

# International Workshop on Machine Learning for Space Weather: Fundamentals, Tools and Future Prospects

**7-11 November 2022**  
**This is a hybrid meeting**  
**Buenos Aires, Argentina**



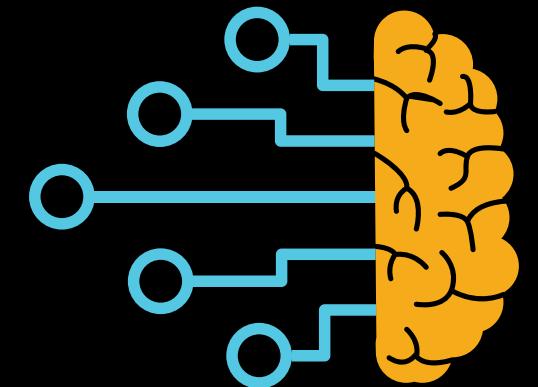
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Elizabeth Brancaccio

**Dra María Graciela Molina**  
FACET-UNT / CONICET  
Tucumán Space Weather Center - TSWC

<https://spaceweather.facet.unt.edu.ar/>  
IG -> @spaceweatherargentina

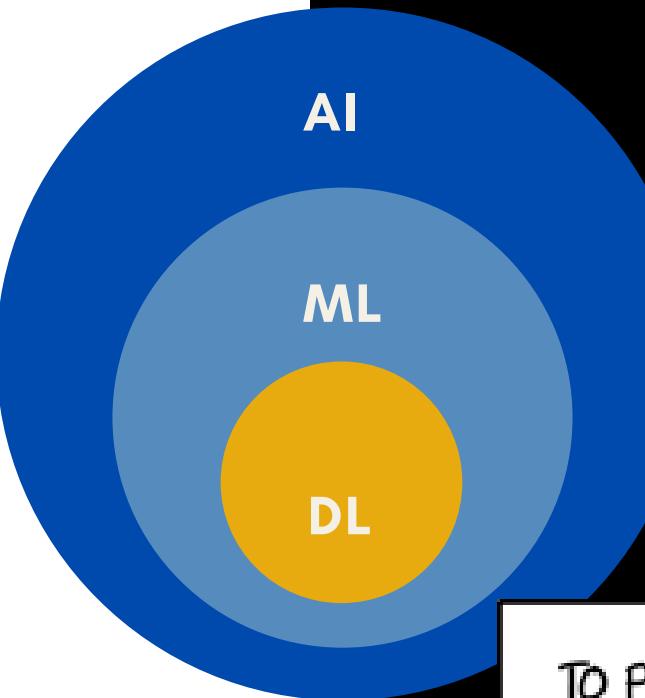
gmolina@herrera.unt.edu.ar



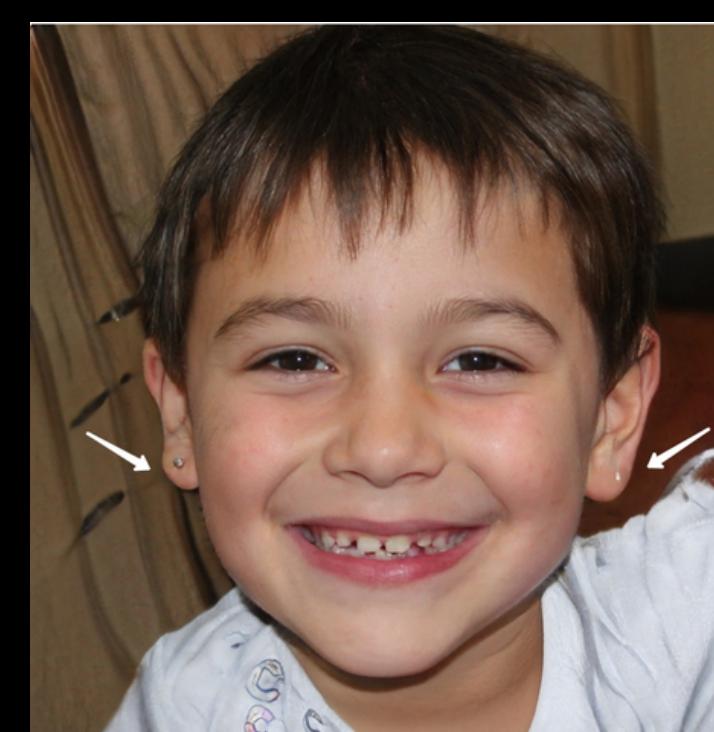


# Deep Learning

Extract patterns from data  
using neural networks



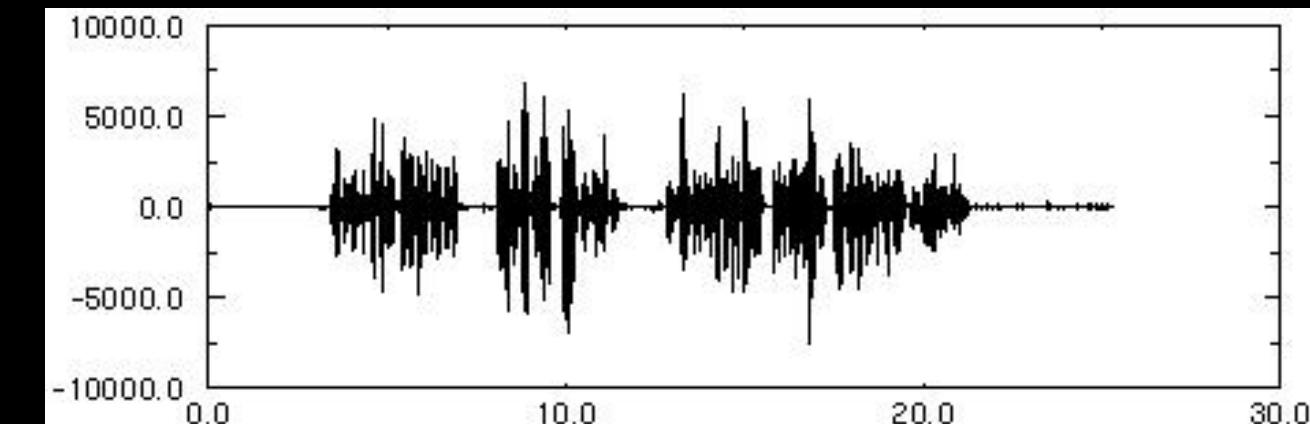
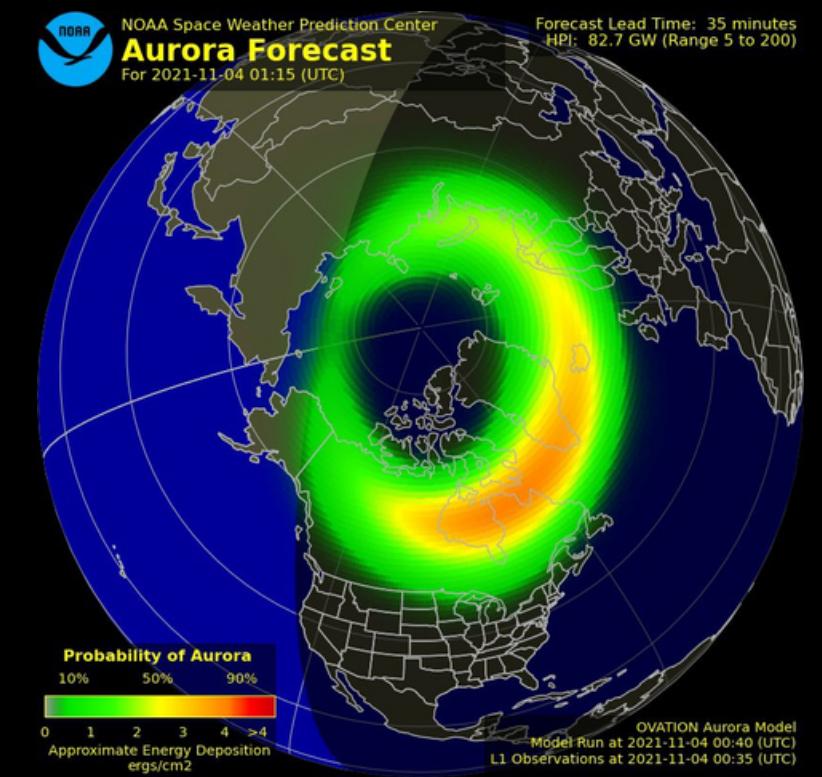
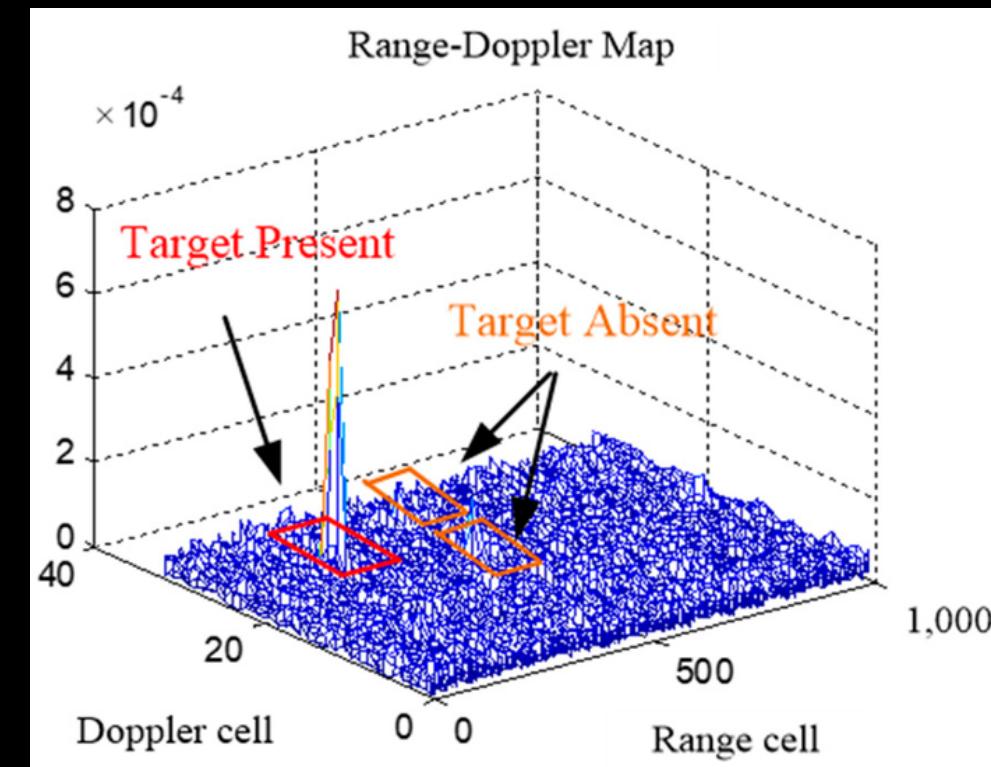
- <https://this-person-does-not-exist.com/en>





# Recurrent Neural Networks

- Processing a sequence of data  $x(t) = x(1), \dots, x(\tau)$
- Recurrent -> perform the same task for every element of a sequence, with the output being depended on the previous computations.
- Have a “memory”



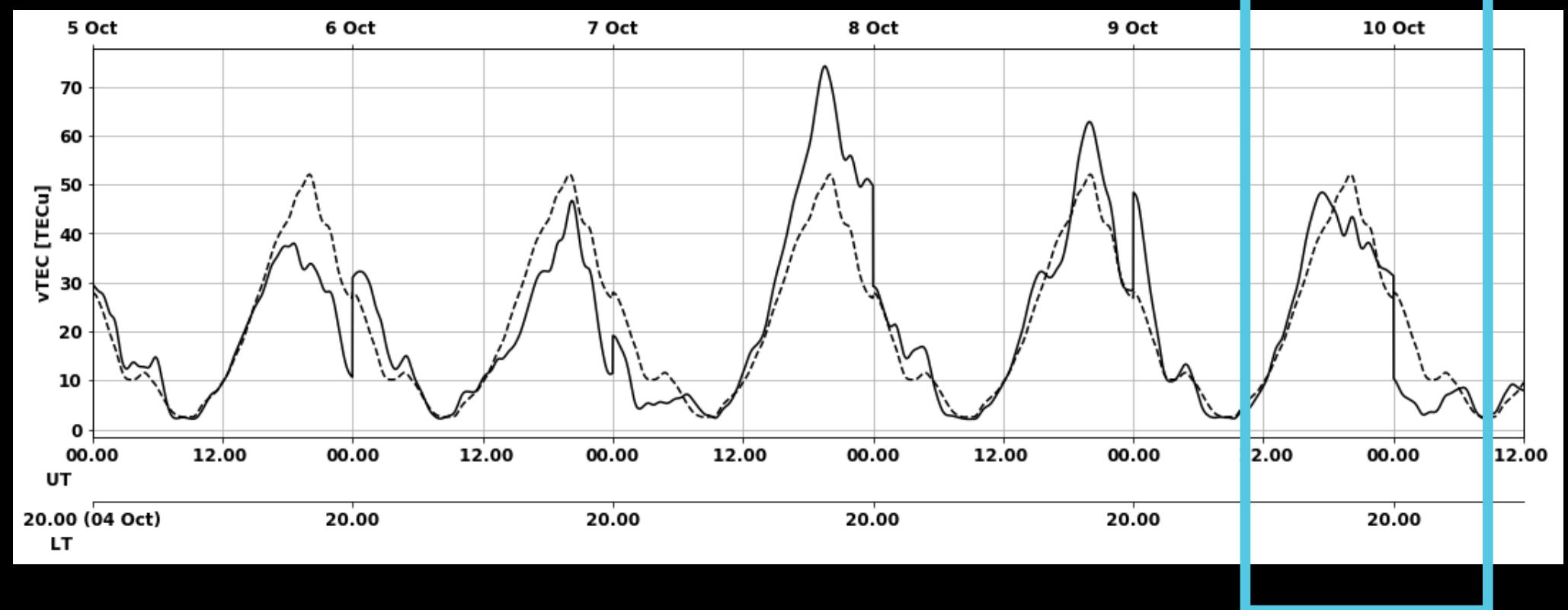
# Recurrent Neural Networks

RNNs as an approach to sequence modeling problems

We want to forecast this

To model sequences, we need to:

- Handle **variable-length** sequences
- Track **long-term** dependences
- Maintain information about **order**
- **Share parameters** across the sequence



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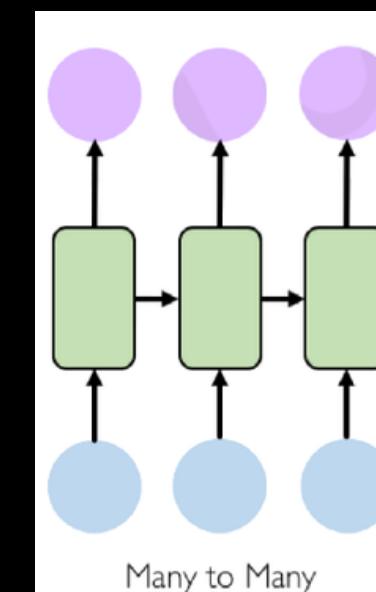
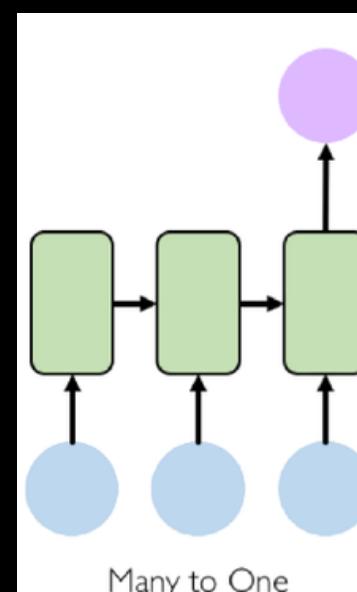
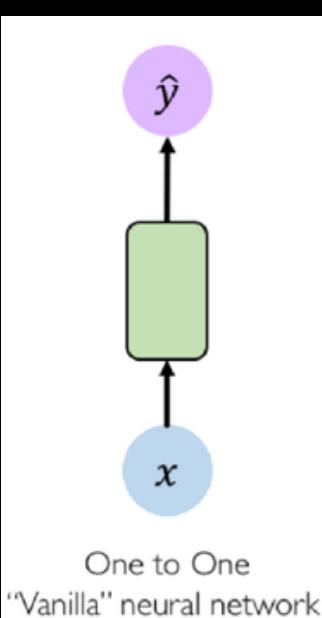
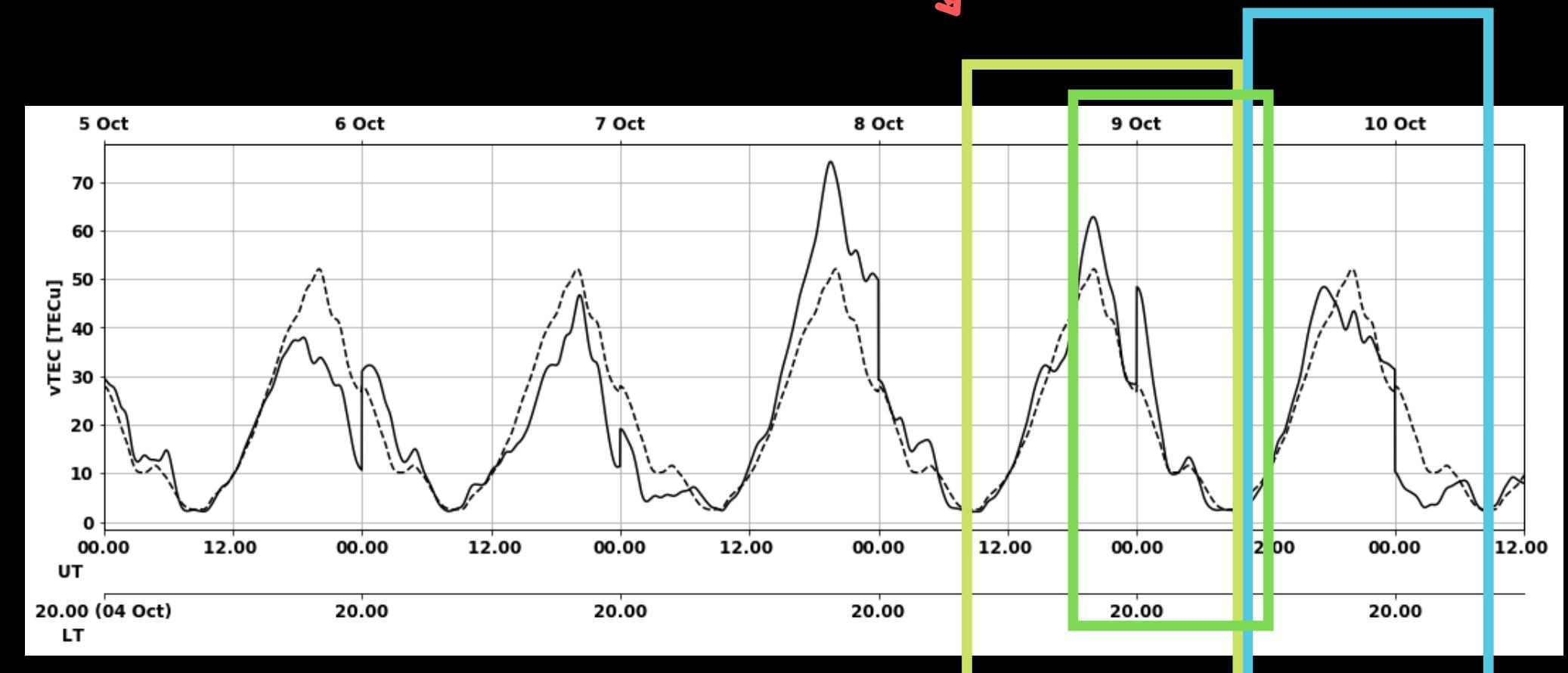
# Recurrent Neural Networks

RNNs as an approach to sequence modeling problems

To model sequences, we need to:

- Handle **variable-length** sequences
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- Maintain information about **order**
- **Share parameters** across the sequence

how many steps? (length)



and more architectures



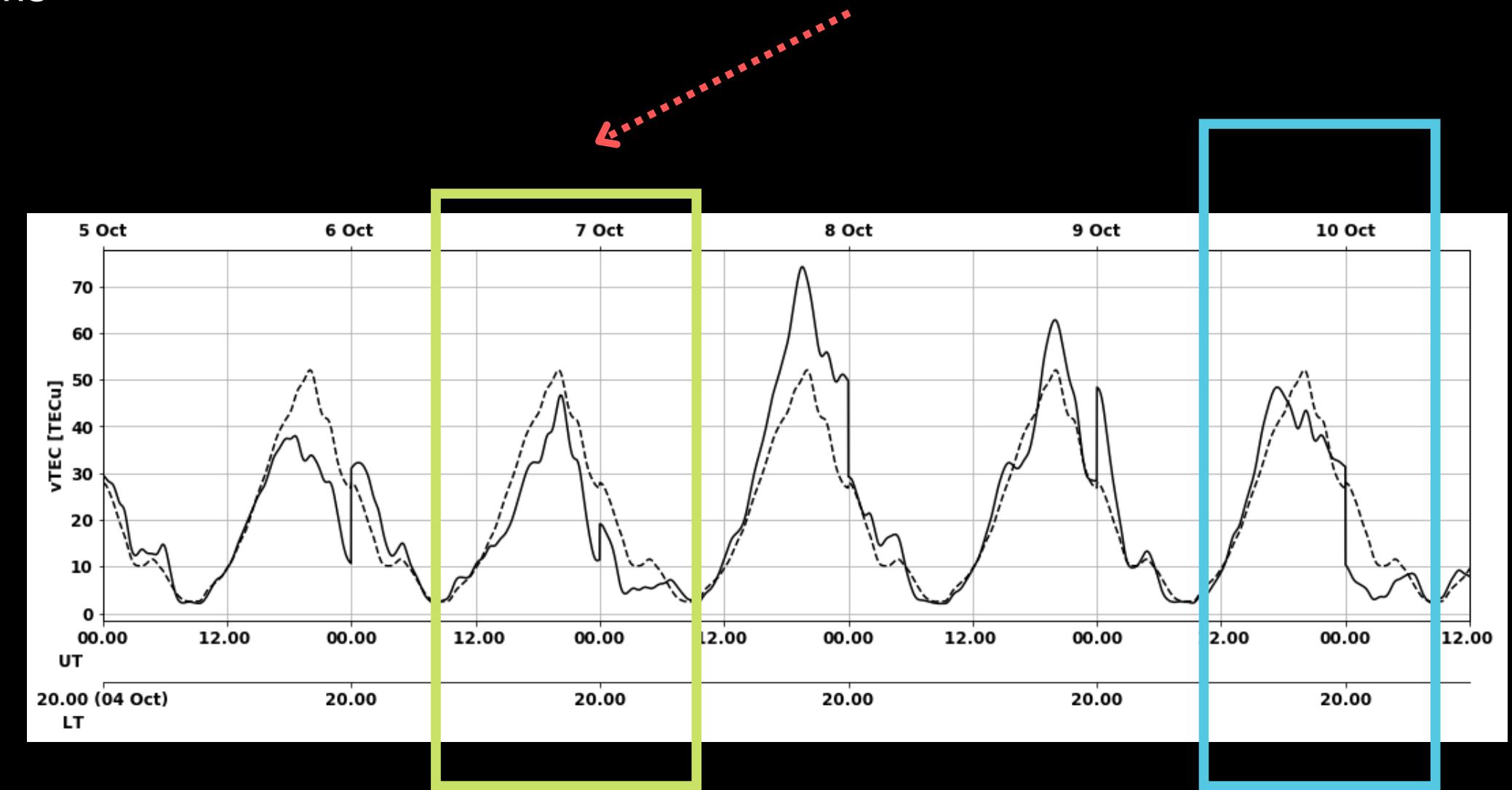
# Recurrent Neural Networks

RNNs as an approach to sequence modeling problems

how important is the information on  
the (far) past ?

To model sequences, we need to:

- Handle **variable-length** sequences
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- Maintain information about **order**
- **Share parameters** across the sequence



E.g. Ionosphere regular behaviour  
(daily, seasonal, solar cycle, ...)



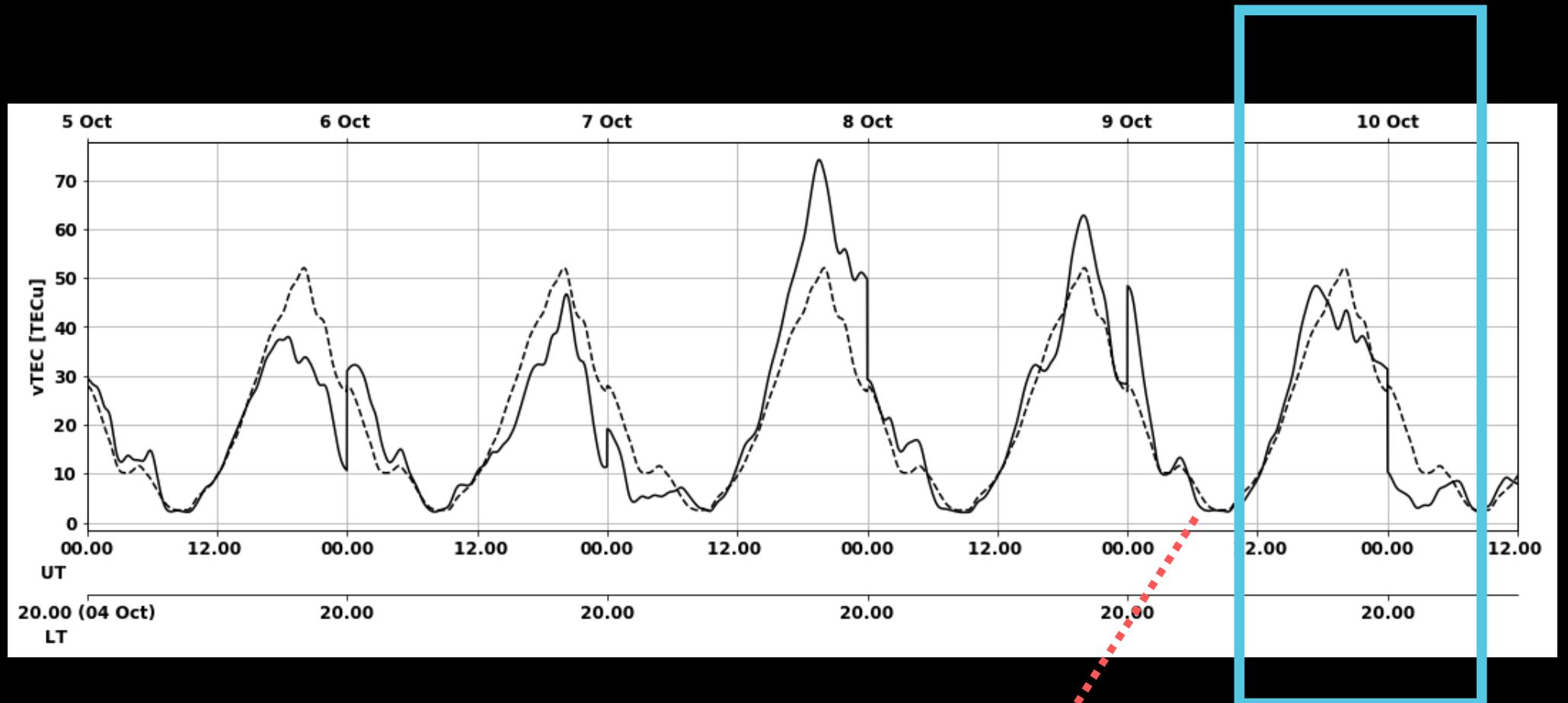
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RNNs as an approach to sequence modeling problems

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$vTEC(t-2), vTEC(t-1), vTEC(t-0) \leftrightarrow vTEC(t-0), vTEC(t-2), vTEC(t-1)$



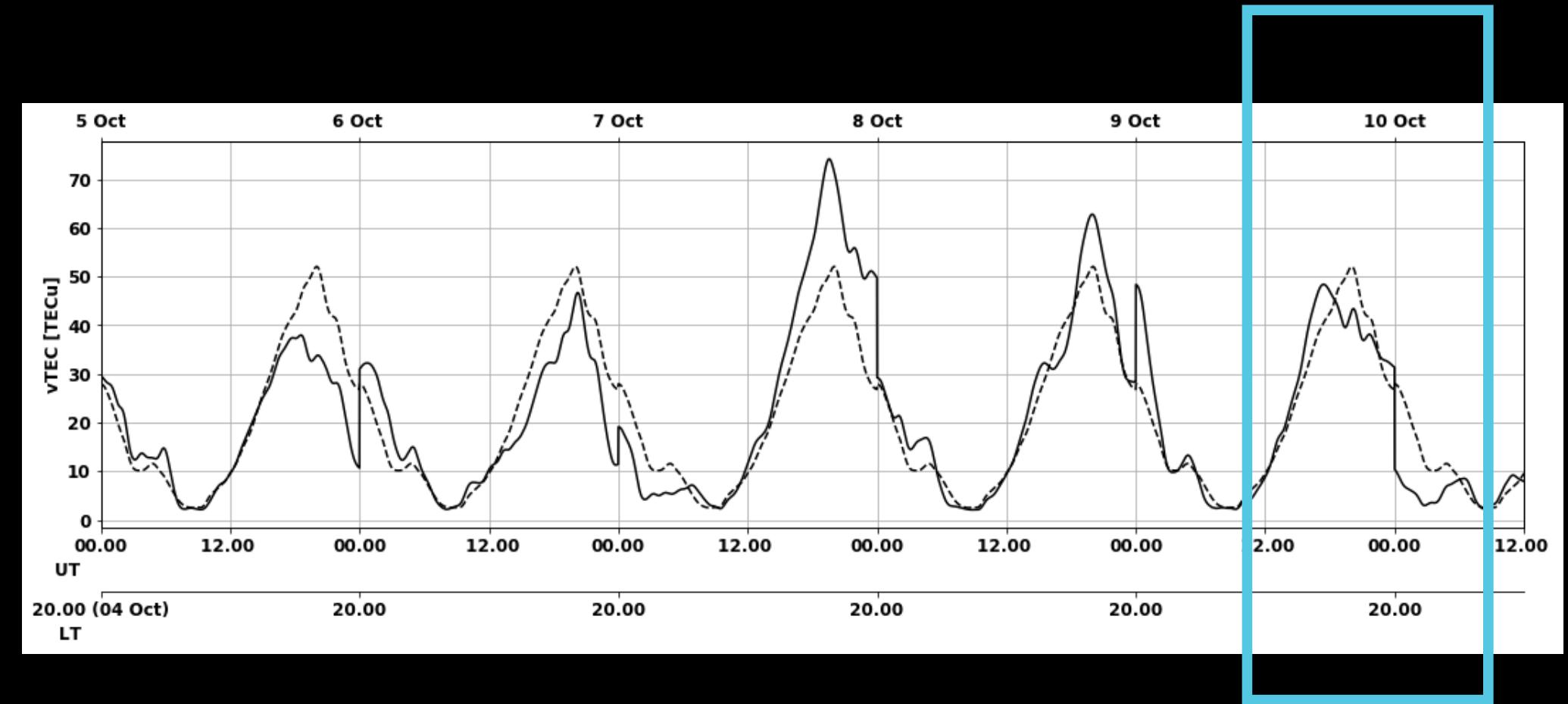
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# Recurrent Neural Networks

RNNs as an approach to sequence modeling problems

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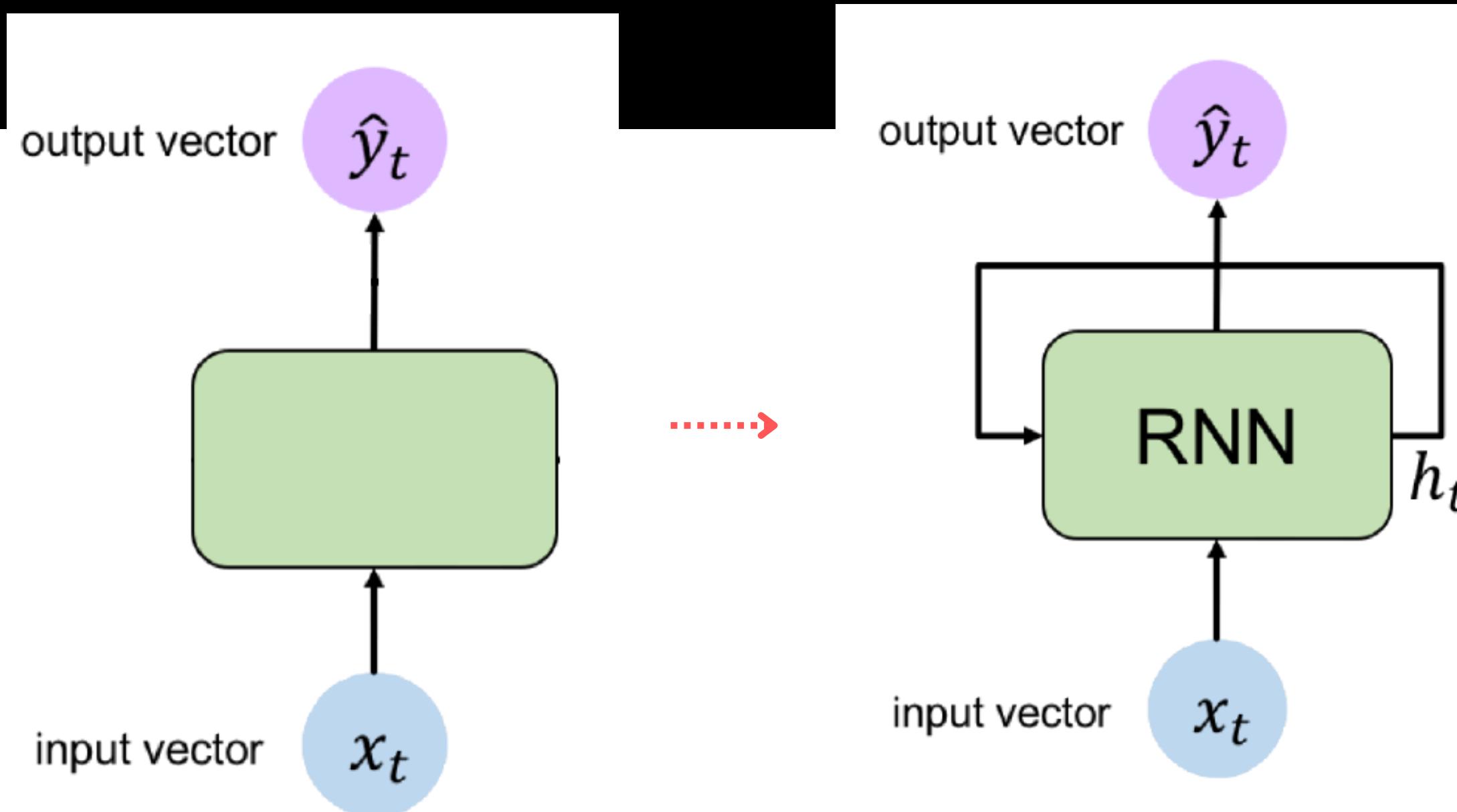
RNNs have a **state** ( $h_t$ ), that is **updated at each time** as a sequence is processed using the **same parameters** each time step



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# Recurrent Neural Networks



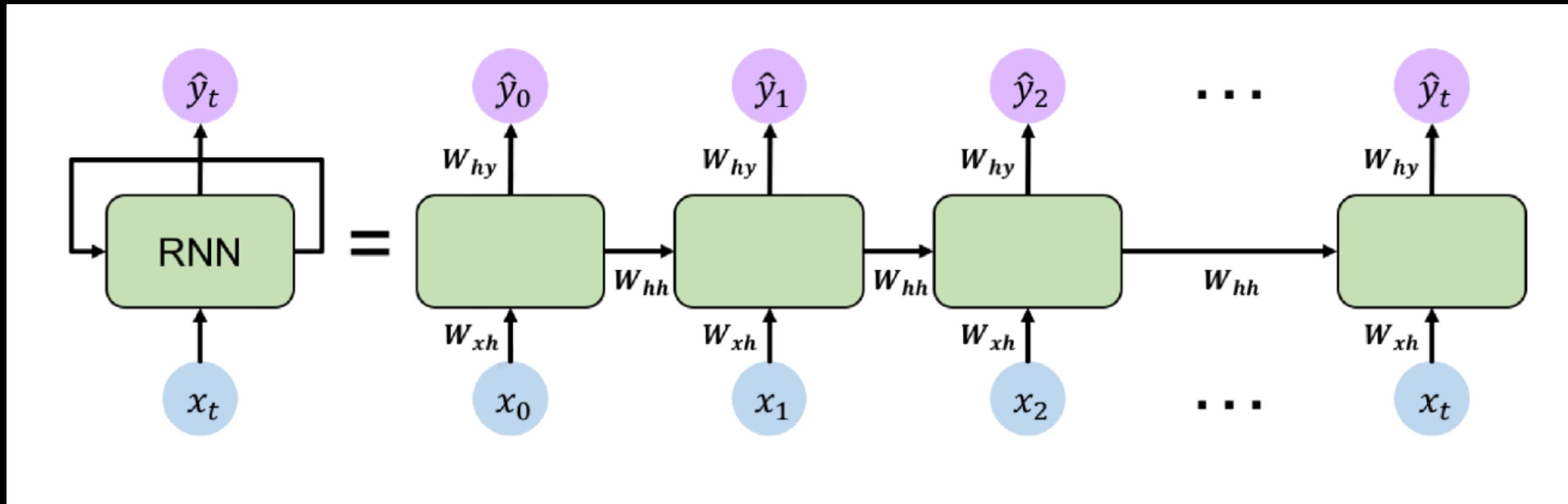
$$h_t = f_W(h_{t-1}, x_t)$$

cell state      function parameterized by  $W$       old state      input vector at time step  $t$

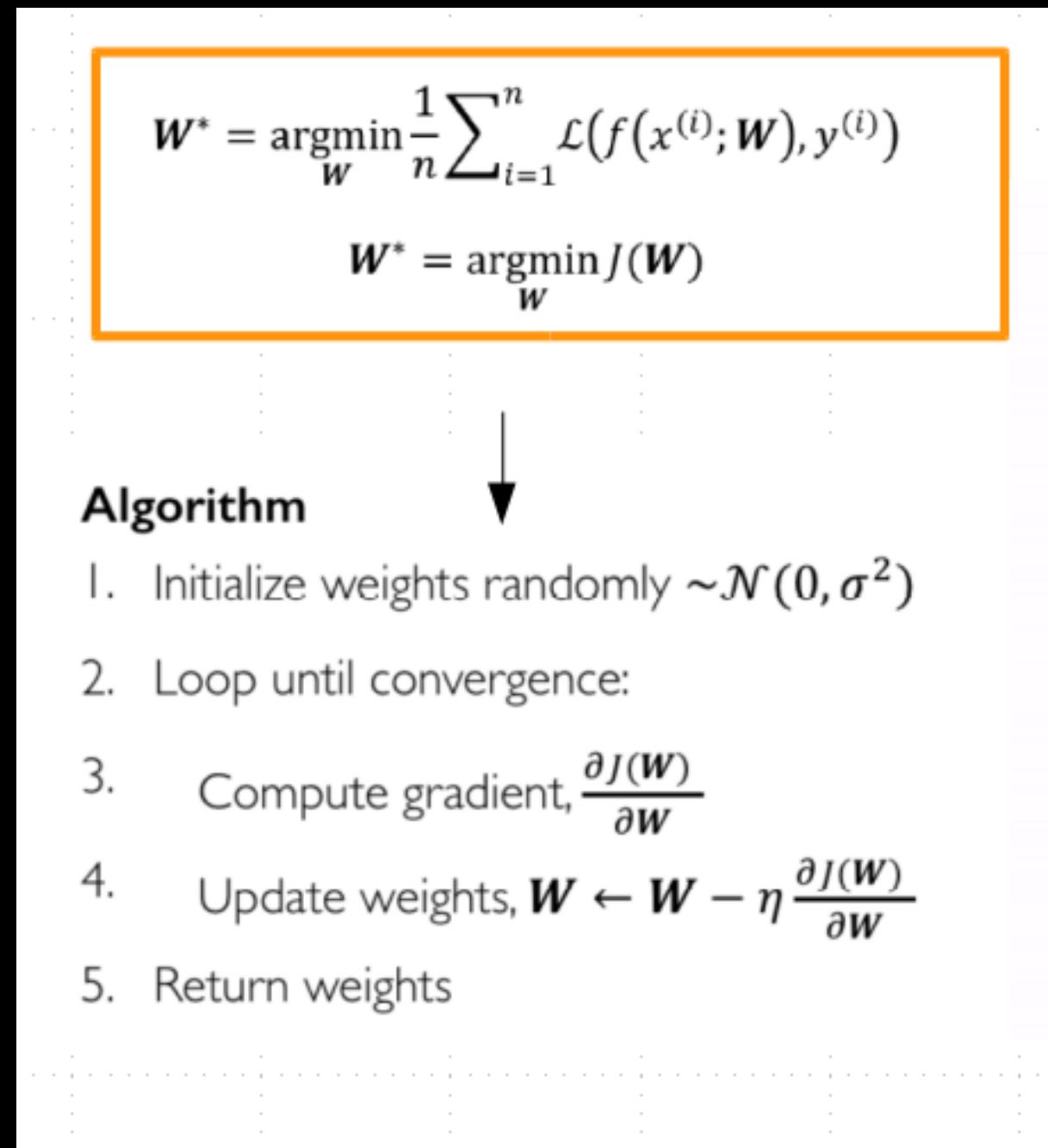
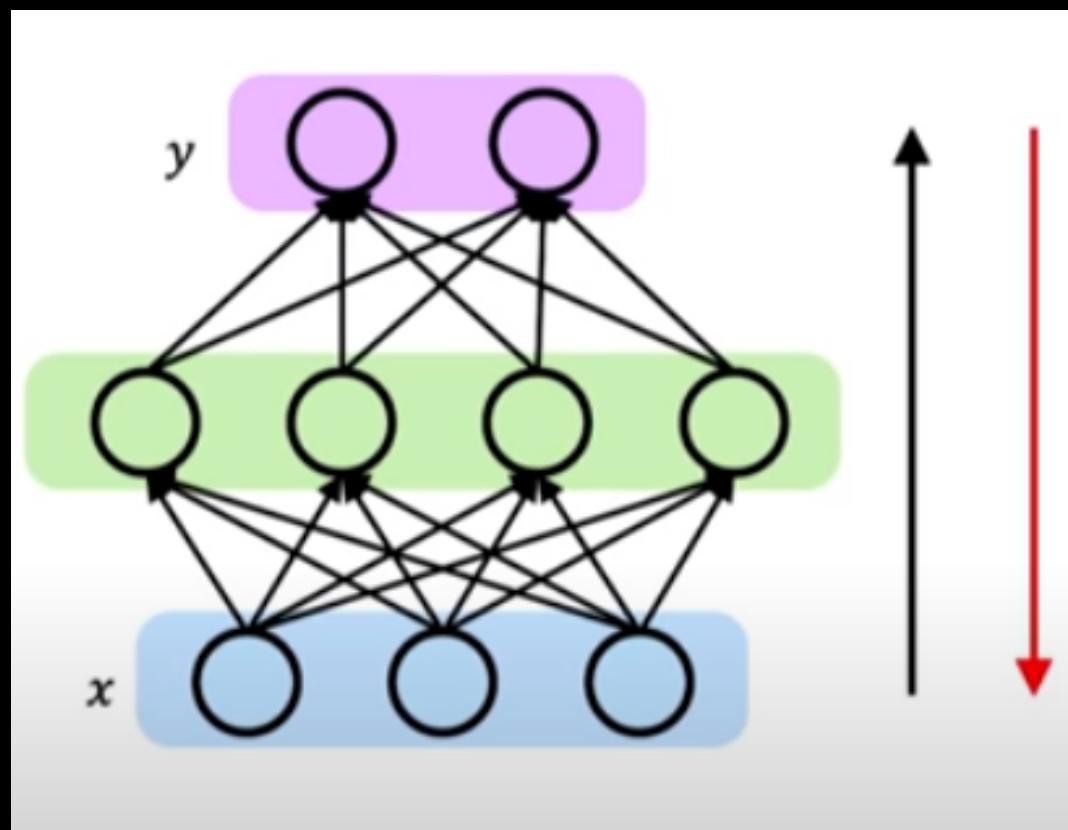
Apply a **recurrent relation** at every time step to process a sequence



# Recurrent Neural Networks



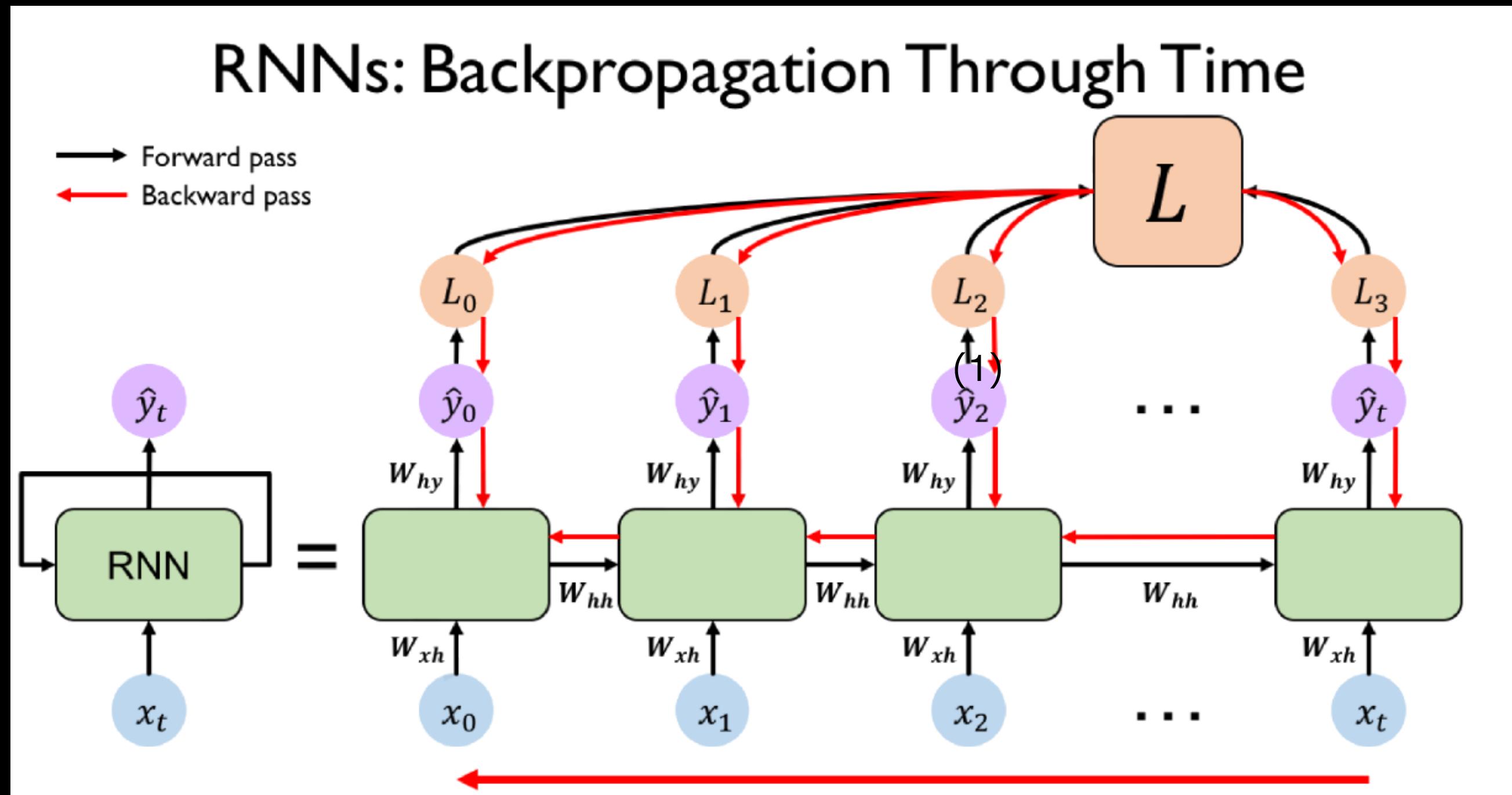
# Backpropagation through time: long time dependences



- take the gradient of loss with respect to each parameter
- shift parameters in order to minimize loss



# Backpropagation through time: long time dependences



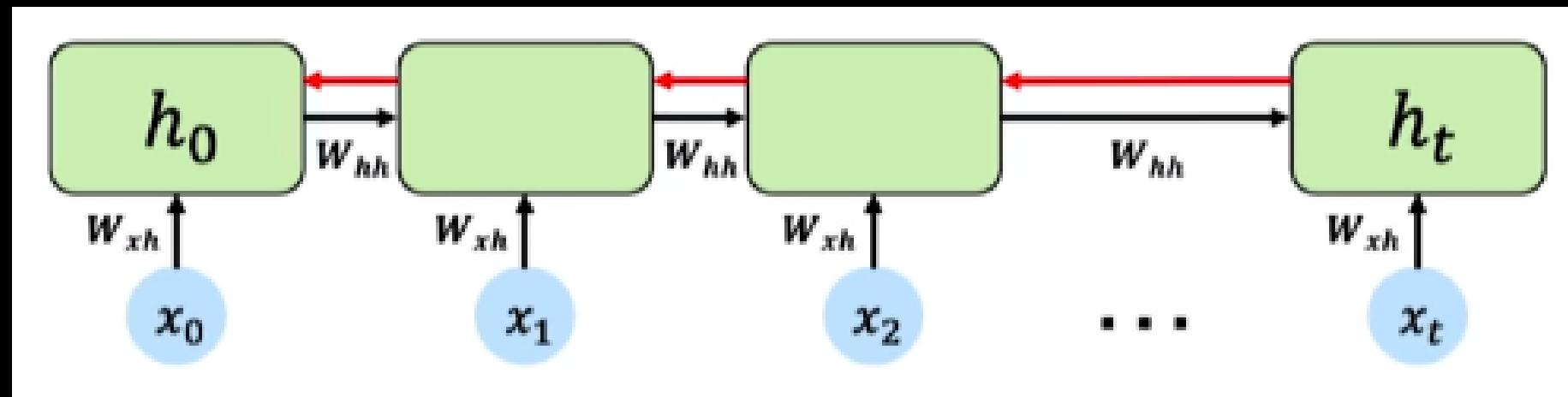
- Compute individual  $L_i$  for individual time steps and sum them
- Backpropagate errors individually for each time step and then to all the time steps to the beginning of the sequence.

<https://kharshit.github.io/blog/2019/02/22/backpropagation-through-time>



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# Backpropagation through time: long time dependences



- high computation time!

- Many values  $\gg 1$  -> exploding gradient (\*)
- Many values  $\ll 1$  -> vanishing gradient

(\*) Gradient clipping is a simple technique: If the gradient gets too large, we rescale it to keep it small.



# Vanishing gradient problem



Multiply **many small** numbers together



Errors due to further back time steps  
have smaller and smaller gradients



Bias parameters to capture short -term  
dependencies

How to tackle the problem:

- Activation function
- Weight initialization
- Network architecture





# Vanishing gradient problem



Multiply many small numbers together



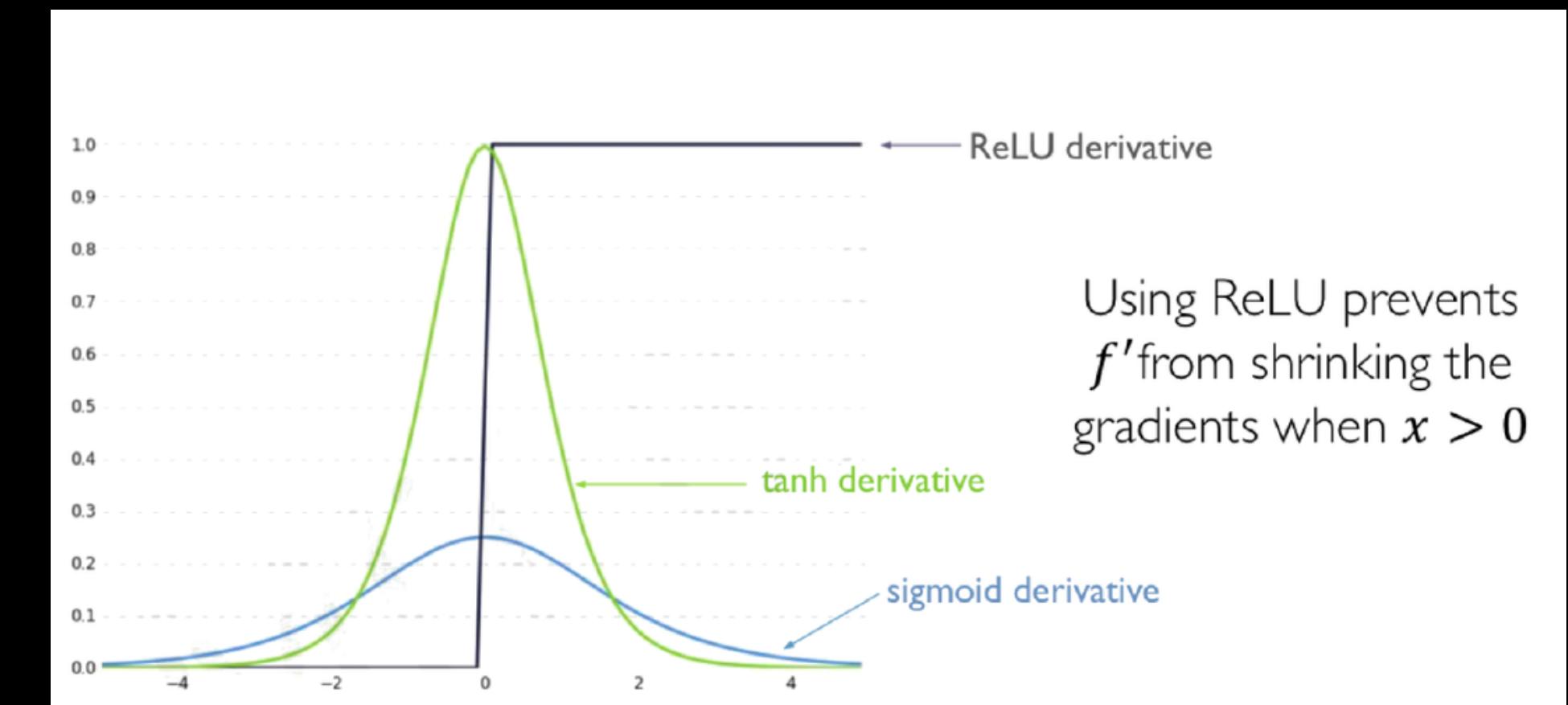
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# Vanishing gradient problem



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Bias parameters to capture short -term  
dependencies (we "lose" long-term  
dependencies)

How to tackle the problem:

- Activation function
- **Weight initialization**
- Network architecture

$$I_n = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Initialize **weights** to identity matrix  
Initialize **biases** to zero

prevent the weights to shrinking to  
zero



# Vanishing gradient problem



Multiply **many small** numbers together



Errors due to further back time steps  
have smaller and smaller gradients

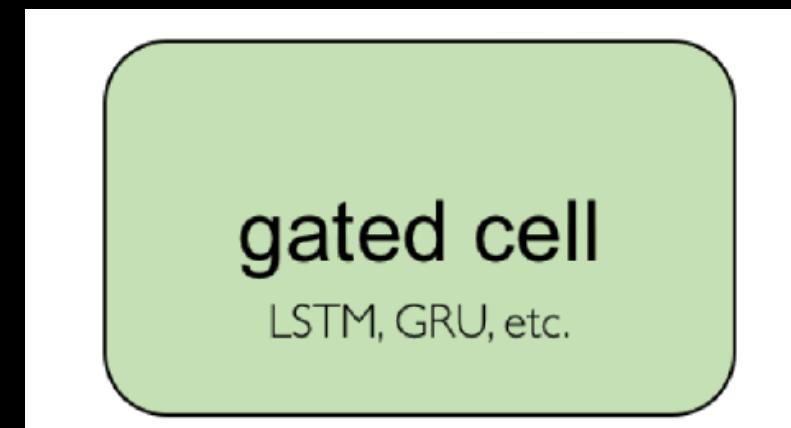


Bias parameters to capture short -term  
dependencies (we "lose" long-term  
dependencies)

How to tackle the problem:

- Activation function
- Weight initialization
- **Network architecture**

more robust solution



- Use a more **complex recurrent unit with gates** to control what information is passed through.
- gates selectively **add or remove** information within each recurrent unit



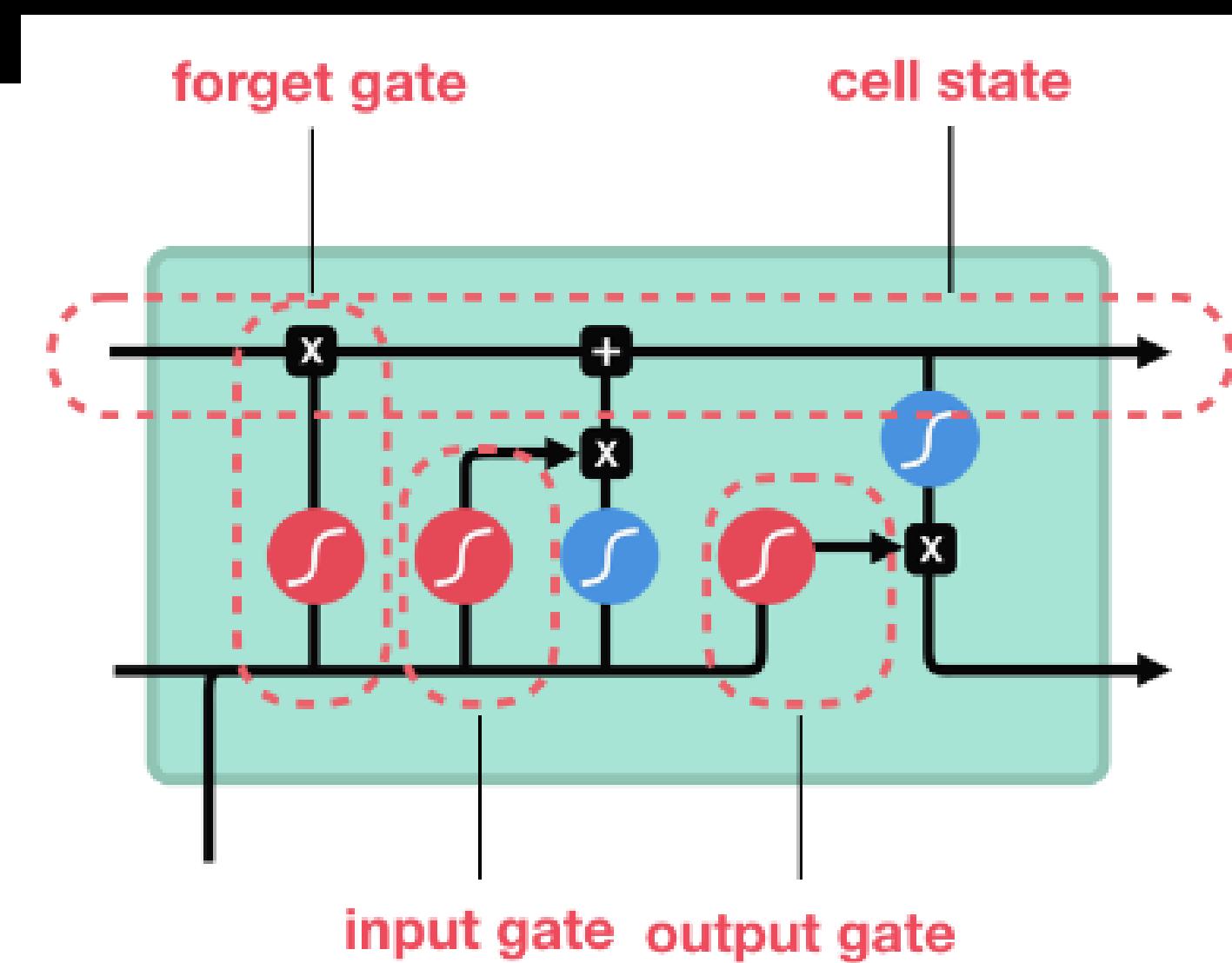
# Long short term memory (LSTM)

Gates: 1) Forget

2) Input (store)

3)Update

4) Output



How it works:

- 1) Maintain a **cell state**
- 2) Use gates to control the flow of information
  - **Forget** gate gets rid of irrelevant information
  - Store relevant information from the current **input**
  - Selectively **update** cell state
- 3) Backpropagation T<sub>T</sub> with partially uninterrupted gradient flow



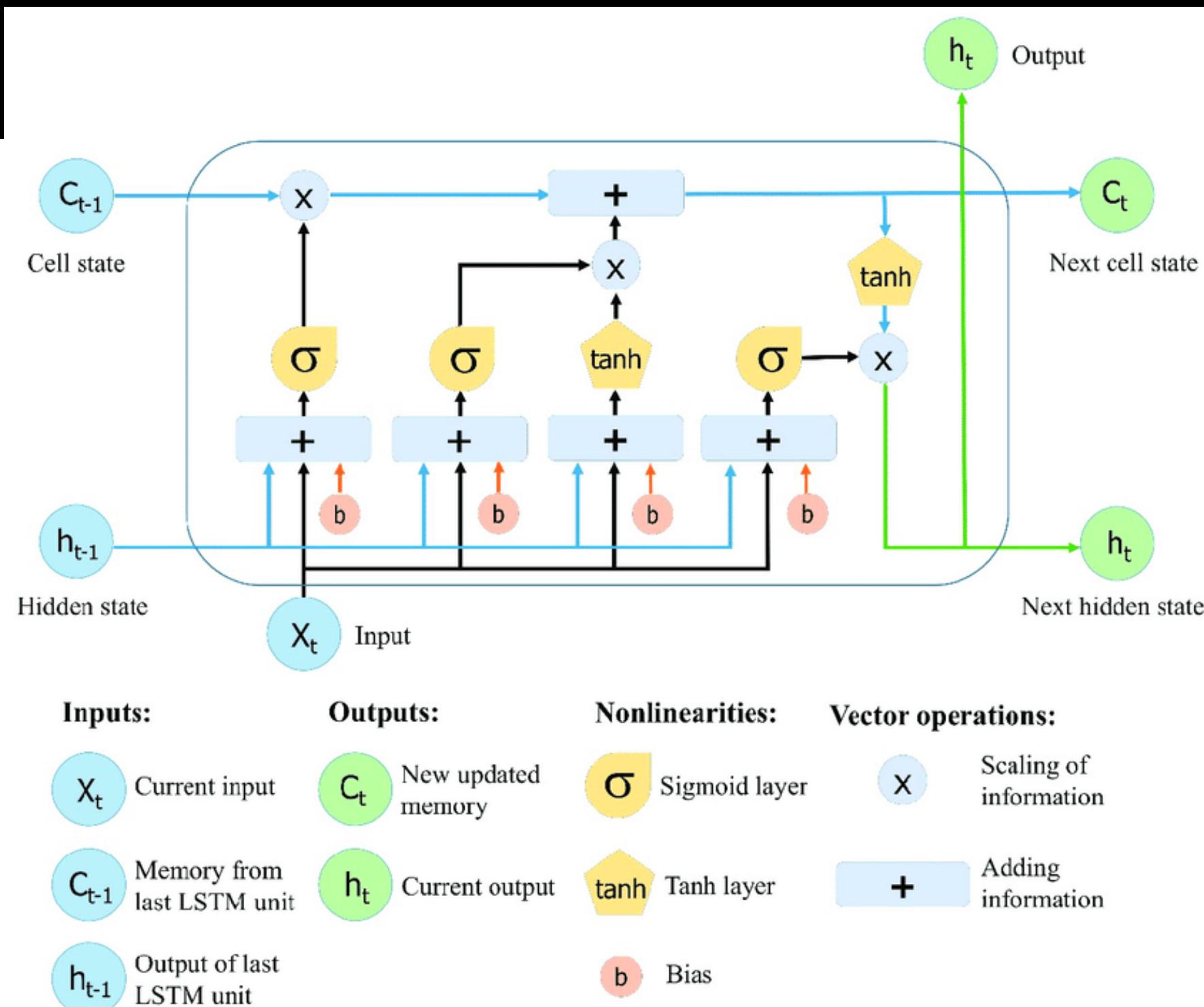
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# LSTM "not all that glitters is gold"

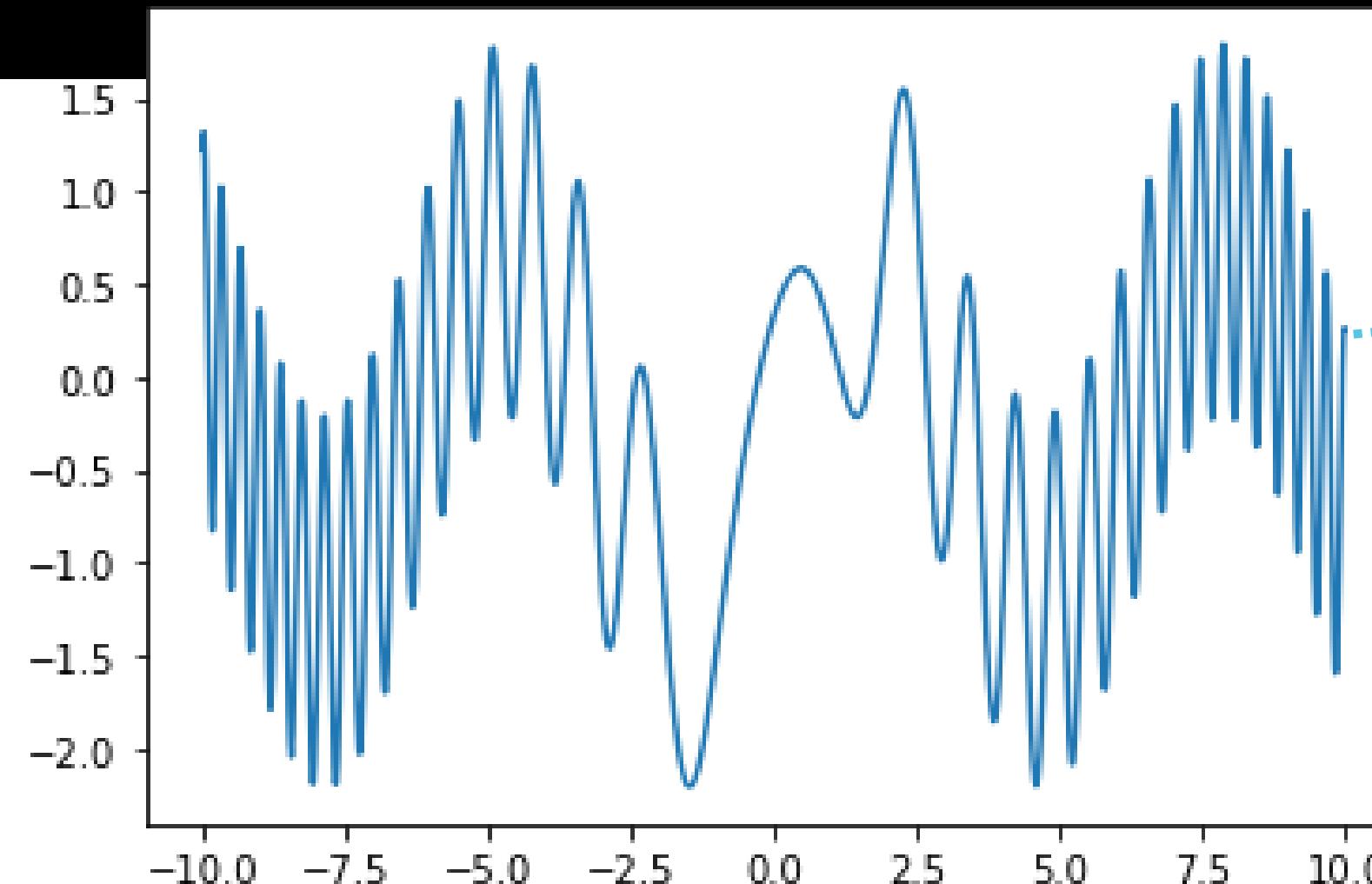
- << vanishing gradient problem .... but it doesn't completely remove it.
- >> computational resources
- affected by different random weight initialization
- Drop-out difficult to implement
- Prone to overfitting
- << performance for very long time problems



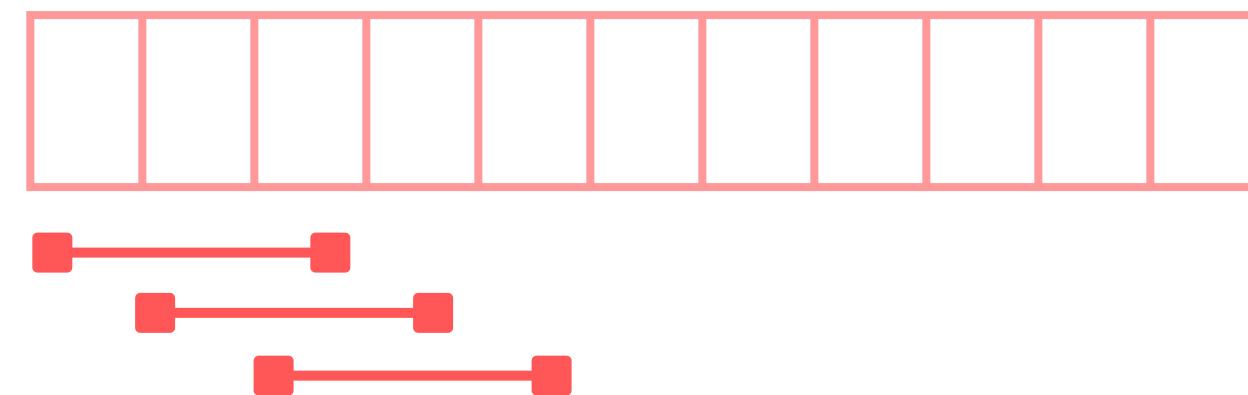


# LSTM example

vanilla LSTM



training set  $t \in [-10, 10)$   
test set  $t=10$



the training set is an array of  
sequences (len = 3)



# Convolutional Neural Networks

Received July 15, 2019, accepted July 30, 2019, date of publication August 5, 2019, date of current version August 19, 2019.  
Digital Object Identifier 10.1109/ACCESS.2019.2933060

**Automated Individual Pig Localisation, Tracking and Behaviour Metric Extraction Using Deep Learning**

JAKE COWTON<sup>①,2</sup>, ILIAS KYRIAZAKIS<sup>2</sup>, AND JAUME BACARDIT<sup>①</sup>

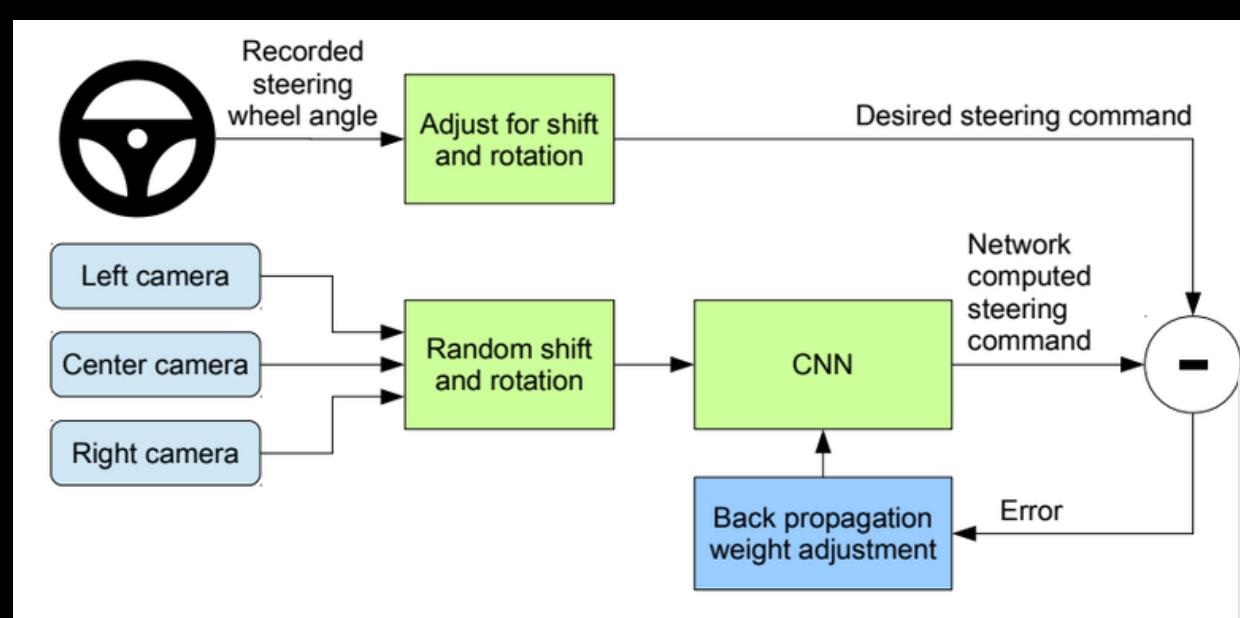
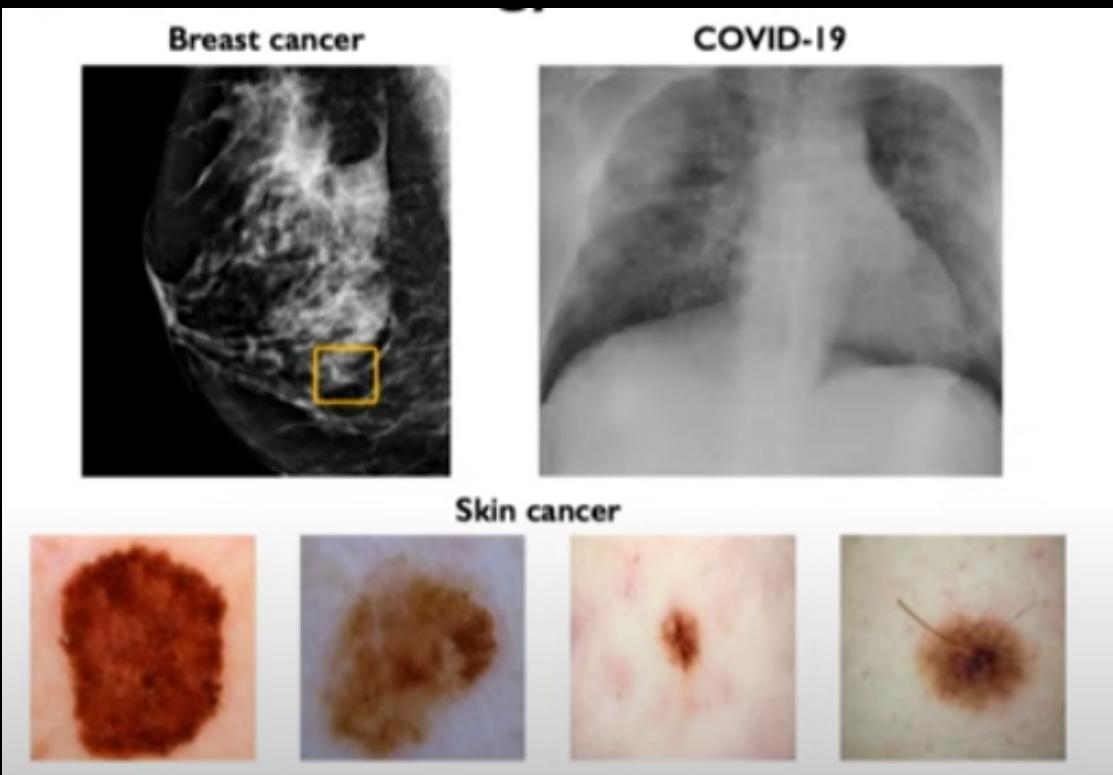
<sup>1</sup>School of Computing, Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU, U.K.  
<sup>2</sup>School of Natural and Environmental Sciences, Agriculture, Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU, U.K.

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This work was supported by the European Commission under the European Union Framework Programme for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020 under Grant 633531. The work of J. Bacardit was supported by the Engineering and Physical Science Research Council under Grant EP/N031962/1 and Grant EP/M020576/1.



**FIGURE 8.** Four sample images from our pig detection test set processed by the Faster R-CNN with the feature extraction layers pre-trained on ImageNet, the rest pre-trained on Pascal Visual Object Classes Challenge 2007 and an additional fully-connected layer for the pig dataset. Detections to the left of the red wall are ignored. The top left image is from the low-light test segment. The top right image is from the densely packed test-segment. The bottom left image is from the overexposed test segment. The bottom right image is from the many pigs test segment.



arXiv

**End to End Learning for Self-Driving Cars**  
We trained a convolutional neural network (CNN) to map raw pixels from a single front-facing camera directly to...



# Convolutional Neural Networks

Computer Vision. Some applications:

- Facial detection and recognition
- Healthcare, medicine and biology
- Self-driving vehicles



What the computer sees

157	153	174	168	150	152	129	151	172	161	155	156
155	182	163	74	75	62	33	17	110	210	180	154
180	180	50	14	34	6	10	33	48	106	159	181
256	109	5	124	131	111	120	204	166	15	56	180
194	68	137	251	237	239	239	228	227	87	71	201
172	106	207	233	233	214	220	239	228	98	74	206
188	88	179	209	185	215	211	158	199	75	20	169
189	97	165	84	10	168	134	11	31	62	22	148
199	168	191	193	158	227	178	143	182	105	36	190
205	174	155	252	236	231	149	178	228	43	95	234
190	216	116	149	236	187	85	150	79	38	218	241
190	234	147	108	227	210	127	102	96	101	265	224
190	214	173	66	109	143	96	50	2	109	249	215
187	196	236	75	1	81	47	0	6	217	255	211
183	202	237	145	0	0	12	108	200	138	243	236
195	206	123	207	177	121	123	200	179	13	95	218

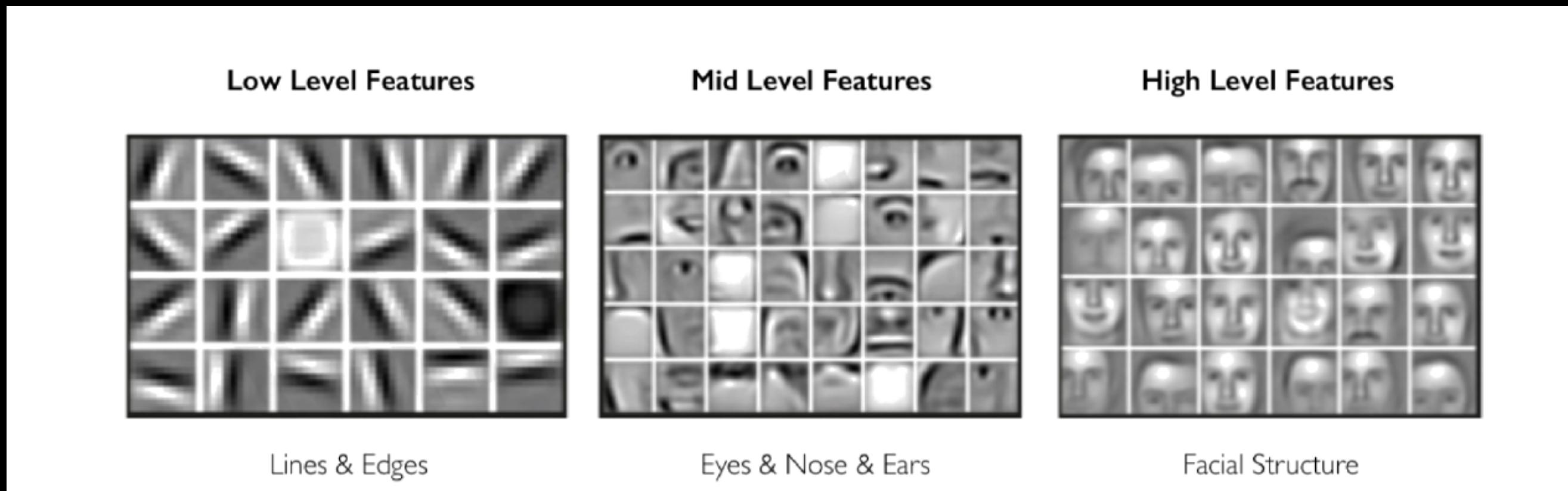
An image is just a matrix of numbers [0,255]!  
i.e., 1080x1080x3 for an RGB image



# Features

(As in other NN problems)

- Regression
- Classification
- High level feature detection

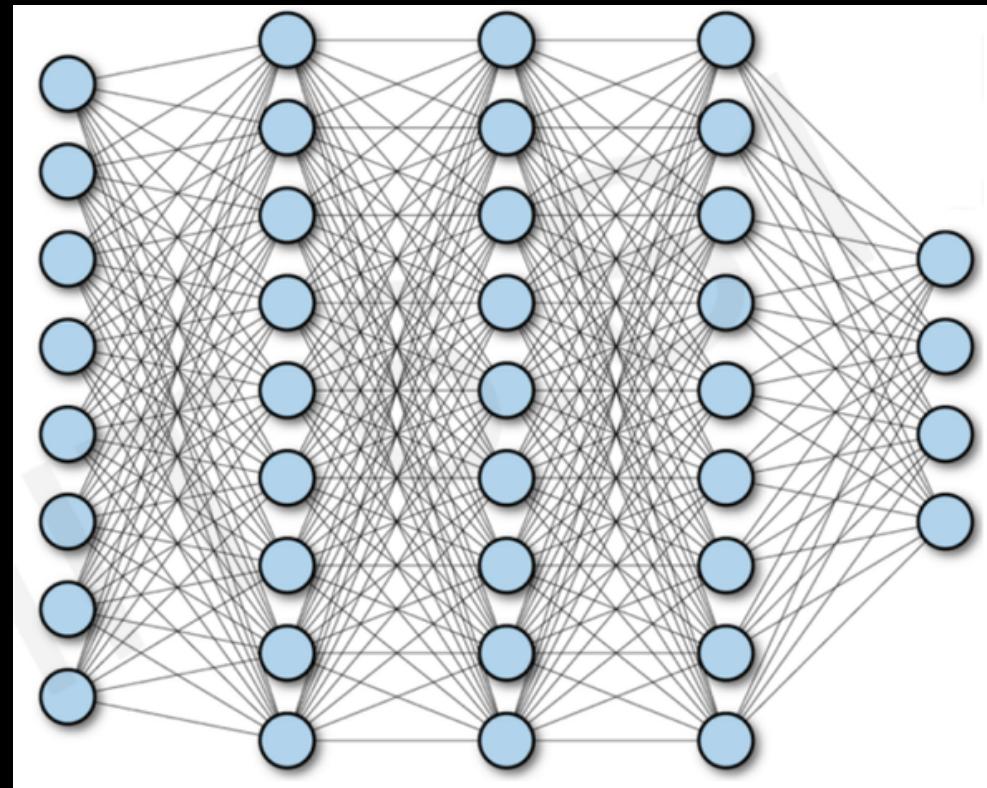


feature extraction from the data!  
Learn hierarchy of features!



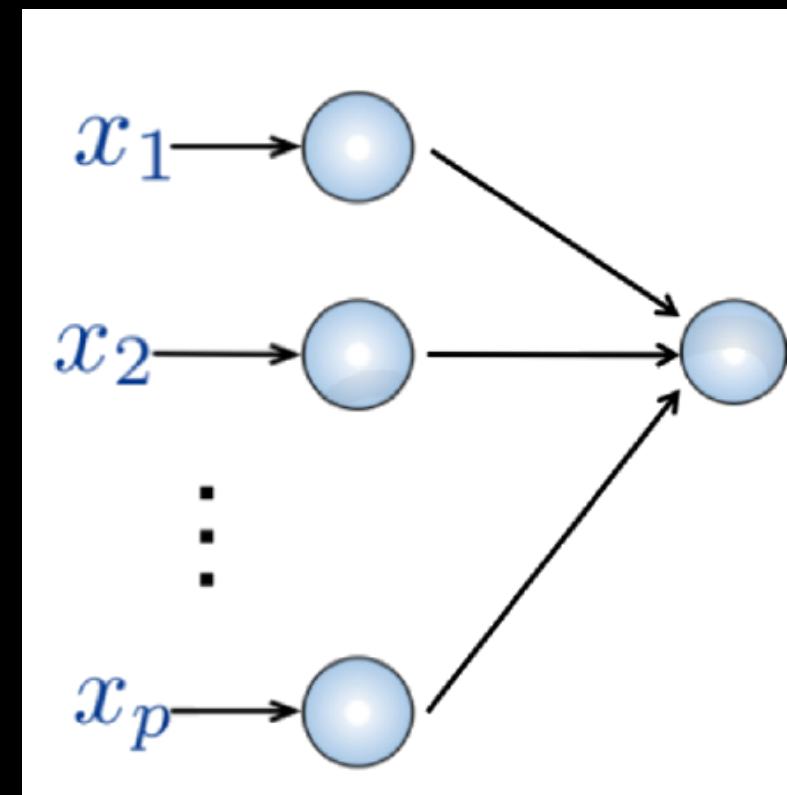
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# Fully connected NN



Input:

- 2D image
- vector of pixel values  
(flatten the image)



Fully connected:

- Connect neuron in hidden layer to all neurons in the input layer
- No spatial information!
- Lot of parameters

How to add spatial structure in the input?

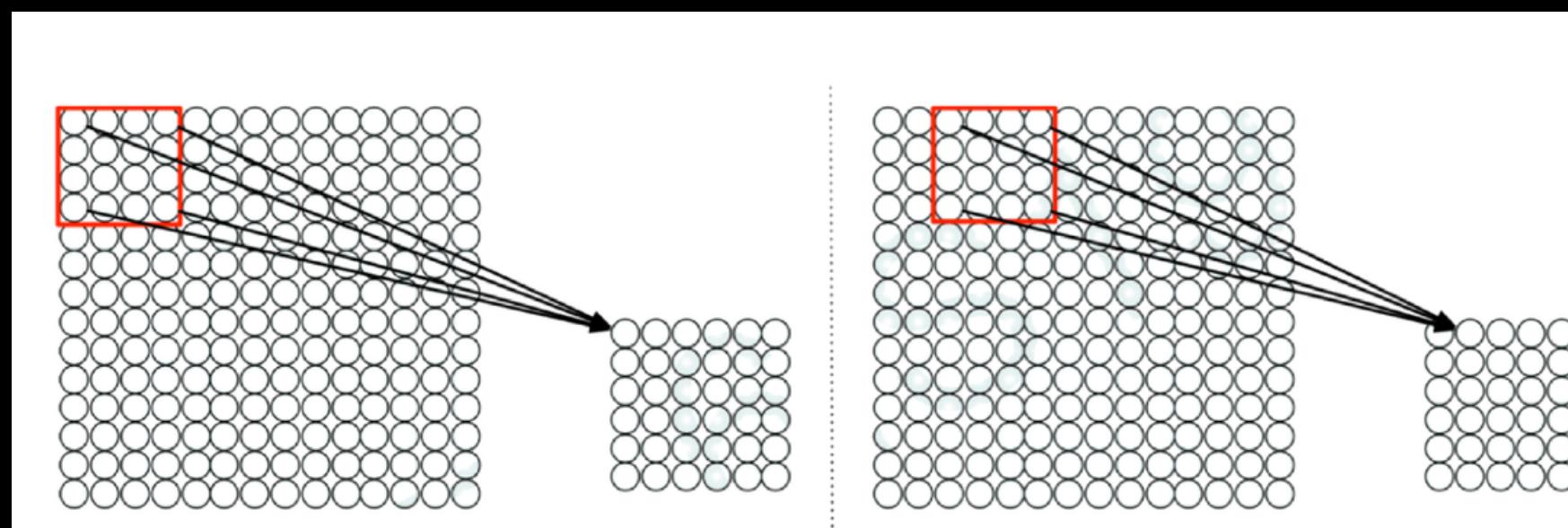
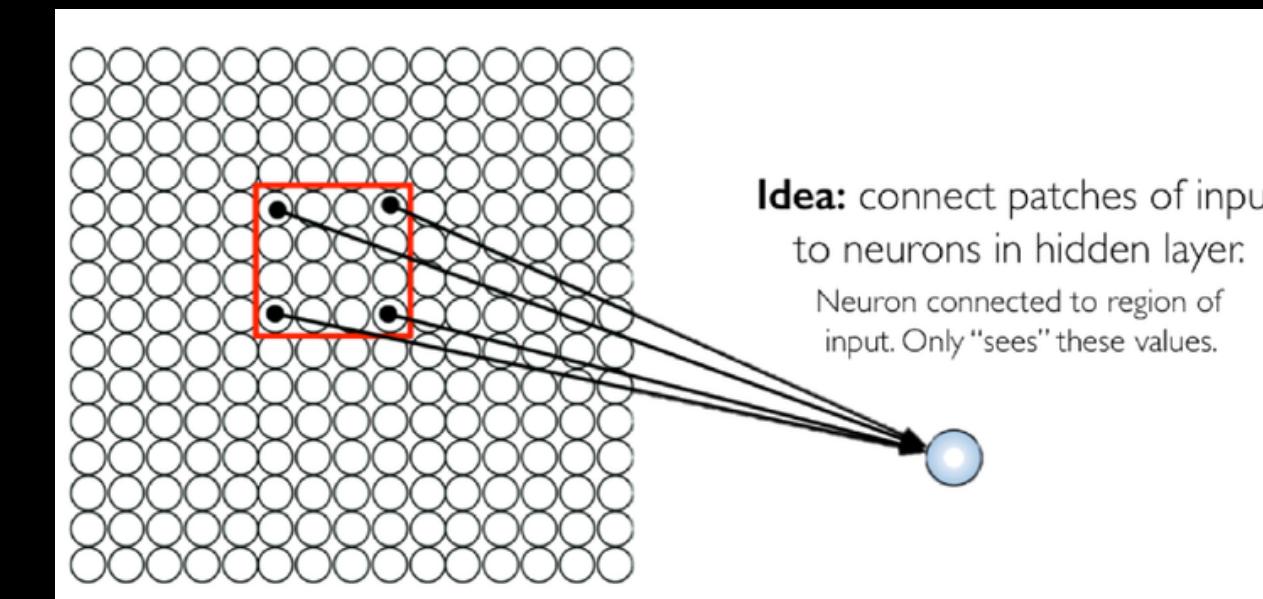


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# Using spatial structure

Input:

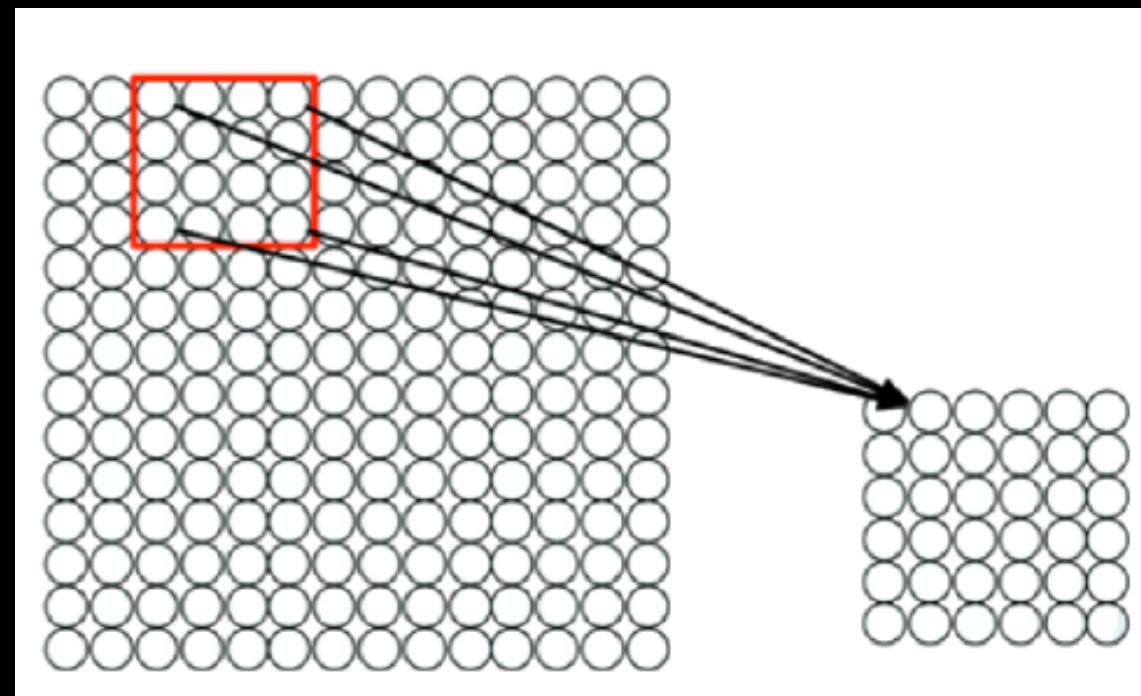
- 2D image
- **Array** of pixel values



Sliding window to define connections,(connect patch in input layer to a single neuron)

The key: how can we **weight** the patch to detect particular features?

# Using spatial structure



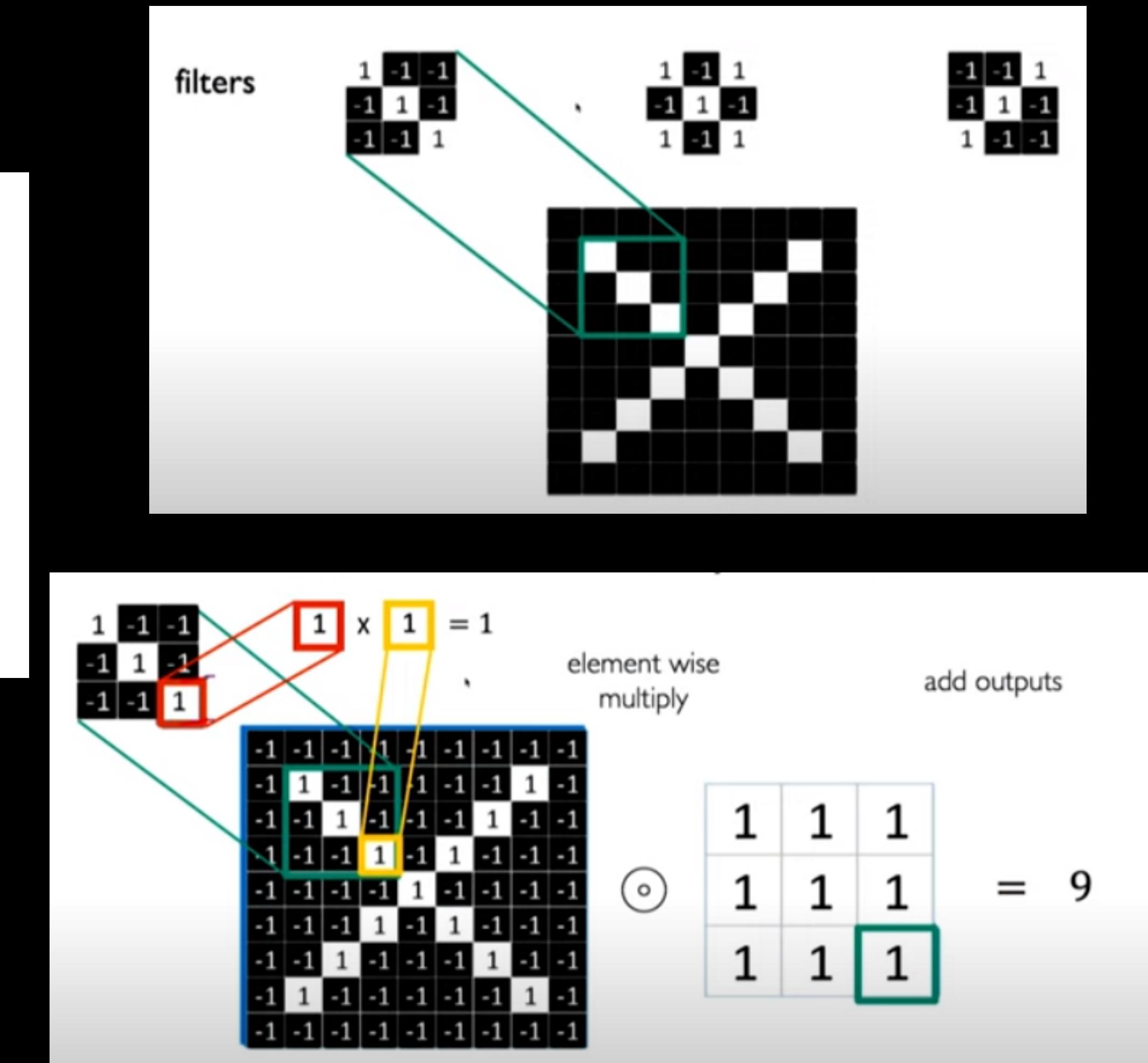
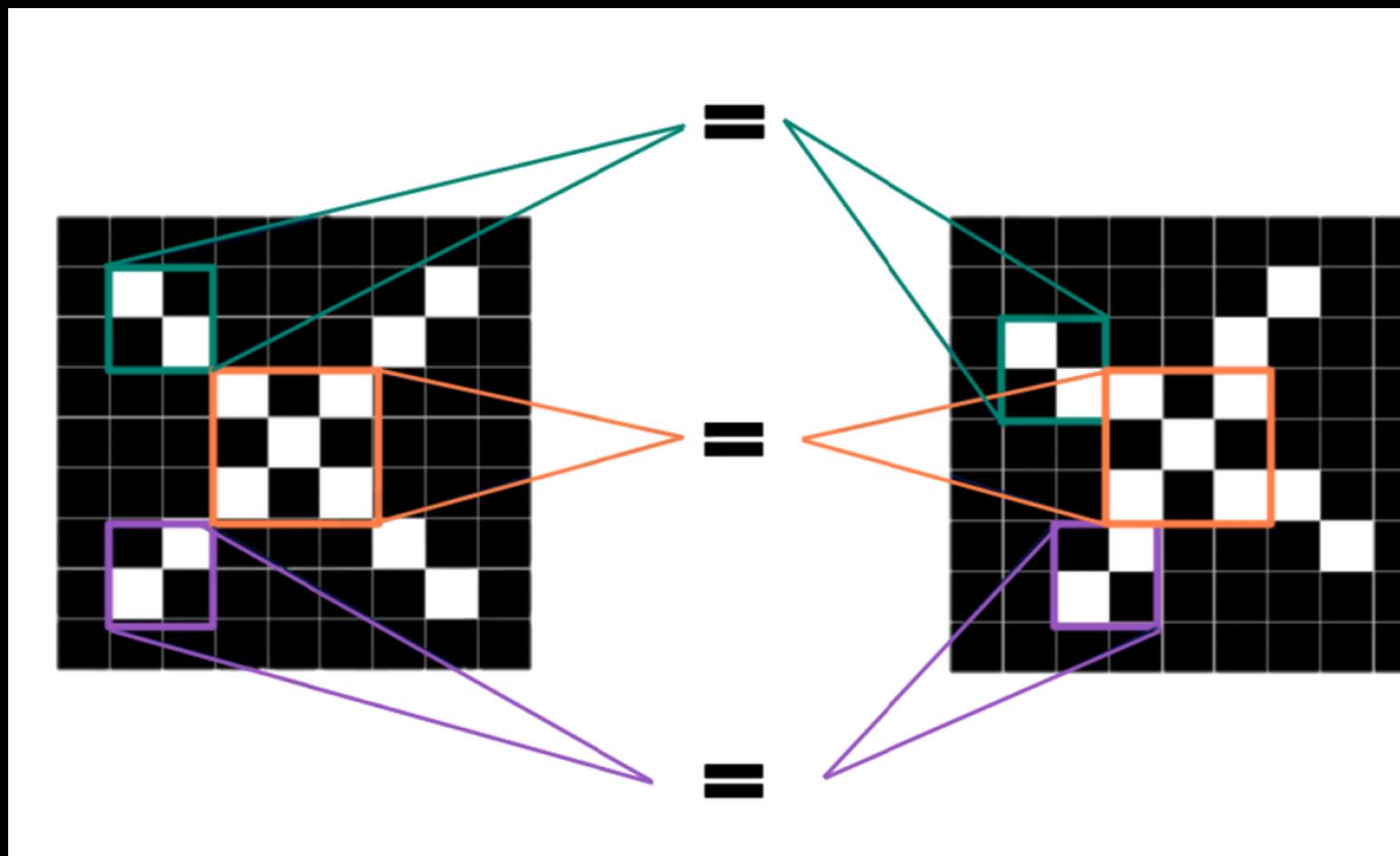
- Filter of size  $4 \times 4$ : 16 different weights
- Apply this same filter to a  $4 \times 4$  patches in input
- Shift by 2 pixels for next patch

This "patchy" operation is **convolution**

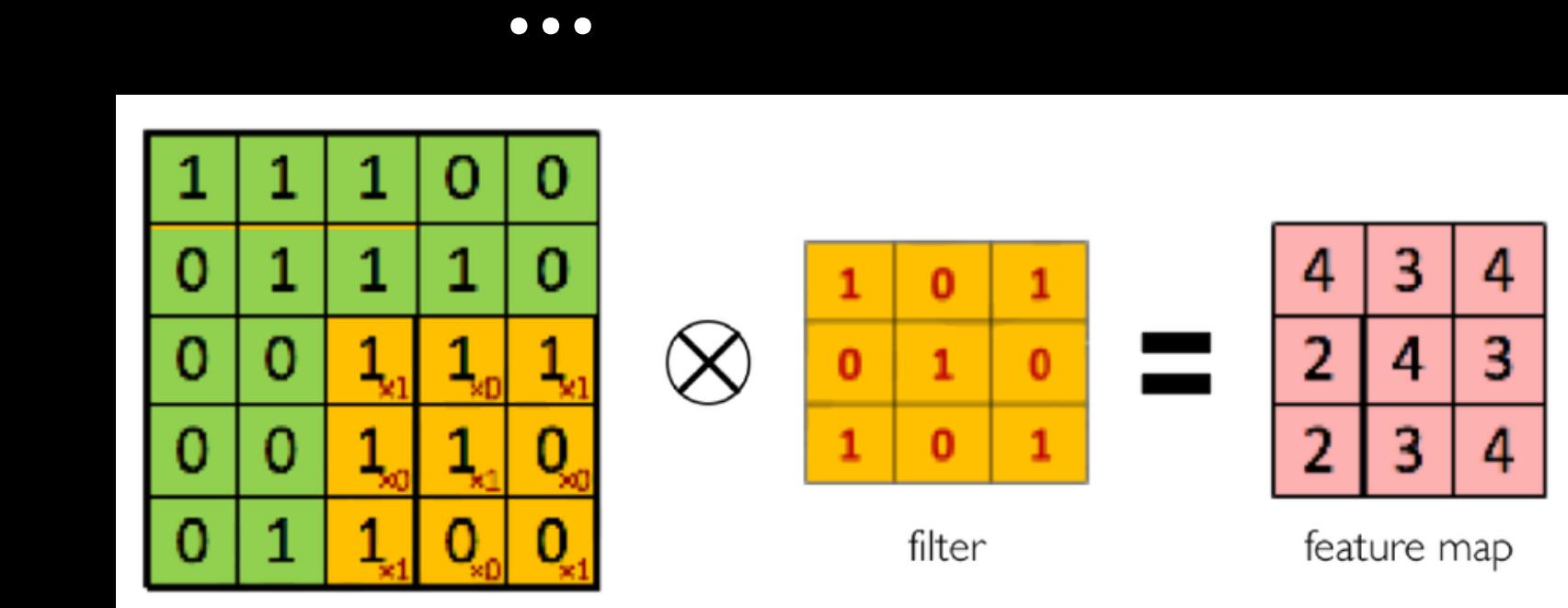
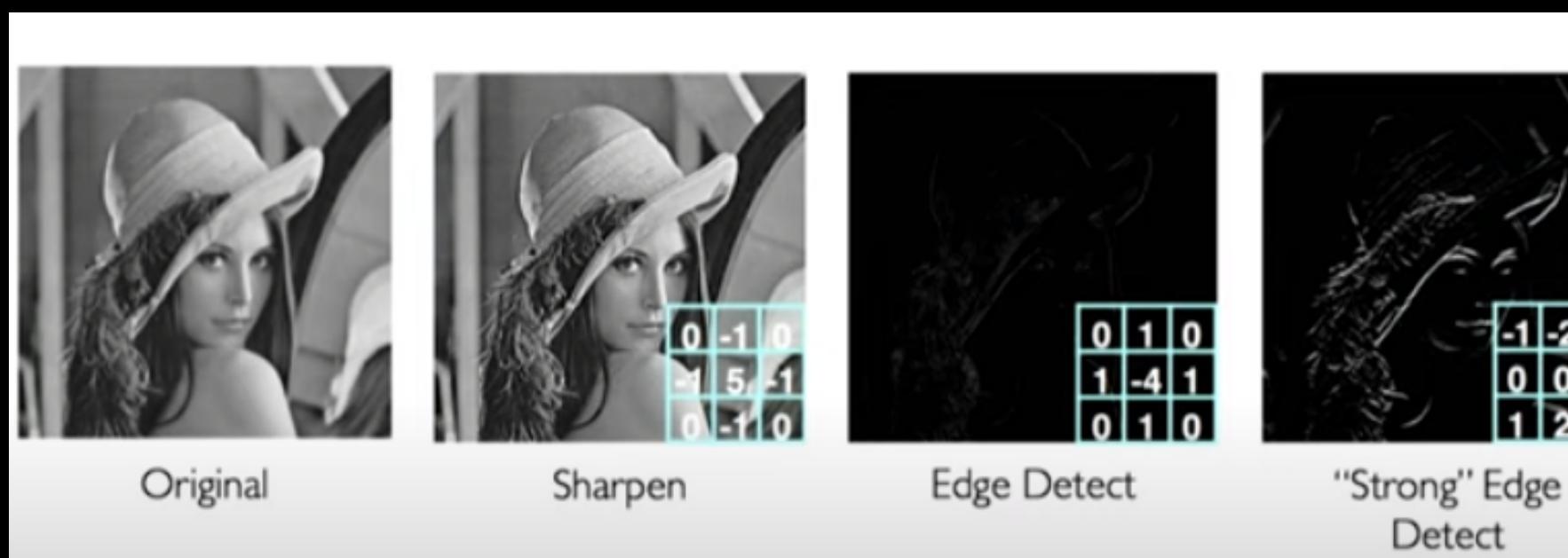
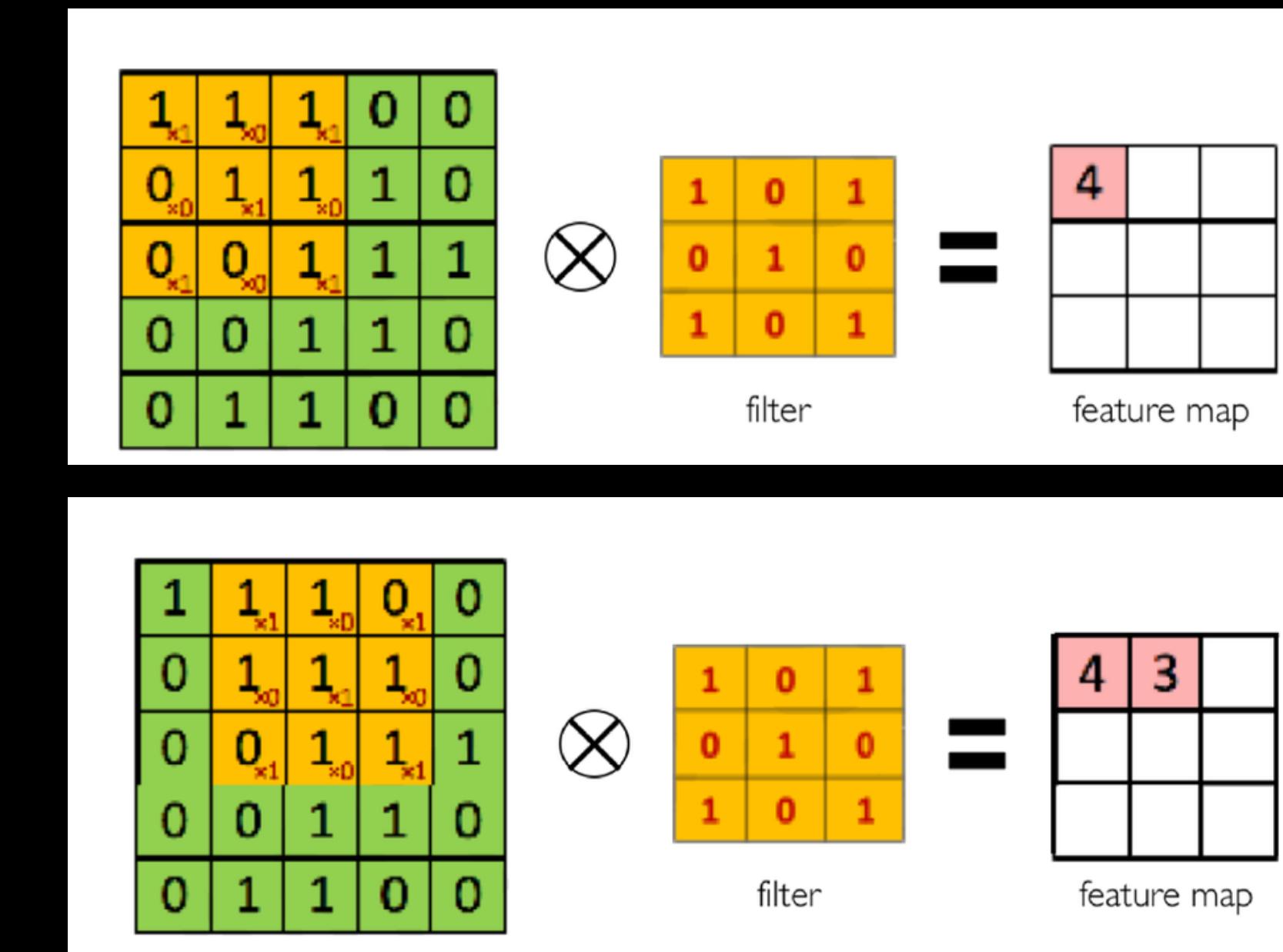
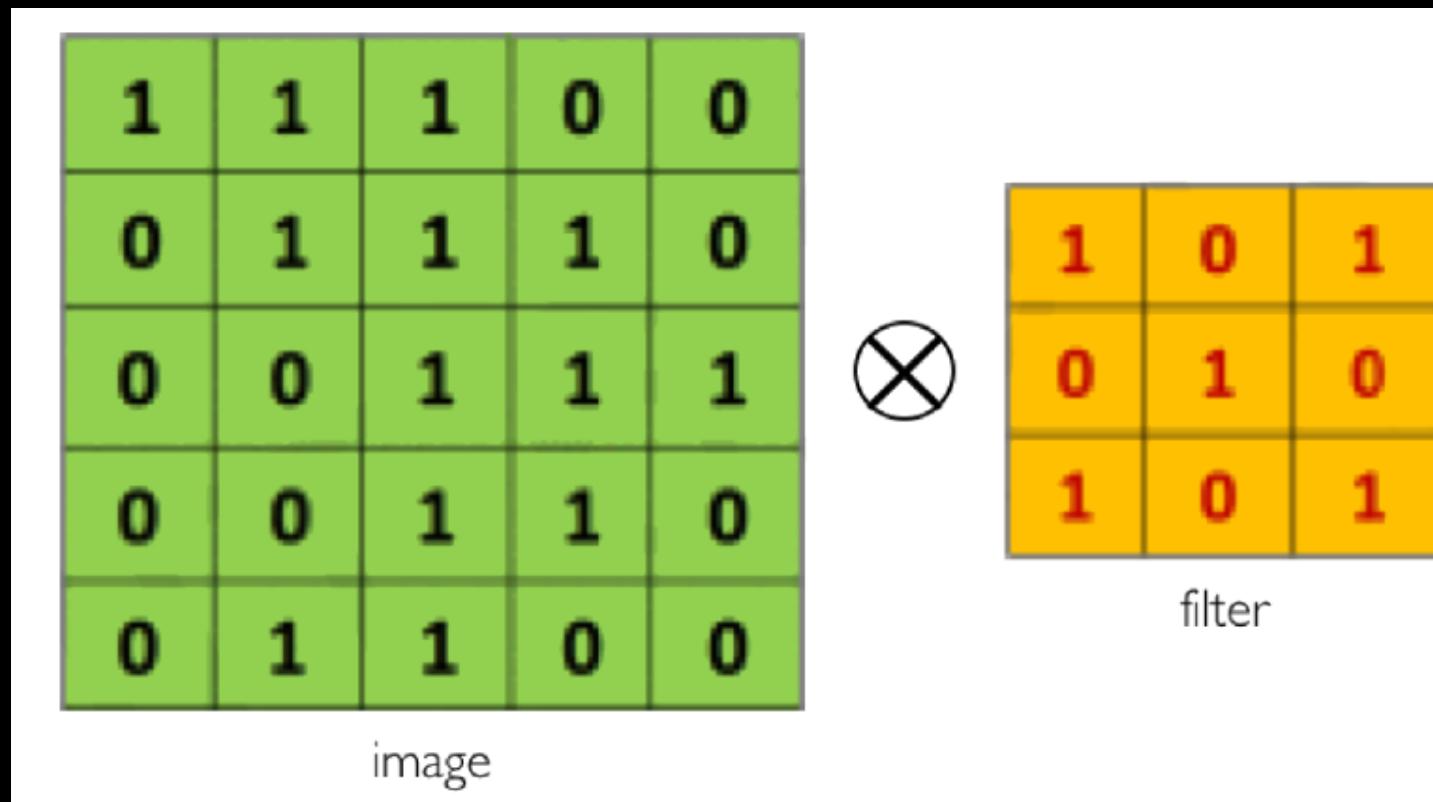
- Apply a set of weights ( a filter) to extract **local features**
- Use multiple filters to extract different features
- **Spatially share** parameters of each filter



# Convolutional operation

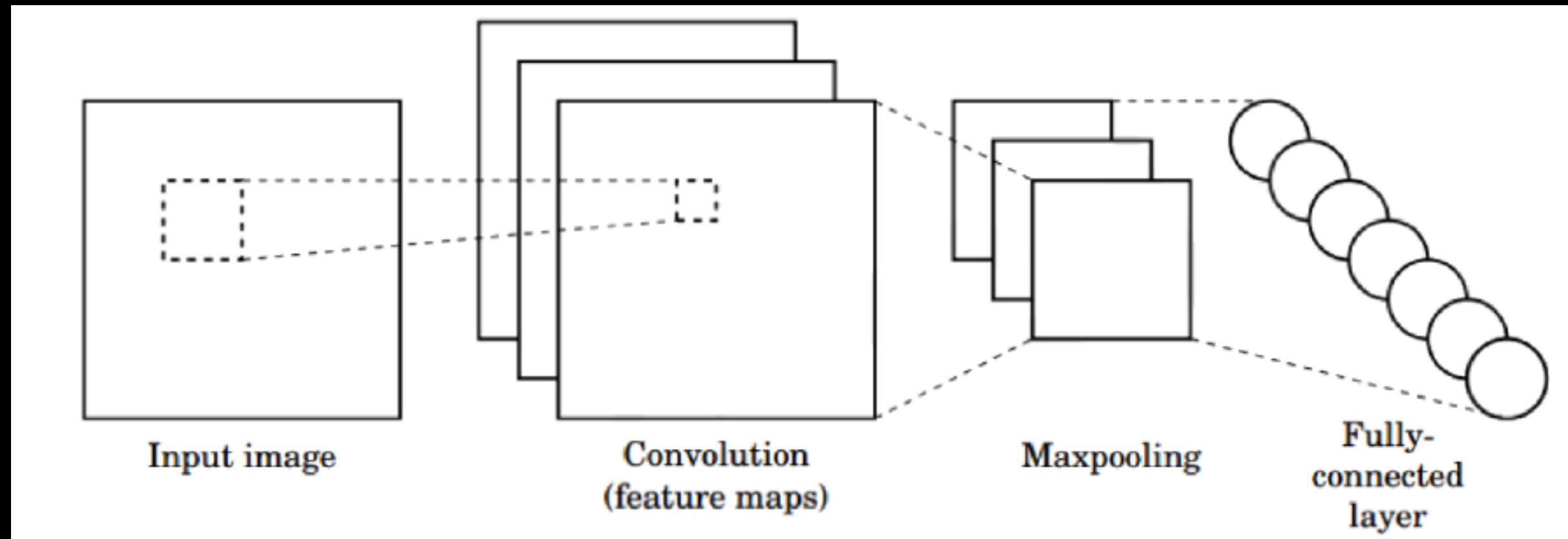


# Convolutional operation



# Convolutional neural networks (CNN)

- for classification



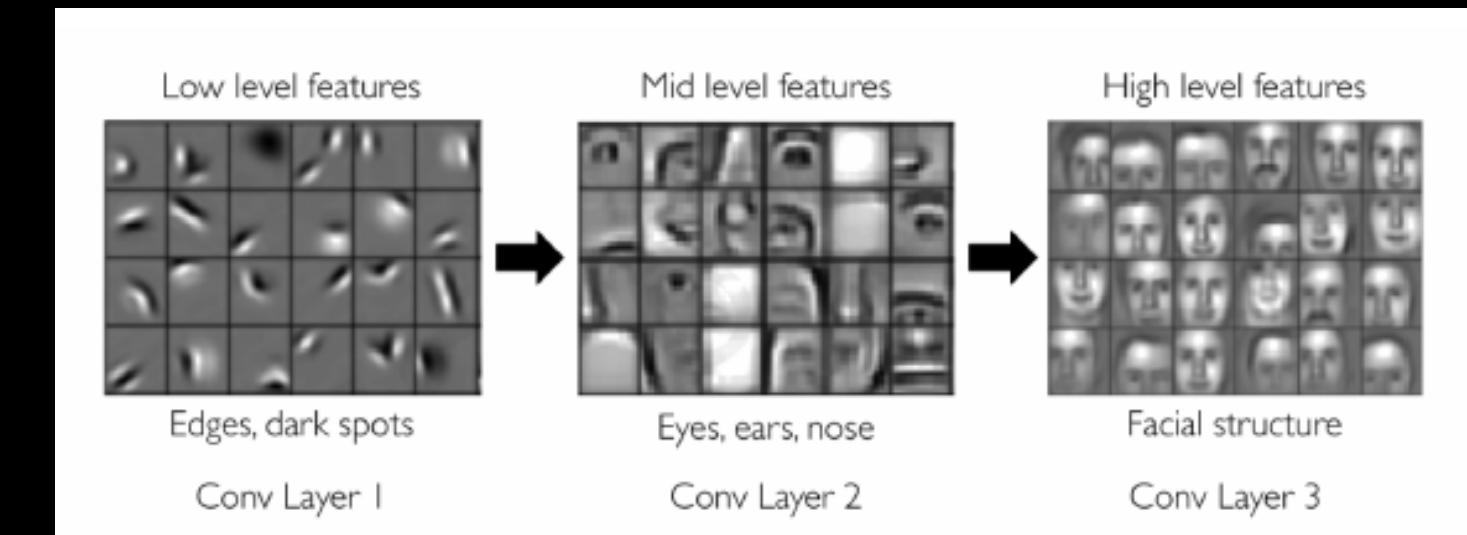
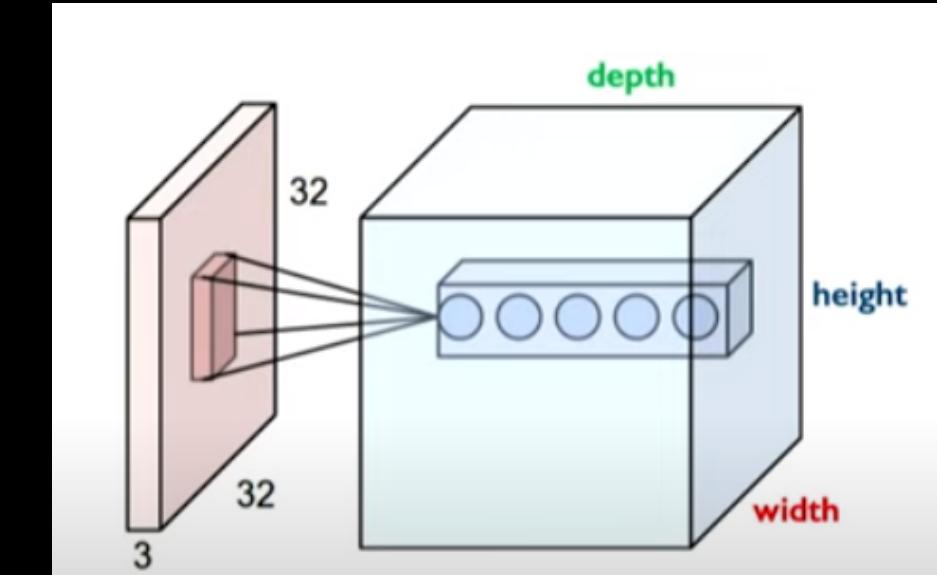
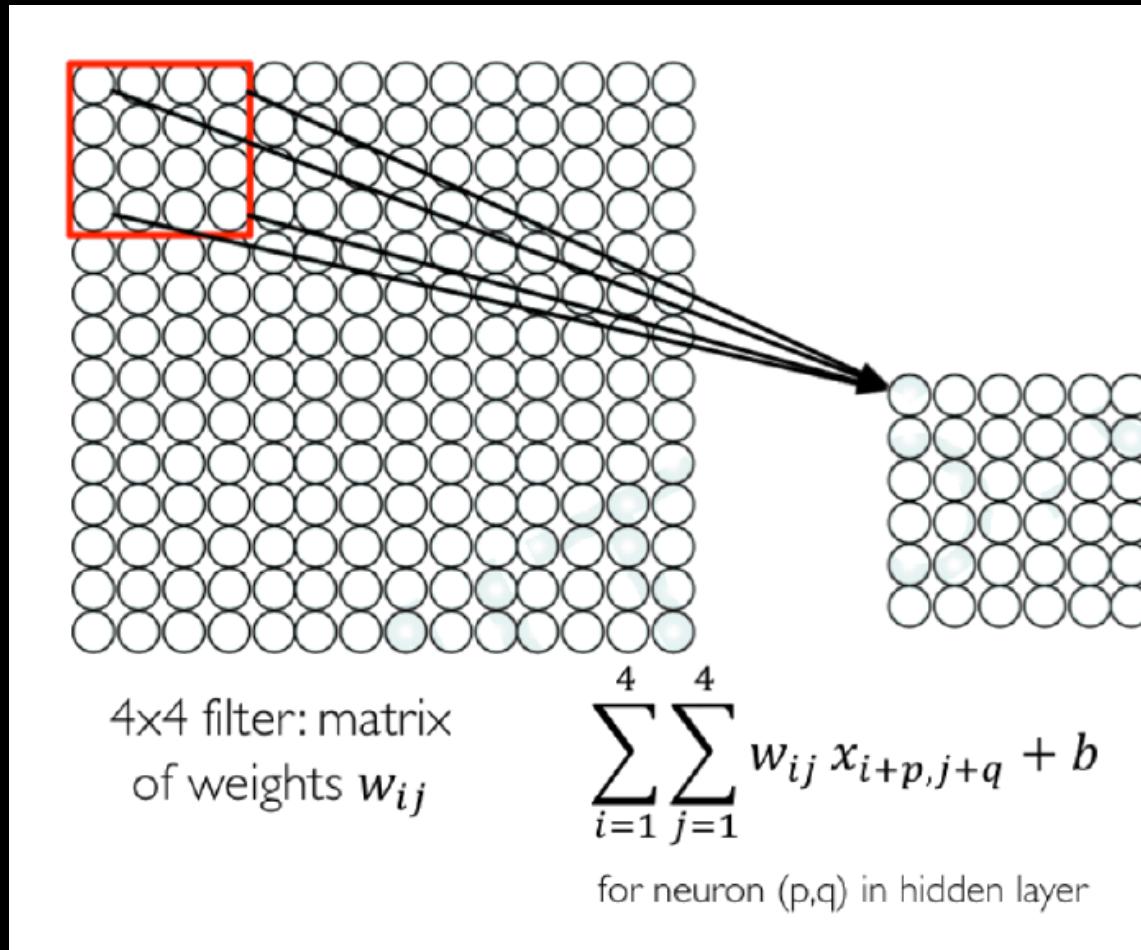
- **Convolution**: apply filters to generate feature maps
- **Non-linearity**: often ReLU
- **Pooling**: Downsampling operation on each feature map

**Train model with image data.  
Learn weights of filters in convolutional layers.**





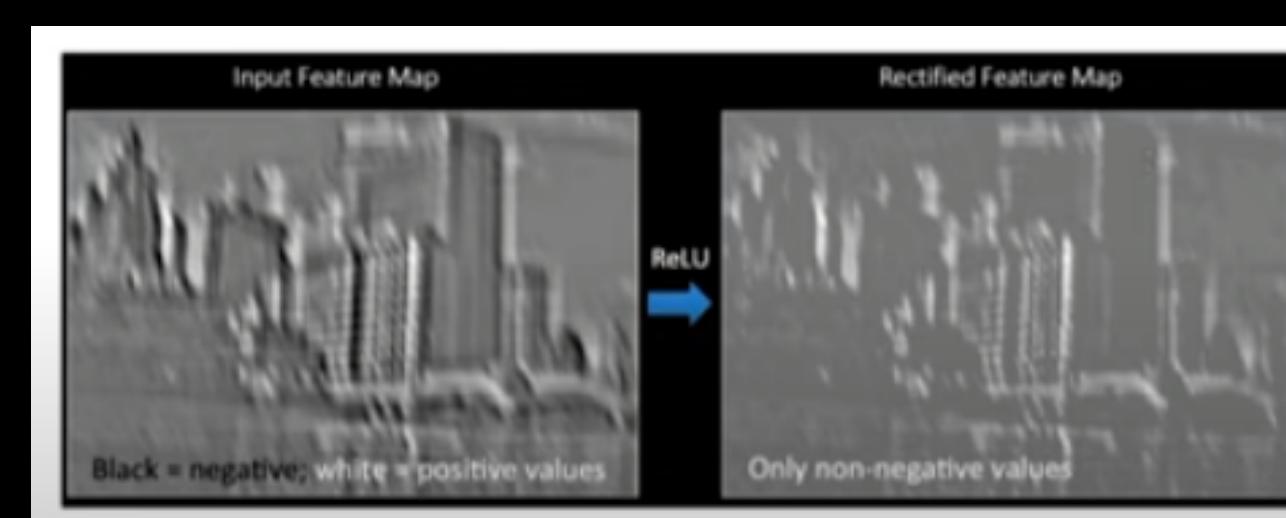
# Convolutional layer



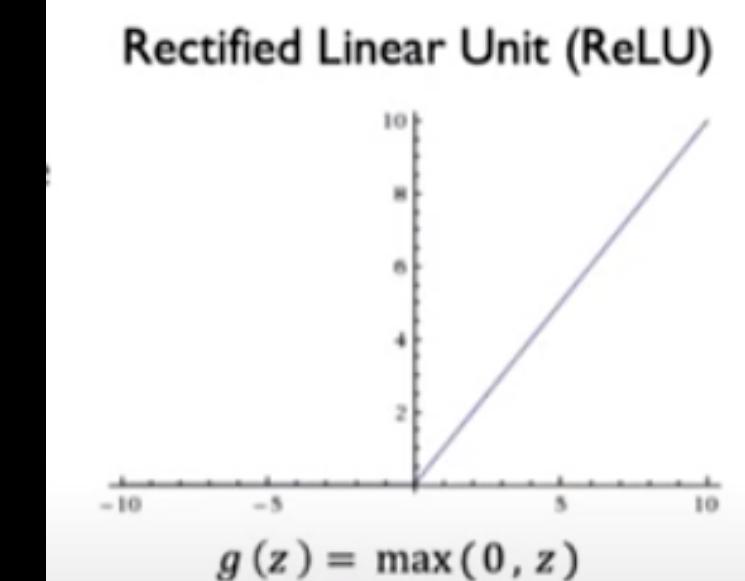
1. applying a window of weights
2. computing linear combinations

For a neuron in hidden layer

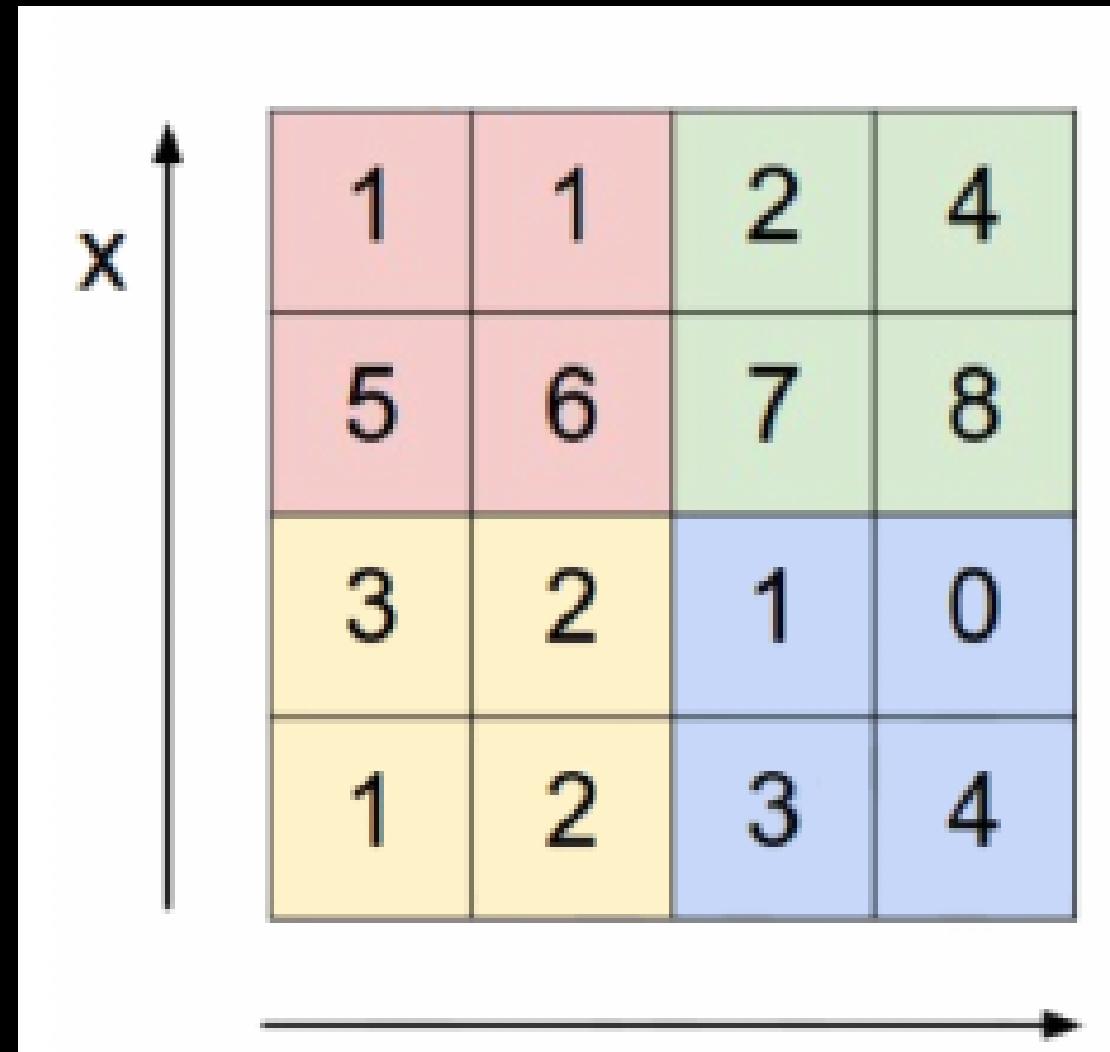
- Take inputs from patch
- Compute weighted sum
- apply bias



## 3. activating with non-linear function



# Pooling



max pool with 2x2 filters  
and stride 2

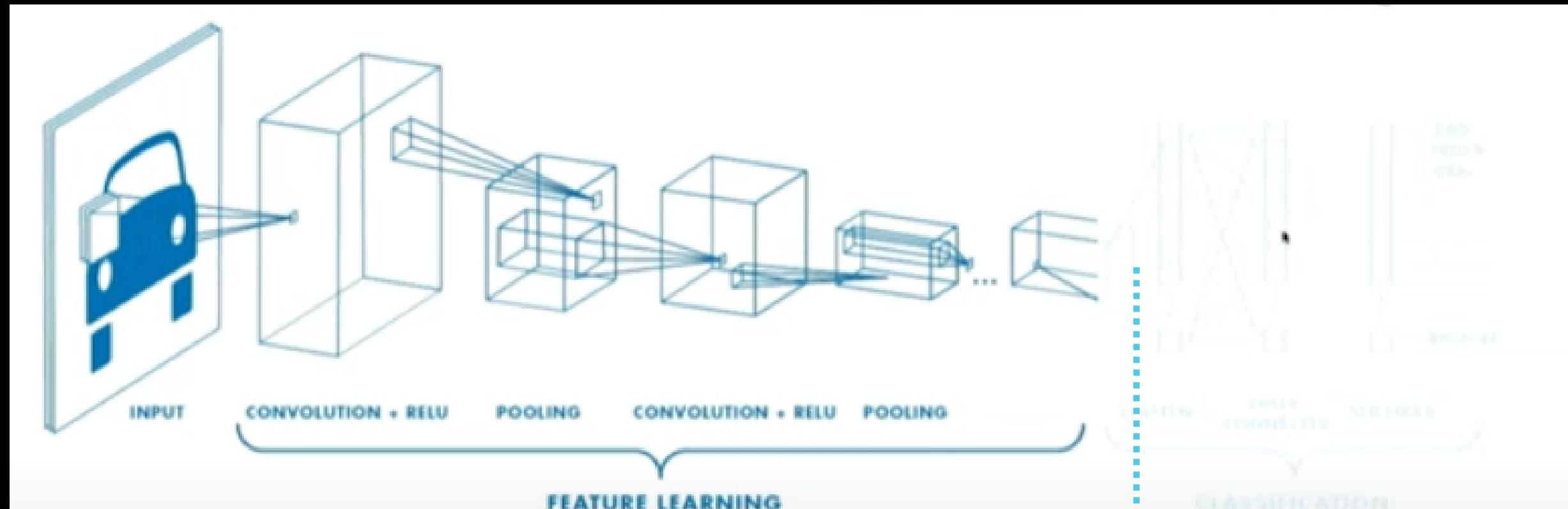


6	8
3	4

- Reduce dimensionality
- Spatial invariance



# CNN: classification example



- Learns features in input image through **convolution**
  - Introduce non-linearity (activation func)
  - Reduce dimensionality and preserve spacial invariance (**pooling**)
- at this point the last output is the i-th feature map

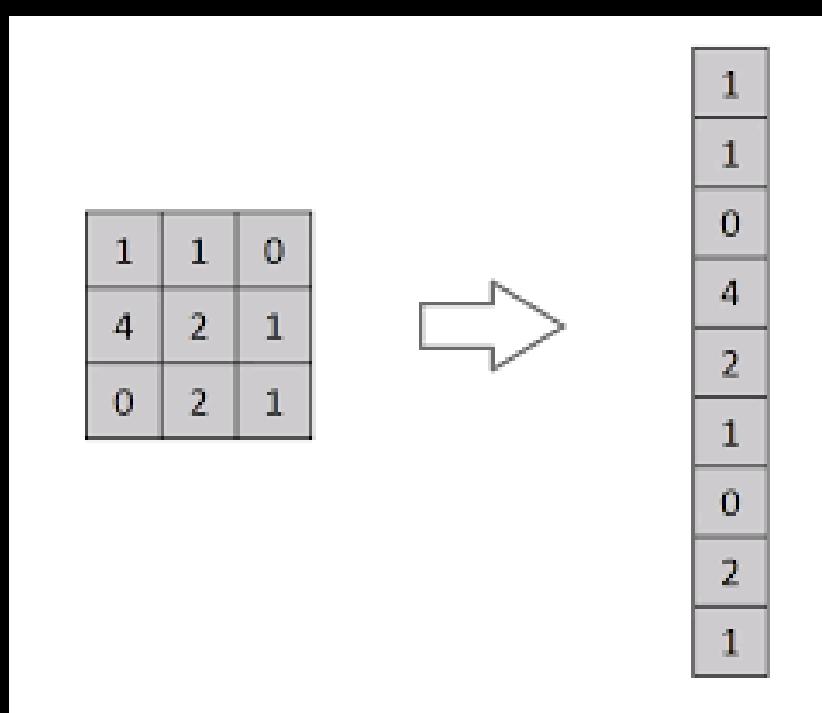




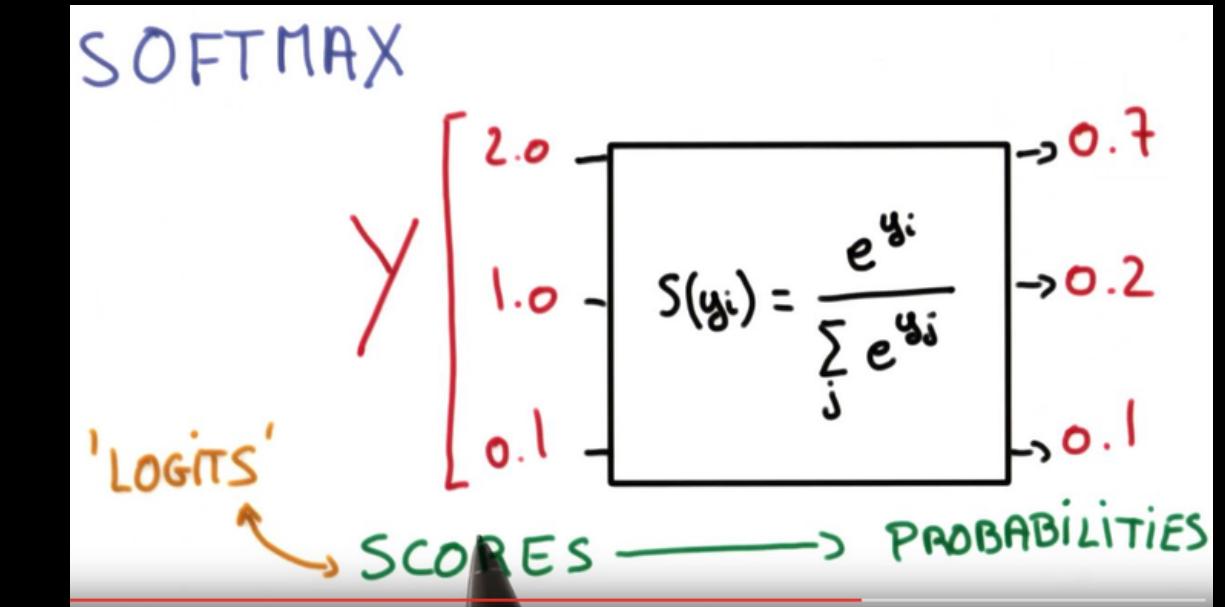
# CNN: classification example



- CONV and POOL layers putput **high-level features input**
- Fully connected layer uses these **features to classifying** input image
- Express **output as probability** (image to certain class)



$$\text{softmax}(y_i) = \frac{e^{y_i}}{\sum_j e^{y_j}}$$



logits = unnormalised (or not-yet normalised)  
predictions (or outputs) of a model

```
32     self.file = None
33     self.fingerprints = set()
34     self.logdepth = None
35     self.debug = False
36     self.logger = logging.getLogger(__name__)
37     if path:
38         self.file = open(path, "w")
39         self.file.write("")
40         self.fingerprints.add(path)
41
42     @classmethod
43     def tree_settingscls(settings):
44         debug = settings.getoption("runner.debug")
45         return cls(debug=debug)
46
47     def request_genuine(self, request):
48         fp = self.request_fingerprint(request)
49         if fp in self.fingerprints:
50             return True
51         self.fingerprints.add(fp)
52         self.file.write(fp + "\n")
53
54     def request_fingerprint(self, request):
55         return self.request_genuine(request)
```

# HANDS-ON LAB

TP - 3

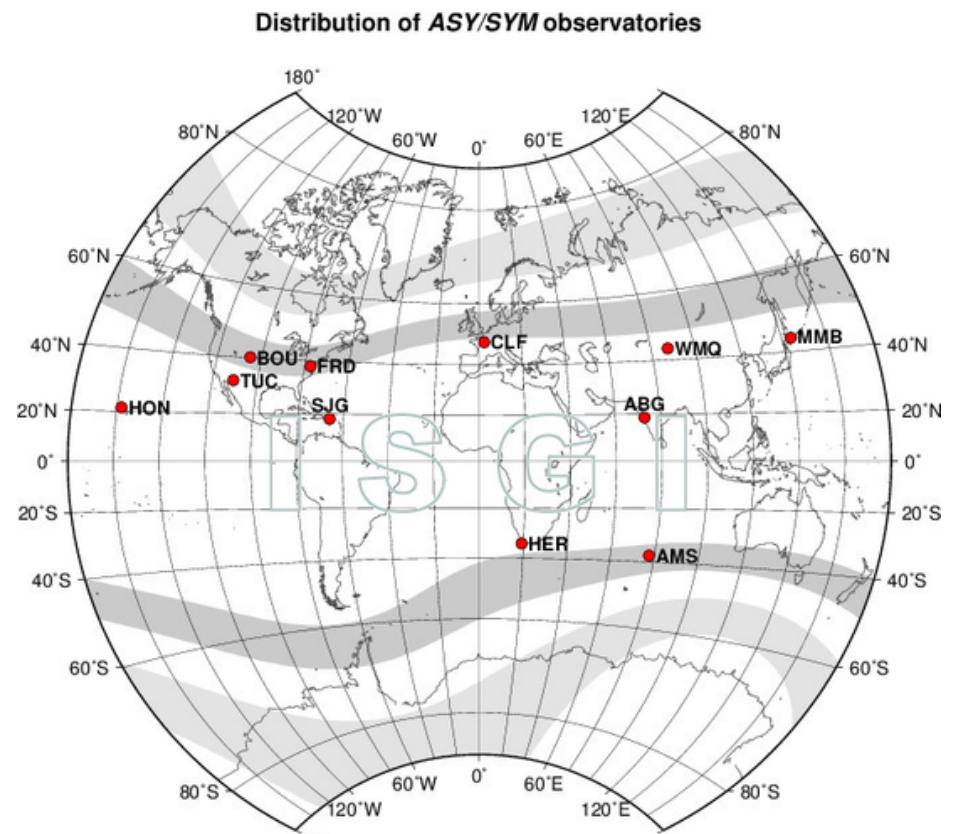
Sym-H forecasting



TSWC, 2022

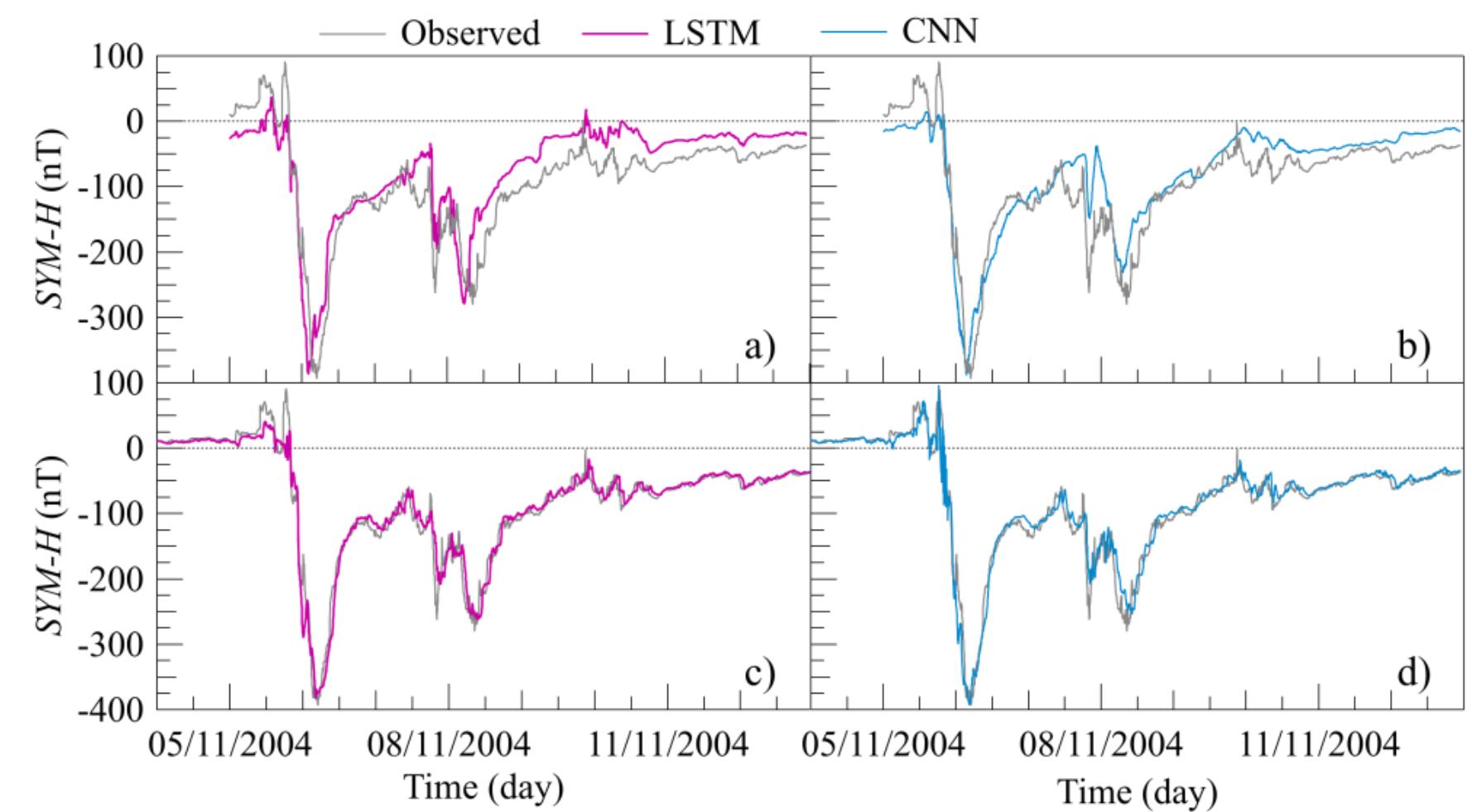
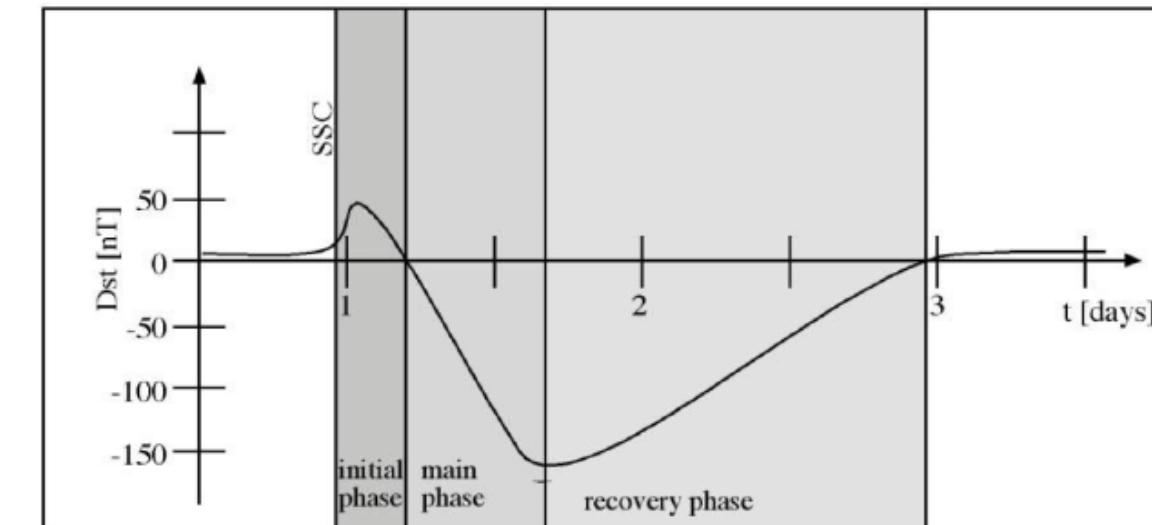
# From science to data science

[http://isgi.unistra.fr/indices\\_asy.php](http://isgi.unistra.fr/indices_asy.php)



To describe the geomagnetic disturbances at mid-latitudes in terms of longitudinally asymmetric (ASY) and symmetric (SYM) disturbances for both H and D components respectively parallel and perpendicular to the dipole axis.

SYM-H is essentially the same as the Dst index with a different time resolution.

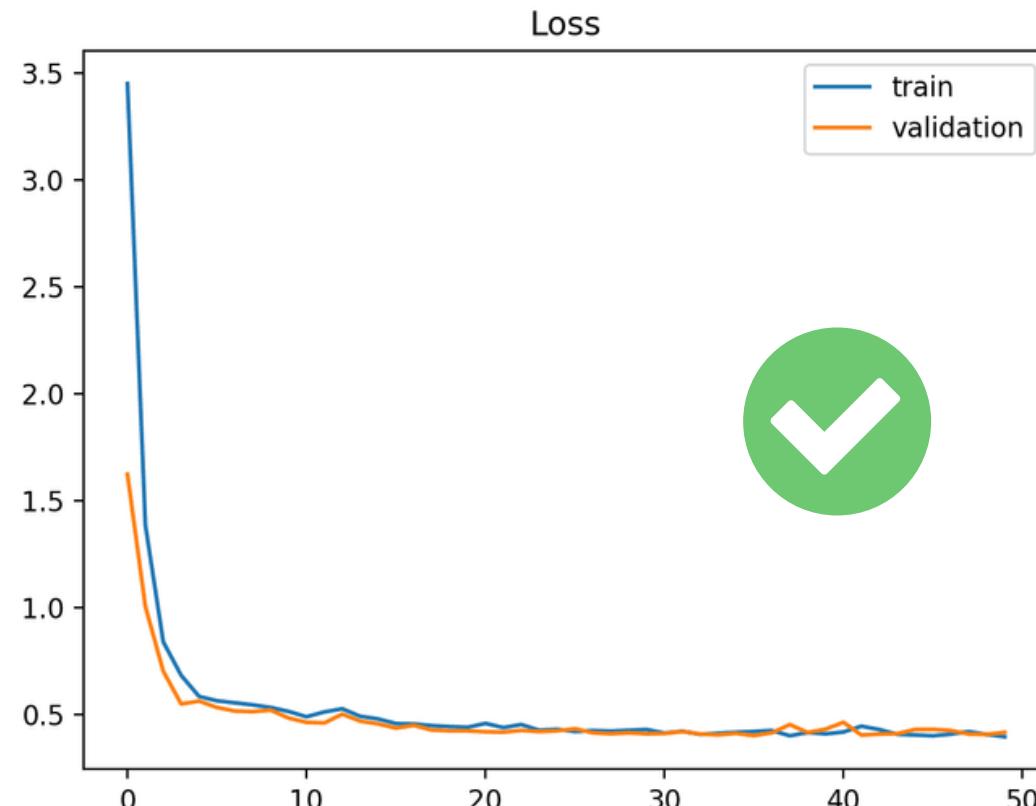


Siciliano et al, 2022



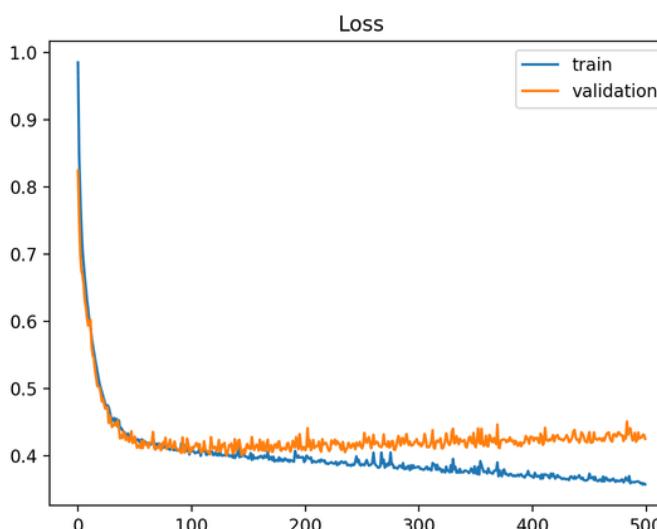
# Diagnose

- The learning process

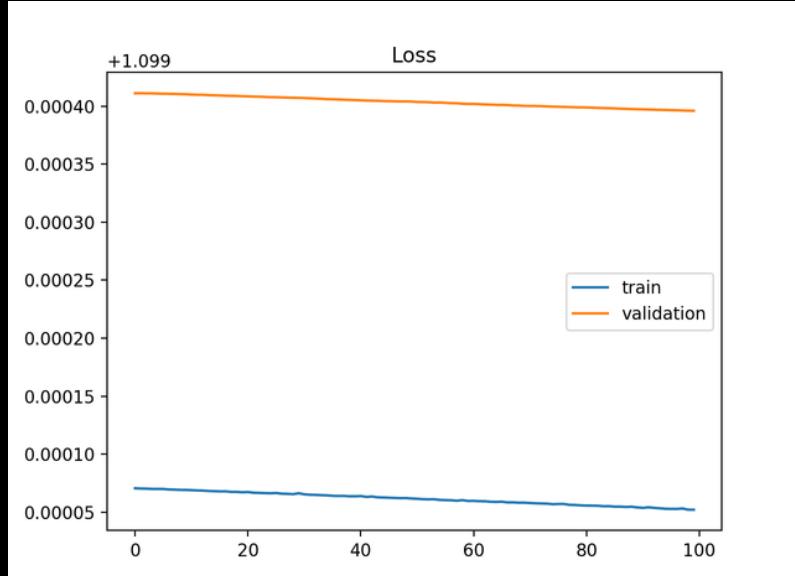


## reality

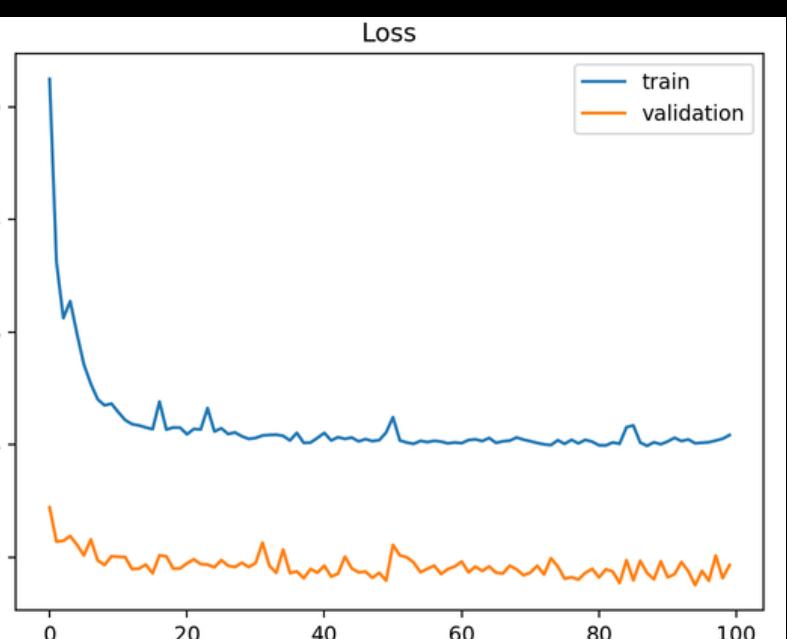
overfitting



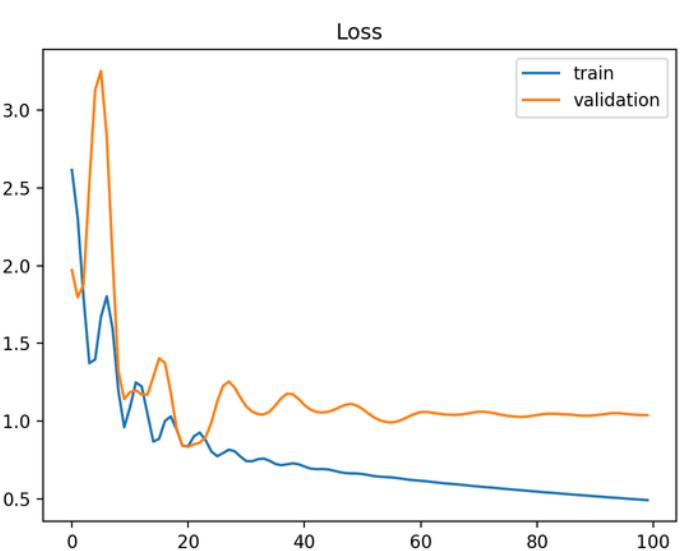
Model does not have a suitable capacity for the complexity of the dataset (underfit)



Model that requires further training (underfit)

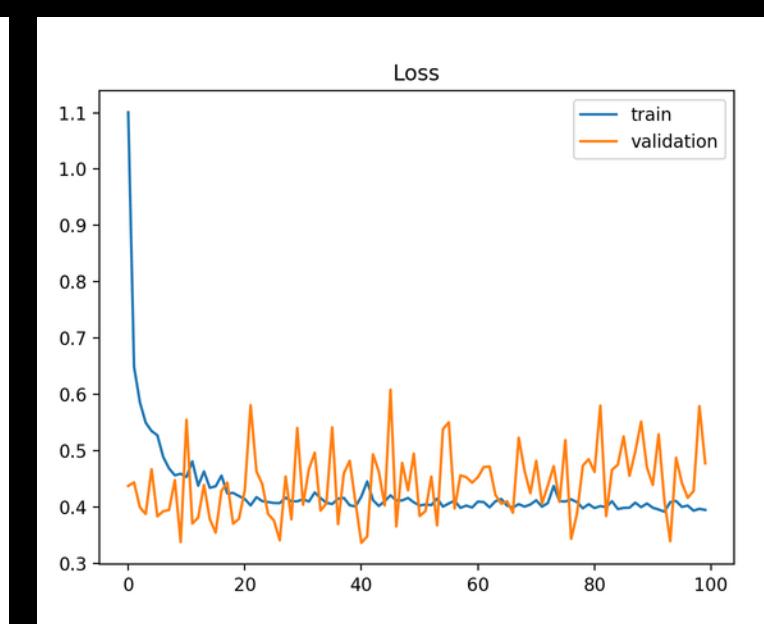


unrepresentative training dataset



Dataset << relative to the validation dataset

unrepresentative validation dataset

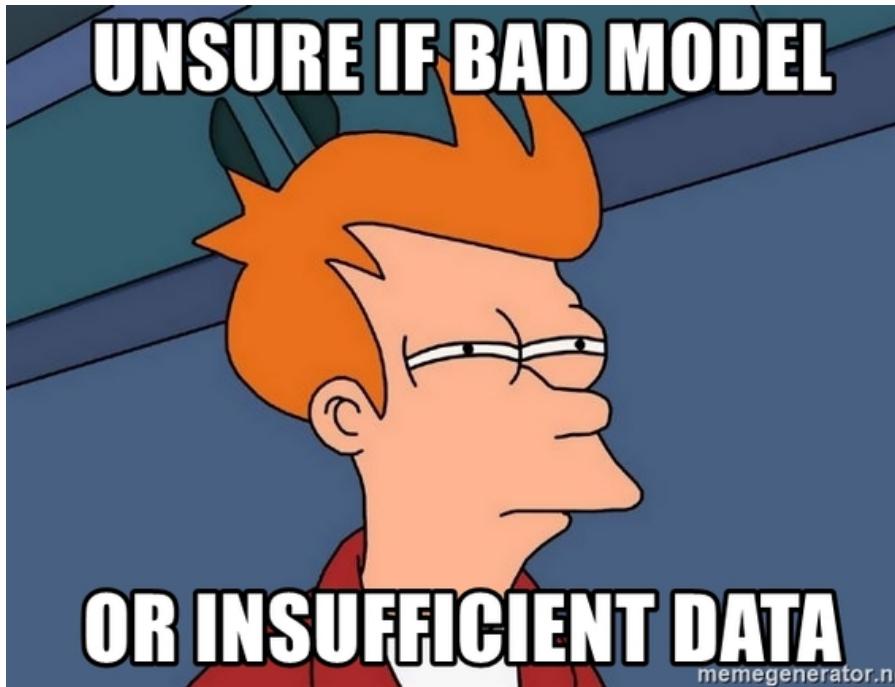


validation dataset does not provide sufficient information to evaluate the ability of the model to generalize

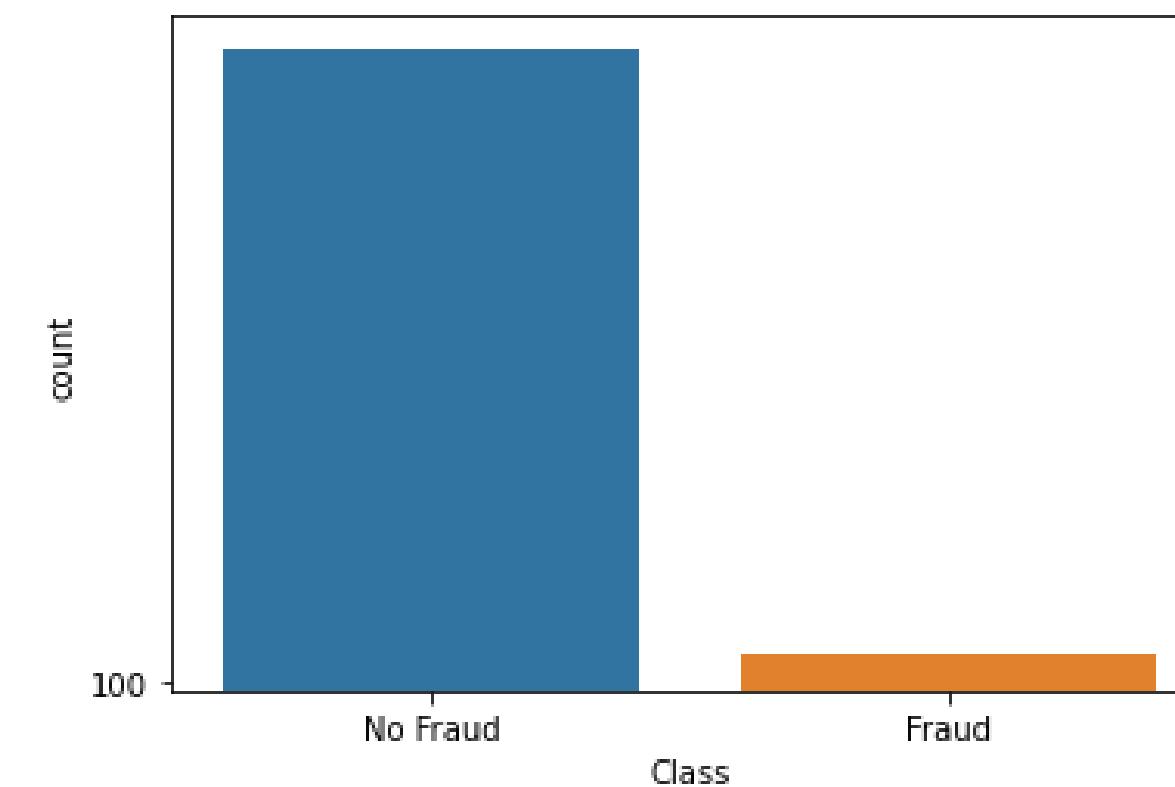
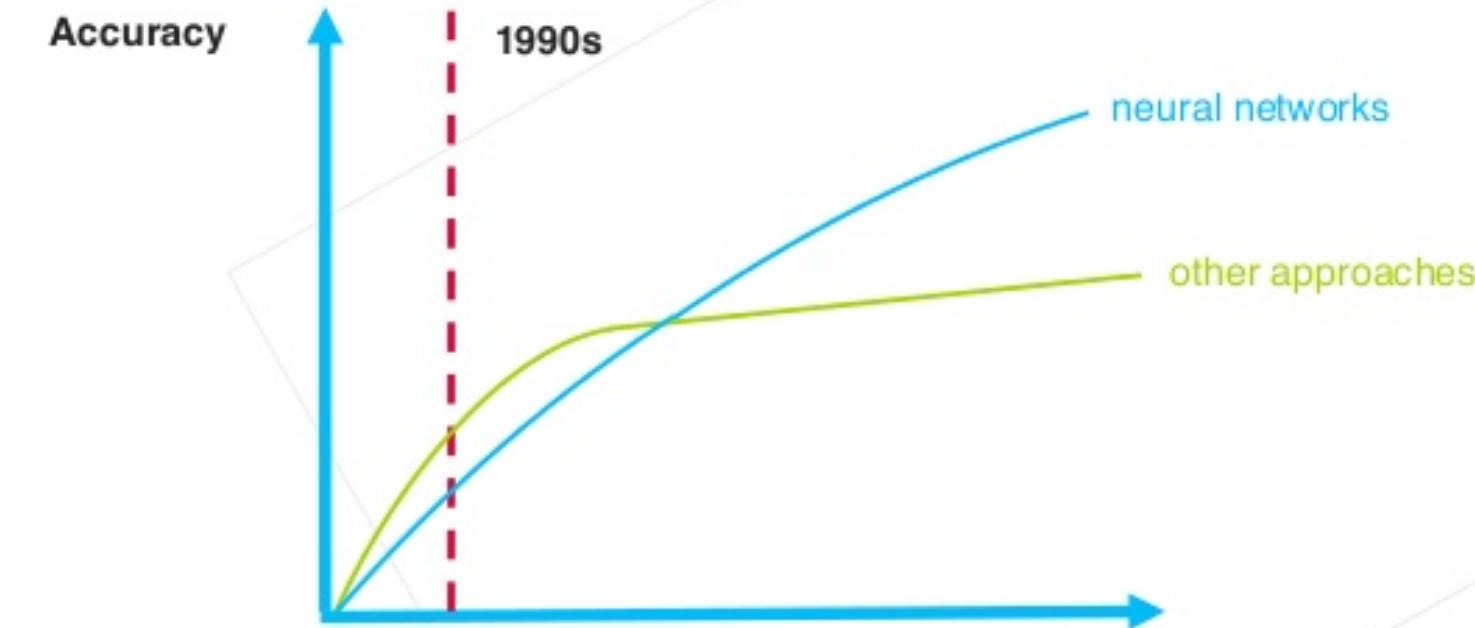


# About the dataset

- Amount of data and data balancing



## More Data + Bigger Models

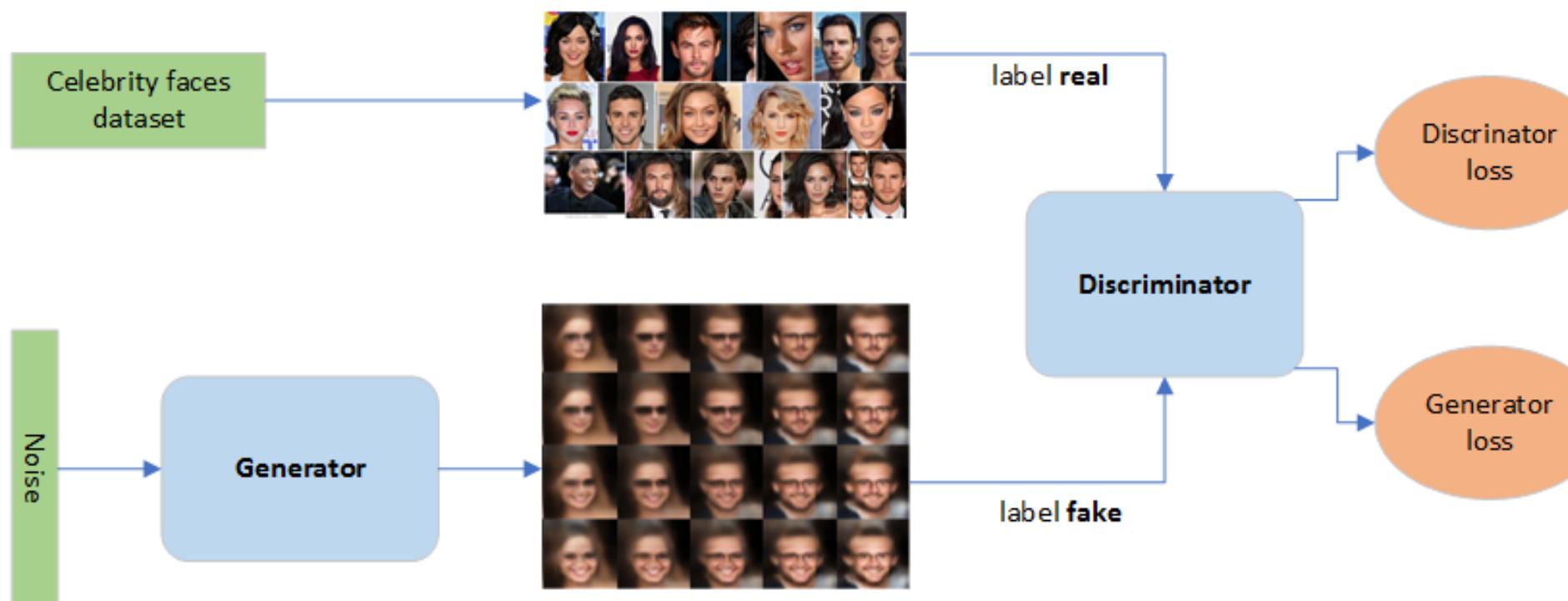


..... re sample (?)  
generate more data (?)

# About the dataset

Bertimas et.al., From Predictive Methods to Missing Data Imputation: An Optimization Approach (2018)

Method Name	Category	Software	Reference
Mean impute ( <code>mean</code> )	Mean		Little and Rubin (1987)
Expectation-Maximization ( <code>EM</code> )	EM		Dempster et al. (1977)
EM with Mixture of Gaussians and Multinomials	EM		Ghahramani and Jordan (1994)
EM with Bootstrapping	EM	<code>Amelia II</code>	Honaker et al. (2011)
<i>K</i> -Nearest Neighbors ( <code>knn</code> )	<i>K</i> -NN	<code>impute</code>	Troyanskaya et al. (2001)
Sequential <i>K</i> -Nearest Neighbors	<i>K</i> -NN		Kim et al. (2004)
Iterative <i>K</i> -Nearest Neighbors	<i>K</i> -NN		Caruana (2001); Brás and Menezes (2007)
Support Vector Regression	SVR		Wang et al. (2006)
Predictive-Mean Matching ( <code>pmm</code> )	LS	<code>MICE</code>	Buuren and Groothuis-Oudshoorn (2011)
Least Squares	LS		Bø et al. (2004)
Sequential Regression Multivariate Imputation	LS		Raghunathan et al. (2001)
Local-Least Squares	LS		Kim et al. (2005)
Sequential Local-Least Squares	LS		Zhang et al. (2008)
Iterative Local-Least Squares	LS		Cai et al. (2006)
Sequential Regression Trees	Tree	<code>MICE</code>	Burgette and Reiter (2010)
Sequential Random Forest	Tree	<code>missForest</code>	Stekhoven and Bühlmann (2012)
Singular Value Decomposition	SVD		Troyanskaya et al. (2001)
Bayesian Principal Component Analysis	SVD	<code>pcaMethods</code>	Oba et al. (2003); Mohamed et al. (2009)
Factor Analysis Model for Mixed Data	FA		Khan et al. (2010)



Goodfellow et.al. Generative Adversarial Networks (2014)



TSWC, 2022



# Vanishing gradient problem

- activation function, architecture, weight initialization, loss optimization algorithm, learning rate, ...

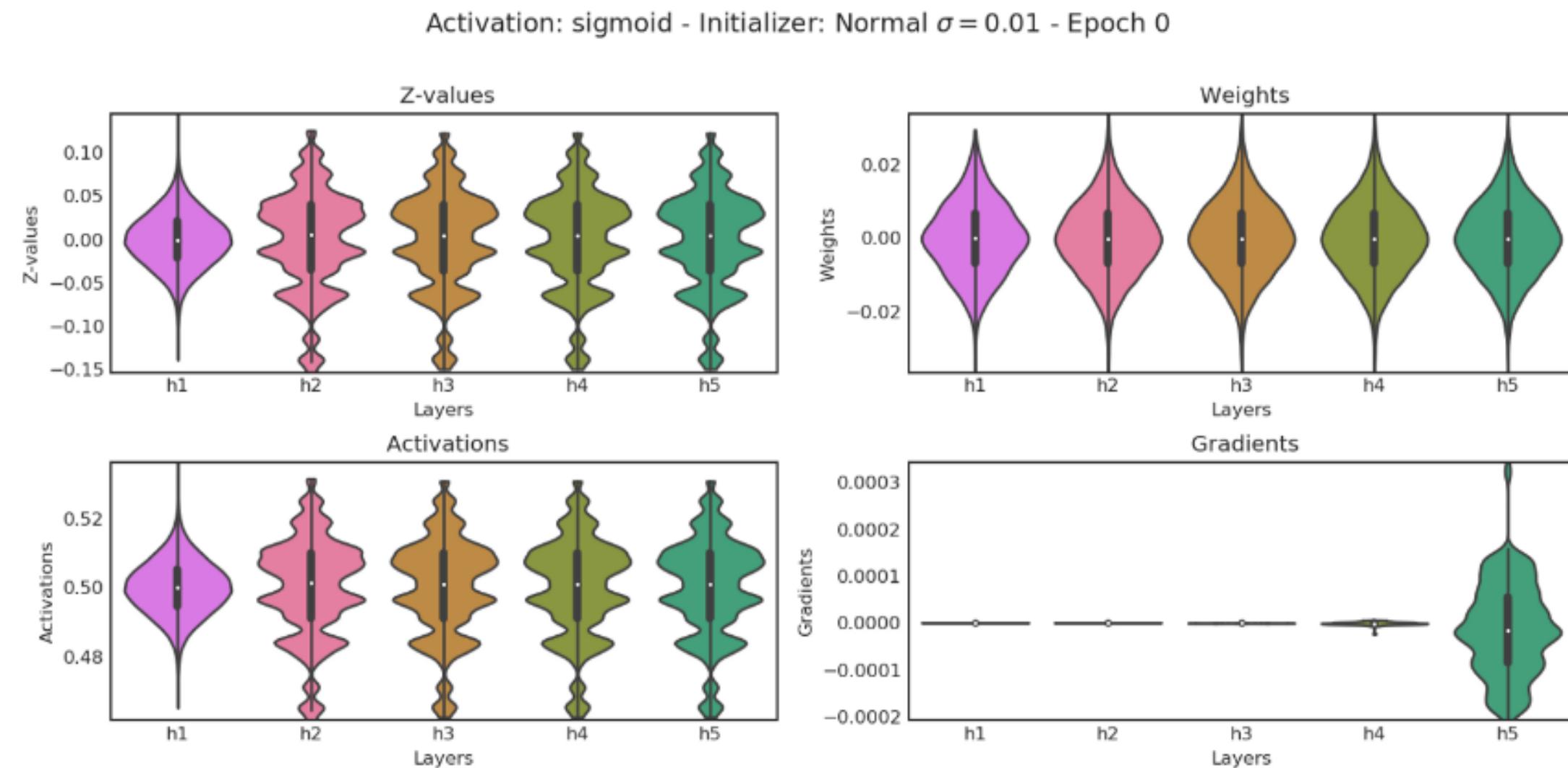
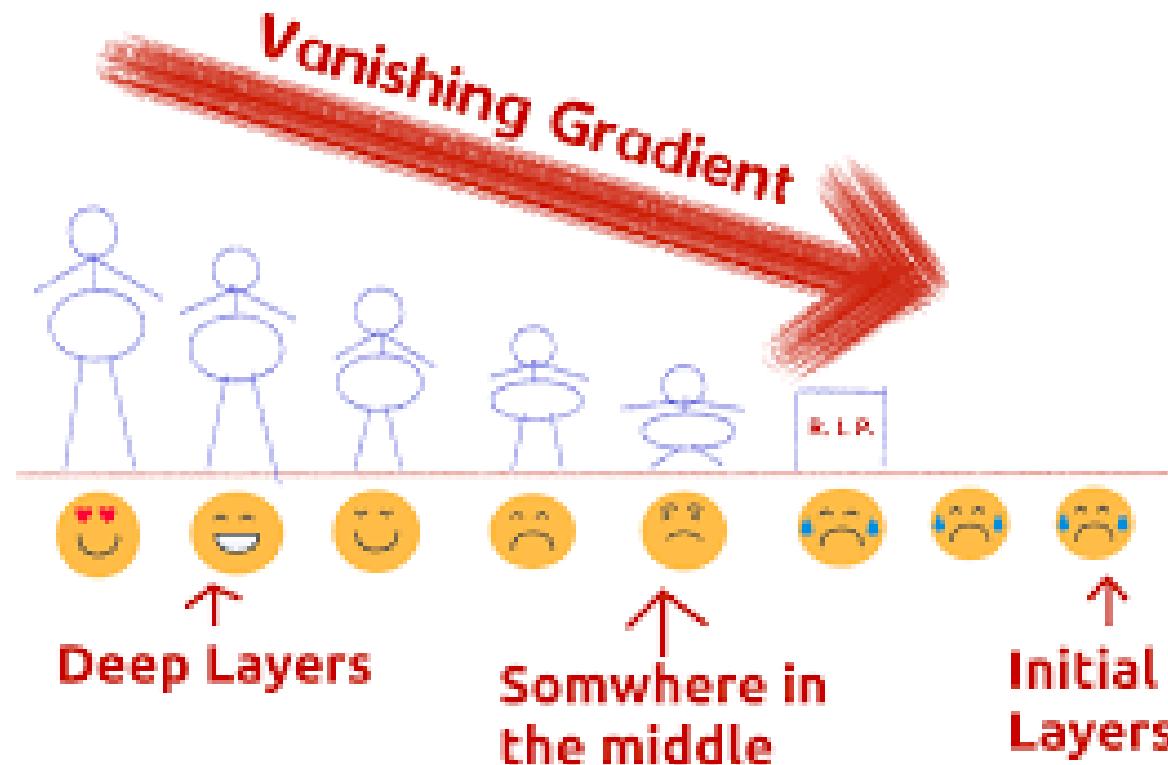


Figure 1. BLOCK model using sigmoid and naive initialization — don't try this at home!



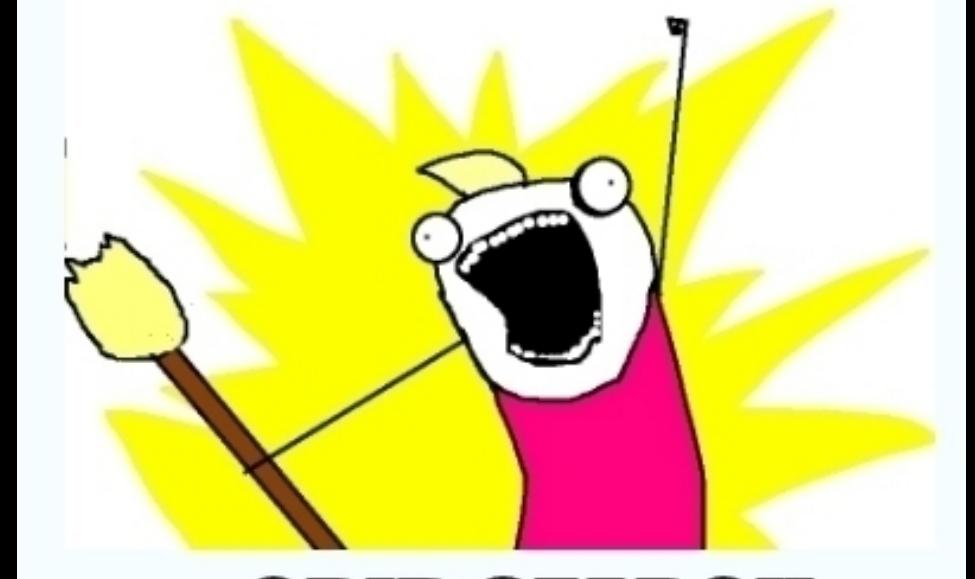
# Hyperparameters optimization

- Choose a set of optimal hyperparameters for a learning algorithm (maximizes the model performance)
- Hyperparameters are set before the learning process (#neurons, #cells, loss optimization algorithms, etc)

## GRID SEARCH

- 1 — Identify the model's hyperparameters to optimizest.
- 2 — Asses error score for each combination in the hyperparameter grid.
- 3 — Select the hyperparameter combination with the best error metric.

**TRY THEM ALL**





# Hyperparameters optimization

```
# learning_rate choices
learning_rates = [ 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5,
                    0.01, 0.02, 0.03, 0.04, 0.05 ]
# iterations choices
iterations = [ 100, 200, 300, 400, 500 ]

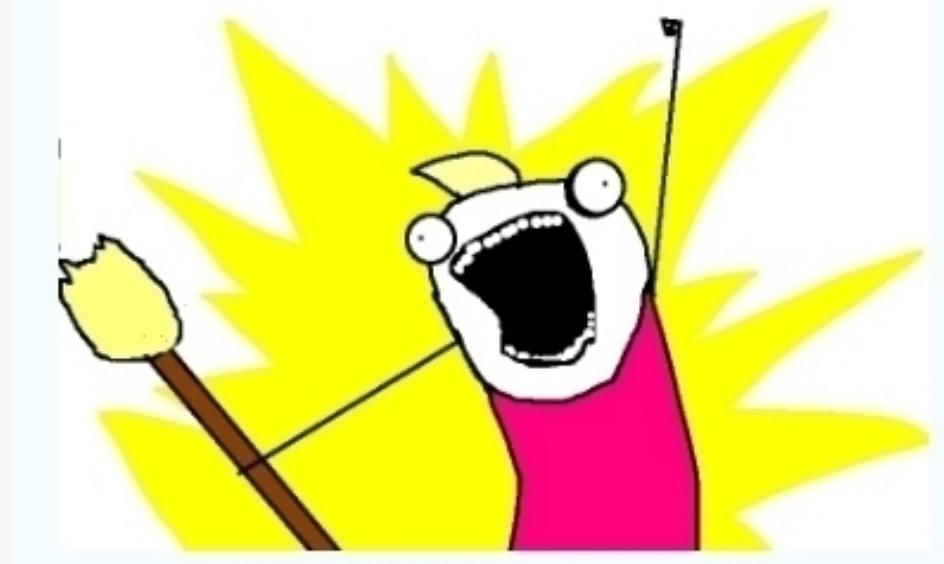
parameters = []
for i in learning_rates :
    for j in iterations :
        parameters.append( ( i, j ) )

print("Available combinations : ", parameters)

# Applying linear searching in list of available combination
# to achieved maximum accuracy on CV set

for k in range( len( parameters ) ) :
    # model = METHOD(..., learning_rate = parameters[k][0],iterations = parameters[k][1] )
    # ...
```

**TRY THEM ALL**



=GRID SEARCH

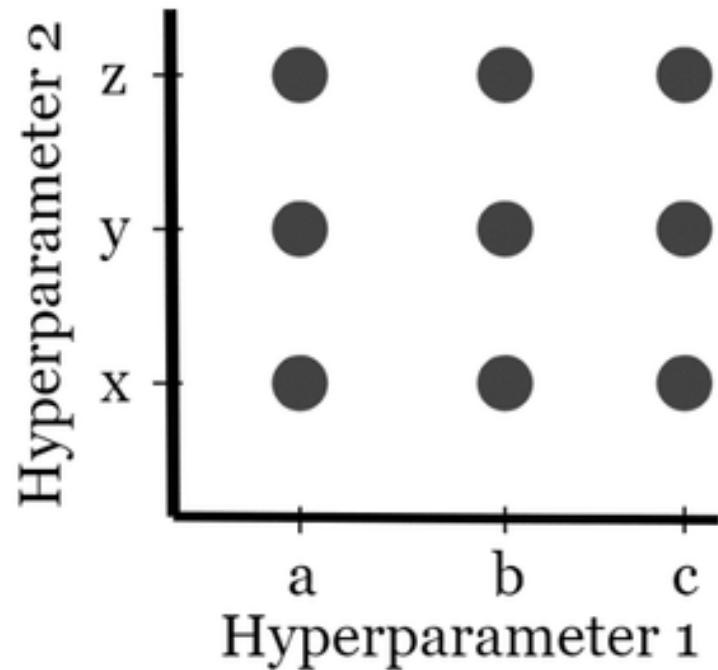
memegenerator.net



# Hyperparameters optimization

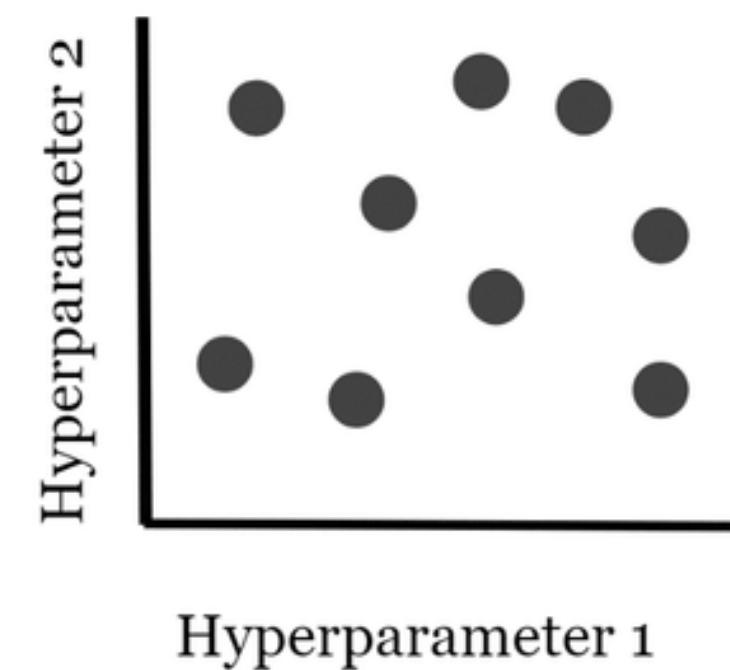
## Grid Search

Pseudocode  
Hyperparameter\_One = [a, b, c]  
Hyperparameter\_Two = [x, y, z]



## Random Search

Pseudocode  
Hyperparameter\_One = random.num(range)  
Hyperparameter\_Two = random.num(range)

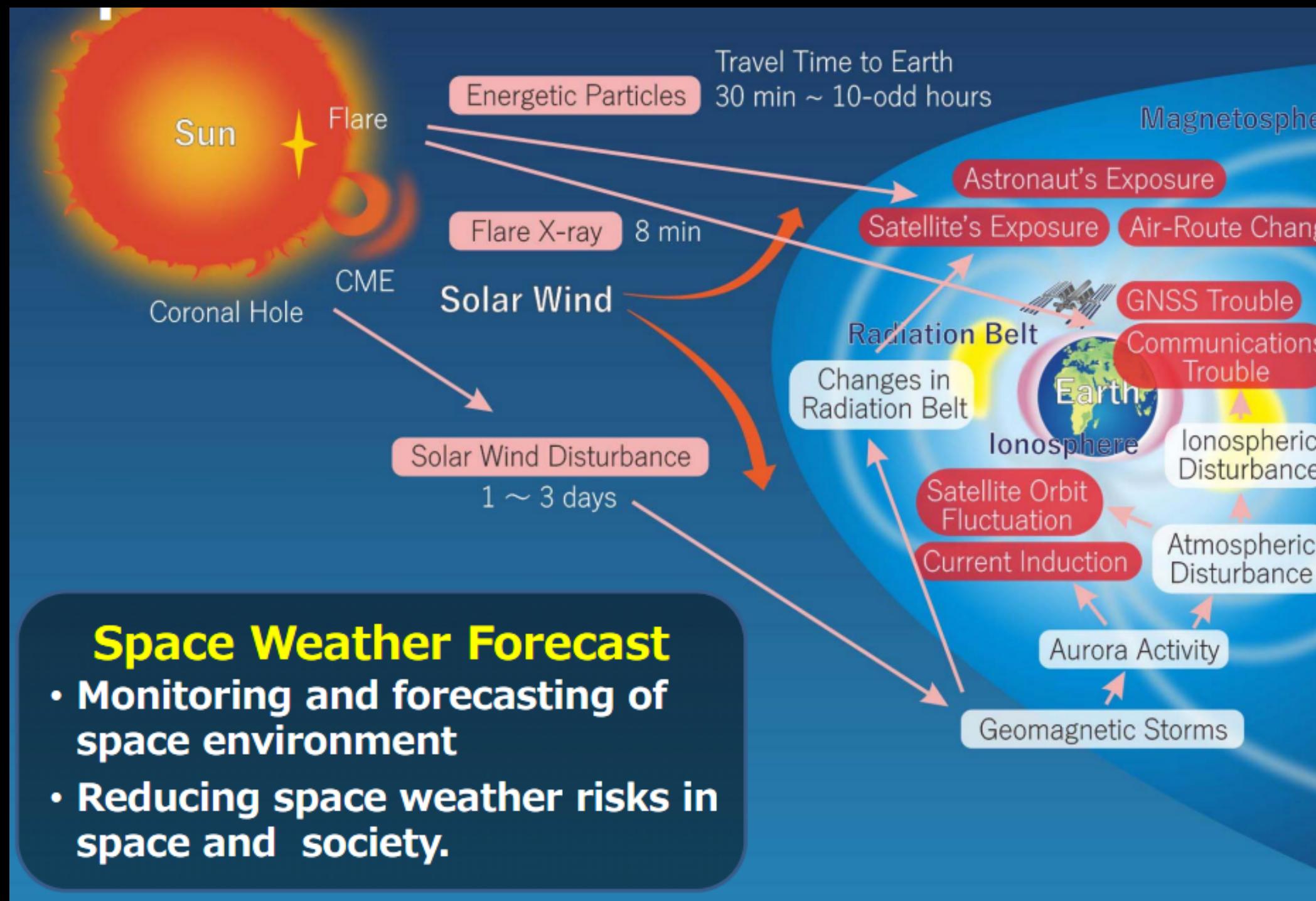


## Other methods

- Bayesian Optimization
- Evolutionary Optimization.



# Something we are working on ...



## Tucuman Space Weather Center

<https://spaceweather.facet.unt.edu.ar/>  
Instagram: /spaceweatherargentina

The problem: 24hs forecasting of TEC given information regarding geomagnetic conditions

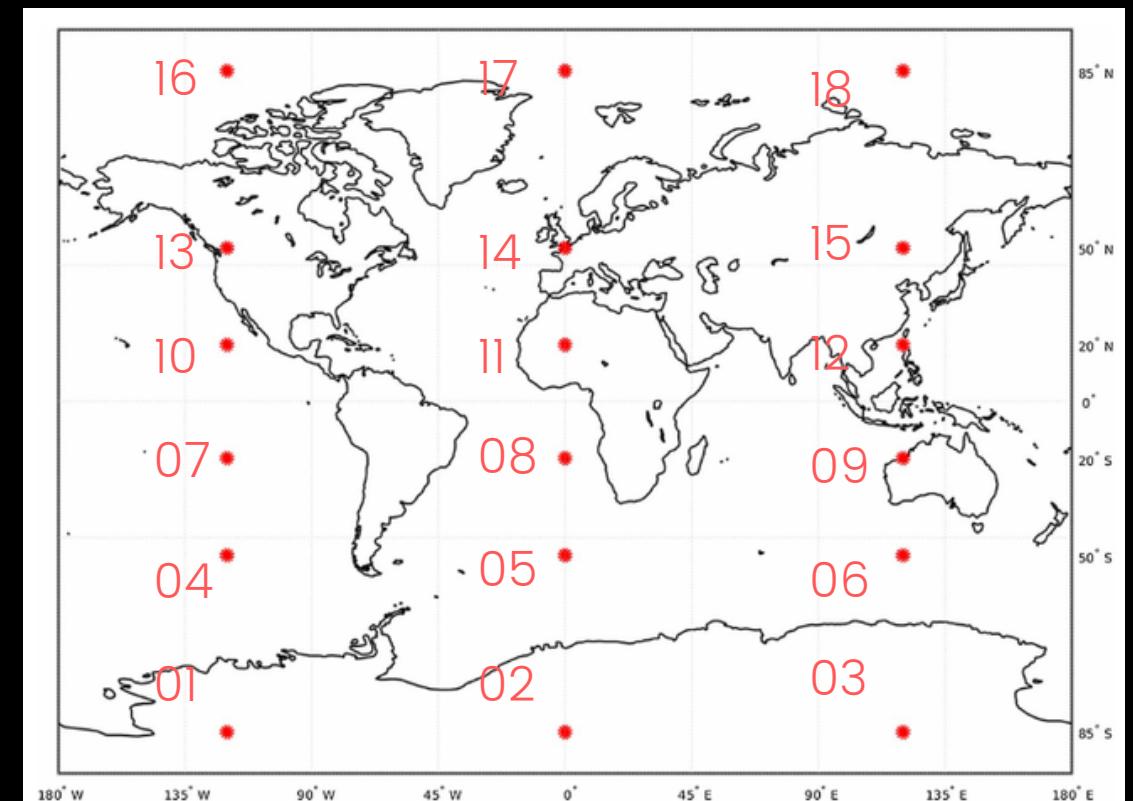
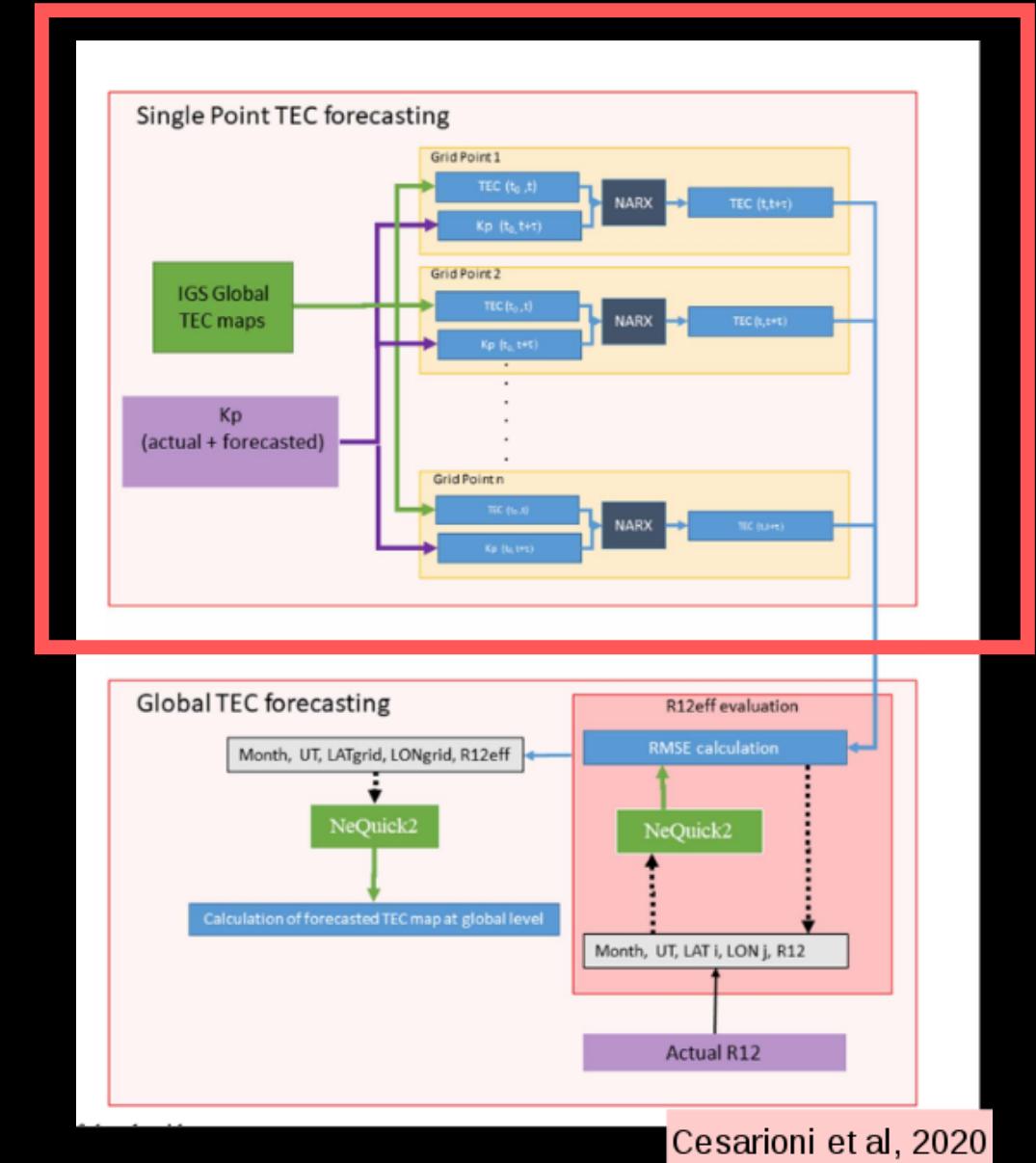
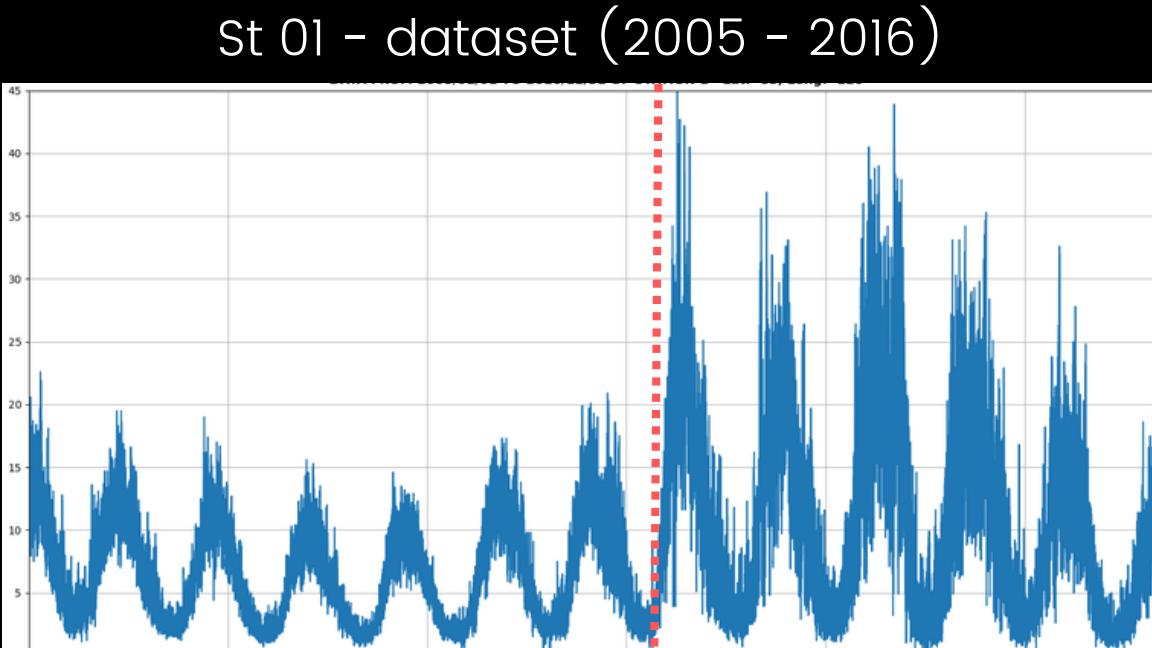
# GLOBAL TEC FORECASTING

In prep



TSWC, 2022

- 24 hs ahead
- Dataset: 2005 - 2016
- Input: Global Ionospheric Map (GIM) from IGS. Spatial-temporal res  $2.5^\circ$  (lat) -  $5^\circ$  (lon) - 2 h
- External forcing (\* SWx): Kp index
- Loosely physics-informed ML



(Molina et al, ESWW 2021)



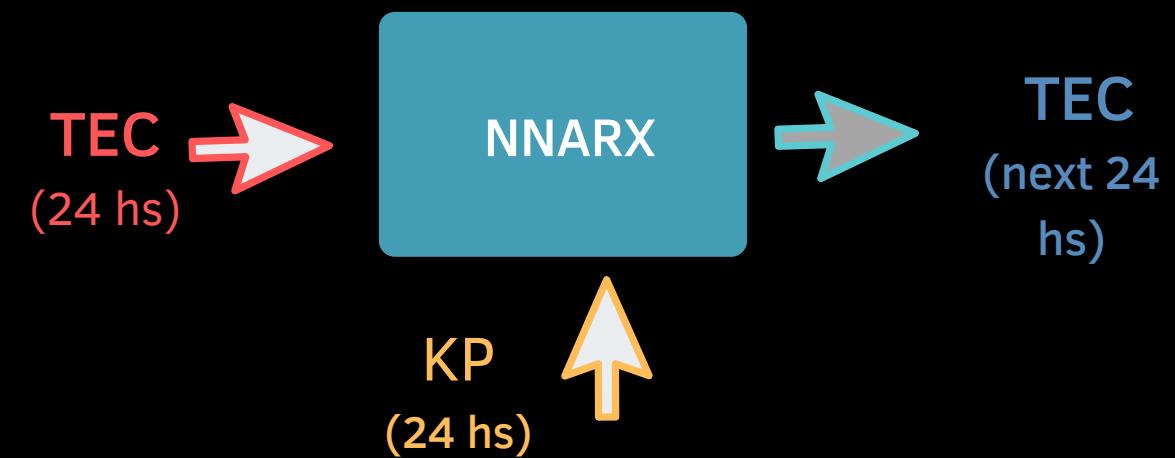
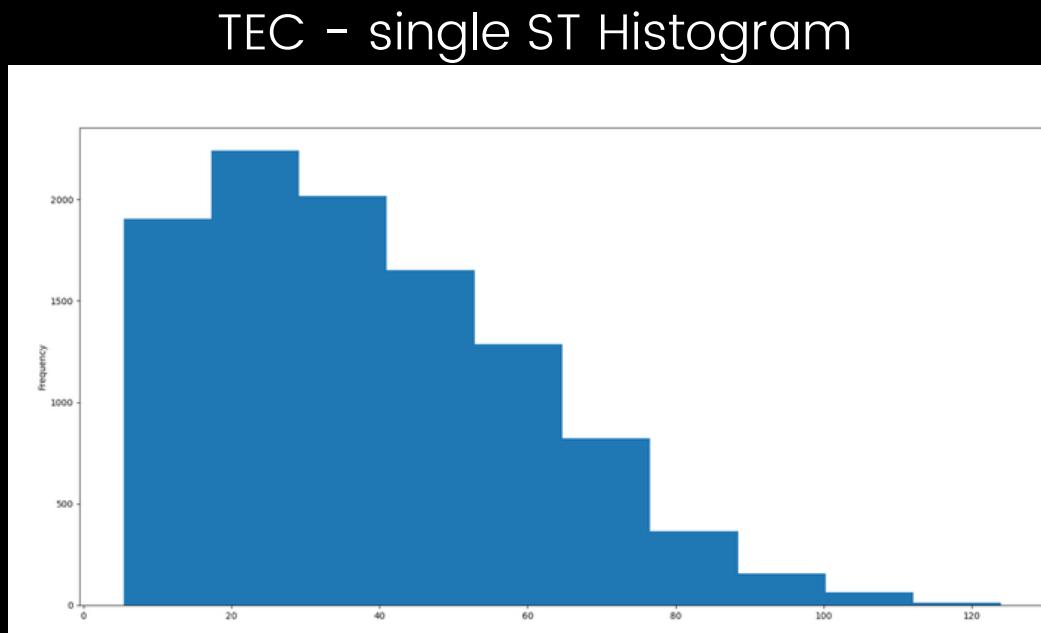
# GLOBAL TEC FORECASTING

In prep

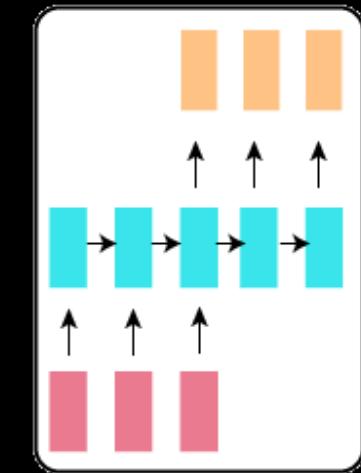


TSWC, 2022

- Train: 99 % (99/1) Test: 1 %
- Re-sampling:
  - GIM 2 hs resolution
  - Kp 3hs resolution > K Nearest-neighbor interpolation
- No missing values
- Kernel initializer: GlorotNormal distribution



- DL modeling
  - 24 hs (before) to forecast 24 hs (ahead) - 24 hs = 12 samples
  - supervised ML
  - 3 methods
  - time-series



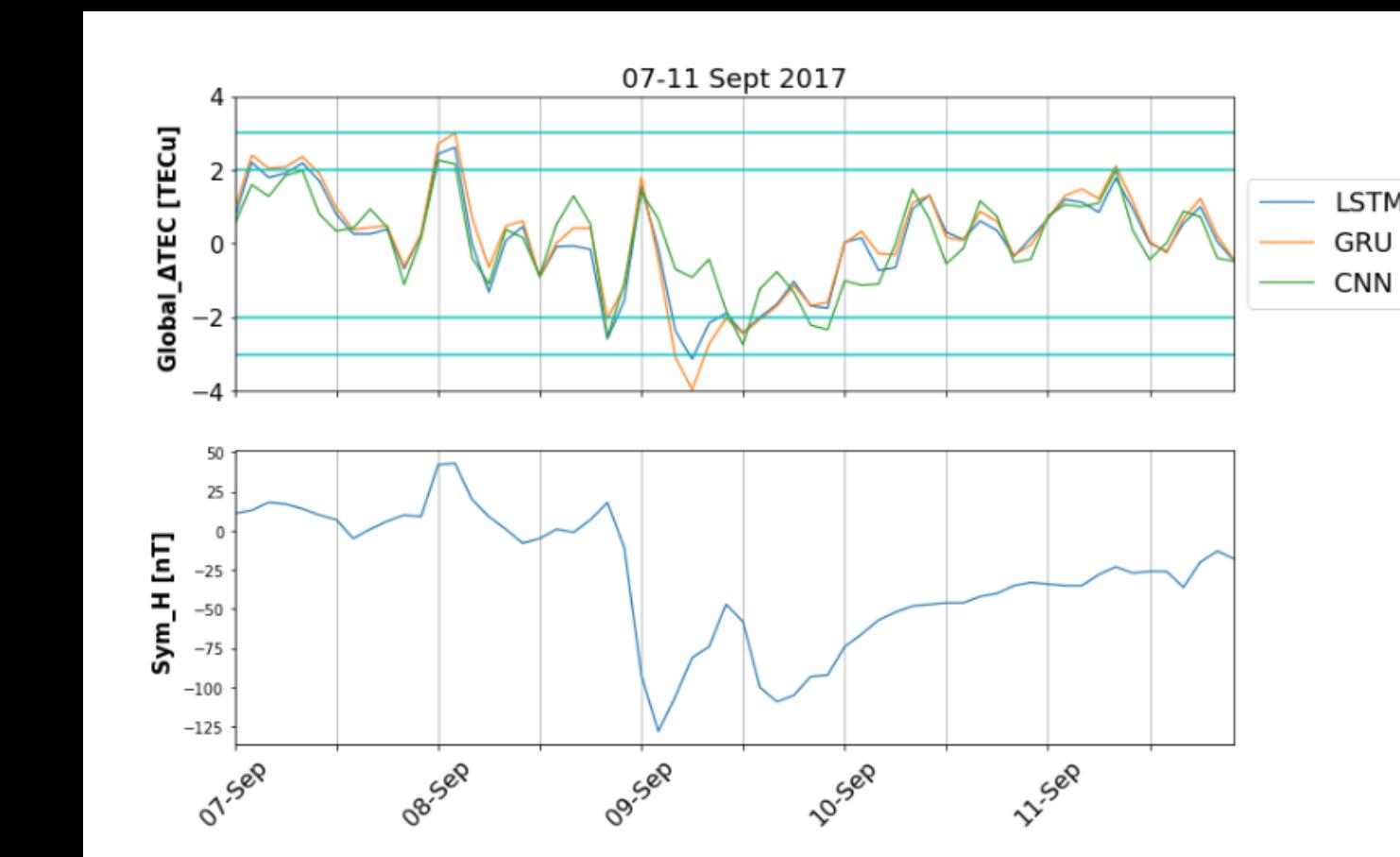
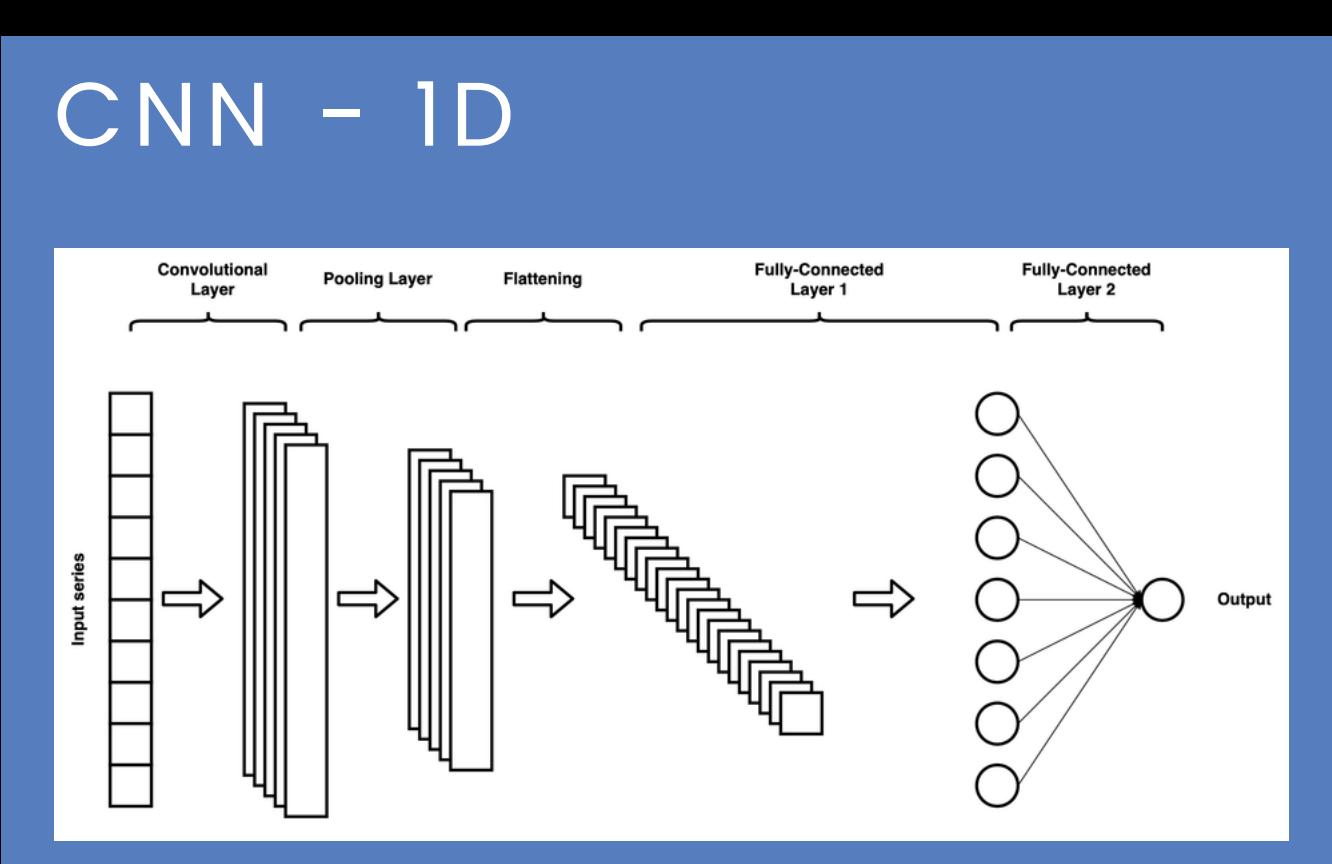
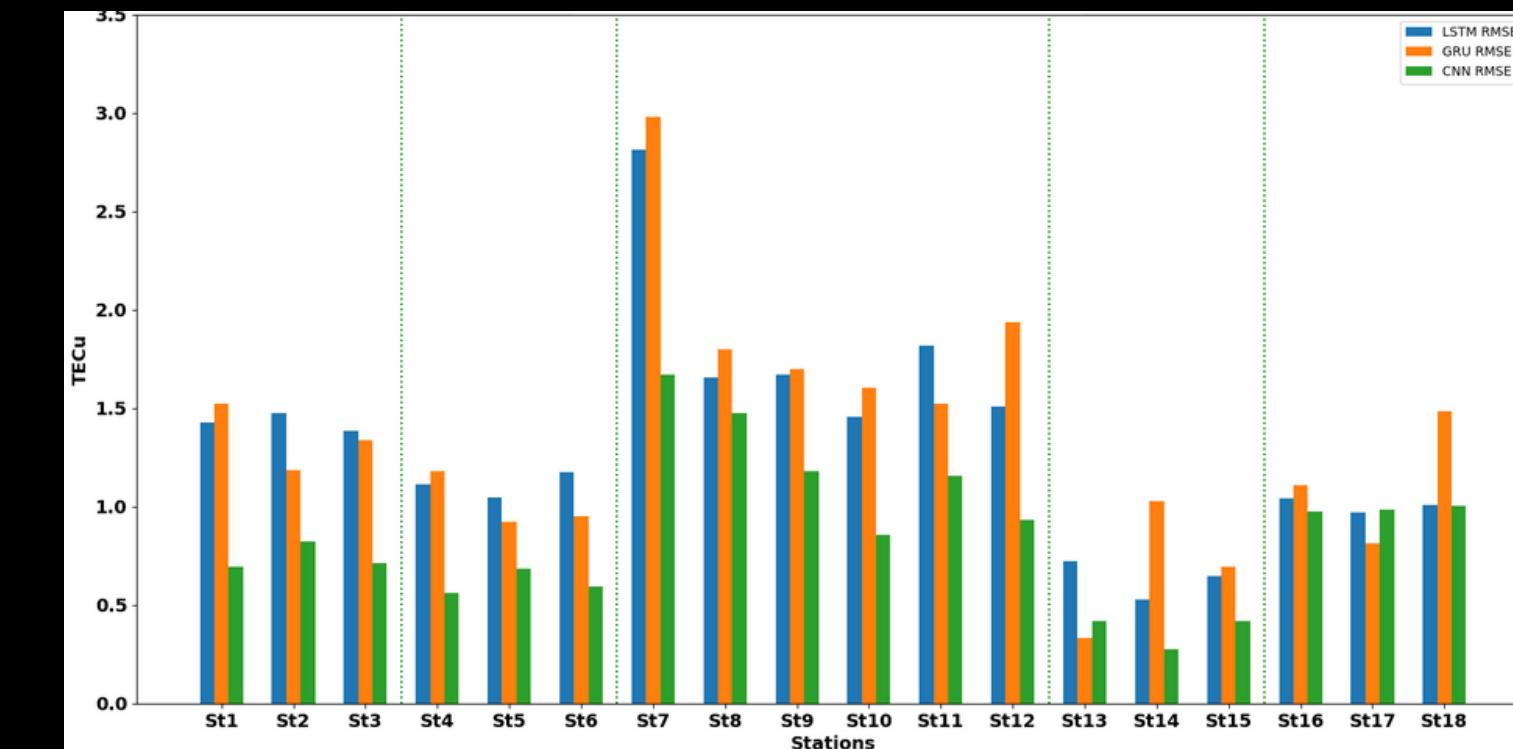
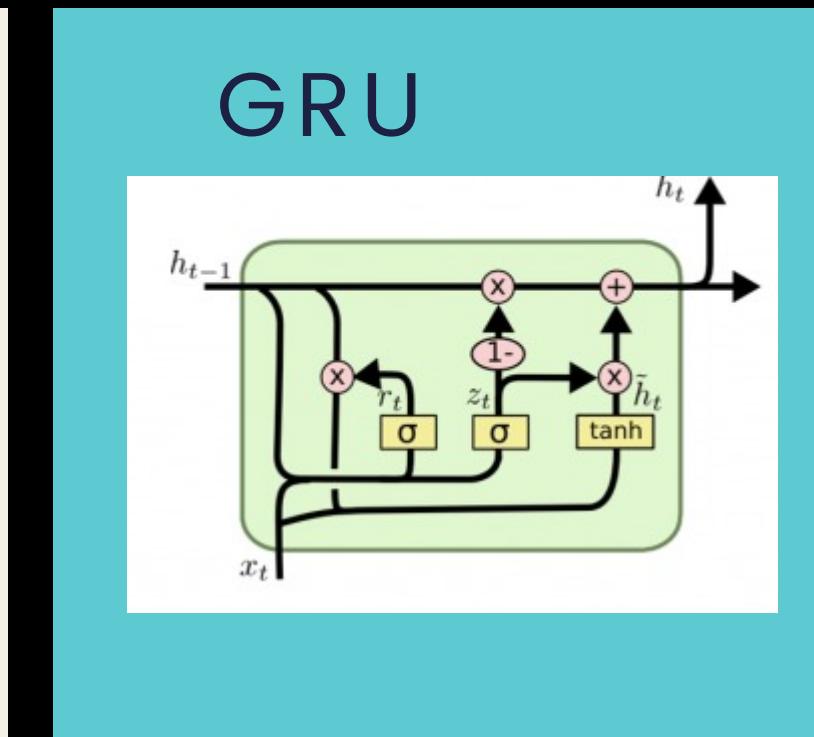
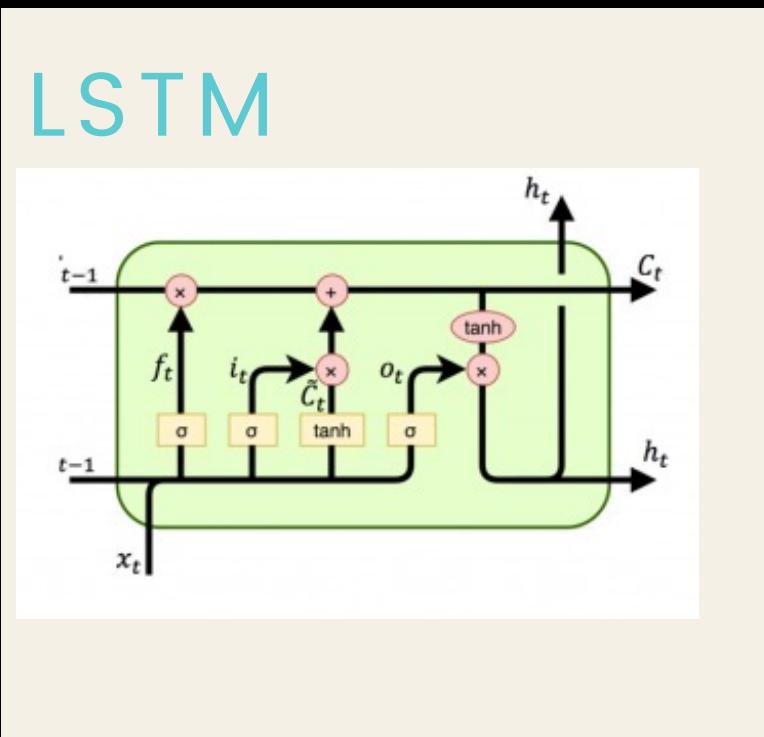
(Molina et al, ESWW 2021)



TSWC, 2022

# GLOBAL TEC FORECASTING

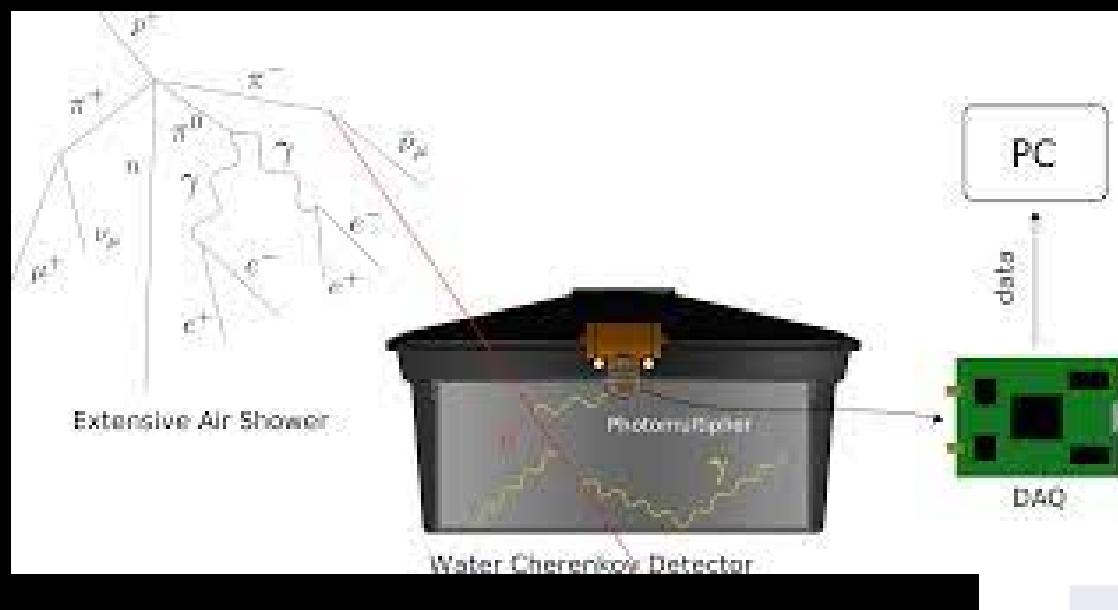
(Molina et al, ESWW 2021)



In prep

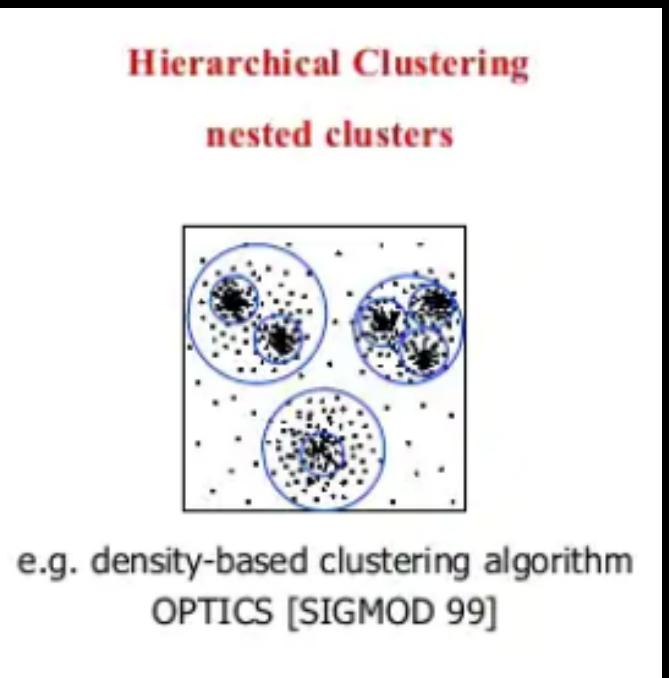
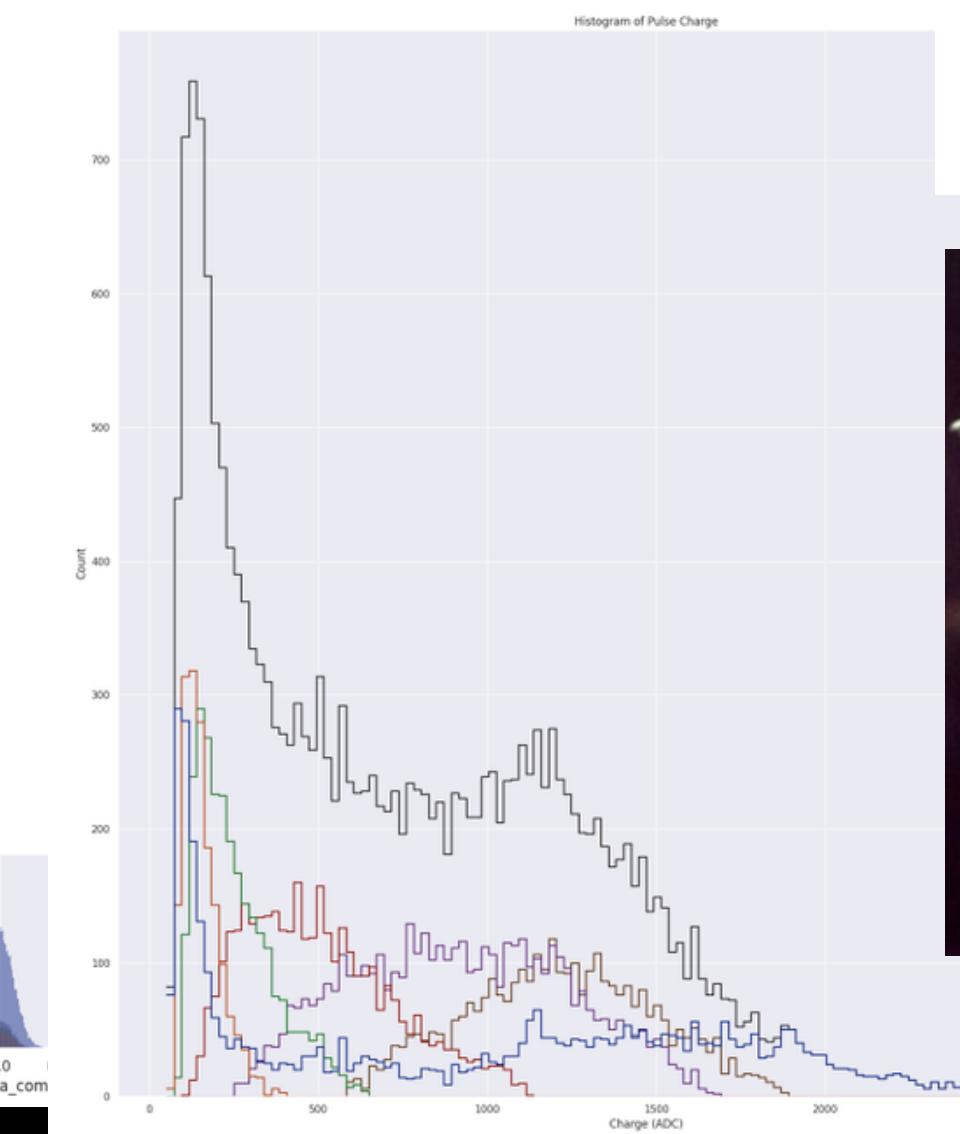
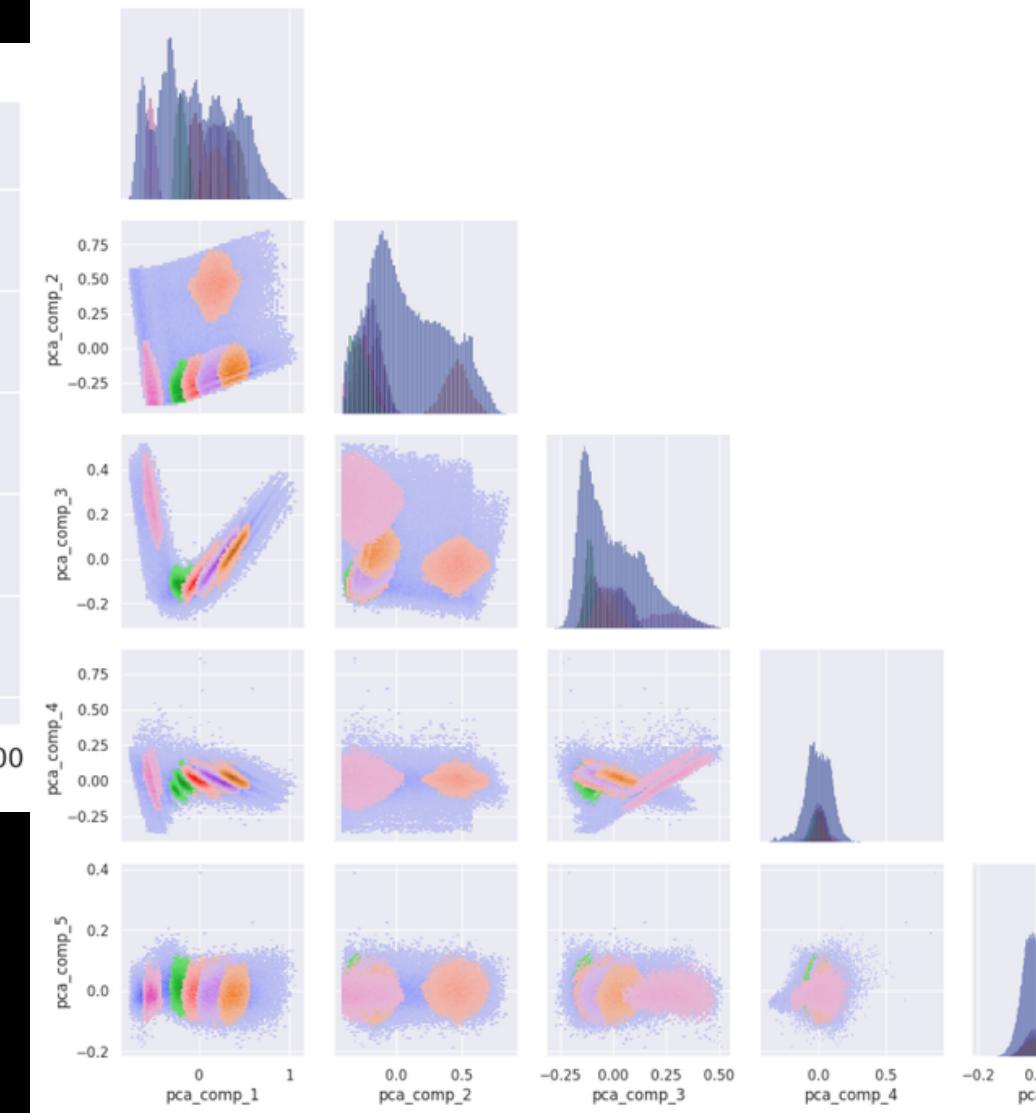
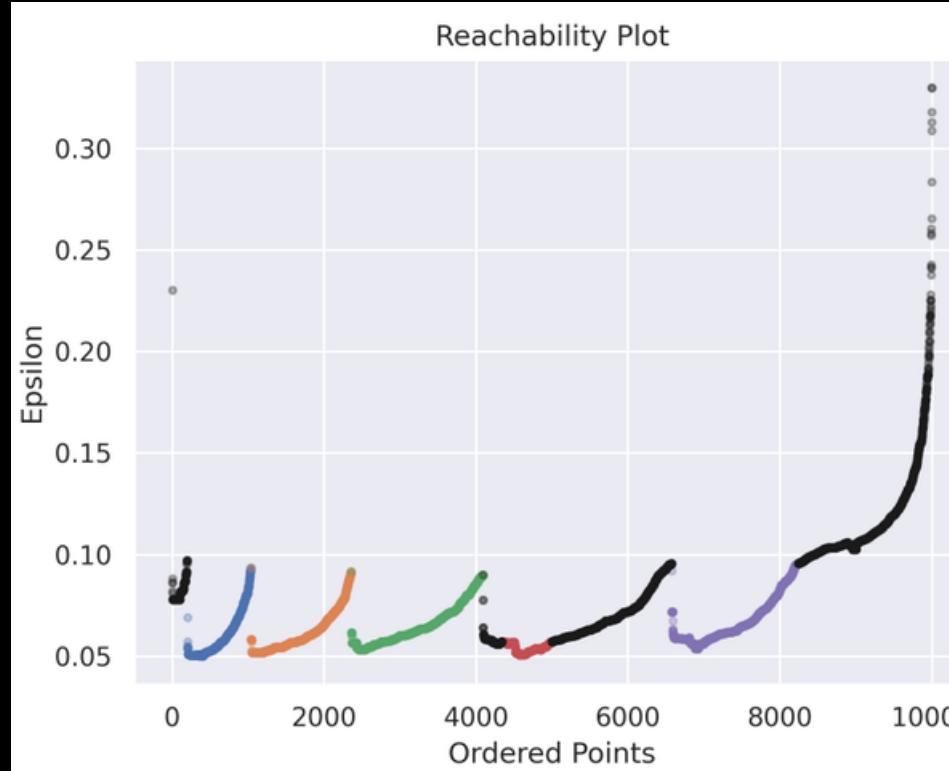
# Something (else) we are working on ...

Clustering: Ordering points to identify the clustering structure (OPTICS)



<http://lagoproject.net/>

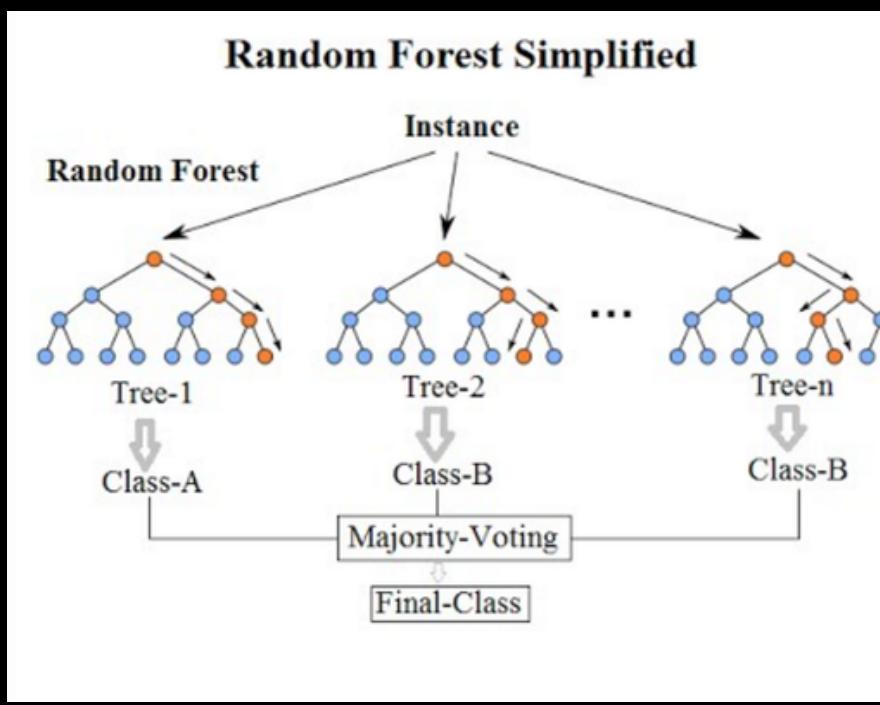
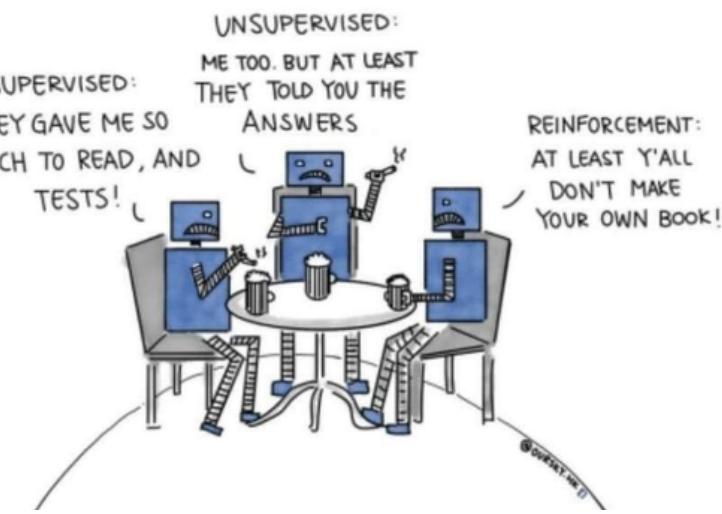
In prep



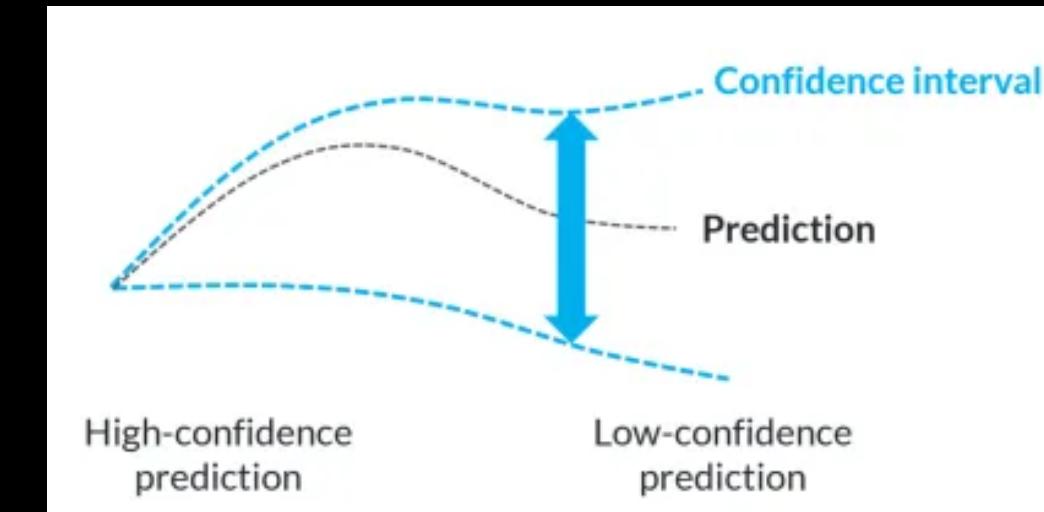
TSWC, 2022

# MACHINE LEARNING

- Ensemble techniques

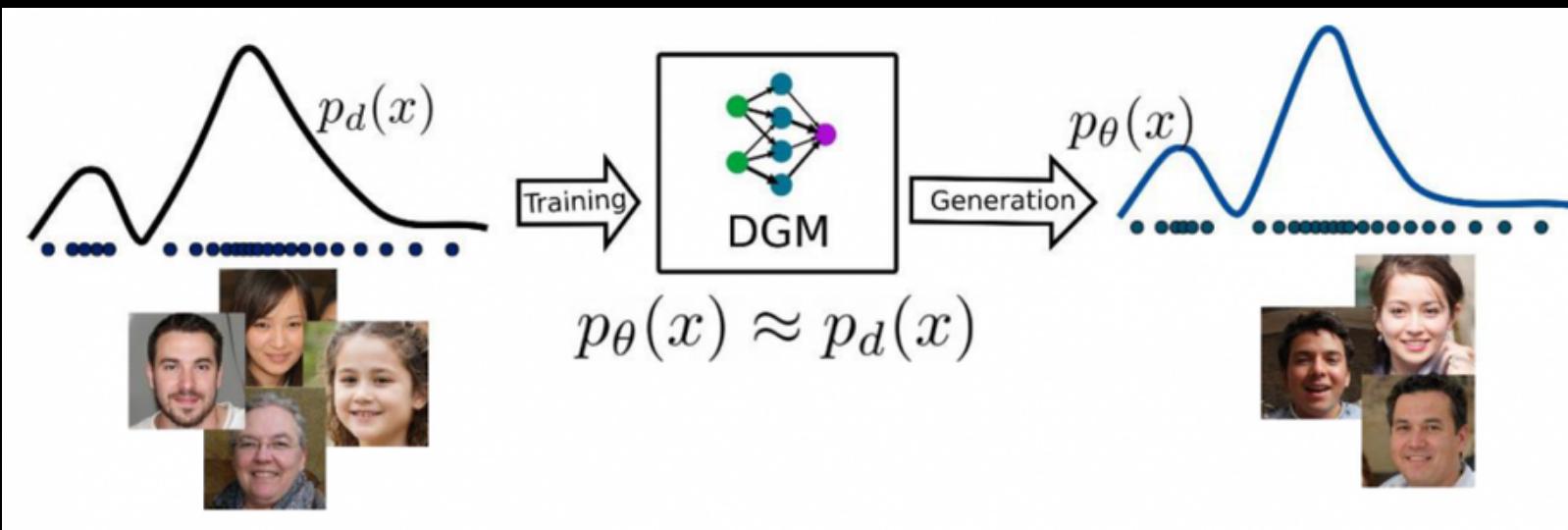
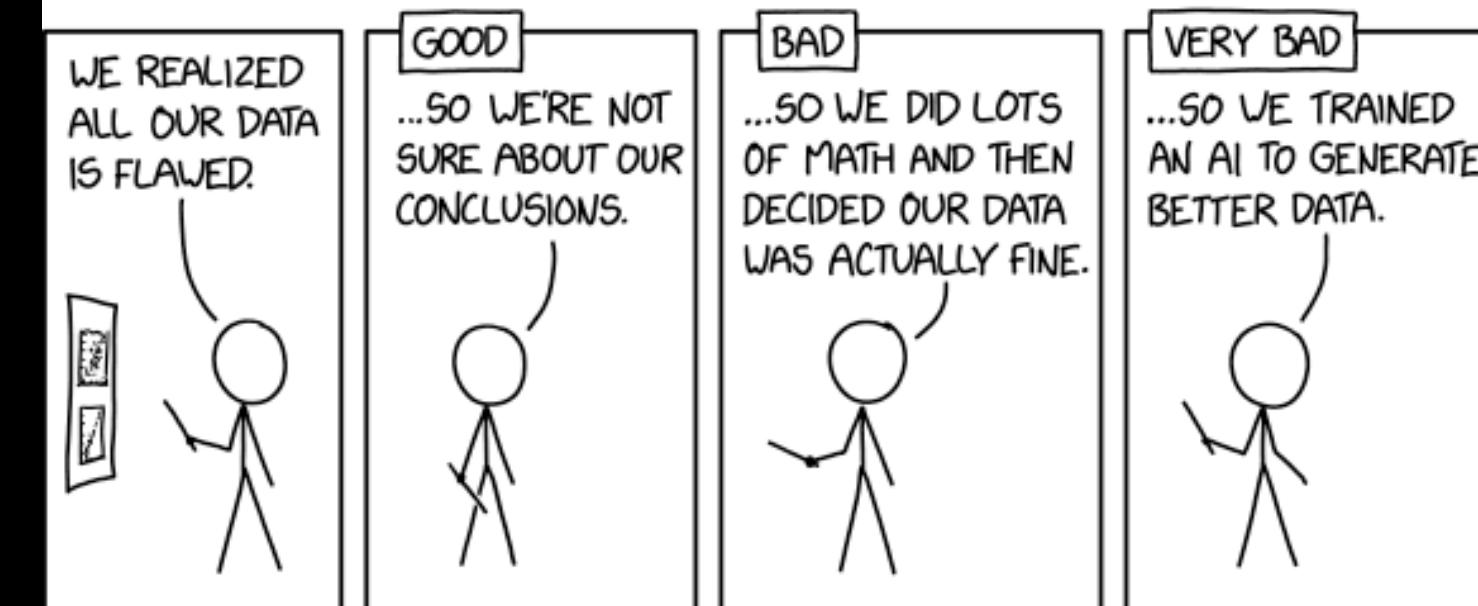
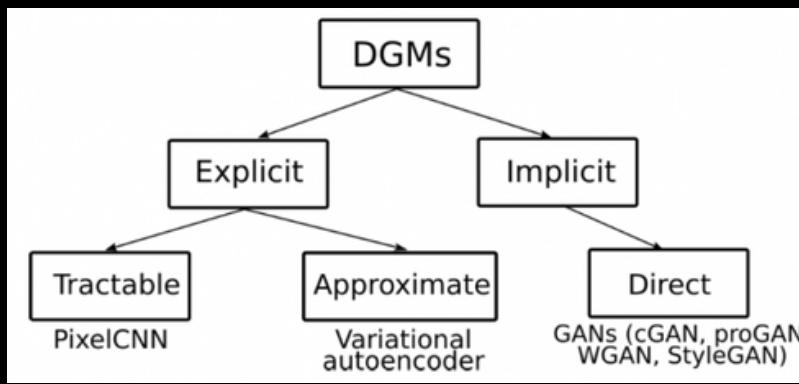


- Uncertainty Quantification (BNNs) - trustworthiness



- Transformers
- Transfer Learning !

- Deep Generative Models



- (ML in production) Real-time → re-training, incremental training, etc

and much more!!!

# OPEN DISCUSSION

# International Workshop on Machine Learning for Space Weather: Fundamentals, Tools and Future Prospects

**7-11 November 2022**  
**This is a hybrid meeting**  
**Buenos Aires, Argentina**



Further information:

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