

# **CIS 6930 Topics in Computing for Data Science**

## **Week 2: Autoencoders**

Tue 9/14/2021  
Yoshihiko (Yoshi) Suhara

**2pm-3:20pm & 3:30pm-4:50pm**

# Course Plan (1/2)

- Week 1: Deep Learning Basics (Thu 9/9)
- **Week 2: AutoEncoder (Tue 9/14)**
- Week 3: Convolutional Neural Networks (Thu 9/16)
- Week 4: GAN (Tue 9/21)
- Week 5: Word embeddings: Word2vec, GloVe (Thu 9/23)
- Week 6: Recurrent Neural Networks (Tue 9/28, Thu 9/30)
- Week 7: Review/Project pitch & Mid-term (Tue 10/5, Thu 10/7)
- Fall Break
- ...

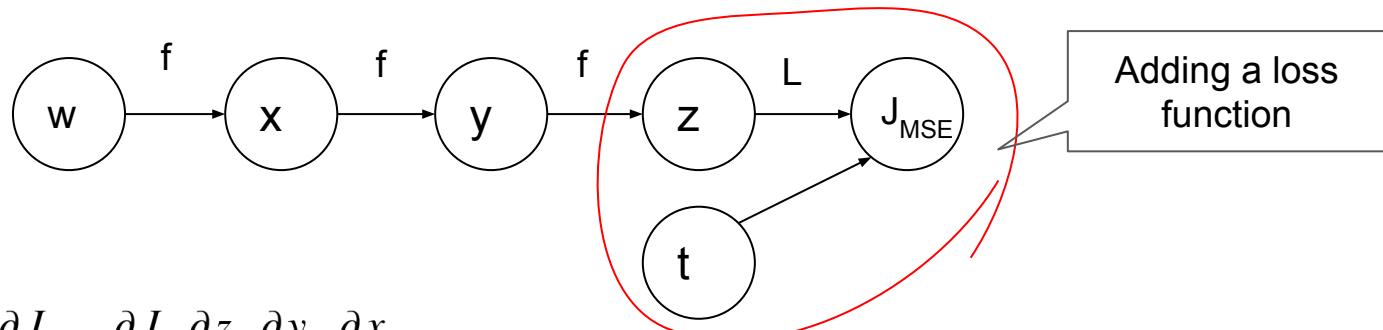
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  - **Week 2: AutoEncoder (Tue 9/14)**
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  - ...
- 
- Deep Learning techniques  
for images
- for text

# **Recap**

# Backpropagation from 3000 ft

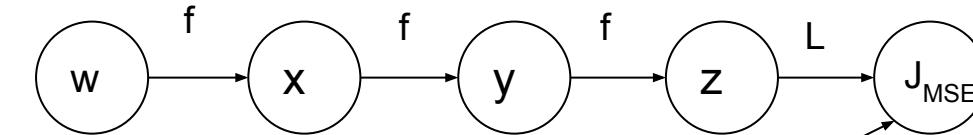
- Multiplications of **the derivative** of each step + **Outputs** of the previous step



$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial J}{\partial w} &= \frac{\partial J}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial w} \\&= L'(z, t) f'(y) f'(x) f'(w) \\&= \underline{L'}(\underline{f(f(f(w)))}, t) \underline{f'(f(f(w)))} \underline{f'(f(w))} \underline{f'(w)}\end{aligned}$$

# Differentiability is Key!

- The gradients of any parameters can be calculated **as long as the functions are differentiable!**
- Backpropagation = A gradient calculation method
  - i.e., can be coupled with any optimization method (e.g., SGD)
- Multiplications of **the derivative** of each step + **Outputs** of the previous step



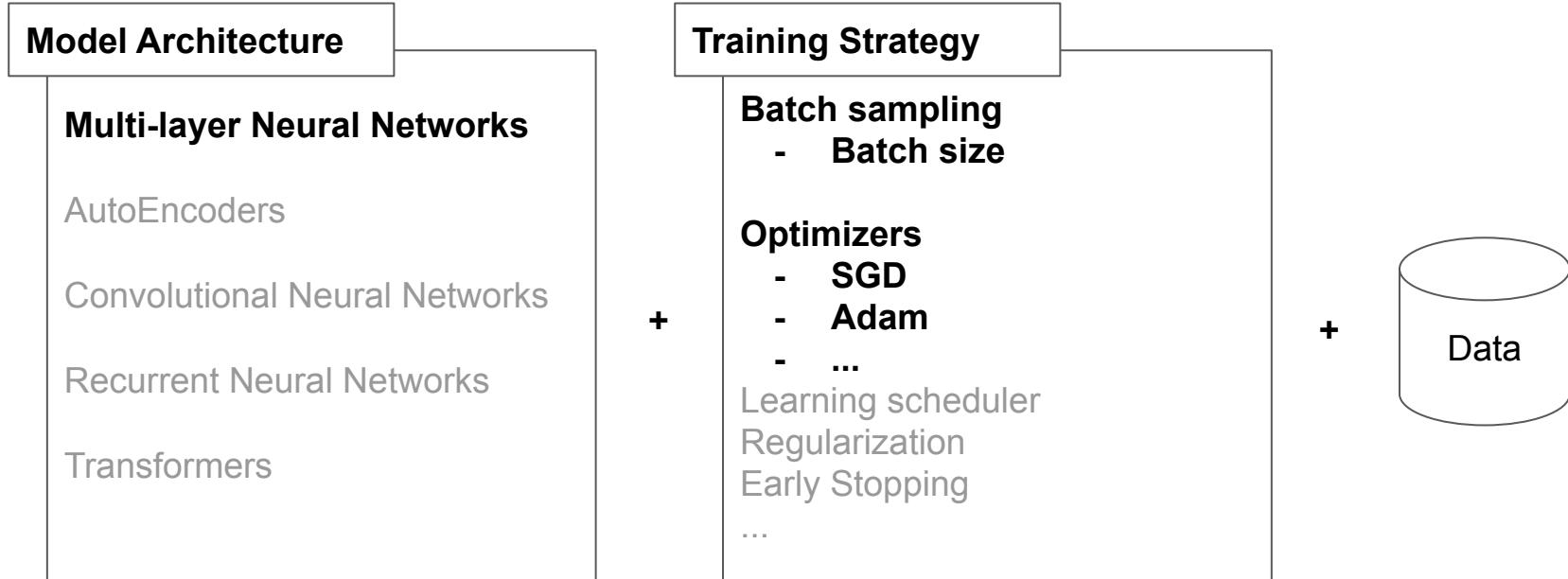
$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial w} = \frac{\partial J}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial w}$$

$$= L'(z, t) f'(y) f'(x) f'(w)$$

$$= L'(\underline{f(f(f(w)))}, t) \underline{f'(f(f(w)))} \underline{f'(f(w))} \underline{f'(w)}$$

# Basic Deep-Learning Building Blocks

- **(A) Model Architecture + (B) Training Strategy + (c) Data**
- i.e., What to Optimize and How to Optimize



# Deep-Learning Building Blocks: Starter Kit

- Layers
  - Linear Layer
- Activation functions
  - Logistic sigmoid, tanh
  - ReLU, Leaky ReLU
- Optimizers
  - SGD w/wo Momentum)
  - Adam

# PyTorch Session Takeaway: D-M-T

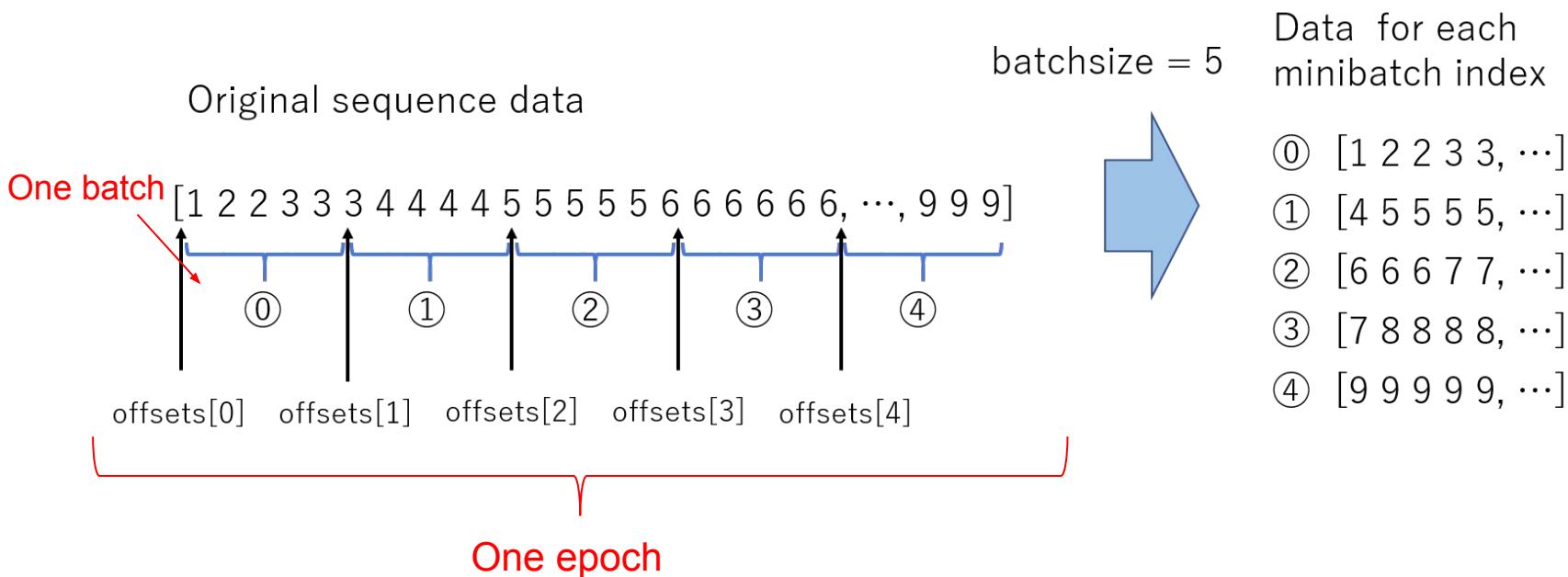
- Remember Dataset, Model, Training iteration

```
for epoch in range(10):
    training_loss = 0.0
    valid_loss = 0.0
    model.train()
    for batch_idx, batch in enumerate(dataloader):
        optimizer.zero_grad()                      # Initialize gradient information
        X, y = batch                                # Get feature/label from batch
        pred = model(X)                            # Get output from the model
        loss = criterion(pred, y)                  # Evaluate loss values
        loss.backward()                            # Backpropagate
        optimizer.step()                           # Update parameters

        training_loss += loss.data.item() * batch_size
    training_loss /= len(train_iterator)
```

# How Mini-batch Sampling Works?

- [Google Colab](#)

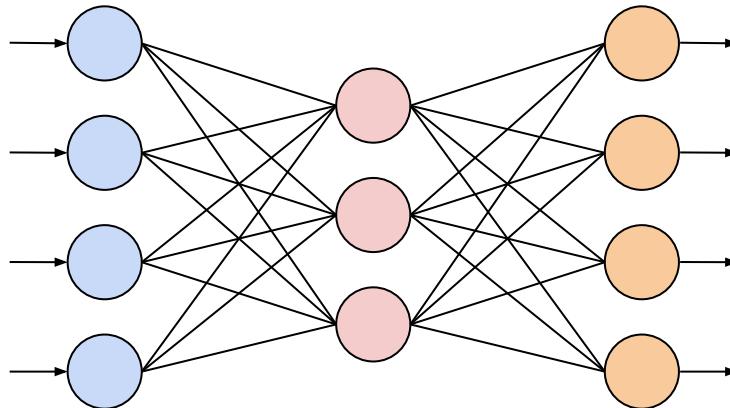


# Tips: How to Debug Google Colab Code?

- Google Colab Notebooks store variables
  - You can check variables in any cells **after execution**
  - You can create a **breakpoint** by raising an exception (e.g., `sys.exit()`)
  - It's naive but works!
- A more sophisticated way
  - The method above does not work for debugging a function
  - Use `pdb` by inserting `import pdb; pdb.set_trace()`

# Today's Topic: Autoencoders!

- Autoencoders principles
- Advanced Autoencoder models
- Applications



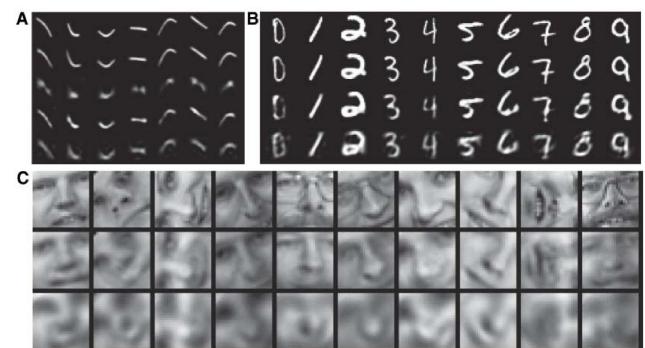
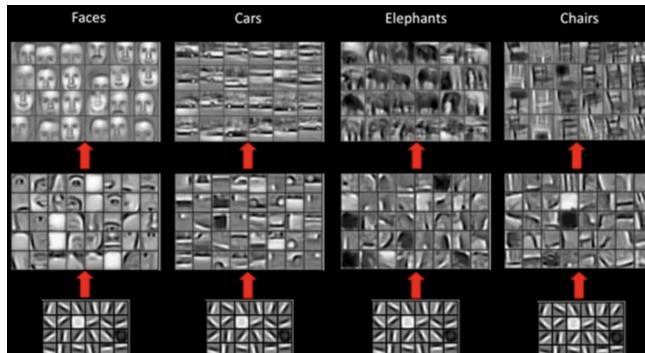
# Today's Teaching Style

- Lecture & In-class exercises
  - To help get (more) familiar with implementing Neural Network model classes with PyTorch on your own
- [Alert] (A little bit) more open-ended assignments are coming on Thursday!

# **Autoencoders Principles**

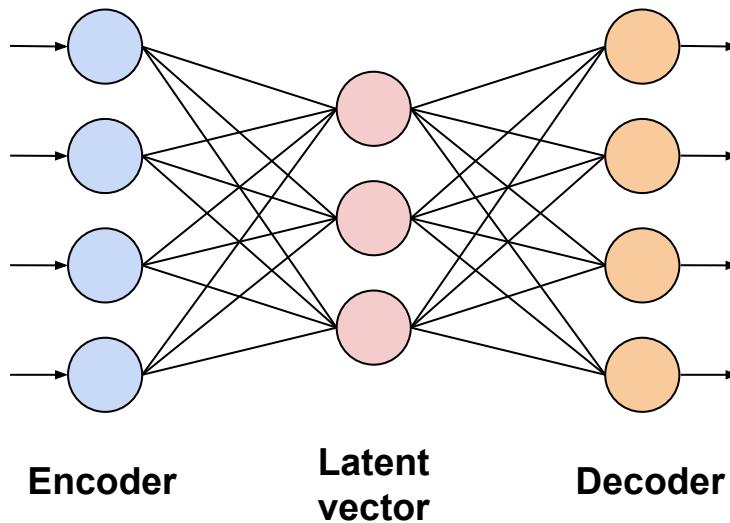
# Return of Neural Networks: Deep Learning (2010s-)

- Maturity of Neural Networks techniques → Representation Learning
  - Auto-Encoders (2006)
  - Advances in Convolutional Neural Networks (originally 1998)
- The age of Big Data
  - Computational resource ↑
  - Data size ↑



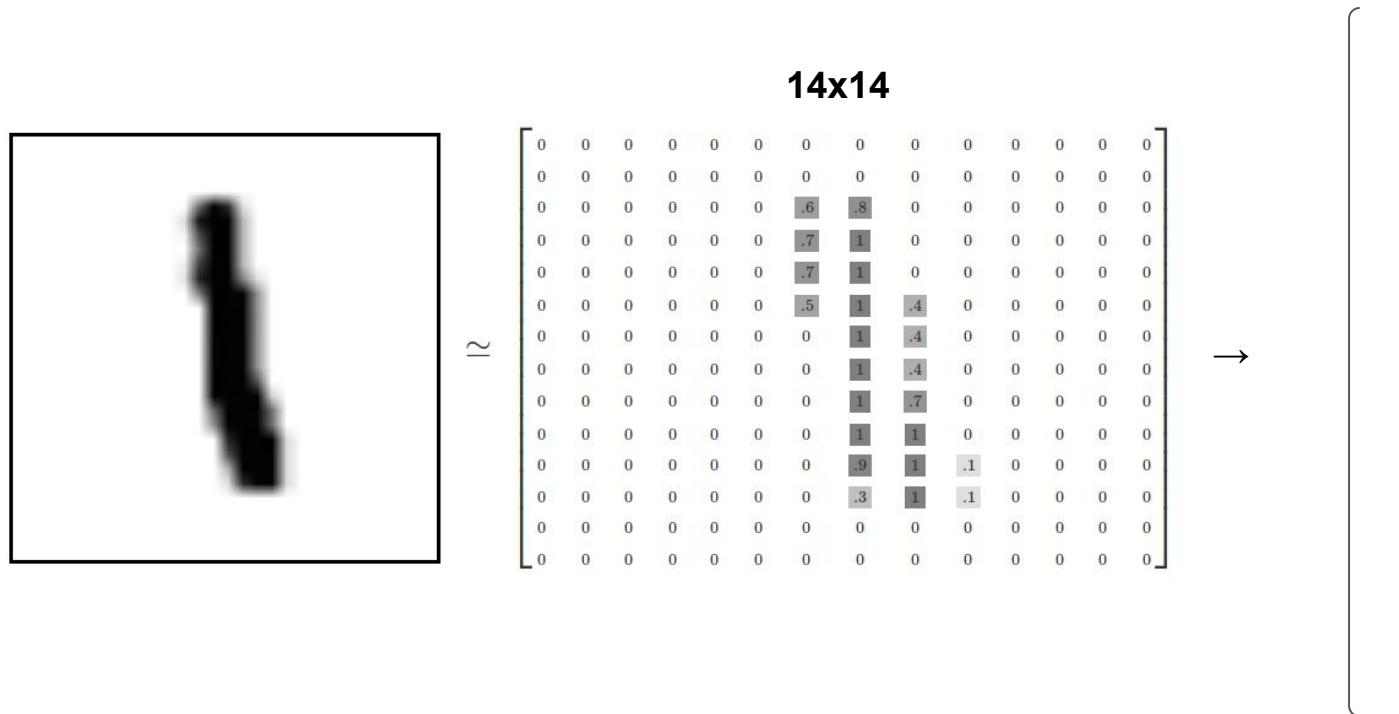
# Autoencoders

- Encoder-decoder models that learn to reconstruct the original data



# Note: Pixel Image → Input vector

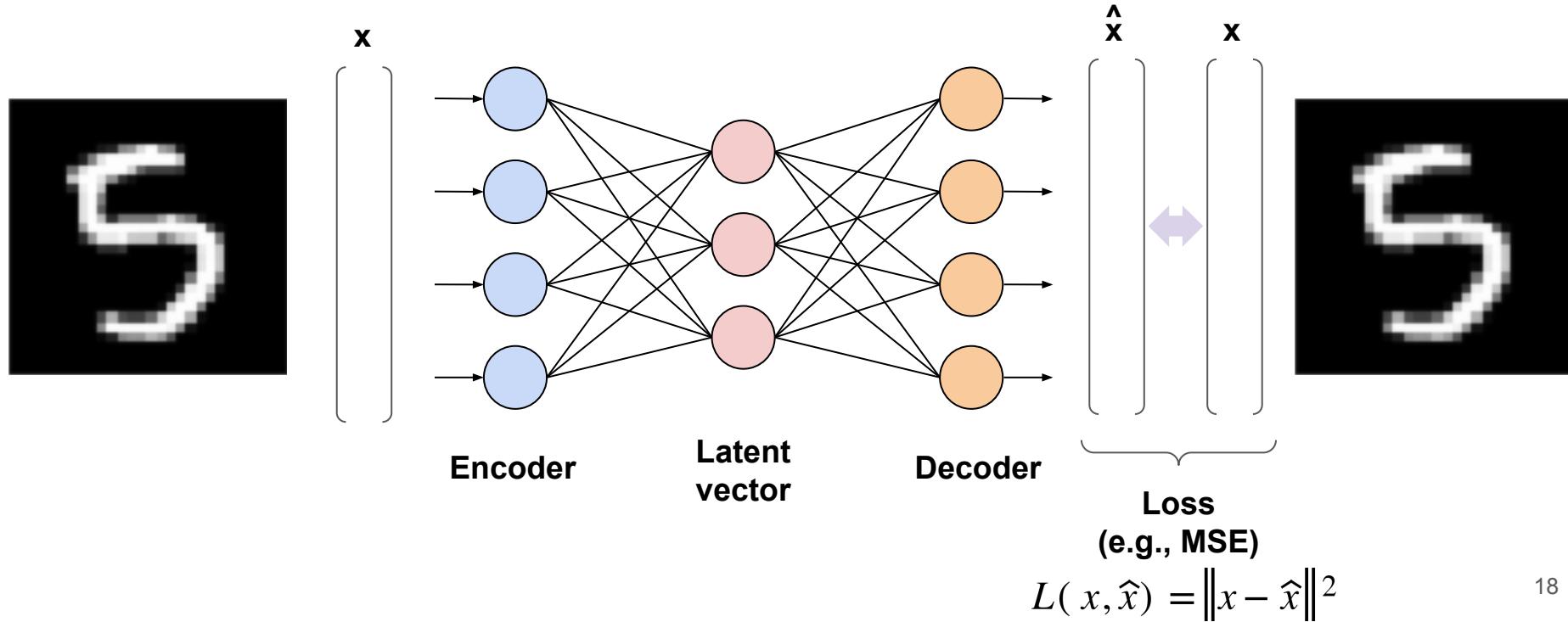
x (196-dim)



We will discuss how to leverage the spatial information of pixels

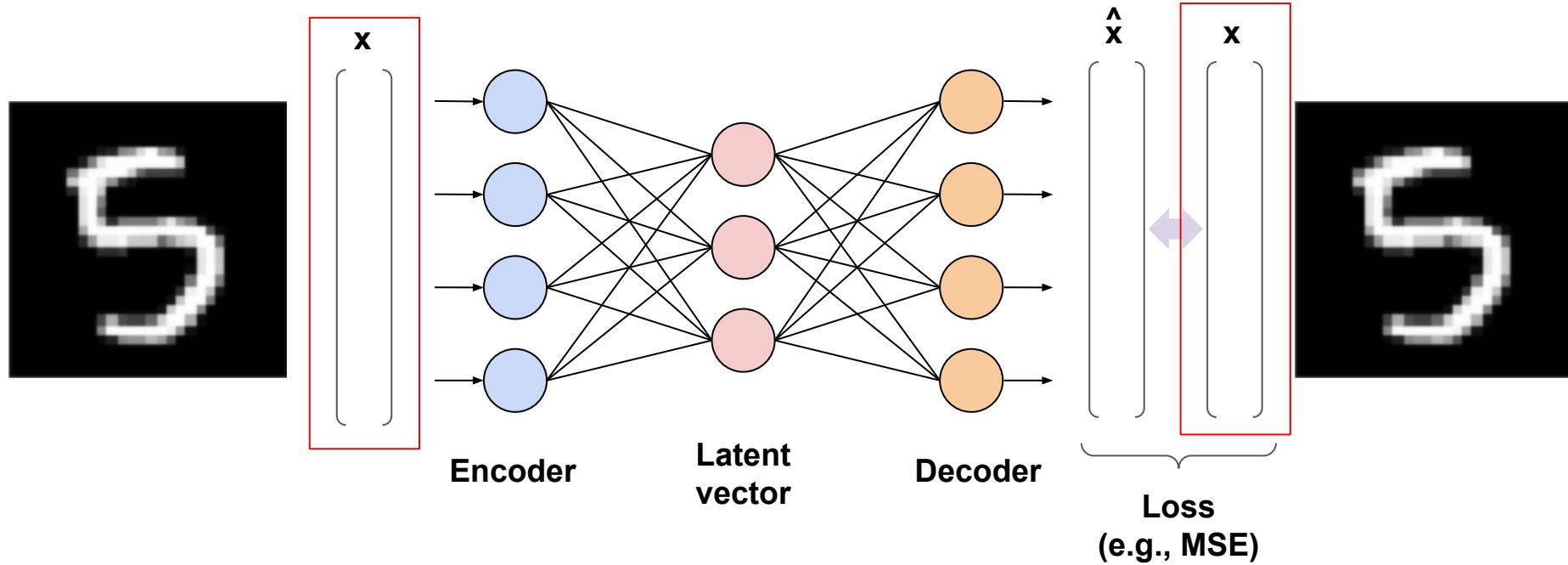
# Autoencoders: Training

- Simply use input data as the target data

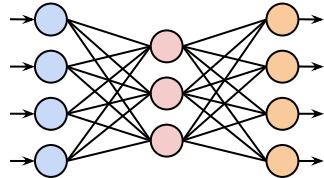


# Autoencoders: Training

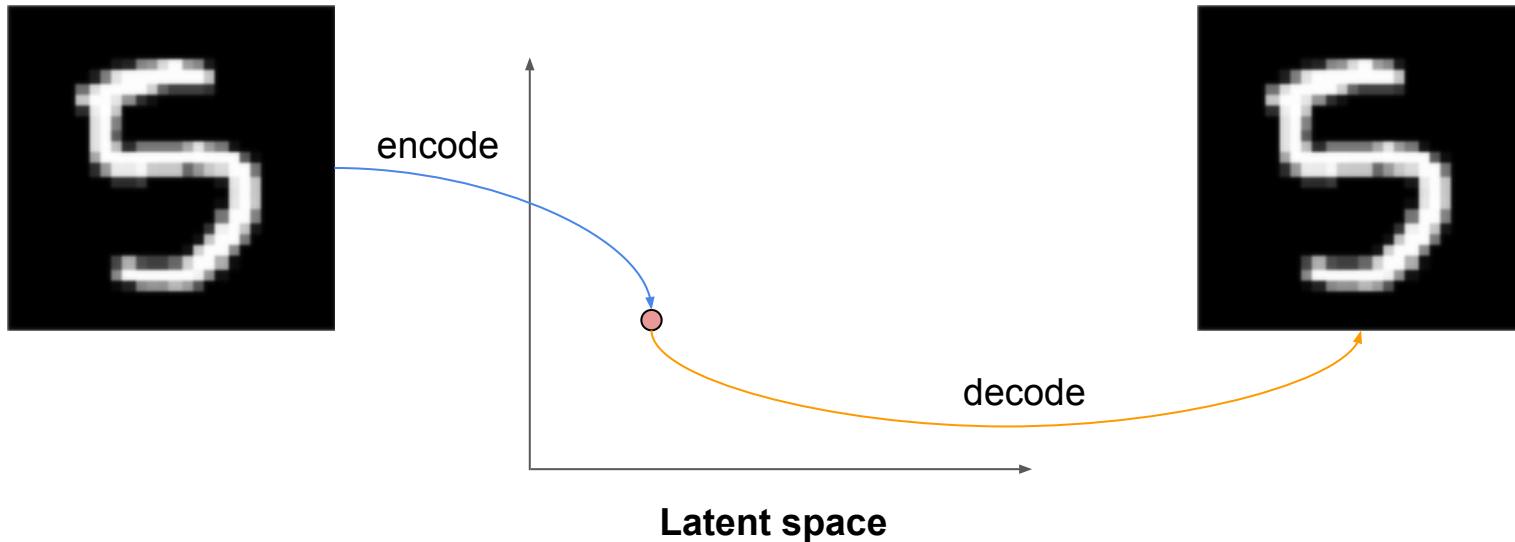
- Simply use input data as the target data



# Autoencoders: Latent Space

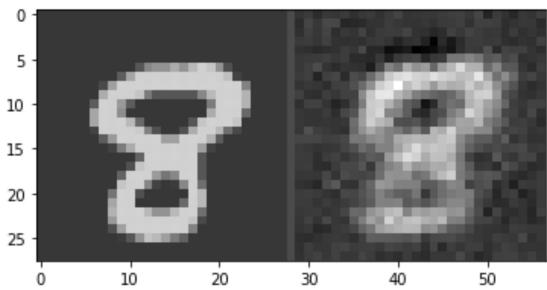


- The **encoder** first maps input data into latent vectors, which are then converted back to data by the **decoder**

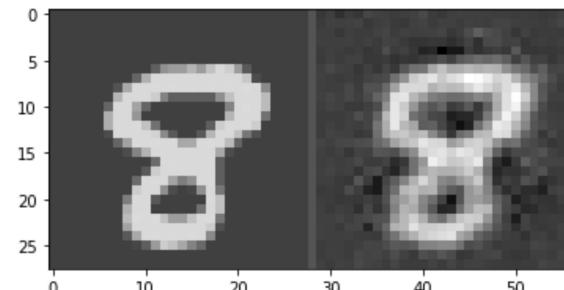


# Self-reconstruction Examples

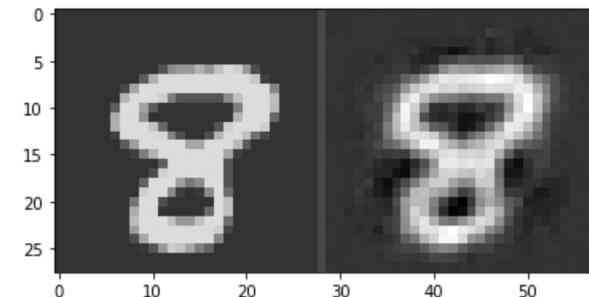
Epoch 0  
Training loss: 15.2723  
Validation loss: 9.5237



Epoch 4  
Training loss: 5.0810  
Validation loss: 4.9002

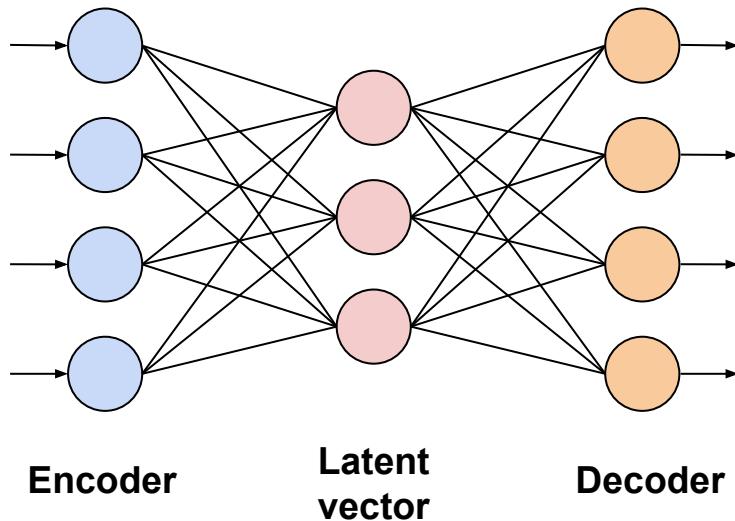


Epoch 9  
Training loss: 3.9312  
Validation loss: 3.8820



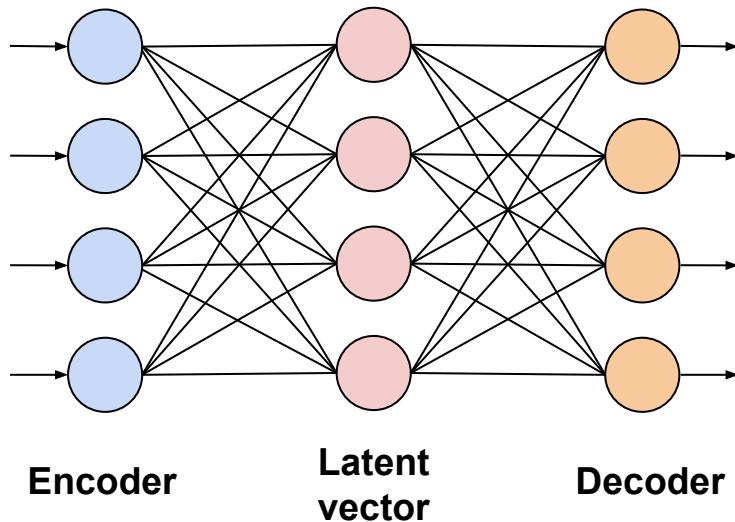
# Autoencoders: Bottleneck Hidden Layer

- The latent space dimension **must be smaller** than that of input vector
- Why?



# Autoencoders: Bottleneck Hidden Layer

- The latent space dimension **must be smaller** than that of input vector
- Why? → The model can always reconstruct the original data





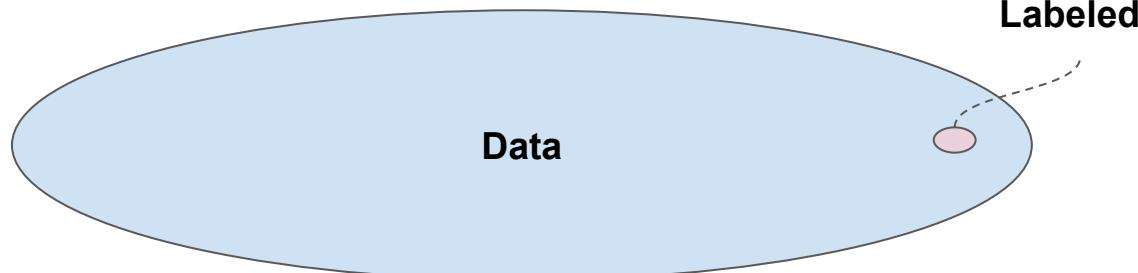
# Unsupervised or Supervised?

- We do not need any label data for autoencoders (i.e., unsupervised learning)
  - But, the training procedure looks like supervised learning 🤔

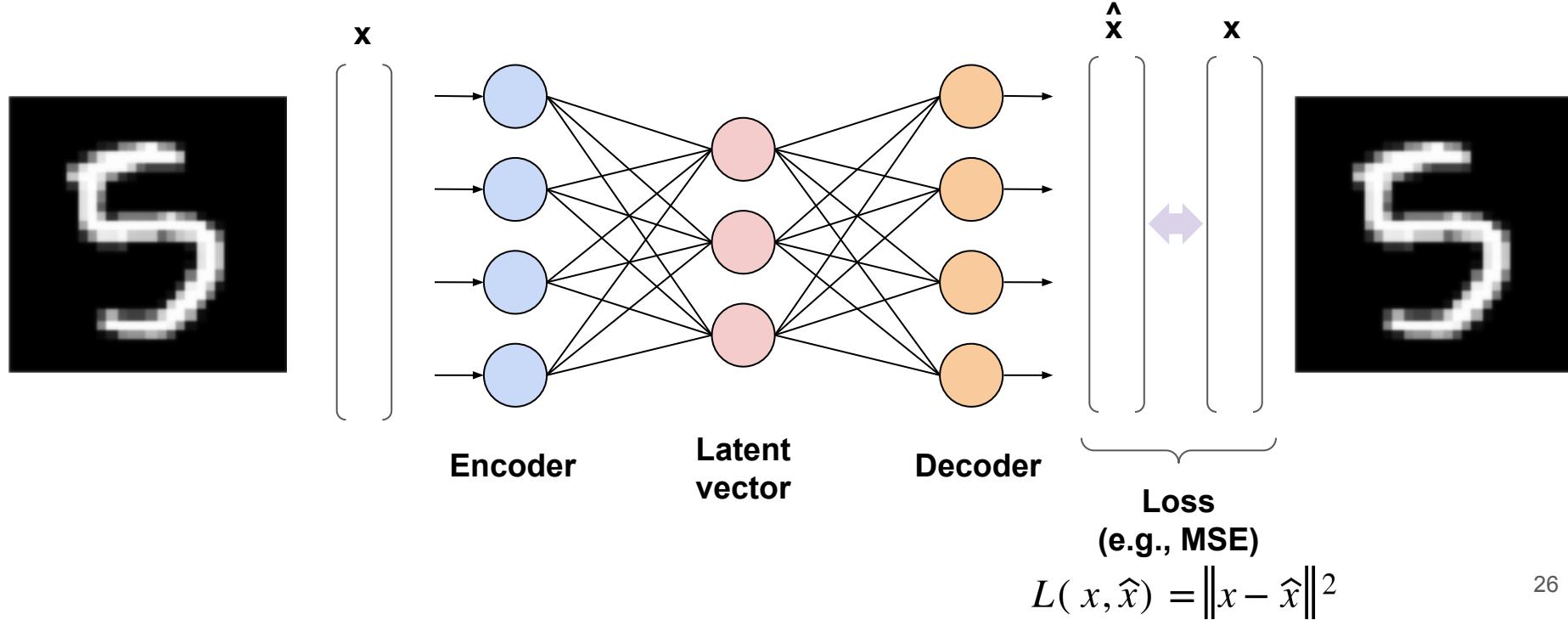


# Unsupervised or Supervised?

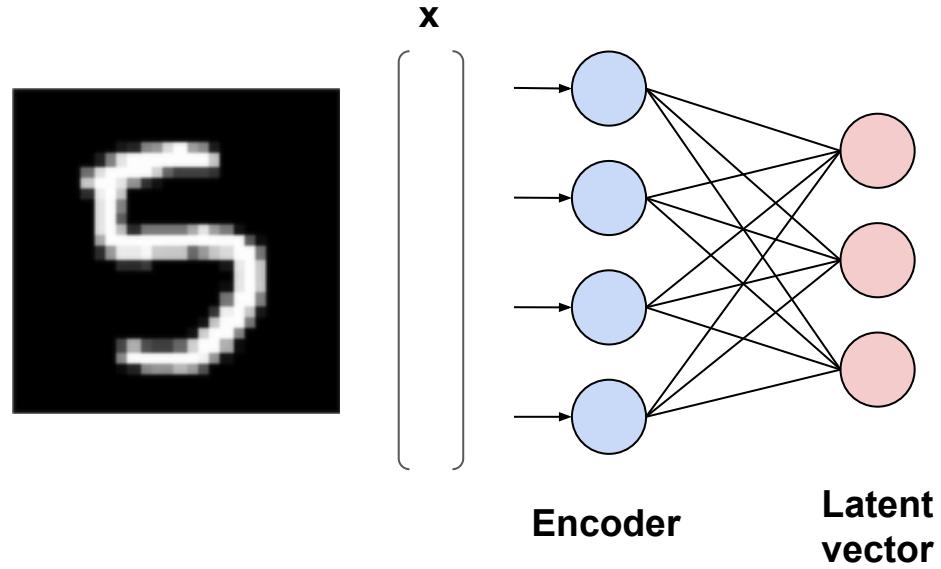
- We do not need any label data for autoencoders (i.e., unsupervised learning)
  - But, the training procedure looks like supervised learning 😕
- It's often called **self-supervised** learning
  - We can collect (pseudo) labels with no additional cost for self-supervised learning
  - Key approach to **pre-training** models



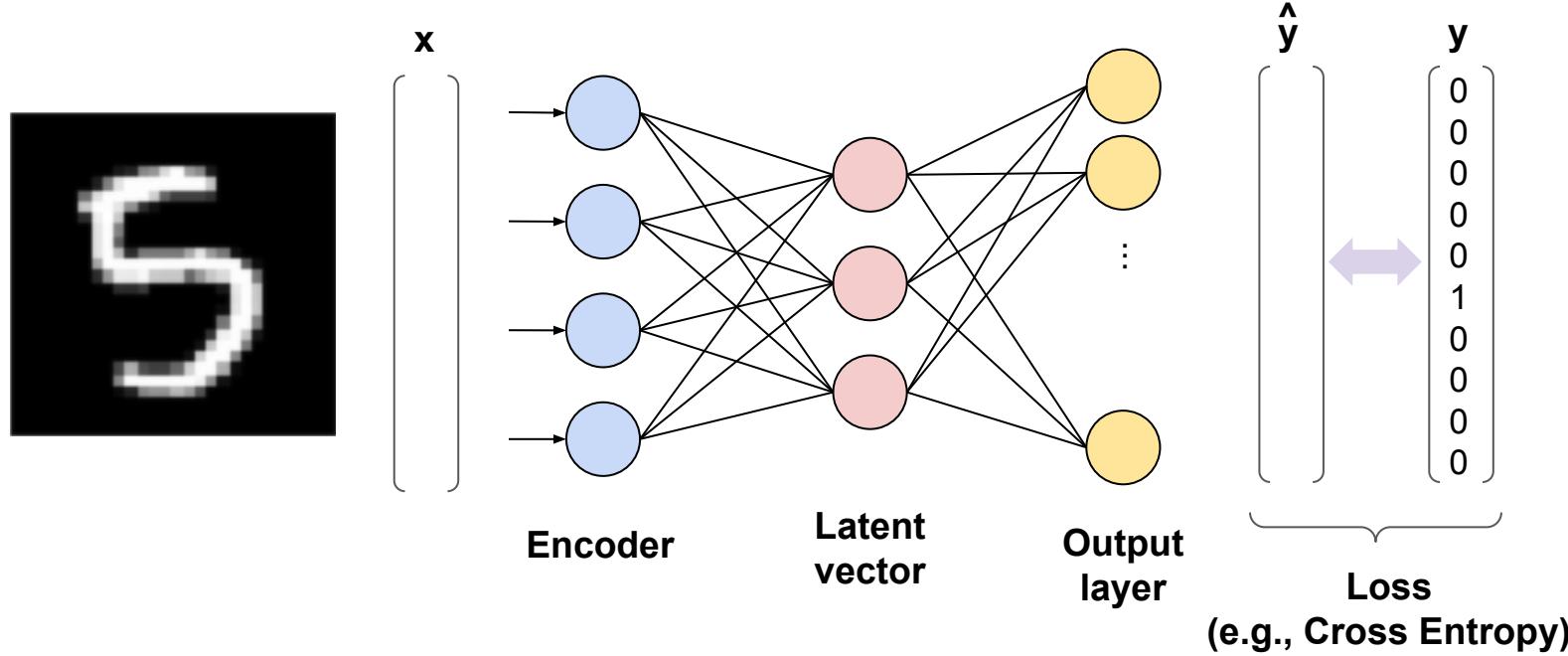
# Autoencoder as Pre-training: (1) Pre-training



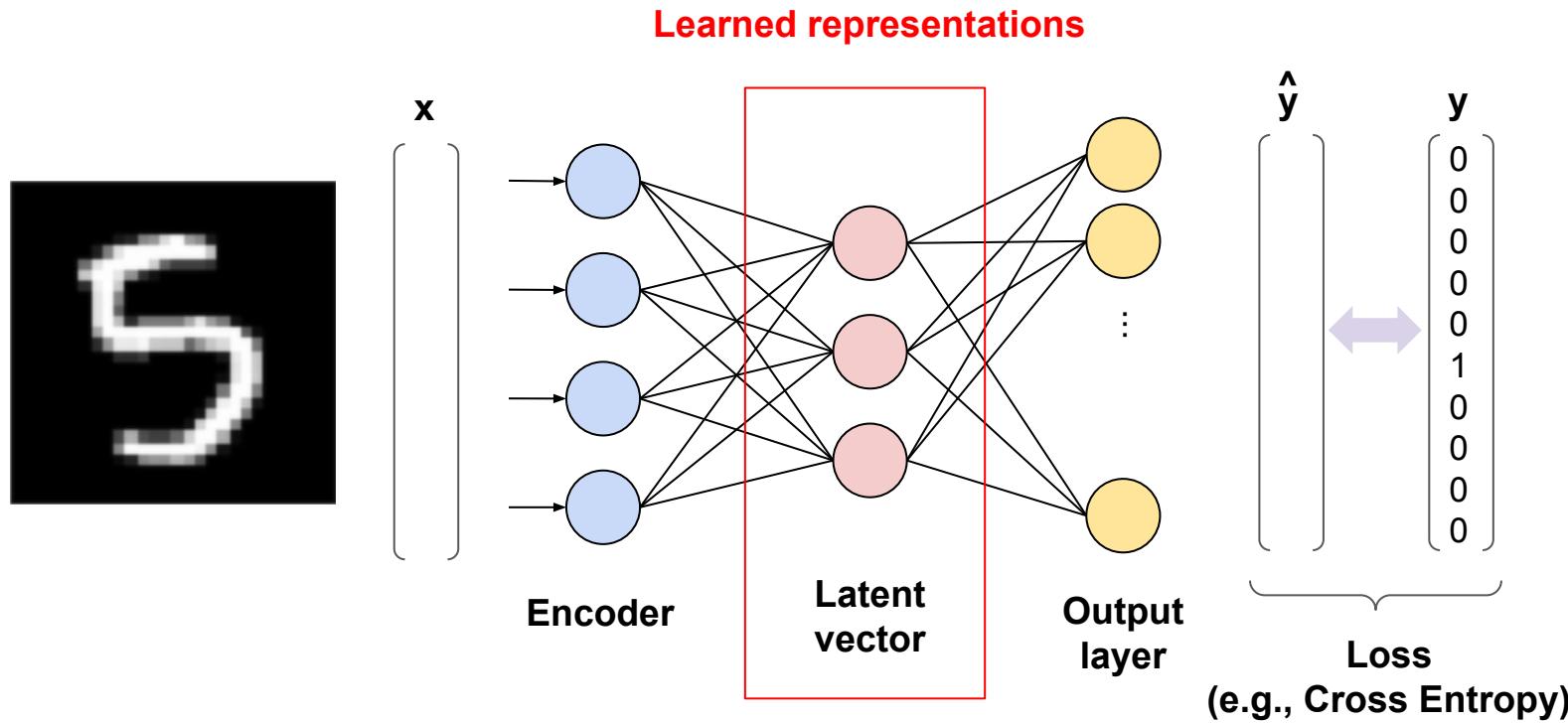
# Autoencoder as Pre-training: (1) Pre-training



# Autoencoder as Pre-training: (2) Fine-tuning

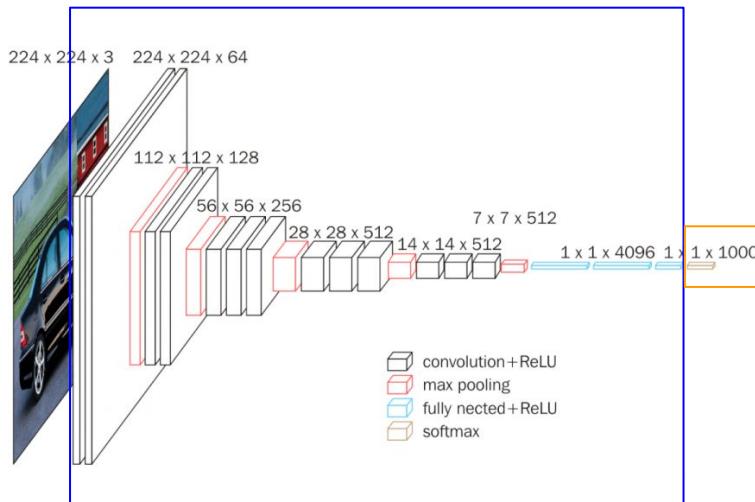


# Autoencoder as Pre-training: (2) Fine-tuning

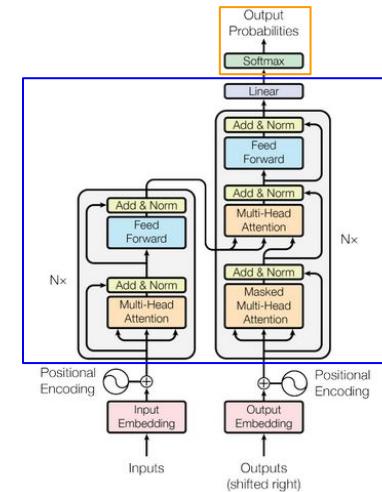


# Neural Networks as Representation Learning

- Deep NN = Representation extraction + Linear/Logistic Regression



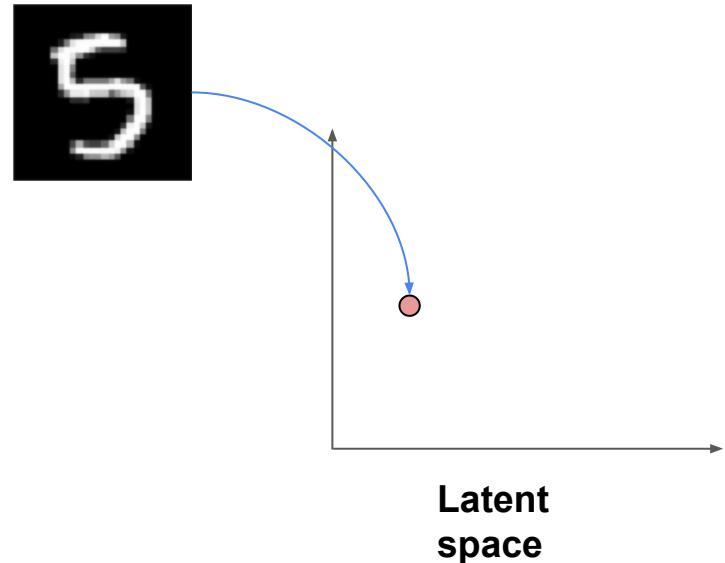
VGG 16



Transformer

# Autoencoders as Dimensionality Reduction

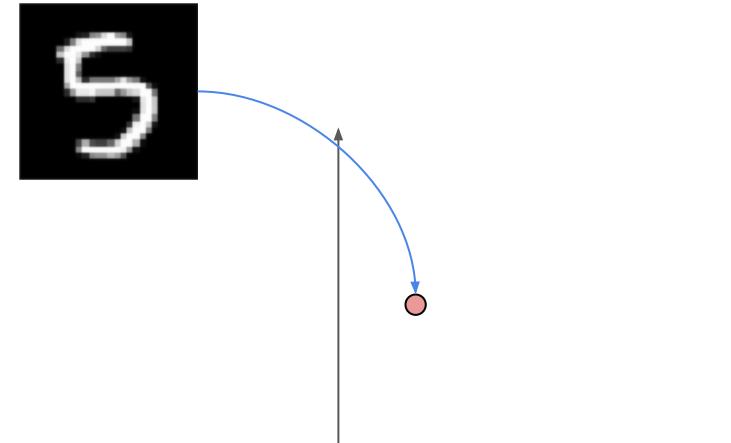
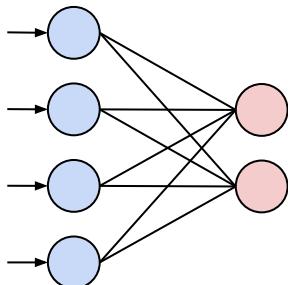
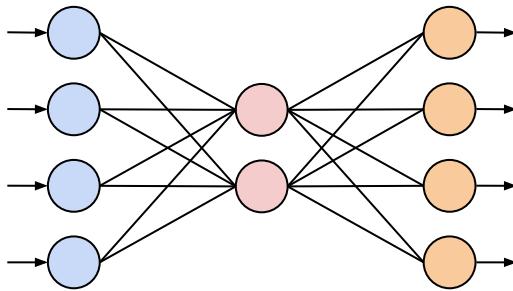
- We can use Autoencoder models for visualization (e.g., PCA, t-SNE)
- How?



Latent  
space

# Autoencoders as Dimensionality Reduction

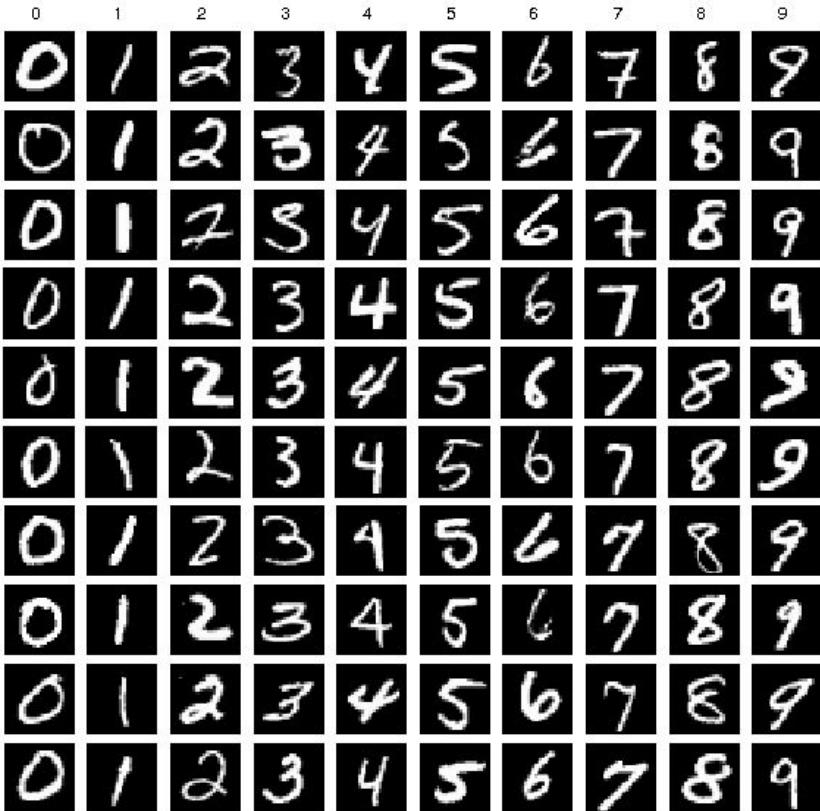
- We can use Autoencoder models for visualization (e.g., PCA, t-SNE)
- How? → Set the hidden size to be 2



Latent  
space

# MNIST Dataset

- A dataset of handwritten digits
  - The Iris Dataset for Neural Networks
- Dataset specification
  - 28x28 grayscale pixels
  - 60,000 training examples
  - 10,000 test examples
  - 10-class (0-9) labels



# Hands-on Time: Let's Implement Autoencoder

- [Google Colab](#)

# Autoencoder: PyTorch Code Example

```
import torch.nn as nn

class AutoEncoder(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self,
                 hidden_dim: int = 64):
        super().__init__()
        self.encoder = nn.Sequential(nn.Linear(28 * 28, hidden_dim),
                                    nn.ReLU())
        self.decoder = nn.Sequential(nn.Linear(hidden_dim, 28 * 28))

    def encode(self, x):
        return self.encoder(x)

    def decode(self, x):
        return self.decoder(x)

    def forward(self, x):
        embedding = self.encoder(x)
        out = self.decoder(embedding)
        return out
```

# Feature Normalization: Standardization

- StandardScaler (scikit-learn)
  - [sklearn.preprocessing.StandardScaler — scikit-learn 0.24.2 documentation](#)
- We are supposed to “fit” a scaler on training data and apply it to test data

$$z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}$$

- Other options
  - [sklearn.preprocessing.MinMaxScaler — scikit-learn 0.24.2 documentation](#)

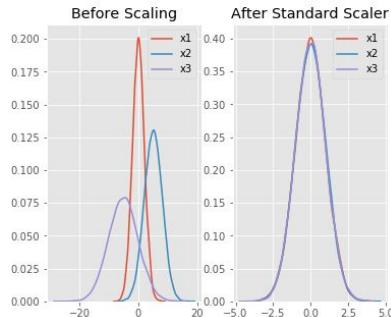
$$z = \frac{x - X_{min}}{X_{max} - X_{min}}$$

What's the issue with it?



# MinMaxScaler: Risks

- 1) Sensitive to the min/max values
  - Likely to further compress “crowded” regions
- 2) Examples from different datasets can look different (→ important for **Transfer learning**)
  - StandardScaler fits data into  $N(0, 1)$  distribution

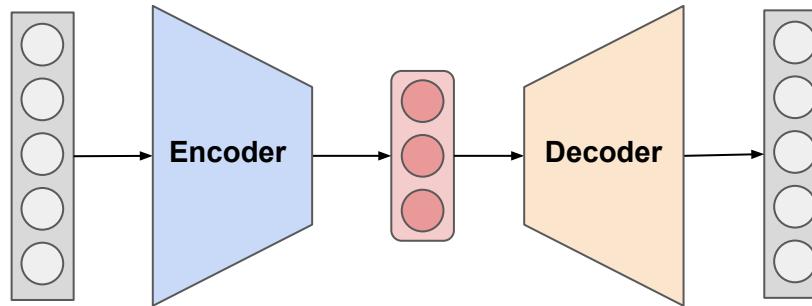


cf. **Robust statistics** (e.g., calculating statistics value after removing 25% quantiles etc.)  
[RobustScaler](#) at scikit-learn. Generally speaking, StandardScaler should be good enough

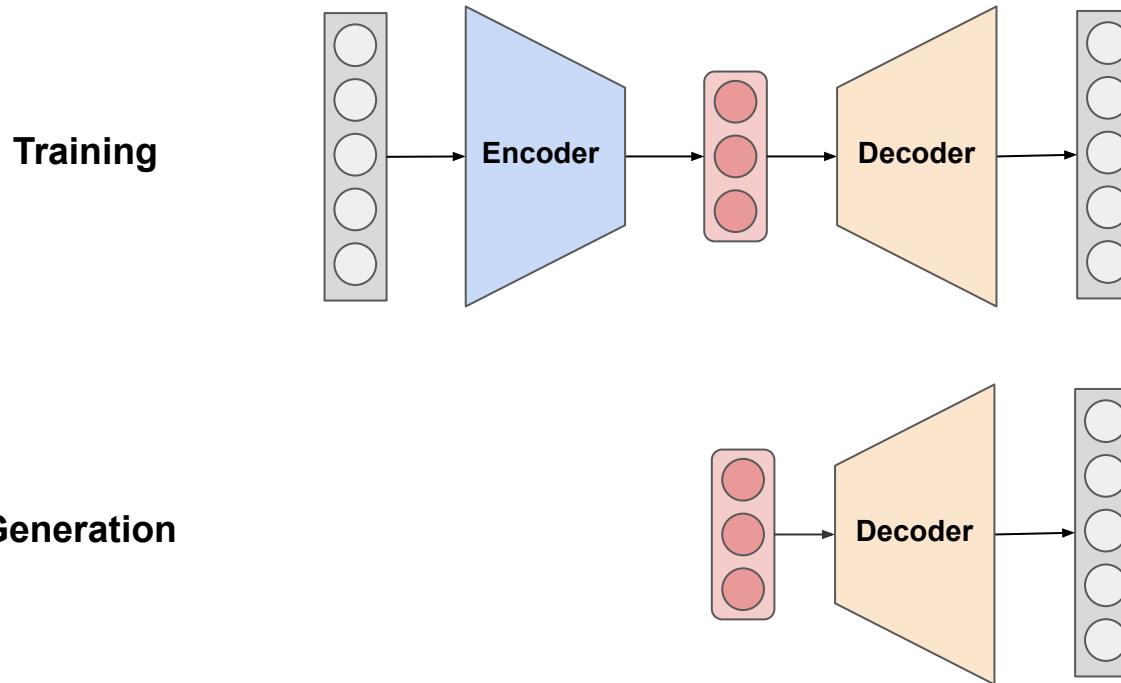
Further reading: [Compare the effect of different scalers on data with outliers — scikit-learn 0.24.2 documentation](#)

# Autoencoder in Encoder-Decoder Presentation

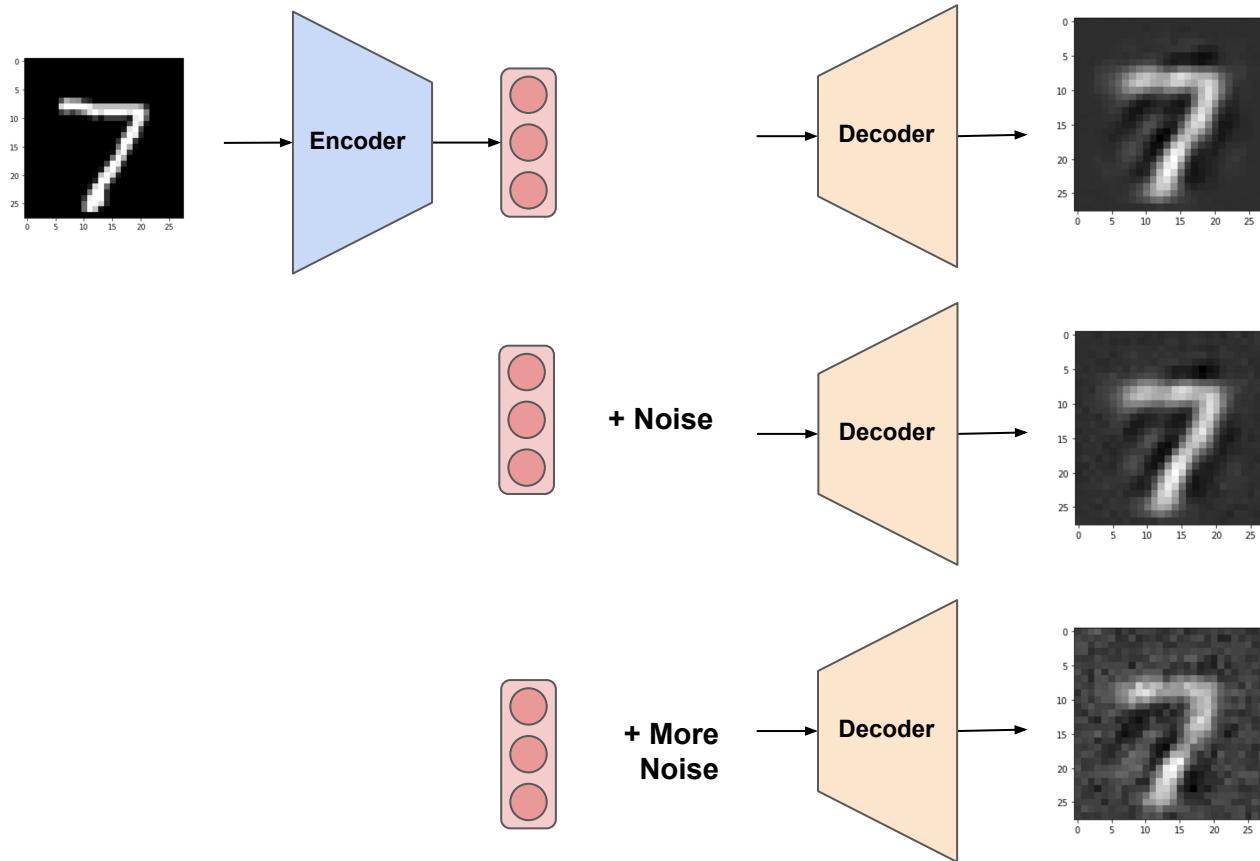
- Encoder: Input values → Latent vectors
- Decoder: Latent vectors → Output values



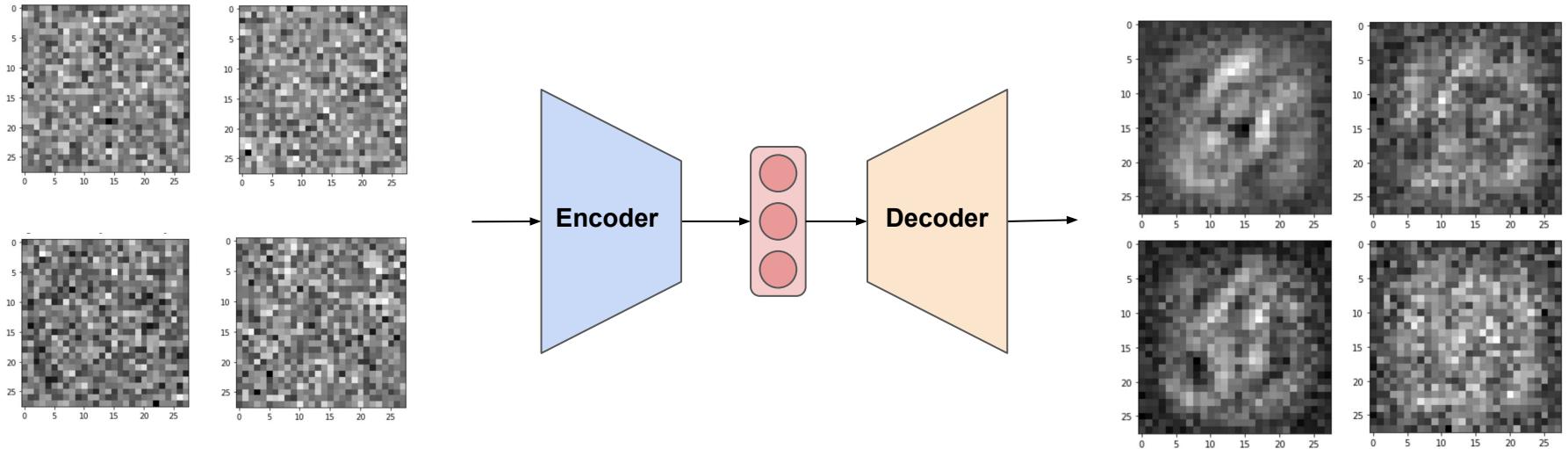
# Generating Handwritten Images



# Generating Images from Latent Vector + Noise



# Generating Images from Random Noise



We will discuss more advanced solutions for image generation next week (in the GAN session)

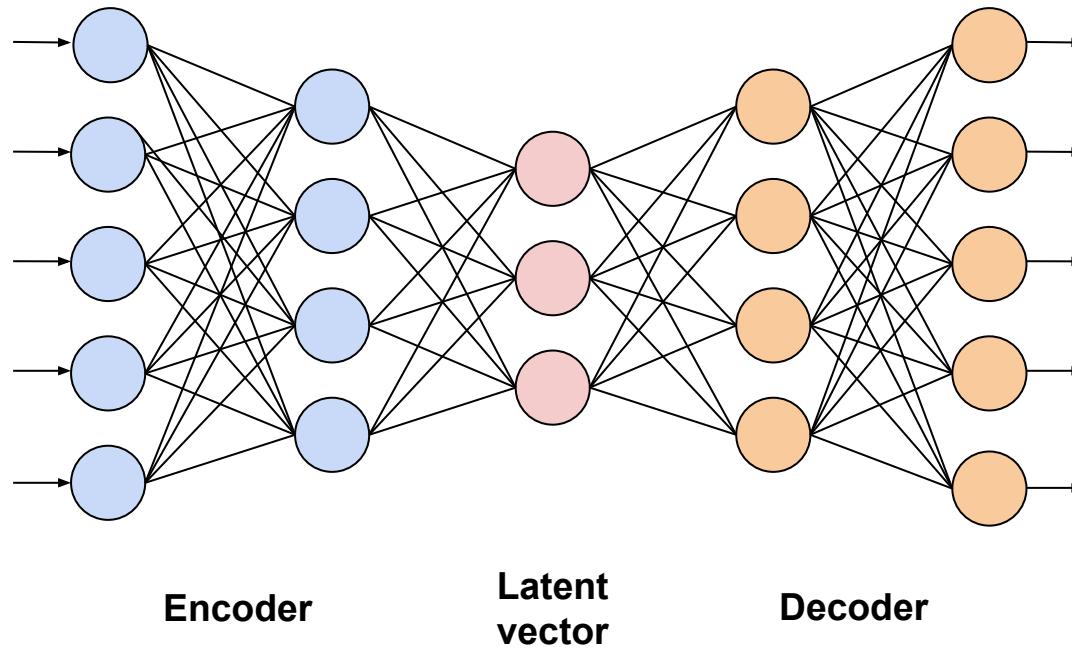
# **Advanced Autoencoders**

# Advanced Autoencoder Models

- Stacked Autoencoder
- Denoising Autoencoder
- Variational Autoencoder (VAE)

# Stacked Autoencoder

- Encoder/Decoder with multiple layers



# Autoencoder → Stacked Autoencoder

- Where to edit?

```
import torch.nn as nn

class AutoEncoder(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self,
                 hidden_dim: int = 64):
        super().__init__()
        self.encoder = nn.Sequential(nn.Linear(28 * 28, hidden_dim),
                                    nn.ReLU())
        self.decoder = nn.Sequential(nn.Linear(hidden_dim, 28 * 28))

    def encode(self, x):
        return self.encoder(x)

    def decode(self, x):
        return self.decoder(x)

    def forward(self, x):
        embedding = self.encoder(x)
        out = self.decoder(embedding)
        return out
```

# Autoencoder → Stacked Autoencoder

- Where to edit?

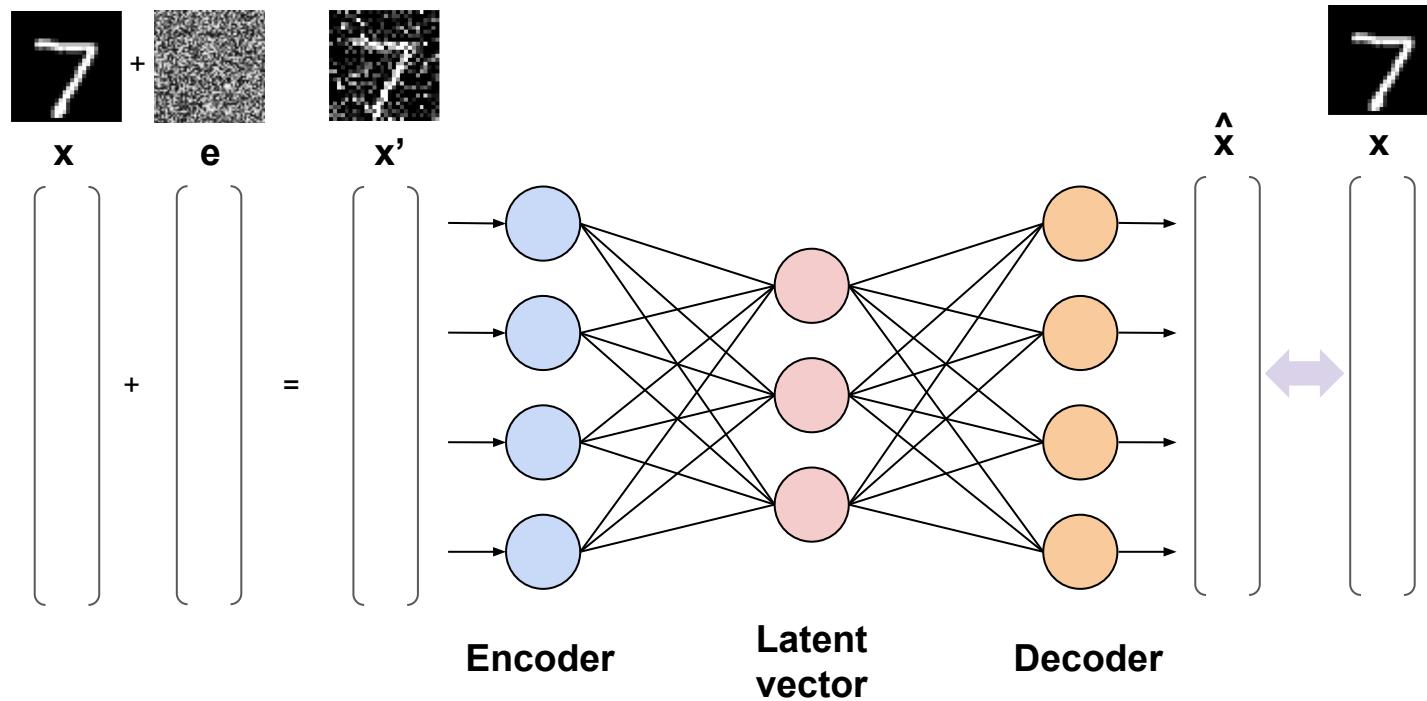
```
import torch.nn as nn

class AutoEncoder(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self,
                 hidden_dim: int = 64):
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        self.encoder = nn.Sequential(nn.Linear(28 * 28, hidden_dim),
                                    nn.ReLU())
        self.decoder = nn.Sequential(nn.Linear(hidden_dim, 28 * 28))

    def encode(self, x):
        self.encoder = nn.Sequential(nn.Linear(28 * 28, hidden_dim),
                                    nn.ReLU(),
                                    nn.Linear(hidden_dim, 3),
                                    nn.ReLU())
        self.decoder = nn.Sequential(nn.Linear(3, hidden_dim),
                                    nn.ReLU(),
                                    nn.Linear(hidden_dim, 28 * 28))
```

# Denoising Autoencoder

- Learn to reconstruct the original data from **corrupted input**



# Hands-on Time: Implement Denoising Autoencoder

- [Google Colab](#)

Hint

[Docs](#) > [torch](#) > [torch.randn\\_like](#)



## TORCH.RANDN\_LIKE

```
torch.randn_like(input, *, dtype=None, layout=None, device=None, requires_grad=False,  
memory_format=torch.preserve_format) → Tensor
```

Returns a tensor with the same size as `input` that is filled with random numbers from a normal distribution with mean 0 and variance 1. `torch.randn_like(input)` is equivalent to `torch.randn(input.size(),  
dtype=input.dtype, layout=input.layout, device=input.device)`.

### Parameters

`input` ([Tensor](#)) – the size of `input` will determine size of the output tensor.

[https://pytorch.org/docs/stable/generated/torch.randn\\_like.html](https://pytorch.org/docs/stable/generated/torch.randn_like.html)

# Denoising Autoencoder: PyTorch Code Example

```
class DenoisingAutoEncoder(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self,
                 hidden_dim: int = 64,
                 noise_factor: float = 0.01):
        super().__init__()
        self.noise_factor = noise_factor
        self.encoder = nn.Sequential(nn.Linear(28 * 28, hidden_dim),
                                     nn.ReLU())
        self.decoder = nn.Sequential(nn.Linear(hidden_dim, 28 * 28))

    def encode(self, x):
        return self.encoder(x)

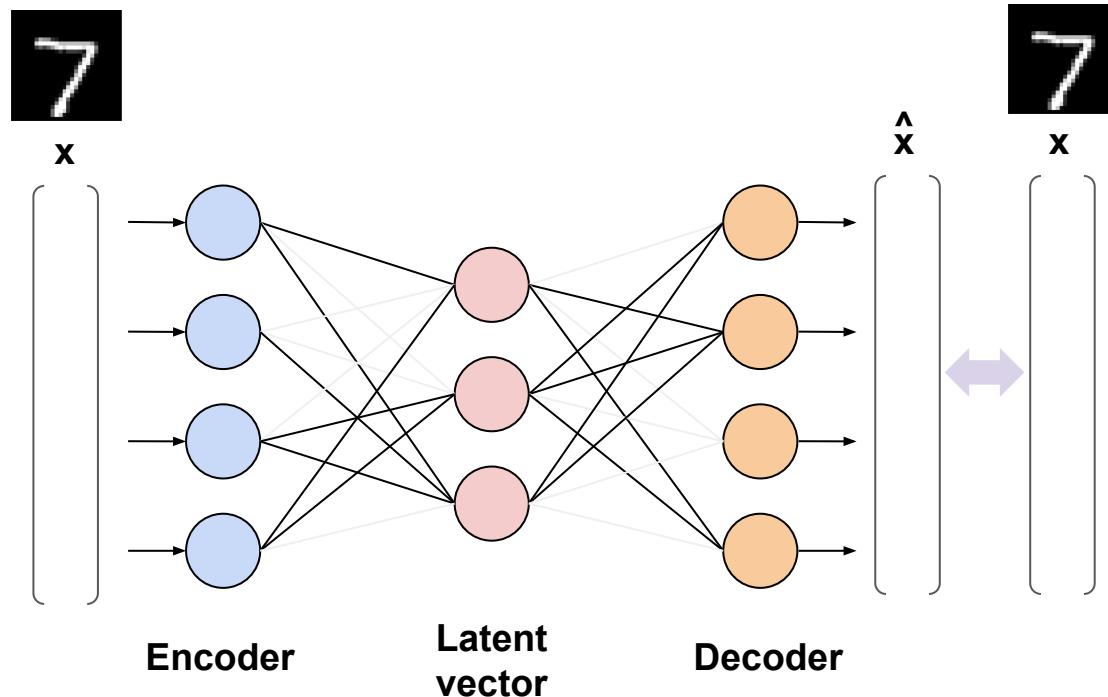
    def decode(self, x):
        return self.decoder(x)

    def forward(self, x):

        if self.training: # True if model.train(); False if model.eval()
            # Add random noise for training
            x += torch.randn_like(x) * self.noise_factor
        embedding = self.encoder(x)
        out = self.decoder(embedding)
        return out
```

# Regularization technique: Dropout

- “Turn off” randomly selected edges in each training step
- The full network is used for inference ( $\rightarrow$  `model.train()` & `model.eval()`)



# Regularization technique: Dropout

Docs > torch.nn > Dropout



- “Turn off
- The full

## DROPOUT

`eval()`

CLASS `torch.nn.Dropout(p=0.5, inplace=False)`

[SOURCE]

During training, randomly zeroes some of the elements of the input tensor with probability `p` using samples from a Bernoulli distribution. Each channel will be zeroed out independently on every forward call.

This has proven to be an effective technique for regularization and preventing the co-adaptation of neurons as described in the paper [Improving neural networks by preventing co-adaptation of feature detectors](#).

Furthermore, the outputs are scaled by a factor of  $\frac{1}{1-p}$  during training. This means that during evaluation the module simply computes an identity function.

### Parameters

- `p` – probability of an element to be zeroed. Default: 0.5
- `inplace` – If set to `True`, will do this operation in-place. Default: `False`

### Shape:

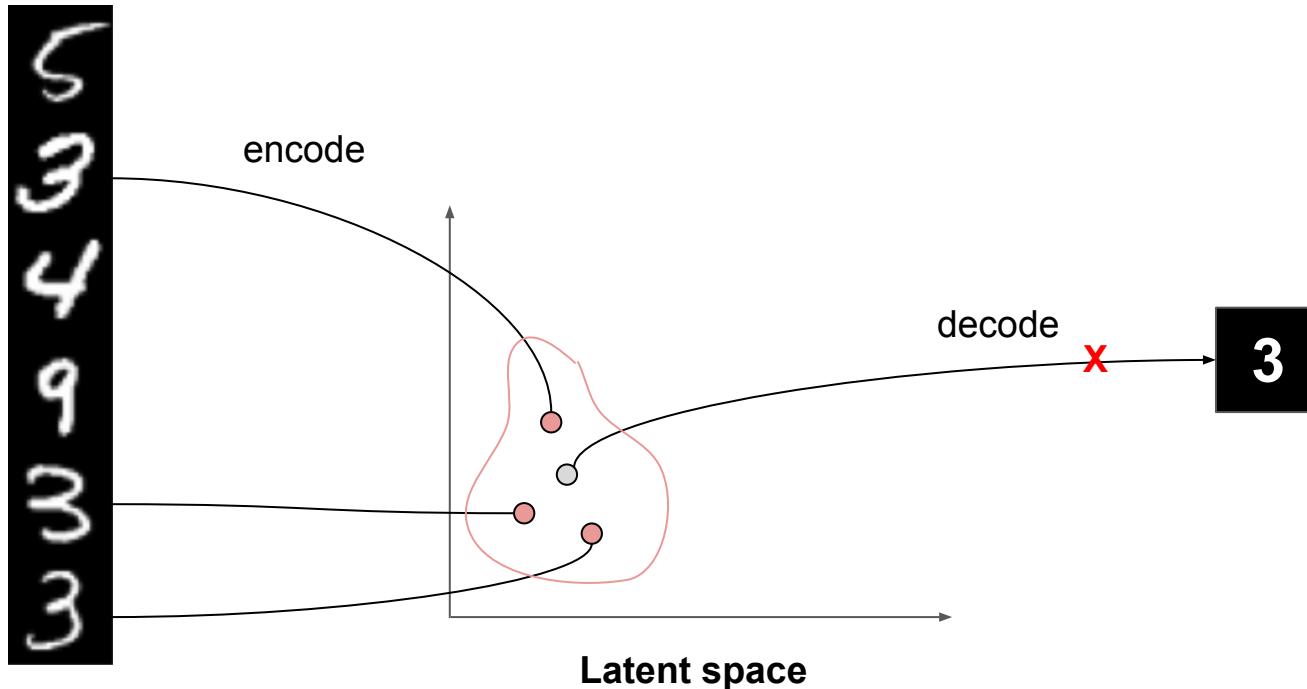
- Input: `(*)`. Input can be of any shape
- Output: `(*)`. Output is of the same shape as input

Examples:

# **Variational Autoencoder (VAE)**

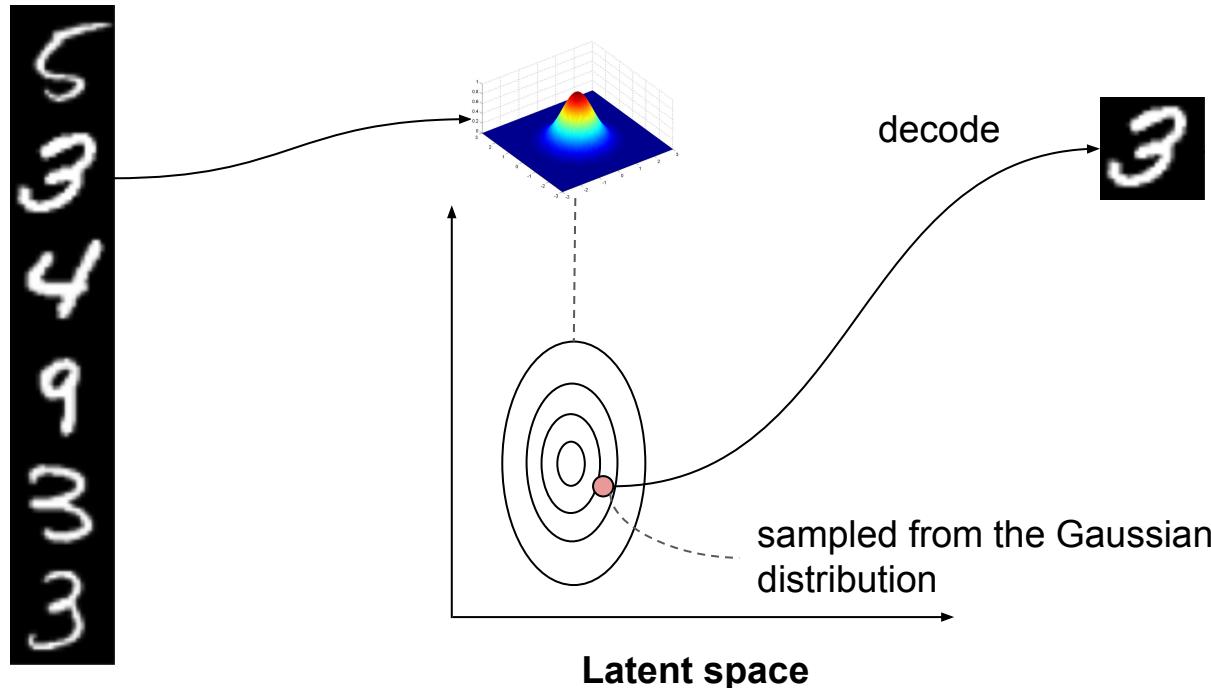
# Why VAE? Latent Space with Autoencoder

- AE needs many examples to learn the “smooth” latent space
- A latent vector close to encoded examples may not be decoded into a meaningful image



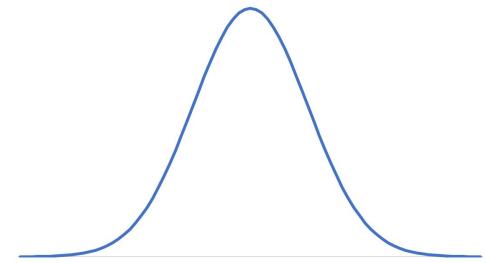
# Modeling Distribution in Latent Space

- Sampling latent vectors from Gaussian distributions
- Input data → Gaussian distributions → Latent vectors → Output data



# Recap: Gaussian Distribution Parameters

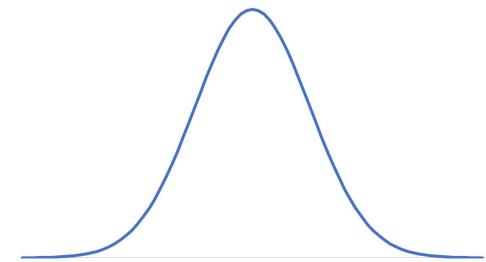
- What are the parameters?



# Recap: Gaussian Distribution Parameters

- What are the parameters?
- Mean:  $\mu$
- Variance:  $\sigma^2$

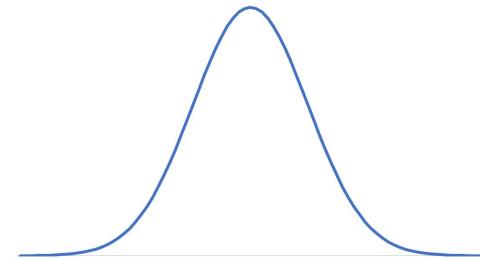
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2}$$



# Recap: Gaussian Distribution Parameters

- What are the parameters?
- Mean:  $\mu$
- Variance:  $\sigma^2$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{x-\mu}{\sigma} \right)^2}$$

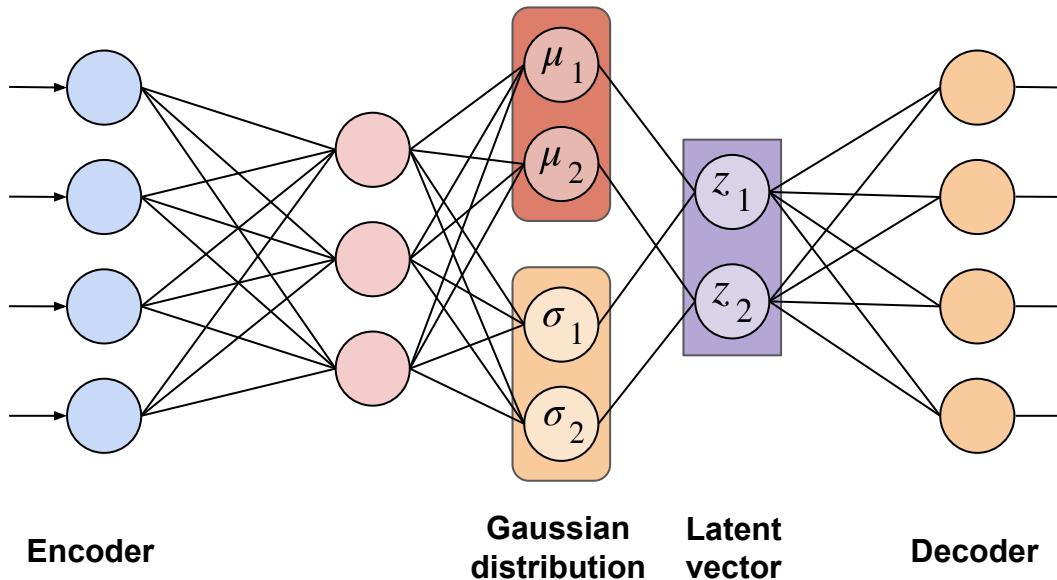


Can we actually calculate  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  and then sample latent vectors from the distribution?



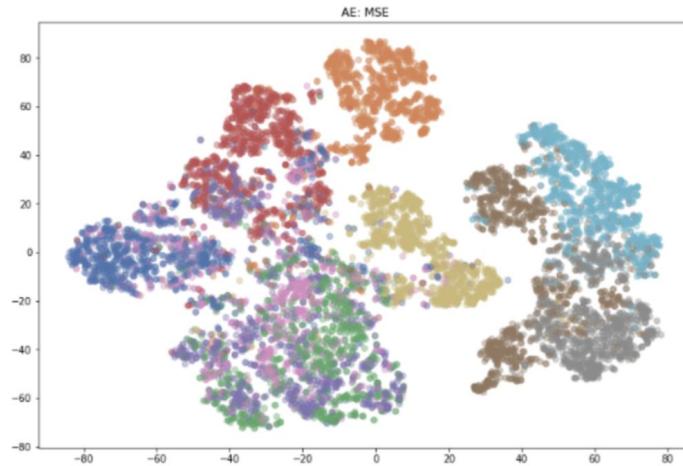
# Variational Autoencoder (VAE)

- Modeling Gaussian distributions with neural networks

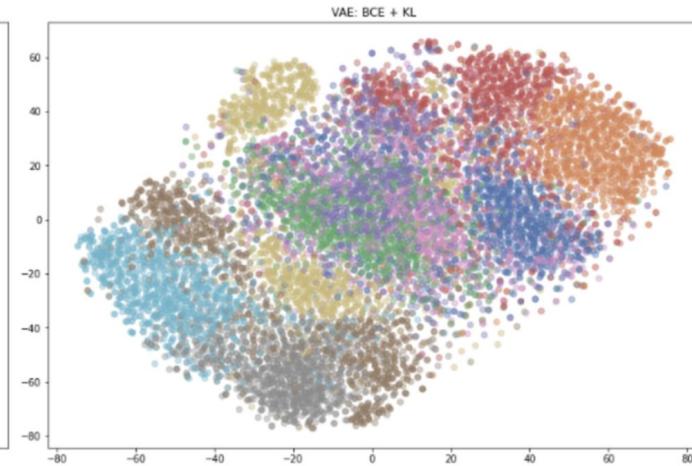


# AE vs VAE: Latent Space Visualization

- VAE shows “smooth” latent space

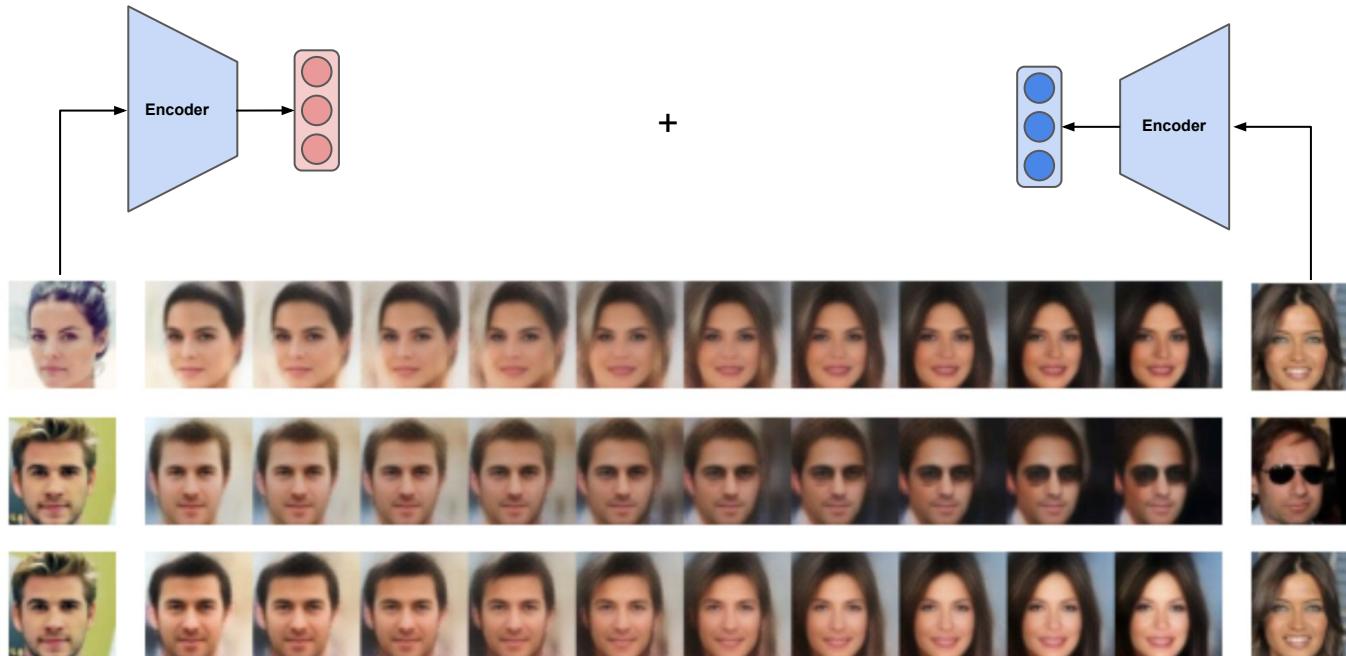


(a) AE: MSE



(b) VAE: BCE + KL

# Example: Facial Image Interpolation



<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1610.00291.pdf>

# Note: Local context looks more essential

- Fully-connected architecture may be overkill :(
- → **Convolutional layers** to capture image patterns (Thursday session)

# **Real-world problems**

# Problems that can be solved by Autoencoders

- Any ideas?

# Problems that can be solved by Autoencoders

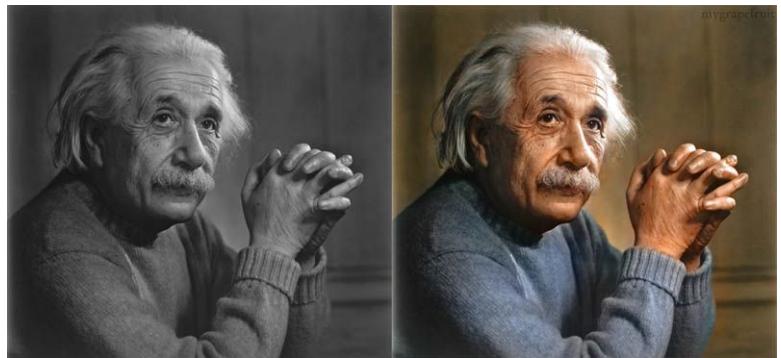
- Image restoration problems in general



How do you train Autoencoder models for the problems?

# Advanced Applications

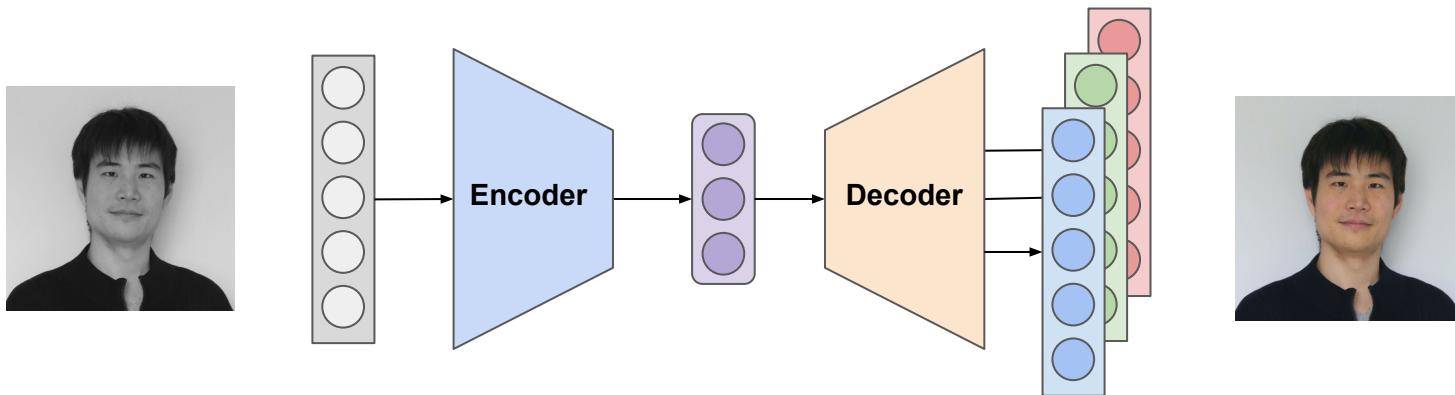
- Picture colorization can be solved by Autoencoders! How?



# Creating Parallel Dataset: RGB $\leftrightarrow$ Grayscale

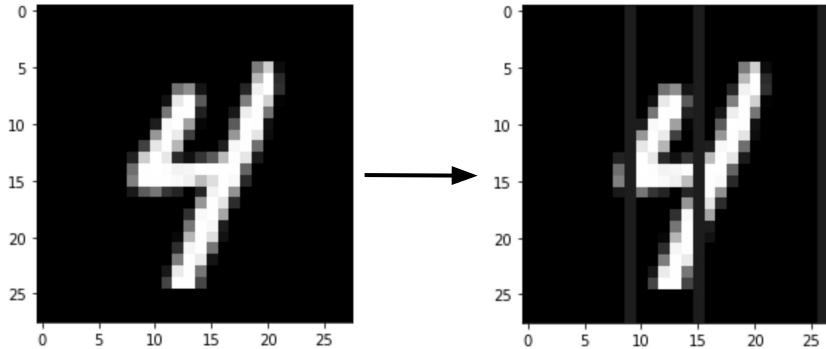
- Why don't we create a parallel dataset for Grayscale  $\leftrightarrow$  Color?
- A number of options. For example,

$$\text{Grayscale} = (R + G + B) / 3$$



# Advanced Exercise Idea: Image Restoration Task

- Adding corruptions to create an image restoration dataset



# Torchvision Datasets

<https://pytorch.org/vision/stable/datasets.html>

The screenshot shows the PyTorch Torchvision Datasets documentation page. On the left, there's a sidebar with 'Shortcuts' and a list of datasets. A red box highlights the 'Caltech' entry in this list. The main content area shows the 'TORCHVISION.DATASETS' section, which includes a code snippet for creating a Data Loader from an ImageNet dataset, and a note about the common API for all datasets. Below this is the 'Caltech' dataset entry, which includes a code snippet for its class, a warning about needing 'scipy' to load target files, and a table of parameters. The 'Parameters' table has one row with 'root' as the parameter name.

Docs > torchvision.datasets

Shortcuts

torchvision.datasets

- Caltech
- CelebA
- CIFAR
- Cityscapes
- + COCO
- EMNIST
- FakeData
- Fashion-MNIST
- Flickr
- HMDB51
- ImageNet
- Kinetics-400
- KITTI
- KMNIST
- LSUN
- MNIST
- Omniglot
- PhotoTour
- Places365
- QMNIST
- SBD
- SBU
- SEMEION
- STL10
- SVHN
- UCF101
- USPS
- VOC
- WIDERFace
- Base classes for custom datasets

## TORCHVISION.DATASETS

All datasets are subclasses of `torch.utils.data.Dataset` i.e, they have `__getitem__` and `__len__` methods implemented. Hence, they can all be passed to a `torch.utils.data.DataLoader` which can load multiple samples in parallel using `torch.multiprocessing` workers. For example:

```
imagenet_data = torchvision.datasets.ImageNet('path/to/imagenet_root/')
data_loader = torch.utils.data.DataLoader(imagenet_data,
                                         batch_size=4,
                                         shuffle=True,
                                         num_workers=args.nThreads)
```

All the datasets have almost similar API. They all have two common arguments: `transform` and `target_transform` to transform the input and target respectively. You can also create your own datasets using the provided [base classes](#).

### Caltech

`CLASS` `torchvision.datasets.Caltech101(root: str, target_type: Union[List[str], str] = 'category', transform: Optional[Callable] = None, target_transform: Optional[Callable] = None, download: bool = False)` [SOURCE]

Caltech 101 Dataset.

• WARNING

This class needs `scipy` to load target files from `.mat` format.

Parameters
• <code>root (string)</code> – Root directory of dataset where directory <code>caltech101</code> exists or will be saved to if

# Summary

- Autoencoders Principles
- Advanced autoencoder models
  - Stacked Autoencoder
  - Denoising Autoencoder
    - Another regularization technique: Dropout
  - Variational Autoencoder
- Applications
  - Image restoration
  - Picture colorization