

# Applied Text Analytics & Natural Language Processing

with Dr. Mahdi Roozbahani  
& Wafa Louhichi

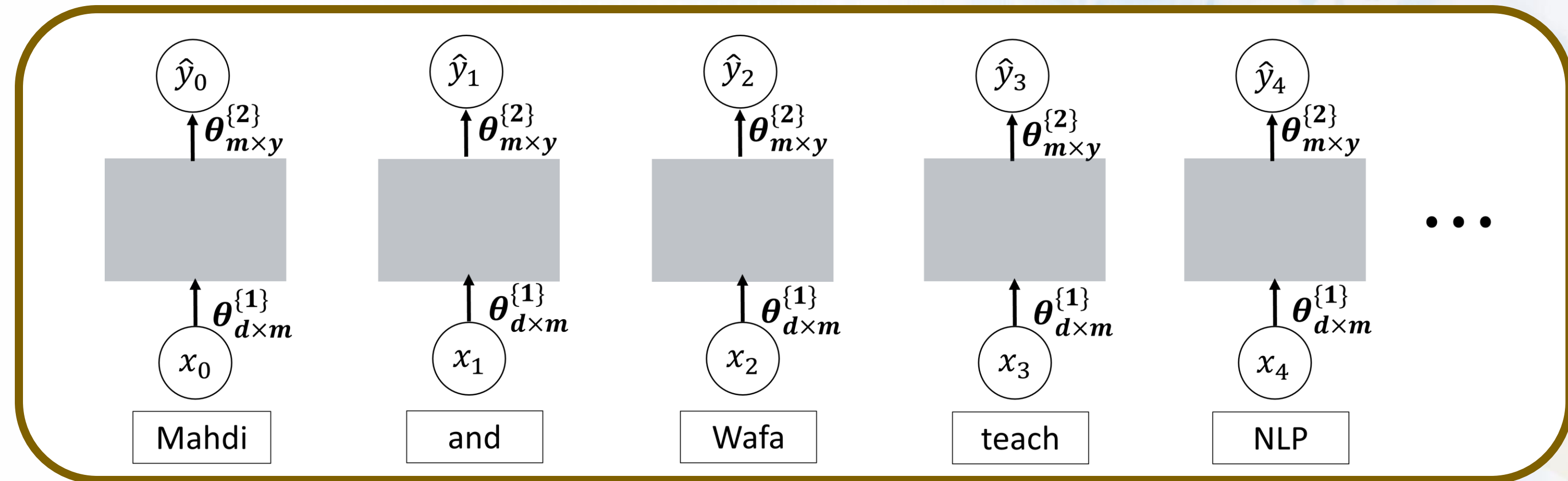
**Deep Learning**  
**Recurrent Neural Networks (RNN) – Part 2**

Some of the slides are based on Ming Li (University of Waterloo – Deep Learning Part)  
with some modifications



# Let's Go Back to our NER Problem Using a Feed-Forward Approach

*Sentence: Mahdi and Wafa teach NLP*

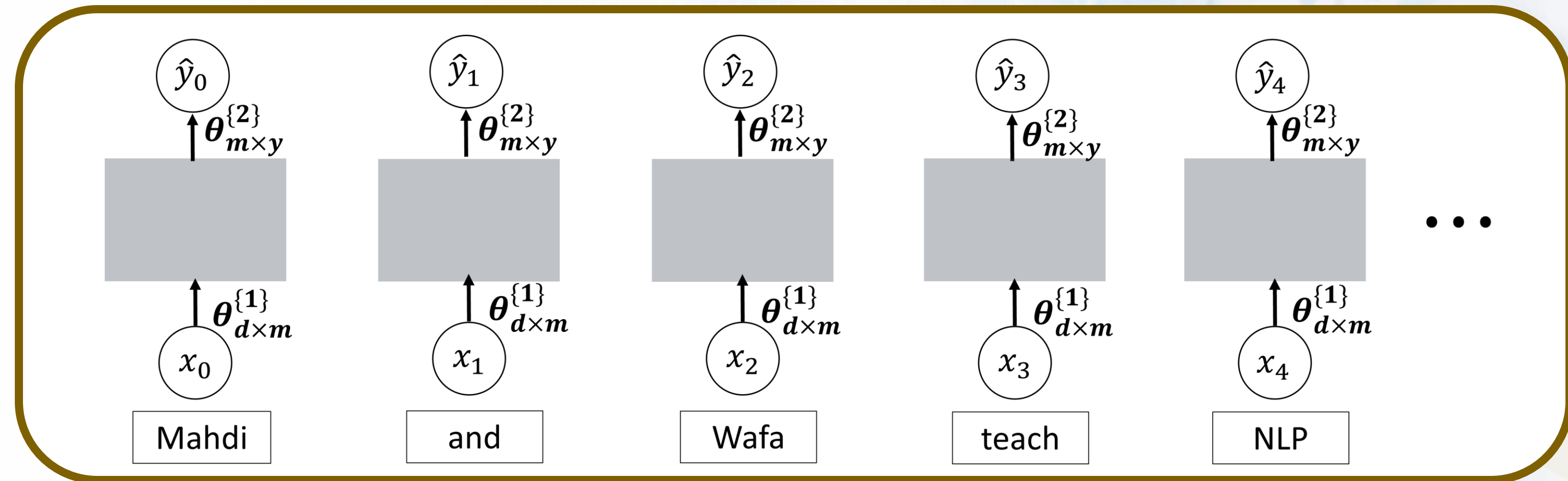


- $m$ : number of hidden neurons is a **Hyper-Parameter** and needs to be optimized
- There are two sets of different parameters (1) input to hidden layers:  $\theta_{d \times m}^{\{1\}}$  (2) hidden layers to output:  $\theta_{m \times y}^{\{2\}}$



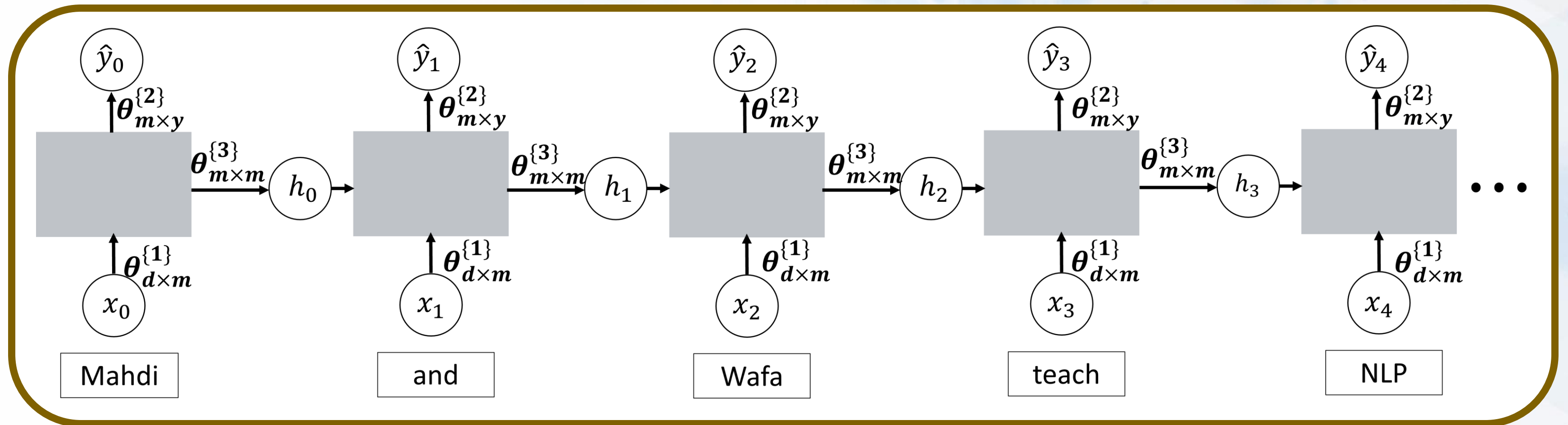
# Let's Go Back to our NER Problem Using a Feed-Forward Approach

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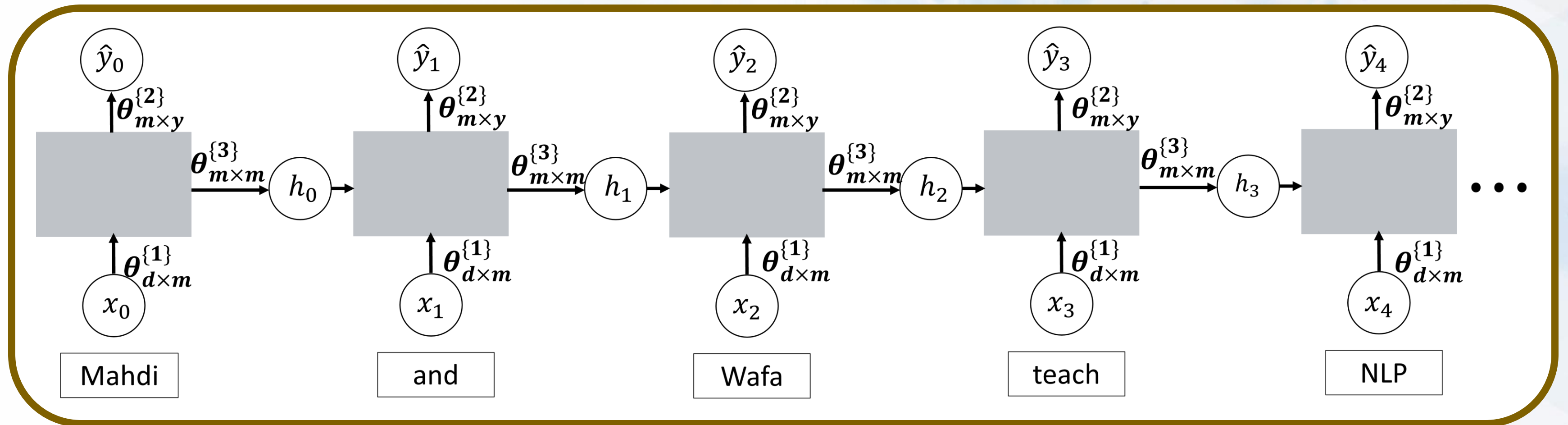
# RNN Concept to Connect Different Time Steps



- We introduced a new set of parameters ( $\theta^{3}_{m \times m}$ ) which generates a new vector of hidden neurons ( $h_t$ ) with size  $m$

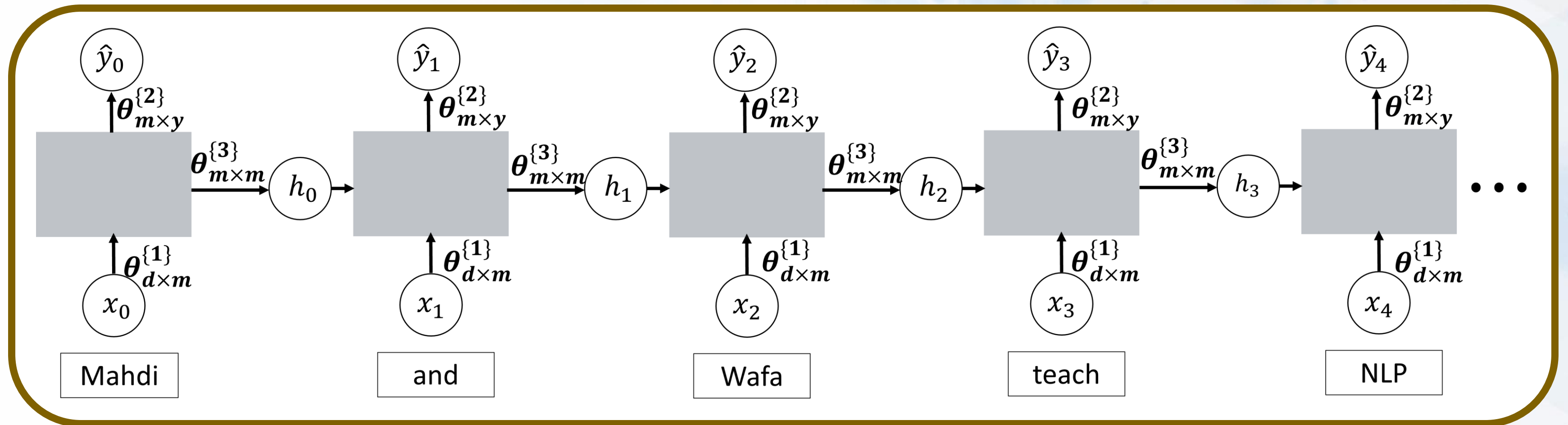


# RNN Concept to Connect Different Time Steps



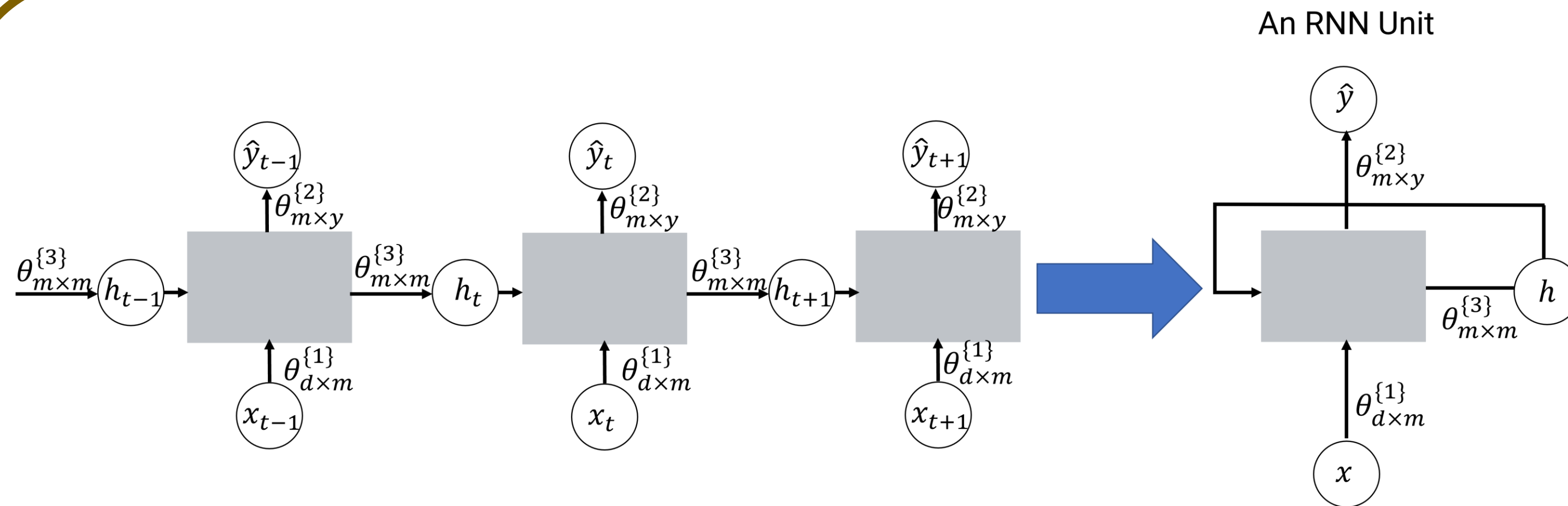
- We introduced a new set of parameters ( $\theta_{m \times m}^{\{3\}}$ ) which generates a new vector of hidden neurons ( $h_t$ ) with size  $m$

# RNN Concept to Connect Different Time Steps



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# Simple Representation of RNN (rnn\_units)

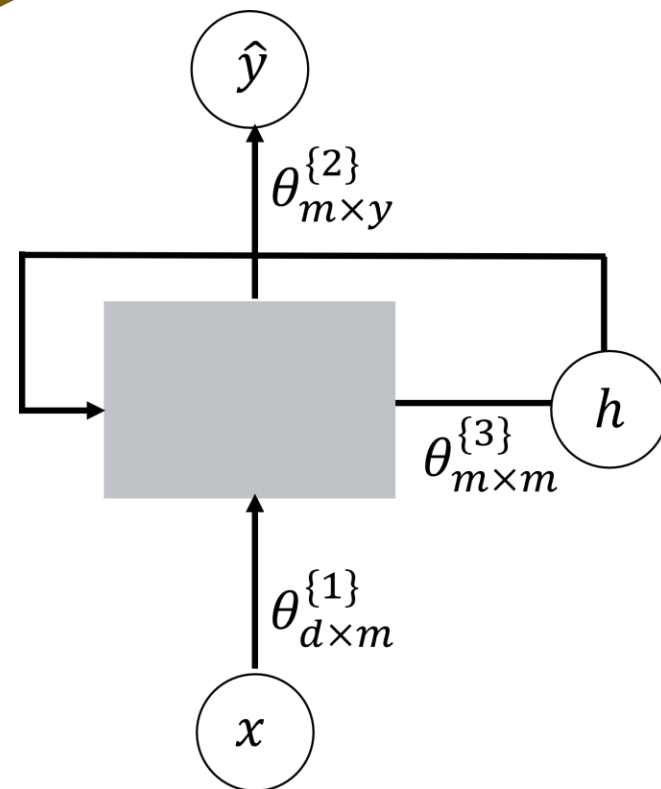


```
tf.keras.layers.SimpleRNN(rnn_units)
```





# Forward Pass: How to Calculate Past Memory (h) in RNN



$\theta^{\{1\}}$ : Weight (parameter) matrix associated with input data

$\theta^{\{2\}}$ : Weight (parameter) matrix associated with output data

$\theta^{\{3\}}$ : Weight (parameter) matrix associated with hidden state

Activation function  
such as Tanh  
(hyperbolic tangent)

Input

Past memory  
(previous step)

$$h_t = f(x_t, h_{t-1}, \theta)$$

Model parameters (weight)

The output will  
be a vector of  
size  $m$

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be a vector of  
size  $m$

Bias which is  
a vector of  
size  $m$

$$h_t = \tanh(x_t \theta^{\{1\}} + h_{t-1} \theta^{\{3\}} + b)$$



# Forward Pass: How to Calculate Output for Each Step ( $\hat{y}$ ) in RNN

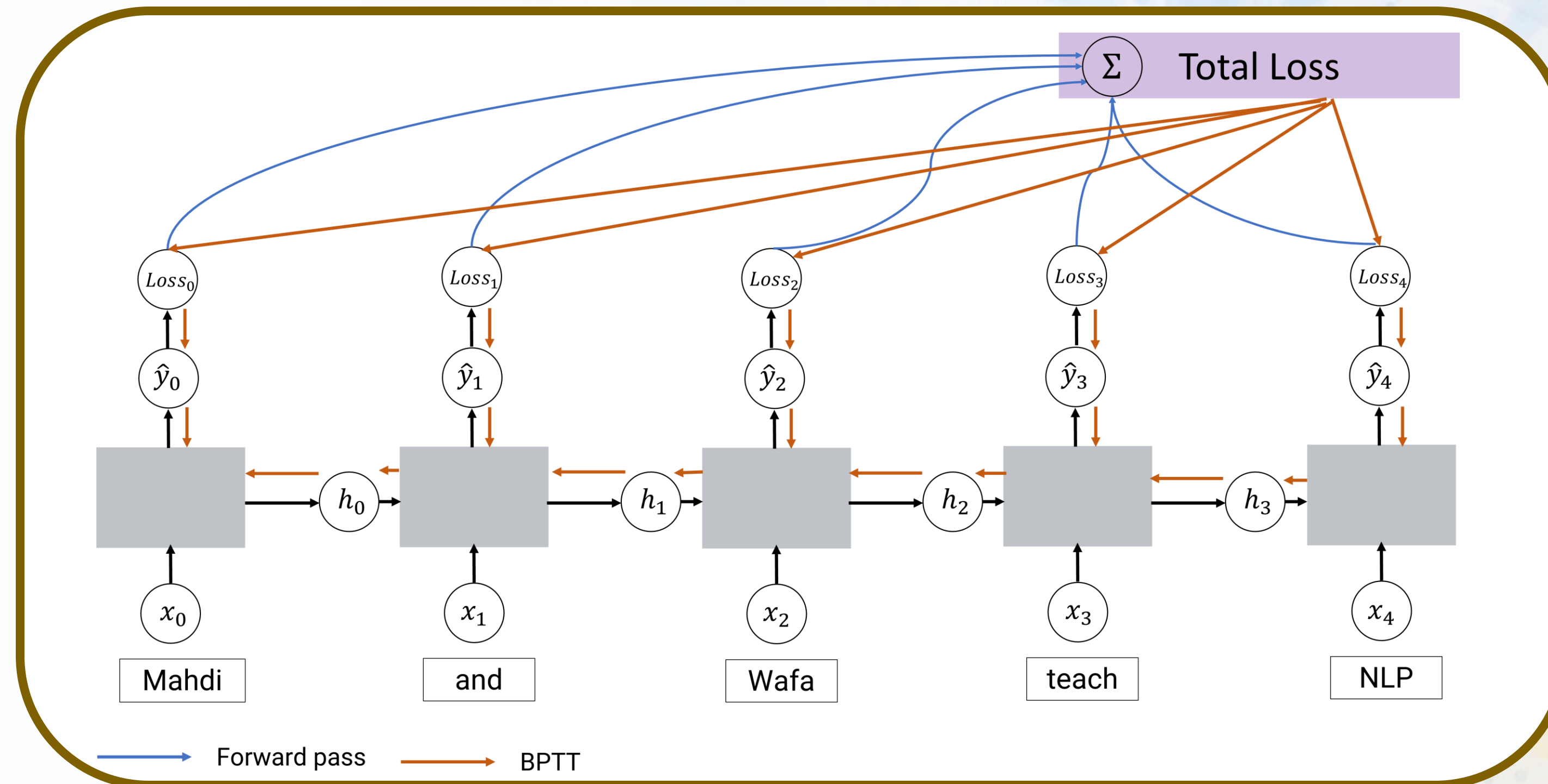
Forward Pass: How to Calculate Output for Each Step ( $\hat{y}$ ) in RNN

Scaling the output  
between 0 and 1

The output will be a scalar  
for our NER problem

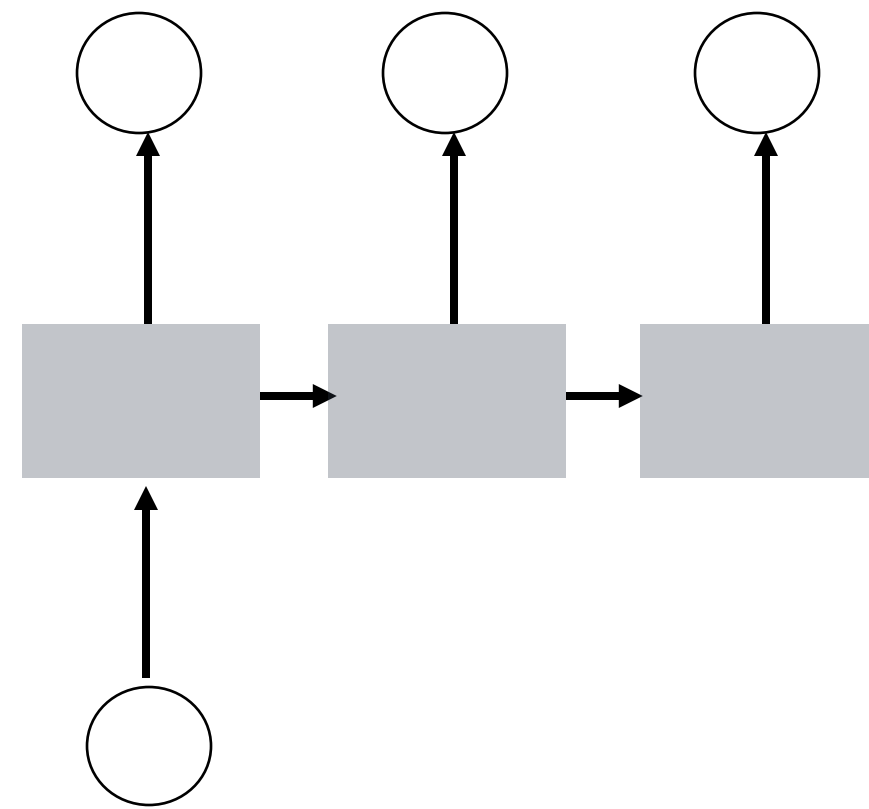

$$\hat{y}_t = \text{softmax}(h_t \theta^{\{2\}})$$

# Backpropagation Through Time (BPTT)

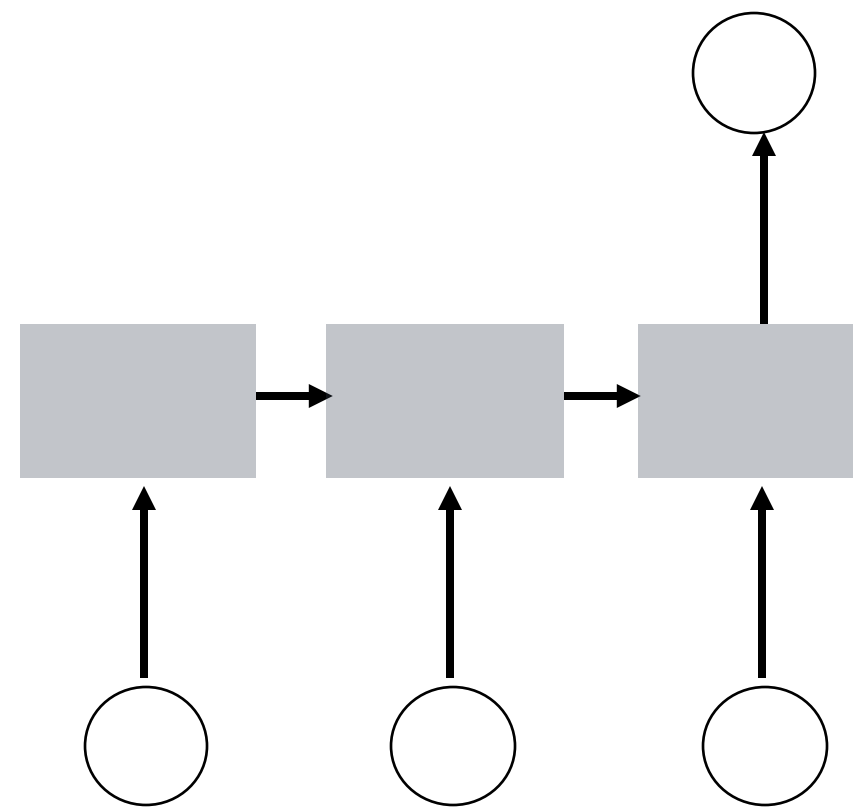




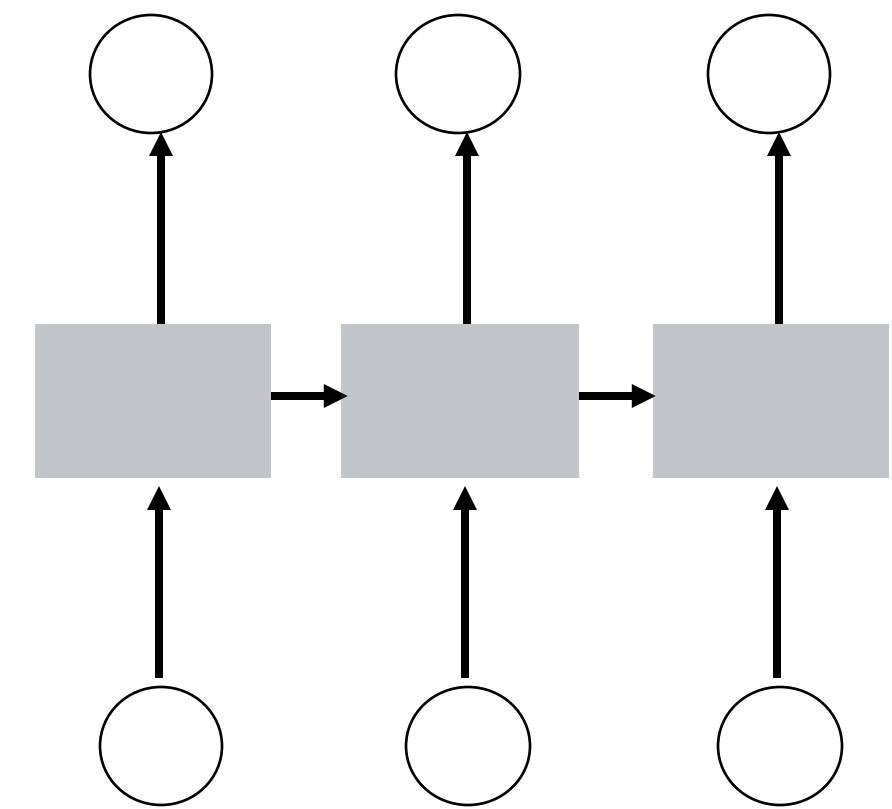
# Different RNNs Models



**One-to-Many**  
Text Generation;  
Image Captioning



**Many-to-One**  
Sentiment  
classification



**Many-to-Many**  
Part of speech tagging (POS),  
NER, Translation, Forecasting

# Some Problems with RNN:

Forward pass, backpropagation and repeated gradient computation can lead to two major issues:

**Exploding gradient** (high gradient values leading to very different weights in every optimization iteration)

\* Solution: Gradient clipping (clip a gradient when it goes higher than a threshold)

**Vanishing gradient** (low gradient values that stall the model from optimizing the parameters)

\*Solution:

- ReLu activation function
- LSTM, GRUs (different architectures)
- Better weight initialization

RNN suffers from short-term memory for a long sentence where words of interest may be placed far from each other in a sentence (vanishing gradient). Other architectures can help with this: LSTM, GRUs



# Summary

- We learned about RNN
- The past memory
- Different architectures
- Some possible issues with RNN

