

# Improved Variational Autoencoders for Text Modeling using Dilated Convolutions

## 1 Main Idea

The paper [1] presents an alternative architecture to LSTM based VAEs. As shown in a previous paper, LSTM-VAEs don't have a significant advantage over LSTM language model [2]. The authors address this by using a dilated CNN decoder to vary the conditioning context of the decoder.

## 2 Method

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## 3 Observations

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## References

- [1] Zichao Yang, Zhiting Hu, Ruslan Salakhutdinov, and Taylor Berg-Kirkpatrick. Improved variational autoencoders for text modeling using dilated convolutions. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1702.08139*, 2017.
- [2] Samuel R Bowman, Luke Vilnis, Oriol Vinyals, Andrew M Dai, Rafal Jozefowicz, and Samy Bengio. Generating sentences from a continuous space. *CoNLL 2016*, page 10, 2016.