

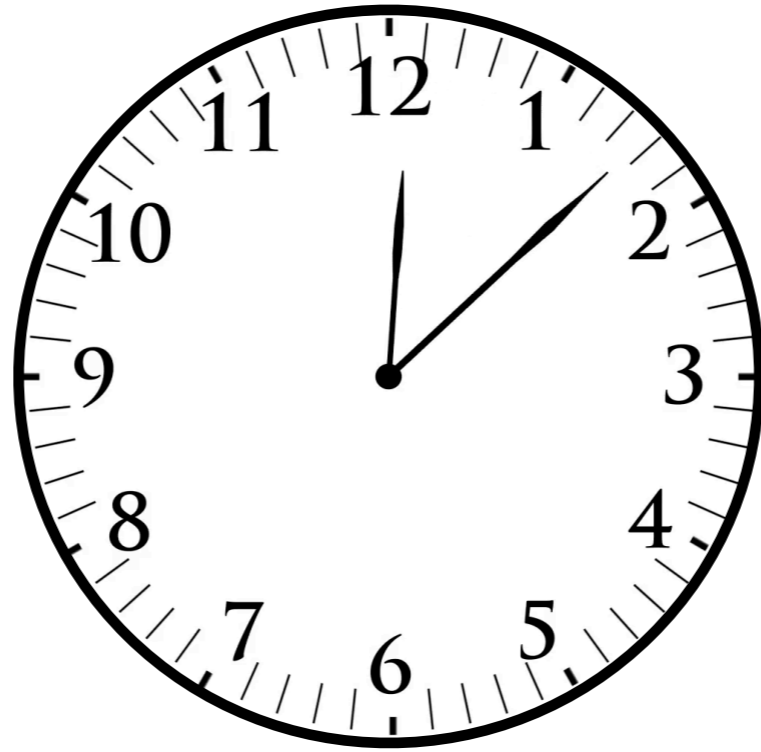
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# DEEP SEQUENTIAL LATENT VARIABLE MODELS

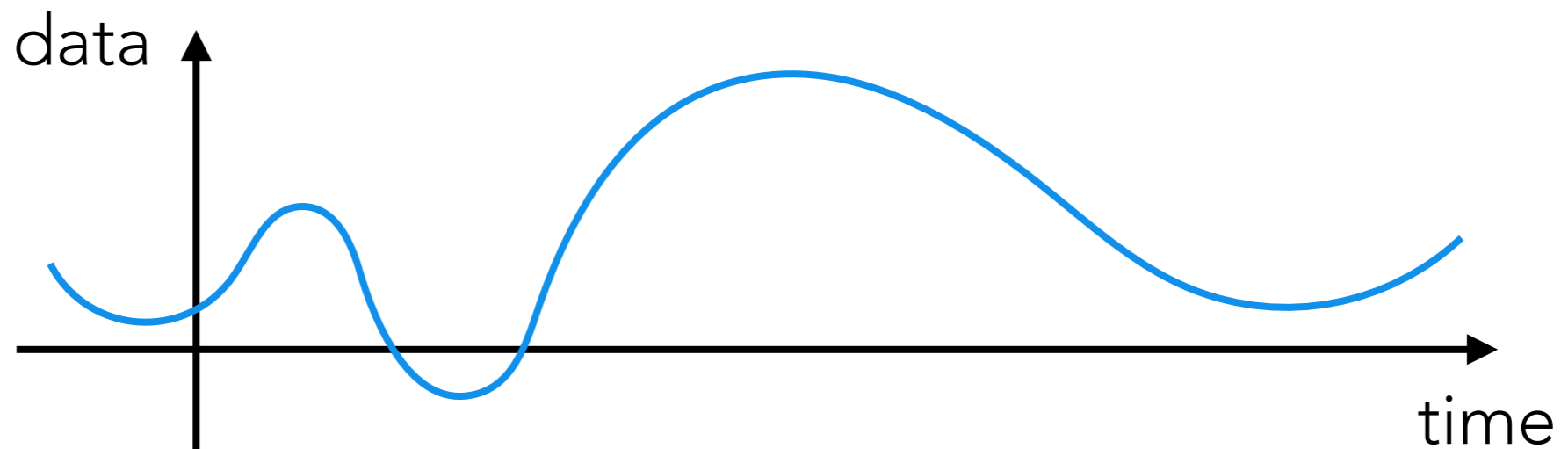
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*JOSEPH MARINO*

**CALTECH**



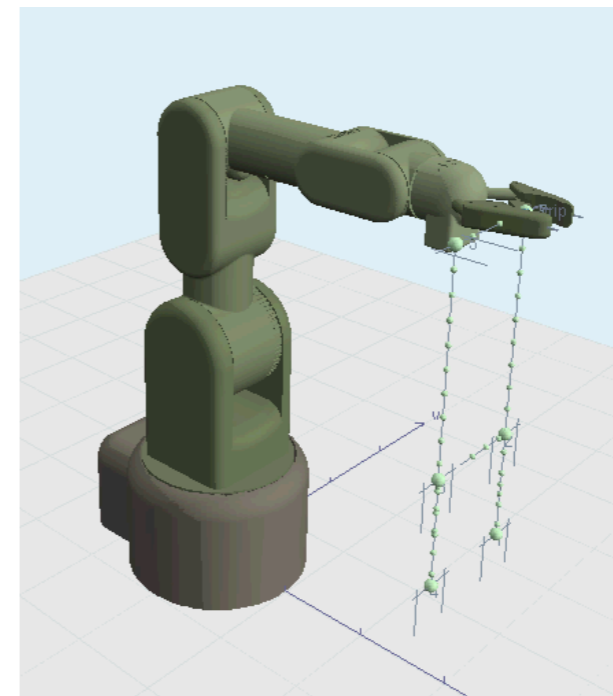
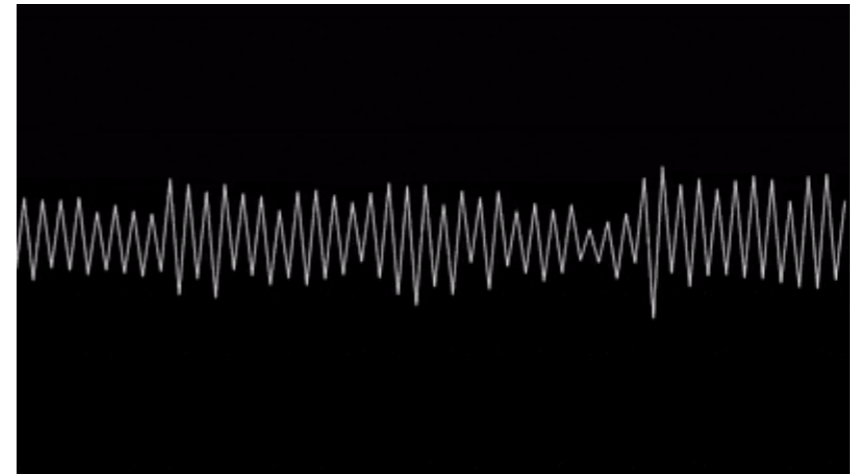
**observed data are often sequential**



vision

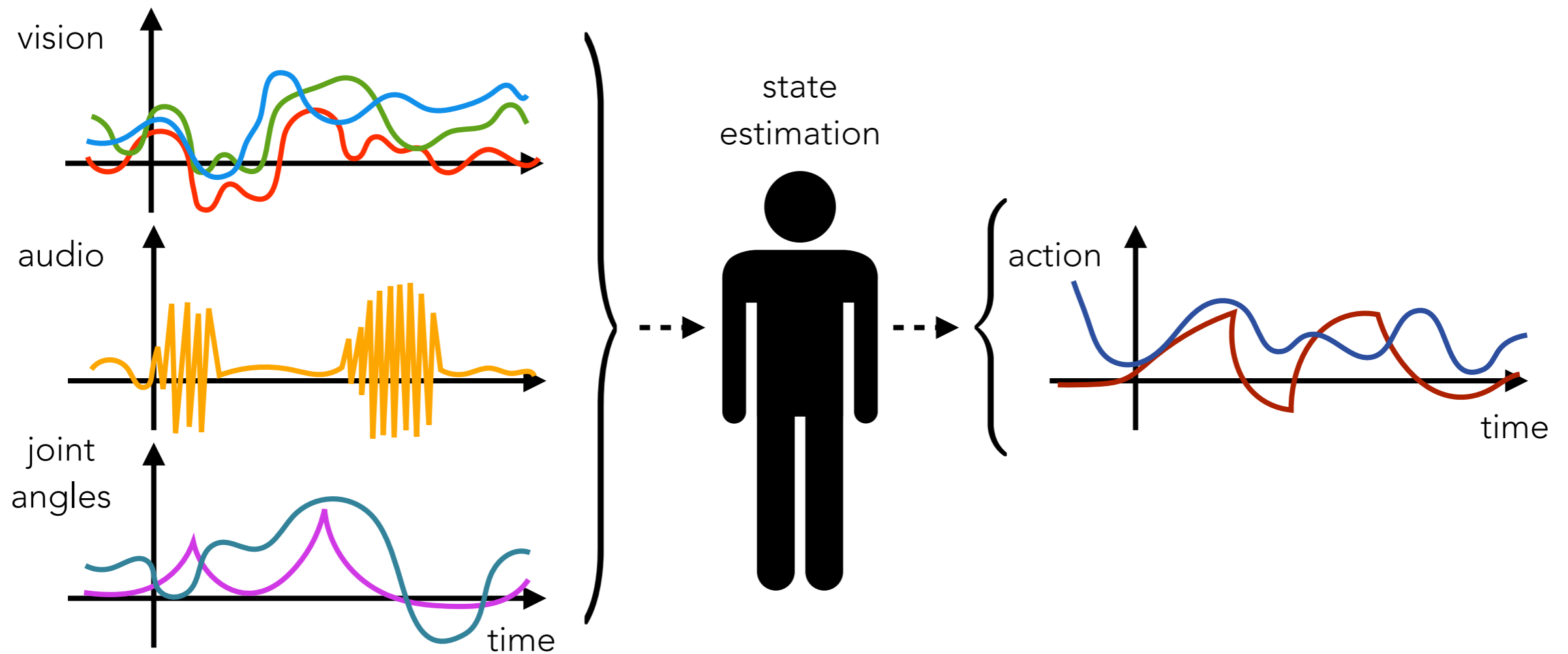


audio



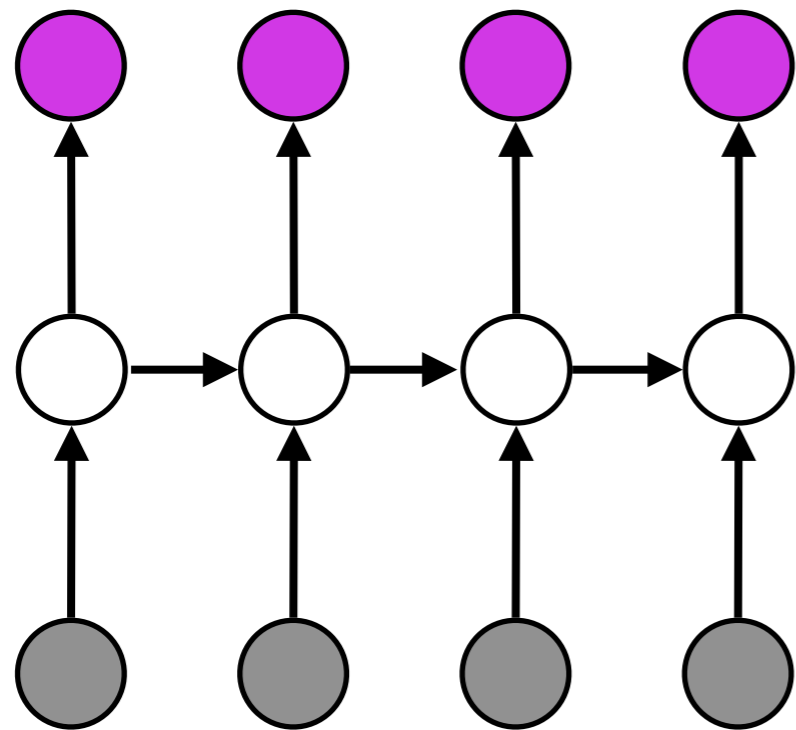
joint angles

interacting in the world involves processing sequences of data



# COMPUTATIONAL APPROACHES TO STATE ESTIMATION

**discriminative**

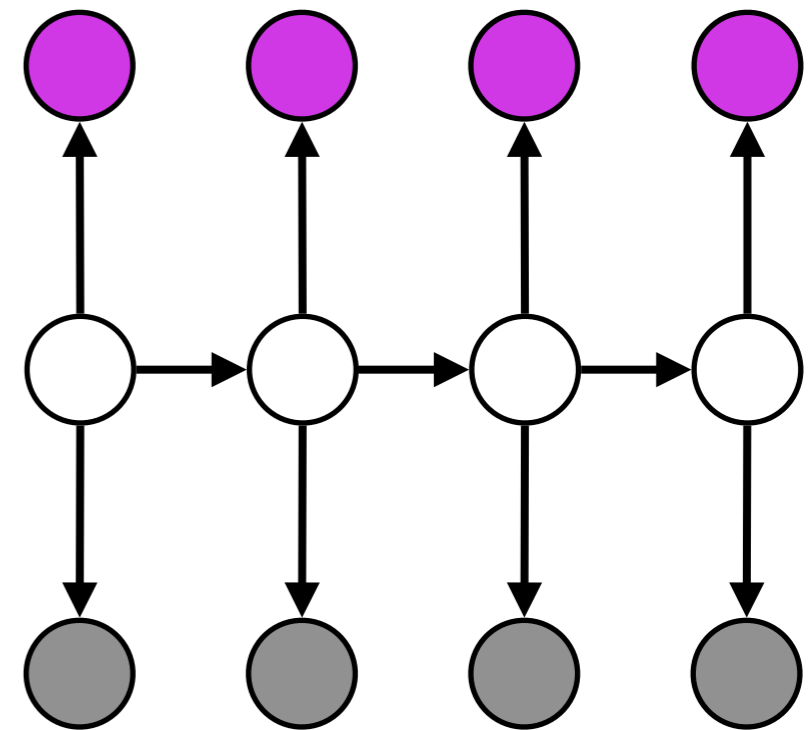


actions

internal states

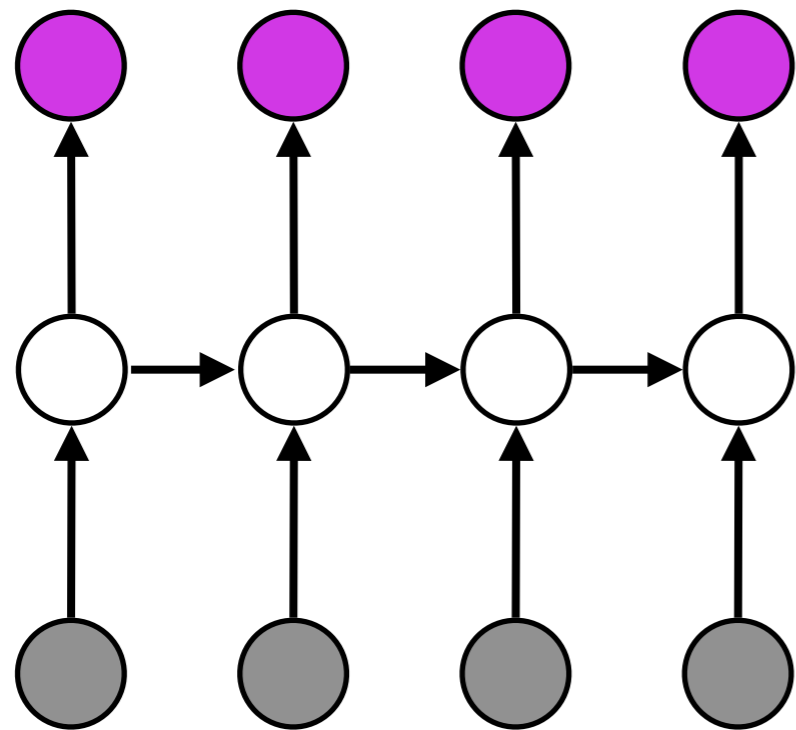
observations

**generative**



# COMPUTATIONAL APPROACHES TO STATE ESTIMATION

**discriminative**

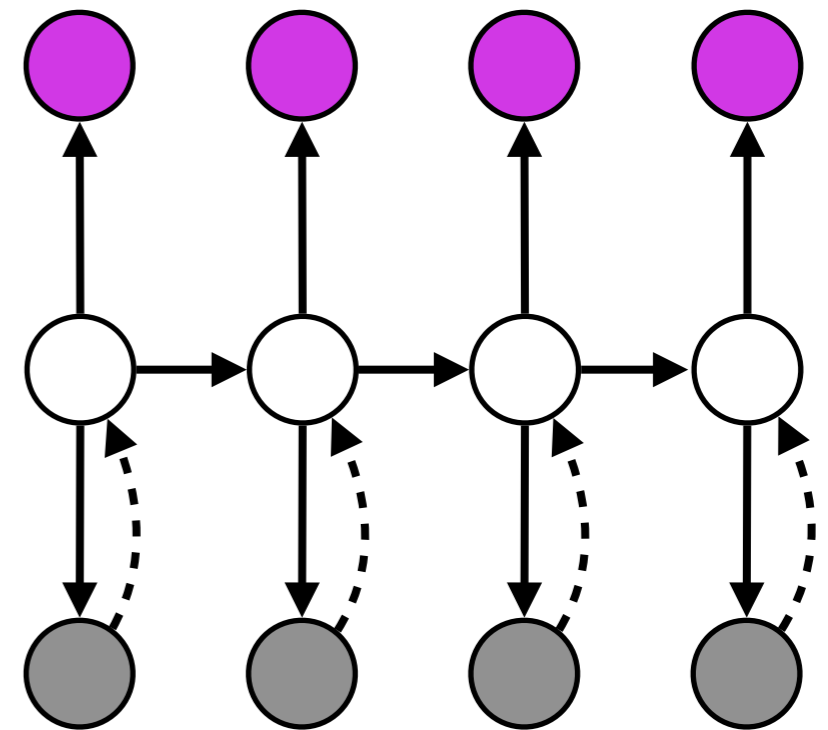


actions

internal states

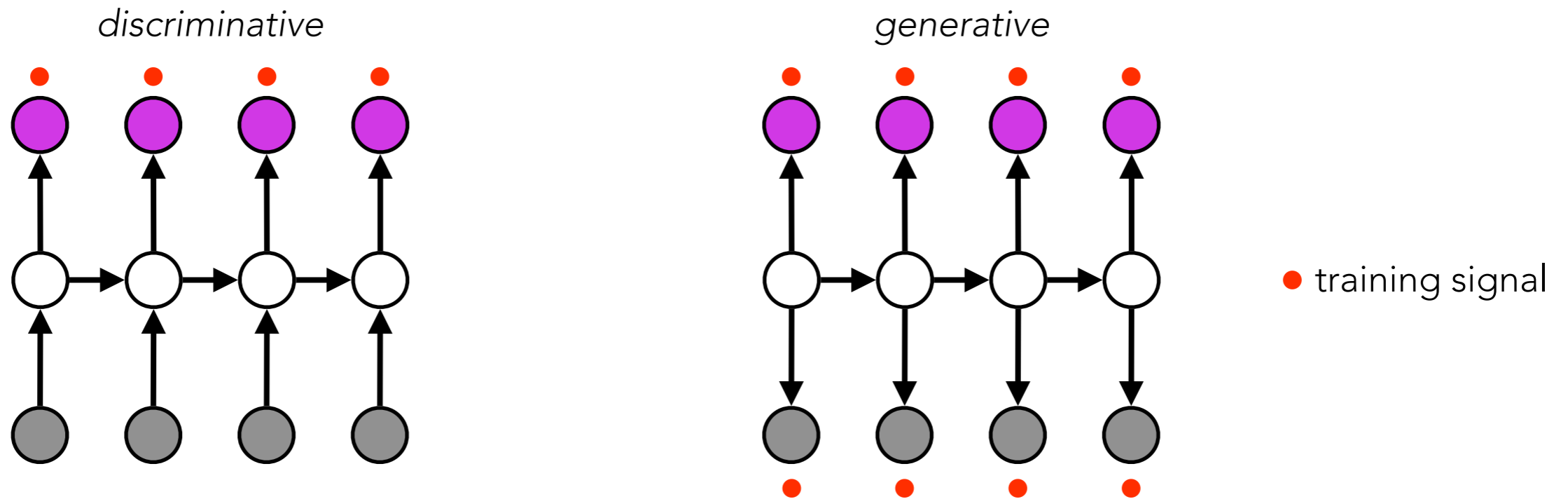
observations

**generative**

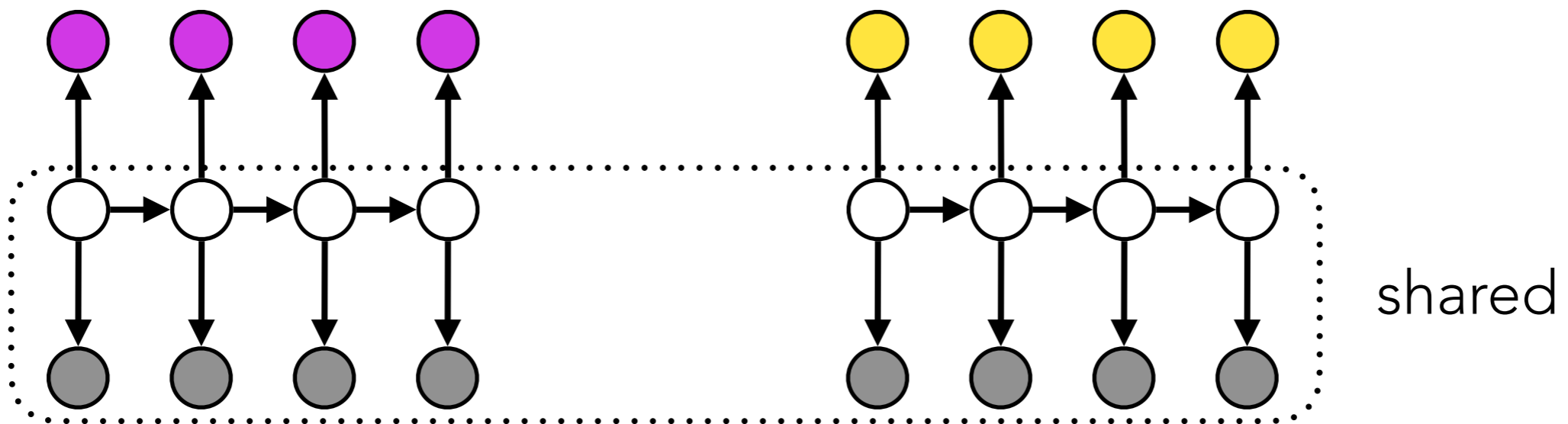


# ADVANTAGES OF GENERATIVE MODELING

**unsupervised learning:** *learn from the data*



**generalization:** *learn a task-agnostic representation*





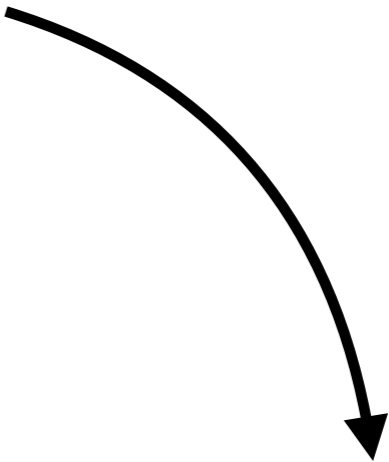
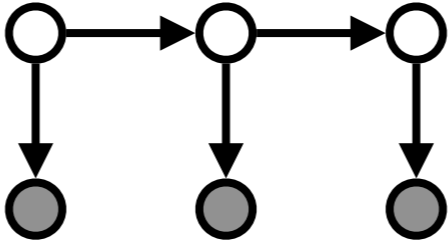


# OUTLINE

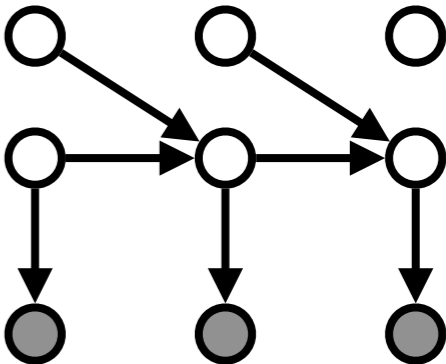
BACKGROUND

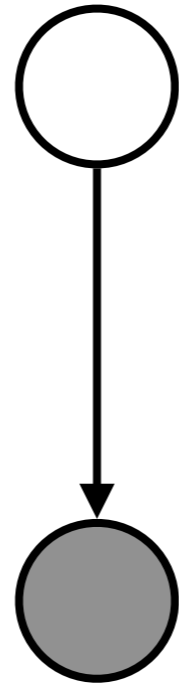


DEEP SEQUENTIAL  
LATENT VARIABLE MODELS



MODEL-BASED RL

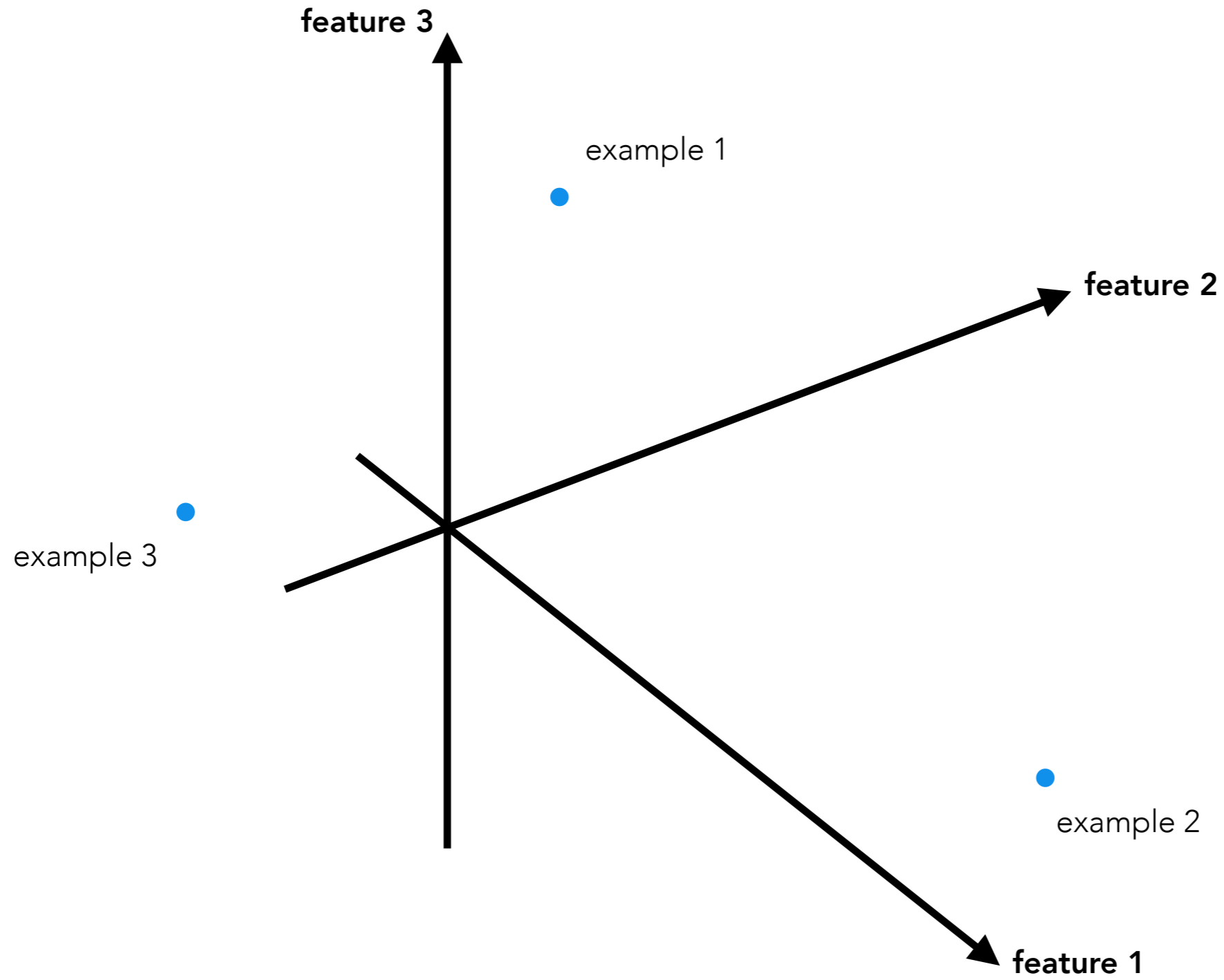


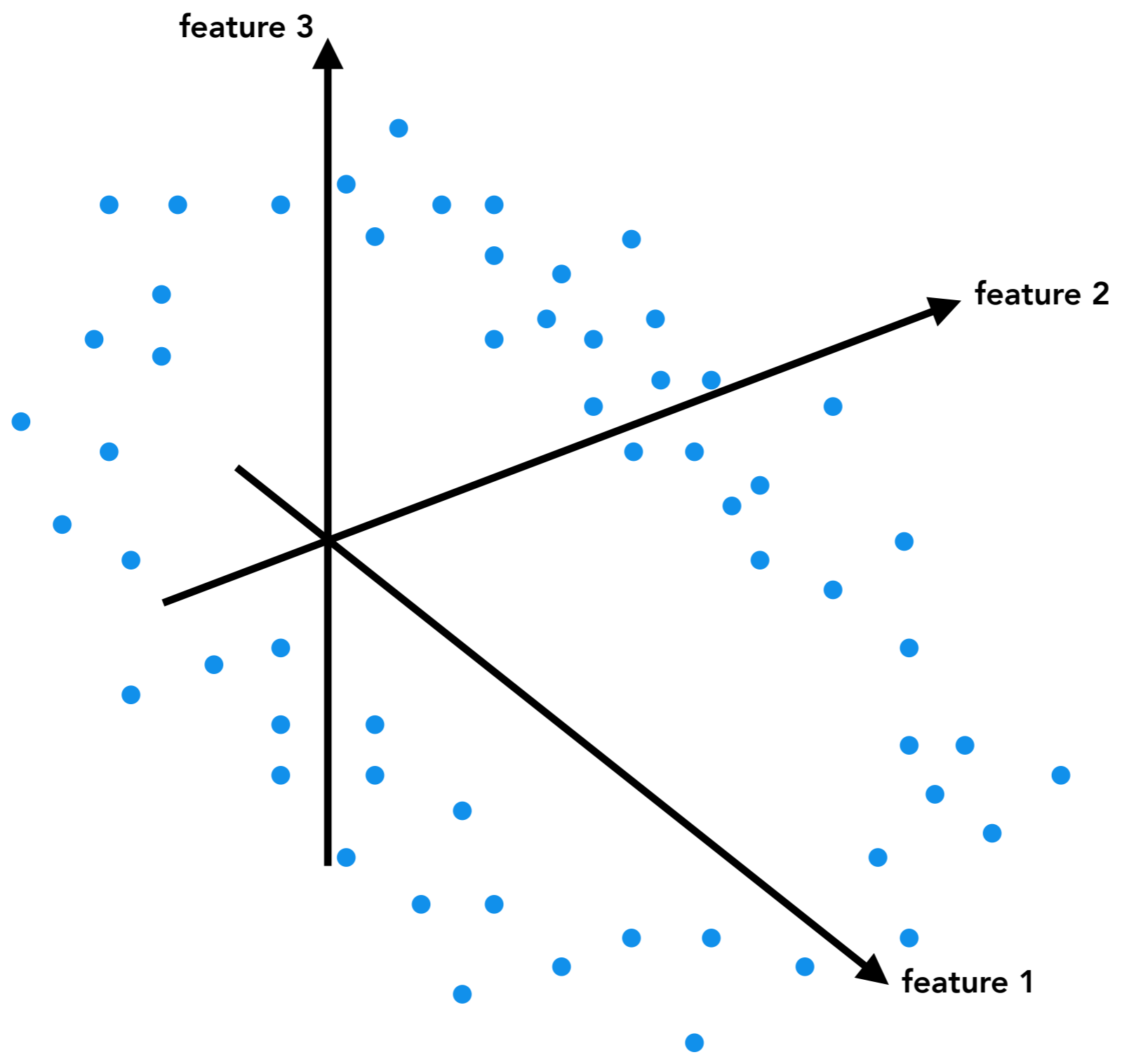


BACKGROUND

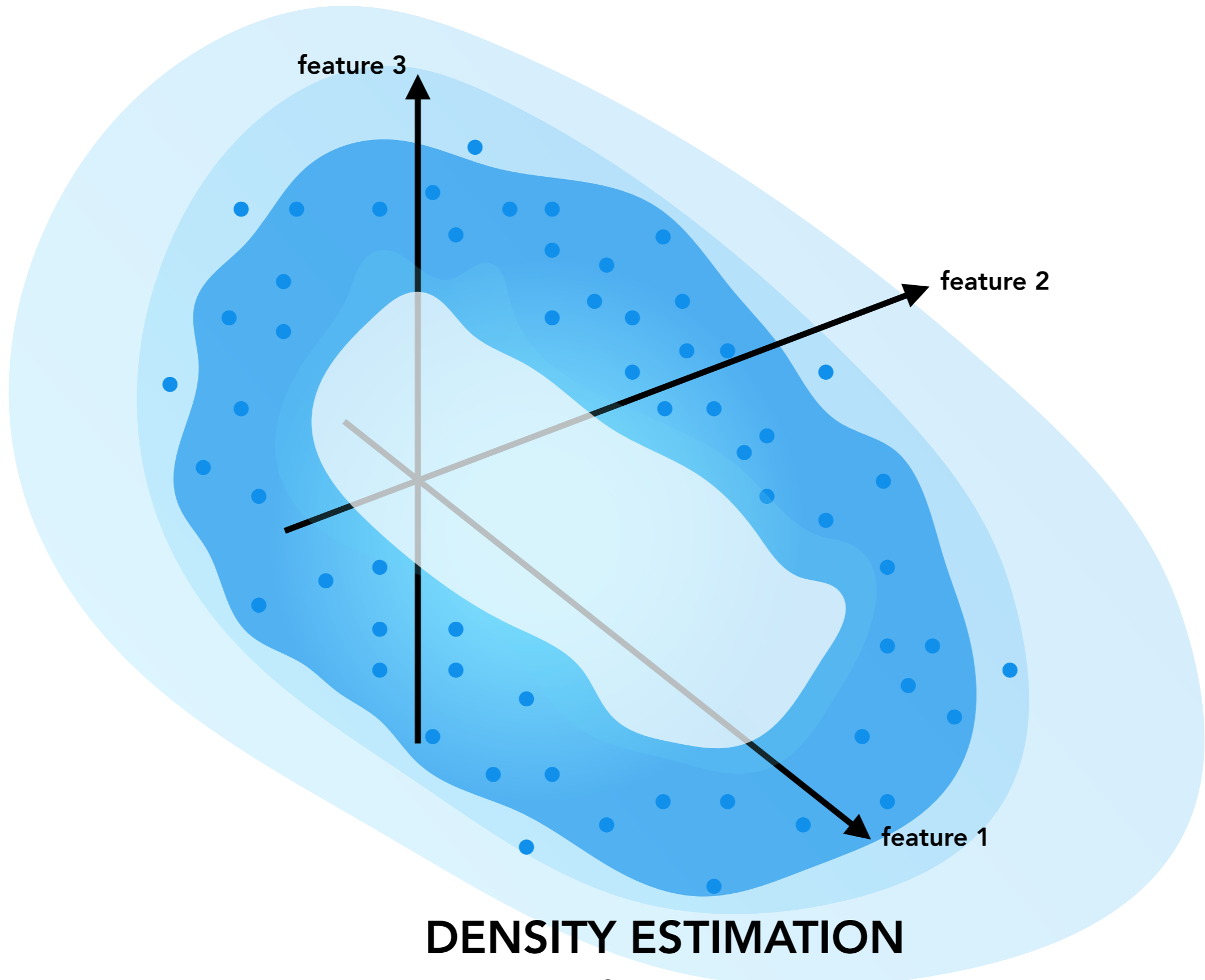
# GENERATIVE MODEL

*a model of the density of observed data*





# EMPIRICAL DATA DISTRIBUTION



## DENSITY ESTIMATION

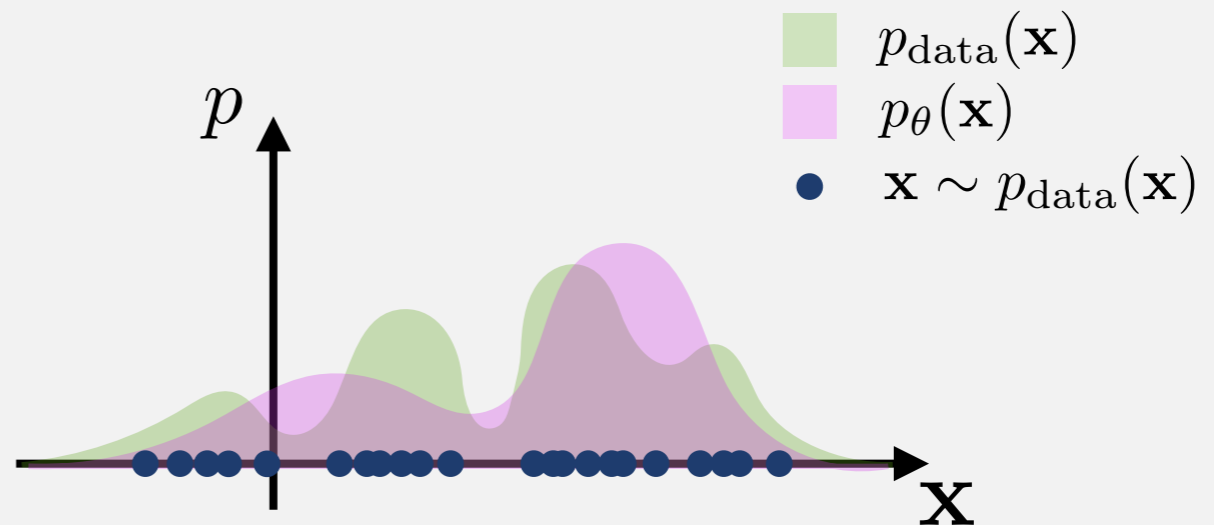
*estimating the density of the empirical data distribution*

# MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD

data:  $p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{x})$

model:  $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})$

parameters:  $\theta$



## maximum likelihood estimation

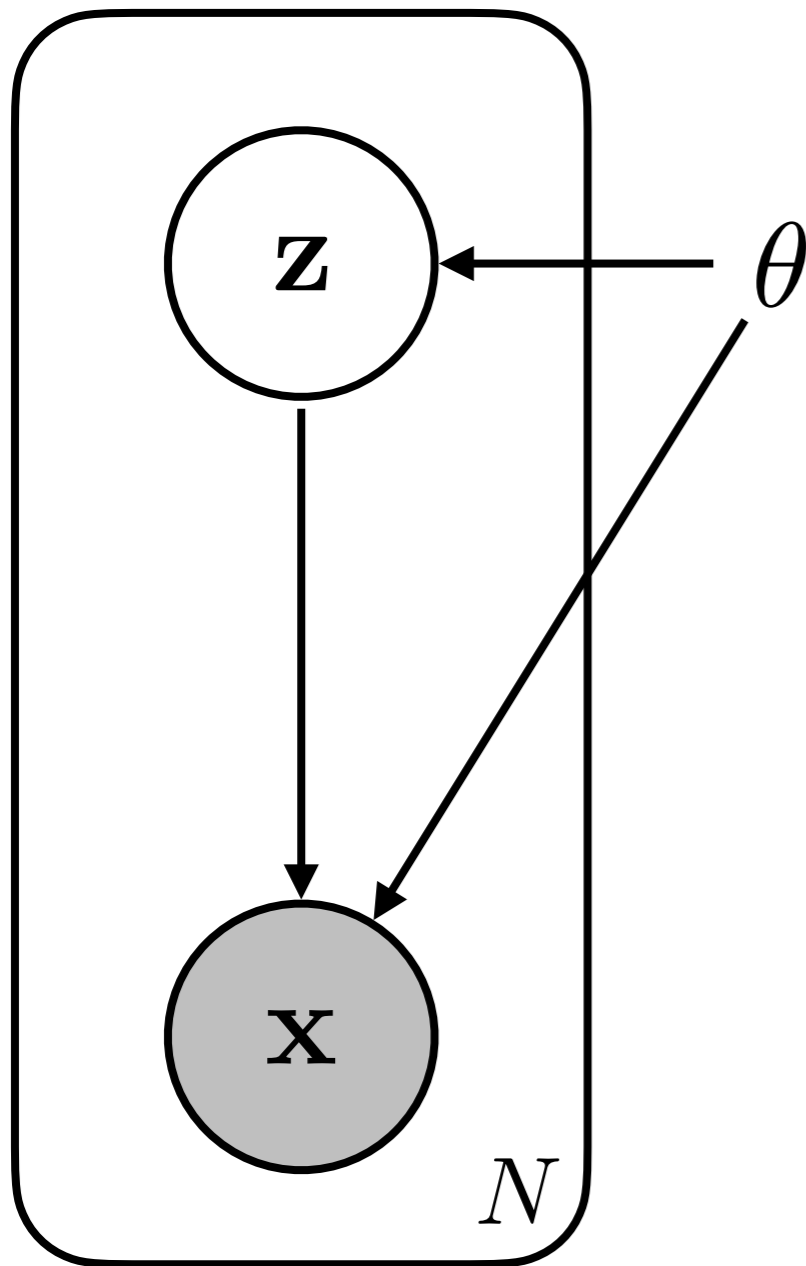
find the model that assigns the maximum likelihood to the data

$$\theta^* = \arg \min_{\theta} D_{KL}(p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{x}) || p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}))$$

$$= \arg \min_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{x})} [\log p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{x}) - \log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})]$$

$$= \arg \max_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{x})} [\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})] \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$$

# LATENT VARIABLE MODELS



model:

$$\underbrace{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})}_{\text{joint}} = \underbrace{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})}_{\substack{\text{conditional} \\ \text{likelihood}}} \underbrace{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z})}_{\text{prior}}$$

marginalization:

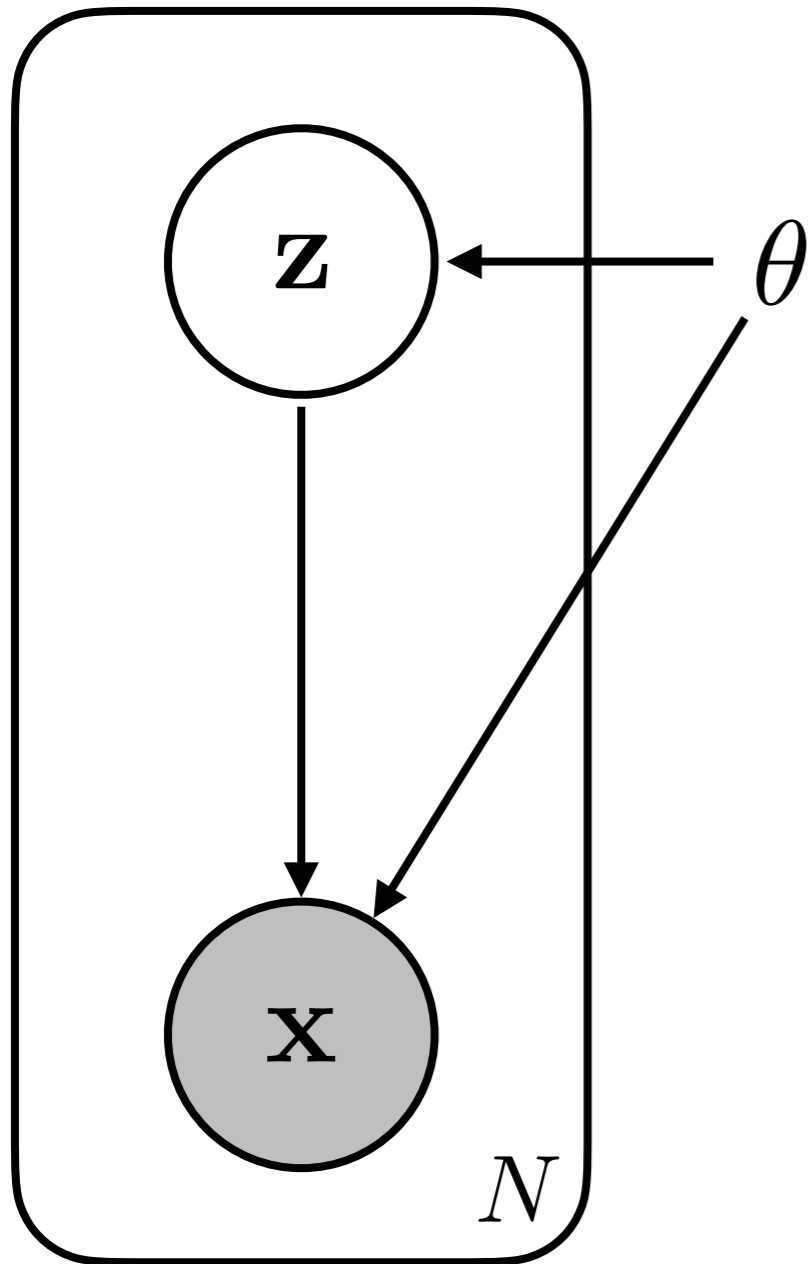
$$\underbrace{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})}_{\substack{\text{marginal} \\ \text{likelihood}}} = \int p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z}$$

inference:

$$\underbrace{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})}_{\text{posterior}} = \frac{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})}{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})}$$



# LATENT VARIABLE MODELS



maximum likelihood is typically intractable

$$\theta^* = \arg \max_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{x})} [\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})]$$

$$\approx \arg \max_{\theta} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$$

$$\approx \arg \max_{\theta} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \log \left[ \underbrace{\int p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, \mathbf{z}) d\mathbf{z}}_{\text{intractable integral}} \right]$$

must resort to approximation techniques

# VARIATIONAL INFERENCE

approximate posterior  $q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})$

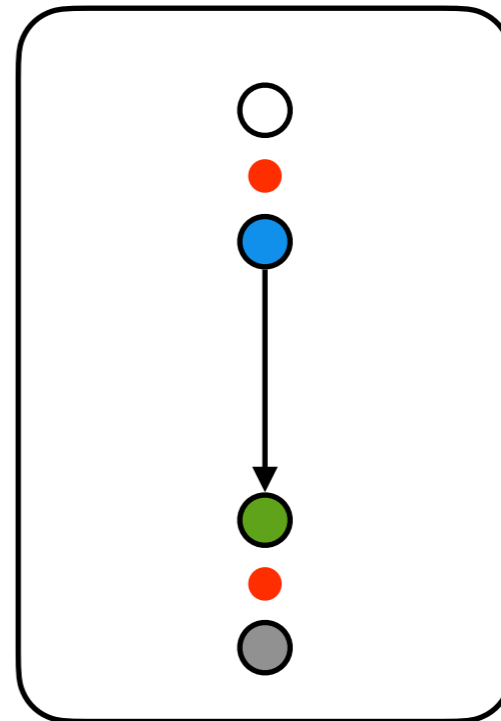
---

variational lower bound

$$\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) \geq \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}; q)$$

where

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}; q) = \mathbb{E}_q \left[ \underbrace{\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})}_{\text{"reconstruction"}} - \underbrace{\log \frac{q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})}{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z})}}_{\text{"regularization"}} \right]$$



# VARIATIONAL INFERENCE

approximate posterior  $q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})$

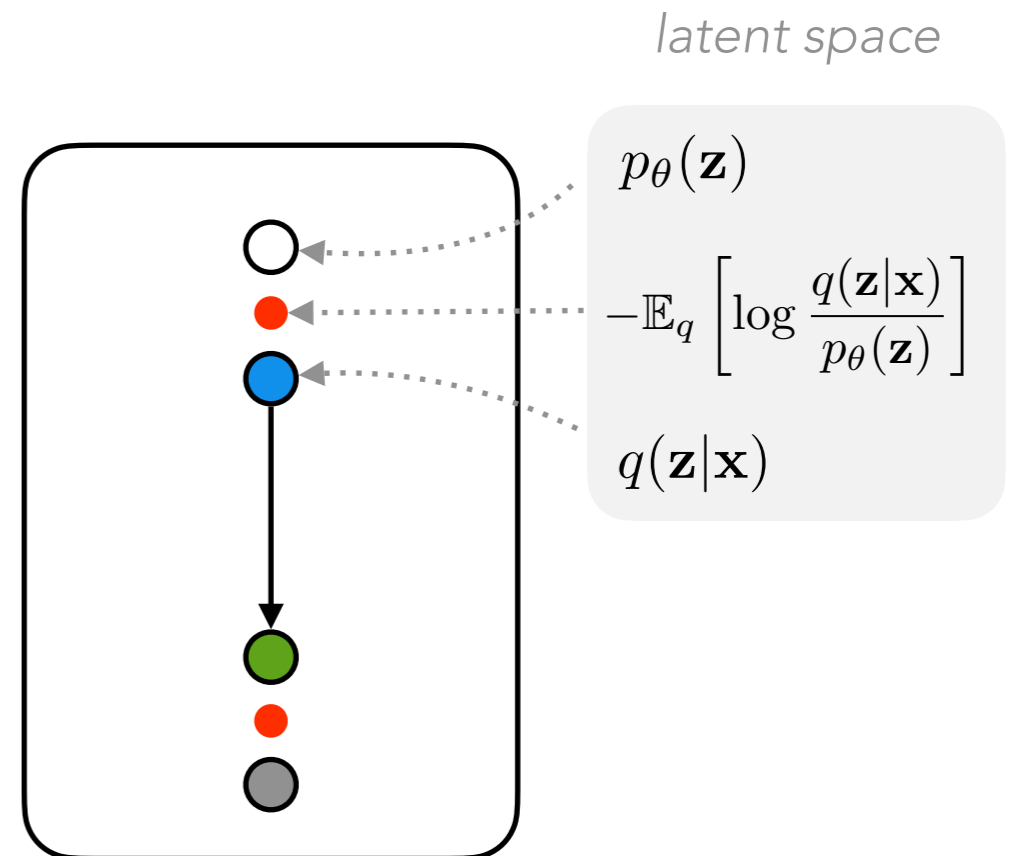
---

variational lower bound

$$\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) \geq \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}; q)$$

where

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}; q) = \mathbb{E}_q \left[ \underbrace{\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})}_{\text{"reconstruction"}} - \underbrace{\log \frac{q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})}{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z})}}_{\text{"regularization"}} \right]$$



# VARIATIONAL INFERENCE

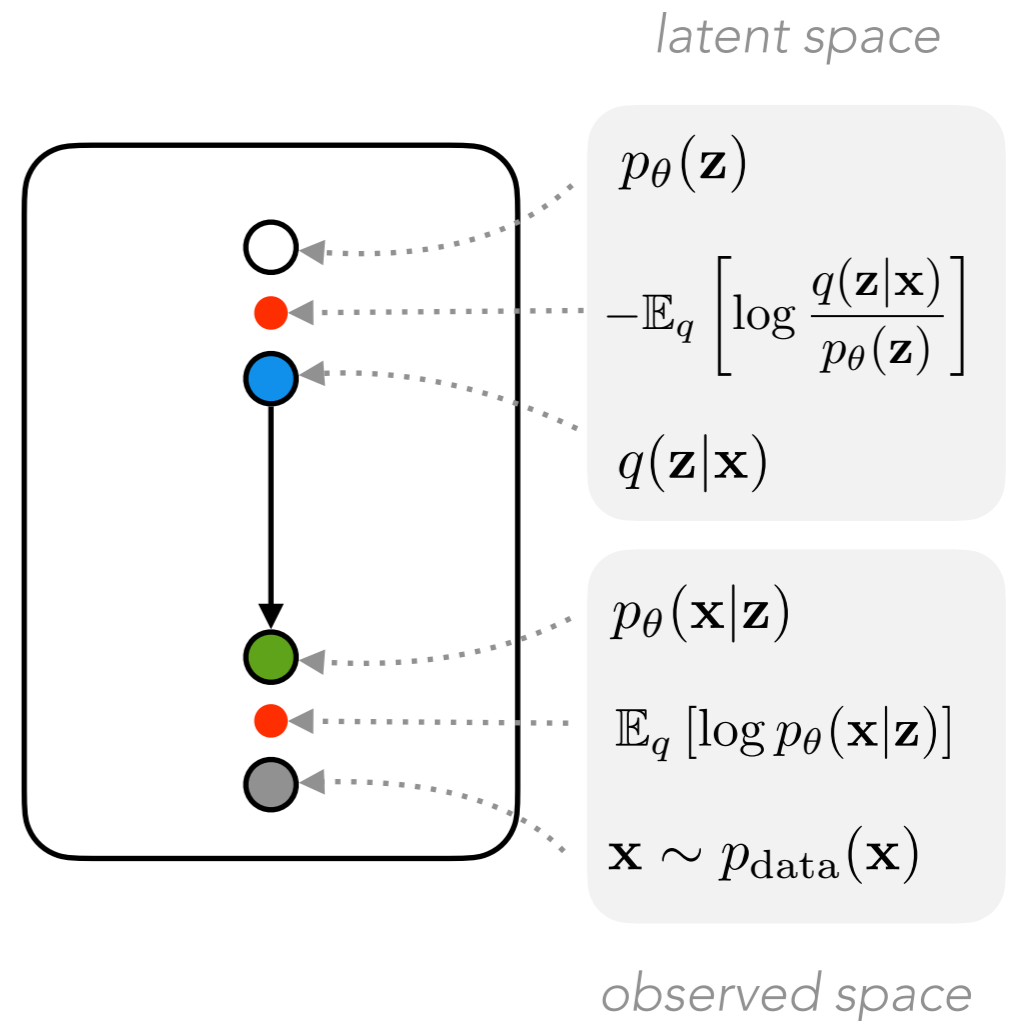
approximate posterior  $q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})$

variational lower bound

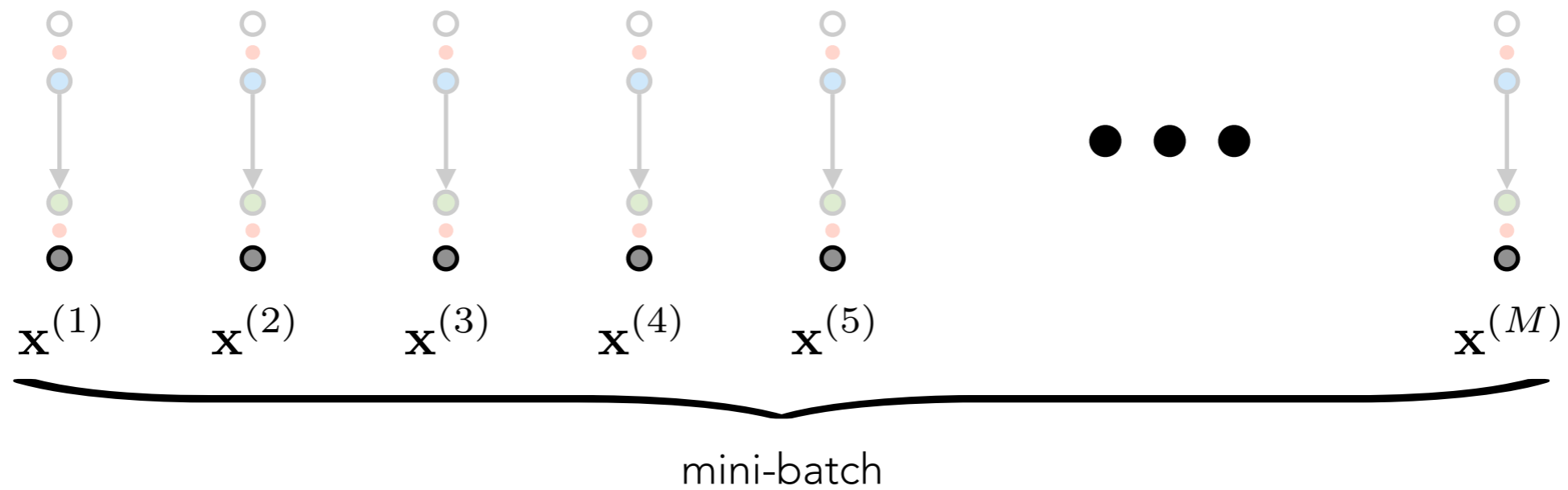
$$\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) \geq \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}; q)$$

where

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}; q) = \mathbb{E}_q \left[ \underbrace{\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})}_{\text{"reconstruction"}} - \underbrace{\log \frac{q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})}{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z})}}_{\text{"regularization"}} \right]$$



# VARIATIONAL EXPECTATION MAXIMIZATION



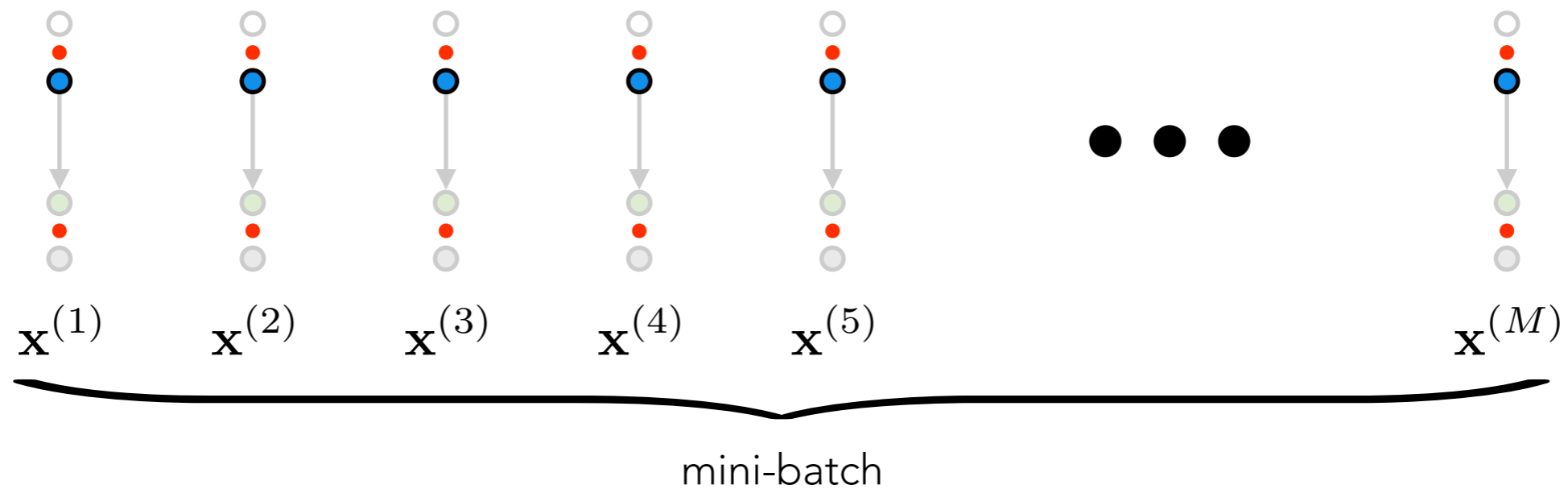
---

## Variational EM (single-step)

---

sample  $\mathbf{x}^{(1:M)} \sim p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{x})$

# VARIATIONAL EXPECTATION MAXIMIZATION



---

## Variational EM (single-step)

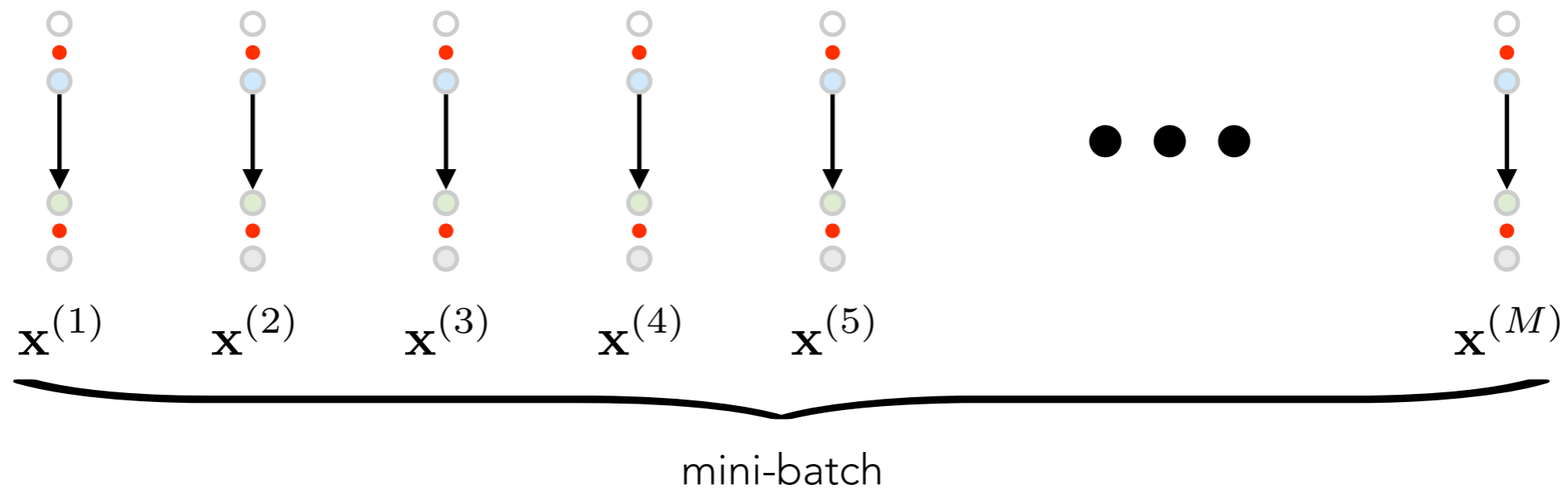
---

sample  $\mathbf{x}^{(1:M)} \sim p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{x})$

for  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$  in  $\mathbf{x}^{(1:M)}$ :

maximize  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, q^{(i)})$  w.r.t.  $q^{(i)}$  # *E-step*

# VARIATIONAL EXPECTATION MAXIMIZATION



---

## Variational EM (single-step)

---

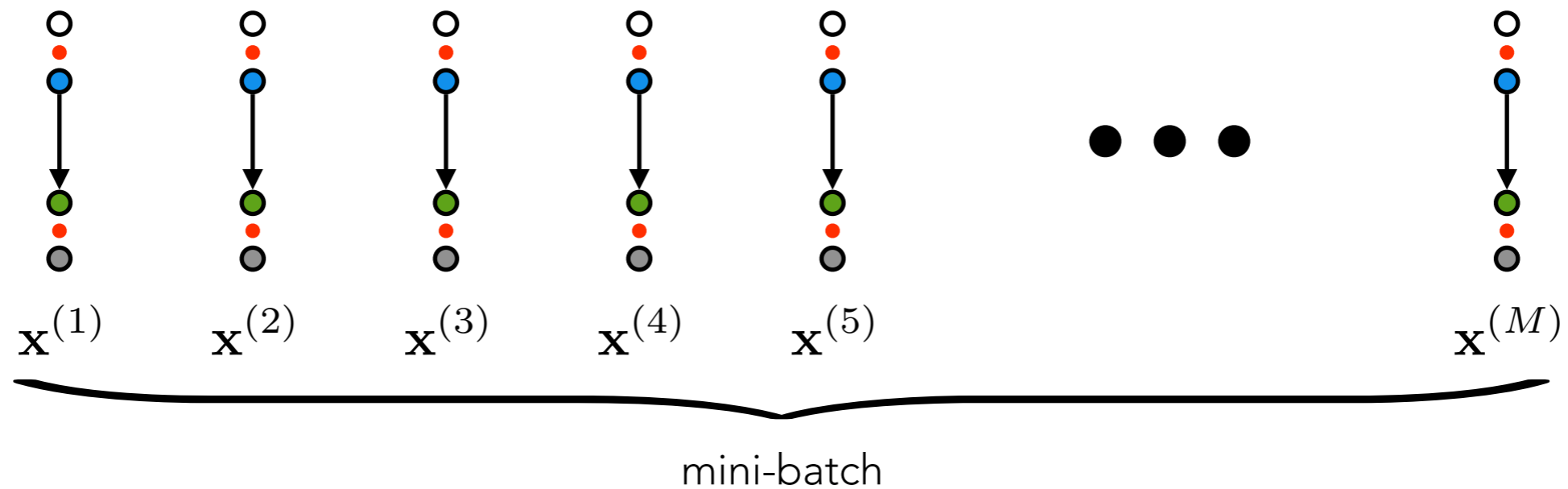
sample  $\mathbf{x}^{(1:M)} \sim p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{x})$

for  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$  in  $\mathbf{x}^{(1:M)}$ :

maximize  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, q^{(i)})$  w.r.t.  $q^{(i)}$  # *E-step*

maximize  $\frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, q^{(i)})$  w.r.t.  $\theta$  # *M-step*

# VARIATIONAL EXPECTATION MAXIMIZATION



## Variational EM (single-step)

sample  $\mathbf{x}^{(1:M)} \sim p_{\text{data}}(\mathbf{x})$

expensive

for  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$  in  $\mathbf{x}^{(1:M)}$ .

maximize  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, q^{(i)})$  w.r.t.  $q^{(i)}$  # E-step

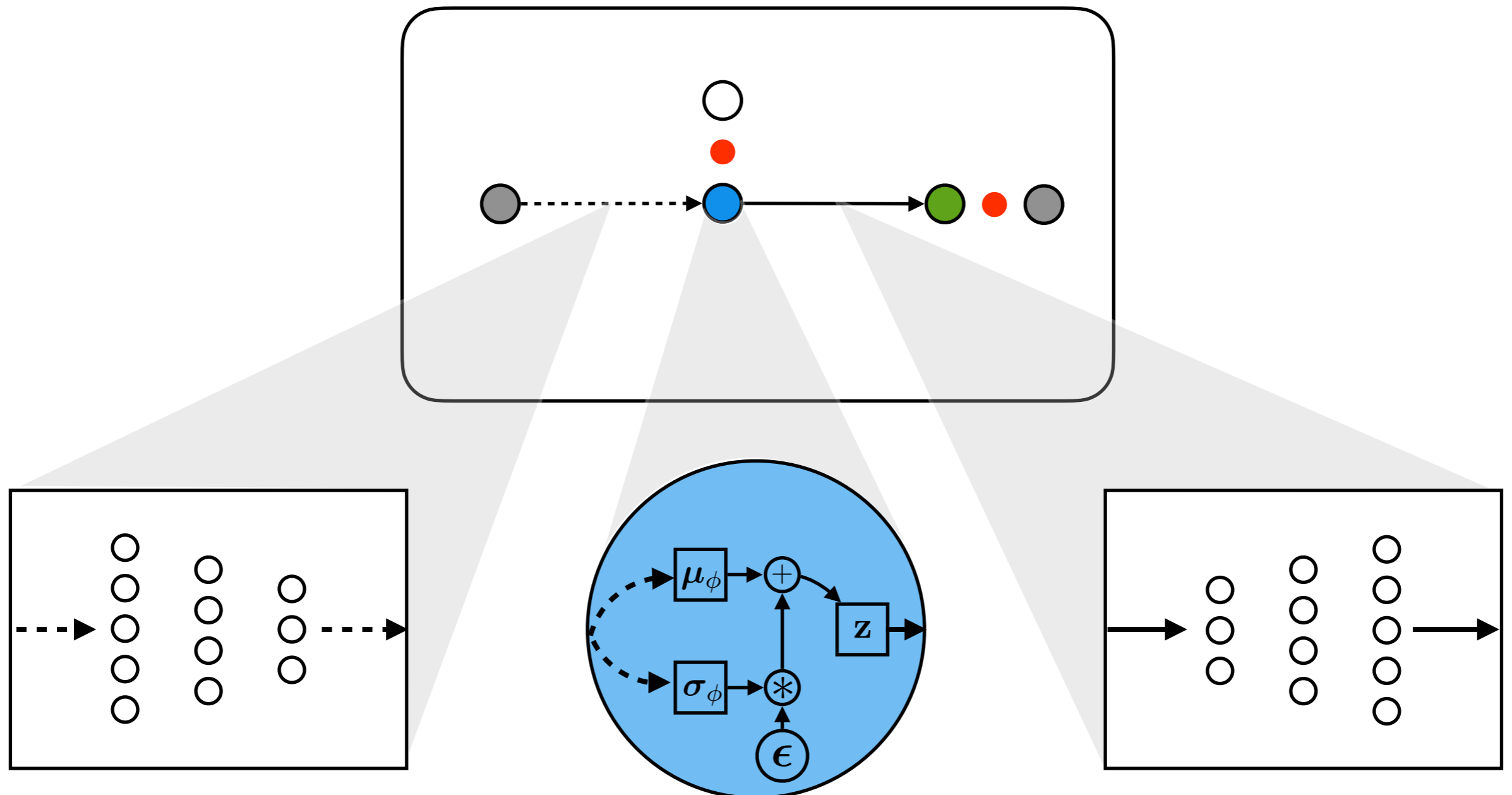
maximize  $\frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, q^{(i)})$  w.r.t.  $\theta$  # M-step



# VARIATIONAL AUTOENCODERS

## Variational Autoencoder (VAE):

deep latent variable model + variational inference + direct encoder + *reparameterized* Gaussian



# AMORTIZED VARIATIONAL INFERENCE

let  $\lambda$  be the distribution parameters of  $q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})$ , for example,  $\lambda = \{\mu, \sigma^2\}$

$$\text{inference optimization: } q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}) \leftarrow \arg \max_q \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}; q)$$

## BLACK-BOX VARIATIONAL INFERENCE

gradient-based optimization

$$\lambda \leftarrow \lambda + \eta \nabla_{\lambda} \mathcal{L}$$

## DIRECT AMORTIZED INFERENCE

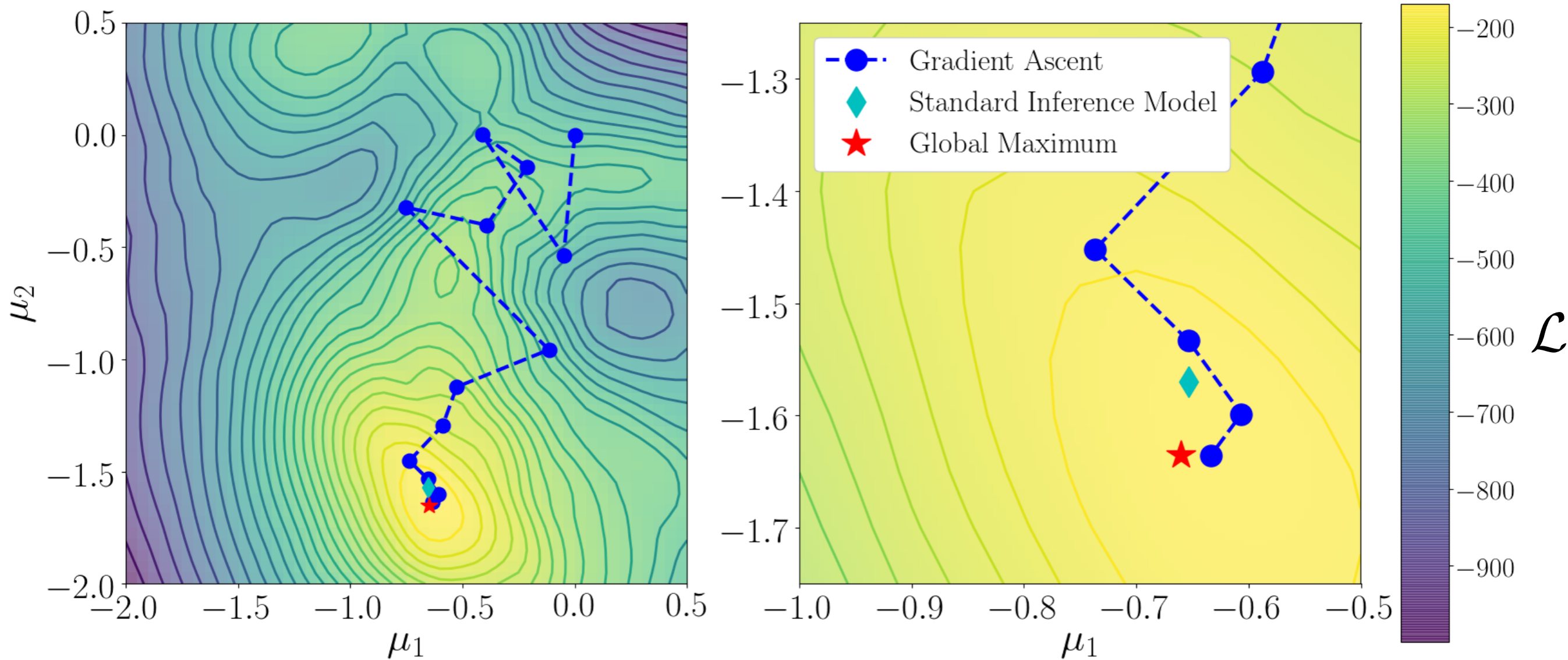
learn a direct mapping

$$\lambda \leftarrow f_{\phi}(\mathbf{x})$$

efficient, but potentially inaccurate

# INFERENCE OPTIMIZATION

2D model, MNIST



inference models may not reach fully optimized estimates

see also: **Inference Suboptimality in Variational Autoencoders**, Cremer *et al.*, 2018

Marino *et al.*, 2018a

# ITERATIVE AMORTIZED INFERENCE

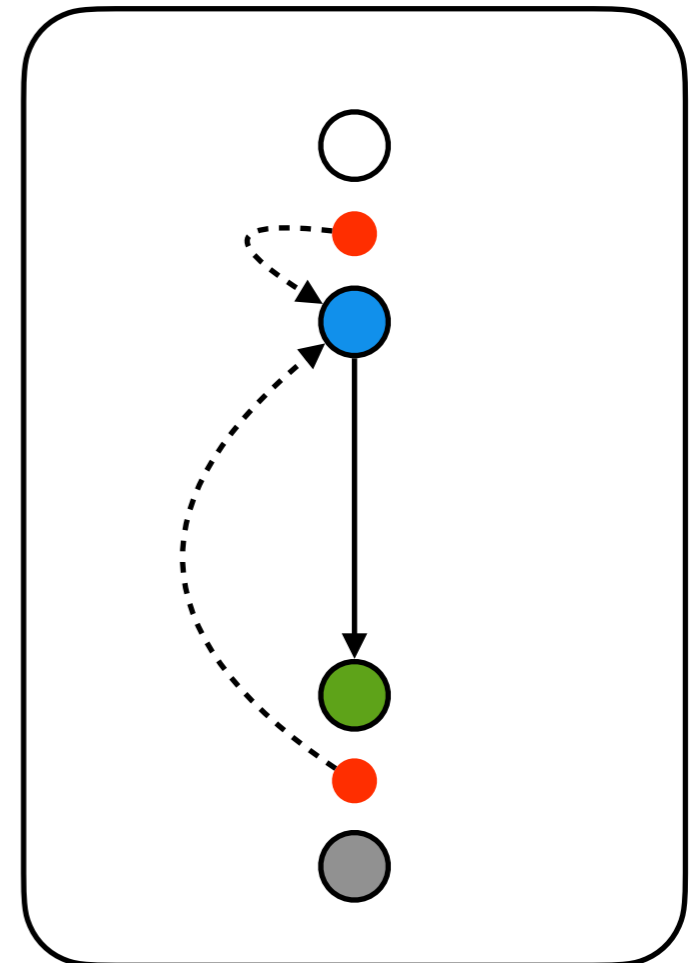
let  $\lambda$  be the distribution parameters of  $q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})$ , for example,  $\lambda = \{\mu, \sigma^2\}$

inference optimization:  $q(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}) \leftarrow \arg \max_q \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}; q)$

ITERATIVE AMORTIZED INFERENCE

learn an iterative mapping

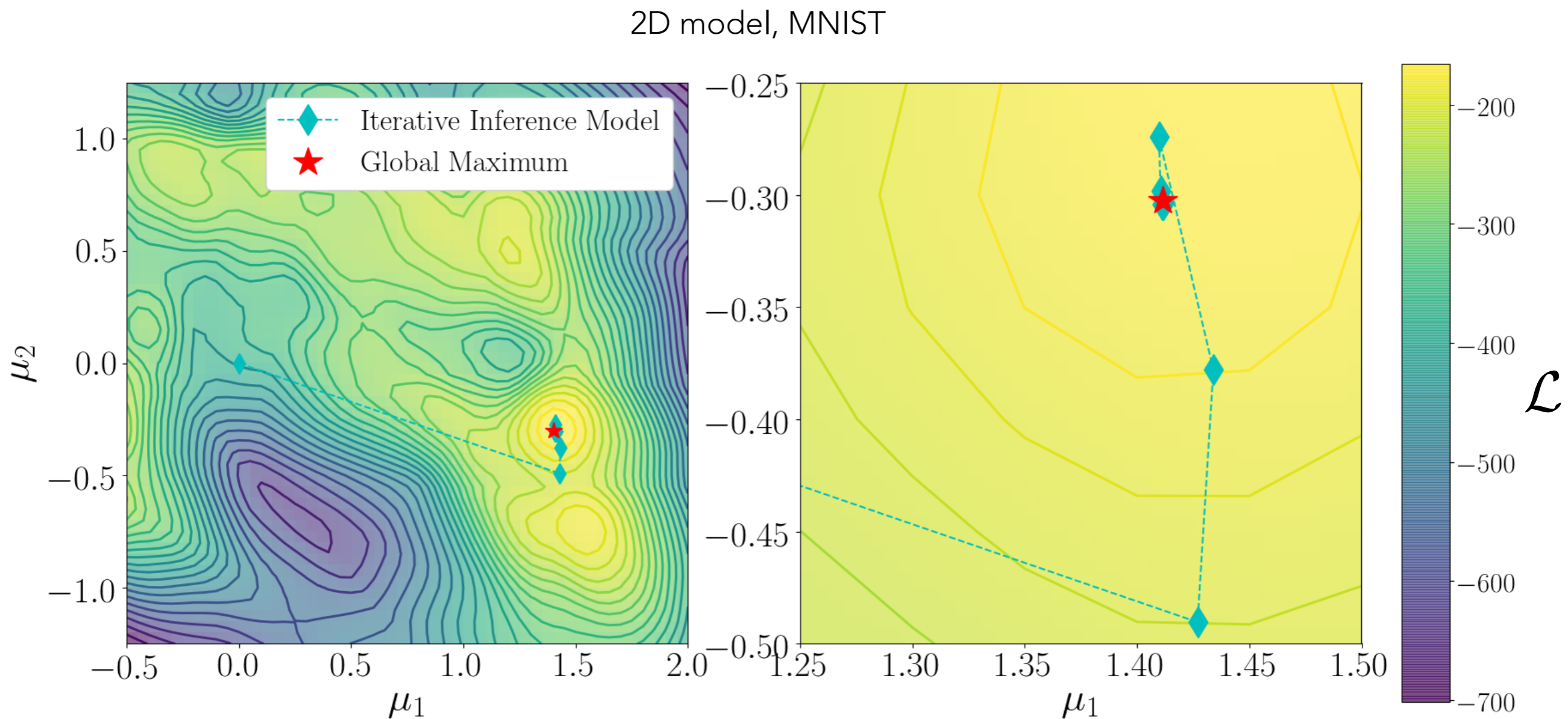
$$\lambda \leftarrow f_\phi(\lambda, \nabla_\lambda \mathcal{L})$$



Marino et al., 2018a

# INFERENCE OPTIMIZATION

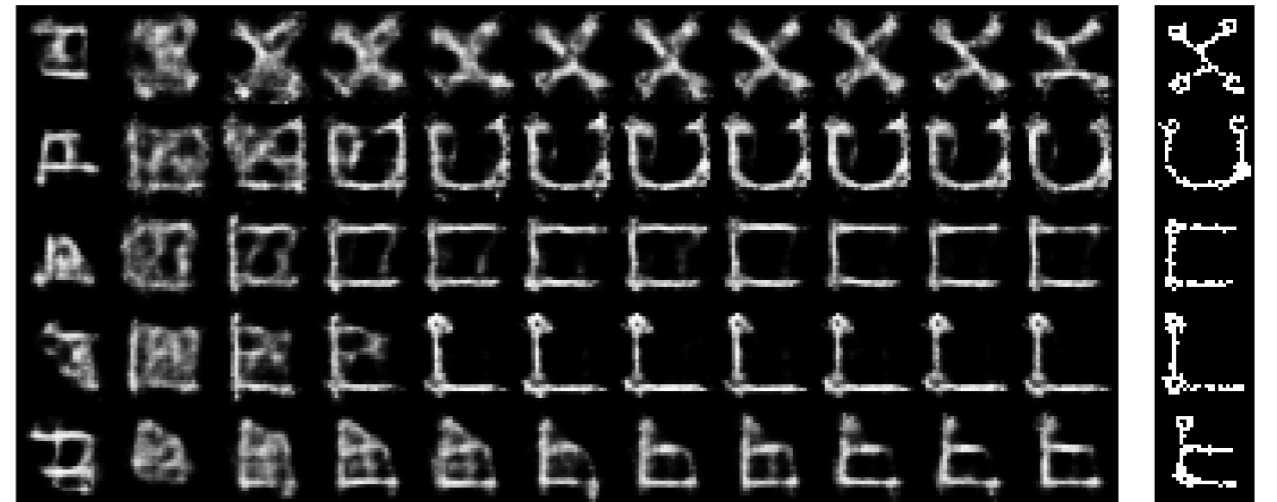
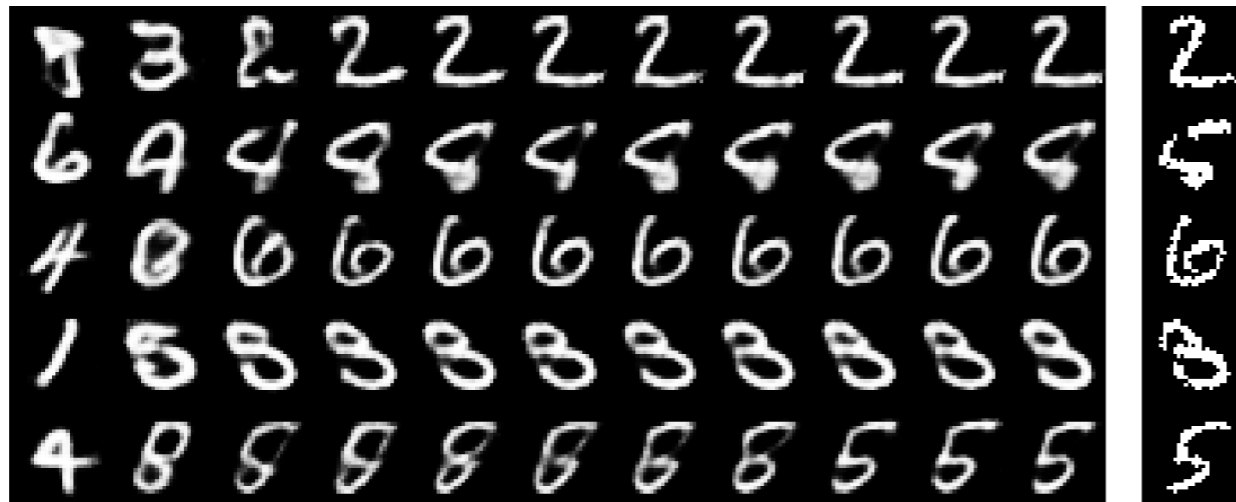
directly visualize inference in the optimization landscape



Marino *et al.*, 2018a

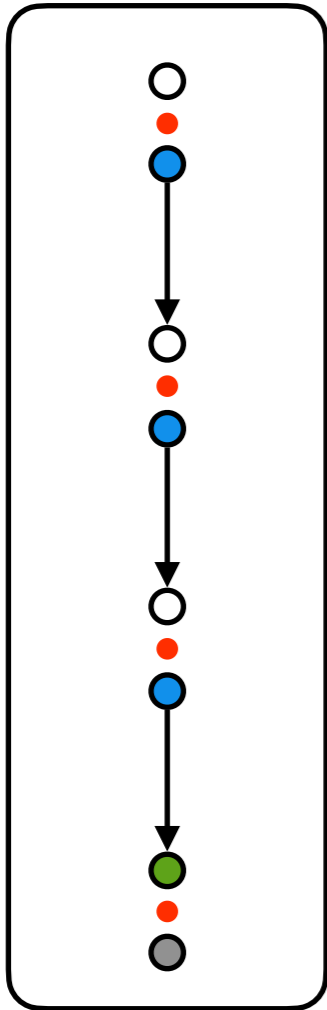
# INFERENCE OPTIMIZATION

visualize data reconstructions over inference iterations

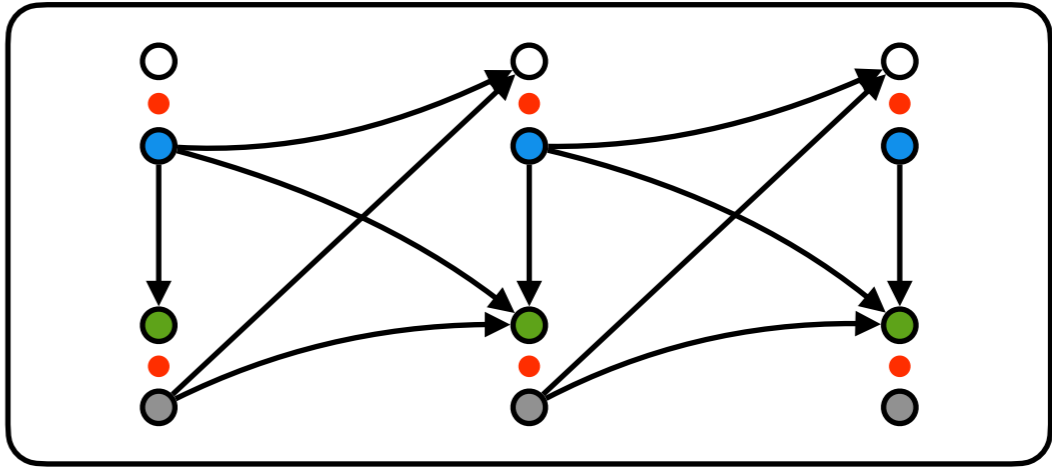
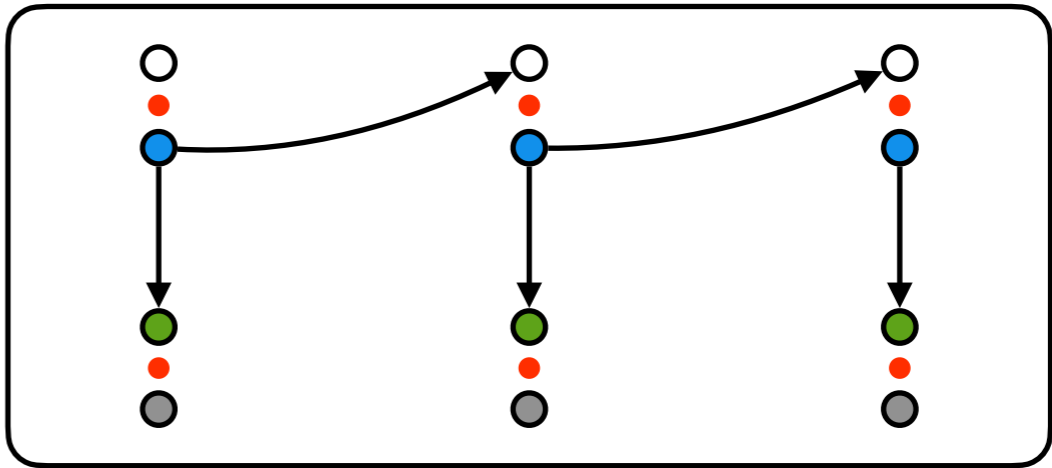
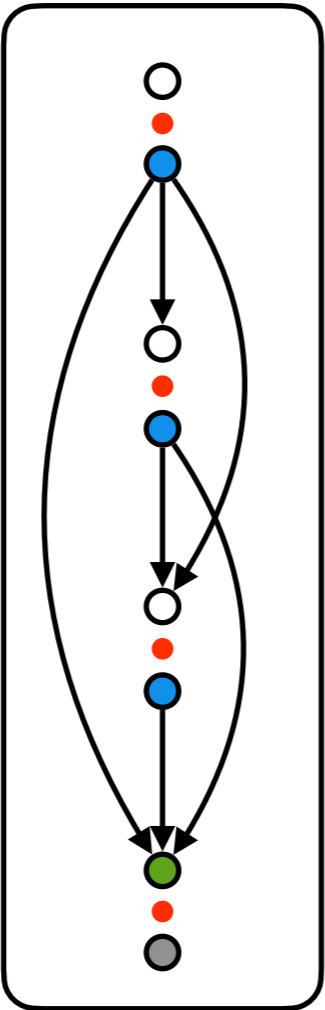


# STRUCTURED APPROXIMATE POSTERIOR

structured models



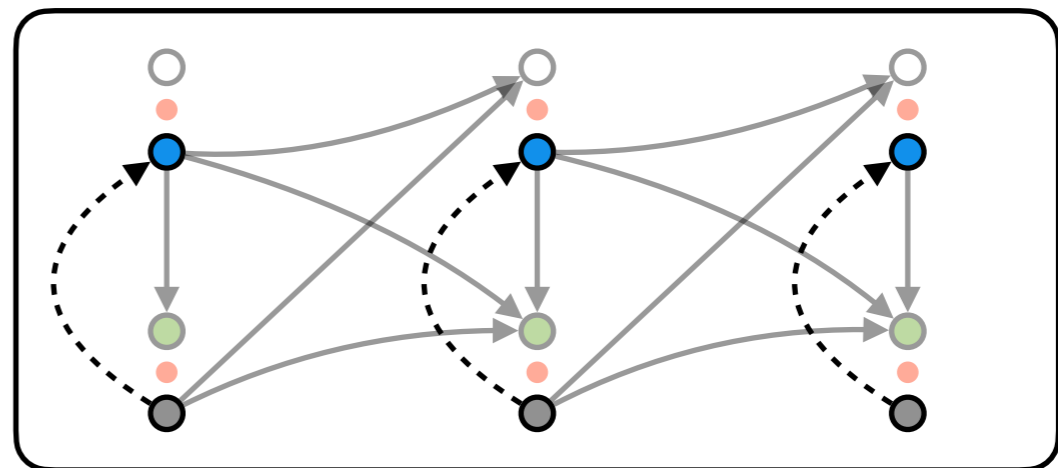
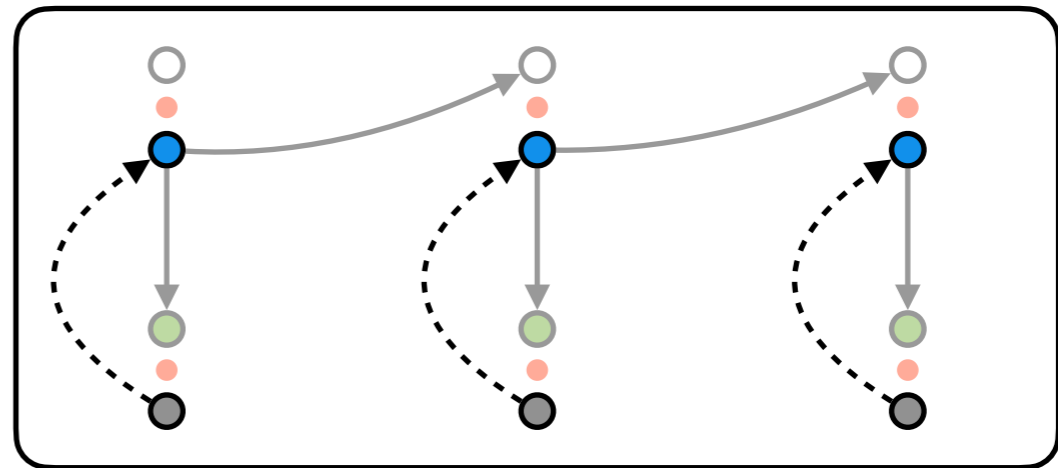
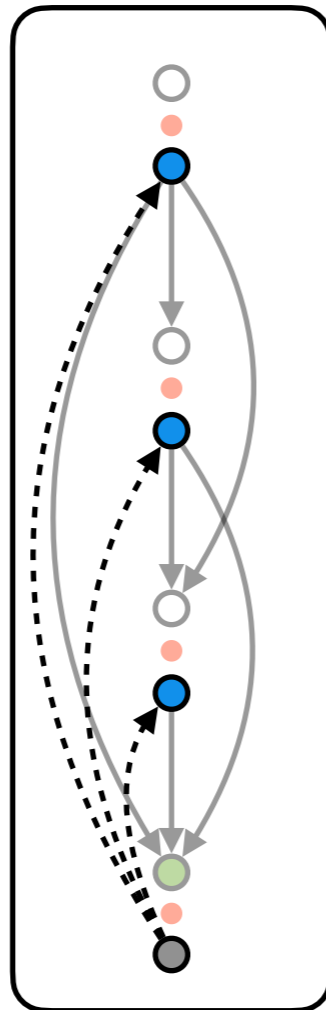
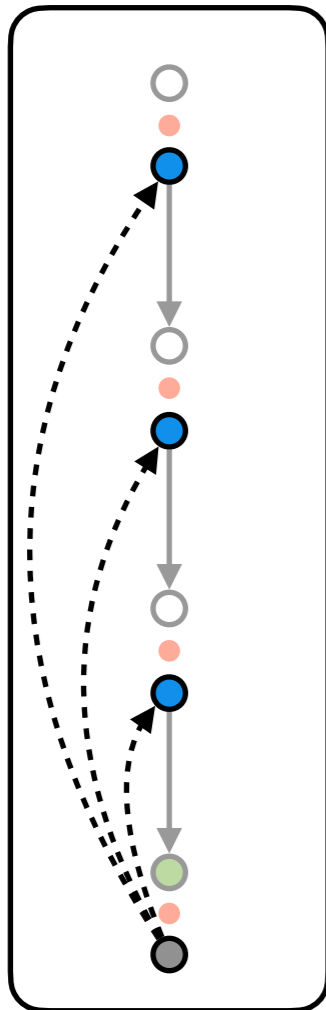
hierarchical



sequential

# STRUCTURED APPROXIMATE POSTERIOR

structured models



hierarchical

sequential

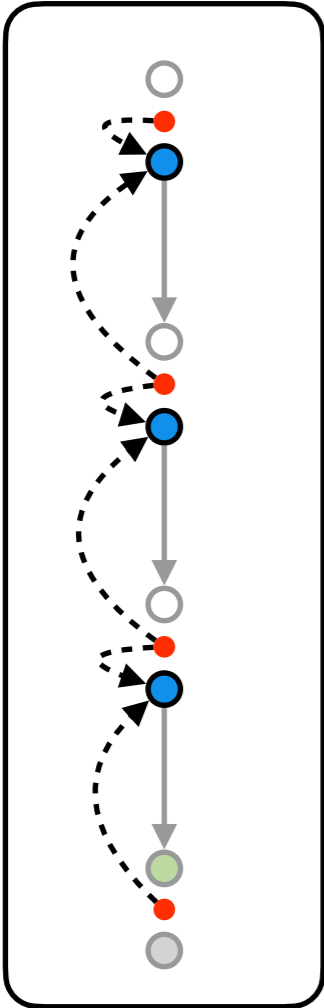
**(naïve) direct encoders cannot account for structured estimates**

$\mathbf{z}_k$  depends on  $\mathbf{z}_{<k}$ , but  $q_\phi(\mathbf{z}_k|\mathbf{x})$  does not have access to this information

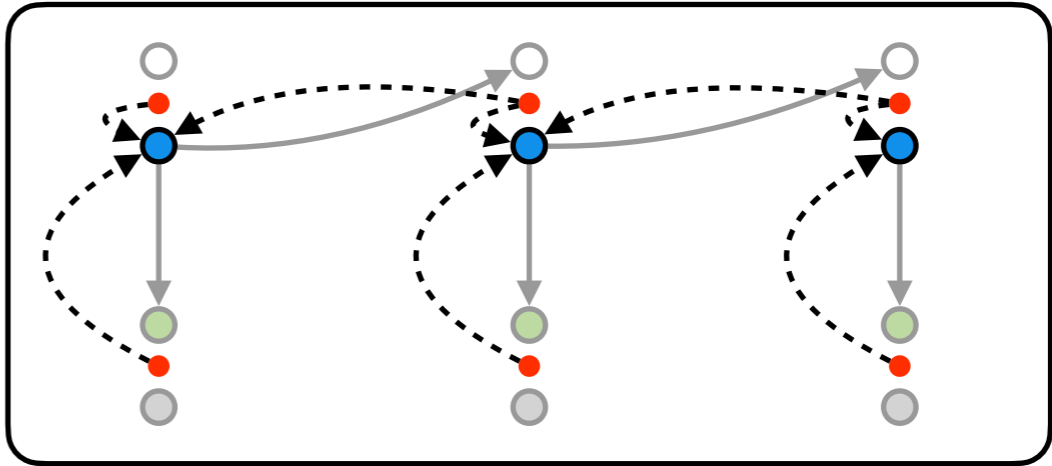
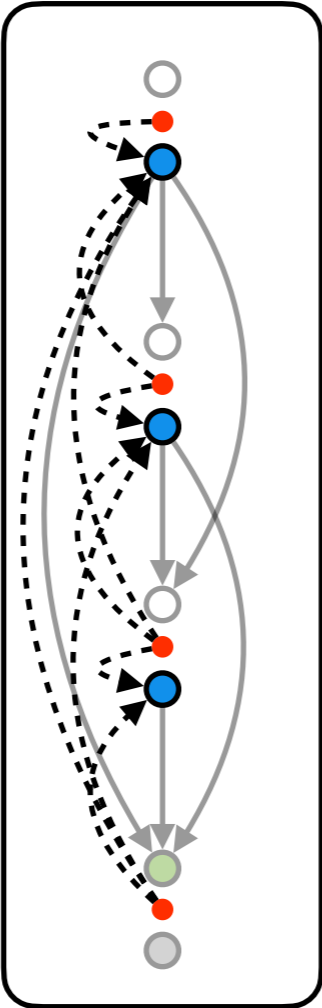


# STRUCTURED APPROXIMATE POSTERIOR

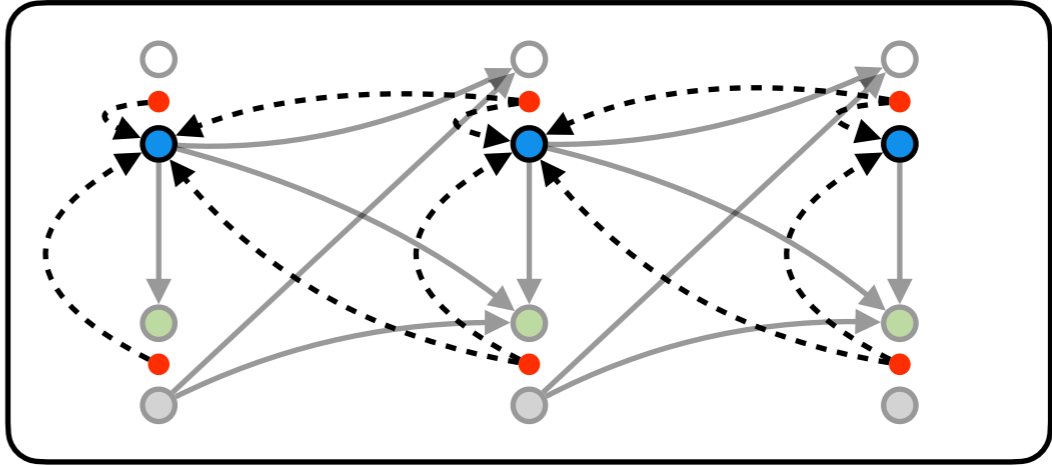
structured models



hierarchical

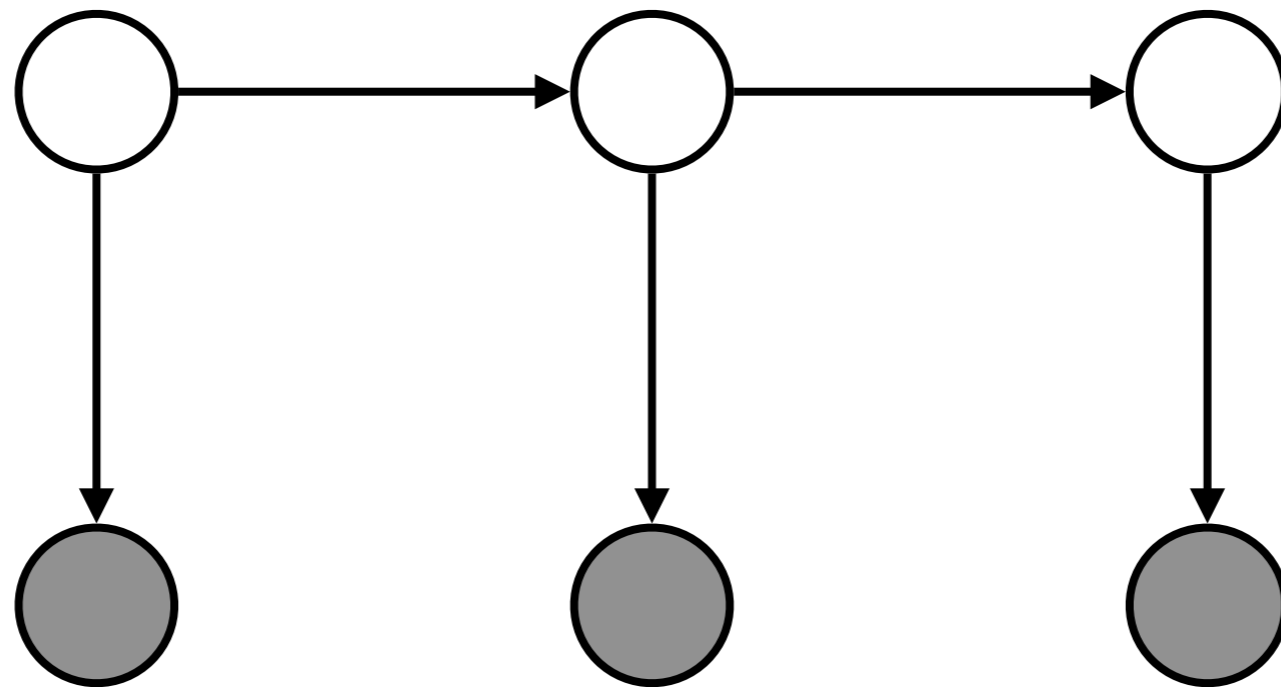


sequential



**iterative encoders can be easily extended to structured estimates**

*structure defines gradients, which define inference*

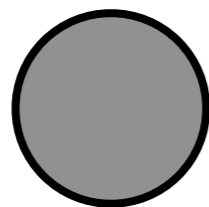
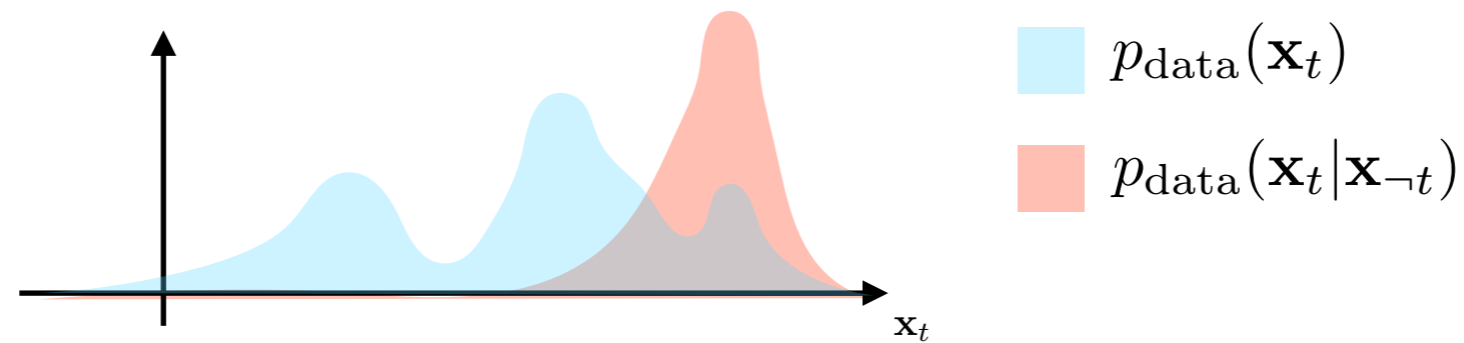


DEEP SEQUENTIAL LATENT  
VARIABLE MODELS

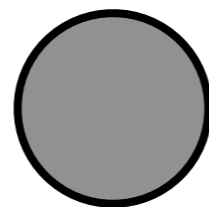
**dynamics:** dependence in time

multi-information:  $\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{x}_{1:T}) = \sum_t \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{x}_t) - \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{x}_{1:T}) \geq 0$

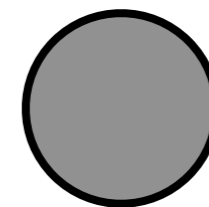
observing  $\mathbf{x}_{-t}$  reduces uncertainty in  $\mathbf{x}_t$



$t - 1$

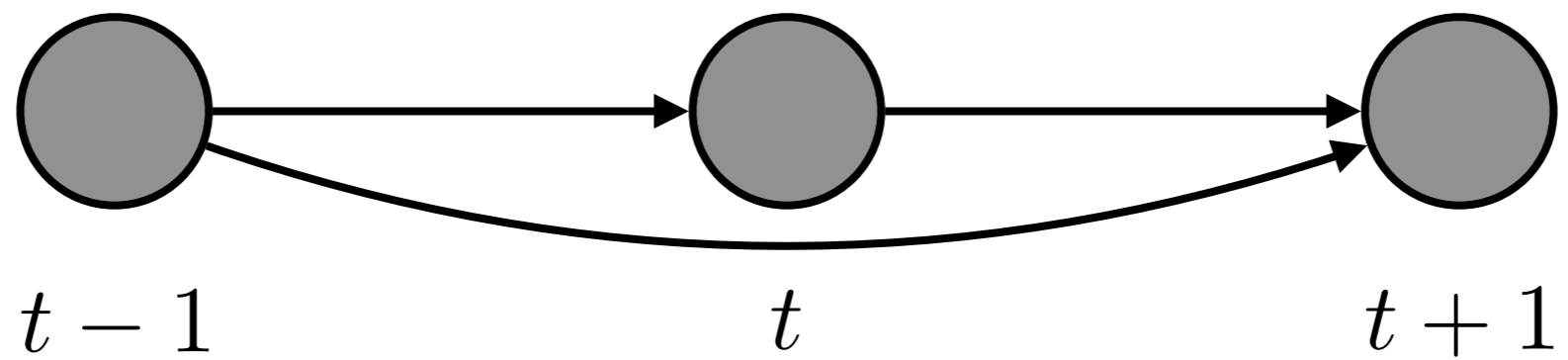


$t$

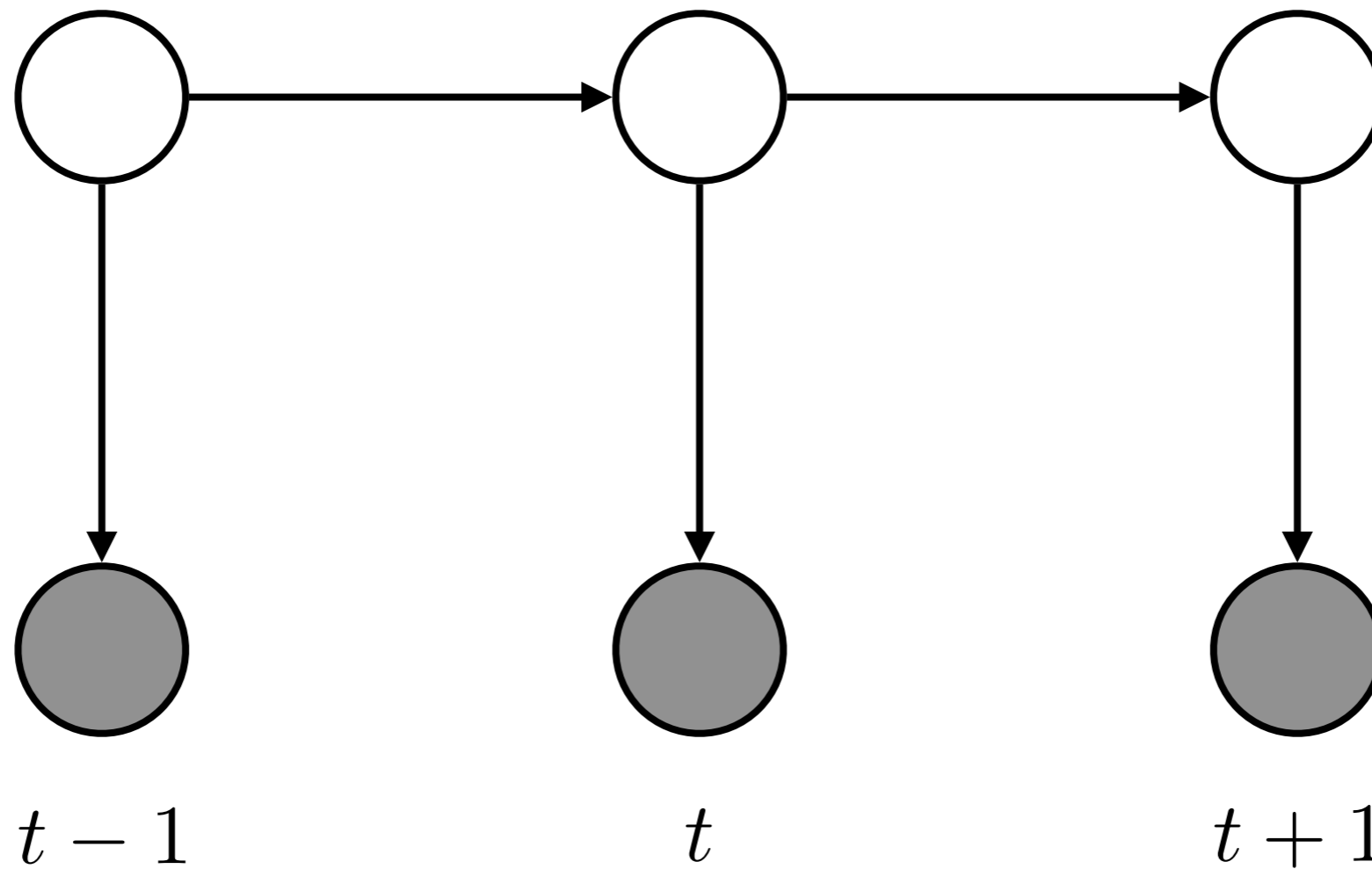


$t + 1$

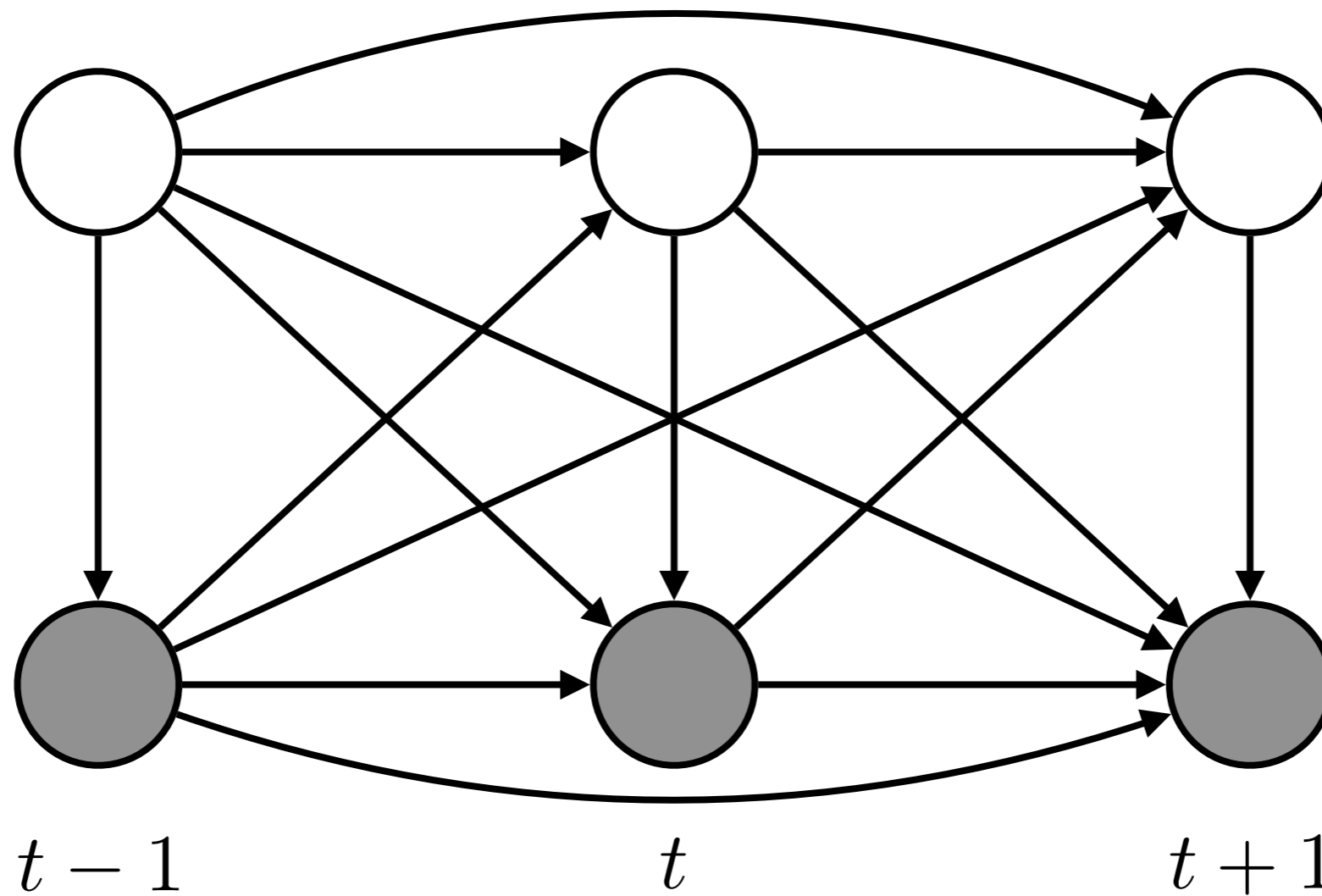
*model temporal dependencies*



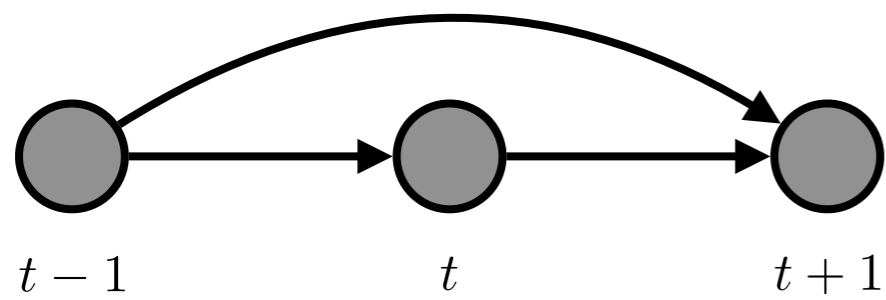
*model temporal dependencies*



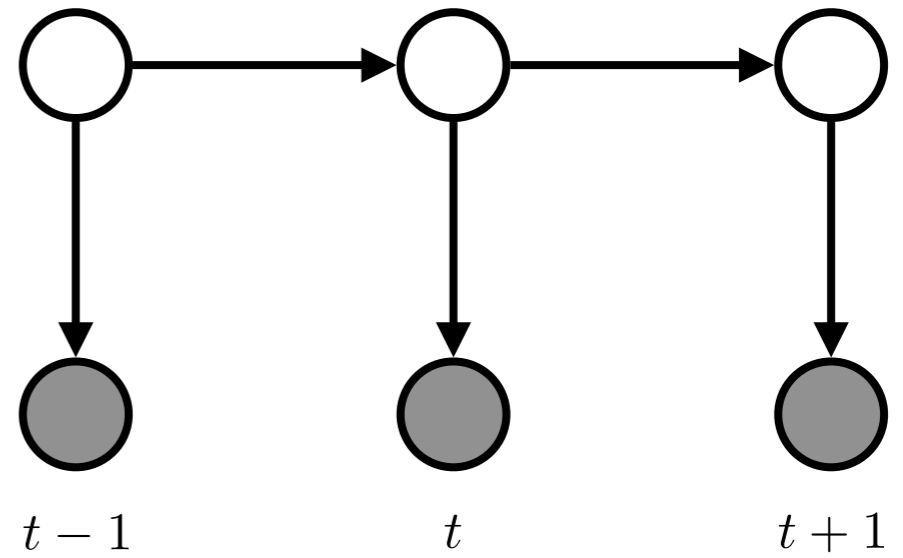
*model temporal dependencies*



# MODELING DYNAMICS



fully-observed



latent

$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{<t}) = \int p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{z}_t) p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_t | \mathbf{x}_{<t}) d\mathbf{z}_t$$

may be more flexible than a fixed-form  $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{<t})$

# SEQUENTIAL LATENT VARIABLE MODELS

general form:

$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{\leq T}, \mathbf{z}_{\leq T}) = \prod_{t=1}^T \underbrace{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{<t}, \mathbf{z}_{\leq t})}_{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_t | \mathbf{x}_{<t}, \mathbf{z}_{<t})}_{\text{prior}}$$

where  $\mathbf{x}_{\leq T}$  is a sequence of  $T$  observed variables

$\mathbf{z}_{\leq T}$  is a sequence of  $T$  latent variables

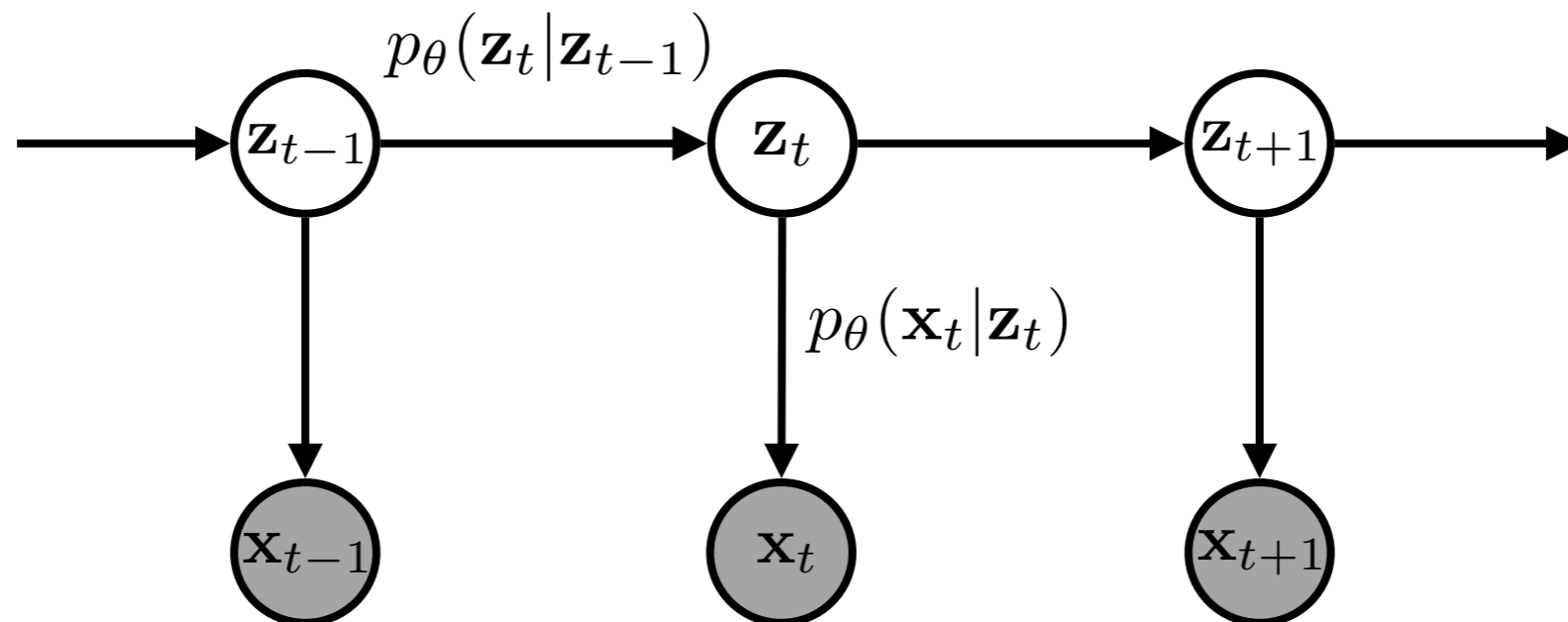


# SEQUENTIAL LATENT VARIABLE MODELS

general form:

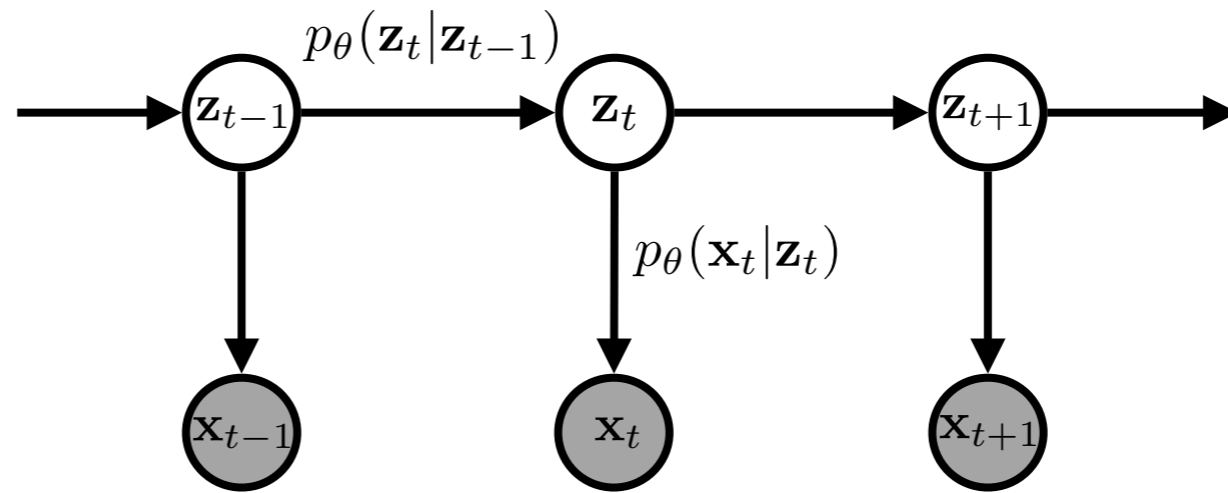
$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{\leq T}, \mathbf{z}_{\leq T}) = \prod_{t=1}^T \underbrace{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{<t}, \mathbf{z}_{\leq t})}_{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_t | \mathbf{x}_{<t}, \mathbf{z}_{<t})}_{\text{prior}}$$

simplified case (hidden Markov model):



# SEQUENTIAL LATENT VARIABLE MODELS

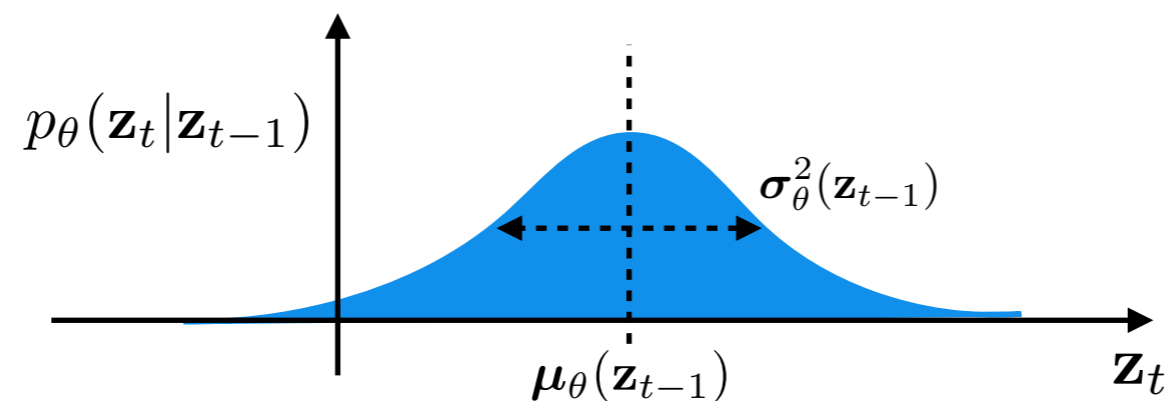
Markov model:



Parameterization:

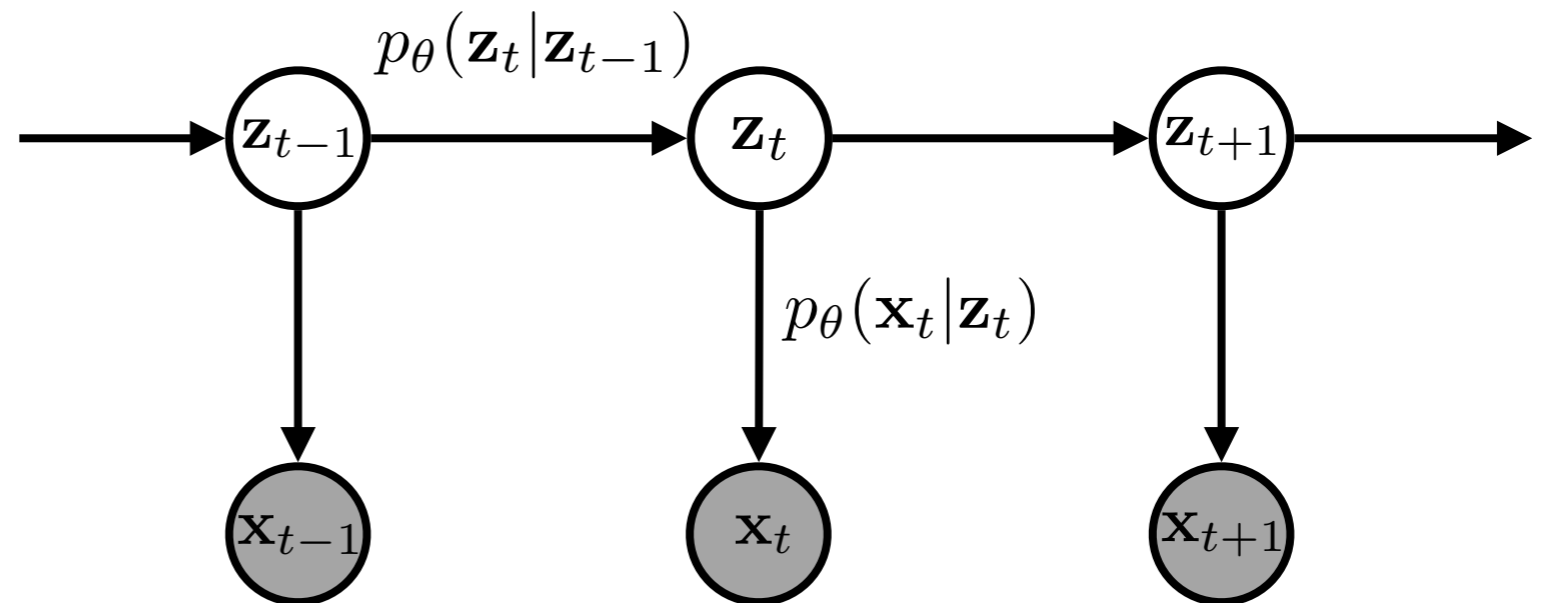
$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_t|\mathbf{z}_{t-1})$  is typically an analytical distribution

for example,  $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_t|\mathbf{z}_{t-1}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{z}_t; \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_{t-1}), \text{diag}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\theta}^2(\mathbf{z}_{t-1})))$



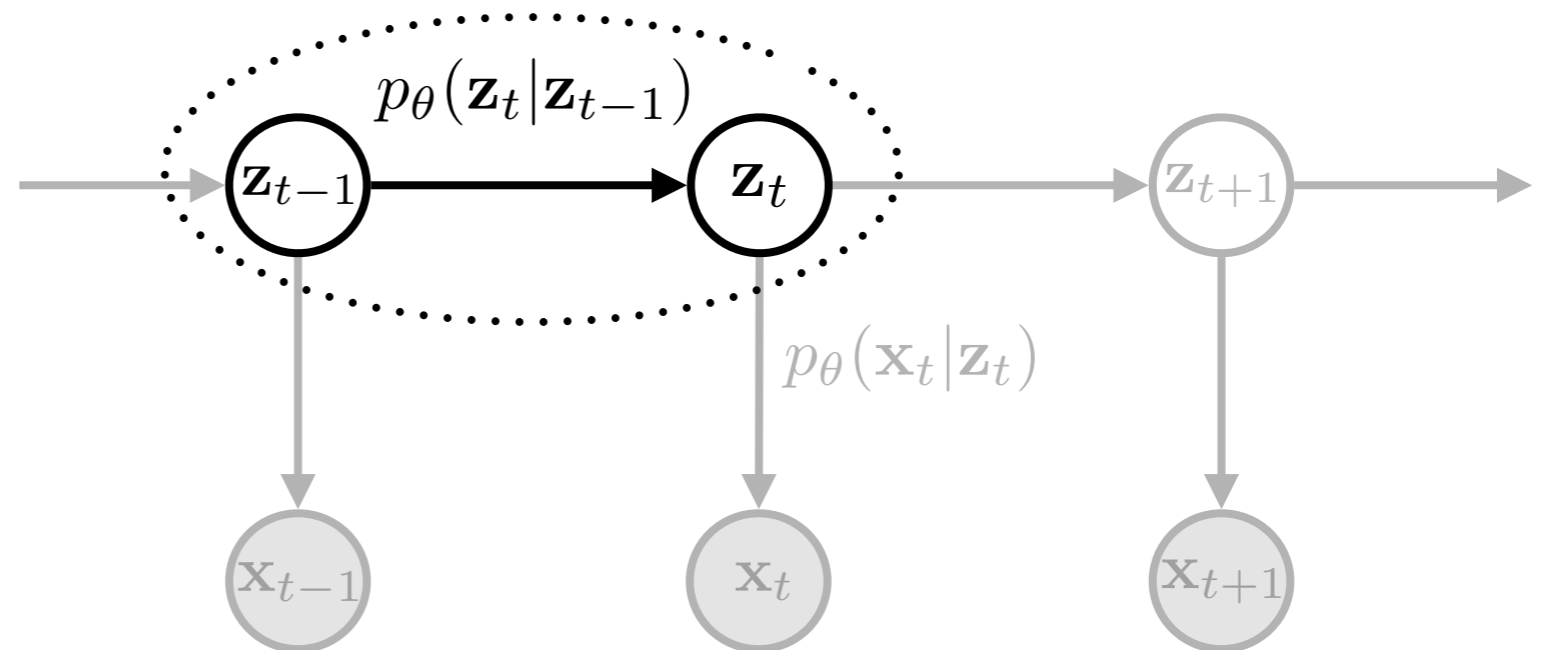
# SEQUENTIAL LATENT VARIABLE MODELS

the parameters of these analytical distributions are functions, often *deep networks*



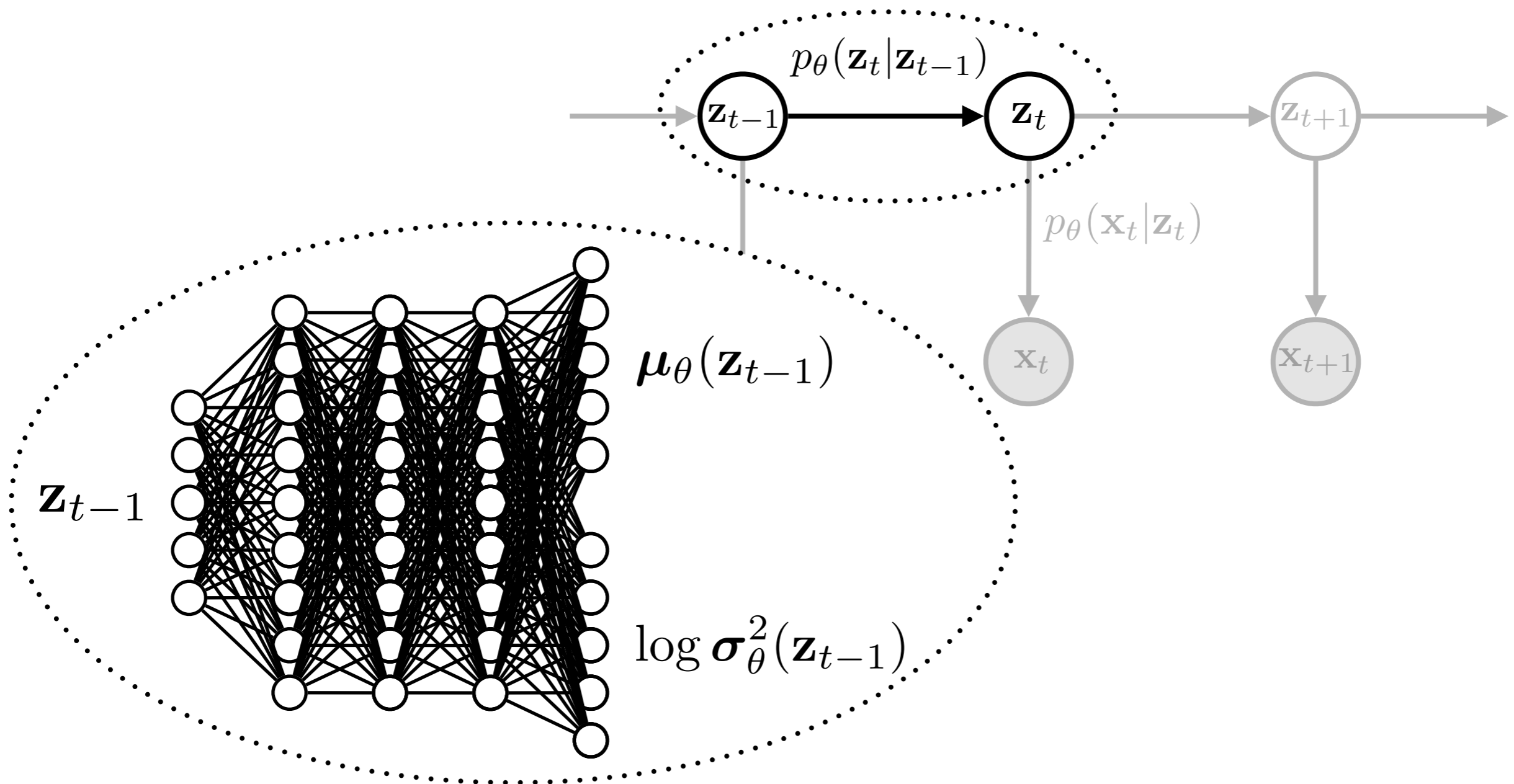
# SEQUENTIAL LATENT VARIABLE MODELS

the parameters of these analytical distributions are functions, often *deep networks*



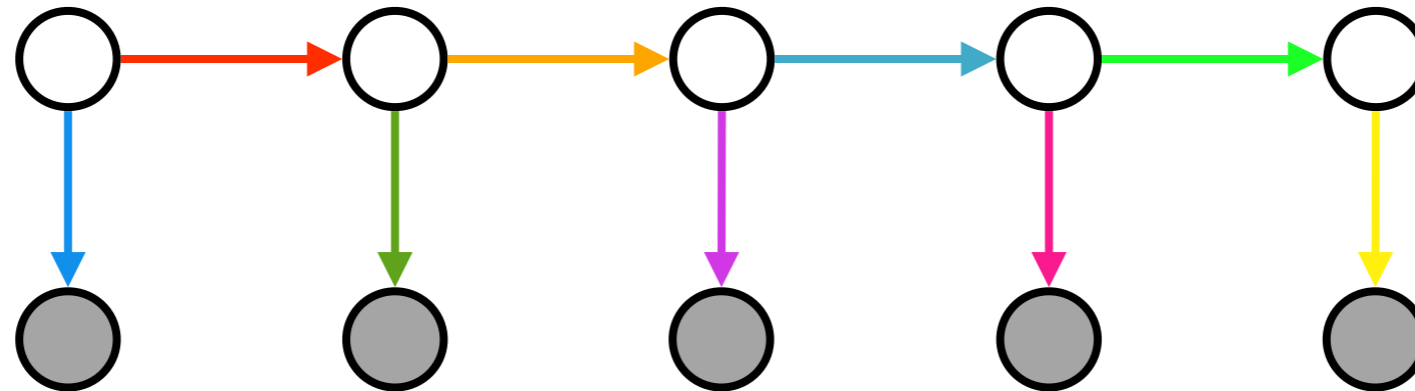
# SEQUENTIAL LATENT VARIABLE MODELS

the parameters of these analytical distributions are functions, often *deep networks*



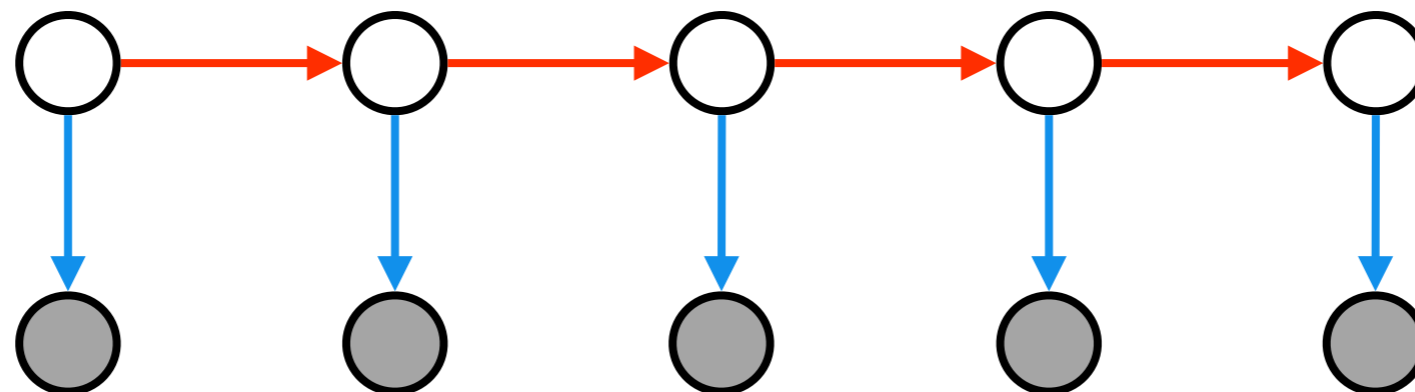
# WEIGHT SHARING

could use a separate network for each conditional dependence



*number of parameters grows linearly with time*

share weights for similar conditional dependencies

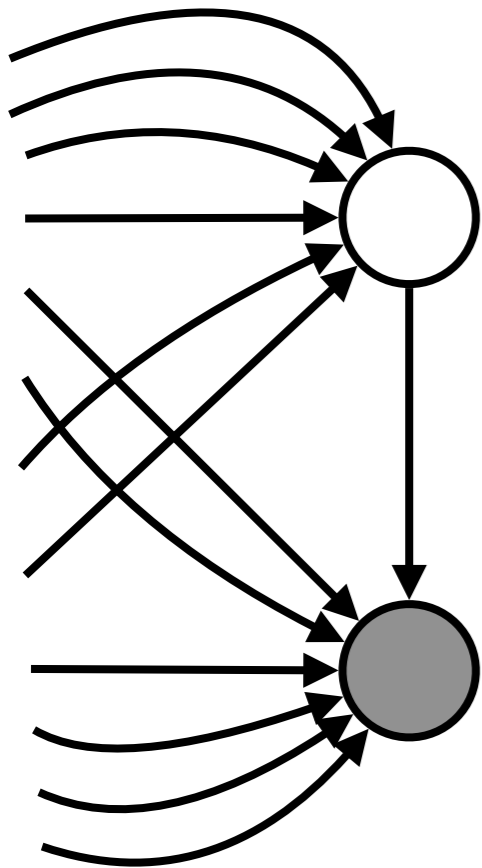


*fixed number of parameters*

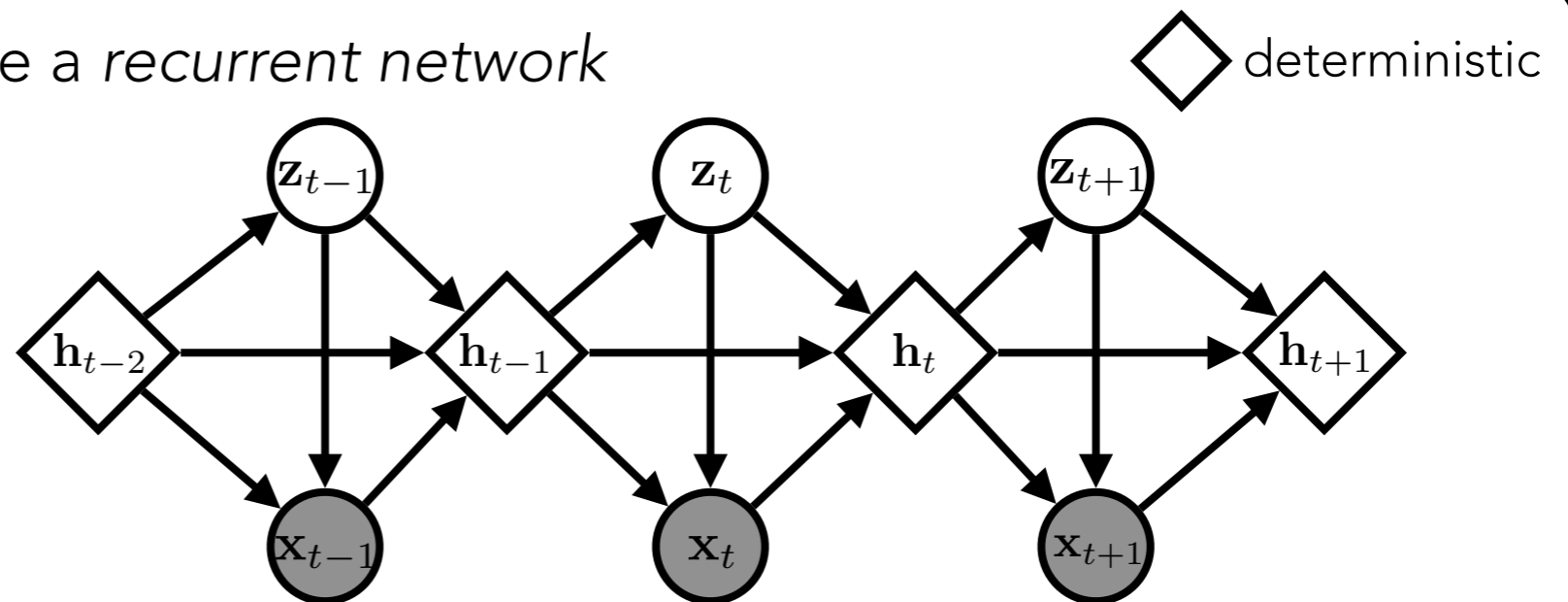
# LONG-TERM DEPENDENCIES

general model form 
$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{\leq T}, \mathbf{z}_{\leq T}) = \prod_{t=1}^T p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{<t}, \mathbf{z}_{\leq t}) p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_t | \mathbf{x}_{<t}, \mathbf{z}_{<t})$$

how do we model long-term dependencies?



use a *recurrent network*

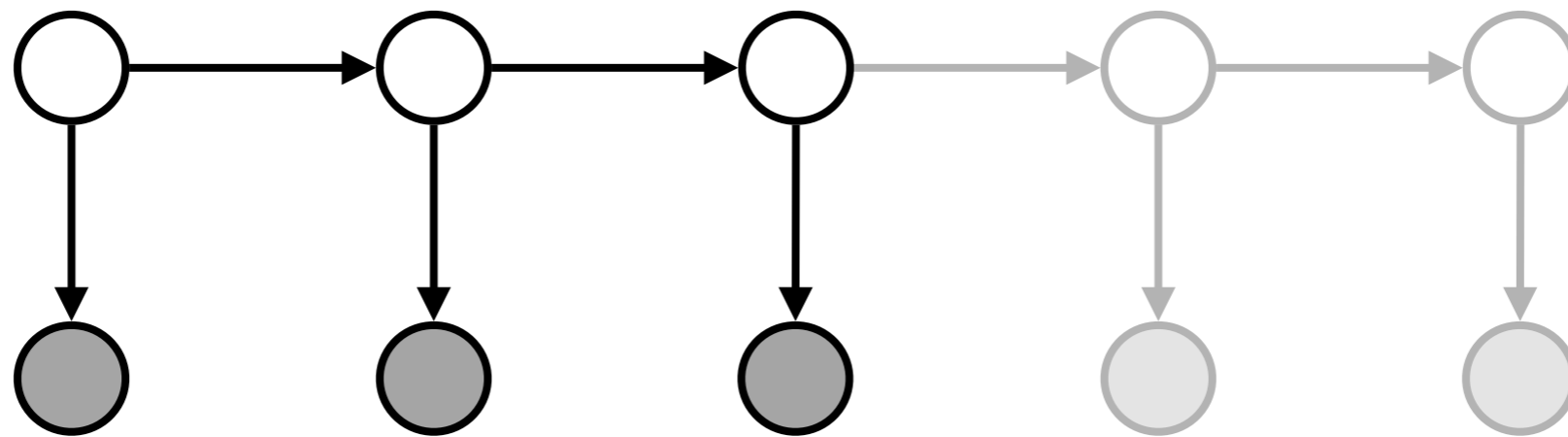


$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{\leq T}, \mathbf{z}_{\leq T}) = \prod_{t=1}^T p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{h}_{t-1}, \mathbf{z}_t) p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_t | \mathbf{h}_{t-1})$$

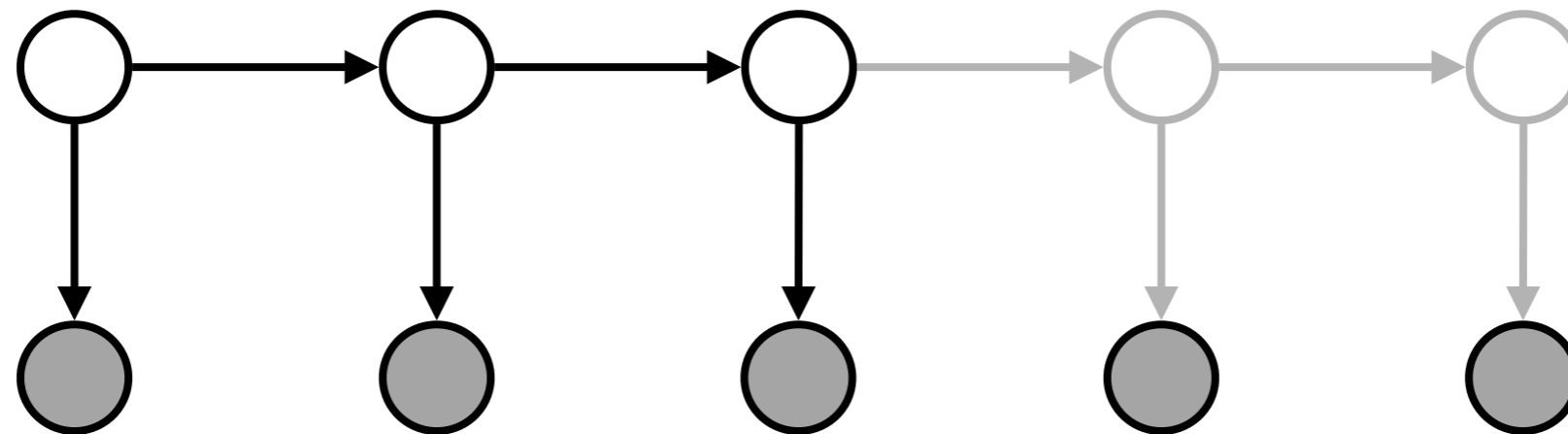
# INFERENCE

given a sequence of observations,  $\mathbf{x}_{\leq T}$ , infer  $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_{\leq T} | \mathbf{x}_{\leq T})$

filtering inference



smoothing inference





# VARIATIONAL INFERENCE IN SEQUENTIAL MODELS

introduce an approximate posterior  $q(\mathbf{z}_{\leq T}|\mathbf{x}_{\leq T})$

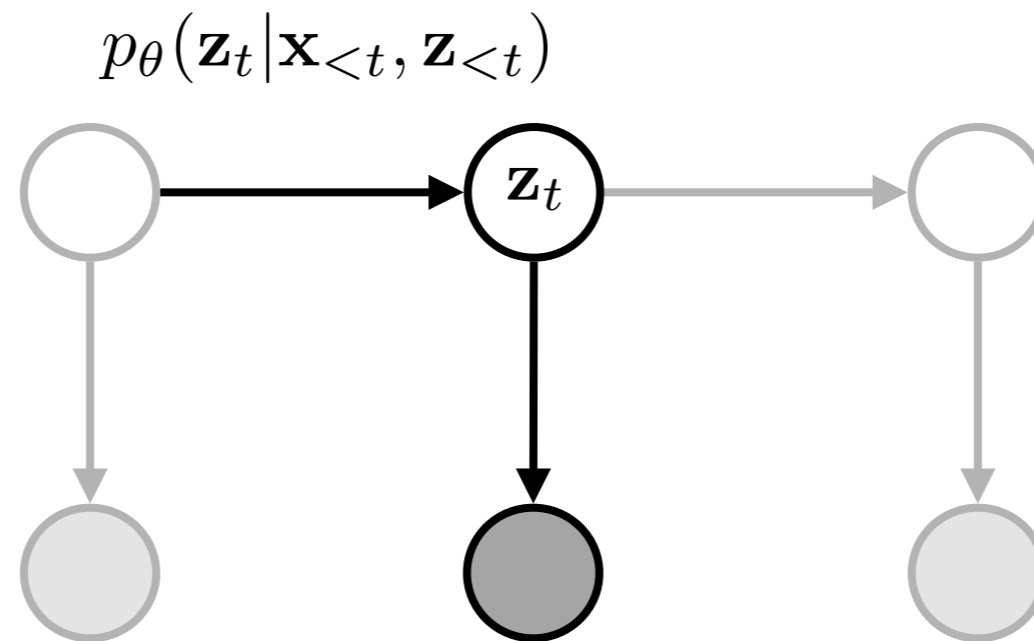
$$\text{ELBO: } \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}_{\leq T}, q) = \mathbb{E}_q \left[ \log \frac{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{\leq T}, \mathbf{z}_{\leq T})}{q(\mathbf{z}_{\leq T}|\mathbf{x}_{\leq T})} \right]$$

choices about the form of  $q(\mathbf{z}_{\leq T}|\mathbf{x}_{\leq T})$  determine how we evaluate  $\mathcal{L}$

→ often  $q(\mathbf{z}_{\leq T}|\mathbf{x}_{\leq T})$  is *structured*

# STRUCTURED VARIATIONAL INFERENCE

the model contains temporal dependencies



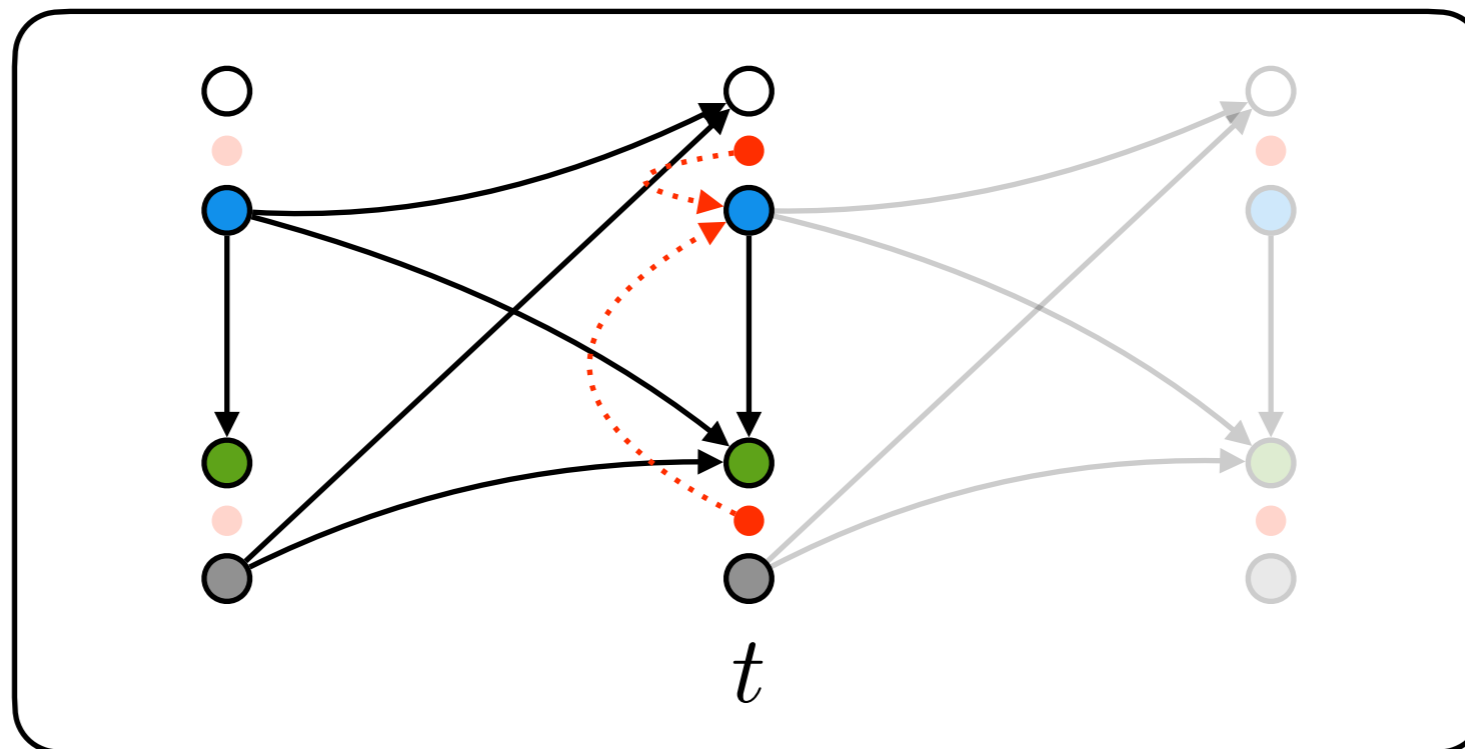
the approximate posterior should account for these dependencies

→ if we use  $q(\mathbf{z}_t | \mathbf{x}_t)$ , we cannot account for  $\mathbf{x}_{<t}$  and  $\mathbf{z}_{<t}$

# FILTERING INFERENCE

*filtering* approximate posterior

$$q(\mathbf{z}_{\leq T} | \mathbf{x}_{\leq T}) = \prod_{t=1}^T q(\mathbf{z}_t | \mathbf{x}_{\leq t}, \mathbf{z}_{<t})$$

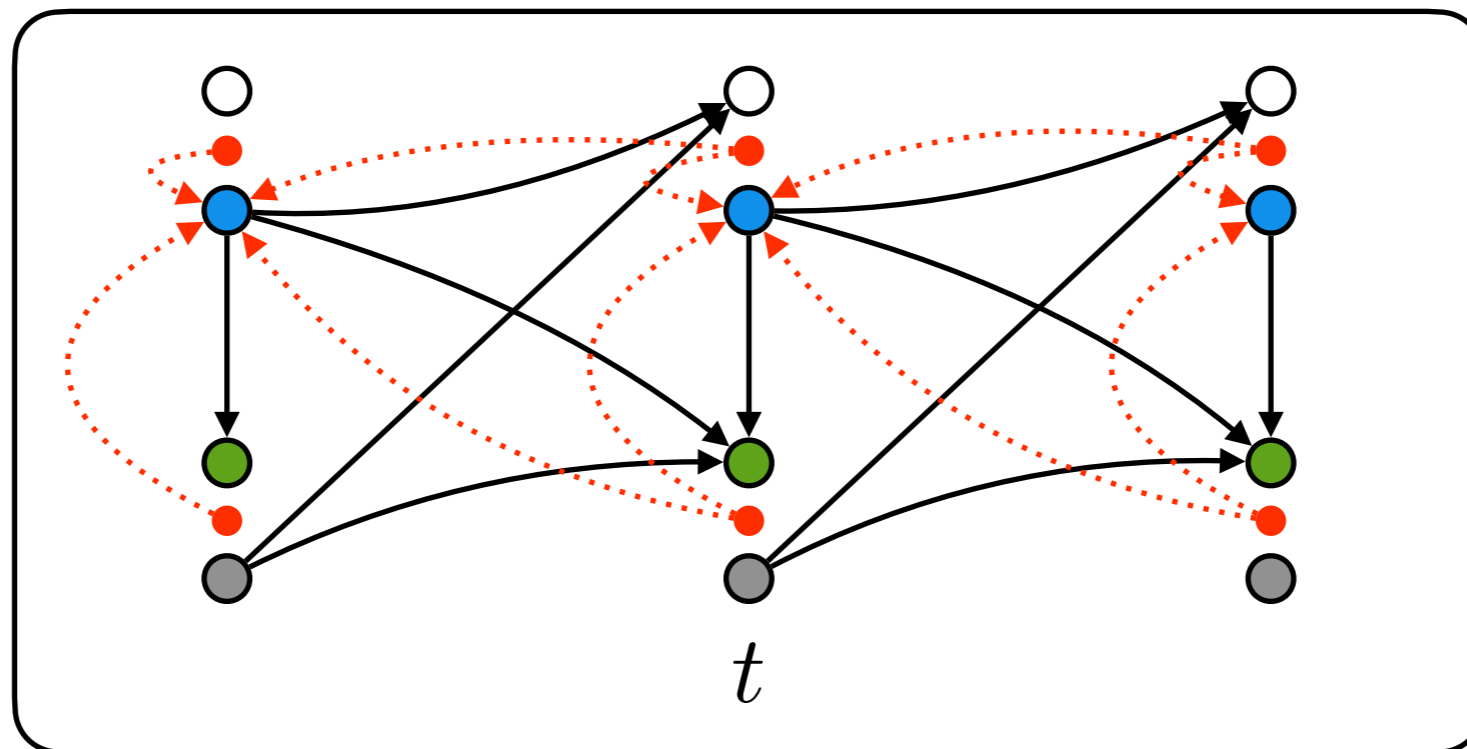


condition on observations at past and present time steps

# SMOOTHING INFERENCE

*smoothing* approximate posterior

$$q(\mathbf{z}_{\leq T} | \mathbf{x}_{\leq T}) = \prod_{t=1}^T q(\mathbf{z}_t | \mathbf{x}_{\leq T}, \mathbf{z}_{<t})$$



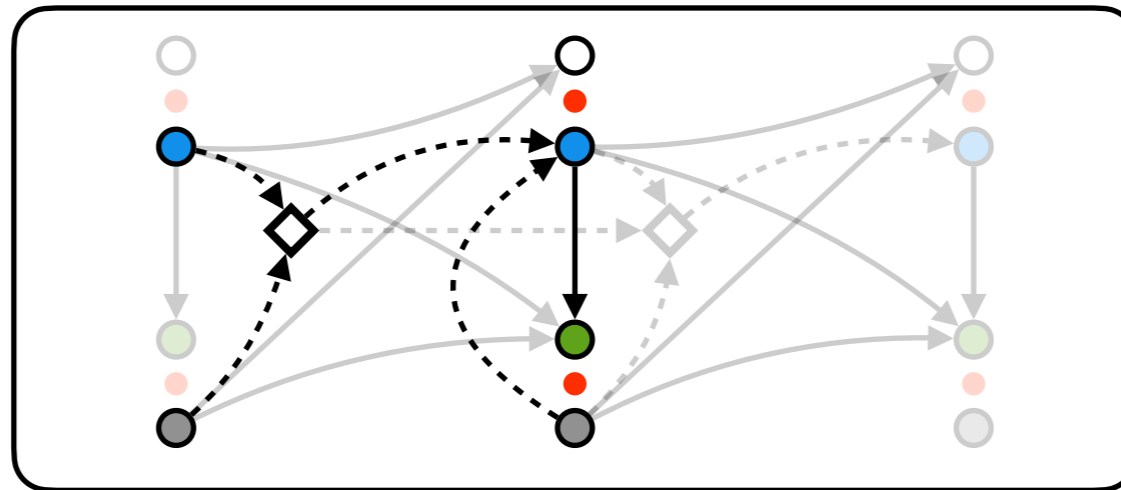
condition on observations at all time steps

# AMORTIZED VARIATIONAL INFERENCE

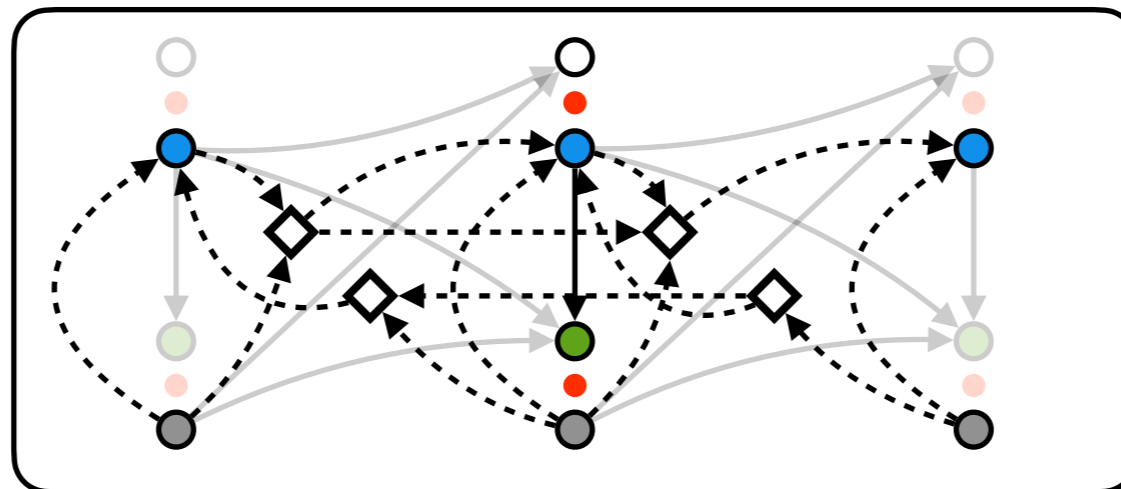
*how do we amortize inference in sequential models?*

typical approach:

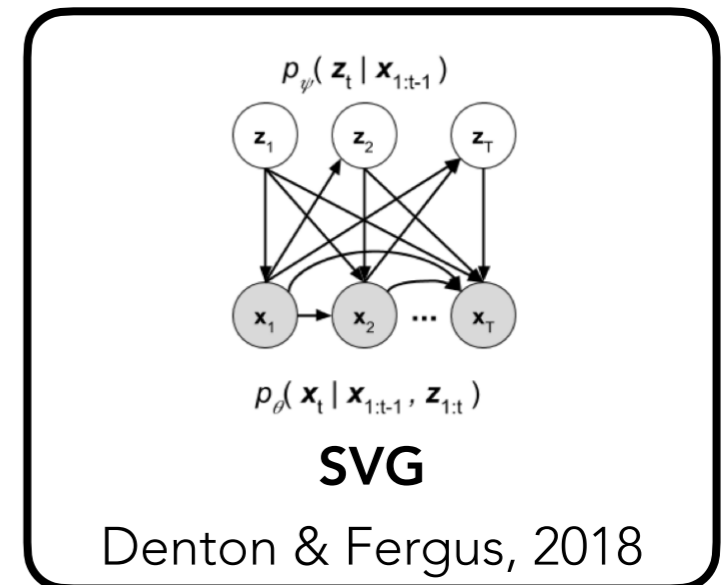
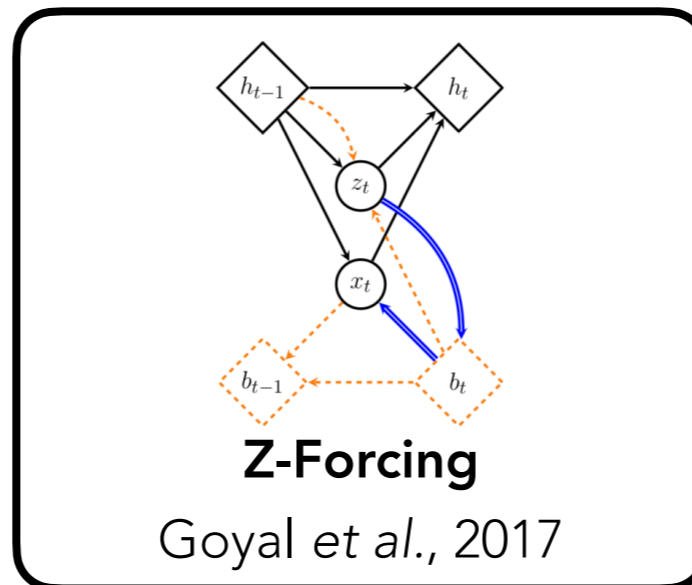
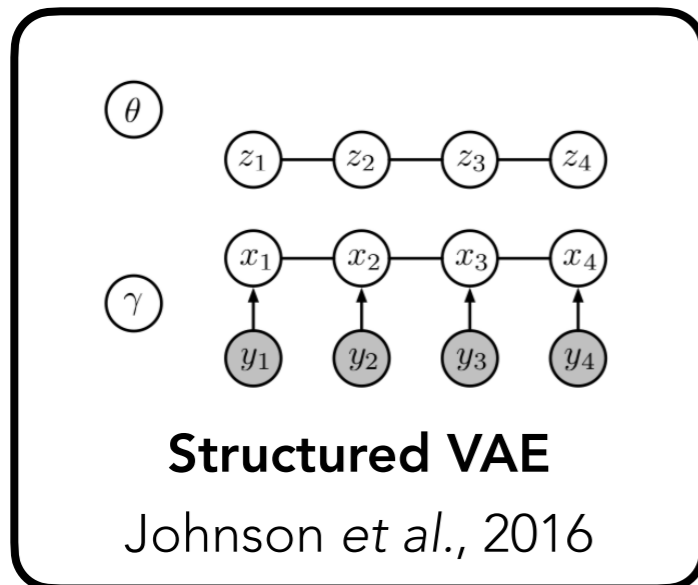
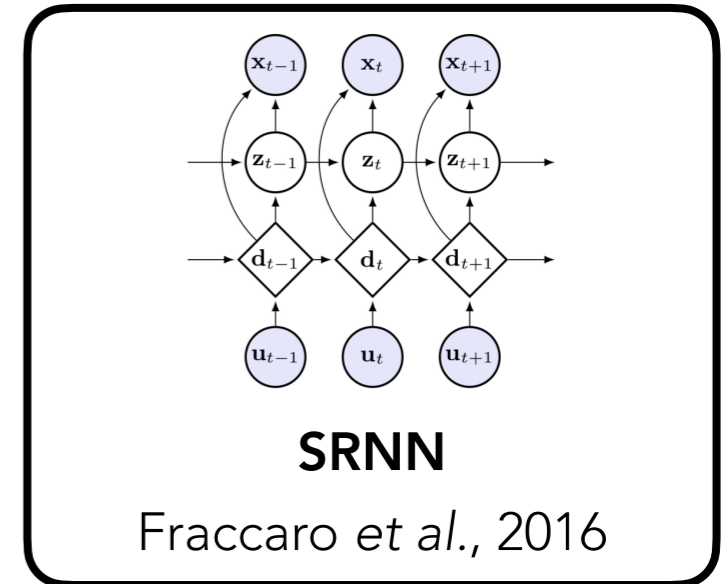
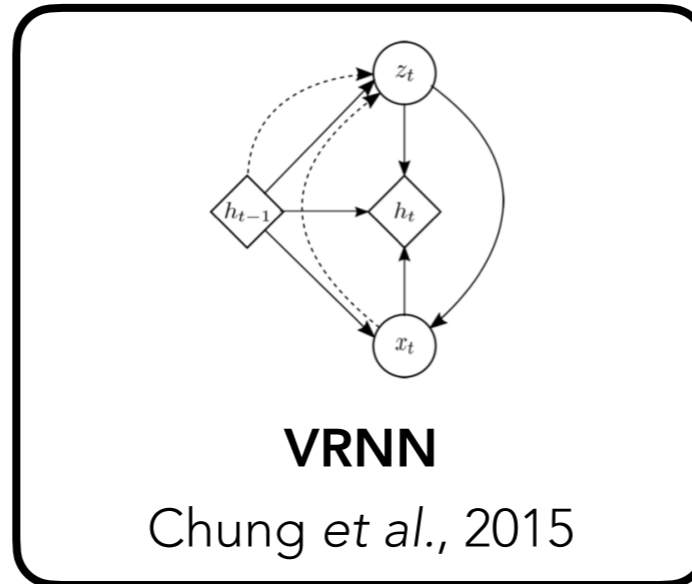
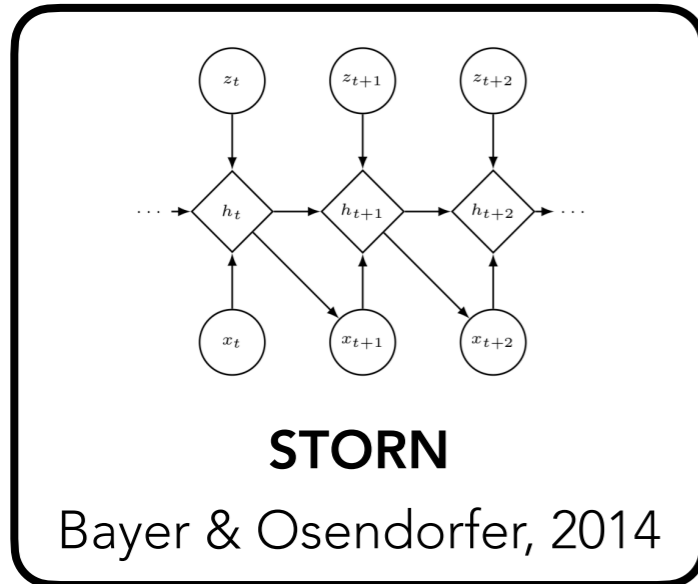
**filtering:** use a recurrent network



**smoothing:** use a bi-directional recurrent network

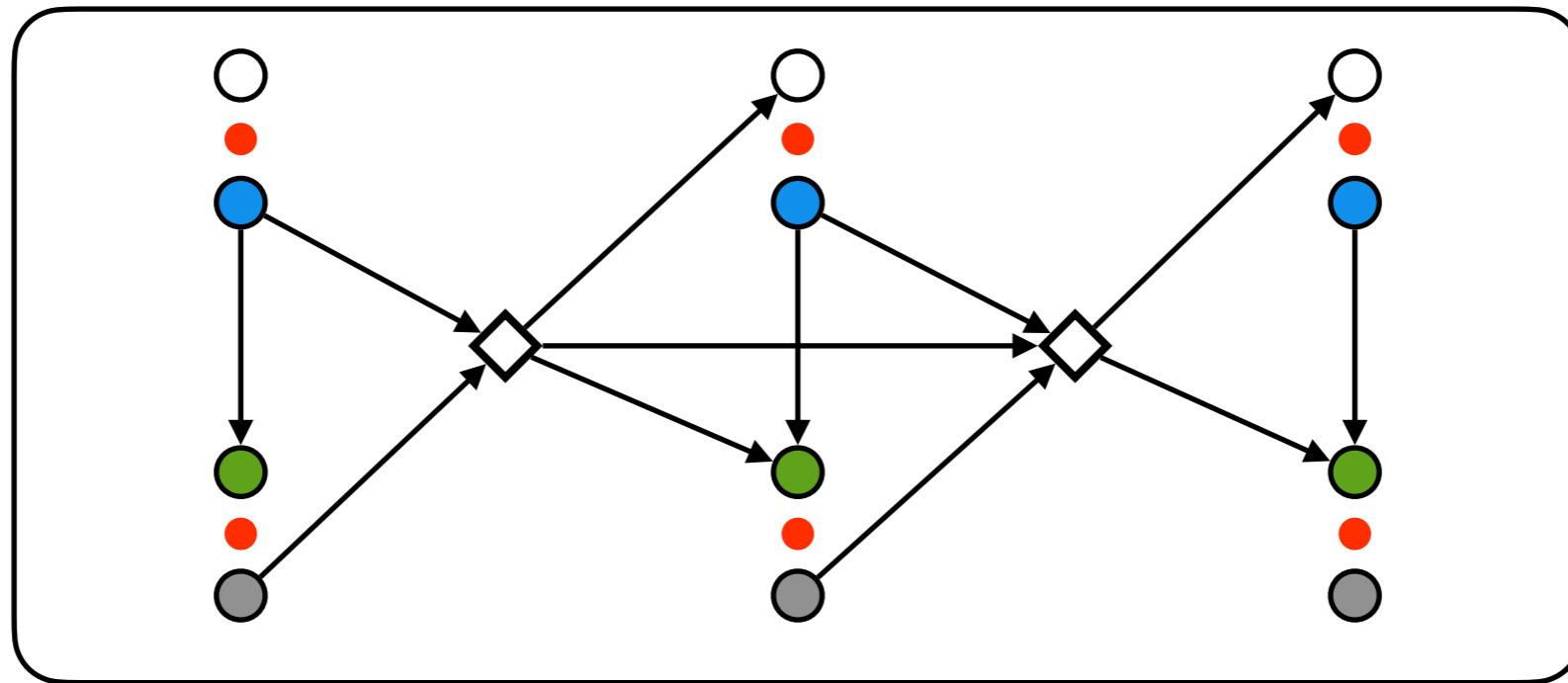


# RECENT MODELS



# VRNN

*generative model*

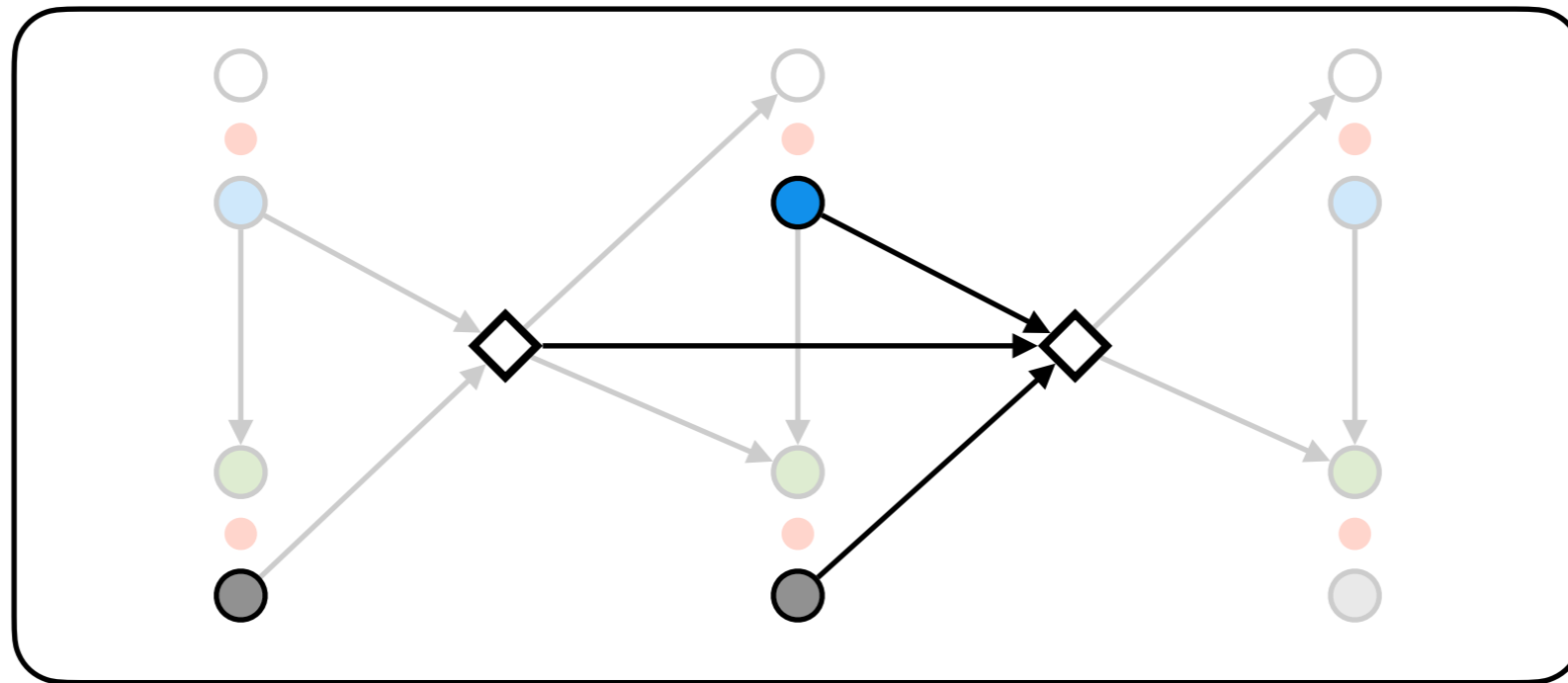


general model form 
$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{\leq T}, \mathbf{z}_{\leq T}) = \prod_{t=1}^T p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{<t}, \mathbf{z}_{\leq t}) p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_t | \mathbf{x}_{<t}, \mathbf{z}_{<t})$$

VRNN model form 
$$= \prod_{t=1}^T p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{z}_t, \mathbf{h}_{t-1}) p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_t | \mathbf{h}_{t-1})$$

# VRNN

*generative model*



recurrence:

$$\mathbf{h}_t = \text{LSTM}([\varphi_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}_t), \varphi_{\mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z}_t)], \mathbf{h}_{t-1})$$

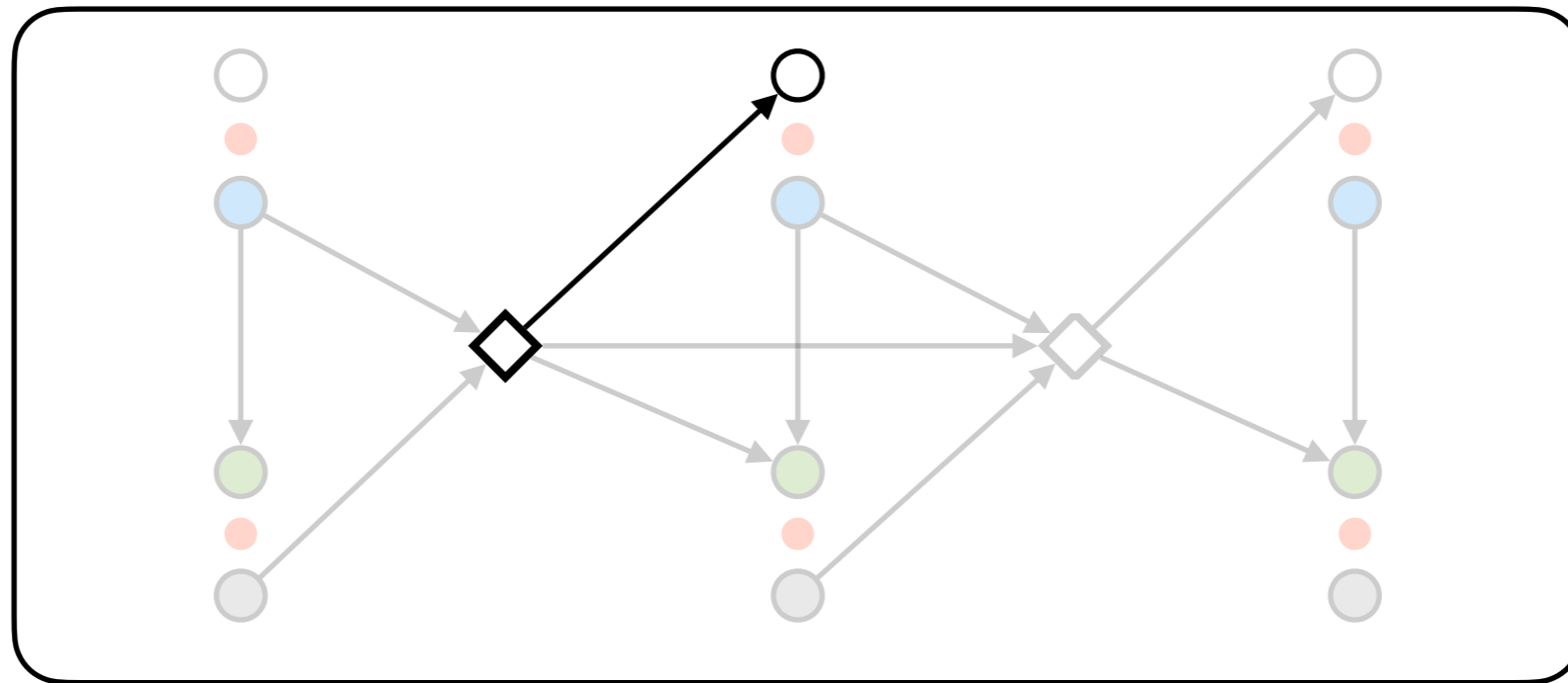
$\varphi$  are fully-connected networks

Chung et al., 2015



# VRNN

*generative model*



prior:

$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_t | \mathbf{h}_{t-1}) = \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{z},t}, \text{diag}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathbf{z},t}^2))$$

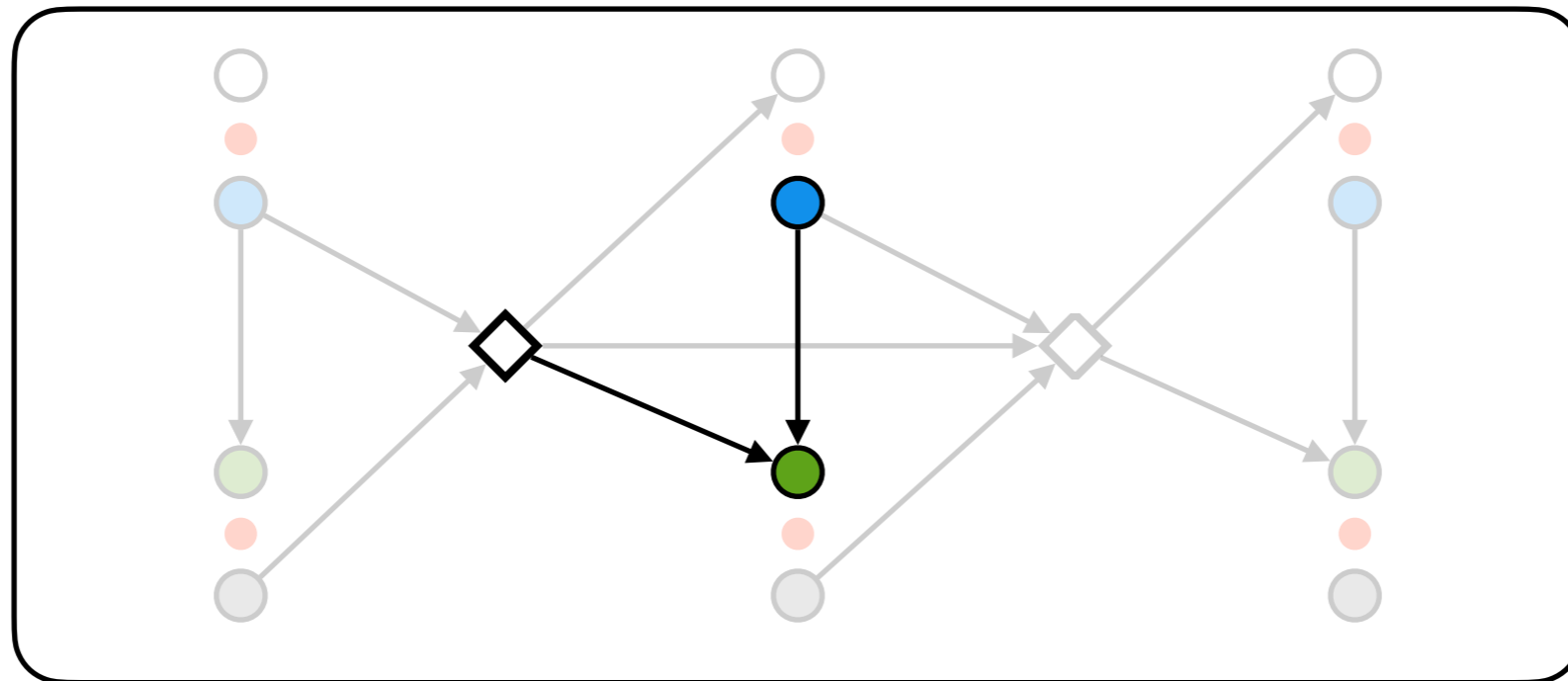
where  $[\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{z},t}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathbf{z},t}] = \varphi_{\text{prior}}(\mathbf{h}_{t-1})$

$\varphi$  are fully-connected networks

Chung et al., 2015

# VRNN

*generative model*



conditional likelihood:

$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{z}_t, \mathbf{h}_{t-1}) = \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{x},t}, \text{diag}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathbf{x},t}^2))$$

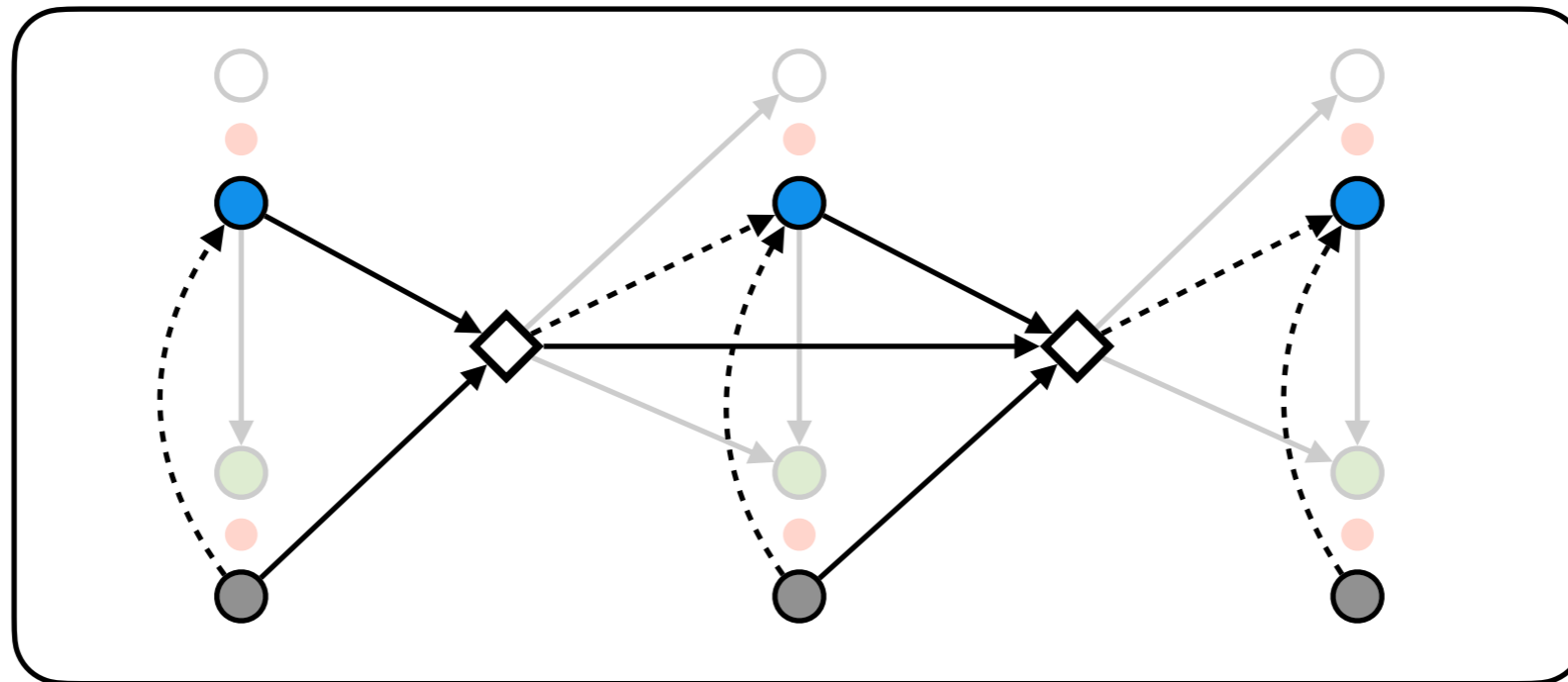
where  $[\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{x},t}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathbf{x},t}] = \varphi_{\text{dec}}(\varphi_{\mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{z}_t), \mathbf{h}_{t-1})$

$\varphi$  are fully-connected networks

Chung et al., 2015

# VRNN

*inference model*



filtering inference

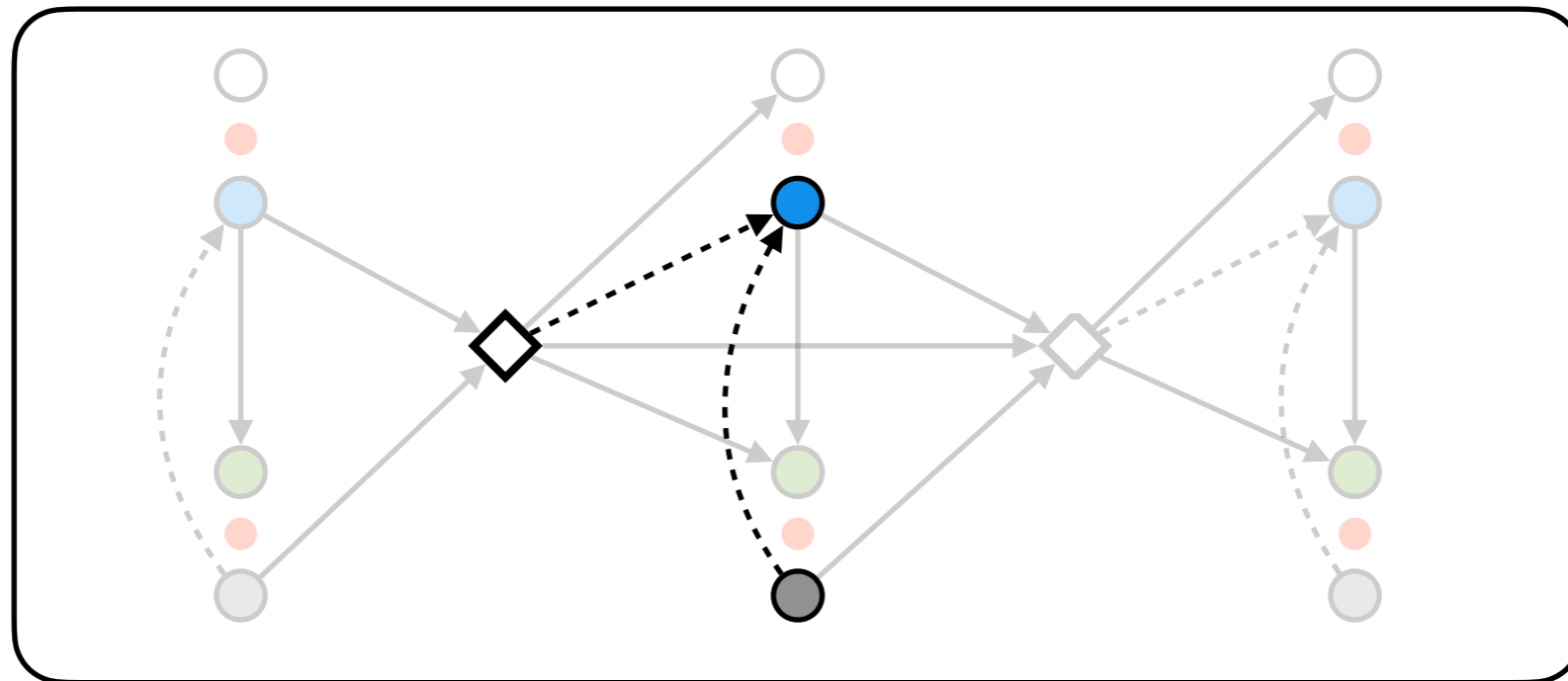
$$q(\mathbf{z}_{\leq T} | \mathbf{x}_{\leq T}) = \prod_{t=1}^T q(\mathbf{z}_t | \mathbf{x}_{\leq t}, \mathbf{z}_{<t})$$

VRNN inference model form

$$= \prod_{t=1}^T q(\mathbf{z}_t | \mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{h}_{t-1})$$

# VRNN

*inference model*



approximate posterior:

$$q(\mathbf{z}_t | \mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{h}_{t-1}) = \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{z},t}, \text{diag}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathbf{z},t}^2))$$

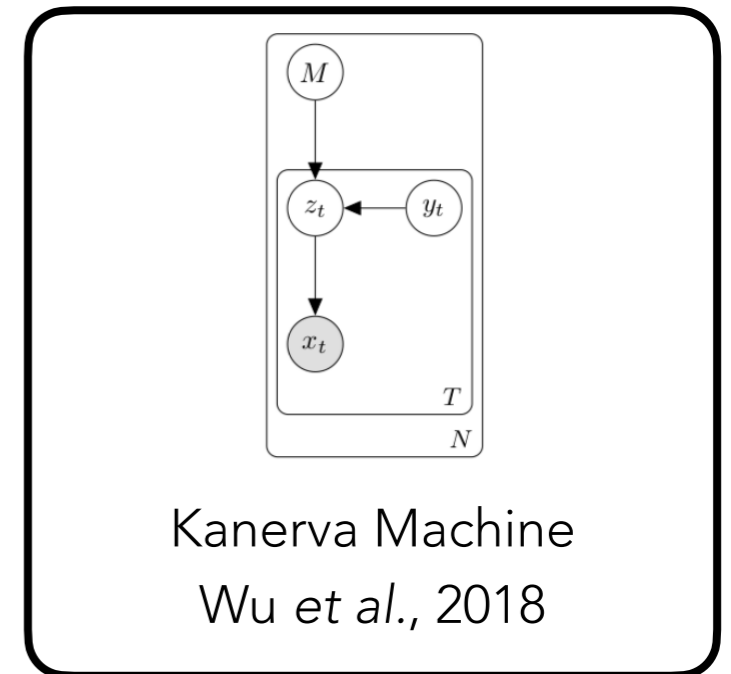
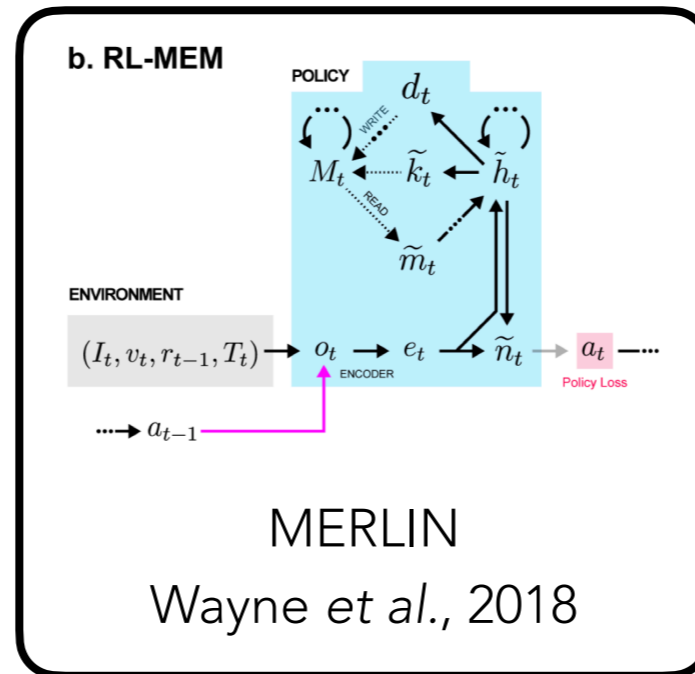
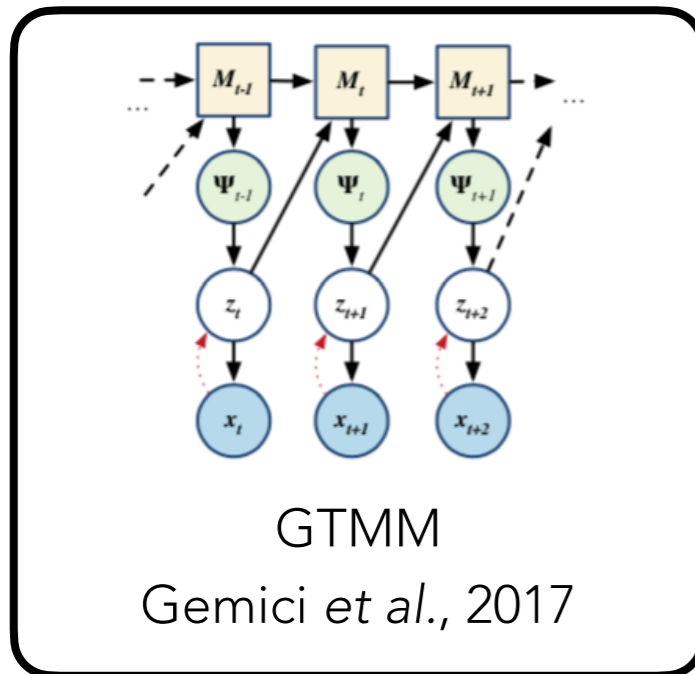
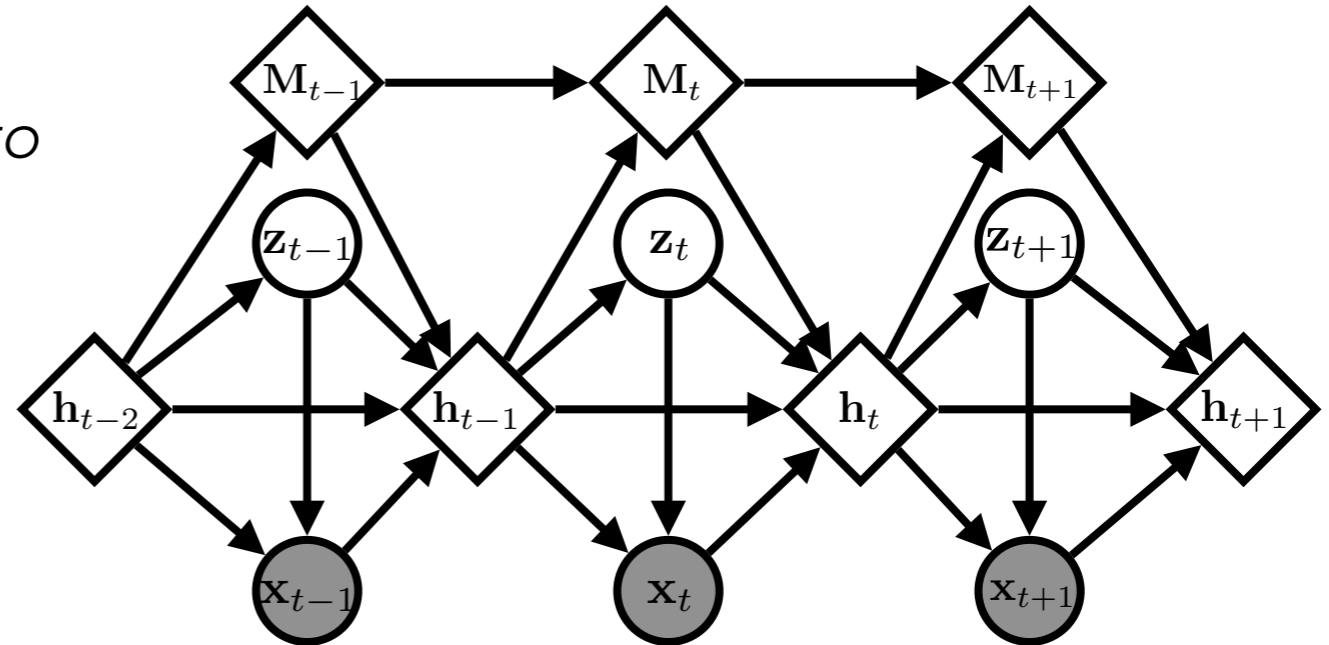
where  $[\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{z},t}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathbf{z},t}] = \varphi_{\text{enc}}(\varphi_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}_t), \mathbf{h}_{t-1})$

$\varphi$  are fully-connected networks

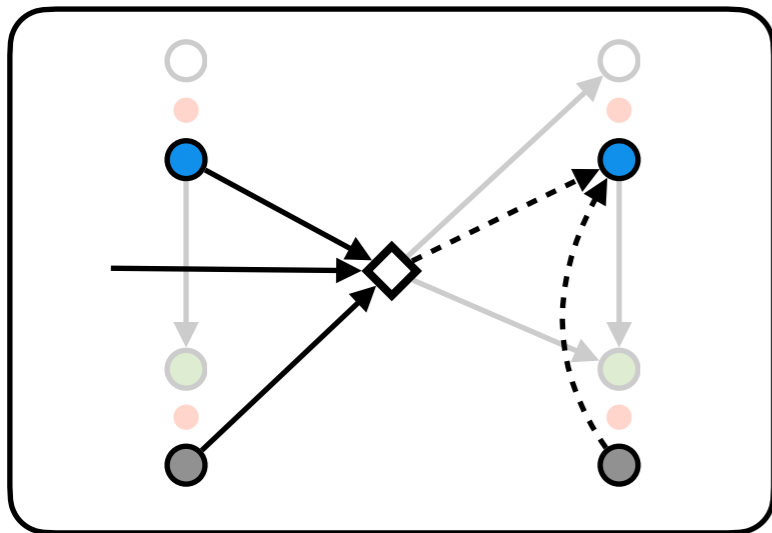
Chung et al., 2015

# MEMORY

use a specialized memory module to model longer-term dependencies

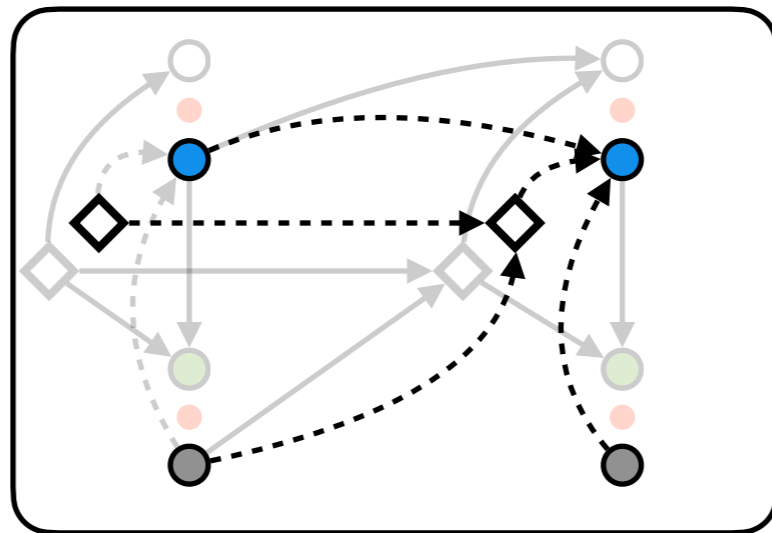


# FILTERING INFERENCE MODELS



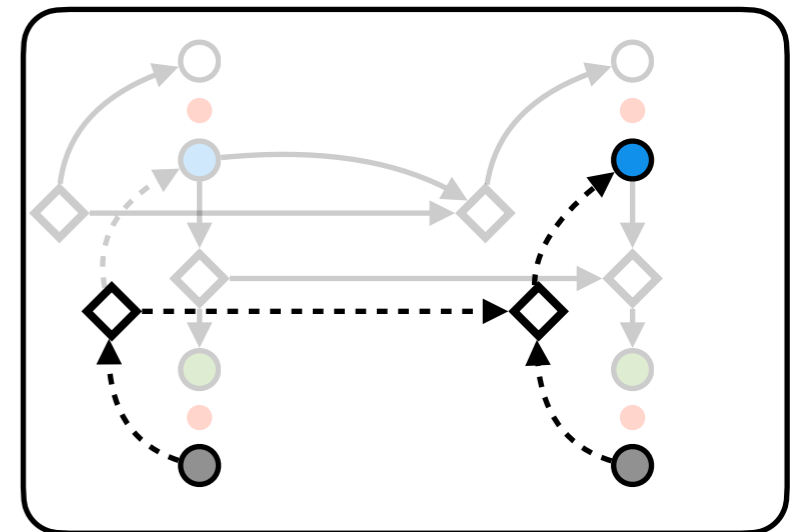
VRNN

Chung et al., 2015



SRNN

Fraccaro et al., 2016

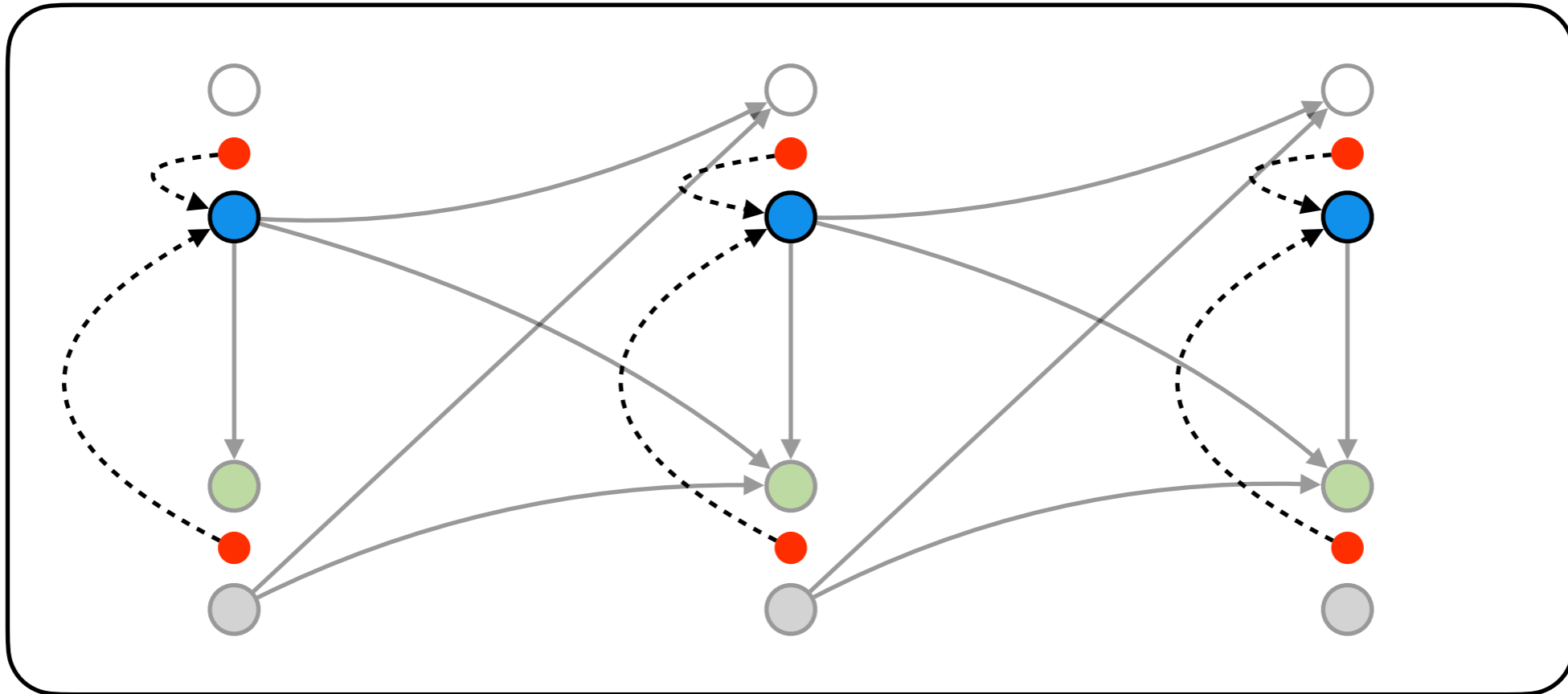


SVG

Denton & Fergus, 2018

*custom-designed inference models*

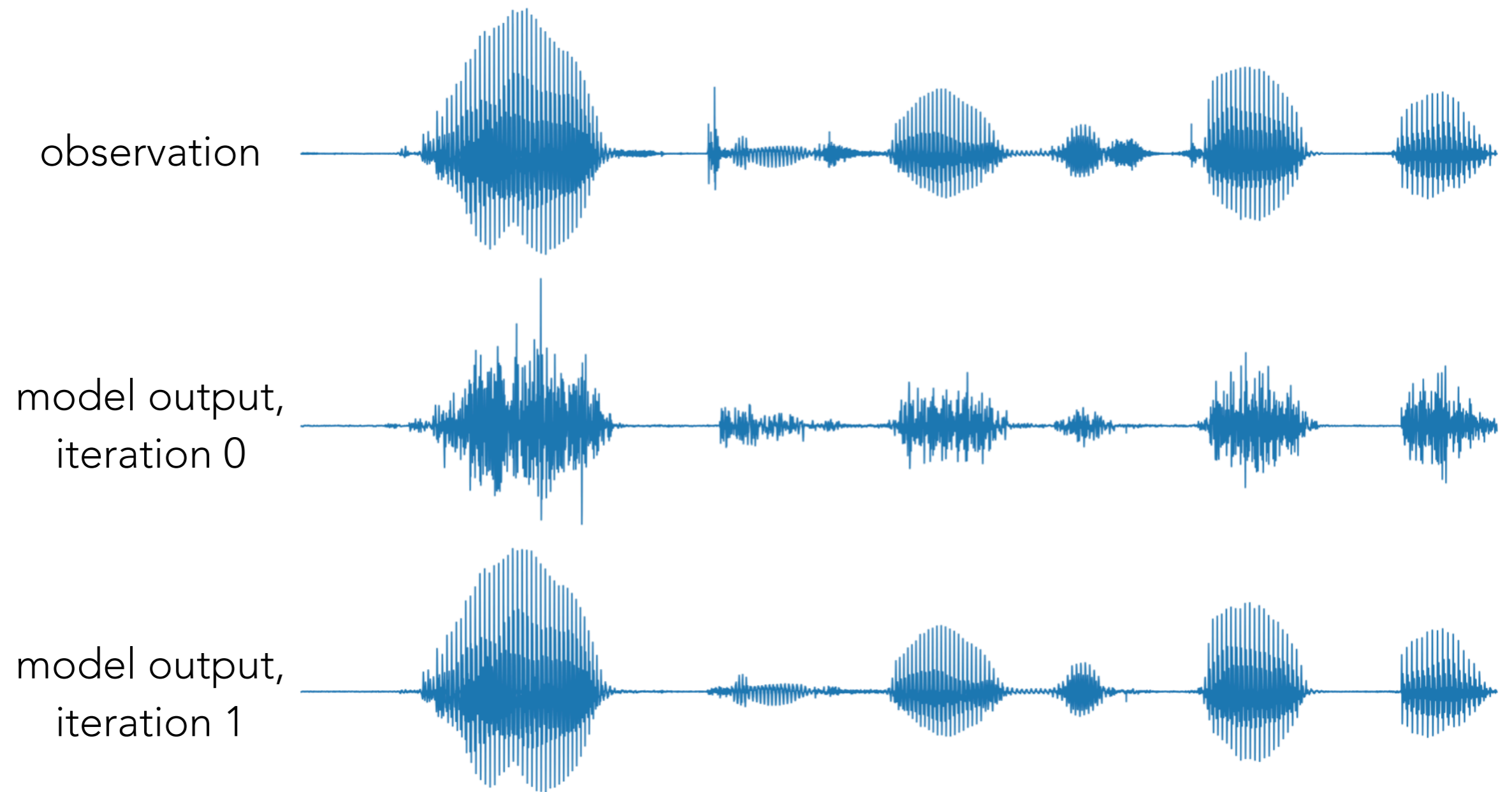
# AMORTIZED VARIATIONAL FILTERING



perform iterative amortized inference at each time step

# INFERENCE IMPROVEMENT

TIMIT audio waveforms

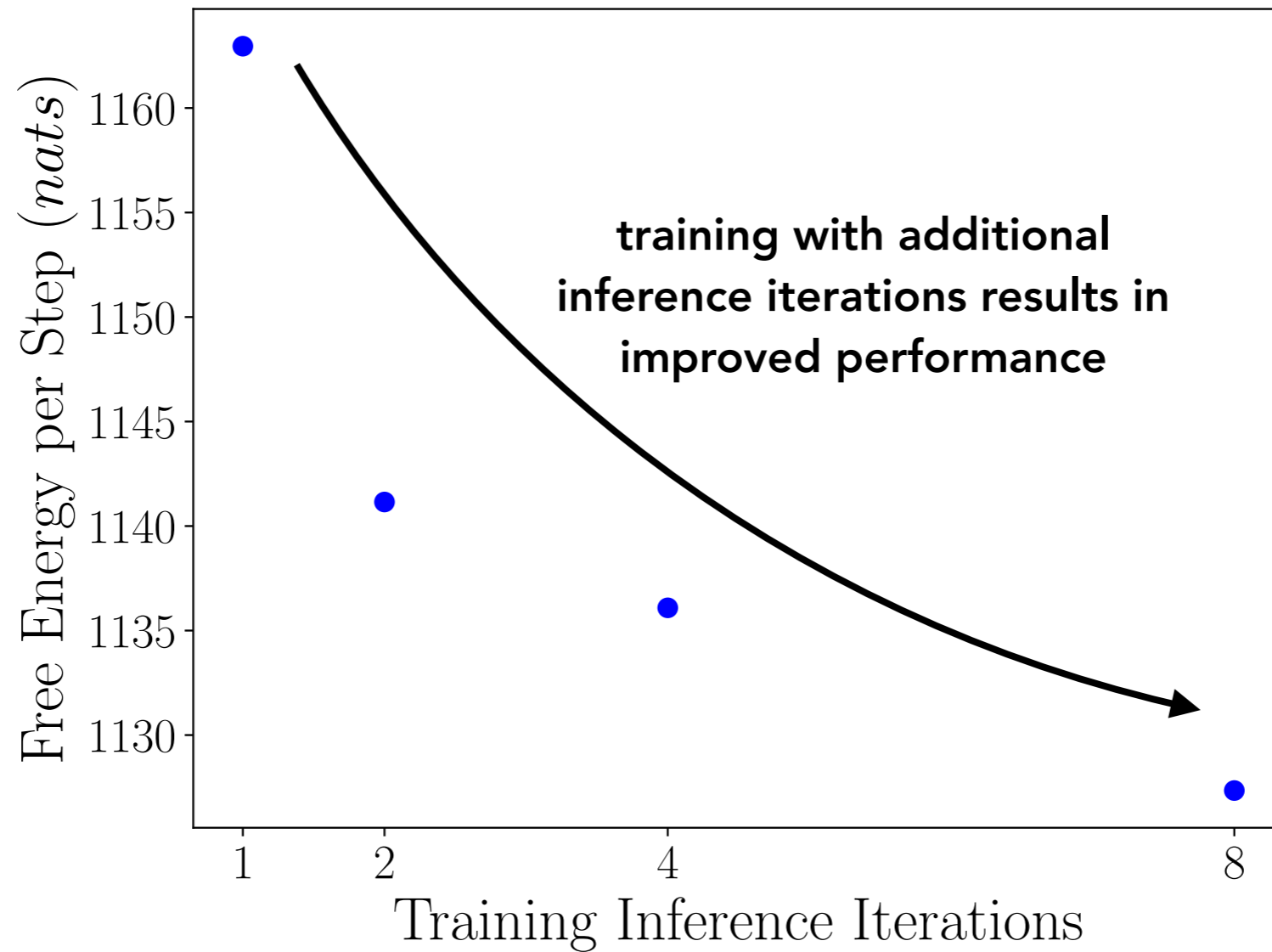


Marino *et al.*, 2018b



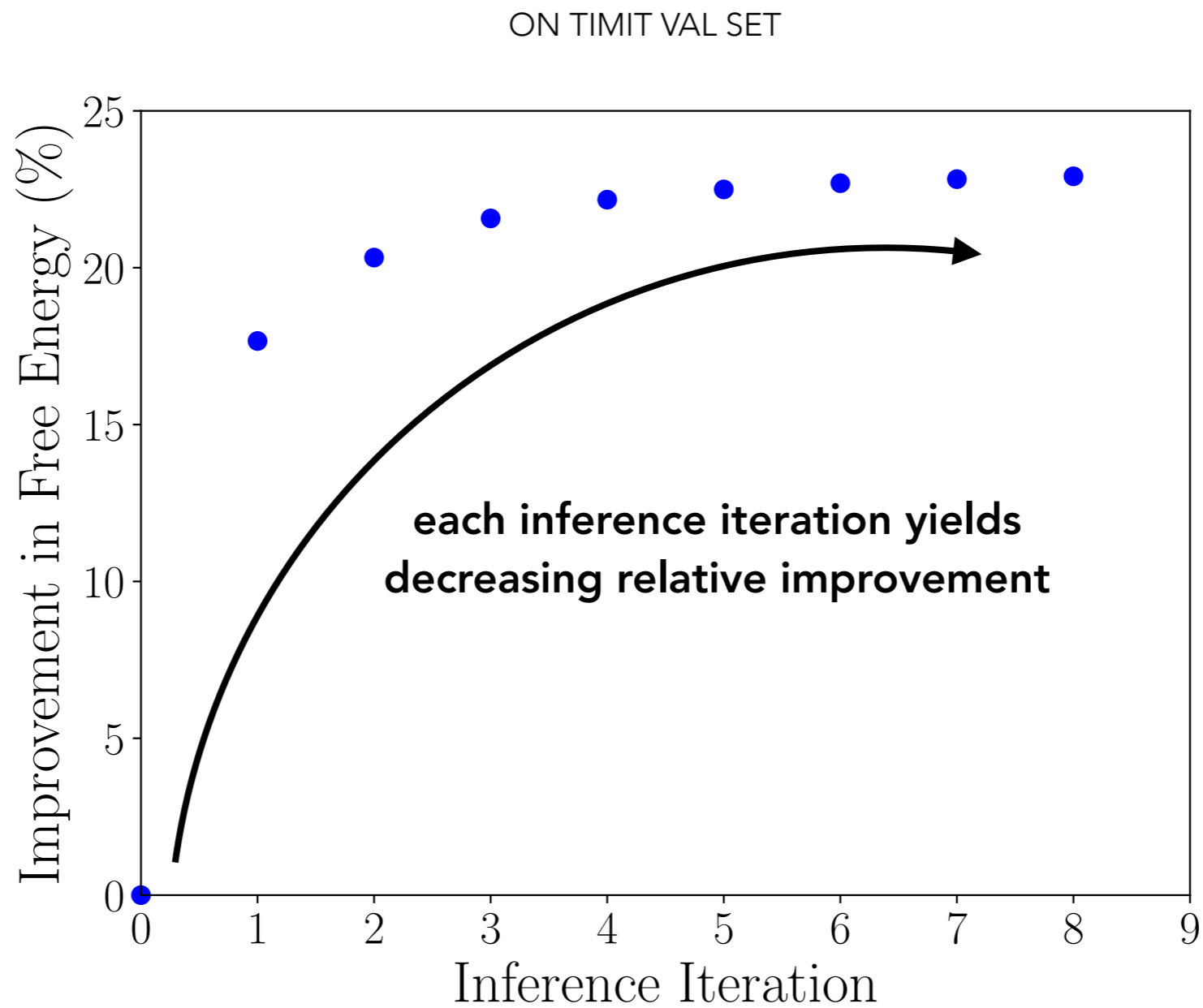
# INFERENCE ITERATIONS

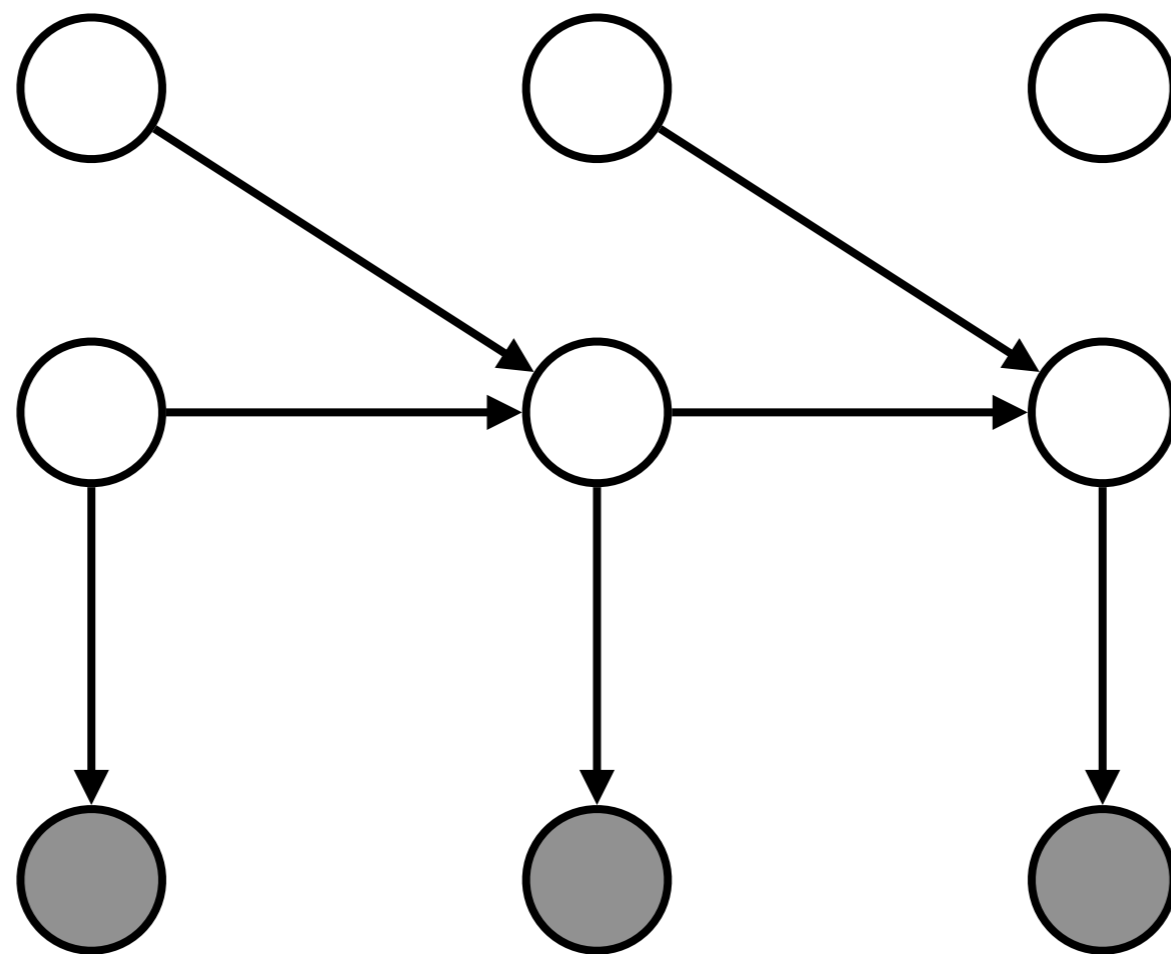
ON TIMIT VAL SET



Marino *et al.*, 2018b

# INFERENCE ITERATIONS





MODEL-BASED

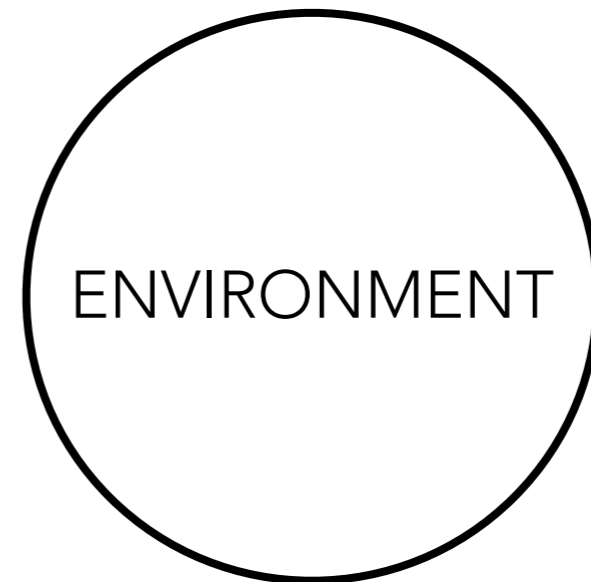
REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

# REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

*sequential decision making by maximizing expected future reward*

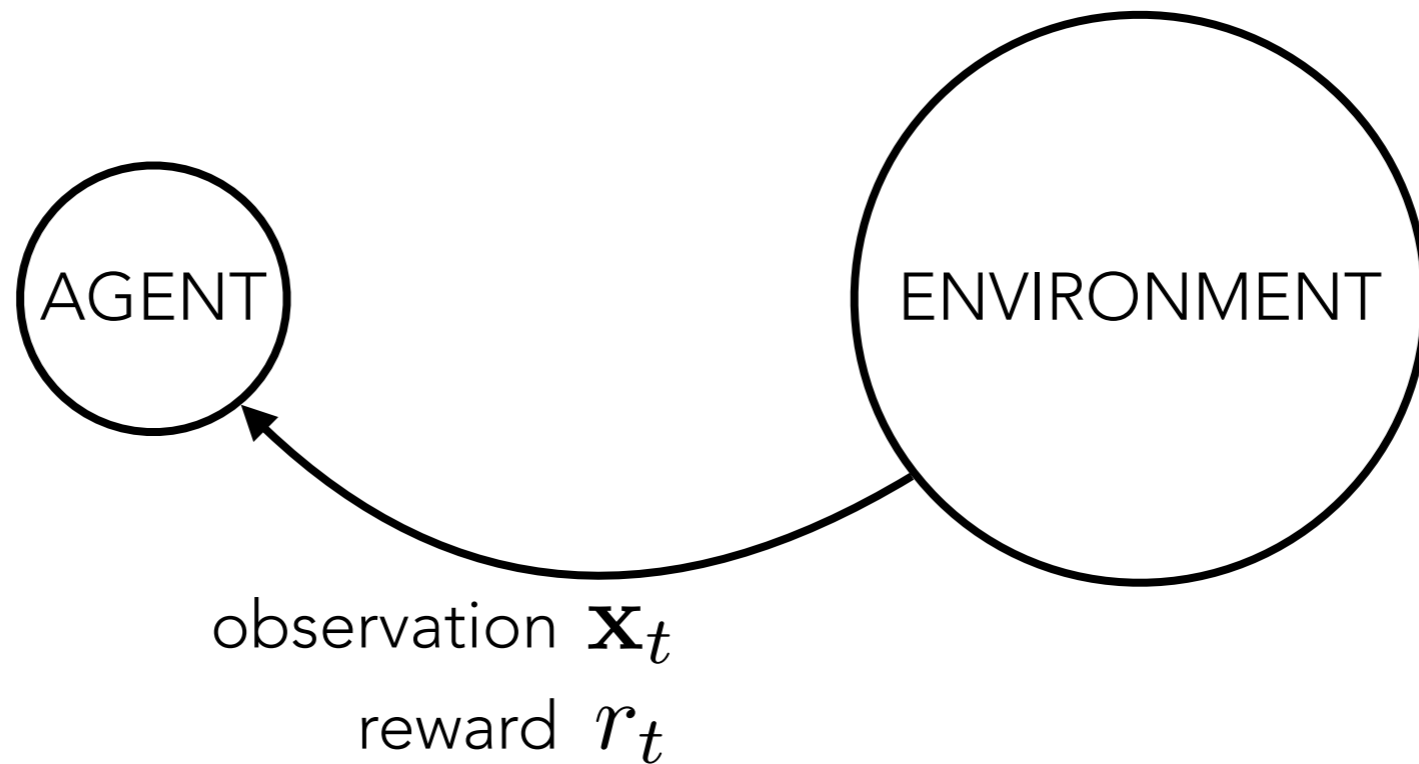
# REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

partially-observable Markov decision process (POMDP)



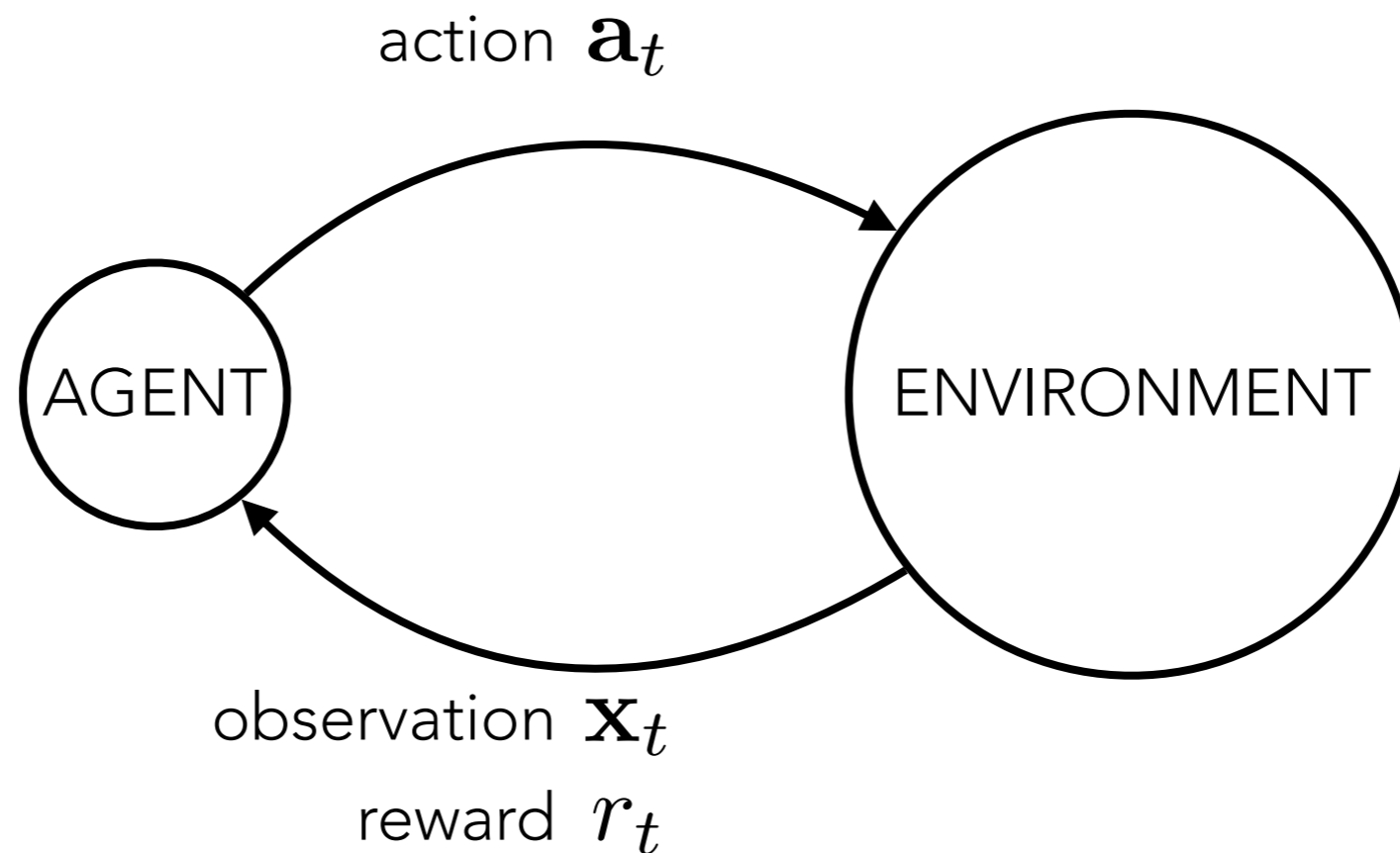
# REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

partially-observable Markov decision process (POMDP)



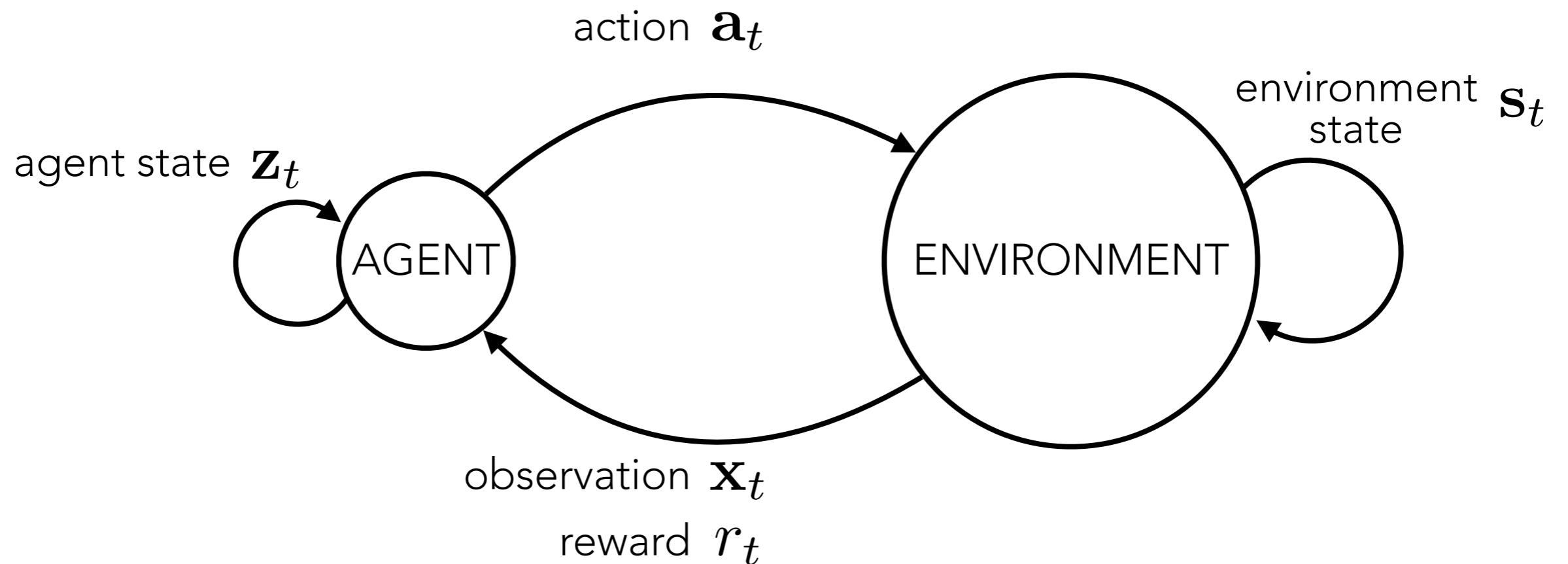
# REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

partially-observable Markov decision process (POMDP)



# REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

partially-observable Markov decision process (POMDP)





# REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

a policy is a probability distribution over actions:  $\mathbf{a} \sim \pi(\mathbf{a}|\cdot)$

RL objective:

maximize the expected sum of rewards (return)

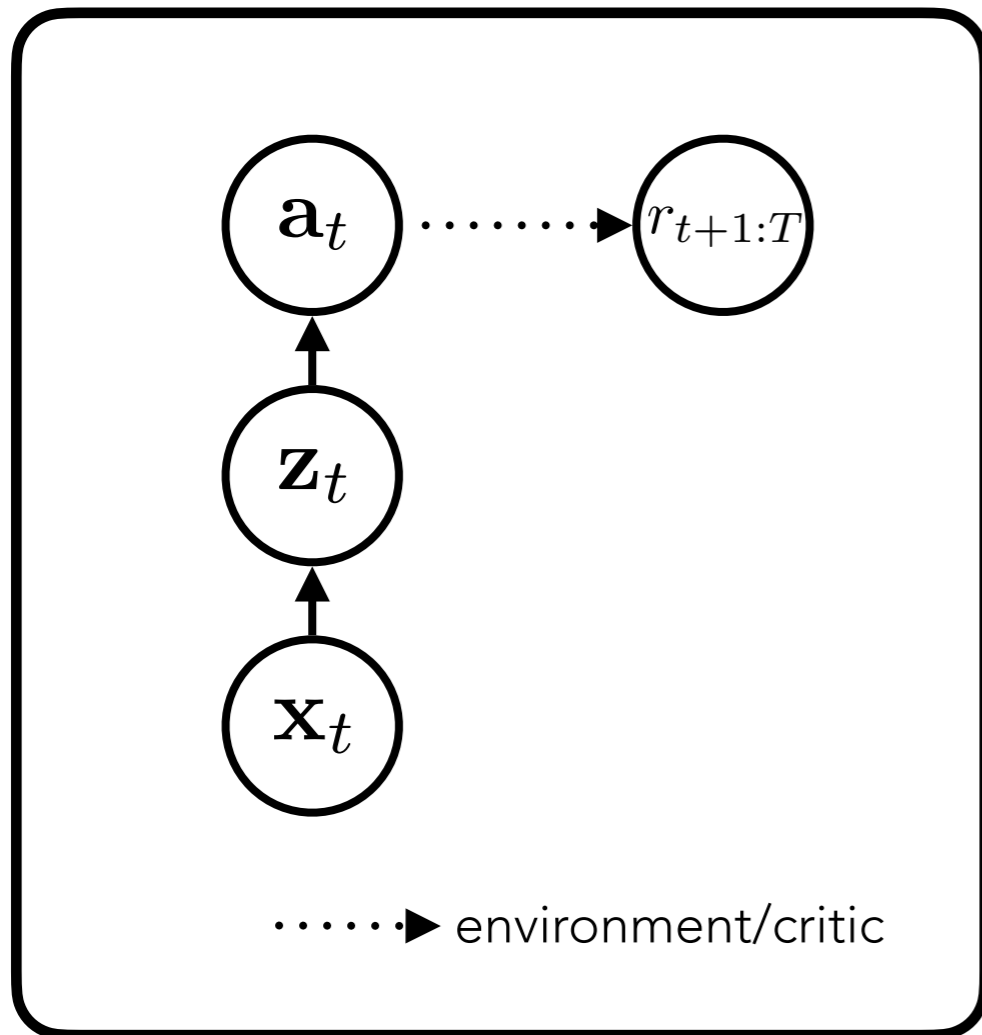
$$\pi(\mathbf{a}|\cdot) \leftarrow \arg \max_{\pi} \mathbb{E}_{\pi} \left[ \sum_{t=1}^T r_t \right]$$

# REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

approaches to policy optimization

model-free

*direct mapping to actions*

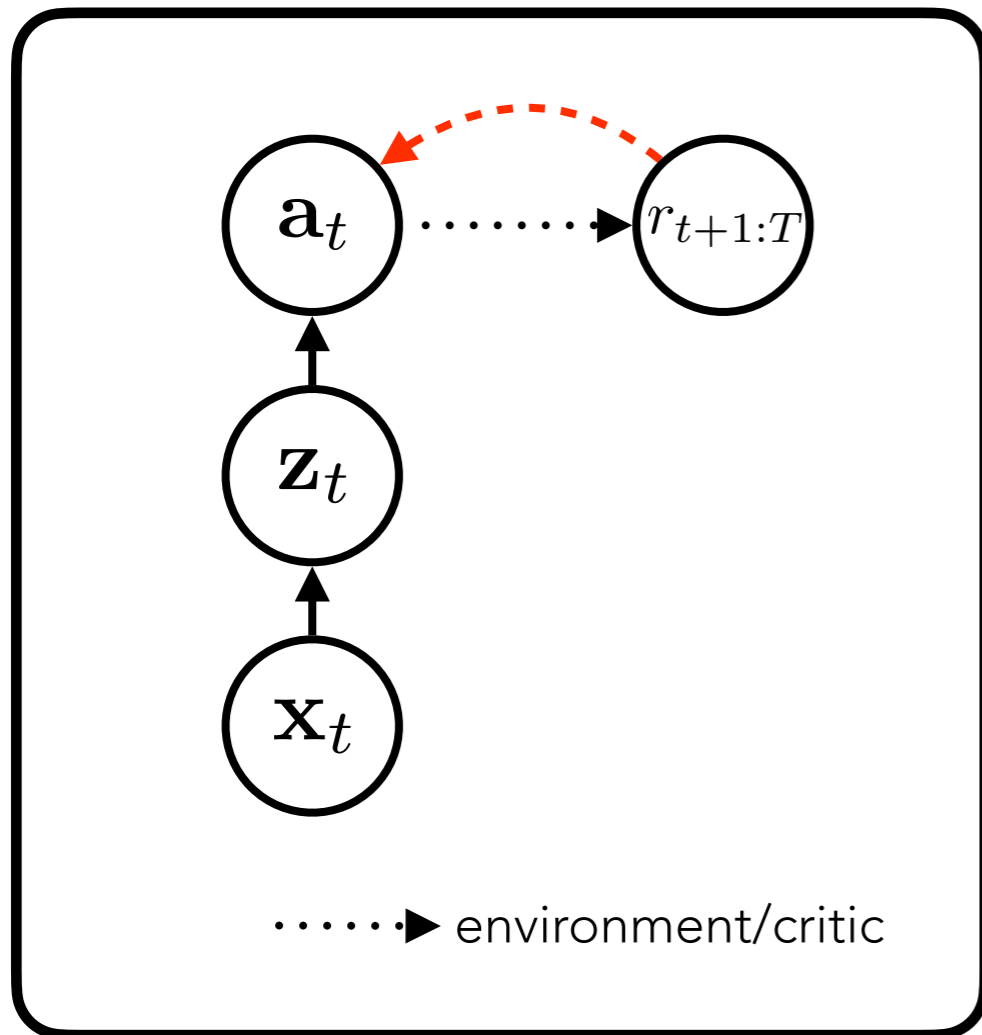


# REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

approaches to policy optimization

model-free

*direct mapping to actions*

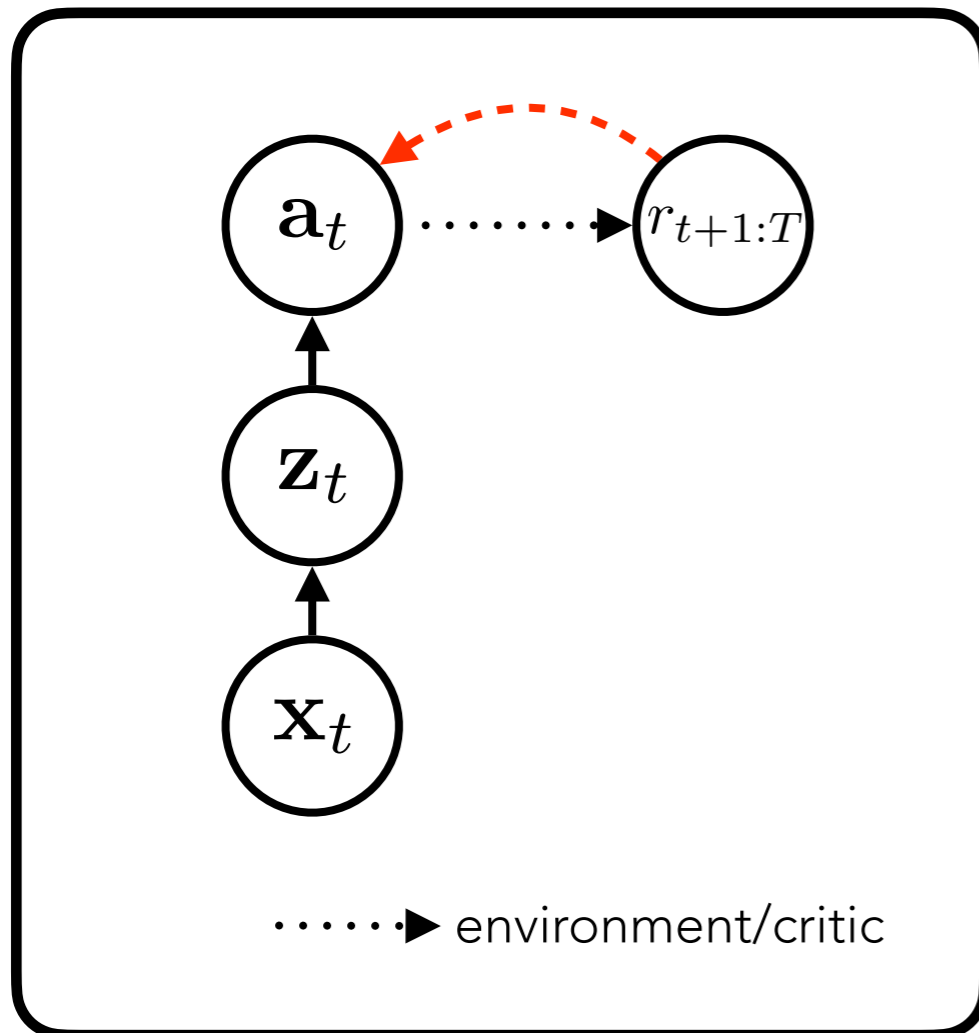


# REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

approaches to policy optimization

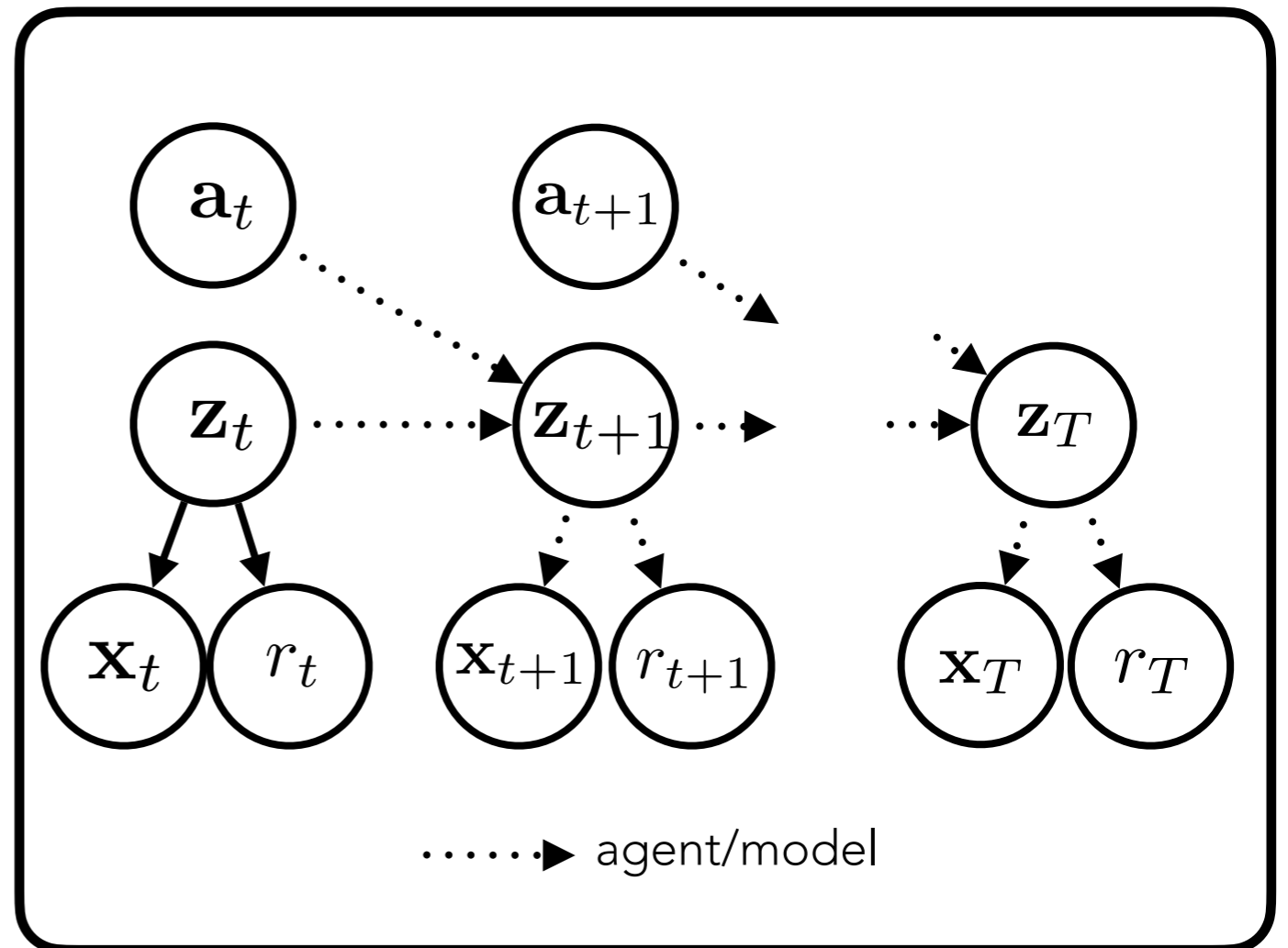
model-free

*direct mapping to actions*



model-based

*unroll model to evaluate actions*

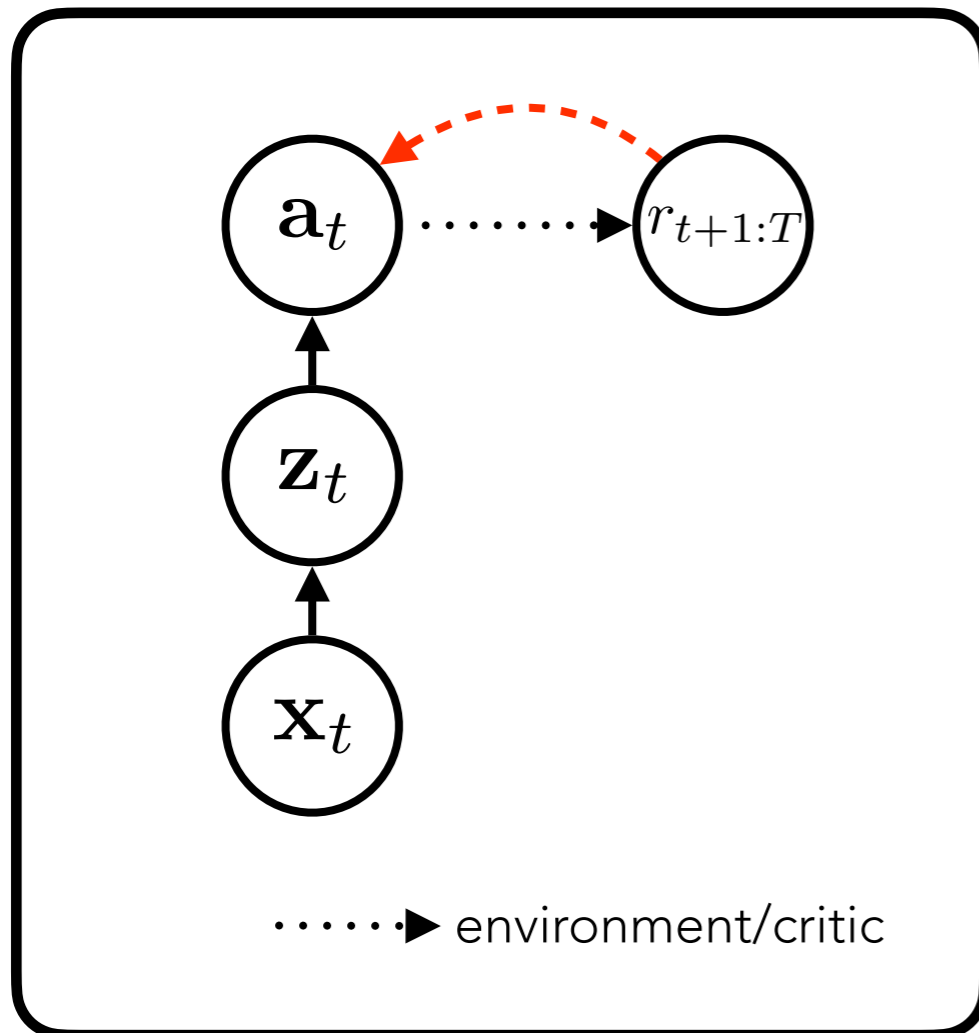


# REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

approaches to policy optimization

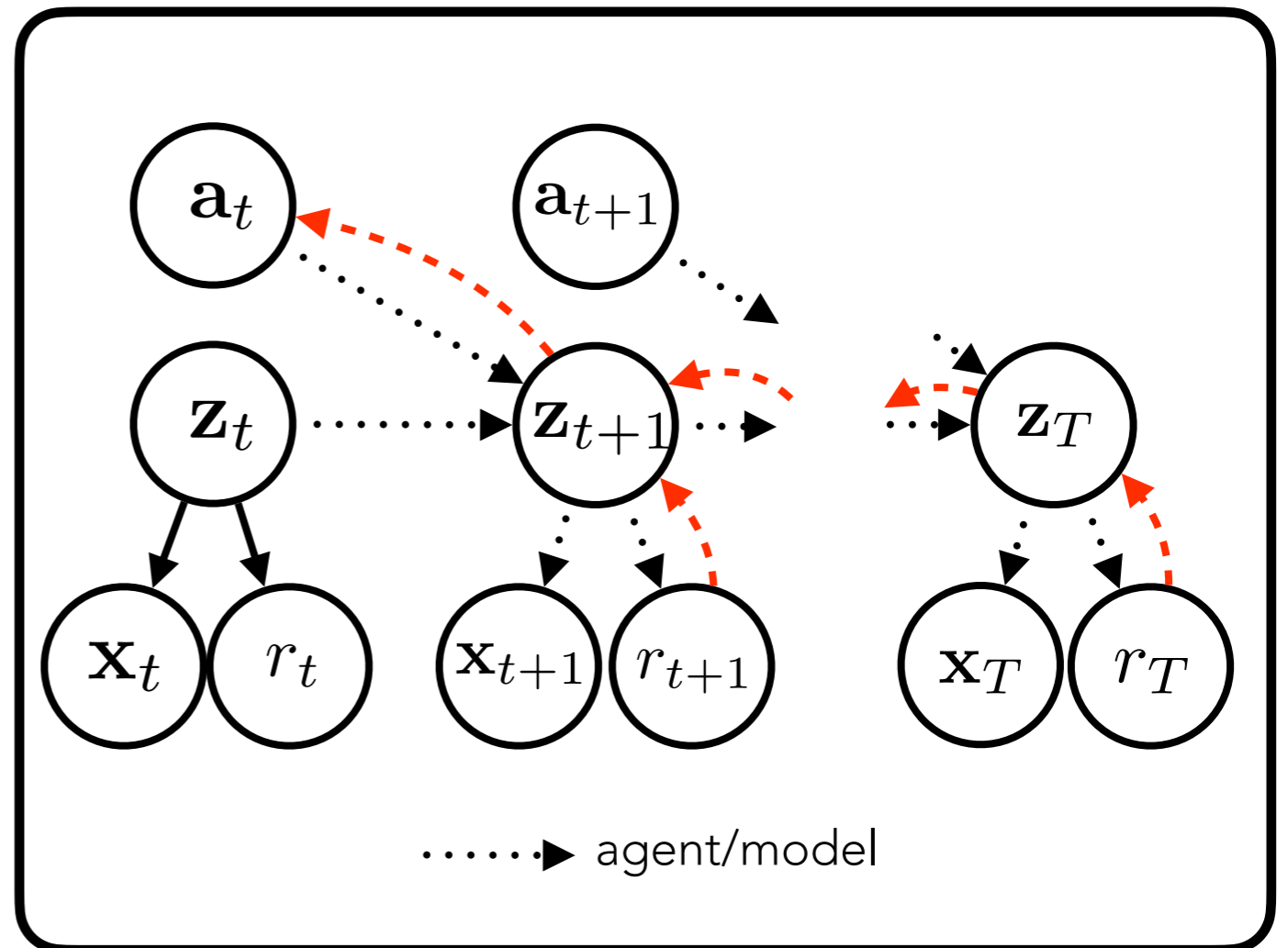
model-free

*direct mapping to actions*



model-based

*unroll model to evaluate actions*

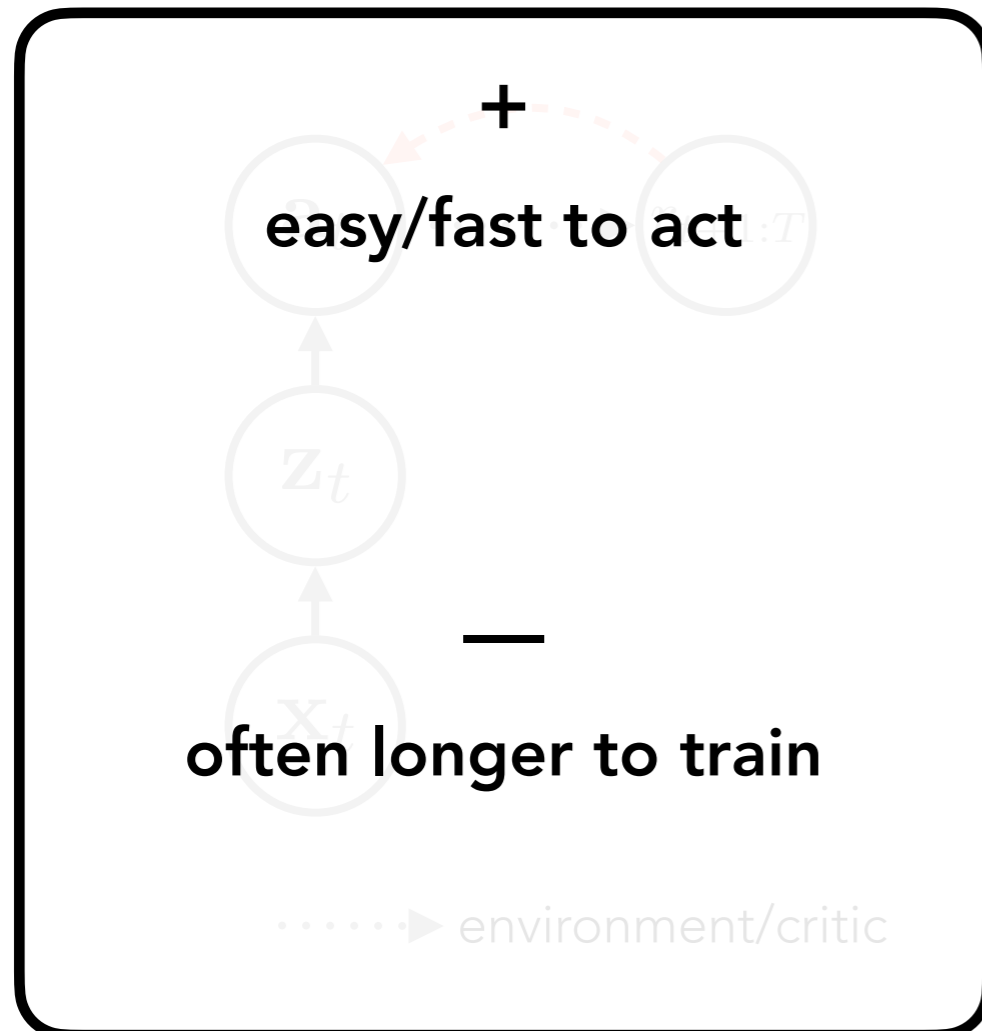


# REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

approaches to policy optimization

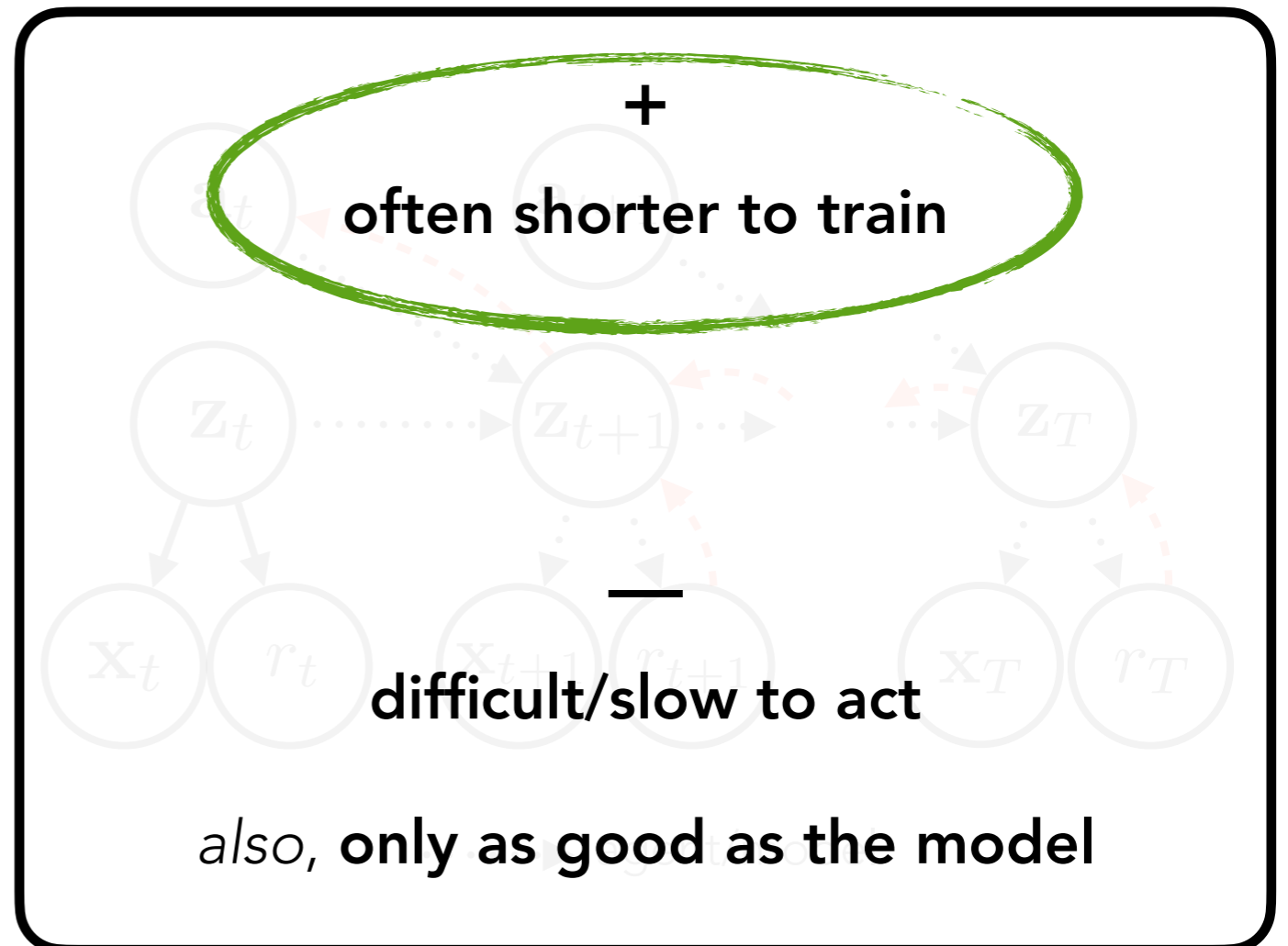
model-free

*direct mapping to actions*



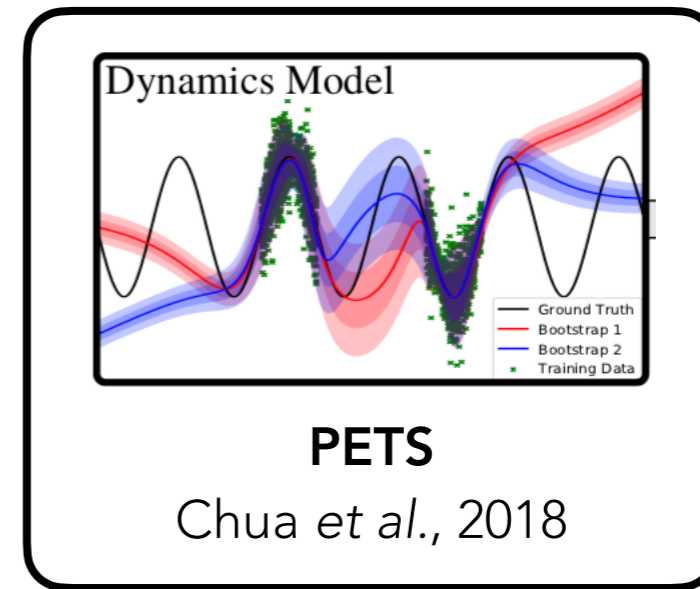
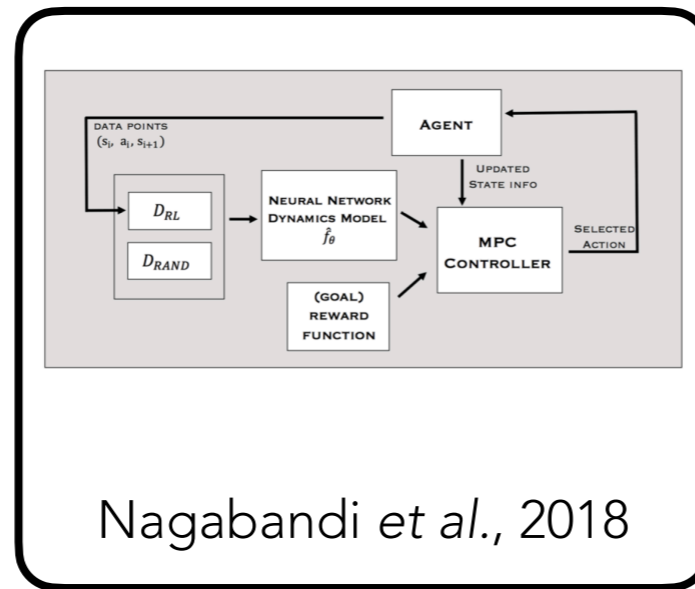
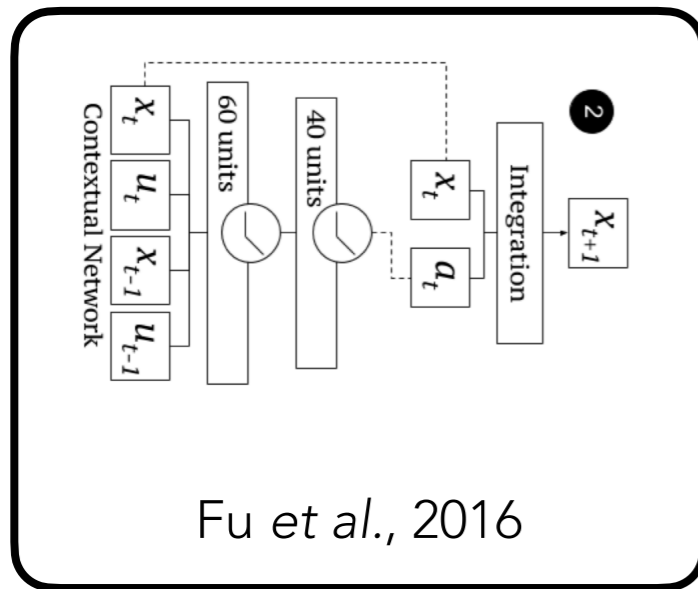
model-based

*unroll model to evaluate actions*



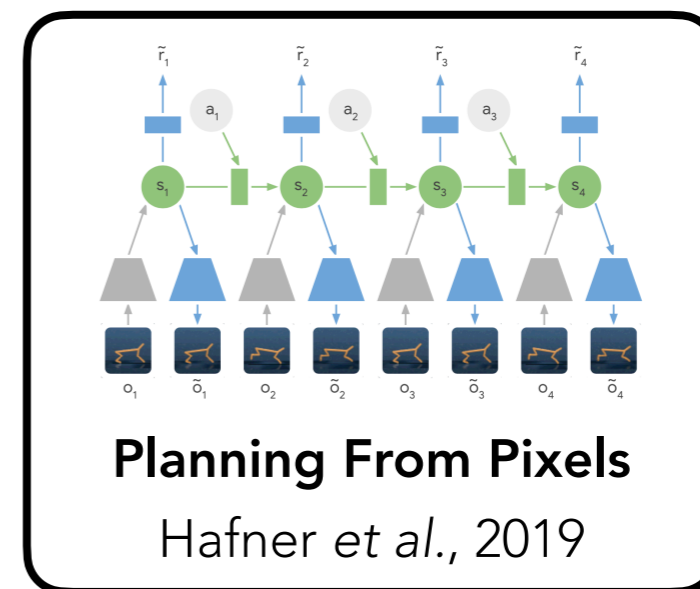
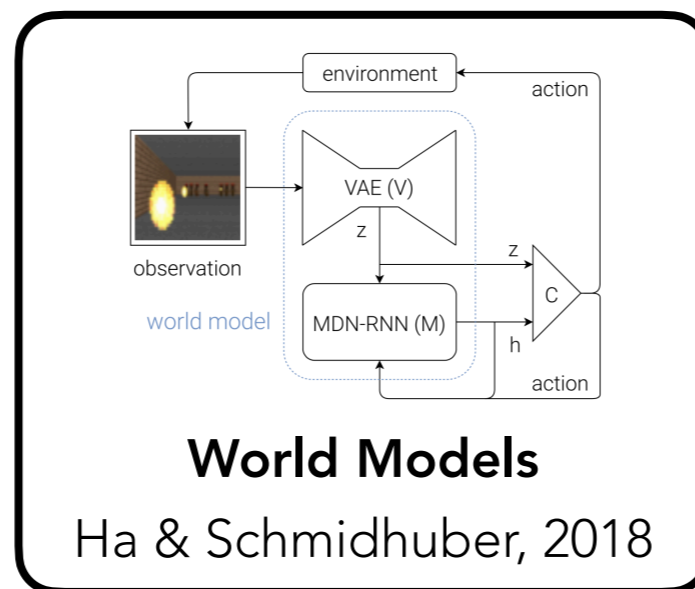
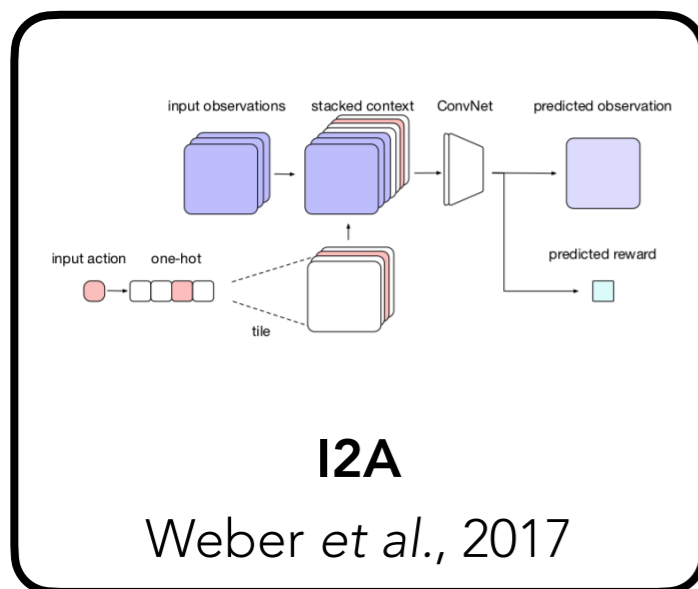
# RECENT APPROACHES TO MODEL-BASED RL

without latent variables (fully-observed):



...

with latent variables (partially observed):



...

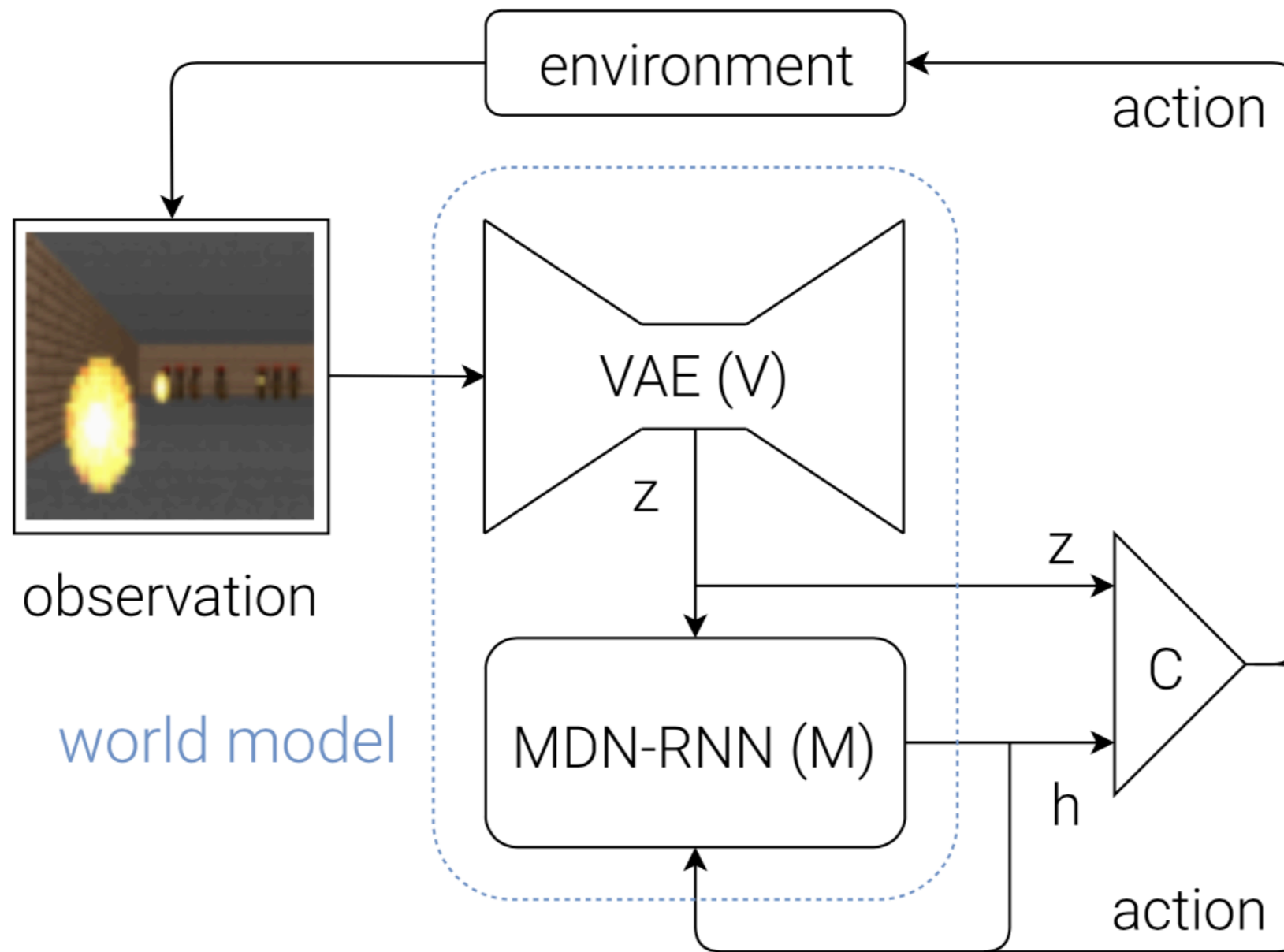
# WORLD MODELS

- learn a generative model/compressed representation of environment from pixel observations
- use the model as a simulator to learn actions



# WORLD MODELS

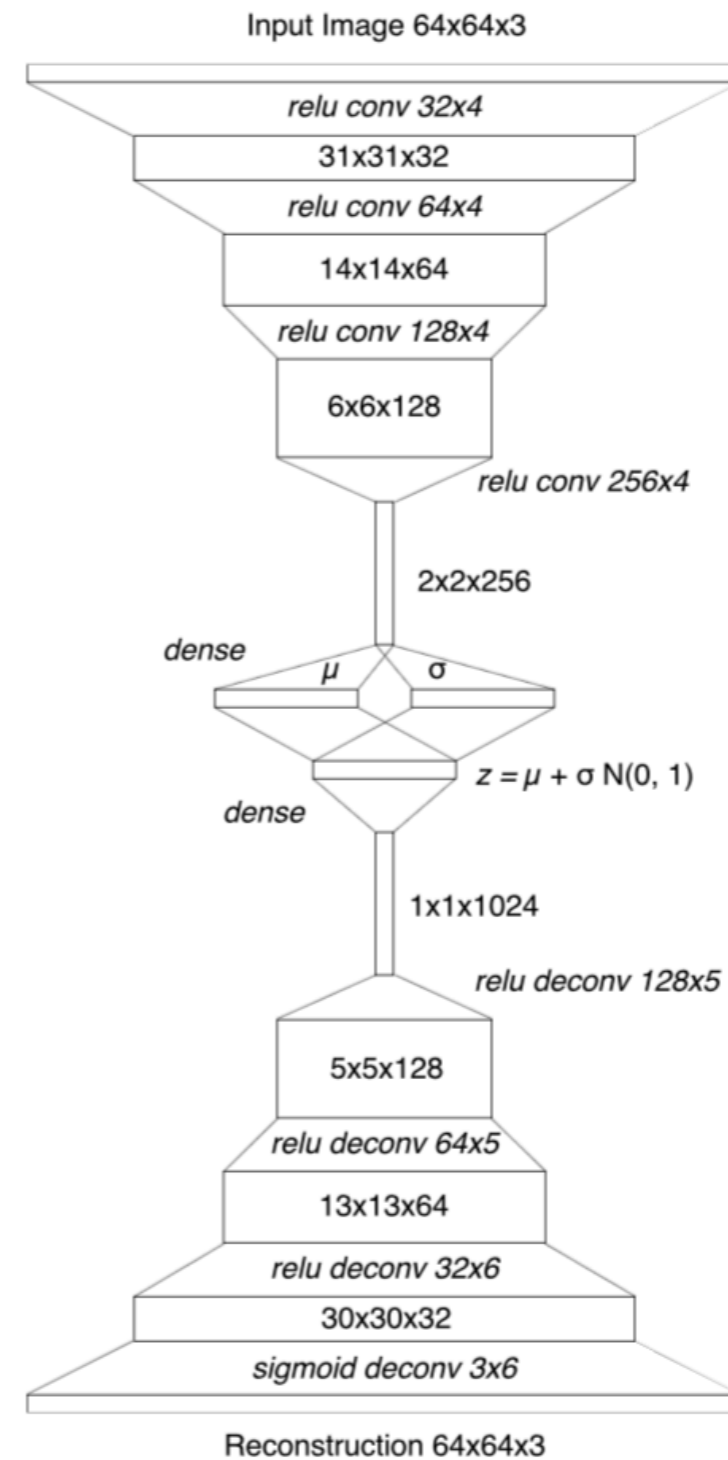
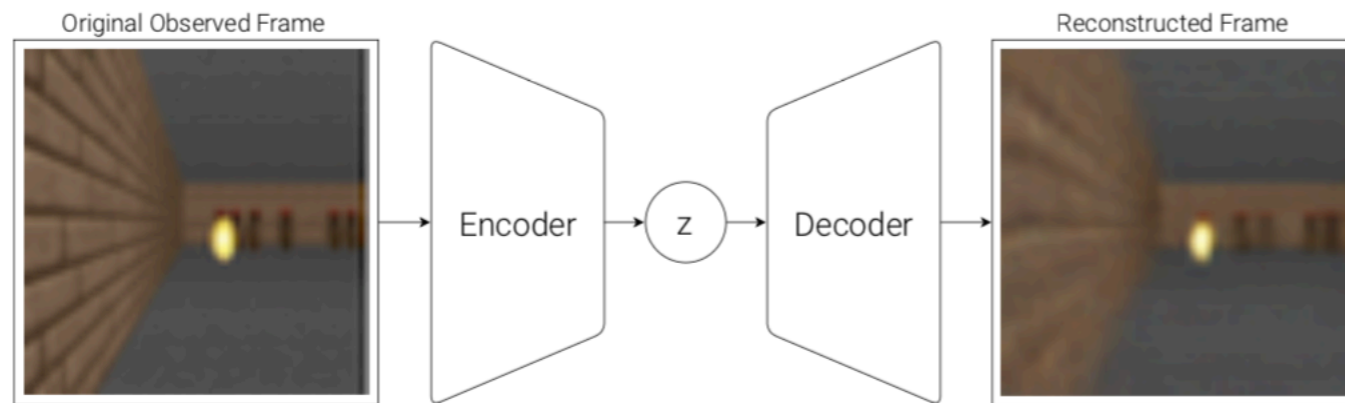
the model:



# WORLD MODELS

the model (vision):

compress the observations

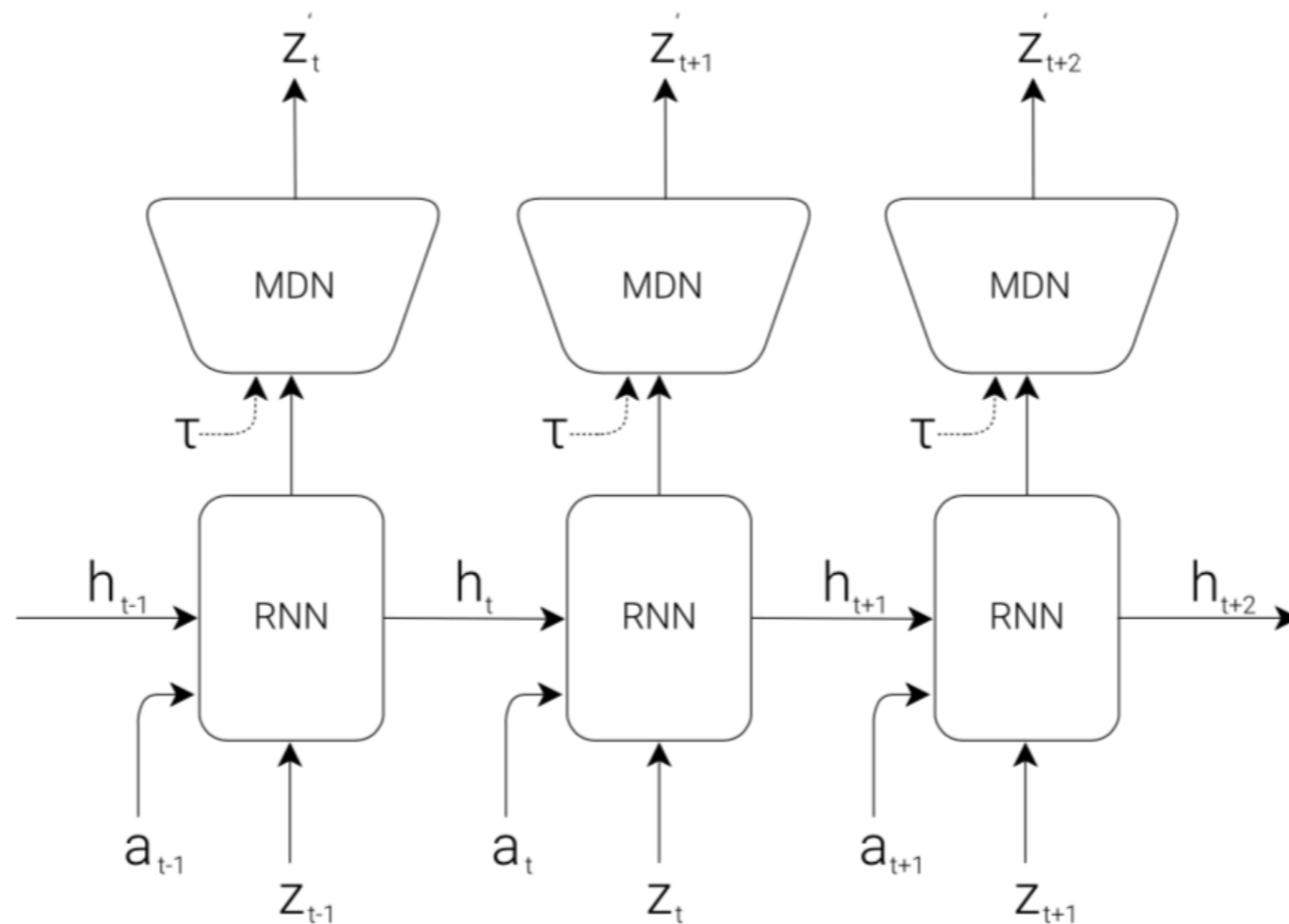


Ha & Schmidhuber, 2018

# WORLD MODELS

the model (dynamics):

learn the dynamics of compressed state representations



# WORLD MODELS

CarRacing-v0



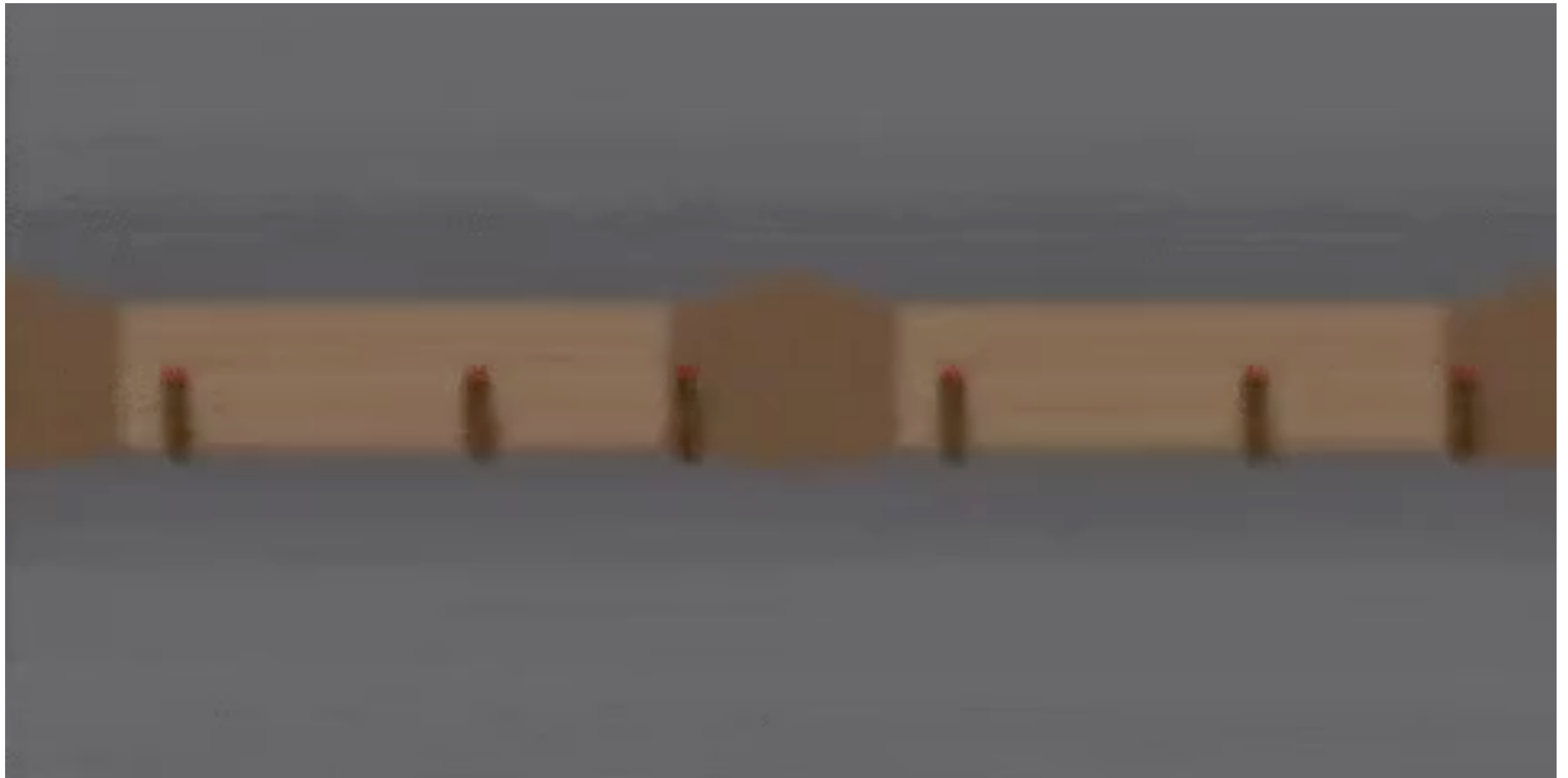
observations



reconstructions

# WORLD MODELS

VizDoomTakeCover

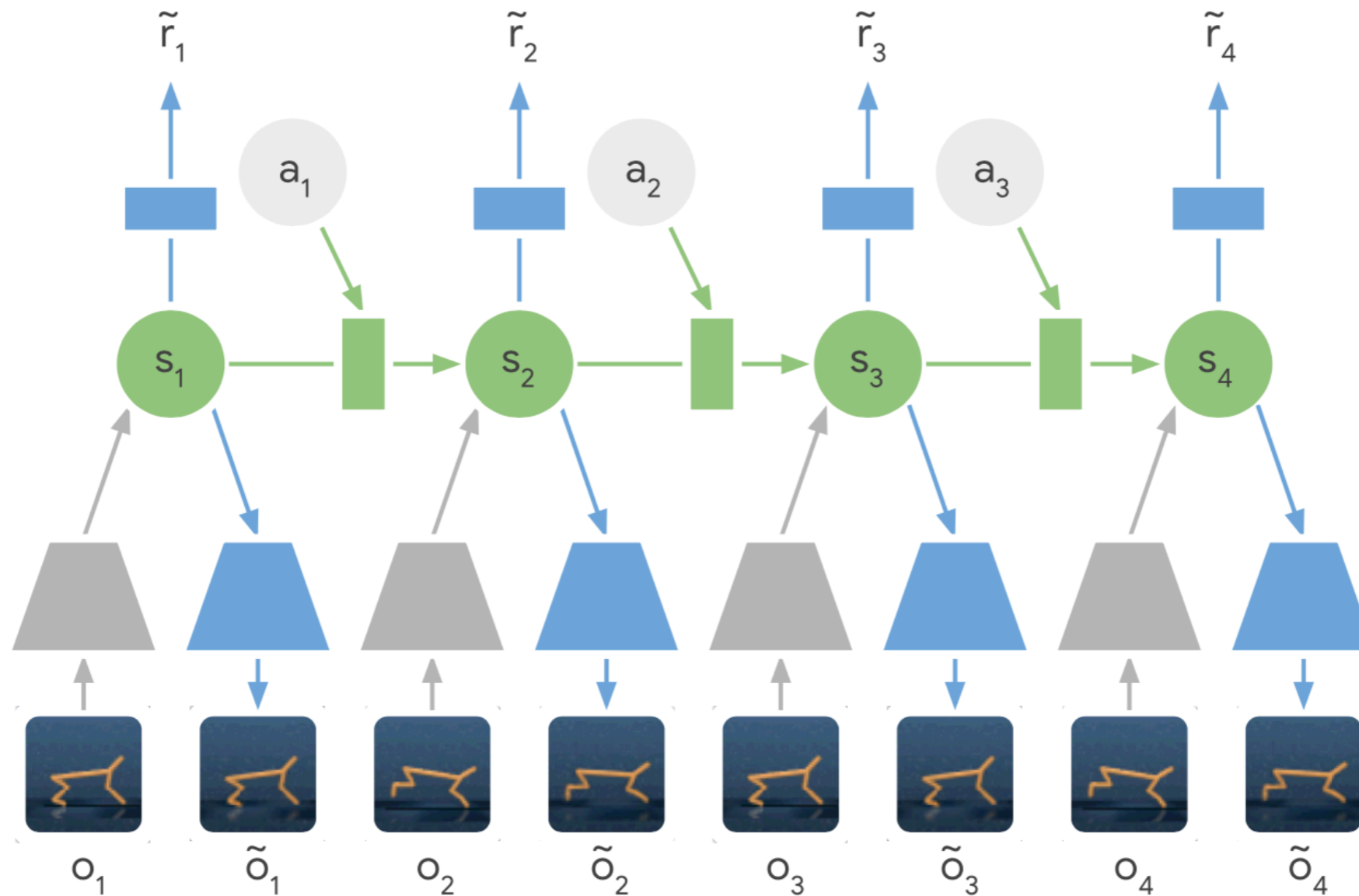


observations

reconstructions

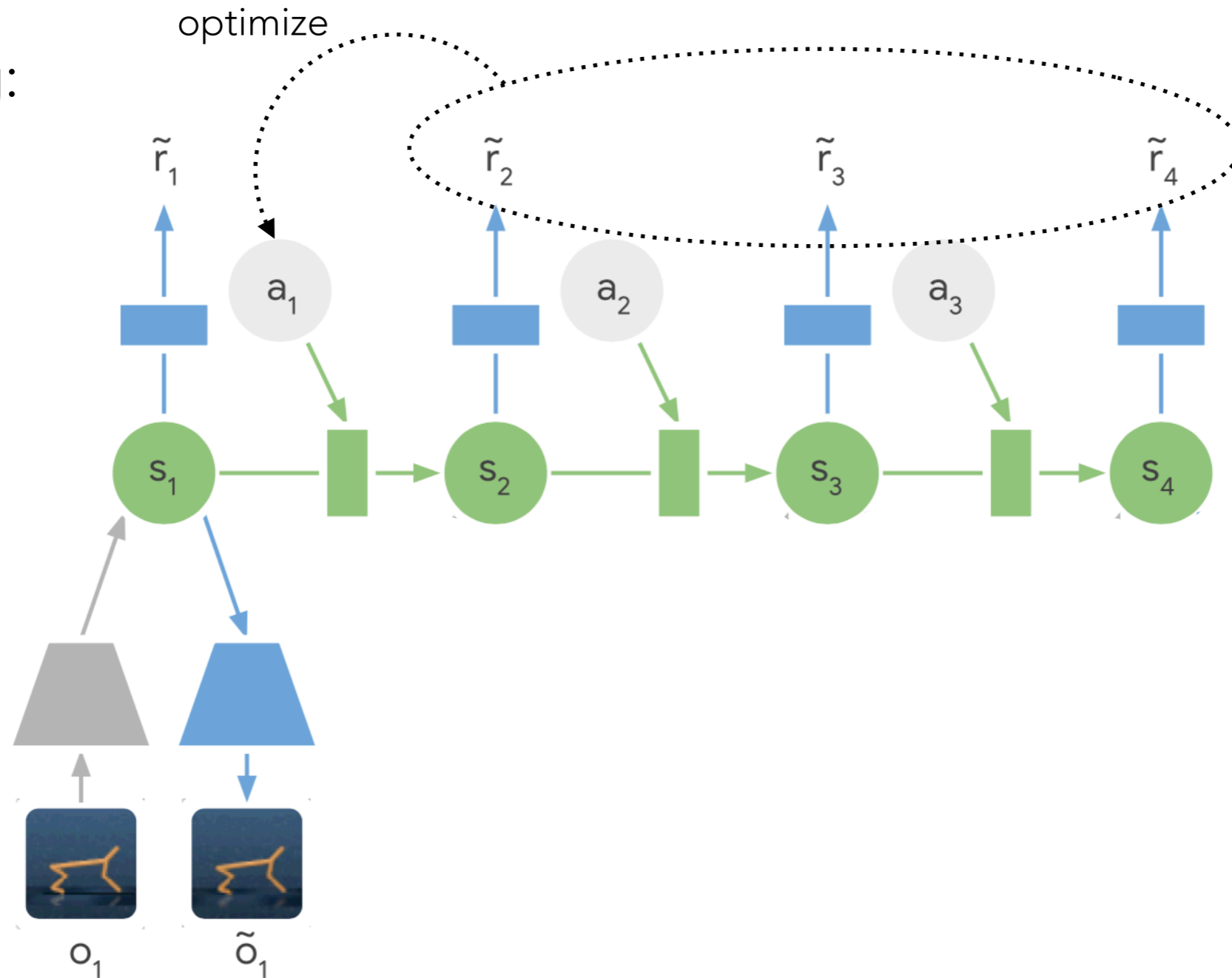
# PLANNING FROM PIXELS

the model:



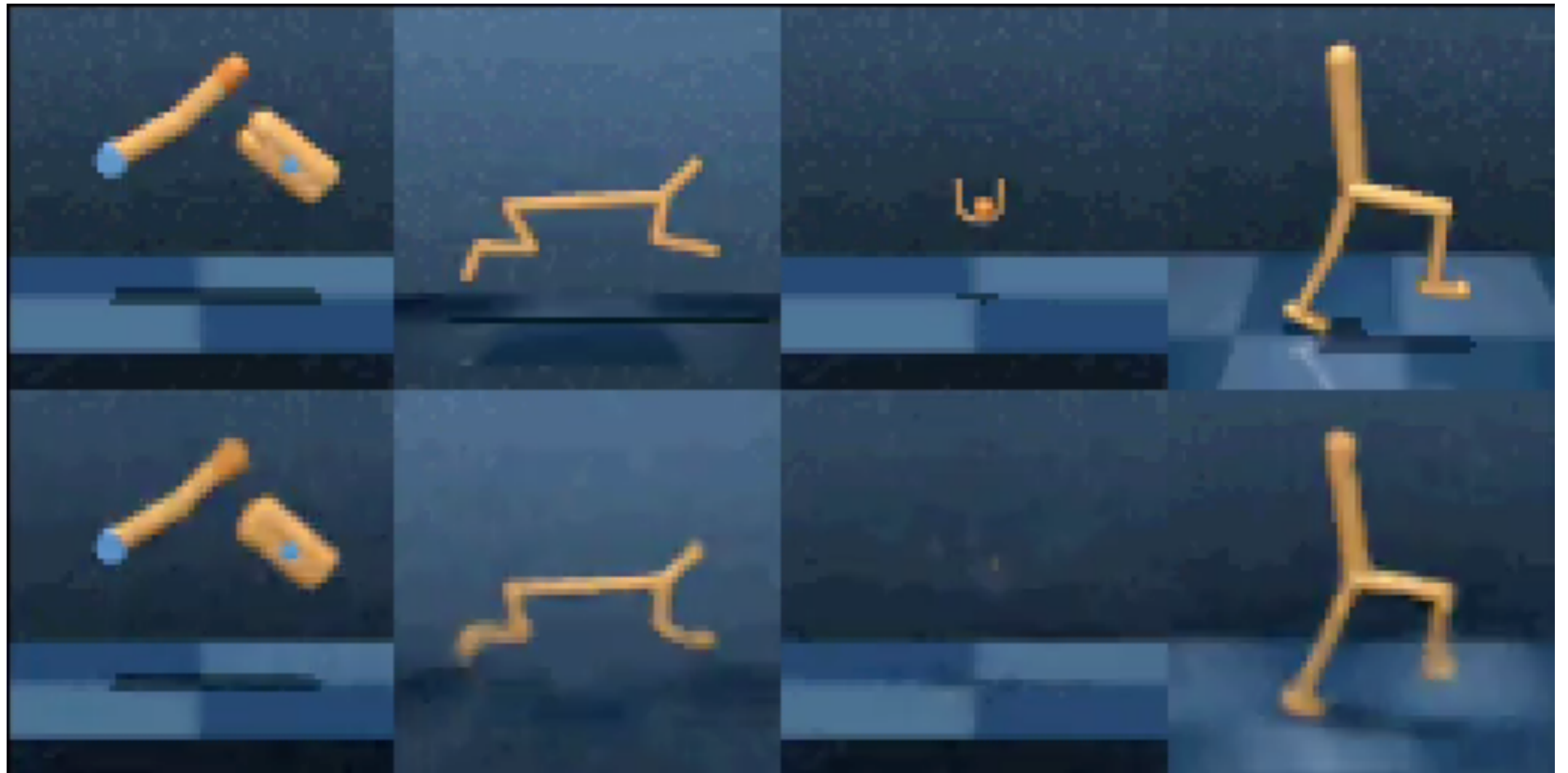
# PLANNING FROM PIXELS

planning:



# PLANNING FROM PIXELS

observations



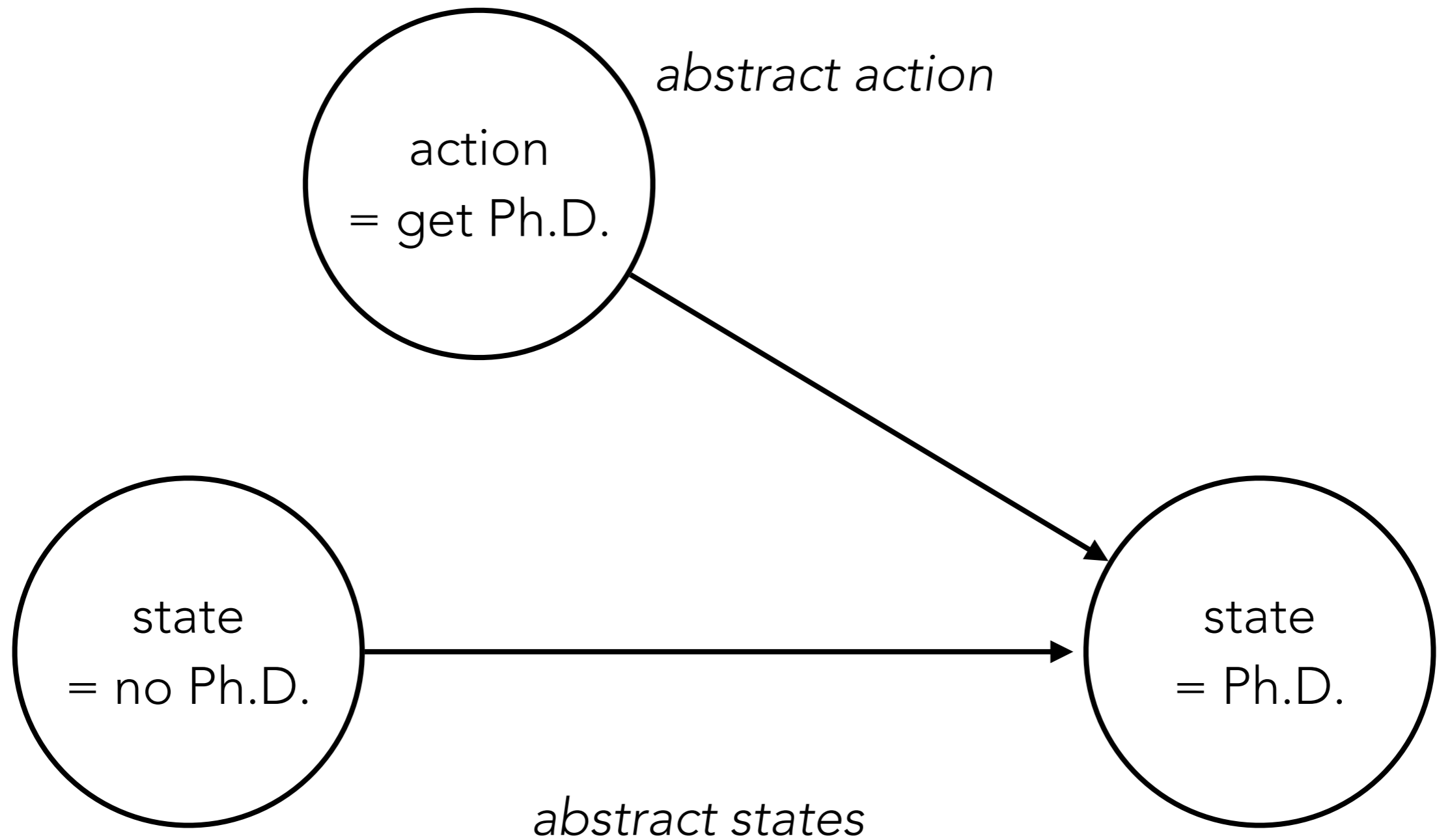
predictions



# OPEN RESEARCH AREAS IN MODEL-BASED RL

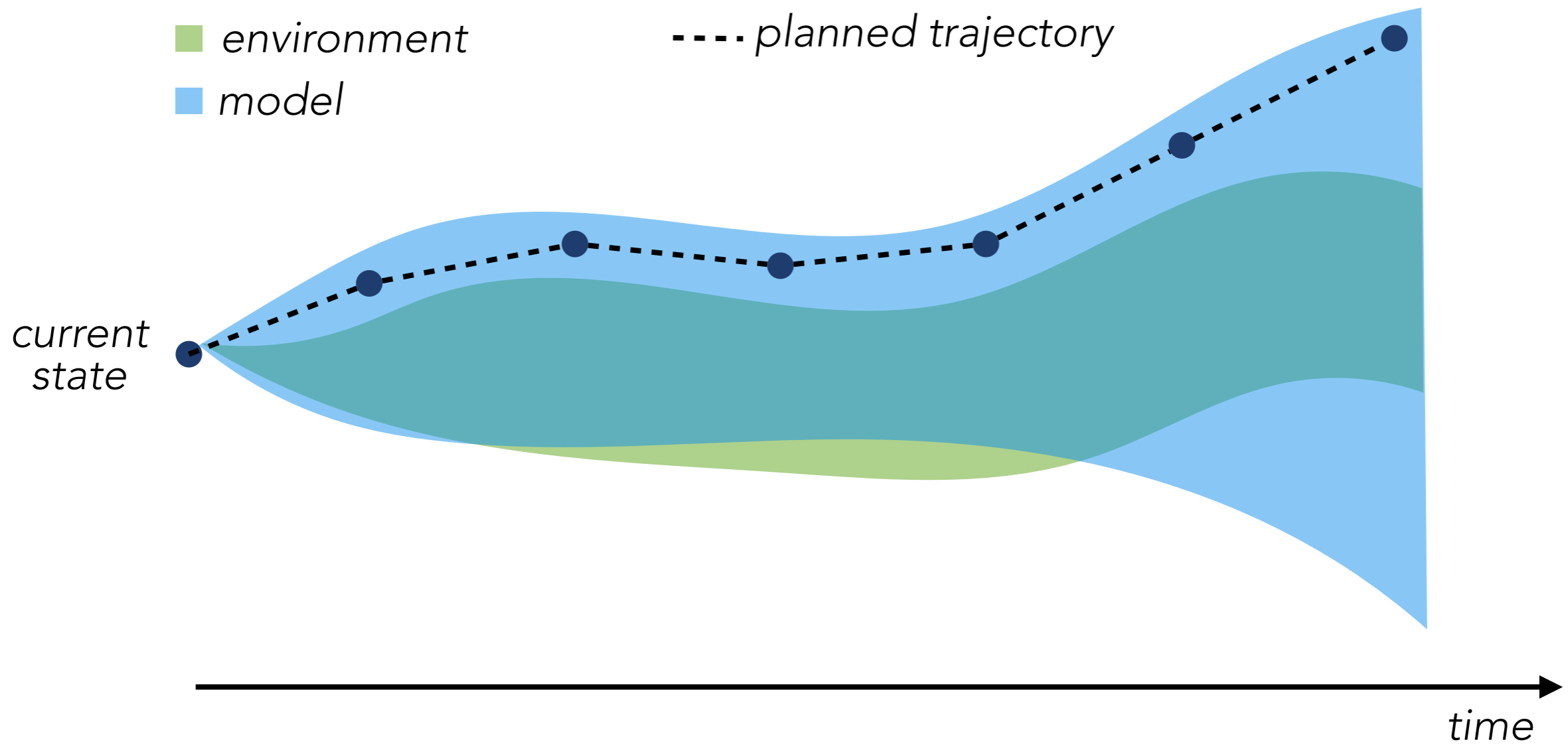
# TEMPORAL ABSTRACTION

*hierarchy of states and actions*



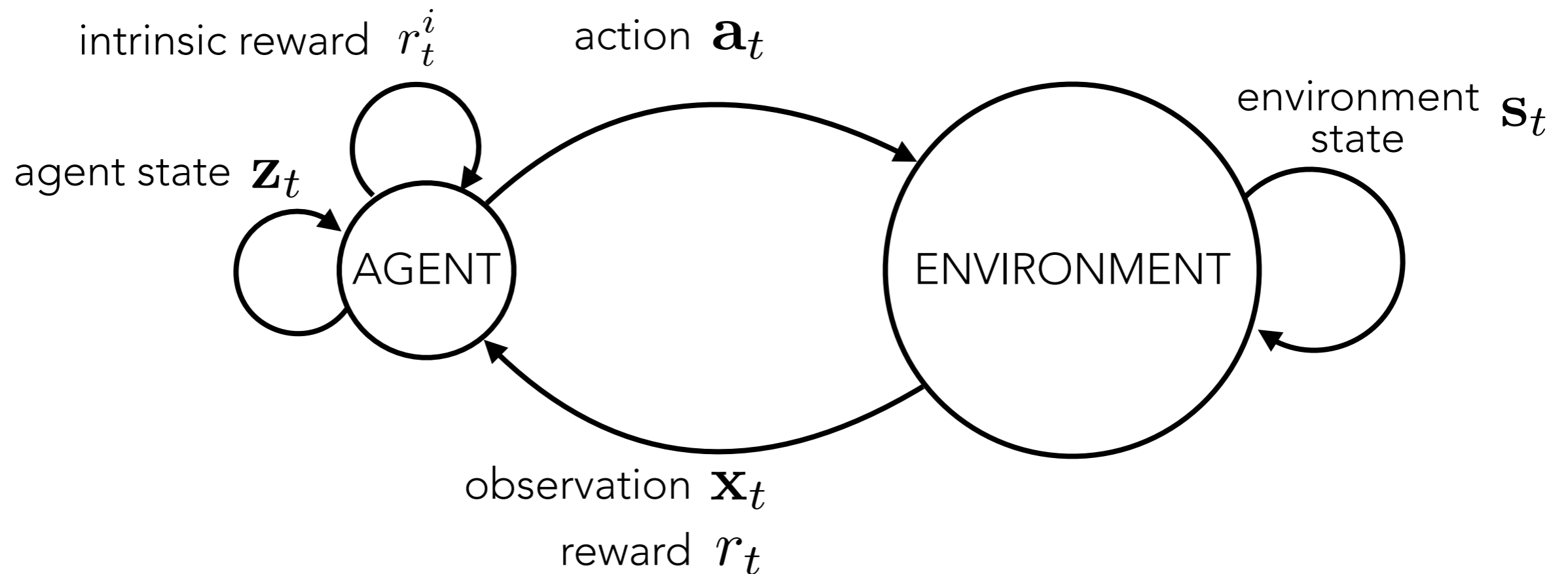
# UNCERTAINTY ESTIMATION

*distinguish between model uncertainty and environment stochasticity  
prevent regions of exploitability in the model*



# INTRINSIC MOTIVATION

*learning from intrinsic (non-environmental) rewards*



## ***intrinsic reward signals:***

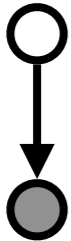
*surprise, empowerment, learning improvement, etc.*

often helpful to have a model of the environment to estimate these quantities

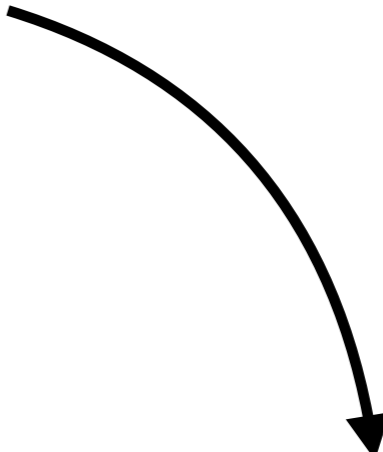
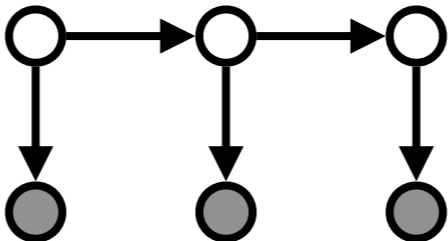
# OVERVIEW

LATENT VARIABLE

MODELS



DEEP SEQUENTIAL  
LATENT VARIABLE MODELS



MODEL-BASED RL

