



<https://hao-ai-lab.github.io/dsc291-s24/>

# DSC 291: ML Systems

## Spring 2024

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LLMs

Parallelization

Single-device Optimization

Basics

# Enrollment Request

- The instructor team have approved all requests
- It is pending the DSC to decide if they want to enroll you or not
- I have written an email to Julia (DSC manager), waiting for response.
- If you are still in queue (Pending approval)
  - Send us (me/Will/Anze) a message to be added as an observer
  - Wait for people to drop and you will be automatically enrolled until EoW2
- If you have been rejected by department
  - You are likely an undergrad
  - Recommendation: send an email to DSC to sincerely express your strong need for this course
- If our queue is still long by end of week 2 (no one is willing to drop)
  - I'll write a second email to DSC Dean

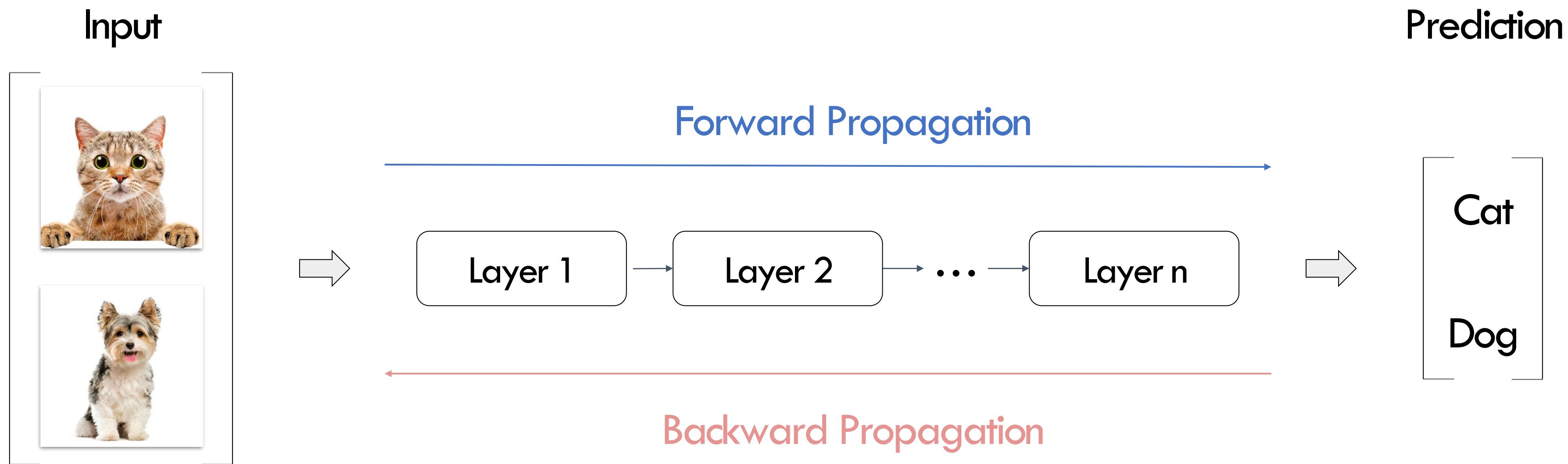
# Two forms worth your attention

- Beginning of quarter survey
  - Please fill the survey
    - If  $\geq 80\%$  of you filled the survey, all of you get 0.5%
    - If  $< 80\%$ , all of you do not get 0.5%
  - Final presentation team-up spreadsheet:
    - <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1foOkwrumTpuhd6xpNI0QHx9R31BiU-h0UdTp5wMItsQ/edit#gid=0>
    - Each team  $\leq 5$  people
    - We put 14 projects there (more than needed)
    - Do some Google search before you put your name

# Today

- Understand our Workloads: Deep Learning
- Dataflow graph representation
  - Flavors of different ML frameworks

# Background: DL Computation



$$\theta^{(t+1)} = f(\theta^{(t)}, \nabla_L(\theta^{(t)}, D^{(t)}))$$

parameter      weight update  
(sgd, adam, etc.)      model  
(CNN, GPT, etc.)      data

# Three important components

## Data

- **images**
- **Text**
- **Audio**
- **Table**
- **etc.**

## Model

- **CNNs**
- **RNNs**
- **GNNs**
- **Transformers**
- **MoEs**

## Compute

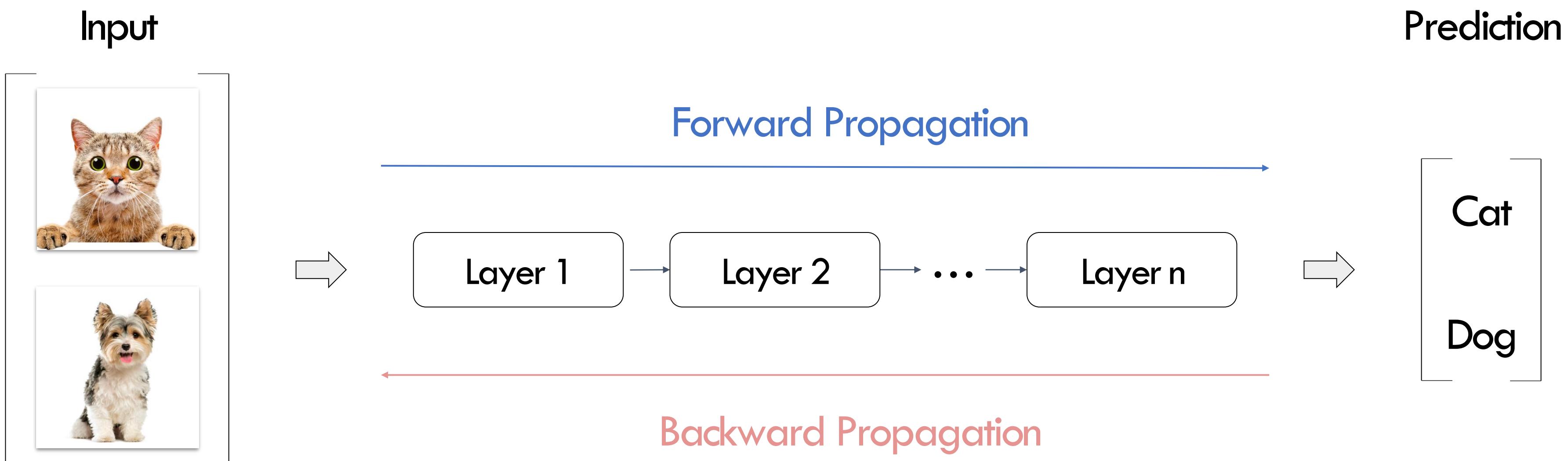
- **cpus**
- **gpus/tpus/lpus**
- **M3/FPGA/etc.**

# Model: three parts

- Model: A parameterized function that describes how do we map inputs to predictions
    - CNNs/RNNs/Transformers
  - Loss function: How “well” are we doing for a given set of parameters
    - L2 loss, hinge loss, softmax loss, ranking loss
  - Optimization method: A procedure to find a set of parameters that minimizes the loss
    - SGD, Variational inference, Newton methods

# How to express these computation?

- Idea: Composable Layers



# Today

- **Understand our Workloads: Deep Learning**
- Dataflow graph representation

# Understand Our Workload (a.k.a. DL course in 30 mins)

- There are many great models developed in the history
- In this class, we review the most important 5 classes
  - Convolutional Neural Networks
  - Recurrent neural networks
  - Transformers
  - Graph neural networks
  - Mixture-of-Experts
- If you have trouble following this session, read deep learning book or learn <https://sites.google.com/view/cse251b>

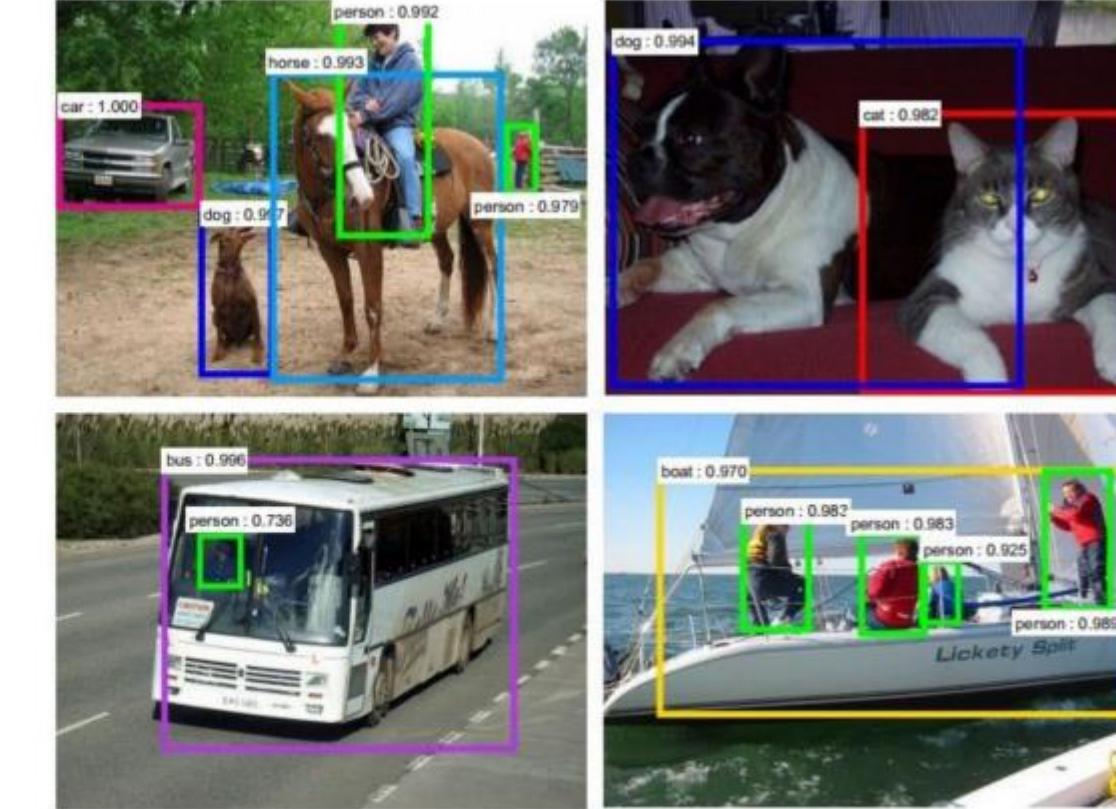
# CNNs: Applications



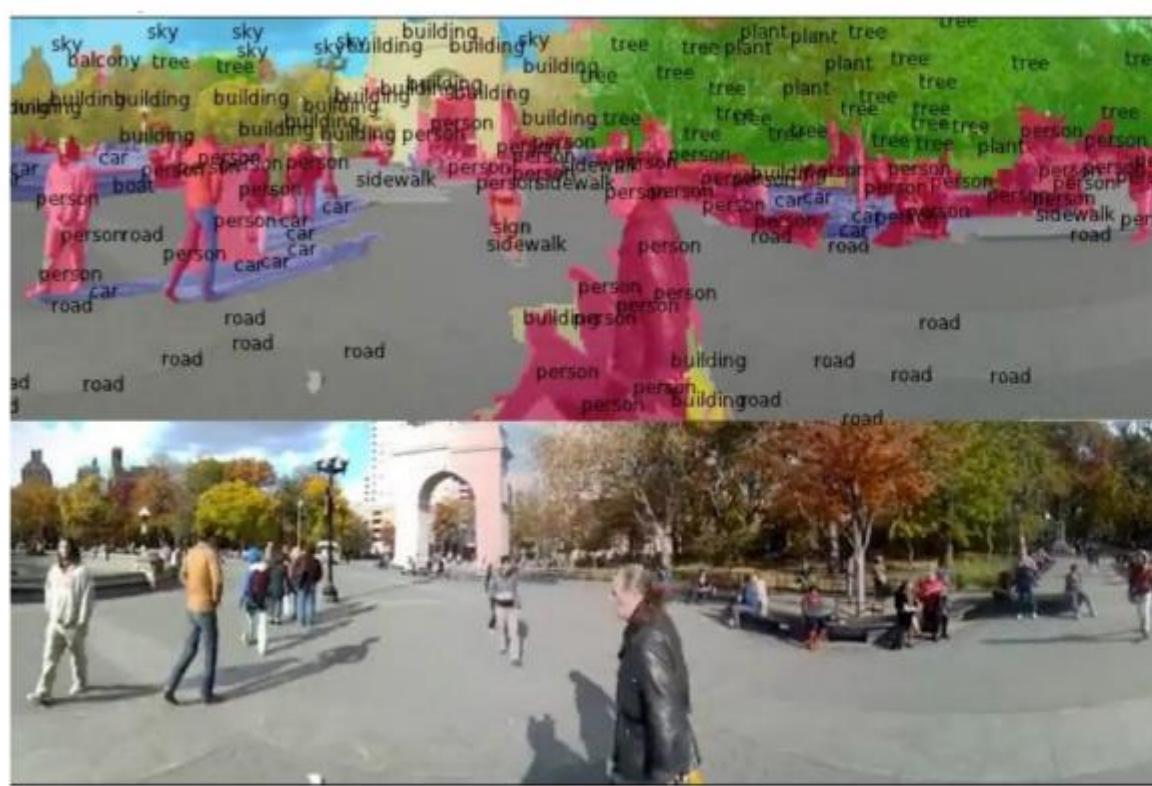
Classification



Retrieval



Detection



Segmentation



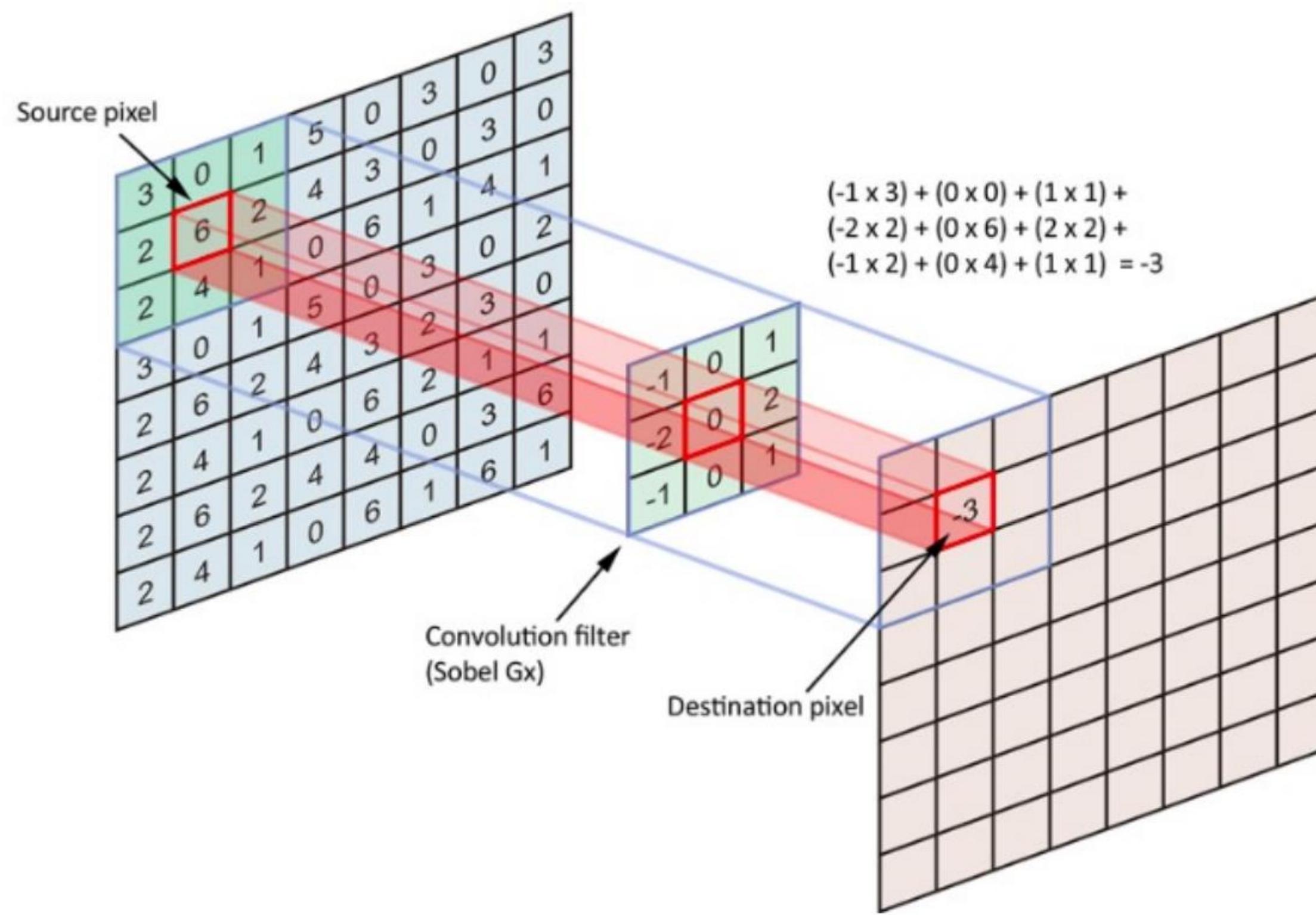
Self-Driving



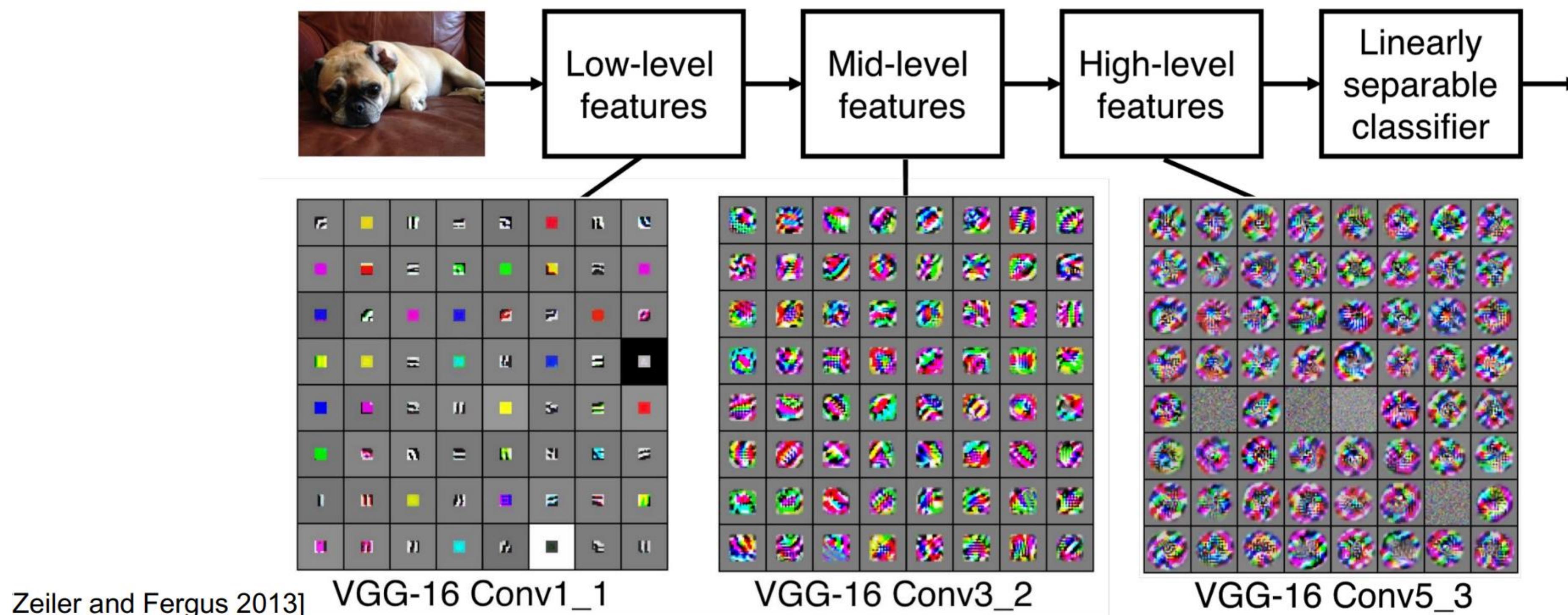
Synthesis

# CNN: Key components

- Convolve the filter with the image: slide over the image spatially and compute dot products

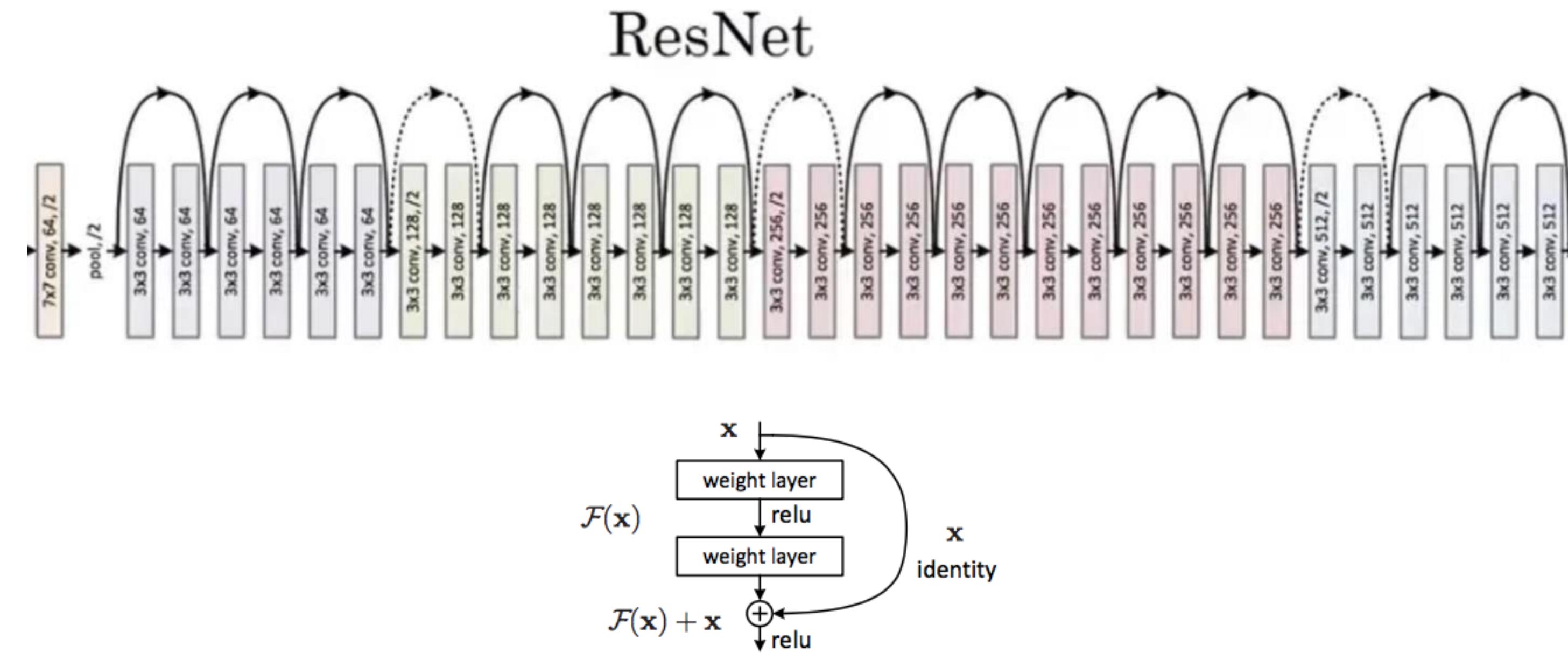
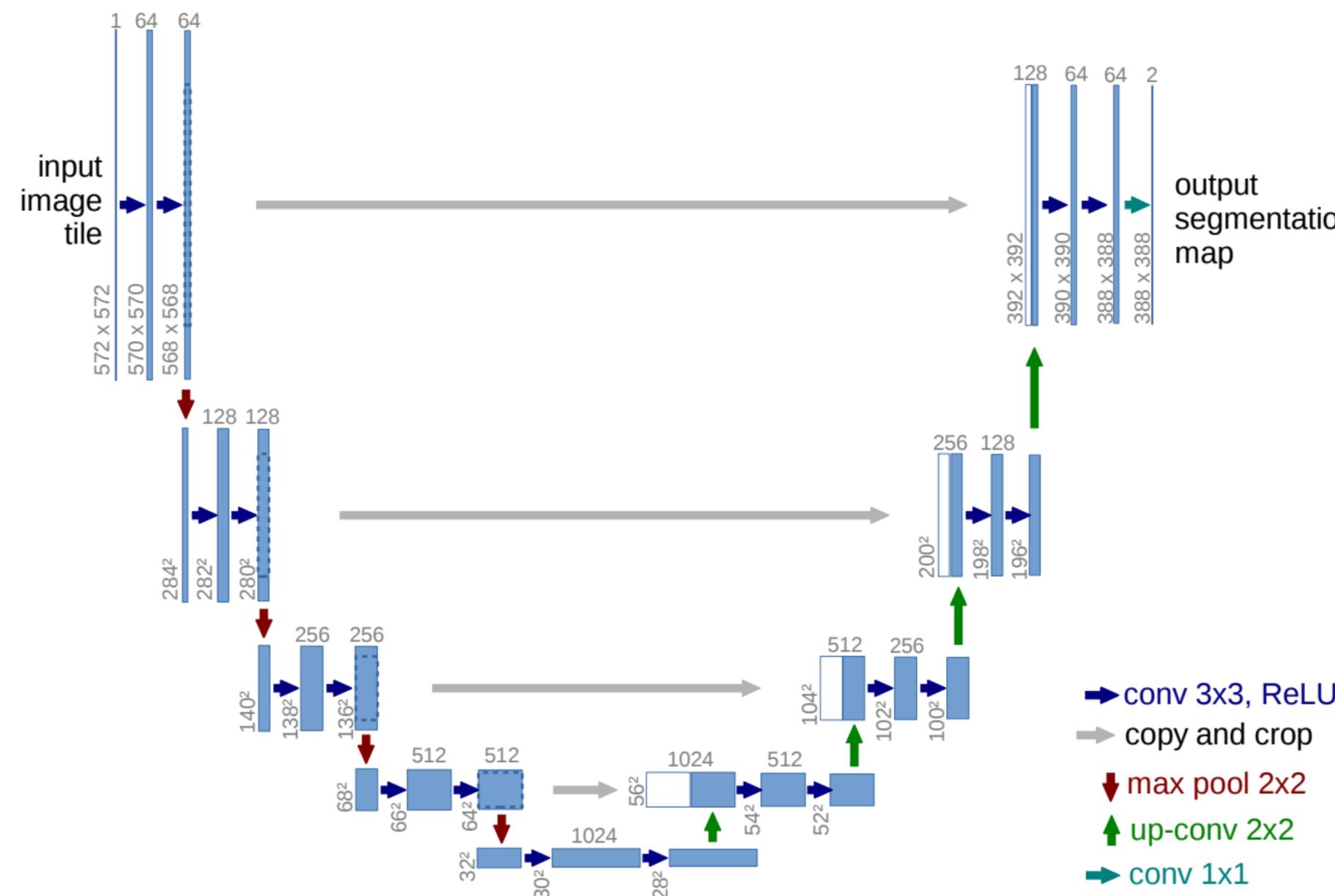
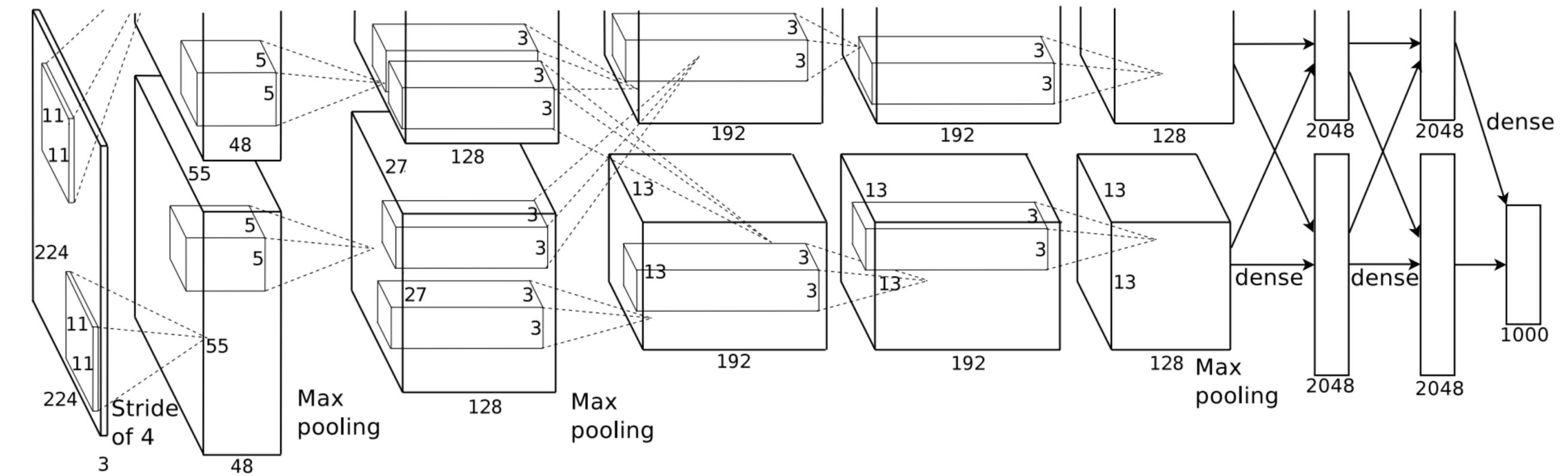


# Stacking Conv layers



# CNN: top3 models

- AlexNet by Alex/Iliya/Hinton
- ResNet by Kaiming etc.
- U-Net by Olaf etc.



# CNN more important components

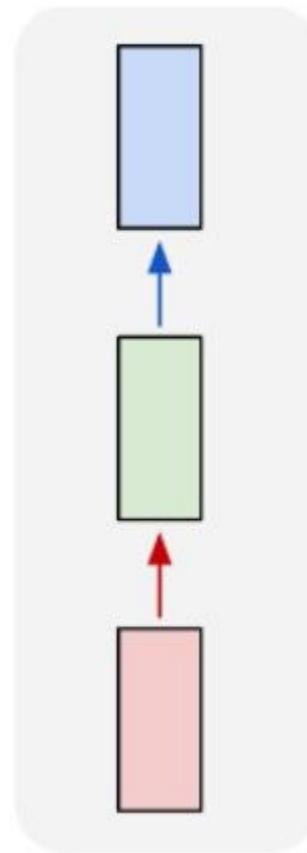
- Conv
  - Conv1d, Conv2d, conv3d, etc.
- Matmul (linear) :
  - $C = A * B$
  - Softmax
- Elementwise operations:
  - ReLU, add, sub
- Other ops
  - Pooling, normalization, etc.

After-class Q

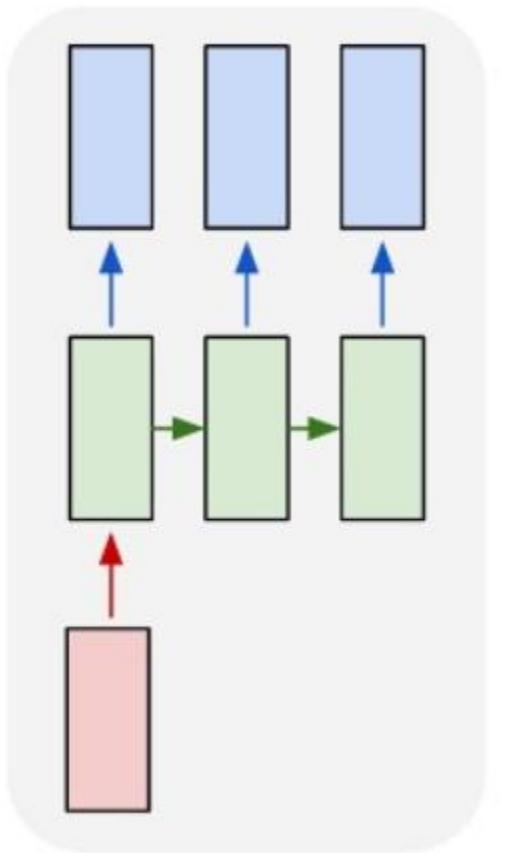
How UpConv works?

# Recurrent Neural Networks

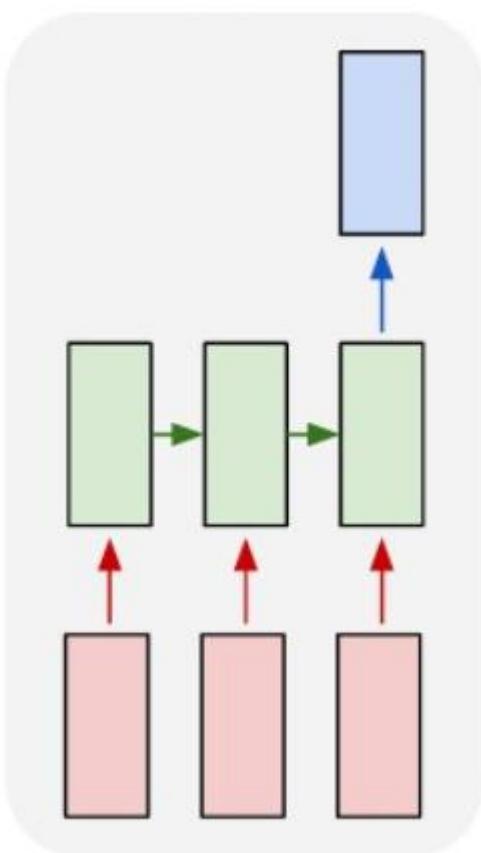
one to one



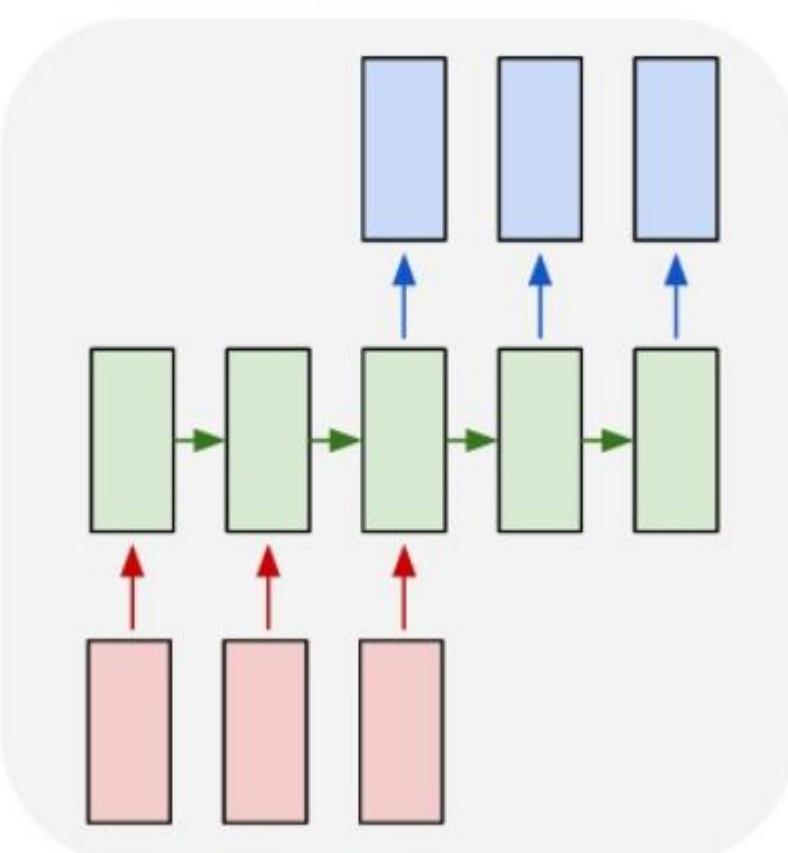
one to many



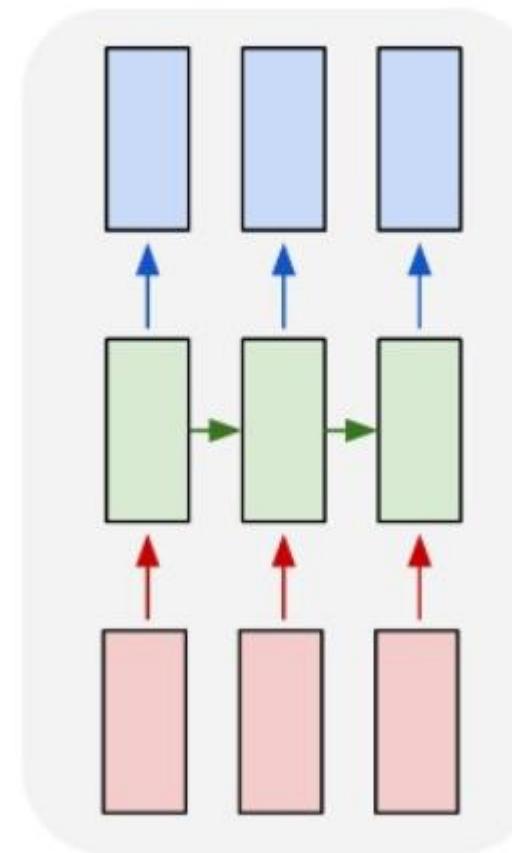
many to one



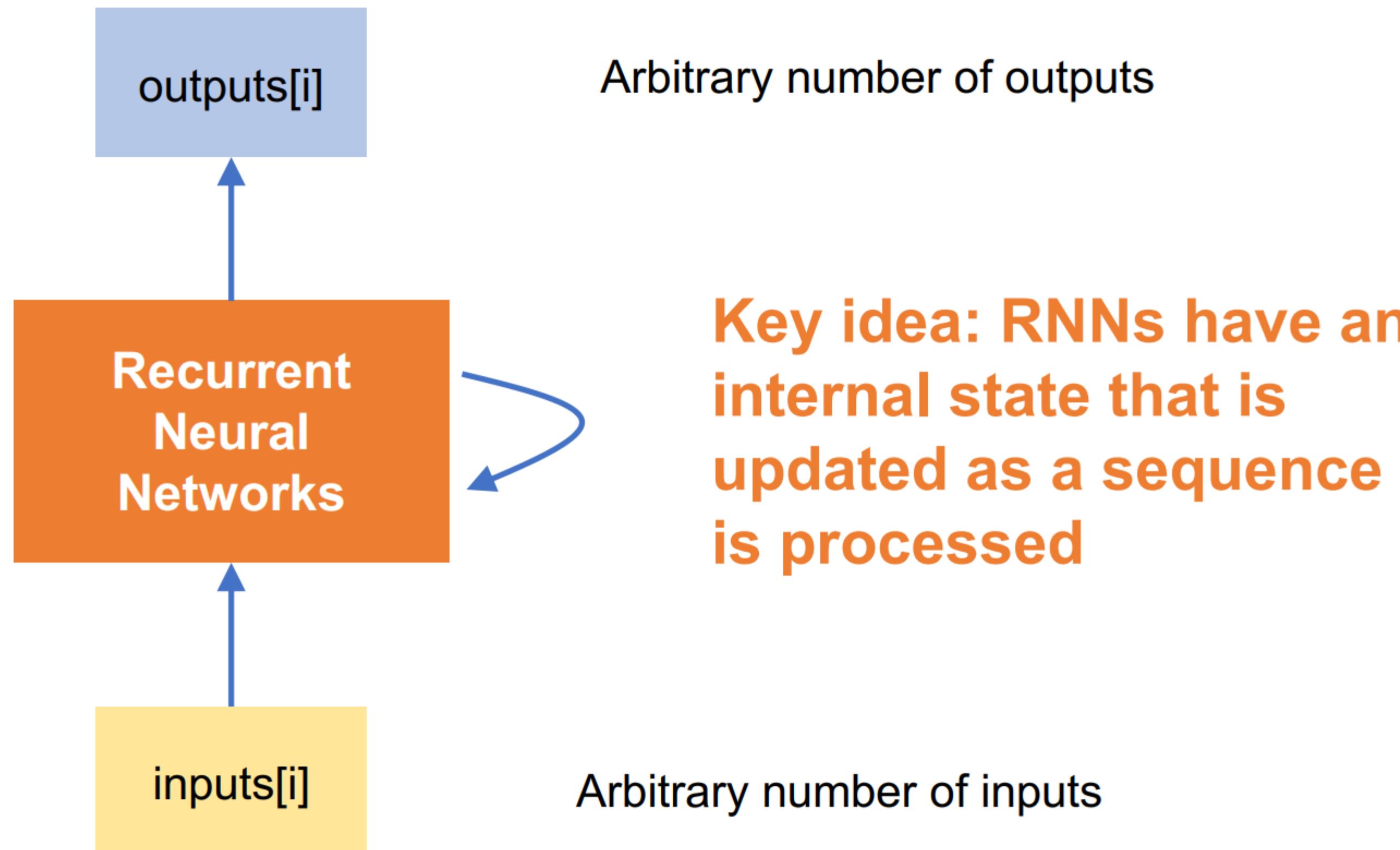
many to many



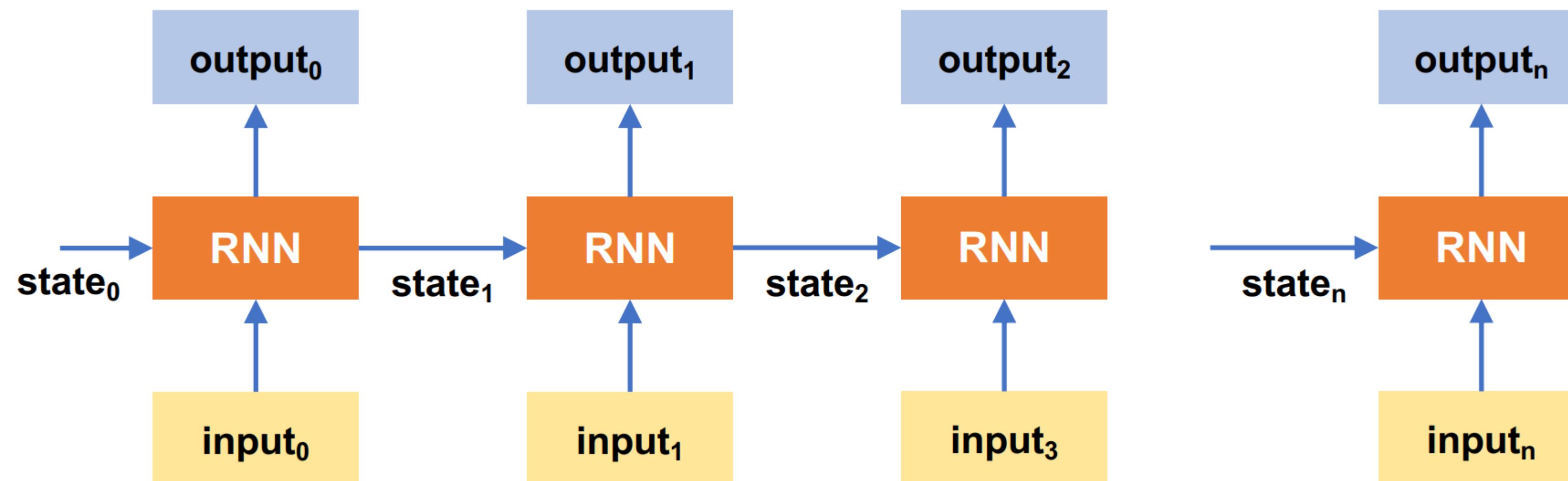
many to many



# Recurrent Neural Networks

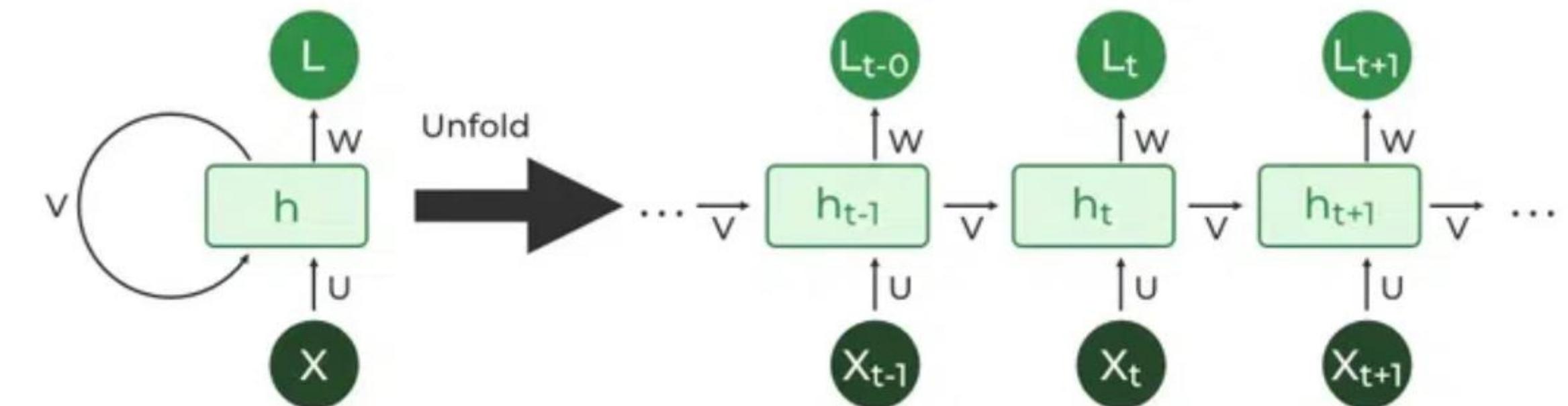


# Recurrent Neural Networks: unrolling the computation



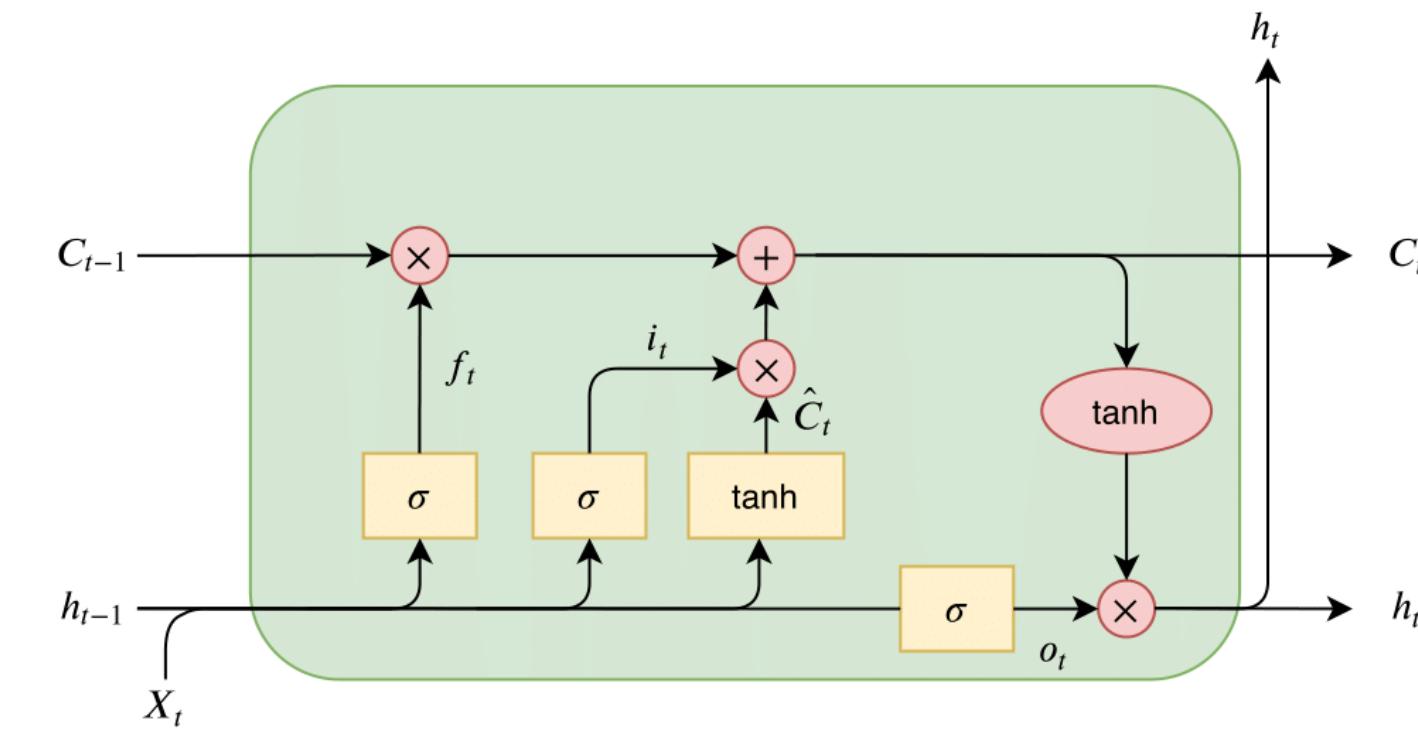
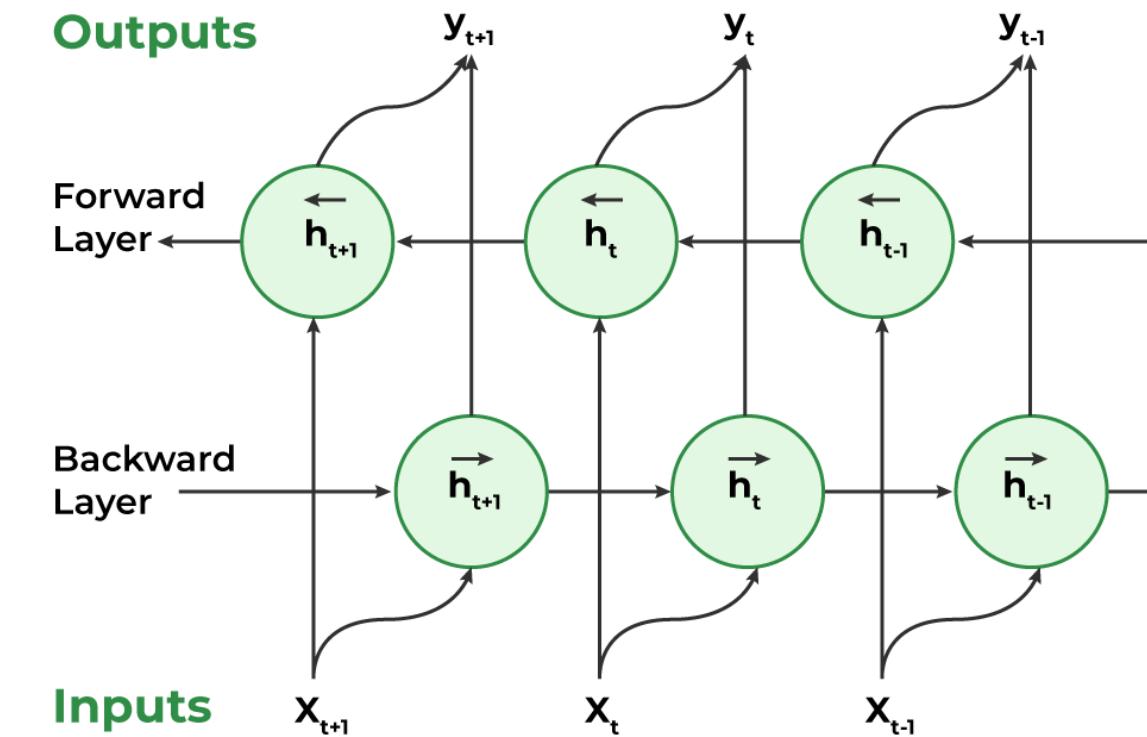
# Most Important Components in RNNs

- One can make any basic neural network recurrent
- Matmul
- Elementwise nonlinear
  - ReLU, Tanh, sigmoid, etc.

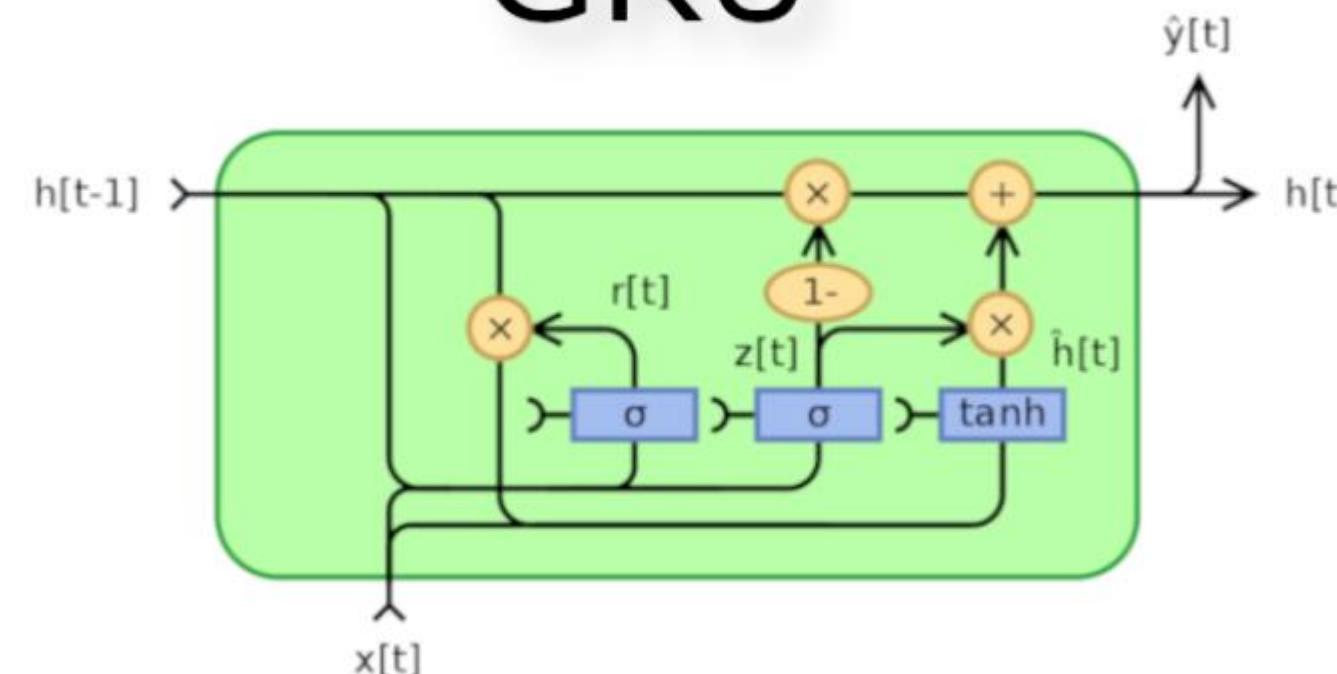


# RNN: top3 models

- Bidirectional RNNs
- LSTM
- GRU



## GRU



# Story: Who Invented RNNs?

## Jürgen Schmidhuber

Jürgen Schmidhuber (born 17 January 1963) is a German computer scientist noted for his work in the field of artificial intelligence, specifically artificial neural networks.



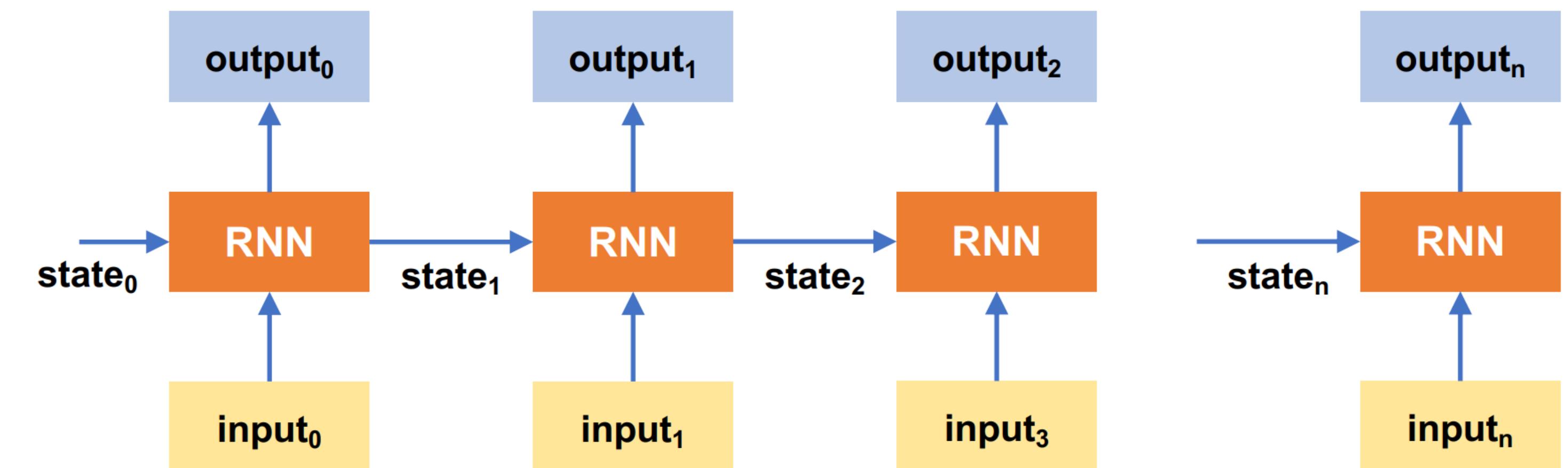
 Wikipedia  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=J%C3%BCrgen\\_Schmidhuber&oldid=95311111](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=J%C3%BCrgen_Schmidhuber&oldid=95311111) ::

[Jürgen Schmidhuber - Wikipedia](#)

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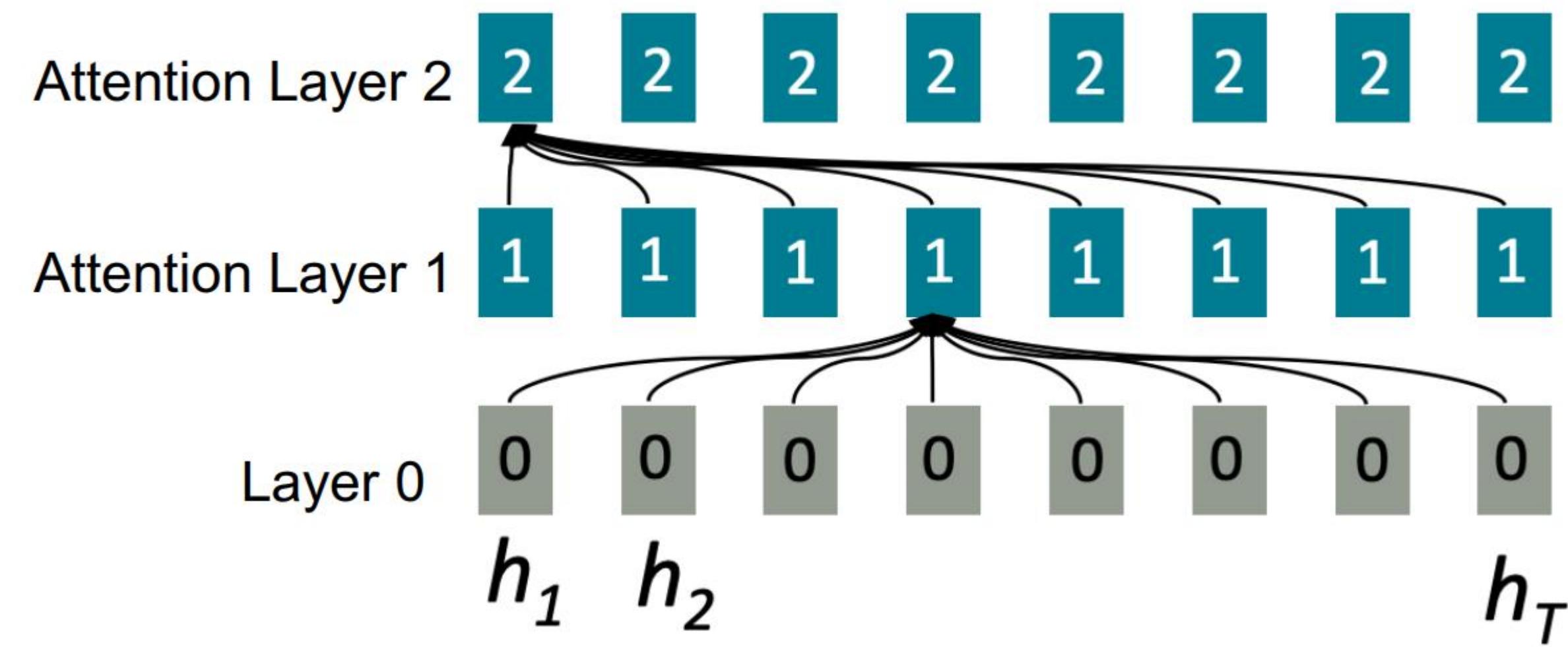
# Two Key Problems of RNNs

- Problem 1: **lack of parallelizability.**
  - Both forward and backward passes have  $O(\text{sequence length})$  unparallelizable operators
  - A state cannot be computed before all previous states have been computed Inhibits training on very long sequence
- Problem 2: forgetting.



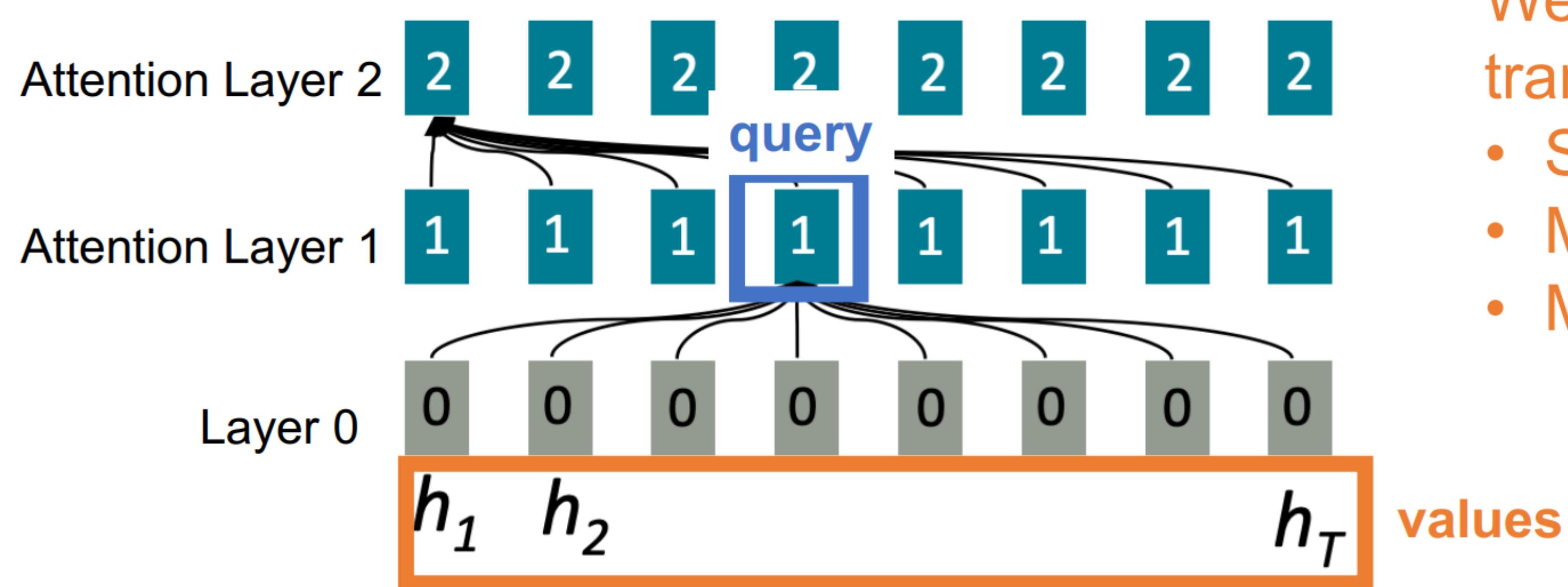
# Attention: Enable parallelism

- Idea: treat each position's representation as a query to access and incorporate information from a set of values



# Attention

- Massively parallelizable: number of unparallelizable operations does not increase sequence length



We will learn attention and transformers in depth later:

- Self-attention
- Masked attention
- Multi-head attention

values

# Transformers

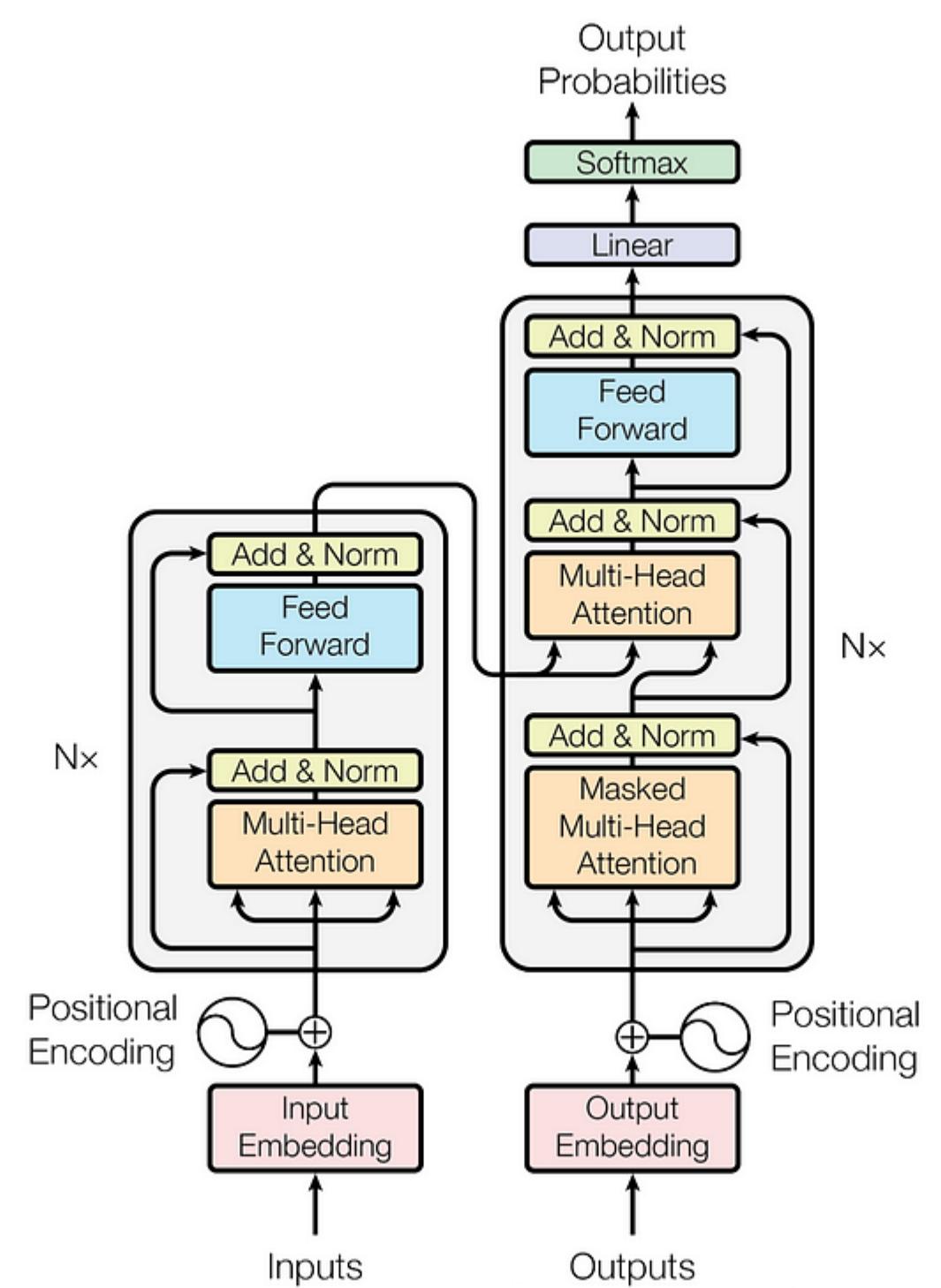
- Transformer = attention + a few MLPs

BERT

Encoder

GPT

Decoder

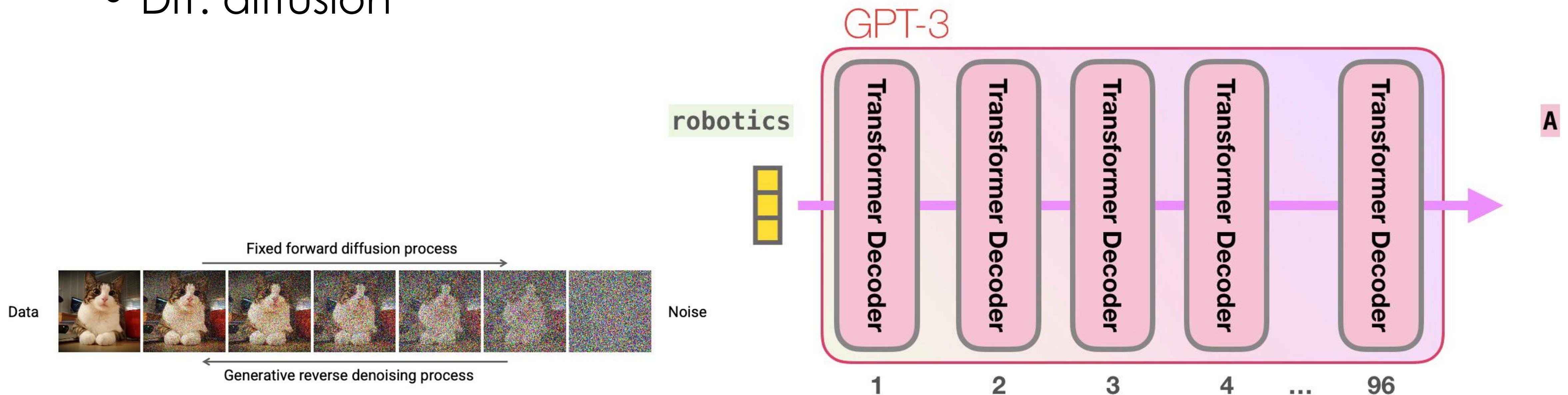
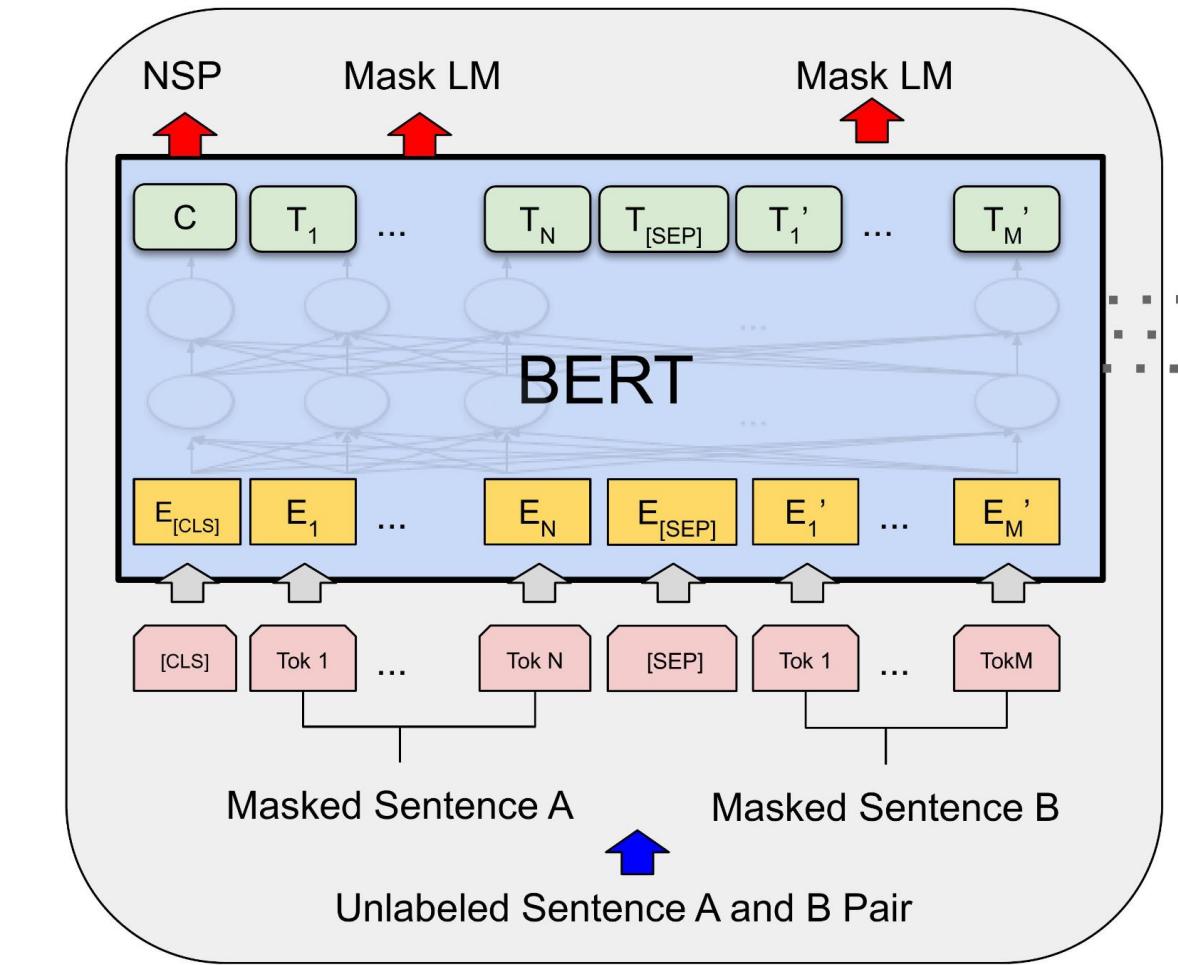


# Most Important Components in attentions?

- Attention, which is composed by a set of
  - Matmul
  - Softmax
  - Normalization

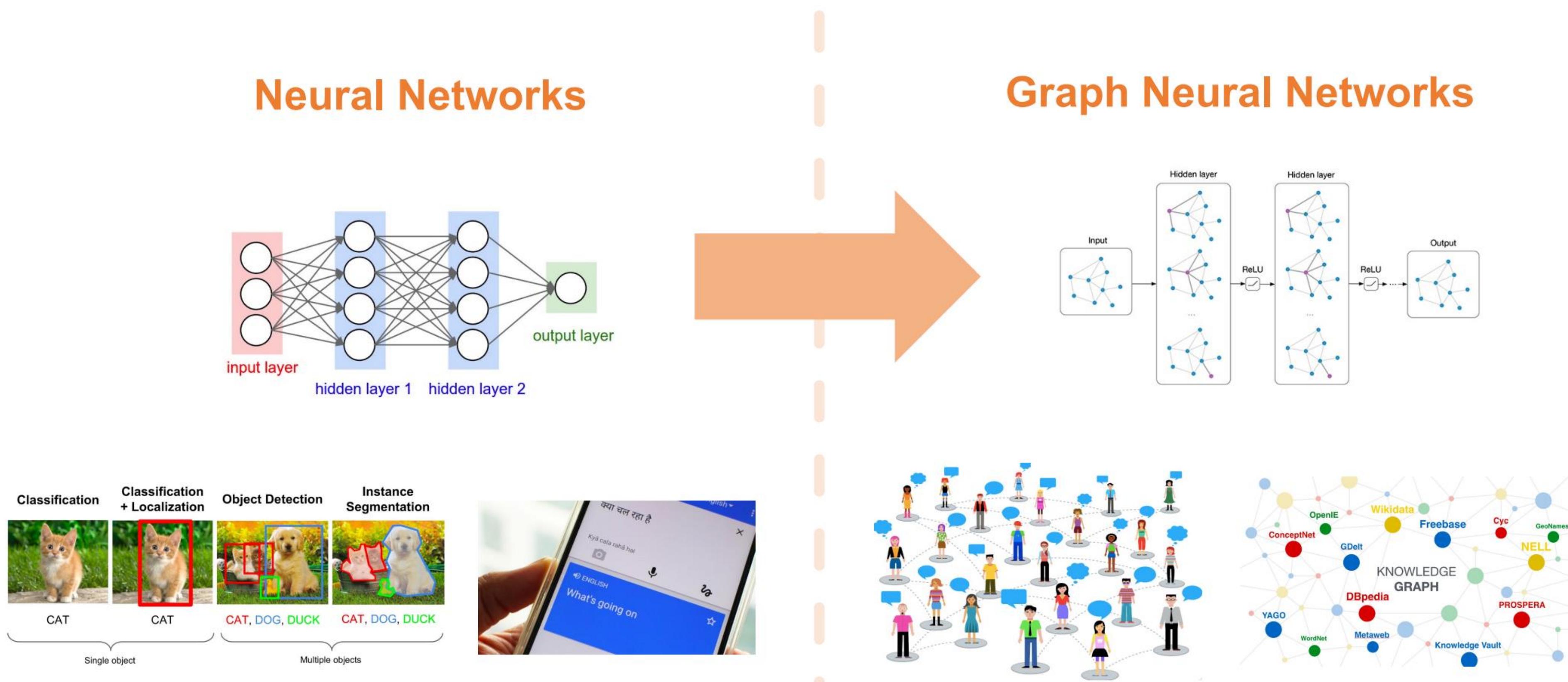
# Attention: top3 models

- Bert
- GPT/LLMs
- DiT: diffusion

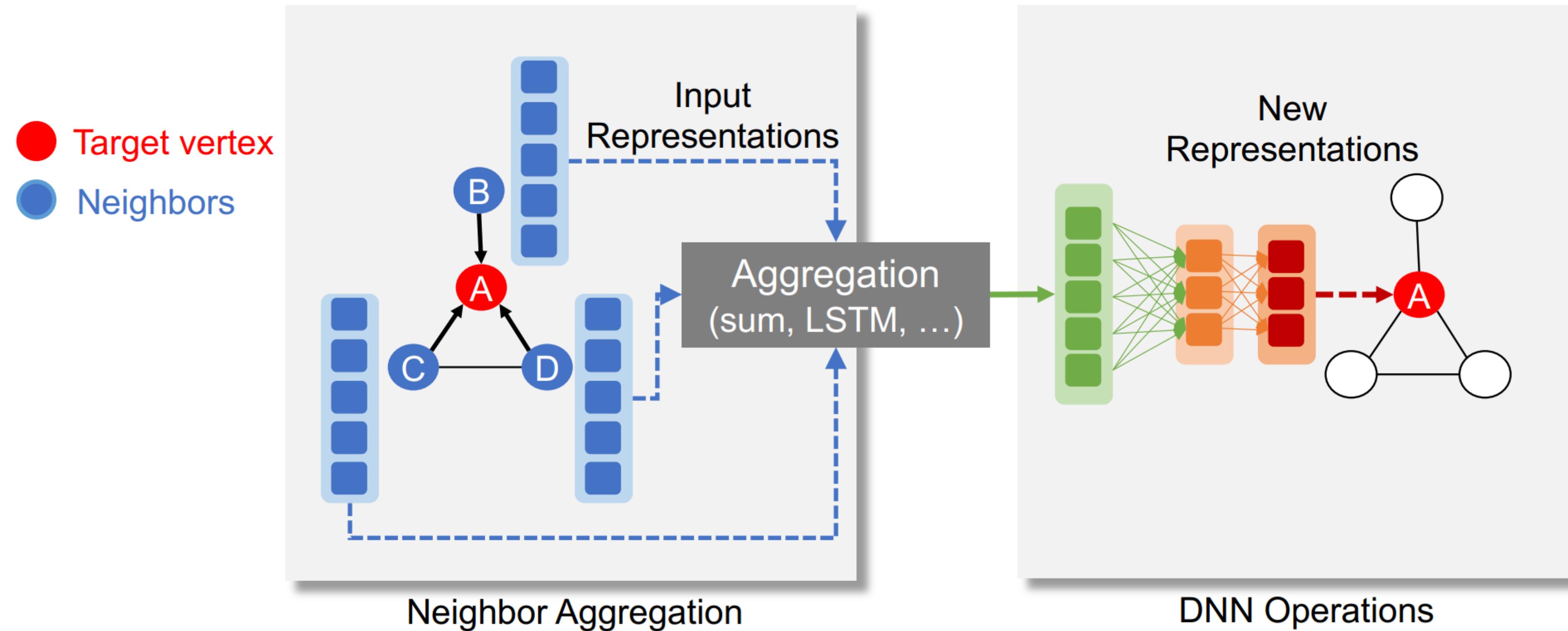


# Graph Neural Networks

- Goal: model graph data



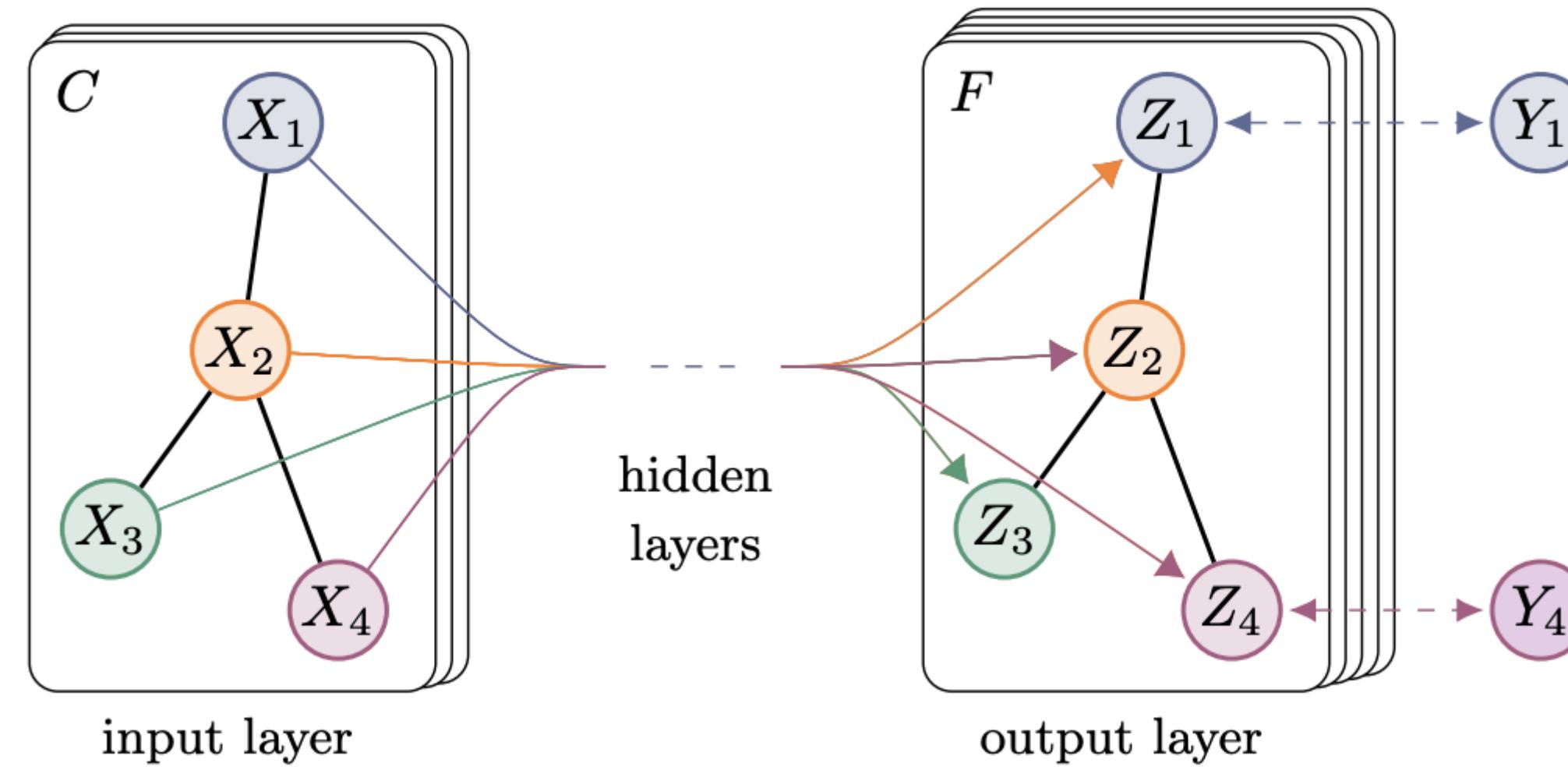
# GNN Architecture



# Questions

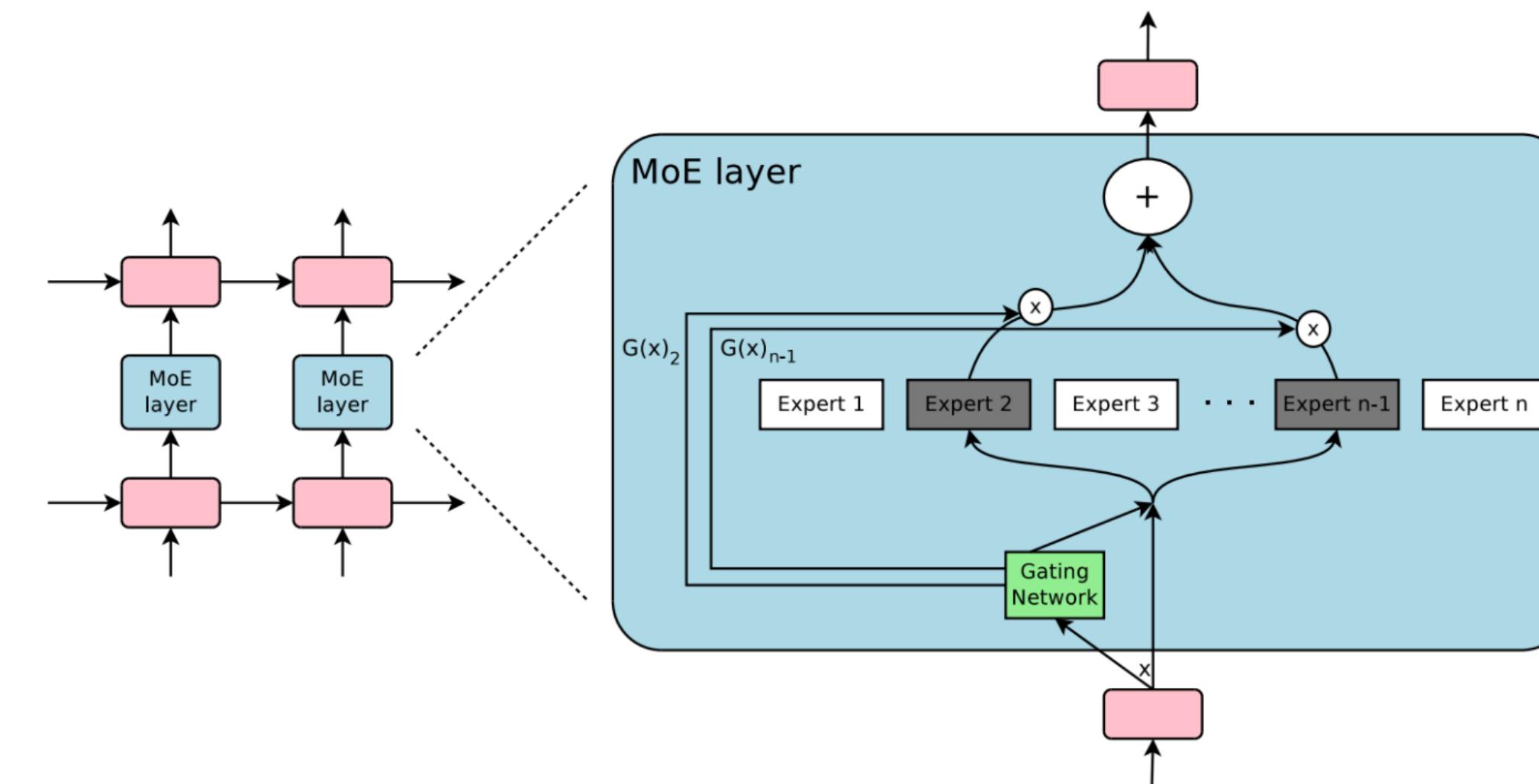
- Any novel component in Graph neural networks?
- Graph neural network vs. recurrent neural networks?

# Top-1 GNNs: GCN Graph convolutional Networks



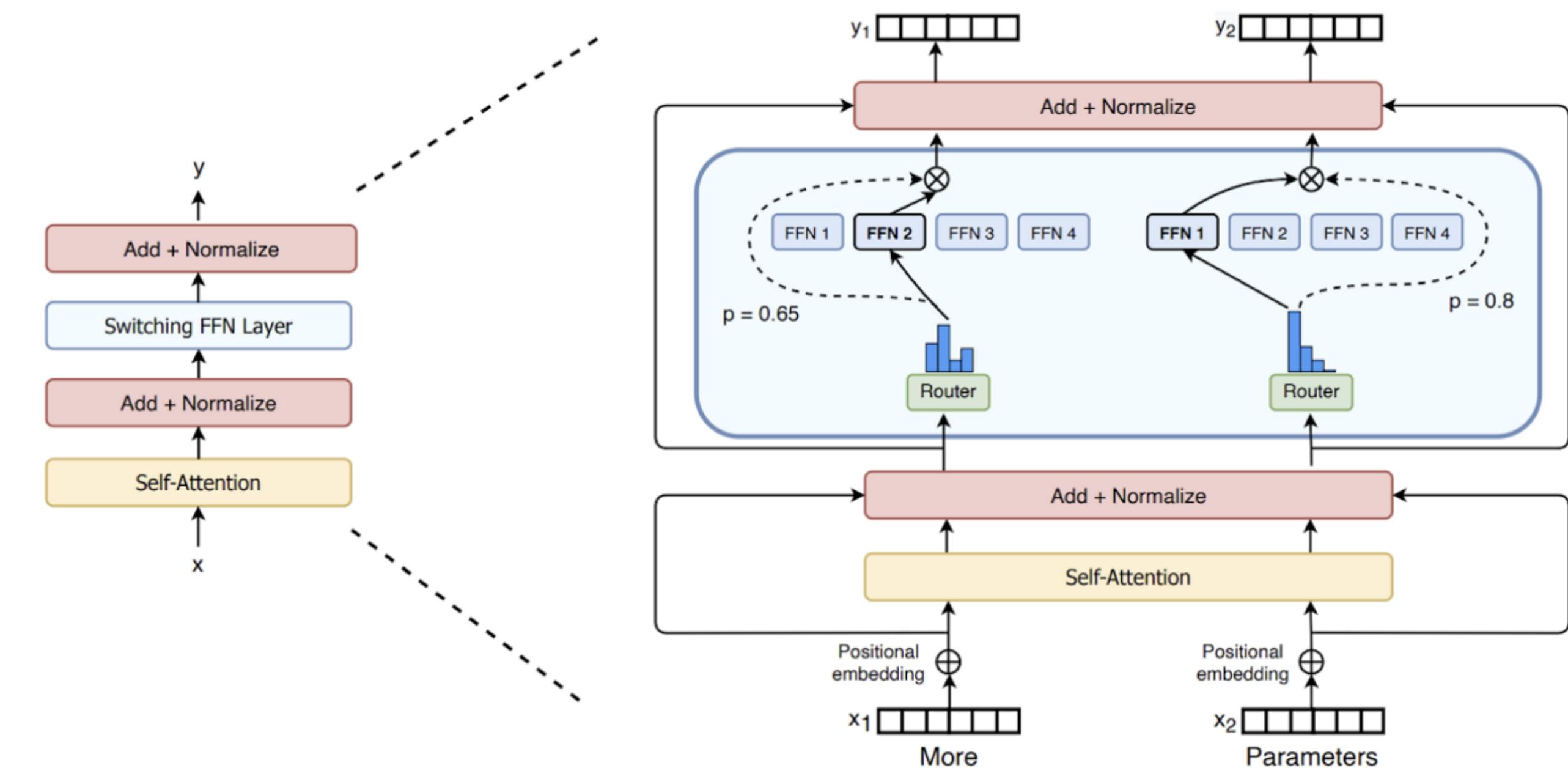
# MoE: mixture of experts

- Ideas: More persons voting might be better than one person dictating
- Method: make each expert focus on predicting the right answer for a subset of cases



# Novel Component in MoE?

- Latest LLMs are mostly MoEs
- Novel Components in MoE:
  - Router
- After-class Q:
- Why router makes it hard



Summary of DL class in 30 mins

Matmul is all you need

# Today

- Understand our Workloads: Deep Learning
- **Dataflow graph representation**
- Flavors of different ML frameworks

# Static Graph vs. Dynamic Graph

- Goal: we want to express as many as model as possible using one set of programming interface
- Let's abstract out all the components we need:
  - Model and architecture
  - Objective function
  - Optimization computation
    - dropout (part of model and architecture)
    - regularization (part of the objective)
  - Data
  - Hardware: CPUs/GPUs/TPUs/etc.

# Applications <-> System Design

Application

Systems

Data management  
(OLTP)

SQL  
Query planner  
Relational database  
Storage

Big data processing  
(OLAP)

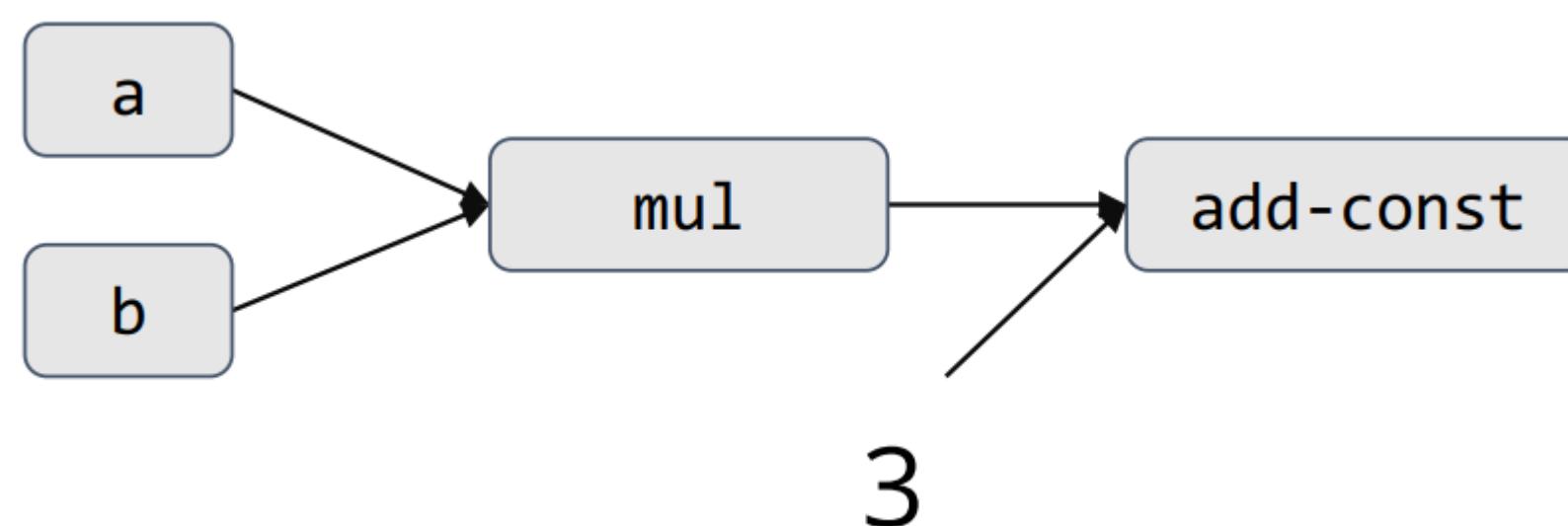
Spark/mapreduce  
Dataflow, lineage  
Data warehousing  
Column storage

# Discussion: how can these ingredients affect the system design of ML frameworks

- Model and architecture
- Objective function
- Optimization computation
  - dropout (part of model and architecture)
  - regularization (part of the objective)
- Data
- Hardware: CPUs/GPUs/TPUs/etc.

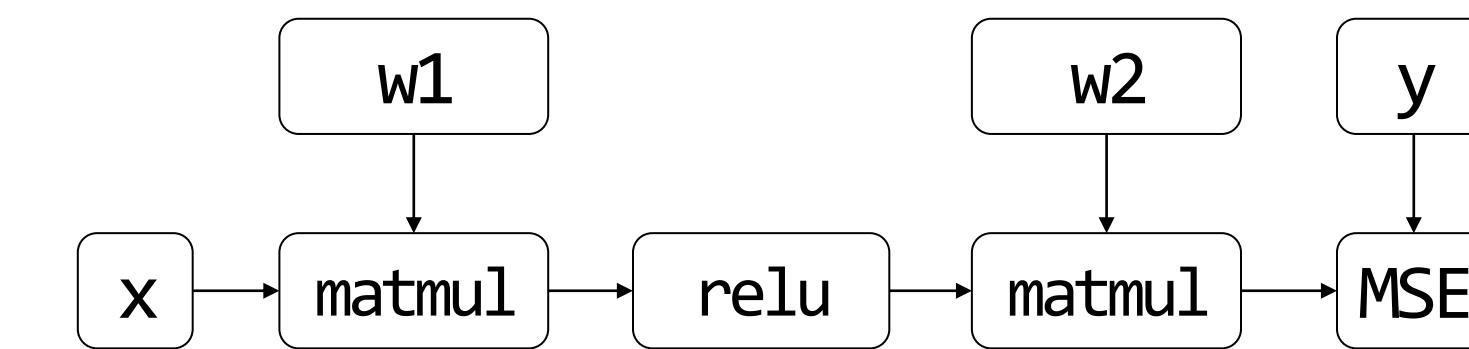
# Computational Dataflow Graph

- Node: represents the computation (operator)
- Edge: represents the data dependency (data flowing direction)
- Node: also represents the *output tensor* of the operator
- Node: also represents an input constant tensor (if it is not an compute operator)



$$a \times b + 3$$

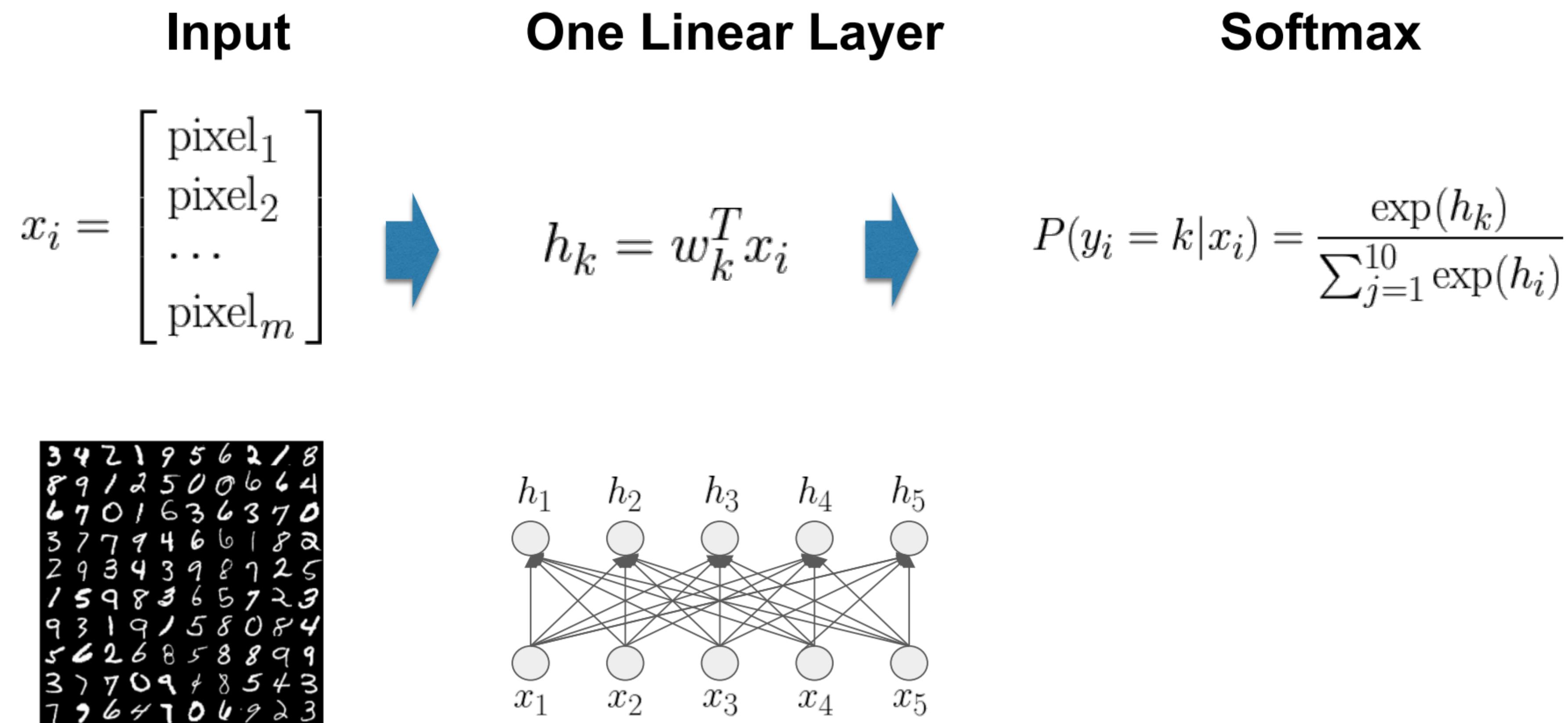
$$L = \text{MSE}(w_2 \cdot \text{ReLU}(w_1 x), y)$$



# Case Study: TensorFlow Program

- In the next few slides, we will do a case study of a deep learning program using TensorFlow v1 style API (classic Flavor).
- Note that today most deep learning frameworks now use a different style, but share the same mechanism under the hood
- Think about abstraction and implementation when going through these examples

# One linear NN: Logistic Regression



# Whole Program

```
import tinyflow as tf
from tinyflow.datasets import get_mnist
# Create the model
x = tf.placeholder(tf.float32, [None, 784])
W = tf.Variable(tf.zeros([784, 10]))
y = tf.nn.softmax(tf.matmul(x, W))
# Define loss and optimizer
y_ = tf.placeholder(tf.float32, [None, 10])
cross_entropy = tf.reduce_mean(-tf.reduce_sum(y_ * tf.log(y), reduction_indices=[1]))
# Update rule
learning_rate = 0.5
W_grad = tf.gradients(cross_entropy, [W])[0]
train_step = tf.assign(W, W - learning_rate * W_grad)
# Training Loop
sess = tf.Session()
sess.run(tf.initialize_all_variables())
mnist = get_mnist(flatten=True, onehot=True)
for i in range(1000):
    batch_xs, batch_ys = mnist.train.next_batch(100)
    sess.run(train_step, feed_dict={x: batch_xs, y_:batch_ys})
```

Forward Computation  
Declaration

# Loss Function

```
import tinyflow as tf
from tinyflow.datasets import get_mnist
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```

## Loss function Declaration

$$P(\text{label} = k) = y_k$$
$$L(y) = \sum_{k=1}^{10} I(\text{label} = k) \log(y_i)$$

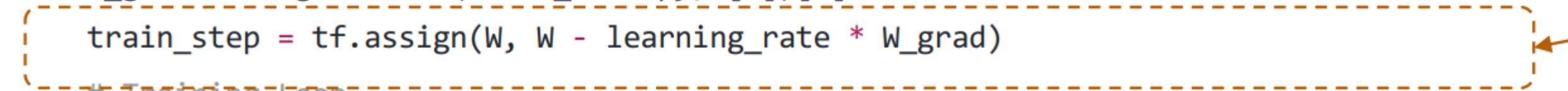
# Auto-diff

```
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```

Automatic Differentiation:  
Next incoming topic

# SGD Update

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cross_entropy = tf.reduce_mean(-tf.reduce_sum(y_ * tf.log(y), reduction_indices=[1]))
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    sess.run(train_step, feed_dict={x: batch_xs, y_:batch_ys})
```



SGD update rule

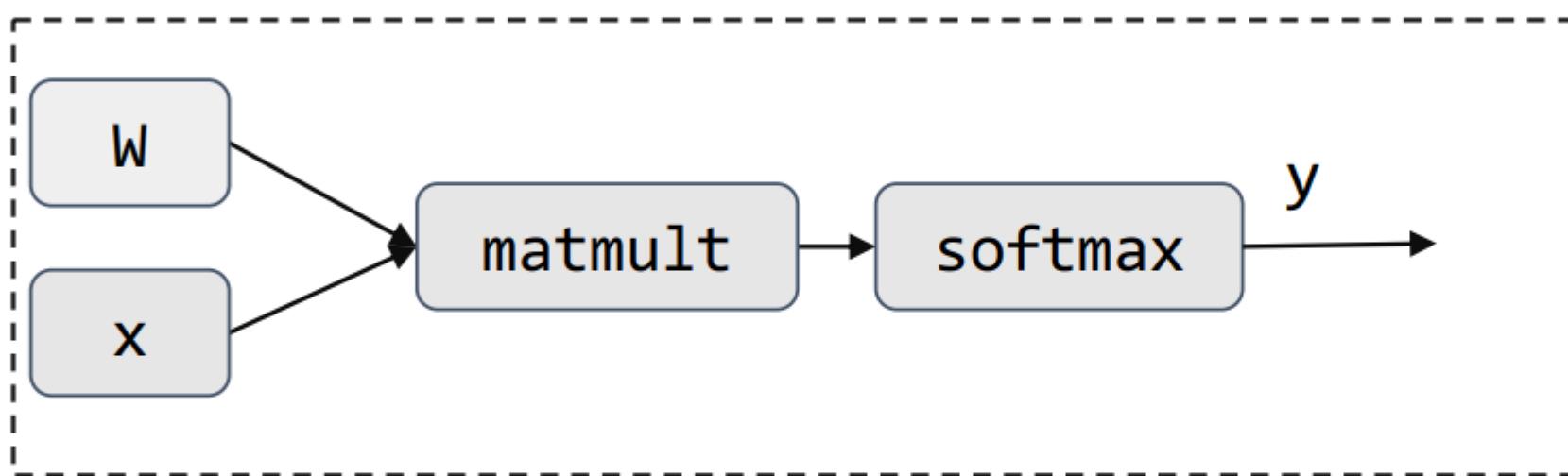
# Trigger the Execution

```
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from tinyflow.datasets import get_mnist
# Create the model
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    sess.run(train_step, feed_dict={x: batch_xs, y_:batch_ys})
```

Real execution happens here!

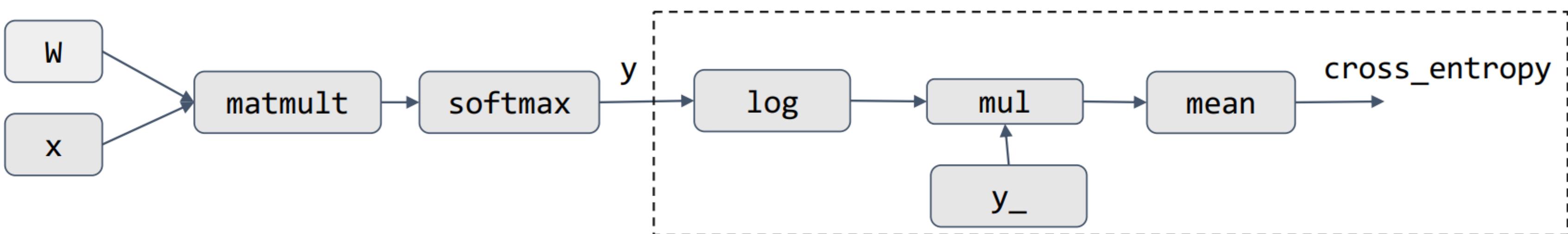
# What happens behind the Scene

```
x = tf.placeholder(tf.float32, [None, 784])  
W = tf.Variable(tf.zeros([784, 10]))  
y = tf.nn.softmax(tf.matmul(x, W))
```



# What happens behind the Scene (Cond.)

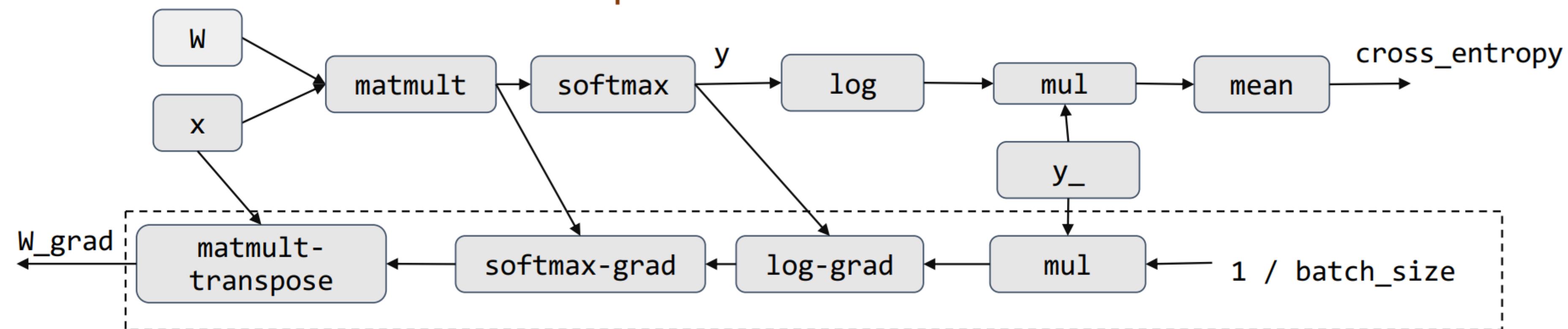
```
y_ = tf.placeholder(tf.float32, [None, 10])  
cross_entropy = tf.reduce_mean(-tf.reduce_sum(y_ * tf.log(y), reduction_indices=[1]))
```



# What happens behind the Scene (Cond.)

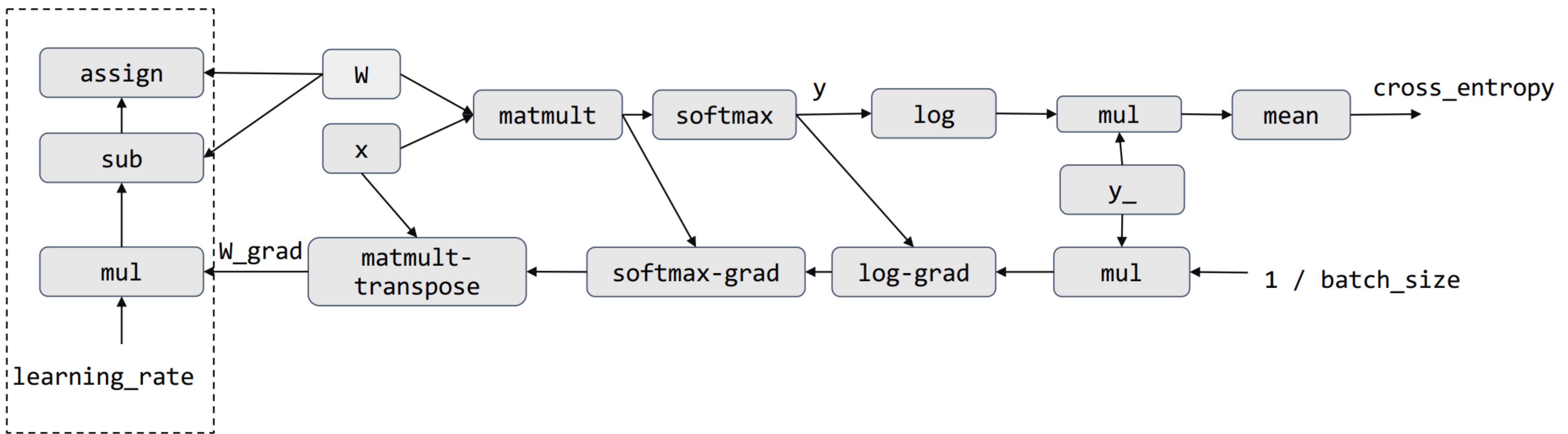
```
w_grad = tf.gradients(cross_entropy, [W])[0]
```

Automatic Differentiation, more details in follow up lectures



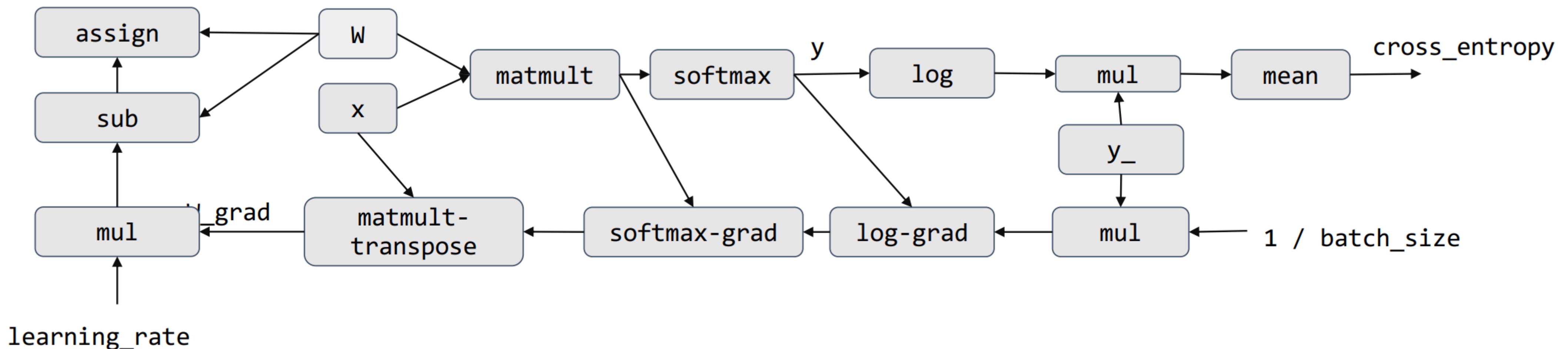
# What happens behind the Scene (Cond.)

```
sess.run(train_step, feed_dict={x: batch_xs, y_:batch_ys})
```



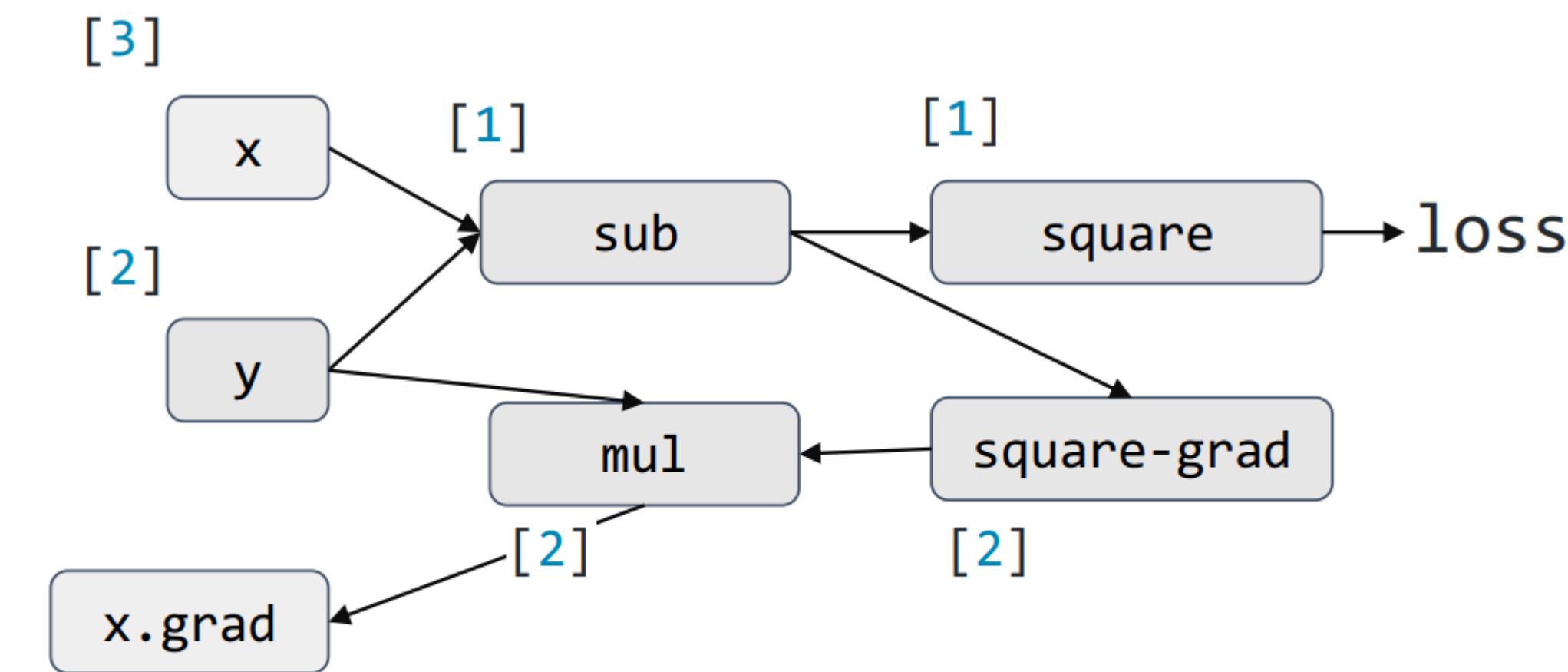
# Discussion

- What are the benefits for computational graph abstraction?
- What are possible implementations and optimizations on this graph?
- What are the cons for computational graph abstraction?



# A different flavor: PyTorch

```
x = torch.Tensor([3])
y = torch.Tensor([2])
z = x - y
loss = square(z)
loss.backward()
print(x.grad)
```



**y.grad's path is omitted**

# Topic: Symbolic vs. Imperative

- Symbolic vs. imperative programming
- Define-then-run vs. define-and-run
- Define-then-run : write symbols to assemble the networks first, evaluate later
- define-and-run : immediate evaluation

```
# Create the model
x = tf.placeholder(tf.float32, [None, 784])
W = tf.Variable(tf.zeros([784, 10]))
y = tf.nn.softmax(tf.matmul(x, W))

# Define loss and optimizer
y_ = tf.placeholder(tf.float32, [None, 10])
cross_entropy = tf.reduce_mean(-tf.reduce_sum(y_ * tf.log(y), reduction_indices=[1]))
```

Symbolic

```
x = torch.Tensor([3])
y = torch.Tensor([2])
z = x - y
loss = square(z)
loss.backward()
print(x.grad)
```

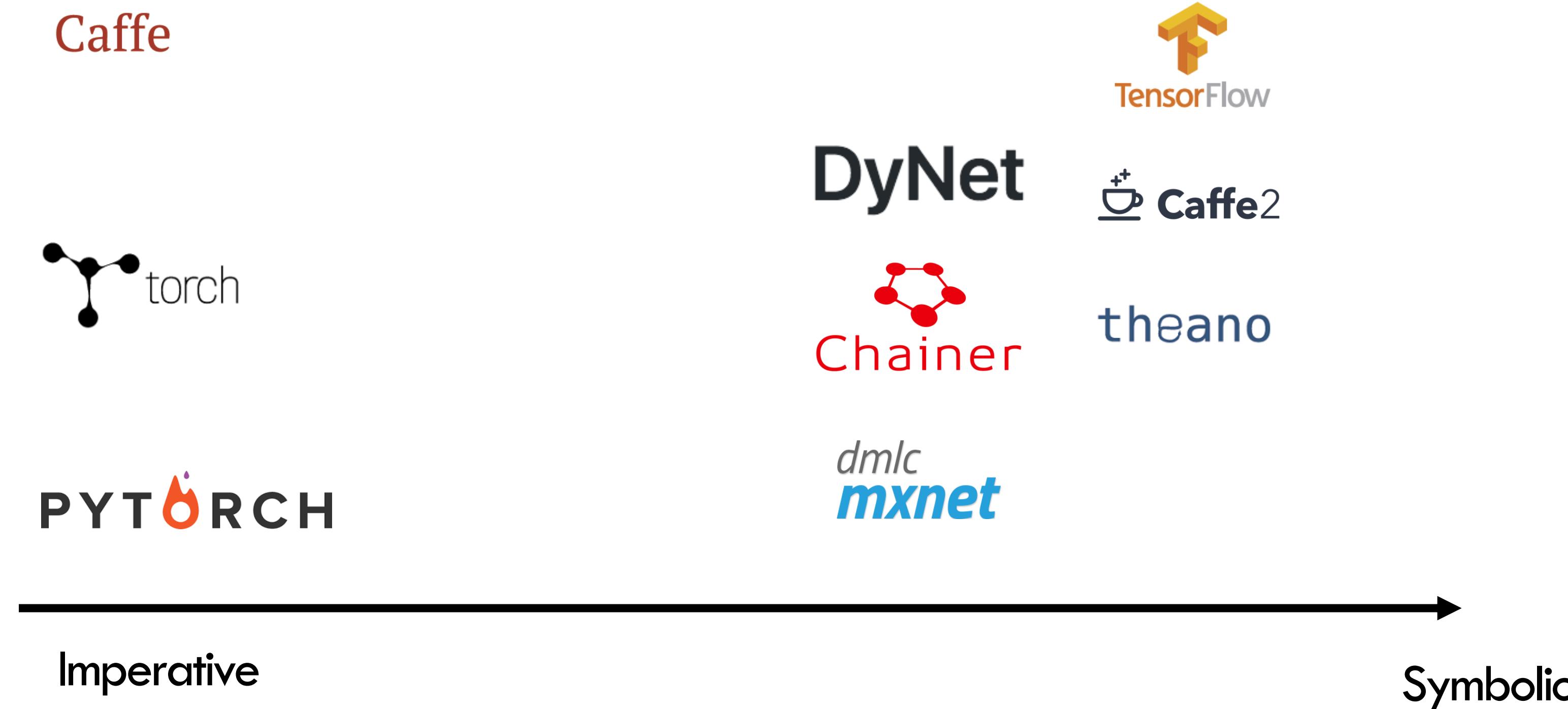
Imperative

# Symbolic vs. Imperative

- Symbolic
  - Good
    - easy to optimize (e.g. distributed, batching, parallelization) for developers
    - More efficient
  - Bad
    - The way of programming might be counter-intuitive
    - Hard to debug for user programs
    - Less flexible: you need to write symbols before actually doing anything
- Imperative:
  - Good
    - More flexible: write one line, evaluate one line (that's why we all like Python)
    - Easy to program and easy to debug: because it matches the way we use C++ or python
  - Bad
    - Less efficient
    - More difficult to optimize

# Symbolic vs. Imperative

- They are also designed differently
  - Symbolic v.s. imperative programming

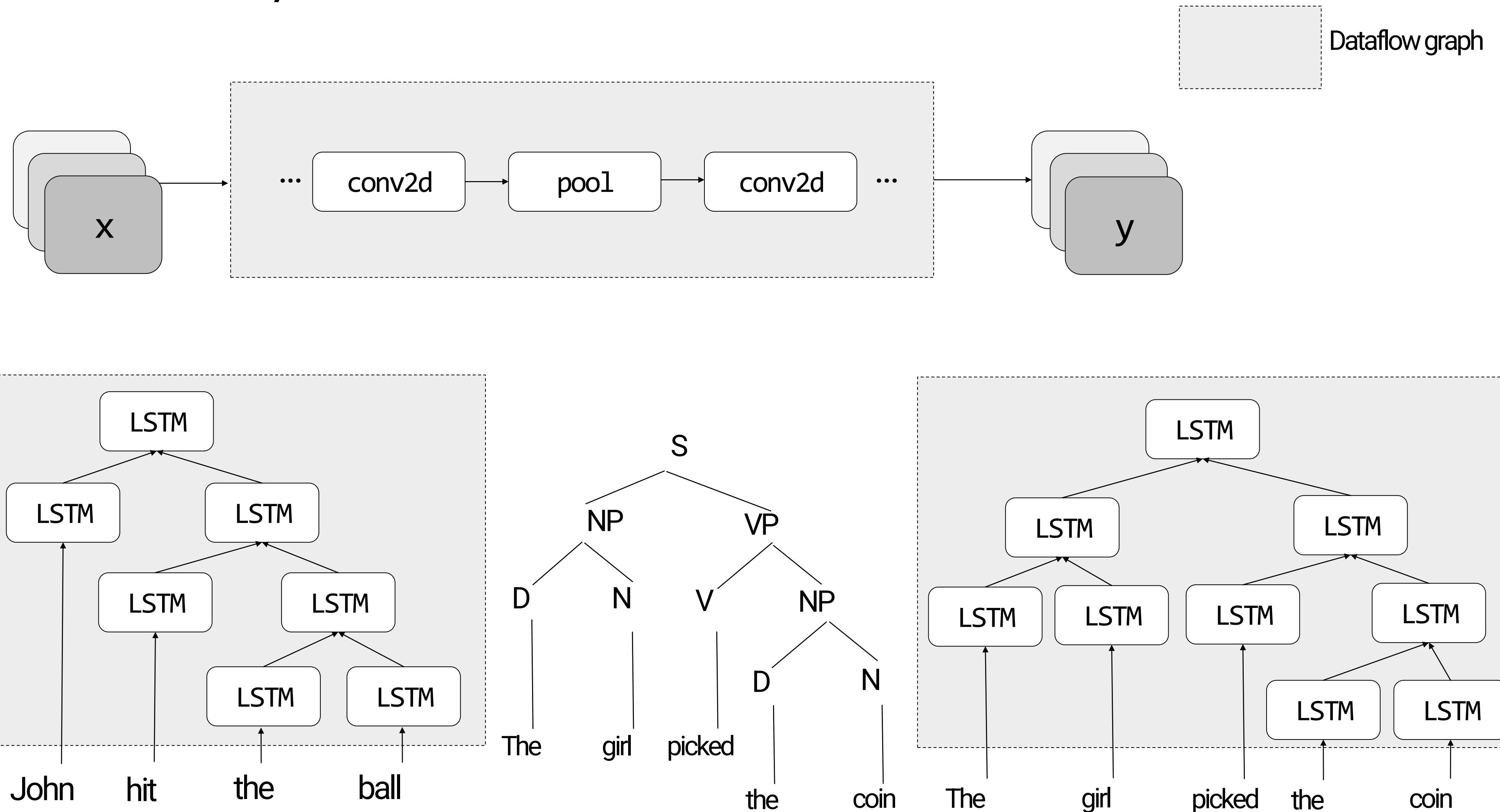


# Just-in-time Compilation

- Ideally, we want define-and-run during \_\_\_\_\_
- We want define-then-run during \_\_\_\_\_
- Q: how can we have both without rewriting the program?

```
@torch.compile()  
x = torch.Tensor([3])  
y = torch.Tensor([2])  
z = x - y  
loss = square(z)  
loss.backward()  
print(x.grad)
```

# Static Models vs. Dynamic Models



# Static vs. Dynamic Dataflow Graphs

- Static Dataflow graphs
  - Define once, execute many times
  - Execution: Once defined, all following computation will **follow** the defined computation
- Advantages
  - No extra effort for batching optimization, because it can be by nature batched
  - It is always easy to handle a static computational dataflow graphs in all aspects, because of its fixed structure
    - Node placement, distributed runtime, memory management, etc.
  - Benefit the developers

# Static vs. Dynamic Dataflow Graphs

- Can we handle dynamic dataflow graphs?
  - Difficulty in expressing complex flow-control logic
  - Complexity of the computation graph implementation
  - Difficulty in debugging

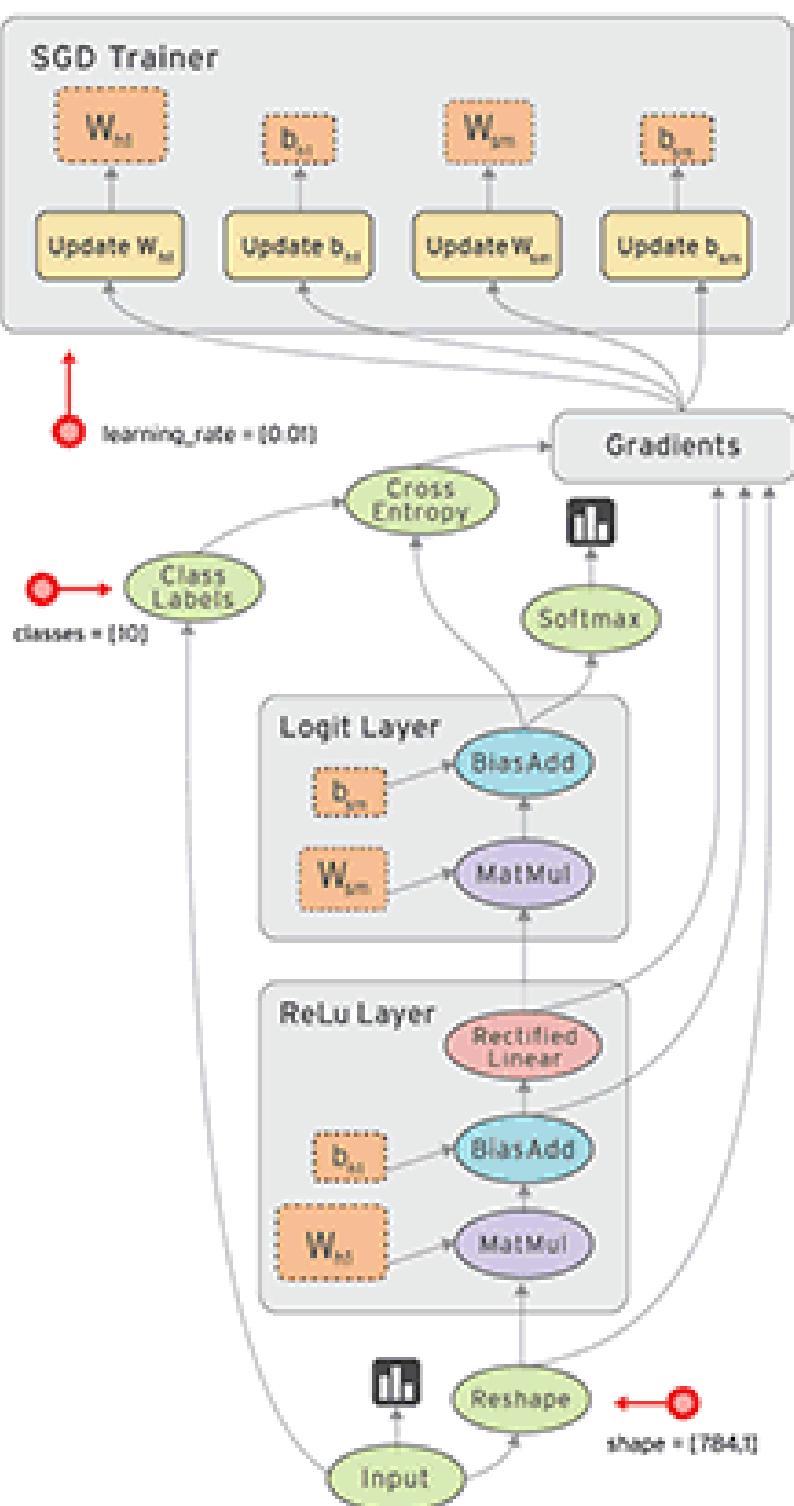
# How to Handle Dynamic Dataflow Graph?

- In general two ways:
  - Define-and-run: do not requiring contracting the entire graph before execution
  - Constructing High-level symbols to absorb dynamics

# Next week

- Autodiff
- ML System overview

# Now we roughly have the problem



# ML Systems