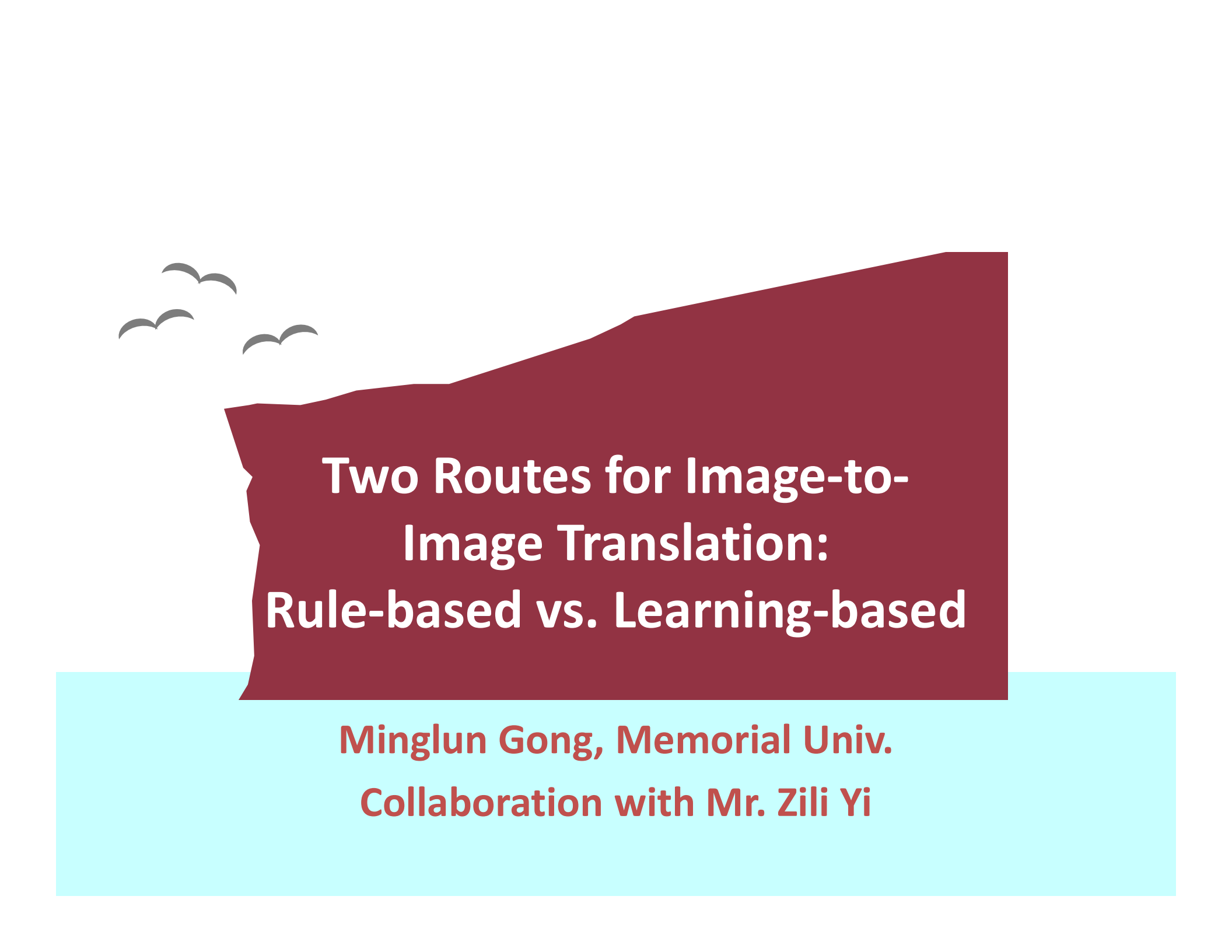


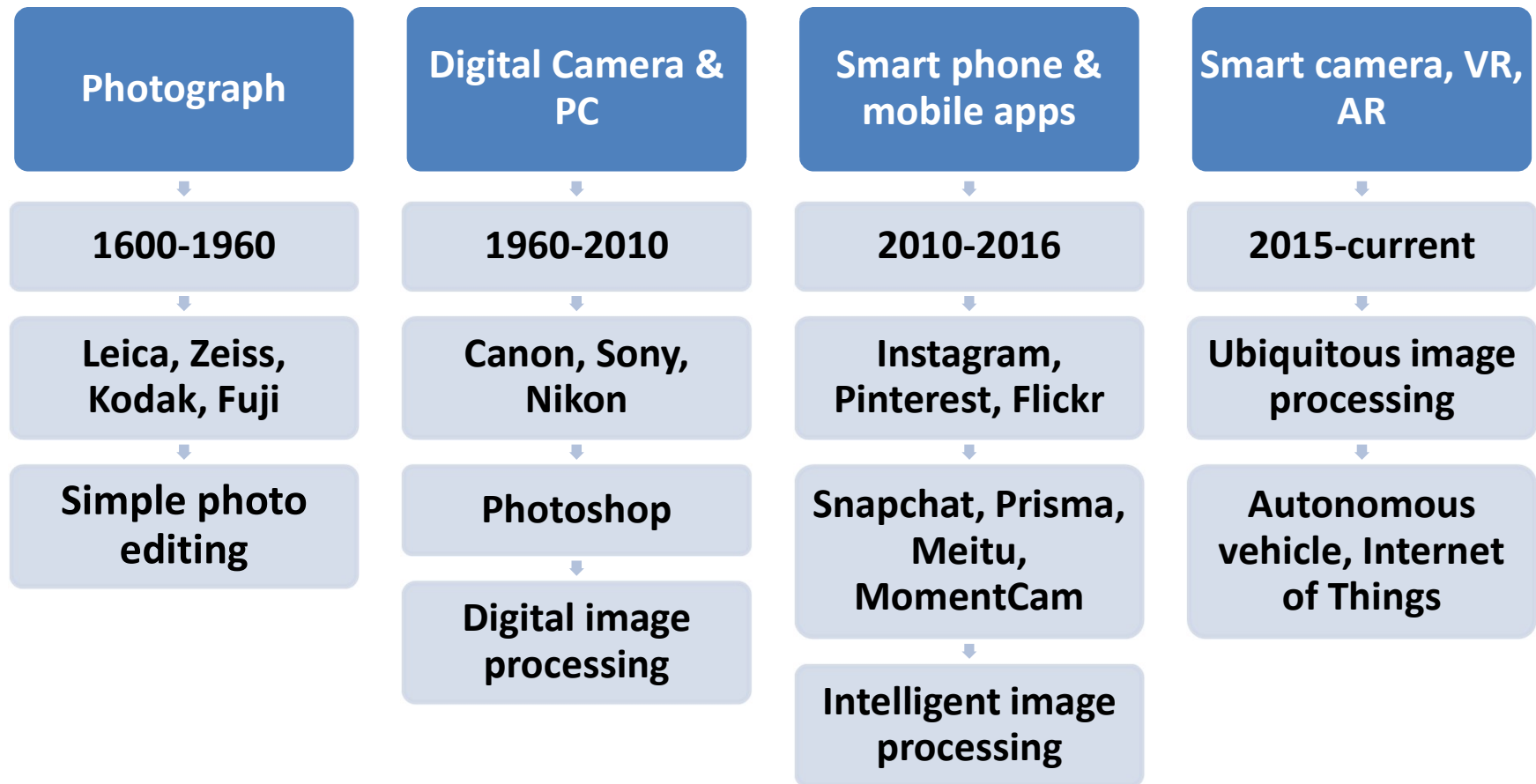


Two Routes for Image-to-Image Translation: Rule-based vs. Learning-based

**Minglun Gong, Memorial Univ.
Collaboration with Mr. Zili Yi**

- **Introduction**
 - A brief history of image processing
 - Image-to-Image translation problem
- **Two approaching routes**
 - A rule-based approach
 - A data-driven approach

Outline



Brief History of Image Processing

- Many problems in image processing, computer graphics, & computer vision can be posed as translating an input image to a corresponding output image

Problem	Input	Output
Edge detection	Natural image	Edge map
Image segmentation	Natural image	Label map
Saliency detection	Natural image	Saliency map
Image colorization	Grayscale image	Color image
Image stylization	Natural image	Stylized image
Sketch-to-photo synthesis	Sketch	Natural image

Image-to-Image Translation

- **Rule-based:**
 - Different tasks call for different algorithms
 - Algorithms are customized for the tasks
- **Learning-based:**
 - Different tasks can be solved under the same framework
 - Data-driven

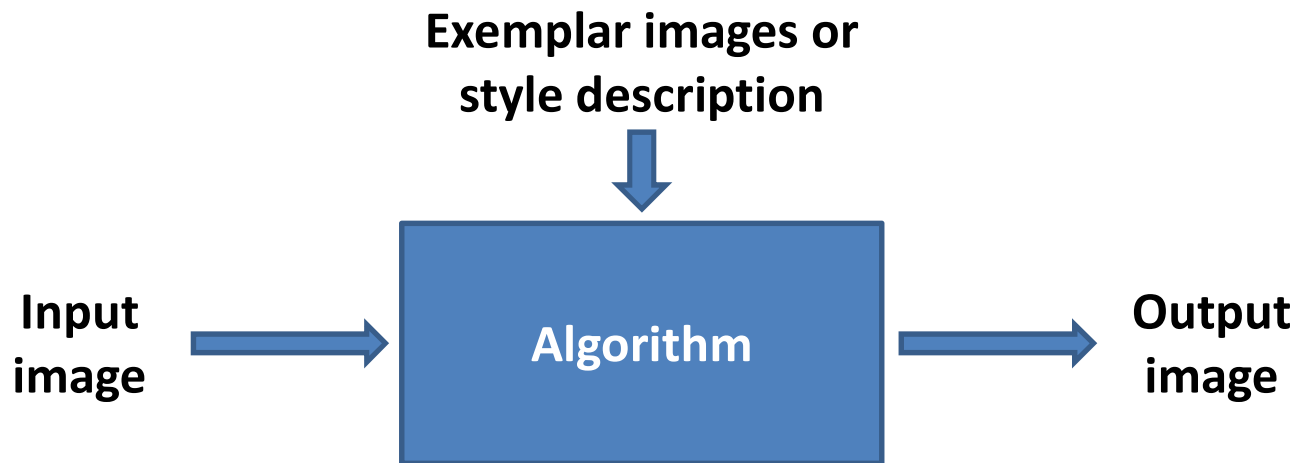
Two Approaching Routes



Rule-based Approach:

**Face Photo Stylization based on
a Single Exemplar**

- Image stylization aims to automatically generate stylized images by manipulating photographs

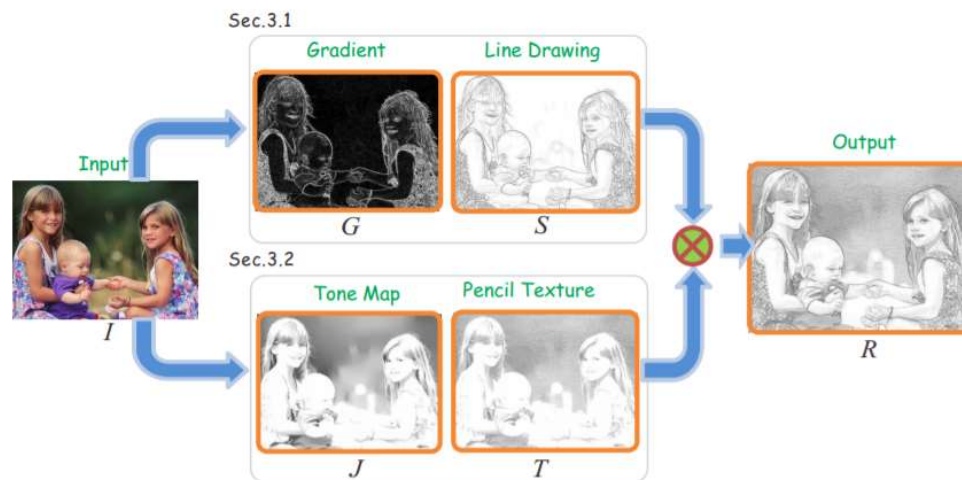


Problem Statement

- **By output type**
 - Photorealistic vs. non-photorealistic
- **By requirement of external resources**
 - Example-based, data-driven, interactive
- **By extent of automation**
 - Semi-automatic vs. fully-automatic
- **By level of understanding/processing**
 - Low-level, middle-level, high-level stylization

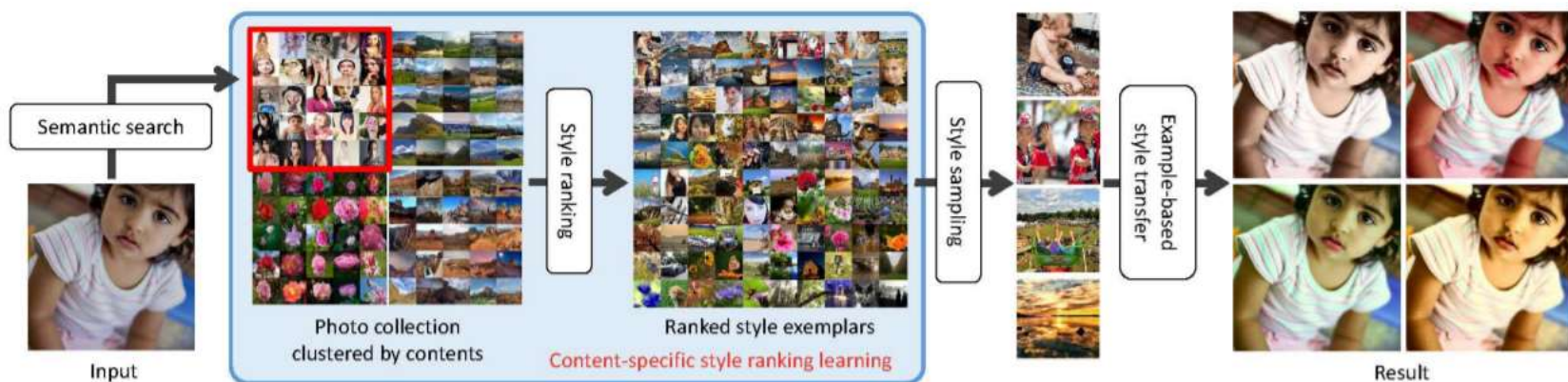
Categorization of Previous Methods

- **Combining Sketch and Tone for Pencil Drawing Production [Liu et al., NPAR 2012]**
 - Fully-automatic
 - Non-exemplar-based
 - Non-photorealistic



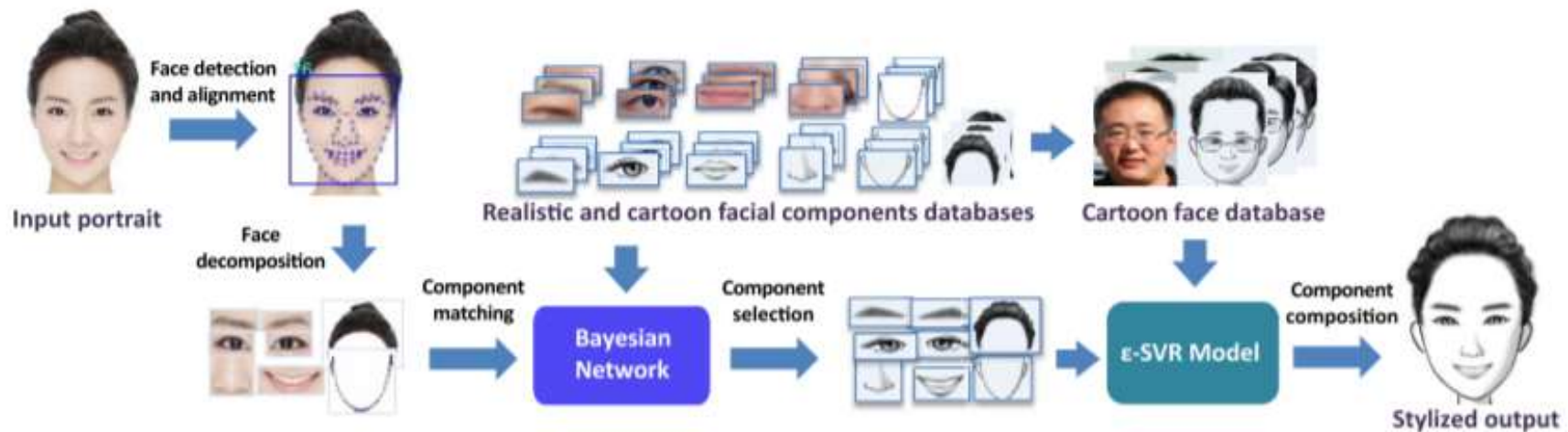
Pencil Drawing Production

- **Automatic Content-Aware Color and Tone Stylization [Lee et al., CVPR 2016]**
 - Data-driven
 - Fully-automated
 - photo-realistic/naturalistic



Color and Tone Stylization

- **Data-Driven Synthesis of Cartoon Faces Using Different Styles [Zhang et al., TIP 2017]**
 - Data-driven
 - Fully-automatic
 - Non-photorealistic



Cartoon Face Synthesis

- **Most are style-specific methods:**
 - Use heuristically designed algorithm to generate results under a given style
 - Pencil drawing, stippling, etc.
 - Cannot be applied to general-purpose
- **Some are data driven methods:**
 - Require a large number of training data

Limitations of Existing Methods

- Our goal is to achieve general stylization with a single exemplar image



Our Objective

I_{input}



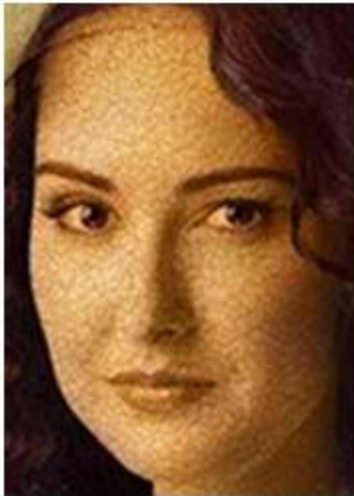
Color
Transfer
→



Texture
Transfer
→



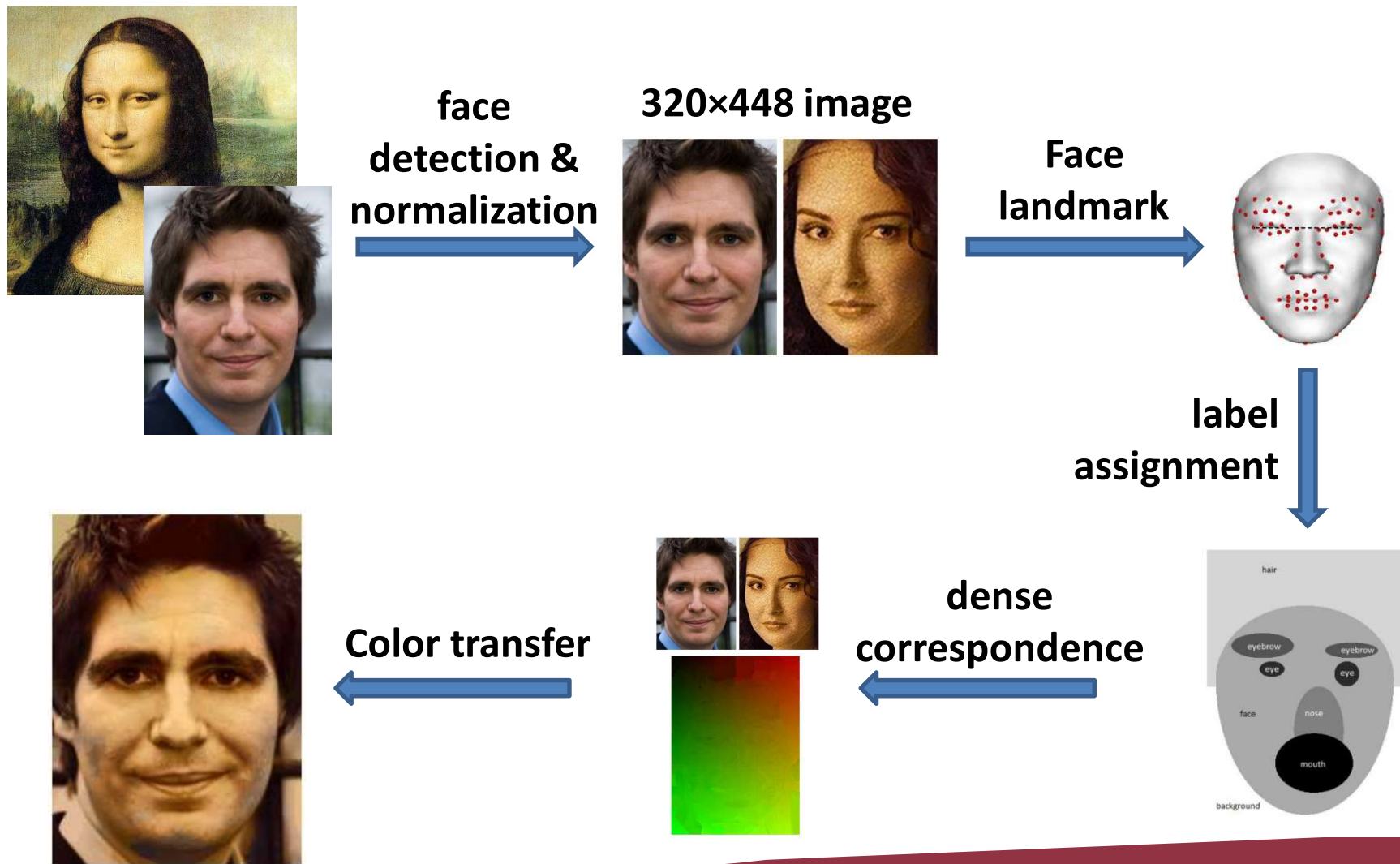
Example



Two Step Approach

- **Assigns a color for each pixel in the input image by finding its correspondence in the exemplar**
- **The correspondence is found by minimizing a cost function that consists of 3 terms:**
 - **Semantic term**
 - **Geometry term**
 - **Color term**

Semantics-aware Color Transfer



Semantics-aware Color Transfer

- **Evaluates the incompatibility among different facial parts**
 - Heuristically defined
 - Prevent incompatible mapping, e.g. eyes in input image to nose or mouse in exemplar

	Eye	Eyebrow	Nose	Mouth	Face
Eye	0	∞	∞	∞	1
Eyebrow	∞	0	∞	∞	1
Nose	∞	∞	0	∞	0
Mouth	∞	∞	∞	0	1
Face	∞	∞	0	1	0

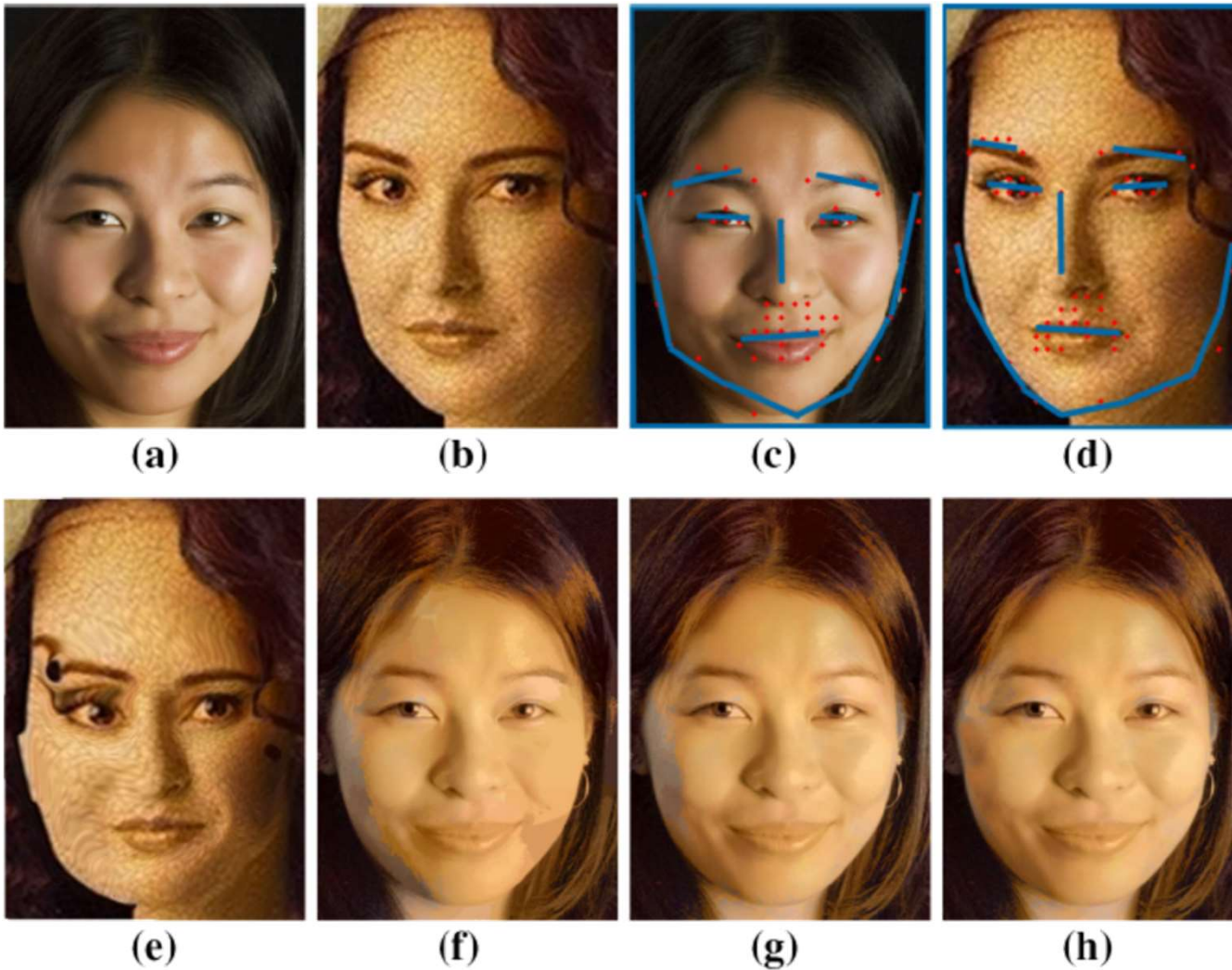
Semantic Term

- **Measures the geometric cost between the pixel in input image and its correspondence in exemplar image**
- **Directly using the Euclidean distance does not tolerate the pose and shape differences**
 - **Warp the exemplar to align with input face before computing the geometry term**

Geometry Term

- **Measures the color cost between a pixel in input image and its correspondence in exemplar**
- **To accommodate the overall intensity differences between 2 images, histogram equalization is performed first**

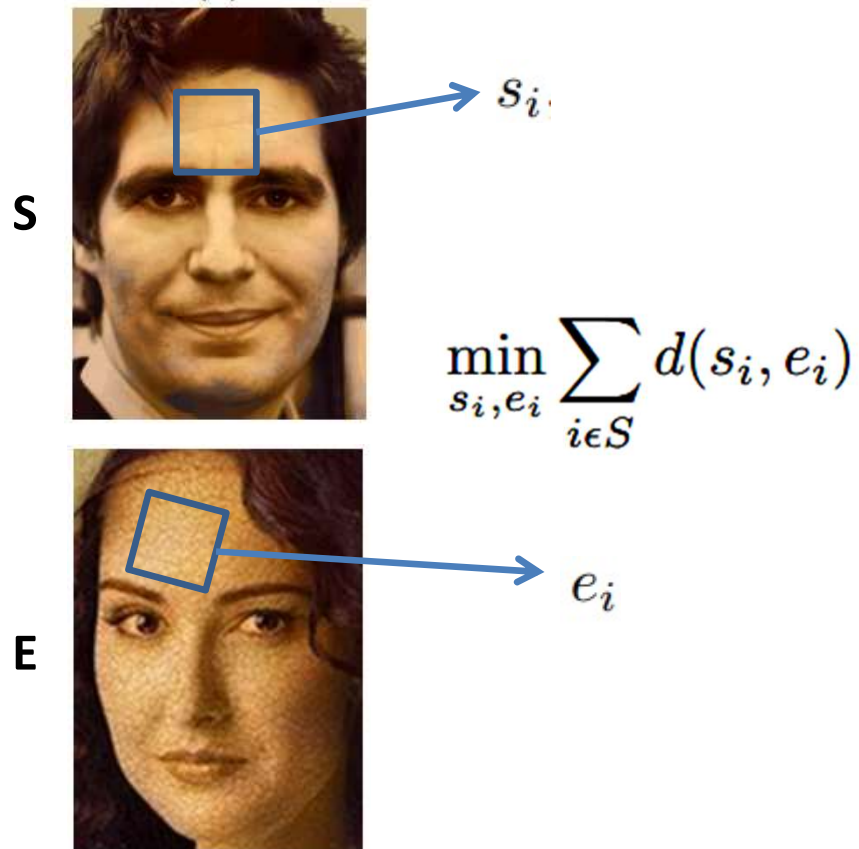
Color Term



Effects of Different Terms

- **The generation of paintings and artworks is treated as a texture synthesis problem**
 - **Need to handle texture at multiple scales**
 - Textures show up many scales and may have distinct characteristics at each scale
 - **Need to preserve edges**
 - Chin line, eye/eyebrow boundaries, and mouth/nose curves are essential for keeping face identities

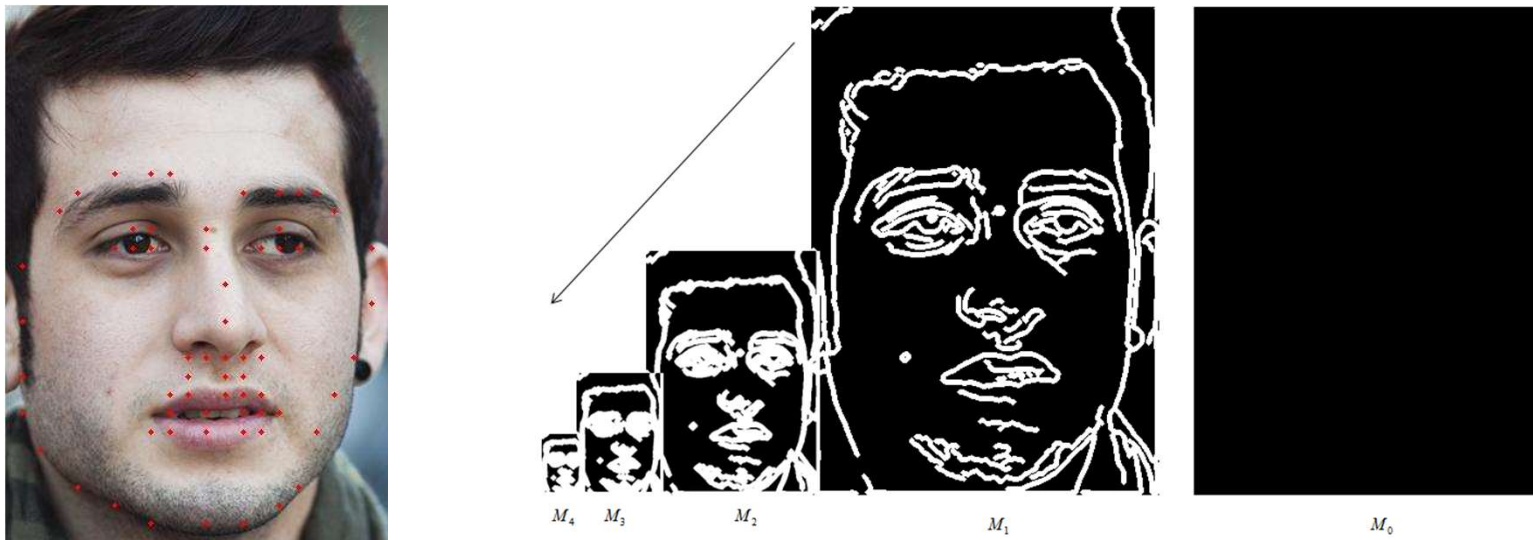
Edge-preserving Texture Transfer



- **First optimize:**
 - Finding the Nearest Neighbor Field (NNF) using generalized PatchMatch
- **Then vote:**
 - Averaging the nearest neighbors

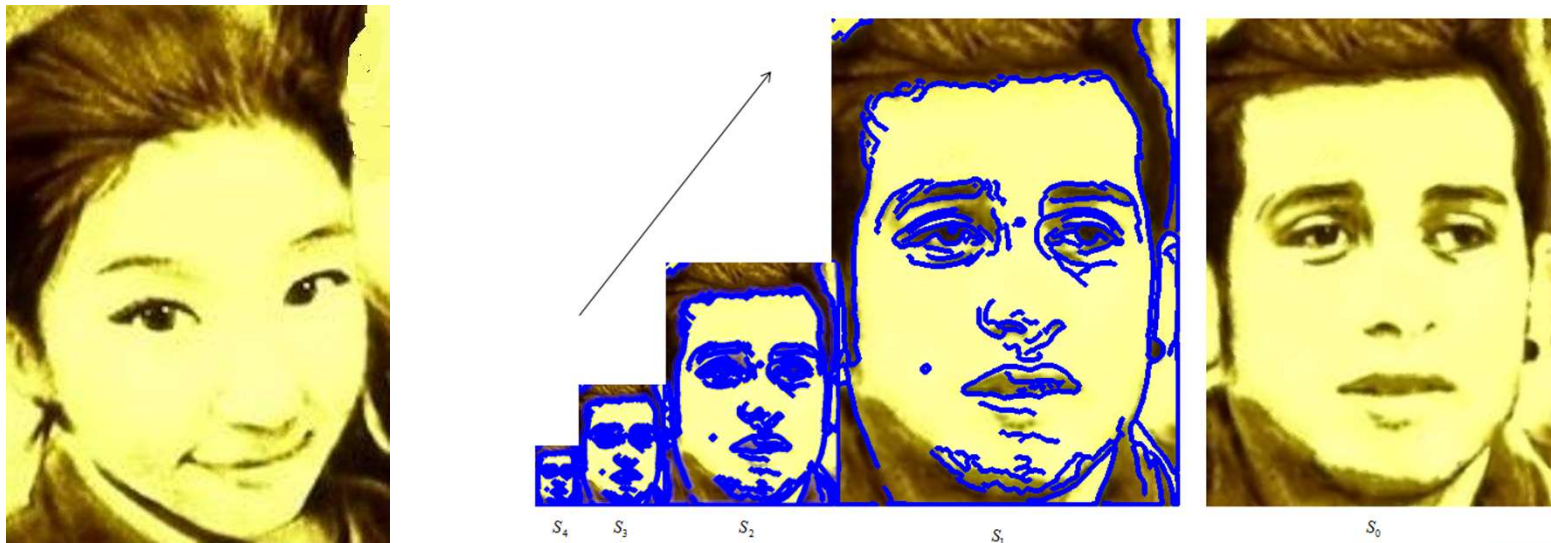
Optimization-based Texture Synthesis

- To preserve edges and structures:
 - First compute an edge map for the input image
 - Then create its lower resolution versions
 - These edge pixels are masked from texture synthesis



Edge Masks Generation

- The texture is synthesized in a pyramid manner:
 - First synthesize the lower resolution version and for unmasked areas only
 - Enlarge the result image and repeat texture synthesize



Coarse-to-fine Processing



Experiment Result



(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)



(e)



(f)



(g)



(h)

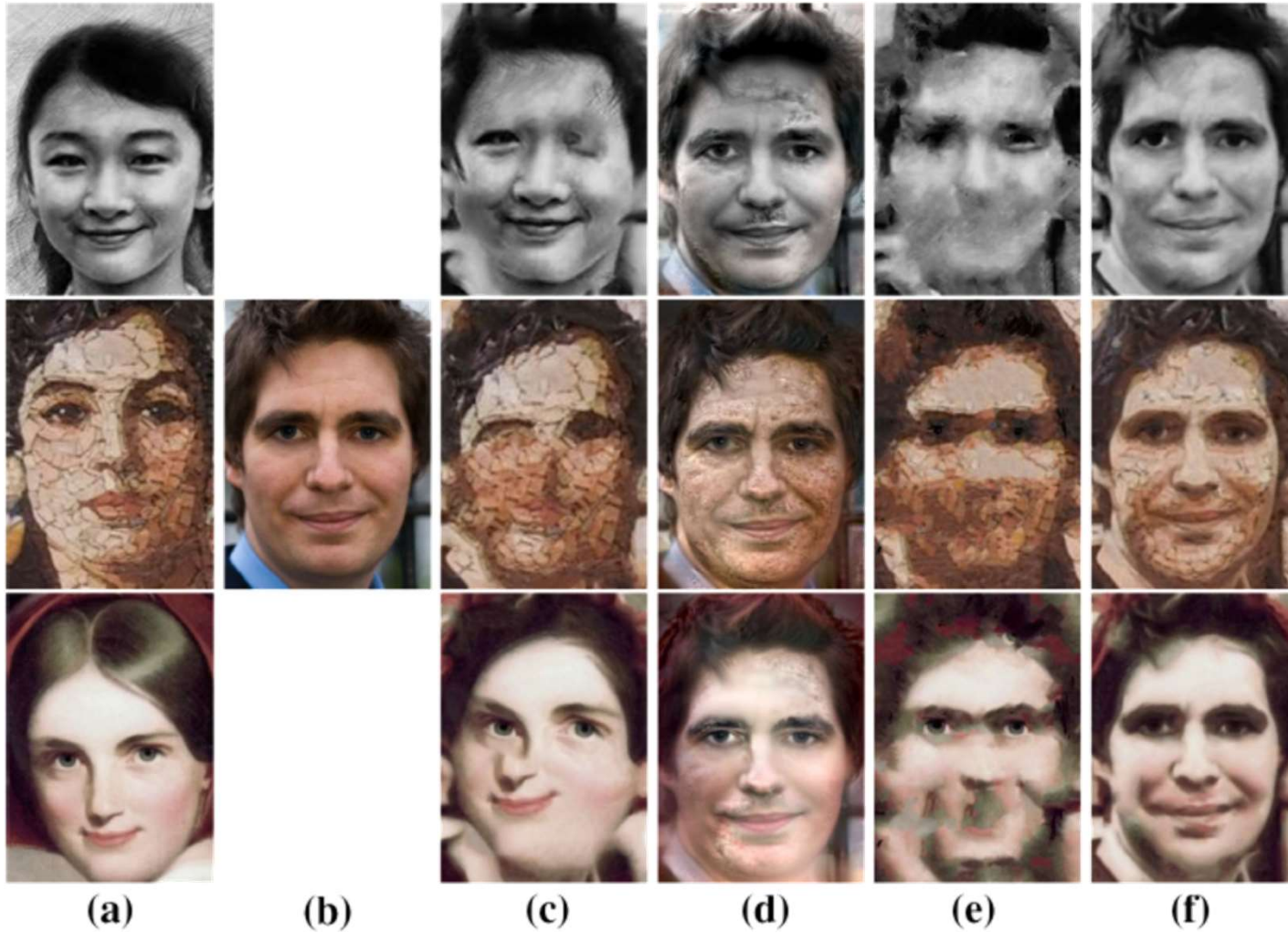


(i)



(j)

Comparison with Real Artworks



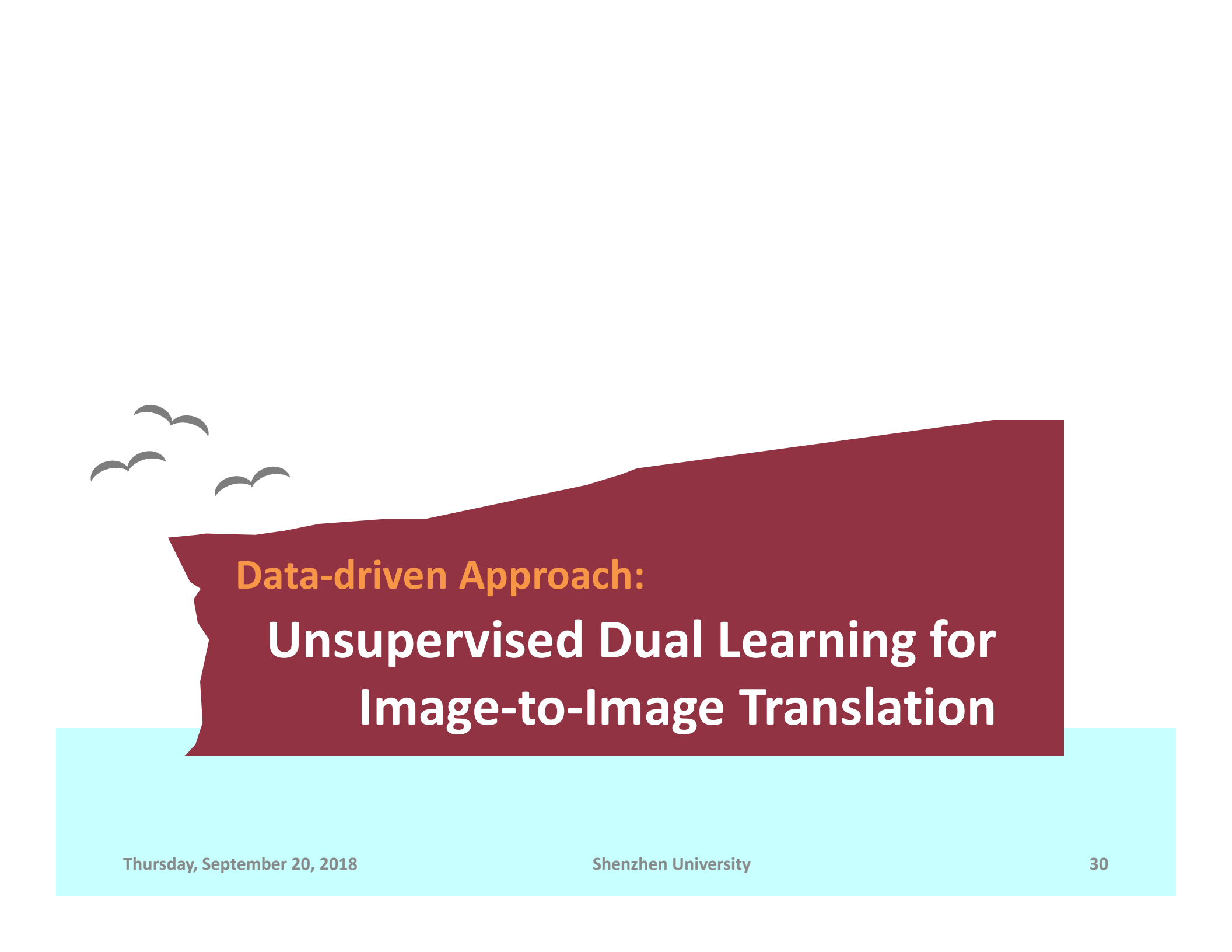
Comparison with Image Melding & Quilting

- **A general face photo stylization approach that requires a single exemplar**
 - **Able to handle a wide range of face photos**
 - Gender, skin color, hair style, face accessories, beards, glasses, variation in poses & lightening conditions
 - **Able to transfer wide varieties of styles**
 - Pencil drawing, sand drawing, oil painting, mosaic, screening, water color painting, Chinese painting, & Pyrography

Conclusions

- **Employed semantic information to guide the stylization**
 - Only work for face photos
- **The algorithm is heuristically designed**
 - Not an end-to-end system

Limitations



Data-driven Approach:

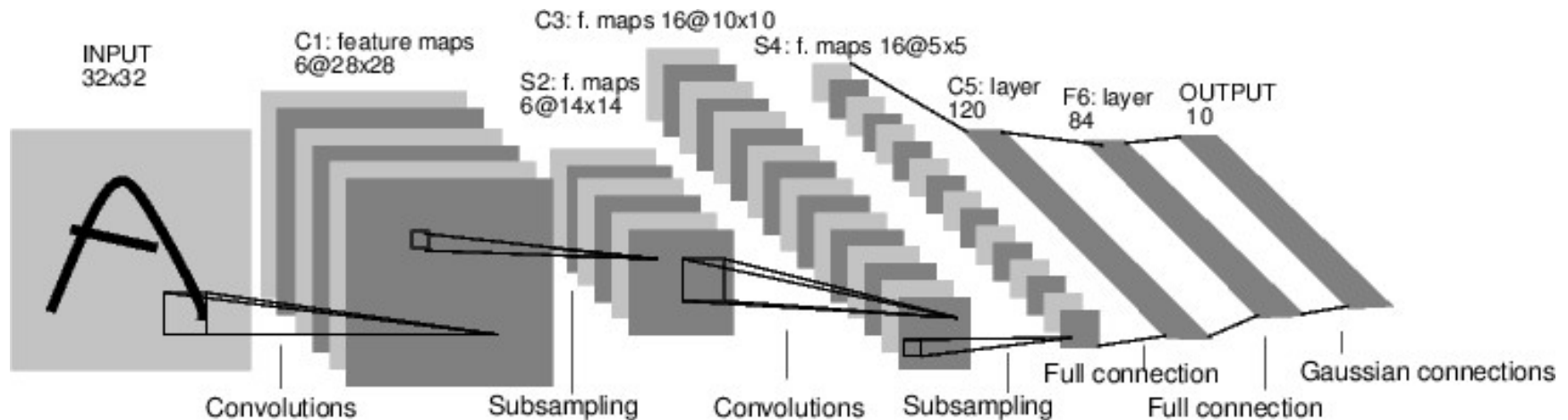
Unsupervised Dual Learning for Image-to-Image Translation

- **End-to-end training**
 - A DNN can be treated as a black box
 - Only need to fuel the networks with training data
- **General-purpose solution**
 - A solution to one task can often be adapted to another task, as long as new training data are provided
- **Semantic-aware**
 - Utilize the pattern recognition power of DNN

Advantages of Deep Neural Network

- **Before 2014: traditional methods**
- **2014-2016: Application-specific solution**
 - FCNs
 - GANs
 - cGANs
- **2016: general-purpose solution**
 - cGAN (supervised learning)
 - Cross-domain (pre-trained third-party representations)

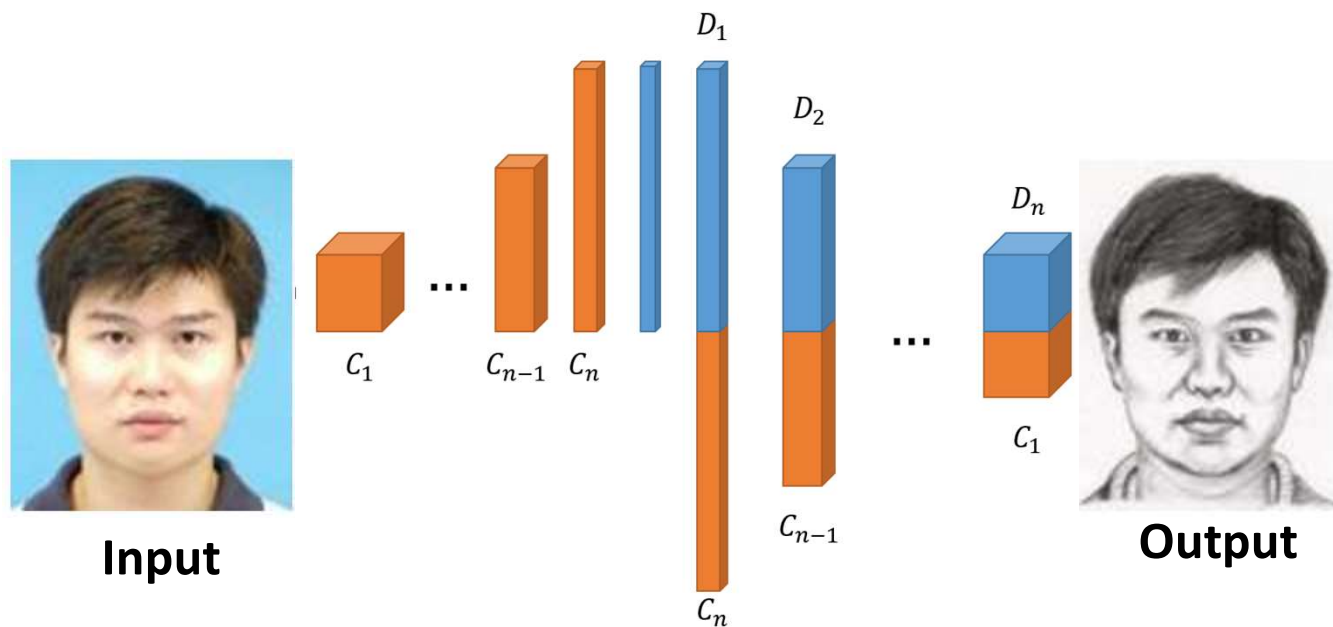
Related Work



- **LeNet for document recognition [LeCun et al]:**
 - Combines convolution layers & subsampling layers
 - Connections are between local neurons
 - Avoid full association
 - Sharing of weights

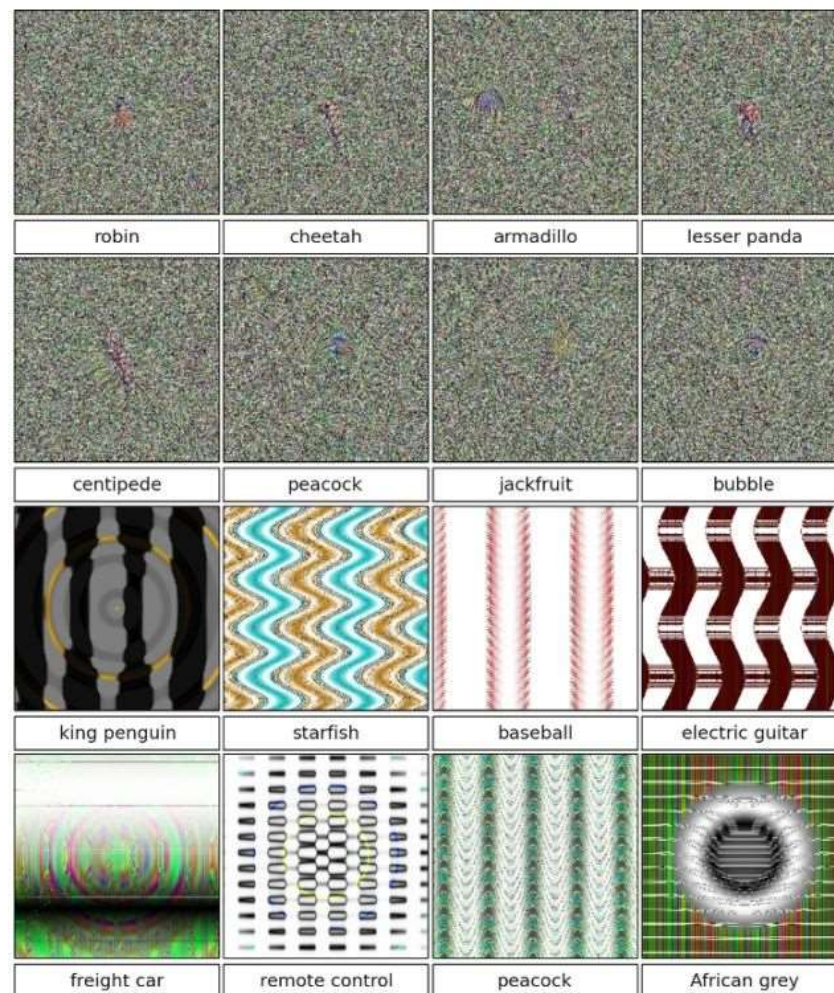
Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)

- DNN can also be used for training generative models
 - Learning deconvolution network for semantic segmentation [Noh, et al. ICCV 2015]



Fully Convolutional Networks (FCN)

- It is easy to generate adversarial samples to fool a discriminative DNN
 - Adversarial samples can make the discriminative DNN more robust
 - More efforts are then needed to generate adversarial samples

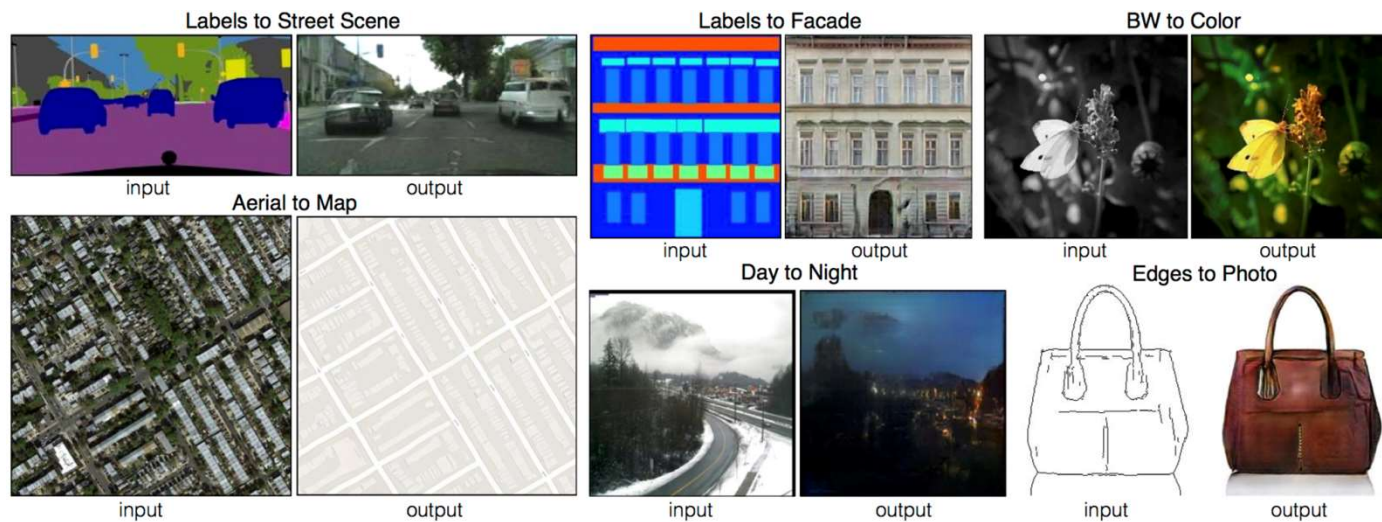


Adversarial Samples

- **GANs extend the idea of using to generative DNN:**
 - **Train Generator & Discriminator together and against each other**
 - **Generator generates fake samples to fool the Discriminator**
 - **Discriminator tries to distinguish between real & fake samples**
 - **Repeat this and we get better Generator and Discriminator**

Generative Adversarial Networks (GAN)

- **Image-to-image translation with conditional adversarial networks [Isola, et al 2017]**
 - Learn both the mapping from input image to output image and a loss function to train this mapping
 - Makes it possible to apply the same generic approach to different problems



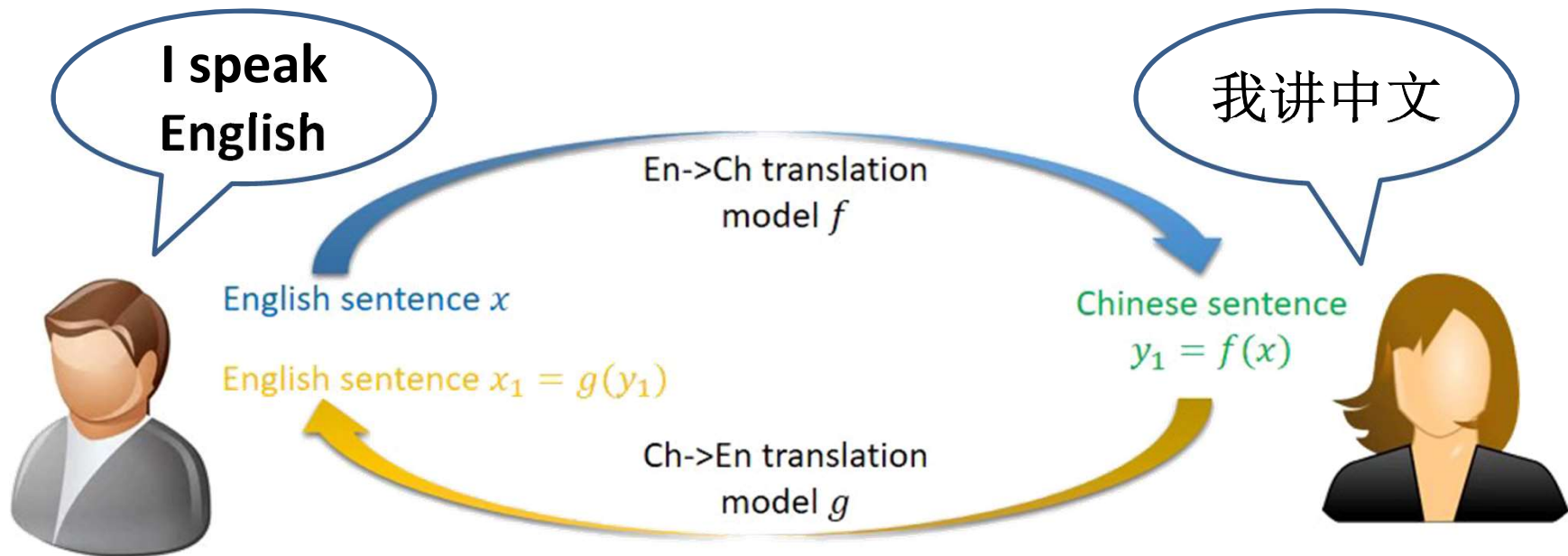
Conditional GAN (cGAN)

- **Requires a large number of labeled & matching image pairs**
 - Data labeling is expensive & sometimes impractical
 - Matching image pairs could be misaligned or contain slightly different contents



Limitations of Existing Methods

- Dual learning for machine translation [He et. al 2016]



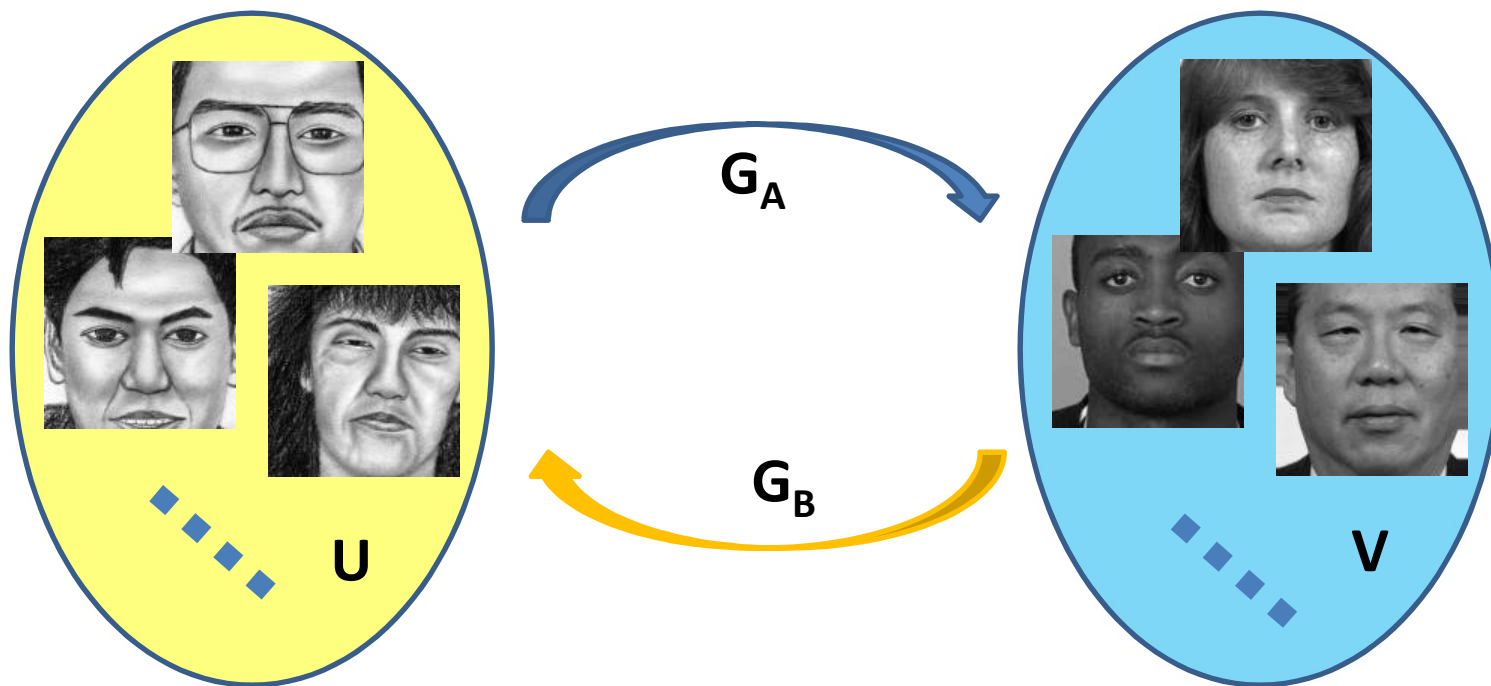
Dual Learning

- **Develop an unsupervised learning framework**
 - For general-purpose image-to-image translation
 - Only relies on unlabeled image data



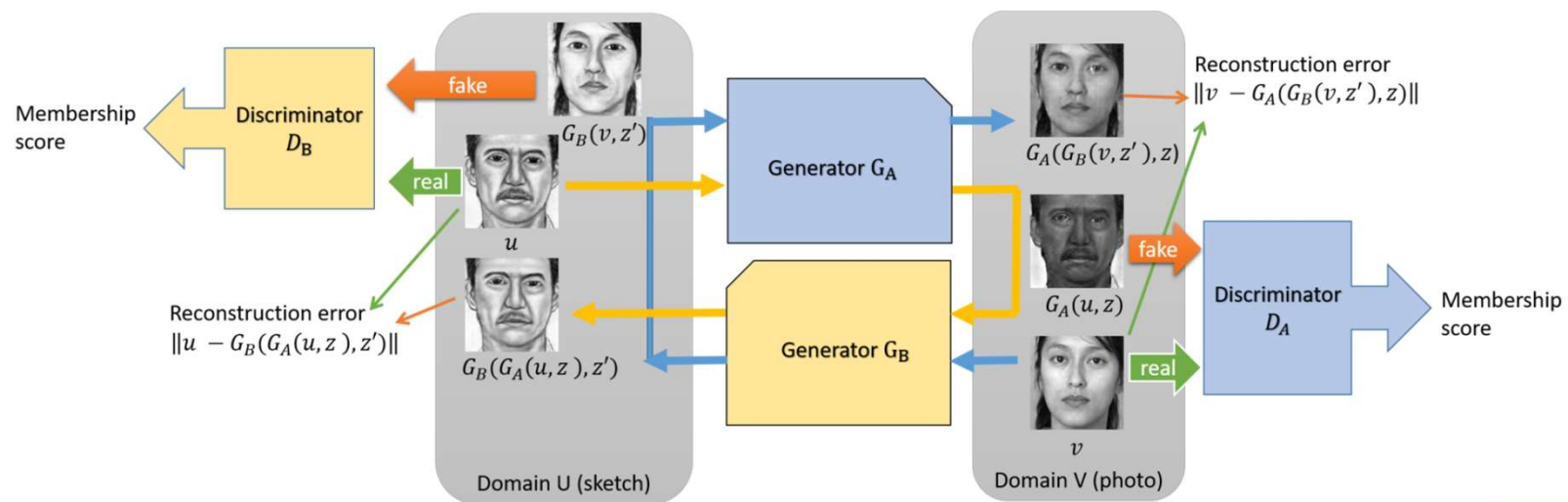
Our Objective

- Prime task is to learn a generator $G_A : U \rightarrow V$
 - Dual task is to train an inverse generator $G_B : V \rightarrow U$



DualGAN

- **Two GANs:**
 - Primal GAN learns the generator G_A & a discriminator D_A
 - Dual GAN learns the generator G_B & a discriminator D_B
- **Reconstruction loss is minimized**



DualGAN Architecture

- **Loss function for Discriminators**

$$l_A^d(u, v) = D_A(G_A(u, z)) - D_A(v),$$
$$l_B^d(u, v) = D_B(G_B(v, z')) - D_B(u)$$

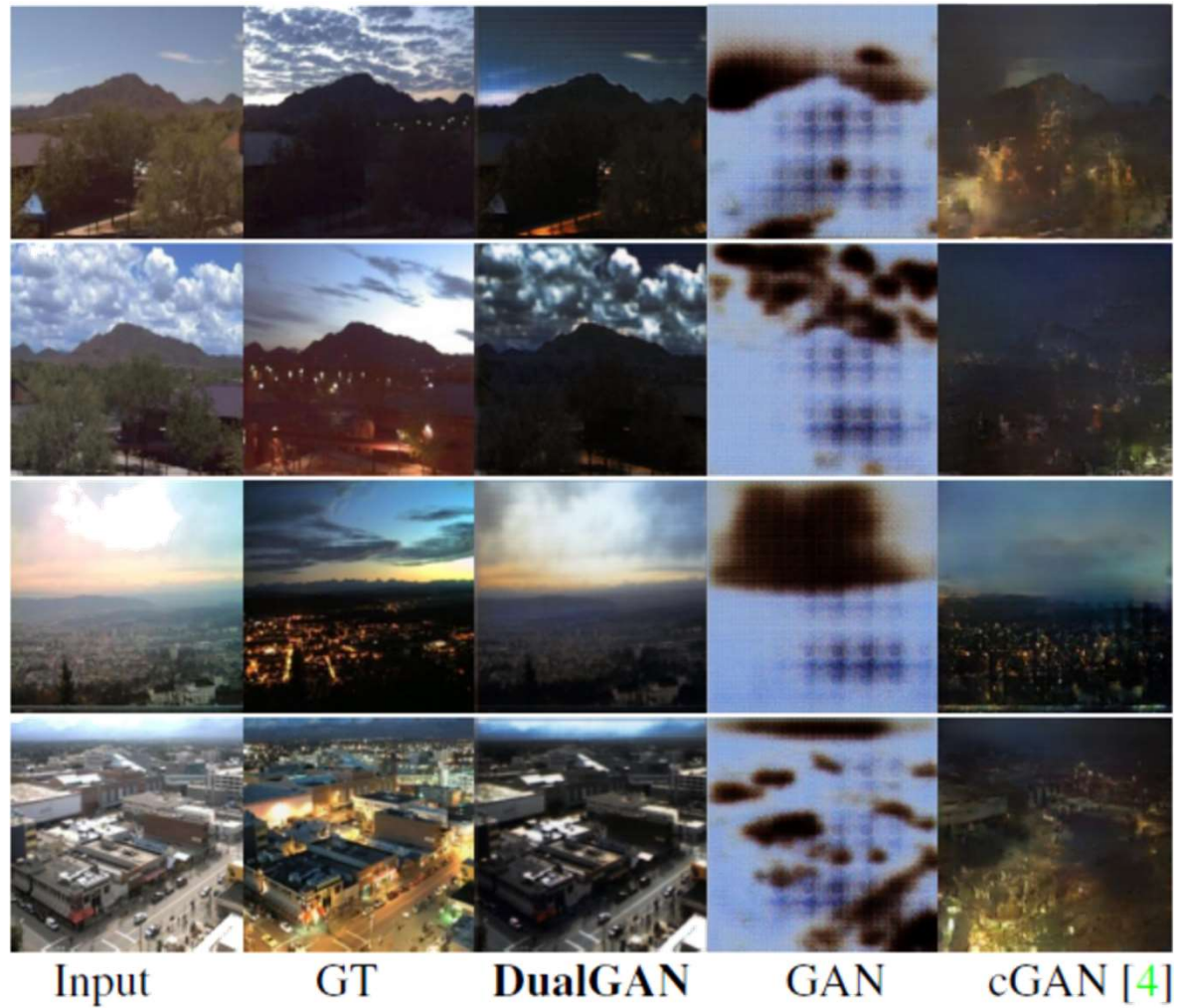
- **Loss function for Generators**

$$l^g(u, v) = \lambda_U \|u - G_B(G_A(u, z), z')\| +$$
$$\lambda_V \|v - G_A(G_B(v, z'), z)\|$$
$$- D_A(G_B(v, z')) - D_B(G_A(u, z)),$$

Loss Functions

Dataset	Image size	# Training samples	Labeled	Features
PHOTO-SKETCH	128*128	~1000	Yes	Minor misalignment
AERIAL-MAPS	256*256	~2000	Yes	Slight misalignment
FACADES-LABEL	256*256	~400	Yes	Slight misalignment
DAY-NIGHT	512*512	~100	Yes	Slight content difference
CHINESE-OIL	512*512	~1000	No	
MATERIAL	512*512	~100	No	

Experiments



Day → Night Translation

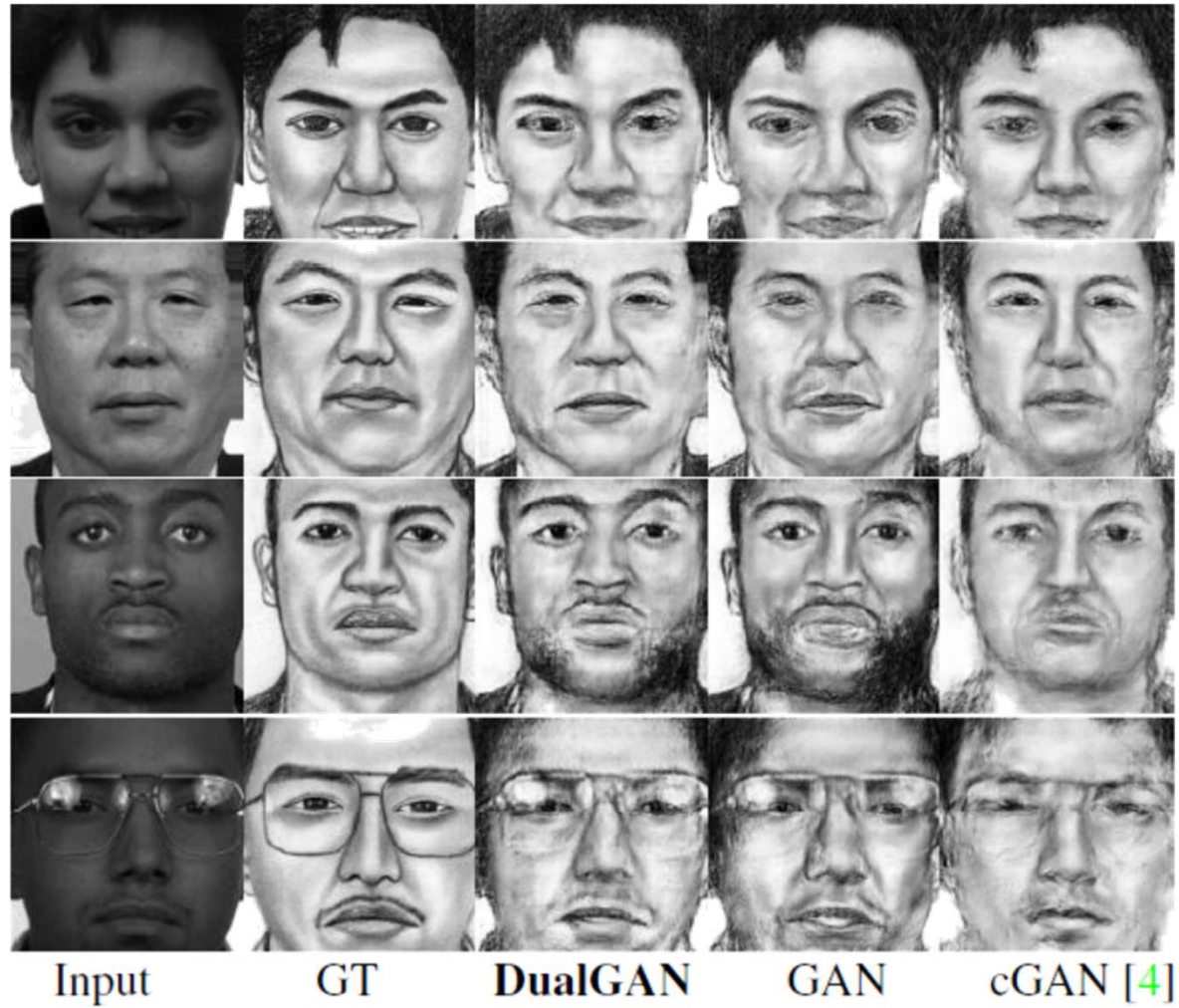
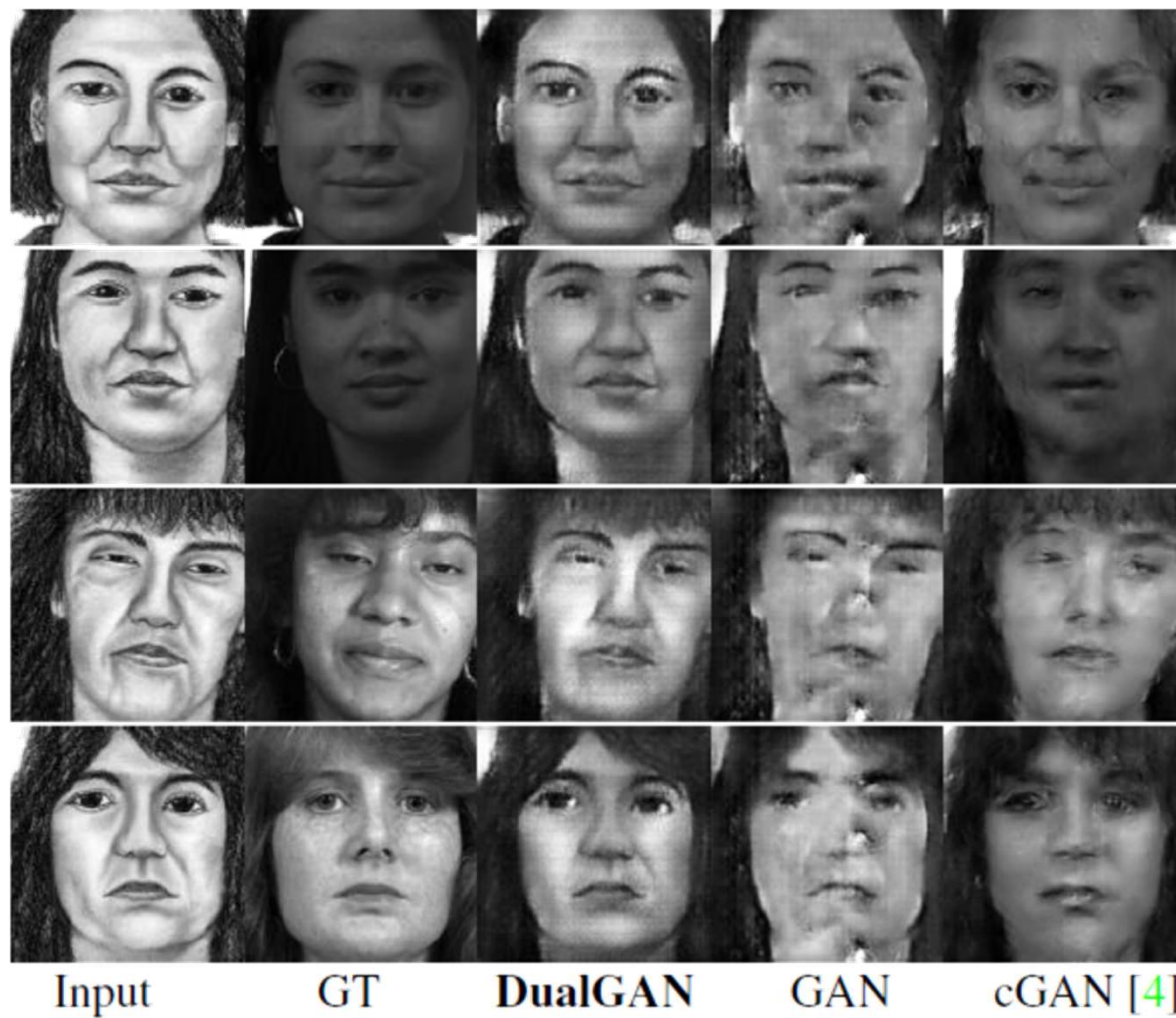
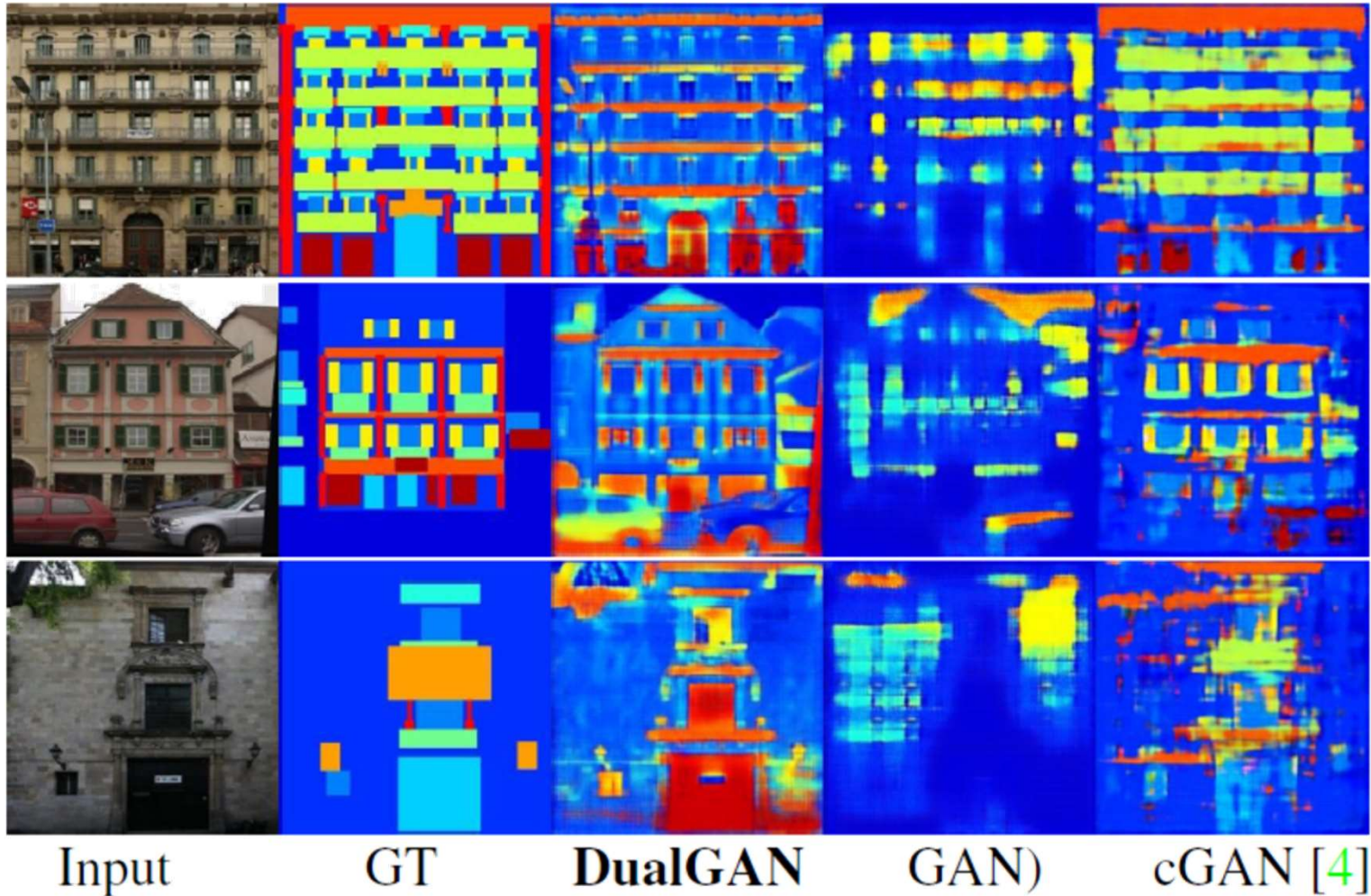


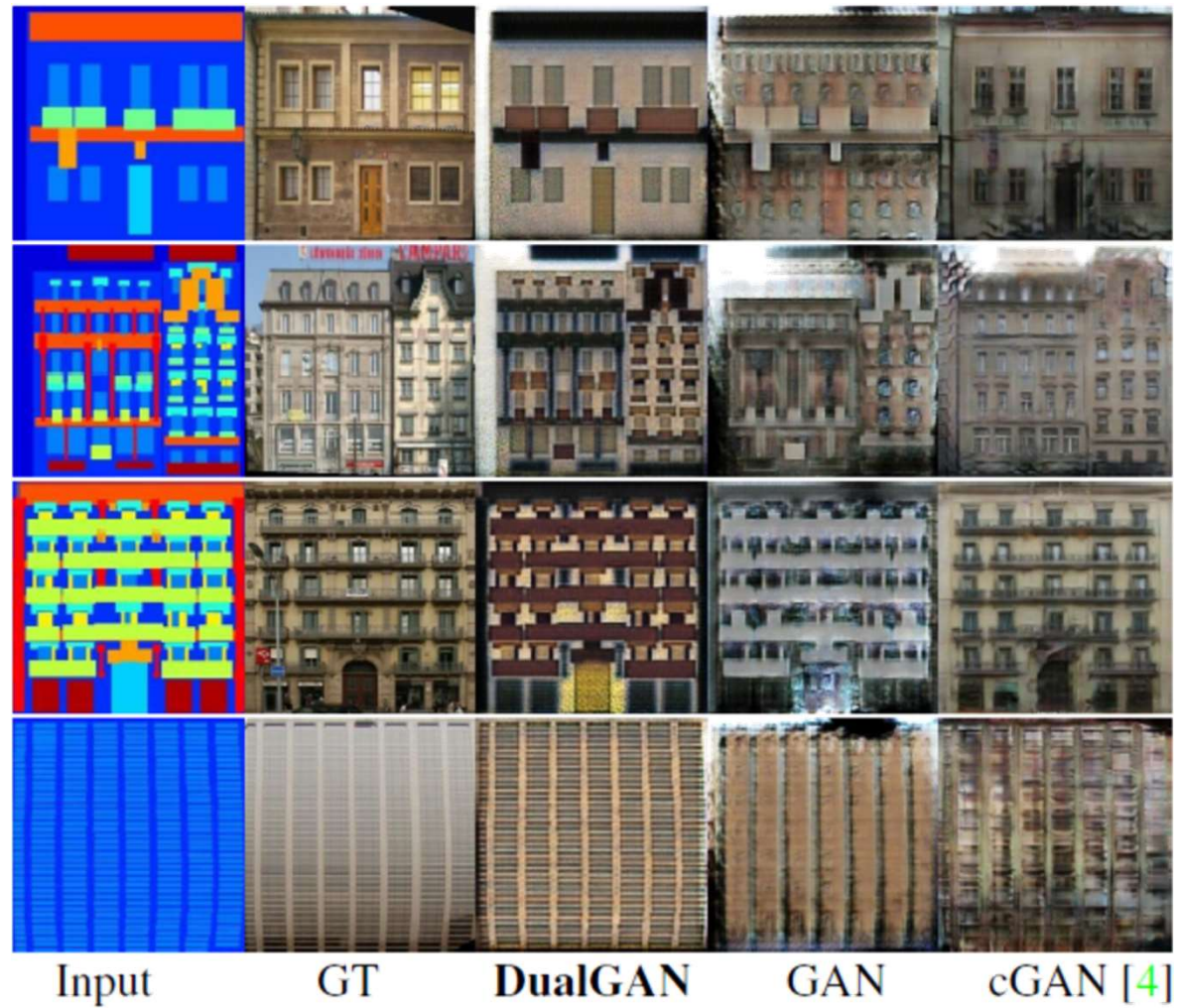
Photo → Sketch Translation



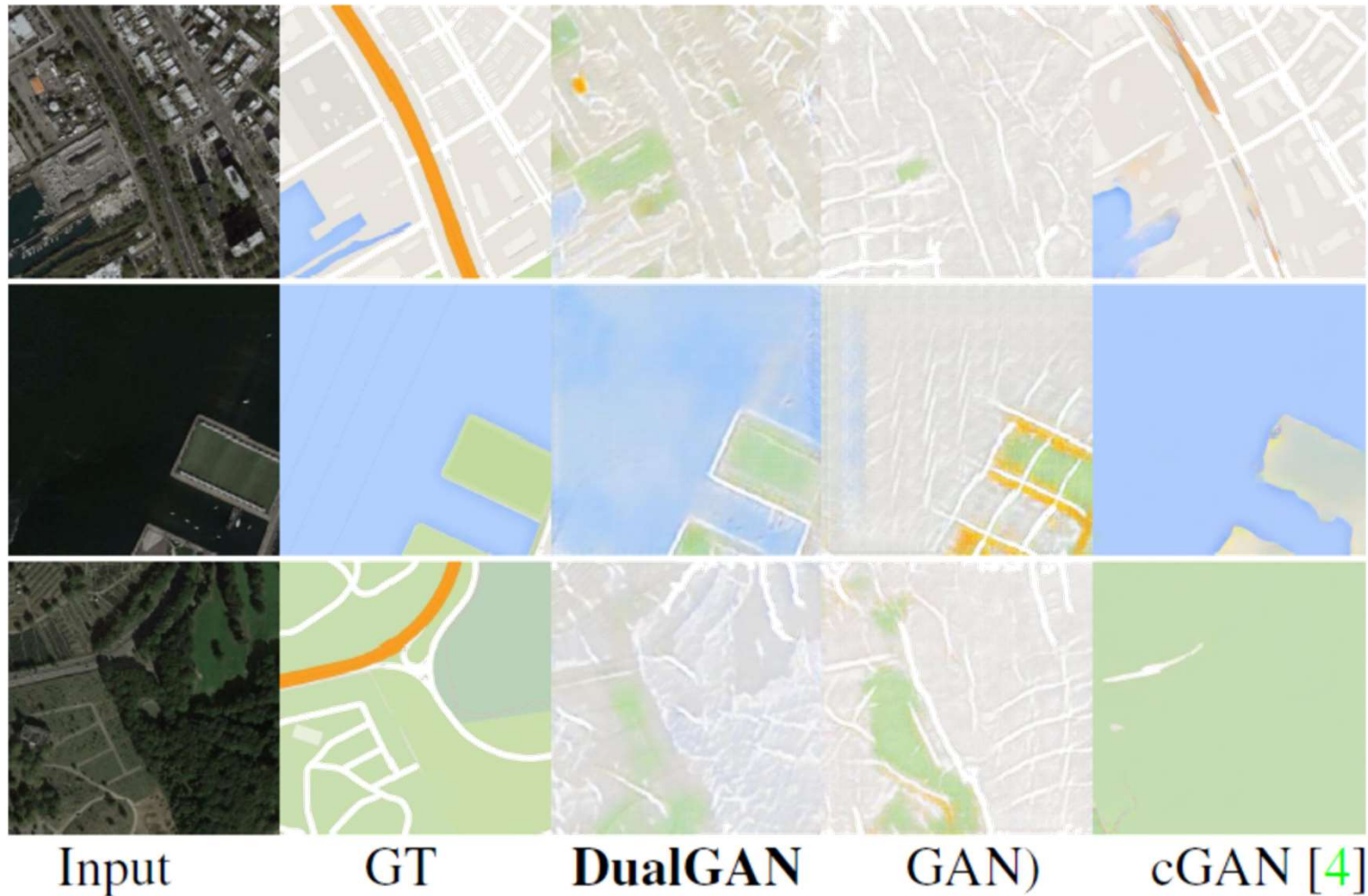
Sketch → Photo Translation



Facades → Label Translation



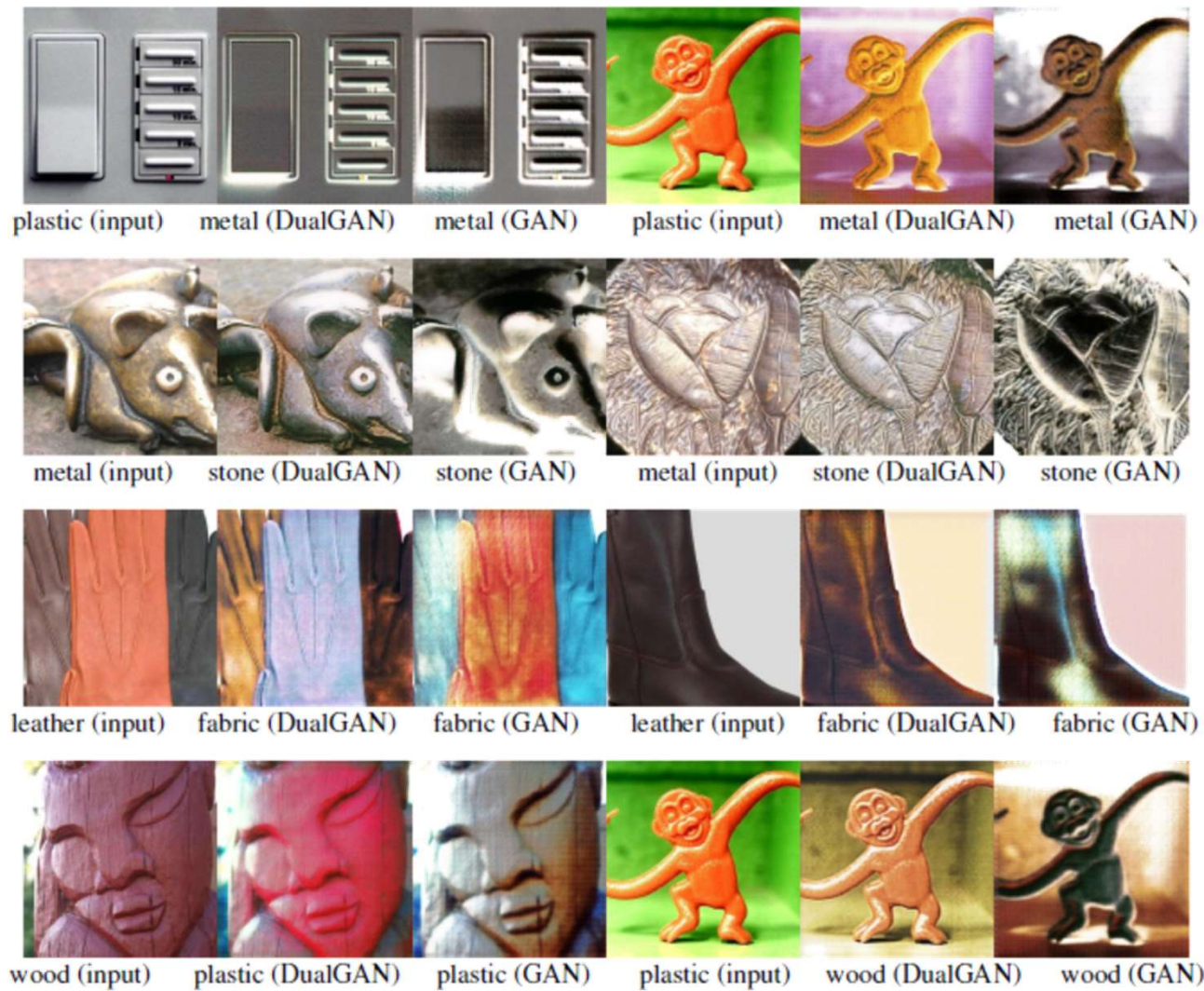
Label → Facade Translation



Aerial Photo → Map Translation



Map → Aerial Photo Translation



Material Transfer

- **Two user studies were conducted through Amazon Mechanical Turk (AMT)**
 - **AMT is an online platform where a number of Human Turkers are hired to evaluate experimental results or label data**
- **Quantitative evaluation is also performed on image segmentation results**

Evaluation

- **Run AMT test on 4 translation results:**
 - sketch→photo, label map→facades, maps→aerial photo, day→night
- **Randomly shuffle real photos & outputs from GAN, cGAN, and DualGAN**
 - Each image is shown to 20 Turkers, who score the “realness” of the image
 - Score ranges from: 0 (totally missing), 1 (bad), 2 (acceptable), 3 (good), to 4 (compelling)

Image Realness Test

Task	DualGAN	cGAN[4]	GAN	Real Photo
sketch→photo	1.87	1.69	1.04	3.56
day→night	2.42	1.89	0.13	3.05
label→facades	1.89	2.59	1.43	3.33
map→aerial	2.52	2.92	1.88	3.21

Average Realness Scores

- **Evaluates the material transfer results**
 - **Mix the outputs from all material transfer tasks**
 - A total of 176 output images
 - **Each image was evaluated by 10 Turkers**
 - Turkers choose the best match based on which material they believe the objects in the image are made of
 - **A output image is rated as successful if at least 3 Turkers selected the target material type**

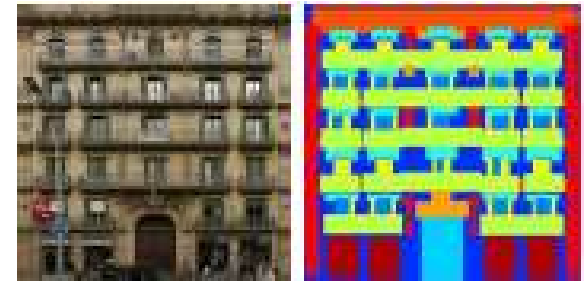
Material Perceptual Test

Task	DualGAN	GAN
plastic→wood	2/11	0/11
wood→plastic	1/11	0/11
metal→stone	2/11	0/11
stone→metal	2/11	0/11
leather→fabric	3/11	2/11
fabric→leather	2/11	1/11
plastic→metal	7/11	3/11
metal→plastic	1/11	0/11

Successful Material Transfer Rates

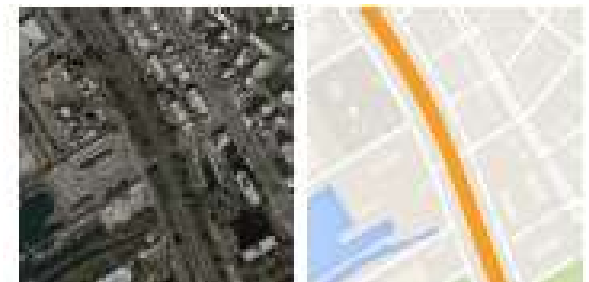
Accuracy for the facades→label

	DualGAN	cGAN	GAN
Per-pixel acc.	0.27	0.54	0.22
Per-class acc.	0.13	0.33	0.1
Class IOU	0.06	0.19	0.05



Accuracy for the aerial→map

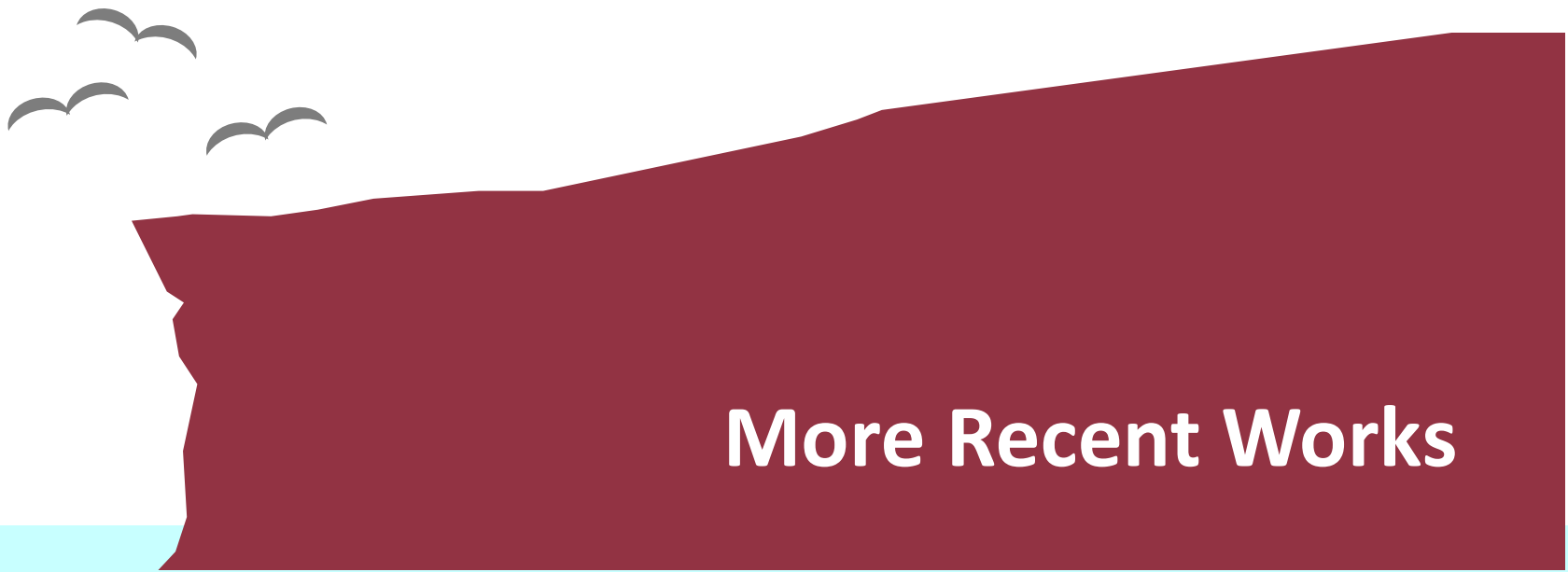
	DualGAN	cGAN	GAN
Per-pixel acc.	0.42	0.7	0.41
Per-class acc.	0.22	0.46	0.23
Class IOU	0.09	0.26	0.09



Segmentation Accuracy

- **A novel unsupervised solution to general-purpose image-to-image translation**
 - The unsupervised feature enables many more real world applications
 - Improves the outputs of vanilla GAN for various image-to-image translation tasks
 - With unlabeled data only, DualGAN can generate comparable or even better outputs than conditional GAN that can only be trained with labeled data

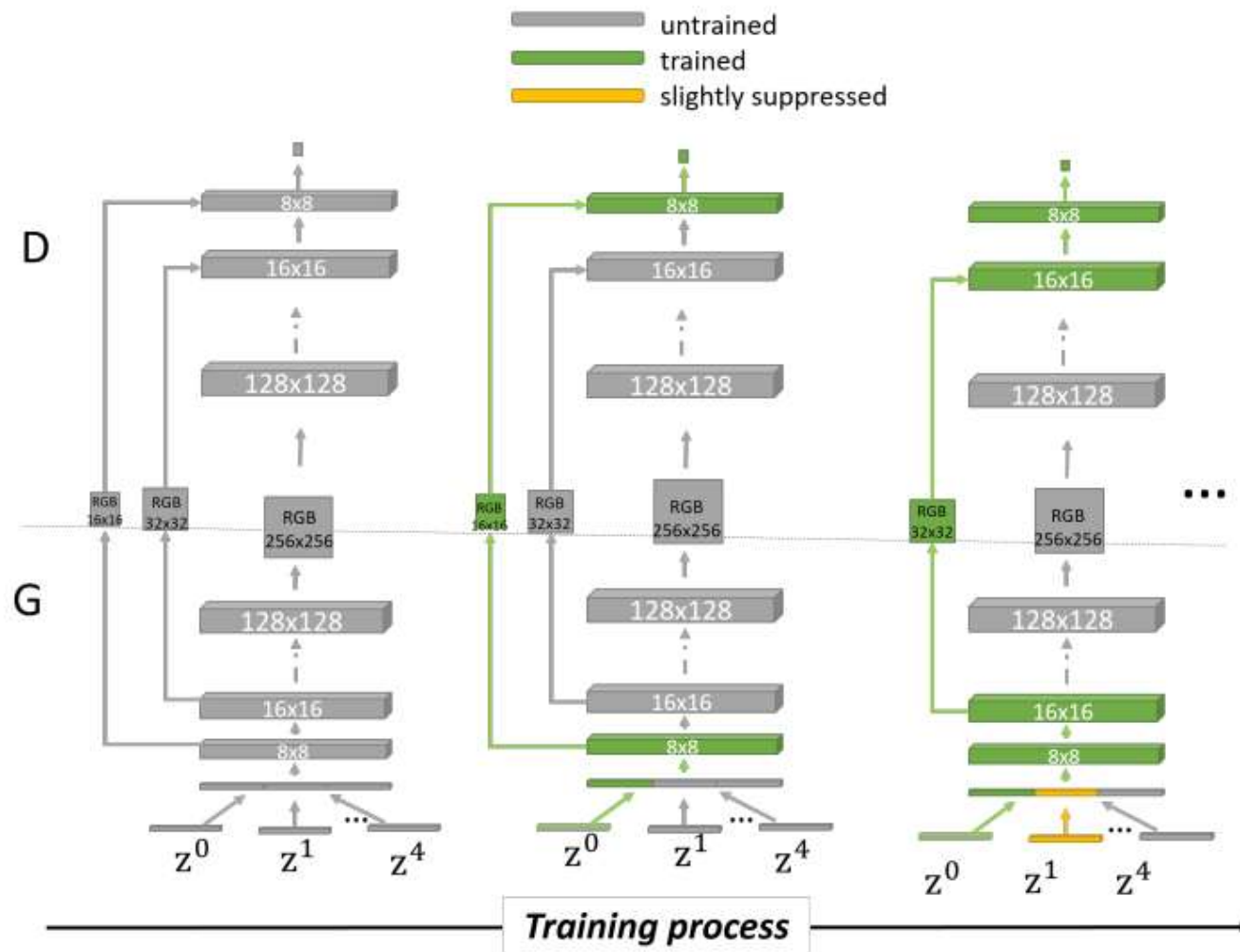
Conclusions



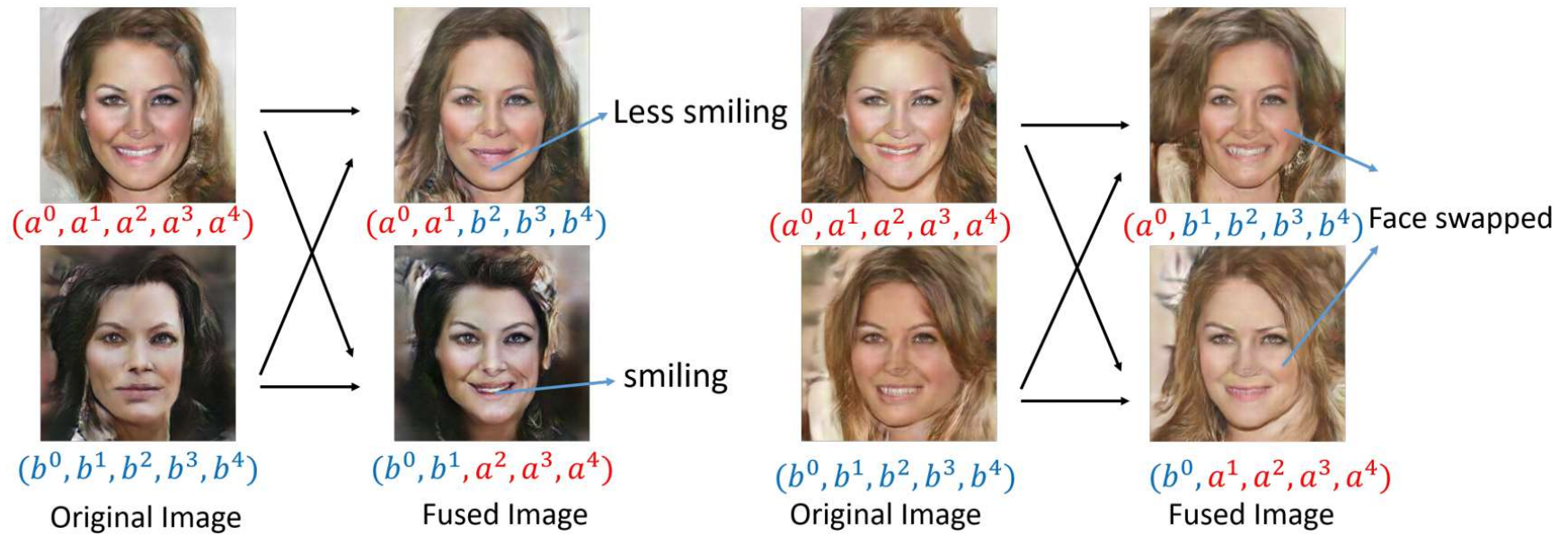
More Recent Works

- **Objectives:**
 - Learn scale-disentangled image representations/codings with GAN
 - Generate images in more controllable manner

Scale-Aware Image Fusion



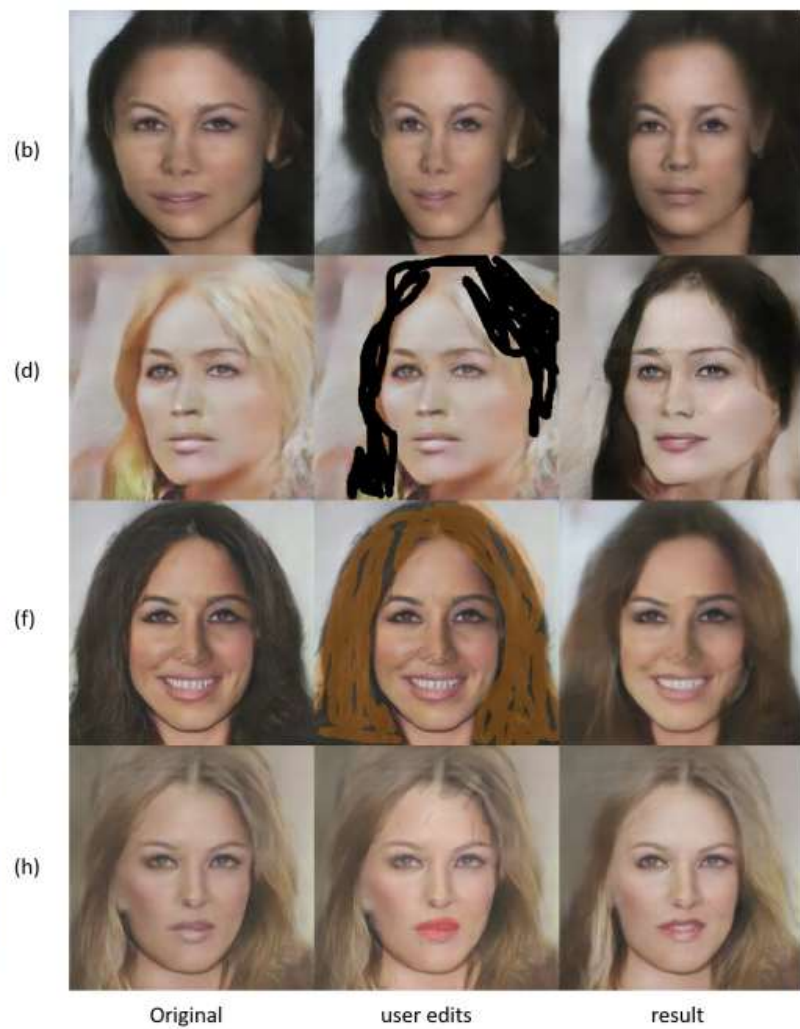
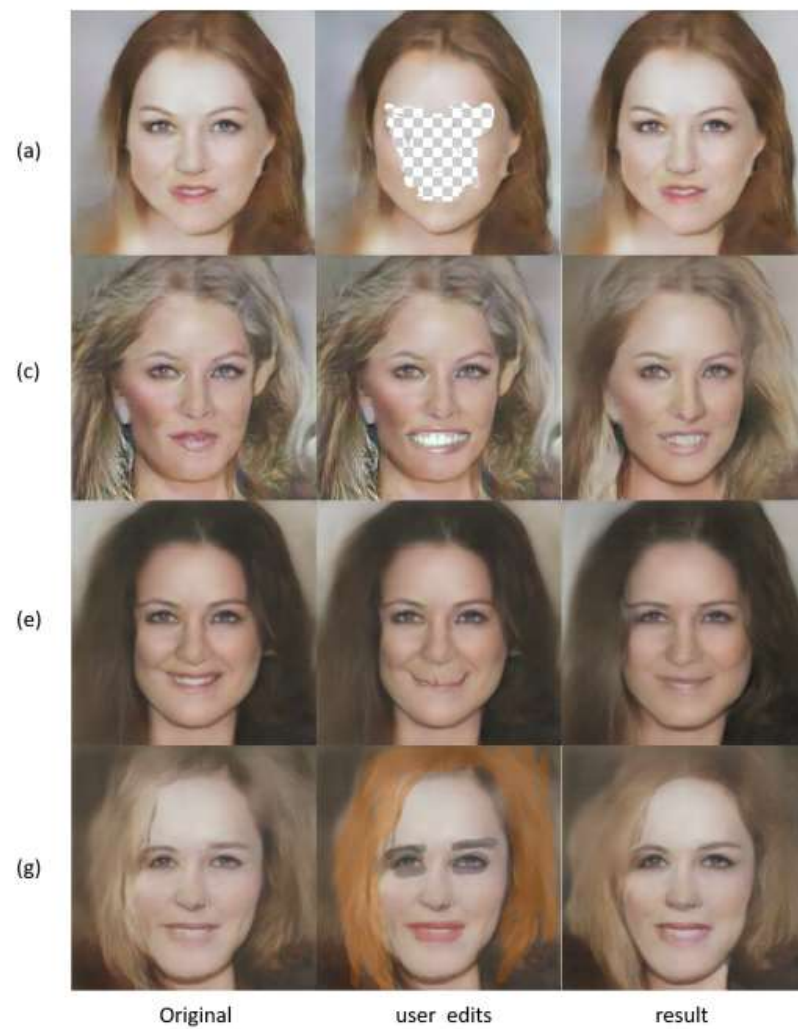
Proposed Model



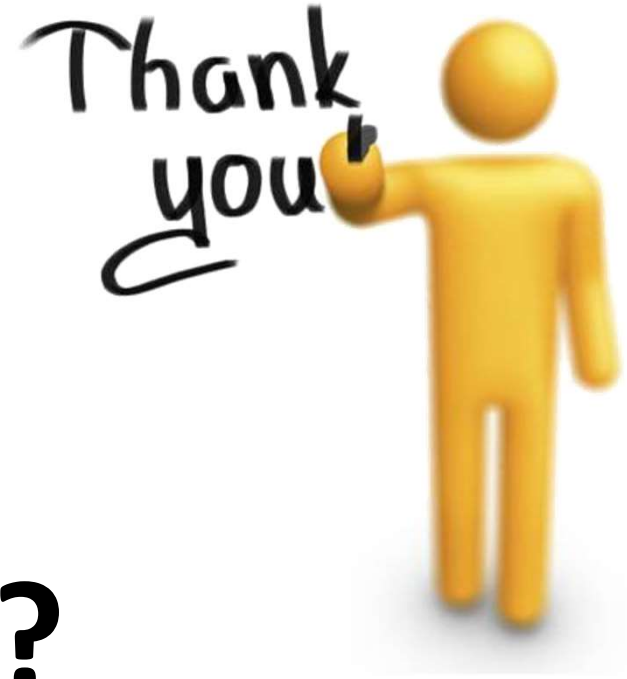
Results

- **Train a GAN for high-resolution image generation**
- **Train an encoder that maps an image to codes**
- **Adopt user inputs from a painting panel**
- **Optimize the image codes to fit user inputs**
 - **Gradient descent**

Manipulation of Image Generation



Results



Questions?

- Many image processing and computer vision tasks, such as image segmentation, stylization, and abstraction, can be posed as image-to-image translation problems. This talk presents two different image-to-image translation approaches, one is rule-based and the other is learning-based.
- The rule-based algorithm is capable of stylizing an input face photo using a single exemplar image. Since the numbers and varieties of patch samples are highly limited, special cares are put into sample selection to best preserve the identity and content of the input face. A two-phase procedure is also designed, where colors are transferred first in a semantic-aware manner, followed by edge-preserving texture transfer.
- The learning-based algorithm employs Conditional Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) to perform general cross-domain image-to-image translation. It requires a large set of training images, but unlike existing approaches, the images do not need to be labeled. To train in an unsupervised manner, two GANs are constructed to translate images in opposite directions, forming a closed loop. As a result, images from either domain can be translated to the other and then reconstructed, enabling a reconstruction error term for training.

Abstract