

A simple neural classifier

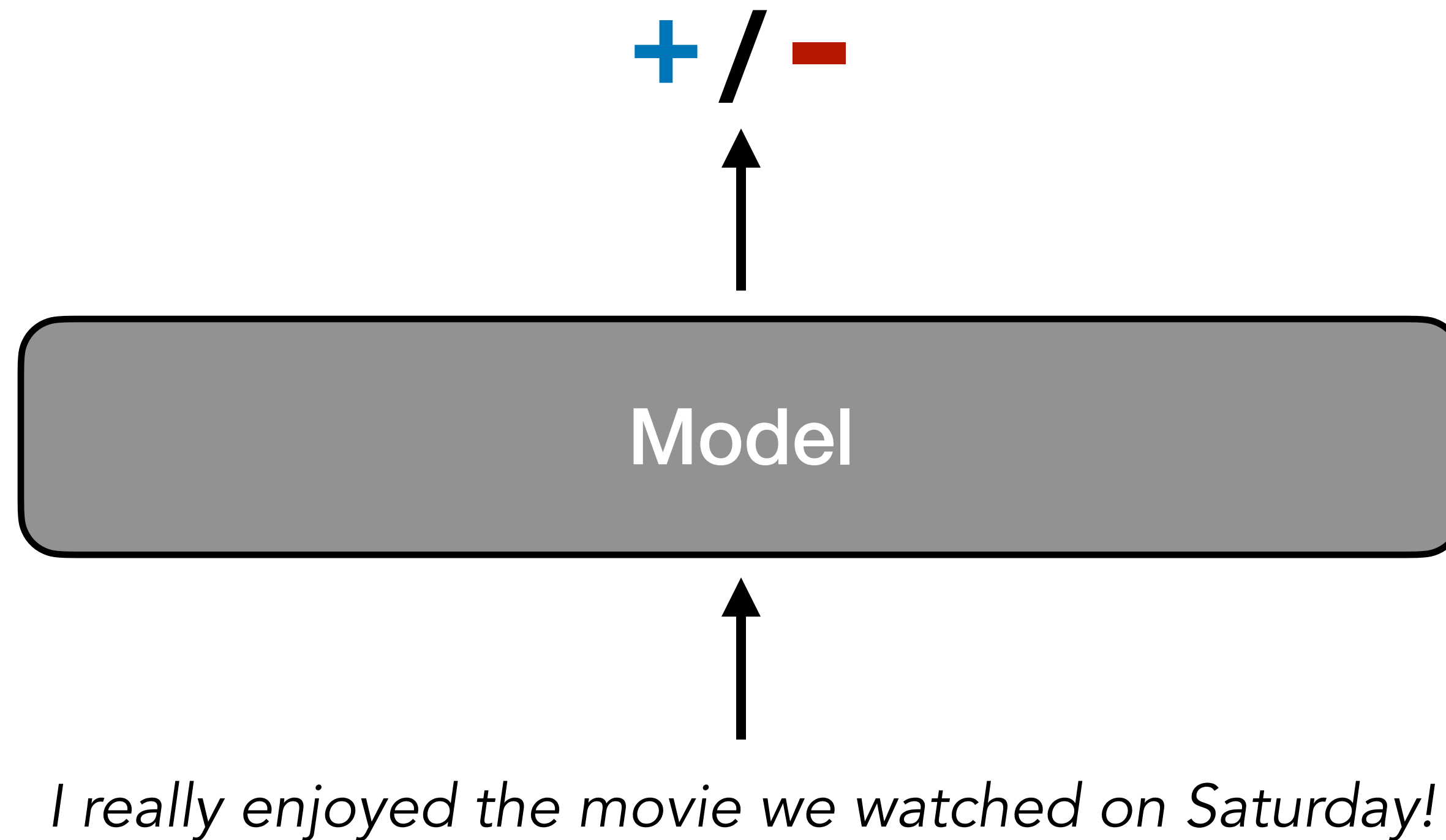
Antoine Bosselut

Section Outline

- Setting up an NLP problem
- **Embeddings** - how do we represent sequences of discrete words ?
- **Model** - how do we compose our embeddings into higher-level representations?
- **Prediction** - how do we map our model's representation of the task to a prediction?

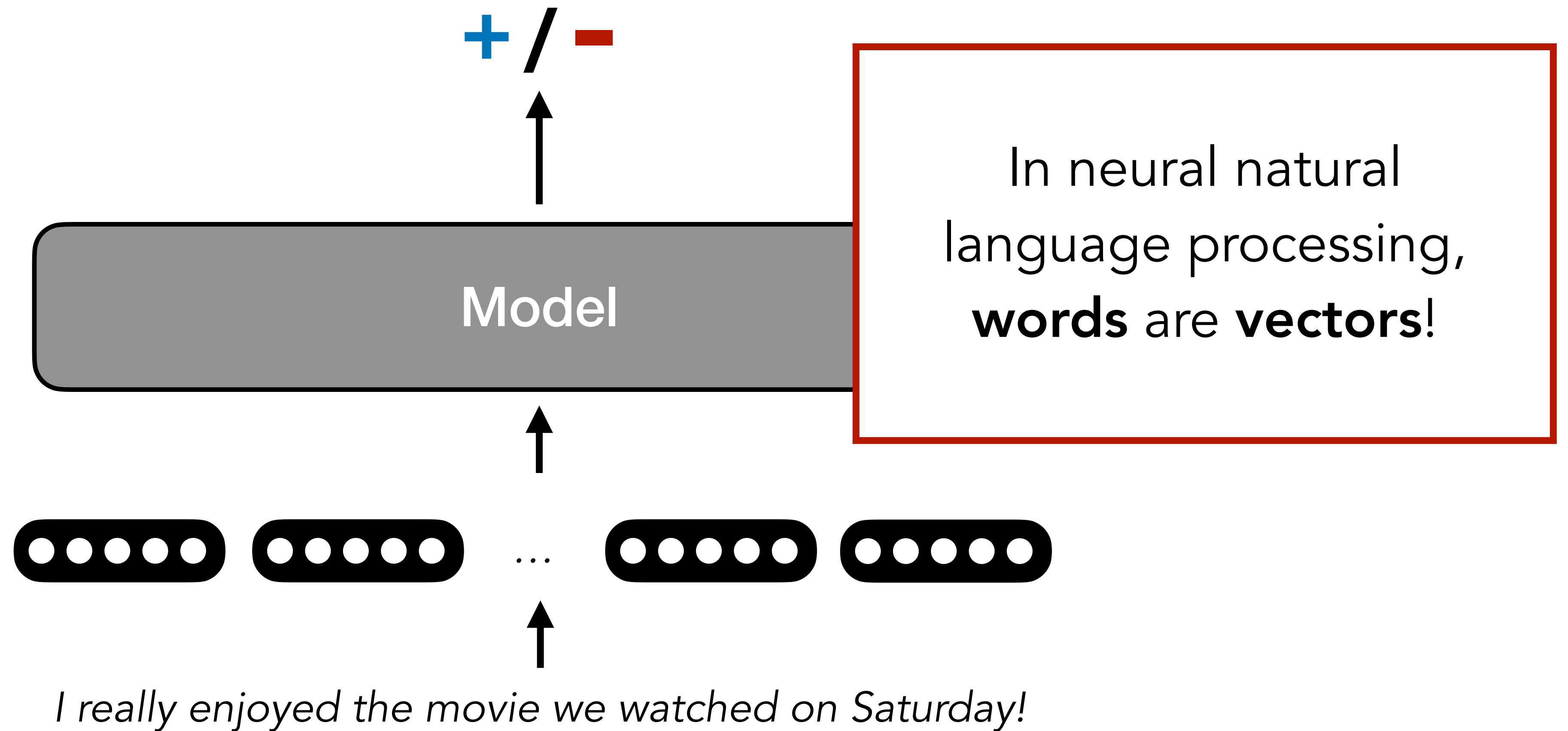
A simple NLP model

- **Example:** Convert a sentence describing a movie review to a sentiment



A simple NLP model

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Question

What words should we model as vectors?

Choosing a vocabulary

- Language contains many words (e.g., ~600,000 in English)
 - **What about other tokens:** Capitalisation? Accents ? Typos!? Words in other languages!? In other scripts!? Emojis !? Unicode !?
 - **Millions of potential unique tokens!** Most rarely appear in our training data (Zipfian distribution)
 - Model has limited capacity

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 - **Millions of potential unique tokens!** Most rarely appear in our training data (Zipfian distribution)
 - Model has limited capacity
- How should we select which tokens we want our model to process?
 - Week 11 - tokenisation!
 - For now, initialize a vocabulary V of tokens that we can represent as a vector
 - Any token not in this vocabulary V is mapped to a special <UNK> token (e.g., unknown).

Question

How should we model a word as a vector?

One upon a time: **sparse word representations**

$$x_i \in \{0,1\}^V$$

- Define a vocabulary V
- Each word in the vocabulary is represented by a sparse vector
- Dimensionality of sparse vector is size of vocabulary (e.g., thousands, possibly millions)

<i>I</i>	→	<i>[0 ... 0 0 0 1 ... 0 0]</i>
<i>really</i>	→	<i>[0 ... 1 ... 0 0 0 0 0]</i>
<i>enjoyed</i>	→	<i>[0 ... 0 0 0 1 0 ... 0]</i>
<i>the</i>	→	<i>[0 ... 0 1 0 0 0 ... 0]</i>
<i>movie</i>	→	<i>[0 ... 0 0 0 0 0 ... 1]</i>
<i>!</i>	→	<i>[1 ... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0]</i>

Word Vector Composition

- To represent sequences, beyond single words, define a composition function over sparse vectors

I really enjoyed the movie ! → [1 ... 1 1 0 1 ... 0 1] Simple Counts

I really enjoyed the movie ! → [0.01 ... 0.1 0.1 0 0.001 ... 0 0.5] Weighted by Corpus Statistics (e.g., TF-IDF)

Many others...

Problem

With sparse vectors, similarity is a function of common words!

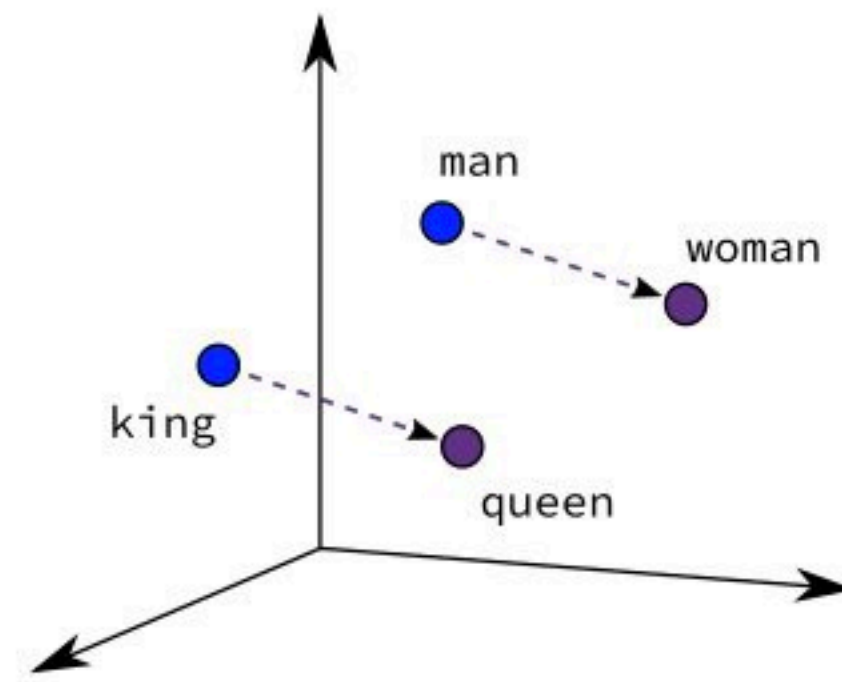
How do you learn learn similarity between words?

enjoyed \longrightarrow $[0 \dots 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \dots 0 \ 0]$

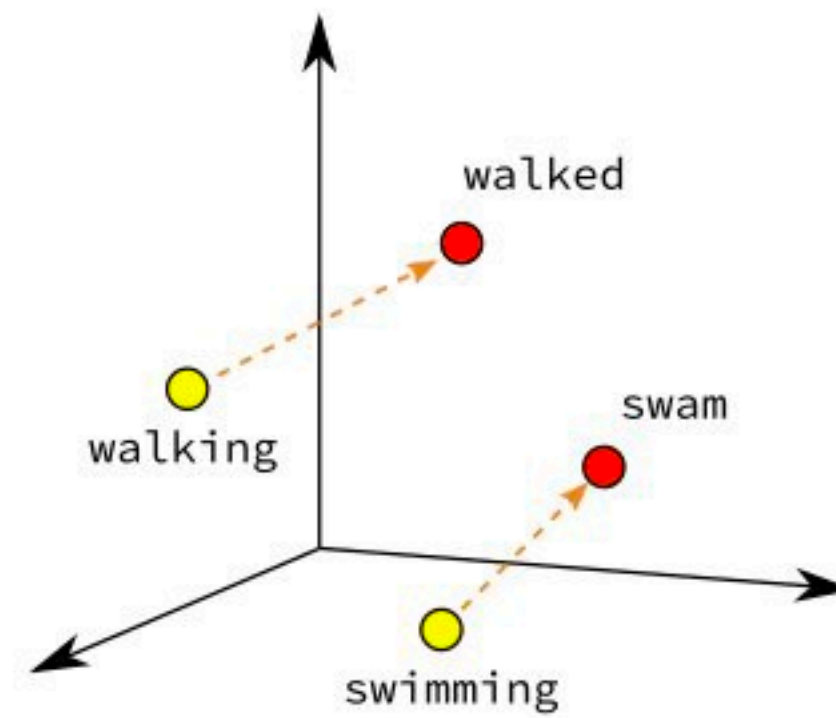
loved \longrightarrow $[0 \dots 1 \dots 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]$

$\text{sim}(\textit{enjoyed}, \textit{loved}) = 0$

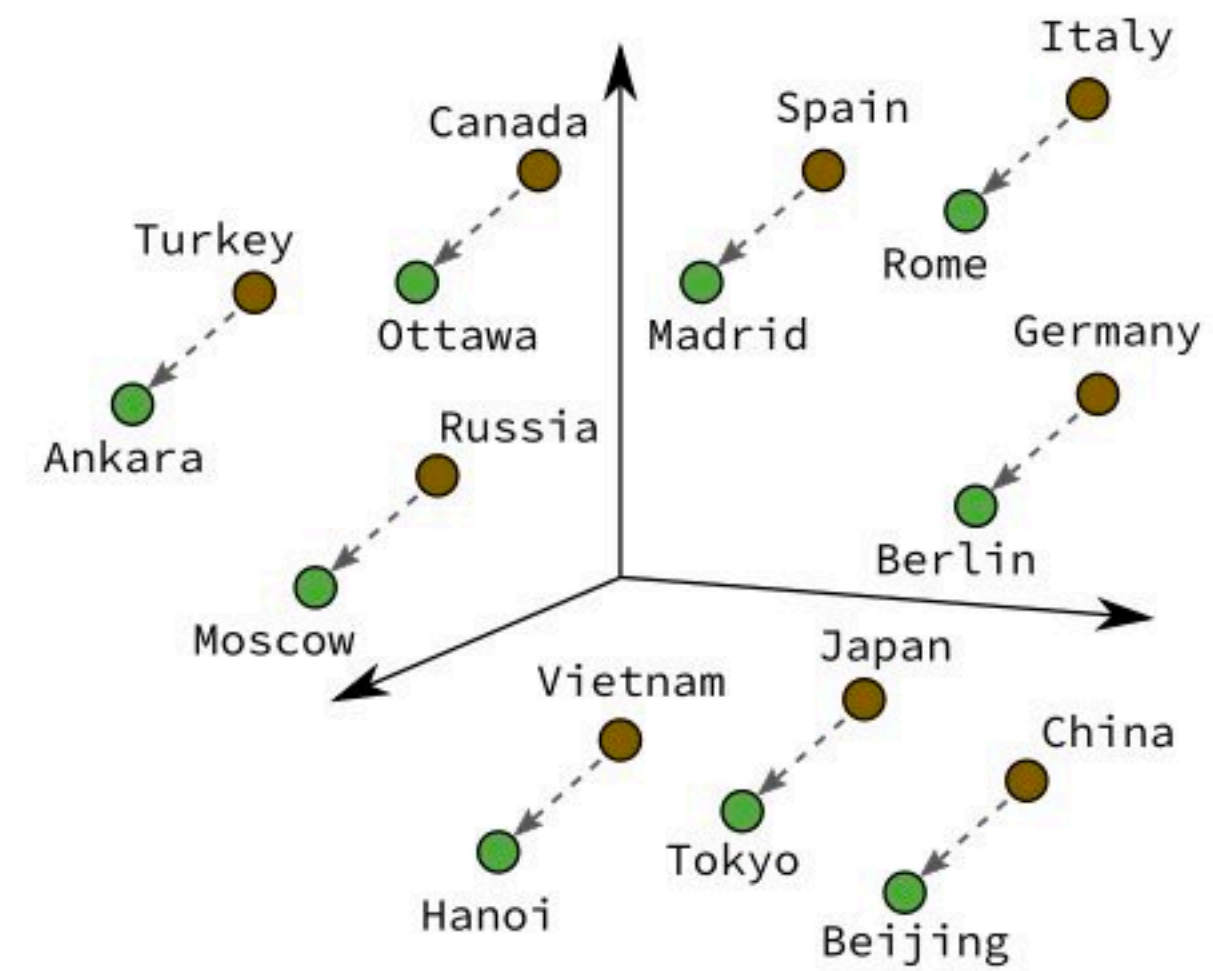
Embeddings Goal



Male-Female



Verb Tense



Country-Capital

How do we train semantics-encoding embeddings of words?

Dense Word Vectors

- Represent each word as a high-dimensional*, **real-valued** vector
 - *Low-dimensional compared to V-dimension sparse representations, but still usually $O(10^2 - 10^3)$

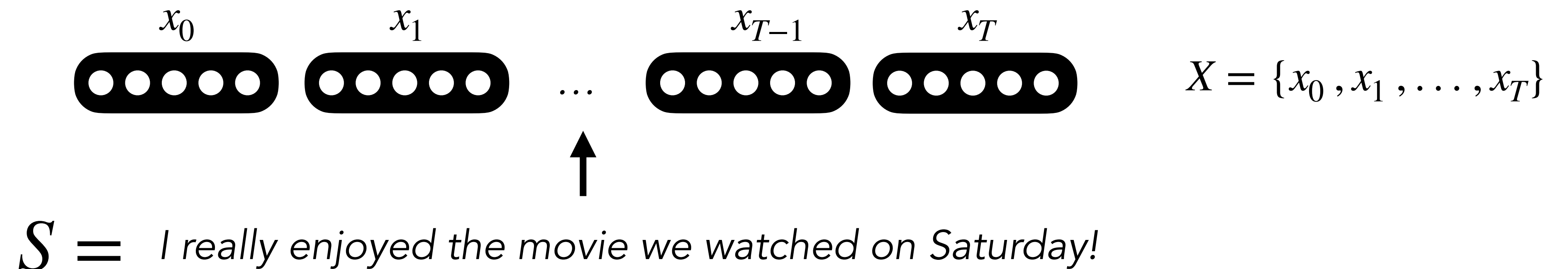
<i>I</i>	→	[0.113 -0.782 1.893 0.984 6.349 ...]
<i>really</i>	→	[0.906 0.661 -0.214 -0.894 -0.880 ...]
<i>enjoyed</i>	→	[-0.842 0.647 -0.882 0.045 0.029 ...]
<i>the</i>	→	[0.100 0.765 -0.333 -0.538 -0.150 ...]
<i>movie</i>	→	[0.104 -0.054 -0.268 -0.877 0.005 ...]
<i>!</i>	→	[0.439 -0.577 -0.727 0.261 0.699 ...]

word vectors
word embeddings
neural embeddings
dense embeddings
others...

- Similarity of vectors represents similarity of meaning for particular words

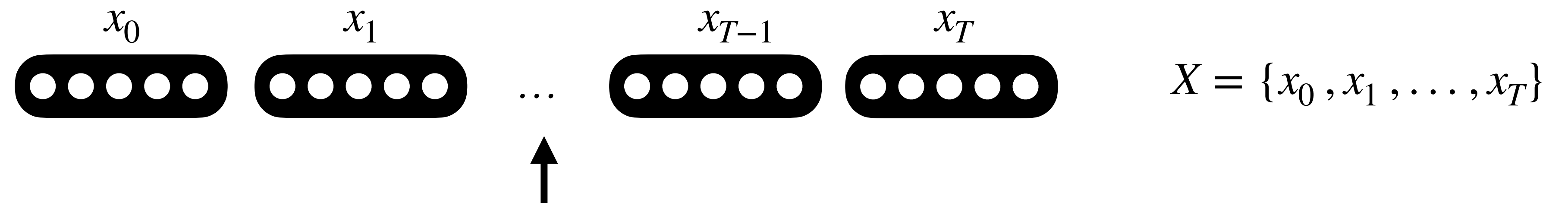
A simple NLP model

- For each sequence S , we have a corresponding sequence of embeddings X



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$S_1 =$ *I **really** enjoyed the movie **we** watched on Saturday !*

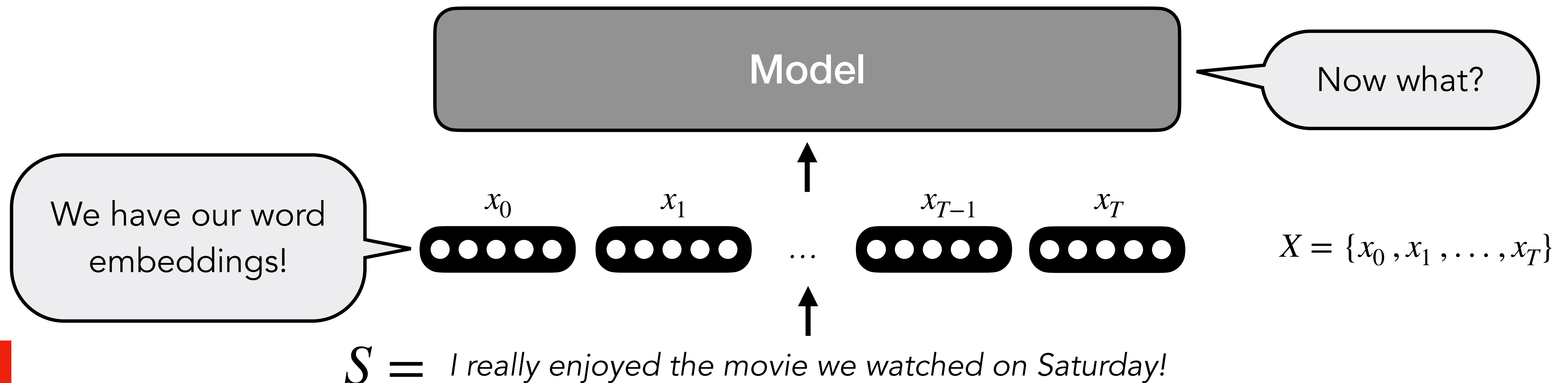
- Embeddings $x_t \in X$ are indexed from shared embedding dictionary \mathbb{E} for all items in vocabulary V

$S_2 =$ *We **really** loved a film **we** saw last Sunday !*

Bolded words would index the same embedding in \mathbb{E}

A simple NLP model

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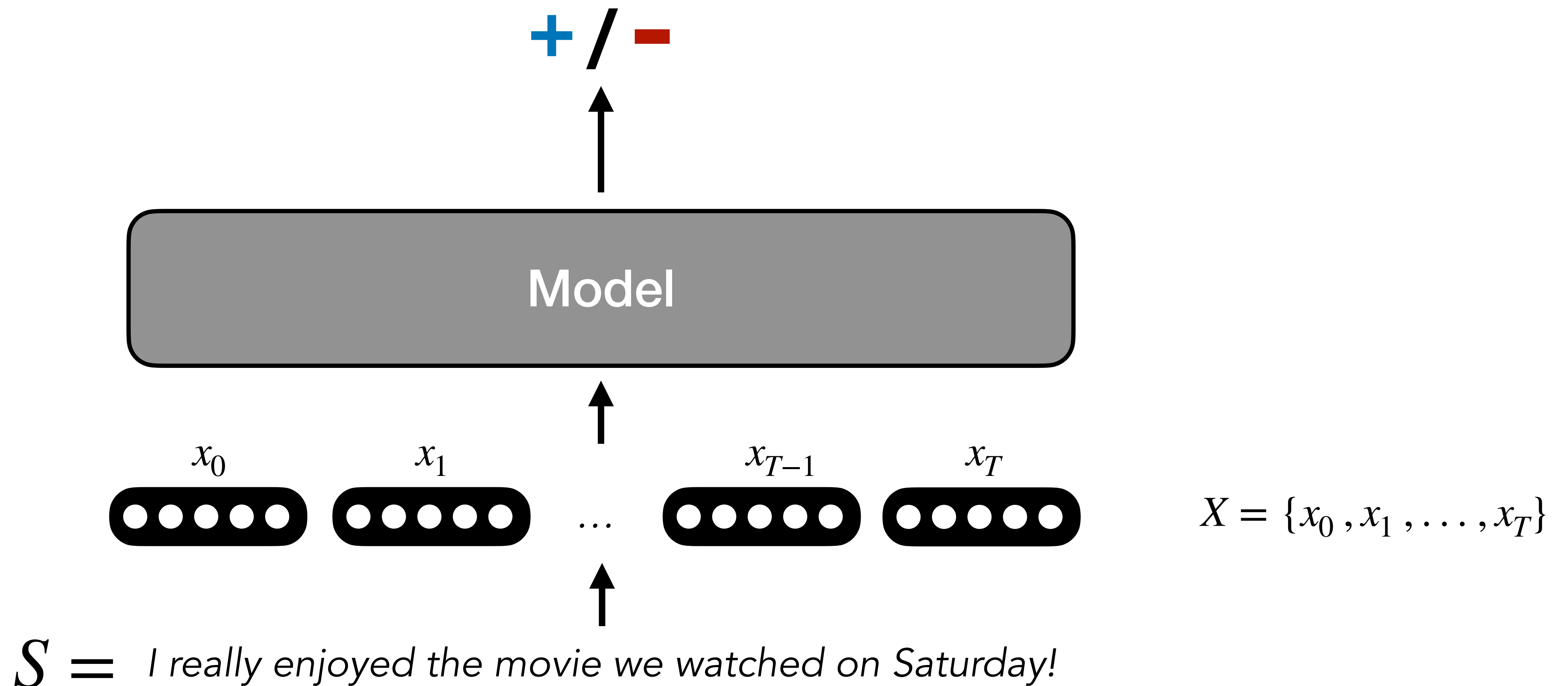


Question

What should we use as a model?

A simple NLP model

- Our model modifies and / or composes these word embeddings to formulate a representation that allows it to predict the correct label



A simple NLP model

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 - Recurrent neural networks (RNNs) and variants (LSTM, GRU) - Week 2
 - Self-attention & Transformer - Week 3
 - State-space Models (not covered in this course)
 - Multiple of the above ?

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 - Recurrent neural networks (RNNs) and variants (LSTM, GRU) - Week 2
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 - Multiple of the above ?
 - Or perhaps something super simple: **Sum-pool, Avg-pool, Max-pool?**

A simple NLP model

Notation: Typically, we represent the output of a model as h (or o).

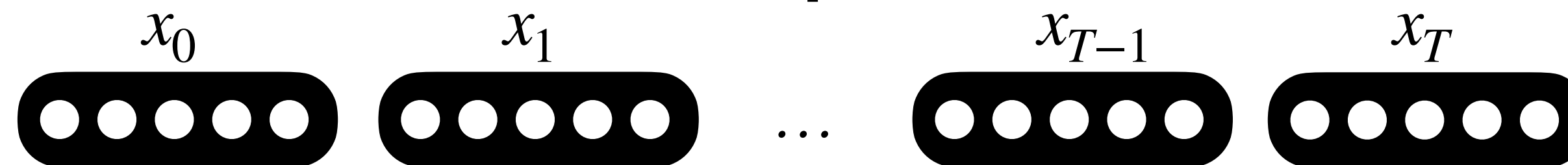
$$h_T = \sum_{t=0}^T x_t$$

+ / -



We composed our embeddings into a different representation!

Sum-pool



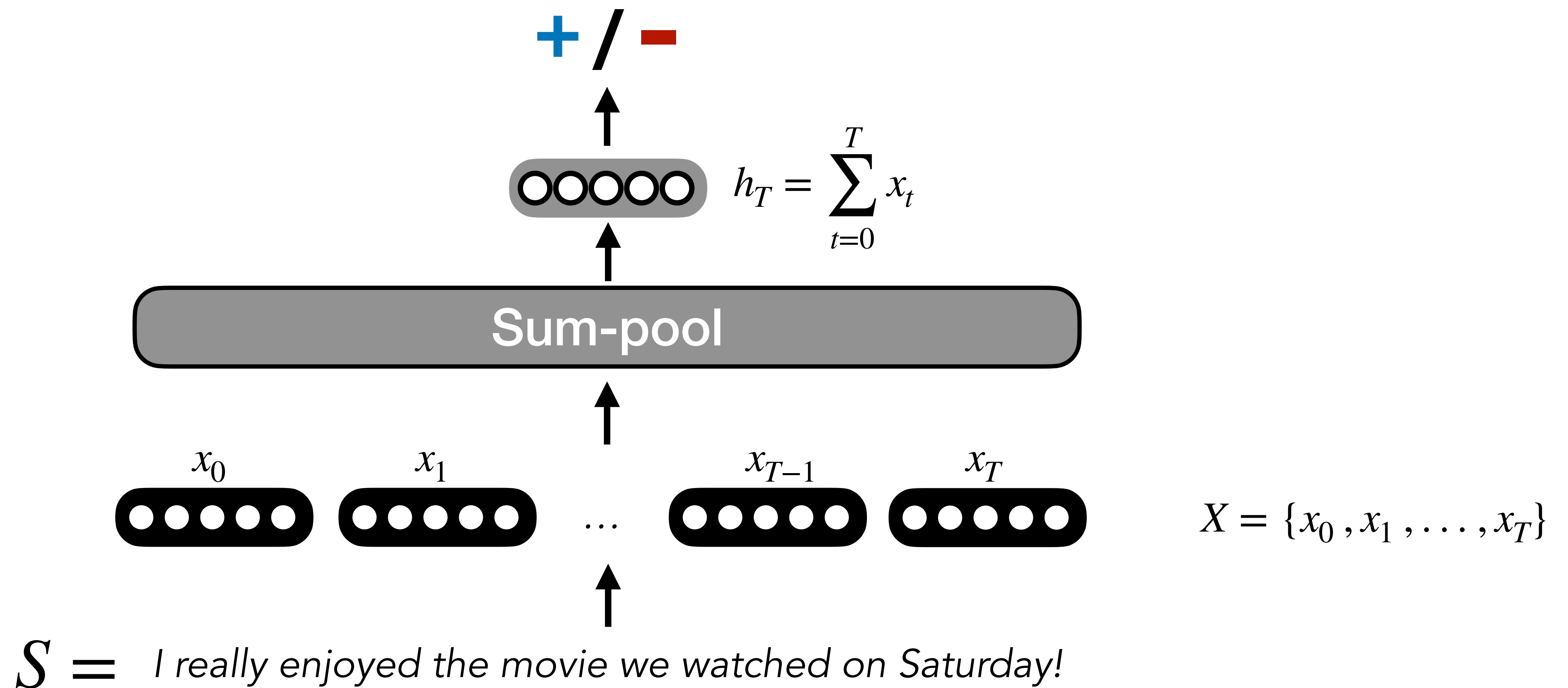
$$X = \{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_T\}$$

$S =$ *I really enjoyed the movie we watched on Saturday!*

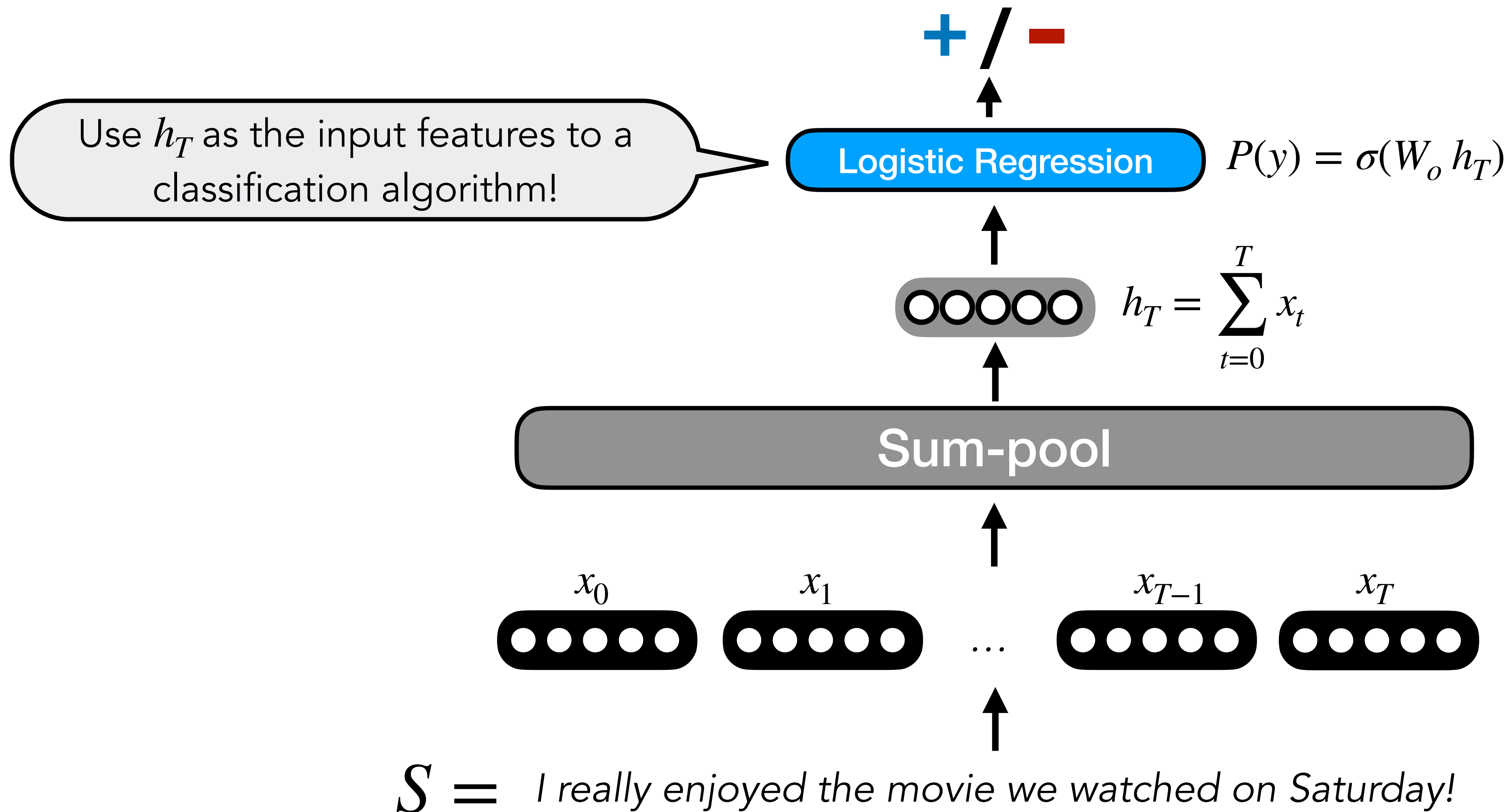
Question

How do we convert the output of our model to a prediction?

Predicting the label



Predicting the label



Learn using
backpropagation:
compute gradients of
loss with respect to
initial embeddings X

Learn embeddings
that allow you to do
the task successfully!

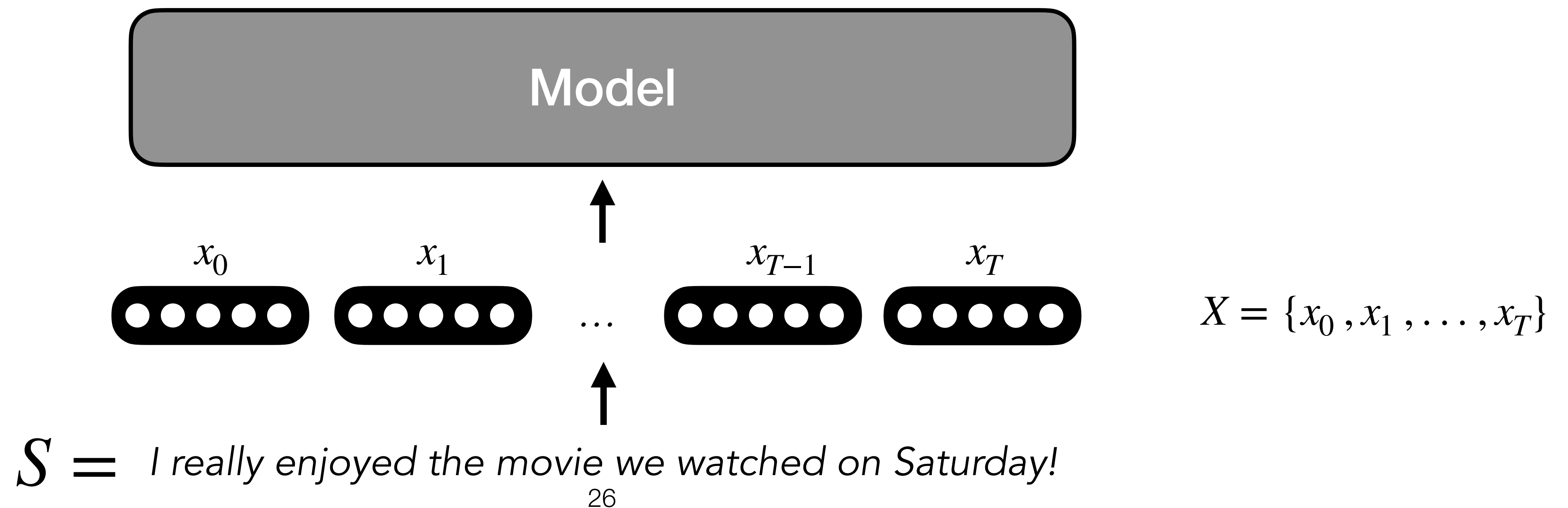
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Question

How could we use our model for tasks beyond classification?

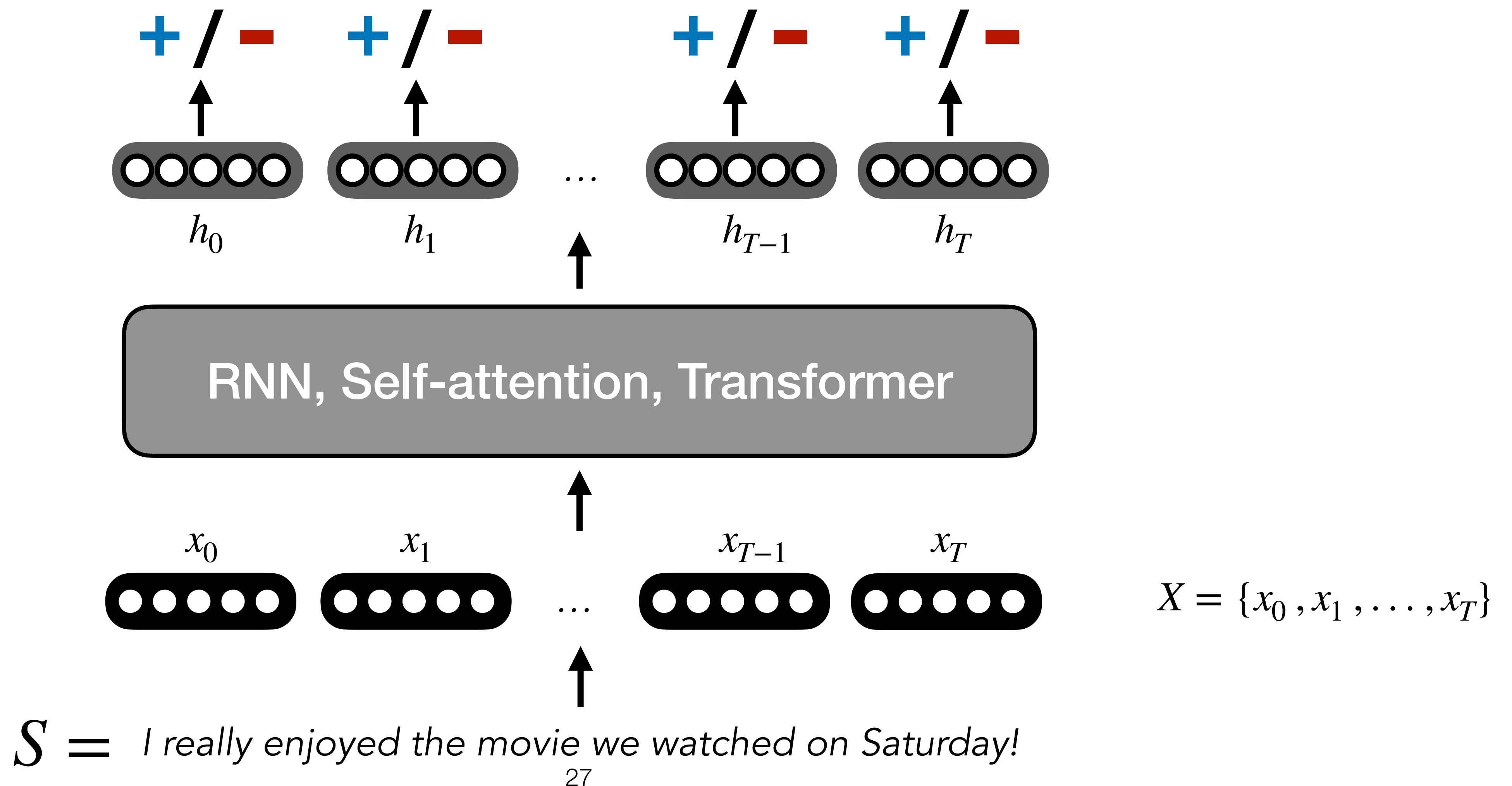
Sequence Labeling

- **Example:** Identify which words correspond to sentimental words



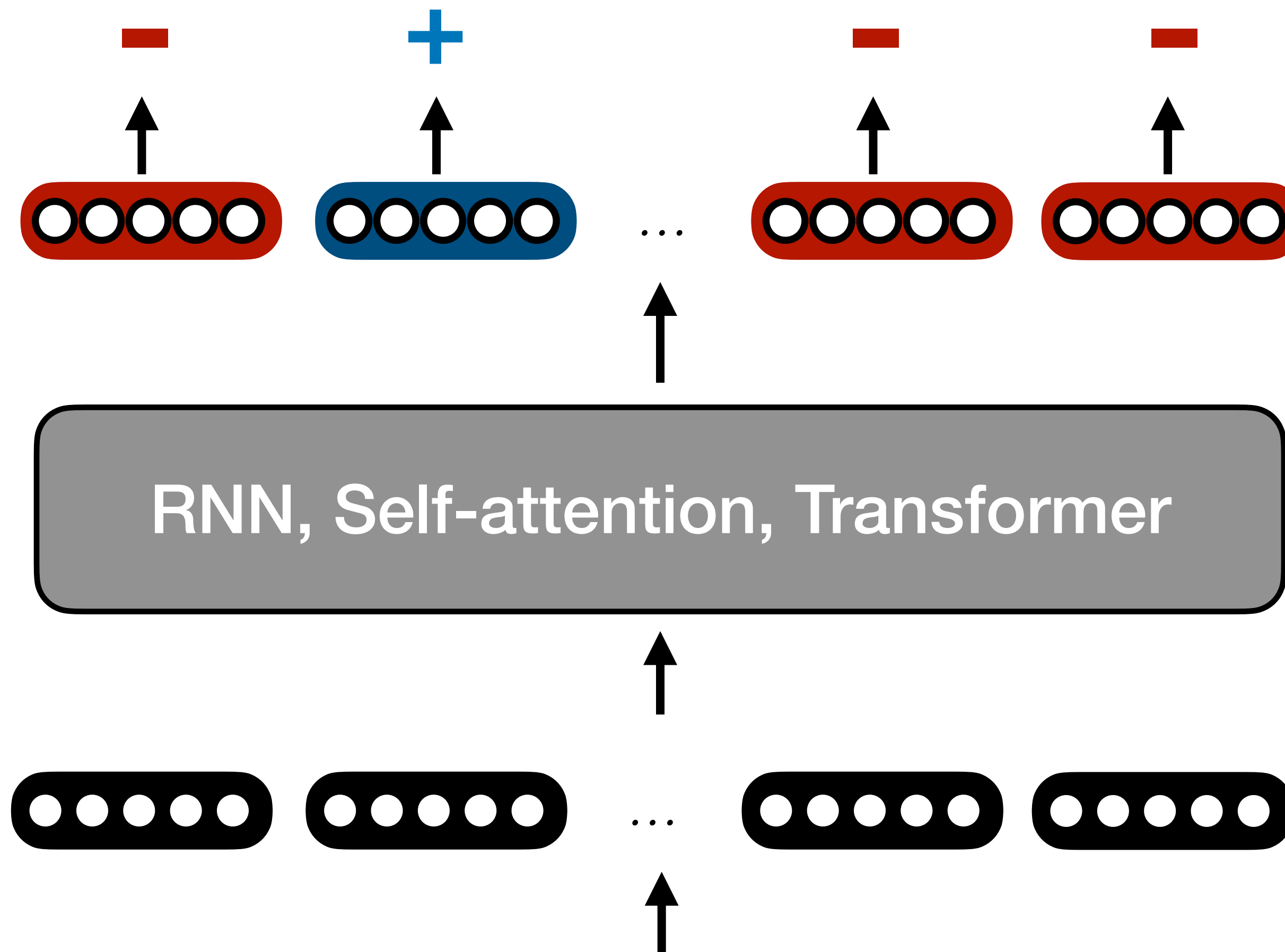
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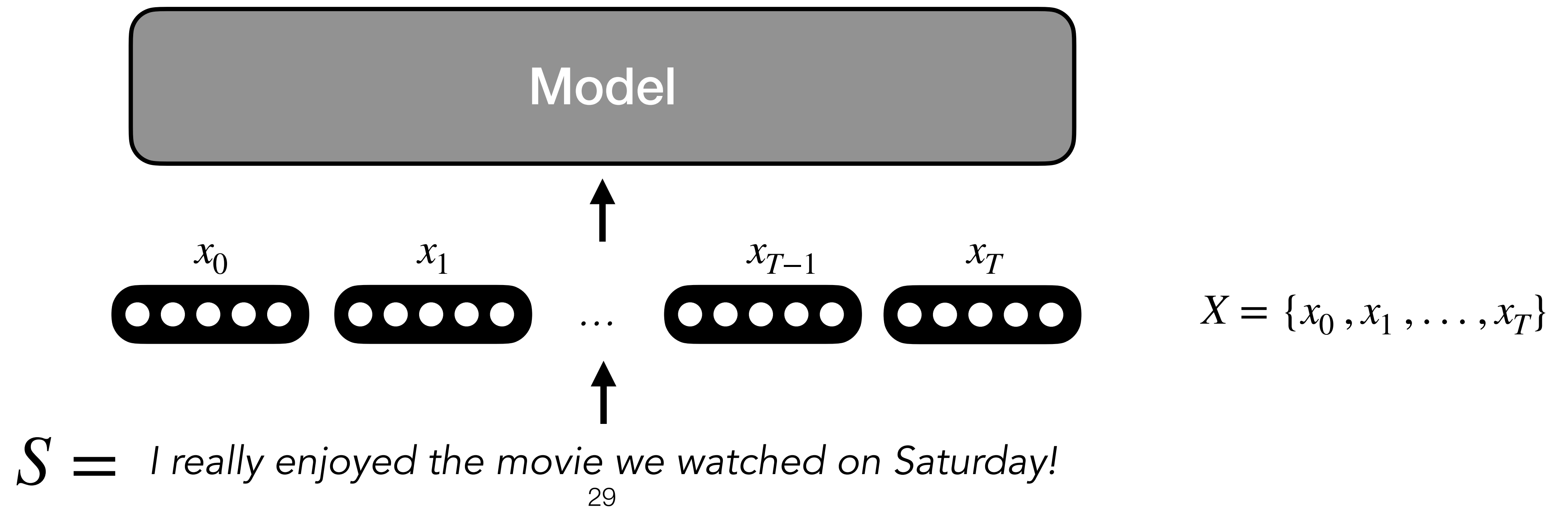
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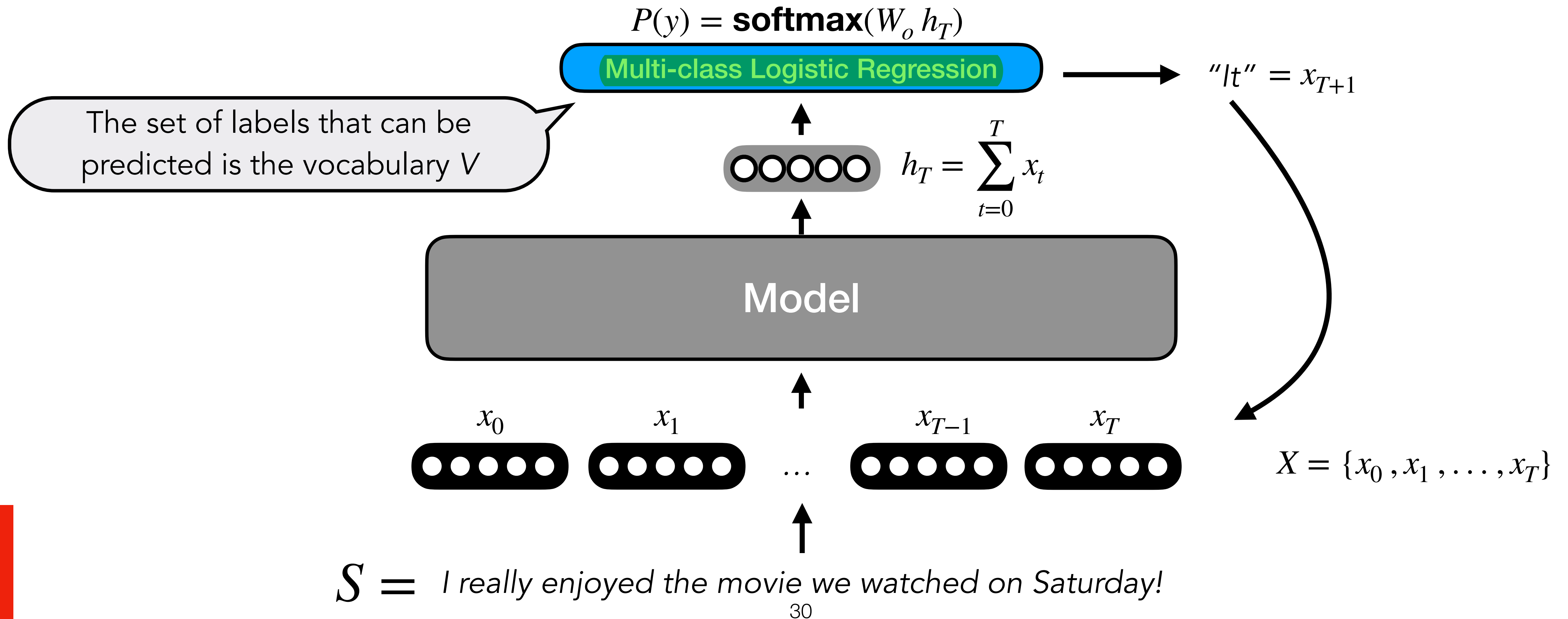
Text Generation

- **Example:** Generate the next sentence in the review.



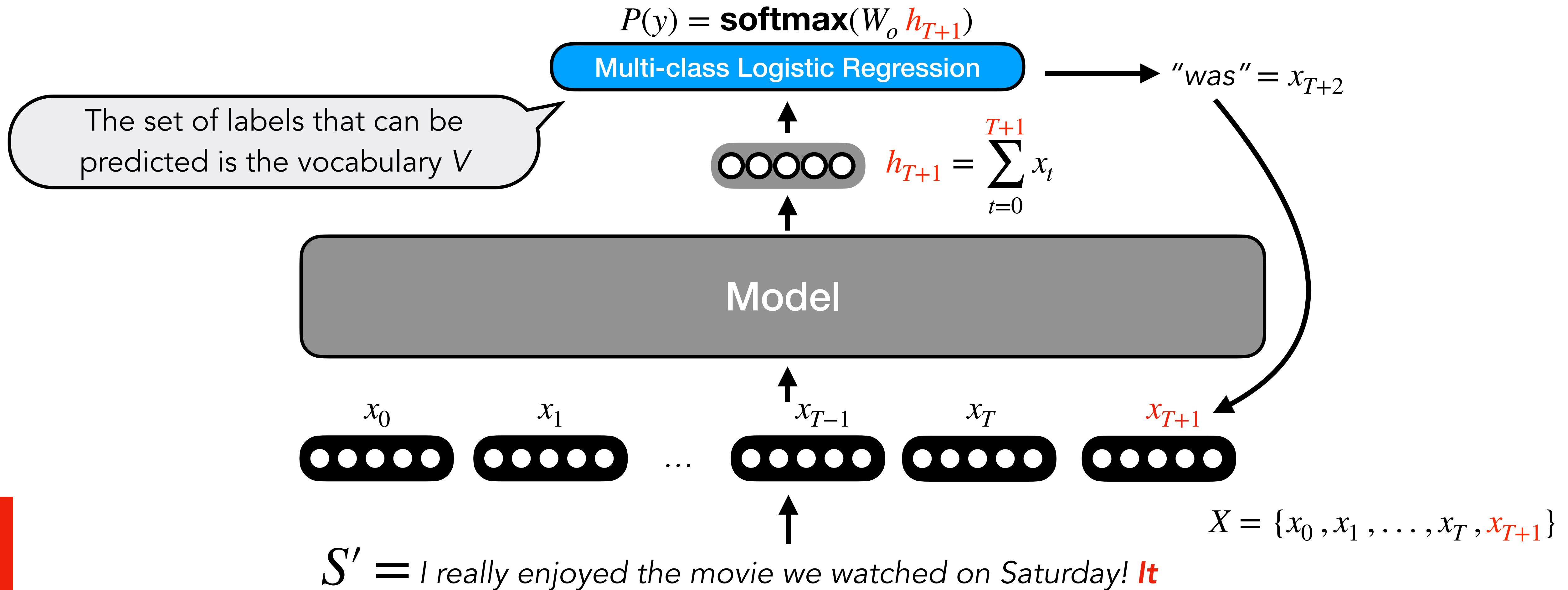
Text Generation

- **Example:** Generate the next sentence in the review. **Word-by-word!**



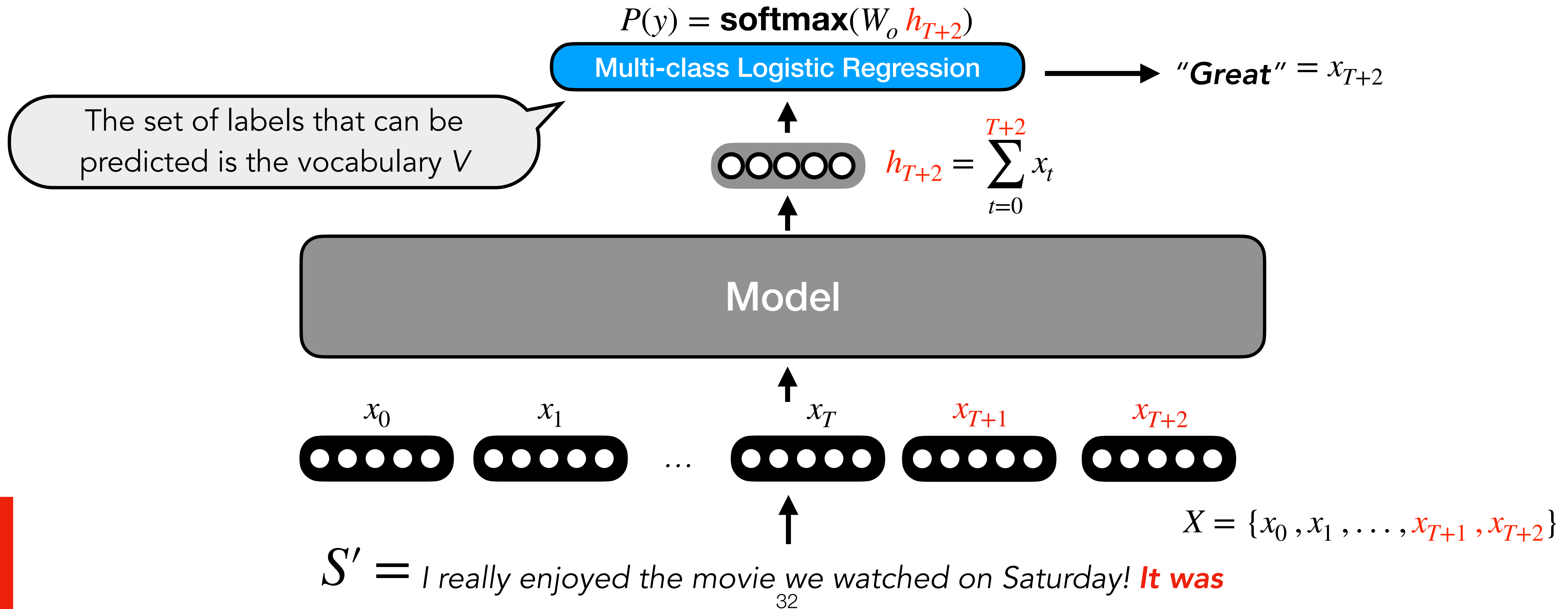
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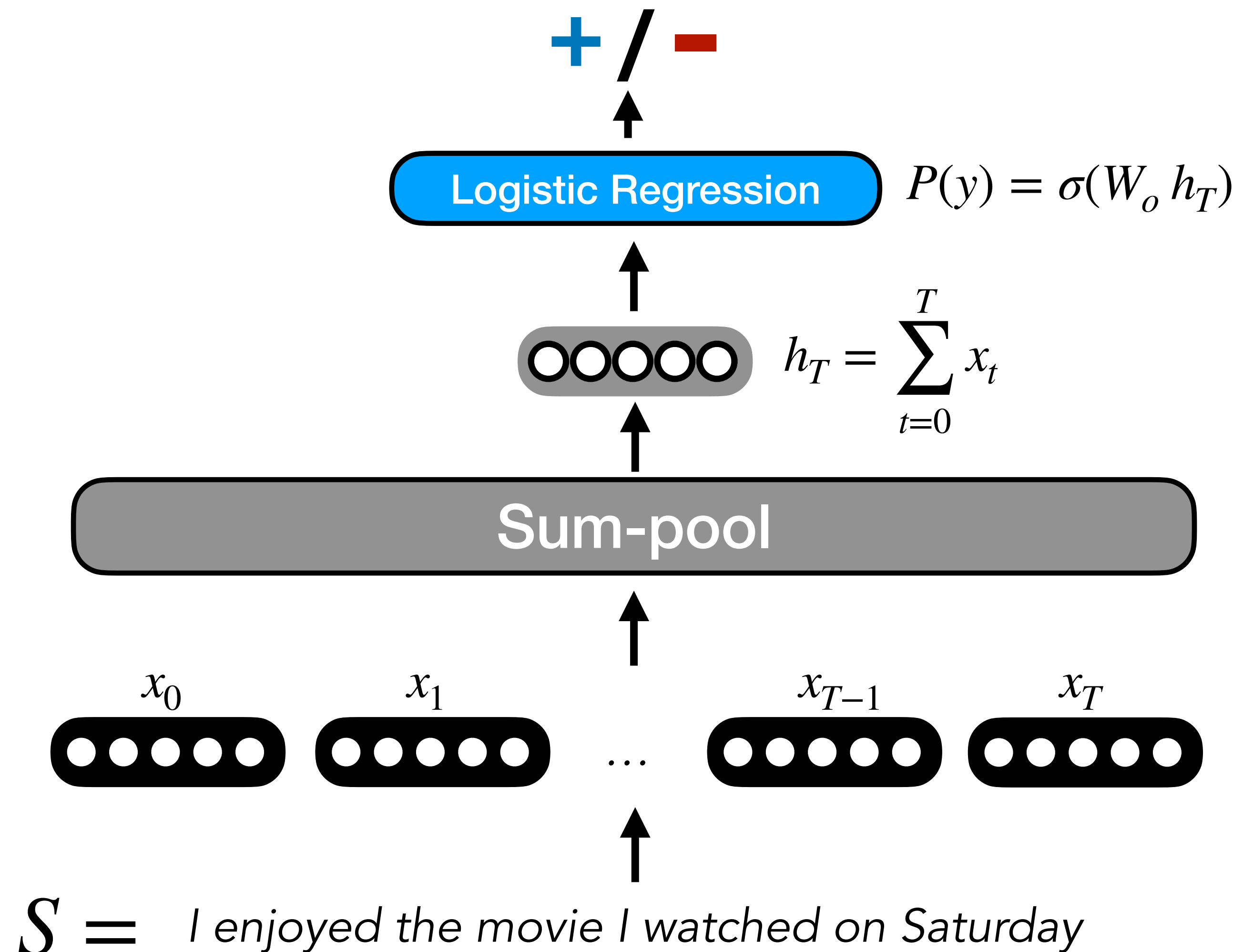
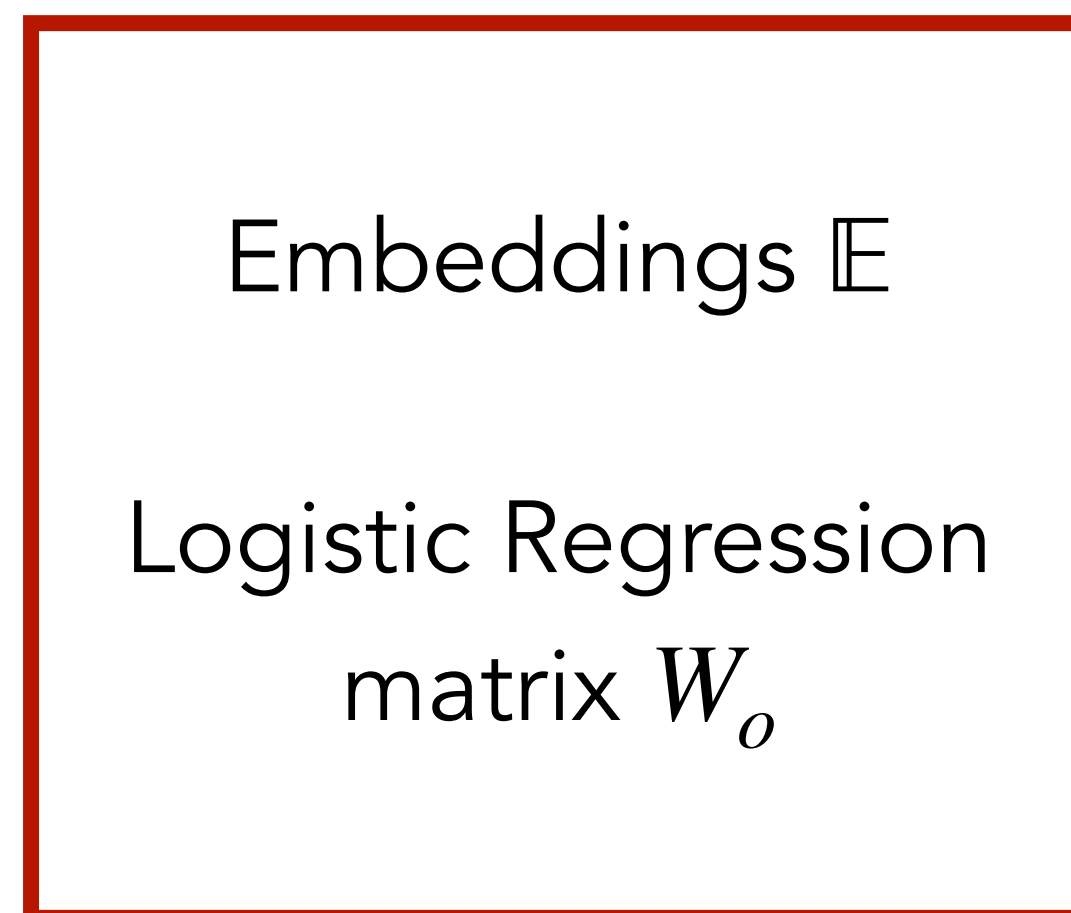
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Comprehension Questions

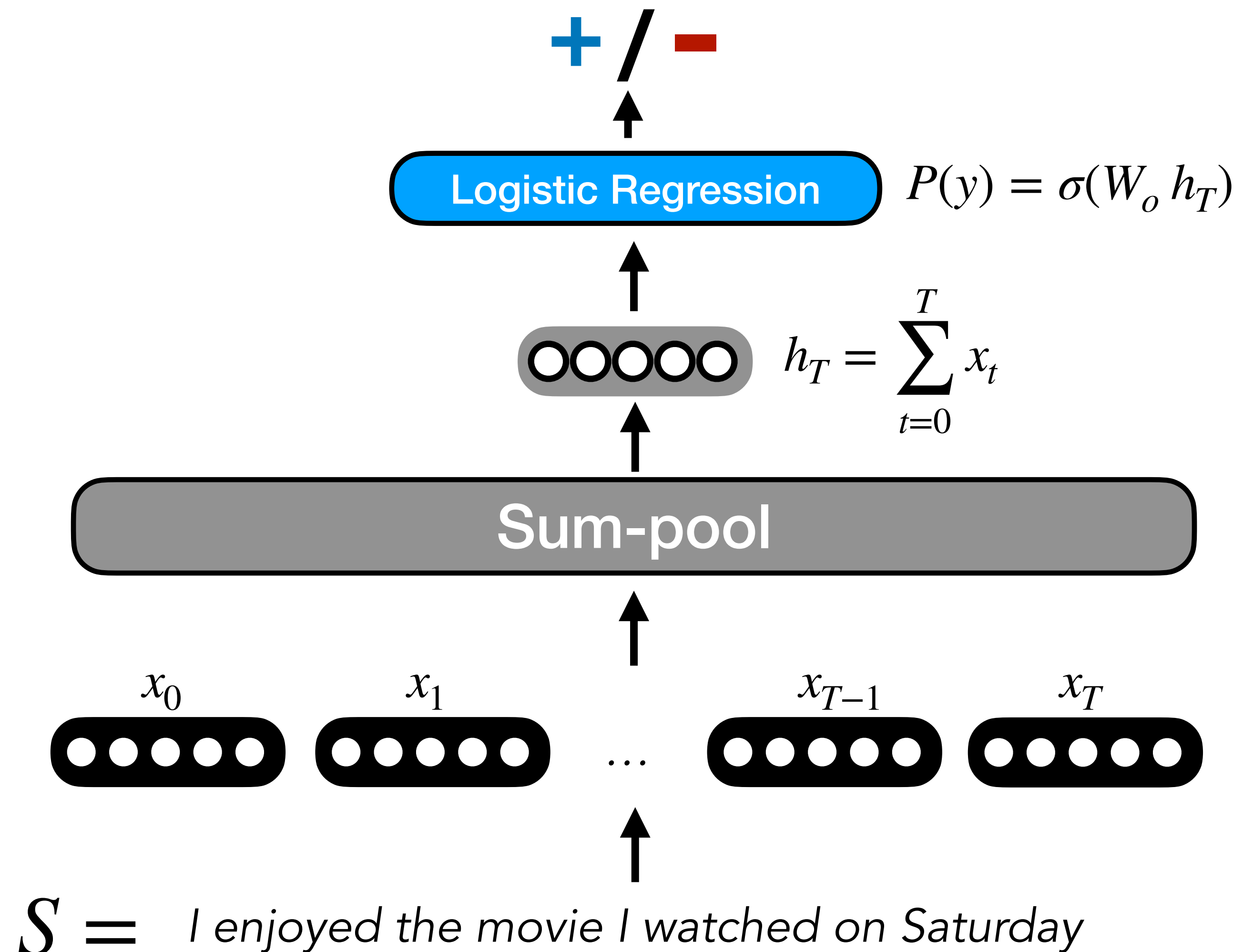
- What are the learnable parameters in our system?



Comprehension Questions

- What are the learnable parameters in our system?
- How many **unique** embeddings are in X for this example sentence S ?

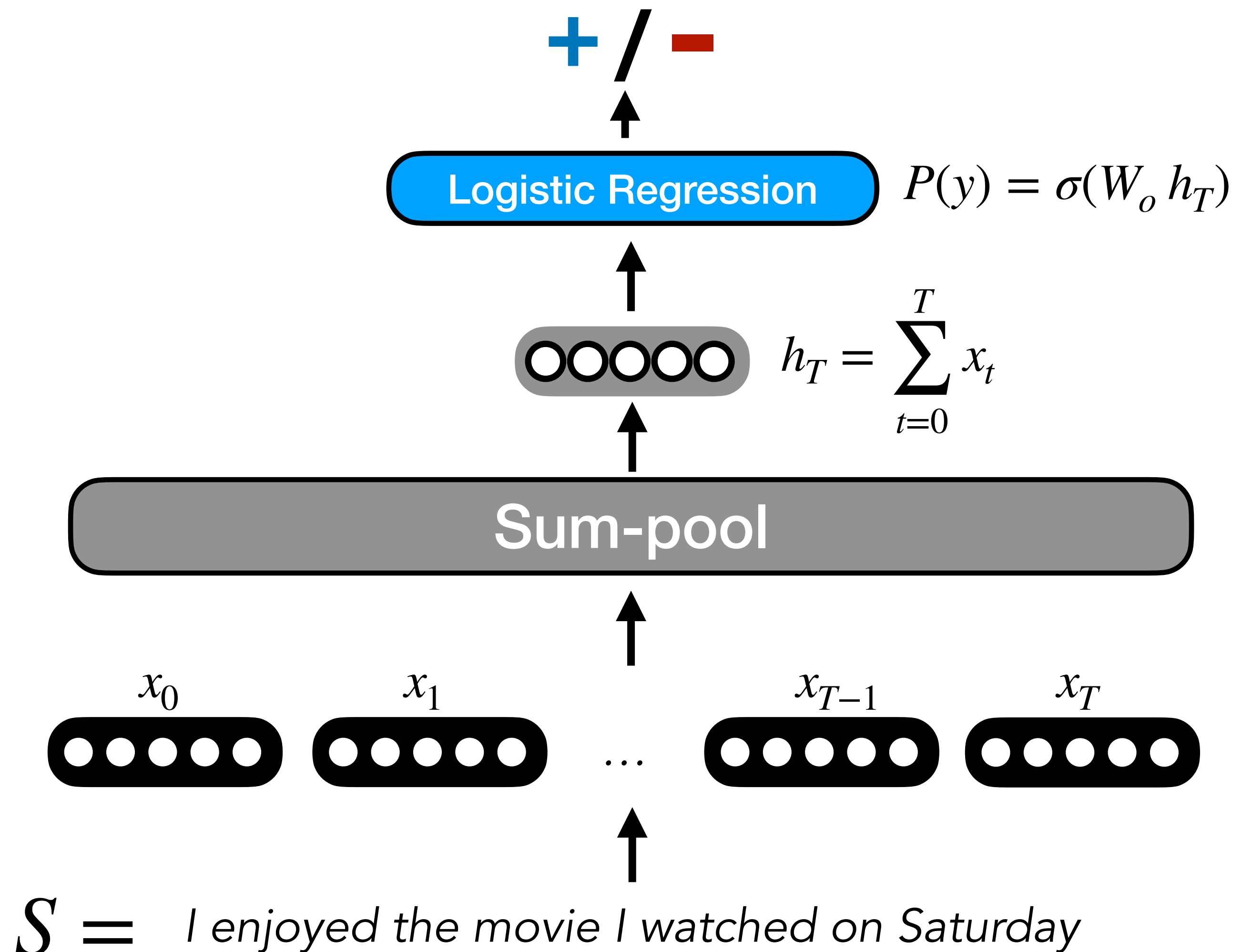
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Comprehension Questions

- What are the learnable parameters in our system?
- How many **unique** embeddings are in X for this example sentence S
- How many **unique** embeddings are in \mathbb{E} ?

Vocabulary size V



Recap

- **Words and other tokens become vectors; no longer discrete symbols!**
- Define a vocabulary of words (or token types) V that our system can assign to a vector
- Define a model that composes these vectors (or embeddings) of words into some sequence representation
- A classifier can map this representation to a set of labels to make a prediction
- The prediction depends on the natural language task we are trying to accomplish
- By learning to make these predictions, we learn better embeddings for the words in the sequences

Tomorrow

What could be a better way to learn word embeddings?

Self-supervised learning of word embeddings

References

- Shen, D., Wang, G., Wang, W., Min, M., Su, Q., Zhang, Y., Li, C., Henao, R., & Carin, L. (2018). Baseline Needs More Love: On Simple Word-Embedding-Based Models and Associated Pooling Mechanisms. *Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics*.