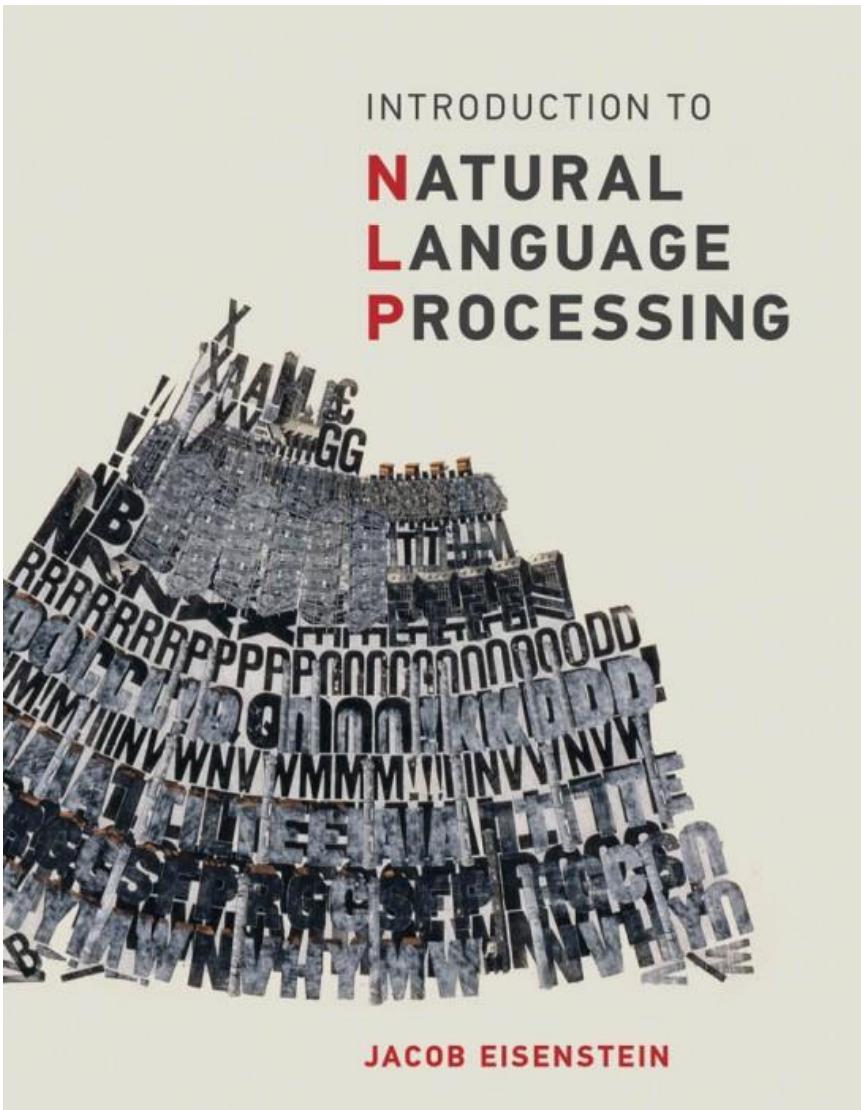
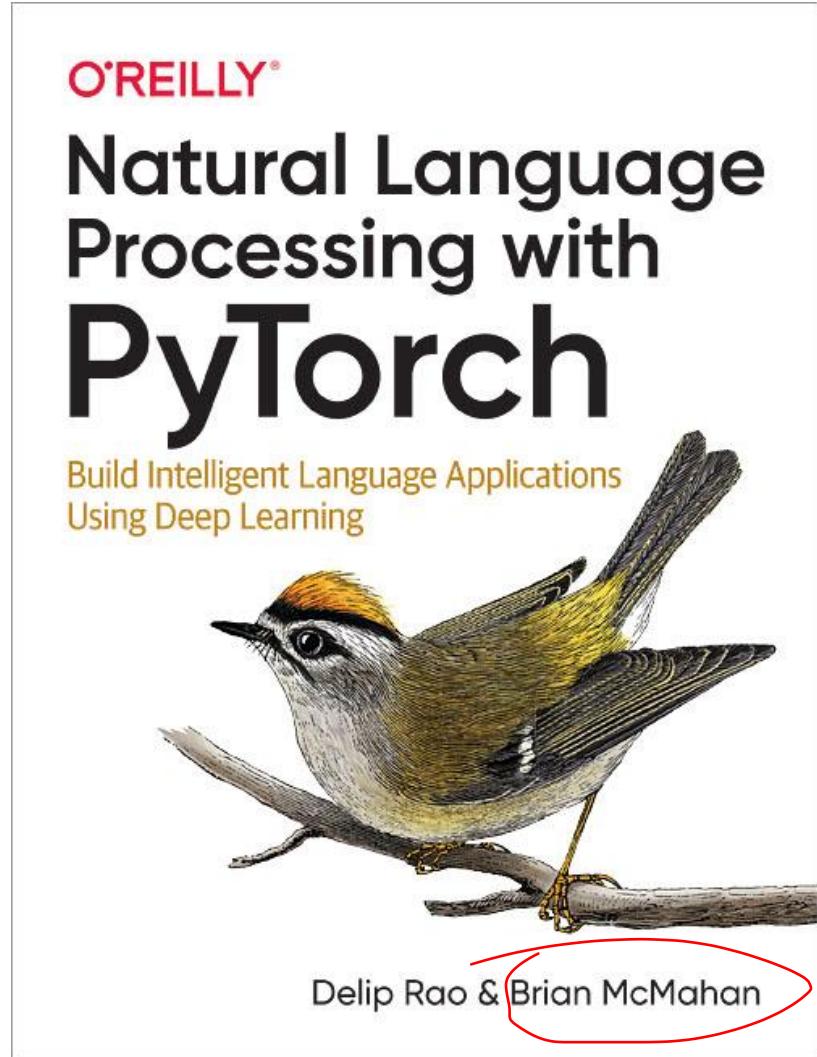


# Reference text 1



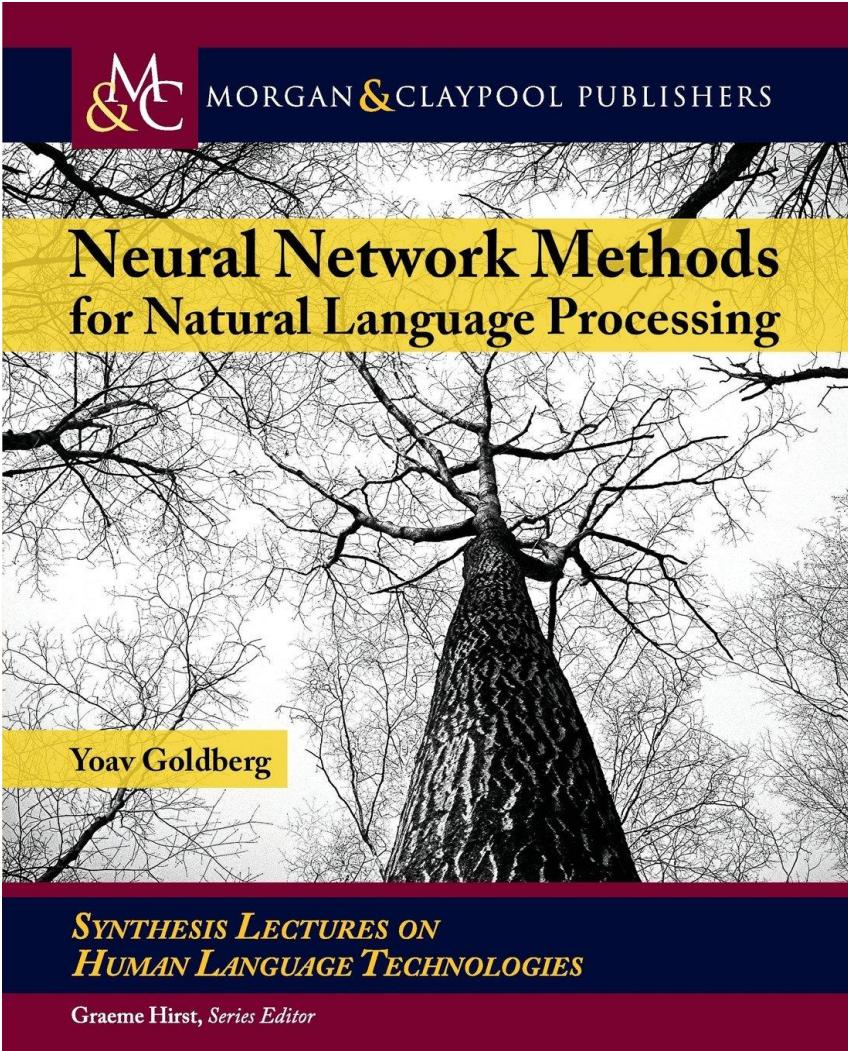
- Title: Introduction to Natural Language Processing
- Author: Jacob Eisenstein
- Year: 2019
- Draft PDF available at  
<https://bit.ly/2U6HZ5f>

# Reference textbook 2



- Title: Natural Language Processing with PyTorch: Build Intelligent Language Applications Using Deep Learning
- Author: Delip Rao
- Year: 2019

# Reference textbook 3



- Title: Neural Network Methods for Natural Language Processing
- Author: Yoav Goldberg
- Year: 2017
- 311 Pages
- Alternatively,
  - A Primer on Neural Network Models for Natural Language Processing
  - Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research
  - Freely available online

# Machine Translation

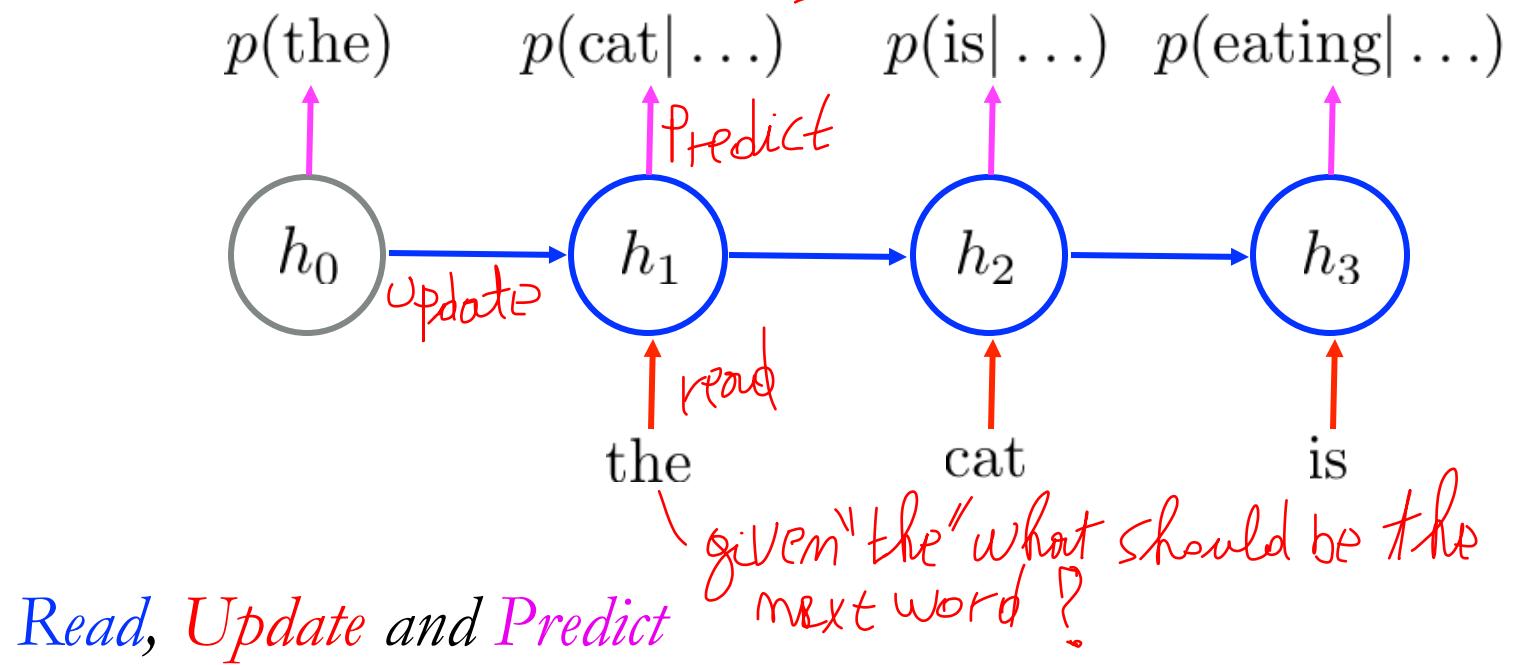
Instructor: Kyunghyun Cho (NYU, Facebook)

# Recurrent Language Modeling

Let's delve a bit deeper into a recurrent network and language modeling with it.

# Recurrent Language Model

Example)  $p(\underline{\text{the}}, \underline{\text{cat}}, \underline{\text{is}}, \underline{\text{eating}})$  over all possible next tokens



# Building a Recurrent Language Model

Transition Function  $h_t = f(h_{t-1}, x_{t-1})$

- Inputs
    - i. Previous word  $x_{t-1} \in \{1, 2, \dots, |V|\}$  *Read*
    - ii. Previous state  $h_{t-1} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  *Update*
  - Parameters
    - i. Input weight matrix  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times d}$
    - ii. Transition weight matrix  $U \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$
    - iii. Bias vector  $b \in \mathbb{R}^d$
  - Naïve Transition Function
- $$f(h_{t-1}, x_{t-1}) = \tanh(W[x_{t-1}] + U h_{t-1} + b)$$
- new hidden state*      *embedding*      *non linearity*      *linear comb*
- 
- ```
graph LR; h0((h0)) --> h1((h1)); h1 --> h2((h2)); h2 --> h3((h3)); h1 -- "the" --> p1["p(the)"]; h2 -- "cat" --> p2["p(cat|...)"]; h3 -- "is" --> p3["p(is|...)"]; h3 -- "eating" --> p4["p(eating|...)"]
```

# Building a Recurrent Language Model

Transition Function

$$h_t = f(h_{t-1}, x_{t-1})$$

- Naïve Transition Function

$$f(h_{t-1}, x_{t-1}) = \tanh(W [x_{t-1}] + Uh_{t-1} + b)$$

Element-wise nonlinear transformation

*Trainable word vector*

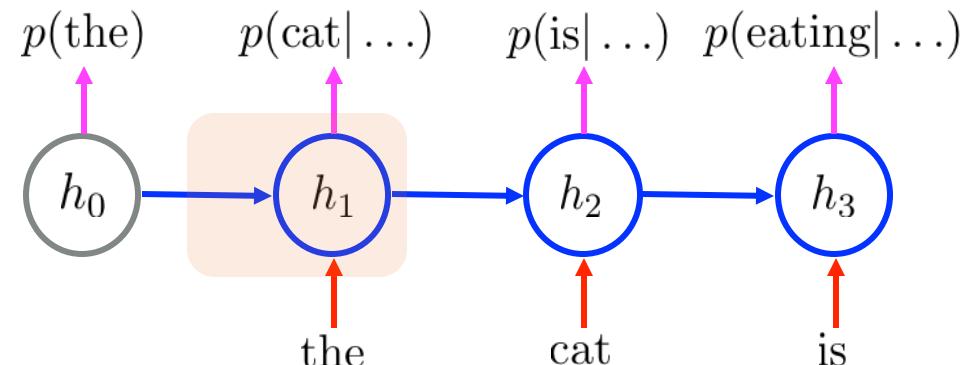
*embedding 1-hot vect*

*Hidden state*

*Weight matrix*

*table or  
lookup*

*Linear transformation of  
previous state*

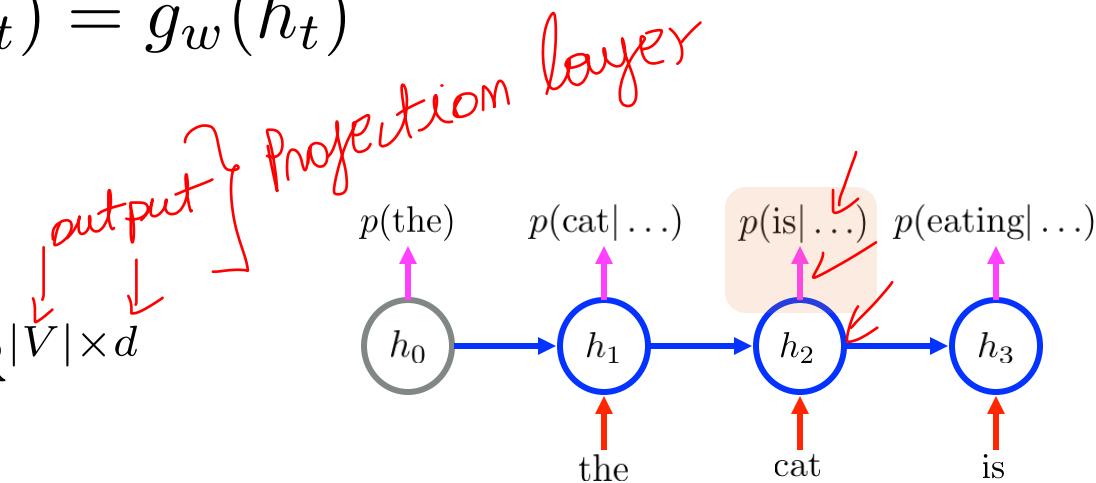


# Building a Recurrent Language Model

*Readout Function*       $p(x_t = w|x_{<t}) = g_w(h_t)$

- Inputs
  - i. Current state  $h_t \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- Parameters
  - i. Readout weight matrix  $R \in \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times d}$
  - ii. Bias vector  $c \in \mathbb{R}^{|V|}$
- Softmax Readout

$$p(x_t = w|x_{<t}) = g_w(h_t) = \frac{\exp(R [w]^\top h_t + c_w)}{\sum_{i=1}^{|V|} \exp(R [i]^\top h_t + c_i)}$$



# Building a Recurrent Language Model

Readout Function  $p(x_t = w|x_{<t}) = g_w(h_t)$

$p(x_t = w|x_{<t}) = g_w(h_t) = \frac{\exp(R[w]^\top h_t + c_w)}{\sum_{i=1}^{|V|} \exp(R[i]^\top h_t + c_i)}$

*input linear combination*

*Exponentiation*

*Compatibility (dot product)*

*between a trainable word vector and the hidden state*

*Normalization*

*Prediction*

```
graph LR; h0((h0)) --> h1((h1)); h1 --> h2((h2)); h2 --> h3((h3)); h0 -- "p(the)" --> h1; h1 -- "p(cat|...)" --> h2; h2 -- "p(is|...)" --> h3; h3 -- "p(eating|...)" --> h3; h1 -- "the" --> h1; h2 -- "cat" --> h2; h3 -- "is" --> h3;
```

# Training a Recurrent Language Model

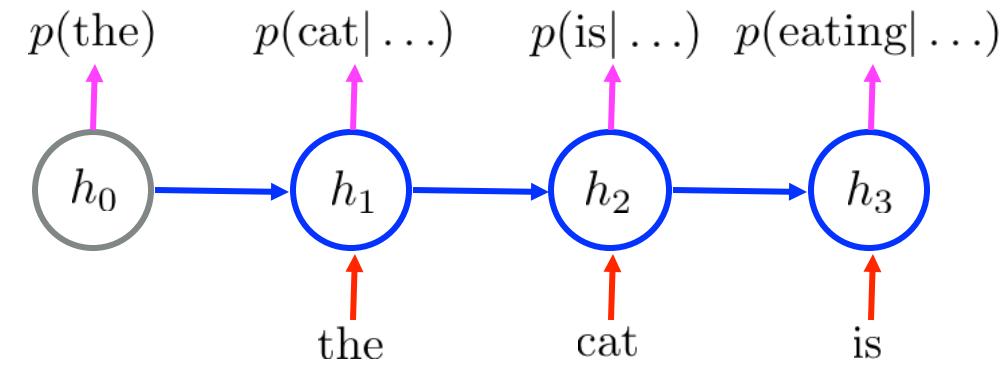
- Log-probability of one training sentence

$$\log p(x_1^n, x_2^n, \dots, x_{T^n}^n) = \sum_{t=1}^{T^n} \log p(x_t^n | x_1^n, \dots, x_{t-1}^n)$$

- Training set  $D = \{X^1, X^2, \dots, X^N\}$
- Log-likelihood Functional

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta, D) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{t=1}^{T^n} \log p(x_t^n | x_1^n, \dots, x_{t-1}^n)$$

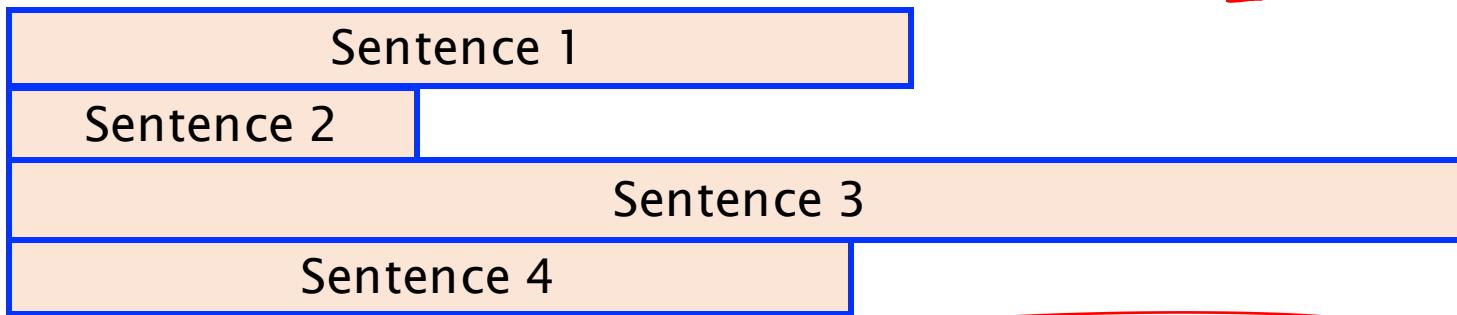
*Self-supervised Learning*



Minimize  $\underline{-\mathcal{L}(\theta, D)}$  !!

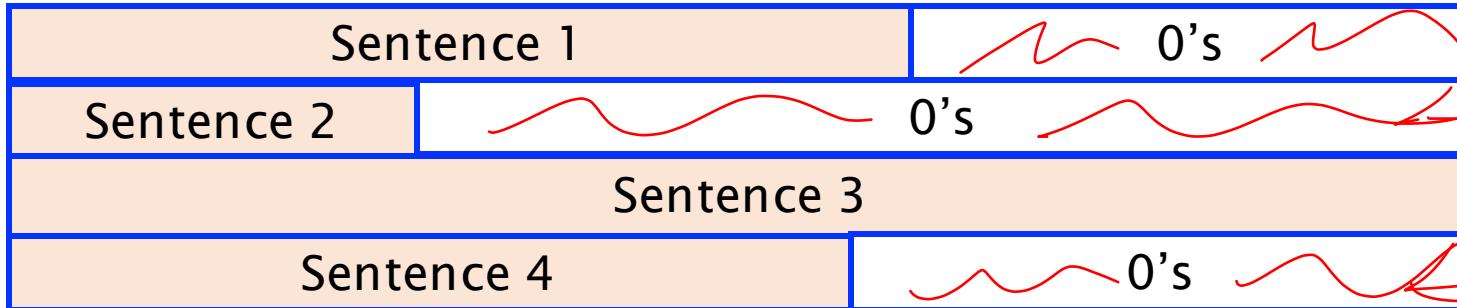
# Minibatch Stochastic Gradient Descent

- Building a minibatch is not trivial due to length differences.



- Padding and Masking: suitable for GPU's, but wasteful

- Wasted computation:  $\sum_{n=1}^N \max_{n'=1,\dots,N} l(X^{n'}) - l(X^n)$



Allow to avoid  
doing computation  
on paddings

# Minibatch Stochastic Gradient Descent

## 1. Padding and Masking: suitable for GPU's, but wasteful

- *Wasted computation:*  $\sum_{n=1}^N \max_{n'=1,\dots,N} l(X^{n'}) - l(X^n)$

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| Sentence 1 | 0's |
| Sentence 2 | 0's |
| Sentence 3 |     |
| Sentence 4 | 0's |

## 2. Smarter Padding and Masking: minimize the waste

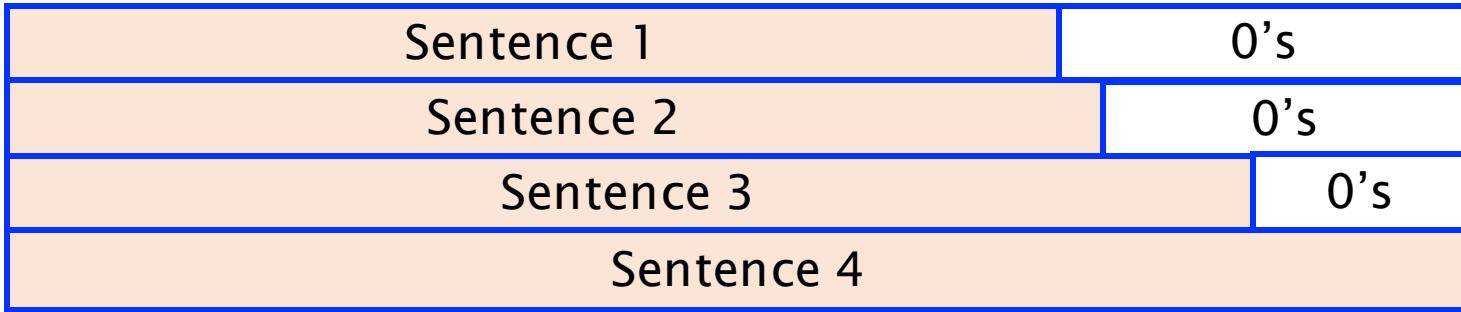
- *Ensure that the length differences are minimal.*
- *Sort the sentences and sequentially build a minibatch*

|            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| Sentence 1 | / / 0's / / |
| Sentence 2 | / / 0's / / |
| Sentence 3 | / / 0's / / |
| Sentence 4 |             |

this introduce bias - we are not Sampling Uniformly

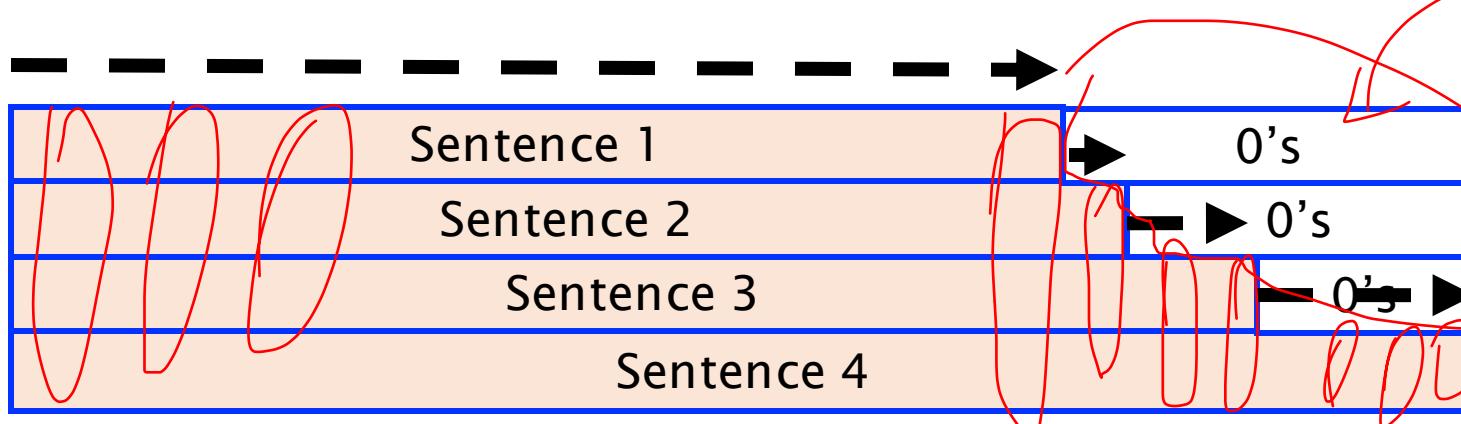
# Minibatch Stochastic Gradient Descent

## 2. Smarter Padding and Masking: *minimize the waste*



## 3. Smarter Padding and Smarter Stopping: *toward zero waste*

- *Drop a finished sentence from a minibatch*
- *Not as flexible...*



# Backpropagation through Time

How do we compute  $\nabla \mathcal{L}(\theta, X)$  ?

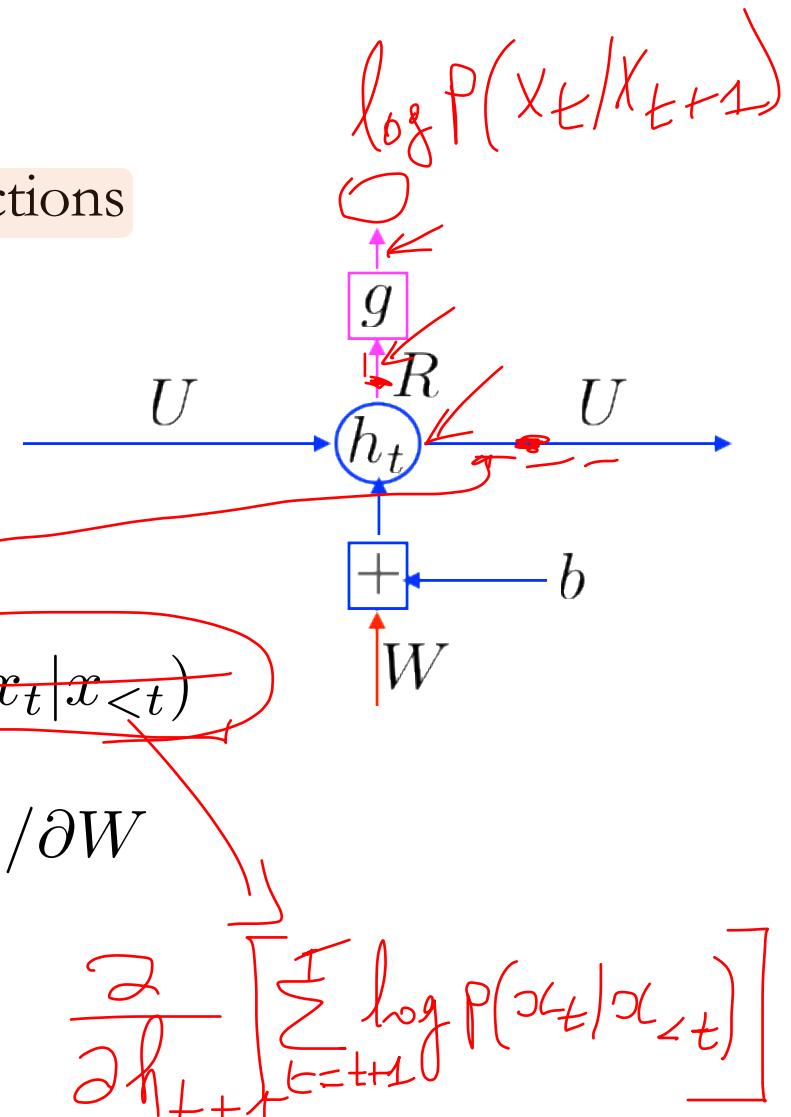
- Decompose the per-sample cost into per-step cost functions

$$\nabla \mathcal{L}(\theta, X) = \sum_{t=1}^T \nabla \log p(x_t | x_{<t}, \theta)$$

- Compute per-step cost function from time  $t = T$

- Cost derivative  $\partial \log p(x_t | x_{<t}) / \partial g$
- Gradient w.r.t.  $R : \times \partial g / \partial R$
- Gradient w.r.t.  $h_t : \times \partial g / \partial h_t + \partial h_{t+1} / \partial h_t \log p(x_t | x_{<t})$
- Gradient w.r.t.  $U : \times \partial h_t / \partial U$
- Gradient w.r.t.  $b$  and  $W : \times \partial h_t / \partial b$  and  $\times \partial h_t / \partial W$
- Accumulate the gradient and  $t \leftarrow t - 1$

Note: I'm abusing math a lot here!!



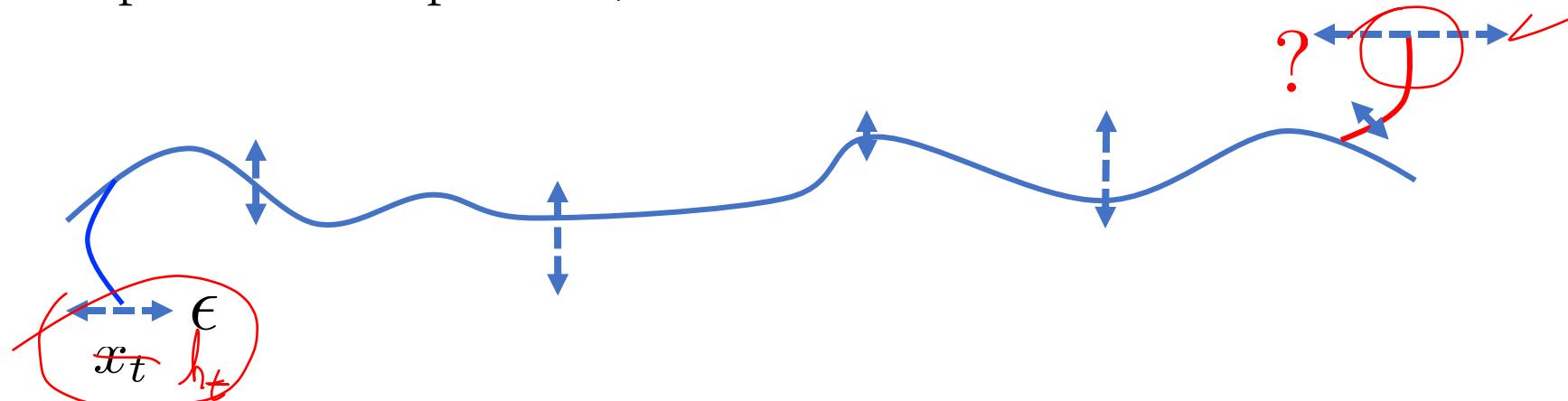
# Backpropagation through Time

*Intuitively, what's happening here?*

1. Measure the influence of the past on the future

$$\frac{\partial \log p(x_{t+n} | x_{<t+n})}{\partial h_t} = \frac{\partial \log p(x_{t+n} | x_{<t+n})}{\partial g} \frac{\partial g}{\partial h_{t+n}} \frac{\partial h_{t+n}}{\partial h_{t+n-1}} \dots \frac{\partial h_{t+1}}{\partial h_t} \frac{\partial h_t}{\partial x_t}$$

2. If I perturb the input at  $t$ , how does it affect  $p(x_{t+n} | x_{<t+n})$  ?



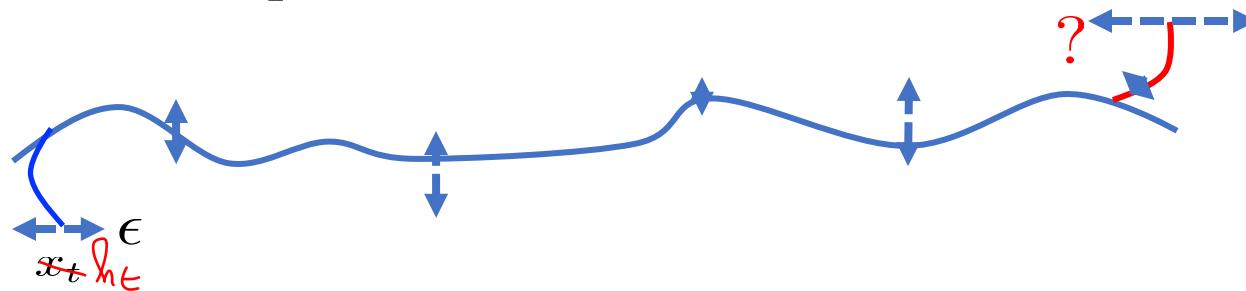
# Backpropagation through Time

*Intuitively, what's happening here?*

1. Measure the influence of the past on the future

$$\frac{\partial \log p(x_{t+n} | x_{<t+n})}{\partial h_t} = \frac{\partial \log p(x_{t+n} | x_{<t+n})}{\partial g} \frac{\partial g}{\partial h_{t+n}} \frac{\partial h_{t+n}}{\partial h_{t+n-1}} \dots \frac{\partial h_{t+1}}{\partial h_t} \frac{\partial h_t}{\partial x_t}$$

2. If I perturb the input at  $t$ , how does it affect  $p(x_{t+n} | x_{<t+n})$  ?



3. Change the parameters  $\theta$  so as to maximize  $p(x_{t+n} | x_{<t+n})$

# Backpropagation through Time

*Intuitively, what's happening here?*

1. Measure the influence of the past on the future

$$\frac{\partial \log p(x_{t+n} | x_{<t+n})}{\partial h_t} = \frac{\partial \log p(x_{t+n} | x_{<t+n})}{\partial g} \frac{\partial g}{\partial h_{t+n}} \frac{\partial h_{t+n}}{\partial h_{t+n-1}} \dots \frac{\partial h_{t+1}}{\partial h_t}$$

2. With a naïve transition function

$$f(h_{t-1}, x_{t-1}) = \tanh(W [x_{t-1}] + U h_{t-1} + b)$$

We get  $\frac{\partial J_{t+n}}{\partial h_t} = \frac{\partial J_{t+n}}{\partial g} \frac{\partial g}{\partial h_{t+N}} \underbrace{\prod_{n=1}^N U^\top}_{\text{transition matrix}} \text{diag} \left( \frac{\partial \tanh(a_{t+n})}{\partial a_{t+n}} \right)$

**Problematic!**

# Backpropagation through Time

Gradient either **vanishes** or **explodes**

- What happens?

$$\frac{\partial J_{t+n}}{\partial h_t} = \frac{\partial J_{t+n}}{\partial g} \frac{\partial g}{\partial h_{t+N}} \underbrace{\prod_{n=1}^N U^\top}_{\text{As we multiply this matrix det and}} \text{diag} \left( \frac{\partial \tanh(a_{t+n})}{\partial a_{t+n}} \right)$$

1. The gradient *likely* explodes if

(number slightly bigger than 1) over it norm will explode

$$e_{\max} \geq \frac{1}{\max \tanh'(x)} = 1$$

2. The gradient *likely vanishes* if

(number slightly smaller than 1)  $\Rightarrow$  it will exponentially converge to 1.

$$e_{\max} < \frac{1}{\max \tanh'(x)} = 1$$

$e_{\max}$  : largest eigenvalue of  $U$

# Backpropagation through Time

*Let the (norm of the) gradient explode!*

- “when gradients explode so does the curvature along  $v$ , leading to a wall in the error surface”

- Simple solution: Gradient Clipping

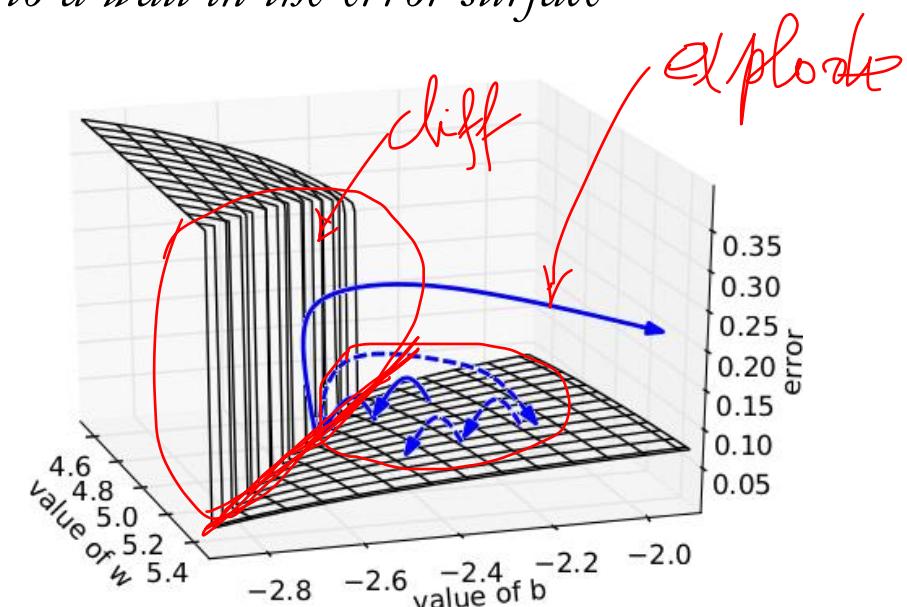
1. Norm clipping

$$\tilde{\nabla} \leftarrow \begin{cases} \frac{c}{\|\nabla\|} \nabla & \text{,if } \|\nabla\| \geq c \\ \nabla & \text{,otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2. Element-wise clipping

$$\nabla_i \leftarrow \min(c, \nabla_i), \text{ for all } i \in \{1, \dots, \dim \nabla\}$$

*we don't trust the norm of the gradient we only care of the direction.*



Pascanu et al. (2013)

*TRUST REGION OPTIMIZATION METHOD*

# Backpropagation through Time

Vanishing gradient is super-problematic

- We cannot tell whether
  1. no long-term dependency between  $t$  and  $t+n$  in data, or
  2. wrong configuration of parameters:

*(on say the difference)*

$$e_{\max}(U) < \frac{1}{\max \tanh'(x)} \quad ] \text{ gradient will vanish anyway}$$

- We only observe  $\left\| \frac{\partial h_{t+N}}{\partial h_t} \right\| = \left\| \prod_{n=1}^N U^\top \text{diag} \left( \frac{\partial \tanh(a_{t+n})}{\partial a_{t+n}} \right) \right\| \rightarrow 0$

may be the data was generated  
using Markovian process?  
a word depend only by  
it's previous word

# Backpropagation through Time

*Vanishing gradient is super-problematic*

- Let's just say there is such a long-term dependency. Then,
  - “we … force the network to increase the norm of  $\frac{\partial h_{t+N}}{\partial h_t}$  at the expense of larger errors”  
Pascanu et al. (2013)
- This can be done by regularizing

$$\sum_{t=1}^T \left( 1 - \frac{\left\| \frac{\partial \tilde{C}}{\partial \mathbf{h}_{t+1}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{h}_{t+1}}{\partial \mathbf{h}_t} \right\|}{\left\| \frac{\partial \tilde{C}}{\partial \mathbf{h}_{t+1}} \right\|} \right)^2$$

- This doesn't seem like a great nor easy way to deal with the vanishing gradient.

# Gated Recurrent Unit

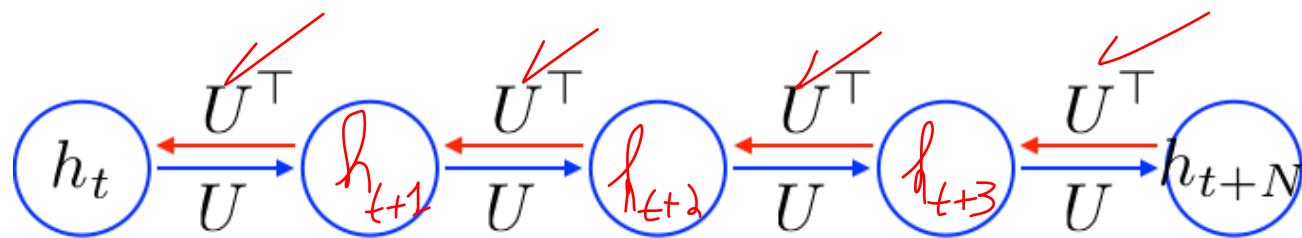
- Perhaps, the problem is with the naïve transition function

$$f(h_{t-1}, x_{t-1}) = \tanh(W [x_{t-1}] + Uh_{t-1} + b)$$

- With it, the temporal derivative is

$$\frac{\partial h_{t+1}}{\partial h_t} = U^\top \frac{\partial \tanh(a)}{\partial a}$$

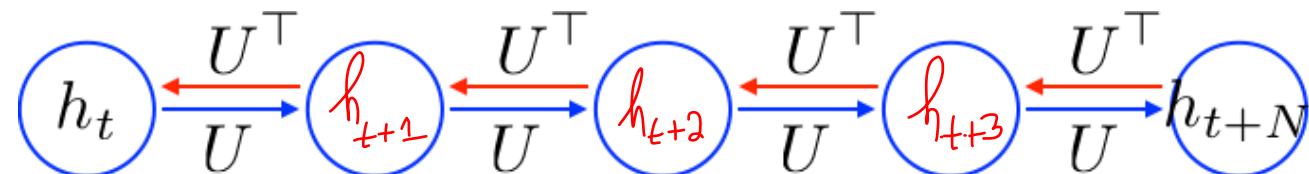
- It implies that the error must backpropagate through all the intermediate nodes:



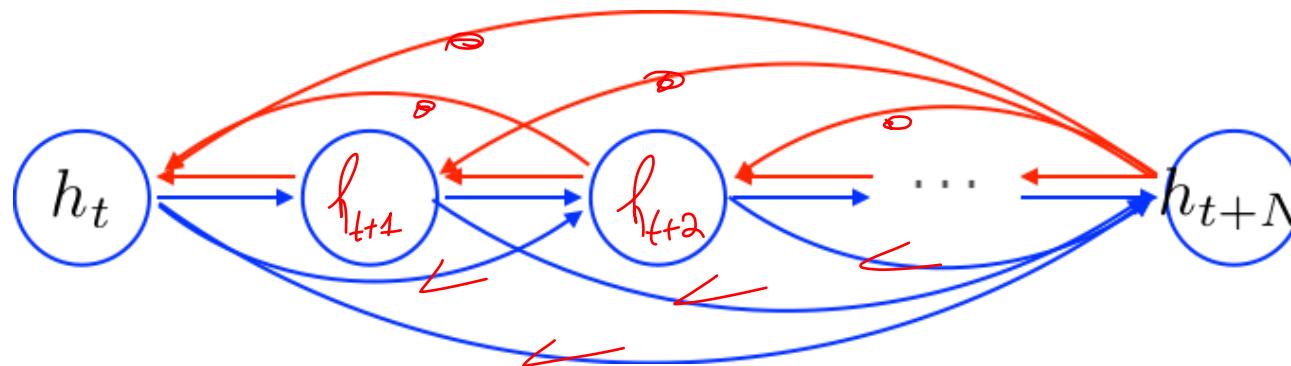
# Gated Recurrent Unit

$$f(h_{t-1}, x_{t-1}) = \tanh(W [x_{t-1}] + Uh_{t-1} + b)$$

- It implies that the error must backpropagate through all the intermediate nodes:



- Perhaps we can create shortcut connections.



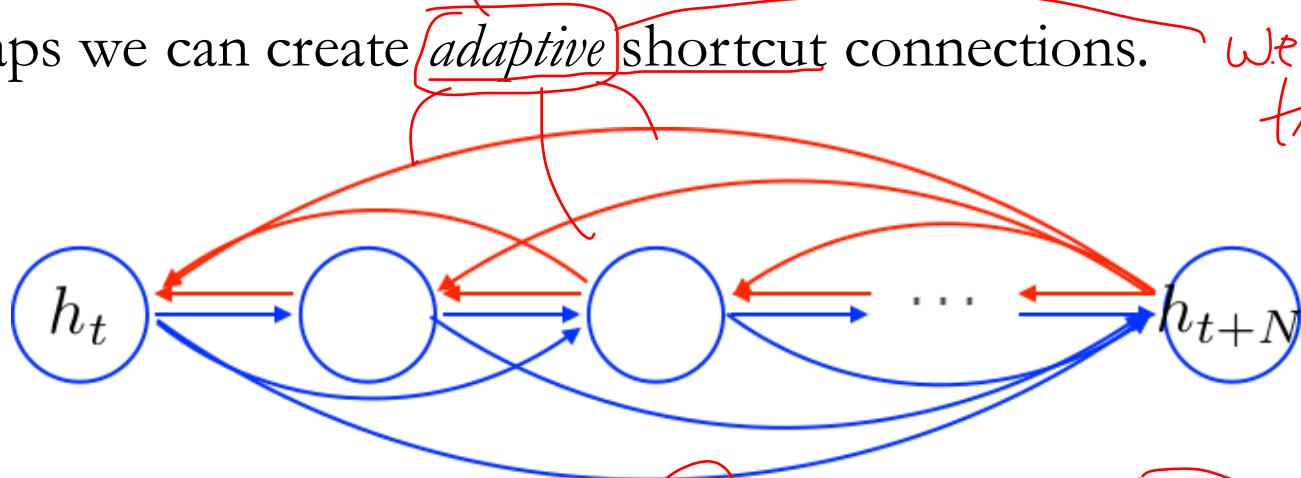
# Gated Recurrent Unit

just introducing shortcut connex.  
incrs. the number of parameters.

$$f(h_{t-1}, x_{t-1}) = \tanh(W [x_{t-1}] + Uh_{t-1} + b)$$

- Perhaps we can create *adaptive* shortcut connections.

We will them only introduce them when they are necessary



$$f(h_{t-1}, x_{t-1}) = u_t \odot \tilde{h}_t + (1 - u_t) \odot h_{t-1}$$

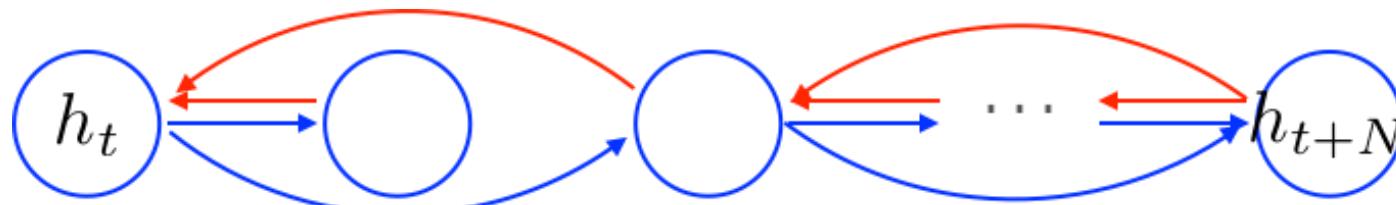
- Candidate Update  $\tilde{h}_t = \tanh(W [x_{t-1}] + Uh_{t-1} + b)$
- Update gate  $u_t = \sigma(W_u [x_{t-1}] + U_u h_{t-1} + b_u) \in [0, 1]$

N.N.

# Gated Recurrent Unit

$$f(h_{t-1}, x_{t-1}) = \tanh(W [x_{t-1}] + Uh_{t-1} + b)$$

- We also let the network prune unnecessary shortcuts *adaptively*.



$$f(h_{t-1}, x_{t-1}) = u_t \odot \tilde{h}_t + (1 - u_t) \odot h_{t-1}$$

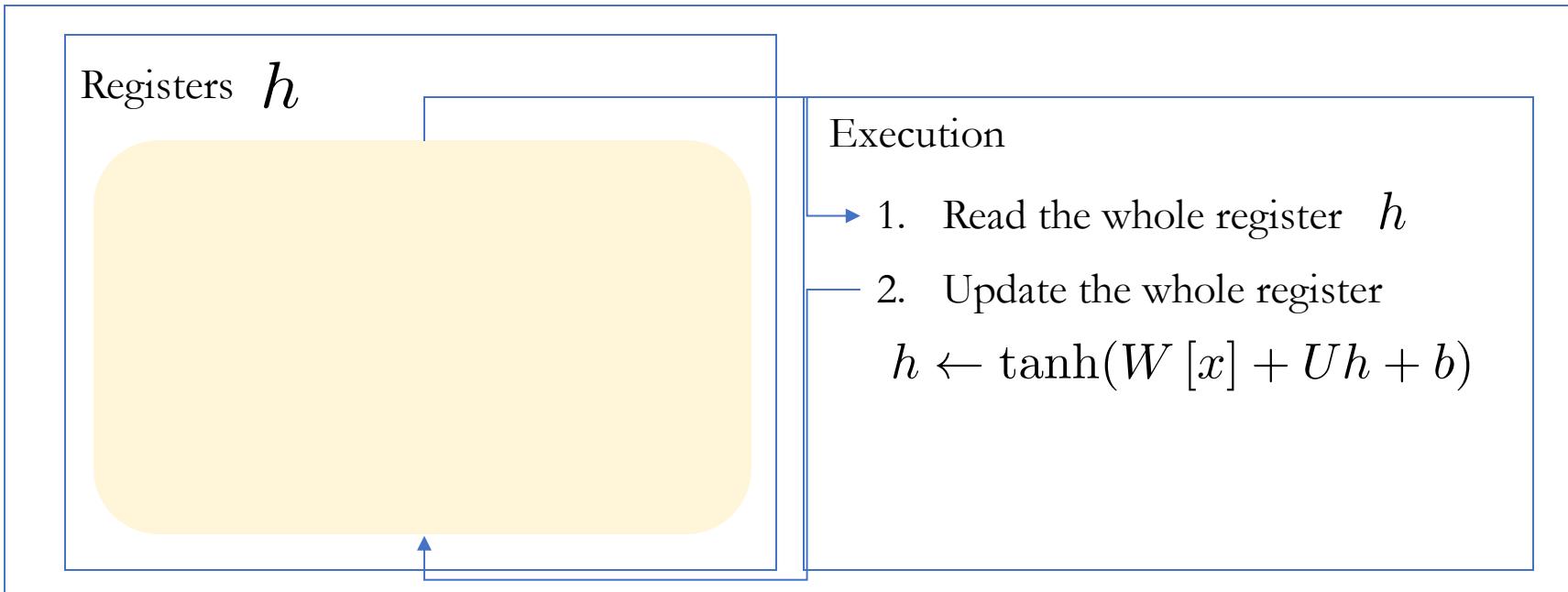
- Candidate Update  $\tilde{h}_t = \tanh(Wx_{t-1} + U(r_t \odot h_{t-1}) + b)$
- Reset gate  $r_t = \sigma(W_r x_{t-1} + U_r h_{t-1} + b_r)$
- Update gate  $u_t = \sigma(W_u [x_{t-1}] + U_u h_{t-1} + b_u)$

optional

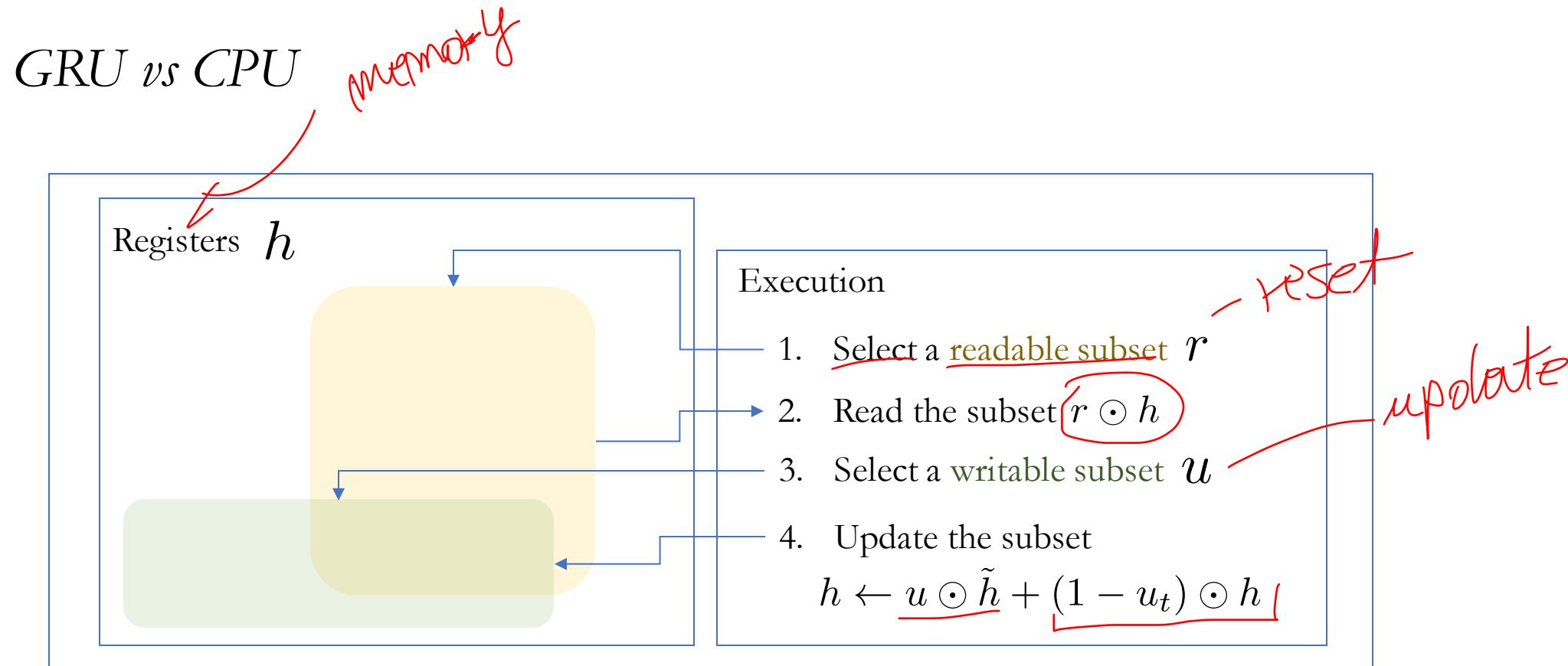
(Param by  $N, N$ )

# Gated Recurrent Unit

*tanh-RNN vs CPU*



# Gated Recurrent Unit



Clearly gated recurrent units\* are much more realistic.

\* By gated recurrent units, I refer to both LSTM and GRU.

# Machine Translation: a Natural Extension of Neural Language Modeling

You have already learned how to build it.

# Machine Translation

- Input: a sentence written in a source language  $L_S$
  - Output: a corresponding sentence in a target language  $L_T$
  - Problem statement:
    - Supervised learning: given the input sentence, output its translation
    - Compute the conditional distribution over all possible translation given the input
- $$p(\underbrace{Y = (y_1, \dots, y_T)}_{\text{Target}} | \underbrace{X = (x_1, \dots, x_{T'})}_{\text{Source}})$$
- *We have already learned every necessary ingredient for building a full neural machine translation system.*

# Token Representation – One-hot Vectors

1. Build source and target vocabularies of unique tokens
  - For each of source and target languages,
    1. Tokenize: separate punctuations, normalize punctuations, ...  
e.g., “I’m going” => (“I”, “m”, “going”), replace ‘,’ , ` into “ ”, ...  
use Spacy.io, NLTK or Moses’ tokenizer.
    2. Subword segmentation: segment each token into a sequence of subwords  
e.g., “going” => (“go”, “ing”), use BPE [Sennrich et al., 2015]
    3. Collect all unique subwords, sort them by their frequencies (descending) and assign indices.
2. Transform each subword token into a corresponding one-hot vector.\*

\* Of course, don’t do it offline. Transform them online.

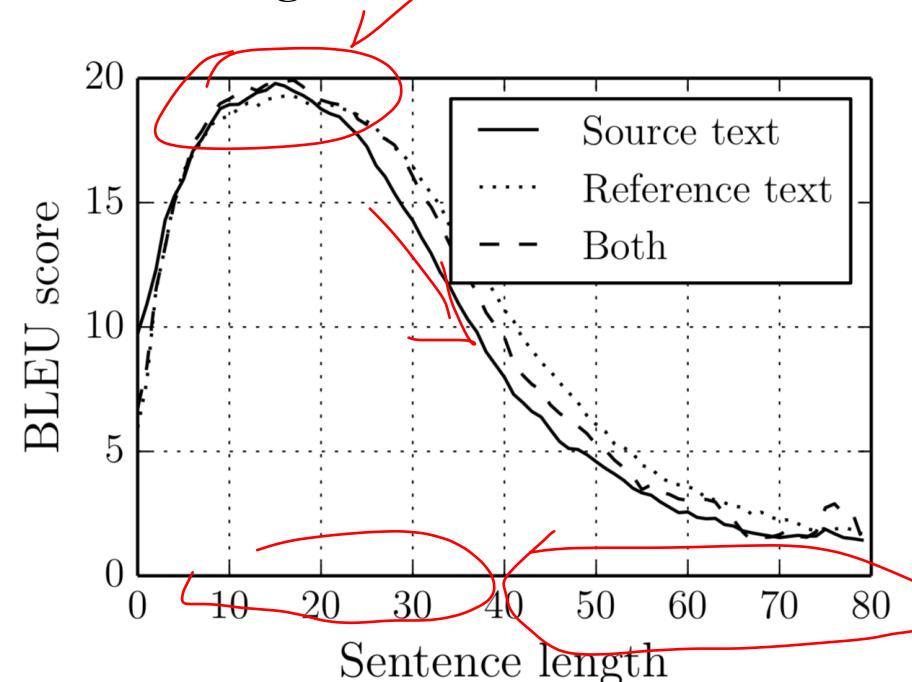
# Encoder – Source Sentence Representation

- Encode the source sentence into a set of sentence representation vectors
  - # of encoded vectors is proportional to the source sentence length: often same.  
 $\underline{H} = (\underline{h_1}, \dots, \underline{h_{T'}})$
  - Recurrent networks have been widely used [Cho et al., 2014; Sutskever et al., 2014], but CNN [Gehring et al., 2017; Kalchbrenner&Blunsom, 2013] and self-attention [Vaswani et al., 2017] are used increasingly more often. See Lecture 2 for details.
- We do not want to collapse them into a single vector.
  - Collapsing often corresponds to information loss.
  - Increasingly more difficult to encode the entire source sentence into a single vector, as the sentence length increases [Cho et al., 2014b].
  - We didn't know initially until [Bahdanau et al., 2015].

Alternative to not  
compressing all the  
Source Sentence in a Vect.

# Encoder – Source Sentence Representation

- Encode the source sentence into a set of sentence representation vectors
- We do not want to collapse them into a single vector. (RNN,  $\rightarrow \infty$ )
  - Increasingly more difficult to encode the entire source sentence into a single vector, as the sentence length increases [Cho et al., 2014b].



# Encoder – Source Sentence Representation

- Encode the source sentence into a set of sentence representation vectors
- We do not want to collapse them into a single vector.
  - Increasingly more difficult to encode the entire source sentence into a single vector, as the sentence length increases [Cho et al., 2014b].
  - When collapsed, the system fails to translate a long sentence correctly.
    - **Source:** *An admitting privilege is the right of a doctor to admit a patient to a hospital or a medical centre to carry out a diagnosis or a procedure, based on his status as a health care worker at a hospital.*
    - **When collapsed:** *Un privilège d'admission est le droit d'un médecin de reconnaître un patient à l'hôpital ou un centre médical d'un diagnostic ou de prendre un diagnostic en fonction de son état de santé.*
  - The system translates reasonable up to a certain point, but starts drifting away.

# Decoder – Language Modelling

- Autoregressive Language modelling with an infinite context  $n \rightarrow \infty$

- Larger context is necessary to generate a coherent sentence.
  - Semantics could be largely provided by the source sentence, but syntactic properties need to be handled by the language model directly.
- Recurrent networks, self-attention and (dilated) convolutional networks
  - Causal structure must be followed.
  - See Lecture 9

- **Conditional** Language modelling

- The context based on which the next token is predicted is **two-fold**

$$p(Y|X) = \prod_{t=1}^T p(y_t|y_{<t}, X)$$

# Decoder – Conditional Language Modelling

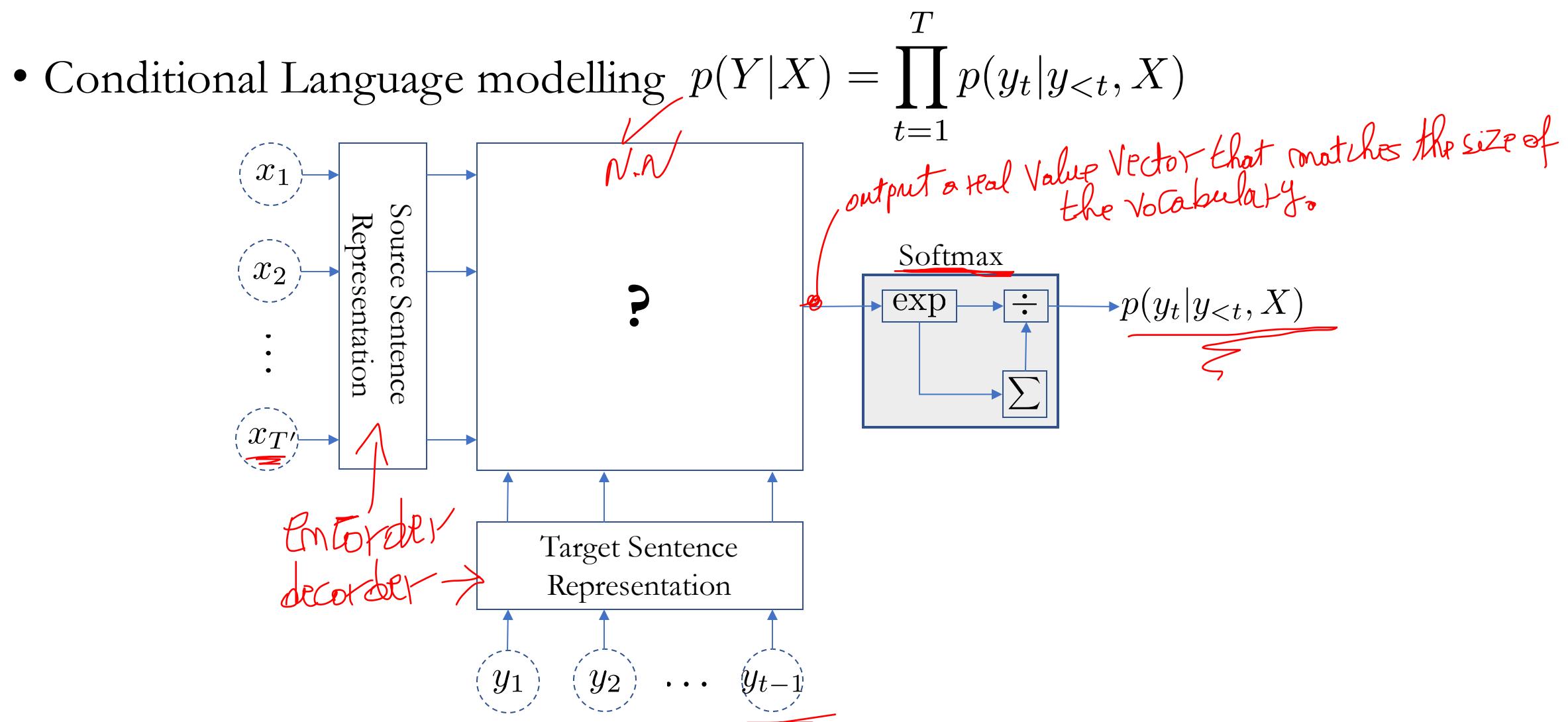
- Conditional Language modelling

- The context based on which the next token is predicted is **two-fold**.

$$p(Y|X) = \prod_{t=1}^T p(y_t | y_{<t}, X)$$

- Supervised learning:  $T$  input-output training pairs per sentence
    - Input: the entire source sentence  $X$  and the preceding target tokens  $y_{<t}$
    - Output: the next token  $y_t$

# Decoder – Conditional Language Modelling

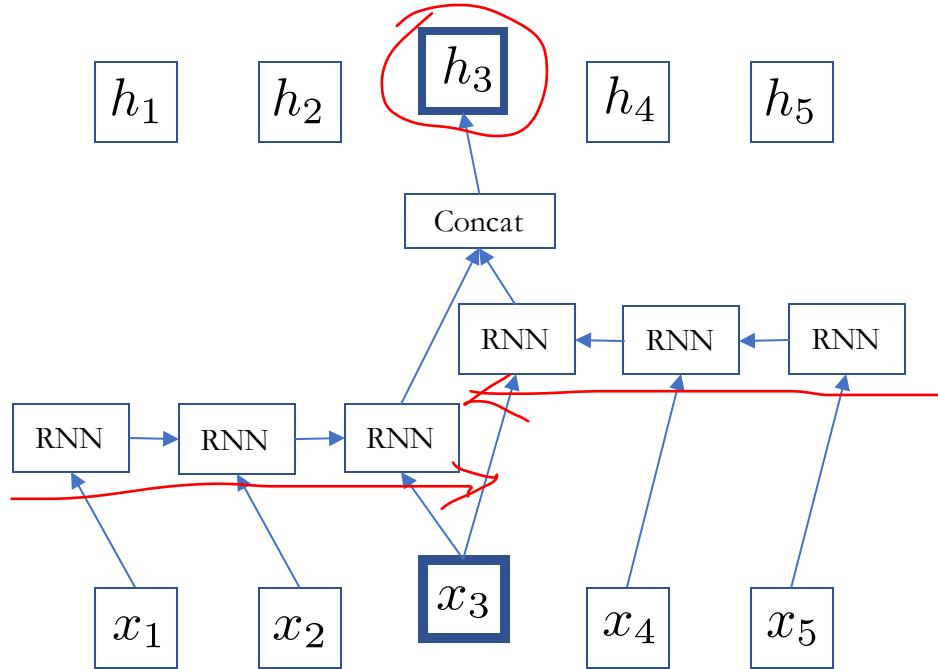


# RNN Neural Machine Translation

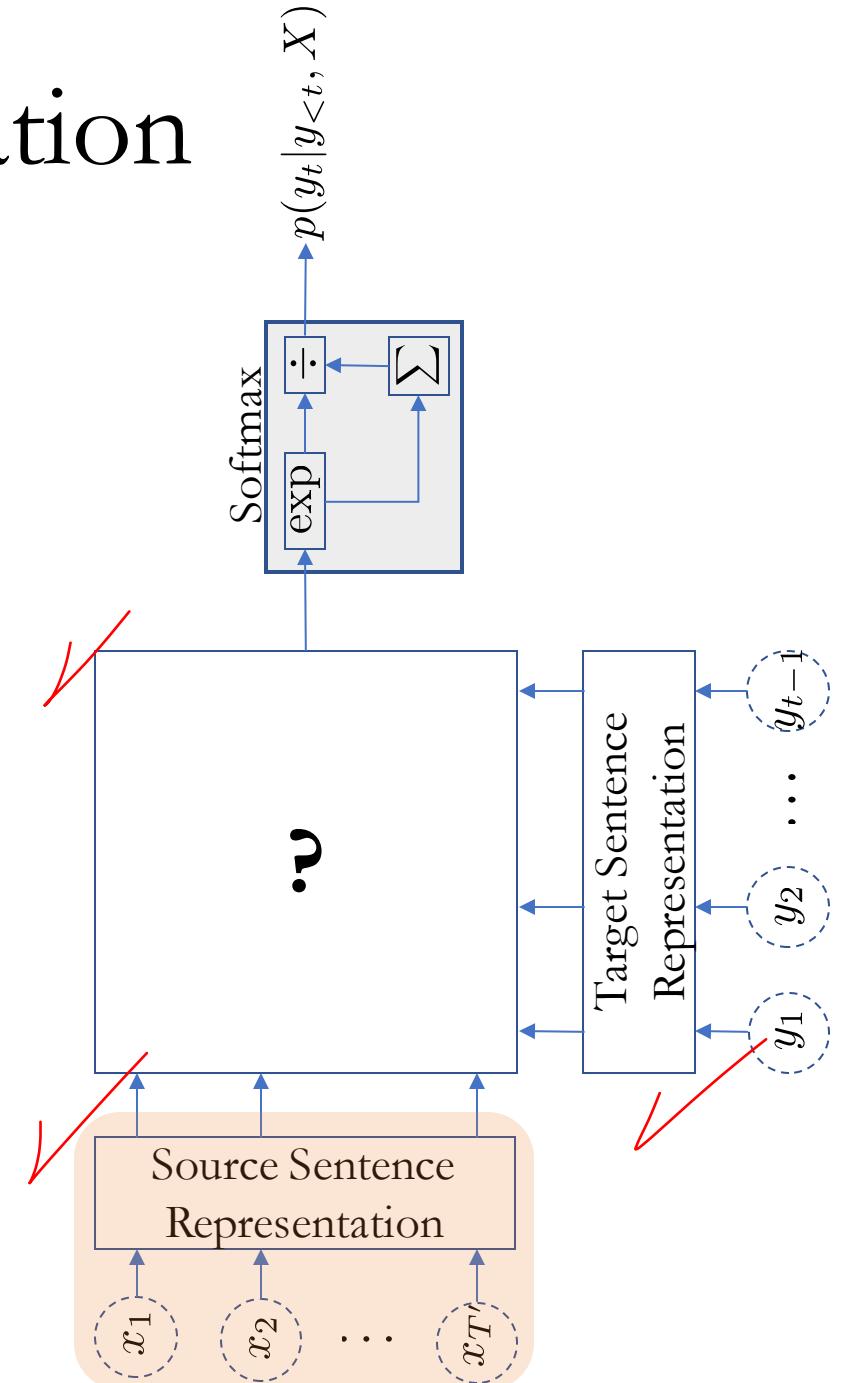
[Bahdanau et al., 2015]

## 1. Source sentence representation

- A stack of bidirectional RNN's



- The extracted vector at each location is a context-dependent vector representation.

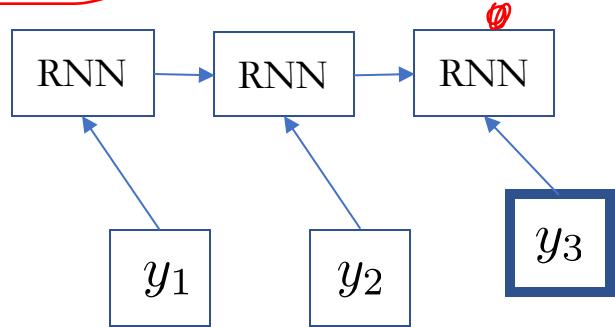


# RNN Neural Machine Translation

[Bahdanau et al., 2015]

## 2. Target prefix representation

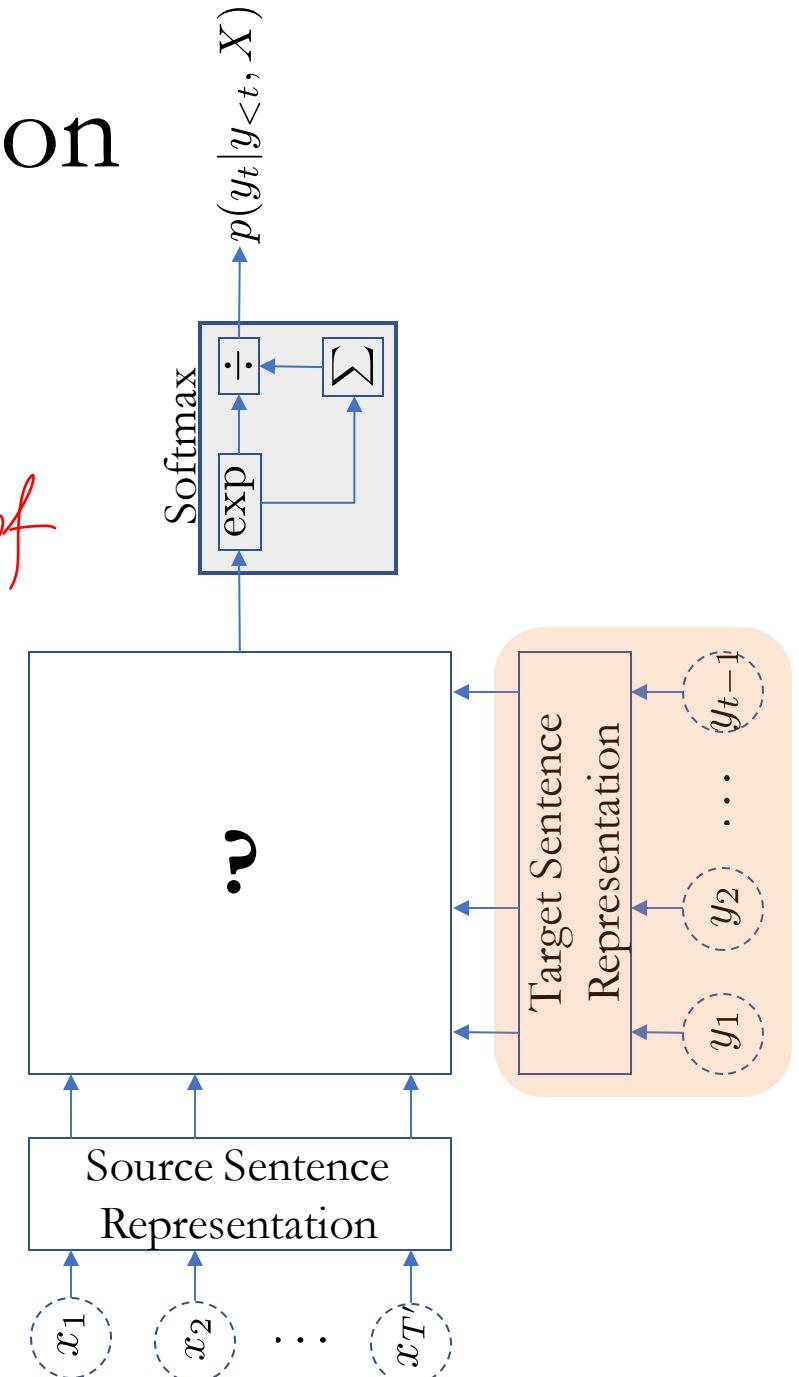
- A unidirectional recurrent network



- Compression of the target prefix

$$z_t = \text{RNN}_{\text{decoder}}(z_{t-1}, y_{t-1})$$

- Summarizes what has been translated so far

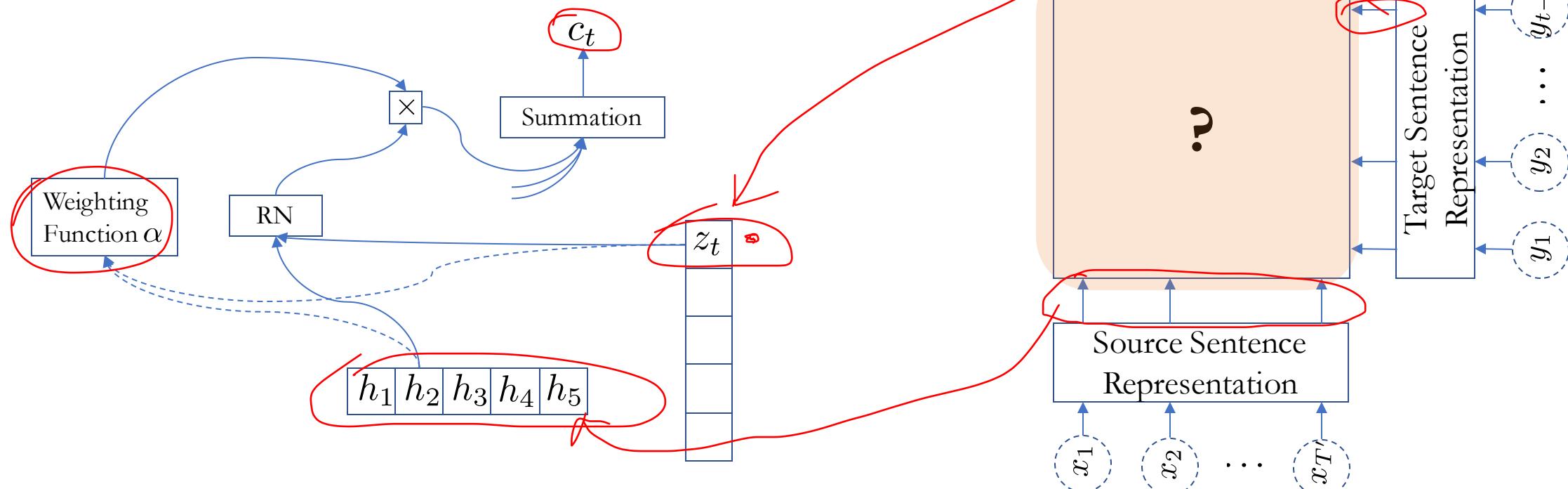


# RNN Neural Machine Translation

[Bahdanau et al., 2015]

## 3. Attention mechanism

- Which part of the source sentence is relevant for predicting the next target token?
- Recall self-attention from Lecture 2

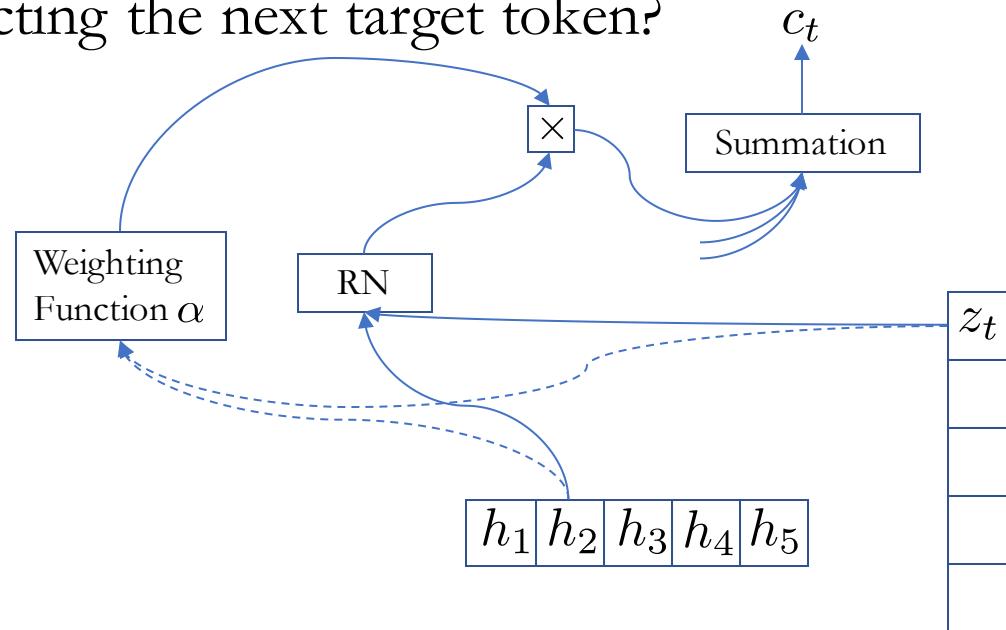


# RNN Neural Machine Translation

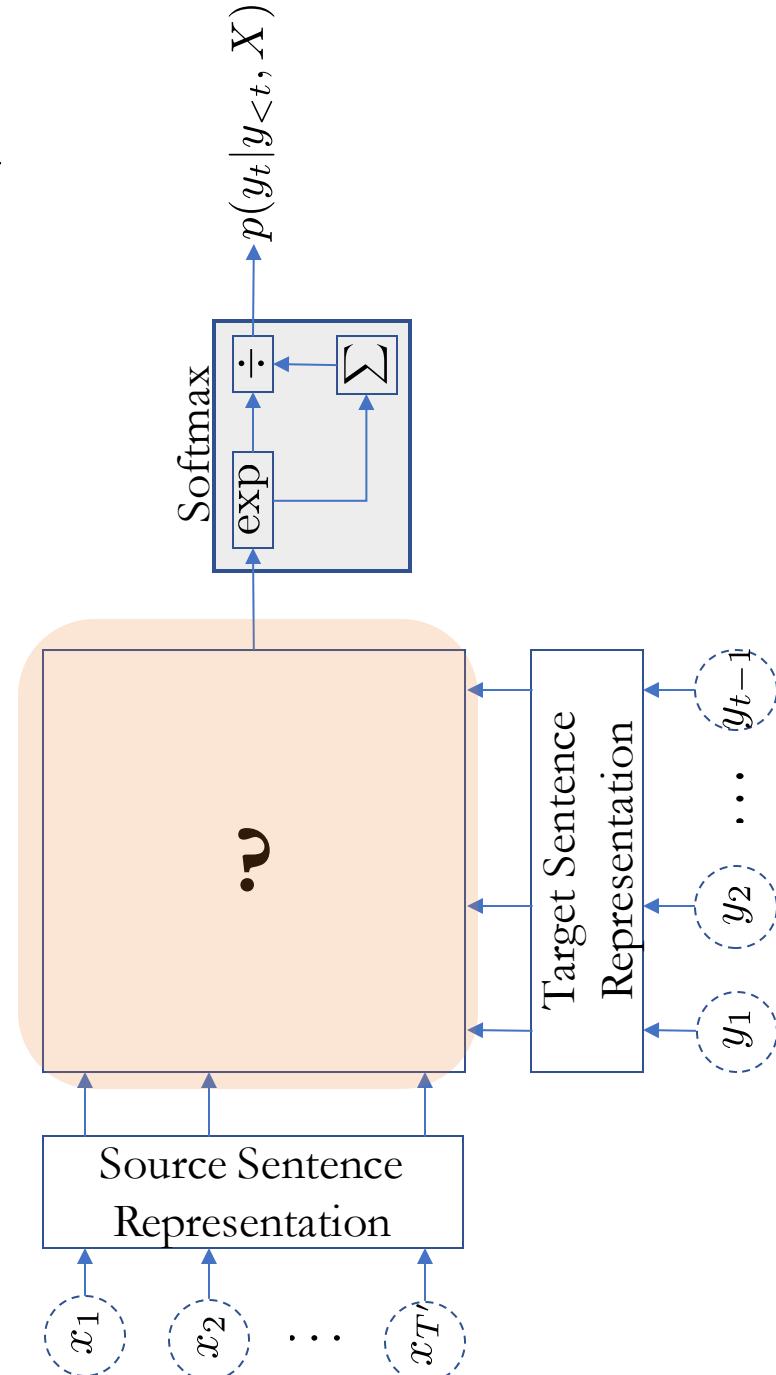
[Bahdanau et al., 2015]

## 3. Attention mechanism

- Which part of the source sentence is relevant for predicting the next target token?



- Time-dependent source context vector  $c_t$

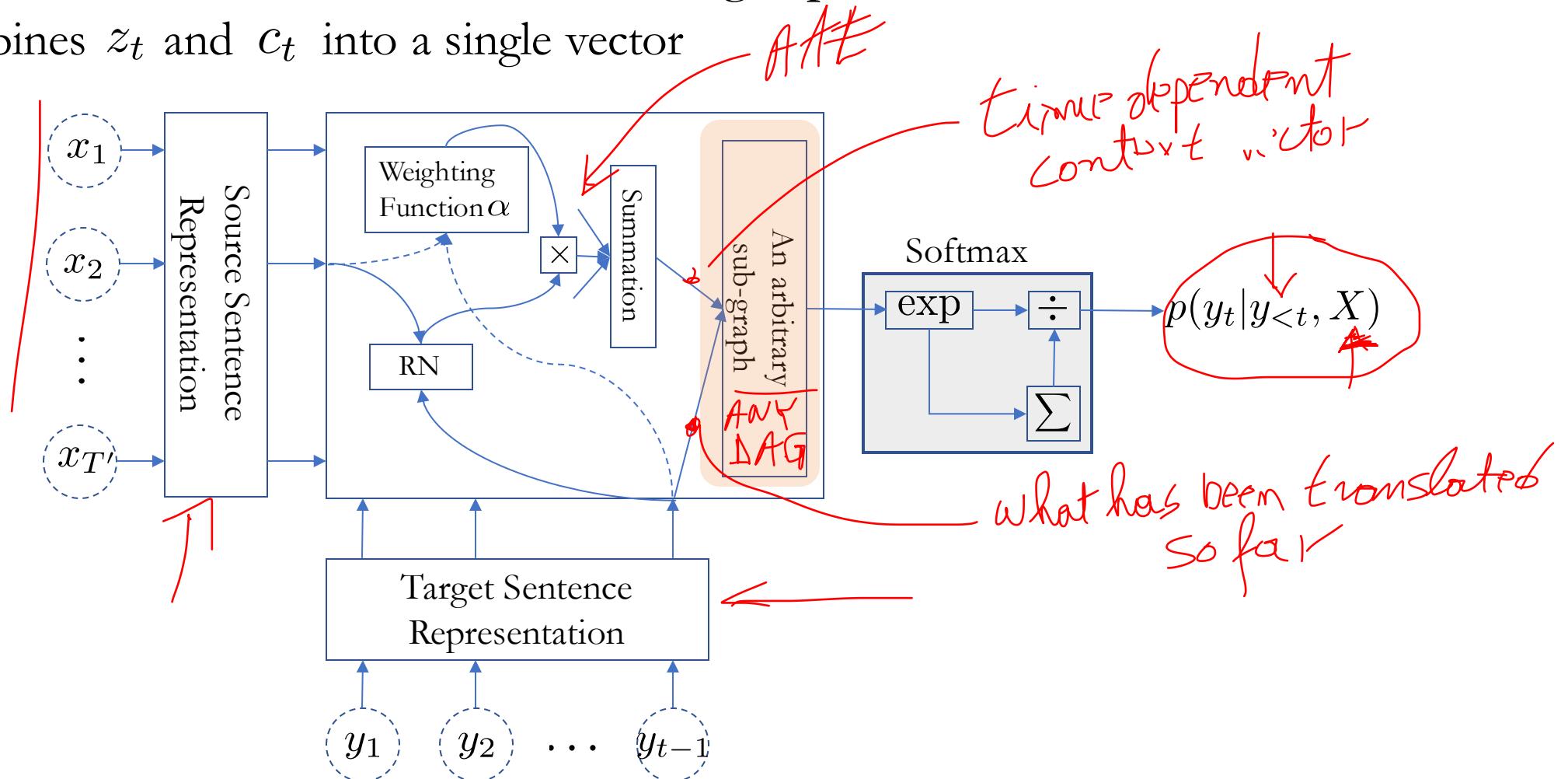


# RNN Neural Machine Translation

[Bahdanau et al., 2015]

4. Fuse the source context vector and target prefix vector

- Combines  $z_t$  and  $c_t$  into a single vector



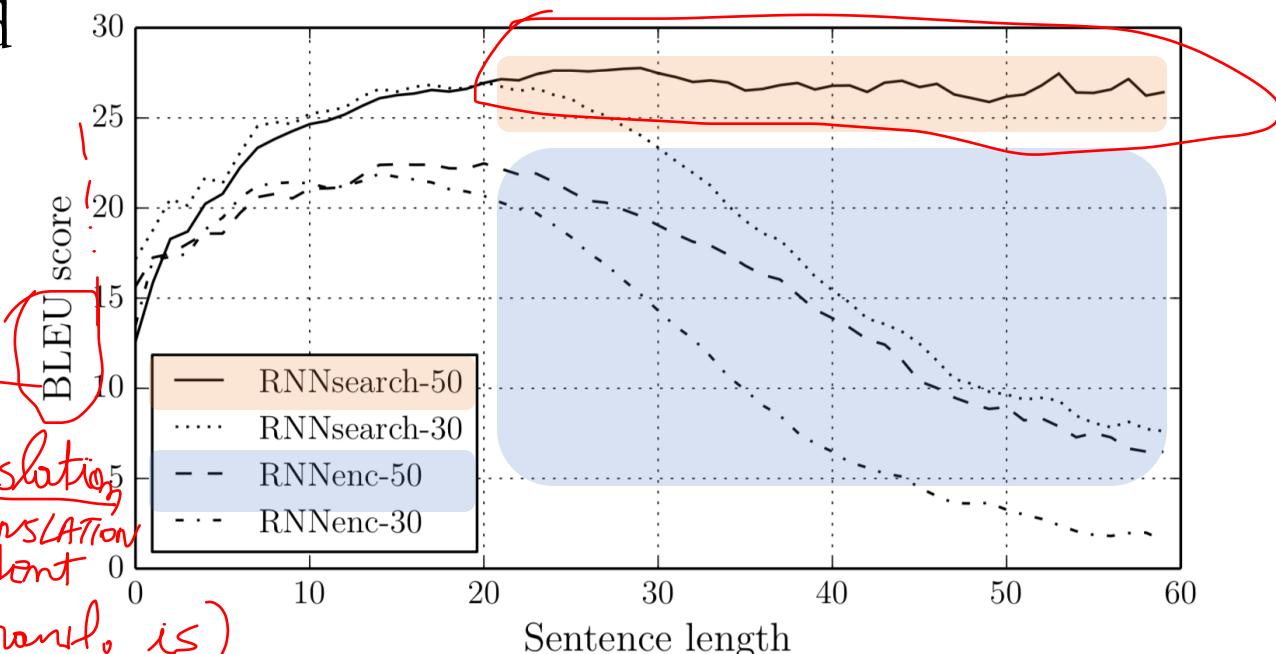
# RNN Neural Machine Translation

- Conceptual process
  1. Encode: read the entire source sentence to know what to translate
  2. Attention: at each step, decide which source token(s) to translate next
  3. Decode: based on what has been translated and what need to be translated, predict the next target token.
  4. Repeat 2-3 until the <end-of-sentence> special token is generated.

# RNN Neural Machine Translation

- The model is not pressured to compress the entire source sentence into a single, fixed-size vector:
  - Greatly improves the translation quality, especially of long sentences.
  - Much more efficient: less parameters are necessary.
- Bahdanau et al. [2015] showed for the first time the machine translation purely based on neural networks could be as good as then-state-of-the-art alternatives (e.g., PBMT).

→ Compare the prediction to human translation  
BLEU MEASURE the geometric average of them gram precision REF TRANSLATION weighted by same value (that tell us how wrong a transl. is)



# RNN Neural Machine Translation

- **Source:** *An admitting privilege is the right of a doctor to admit a patient to a hospital or a medical centre to carry out a diagnosis or a procedure, based on his status as a health care worker at a hospital.*
- **When collapsed:** *Un privilège d'admission est le droit d'un médecin de reconnaître ✓ un patient à l'hôpital ou un centre médical d'un diagnostic ou de prendre un diagnostic en fonction de son état de santé.*
- **RNNSearch:** *Un privilège d'admission est le droit d'un médecin d'admettre un ✓ patient à un hôpital ou un centre médical pour effectuer un diagnostic ou une procédure, selon son statut de travailleur des soins de santé à l'hôpital.*

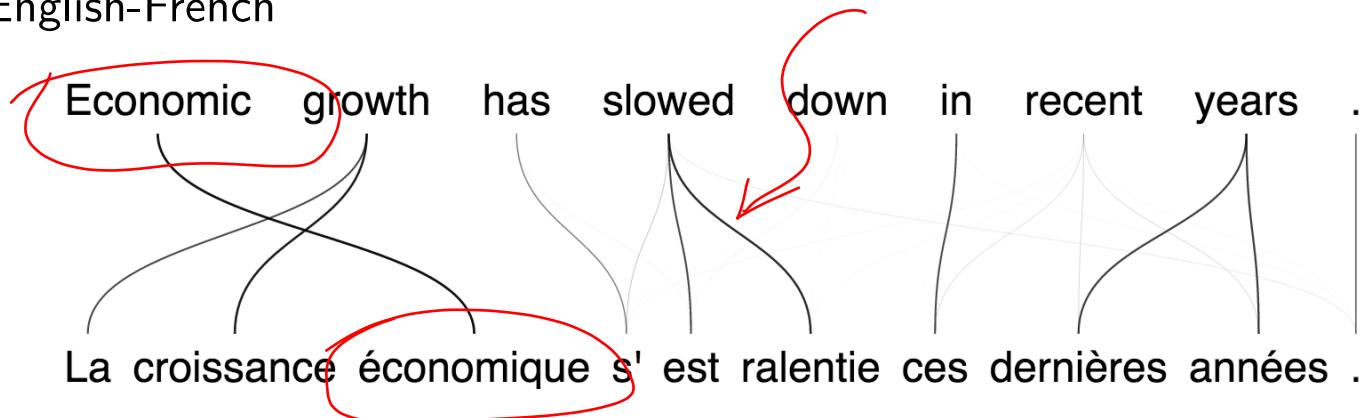
# RNN Neural Machine Translation

- **Source:** *An admitting privilege is the right of a doctor to admit a patient to a hospital or a medical centre to carry out a diagnosis or a procedure, based on his status as a health care worker at a hospital.*
- **When collapsed:** *Un privilège d'admission est le droit d'un médecin de reconnaître un patient à l'hôpital ou un centre médical d'un diagnostic ou de prendre un diagnostic en fonction de son état de santé.*
- **RNNSearch:** *Un privilège d'admission est le droit d'un médecin d'admettre un patient à un hôpital ou un centre médical pour effectuer un diagnostic ou une procédure, selon son statut de travailleur des soins de santé à l'hôpital.*

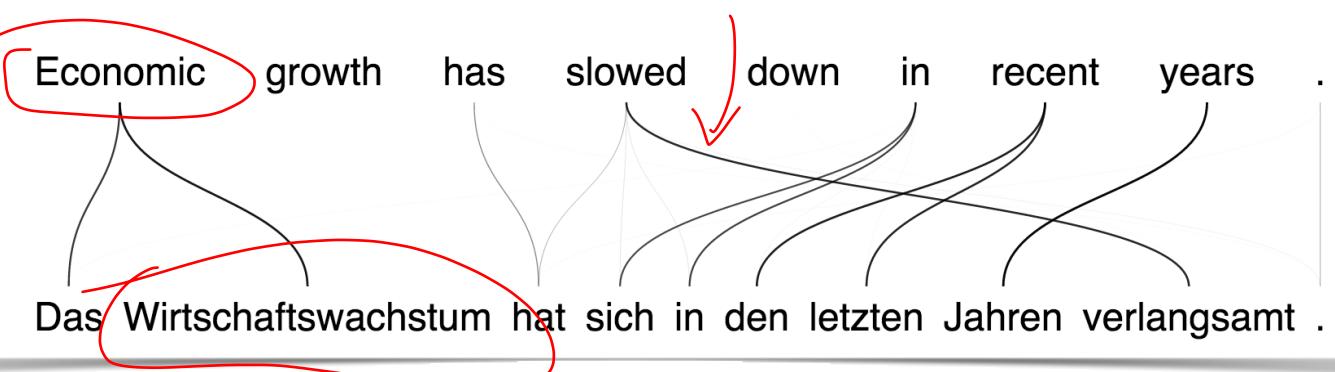
# RNN Neural Machine Translation

- Sensible alignment between source and target tokens
- Capture long-range reordering/dependencies
- Without strong supervision on the alignment
  - Weakly supervised learning

English-French



English-German



A Neural Network for Machine Translation, at Production Scale

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Posted by Quoc V.

Ten years ago, we developed a Deep Neural Network-based Machine Translation system that has since become the backbone of our machine intelligence platform, improving machine translation quality and speed.

Today, we're excited to announce the launch of Amazon Translate, a new service that provides natural and fluent language translation for businesses of all sizes.

## Amazon Translate

Natural and fluent language translation

Try the Preview

# Systran launches neural machine translation engine

Language barriers represent one of the biggest challenges in business. Now, thanks to advances in artificial intelligence, we can overcome them.

By Eileen Brown for Social Business | November 1, 2016



Microsoft Translator is now powering all speech translation through state-of-the-art neural networks.

# Inside the EPO's Machine-Powered Mission to Unlock Europe's Multilingual Patents

by Eden Estopace on June 6, 2017



Adoption of Neural Machine Translation (NMT) in production environments is gathering pace. In a blog post on May 15,

## Booking.com Builds on Harvard Framework to Run Neural MT at Scale

by Eden Estopace on July 31, 2017



Three major trends shaping the language technology space converged at Booking.com in what is likely a harbinger of things to come in the language industry.

'ork based

Facebook is an online social networking service that allows its users to connect with friends, family, and others, as well as make new connections.

Share 461



# In practice,

- Many excellent open-source packages exist:
  - Marian-NMT <https://mariannmt.github.io/>
    - Compute backend: C++
    - Maximal efficiency
    - Supported by Microsoft Translate
  - FairSeq <https://github.com/facebookresearch/fairseq>
    - Compute backend: PyTorch
    - Supported by Facebook AI Research
  - Nematus <https://github.com/EdinburghNLP/nematus>
    - Compute backend: TensorFlow (originally Theano)
    - Supported by U. Edinburgh and U. Zurich (Rico Sennrich)

# In practice,

- Many new architectures are being proposed constantly
- ~~Convolutional sequence to sequence models~~ [Gehring et al., 2017]
  - Encoder: CNN-based sentence representation
  - Decoder: CNN-based conditional language model
- Transformers [Vaswani et al., 2017]
  - Encoder: Self-attention based sentence representation
  - Decoder: Self-attention based conditional language model
- It has been five years only, and a long road lies ahead...

*not really used anymore*

# Attention Mechanism

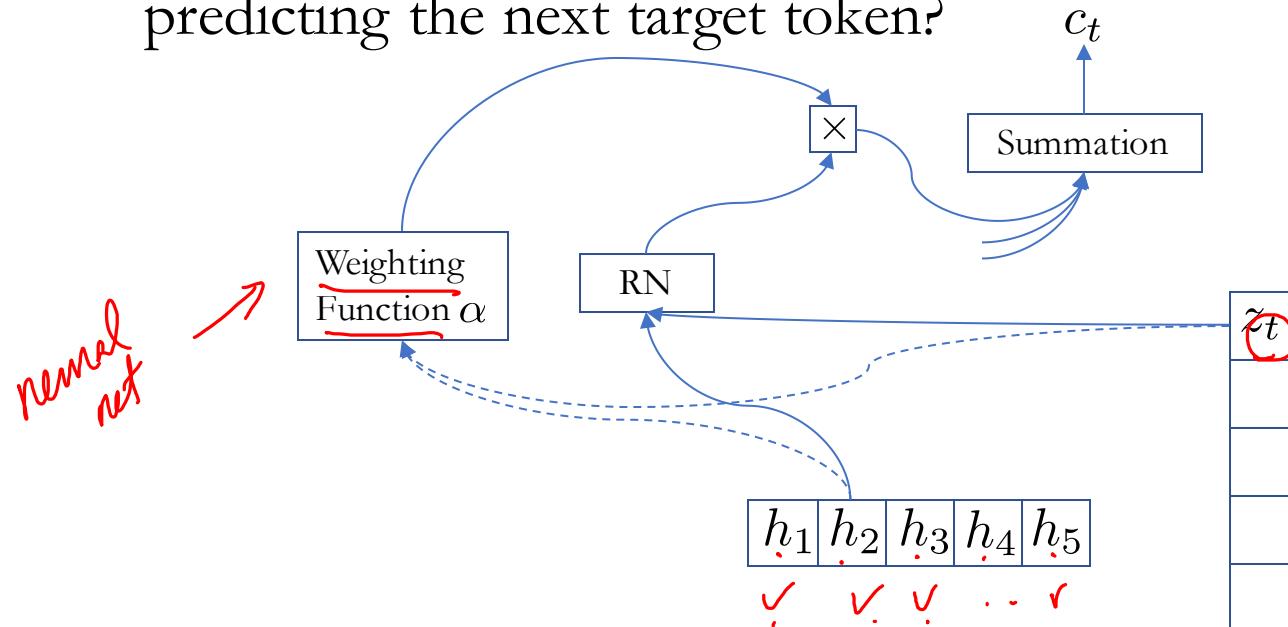
Delving deeper into the attention mechanism

# RNN Neural Machine Translation

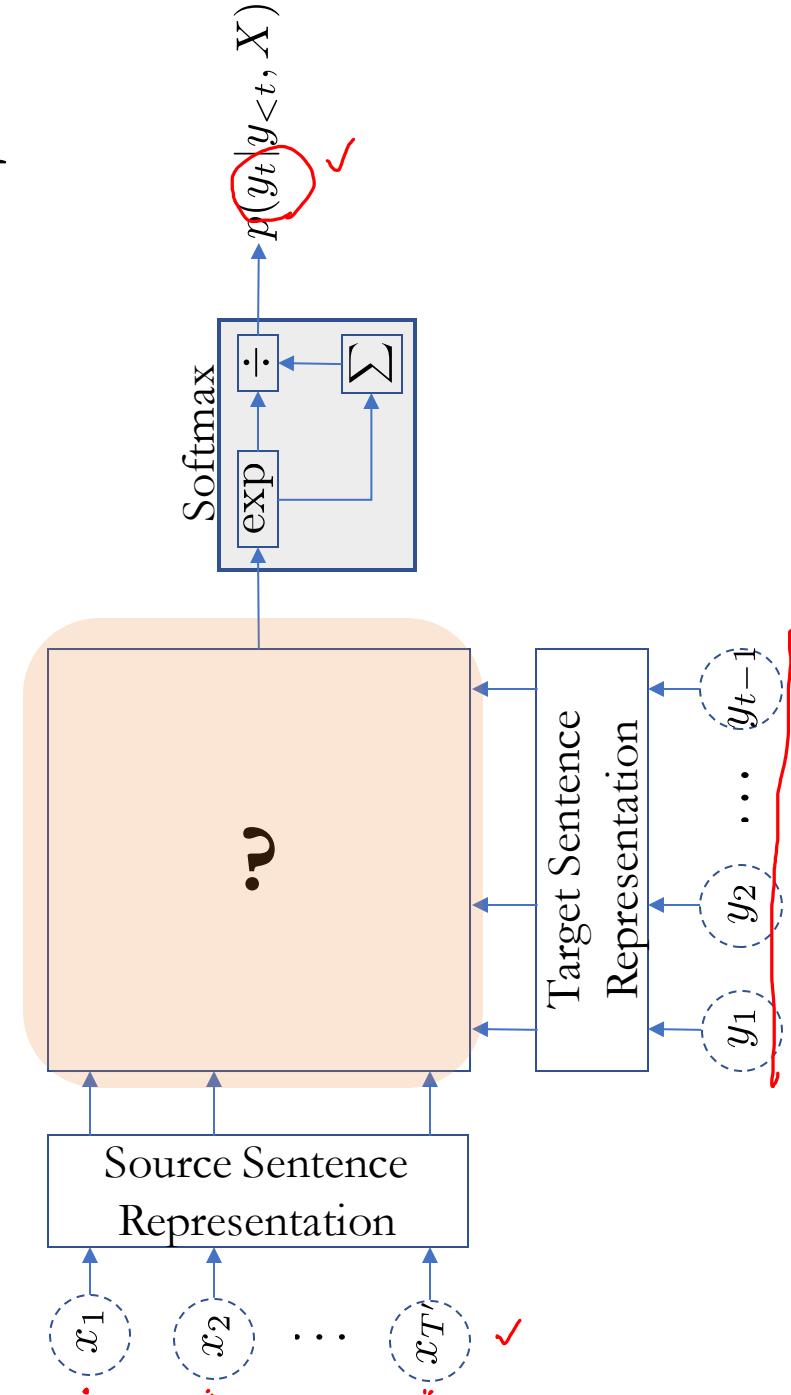
[Bahdanau et al., 2015]

## 3. Attention mechanism

- Which part of the source sentence is relevant for predicting the next target token?



- Time-dependent source context vector  $c_t$



# Gated recurrent units to attention

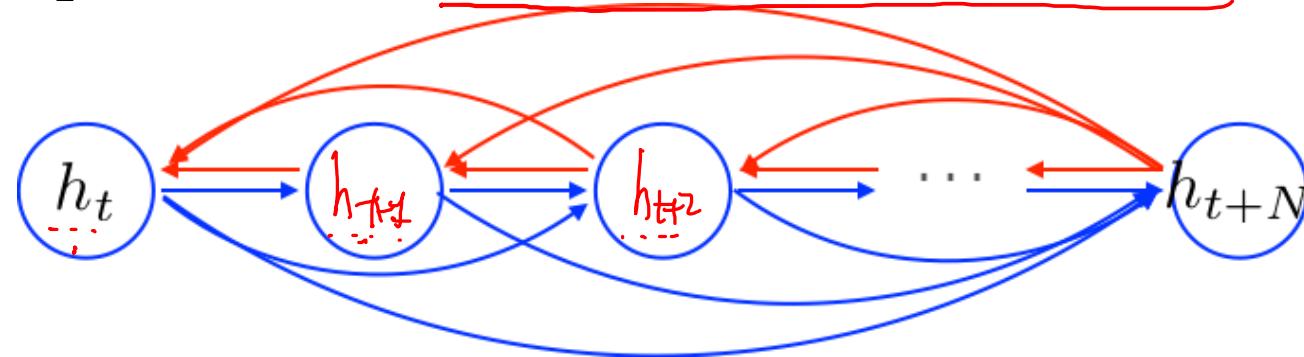
- A key idea behind LSTM and GRU is the additive update

$$h_t = u_t \odot h_{t-1} + (1 - u_t) \odot \tilde{h}_t, \text{ where } \tilde{h}_t = f(x_t, h_{t-1}) = \tanh(W[x_t] + U[h_{t-1}] + b)$$

$h_t = h_t \leftarrow \text{naive transition}$

*(long short-term memory)*

- This additive update creates linear short-cut connections.

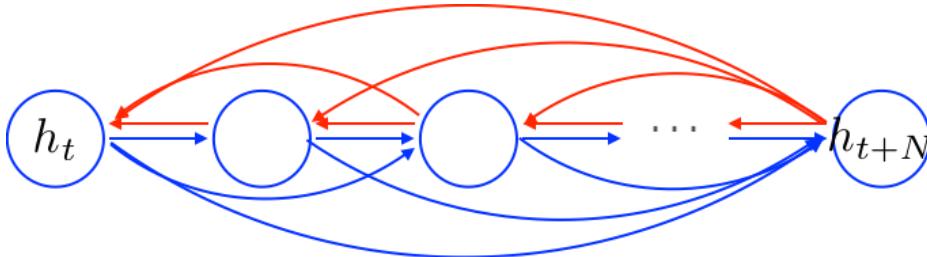


$$h^l = F(h^{l-1}) + A h^{l-1} : \text{residual block}$$

$\uparrow$  nonlinear     $\uparrow$  additive

# Side-note: gated recurrent units to attention

- What are these shortcuts?



- When unrolled, it's a weighted combination of all previous hidden vectors:

$$\begin{aligned}
 h_t &= u_t \odot h_{t-1} + (1 - u_t) \odot \tilde{h}_t, \\
 &= u_t \odot (u_{t-1} \odot h_{t-2} + (1 - u_{t-1}) \odot \tilde{h}_{t-1}) + (1 - u_t) \odot \tilde{h}_t, \\
 &= u_t \odot (u_{t-1} \odot (u_{t-2} \odot h_{t-3} + (1 - u_{t-2}) \odot \tilde{h}_{t-2}) + (1 - u_{t-1}) \odot \tilde{h}_{t-1}) + (1 - u_t) \odot \tilde{h}_t, \\
 &\vdots \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^t \left( \prod_{j=i}^{t-i+1} u_j \right) \left( \prod_{k=1}^{i-1} (1 - u_k) \right) \tilde{h}_i
 \end{aligned}$$

The diagram shows the unrolled GRU equations with red annotations. Red boxes highlight terms like  $u_t \odot h_{t-1}$ ,  $(1 - u_t) \odot \tilde{h}_t$ ,  $u_{t-1} \odot h_{t-2}$ ,  $(1 - u_{t-1}) \odot \tilde{h}_{t-1}$ , and  $u_{t-2} \odot h_{t-3}$ . Red arrows point from these highlighted terms to the corresponding terms in the unrolled equations. The final term  $\tilde{h}_i$  is also highlighted with a red box and arrow.

# Gated recurrent units to causal attention

✓ 1. Can we “free” these dependent weights?

$$h_t = \sum_{i=1}^t \left( \prod_{j=i}^{t-i+1} u_j \right) \left( \prod_{k=1}^{i-1} (1 - u_k) \right) \tilde{h}_i$$

0

✓ 2. Can we “free” candidate vectors?  $\tilde{h}_i = f(x_i, h_{i-1})$

3. Can we separate keys and values?  $h_t = \sum_{i=1}^t \alpha_i \tilde{h}_i$ , where  $\alpha_i \propto \exp(\text{ATT}(\tilde{h}_i, x_t))$

weighting function

1

4. Can we have multiple attention heads?

$h_t = \sum_{i=1}^t \alpha_i f(x_i)$ , where  $\alpha_i \propto \exp(\text{ATT}(f(x_i), x_t))$

lookup

input function

value

Key

Query

2

$h_t = \sum_{i=1}^t \alpha_i V(f(x_i))$ , where  $\alpha_i \propto \exp(\text{ATT}(K(f(x_i)), Q(x_t)))$

NN

query

3

$h_t = [h_t^1; \dots; h_t^K]$ , where  $h_t^k = \sum_{i=1}^t \alpha_i^k V^k(f(x_i))$ , and  $\alpha_i^k \propto \exp(\text{ATT}(K^k(f(x_i)), Q^k(f(x_t))))$

multiple attention head

attention weight

4

# Gated recurrent units to non-causal attention

1. Look at the entire input sequence

$$h_t = [h_t^1; \dots; h_t^K], \text{ where } h_t^k = \sum_{i=1}^T \alpha_i^k V^k(f(x_i)), \text{ and } \alpha_i^k \propto \exp(\text{ATT}(K^k(f(x_i)), Q^k(f(x_t))))$$

2. Give the sense of positions

$$h_t = [h_t^1; \dots; h_t^K],$$

where

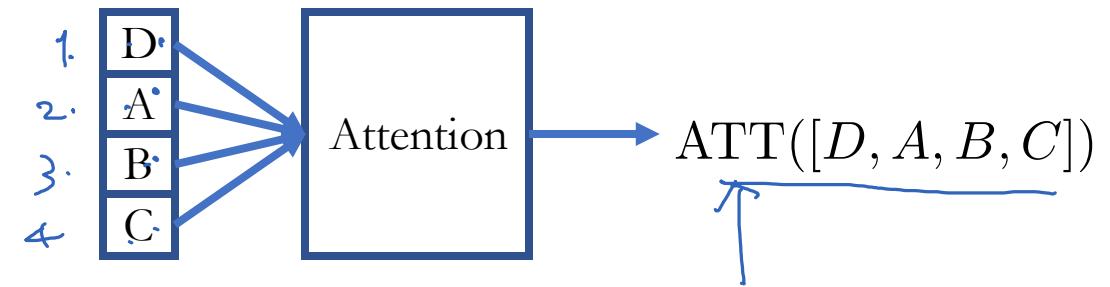
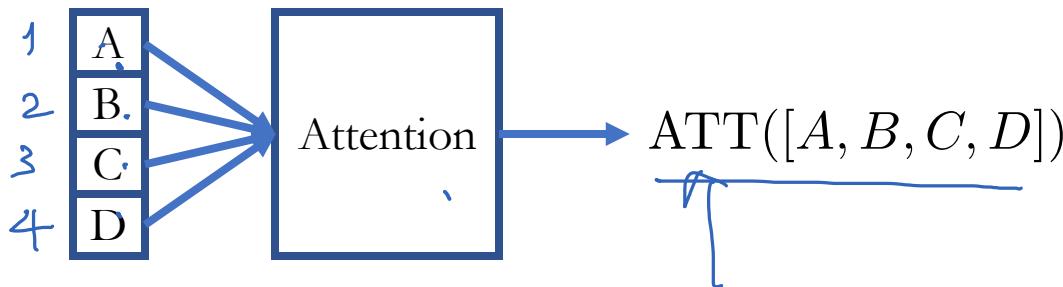
$$h_t^k = \sum_{i=1}^T \alpha_i^k V^k(f(x_i) + p(i)),$$

$$\alpha_i^k \propto \exp(\text{ATT}(K^k(f(x_i) + p(i)), Q^k(f(x_t) + p(i))))$$

*positional embedding*

# Non-causal attention and positional embedding

- Attention is position-invariant:  $\text{ATT}([A, B, C, D]) = \text{ATT}([D, A, B, C])$



- Add position-specific vectors: positional embedding
  - Learned positional embedding [Sukhbataar et al., 2016]
  - Sinusoidal positional embedding [Vaswani et al., 2017]

# Nonlinear Attention

- Attention is inherently linear, b/c it is a weighted sum of input vectors
  - $f$  is often an identity function.  $p$  does not depend on the input.
  - $V$  is often a linear transformation.

$$h_t^k = \sum_{i=1}^T \alpha_i^k V^k(f(x_i) + p(i))$$

- A post-attention nonlinear layer
  - $g$  is a feedforward neural network and applied to each time step independently
  - For higher efficiency,  $g$  may apply to each head independently as well

$$h_t = g([h_t^1; \dots; h_t^K])$$

# Full self-attention layer

$$h_t = g([h_t^1; \dots; h_t^K]),$$

where

$$h_t^k = \sum_{i=1}^T \alpha_i^k V^k(f(x_i) + p(i)),$$

$$\alpha_i^k \propto \exp(\text{ATT}(K^k(f(x_i) + p(i)), Q^k(f(x_t) + p(i))))$$

In practice  $g(h_t^1), g(h_t^2), \dots, g(h_t^K)$   
then combined later to form  $g$

# Parametrization – Transformers

- Stack multiple layers of attention to build a transformer
  - Vaswani et al. [2017] – Attention is all you need
- A transformer block consists of
  1. Multi-headed attention ✓
  2. Residual connection ✓
  3. Feedforward layer ✓
  4. Point-wise nonlinearity ✓
  5. Residual connection ✓
  6. (Layer) normalization ✓

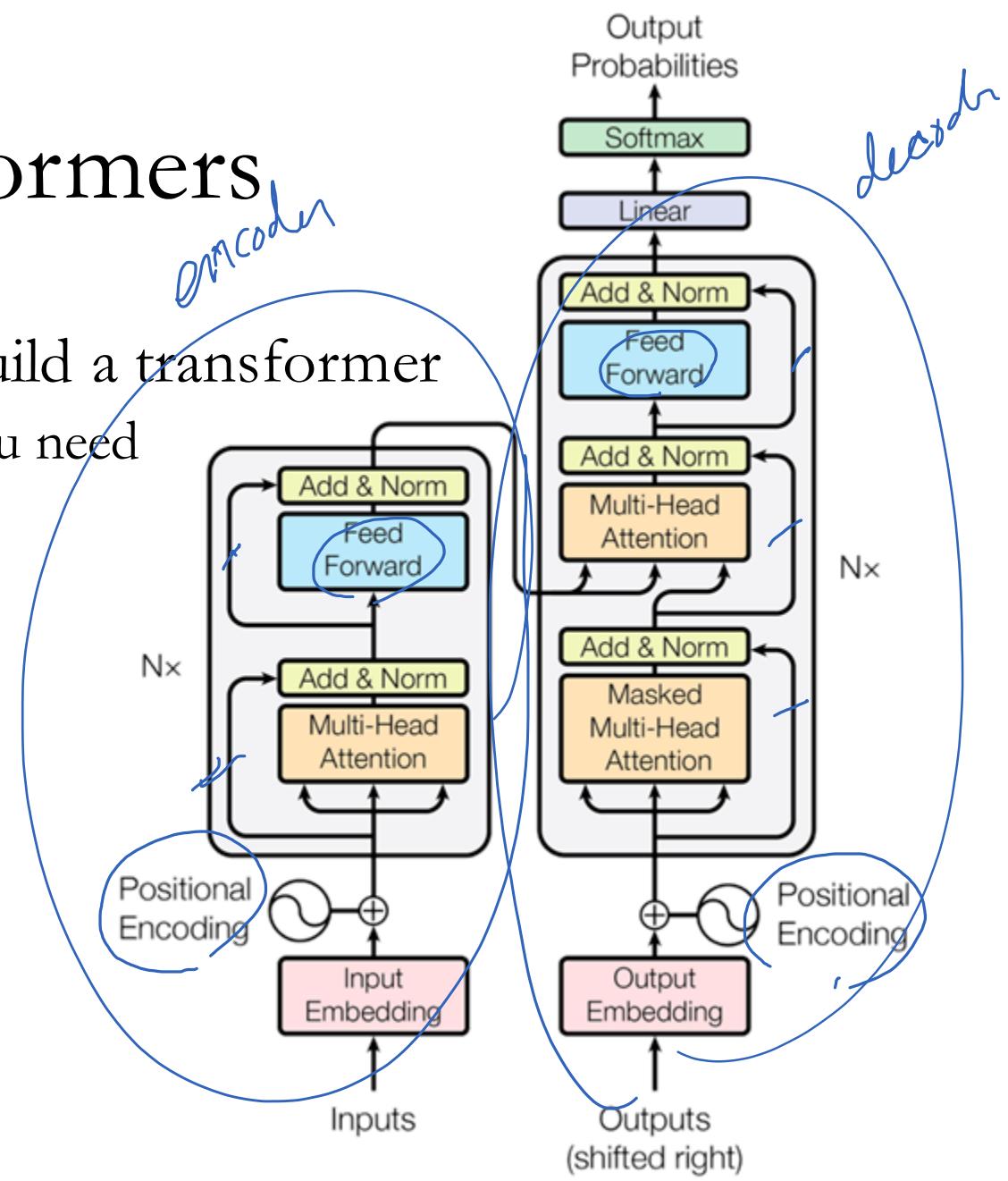


Figure 1: The Transformer - model architecture.

# Today we have covered

- Recurrent language modeling
- Neural machine translation 
- Attention mechanism 