



UCL ARTIFICIAL  
INTELLIGENCE SOCIETY

# TUTORIAL #9

Session 9  
**Generative Models**

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# LECTURE OVERVIEW

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01 |

## Introduction to Generative AI

What is it? Why do we  
care?

03 |

## Variational Autoencoders

The theory and how to  
train VAE models

02 |

## Types of Generative Models

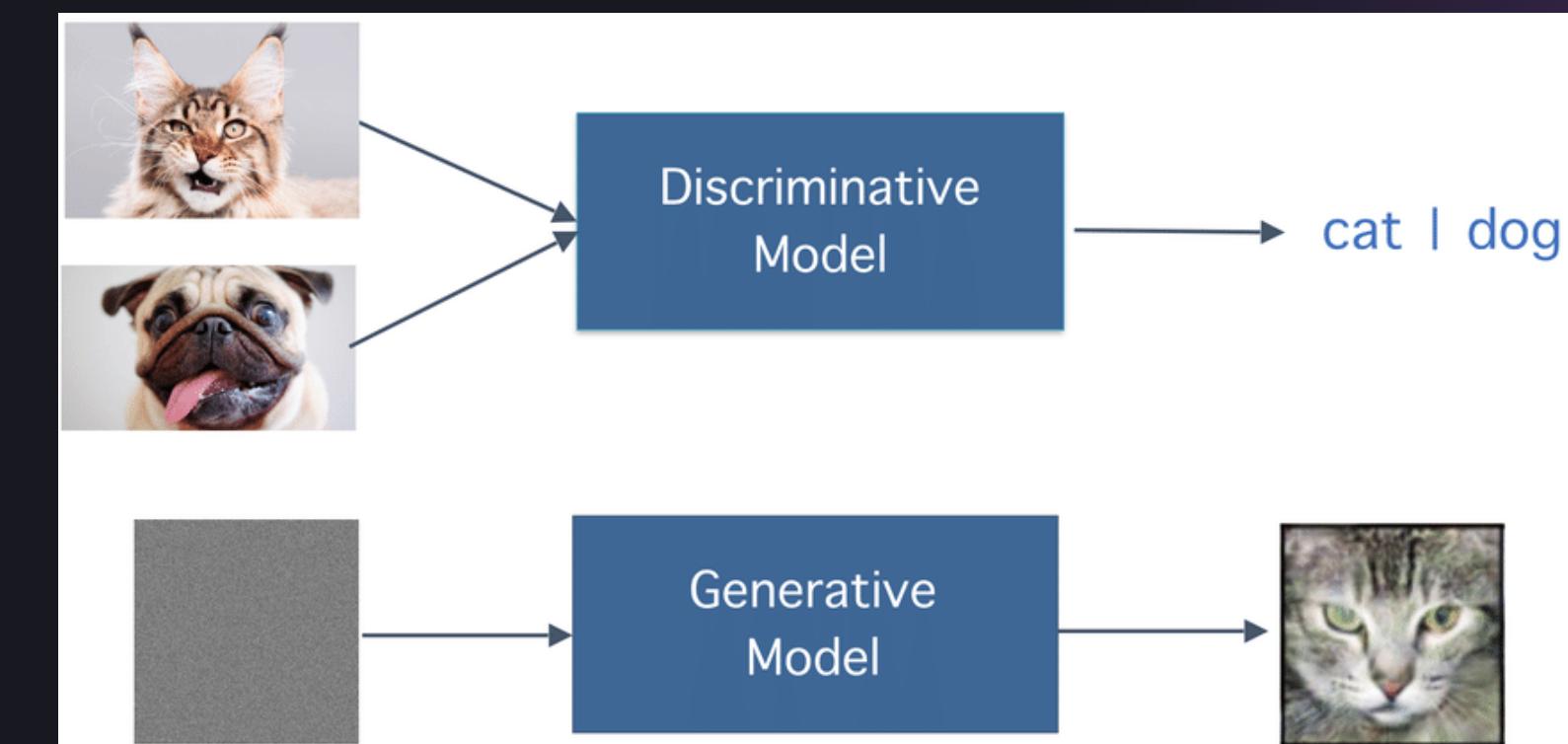
GANs, VAEs, ...

# INTRODUCTION TO GENERATIVE AI

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## Discriminative v. Generative

- **Discriminative models** – discriminate between different kinds of data instances
- **Generative models** – can generate new data instances



# INTRODUCTION TO GENERATIVE AI

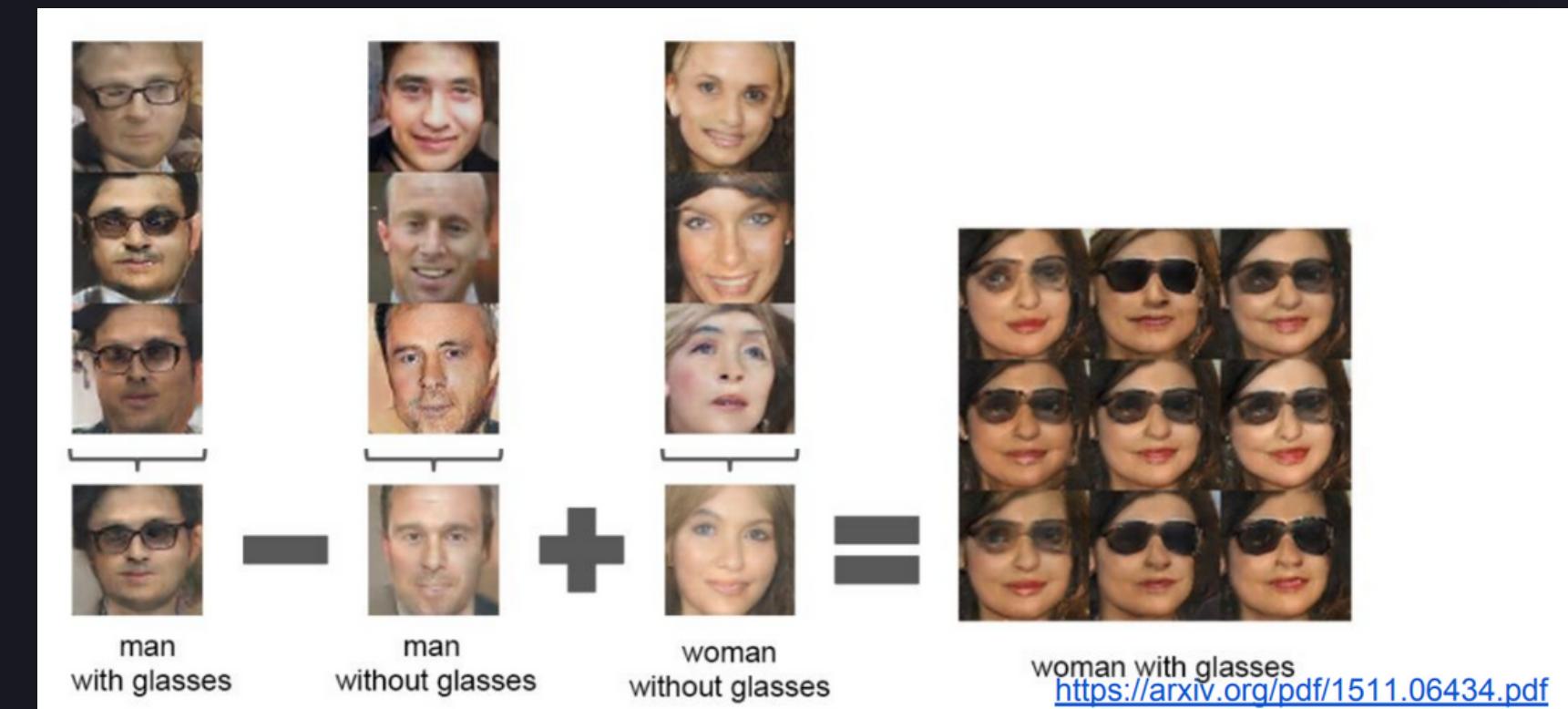
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## Why are generative models important?

- Generative models can generate new unseen data
- They can be used to create synthetic data
- Help in uncovering hidden relationships in the data
- Their ability to generate new data has wide-ranging applications in fields such as drug discovery, creative writing, and environment simulation

Theory

# INTRODUCTION TO GENERATIVE AI



Theory

# INTRODUCTION TO GENERATIVE AI

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*“What I cannot create, I do not understand.”*

—Richard Feynman

# TYPES OF GENERATIVE MODELS

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- **Variational Autoencoder (VAE)** - Learns compact data representation and generates new samples.
- **Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)** - A deep learning model for generative process using two competing neural networks.
- **Autoregressive Models**
- **Transformer Models**
- **Flow-based Models**
- **Generative Pre-trained Transformer (GPT)**

Theory

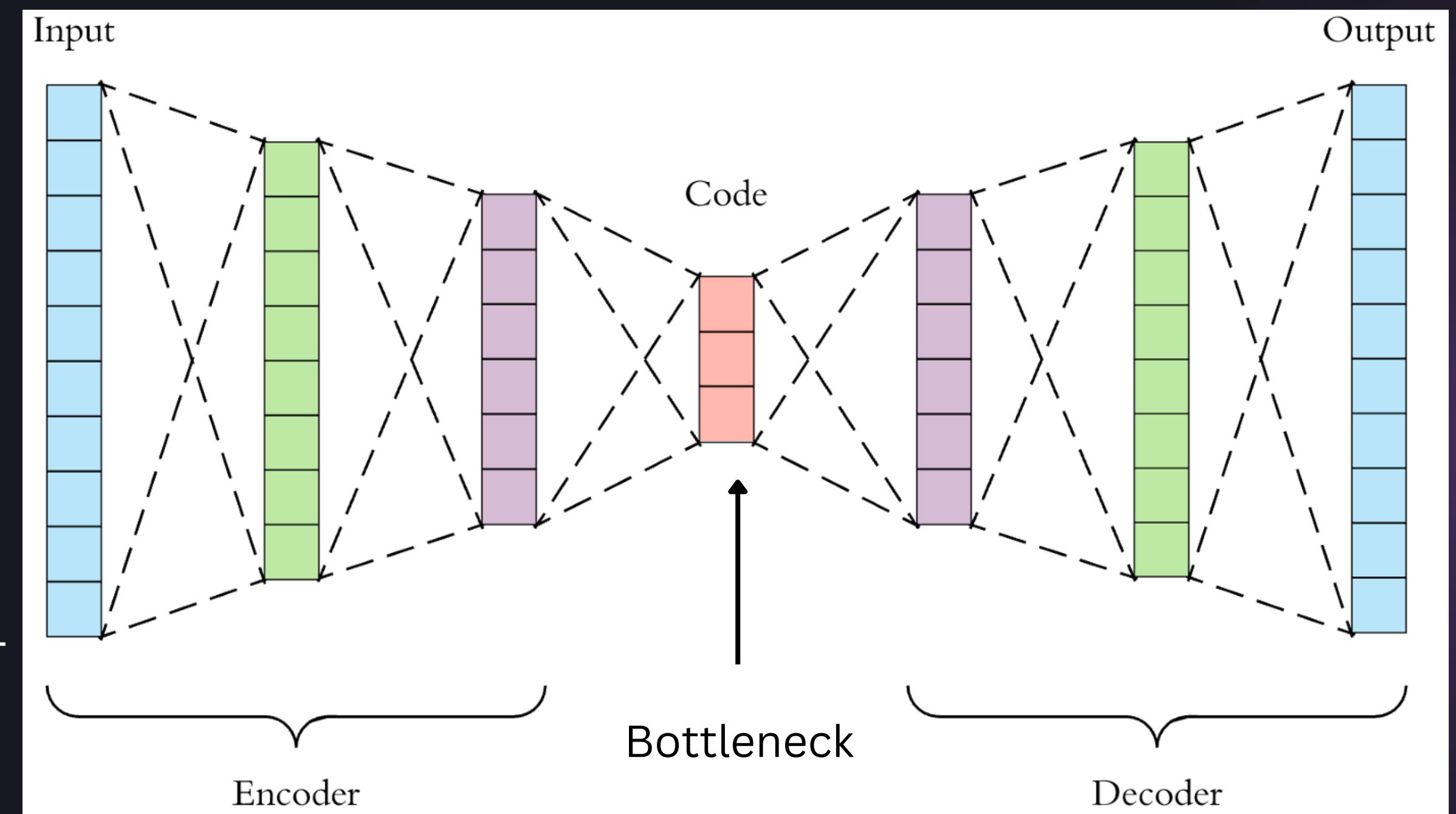
# AUTOENCODERS

INPUT DIMENSIONS: 28X28

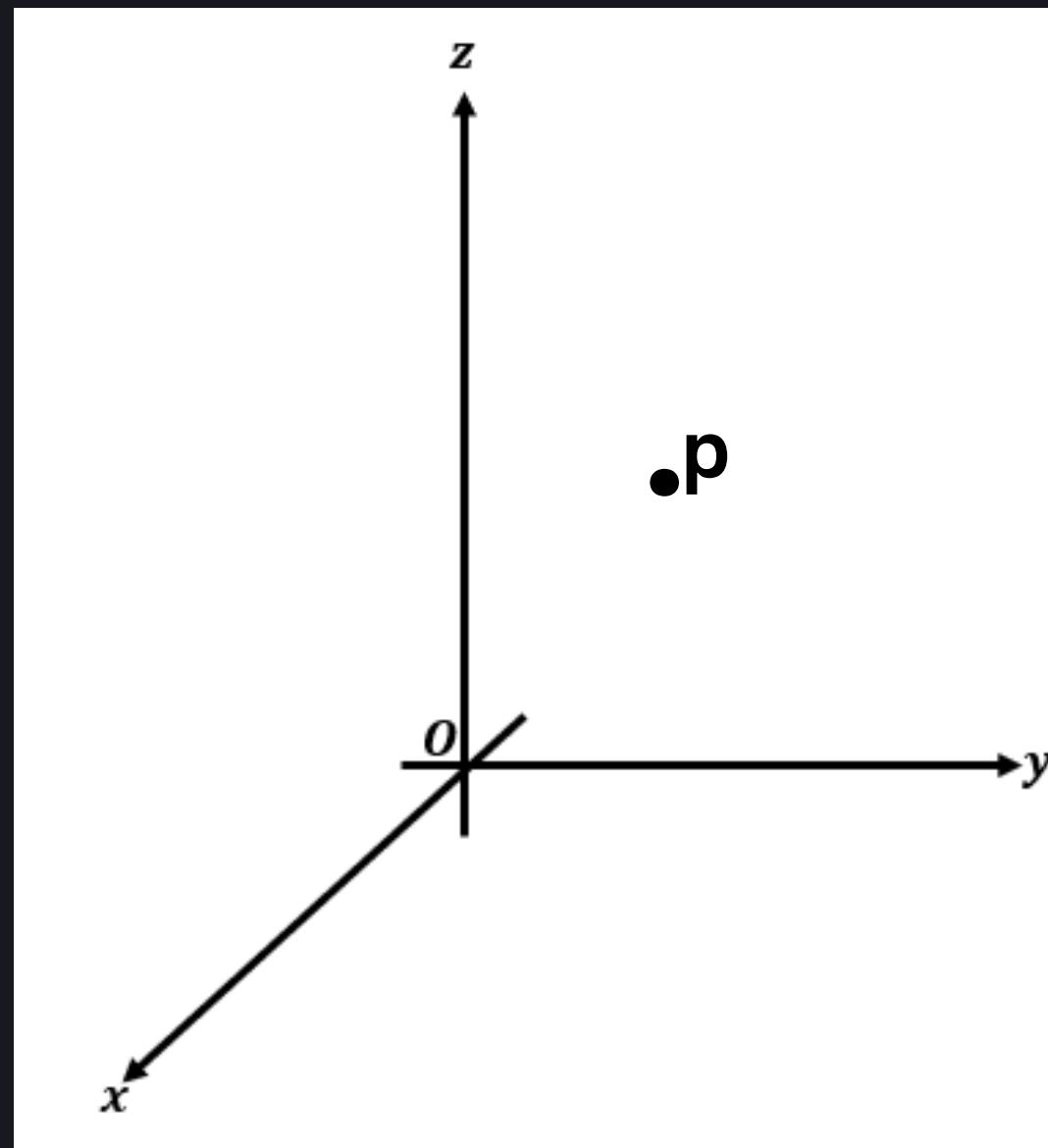
FIRST, REDUCE DIMENSIONS AND THEN  
INCREASE DIMENSIONS.

OUTPUT DIMENSIONS: 28X28

THE BOTTLENECK MUST BE BIG ENOUGH TO  
REPRESENT THE INPUT, BUT SMALL ENOUGH THAT  
THE WHOLE OPERATION IS NOT TRIVIAL



# AUTOENCODERS



Let  $p$  be a point in  $n$  dimensional space.

For a  $n$  dimensional space  $p = [p_1, p_2, p_3 \dots p_n]$

Say  $f(p)$  is a function that maps the point  $p$  from an  $n$  dimensional space to a  $m$  dimensional space.

For example.

let point  $p = [5, 3, 7]$  and,

$q = f(p) = (x_1 + x_2, x_3)$  where  $f : R^3 \rightarrow R^2$

therefore,  $q = [8, 7]$

Theory

# AUTOENCODERS

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## Uses

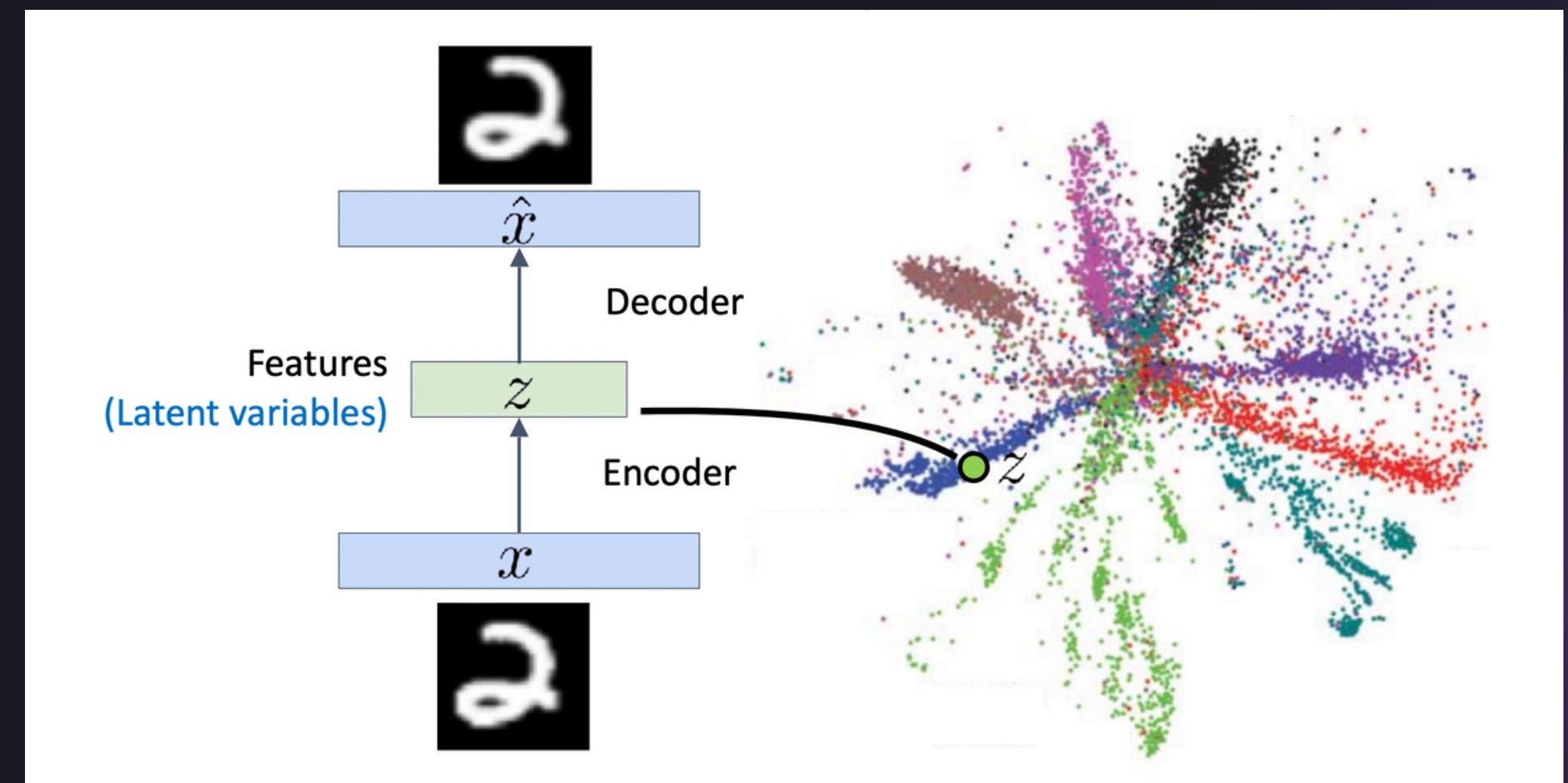
- Denoising
- Image compression (is comparable/better than JPEG)
- Supersampling in images
- Dimensionality reduction (example, non-images)
- Anomaly detection
- Generating data points in latent space (drug molecule generation etc.)

Theory

# AUTOENCODERS

Latent space is a compressed feature space (usually of lower dimension), where similar points are placed closer together.

Essentially, an autoencoder learns how to remap data points such that similar data points are closer together



Theory

# AUTOENCODERS

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Interpolation in Latent Space



Theory

# VARIATIONAL AUTOENCODERS

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## Training a good latent space

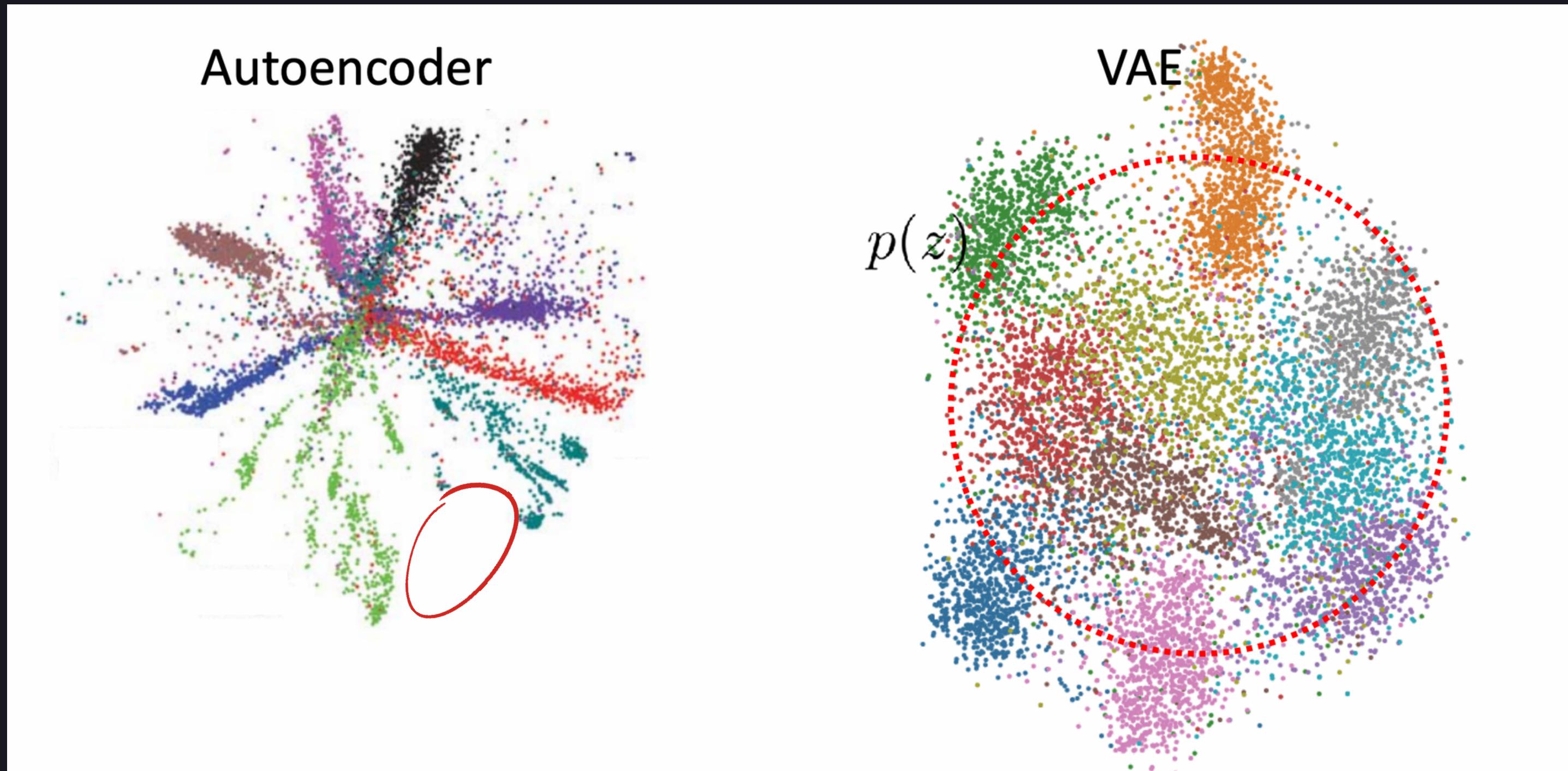
The beauty of autoencoders is in their ability to represent a data point in a lower dimensional space.

NOTE: This latent space is not interpretable.

The latent space is sparse (not enough data points for the model to learn what to do). We can bypass this by adding a constraint to the latent space.

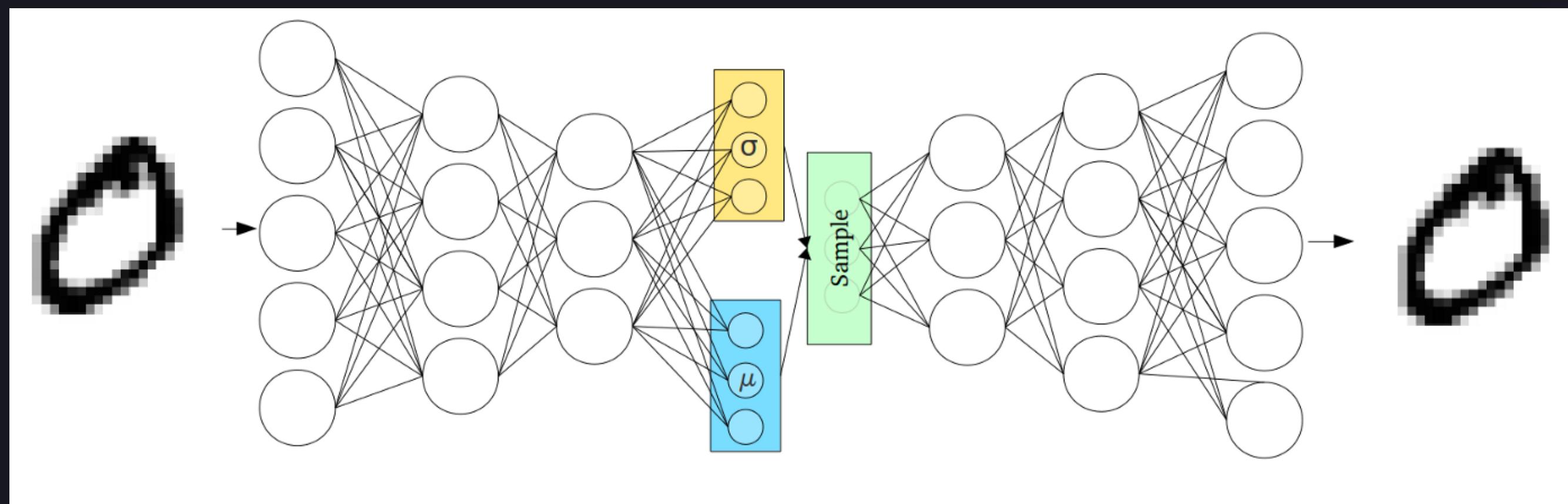
Theory

# RESAMPLING



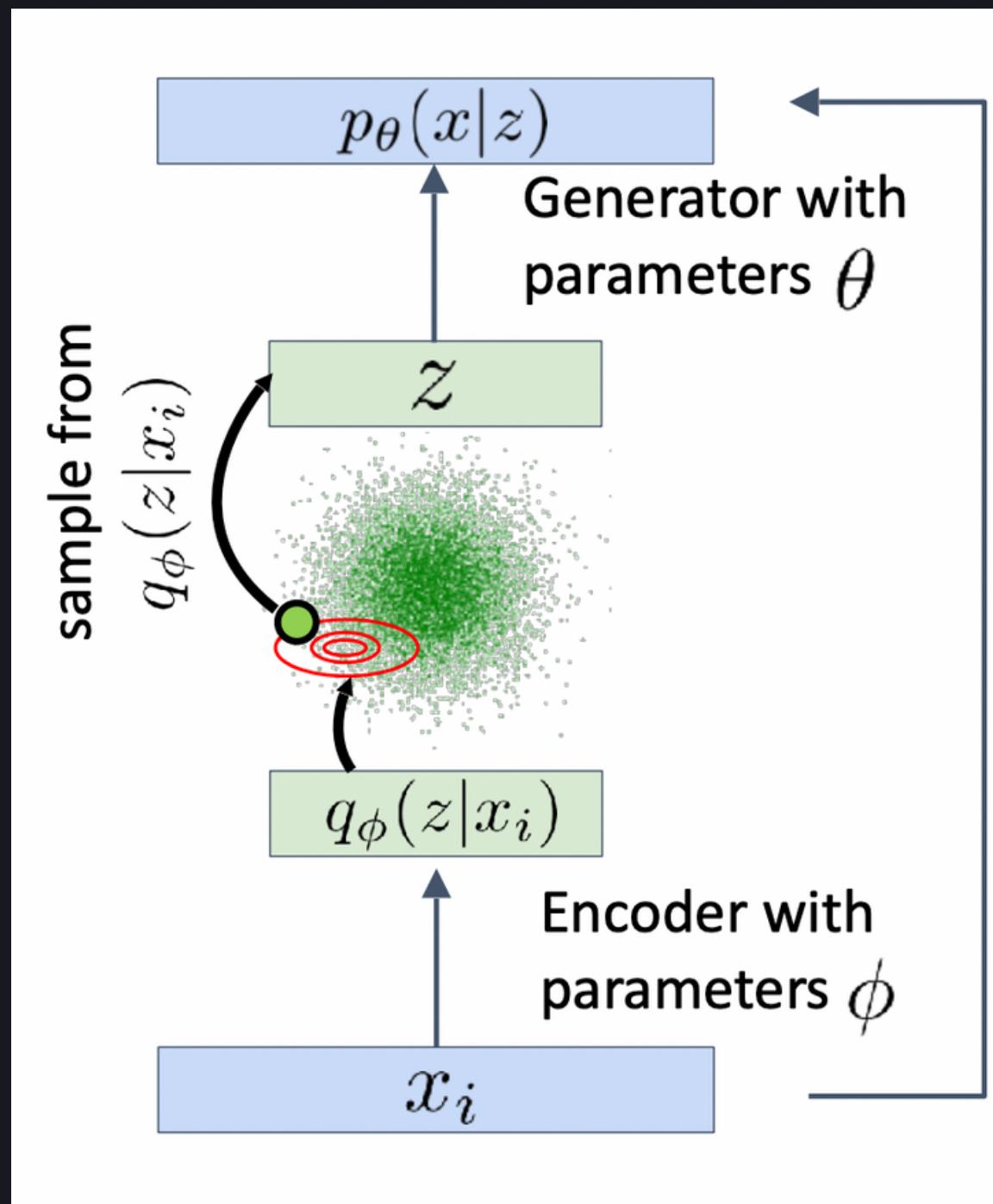
Theory

# VARIATIONAL AUTOENCODERS



Theory

# VARIATIONAL AUTOENCODERS



Objective:

1. Ensure that the output is a close reconstruction of the input\*
2. Find a latent space that closely resembles a gaussian distribution\*\*

\*use a mean squared error or similar loss function

\*\*use a loss function called KL Divergence

Theory

# EXAMPLES

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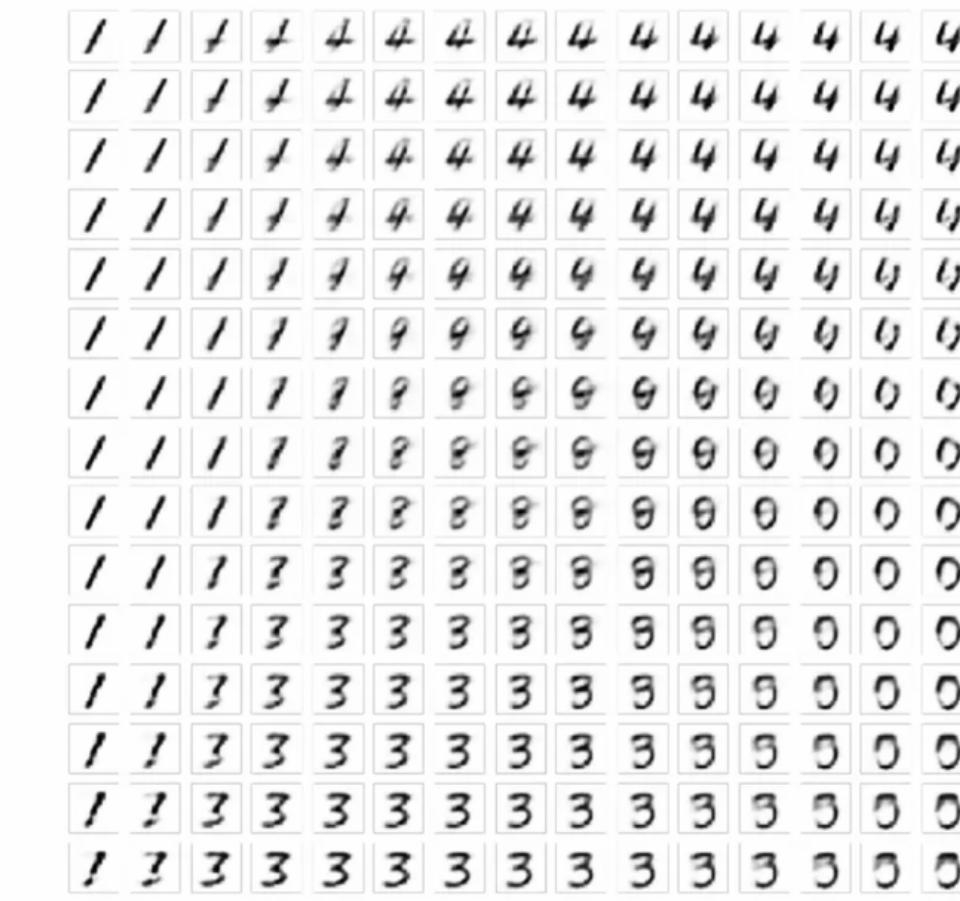
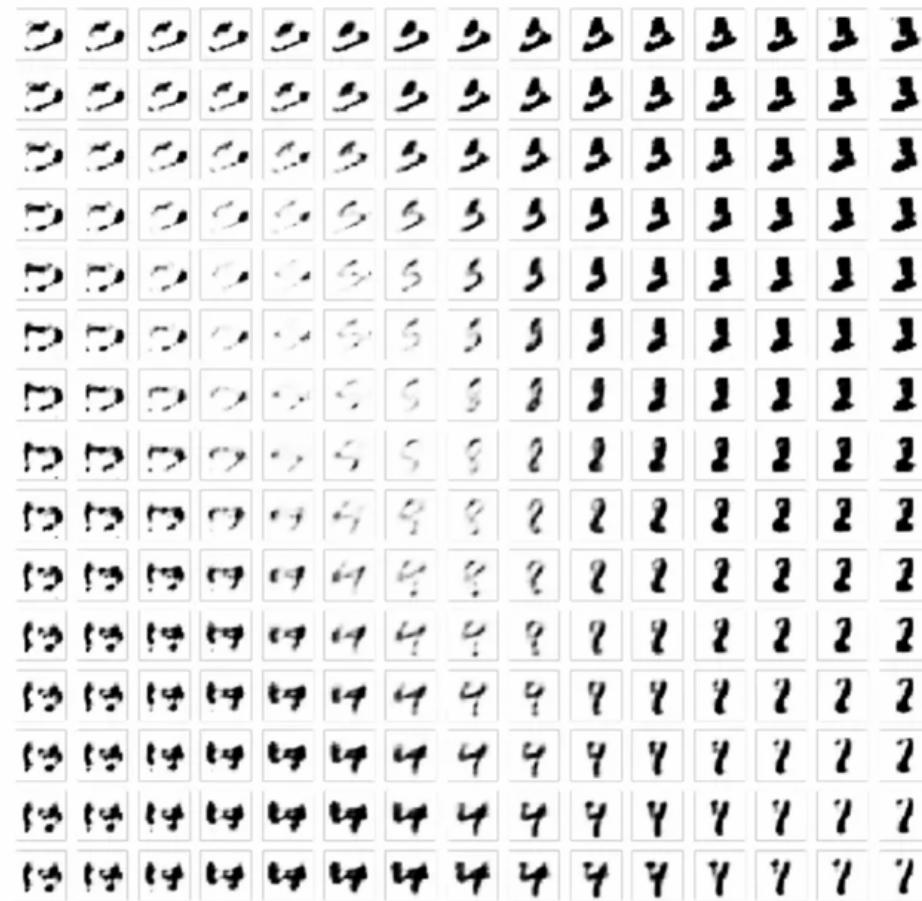


Theory

# EXAMPLES

## AE vs VAE digit generation

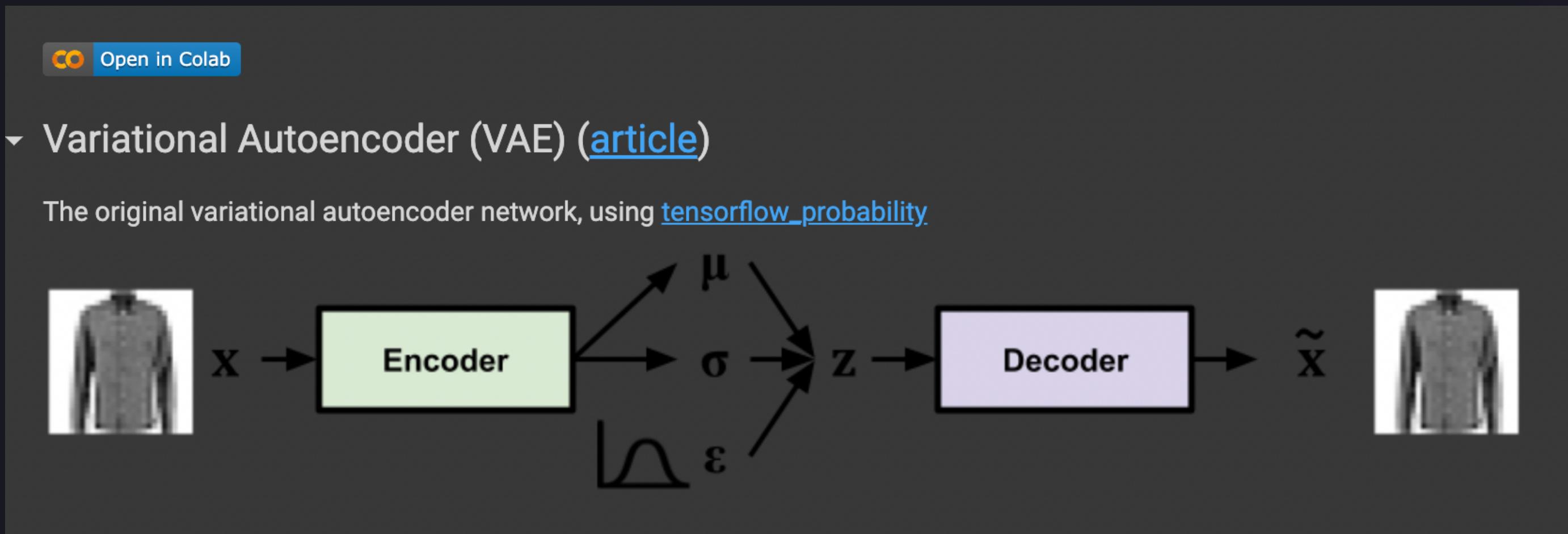
left = AE generated digits, right = VAE generation digits (10-D latent space).



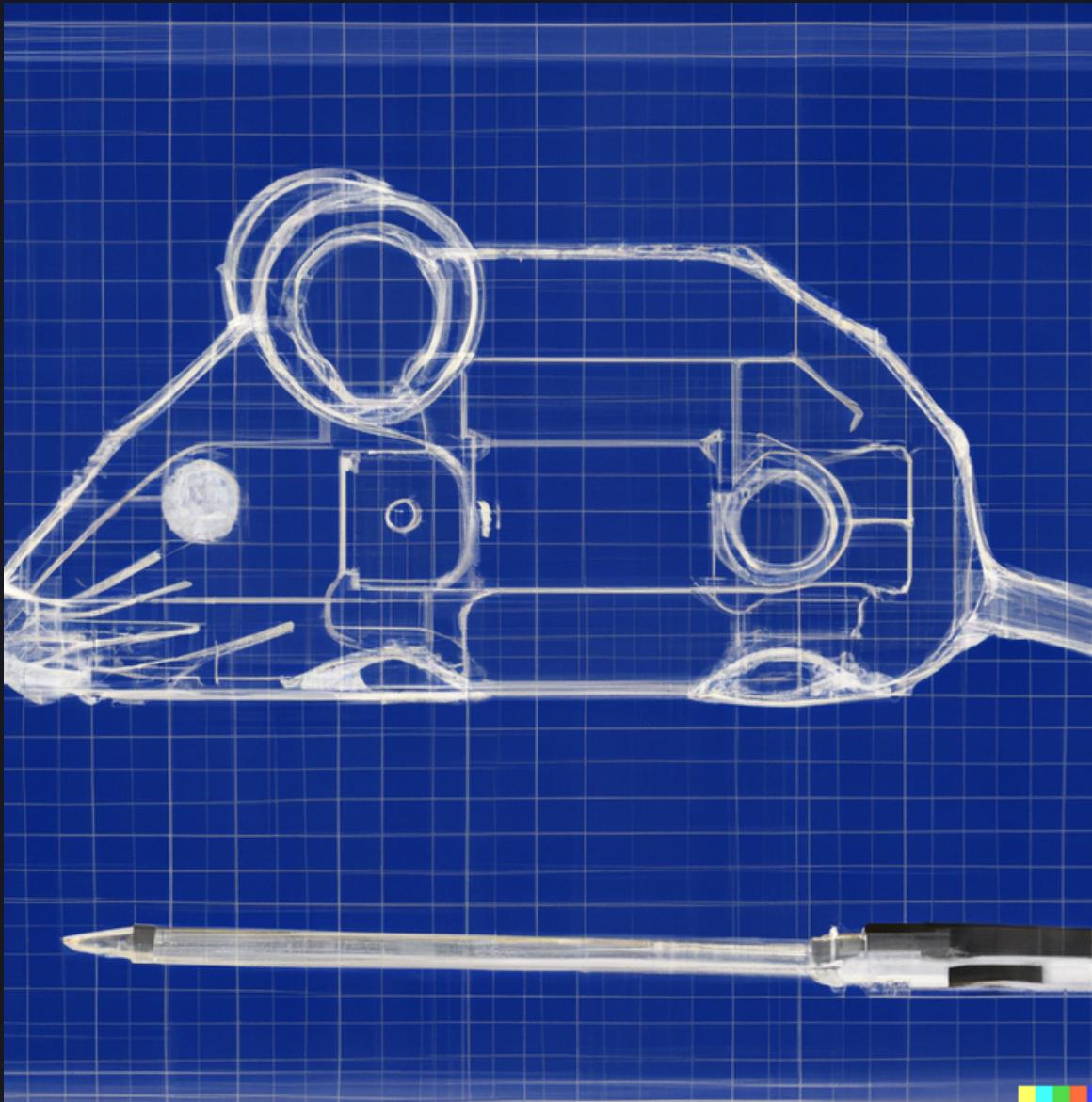
Theory

# CODE

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# QUESTIONS?



SEE YOU NEXT TIME