# Probabilistic (Graphical) Models

and inference





### Probabilistic (Graphical) Models and Inference

(PGM: Probabilistic Graphical Models: Principles and Techniques by Daphne Koller and Nir Friedman. MIT Press)

(PMLI: Probabilistic Machine Learning: An introduction by Kevin Murphy. MIT Press)

Week	Lecture	Required reading	Assessment
1 Monday, 4 March 2024	Introduction, Probability Theory	PGM Chapter 2, PMLI Chapter 6.1	
2 Monday, 11 March 2024	Directed and undirected networks introduction	PGM Chapter 3 & 4	Quiz 1
3 Monday, 18 March 2024	Variable elimination	PGM Chapter 9	
4 Monday, 25 March 2024	Belief propagation	PGM Chapter 10/11	Quiz 2
5 Monday, 1 April 2024	public holiday		5 April 2024: census date
6 Monday, 8 April 2024	Message passing / Graph neural networks	https://distill.pub/2021/gnn-intro/	
7 Monday, 15 April 2024	Sampling	PGM Chapter 12	Quiz 3
8 Monday, 22 April 2024	Mid-term break		
9 Monday, 29 April 2024	Variational inference	https://leimao.github.io/article/Introduction-to-Variational-Inference/	Intra-session exam
10 Monday, 6 May 2024	Autoregressive models	https://sites.google.com/view/berkeley-cs294-158-sp20/home	Quiz 4
11 Monday, 13 May 2024	Variational Auto-Encoders	https://lilianweng.github.io/posts/2018-08-12-vae/	
12 Monday, 20 May 2024	GANs	https://arxiv.org/abs/1701.00160	Quiz 5
13 Monday, 27 May 2024	Energy-based models		
14 Monday, 3 June 2024	Evaluating generative models		Quiz 6
Monday, 17 June 2024			Project due

# Variational Auto-Encoder (VAE)

#### Notation

(Slides based on "From Autoencoder to Beta-VAE", Lilian Weng, <a href="https://lilianweng.github.io/posts/2018-08-12-vae/">https://lilianweng.github.io/posts/2018-08-12-vae/</a>)

Symbol	Meaning	
$\mathcal{D}$	The dataset, $\mathcal{D} = \{\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \mathbf{x}^{(2)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(n)}\}$ , contains $n$ data samples; $ \mathcal{D}  = n$ .	
$\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$	Each data point is a vector of $d$ dimensions, $\mathbf{x}^{(i)} = [x_1^{(i)}, x_2^{(i)}, \dots, x_d^{(i)}].$	
$\mathbf{x}$	One data sample from the dataset, $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}$ .	
$\mathbf{x}'$	The reconstructed version of ${f x}$ .	
$ ilde{\mathbf{x}}$	The corrupted version of ${f x}$ .	
$\mathbf{z}$	The compressed code learned in the bottleneck layer.	
$a_j^{(l)}$	The activation function for the $j$ -th neuron in the $l$ -th hidden layer.	
$g_{\phi}(.)$	The <b>encoding</b> function parameterized by $\phi$ .	
$f_{ heta}(.)$	The <b>decoding</b> function parameterized by $ heta$ .	
$q_{\phi}(\mathbf{z} \mathbf{x})$	Estimated posterior probability function, also known as probabilistic encoder.	
$p_{ heta}(\mathbf{x} \mathbf{z})$	Likelihood of generating true data sample given the latent code, also known as <b>probabilistic decoder</b> .	

An autoencoder is a neural network designed to learn an identity function:  $\mathbf{x} = F(\mathbf{x})$ 

- in an unsupervised way to reconstruct the original input
- while compressing the data in the process

so as to discover a more efficient and compressed representation.

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An autoencoder learns two functions:

- An encoder  $g(\cdot)$  with parameters  $\phi$
- A decoder  $f(\cdot)$  with parameters  $\theta$

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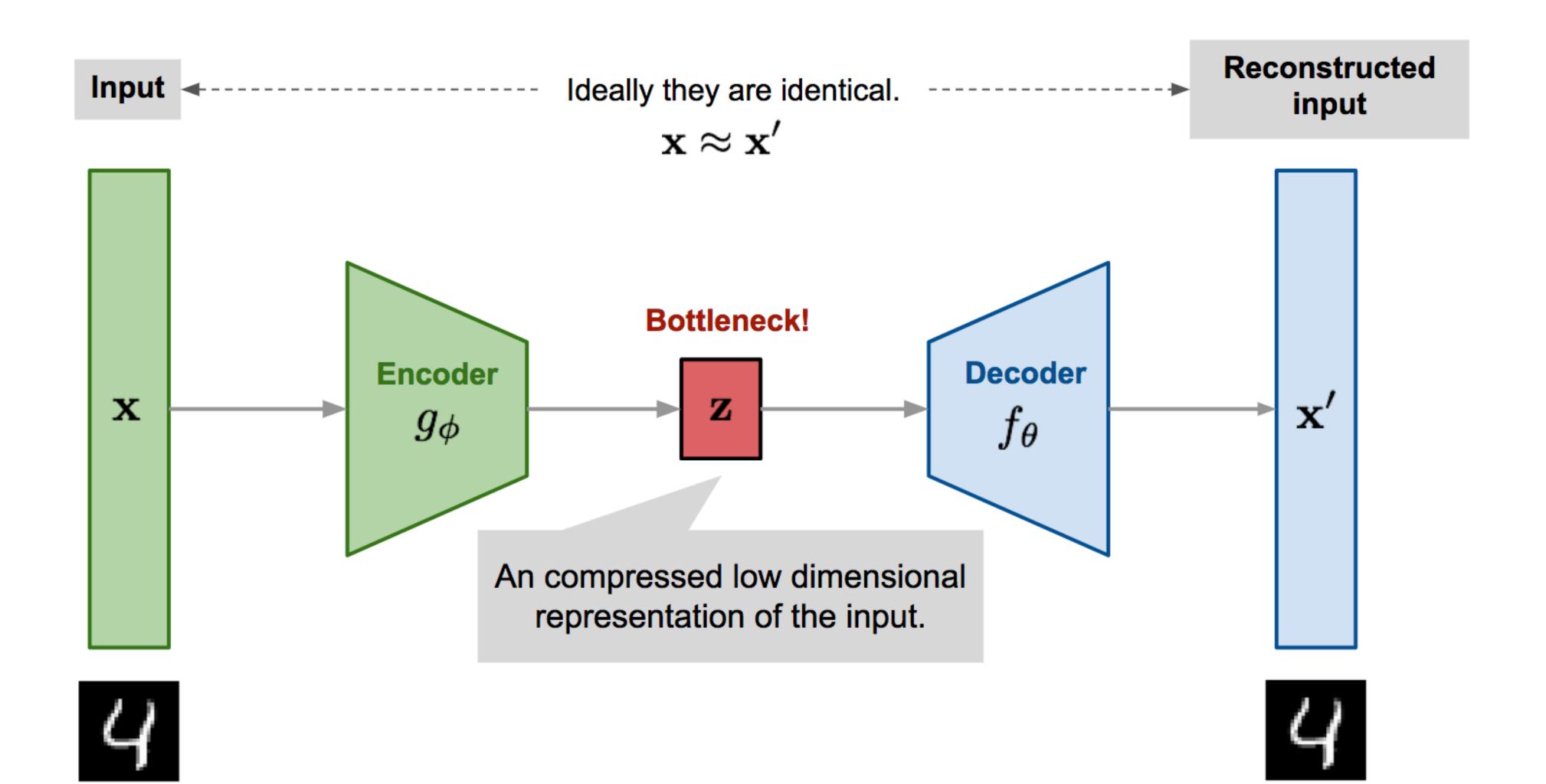
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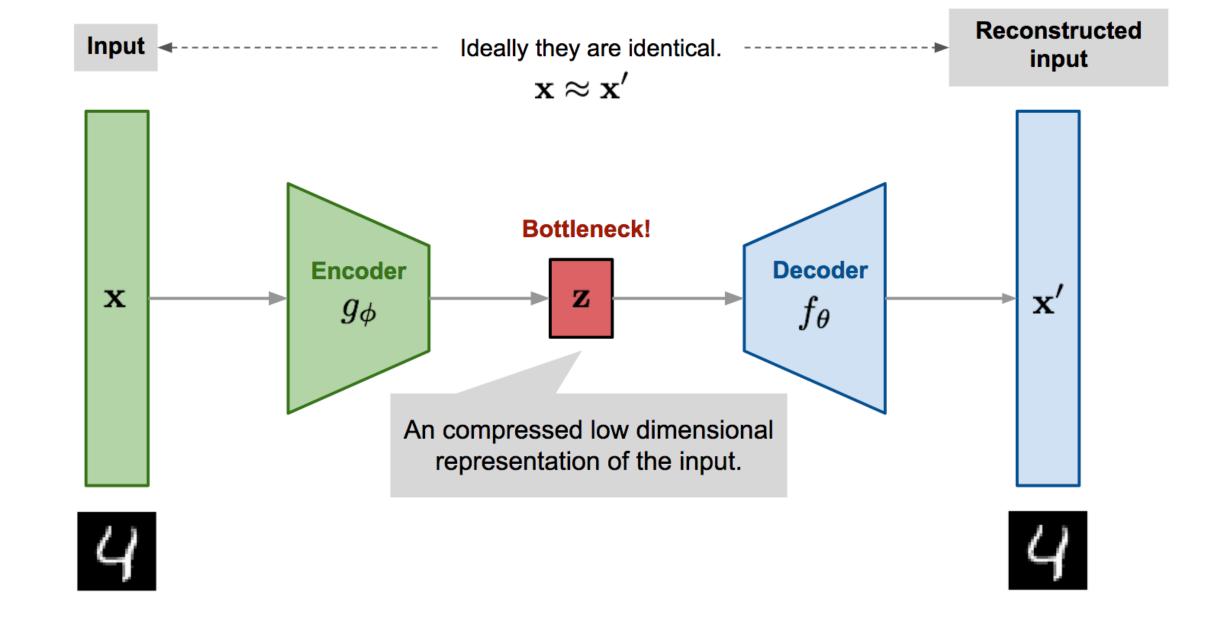
The autoencoder uses these functions to reconstruct the input:  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = f_{\theta}(g_{\phi}(\mathbf{x}))$ .

- The *encoder* network: It translates the original high-dimension input into the latent low-dimensional code. The input size is larger than the output size.
- The *decoder* network: The decoder network recovers the data from the code, likely with larger and larger output layers.

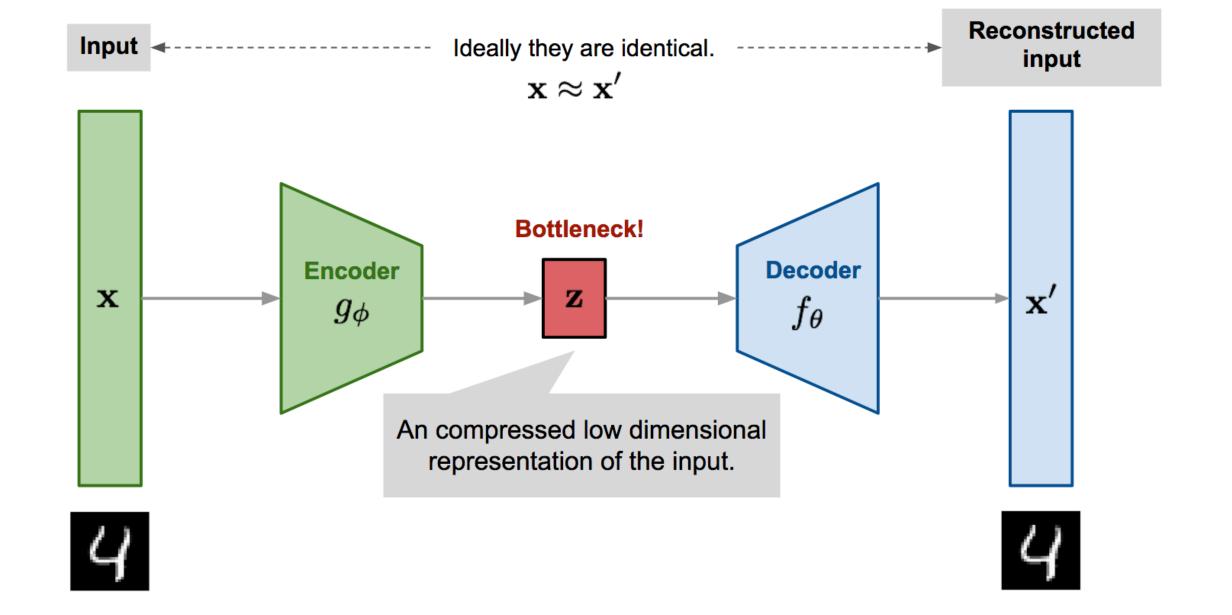
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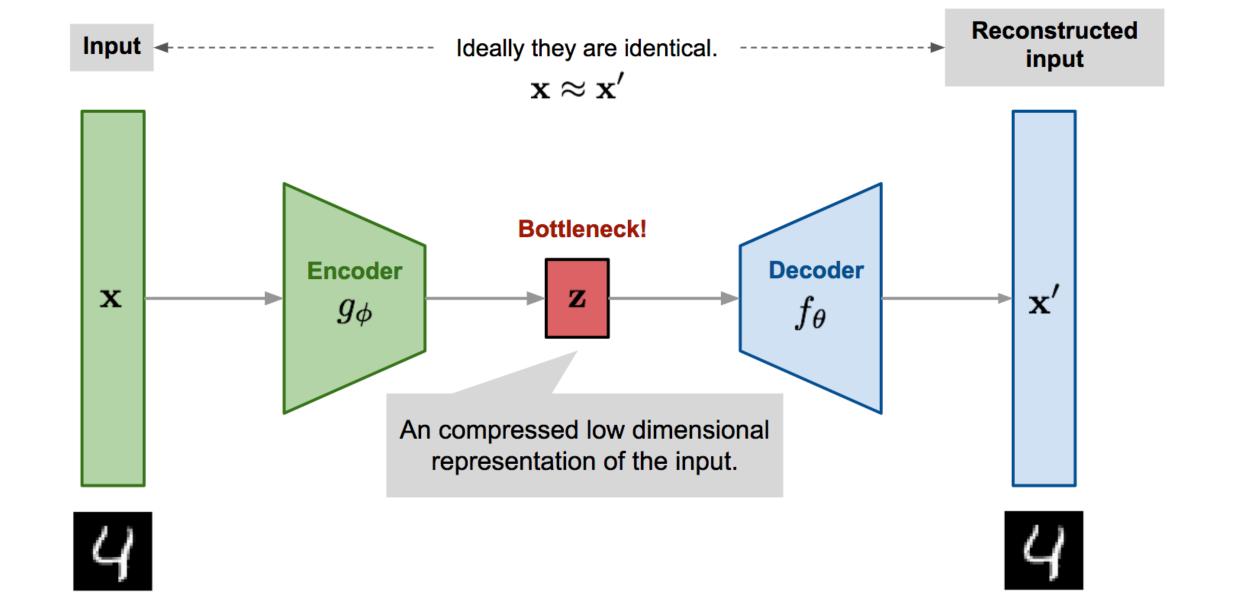


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Different metrics (loss functions) are possible, common is the MSE (mean square error):

$$L_{\text{AE}}(\theta, \phi) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - f_{\theta}(g_{\phi}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})))^2$$

Since the autoencoder learns the identity function, we are facing the risk of "overfitting" when there are more network parameters than the number of data points.

To avoid overfitting and improve the robustness, the Denoising Autoencoder (Vincent et al. 2008) proposed a modification to the basic autoencoder.

The input is partially corrupted by adding noises to or masking some values of the input vector in a stochastic manner:  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \sim \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{D}}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}} | \mathbf{x})$ . Then, the model is trained to recover the original input (the uncorrupted image).

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$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{(i)} \sim \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{D}}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{(i)} | \mathbf{x}^{(i)})$$

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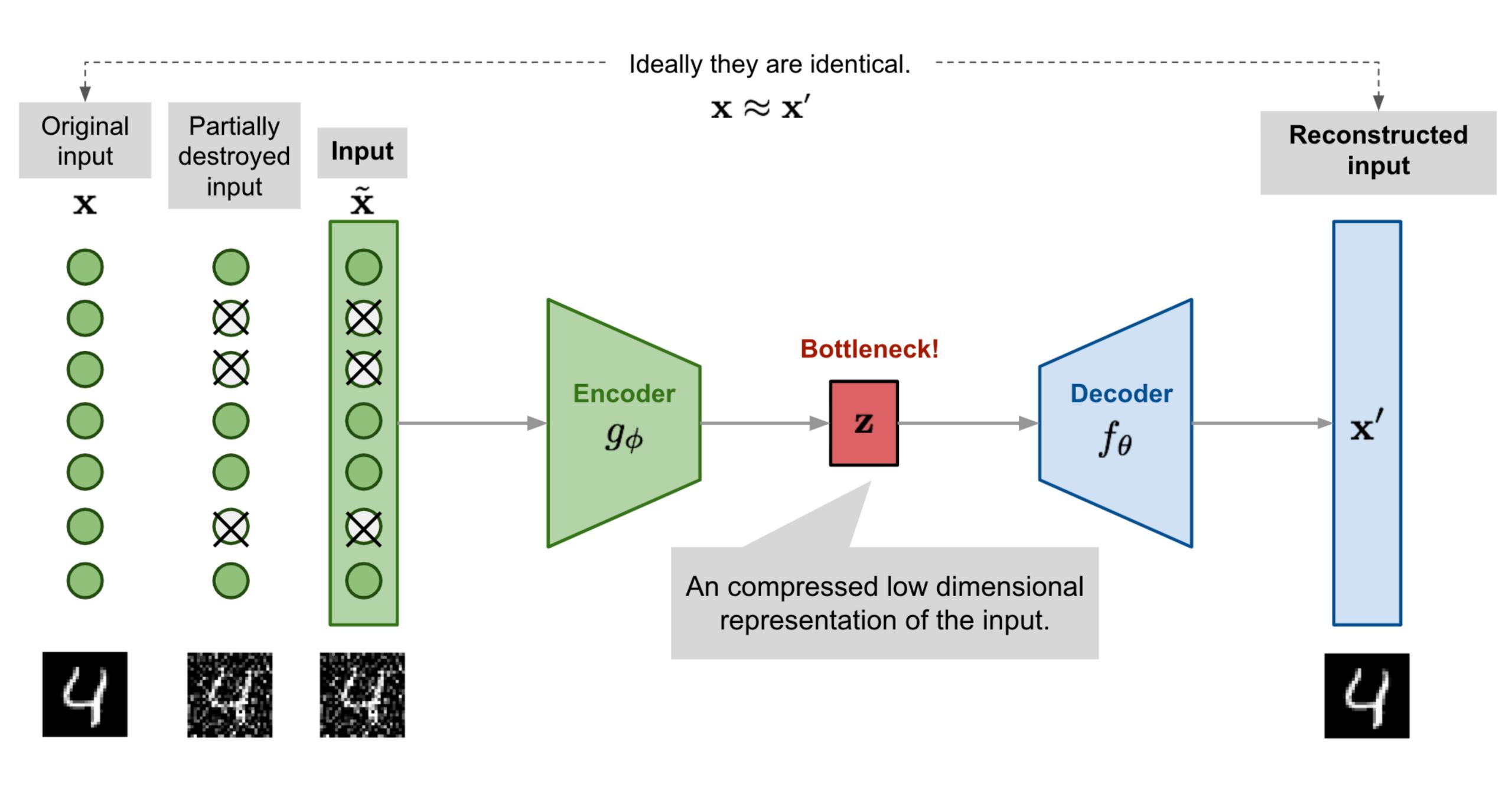
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$$L_{\mathrm{DAE}}(\theta, \phi) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - f_{\theta}(g_{\phi}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{(i)})))^{2} \quad \text{mapping from the data samples to the states}$$

 $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{D}}$  defines the mapping from the true data samples to the noisy or corrupted ones.



Motivation: humans can easily recognise an object or a scene even the view is partially occluded or corrupted.

To "repair" the partially destroyed input, the denoising autoencoder has to discover and capture relationship between dimensions of input in order to infer missing pieces.

For high dimensional input with high redundancy the model is likely to depend on evidence gathered from a combination of many input dimensions to recover the denoised version rather than to overfit one dimension.

This builds up a good foundation for learning robust latent representation.

# Denoising and dropout

In DAE, noise is controlled by a stochastic mapping  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \sim \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{D}}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \mid \mathbf{x})$ .

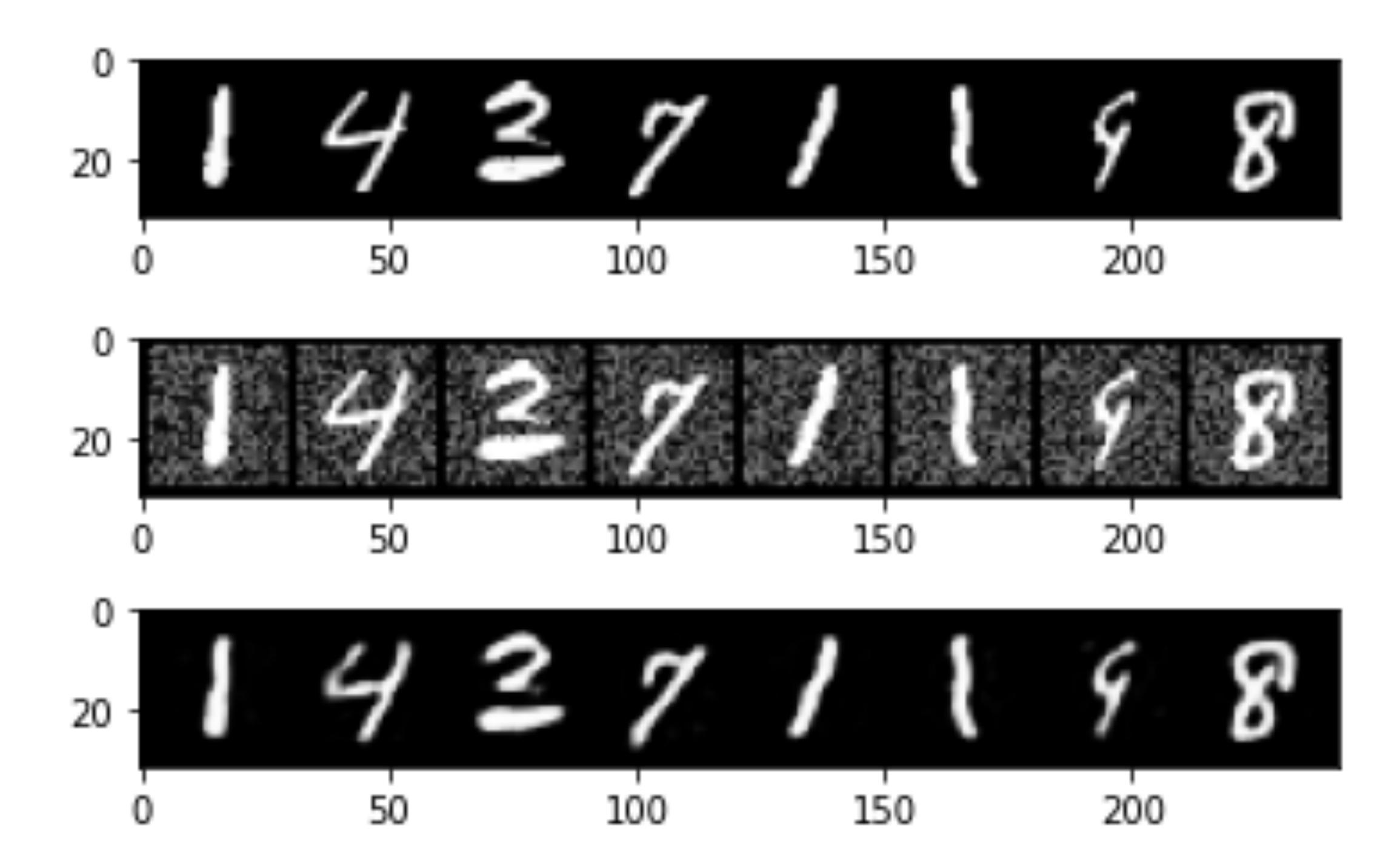
This mapping is not specific to particular types of noise (that is, it could be masking noise, Gaussian noise, salt-and-pepper noise, etc).

In the original DAE paper, the noise is applied in this way: a fixed proportion of input dimensions are selected at random and their values are forced to 0.

This sounds like dropout (approach for regularisation applied in deep learning), but DAE came actually before dropout (Hinton, et al. 2012).

```
model = Autoencoder(input_size, hidden_size).to(device)
# Loss and optimiser
criterion = nn.MSELoss()
optimiser = torch.optim.Adam(model.parameters(), lr=learning_rate)
# Train the model
for epoch in range(num_epochs):
    for i, (images, _) in enumerate(train_loader):
        images = images.reshape(-1, 28*28).to(device)
        # Add noise to the images
        noise = torch.rand(images.shape) / 2. # Modify the denominator to add more or less noise
        noisy_images = images + noise
        noisy_images = torch.clamp(noisy_images, 0., 1.) # Clamp the values between 0 and 1
        # Forward pass
        outputs = model(noisy_images)
        loss = criterion(outputs, images)
        # Backward and optimise
        optimiser.zero_grad()
        loss.backward()
        optimiser.step()
        if (i + 1) % 100 == 0:
            print ('Epoch [{}/{}], Loss: {:.4f}'
                   .format(epoch+1, num_epochs, loss.item()))
```

```
# Test the model
model.eval()
total_loss = 0
with torch.no_grad():
    for i, (images, _) in enumerate(train_loader):
        images = images.reshape(-1, 28*28).to(device)
        # Add noise to the images
        noise = torch.rand(images.shape) / 2.
        noisy_images = images + noise
        noisy_images = torch.clamp(noisy_images, 0., 1.) # Clamp the values between 0 and 1
        outputs = model(noisy_images)
        loss = criterion(outputs, images)
        total_loss += loss.item()
        if i == 0:
            print('Original images')
            out_imgs = torchvision.utils.make_grid(images.reshape(-1, 1, 28, 28)[:8])
            plt.imshow(out_imgs.permute(1, 2, 0).cpu().numpy())
            plt.show()
            print('Noisy inputs')
            out_imgs = torchvision.utils.make_grid(noisy_images.reshape(-1, 1, 28, 28)[:8])
            plt.imshow(out_imgs.permute(1, 2, 0).cpu().numpy())
            plt.show()
            print('Reconstructed images')
            out_imgs = torchvision.utils.make_grid(outputs.reshape(-1, 1, 28, 28)[:8])
            plt.imshow(out_imgs.permute(1, 2, 0).cpu().numpy())
            plt.show()
print('Average test loss: {:.4f}'.format(total_loss / len(test_loader)))
```



Sparse Autoencoder apply a "sparse" constraint on the hidden unit activation.

This is another way to avoid overfitting and improve robustness.

It forces the model to only have a small number of hidden units being "activated" at the same time, or in other words, a hidden neuron should be inactive most of time.

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#### What is "active"?

Recall that common activation functions include sigmoid, tanh, relu, leaky relu, etc. A neuron is activated when the value is close to 1 (or larger), inactive with a value close to 0.

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(What is "inactive" for tanh?)

If there are  $s_l$  neurons in the l-th hidden layer, and the activation function for the j-th neuron in that layer is labeled as  $a_j^{(l)}(\cdot)$ ,  $j=1,...,s_l$ .

The fraction of activation of this neuron,  $\hat{\rho}_i$ , is expected to be a small number  $\rho$ .

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 $\rho$  is also called sparsity parameter. A typical values, for example, is  $\rho=0.05$ .

$$\hat{\rho}_j^{(l)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ a_j^{(l)}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}) \right] \approx \rho$$

The sparsity constraint is achieved by adding a penalty term into the loss function.

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When we add  $D_{\text{KL}}$  as a penalty to the loss, we can control how strong the penalty should be by setting the hyperparameter  $\beta$ .

$$L_{\text{SAE}}(\theta) = L(\theta) + \beta \sum_{l=1}^{L} \sum_{j=1}^{s_l} D_{\text{KL}}(\rho || \hat{\rho}_j^{(l)})$$

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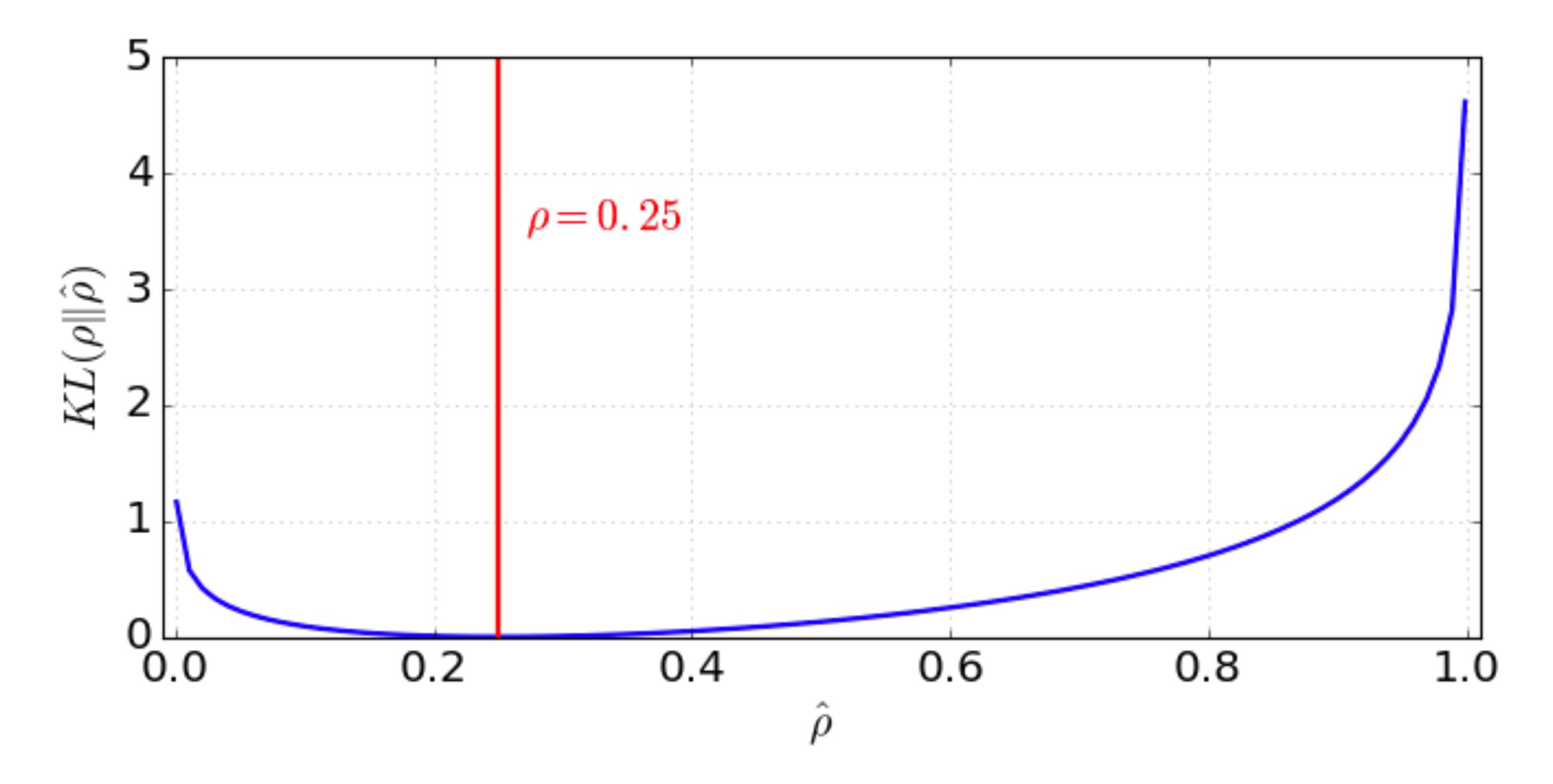
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$$= L(\theta) + \beta \sum_{l=1}^{L} \sum_{j=1}^{s_l} \rho \log \frac{\rho}{\hat{\rho}_j^{(l)}} + (1 - \rho) \log \frac{1 - \rho}{1 - \hat{\rho}_j^{(l)}}$$

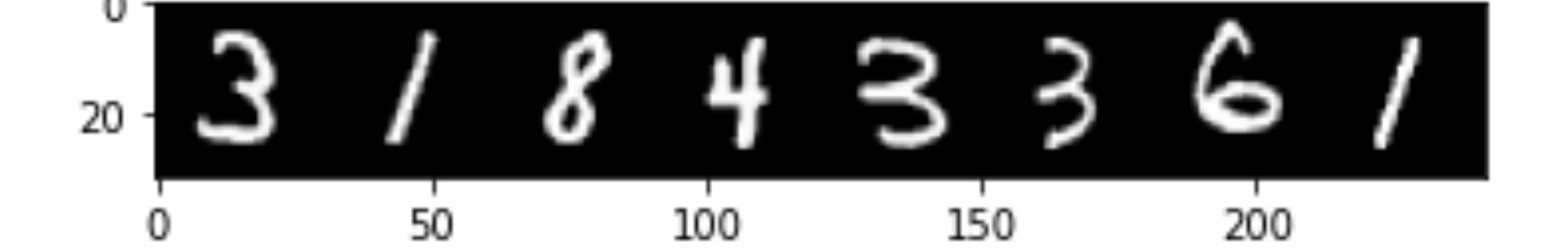


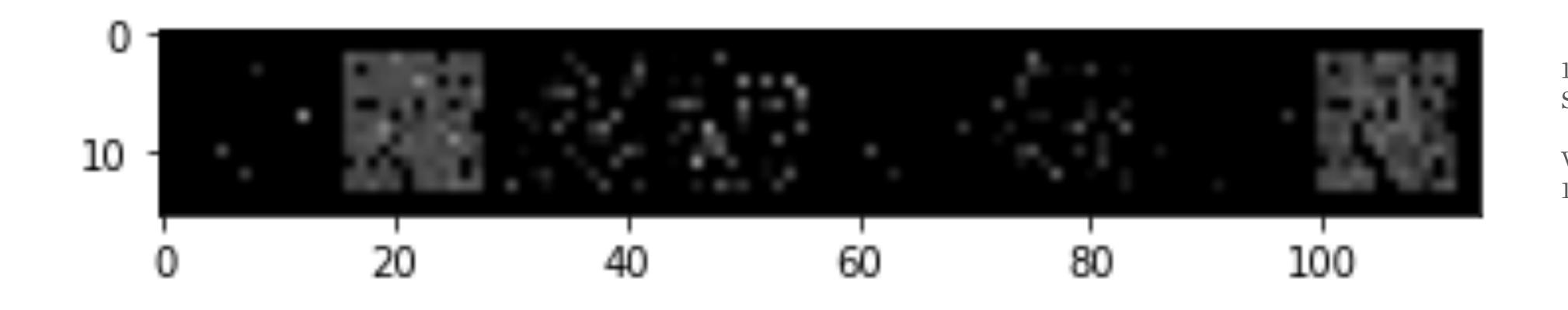
The KL divergence between a Bernoulli distribution with mean  $\rho = 0.25$ , and another Bernoulli distribution,  $0 \le \hat{\rho} \le 1$ .

```
import torch
import torch.nn as nn
import torchvision
import torchvision.transforms as transforms
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
# Parameters
input_size = 784  # 28x28
hidden_size = 128
num_epochs = 5
batch_size = 100
learning_rate = 0.001
rho = 0.05 # Sparsity parameter
beta = 3 # Weight of sparsity penalty term
```

```
# Autoencoder model
class SparseAutoencoder(nn.Module):
   def __init__(self, input_size, hidden_size):
        super(SparseAutoencoder, self).__init__()
        self.encoder = nn.Sequential(
            nn.Linear(input_size, hidden_size),
            nn.ReLU())
        self.decoder = nn.Sequential(
            nn.Linear(hidden_size, input_size),
            nn.Sigmoid())
    def forward(self, x):
        x = self.encoder(x)
        x = self.decoder(x)
        return x
    def encode(self, x): return self.encoder(x)
# Model, Loss and optimiser
model = SparseAutoencoder(input_size, hidden_size).to(device)
criterion = nn.MSELoss()
optimiser = torch.optim.Adam(model.parameters(), lr=learning_rate)
```

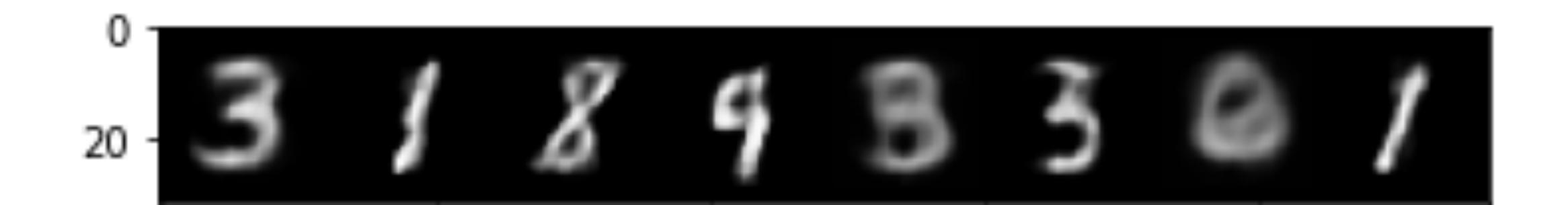
```
# Train the model
for epoch in range(num_epochs):
    for i, (images, _) in enumerate(train_loader):
        images = images.reshape(-1, 28*28).to(device)
        # Forward pass
        outputs = model(images)
        mse_loss = criterion(outputs, images)
        # Sparsity penalty
        rho_hat = torch.mean(model.encoder(images), 0) # Average hidden layer activation
        sparsity_penalty = torch.sum(rho * torch.log(rho / rho_hat) + (1 - rho) *
torch.log((1 - rho) / (1 - rho_hat)))
        # Total loss
        loss = mse_loss + beta * sparsity_penalty
        # Backward and optimise
        optimiser.zero_grad()
        loss.backward()
        optimiser.step()
        if (i+1) % 100 == 0:
            print ('Epoch [{}/{}], Loss: {:.4f}'
                   .format(epoch+1, num_epochs, loss.item()))
```





144 hidden units Sparse activation

Visualised as 12x12 images



#### k-sparse auto encoder

#### Only keep the top k activated units

Sparsity is enforced by only keeping the top k highest activations in the bottleneck layer.

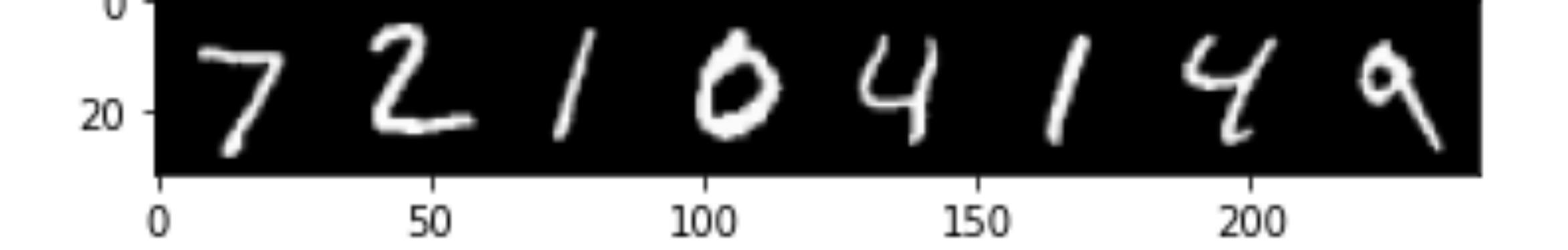
We run feedforward through the encoder network to get the compressed code:  $\mathbf{z} = g(\mathbf{x})$ .

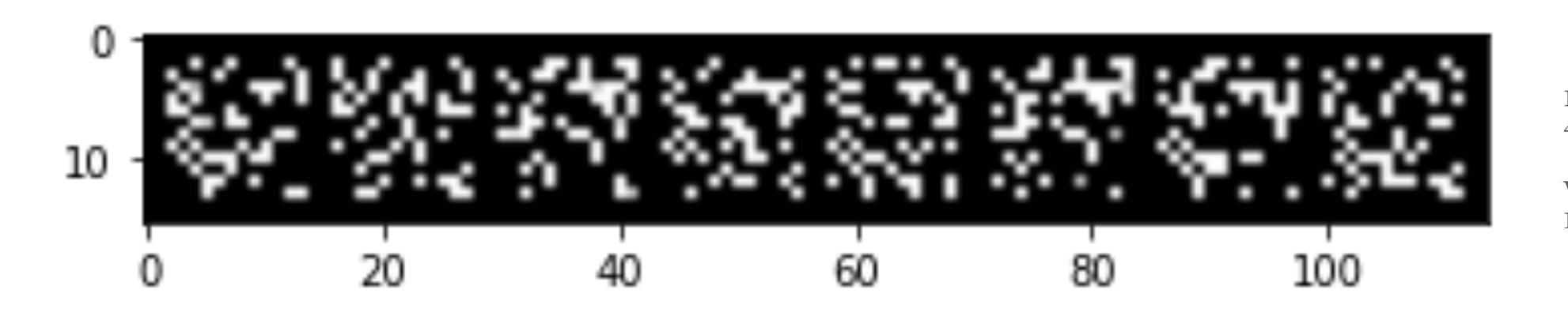
Then, sorted by values in z, we leave the top k ones, and set all others in z to 0.

$$\mathbf{z}' = \mathbf{k}_{sparse}(\mathbf{z})$$

The loss is computed from this sparsified code:  $L = |\mathbf{x} - f(\mathbf{z}')|_2^2$ 

```
class KSparseAutoencoder(nn.Module):
   def __init__(self, input_size, hidden_size, k):
        super(KSparseAutoencoder, self).__init__()
        self.k = k
        self.encoder = nn.Sequential(
            nn.Linear(input_size, hidden_size),
            nn.ReLU())
        self.decoder = nn.Sequential(
            nn.Linear(hidden_size, input_size),
            nn.Sigmoid())
   def forward(self, x):
       x = self.encoder(x)
       x = self.k_sparse(x)
       x = self.decoder(x)
        return x
   def k_sparse(self, x):
        topk, indices = torch.topk(x, self.k)
        x_sparse = torch.zeros_like(x).to(x.device)
        x_sparse.scatter_(1, indices, topk)
        return x_sparse
   def encode(self, x): return self.k_sparse(self.encoder(x))
```

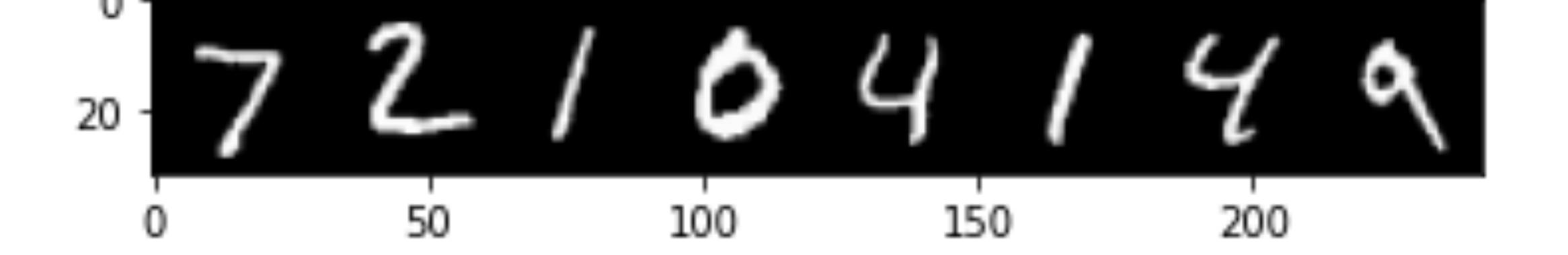


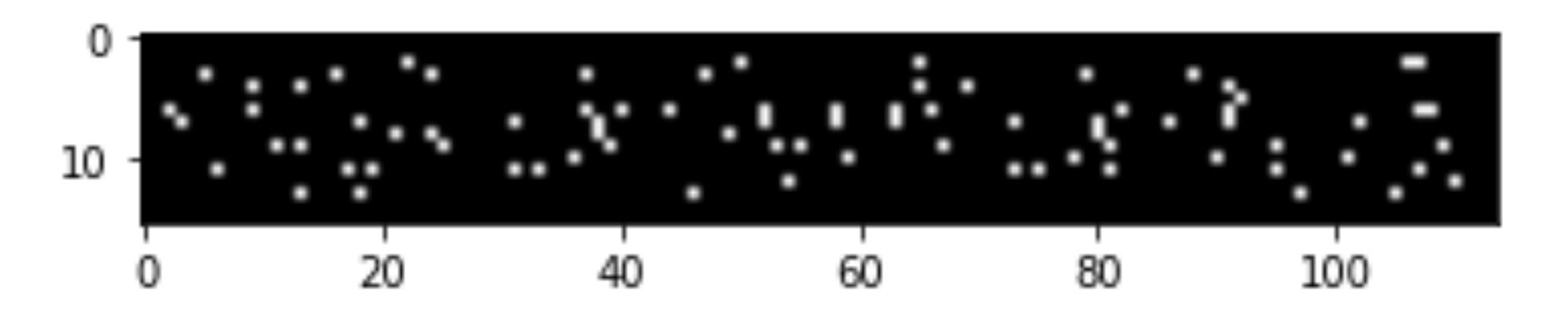


144 hidden units44-Sparse activation

Visualised as 12x12 images







144 hidden units10-Sparse activation

Visualised as 12x12 images



#### Contractive autoencoder

#### Robust to small changes

"Contractive": a function that brings inputs closer together in the output space. Similar goal to sparse autoencoder.

How to achieve "contractive"? By adding a term in the loss function to penalise representations being *too sensitive* to the input.

"Sensitive": the hidden representation shouldn't change much when the input changes a little.

We can measure change by looking at the partial derivatives (the Jacobian matrix J). The "length" of such a matrix is measured by the Frobenius norm (think Euclidean distance).

$$||J_f(\mathbf{x})||_F^2 = \sum_{ij} \left(\frac{\partial h_j(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_i}\right)^2$$

# Variational Autoencoder

#### VAE

#### Mapping input to a distribution

We map the input into a distribution, instead of mapping it to a single data point.

Calling this distribution  $p_{\theta}$ , we can then describe the relation between input **x** and **z**:

- Prior  $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z})$
- Likelihood  $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{z})$
- Posterior  $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{x})$

We have to find the optimal parameter  $\theta^*$ .

In order to generate a sample that looks like a real data point  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$ :

- We sample a  $\mathbf{z}^{(i)}$  from a prior distribution  $p_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{z})$
- Generate a value  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$  from the conditional distribution  $p_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{z}^{(i)})$

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The optimal parameter  $\theta^*$  is the one that maximises the probability of generating "real" data samples:

$$\theta^* = \arg \max_{\theta} \prod_{i=1}^n p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$$

Computing the product:  $\underset{\theta}{\text{arg max}} \prod_{i=1}^{n} p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$ 

to maximise  $\theta^*$  is equivalent to computing  $\theta^* = \arg\max_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$ .

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As we discussed in the class on variational inference, this is what we need to compute:

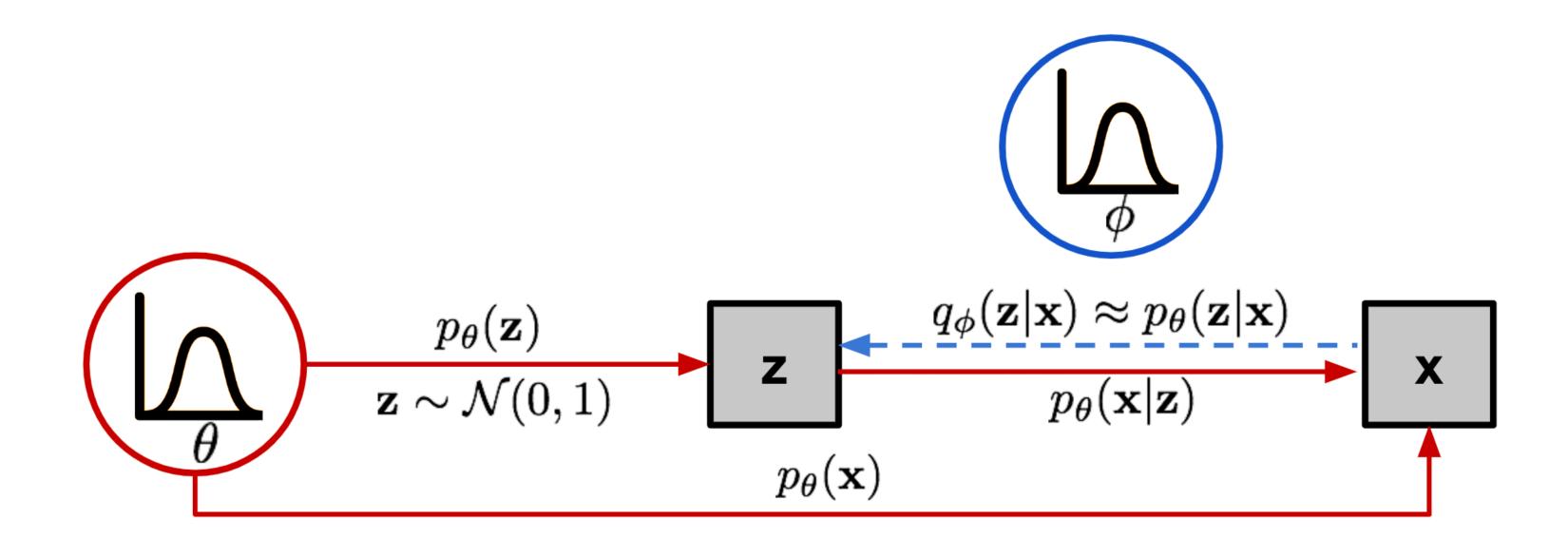
$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}) = \int p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)} | \mathbf{z}) p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z}$$

but in many cases this is not easy to compute, because it involves summing up for all possible values of **z**.

In variational inference, the way to solve this intractable problem is to approximate the output:

The function  $q_{\phi}$  should tell us what is the code **z** given some input **x**.

 $q_{\phi}(\mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{x})$  is an approximation of  $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{x})$ , parameterised by  $\phi$ .



#### Now the structure looks like an auto encoder

- The conditional probability  $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{z})$  defines a generative model, similar to the decoder  $f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{z})$  introduced above.  $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{z})$  is also known as *probabilistic decoder*.
- The approximation function  $q_{\phi}(\mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{x})$  is the *probabilistic encoder*, playing a similar role to  $g_{\phi}(\mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{x})$  above.

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In the VI lecture (week 9), we defined the Evidence Lower Bound (ELBO) to come up with a cost function. There, our aim was to approximate the true posterior distribution  $p(\mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{x})$  with a simpler, tractable distribution  $q(\mathbf{z})$ .



#### The evidence lower bound

Defined as:

$$\text{ELBO}(q) = \mathbb{E}_q \left[ \log p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) \right] - \mathbb{E}_q \left[ \log q(\mathbf{z}) \right]$$



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It is called the evidence lower bound, because it is the lower bound of logarithmic evidence:

$$\log p(\mathbf{x}) = \text{ELBO}(q) + D_{\text{KL}}(q(\mathbf{z}) || p(\mathbf{z} | \mathbf{x}))$$
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#### The evidence lower bound

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That is, we want to maximise the (log-)likelihood of generating real data, while minimising the difference between the real and the estimated posterior.

# $D_{\mathsf{KL}}$ is not symmetric

Use  $D_{\mathrm{KL}}(q_{\phi}||p_{\theta})$  or  $D_{\mathrm{KL}}(p_{\theta}||q_{\phi})$ ?

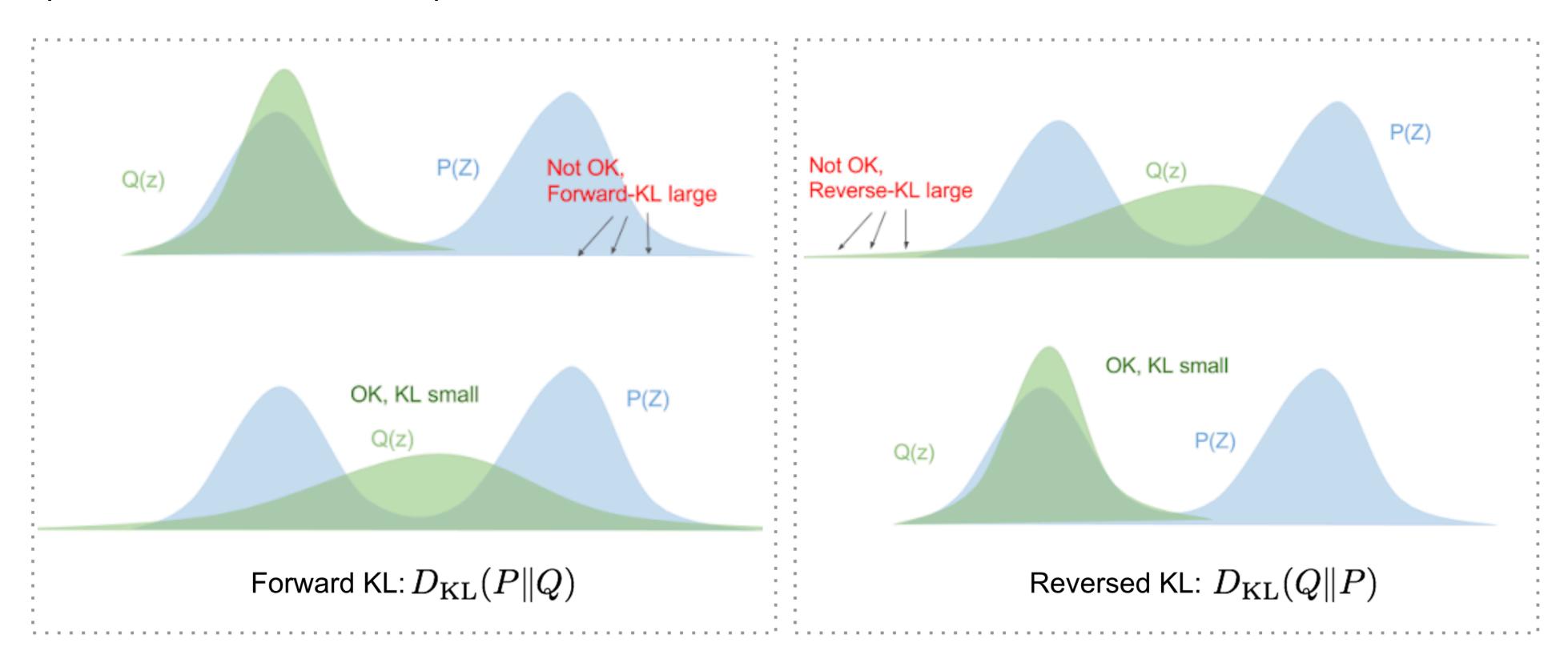


Figure by Eric Jang

For a discussion, see also "A Beginner's Guide to Variational Methods" <a href="https://blog.evjang.com/2016/08/variational-bayes.html">https://blog.evjang.com/2016/08/variational-bayes.html</a> by Eric Jang.

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- express the random variable  $\mathbf{z}$  as a deterministic variable  $\mathbf{z} = T_{\phi}(\mathbf{x}, \epsilon)$ . Here,  $\epsilon$  is an auxiliary random variable, and the transformation function  $T_{\phi}$  converts  $\epsilon$  to  $\mathbf{z}$ .

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- Example:

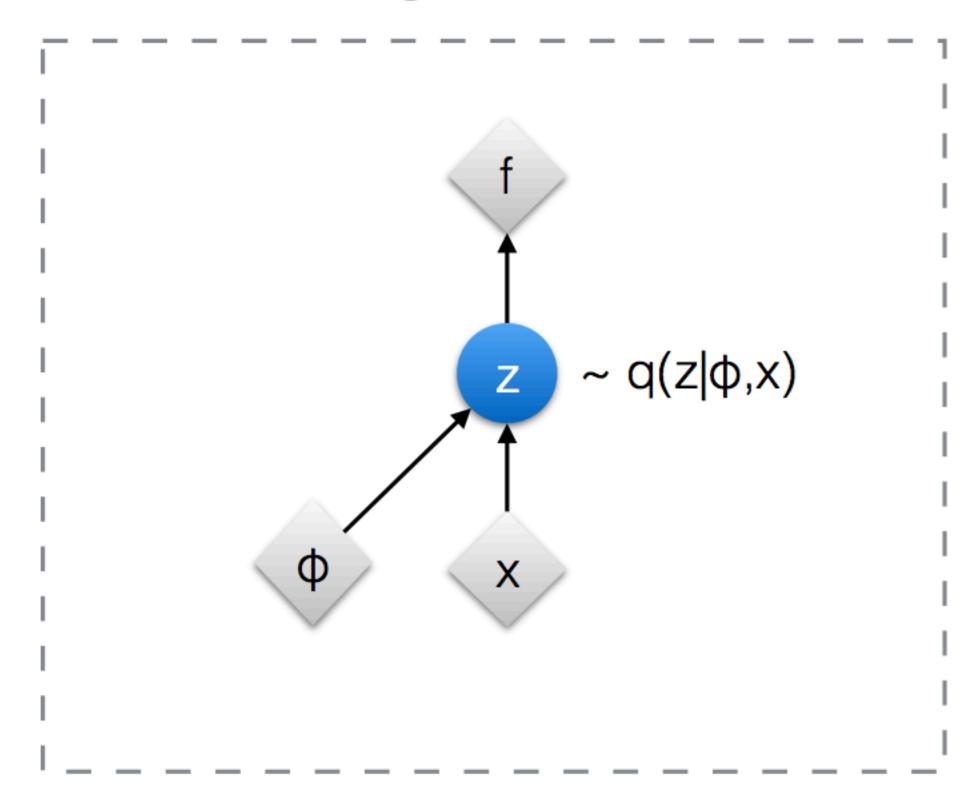
$$\mathbf{z} \sim q_{\phi}(\mathbf{z} \,|\, \mathbf{x}^{(i)}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{z}; \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(i)}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}^{2(i)}\mathbf{I})$$
$$\mathbf{z} = \boldsymbol{\mu} + \boldsymbol{\sigma} \odot \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \quad \text{where } \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$$

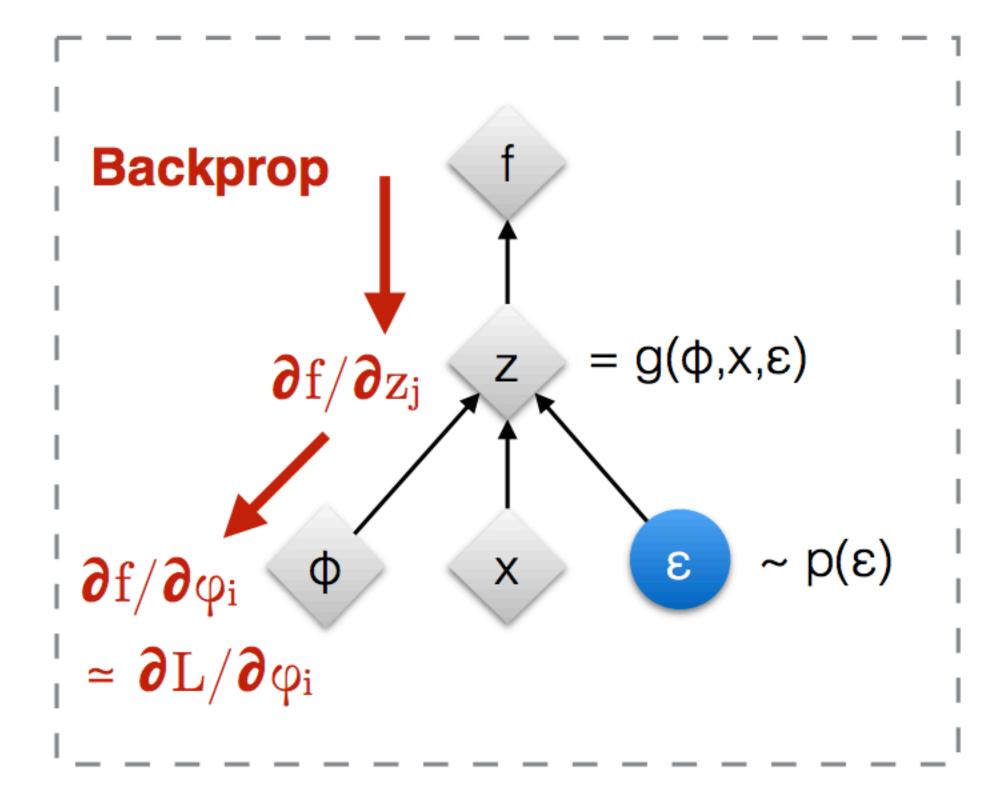
#### **Summary**

- we have a random variable **z** that is generated by transforming a parameter  $\theta$  through a probability distribution:  $\mathbf{z} = p(\mathbf{z} \mid \theta)$
- We want to create a sample from this, AND compute the gradient of a function  $f(\mathbf{z})$  with respect to  $\theta$ .
- We express **z** as a deterministic function  $g(\epsilon, \theta)$
- While  $\epsilon$  is still a source of randomness, the function  $g(\epsilon, \theta)$  is diff'able wrt  $\theta$ . This means we can compute the gradient.

#### Original form

#### Reparameterised form





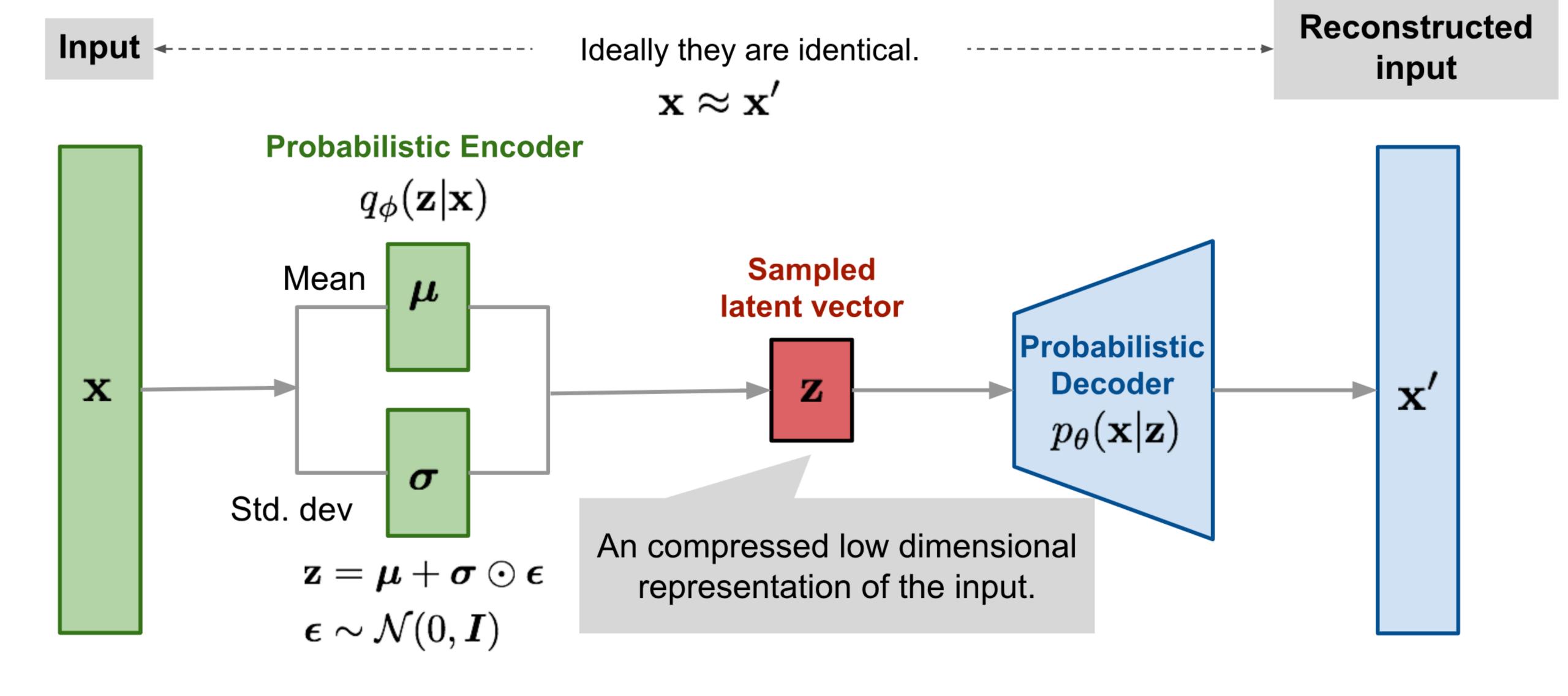


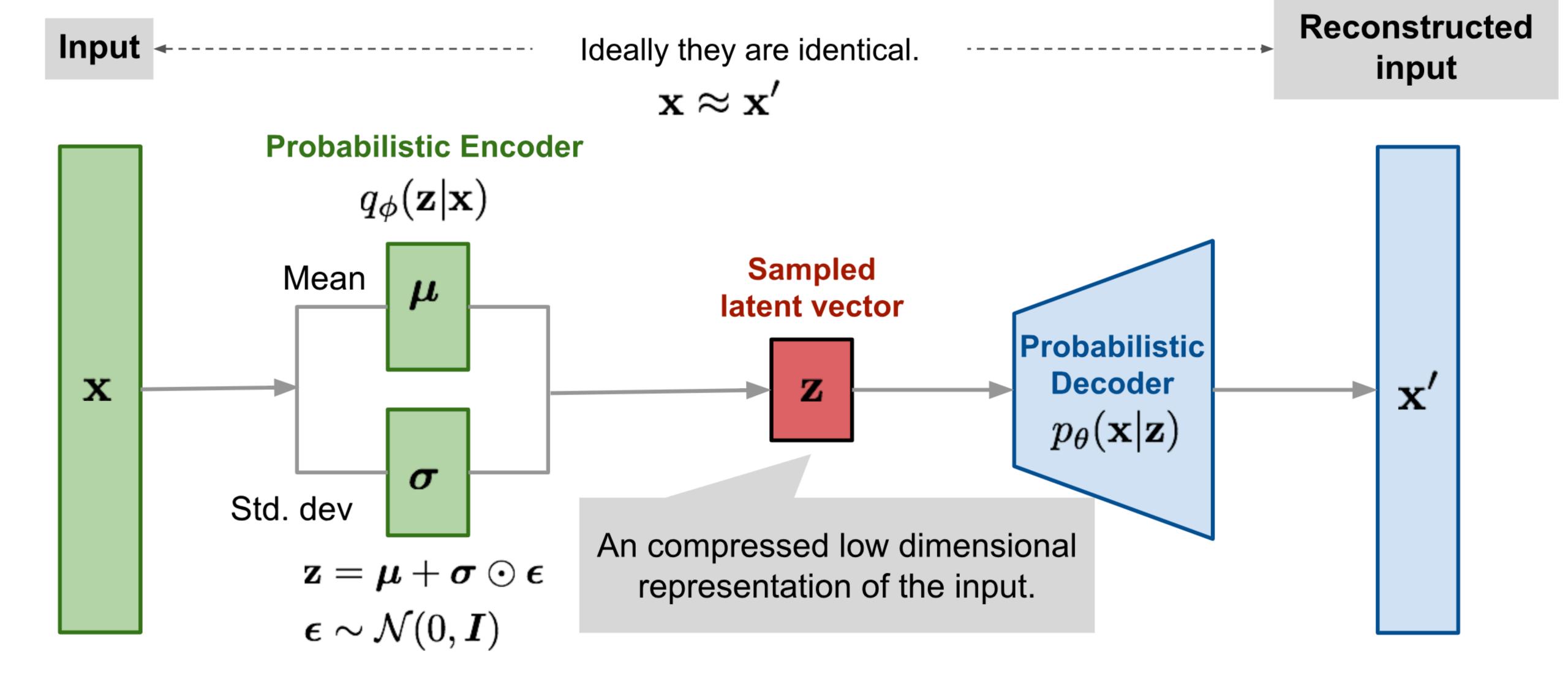
: Deterministic node



: Random node

[Kingma, 2013] [Bengio, 2013] [Kingma and Welling 2014] [Rezende et al 2014]





The reparameterisation trick works for other types of distributions too, not only Gaussian. In the multivariate Gaussian case, we make the model trainable by learning the mean and variance of the distribution explicitly using the reparameterisation trick, while the stochasticity remains in the random variable  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0,\mathbf{I})$ 

```
class VAE(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self, input_dim, hidden_dim, latent_dim):
        super(VAE, self).__init__()
        # Encoder
        self.fc1 = nn.Linear(input_dim, hidden_dim)
        self.fc_mu = nn.Linear(hidden_dim, latent_dim)
        self.fc_logvar = nn.Linear(hidden_dim, latent_dim)
        # Decoder
        self.fc3 = nn.Linear(latent_dim, hidden_dim)
        self.fc4 = nn.Linear(hidden_dim, input_dim)
    def encode(self, x):
        h = F.relu(self.fc1(x))
        mu = self.fc_mu(h)
        logvar = self.fc_logvar(h)
        return mu, logvar
    def reparameterise(self, mu, logvar):
        std = torch.exp(0.5*logvar)
        eps = torch.randn_like(std)
        return mu + eps*std
    def decode(self, z):
        h = F.relu(self.fc3(z))
        return torch.sigmoid(self.fc4(h))
    def forward(self, x):
        mu, logvar = self.encode(x.view(-1, 784))
        z = self.reparameterise(mu, logvar)
        return self.decode(z), mu, logvar
```

```
# Reconstruction + KL divergence losses summed over all elements and batch
def loss_function(recon_x, x, mu, logvar):
    BCE = F.binary_cross_entropy(recon_x, x.view(-1, 784), reduction='sum')

# see Appendix B from VAE paper:
    # Kingma and Welling. Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes. ICLR, 2014
# https://arxiv.org/abs/1312.6114
# 0.5 * sum(1 + log(sigma^2) - mu^2 - sigma^2)
    KLD = -0.5 * torch.sum(1 + logvar - mu.pow(2) - logvar.exp())

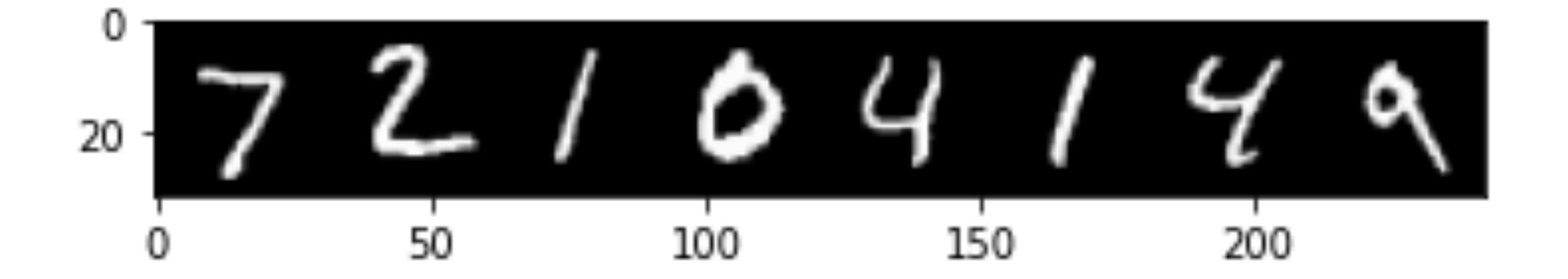
return BCE + KLD
```

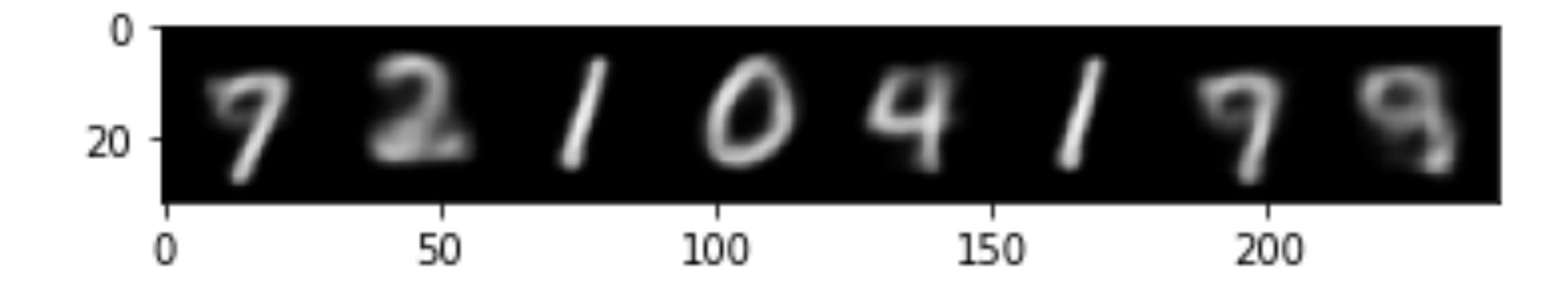
```
import torch
from torch import nn
from torch.nn import functional as F
import torchvision
import torchvision.transforms as transforms
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
# Parameters
input_size = 784  # 28x28
latent_dim = 2
hidden_sqrt = 12  # 12x12 = 144  hidden units
hidden_size = hidden_sqrt * hidden_sqrt
```

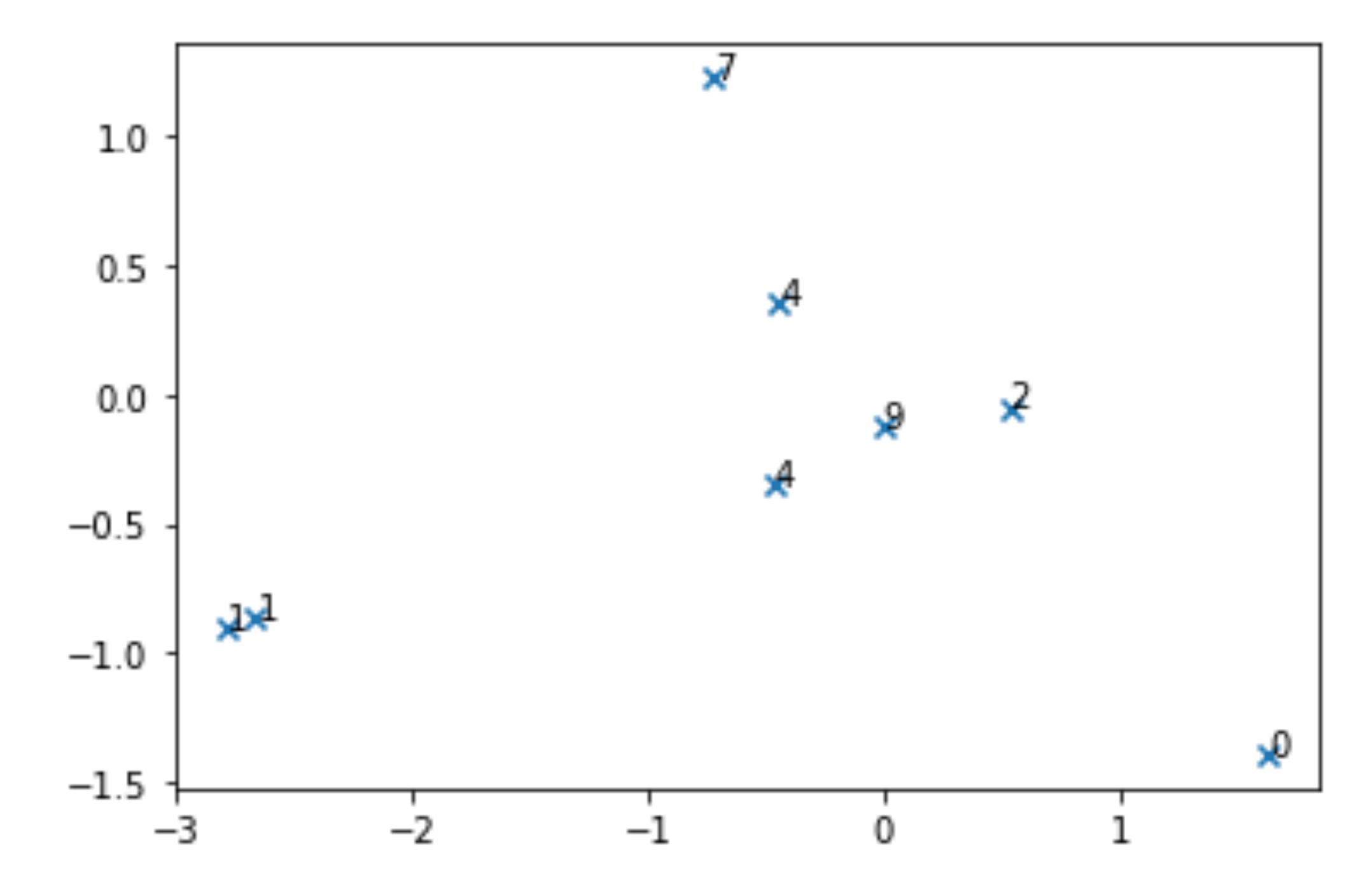
 $num_epochs = 40$ 

batch\_size = 100

learning\_rate = 0.001



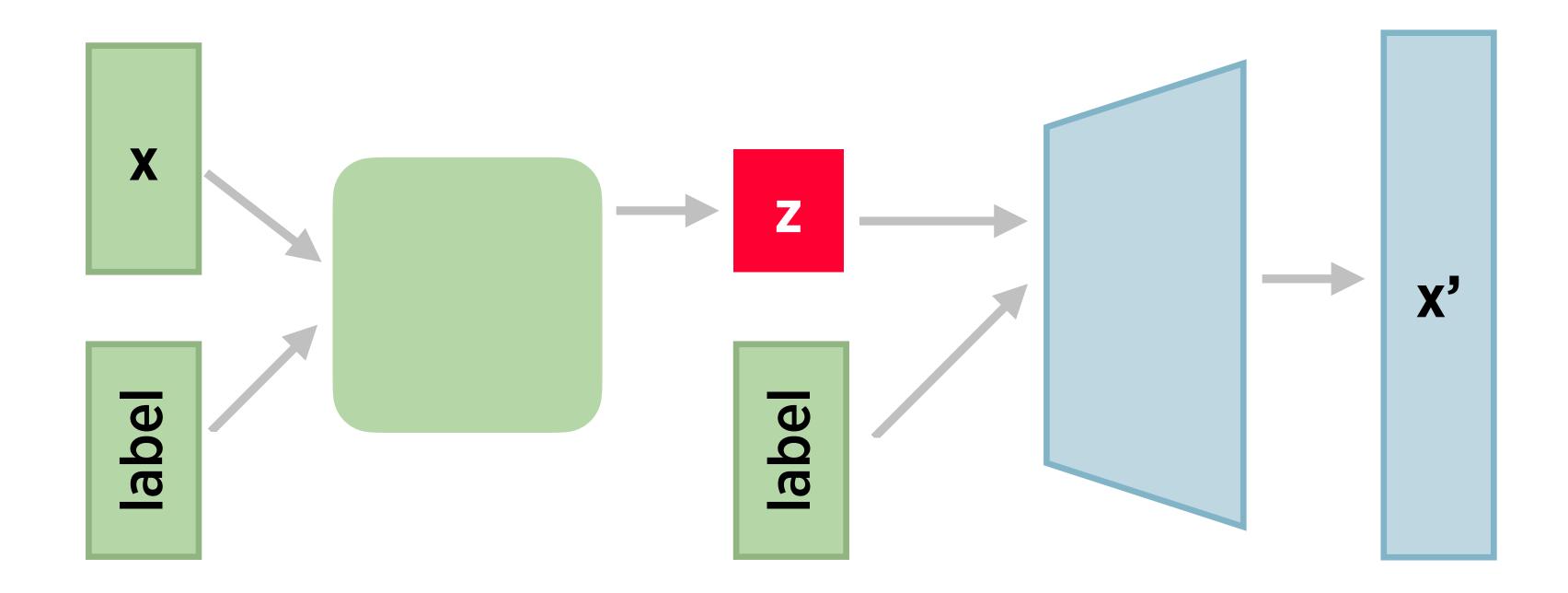




# Conditional Variational Autoencoder (CVAE)

See also: <a href="https://medium.com/@sofeikov/implementing-conditional-variational-auto-encoders-cvae-from-scratch-29fcbb8cb08f">https://medium.com/@sofeikov/implementing-conditional-variational-auto-encoders-cvae-from-scratch-29fcbb8cb08f</a>

- Generating new images of a specific class seems to be tricky
- A Conditional Variational Autoencoder fixes this:
- It takes as input both the data and the label (both at the encoder and the decoder)



# Summary

#### Autoencoders

- "Vanilla" autoencoder
- Denoising autoencoder
- Sparse autoencoder
- K-sparse autoencoder
- Variational autoencoder

Creating representations from our data sets (for adding, e.g., a classifier),

Data compression (transmitting only the hidden layer representation),

Generating new data