

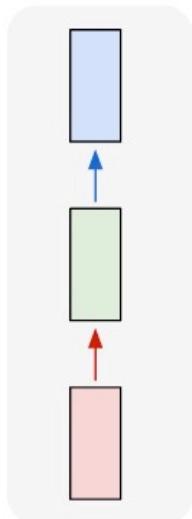
# Recurrent Neural Nets & Visual Captioning

## Lecture 17

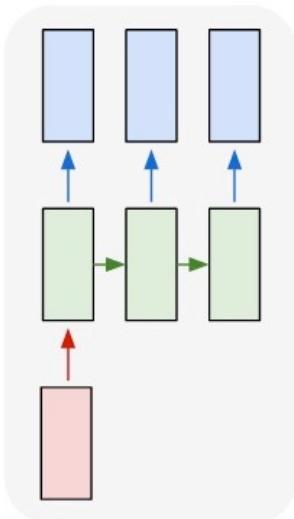
Slides from: Dhruv Bhatra, Fei-Fei Li, Justin Johnson,  
Serena Yeung, Andrej Karpathy

# Recurrent Neural Nets

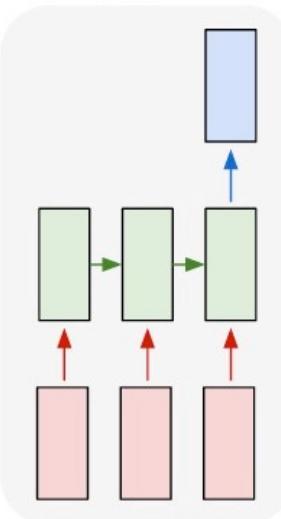
one to one



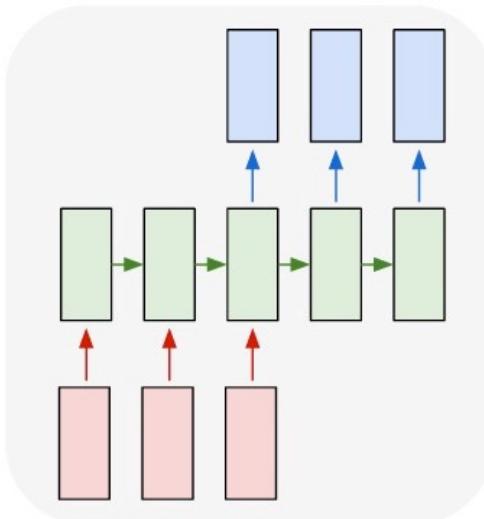
one to many



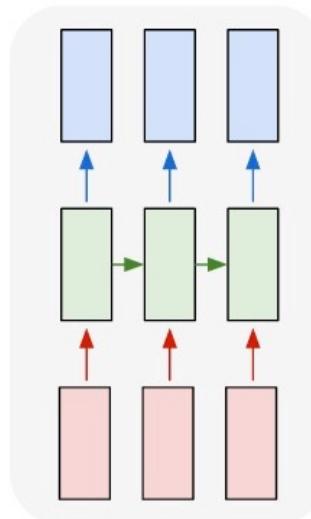
many to one



many to many

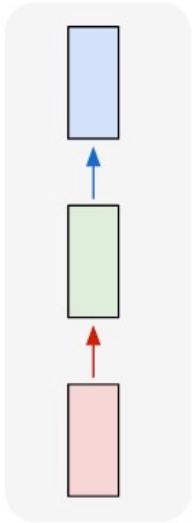


many to many

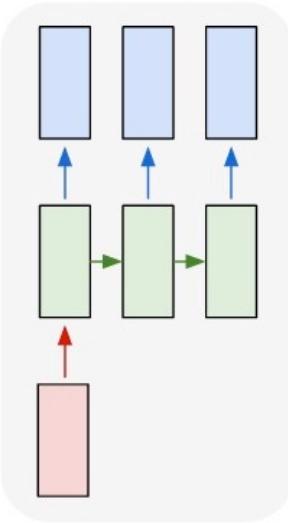


# Recurrent Neural Nets

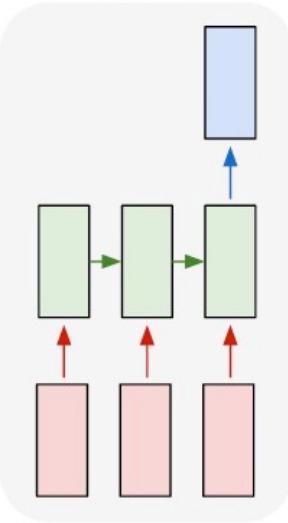
one to one



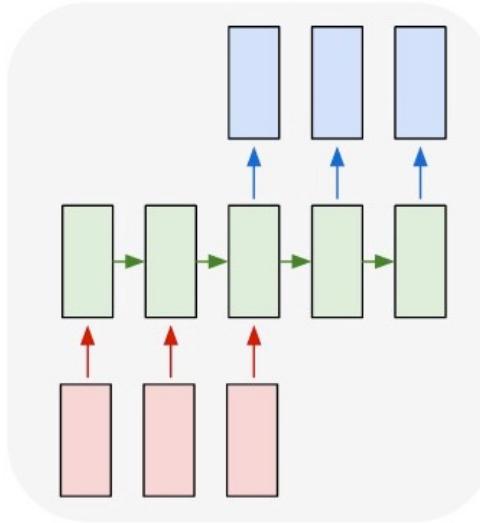
one to many



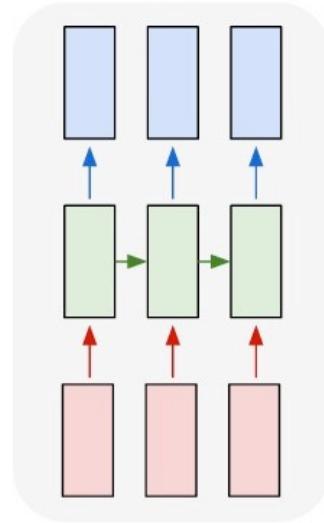
many to one



many to many



many to many



Input: No sequence

Output: No sequence

Example:  
“standard”  
classification /  
regression  
problems

Input: No sequence

Output: Sequence

Example:  
Im2Caption

Input: Sequence

Output: No sequence

Example: sentence classification,  
multiple-choice question answering

Input: Sequence

Output: Sequence

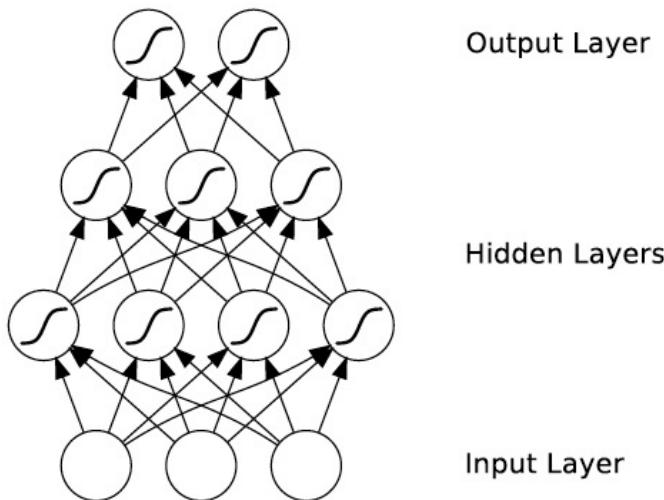
Example: machine translation, video captioning, open-ended question answering, video question answering

# Synonyms

- Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs)
- Types:
  - “Vanilla” RNNs
  - Long Short Term Memory (LSTMs)
  - Gated Recurrent Units (GRUs)
  - ...
- Algorithms
  - BackProp Through Time (BPTT)

# What's wrong with MLPs/ConvNets?

- Problem 1: Can't model sequences
  - Fixed-sized Inputs & Outputs
  - No temporal structure
- Problem 2: Pure feed-forward processing
  - No “memory”, no feedback



# Sequences are everywhere...

*Foreign minister.*



FOREIGN MINISTER.



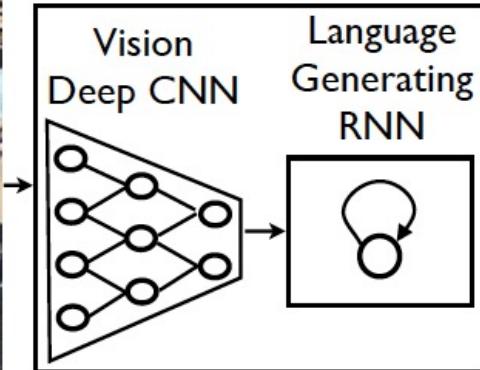
THE SOUND OF

$x = \text{bringen } a_1=2 \quad \text{sie } a_2=0 \quad \text{bitte } a_3=1 \quad \text{das } a_4=3 \quad \text{auto } a_5=4 \quad \text{zurück } a_6=2 \quad a_7=5$

$y = \text{please} \quad \text{return} \quad \text{the} \quad \text{car} \quad .$

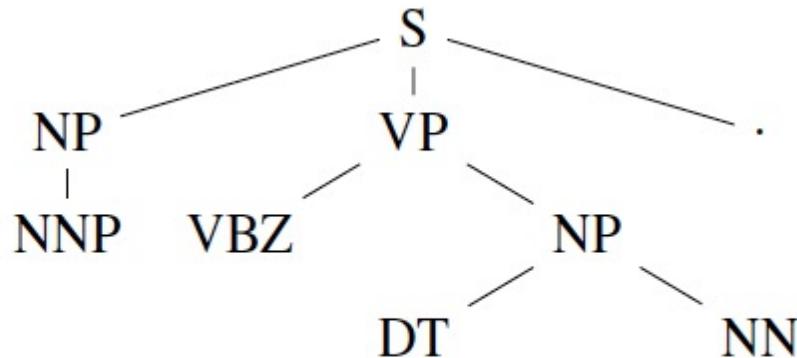


# Even where you might not expect a sequence...



A group of people shopping at an outdoor market.  
There are many vegetables at the fruit stand.

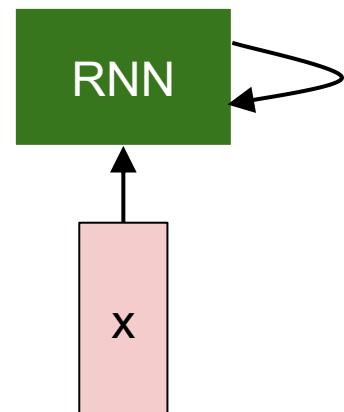
John has a dog . →



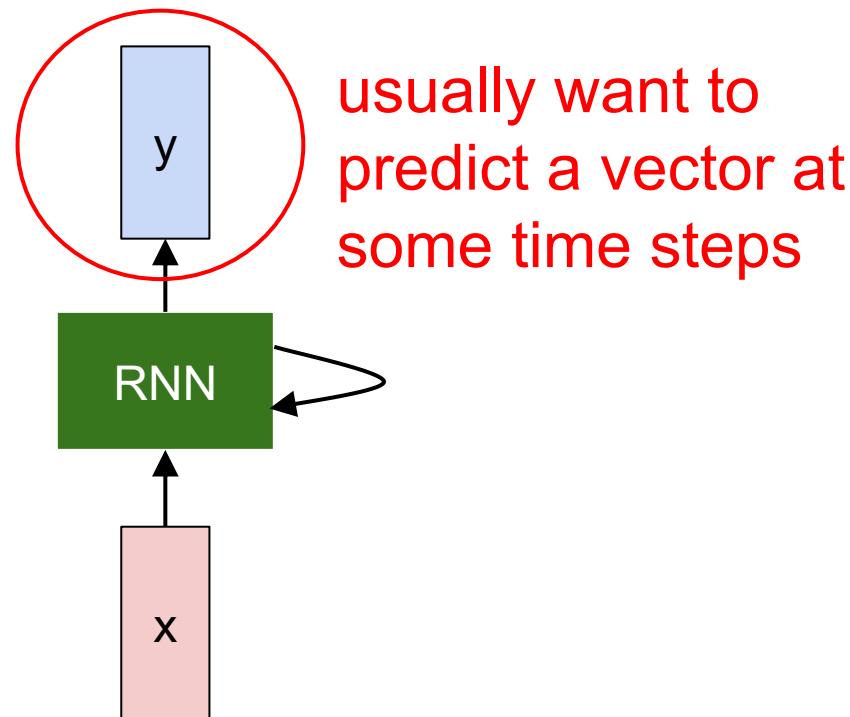
John has a dog . →

(S (NP NNP )<sub>NP</sub> (VP VBZ (NP DT NN )<sub>NP</sub> )<sub>VP</sub> . )<sub>S</sub>

# Recurrent Neural Network



# Recurrent Neural Network

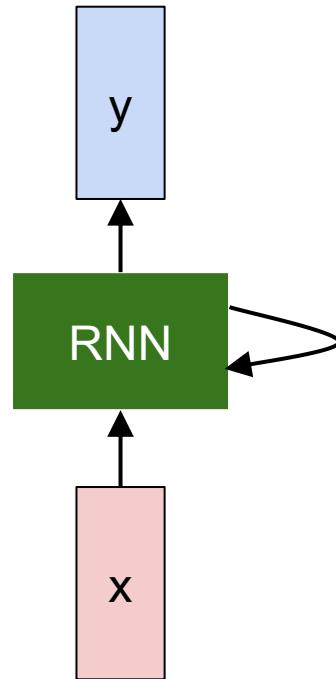


# Recurrent Neural Network

We can process a sequence of vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  by applying a **recurrence formula** at every time step:

$$h_t = f_W(h_{t-1}, x_t)$$

new state      /      old state      input vector at  
                        \      some time step  
                        some function  
                        with parameters W

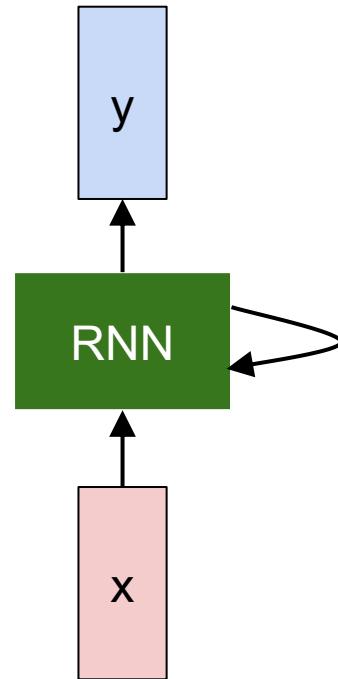


# Recurrent Neural Network

We can process a sequence of vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  by applying a **recurrence formula** at every time step:

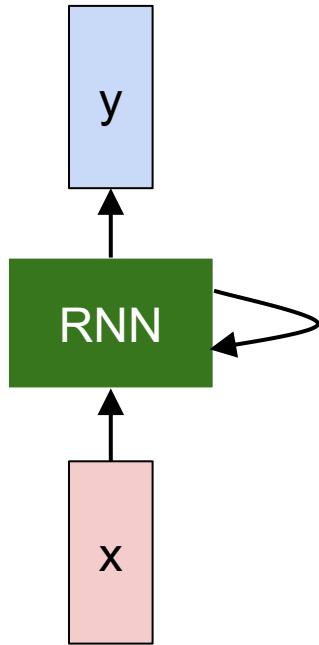
$$h_t = f_W(h_{t-1}, x_t)$$

Notice: the same function and the same set of parameters are used at every time step.



# (Vanilla) Recurrent Neural Network

The state consists of a single “*hidden*” vector  $\mathbf{h}$ :



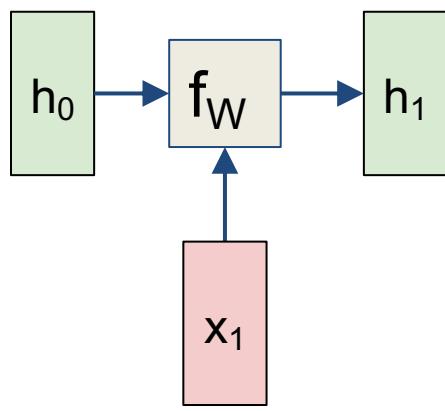
$$y_t = W_{hy}h_t + b_y$$

$$h_t = f_W(h_{t-1}, x_t)$$

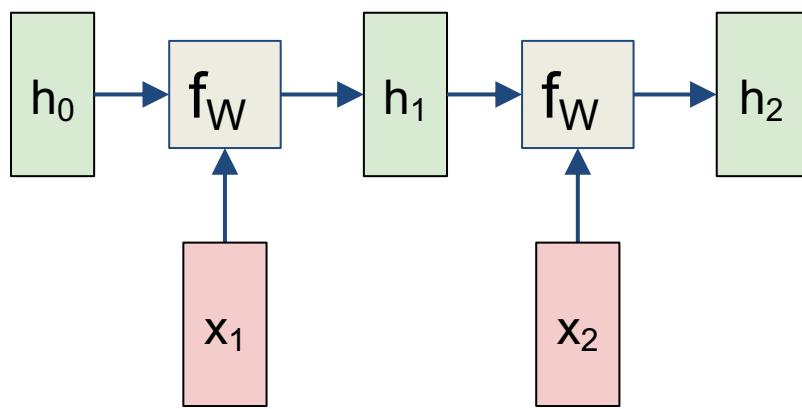


$$h_t = \tanh(W_{hh}h_{t-1} + W_{xh}x_t + b_h)$$

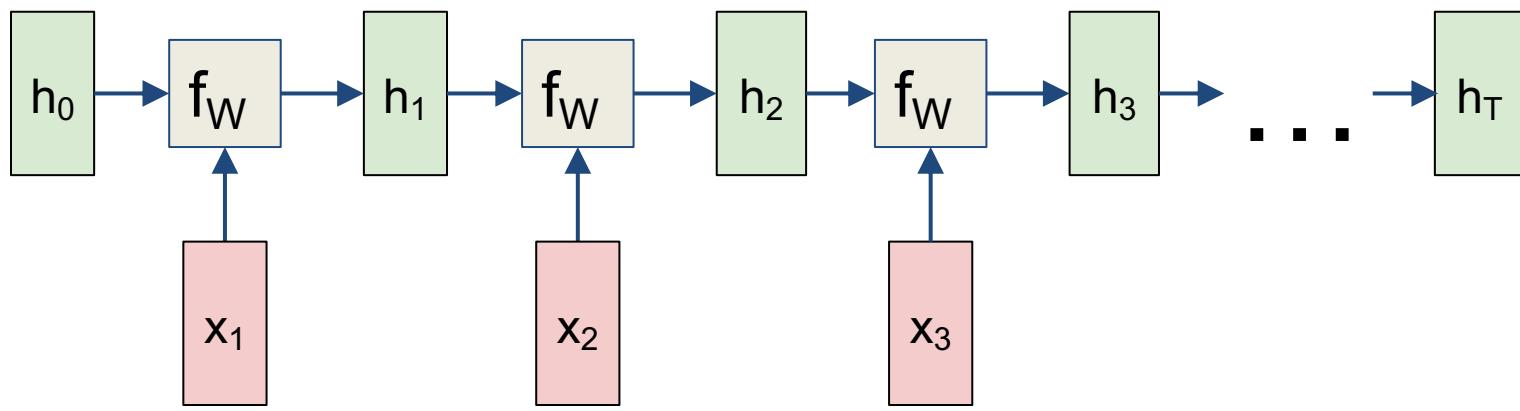
# RNN: Computational Graph



# RNN: Computational Graph

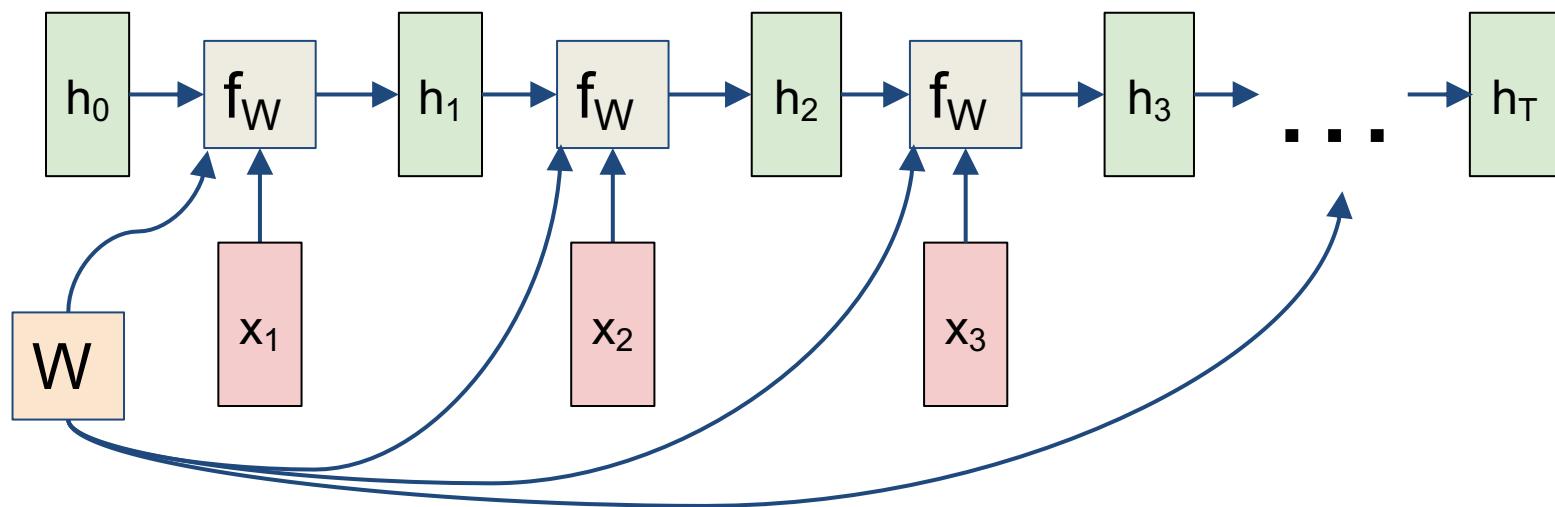


# RNN: Computational Graph

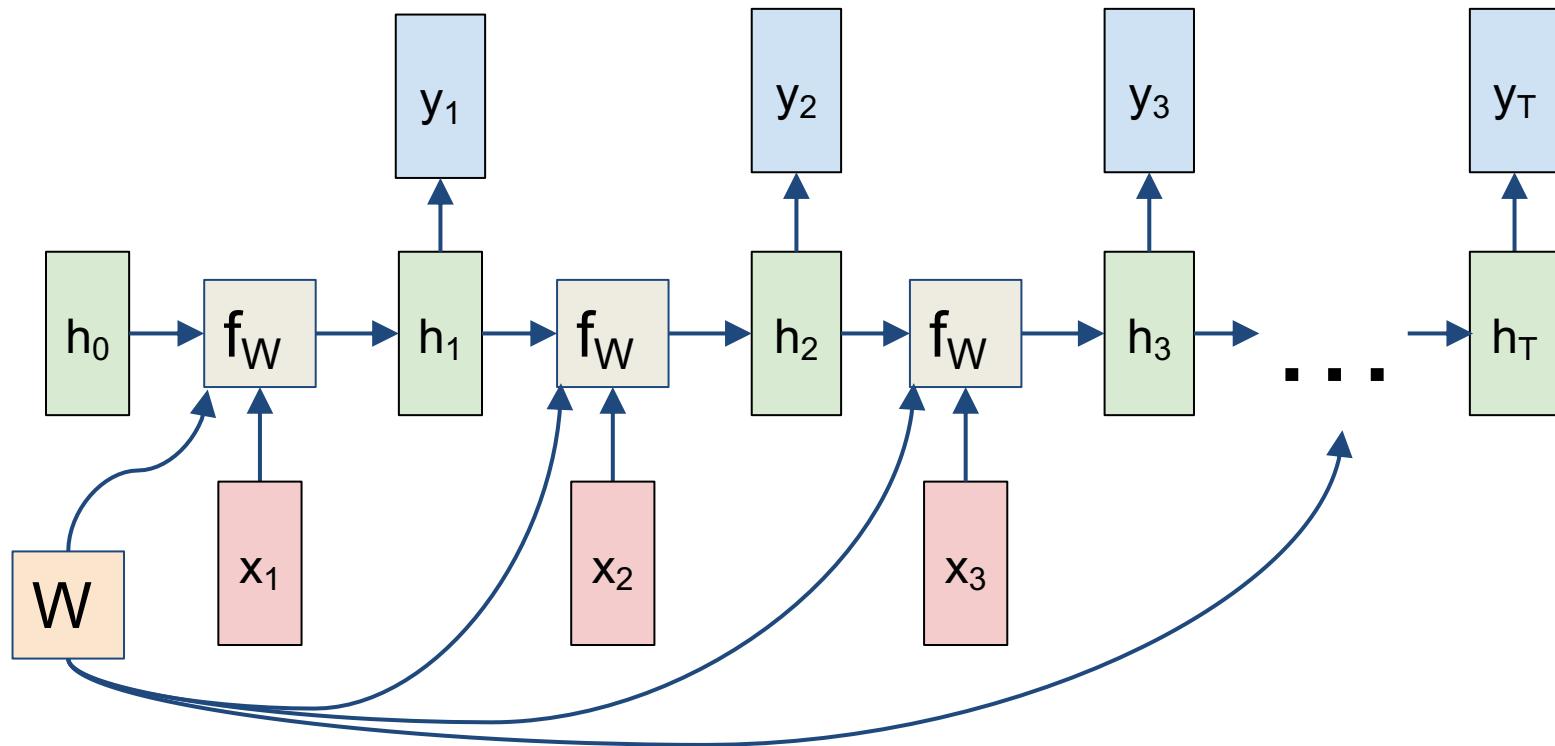


# RNN: Computational Graph

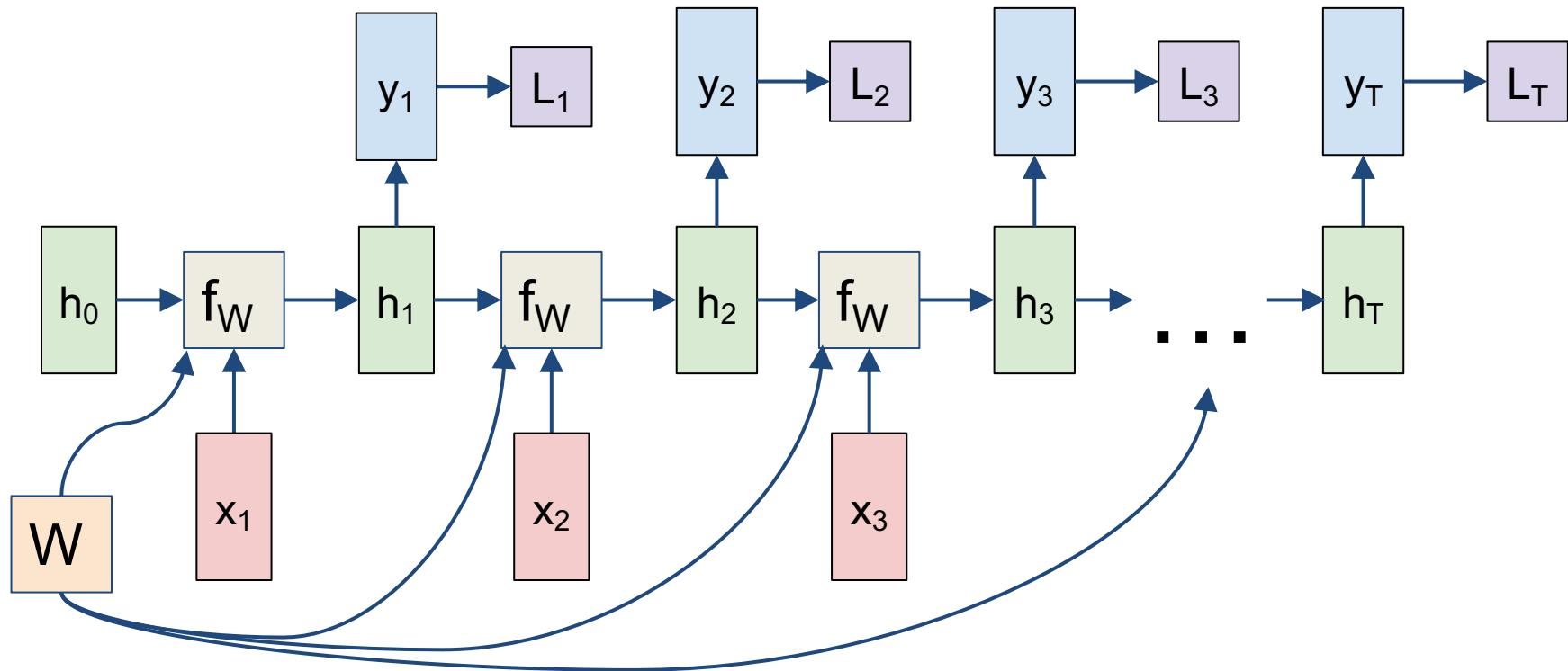
Re-use the same weight matrix at every time-step



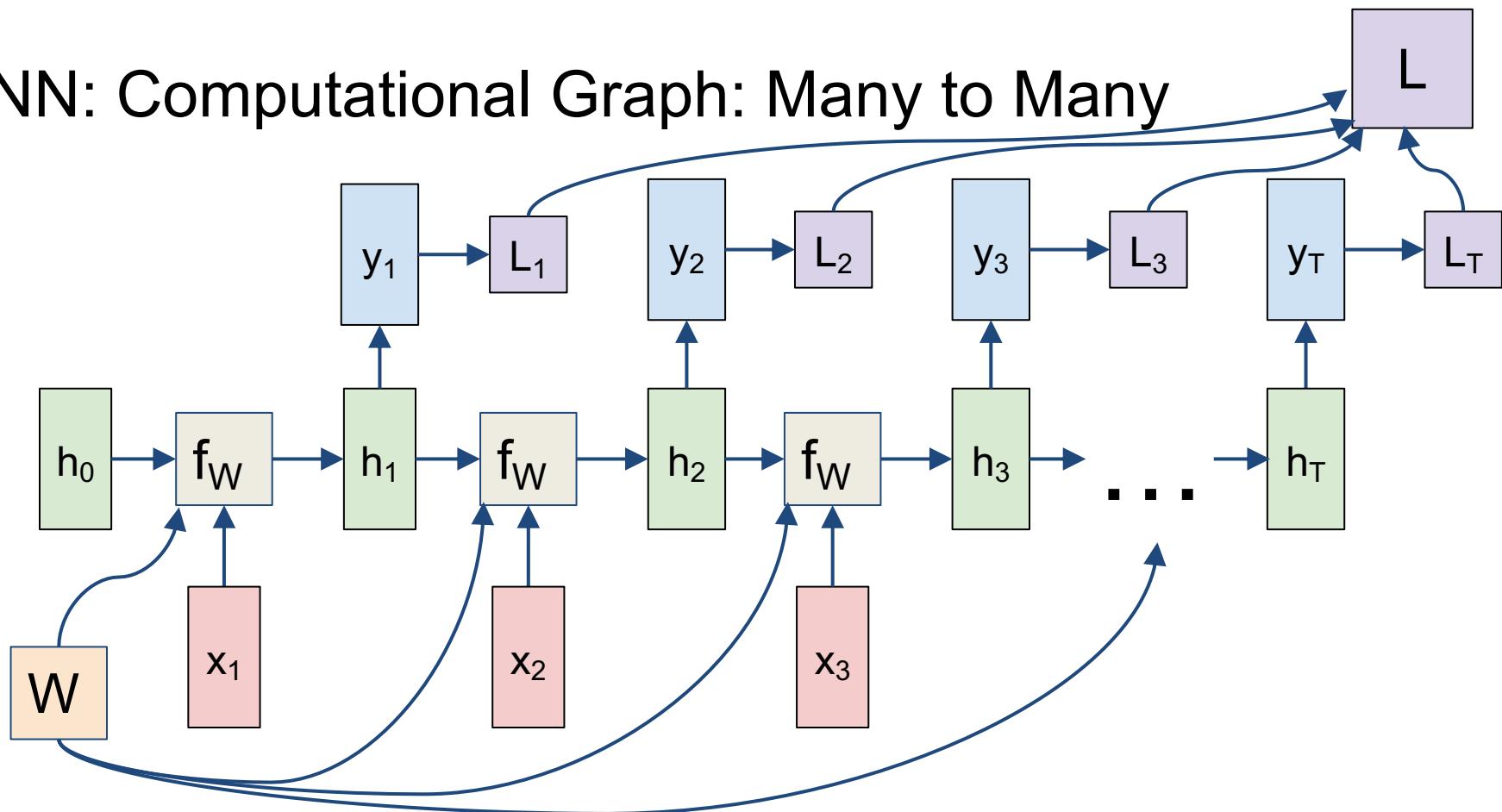
# RNN: Computational Graph: Many to Many



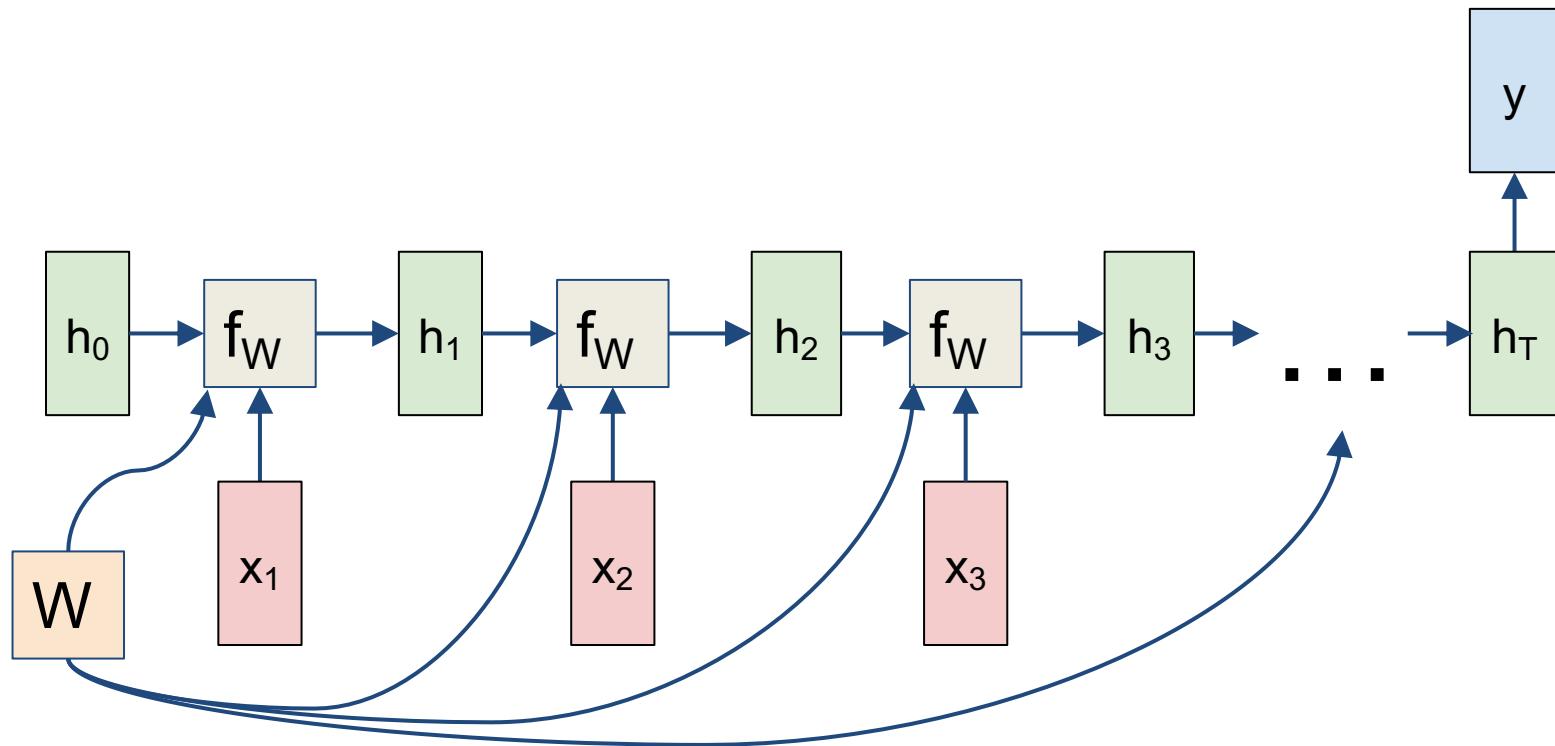
# RNN: Computational Graph: Many to Many



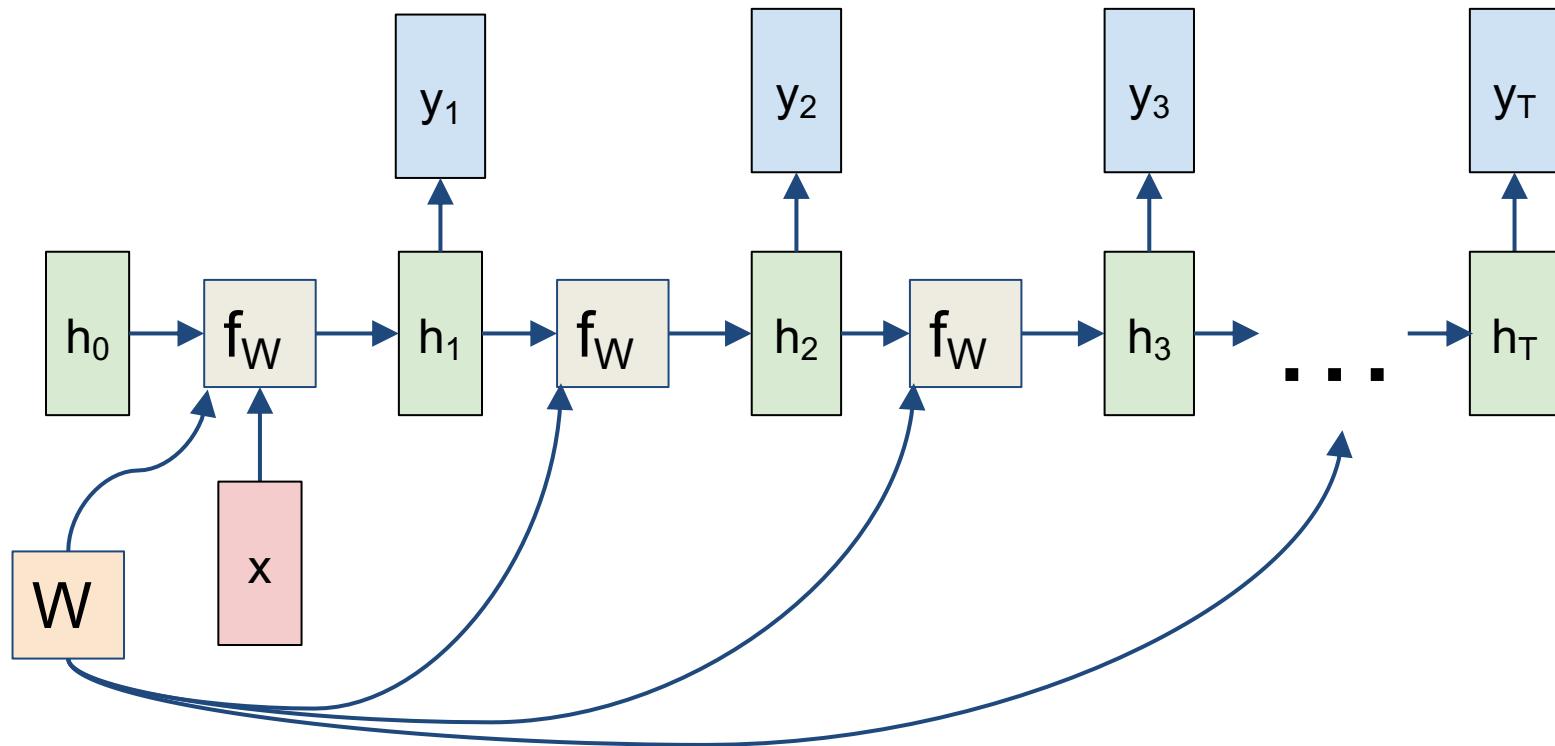
# RNN: Computational Graph: Many to Many



# RNN: Computational Graph: Many to One

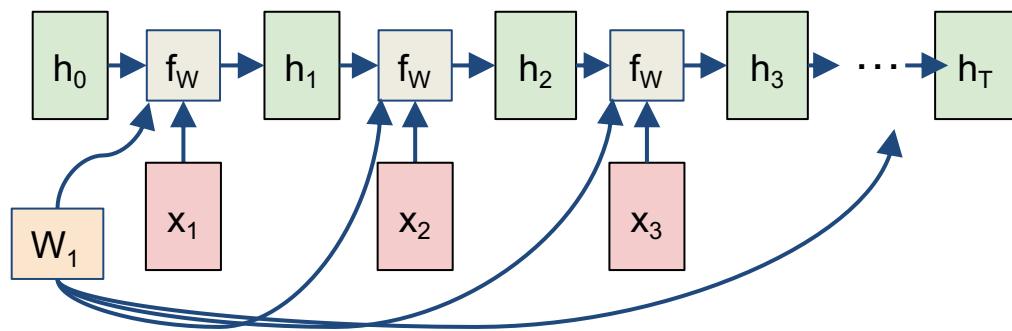


# RNN: Computational Graph: One to Many



# Sequence to Sequence: Many-to-one + one-to-many

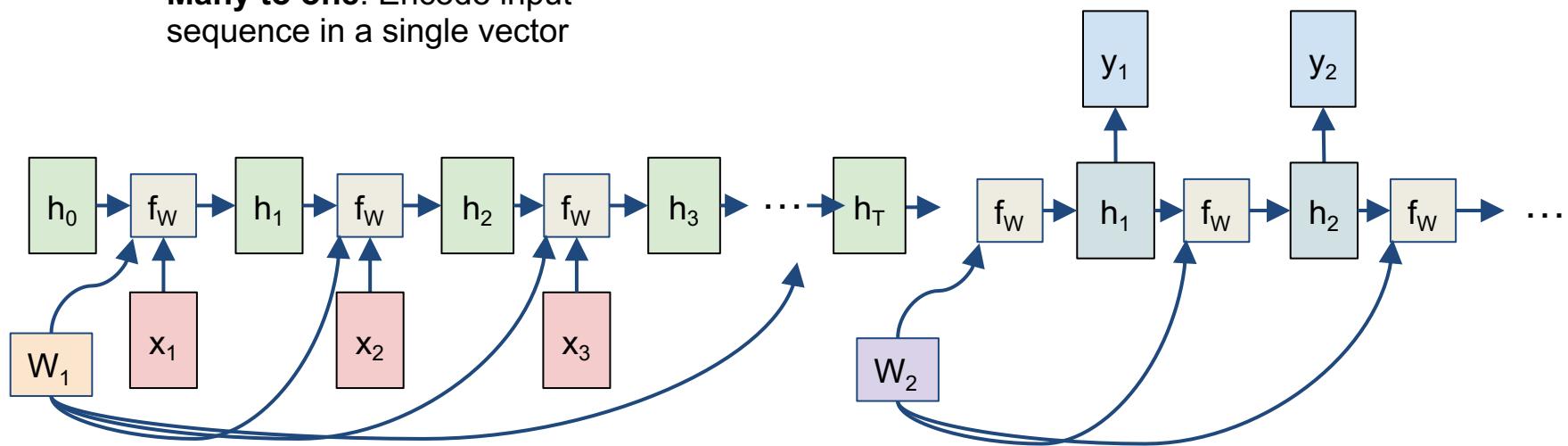
**Many to one:** Encode input sequence in a single vector



# Sequence to Sequence: Many-to-one + one-to-many

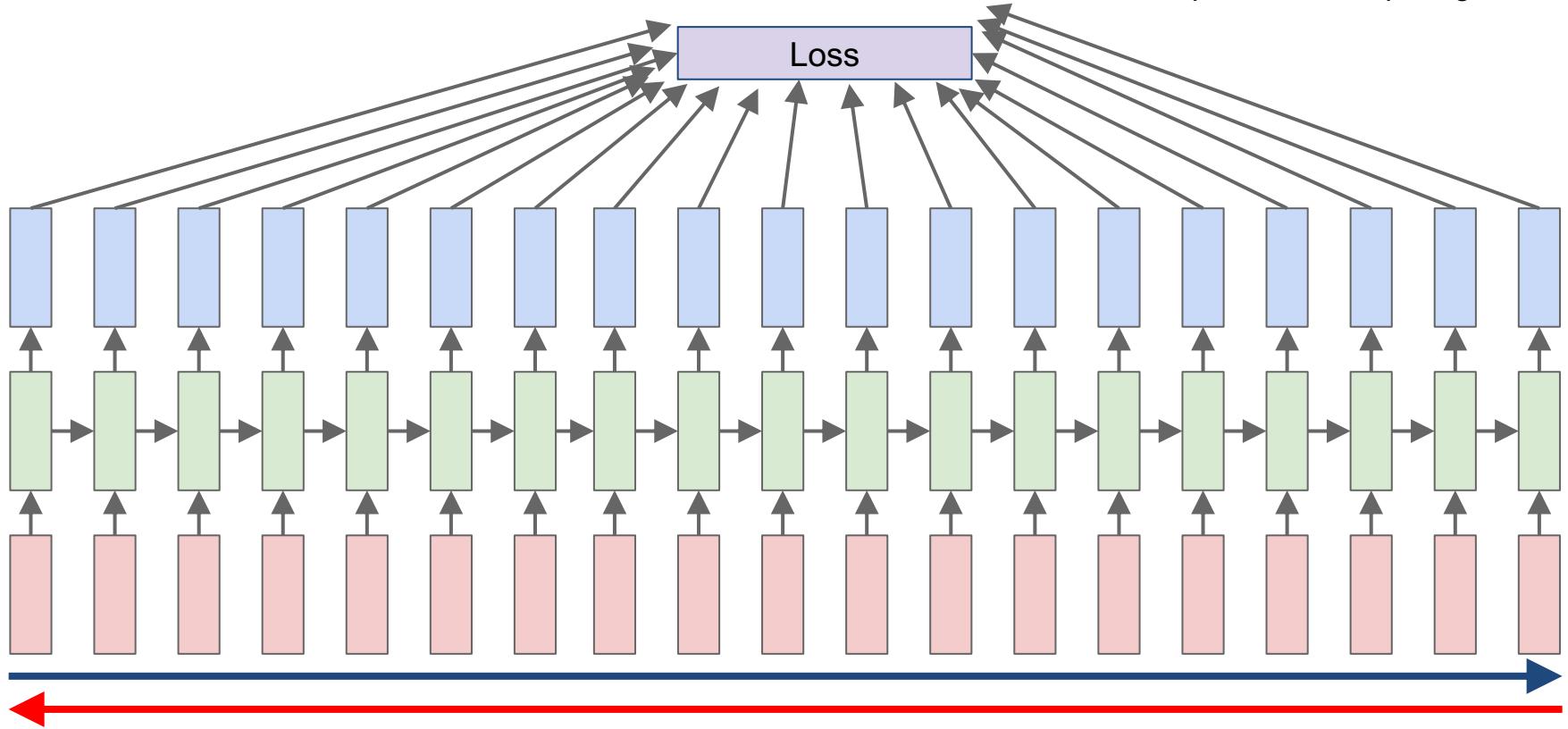
**Many to one:** Encode input sequence in a single vector

**One to many:** Produce output sequence from single input vector

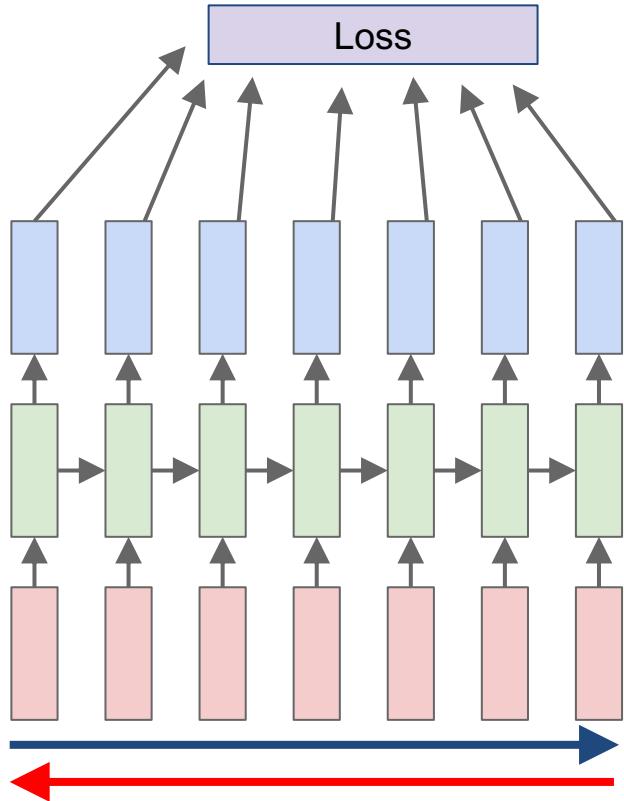


# Backpropagation through time

Forward through entire sequence to compute loss, then backward through entire sequence to compute gradient

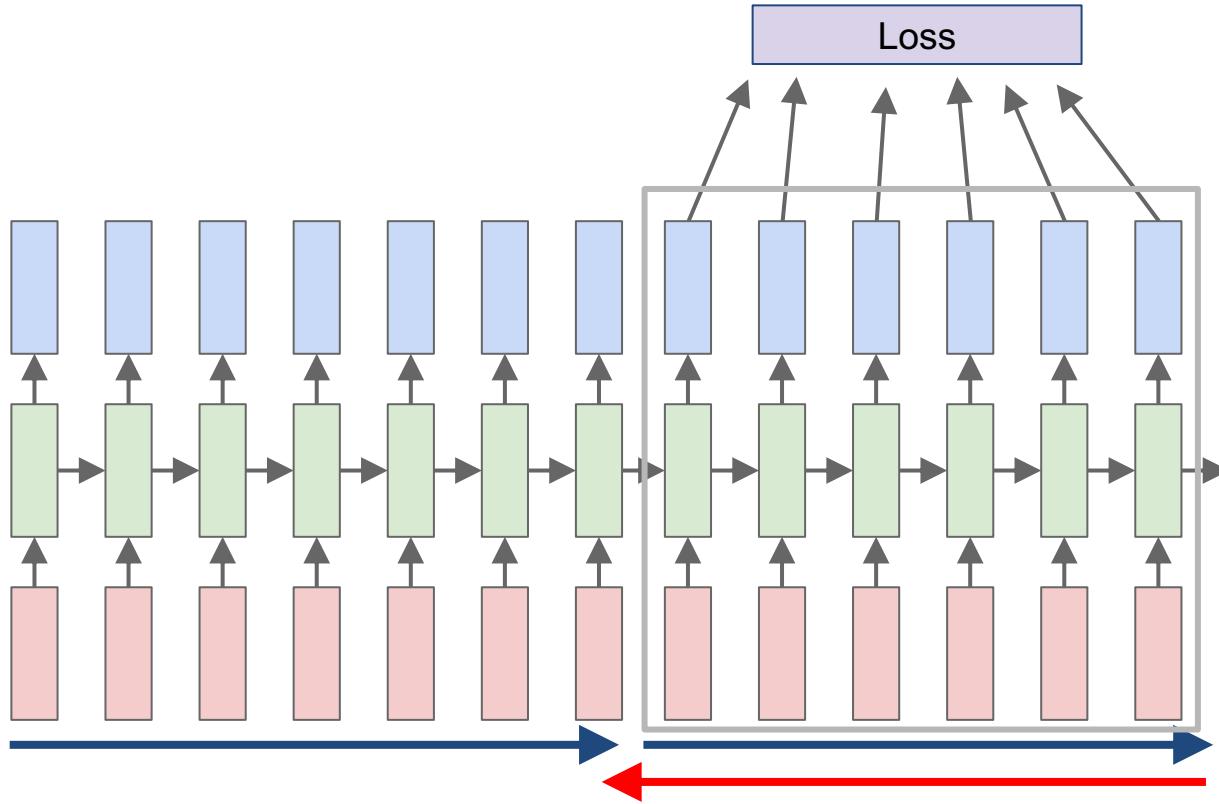


# Truncated Backpropagation through time



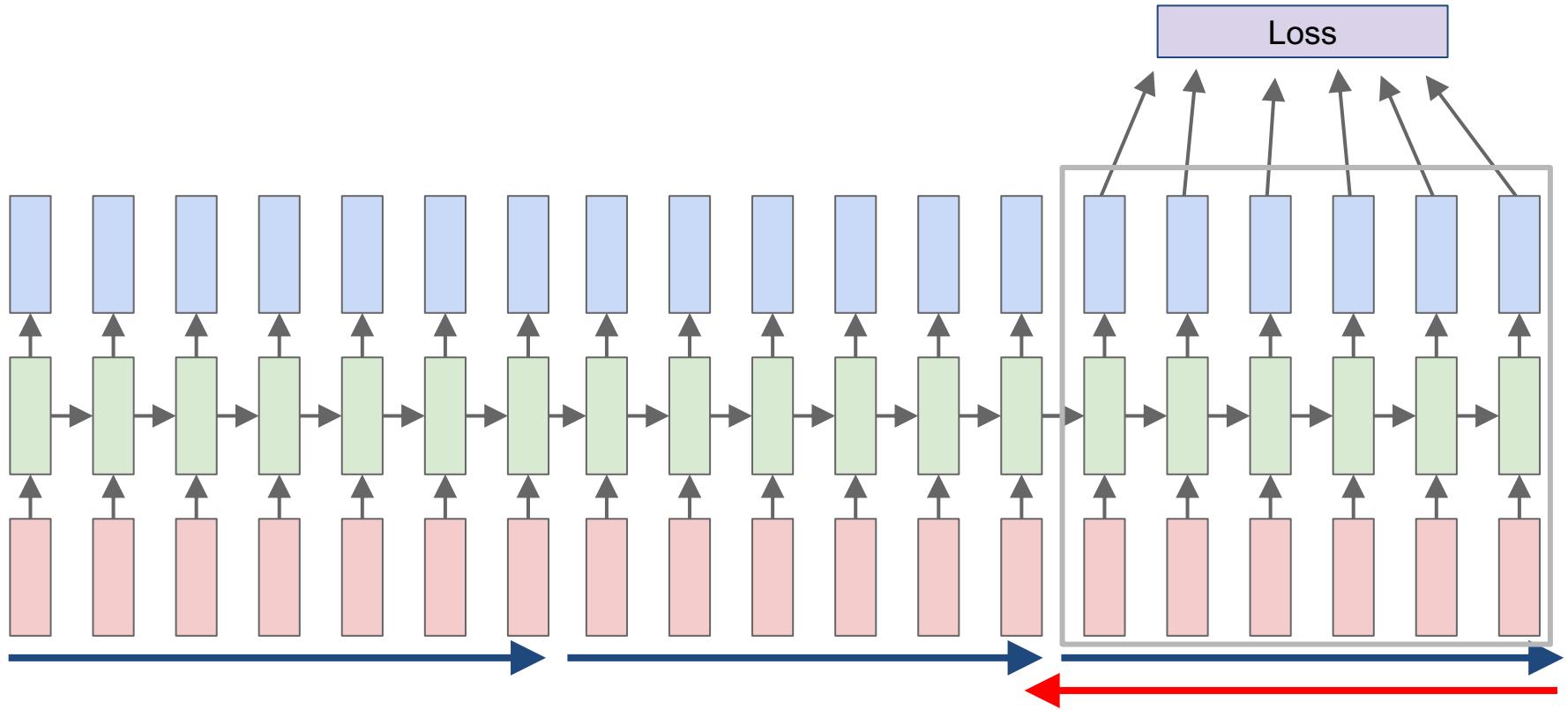
Run forward and backward  
through chunks of the  
sequence instead of whole  
sequence

# Truncated Backpropagation through time



Carry hidden states forward in time forever, but only backpropagate for some smaller number of steps

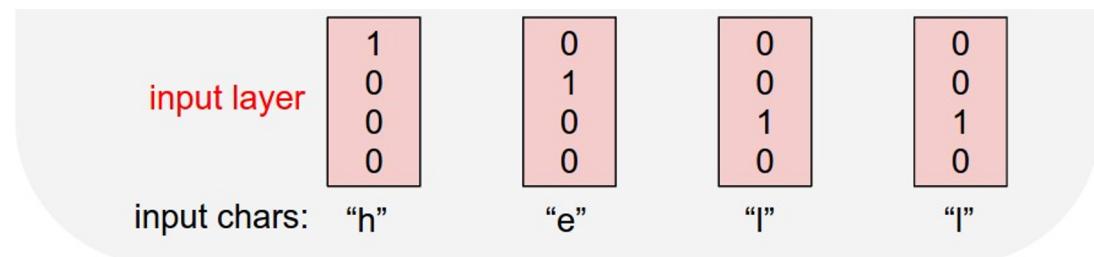
# Truncated Backpropagation through time



# **Example: Character-level Language Model**

Vocabulary:  
[h,e,l,o]

Example training  
sequence:  
**“hello”**

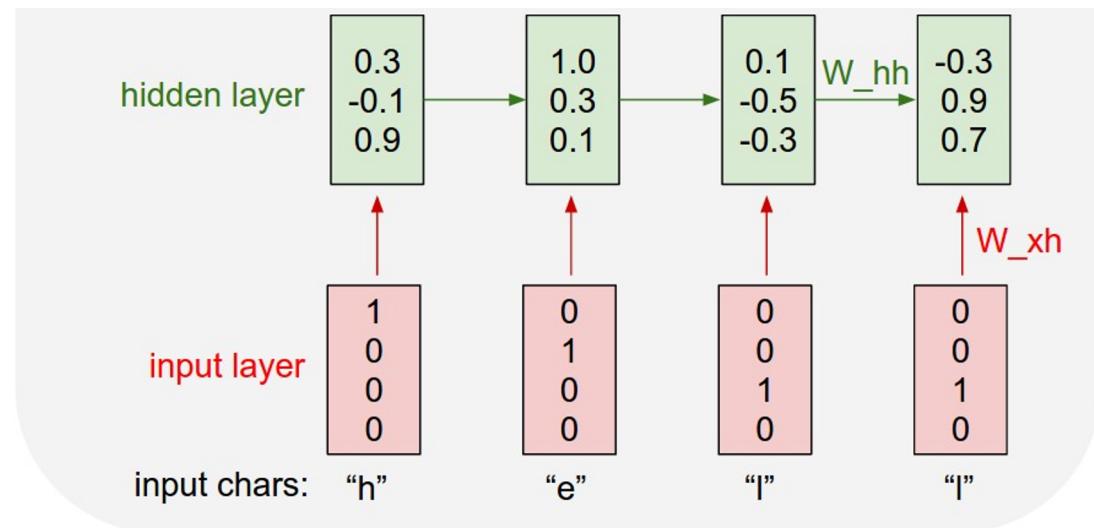


# Example: Character-level Language Model

Vocabulary:  
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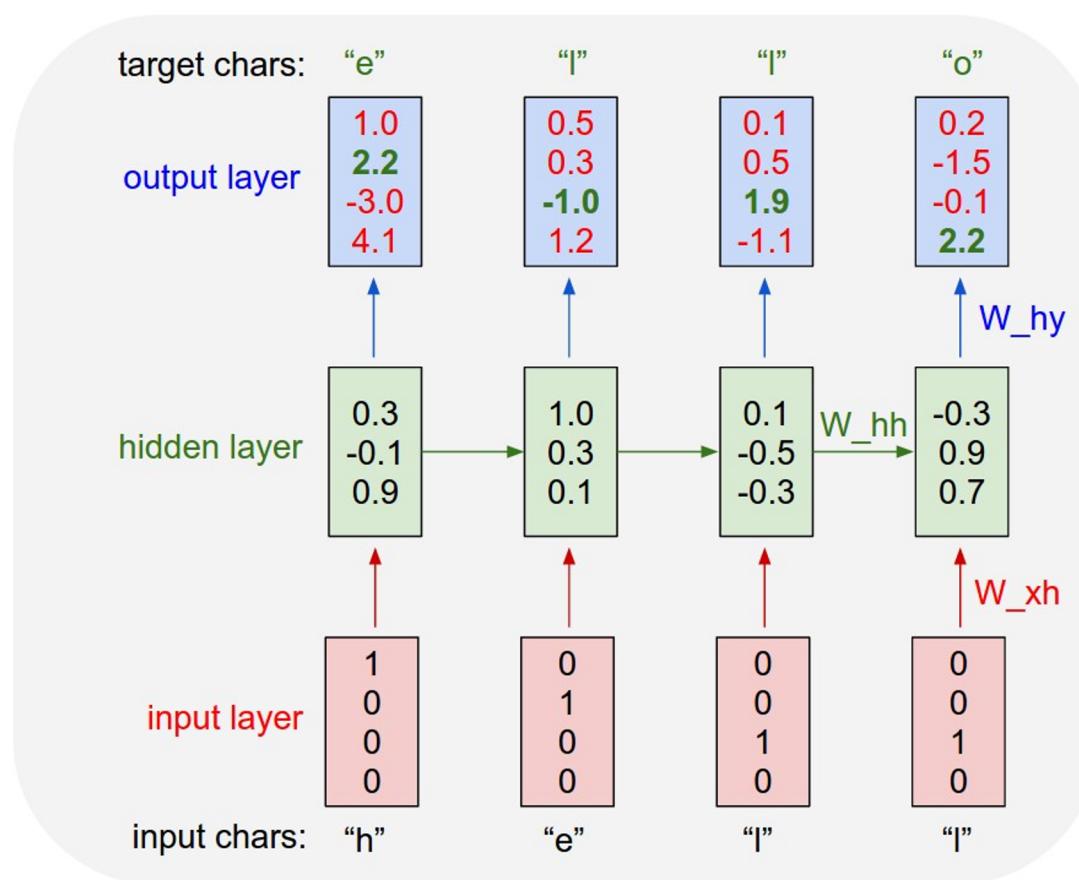
$$h_t = \tanh(W_{hh}h_{t-1} + W_{xh}x_t + b_h)$$



# Example: Character-level Language Model

Vocabulary:  
[h,e,l,o]

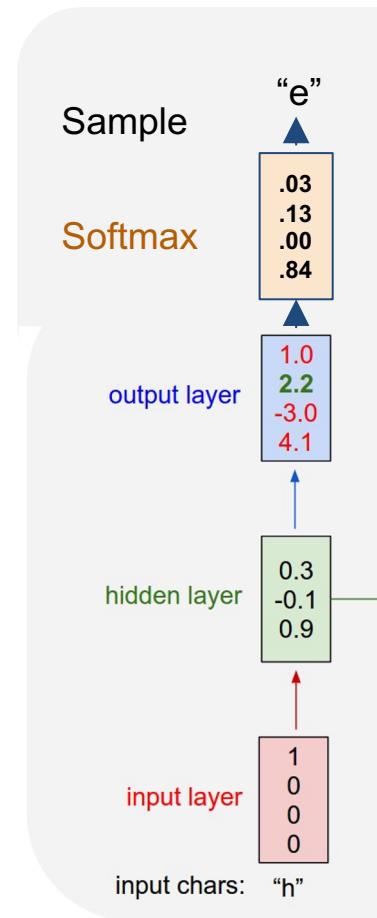
Example training  
sequence:  
“hello”



# Example: Character-level Language Model Sampling

Vocabulary:  
[h,e,l,o]

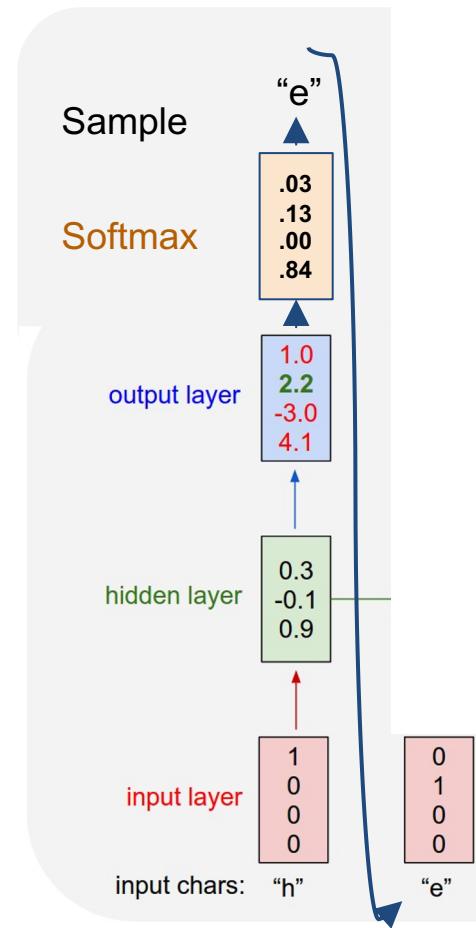
At test-time sample  
characters one at a  
time, feed back to  
model



# Example: Character-level Language Model Sampling

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[h,e,l,o]

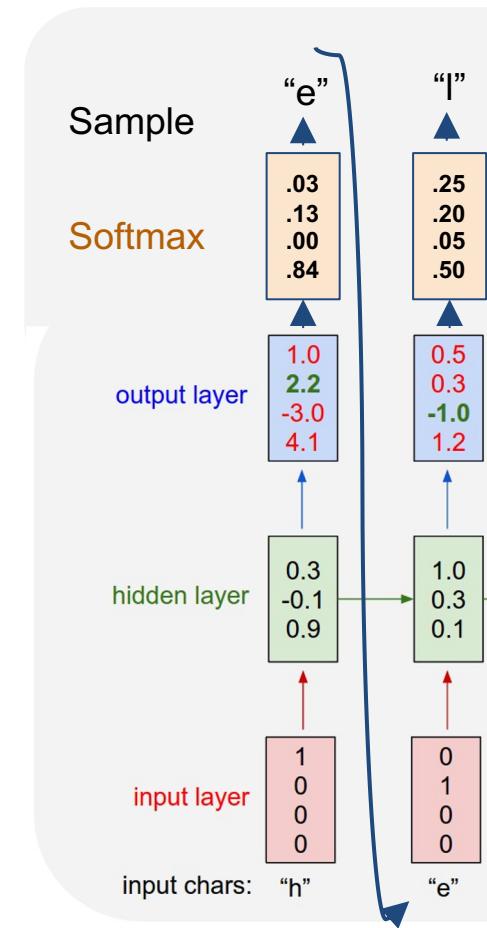
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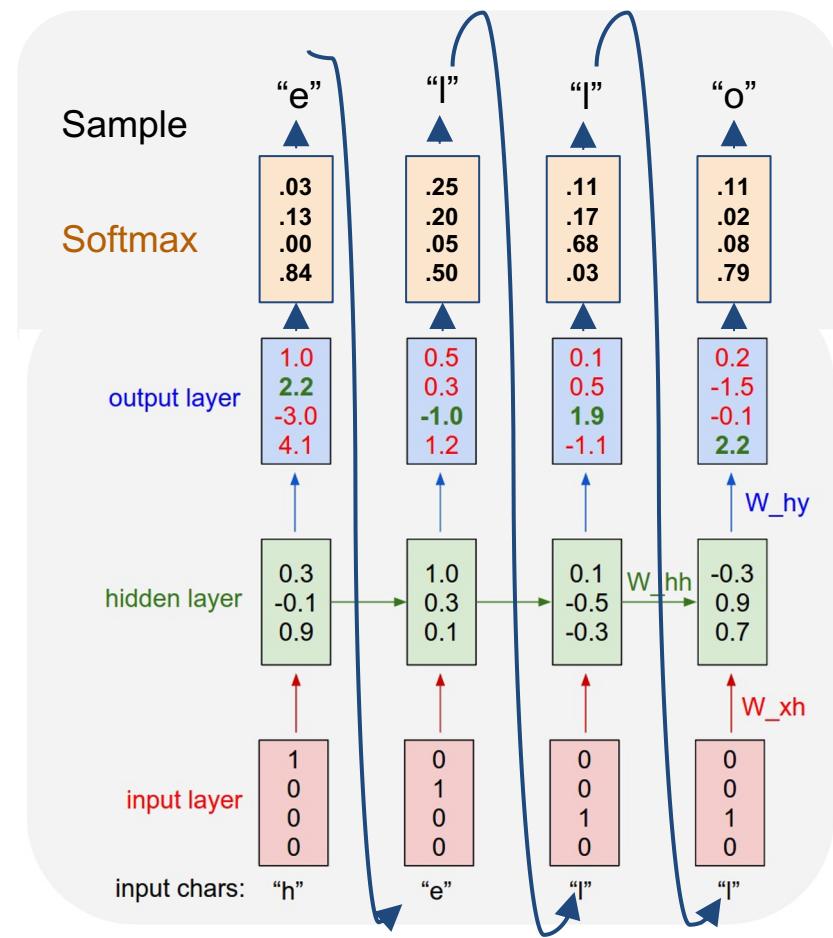
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# Example: Character-level Language Model Sampling

Vocabulary:  
[h,e,l,o]

At test-time sample  
characters one at a  
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model



## min-char-rnn.py gist: 112 lines of Python

```

1 """
2 Minimal character-level Vanilla RNN model. Written by Andrej Karpathy (@karpathy)
3 BSD License
4
5 import numpy as np
6
7 # data I/O
8 data = open('input.txt', 'r').read() # should be simple plain text file
9 chars = list(set(data))
10 data_size, vocab_size = len(data), len(chars)
11 print 'data has %d characters, %d unique.' % (data_size, vocab_size)
12 char_to_ix = { ch:i for i,ch in enumerate(chars) }
13 ix_to_char = { i:ch for i,ch in enumerate(chars) }
14
15 # hyperparameters
16 hidden_size = 100 # size of hidden layer of neurons
17 seq_length = 25 # number of steps to unroll the RNN for
18 learning_rate = 1e-1
19
20 # model parameters
21 wkh = np.random.randn(hidden_size, vocab_size)*0.01 # input to hidden
22 whh = np.random.randn(hidden_size, hidden_size)*0.01 # hidden to hidden
23 why = np.random.randn(vocab_size, hidden_size)*0.01 # hidden to output
24 bh = np.zeros((hidden_size, 1)) # hidden bias
25 by = np.zeros((vocab_size, 1)) # output bias
26
27 def lossFun(inputs, targets, hprev):
28     """
29     inputs,targets are both list of integers.
30     hprev is hxi array of initial hidden state
31     returns the loss, gradients on model parameters, and last hidden state
32     """
33     xs, hs, ys, ps = [], [], [], []
34     hs[-1] = np.copy(hprev)
35     loss = 0
36     # forward pass
37     for t in reversed(xrange(len(inputs))):
38         xs[t] = np.zeros((vocab_size,1)) # encode in 1-of-k representation
39         xs[t][inputs[t]] = 1
40         hs[t] = np.tanh(np.dot(wkh, xs[t]) + np.dot(whh, hs[t-1]) + bh) # hidden state
41         ys[t] = np.dot(why, hs[t]) - by # unnormalized log probabilities for next chars
42         ps[t] = np.exp(ys[t]) / np.sum(np.exp(ys[t])) # probabilities for next chars
43         loss += -np.log(ps[t][targets[t], 0]) # softmax (cross-entropy loss)
44     # backward pass: compute gradients going backwards
45     dwhx, dwhh, dwhy = np.zeros_like(wkh), np.zeros_like(whh), np.zeros_like(why)
46     dbh, dby = np.zeros_like(bh), np.zeros_like(by)
47     dhnext = np.zeros_like(hs[0])
48     for t in reversed(xrange(len(inputs))):
49         dy = np.copy(ps[t])
50         dy[targets[t]] -= 1 # backprop into y
51         dwhy += np.dot(dy, hs[t].T)
52         dby += dy
53         dh = np.dot(why.T, dy) + dhnext # backprop into h
54         dhrw = (1 - hs[t] * hs[t]) * dh # backprop through tanh nonlinearity
55         dbh += dhrw
56         dwhx += np.dot(dhrw, xs[t].T)
57         dwhh += np.dot(dhrw, hs[t-1].T)
58         dhnext = np.dot(whh.T, dhrw)
59     for dparam in [dwhx, dwhh, dwhy, dbh, dby]:
60         np.clip(dparam, -5, 5, out=dparam) # clip to mitigate exploding gradients
61     return loss, dwhx, dwhh, dwhy, dbh, dby, hs[len(inputs)-1]
62
63 def sample(h, seed_ix, n):
64     """
65     sample a sequence of integers from the model
66     h is memory state, seed_ix is seed letter for first time step
67     """
68     x = np.zeros((vocab_size, 1))
69     x[seed_ix] = 1
70     ixes = []
71     for t in xrange(n):
72         h = np.tanh(np.dot(wkh, x) + np.dot(whh, h) + bh)
73         y = np.dot(why, h) - by
74         p = np.exp(y) / np.sum(np.exp(y))
75         ix = np.random.choice(range(vocab_size), p=p.ravel())
76         x = np.zeros((vocab_size, 1))
77         x[ix] = 1
78         ixes.append(ix)
79
80     return ixes
81
82 n, p = 0, 0
83 mxwh, mwhh, mwhy = np.zeros_like(wkh), np.zeros_like(whh), np.zeros_like(why)
84 mbh, mby = np.zeros_like(bh), np.zeros_like(by) # memory variables for Adagrad
85 smooth_loss = -np.log(1.0/vocab_size)*seq_length # loss at iteration 0
86 while True:
87     # prepare inputs (we're sweeping from left to right in steps seq_length long)
88     if p+seq_length+1 > len(data) or n == 0:
89         hprev = np.zeros((hidden_size,1)) # reset RNN memory
90         p = 0 # go from start of data
91         inputs = [char_to_ix[ch] for ch in data[p:p+seq_length]]
92         targets = [char_to_ix[ch] for ch in data[p+1:p+seq_length+1]]
93
94     # sample from the model now and then
95     if n % 100 == 0:
96         sample_ix = sample(hprev, inputs[0], 200)
97         txt = ''.join(ix_to_char[ix] for ix in sample_ix)
98         print '----\n%s\n----' % (txt, )
99
100    # forward seq_length characters through the net and fetch gradient
101    loss, dwhx, dwhh, dwhy, dbh, dby, hprev = lossFun(inputs, targets, hprev)
102    smooth_loss = smooth_loss * .999 + loss * .001
103    if n % 100 == 0: print 'iter %d, loss: %f' % (n, smooth_loss) # print progress
104
105    # perform parameter update with Adagrad
106    for param, dparam, mem in zip([wkh, whh, why, bh],
107                                 [dwhx, dwhh, dwhy, dbh, dby],
108                                 [mxwh, mwhh, mwhy, mbh, mby]):
109        mem += dparam * dparam
110        param += -learning_rate * dparam / np.sqrt(mem + 1e-8) # adagrad update
111
112    p += seq_length # move data pointer
113    n += 1 # iteration counter

```

(<https://gist.github.com/karpathy/d4dee566867f8291f086>)

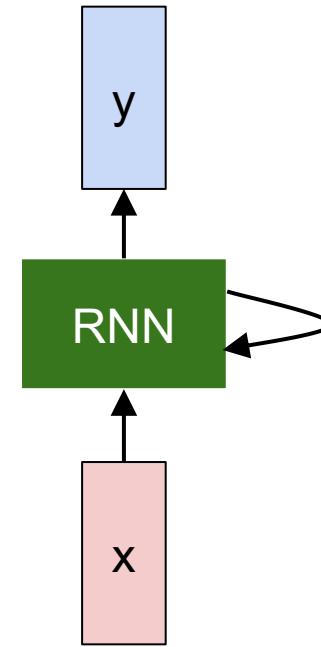
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# THE SONNETS

by William Shakespeare

From fairest creatures we desire increase,  
That thereby beauty's rose might never die,  
But as the riper should by time decease,  
His tender heir might bear his memory:  
But thou, contracted to thine own bright eyes,  
Feed'st thy light's flame with self-substantial fuel,  
Making a famine where abundance lies,  
Thyself thy foe, to thy sweet self too cruel:  
Thou art now the world's fresh ornament,  
And only herald to the gaudy spring,  
Within thine own bud buriest thy content,  
And tender churl mak'st waste in niggarding:  
Pity the world, or else this glutton be,  
To eat the world's due, by the grave and thee.

When forty winters shall besiege thy brow,  
And dig deep trenches in thy beauty's field,  
Thy youth's proud livery so gazed on now,  
Will be a tatter'd weed of small worth held:  
Then being asked, where all thy beauty lies,  
Where all the treasure of thy lusty days;  
To say, within thine own deep sunken eyes,  
Were an all-eating shame, and thriftless praise.  
How much more praise deserved thy beauty's use,  
If thou couldst answer 'This fair child of mine  
Shall sum my count, and make my old excuse,'  
Proving his beauty by succession thine!  
This were to be new made when thou art old,  
And see thy blood warm when thou feel'st it cold.



at first:

tyntd-iafhatawiaoahrdemot lytdws e ,tfti, astai f ogoh eoase rrranbyne 'nhthnee e  
plia tkldrgd t o idoe ns,smtt h ne etie h,hregtrs nigtike,aoaenns lng

↓ train more

"Tmont thithey" fomesscerliund  
Keushey. Thom here  
sheulke, anmerenith ol sivh I lalterthend Bleipile shuwyl fil on aseterlome  
coaniogennc Phe lism thond hon at. MeiDimorotion in ther thize."

↓ train more

Aftair fall unsuch that the hall for Prince Velzonski's that me of  
her hearly, and behs to so arwage fiving were to it beloge, pavu say falling misfort  
how, and Gogition is so overelical and ofter.

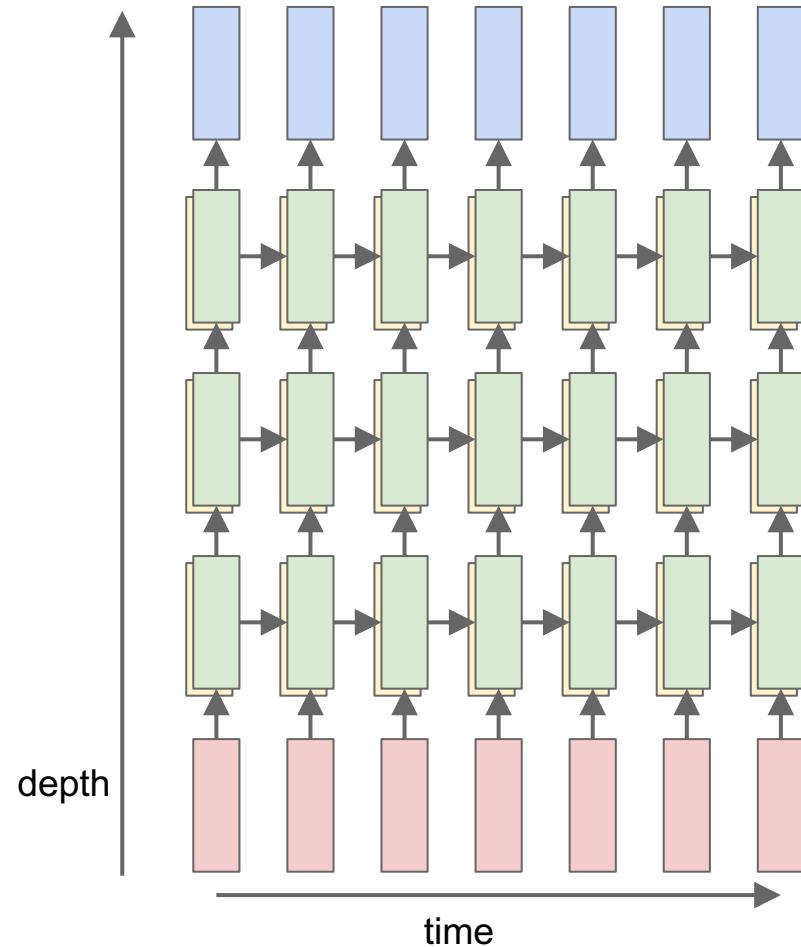
↓ train more

"Why do what that day," replied Natasha, and wishing to himself the fact the  
princess, Princess Mary was easier, fed in had oftened him.  
Pierre aking his soul came to the packs and drove up his father-in-law women.

# Multilayer RNNs

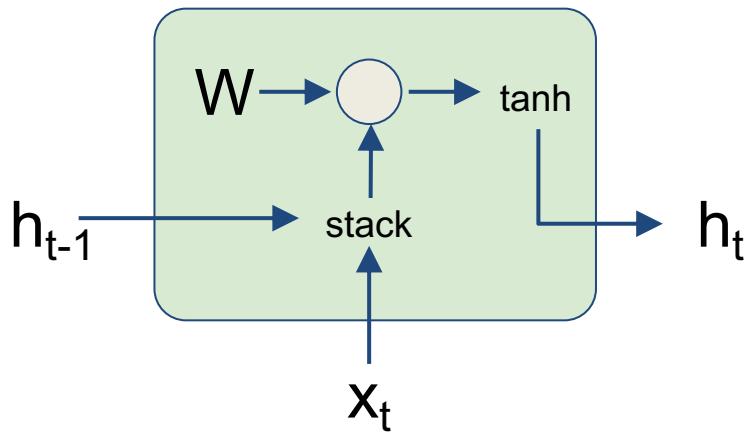
$$h_t^l = \tanh W^l \begin{pmatrix} h_t^{l-1} \\ h_{t-1}^l \end{pmatrix}$$

$h \in \mathbb{R}^n$        $W^l [n \times 2n]$



# Vanilla RNN Gradient Flow

Bengio et al, "Learning long-term dependencies with gradient descent is difficult", IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks, 1994  
Pascanu et al, "On the difficulty of training recurrent neural networks", ICML 2013

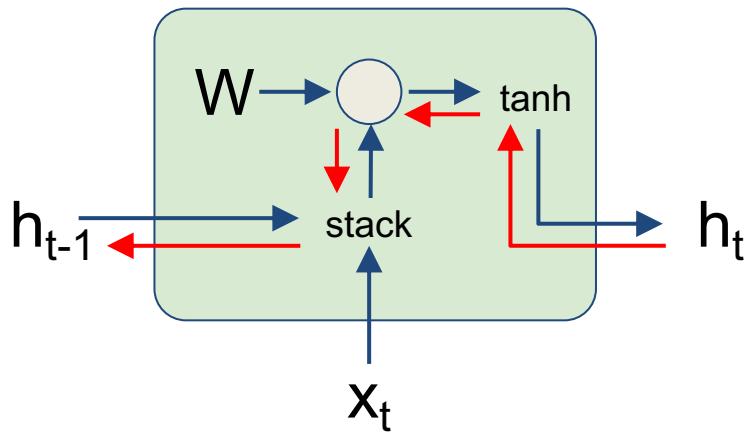


$$\begin{aligned} h_t &= \tanh(W_{hh}h_{t-1} + W_{xh}x_t) \\ &= \tanh \left( \begin{pmatrix} W_{hh} & W_{hx} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} h_{t-1} \\ x_t \end{pmatrix} \right) \\ &= \tanh \left( W \begin{pmatrix} h_{t-1} \\ x_t \end{pmatrix} \right) \end{aligned}$$

# Vanilla RNN Gradient Flow

Bengio et al, "Learning long-term dependencies with gradient descent is difficult", IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks, 1994  
Pascanu et al, "On the difficulty of training recurrent neural networks", ICML 2013

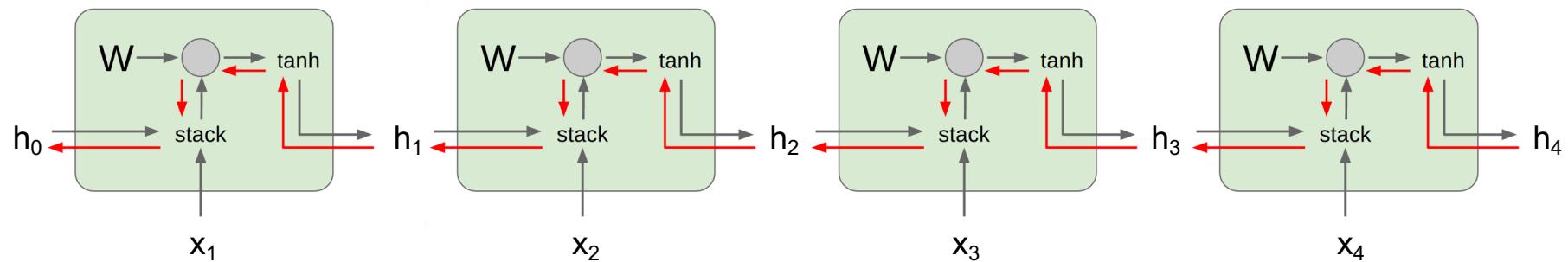
Backpropagation from  $h_t$  to  $h_{t-1}$  multiplies by  $W$   
(actually  $W_{hh}^T$ )



$$\begin{aligned} h_t &= \tanh(W_{hh}h_{t-1} + W_{xh}x_t) \\ &= \tanh \left( \begin{pmatrix} W_{hh} & W_{hx} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} h_{t-1} \\ x_t \end{pmatrix} \right) \\ &= \tanh \left( W \begin{pmatrix} h_{t-1} \\ x_t \end{pmatrix} \right) \end{aligned}$$

# Vanilla RNN Gradient Flow

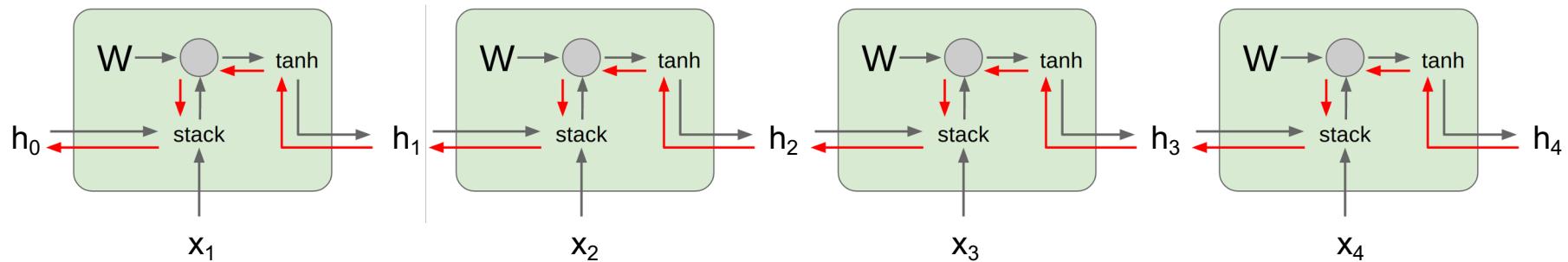
Bengio et al, "Learning long-term dependencies with gradient descent is difficult", IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks, 1994  
Pascanu et al, "On the difficulty of training recurrent neural networks", ICML 2013



Computing gradient of  $h_0$  involves many factors of  $W$  (and repeated tanh)

# Vanilla RNN Gradient Flow

Bengio et al, "Learning long-term dependencies with gradient descent is difficult", IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks, 1994  
Pascanu et al, "On the difficulty of training recurrent neural networks", ICML 2013



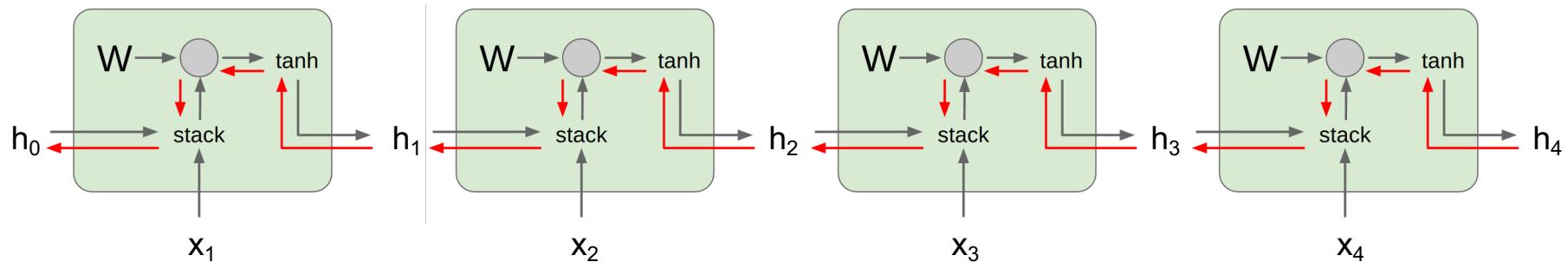
Computing gradient of  $h_0$  involves many factors of  $W$  (and repeated tanh)

Largest singular value  $> 1$ :  
**Exploding gradients**

Largest singular value  $< 1$ :  
**Vanishing gradients**

# Vanilla RNN Gradient Flow

Bengio et al, "Learning long-term dependencies with gradient descent is difficult", IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks, 1994  
Pascanu et al, "On the difficulty of training recurrent neural networks", ICML 2013



Computing gradient of  $h_0$  involves many factors of  $W$  (and repeated tanh)

Largest singular value  $> 1$ :  
**Exploding gradients**

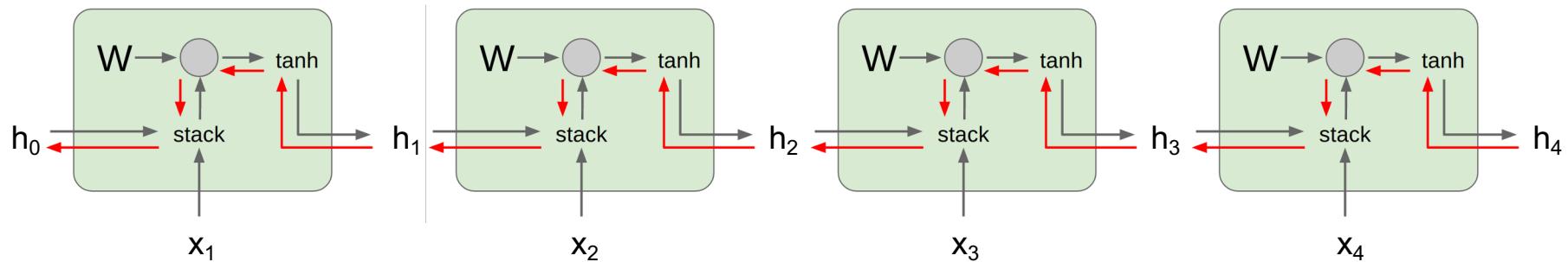
Largest singular value  $< 1$ :  
**Vanishing gradients**

**Gradient clipping:** Scale gradient if its norm is too big

```
grad_norm = np.sum(grad * grad)
if grad_norm > threshold:
    grad *= (threshold / grad_norm)
```

# Vanilla RNN Gradient Flow

Bengio et al, "Learning long-term dependencies with gradient descent is difficult", IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks, 1994  
Pascanu et al, "On the difficulty of training recurrent neural networks", ICML 2013



Computing gradient of  $h_0$  involves many factors of  $W$  (and repeated tanh)

Largest singular value  $> 1$ :  
**Exploding gradients**

Largest singular value  $< 1$ :  
**Vanishing gradients**

→ Change RNN architecture

# Long Short Term Memory (LSTM)

## Vanilla RNN

$$h_t = \tanh \left( W \begin{pmatrix} h_{t-1} \\ x_t \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

## LSTM

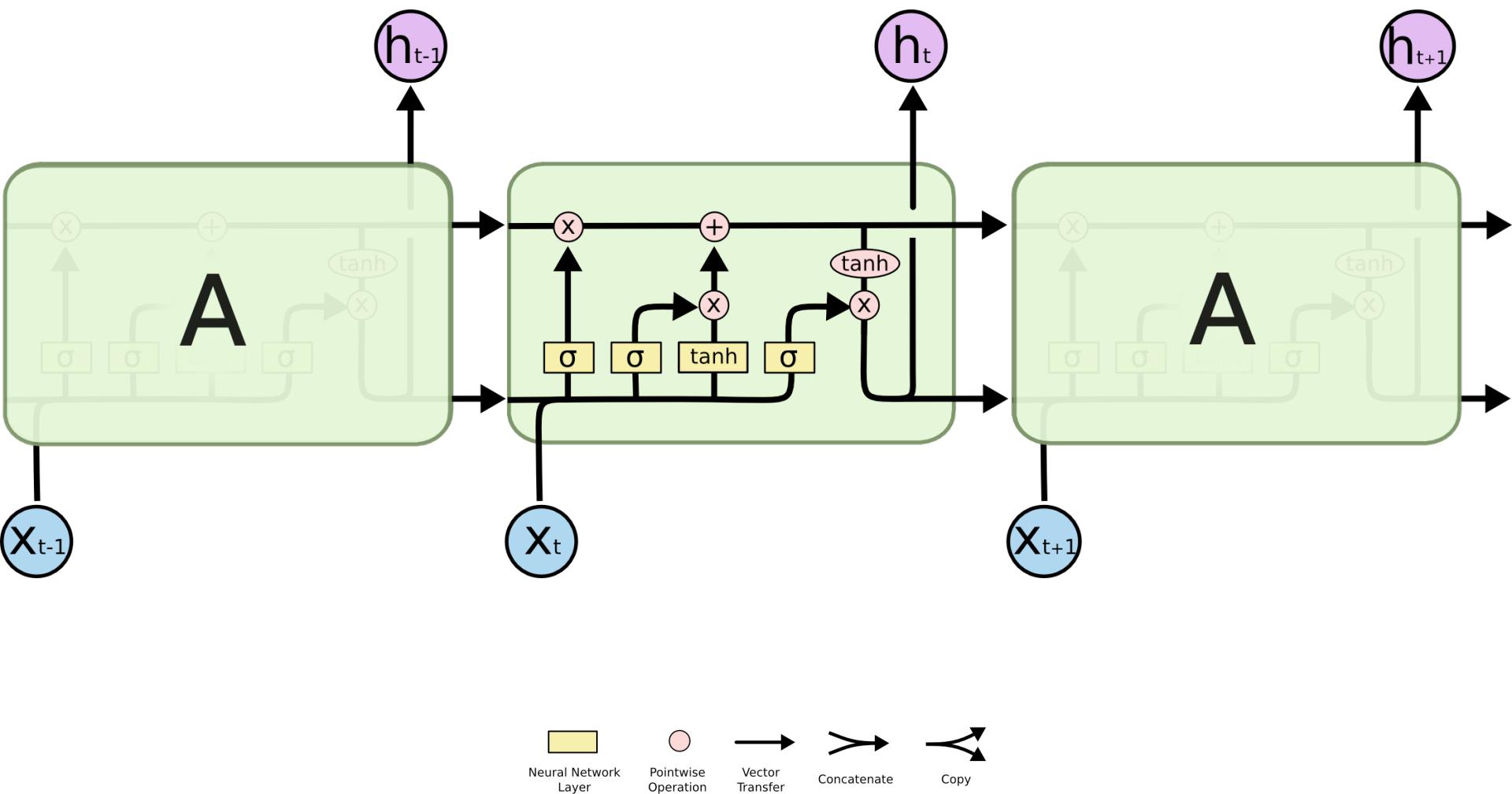
$$\begin{pmatrix} i \\ f \\ o \\ g \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma \\ \sigma \\ \sigma \\ \tanh \end{pmatrix} W \begin{pmatrix} h_{t-1} \\ x_t \end{pmatrix}$$

$$c_t = f \odot c_{t-1} + i \odot g$$

$$h_t = o \odot \tanh(c_t)$$

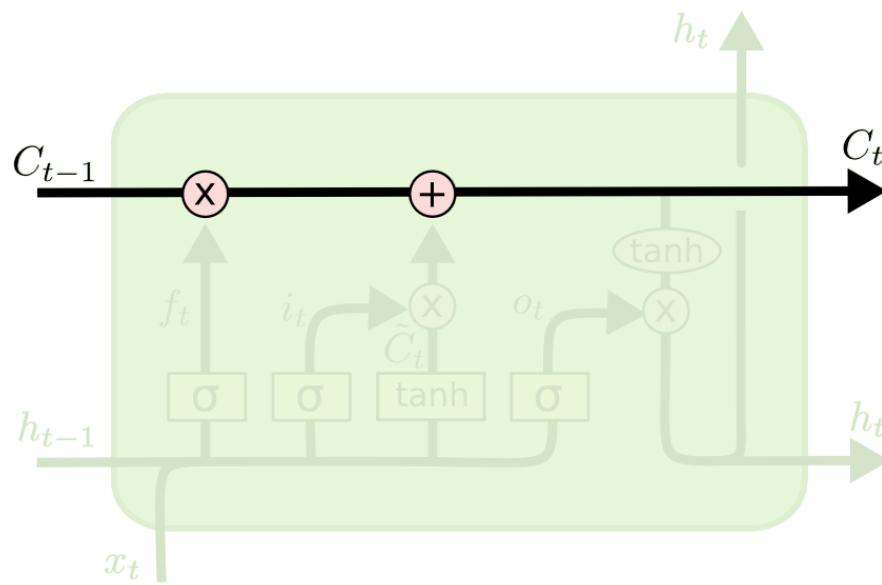
Hochreiter and Schmidhuber, “Long Short Term Memory”, Neural Computation  
1997

# Meet LSTMs



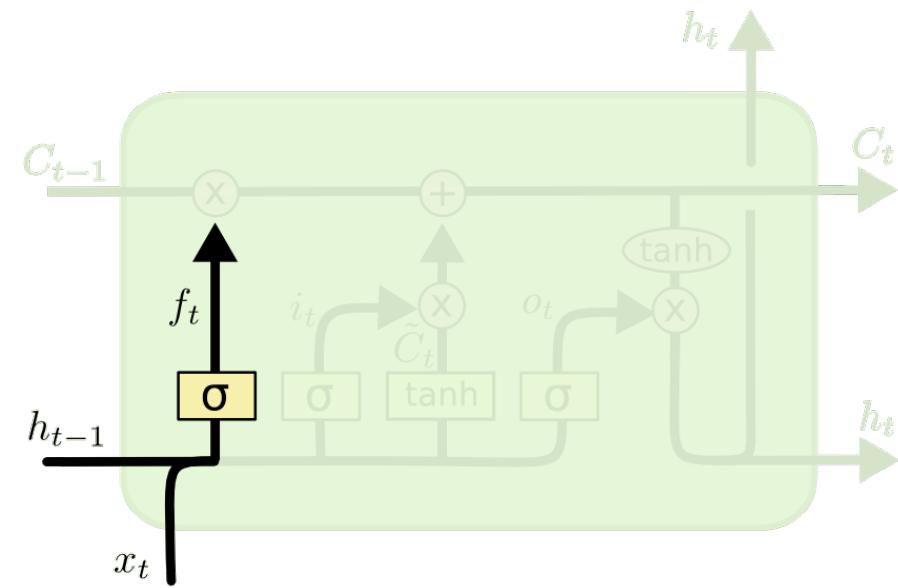
# LSTMs Intuition: Memory

- Cell State / Memory



# LSTMs Intuition: Forget Gate

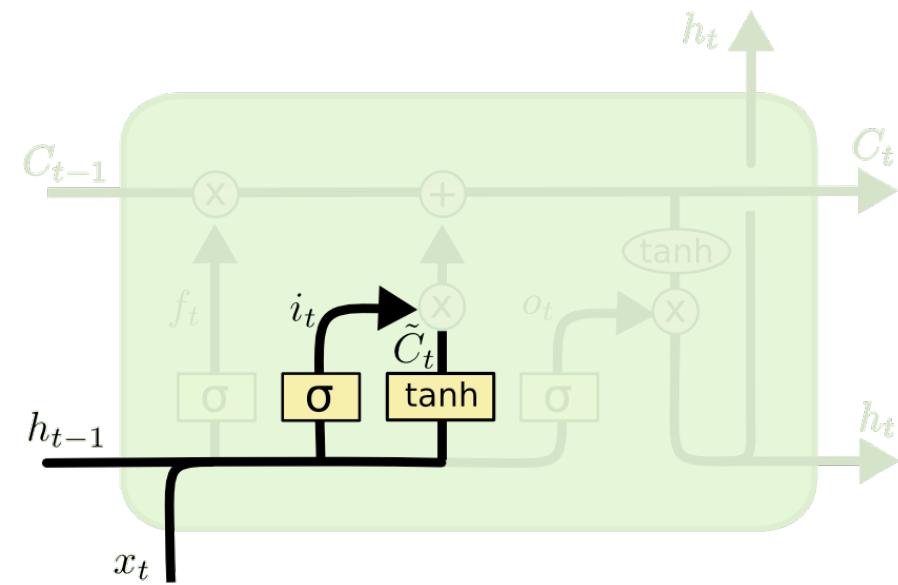
- Should we continue to remember this “bit” of information or not?



$$f_t = \sigma(W_f \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_f)$$

# LSTMs Intuition: Input Gate

- Should we update this “bit” of information or not?
  - If so, with what?

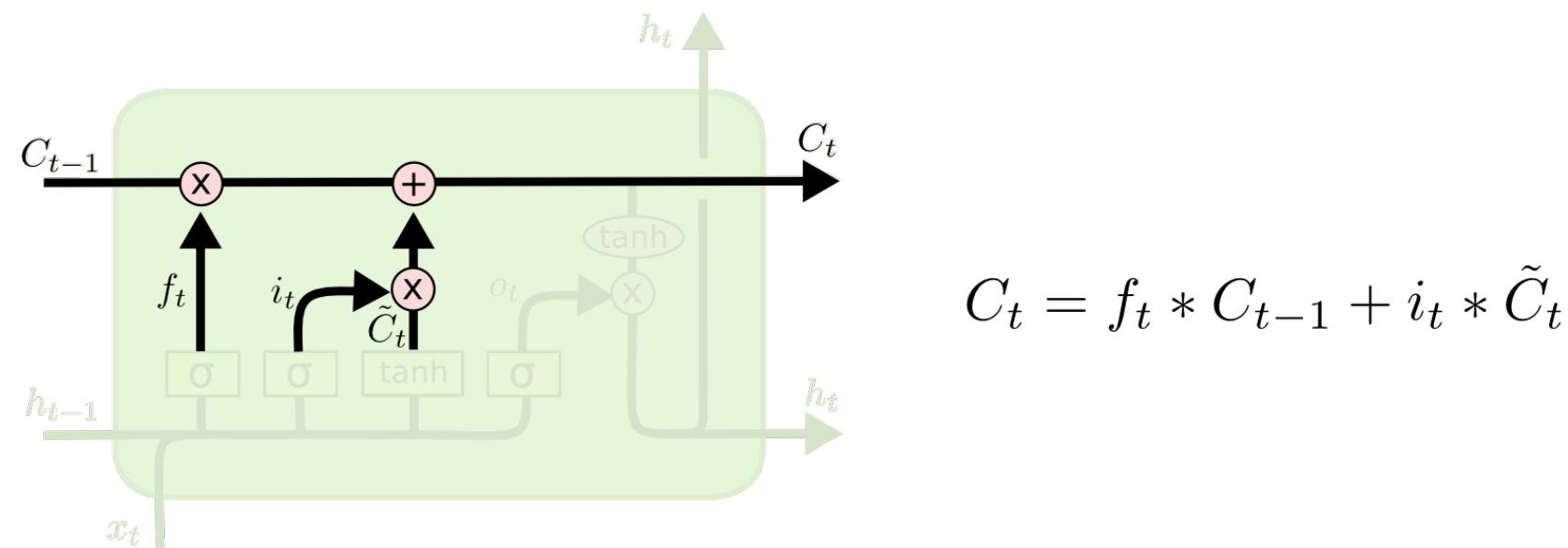


$$i_t = \sigma(W_i \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_i)$$

$$\tilde{C}_t = \tanh(W_C \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_C)$$

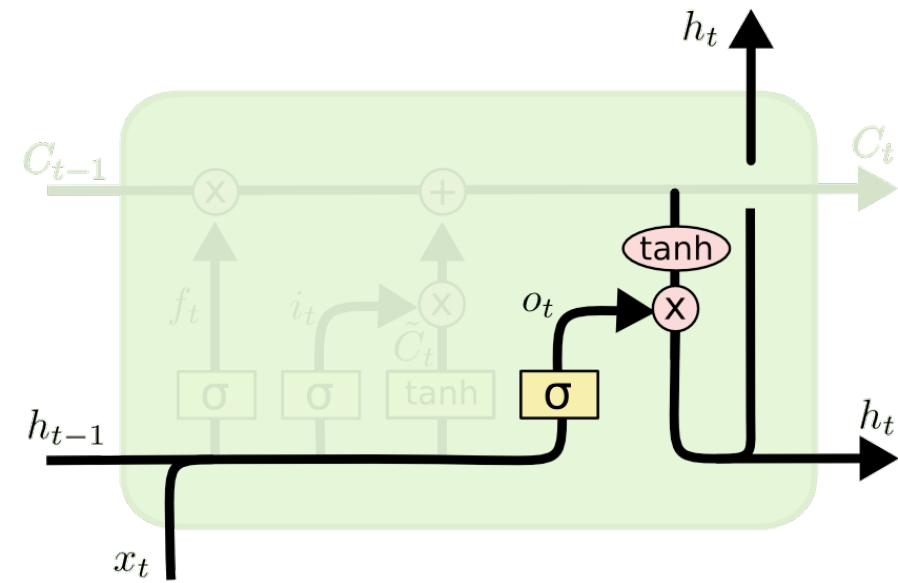
# LSTMs Intuition: Memory Update

- Forget that + memorize this



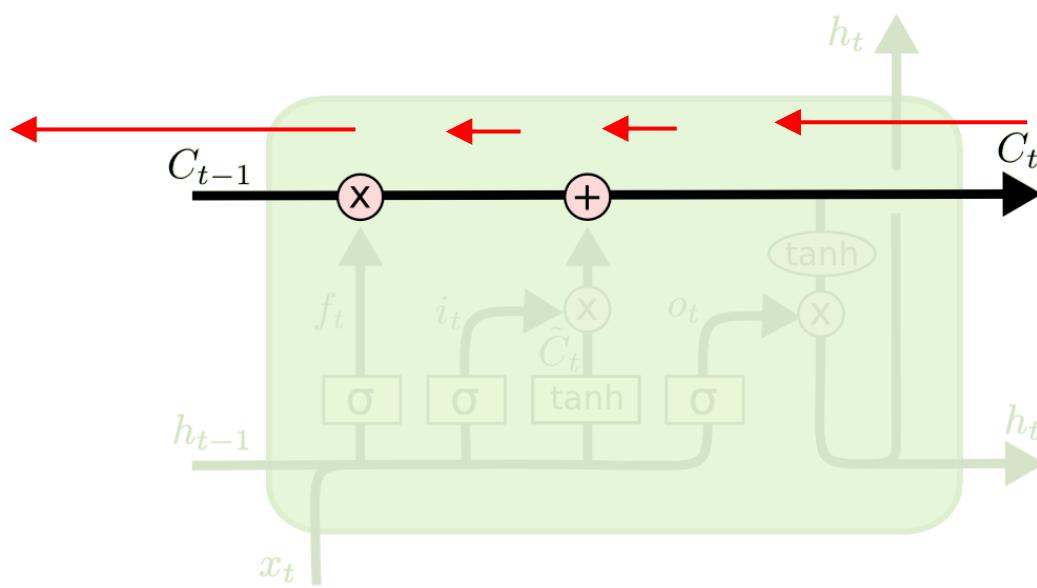
# LSTMs Intuition: Output Gate

- Should we output this “bit” of information to “deeper” layers?



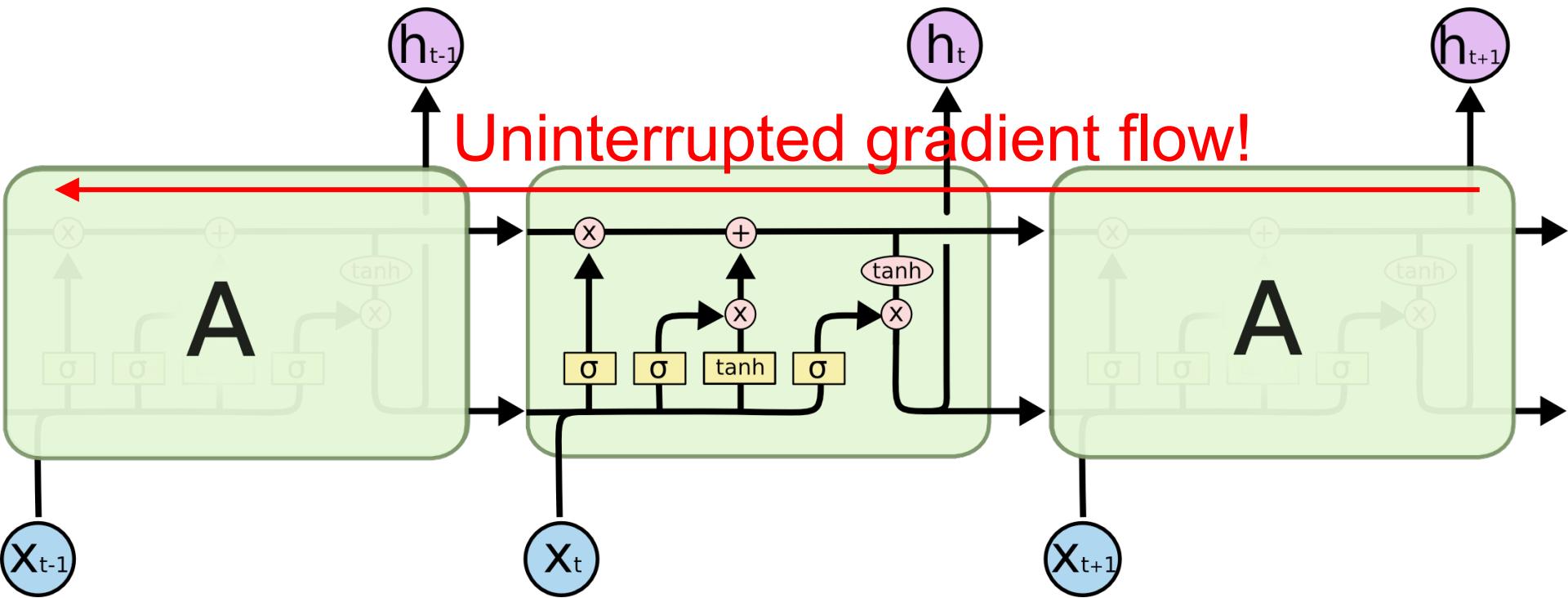
$$o_t = \sigma (W_o [ h_{t-1}, x_t ] + b_o)$$
$$h_t = o_t * \tanh (C_t)$$

# LSTMs Intuition: Additive Updates

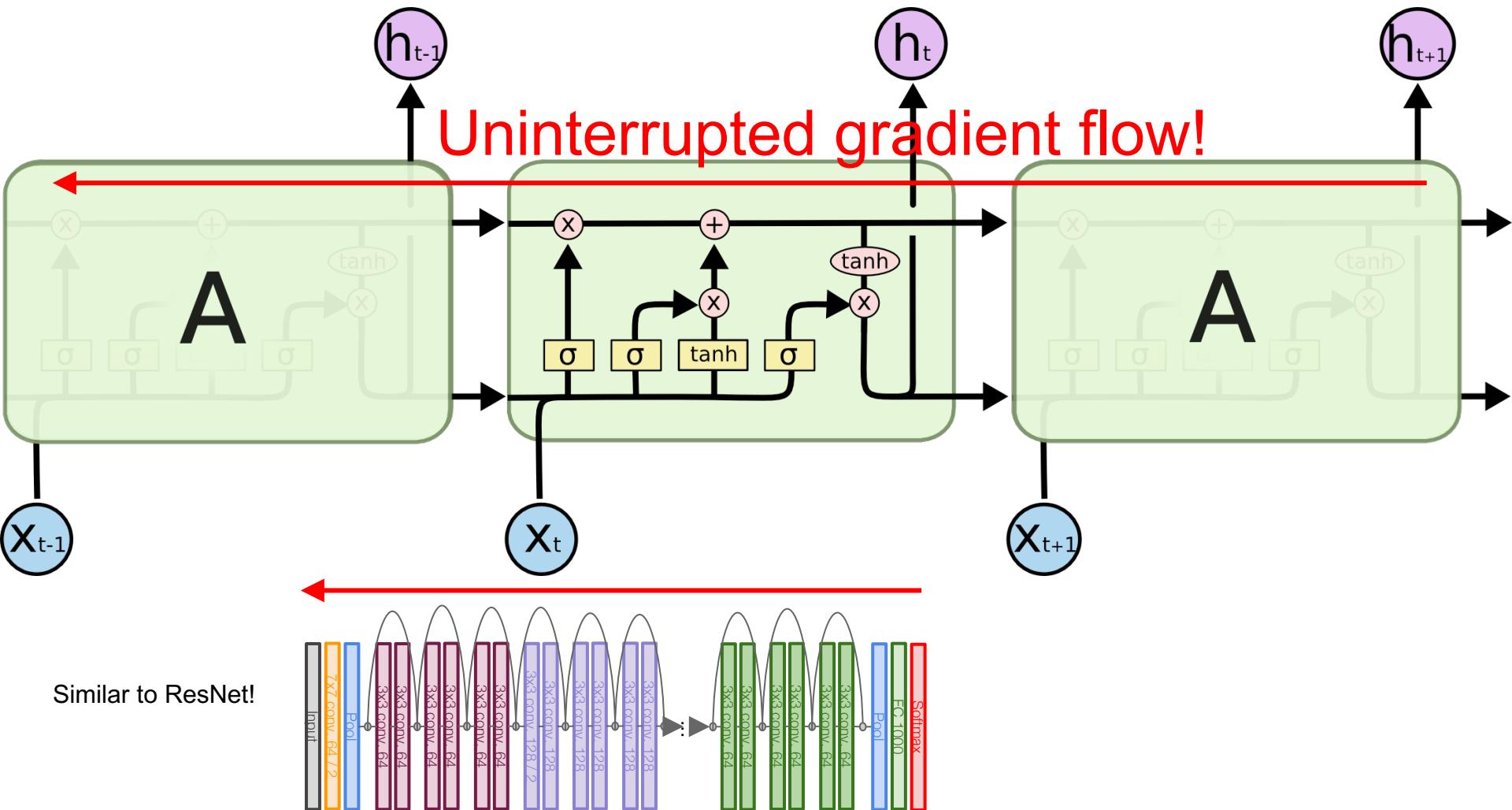


Backpropagation from  
 $c_t$  to  $c_{t-1}$  only  
elementwise  
multiplication by  $f$ , no  
matrix multiply by  $W$

# LSTMs Intuition: Additive Updates

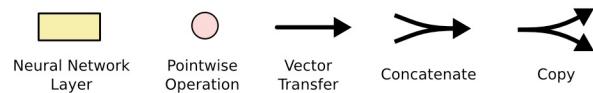
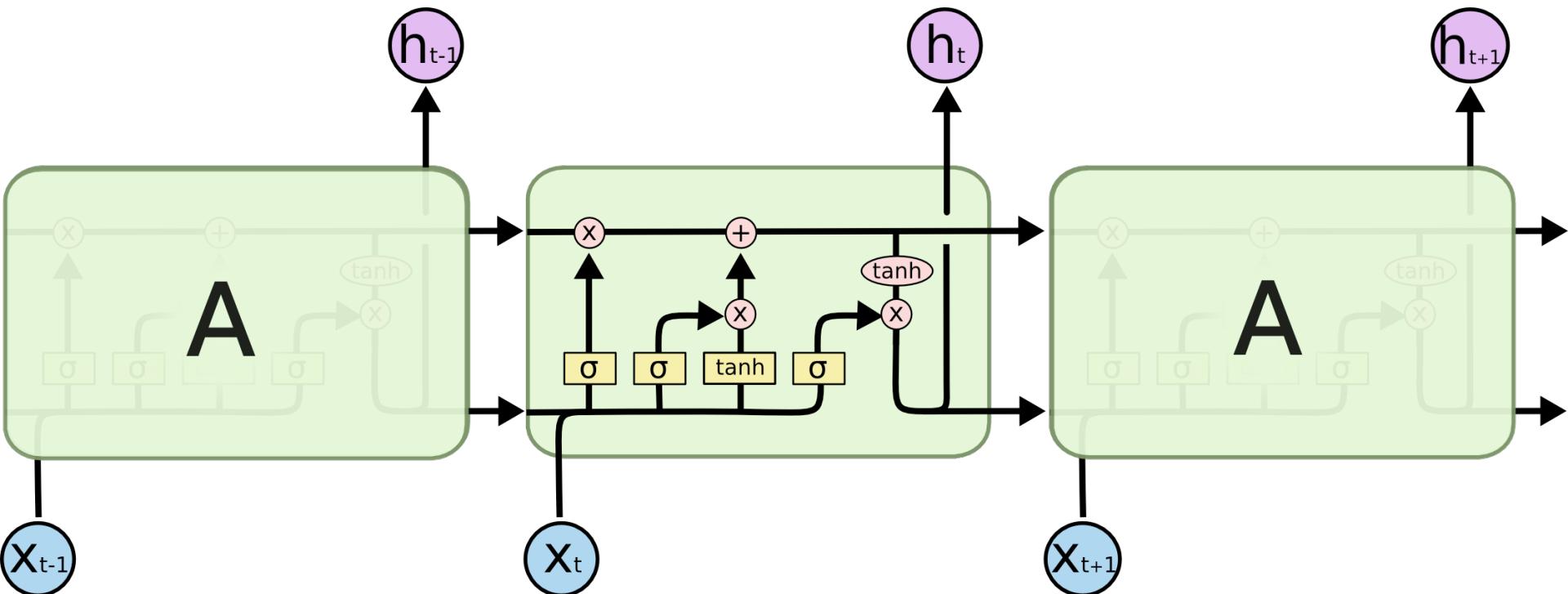


# LSTMs Intuition: Additive Updates



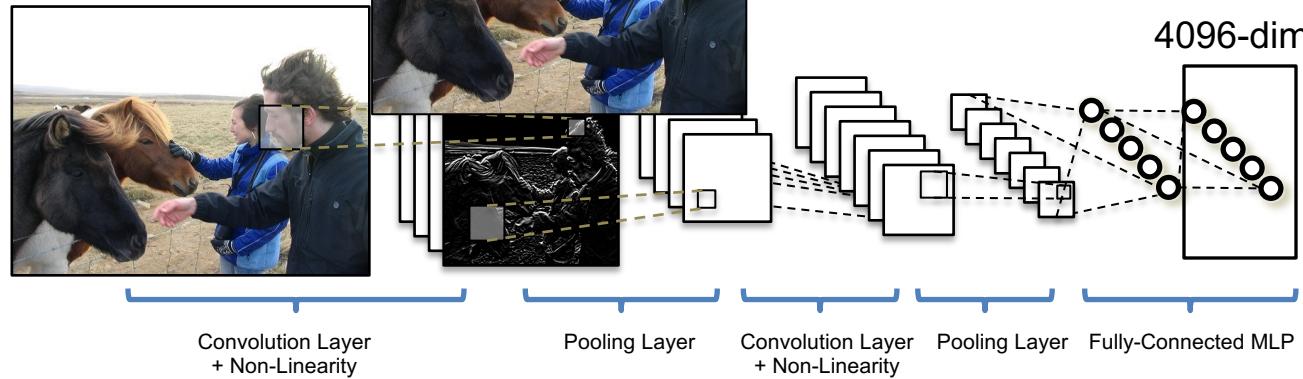
# LSTMs

- A pretty sophisticated cell



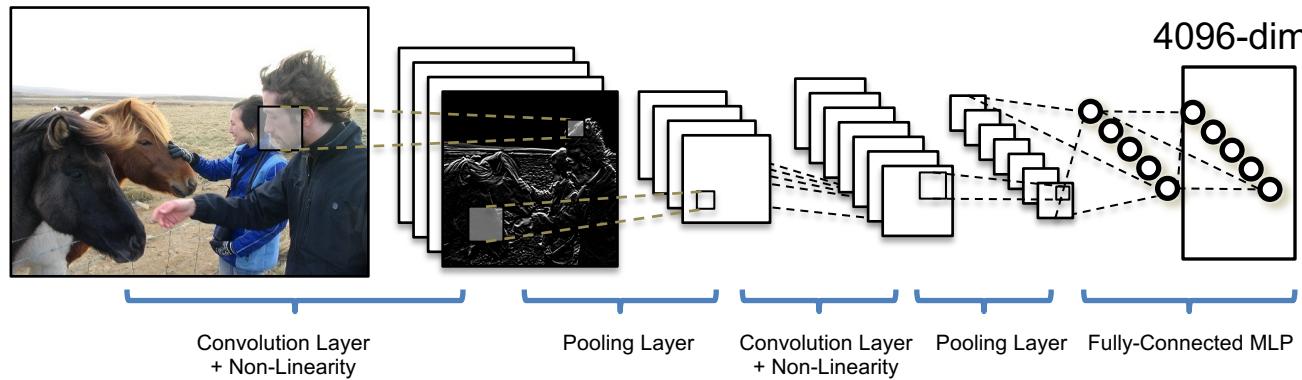
# Neural Image Captioning

Image Embedding (Net)

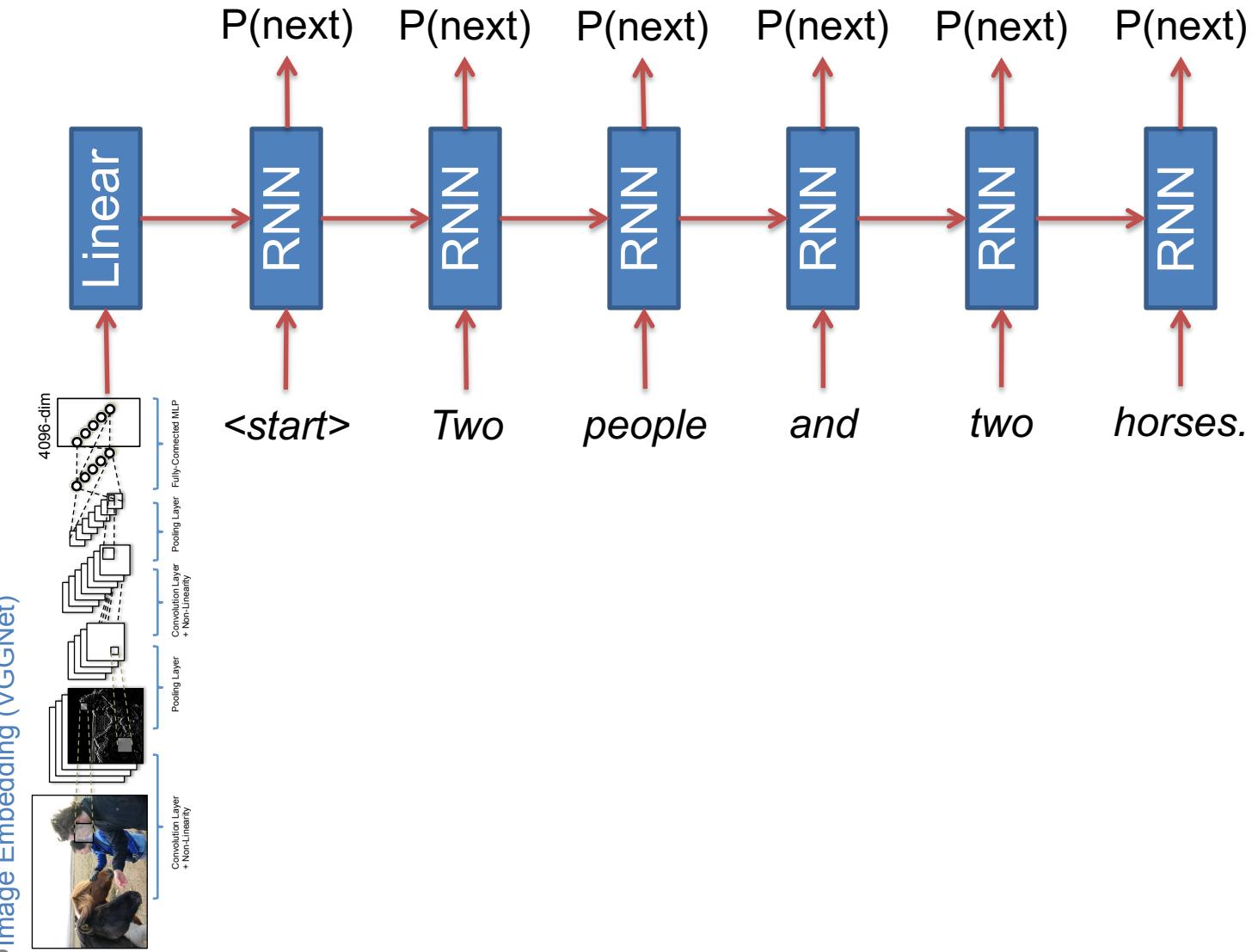


# Neural Image Captioning

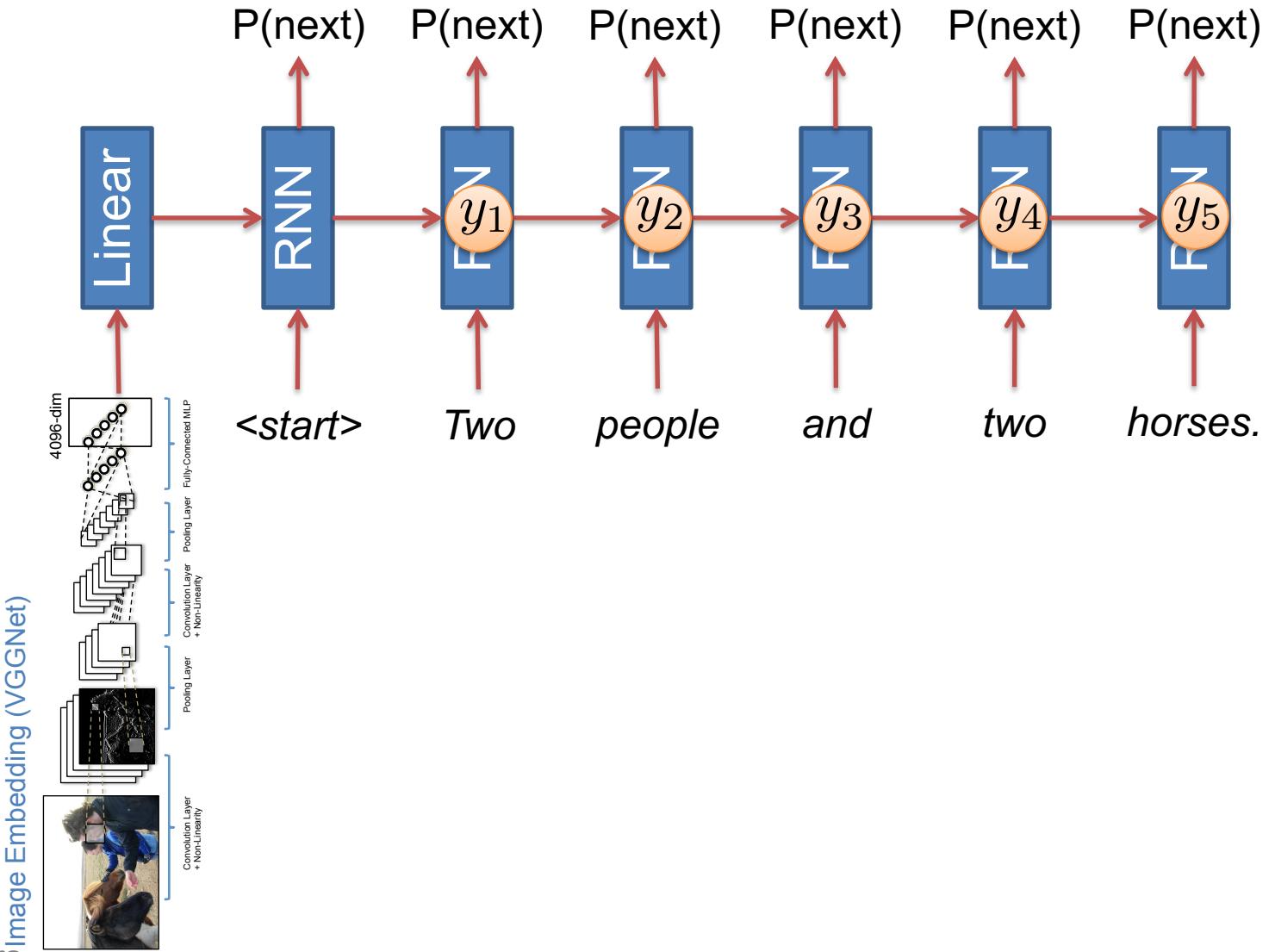
## Image Embedding (VGGNet)



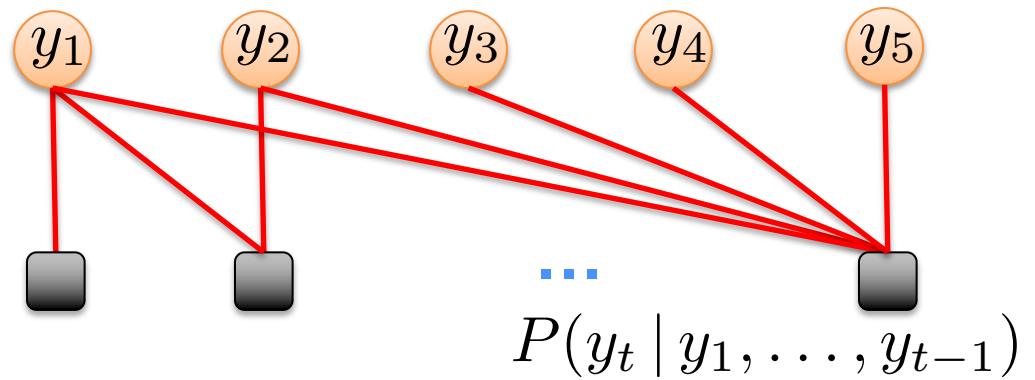
# Neural Image Captioning



# Neural Image Captioning



# Sequence Model Factor Graph



# Beam Search Demo

- <http://dbs.cloudcv.org/captioning>

# Image Captioning

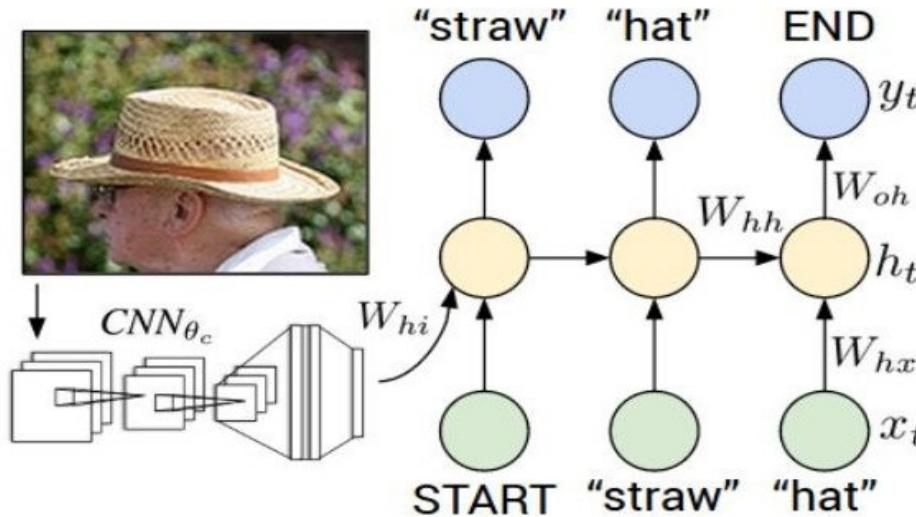
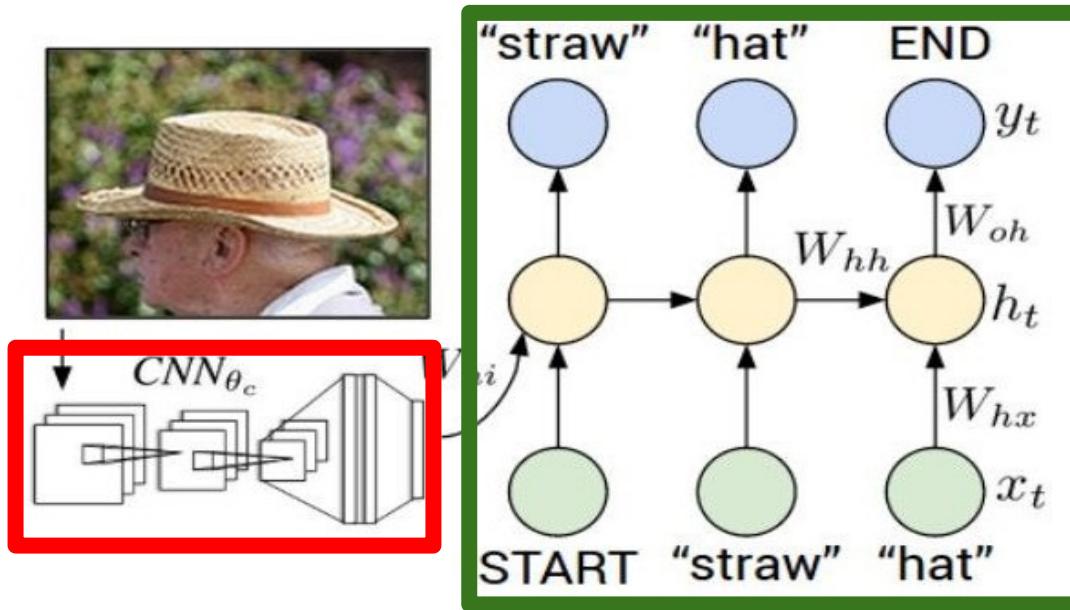


Figure from Karpathy et al, "Deep Visual-Semantic Alignments for Generating Image Descriptions", CVPR 2015; figure copyright IEEE, 2015.  
Reproduced for educational purposes.

- Many recent works on this:
- Baidu/UCLA: Explain Images with Multimodal Recurrent Neural Networks
- Toronto: Unifying Visual-Semantic Embeddings with Multimodal Neural Language Models
- Berkeley: Long-term Recurrent Convolutional Networks for Visual Recognition and Description
- Google: Show and Tell: A Neural Image Caption Generator
- Stanford: Deep Visual-Semantic Alignments for Generating Image Description
- UML/UT: Translating Videos to Natural Language Using Deep Recurrent Neural Networks
- Microsoft/CMU: Learning a Recurrent Visual Representation for Image Caption Generation
- Microsoft: From Captions to Visual Concepts and Back

# Recurrent Neural Network



## Convolutional Neural Network

test image



[This image](#) is CC0 public domain

image



conv-64

conv-64

maxpool

conv-128

conv-128

maxpool

conv-256

conv-256

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool

FC-4096

FC-4096

FC-1000

softmax



test image

image



conv-64

conv-64

maxpool

conv-128

conv-128

maxpool

conv-256

conv-256

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool

FC-196

FC-4096

FC-1000

softmax



test image

image



conv-64

conv-64

maxpool

conv-128

conv-128

maxpool

conv-256

conv-256

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool



test image



<START>

FC-1000

softmax

image



conv-64

conv-64

maxpool

conv-128

conv-128

maxpool

conv-256

conv-256

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool

V

FC-4096

FC-1000

softmax



test image

y0

h0

x0  
<STA  
RT>

WiH

**before:**

$$h = \tanh(Wxh * x + Whh * h)$$

**now:**

$$h = \tanh(Wxh * x + Whh * h + WiH * v)$$

image



conv-64

conv-64

maxpool

conv-128

conv-128

maxpool

conv-256

conv-256

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool

conv-512

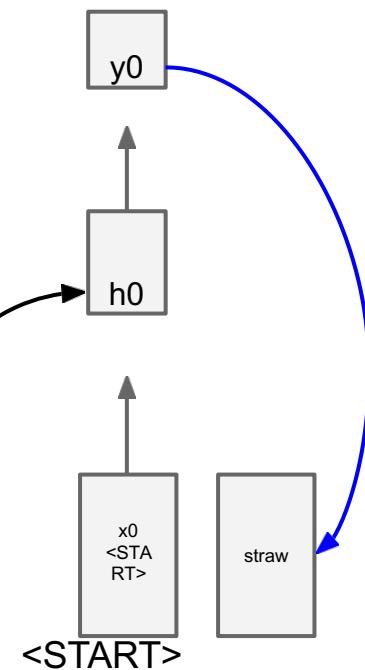
conv-512

maxpool



test image

sample!



FC-4096

FC-1000

softmax

image



conv-64

conv-64

maxpool

conv-128

conv-128

maxpool

conv-256

conv-256

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool



test image

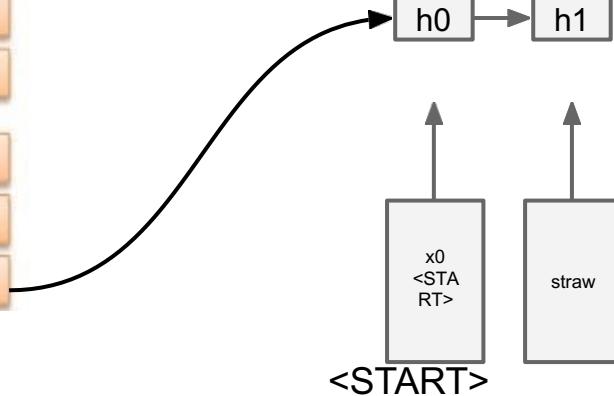
y0      y1

h0 → h1

x0  
<STA  
RT>

straw

<START>



FC-4096

FC-1000

softmax

image



conv-64

conv-64

maxpool

conv-128

conv-128

maxpool

conv-256

conv-256

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool



test image

y0  
y1

h0  
h1

x0  
<START>  
straw  
hat

sample!

<START>

FC-4096

FC-1000

softmax

image



conv-64

conv-64

maxpool

conv-128

conv-128

maxpool

conv-256

conv-256

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool

FC-4096

FC-1000

softmax



test image

y0  
y1  
y2

h0 → h1 → h2

x0  
<START>  
straw  
hat

image



conv-64

conv-64

maxpool

conv-128

conv-128

maxpool

conv-256

conv-256

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool

conv-512

conv-512

maxpool

FC-4096

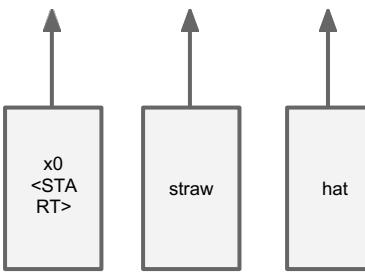
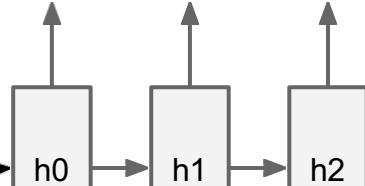
FC-1000

softmax



test image

y0      y1      y2



x0  
<STA  
RT>

straw

hat

<START>

# Image Captioning: Example Results

Captions generated using [neuraltalk2](#)  
All images are [CC0 Public domain](#)  
[cat](#) [suitcase](#) [cat tree](#) [dog](#) [bear](#)  
[surfers](#) [ennis](#) [giraffe](#) [motorcycle](#)



*A cat sitting on a suitcase on the floor*



*A cat is sitting on a tree branch*



*A dog is running in the grass with a frisbee*



*A white teddy bear sitting in the grass*



*Two people walking on the beach with surfboards*



*A tennis player in action on the court*



*Two giraffes standing in a grassy field*



*A man riding a dirt bike on a dirt track*

# Image Captioning: Failure Cases

Captions generated using [neuraltalk2](#)  
All images are [CC0 Public domain](#): [fur coat](#) [handstand](#) [spider web](#) [baseball](#)



*A woman is holding a cat in her hand*



*A person holding a computer mouse on a desk*



*A woman standing on a beach holding a surfboard*

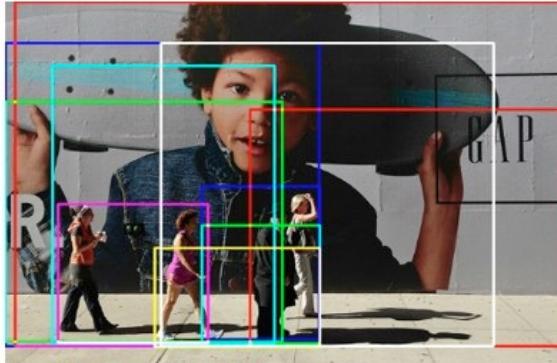


*A bird is perched on a tree branch*



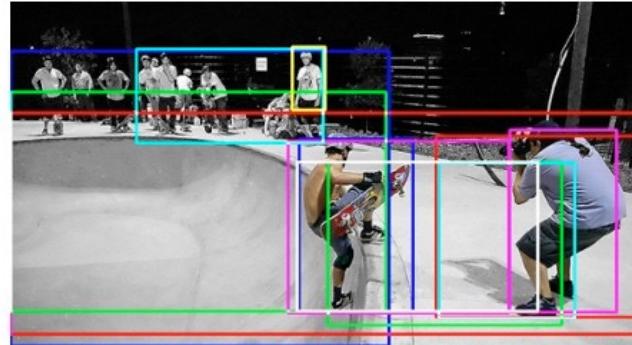
*A man in a baseball uniform throwing a ball*

# More Image Captioning Examples



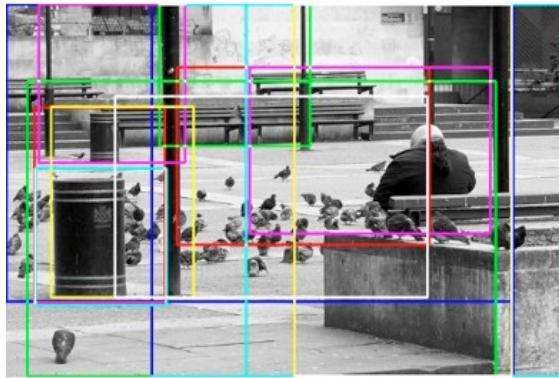
[men (0.59)] [group (0.66)] [woman (0.64)]  
[people (0.89)] [holding (0.60)] [playing (0.61)] [tennis (0.69)]  
[court (0.51)] [standing (0.59)] [skis (0.58)] [street (0.52)]  
[man (0.77)] [skateboard (0.67)]

a group of people standing next to each other  
people stand outside a large ad for gap featuring a young boy



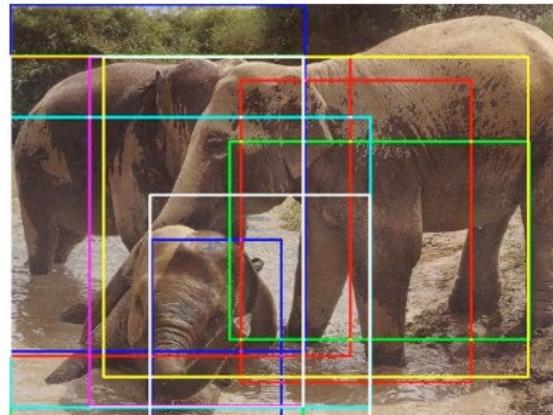
[person (0.55)] [street (0.53)] [holding (0.55)] [group (0.63)] [slope (0.51)]  
[standing (0.62)] [snow (0.91)] [skis (0.74)] [player (0.54)]  
[people (0.85)] [men (0.57)] [skiing (0.51)]  
[skateboard (0.89)] [riding (0.75)] [tennis (0.74)] [trick (0.53)] [skate (0.52)]  
[woman (0.52)] [man (0.86)] [down (0.61)]

a group of people riding skis down a snow covered slope  
a guy on a skate board on the side of a ramp



[umbrella (0.59)] [woman (0.52)]  
[fire (0.96)] [hydrant (0.96)] [street (0.79)] [old (0.50)]  
[bench (0.81)] [building (0.75)] [standing (0.57)] [baseball (0.55)]  
[white (0.82)] [sitting (0.65)] [people (0.79)] [photo (0.53)]  
[black (0.84)] [kitchen (0.54)] [man (0.72)] [water (0.56)]

a black and white photo of a fire hydrant  
a courtyard full of poles pigeons and garbage cans also has benches on either side of it one of which shows the back of a large person facing in the direction of the pigeons



[horse (0.53)] [bear (0.71)] [elephant (0.99)] [elephants (0.95)]  
[brown (0.68)] [baby (0.62)] [walking (0.57)] [laying (0.61)]  
[man (0.57)] [standing (0.79)] [field (0.65)]  
[water (0.83)] [large (0.71)] [dirt (0.65)] [river (0.58)]

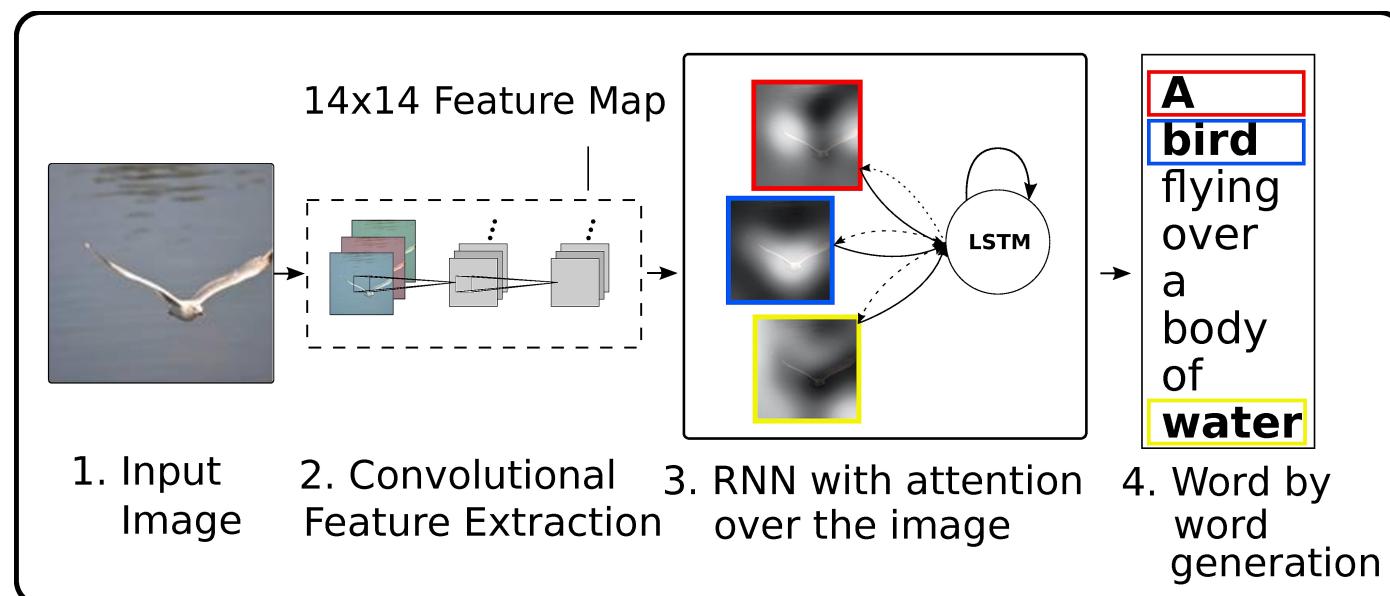
a baby elephant standing next to each other on a field  
elephants are playing together in a shallow watering hole

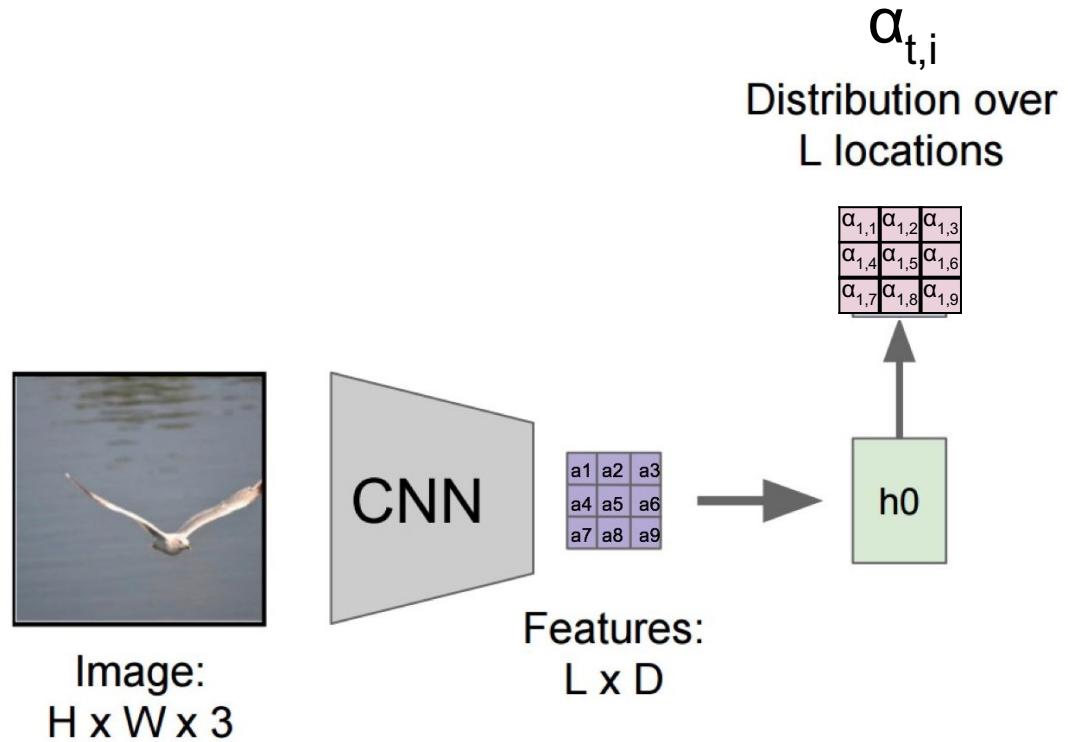
# Show, Attend and Tell

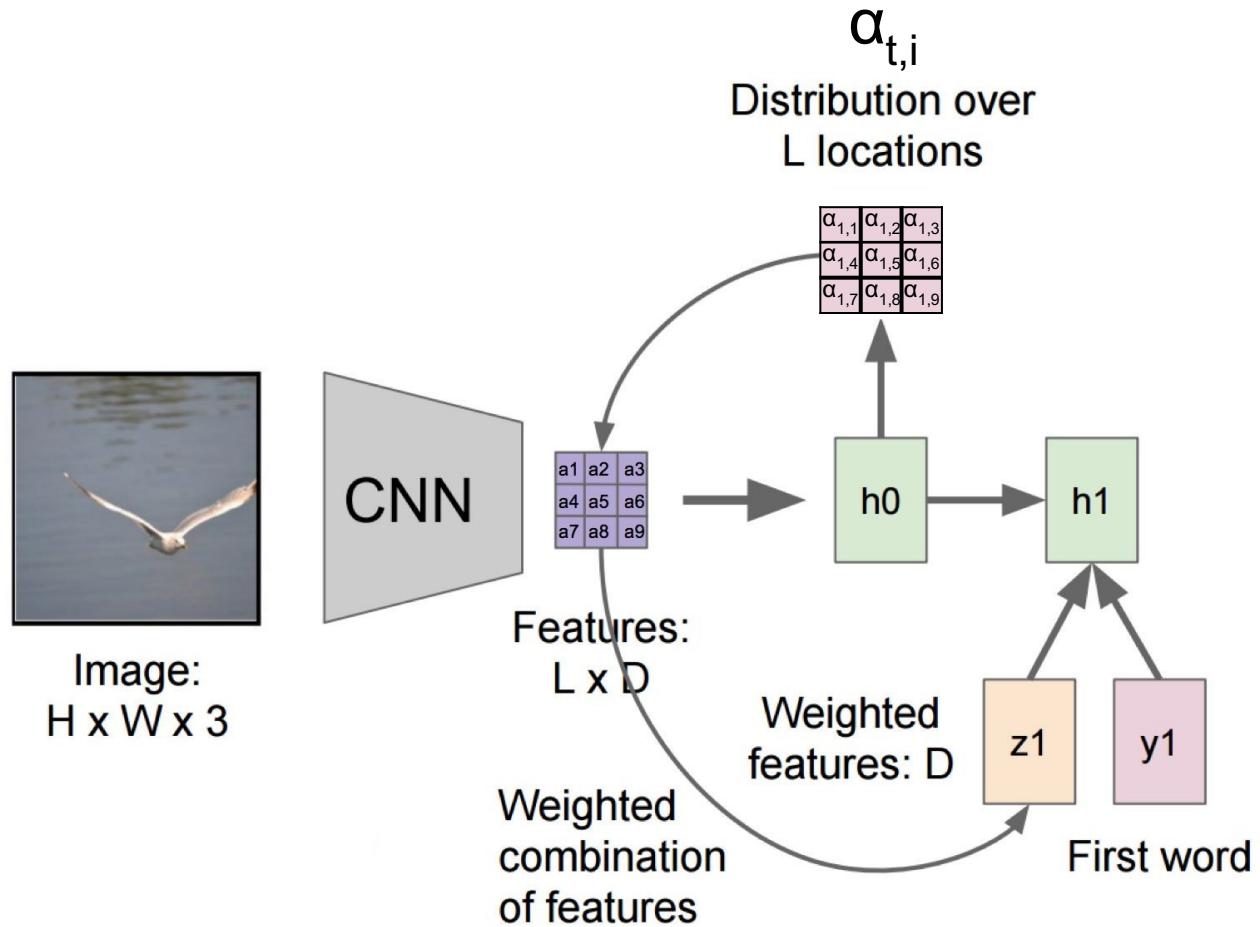
(Xu et al., 2015)

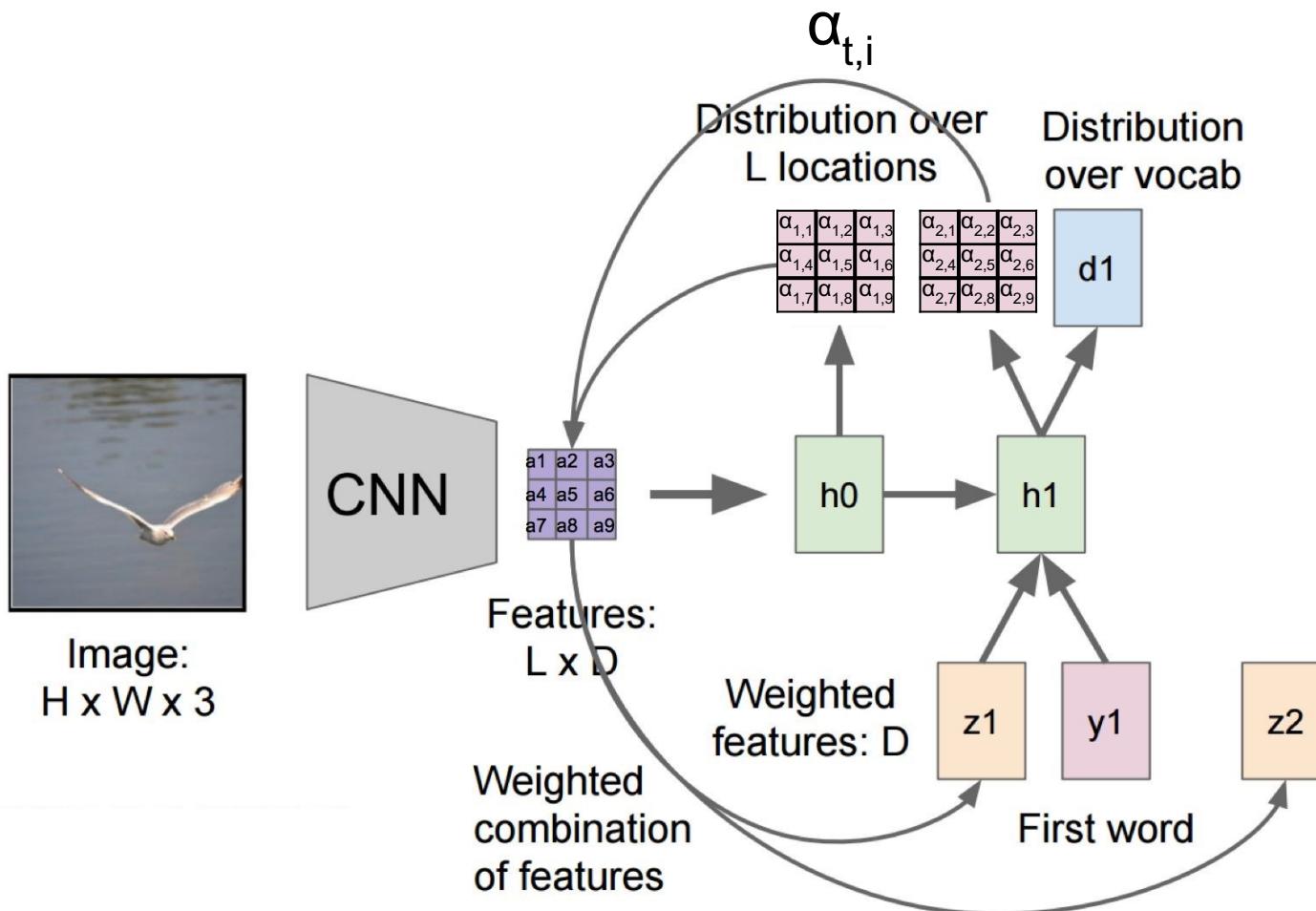
Instead of learning word detectors over image regions,  
consider learning an **attention model** instead

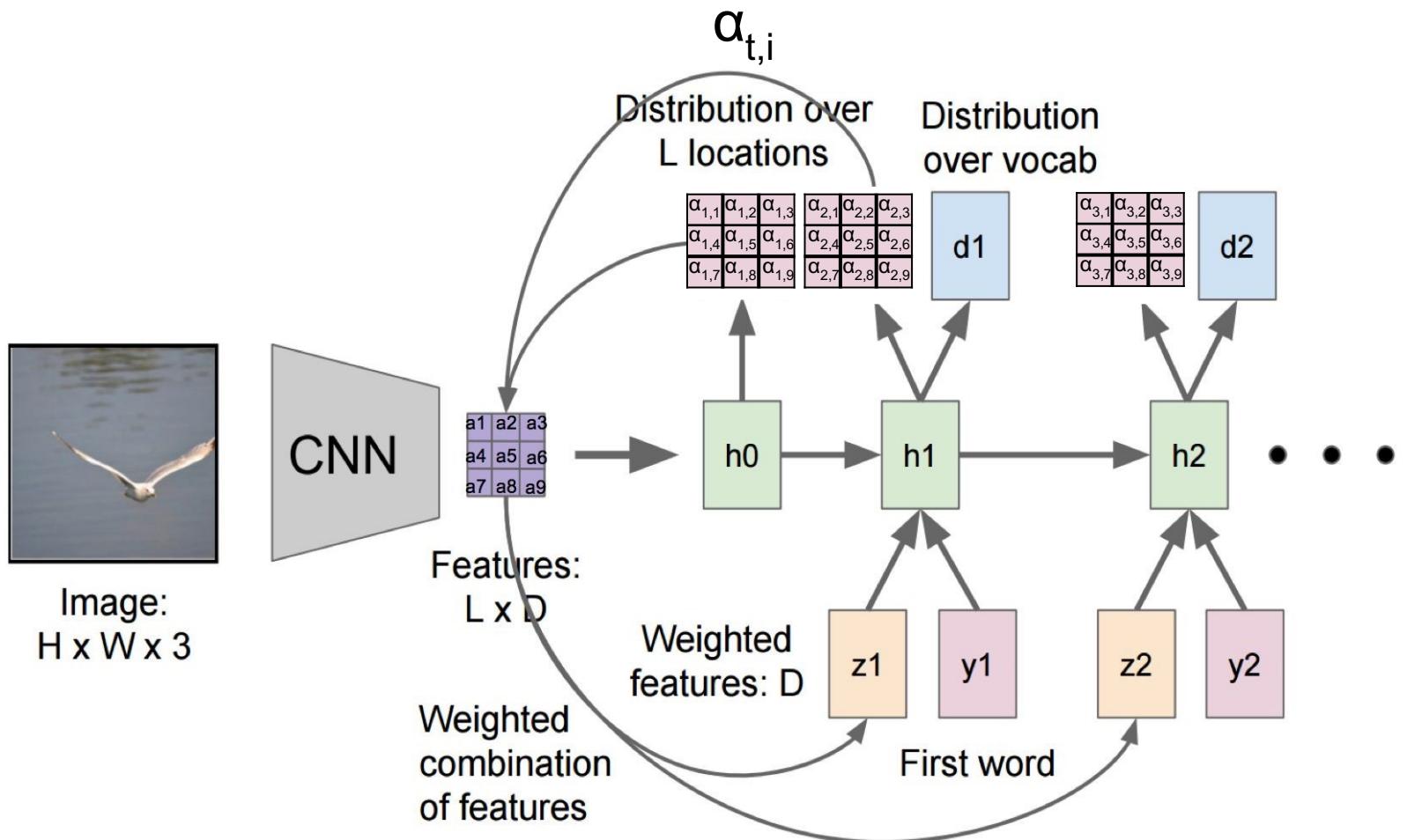
- What is visual attention?
- How to augment Show and Tell with visual attention
- Soft vs. hard attention











# Soft Attention

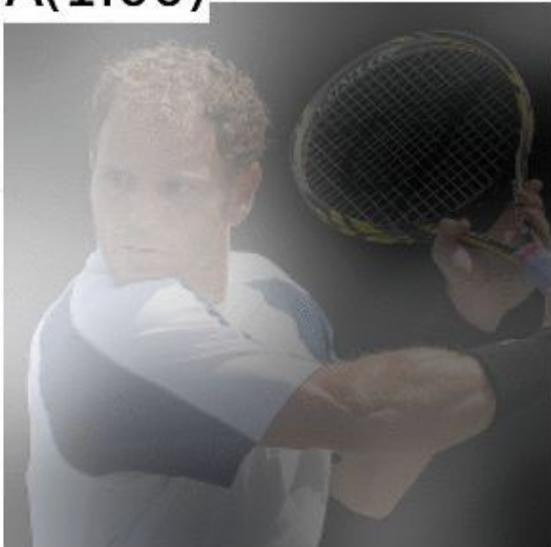
$\mathbf{z}_t$  is calculated by taking the weighted sum of all feature vectors  $a$

$$z_t = \sum_{i=1}^L \alpha_t[i] \cdot a_i$$

- Differentiable
- Deterministic:  $\alpha$ 's assign relative importance to give to location  $i$  in blending the  $a$ 's together
- Learned using standard backpropagation

# Soft Attention: Examples

A(1.00)



A(0.99)



More examples at [project website](#)

Xu et al., [Show, Attend, and Tell: Neural Image Caption Generation with Visual Attention](#), ICML 2015

# Hard Attention

At time step  $t$ , the index into the feature vectors is sampled from the current location distribution vector  $\alpha_t$

$$k = \text{sample}(\alpha_t)$$

$$z_t = a_k$$

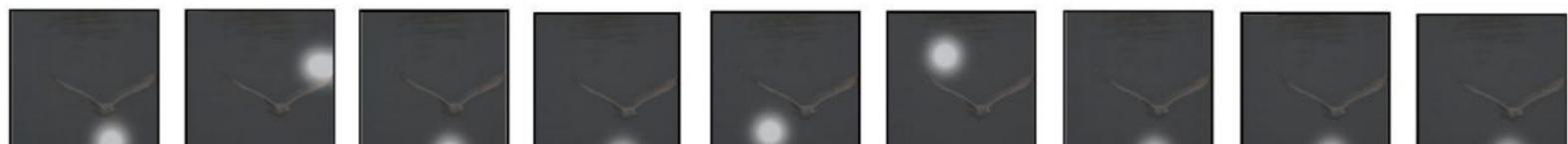
- Stochastic:  $\alpha_t$ 's assign probability that location  $i$  is the right place to focus for producing the next word
- Focuses on one image region at a time
- Non-differentiable due to sampling
  - Set up as reinforcement learning problem:
    - Action = which area to attend to next
    - Reward = log-likelihood of caption wrt to target sentence

# Soft vs. Hard Attention

Soft attention



Hard attention



A

bird

flying

over

a

body

of

water

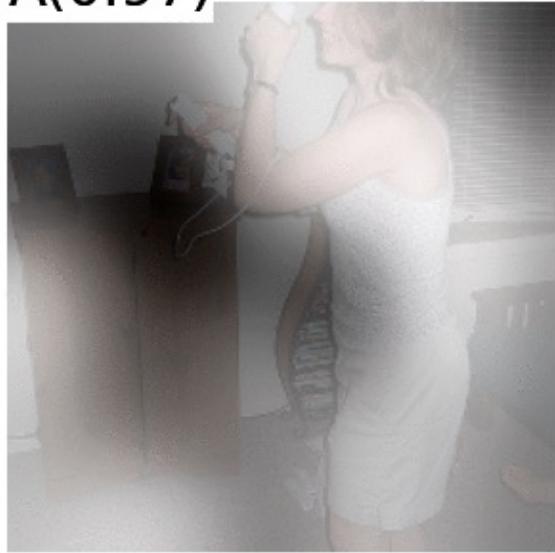
.

# Examples

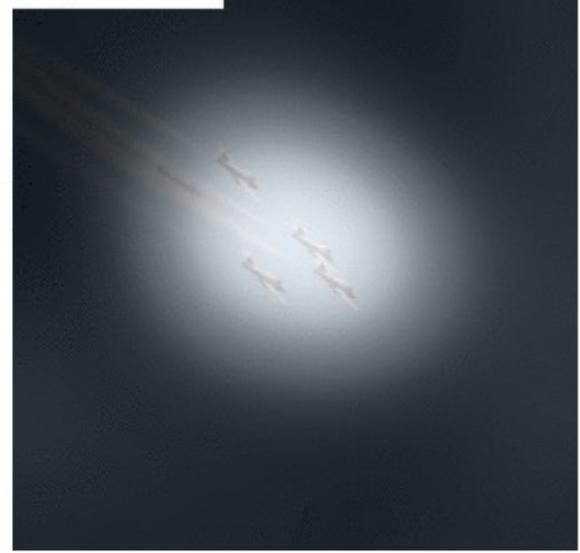
A(0.99)



A(0.97)



A(1.00)



# How to Evaluate different captions?



1. A woman in a green shirt is getting food ready with a child , while sitting on rocks .
2. A mother and child having a picnic on a big rock with blue utensils .
3. A woman serving food for a little boy outside on a large rock .
4. A woman and a baby eating ( having a picnic ) .
5. A mother and child picnic on some rocks .

# BLEU (BiLingual Evaluation Understudy)

(Papineni et al., 2002)

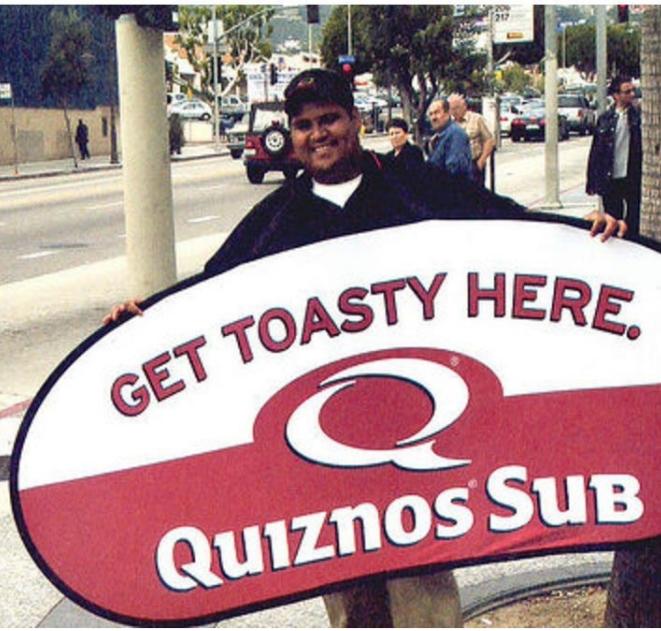
- “*The closer a machine translation is to a professional human translation, the better it is.*”
- Analyzes co-occurrences of  $n$ -grams between candidate and reference sentences
  - Modified (clipped)  $n$ -gram precision
  - Brevity penalty to penalize short candidate sentences
- Has been shown in MT literature to be an insufficient metric (Callison-Burch et al., 2006)
  - Many large variations of a generated sentence can score identically
  - Higher BLEU score is not necessarily indicative of higher human-judged quality

Candidate: the the the the the the.

Reference 1: The cat is on the mat.

Reference 2: There is a cat on the mat.

Modified Unigram Precision = 2/7.



**Reference captions:**

1. Latino man holding sign on the sidewalk outside promoting Quiznos-Subs .
2. A man is holding an advertisement for Quiznos Subs .
3. A man is holding a Quiznos sign next to a street .
4. A man is holding a Quiznos Sub sign .

**Candidate caption:**

? Quiznos worker wearing sign .

BLEU-4 = 0.106

# METEOR

(Banerjee & Lavie, 2005)

More flexible MT metric that calculates sentence-level similarity scores as a harmonic mean of unigram precision & recall, based on:

- Exact token matching
- Stemmed tokens
- WordNet synonyms
- Paraphrases

SYSTEM	Jim went home
REFERENCE	Joe goes home

SYSTEM	Jim walks home
REFERENCE	Joe goes home

Examples from [Statistical Machine Translation slides](#)

Banerjee & Lavie, [METEOR: An Automatic Metric for MT Evaluation with Improved Correlation with Human Judgments](#), ACL 2005

# CIDEr: Consensus-based Image Description Evaluation

(Vedantam et al., 2015)

- “Does a caption describe an image as most people tend to describe it?”
- Automatically evaluate for image  $I_i$ , how well a candidate sentence  $c_i$  matches the **consensus** of a set of image descriptions  $S_i = \{s_{i1}, \dots, s_{im}\}$
- Intuitively, a measure of consensus should:
  - Encode how often  $n$ -grams in the candidate sentence are present in the reference sentences
  - $n$ -grams not present in the reference sentences should not be in the candidate sentence
  - $n$ -grams that commonly occur across all images in the dataset should be given lower weight, since they are likely to be less informative

In practice: perform a **Term Frequency Inverse Document Frequency (TF-IDF)**

(Robertson, 2004) weighting for each  $n$ -gram

	CIDEr-D	Meteor	ROUGE-L	BLEU-1	BLEU-2	BLEU-3	BLEU-4	date
Watson Multimodal <sup>[46]</sup>	1.123	0.268	0.559	0.773	0.609	0.461	0.344	2016-11-16
MSM@MSRA <sup>[29]</sup>	1.049	0.266	0.552	0.751	0.588	0.449	0.343	2016-10-25
G-RMI(PG-SPIDER-TAG) <sup>[17]</sup>	1.042	0.255	0.551	0.751	0.591	0.445	0.331	2016-11-11
MetaMind/VT_GT <sup>[25]</sup>	1.042	0.264	0.55	0.748	0.584	0.444	0.336	2016-12-01
ATT-IMG (MSM@MSRA) <sup>[5]</sup>	1.023	0.262	0.551	0.752	0.59	0.449	0.34	2016-06-13
G-RMI (PG-BCMR) <sup>[16]</sup>	1.013	0.257	0.55	0.754	0.591	0.445	0.332	2016-10-30
DONOT_FAIL AGAIN <sup>[13]</sup>	1.01	0.262	0.542	0.734	0.564	0.425	0.32	2016-11-22
DLTC@MSR <sup>[12]</sup>	1.003	0.257	0.543	0.74	0.575	0.436	0.331	2016-09-04
Postech_CV <sup>[38]</sup>	0.987	0.255	0.539	0.743	0.575	0.431	0.321	2016-06-13
feng <sup>[15]</sup>	0.986	0.255	0.54	0.743	0.578	0.434	0.323	2016-11-06
...								
Human <sup>[21]</sup>	0.854	0.252	0.484	0.663	0.469	0.321	0.217	2015-03-23

According to CIDEr, humans are in 38<sup>th</sup> place!! 😱