

# Implicit Generation and Generalization with Energy Based Models

Yilun Du and Igor Mordatch

# Energy-Based Model

- Distribution defined by energy function

$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\exp(-E_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}))}{Z(\theta)} \quad Z(\theta) = \int \exp(-E_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})) d\mathbf{x}$$



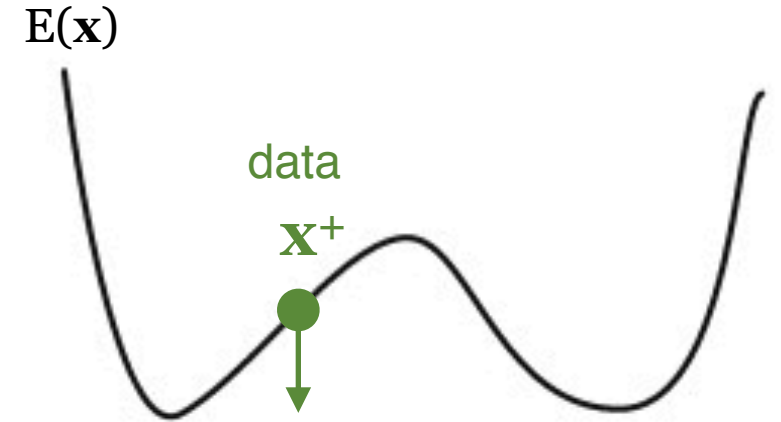
see [LeCun et al, 2006] for review

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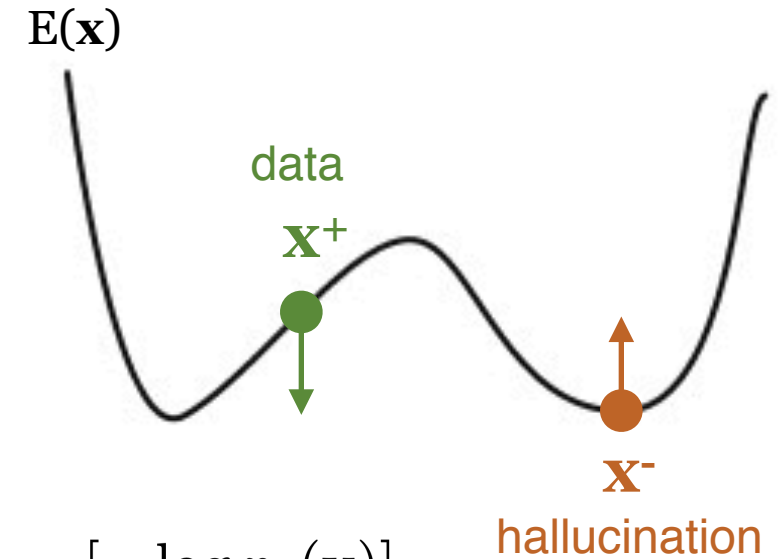
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- gradient:  $\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}^+ \sim p_D} [\nabla_{\theta} E_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}^+)] - \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}^- \sim p_{\theta}} [\nabla_{\theta} E_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}^-)]$

See [Turner, 2006] for derivation





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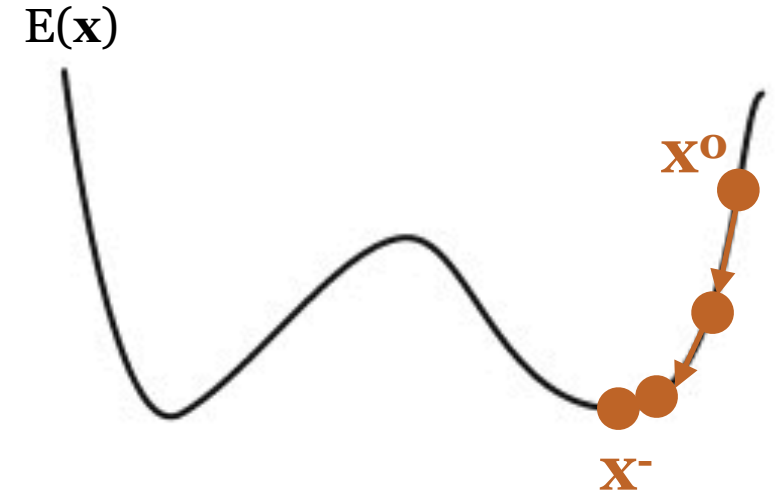
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- Generate model samples implicitly via stochastic optimization

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^k = \tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{k-1} - \frac{\lambda}{2} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} E_{\theta}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{k-1}) + \omega^k, \quad \omega^k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \lambda)$$

Langevin Dynamics  
[Welling and Teh, 2011]



# Why Energy-Based Generative Models?

## ① Implicit Generation

- Flexibility
- One Object to Learn
- Compositionality
- Generic Initialization and Computation Time

## ② Intriguing Properties

- Robustness
- Online Learning

# Why Do EBMs Work Now?

More compute and modern deep learning practices

## Faster Sampling

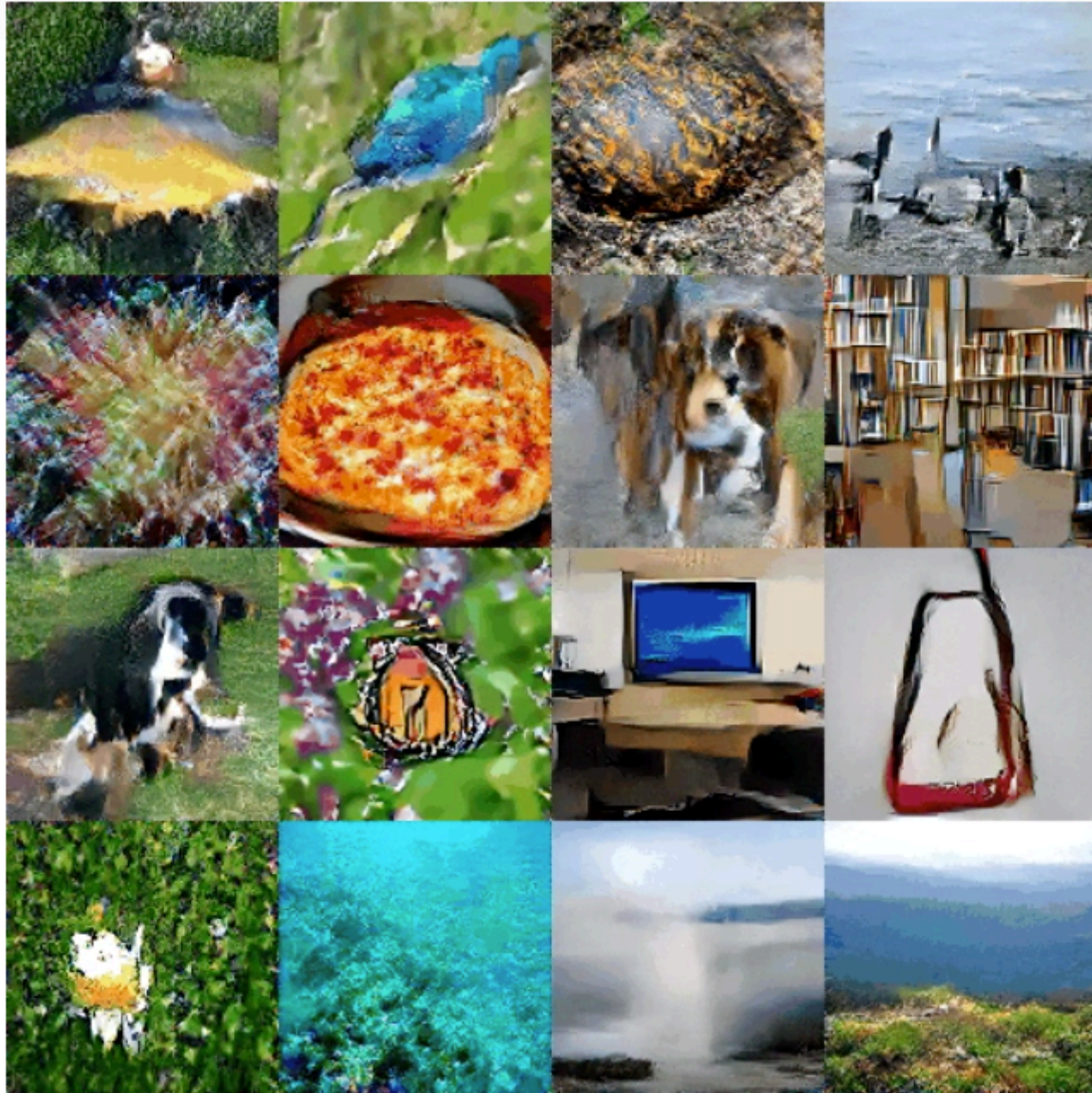
- Continuous gradient based sampling using Langevin Dynamics
- Replay buffer of past samples (similar to persistent CD)

## Stability improvements

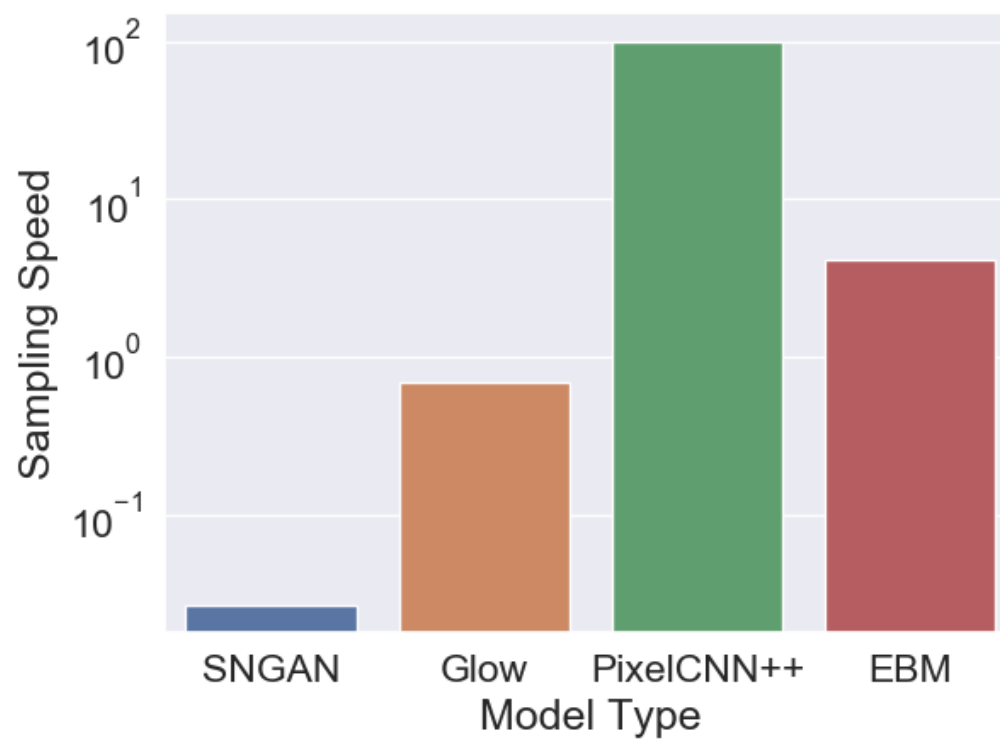
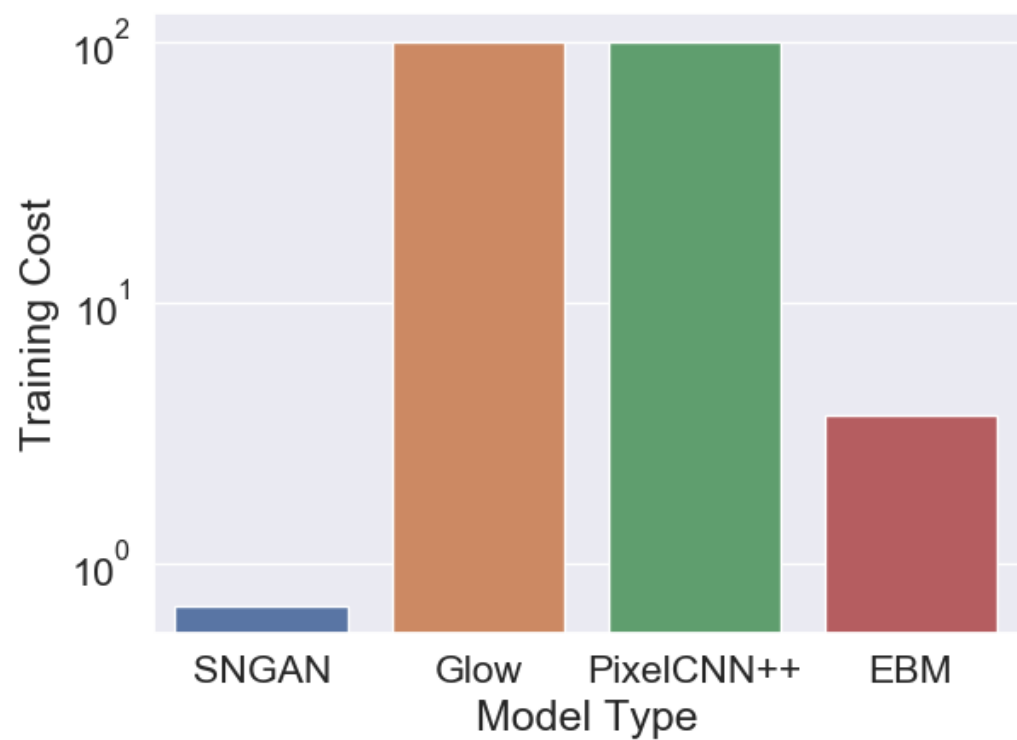
- Constrain Lipschitz constant of energy function (spectral norm)
- Smoother activations (swish)
- And others ...







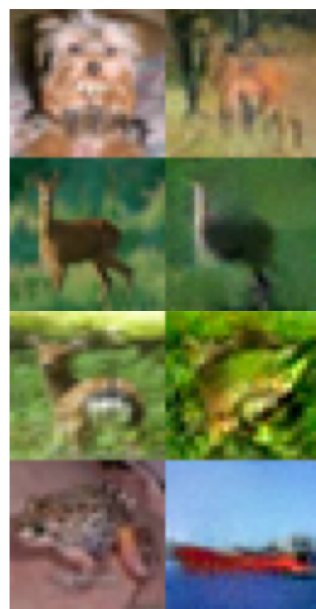
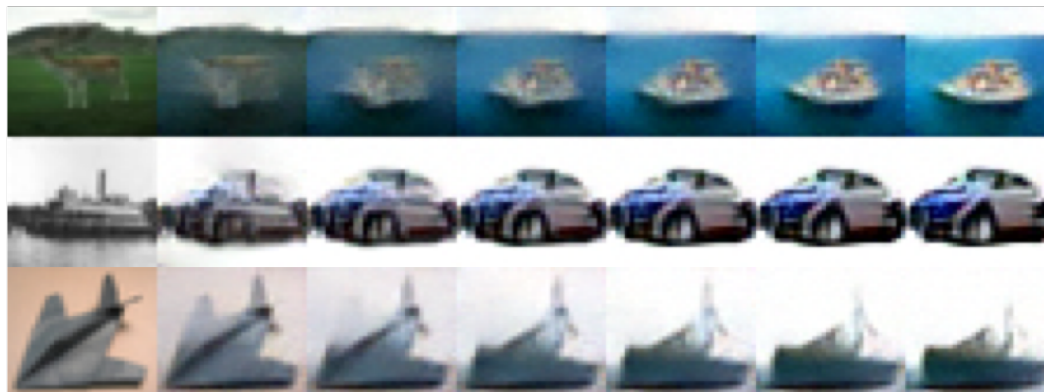
# Comparison to Other Generative Models







# Cross Class Mapping



Deer

Bird

Frog

Ship



Car

Airplane

Ship

Truck



Frog

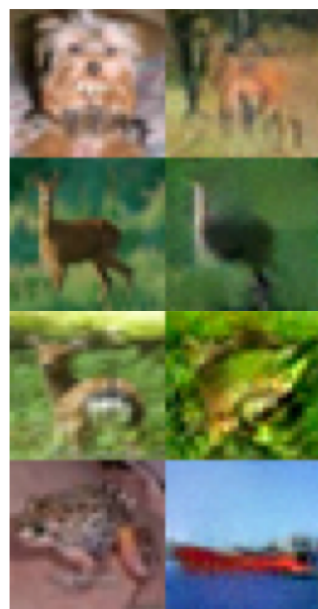
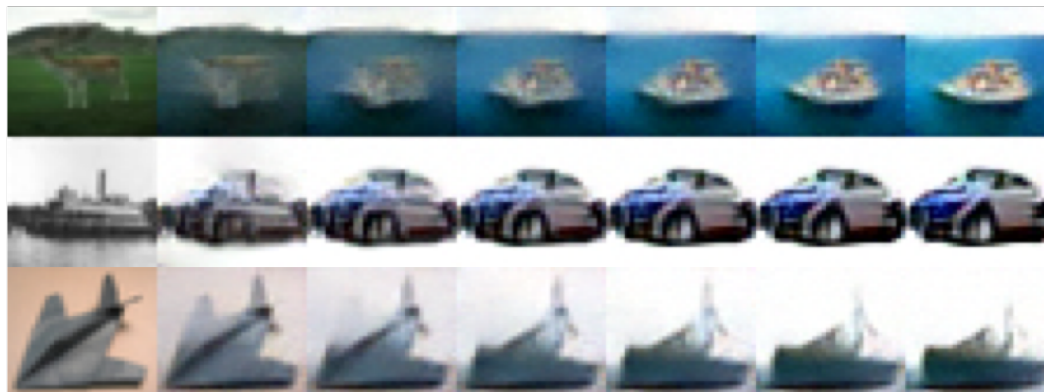
Automobile

Ship

Deer



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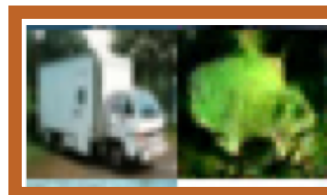


Car

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Truck



Frog

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Deer

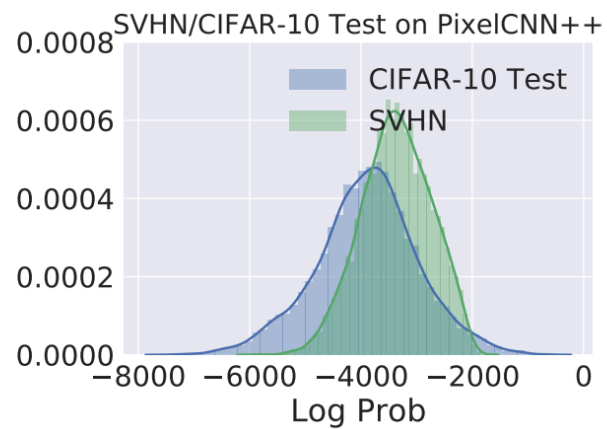
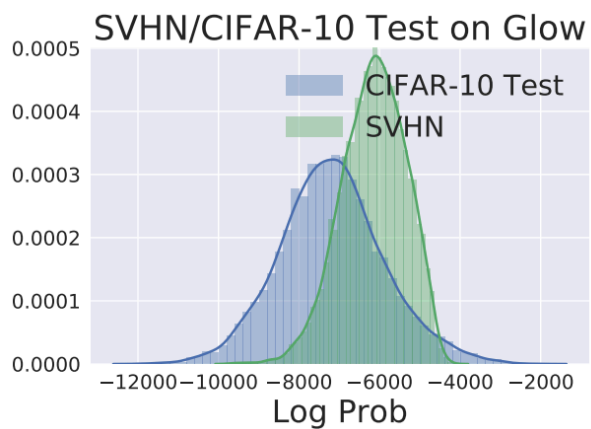
# Surprising Benefits of Energy-Based Models

- Robustness
- Continual Learning
- Compositionality
- Trajectory Modeling

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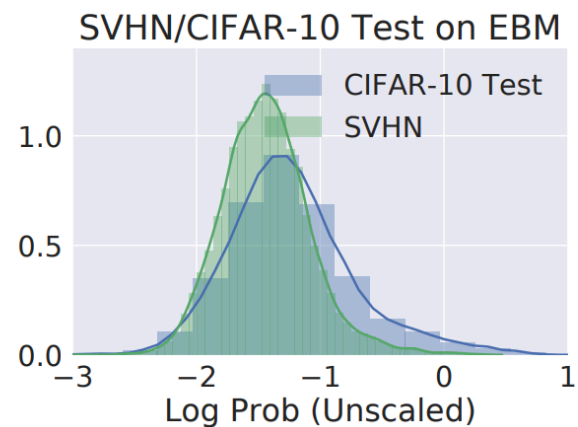
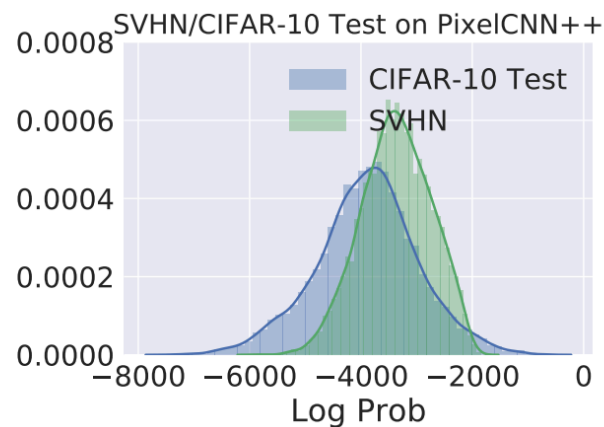
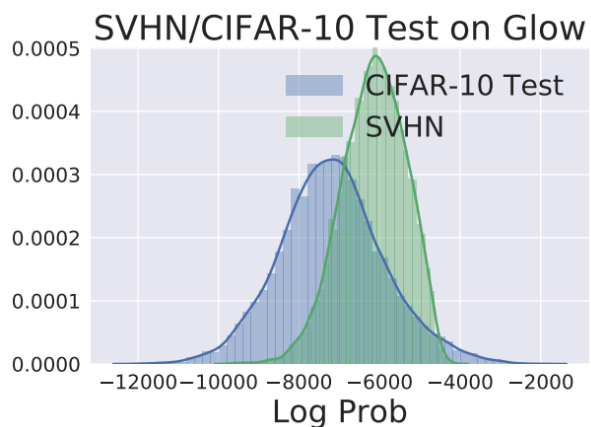
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# Out-of-Distribution Relative Likelihoods



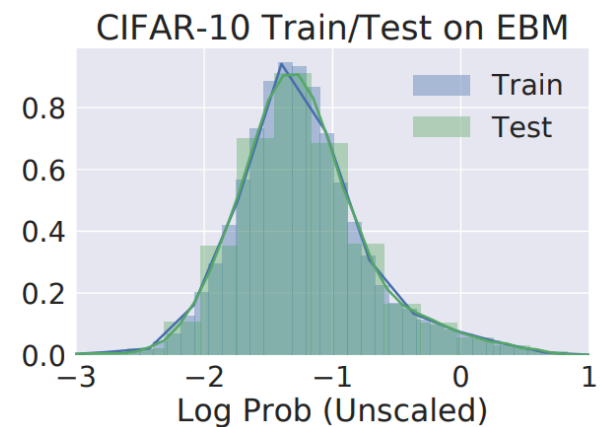
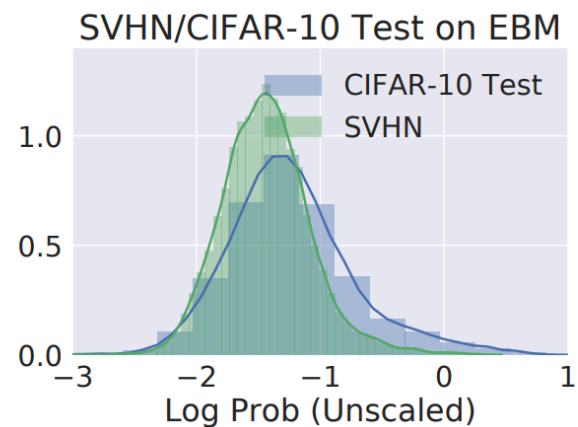
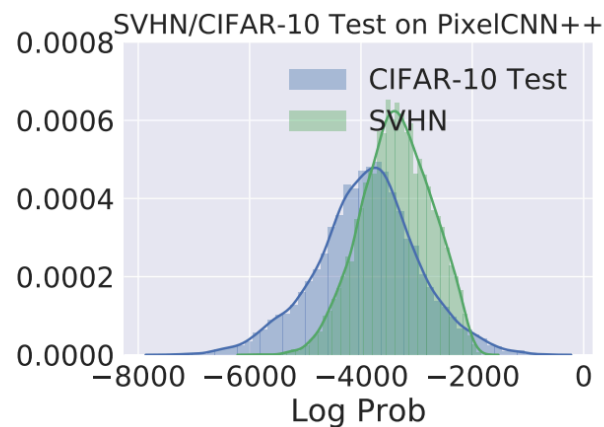
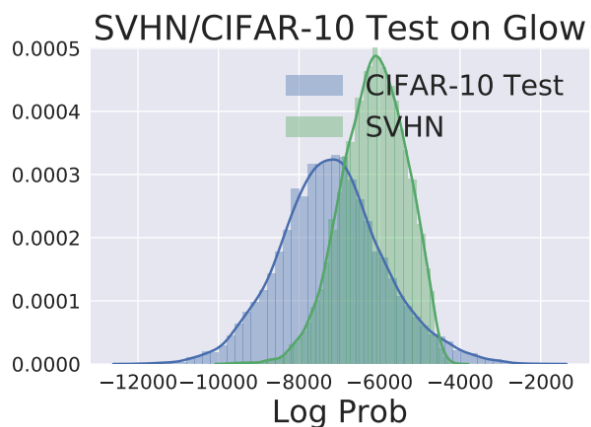
Also observed by [Hendrycks et al 2018]  
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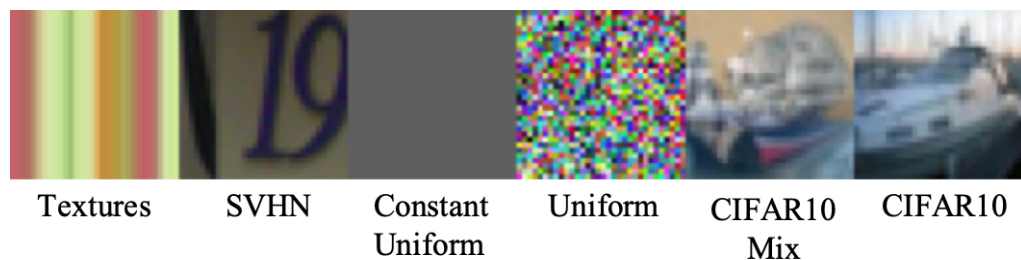
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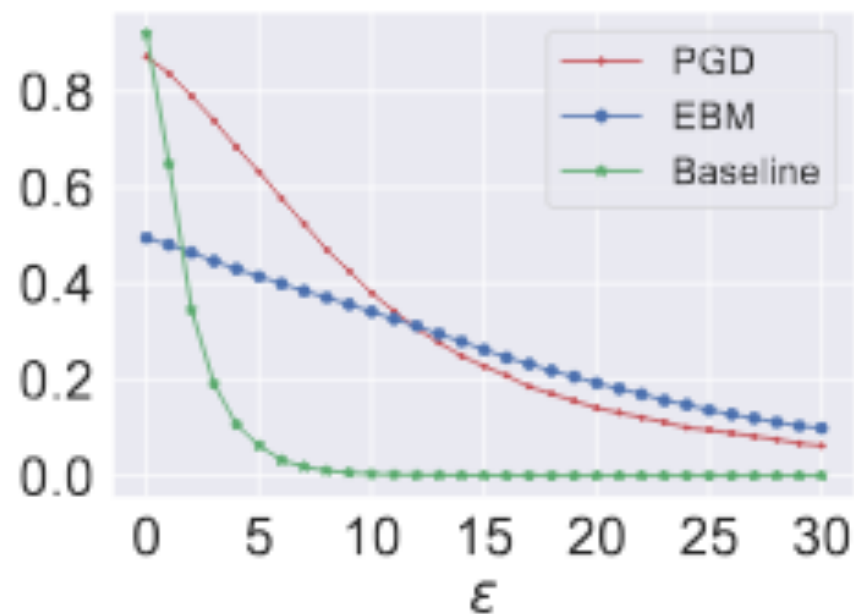
# Out-of-Distribution Generalization

- Following [Hendrycks and Gimpel, 2016]

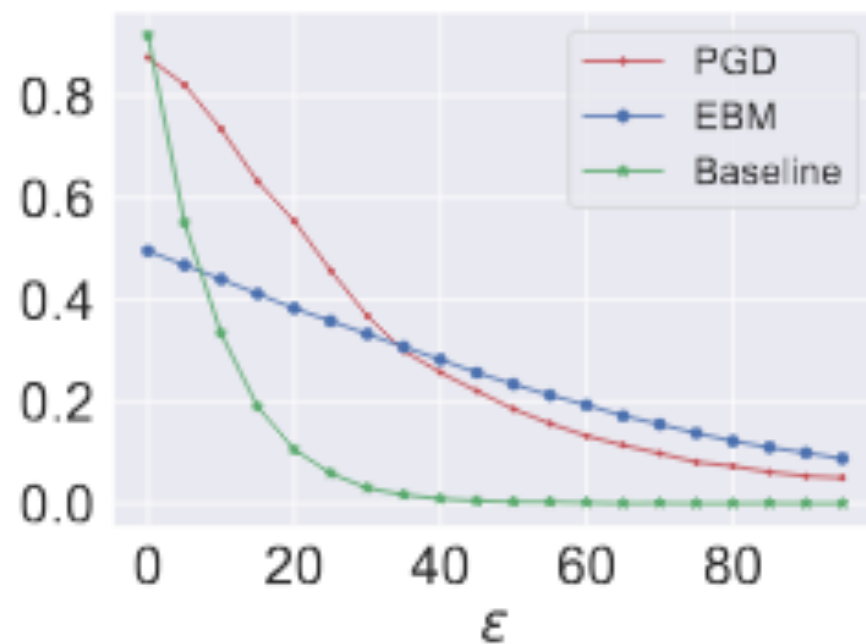


Model	SVHN	Textures	Monochrome Uniform	Uniform	CIFAR10 Interpolation	Average
PixelCNN++	0.32	0.33	0.0	1.0	<b>0.71</b>	0.47
Glow	0.24	0.27	0.0	1.0	0.59	0.42
EBM (ours)	<b>0.63</b>	<b>0.48</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>1.0</b>	0.70	<b>0.62</b>

# Robust Classification



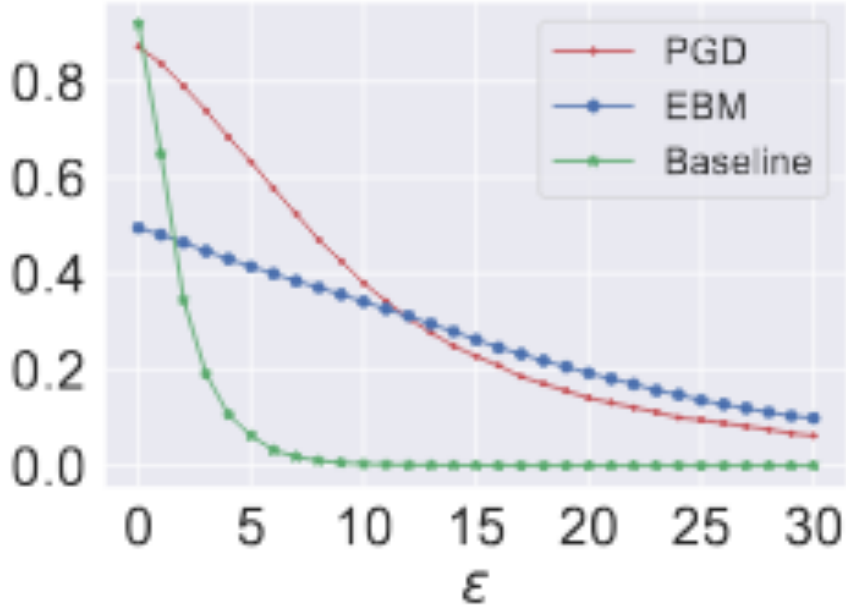
(a)  $L_\infty$  robustness



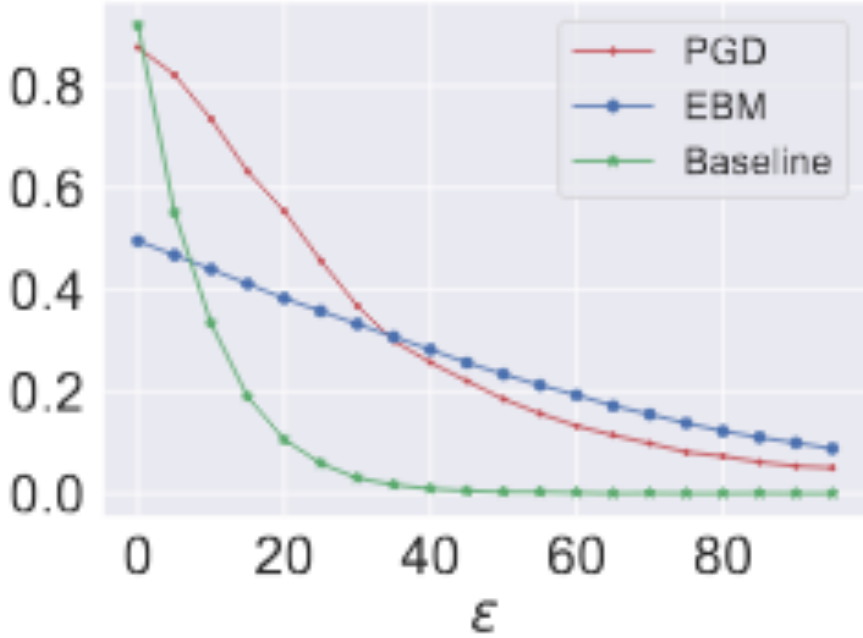
(b)  $L_2$  Robustness



# Robust Classification



(a)  $L_\infty$  robustness



(b)  $L_2$  Robustness

(recent follow-up submission at ICLR 2020 improves baseline EBM performance)

# Surprising Benefits of Energy-Based Models

- Robustness
- **Continual Learning**
- Compositionality
- Trajectory Modeling

# Continual Learning: Split MNIST

	Method	Memory	Incremental task learning	Incremental domain learning	Incremental class learning
Baselines	Adam		93.46 $\pm$ 2.01	55.16 $\pm$ 1.38	19.71 $\pm$ 0.08
	SGD		97.98 $\pm$ 0.09	63.20 $\pm$ 0.35	19.46 $\pm$ 0.04
	Adagrad		98.06 $\pm$ 0.53	58.08 $\pm$ 1.06	19.82 $\pm$ 0.09
	L2		98.18 $\pm$ 0.96	66.00 $\pm$ 3.73	22.52 $\pm$ 1.08
	Naive rehearsal	✓	99.40 $\pm$ 0.08	95.16 $\pm$ 0.49	90.78 $\pm$ 0.85
	Naive rehearsal-C	✓	<b>99.57</b> $\pm$ 0.07	<b>97.11</b> $\pm$ 0.34	<b>95.59</b> $\pm$ 0.49
Continual learning methods	EWC		97.70 $\pm$ 0.81	58.85 $\pm$ 2.59	19.80 $\pm$ 0.05
	Online EWC		98.04 $\pm$ 1.10	57.33 $\pm$ 1.44	19.77 $\pm$ 0.04
	SI		98.56 $\pm$ 0.49	64.76 $\pm$ 3.09	19.67 $\pm$ 0.09
	MAS		99.22 $\pm$ 0.21	68.57 $\pm$ 6.85	19.52 $\pm$ 0.29
	LwF		99.60 $\pm$ 0.03	71.02 $\pm$ 1.26	24.17 $\pm$ 0.33
	GEM	✓	98.42 $\pm$ 0.10	96.16 $\pm$ 0.35	92.20 $\pm$ 0.12
	DGR	✓	99.47 $\pm$ 0.03	95.74 $\pm$ 0.23	91.24 $\pm$ 0.33
	RtF	✓	<b>99.66</b> $\pm$ 0.03	<b>97.31</b> $\pm$ 0.11	<b>92.56</b> $\pm$ 0.21
	Offline (upper bound)		99.52 $\pm$ 0.16	98.59 $\pm$ 0.15	97.53 $\pm$ 0.30

Evaluation by [Hsu et al., 2019]

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**EBM: 64.99 ± 4.27**  
(10 seeds)

Evaluation by [Hsu et al., 2019]

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Would any generative model work instead?  
Doesn't look like it:

VAE: 40.04 ± 1.31

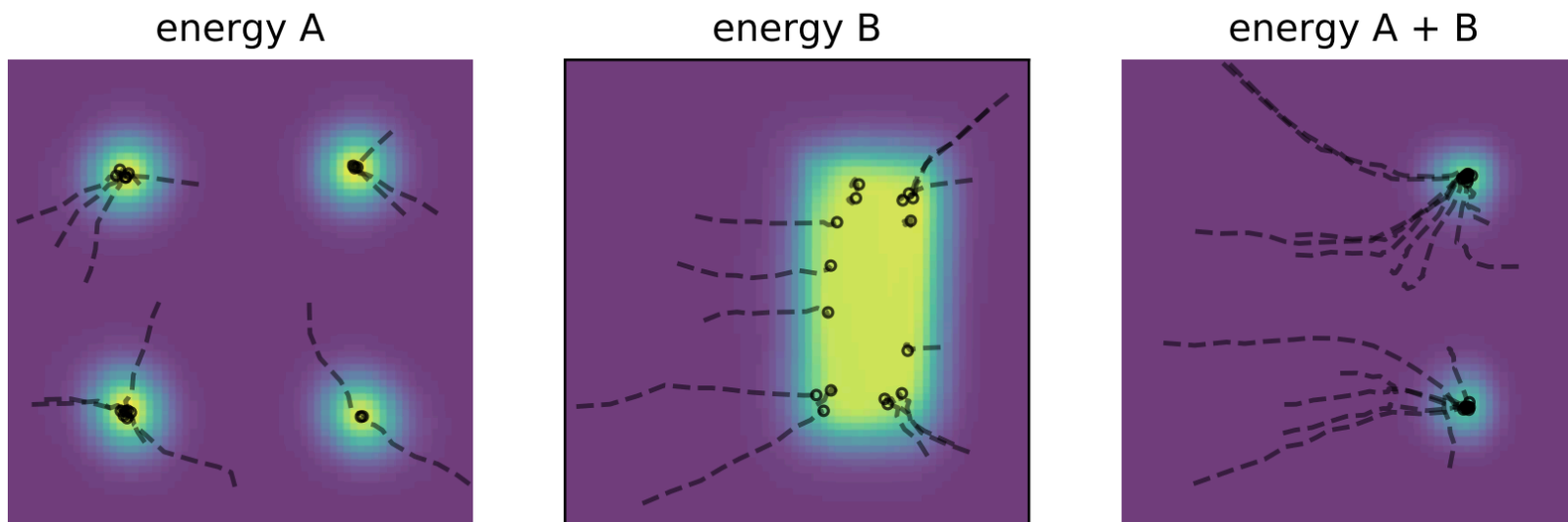
Evaluation by [Hsu et al, 2019]

# Surprising Benefits of Energy-Based Models

- Robustness
- Continual Learning
- **Compositionality**
- Trajectory Modeling

# Compositionality via Sum of EBMs

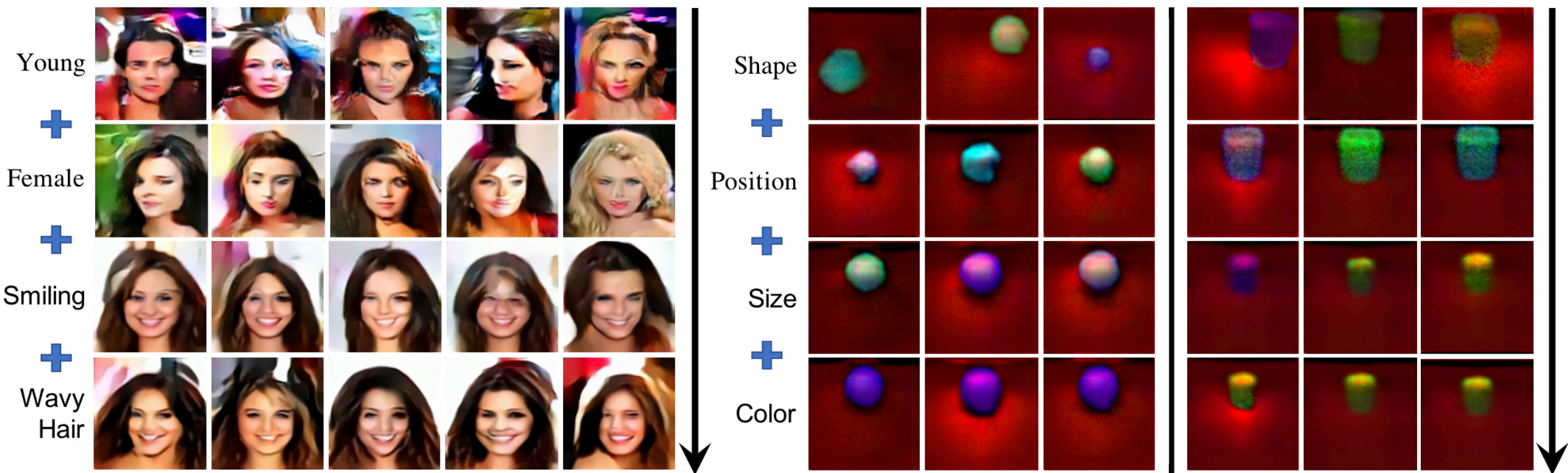
[Hinton, 1999]



Specify a concept by successively adding constraints

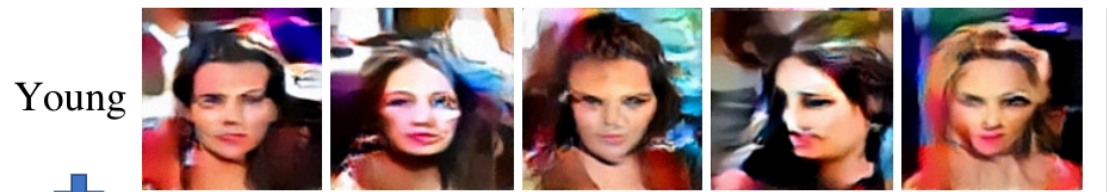


# Compositionality via Sum of Energies



Specify a concept by successively adding constraints

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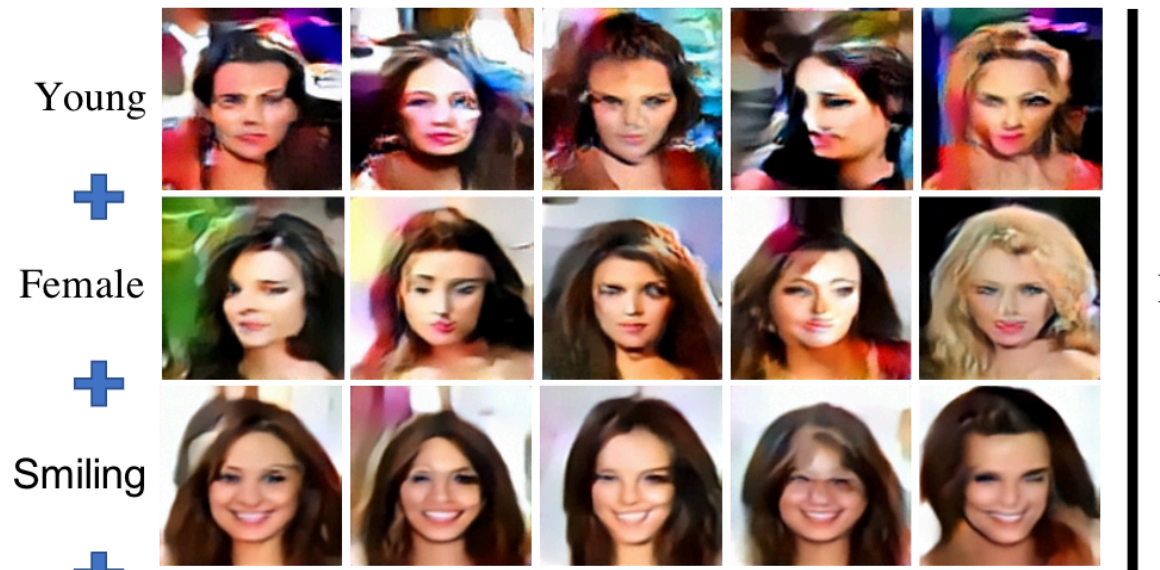
Compositional Visual Generation with EBMs [Du, Li, Mordatch, 2019]

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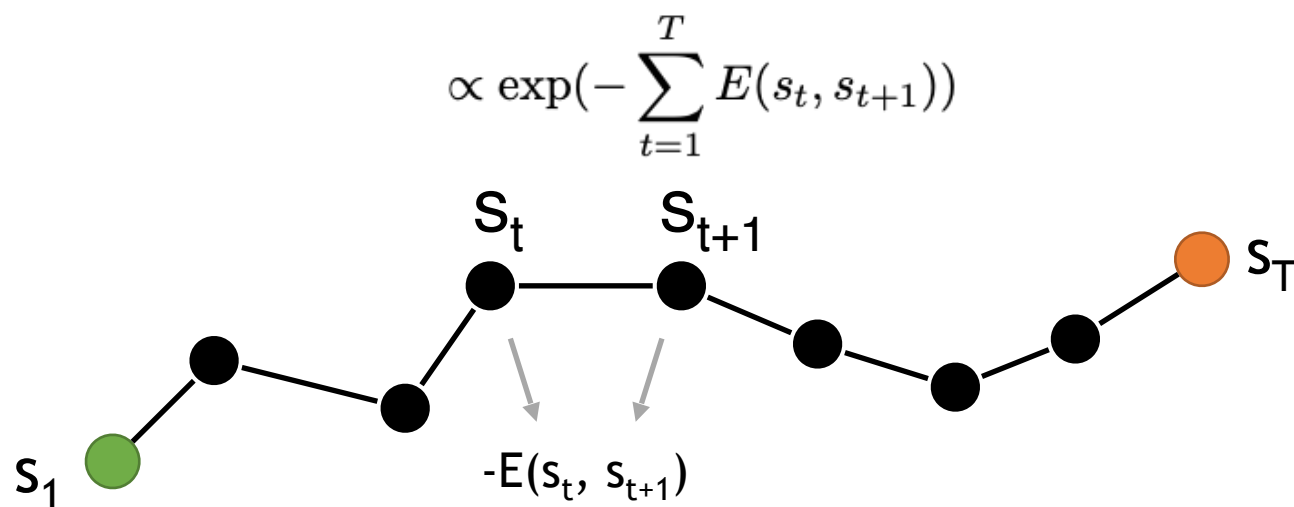
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# EBMs for Trajectory Modeling and Control

[Du, Lin, Mordatch, 2019]

- Train energy to model pairwise state transitions  $s_t, s_{t+1}$
- Trajectory probability:

$$p_{\theta}(\tau) = p_{\theta}(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_T) = \prod_{t=1}^{T-1} p_{\theta}(s_t, s_{t+1})$$

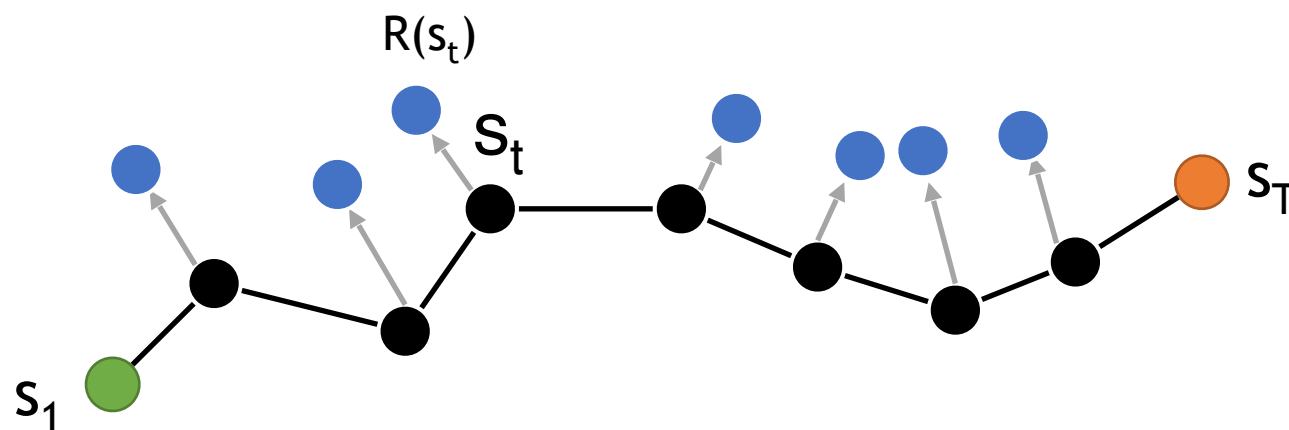


# EBMs for Trajectory Modeling and Control

[Du, Lin, Mordatch, 2019]

- Train energy to model pairwise state transitions  $s_t, s_{t+1}$
- Generate trajectories that achieve specific tasks:

$$p_{\theta}(s_2, \dots, s_T | s_1, R) \propto \exp\left(- \underbrace{\sum_{t=1}^{T-1} E(s_t, s_{t+1})}_{\text{EBM}} - \underbrace{\sum_{t=1}^T R(s_t)}_{\text{Task}}\right)$$



(similar to direct trajectory optimization)



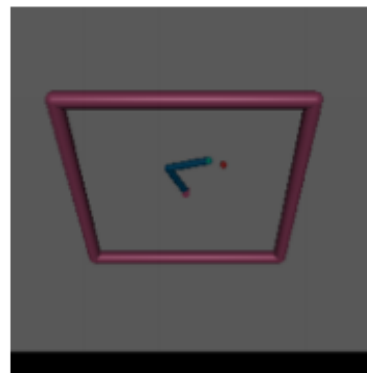
# EBMs for Control



Particle Environment



Maze Environment



Reacher Environment

Data	Model	Particle	Maze	Reacher
Pretrained	EBM	<b>-5.14</b>	-72.07	<b>-19.38</b>
	Action FF	-6.11	<b>-65.06</b>	-25.54
Online	EBM	<b>-20.38</b>	<b>-162.97</b>	<b>-29.87</b>
	Action FF	-850.67	-949.99	-42.37

# Source Code

- Images
  - [https://github.com/openai/ebm\\_code\\_release](https://github.com/openai/ebm_code_release)
- Trajectories
  - [https://github.com/yilundu/model\\_based\\_planning\\_ebm](https://github.com/yilundu/model_based_planning_ebm)
- Compositionality
  - [https://drive.google.com/file/d/138w7Oj8rQl\\_e40\\_RfZJq2WKWb41NgKn3](https://drive.google.com/file/d/138w7Oj8rQl_e40_RfZJq2WKWb41NgKn3)
- Interactive Notebook
  - [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fCFRw\\_YtqQPSNoqznlh2b1L2baFgLz4W/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fCFRw_YtqQPSNoqznlh2b1L2baFgLz4W/view)