

# An introduction to generative models

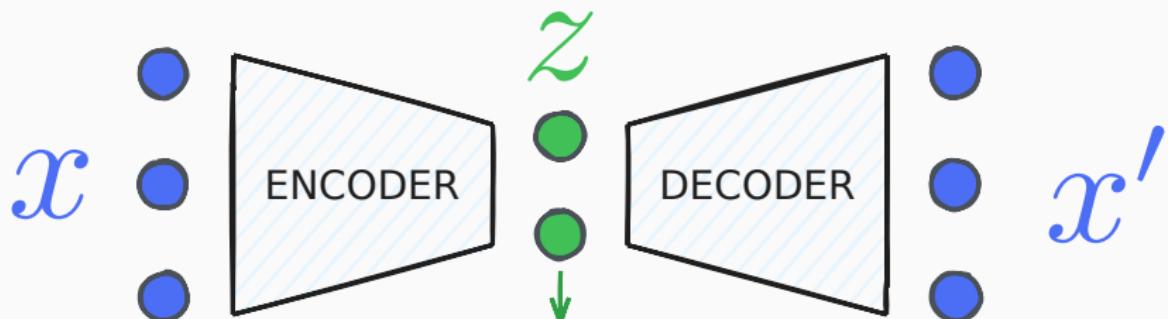
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# Auto-Encoder



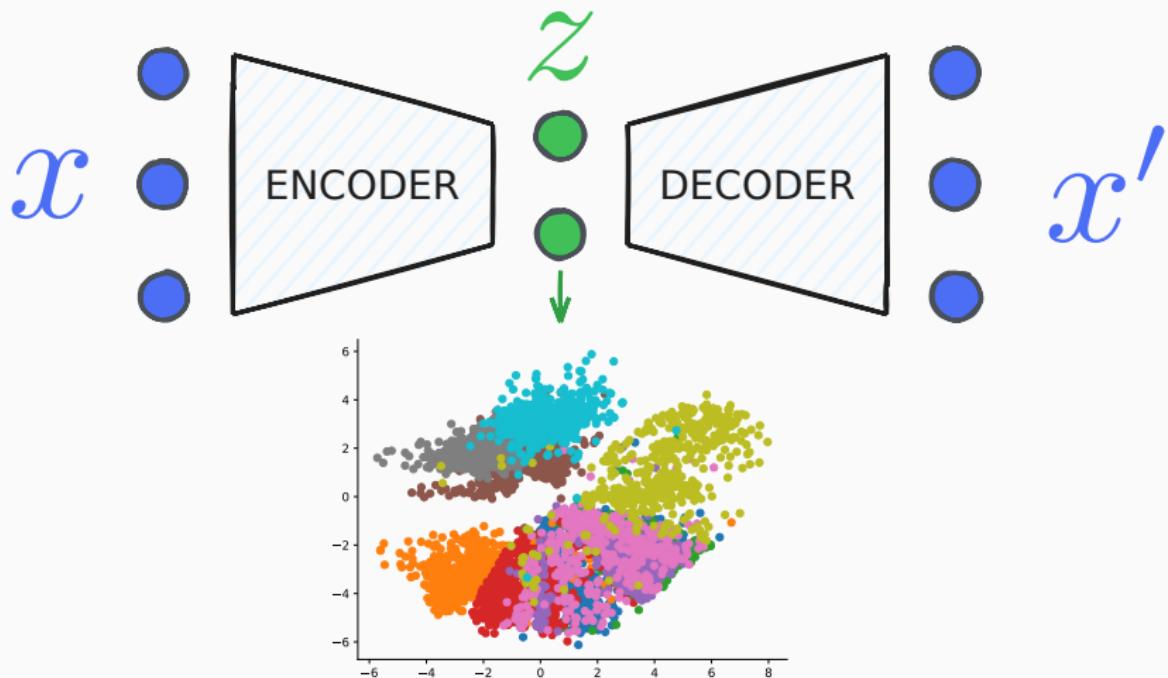
## Auto-encoder network

An AutoEncoder is a two function model with

- $f$  encode information
- $g$  decode information

Can we generate from the latent space?

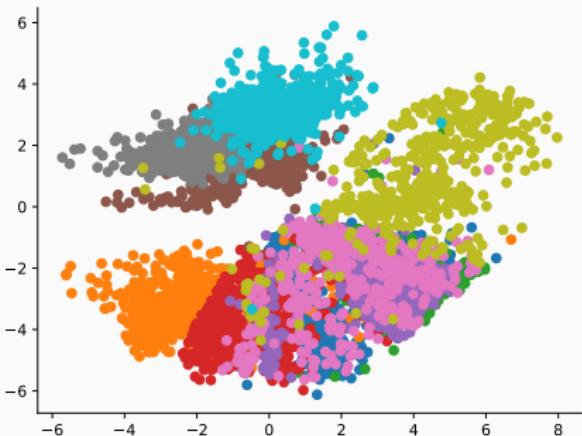
# Auto-Encoder



Can we generate from the latent space?

→ Estimate the distribution of  $z$  and sample from this distribution !!

# Auto-Encoder



## Estimate latent distribution

- What is  $p(z)$ ?
- What prior?

Difficult to choose the probability function (Gaussian ?)

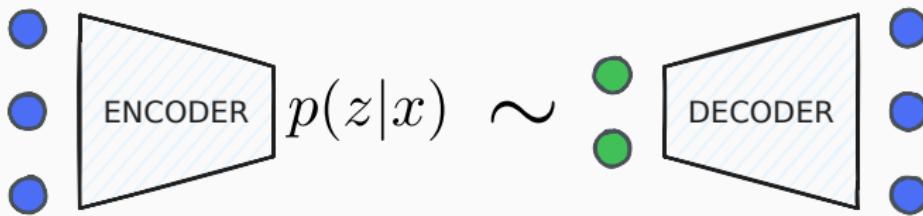
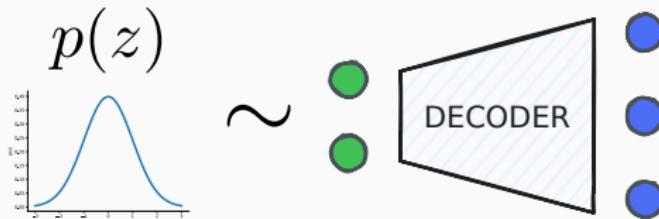
- Ensuring latent representation follow a prior distribution?
- Using a regularisation approach to force data follow a density function?

# Variational Auto-Encoder

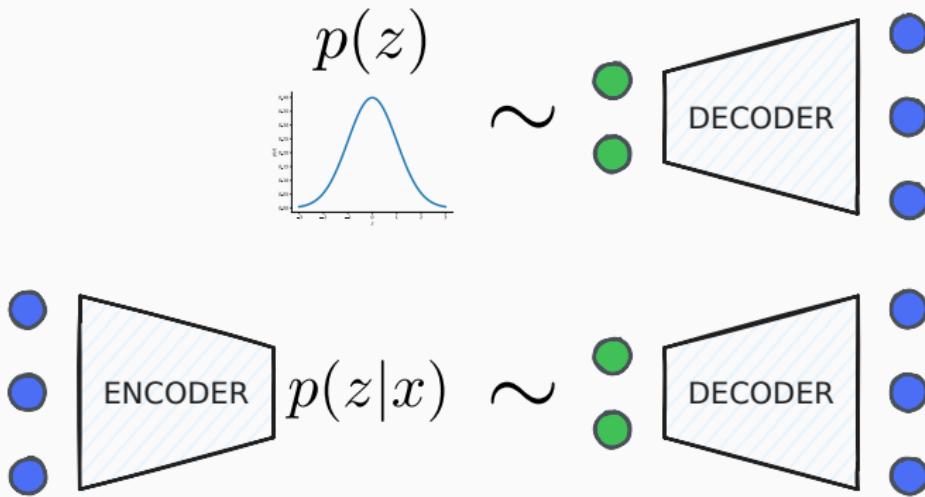
- Ensuring latent representation follow a prior distribution?
- Using a regularisation approach to force data follow a density function?

→ It is the variational encoder intuition!!!

# Variational Auto-Encoder



# Variational Auto-Encoder



## The variational Auto-Encoder (main idea)

- Force latent representation to fit a distribution
- Decode samples to produce data

Estimate  $p(z|x)$  knowing  $p(z)$

# Variational Auto-Encoder

## The variational Auto-Encoder

Let consider  $p(z|x)$  the conditionnal probability of sampling a latent representation prior to  $x$ .

Using Baye's rule we have:

$$p(z|x) = \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{p(x)} = \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{p(x)}$$

- $p(z|x)$  the posterior probability → we want to estimate

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- $p(z)$  the prior → we choose one (for instance gaussian)
- $p(x|z)$  the likelihood → approximable (reconstruction)
- $p(x)$  the marginal probability/or evidence probability

# Variational Auto-Encoder

Denominator  $p(x) = \int_z p(x, z) dz = \int_z p(x|z).p(z)dz$  is computationnaly untractable.

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- Approximate using Monte-Carlo estimation (sampling to estimate distribution)
- **Variational inference:** choose an other distribution  $q(z|x)$  to approximate  $p(z|x)$

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## Variational Inference

- Let consider  $q_\phi(z|x)$  parametrized by  $\phi$  (a neural network)

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## Variational Inference

- Let consider  $q_\phi(z|x)$  parametrized by  $\phi$  (a neural network)
  - We would like  $q_\phi(z|x)$  close to  $p(z|x)$
- Minimize a distance between  $q_\phi(z|x)$  and  $p(z|x)$

## Kullback Leibler divergence

The KL-divergence is a metric between two distribution where the KL-divergence of two distribution is given by:

$$KL(p(x)||q(x)) = \int_x p(x) \log \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$$

- When distributions are the same  $KL(p(x)||q(x)) = 0$
- When distributions are not the same  $0 < KL(p(x)||q(x))$

F

In our case we want to **minimize**  $KL(q(z|x)||p(z|x))$

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**⚠ The Kullback Leibler divergence is not symmetric !!!**

## Variational Auto-Encoder: $KL(q(z|x)||p(z|x))$

$$KL(q(z|x)||p(z|x))$$

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In rearranging terms we get we can have the expression of the evidence:

$$\log p(x) = KL(q(z|x)||p(z|x)) - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log q(z|x)] + \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log p(z,x)]$$

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Yes but... we don't know (or can estimate)  $p(z|x)$

## Variational Auto-Encoder: The evidence lower bound

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$KL(q(z|x)||p(z|x))$  is intractable however:

→ The Kullback Leibler divergence is positive

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$$\text{Thus } \log p(x) \geq -\mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log q(z|x)] + \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log p(z, x)]$$

$$\text{Maximize } \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log p(z, x)] - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log q(z|x)]$$



$$\text{Maximize } \log p(x)$$

# Variational Auto-Encoder: The evidence lower bound

## Variational Auto-Encoder objective

$$\text{Maximize } \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log p(z, x)] - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log q(z|x)]$$

This lower bound is called the Evidence Lower Bound (**ELBO**)

# Variational Auto-Encoder: The evidence lower bound

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- $p(x)$  is often call the evidence (probability of input data)
- $\log p(x) \leq p(x)$
- The ELBO is a lower bound of the evidence

# Variational Auto-Encoder: The evidence lower bound

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We have not finish yet:

- How to estimate  $\log p(z, x)$ ?
- Estimate update of  $q_\theta(z|x)$  (especially because we sample on  $q_\theta(z|x)$ )

## Variational Auto-Encoder: The evidence lower bound

$$ELBO = \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log p(z, x)] - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log q(z|x)]$$

## Variational Auto-Encoder: The evidence lower bound

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- We know  $q_\phi(z|x) \rightarrow \text{Encoder}$
- We know  $p(z)$  (The distribution we want to have on the latent space)
- We know  $p_\theta(x|z) \rightarrow \text{Decoder}$
- We don't know the derivative when sampling  $\mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)}$  (for backpropagation)

## Variational Auto-Encoder: The evidence lower bound

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We can remarks that we have two terms:

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We can remarks that we have two terms:

- $\mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log p(x|z)] \rightarrow$  fitting the data

## Variational Auto-Encoder: The evidence lower bound

$$\begin{aligned} ELBO &= \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log p(z, x)] - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log q(z|x)] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [p(z) \log p(x|z)] - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log q(z|x)] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log p(x|z)] - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log q(z|x) - \log p(z)] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log p(x|z)] - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} \left[ \log \left( \frac{q(z|x)}{p(z)} \right) \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log p(x|z)] - KL(q(z|x)||p(z)) \end{aligned}$$

We can remarks that we have two terms:

- $\mathbb{E}_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log p(x|z)] \rightarrow$  fitting the data
- $-KL(q(z|x)||p(z)) \rightarrow$  for the regularisation of the latent space

# Variational Auto-Encoder: The reparametrization trick

**Estimate  $\phi$  for  $\mathbb{E}_{z \sim q_\phi} [f(x)]$**

Finding parameters  $\phi$  of the distribution considering loss  $\mathbb{E}_{z \sim q_\phi} [f(x)]$ ?

**Using gradient descent:**

- Have  $\nabla_\phi \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q_\phi} [f(x)] = \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q_\phi} [f(x) \nabla_\phi \log(q_\phi(z))]$
- Estimate by Monte-Carlo:  $\frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^L [f(x) \nabla_\phi \log(q_\phi(z'))]$  ( $L$  samples)

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<sup>1</sup><https://towardsdatascience.com/policy-gradients-in-a-nutshell-8b72f9743c5d>

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→ Bad estimator (high variance)

→ Connexion with Policy Gradient in reinforcement Learning<sup>1</sup>

---

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Estimate  $z \sim q_\phi(z|x)$  by using a differentiable transformation:

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<sup>2</sup>Original Paper: Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes, Kingma And Welling, 2013

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Notice that this is the Variational Auto-Encoder approach<sup>2</sup>

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**Using the reparametrization Gaussian case:**

Estimate  $z_i \sim q_\phi(z|x) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$  (in practice the encoder predict  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  for latent component):

- Sample some noise  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

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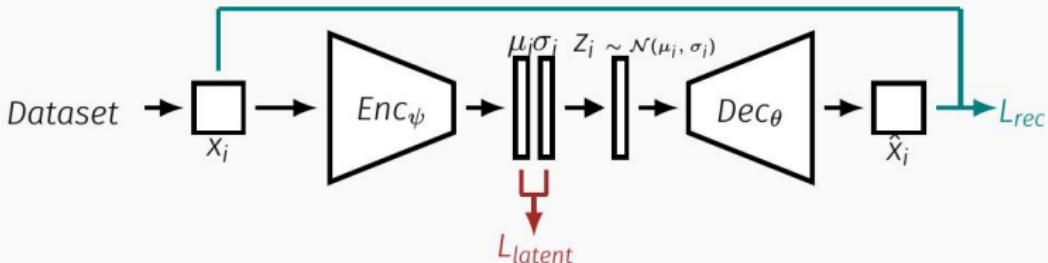
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- Estimate with Monte-Carlo  $\mathbb{E}_{z \sim q_\phi(z|x)} [f(x)] \approx \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^L [f(\epsilon^{(l)} * \sigma_i + \mu_i)]$

**In most implementation, only one sample is used in the Monte-Carlo approximation**

## Variational Auto-Encoder: Summary

- Latent representation follow a distribution  $p(z)$
- $q(z|x)$  encode data (It is a neural network)
- $p(x|z)$  decode data (It is also a neural network)
- We minimize the ELBO loss
- We sample in forward according to a distribution

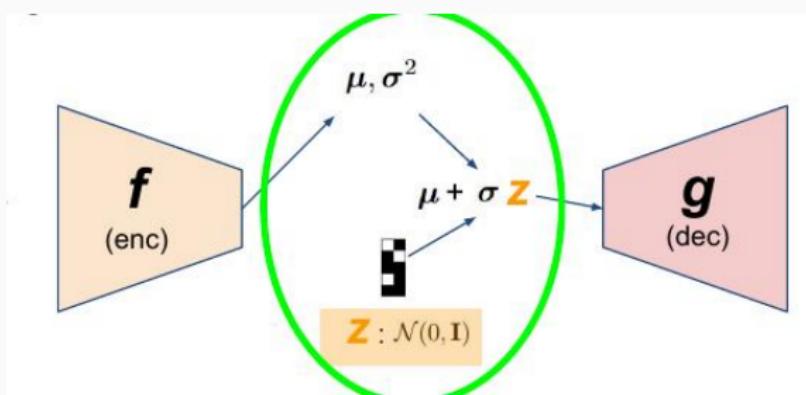
# Variational Auto-Encoder: Framework



- encoding cost:  $L_{latent} = \sum_i D_{KL}(Enc_\psi(x_i) || \mathcal{N}(0; 1))$
- reconstruction loss:

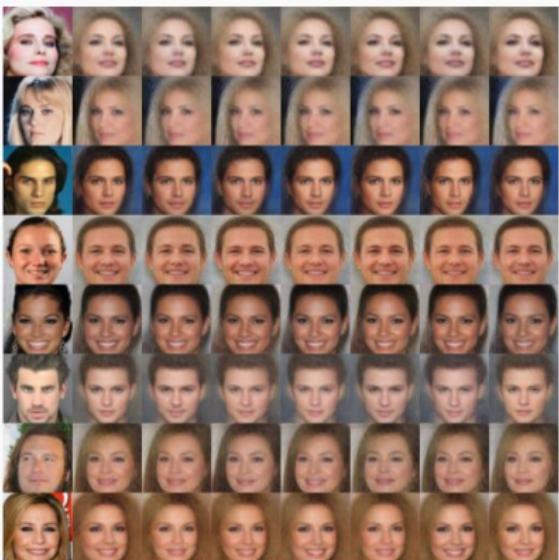
$$\begin{aligned} L_{rec} &= \sum_i \mathbb{E}_{z \sim Enc_\psi(x_i)} [-\log p_{Dec_\theta(z)}(x_i)] \\ &= \sum_i \mathbb{E}_{z \sim Enc_\psi(x_i)} \|Dec_\theta(z) - x_i\|^2 + cst. \end{aligned}$$

## Variational Auto-Encoder: reparametrization trick

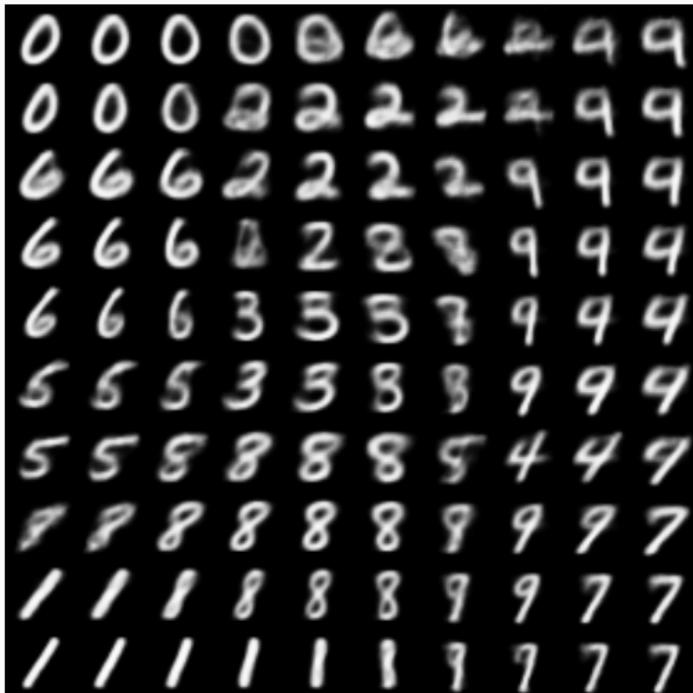


# Variational Auto-Encoder: Examples

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 6 |
| 8 | 2 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| 8 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| 6 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 1 |
| 8 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 9 |
| 8 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| 7 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 0 | 9 | 4 | 3 |
| 9 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 0 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 1 |
| 4 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 3 |
| 1 | 8 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 7 |



## Variational Auto-Encoder: The latent space



Example of the latent space in the VAE

# Variational Auto-Encoder: Code Examples

```
class MLPVAE(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self, input_size, inter_size, latent_size):
        super().__init__()
        self.latent_size = latent_size
        self.encoder = nn.Sequential(...)
        self.m_sigma = nn.Linear(inter_size, latent_size)
        self.m_mu = nn.Linear(inter_size, latent_size)
        self.decoder = nn.Sequential(...)

    def decode(self, mu, sigma):
        z = torch.randn(mu.shape) * sigma + mu
        return torch.sigmoid(self.decoder(z))

    def generate(self):
        z = torch.randn(1, latent_size)
        return torch.sigmoid(self.decoder(z))

    def forward(self, x):
        r = self.encoder(x)
        mu, log_sigma = self.m_mu(r), self.m_sigma(r)
        y = self.decode(mu, torch.exp(0.5 * log_sigma))
        return y, mu, log_sigma
```

# A short introduction to Generative Adversarial Network

---

## Objective

Find a generative model

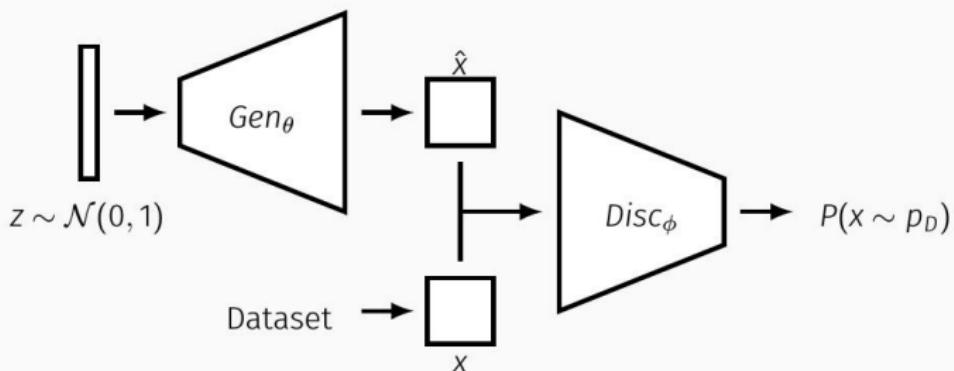
- Classical approach: learn a distribution
- Idea: Sampling directly on latent space ( $z$ ) and evaluate if the generated images is likely to be a correct image

## Principle

- Find a good generative model where generated samples cannot be discriminated from real samples

# Generative Adversarial Network: Principle

- A dataset of true samples  $x$  (real)
- A generator  $G$  (a variational decoder), that sample from  $p_g(z)$  and generate data (fake data)
- A discriminator  $D$  that discriminates real data from generated ones
  - Generator  $G_\theta : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$
  - Discriminator  $D_\phi : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow [0, 1]$



## Training GAN

- Alternate Optimisation
- Optimize D to discriminate fake from generated
- Optimize G to desceive D

*Objective:*

$$\text{Min}_G \text{Max}_D \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \text{data}} [\log D(x)] + \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p_g(z)} [\log(1 - D(G(z)))]$$

# Generative Adversarial Network: Training GAN

---

## Algorithm 1 Training GAN

---

```
for n iterations do
    for k steps do                                ▷ Discriminator update loop
        o Sample  $\{z^{(1)}, z^{(2)}, \dots, z^{(m)}\}$  from prior noise  $p_g(z)$ 
        o Sample  $\{x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, \dots, x^{(m)}\}$  from data distribution  $p_{data}(x)$ 
        o Update  $D$  by gradient descent:
            
$$\nabla_{\theta_D} - \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m [\log D(x^i) + \log (1 - D(G(z^{(i)})))]$$

    end for                                         ▷ Generator update
    o Sample  $\{z^{(1)}, z^{(2)}, \dots, z^{(m)}\}$  from prior noise  $p_g(z)$ 
    o Update  $G$  by gradient descent:
            
$$\nabla_{\theta_G} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m [\log (1 - D(G(z^{(i)})))]$$

end for
```

---

# Generative Adversarial Network: GAN vs VAE

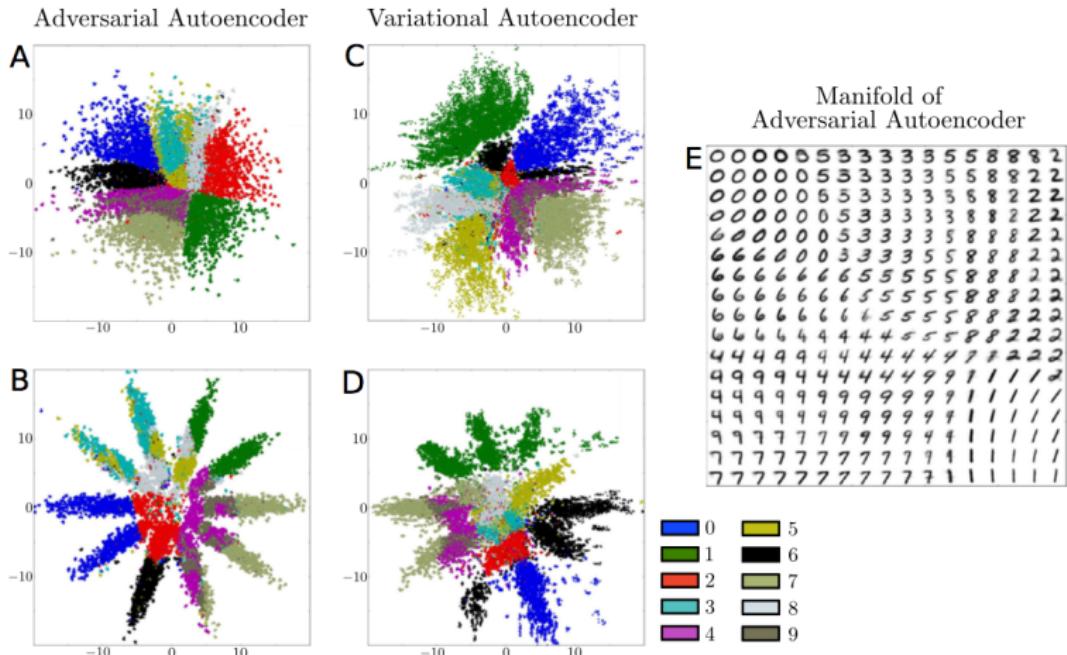


Figure 2: Comparison of adversarial and variational autoencoder on MNIST. The hidden code  $z$  of the *hold-out* images for an adversarial autoencoder fit to (a) a 2-D Gaussian and (b) a mixture of 10 2-D Gaussians. Each color represents the associated label. Same for variational autoencoder with (c) a 2-D gaussian and (d) a mixture of 10 2-D Gaussians. (e) Images generated by uniformly sampling the Gaussian percentiles along each hidden code dimension  $z$  in the 2-D Gaussian adversarial autoencoder.

## Generative Adversarial Network: examples



## Stability issues

If  $P_r$  (probability of real images) and  $P_g$  (on generated images) are not in the same manifolds :

- It exists a perfect discriminator
- End of optimization (but bad generator)

# Generative Adversarial Network: Training stability

## Stability issues

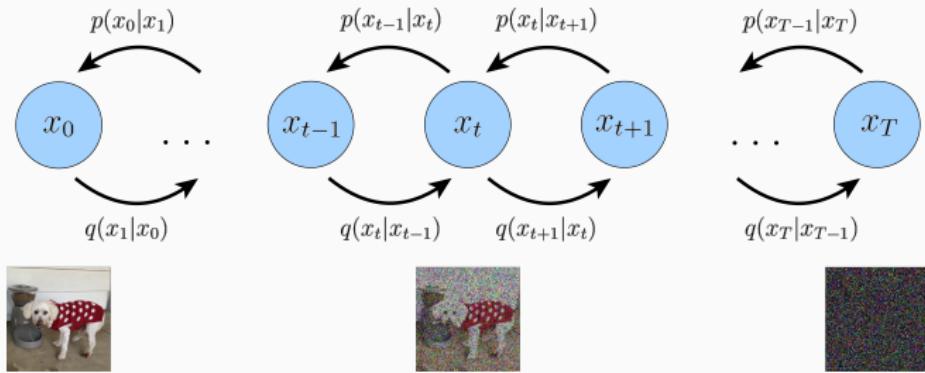
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## Stabilizing training through regularization

- Improved training of Wasserstein GANs (Gulrajani, Ahmed, Arjovsky, Dumoulin, Courville 17)  
→ using regularisation based on the wasserstein distance (with weights clipping)
- Stabilizing Training of Generative Adversarial Networks through Regularization (Roth, Lucchi, Nowozin, Hofmann, 17)

# Diffusion models



## Intuition beyond diffusion model

- Sampling gaussian noise
- Learn a denoising function  $p(x_{t-1}|x_t)$
- Repeat the denoising step

## What models are based on

- Stable diffusion
- Dall-E (since second version, first version was a GAN)
- Midjourney

<sup>2</sup>The image was taken from <https://calvinlyluo.com/2022/08/26/diffusion-tutorial.html>