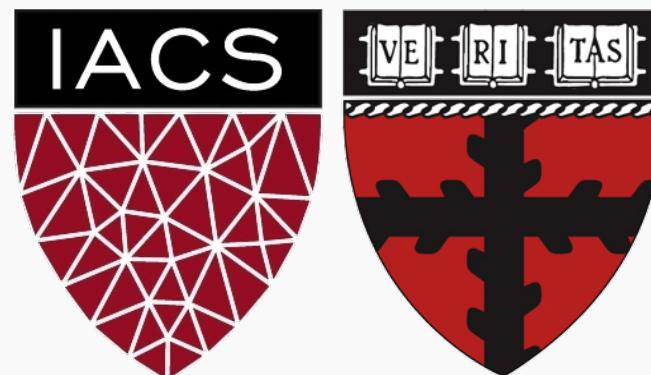


Lecture 19: Variational Autoencoders

CS109B Data Science 2
Pavlos Protopapas and Mark Glickman



Outline

Motivation for Variational Autoencoders (VAE)

Mechanics of VAE

Separability of VAE

The math behind everything

Generative models

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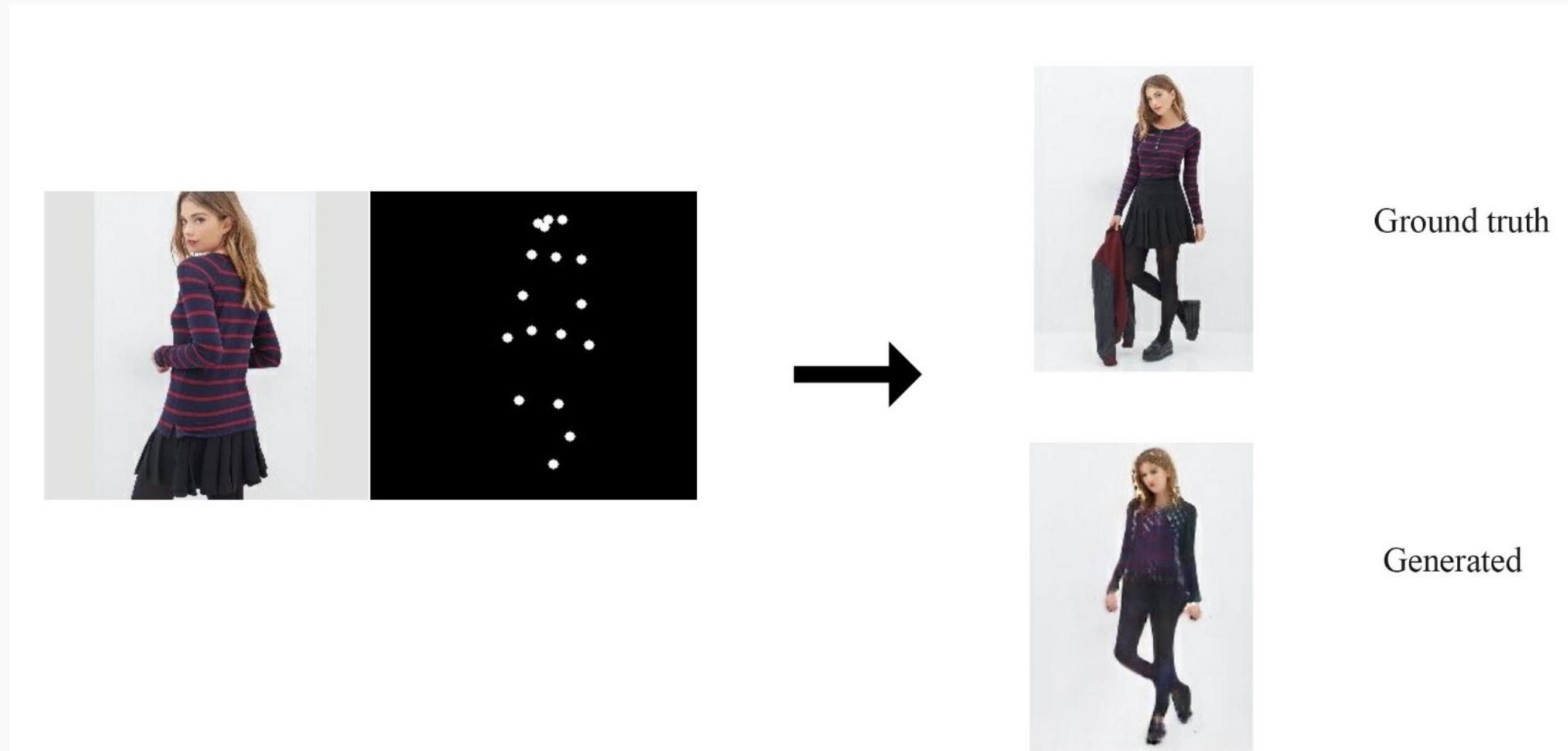
Generating Data (is exciting)



Figure 7: Generated samples

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1708.05509.pdf>

Generating Data (is exciting)



Generating Data (is exciting)

Zebras ↘ Horses



zebra → horse



horse → zebra



Figure 5: 1024×1024 images generated using the CELEBA-HQ dataset. See Appendix F for a larger set of results, and the accompanying video for latent space interpolations.



(a) MidiNet model 1



(b) MidiNet model 2



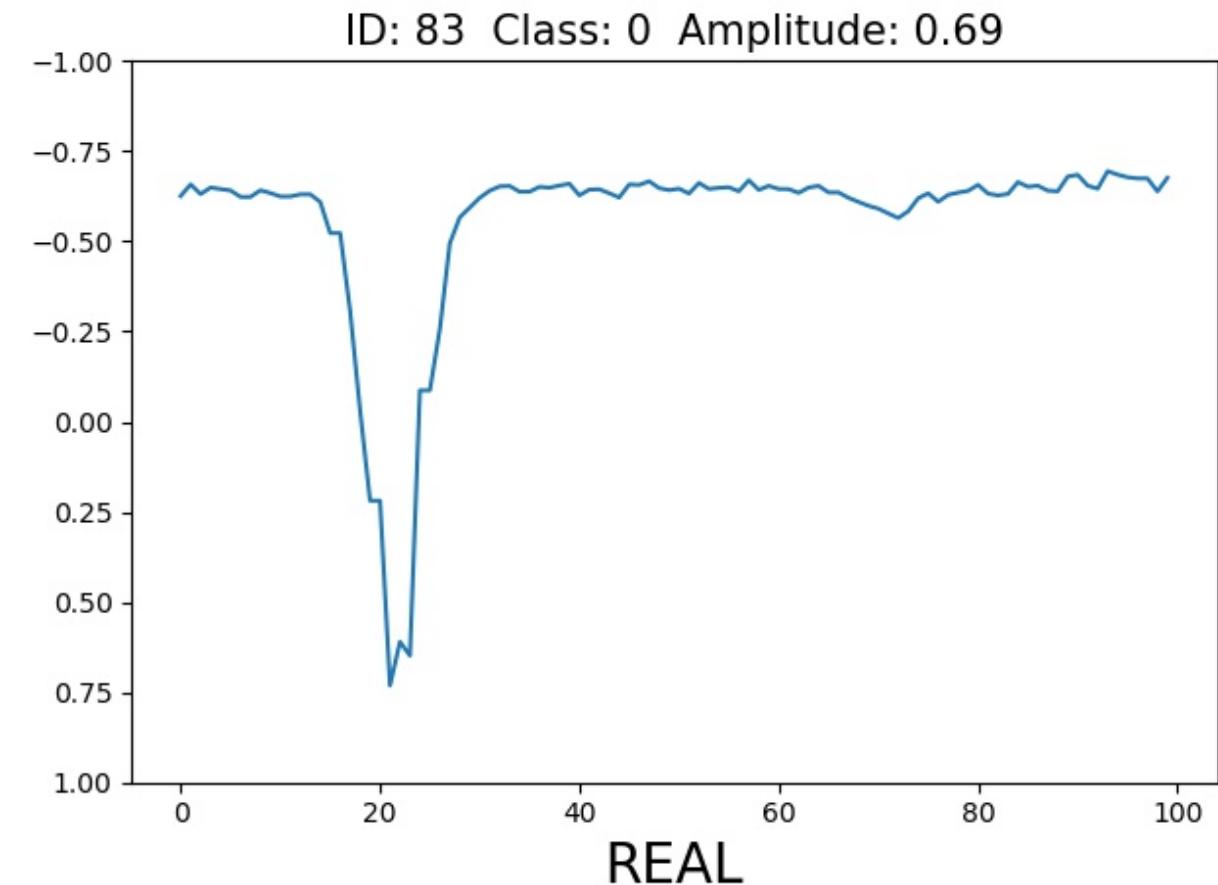
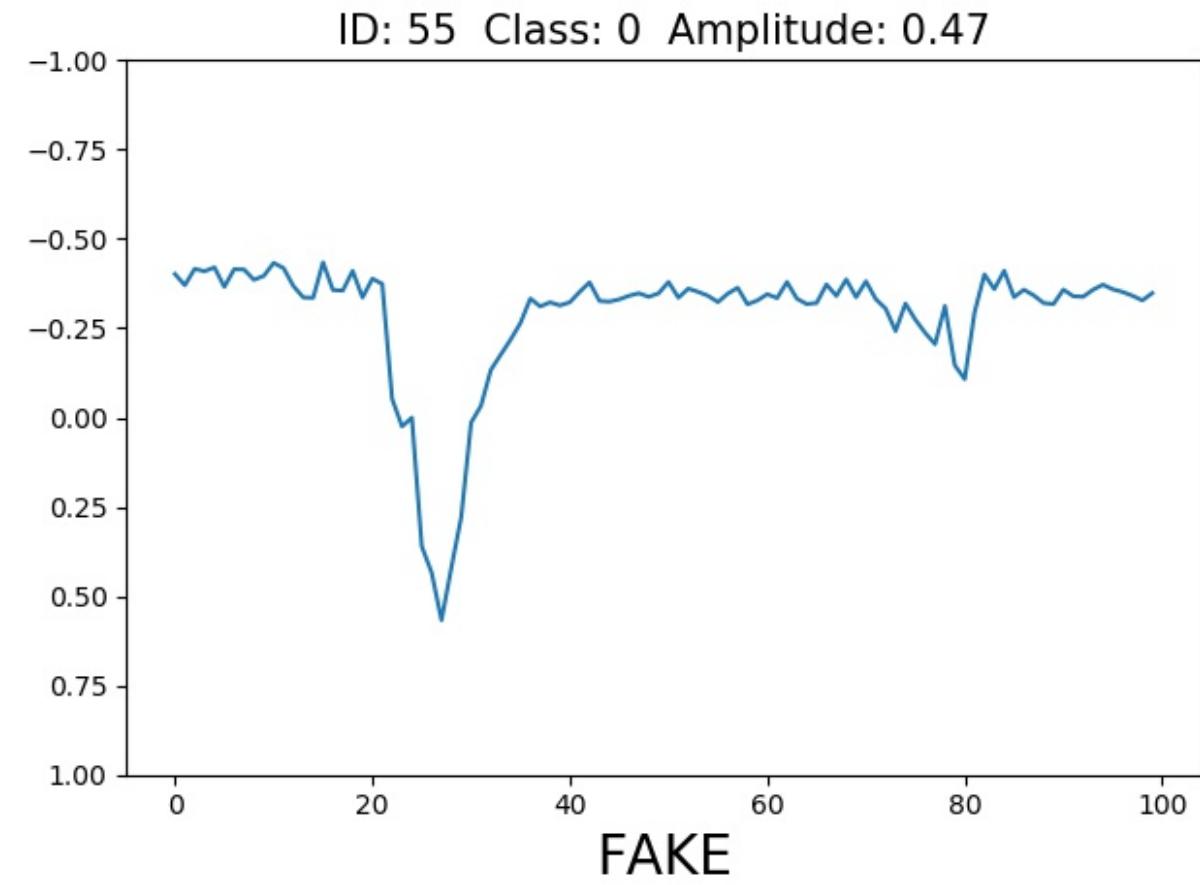
(c) MidiNet model 3

Figure 3. Example result of the melodies (of 8 bars) generated by different implementations of MidiNet.

Another use of generating new data is to give us ideas and options. Suppose we're planning a house. We can give the computer the space we have available, and its location. From this, the computer can give us some ideas.

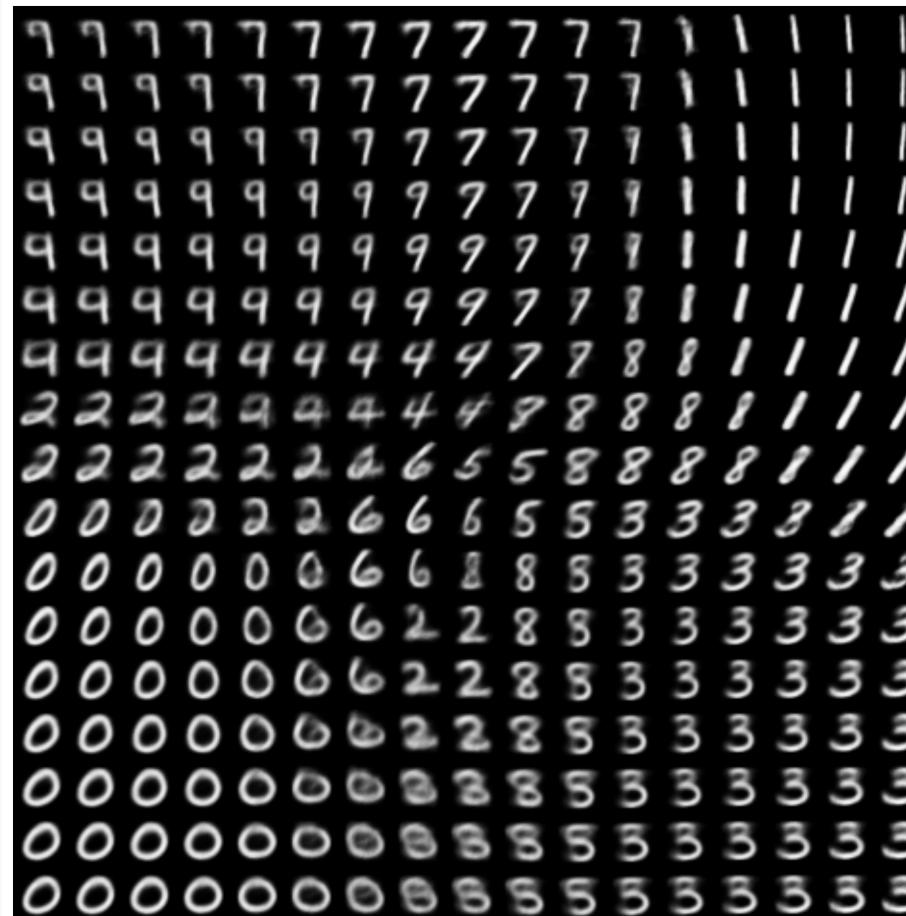


Big networks require big data, and getting high-quality, labeled data is difficult. If we're generating that data ourselves, we can make as much of it as we like.



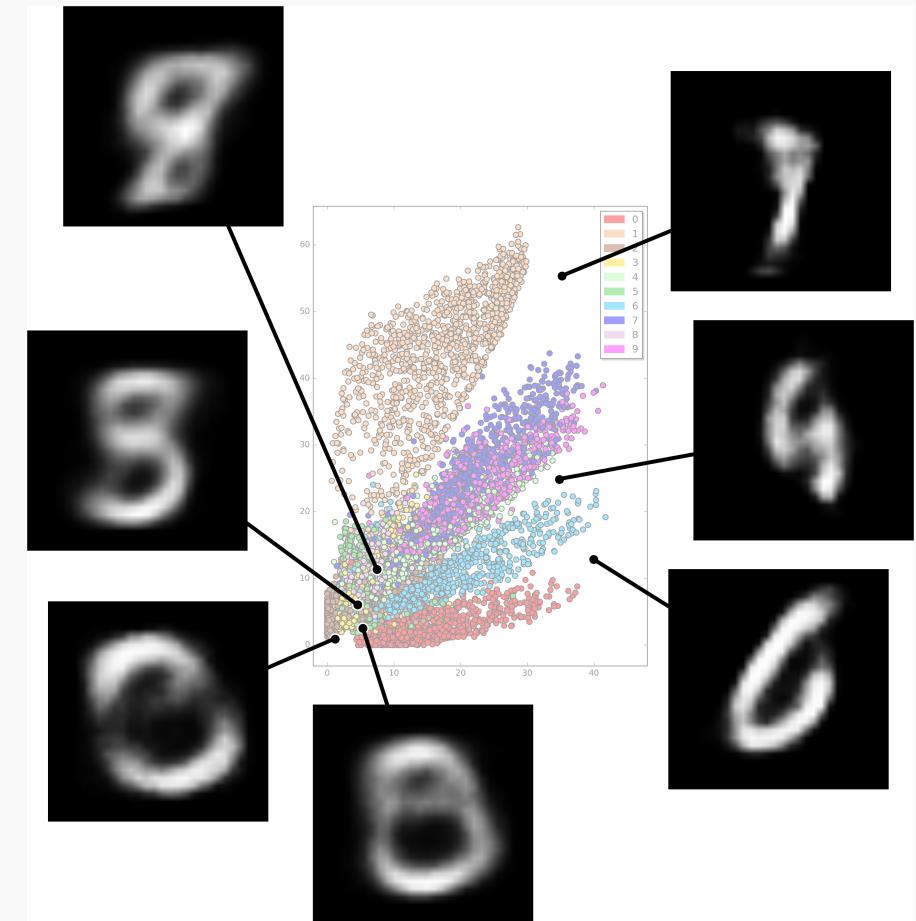
Generating Data

We saw how to generate new data with a AE in Lecture 18.



Problems with Autoencoders

- Gaps in the latent space
- Discrete latent space
- Separability in the latent space



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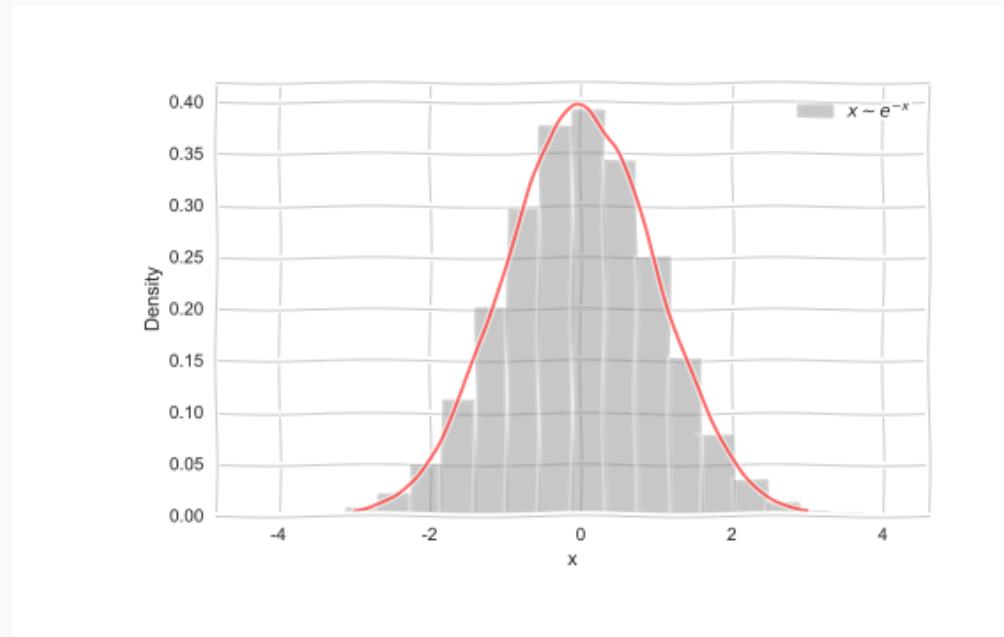
Generative models

Imagine we want to generate data from a distribution,

e.g.

$$x \sim p(x)$$

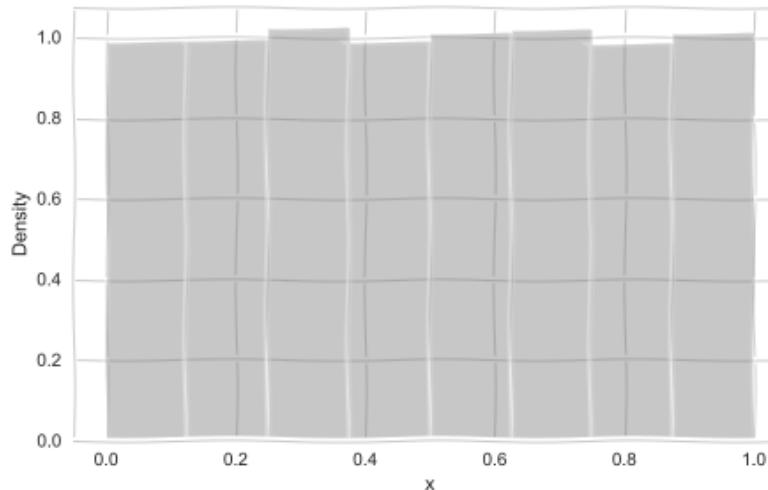
$$x \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$$



Generative models

But how do we generate such samples?

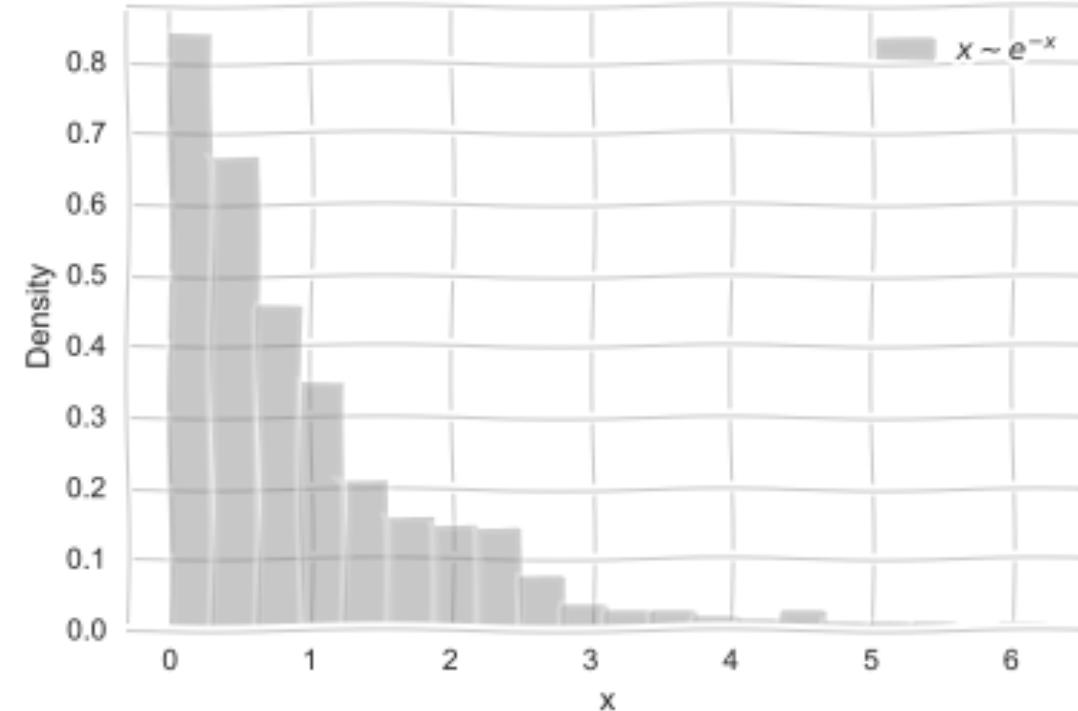
$$z \sim \text{Unif}(0, 1)$$



Generative models

But how do we generate such samples?

$$z \sim \text{Unif}(0, 1) \quad x = \ln z$$



Generative models

In other words we can think that if we choose $z \sim \text{Uniform}$ then there is a mapping:

$$x = f(z)$$

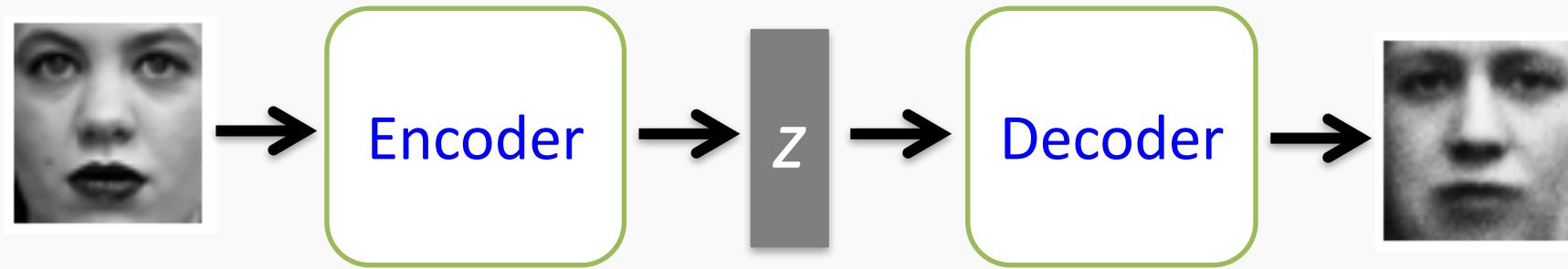
such as:

$$x \sim p(x)$$

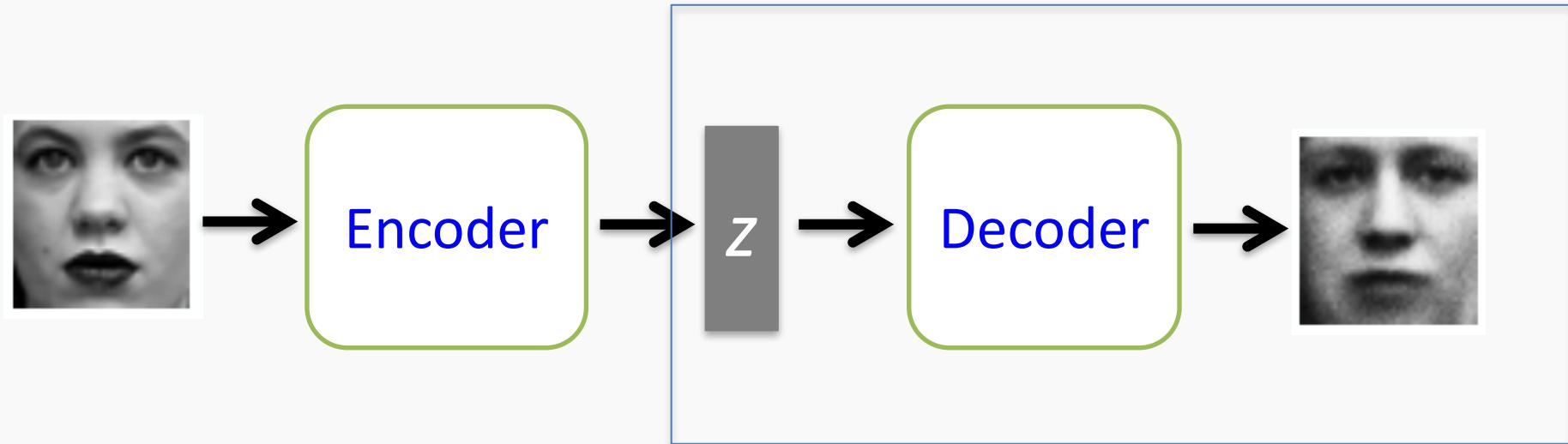
where in general f is some complicated function.

We already know that Neural Networks are great in learning complex functions.

Variational Autoencoders

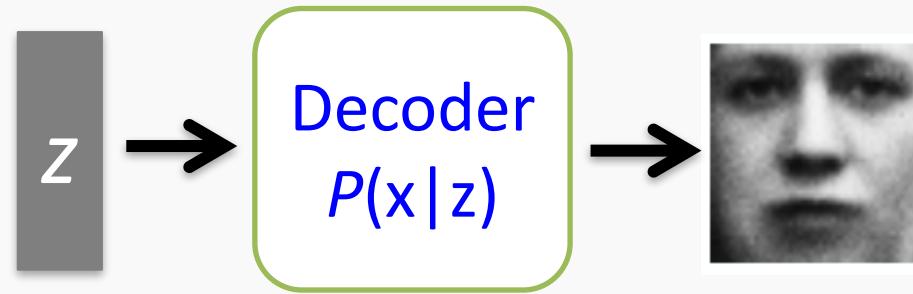


Variational Autoencoders

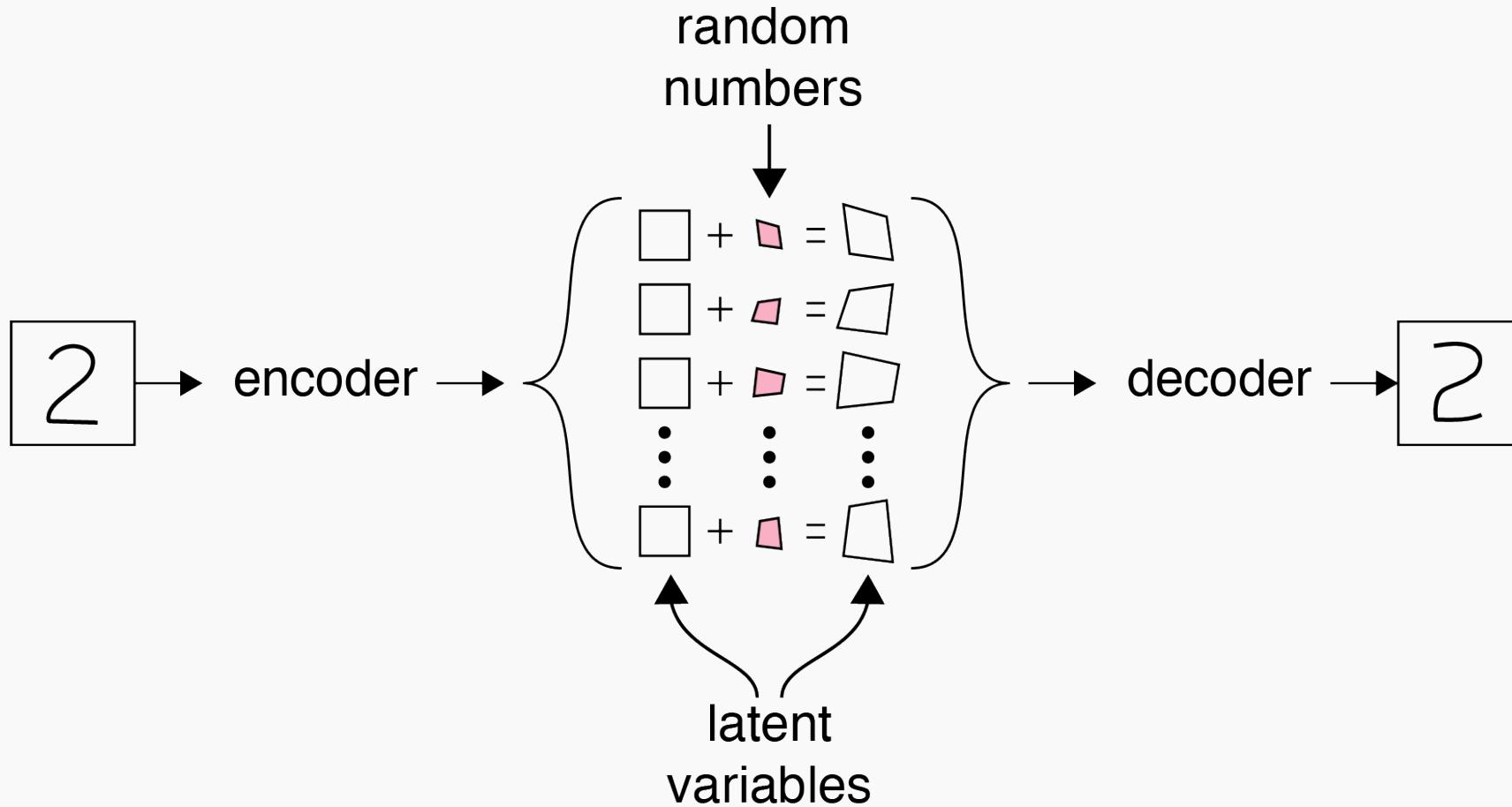


Variational Autoencoders

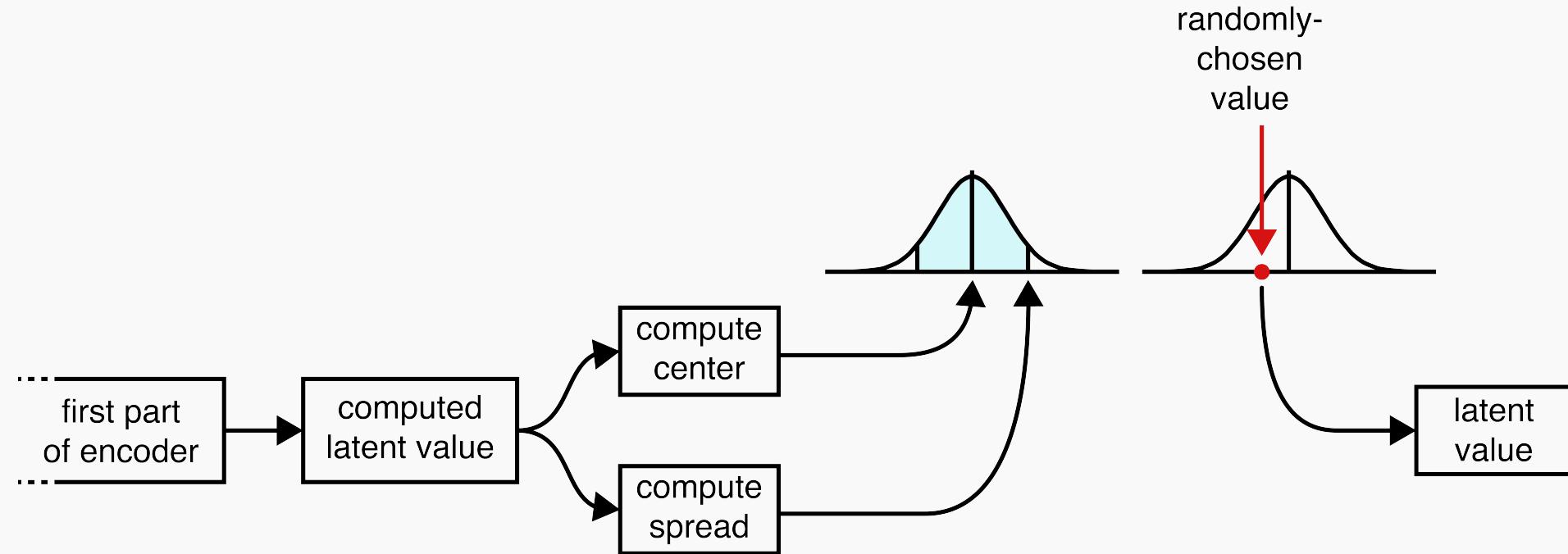
Sample from $P(z)$
Standard Gaussian



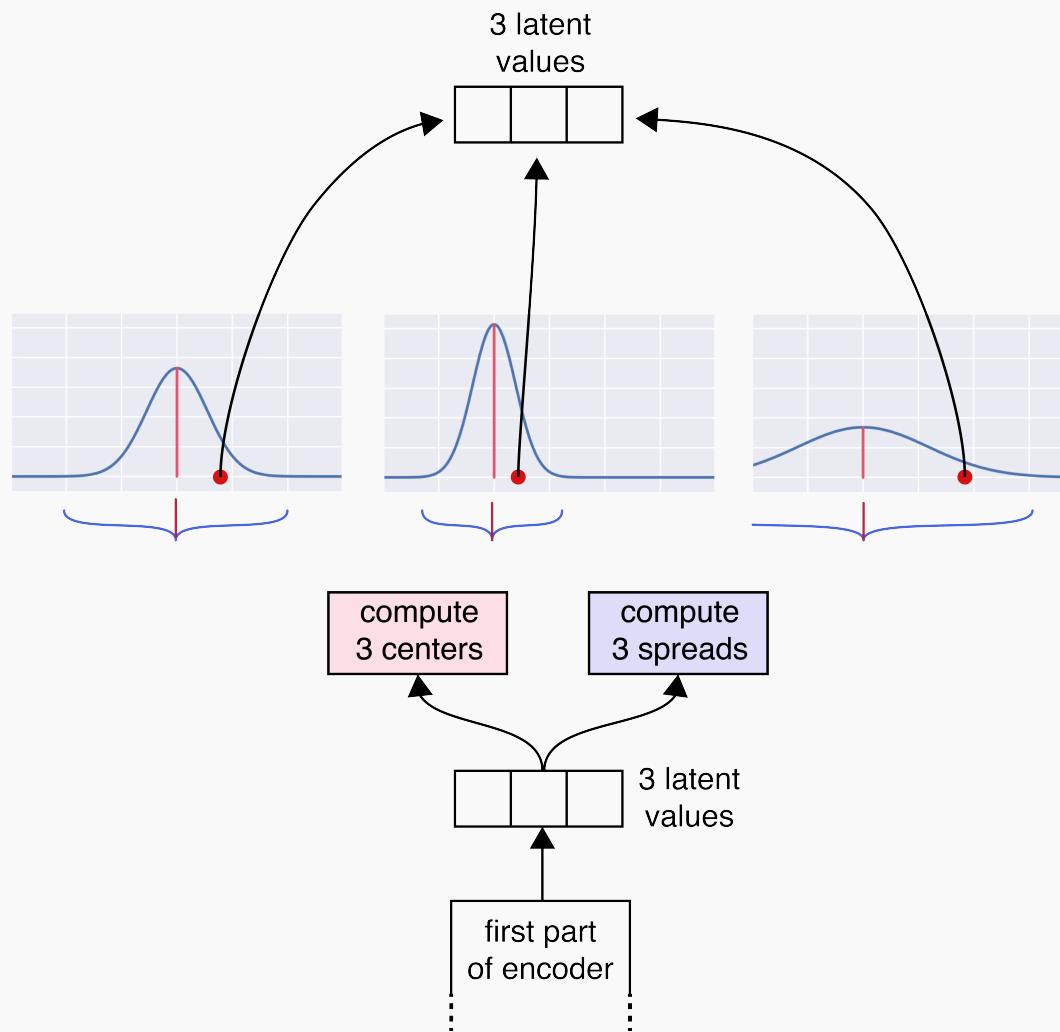
Variational Autoencoders



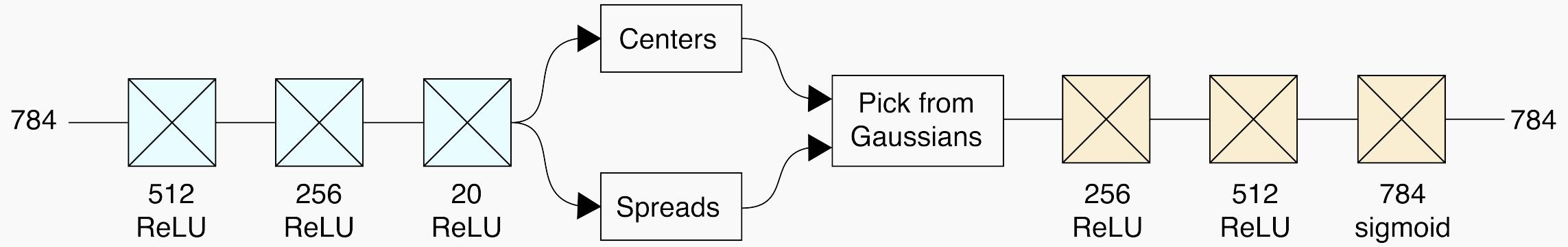
Variational Autoencoders



Variational Autoencoders



Variational Autoencoders



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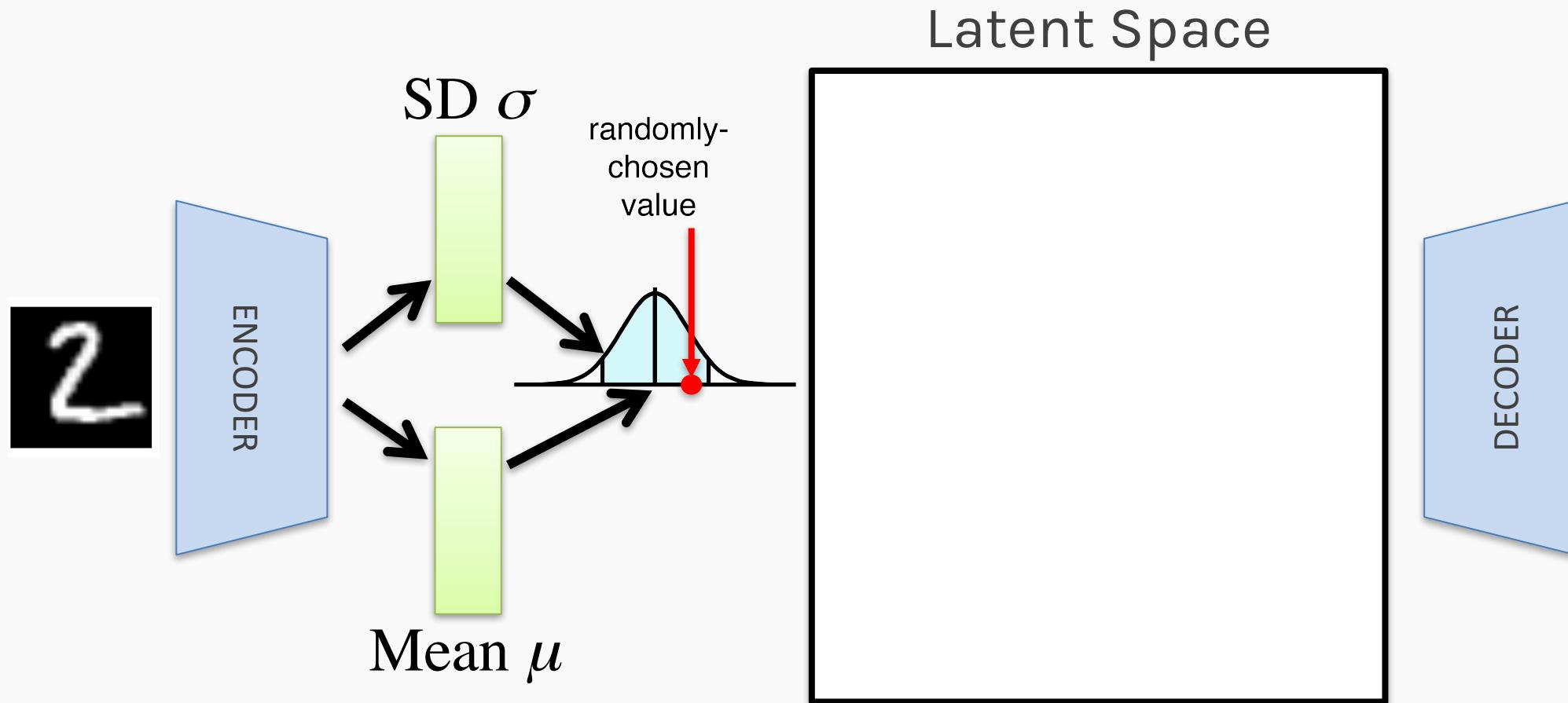


Variational Autoencoders

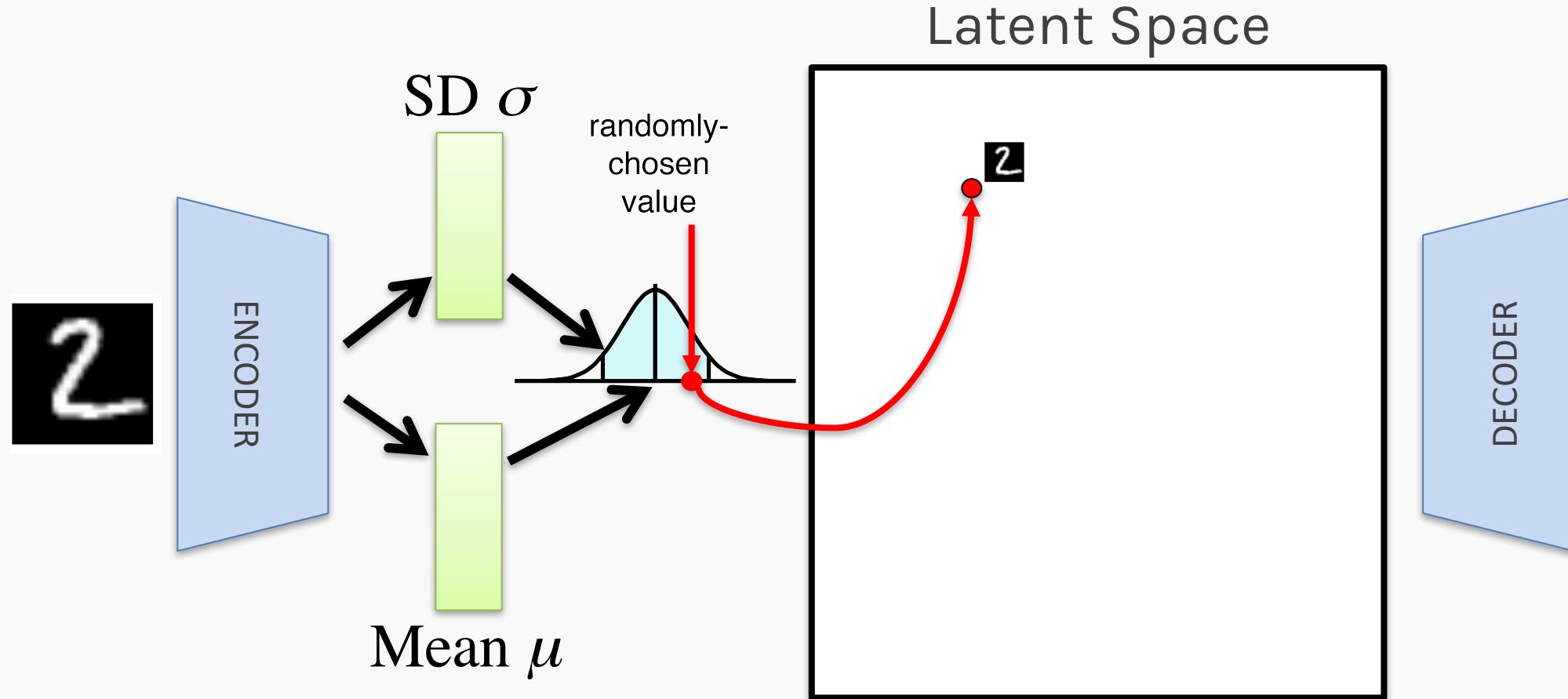
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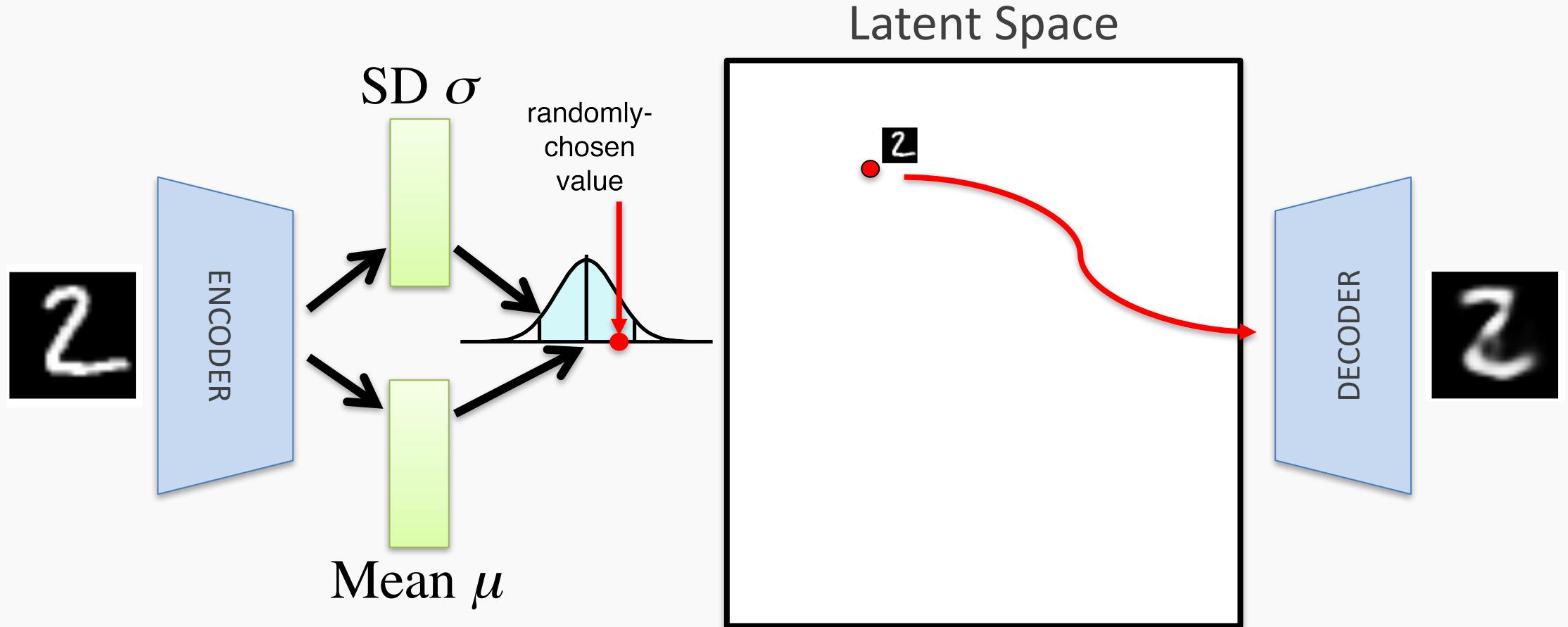
Blending Latent Variables



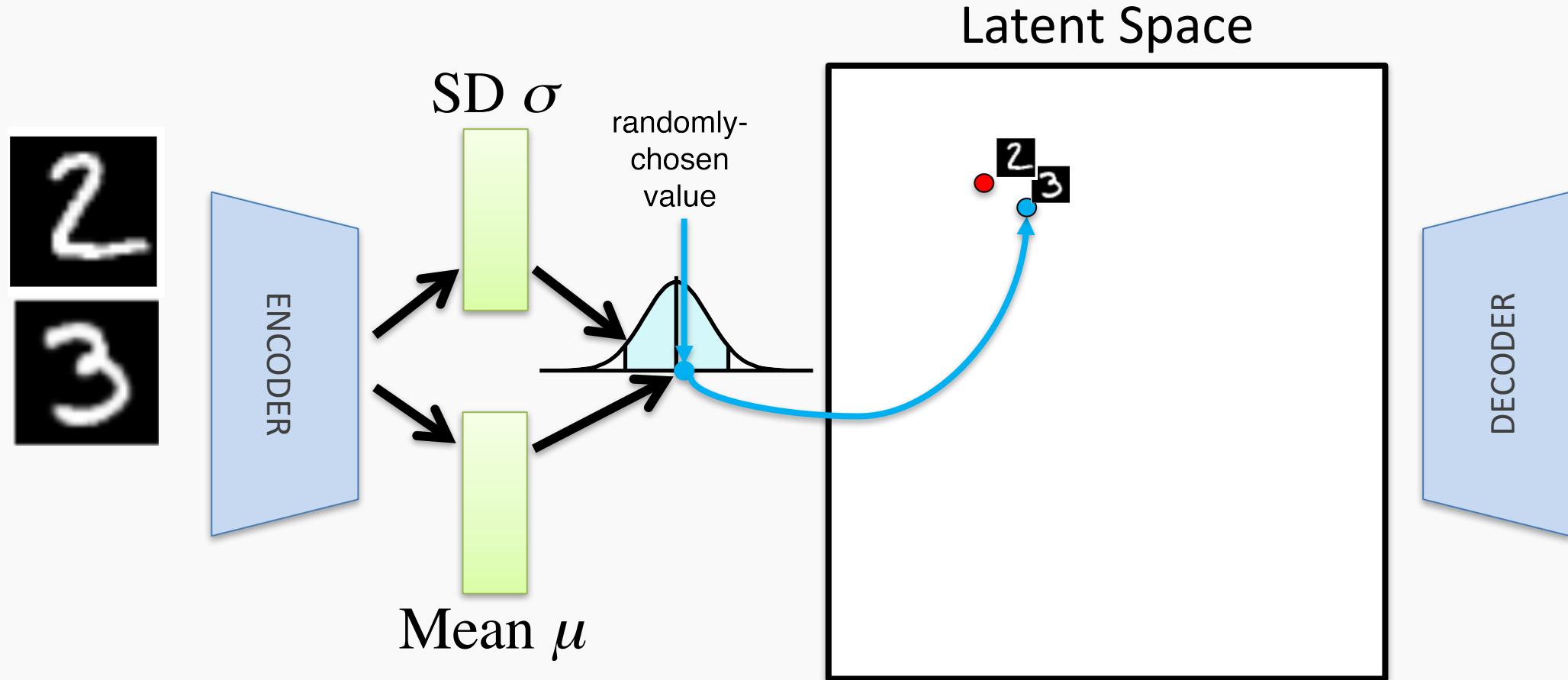
Blending Latent Variables



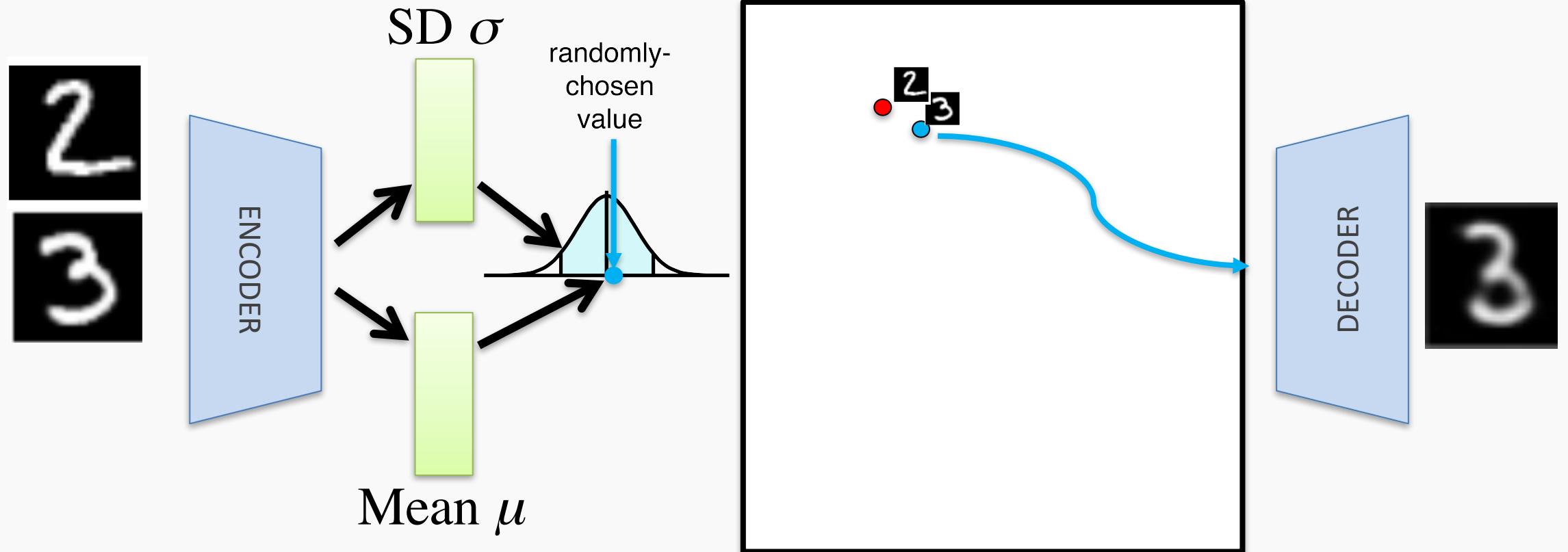
Blending Latent Variables



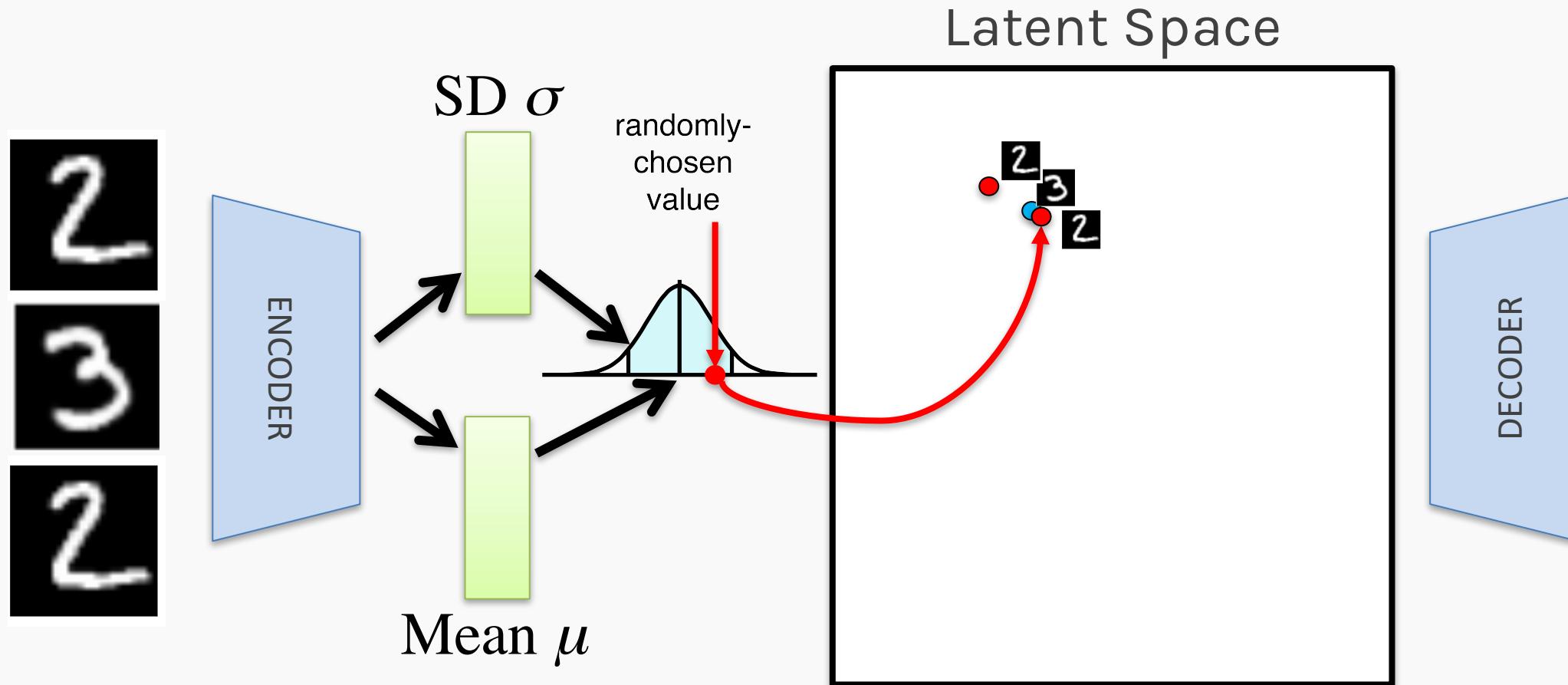
Blending Latent Variables



Blending Latent Variables

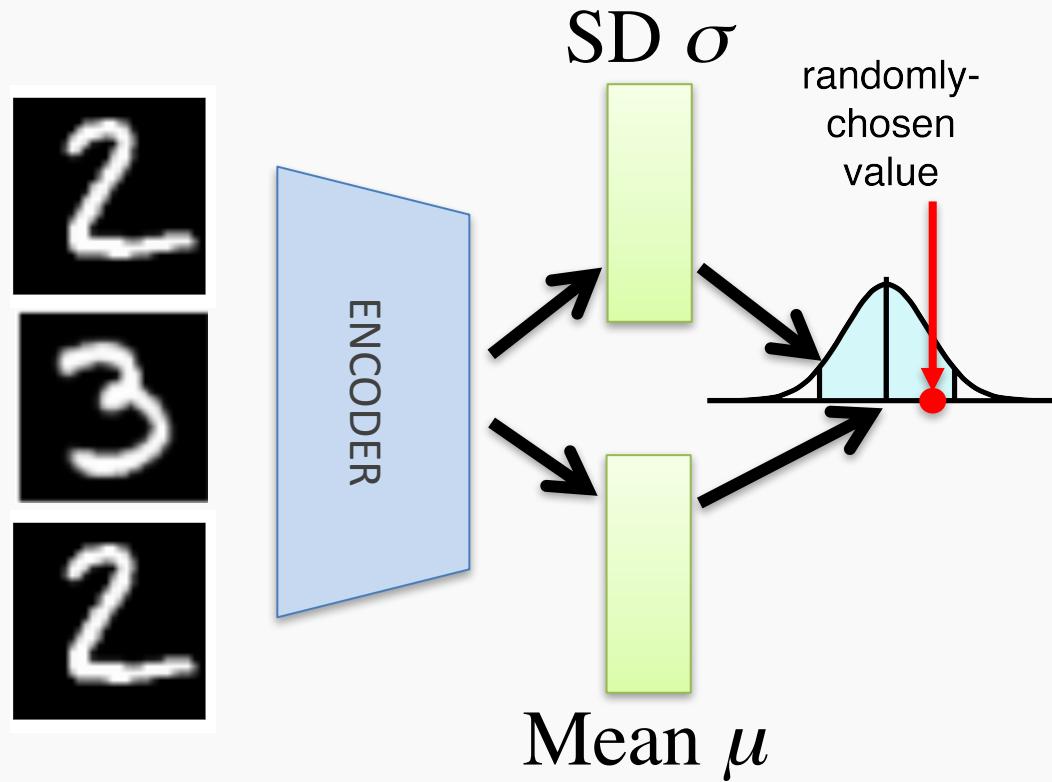


Blending Latent Variables

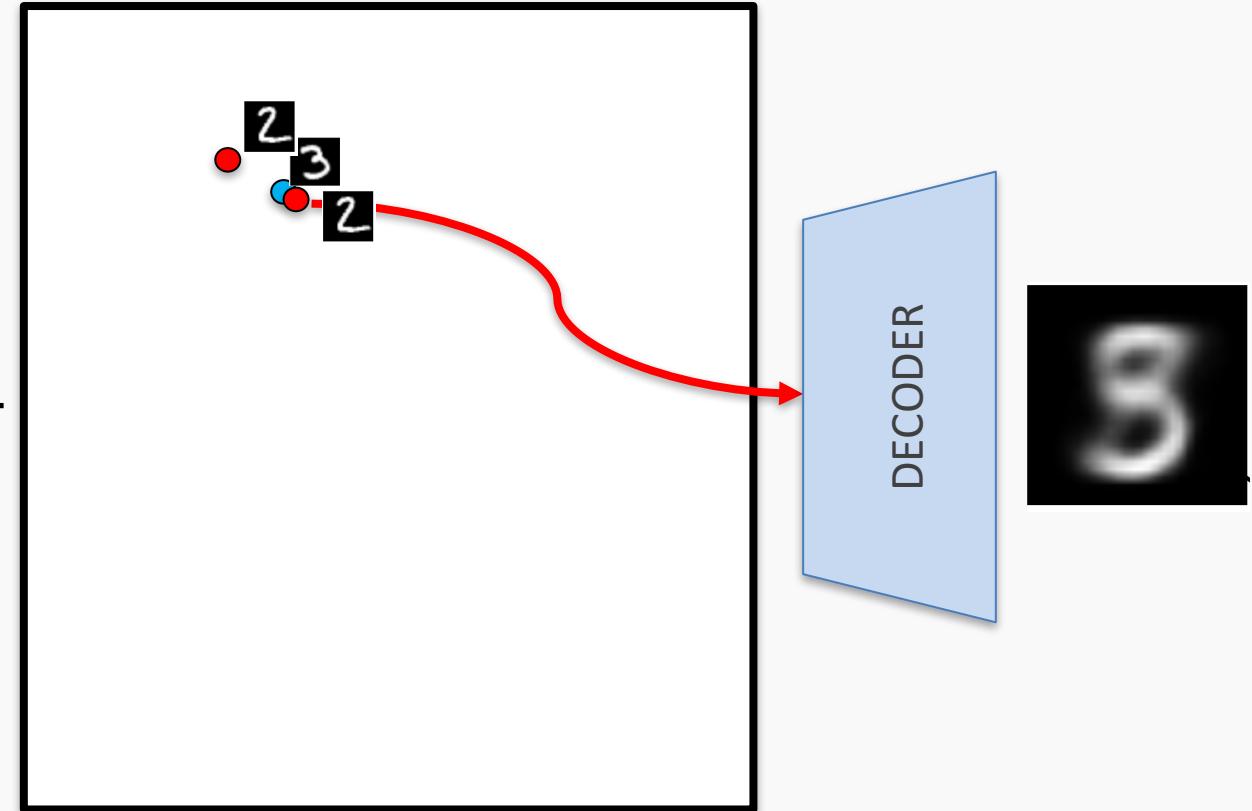


Blending Latent Variables

Train with 1st sample again

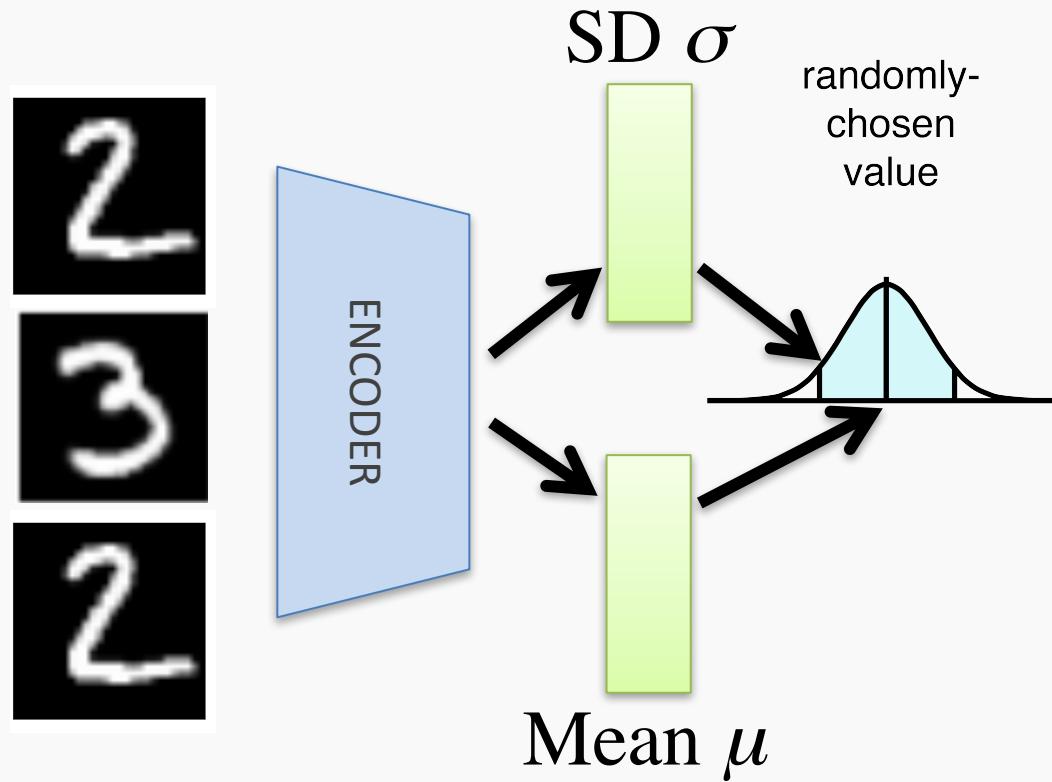


Latent Space

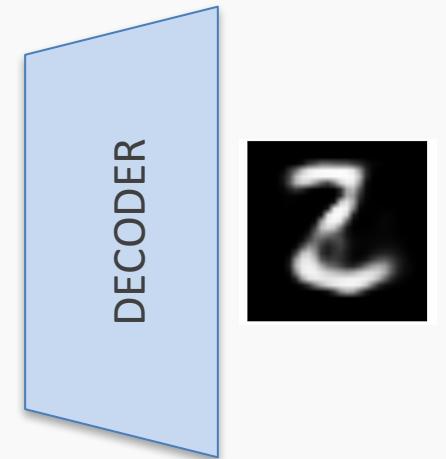
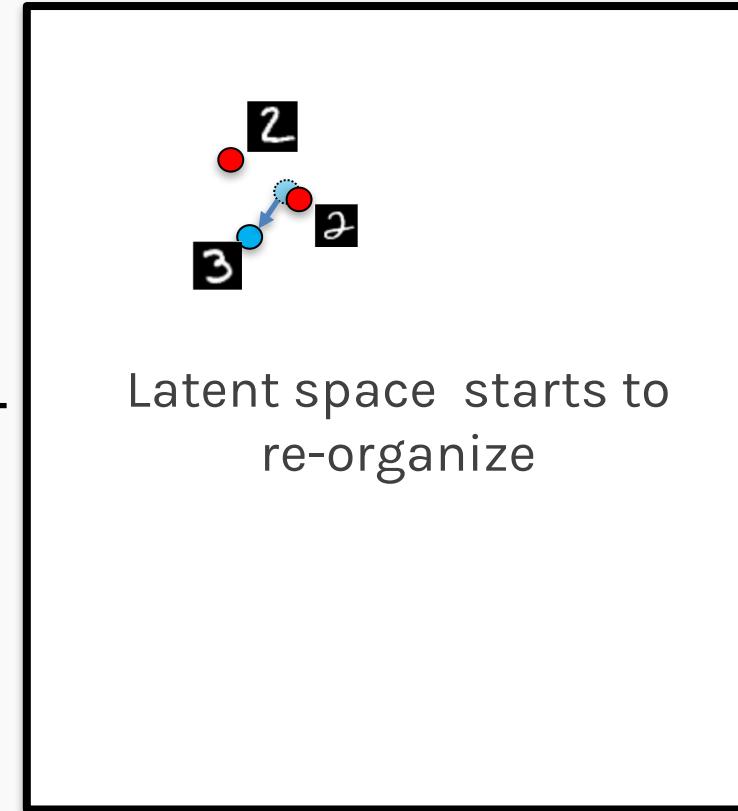


Blending Latent Variables

Train with 1st sample again

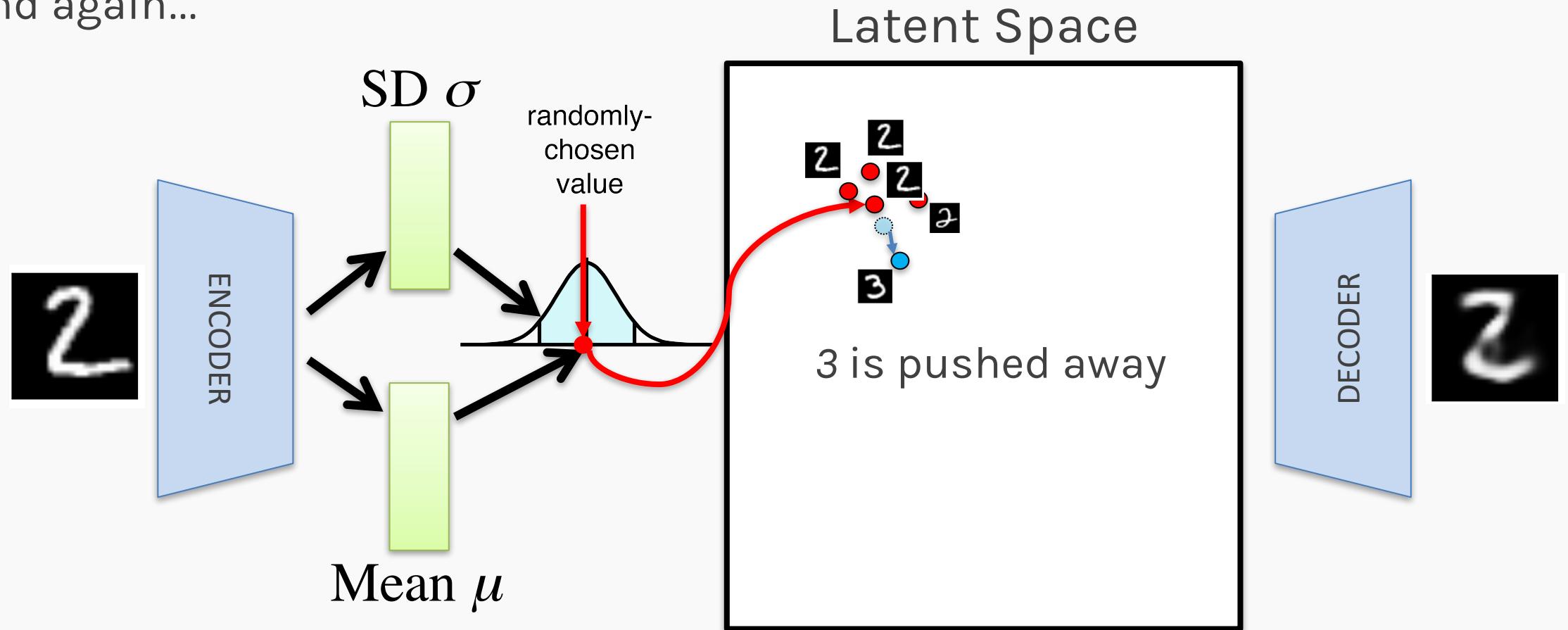


Latent Space



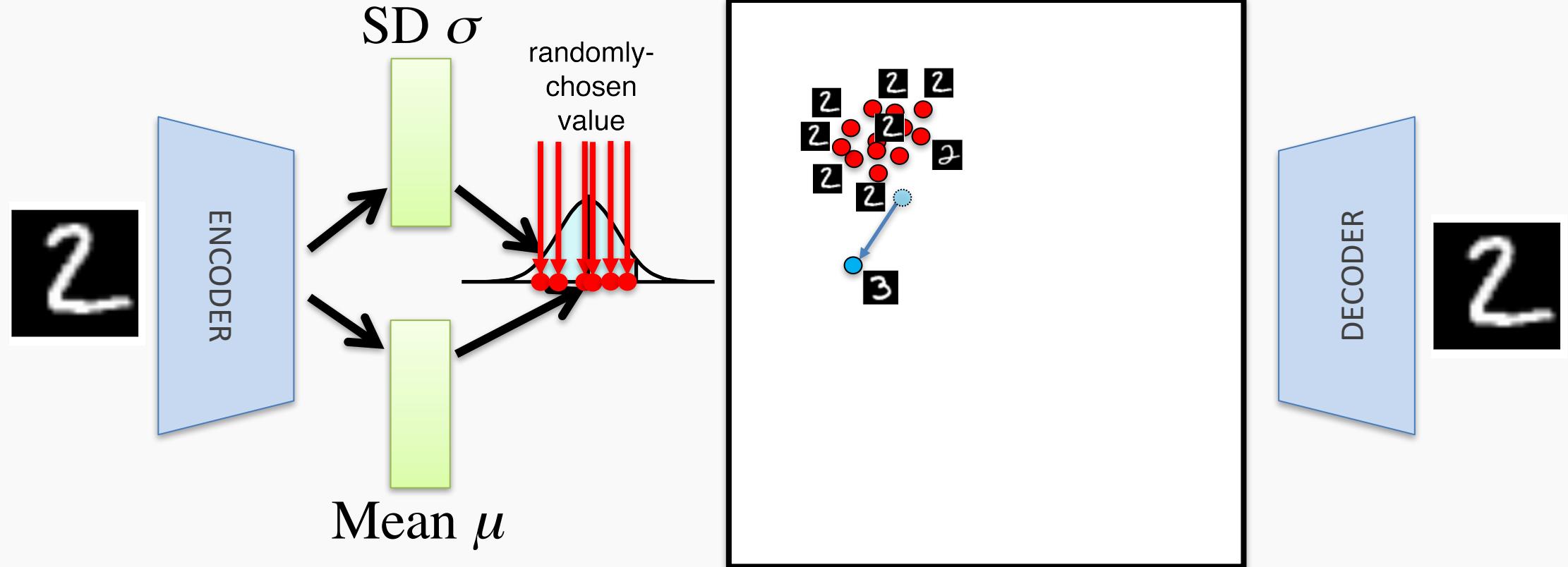
Blending Latent Variables

And again...



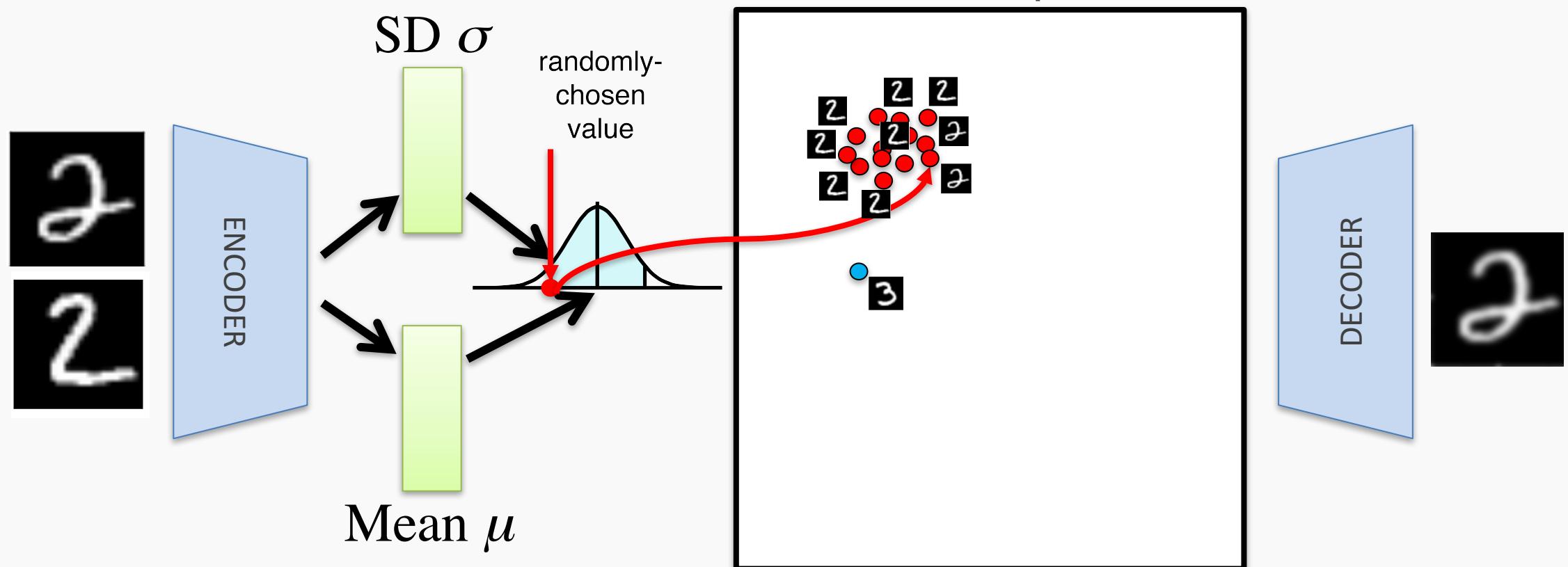
Blending Latent Variables

Many times...



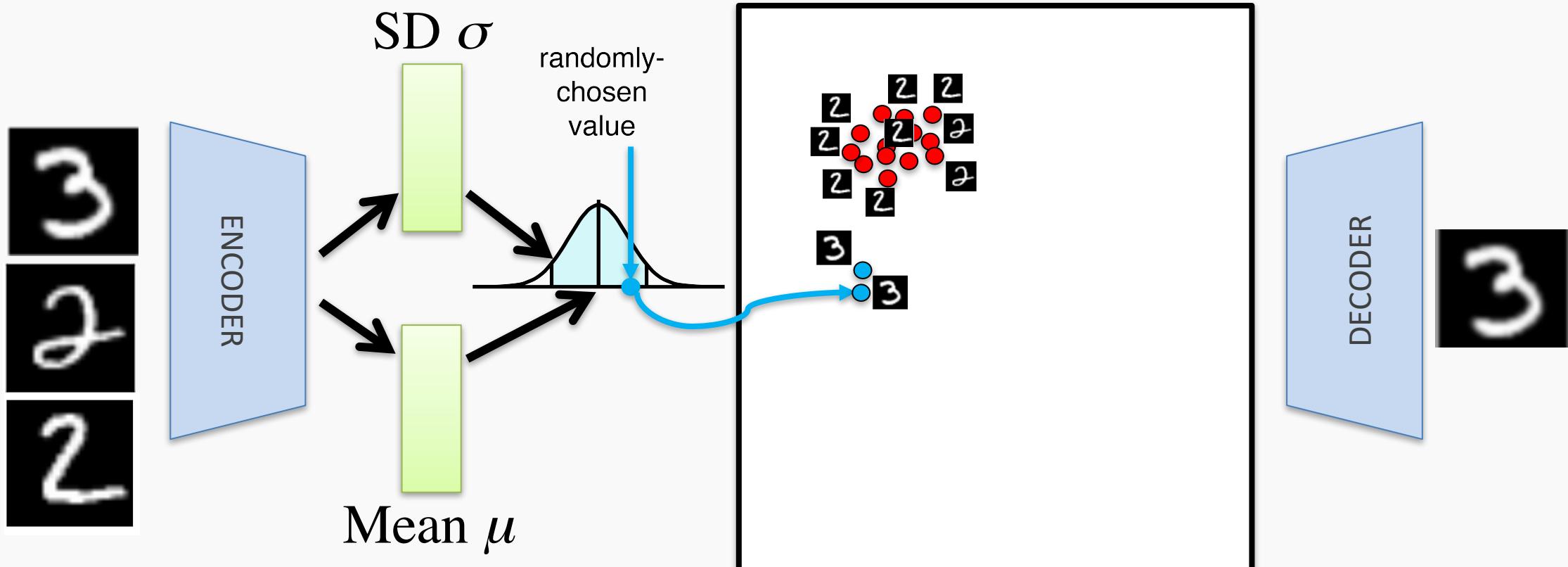
Blending Latent Variables

Now lets test again



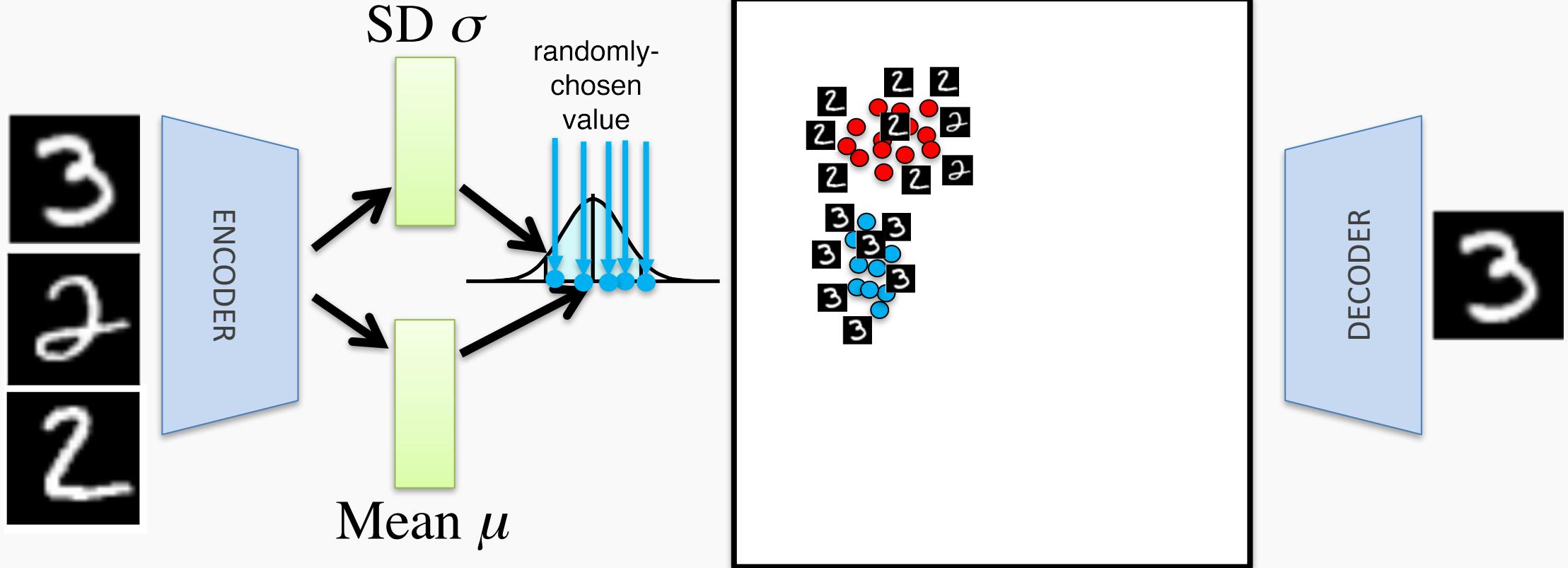
Blending Latent Variables

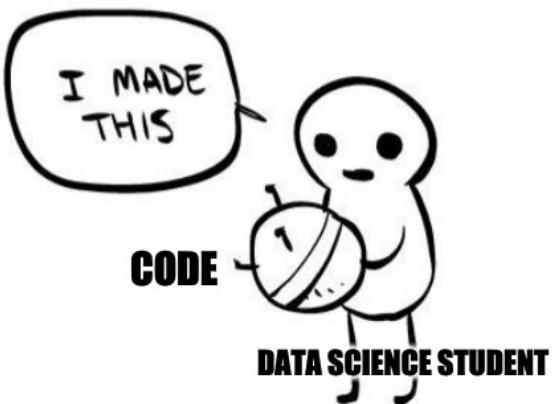
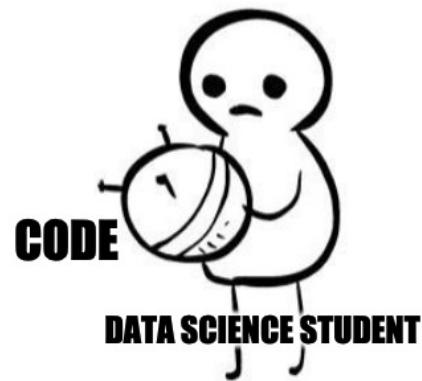
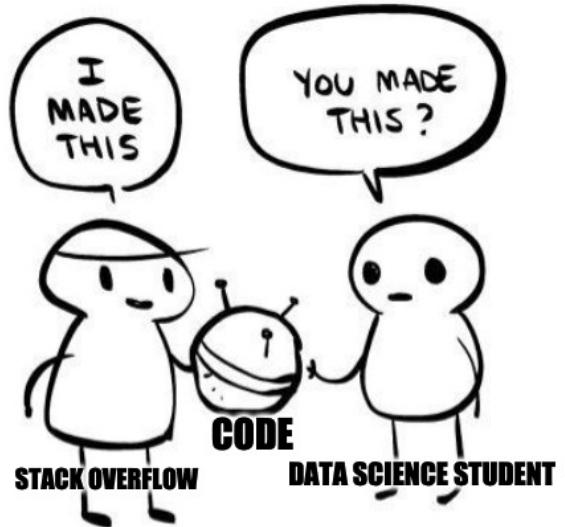
Training on 3's again



Blending Latent Variables

Many times...





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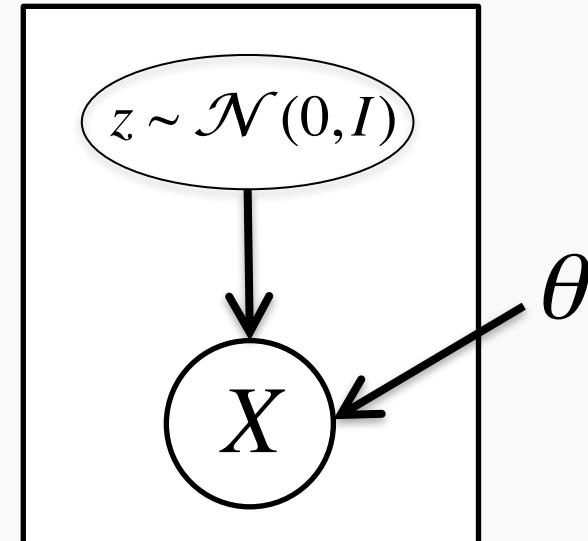
VAE Likelihood

Neural network

$$p_{\theta}(x) = \int_z p_{\theta}(x|z)p_{\theta}(z)dz$$

Difficult to approximate in high
dim through sampling

For most z values $p(x|z)$ close to 0

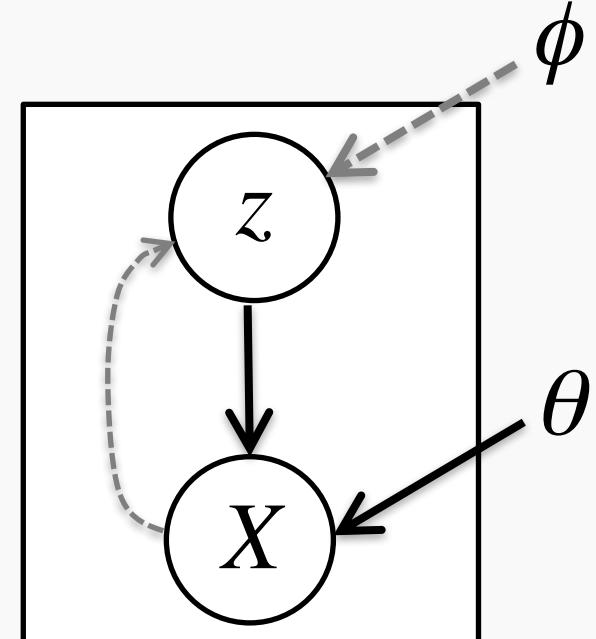


VAE Likelihood

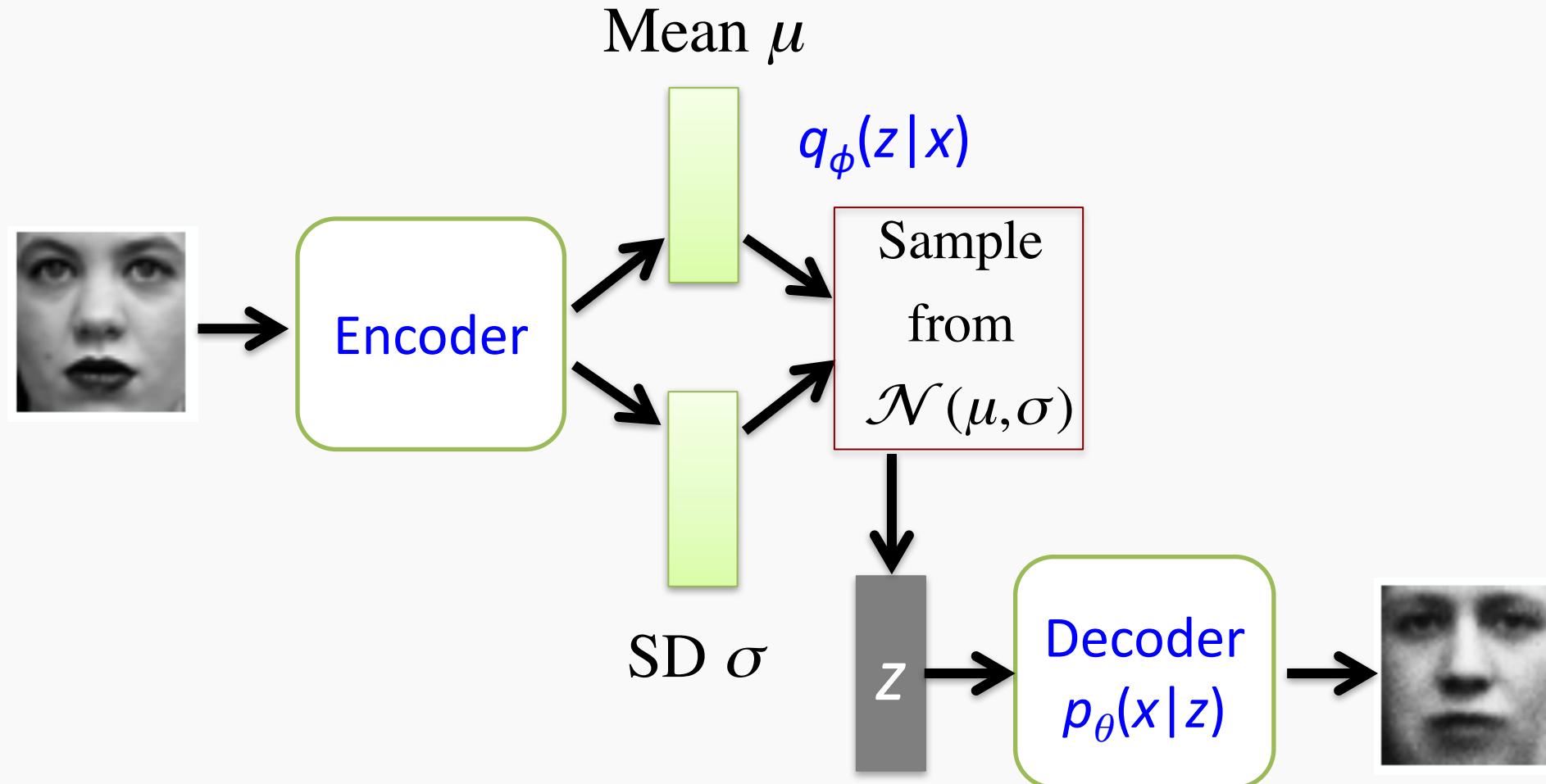
Another neural net

$$p_{\theta}(x) = \int_z p_{\theta}(x|z) q_{\phi}(z|x) dz$$

Proposal distribution:
Likely to produce values of x
for which $p(x|z)$ is non-zero



VAE Architecture



VAE Loss

Reconstruction Loss

$$-\mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_\phi(z|x)} \log(p_\theta(x|z))$$



VAE Loss

Reconstruction Loss

Proposal distribution should
resemble a Gaussian

$$-\mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log(p_{\theta}(x|z)) + KL(q_{\phi}(z|x) \parallel p_{\theta}(z))$$



VAE Loss

Reconstruction Loss

Proposal distribution should
resemble a Gaussian

$$-\mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_{\phi}(z|x)} \log(p_{\theta}(x|z)) + KL(q_{\phi}(z|x) \parallel p_{\theta}(z))$$

$$\geq -\log p_{\theta}(x)$$

Variational upper bound
on loss we care about!



Training VAE

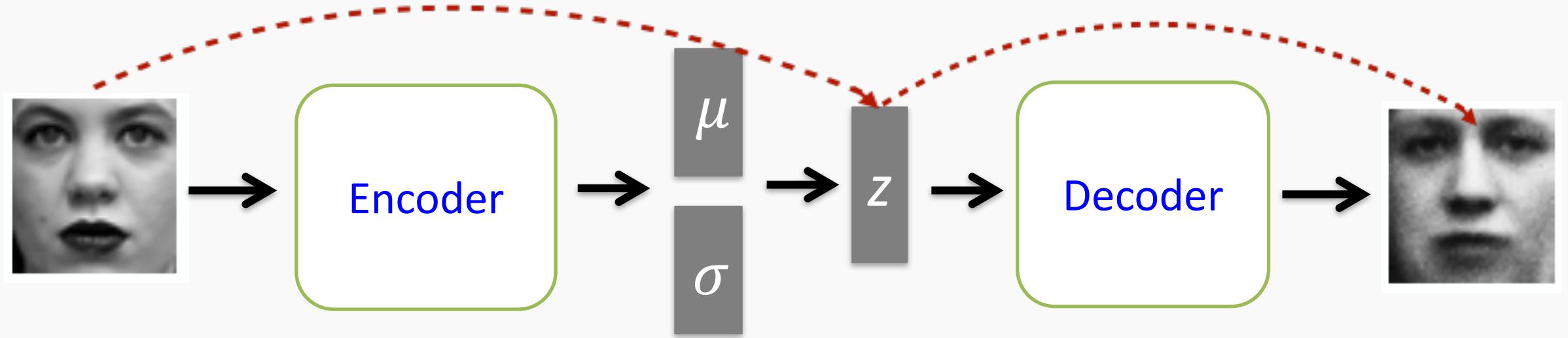
Apply stochastic gradient descent

Sampling step not differentiable

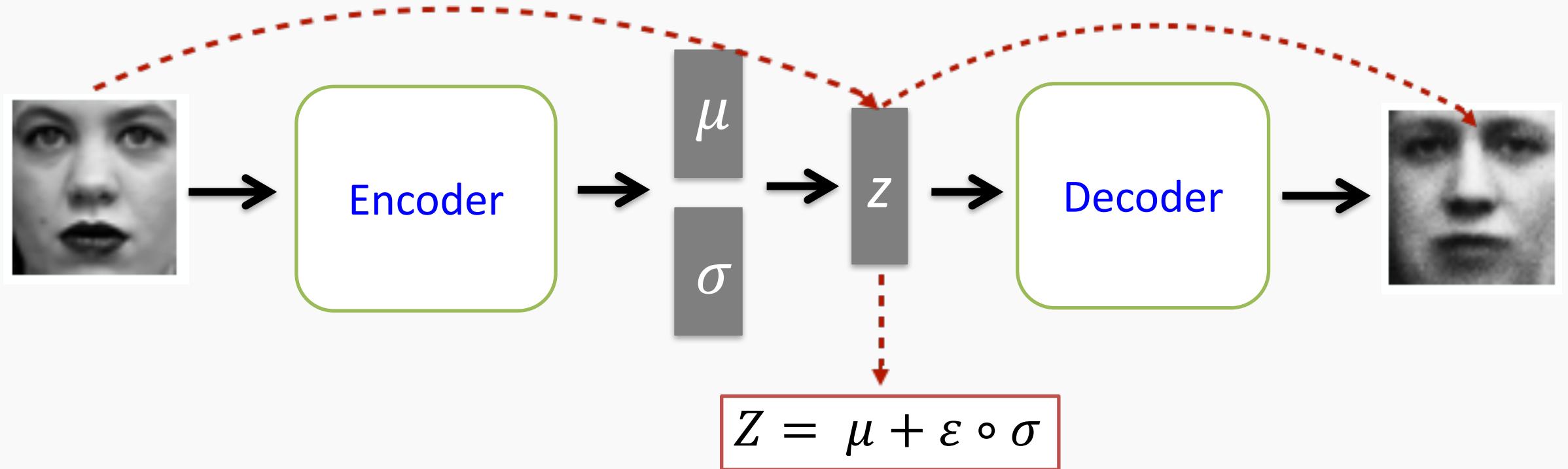
Use a re-parameterization trick

- Move sampling to input layer, so that the sampling step is independent of the model

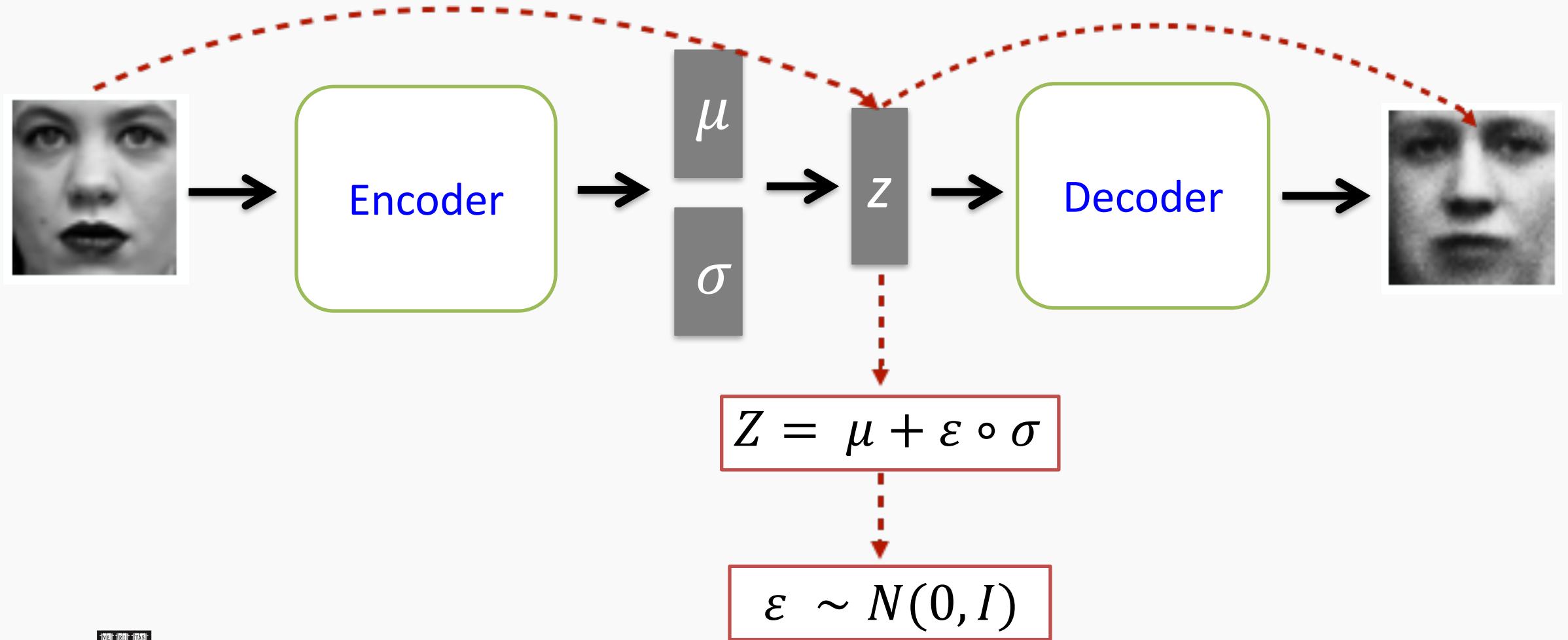
Reparametrization Trick



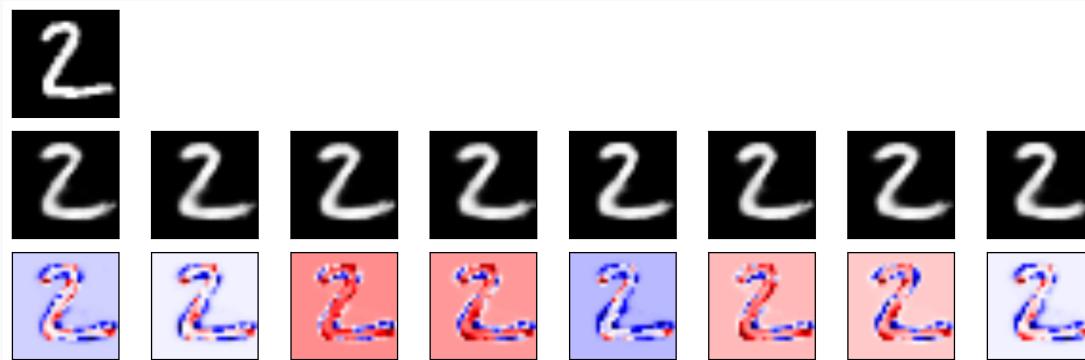
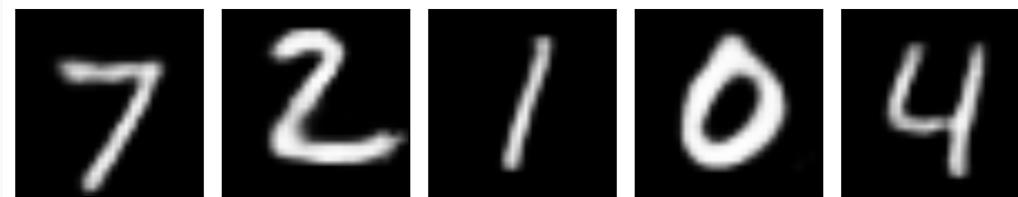
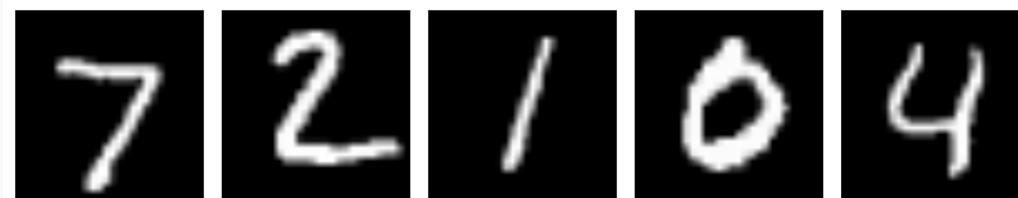
Reparametrization Trick



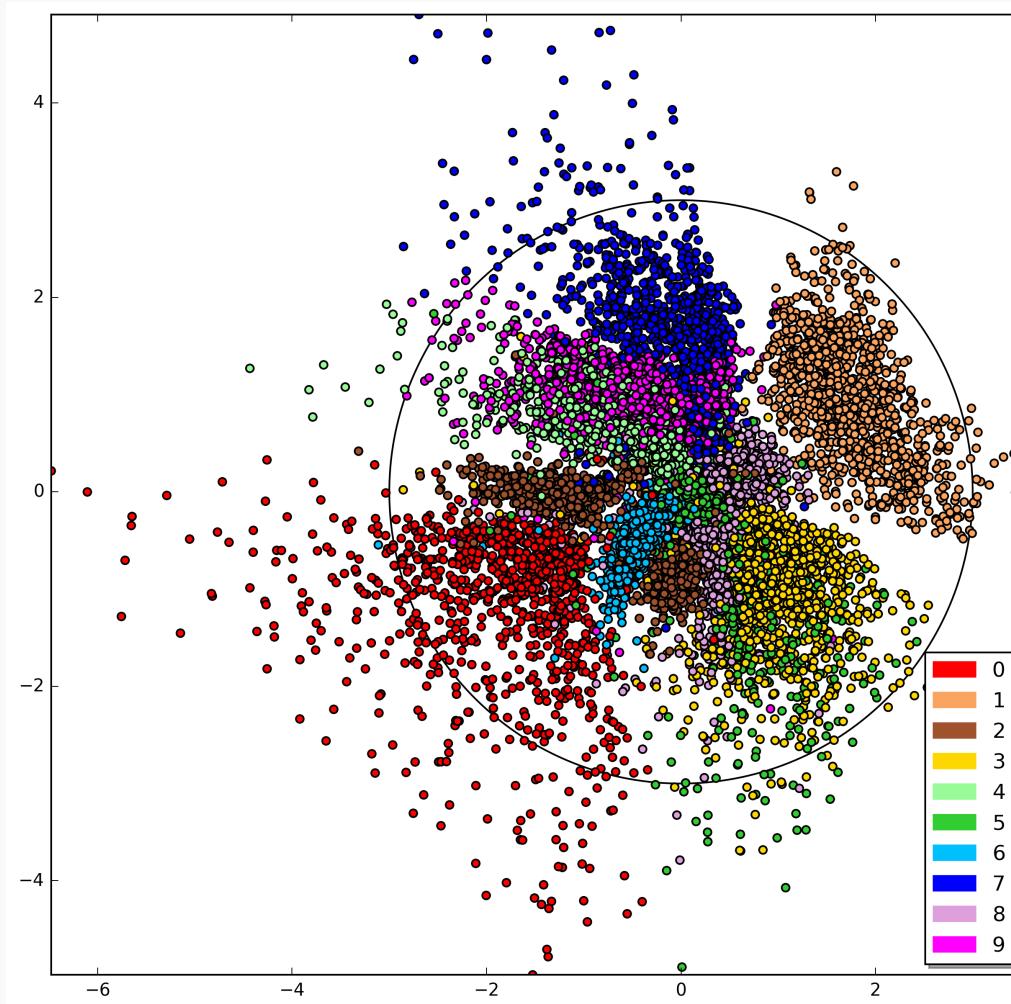
Reparametrization Trick



Training VAE



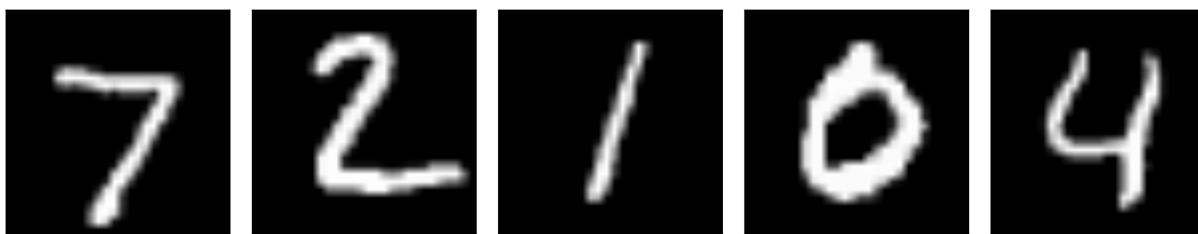
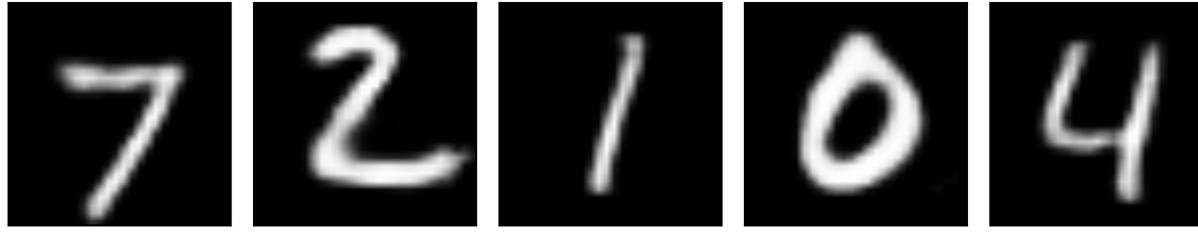
Parameter space VAE



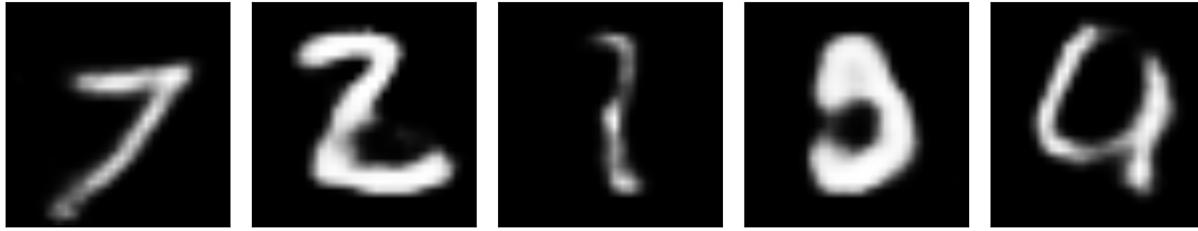
Training VAE



10% error



30% error



Parameter space VAE

