

CEE 616: Probabilistic Machine Learning

M5 Unsupervised Learning:

5B: Factor Analysis and Autoencoders

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Outline

① Factor analysis

② FA Estimation

③ Autoencoders

④ AE variants

⑤ Outlook

Factor analysis model

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$$\mathbb{V}[x_d] = \sum_{k=1}^L \underbrace{w_{dk}^2}_{\text{common}} + \underbrace{\psi_d}_{\text{unique}} \quad (10)$$

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And f_d is given by:

Autoencoders as nonlinear PCA/FA

In PCA/FA, we learn a **linear mapping** from a high-dimensional observed space $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^D$ to a low-dimensional latent space $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^L$ and vice-versa.

- **Encoder** f_e : mapping from $\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{z}$
- **Decoder** f_d : mapping from $\mathbf{z} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}$

In PCA, for example, f_e is given by:

$$\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{W}^\top \mathbf{x} \equiv f_e(\mathbf{x}) \quad (18)$$

And f_d is given by:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{z} \equiv f_d(\mathbf{z}) \quad (19)$$

To introduce flexibility, we can specify f_e and f_d are nonlinear/more complex functions. This is best accomplished via neural network, resulting in an **autoencoder (AE)**.

Factor analysis
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FA Estimation
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Autoencoders
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AE variants
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Reconstruction loss

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The reconstruction function is the approximation of the observation from the decoder:

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$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} \equiv r(\mathbf{x}) = f_d(f_e(\mathbf{x})) \quad (20)$$

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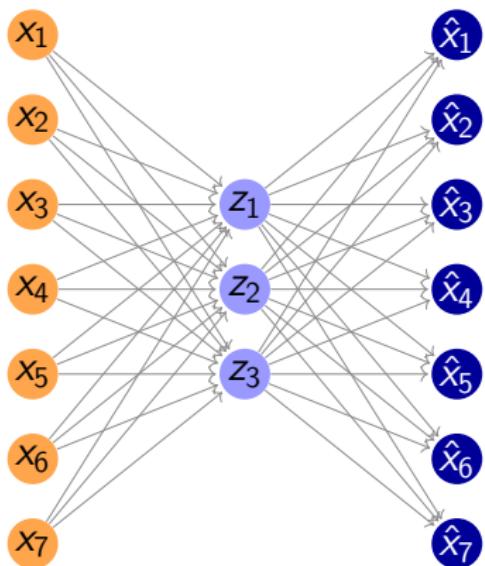
or equivalently, the negative log-likelihood:

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta) = -\log p(\mathbf{x}|r(\mathbf{x})) \quad (22)$$

Basic autoencoder (AE) architecture

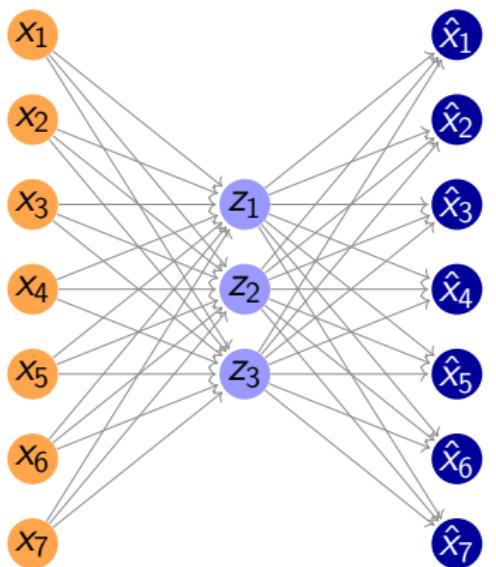
Basic autoencoder (AE) architecture

Autoencoder with 2 single-layer MLPs: input layer, hidden layer (latent representation) and output layer (reconstruction)



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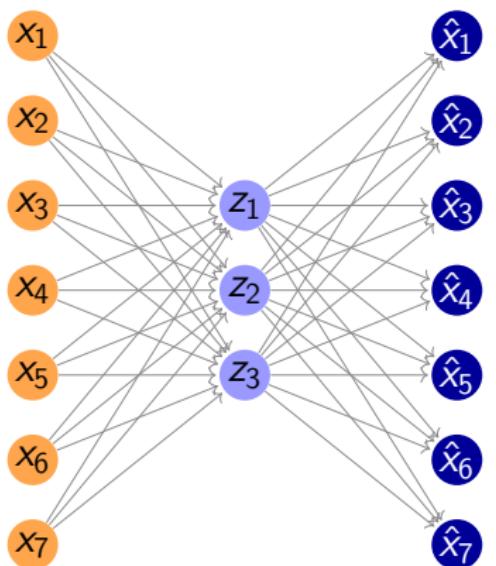
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- Hidden layer (size L) is a low-dimensional **bottleneck** between input and reconstruction

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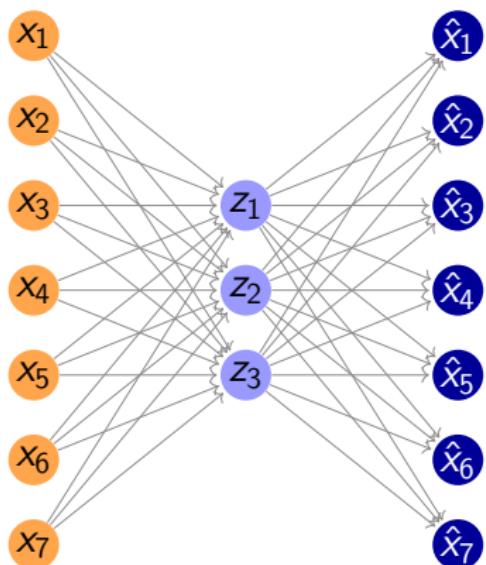
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- $L \ll D$: undercomplete representation

Basic autoencoder (AE) architecture

Autoencoder with 2 single-layer MLPs: input layer, hidden layer (latent representation) and output layer (reconstruction)



- Hidden layer (size L) is a low-dimensional **bottleneck** between input and reconstruction
- $L \ll D$: undercomplete representation
- $L \gg D$: overcomplete representation (regularize to prevent identity learning)

Factor analysis
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Denoising autoencoders

Denoising autoencoders

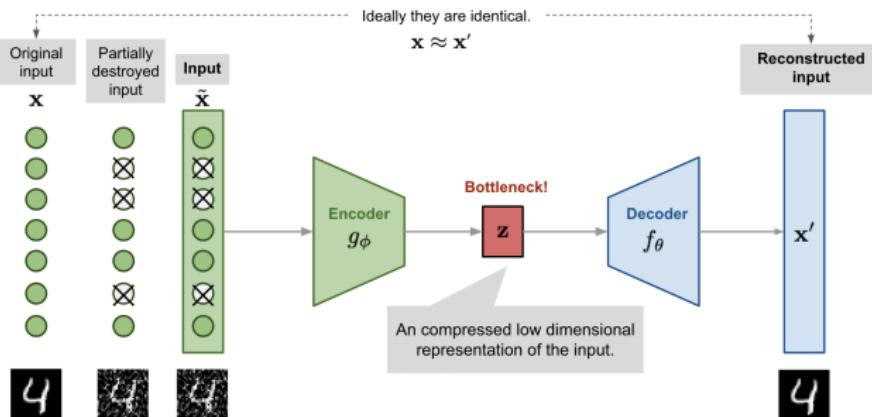
In denoising autoencoders (DAEs), the input is corrupted ($\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$) by:

- Gaussian noise: $p_c(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}|\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}|\mathbf{x}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$

Denoising autoencoders

In denoising autoencoders (DAEs), the input is corrupted (\tilde{x}) by:

- Gaussian noise: $p_c(\tilde{x}|x) = \mathcal{N}(\tilde{x}|x, \sigma^2 I)$
- Bernoulli dropout: randomly setting a proportion of input nodes to zero



Schematic of a DAE.

Source: <https://lilianweng.github.io/posts/2018-08-12-vae/>

The model is then trained to minimize the loss between the reconstructed input $r(\tilde{x})$ and its uncorrupted version x

Factor analysis
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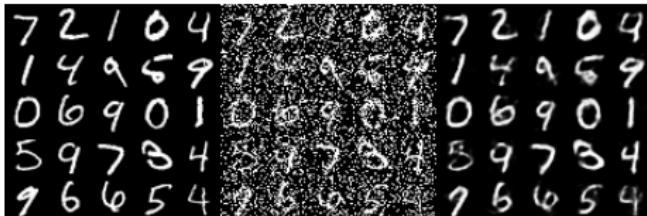
Uses of DAE

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- DAEs are used for denoising images

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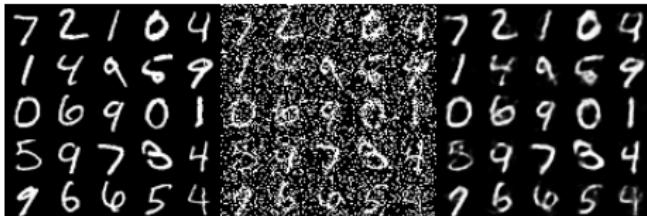
Original, corrupted and reconstructed images from MNIST dataset.

Source: <http://www.opendeep.org/v0.0.5/docs/tutorial-your-first-model>

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- They can also learn vector fields of input data
- Popular for their simplicity

Factor analysis
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FA Estimation
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Autoencoders
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AE variants
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Sparse autoencoder (SAE)

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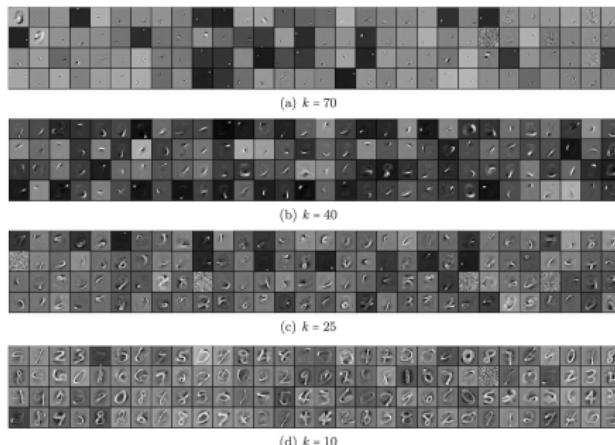
Sparse autoencoder (SAE): sparsity penalty on latent activations

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$$\Omega(\mathbf{z}) = \lambda ||\mathbf{z}||_1 \quad (23)$$

- ***k*-Sparse autoencoder:** use only k largest activations in training



Filters of the k -sparse autoencoder for different sparsity levels k , learnt from MNIST with 1000 hidden units.

Source: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1312.5663.pdf>

Useful for interpretability

Other AEs

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- Variational autoencoder (VAE): probabilistic version of AE/generative model

Reading

- **PMLI** 20.3
- **DL** 20