

Deep Learning

Lecture 17

Generative Models

Part 1

Supervised vs Unsupervised Learning

Supervised Learning

Data: (x, y)

x is data, y is label

Goal : Learn a *function* to map $x \rightarrow y$

Examples : Classification,
regression, object detection,
semantic segmentation, image
captioning, etc.

Supervised vs Unsupervised Learning

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Cat

Classification

[This image is CC0 public domain](#)

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DOG , DOG , CAT

Object Detection

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Supervised vs Unsupervised Learning

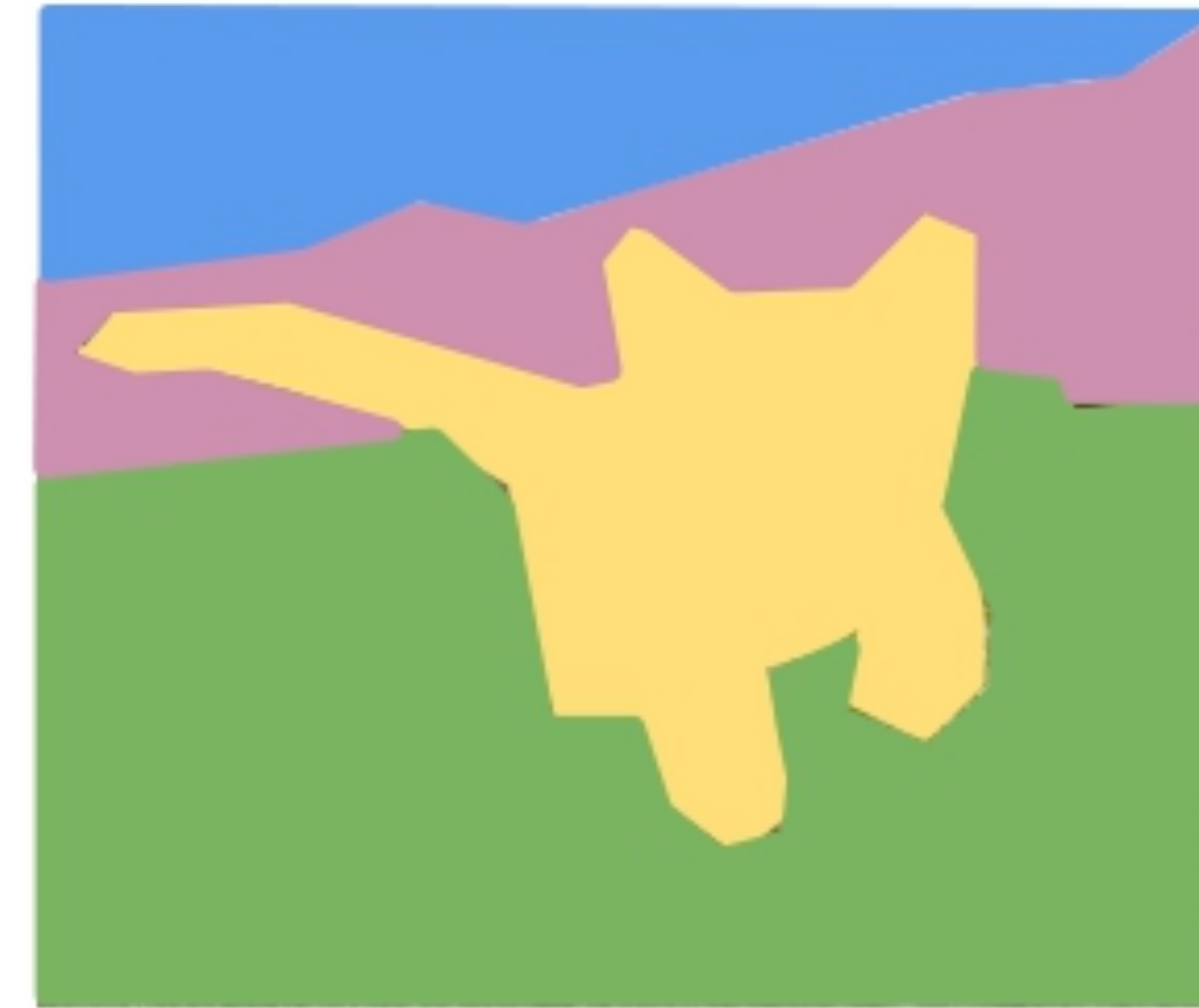
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GRASS , CAT ,
TREE , SKY

Semantic Segmentation

Supervised vs Unsupervised Learning

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A cat sitting on a suitcase on the floor

Image captioning

Caption generated using [neuraltalk2](#)
Image is [CC0 Public domain](#).

Supervised vs Unsupervised Learning

Unsupervised Learning

Data: x

Just data, no labels!

Goal : Learn some underlying hidden *structure* of the data

Examples : Clustering, dimensionality reduction, feature learning, density estimation, etc.

Supervised vs Unsupervised Learning

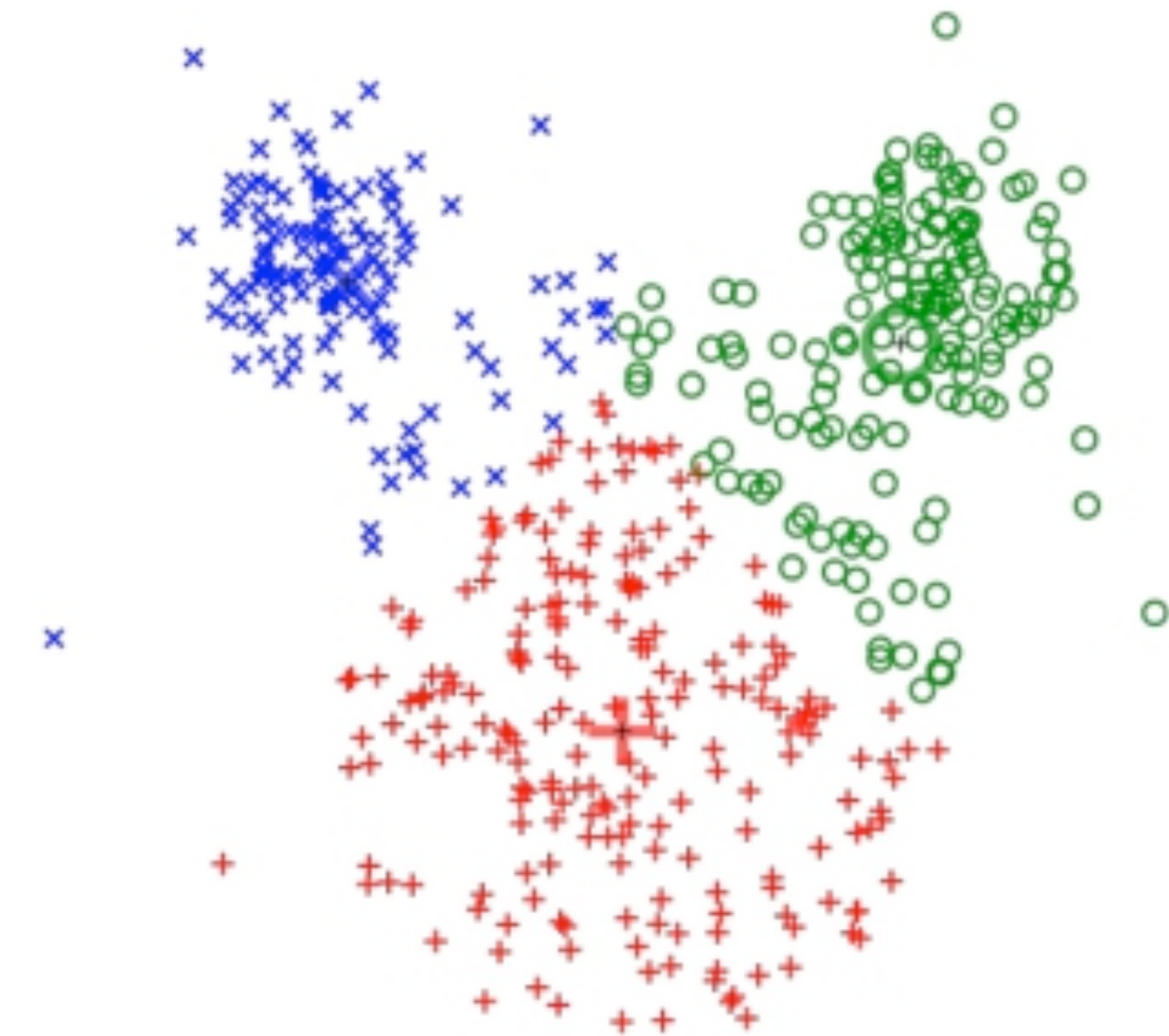
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K-means clustering

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Supervised vs Unsupervised Learning

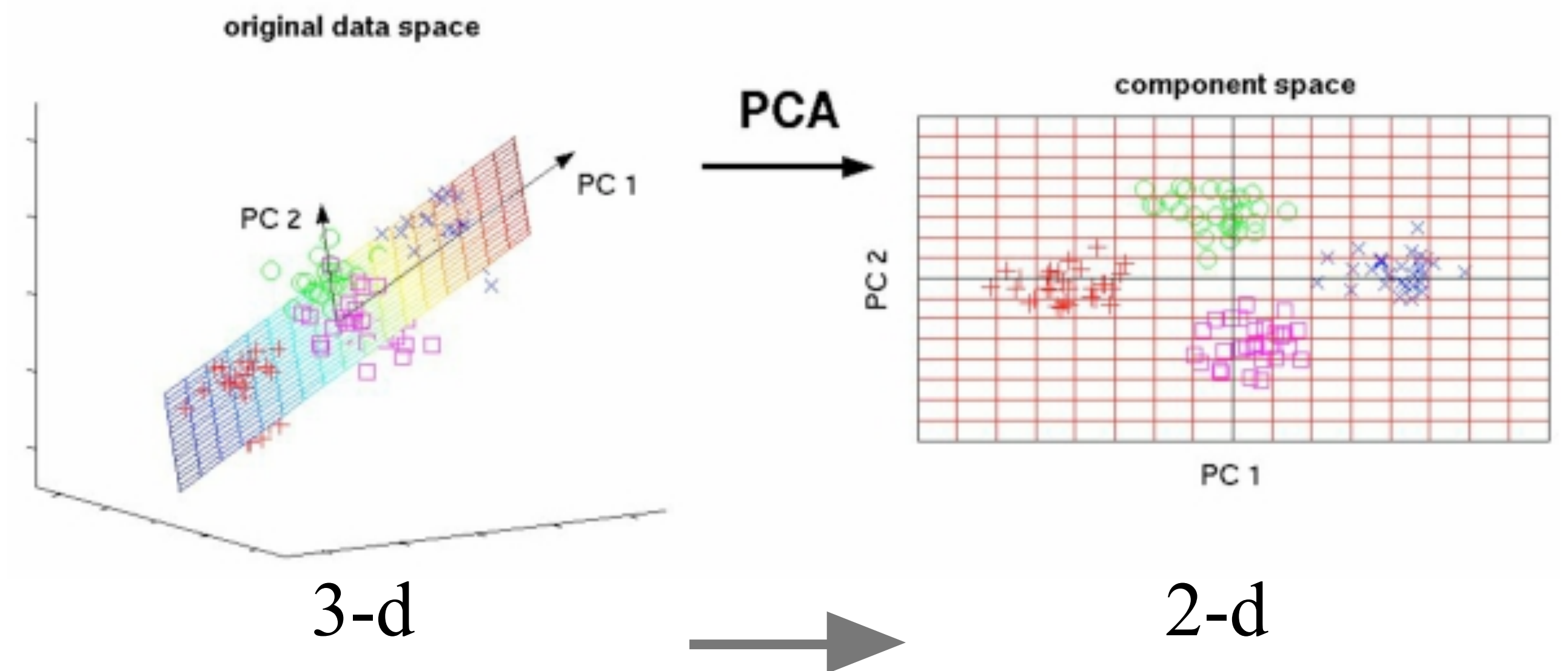
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Principal Component Analysis
(Dimensionality reduction)

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is [CC0 public domain](#)

Supervised vs Unsupervised Learning

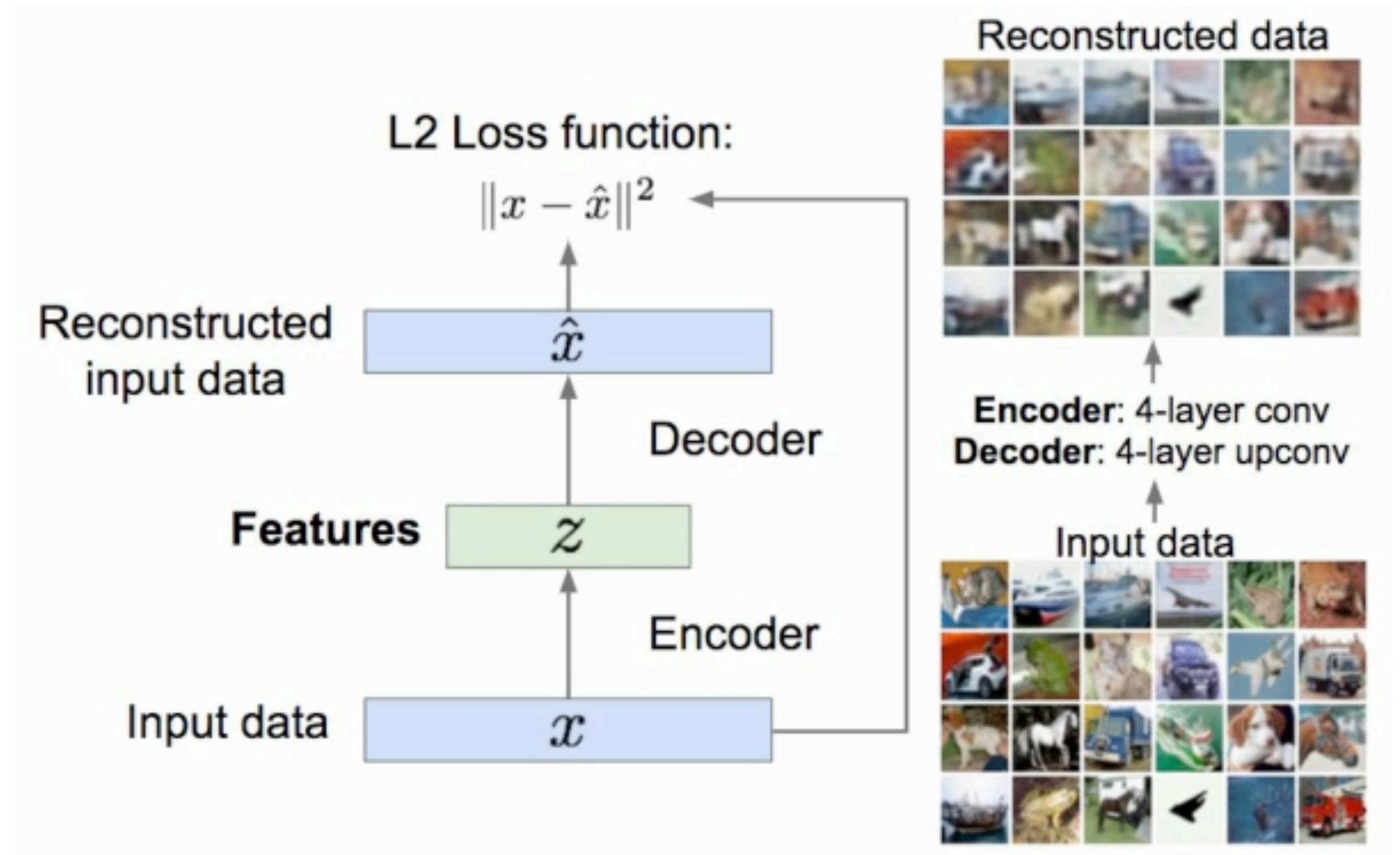
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Autoencoders
(Feature learning)

Supervised vs Unsupervised Learning

Unsupervised Learning

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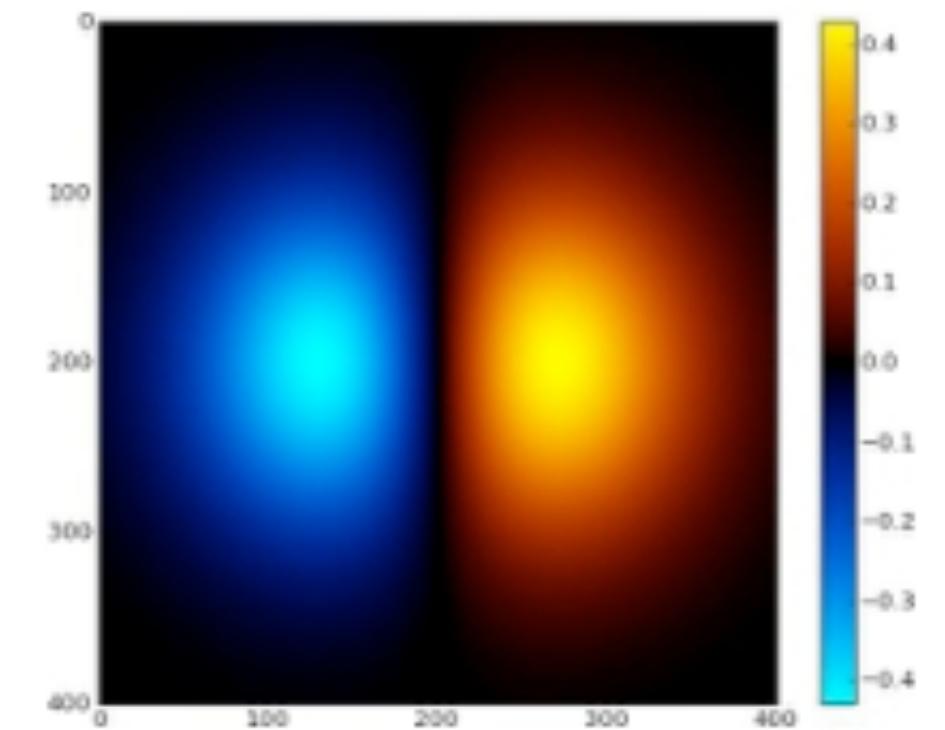
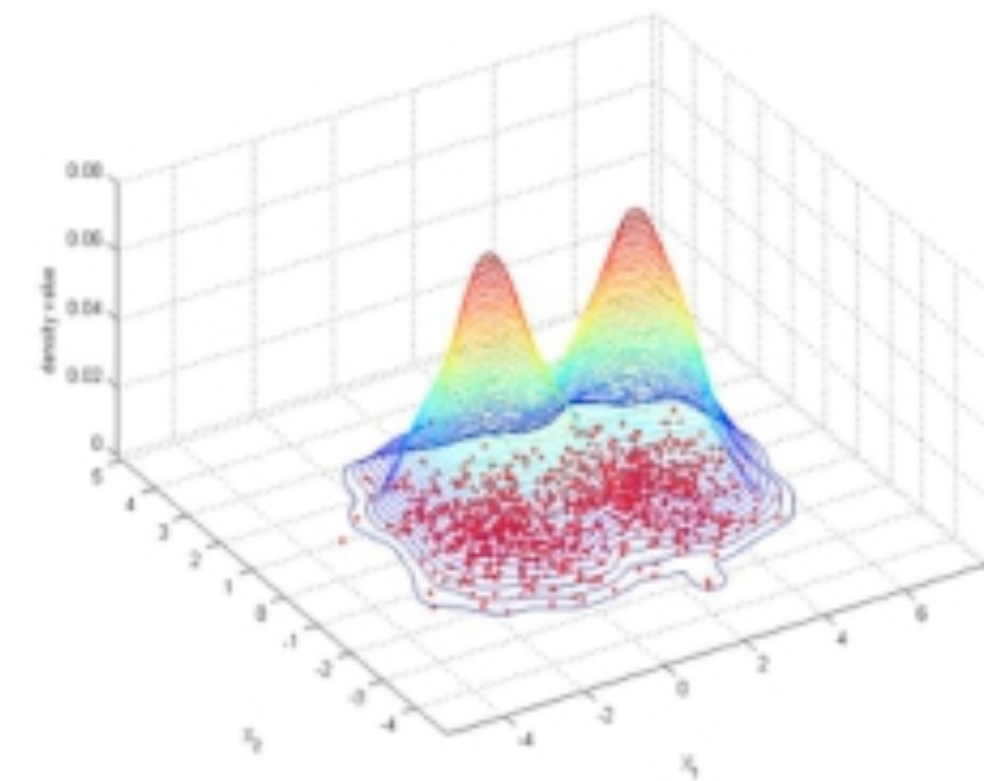
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Goal : Learn some underlying hidden *structure* of the data

Examples : Clustering, dimensionality reduction, feature learning, density estimation, etc.



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2-d density estimation

2-d density images [left](#) and [right](#) are CC0 public domain

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Supervised vs Unsupervised Learning

Supervised Learning

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Examples : Classification, regression, object detection, semantic segmentation, image captioning, etc.

Unsupervised Learning

Training data is cheap

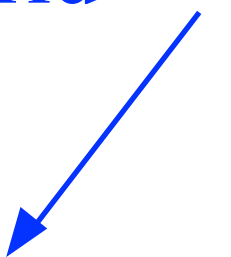
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Examples : Clustering, dimensionality reduction, feature learning, density estimation, etc.

Holy grail: Solve unsupervised learning
 \Rightarrow understand structure of visual world



Generative Models

Given training data, generate new samples from same distribution



Training data $\sim p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{x})$



Generated samples $\sim p_{\text{model}}(\mathbf{x})$

Want to learn $p_{\text{model}}(\mathbf{x})$ similar to $p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{x})$

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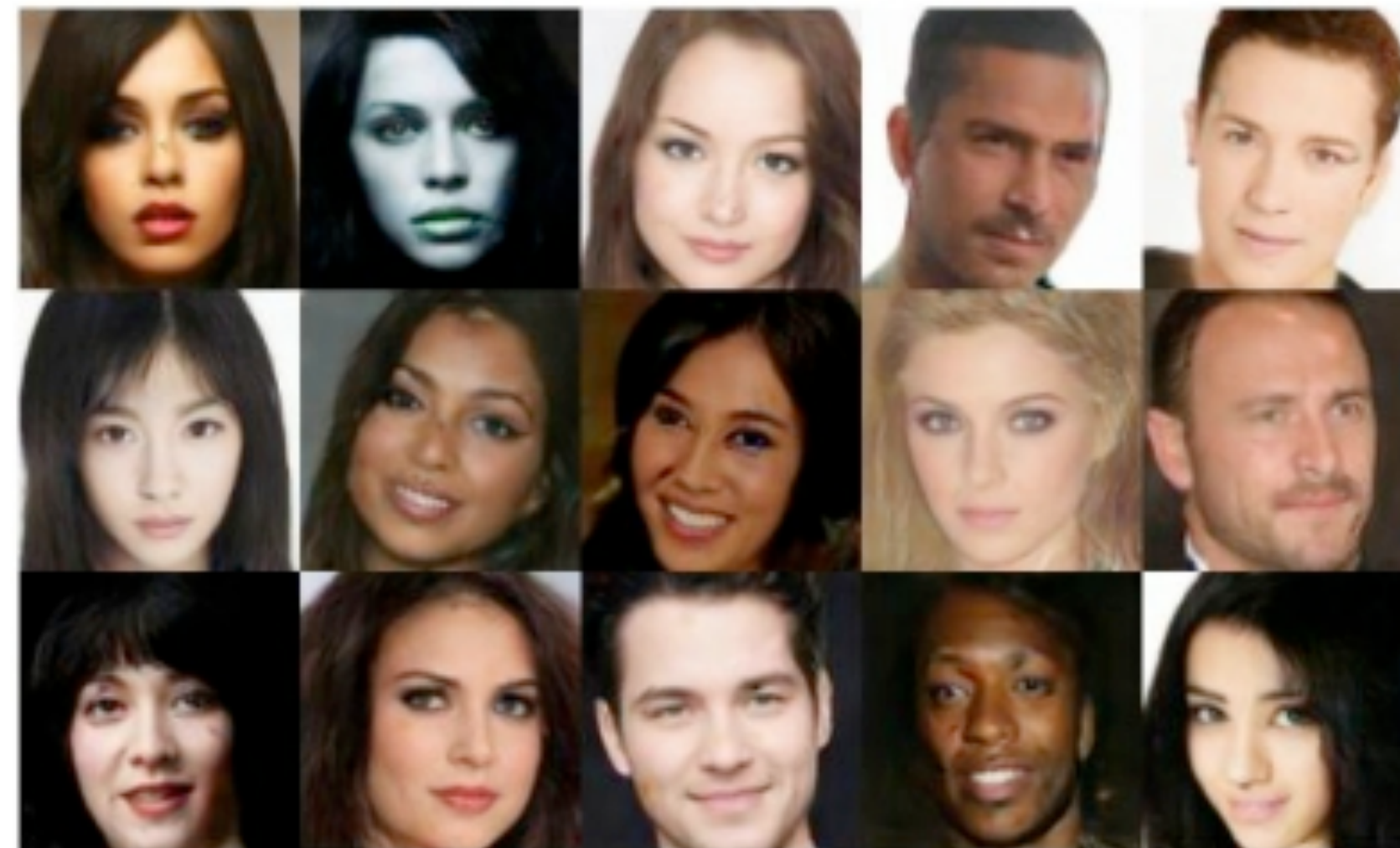
Addresses density estimation, a core problem in unsupervised learning

Several flavors:

- Explicit density estimation: explicitly define and solve for $p_{\text{model}}(\mathbf{x})$
- Implicit density estimation: learn model that can sample from $p_{\text{model}}(\mathbf{x})$ w/o explicitly defining it

Why Generative Models?

- Realistic samples for artwork, super-resolution, colorization, etc.



- Generative models of time-series data can be used for simulation and planning (reinforcement learning applications!)
- Training generative models can also enable inference of latent representations that can be useful as general features

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Taxonomy of Generative Models

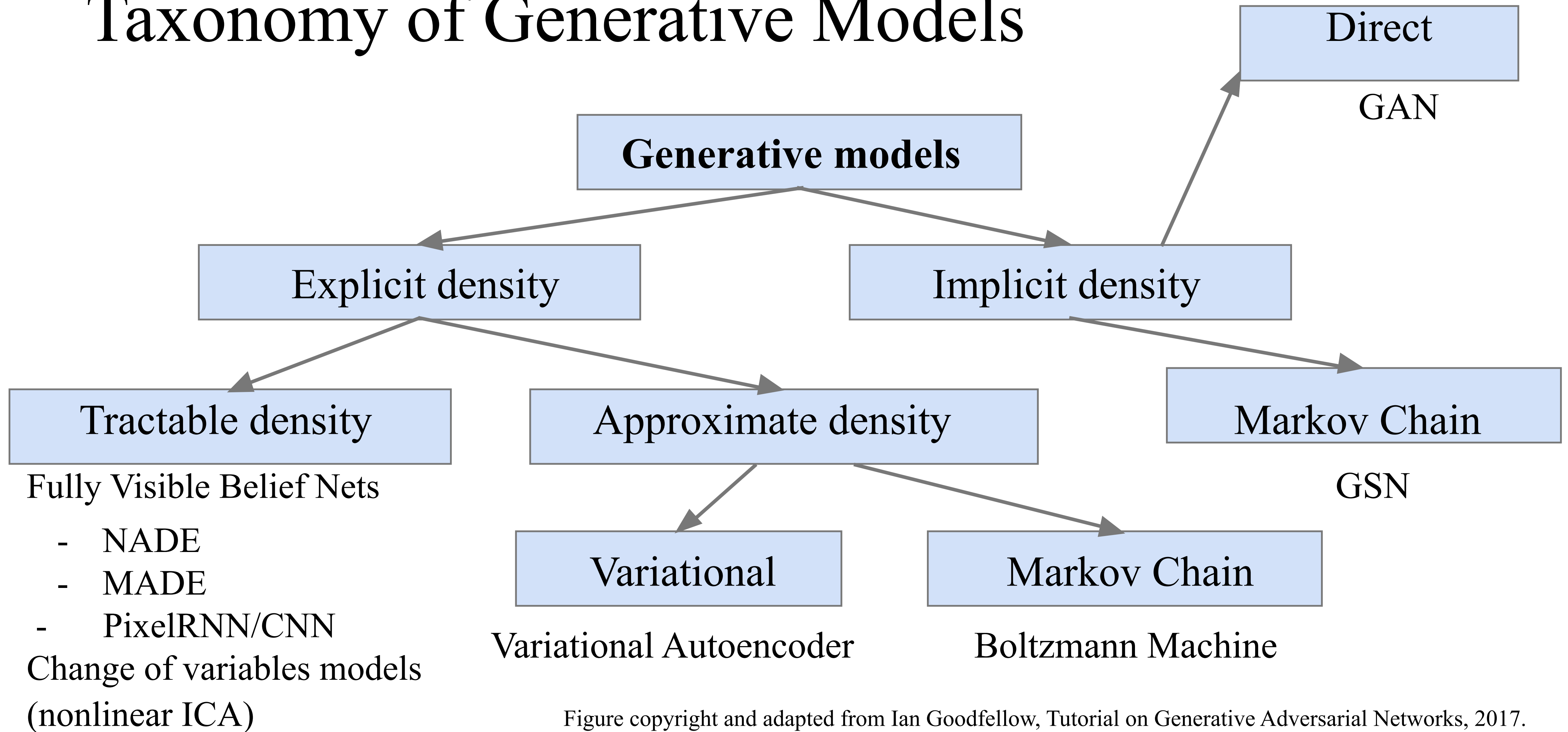


Figure copyright and adapted from Ian Goodfellow, Tutorial on Generative Adversarial Networks, 2017.

Taxonomy of Generative Models

Today: discuss 3 most popular types of generative models today

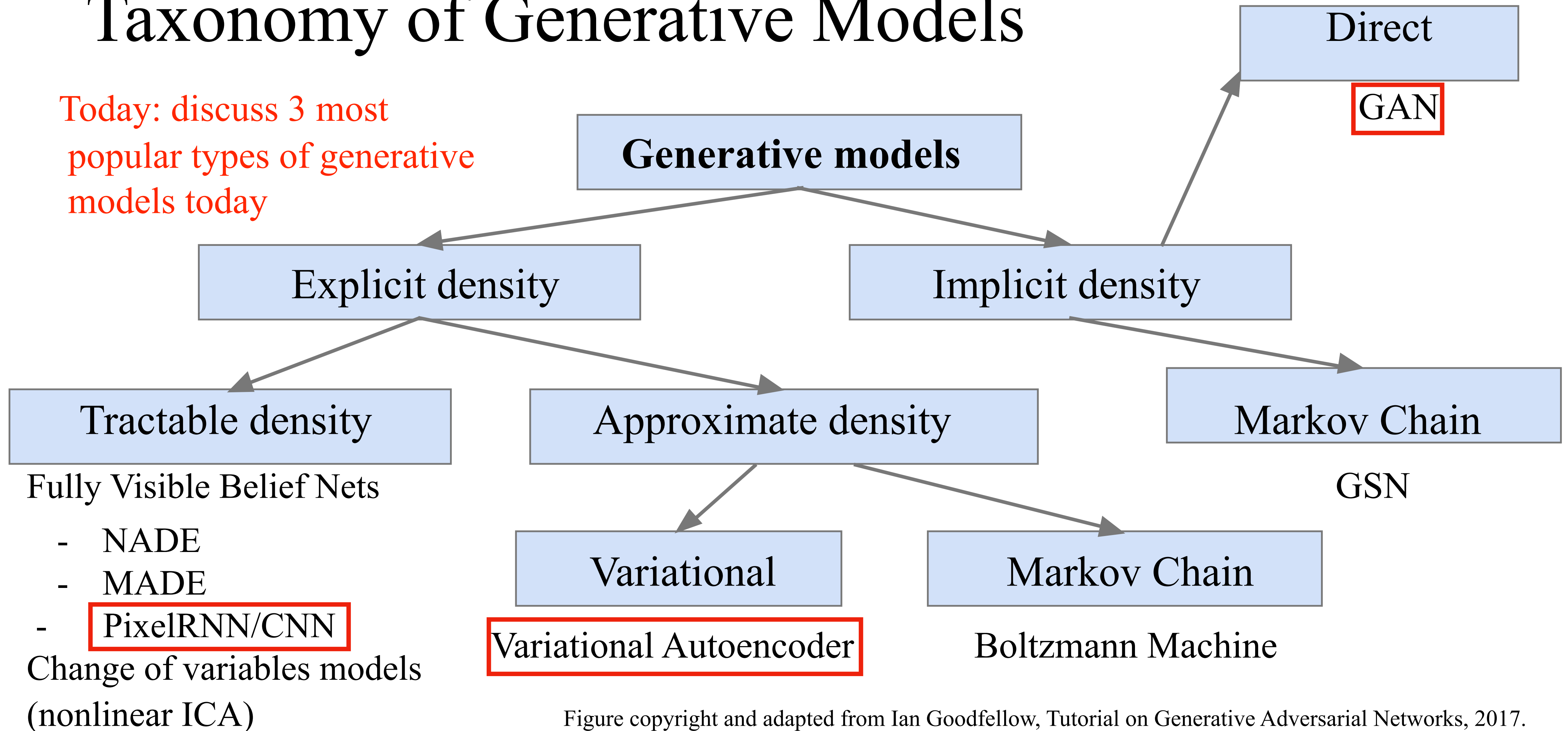


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PixelRNN and PixelCNN

Fully visible belief network

Explicit density model

Use chain rule to decompose likelihood of an image x into product of 1-d distributions:

$$p(x) = \prod_{i=1}^n p(x_i | x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})$$

Likelihood of image x

Probability of i 'th pixel value given all previous pixels

Then maximize likelihood of training data

Fully visible belief network

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Likelihood of
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Probability of i'th pixel value given all previous pixels

Complex distribution over pixel values => Express using a neural network!

Then maximize likelihood of training data

Fully visible belief network

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Likelihood of image x Probability of i 'th pixel value given all previous pixels

Will need to define ordering of “previous pixels”

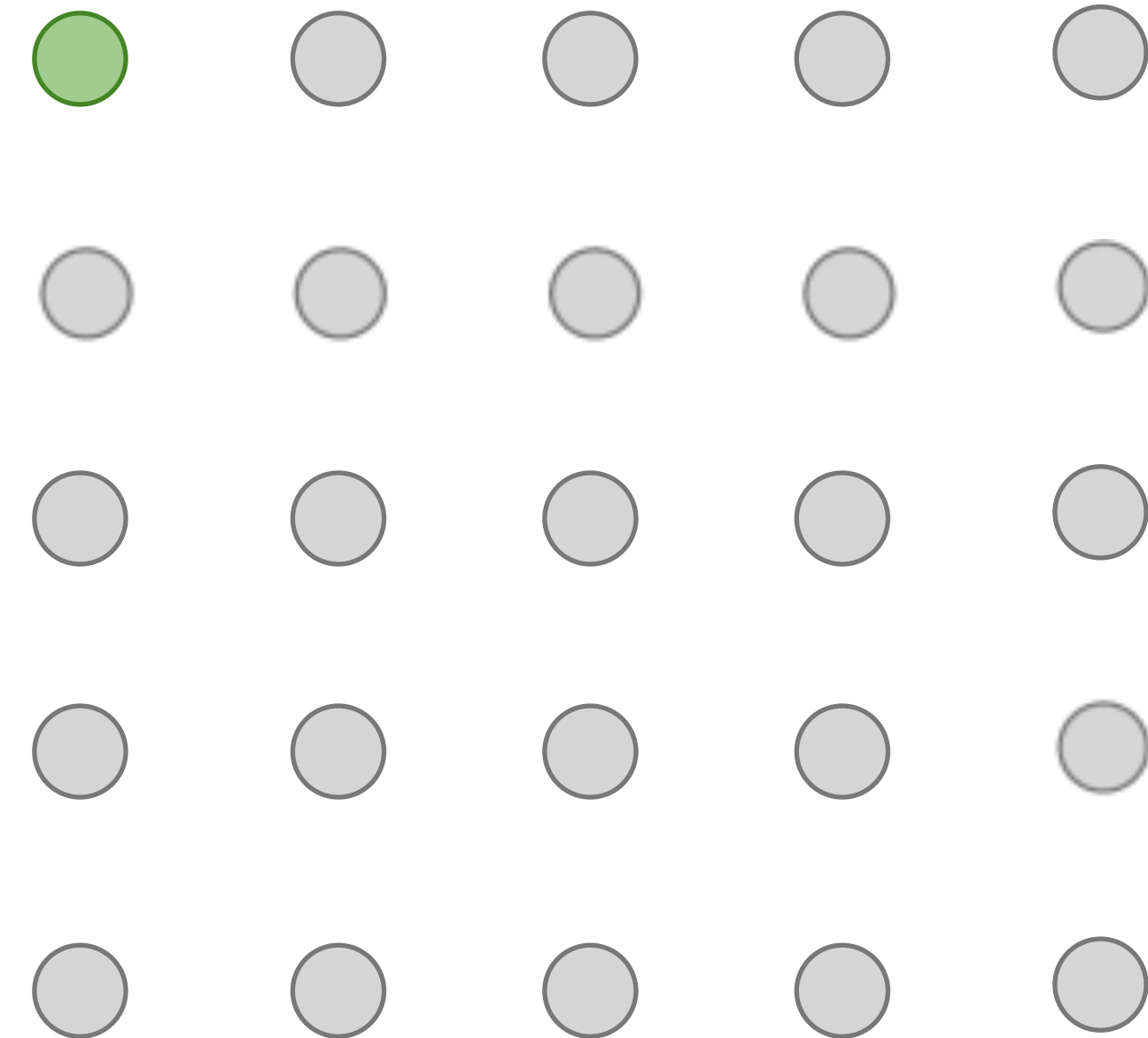
Complex distribution over pixel values => Express using a neural network!

Then maximize likelihood of training data

PixelRNN *[van der Oord et al. 2016]*

Generate image pixels starting from corner

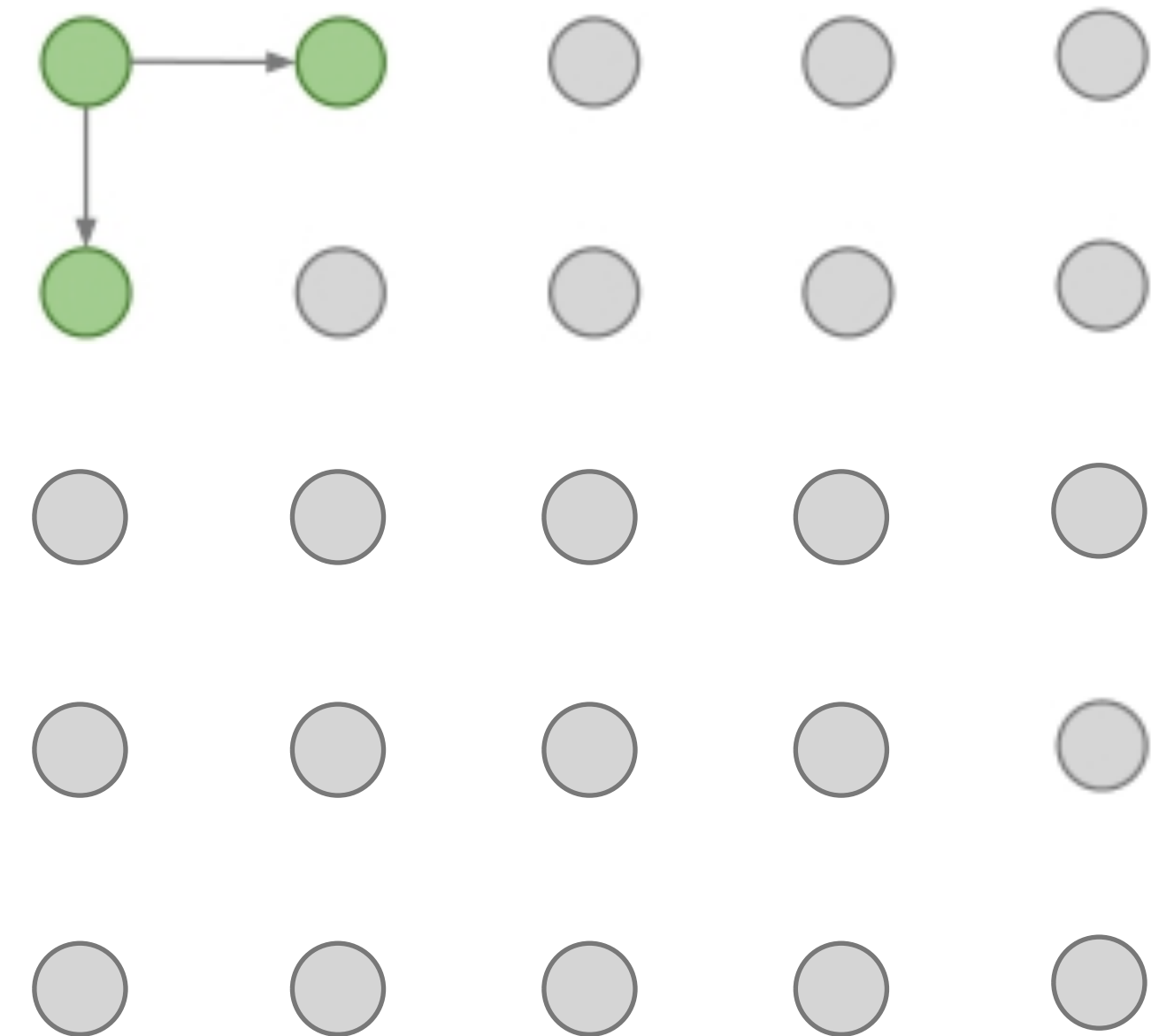
Dependency on previous pixels modeled
using an RNN (LSTM)



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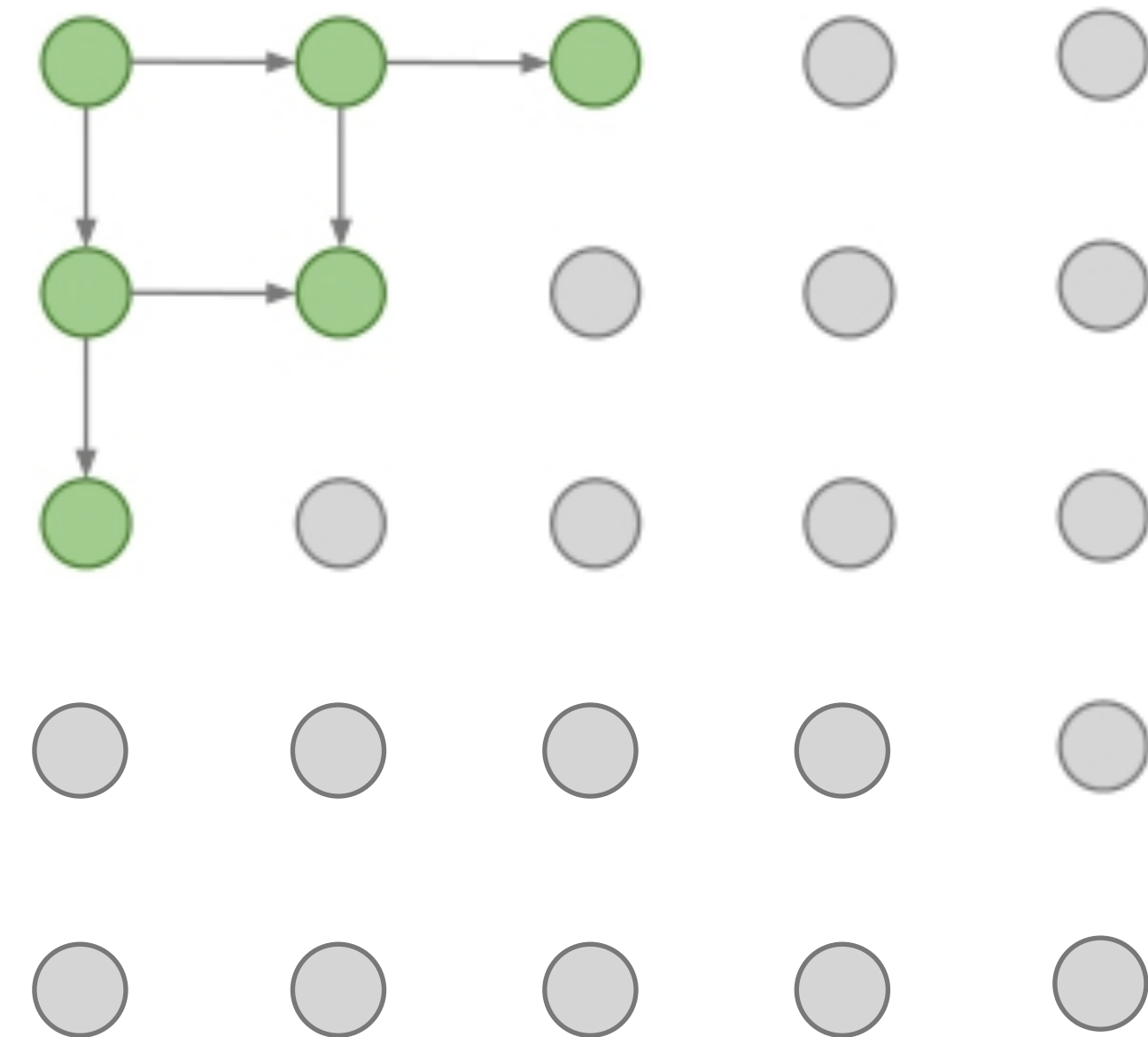
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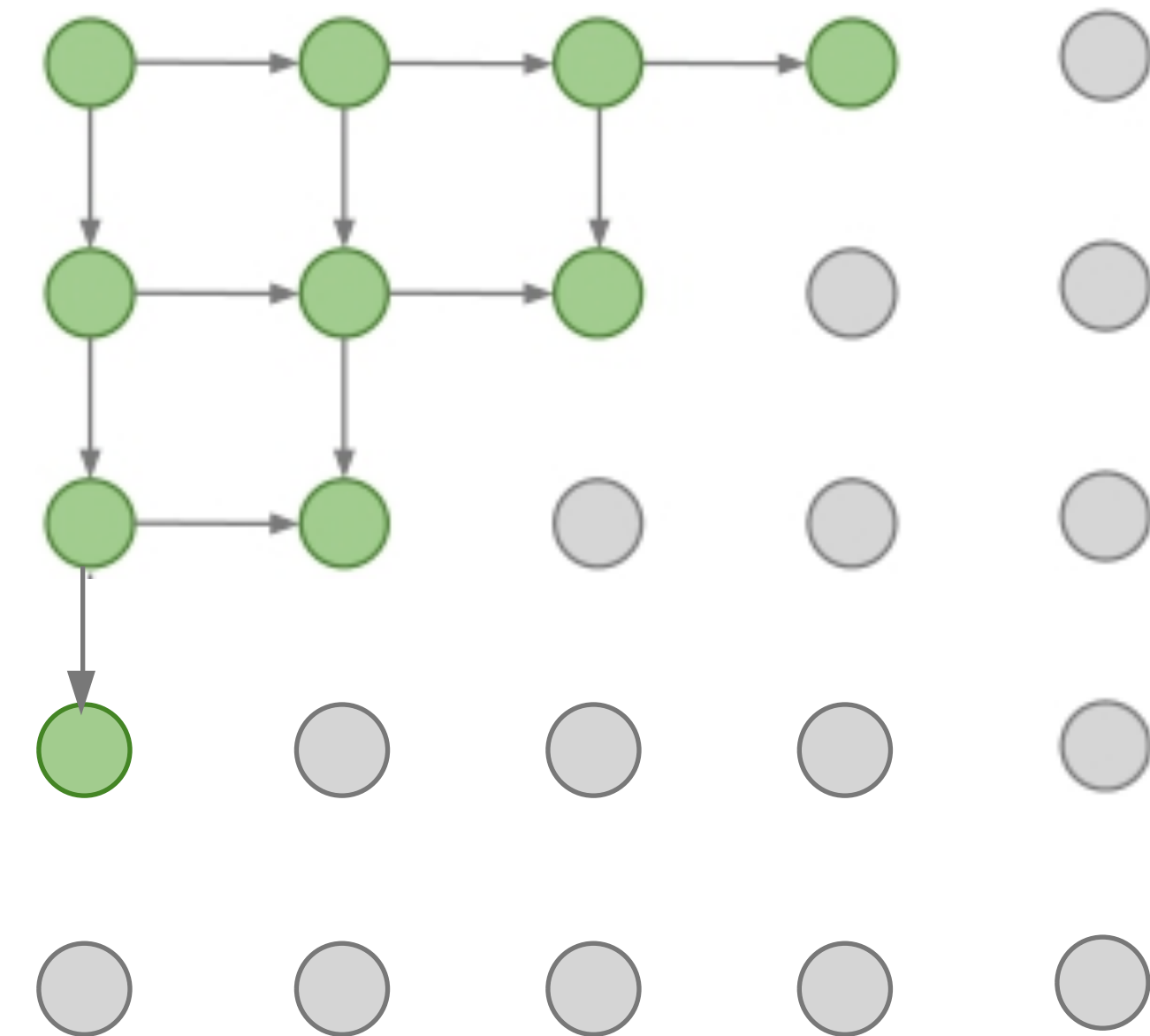


PixelRNN *[van der Oord et al. 2016]*

Generate image pixels starting from corner

Dependency on previous pixels modeled using an RNN (LSTM)

Drawback: sequential generation is slow!



PixelCNN *[van der Oord et al. 2016]*

Still generate image pixels starting from corner

Dependency on previous pixels now modeled using a CNN over context region

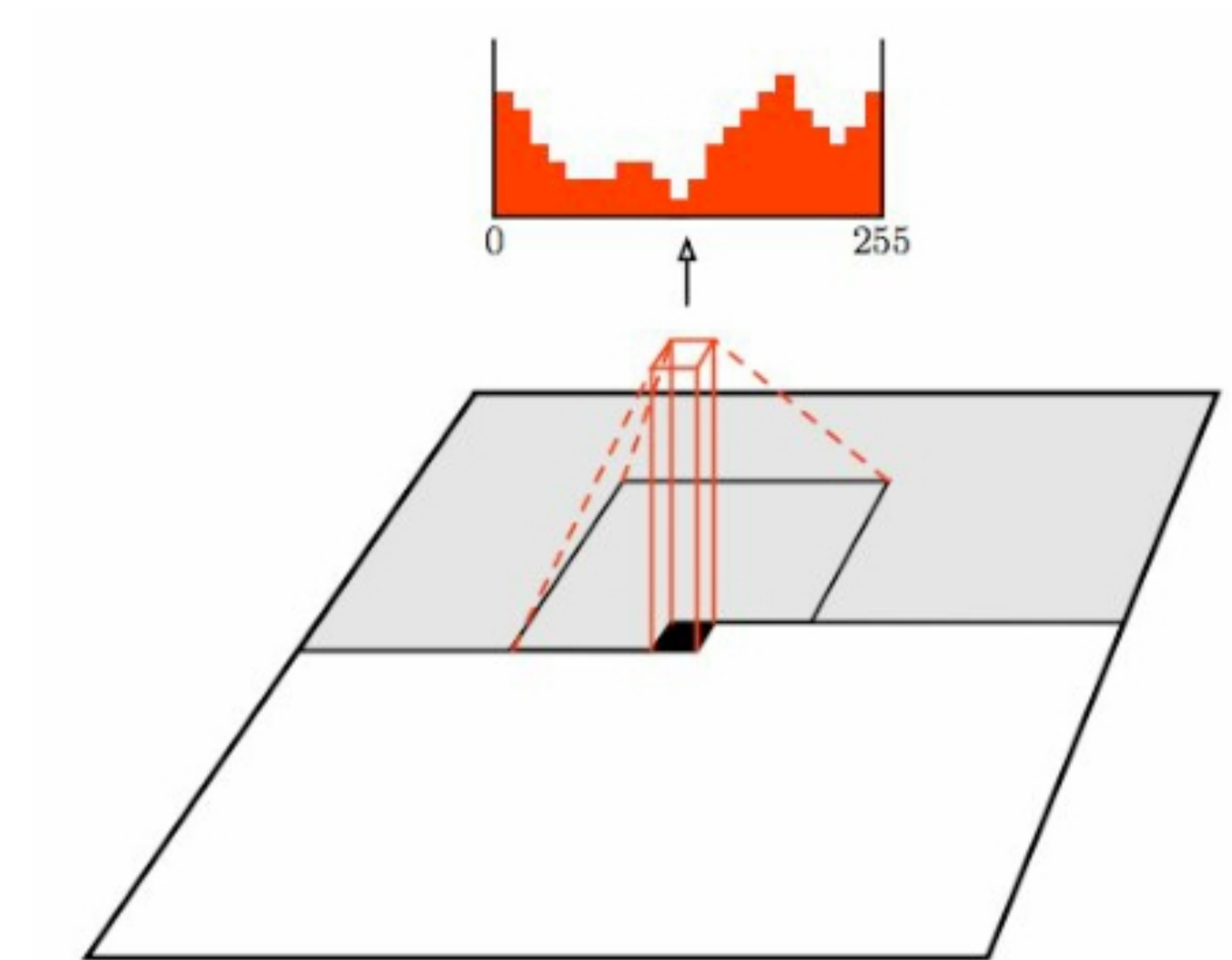


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PixelCNN *[van der Oord et al. 2016]*

Still generate image pixels starting from corner

Dependency on previous pixels now modeled using a CNN over context region

Training: maximize likelihood of training images

$$p(x) = \prod_{i=1}^n p(x_i | x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})$$

Softmax loss at each pixel

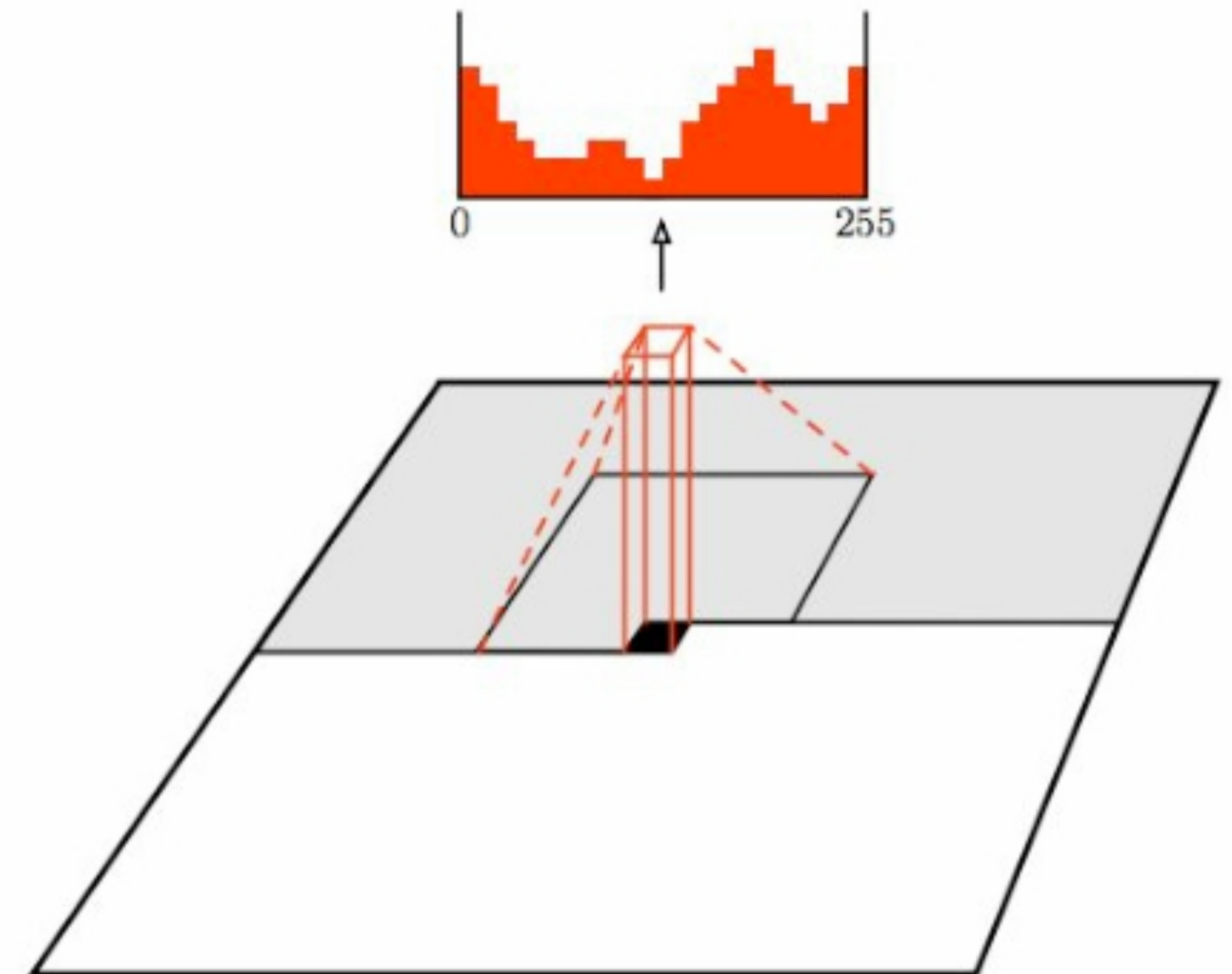


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PixelCNN *[van der Oord et al. 2016]*

Still generate image pixels starting from corner

Dependency on previous pixels now modeled using a CNN over context region

Training is faster than PixelRNN
(can parallelize convolutions since context region values known from training images)

Generation must still proceed sequentially
=> still slow

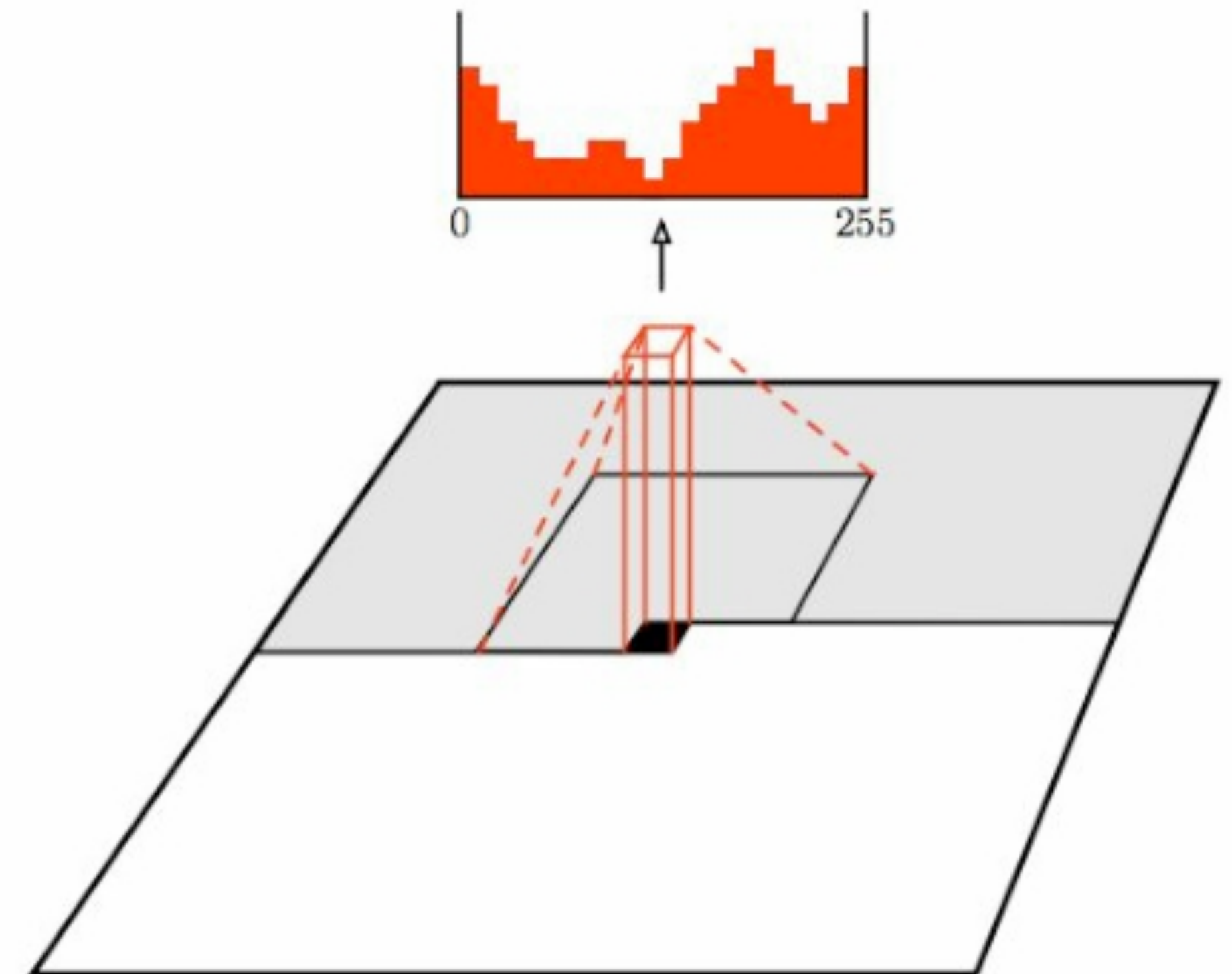
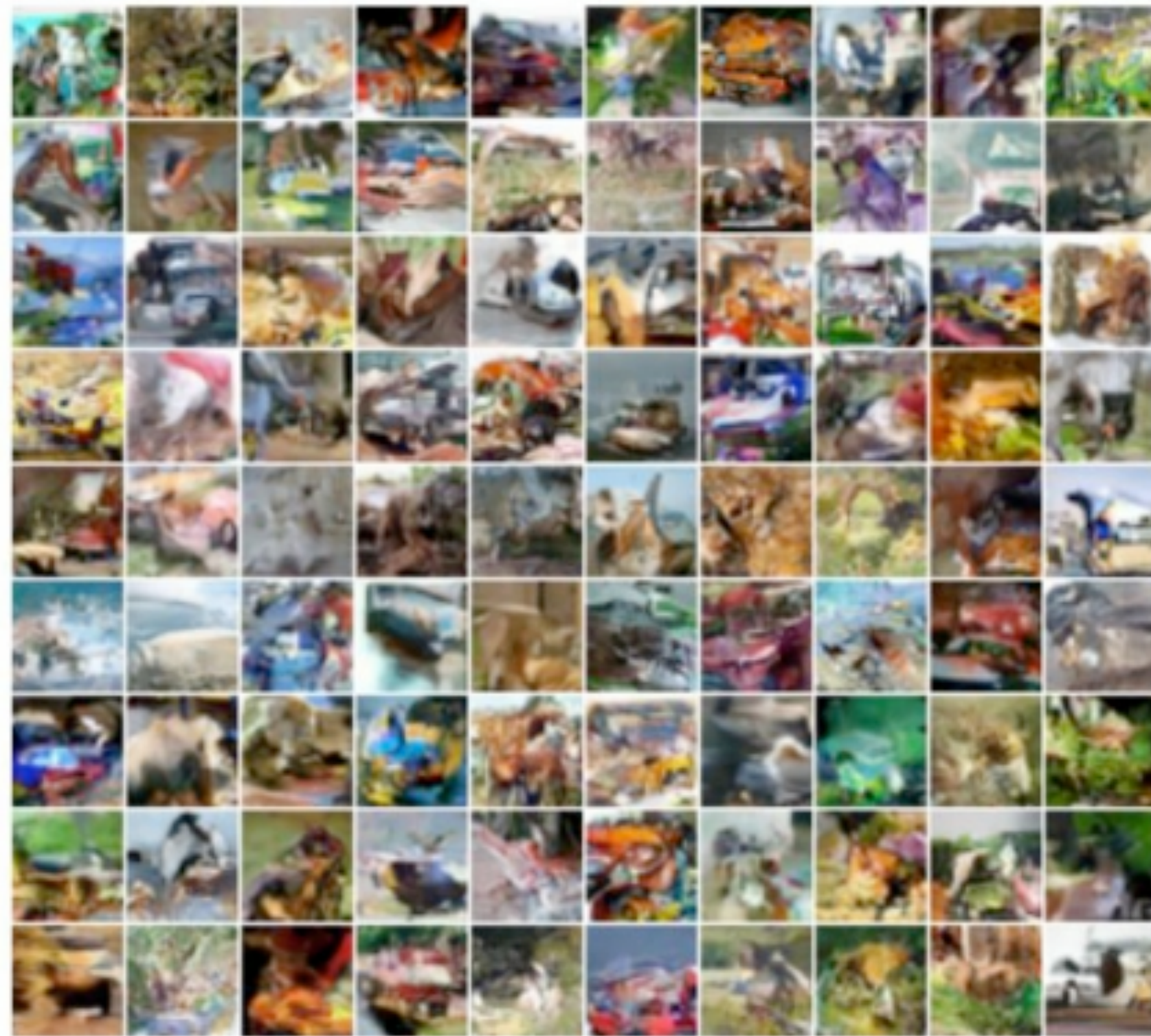
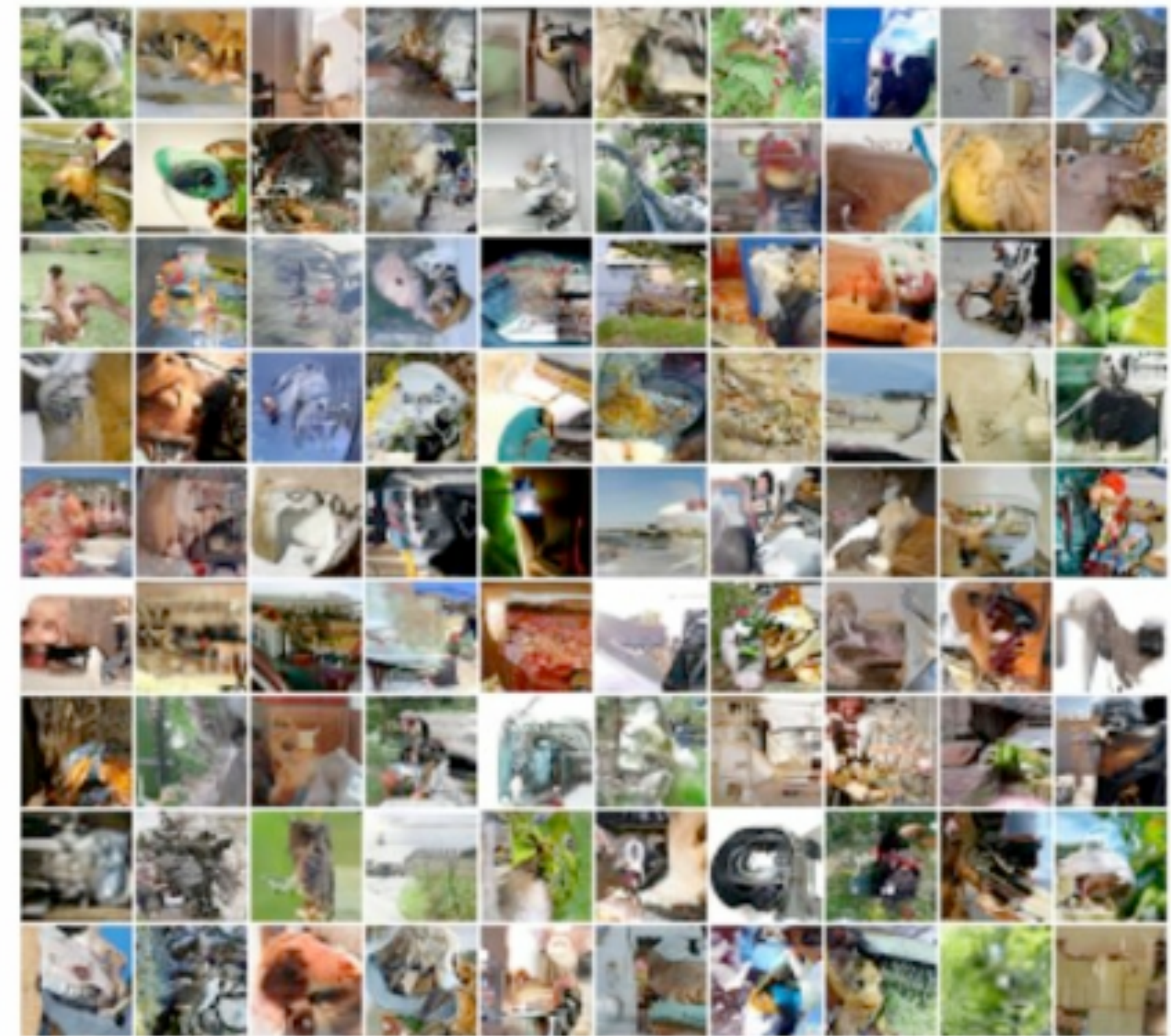


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Generation Samples



32x32 CIFAR-10



32x32 ImageNet

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PixelRNN and PixelCNN

Pros:

- Can explicitly compute likelihood $p(x)$
- Explicit likelihood of training data gives good evaluation metric
- Good samples

Con:

- Sequential generation => slow

Improving PixelCNN performance

- Gated convolutional layers
- Short-cut connections
- Discretized logistic loss
- Multi-scale
- Training tricks
- Etc...

See

- Van der Oord et al. NIPS 2016
- Salimans et al. 2017
(PixelCNN++)

Variational Autoencoders (VAE)

So far...

PixelCNNs define tractable density function, optimize likelihood of training data:

$$p_{\theta}(x) = \prod_{i=1}^n p_{\theta}(x_i | x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})$$

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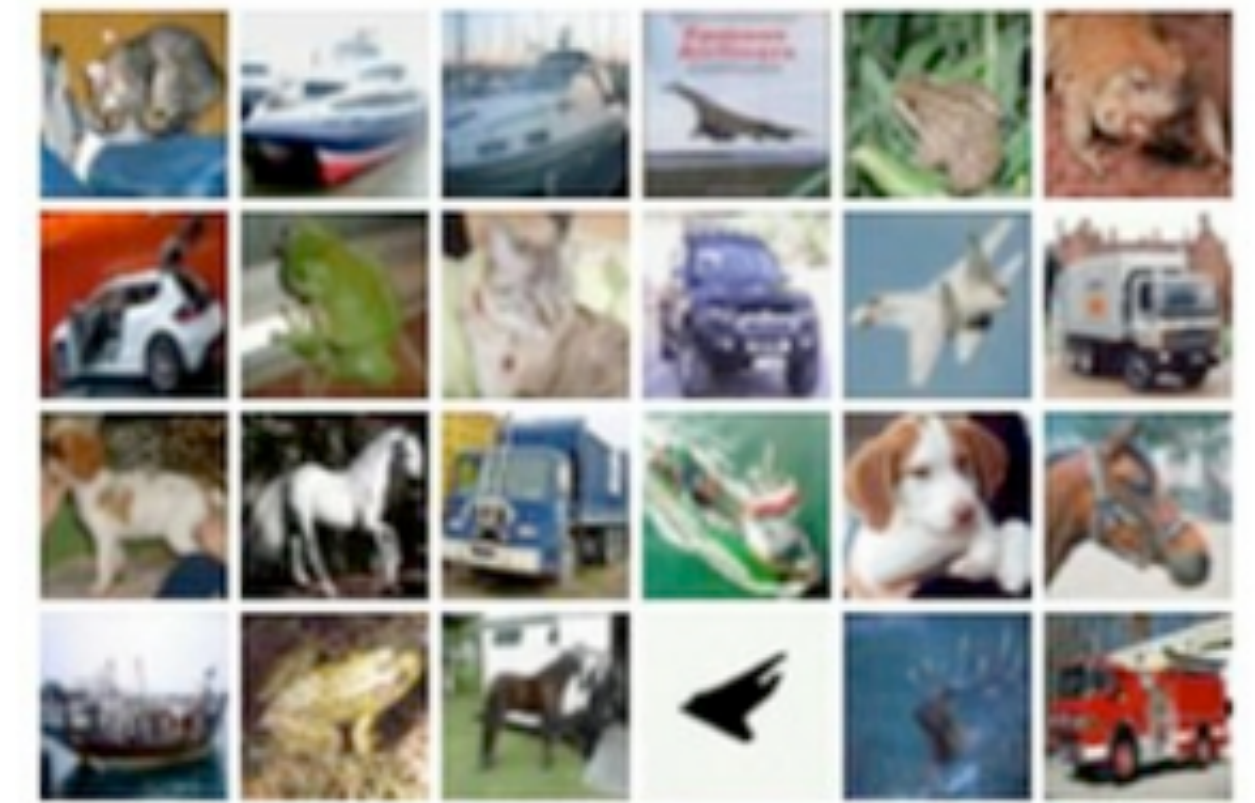
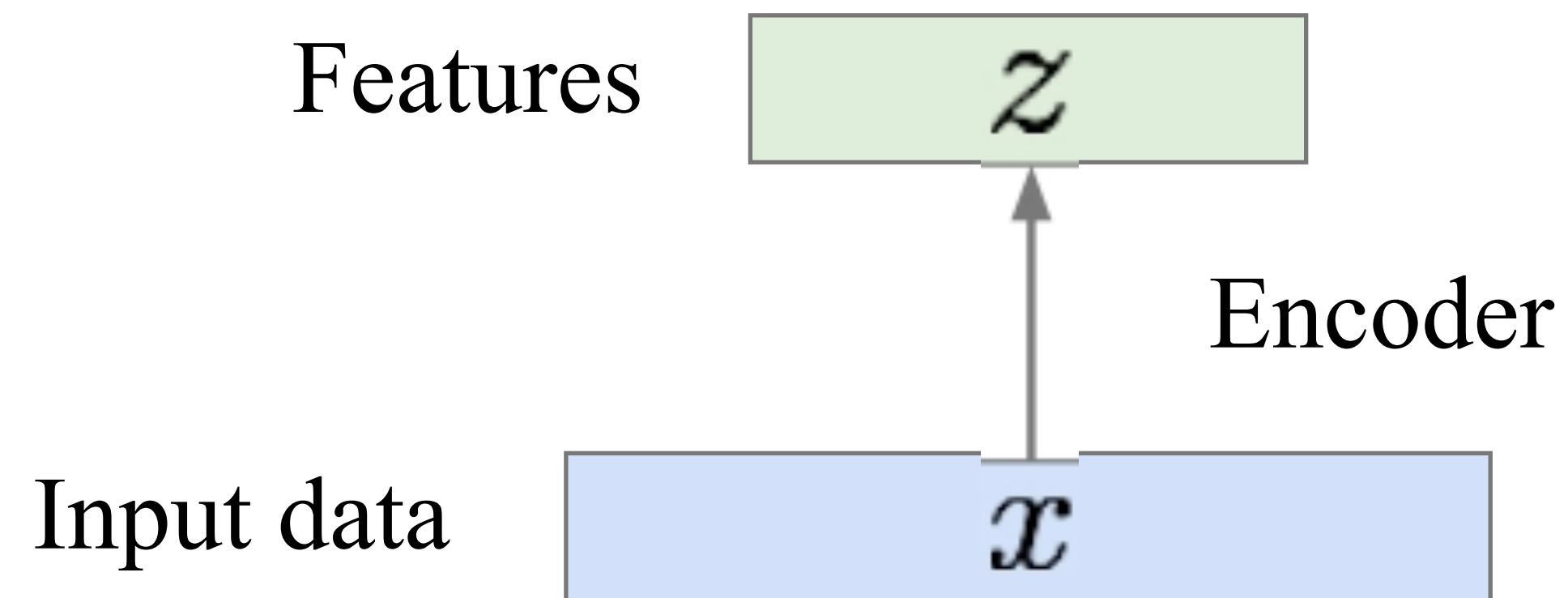
VAEs define intractable density function with latent \mathbf{z} :

$$p_{\theta}(x) = \int p_{\theta}(z) p_{\theta}(x|z) dz$$

Cannot optimize directly, derive and optimize lower bound on likelihood instead

Some background first: Autoencoders

Unsupervised approach for learning a lower-dimensional feature representation from unlabeled training data



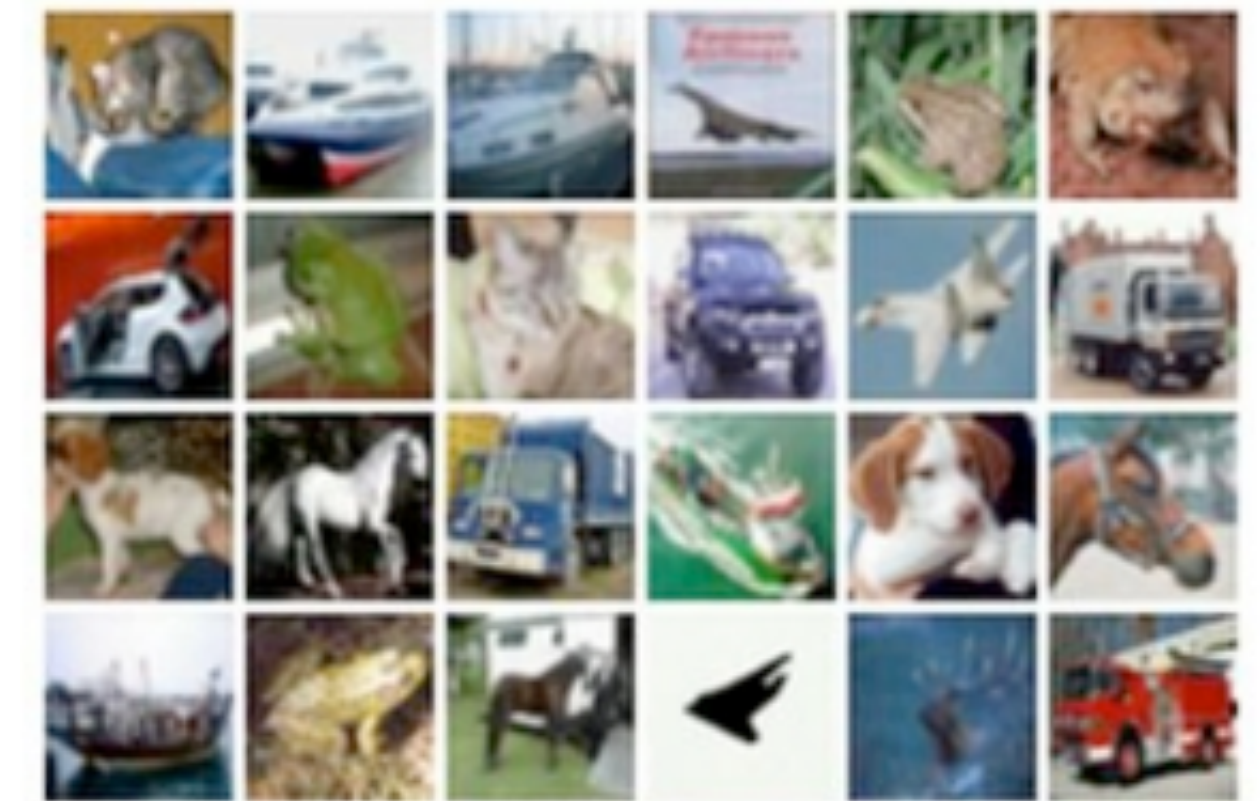
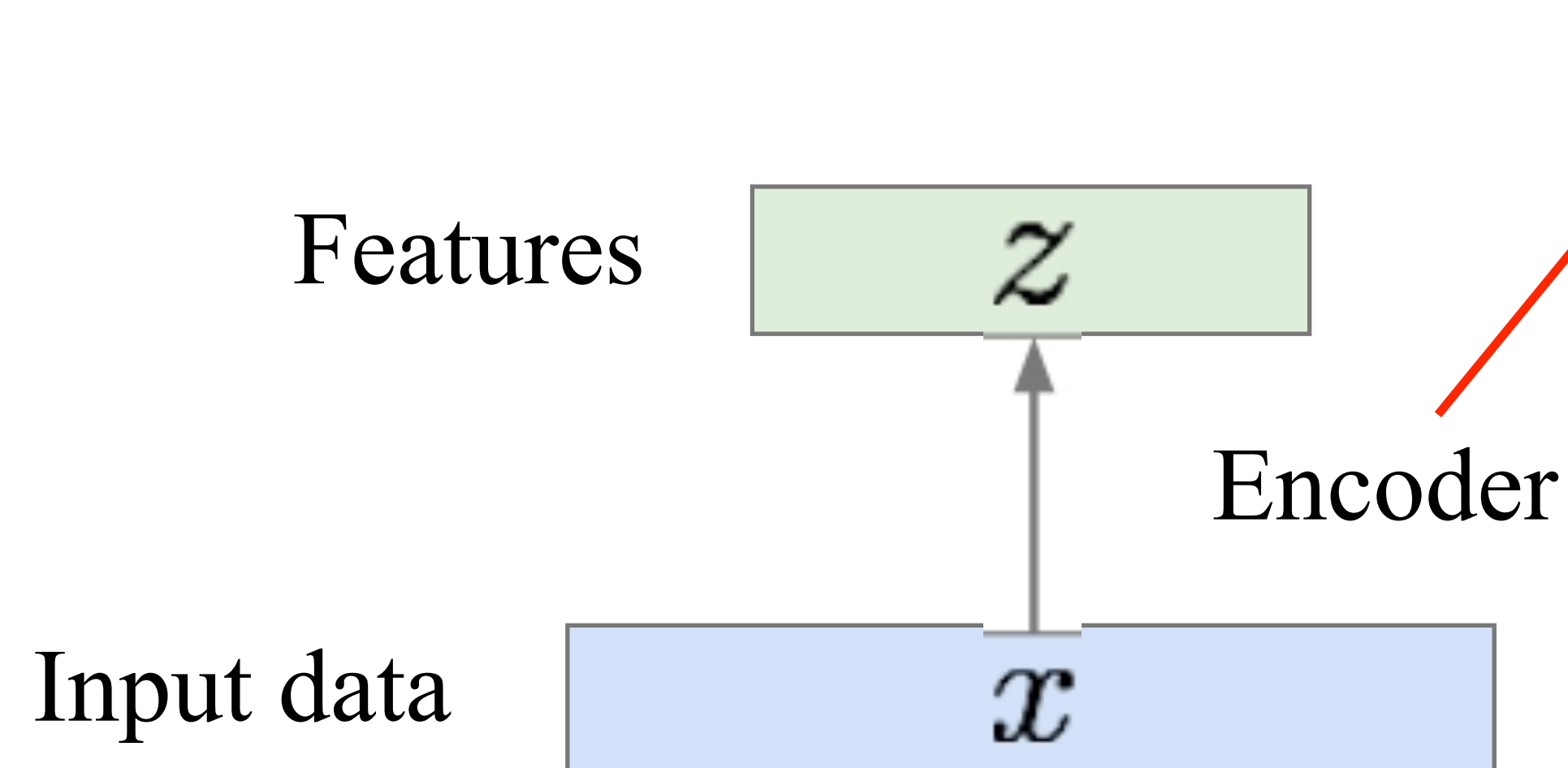
Some background first: Autoencoders

Unsupervised approach for learning a lower-dimensional feature representation from unlabeled training data

Originally : Linear + nonlinearity (sigmoid)

Later : Deep, fully-connected

Later : ReLU CNN



Some background first: Autoencoders

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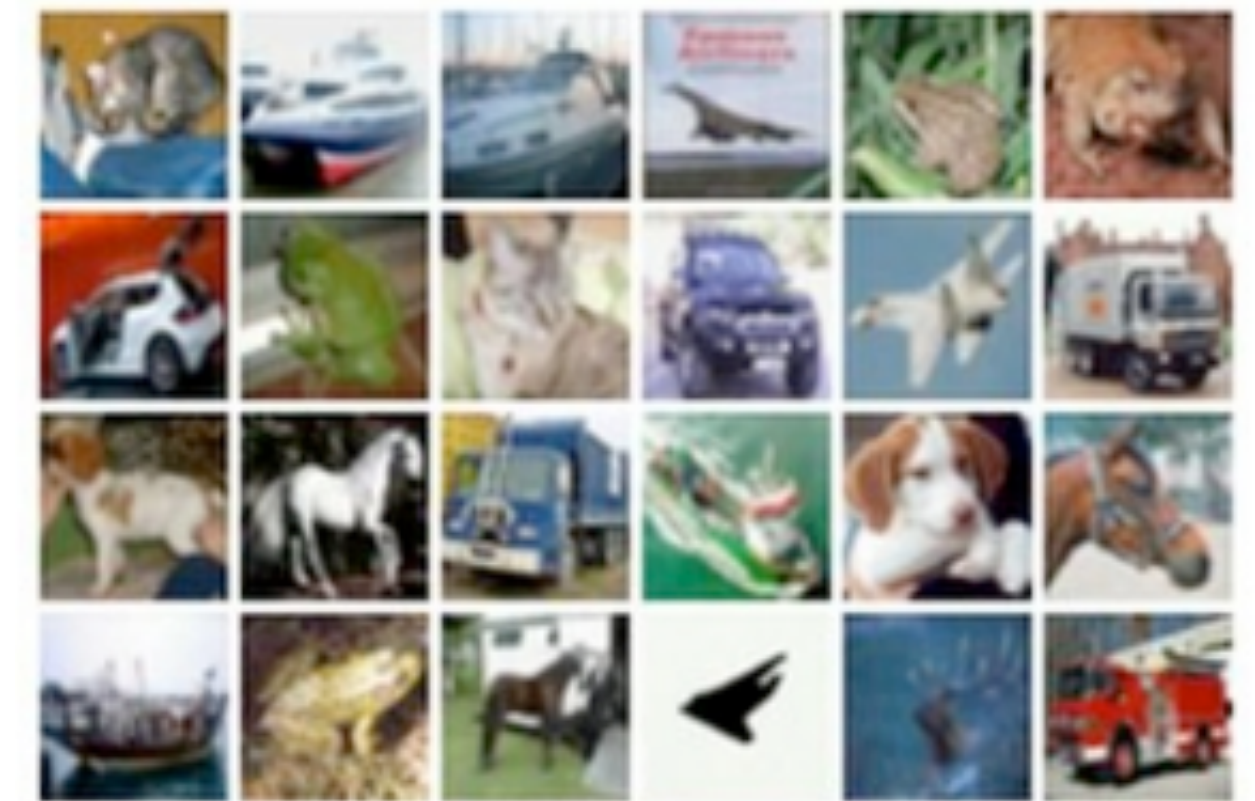
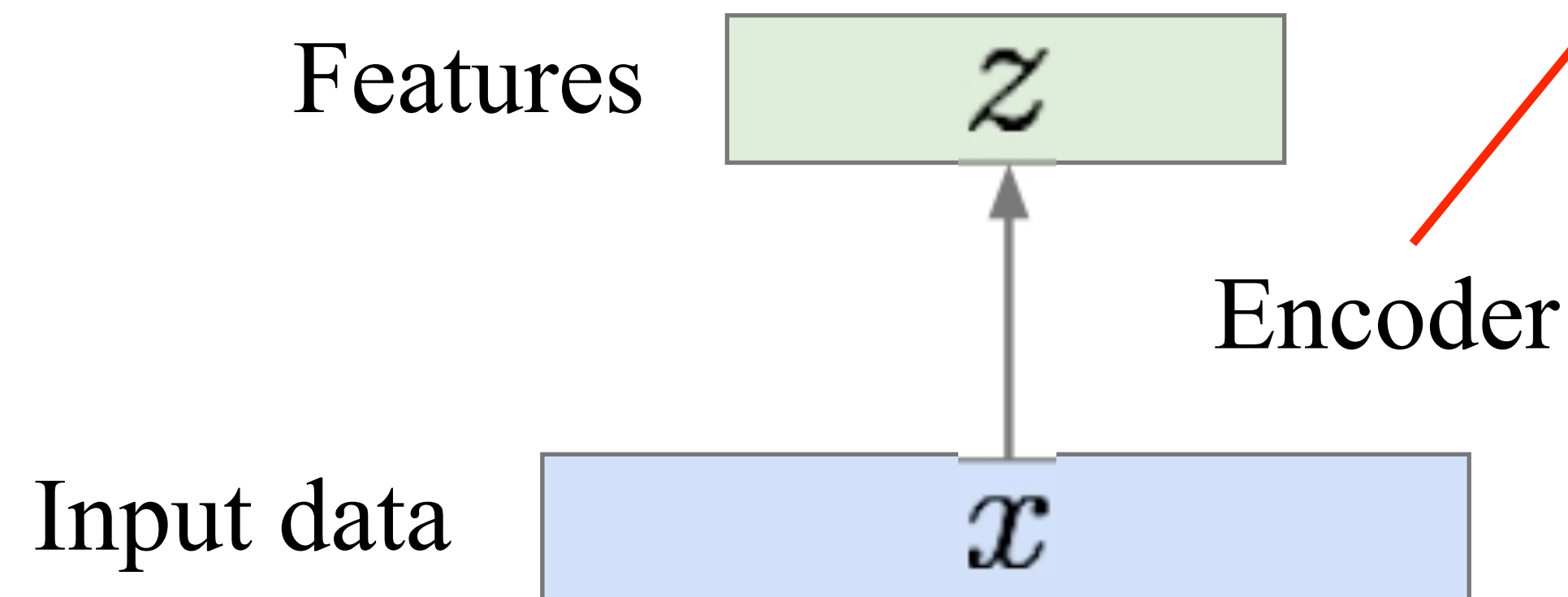
z usually smaller than x
(dimensionality reduction)

Q: Why dimensionality reduction?

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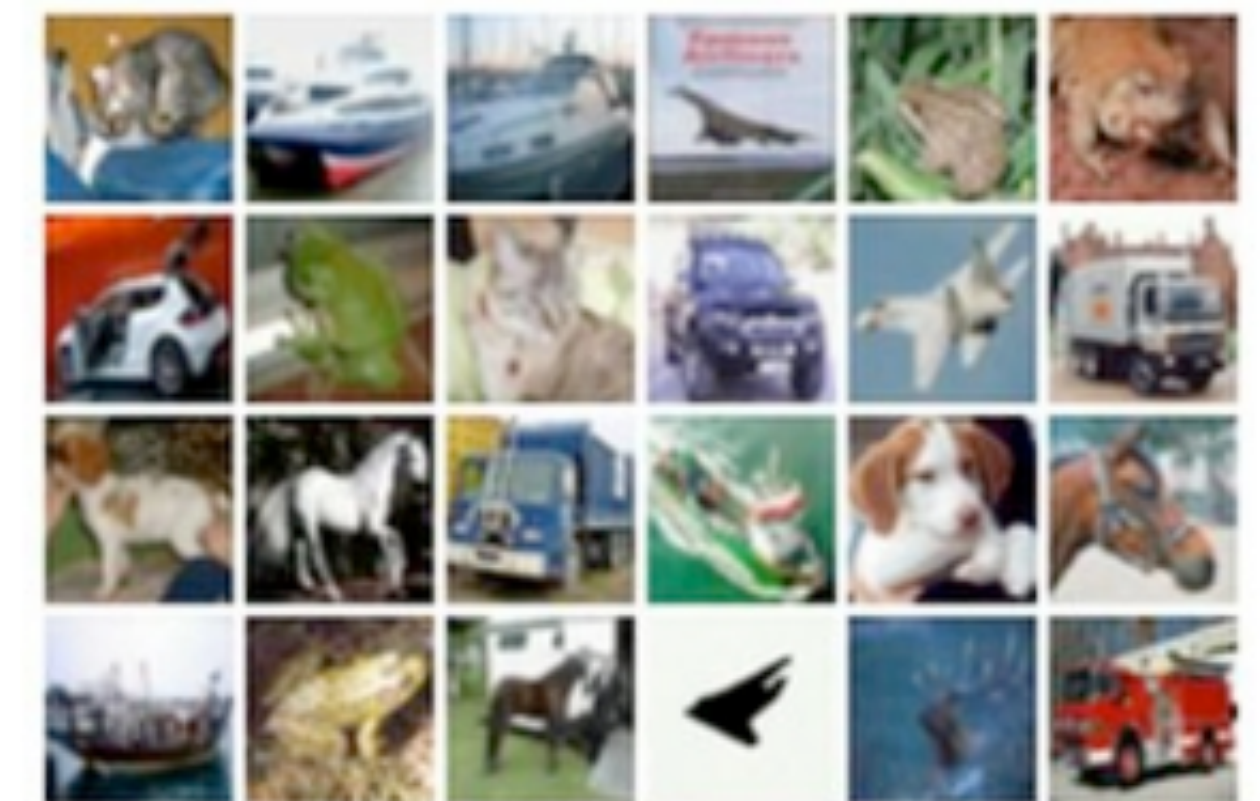
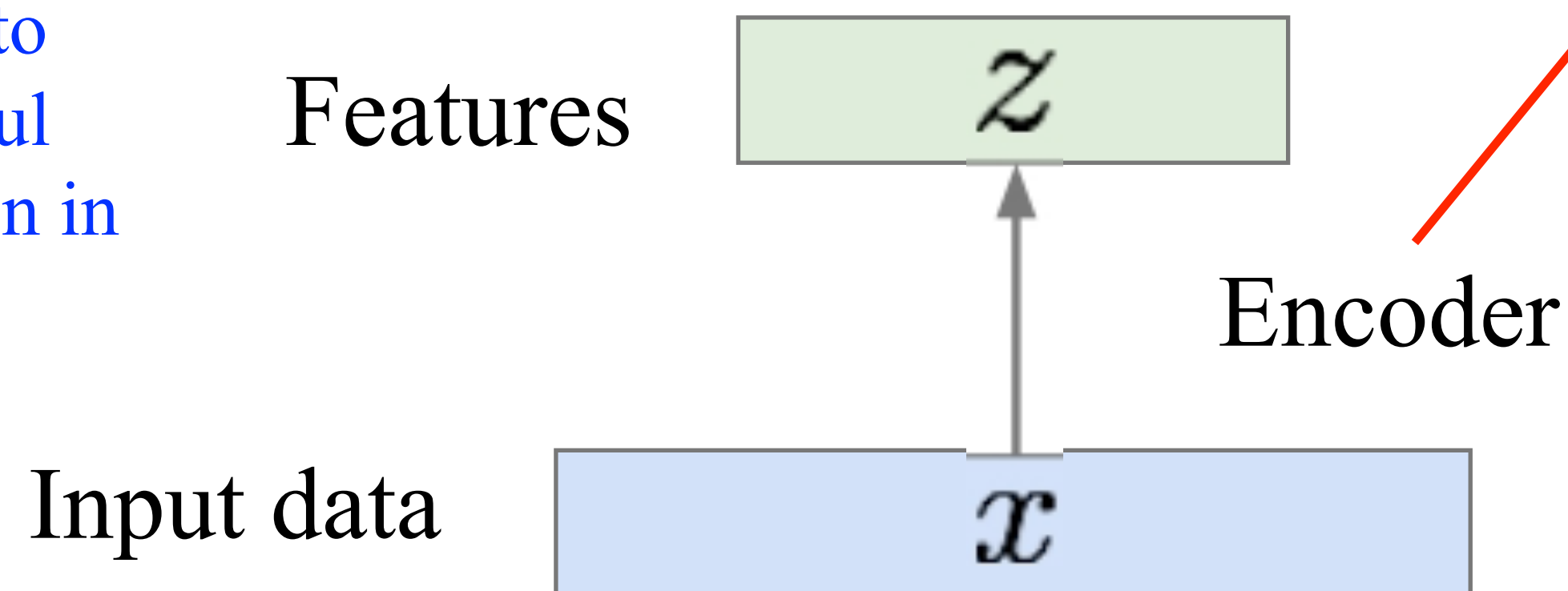
Q: Why dimensionality reduction?

A: Want features to capture meaningful factors of variation in data

Originally : Linear + nonlinearity (sigmoid)

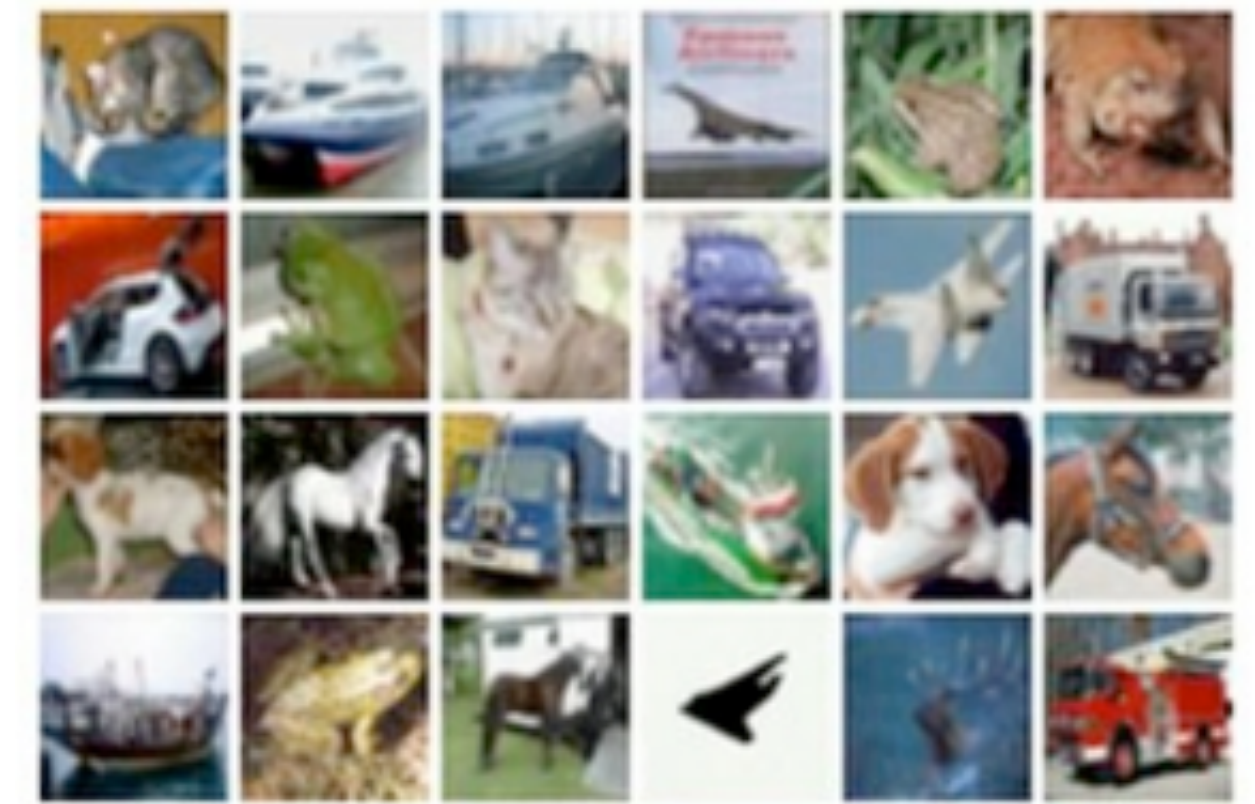
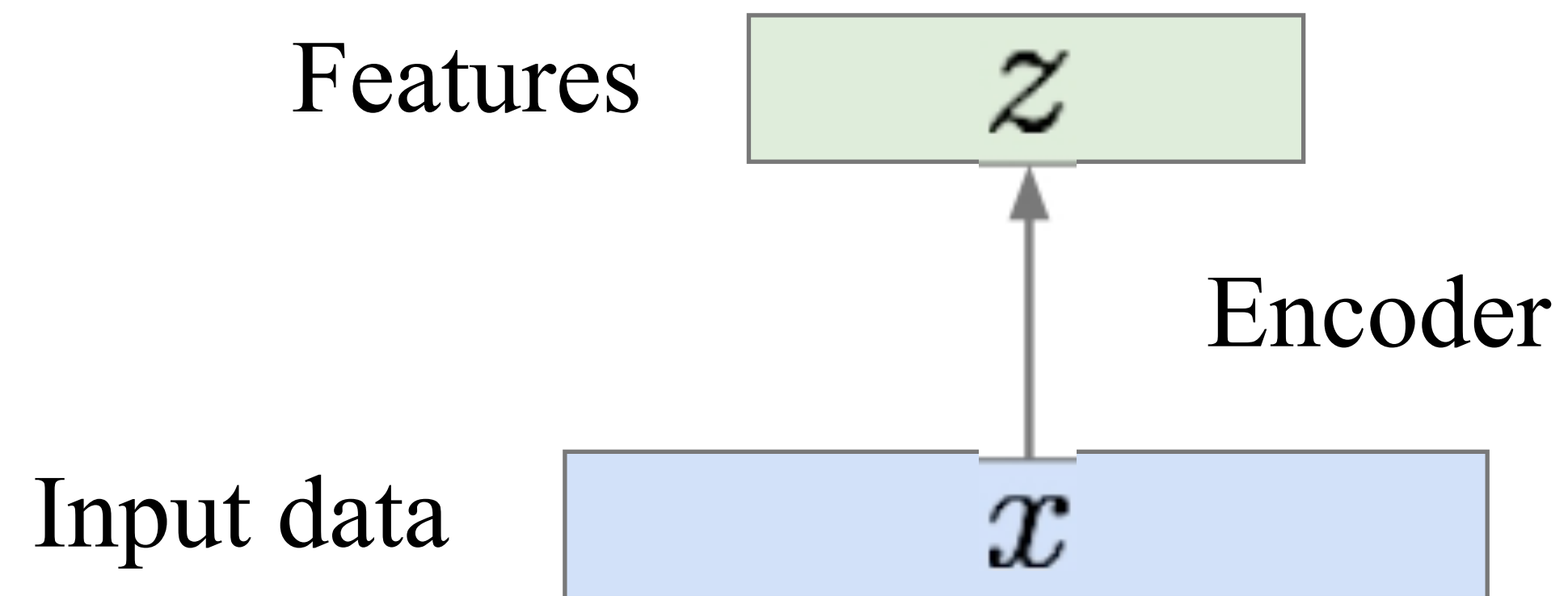
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Later : ReLU CNN



Some background first: Autoencoders

How to learn this feature representation?

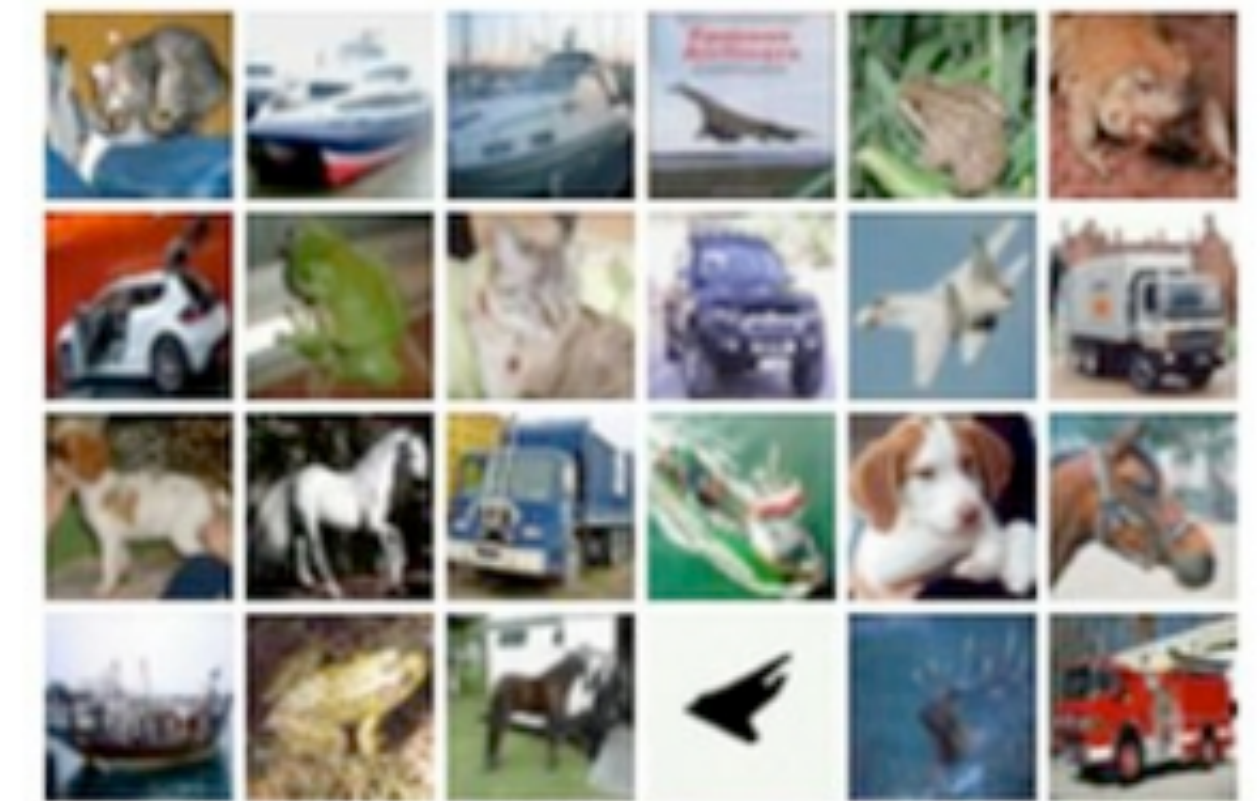
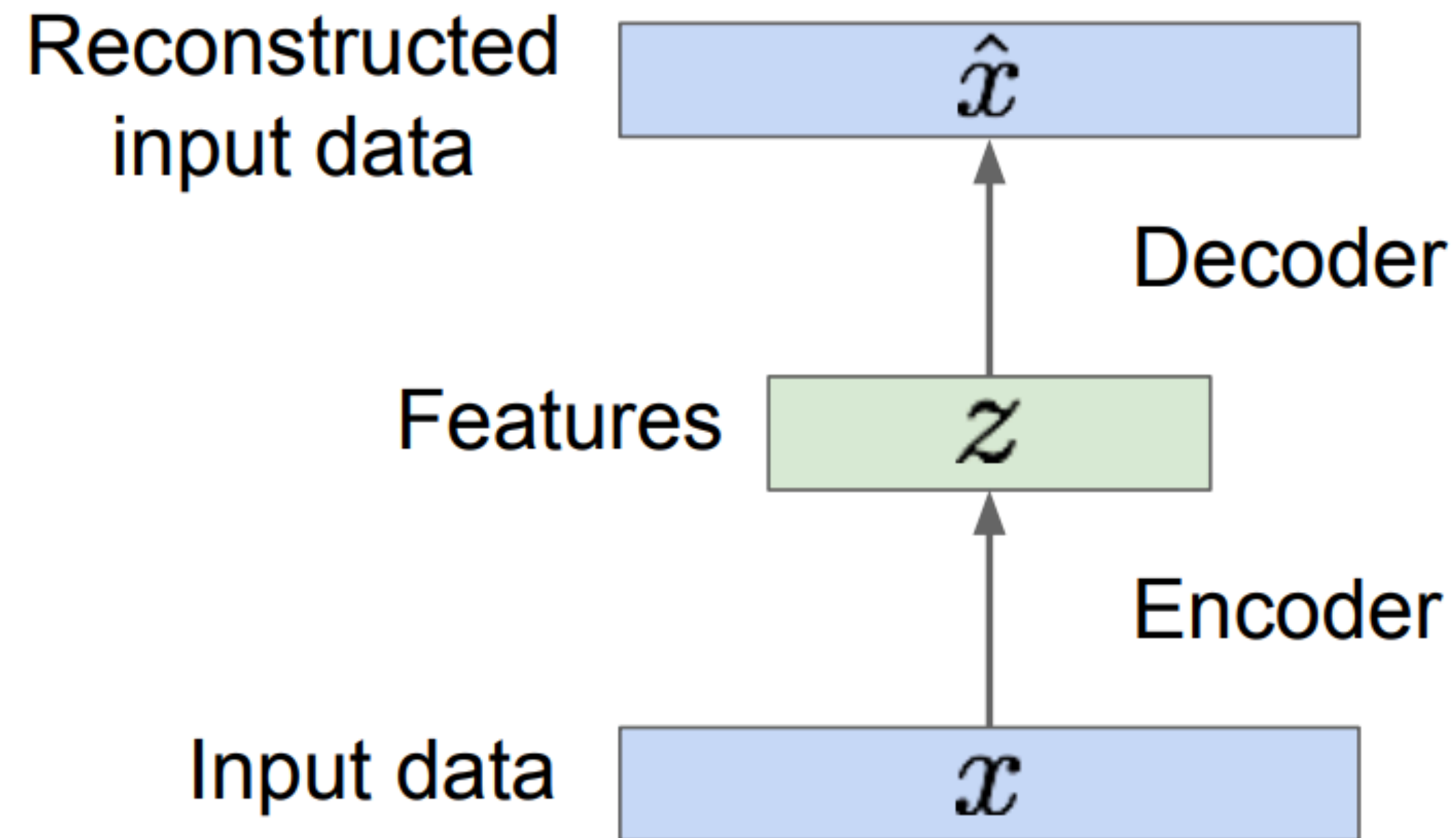


Some background first: Autoencoders

How to learn this feature representation?

Train such that features can be used to reconstruct original data

“Autoencoding” - encoding itself

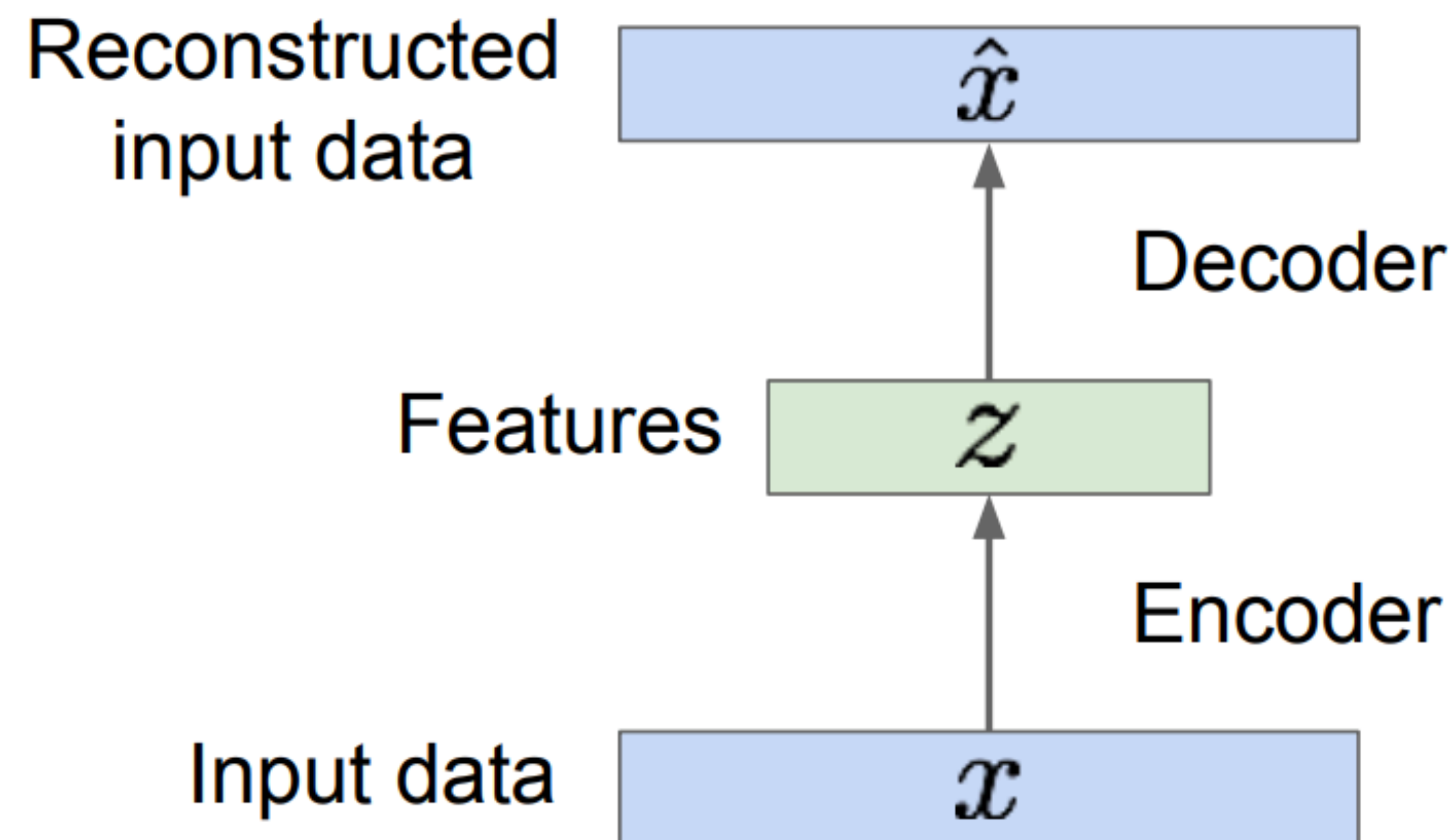


Some background first: Autoencoders

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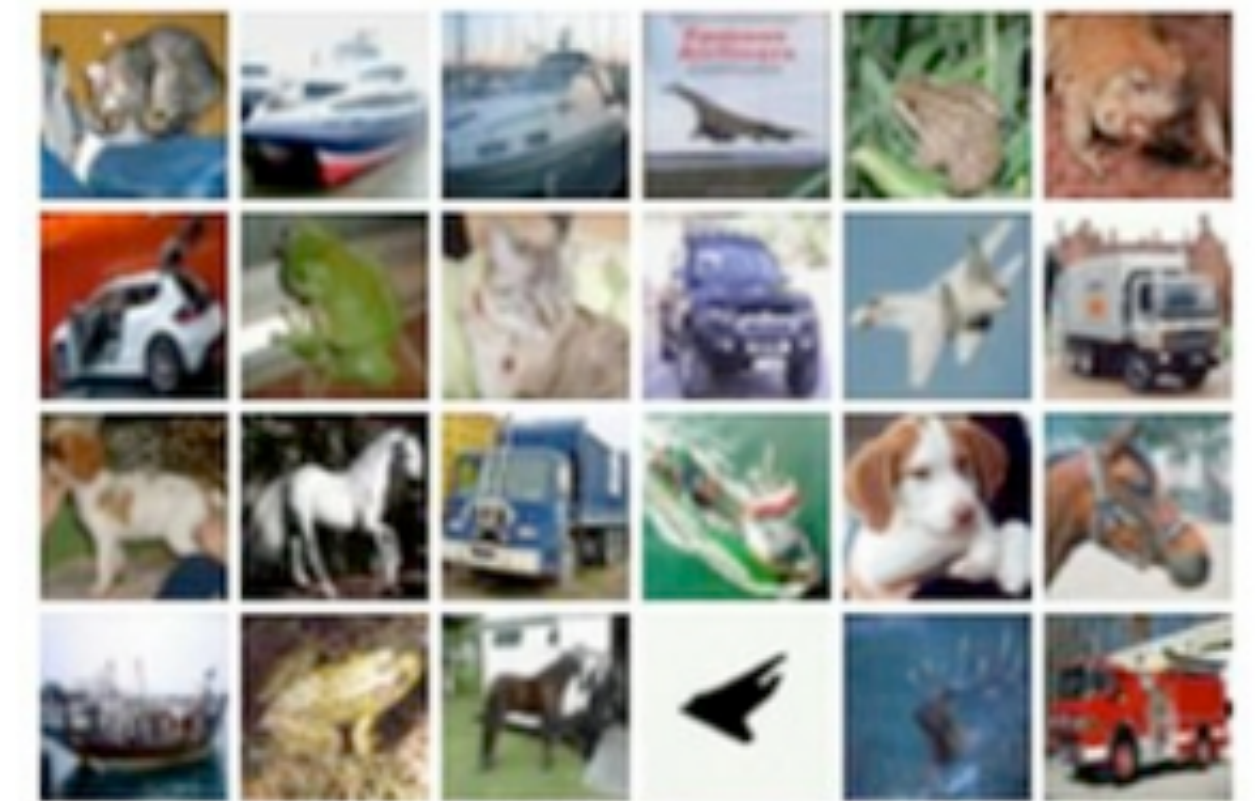
“Autoencoding” - encoding itself



Originally : Linear + nonlinearity (sigmoid)

Later : Deep, fully-connected

Later : ReLU CNN (upconv)

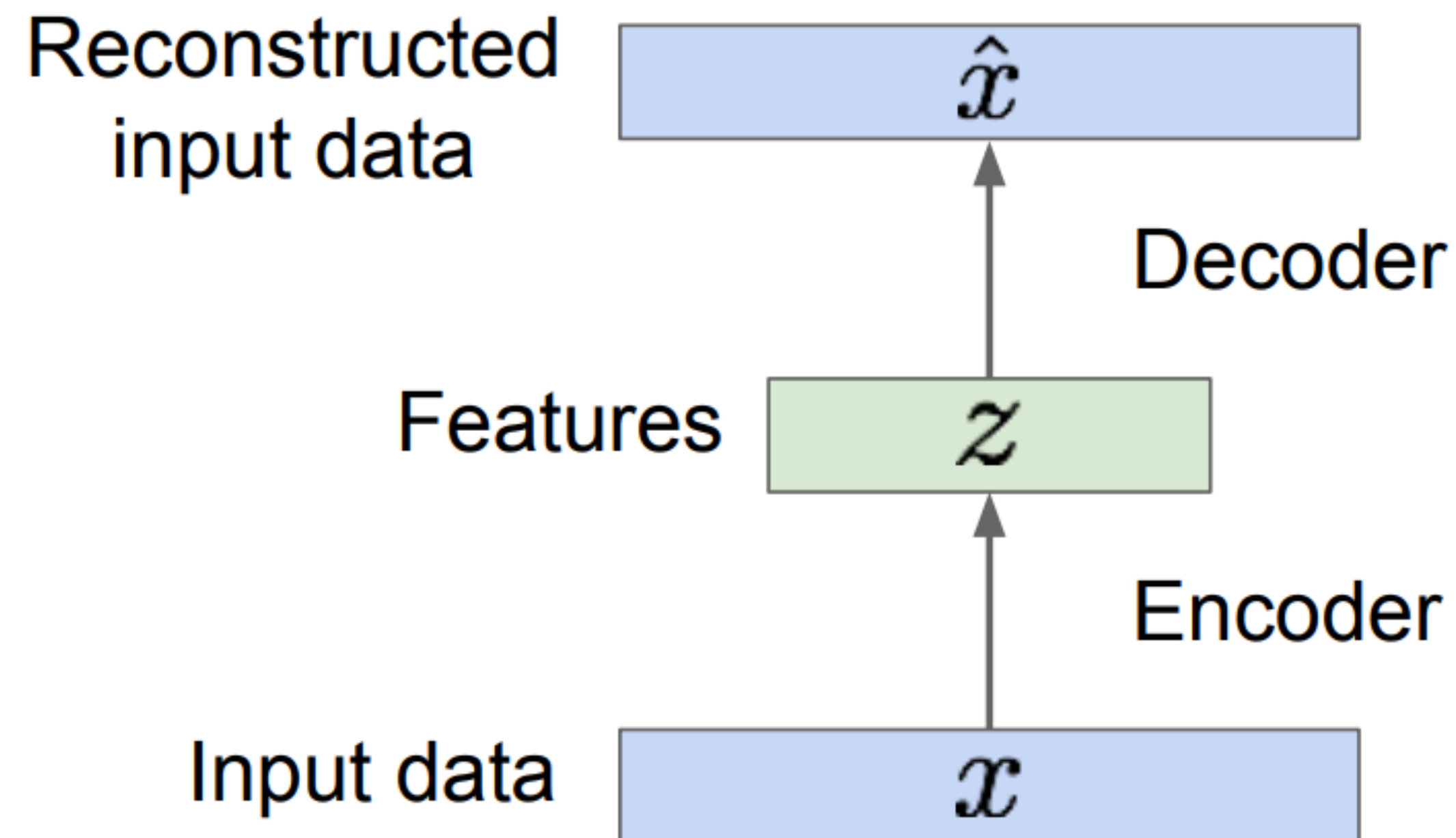


Some background first: Autoencoders

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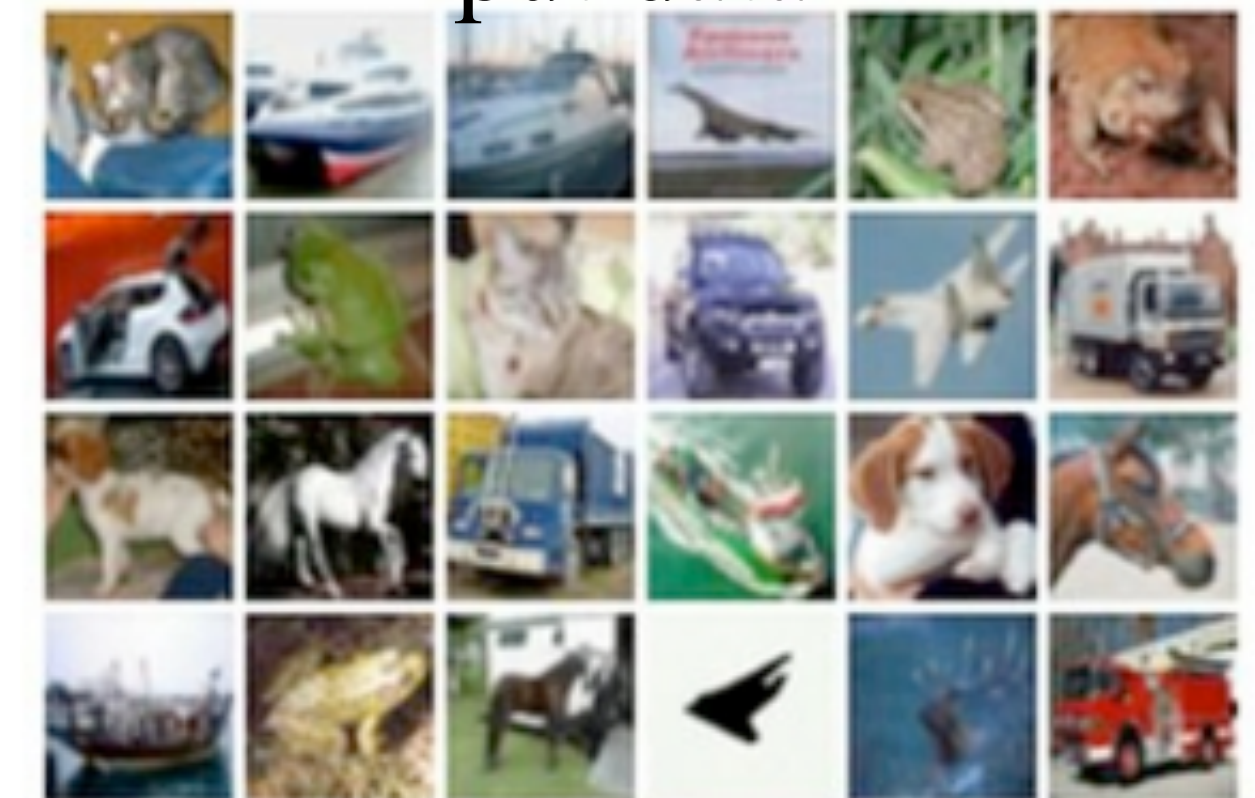


Reconstructed data



Encoder : 4-layer conv
Decoder : 4-layer upconv

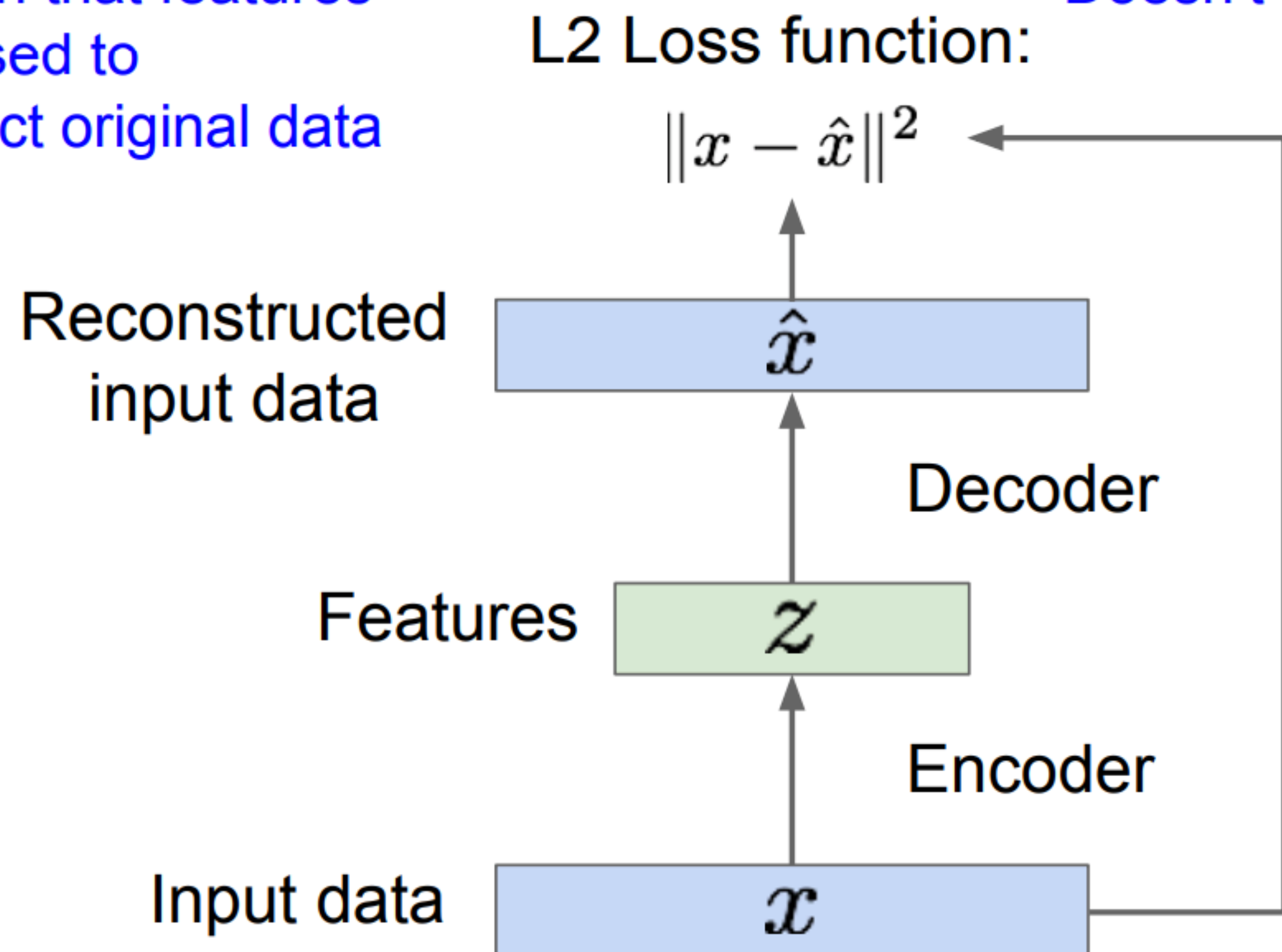
Input data



Some background first: Autoencoders

Train such that features
can be used to
reconstruct original data

Doesn't use labels!

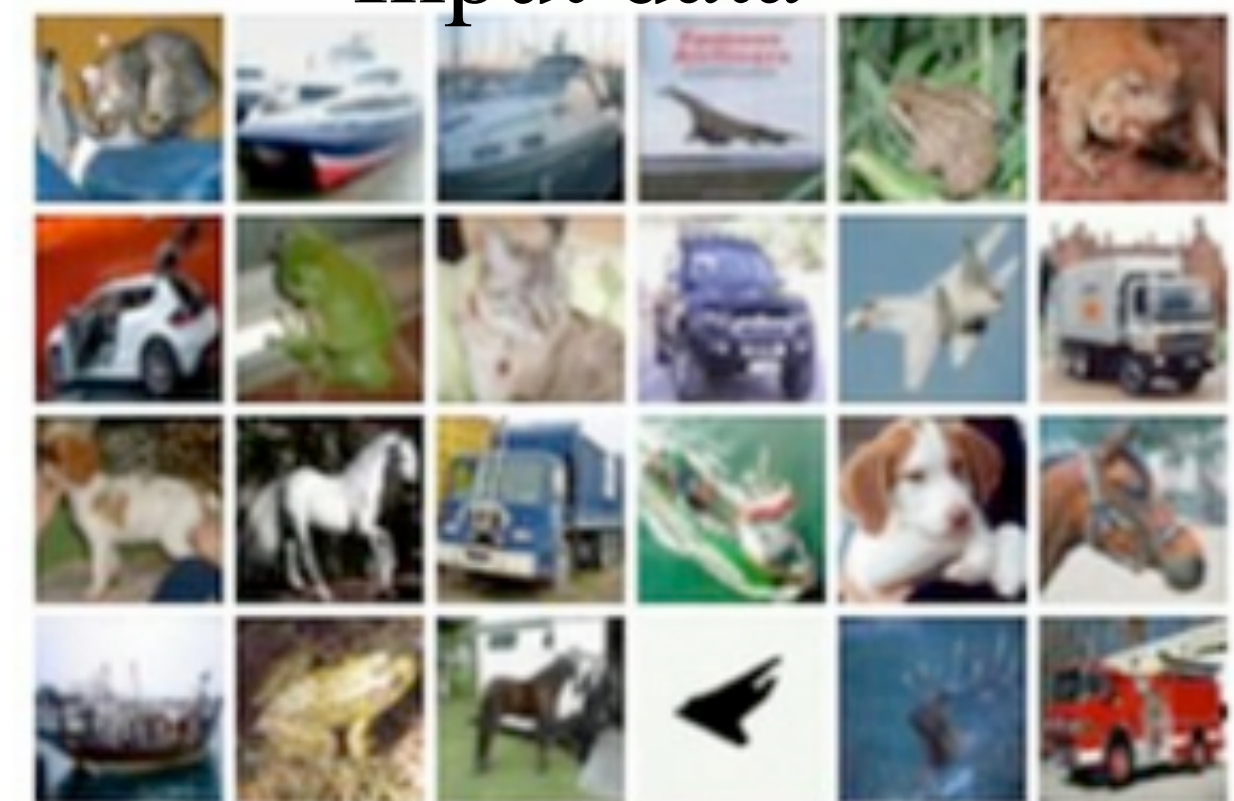


Reconstructed data

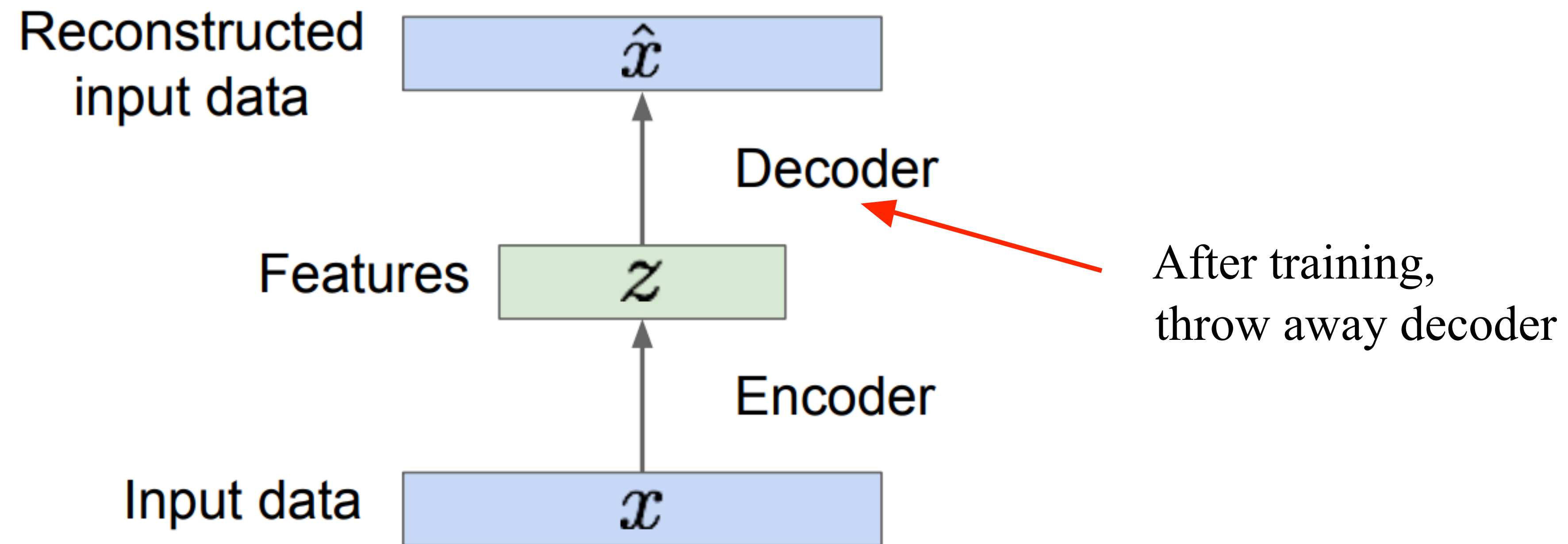


Encoder : 4-layer conv
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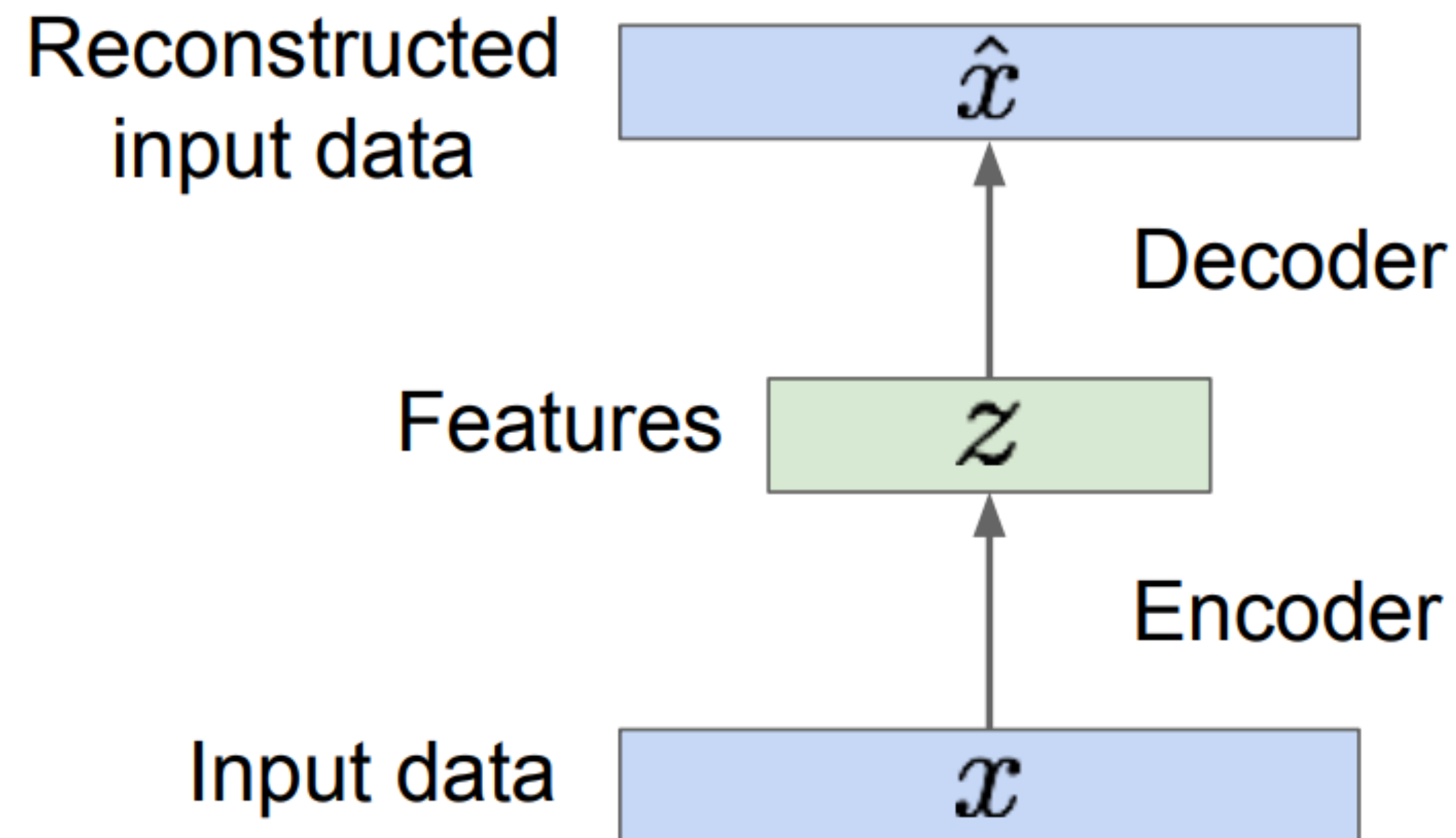
Some background first: Autoencoders



Some background first: Autoencoders

Autoencoders can reconstruct data, and can learn features to initialize a supervised model

Features capture factors of variation in training data. Can we generate new images from an autoencoder?



Variational Autoencoders

Probabilistic spin on autoencoders - will let us sample from the model to generate data!

Variational Autoencoders

Probabilistic spin on autoencoders - will let us sample from the model to generate data!

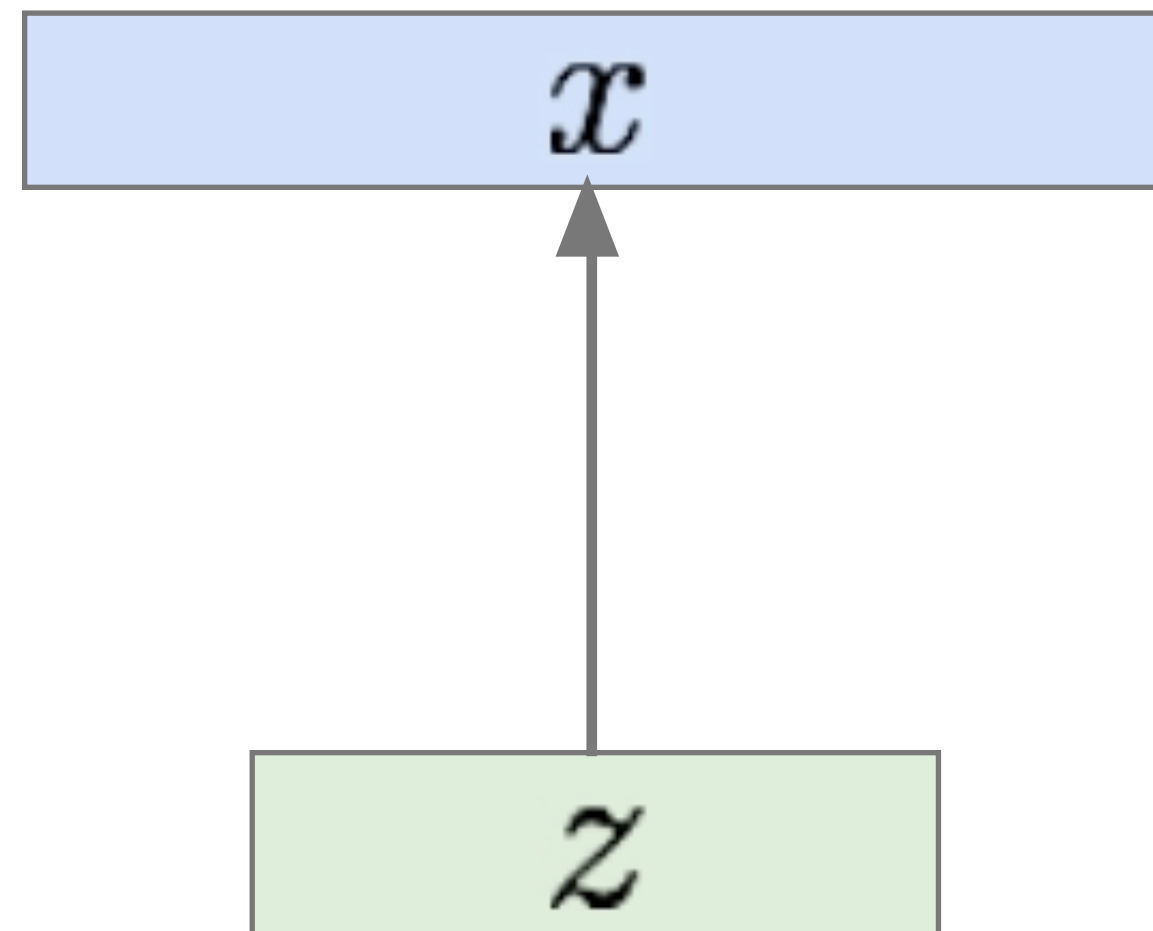
Assume training data $\{x^{(i)}\}_{i=1}^N$ is generated from underlying unobserved (latent) representation \mathbf{z}

Sample from
true conditional

$$p_{\theta^*}(x \mid z^{(i)})$$

Sample from
true prior

$$p_{\theta^*}(z)$$



Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

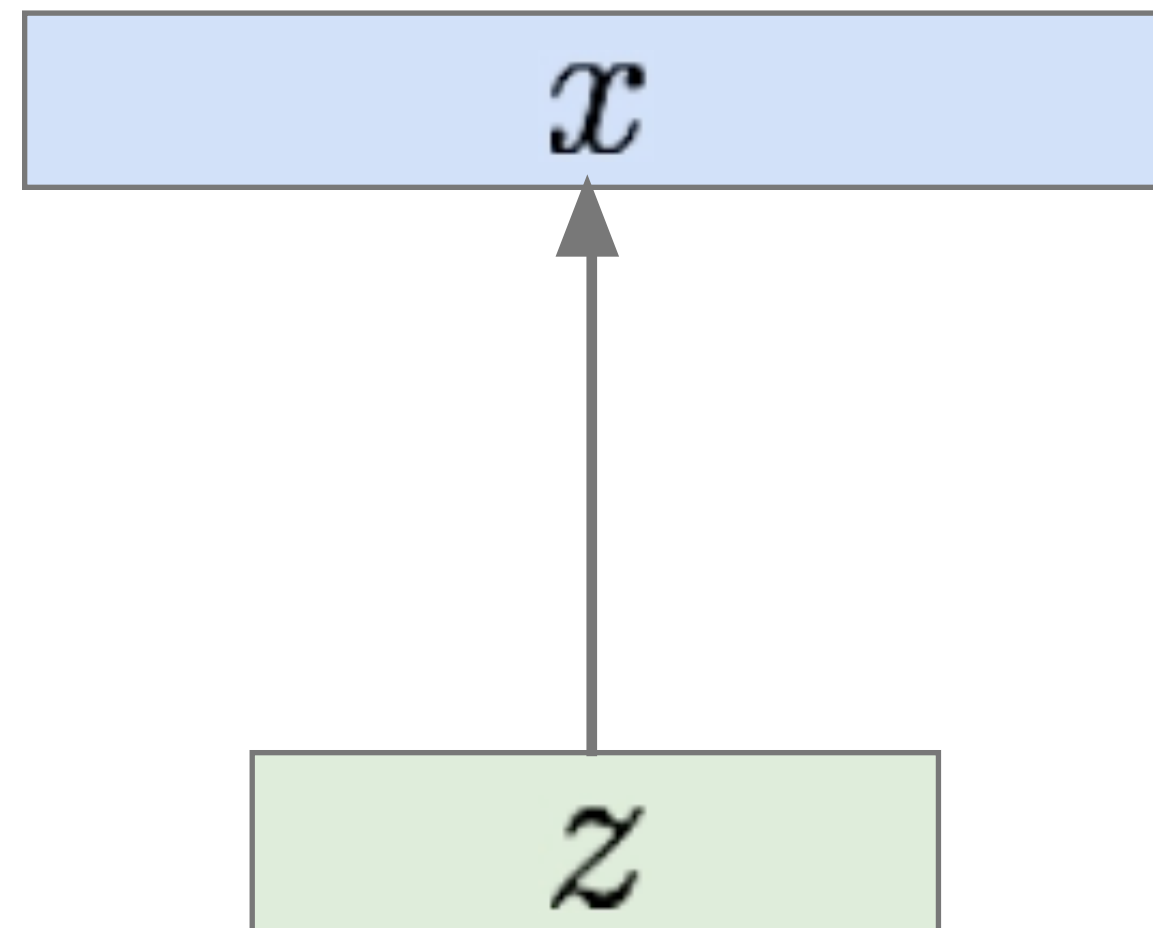
Variational Autoencoders

Probabilistic spin on autoencoders - will let us sample from the model to generate data!

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Sample from
true conditional
 $p_{\theta^*}(x \mid z^{(i)})$

Sample from
true prior
 $p_{\theta^*}(z)$



Intuition (remember from autoencoders!):
 \mathbf{x} is an image, \mathbf{z} is latent factors used to
generate \mathbf{x} : attributes, orientation, etc.

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders

We want to estimate the true parameters of this generative model.

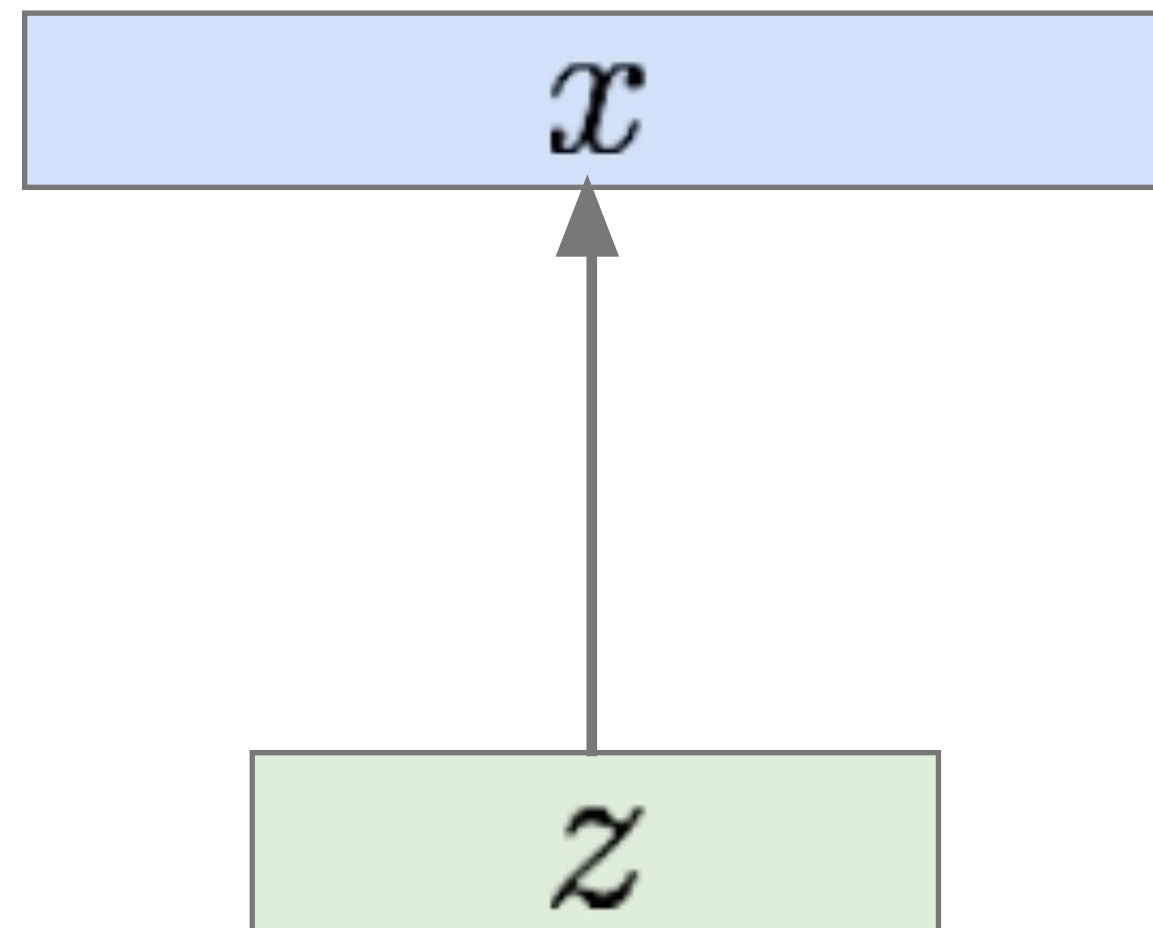
θ^*

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Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders

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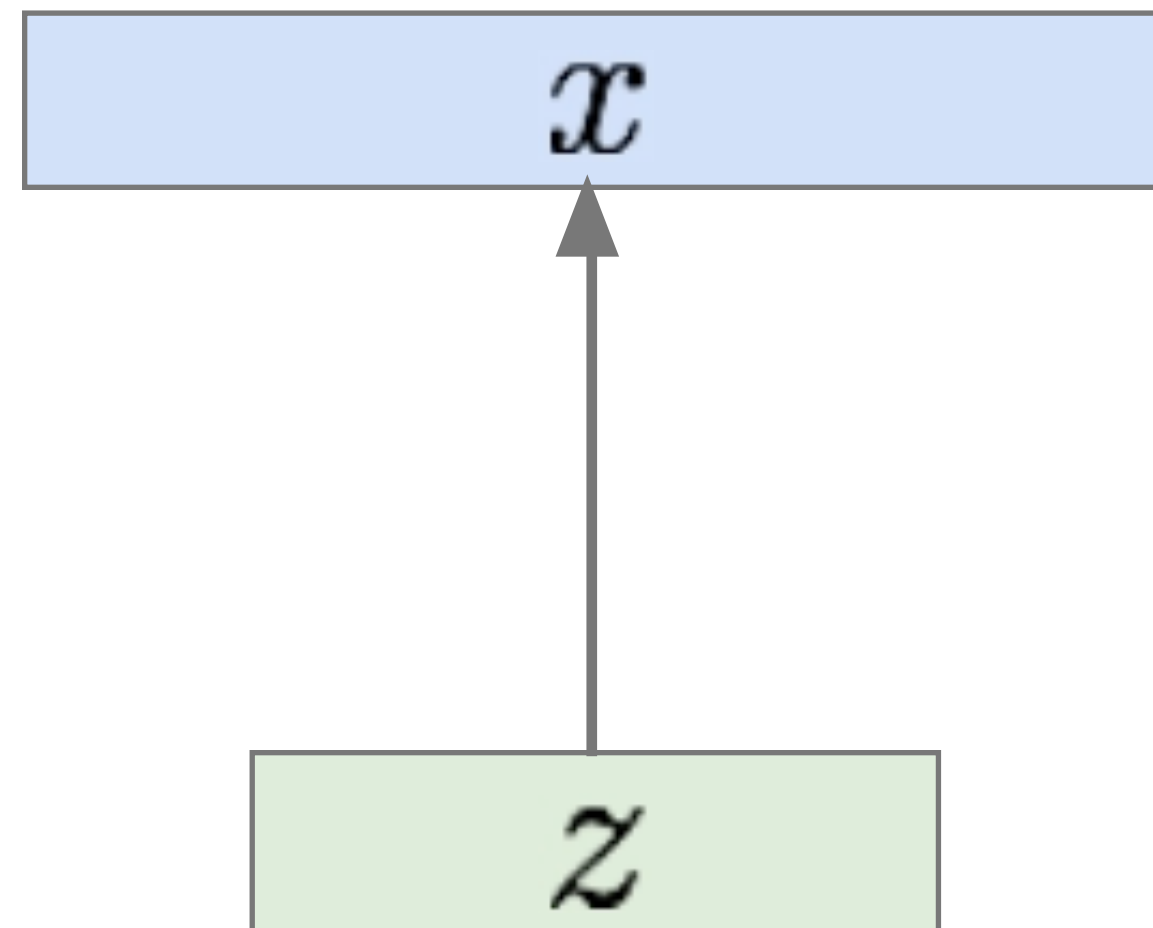
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How should we represent this model?

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

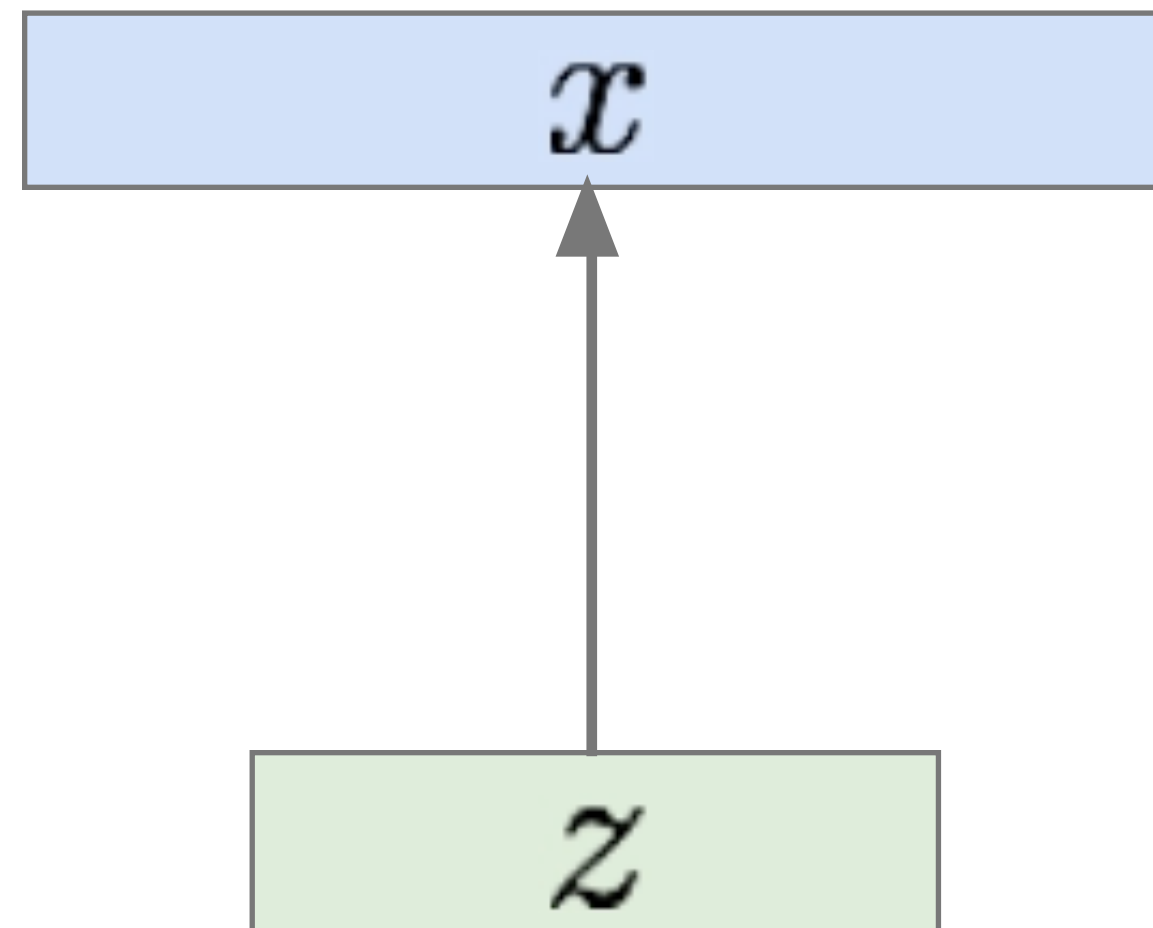
Variational Autoencoders

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Sample from
true prior

$$p_{\theta^*}(z)$$



We want to estimate the true parameters
of this generative model.

θ^*

How should we represent this model?

Choose prior $p(z)$ to be simple, e.g.
Gaussian. Reasonable for latent attributes,
e.g. pose, how much smile.

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

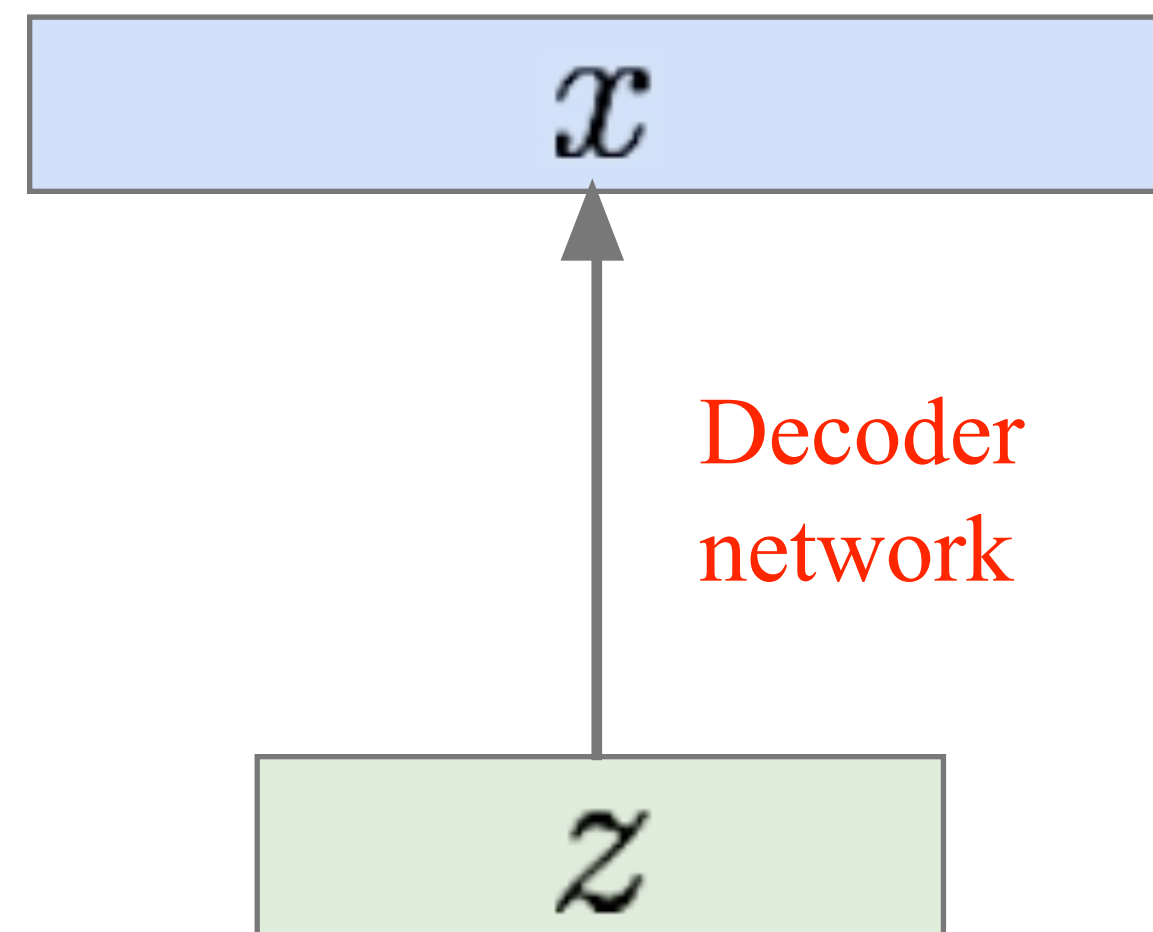
Variational Autoencoders

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$$p_{\theta^*}(x \mid z^{(i)})$$

Sample from
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$$p_{\theta^*}(z)$$



We want to estimate the true parameters of this generative model.

 θ^*

How should we represent this model?

Choose prior $p(z)$ to be simple, e.g. Gaussian.

Conditional $p(x|z)$ is complex (generates image) => represent with neural network

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders

We want to estimate the true parameters of this generative model.

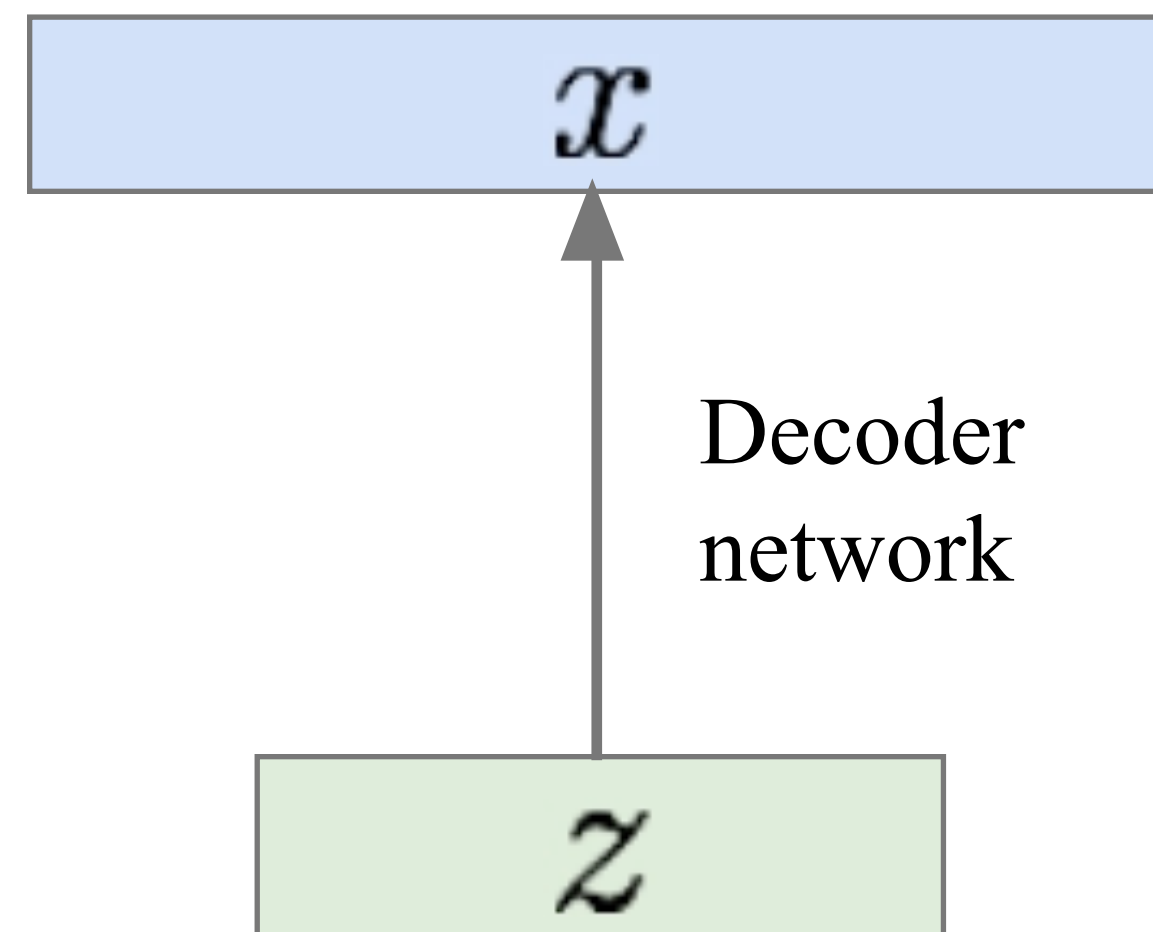
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How to train the model?

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

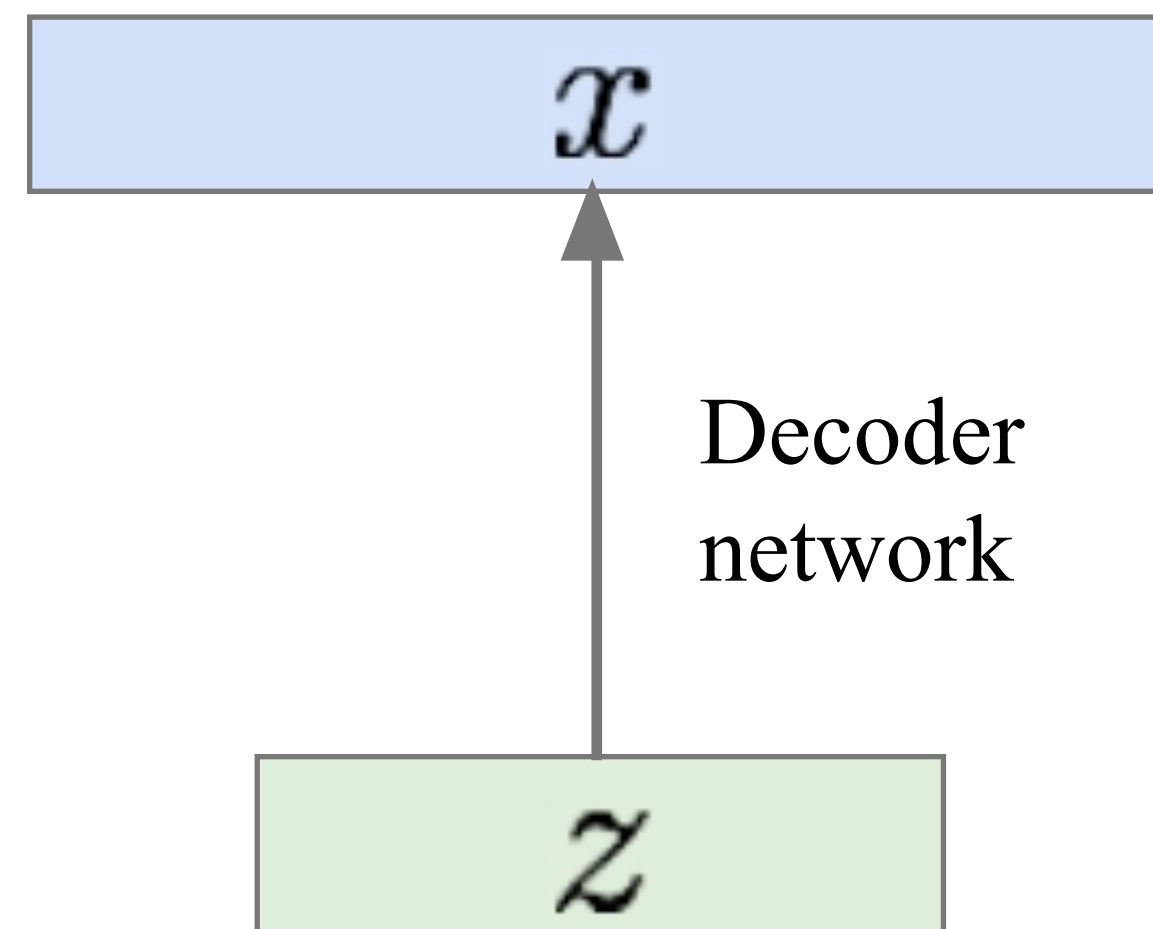
Variational Autoencoders

Sample from
true conditional

$$p_{\theta^*}(x \mid z^{(i)})$$

Sample from
true prior

$$p_{\theta^*}(z)$$



We want to estimate the true parameters
of this generative model.

θ^*

How to train the model?

Remember strategy for training generative
models from FVBNs. Learn model parameters
to maximize likelihood of training data

$$p_{\theta}(x) = \int p_{\theta}(z)p_{\theta}(x|z)dz$$

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

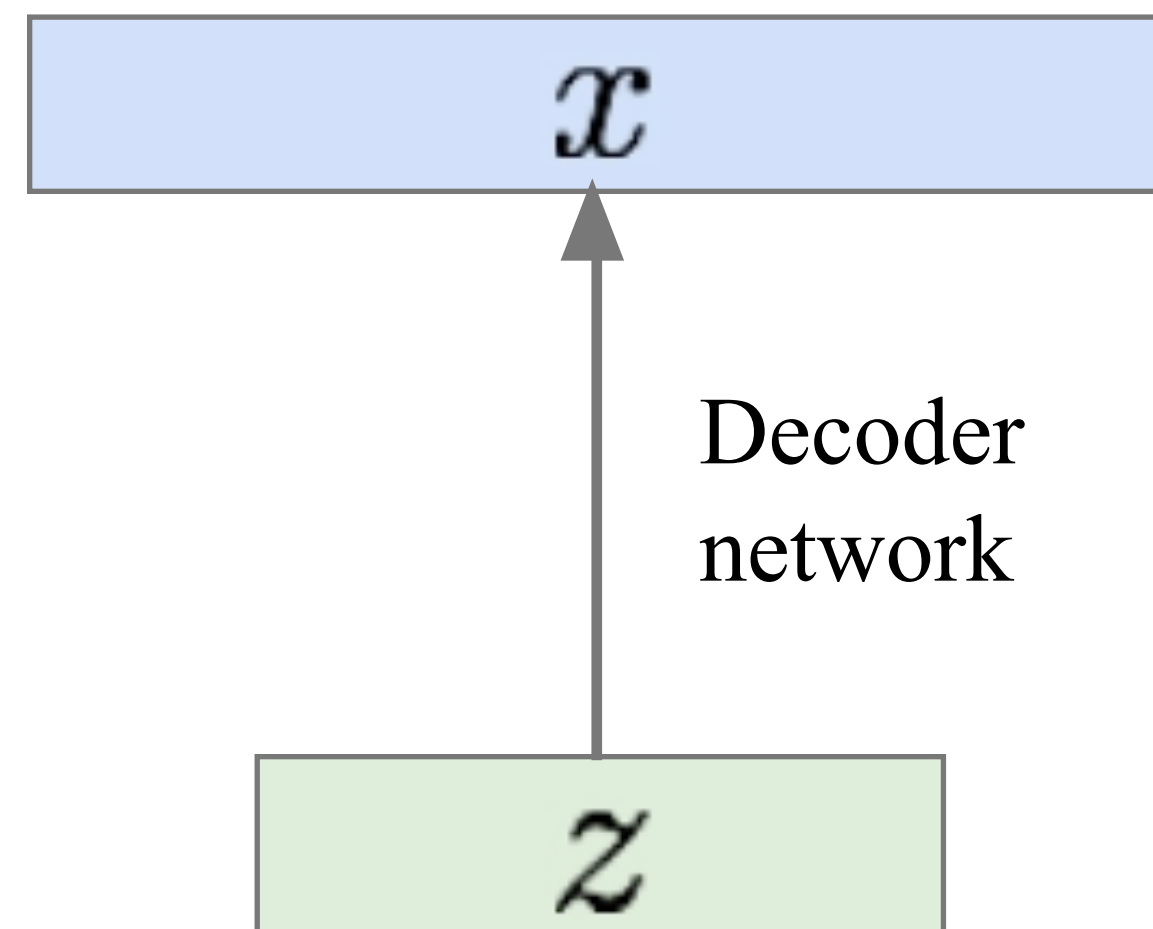
Variational Autoencoders

Sample from
true conditional

$$p_{\theta^*}(x \mid z^{(i)})$$

Sample from
true prior

$$p_{\theta^*}(z)$$



We want to estimate the true parameters
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How to train the model?

Remember strategy for training generative
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to maximize likelihood of training data

$$p_{\theta}(x) = \int p_{\theta}(z)p_{\theta}(x|z)dz$$

Now with latent z

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

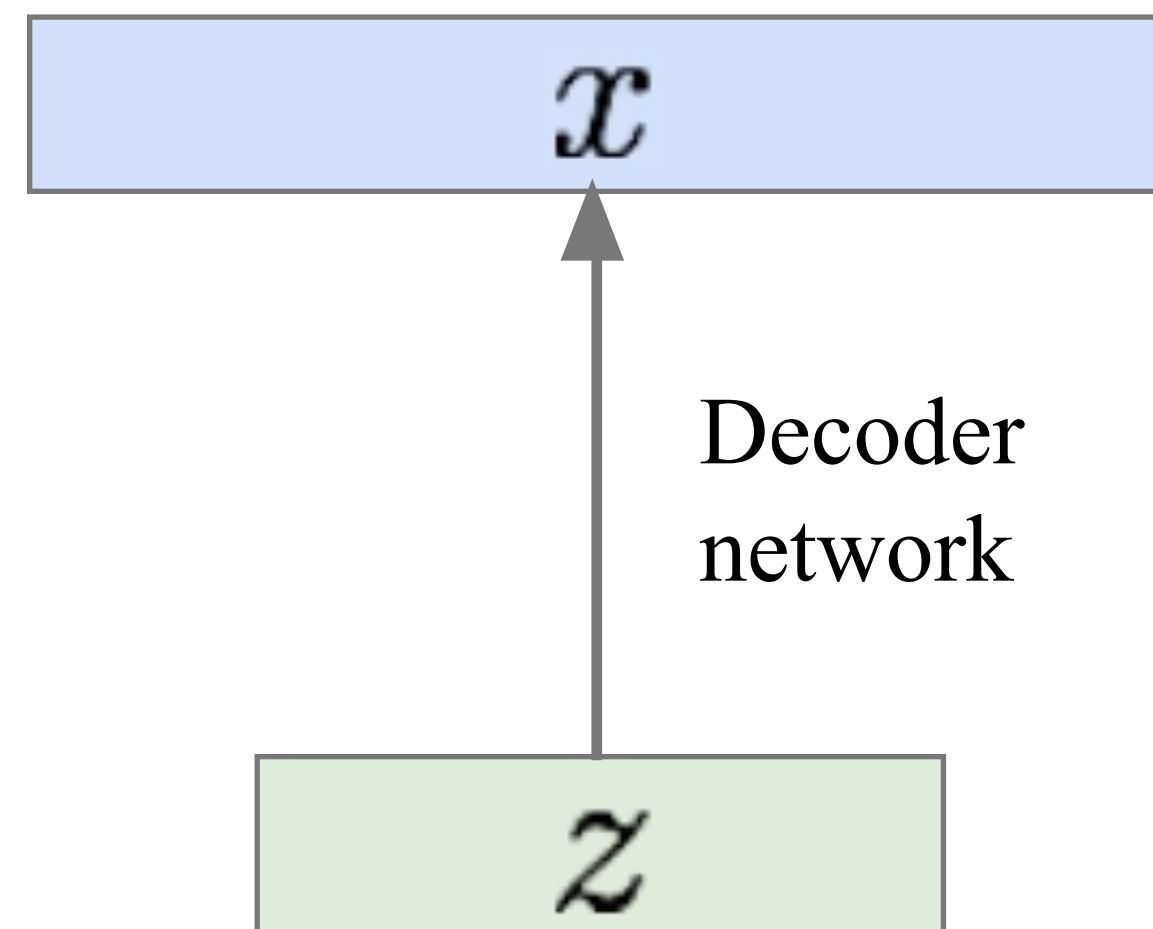
Variational Autoencoders

Sample from
true conditional

$$p_{\theta^*}(x \mid z^{(i)})$$

Sample from
true prior

$$p_{\theta^*}(z)$$



We want to estimate the true parameters of this generative model.

θ^*

How to train the model?

Remember strategy for training generative models from FVBNs. Learn model parameters to maximize likelihood of training data

$$p_{\theta}(x) = \int p_{\theta}(z)p_{\theta}(x|z)dz$$

Q: What is the problem with this?

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

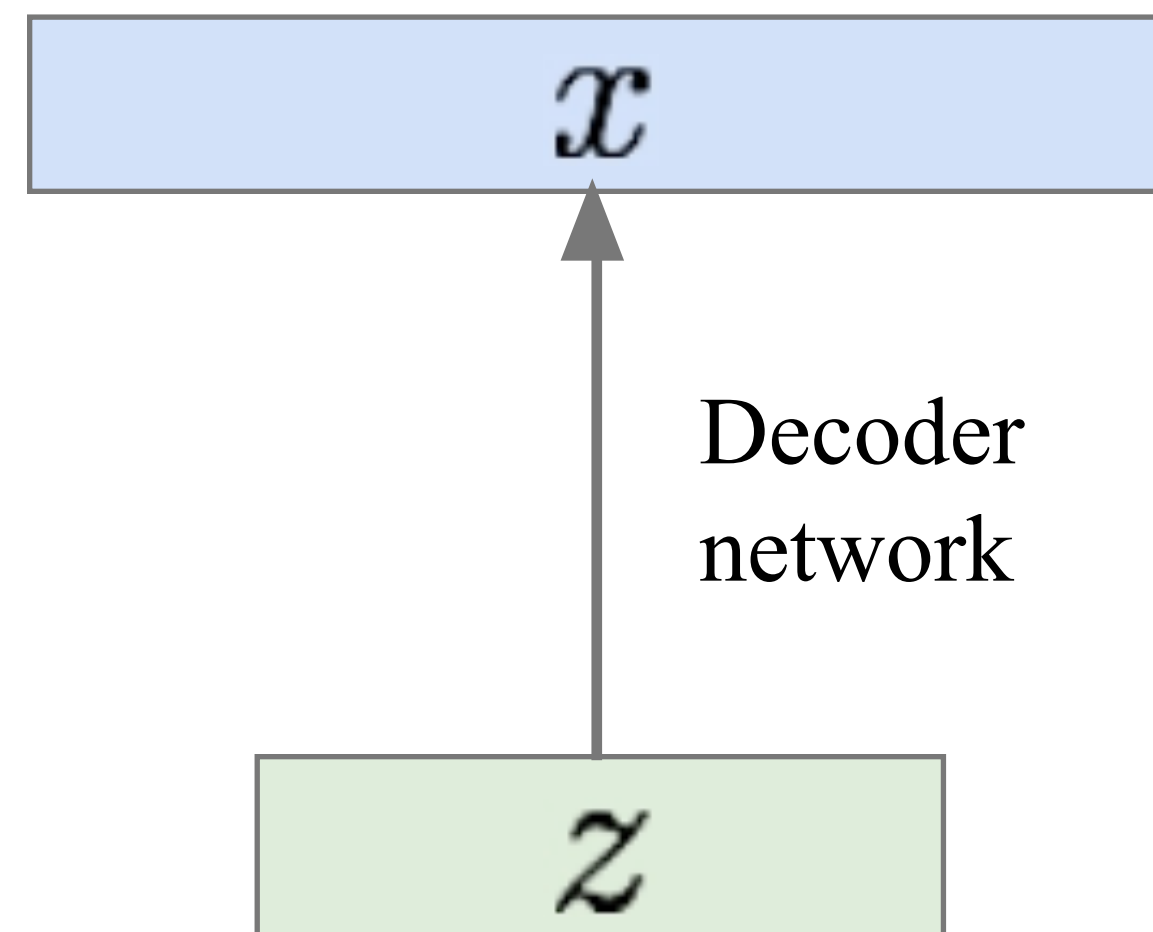
Variational Autoencoders

Sample from
true conditional

$$p_{\theta^*}(x \mid z^{(i)})$$

Sample from
true prior

$$p_{\theta^*}(z)$$



We want to estimate the true parameters of this generative model.

θ^*

How to train the model?

Remember strategy for training generative models from FVBNs. Learn model parameters to maximize likelihood of training data

$$p_{\theta}(x) = \int p_{\theta}(z)p_{\theta}(x|z)dz$$

Q: What is the problem with this?

A: Intractable!

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders: Intractability

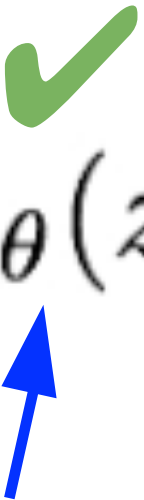
Data likelihood: $p_{\theta}(x) = \int p_{\theta}(z)p_{\theta}(x|z)dz$

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders: Intractability

Data likelihood: $p_{\theta}(x) = \int p_{\theta}(z)p_{\theta}(x|z)dz$

Simple Gaussian prior

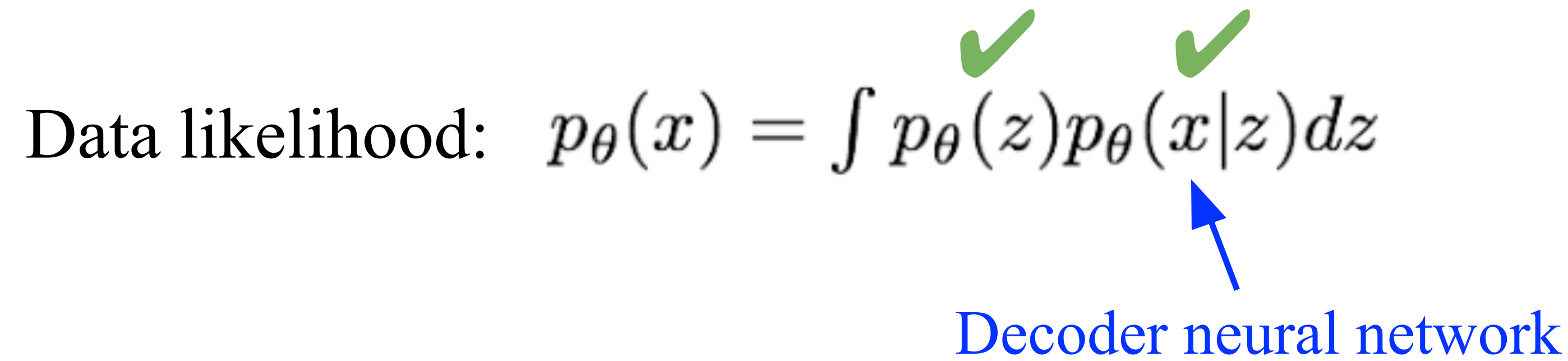


Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders: Intractability

Data likelihood: $p_{\theta}(x) = \int p_{\theta}(z) p_{\theta}(x|z) dz$

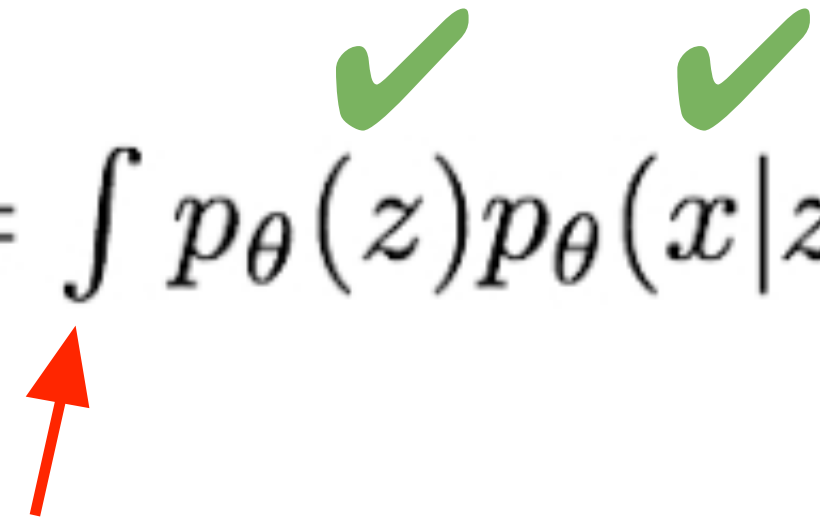
Decoder neural network



Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders: Intractability

Data likelihood: $p_{\theta}(x) = \int p_{\theta}(z) p_{\theta}(x|z) dz$



Intractable to compute
 $p(x|z)$ for every z !

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders: Intractability

Data likelihood: $p_{\theta}(x) = \int p_{\theta}(z) p_{\theta}(x|z) dz$

Posterior density also intractable: $p_{\theta}(z|x) = p_{\theta}(x|z)p_{\theta}(z)/p_{\theta}(x)$

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders: Intractability

Data likelihood: $p_{\theta}(x) = \int p_{\theta}(z) p_{\theta}(x|z) dz$

Posterior density also intractable: $p_{\theta}(z|x) = p_{\theta}(x|z) p_{\theta}(z) / p_{\theta}(x)$

Intractable data likelihood

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders: Intractability

Data likelihood: $p_{\theta}(x) = \int p_{\theta}(z) p_{\theta}(x|z) dz$

Posterior density also intractable: $p_{\theta}(z|x) = p_{\theta}(x|z) p_{\theta}(z) / p_{\theta}(x)$

Solution: In addition to decoder network modeling $p_{\theta}(x|z)$, define additional encoder network $q_{\phi}(z|x)$ that approximates $p_{\theta}(z|x)$

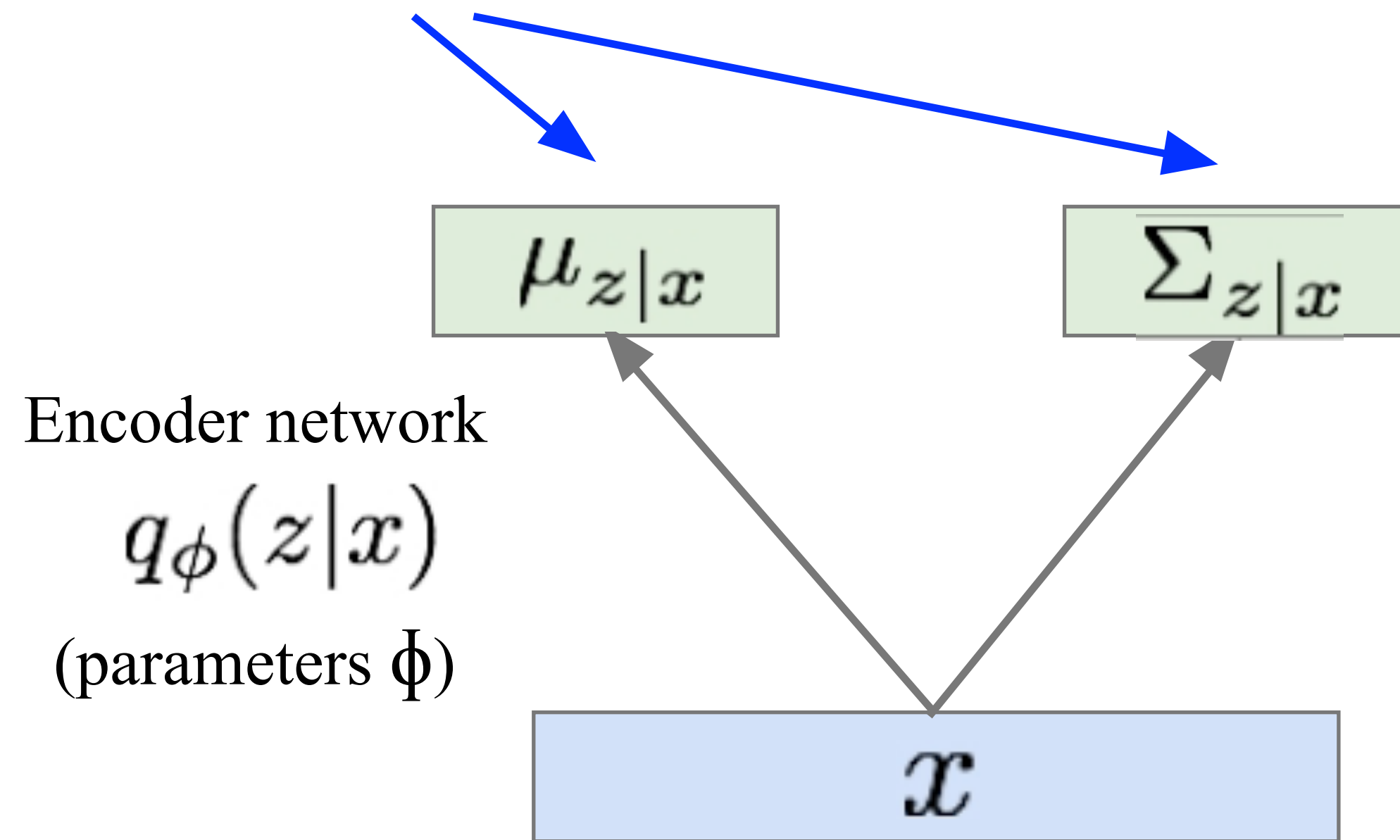
Will see that this allows us to derive a lower bound on the data likelihood that is tractable, which we can optimize

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

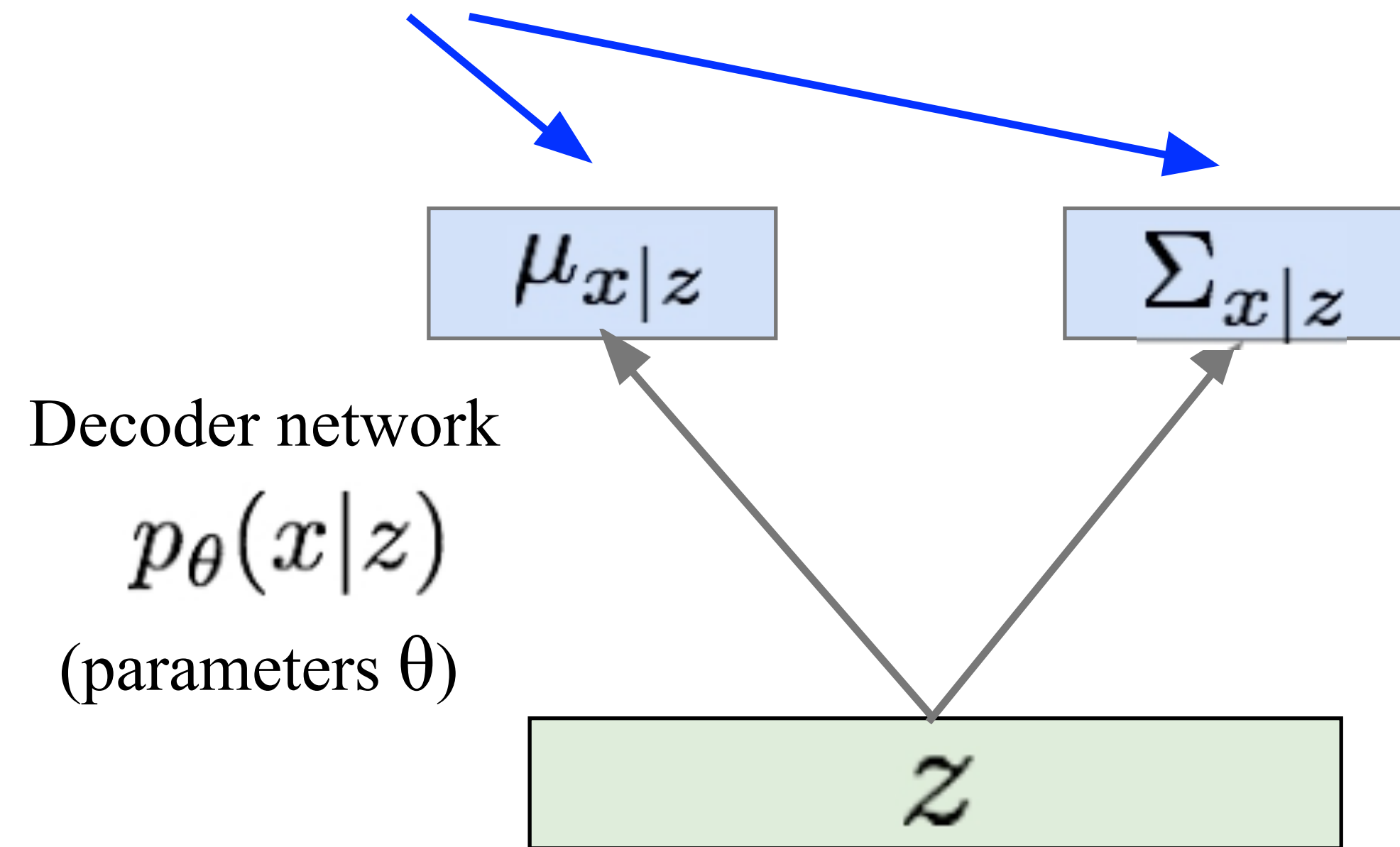
Variational Autoencoders

Since we're modeling probabilistic generation of data, encoder and decoder networks are probabilistic

Mean and (diagonal) covariance of $\mathbf{z} | \mathbf{x}$



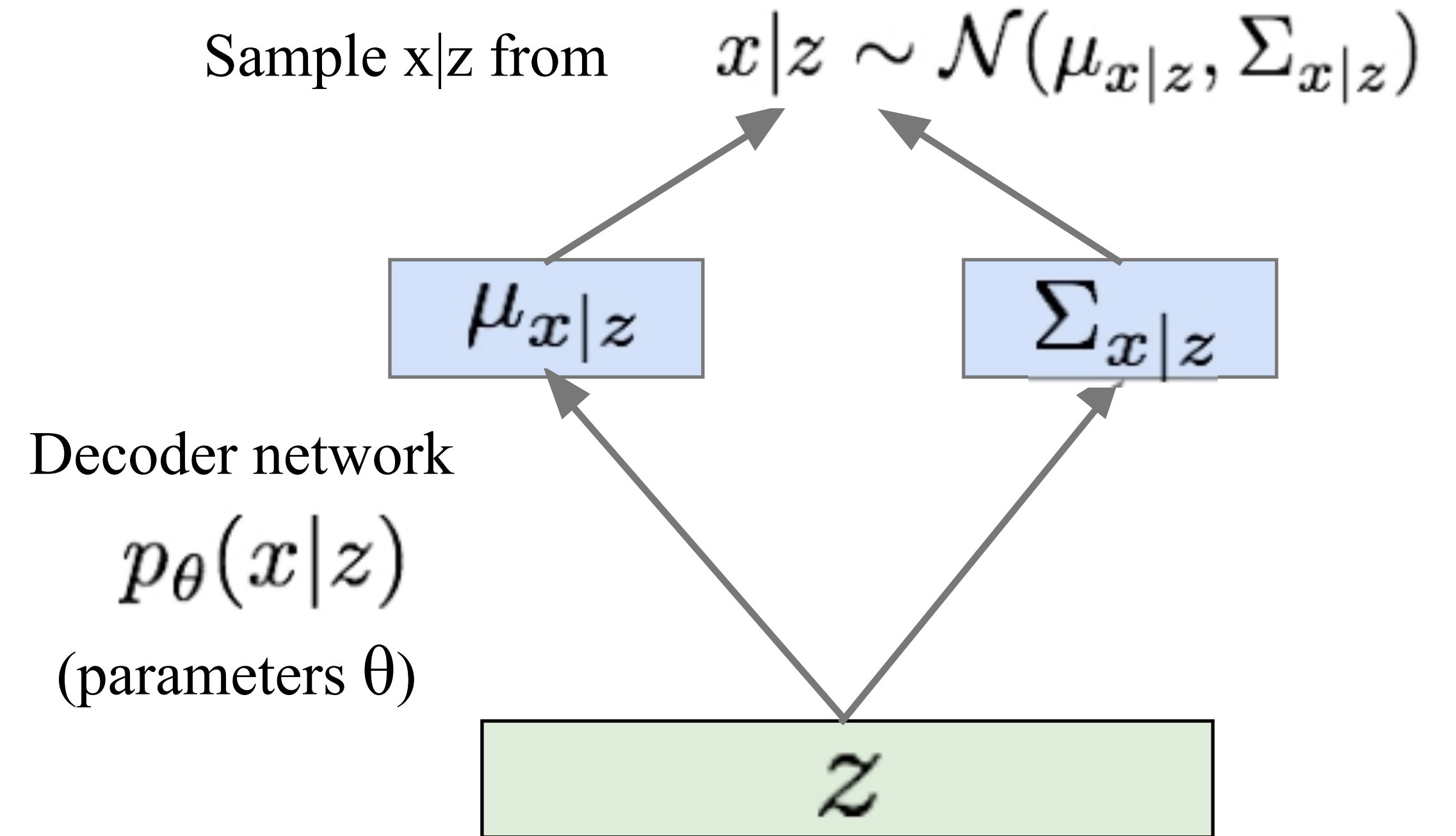
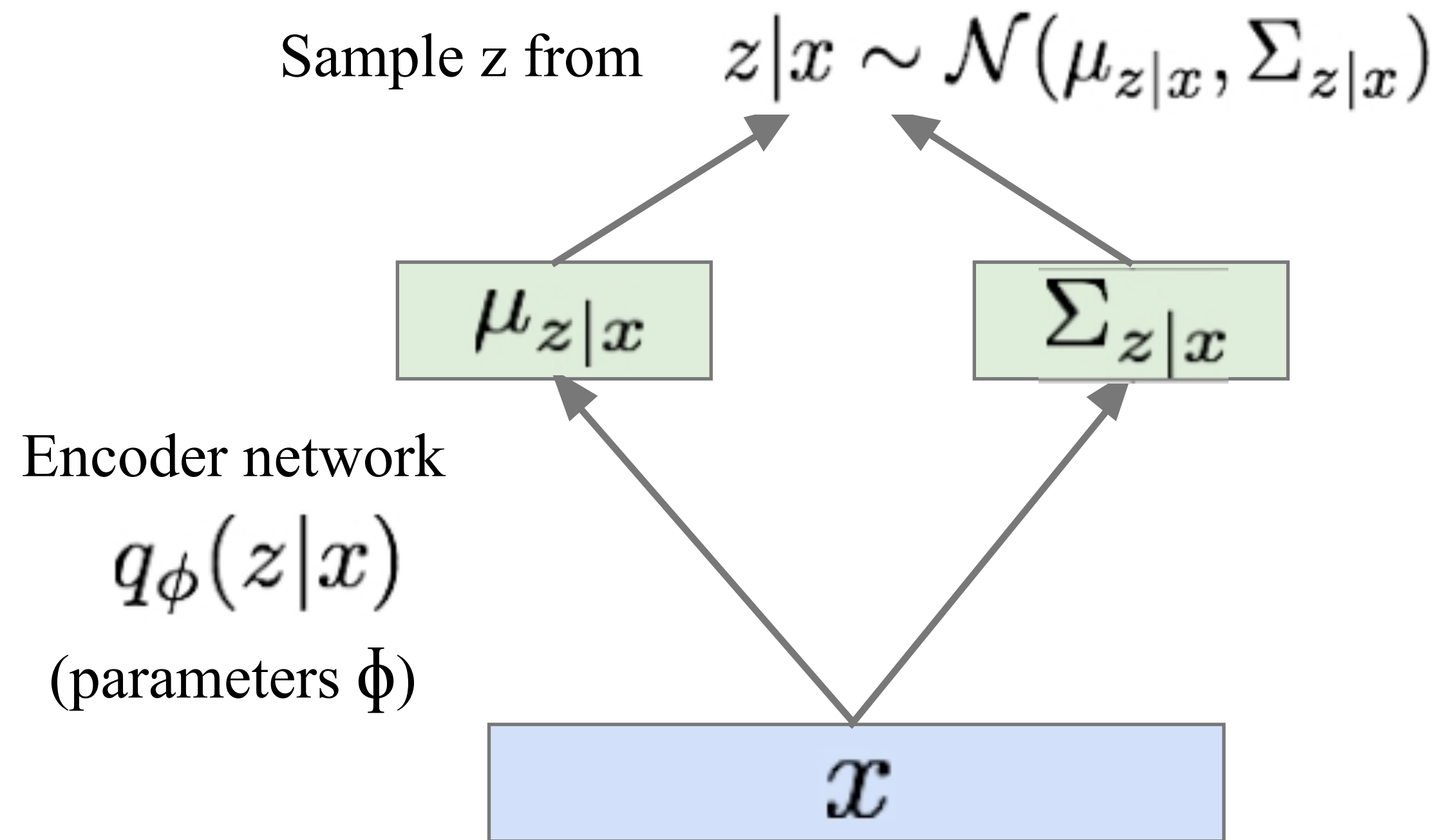
Mean and (diagonal) covariance of $\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{z}$



Kingma and Welling, "Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes", ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders

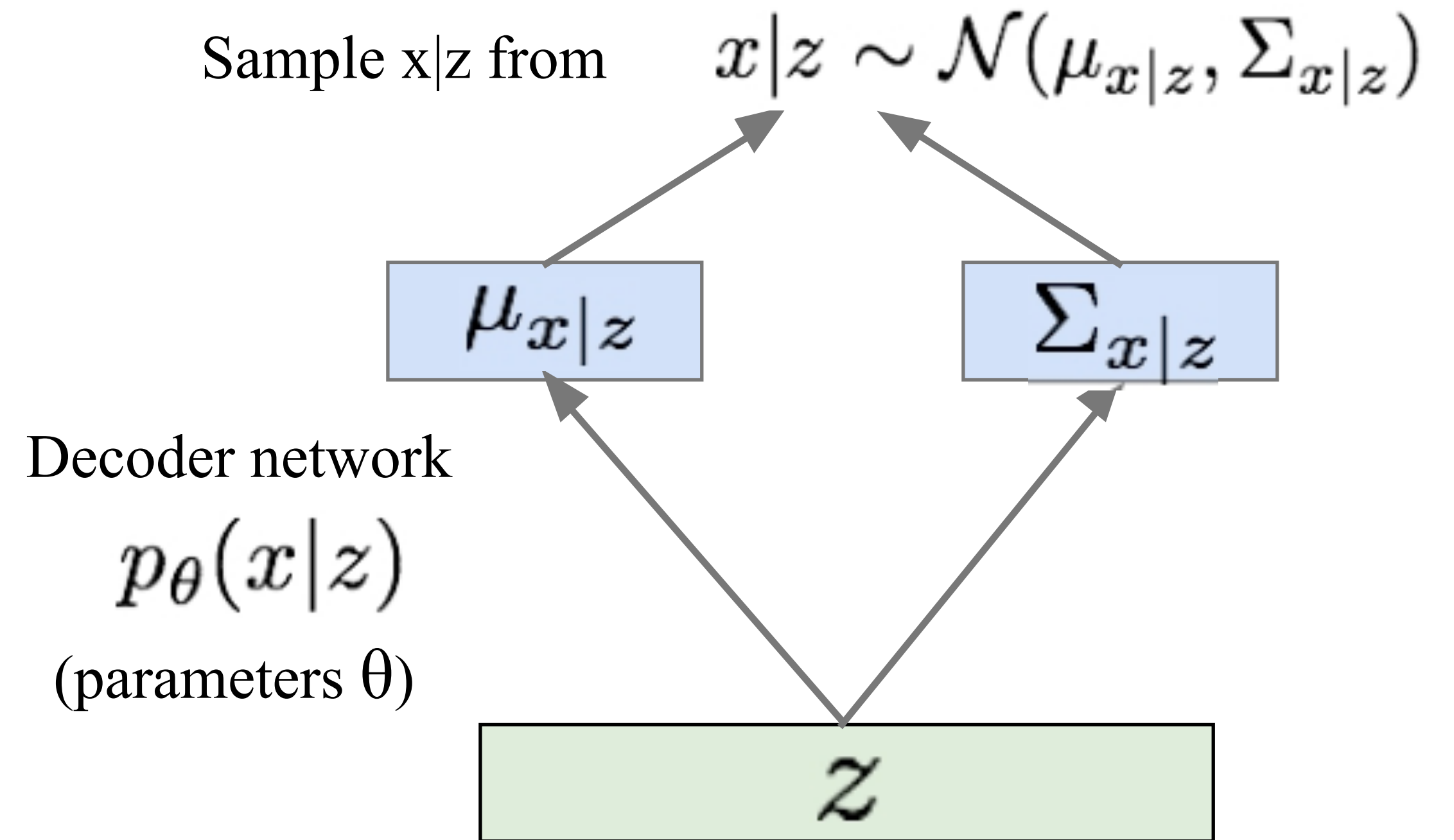
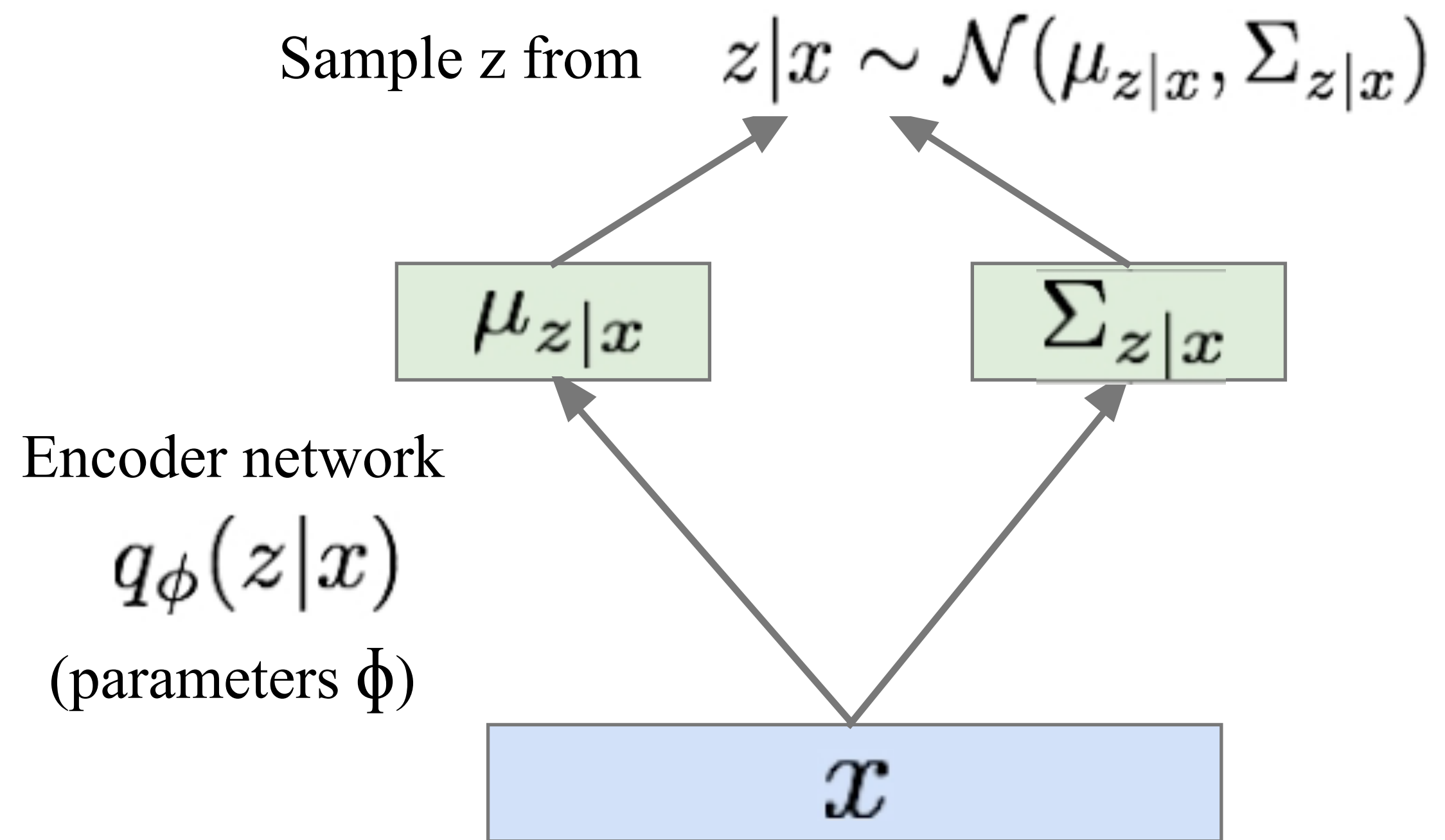
Since we're modeling probabilistic generation of data, encoder and decoder networks are probabilistic



Kingma and Welling, "Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes", ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders

Since we're modeling probabilistic generation of data, encoder and decoder networks are probabilistic



Encoder and decoder networks also called
“recognition”/“inference” and “generation” networks

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders

Now equipped with our encoder and decoder networks, let's work out the (log) data likelihood:

$$\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) = \mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_{\phi}(z|x^{(i)})} \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \right] \quad (p_{\theta}(x^{(i)})) \text{ Does not depend on } z)$$

Variational Autoencoders

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$$\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) = \mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_{\phi}(z|x^{(i)})} [\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)})] \quad (p_{\theta}(x^{(i)})) \text{ Does not depend on } z)$$



Taking expectation wrt. z
(using encoder network) will
come in handy later

Variational Autoencoders

Now equipped with our encoder and decoder networks, let's work out the (log) data likelihood:

$$\begin{aligned}\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) &= \mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_{\phi}(z|x^{(i)})} \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \right] && (p_{\theta}(x^{(i)})) \text{ Does not depend on } z \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z)p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] && (\text{Bayes' Rule})\end{aligned}$$

Variational Autoencoders

Now equipped with our encoder and decoder networks, let's work out the (log) data likelihood:

$$\begin{aligned}\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) &= \mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_{\phi}(z|x^{(i)})} \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \right] && (p_{\theta}(x^{(i)})) \text{ Does not depend on } z \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] && (\text{Bayes' Rule}) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] && (\text{Multiply by constant})\end{aligned}$$

Variational Autoencoders

Now equipped with our encoder and decoder networks, let's work out the (log) data likelihood:

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Variational Autoencoders

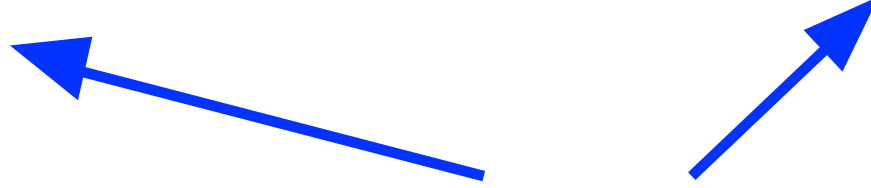
Now equipped with our encoder and decoder networks, let's work out the (log) data likelihood:

$$\begin{aligned}\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) &= \mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_{\phi}(z|x^{(i)})} \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \right] \quad (p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \text{ Does not depend on } z) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] \quad (\text{Bayes' Rule}) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] \quad (\text{Multiply by constant}) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{p_{\theta}(z)} \right] + \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] \quad (\text{Logarithms}) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)}) || p_{\theta}(z)) + D_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)}) || p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)}))\end{aligned}$$

Variational Autoencoders

Now equipped with our encoder and decoder networks, let's work out the (log) data likelihood:

$$\begin{aligned}\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) &= \mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_{\phi}(z|x^{(i)})} \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \right] && (p_{\theta}(x^{(i)})) \text{ Does not depend on } z \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] && (\text{Bayes' Rule}) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] && (\text{Multiply by constant}) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{p_{\theta}(z)} \right] + \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] && (\text{Logarithms}) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)}) || p_{\theta}(z)) + D_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)}) || p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)}))\end{aligned}$$



The expectation wrt. z (using encoder network) let us write nice KL terms

Variational Autoencoders

Now equipped with our encoder and decoder networks, let's work out the (log) data likelihood:

$$\begin{aligned}\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) &= \mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_{\phi}(z|x^{(i)})} \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \right] \quad (p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \text{ Does not depend on } z) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] \quad (\text{Bayes' Rule}) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] \quad (\text{Multiply by constant}) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{p_{\theta}(z)} \right] + \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] \quad (\text{Logarithms}) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)}) || p_{\theta}(z)) + D_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)}) || p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)}))\end{aligned}$$



Decoder network gives $p_{\theta}(x|z)$, can compute estimate of this term through sampling. (Sampling differentiable through reparam. trick, see paper.)



This KL term (between Gaussians for encoder and z prior) has nice closed-form solution!



$p_{\theta}(z|x)$ intractable (saw earlier), can't compute this KL term :(But we know KL divergence always ≥ 0 .

Variational Autoencoders

Now equipped with our encoder and decoder networks, let's work out the (log) data likelihood:

$$\begin{aligned}\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) &= \mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_{\phi}(z|x^{(i)})} \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \right] \quad (p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \text{ Does not depend on } z) \\&= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] \quad (\text{Bayes' Rule}) \\&= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] \quad (\text{Multiply by constant}) \\&= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{p_{\theta}(z)} \right] + \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] \quad (\text{Logarithms}) \\&= \underbrace{\mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)}) || p_{\theta}(z))}_{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)} + \underbrace{D_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)}) || p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)}))}_{\geq 0}\end{aligned}$$

Tractable lower bound which we can take
gradient of and optimize! ($p_{\theta}(x|z)$ differentiable,
KL term differentiable)

Variational Autoencoders

Now equipped with our encoder and decoder networks, let's work out the (log) data likelihood:

$$\begin{aligned}\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) &= \mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_{\phi}(z|x^{(i)})} \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \right] && (p_{\theta}(x^{(i)})) \text{ Does not depend on } z \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] && (\text{Bayes' Rule}) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] && (\text{Multiply by constant}) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{p_{\theta}(z)} \right] + \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] && (\text{Logarithms}) \\ &= \underbrace{\mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) \right]}_{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)} - \underbrace{D_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)}) || p_{\theta}(z))}_{> 0} + \underbrace{D_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)}) || p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)}))}_{> 0}\end{aligned}$$

$$\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \geq \mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)$$

Variational lower bound (“ELBO”)

$$\theta^*, \phi^* = \arg \max_{\theta, \phi} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)$$

Variational Autoencoders

Now equipped with our encoder and decoder networks, let's work out the (log) data likelihood:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) &= \mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_{\phi}(z|x^{(i)})} [\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)})] && (p_{\theta}(x^{(i)})) \text{ Does not depend on } z \\
 &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] && (\text{Bayes' Rule}) \\
 &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] && (\text{Multiply by constant}) \\
 &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{p_{\theta}(z)} \right] + \mathbf{E}_z \left[\log \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] && (\text{Logarithms}) \\
 &= \underbrace{\mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) \right]}_{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)} - \underbrace{D_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)}) || p_{\theta}(z))}_{> 0} + \underbrace{D_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)}) || p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)}))}_{> 0}
 \end{aligned}$$

Reconstruct the input data

Make approximate posterior distribution close to prior

$$\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \geq \mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)$$

Variational lower bound (“ELBO”)

$$\theta^*, \phi^* = \arg \max_{\theta, \phi} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)$$

Variational Autoencoders

Putting it all together: maximizing the
likelihood lower bound

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_\theta(x^{(i)} \mid z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_\phi(z \mid x^{(i)}) \parallel p_\theta(z))}_{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)}$$

Variational Autoencoders

Putting it all together: maximizing the likelihood lower bound

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_\theta(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_\phi(z | x^{(i)}) || p_\theta(z))}_{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)}$$

Let's look at computing the bound (forward pass) for a given minibatch of input data

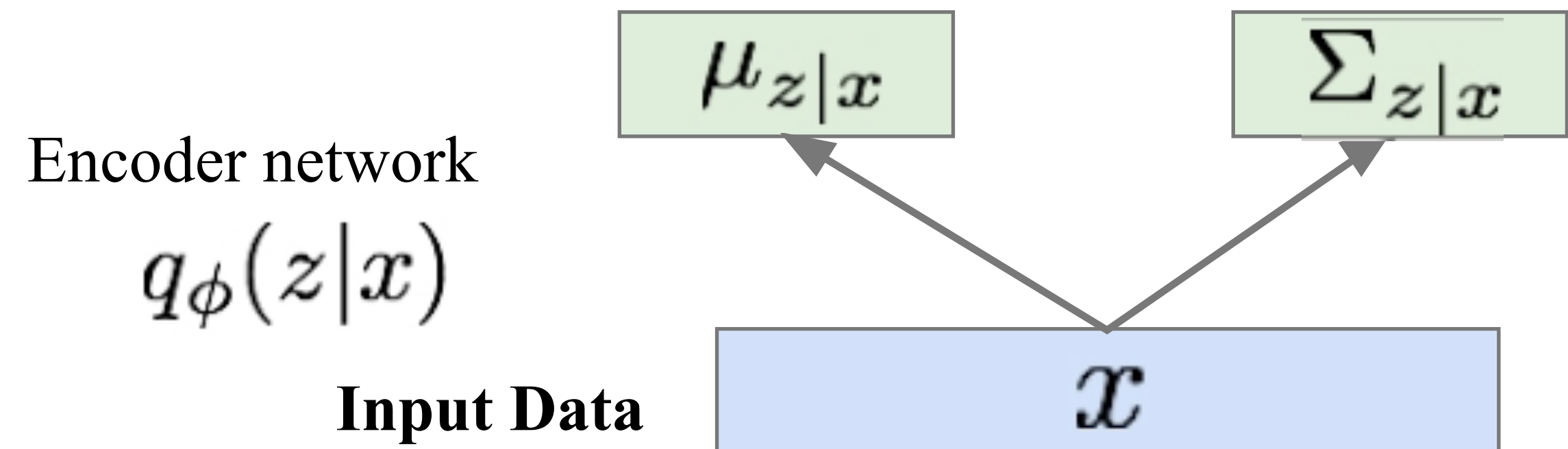
Input Data

x

Variational Autoencoders

Putting it all together: maximizing the likelihood lower bound

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)}) || p_{\theta}(z))}_{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)}$$



Variational Autoencoders

Putting it all together: maximizing the likelihood lower bound

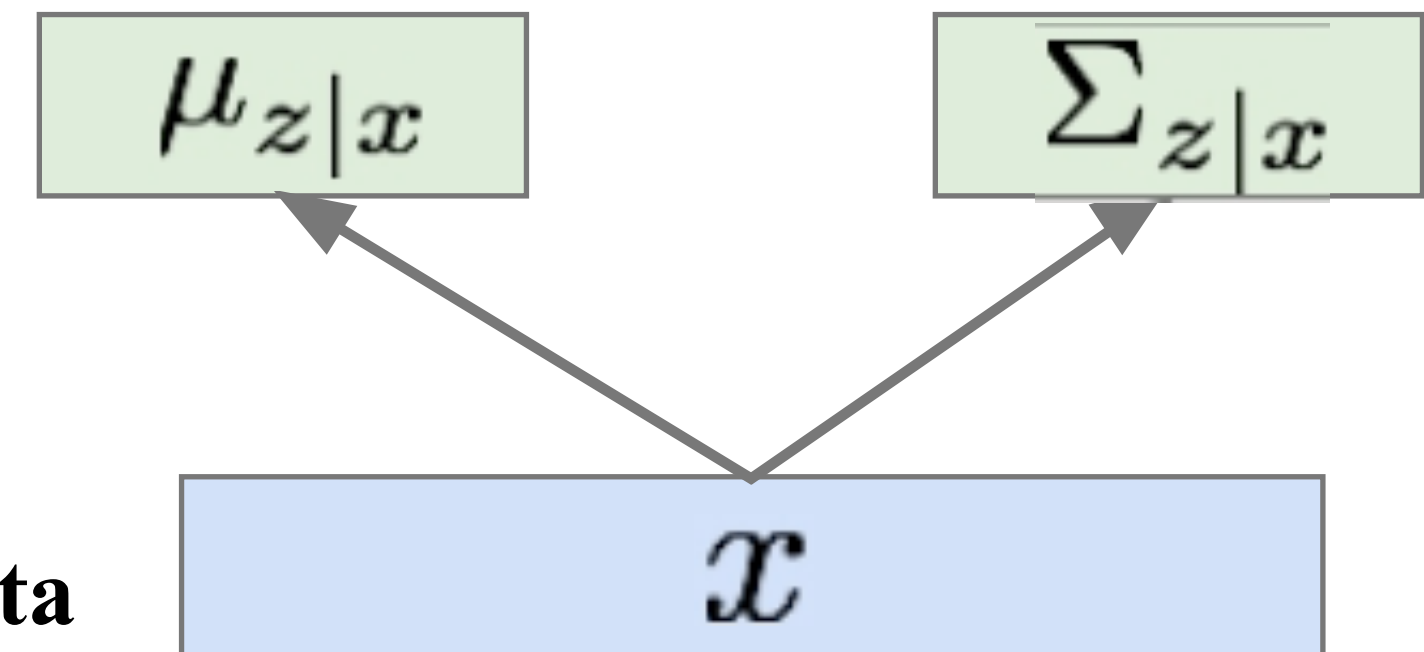
$$\underbrace{\mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_\theta(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_\phi(z | x^{(i)}) || p_\theta(z))}_{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)}$$

Make approximate posterior distribution close to prior

Encoder network

$$q_\phi(z|x)$$

Input Data

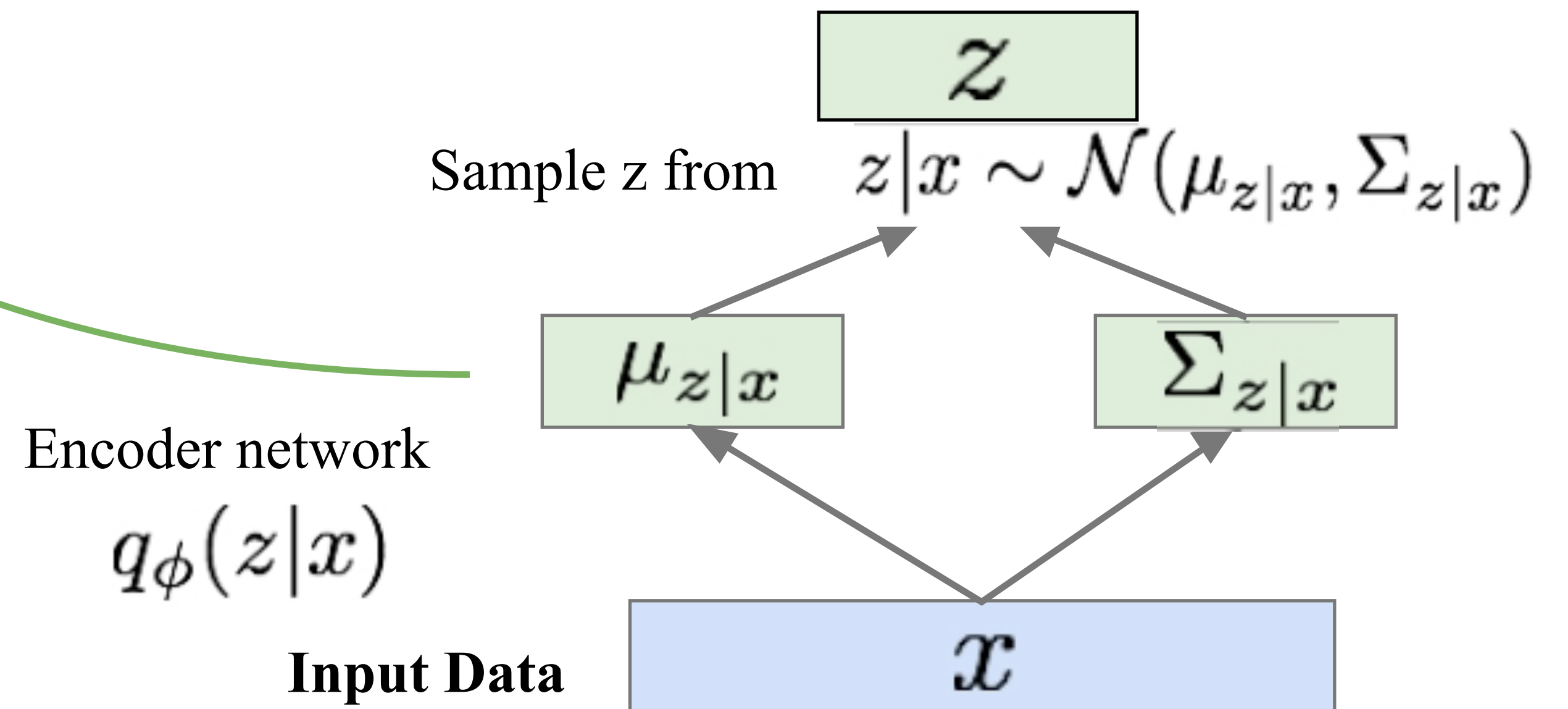


Variational Autoencoders

Putting it all together: maximizing the likelihood lower bound

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_\theta(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_\phi(z | x^{(i)}) || p_\theta(z))}_{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)}$$

Make approximate posterior distribution close to prior

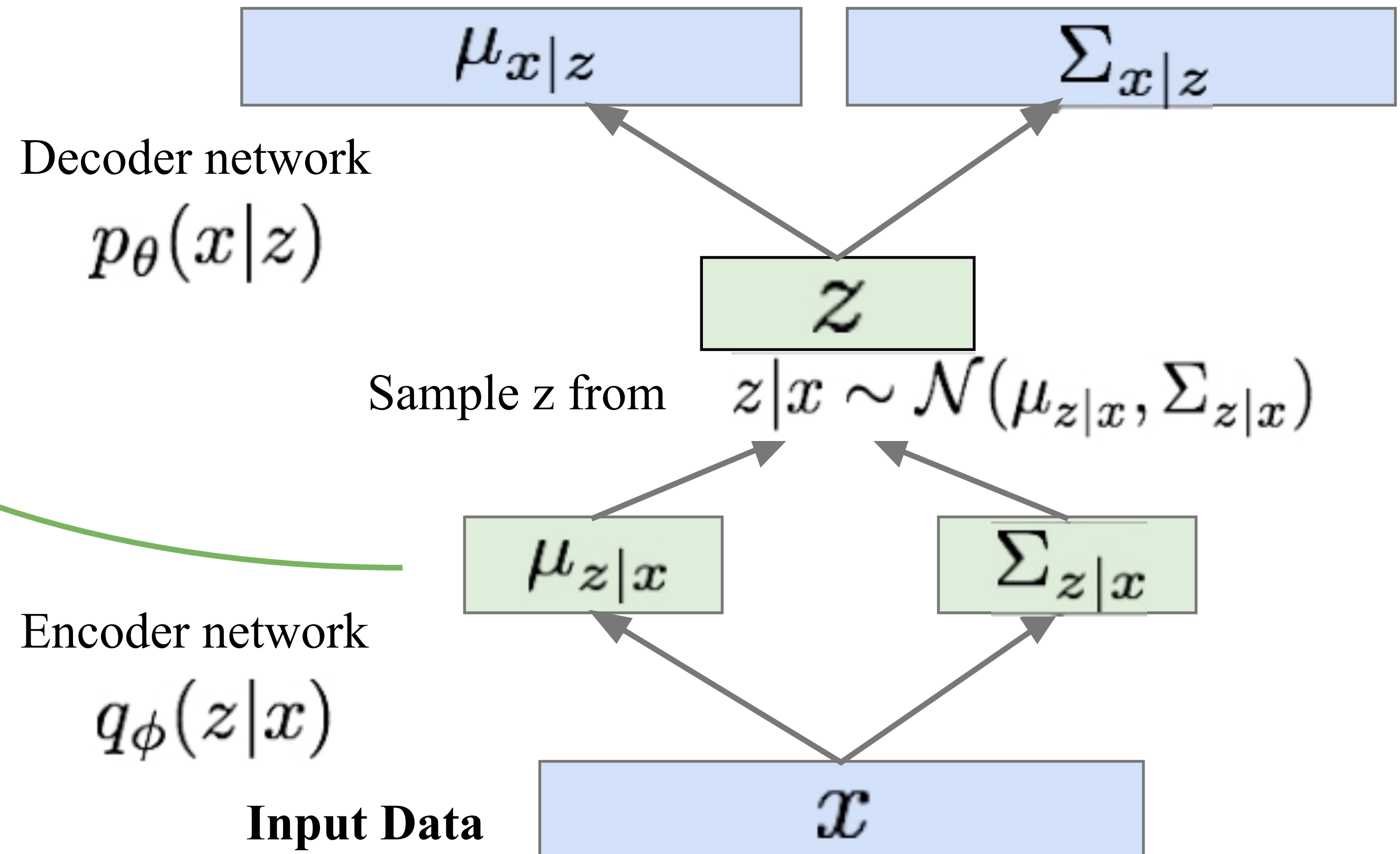


Variational Autoencoders

Putting it all together: maximizing the likelihood lower bound

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_\theta(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_\phi(z | x^{(i)}) || p_\theta(z))}_{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)}$$

Make approximate posterior distribution close to prior



Variational Autoencoders

Putting it all together: maximizing the likelihood lower bound

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)}) || p_{\theta}(z))}_{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)}$$

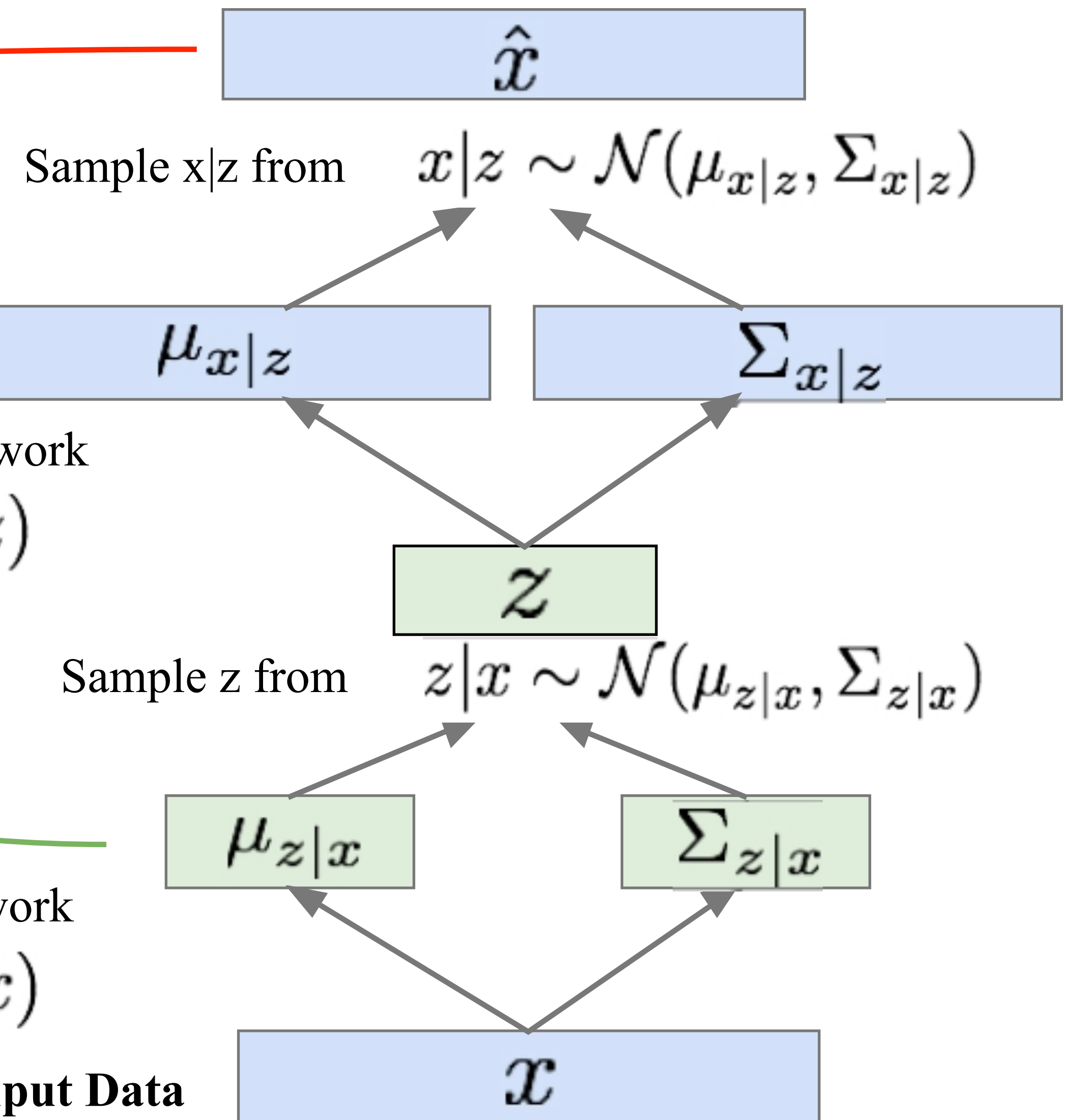
Make approximate posterior distribution close to prior

Maximize likelihood of original input being reconstructed

Decoder network
 $p_{\theta}(x|z)$

Encoder network
 $q_{\phi}(z|x)$

Input Data



Variational Autoencoders

Putting it all together: maximizing the likelihood lower bound

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{E}_z \left[\log p_\theta(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_\phi(z | x^{(i)}) || p_\theta(z))}_{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)}$$

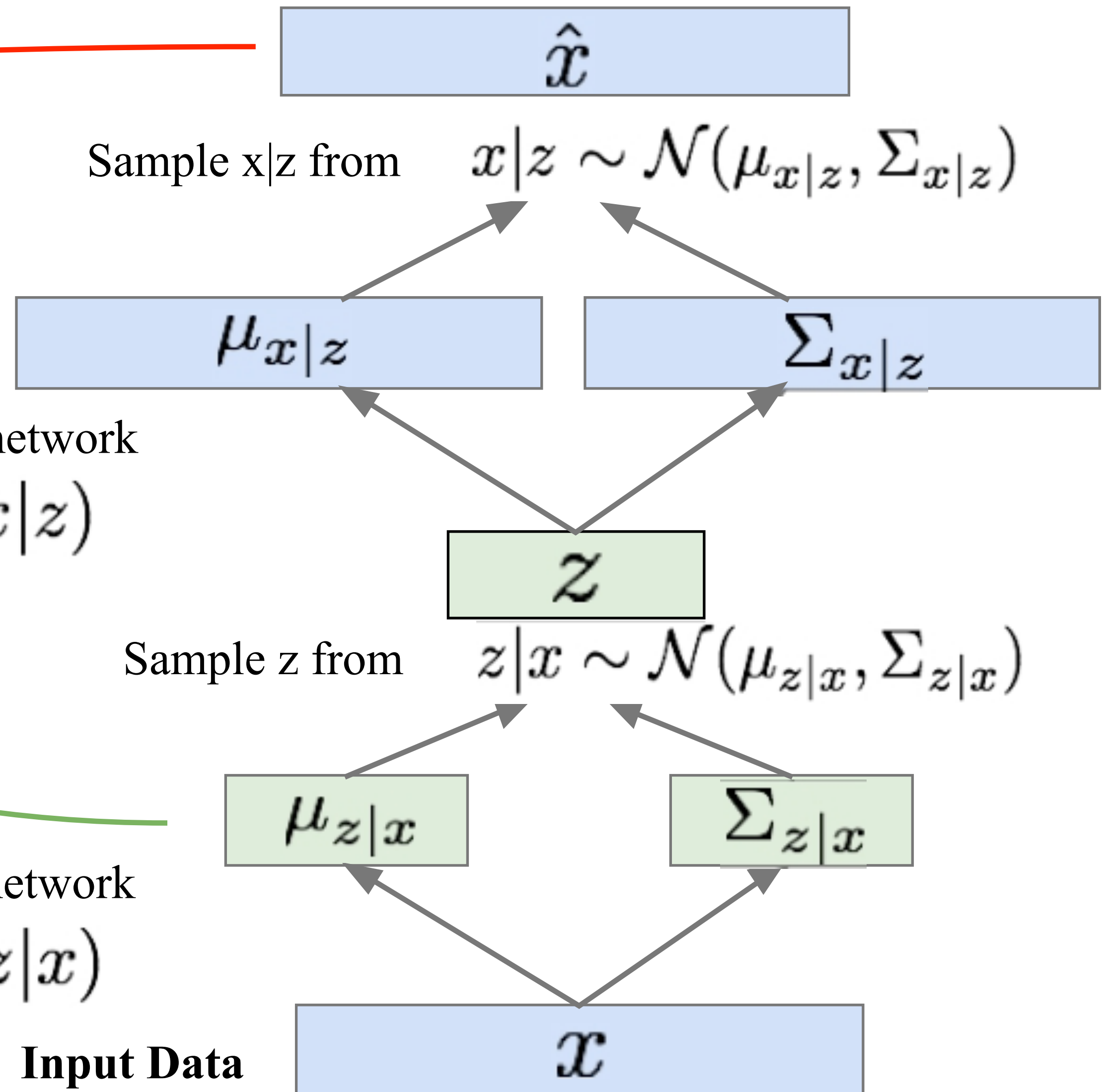
Make approximate posterior distribution close to prior

For every minibatch of input data: compute this forward pass, and then backprop!

Maximize likelihood of original input being reconstructed

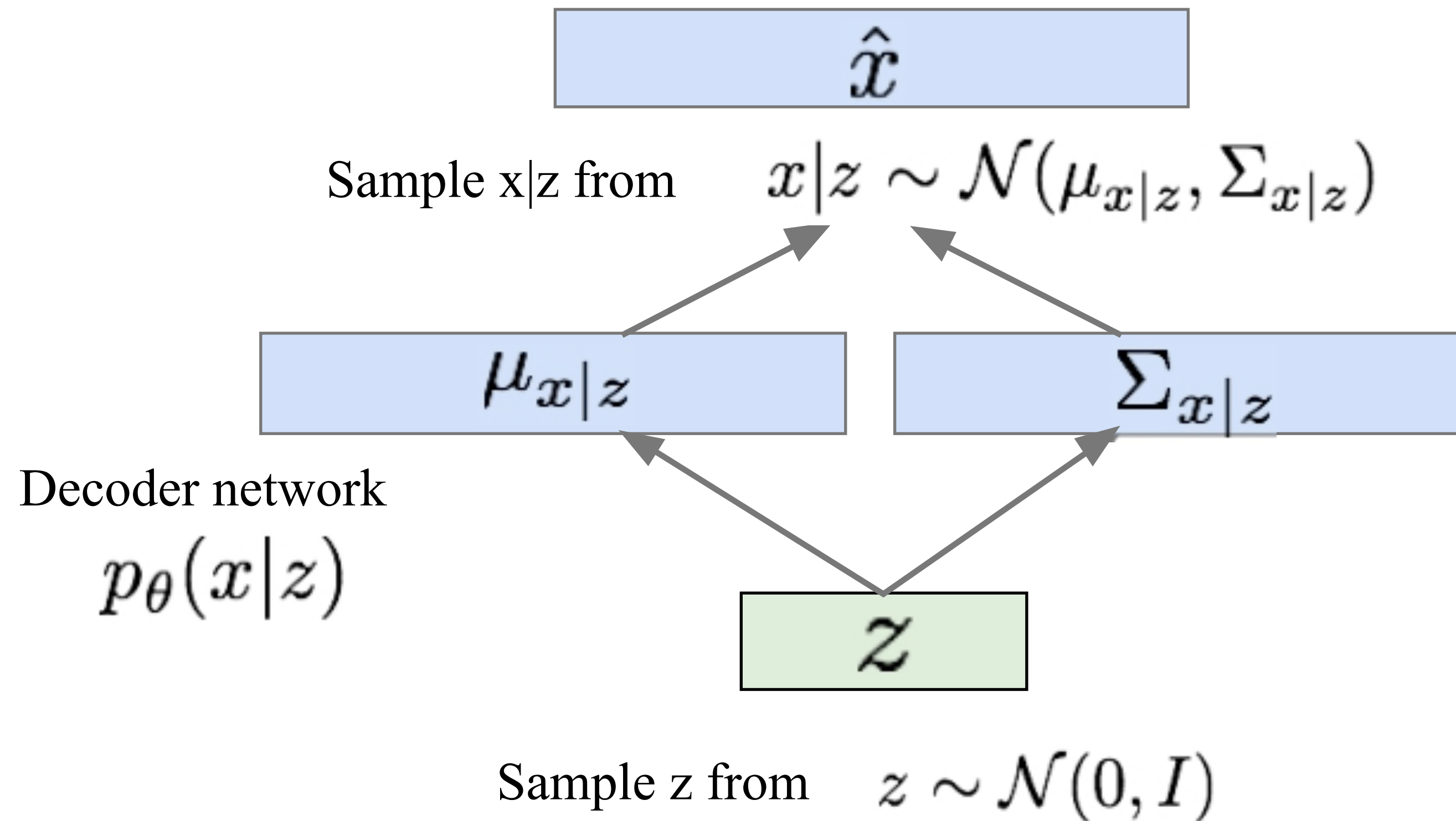
Decoder network
 $p_\theta(x|z)$

Encoder network
 $q_\phi(z|x)$



Variational Autoencoders: Generating Data!

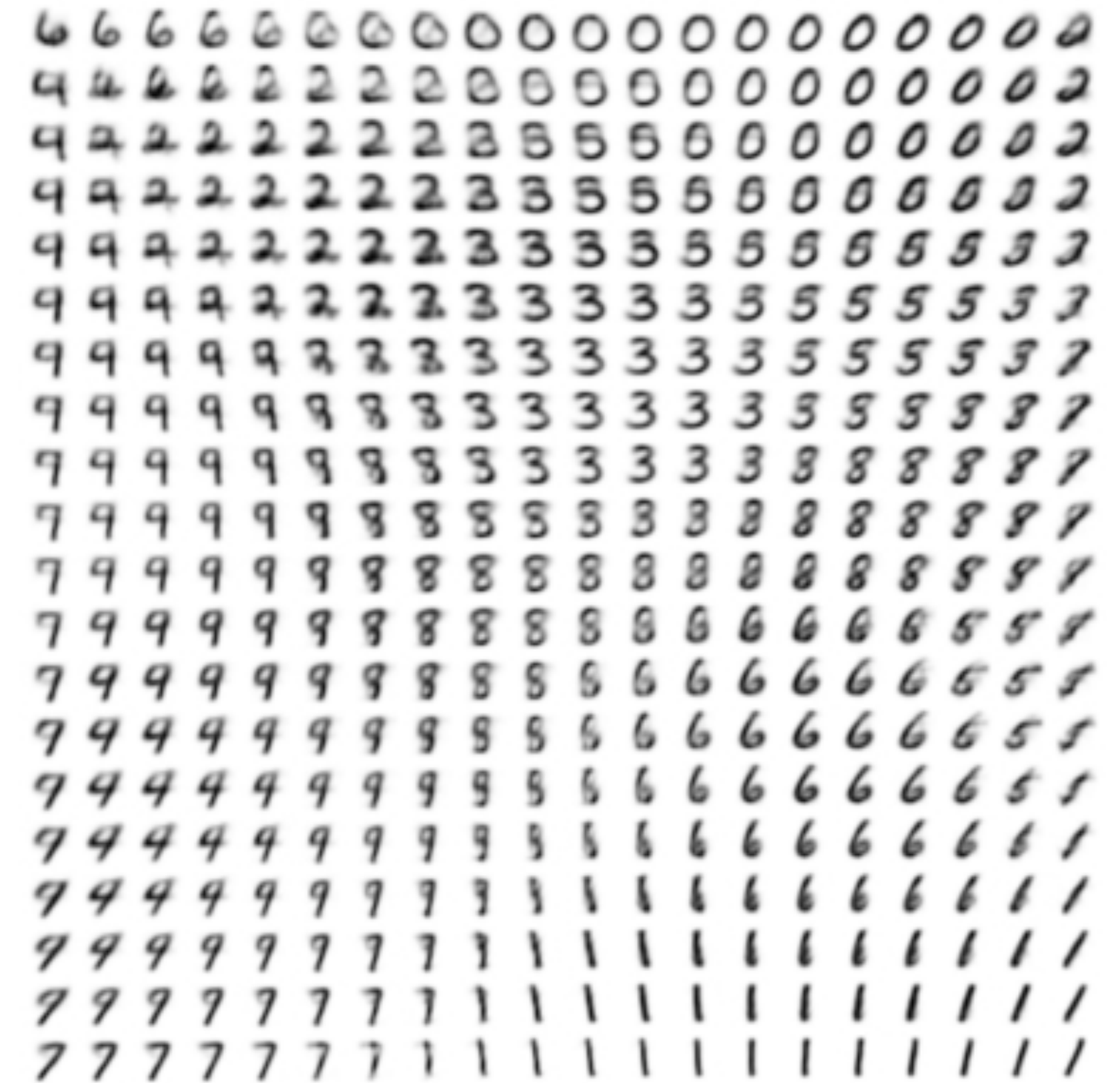
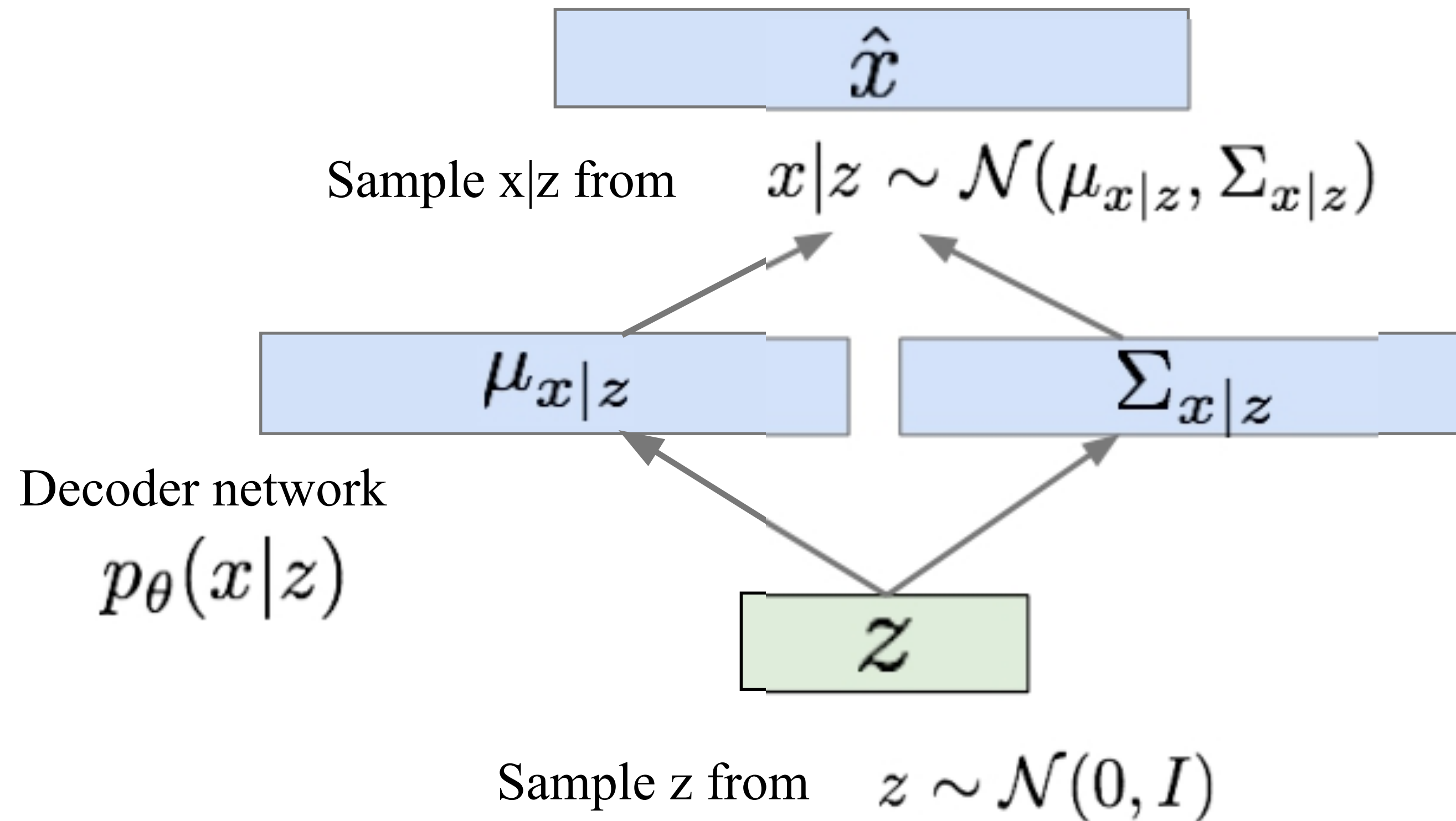
Use decoder network. Now sample z from prior!



Kingma and Welling, "Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes", ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders: Generating Data!

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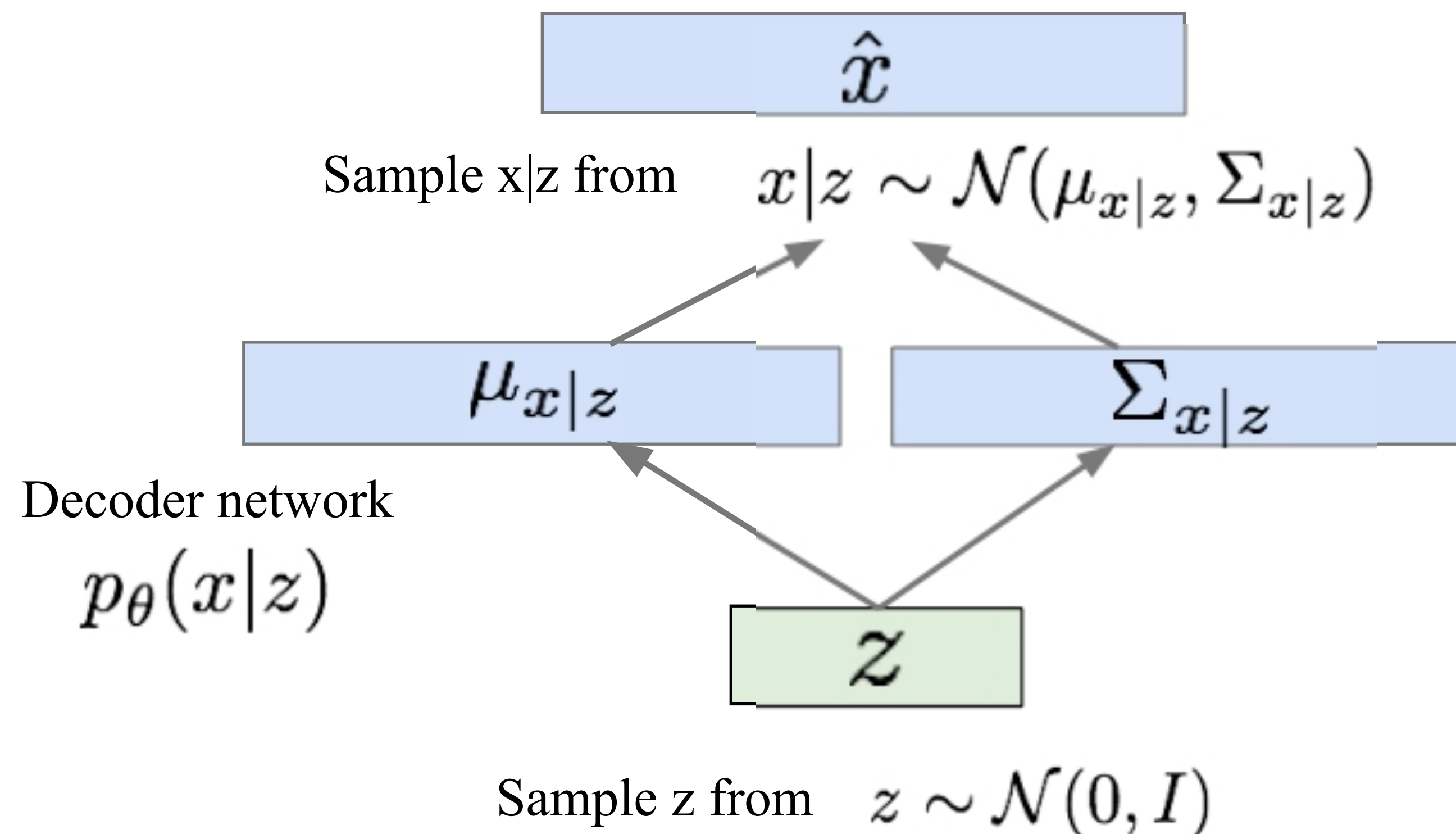


Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

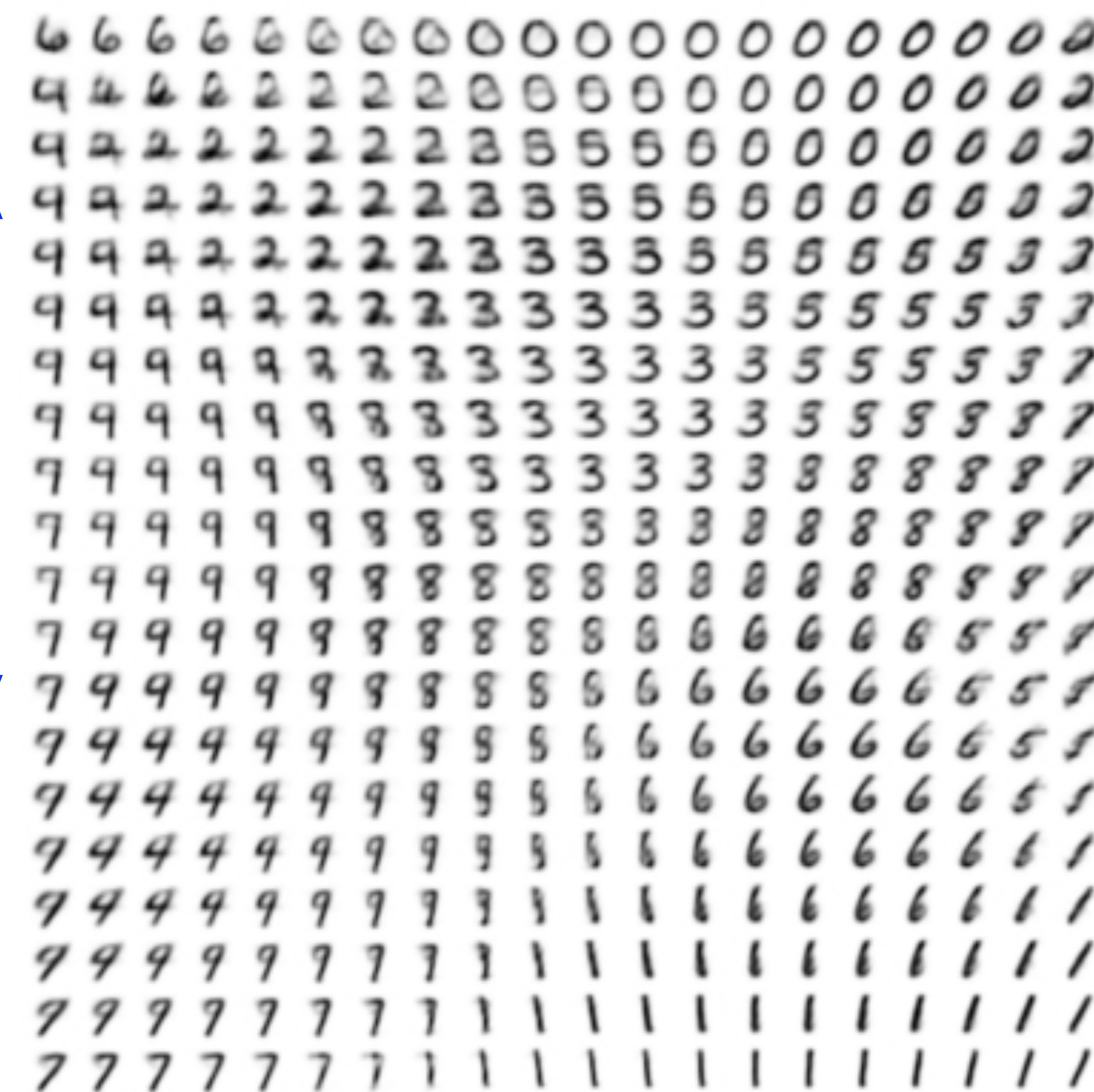
Variational Autoencoders: Generating Data!

Use decoder network. Now sample z from prior!

Data manifold for 2-d z



Vary z_1



Vary z_2

Kingma and Welling, "Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes", ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders: Generating Data!

Diagonal prior on \mathbf{z}
=> independent
latent variables

Different
dimensions of \mathbf{z}

encode
interpretable factors
of variation

Degree of smile

Vary z_1



Vary z_2

Head pose

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

Variational Autoencoders: Generating Data!

Diagonal prior on \mathbf{z}
=> independent
latent variables

Different
dimensions of \mathbf{z}
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Also good feature representation that
can be computed using $q_{\phi}(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})$!

Kingma and Welling, “Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes”, ICLR 2014

Degree of smile

Vary z_1



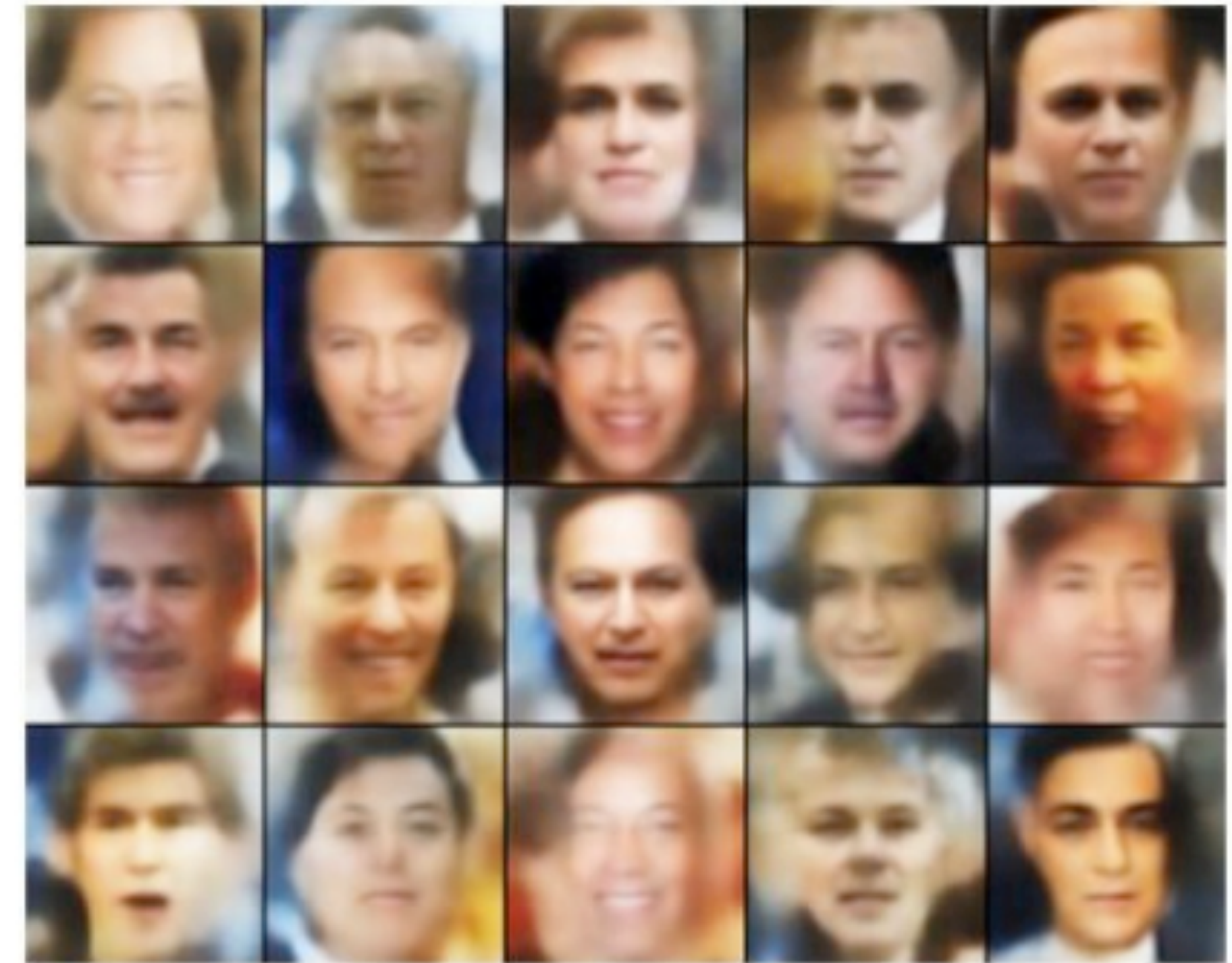
Vary z_2

Head pose

Variational Autoencoders: Generating Data!



32x32 CIFAR-10



Labeled Faces in the Wild

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Variational Autoencoders

Probabilistic spin to traditional autoencoders => allows generating data

Defines an intractable density => derive and optimize a (variational) lower bound

Pros:

- Principled approach to generative models
- Allows inference of $q(z|x)$, can be useful feature representation for other tasks

Cons:

- Maximizes lower bound of likelihood: okay, but not as good evaluation as PixelRNN/PixelCNN
- Samples blurrier and lower quality compared to state-of-the-art (GANs)

Active areas of research:

- More flexible approximations, e.g. richer approximate posterior instead of diagonal Gaussian
- Incorporating structure in latent variables