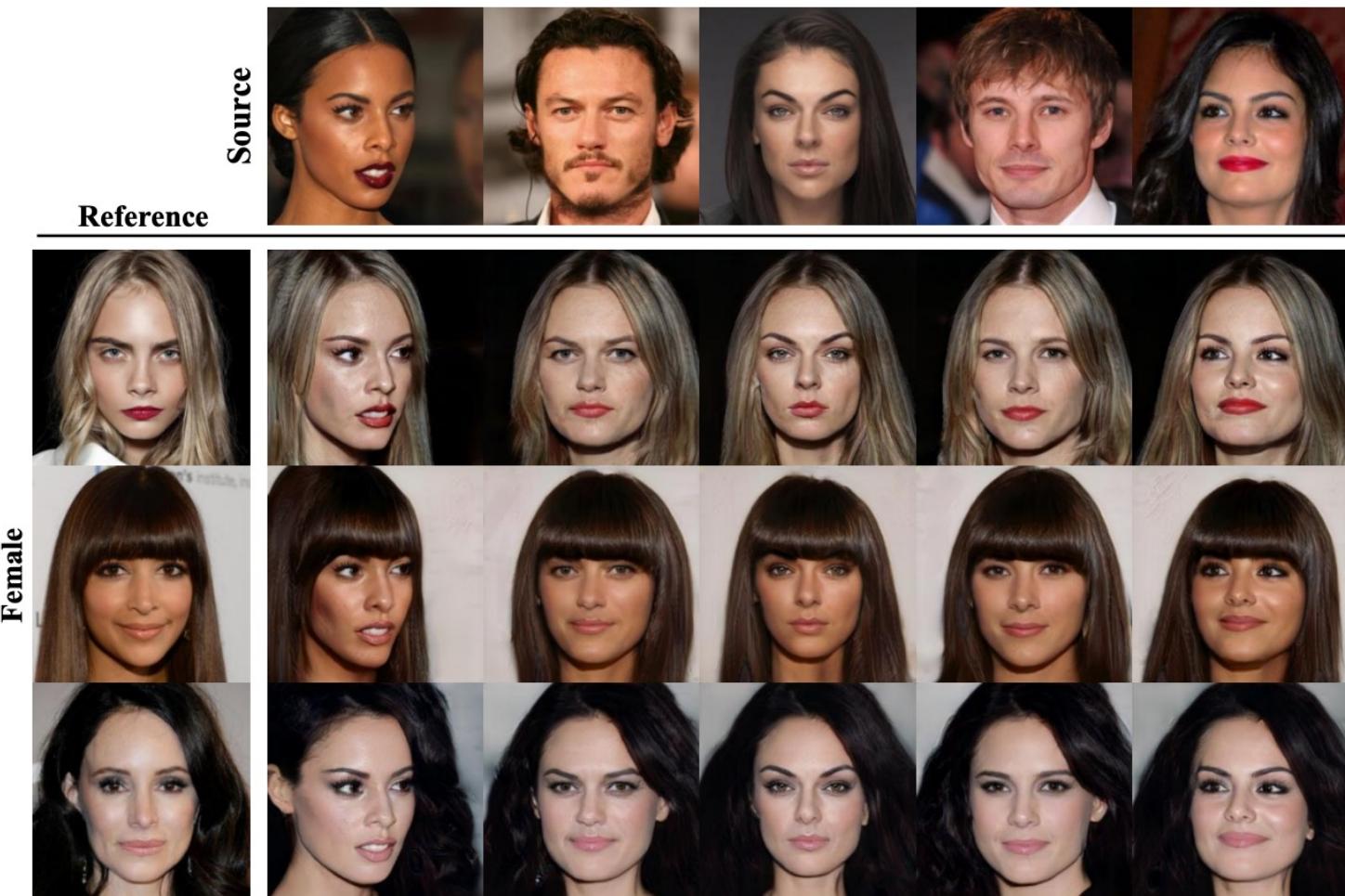
(c) Target-to-original domain

(d) Fooling the discriminator



# Face Translation with StarGAN v2

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Multi-modal synthesis; supports a reference image

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# 3D + Deep Learning

3D representation+ image-to-image

# CGI Face Editing

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Professional video

# CGI Face Editing

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Personal video

Video: ©

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Flvkn2quLY>

# Applications

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Original video

Pose editing

Expression editing

- Editing of head pose, rotation, face expression and eye gaze
- Combination of model-based face capture and CNN

# 3D + CNN

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## Model-based face capture and reenactment



Garrido et al., ToG 2016

Kemelmacher-Shlizerman et al., ECCV 2010

Shi et al., ToG 2014

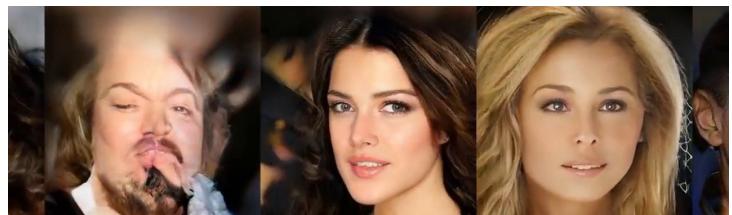
Suwajanakorn et al., ICCV 2015

Thies et al., CVPR 2016

Averbuch-Elor et al., ToG 2017

Thies et al., SIGGRAPH 2018

## CNN-based methods



Karras et al., ICLR 2018

Goodfellow et al., NIPS 2014

Isola et al., CVPR 2017

Chen and Koltun, ICCV 2017

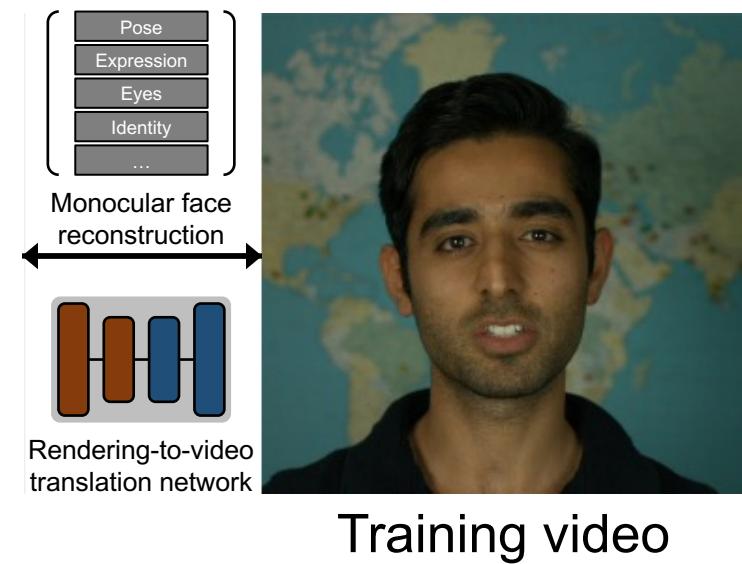
Tewari et al., ICCV 2017

Olszewski et al., ICCV 2018

Wang et al., CVPR 2018

# Overview

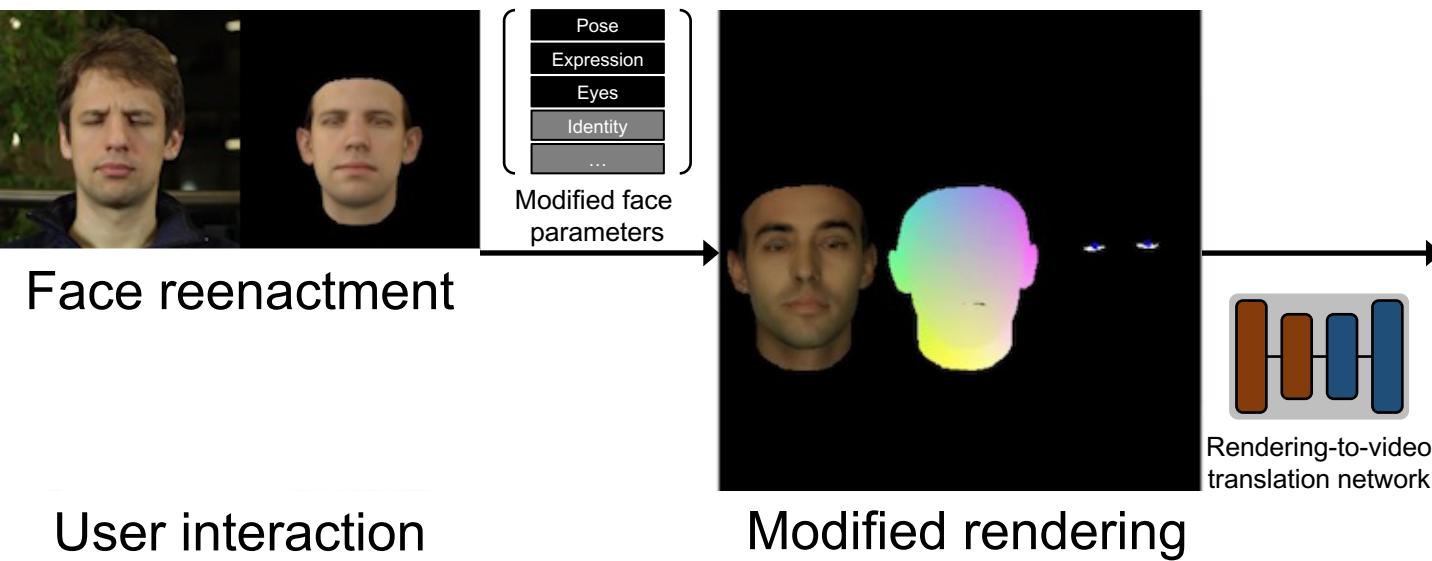
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Training video

# Overview

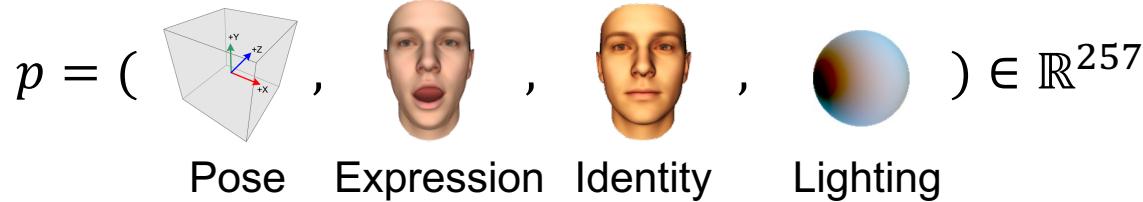
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# Monocular 3D Face Reconstruction

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- Parametric 3D face model

$$p = (\begin{array}{c} \text{Pose} \\ \text{Expression} \\ \text{Identity} \\ \text{Lighting} \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{Image 1} \\ \text{Image 2} \end{array}) \in \mathbb{R}^{257}$$


$$\min_p E(p) = E_{\text{photo}}(p) + E_{\text{land}}(p) + E_{\text{reg}}(p)$$

# Monocular 3D Face Reconstruction

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- Parametric 3D face model

$$p = (\text{Pose}, \text{Expression}, \text{Identity}, \text{Lighting}) \in \mathbb{R}^{257}$$

Pose   Expression   Identity   Lighting

$$\min_p E(p) = E_{\text{photo}}(p) + E_{\text{land}}(p) + E_{\text{reg}}(p)$$

$$\| \text{Image} - \text{Reconstructed Face} \|_2^2$$

# Monocular 3D Face Reconstruction

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- Parametric 3D face model

$$p = (\text{Pose}, \text{Expression}, \text{Identity}, \text{Lighting}) \in \mathbb{R}^{257}$$

Pose      Expression      Identity      Lighting

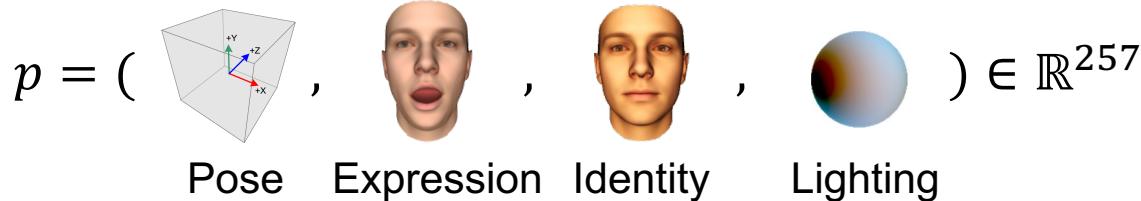
$$\min_p E(p) = E_{\text{photo}}(p) + E_{\text{land}}(p) + E_{\text{reg}}(p)$$

$$\| \text{Image} - \text{Reconstructed Face} \|_2^2 + \| \text{Landmarks} - \text{Reconstructed Landmarks} \|_2^2$$

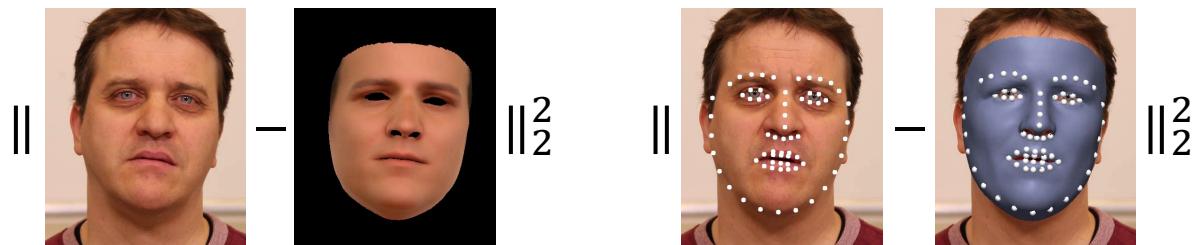
# Monocular 3D Face Reconstruction

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- Parametric 3D face model



$$\min_p E(p) = E_{\text{photo}}(p) + E_{\text{land}}(p) + E_{\text{reg}}(p)$$



Statistical and temporal  
regularization  
Garrido et al., ToG 2016

# Monocular 3D Face Reconstruction

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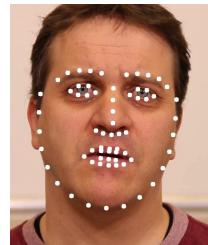
- Parametric 3D face model

$$p = (\begin{array}{c} \text{Pose} \\ \text{Expression} \\ \text{Identity} \\ \text{Lighting} \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{ } \\ \text{ } \\ \text{ } \\ \text{ } \end{array}) \in \mathbb{R}^{257}$$

$$\min_p E(p) = E_{\text{photo}}(p) + E_{\text{land}}(p) + E_{\text{reg}}(p)$$

- Eye model

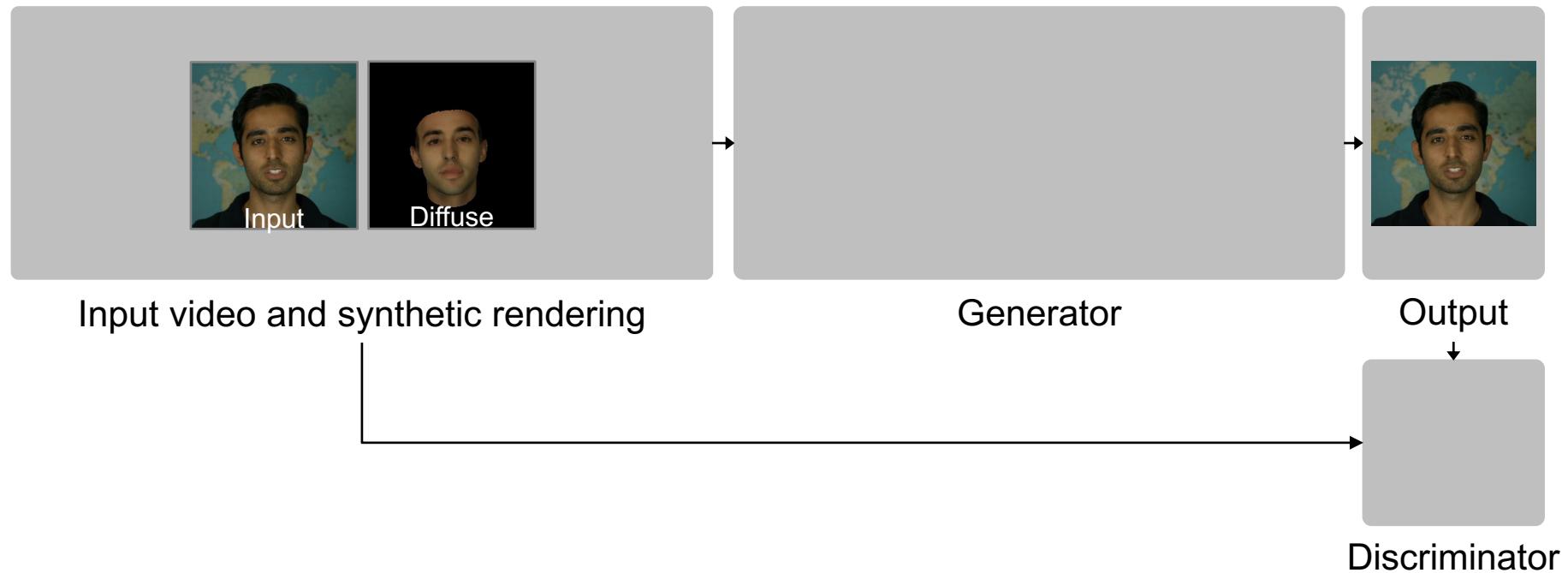
$$e = (\begin{array}{c} \text{ } \\ \text{ } \end{array}) \in \mathbb{R}^4$$



Saragih et al.,  
FG 2011

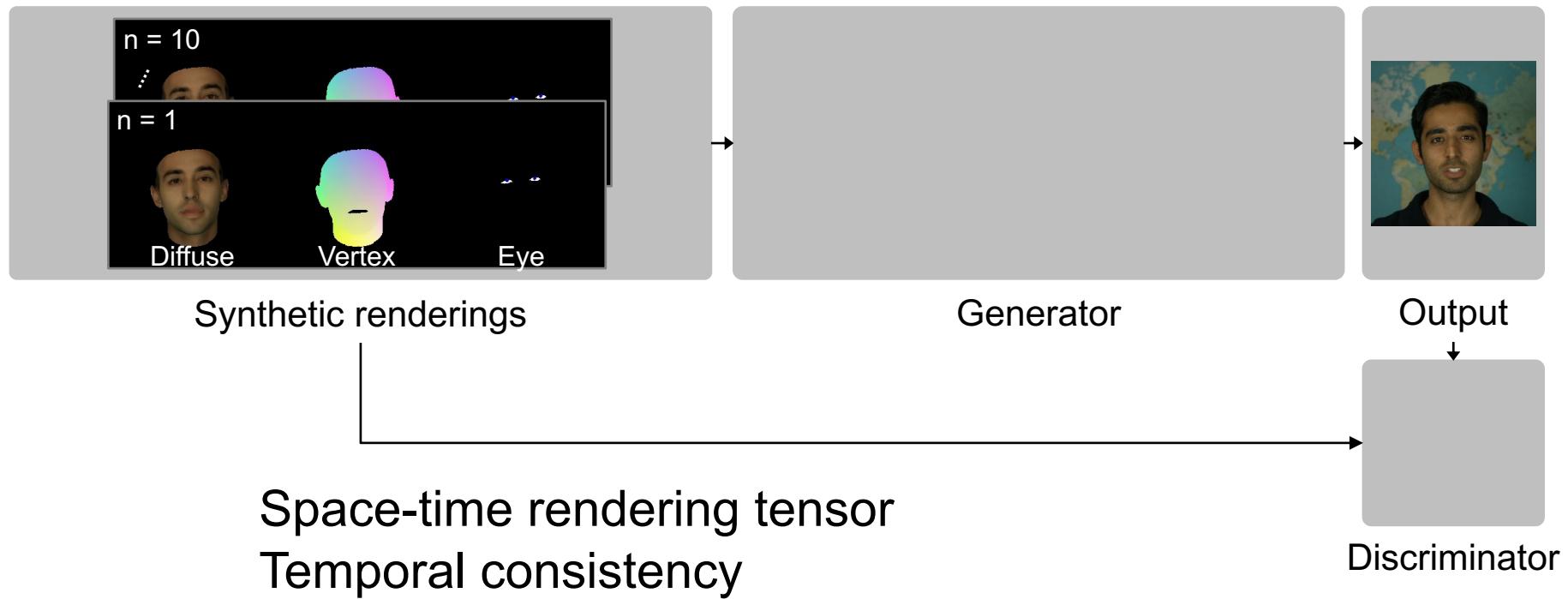
# Rendering-to-Video Translation Network

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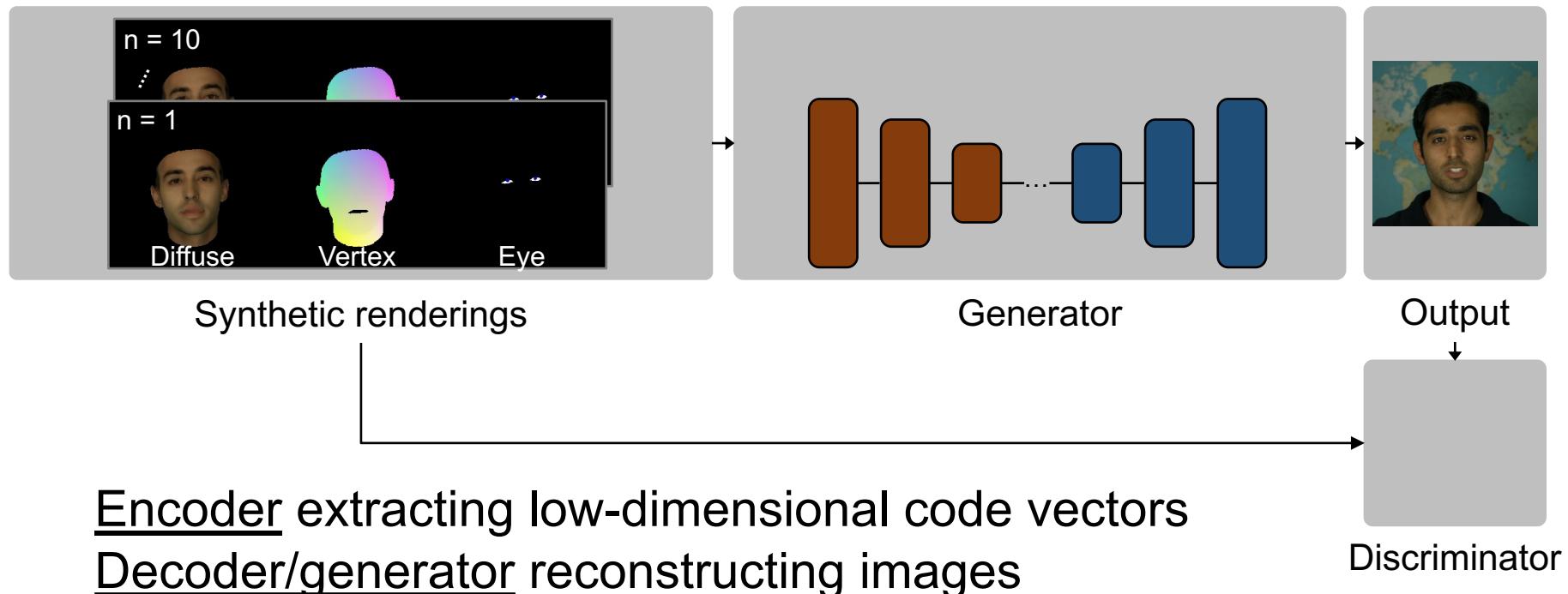


# Rendering-to-Video Translation Network

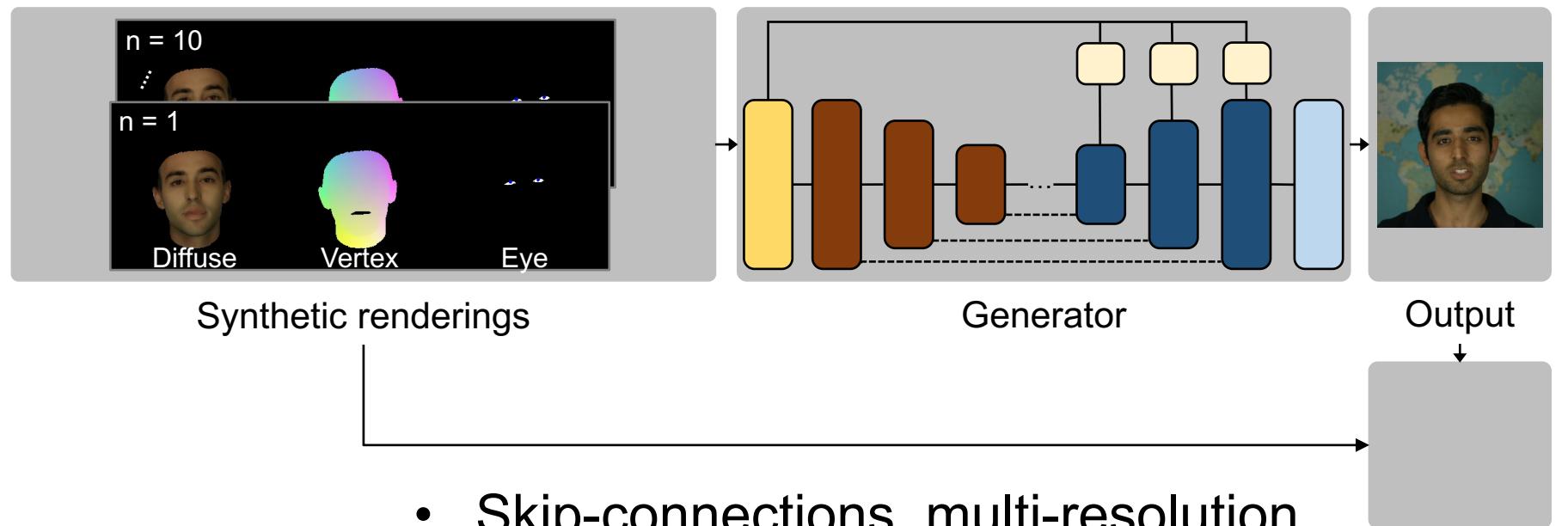
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# Rendering-to-Video Translation Network

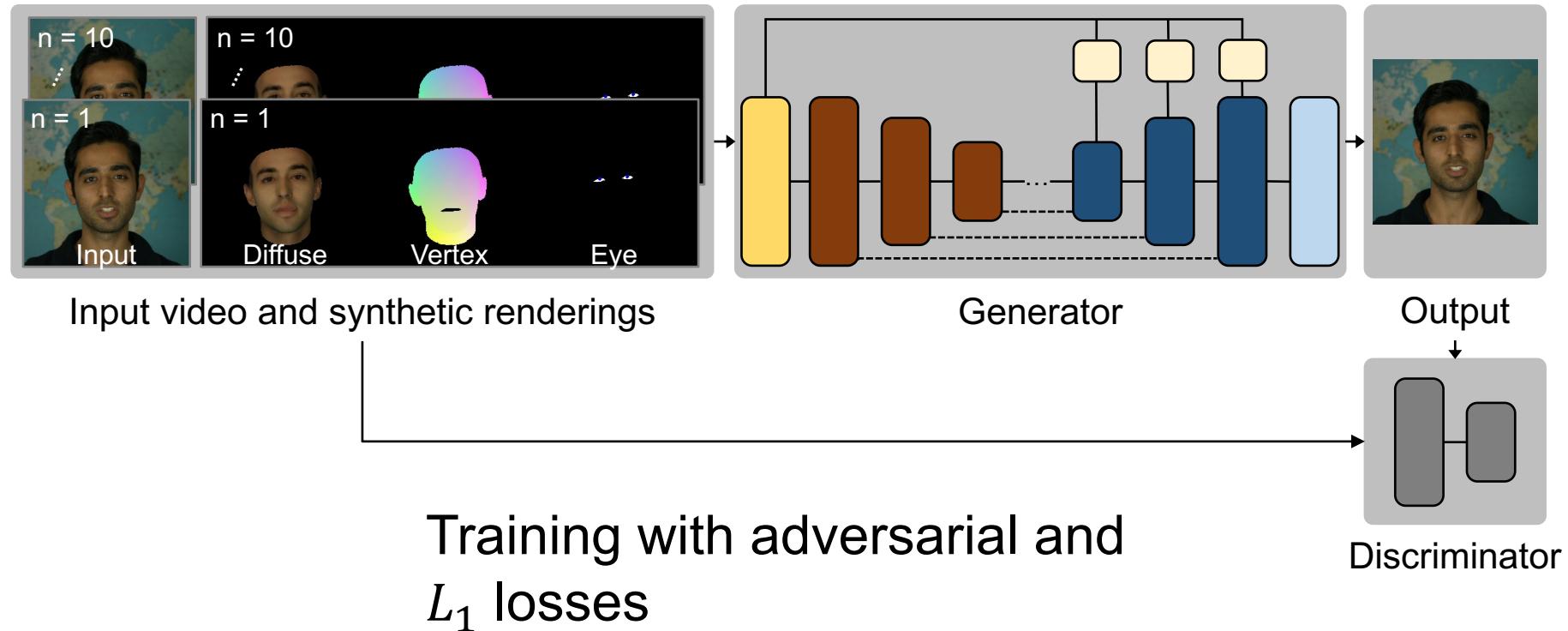


# Rendering-to-Video Translation Network



- Skip-connections, multi-resolution and refinement
- Fine-scale details

# Rendering-to-Video Translation Network



# Result: Facial Reenactment

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Retargeting portraits videos from source to target



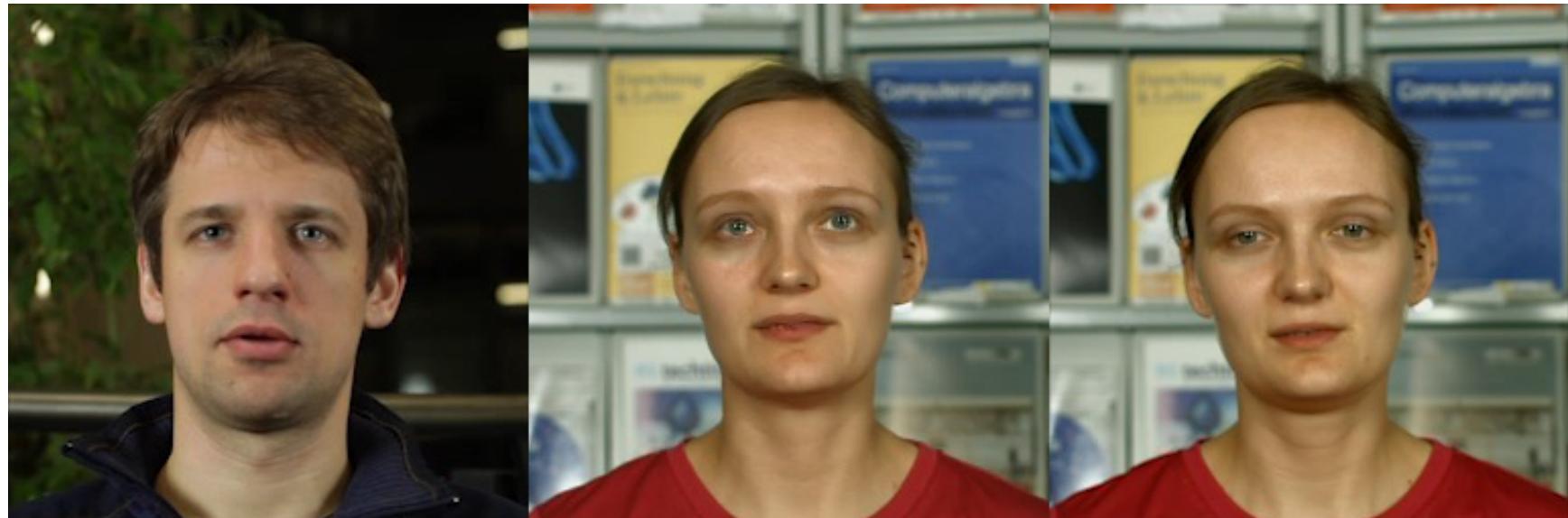
Source

Result

# Result: Facial Reenactment

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Full reenactment of head pose, head rotation, face expression and eye gaze



Source

Result

Face2Face  
(Thies et al., 2016)

# Result: Facial Reenactment

---



Source

Target

Result

# Result: Visual Dubbing

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Visual discomfort due to the discrepancy between video and audio tracks



Dubbing actor video

Original video

# Result: Visual Dubbing

---

Modification of mouth motion to match audio tracks



Dubbing actor video

Dubbed video

Garrido et al., 2015

# Result: Interactive Editing

---



Pose

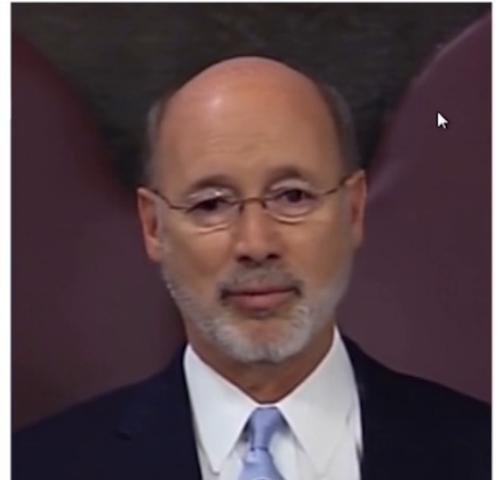
Expression

Shape

Approximately 9 fps

# Result: Interactive Editing

---



YouTube videos

2× speed

Approximately 9 fps

Reagan video courtesy of NARA  
(public domain)

Obama video courtesy of the White  
House (public domain)

Wolf video courtesy of Tom Wolf  
(CC BY)

# Result: Post-Production

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Face reshaping

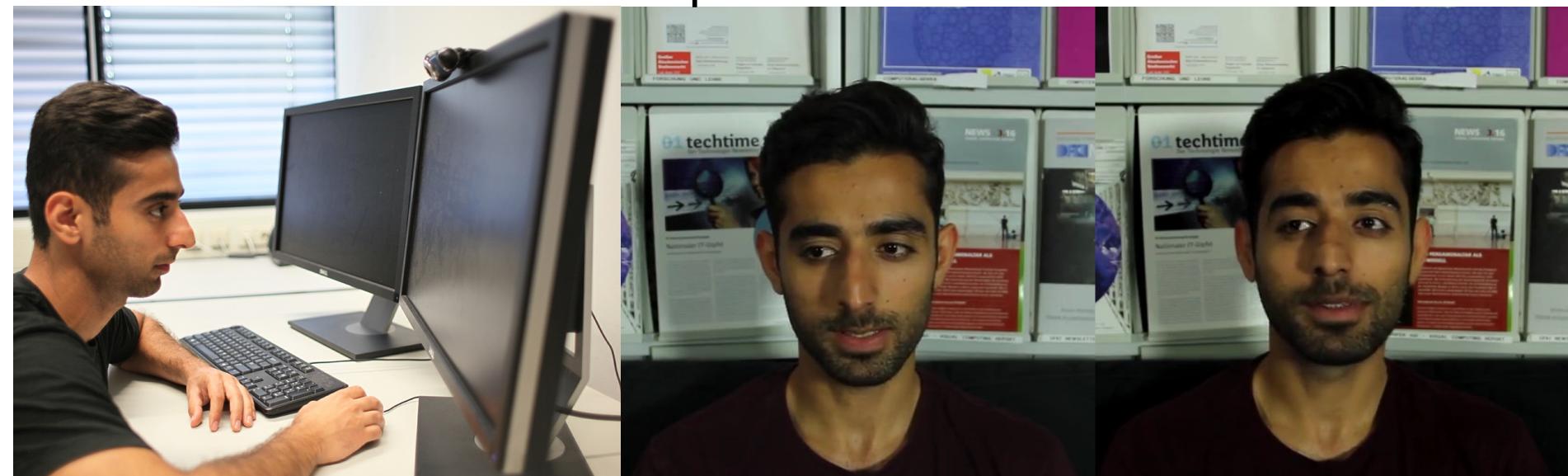
Subtle expression editing

*The Curious Case of Benjamin  
Button*  
video courtesy of Lola Visual Effects

# Result: Pose Correction in Teleconferencing

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Modification of head pose to match camera views



Setup

Camera view

Rotating up

# Result: Multi-View Teleconferencing

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Rotating up + side to side

Model-based video coding: 31 KB/s  
h.264 (e.g., Skype): 192 KB/s