

The background is a dark gray field filled with a complex network of thin, light gray lines connecting various colored dots. The dots are in shades of teal, orange, purple, and black, some appearing as larger nodes and others as smaller points. The network structure is dense and interconnected, with some lines forming loops and others radiating outwards. A white, hand-drawn style rounded rectangle frames the central text area.

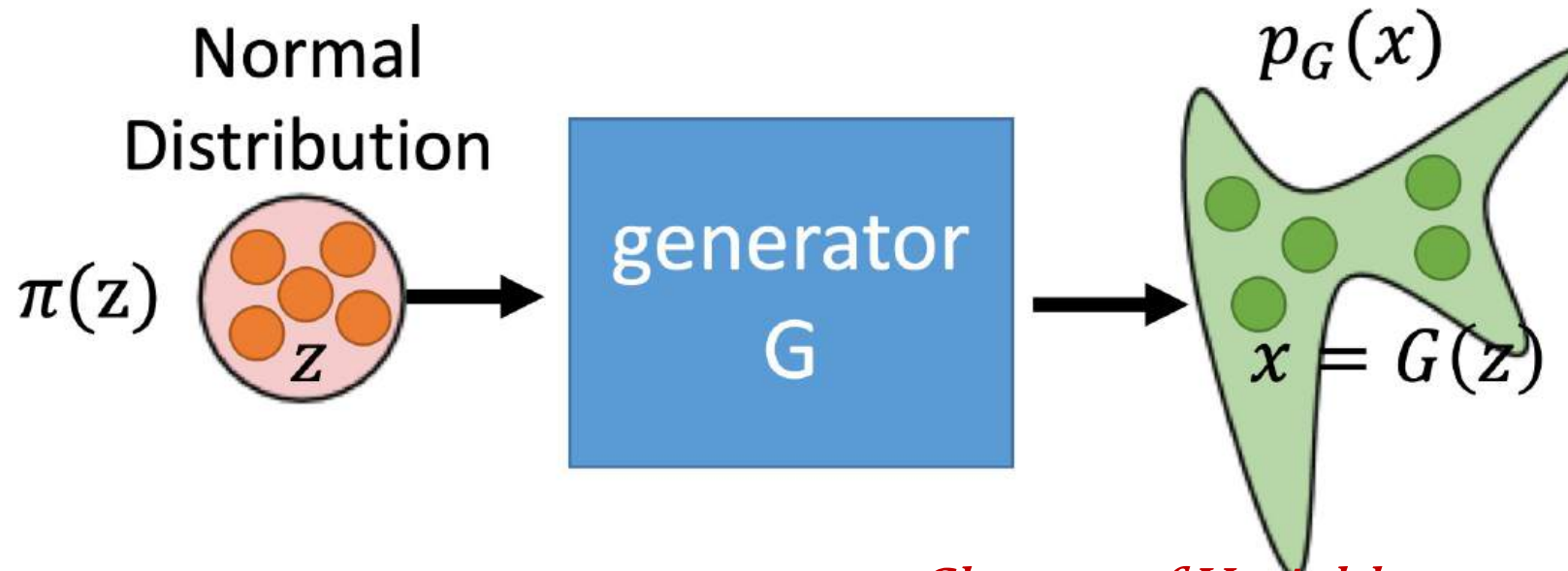
深度学习

Lecture 10 VAE

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Recaps

Generator: transform a simple distribution to the data distribution



Change of Variable

Generation: sample $z_0 \sim \pi(z)$, $x = G(z_0)$ $p_G(x) = \pi(z) |\det(J_{G^{-1}}(x))|$, $z = G^{-1}(x)$
 $J_{G^{-1}}$: Jacobian matrix of G^{-1}

Recaps

- Finite Normalizing flows
 - Linear Coupling Layers: [NICE, Dinh et al. 2014]
 - Affine Coupling Layers: [RealNVP, Dinh et al. 2016]
 - Invertible 1×1 Conv Layer: [Glow, Kingma et al. 2018]
- Continuous Normalizing flows
 - [Neural ODE, Chen et al. 2018]
 - Unbiased estimate of trace: [FFJORD, Grathwohl et al. 2018]
- [iResNet, Behrmann et al. 2018]: fixed point iteration approximate inverse; unbiased estimate of trace.

Variational Autoencoders

Probabilistic Model

- The generator $z \rightarrow x$ is probabilistic

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

if G is deterministic and invertible,

$$\begin{aligned} p(x) &= \int \delta_{G(z)}\pi(z)dz = \int \det \left| \frac{dz}{dx} \right| \delta_{G(z)}\pi(G^{-1}(x))dx \\ &= \pi(G^{-1}(x))\det |G^{-1}(x)| \end{aligned}$$

- Training goal of generative model: maximum likelihood

$$\max \log p_{\theta}(x)$$

How to calculate $\log \int p_{\theta}(x|z)\pi(z)dz$?

Gaussian Mixture Model

- z : latent variable
- If z can only take finite number of values, e.g.

$$p(z = i) = \pi_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, N.$$

and $p(x|z)$ is Gaussian, then

$$p(x) = \sum_{i=1}^N \pi_i \mathcal{N}(\mu_i, \Sigma_i)$$

Gaussian Mixture Model

(Generalized K-means with soft assignments)

Recaps:K-means

- K-means solves the following problem alternatively

$$\min_{\gamma_{ij} \in S, c_j} \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{ij} \gamma_{ij} \|x_i - c_j\|_2^2$$

K-means Clustering Algorithm

Input: $\mathcal{D} = \{x_i\}_{i=1}^N, x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d, K(\text{number of clusters})$

Initialize: $C = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_K)$.

Iterate Until Converge:

- **Update γ :** $\gamma_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j = \operatorname{argmin}_k \|x_i - c_k\|_2^2 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$.
- **Update C :** $c_j = (\sum_i \gamma_{ij} x_i) / \sum_i \gamma_{ij}$

Output: Cluster centers C and cluster assignment γ .

Gaussian Mixture Model

GMM optimization

- update assignment $\gamma_{ij} = p(z_i = j|x_i)$ (posterior)

$$\gamma_{ij} := p(z_i = j|x_i) = \frac{p(z_i = j)p(x_i|z_i = j)}{p(x_i)} = \frac{p(z_i = j)p(x_i|z_i = j)}{\sum_j p(z_i = j)p(x_i|z_i = j)} = \frac{\pi_j^{(k)} \mathcal{N}(x_i|\mu_j^{(k)}, \Sigma_j^{(k)})}{\sum_j \pi_j^{(k)} \mathcal{N}(x_i|\mu_j^{(k)}, \Sigma_j^{(k)})}$$

- update center (μ, Σ) and $\pi_i = p(z = i)$ (prior)

$$\pi_j = p(z = j) = \int p(z = j|x)p(x)dx \approx \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N p(z = j|x_i)}{N} = \frac{\sum_i \gamma_{ij}}{N}$$

Gaussian Mixture Model

Expectation Maximization (EM) Algorithm (Variational Inference)

$$\sum_i \log \left(\sum_j \gamma_{ij} \pi_j N(x_i | \mu_j, \Sigma_j) / \gamma_{ij} \right) \geq \sum_i \left(\sum_j \gamma_{ij} \log \frac{\pi_j N(x_i | \mu_j, \Sigma_j)}{\gamma_{ij}} \right) \text{ Jensen's Inequality}$$

- Expectation Step:

$$\gamma_{ij}^{(k+1)} = \arg \max_{\{\gamma_{ij} : \sum_j \gamma_{ij} = 1, \gamma_{ij} \in [0,1]\}} \sum_i \sum_j \gamma_{ij} \log \pi_i^{(k)} \mathcal{N}(x_i | \mu_j^{(k)}, \Sigma_j^{(k)}) - \gamma_{ij} \log \gamma_{ij}$$

- Maximization Step:

$$(\pi_j^{(k+1)}, \mu_j^{(k+1)}, \Sigma_j^{(k+1)}) = \arg \max_{\theta} \sum_i \sum_j \gamma_{ij}^{(k+1)} \log \pi_j N(x_i | \mu_j, \Sigma_j)$$

Evidence Lower Bound

- **Jensen's Inequality**

$$\log \int p(z) f(z) dz \geq \int p(z) \log f(z) dz$$

- **Evidence Lower BOund (ELBO)**

$$\log p(x) = \log \int p(z) p(x|z) dz = \log \int q_x(z) \frac{p(z) p(x|z)}{q_x(z)} dz$$

$$\geq \int q_x(z) \log \frac{p(z) p(x|z)}{q_x(z)} dz$$

$$= \int q_x(z) \log p(x|z) dz - KL(q_x(z) || p(z))$$

Evidence Lower Bound

- Gap between $\log p(x)$ and ELBO

$$\begin{aligned} & \log p(x) - \int q_x(z) \log p(x|z) dz + KL(q_x(z) || p(z)) \\ &= \int q_x(z) \log p(x) dz - \int q_x(z) \log p(x|z) dz + KL(q_x(z) || p(z)) \\ &= \int q_x(z) [\log p(x) - \log p(x|z) - \log p(z)] dz + \int q_x(z) \log q_x(z) dz \\ &= -\int q_x(z) \log \frac{p(x|z)p(z)}{p(x)} dz + \int q_x(z) \log q_x(z) dz \\ &= -\int q_x(z) \log p(z|x) dz + \int q_x(z) \log q_x(z) dz = KL(q_x(z) || p(z|x)) \end{aligned}$$

- When $q_x(z) = p(z|x)$, the gap is closed.

(In GMM, $q_{x_i}(z = j) = \gamma_{ij} = p(z = j|x_i)$)

Evidence Lower Bound

- EM Algorithm: Alternatively Maximize ELBO

$$\max_{\phi, \psi} \int q_{\phi(x)}(z) \log p_{\psi}(x|z) dz - KL(q_{\phi(x)}(z) || p(z))$$

- Expectation: $\max_{\phi} ELBO \Rightarrow q_{\phi(x)}(z) = p(z|x)$

However, we can't obtain $p(z|x)$ in general; propose a parameterized distribution $q_{\phi(x)}(z)$ we know we can work with easily to approximate $p(z|x)$.

- Maximization: $\max_{\psi} ELBO$
- For Gaussian Mixture Models, the negative log-likelihood (NLL) function is non-convex, and directly minimizing it can lead to poor performance due to local optima. In contrast, the EM algorithm guarantees a monotonic decrease in the NLL at each iteration.

Evidence Lower Bound

- Why ELBO?

$$p(x) = \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z)} p(x|z)$$

Samples from $p(z)$ are usually not informative! Direct optimization via Monte Carlo sampling leads to high-variance estimates, and is often too noisy to train.

- Importance Sampling

$$\mathbb{E}_p[f(x)] = \int p(x) f(x) dx = \int p(x) \frac{q(x)}{q(x)} f(x) dx = \int q(x) \left[f(x) \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} \right] dx = \mathbb{E}_q \left[f(x) \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} \right]$$

Evidence Lower Bound

- Importance Sampling: we want to sample z compatible with x . It works well when $q(x)/p(x) \approx f(x)$ (with low variance).
- For VAE

$$p(x) = \int p(z)p(x|z)dz = \int q_x(z) \frac{p(z)p(x|z)}{q_x(z)} dz$$

When $q_x(z) = p(z|x)$, the Monte Carlo sampling variance is accurate with only one sample ($\frac{p(z)p(x|z)}{q_x(z)} = p(x)$ is constant irrelevant to z .) The equality also holds in **Jensen's Inequality**:

$$\log \int q_x(z) \frac{p(z)p(x|z)}{q_x(z)} dz = \int q_x(z) \log \frac{p(z)p(x|z)}{q_x(z)} dz$$

(The right hand side is much easier to compute in many cases.)

VAEs

- Parametrize $q_x(z) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_\theta(x), \sigma_\theta(x))$ and $p_\psi(x|z) = \mathcal{N}(\psi(z), \beta I)$

$$ELBO = \int q_x(z) \log p(x|z) dz - KL(q_x(z) || p(z))$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2\beta} \mathbb{E}_{q_x(z)} ||\psi(z) - x||_2^2 - KL(q_x(z) || p(z))$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2\beta} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)} ||\psi(z) - x||_2^2 - KL(q_x(z) || p(z))$$

where $z = \mu_\theta(x) + \sigma_\theta(x)\epsilon$.

If $p(z) = \mathcal{N}(0, I)$,

$$KL(q_x(z) || p(z)) = \frac{1}{2} ||\mu_\theta(x)||_2^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_\theta^2(x) - \log \sigma_\theta(x) + c$$

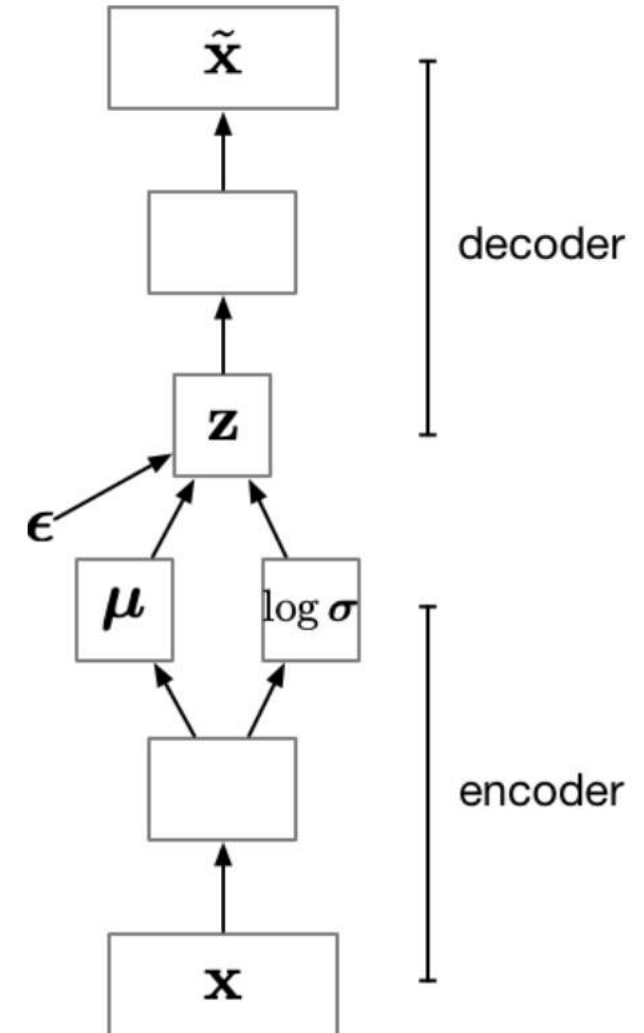
Let $p(x) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma_1)$ and $q(x) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \sigma_2)$.

$$KL(p, q) = \log \frac{\sigma_2}{\sigma_1} + \frac{\sigma_1^2 + (\mu_1 - \mu_2)^2}{2\sigma_2^2} - \frac{1}{2}$$

VAEs

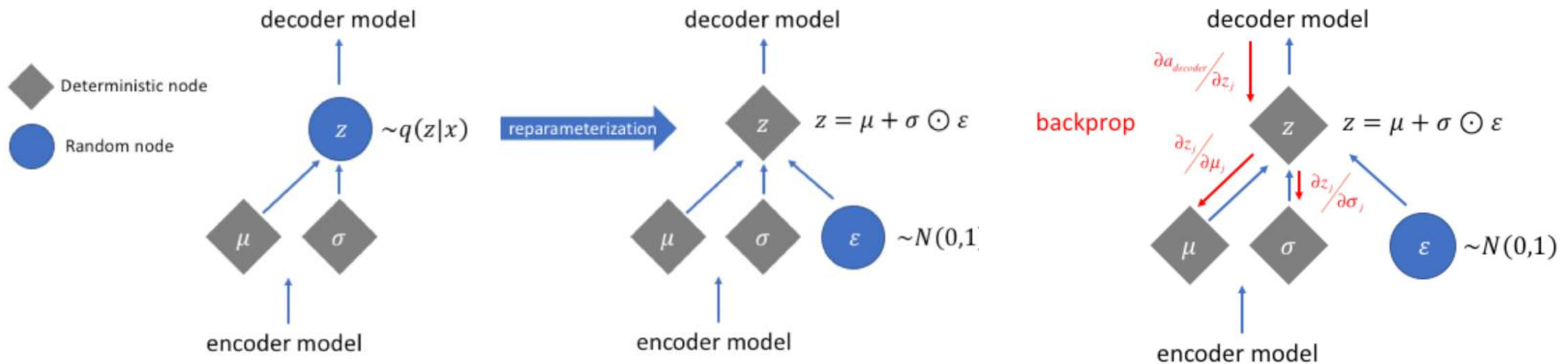
Two terms in ELBO:

- The reconstruction term $\mathbb{E}_{q_x(z)} ||\psi(z) - x||_2^2$ is minimized if $q_x(z)$ is a point mass, which means the generator is deterministic.
- However, the penalty term $KL(q_x(z)||p(z))$ prevents $q_x(z)$ to be a point mass ($KL(q_x(z)||p(z))$ is infinity if $q_x(z)$ is a point mass). So it encourage the latent code to be stochastic.



VAEs

- Training skill: Reparameterization



Interpretable latent code

Varying z_1 :
degree of smile



Kingma and Welling, "Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes", ICLR 2014



Varying z_2 : head pose

VAEs

- Blurry samples
- The gap between $q_x(z)$ and the true posterior $p(z|x)$ may be large for assumed Gaussian latent code distribution.

More informative $p(z)$ and tractable $p(z|x)$?



VQ-VAE

- Recap Gaussian mixture: discrete latent code
- Vector-Quantization VAE (VQ-VAE, DeepMind, NIPS 2017) proposed one-hot latent code distribution:

$$q(z = k|x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } k = \operatorname{argmin}_j \|z_e(x) - e_j\|_2, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Quantize encoder output

$$\operatorname{Quantize}(E(\mathbf{x})) = \mathbf{e}_k \quad \text{where } k = \operatorname{argmin}_j \|E(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{e}_j\|$$

VQ-VAE

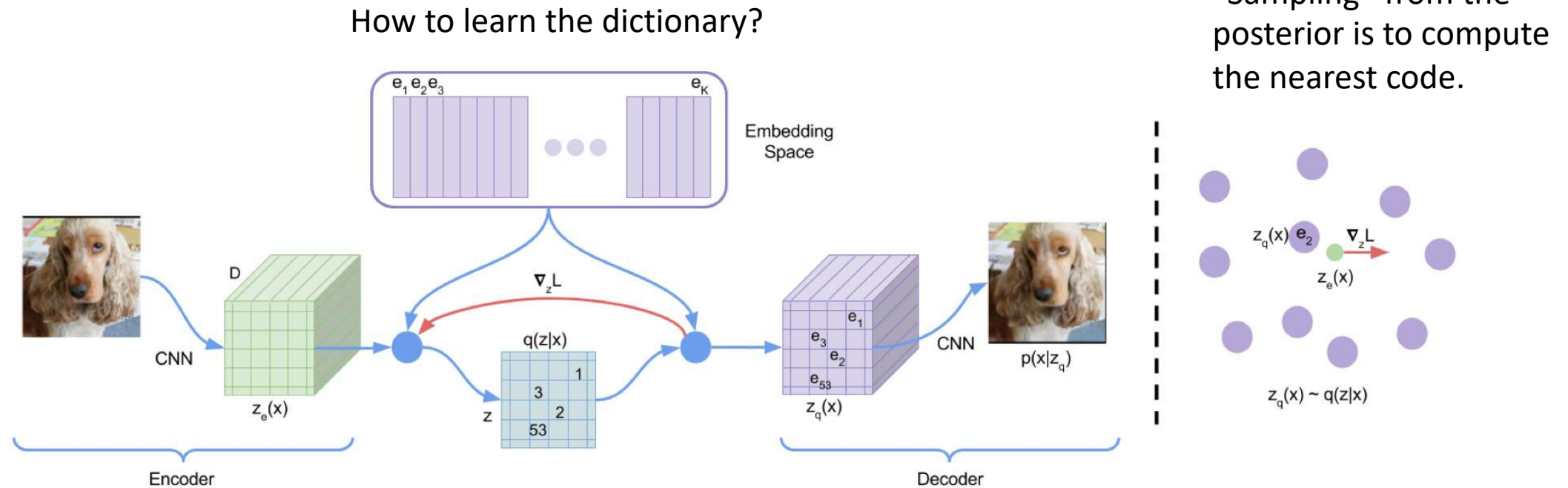


Figure 1: Left: A figure describing the VQ-VAE. Right: Visualisation of the embedding space. The output of the encoder $z(x)$ is mapped to the nearest point e_2 . The gradient $\nabla_z L$ (in red) will push the encoder to change its output, which could alter the configuration in the next forward pass.

VQ-VAE

- Loss

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, D(\mathbf{e})) = \|\mathbf{x} - D(\mathbf{e})\|_2^2 + \|sg[E(\mathbf{x})] - \mathbf{e}\|_2^2 + \beta \|sg[\mathbf{e}] - E(\mathbf{x})\|_2^2$$

- $sg(\cdot)$: stop gradient operator
- update dictionary (similar as K-means)

$$e_i = \frac{1}{n_i} \sum_j^{n_i} z_{i,j}.$$

work on minibatch: exponential moving average

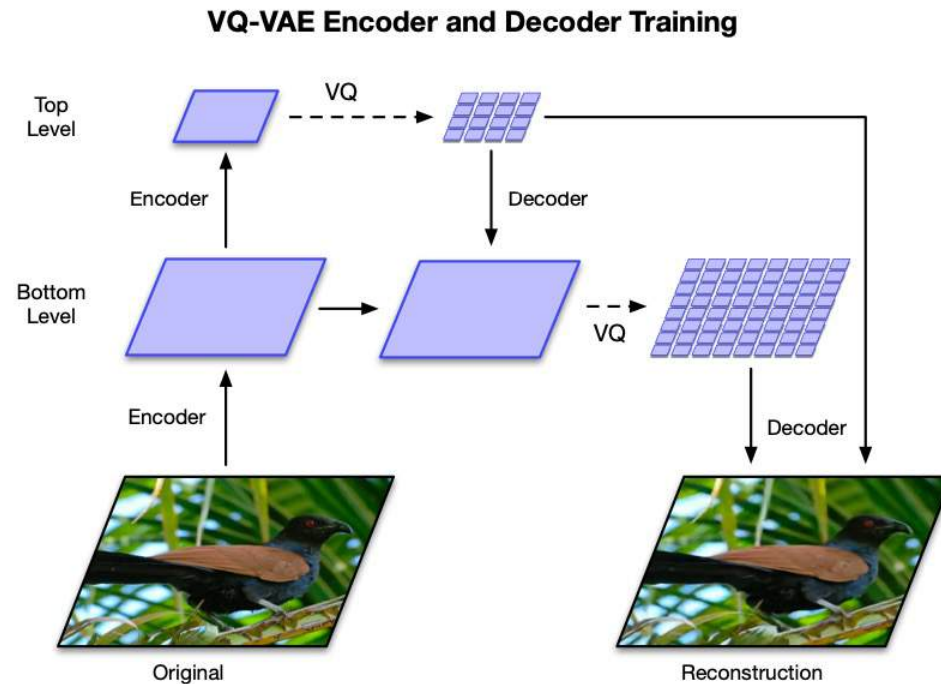
$$N_i^{(t)} := N_i^{(t-1)} * \gamma + n_i^{(t)}(1 - \gamma)$$

$$m_i^{(t)} := m_i^{(t-1)} * \gamma + \sum_j z_{i,j}^{(t)}(1 - \gamma)$$

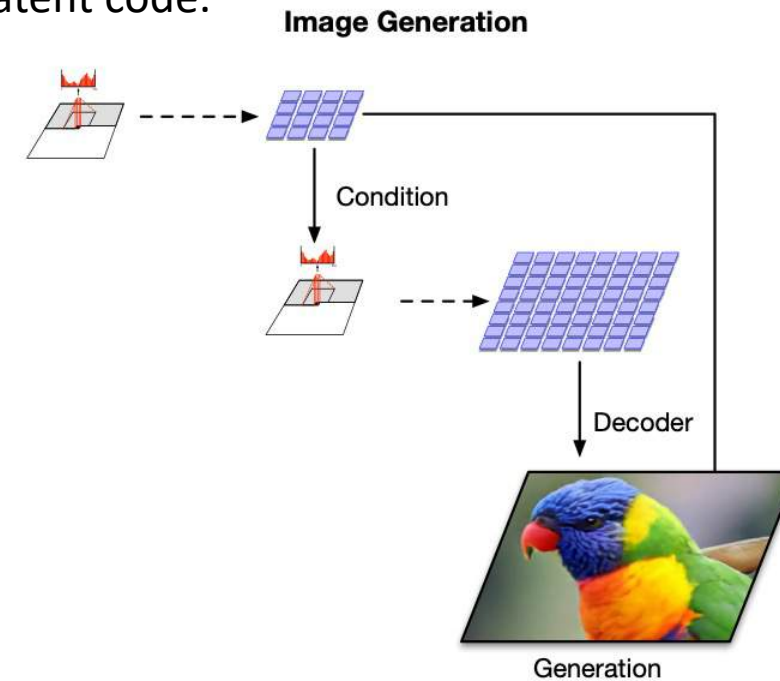
$$e_i^{(t)} := \frac{m_i^{(t)}}{N_i^{(t)}},$$

VQ-VAE2

Hierarchical structure



For sampling, autoregressive models are trained to approximate the prior distribution of the discrete latent code.



VQ-VAE2

Algorithm 1 VQ-VAE training (stage 1)

Require: Functions E_{top} , E_{bottom} , D , \mathbf{x}
(batch of training images)

1: $\mathbf{h}_{top} \leftarrow E_{top}(\mathbf{x})$

▷ quantize with top codebook eq 1

2: $\mathbf{e}_{top} \leftarrow \text{Quantize}(\mathbf{h}_{top})$

3: $\mathbf{h}_{bottom} \leftarrow E_{bottom}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{e}_{top})$

▷ quantize with bottom codebook eq 1

4: $\mathbf{e}_{bottom} \leftarrow \text{Quantize}(\mathbf{h}_{bottom})$

5: $\hat{\mathbf{x}} \leftarrow D(\mathbf{e}_{top}, \mathbf{e}_{bottom})$

▷ Loss according to eq 2

6: $\theta \leftarrow \text{Update}(\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \hat{\mathbf{x}}))$

Algorithm 2 Prior training (stage 2)

1: $\mathbf{T}_{top}, \mathbf{T}_{bottom} \leftarrow \emptyset$ ▷ training set

2: **for** $\mathbf{x} \in \text{training set}$ **do**

3: $\mathbf{e}_{top} \leftarrow \text{Quantize}(E_{top}(\mathbf{x}))$

4: $\mathbf{e}_{bottom} \leftarrow \text{Quantize}(E_{bottom}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{e}_{top}))$

5: $\mathbf{T}_{top} \leftarrow \mathbf{T}_{top} \cup \mathbf{e}_{top}$

6: $\mathbf{T}_{bottom} \leftarrow \mathbf{T}_{bottom} \cup \mathbf{e}_{bottom}$

7: **end for**

8: $p_{top} = \text{TrainPixelCNN}(\mathbf{T}_{top})$

9: $p_{bottom} = \text{TrainCondPixelCNN}(\mathbf{T}_{bottom}, \mathbf{T}_{top})$

▷ Sampling procedure

10: **while** true **do**

11: $\mathbf{e}_{top} \sim p_{top}$

12: $\mathbf{e}_{bottom} \sim p_{bottom}(\mathbf{e}_{top})$

13: $\mathbf{x} \leftarrow D(\mathbf{e}_{top}, \mathbf{e}_{bottom})$

14: **end while**

VQ-VAE2



Figure 3: Reconstructions from a hierarchical VQ-VAE with three latent maps (top, middle, bottom). The rightmost image is the original. Each latent map adds extra detail to the reconstruction. These latent maps are approximately 3072x, 768x, 192x times smaller than the original image (respectively).

VQ-VAE2

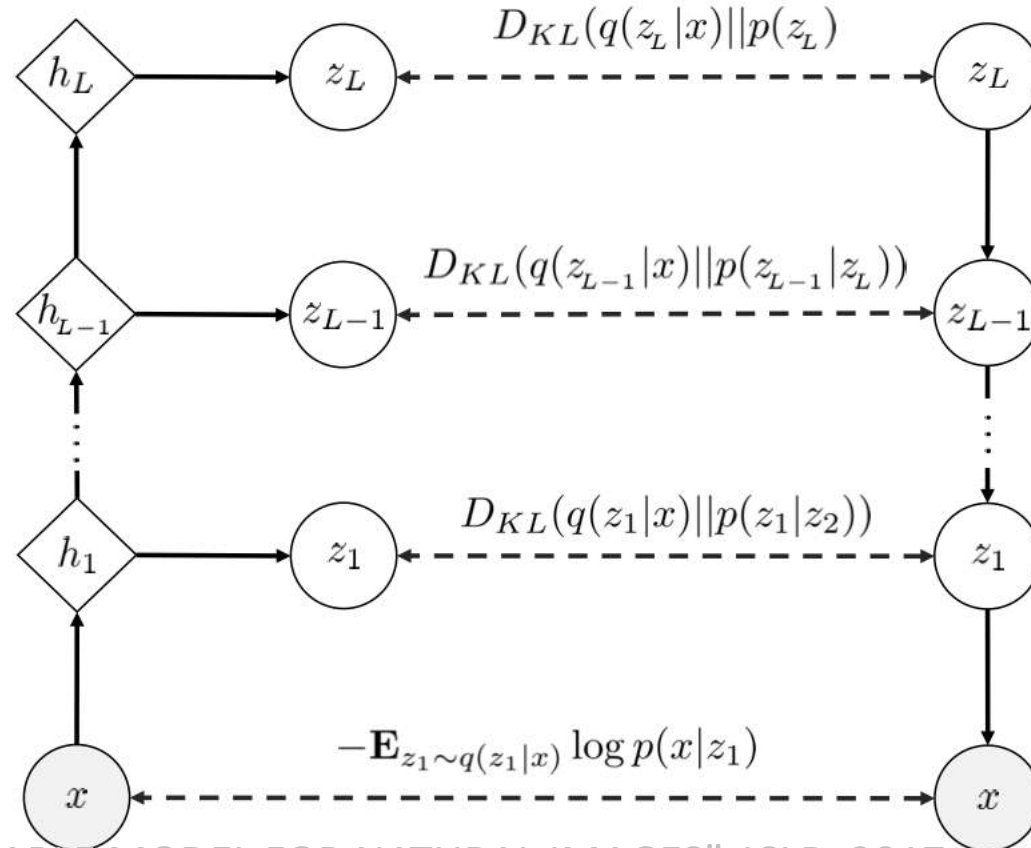


VQ-VAE (Proposed)

BigGAN deep

Hierarchical PixelVAE

Hierarchical latent space decomposition



Latent Variable distribution

$$p(z_1, \dots, z_L) = p(z_L)p(z_{L-1}|z_L) \cdots p(z_1|z_2) \quad \text{Prior: Markov assumption}$$

$$q(z_1, \dots, z_L|x) = q(z_1|x) \cdots q(z_L|x) \quad \text{Encoder: conditional independence assumption}$$

ELBO

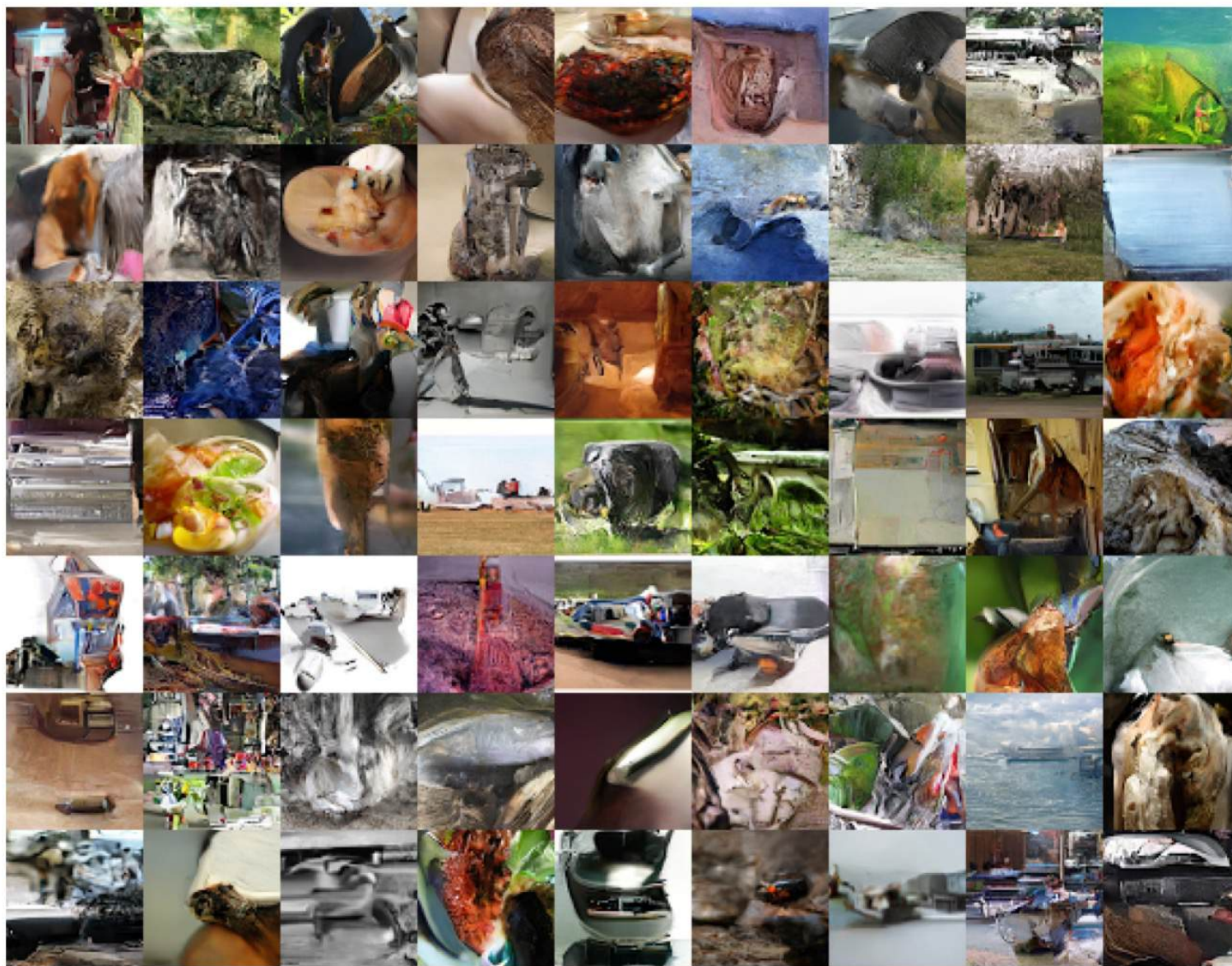
Decoder: Markov assumption

$$\begin{aligned} -L(x, q, p) &= -E_{z_1 \sim q(z_1|x)} \log p(x|z_1) + D_{KL}(q(z_1, \dots, z_L|x) || p(z_1, \dots, z_L)) \\ &= -E_{z_1 \sim q(z_1|x)} \log p(x|z_1) + \int_{z_1, \dots, z_L} \prod_{j=1}^L q(z_j|x) \sum_{i=1}^L \log \frac{q(z_i|x)}{p(z_i|z_{i+1})} dz_1 \dots dz_L \\ &= -E_{z_1 \sim q(z_1|x)} \log p(x|z_1) + \sum_{i=1}^L \int_{z_1, \dots, z_L} \prod_{j=1}^L q(z_j|x) \log \frac{q(z_i|x)}{p(z_i|z_{i+1})} dz_1 \dots dz_L \\ &= -E_{z_1 \sim q(z_1|x)} \log p(x|z_1) + \sum_{i=1}^L \int_{z_i, z_{i+1}} q(z_{i+1}|x) q(z_i|x) \log \frac{q(z_i|x)}{p(z_i|z_{i+1})} dz_i dz_{i+1} \\ &= -E_{z_1 \sim q(z_1|x)} \log p(x|z_1) + \sum_{i=1}^L \mathbf{E}_{z_{i+1} \sim q(z_{i+1}|x)} [D_{KL}(q(z_i|x) || p(z_i|z_{i+1}))] \end{aligned}$$

Model	NLL Test
DRAW (Gregor et al., 2016)	≤ 80.97
Discrete VAE (Rolfe, 2016)	$= 81.01$
IAF VAE (Kingma et al., 2016)	≈ 79.88
PixelCNN (van den Oord et al., 2016a)	$= 81.30$
PixelRNN (van den Oord et al., 2016a)	$= 79.20$
Convolutional VAE	≤ 87.41
PixelVAE	≤ 80.64
Gated PixelCNN (our implementation)	$= 80.10$
Gated PixelVAE	$\approx 79.48 (\leq 80.02)$
Gated PixelVAE without upsampling	$\approx \mathbf{79.02} (\leq 79.66)$

Model	NLL Validation (Train)
Convolutional DRAW (Gregor et al., 2016)	$\leq 4.10 (4.04)$
Real NVP (Dinh et al., 2016)	$= 4.01 (3.93)$
PixelRNN (van den Oord et al., 2016a)	$= 3.63 (3.57)$
Gated PixelCNN (van den Oord et al., 2016b)	$= \mathbf{3.57} (3.48)$
Hierarchical PixelVAE	$\leq 3.66 (3.59)$

Table 2: Model performance on 64x64 ImageNet.



more globally coherent
than samples from
PixelRNN.

Figure 6: Samples from hierarchical PixelVAE on the 64x64 ImageNet dataset.

NVAE

- Hierarchical Architecture

$$q(z) = \prod_{i=1}^l q(z_i | z_{<i}), \quad p(z|x) = \prod_{i=1}^l p(z_i | z_{<i}, x) \quad \text{Exact decomposition: no additional assumption}$$

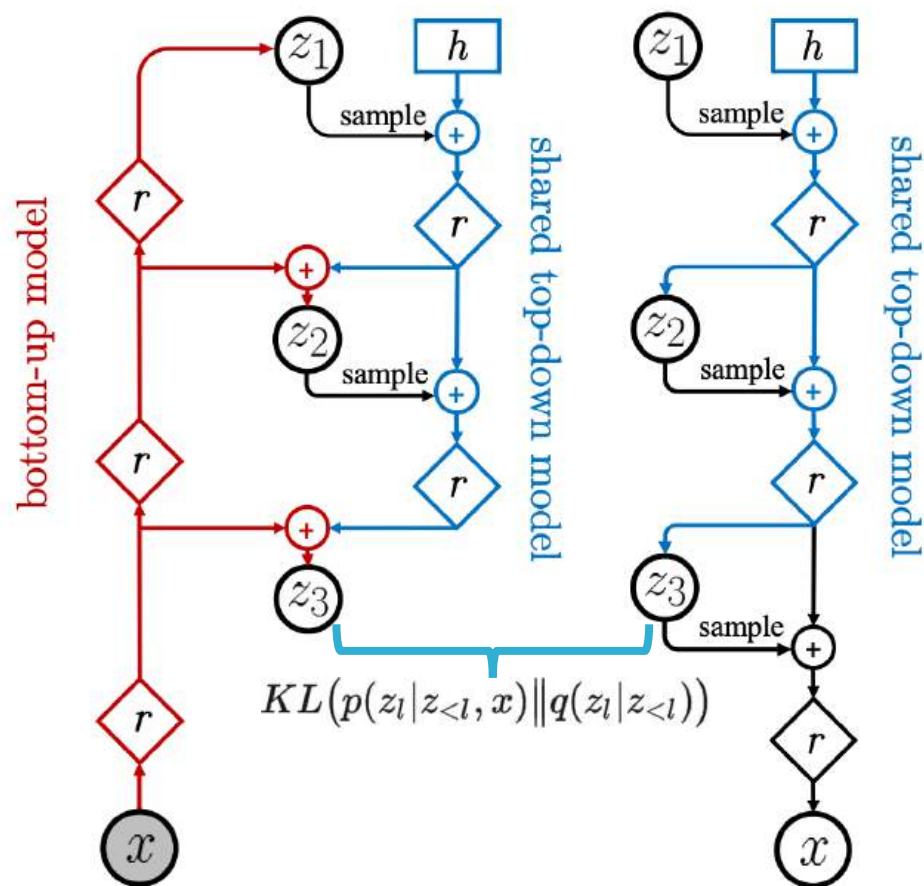
$$q(z_l | z_{<l}) = \mathcal{N}(z_l; \mu(z_{<l}), \sigma^2(z_{<l}))$$

$$p(z_l | z_{<l}, x) = \mathcal{N}(z_l; \mu(z_{<l}) + \Delta\mu(z_{<l}, x), \sigma^2(z_{<l}) \otimes \Delta\sigma^2(z_{<l}, x))$$

$$KL(p(z|x) \| q(z)) = KL(p(z_1|x) \| q(z_1)) + \sum_{l=2}^L \mathbb{E}_{p(z_{<l}|x)} \left[KL(p(z_l | z_{<l}, x) \| q(z_l | z_{<l})) \right]$$

$$KL(p(z_l | z_{<l}, x) \| q(z_l | z_{<l})) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{|z_l|} \left(\frac{\Delta\mu_{(i)}^2}{\sigma_{(i)}^2} + \Delta\sigma_{(i)}^2 - \log \Delta\sigma_{(i)}^2 - 1 \right)$$

NVAE



(a) Bidirectional Encoder (b) Generative Model

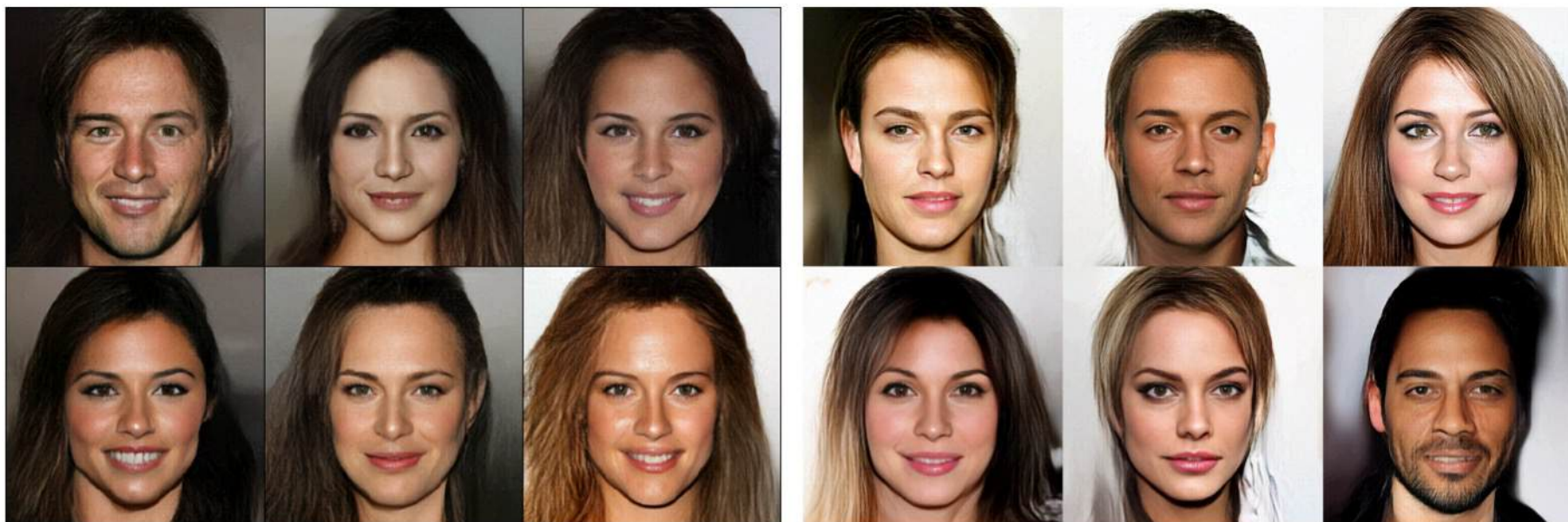
Method	MNIST 28×28	CIFAR-10 32×32	ImageNet 32×32	CelebA 64×64	CelebA HQ 256×256	FFHQ 256×256
NVAE w/o flow	78.01	2.93	-	2.04	-	0.71
NVAE w/ flow	78.19	2.91	3.92	2.03	0.70	0.69
VAE Models with an Unconditional Decoder						
BIVA [36]	78.41	3.08	3.96	2.48	-	-
IAF-VAE [4]	79.10	3.11	-	-	-	-
DVAE++ [20]	78.49	3.38	-	-	-	-
Conv Draw [42]	-	3.58	4.40	-	-	-
Flow Models without any Autoregressive Components in the Generative Model						
VFlow [59]	-	2.98	-	-	-	-
ANF [60]	-	3.05	3.92	-	0.72	-
Flow++ [61]	-	3.08	3.86	-	-	-
Residual flow [50]	-	3.28	4.01	-	0.99	-
GLOW [62]	-	3.35	4.09	-	1.03	-
Real NVP [63]	-	3.49	4.28	3.02	-	-
VAE and Flow Models with Autoregressive Components in the Generative Model						
δ -VAE [25]	-	2.83	3.77	-	-	-
PixelVAE++ [35]	78.00	2.90	-	-	-	-
VampPrior [64]	78.45	-	-	-	-	-
MAE [65]	77.98	2.95	-	-	-	-
Lossy VAE [66]	78.53	2.95	-	-	-	-
MaCow [67]	-	3.16	-	-	0.67	-
Autoregressive Models						
SPN [68]	-	-	3.85	-	0.61	-
PixelSNAIL [34]	-	2.85	3.80	-	-	-
Image Transformer [69]	-	2.90	3.77	-	-	-
PixelCNN++ [70]	-	2.92	-	-	-	-
PixelRNN [41]	-	3.00	3.86	-	-	-
Gated PixelCNN [71]	-	3.03	3.83	-	-	-



NVAE generates diverse high-quality samples.

(d) CelebA HQ ($t = 0.6$)

(e) FFHQ ($t = 0.5$)



(f) MaCow [67] trained on CelebA HQ ($t = 0.7$)

(g) Glow [62] trained on CelebA HQ ($t = 0.7$)

Summary

- VAE:

$$\max ELBO = \int q_x(z) \log p(x|z) dz - KL(q_x(z) || p(z))$$

GAP between log likelihood and ELBO is

$$KL(q_x(z) || p(z|x))$$

- Encoder: Hierarchical structure, discrete code distribution

latent code prior: Gaussian prior, auto-regressive model