

### Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs)

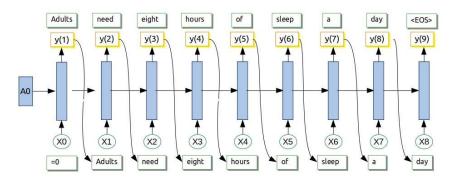
- ☐ Recurrent Neural Networks take the previous output or hidden states as inputs
- □ The composite input at time "t" has some historical information about the happenings at time T < "t".
- □ RNNs are useful as their intermediate values (state) can store information about past inputs for a time that is not fixed a priori
- □ Note that the weights are shared over time
- □ Essentially, copies of the RNN cell are made over time (unrolling/unfolding), with different inputs at different time steps

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# That's is Recurrent Neural Network... We worked out math too.... Recurrent Neural Network a = g (a<sub>t,1</sub>, W<sub>aa</sub> + X<sub>t</sub> · W<sub>ax</sub> + b<sub>a</sub>) ŷ<sub>t</sub> = g (a<sub>t</sub>, W<sub>ya</sub> + by)

# RNN Model – Sampling from Trained Model

- And the Cost functions
- $\ \ \Box \ \ J(\hat{y},\,y)=\Sigma\ \ell$  (  $\hat{y},\,\,y$  ) BTW: these cost functions are also known as Jacobians
- □  $J(\hat{y}, y) = -\frac{1}{m} \sum y * log(\hat{y})$ ∴ Which we will be minimizing



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## Gradient - a Difficult Terrain

- ☐ Have seen how to compute the gradient descent update for using backprop
- ☐ In case of RNN the backprop is through time
- □ At times, gradient descent completely fails because either they explode or vanish
- ☐ It's hard to learn dependencies over long time windows
- □ How to learn long-term dependencies?

11 Sentences can be tricky...

"As he crossed toward the pharmacy at the corner he involuntarily turned his head because of a burst of light that had ricocheted from his temple, and saw, with that quick smile with which we greet a rainbow or a rose, a blindingly white parallelogram of sky being unloaded from the van—a dresser with mirrors across which, as across a cinema screen, passed a flawlessly clear reflection of boughs sliding and swaying not arboreally, but with a human vacillation, produced by the nature of those who were carrying this sky, these boughs, this gliding façade."

Vladimir Nabokov, "The Gift." 96 words sentence...

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Vanishing and Exploding Gradients

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### Vanishing Gradient / Exploding Gradient

- □ What happens to the magnitude of the gradients as we back propagate through many layers?
  - . If the weights are small, the gradients shrink exponentially
  - If the weights are big the gradients grow exponentially
- □ Typical feed-forward neural nets can cope with these exponential effects because they only have a few hidden layers
- □ We can manage gradients by initializing the weights very carefully in feed-forward networks
  - We have already experienced by using appropriate
- □ Is it applicable to RNNs as well?

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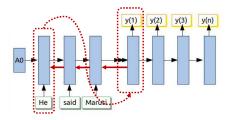
# Vanishing Gradient / Exploding Gradient

- □ In an RNN trained on long sequences (e.g. 100 time steps) the gradients can easily explode or vanish.
- □ Even with good initial weights, its very hard to detect that the current target output depends on an input from many time-steps ago
  - · So RNNs have difficulty dealing with long-range dependencies

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## Why Gradients Explode or Vanish

- □ Recall the RNN for machine translation
  - \* For example, we read an entire English sentence, and then has to output its French translation



- □ A typical sentence length is 20 words. This means there's a gap of 20 time steps between when we see some information and when we needs it.
- ☐ The derivatives need to travel over this entire pathway

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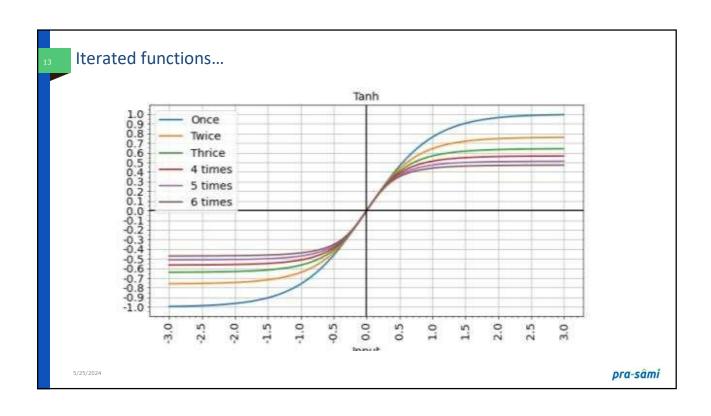
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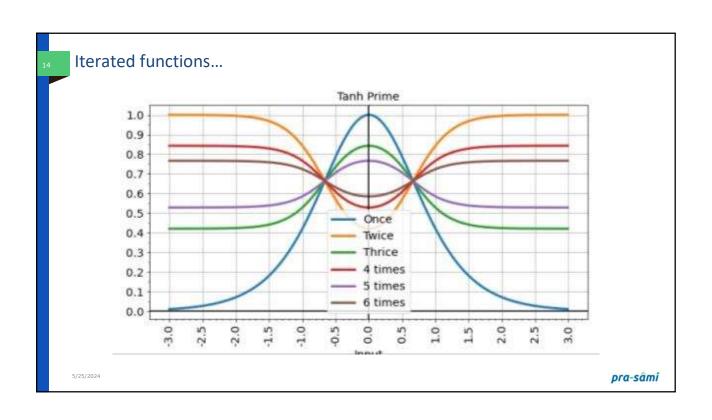
# Why Gradients Explode or Vanish...

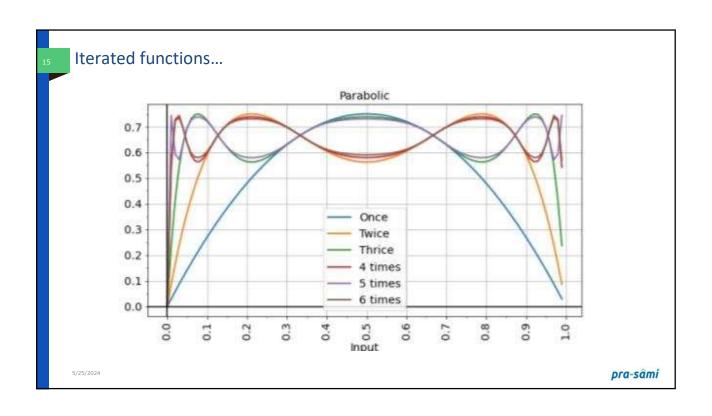
- □ Please recall:

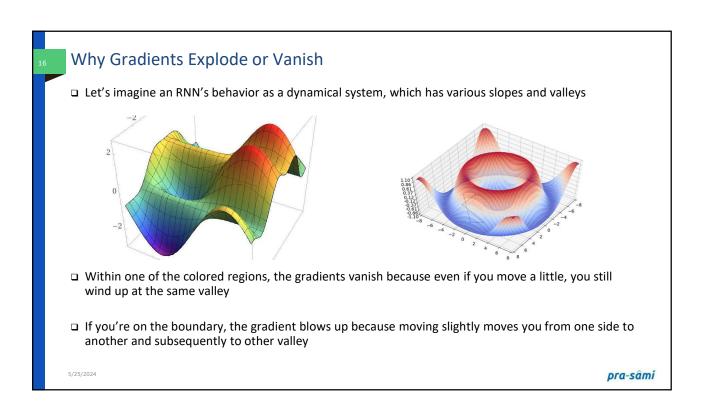
  - $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{a} = \sigma (\mathbf{z})$
  - ❖  $a_1 = σ (a_0 . W_1)$
- ☐ That through the time steps will be
  - $\ \ \, \hat{y} = \sigma \, ( \, a_0 \, . \, W_1) \, . \, W_2). \, W_3 \, ). \, W_4) \,$
- $\ \square$  In backprop, we will be carrying  $L(\hat{y}, y)$  through the activation function iteratively...
- □ Longer the chain... more iterations on the Ws...

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Keeping Things Stable

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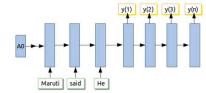
# Keeping Things Stable - Gradient Clipping

- □ Clip the gradient
- $\hfill\Box$  Clip the gradient 'g' so that it has a norm of at most ' $\eta$ ':
  - if  $||g|| > \eta$ : then  $g = \eta * \frac{g}{||g||}$
  - $\boldsymbol{\diamondsuit}$  Where ' $\boldsymbol{\eta}$ ' is another parameter you may want to tune
- ☐ The gradients are biased, but at least they don't blow up.

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### Keeping Things Stable - Reverse the Input Sequence

- □ Applicable in similar languages
  - ♦ Hindi → Marathi,
  - ♦ English → French,
  - ❖ Spanish → Portuguese



- □ No point in using situation like
  - ❖ Hindi → Mandarin or 'Hiragana' or 'Kanji'; may be 'Katakana'
- □ This way, there's only one time step between the first word of the input and the first word of the output.
- □ The network can first learn short-term dependencies between early words in the sentence, and then long-term dependencies between later words.

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# Keeping Things Stable – Identity initialization

- □ Redesign the architecture, since the exploding/vanishing problem highlights a conceptual problem with vanilla RNNs
- □ The hidden units are a kind of memory. Therefore, their default behavior should be to keep their previous value.
  - The function at each time step should be close to the identity function.
  - \* It's hard to implement the identity function if the activation function is nonlinear!
- □ If the function is close to the identity, the gradient computations are stable

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# Keeping Things Stable – Identity initialization

- □ The identity RNN architecture : [Le et al., 2015. A simple way to initialize recurrent networks of rectified linear units.]
  - . The activation functions are all ReLU,
  - Recurrent weights are initialized to the identity matrix
- ☐ Proof: This simple initialization trick achieved some neat results;
- □ For instance, it was able to classify MNIST digits which were fed to the network one pixel at a time, as a length-784 sequence

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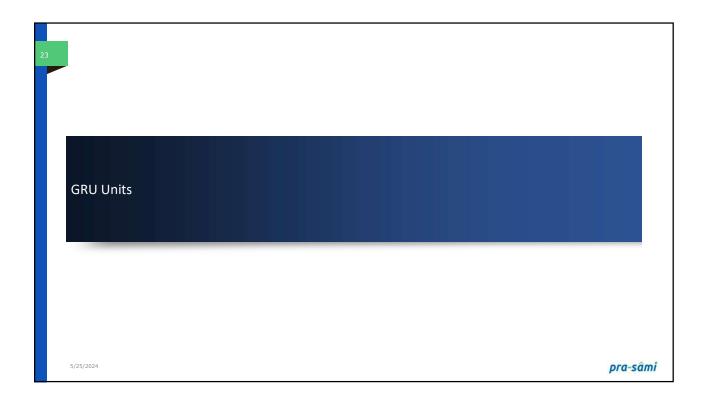
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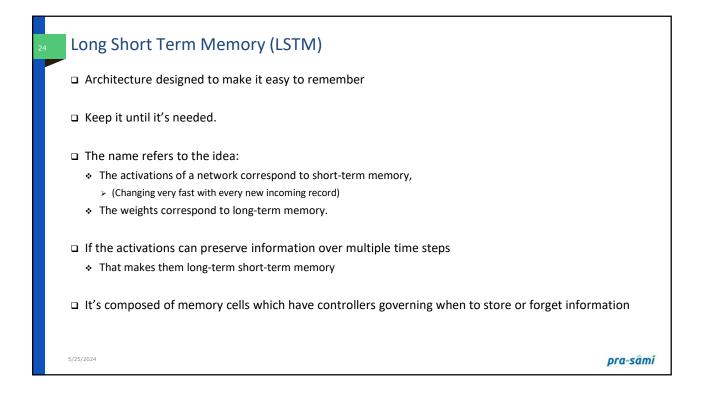
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# **Applicability**

- □ Discussed three mechanism for training RNNs
  - All pretty widely used.
  - \* But the identity initialization trick actually eludes to something much more fundamental
  - Keep their previous value, unless it is necessary to change
- ☐ Ask: the ability to preserve information over time until it's needed

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# Gated Recurrent Unit

- $\hfill \square$  Before we get to LSTM, lets look at its simplified version...
- □ Introduced by Cho, et al. in 2014, and Chung et al. in 2014 in their respective papers
- □ GRU (Gated Recurrent Unit)

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# Gated Recurrent Unit Figure Layer Layer Layer Simple Feed- Forward Network Converted our simple feed forward network to Recurrent Network Pra-sâmi

