

# Revisiting the Evaluation of Image Synthesis with GANs

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\* Denotes Equal Contribution

<https://github.com/kobeshegu/Synthesis-Measurement-CKA>

# Explosive developments of generative models



**A consistent and comprehensive evaluation system is critical!**



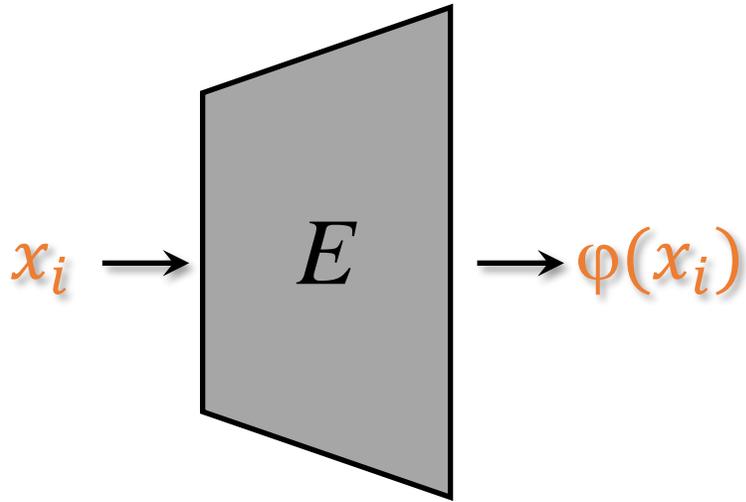
Random generated Churches

Artwork generated by Stable Diffusion

Credit: <https://stablediffusion.fr/>

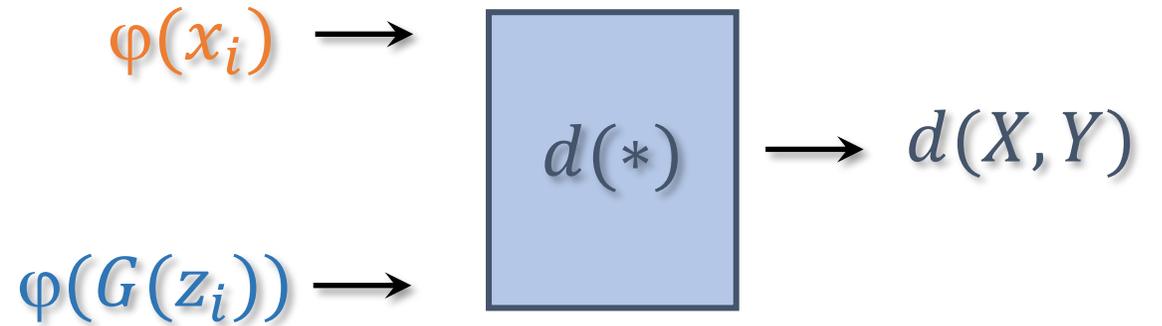
# Two essential components for synthesis evaluation

## Feature Extractor $\varphi(*)$



Extracting samples' features

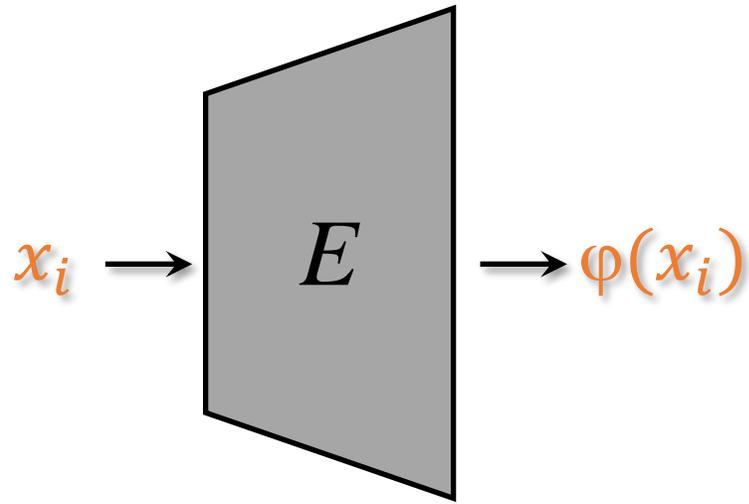
## Distributional Distance $d(*)$



Delivering the distribution divergence

# Several key factors *w.r.t* feature extractors

## Feature Extractor $\varphi(*)$



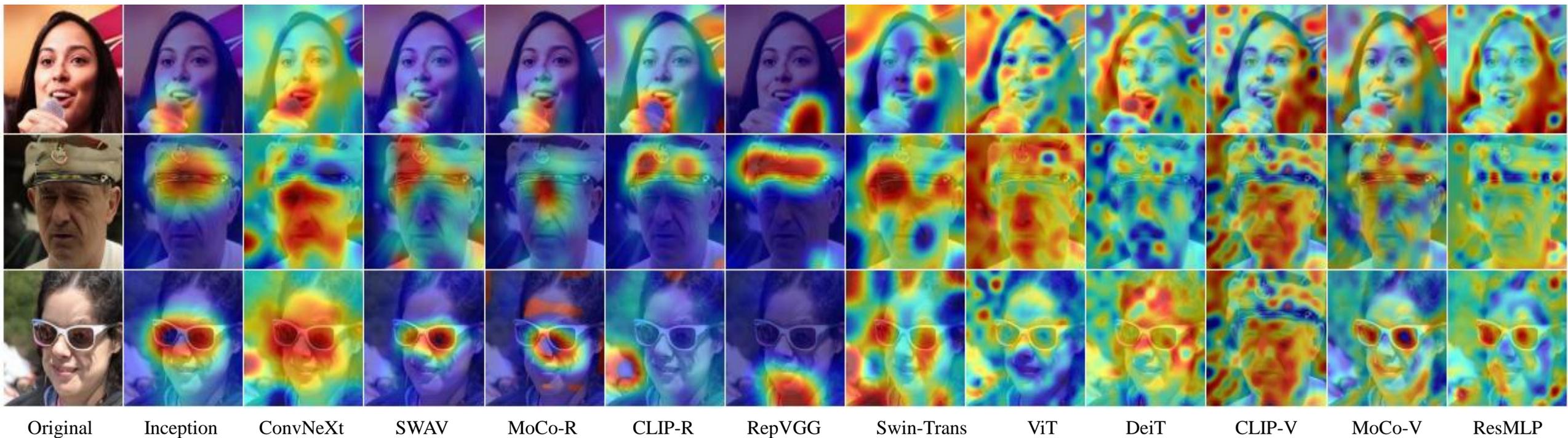
Extracting samples' features

Features extractors define measurement spaces for evaluation, they differ in:

- Supervision (Fully/Self-supervised)
- Network architectures (CNN vs. ViT)
- Representation spaces (Similarity)

# Extractors yield *different* focus on *various semantics*

- CNN-based extractors highlight **objects related to the pre-trained domain** (*e.g.*, microphone, hat, and sunglasses)
- ViT-based extractors capture **larger** regions
- Multiple extractors **complement** each other



# Extractors may define similar (homogeneous) spaces

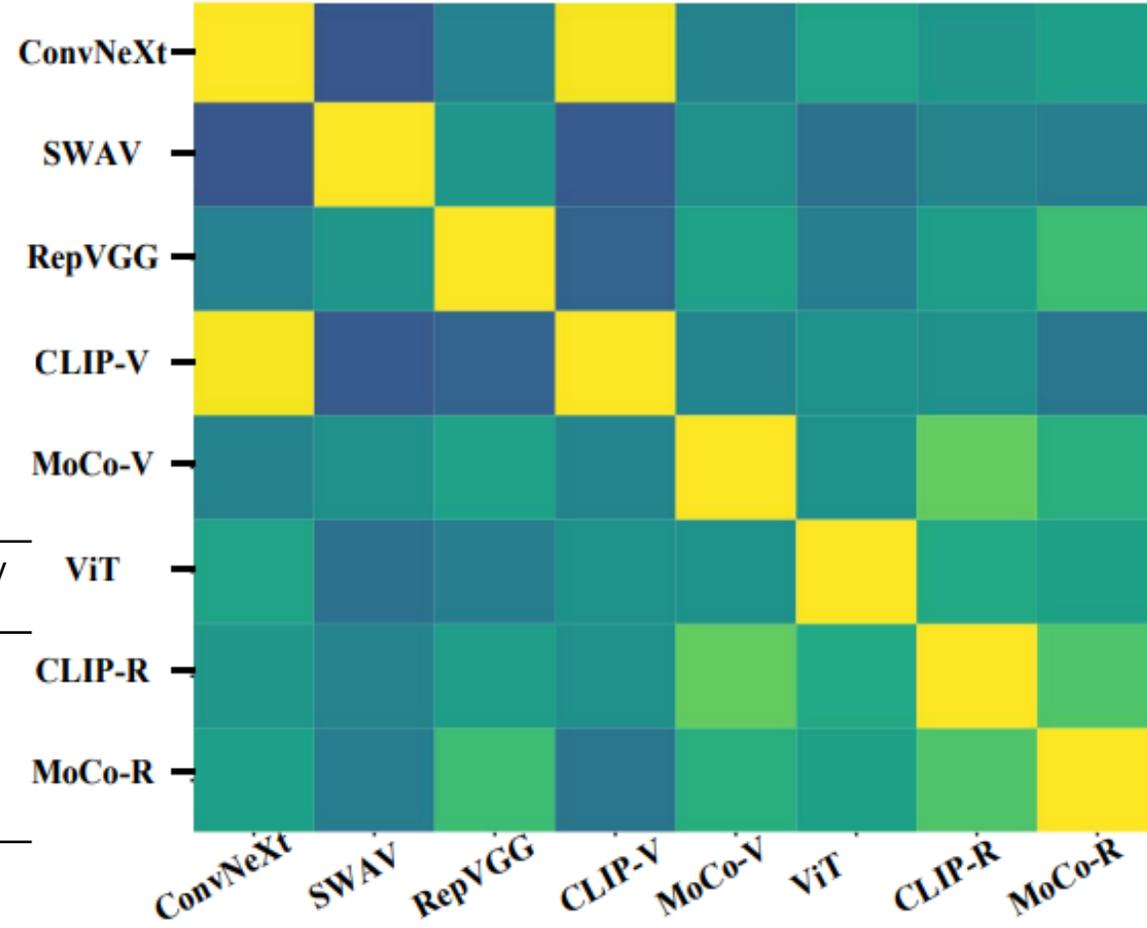
- Similar representation spaces are redundant in practice
- Remaining extractors:

CNN-based extractors      **ConvNeXt, SWAV, RepVGG**  
 ViT-based extractors      **CLIP-ViT, MoCo-ViT, ViT**

- These extractors provide reliable rank:

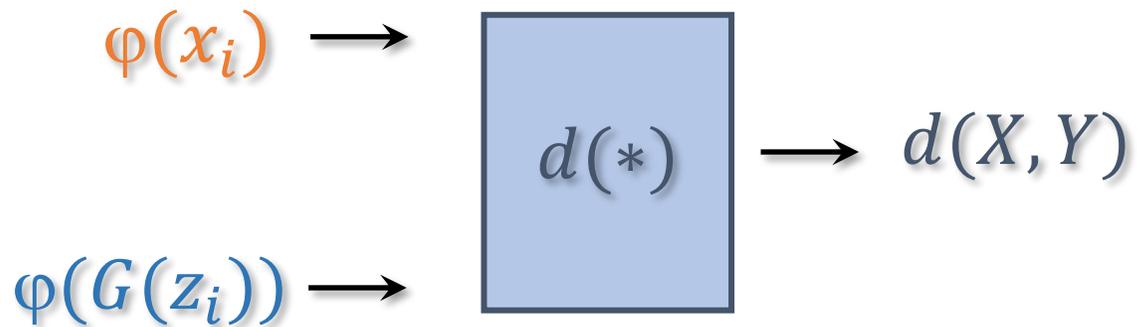
Model	ConvNeXt	RepVGG	SWAV	ViT	MoCo-V	CLIP-V
BigGAN	140.04	67.53	1.12	29.95	238.78	3.35
-deep	102.26	58.85	0.87	23.98	85.83	3.22
StyleGAN-XL	19.22	15.93	0.18	8.51	29.38	1.85

StyleGAN-XL > BigGAN-deep > BigGAN



# Investigation on different distributional distances

## Distributional Distance



Delivering the distribution divergence

Various distances reflect different divergence, they are influenced by:

- **Source of features** (features from different layers and spaces)
- **The amount of synthesized samples**

CKA provides *normalized scores* in various spaces

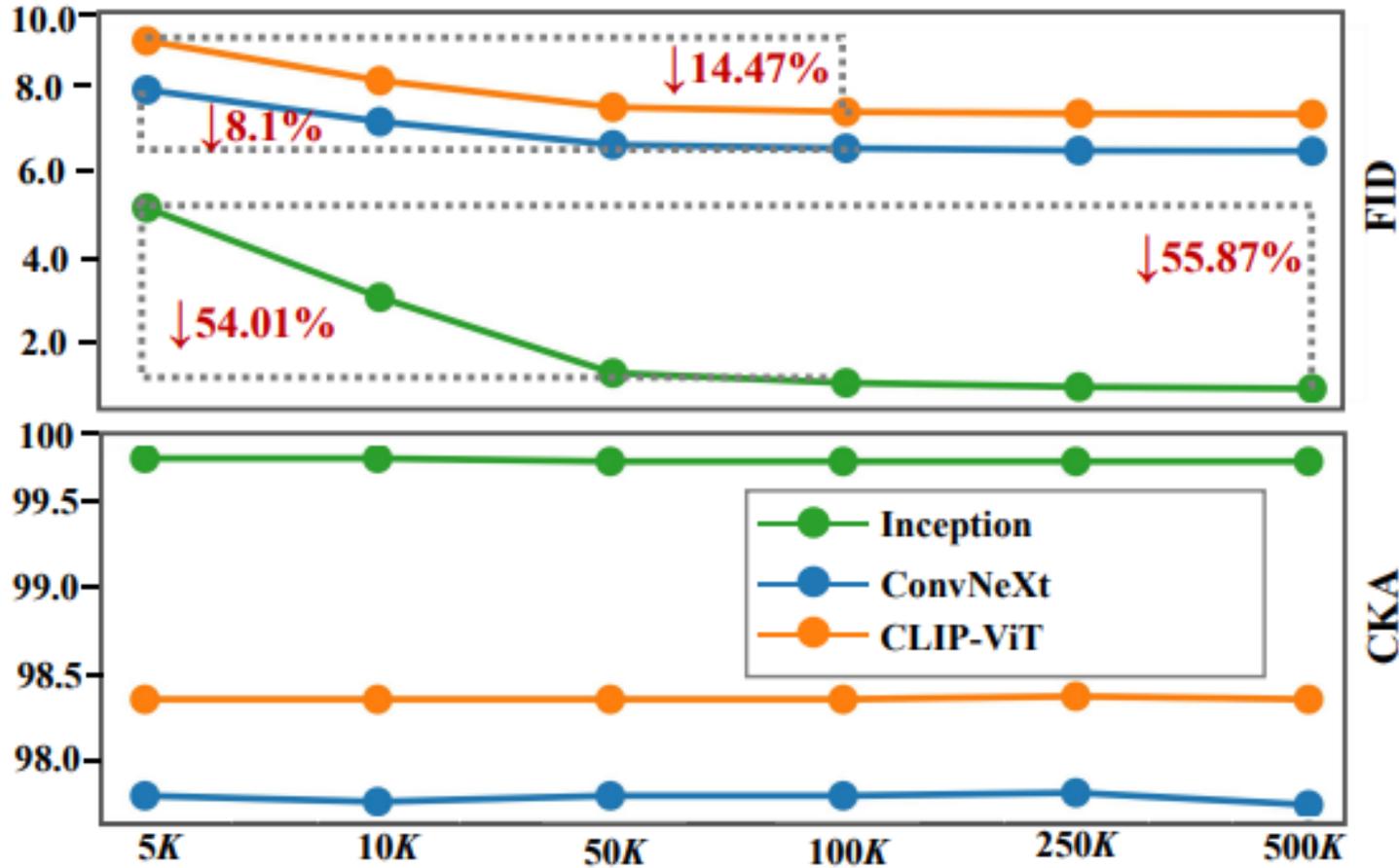
- Comparable between **hierarchical layers** and **representation spaces**
- Easier to **combine** scores from **different extractors**
- The FD scores of various layers **fluctuate dramatically**



Model	BigGAN		StyleGAN-XL	
	FD ↓	CKA ↑	FD ↓	CKA ↑
Layer <sub>1</sub>	0.60	99.06	0.05	99.84
Layer <sub>2</sub>	7.45	86.89	0.77	91.06
Layer <sub>3</sub>	30.24	82.80	6.11	85.75
Layer <sub>4</sub>	104.10	80.13	35.77	83.55
<b>Overall</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>87.22</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>90.05</b>

*Features from shallow to deep layers*

# CKA shows satisfactory *sample-efficiency* and *stability*



FID

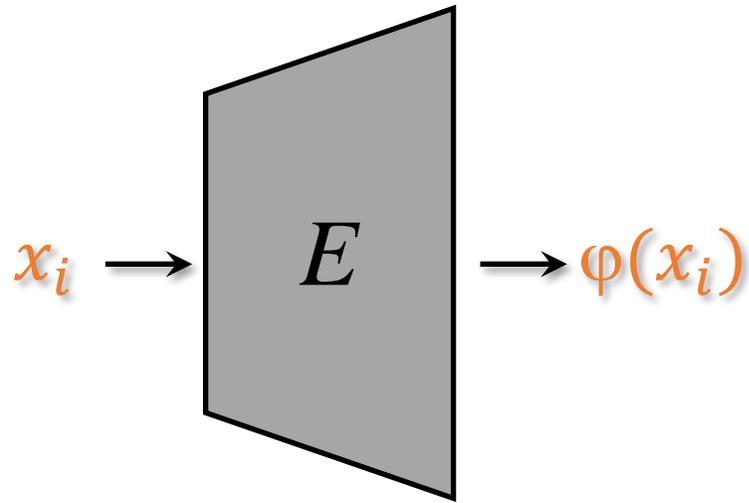
CKA

Centered Kernel Alignment:

- **Stable** under different data amount
- **Less samples** are required for reliable evaluation
- FID Scores could be altered by synthesizing more samples

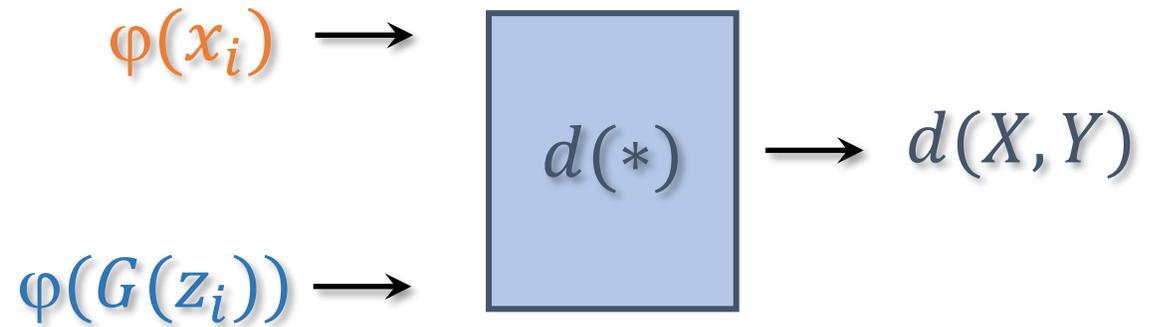
# Our new measurement system

## Multiple feature extractors



Extracting samples' features

## Center Kernel Alignment

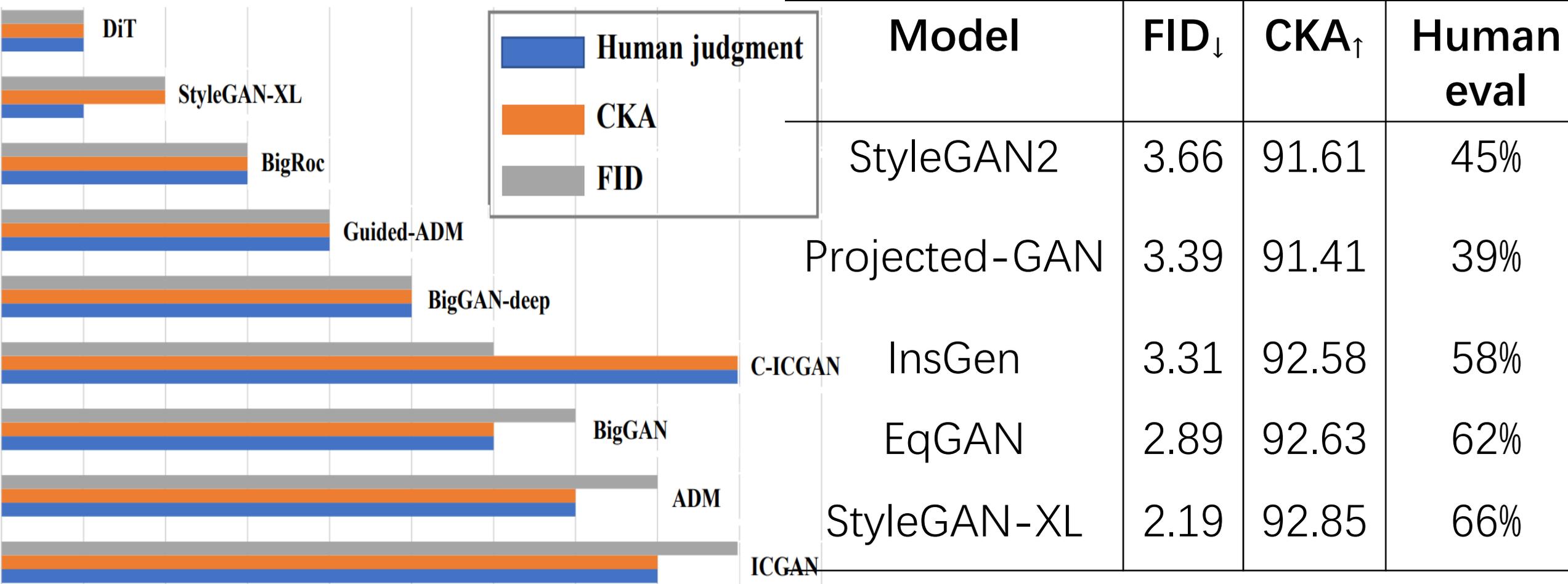


Delivering the distribution divergence

*Our evaluation system facilitates more comprehensive evaluation!*

# Benchmark 1: Re-evaluate existing generative models

Our evaluation *correlates well* with *human visual judgment*



# Benchmark 2: GANs *v.s.* Diffusion models

GANs achieve **better trade-offs** between efficiency and quality  
Designing **computation-efficient** diffusion models is essential

<b>Model</b>	<b>FID<sub>↓</sub></b>	<b>CKA<sub>↑</sub></b>	<b>Human eval</b>	<b>#Params</b>	<b>Sec/Img(s)</b>
BigGAN	8.70	82.82	53%	158.3 M	33.6
BigGAN-deep	6.95	83.65	55%	85 M	27.6
StyleGAN-XL	2.30	86.52	67%	166.3 M	64.8
ADM	10.94	82.12	45%	500 M	17274
Guided-ADN	4.59	84.66	57%	554 M	17671
DiT	2.27	86.61	67%	675 M	3736.8

# Benchmark 2: Image-to-Image translation

Our system is **generalizable** for different synthesis tasks

## Horse-to-Zebra dataset

Model	FID	ConvNeXt	RepVGG	SWAV	ViT	MoCo-ViT	CLIP-ViT	Overall
CycleGAN [71]	83.32	73.55	88.67	85.82	83.96	74.72	73.74	80.08
AttentionGAN [57]	76.05	75.59	91.73	86.37	85.16	76.65	75.49	81.83
CUT [43]	51.29	78.48	93.22	88.83	87.84	78.75	77.36	84.08

## Cat-to-Dog

Model	FID	ConvNeXt	RepVGG	SWAV	ViT	MoCo-ViT	CLIP-ViT	Overall
CUT [43]	74.95	84.93	78.75	88.83	84.31	93.56	70.91	83.55
GP-UNIT [68]	60.96	90.45	87.79	94.05	90.12	95.91	75.32	88.94

## Cat-to-Dog

Model	FID	ConvNeXt	RepVGG	SWAV	ViT	MoCo-ViT	CLIP-ViT	Overall
GP-UNIT [68]	31.66	79.58	78.18	96.79	86.93	93.92	77.42	85.47
MUNIT [25]	18.88	84.87	84.11	98.51	88.11	95.95	86.10	89.61



Code



ArXiv

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