



Speech Recognition

HUNG-YI LEE 李宏毅

Speech Recognition is Difficult?

Whither Speech Recognition?

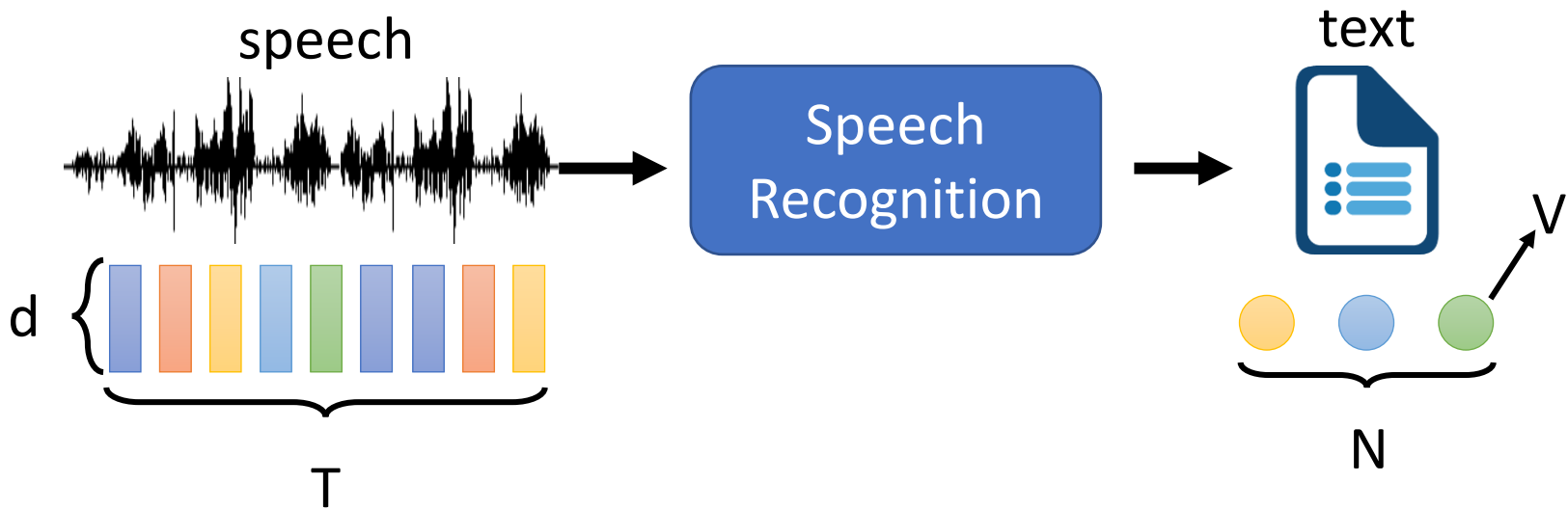
J.R. PIERCE

Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc., Murray Hill, New Jersey 07971

necessary but not a sufficient condition. We are safe in asserting that speech recognition is attractive to money. The attraction is perhaps similar to the attraction of schemes for turning water into gasoline, extracting gold from the sea, curing cancer, or going to the moon. One doesn't attract thoughtlessly given dollars by

I heard the story from Prof Haizhou Li.

Speech Recognition



Speech: a sequence of vector (length T , dimension d)

Text: a sequence of token (length N , V different tokens)

Usually $T > N$

Token

Phoneme: a unit of sound

W AH N P AH N CH M AE N
one punch man

Lexicon: word to phonemes

cat → K AE T

good → G UH D

man → M AE N

one → W AH N

punch → P AH N CH

Grapheme: smallest unit of a writing system

Lexicon free!

one_punch_man

N=13, V=26+?

“一” , “拳” , “超” , “人”

N=4, V≈4000

26 English alphabet

+ { _ } (space)

+ {punctuation marks}

Chinese does not need
“space”

Token

Word:

one punch man

➡ $N=3$, usually $V > 100K$

“一拳” “超人”

➡ $N=2$, $V=???$

For some languages, V can be too large!

Token

Turkish: Agglutinative language

Source of information: <http://tkturkey.com/> (土女時代)

「Muvaffak」是成功的

「Muvaffakiyet」則轉為名詞

「Muvaffakiyet**siz**」變成是**不**成功

「Muvaffakiyet**sizleş**」是**變得**不成功

「Muvaffakiyet**sizleştir**」是**使****變得**不成功

70 characters?!

Muvaffakiyetsizleştiricileştiriveremeyebileceklerimizdenmişsinizcesine

如果你是我們當中不容易變成不成功者的其中一個

Token

Word:

one punch man

➡ N=3, usually $V > 100K$

“一拳” “超人”

➡ N=2, $V = ???$

For some languages, V can be too large!

Morpheme: the smallest meaningful unit (< word, > grapheme)

unbreakable → “un” “break” “able”

rekillable → “re” “kill” “able”

What are the morphemes in a language?

linguistic or statistic



Token

Bytes (!): The system can be **language independent!**

UTF-8

	Binary
\$	00100100
¢	11000010 10100010
₹	11100000 10100100 10111001
€	11100010 10000010 10101100
한	11101101 10010101 10011100
㉿	11110000 10010000 10001101 10001000

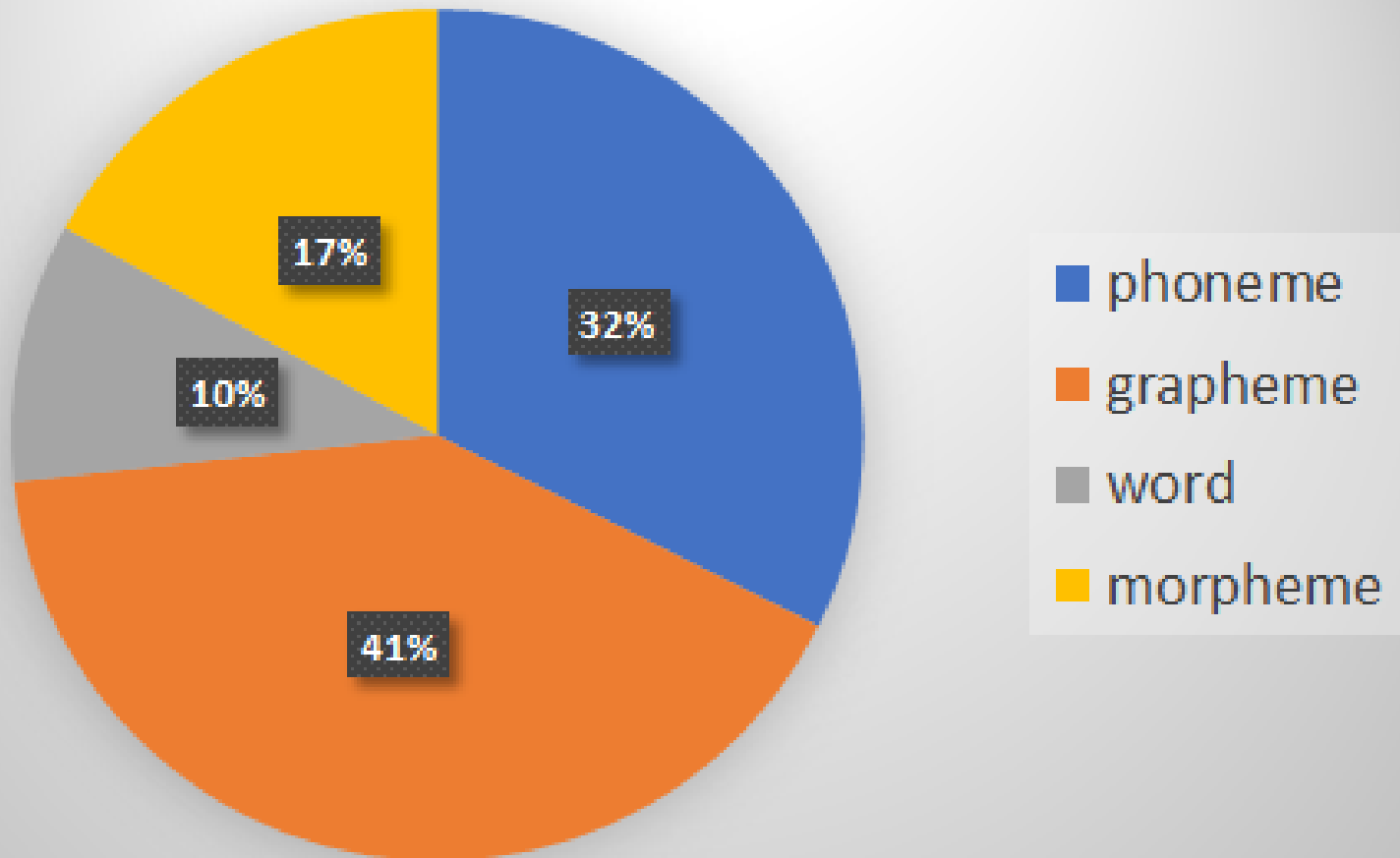
V is always 256

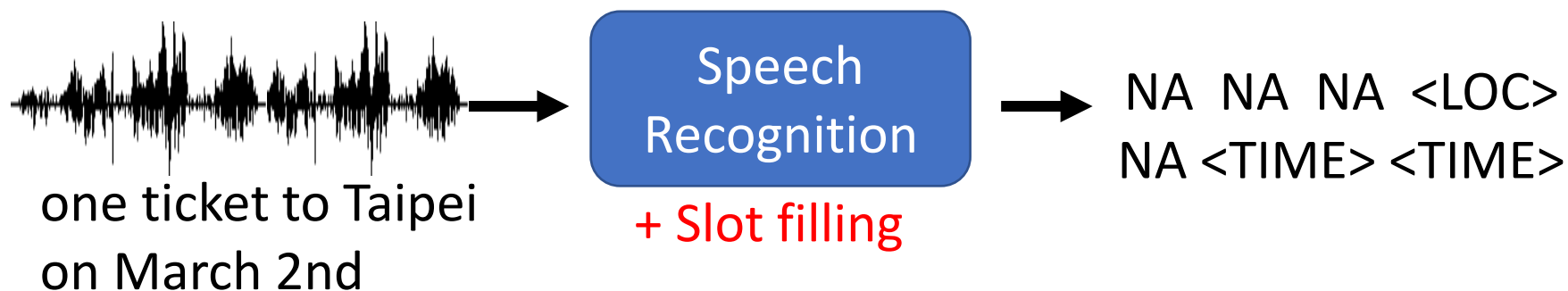
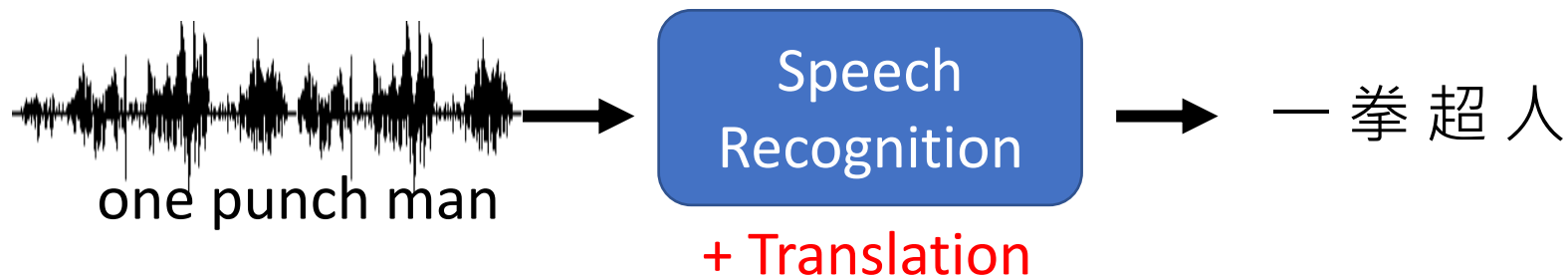
[Li, et al., ICASSP'19]

Token

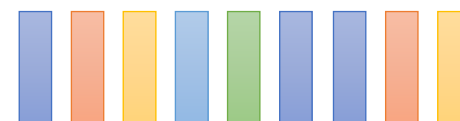
Go through more than 100
papers in INTERSPEECH'19,
ICASSP'19, ASRU'19

感謝助教群的辛勞

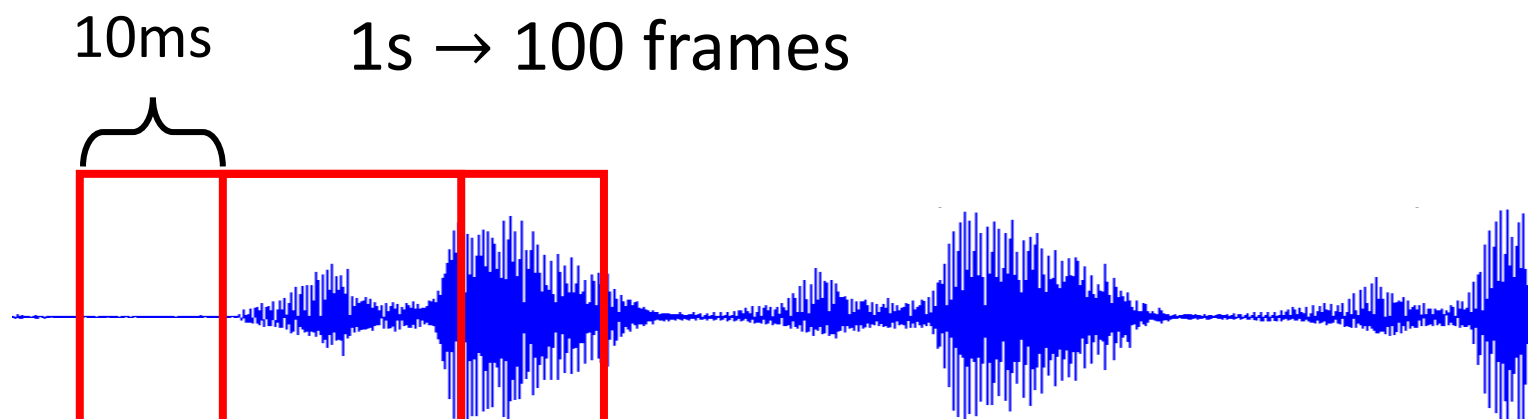




Acoustic Feature



length T , dimension d



數位語音處理 第七章

Speech Signal and Front-end Processing

[http://ocw.aca.ntu.edu.tw/ntu-](http://ocw.aca.ntu.edu.tw/ntu-ocw/ocw/cou/104S204/7)

[ocw/ocw/cou/104S204/7](http://ocw.aca.ntu.edu.tw/ntu-ocw/ocw/cou/104S204/7)

frame

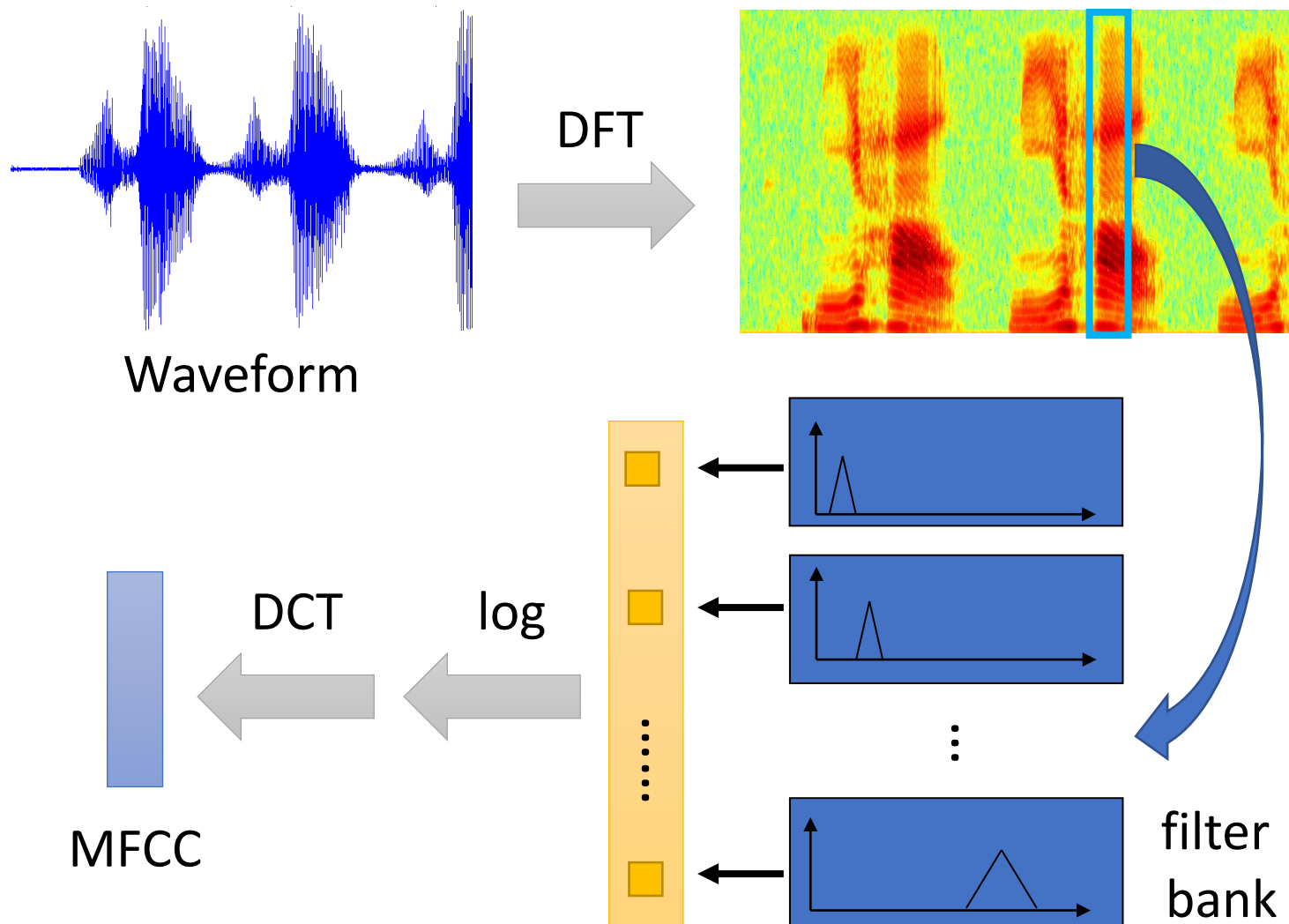


400 sample points (16KHz)

39-dim MFCC

80-dim filter bank output

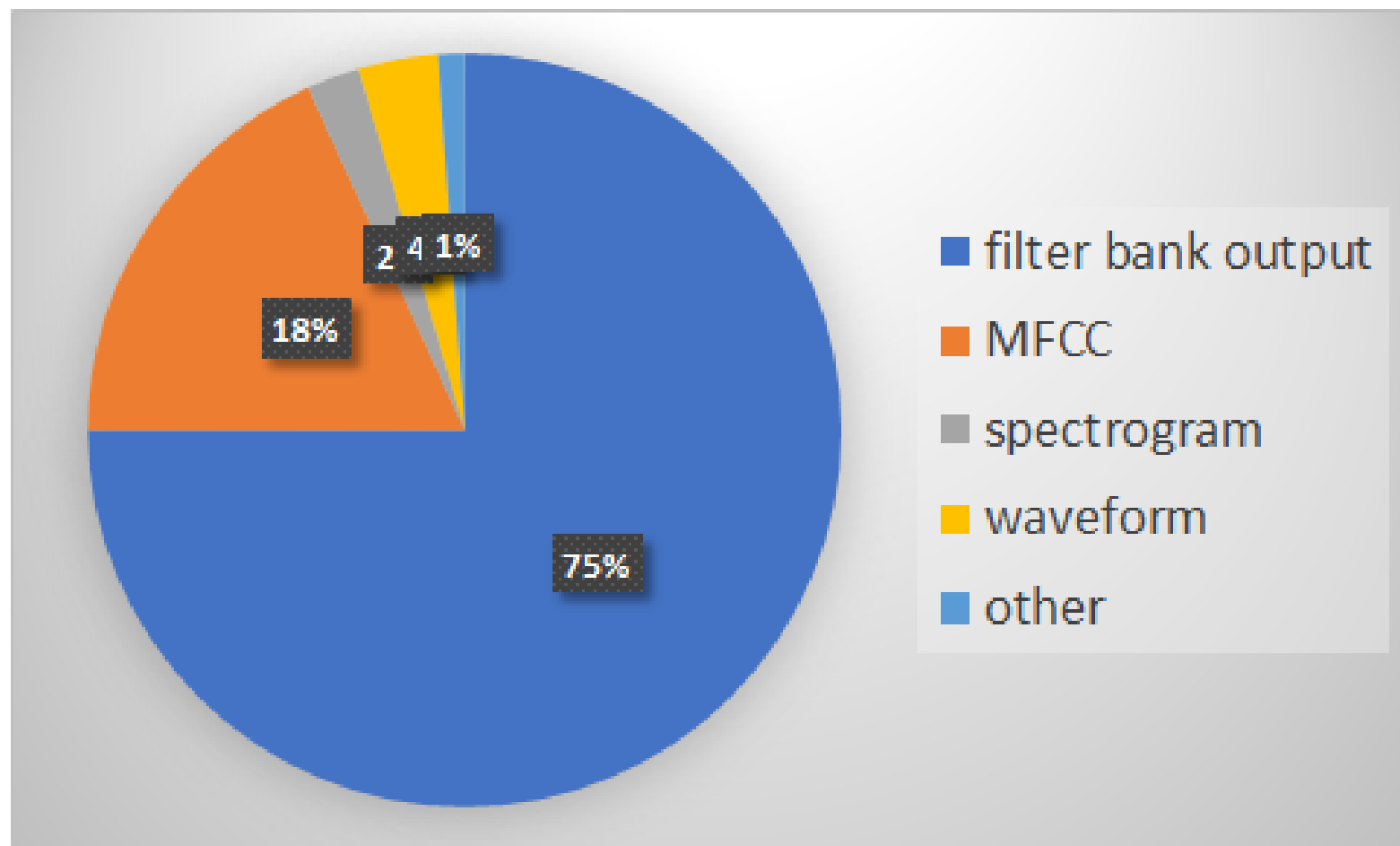
Acoustic Feature



Acoustic Feature

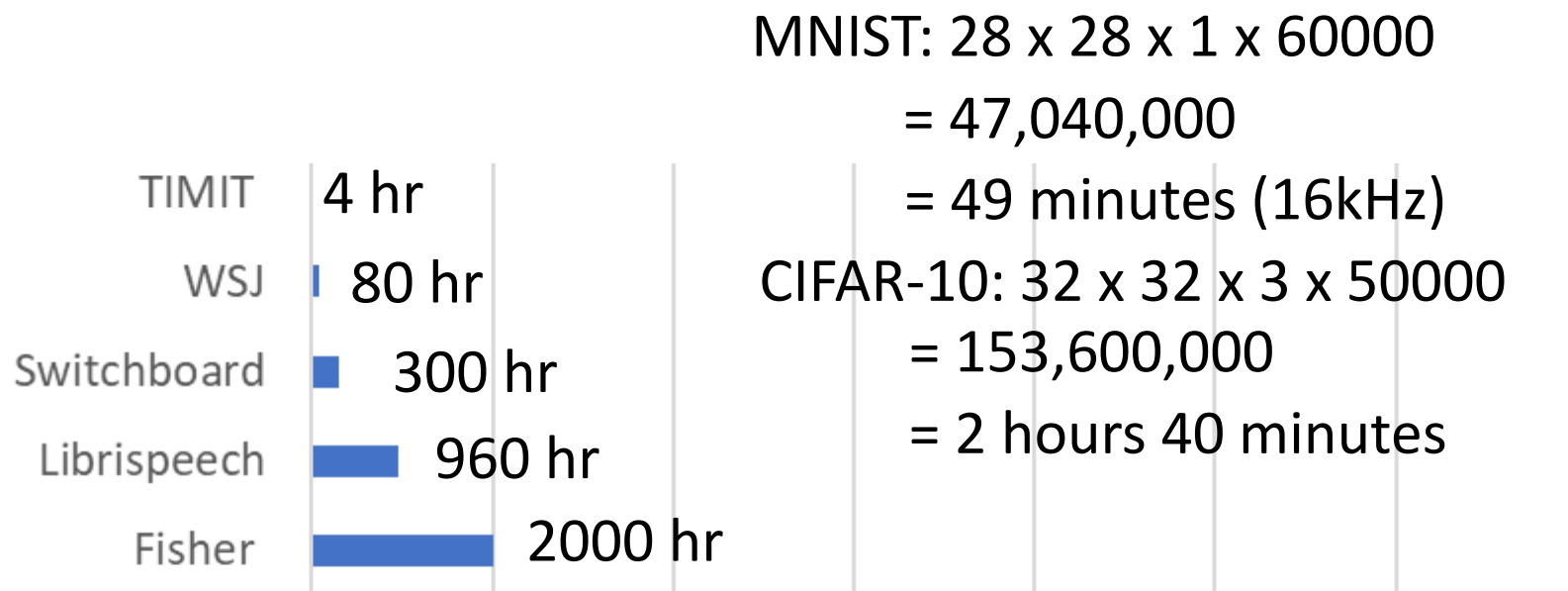
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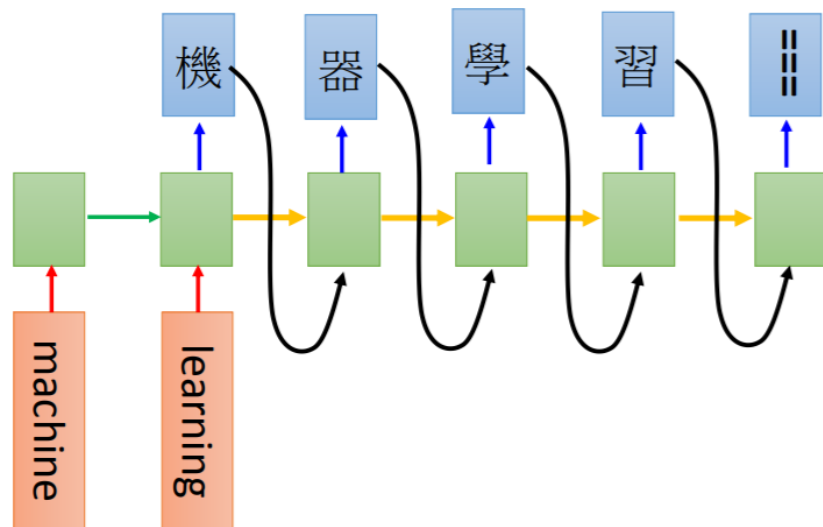
How much data do we need?

(English corpora)

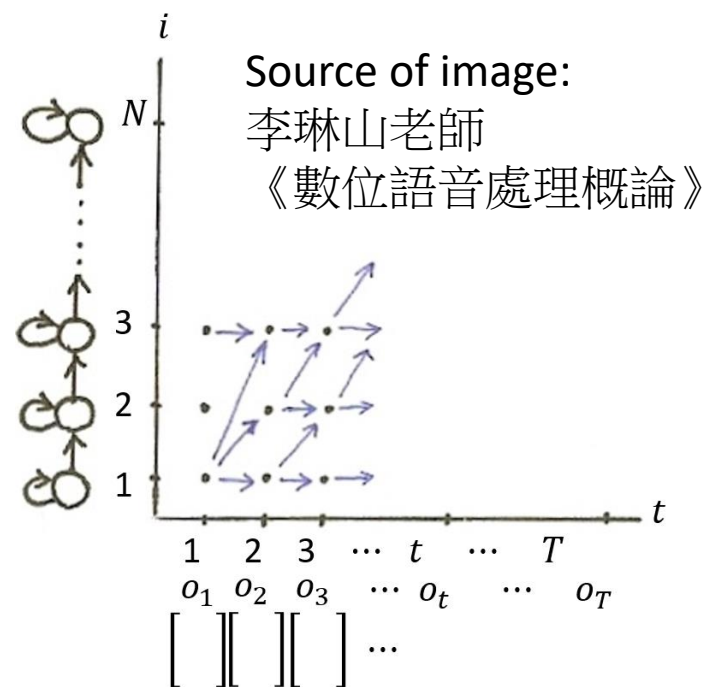


The commercial systems use more than that

Two Points of Views



Seq-to-seq



HMM

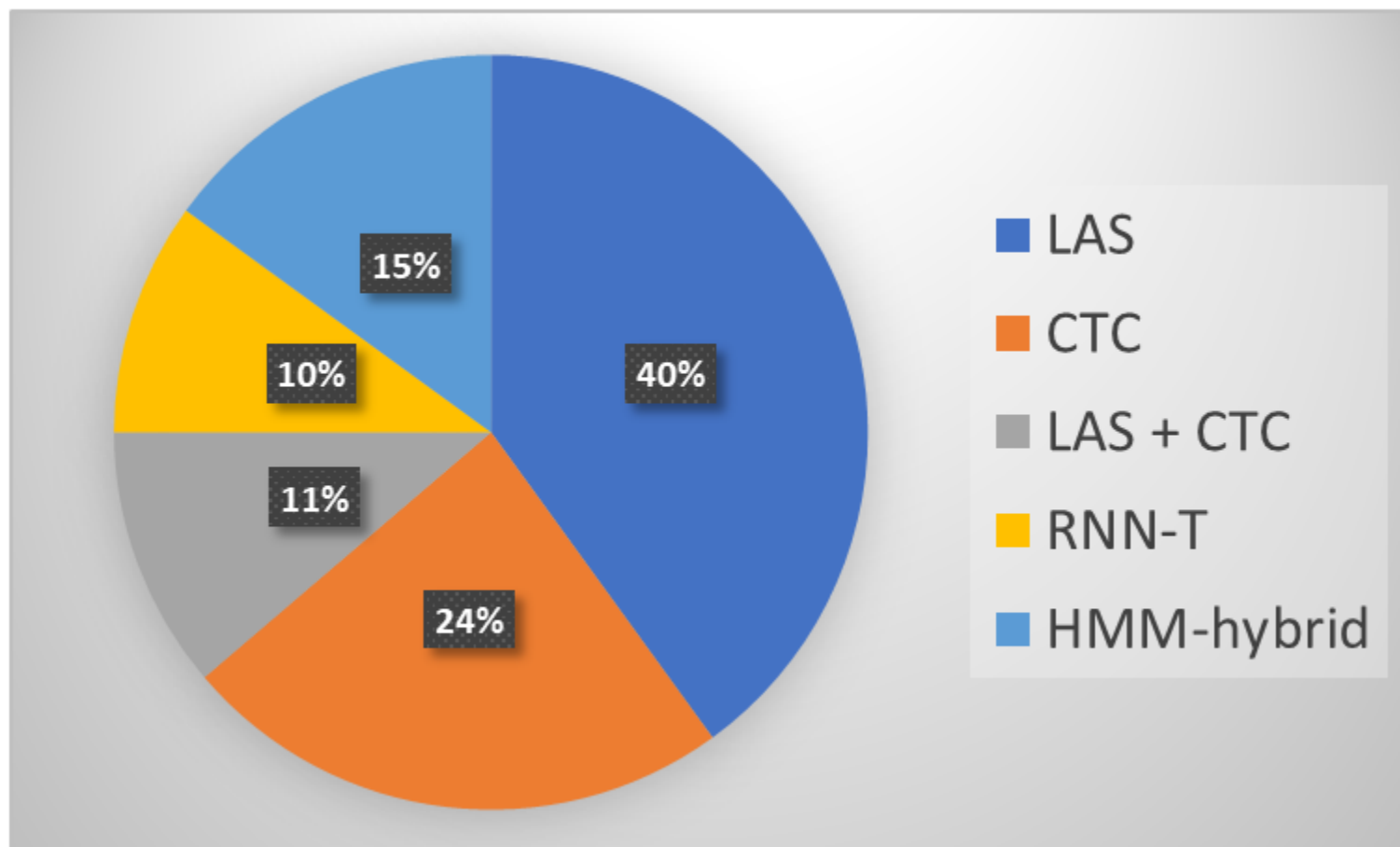
Models to be introduced

- Listen, Attend, and Spell (LAS) [\[Chorowski. et al., NIPS'15\]](#)
- Connectionist Temporal Classification (CTC)
[\[Graves, et al., ICML'06\]](#)
- RNN Transducer (RNN-T) [\[Graves, ICML workshop'12\]](#)
- Neural Transducer [\[Jaitly, et al., NIPS'16\]](#)
- Monotonic Chunkwise Attention (MoChA) [\[Chiu, et al., ICLR'18\]](#)

Models

Go through more than 100
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ICASSP'19, ASRU'19

感謝助教群的辛勞



Models to be introduced

Encoder

Decoder

- Listen, Attend, and Spell (LAS) [Chorowski. et al., NIPS'15]

It is the typical seq2seq with attention.

- Connectionist Temporal Classification (CTC)
[Graves, et al., ICML'06]
- RNN Transducer (RNN-T) [Graves, ICML workshop'12]
- Neural Transducer [Jaitly, et al., NIPS'16]
- Monotonic Chunkwise Attention (MoChA)
[Chiu, et al., ICLR'18]

Listen

- Extract content information
- Remove speaker variance, remove noises

output:

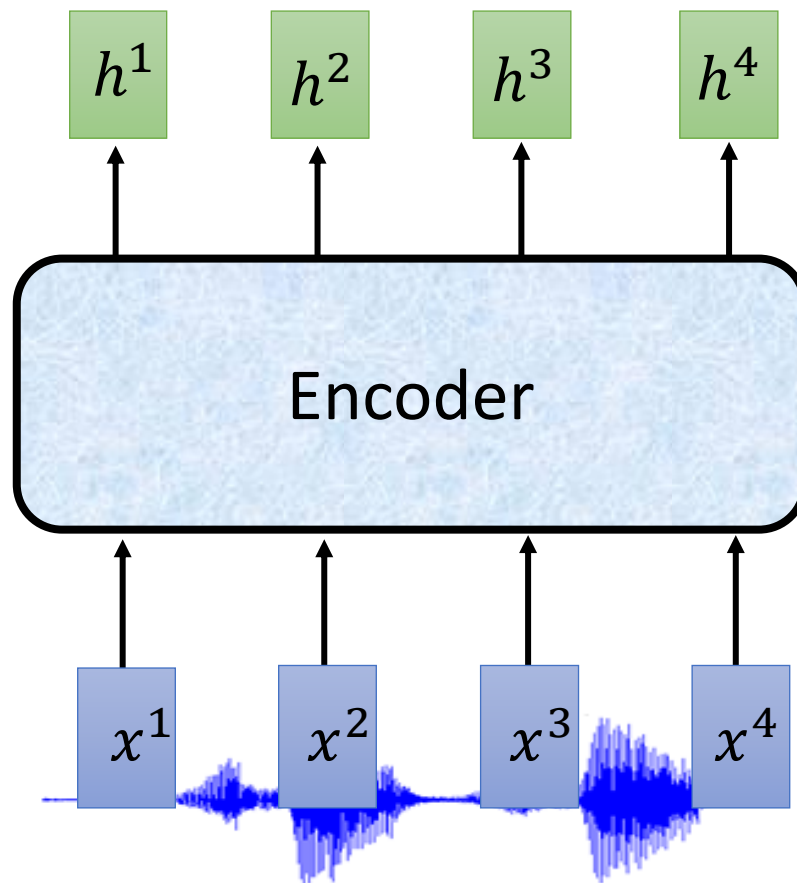
$$\{h^1, h^2, \dots, h^T\}$$

high-level
representations

Input:

$$\{x^1, x^2, \dots, x^T\}$$

acoustic features



Listen

output:

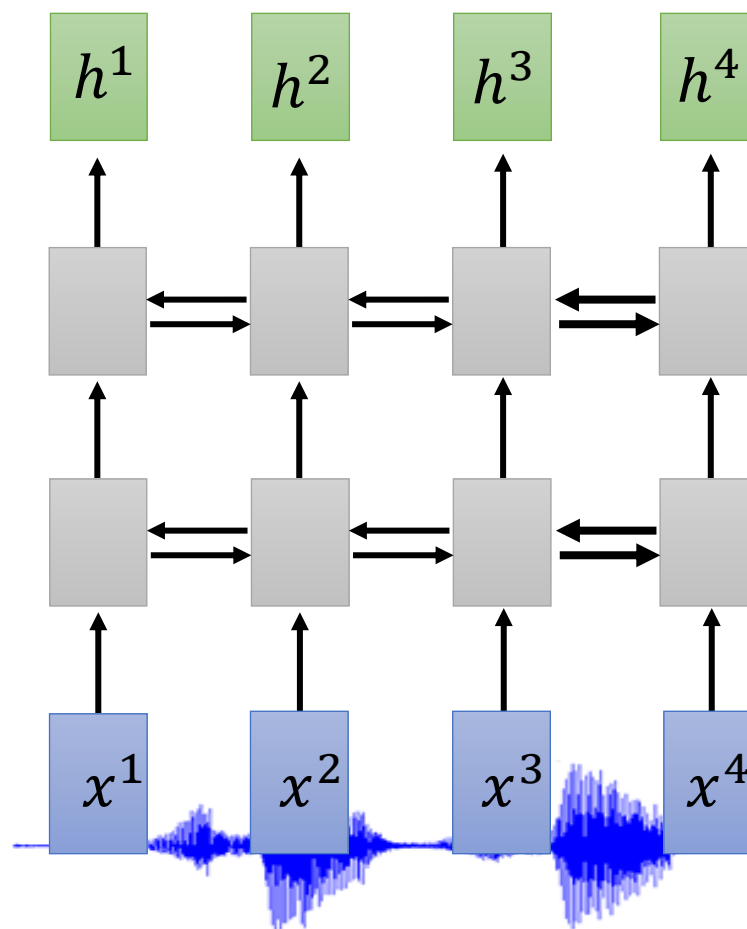
$$\{h^1, h^2, \dots, h^T\}$$

high-level
representations

Input:

$$\{x^1, x^2, \dots, x^T\}$$

acoustic features



RNN

Listen

output:

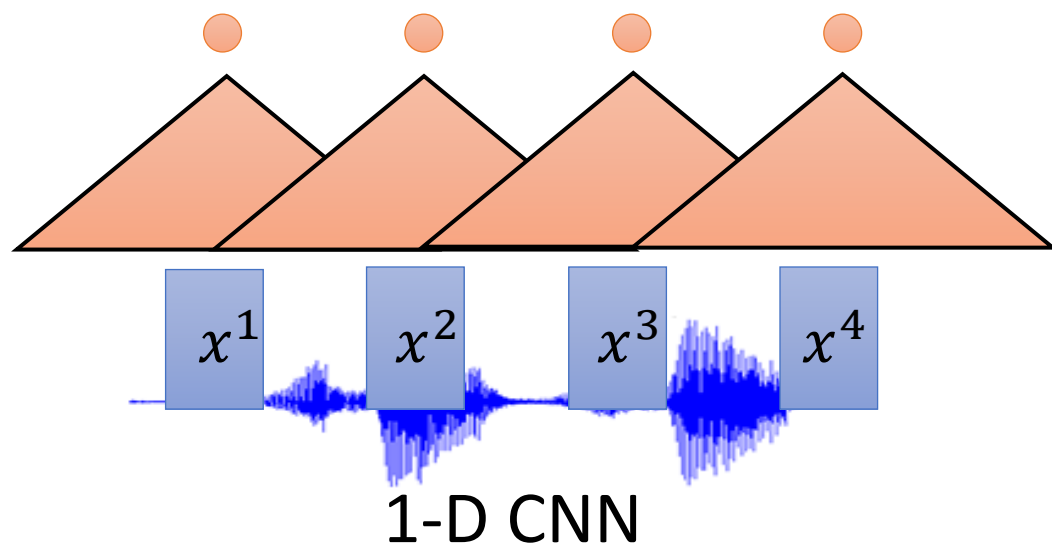
$$\{h^1, h^2, \dots, h^T\}$$

high-level
representations

Input:

$$\{x^1, x^2, \dots, x^T\}$$

acoustic features



Listen

- Filters in higher layer can consider longer sequence
- CNN+RNN is common

output:

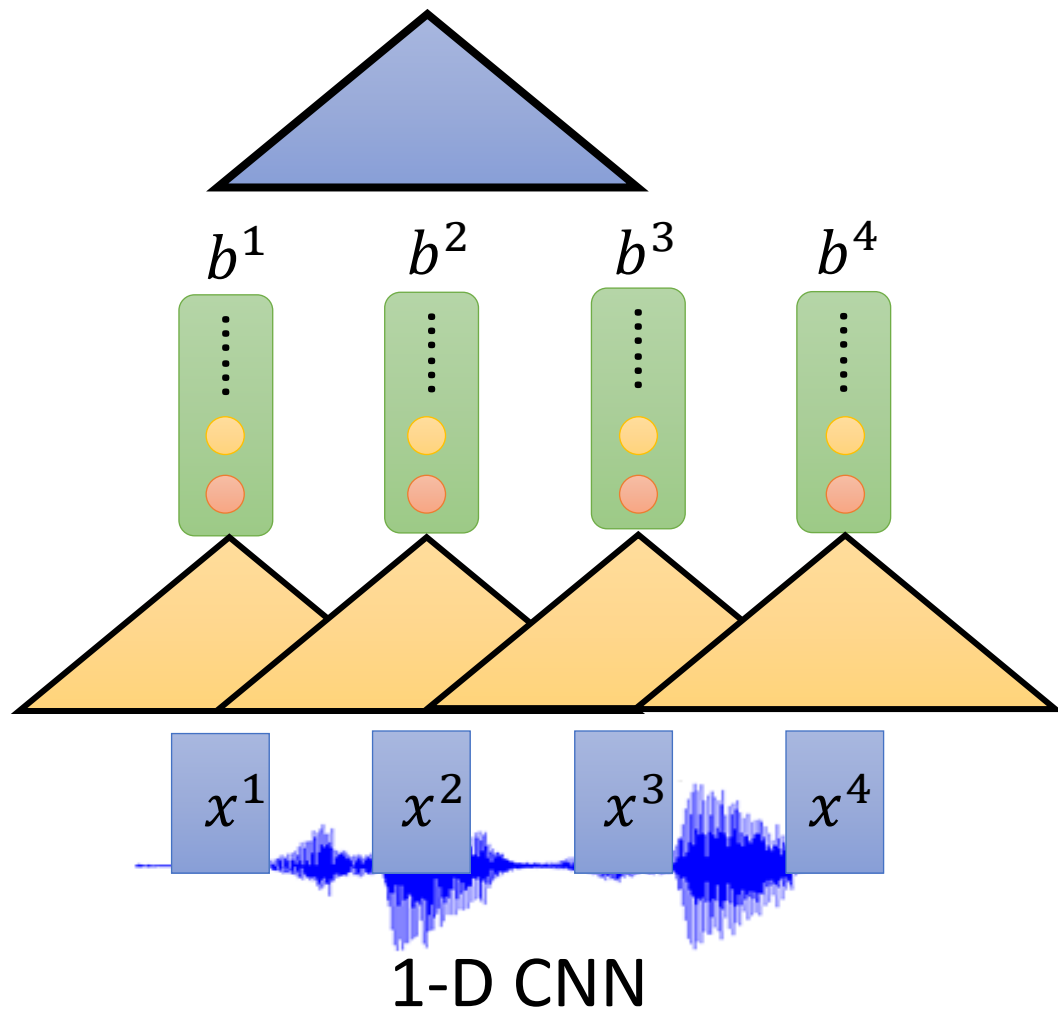
$$\{h^1, h^2, \dots, h^T\}$$

high-level
representations

Input:

$$\{x^1, x^2, \dots, x^T\}$$

acoustic features



Listen

Please refer to ML video recording:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ugWDIIOHtPA>

[Zeyer, et al., ASRU'19]

[Karita, et al., ASRU'19]

output:

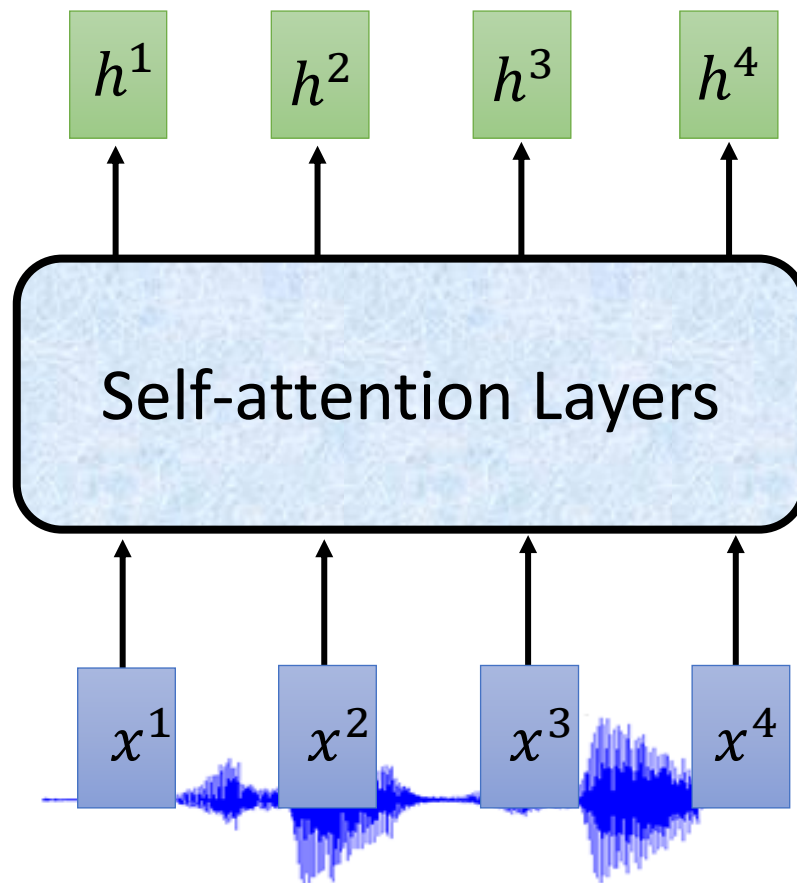
$$\{h^1, h^2, \dots, h^T\}$$

high-level
representations

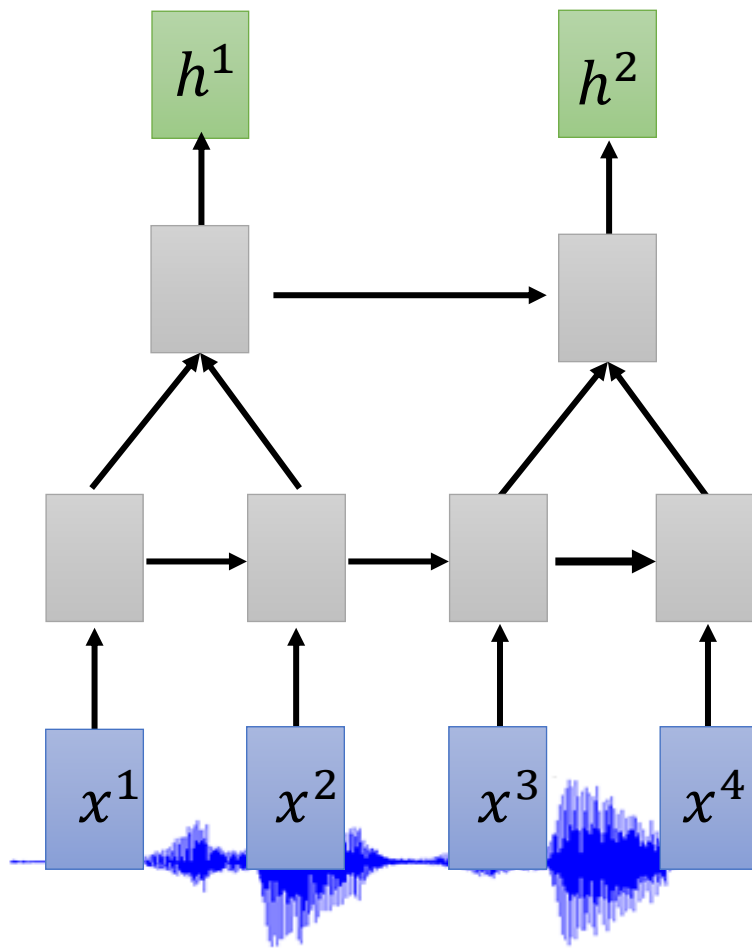
Input:

$$\{x^1, x^2, \dots, x^T\}$$

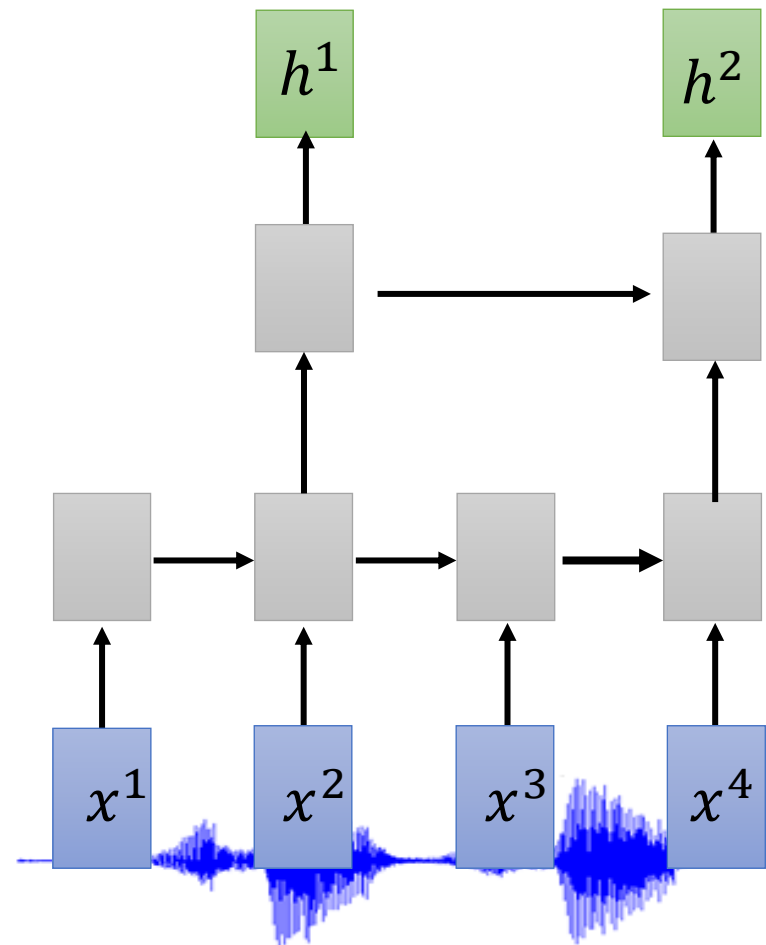
acoustic features



Listen – Down Sampling



Pyramid RNN [Chan, et al.,
ICASSP'16]



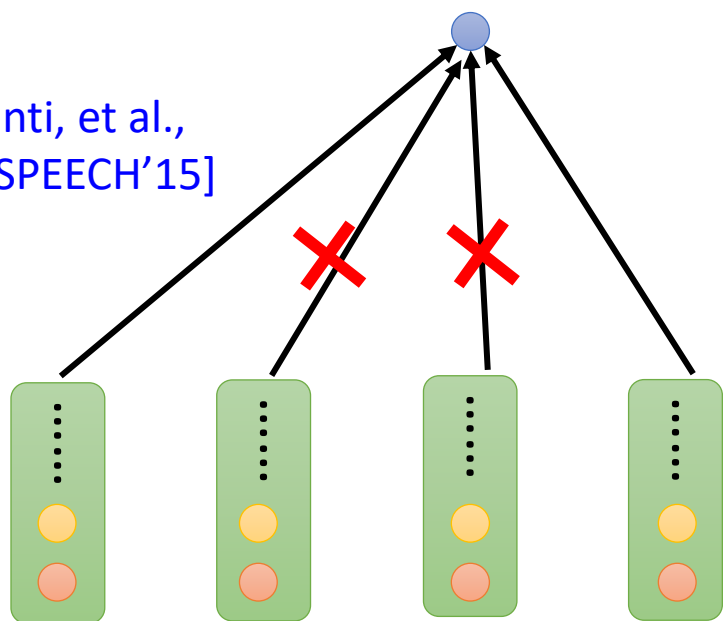
Pooling over time [Bahdanau, et al.,
ICASSP'16]

Listen – Down Sampling

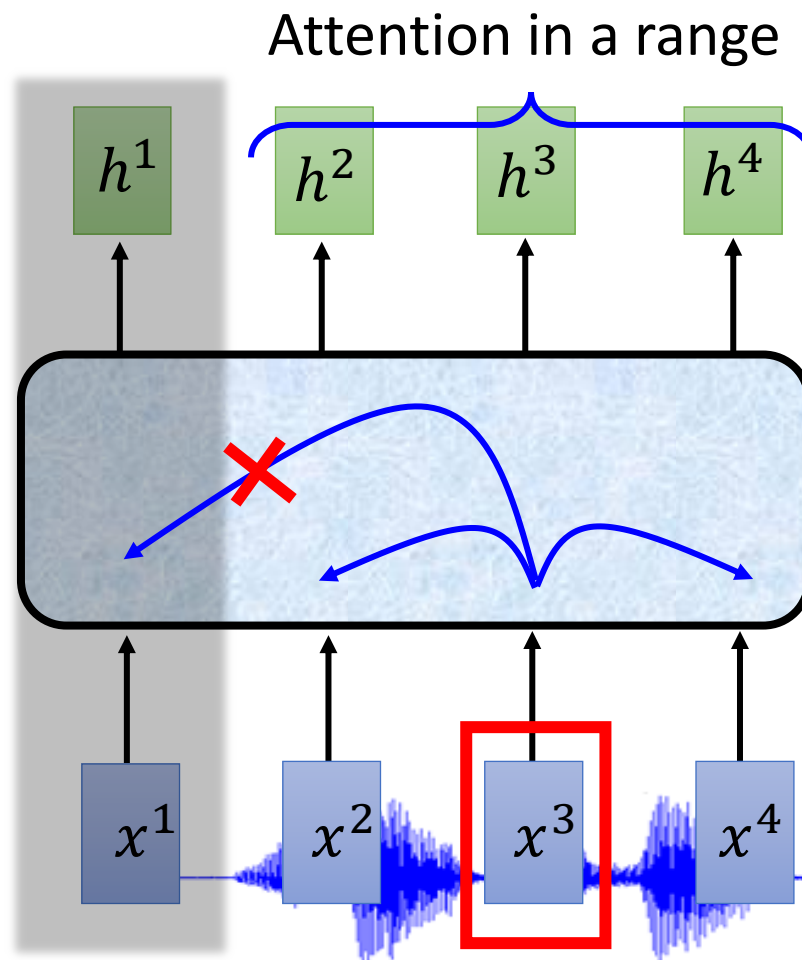
[Yeh, et al., arXiv'19]

Dilated CNN has the same concept

[Peddinti, et al., INTERSPEECH'15]



Time-delay DNN (TDNN)

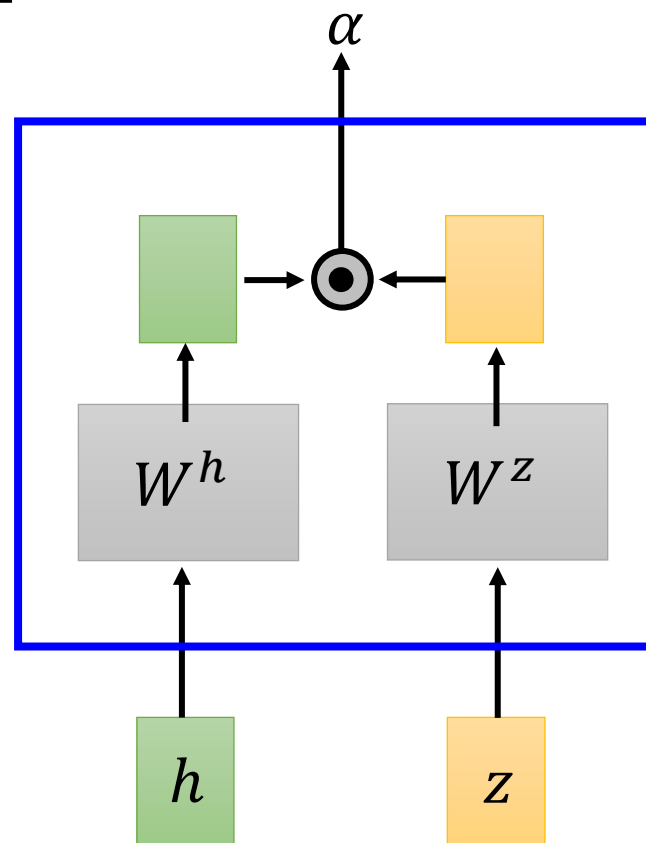
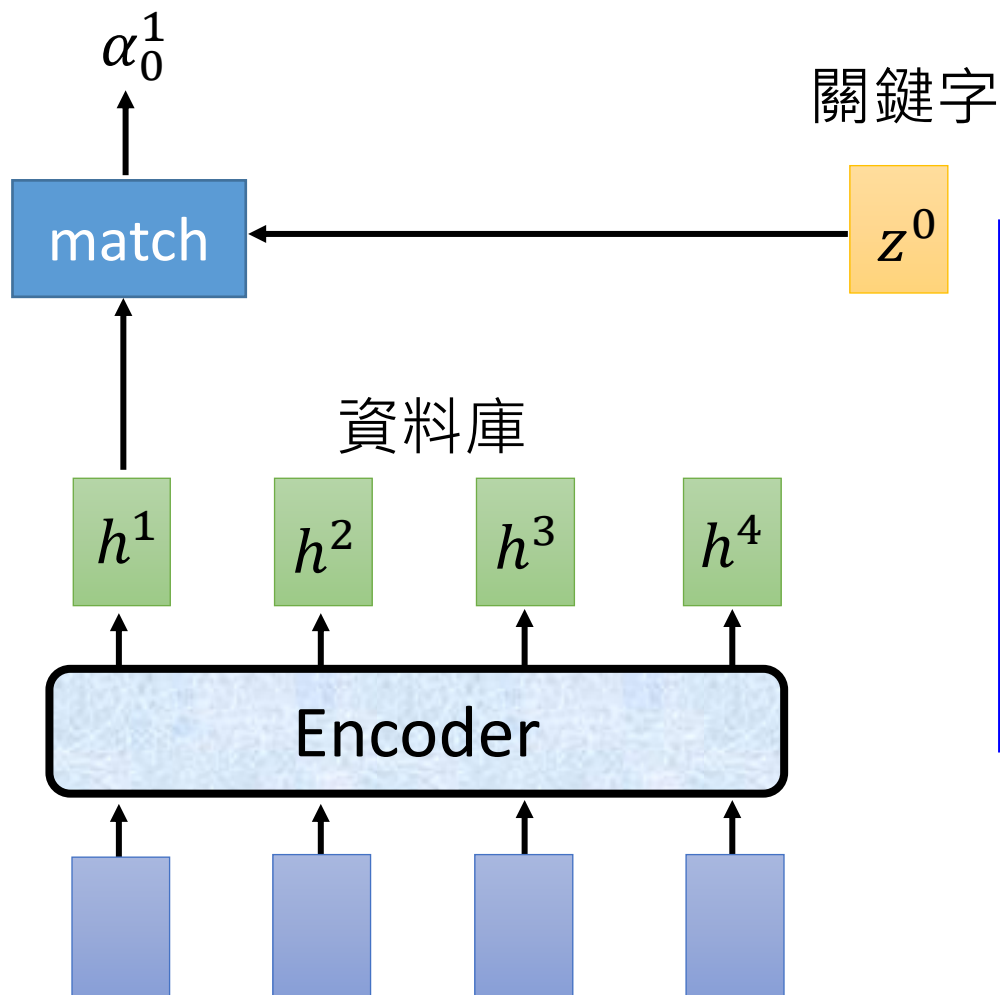


Truncated Self-attention

Attention

Dot-product Attention

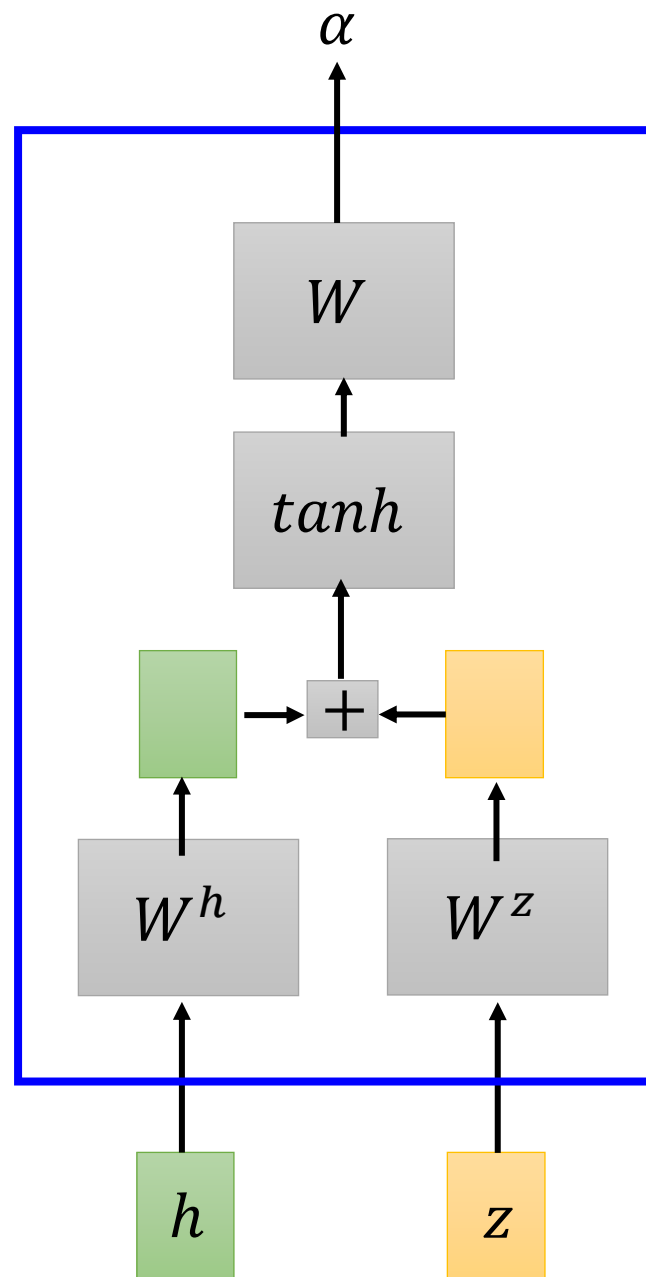
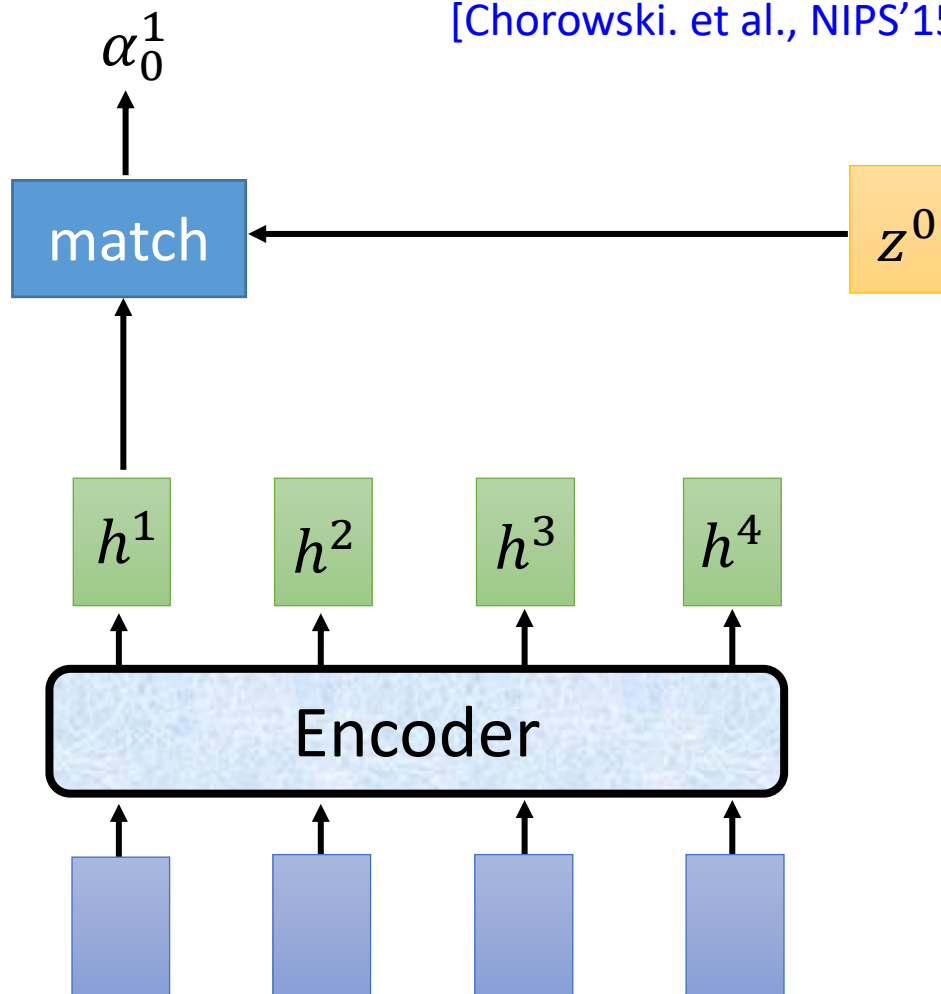
[Chan, et al., ICASSP'16]



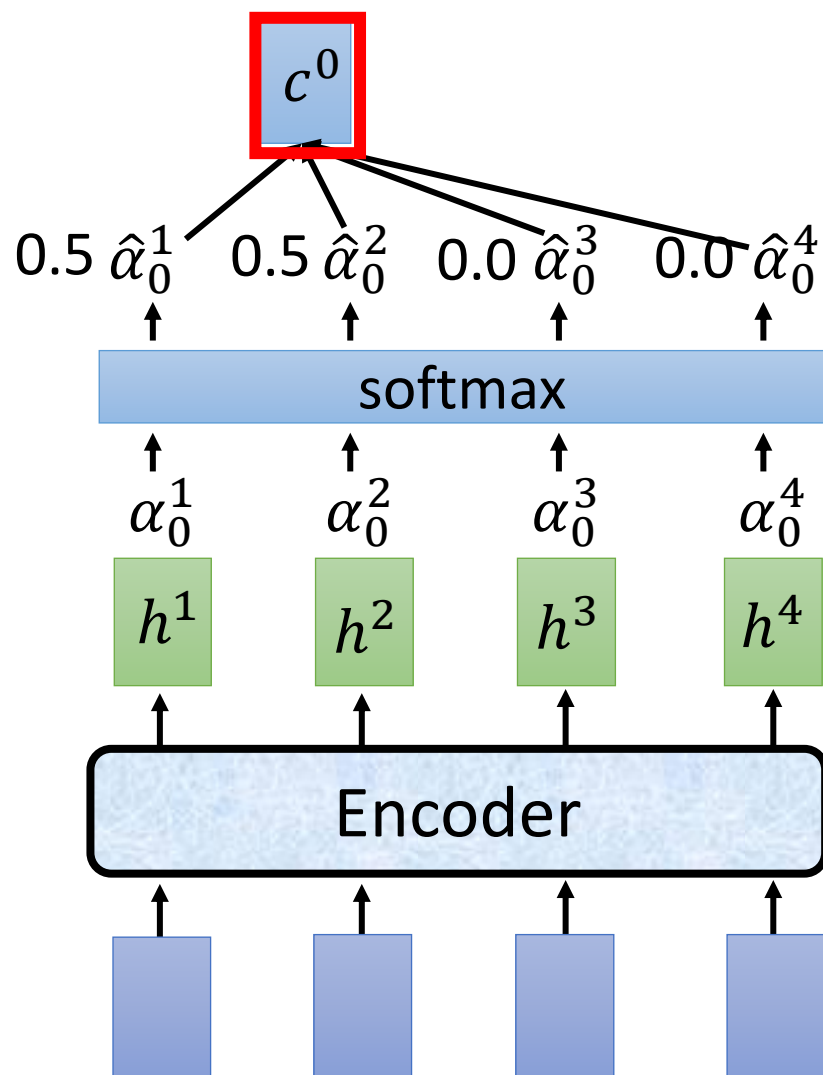
Attention

Additive Attention

[Chorowski. et al., NIPS'15]



Attention

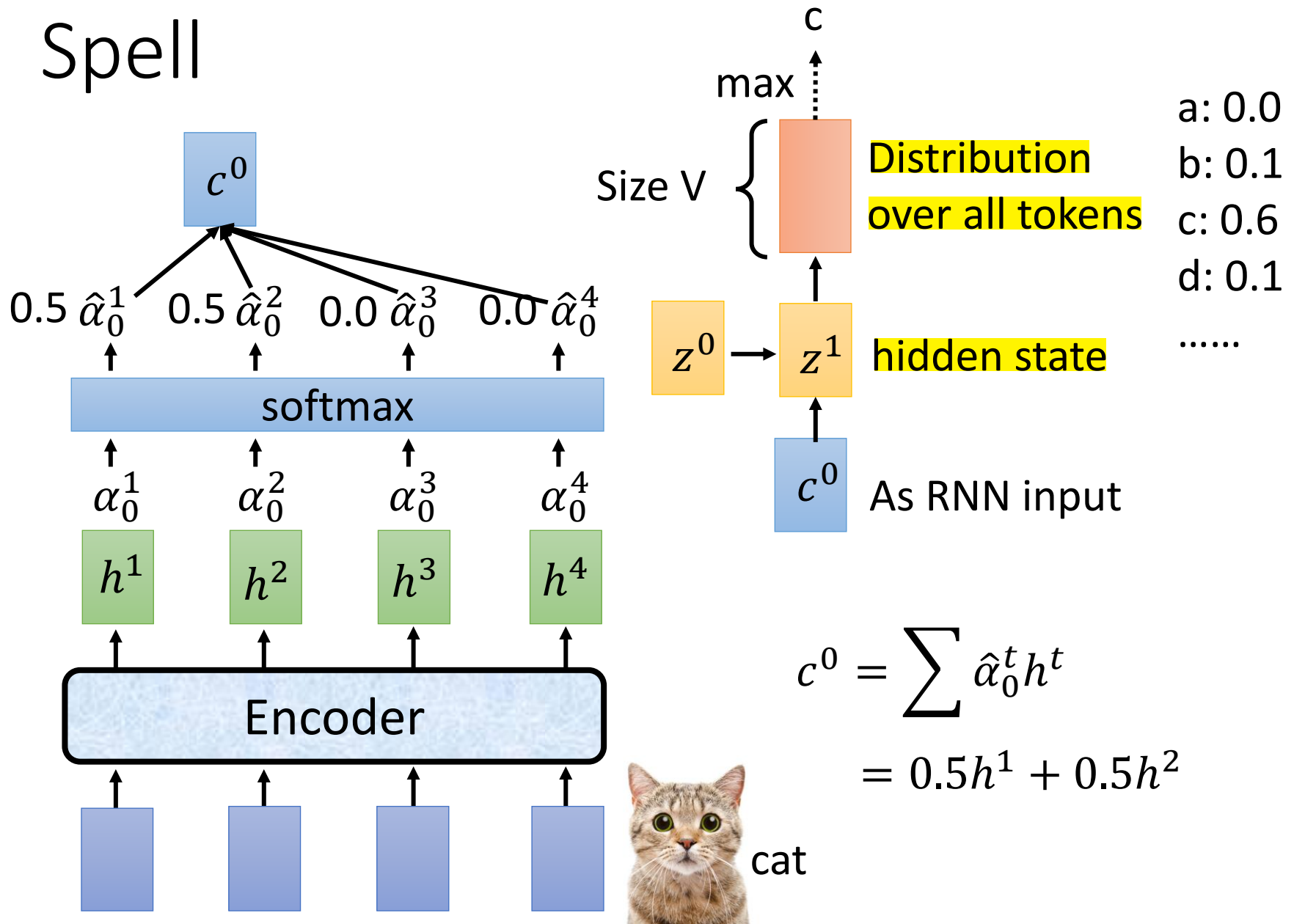


z^0

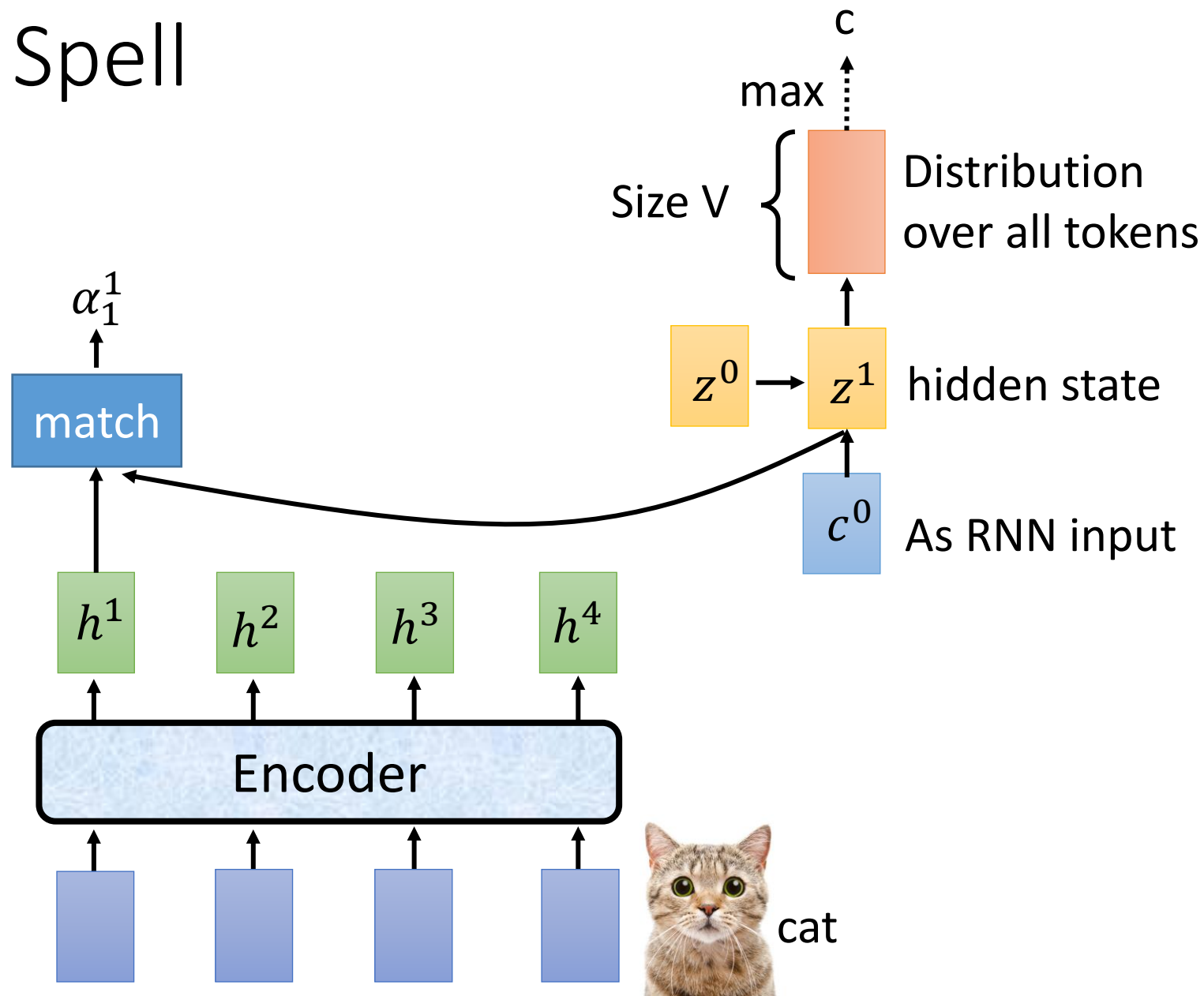

 c^0 As RNN input

$$c^0 = \sum \hat{\alpha}_0^i h^i$$
$$= 0.5h^1 + 0.5h^2$$

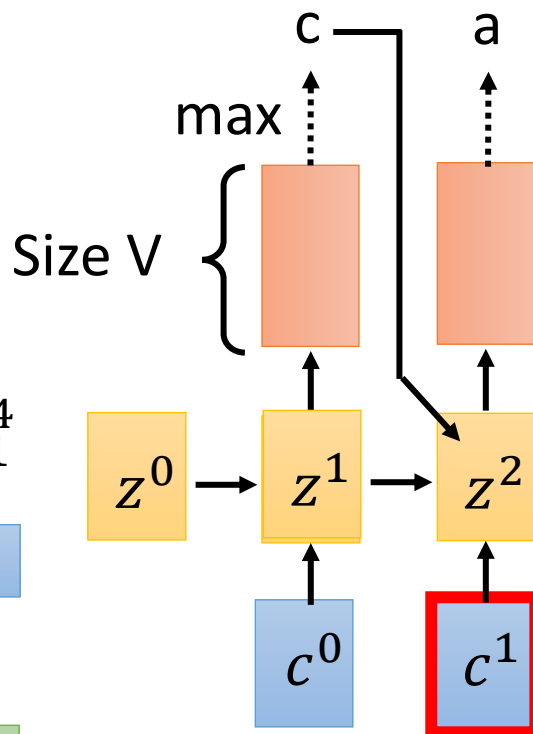
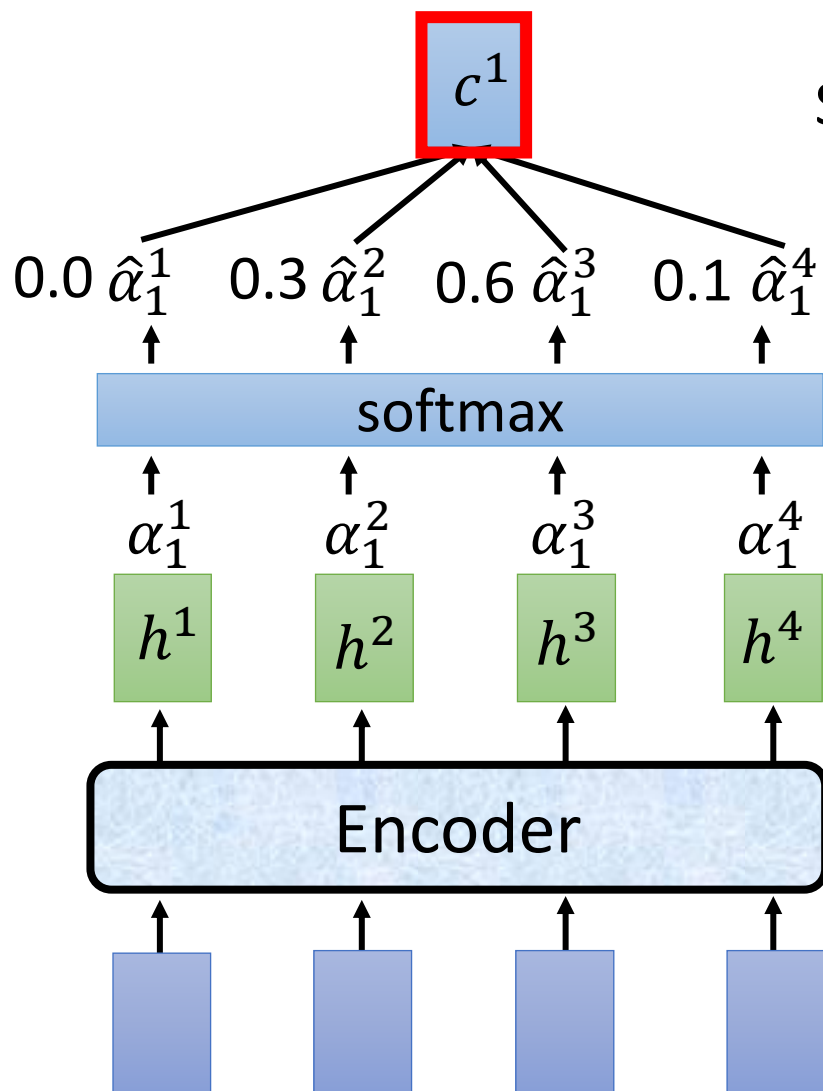
Spell



Spell



Spell



$$c^1 = \sum \hat{\alpha}_1^t h^t$$

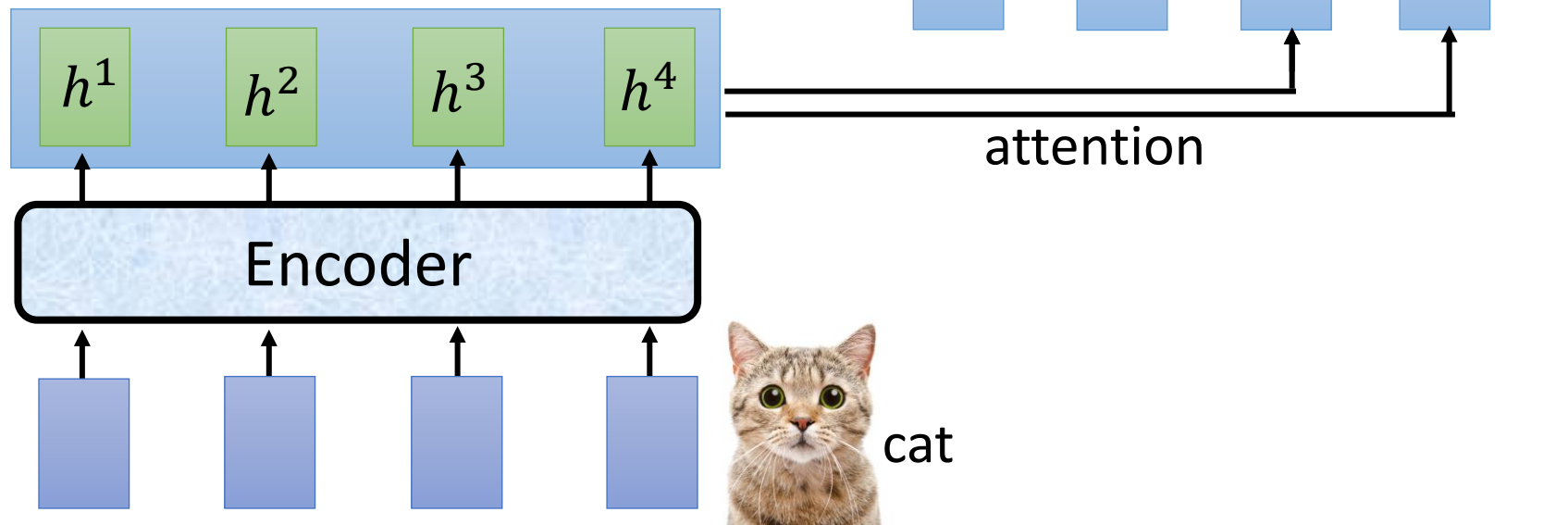
$$= 0.3h^2 + 0.6h^3 + 0.1h^4$$



cat

Spell

Beam Search is usually used



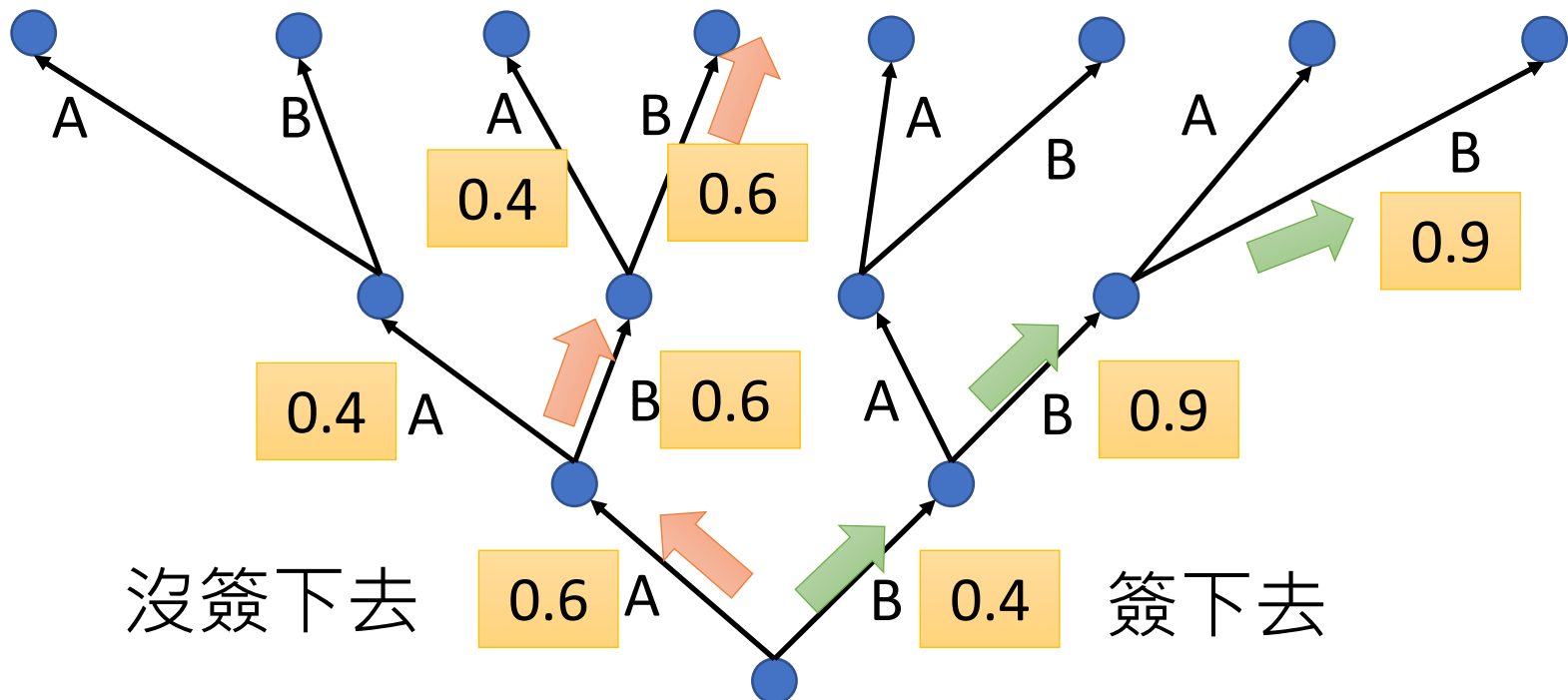
Beam Search

Assume there are only two tokens ($V=2$).

The **red** path is ***Greedy Decoding.***

The **green** path is the best one.

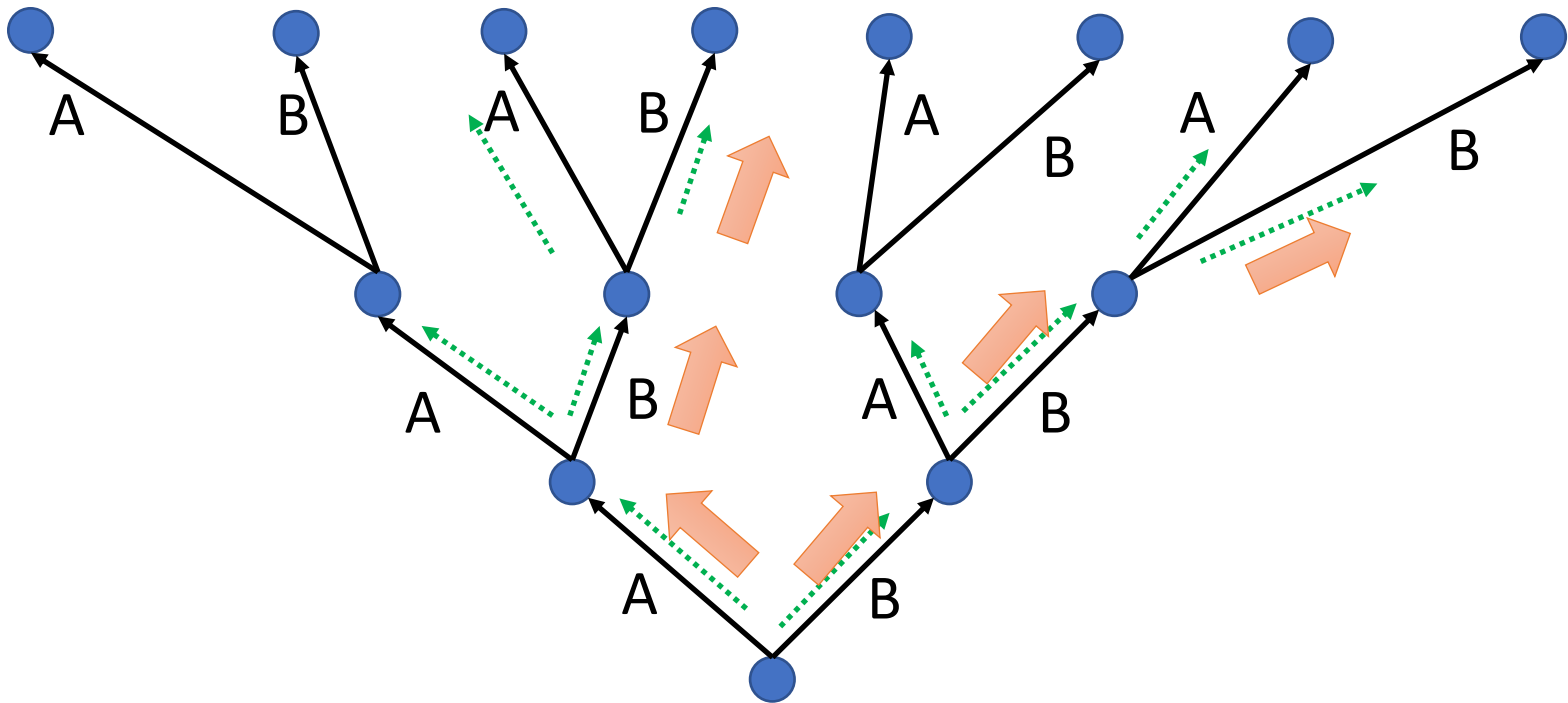
Not possible to check all the paths ...



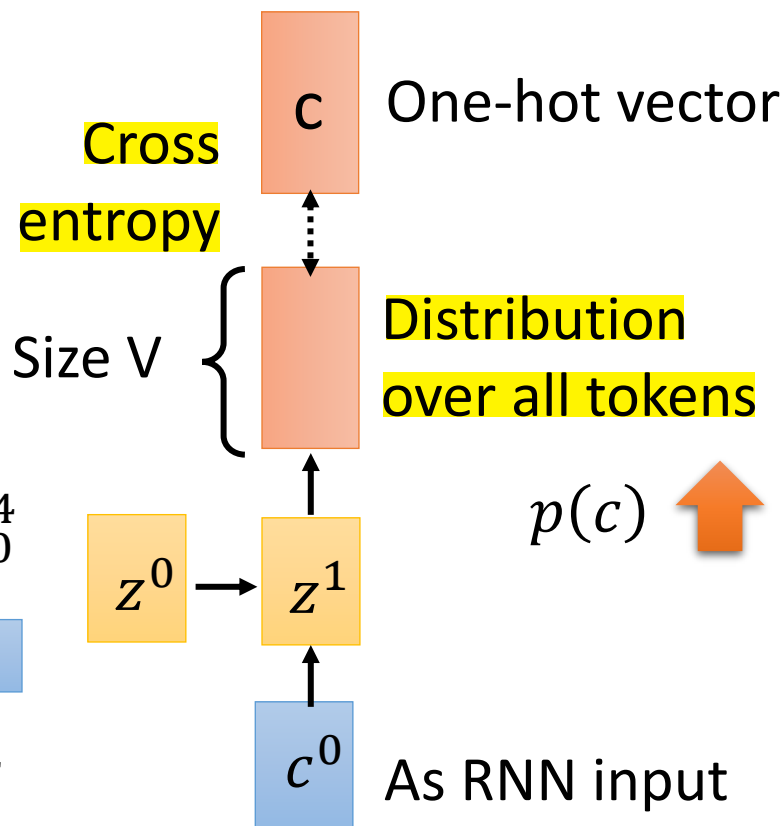
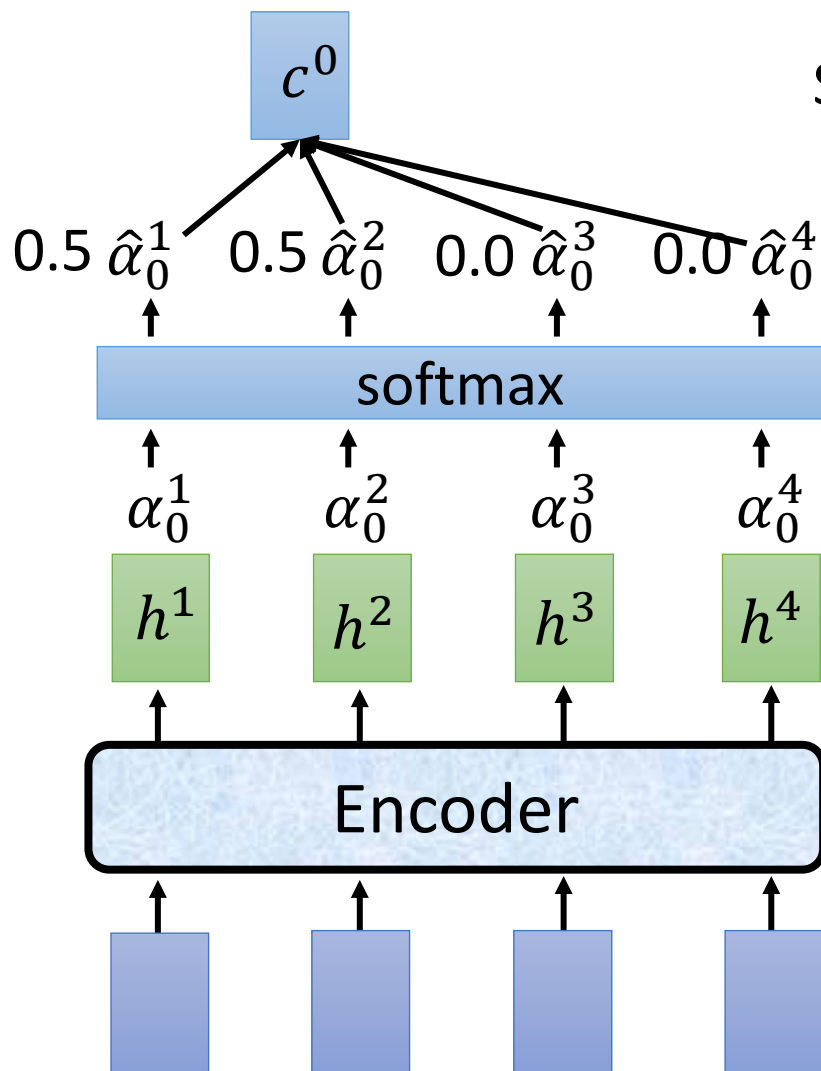
Beam Search

Keep **B** best paths at each step

B (Beam size) = 2



Training



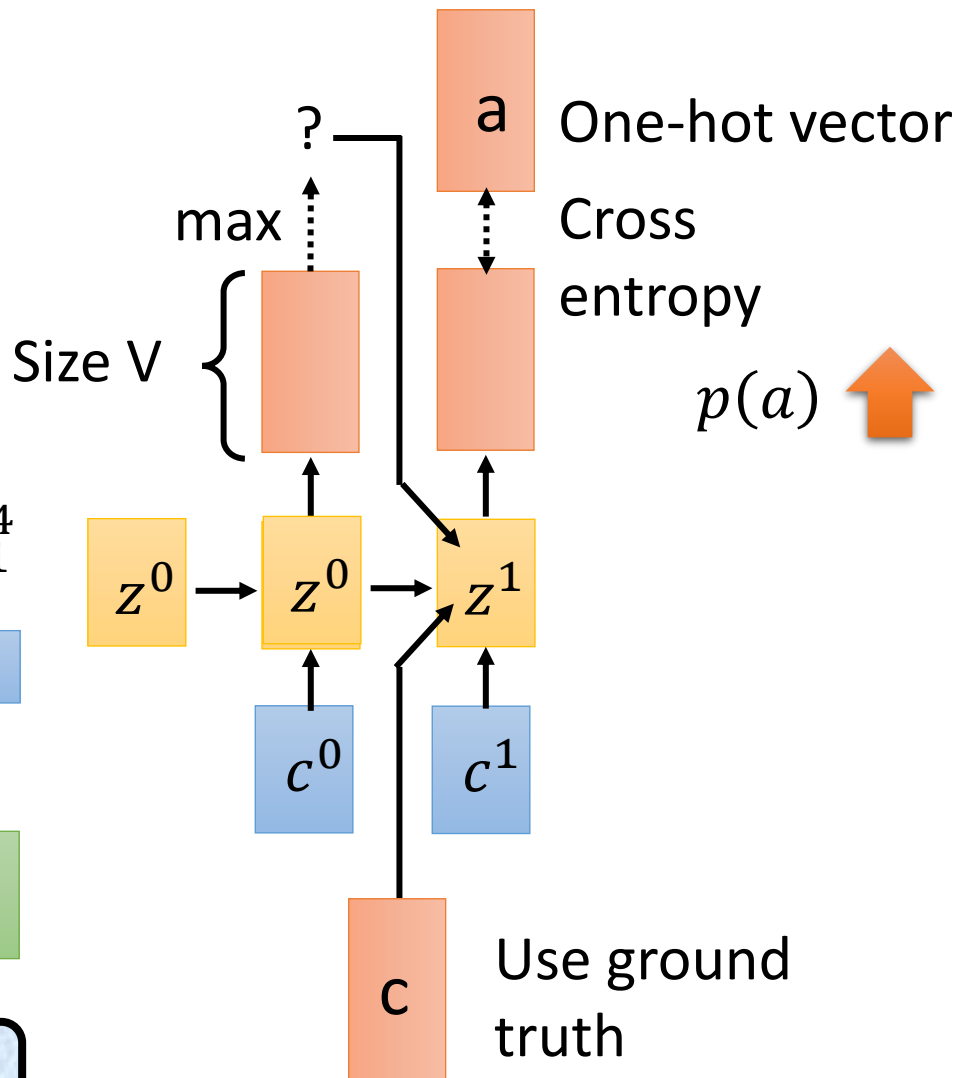
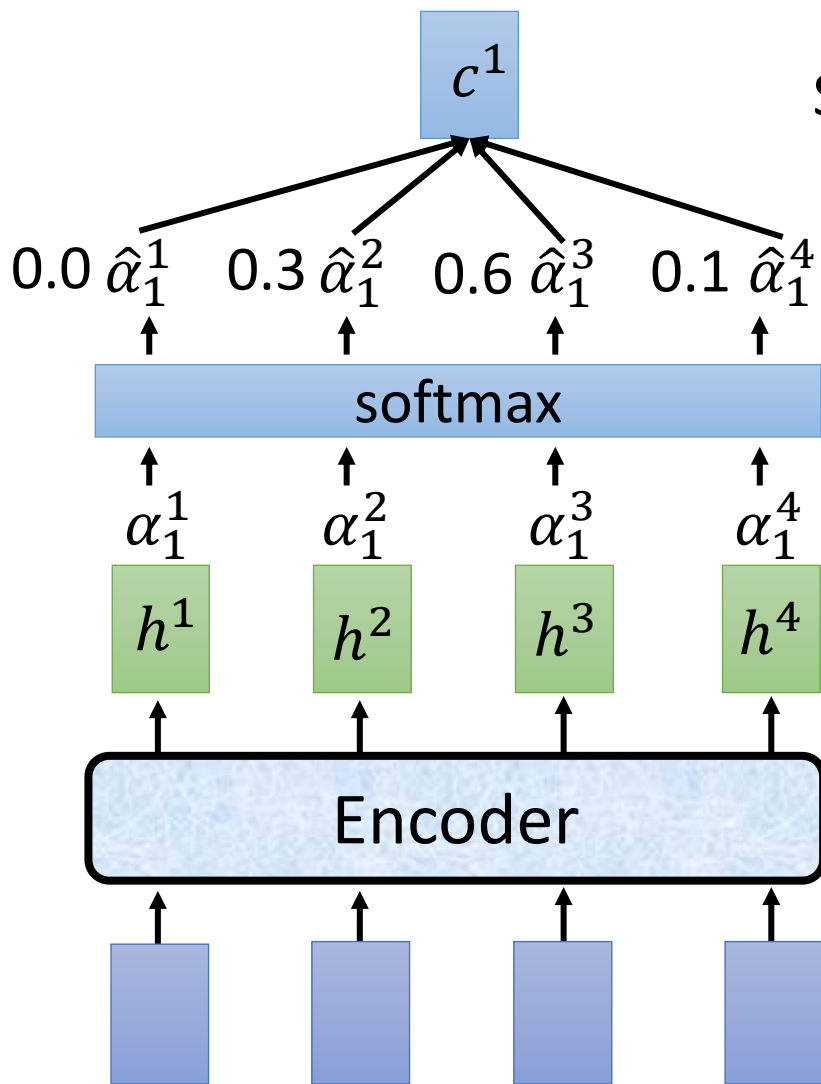
$$c^0 = \sum \hat{\alpha}_0^i h^i$$

$$= 0.5h^1 + 0.5h^2$$



cat

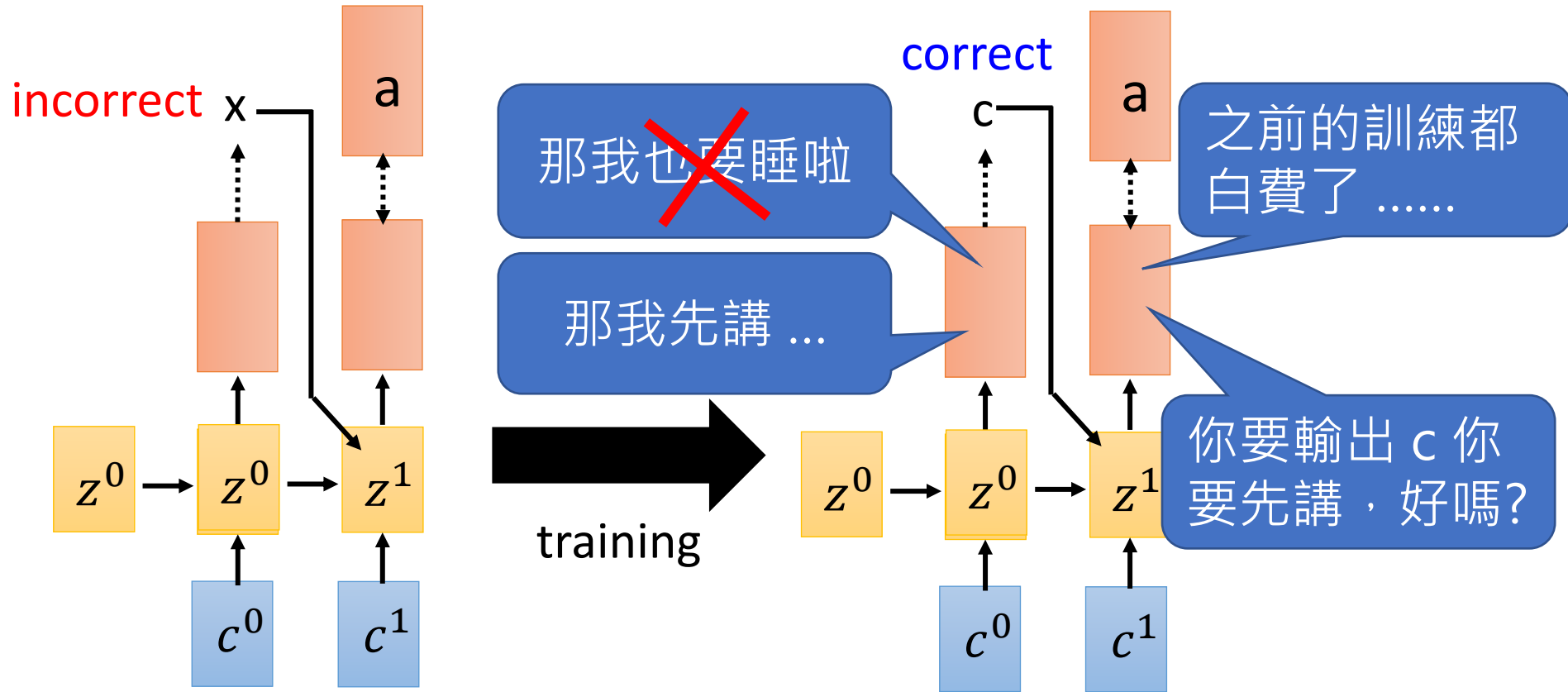
Training



Teacher Forcing

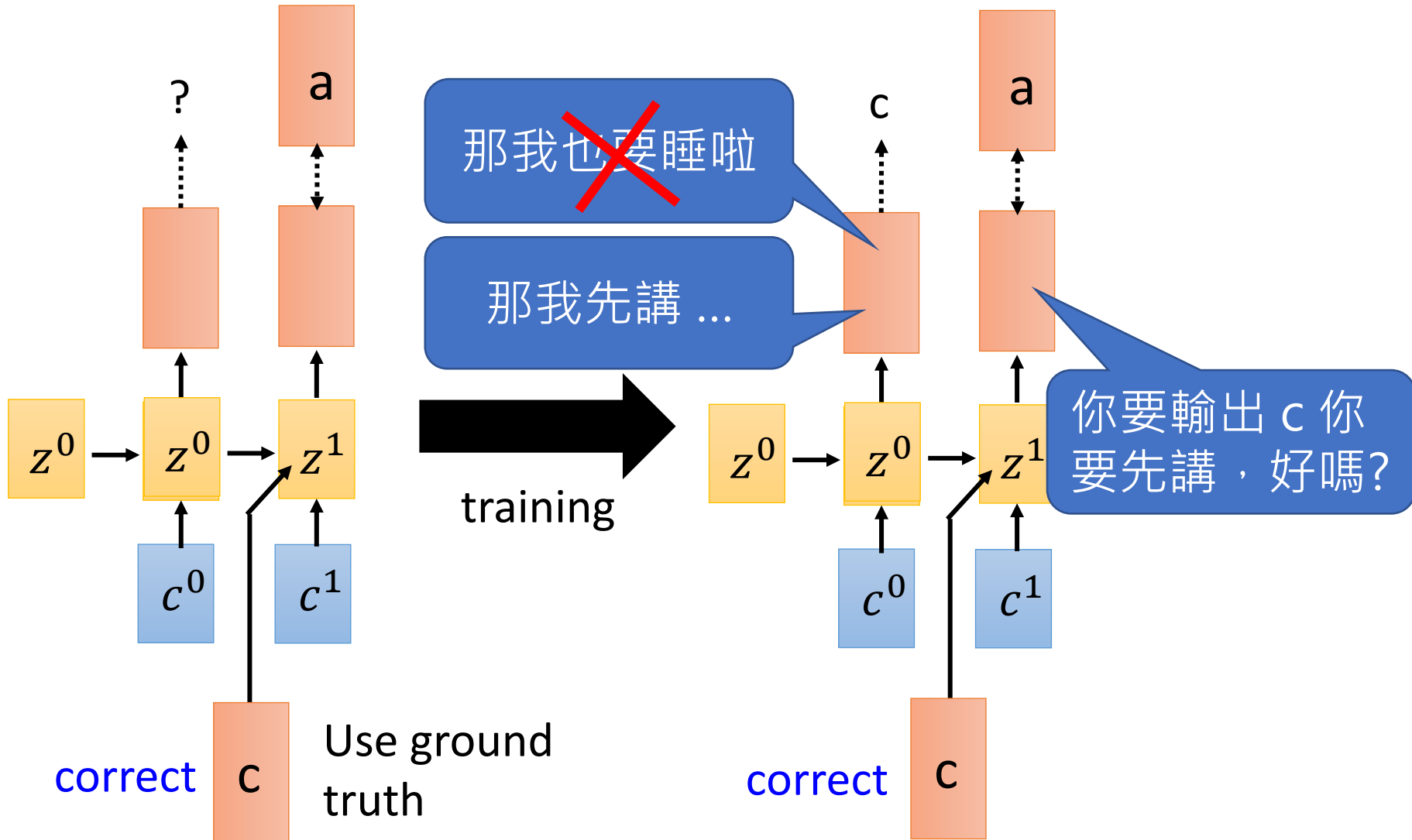


Why Teacher Forcing?

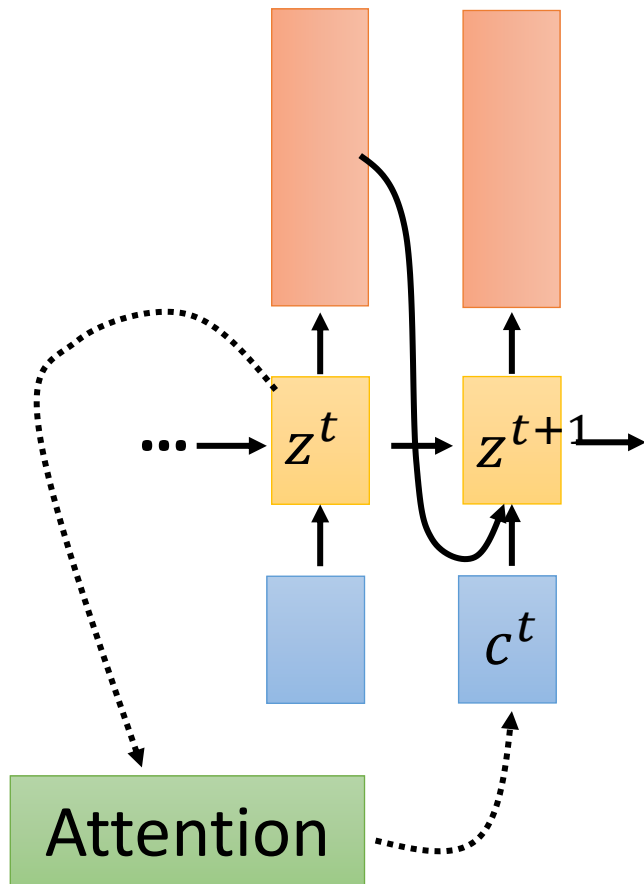


Use previous output

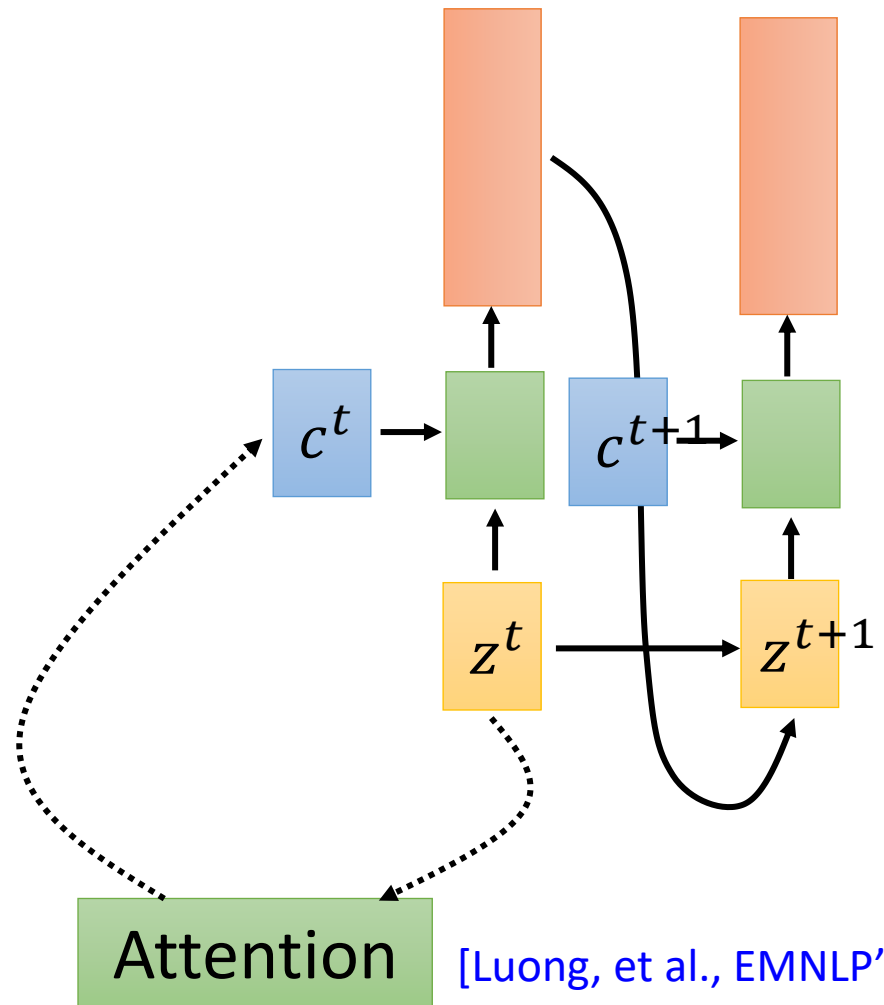
Why Teacher Forcing?



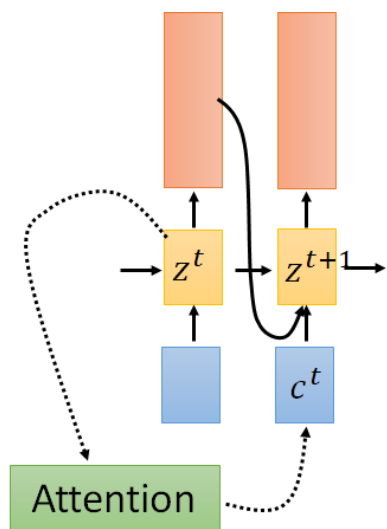
Back to Attention



[Bahdanau. et al., ICLR'15]

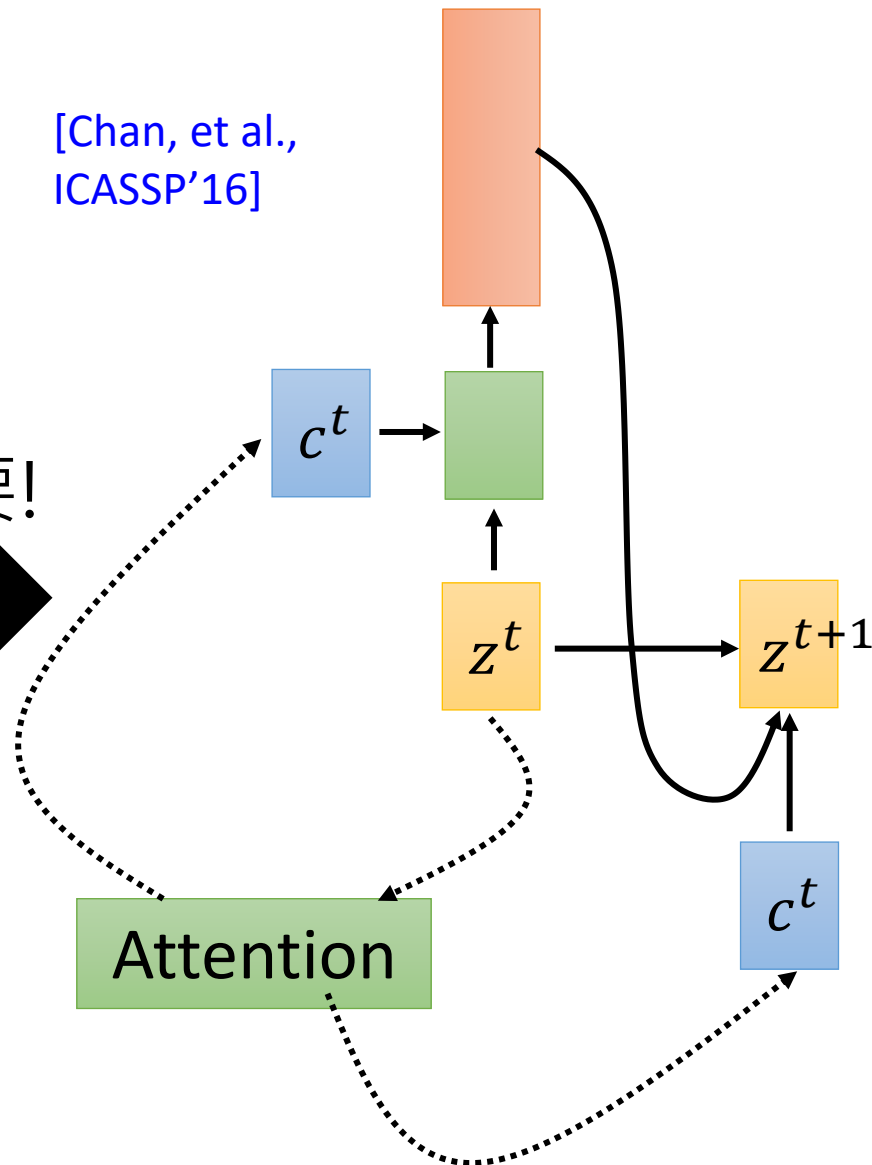
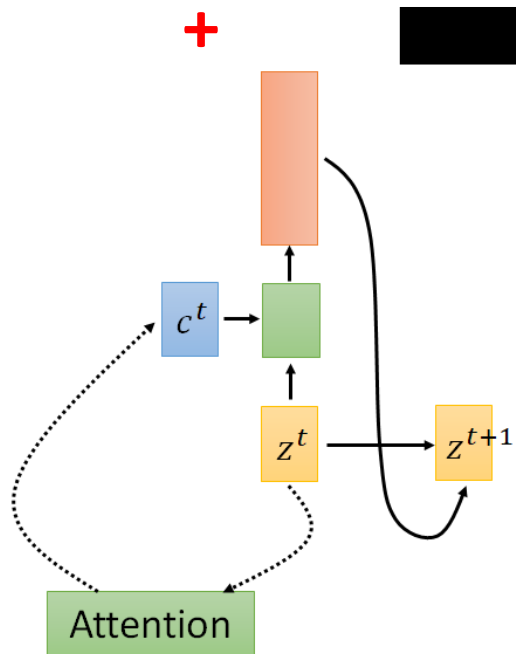


[Luong, et al., EMNLP'15]

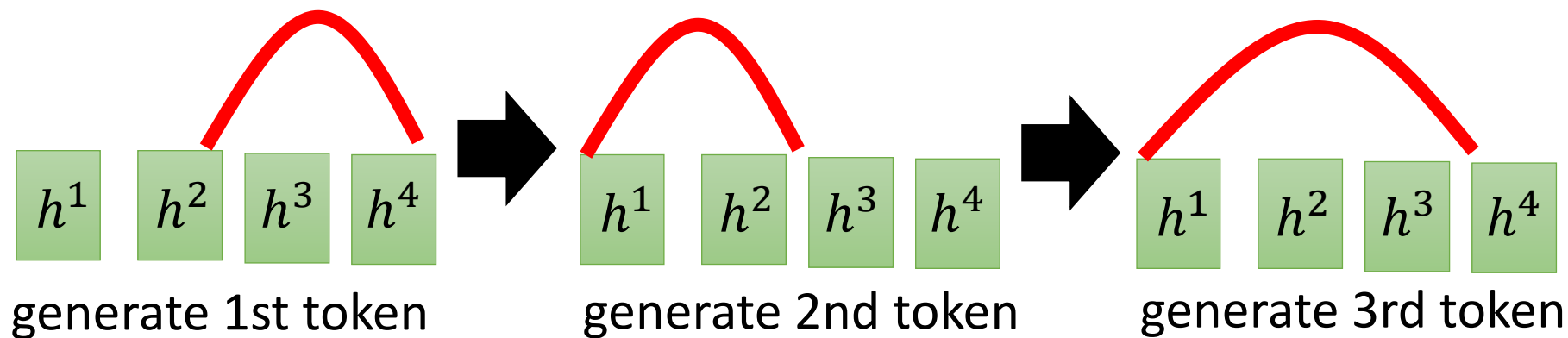
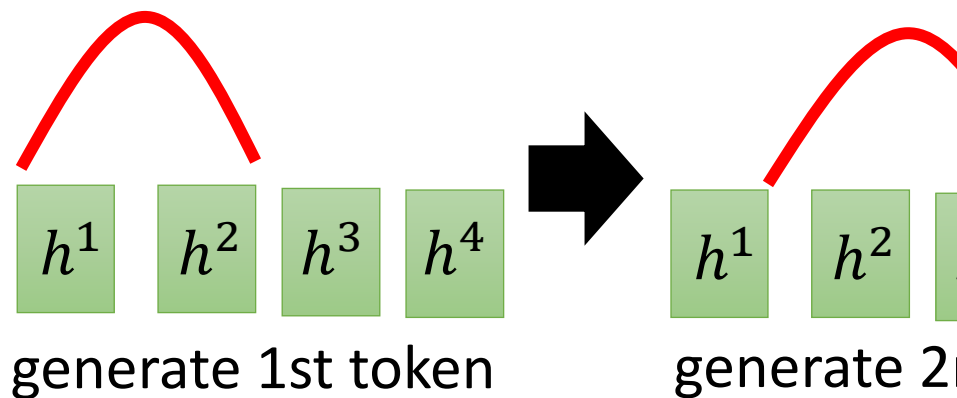


[Chan, et al.,
ICASSP'16]

我全都要!

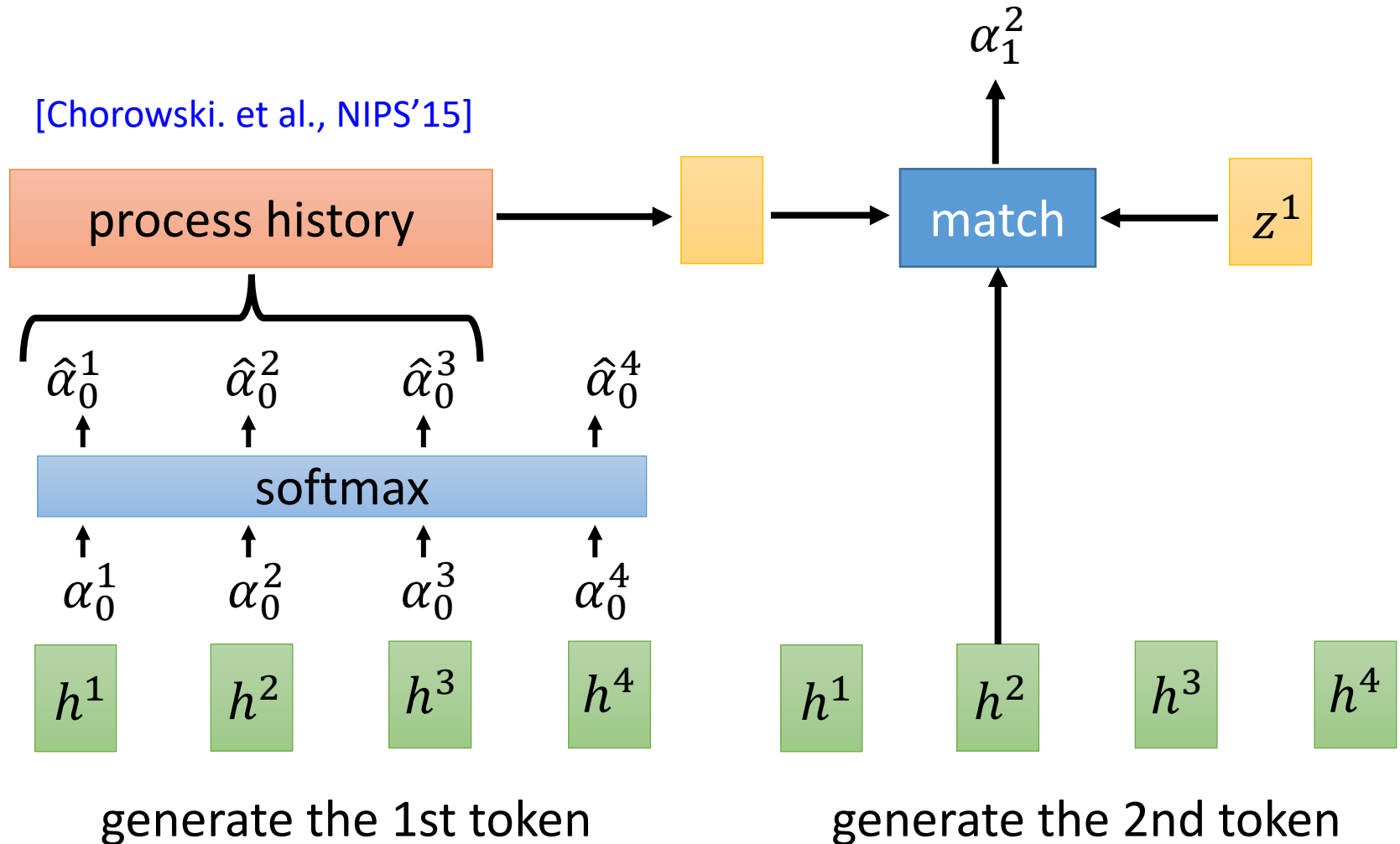


Back to Attention



Location-aware attention

[Chorowski. et al., NIPS'15]



LAS – Does it work?

Model	Dev	Test
Baseline Model	15.9%	18.7%
Baseline + Conv. Features	16.1%	18.0%
Baseline + Conv. Features + Smooth Focus	15.8%	17.6%
RNN Transducer [16]	N/A	17.7%
HMM over Time and Frequency Convolutional Net [25]	13.9%	16.7%

TIMIT

[Chorowski. Et al., NIPS'15]

10.4% on SWB ...

[Soltau, et al., ICASSP'14]

300 hours

[Lu, et al., INTERSPEECH'15]

Step	Splicing	Space	CHM	SWB	Avg
1	± 5	feature	62.7	47.6	55.2
2	± 5	feature	61.3	40.8	51.1
3	± 5	feature	59.9	38.8	49.4
4	± 5	feature	60.2	41.7	51.0
1	± 7	feature	65.5	47.6	56.6
2	± 7	feature	59.9	41.7	50.9
3	± 7	feature	59.8	40.3	50.1
4	± 7	feature	60.0	43.0	51.6
2	± 5	hidden	60.7	42.3	51.5
3	± 5	hidden	58.9	41.7	50.3

LAS – Yes, it works!

Model	Clean WER	Noisy WER
CLDNN-HMM [22]	8.0	8.9
LAS	14.1	16.5
LAS + LM Rescoring	10.3	12.0

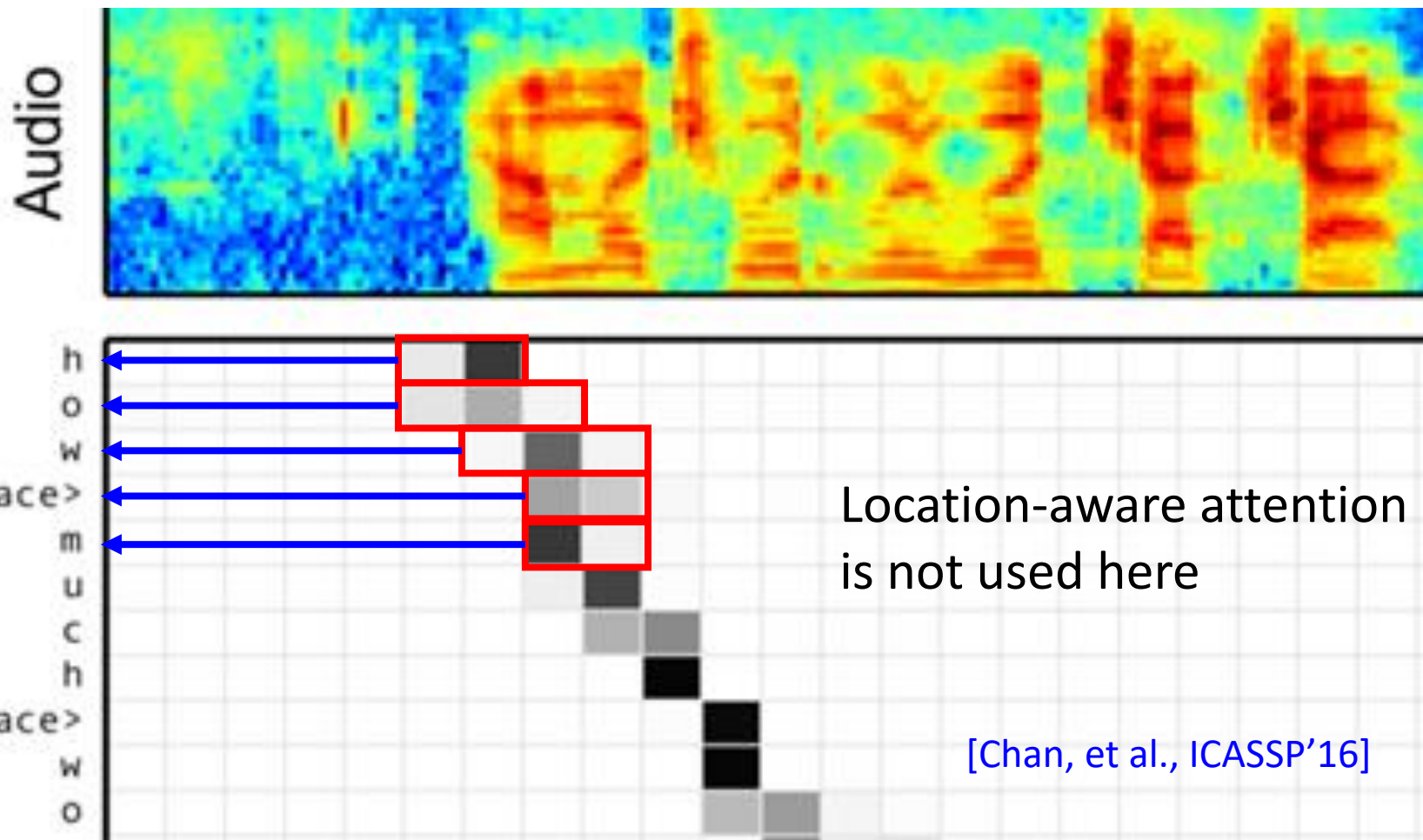
2000 hours

[Chan, et al., ICASSP'16]

Exp-ID	Model	VS/D	1st pass Model Size
E8	Proposed	5.6/4.1	0.4 GB
E9	Conventional LFR system	6.7/5.0	0.1 GB (AM) + 2.2 GB (PM) + 4.9 GB (LM) = 7.2GB

12500 hours

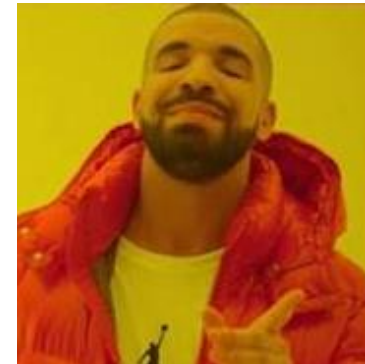
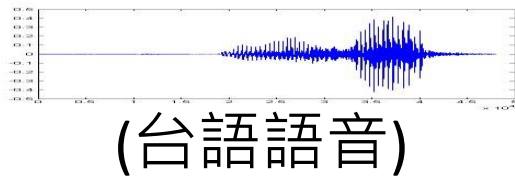
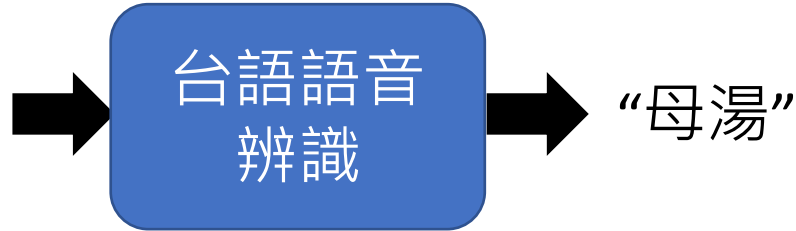
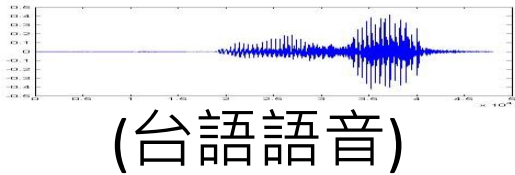
[Chiu, et al., ICASSP, 2018]



Beam	Text	Log Probability	WER
Truth	call aaa roadside assistance	-	-
1	call aaa roadside assistance	-0.5740	0.00
2	call triple a roadside assistance	-1.5399	50.00
3	call trip way roadside assistance	-3.5012	50.00
4	call xxx roadside assistance	-4.4375	25.00

[Chan, et al.,
ICASSP'16]

Hokkien (閩南語、台語)



訓練資料: YouTube 上的鄉土劇
(台語語音、中文字幕), 約 1500 小時
然後就直接用 LAS 訓練下去



Hokkien (閩南語、台語)

- 有背景音樂、音效？
- 語音和字幕沒有對應？
- 台羅拼音？



只有用深度學習
“硬train一發”

Results

Accuracy = 62.1%



你的身體撐不住



沒事你為什麼要請假



要生了嗎

正解:不會膩嗎



我有幫廠長拜託

正解:我拜託廠長了

Limitation of LAS

- LAS outputs the first token after listening the whole input.
- Users expect on-line speech recognition.



今 天 的 天 氣 非 常 好

LAS is not the final solution of ASR!

Models to be introduced

- Listen, Attend, and Spell (LAS) [\[Chorowski. et al., NIPS'15\]](#)

- Connectionist Temporal Classification (CTC)
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- RNN Transducer (RNN-T) [\[Graves, ICML workshop'12\]](#)

- Neural Transducer [\[Jaitly, et al., NIPS'16\]](#)

- Monotonic Chunkwise Attention (MoChA) [\[Chiu, et al., ICLR'18\]](#)

CTC

token
distribution

Classifier

= Softmax(

W

h^i)

vocabulary size V

For on-line streaming speech
recognition, use uni-directional
RNN

Encoder

x^1

x^2

x^3

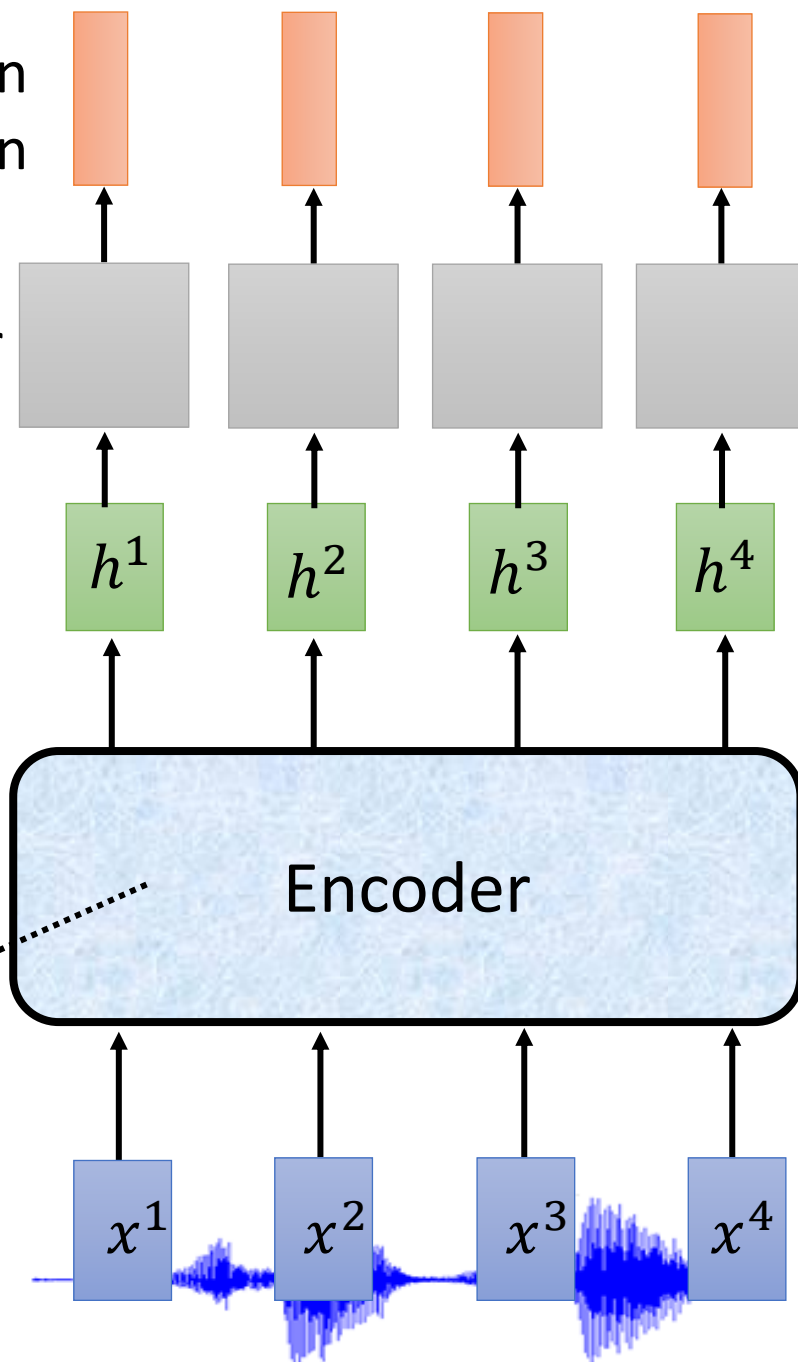
x^4

h^1

h^2

h^3

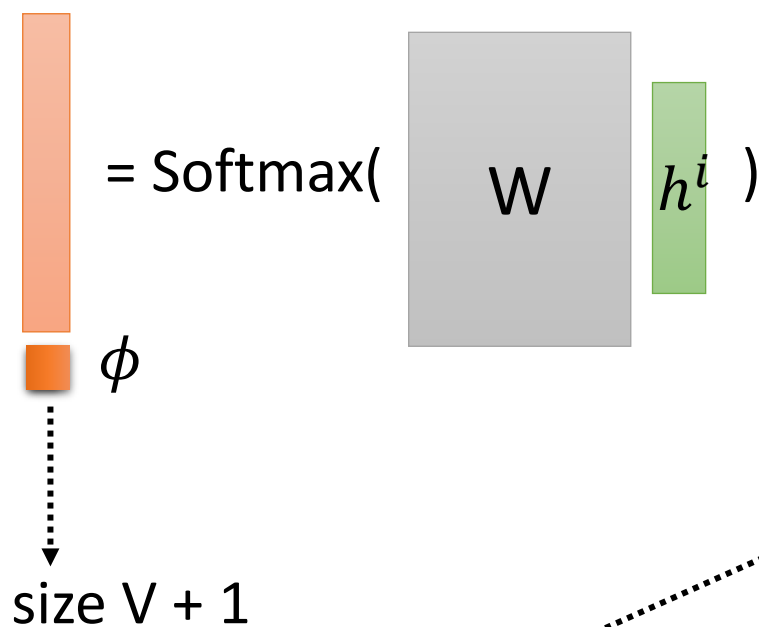
h^4



CTC

token
distribution

Classifier

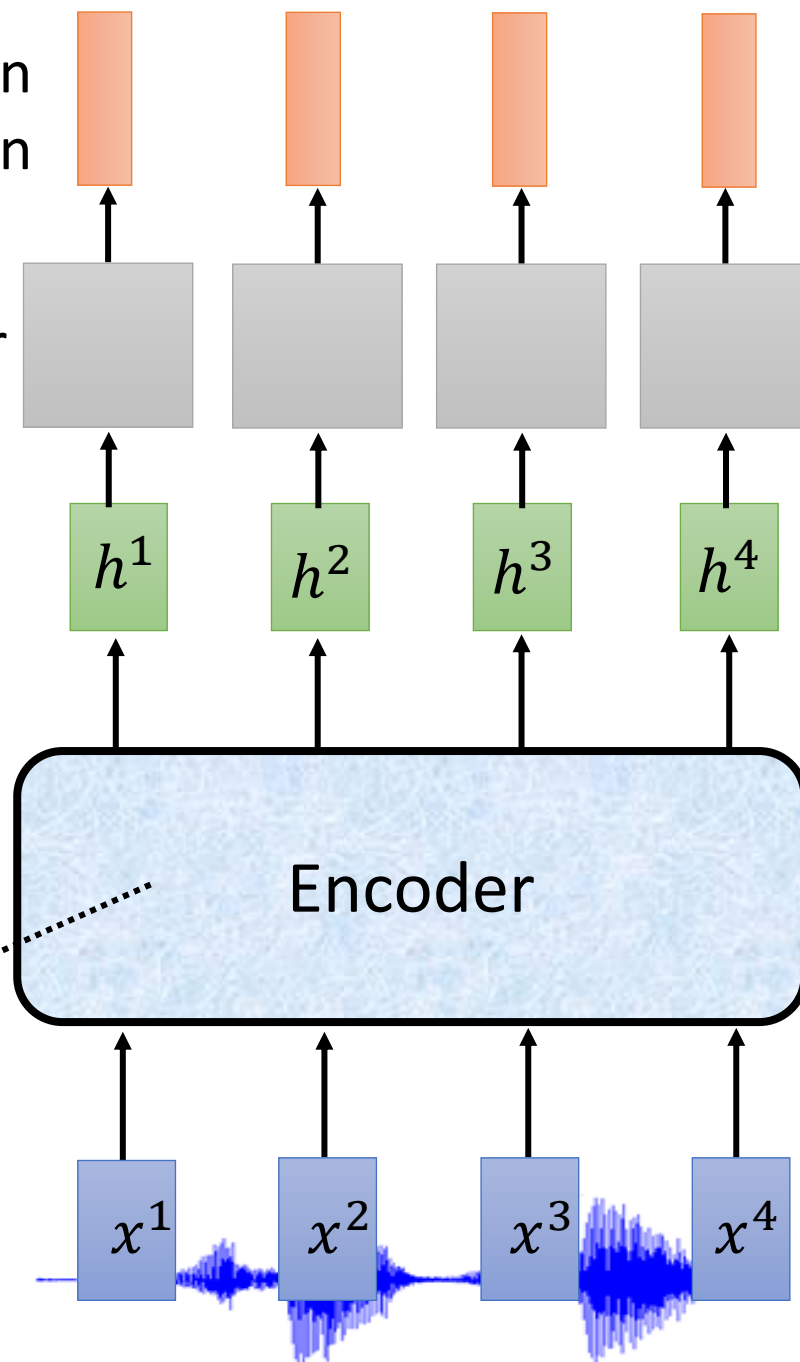


= Softmax(

W

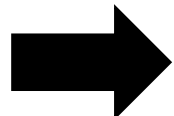
h^i)

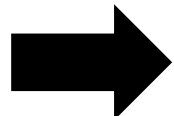
For on-line streaming speech
recognition, use uni-directional
RNN



CTC

- Input T acoustic features, output T tokens (ignoring down sampling)
- Output tokens including ϕ , merging duplicate tokens, removing ϕ

ϕ ϕ d d ϕ e ϕ e ϕ p p  d e e p

ϕ ϕ d d ϕ e e e ϕ p p  d e p

好 好 棒 棒 棒 棒 棒  好 棒

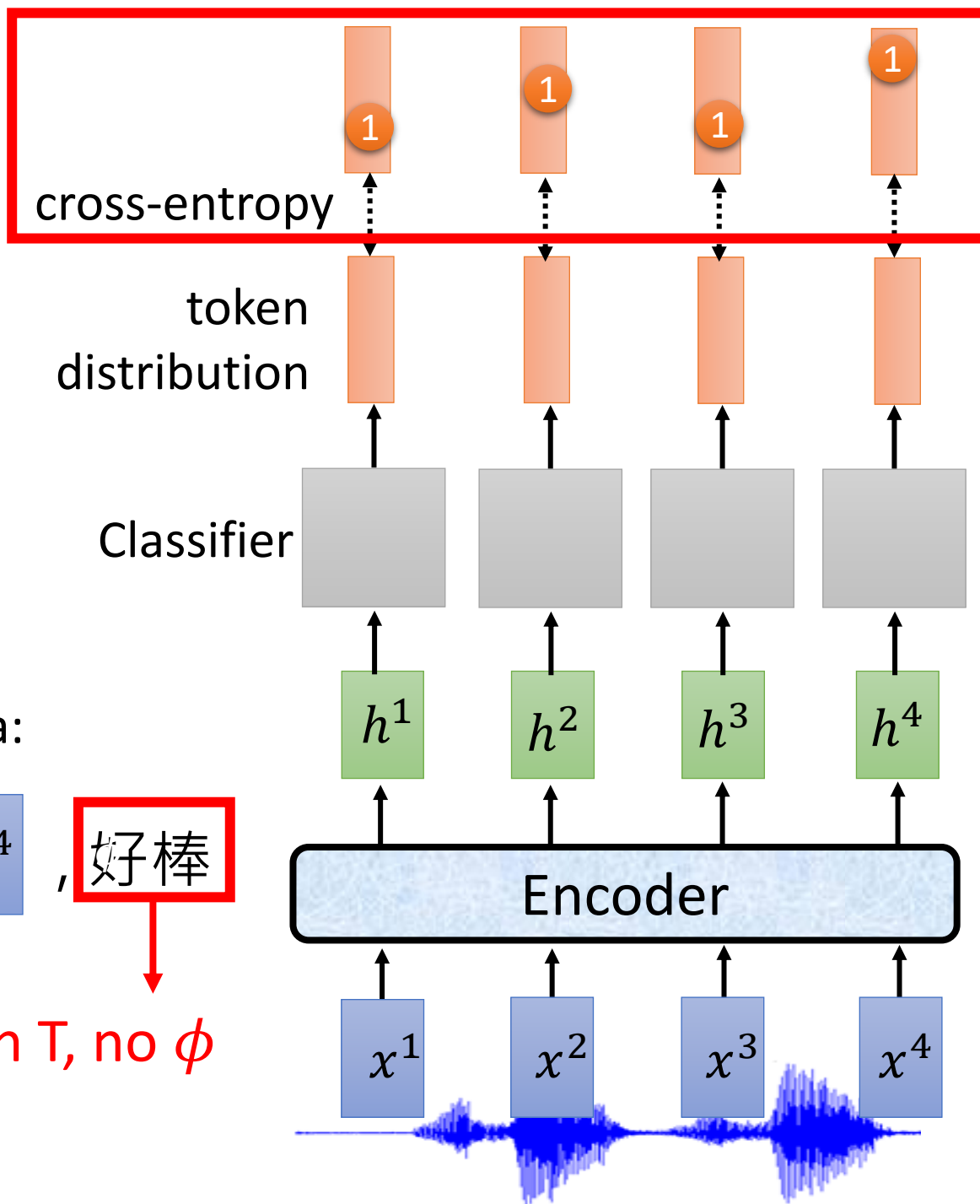
好 ϕ 棒 ϕ 棒 ϕ ϕ  好 棒 棒

CTC

paired training data:

x^1 x^2 x^3 x^4 , 好棒

much less than T , no ϕ



CTC – Training

paired training data:

x^1 x^2 x^3 x^4 , 好棒

All of them are used in
training! (How?!)

x^1 x^2 x^3 x^4 , 好好棒 ϕ

x^1 x^2 x^3 x^4 , ϕ 好棒棒

x^1 x^2 x^3 x^4 , 好棒棒棒

x^1 x^2 x^3 x^4 , 好棒 $\phi\phi$

x^1 x^2 x^3 x^4 , 好 ϕ 棒 ϕ

x^1 x^2 x^3 x^4 , 好 $\phi\phi$ 棒
alignment

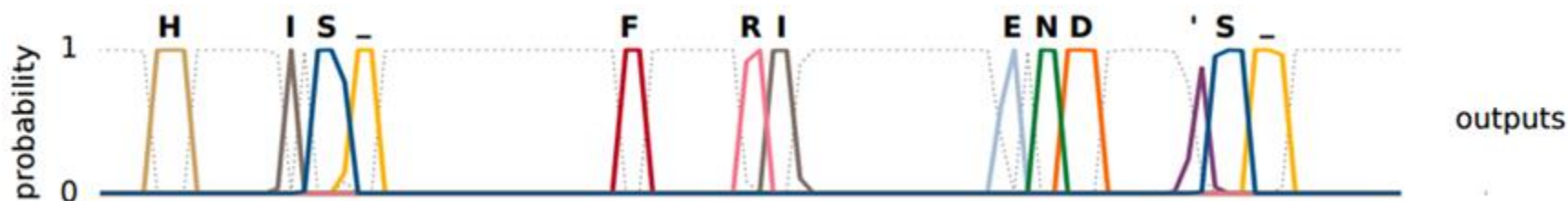
x^1 x^2 x^3 x^4 , ϕ 好棒 ϕ

x^1 x^2 x^3 x^4 , ϕ 好 ϕ 棒

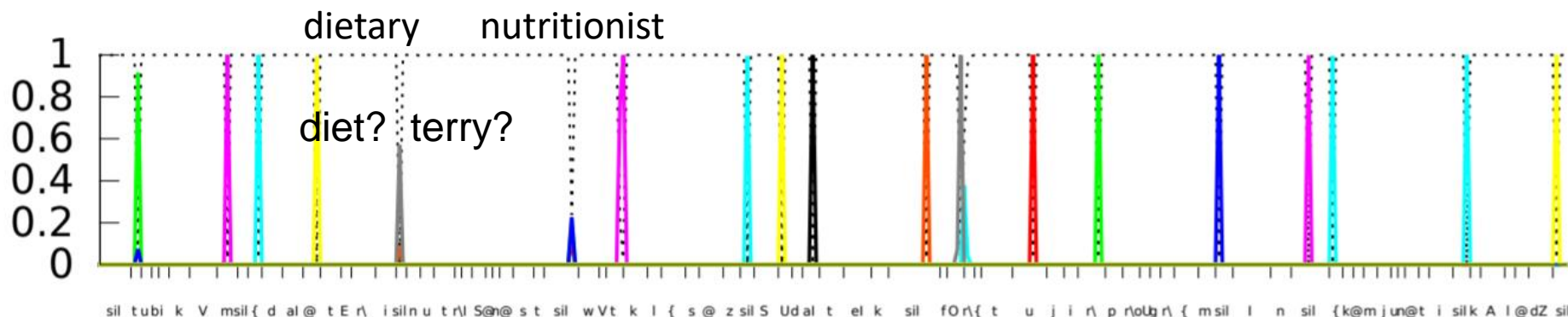
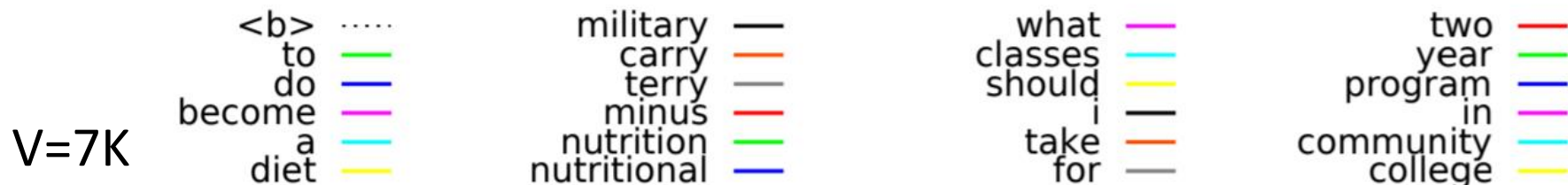
x^1 x^2 x^3 x^4 , $\phi\phi$ 好棒

x^1 x^2 x^3 x^4 , 好棒 ϕ 棒

Does CTC work?



[Graves, et al., ICML'14]



One can increase V to obtain better performance

[Sak, et al., INTERSPEECH'15]

Does CTC work?

Model	CER	WER
Encoder-Decoder	6.4	18.6
Encoder-Decoder + bigram LM	5.3	11.7
Encoder-Decoder + trigram LM	4.8	10.8
Encoder-Decoder + extended trigram LM	3.9	9.3
Graves and Jaitly (2014)		
CTC	9.2	30.1
CTC, expected transcription loss	8.4	27.3
Hannun et al. (2014)		
CTC	10.0	35.8
CTC + bigram LM	5.7	14.1
Miao et al. (2015),		
CTC for phonemes + lexicon	-	26.9
CTC for phonemes + trigram LM	-	7.3
CTC + trigram LM	-	9.0

80 hours

[Bahdanau. et al., ICASSP'16]

Issue

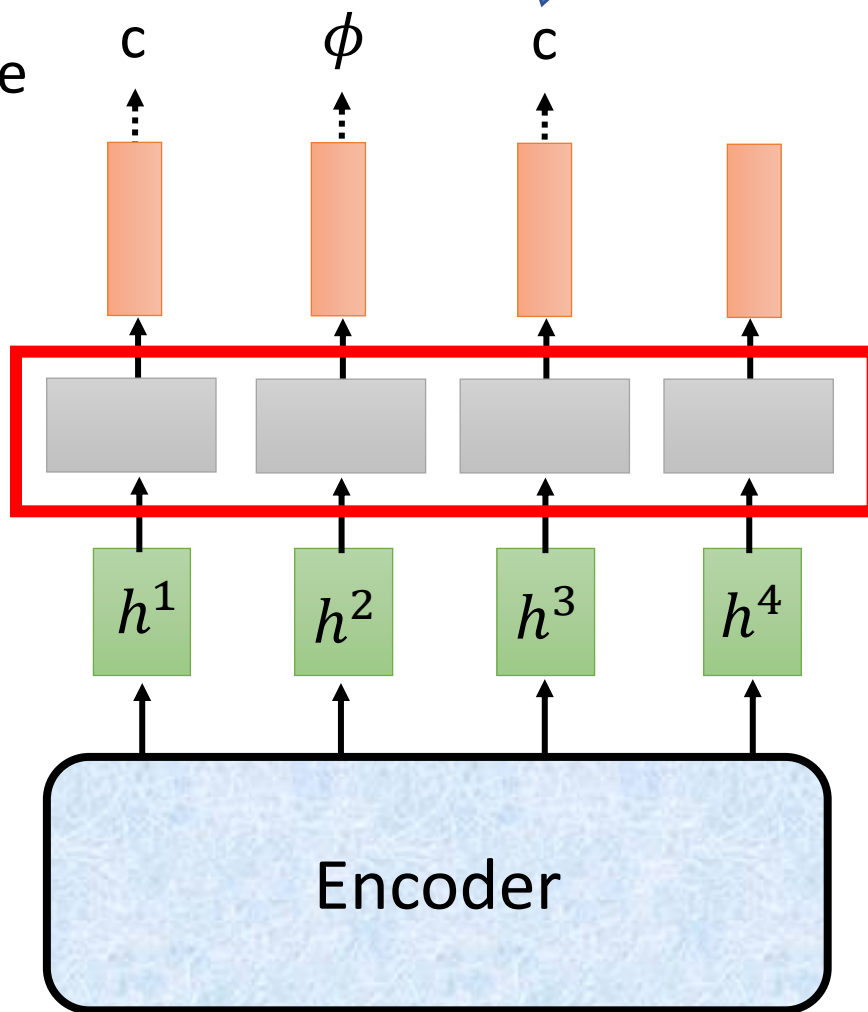
後面不可以再輸出 c 了

我不知道前面發生甚麼事？

Assume the first three frames belong to “c”

“Decoder”:

- Only attend on one vector
- Each output is decided independently



Models to be introduced

- Listen, Attend, and Spell (LAS) [\[Chorowski. et al., NIPS'15\]](#)
- Connectionist Temporal Classification (CTC)
[\[Graves, et al., ICML'06\]](#)
- RNN Transducer (RNN-T) [\[Graves, ICML workshop'12\]](#)
- Neural Transducer [\[Jaitly, et al., NIPS'16\]](#)
- Monotonic Chunkwise Attention (MoChA) [\[Chiu, et al., ICLR'18\]](#)

RNA

Recurrent Neural Aligner

[Sak, et al., INTERSPEECH'17]

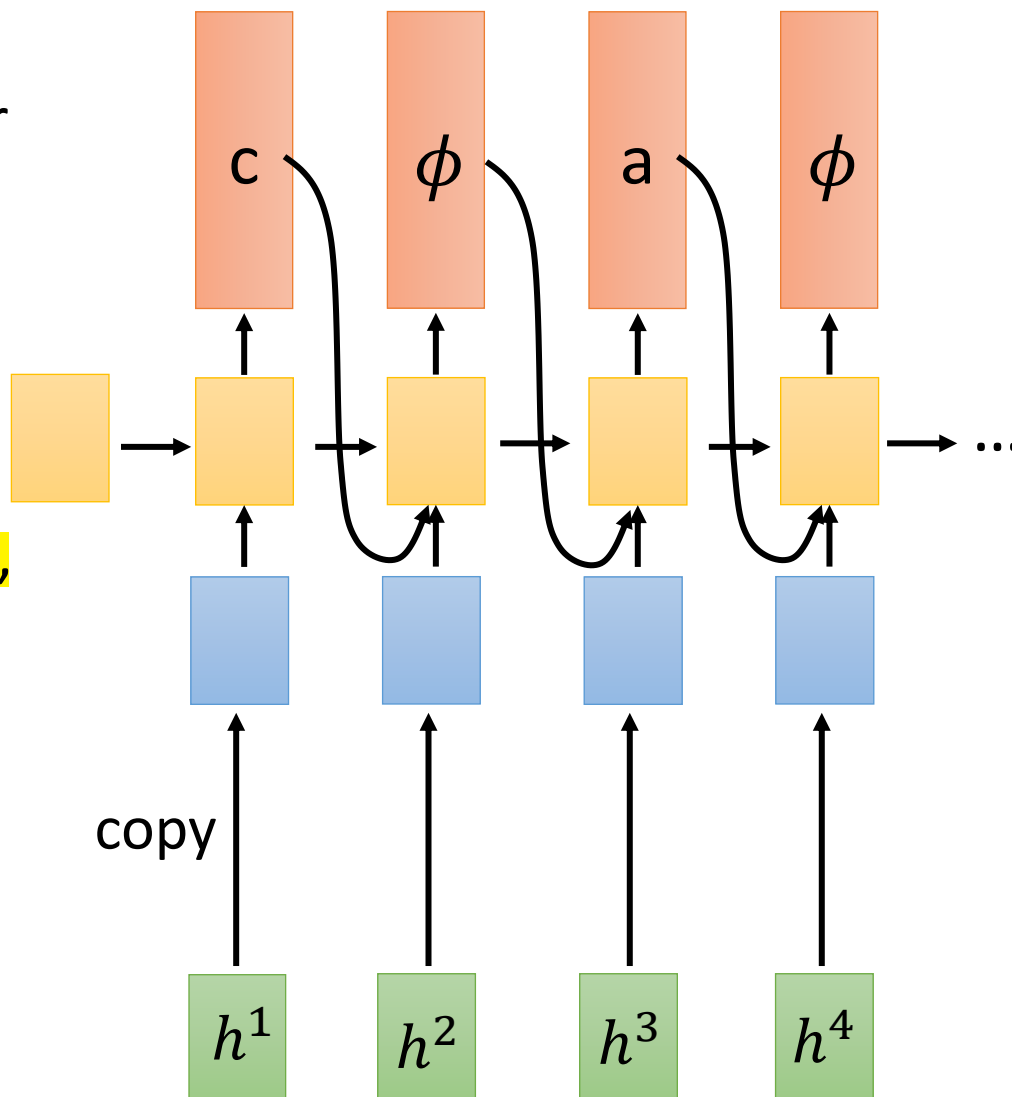
CTC Decoder:

take one vector as input,
output one token

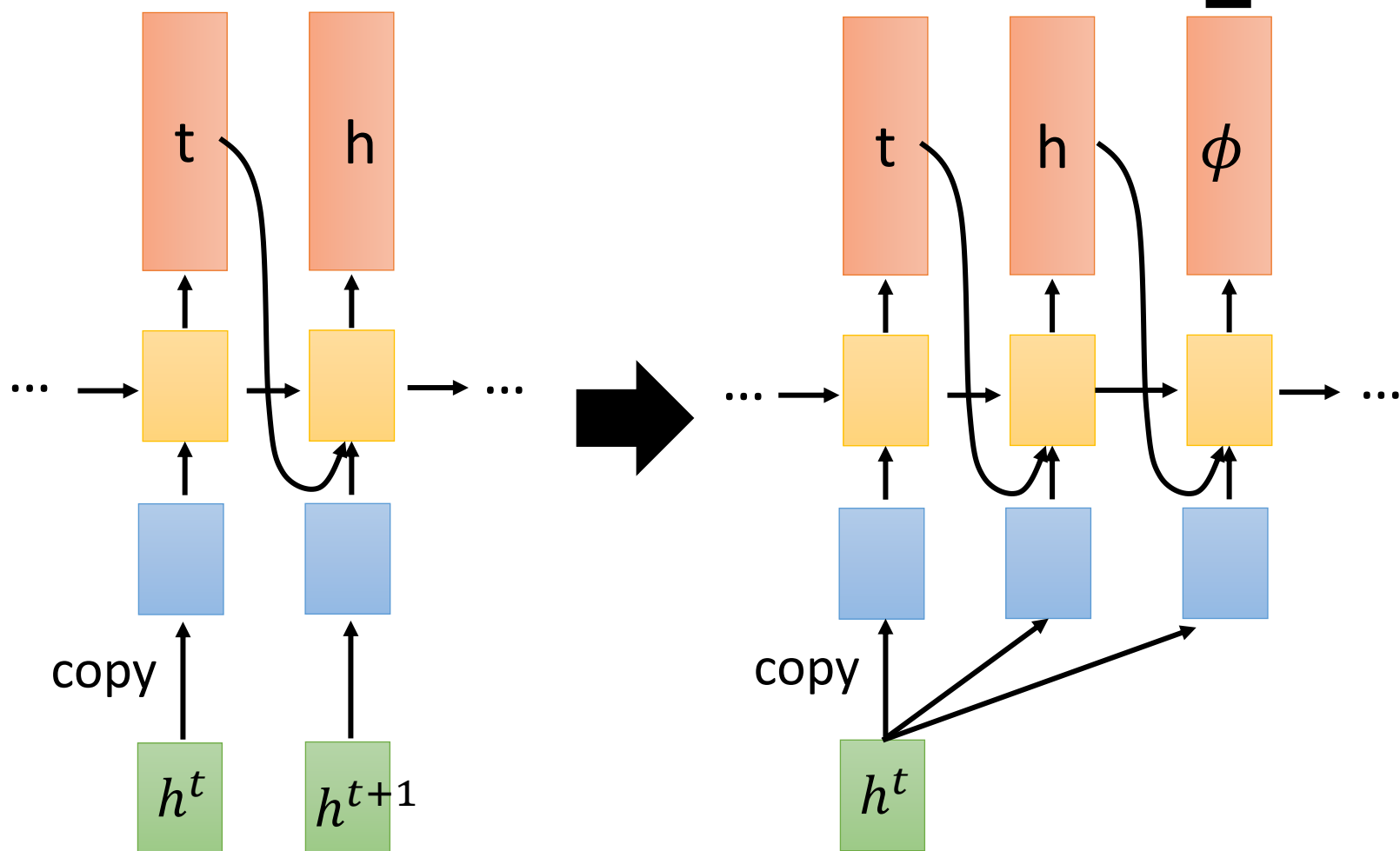
RNA adds dependency

Can one vector map to
multiple tokens?

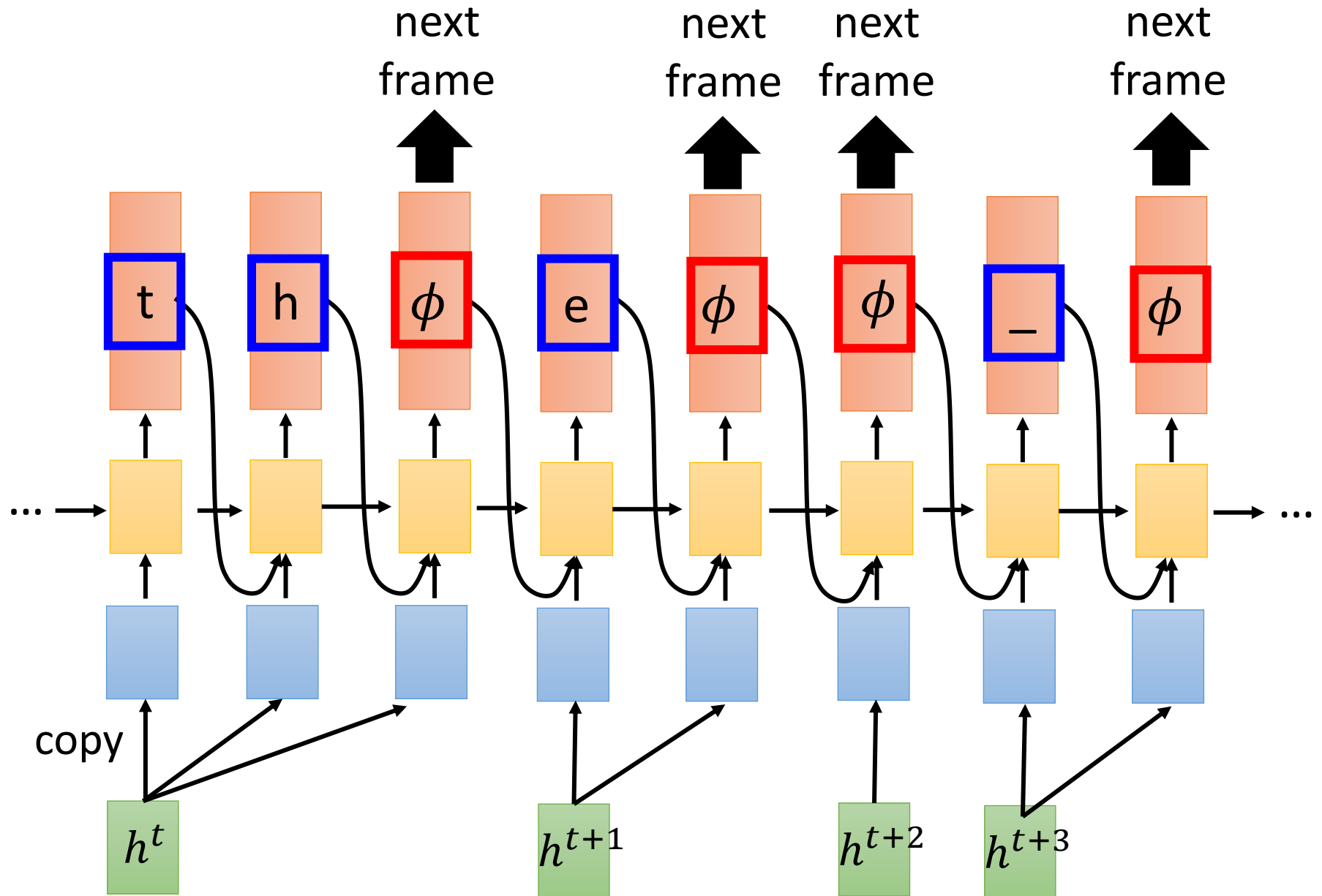
for example, “*th*”



RNN-T



There are T " ϕ " in the output.



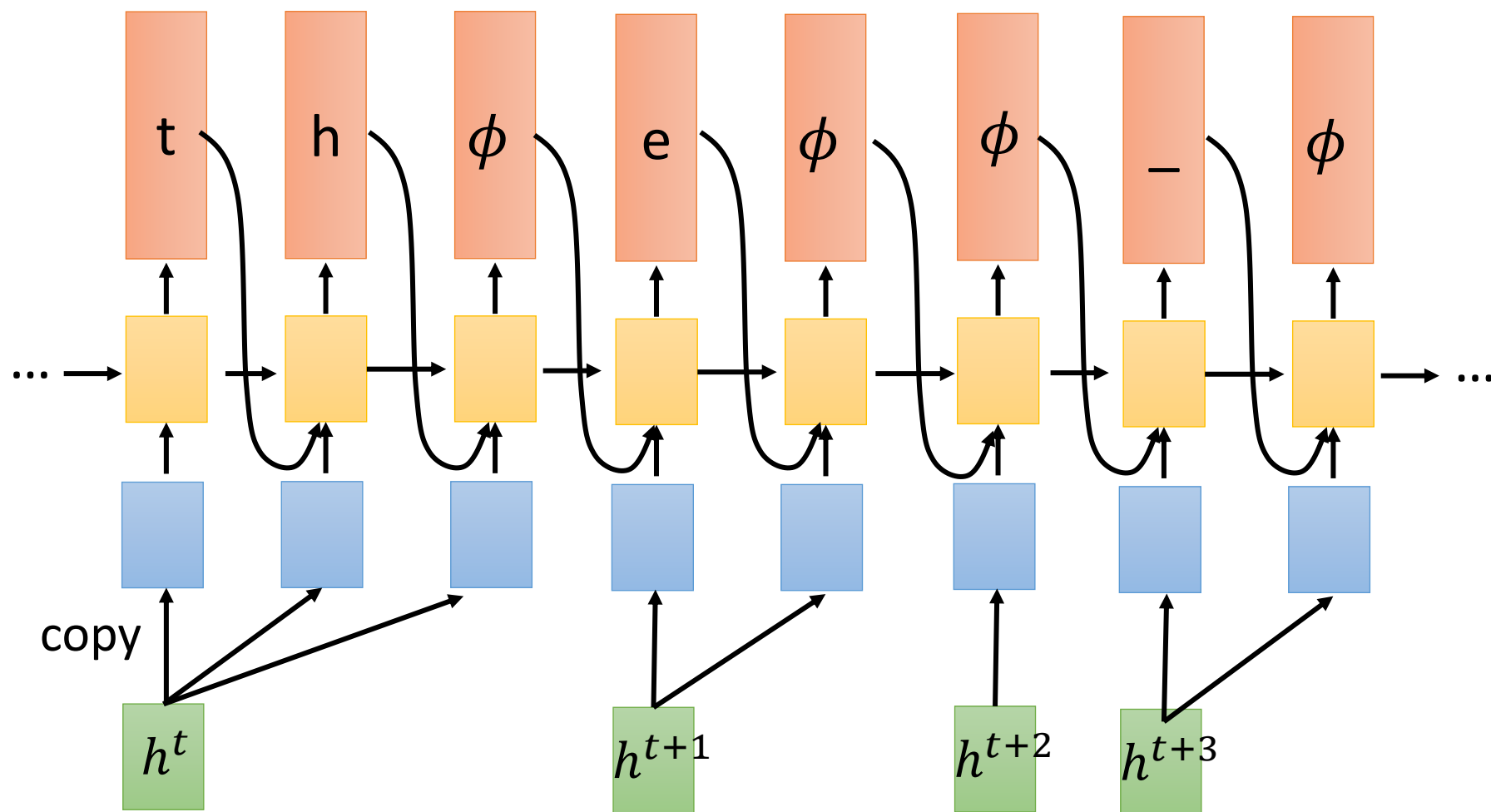
There are T " ϕ " in the output.

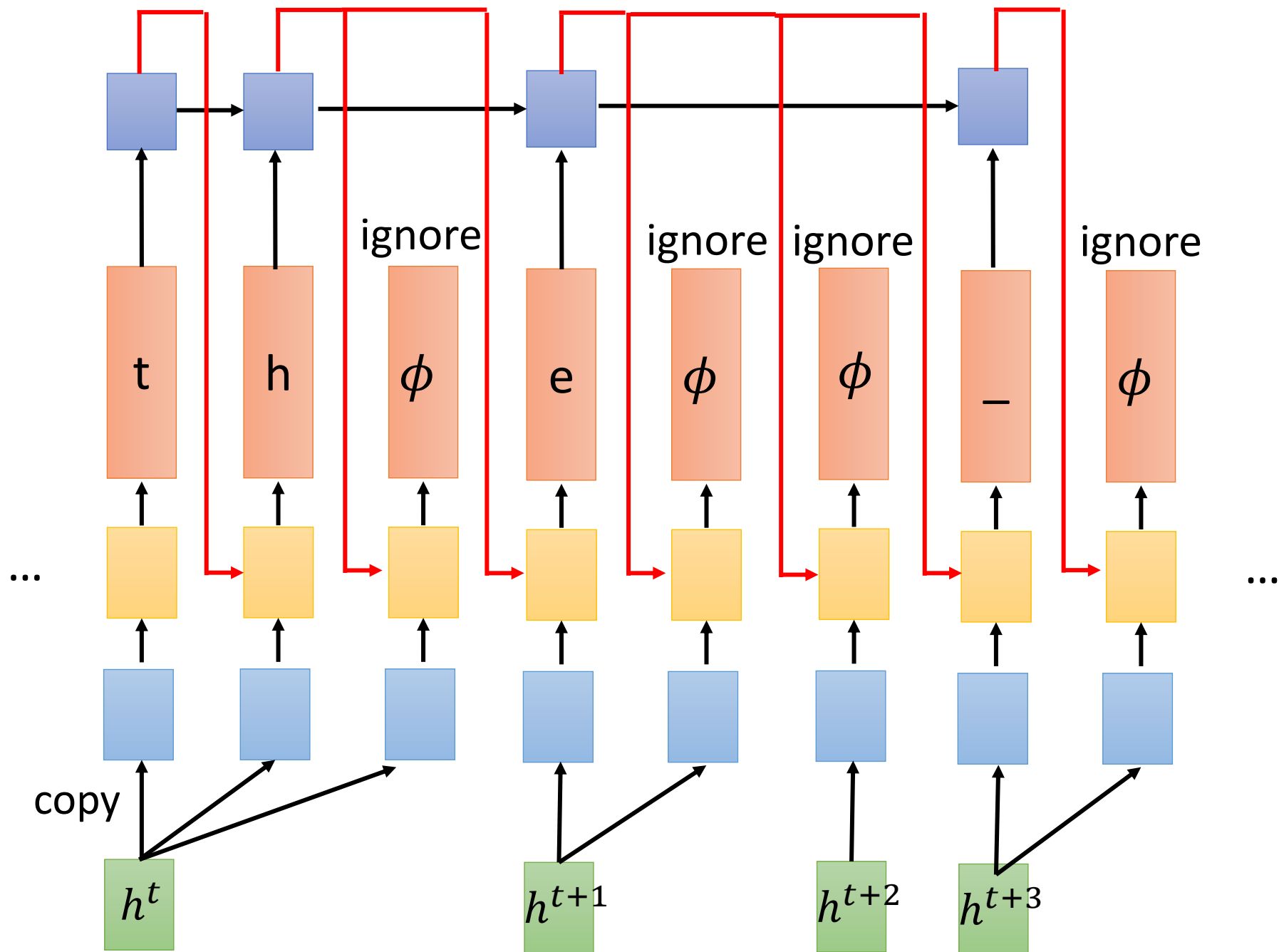
x^1 x^2 x^3 x^4 , 好棒

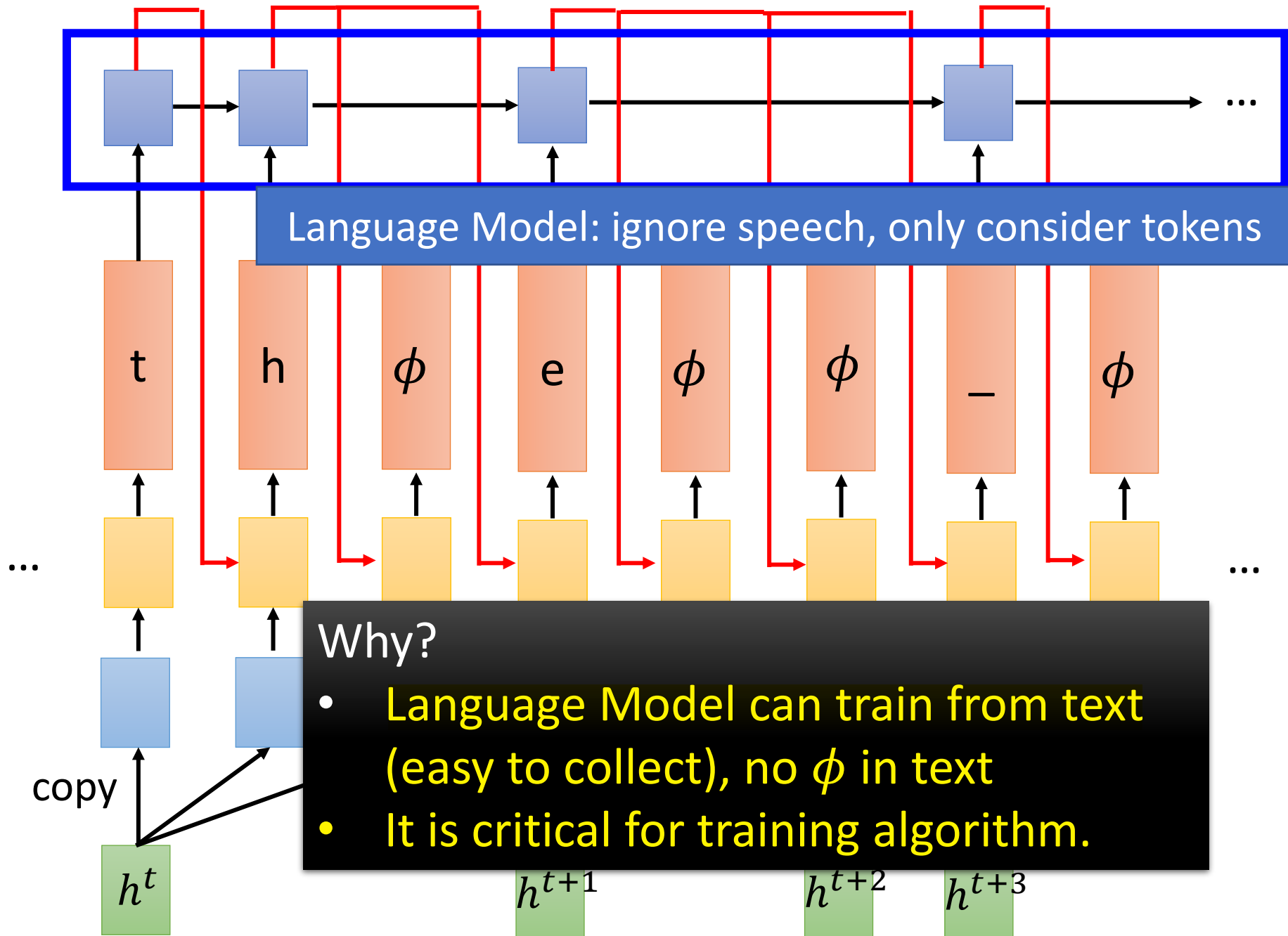
ϕ_1 好 ϕ_2 ϕ_3 ϕ_4 ϕ_5 棒 ϕ_6

ϕ_1 ϕ_2 ϕ_3 ϕ_4 ϕ_5 好 棒 ϕ_6

All of them are used in training! (How?!)



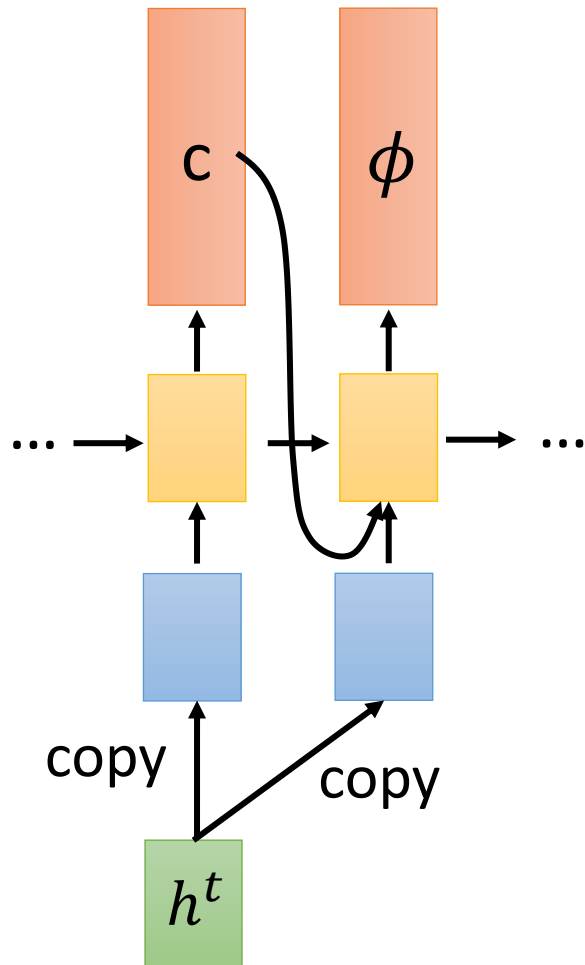




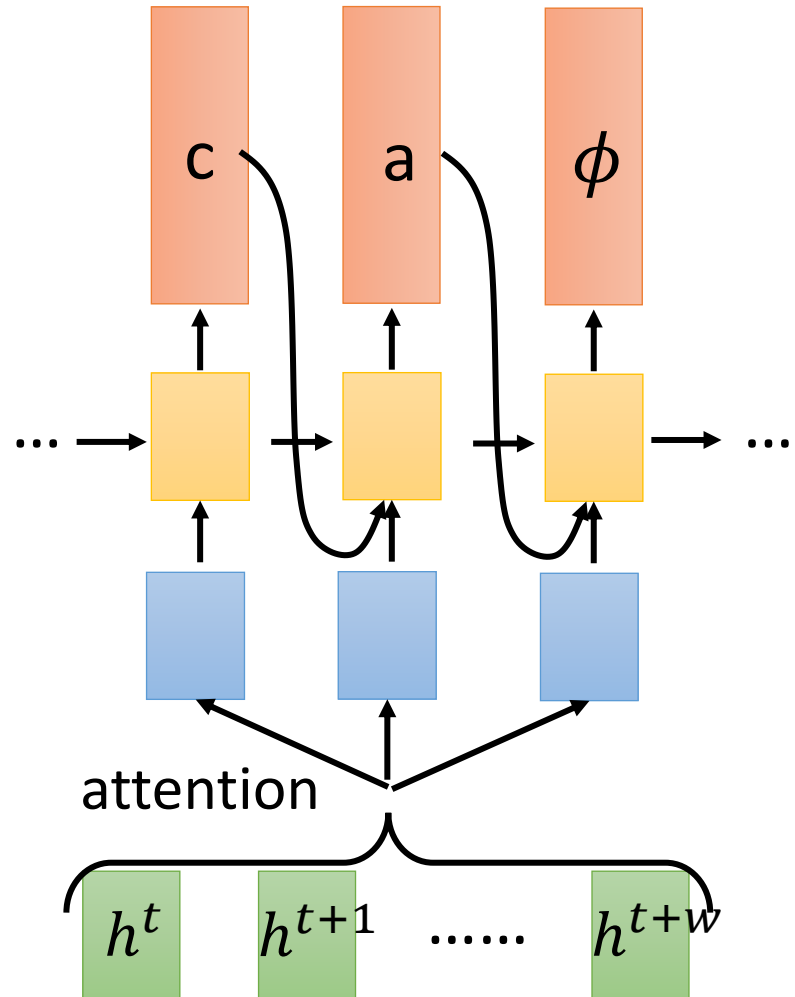
Models to be introduced

- Listen, Attend, and Spell (LAS) [\[Chorowski. et al., NIPS'15\]](#)
- Connectionist Temporal Classification (CTC)
[\[Graves, et al., ICML'06\]](#)
- RNN Transducer (RNN-T) [\[Graves, ICML workshop'12\]](#)
- Neural Transducer [\[Jaitly, et al., NIPS'16\]](#)
- Monotonic Chunkwise Attention (MoChA) [\[Chiu, et al., ICLR'18\]](#)

Neural Transducer

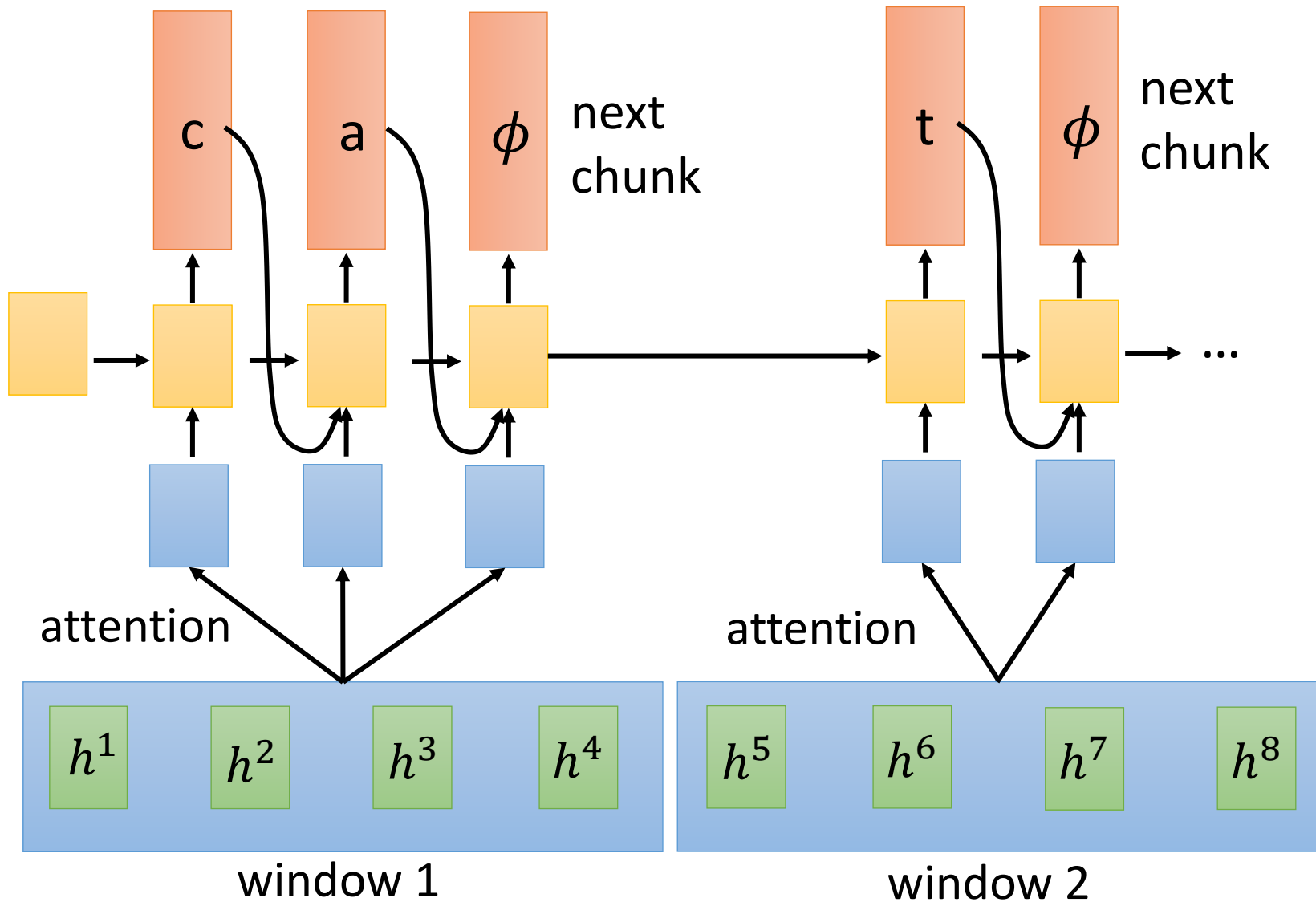


CTC, RNA, RNN-T

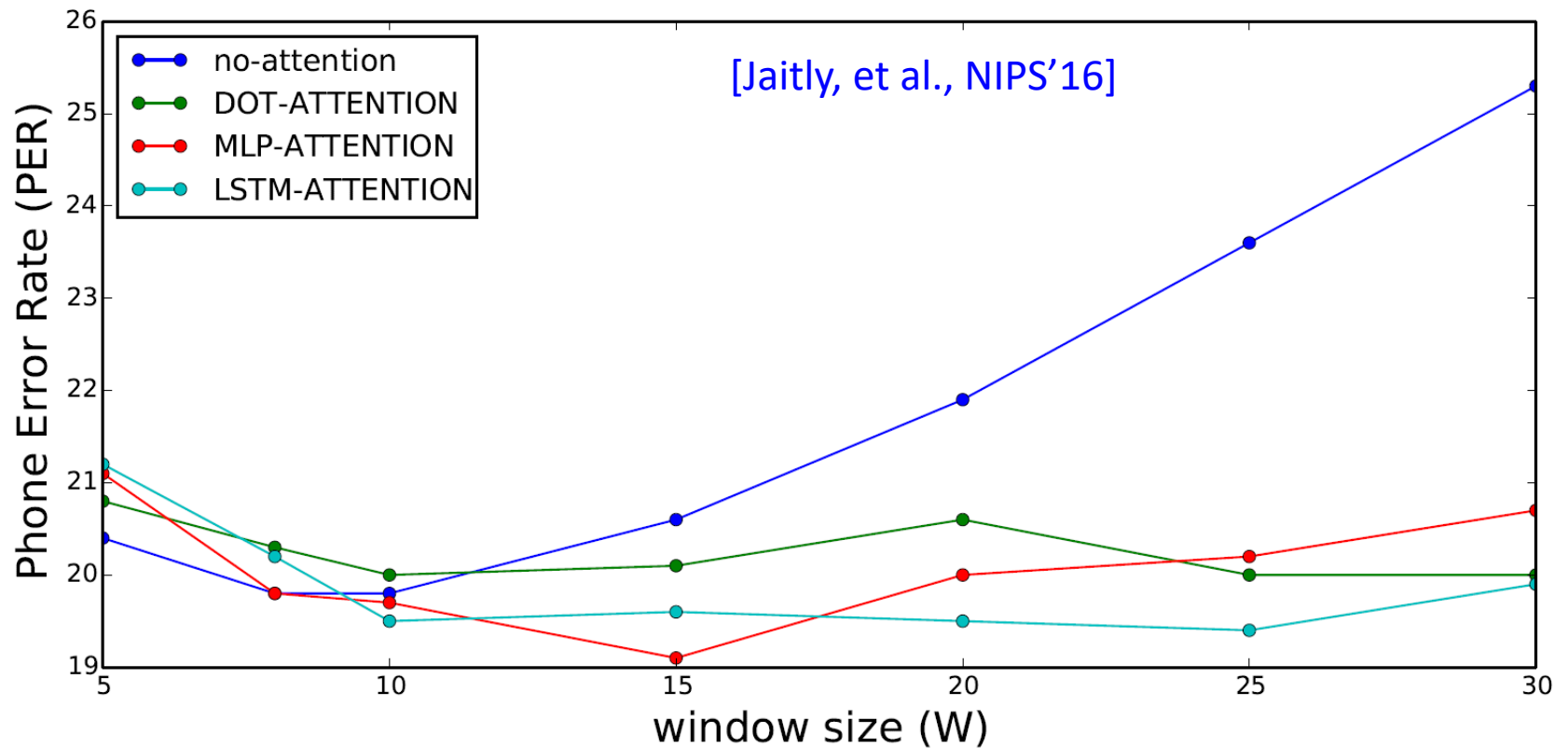


Neural Transducer

Neural Transducer



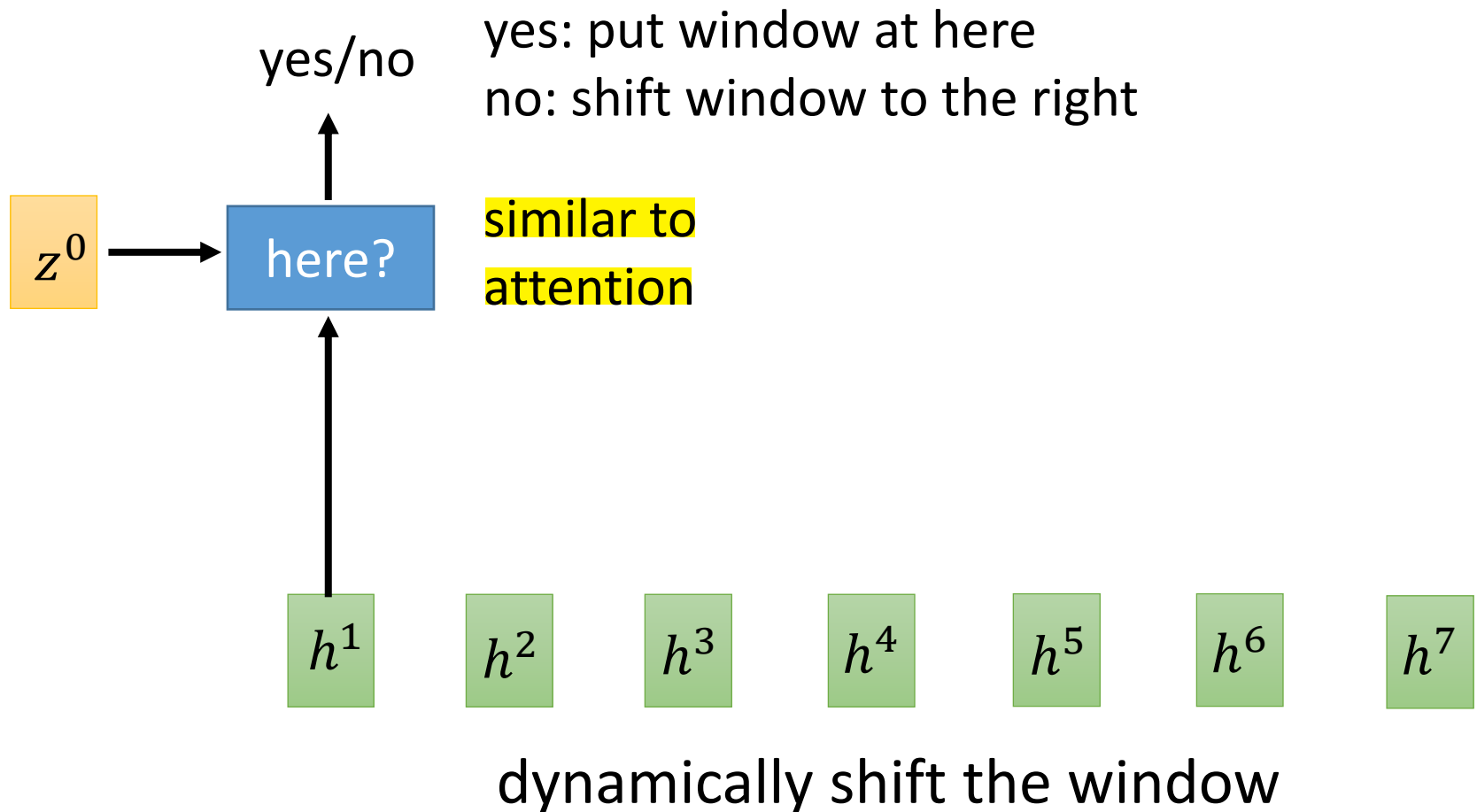
Neural Transducer



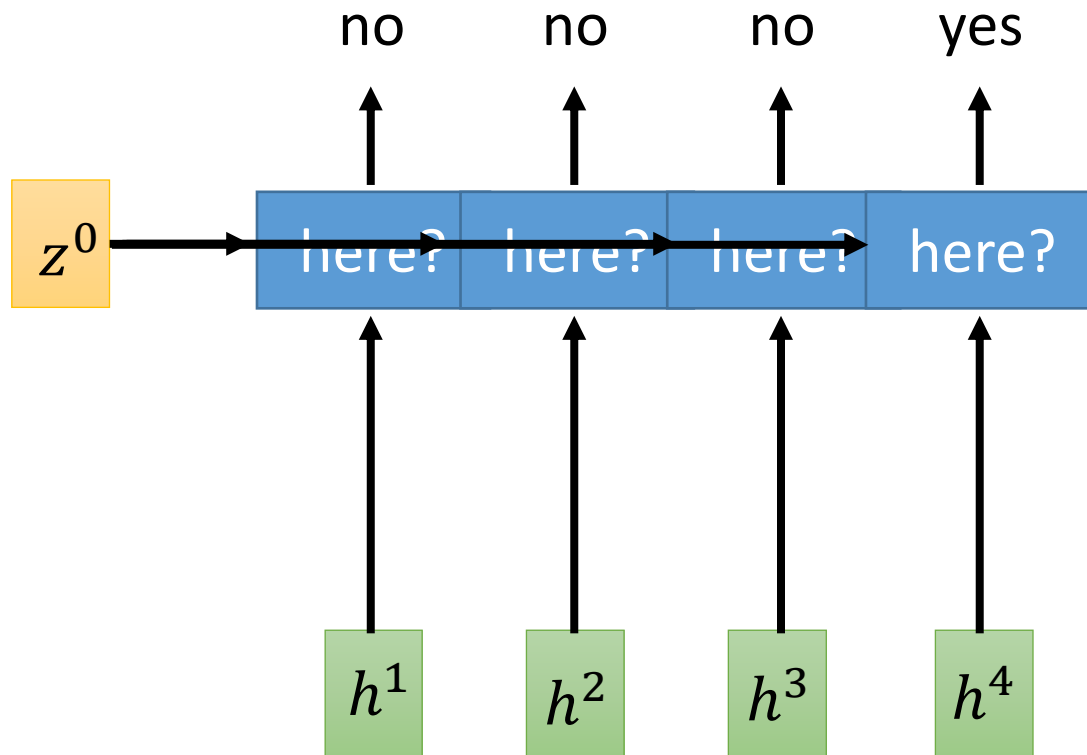
Models to be introduced

- Listen, Attend, and Spell (LAS) [\[Chorowski. et al., NIPS'15\]](#)
- Connectionist Temporal Classification (CTC)
[\[Graves, et al., ICML'06\]](#)
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- Neural Transducer [\[Jaitly, et al., NIPS'16\]](#)
- Monotonic Chunkwise Attention (MoChA) [\[Chiu, et al., ICLR'18\]](#)

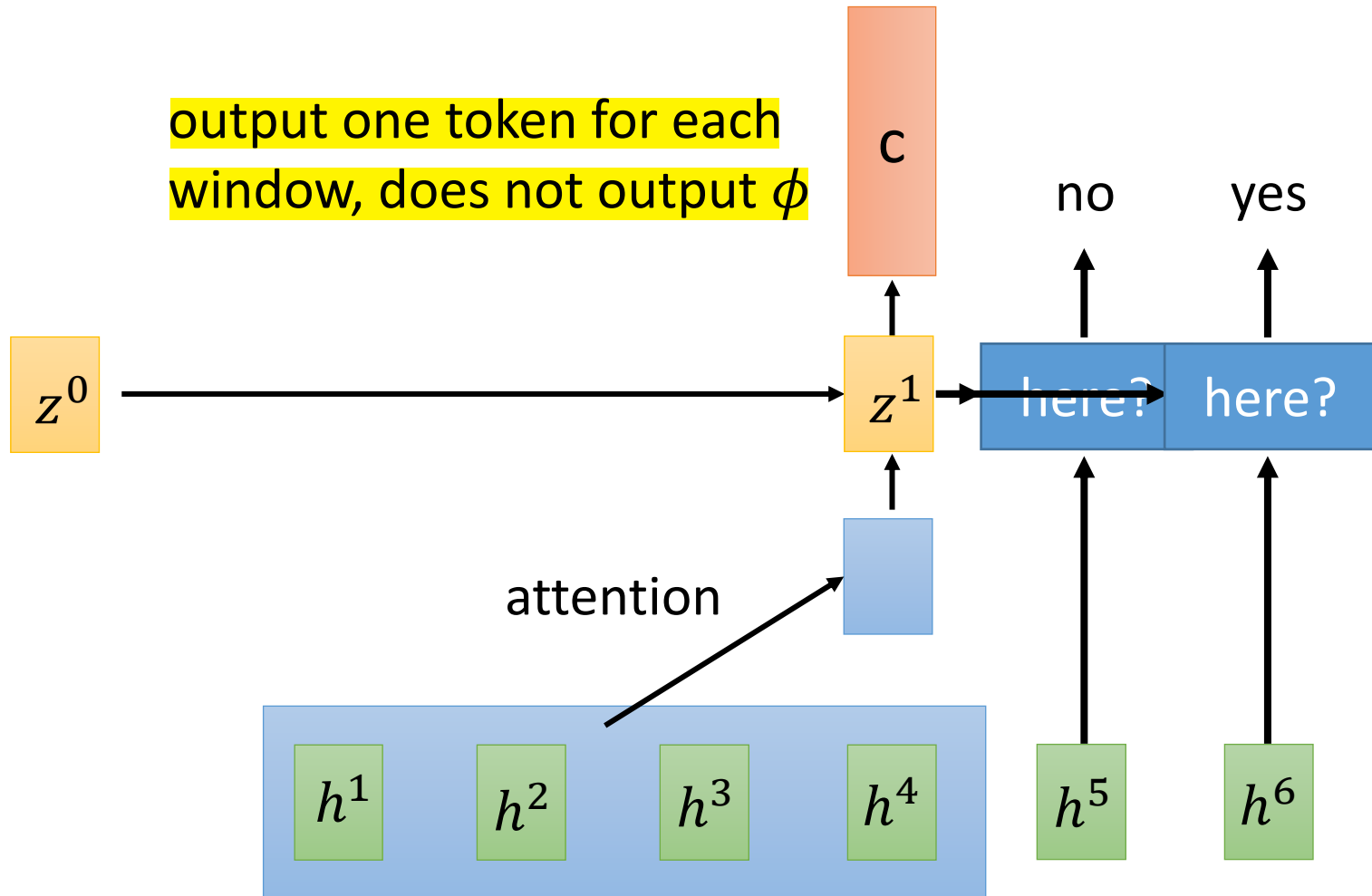
MoChA: Monotonic Chunkwise Attention



MoChA

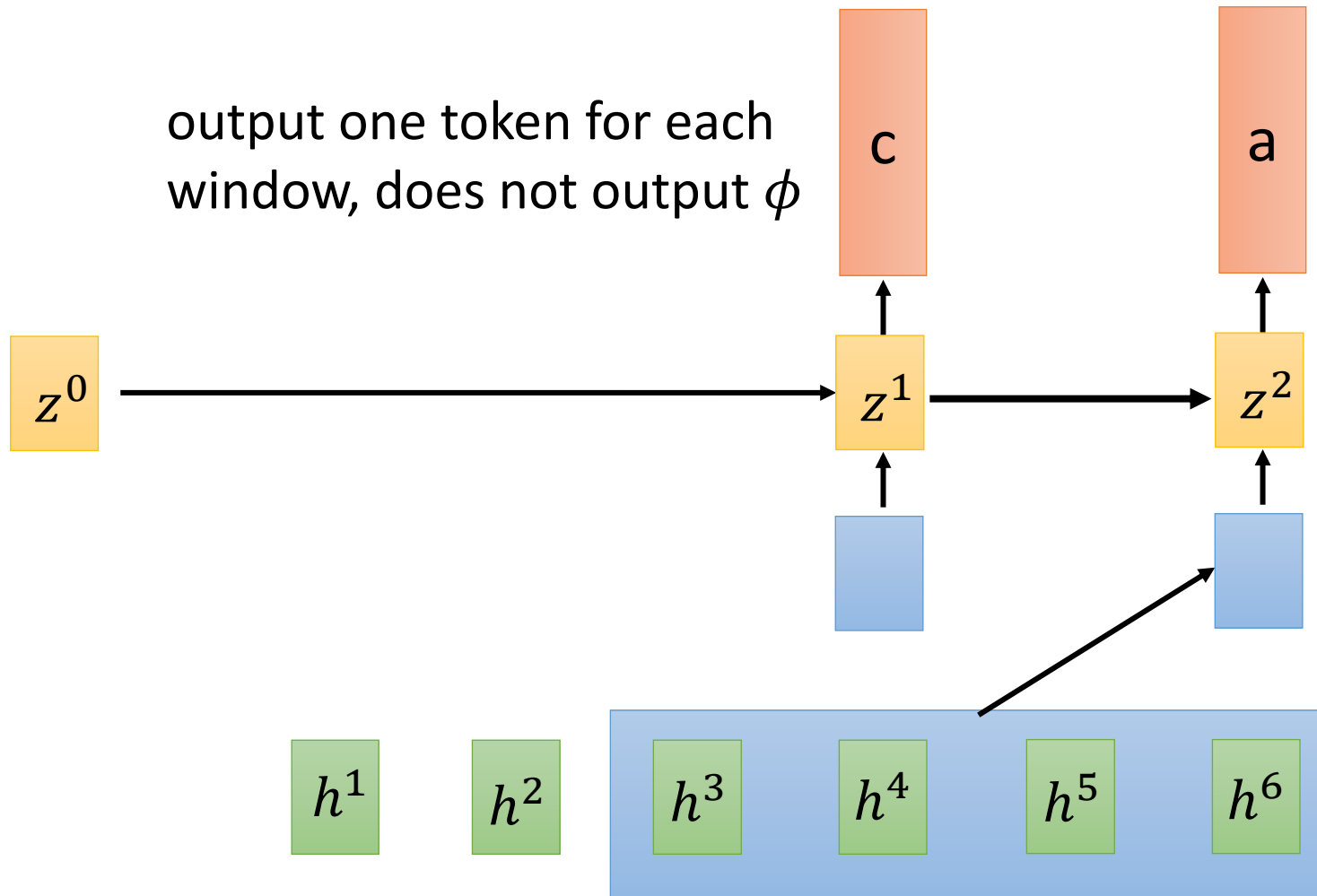


MoChA



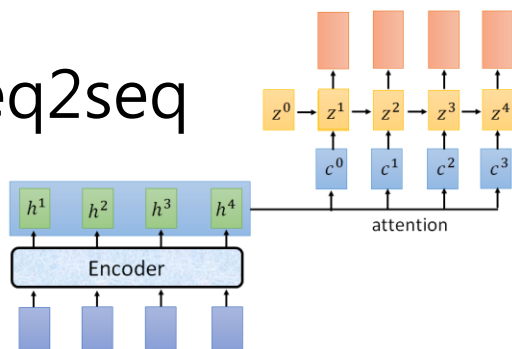
MoChA

Please refer to the original paper for
model training [\[Chiu, et al., ICLR'18\]](#)

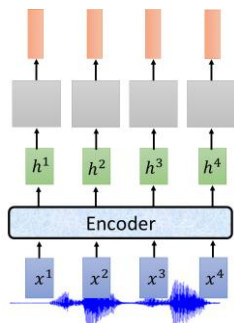


Summary

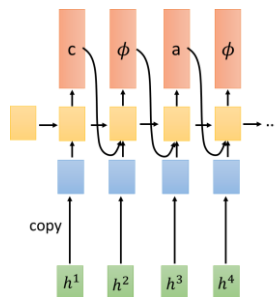
LAS: 就是 seq2seq



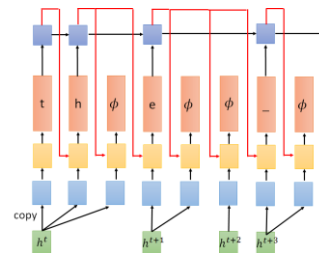
CTC: decoder 是 linear classifier 的 seq2seq



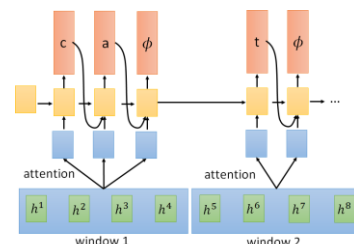
RNA: 輸入一個東西就要輸出一個東西的 seq2seq



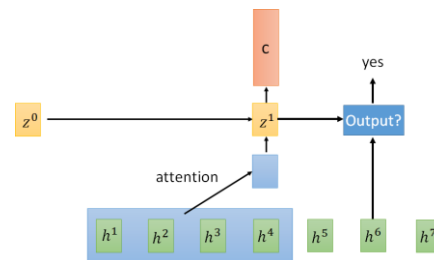
RNN-T: 輸入一個東西可以輸出多個東西的 seq2seq



Neural Transducer: 每次輸入一個 window 的 RNN-T



MoCha: window 移動伸縮自如的 Neural Transducer



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