Deep Learning for Natural Language Processing

The LSTM architecture

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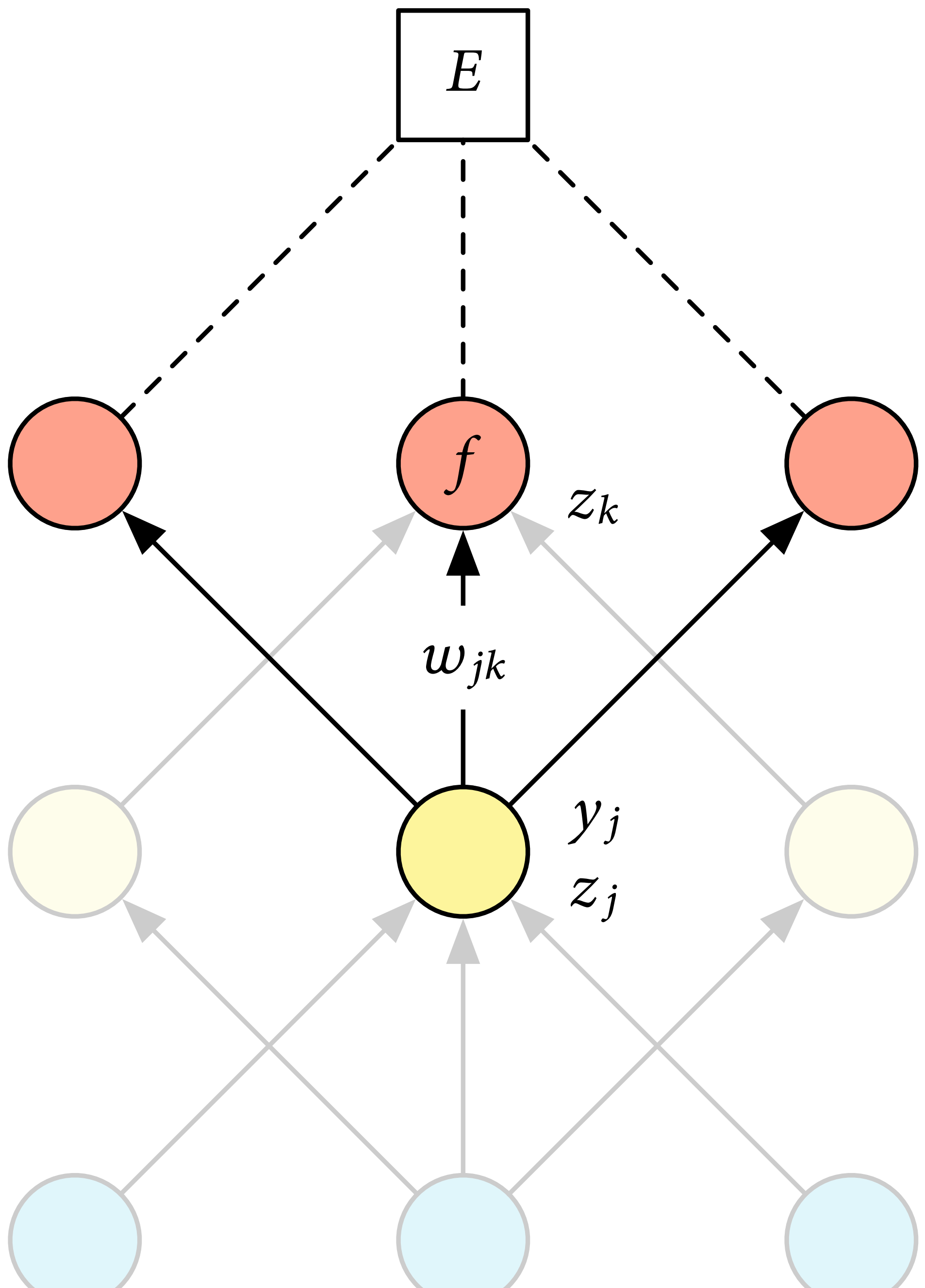
Challenges with recurrent neural networks

- In principle, recurrent neural networks are capable of learning long-distance dependencies in input sequences.
- In practice, training recurrent neural networks is challenging due to the large depth of the unrolled networks.

Vanishing and exploding gradients



$$\delta_k = \frac{\partial E}{\partial z_k} = \frac{\partial E}{\partial y_k}\frac{\partial y_k}{\partial z_k} = \frac{\partial E}{\partial y_k} f'(z_k)$$

$$\delta_j = \frac{\partial E}{\partial z_j} = \frac{\partial y_j}{\partial z_j}\sum_k \frac{\partial E}{\partial z_k}\frac{\partial z_k}{\partial y_j} = f'(z_j)\sum_k \delta_k w_{jk}$$

Vanishing and exploding gradients

- In backpropagation there is a risk of gradients either vanishing or exploding, depending on the magnitude of the weights.
- This problem is exacerbated in recurrent networks, whose unrolled computation graphs can be very deep.
- Research on recurrent networks has proposed various methods to mitigate this problem.

  weight scaling and clipping, specialised architectures

Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM)

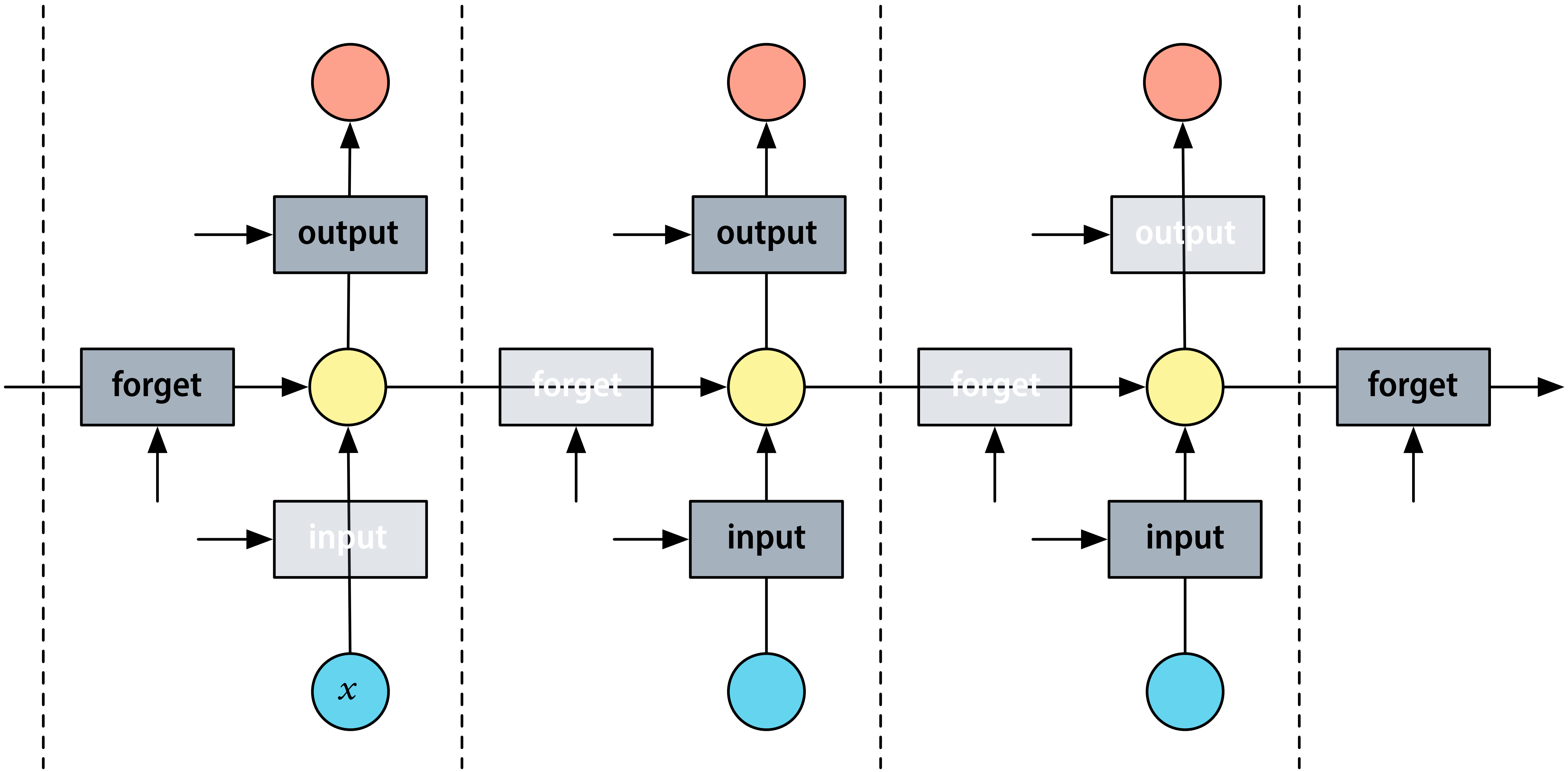
- The **Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM)** architecture was specifically designed to adress the vanishing gradients problem.
- Metaphor: The hidden state of the neural network can be considered as a short-term memory.
- The LSTM architecture tries to make this short-term memory last as long as possible by preventing vanishing gradients.

Memory cell and gating mechanism

The crucial innovation in an LSTM is the design of its memory cell.

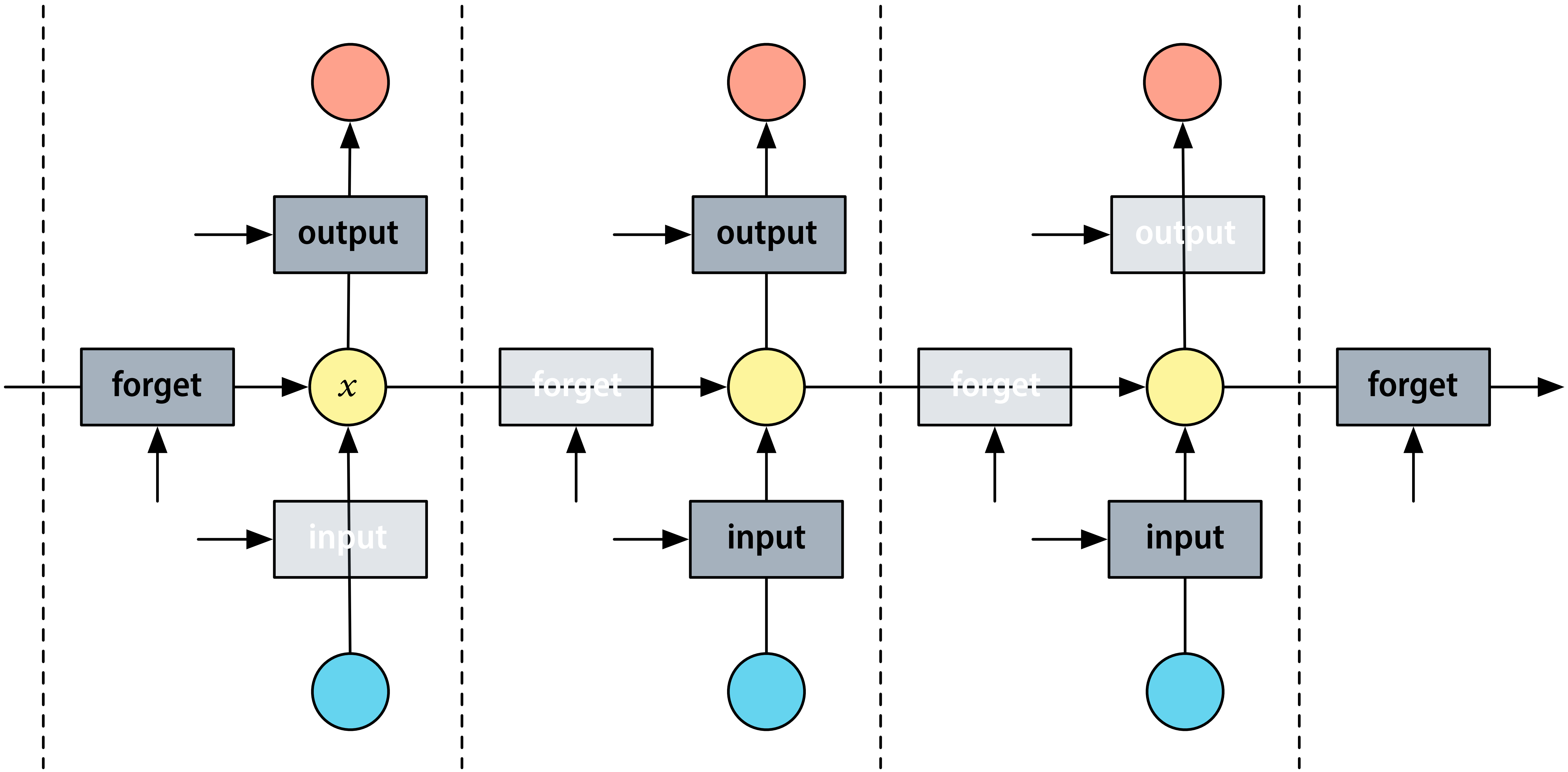
- Information is written into the cell if its INPUT gate is open.
- Information stays in the cell as long as its FORGET gate is closed.
- Information is read from the cell if its READ gate is open.

Information flow in an LSTM



Attribution: Geoffrey Hinton

Information flow in an LSTM



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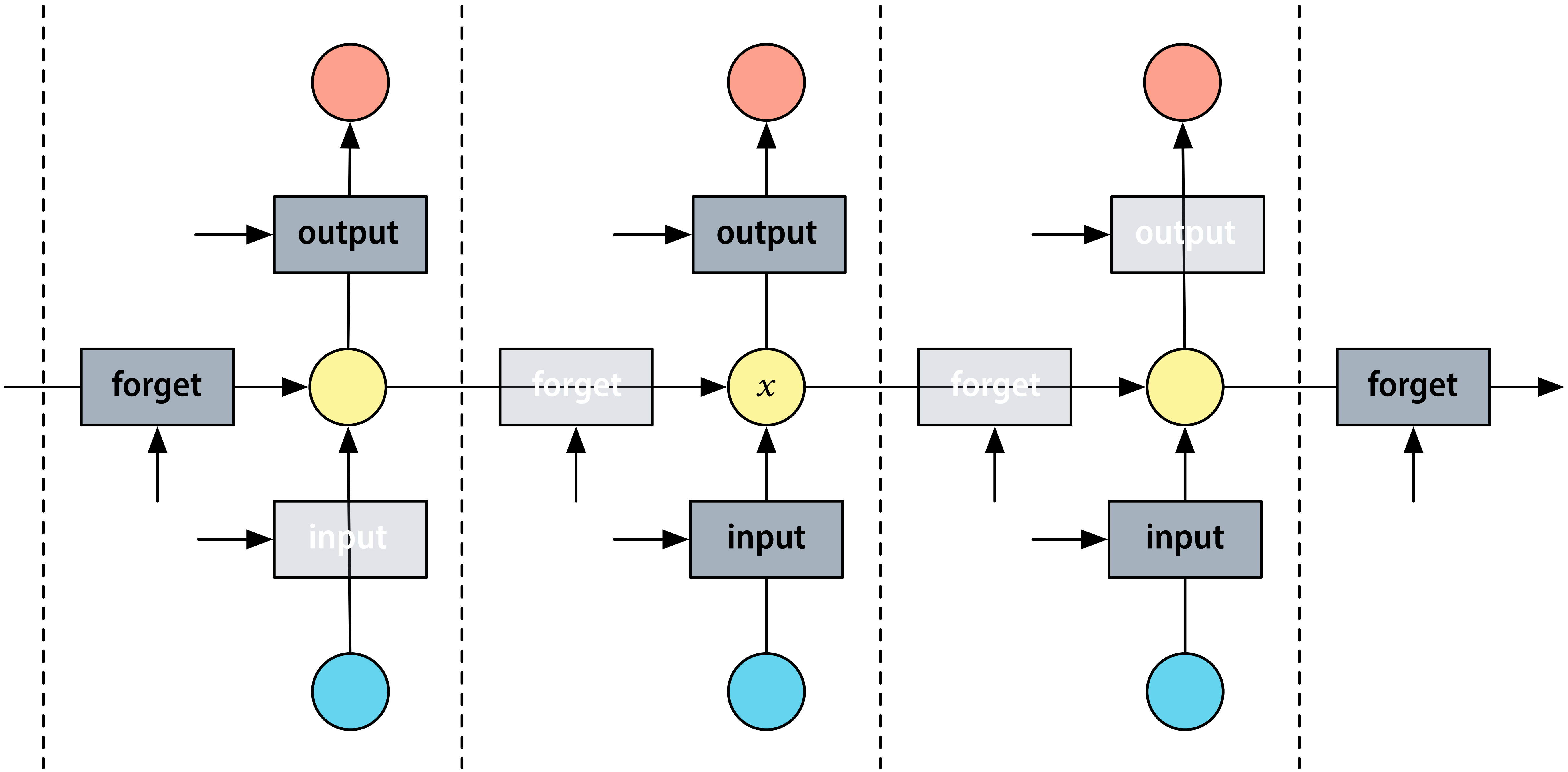
Information flow in an LSTM



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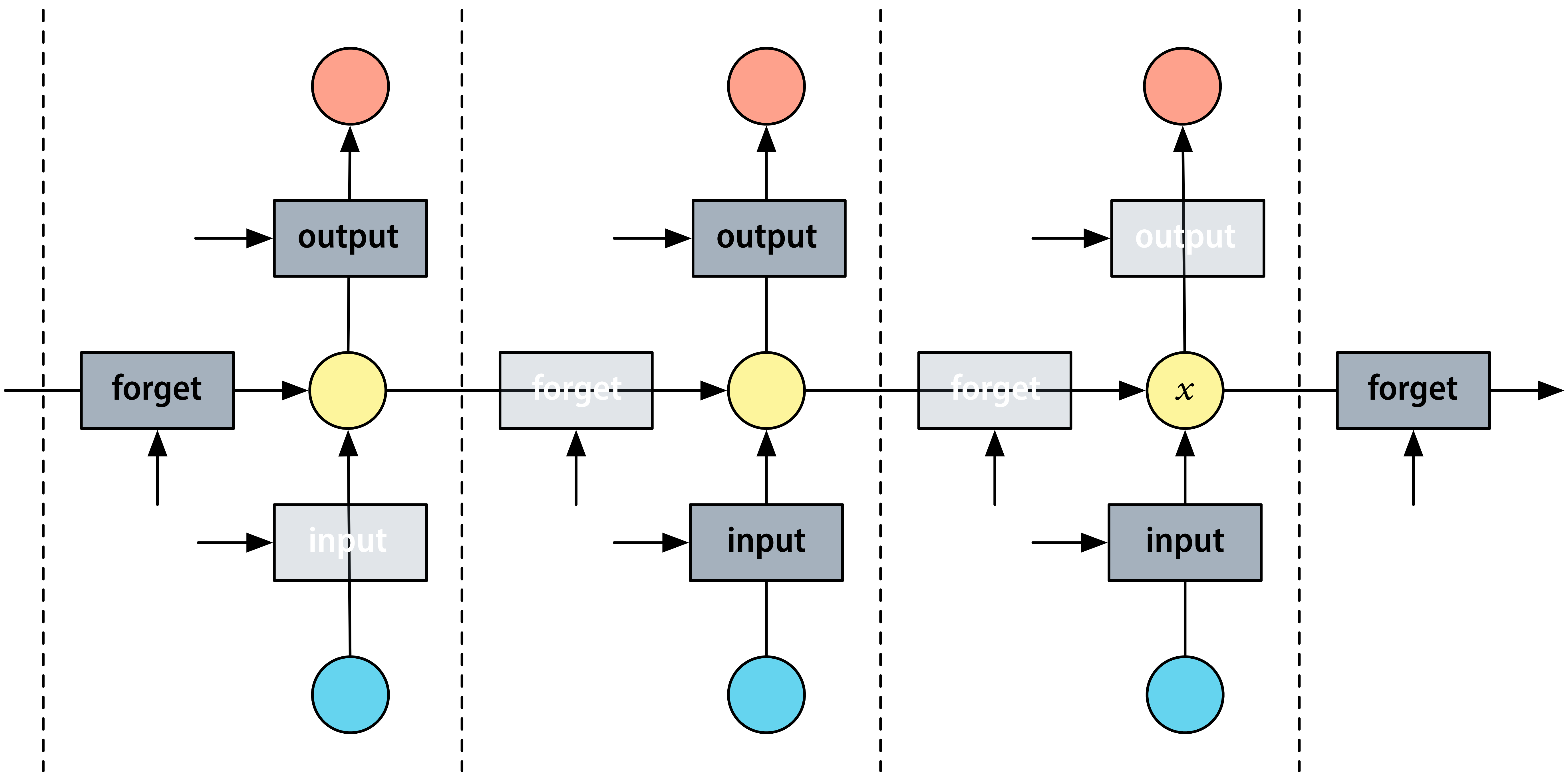
Information flow in an LSTM



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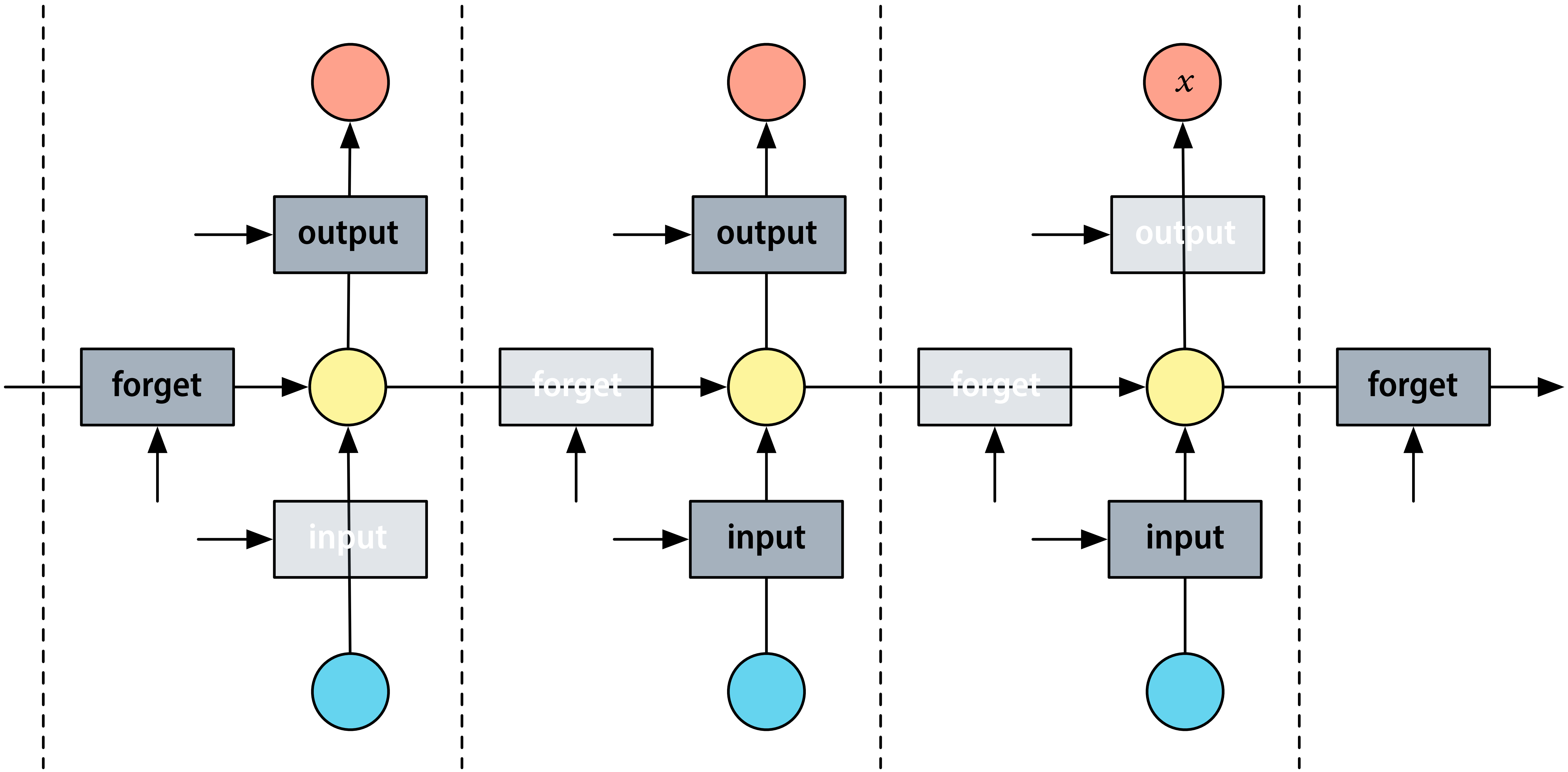
Information flow in an LSTM



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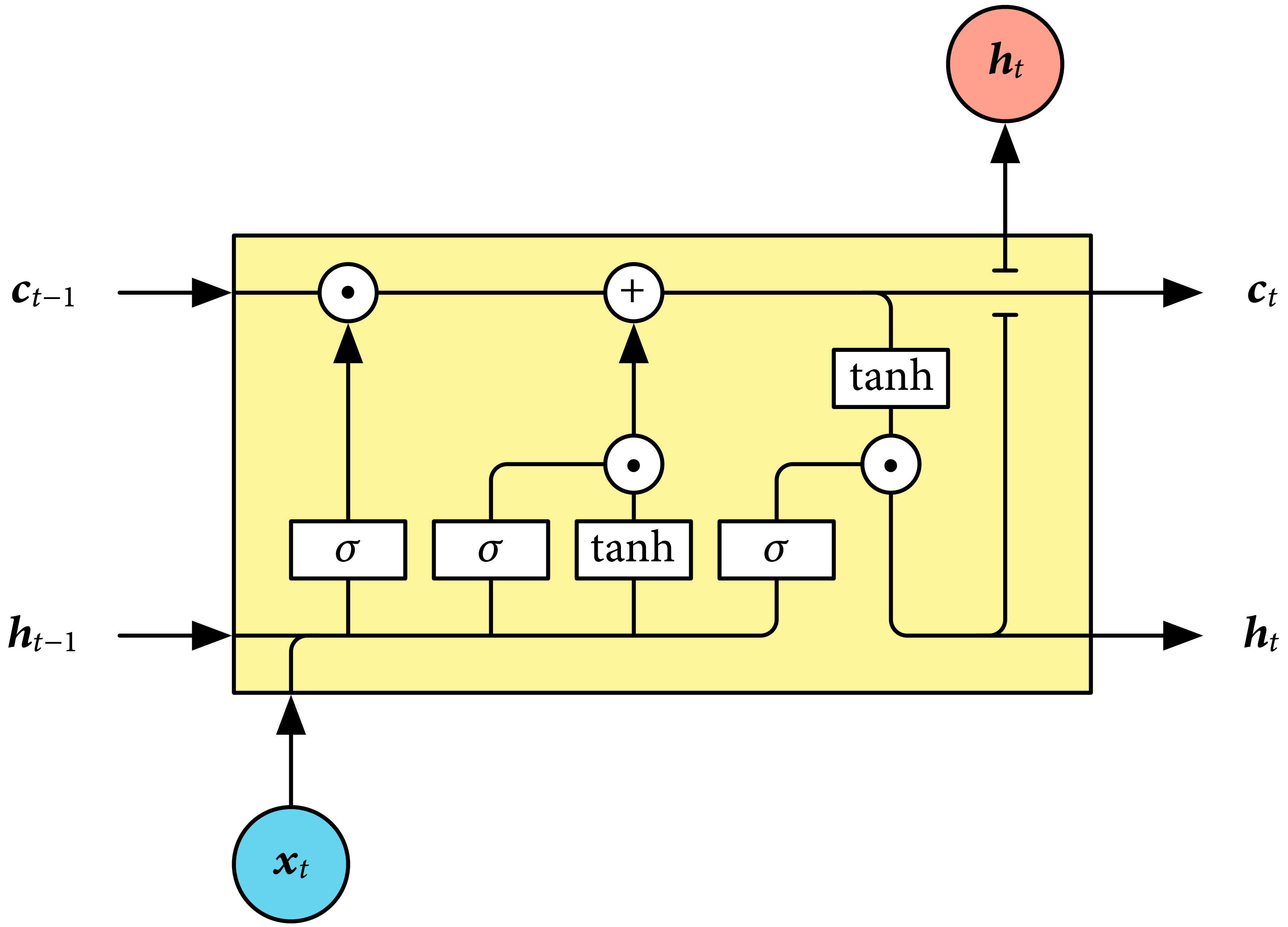
Gating mechanism

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix}1\\2\\3\\4\end{bmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{h}_{t-1}} \odot \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix}0\\1\\1\\0\end{bmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{g}} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix}5\\6\\7\\8\end{bmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{x}_t} \odot \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix}1\\0\\0\\1\end{bmatrix}}_{1-\boldsymbol{g}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix}5\\2\\3\\8\end{bmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{h}_t}$$

The gating masks $\boldsymbol{g}$ are learned values between 0 and 1.

A look inside an LSTM cell



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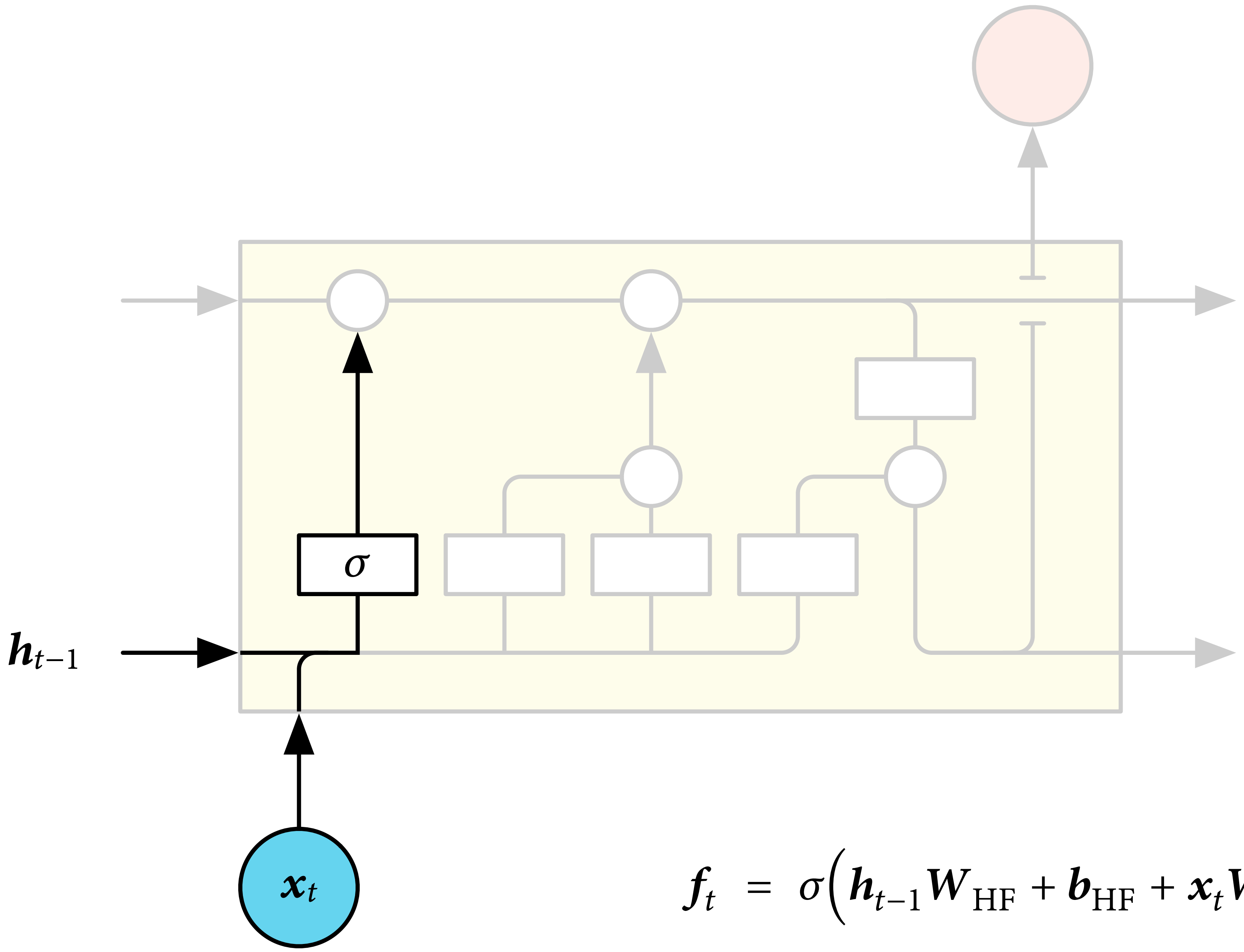
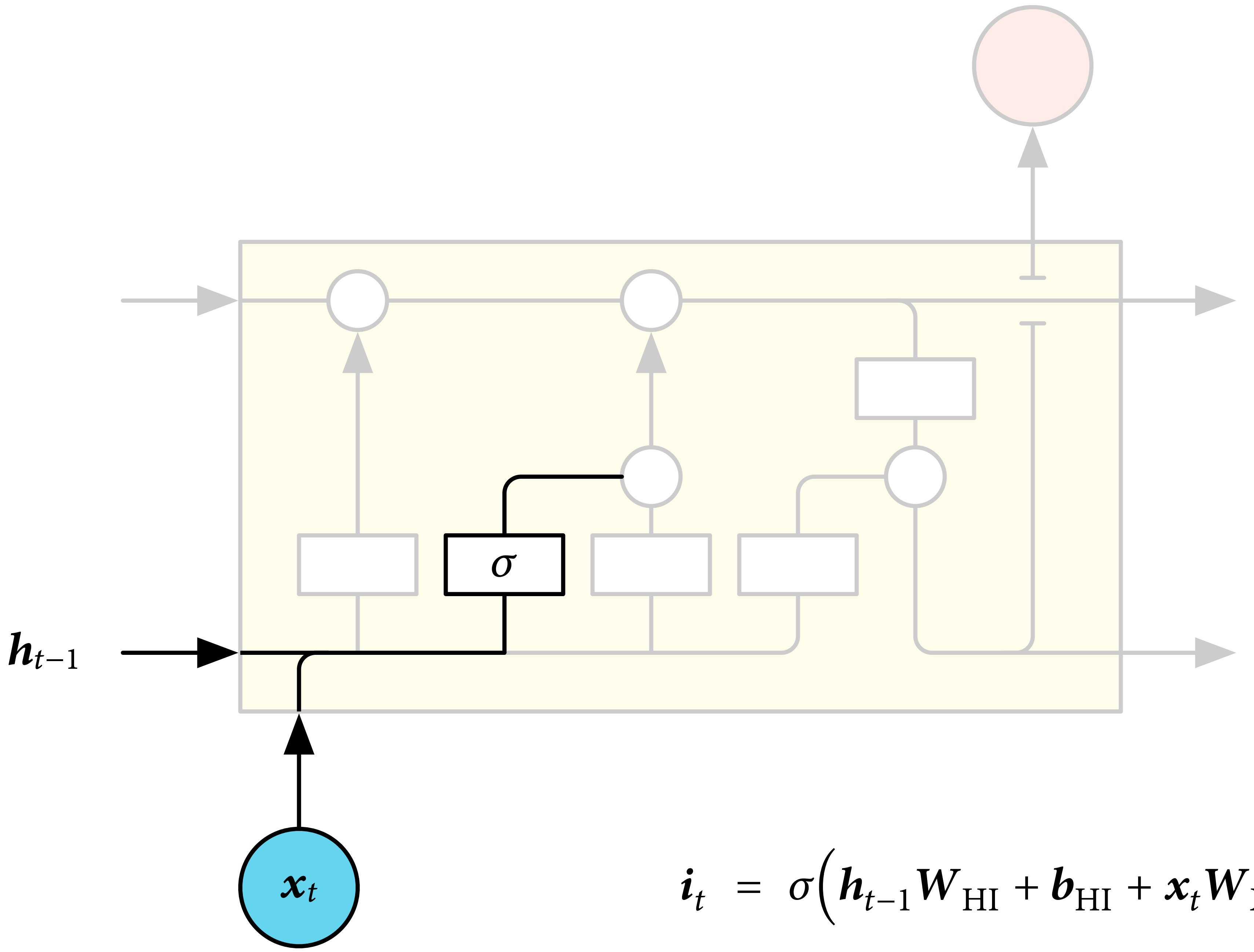
Forget gate



$$\boldsymbol{f}_t = \sigma\left(\boldsymbol{h}_{t-1}\boldsymbol{W}_{\mathrm{HF}} + \boldsymbol{b}_{\mathrm{HF}} + \boldsymbol{x}_t\boldsymbol{W}_{\mathrm{XF}} + \boldsymbol{b}_{\mathrm{XF}}\right)$$

Attribution: Chris Olah

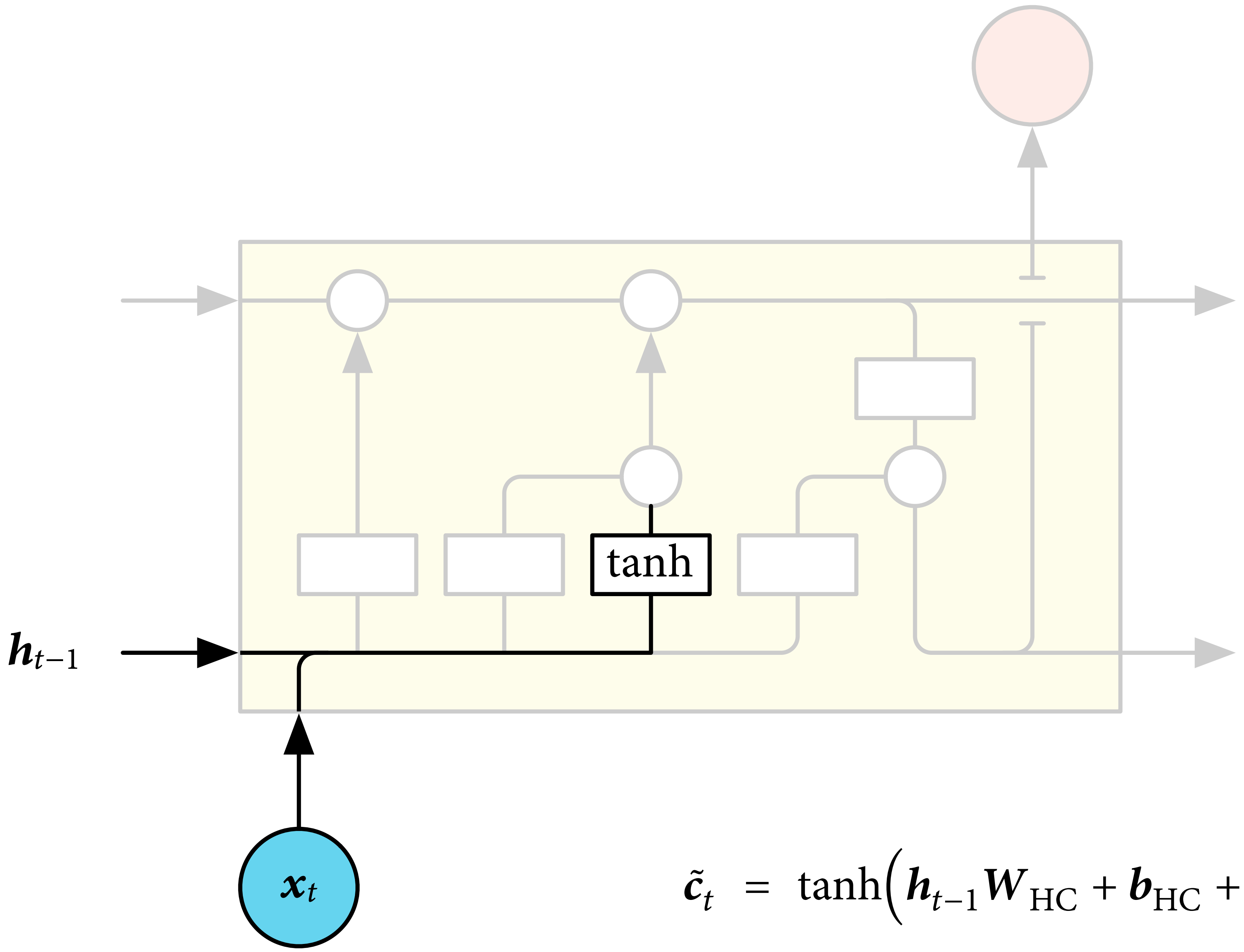
Input gate



$$i_t = \sigma\left(h_{t-1}W_{\mathrm{HI}} + b_{\mathrm{HI}} + x_t W_{\mathrm{XI}} + b_{\mathrm{XI}}\right)$$

Attribution: Chris Olah

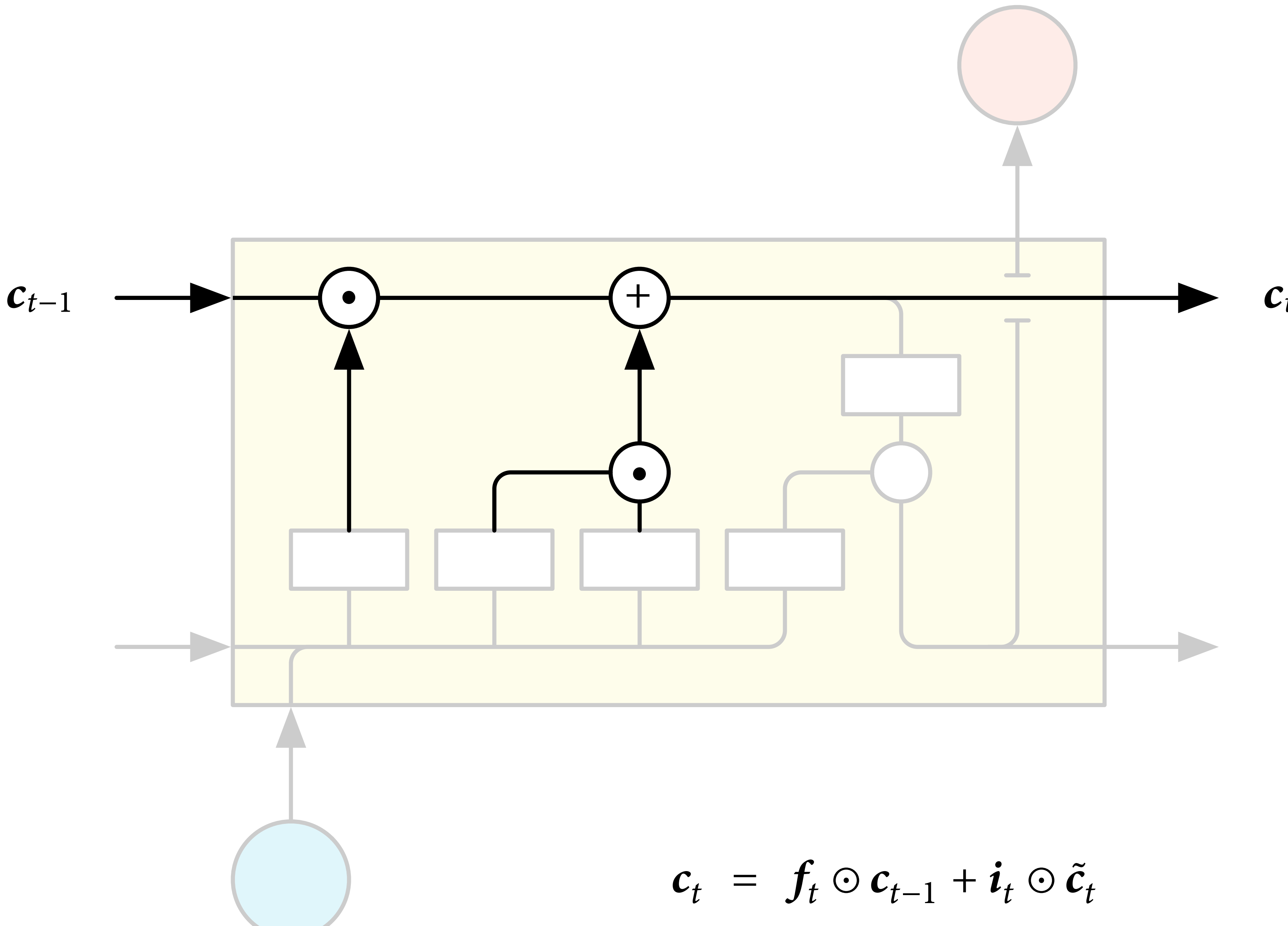
Update candidate



$$\tilde{c}_t = \tanh\left(\boldsymbol{h}_{t-1}\boldsymbol{W}_{\mathrm{HC}} + \boldsymbol{b}_{\mathrm{HC}} + \boldsymbol{x}_t\boldsymbol{W}_{\mathrm{XC}} + \boldsymbol{b}_{\mathrm{XC}}\right)$$

Attribution: Chris Olah

Memory cell update



$$c_t = f_t \odot c_{t-1} + i_t \odot \tilde{c}_t$$

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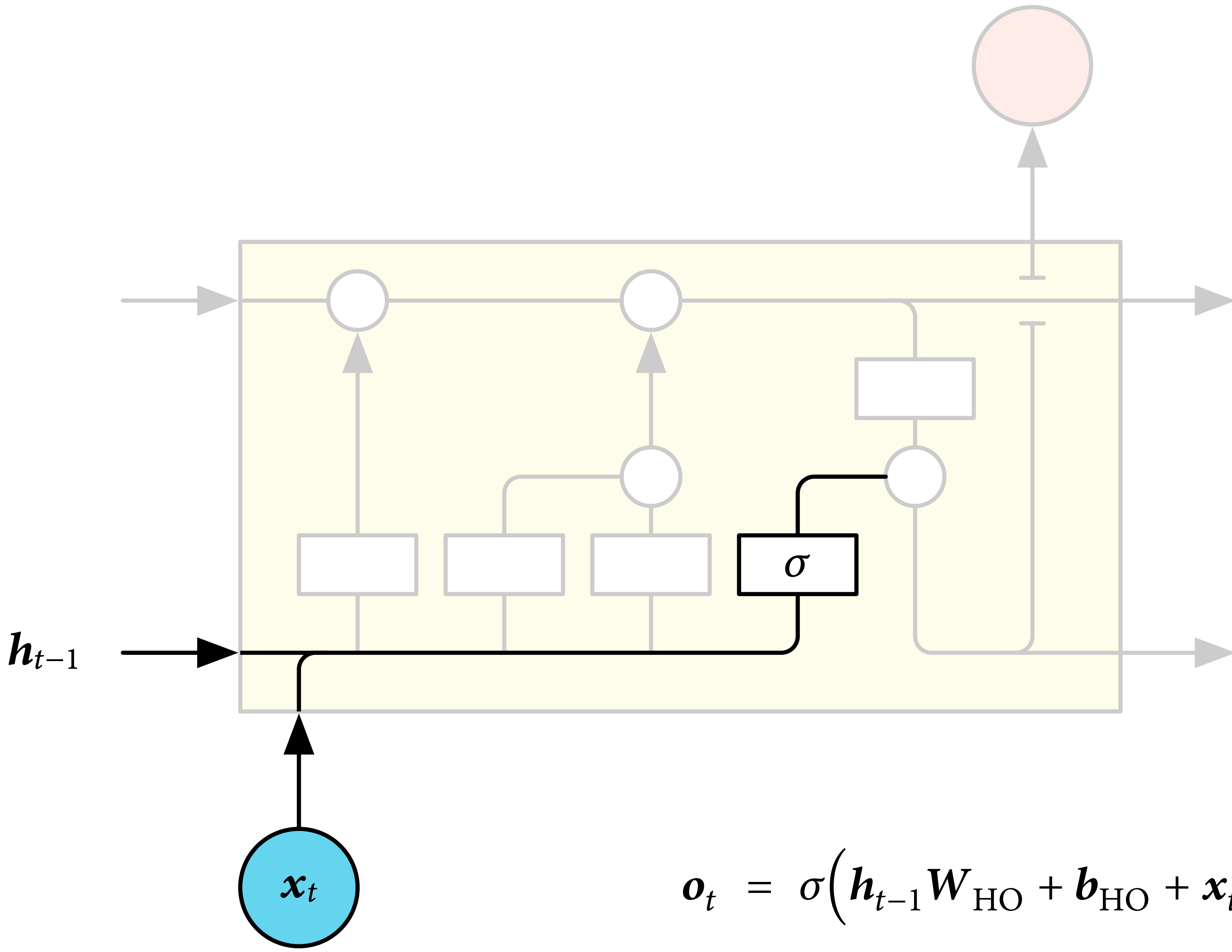
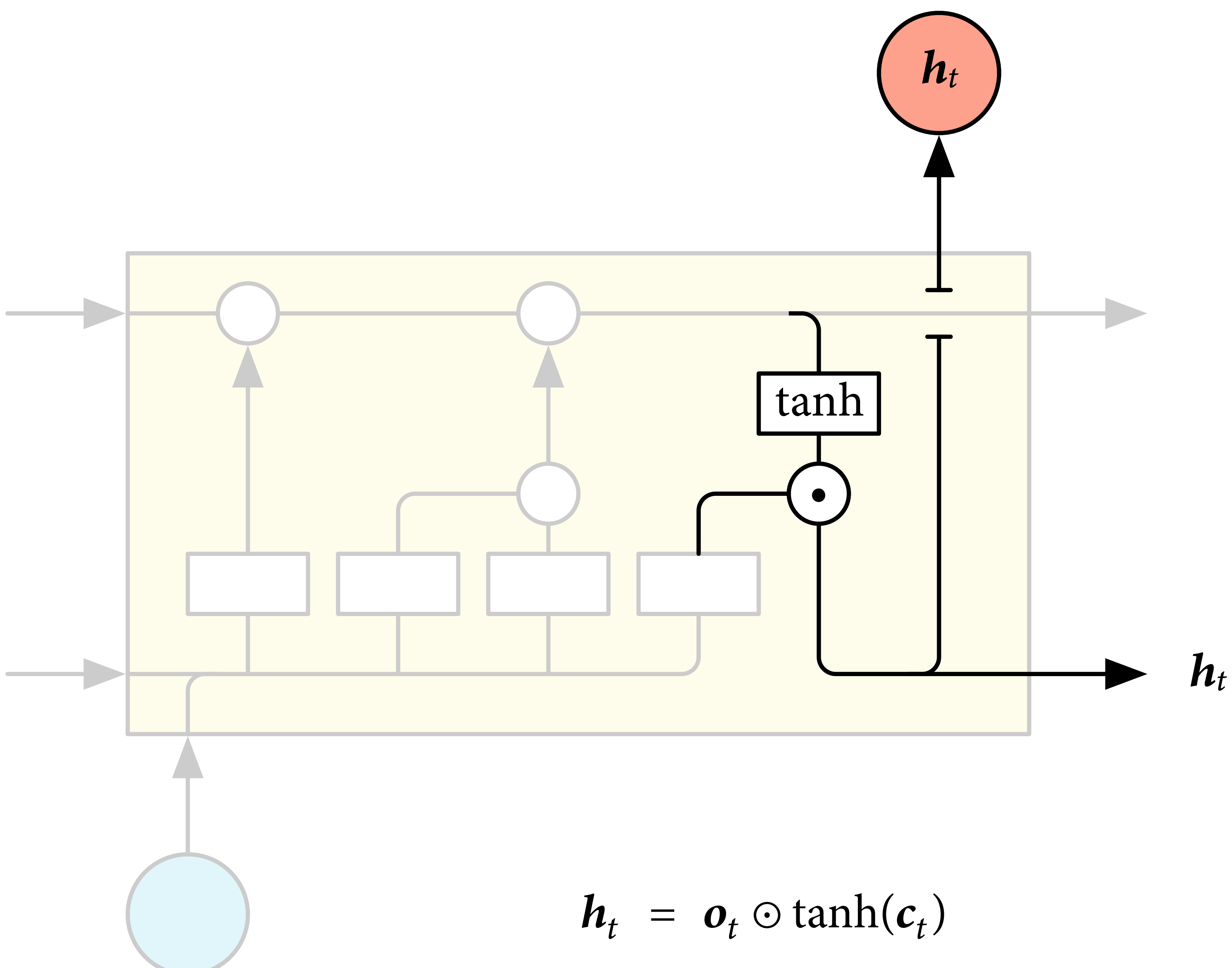
Output gate



$$\boldsymbol{o}_t = \sigma\left(\boldsymbol{h}_{t-1}\boldsymbol{W}_{\mathrm{HO}} + \boldsymbol{b}_{\mathrm{HO}} + \boldsymbol{x}_t\boldsymbol{W}_{\mathrm{XO}} + \boldsymbol{b}_{\mathrm{XO}}\right)$$

Attribution: Chris Olah

Output



$$h_t = o_t \odot \tanh(c_t)$$

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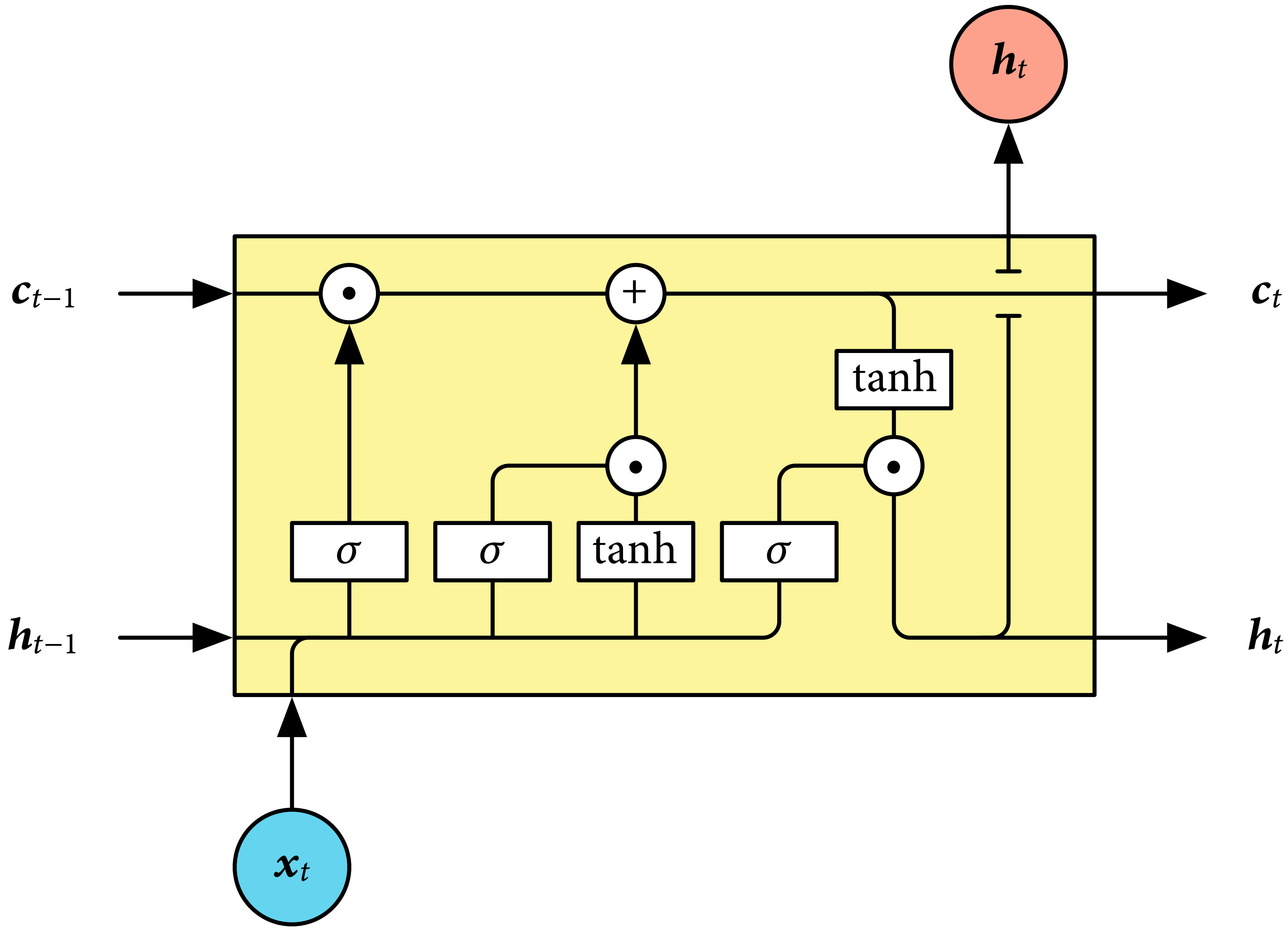
A look inside an LSTM cell



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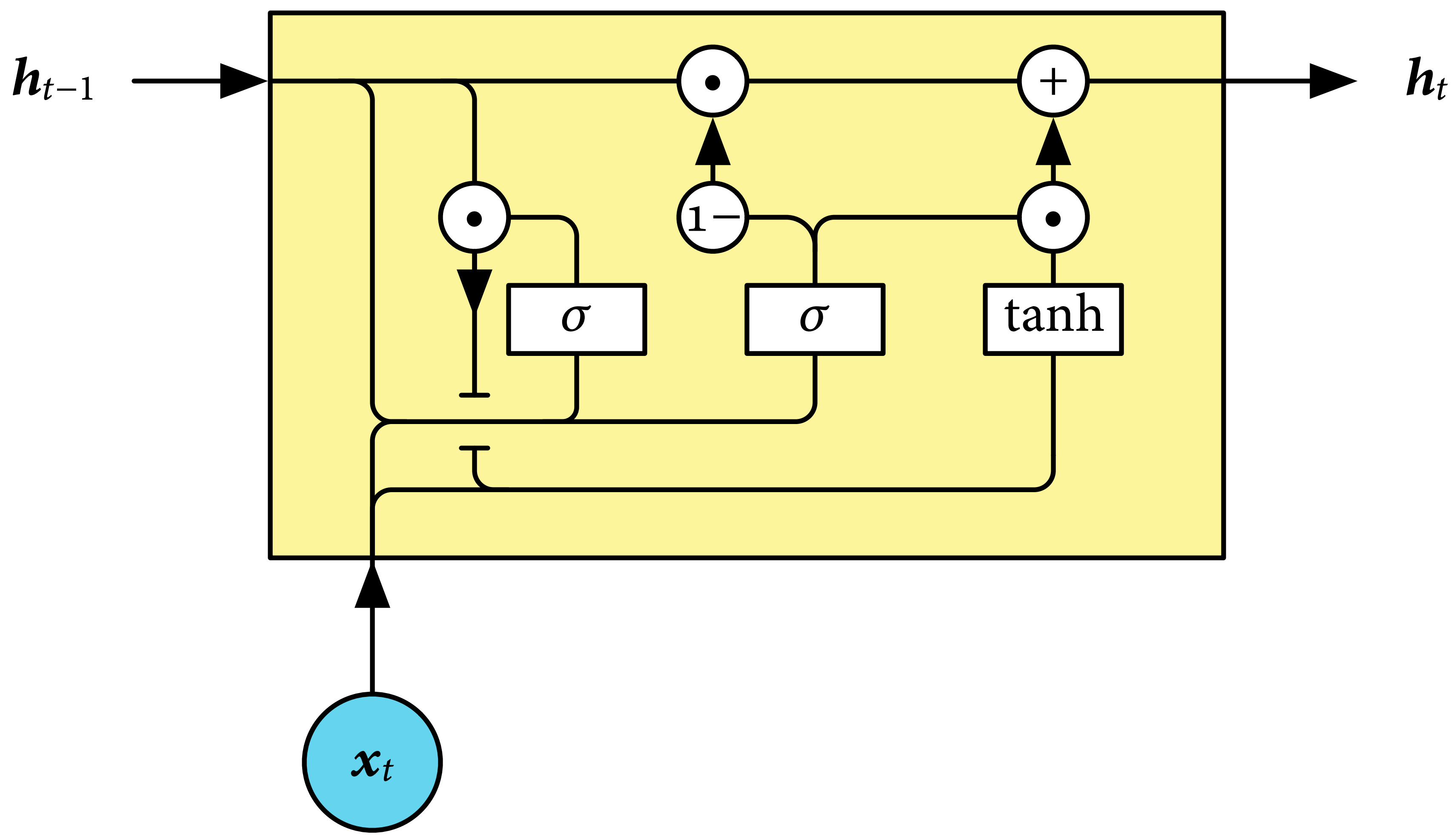
Gated Recurrent Unit (GRU)



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