

Tuesday • October 19, 2021

# Encoder — Decoder Networks

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LING 380/780  
*Neural Network Models of Linguistic Structure*



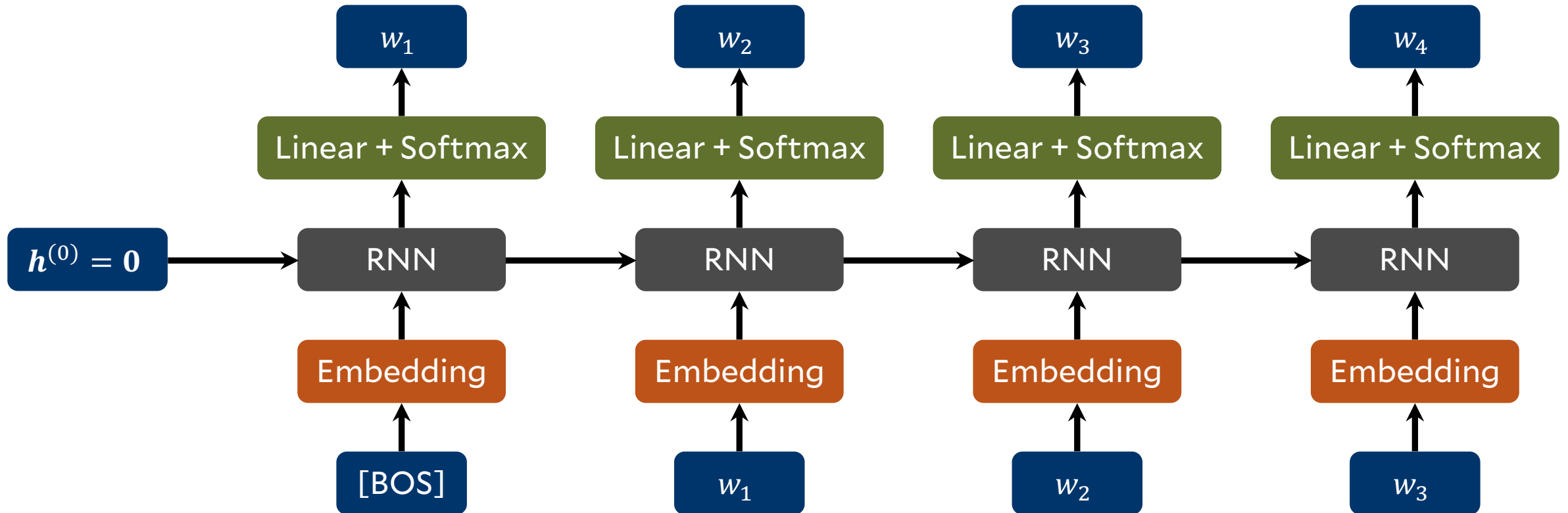
# Recurrent Neural Network Applications

What kinds of tasks are RNN architectures suitable for?

- Word prediction (language modeling)
- Classification

# Prediction and Generation

- Language models **generate text**.



# Greedy Generation Algorithm

- Initialize  $\mathbf{h} \leftarrow \mathbf{0}$ ,  $w = [\text{BOS}]$ .
- While  $w \neq [\text{EOS}]$ :
  - Feed  $w$  and  $\mathbf{h}$  into the RNN.
  - Let  $\mathbf{h}$  be the new RNN state.
  - Let  $w$  be the word assigned the highest probability.

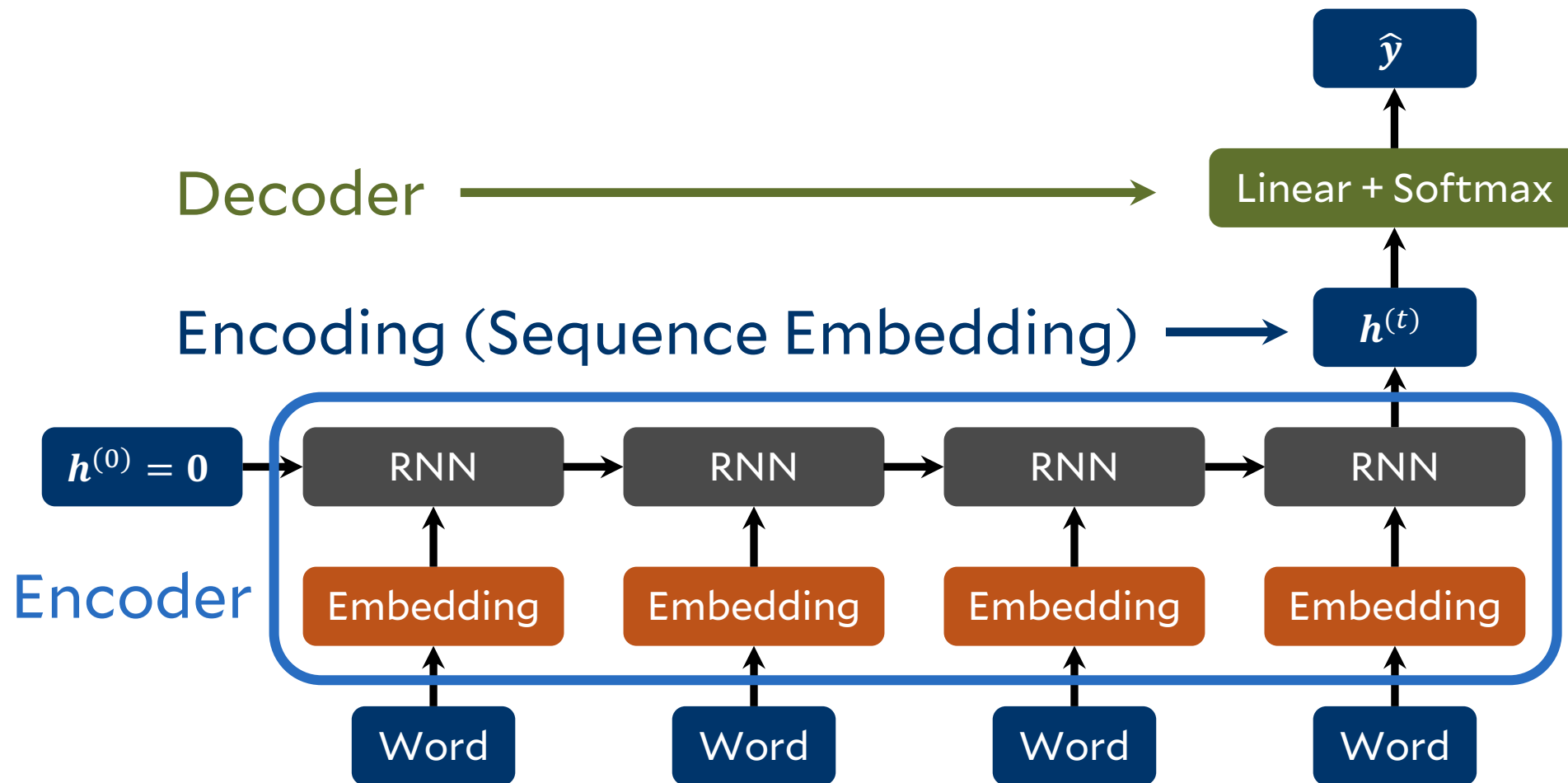
# Greedy Generation Algorithm

- “Greedy” means that at every step, the **locally best choice** is made.
- The next word is always the most likely word.
- But this doesn’t necessarily give the **best sequence**!

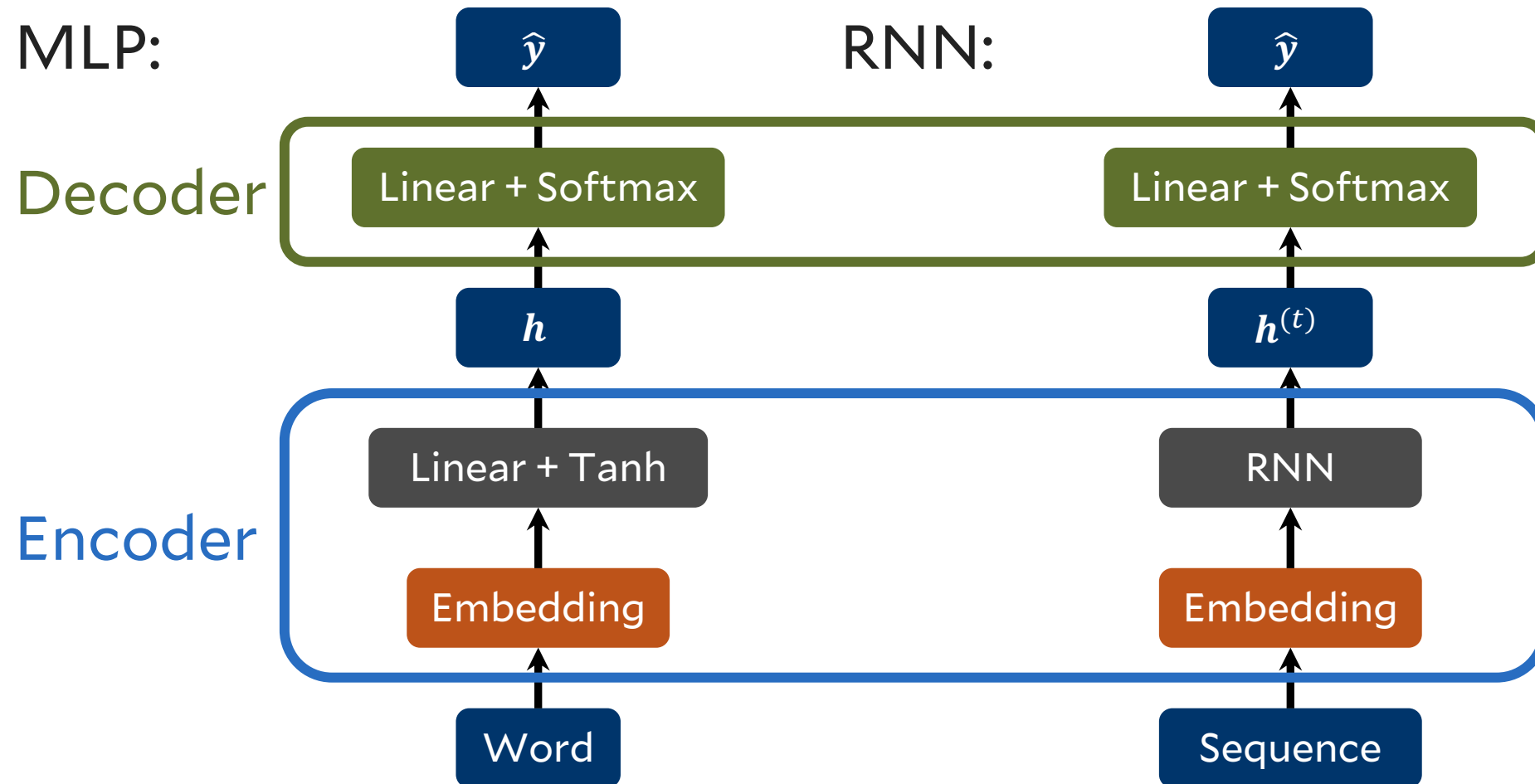
# Beam Search Generation Algorithm

- Initialize  $s^{(i)} = [\text{BOS}]$  for  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ .
- While none of the  $s^{(i)}$ s end with [EOS]:
  - For each  $i$ , let  $s^{(i,j)}$  be the sequence obtained by adding the  $j$ th most likely next token to  $s^{(i)}$ .
  - Let  $s^{(1)}, s^{(2)}, \dots, s^{(k)}$  be the  $k$  most likely sequence among the  $s^{(i,j)}$ s.

# RNN Classification



# MLP vs. RNN Classifiers





# Types of RNNs

- **RNN Generators:** Autoregressively generate text from  $\mathbf{h}^{(0)} = \mathbf{0}$  and  $w_0 = [\text{BOS}]$ .
- **RNN Classifiers:** “Encode” an embedding for the sequence, then “decode” it using a linear + softmax.
- **Sequence-to-Sequence RNNs:** A third type of RNN!

# Sequence-to-Sequence (Seq2Seq) Tasks

**Sequence-to-sequence tasks** (seq2seq) are ones that take a **sequence** as input and **produce a sequence** as output.

**Examples:**

- Machine translation
- Text summarization
- Question answering

# Sequence-to-Sequence (Seq2Seq) Tasks

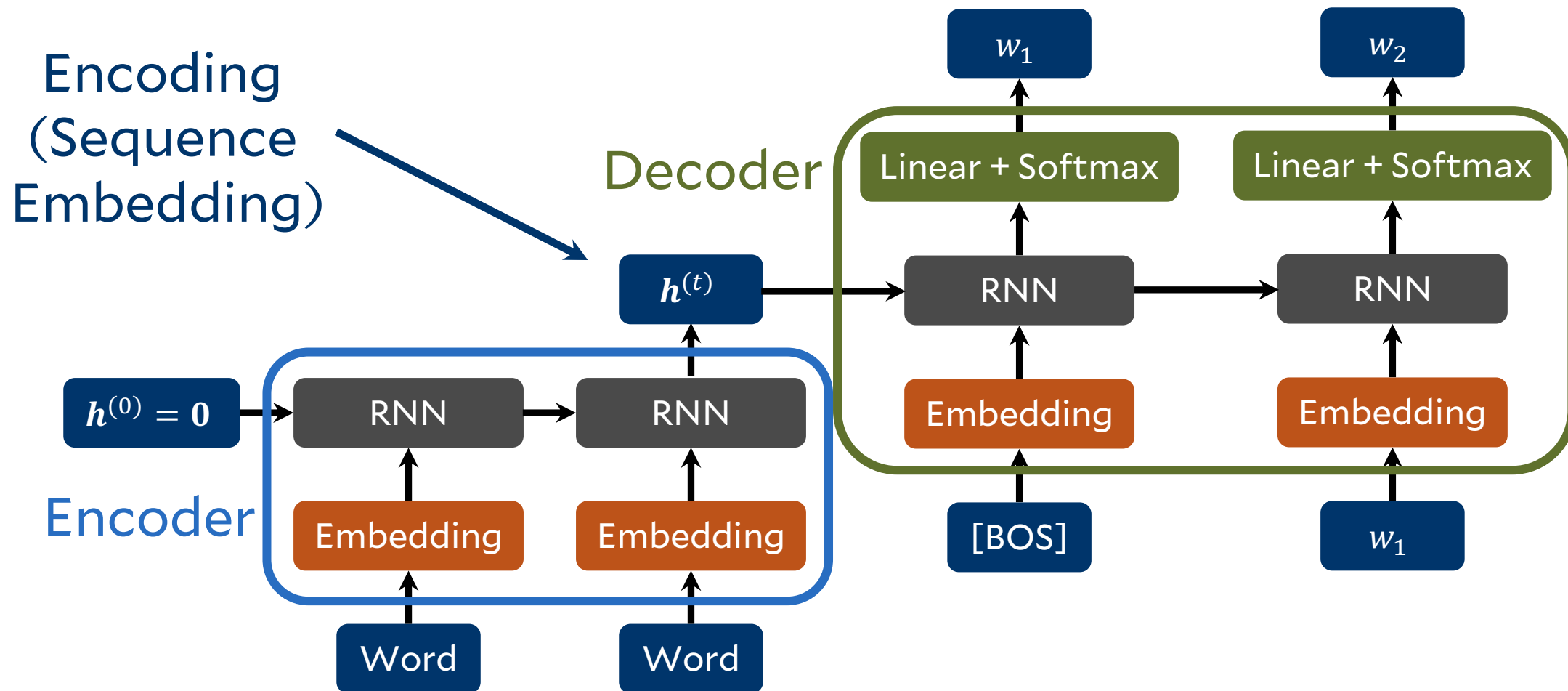
How do you apply RNNs to seq2seq tasks?

- **Classification:** RNN encoder, 1-layer MLP decoder
- **Seq2Seq:** RNN encoder, autoregressive RNN decoder

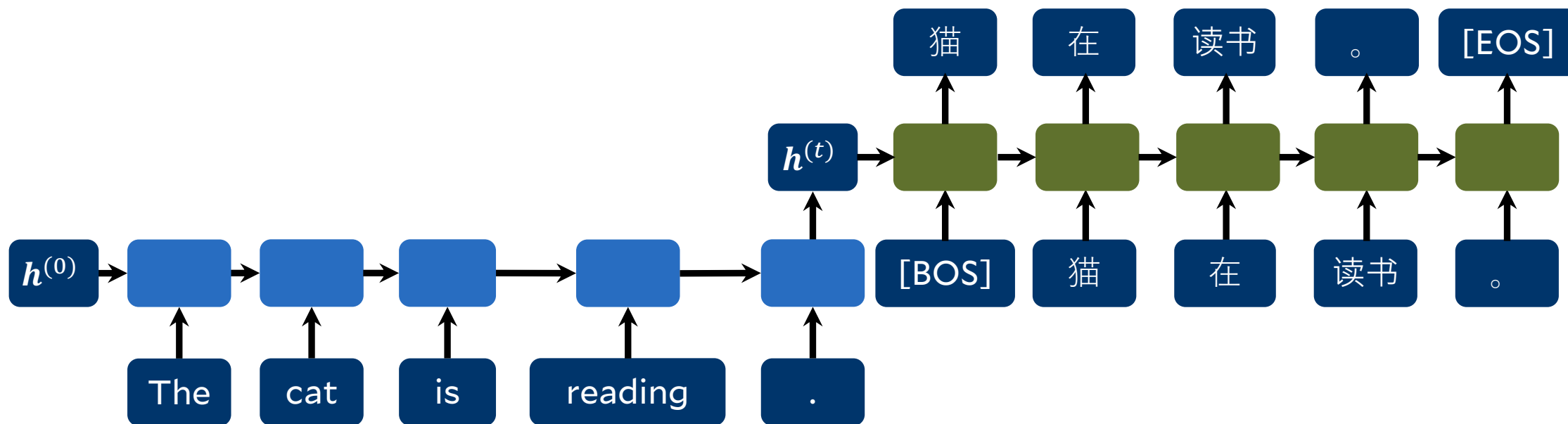
# Types of Neural Networks

	Single Input	Sequence Input
Single Output	MLP	RNN Classifier
Sequence Output	RNN Generator	RNN Encoder–Decoder

# Encoder-Decoder Architecture



# Example: Machine Translation





# Problem

- In the encoder–decoder architecture, all information about the sequence must be stored in the encoding vector.
- If the text is long, the vector might be too small to store the entire sequence.
- **Solution:** allow the decoder to peek at the input sequence!

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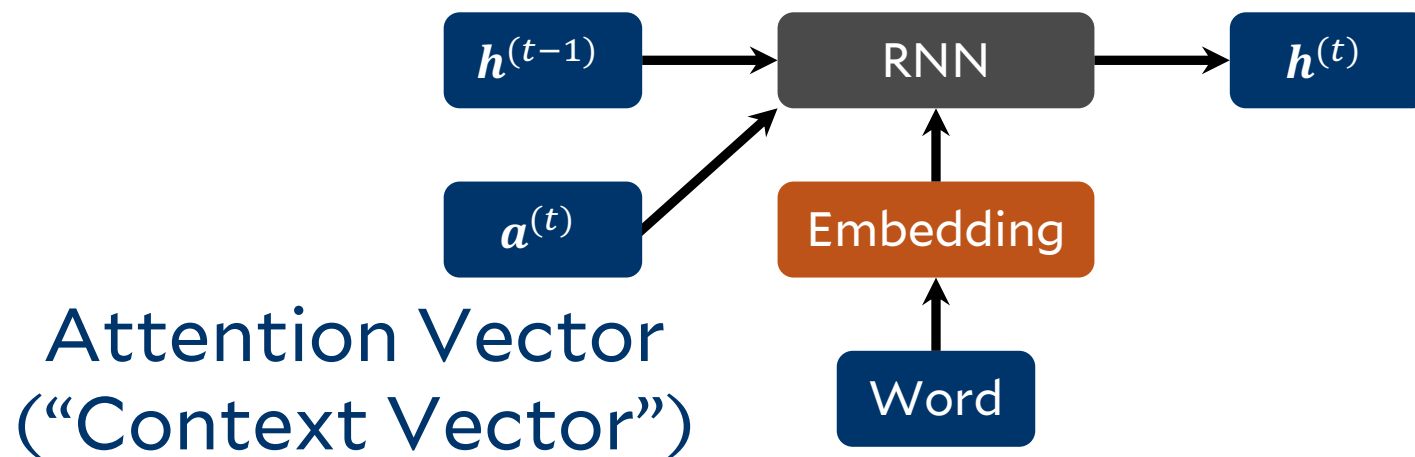
# Attention

Two methods for incorporating the input sequence in the decoder:

- Bahdanau attention
- Luong attention

# Bahdanau Attention

Add a third input to the RNN decoder unit:



# Bahdanau Attention

- At each decoding step, the decoder looks at (“attends to”) parts of the encoder output and retrieves an attention vector  $\mathbf{a}^{(t)}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Linear}(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)}, \mathbf{a}^{(t)}) &= \mathbf{W} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}^{(t)} \\ \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} \\ \mathbf{a}^{(t)} \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{b} \\ &= \mathbf{W}^{(x)} \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{W}^{(h)} \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{W}^{(a)} \mathbf{a}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}\end{aligned}$$

# SRN with Attention

$$\mathbf{h}^{(t)} = \tanh(\mathbf{W}^{(x)} \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{W}^{(h)} \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{W}^{(a)} \mathbf{a}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b})$$

# LSTM with Attention

$$\mathbf{f}^{(t)} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}^{(f,x)}\mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{W}^{(f,h)}\mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{W}^{(f,a)}\mathbf{a}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}^{(f)})$$

$$\mathbf{i}^{(t)} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}^{(i,x)}\mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{W}^{(i,h)}\mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{W}^{(i,a)}\mathbf{a}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}^{(i)})$$

$$\mathbf{o}^{(t)} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}^{(o,x)}\mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{W}^{(o,h)}\mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{W}^{(o,a)}\mathbf{a}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}^{(o)})$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{c}}^{(t)} = \tanh(\mathbf{W}^{(c,x)}\mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{W}^{(c,h)}\mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{W}^{(c,a)}\mathbf{a}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}^{(c)})$$

$$\mathbf{c}^{(t)} = \mathbf{f}^{(t)} \odot \mathbf{c}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{i}^{(t)} \odot \tilde{\mathbf{c}}^{(t)}$$

$$\mathbf{h}^{(t)} = \mathbf{o}^{(t)} \odot \mathbf{c}^{(t)}$$



# GRU with Attention

$$\mathbf{r}^{(t)} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}^{(r,x)} \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{W}^{(r,h)} \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{W}^{(r,a)} \mathbf{a}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}^{(r)})$$

$$\mathbf{z}^{(t)} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}^{(z,x)} \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{W}^{(z,h)} \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{W}^{(z,a)} \mathbf{a}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}^{(z)})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathbf{h}}^{(t)} &= \tanh(\mathbf{W}^{(h,x)} \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{W}^{(h,a)} \mathbf{a}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}^{(h)}) \\ &\quad + \mathbf{r}^{(t)} \odot (\mathbf{W}^{(r,h)} \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{b}^{(h,r)}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{h}^{(t)} = \mathbf{z}^{(t)} \odot \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + (1 - \mathbf{z}^{(t)}) \odot \tilde{\mathbf{h}}^{(t)}$$

# Computing the Attention Vector

First, use an MLP (2 layers, tanh activation, no softmax) to calculate an **attention score**

$$s_i^{(t)} = \text{MLP} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{h}^{(e,i)} \\ \mathbf{h}^{(d,t-1)} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

where

- $\mathbf{h}^{(e,i)}$  is the  $i$ th encoder hidden state
- $\mathbf{h}^{(d,t)}$  is the  $(t - 1)$ st decoder hidden state

# Computing the Attention Vector

Then, convert the attention scores into **attention weights**:

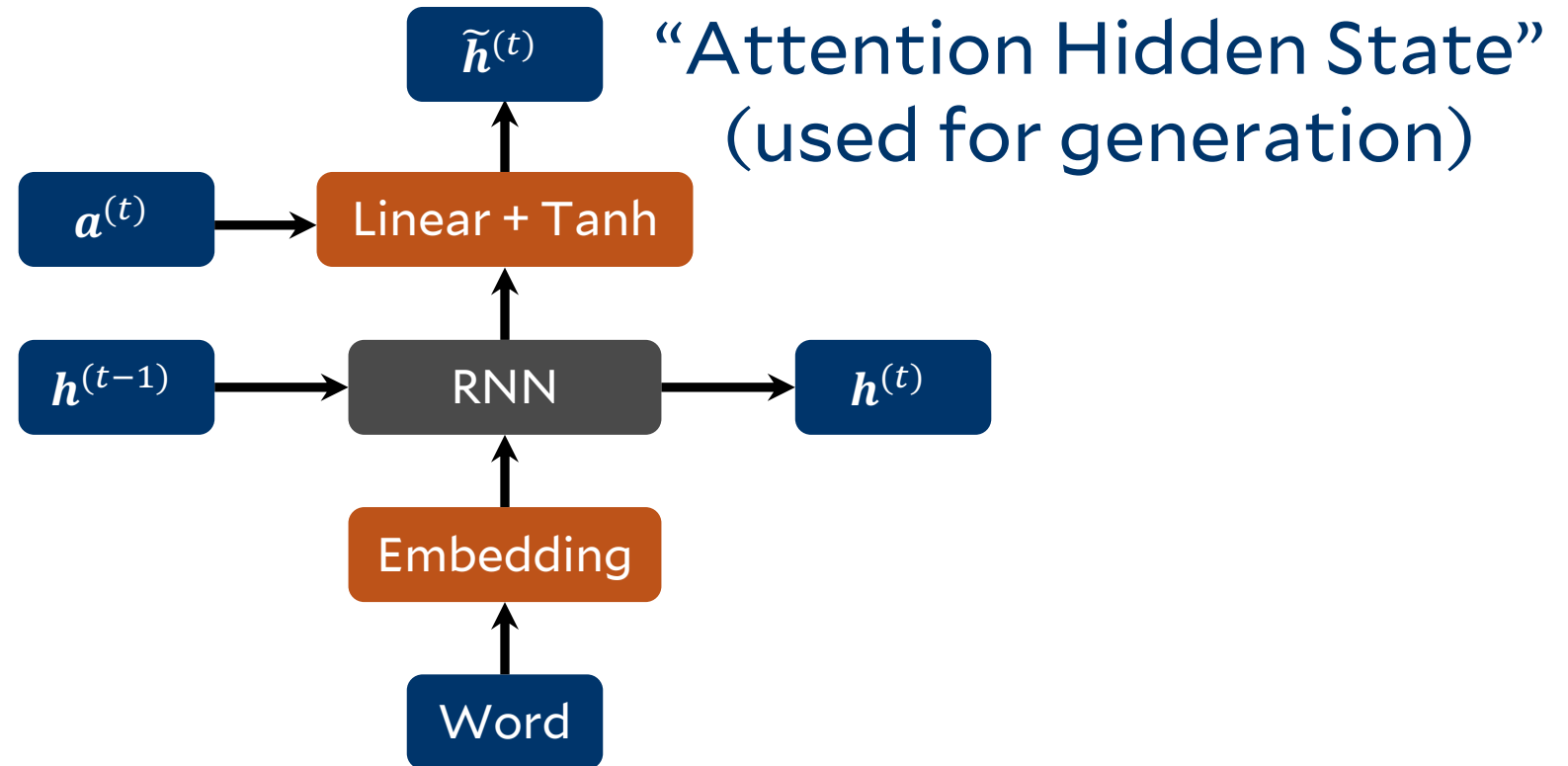
$$\alpha^{(t)} = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{s}^{(t)})$$

Use the attention weights to take a weighted average of encoder hidden states:

$$\mathbf{a}^{(t)} = \sum_i \alpha_i^{(t)} \mathbf{h}^{(e,i)}$$

# Luong Attention

Add the attention vector to the RNN decoder hidden state:



# Luong Attention

Computing attention scores

- “Dot”:  $s_i^{(t)} = (\mathbf{h}^{(d,t)})^\top \mathbf{h}^{(e,i)}$
- “General”:  $s_i^{(t)} = (\mathbf{h}^{(d,t)})^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{h}^{(e,i)}$
- “Concat” (similar to Bahdanau):  $s_i^{(t)} = \text{MLP} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{h}^{(e,i)} \\ \mathbf{h}^{(d,t)} \end{bmatrix} \right)$

# Visualizing Attention Weights

## Bahdanau et al. (2015): English to French

