



# Chapter 5. Deep Reinforcement Learning and Generative Models

Neural Networks

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Máster Universitario en Inteligencia Artificial, Reconocimiento de Formas e Imagen Digital

Departamento de Sistemas Informáticos y Computación

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- Goal: intelligent systems that interact with the environment
- Improving over time through trial and error
- RL have had some success in the past but still limited
- Deep RL rely on:
  - Neural networks as function approximation
  - Representation Learning
- Deep learning enables RL to scale to problems that were previously intractable:
  - settings with high-dimensional states (directly from pixels)
  - extremely huge action spaces





• Some examples:

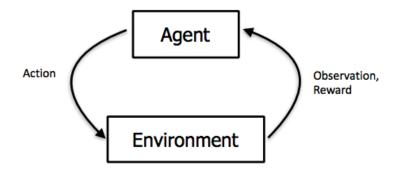
- Breakout: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V1eYniJORnk

- Super Mario Bros: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qv6UV0Q0F44





- Learning through interaction
- Trial and error learning
- Agent is a machine learning algorithm







RL as a Markov Decision Process (MDP):

- ullet  ${\cal S}$  set of states
- ullet  $p(s_0)$  a distribution of starting states
- $\mathcal{T}$  transitions,  $\mathcal{T}(s_{t+1} \mid s_t, a_t)$
- $\mathcal{R}$  reward function,  $\mathcal{R}(s_t, a_t, s_{t+1})$
- $\gamma$  is a discount factor,  $\gamma \in [0,1]$

Key concept: only  $s_t$  affects  $s_{t+1}$  no further past has to be considered



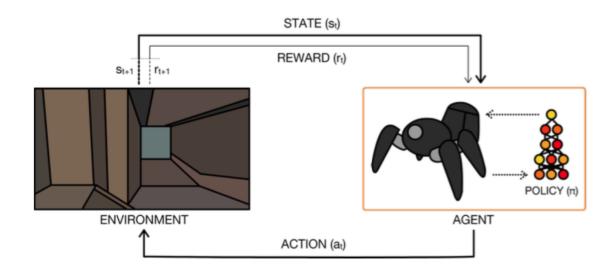


#### At time step t:

- ullet Agent observes the environment state  $s_t$
- Agent take an action  $a_t$  following a (stochastic) policy:

$$\pi: \mathcal{S} \to p(\mathcal{A} = a_t \mid \mathcal{S} = s_t)$$

- Agent and environment transition to new state  $s_{t+1}$
- Environment provides a new reward  $r_{t+1}$



• Goal: learn a policy that maximizes the cumulative reward





• Total Reward for *T* actions:

$$R = \sum_{t=0}^{T} \gamma^t r_{t+1}$$

• The goal of RL is to find an optimal policy  $\pi^*$ :

$$\pi^* = \operatorname*{argmax}_{\pi} \mathbb{E}[R \mid \pi]$$

given an MDP,  $\pi^*$  exists.



- The optimal policy must be inferred by trial-and-error interaction with the environment. The only learning signal the agent receives is the reward
- The observations of the agent depend on its actions and can contain strong temporal correlations
- Agents must deal with long-range time dependencies: Often the consequences of an action only materialize after many transitions of the environment





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• RL Algorithms:

Value functions: Indirect estimation of policy

Policy Search: Direct estimation of policy



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- Estimate the value (expected return) of being in a given state
- The state-value function:

$$V^{\pi}(s) = \mathbb{E}[R|s,\pi]$$

- ullet the total reward starting in state s and following policy  $\pi$
- the optimal state-value is the state-value with the optimal policy:

$$V^*(s) = \max_{\pi} V^{\pi}(s) \quad \forall s \in \mathcal{S}$$

• If we had  $V^*$  we could retrieve  $\pi^*$  by means of:

$$\pi^* = \operatorname*{argmax}_{\pi} \mathbb{E}_{s_{t+1} \sim \mathcal{T}(s_{t+1}|s_t, a)} [V^*(s_{t+1})]$$





• In this expression:

$$\pi^* = \operatorname*{argmax}_{\pi} \mathbb{E}_{s_{t+1} \sim \mathcal{T}(s_{t+1}|s_t, a)} [V^*(s_{t+1})]$$

 $\mathcal{T}$  is unknown.

ullet we define  $Q^{\pi}(s,a)$ , the state-action-value or quality function:

$$Q^{\pi}(s, a) = \mathbb{E}[R \mid s, a, \pi]$$

• If we had  $Q^{\pi}(s,a)$  the best action of the policy would be:

$$a^* = \operatorname*{argmax}_a Q^{\pi}(s, a)$$





How to learn  $Q^{\pi}(s, a)$ :

Dynamic Programming (Bellman equation):

$$Q^{\pi}(s, a) = \mathbb{E}[r_{t+1} + \gamma Q^{\pi}(s_{t+1}, \pi(s_{t+1})) \mid s = s_t, a = a_t]$$

optimal values decompose into a Bellman equation:

$$Q^*(s, a) = \mathbb{E}[r_{t+1} + \gamma \max_{a} Q^*(s_{t+1}, a) \mid s = s_t, a = a_t]$$





How to learn  $Q^*(s, a)$ :

• Q-learning optimal values, iteratively:

$$Q(s,a) = Q(s,a) + \alpha\delta$$

ullet  $\delta$  is the Temporal Difference error:

$$\delta = Y - Q(s, a)$$

in step t

$$Y = r_{t+1} + \gamma \max_{a} Q(s_{t+1}, a)$$
$$Q(s_t, a_t) = Q(s_t, a_t) + \alpha(r_{t+1} + \gamma \max_{a} Q(s_{t+1}, a) - Q(s_t, a_t))$$



• Q-learning algorithm:

```
Output: Q
  initialize Q arbitrarily, e.g., to 0
Repeat
    select s as an initial state
    while(state s is not terminal) do
        a = action for s derived by Q (epsilon-greedy)
        take action a, observe r, sn
        Q(s,a)=Q(s,a)+alfa*[r+gamma*max_an(Q(sn, an))-Q(s,a)]
        s=sn
    end
Until convergence
end
```





٧	Start	a .		×			×			*	
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	

Actions: Inital state: v(0)

R: right

JR: Jump right

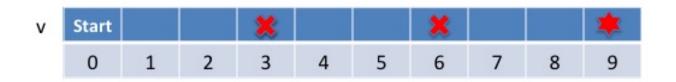
#### Reward(s)

R	Start			×			×			*
	1	1	1	-10	1	1	-10	1	1	10





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#### Q function initial

s a	R	JR
0	0	0
1	0	0
2	0	0
3	0	0
4	0	0
5	0	0
6	0	0
7	0	0
8	0	0
9	0	0

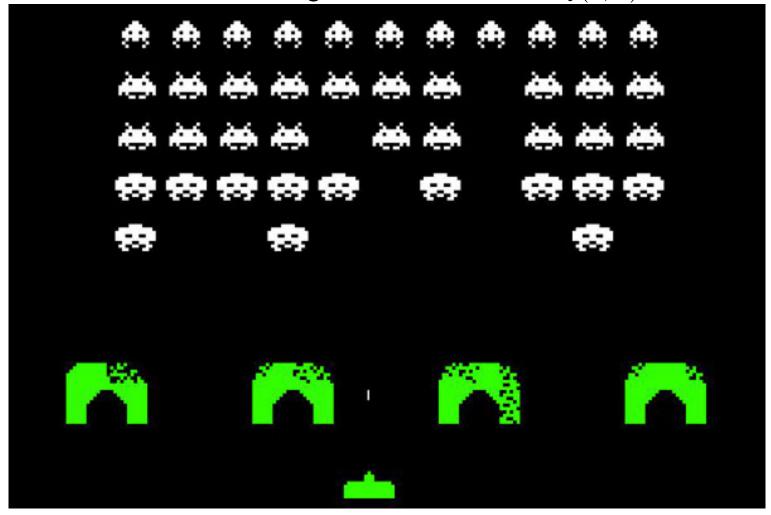
#### Q function obtained

sla	R	JR
0	10	10
1	10	-9.5
2	-10	10
3	0	0
4	10	-10
5	-10	10
6	0	0
7	10	10
8	10	-8.3
9	0	0





How to define the *state* of the agent? How to obtain Q(s, a)?



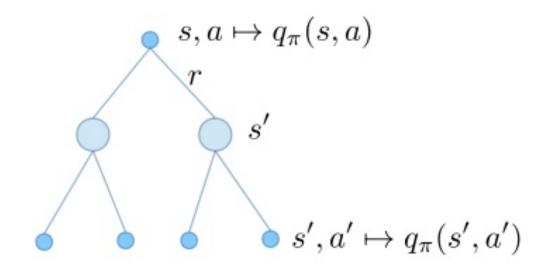




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Alternative way to learn  $Q^{\pi}(s, a)$ :

• Monte Carlo methods estimate the expected return from a state  $\mathbb{E}[R \mid s, a, \pi]$  by averaging the return from multiple roll-outs of a policy





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### **Policy Search**

- No need a value function model
- ullet Directly search for an optimal policy  $\pi^*$
- $\bullet$  Typically a parameterized policy and parameters  $(\Phi)$  are updated to maximize  $\mathbb{E}[R|\Phi]$
- Neural networks can be used to encode policies



#### **Policy Search**

#### Neural network outputs:

#### Continuous actions

- parameters of a probability distribution
- e.g., mean and standard deviations

#### Discrete actions

- individual probabilities
- multinomial distribution

In any case, actions are obtaining by sampling from these distributions that essentially define the transition dynamics  $\mathcal T$ 



### **Policy Gradients**

• Compute the expected return of a given policy in order to obtain the gradients w.r.t  $\Phi$ :

$$\mathbb{E}[R \mid \pi]$$

$$\nabla_{\Phi} \mathbb{E}[R] = \mathbb{E}[R \nabla_{\Phi} log \pi(a_t \mid s_t; \Phi)]$$

Update  $\Phi$  by gradient ascent in the direction of:

$$R\nabla_{\Phi}log\pi(a_t \mid s_t; \Phi)$$





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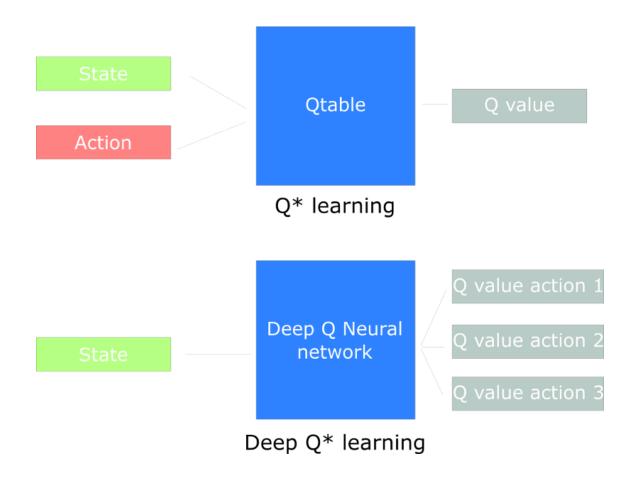


# **Deep Reinforcement Learning**

• Use a Deep Neural Network as a universal approximation function for:

- state-action-value functions Q(s,a)
- policy functions  $a = \pi(s)$









Universal function approximation

$$Q(s,a) \approx Q(s,a,\mathbf{w})$$

where w are the weight of the neural network

• Train using temporal difference:

$$Q(s_t, a_t) = \mathbb{E}[r_{t+1} + \gamma \max_{a} Q(s_{t+1}, \pi(s_{t+1}))]$$

- Therefore:
  - Input:  $(s_t, a_t)$  (just only  $s_t$ )
  - Target:  $r_{t+1} + \gamma \max_a Q(s_{t+1}, a)$
  - Minimize MSE

$$(r_{t+1} + \gamma \max_{a} Q(s_{t+1}, a) - Q(s_t, a_t))^2$$





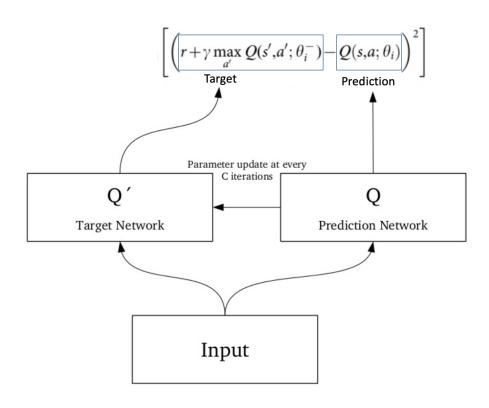
- Experience replay
- ullet re-use the tuples  $s_t, a_t, r_{t+1}, s_{t+1}$  as a data set
- multiple passes with the same data is beneficial



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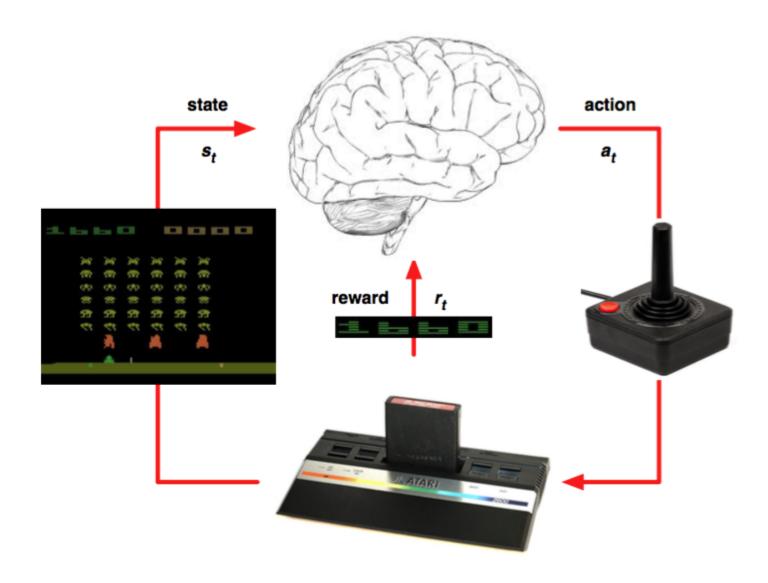
Non-stationary targets

$$\delta = r_{t+1} + \gamma \max_{a} Q(s_{t+1}, a, \mathbf{\Phi}^{-}) - Q(s_t, a_t, \mathbf{\Phi})$$







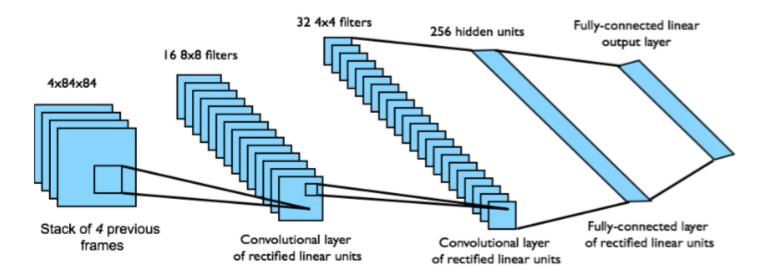






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- ▶ End-to-end learning of values Q(s, a) from pixels s
- Input state s is stack of raw pixels from last 4 frames
- ▶ Output is Q(s, a) for 18 joystick/button positions
- Reward is change in score for that step



Network architecture and hyperparameters fixed across all games





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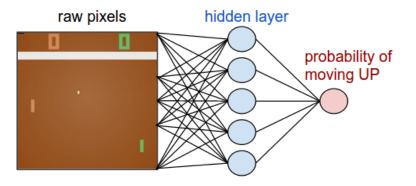
### **Deep Policy Networks**

#### Policy gradients

• Update  $\Phi$  by gradient ascent in the direction of:

$$R\nabla_{\Phi}log\pi(a_t \mid s_t; \Phi)$$

ullet where s could be an image, and a a particular action, e.g moving up

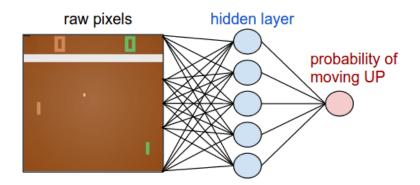






### **Deep Policy Networks**

 $\bullet$  High dimensional state representation: a frame with 210\*160 potential positions



• State must consider two consecutive frames

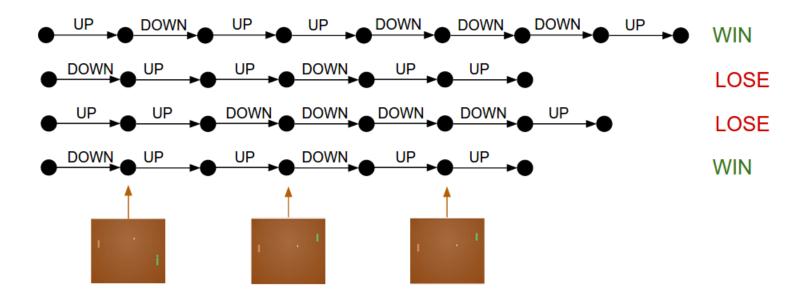




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### **Deep Policy Networks**

• Delayed reward:





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### **Generative Models**

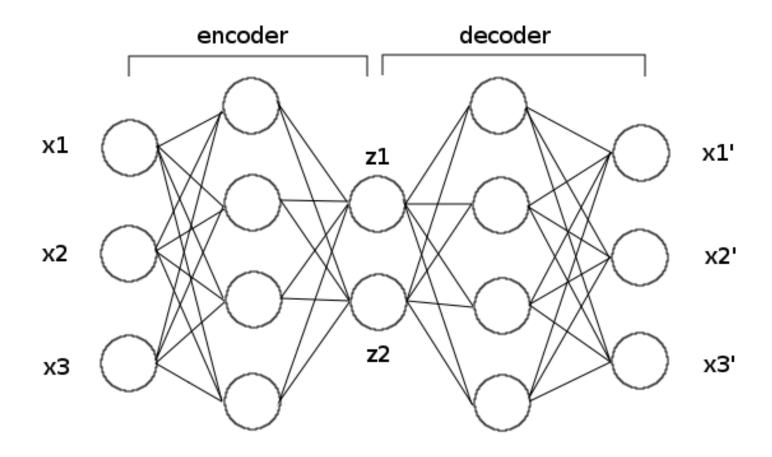
- Autoencoders
- Denoising Autoencoders
- Variational Autoencoders
- Generative Adversarial Networks





#### **Autoenconder**

• Feed-forward neural network that reproduces the input at the output layer



• Training by minimizing the quadratic error





## **Autoencoders - Topology**

#### • Undercomplete:

- $-dim(\mathbf{z}) < dim(\mathbf{x})$
- compression
- probably meaningful representation. Latent space

#### • Overcomplete:

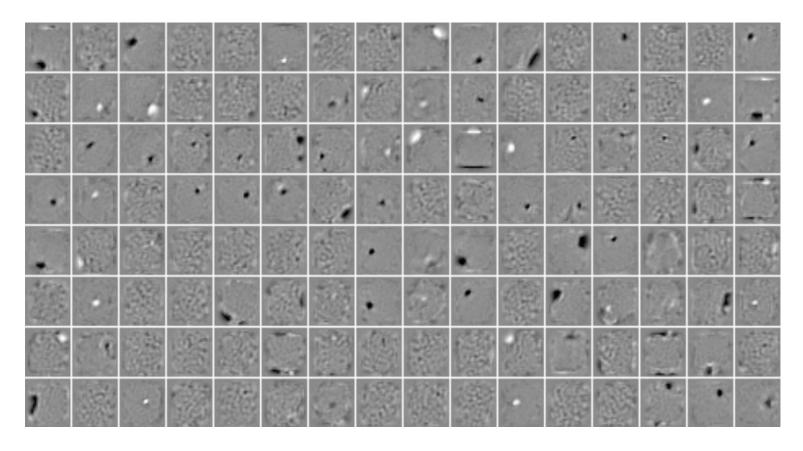
- $-dim(\mathbf{z}) > dim(\mathbf{x}),$
- hidden unit just copy input units
- no meaningful representation
- have to force sparsity





# Autoencoders - weights first layer

• Training over MNIST digits





### **Denoising-Autoencoders**

- Ideal representations should be robust to noise
- A denoising autoencoder is a feed-forward neural network that reproduce the input at the output layer:
  - One input layer  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$
  - One hidden layer h
  - One output layer layer  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$

where  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  is a **corrupted** version of  $\mathbf{x}$ 

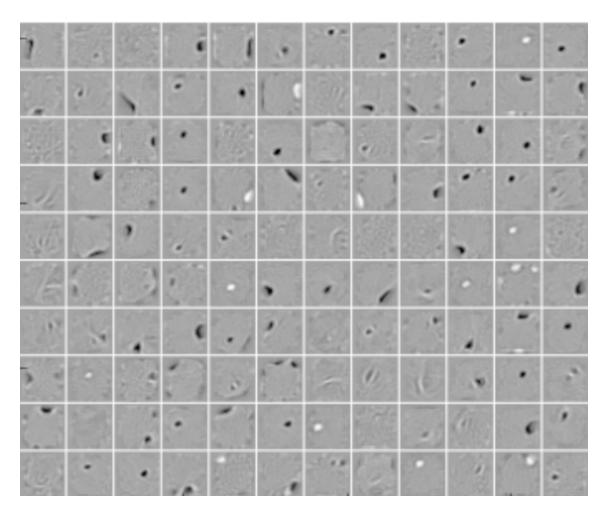
- ullet The output  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  is computed from a corrupted version of  $\mathbf{x}$
- $\bullet$  But the loss function compares  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  and  $\mathbf{x}$





# **Denoising-Autoencoders**

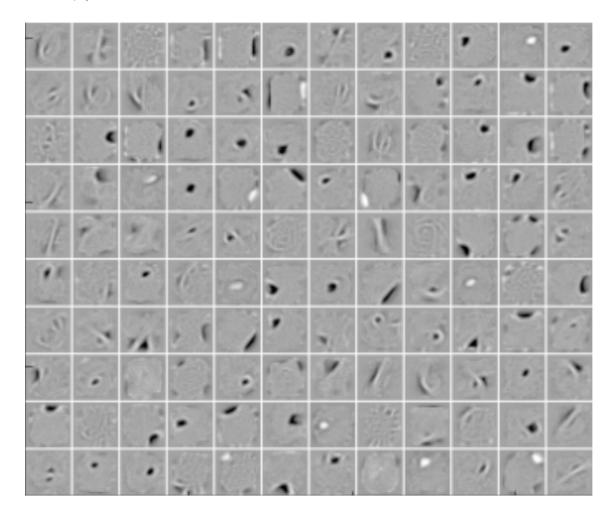
• MNITS with 25% of noise





# **Denoising-Autoencoders**

• MNITS with 50% of noise





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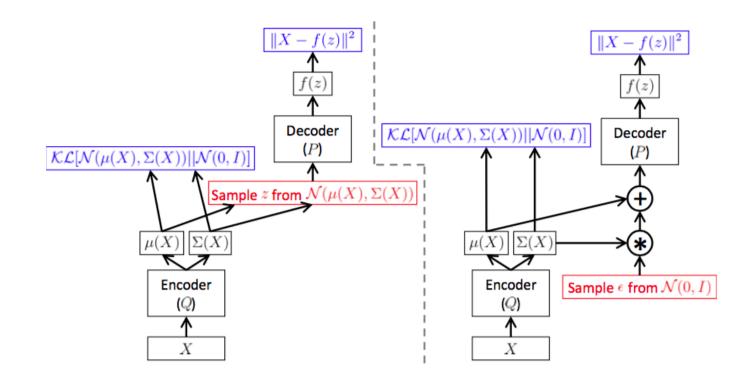
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#### **Variational Autoencoders**

- The latent variables are drawn from a prior  $p(\mathbf{z})$
- https://arxiv.org/pdf/1606.05908.pdf

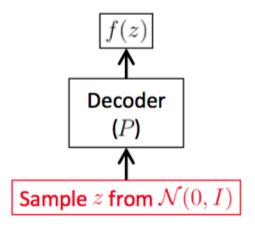






## Variational Autoencoders, Generation process

• Draw from  $p(\mathbf{z})$ 







## Variational Autoencoders, Generation process

- Encoder is a Convolutional Network
- Decoder is a De-Convolutional (convolutional transpose) Network





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#### **Generative Adversarial Networks**

**Algorithm 1** Minibatch stochastic gradient descent training of generative adversarial nets. The number of steps to apply to the discriminator, k, is a hyperparameter. We used k = 1, the least expensive option, in our experiments.

for number of training iterations do

for k steps do

- Sample minibatch of m noise samples  $\{z^{(1)}, \ldots, z^{(m)}\}$  from noise prior  $p_q(z)$ .
- Sample minibatch of m examples  $\{x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(m)}\}$  from data generating distribution  $p_{\text{data}}(x)$ .
- Update the discriminator by ascending its stochastic gradient:

$$abla_{ heta_d} rac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \left[ \log D\left(oldsymbol{x}^{(i)}
ight) + \log \left(1 - D\left(G\left(oldsymbol{z}^{(i)}
ight)
ight) 
ight) 
ight].$$

end for

- Sample minibatch of m noise samples  $\{z^{(1)}, \ldots, z^{(m)}\}$  from noise prior  $p_q(z)$ .
- Update the generator by descending its stochastic gradient:

$$abla_{ heta_g} rac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \log\left(1 - D\left(G\left(oldsymbol{z}^{(i)}
ight)
ight)
ight).$$

end for

The gradient-based updates can use any standard gradient-based learning rule. We used momentum in our experiments.

https://arxiv.org/abs/1406.2661



D

A Generator Network G

generated data (fake)

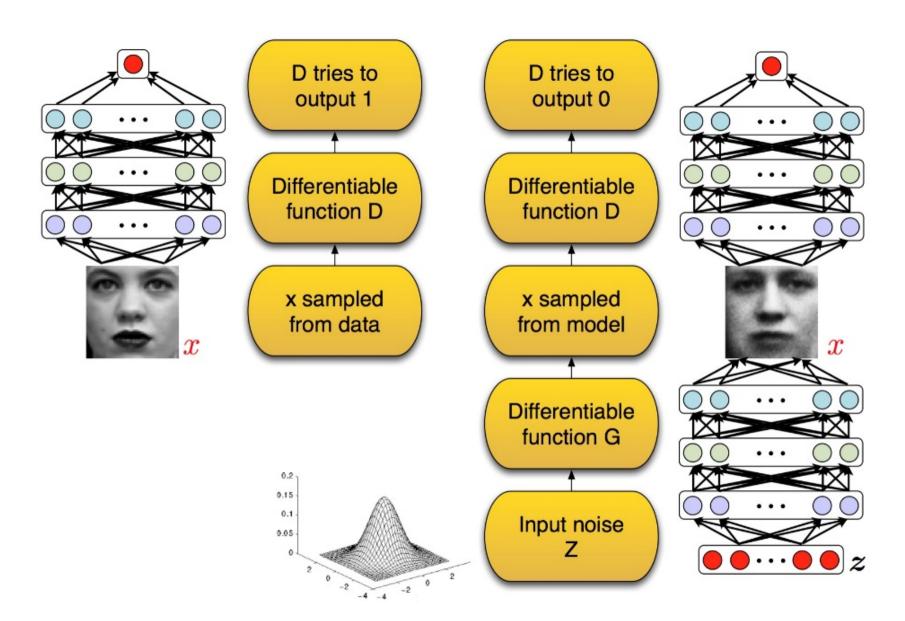
A Discriminator Network D

During training G is trained to

During training D is trained

discriminate between real data

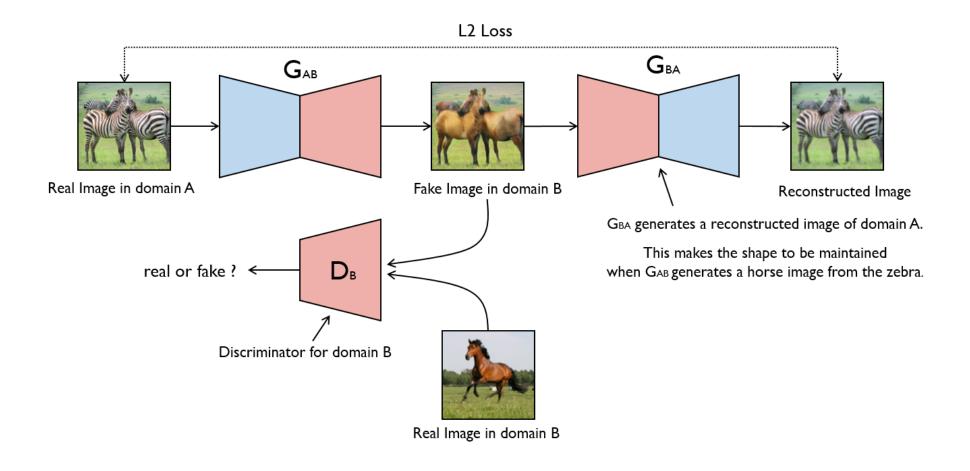
#### **Generative Adversarial Networks**







# CycleGan







### **Text and Image**

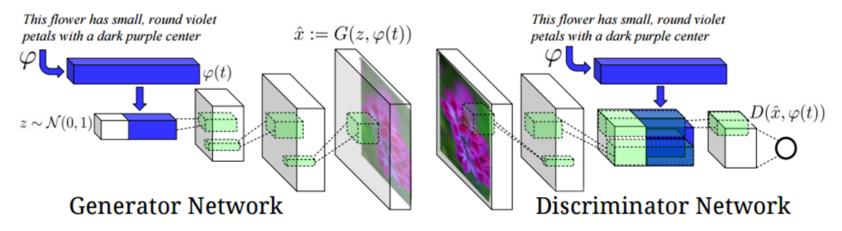


Figure 2. Our text-conditional convolutional GAN architecture. Text encoding  $\varphi(t)$  is used by both generator and discriminator. It is projected to a lower-dimensions and depth concatenated with image feature maps for further stages of convolutional processing.

**Network Architecture** 



