

# Autoencoders

Machine Learning: Jordan Boyd-Graber University of Maryland SLIDES ADAPTED FROM IAN GOODFELLOW

- Representation
- Generation
- Training

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- Generation p(x, y)
- Training

Ties in to the generative models and inference we've been talking about!

- Representation
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But with weaker probabilstic assumptions ....

- Representation
- Generation
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But with weaker probabilstic assumptions ... okay if you have enough data.

# Why autoencoders

- Discover hidden structure
  - Unlike clustering or admixtures, continuous
  - Not always interpretable
- Reconstruct data
- Features for downstream model (a la word2vec)

- Minimize  $L(\vec{x}, g(f(\vec{x})))$ 
  - Encoder f
  - Decoder g
- Problem: avoid identity!
- Via hidden layer  $\vec{h}$ 
  - Regularized
  - Smaller dimensionality
  - Probabilistic



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#### **Denoising Autoencoders**



C: corruption proce (introduce noise)

$$L = -\log p_{\text{decoder}}(\boldsymbol{x} \mid \boldsymbol{h} = f(\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}}))$$

- Perturb the input somehow
- Try to correct the noise: high probability of  $\vec{x}$ !
- Learns manifold

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