

# Autoencoders Explained Easily

# Autoencoders

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## Unsupervised learning

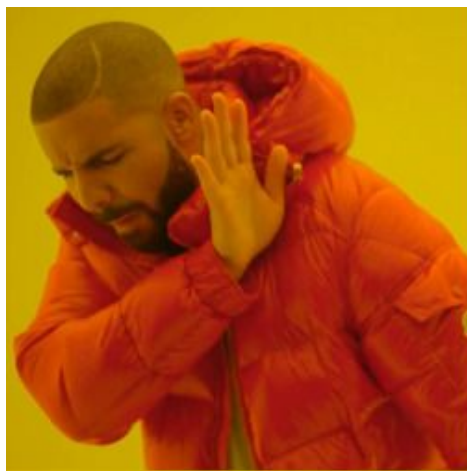
Autoencoders



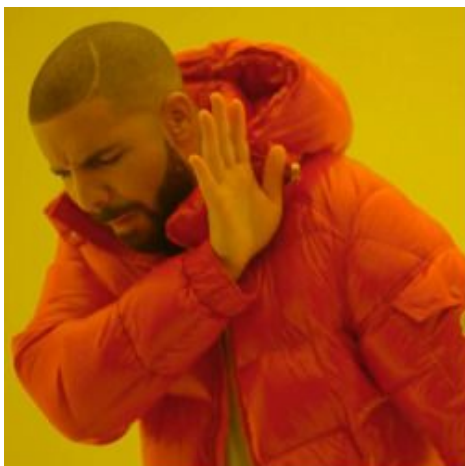
Unsupervised learning



Representation learning



Representation  
learning



Representation  
learning



Learning  
patterns  
in data

# Autoencoders: The sneaky idea

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Create an architecture with a bottleneck, which ensures a lower-dimensional representation of the original data.

# Autoencoders: The sneaky idea

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Create an architecture with a bottleneck,  
which ensures a lower-dimensional  
representation of the original data.



Input layer

$x_1$

$x_2$

$x_3$

$x_4$

$x_5$

Bottleneck

$v_1$

$v_2$

Output layer

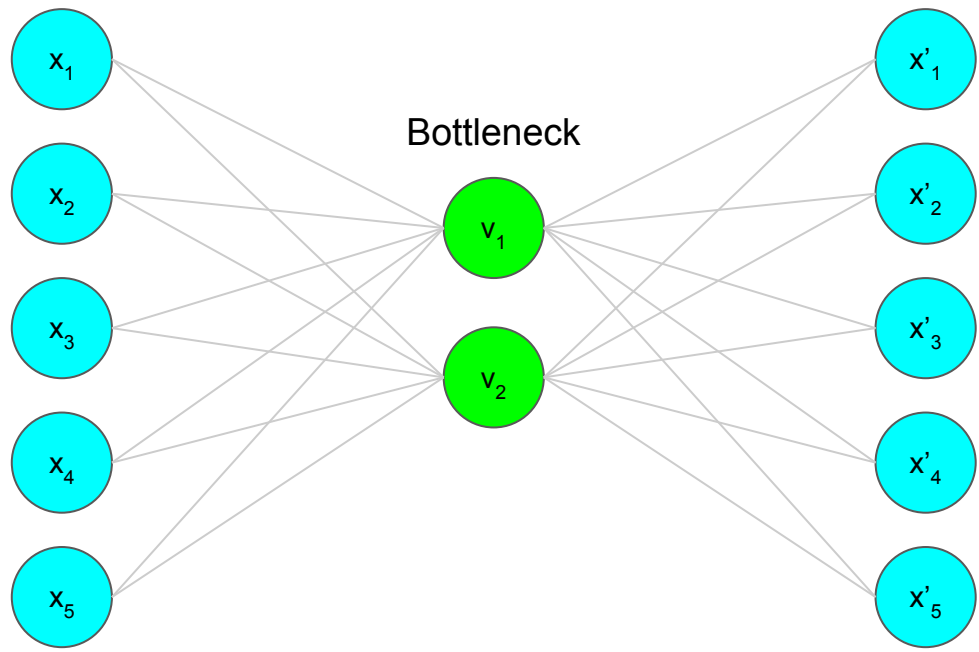
$x'_1$

$x'_2$

$x'_3$

$x'_4$

$x'_5$



Autoencoder = Encoder + Decoder

Input layer

$x_1$

$x_2$

$x_3$

$x_4$

$x_5$

Bottleneck

$v_1$

$v_2$

Output layer

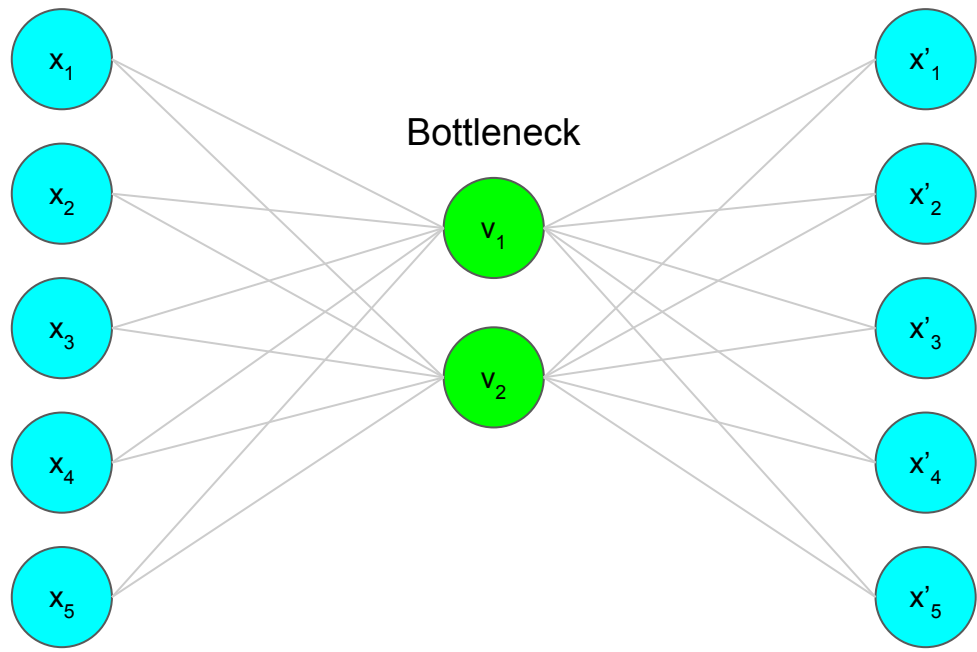
$x'_1$

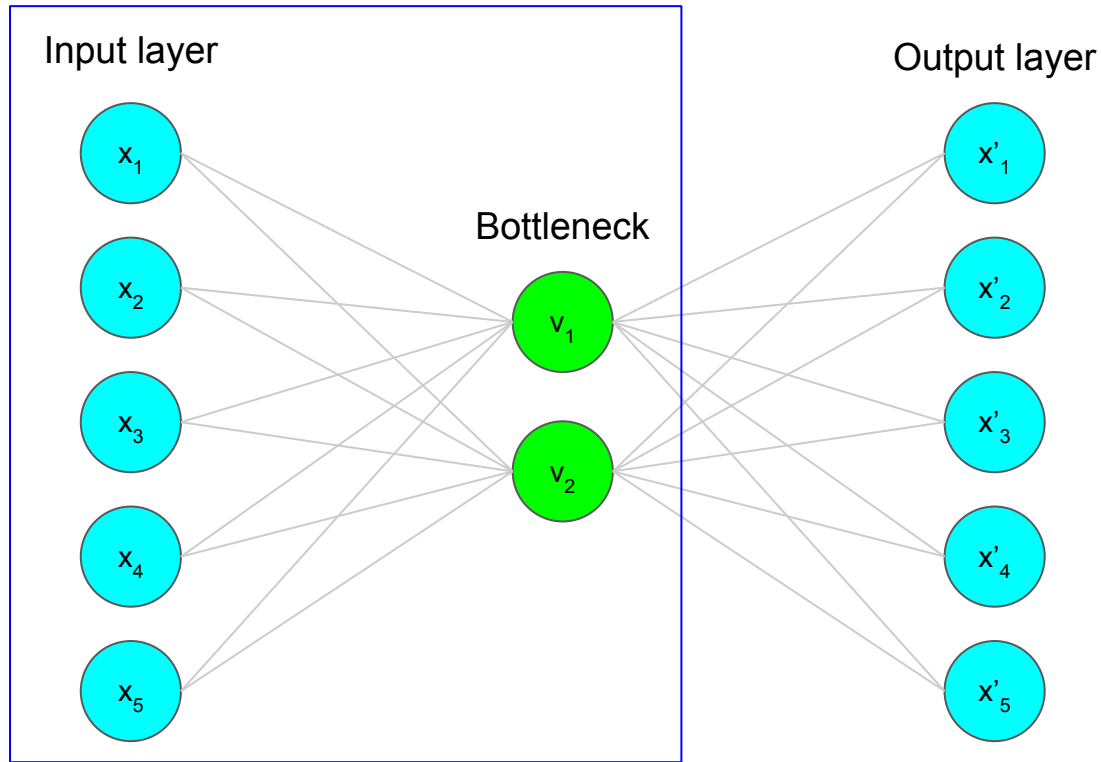
$x'_2$

$x'_3$

$x'_4$

$x'_5$





**Encoder** = compress data into lower-dimensional representation (*latent space*)

# Necessary condition to learn a representation

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- Data should have dependencies across dimensions

# Necessary condition to learn a representation

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- Data should have dependencies across dimensions
- If dimensions are all independent -> impossible to learn lower-dimensional representation

# PCA vs Encoders

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- Both perform dimensionality reduction



# PCA vs Encoders

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- Both perform dimensionality reduction
- PCA learns linear relationships

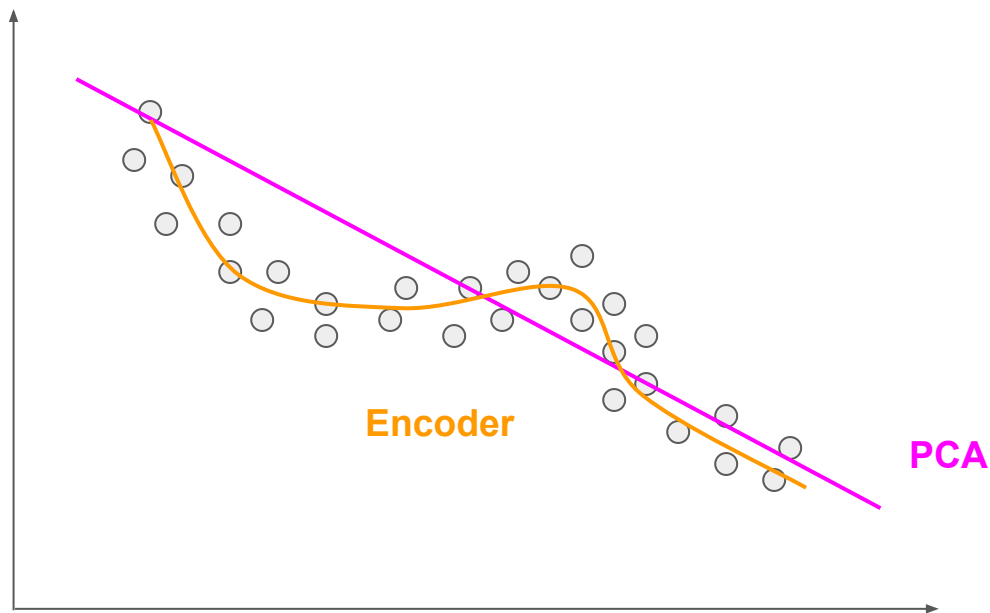
# PCA vs Encoders

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- Both perform dimensionality reduction
- PCA learns linear relationships
- Encoders can learn non-linear relationships

# PCA vs Encoders

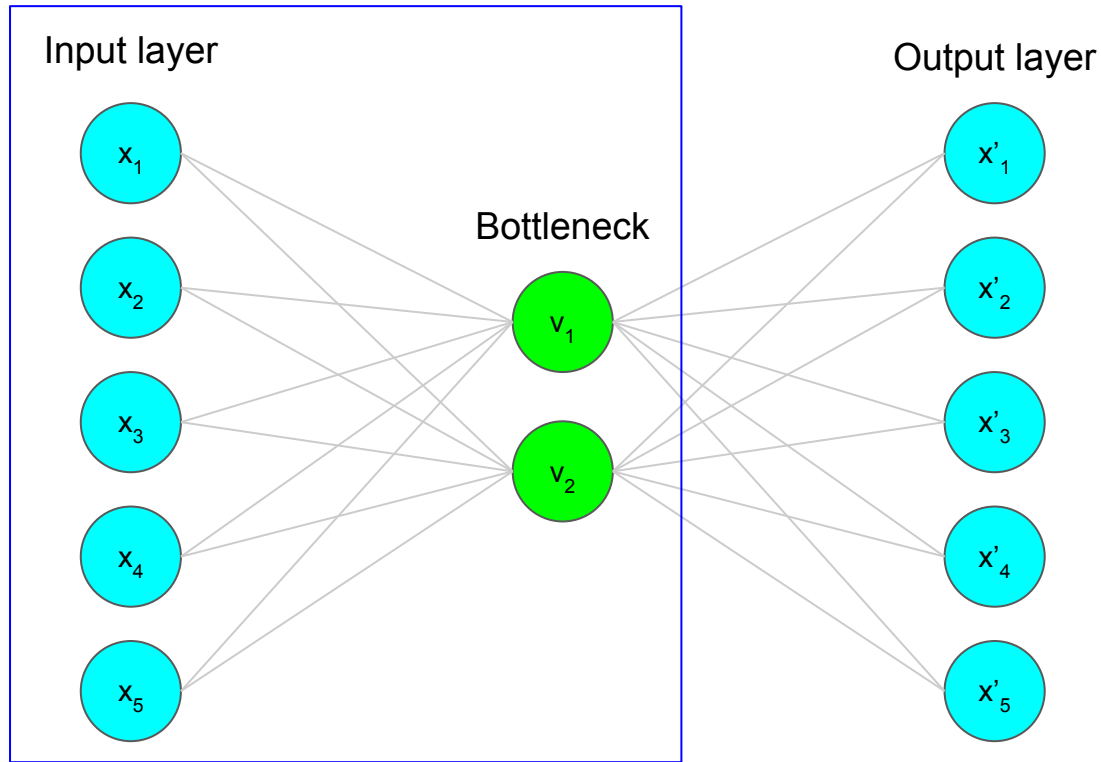
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# PCA vs Encoders

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- Both perform dimensionality reduction
- PCA learns linear relationships
- Encoders can learn non-linear relationships
- Encoder = PCA, if it uses linear activation functions



**Encoder** = compress data into lower-dimensional representation (*latent space*)

Input layer

$x_1$

$x_2$

$x_3$

$x_4$

$x_5$

Bottleneck

$v_1$

$v_2$

Output layer

$x'_1$

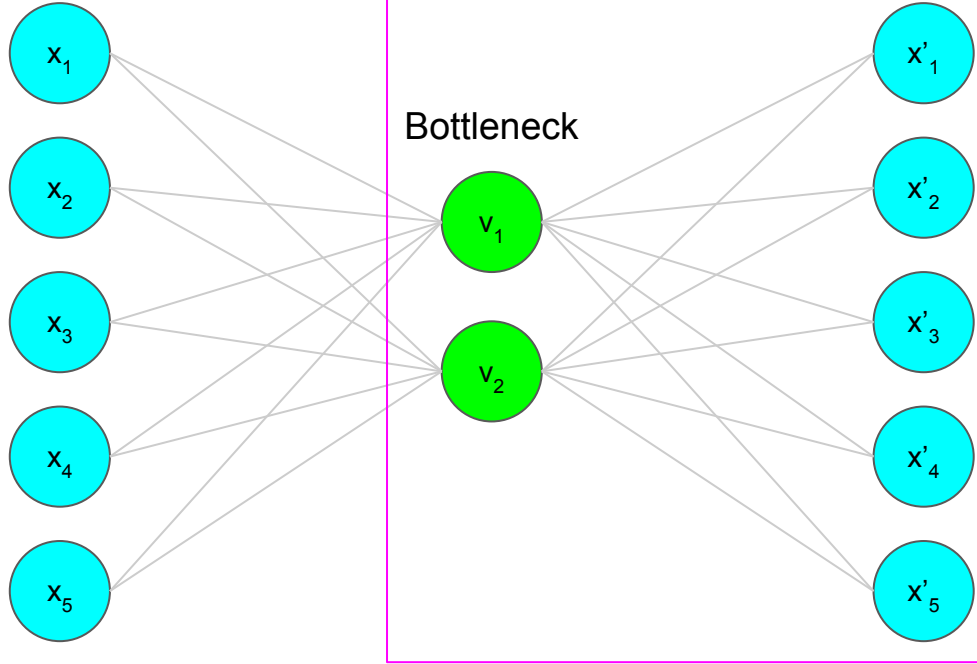
$x'_2$

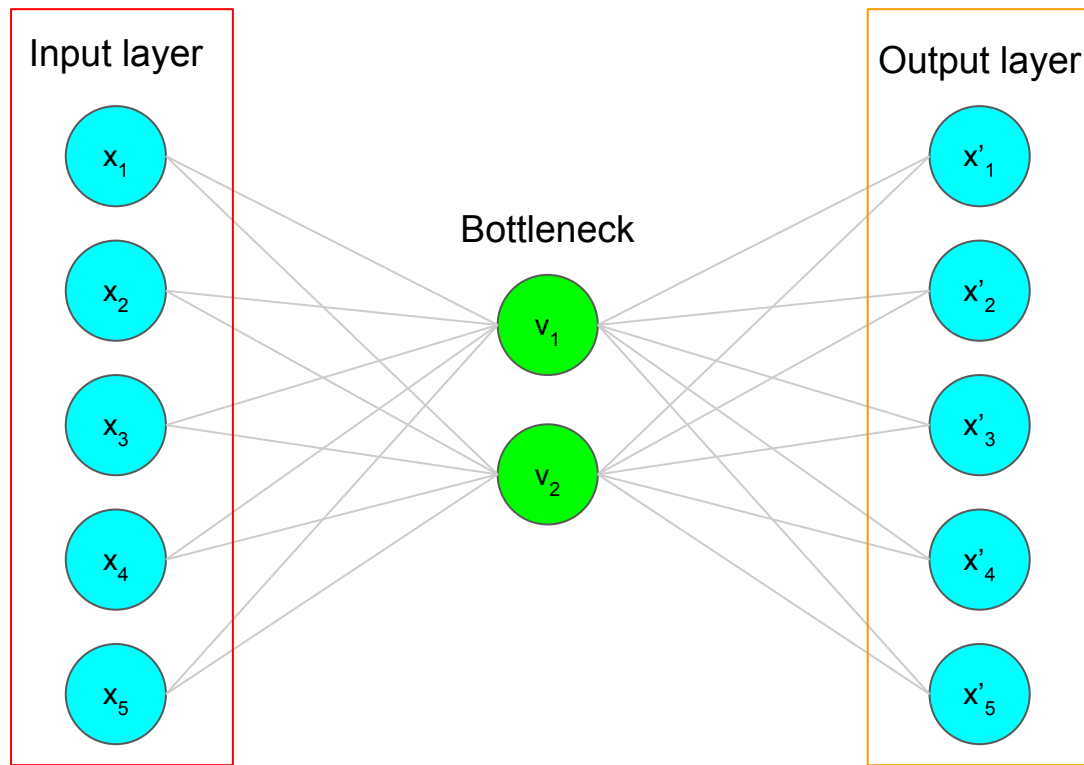
$x'_3$

$x'_4$

$x'_5$

**Decoder** = Decompress representation back to original domain





**Original data**

**Reconstruction**

# How can we train an autoencoder?

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- Backpropagation



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- Backpropagation
- Minimise reconstruction error

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$$E(x, \hat{x})$$

# How can we train an autoencoder?

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- Backpropagation
- Minimise reconstruction error

$$E\left(\boxed{x}, \boxed{\hat{x}}\right)$$

Original data    Reconstructed data

# What we ask an autoencoder...

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- Sensitive enough to input data to reconstruct it
- Insensitive enough to input data **not** to overfit it

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$$E(x, \hat{x}) + regularization$$

# What we ask an autoencoder...

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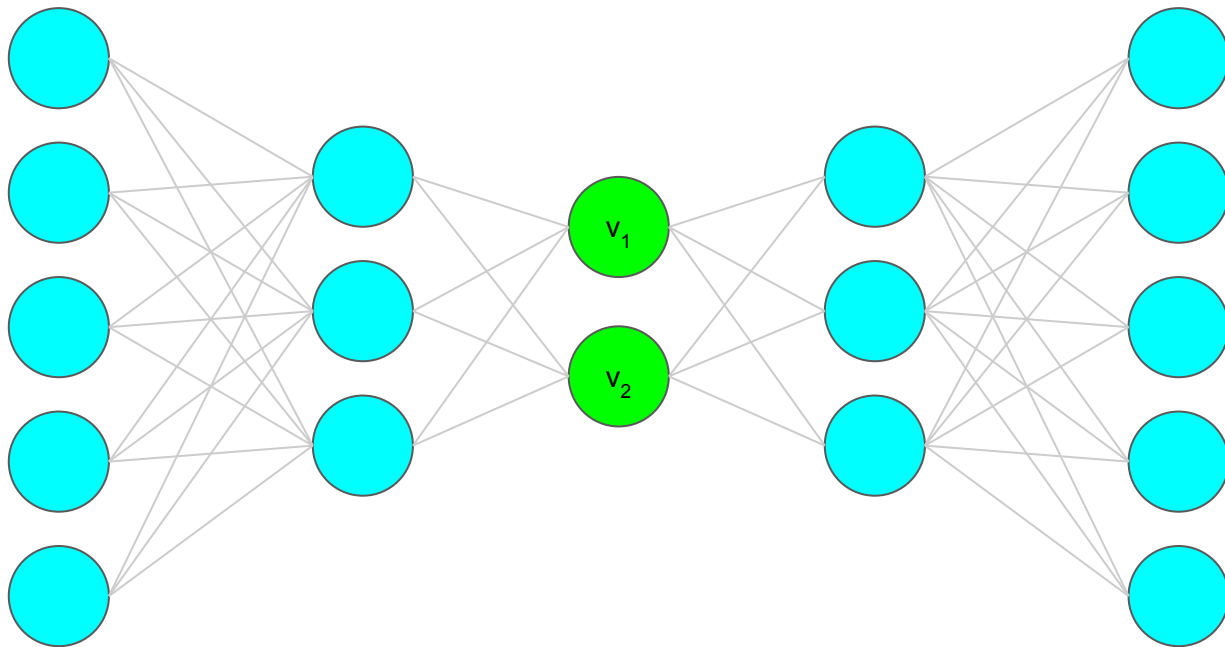
- Sensitive enough to input data to reconstruct it
- Insensitive enough to input data **not** to overfit it

$$E(x, \hat{x}) + \textit{regularization}$$



# Deep Autoencoder

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# Deep Convolutional Autoencoder

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- Similar architecture to AE
- Convolutional layers
- **Encoder:** Convolution + Leaky Relu +Batch normalization
- **Decoder:** Convolution transpose + Leaky Relu + Batch normalization

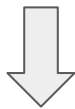


**WHAT'S THE POINT OF  
COMPRESSING / DECOMPRESSING DATA?**



The latent space keeps the most important attributes of the input data

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We can leverage the latent space to perform several interesting tasks

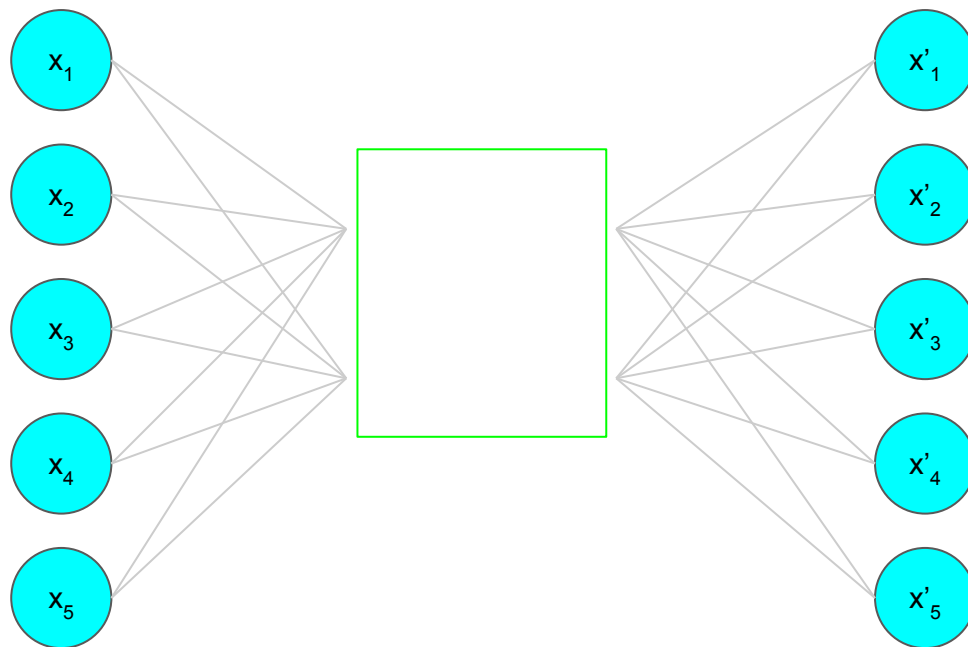
# Autoencoder applications

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- Generation
- Denoising
- Anomaly detection
- ...

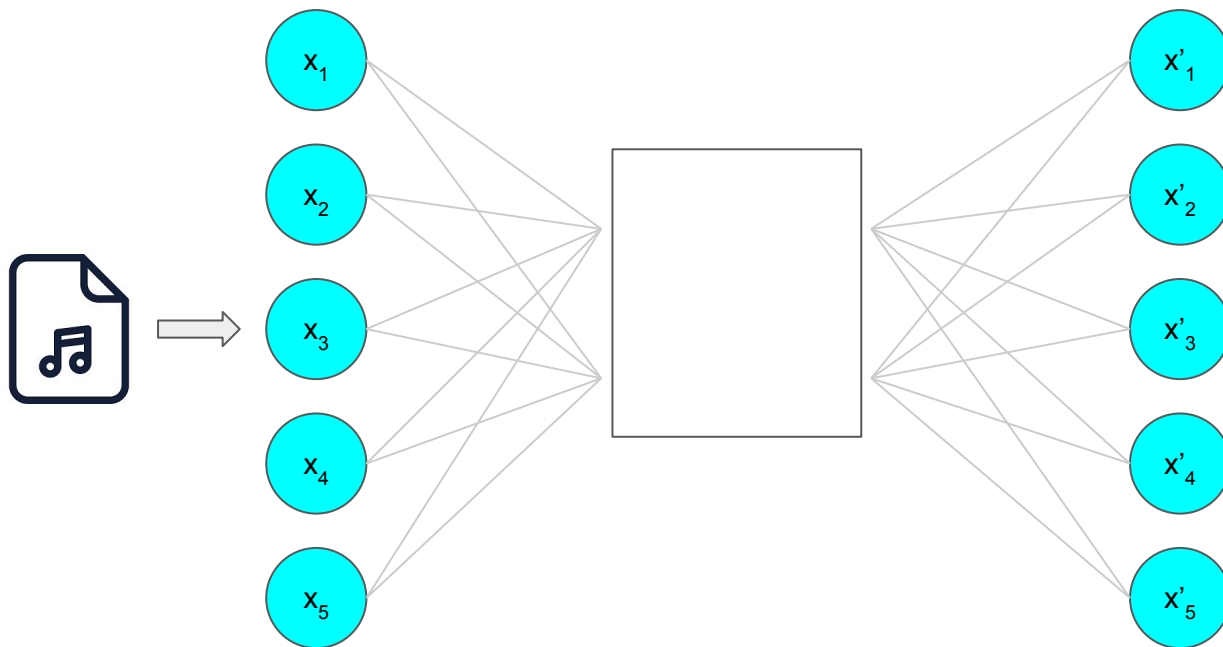
# Generation with AEs

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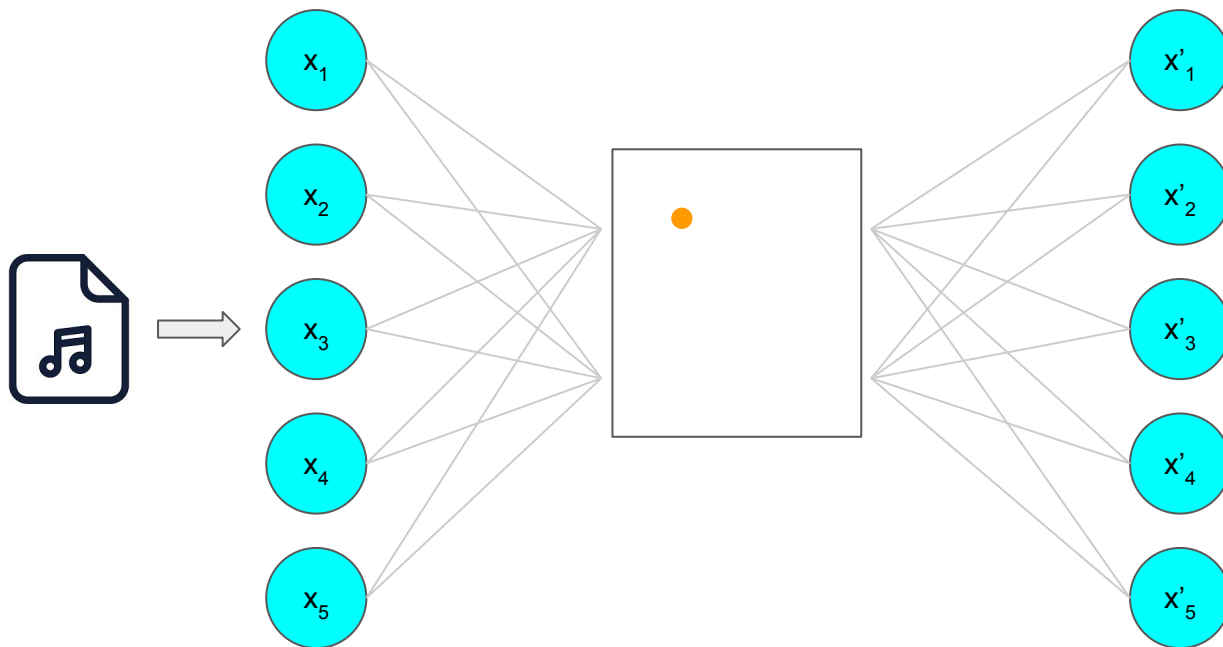
# Generation with AEs

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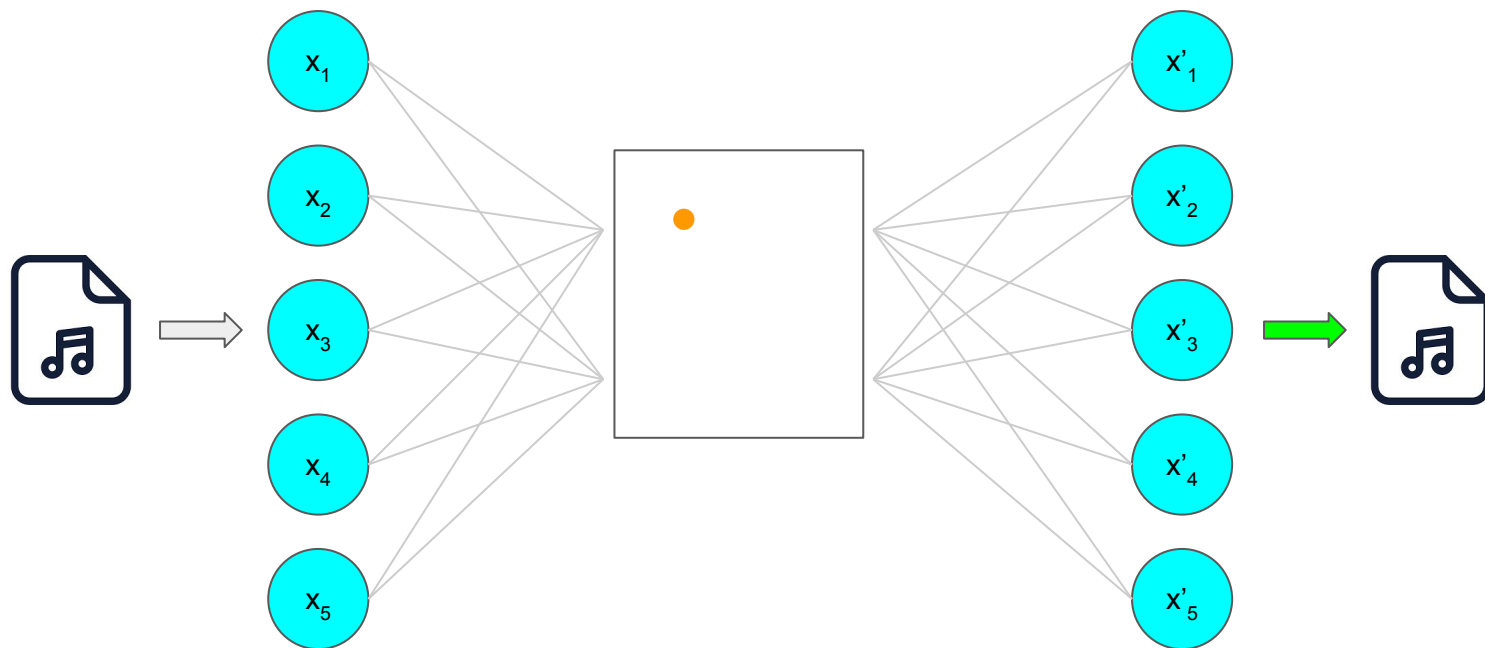
# Generation with AEs

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# Generation with AEs

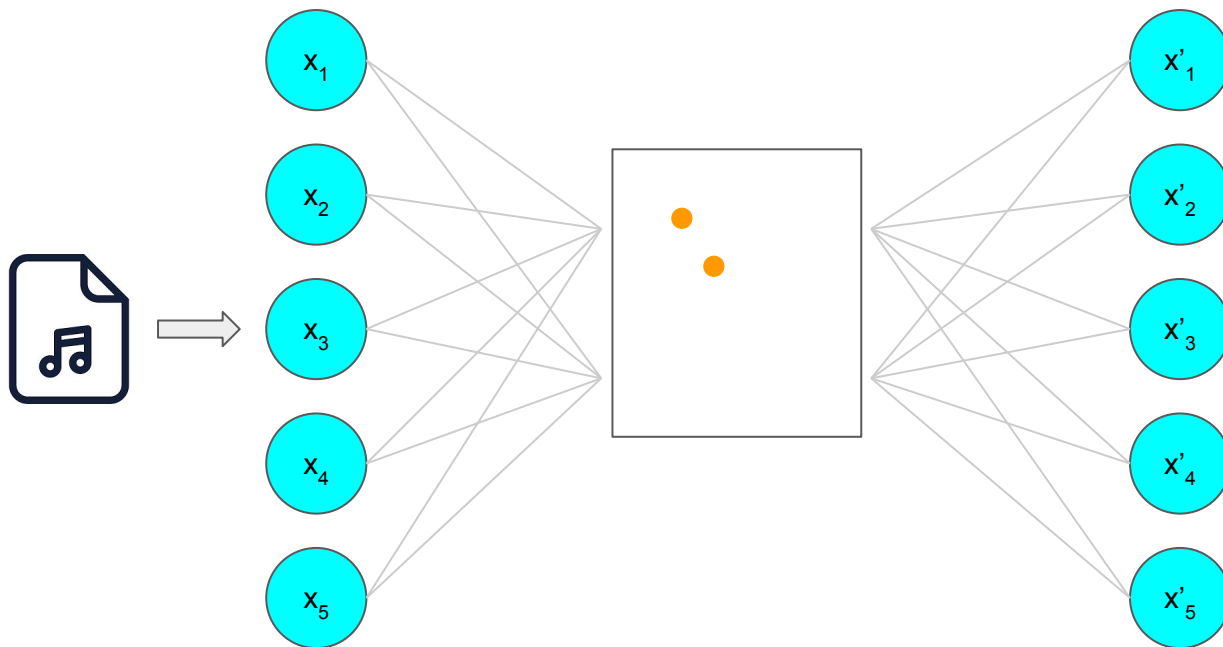
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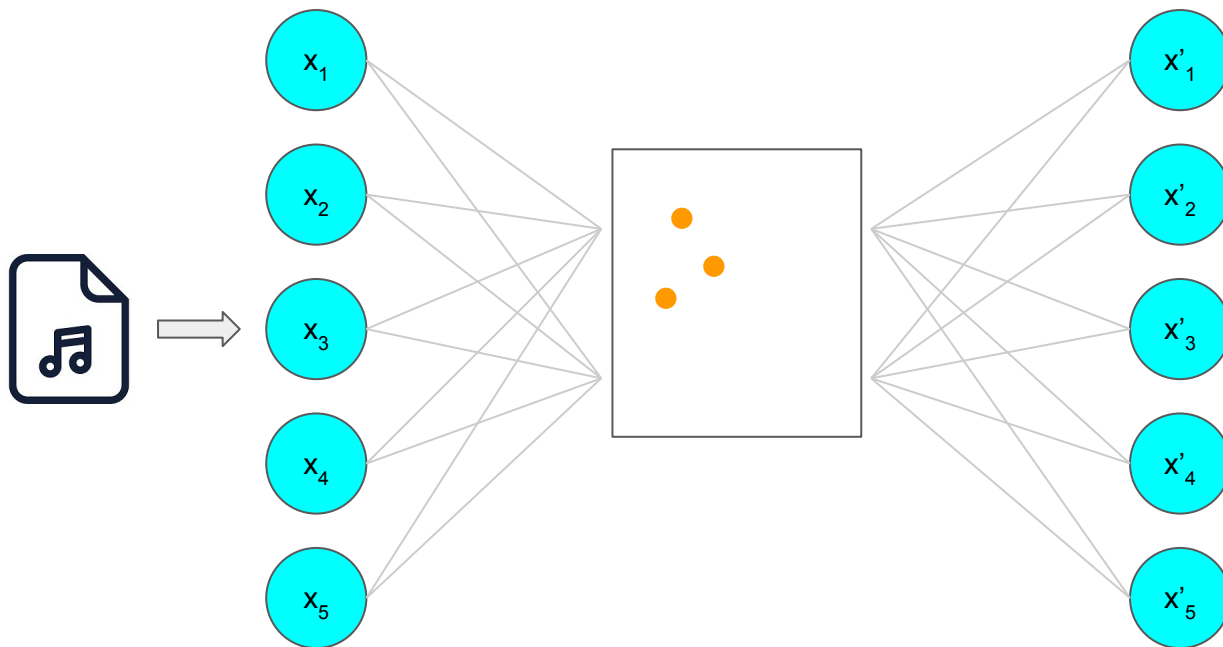
# Generation with AEs

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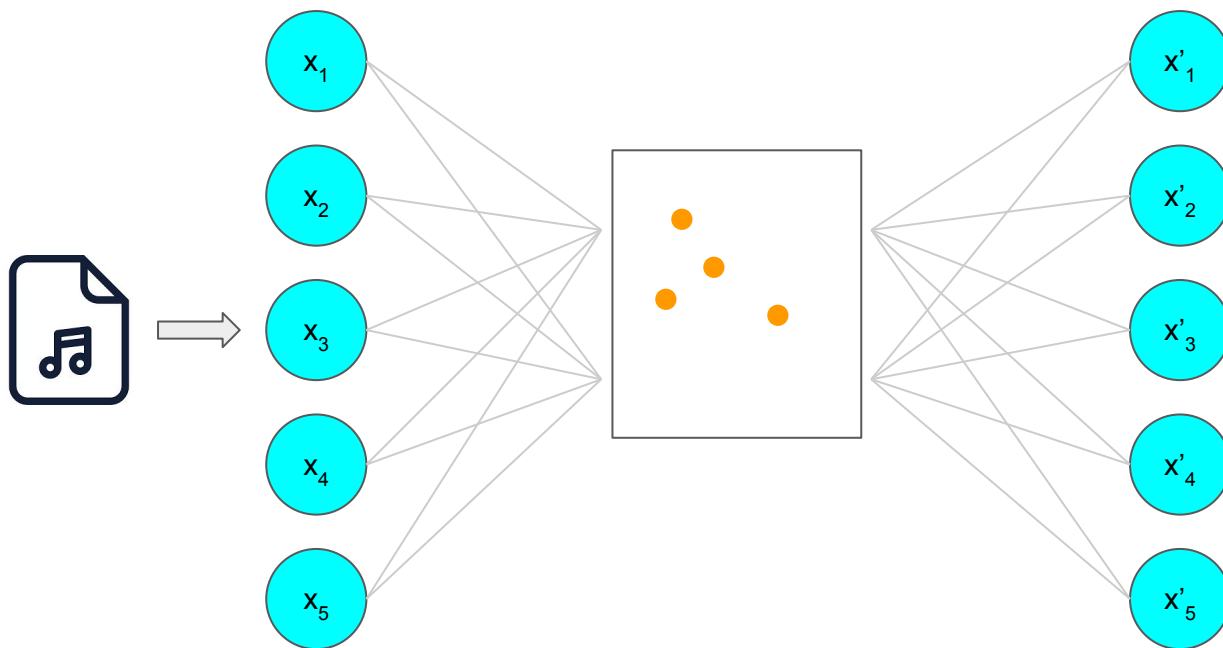
# Generation with AEs

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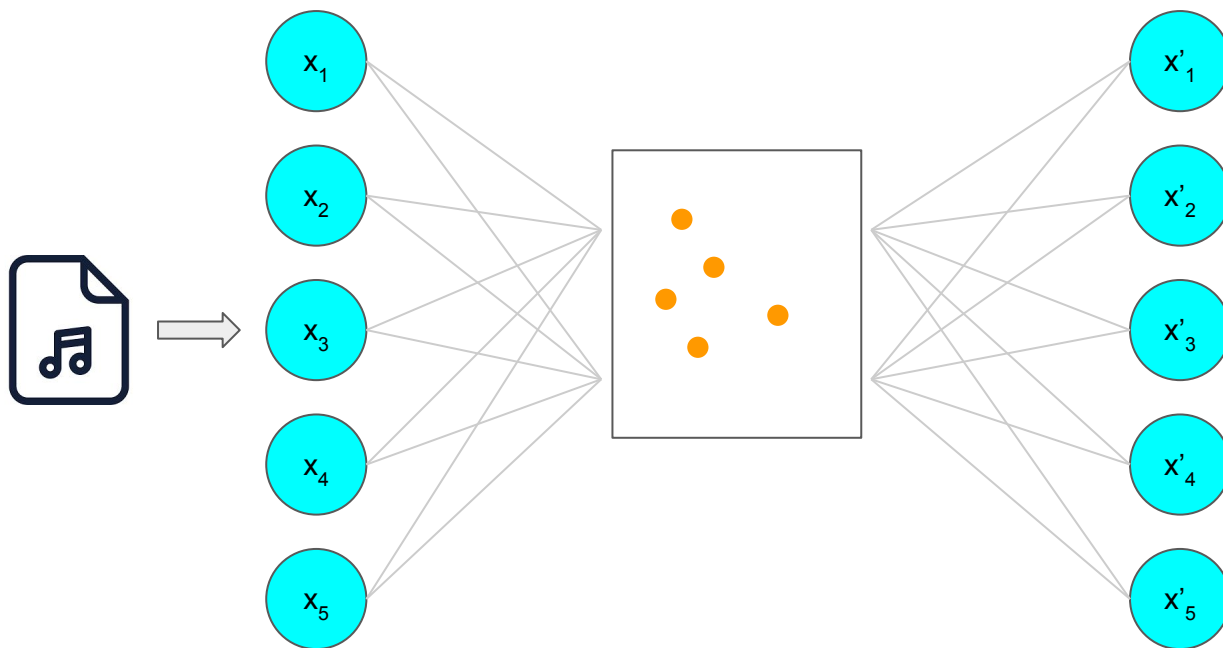
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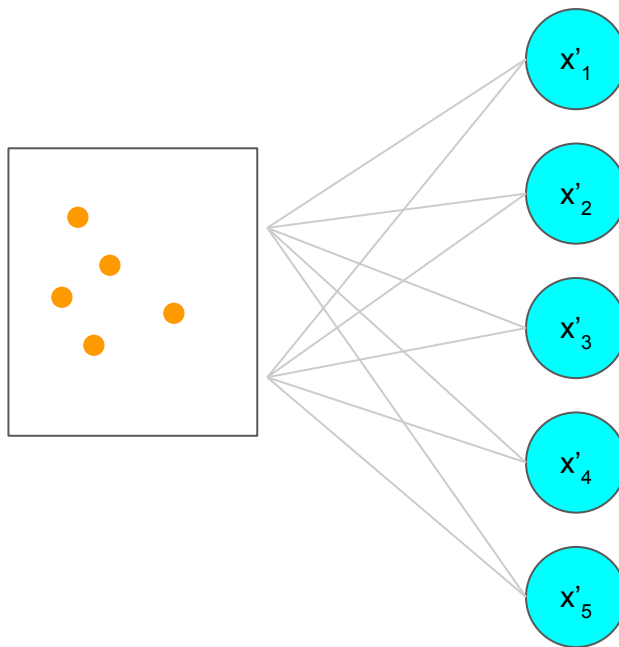
# Generation with AEs

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# Generation with AEs

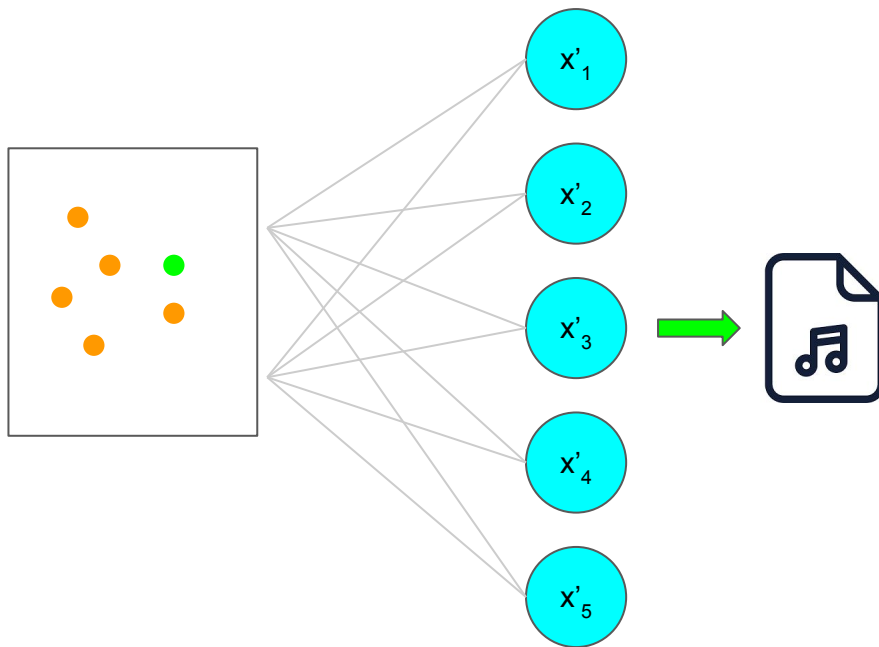
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# Generation with AEs

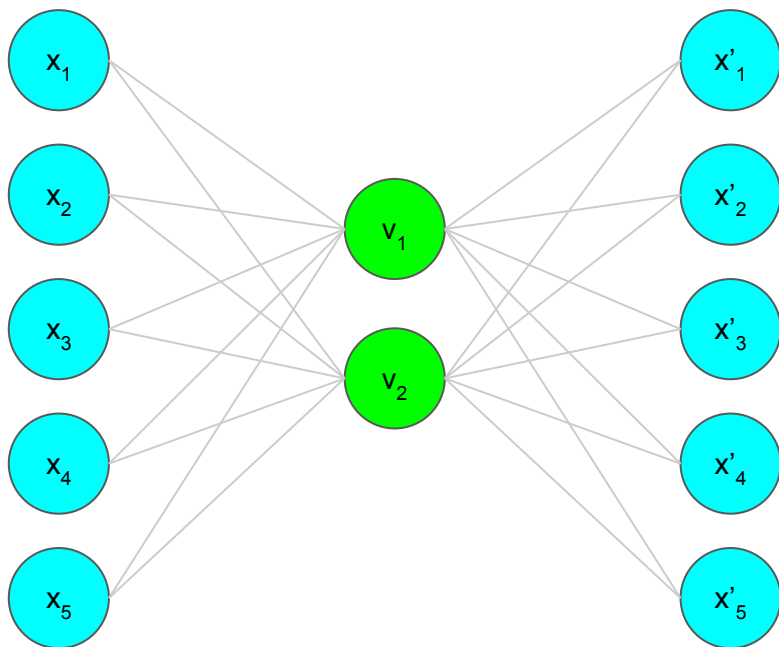
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Sample a point in the latent space and pass it through the decoder



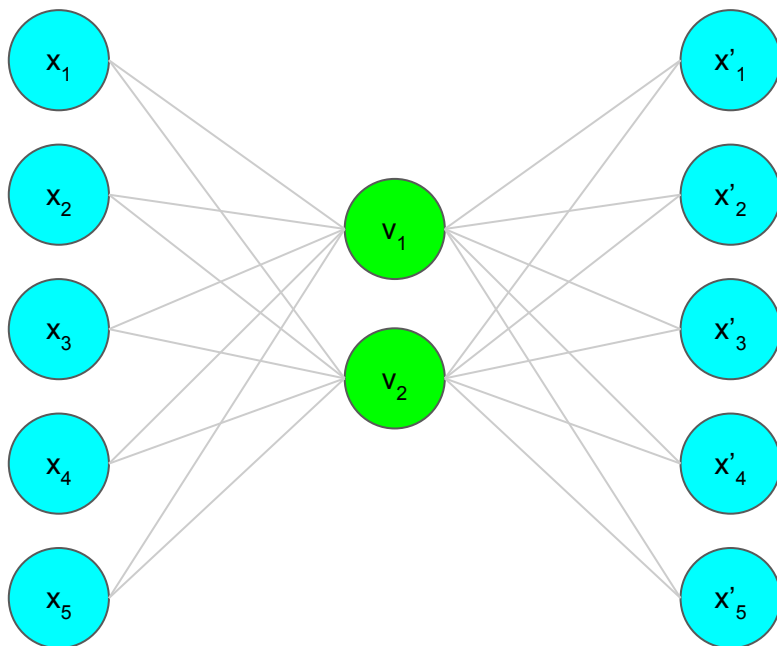
# Denoising with AEs

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# Denoising with AEs

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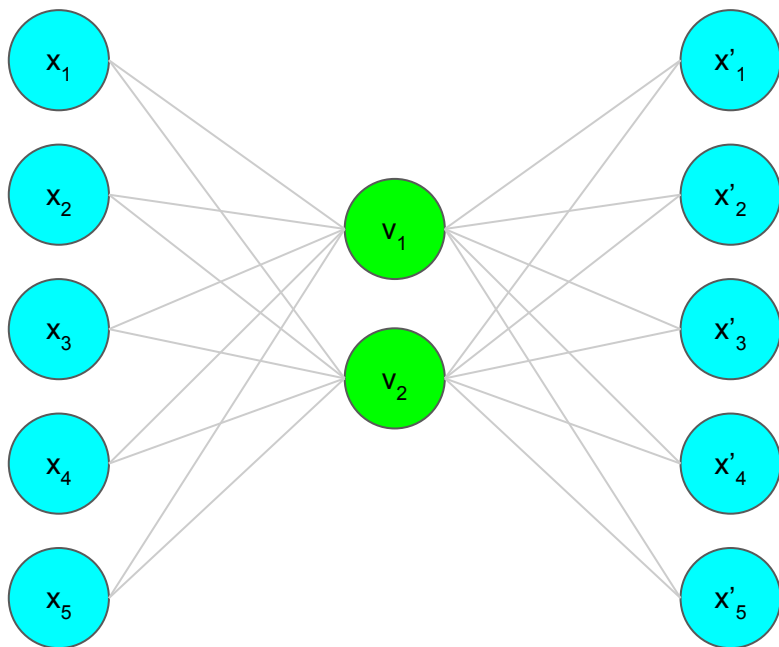


# Denoising with AEs

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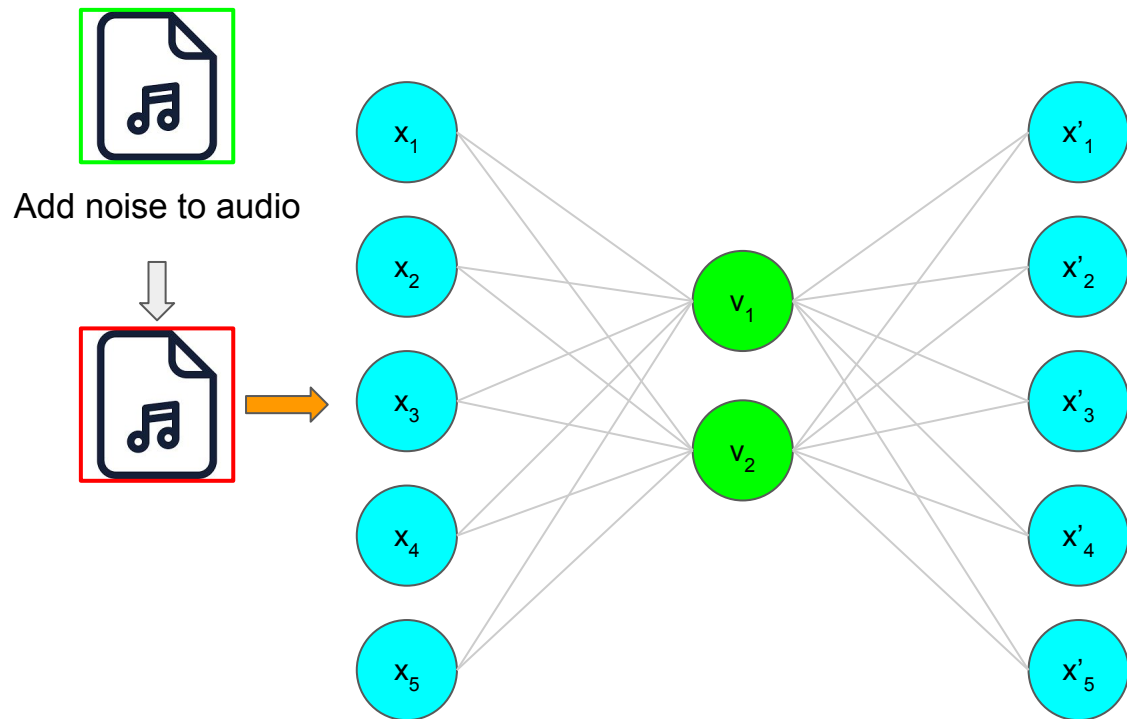


Add noise to audio



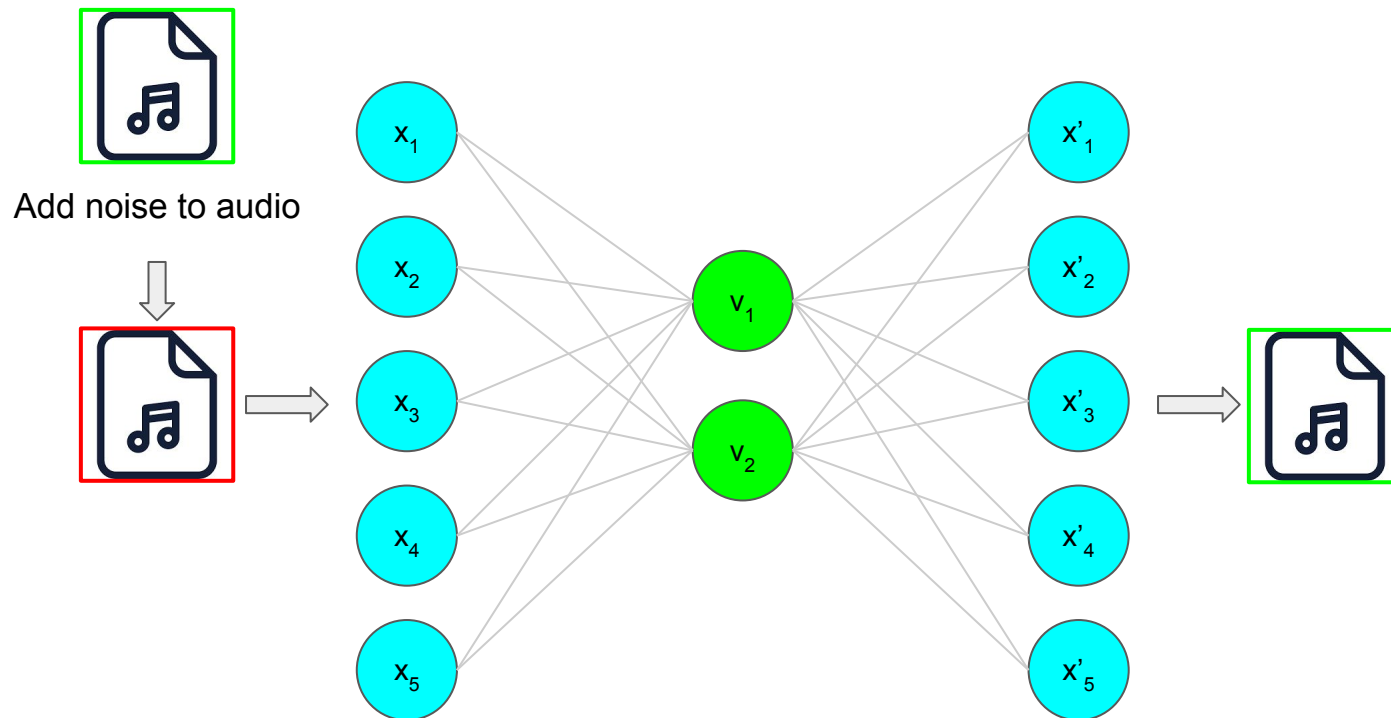
# Denoising with AEs

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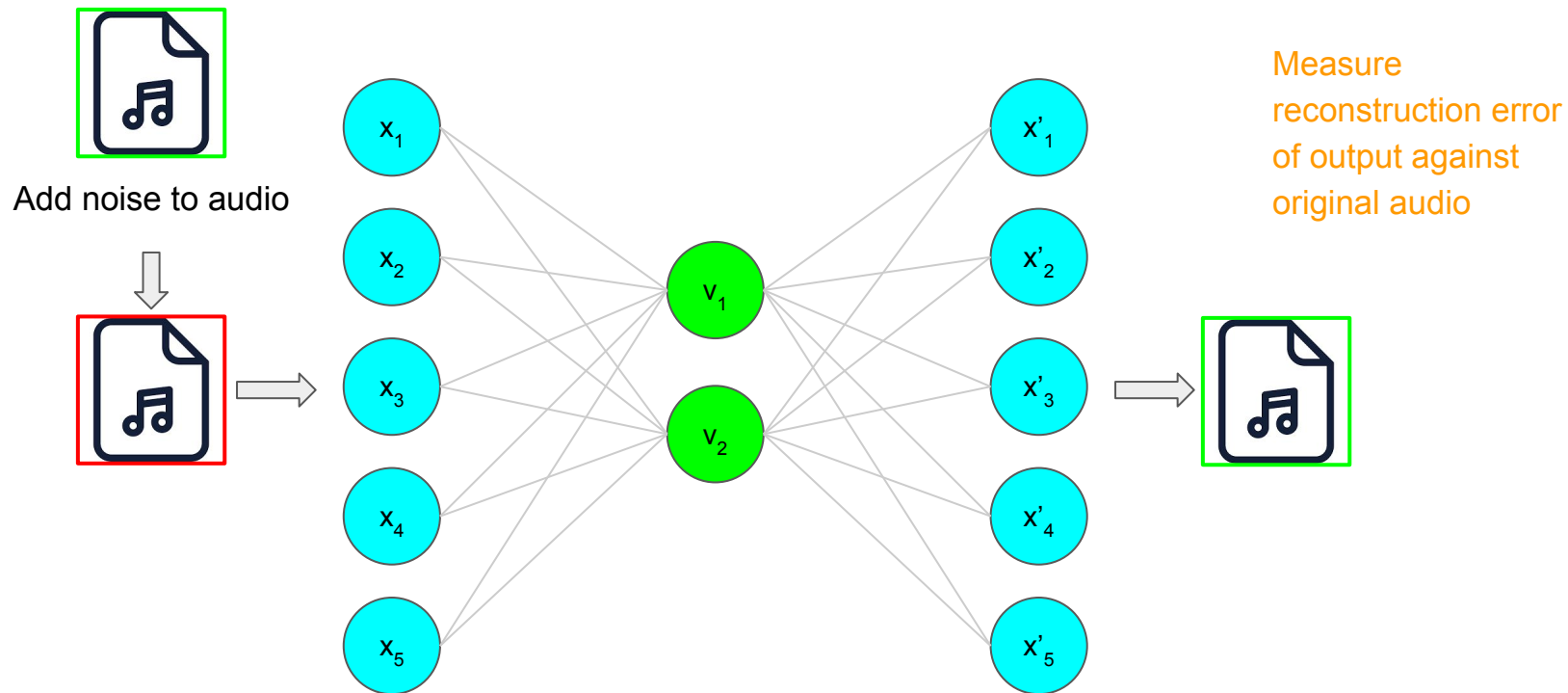
# Denoising with AEs

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# Denoising with AEs

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# Anomaly detection with AEs

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**NEW VIDEO ON ANOMALY  
DETECTION WITH AUTOENCODERS**



**COMING SOON!**

# What next?

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- Building a Convolutional AE in Keras
- Discuss AE limitations