



# VAE variants

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## VAE variants

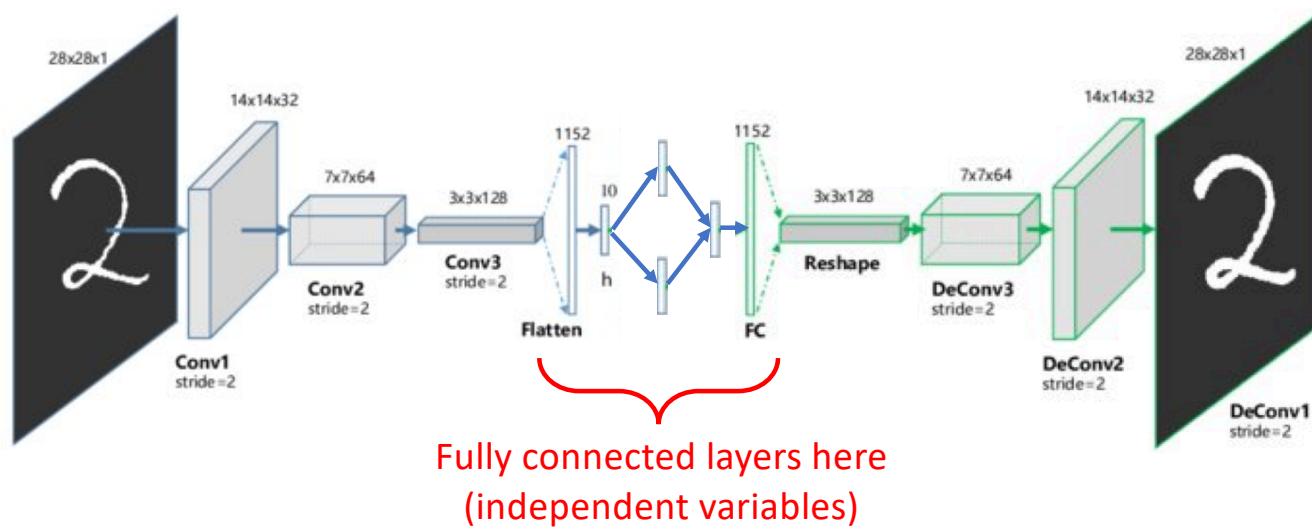
- Convolutional VAE
  - Conditional VAE
  - $\beta$ -VAE
  - IWAE
  - Ladder VAE
  - Progressive + Fade-in VAE
  - VAE in speech
  - Temporal Difference VAE (TD-VAE)
- Representation learning {
- Hierarchical representation learning {
- Temporal representation learning {

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# Convolutional Variational Autoencoder

- **Limitations of vanilla VAE**
  - The size of weight of fully connected layer == input size x output size
  - If VAE uses fully connected layers only, will lead to curse of dimensionality when the input dimension is large (e.g., image).
- **Solution**



4

Image is modified from: Deep Clustering with Convolutional Autoencoder. NIPS 2017.



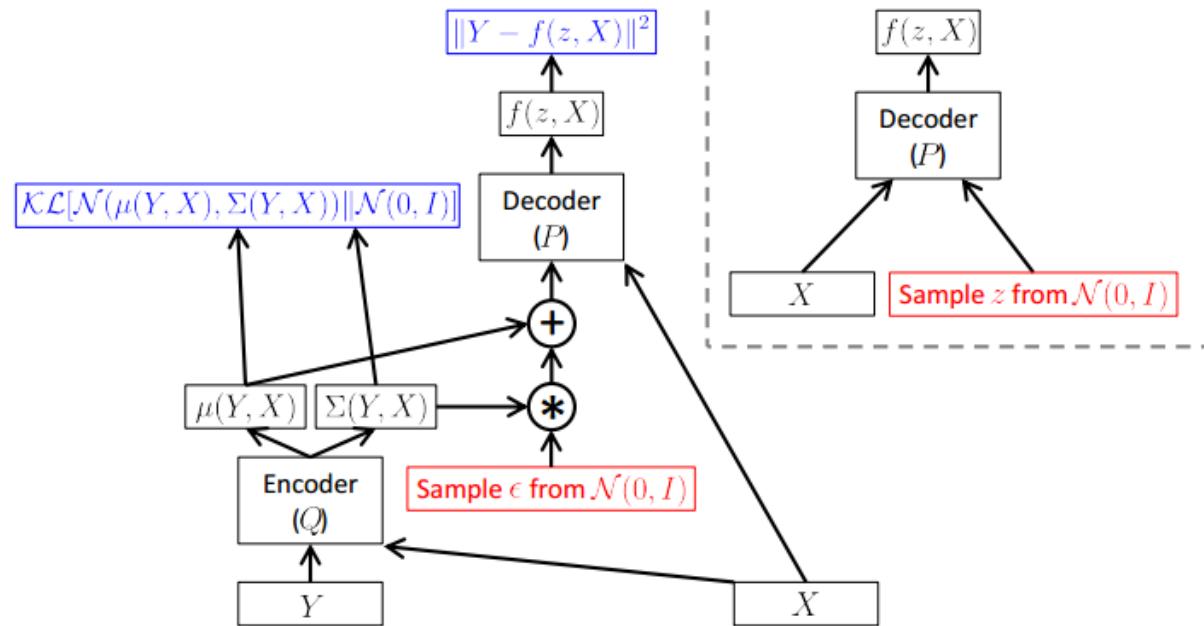
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# Conditional Variational Autoencoder

- Train and inference with labeled data.



## Recap: Variational Autoencoder

- **Recap: Setting up the objective**
  - Maximize  $P(X)$
  - Set  $Q(z)$  to be an arbitrary distribution

$$\mathcal{D} [Q(z) \| P(z|X)] = E_{z \sim Q} [\log Q(z) - \log P(z|X)]$$

$$\mathcal{D} [Q(z) \| P(z|X)] = E_{z \sim Q} [\log Q(z) - \log P(X|z) - \log P(z)] + \log P(X)$$

$$\log P(X) - \mathcal{D} [Q(z) \| P(z|X)] = E_{z \sim Q} [\log P(X|z)] - \mathcal{D} [Q(z) \| P(z)]$$

$$\log P(X) - \mathcal{D} [Q(z|X) \| P(z|X)] = E_{z \sim Q} [\log P(X|z)] - \mathcal{D} [Q(z|X) \| P(z)]$$

## Recap: Variational Autoencoder

- Recap: Setting up the objective

$$\log P(X) - \mathcal{D} [Q(z|X) \| P(z|X)] = E_{z \sim Q} [\log P(X|z)] - \mathcal{D} [Q(z|X) \| P(z)]$$

encoder      ideal      reconstruction      KLD

# Conditional Variational Autoencoder

- **Setting up the objective with labels**
  - Maximize  $P(Y|X)$
  - Set  $Q(z)$  to be an arbitrary distribution

$$\mathcal{D} [Q(z|Y, X) \| P(z|Y, X)] = E_{z \sim Q(\cdot|Y, X)} [\log Q(z|Y, X) - \log P(z|Y, X)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D} [Q(z|Y, X) \| P(z|Y, X)] &= \\ E_{z \sim Q(\cdot|Y, X)} [\log Q(z|Y, X) - \log P(Y|z, X) - \log P(z|X)] &+ \log P(Y|X) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D} [Q(z|Y, X) \| P(z|Y, X)] &= \\ E_{z \sim Q(\cdot|Y, X)} [\log Q(z|Y, X) - \log P(Y|z, X) - \log P(z|X)] &+ \log P(Y|X) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log P(Y|X) - \mathcal{D} [Q(z|Y, X) \| P(z|Y, X)] &= \\ E_{z \sim Q(\cdot|Y, X)} [\log P(Y|z, X)] - \mathcal{D} [Q(z|Y, X) \| P(z|X)] \end{aligned}$$

# Conditional Variational Autoencoder

- Setting up the objective

$$\log P(Y|X) - \mathcal{D} [Q(z|Y, X) \parallel P(z|Y, X)] =$$

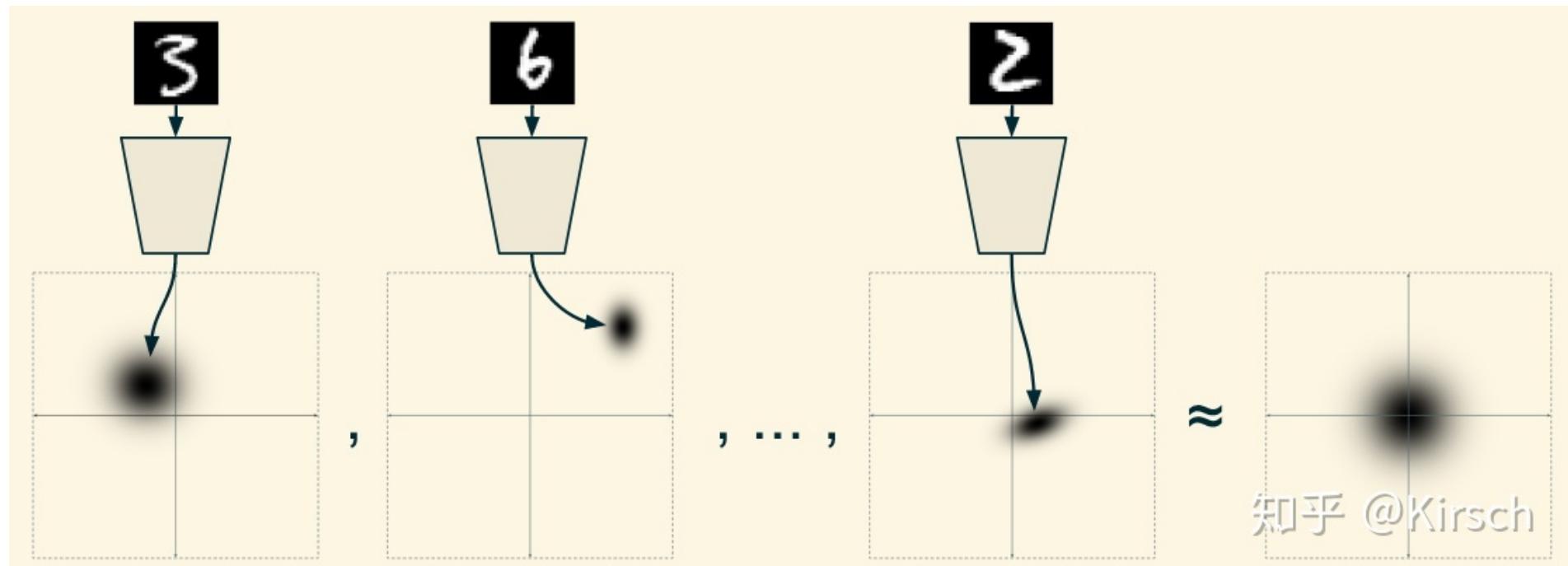
$E_{z \sim Q(\cdot|Y, X)} [\log P(Y|z, X)] - \mathcal{D} [Q(z|Y, X) \parallel P(z|X)]$

encoder
ideal

reconstruction
KLD

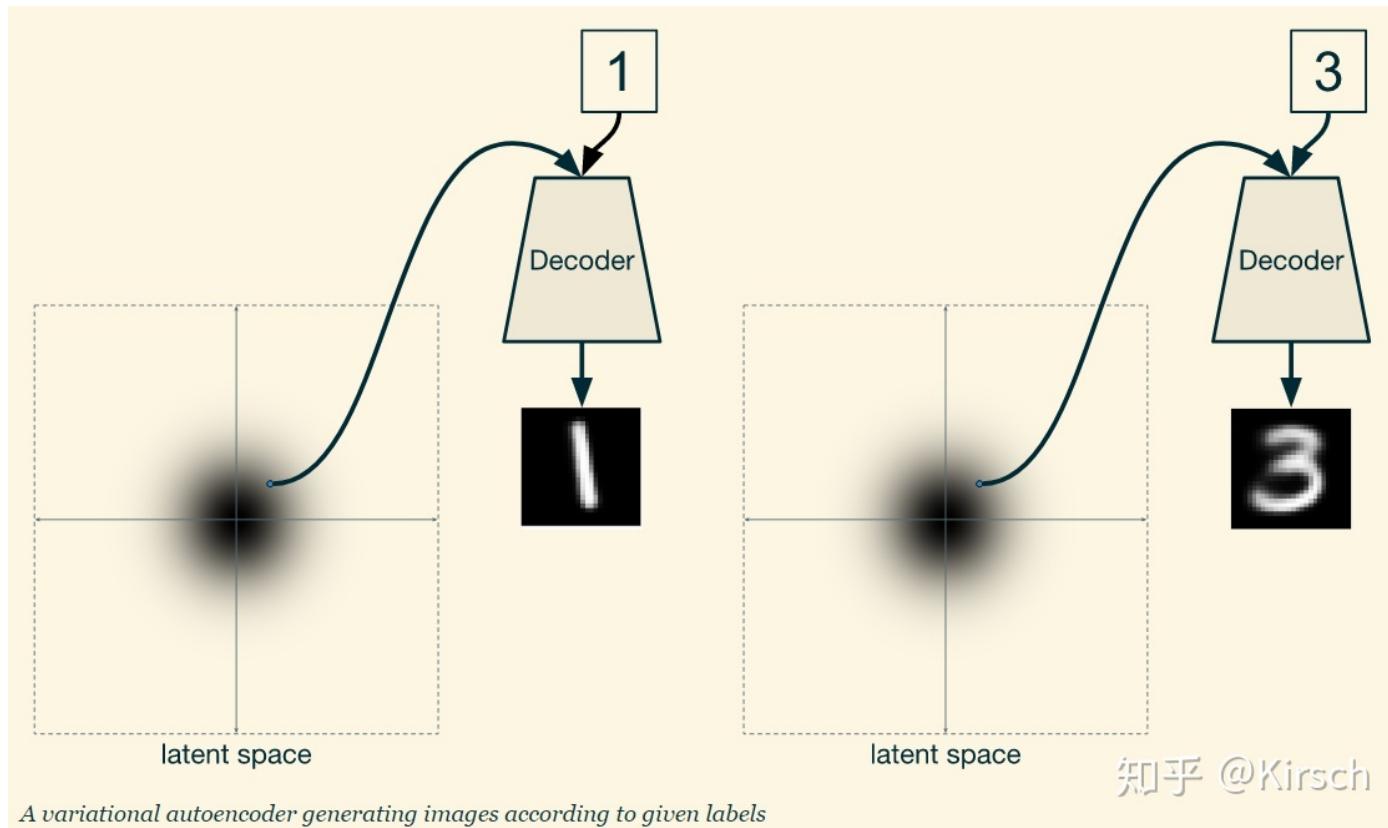
# Conditional Variational Autoencoder

- Train and inference **without** labeled data i.e., vanilla VAE



# Conditional Variational Autoencoder

- Train and inference **with** labeled data.



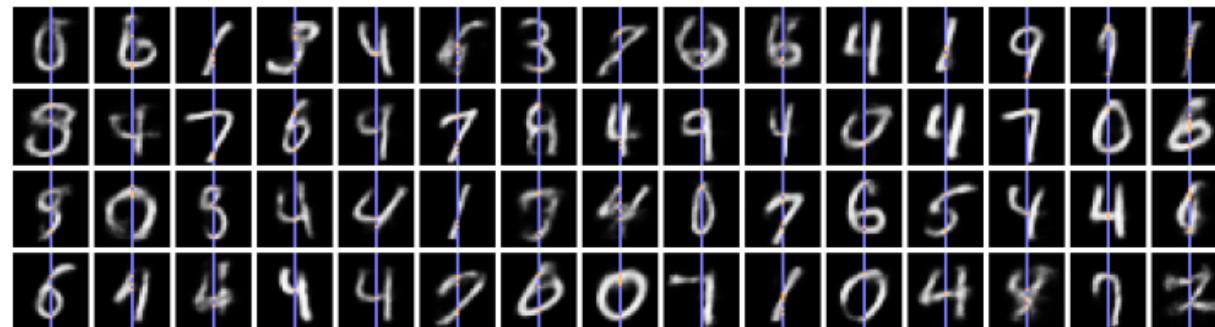
## Conditional Variational Autoencoder

- Train and inference with labeled data.

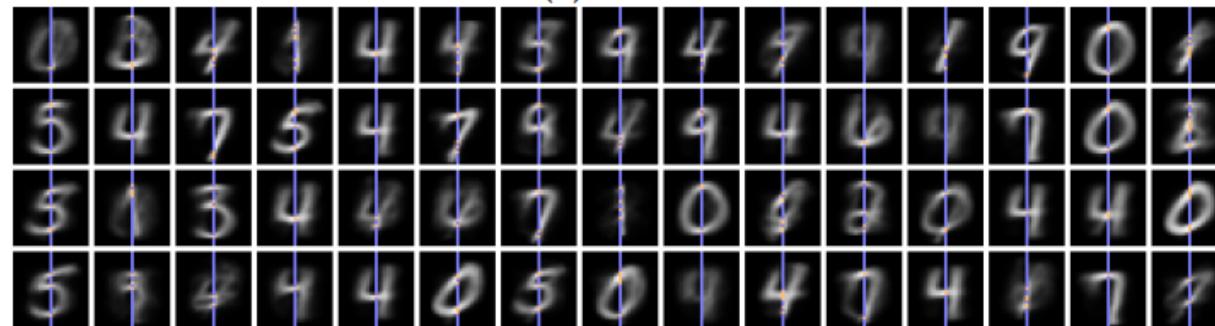


## Conditional Variational Autoencoder

- Train and inference with labeled data.



(a) CVAE



(b) Regressor



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## VAE variants

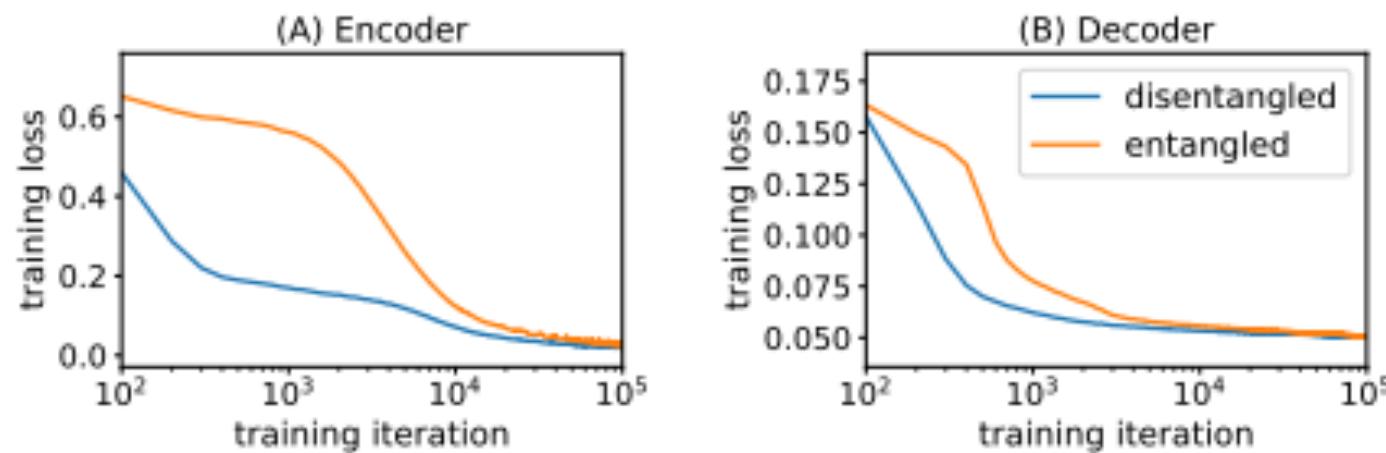
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## Before we start

- **Disentangled / Factorized representation**
  - Each variable in the inferred latent representation is only sensitive to one single generative factor and relatively invariant to other factors
  - Good interpretability and easy generalization to a variety of tasks

## Before we start

- **Unsupervised hierarchical representation learning**



# $\beta$ -VAE



- **Unsupervised representation learning**
  - Augment the original VAE framework with a single hyper-parameter  $\beta$  that modulates the learning constraints
  - Impose a limit on the capacity of the latent information channel

# $\beta$ -VAE



$$\max_{\phi, \theta} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{D}} [\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z} \sim q_\phi(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})} \log p_\theta(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})]$$

subject to  $D_{\text{KL}}(q_\phi(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}) \| p_\theta(\mathbf{z})) < \delta$

## $\beta$ -VAE



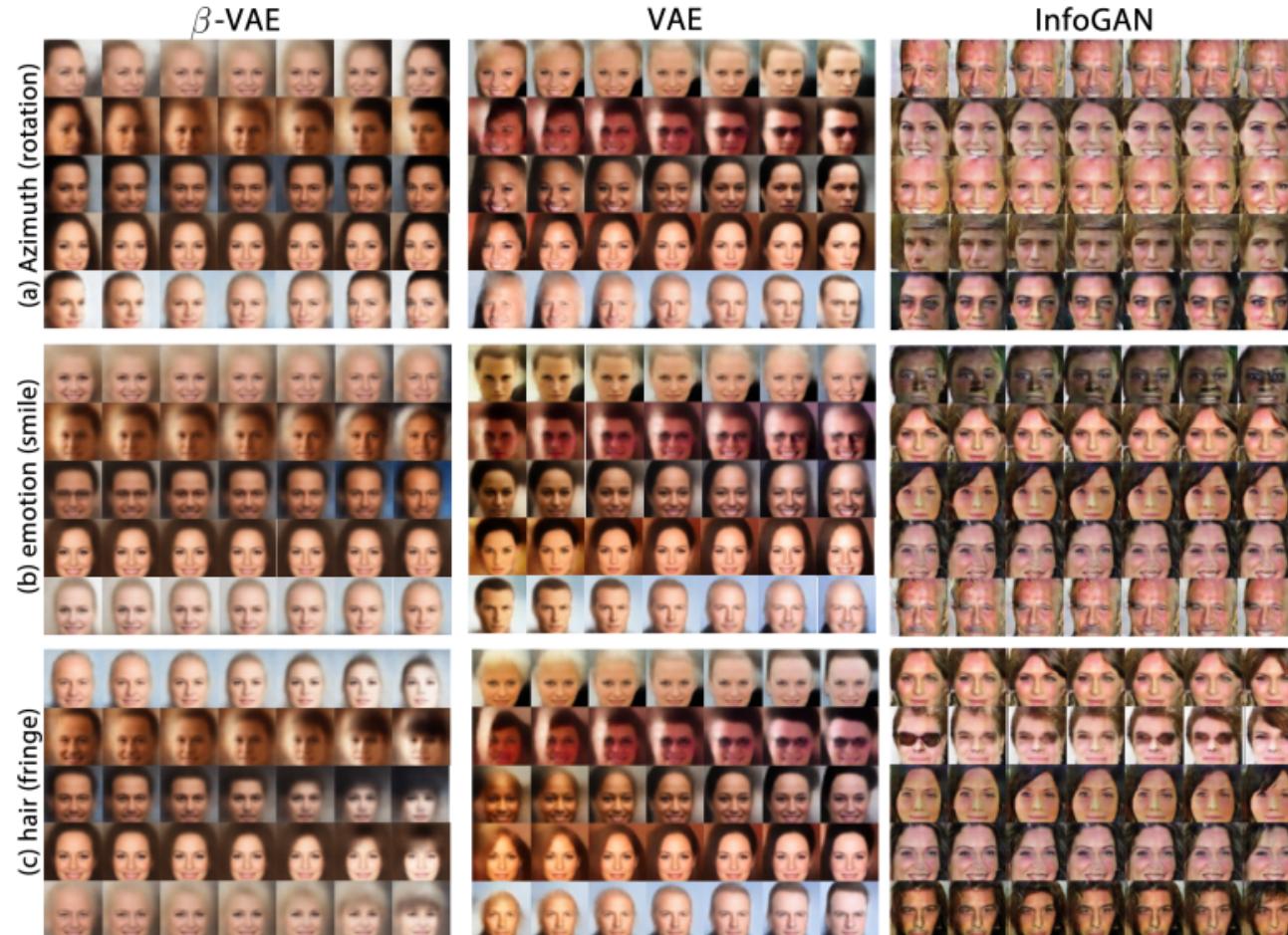
$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}(\theta, \phi, \beta) &= \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z} \sim q_\phi(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})} \log p_\theta(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}) - \beta(D_{\text{KL}}(q_\phi(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})||p_\theta(\mathbf{z})) - \delta) \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z} \sim q_\phi(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})} \log p_\theta(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}) - \beta D_{\text{KL}}(q_\phi(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})||p_\theta(\mathbf{z})) + \beta\delta \\ &\geq \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z} \sim q_\phi(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})} \log p_\theta(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}) - \beta D_{\text{KL}}(q_\phi(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})||p_\theta(\mathbf{z}))\end{aligned}\quad ; \text{ Because } \beta, \delta \geq 0$$

# $\beta$ -VAE



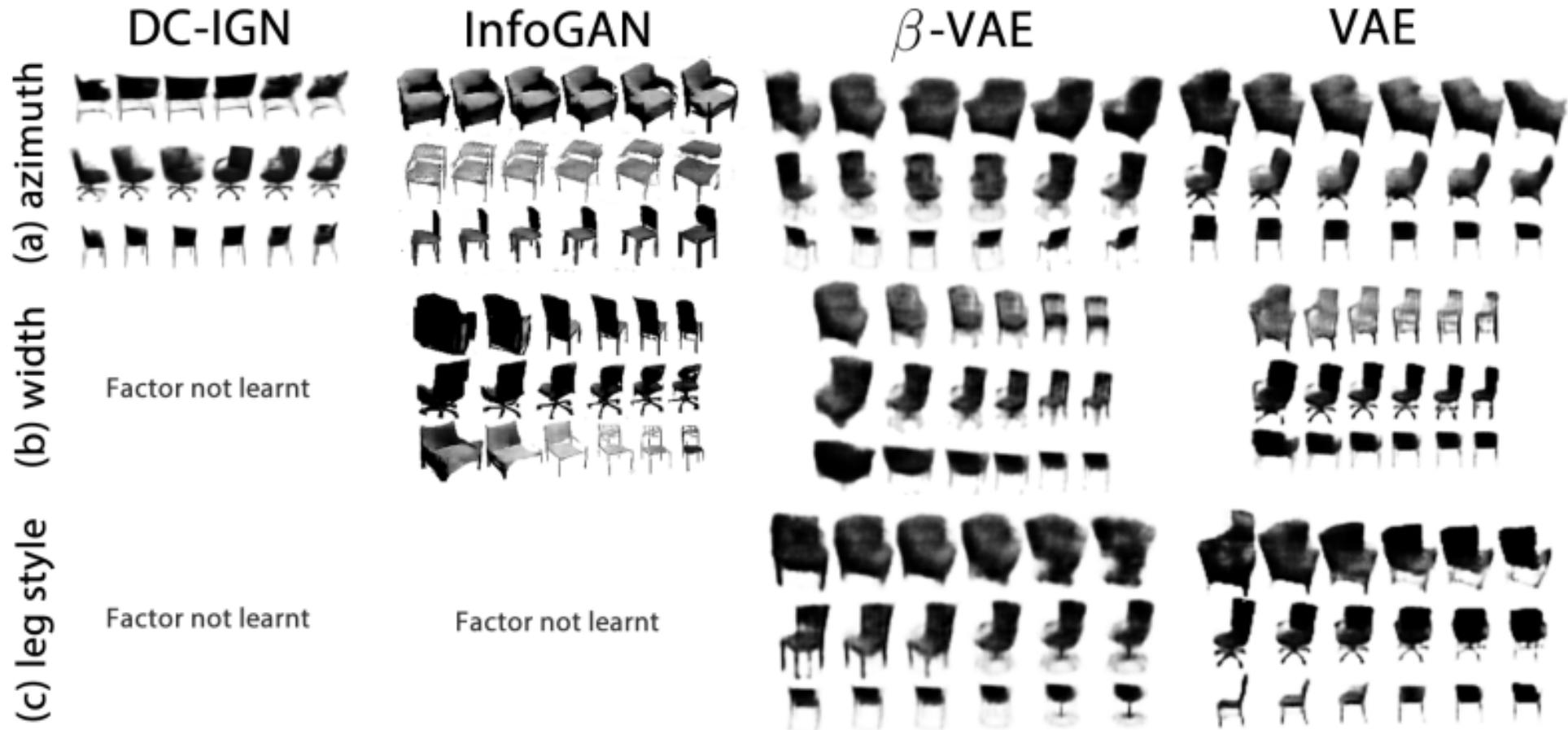
$$L_{\text{BETA}}(\phi, \beta) = -\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z} \sim q_\phi(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})} \log p_\theta(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}) + \beta D_{\text{KL}}(q_\phi(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}) \| p_\theta(\mathbf{z}))$$

# $\beta$ -VAE

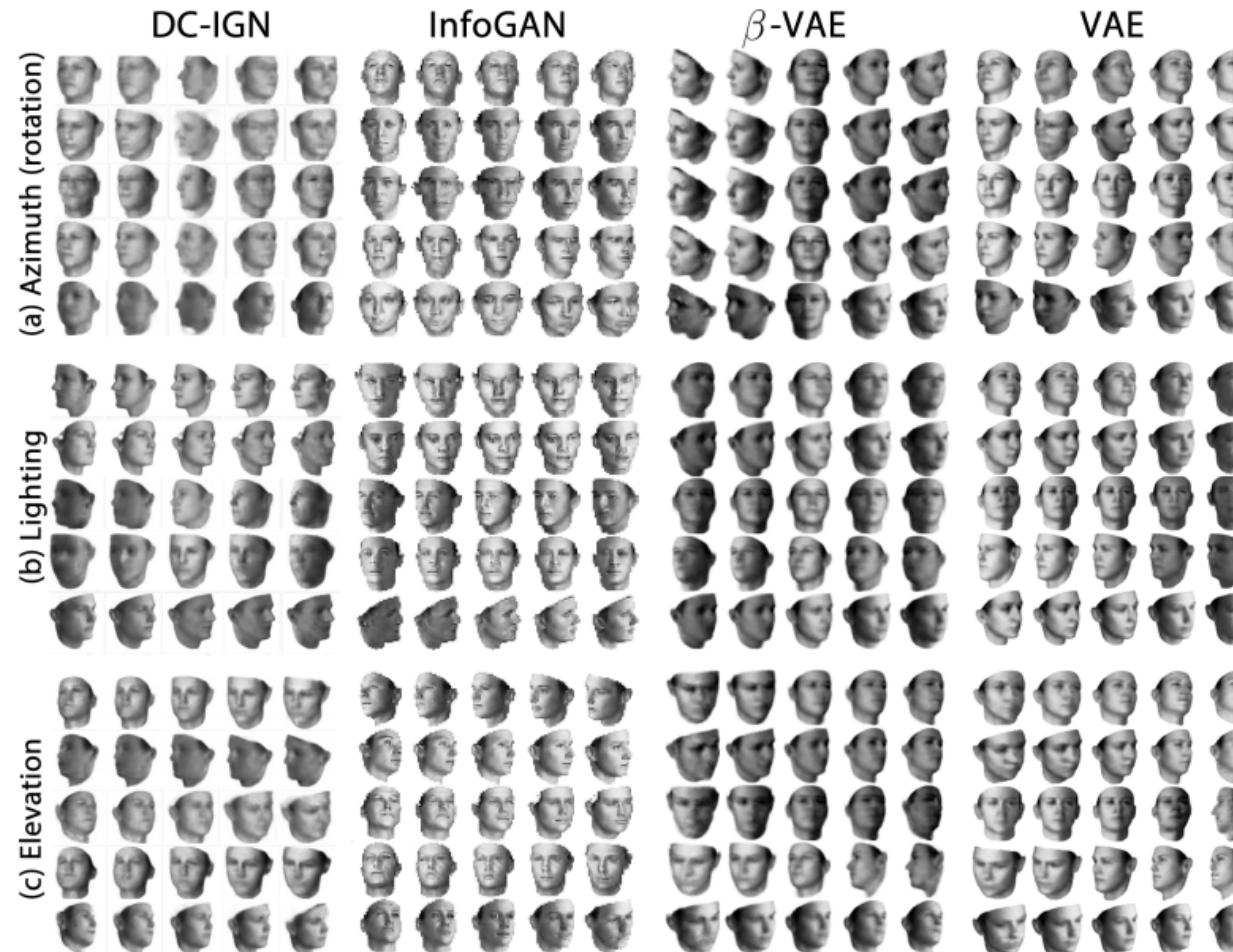


$\beta$ -VAE: Learning Basic Visual Concepts with a Constrained Variational Framework. Irina Higgins, Loic Matthey, Arka Pal, Christopher Burgess, Xavier Glorot, Matthew Botvinick, Shakir Mohamed, and Alexander Lerchner. ICLR 2017.

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# $\beta$ -VAE



- **Discussion: It is really unsupervised?**

- It is unsupervised/self-supervised learning, because it does not need any label data
- It is not fully unsupervised learning, it works because of the inductive bias of the neural network model, the hierarchical design introduces prior knowledge about the data

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- Optimize a tighter lower bound than VAE
  - VAE just optimizes a lower bound of  $\log P(X)$

$$\log P(X) - \mathcal{D} [Q(z|X) \| P(z|X)] = E_{z \sim Q} [\log P(X|z)] - \mathcal{D} [Q(z|X) \| P(z)]$$

encoder      ideal      reconstruction      KLD

- Optimize a tighter lower bound than VAE

$$\log p(x) = \log \int p(x, z) dz = \log \int \frac{p(x, z)}{q(z|x)} q(z|x) dz = \log E_{q(z|x)} \left[ \frac{p(x, z)}{q(z|x)} \right]$$

$$\log E_{q(z|x)} \left[ \frac{p(x, z)}{q(z|x)} \right] = \log E_{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k \sim q(z|x)} \left[ \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{p(x, z_i)}{q(z_i|x)} \right]$$

$$L_k(x) = E_{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k \sim q(z|x)} \left[ \log \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{p(x, z_i)}{q(z_i|x)} \right] \leq \log E_{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k \sim q(z|x)} \left[ \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{p(x, z_i)}{q(z_i|x)} \right] = \boxed{\log p(x)}$$

# IWAE



$$ELBO(\theta) = \mathbf{E}_q[\log p(x, z)] - \mathbf{E}_q[\log q_\theta(z \mid x)]$$

VAE 的 loss:  $E_{z \sim q(z|x)} [\log \frac{p(x, z)}{q(z|x)}]$

而 IWAE 的 loss:  $E_{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k \sim q(z|x)} [\log \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{p(x, z_i)}{q(z_i|x)}]$

- Why “Importance weighted”

$$\nabla_{\theta} E_{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k \sim q(z|x, \theta)} [\log \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{p(x, z_i | \theta)}{q(z_i | x, \theta)}] = E_{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k \sim q(z|x, \theta)} [\nabla_{\theta} \log \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k w_i]$$

where  $w_i = \frac{p(x, z_i | \theta)}{q(z_i | x, \theta)}$

**VAE:**  $\frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \nabla_{\theta} \log w_i$

**IWAE:**  $\sum_{i=1}^k \tilde{w}_i \nabla_{\theta} \log w_i$

## VAE variants

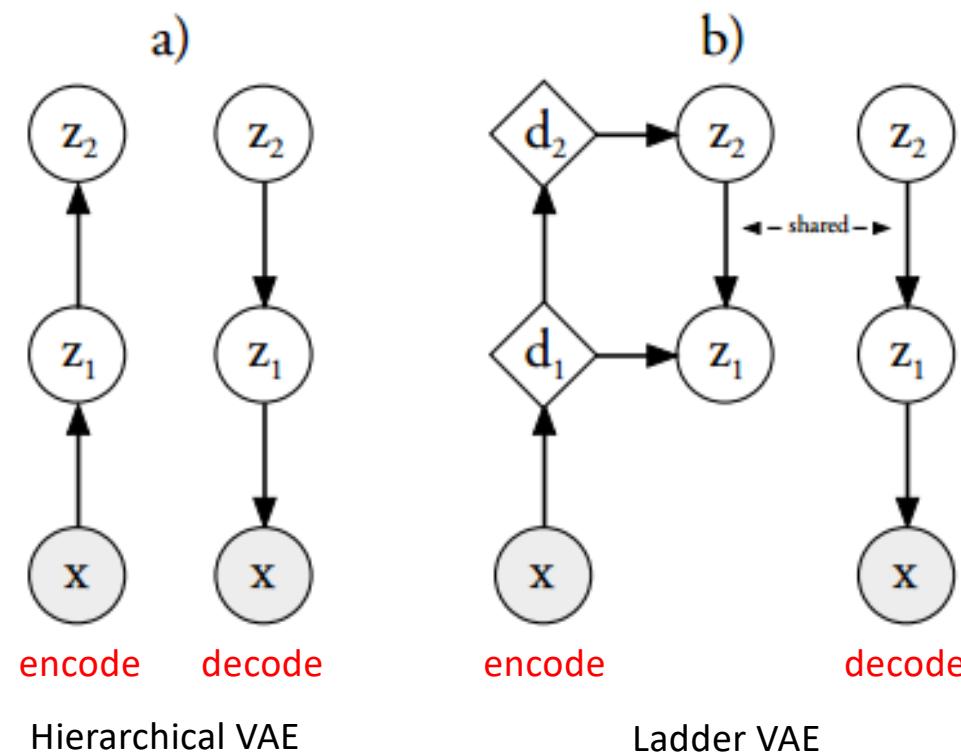
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## Ladder VAE

- **To learn hierarchical latent representation**
- **Deep models with several layers of dependent stochastic variables are difficult to train**
  - Limiting the improvements obtained using these highly expressive models

# Ladder VAE



# Ladder VAE



$$\mathcal{L}(\theta, \phi; \mathbf{x})_{WU} = -\beta KL(q_\phi(z|x) || p_\theta(\mathbf{z})) + E_{q_\phi(z|x)} [\log p_\theta(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})]$$

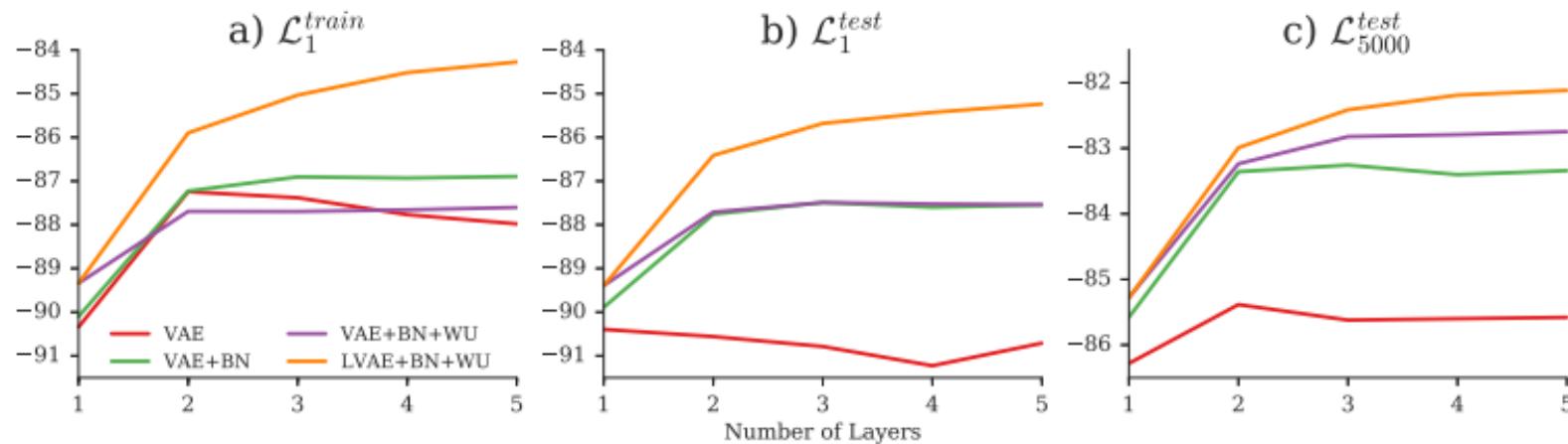


Figure 3: MNIST log-likelihood values for VAEs and the LVAE model with different number of latent layers, Batch-normalization (*BN*) and Warm-up (*WU*). a) Train log-likelihood, b) test log-likelihood and c) test log-likelihood with 5000 importance samples.

# Ladder VAE

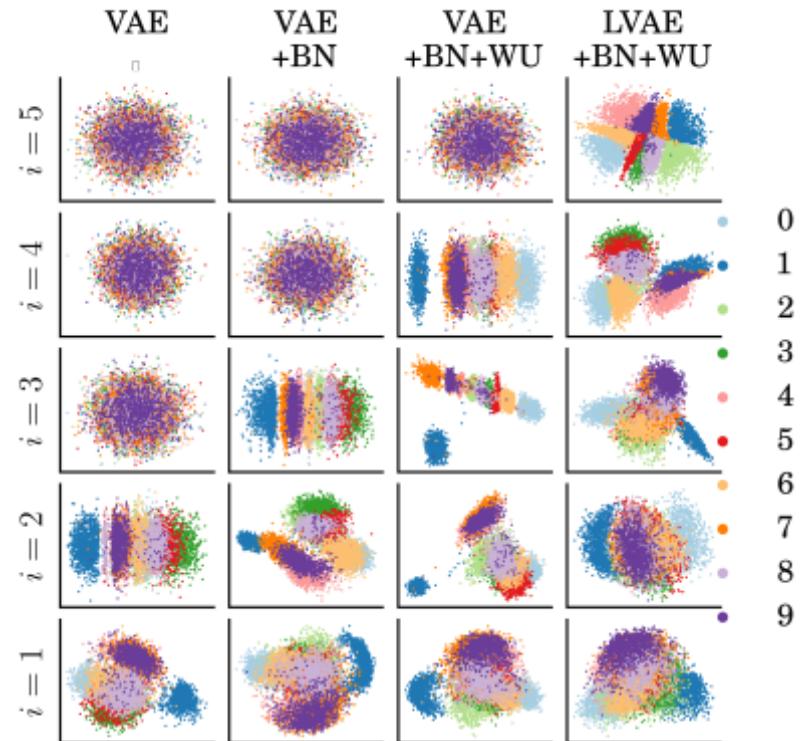
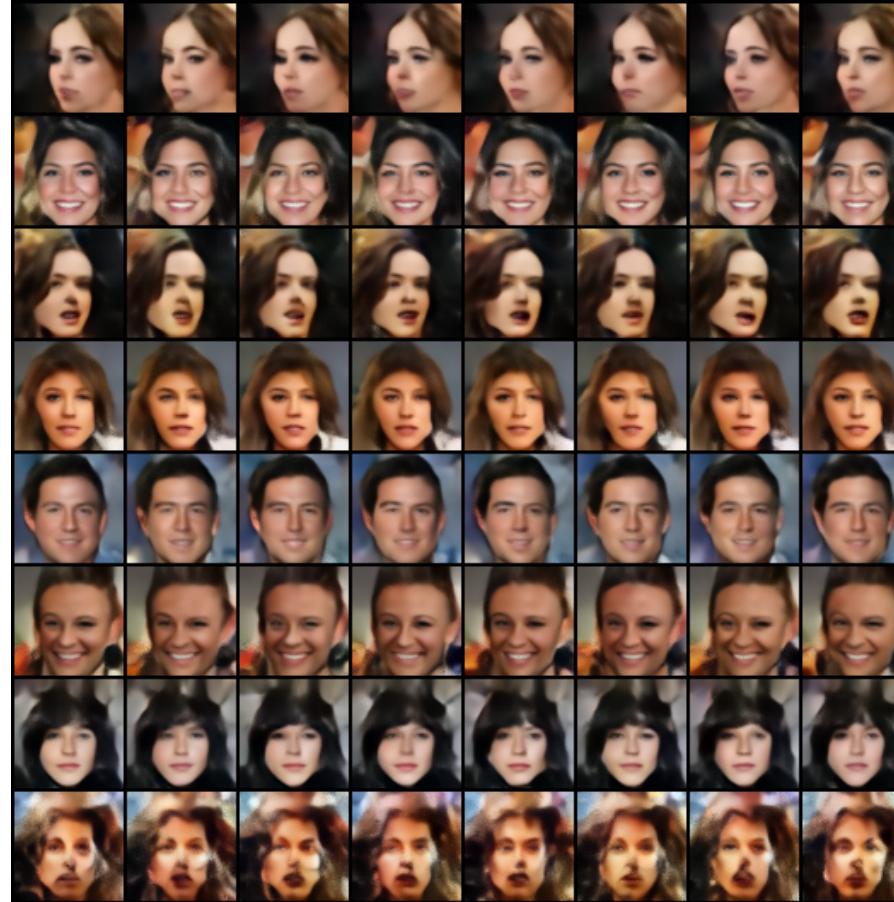


Figure 6: PCA-plots of samples from  $q(z_i|z_{i-1})$  for 5-layer VAE and LVAE models trained on MNIST. Color-coded according to true class label

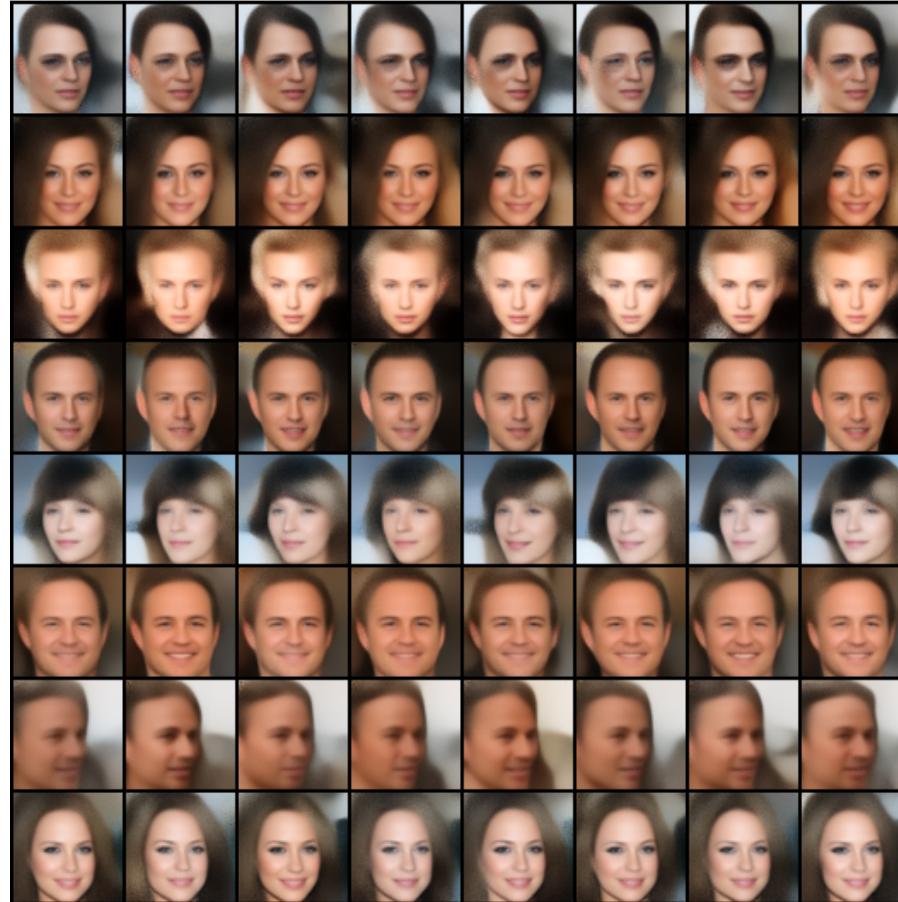
35

LVAE: Ladder Variational Autoencoder. Casper Kaae Sønderby, Tapani Raiko, Lars Maaløe, Søren Kaae Sønderby, and Ole Winther. NIPS 2016.

# Ladder VAE



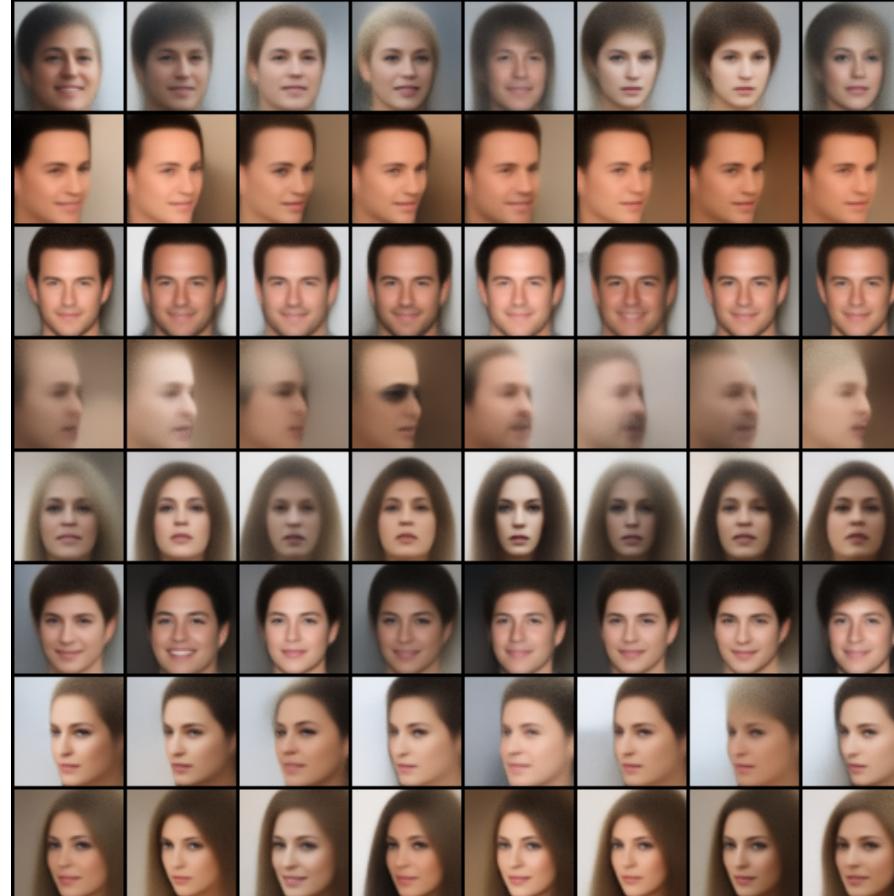
# Ladder VAE



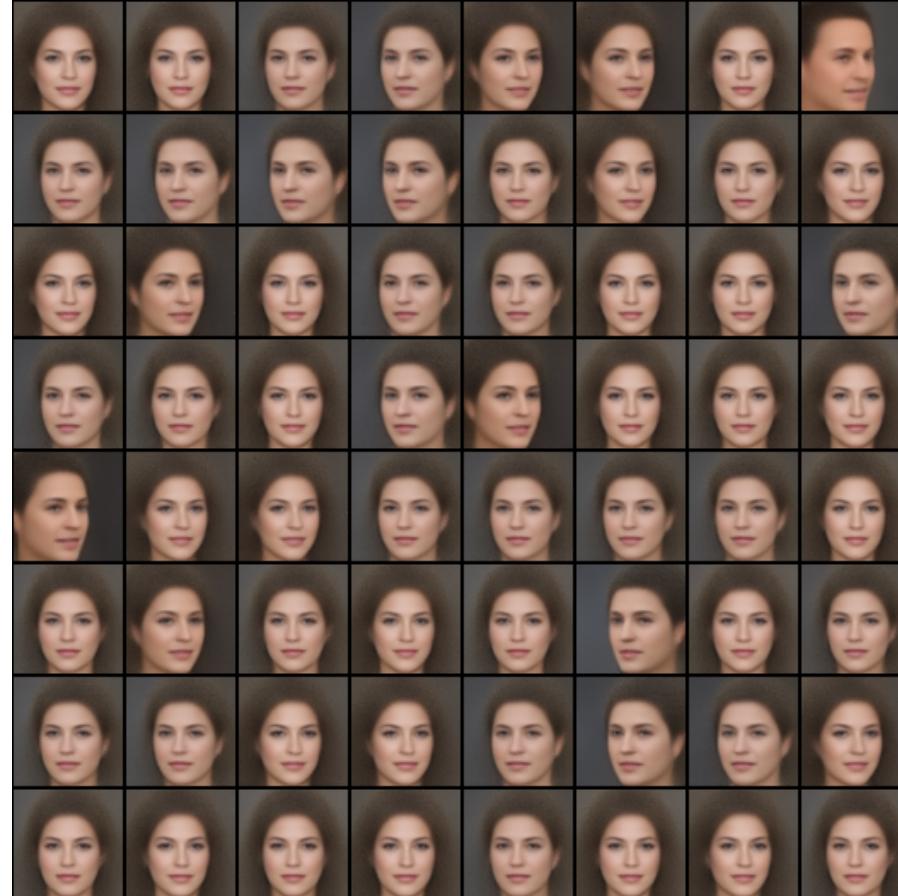
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# Ladder VAE



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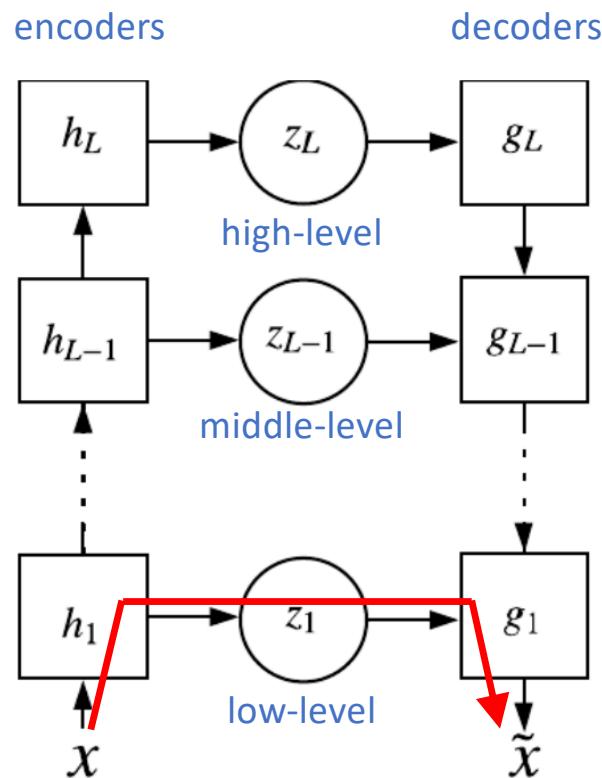
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# Progressive + Fade-in VAE

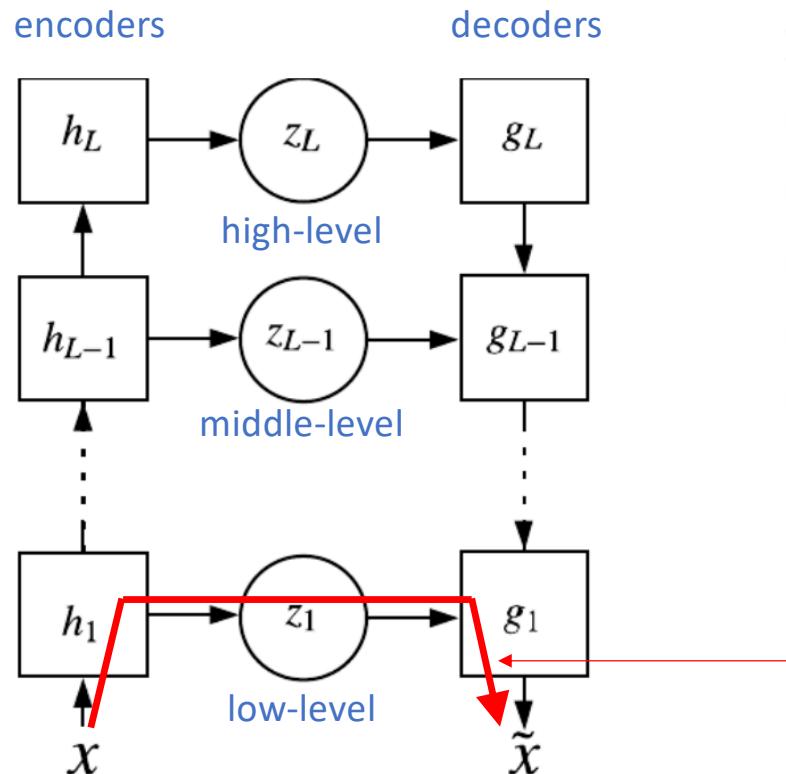
- Discussion



Can we directly train a hierarchical VAE with ladder structure like that?

# Progressive + Fade-in VAE

- Discussion



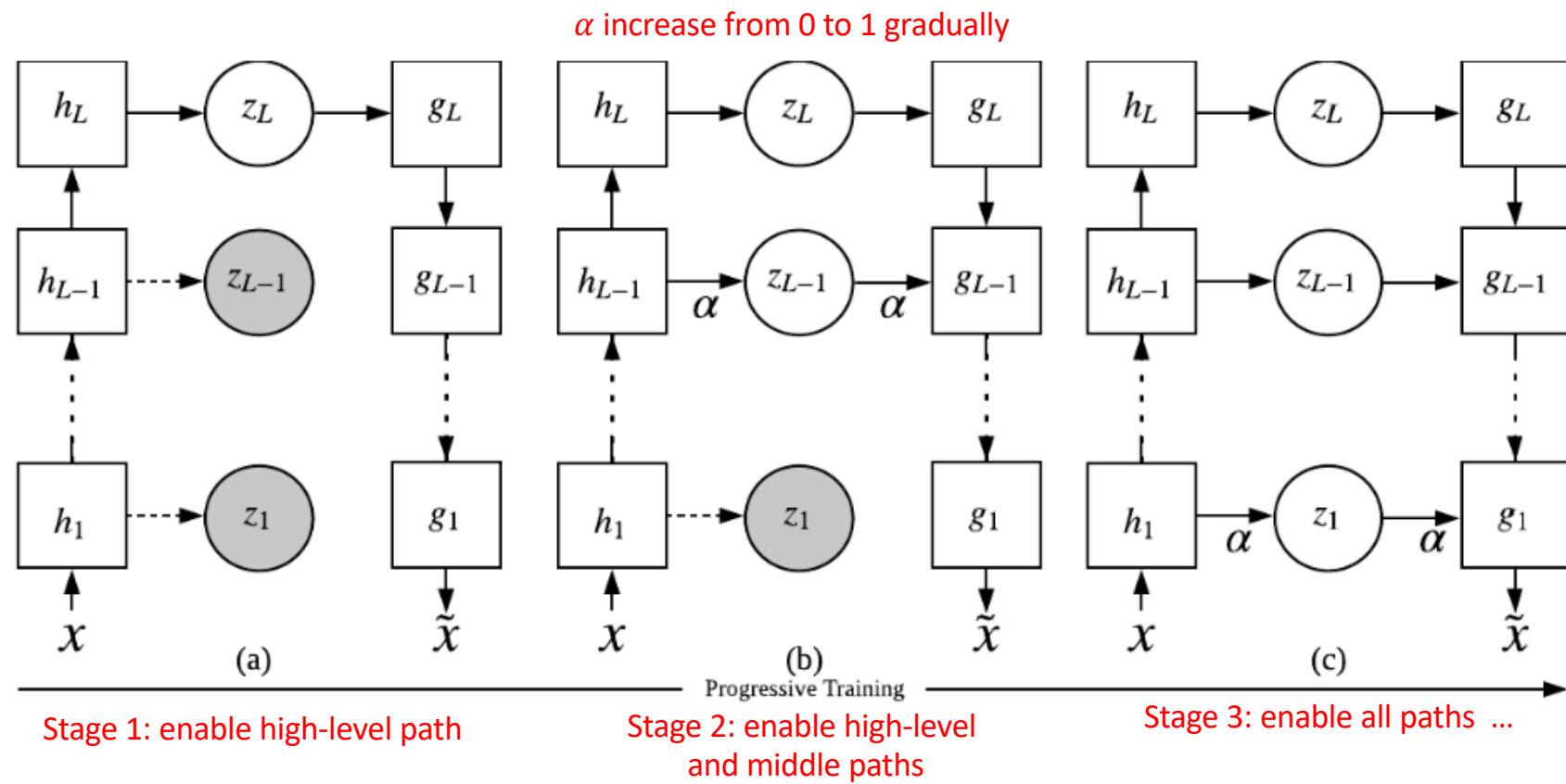
$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{E}_{q(x)}[KL(q(z|x)||p(z))] &= \int \int q(x)q(z|x)\log\frac{q(z|x)}{p(z)}dxdz \\
 &= \int \int q(x,z)\log\frac{q(z|x)q(x)q(z)}{p(z)q(x)p(z)}dxdz \\
 &= \int \int [q(x,z)\log\frac{q(x,z)}{q(x)q(z)} + q(x,z)\log\frac{q(z)}{p(z)}]dxdz \\
 &= MI_{q(x,z)}(x,z) + \int \int q(x,z)\log\frac{q(z)}{p(z)}dxdz \\
 &= MI_{q(x,z)}(x,z) + \int q(z)\log\frac{q(z)}{p(z)}dz \\
 &= \boxed{MI_{q(x,z)}(x,z)} + KL(q(z)||p(z))
 \end{aligned}$$

Information **SHORTCUT** problem

all information go through the low-level path,  
other paths are ignored.  
model is lazy...

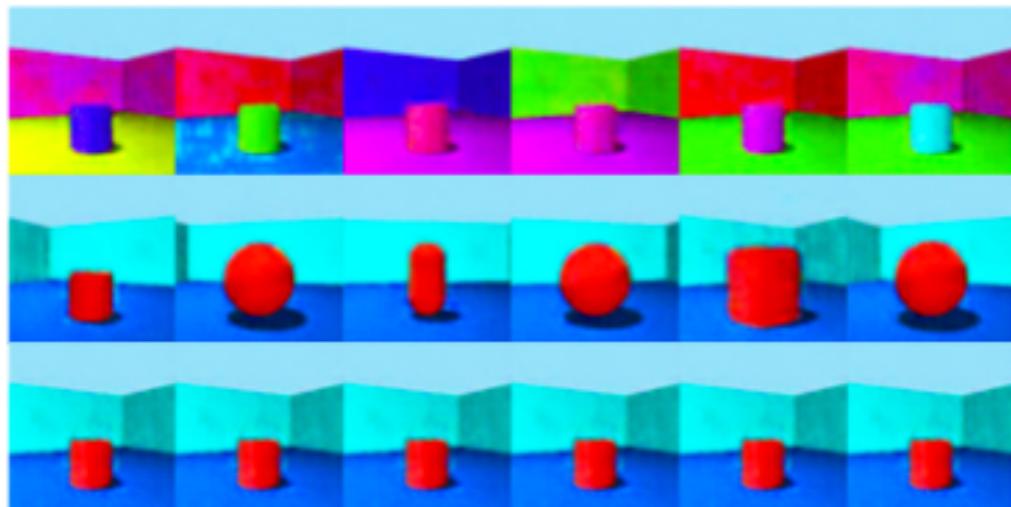
# Progressive + Fade-in VAE

- **Progressive + Fade-in**



# Progressive + Fade-in VAE

- Results



$z_3$  High-level: background and foreground colors

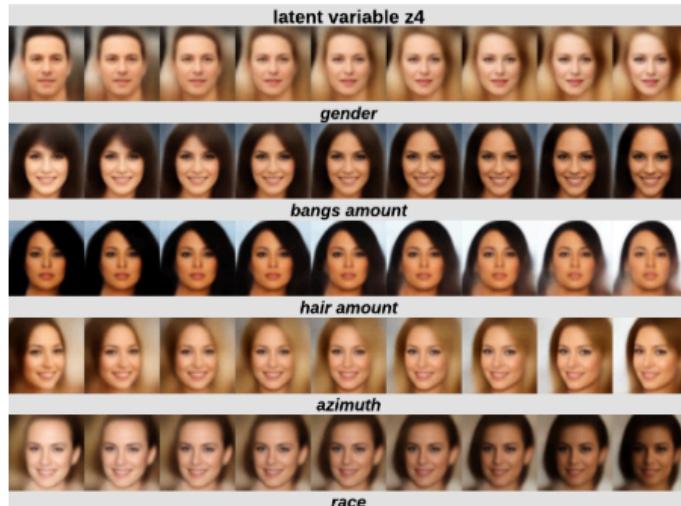
$z_2$  Middle-level: shape

$z_1$  Low-level: ...

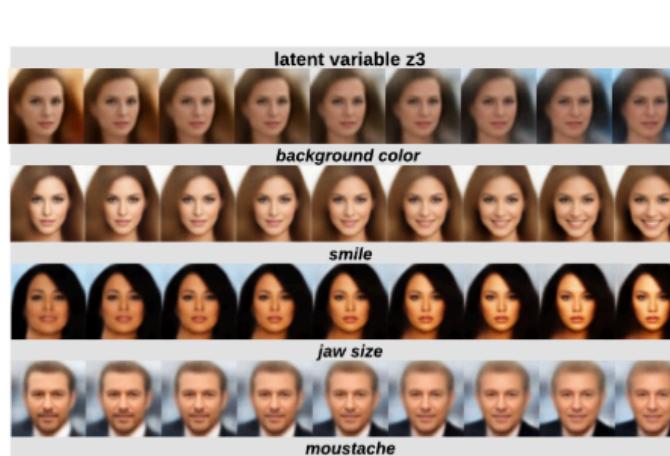
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- Results

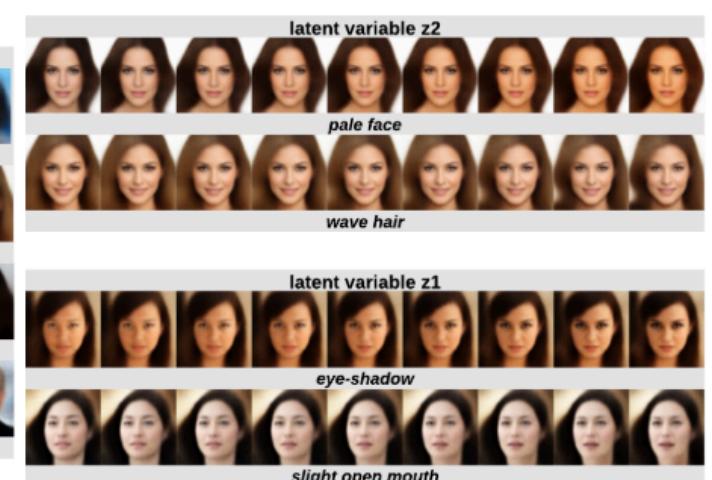
High-level



Middle-level



Low-level



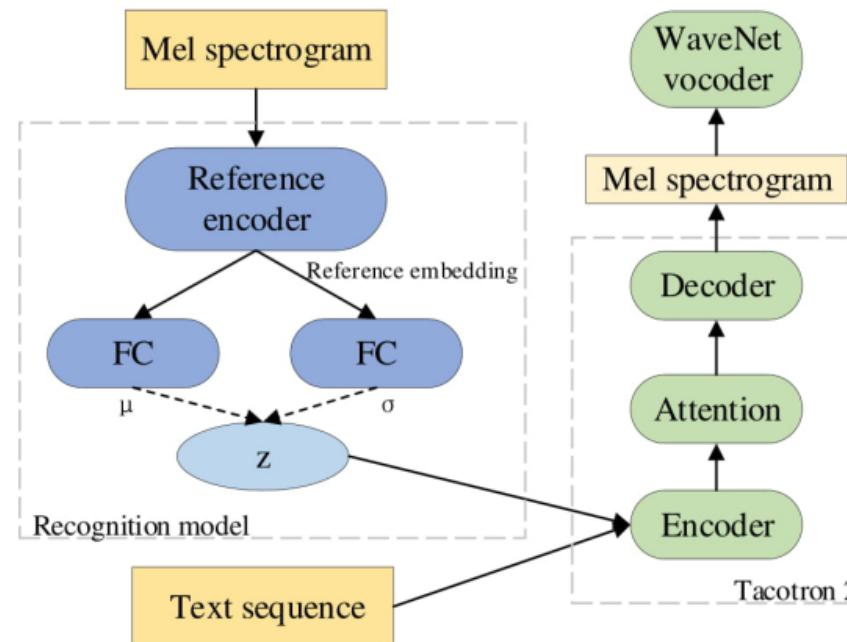


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# VAE in speech

- Learning latent representations for style control and transfer in end-to-end speech synthesis
- RNN as encoder





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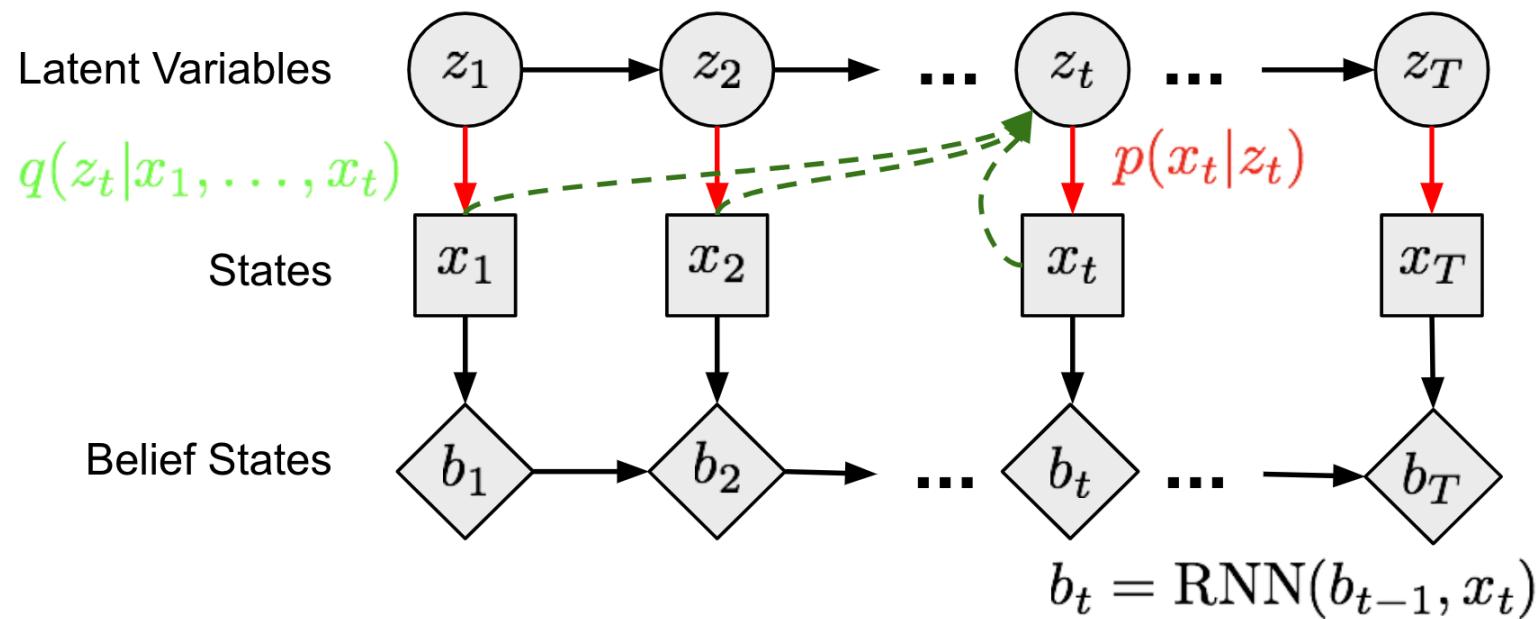
# TD-VAE



- To model temporal information

# TD-VAE

- State-space model as a Markov Chain model



$$b_t = belief(x_1, \dots, x_t) = belief(b_{t-1}, x_t) \quad b_t = \text{RNN}(b_{t-1}, x_t)$$

$$p(x_{t+1}, \dots, x_T | x_1, \dots, x_t) \approx p(x_{t+1}, \dots, x_T | b_t)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\log p(x) &\geq \log p(x) - D_{\text{KL}}(q(z|x) \| p(z|x)) \\&= \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q} \log p(x|z) - D_{\text{KL}}(q(z|x) \| p(z)) \\&= \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q} \log p(x|z) - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q} \log \frac{q(z|x)}{p(z)} \\&= \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q} [\log p(x|z) - \log q(z|x) + \log p(z)] \\&= \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q} [\log p(x, z) - \log q(z|x)] \\ \log p(x) &\geq \mathbb{E}_{z \sim q} [\log p(x, z) - \log q(z|x)]\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \log p(x_t | x_{<t}) \\ & \geq \mathbb{E}_{(z_{t-1}, z_t) \sim q} [\log p(x_t, z_{t-1}, z_t | x_{<t}) - \log q(z_{t-1}, z_t | x_{\leq t})] \\ & \geq \mathbb{E}_{(z_{t-1}, z_t) \sim q} [\log p(x_t | z_{t-1}, z_t, x_{<t}) + \log p(z_{t-1}, z_t | x_{<t}) - \log q(z_{t-1}, z_t | x_{\leq t})] \\ & \geq \mathbb{E}_{(z_{t-1}, z_t) \sim q} [\log p(x_t | z_t) + \log p(z_{t-1} | x_{<t}) + \log p(z_t | z_{t-1}) - \log q(z_{t-1}, z_t | x_{\leq t})] \\ & \geq \mathbb{E}_{(z_{t-1}, z_t) \sim q} [\log p(x_t | z_t) + \log p(z_{t-1} | x_{<t}) + \log p(z_t | z_{t-1}) - \log q(z_t | x_{\leq t}) - \log q(z_{t-1} | z_t, x_{\leq t})] \end{aligned}$$

Notice two things:

- The red terms can be ignored according to Markov assumptions.
- The blue term is expanded according to Markov assumptions.
- The green term is expanded to include an one-step prediction back to the past as a smoothing distribution.

## TD-VAE

$$\log p(x_t | x_{<t}) \geq \mathbb{E}_{(z_{t-1}, z_t) \sim q} [\log p(x_t | z_t) + \log p(z_{t-1} | x_{<t}) + \log p(z_t | z_{t-1}) - \log q(z_t | x_{\leq t}) - \log q(z_{t-1} | z_t, x_{\leq t})]$$

Precisely, there are four types of distributions to learn:

1.  $p_D(\cdot)$  is the **decoder** distribution:
  - $p(x_t | z_t)$  is the encoder by the common definition;
  - $p(x_t | z_t) \rightarrow p_D(x_t | z_t);$
2.  $p_T(\cdot)$  is the **transition** distribution:
  - $p(z_t | z_{t-1})$  captures the sequential dependency between latent variables;
  - $p(z_t | z_{t-1}) \rightarrow p_T(z_t | z_{t-1});$
3.  $p_B(\cdot)$  is the **belief** distribution:
  - Both  $p(z_{t-1} | x_{<t})$  and  $q(z_t | x_{\leq t})$  can use the belief states to predict the latent variables;
  - $p(z_{t-1} | x_{<t}) \rightarrow p_B(z_{t-1} | b_{t-1});$
  - $q(z_t | x_{\leq t}) \rightarrow p_B(z_t | b_t);$
4.  $p_S(\cdot)$  is the **smoothing** distribution:
  - The back-to-past smoothing term  $q(z_{t-1} | z_t, x_{\leq t})$  can be rewritten to be dependent of belief states too;
  - $q(z_{t-1} | z_t, x_{\leq t}) \rightarrow p_S(z_{t-1} | z_t, b_{t-1}, b_t);$

To incorporate the idea of jumpy prediction, the sequential ELBO has to not only work on  $t, t + 1$ , but also two distant timestamp  $t_1 < t_2$ . Here is the final TD-VAE objective function to maximize:

$$J_{t_1, t_2} = \mathbb{E}[\log p_D(x_{t_2} | z_{t_2}) + \log p_B(z_{t_1} | b_{t_1}) + \log p_T(z_{t_2} | z_{t_1}) - \log p_B(z_{t_2} | b_{t_2}) - \log p_S(z_{t_1} | z_{t_2}, b_{t_1}, b_{t_2})]$$

# Summary



- Convolutional VAE
  - Conditional VAE
  - $\beta$ -VAE
  - IWAE
  - Ladder VAE
  - Progressive + Fade-in VAE
  - VAE in speech
  - Temporal Difference VAE (TD-VAE)
- Representation learning {
- Hierarchical representation learning {
- Temporal representation learning {



# Thanks