

# Estimating the intrinsic dimensionality using Normalizing Flows

*NeurIPS 2022*

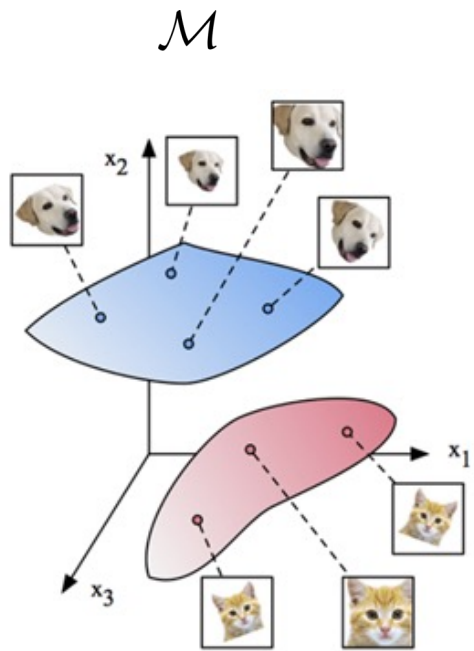
Christian Horvat<sup>b</sup>, Jean-Pascal Pfister<sup>b</sup>

*u*<sup>b</sup>

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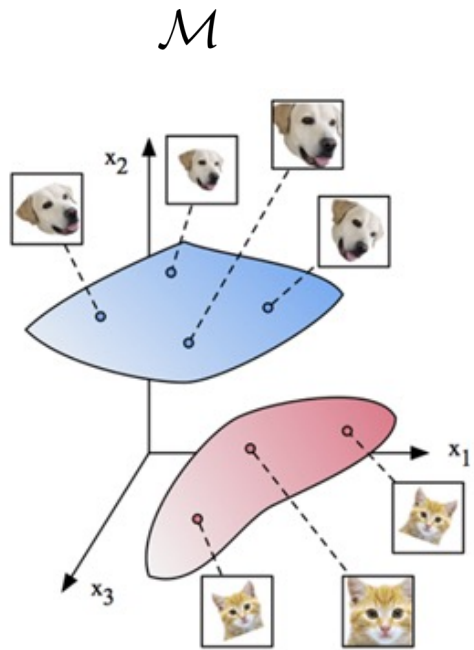
<sup>b</sup>  
**UNIVERSITÄT  
BERN**

# Motivation



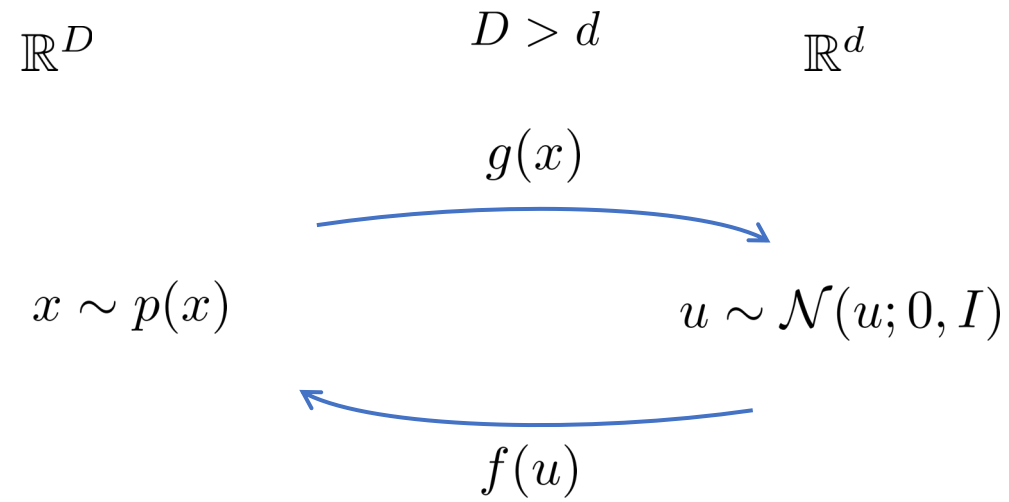
\*Fefferman et. al (2016)

# Motivation

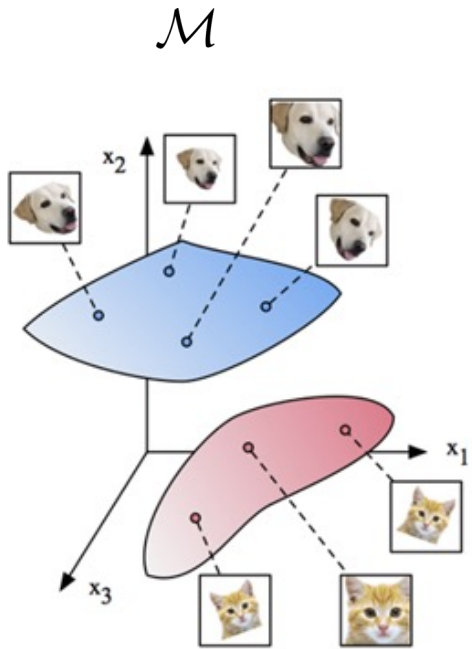


\*Fefferman et. al (2016)

## Manifold hypothesis

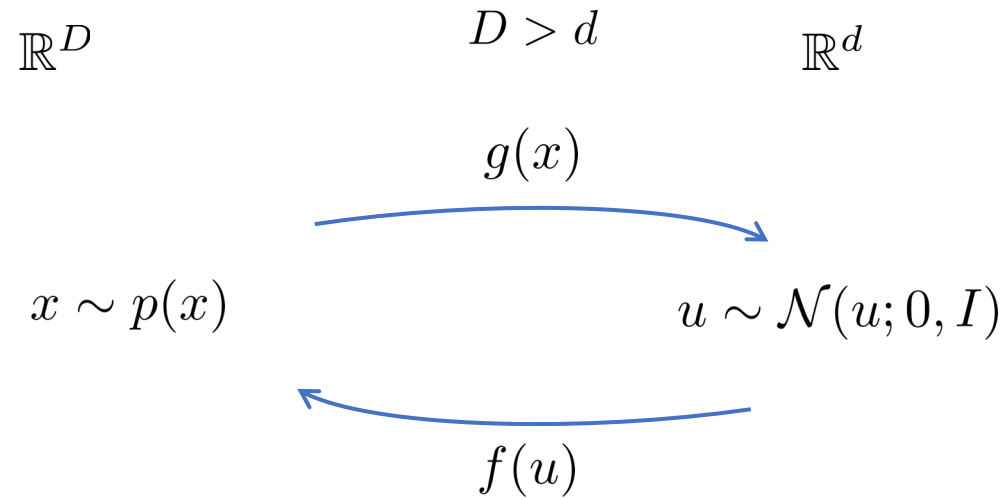


# Motivation



\*Fefferman et. al (2016)

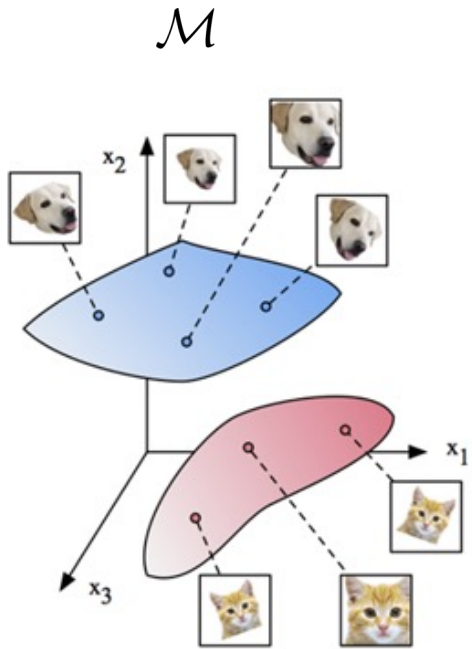
## Manifold hypothesis



## Latent variable models

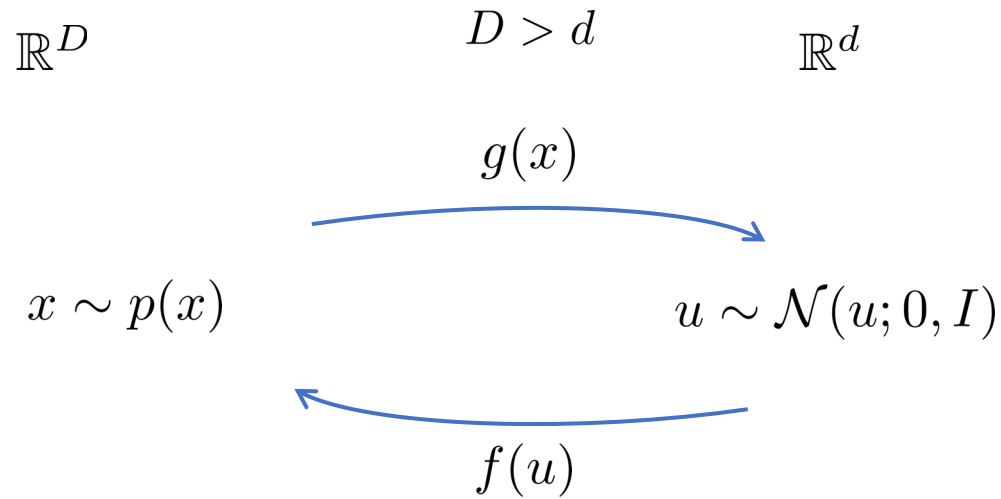
- **VAE:**  
 $p(x|u) \sim \mathcal{N}(x; f(u), I)$   
 $p(u|x) \sim \mathcal{N}(u; g(x), I)$
- **Normalizing Flows (NF):**  
 $g = f^{-1}$

# Motivation



\*Fefferman et. al (2016)

## Manifold hypothesis



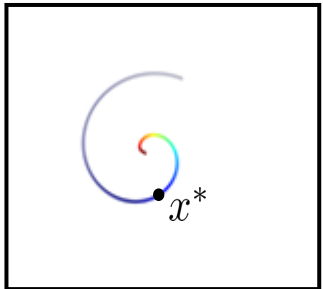
## Latent variable models

- VAE:  
 $p(x|u) \sim \mathcal{N}(x; f(u), I)$   
 $p(u|x) \sim \mathcal{N}(u; g(u), I)$
- Normalizing Flows (NF):  
 $g = f^{-1}$

Most latent variable models assume that data live on manifolds

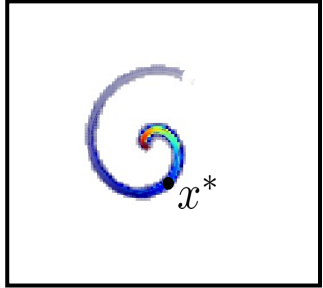
# Method

$$x \sim p(x)$$

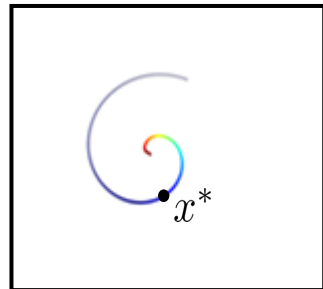


# Method

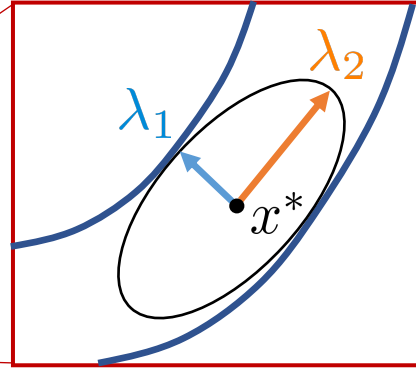
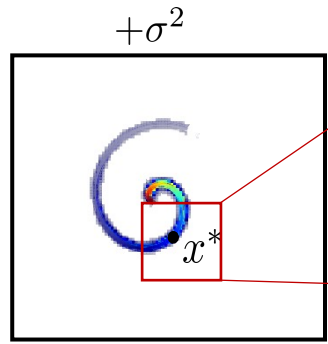
$+\sigma^2$



$x \sim p(x)$

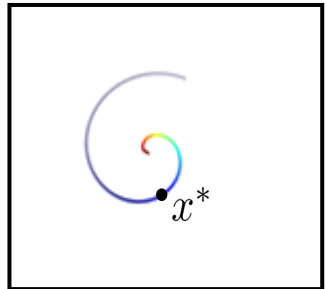


# Method



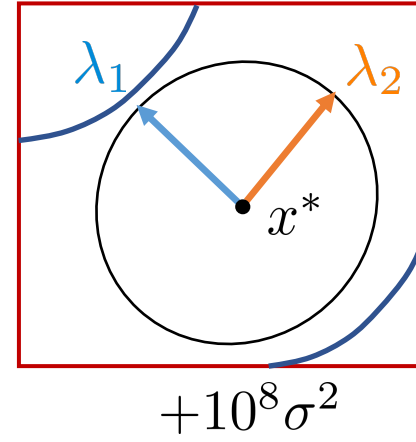
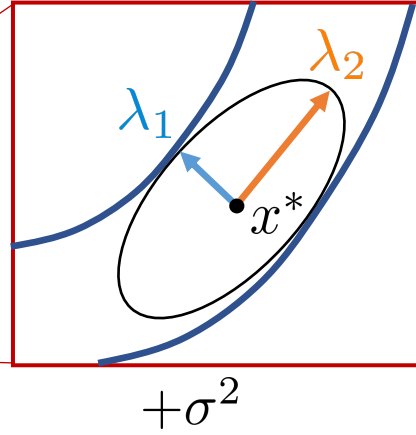
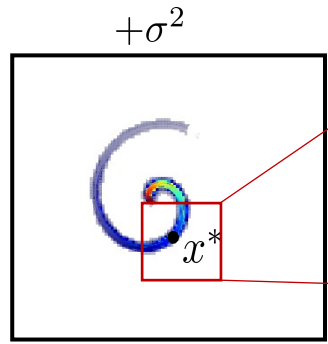
$+\sigma^2$

$x \sim p(x)$

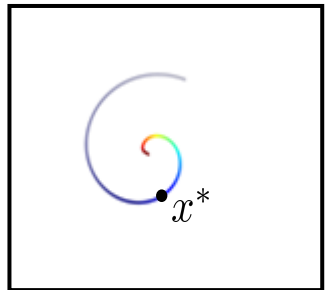




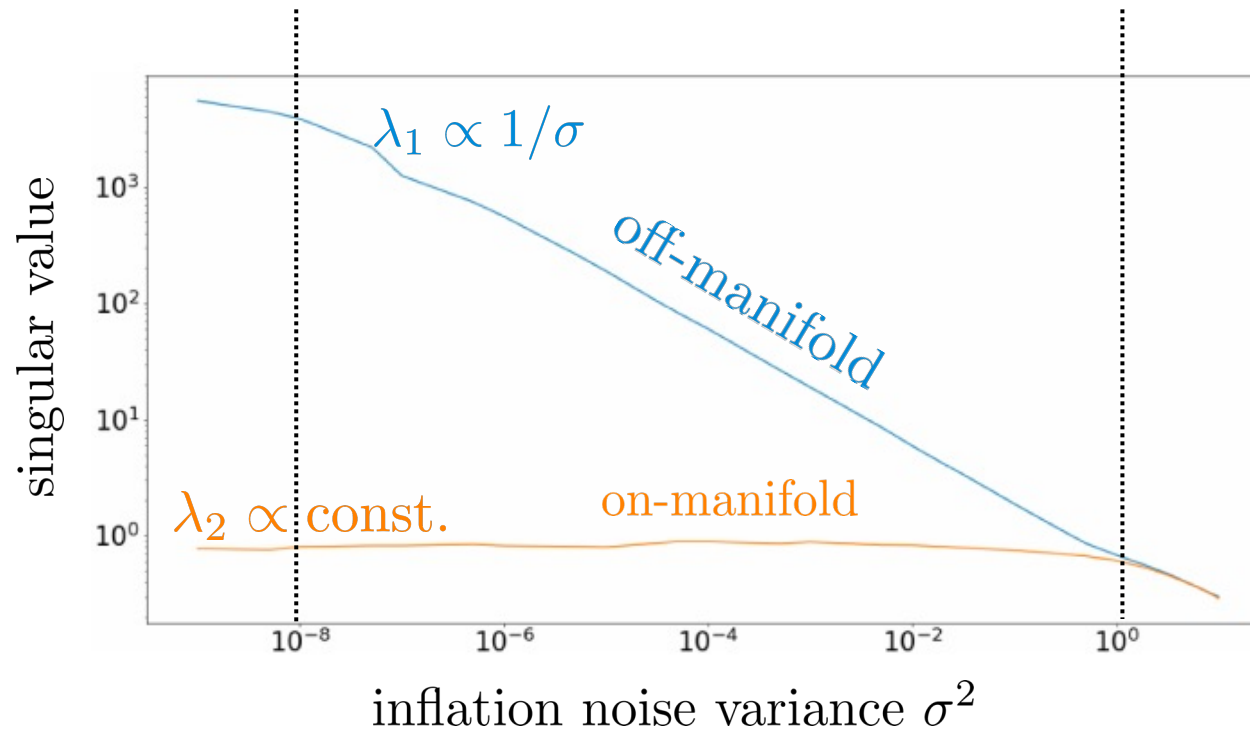
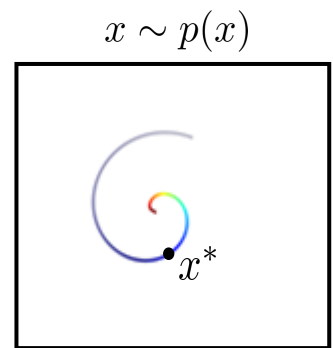
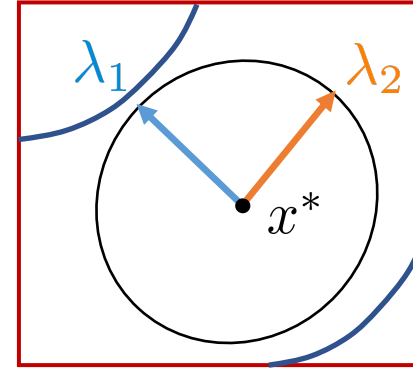
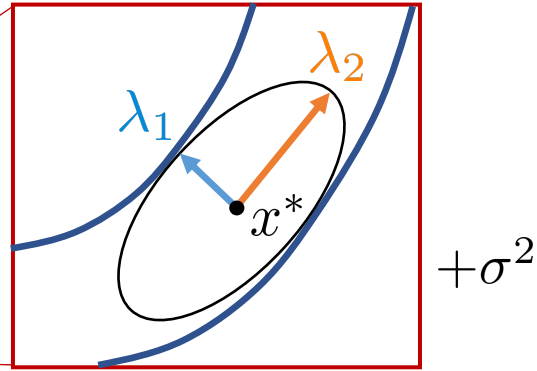
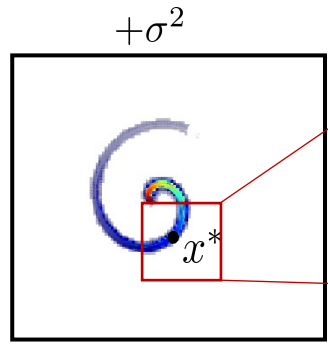
# Method

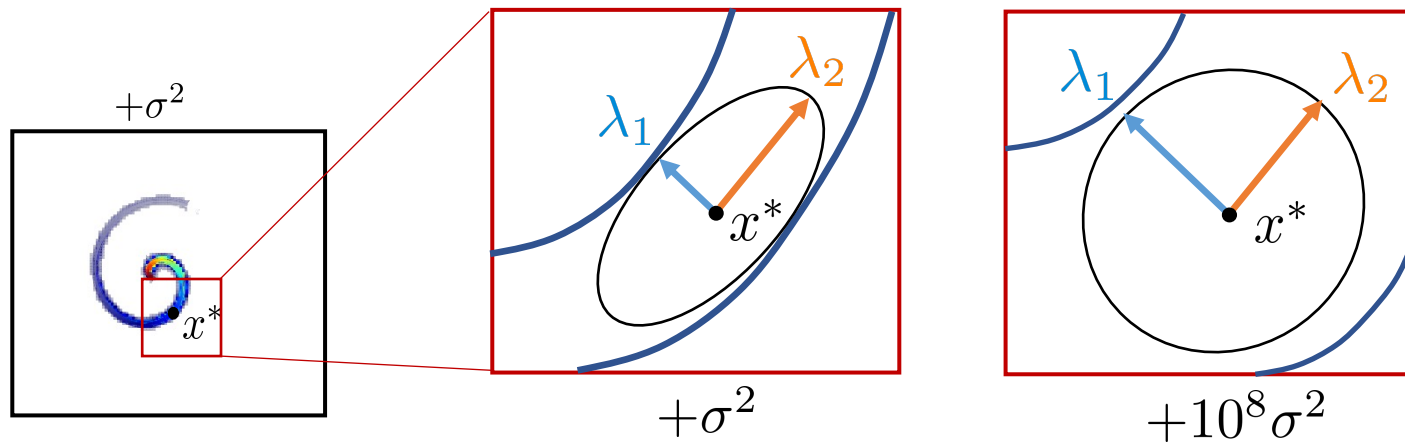


$$x \sim p(x)$$

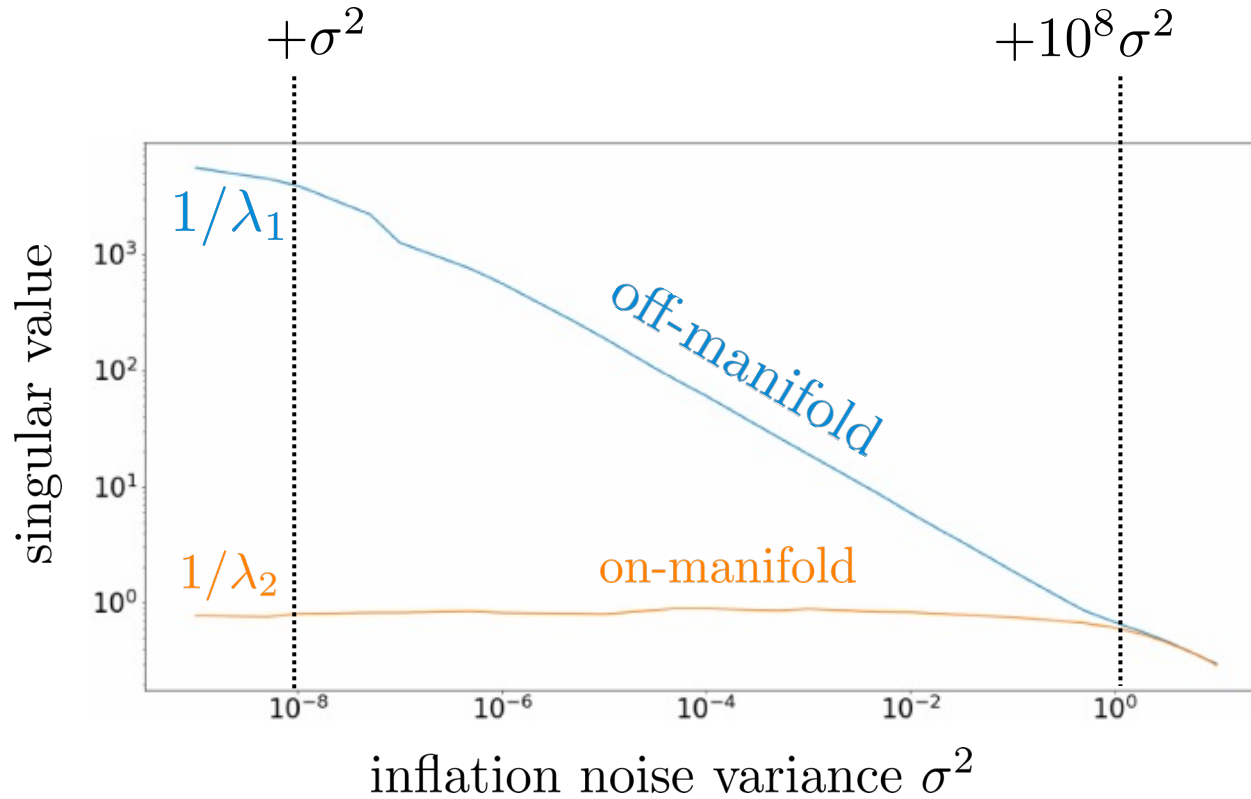
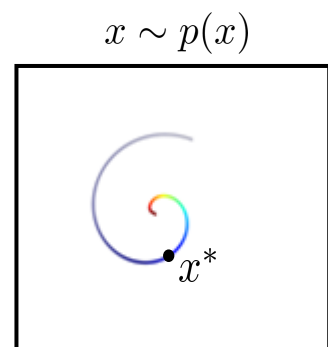
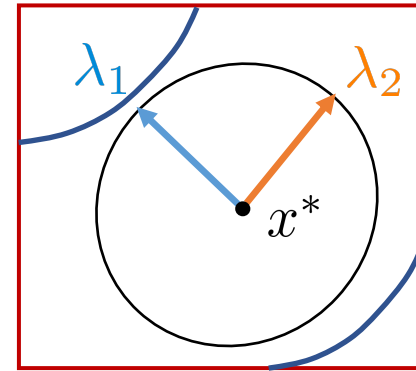
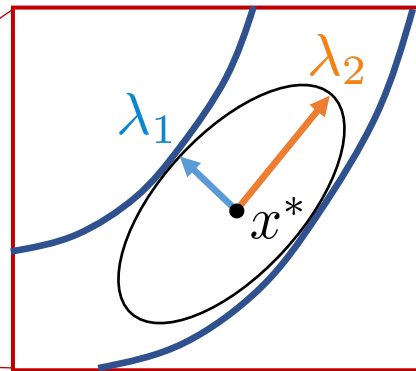
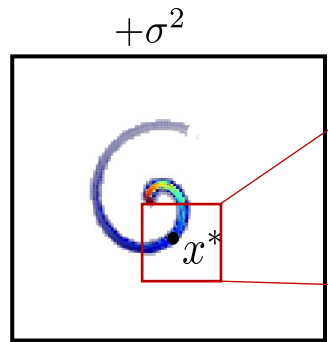


# Method

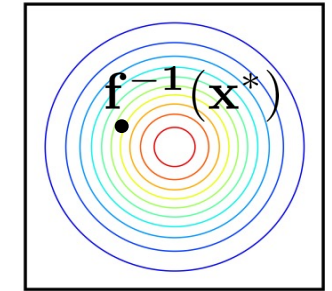




# Method



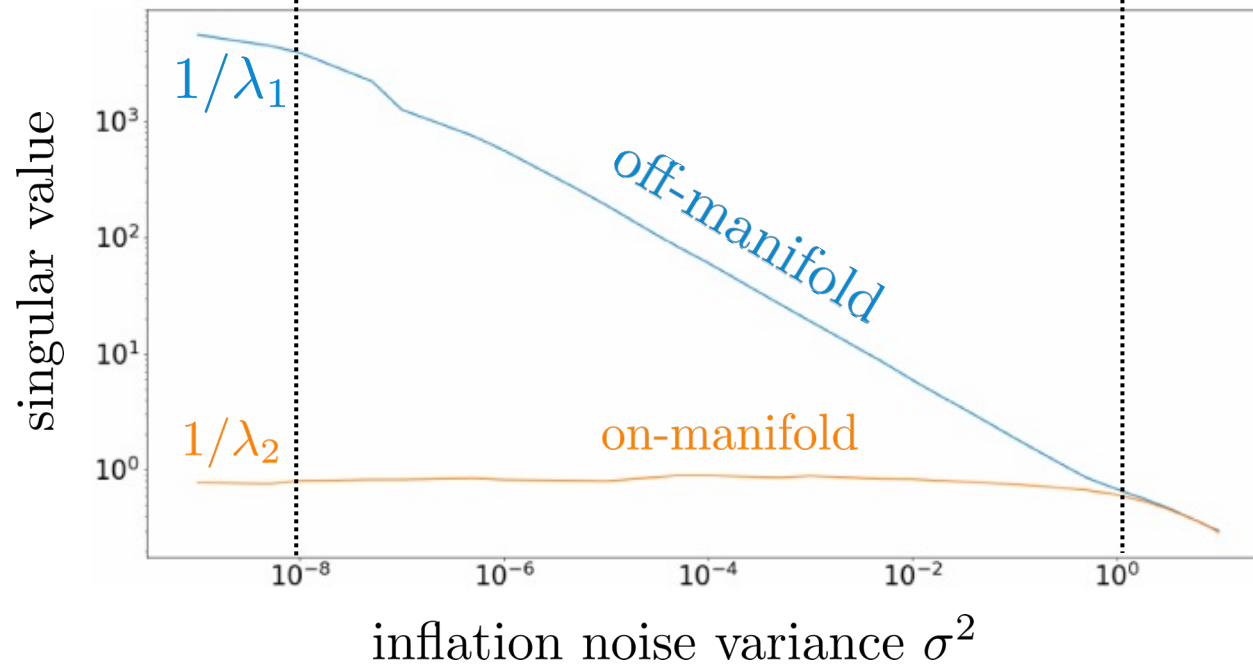
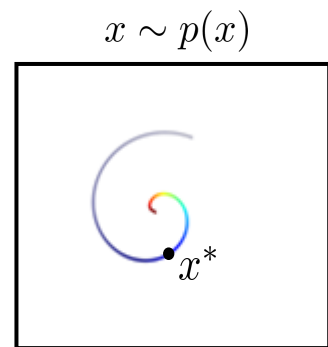
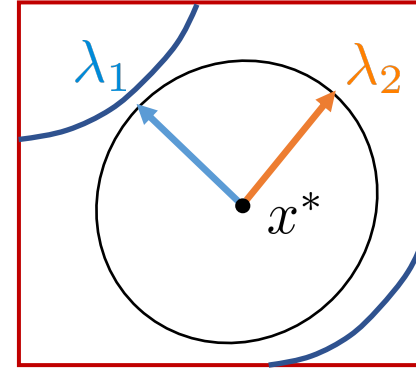
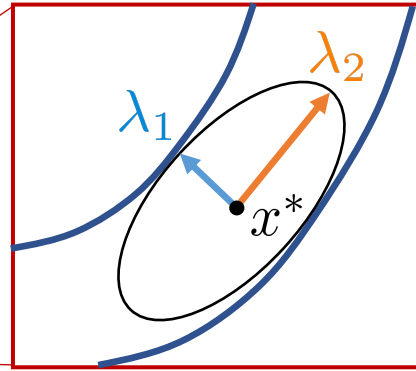
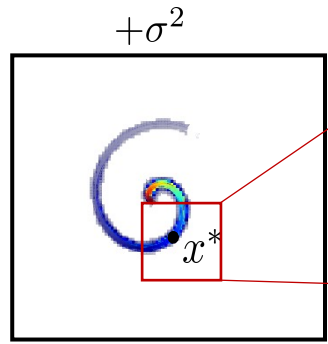
learn noisy  $p(x)$  using  $f^{-1}$ ...Normalizing Flow



Singular values of  $J_{f^{-1}}(x^*)$

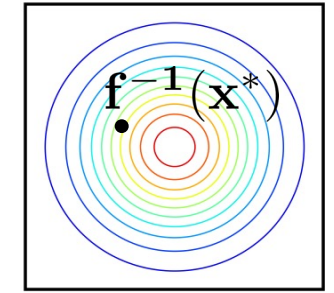
$$\frac{1}{\lambda_1} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{\lambda_2}$$

# Method



Estimate ID using NFs

learn noisy  $p(x)$  using  $f^{-1}$ ...Normalizing Flow

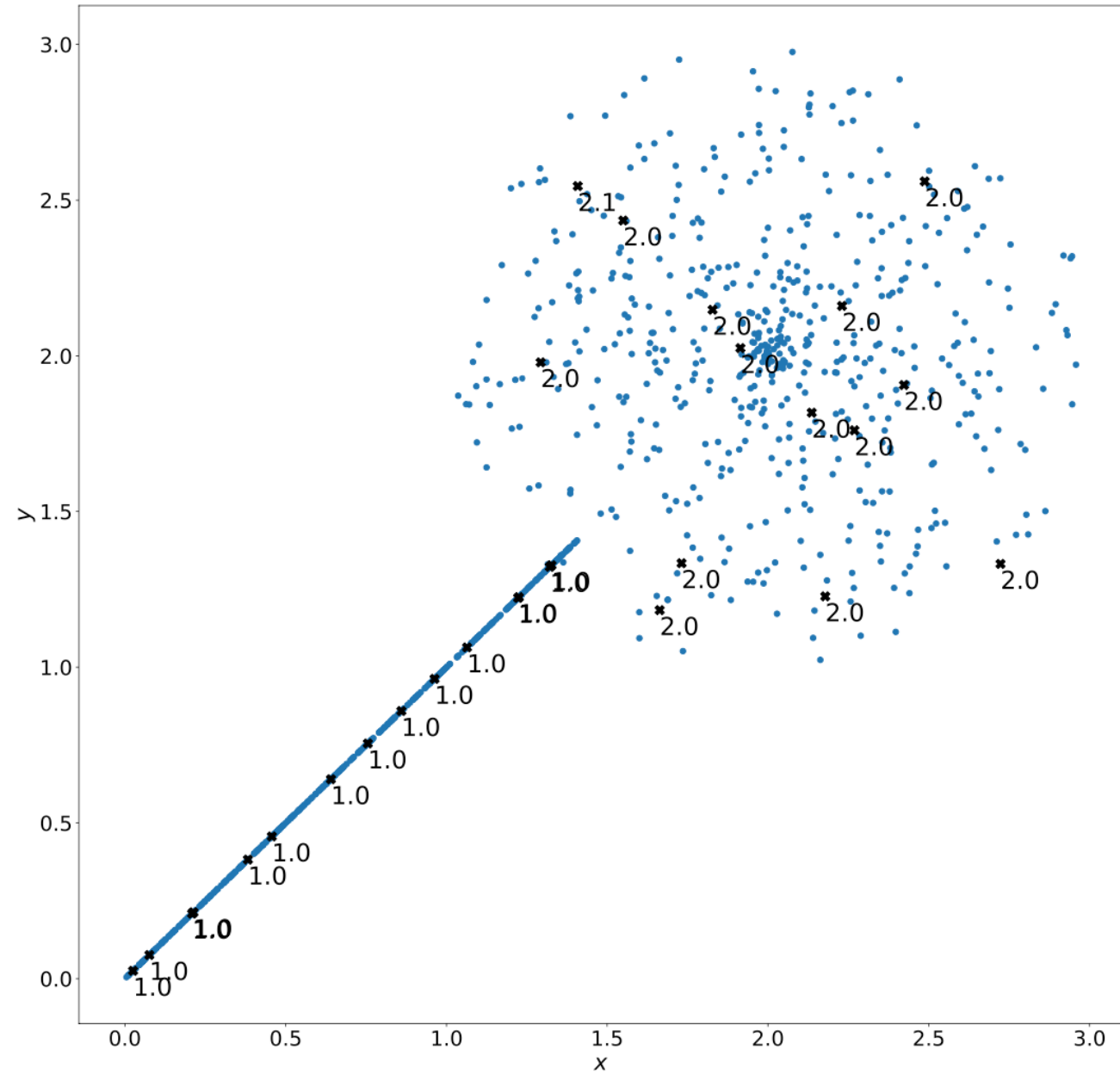


Singular values of  $J_{f^{-1}}(x^*)$

$$\frac{1}{\lambda_1} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{\lambda_2}$$

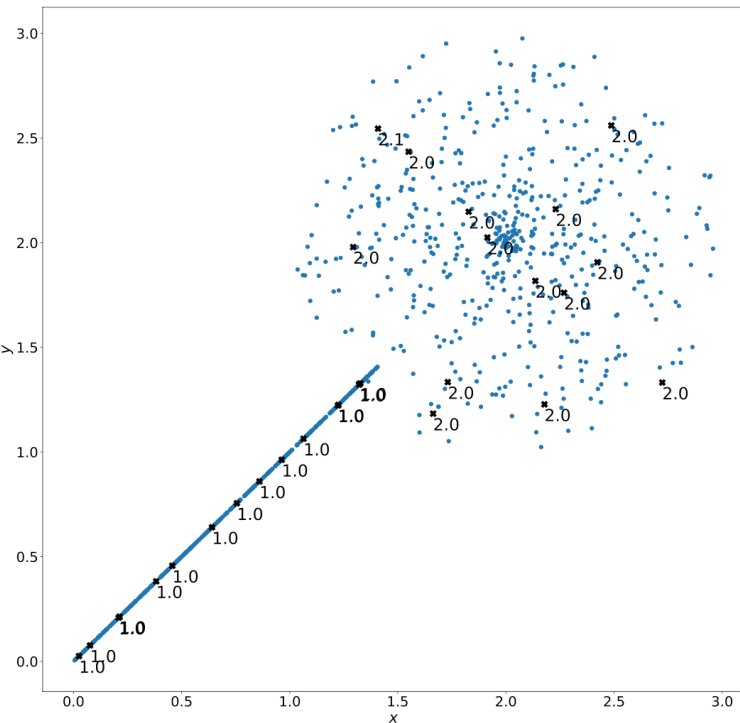
on-manifold  
and  
off-manifold  
evolve differently  
with  $\sigma^2$

# Results - toysets



Estimate ID using NFs

# Results - toysets



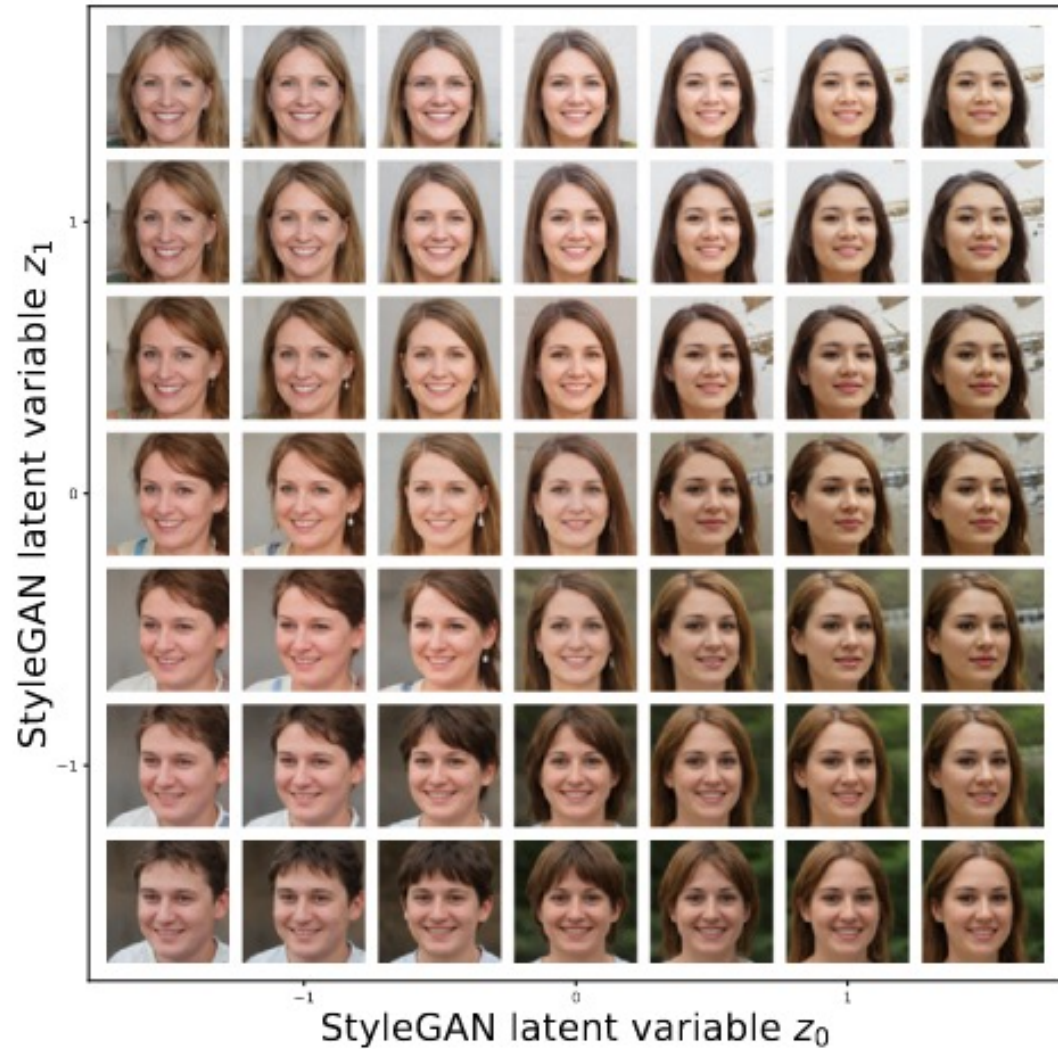
our method

Distribution	D	ID	ID-NF	LIDL	twoNN
mixture on sphere	3	2	2.01	$1.91 \pm 0.06$	1.98
correlated on sphere	3	2	2.04	$1.66 \pm 0.07$	1.99
mixture on torus	3	2	2.02	$2.05 \pm 0.04$	1.97
correlated on torus	3	2	2.02	$2.07 \pm 0.05$	2.02
correlated on hyperboloid	3	2	2.02	$2.01 \pm 0.07$	1.99
unimodal on hyperboloid	3	2	2.01	$1.92 \pm 0.1$	1.96
exponential on thin spiral	2	1	1	$1.08 \pm 0.06$	1
mixture on swiss roll	3	2	2.02	$2.26 \pm 0.03$	1.98
correlated on swiss roll	3	2	2.02	$2.48 \pm 0.03$	1.94
mixture on stiefel	4	1	1.07	$1.19 \pm 0.01$	0.99

Local and global intrinsic dimensionality estimator

# Results - images

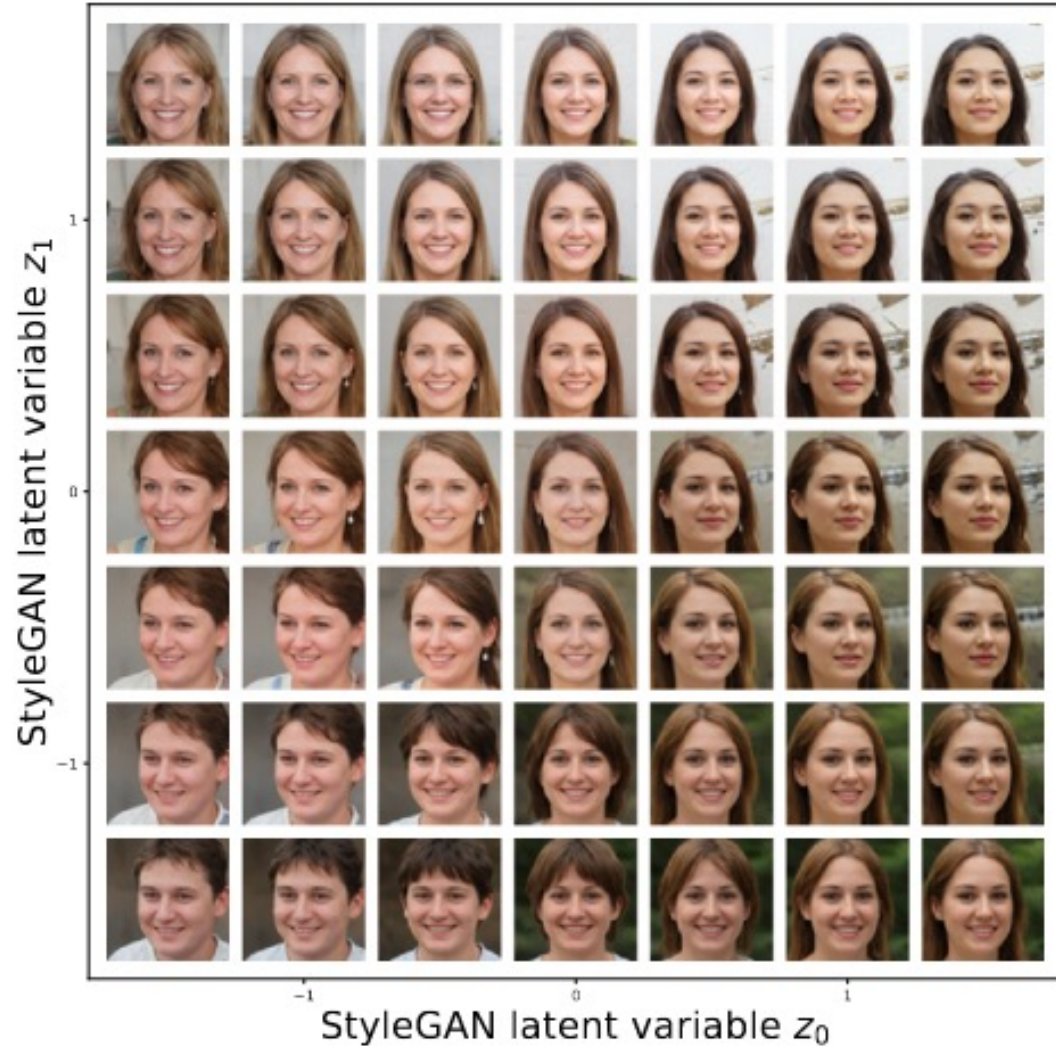
$$x \in [0, 1]^D, \quad D = 3 \cdot 255^2 = 12288$$





# Results - images

$$x \in [0, 1]^D, \quad D = 3 \cdot 255^2 = 12288$$



<i>Datasets</i>	ID
StyleGan2d	$4.06 \pm 1.75$
StyleGan64d	$62.24 \pm 18.64$

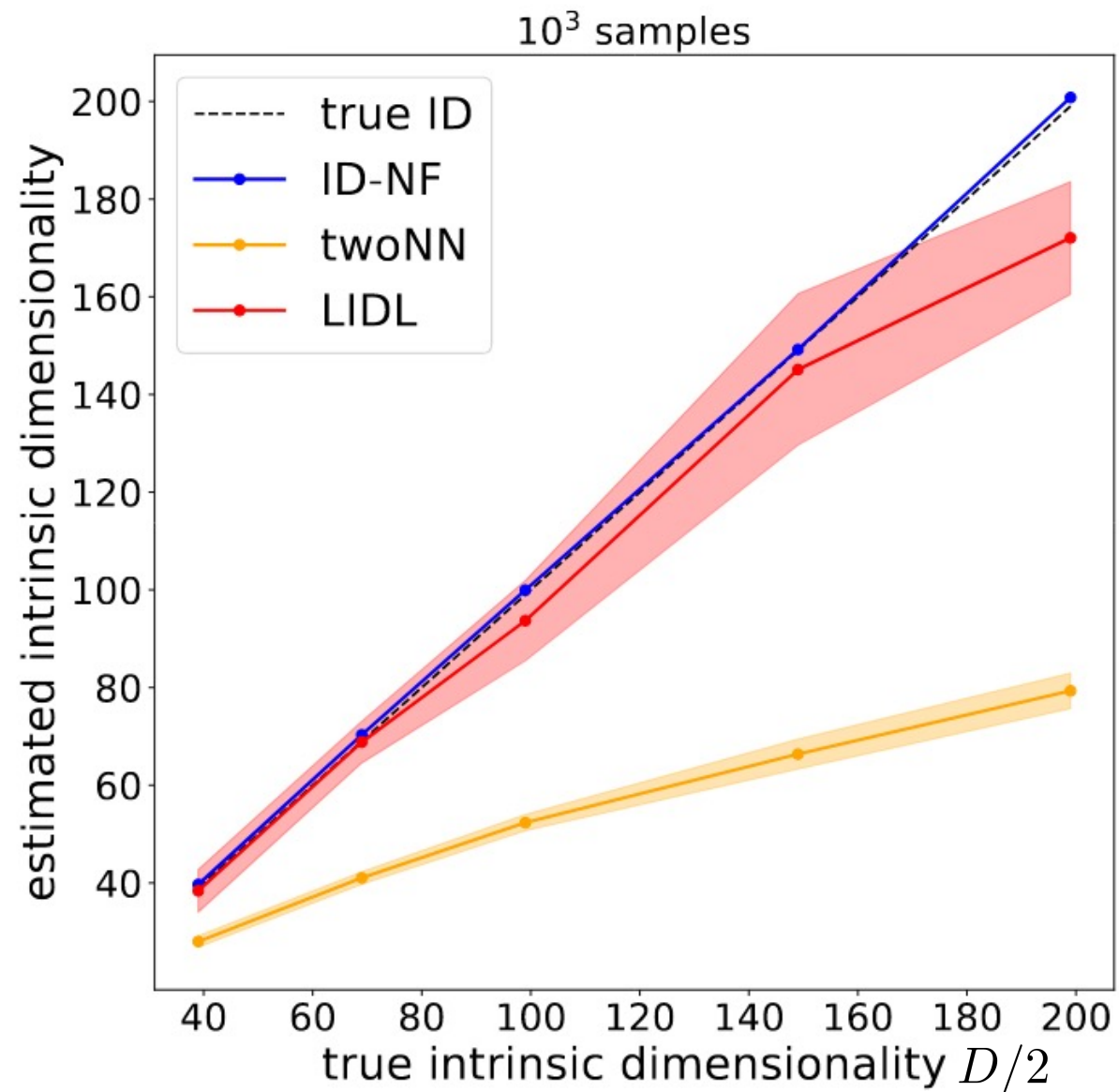
First good estimator for images!

# Take home messages

- We developed a novel algorithm to estimate the intrinsic dimensionality based on Normalizing Flows
- on-manifold singular values of the flow's Jacobian evolve differently than the off-manifold singular values as a function of the inflation noise
- We found that our method correctly estimates the intrinsic dimensionality of all the tested toy models (locally and globally)
- It is the first good dimensionality estimator for images

# Results - toysets

Sphere  $S(D/2)$  embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^D$



# Why should you read the paper

- Generalizations:
  - Singular values are directions of large and small variability (Lemma 1)
  - Algorithm how to estimate  $d$
  - method for unbounded data (such as images)
- Improving denoising normalizing flow (DNF) → same generative performance with significantly fewer latent variables
- ID for OOD samples is significantly higher
- More experiments, Discussions, limitations, open questions