



# Topics in AI (CPSC 532S): Multimodal Learning with Vision, Language and Sound

**Lecture 16: Generative Models [part 2]**

# Logistics

**Project Proposals Presentation Slides** due **Today 11:59pm**

— Grades and comments by Monday (sorry!)

**Project Proposal Document** due **Tuesday, November 15th**

**Assignment 4** is due today **Today 11:59pm**

**Leftovers until the end of term:**

— Assignment 5

— Project

— Paper presentation

# PixelRNN and PixelCNN

## Explicit Density model

Use chain rule to decompose likelihood of an image  $\mathbf{x}$  into product of (many) 1-d distributions

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

Likelihood of image  $\mathbf{x}$

Probability of  $i$ 'th pixel value given all previous pixels

then maximize likelihood of training data



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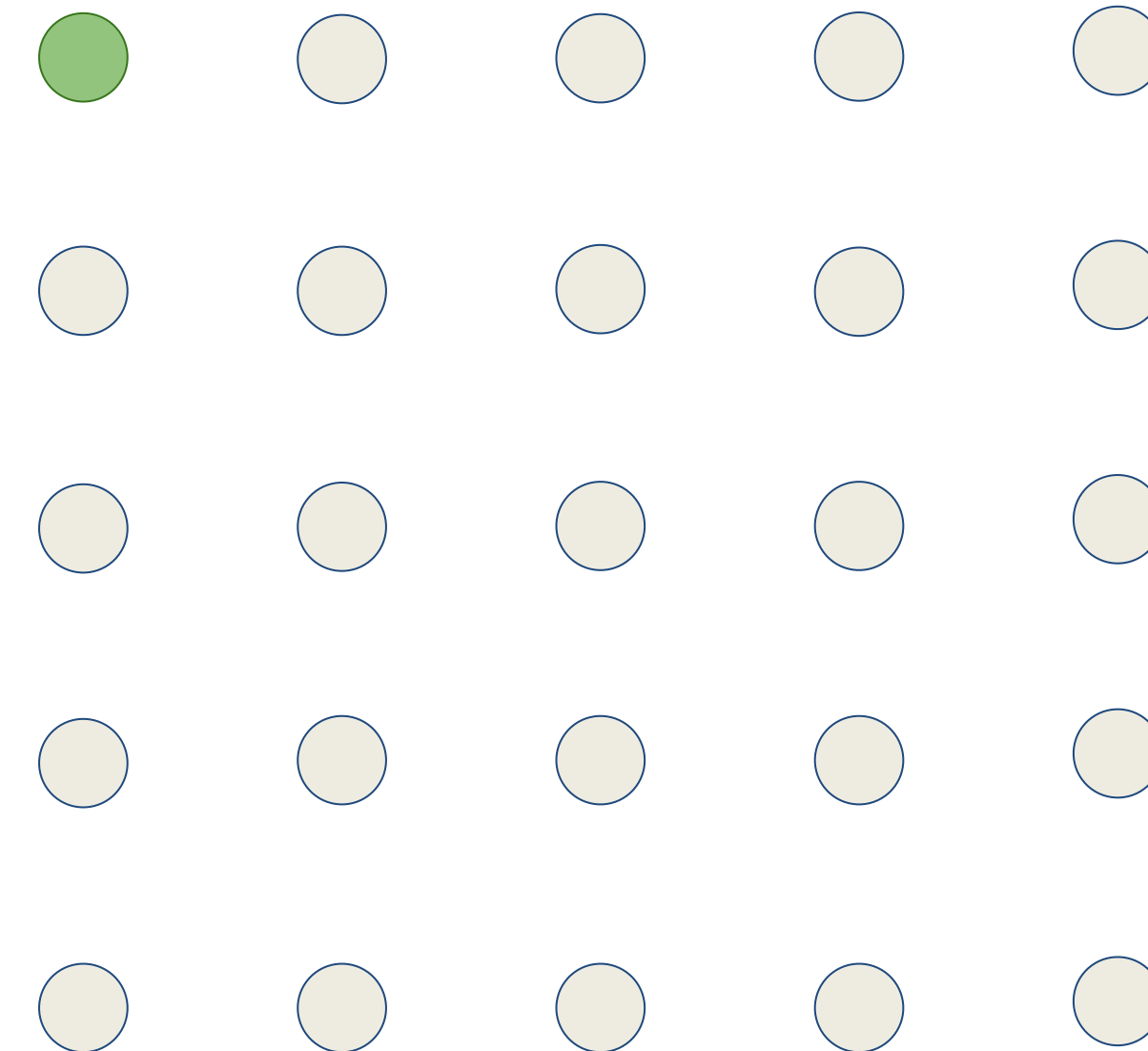
then maximize likelihood of training data

Complex distribution over pixel values, so lets model using **neural network**

Also requires defining **ordering** of “previous pixels”

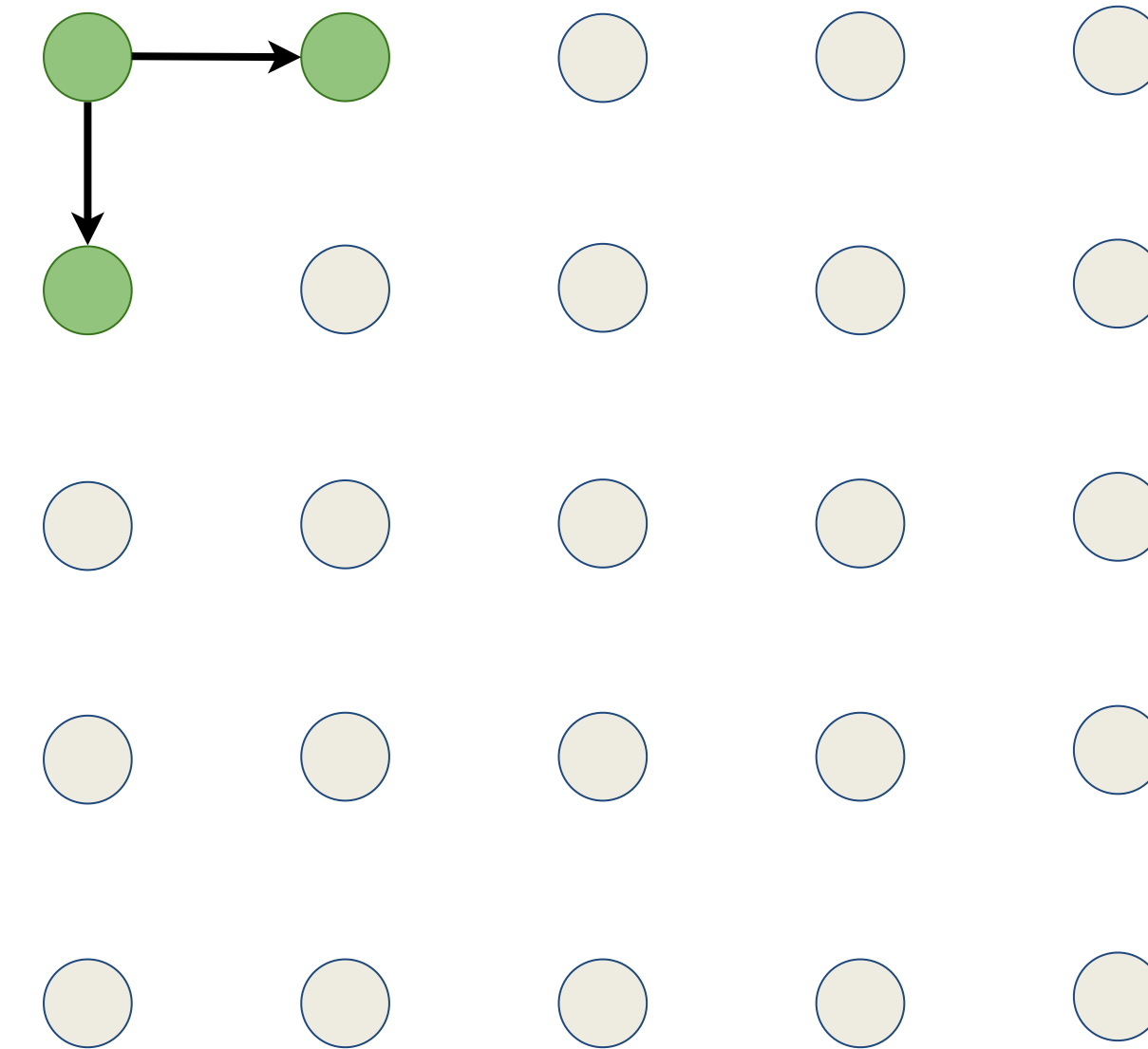
Generate image pixels starting from the corner

Dependency on previous pixels model using an RNN (LSTM)



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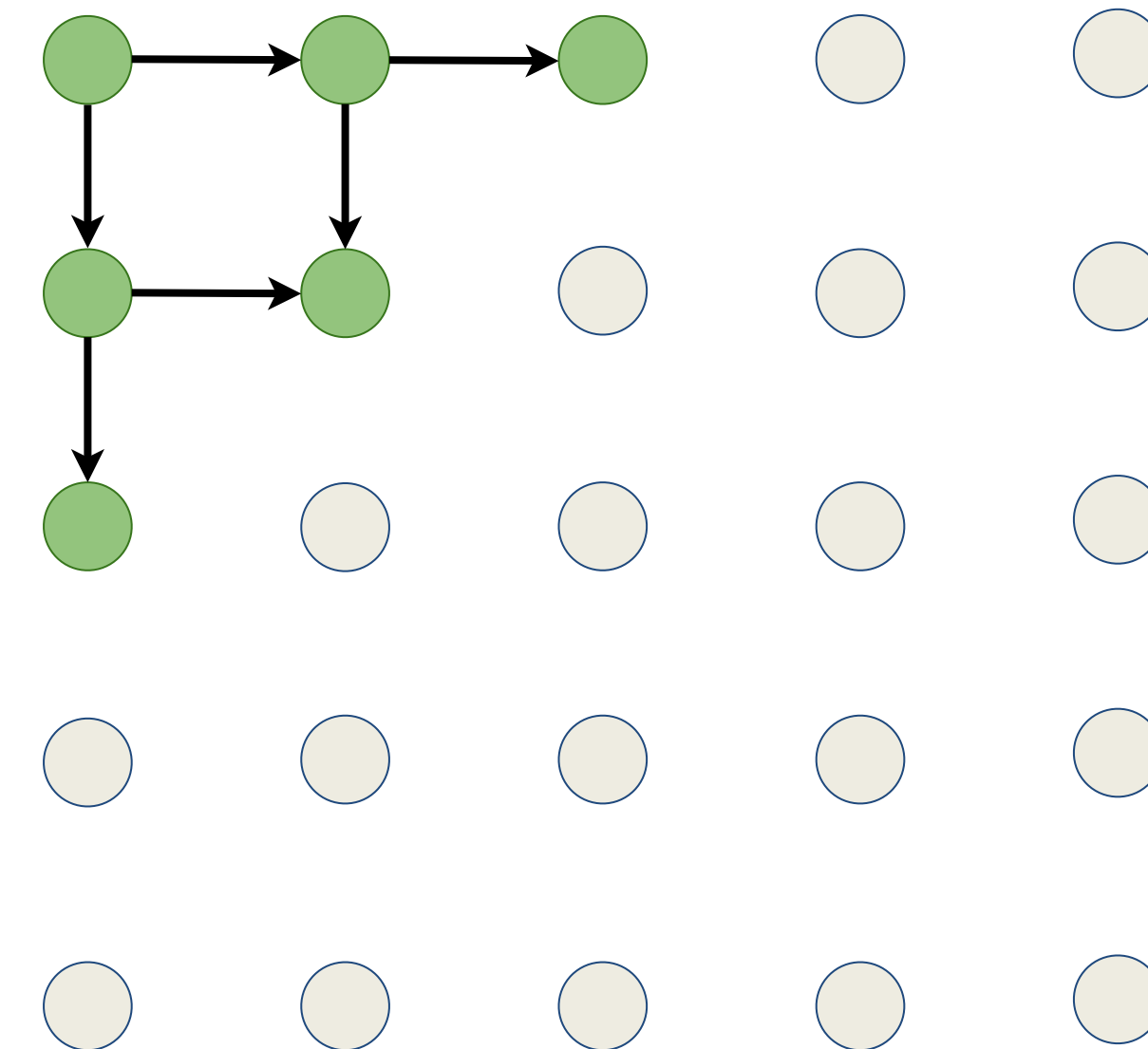


# PixelRNN

[ van der Oord et al., 2016 ]

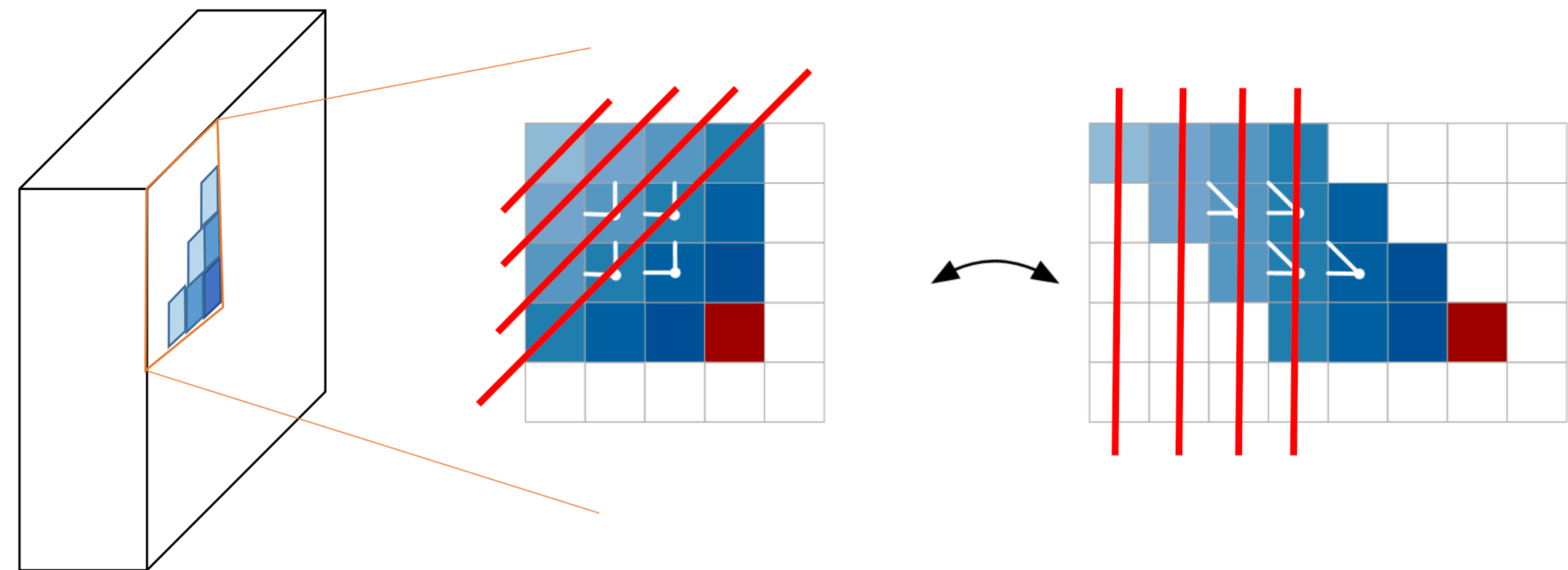
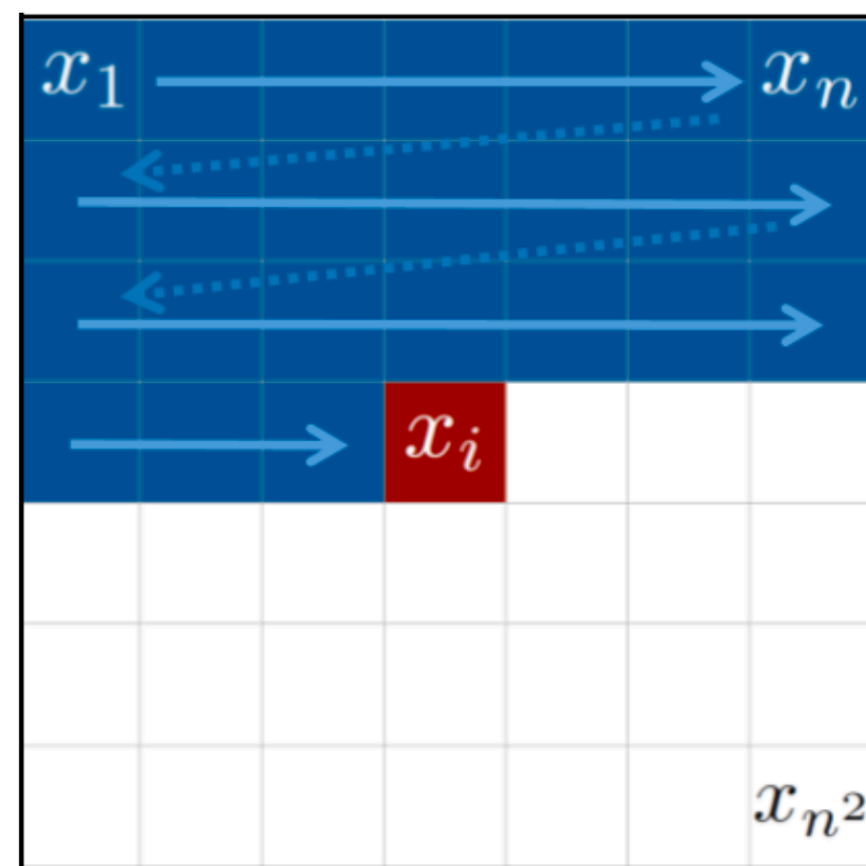
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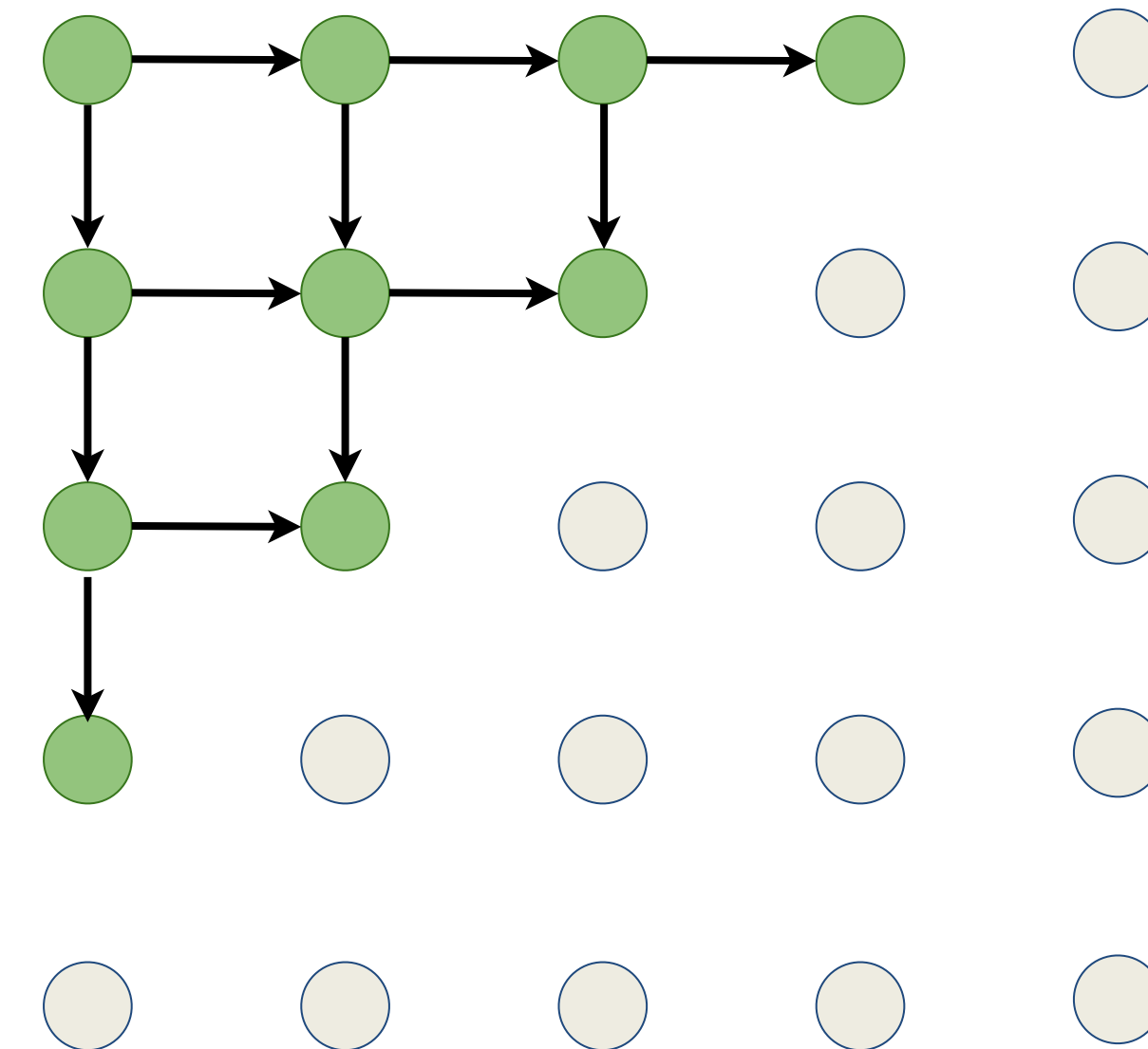


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[ van der Oord et al., 2016 ]

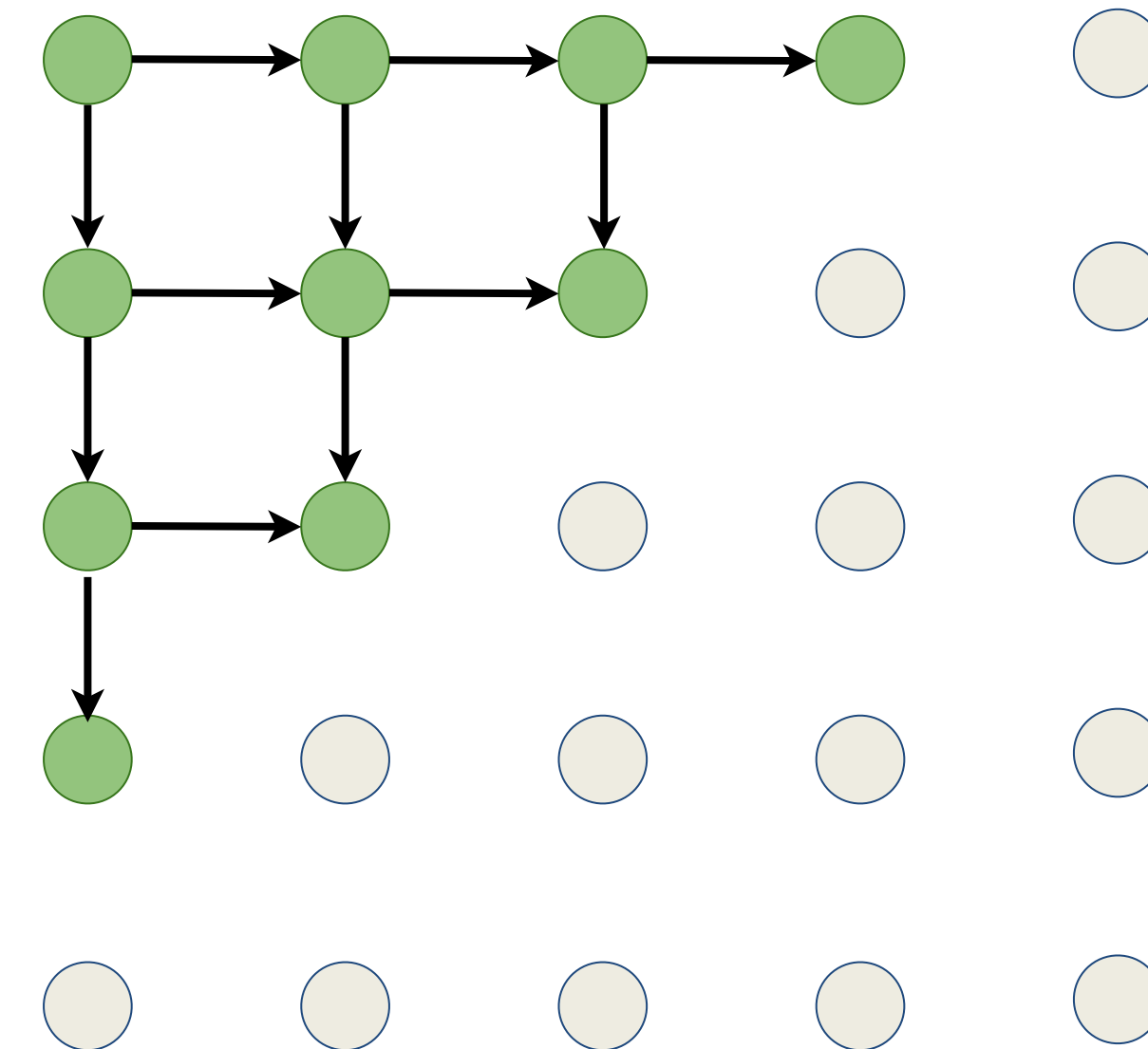
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Generate image pixels starting from the corner

Dependency on previous pixels  
model using an RNN (LSTM)



**Problem:** sequential generation is slow

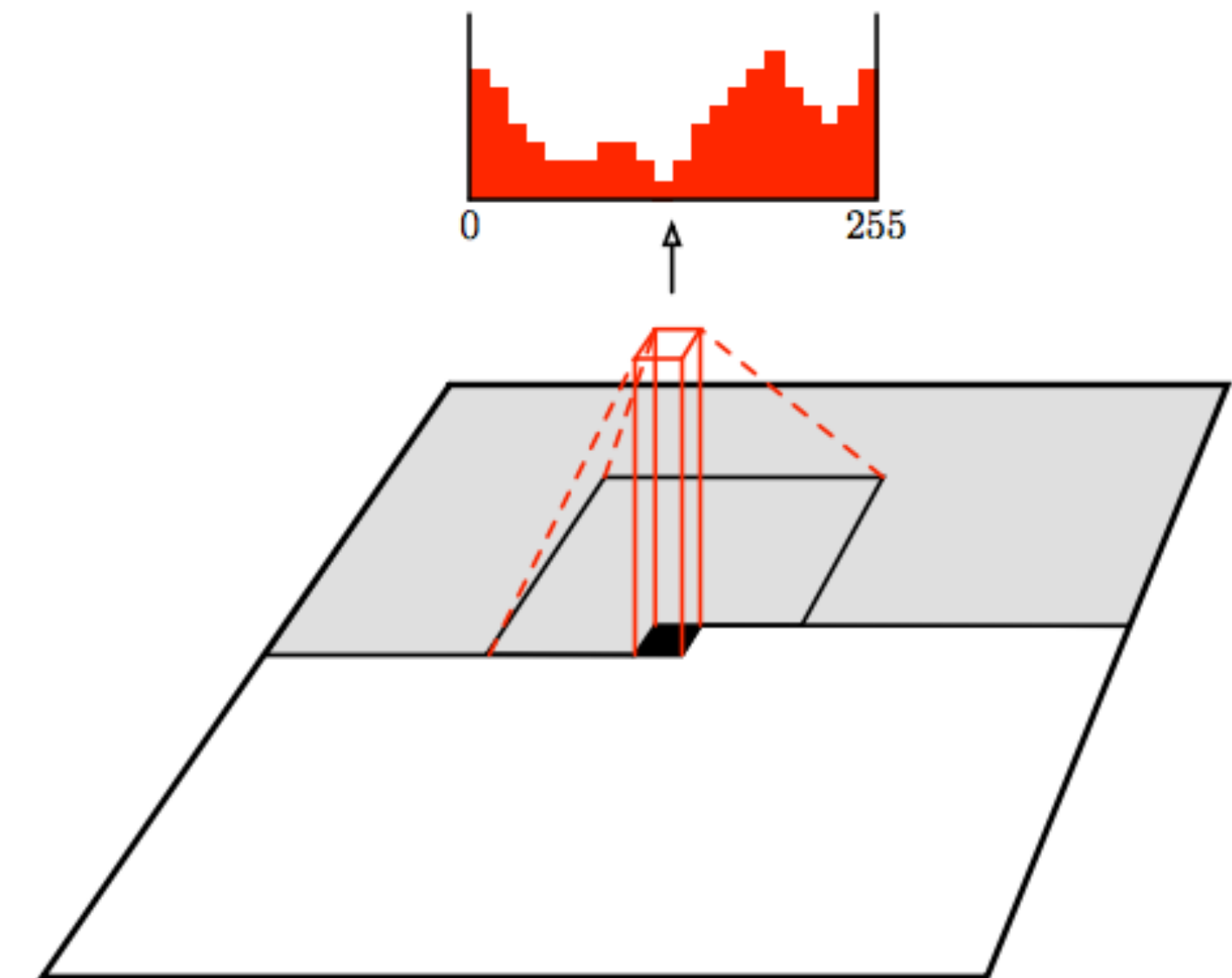


# PixelCNN

[ van der Oord et al., 2016 ]

Still generate image pixels  
starting from the corner

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



# PixelCNN

[ van der Oord et al., 2016 ]

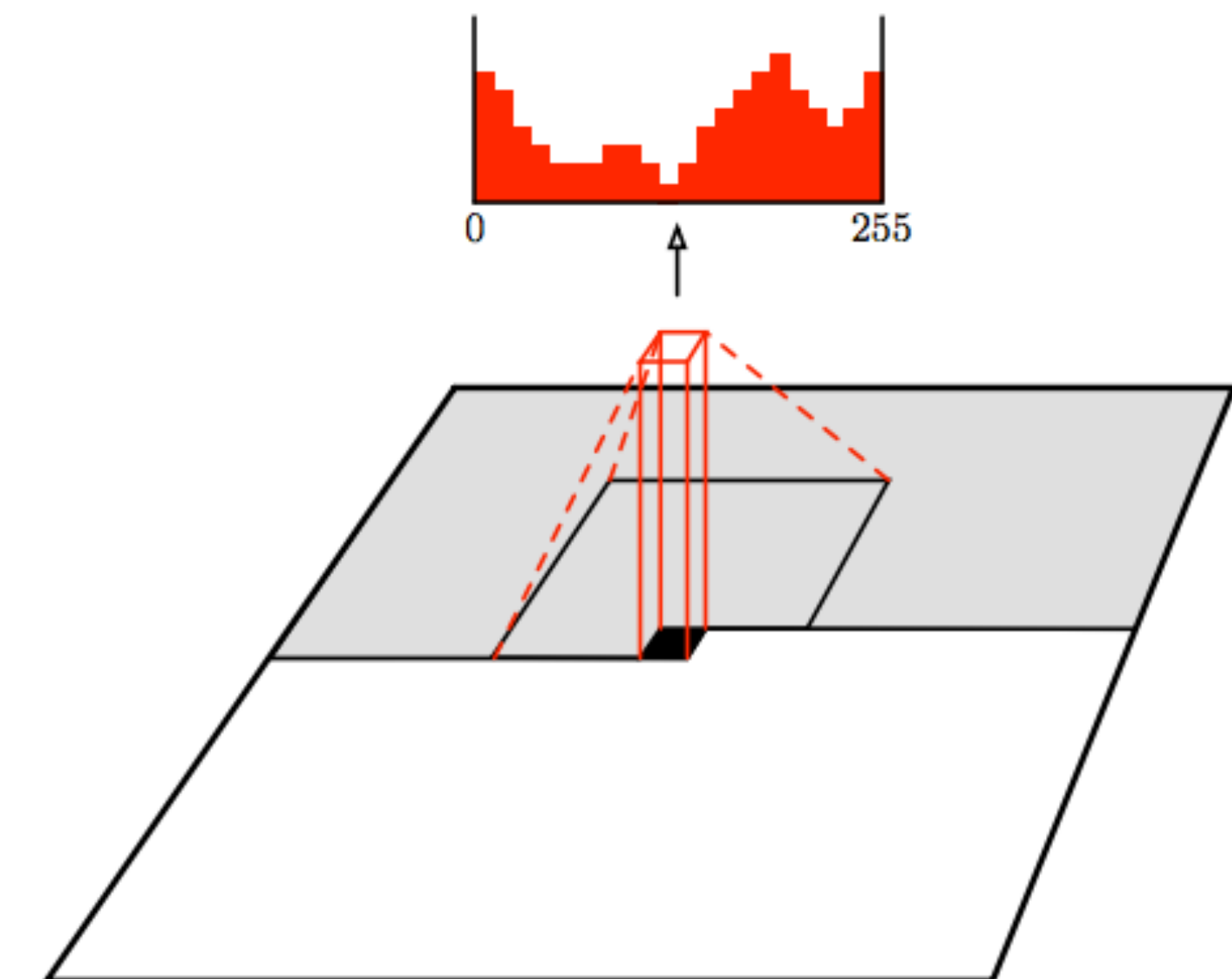
Still generate image pixels starting from the corner

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

**Training:** maximize likelihood of training images

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

**Softmax** loss at each pixel



# PixelRNN and PixelCNN

## Pros:

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

## Con:

- Sequential generation => slow

## Improving PixelCNN performance

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

# Variational Autoencoders

## (VAE)

# So far ...

PixelCNNs define tractable density function, optimize likelihood of training data:

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

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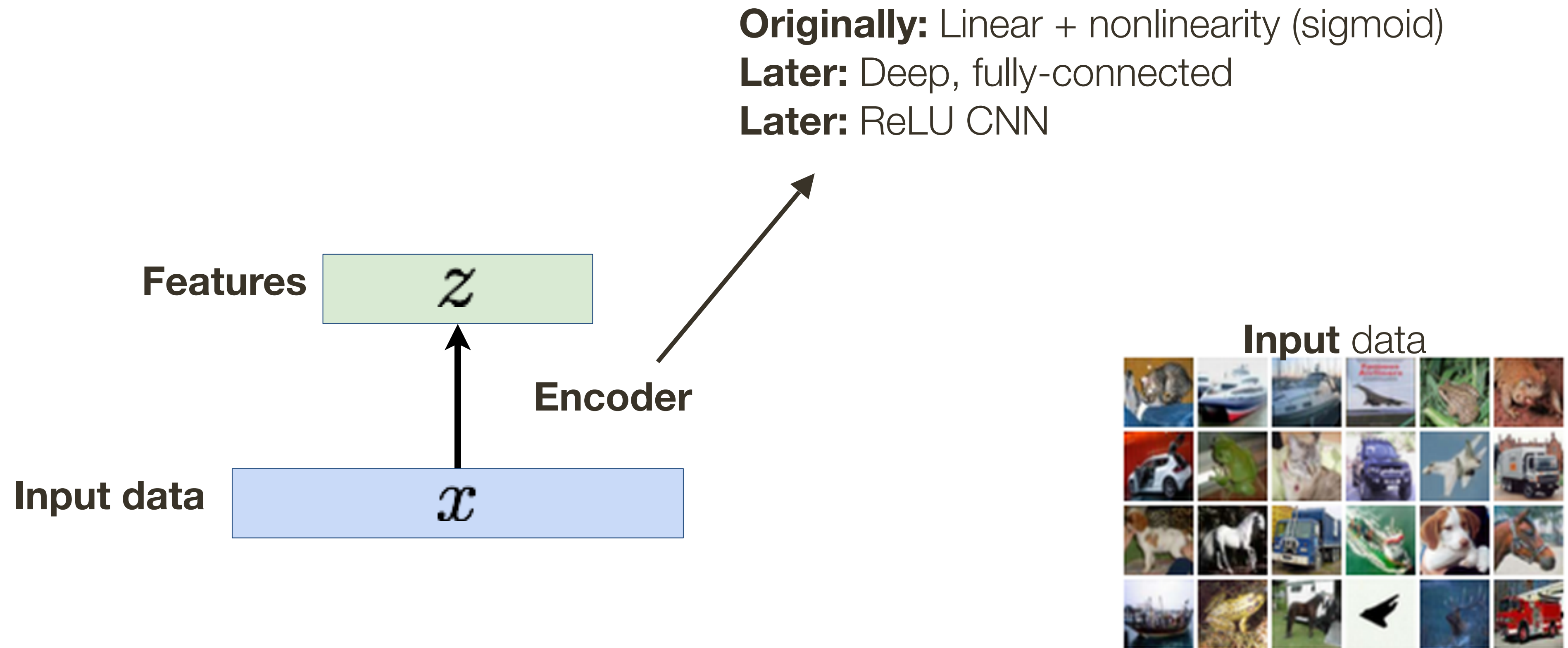
VAEs define intractable density function with latent variables  $z$  (that we need to marginalize):

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

**cannot optimize directly**, derive and optimize lower bound of likelihood instead

# Autoencoders Reminder ...

Unsupervised approach for learning a lower-dimensional feature representation from unlabeled training data



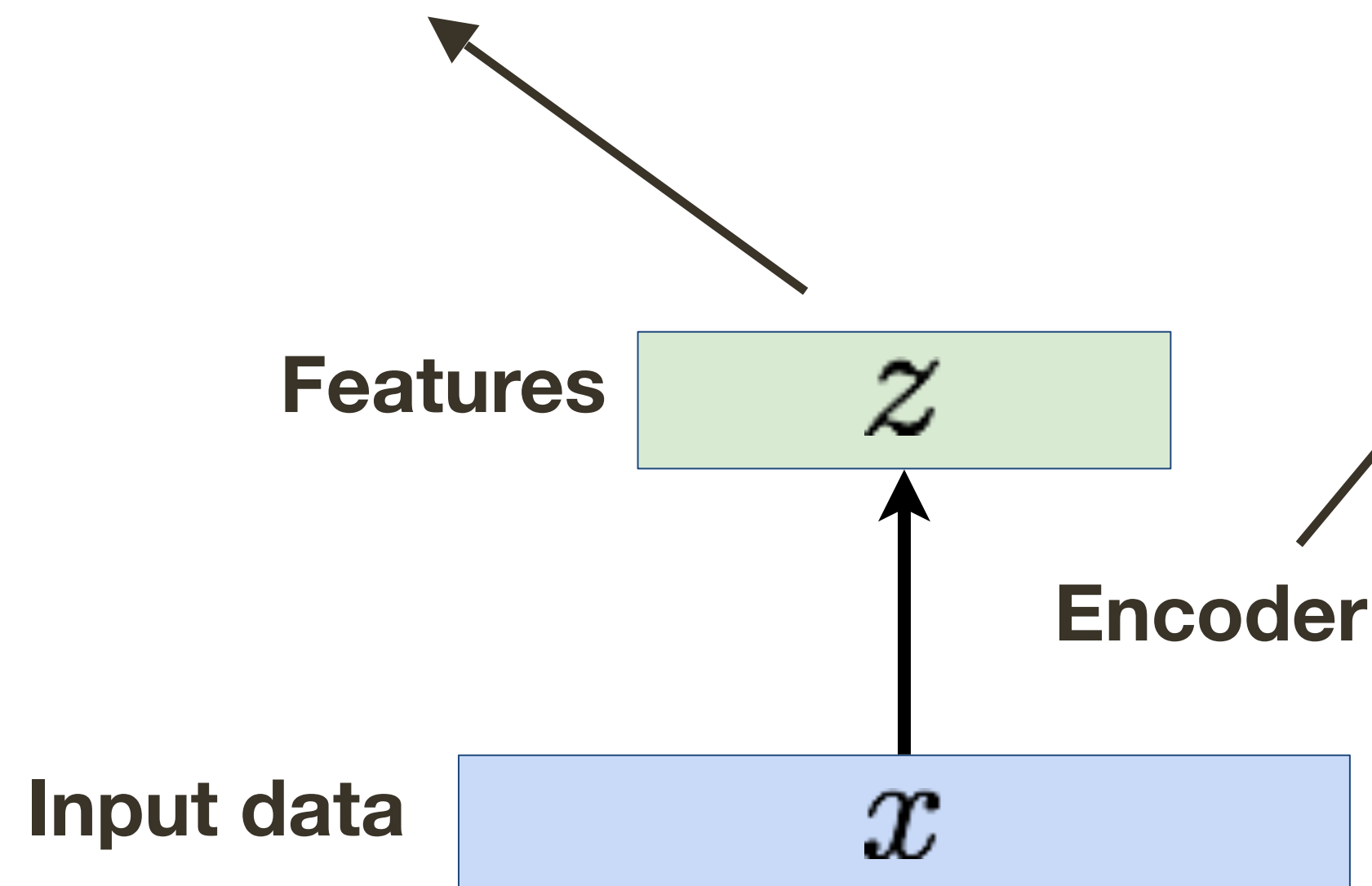


# Autoencoders Reminder ...

Unsupervised approach for learning a lower-dimensional feature representation from unlabeled training data

$z$  usually smaller than  $x$   
(dimensionality reduction)

**Originally:** Linear + nonlinearity (sigmoid)  
**Later:** Deep, fully-connected  
**Later:** ReLU CNN



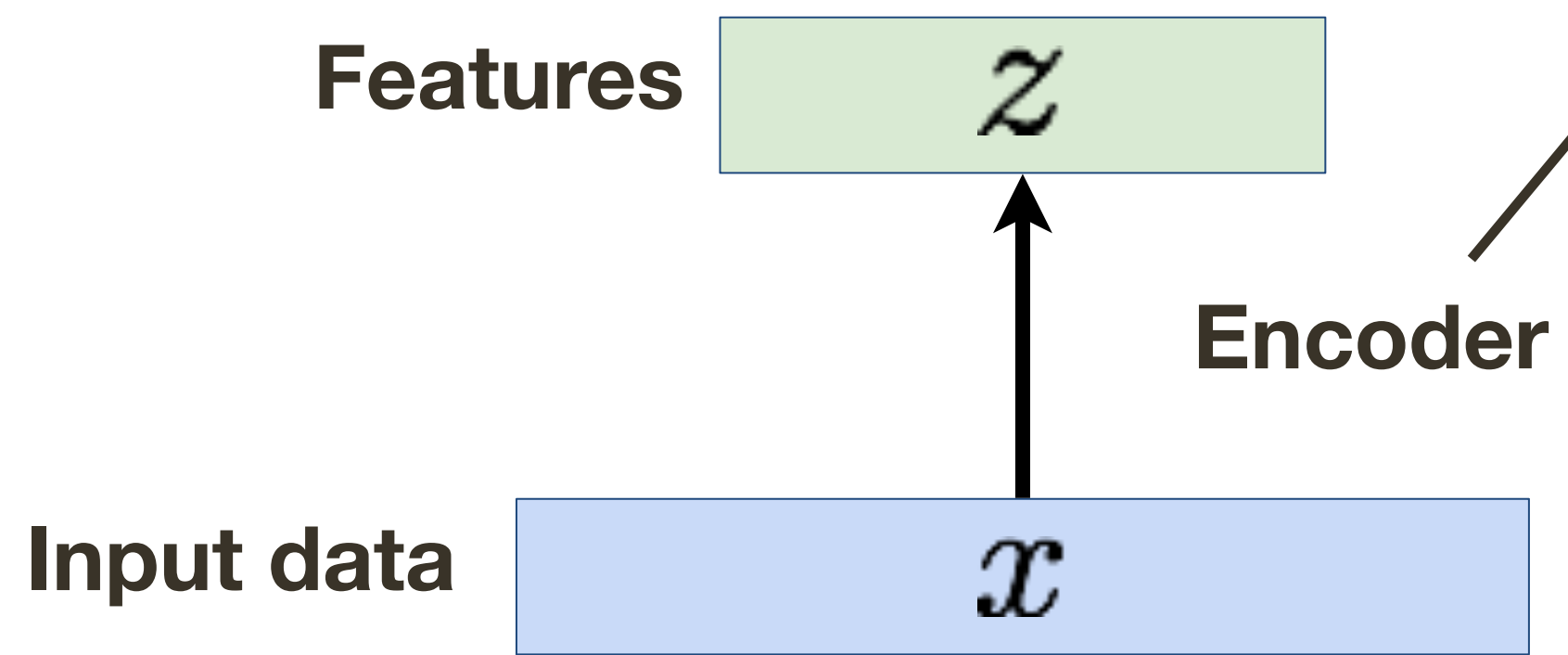


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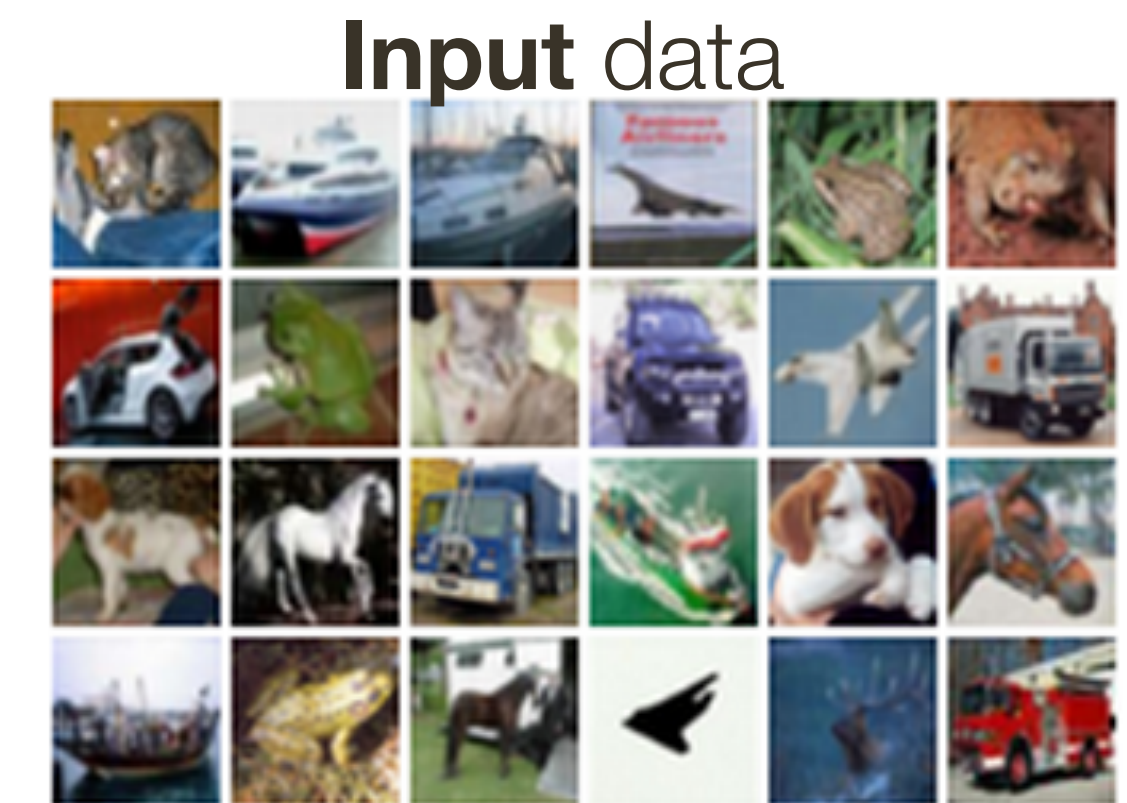
Unsupervised approach for learning a lower-dimensional feature representation from unlabeled training data

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Want features that capture **meaningful** factors of variation

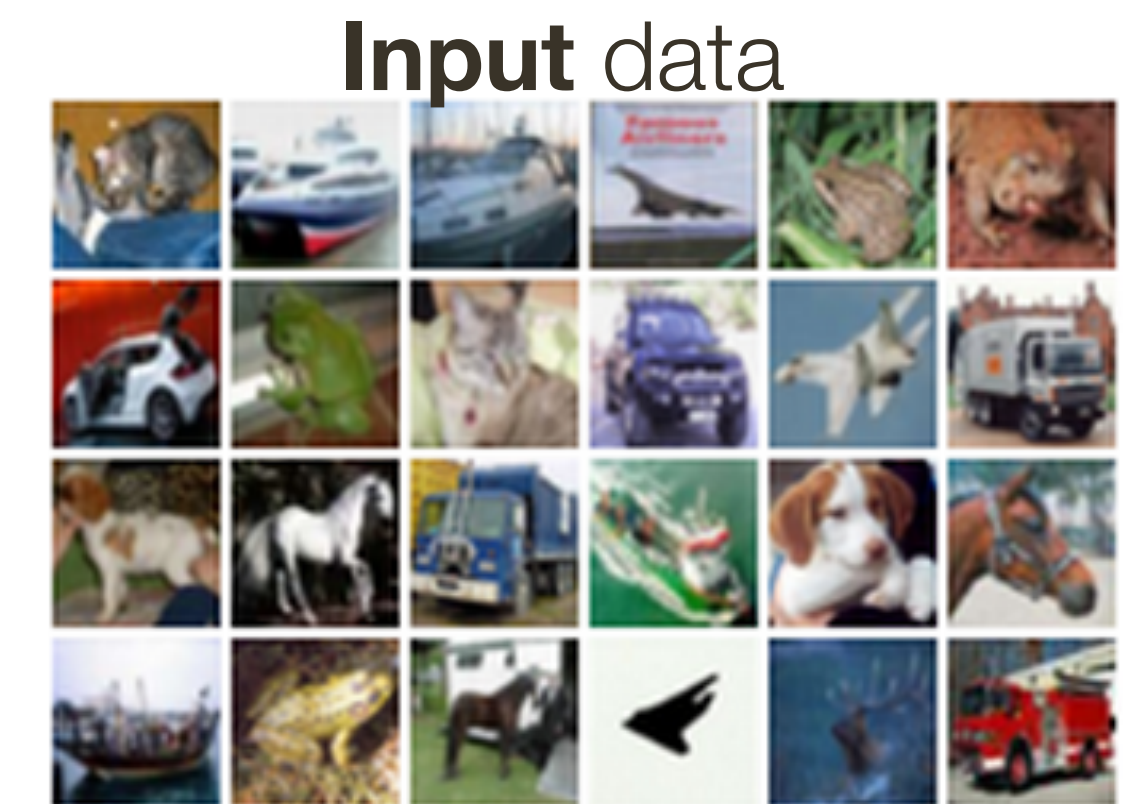
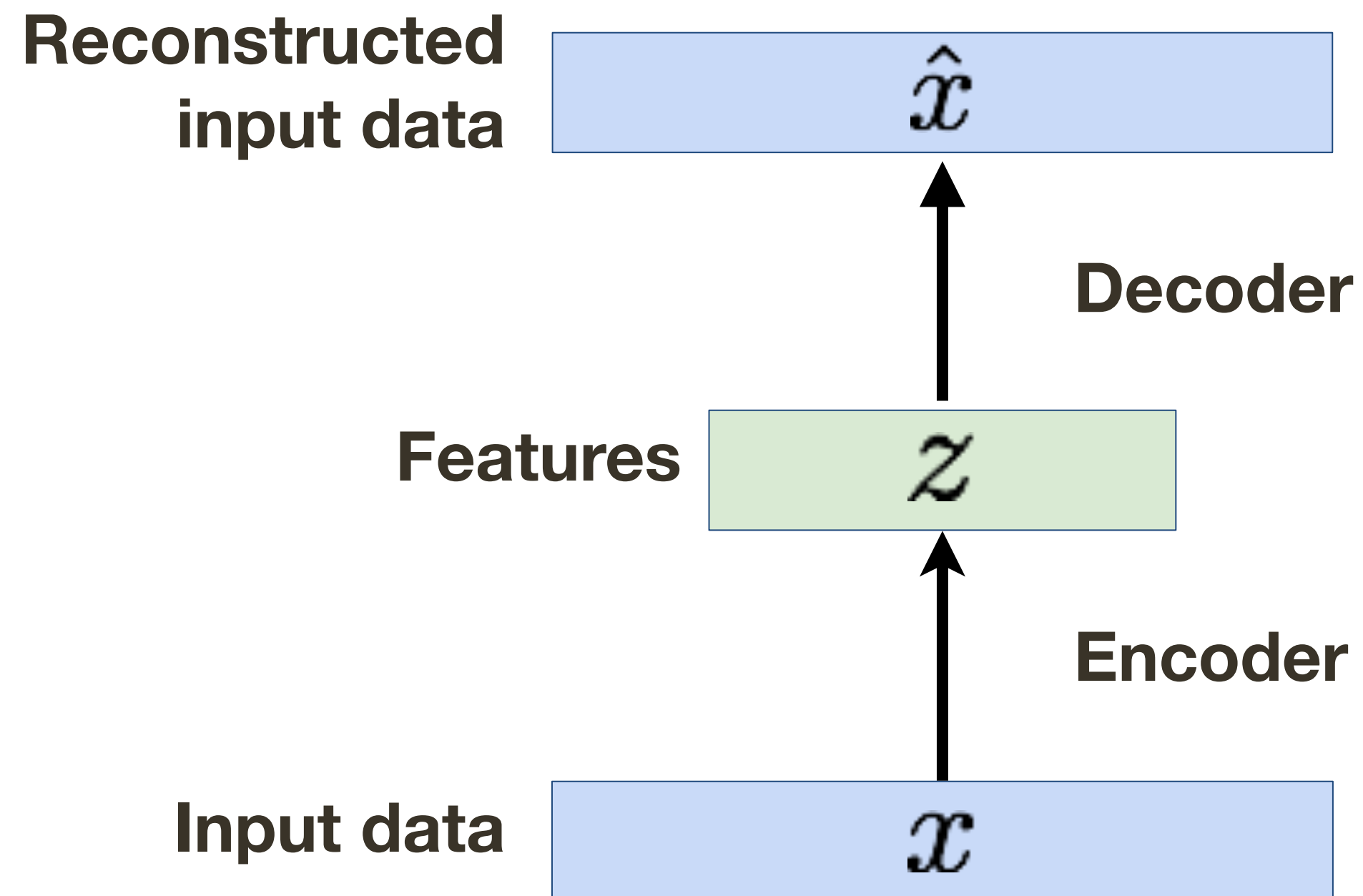


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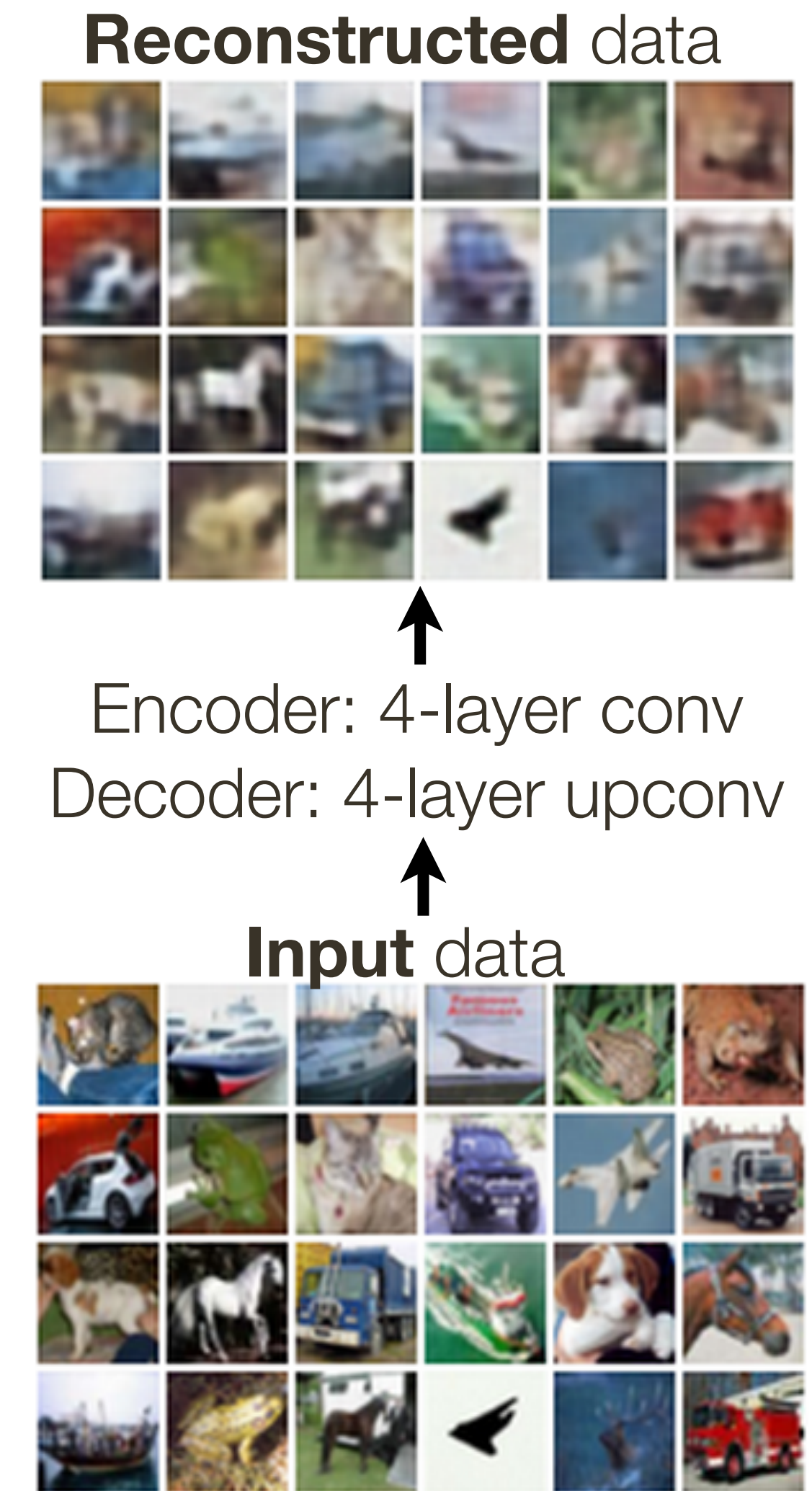
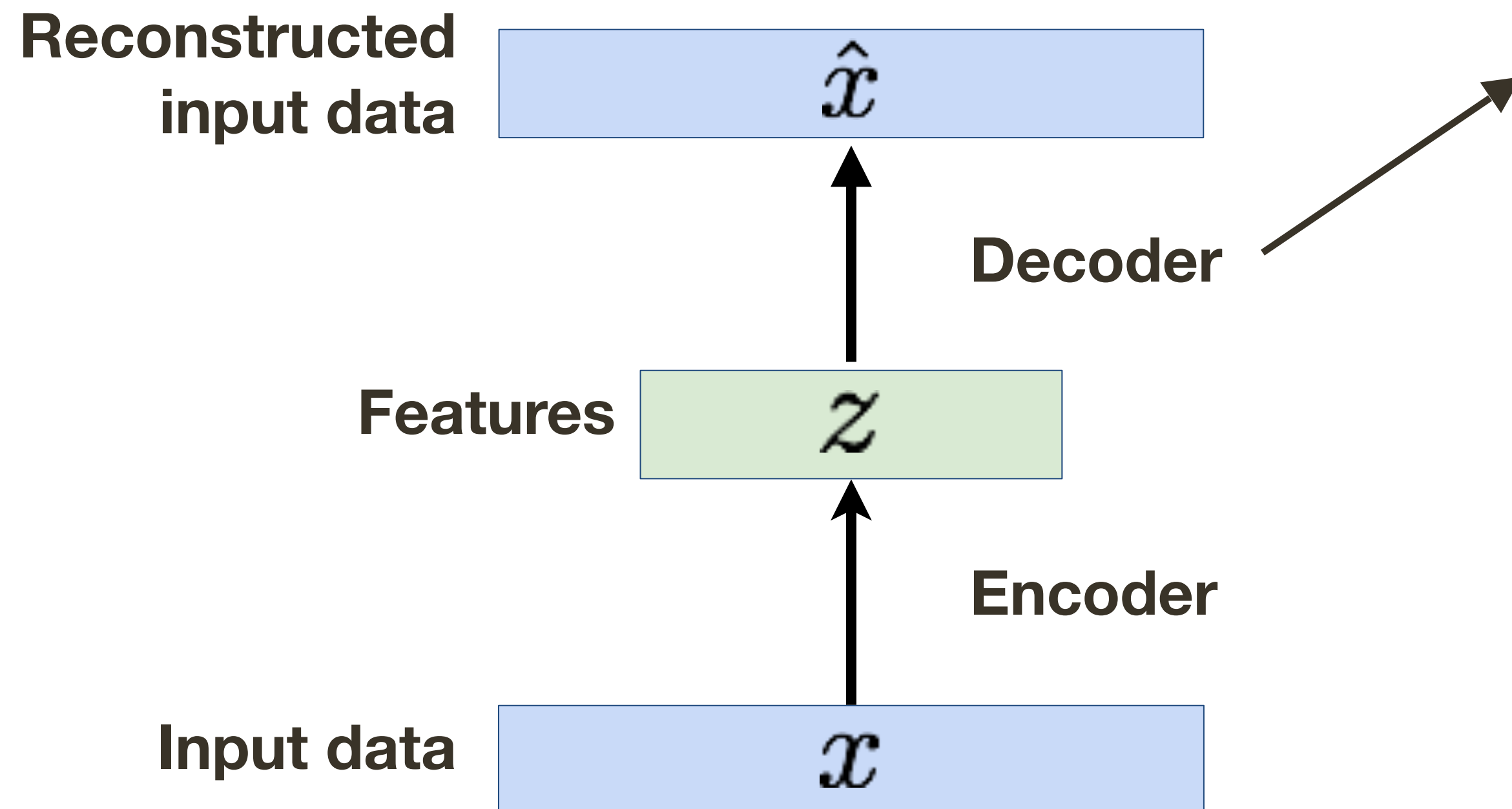
# Autoencoders Reminder ...

Train such that features can reconstruct original data best they can



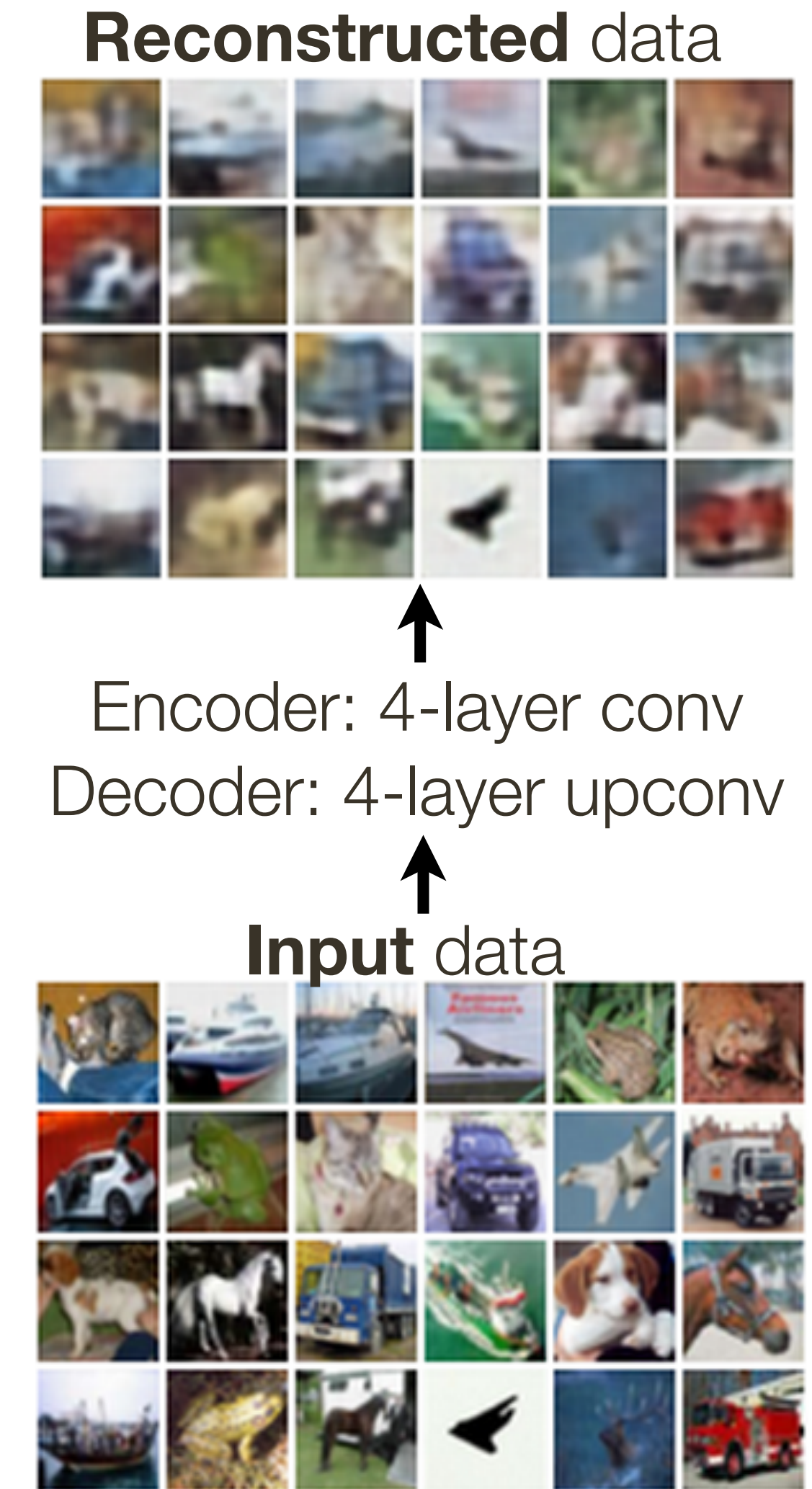
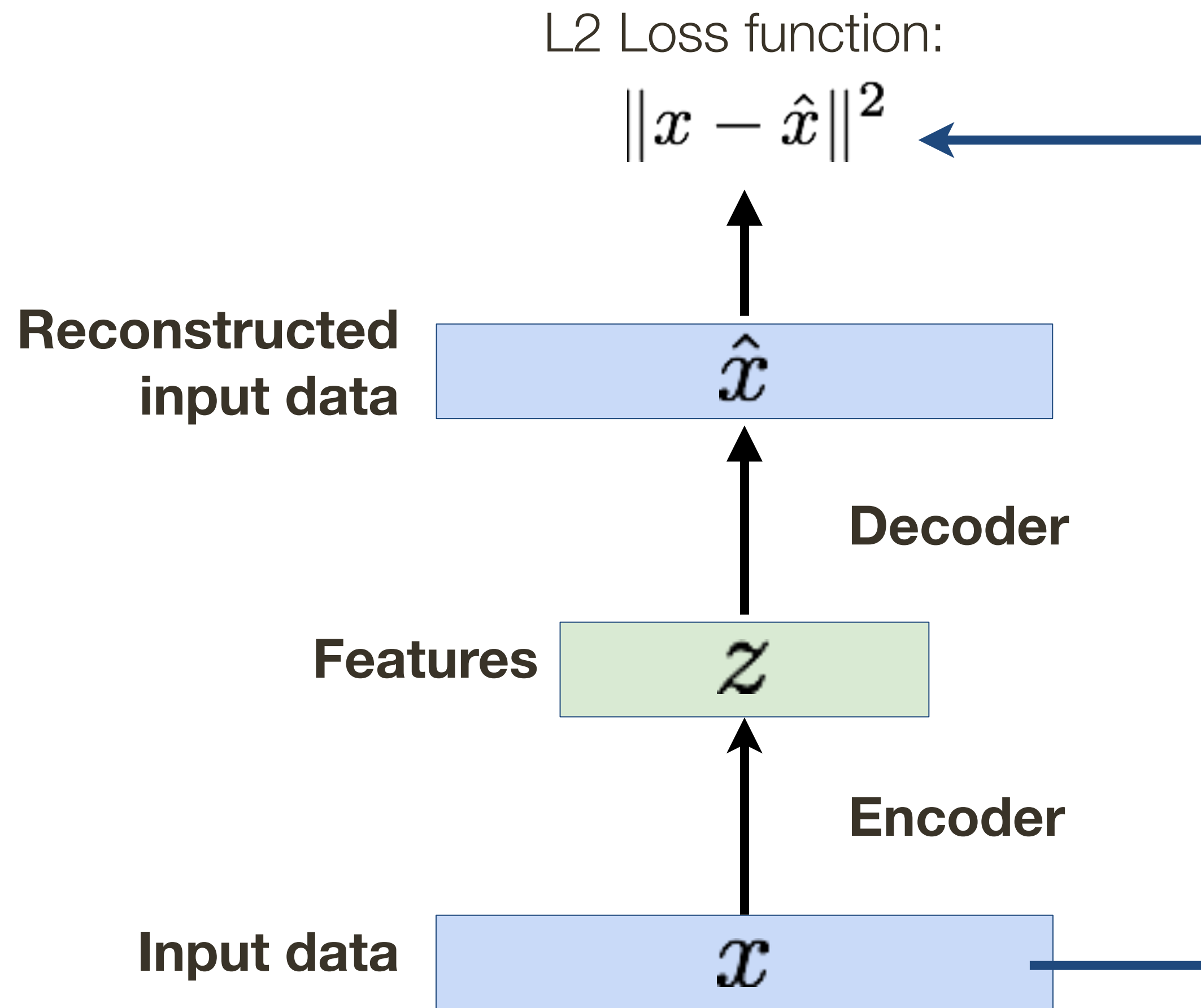
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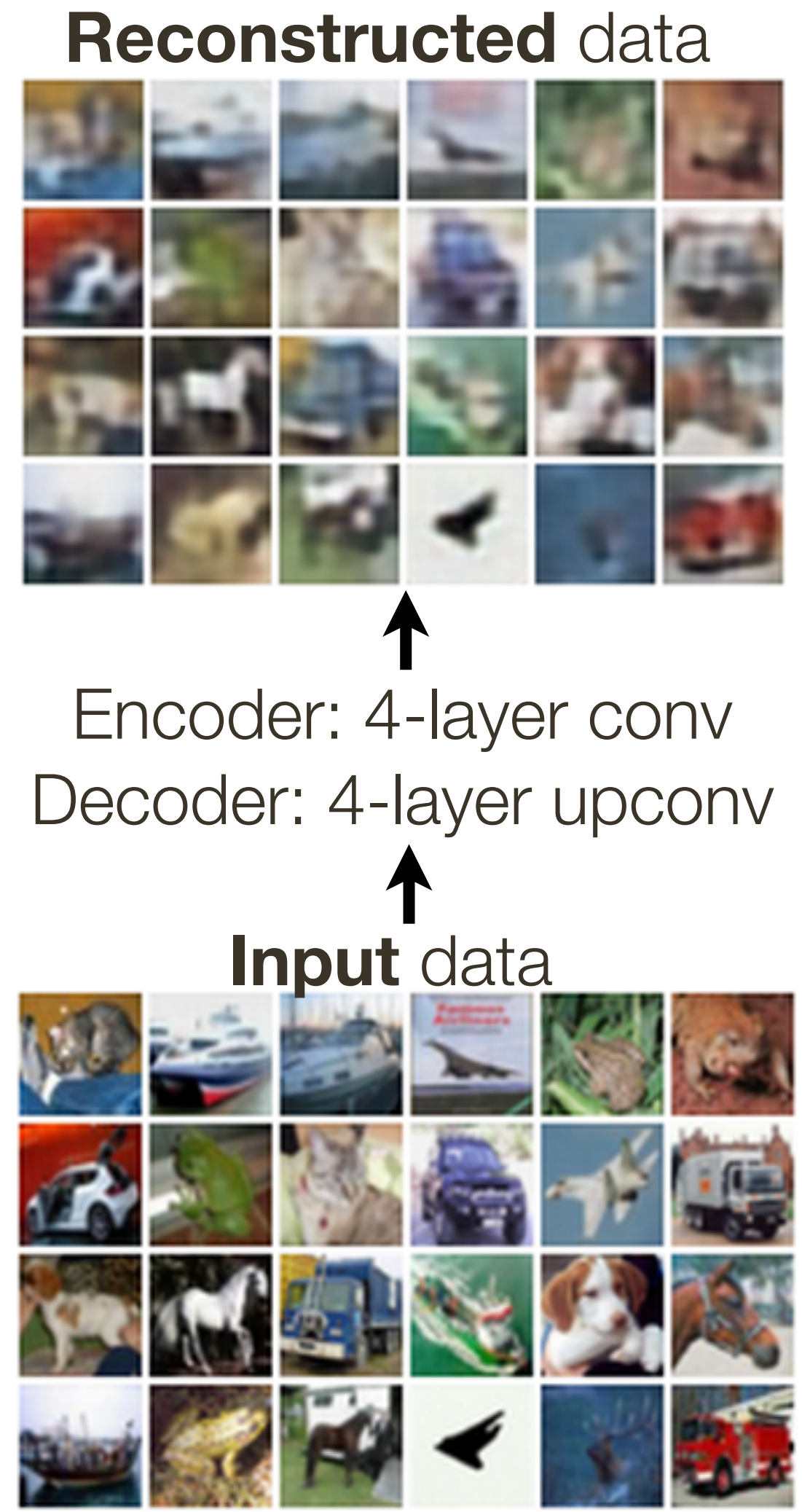
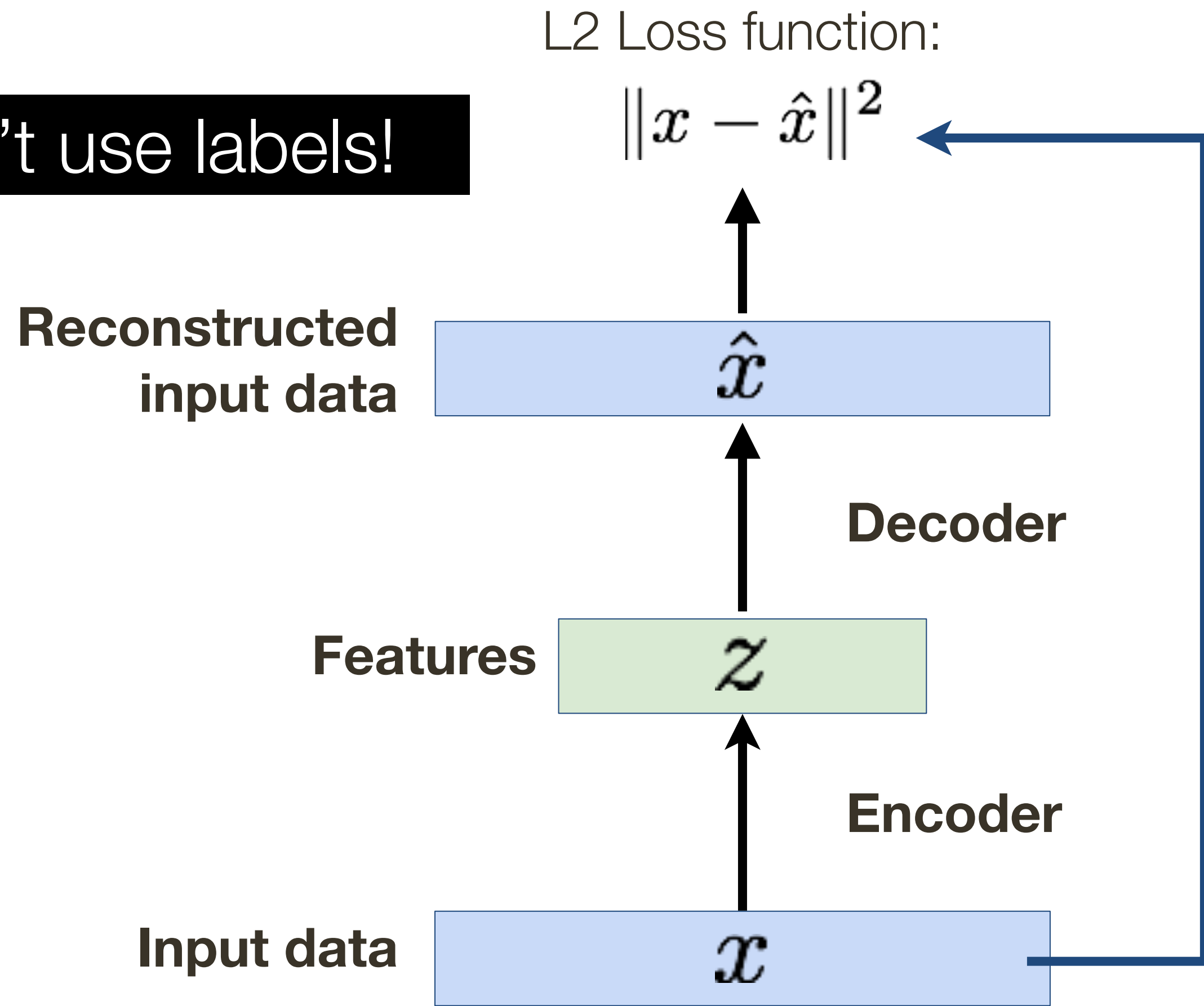


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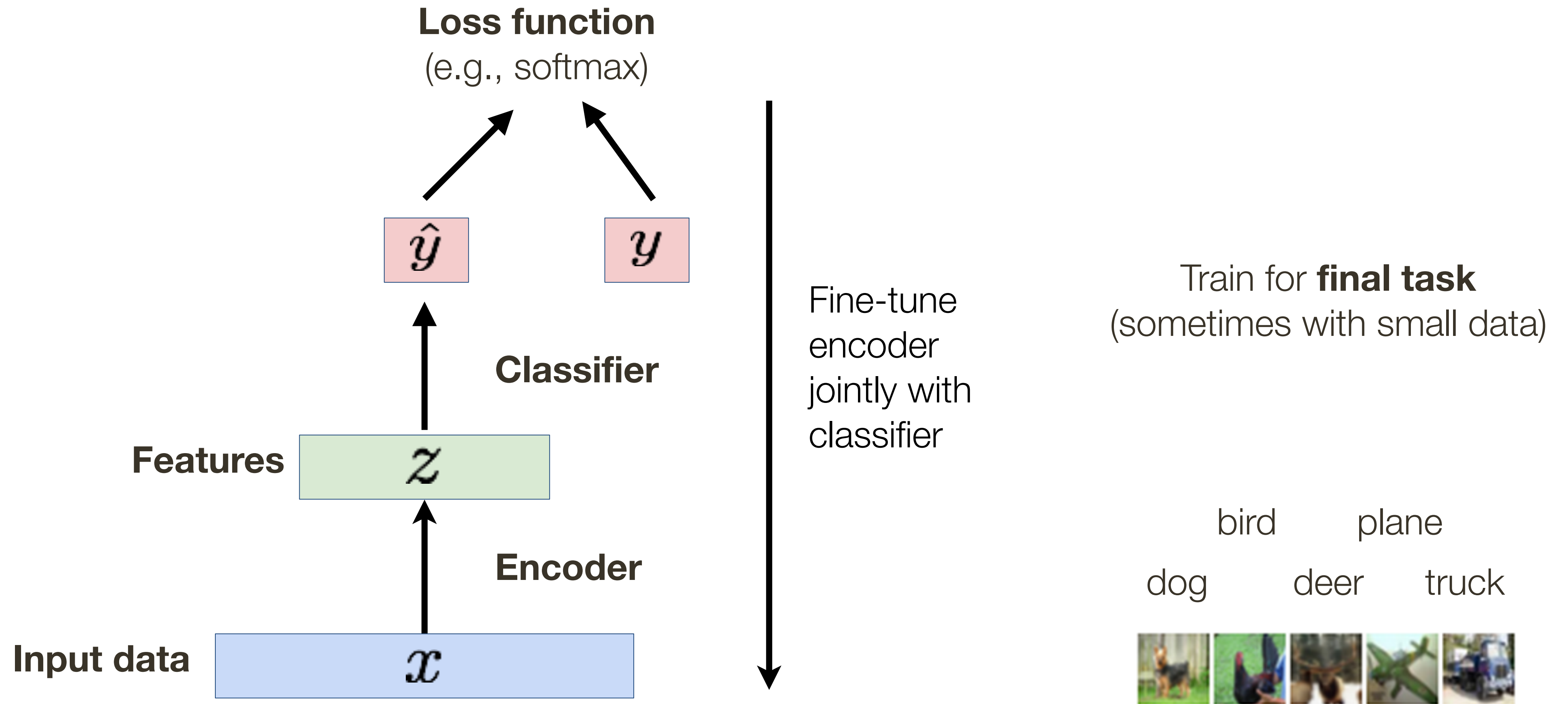
# Autoencoders Reminder ...

Doesn't use labels!



\* slide from Fei-Fei Li, Justin Johnson, Serena Yeung, **cs231n Stanford**

# Autoencoders Reminder ...





# Variational Autoencoders

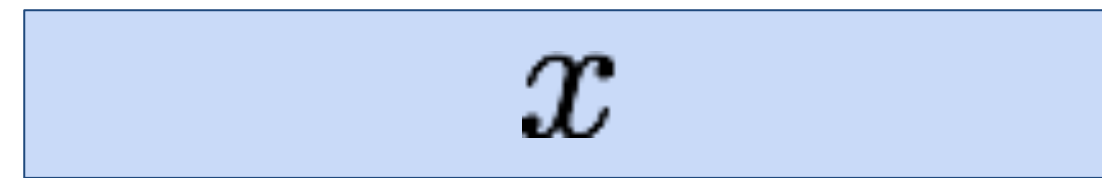
[ Kingma and Welling, 2014 ]

Probabilistic spin on autoencoder - will let us sample from the model to generate

Assume training data is generated from underlying unobserved (latent) representation  $z$

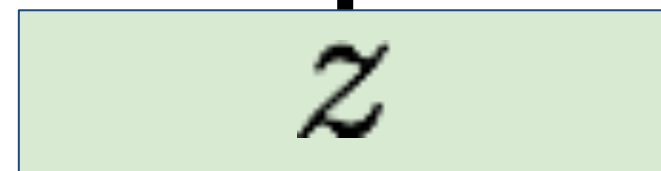
Sample from  
true **conditional**

$$p_{\theta^*}(x | z^{(i)})$$



Sample from  
true **prior**

$$p_{\theta^*}(z)$$



# Variational Autoencoders

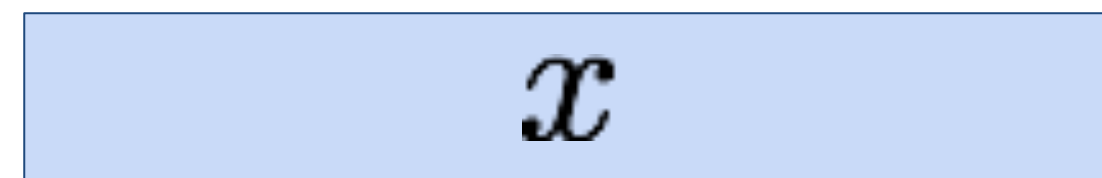
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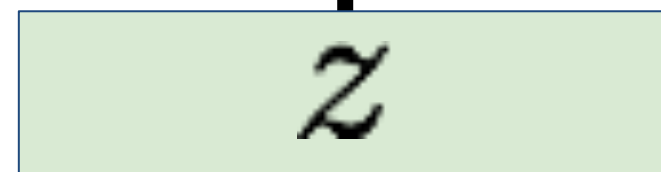
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**Intuition:**  $x$  is an image,  $z$  is latent factors used to generate  $x$  (e.g., attributes, orientation, *etc.*)



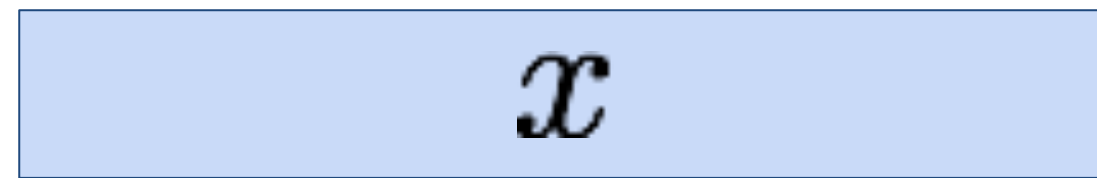
# Variational Autoencoders

[ Kingma and Welling, 2014 ]

We want to **estimate the true parameters**  $\theta^*$  of this generative model

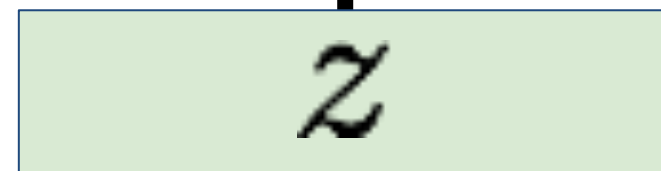
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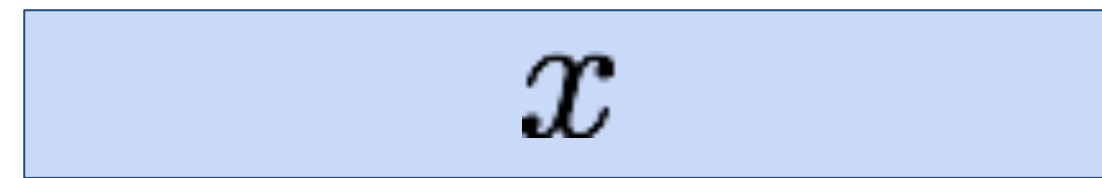
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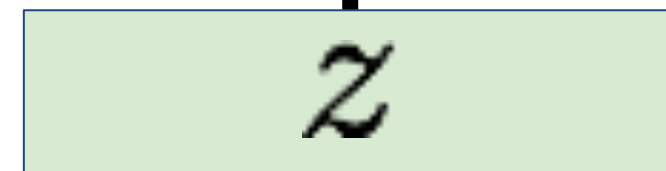
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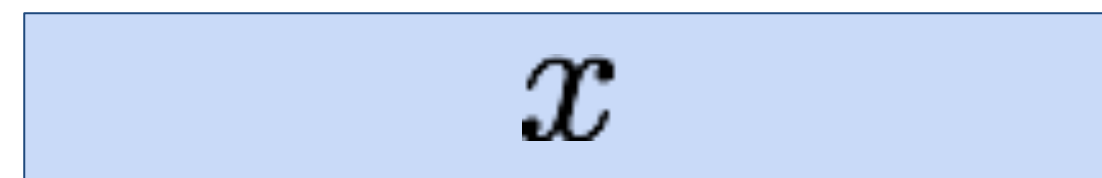
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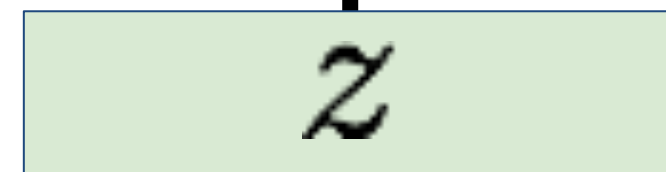
$$p_{\theta^*}(x \mid z^{(i)})$$



Choose prior  $p(z)$  to be simple, e.g., Gaussian  
Reasonable for latent attributes, e.g., pose, amount of smile

Sample from  
true **prior**

$$p_{\theta^*}(z)$$



# Variational Autoencoders

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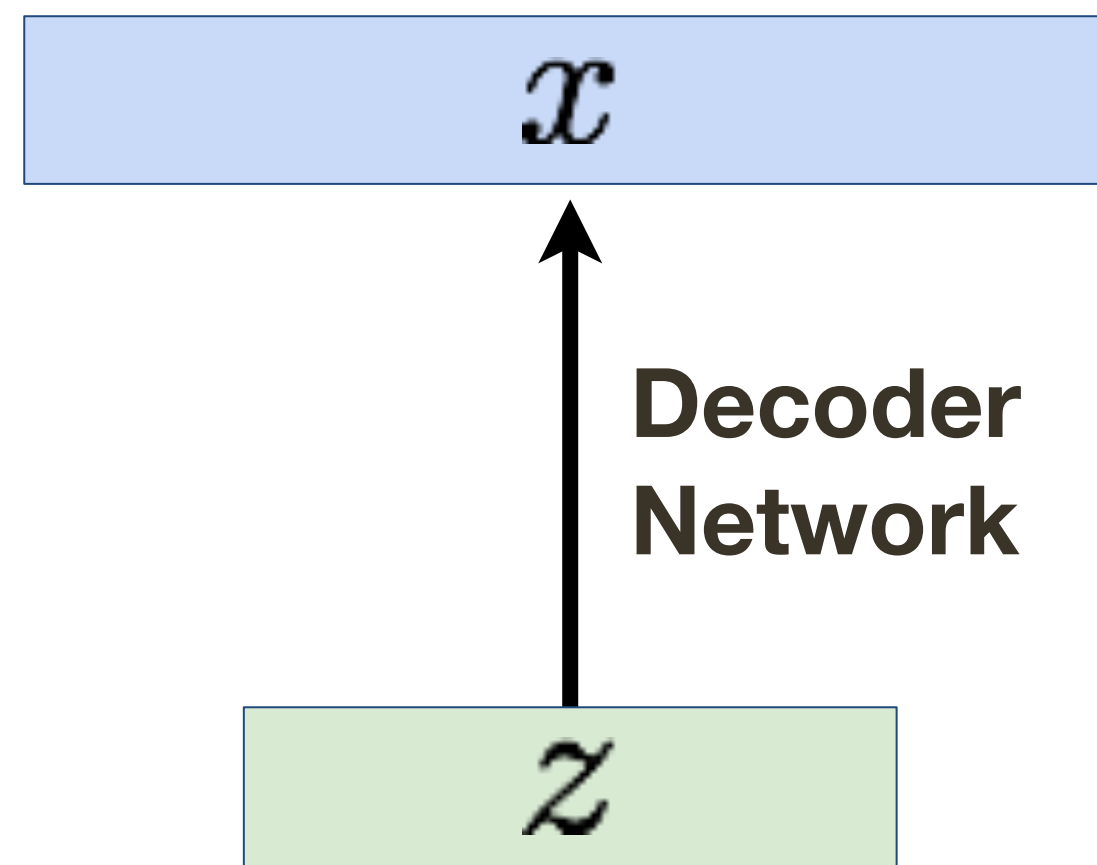
Conditional  $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})$  is complex (generates image)  
Represent with Neural Network

Sample from  
true **conditional**

$$p_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{z}^{(i)})$$

Sample from  
true **prior**

$$p_{\theta^*}(\mathbf{z})$$

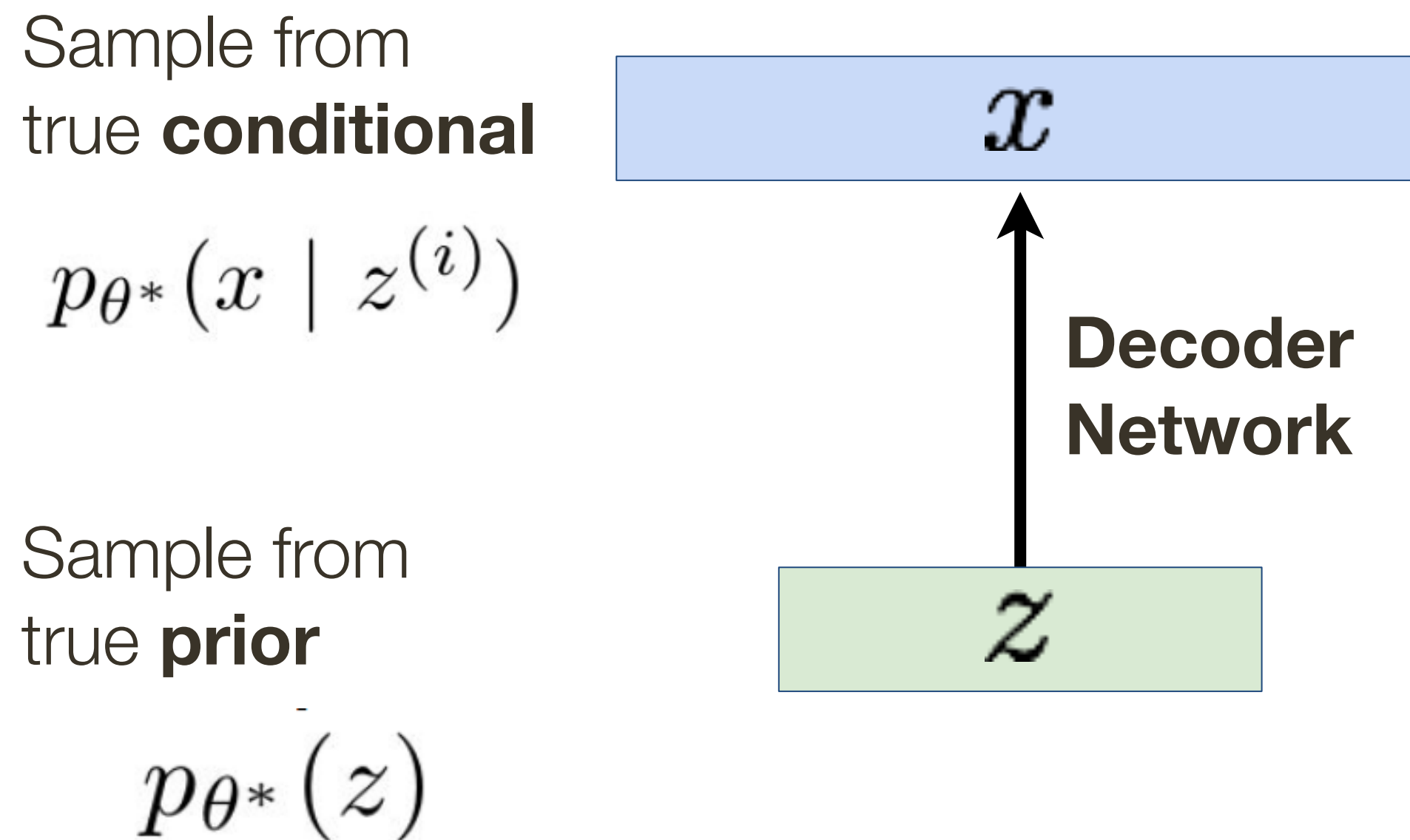


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[ Kingma and Welling, 2014 ]

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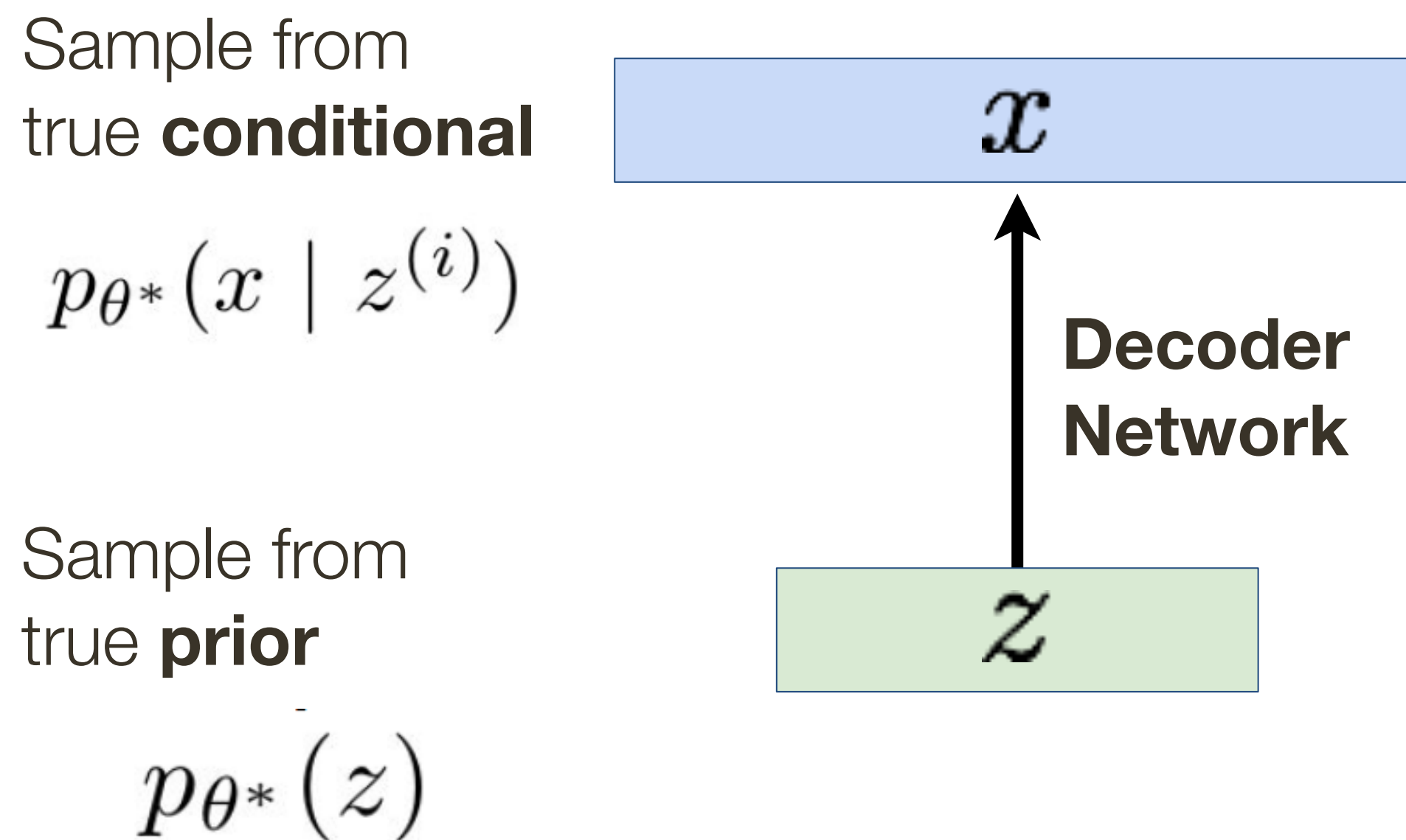
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Remember the strategy from earlier — learn model parameters to maximize likelihood of training data

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

(now with latent  $z$  that we need to marginalize)





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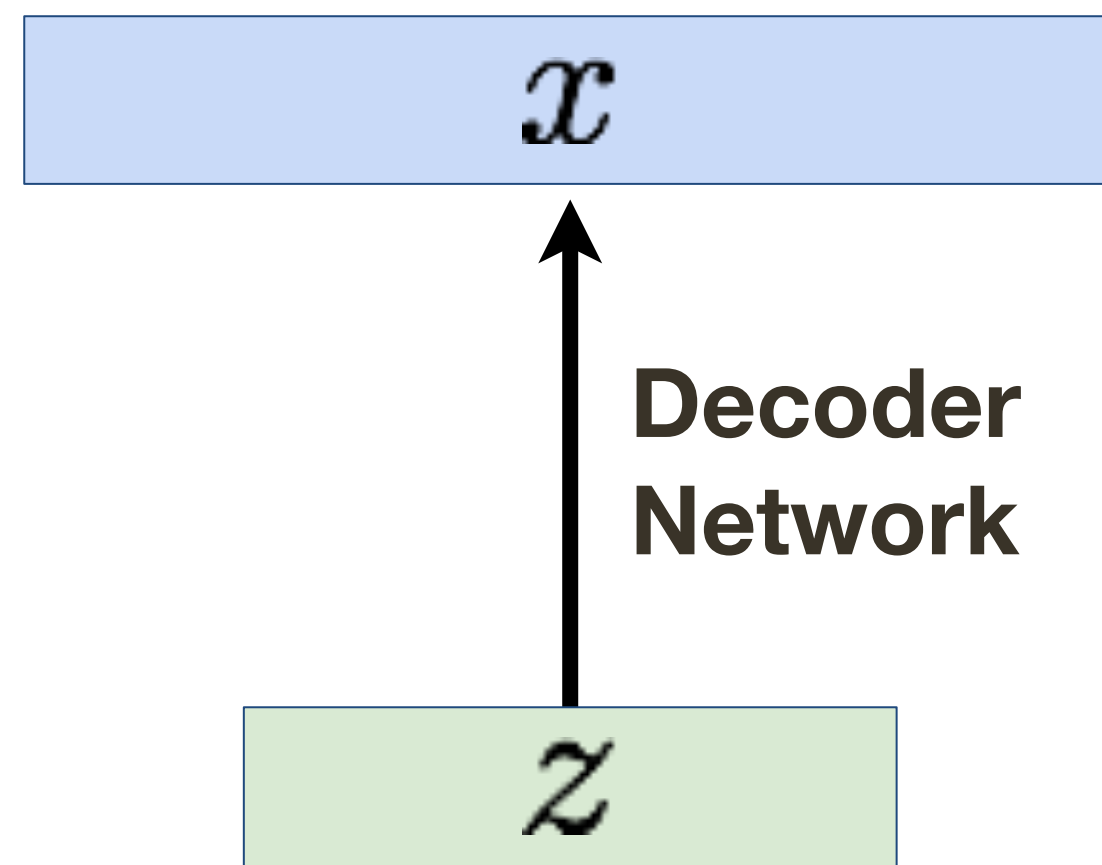
What is the problem with this?

Sample from  
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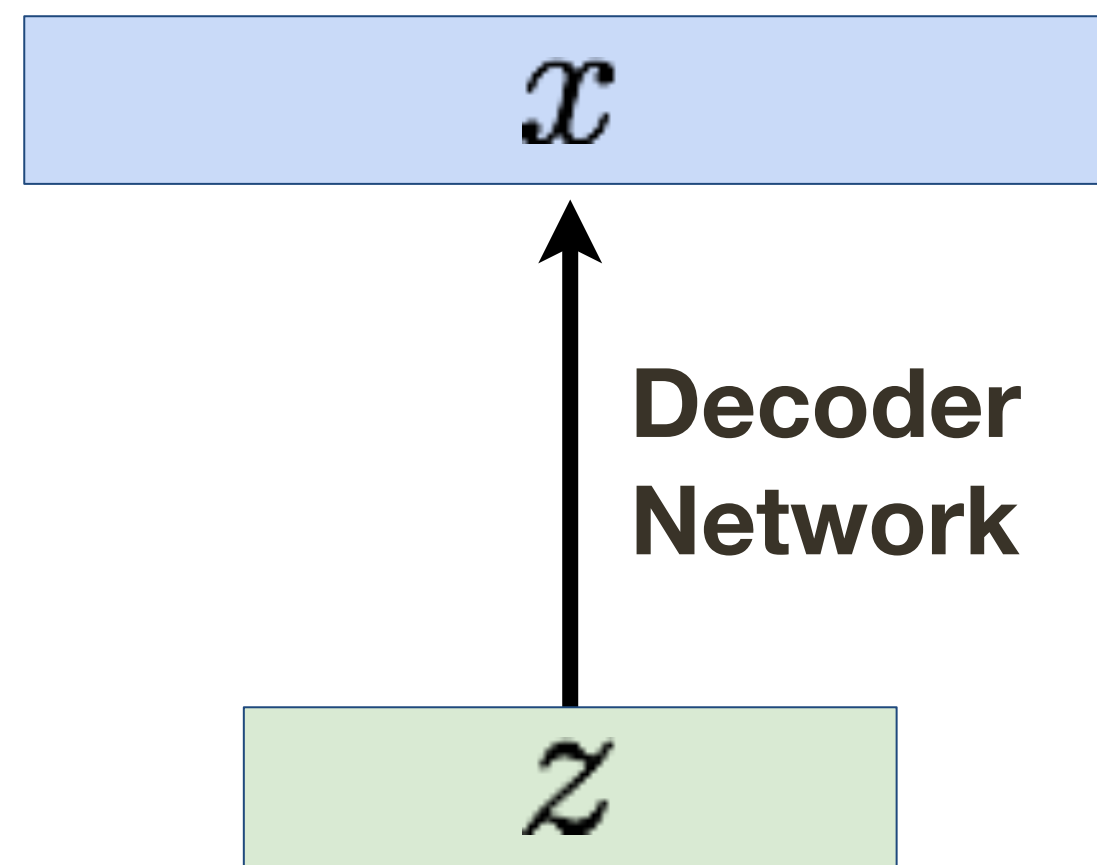
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**Intractable !**



# Intractability in Variational Autoencoder

[ Kingma and Welling, 2014 ]

Data **likelihood**: 
$$p_{\theta}(x) = \int p_{\theta}(z)p_{\theta}(x|z)dz$$

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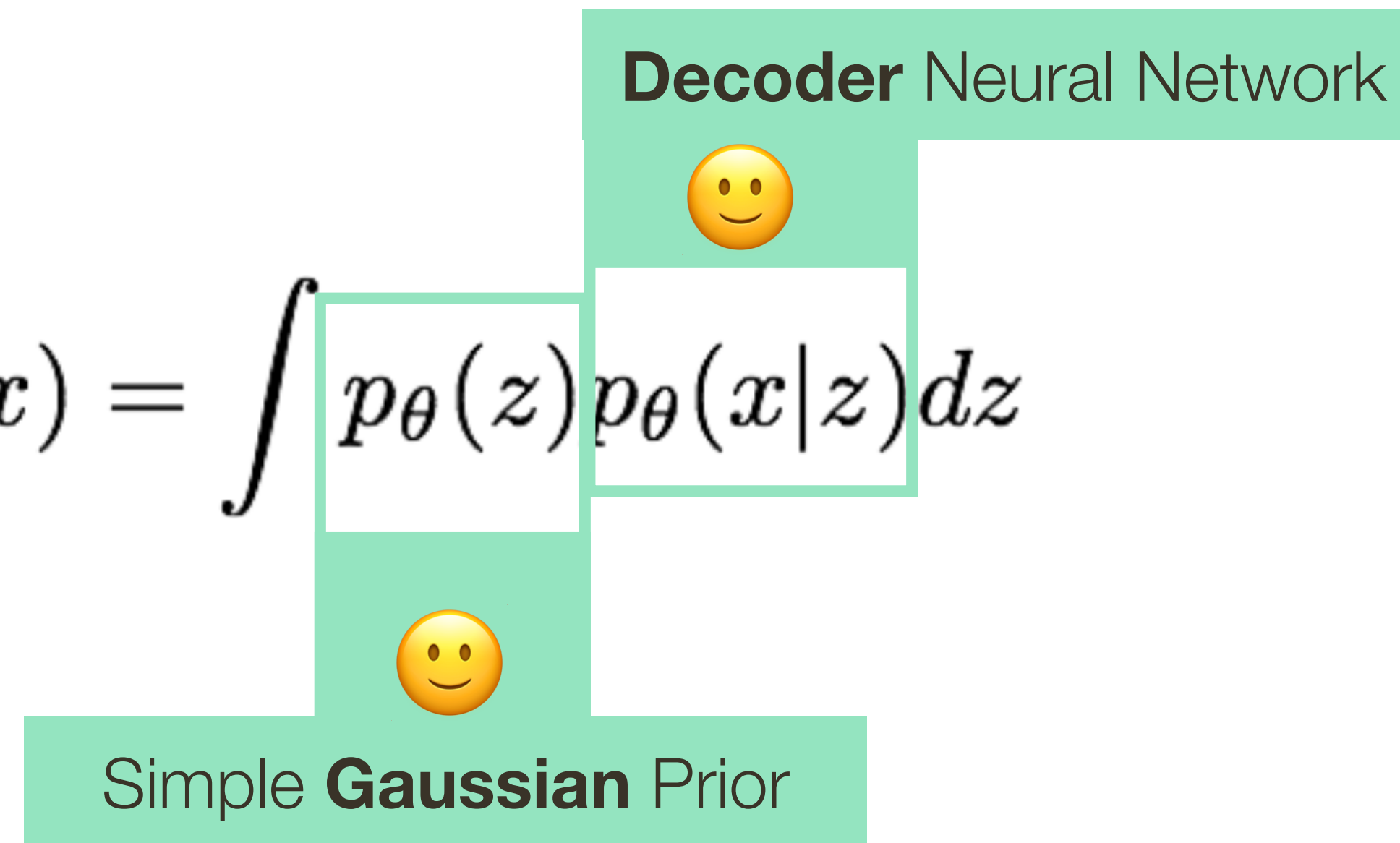
Simple **Gaussian** Prior

# Intractability in Variational Autoencoder

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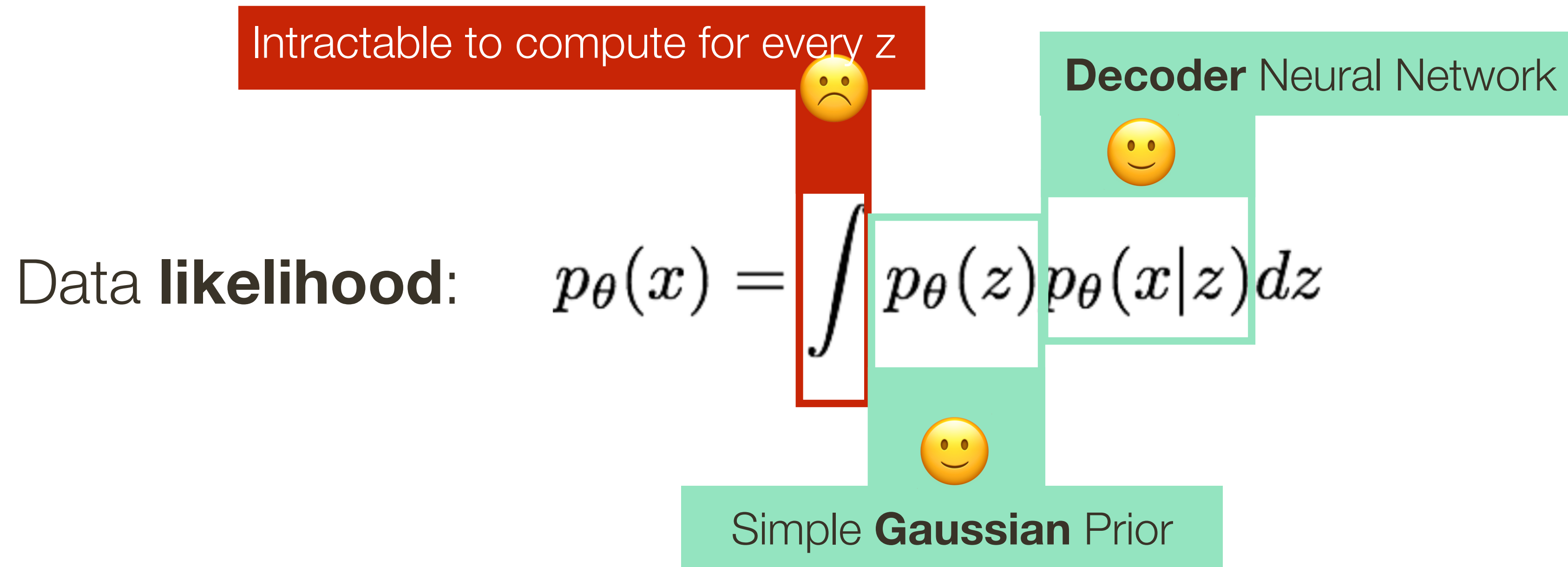
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# Intractability in Variational Autoencoder

[ Kingma and Welling, 2014 ]



# Intractability in Variational Autoencoder

[ Kingma and Welling, 2014 ]

Intractable to compute for every  $z$



Decoder Neural Network



Data **likelihood**:

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

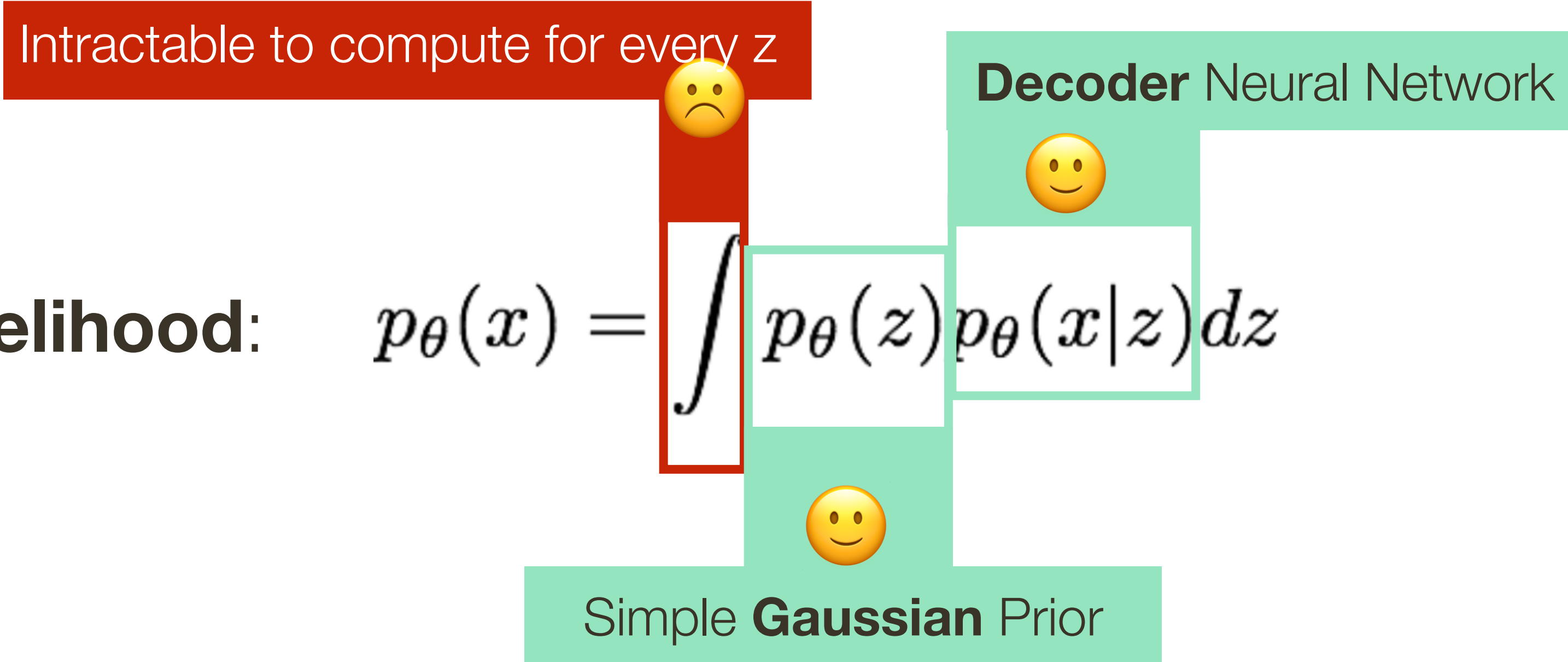


Simple **Gaussian** Prior

**Posterior** density is also intractable:  $p_{\theta}(z|x) = p_{\theta}(x|z)p_{\theta}(z)/p_{\theta}(x)$

# Intractability in Variational Autoencoder

[ Kingma and Welling, 2014 ]



Data **likelihood**:

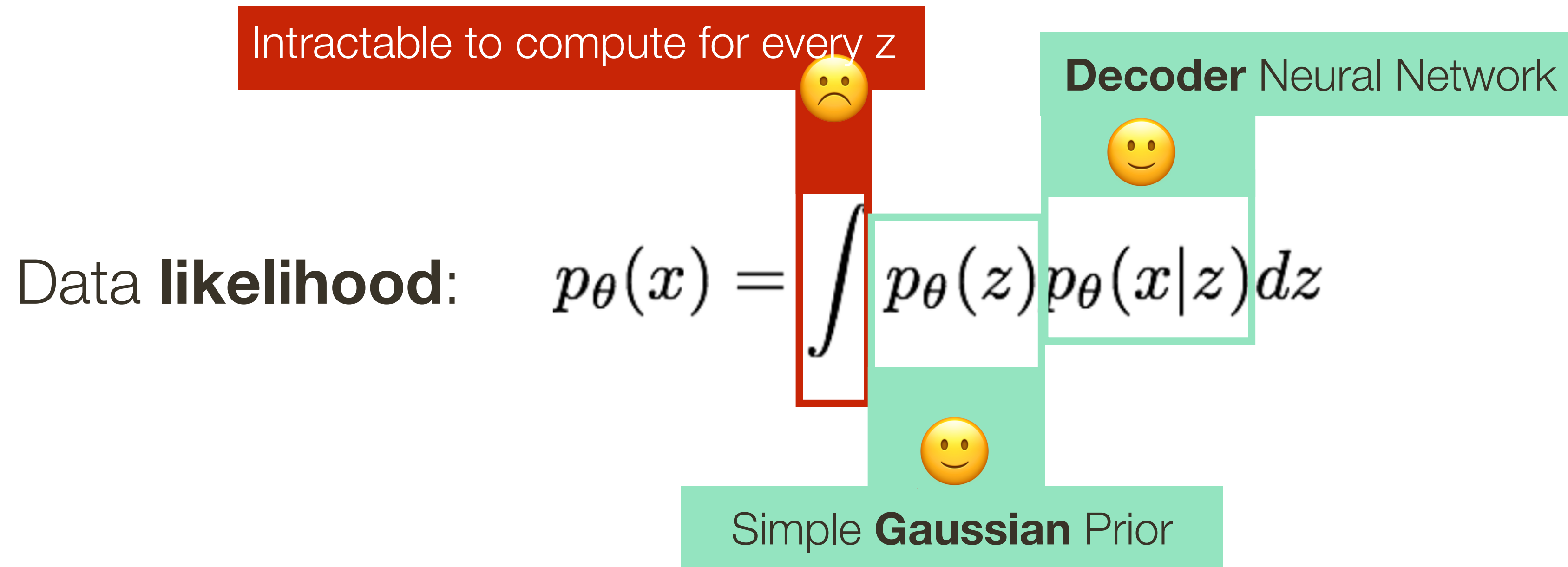
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**Posterior** density is also intractable:  $p_{\theta}(z|x) = p_{\theta}(x|z)p_{\theta}(z) / p_{\theta}(x)$



# Intractability in Variational Autoencoder

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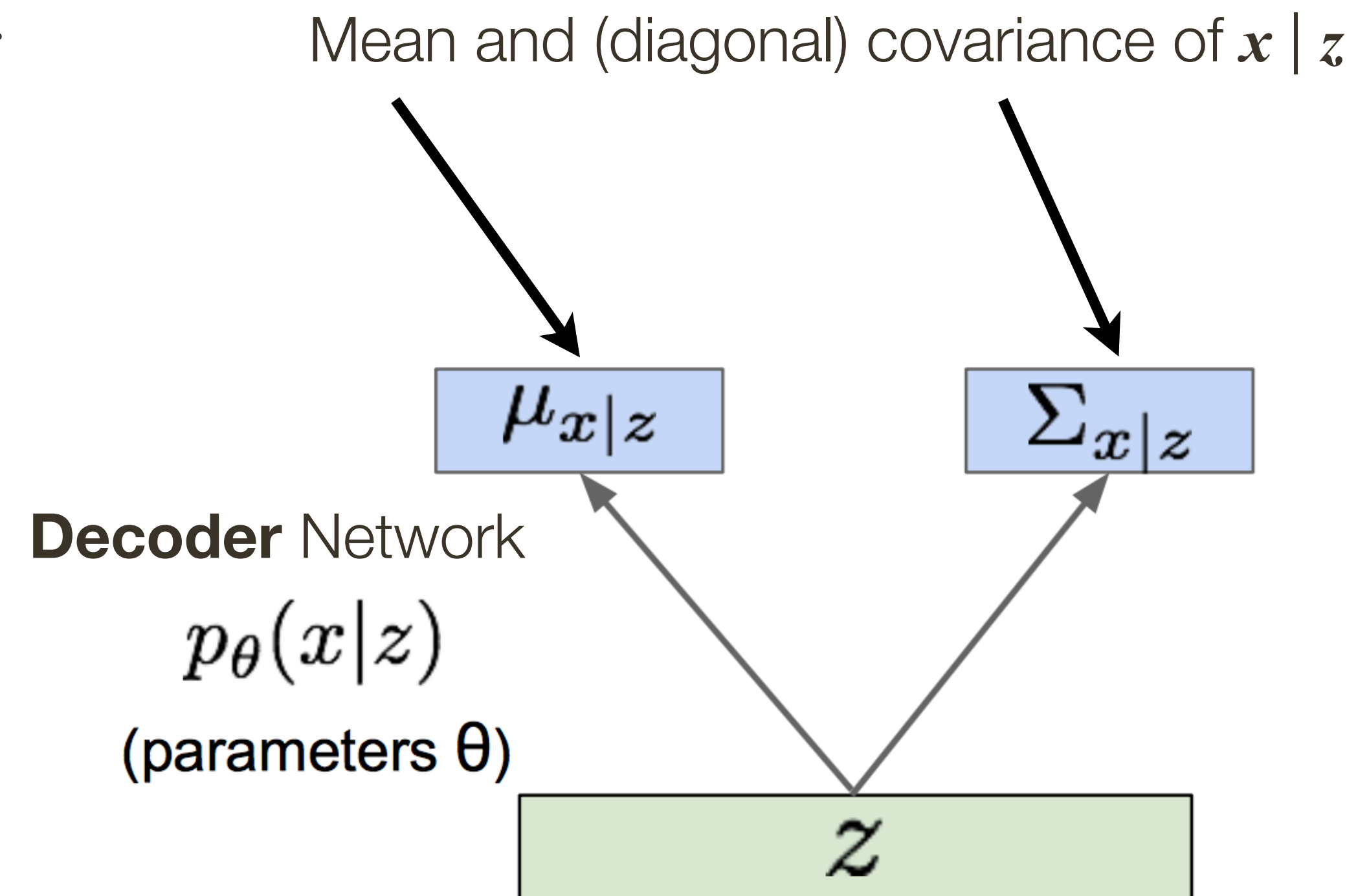
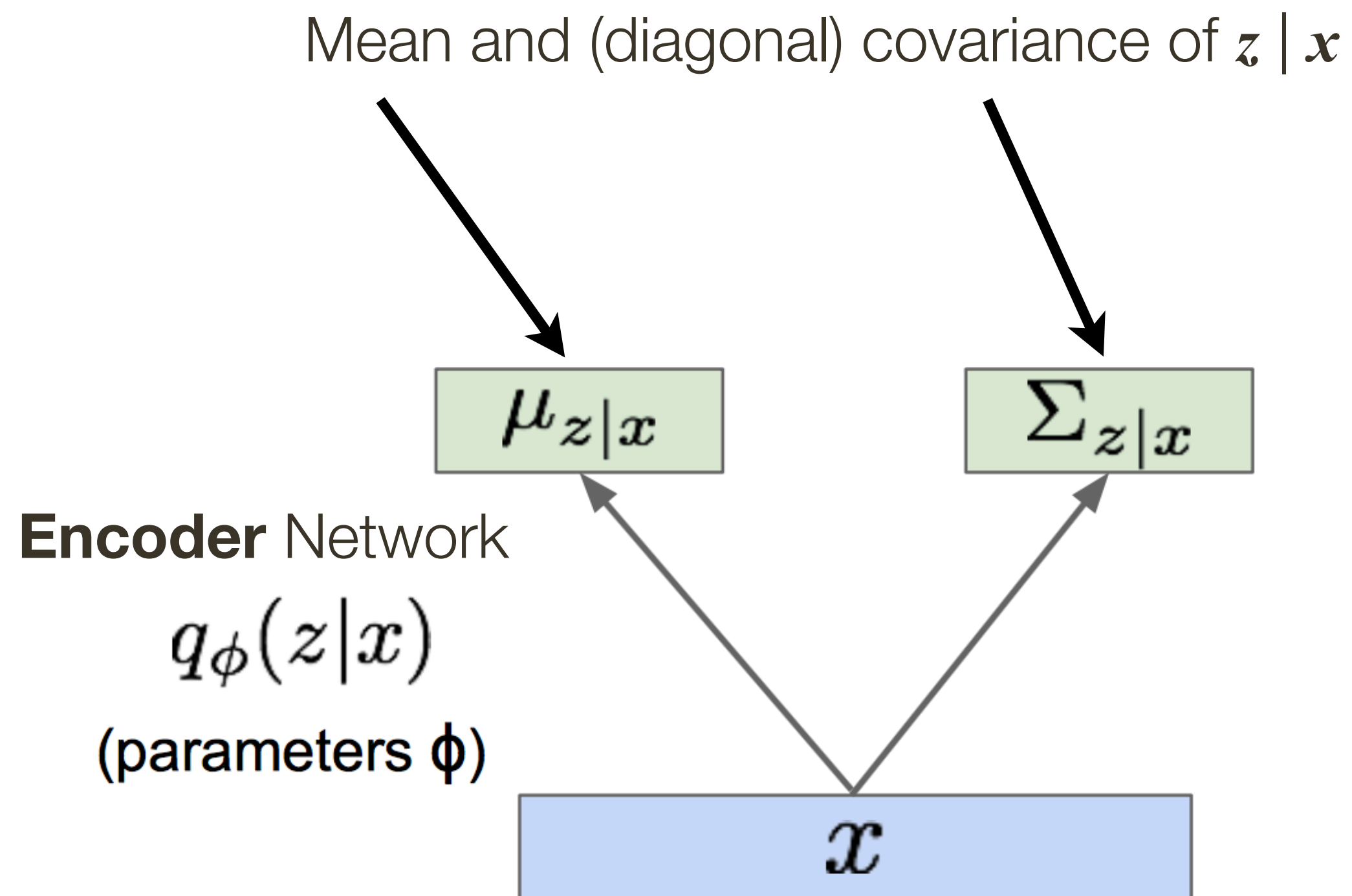
**Solution:** In addition to decoder network modeling  $p_{\theta}(x|z)$ , define additional encoder network  $q_{\phi}(z|x)$  that approximates  $p_{\theta}(z|x)$

— Will see that this allows us to derive a lower bound on the data likelihood that is tractable, which we can optimize

# Variational Autoencoder

[ Kingma and Welling, 2014 ]

Since we are modeling probabilistic generation of data, encoder and decoder networks are probabilistic (they model distributions)

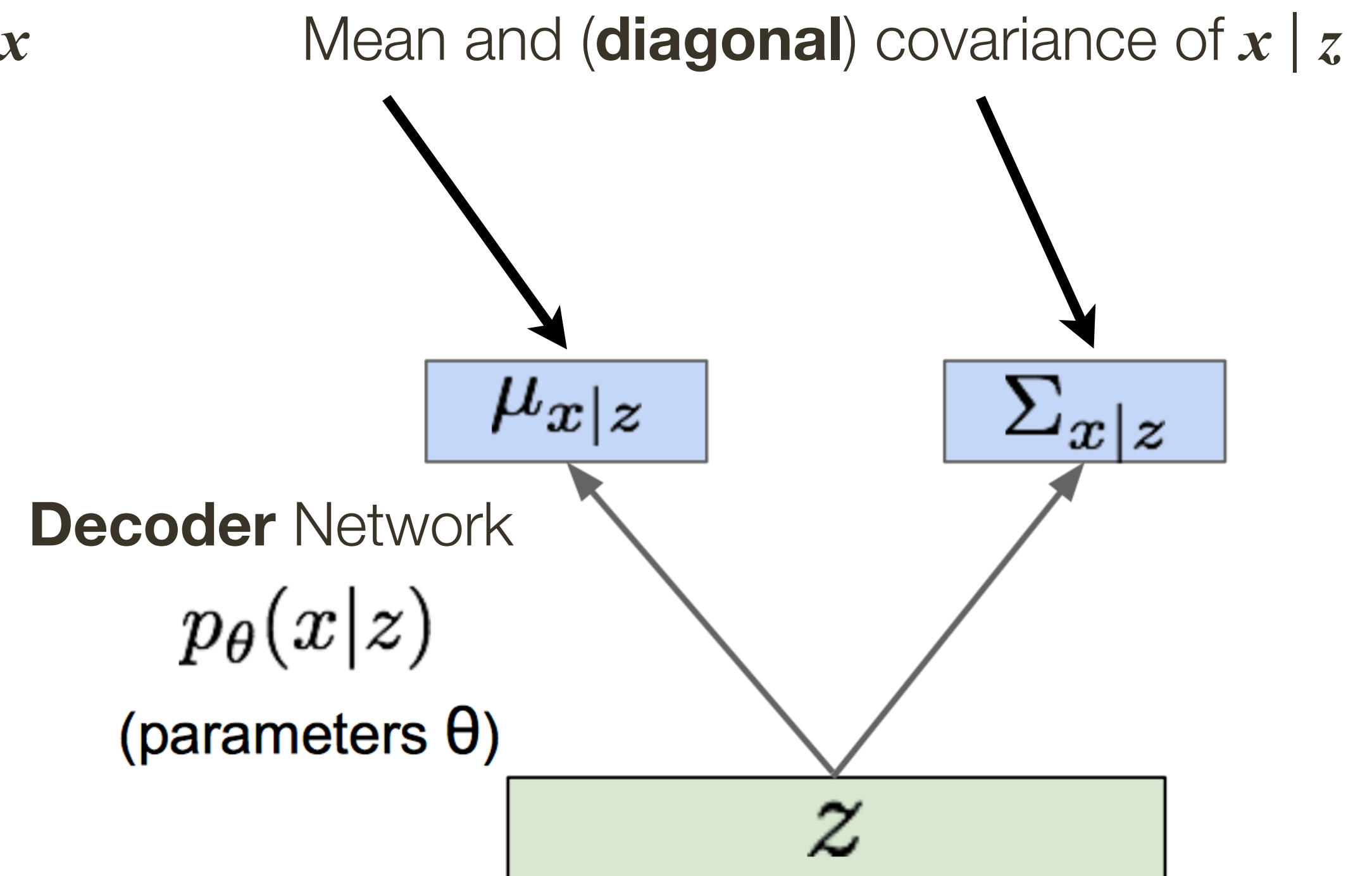
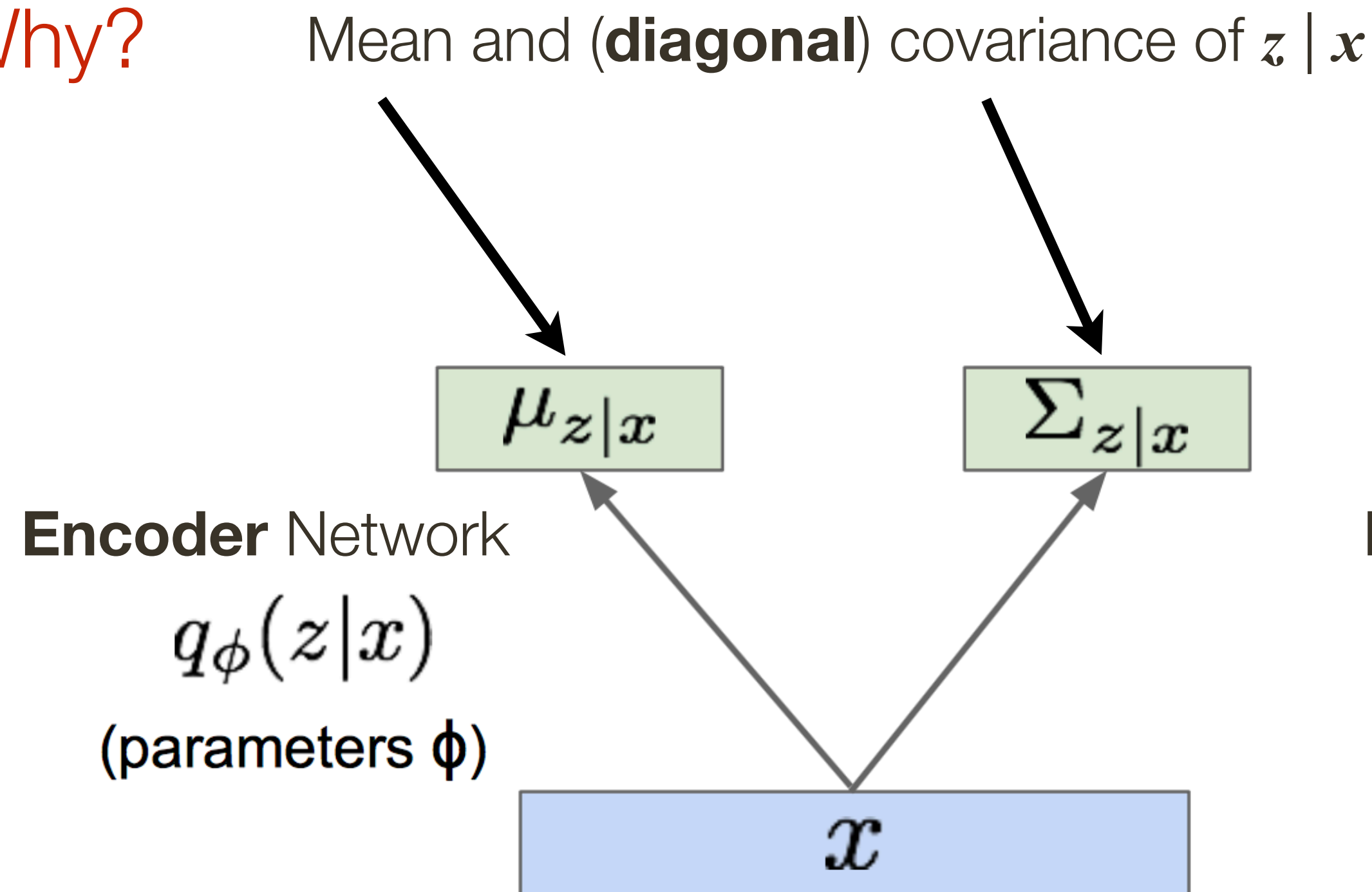


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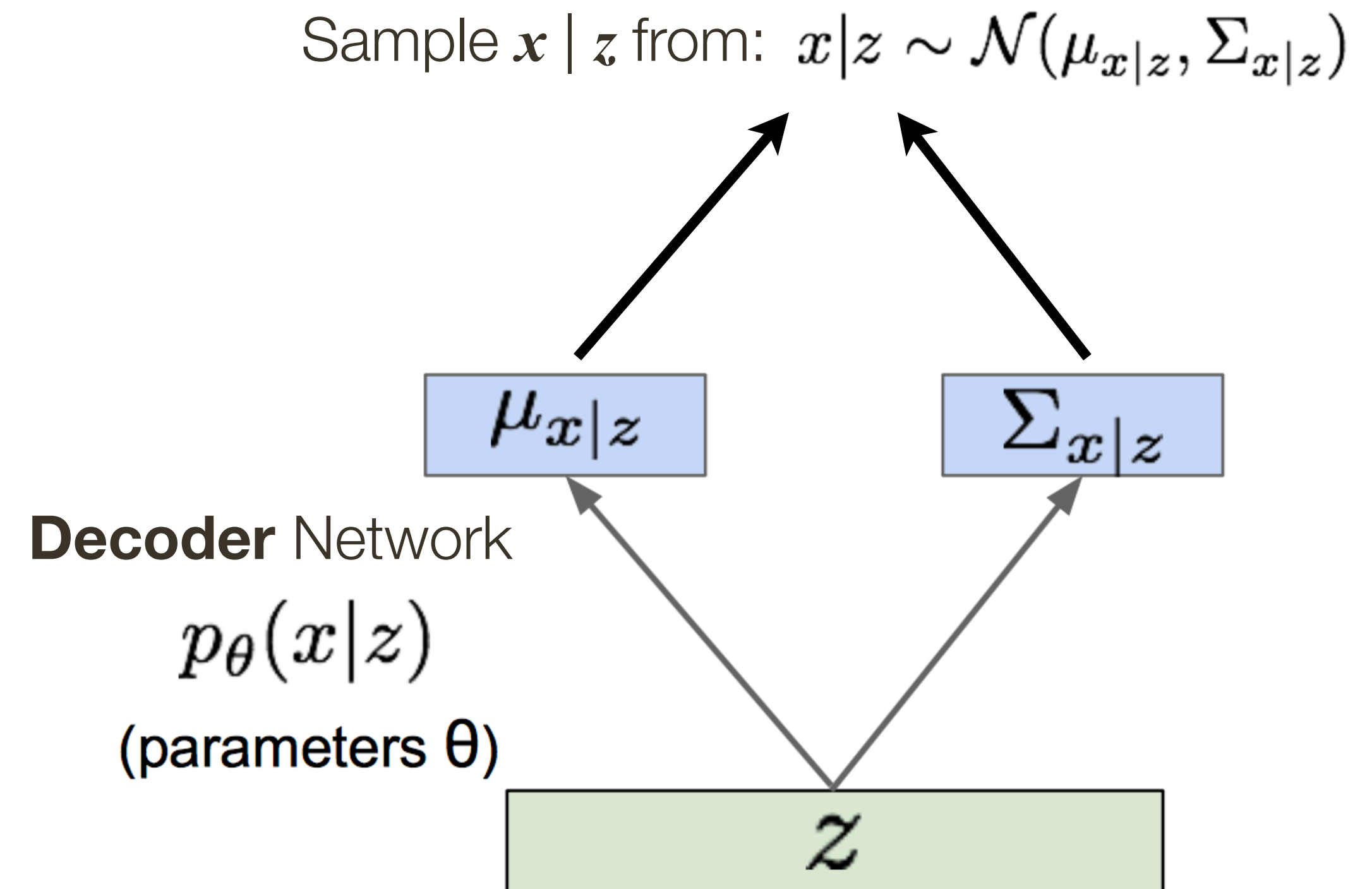
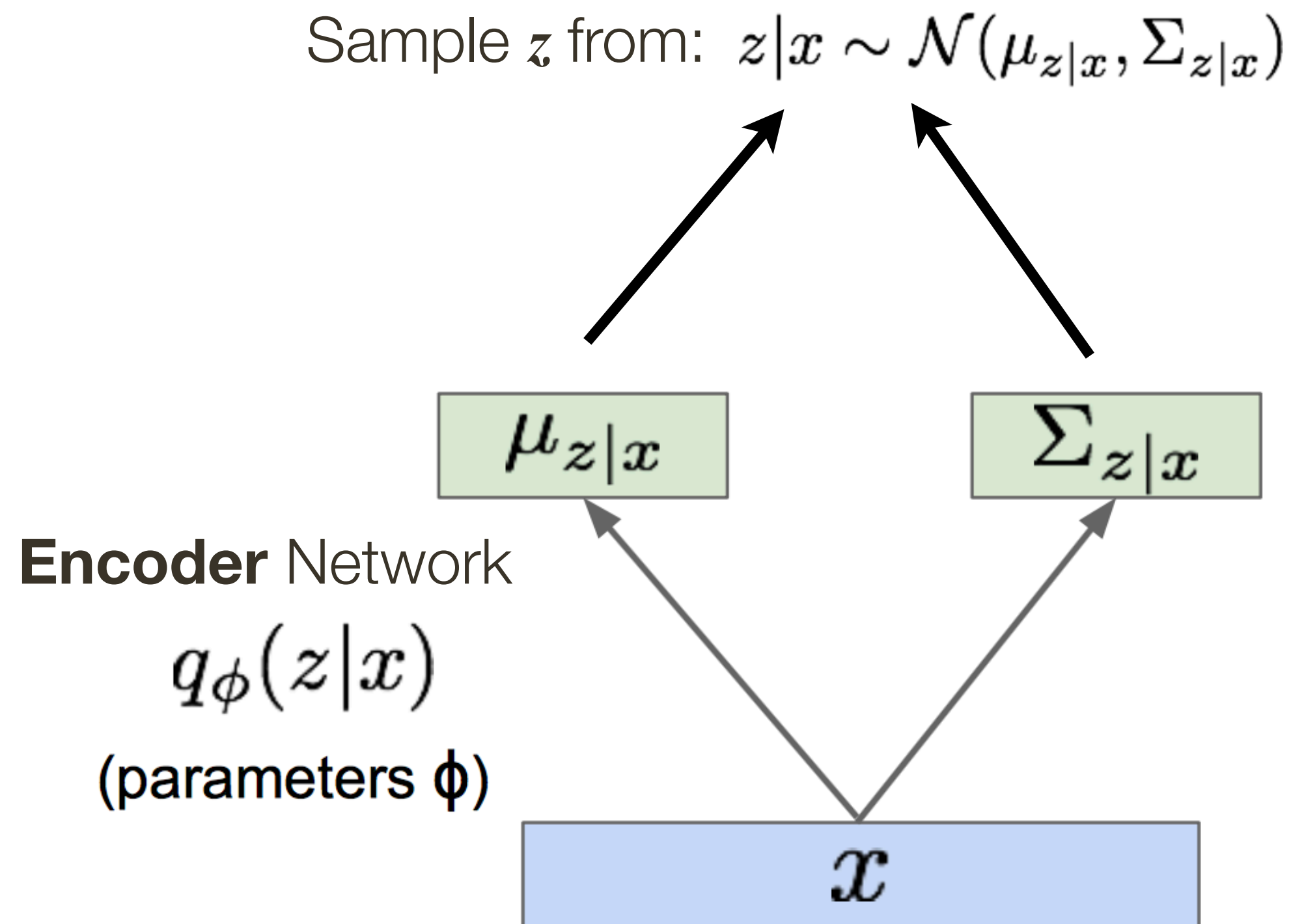
Why?



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# Variational Autoencoder

[ Kingma and Welling, 2014 ]

Derivation of lower bound of the data likelihood

Now equipped with **encoder** and **decoder** networks, let's see (log) data likelihood:

$$\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) = \mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_{\phi}(z|x^{(i)})} \left[ \log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \right] \quad (p_{\theta}(x^{(i)})) \text{ Does not depend on } z)$$

Taking expectation with respect to  $z$   
(using encoder network) will come in  
handy later



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# Variational Autoencoder

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Derivation of lower bound of the data likelihood

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$$\begin{aligned}\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) &= \mathbf{E}_{z \sim q_{\phi}(z|x^{(i)})} \left[ \log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \right] && (p_{\theta}(x^{(i)})) \text{ Does not depend on } z \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[ \log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z)}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] && (\text{Bayes' Rule}) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[ \log \frac{p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) p_{\theta}(z) q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)}) q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] && (\text{Multiply by constant}) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_z \left[ \log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - \mathbf{E}_z \left[ \log \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{p_{\theta}(z)} \right] + \mathbf{E}_z \left[ \log \frac{q_{\phi}(z | x^{(i)})}{p_{\theta}(z | x^{(i)})} \right] && (\text{Logarithms})\end{aligned}$$

# Variational Autoencoder

[ Kingma and Welling, 2014 ]

Derivation of lower bound of the data likelihood

Now equipped with **encoder** and **decoder** networks, let's see (log) data likelihood:

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Expectation with respect to  $z$   
(using encoder network) leads to nice KL terms



# Variational Autoencoder

[ Kingma and Welling, 2014 ]

Derivation of lower bound of the data likelihood

Now equipped with **encoder** and **decoder** networks, let's see (log) data likelihood:

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Decoder network gives  $p_{\theta}(x|z)$ , can compute estimate of this term through sampling. (Sampling differentiable through **reparam. trick**, see paper.)

This KL term (between Gaussians for encoder and  $z$  prior) has nice **closed-form solution!**

$p_{\theta}(z|x)$  **intractable** (saw earlier), can't compute this KL term :(

But we know KL divergence always  $\geq 0$ .

# Variational Autoencoder

[ Kingma and Welling, 2014 ]

Derivation of lower bound of the data likelihood

Now equipped with **encoder** and **decoder** networks, let's see (log) data likelihood:

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**Tractable lower bound** which we can take gradient of and optimize! ( $p_{\theta}(x|z)$  differentiable, KL term differentiable)



# Variational Autoencoder

[ Kingma and Welling, 2014 ]

Derivation of lower bound of the data likelihood

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$$\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \geq \mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)$$

Variational lower bound ("**ELBO**")

**Training:** Maximize lower bound

$$\theta^*, \phi^* = \arg \max_{\theta, \phi} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)$$



# Variational Autoencoder

[ Kingma and Welling, 2014 ]

Derivation of lower bound of the data likelihood

Now equipped with **encoder** and **decoder** networks, let's see (log) data likelihood:

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**Reconstruct  
Input Data**

**Make approximate posterior  
close to the prior**

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

$$\log p_{\theta}(x^{(i)}) \geq \mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)$$

Variational lower bound ("**ELBO**")

**Training:** Maximize lower bound

$$\theta^*, \phi^* = \arg \max_{\theta, \phi} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)$$

# Variational Autoencoder: Learning

## Putting it all together:

maximizing the likelihood lower bound

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

Lets look at **computing the bound** (forward pass)  
for a given mini batch of input data

**Input** Data

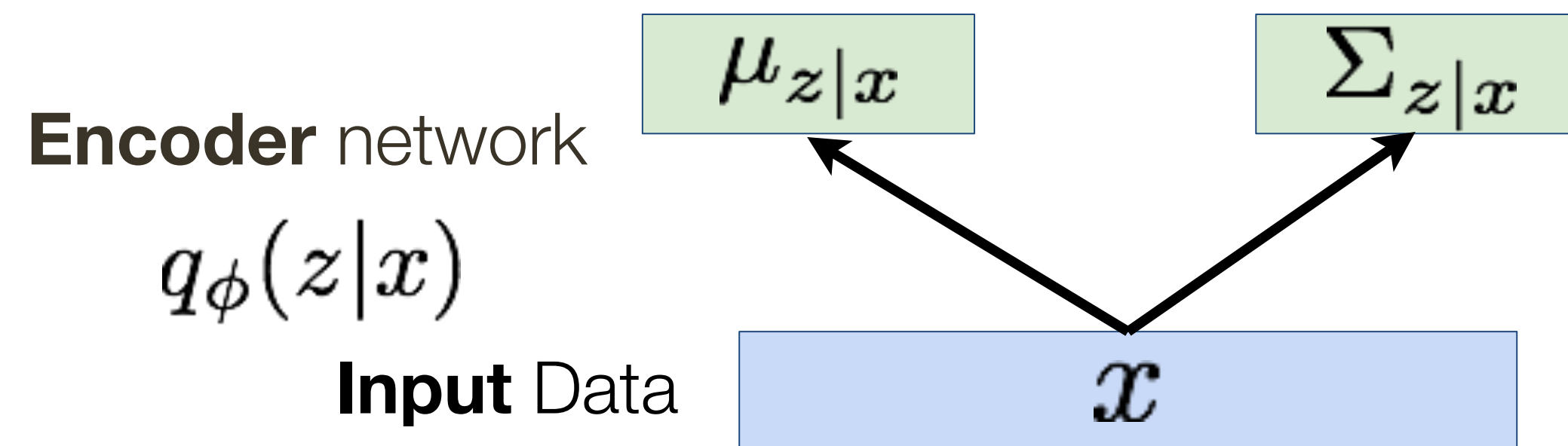
$\mathcal{X}$

# Variational Autoencoder: Learning

## Putting it all together:

maximizing the likelihood lower bound

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



# Variational Autoencoder: Learning

## Putting it all together:

maximizing the likelihood lower bound

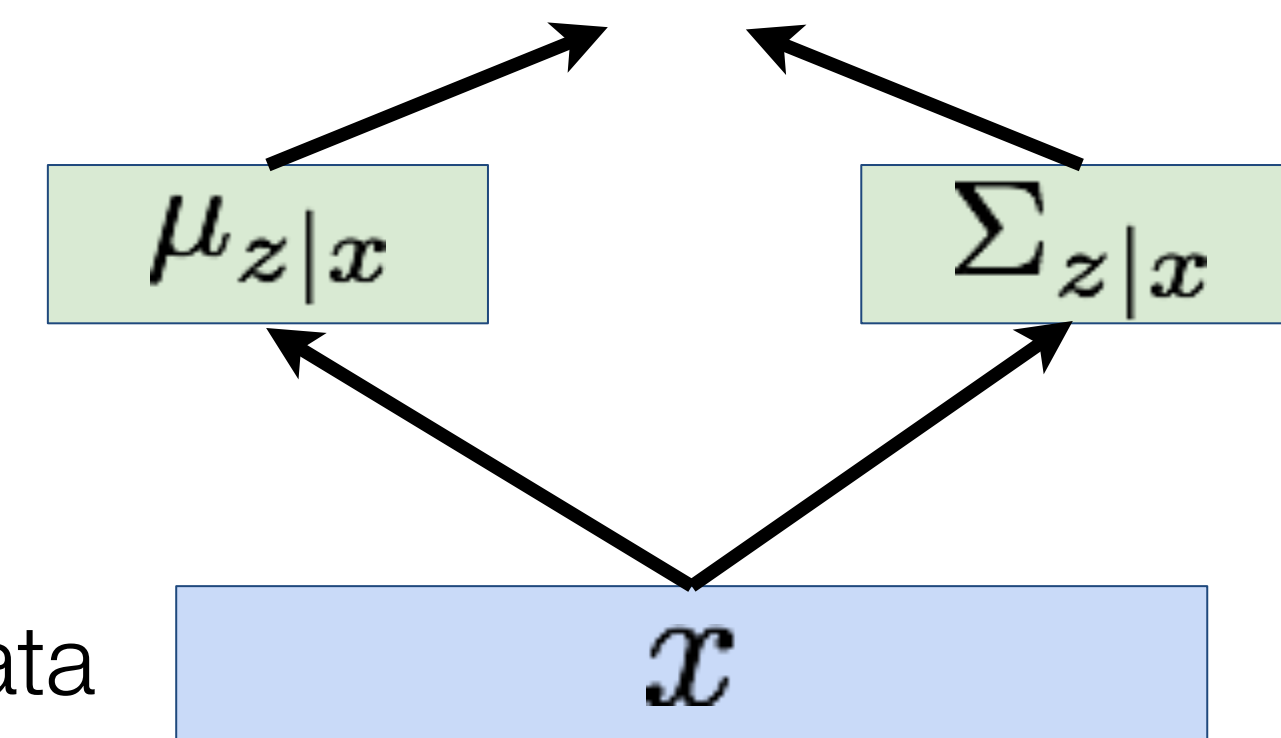
$$\underbrace{\mathbf{E}_z \left[ \log p_\theta(x^{(i)} | z) \right] - D_{KL}(q_\phi(z | x^{(i)}) || p_\theta(z))}_{\mathcal{L}(x^{(i)}, \theta, \phi)}$$

Make approximate posterior distribution close to prior

Encoder network

$$q_\phi(z|x)$$

Input Data



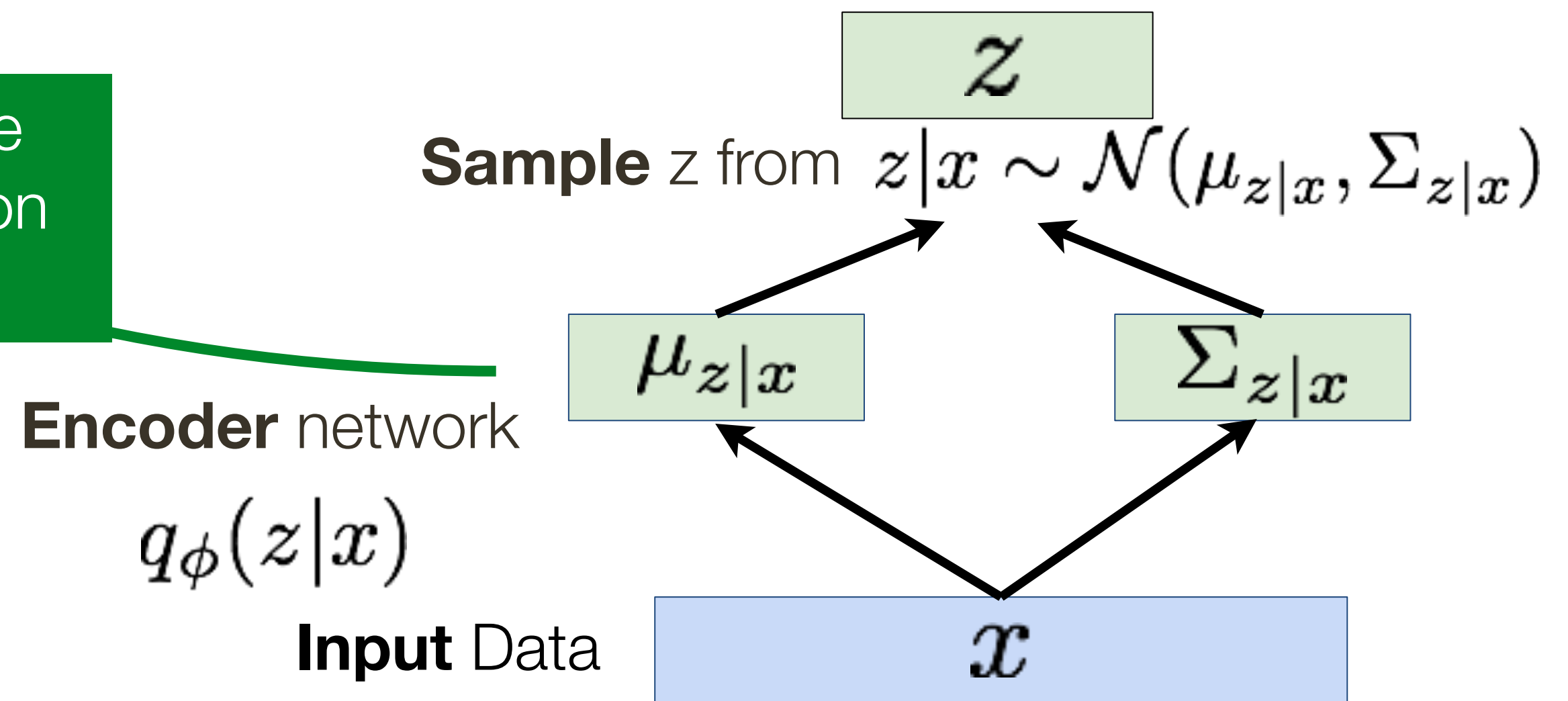
# Variational Autoencoder: Learning

## Putting it all together:

maximizing the likelihood lower bound

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

Make approximate posterior distribution close to prior





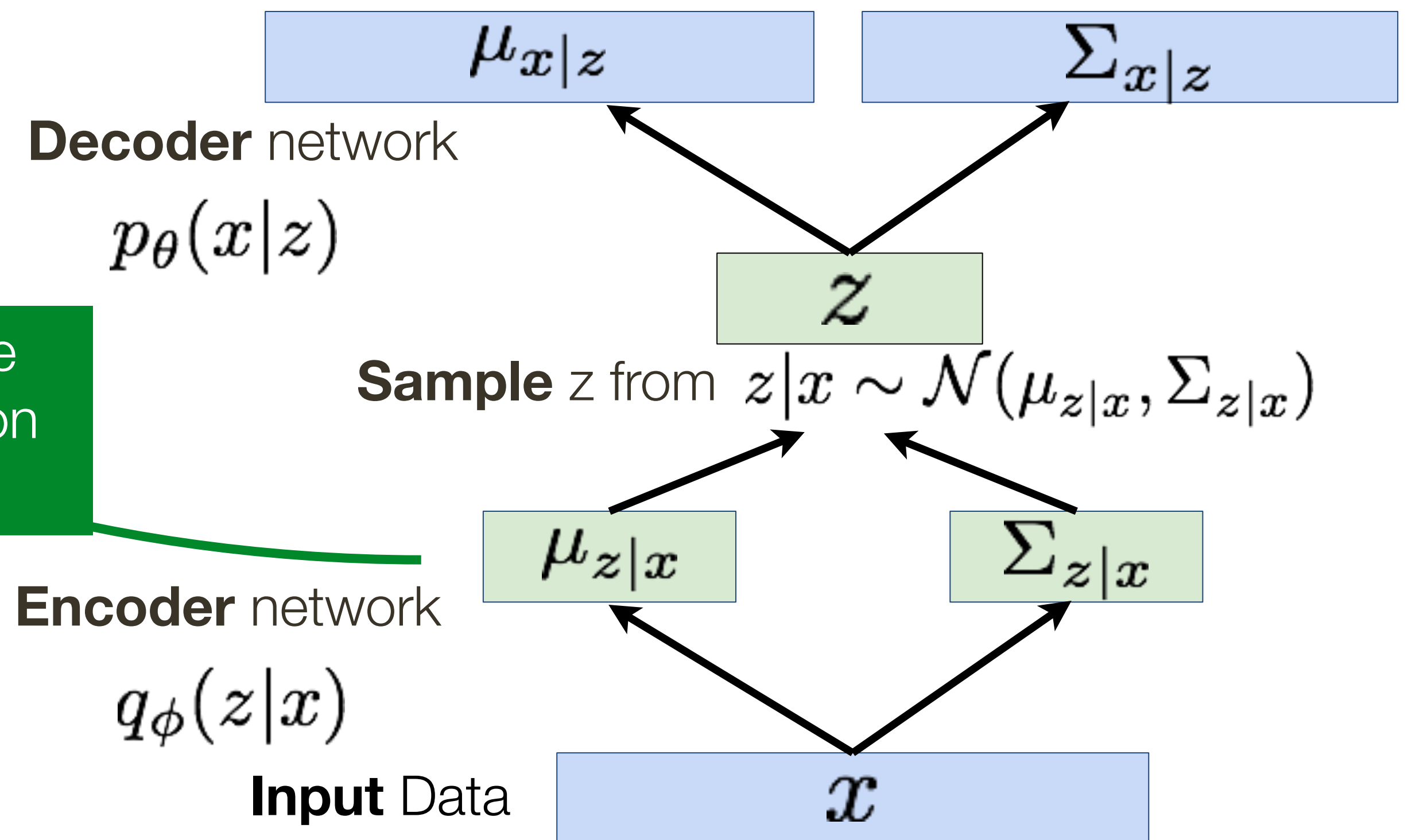
# Variational Autoencoder: Learning

## Putting it all together:

maximizing the likelihood lower bound

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

Make approximate posterior distribution close to prior





# Variational Autoencoder: Learning

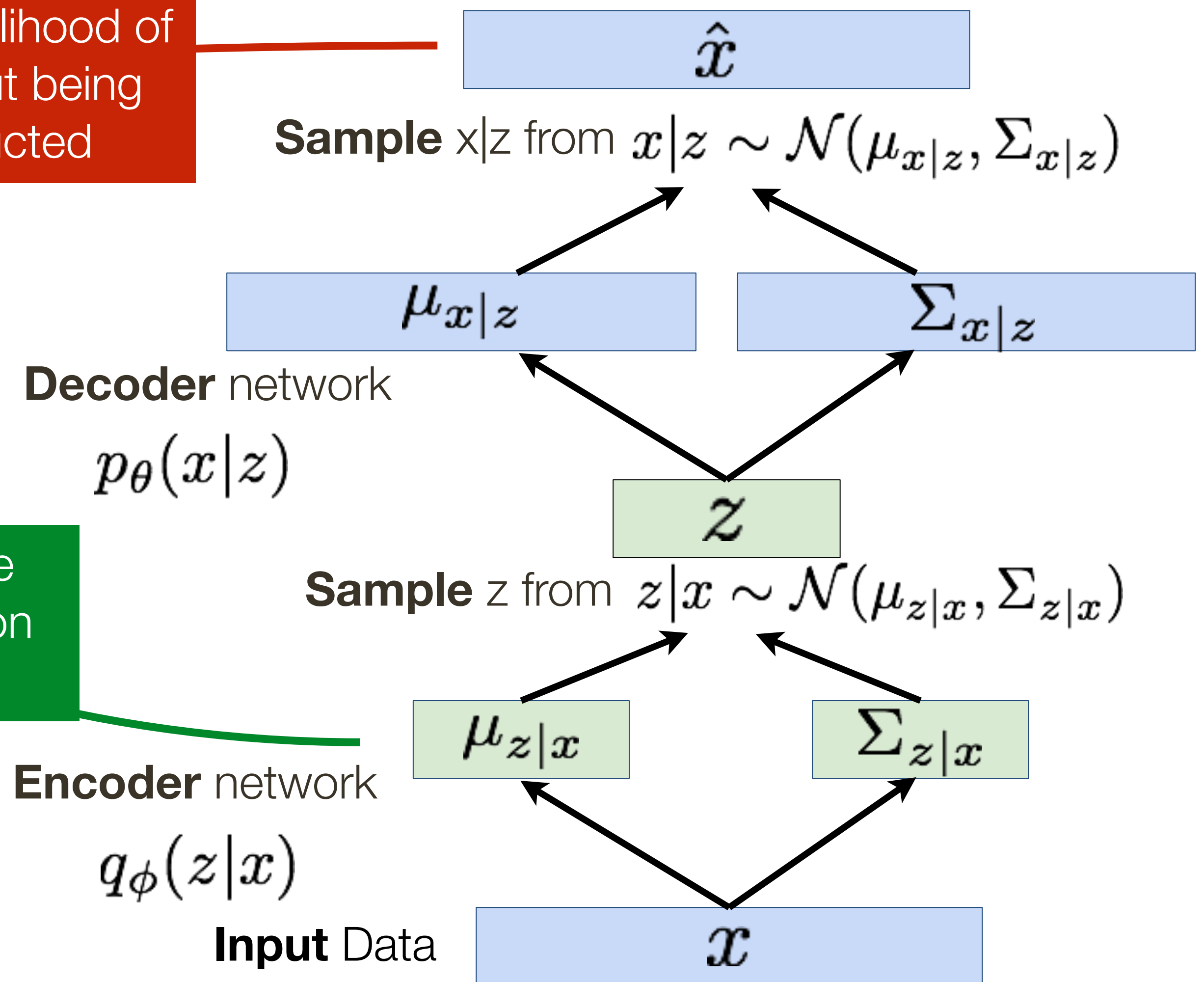
## Putting it all together:

maximizing the likelihood lower bound

Maximize likelihood of original input being reconstructed

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

Make approximate posterior distribution close to prior



# Variational Autoencoder: Learning

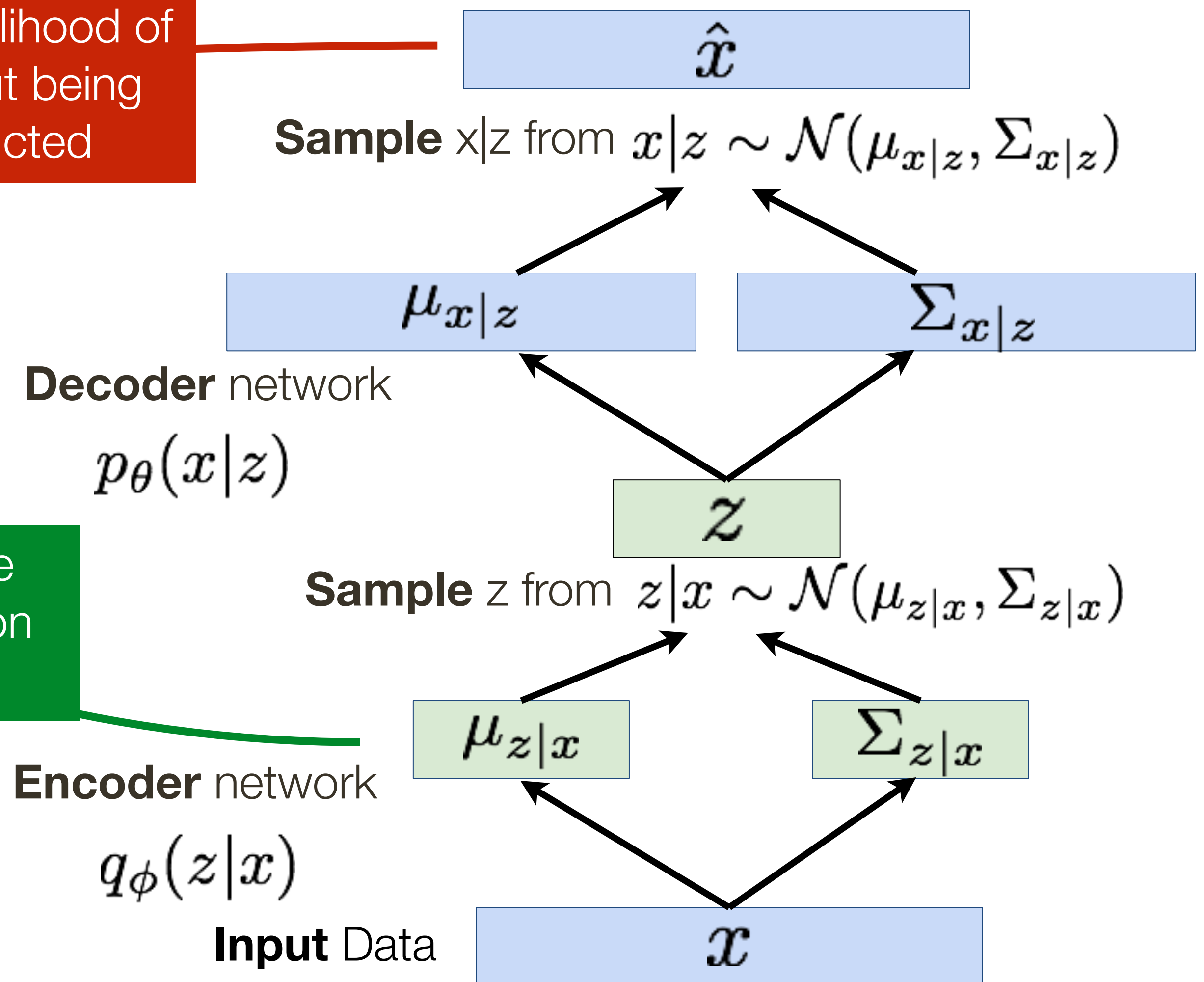
## Putting it all together:

maximizing the likelihood lower bound

Maximize likelihood of original input being reconstructed

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

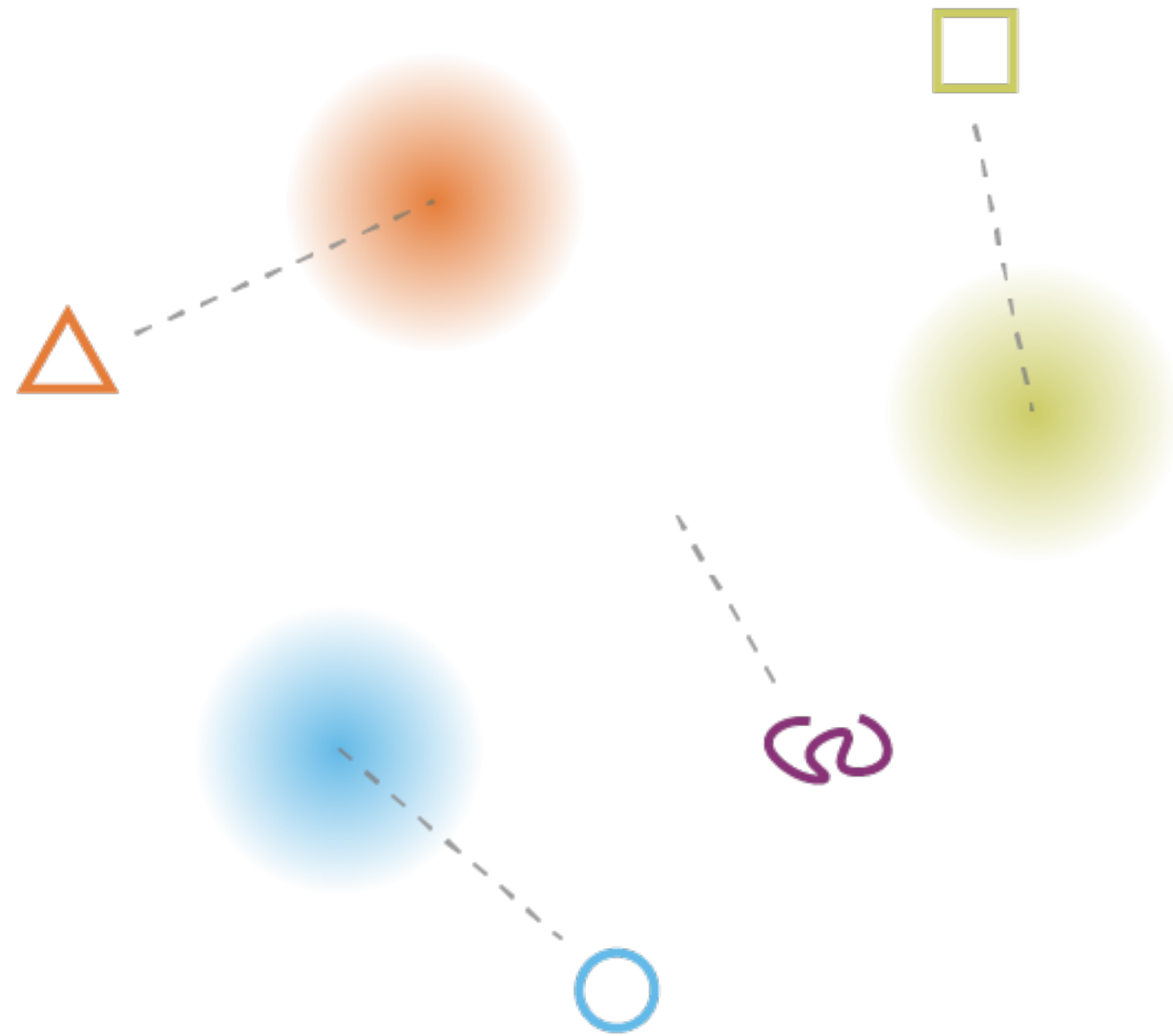
Make approximate posterior distribution close to prior



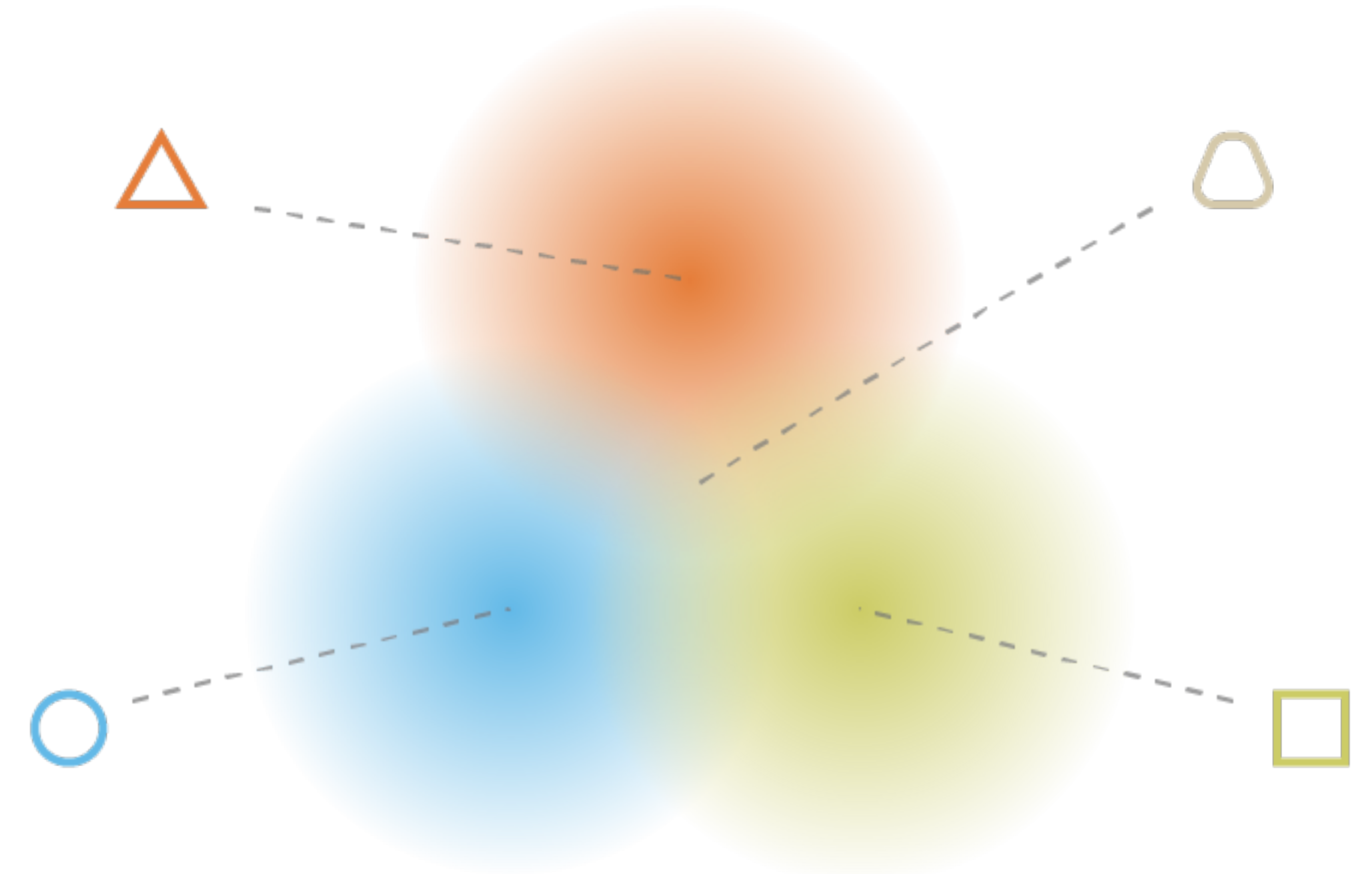
For every minibatch of input data: compute this forward pass, and then backprop!

# Variational Autoencoder: Learning

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



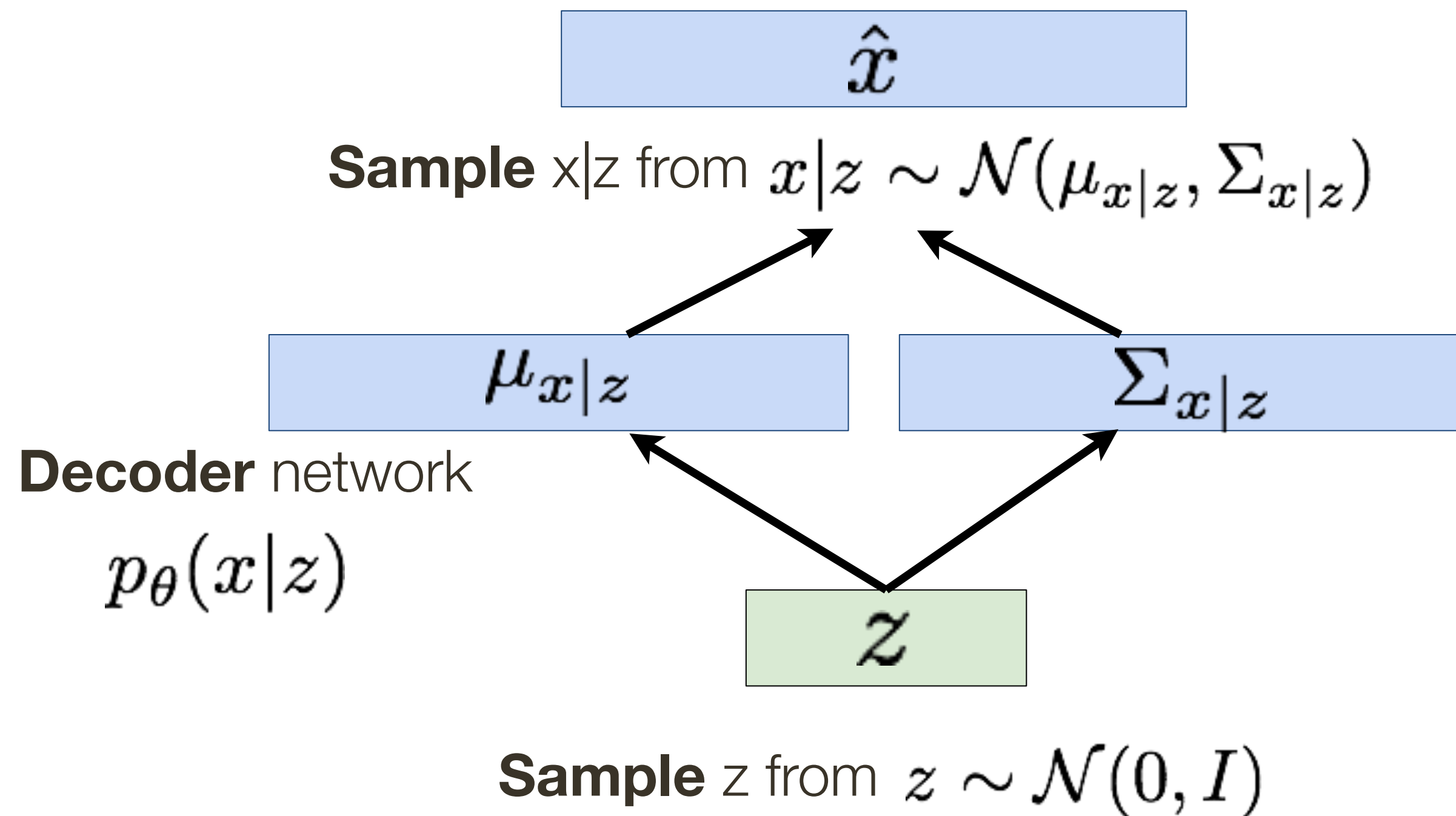
what can happen without regularisation



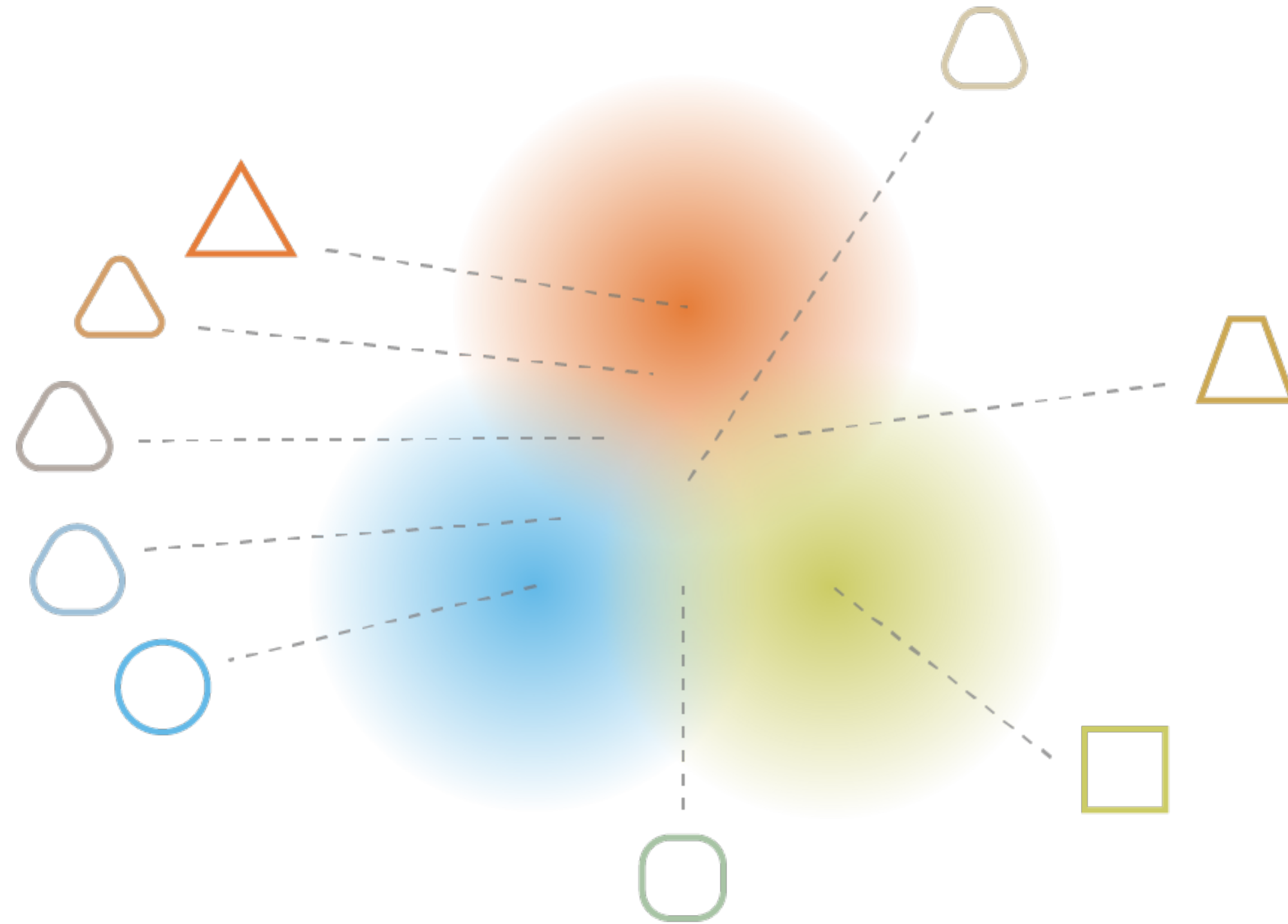
what we want to obtain with regularisation

# Variational Autoencoder: Generating Data

Use decoder network and sample  $z$  from **prior**



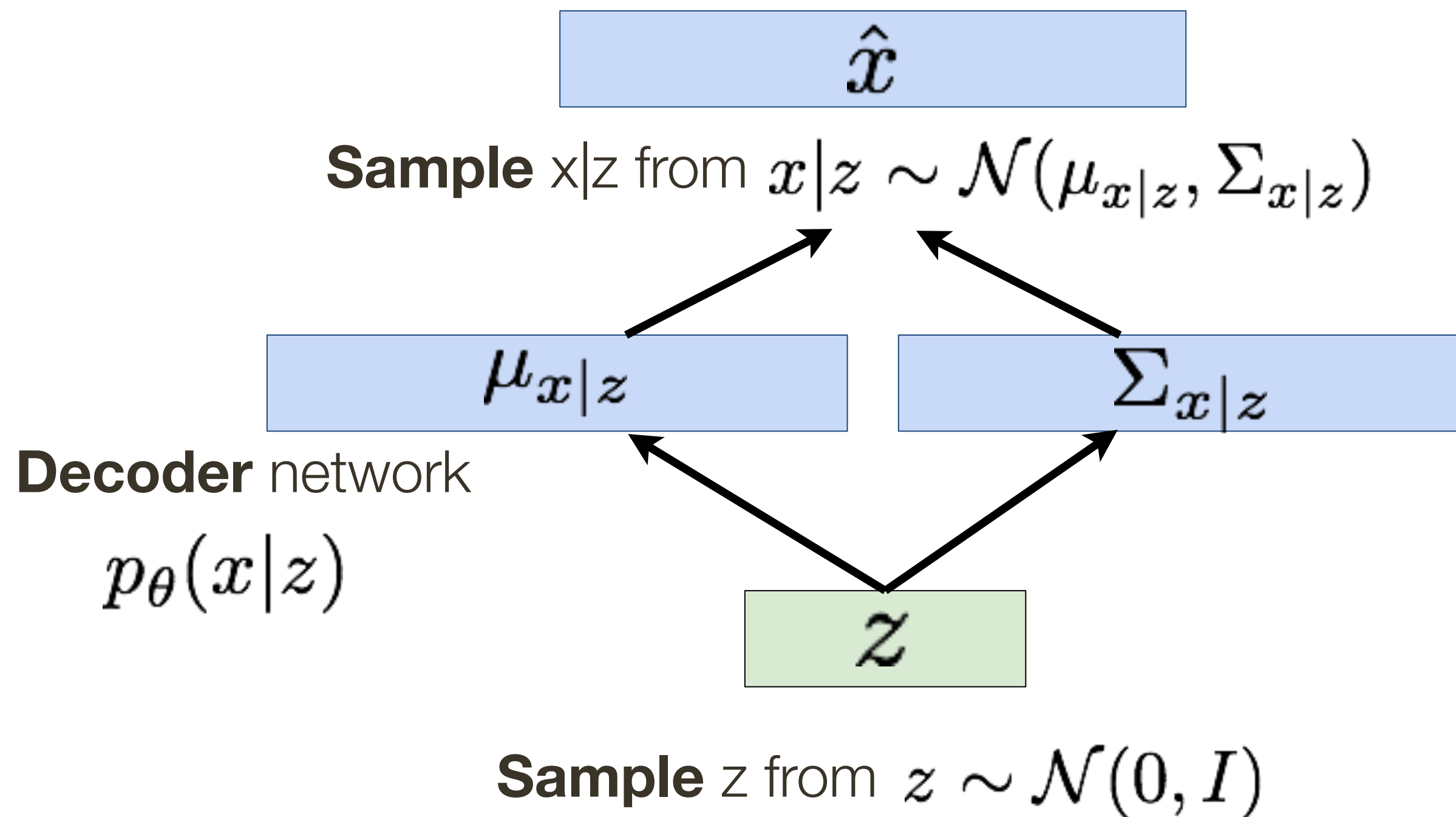
# Variational Autoencoder: Generating Data



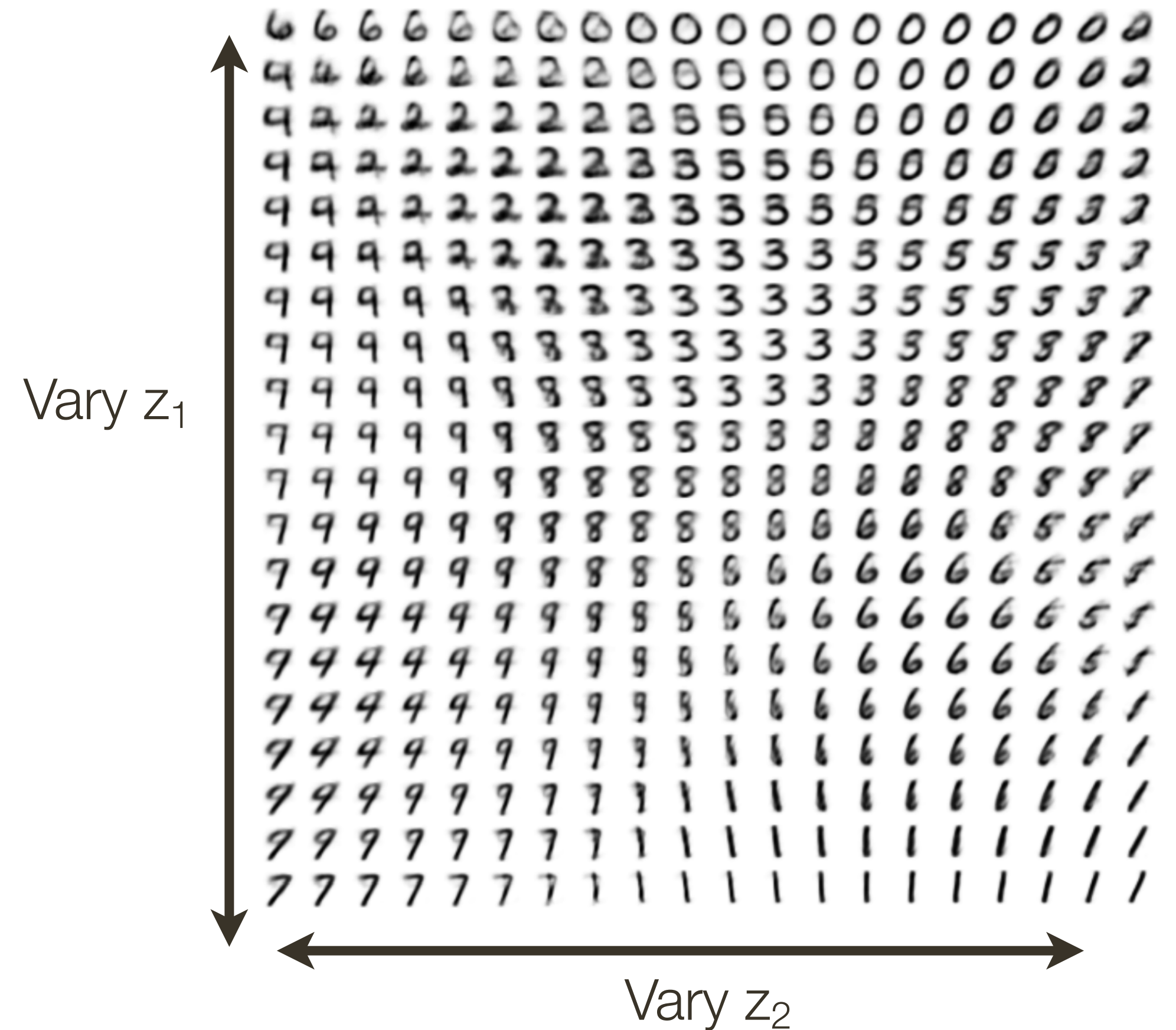


# Variational Autoencoder: Generating Data

Use decoder network and sample  $z$  from **prior**



**Data manifold** for 2-d  $z$



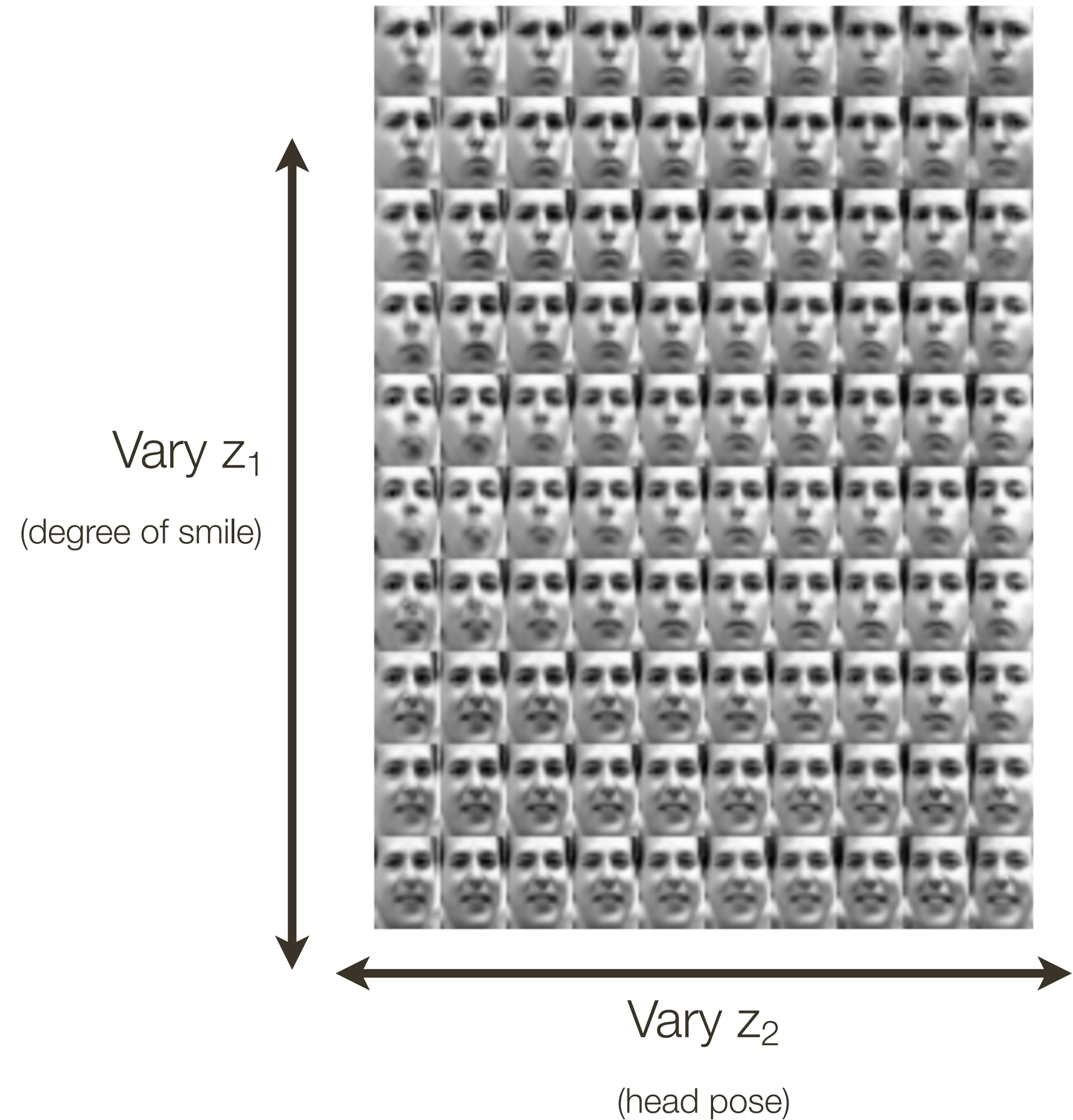


# Variational Autoencoder: Generating Data

Diagonal prior on  $z \Rightarrow$   
independent latent variables

Different dimensions of  $z$  encode  
interpretable factors of variation

**Data manifold** for 2-d  $z$



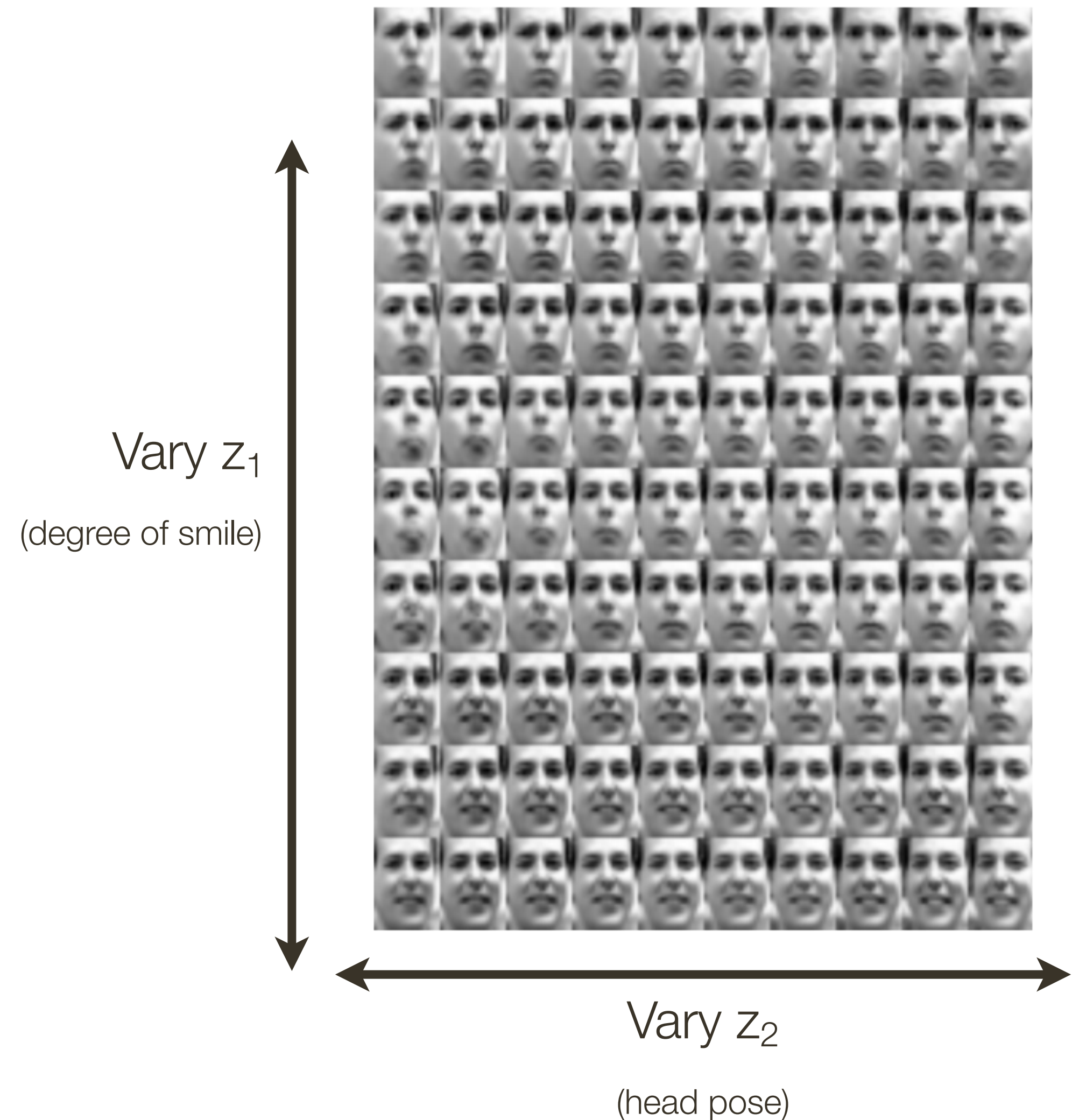
# Variational Autoencoder: Generating Data

Diagonal prior on  $z \Rightarrow$   
independent latent variables

Different dimensions of  $z$  encode  
interpretable factors of variation

Also good feature representation that can  
be computed using  $q_\phi(z|x)$ !

**Data manifold** for 2-d  $z$





# Variational Autoencoder: Generating Data

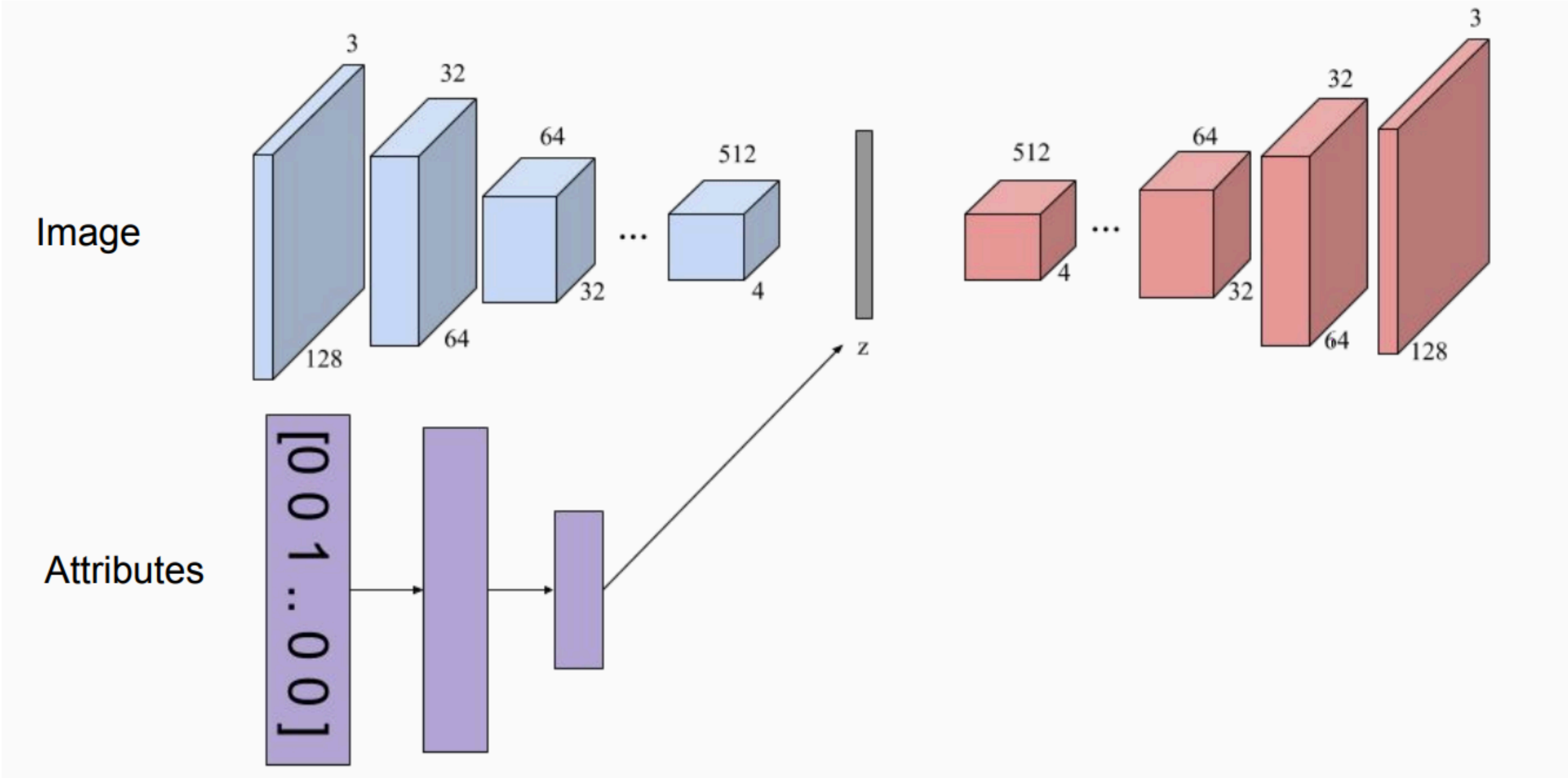


32x32 CIFAR-10



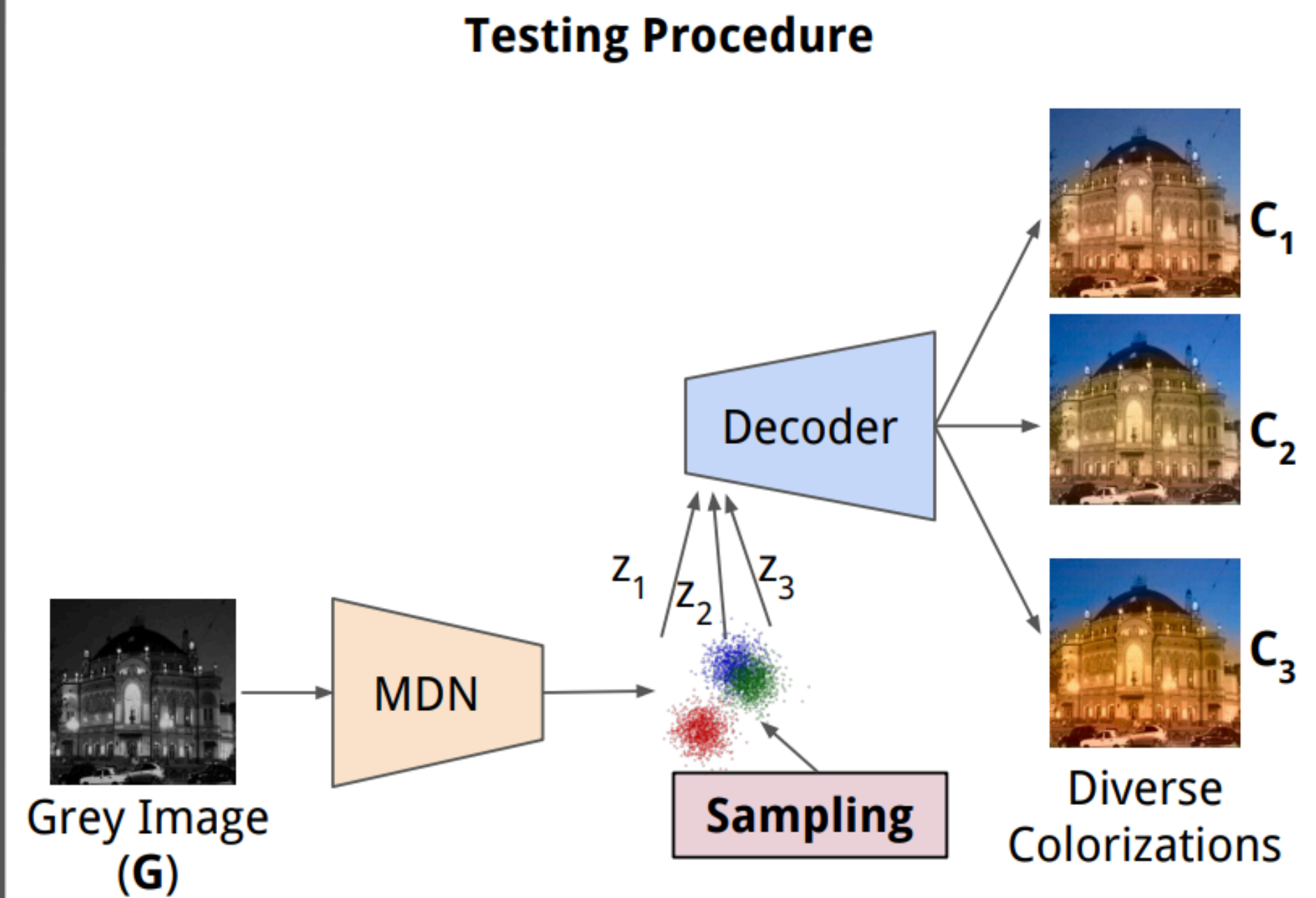
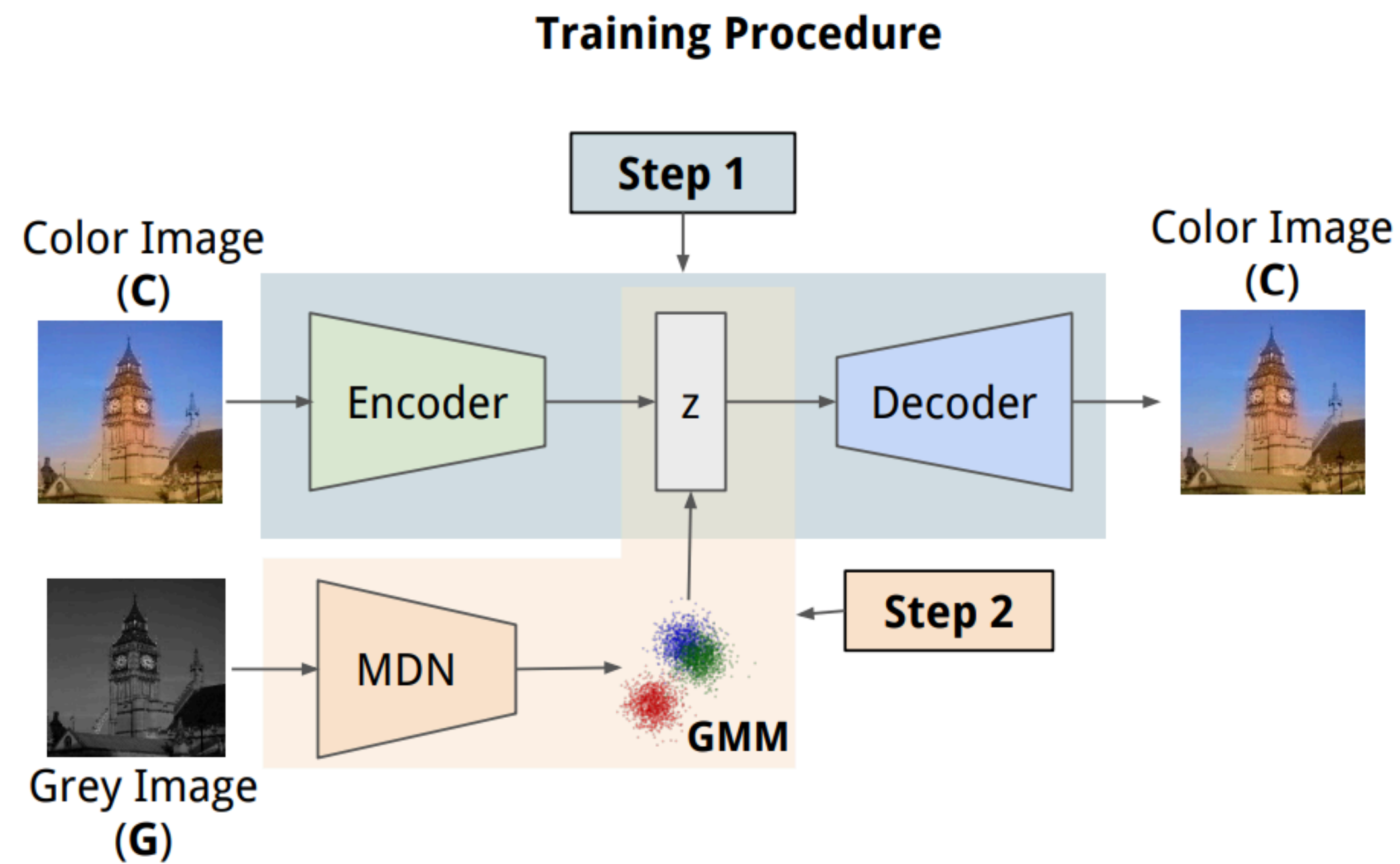
Labeled Faces in the Wild

# Conditional VAEs





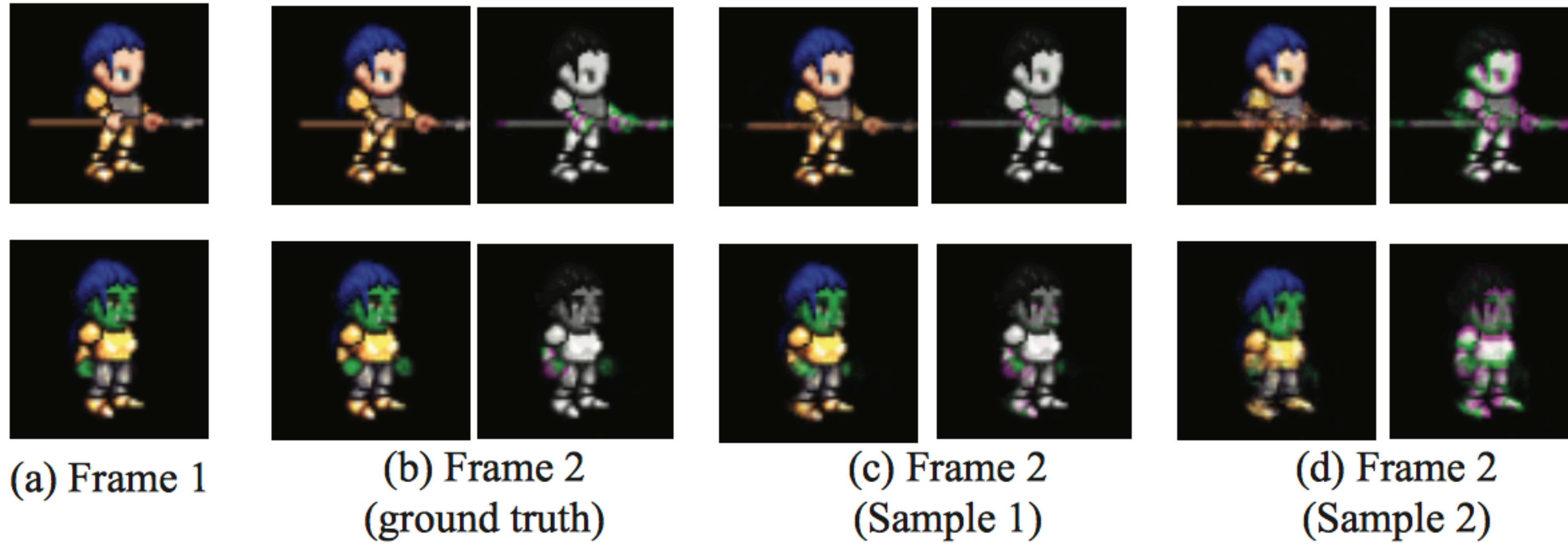
# Conditional VAE: Diverse Image Colorization





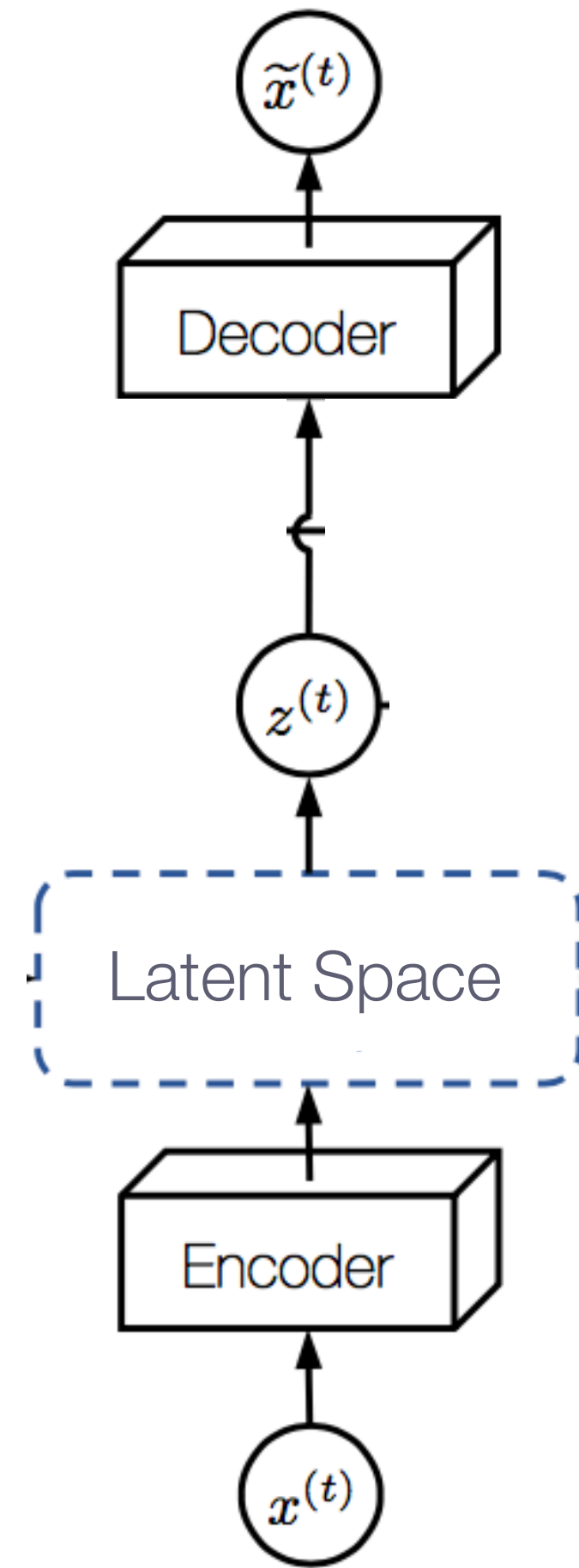
# Conditional VAE: Temporal Predictions

[Xue et al., 2016]



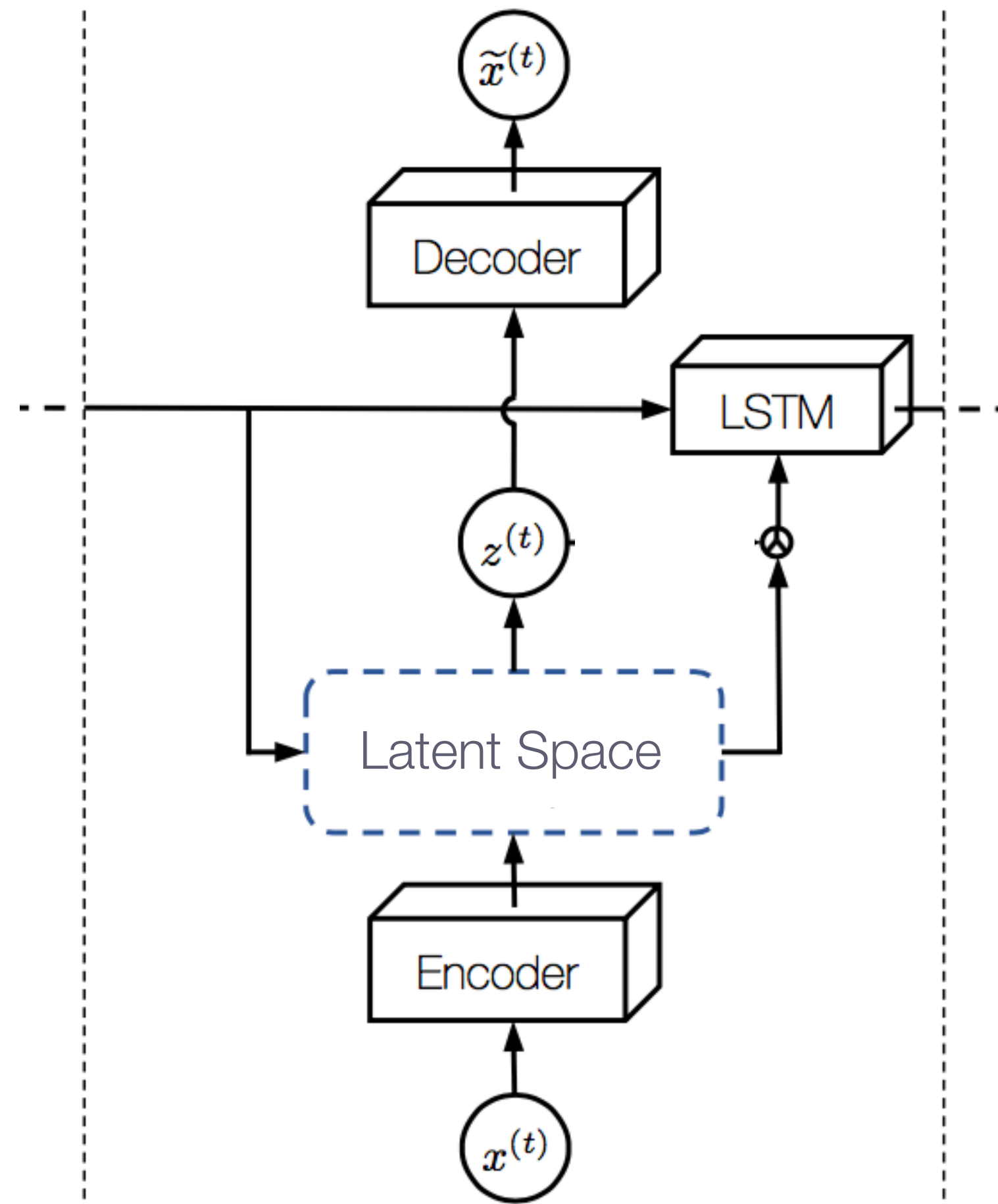
# Variational Autoencoder (VAE)

[ He et al., 2018 ]



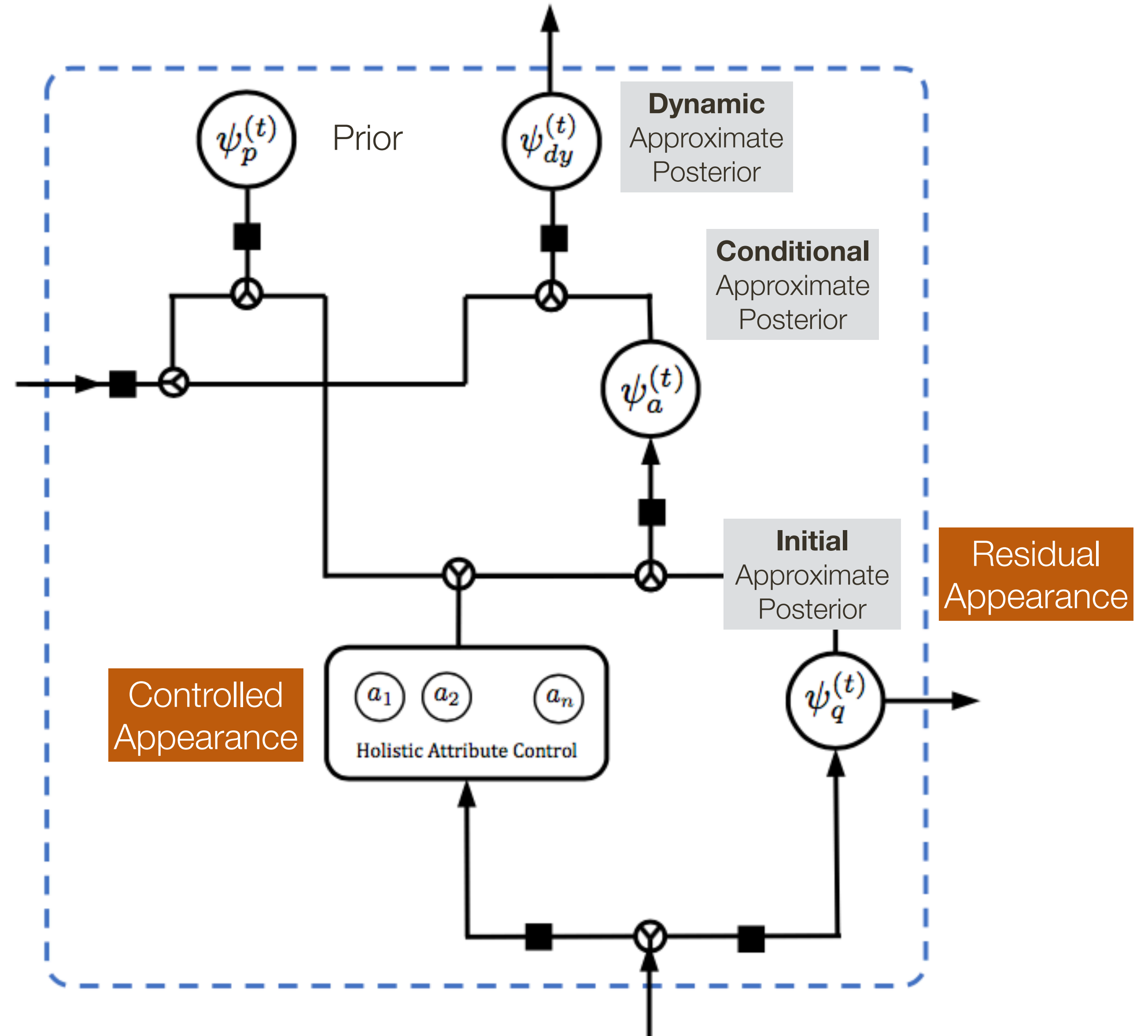
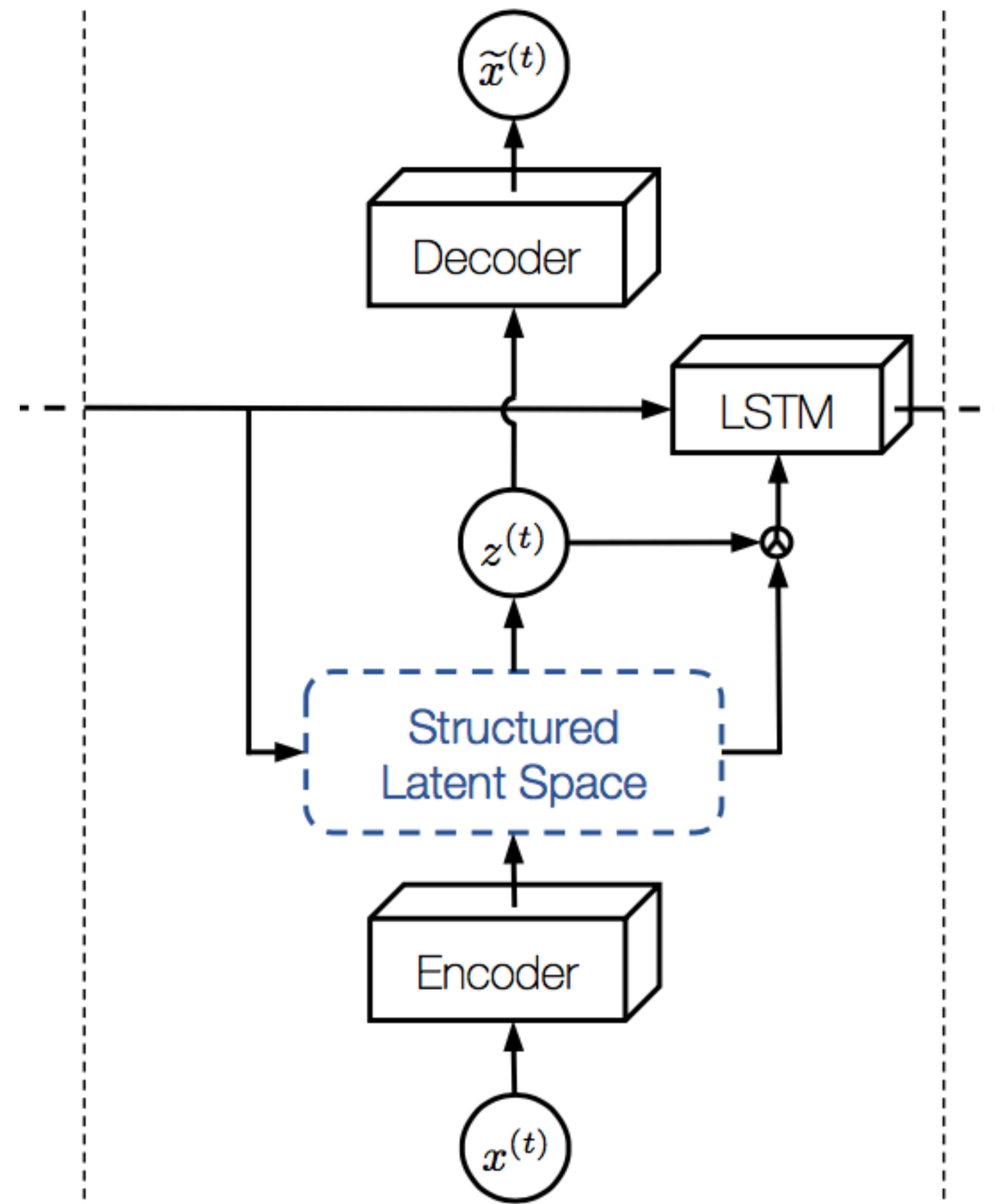
# Variational Autoencoder (VAE) + LSTM

[ He et al., 2018 ]



# VAE + LSTM with Structured Latent Space

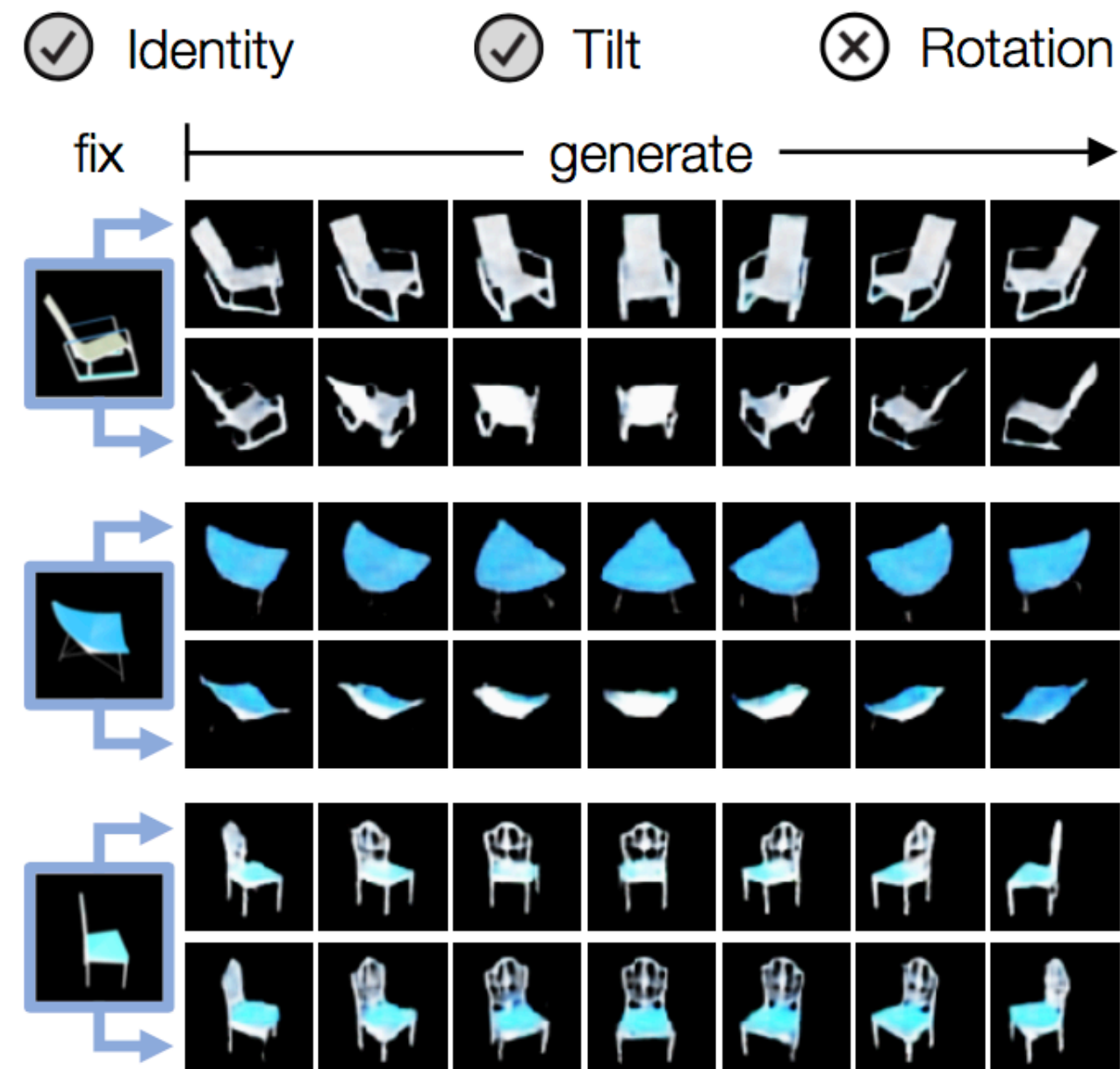
[ He et al., 2018 ]



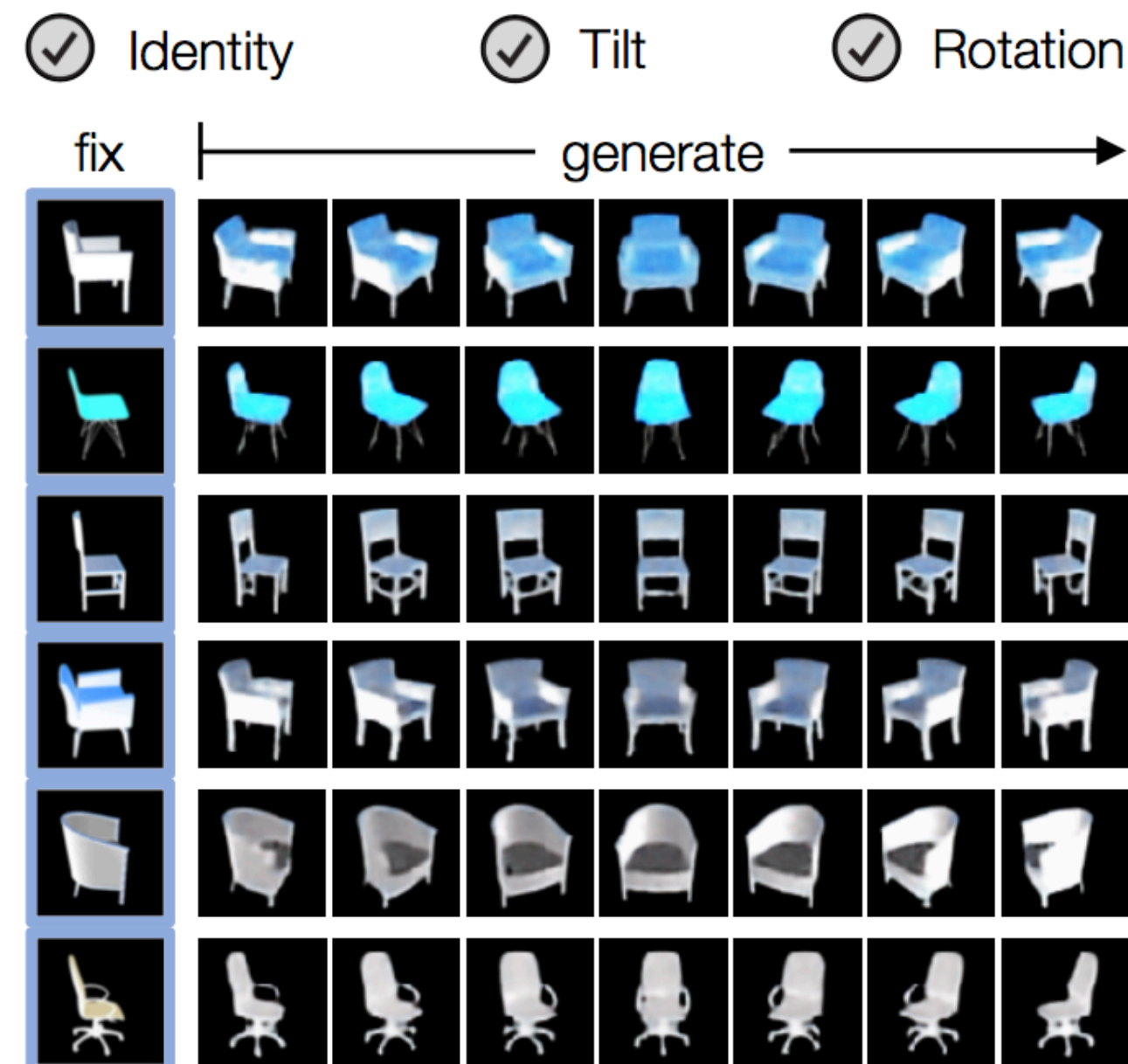


# Results: Chair CAD dataset

[ He et al., 2018 ]



(a) Partial control.



(b) Full control.

## Ablation

	Bound	Static	$-C$		$+C$	
			$-S$	$+S$	$-S$	$+S$
Intra-E ↓	1.98	40.33	17.64	7.79	14.81	<b>5.50</b>
Inter-E ↑	1.39	0.42	0.73	1.35	1.02	<b>1.37</b>
I-Score ↑	4.01	1.28	1.83	3.63	2.56	<b>3.94</b>

## Quantitative

	Chair CAD [1, 40]		
	Bound	Deep Rot. [40]	VideoVAE (ours)
Intra-E ↓	1.98	14.68	<b>5.50</b>
Inter-E ↑	1.39	1.34	<b>1.37</b>
I-Score ↑	4.01	3.39	<b>3.94</b>

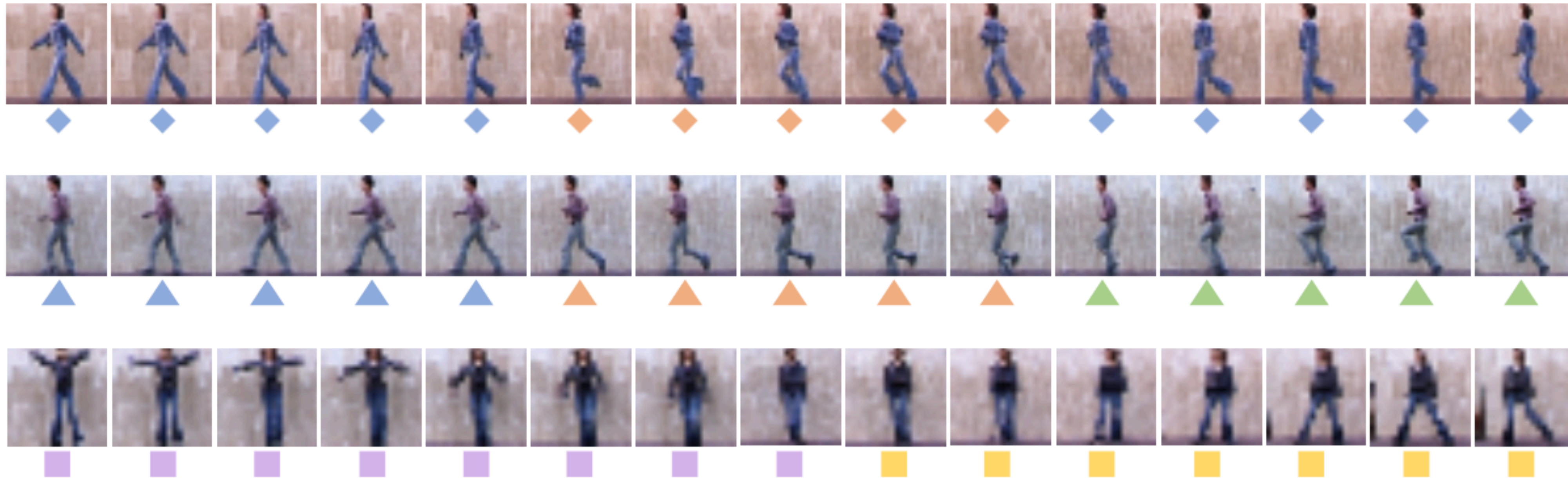


# Results: Weizmann Human Action dataset

[ He et al., 2018 ]

⊙ Identity = ◆ | ▲ | ■    ⊙ Action = ● walking | ● running | ● skipping | ● jumping jack | ● side step

generate →



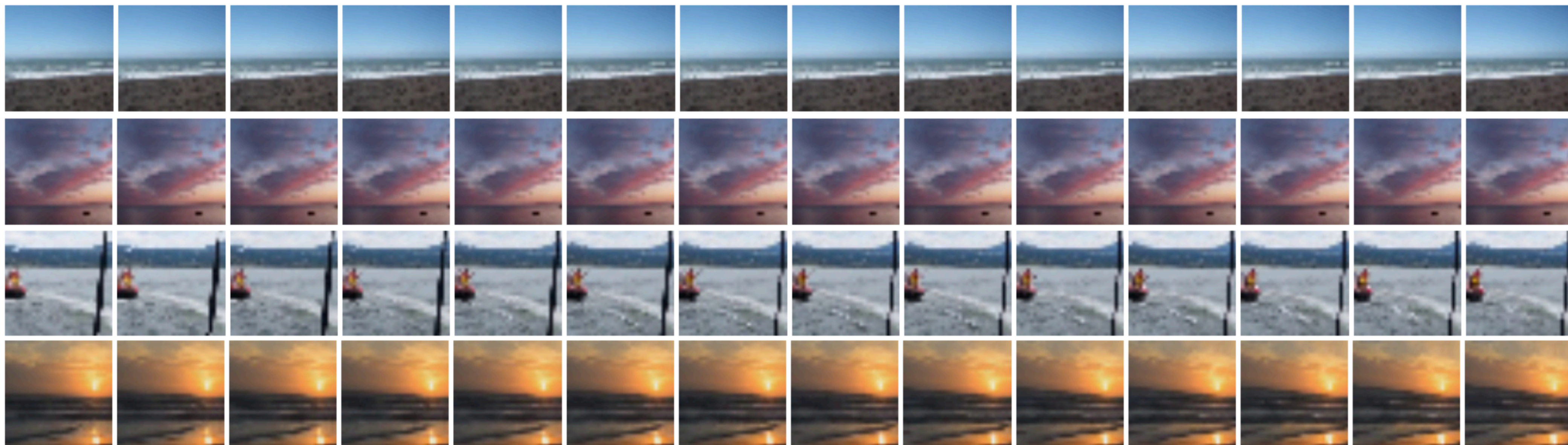
**Weizmann Human Action [2]**

	Bound	MoCoGAN [32]	VideoVAE (ours)
Intra-E	↓ 0.63	23.58	9.53 <b>9.44</b>
Inter-E	↑ 4.49	2.91	<b>4.37</b> 4.37
I-Score	↑ 89.12	13.87	69.55 <b>70.10</b>



# Results: MIT Flickr

[ He et al., 2018 ]



YFCC [31] — MIT Flickr [34]				
	Bound	VGAN [34]	VideoVAE (ours)	
		○	○	●
Intra-E	↓ 30.34	46.96	44.03	<b>38.20</b>
Inter-E	↑ 0.693	<b>0.692</b>	0.691	<b>0.692</b>
I-Score	↑ 1.87	1.58	1.62	<b>1.81</b>

# Variational Autoencoders

Probabilistic spin to traditional autoencoders => allows generating data  
Defines an intractable density => derive and optimize a (variational) lower bound

## Pros:

- Principled approach to generative models
- Allows inference of  $q(z|x)$ , can be useful feature representation for other tasks

## Cons:

- Maximizes lower bound of likelihood: okay, but not as good evaluation as PixelRNN/PixelCNN
- Samples blurrier and lower quality compared to state-of-the-art (GANs)

## Active area of research:

- More flexible approximations, e.g. richer approximate posterior instead of diagonal Gaussian
- Incorporating structure in latent variables (our submission to CVPR)



# VAE /w (powerful) PixelCNN Decoder

**Problem:** If the decoder is too powerful, it may just ignore the latent variables (i.e. posterior collapse). This happens when the decoder can make the reconstruction loss incredibly small, such that the regularization term dominates the loss function. In such a case, the encoder will learn to reduce the regularization term, and produce meaningless latents to match  $p(z) = N(0, 1)$ .

# Vector Quantized Variational Autoencoders (VQ-VAE)

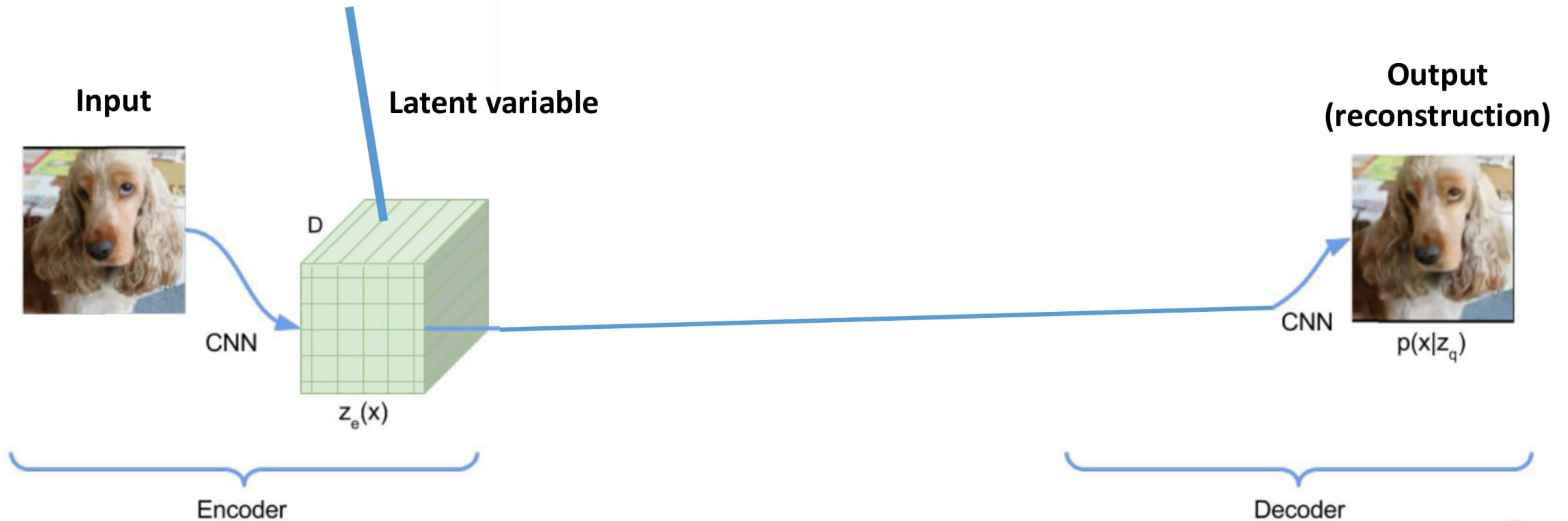


# Autoencoders Reminder ...

Source: [http://www.tomviering.nl/talks/slides/2018\\_01\\_09.pdf](http://www.tomviering.nl/talks/slides/2018_01_09.pdf)

How to discretize?

For the example:  
We take this to be a 4 x 4 image  
with 2 channels.



We can train this system end-to-end  
using MSE (reconstruction loss)

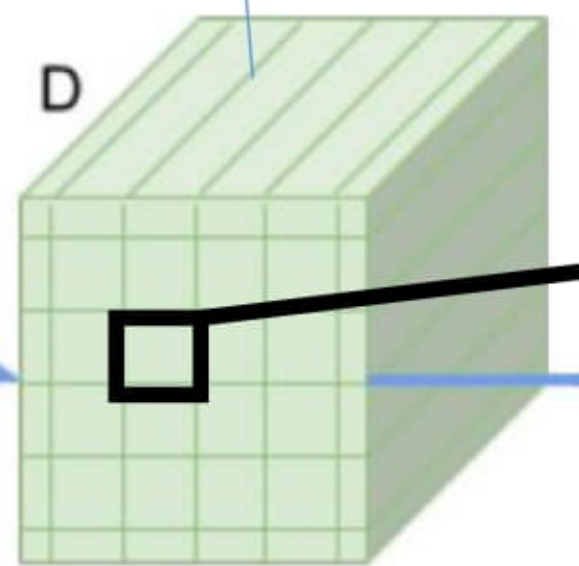
# Autoencoders Reminder ...

Source: [http://www.tomviering.nl/talks/slides/2018\\_01\\_09.pdf](http://www.tomviering.nl/talks/slides/2018_01_09.pdf)

4 x 4 image with 2 channels.  
We plot all pixel values (16) in 2D  
(since we have 2 channels)



CNN

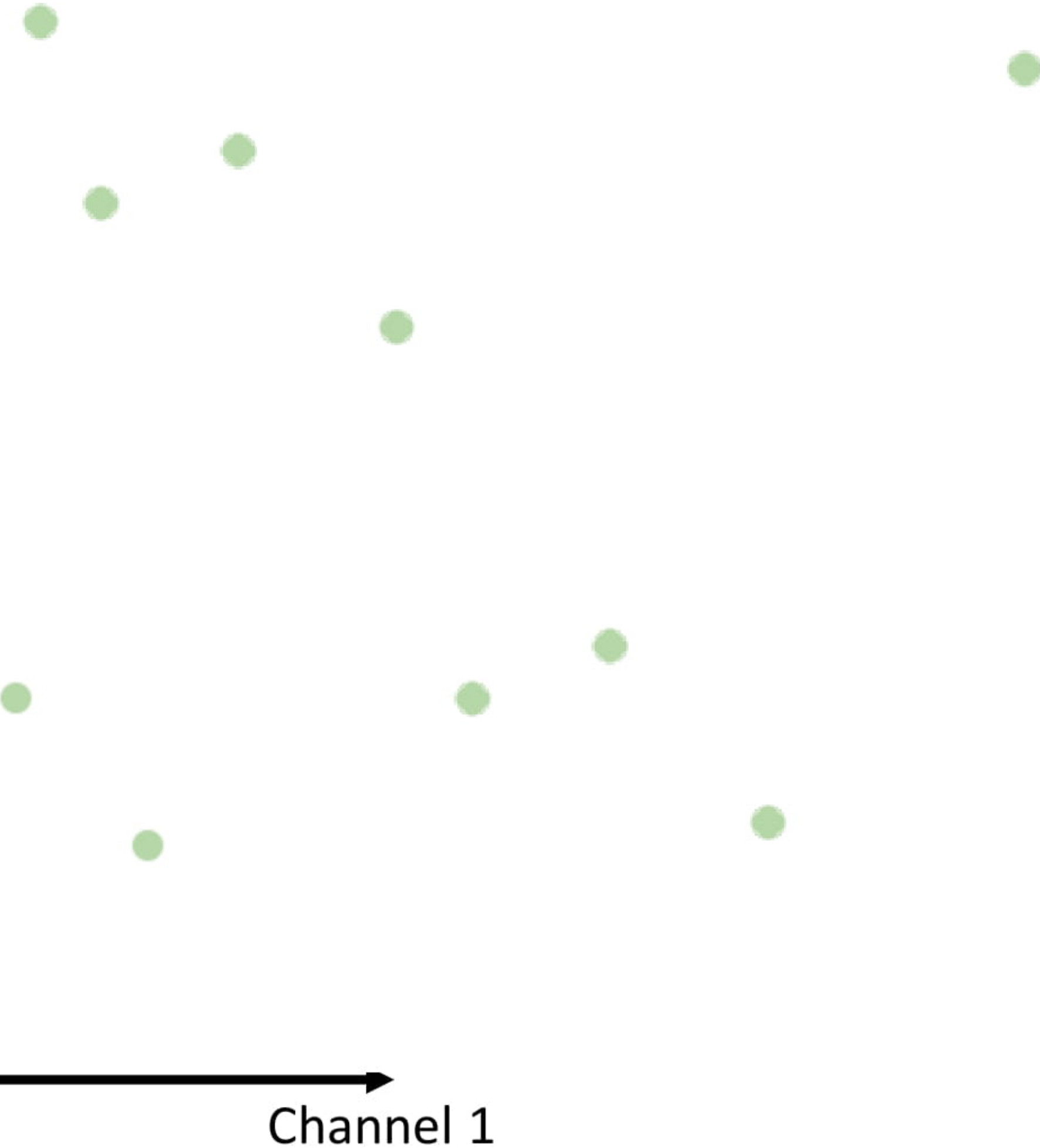


Channel 2

$z_e(x)$

Encoder

How to discretize?



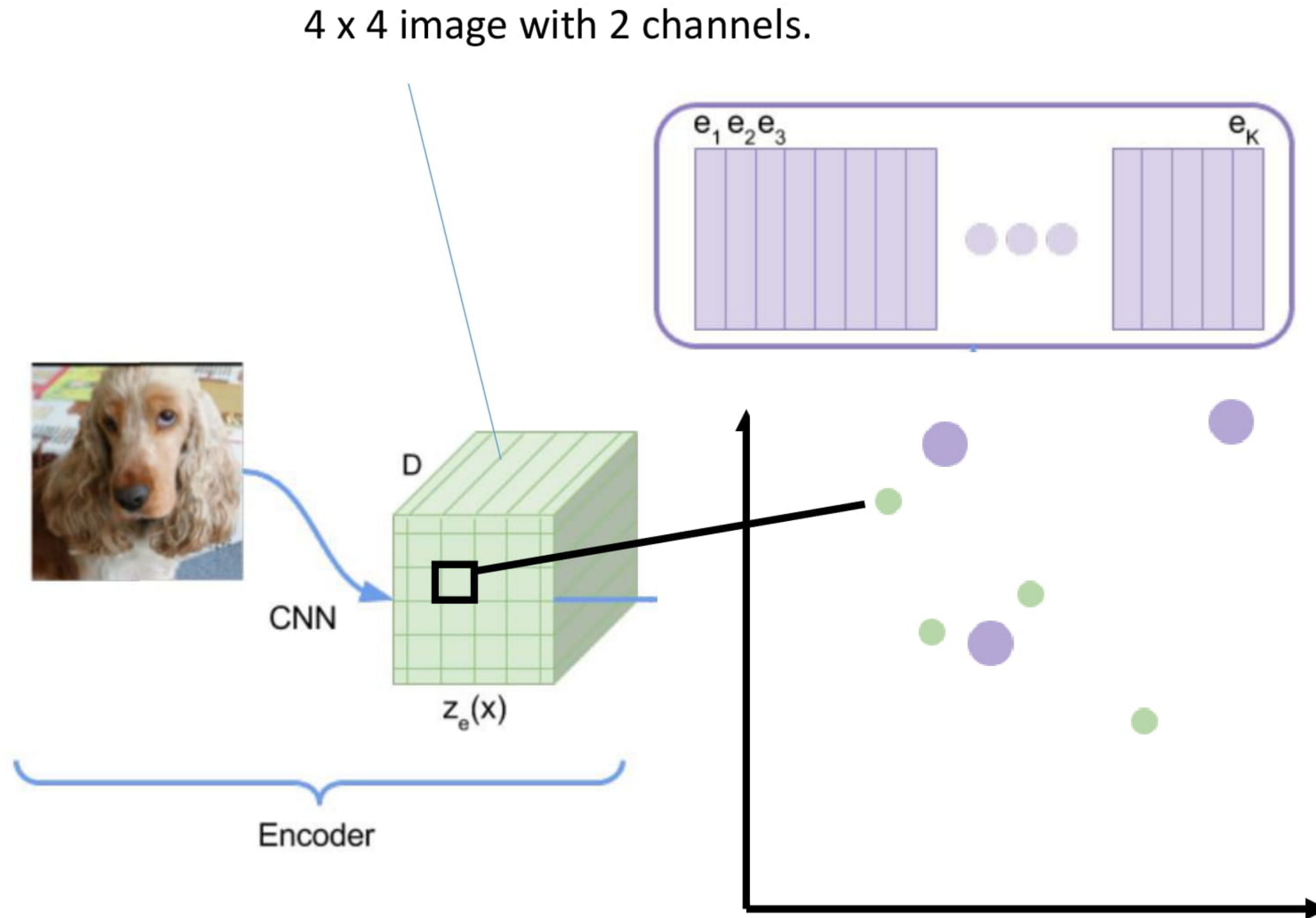
# Vector Quantized - VAE

Source: [http://www.tomviering.nl/talks/slides/2018\\_01\\_09.pdf](http://www.tomviering.nl/talks/slides/2018_01_09.pdf)

Make dictionary of vectors

$e_1, \dots, e_K$

Each  $e_i$  has 2 dimensions.





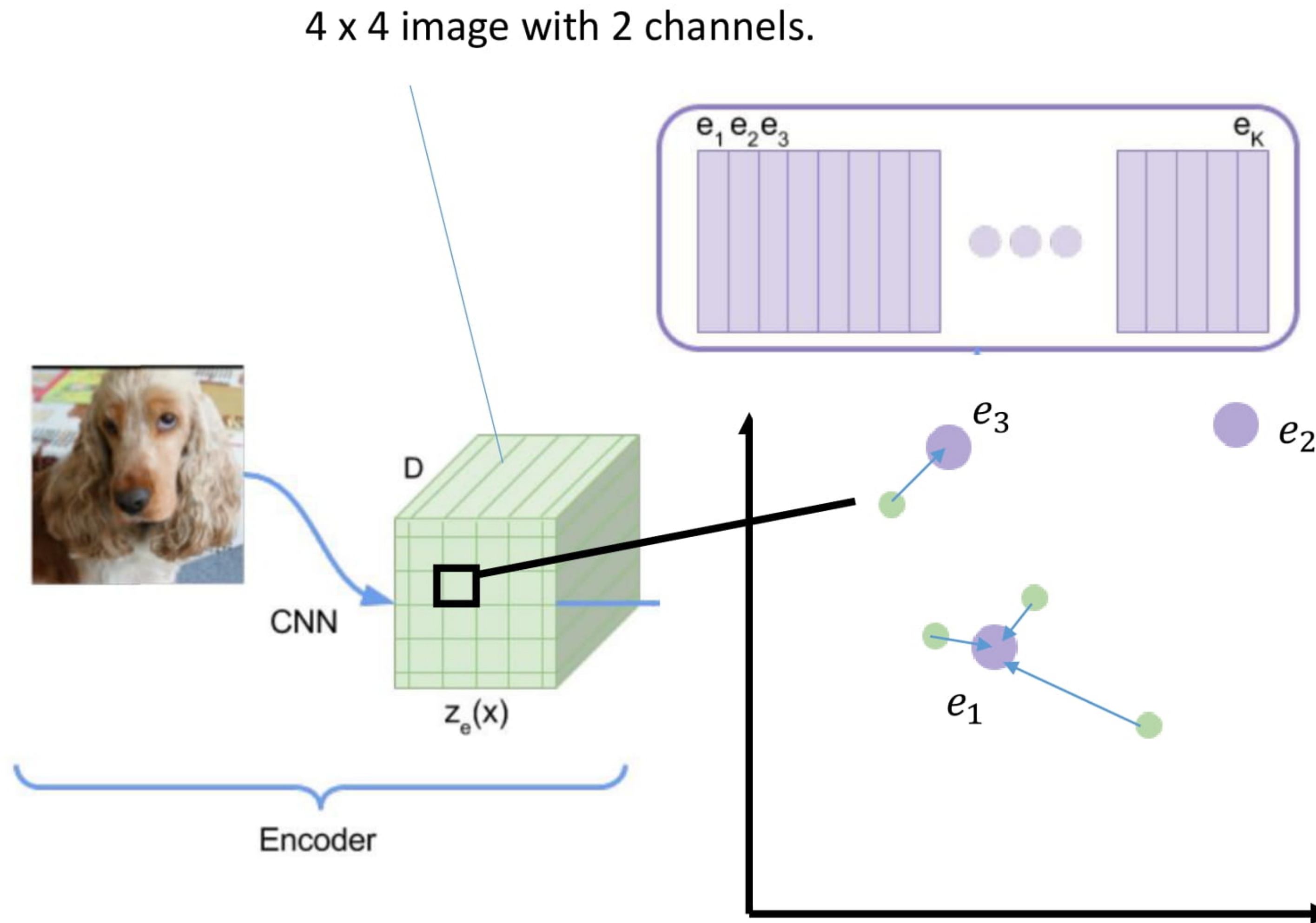
# Vector Quantized - VAE

Source: [http://www.tomviering.nl/talks/slides/2018\\_01\\_09.pdf](http://www.tomviering.nl/talks/slides/2018_01_09.pdf)

Make dictionary of vectors

$e_1, \dots, e_K$

Each  $e_i$  has 2 dimensions.

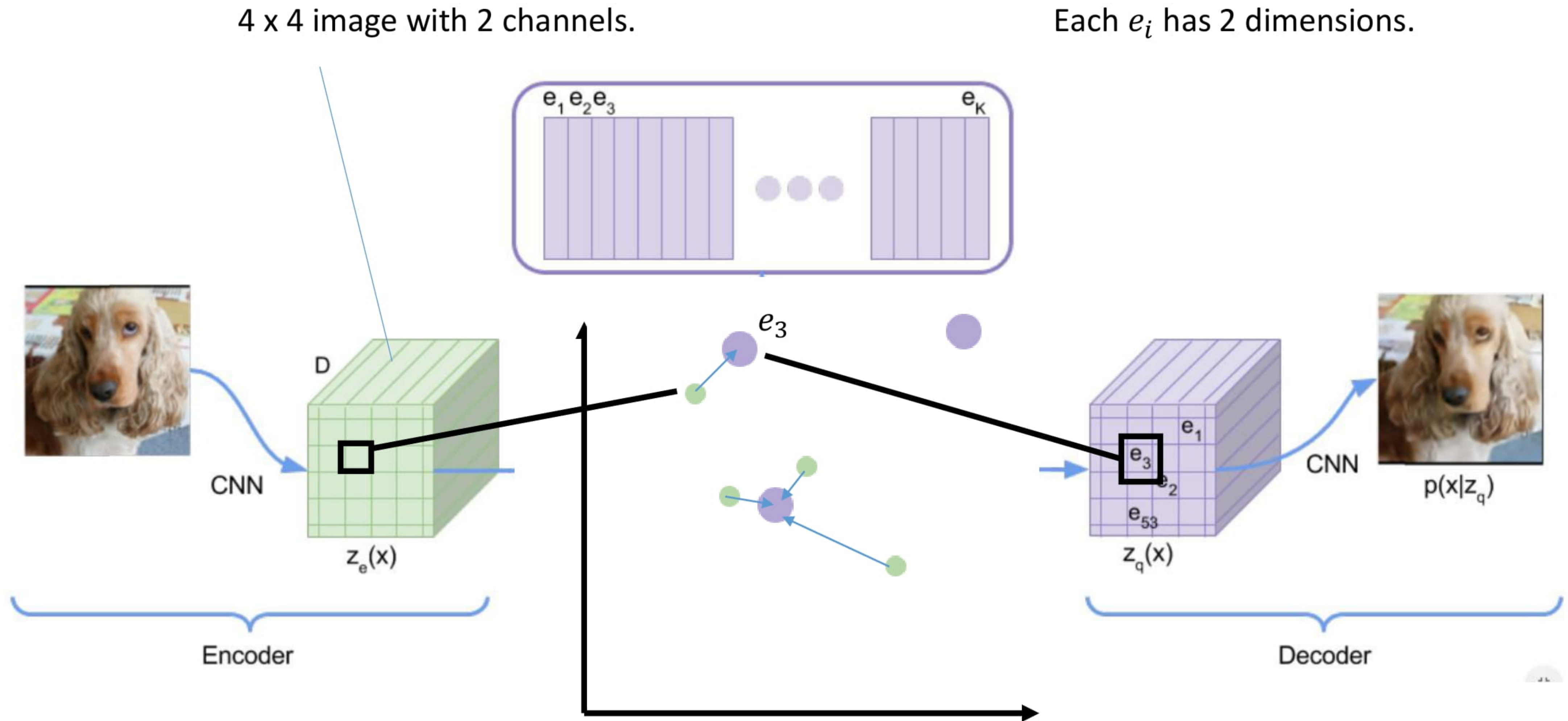


For each latent pixel, look up nearest dictionary element  $e$



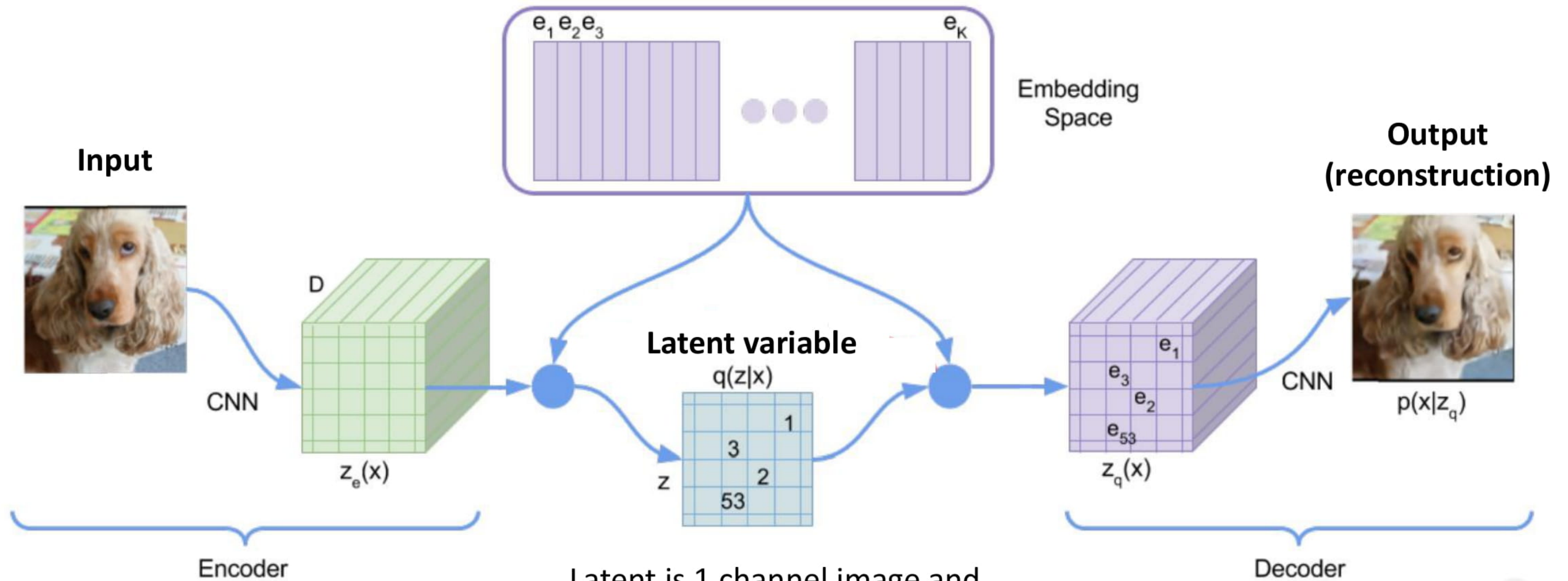
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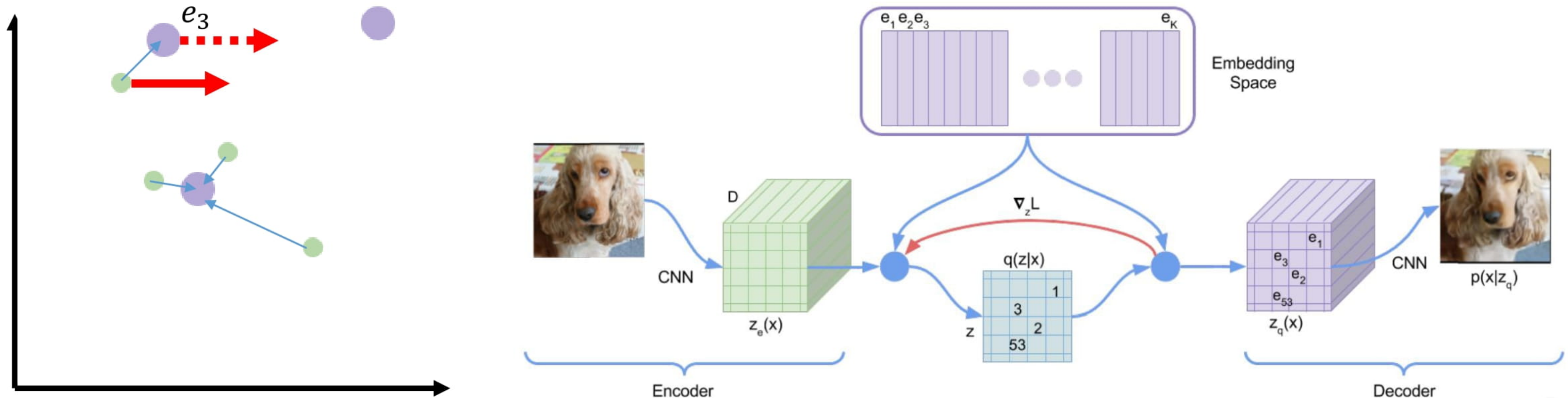
Latent is 1 channel image and contains the id of each  $e$  for each pixel (**discrete**).



# VQ-VAE — Training

Source: [http://www.tomviering.nl/talks/slides/2018\\_01\\_09.pdf](http://www.tomviering.nl/talks/slides/2018_01_09.pdf)

- How to backpropagate through the discretization?
  - Lets say a gradient is incoming to a dictionary vector
  - We do not update the dictionary vector (fixed)
  - Instead we apply the gradient of  $e$  to the non-discretized vector

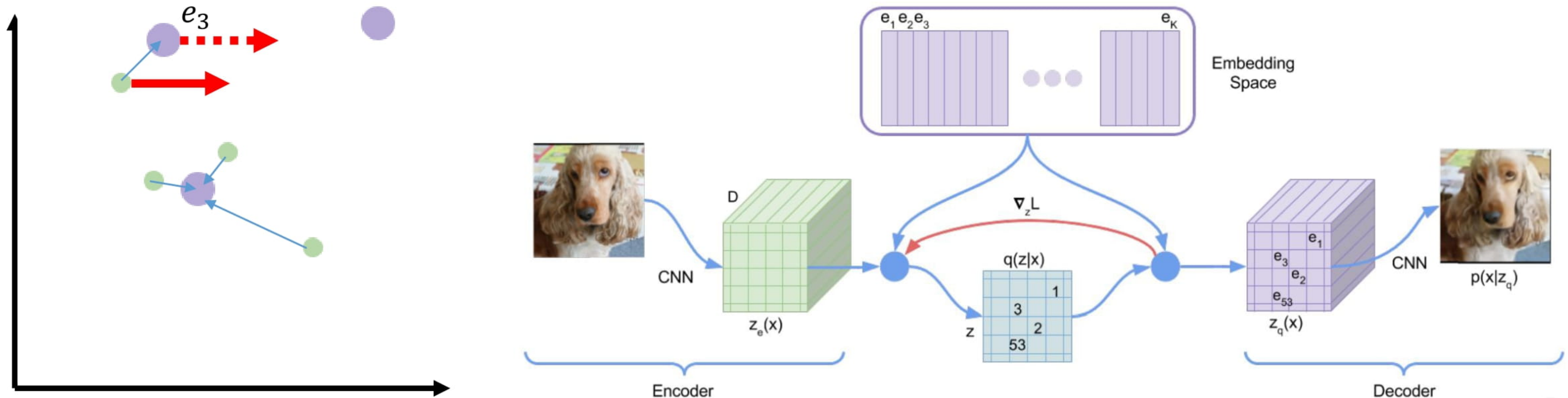


# VQ-VAE — Training

Source: [http://www.tomvriening.nl/talks/slides/2018\\_01\\_09.pdf](http://www.tomvriening.nl/talks/slides/2018_01_09.pdf)

$$L = \log p(x|z_q(x)) + \| \text{sg}[z_e(x)] - e \|_2^2 + \beta \| z_e(x) - \text{sg}[e] \|_2^2,$$

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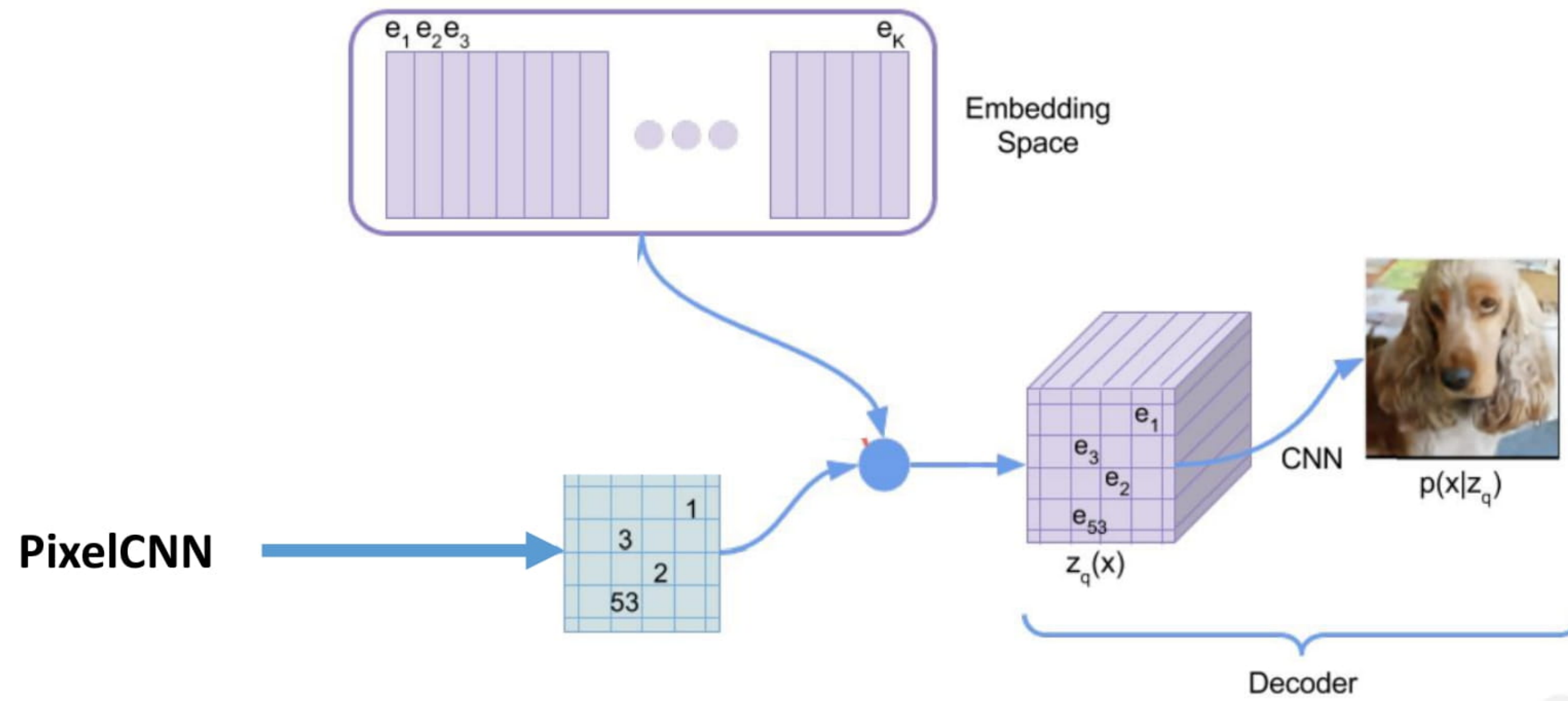
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**Reconstruction loss**, which optimizes both the encoder and decoder

**Regularization**, ensures that encoder does not grow arbitrarily

**VQ loss**, which moves the embedding vectors towards encoder outputs

# VQ-VAE — Sampling / Generation



Class: pickup





# VQ-VAE — Sampling / Generation

- Comparable with VAE on CIFAR-10 in terms of density estimation
- Reconstructions on ImageNet are very good



Figure 2: Left: ImageNet 128x128x3 images, right: reconstructions from a VQ-VAE with a 32x32x1 latent space, with  $K=512$ .



# VQ-VAE vs. GAN



VQ-VAE (Proposed)

BigGAN deep



# Relationship of VQ-VAE to VAE

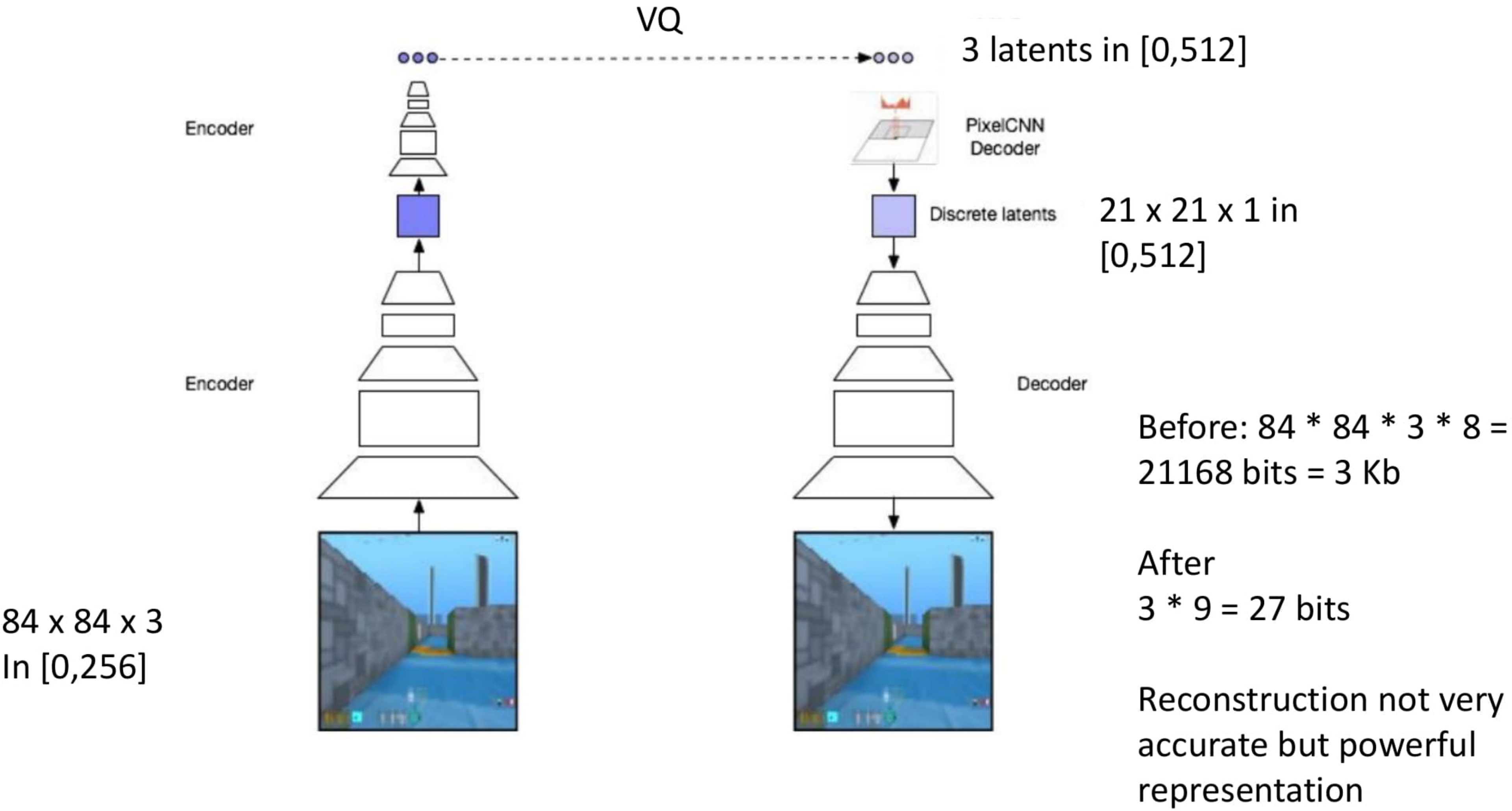
**VAE:** Assumes Gaussian prior over continuous latent space

**VQ-VAE:** Assumes uniform categorical distribution over discrete keywords (all keywords are equally likely)

# Comparison

	GAN	Variational Autoencoder	Pixel CNN	VQ-VAE (This talk)
Compute exact likelihood $p(x)$	✗	✗	✓	✗
Has latent variable $z$	✓	✓	✗	✓
Compute latent variable $z$ (inference)	✗	✓	✗	✓
Discrete latent variable	✗	✗	✗	✓
Stable training?	✗	✓	✓	✓
Sharp images?	✓	✗	✓	✓?

# Multi-stage VQ-VAE



# So far ...

PixelCNNs define tractable density function, optimize likelihood of training data:

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

VAEs define intractable density function with latent variables  $z$  (that we need to marginalize):

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

**cannot optimize directly**, derive and optimize lower bound of likelihood instead

What if we give up on explicitly modeling density, and just want to sample?



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**cannot optimize directly**, derive and optimize lower bound of likelihood instead

What if we give up on explicitly modeling density, and just want to sample?

GANs: don't work with any explicit density function