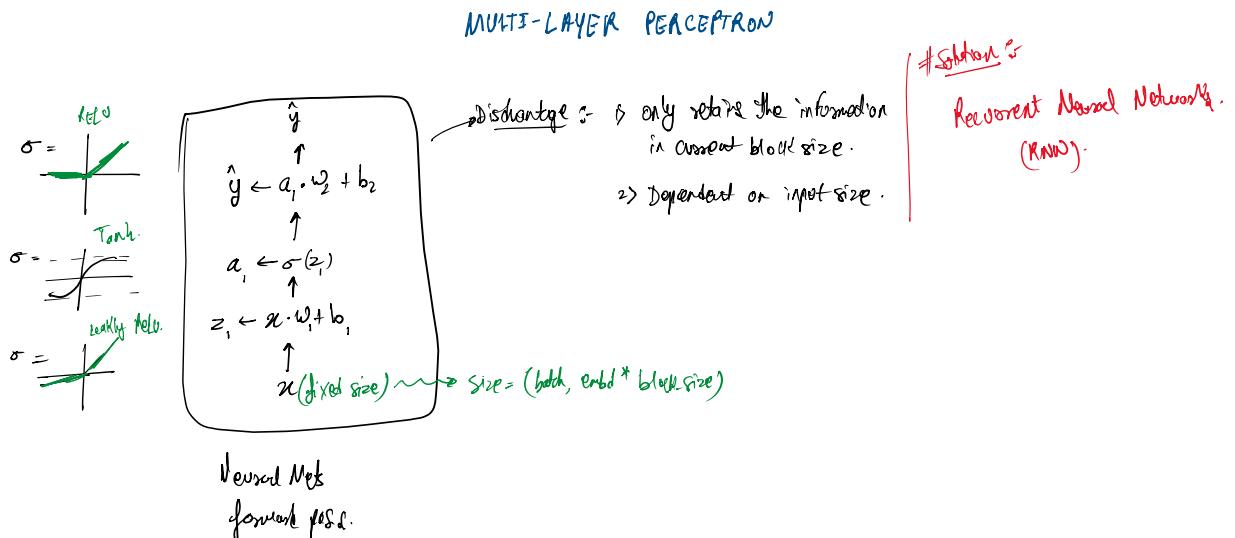


1) RNN Language Model

10 December 2025 01:34 PM

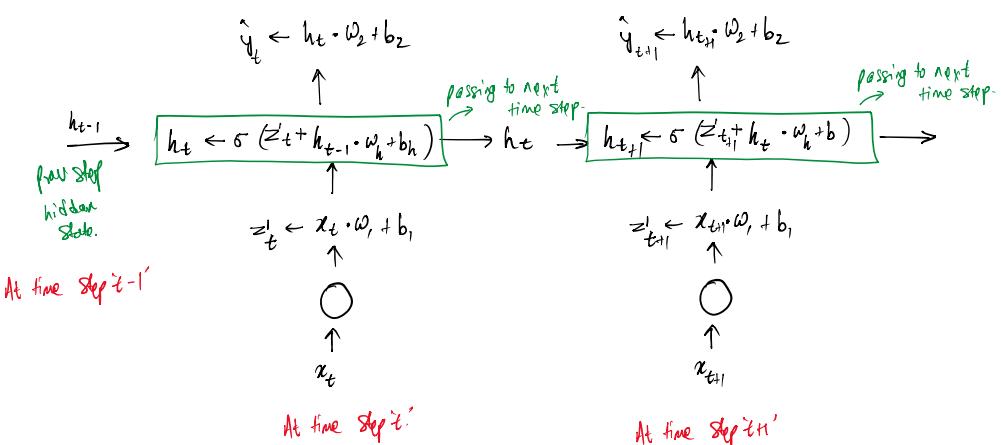
Architecture of a traditional RNN — Recurrent neural networks, also known as RNNs, are a class of neural networks that allow previous outputs to be used as inputs while having hidden states. They are typically as follows:

Advantages	Drawbacks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possibility of processing input of any length Model size not increasing with size of input Computation takes into account historical information Weights are shared across time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computation being slow Difficulty of accessing information from a long time ago Cannot consider any future input for the current state



RNN → Transfer everything you learned to next hidden states time step

RNN - Architecture



Basically we have a loop, performing

$$y_t \leftarrow f(\text{current_input}, \text{prev_hidden_state})$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{y}_t \leftarrow f(x_t, h_{t-1})$$

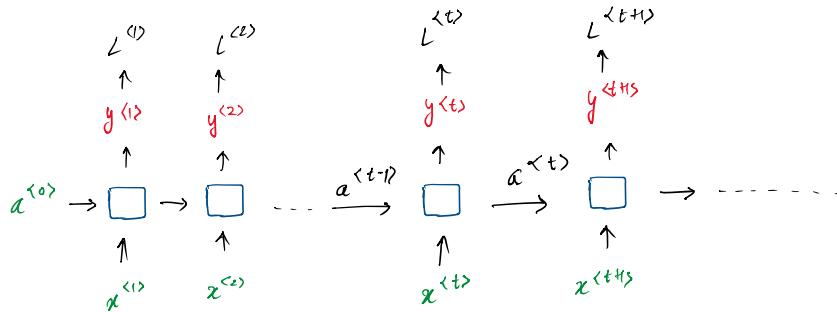
$$\hat{y}_t \leftarrow (\sigma(x_t \cdot w_1 + h_{t-1} \cdot w_h + b)) \cdot w_2 + b_2 \quad \# \text{forward pass for RNN}$$

$$f(x_t, h_{t-1}) = (\sigma(x_t \cdot w_1 + h_{t-1} \cdot w_h + b)) \cdot w_2 + b_2$$

$$f(x_t, h_{t-1}) = \sigma(w_1 \cdot x_t + h_{t-1} \cdot w_h + b) \cdot w_2 + b_2$$

Activation function
 information obtained from past hidden state
 (past time step)
 Controls how much the past hidden state is important.

Generally



where,

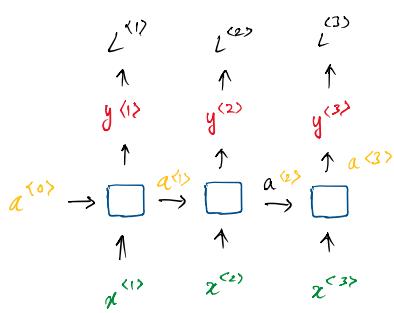
$$a^{<t>} = g_1(x^{<t>} \cdot w_x + a^{<t-1>} \cdot w_h + b)$$

$$y^{<t>} = g_2(a^{<t>} \cdot w_y + b_y)$$

$$L(\hat{y}, y) = \sum_{i=0}^t L^{<i>} ; \quad L^{<t>} = L(y^{<i>}, \hat{y})$$

Training RNNs (Backpropagation)

Assume this architecture.



$$L = L^{<1>} + L^{<2>} + L^{<3>}$$

$$a^{<1>} = x^{<1>} \cdot w_x + a^{<0>} \cdot w_h + b$$

$$a^{<2>} = x^{<2>} \cdot w_x + a^{<1>} \cdot w_h + b$$

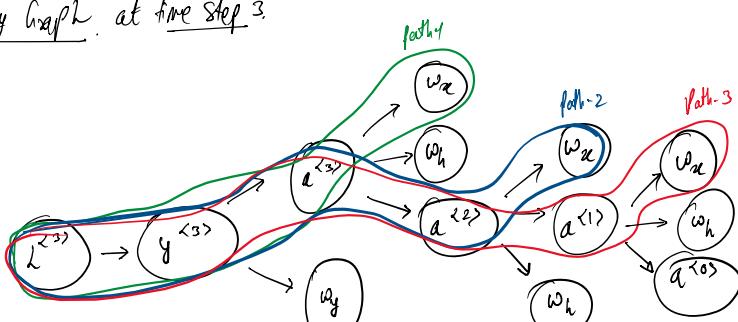
$$a^{<3>} = x^{<3>} \cdot w_x + a^{<2>} \cdot w_h + b$$

$$y^{<1>} = a^{<1>} \cdot w_y + b_y$$

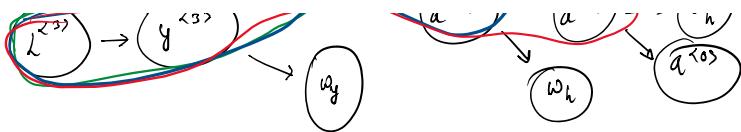
$$y^{<2>} = a^{<2>} \cdot w_y + b_y$$

$$y^{<3>} = a^{<3>} \cdot w_y + b_y$$

Dependency Graph at time step 3.



→ This tells us how $a^{<3>} \rightarrow a^{<2>} \rightarrow a^{<1>}$ at time step=3



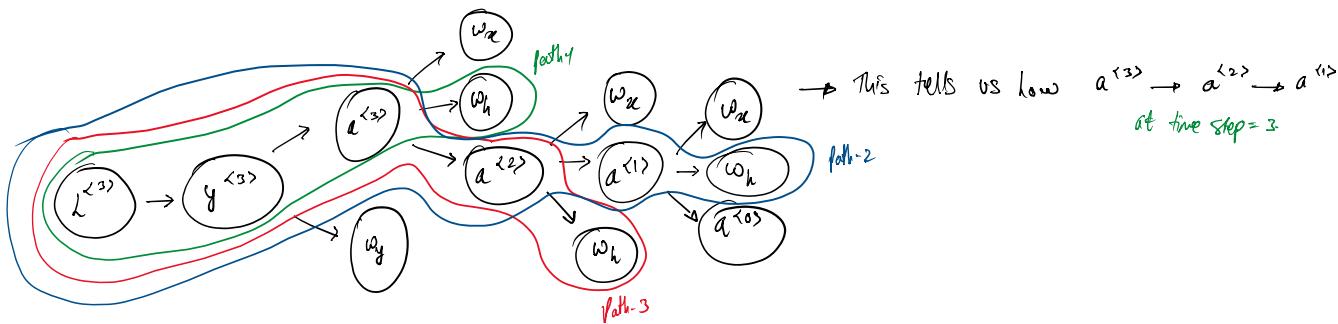
Gradient :-

$$\frac{\partial L^{(3)}}{\partial w_h} = \left(\frac{\partial L^{(3)}}{\partial y^{(3)}} \times \frac{\partial y^{(3)}}{\partial a^{(3)}} \times \frac{\partial a^{(3)}}{\partial w_h} \right)_{\text{path-1}} + \left(\frac{\partial L^{(3)}}{\partial y^{(3)}} \times \frac{\partial y^{(3)}}{\partial a^{(3)}} \times \frac{\partial a^{(3)}}{\partial a^{(2)}} \times \frac{\partial a^{(2)}}{\partial w_h} \right)_{\text{path-2}} + \left(\frac{\partial L^{(3)}}{\partial y^{(3)}} \times \frac{\partial y^{(3)}}{\partial a^{(3)}} \times \frac{\partial a^{(3)}}{\partial a^{(2)}} \times \frac{\partial a^{(2)}}{\partial a^{(1)}} \times \frac{\partial a^{(1)}}{\partial w_h} \right)_{\text{path-3}}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial w_h} = \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{\partial L^{(t)}}{\partial y^{(t)}} \times \frac{\partial y^{(t)}}{\partial a^{(t)}} \times \frac{\partial a^{(t)}}{\partial w_h}$$

Backpropagation Through Time (BPTT)

Dependency Graph at time step 3



Gradient :-

$$\frac{\partial L^{(3)}}{\partial w_h} = \left(\frac{\partial L^{(3)}}{\partial y^{(3)}} \times \frac{\partial y^{(3)}}{\partial a^{(3)}} \times \frac{\partial a^{(3)}}{\partial w_h} \right)_{\text{path-1}} + \left(\frac{\partial L^{(3)}}{\partial y^{(3)}} \times \frac{\partial y^{(3)}}{\partial a^{(3)}} \times \frac{\partial a^{(3)}}{\partial a^{(2)}} \times \frac{\partial a^{(2)}}{\partial w_h} \right)_{\text{path-2}} + \left(\frac{\partial L^{(3)}}{\partial y^{(3)}} \times \frac{\partial y^{(3)}}{\partial a^{(3)}} \times \frac{\partial a^{(3)}}{\partial a^{(2)}} \times \frac{\partial a^{(2)}}{\partial a^{(1)}} \times \frac{\partial a^{(1)}}{\partial w_h} \right)_{\text{path-3}}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial w_h} = \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{\partial L^{(t)}}{\partial y^{(t)}} \times \frac{\partial y^{(t)}}{\partial a^{(t)}} \times \frac{\partial a^{(t)}}{\partial w_h}$$

Backpropagation Through Time (BPTT)

Again Same General formula:

Generalized BPTT

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial w_h} = \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{\partial L^{(t)}}{\partial y^{(t)}} \times \frac{\partial y^{(t)}}{\partial a^{(t)}} \times \frac{\partial a^{(t)}}{\partial w_h}$$