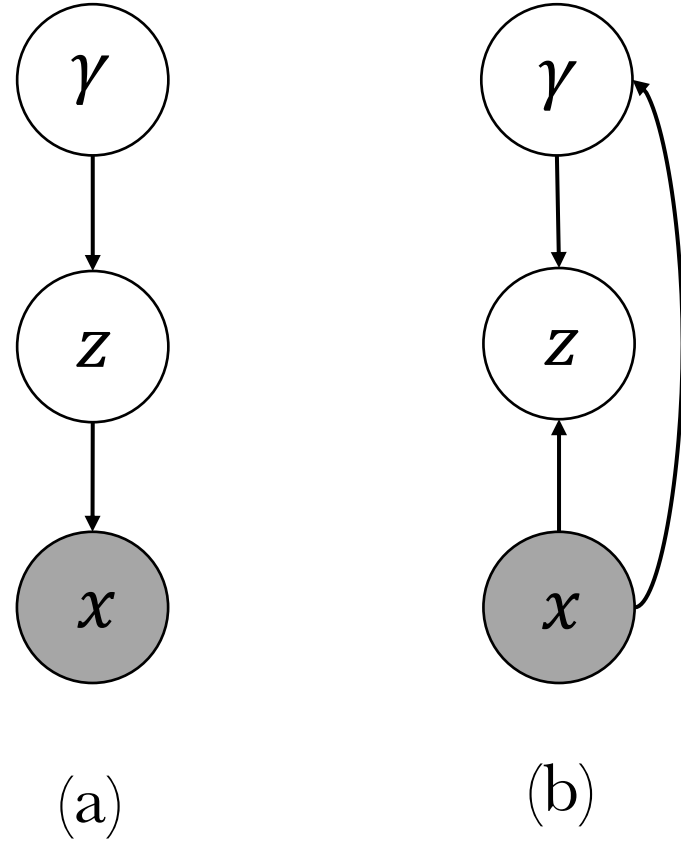


# Hierarchical Sparse Variational Autoencoder (HSVAE)



**Figure:** Graphical model of HSVAE:  
 (a) generative mode:  $p_{\theta}(x, z, \gamma)$ , where  $\theta$  is the parameter of the decoder; (b) inference model:  $q_{\phi}(z, \gamma|x)$ , where  $\phi$  is the parameter of the variational distribution.

**ELBO:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(z, \gamma|x)} [\log p_{\theta}(x|z)]}_{\text{reconstruction loss}} - \underbrace{\psi \mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(\gamma|x)} [\mathbb{D}_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z|\gamma, x), p_{\theta}(z|\gamma))] - \lambda \mathbb{D}_{KL}(q_{\phi}(\gamma|x) || p_{\theta}(\gamma))}_{\text{regularize informativeness of } z} - \underbrace{\lambda \mathbb{D}_{KL}(q_{\phi}(\gamma|x) || p_{\theta}(\gamma))}_{\text{regularize sparsity level}},
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\psi, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Spike-and-Slab Distribution:**

$$p(z) = \prod_i^D (1 - \gamma_i) \mathcal{N}(z_i; 0, 1) + \gamma_i \mathcal{N}(z_i; 0, \sigma \rightarrow 0),$$

where  $i$  denotes the  $i$ 'th dimension of  $z$  and  $D$  is the total number of dimensions of  $z$ .