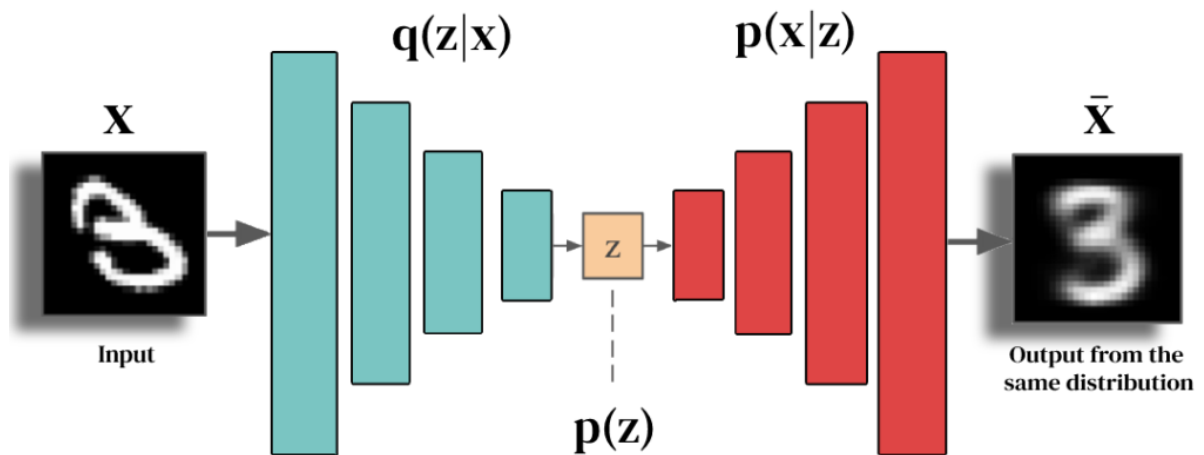# VAE for image generation

Consider VAE model from *Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes (2014, D.P. Kingma et. al.)*.

We will implement a VAE model using Torch and apply it to the MNIST dataset.

Generative model: We model each pixel value $\in \{0, 1\}$ as a sample drawn from a Bernoulli distribution. Through a decoder, the latent random variable z_n associated with an image n is mapped to the success parameters of the Bernoulli distributions associated with the pixels of that image. Our generative model is described as follows:

$z_n \sim N(0, I)$

$\theta_n = g(z_n)$

$x_n \sim Bern(\theta_n)$

where g is the decoder. We choose the prior on z_n to be the standard multivariate normal distribution, for computational convenience.

Inference model: We infer the posterior distribution of z_n via variational inference. The variational distribution $q(z_n|x_n)$ is chosen to be multivariate Gaussian with a diagonal covariance matrix. The mean and covariance of this distribution are obtained by applying an encoder to x_n.

$q(z_n|x_n) \sim q(\mu_n, \sigma_n^2)$

where $\mu_n, \sigma_n^2 = f(x_n)$ and f is the encoder.

Implementation: Let's start with importing Torch and other necessary libraries:

```
import torch
import torch.nn as nn

import numpy as np

from tqdm import tqdm
from torchvision.utils import save_image, make_grid
```

Step1: Model Hyperparameters

```
In [ ]: dataset_path = '~/datasets'

        batch_size = 100

        # Dimensions of the input, the hidden layer, and the latent space.
        x_dim = 784
        hidden_dim = 400
        latent_dim = 200

        # Learning rate
        lr = 1e-3

        # Number of epoch
        epochs = 15  # can try something greater if you are not satisfied with the results
```

Step2: Load Dataset

```
In [ ]: from torchvision.datasets import MNIST
        import torchvision.transforms as transforms
        from torch.utils.data import DataLoader

        mnist_transform = transforms.Compose([
            transforms.ToTensor(),
        ])


        train_dataset = MNIST(
            dataset_path, transform=mnist_transform, train=True, download=True)
        test_dataset = MNIST(dataset_path, transform=mnist_transform,
                             train=False, download=True)

        train_loader = DataLoader(dataset=train_dataset,
                                  batch_size=batch_size, shuffle=True)
        test_loader = DataLoader(dataset=test_dataset,
                                 batch_size=batch_size, shuffle=False)
```

Step3: Define the model

```
In [ ]: class Encoder(nn.Module):
            # encoder outputs the parameters of variational distribution "q"
            def __init__(self, input_dim, hidden_dim, latent_dim):
                super(Encoder, self).__init__()

                # FC stands for a fully connected layer
                self.FC_enc1 = nn.Linear(input_dim, hidden_dim)
                self.FC_enc2 = nn.Linear(hidden_dim, hidden_dim)
                self.FC_mean = nn.Linear(hidden_dim, latent_dim)
                self.FC_var = nn.Linear(hidden_dim, latent_dim)

                # will use this to add non-linearity to our model
                self.LeakyReLU = nn.LeakyReLU(0.2)

                self.training = True

            def forward(self, x):
                h_1 = self.LeakyReLU(self.FC_enc1(x))
                h_2 = self.LeakyReLU(self.FC_enc2(h_1))
                mean = self.FC_mean(h_2)   # mean
                log_var = self.FC_var(h_2)    # log of variance

                return mean, log_var
```

```
In [ ]: class Decoder(nn.Module):
            # decoder generates the success parameter of each pixel
            def __init__(self, latent_dim, hidden_dim, output_dim):
                super(Decoder, self).__init__()
                self.FC_dec1 = nn.Linear(latent_dim, hidden_dim)
                self.FC_dec2 = nn.Linear(hidden_dim, hidden_dim)
                self.FC_output = nn.Linear(hidden_dim, output_dim)

                self.LeakyReLU = nn.LeakyReLU(0.2)  # again for non-linearity

            def forward(self, z):
                h_out_1 = self.LeakyReLU(self.FC_dec1(z))
                h_out_2 = self.LeakyReLU(self.FC_dec2(h_out_1))

                theta = torch.sigmoid(self.FC_output(h_out_2))
                return theta
```

Q3.1 (2 points) Below implement the reparameterization function.

```
In [ ]: class Model(nn.Module):
            def __init__(self, Encoder, Decoder):
                super(Model, self).__init__()
                self.Encoder = Encoder
                self.Decoder = Decoder
```

```python
    def reparameterization(self, mean, var):
        # insert your code here
        std = torch.sqrt(var + 1e-10)
        eps = torch.randn_like(std)
        z = mean + std * eps

        return z

    def forward(self, x):
        mean, log_var = self.Encoder(x)
        # takes exponential function (log var -> var)
        z = self.reparameterization(mean, torch.exp(log_var))

        theta = self.Decoder(z)

        return theta, mean, log_var
```

Step4: Model initialization

```
In [ ]: encoder = Encoder(input_dim=x_dim, hidden_dim=hidden_dim,
                          latent_dim=latent_dim)


        decoder = Decoder(latent_dim=latent_dim,
                          hidden_dim=hidden_dim, output_dim=x_dim)



        model = Model(Encoder=encoder, Decoder=decoder)
```

Step5: Loss function and optimizer

Our objective function is ELBO: $E_{q(z|x)}\left[\log \frac{p(x,z)}{q(z|x)}\right]$

- **Q5.1 (1 point)** Show that ELBO can be rewritten as :

$$E_{q(z|x)}\big(\log p(x|z)\big) - D_{KL}\big(q(z|x)||p(z)\big)$$

5.1 Your answer

$$
\begin{aligned}
E*q(z|x)\left[\log \frac{p(x,z)}{q(z|x)}\right] &= E*q(z|x)\left[\log p(x,z) - \log q(z|x)\right] \\
&= E*q(z|x)\left[\log p(x|z) + \log p(z) - \log q(z|x)\right] \\
&= E*q(z|x)\left[\log p(x|z)\right] + E*q(z|x)\left[\log p(z)\right] - E*q(z|x)\left[\log q(z|x)\right] \\
&= E*q(z|x)\left[\log p(x|z)\right] - E*q(z|x)\left[\log \frac{q(z|x)}{p(z)}\right] \\
&= E*q(z|x)\left[\log p(x|z)\right] - D*KL\big(q(z|x)||p(z)\big)
\end{aligned}
$$

Consider the first term: $E_{q(z|x)}\big(\log p(x|z)\big)$

$E\_q(z|x)\big(\log p(x|z)\big) = \int q(z|x) \log p(x|z) dz$

We can approximate this integral by Monte Carlo integration as following:

$\approx \frac{1}{L}\sum_{l=1}^{L} \log p(x|z_l)$, where $z_l \sim q(z|x)$.

Now we can compute this term using the analytic expression for $p(x|z)$. (Remember we model each pixel as a sample drawn from a Bernoulli distribution).

Consider the second term: $-D_{KL}\big(q(z|x)||p(z)\big)$

- **Q5.2 (2 points)** Kullback–Leibler divergence can be computed using the closed-form analytic expression when both the variational and the prior distributions are Gaussian. Write down this KL divergence in terms of the parameters of the prior and the variational distributions. Your solution should consider a generic case where the latent space is K-dimensional.

5.2 Your answer

$$D * KL\left(q(z|x)||p(z)\right) = \int q(z|x) \log \frac{q(z|x)}{p(z)} \, dz$$

$$= \int q(z|x) \log \frac{\prod *i = 1^K \left(2\pi\sigma * i^2\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(z*i-\mu_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2}\right)}{\prod *i = 1^K (2\pi)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp\left(-\frac{z*i^2}{2}\right)} \, dz$$

$$= \int q(z|x) \left(\sum *i = 1^K - \log(\sigma * i) - \frac{(z_i - \mu_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2} + \frac{z_i^2}{2}\right) dz$$

$$= \mathbb{E} * q(z|x) \left[\sum *i = 1^K - \log(\sigma_i) - \frac{(z_i - \mu_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2} + \frac{z_i^2}{2}\right]$$

$$= \sum *i = 1^K - \log(\sigma_i) - \frac{\mathbb{E} * q(z|x)\left[(z_i - \mu_i)^2\right]}{2\sigma * i^2} + \frac{\mathbb{E} * q(z|x)\left[z_i^2\right]}{2}$$

$$= \sum *i = 1^K - \log(\sigma_i) - \frac{\sigma_i^2}{2\sigma_i^2} + \frac{\mathbb{E} * q(z|x)[z_i^2]}{2}$$

$$= \sum *i = 1^K - \log(\sigma_i) - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sigma_i^2 + \mu_i^2}{2}$$

$$D * KL\left(q(z|x)||p(z)\right) = \frac{1}{2}\sum \_i = 1^K \left(\sigma_i^2 + \mu_i^2 - \log(\sigma_i^2) - 1\right)$$

Q5.3 (5 points) Now use your findings to implement the loss function, which is the negative of ELBO:

```python
from torch.optim import Adam


def loss_function(x, theta, mean, log_var):  # should return the loss function (- ELBO)
    # insert your code here
    # expected log-likelihood
    recon_loss = -torch.sum(x * torch.log(theta + 1e-10) +
                            (1 - x) * torch.log(1 - theta + 1e-10))

    # KL Divergence
    kl_div = -0.5 * torch.sum(1 + log_var - mean.pow(2) - log_var.exp())

    loss = recon_loss + kl_div

    return loss


# optimizer
optimizer = Adam(model.parameters(), lr=lr)
```

Step6: Train the model

```python
print("Start training VAE...")
model.train()

for epoch in range(epochs):
    overall_loss = 0
    for batch_idx, (x, _) in enumerate(train_loader):
        x = x.view(batch_size, x_dim)
        x = torch.round(x)

        optimizer.zero_grad()

        theta, mean, log_var = model(x)
        loss = loss_function(x, theta, mean, log_var)
        overall_loss += loss.item()

        loss.backward()
        optimizer.step()

    print("\tEpoch", epoch + 1, "complete!", "\tAverage Loss: ",
            overall_loss / (batch_idx*batch_size))

print("Finish!!")
```

```
Start training VAE...
        Epoch 1 complete!       Average Loss:  171.05750705929154
        Epoch 2 complete!       Average Loss:  120.2330909262834
        Epoch 3 complete!       Average Loss:  103.97579276006887
        Epoch 4 complete!       Average Loss:  98.17505150185204
        Epoch 5 complete!       Average Loss:  94.57102987400876
        Epoch 6 complete!       Average Loss:  91.87520890938022
        Epoch 7 complete!       Average Loss:  90.07733892424875
        Epoch 8 complete!       Average Loss:  88.65414684467602
        Epoch 9 complete!       Average Loss:  87.63794590919763
        Epoch 10 complete!      Average Loss:  86.6167916987 2966
        Epoch 11 complete!      Average Loss:  85.82079130093123
        Epoch 12 complete!      Average Loss:  85.06231359720628
        Epoch 13 complete!      Average Loss:  84.45940288664701
        Epoch 14 complete!      Average Loss:  84.02014981023059
        Epoch 15 complete!      Average Loss:  83.48515547559735
Finish!!
```

Step7: Generate images from test dataset

With our model trained, now we can start generating images.

First, we will generate images from the latent representations of test data.

Basically, we will sample z from $q(z|x)$ and give it to the generative model (i.e., decoder) $p(x|z)$. The output of the decoder will be displayed as the generated image.

Q7.1 (2 points) Write a code to get the reconstructions of test data, and then display them using the show_image function

```
In [ ]: model.eval()
        # below we get decoder outputs for test data
        with torch.no_grad():
            for batch_idx, (x, _) in enumerate(tqdm(test_loader)):
                x = x.view(batch_size, x_dim)
                # insert your code below to generate theta from x

                # Pass the test images through the encoder and decoder
                mean, log_var = model.Encoder(x)
                # reparameterize to get latent variable
                z = model.reparameterization(mean, torch.exp(log_var))
                # decode the latent variable to get reconstructed image
                theta = model.Decoder(z)
```

```
100%|████████████████████████████████████████| 100/100 [00:06<00:00, 14.64it/s]
```

A helper function to display images:

```
In [ ]: import matplotlib.pyplot as plt


        def show_image(theta, idx):
            x_hat = theta.view(batch_size, 28, 28)
            # x_hat = Bernoulli(x_hat).sample() # sample pixel values (you can also try this, and observe how the generated images look)
            fig = plt.figure()
            plt.imshow(x_hat[idx].cpu().numpy(), cmap='gray')
```
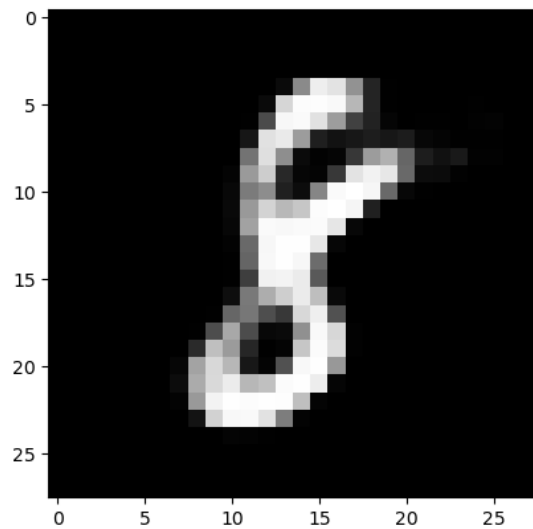
First display an image from the test dataset,

```
In [ ]: show_image(x, idx=0)  # try different indices as well
```
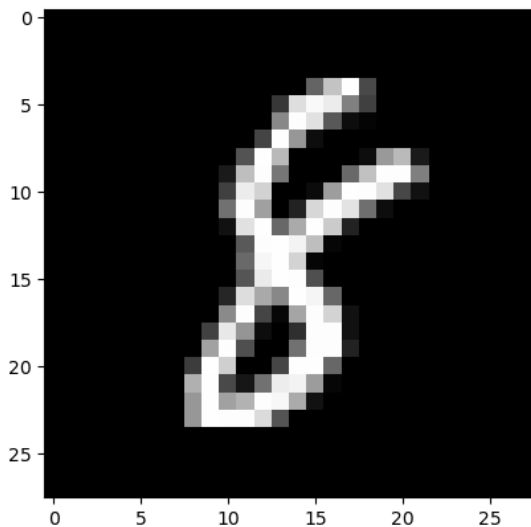

Now display its reconstruction and compare:

```
In [ ]: show_image(theta, idx=0)
```

Step8: Generate images from noise

In the previous step, we sampled latent vector z from $q(z|x)$. However, we know that the KL term in our loss function enforced $q(z|x)$ to be close to $N(0, I)$. Therefore, we can sample z directly from noise $N(0, I)$, and pass it to the decoder $p(x|z)$.

Q8.1 (3 points) Create images from noise and display.

```
In [ ]: with torch.no_grad():
            # insert your code here to create images from noise (it is enough to create theta value for each pixel)
            #
            #
            # generated_images = ....  # should be a matrix ( batch_size-by-x_dim )
            generated_images = torch.round(
                model.Decoder(torch.randn(batch_size, latent_dim)))
```

Display a couple of generated images:

```
In [ ]: show_image(generated_images, idx=0)
```