

**10707**

**Deep Learning**

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Sequence Models

# Slides borrowed from ICML Tutorial

## Seq2Seq ICML Tutorial

Oriol Vinyals and Navdeep Jaitly

@OriolVinyalsML | @NavdeepLearning

Site: <https://sites.google.com/view/seq2seq-icml17>

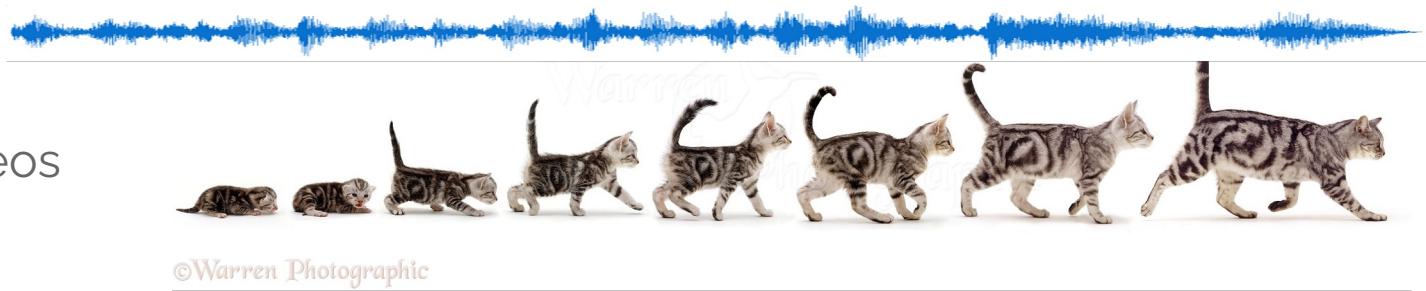
Sydney, Australia, 2017

# Sequences

- Words, Letters

50 years ago, the fathers of artificial intelligence convinced everybody that logic was the key to intelligence. Somehow we had to get computers to do logical reasoning. The alternative approach, which they thought was crazy, was to forget logic and try and understand how networks of brain cells learn things. Curiously, two people who rejected the logic based approach to AI were Turing and Von Neumann. If either of them had lived I think things would have turned out differently... now neural networks are everywhere and the crazy approach is winning.

- Speech

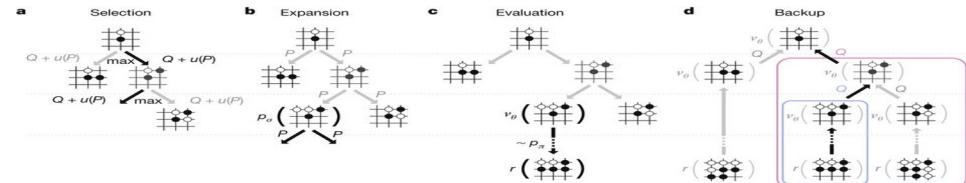


- Images, Videos

- Programs

```
while (*d++ = *s++);
```

- Sequential Decision Making (RL)



# Classical Models for Sequence Prediction

- Sequence prediction was classically handled as a structured prediction task
  - Most were built on conditional independence assumptions
  - Others such as DAGGER were based on supervisory signals and auxiliary information

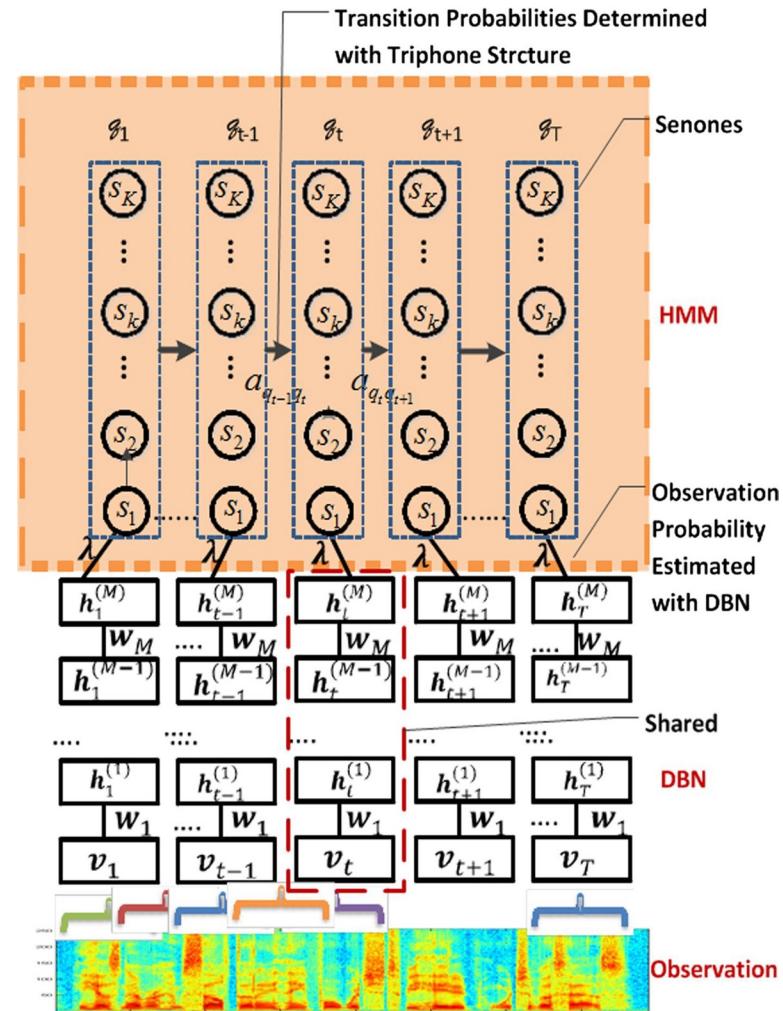
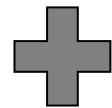


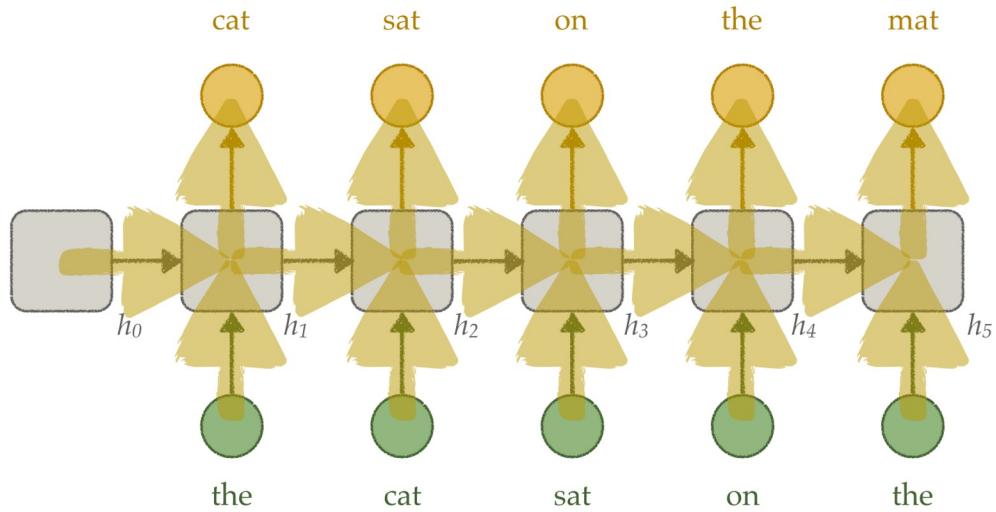
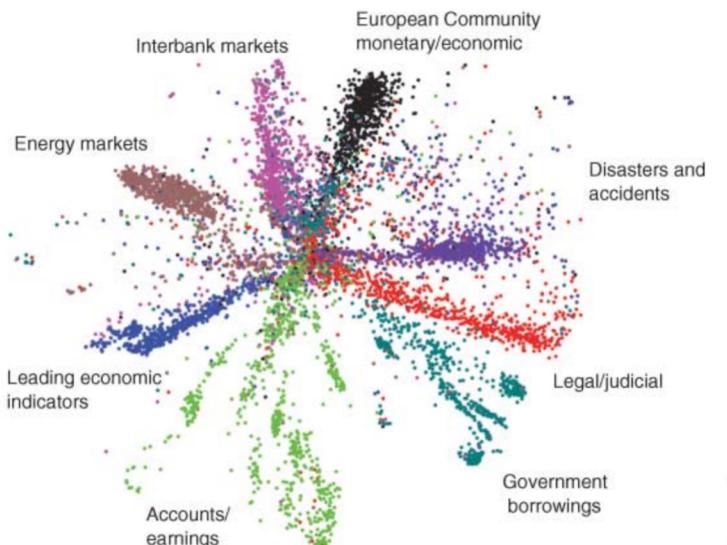
Figure credit: Li Deng

# Two Key Ingredients

Neural Embeddings



Recurrent Language Models



Hinton, G., Salakhutdinov, R. "Reducing the Dimensionality of Data with Neural Networks." *Science* (2006)

Mikolov, T., et al. "Recurrent neural network based language model." *Interspeech* (2010)

# Language Models

<i>context</i>					<i>target</i>	$P(w_t   w_{t-1}, w_{t-2}, \dots w_{t-5})$
the	cat	sat	on	the	mat	0.15
$w_{t-5}$	$w_{t-4}$	$w_{t-3}$	$w_{t-2}$	$w_{t-1}$	$w_t$	
the	cat	sat	on	the	rug	0.12
the	cat	sat	on	the	hat	0.09
the	cat	sat	on	the	dog	0.01
the	cat	sat	on	the	the	0
the	cat	sat	on	the	sat	0
the	cat	sat	on	the	robot	?
the	cat	sat	on	the	printer	?

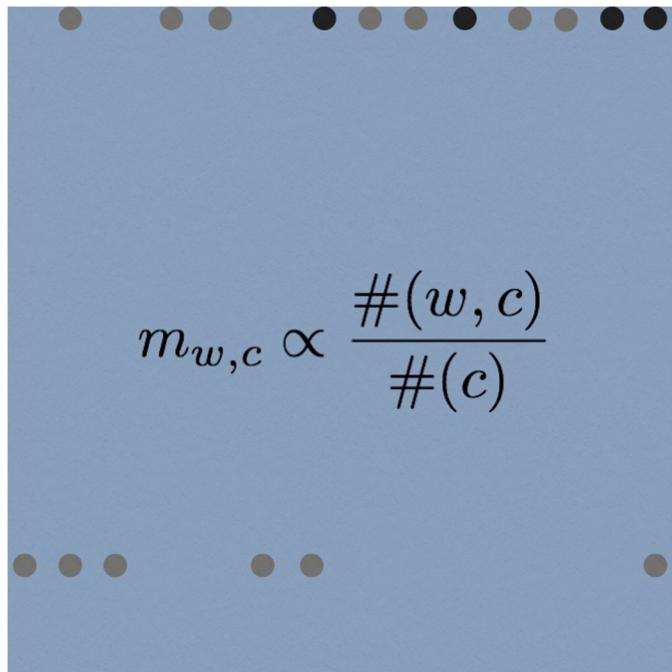
# N-grams

## *context*

cat chases cheese dog drinks eats mat milk of on paws rat sat the

*target*

cat



the cat sat on the mat  
the cat drinks milk  
the dog chases the cat  
the paws of the cat

$$m_{w,c} \propto \frac{\#(w,c)}{\#(c)}$$

the cat chases the rat  
the rat eats cheese  
the rat eats the mat

# N-grams

$$P(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{T-1}, w_T) \approx \prod_{t=1}^T P(w_t | w_{t-1}, \dots, w_{t-n+1})$$

the	cat	sat	on	the	mat	$P(w_1)$
the	<b>cat</b>	sat	on	the	mat	$P(w_2   w_1)$
the	cat	<b>sat</b>	on	the	mat	$P(w_3   w_2, w_1)$
the	cat	sat	<b>on</b>	the	mat	$P(w_4   w_3, w_2)$
the	cat	sat	on	<b>the</b>	mat	$P(w_5   w_4, w_3)$
the	cat	sat	on	the	<b>mat</b>	$P(w_6   w_5, w_4)$

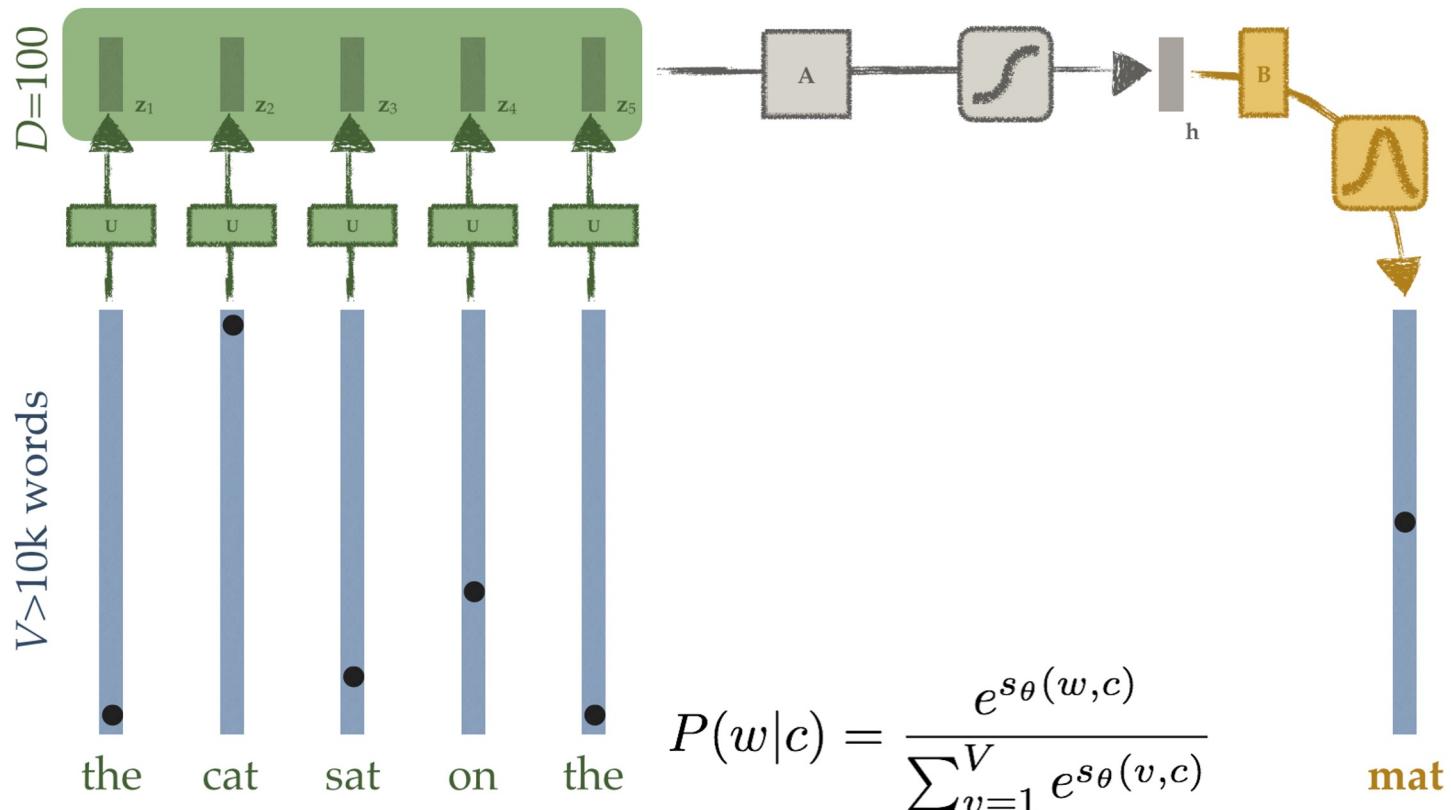
# Chain Rule

$$P(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{T-1}, w_T) = \prod_{t=1}^T P(w_t | w_{t-1}, w_{t-2}, \dots, w_1)$$

the	cat	sat	on	the	mat	$P(w_1)$
the	cat	sat	on	the	mat	$P(w_2   w_1)$
the	cat	sat	on	the	mat	$P(w_3   w_2, w_1)$
the	cat	sat	on	the	mat	$P(w_4   w_3, w_2, w_1)$
the	cat	sat	on	the	mat	$P(w_5   w_4, w_3, w_2, w_1)$
the	cat	sat	on	the	mat	$P(w_6   w_5, w_4, w_3, w_2, w_1)$

# Key Insight: Vectorizing Context

$$p(w_t | w_1, \dots, w_{t-1}) = p_\theta(w_t | f_\theta(w_1, \dots, w_{t-1}))$$



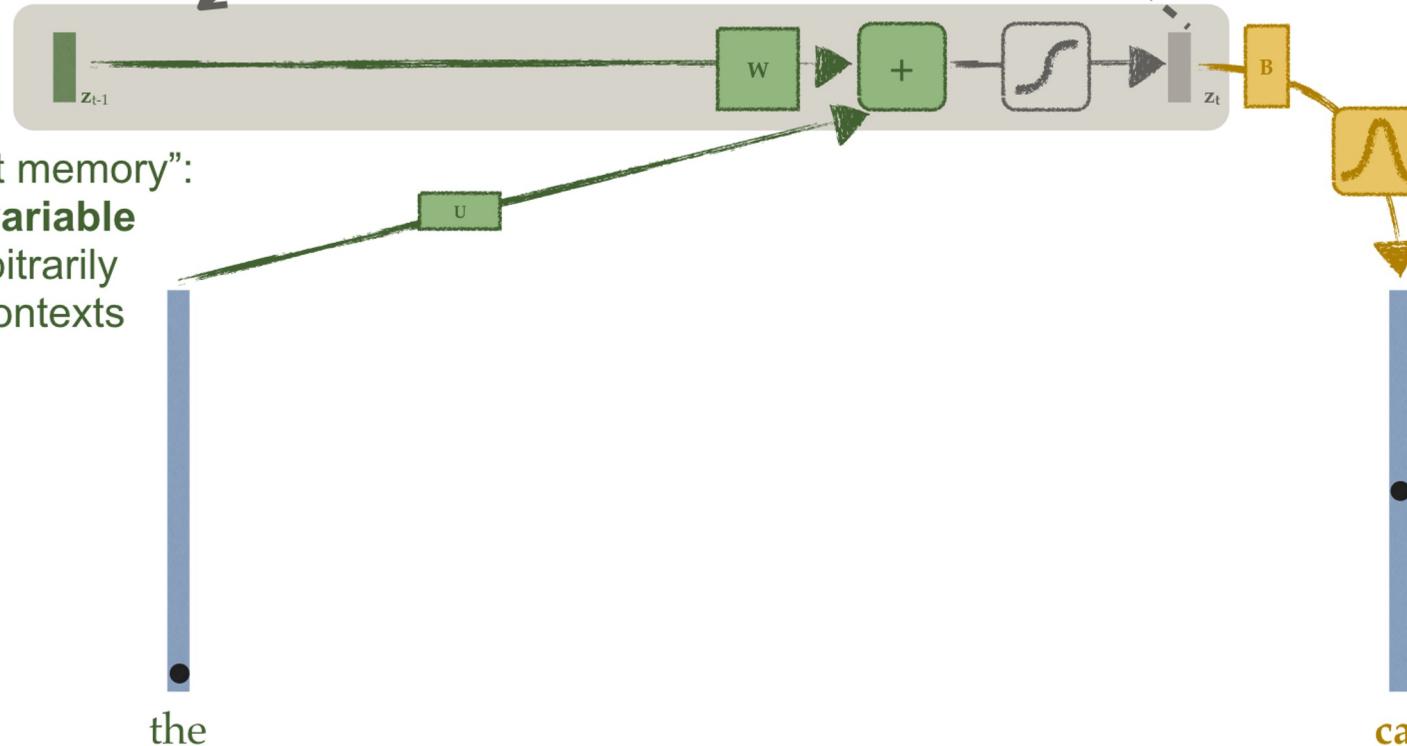
# Recurrent Neural Network Language Models

[Jeffrey L Elman (1991) "Distributed representations, simple recurrent networks and grammatical structure", *Machine Learning*; Tomas Mikolov et al. (2010) "Recurrent neural network based language model", *INTERSPEECH*]

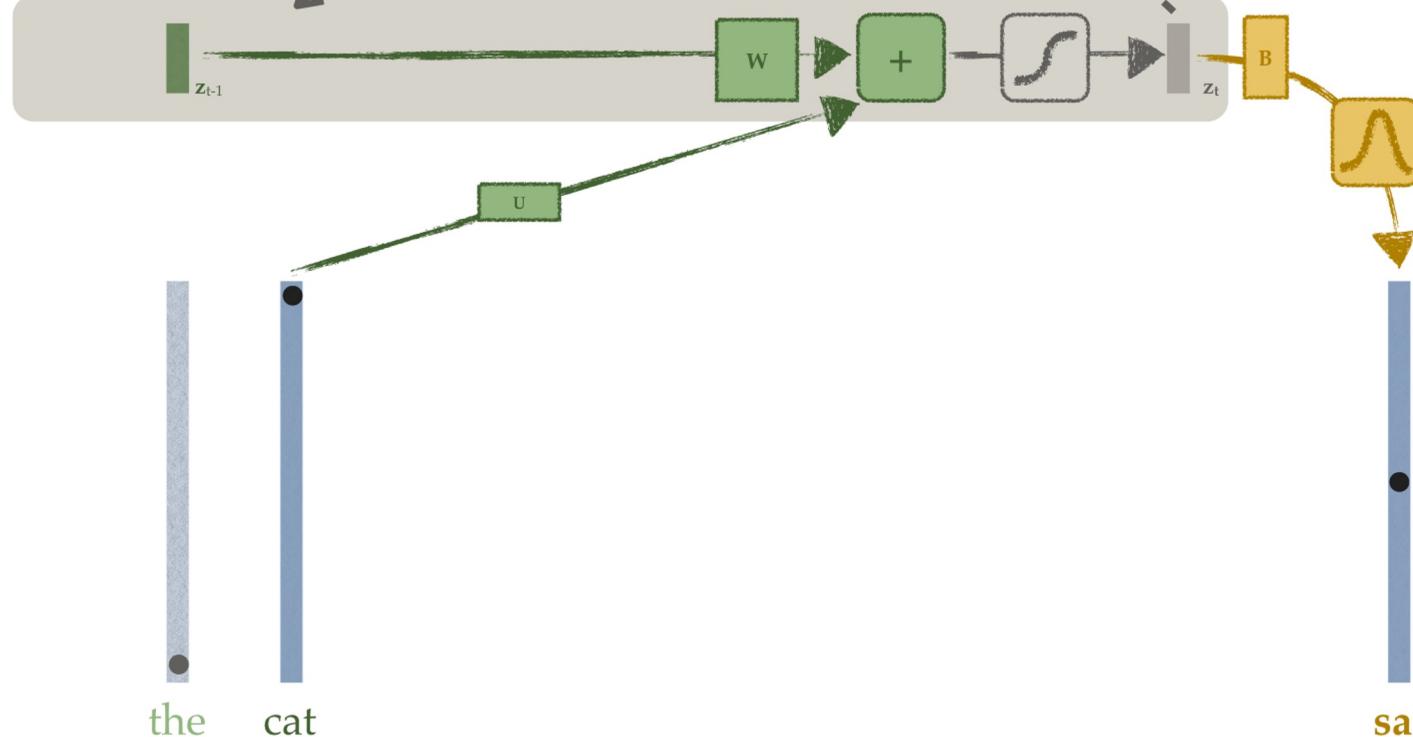
"persistent memory":

**state variable**

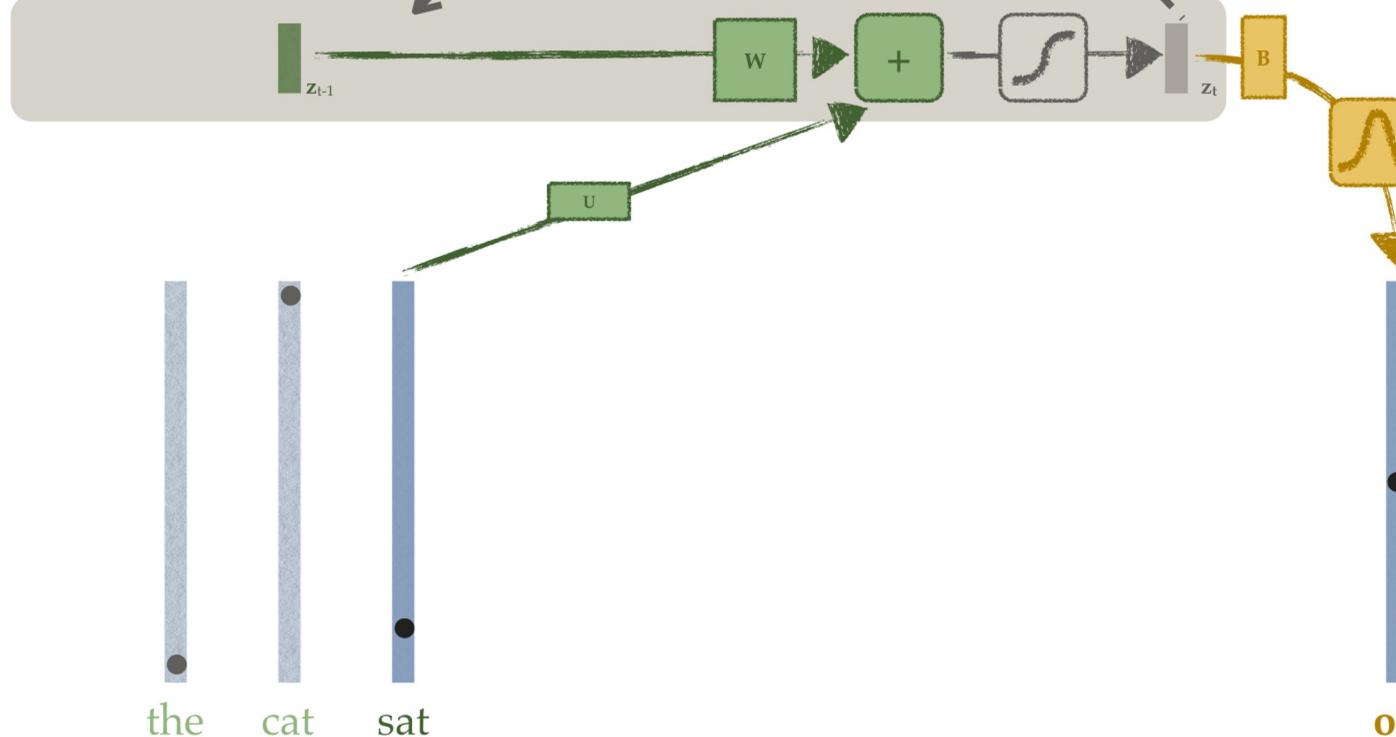
for arbitrarily  
long contexts



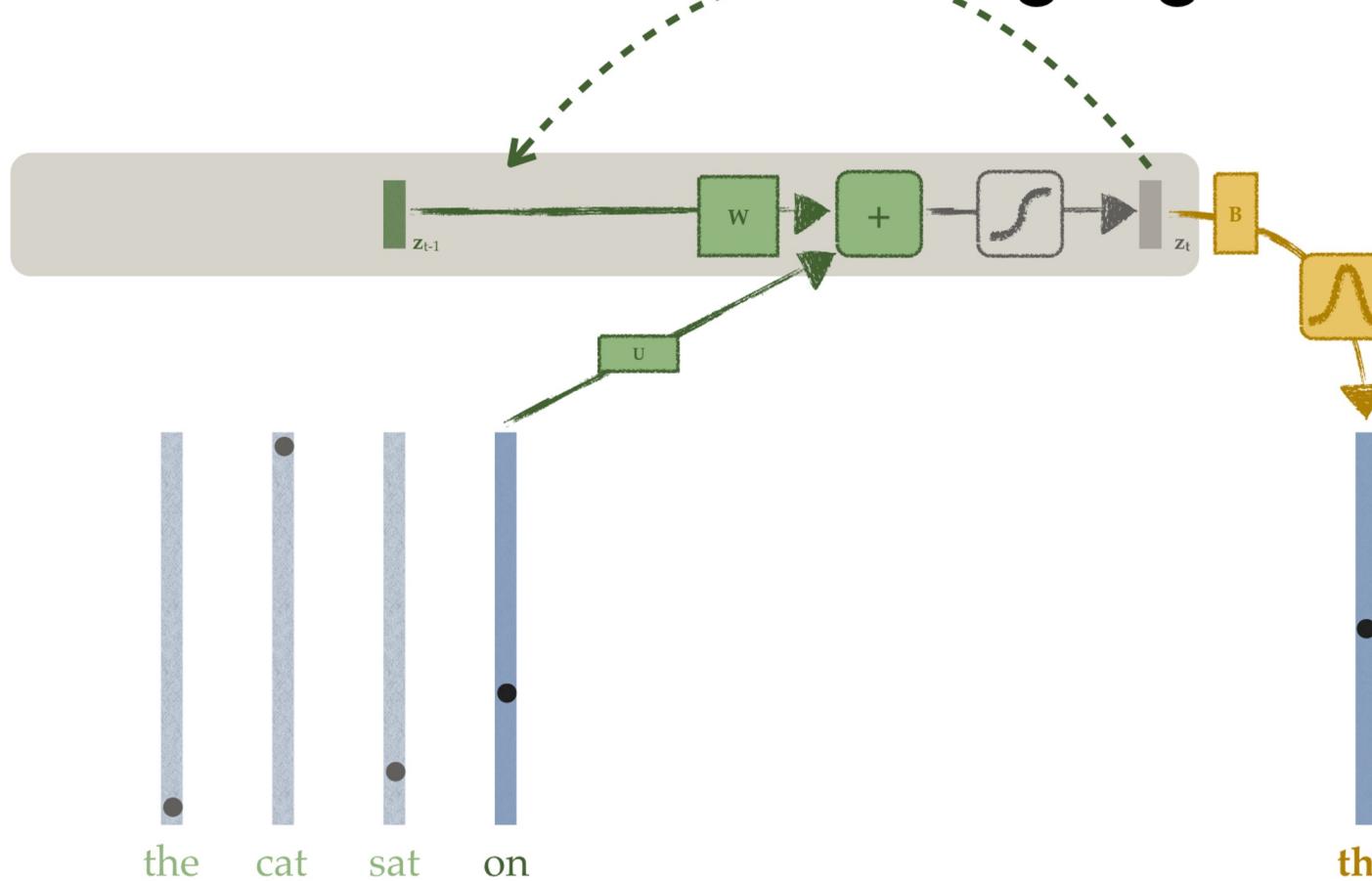
# Recurrent Neural Network Language Models



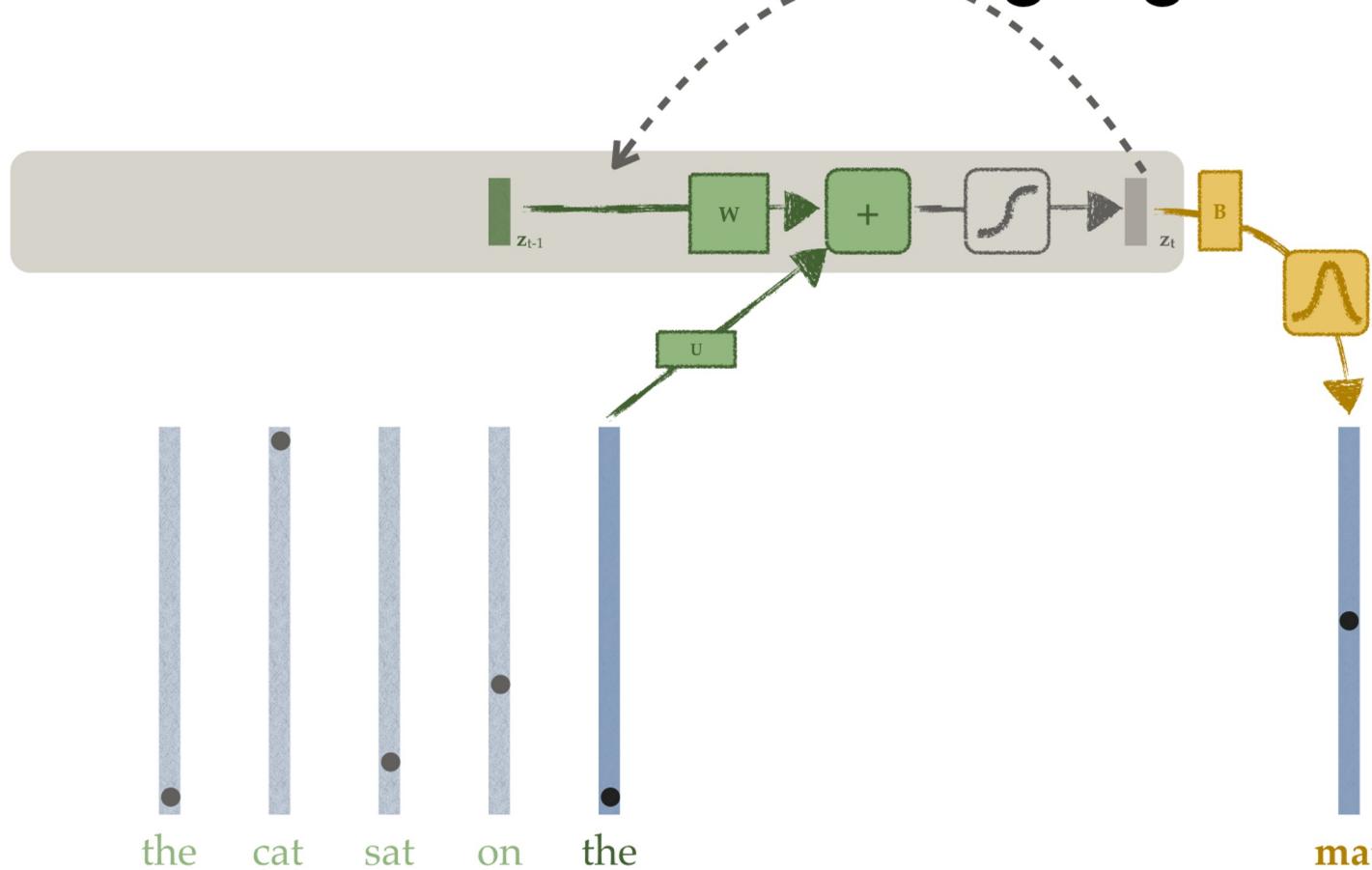
# Recurrent Neural Network Language Models



# Recurrent Neural Network Language Models



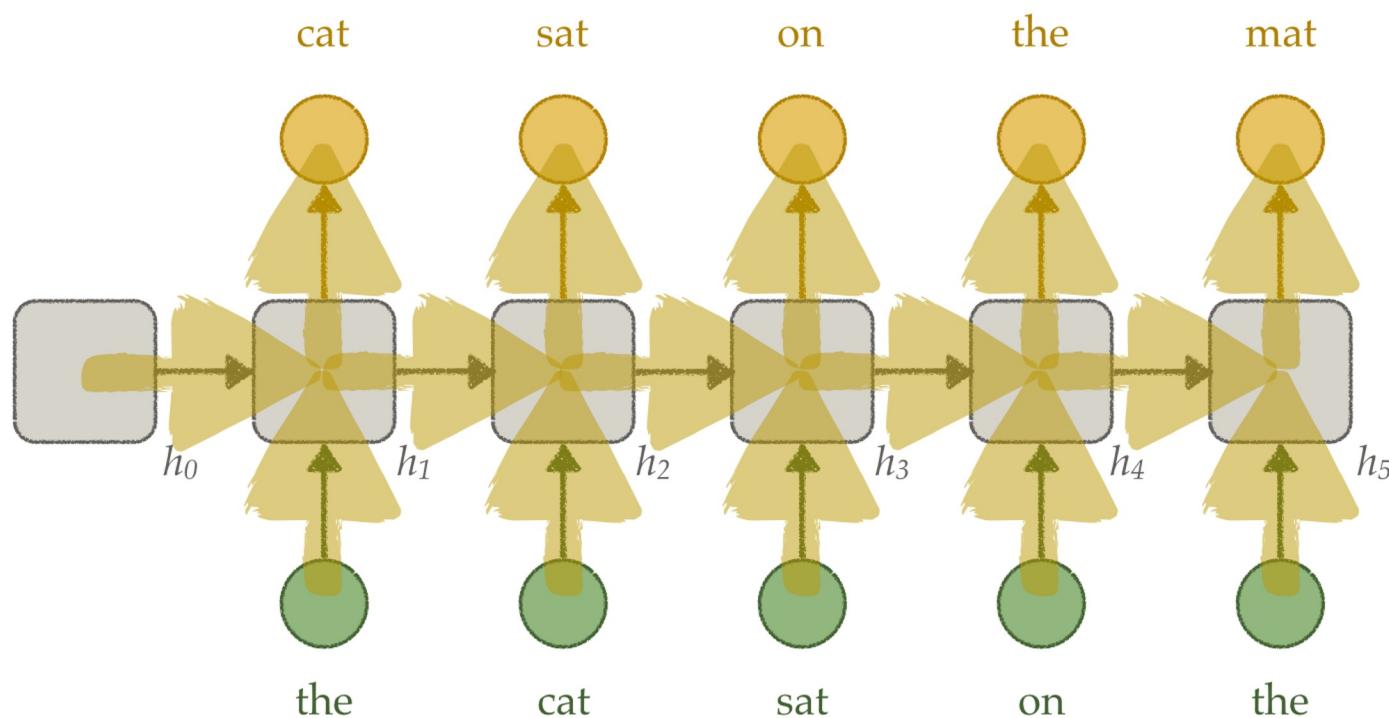
# Recurrent Neural Network Language Models



# What do we Optimize?

$$\theta^* = \arg \max_{\theta} E_{w \sim data} \log P_{\theta}(w_1, \dots, w_T)$$

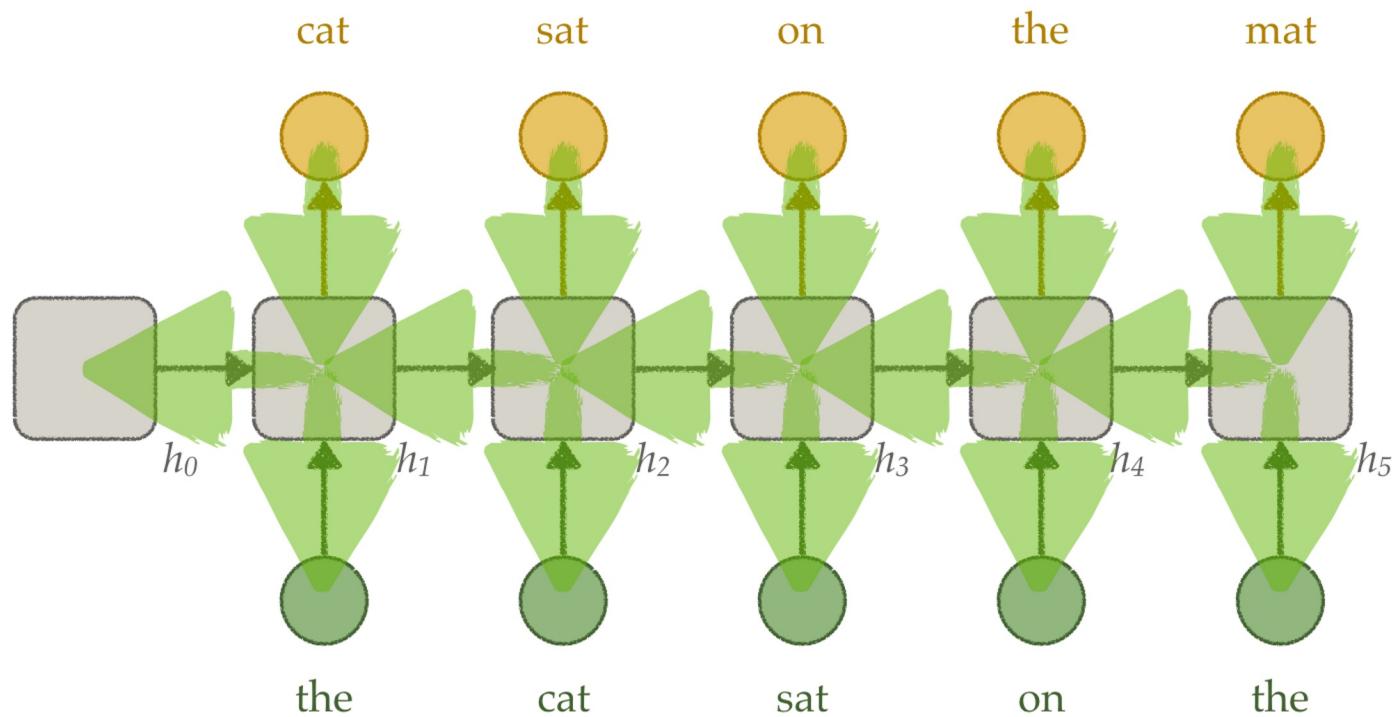
# Recurrent Neural Network Language Models



Learning Sequences – Piotr Mirowski

- Forward Pass

# Recurrent Neural Network Language Models



Learning Sequences — Piotr Mirowski

- Backward Pass

# Seq2Seq

## Joint Language and Translation Modeling with Recurrent Neural Networks

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### Abstract

We present a joint language and translation model based on a recurrent neural network which predicts target words based on an unbounded history of both source and target words. This is in contrast to feed-forward networks as well as to conventional lattice models, both of which are limited to fixed-length contexts. Building on the success of recurrent architectures, we base our joint language and translation model on an extension of the recurrent neural language model (Mikolov & Zweig, 2012) that introduces a layer of additional inputs (§2).

More precisely, our neural networks for speech recognition or machine translation use a rescoring setup based on n-best lists (Ariyoshi et al., 2012; Mikolov, 2012) for evaluation, thereby side-stepping the algorithmic and engineering challenges of direct decoding/integration.<sup>1</sup> Instead, we exploit *lattices*, which offer a much richer representation of the joint model’s state than n-best lists. Continuous representations have shown promise at tracking these lattices. Continuous representations for phrases are able to capture their morphological, syntactic and semantic similarity (Colliebert and Weston, 2008). They have been applied in continuous language models demonstrating the ability to overcome sparsity issues and to achieve state-of-the-art performance (Bengio et al., 2003; Mikolov et al., 2011a; Socher et al., 2011; Schwenk et al., 2012; Mikolov et al., 2012). Continuous representations for characters have been deployed in character-level language models demonstrating notable language generation capabilities (Sutskever et al., 2011; Cho et al., 2012).

Continuous representations for phrases and sentences have also been proposed for phrases and sentences. These representations are able to carry similarity and task dependent information, e.g. sentiment, paraphrase or dialogue labels, significantly beyond the word level and to accurately predict labels for a highly diverse range of unseen phrases and sentences (Grefenstette et al., 2011; Socher et al., 2011; Socher et al., 2012; Haffner and Blunsom, 2013; Kalchbrenner and Blunsom, 2013).

<sup>1</sup>One notable exception is Le et al. (2012) who re-use reordering lattices with a feed-forward network-based model.

## Recurrent Continuous Translation Models

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### Abstract

We introduce a class of probabilistic continuous translation models called Recurrent Continuous Translation Models that are purely based on continuous representations for words, phrases and sentences and do not rely on alignments or phrasal translation units. The models have a generation and a conditioning component. The generation of the translation is modelled by a large Recurrent Language Model, whereas the conditioning on the source sentence is modelled with a Convolutional Sentence Model. Through various experiments we show that they are particularly sensitive to the word order, syntax, and meaning of the source sentence despite lacking alignments. Finally we show that they match a state-of-the-art system when rescoring n-best lists of translation.

### 1 Introduction

In most statistical approaches to machine translation the basic units of translation are phrases that are composed of one or more words. A crucial component of translation systems are models that estimate translation probabilities for pairs of phrases, one phrase being from the source language and the other from the target language. Such models compute consistent gains when pairing the model with a large n-gram model trained on up to 575 times more

phrase-based continuous translation models were first proposed in (Schwenk et al., 2006) and re-

1700

Proceedings of the 2013 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing, pages 1044–1054,  
Seattle, Washington, USA, 18–21 October 2013. ©2013 Association for Computational Linguistics

## Learning Phrase Representations using RNN Encoder-Decoder for Statistical Machine Translation

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### Abstract

In this paper, we propose a novel neural network model called RNN Encoder-Decoder that consists of two recurrent neural networks (RNN). One RNN encodes a sequence of symbols into a fixed-length vector, and the other decodes the representation into another sequence of symbols. The encoder and decoder of the proposed model are jointly trained to maximize the conditional probability of a target sequence given a source sequence. The performance of a statistical machine translation system is empirically found to benefit from the conditional probabilities of phrase pairs computed by the RNN Encoder-Decoder as an additional feature in the existing log-linear model. Qualitatively, we show that the proposed model learns a semantically and syntactically meaningful representation of linguistic phrases.

### 1 Introduction

Deep neural networks have shown great success in various applications such as objection recognition (see, e.g., Krizhevsky et al., 2012) and speech recognition (see, e.g., Dahl et al., 2012). Furthermore, recent works showed that neural networks can be trained end-to-end in a number of tasks in natural language processing (NLP). These include, but are not limited to, language modeling (Bengio et al., 2003), paraphrase detection (Socher et al., 2011) and word embedding extraction (Mikolov et al., 2013). In the field of statistical machine translation (SMT), deep neural networks have begun to show promising results. (Schwenk, 2012) summarizes a successful use of feedforward neural networks in the framework of phrase-based SMT system.

## Sequence to Sequence Learning with Neural Networks

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### Abstract

Deep Neural Networks (DNNs) are powerful models that have achieved excellent performance on difficult learning tasks. Although DNNs work well whenever large labeled training sets are available, they cannot be used to map sequences to sequences. In this paper, we present a general end-to-end approach for learning to map sequences to sequences. Our method uses a multilayered Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) to map the input sequence to a vector of a fixed dimensionality, and then another deep LSTM to decode the target sequence from the vector. Our main result is that on an English to French translation task for the WMT’14 dataset, the proposed model using an LSTM achieves a BLEU score of 34.5 on the entire test set, where the LSTM’s BLEU score was penalized on out-of-vocabulary words. Additionally, the LSTM did not have difficulty on long sentences. For comparison, a phrase-based SMT system achieves a BLEU score of 33.0 on the same test set, while the proposed model achieves a BLEU score of 36.5, which is close to the previous best result on this task. The LSTM also learned sensible phrase and sentence representations that are sensitive to word order and are relatively invariant to the active and the passive voice. Finally, we found that the performance of the model on all source sentences (but not target sentences) improved the LSTM’s performance markedly, because doing so introduced many short term dependencies between the source and the target sentence which made the optimization problem easier.

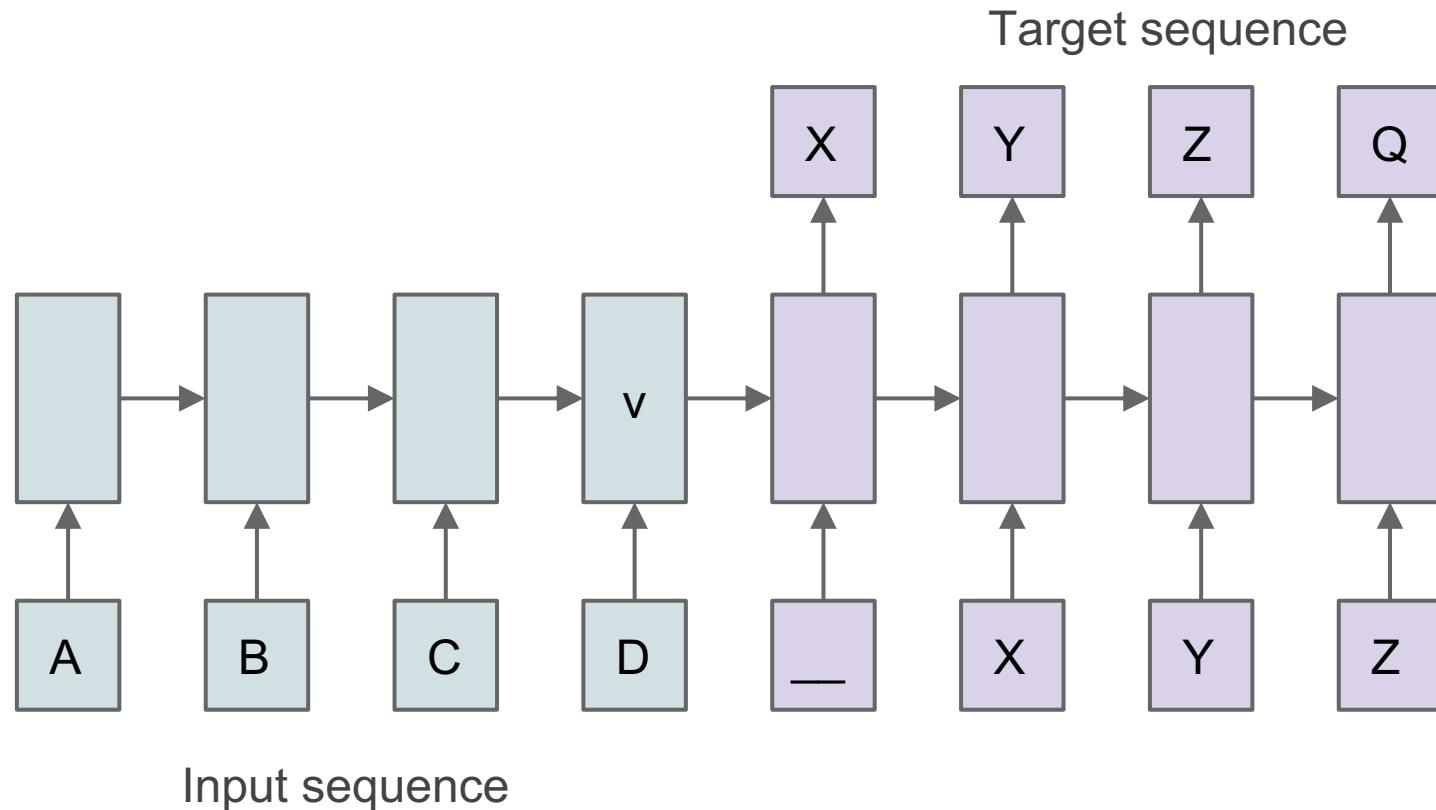
### 1 Introduction

Deep Neural Networks (DNNs) are extremely powerful machine learning models that achieve excellent performance on difficult problems such as speech recognition [13, 7] and visual object recognition [19, 6, 21, 20]. DNNs are powerful because they can perform arbitrary parallel computation for a modest number of steps. A surprising example of the power of DNNs is their ability to sort  $N \times N$  matrices using only 2 hidden layers with size [27]. Since no neural networks are related to conventional statistical models, they learn an interesting function. Furthermore, DNNs can be trained with supervised backpropagation whenever the labeled training set has enough information to specify the network’s parameters. Thus, if there exists a parameter setting of a large DNN that achieves good results (for example, because humans can solve the task very rapidly), supervised backpropagation can find that setting and learn the problem.

Despite their flexibility and power, DNNs can only be applied to sequences whose inputs and targets can be sensibly encoded with vectors of fixed dimensionality. It is a significant limitation, since many important problems are best expressed with sequences whose lengths are not known *a-priori*. For example, speech recognition and machine translation are sequential problems. Likewise, question answering can also be seen as mapping a sequence of words representing the question to a

1. Auli, M., et al. "Joint Language and Translation Modeling with Recurrent Neural Networks." *EMNLP (2013)*
2. Kalchbrenner, N., et al. "Recurrent Continuous Translation Models." *EMNLP (2013)*
3. Cho, K., et al. "Learning Phrase Representations using RNN Encoder-Decoder for Statistical MT." *EMNLP (2014)*
4. Sutskever, I., et al. "Sequence to Sequence Learning with Neural Networks." *NIPS (2014)*

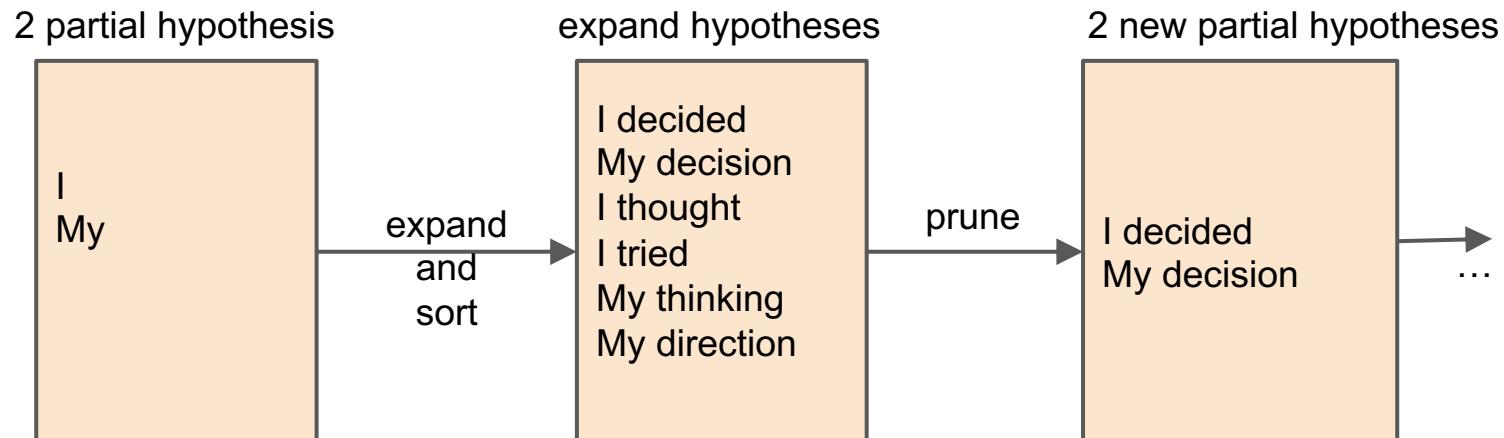
# Seq2Seq



$$P(y_1, \dots, y_{T'} | x_1, \dots, x_T) = \prod_{t=1}^{T'} p(y_t | v, y_1, \dots, y_{t-1})$$

# Decoding in a Nutshell (Beam Size 2)

$$y^* = \arg \max_{y_1, \dots, y_{T'}} P(y_1, \dots, y_{T'} | x_1, \dots, x_T)$$



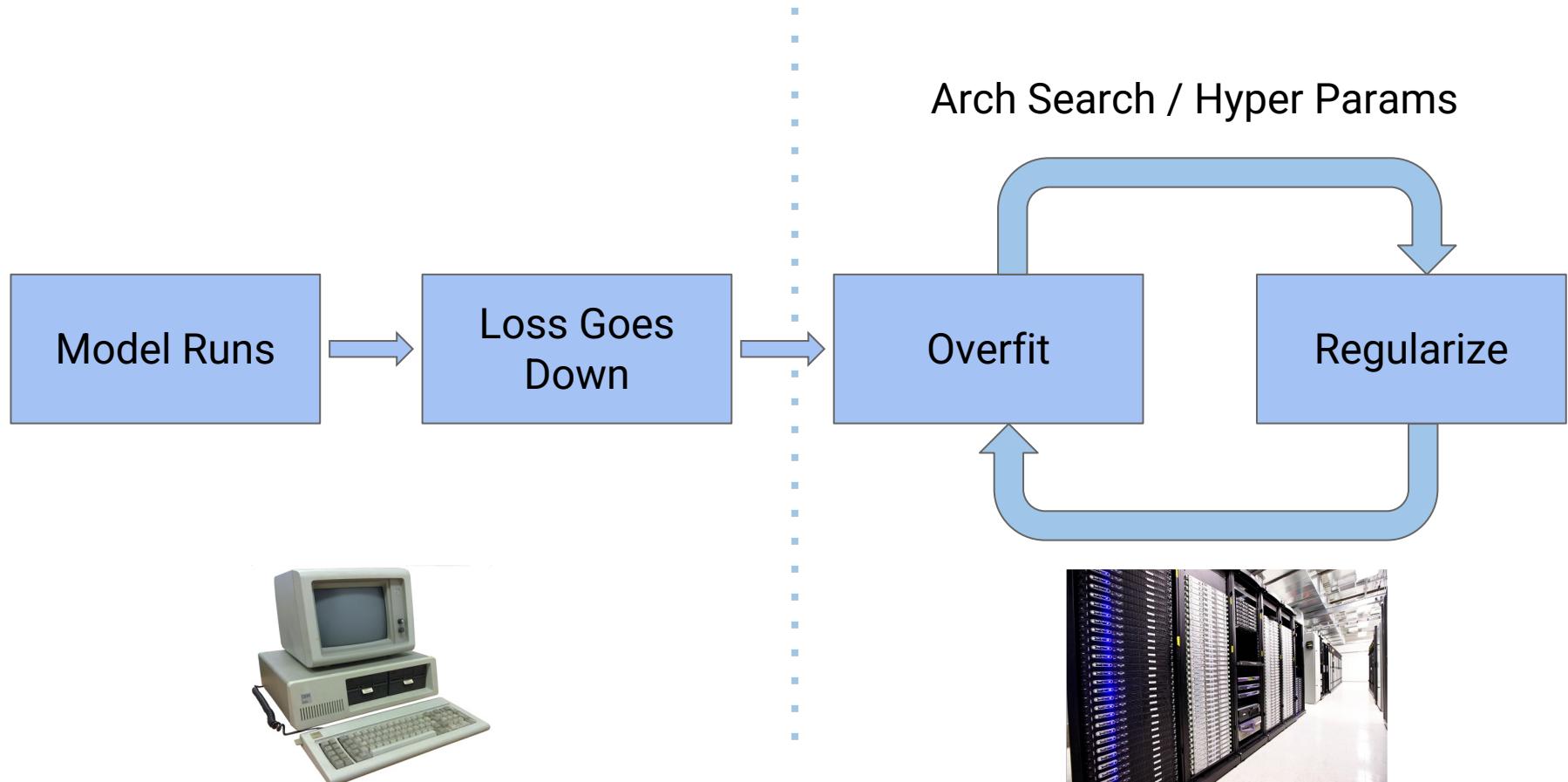
# Code

Source:

<https://github.com/keveman/tensorflow-tutorial/blob/master/PTB%20Word%20Language%20Modeling.ipynb>

```
class LSTMCell(object):
    def __init__(self, state_size):
        self.state_size = state_size
        self.W_f = tf.Variable(self.initializer())
        self.W_i = tf.Variable(self.initializer())
        self.W_o = tf.Variable(self.initializer())
        self.W_C = tf.Variable(self.initializer())
        self.b_f = tf.Variable(tf.zeros([state_size]))
        self.b_i = tf.Variable(tf.zeros([state_size]))
        self.b_o = tf.Variable(tf.zeros([state_size]))
        self.b_C = tf.Variable(tf.zeros([state_size]))
    def __call__(self, x_t, h_t1, C_t1):
        X = tf.concat(1, [h_t1, x_t])
        f_t = tf.sigmoid(tf.matmul(X, self.W_f) + self.b_f)
        i_t = tf.sigmoid(tf.matmul(X, self.W_i) + self.b_i)
        o_t = tf.sigmoid(tf.matmul(X, self.W_o) + self.b_o)
        Ctilde_t = tf.tanh(tf.matmul(X, self.W_C) + self.b_C)
        C_t = f_t * C_t1 + i_t * Ctilde_t
        h_t = o_t * tf.tanh(C_t)
        return h_t, C_t
    def initializer(self):
        return tf.random_uniform([2*self.state_size, self.state_size],
                               -0.1, 0.1)
```

# Vicious Cycle



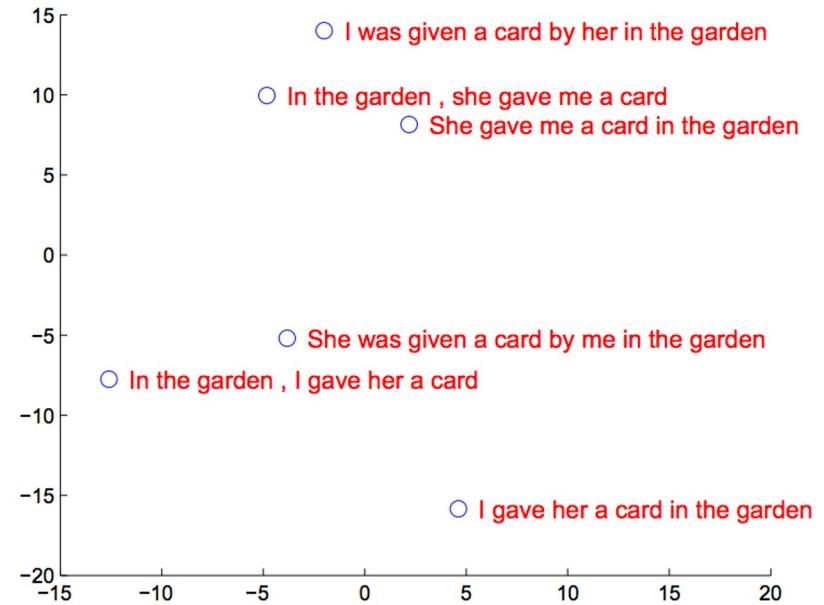
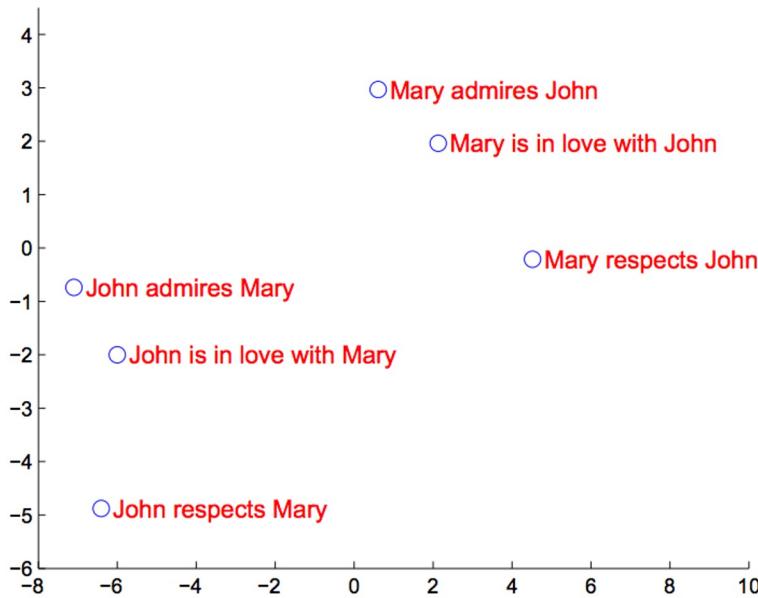
# (Some) Tricks of the Trade

- Long sequences?
  - Attention
  - Bigger state
- Can't overfit?
  - Bigger hidden state
  - Deep LSTM + Skip Connections
- Overfit?
  - Dropout + Ensembles
- Tuning
  - Keep calm and decrease your learning rate
  - Initialization of parameters is critical (in seq2seq we used  $U(-0.05, 0.05)$ )
  - Clip the gradients!
    - E.g. if  $\|grad\| > 5$ :  $grad = grad / \|grad\| * 5$

# Applications

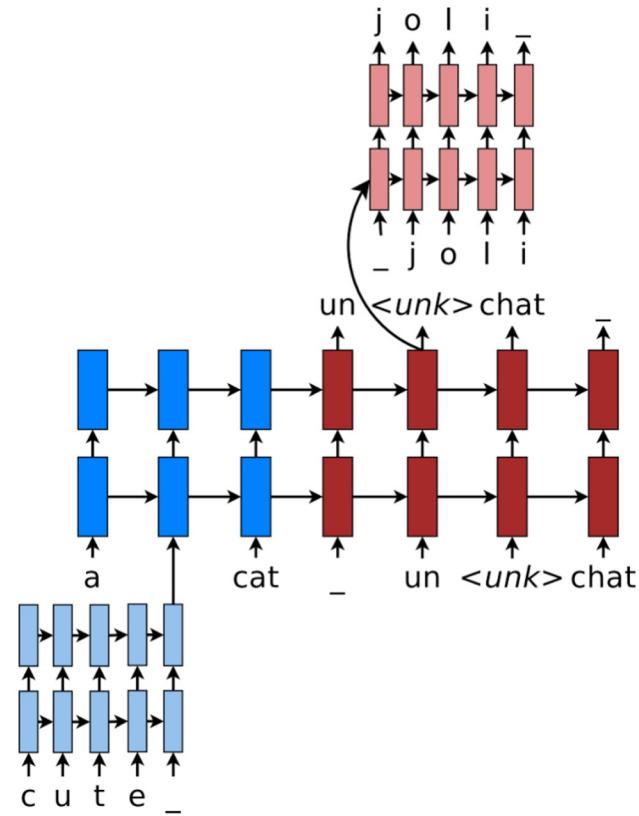
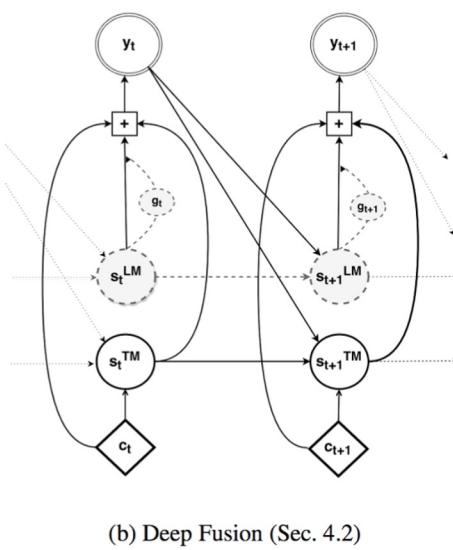
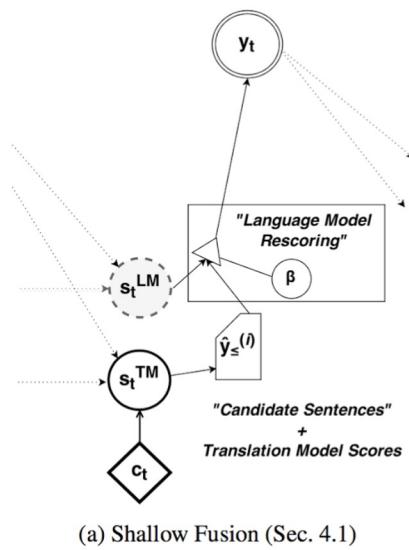
# Machine Translation

Method	test BLEU score (ntst14)
Bahdanau et al. [2]	28.45
Baseline System [29]	33.30
Single forward LSTM, beam size 12	26.17
Single reversed LSTM, beam size 12	30.59
Ensemble of 5 reversed LSTMs, beam size 1	33.00
Ensemble of 2 reversed LSTMs, beam size 12	33.27
Ensemble of 5 reversed LSTMs, beam size 2	34.50
Ensemble of 5 reversed LSTMs, beam size 12	<b>34.81</b>



# Machine Translation: Concerns

- Using Language Models [1]
- OOV words [2]
- Sequence length



1. Gulcehre, C., et al. "On using monolingual corpora in neural machine translation." *arXiv* (2015).
2. Luong, T., and Manning, C. "Achieving open vocabulary neural MT with hybrid word-character models." *arXiv* (2016).

# Image Captioning

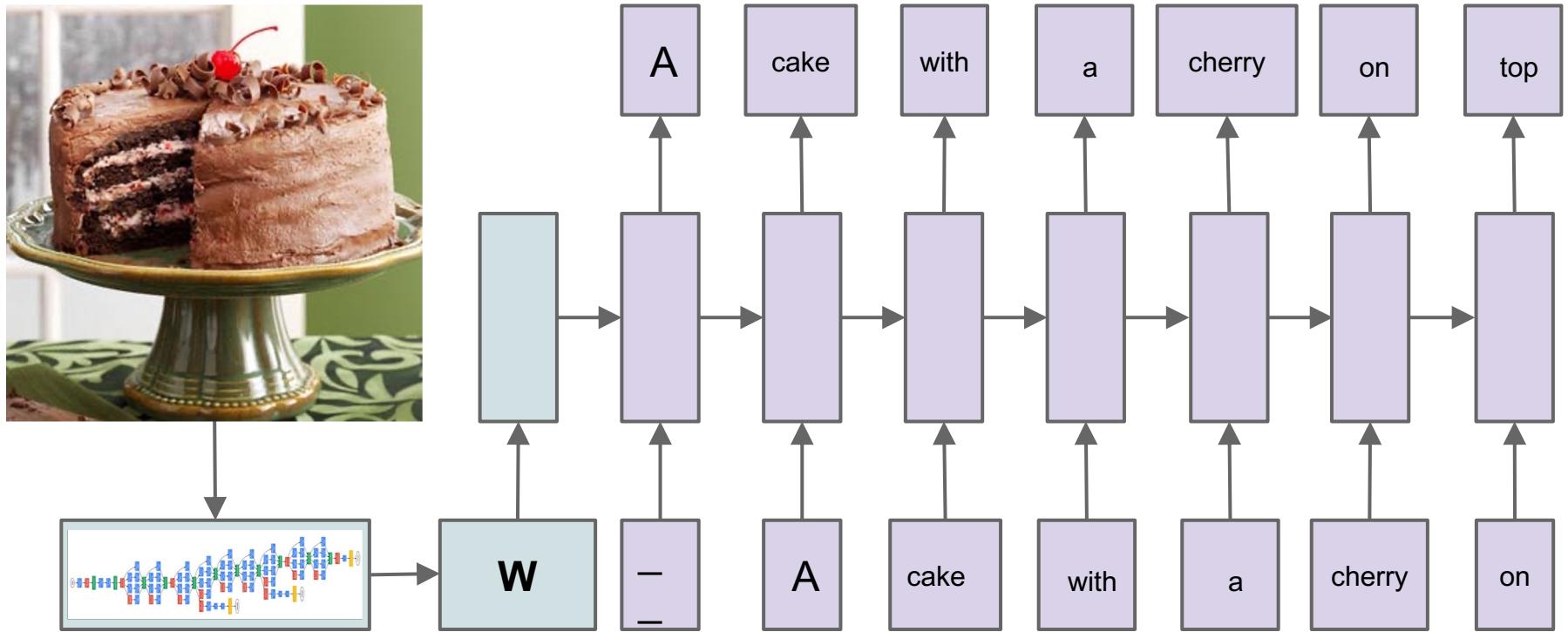
$p(\text{English} \mid \text{French})$



$p(\text{English} \mid \text{Image})$

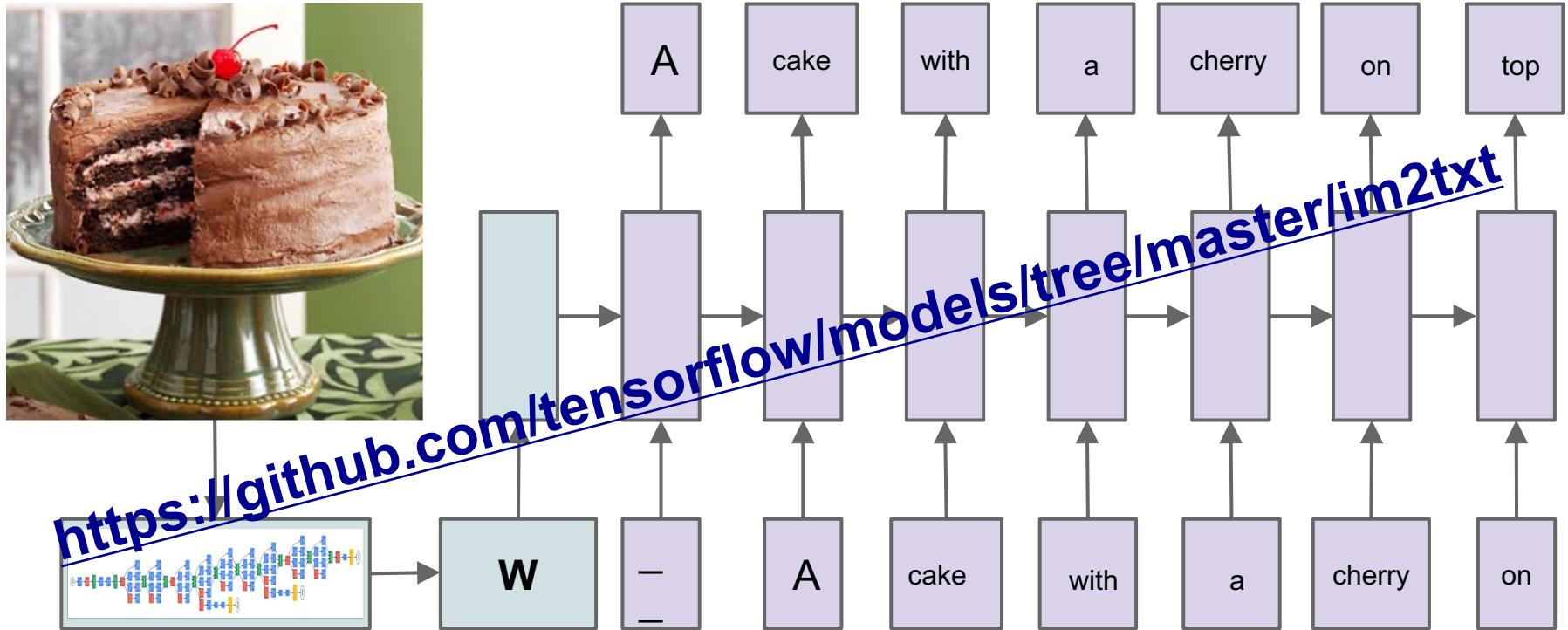
1. Vinyals, O., et al. "Show and Tell: A Neural Image Caption Generator." *CVPR* (2015).
2. Mao, J., et al. "Deep captioning with multimodal recurrent neural networks (m-rnn)." *ICLR* (2015).
3. Karpathy, A., Li, F., "Deep visual-semantic alignments for generating image descriptions." *CVPR* (2015)
4. Kiros, Zemel, Salakhutdinov, "Unifying Visual-Semantic Embeddings with Multimodal Neural Language Models", *TACL 2015*

# Image Captioning



$$\theta^* = \arg \max_{\theta} p(S|I)$$

# Image Captioning



$$\theta^* = \arg \max_{\theta} p(S|I)$$

# Image Captioning



a car is parked in  
the middle of nowhere .



a wooden table and chairs  
arranged in a room .



a ferry boat on a marina  
with a group of people .



there is a cat sitting on a shelf .



a little boy with a bunch  
of friends on the street .

# Image Captioning



*Human: A close up of two bananas with bottles in the background.*

*BestModel: A bunch of bananas and a bottle of wine.*

# Image Captioning



*Human: A woman holding up a yellow banana to her face.*

*BestModel: A woman holding a banana up to her face.*

# Image Captioning



*Human: A man outside cooking with a sub in his hand.*

*BestModel: A man is holding a sandwich in his hand.*

# Image Captioning



*Human: Someone is using a small grill to melt his sandwich.*

*BestModel: A person is cooking some food on a grill.*

# Image Captioning



*Human: A blue , yellow and red train travels across the tracks near a depot.*

*BestModel: A blue and yellow train traveling down train tracks.*

# Learning to Execute

- One of the first (modern) examples of learning algorithms
- 2014--??? “era of discovery” → Apply seq2seq to *everything*

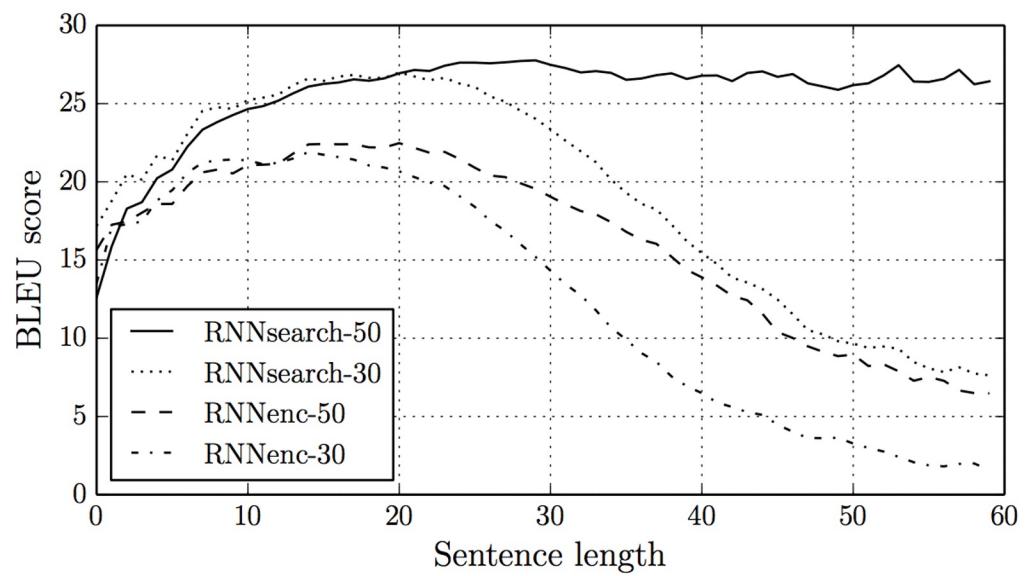
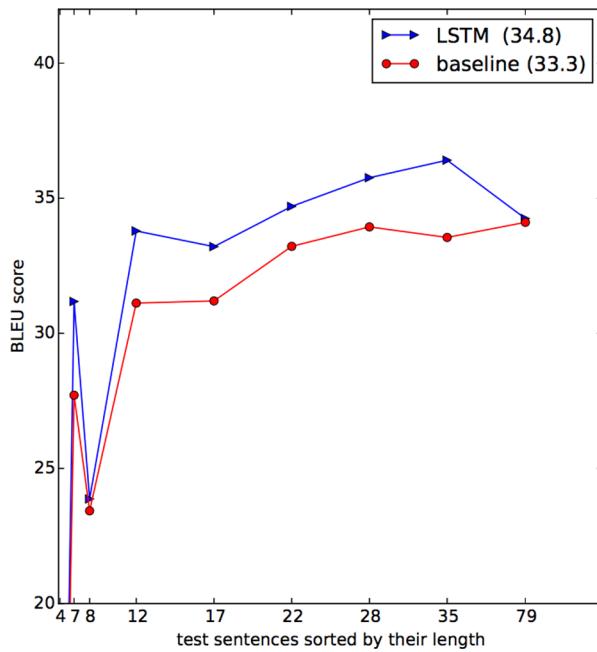
**Input:**  
j=8584  
for x in range(8):  
 j+=920  
 b=(1500+j)  
 print((b+7567))  
**Target:** 25011.

**Input:**  
i=8827  
c=(i-5347)  
print((c+8704) if 2641<8500 else 5308)  
**Target:** 12184.

**Input:**  
vqppkn  
sqdvljmnc  
y2vxdddsepnimcbvubkomhrpliibtwztbljipcc  
**Target:** hkhpg

# Seq2Seq - Limitations

- Fixed Size Embeddings are easily overwhelmed by long inputs or long outputs



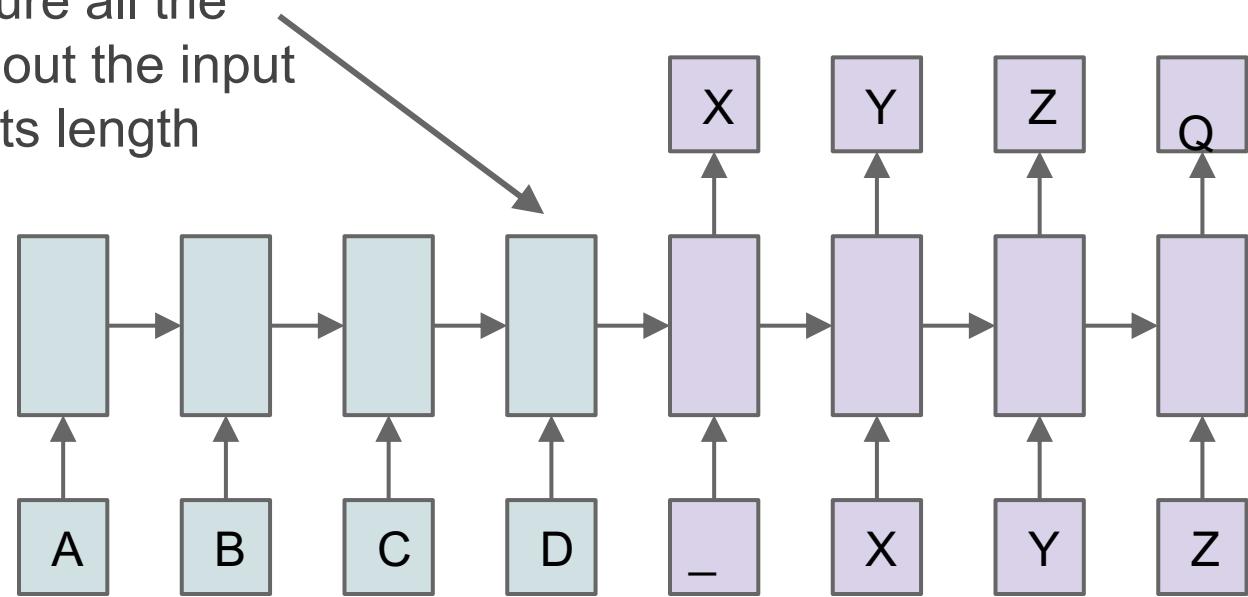
Sutskever, I., et al. "Sequence to Sequence Learning with Neural Networks." *NIPS* (2014)

Bahdanau, D., et al. "Neural Machine Translation by Jointly Learning to Align and Translate." *ICLR* (2015)

# Attention

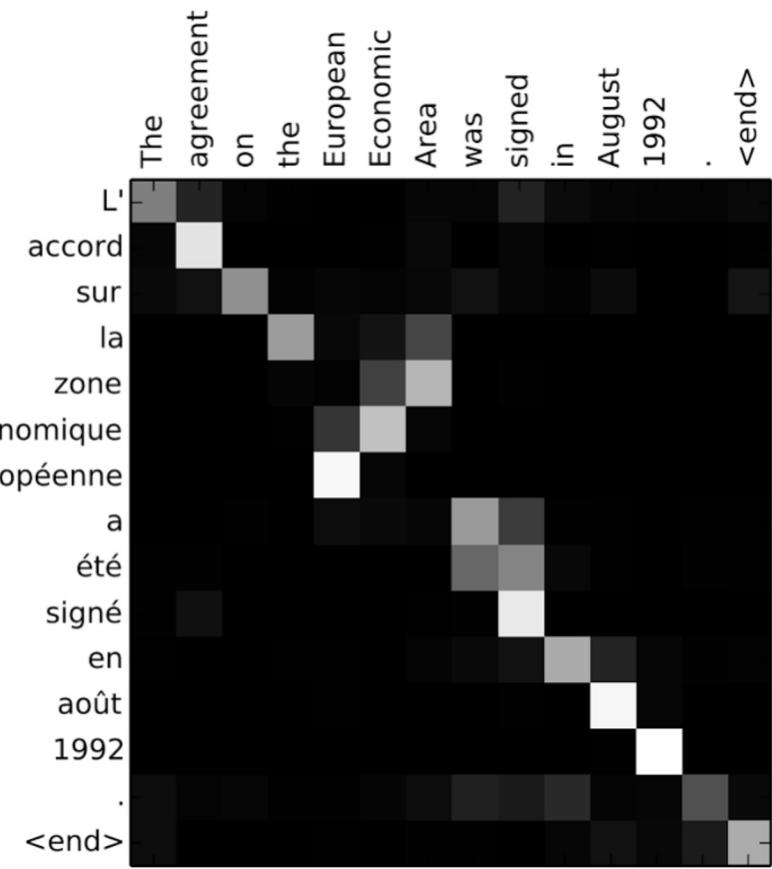
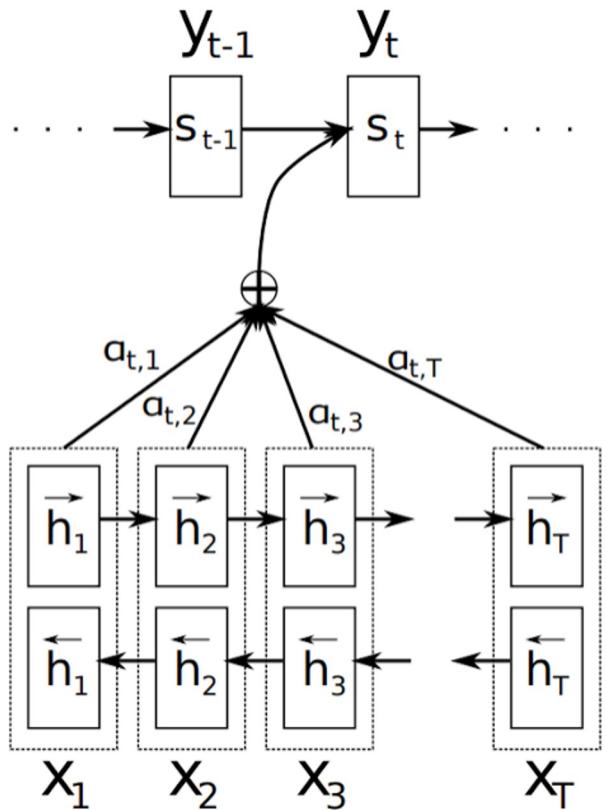
# Seq2Seq - The issue with long inputs

- Same embedding informs the entire output
- Needs to capture all the information about the input regardless of its length

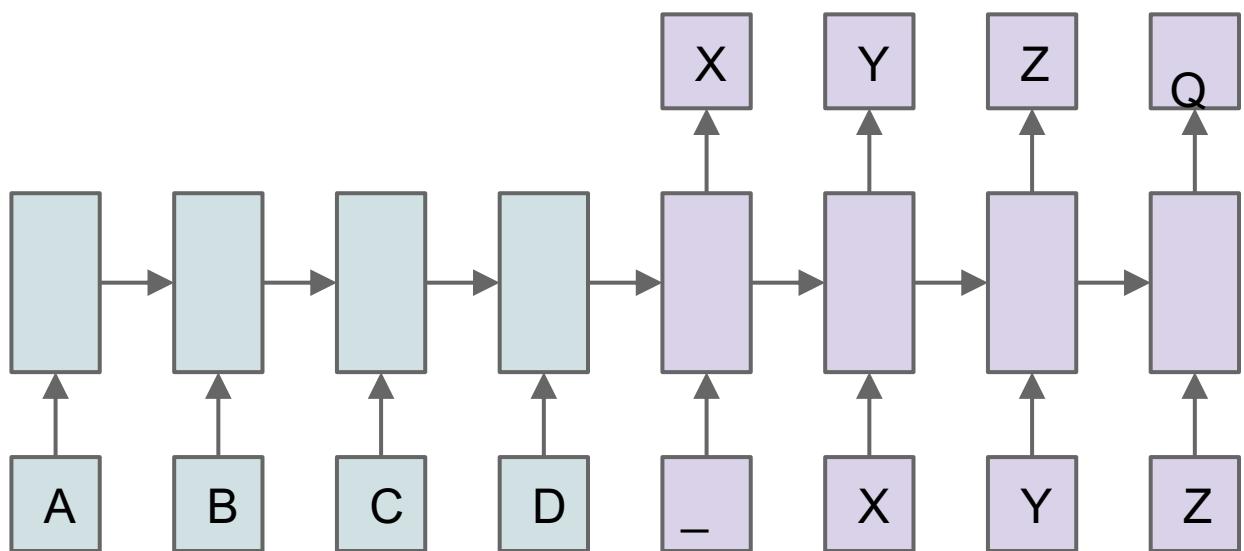


Is there a better way to pass the information from encoder to the decoder ?

# Seq2Seq with Attention

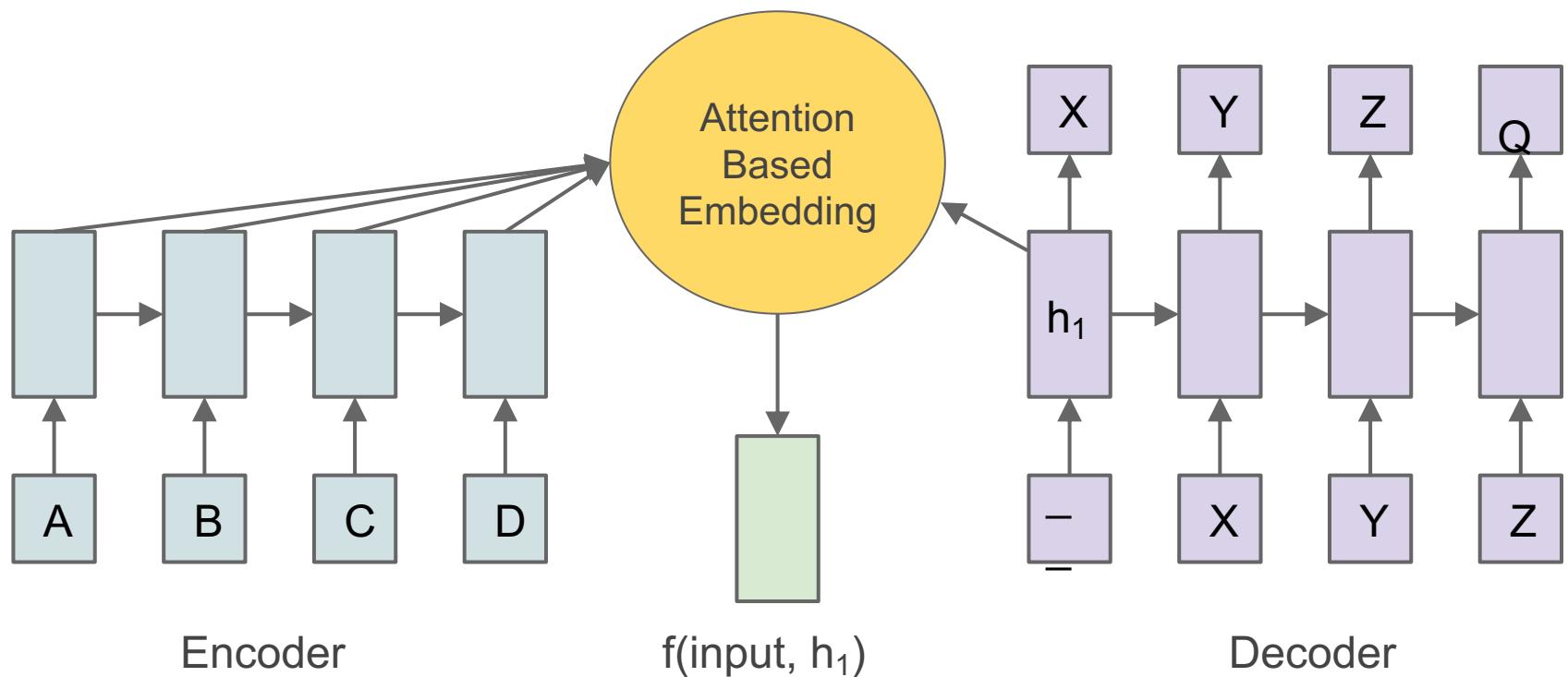


# Seq2Seq



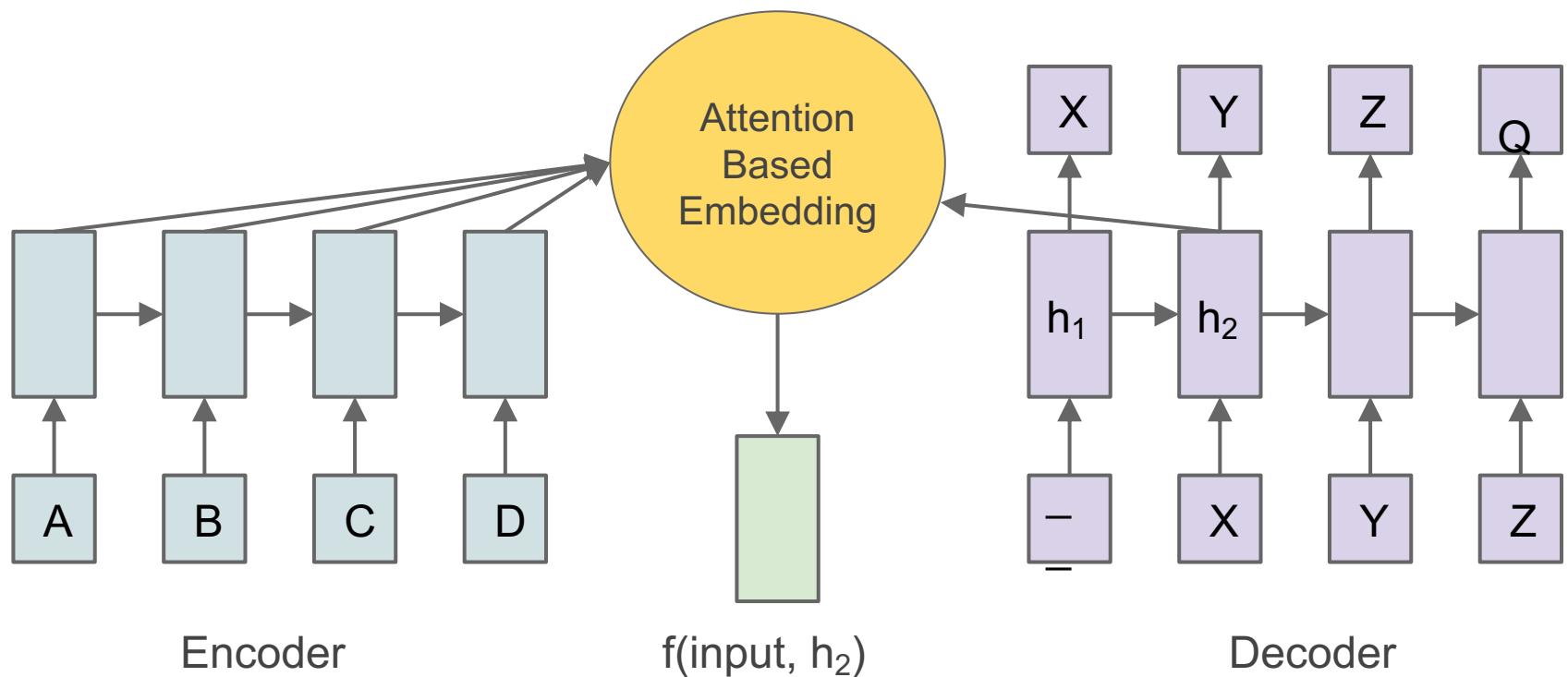
# Seq2Seq with Attention

- A different embedding computed for every output step



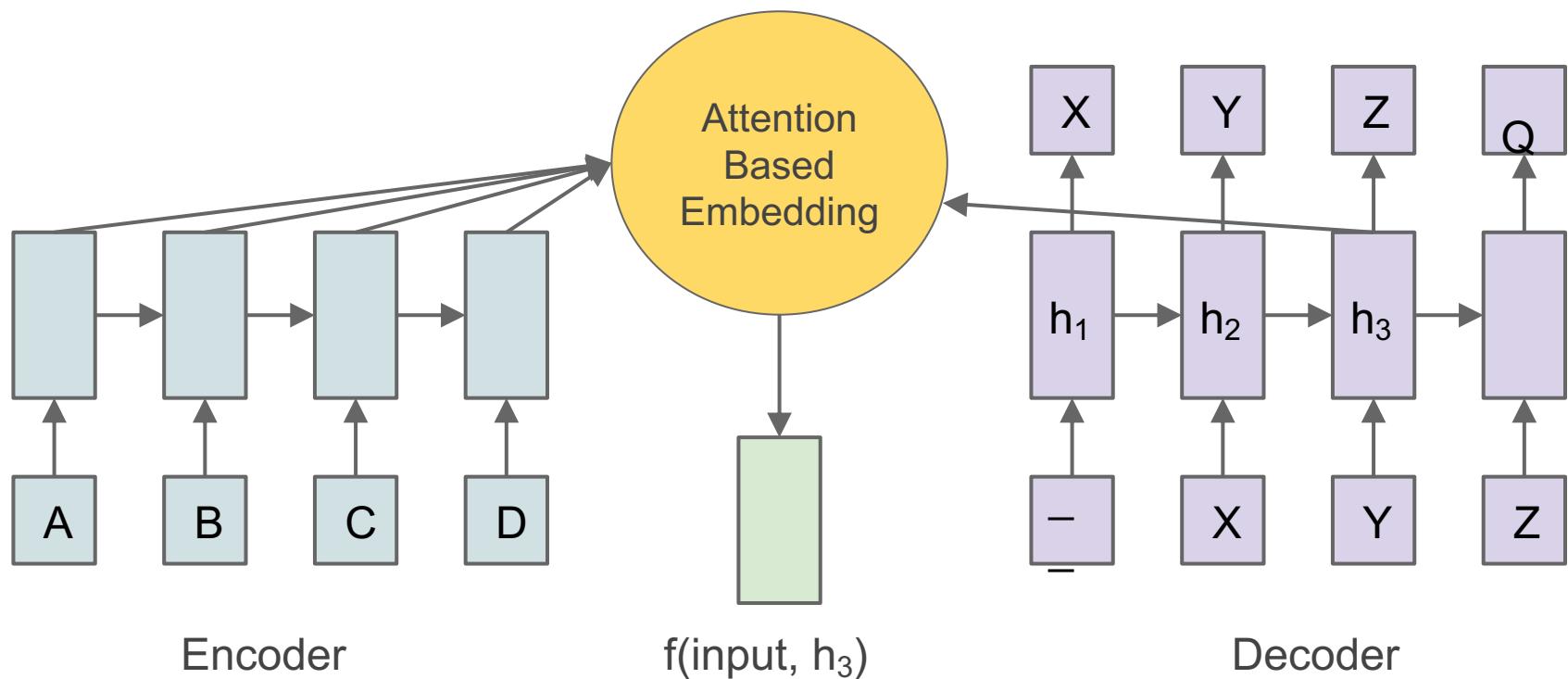
# Seq2Seq with Attention

- A different embedding computed for every output step



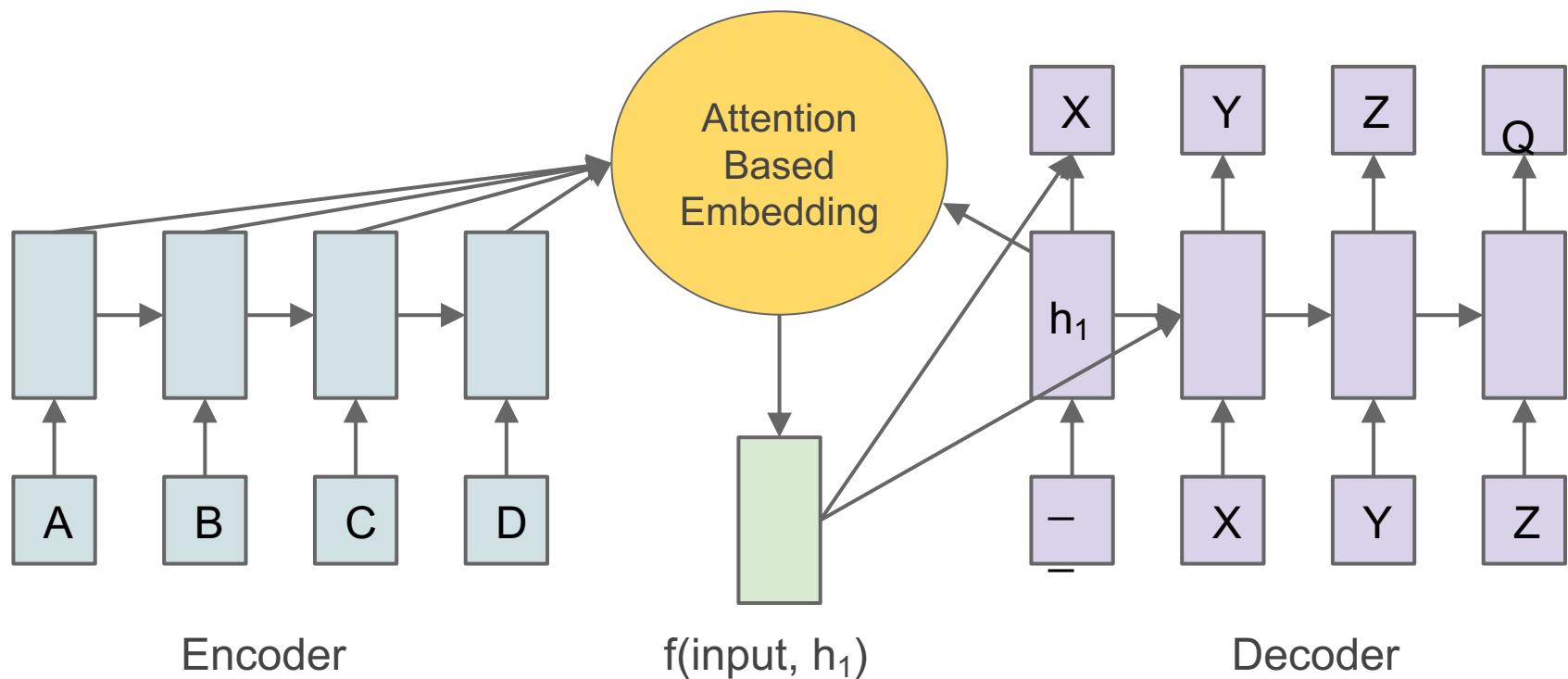
# Seq2Seq with Attention

- A different embedding computed for every output step



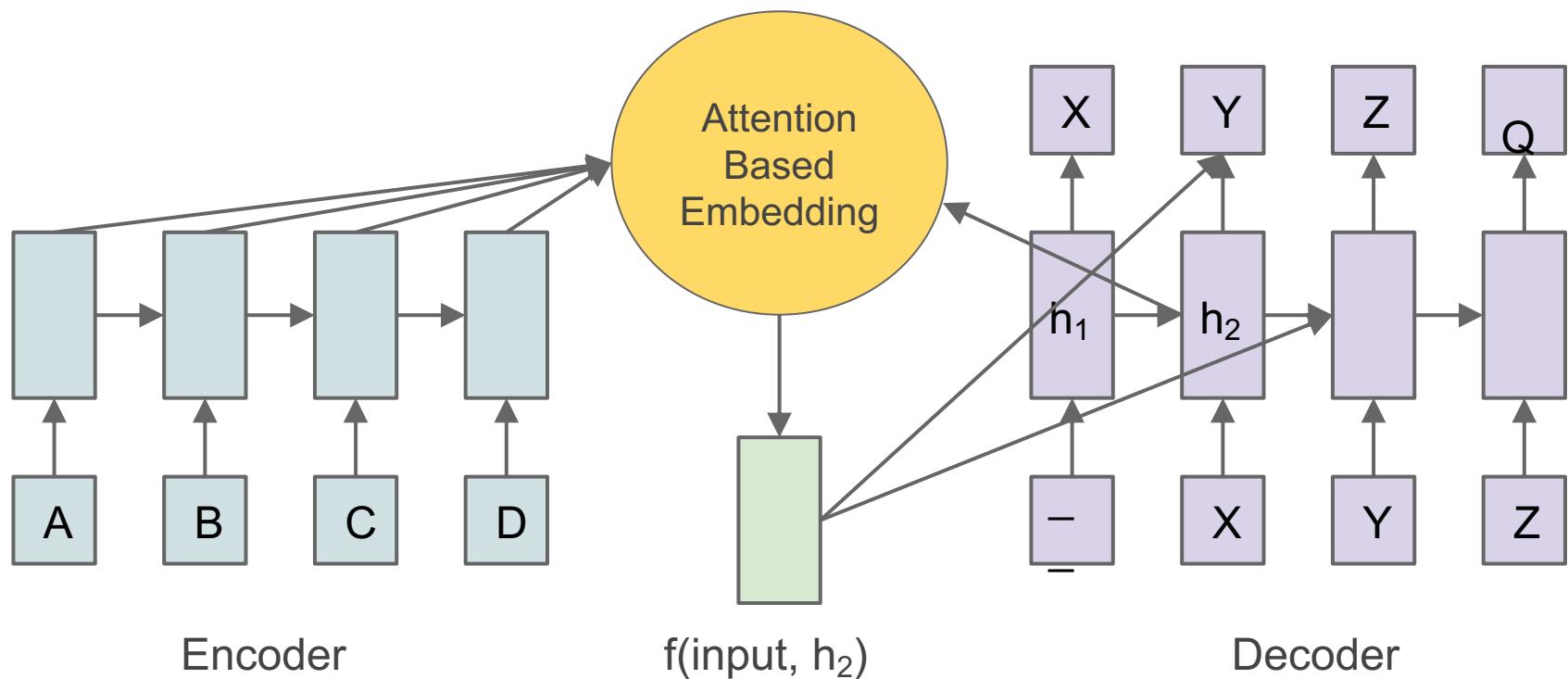
# Seq2Seq with Attention

- Embedding used to predict output, and compute next hidden state



# Seq2Seq with Attention

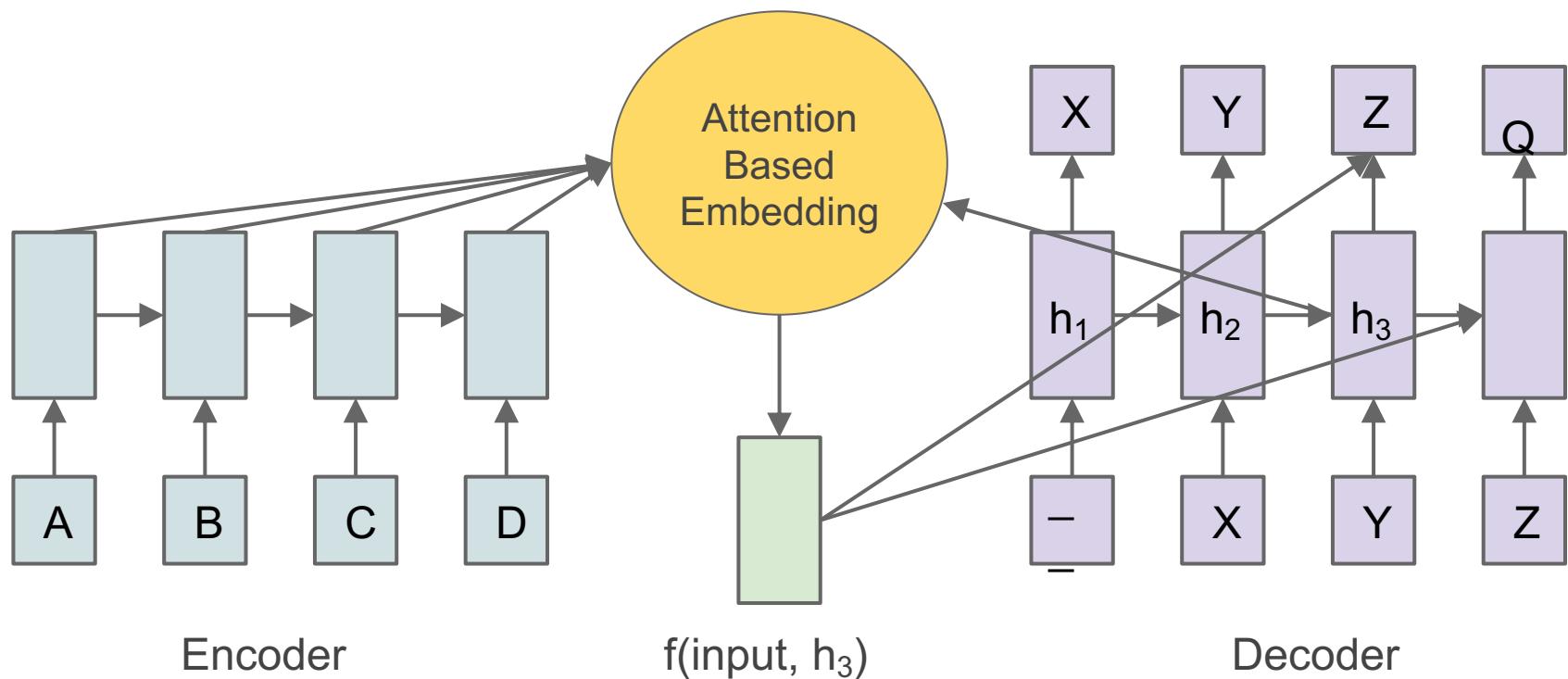
- Embedding used to predict output, and compute next hidden state



- Attention arrows for step 1 omitted

# Seq2Seq with Attention

- Embedding used to predict output, and compute next hidden state



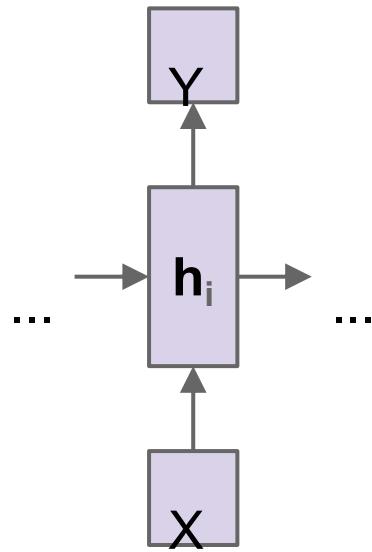
- Attention arrows for steps 1 and 2 omitted

# Attention Based Embedding

- Linear blending of embedding RNN states  $e_1 e_2 e_3 e_4$  is a natural choice
- How to produce the coefficients (attention vector) for blending ?
  - Content based coefficients based on query state  $h_i$  and embedding RNN states  $e_1 e_2 e_3 e_4$

# Dot product Attention

- Inputs: “I am a cat.”
- Input RNN states:  $\mathbf{e}_1 \mathbf{e}_2 \mathbf{e}_3 \mathbf{e}_4$
- Decoder RNN state at step  $i$  (query):  $\mathbf{h}_i$
- Compute scalars  $\mathbf{h}_i^T \mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{h}_i^T \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{h}_i^T \mathbf{e}_3, \mathbf{h}_i^T \mathbf{e}_4$  representing similarity / relevance between encoder steps and query.
- Normalize  $[\mathbf{h}_i^T \mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{h}_i^T \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{h}_i^T \mathbf{e}_3, \mathbf{h}_i^T \mathbf{e}_4]$  with softmax to produce attention weights, e.g. [0.0 0.05 0.9 0.05]



# Content Based Attention

Attention [Bahdanau, Cho and Bengio, 2014]

$$u_j = v^T \tanh(W_1 e_j + W_2 d) \quad j \in (1, \dots, n)$$

$$a_j = \text{softmax}(u_j) \quad j \in (1, \dots, n)$$

$$d' = \sum_{j=1}^n a_j e_j$$

Graves, A., et al. "Neural Turing Machines." *arxiv* (2014)

Weston, J., et al. "Memory Networks." *arxiv* (2014)

# Other strategies for attention models

- Tensored attention
  - Minh-Thang Luong, Hieu Pham, and Christopher D. Manning. “Effective Approaches to Attention-based Neural Machine Translation.” EMNLP’15.
- Multiple heads
- Pyramidal encoders
  - William Chan, Navdeep Jaitly, Quoc Le, Oriol Vinyals. “Listen Attend and Spell”. ICASSP 2015.
- Hierarchical Attention
  - Andrychowicz, Marcin, and Karol Kurach. "Learning efficient algorithms with hierarchical attentive memory." *arXiv preprint arXiv:1602.03218* (2016).
- Hard Attention
  - Xu, Kelvin, et al. “Show, attend and tell: Neural image caption generation with visual attention.” ICML 2015