#### Generative Models

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### Table of Contents

- Supervised vs unsupervised learning
- 2 Generative models
- GANs
- Boltzmann machines and DBNs
  - Boltzmann machines
- 6 Autoencoders
- 6 Conclusions

#### Review

- We talked about RNN previously. RNN can be treated as a kind of generative models. That is, able to generate samples from the model
- We will look into more generative models:
  - PixelCNN and PixelRNN
  - Generative adversarial networks (GANs)
  - Variational autoencoders

#### Supervised Learning

Data: (x, y)

x is data, y is label

Goal: Learn a function to map x -> y

**Examples**: Classification, regression, object detection, semantic segmentation, image captioning, etc.

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#### Supervised Learning

**Data**: (x, y) x is data, y is label

Goal: Learn a function to map x -> y

**Examples**: Classification, regression, object detection, semantic segmentation, image captioning, etc.



Classification

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#### Supervised Learning

**Data**: (x, y) x is data, y is label

Goal: Learn a function to map x -> v

**Examples**: Classification, regression, object detection, semantic segmentation, image captioning, etc.



DOG, DOG, CAT

Object Detection

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#### Supervised Learning

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Goal: Learn a function to map x -> y

**Examples**: Classification, regression, object detection, semantic segmentation, image captioning, etc.



Semantic Segmentation

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#### Supervised Learning

**Data**: (x, y) x is data, y is label

Goal: Learn a function to map x -> v

**Examples**: Classification, regression, object detection, semantic segmentation, image captioning, etc.



A cat sitting on a suitcase on the floor

Image captioning

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#### **Unsupervised Learning**

Data: x

Just data, no labels!

**Goal**: Learn some underlying hidden *structure* of the data

**Examples**: Clustering, dimensionality reduction, feature learning, density estimation, etc.

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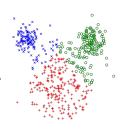
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K-means clustering

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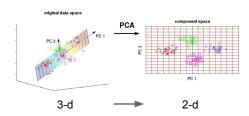
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#### **Unsupervised Learning**

**Data**: x
Just data, no labels!

**Goal**: Learn some underlying hidden *structure* of the data

**Examples**: Clustering, dimensionality reduction, feature learning, density estimation, etc.



Principal Component Analysis (Dimensionality reduction)

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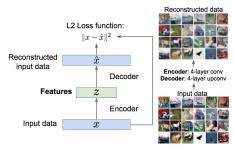
#### **Unsupervised Learning**

Data: x

Just data, no labels!

**Goal**: Learn some underlying hidden *structure* of the data

**Examples**: Clustering, dimensionality reduction, feature learning, density estimation, etc.



Autoencoders (Feature learning)

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#### **Unsupervised Learning**

Data: x

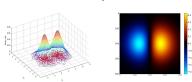
Just data, no labels!

**Goal**: Learn some underlying hidden *structure* of the data

**Examples**: Clustering, dimensionality reduction, feature learning, density estimation, etc.



1-d density estimation



2-d density estimation

2-d density images left and right are CC0 public domain

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#### Supervised Learning

**Data**: (x, y) x is data, y is label

Goal: Learn a function to map x -> y

**Examples**: Classification, regression, object detection, semantic segmentation, image captioning, etc.

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**Unsupervised Learning** 

Data: x
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**Goal**: Learn some underlying hidden *structure* of the data

**Examples**: Clustering, dimensionality reduction, feature learning, density estimation, etc.

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#### Supervised Learning

**Data**: (x, y) x is data, y is label

Goal: Learn a function to map x -> y

**Examples**: Classification, regression, object detection, semantic segmentation, image captioning, etc.

#### Unsupervised Learning

Training data is cheap

Data: x ↓

Just data, no labels!

Holy grail: Solve unsupervised learning => understand structure of visual world

**Goal**: Learn some underlying hidden *structure* of the data

**Examples**: Clustering, dimensionality reduction, feature learning, density estimation, etc.

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#### **Generative Models**

Given training data, generate new samples from same distribution





Training data  $\sim p_{data}(x)$ 

Generated samples  $\sim p_{\text{model}}(x)$ 

Want to learn  $p_{model}(x)$  similar to  $p_{data}(x)$ 

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#### **Generative Models**

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Training data  $\sim p_{data}(x)$ 

Generated samples  $\sim p_{model}(x)$ 

Want to learn  $p_{model}(x)$  similar to  $p_{data}(x)$ 

Addresses density estimation, a core problem in unsupervised learning Several flavors:

- Explicit density estimation: explicitly define and solve for  $p_{\text{model}}(x)$
- Implicit density estimation: learn model that can sample from  $p_{model}(x)$  w/o explicitly defining it

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17 / 125

### Why Generative Models?

- Realistic samples for artwork, super-resolution, colorization, etc.







- Generative models of time-series data can be used for simulation and planning (reinforcement learning applications!)
- Training generative models can also enable inference of latent representations that can be useful as general features

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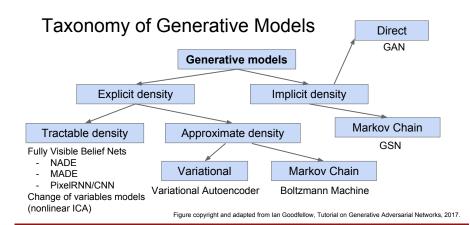
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- Discriminative models try to discriminate if one input is different from another. But it is not possible to generate samples from the models. Many classifiers are based on discriminative models, for example, support vector machines
- Generative models on the other hand can generate simulated data, for example, PixelCNN
- Many older machine learning problems are classification problems.
   Discriminative models provide a more direct solution and thus were more attractive
- Generative models have gained quite some attentions in recent years
  - Generate labeled simulation data for semi-supervised learning
  - Simulate data for planning and reinforcement learning

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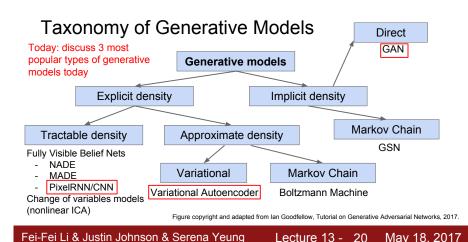
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20 / 125

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# PixelRNN and PixelCNN

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## Fully visible belief network

Explicit density model

Use chain rule to decompose likelihood of an image x into product of 1-d distributions:

$$p(x) = \prod_{i=1}^n p(x_i|x_1,...,x_{i-1})$$
 $\uparrow$ 
Likelihood of image x

Probability of i'th pixel value given all previous pixels

Then maximize likelihood of training data

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## Fully visible belief network

Explicit density model

Use chain rule to decompose likelihood of an image x into product of 1-d distributions:

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Likelihood of image x

Probability of i'th pixel value given all previous pixels

Then maximize likelihood of training data

Complex distribution over pixel values => Express using a neural network!

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### Fully visible belief network

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Complex distribution over pixel values => Express using a neural network!

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Generate image pixels starting from corner

Dependency on previous pixels modeled using an RNN (LSTM)

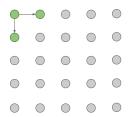


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Generate image pixels starting from corner

Dependency on previous pixels modeled using an RNN (LSTM)

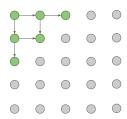


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Generate image pixels starting from corner

Dependency on previous pixels modeled using an RNN (LSTM)



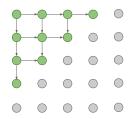
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Generate image pixels starting from corner

Dependency on previous pixels modeled using an RNN (LSTM)

Drawback: sequential generation is slow!



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Still generate image pixels starting from corner

Dependency on previous pixels now modeled using a CNN over context region

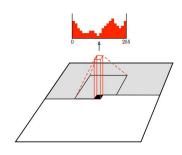


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Still generate image pixels starting from corner

Dependency on previous pixels now modeled using a CNN over context region

Training: maximize likelihood of training images

$$p(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(x_i|x_1, ..., x_{i-1})$$

Softmax loss at each pixel

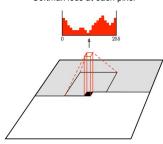


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Still generate image pixels starting from corner

Dependency on previous pixels now modeled using a CNN over context region

Training is faster than PixelRNN (can parallelize convolutions since context region values known from training images)

Generation must still proceed sequentially => still slow

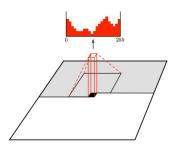


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### **Generation Samples**



32x32 CIFAR-10



32x32 ImageNet

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#### PixelRNN and PixelCNN

#### Pros:

- Can explicitly compute likelihood p(x)
- Explicit likelihood of training data gives good evaluation metric
- Good samples

#### Con:

Seguential generation => slow

#### Improving PixelCNN performance

- Gated convolutional layers
- Short-cut connections
- Discretized logistic loss
- Multi-scale
- Training tricks
- Etc...

#### See

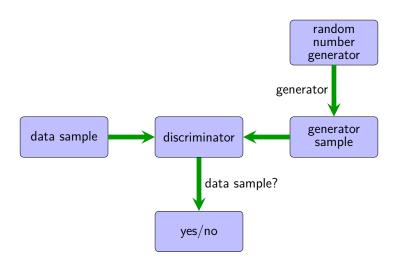
- Van der Oord et al. NIPS 2016
- Salimans et al. 2017 (PixelCNN++)

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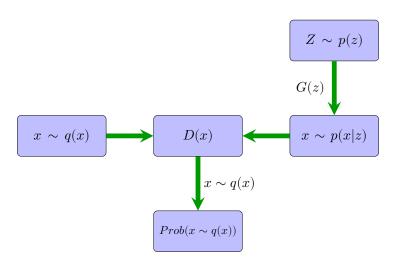
#### Generative adversarial networks (GANs)

Goodfellow et al. 2014



#### Generative adversarial networks (GANs)

Goodfellow et al. 2014



- $\bullet$  Probability of model data:  $p_{model}(x) = \int_z p(z) p(x|z) dz$
- Probability of true data:  $p_{data}(x) = q(x)$
- Discriminator wants to catch fake data

$$\begin{split} J^{(D)} &= -E_{x \sim p_{data}} \log D(x) - E_z \log(1 - D(G(z))) \\ &= -E_{x \sim p_{data}} \log D(x) - E_{x \sim p_{model}} \log(1 - D(x)) \end{split}$$

- ullet N.B.  $J^{(D)}$  is just cross-entropy loss for correct classification
- $\bullet$  Generator wants to fool the discriminator:  $J^{(G)}=-J^{(D)}$ 
  - Since first term does not depend on  $G(\cdot)$ , we can simplify  $J^{(G)}$  to

$$J^{(G)} = -E_z \log(1-D(G(z)))$$



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#### Nash equilibrium

- By game theory, Nash equilibriums exist
- One equilibrium is  $G(\cdot)$  generate indifferentiable sample as the true data and  $D(\cdot)$  will just make choices randomly (output 1 with probability 0.5)
  - This is the equilibrium that we are interested in

By calculus of variations, for any  $\Delta(x)$ ,

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial J^{(D)}(D^*(X) + \lambda \Delta(x))}{\partial \lambda} \bigg|_{\lambda = 0} &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow -\frac{\partial E_{x \sim p_{data}} \log(D^*(x) + \lambda \Delta(x))}{\partial \lambda} - \frac{\partial E_{x \sim p_{model}} \log(1 - D^*(x) - \lambda \Delta(x))}{\partial \lambda} \bigg|_{\lambda = 0} &= \\ \Rightarrow -E_{x \sim p_{data}} \left[ \frac{\Delta(x)}{D^*(x) + \lambda \Delta(x)} \right] + E_{x \sim p_{model}} \left[ \frac{\Delta(x)}{1 - D^*(x) - \lambda \Delta(x)} \right] \bigg|_{\lambda = 0} &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow \int_x \left[ \frac{p_{data}(x)}{D^*(x)} - \frac{p_{model}(x)}{1 - D^*(x)} \right] \Delta(x) dx &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow D^*(x) &= \frac{p_{data}(x)}{p_{data}(x) + p_{model}(x)} \end{split}$$



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$$\begin{split} &\frac{\partial J^{(D)}(D^*(X) + \lambda \Delta(x))}{\partial \lambda} \bigg|_{\lambda = 0} = 0 \\ \Rightarrow &-\frac{\partial E_{x \sim p_{data}} \log(D^*(x) + \lambda \Delta(x))}{\partial \lambda} - \frac{\partial E_{x \sim p_{model}} \log(1 - D^*(x) - \lambda \Delta(x))}{\partial \lambda} \bigg|_{\lambda = 0} = 0 \\ \Rightarrow &- E_{x \sim p_{data}} \left[ \frac{\Delta(x)}{D^*(x) + \lambda \Delta(x)} \right] + E_{x \sim p_{model}} \left[ \frac{\Delta(x)}{1 - D^*(x) - \lambda \Delta(x)} \right] \bigg|_{\lambda = 0} = 0 \\ \Rightarrow &\int_x \left[ \frac{p_{data}(x)}{D^*(x)} - \frac{p_{model}(x)}{1 - D^*(x)} \right] \Delta(x) dx = 0 \\ \Rightarrow &D^*(x) = \frac{p_{data}(x)}{p_{xx} + p_{xx} + p_{xx} + p_{xx} + p_{xx}} \end{split}$$



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- The discriminator cost function  $J^{(D)} = -E_{x \sim p_{data}} \log D(x) E_z \log (1 D(G(z))) \text{ is a very reasonable choice and usually will not be modified}$
- On the other hand, we have more freedom on choosing the generator cost
  - $E_z\log(1-D(G(z)))$  is the intuitive choice for  $J^{(G)}$  but it has a small gradient when D(G(z)) is small for all z
    - That is, generator is not able to fool the discriminator
    - Reasonable when we just started to train the generator
  - $\bullet$  Instead, it is better to have  $J^{(G)} = -E_z \log D(G(z))$ 
    - $-\log D(G(z)) \approx 0$  when  $D(G(z)) \approx 1$ : ignore samples that successfully fool the discriminator
    - $-\log D(G(z))\gg 0$  when  $D(G(z))\approx 0$ : emphasize samples that cannot fool the discriminator
    - When  $D(G(z)) \approx 1$  for all z, we may need to switch back to the original cost function. But better yet, we should better train the discriminator



40 / 125

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  - $E_z\log(1-D(G(z)))$  is the intuitive choice for  $J^{(G)}$  but it has a small gradient when D(G(z)) is small for all z
    - That is, generator is not able to fool the discriminator
    - Reasonable when we just started to train the generator
  - Instead, it is better to have  $J^{(G)} = -E_z \log D(G(z))$ 
    - $-\log D(G(z)) \approx 0$  when  $D(G(z)) \approx 1$ : ignore samples that successfully fool the discriminator
    - $-\log D(G(z))\gg 0$  when  $D(G(z))\approx 0$ : emphasize samples that cannot fool the discriminator
    - When  $D(G(z)) \approx 1$  for all z, we may need to switch back to the original cost function. But better yet, we should better train the discriminator



40 / 125

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 Feb 2017 40 / 125

#### Training GANs: Two-player game

Ian Goodfellow et al., "Generative Adversarial Nets", NIPS 2014

Minimax objective function:

$$\min_{\theta_{a}} \max_{\theta_{d}} \left[ \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_{data}} \log D_{\theta_{d}}(x) + \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z)} \log(1 - D_{\theta_{d}}(G_{\theta_{g}}(z))) \right]$$

Alternate between:

Gradient ascent on discriminator

$$\max_{\theta_d} \left[ \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_{data}} \log D_{\theta_d}(x) + \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z)} \log (1 - D_{\theta_d}(G_{\theta_g}(z))) \right]$$

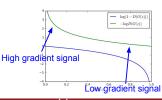
Instead: Gradient ascent on generator, different

objective

$$\max_{\theta_c} \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z)} \log(D_{\theta_d}(G_{\theta_g}(z)))$$

Instead of minimizing likelihood of discriminator being correct, now maximize likelihood of discriminator being wrong.

Same objective of fooling discriminator, but now higher gradient signal for bad samples => works much better! Standard in practice.



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Lecture 13 -

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#### Some refinements

Training GAN is equivalent of finding the Nash equilibrium of a two-player non-cooperative game, which itself is a very hard problem. We will mention here a couple refinements to help find a better solution. You probably would like to check out Salimans' 16 also

- One-sided label smoothing
- Fixing batch-norm
- Mini-batch features
- Unrolled GAN

• Default discriminator cost can also be written as

```
cross_entropy("1",discriminator(data))
+cross_entropy("0", discriminator(samples))
```

 Experiment shows that one-sided label smoothed cost enhance system stability

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cross_entropy("0.9",discriminator(data))
+cross_entropy("0", discriminator(samples))
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- Essentially prevent extrapolating effect from extreme samples
- Generally does not reduce classification accuracy, only confidence



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# One-sided label smoothing Salimans et al. 2016

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43 / 125

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• It is important not to smooth the negative labels though, i.e., say

$$\begin{split} &\mathsf{cross\_entropy}(1-\alpha, &\mathsf{discriminator}(\mathsf{data})) \\ +&\mathsf{cross\_entropy}(\beta, &\mathsf{discriminator}(\mathsf{samples})) \end{split}$$

with  $\beta > 0$ 

• Just follow the same derivation as before, we can get the optimum D(x) as

$$D^*(x) = \frac{(1 - \alpha)p_{data}(x) + \beta p_{model}(x)}{p_{data}(x) + p_{model}(x)}$$

•  $\beta > 0$  tends to give undesirable bias of the discriminator to data generated by the model

Replacing positive classification targets with  $\alpha$  and negative targets with  $\beta$ , the optimal discriminator becomes  $D(x) = \frac{\alpha p_{\mathrm{data}}(x) + \beta p_{\mathrm{model}}(x)}{p_{\mathrm{data}}(x) + p_{\mathrm{podel}}(x)}$ . The presence of  $p_{\mathrm{model}}$  in the numerator is problematic because, in areas where  $p_{\mathrm{data}}$  is approximately zero and  $p_{\mathrm{model}}$  is large, erroneous samples from  $p_{\mathrm{model}}$  have no incentive to move nearer to the data. We therefore smooth only the positive labels to  $\alpha$ , leaving negative labels set to 0.



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## Issue on batch normalization Goodfellow 2016

Batch normalization is preferred and highly recommended. But it can cause strong intra-batch correlation



#### Fixing batch norm

- Reference batch norm: one possible approach is keep one reference batch and always normalized based on that batch. That is, always subtract mean from that of the reference batch and adjust variance to that of the reference batch
  - Can easily overfit to the particular reference batch
- Virtual batch norm: a partial solution by combining the reference batch norm and conventional batch norm. Fix a reference batch, but every time inputs are normalize to the net mean and variance of the virtual batch containing both inputs and all elements of the reference batch

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#### Balancing G and D

- ullet Usually it is more preferable to have a bigger and deeper D
- Some researchers also run more D steps than G steps. The results
- Do not try to limit D from being "too smart"
  - $\bullet$  The original theoretical justification is that D is supposed to be

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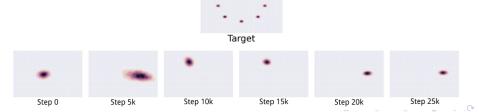
# Mode collapse Metz et al. 2016

Below demonstrates why D should be smart.

 Basically the minmax and the minmax problem is not the same and can lead to drastically different solutions

$$\min_{G} \max_{D} V(G,D) \neq \max_{D} \min_{G} V(G,D)$$

- D in the inner loop: converge to the correct distribution
- G in the inner loop: place all mass on most likely point



# Mode collapse Metz et al. 2016

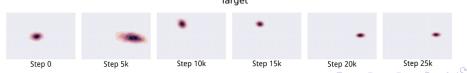
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# Minibatch features Salimans et al. 2016

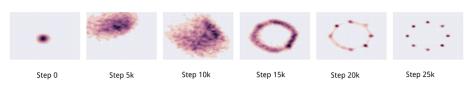
- Mode collapse can lead to low diversity of generated data
- One attempt to mitigate this problem is to introduce the so-called minibatch features
  - Basically classify each example by comparing the features to other members in the minibatch
  - Reject a sample if the feature to close to existing ones

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# Unrolled Gans Metz et al. 2016

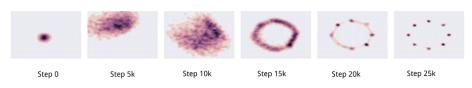
- A more direct approach was proposed by Google brain
- Trying to ensure that the generated sample is a solution of the minmax rather than the maxmin problem
- Have the generator to unroll k future steps and predict what discriminator will think of the current sample
  - Since generator is the one who unrolls, generator is in the outer loop and discriminator is in the inner loop
  - We ensure that we have solution approximating a minmax rather than maxmin problem



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# Unrolled Gans Metz et al. 2016

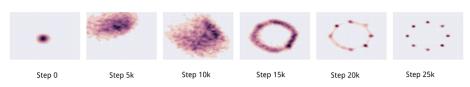
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## Deep convolutional GAN (DCGAN)

#### Generative Adversarial Nets: Convolutional Architectures

Generator is an upsampling network with fractionally-strided convolutions Discriminator is a convolutional network

Architecture guidelines for stable Deep Convolutional GANs

- Replace any pooling layers with strided convolutions (discriminator) and fractional-strided convolutions (generator).
- Use batchnorm in both the generator and the discriminator.
- Remove fully connected hidden layers for deeper architectures.
- Use ReLU activation in generator for all layers except for the output, which uses Tanh.
- Use LeakyReLU activation in the discriminator for all layers.

Radford et al, "Unsupervised Representation Learning with Deep Convolutional Generative Adversarial Networks", ICLR 2016

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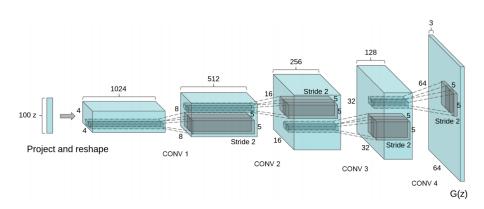
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**DCGAN** 

# Deep convolutional GAN (DCGAN)

Radford et al. 2016



# Generated bedroom after 5 epochs (LSUN dataset) Radford *et al.* 2016



53 / 125

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#### Generative Adversarial Nets: Convolutional Architectures

Interpolating between random points in laten space



Radford et al, ICLR 2016

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Lecture 13 - 12

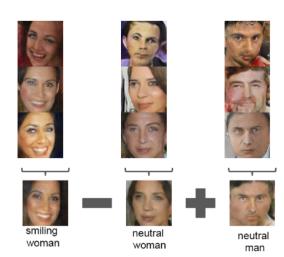
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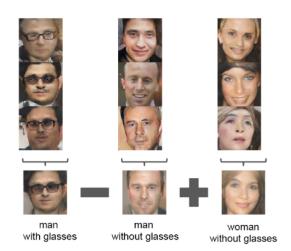


smiling man



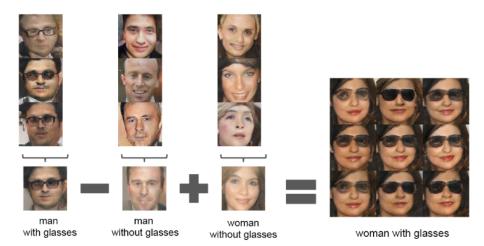






# Vector arithmetics

Radford et al. 2016



### Some failure cases









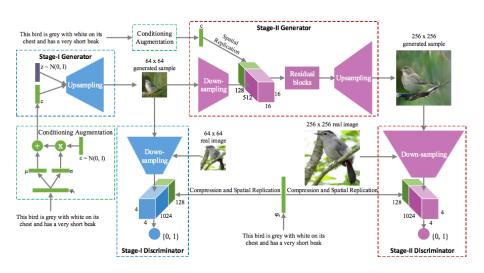




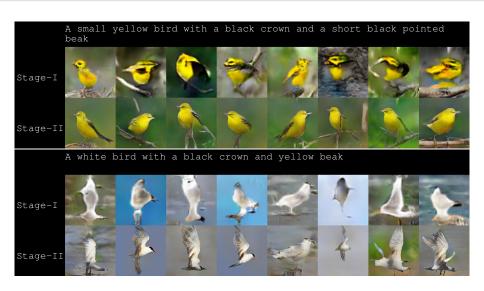


(Goodfellow 2016)

### StackGAN Zhang et al. 2016



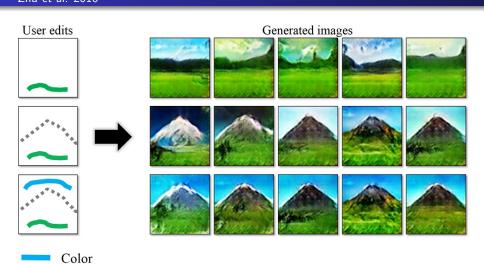
#### StackGAN



#### StackGAN



#### iGAN Zhu *et al.* 2016



Sketch

#### 2017: Year of the GAN

(d) Conference room.

#### Better training and generation



Source->Target domain transfer





Output



zebra → horse











apple → orange



CycleGAN. Zhu et al. 2017.

#### Text -> Image Synthesis

this small bird has a pink this magnificent fellow is breast and crown, and black, almost all black with a red







Reed et al. 2017.

#### Many GAN applications





Pix2pix. Isola 2017. Many examples at https://phillipi.github.io/pix2pix/

BEGAN. Bertholet et al. 2017.

LSGAN. Mao et al. 2017.

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Lecture 13 -

12

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### "The GAN Zoo"

#### See also: https://github.com/soumith/ganhacks for tips and tricks for trainings GANs

- · GAN Generative Adversarial Networks
- 3D-GAN Learning a Probabilistic Latent Space of Object Shapes via 3D Generative-Adversarial Modeling
- acGAN Face Aging With Conditional Generative Adversarial Networks
- AC-GAN Conditional Image Synthesis With Auxiliary Classifier GANs
- AdaGAN AdaGAN: Boosting Generative Models
- · AEGAN Learning Inverse Mapping by Autoencoder based Generative Adversarial Nets
- . AffGAN Amortised MAP Inference for Image Super-resolution
- · AL-CGAN Learning to Generate Images of Outdoor Scenes from Attributes and Semantic Layouts
- ALI Adversarially Learned Inference
- · AM-GAN Generative Adversarial Nets with Labeled Data by Activation Maximization
- AngGAN Unsupervised Anomaly Detection with Generative Adversarial Networks to Guide Marker Discovery
- ArtGAN ArtGAN: Artwork Synthesis with Conditional Categorial GANs
- . b-GAN b-GAN: Unified Framework of Generative Adversarial Networks
- . Bayesian GAN Deep and Hierarchical Implicit Models
- · BEGAN BEGAN: Boundary Equilibrium Generative Adversarial Networks
- . BiGAN Adversarial Feature Learning · BS-GAN - Boundary-Seeking Generative Adversarial Networks
- CGAN Conditional Generative Adversarial Nets
- CaloGAN CaloGAN: Simulating 3D High Energy Particle Showers in Multi-Layer Electromagnetic Calorimeters with Generative Adversarial Networks
- CCGAN Semi-Supervised Learning with Context-Conditional Generative Adversarial Networks
- · CatGAN Unsupervised and Semi-supervised Learning with Categorical Generative Adversarial Networks
- CoGAN Coupled Generative Adversarial Networks

- · Context-RNN-GAN Contextual RNN-GANs for Abstract Reasoning Diagram Generation
- . C-RNN-GAN C-RNN-GAN: Continuous recurrent neural networks with adversarial training
- · CS-GAN Improving Neural Machine Translation with Conditional Sequence Generative Adversarial Nets
- CVAE-GAN CVAE-GAN: Fine-Grained Image Generation through Asymmetric Training
- CycleGAN Unpaired Image-to-Image Translation using Cycle-Consistent Adversarial Networks
- . DTN Unsupervised Cross-Domain Image Generation . DCGAN - Unsupervised Representation Learning with Deep Convolutional Generative Adversarial Networks
- . DiscoGAN Learning to Discover Cross-Domain Relations with Generative Adversarial Networks
- . DR-GAN Disentangled Representation Learning GAN for Pose-Invariant Face Recognition
- DualGAN DualGAN: Unsupervised Dual Learning for Image-to-Image Translation
- FRGAN Energy-based Generative Adversarial Network f-GAN - f-GAN: Training Generative Neural Samplers using Variational Divergence Minimization
- . FF-GAN Towards Large-Pose Face Frontalization in the Wild
- . GAWWN Learning What and Where to Draw
- GeneGAN GeneGAN: Learning Object Transfiguration and Attribute Subspace from Unpaired Data
- · Geometric GAN Geometric GAN . GoGAN - Gang of GANs: Generative Adversarial Networks with Maximum Margin Ranking
- · GP-GAN GP-GAN: Towards Realistic High-Resolution Image Blending
- IAN Neural Photo Editing with Introspective Adversarial Networks
- . iGAN Generative Visual Manipulation on the Natural Image Manifold
- IcGAN Invertible Conditional GANs for image editing . ID-CGAN - Image De-raining Using a Conditional Generative Adversarial Network
- Improved GAN Improved Techniques for Training GANs
- · InfoGAN InfoGAN: Interpretable Representation Learning by Information Maximizing Generative Adversarial Nets
- LAGAN Learning Particle Physics by Example: Location-Aware Generative Adversarial Networks for Physics Synthesis
- LAPGAN Deep Generative Image Models using a Laplacian Pyramid of Adversarial Networks

https://github.com/hindupuravinash/the-gan-zoo

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#### **GANs**

Don't work with an explicit density function

Take game-theoretic approach: learn to generate from training distribution through 2-player game

#### Pros:

- Beautiful, state-of-the-art samples!

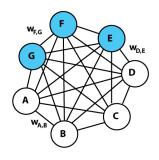
#### Cons:

- Trickier / more unstable to train
- Can't solve inference queries such as p(x), p(z|x)

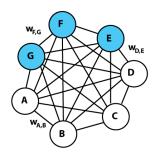
#### Active areas of research:

- Better loss functions, more stable training (Wasserstein GAN, LSGAN, many others)
- Conditional GANs, GANs for all kinds of applications

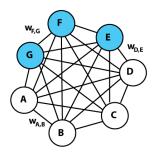
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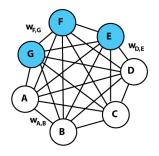
- Boltzmann machines were invented by Geoffrey Hinton and Terry Sejnowski in 1985
- It is a binary generative model
- Probability of a "configuration" is government by the Boltzmann distribution  $\frac{\exp(-E(x))}{Z}$ , where Z is a normalization factor and called the partition function (a name originated from statistical physics)
- The energy function E(x) has a very simple form  $E(x) = -x^T W x c^T x$
- Typically some variables are hidden whereas others are visible



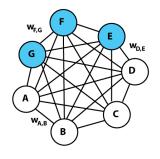
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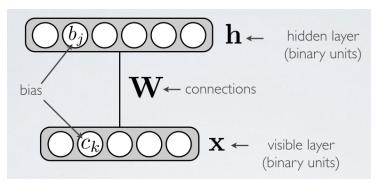


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- Consequently, restricted Boltzmann machine (RBM) (originally called Harmonium) was introduced by Paul Smolensky in 1986. It restricted the hidden units and the visible units from connecting to themselves
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- The model rose to prominence after fast learning algorithm was invented by Hinton and his collaborators in mid-2000s



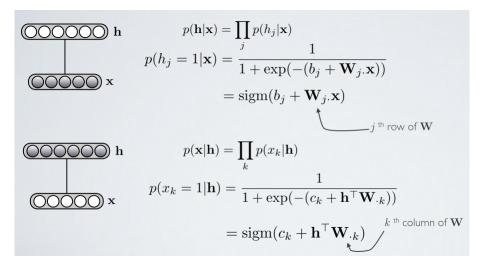
Energy function:  $E(x,h) = -h^T W x - c^T x - b^T h$ 

Distribution:

$$p(x,h) = \frac{\exp(-E(x,h))}{Z} = \frac{\exp(h^T W x) \exp(c^T x) \exp(b^T h)}{Z}$$

S. Cheng (OU-Tulsa) Generative Models Feb 2017 67 / 125

## Conditional probabilities



$$\begin{split} p(h|x) &= \frac{p(x,h)}{\sum_{h'} p(x,h')} = \frac{\exp(h^T\!Wx + c^T\!x + b^T\!h)/Z}{\sum_{h' \in \{0,1\}^M} \exp(h'^T\!Wx + c^T\!x + b^T\!h')/Z} \\ &= \frac{\exp\left(\sum_i h_i W_i x + b_i h_i\right)}{\sum_{h'_1 \in \{0,1\}} \cdots \sum_{h'_M \in \{0,1\}} \exp\left(\sum_i h'_i W_i x + b_i h'_i\right)} \quad \left(W = \begin{pmatrix} W_1 \\ \cdots \\ W_M \end{pmatrix}\right) \\ &= \frac{\prod_i \exp\left(h_i W_i x + b_i h_i\right)}{\sum_{h'_1 \in \{0,1\}} \cdots \sum_{h'_M \in \{0,1\}} \prod_i \exp(h'_i W_i x + b_i h'_i)} \\ &= \frac{\prod_i \exp\left(h_i W_i x + b_i h_i\right)}{\left(\sum_{h'_1 \in \{0,1\}} \exp\left(h'_1 W_1 x + b_1 h'_1\right)\right) \cdots \left(\sum_{h'_M \in \{0,1\}} \exp\left(h'_M W_M x + b_M h'_M\right)\right)} \\ &= \prod_i \frac{\exp\left(h_i W_i x + c^T x + b_i h_i\right)/Z}{\left(\sum_{h'_1 \in \{0,1\}} \exp\left(h'_i W_i x + c^T x + b_i h'_i\right)\right)/Z} = \prod_i p(h_i|x) \end{split}$$

N.B. Can also be obtained immediately since  $h_1,h_2,\cdots,h_M$  are conditionally independent given x

S. Cheng (OU-Tulsa) Generative Models Feb 2017 69 / 125

$$\begin{split} p(h|x) &= \frac{p(x,h)}{\sum_{h'} p(x,h')} = \frac{\exp(h^T W x + c^T x + b^T h)/Z}{\sum_{h' \in \{0,1\}^M} \exp(h'^T W x + c^T x + b^T h')/Z} \\ &= \frac{\exp\left(\sum_i h_i W_i x + b_i h_i\right)}{\sum_{h'_1 \in \{0,1\}} \cdots \sum_{h'_M \in \{0,1\}} \exp(\sum_i h'_i W_i x + b_i h'_i)} \quad \left(W = \begin{pmatrix} W_1 \\ \cdots \\ W_M \end{pmatrix}\right) \\ &= \frac{\prod_i \exp\left(h_i W_i x + b_i h_i\right)}{\sum_{h'_1 \in \{0,1\}} \cdots \sum_{h'_M \in \{0,1\}} \prod_i \exp(h'_i W_i x + b_i h'_i)} \\ &= \frac{\prod_i \exp\left(h_i W_i x + b_i h_i\right)}{\left(\sum_{h'_1 \in \{0,1\}} \exp(h'_1 W_1 x + b_1 h'_1)\right) \cdots \left(\sum_{h'_M \in \{0,1\}} \exp(h'_M W_M x + b_M h'_M)\right)} \\ &= \prod_i \frac{\exp\left(h_i W_i x + c^T x + b_i h_i\right)/Z}{\left(\sum_{h'_i \in \{0,1\}} \exp(h'_i W_i x + c^T x + b_i h'_i)\right)/Z} = \prod_i p(h_i|x) \end{split}$$

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S. Cheng (OU-Tulsa) Generative Models Feb 2017 69 / 125

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S. Cheng (OU-Tulsa) Generative Models Feb 2017 69 / 125

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S. Cheng (OU-Tulsa) Generative Models Feb 2017 69 / 125

## Derivation of conditional probabilities

$$\begin{split} p(h_i = 1|x) &= \frac{\exp\left(W_i x + b_i\right)}{\left(\sum_{h_i' \in \{0,1\}} \exp(h_i' W_i x + b_i h_i')\right)} \\ &= \frac{\exp\left(W_i x + b_i\right)}{\left(1 + \exp\left(W_i x + b_i\right)\right)} \\ &= \operatorname{sigm}(b_i + W_i x) \end{split}$$

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## Data generation

Equipped with the conditional probabilities p(x|h) and p(h|x), we can generate simulated data given some hidden variables  $h^\prime$  using Gibbs sampling

- Sample x' from p(x|h')
- Sample h'' from p(h|x')
- Sample x'' from p(x|h'')
- ...

$$\begin{split} p(x) &= \sum_{h \in \{0,1\}^M} \exp(h^T W x + c^T x + b^T h) / Z \\ &= \frac{exp(c^T x)}{Z} \sum_{h_1 \in \{0,1\}} \cdots \sum_{h_M \in \{0,1\}} \exp\left(\sum_i h_i W_i x + b_i h_i\right) \\ &= \frac{\exp(c^T x)}{Z} \left(\sum_{h_1 \in \{0,1\}} e^{(h_1 W_1 x + b_1 h_1)}\right) \cdots \left(\sum_{h_M \in \{0,1\}} e^{(h_M W_M x + b_M h_M)}\right) \\ &= \frac{\exp(c^T x)}{Z} \left(1 + e^{(W_1 x + b_1)}\right) \cdots \left(1 + e^{(W_M x + b_M)}\right) \\ &= \frac{\exp(c^T x)}{Z} \exp\left(\log(1 + e^{(W_1 x + b_1)}) + \cdots + \log(1 + e^{(W_M x + b_M)})\right) \\ &= \exp\left(c^T x + \sum_i \log(1 + e^{(W_i x + b_i)})\right) / Z \end{split}$$

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S. Cheng (OU-Tulsa) Generative Models Feb 2017 72 / 125

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S. Cheng (OU-Tulsa) Generative Models Feb 2017 72 / 125

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S. Cheng (OU-Tulsa) Generative Models Feb 2017 72 / 125

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S. Cheng (OU-Tulsa) Generative Models Feb 2017

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72 / 125

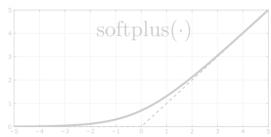
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$$\begin{split} p(x) &= \exp\left(c^T x + \sum_i \log(1 + e^{(W_i x + b_i)})\right)/Z \\ &= \exp\left(c^T x + \sum_i \operatorname{softplus}(W_i x + b_i)\right)/Z \triangleq \exp(-F(x))/Z, \end{split}$$

where F(x) is known to be free energy, a term borrowed from statistical physics. Note that  $\frac{\partial \text{softplus(t)}}{\partial t} = \text{sigmod}(t)$ 



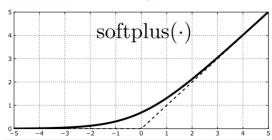
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Use the cross entropy loss,

$$l(\theta) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} -\log p(x^{(t)}) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} F(x^{(t)}) - \log Z,$$

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial -\log p(x^{(t)})}{\partial \theta} &= \frac{\partial F(x^{(t)})}{\partial \theta} - \sum_{x} \frac{\exp(-F(x))}{Z} \frac{\partial F(x)}{\partial \theta} \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{\partial F(x^{(t)})}{\partial \theta}}_{\text{positive phase}} - \underbrace{E\left[\frac{\partial F(x)}{\partial \theta}\right]}_{\text{positive phase}} \end{split}$$

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S. Cheng (OU-Tulsa) Generative Models Feb 2017 74 / 125

Use the cross entropy loss,

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$$= \frac{\partial F(x^{(t)})}{\partial \theta} - \underbrace{E\left[\frac{\partial F(x)}{\partial \theta}\right]}_{\text{positive phase}}$$

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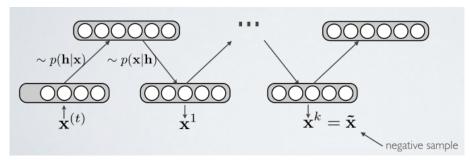
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N.B. The naming of the terms is not related to the sign in the equation. It refers to the fact that adjusting the +ve phase terms to increase the probability of the training data and the -ve terms to decrease the probability of the rest of x

# Contrastive divergence (CD-k)

The negative phase term is very hard to compute exactly as we need to sum over all x. The natural way out is to approximate using sampling  $\Rightarrow$ contrastive divergence (CD-k) training

- Key idea: Start sampling chain at  $x^{(t)}$ 
  - ② Obtain the point  $\tilde{x}$  with k Gibbs sampling steps
  - Replace the expectation by a point estimate at  $\tilde{x}$



N.B. CD-1 works surprisingly well in practice

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## Parameters update

So we have 
$$\frac{\partial l(\theta)}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial F(x^{(t)})}{\partial \theta} - \frac{\partial F(\tilde{x})}{\partial \theta}$$
. Recall that 
$$F(x) = -c^T x - \sum_i \mathrm{softplus}(W_i x + b_i)$$
 
$$\frac{\partial F(x)}{\partial c_i} = -x_i$$
 
$$\frac{\partial F(x)}{\partial b_i} = -\mathrm{sigmoid}(W_i x + b_i)$$
 
$$\frac{\partial F(x)}{\partial W_{i,i}} = -\mathrm{sigmoid}(W_i x + b_i) x_j$$

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### Parameters update

So we have 
$$\frac{\partial l(\theta)}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial F(x^{(t)})}{\partial \theta} - \frac{\partial F(\tilde{x})}{\partial \theta}$$
. Recall that 
$$F(x) = -c^T x - \sum_i \mathrm{softplus}(W_i x + b_i)$$
 
$$\frac{\partial F(x)}{\partial c_i} = -x_i$$
 
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This gives us

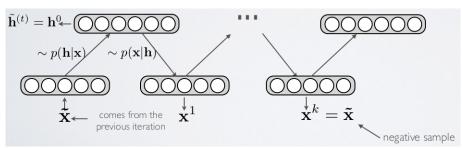
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Generative Models Feb 2017 76 / 125

### Persistent CD

#### Tieleman, ICML 2008

- Idea: Instead of initializing the chain to  $x^{(t)}$ , initialize the chain to the negative sample of the last iteration
- ullet This has a similar effect of CD-k with a large k and yet can have much lower complexity



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### Gaussian-Bernoulli RBM

#### Extension to continuous variables

- RBM is a binary model and thus is not suitable for continuous data
- One simple extension to allow the visible variables x to be continuous while keeping the hidden variables h to be binary
- In particular, we can simply add a quadratic term  $\frac{1}{2}x^Tx$  to the energy function, i.e.,

$$E(x,h) = -h^{T}Wx - c^{T}x - b^{T}h + \frac{1}{2}x^{T}x$$

to get Gaussian distributed p(x|h)

- For efficient training, the input data are typically preprocessed with zero-mean and unit variance
- A smaller learning rate is needed compared to a regular RBM

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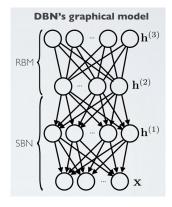
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## Deep belief networks (DBN)



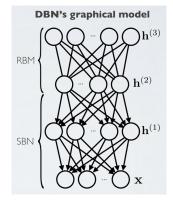
- DBN is a generative model that mixes undirected and directed connections
- $\bullet$  Top 2 layers' distribution  $p(h^{(2)},h^{(3)})$  is an RBN
- Other layers form a Bayesian network:
  - The conditional distributions of layers given the one above it are

$$\begin{split} &p(h_i^{(1)} = 1|h^{(2)}) = \mathrm{sigm}(b_i^{(1)} + {W^{(2)}}_i h^{(2)}) \\ &p(h_i^{(1)} = 1|h^{(1)}) = \mathrm{sigm}(b_i^{(0)} + {W^{(1)}}_i h^{(1)}) \end{split}$$

- This is referred to as a sigmoid belief network (SBN)
- Note that DBN is not a feed-forward network

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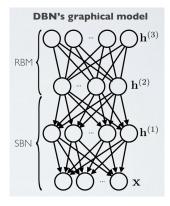
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- Professor Hinton was working on algorithms to train Sigmoid belief network but gave up after many different ideas
- ullet He moved on to work with RBMs and invented the CD-k algorithm for training RBMs
- ullet Since CD-k is very effective, it is very tempting to think if one can train a Sigmoid belief network one layer at a time by treating each layer as a RBM
  - The procedure is working great. But it actually trains a different model, the DBN instead of SBN (with some complicated math behind), pointed out by Yee-Whye Teh
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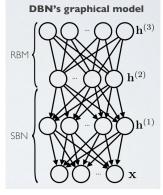
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 80 / 125

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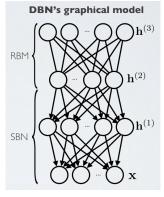
## Pretraining of DBNs



As mentioned in the previous slide

- Treat the bottom two layers as an RBM and train it with the input data x
- $\bullet$  Treat the next two layers as an RBM and train it with the  $h^{(1)}$  obtained in the last step
- Keep continuing while keeping the trained weights

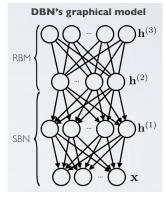
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## Fine-tuning of DBN

Up-down algorithm (aka contrastive wake-sleep algorithm)

After learning many layers of features, we can fine-tune the features to improve generation

- Do a stochastic bottom-up pass
  - Construct hidden variables with reconstruction weight R (initialized as the transpose of W)
  - ullet Use the approximated hidden variables to fine tune W
- @ Do a few iterations of sampling in the top level RBM
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82 / 125

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 $\begin{array}{c} 28 \times 28 \\ \text{pixel} \\ \text{image} \end{array}$ 

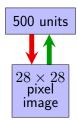
#### Test on MNIST dataset

- Train 500 hidden units with the image block as input
- Train another 500 hidden units with the trained 500 hidden units as input
- Prepare another 2000 hidden units
- Train the 2000 hidden units with the previously trained 500 hidden units and target labels as input
- Error rate is about 1%

500 units

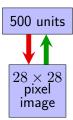
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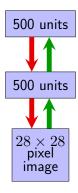


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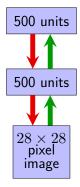


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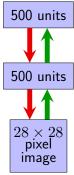
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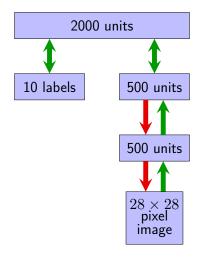
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83 / 125



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### Demo

http://www.cs.toronto.edu/~hinton/adi/index.htm

### Summary of Boltzmann machines and DBN

- Restricted Boltzmann machines (RBMs) and deep belief networks (DBNs) are both generative models
- ullet RBMs can be trained efficiently with contrastive divergence (CD-k) algorithm
- DBNs can be trained by first pre-trained each pair of layers as an RBM and then fine-tune with up-down algorithm
- DBNs are the earliest deep neural network model and essential the starting point of "deep learning" research

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# Why autoencoders? Dimension reduction

- As name suggests, the objective of dimension of reduction is to decrease the dimension of input signals to ease later processing
  - It is often a preprocessing step
  - Was commonly used to compress features
- It is a very old problem. The most representative algorithm is the principal component analysis (PCA)

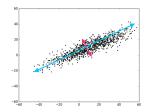
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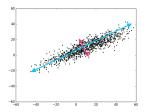
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# Principal component analysis (PCA)



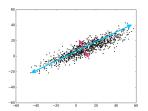
- Take N-dimensional data and find the M orthogonal directions in which the data have the most variance
  - We can represent an N-dimensional datapoint by its projections onto the M principal directions (i.e., with highest variances)
  - This loses all information about where the datapoint is located in the remaining orthogonal directions

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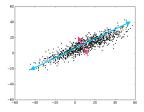


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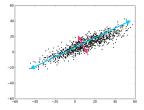
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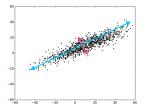
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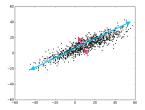
- We reconstruct by using the mean value (over all the data) on the N-M directions that are not represented.
  - The reconstruction error is the sum over the variances over all these unrepresented directions
    - The variances are just eigenvalues of covariance matrix of the data
- PCA is "optimum"
  - Since we keep the largest variance components, on average the distortion is minimum among all linear dimension reduction methods



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# Math review: Singular value decomposition (SVD)

For any  $N \times K$  matrix A (assume  $K \leq N$ ), we can decompose it into product of three matrices

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} A \end{array}\right) = \left(\begin{array}{c} & U \\ & \end{array}\right) \left(\begin{array}{c} D \\ \end{array}\right) \left(\begin{array}{c} V \end{array}\right)^T,$$

where U is  $N \times N$ , D is  $N \times K$ , and V is  $K \times K$ . Moreover,

- U is orthonormal, i.e.,  $U^TU = I$
- D is rectangular diagonal
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89 / 125

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Feb 2017 89 / 125

- Let  $X=[x_1,x_2,\cdots,x_K]$  be the matrix with columns as data vectors. We can decompose  $X=U\Sigma V^T$  using SVD
- $\bullet$  Assume X is zero-mean, the covariance matrix C is just  $C \approx \frac{XX^T}{k}$
- Note that  $C \sim U \Sigma V^T (U \Sigma V^T)^T = U \Sigma^2 U^T$ , thus singular values are just square root of eigenvalues
  - $\bullet$  Since PCA is in effect keeping the M largest eigenvalues of the covariance matrix, it is the same as keeping the M largest singular values of X
- One can easily verify that. Let  $\hat{X}=U\hat{\Sigma}V^T$ , where  $\hat{\Sigma}$  only keeps the M largest singular values, then

$$\begin{split} Error &= \sum_i (x - \hat{x})^T (x - \hat{x}) = tr((X - \hat{X})^T (X - \hat{X})) \\ &= tr(V(\Sigma - \hat{\Sigma})U^T U(\Sigma - \hat{\Sigma})V^T) = tr(V(\Sigma - \hat{\Sigma})(\Sigma - \hat{\Sigma})V^T) \\ &= tr(((\Sigma - \hat{\Sigma})V^T)V(\Sigma - \hat{\Sigma})) = tr((\Sigma - \hat{\Sigma})^2) \end{split}$$

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90 / 125

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90 / 125

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Generative Models

Feb 2017 90 / 125

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 Generative Models
 Feb 2017
 90 / 125

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 Feb 2017
 90 / 125

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90 / 125

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### Optimal linear decoder $\Rightarrow$ optimal linear encoder

- PCA is optimum when things are "linear"
- - That is, if  $\hat{X} = Wh(X)$  for some optimal W
  - $\bullet \Rightarrow h(X) = TX$  for some optimal T



### Optimal linear decoder ⇒ optimal linear encoder

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- Interesting to know that as far as decoding is linear, the optimal encoding is linear (PCA) as well
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# Optimal linear decoder ⇒ optimal linear encoder

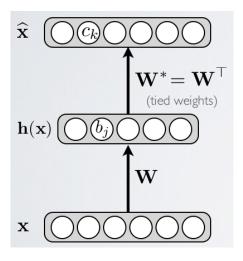
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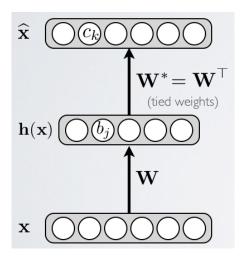




 Autoencoder is a way to perform dimension reduction with neural networks

$$\begin{split} h(x) &= \mathrm{sigm}(b + Wx) \\ \hat{x} &= c + W^*h(x) \end{split}$$

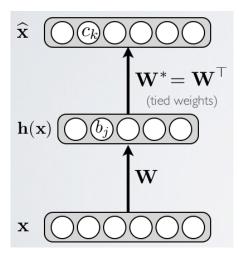
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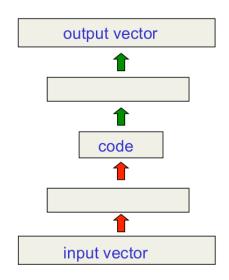
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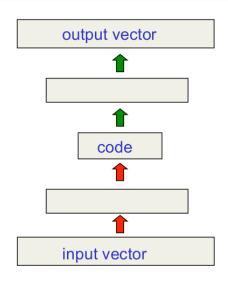
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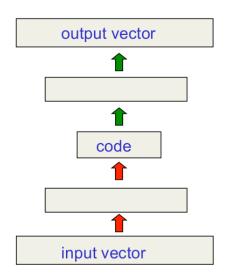
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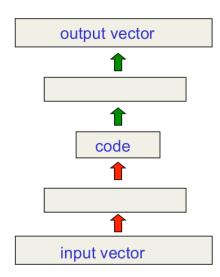
- When using multiple layers,
   PCA is no longer optimal for continuous input
- The introduced nonlinearity can efficiently represent data that lies on a non-linear manifold
- It was an old idea (dated back to 80's) but it was considered to be very hard to train



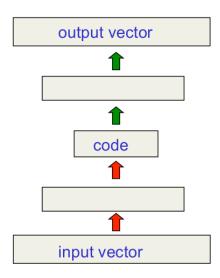
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- First really successful deep autoencoder was trained in 2006 by Hinton's group
- It uses layer-by-layer RBM pre-training as described earlier
- Just use regular backprob for fine-tuning



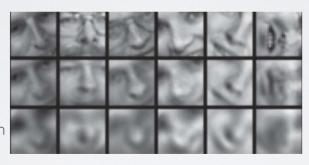
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# Deep autoencoder vs PCA

Original data

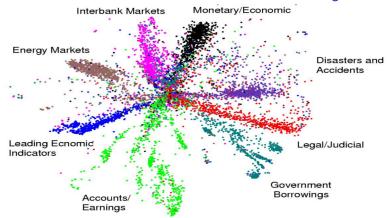
Deep autoencoder reconstruction

PCA reconstruction



From Hinton and Salakhutdinov, Science, 2006

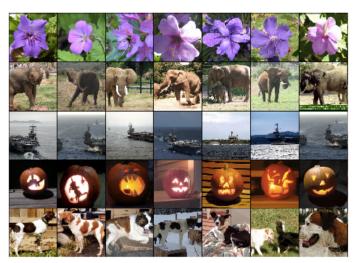
First compress all documents to 2 numbers using deep auto. Then use different colors for different document categories



96 / 125

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# Deep autoencoder for 400,000 image retrieval

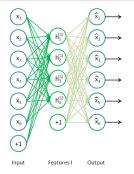


Leftmost column is the search image.

Other columns are the images that have the most similar feature activities in the last hidden layer.

#### Stacked autoencoders

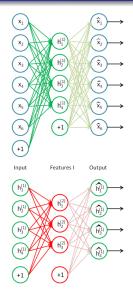
#### Alternative pretraining approach



- Besides pre-training using RBMs, we may also "expand" a deep autoencoders as a stack of shallow autoecoders
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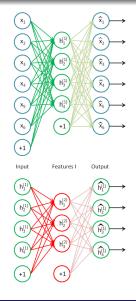
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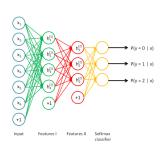


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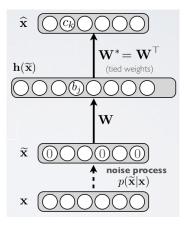
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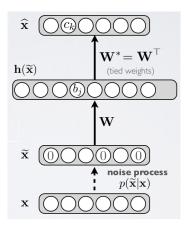
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Vincent et al. 2008



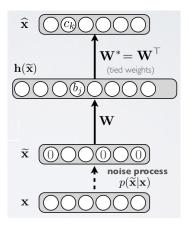
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    - Similar to dropout but for inputs only
- Loss function compares  $\hat{x}$  with noiseless

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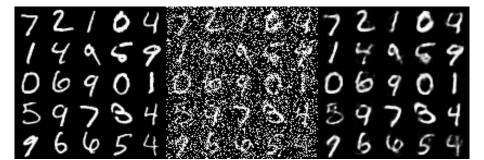


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#### Contractive autoencoders Rifai et al. 2011

- Idea: encourage robustness of the model by forcing the hidden units to be insensitive to slight change of inputs
- Achieve this by penalizing the squared gradient of each hidden

$$L(x) \to L(x) + \lambda \|\nabla_x h(x)\|_F^2$$

- Pros and cons
  - + deterministic gradient ⇒ can use second order optimizers
  - + could be more stable than denoising autoencoder, which needs to
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101 / 125

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# Remark on pretraining

# What are the disadvantages of pretraining deep neural networks by stacking autoencoders?



#### 1 Answer



Yoshua Bengio, My lab has been one of the three that started the deep learning approach, back in 2006, along with Hinton's...

Answered Aug 14, 2014 · Upvoted by Zeeshan Zia, PhD in Computer Vision and Machine Learning and Jason Li, Al researcher.

The same disadvantage as other layer-wise pre-training techniques: it is greedy, i.e., it does not try to tune the lower layers in a way that will make the work of higher layers easier. But that will change soon with a new approach I am working on!



# Remark on pretraining



Ian Goodfellow, Lead author of the Deep Learning textbook: http://www.deeplearningbook.org

Answered Sep 28, 2016 · Upvoted by Aaditva Prakash, Graduate student in Computer Vision and Deep Learning and Abhinav Maurya, PhD Student (Machine Learning, Public Policy) at CMU

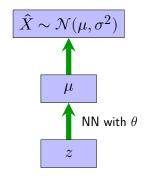
Autoencoders are useful for some things, but turned out not to be nearly as necessary as we once thought. Around 10 years ago, we thought that deep nets would not learn correctly if trained with only backprop of the supervised cost. We thought that deep nets would also need an unsupervised cost, like the autoencoder cost, to regularize them. When Google Brain built their first very large neural network to recognize objects in images, it was an autoencoder (and it didn't work very well at recognizing objects compared to later approaches). Today, we know we are able to recognize images just by using backprop on the supervised cost as long as there is enough labeled data. There are other tasks where we do still use autoencoders, but they're not the fundamental solution to training deep nets that people once thought they were going to be.

"Generative autoencoders" ⇒ variational autoencoders

- Instead of spitting out an approximate for the input
- The network spits out parameters of a distribution



Kingma and Willing 2014

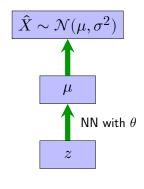


 $\boldsymbol{x}$ 

$$\bullet \ p(z|x) = \frac{p(z)p_{\theta}(x|z)}{p(x)} = \frac{p(z)p_{\theta}(x|z)}{\int p(z)p_{\theta}(x|z)dz}$$

- For simplicity, pick  $p(z)=\mathcal{N}(z;0,1)$  and  $p_{\theta}(x|z)=\mathcal{N}(\mu,\sigma^2)$ , the posterior p(z|x) is still intractable since computing p(x) needs to integrate over all possible z
- We might use MAP or Monte Carlo sampling (MCMC) to estimate p(z|x) but
  - MAP: too biased
  - MCMC: too expensive
  - ⇒ Variational inference

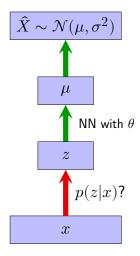




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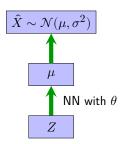
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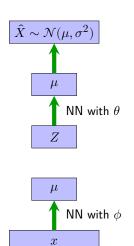
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#### Kingma and Willing 2014

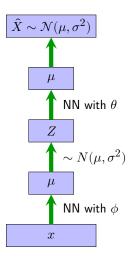


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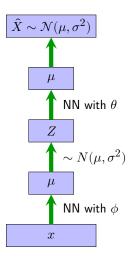
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Generative Models

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Kingma and Willing 2014

#### Maximizing EBLO means that:

- Want small  $KL(q_{\phi}(z|x)\|p(z))$  (the difference between the approx distribution from p(z))
  - This turns out to have closed-form solution since we are dealing with Gaussian distributions
- Want large  $E_{Z\sim q_\phi(z|x)}[\log p_\theta(x|z)]$  (expected log prob of the evidence with approx distribution)
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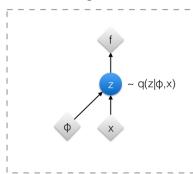
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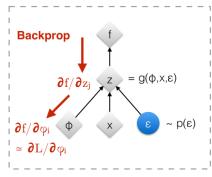
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# Reparametrization trick

# Original form



### Reparameterised form



: Deterministic node

: Random node

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

109 / 125

### Variational Autoencoders

Putting it all together: maximizing the likelihood lower bound

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{E}_{z} \left[ \log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} \mid z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_{\phi}(z \mid x^{(i)}) \mid\mid p_{\theta}(z))}_{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)}$$

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Generative Models

### Variational Autoencoders

Putting it all together: maximizing the likelihood lower bound

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Let's look at computing the bound (forward pass) for a given minibatch of input data

Input Data

 $\boldsymbol{x}$ 

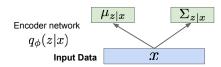
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### Variational Autoencoders

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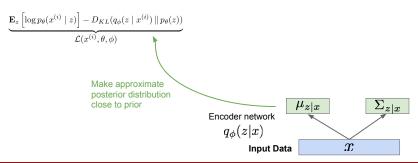
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### Variational Autoencoders

Putting it all together: maximizing the likelihood lower bound



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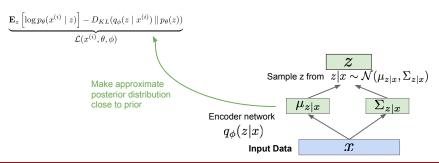
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### Variational Autoencoders

Putting it all together: maximizing the likelihood lower bound



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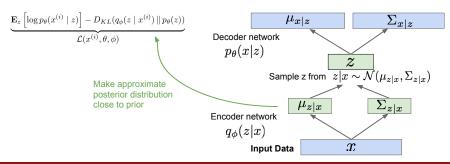
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### Variational Autoencoders

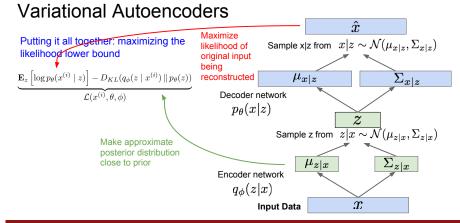
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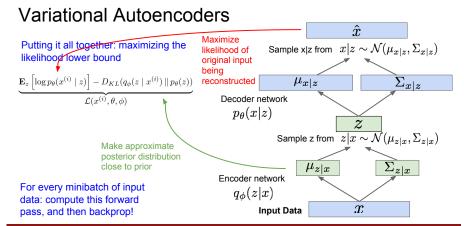
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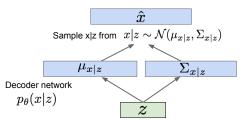
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# Variational Autoencoders: Generating Data!

Use decoder network. Now sample z from prior!



Sample z from  $z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$ 

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

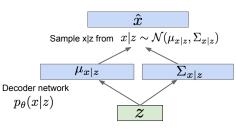
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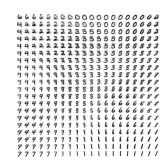
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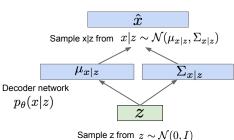


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Vary z,

Data manifold for 2-d z

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## Variational Autoencoders: Generating Data!

Diagonal prior on **z** => independent latent variables

Different dimensions of **z** encode interpretable factors

of variation

Degree of smile

Vary z<sub>1</sub>

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

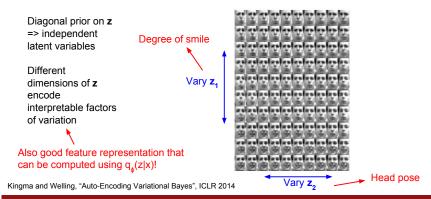


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## Variational Autoencoders: Generating Data!



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## Variational Autoencoders: Generating Data!



32x32 CIFAR-10



Labeled Faces in the Wild

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# Summary of variational autoencoders

 Probabilistic spin to traditional autoencoders to allow data generation. Use variational lower bound to workaround intractable density estimation

#### Pros

- Systematic approach to generative models (train end-to-end)
- $\bullet$  Allows inference of  $q_\phi(z|x)$  that can be used for feature representation

#### Cons

- Maximizes lower bound rather than exact cost function.
   Less direct than say PixelRNN/PixelCNN
- Samples generated are lower quality compared to the state-of-the-art (GANs)
- Follow-up research:
  - More flexible approximations, e.g., richer model in approximating the posterior (typically just use diagonal Gaussian in the basic model)
  - Incorporating structure in latent variables
  - Disentangled variational autoencoder



#### Conclusions

- Conventional autoencoders are important tools for dimension reduction and data representation in general
- Generative models are some very exciting hot topics in deep learning
  - Especially useful for datasets with few or no labels
  - Many other possible applications yet to be discovered
- We discuss several generative models, in particular
  - Variational autoencoders: autoencoders + variational inference
  - Generative adversarial networks (GANs): more recent and gaining lots of interests

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