

Text Processing using Machine Learning

Memory Network and Conditioned Generation

Liling Tan

04 Dec 2019

OVER 5,500	GRADUATE ALUMNI	OFFERING OVER 120	ENTERPRISE IT, INNOVATION & LEADERSHIP PROGRAMMES	TRAINING OVER 120,000	DIGITAL LEADERS & PROFESSIONALS
----------------------	--------------------	-----------------------------	--	---------------------------------	------------------------------------

Overview

Lecture

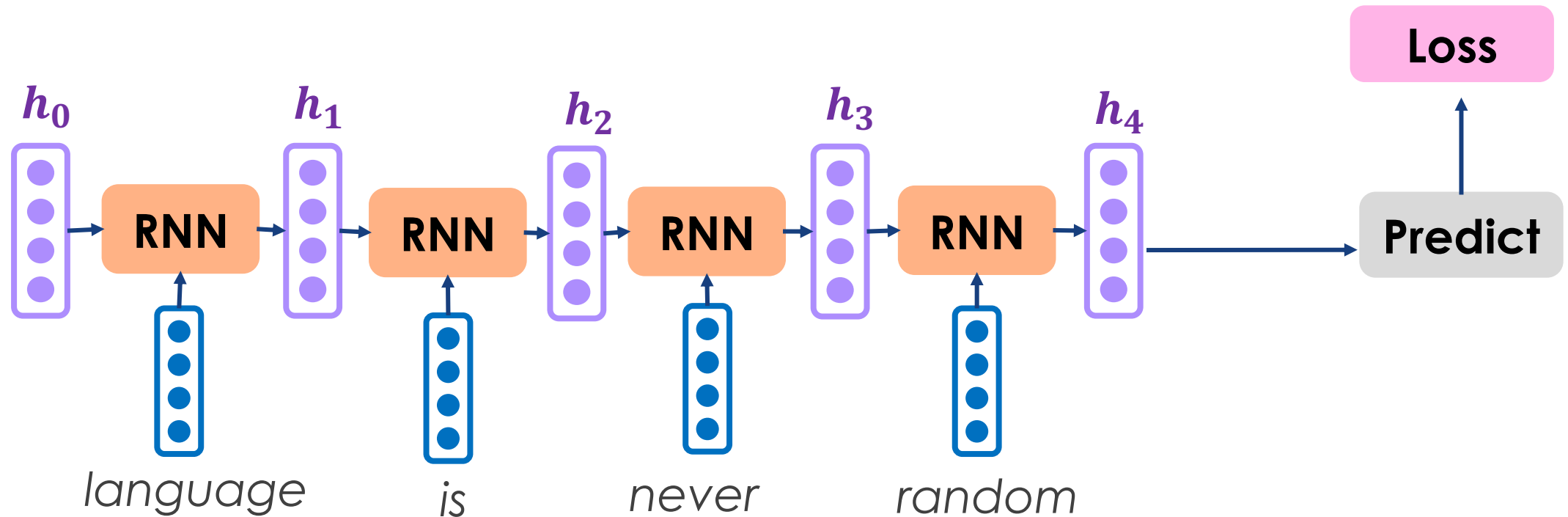
- Gated Memory RNNs
- Conditioned Generation

Hands-on

- Sequence Generation

Gated Memory RNNs

Recurrent Neural Nets



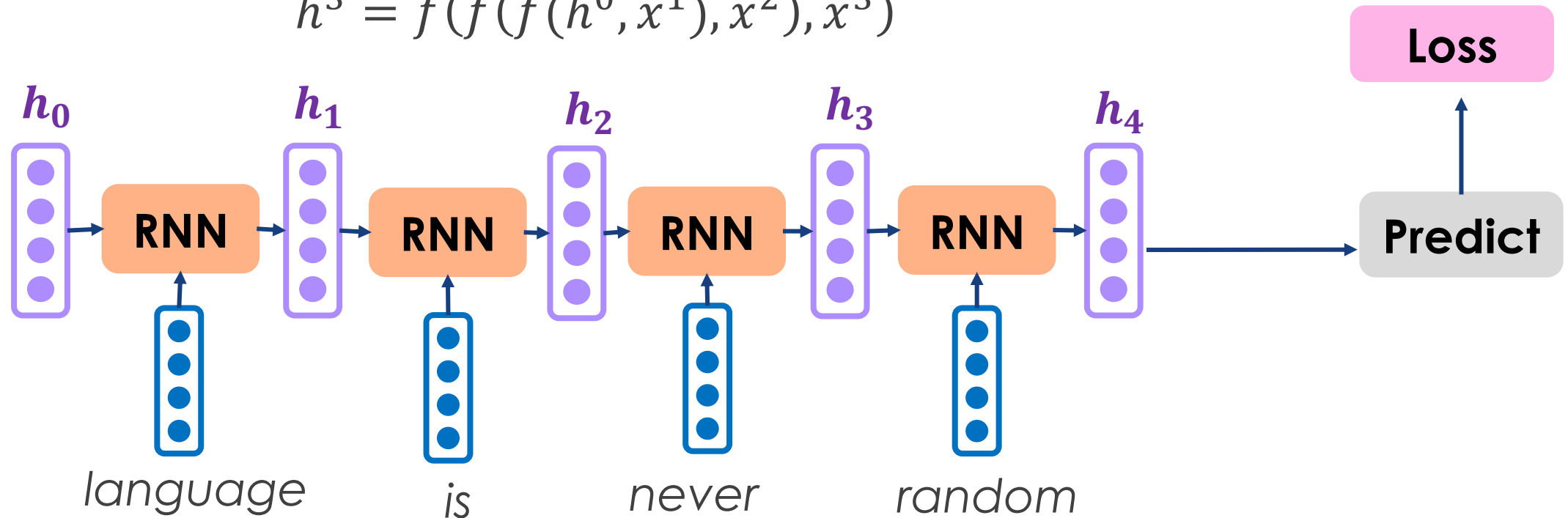
RNN Exploding gradient

Lets look at the “**curled up**” RNN:

$$h^t = f(h^{t-1}, x^t)$$

If we **unroll the RNN** that has 3 time-step, we get:

$$h^3 = f(f(f(h^0, x^1), x^2), x^3)$$



Exploding gradient

Lets look at the “**curled up**” RNN:

$$h^t = f(h^{t-1}, x^t)$$

If we **unroll the RNN** that has 3 time-step, we get:

$$h^3 = f(f(f(h^0, x^1), x^2), x^3)$$

And if consider $f(x)$ as a “harmless-looking”

$$f(x) = 3.5x(1 - x)$$

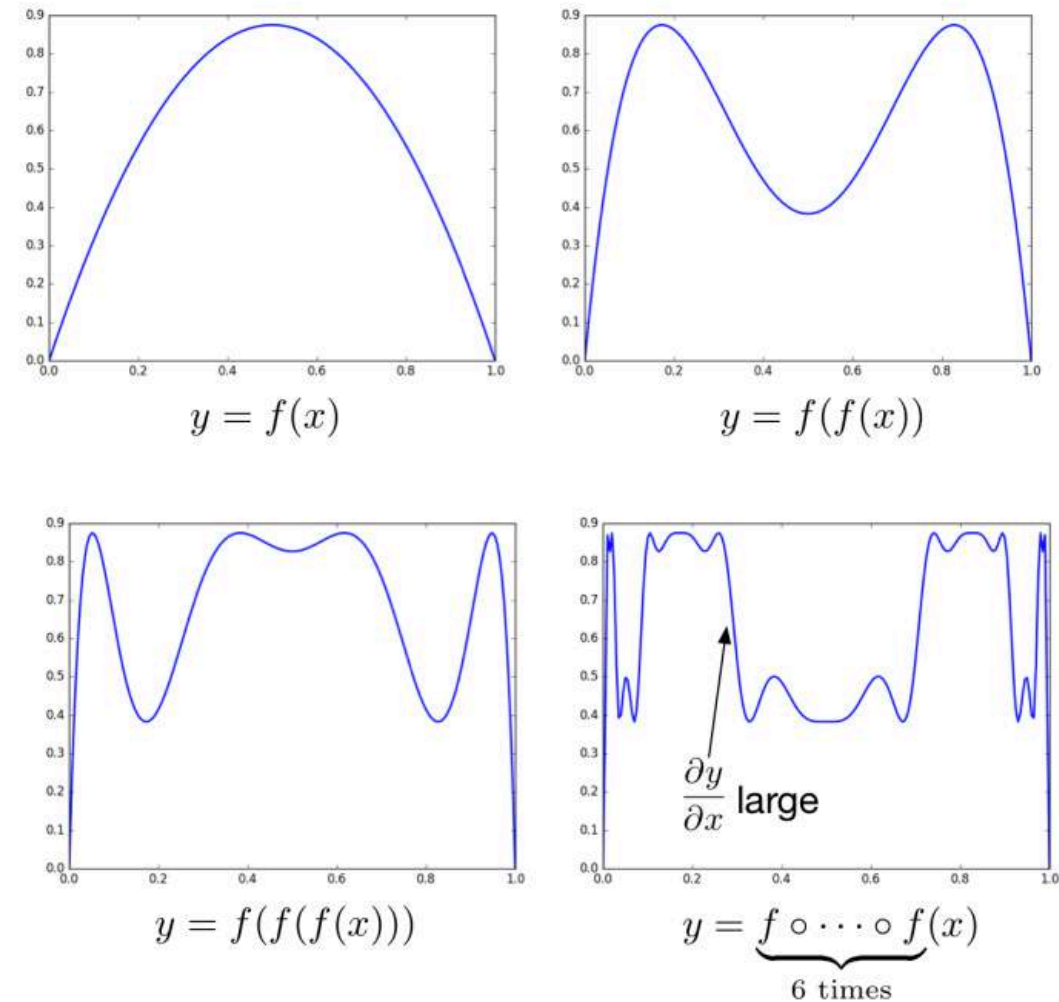


Figure and example from ([Grosse 2017](#))

Solution: Gradient Clipping

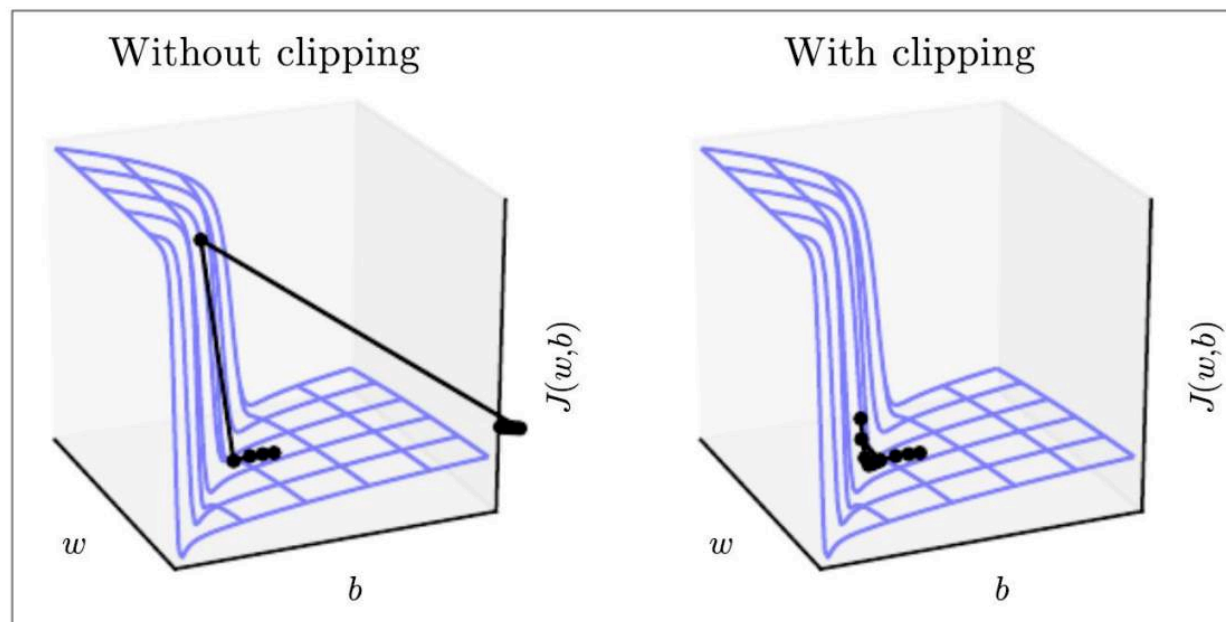
- **General idea:** if we don't like the big numbers, just put a max to the gradient values

Algorithm 1 Pseudo-code for norm clipping

```
 $\hat{\mathbf{g}} \leftarrow \frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial \theta}$   
if  $\|\hat{\mathbf{g}}\| \geq threshold$  then  
     $\hat{\mathbf{g}} \leftarrow \frac{threshold}{\|\hat{\mathbf{g}}\|} \hat{\mathbf{g}}$   
end if
```

Source: ([Pascanu et al, 2013](#))

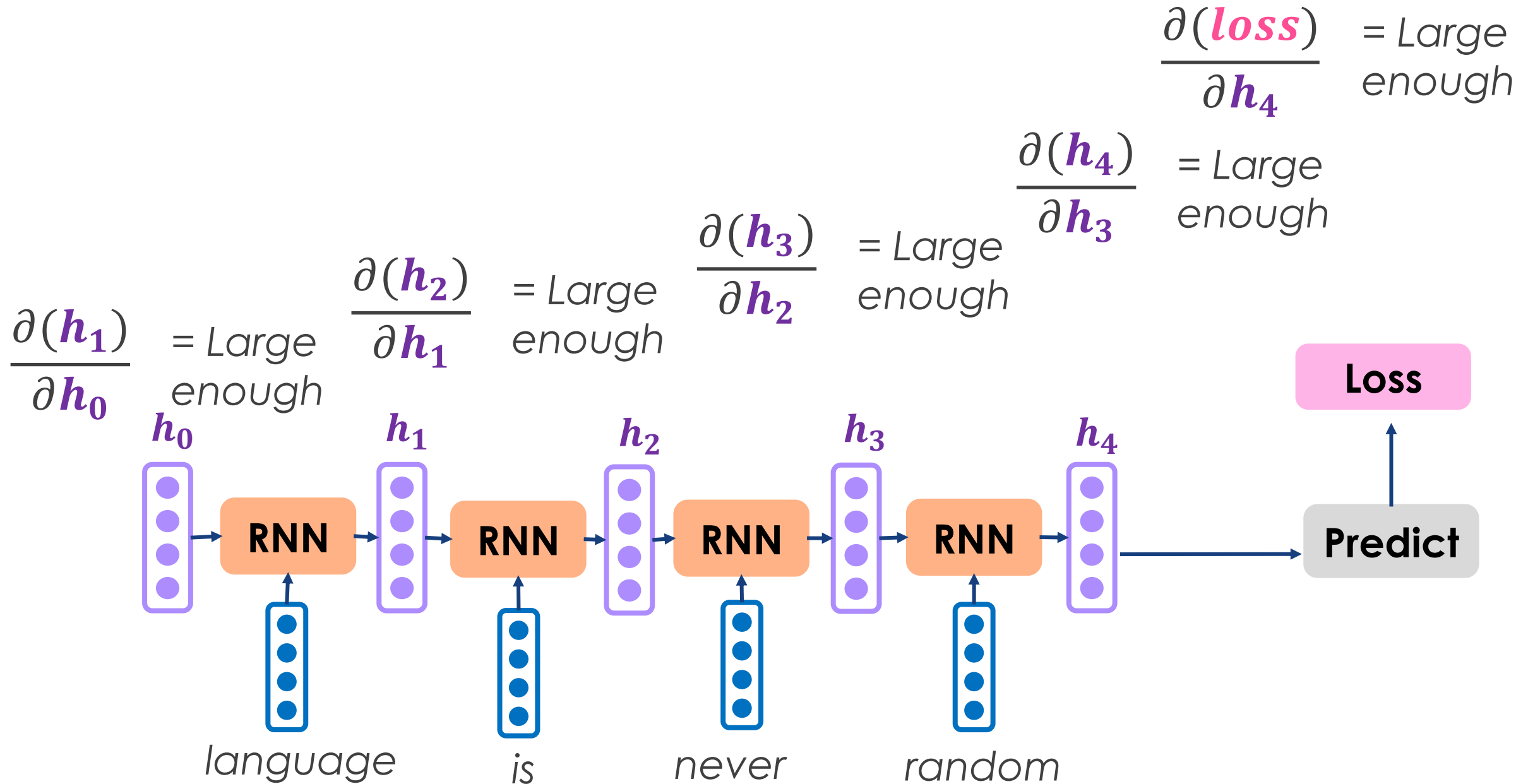
Solution: Gradient Clipping



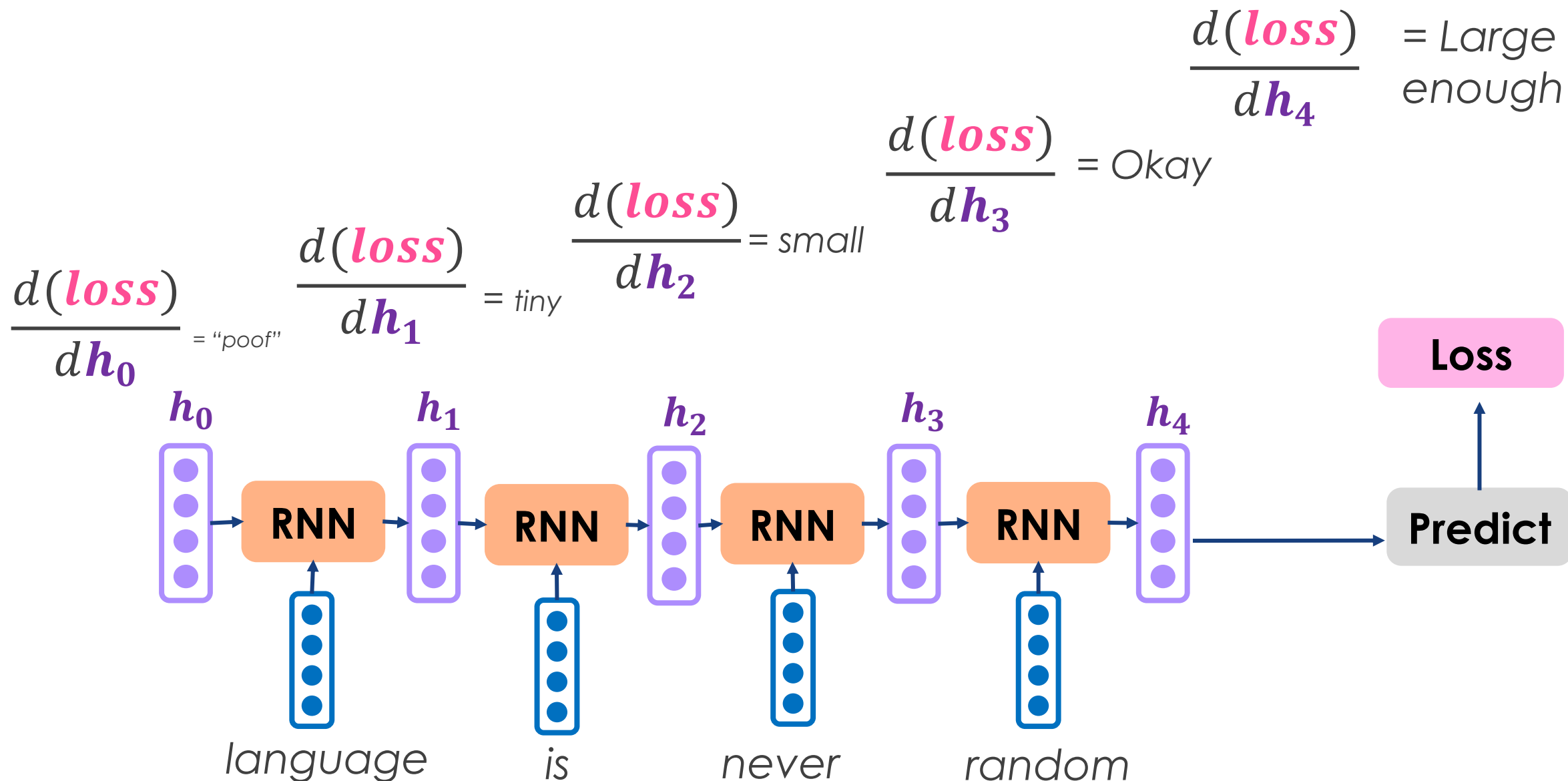
- Figure above shows a loss surface of an RNN
- **(Left) without clipping**, weights values increases and so does gradient causing loss to “jump off the cliff”
- **(Right) with clipping**, weights are kept to a max and loss doesn't inflate

Source: ([Goodfellow et al. 2016](#))

Partial Gradients



RNN Vanishing Gradients



Why is vanishing gradient a problem?

- When moving along the timestep of RNN, gradient can be thought as “***the effects of the past on the future***” (See, 2019)

Why is vanishing gradient a problem?

- When moving along the timestep of RNN, gradient can be thought as “***the effects of the past on the future***” (See, 2019)
- Vanishing gradient means info from the ***previous words are less influential to predict words in the future***

“**Trump** haz **cheezburger**”

“**Trump** haz the **kat** tat haz **cheezburger**”

“**Trump** haz the kat buy tat **cheezburger**”

Why is vanishing gradient a problem?

- When moving along the timestep of RNN, gradient can be thought as “***the effects of the past on the future***” (See, 2019)
- Vanishing gradient means info from the ***previous words are less influential to predict words in the future***
- When gradients are small over longer distance, it's hard to know whether
 - **Trump** has no relation to the **cheezburger** or
 - the model learns to **wrong parameter** that doesn't capture relation between **Trump** and **cheezburger**

Solution: Information Controlling RNN

- **General idea:** make additive connections between time steps
- *Keeping a memory of past time steps and add them to the current one*
- *Addition don't change gradient*, no vanishing
- *Gates control different information strengths* from the past

Long Short Term Memory (LSTM)

- At each time step, perform the following operations

Input: controls how much new cell info is written to cell

$$i_t = \sigma \left(W^{(i)} x_t + U^{(i)} h_{t-1} \right)$$

Forget: controls how much previous cell info should be forgotten

$$f_t = \sigma \left(W^{(f)} x_t + U^{(f)} h_{t-1} \right)$$

Output: controls how much info is written to hidden state

$$o_t = \sigma \left(W^{(o)} x_t + U^{(o)} h_{t-1} \right)$$

New cell info: new content to write to cell

$$\tilde{c}_t = \tanh \left(W^{(c)} x_t + U^{(c)} h_{t-1} \right)$$

Cell state (Memory): forget some of the previous cell info and write some new cell info

$$c_t = f_t \circ c_{t-1} + i_t \circ \tilde{c}_t$$

Hidden state: output some bits of info from the cell state for next cell to “remember”

$$h_t = o_t \circ \tanh(c_t)$$

Long Short Term Memory (LSTM)

- At each time step, perform the following operations

Sigmoid to make sure
all outputs are (0,1)

$$i_t = \sigma \left(W^{(i)} x_t + U^{(i)} h_{t-1} \right)$$

$$f_t = \sigma \left(W^{(f)} x_t + U^{(f)} h_{t-1} \right)$$

$$o_t = \sigma \left(W^{(o)} x_t + U^{(o)} h_{t-1} \right)$$

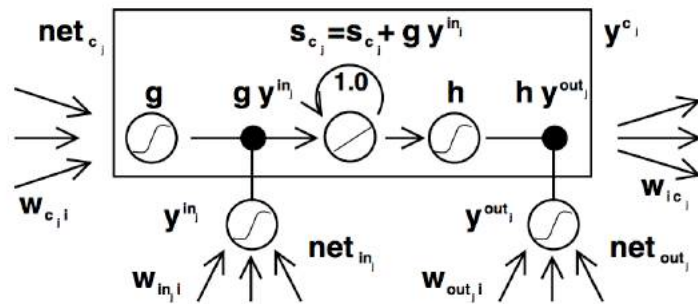
$$\tilde{c}_t = \tanh \left(W^{(c)} x_t + U^{(c)} h_{t-1} \right)$$

Elementwise
product

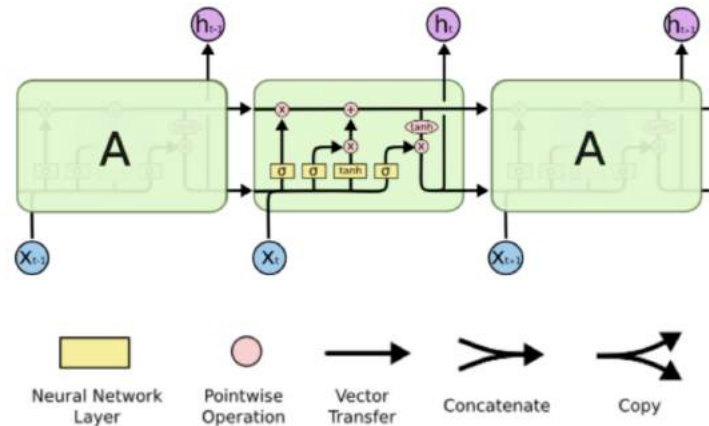
$$c_t = f_t \circ c_{t-1} + i_t \circ \tilde{c}_t$$

$$h_t = o_t \circ \tanh(c_t)$$

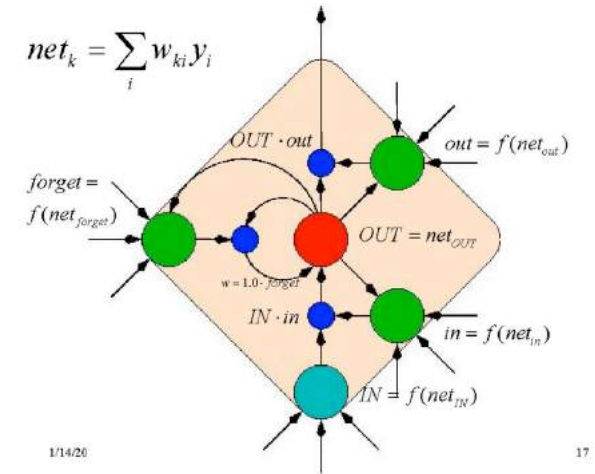
LSTM Galore



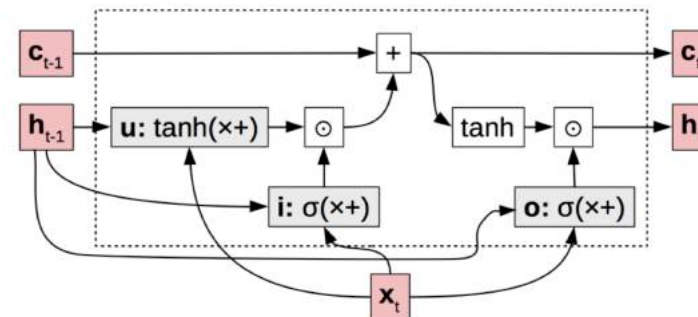
From [Hochreiter and Schmidhuber \(1997\)](#)



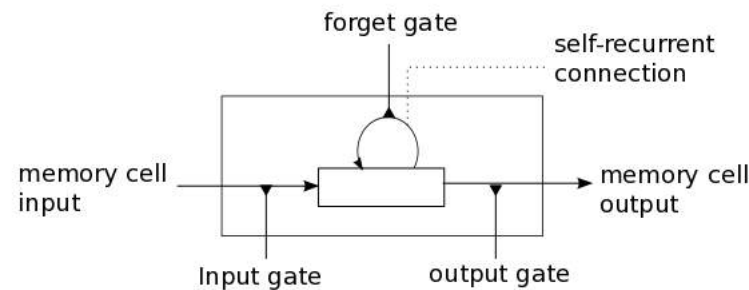
From Olah (2015) [blogpost](#)



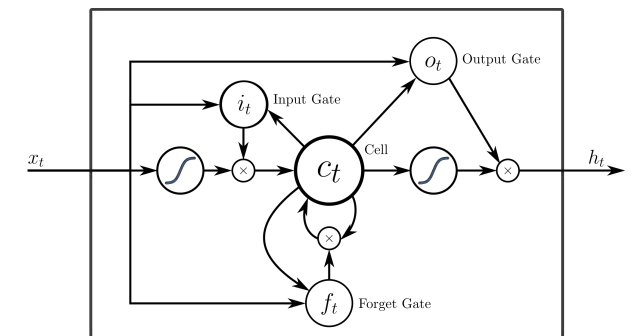
From Schmidhuber (2017) [page](#)



From Neubig (2019) [CMU NN4NLP Course](#)

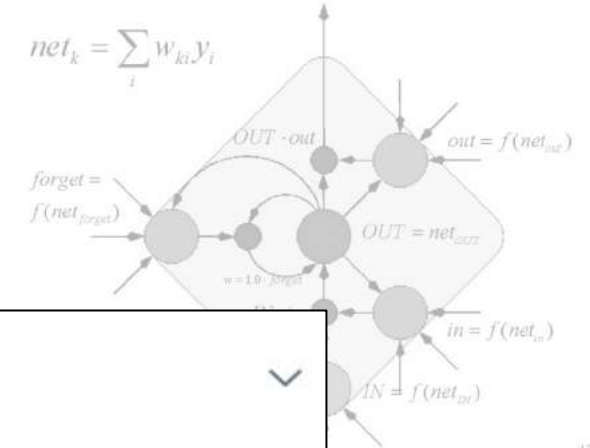
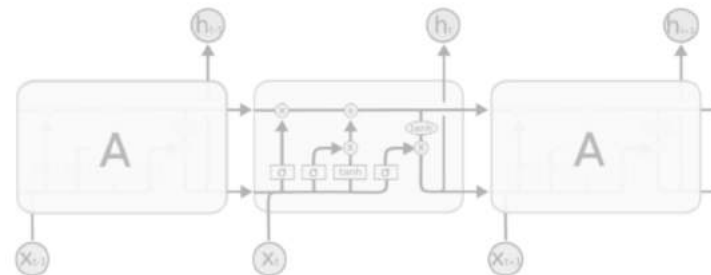
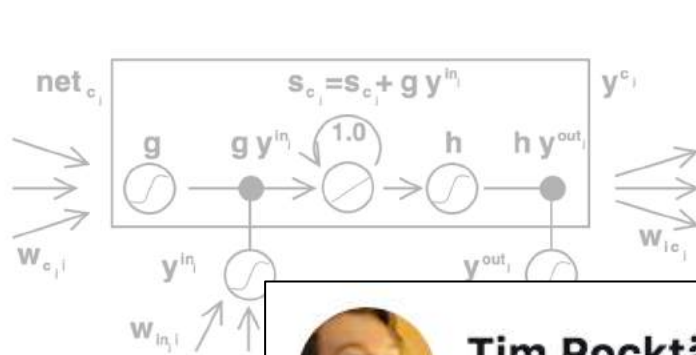


From <http://deeplearning.net>



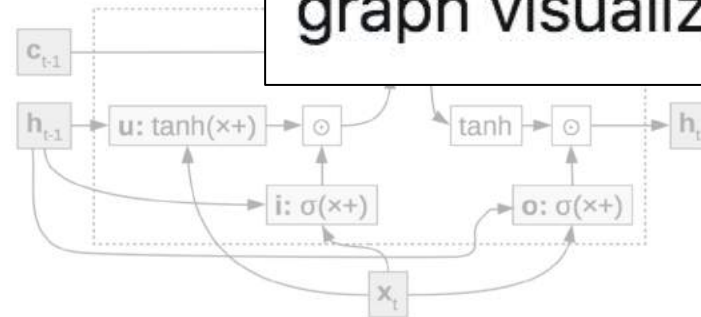
From [Wikipedia](#)

LSTM Galore

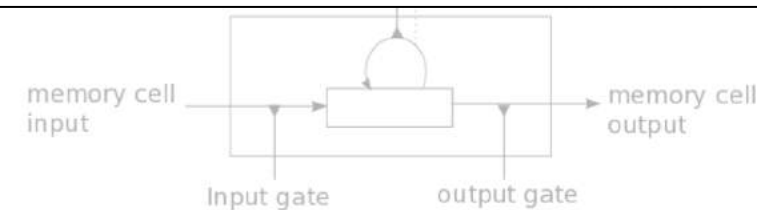


Tim Rocktäschel
@_rockt

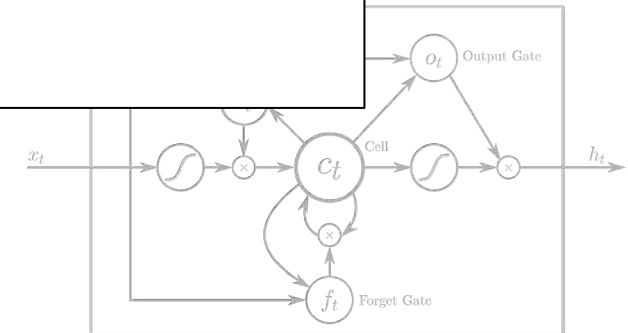
I wasn't really happy with existing LSTM computation graph visualizations. Here is my attempt.



From Neubig (2019)
CMU NN4NLP Course

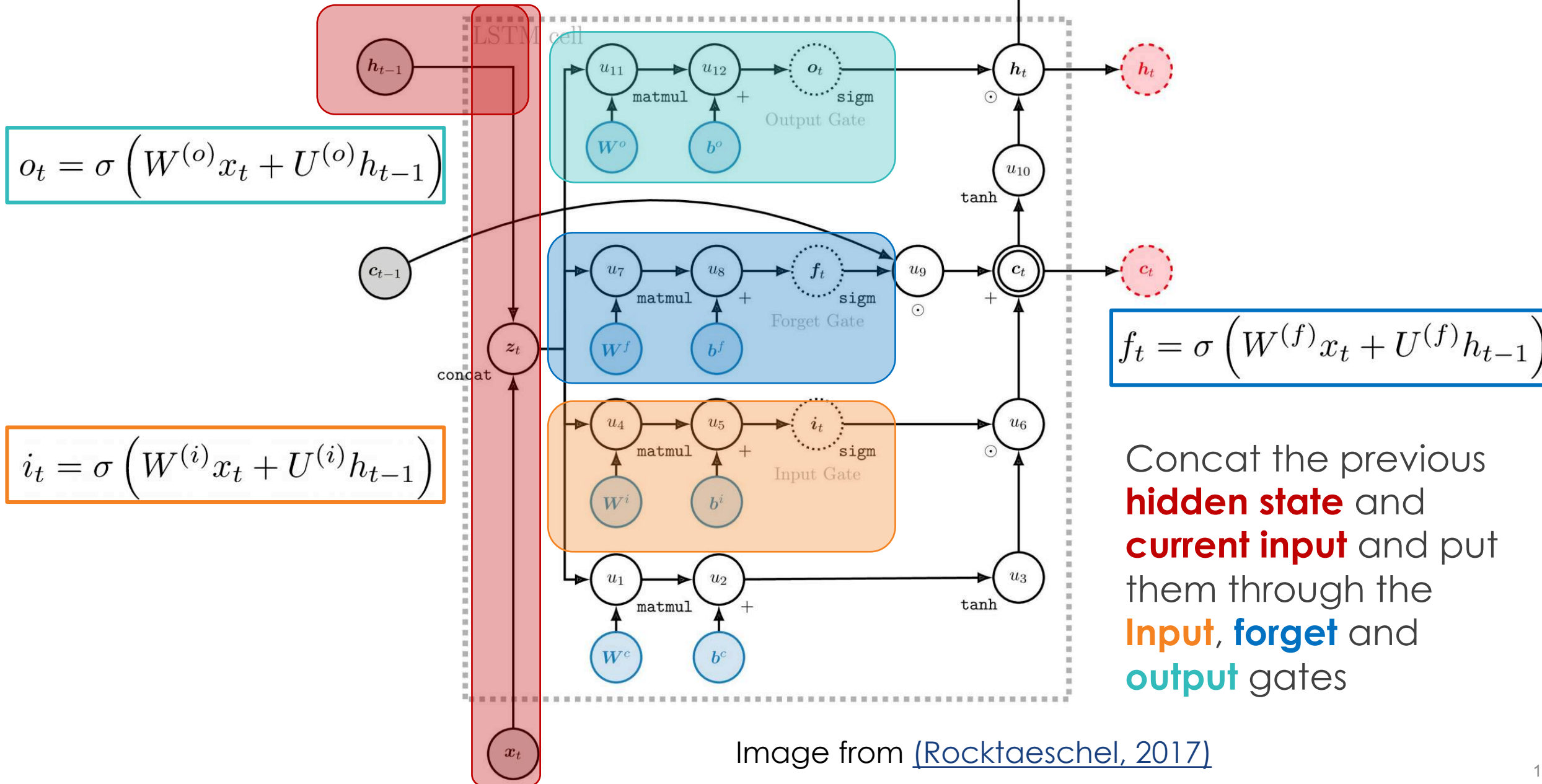


From <http://deeplearning.net>



From Wikipedia

LSTM



LSTM

Compute the
non-linearity like
a vanilla RNN **for**
this time step

$$\tilde{c}_t = \tanh(W^{(c)}x_t + U^{(c)}h_{t-1})$$

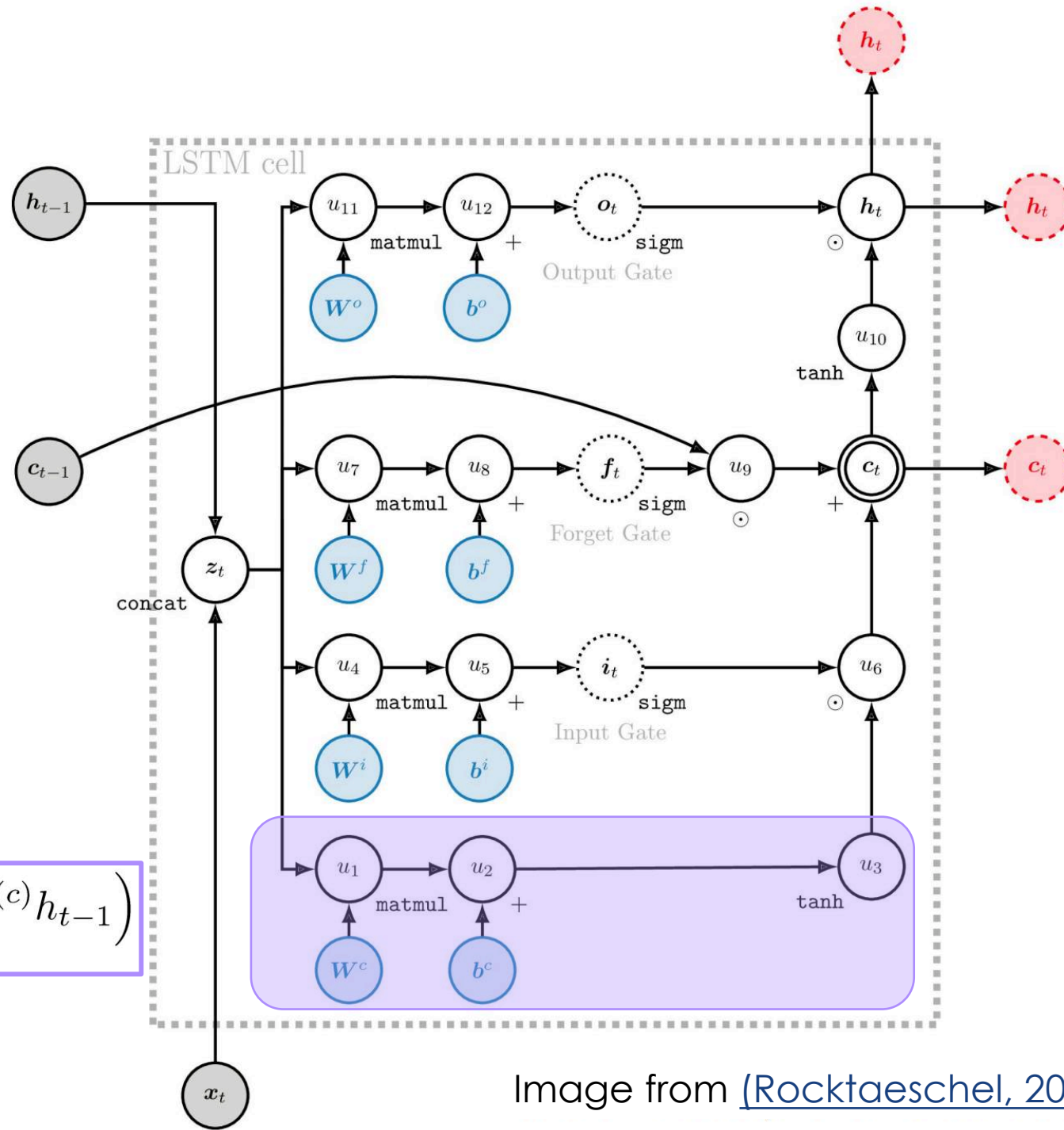
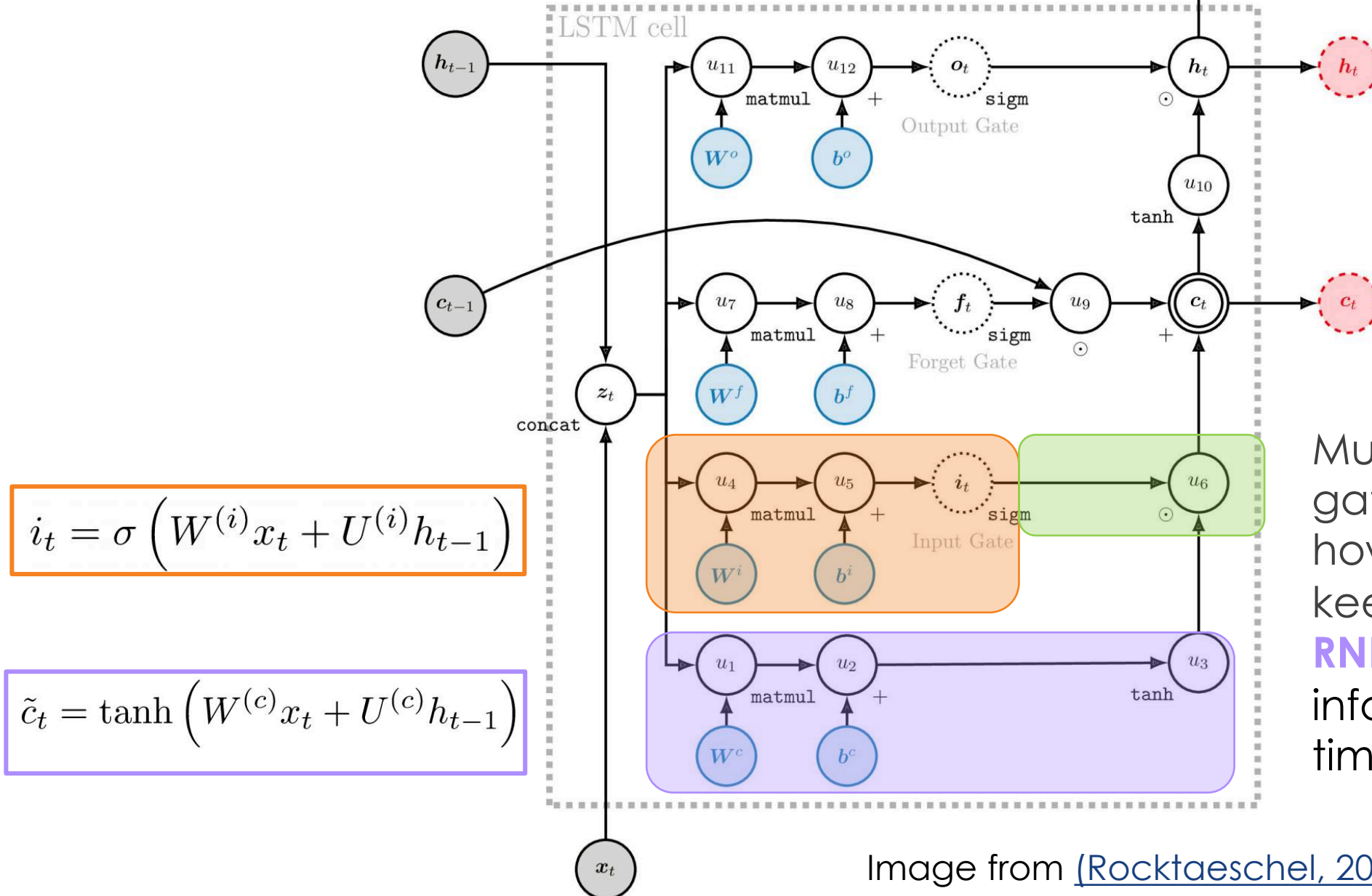


Image from [\(Rocktaeschel, 2017\)](#)

LSTM



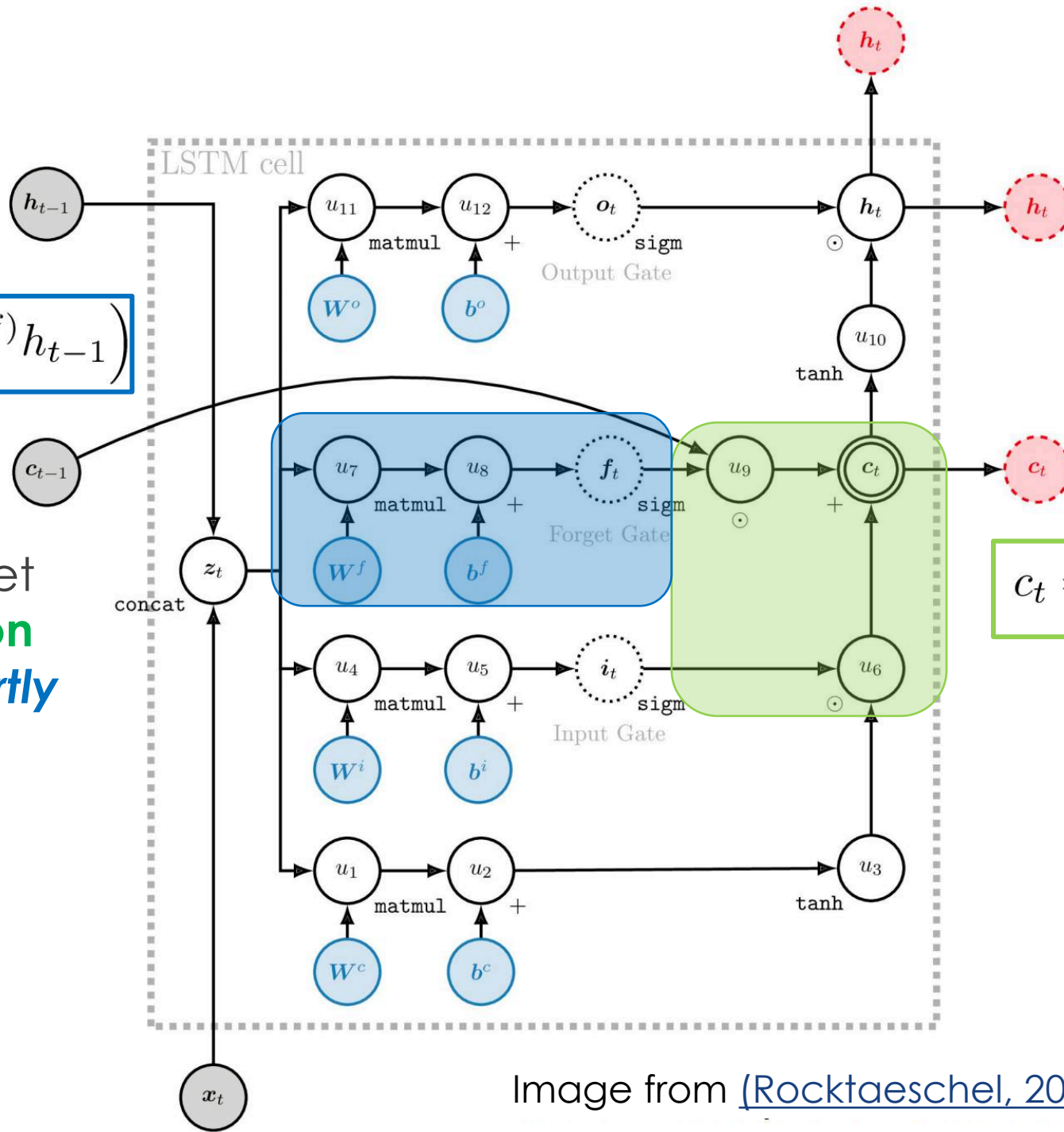
Multiply the **Input** gate output to control how much info to keep from the **vanilla RNN** using the kept info for the current timestep **prediction**

Image from [\(Rocktaeschel, 2017\)](#)

LSTM

$$f_t = \sigma \left(W^{(f)} x_t + U^{(f)} h_{t-1} \right)$$

Rather than multiplying, we get the **final prediction** c_t by adding “**partly forgotten**” c_{t-1}



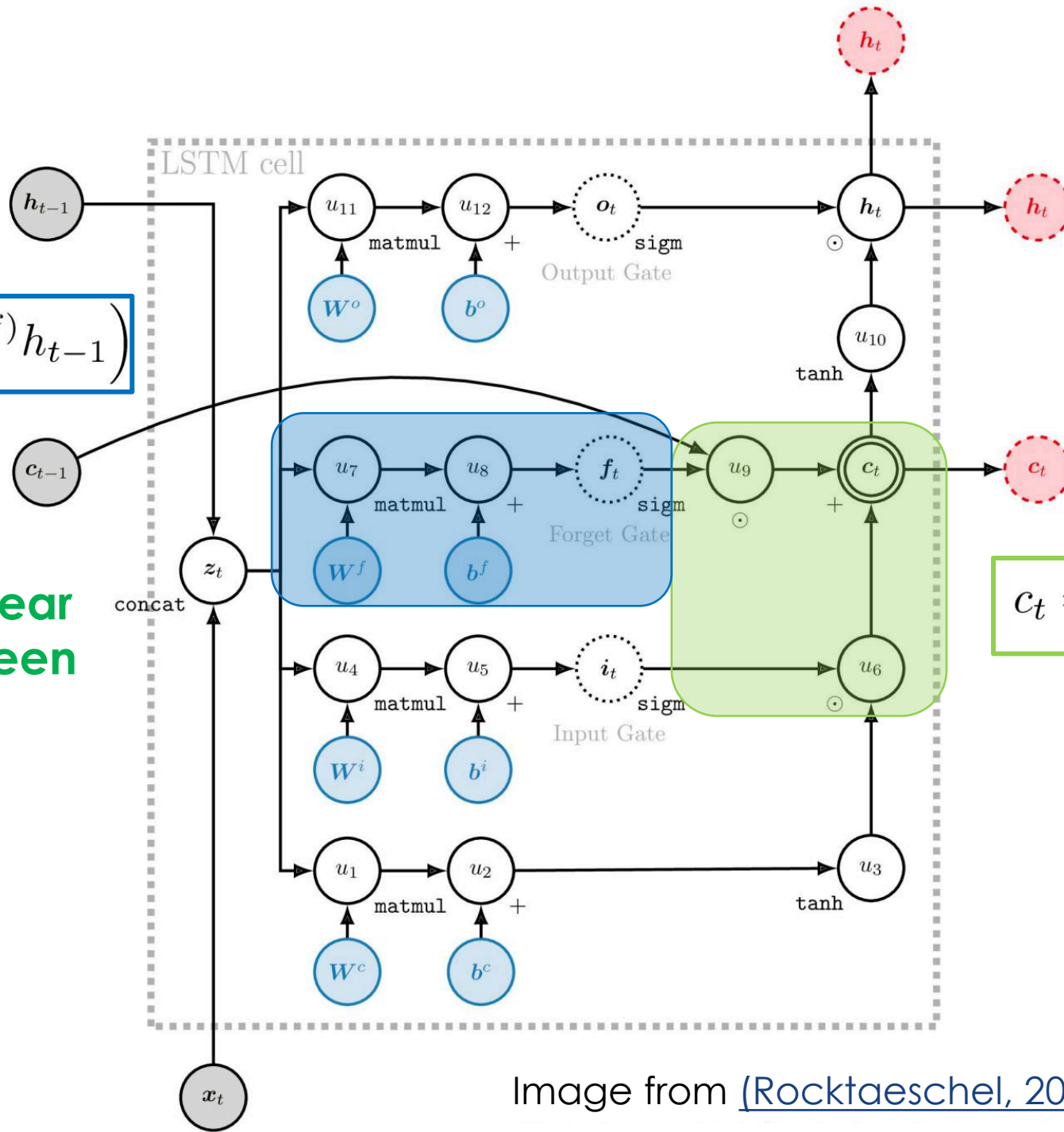
$$c_t = f_t \circ c_{t-1} + i_t \circ \tilde{c}_t$$

Image from [\(Rocktaeschel, 2017\)](#)

LSTM

$$f_t = \sigma \left(W^{(f)} x_t + U^{(f)} h_{t-1} \right)$$

This creates an
**additive direct linear
connection between
 c_t and c_{t-1}**



$$c_t = f_t \circ c_{t-1} + i_t \circ \tilde{c}_t$$

Image from [\(Rocktaeschel, 2017\)](#)

LSTM

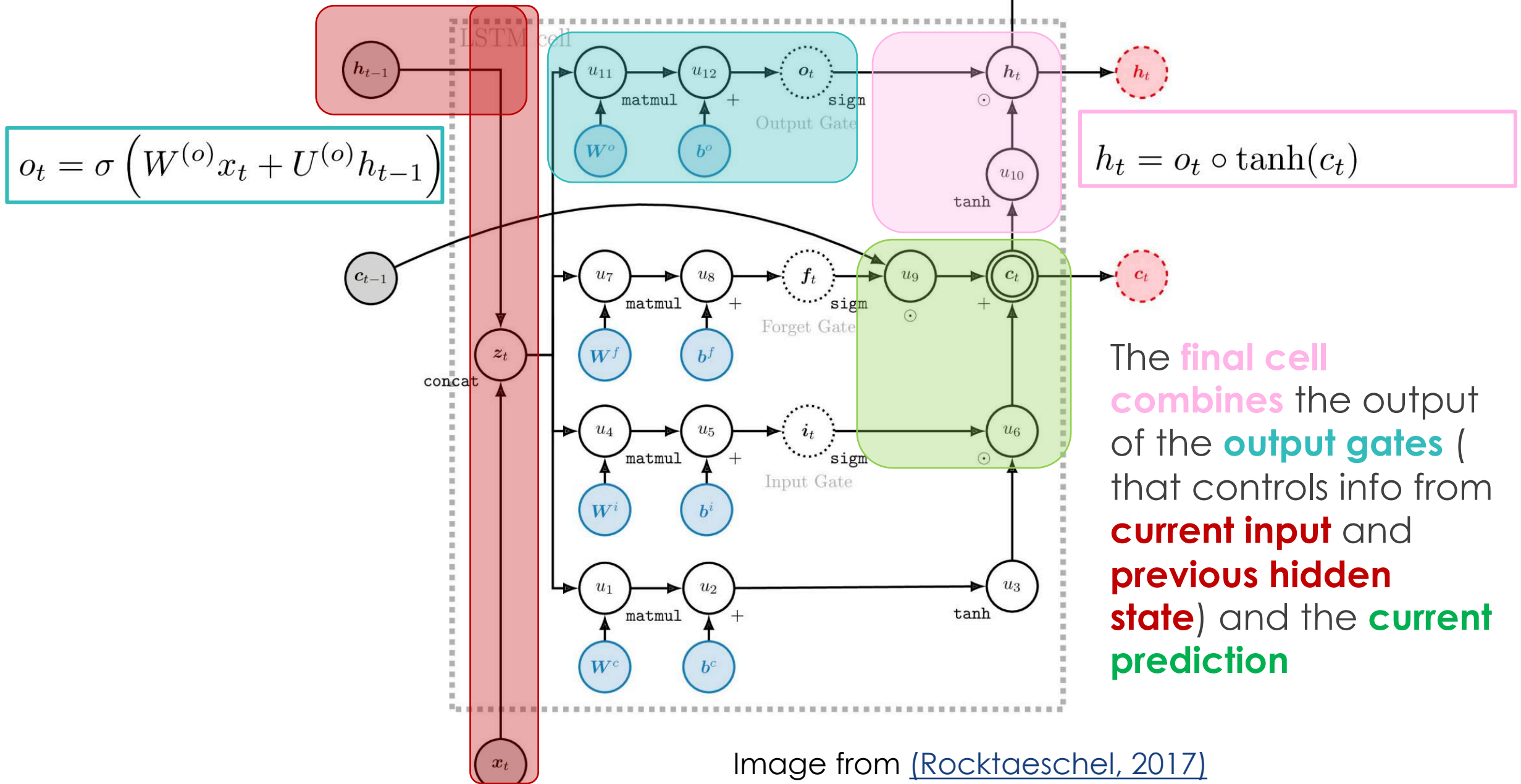


Image from [\(Rocktaeschel, 2017\)](#)

Bruce Lee on LSTM

“Absorb what is useful,
discard what is not,
add what is uniquely
your own.”
– Bruce Lee

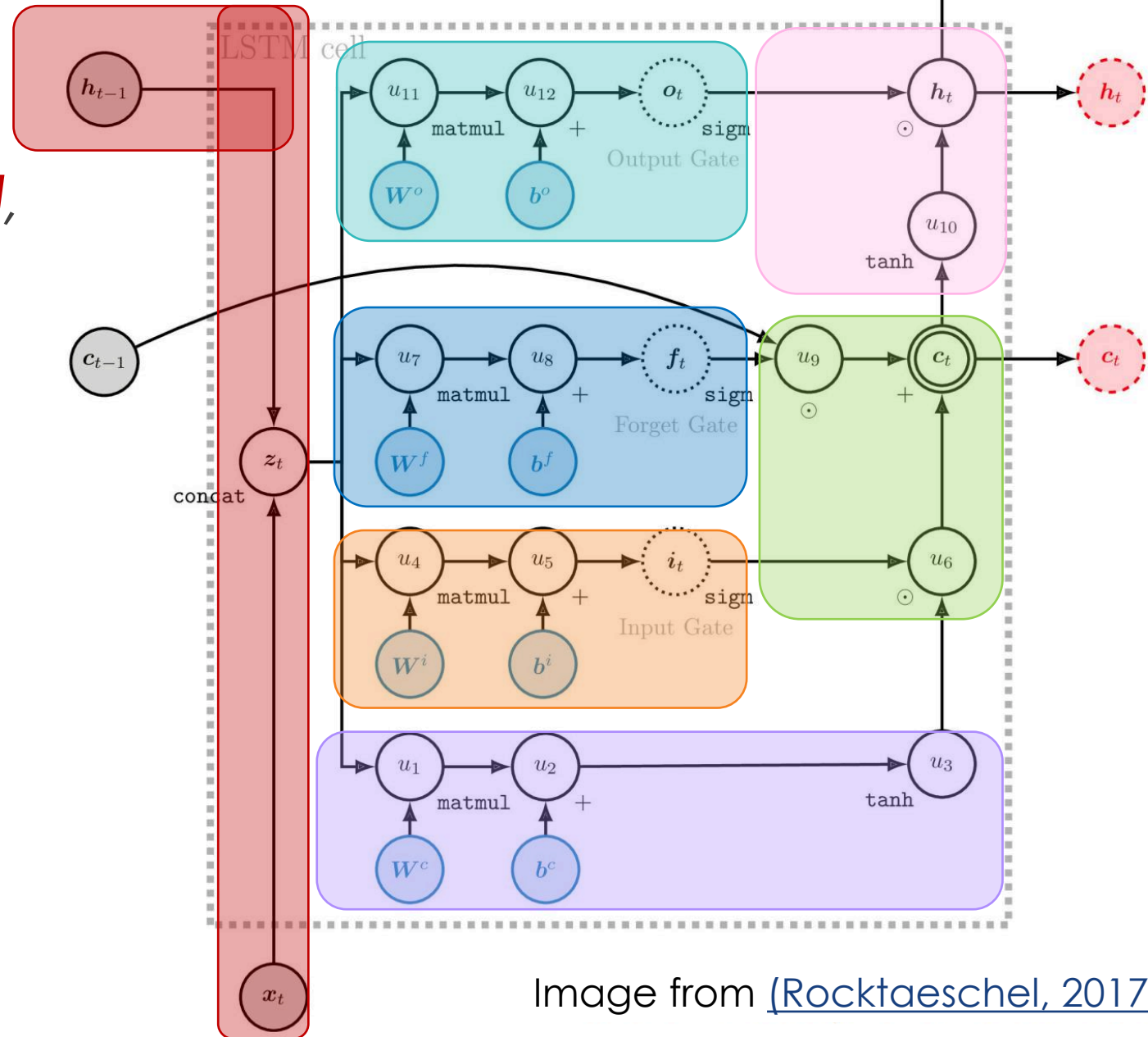


Image from [\(Rocktaeschel, 2017\)](#)

Gated Recurrent Neural Nets

- At each time step, perform the following operations

Update: controls how much info in the new hidden states are kept or updated

$$\mathbf{u}^{(t)} = \sigma \left(\mathbf{W}_u \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{U}_u \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}_u \right)$$

Reset: controls how much info in the previous hidden states are kept

$$\mathbf{r}^{(t)} = \sigma \left(\mathbf{W}_r \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{U}_r \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}_r \right)$$

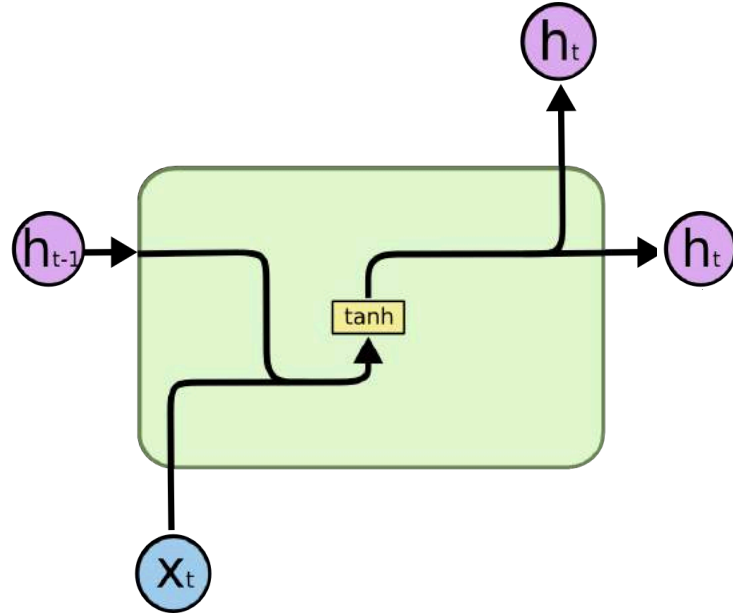
New Hidden state: **Reset** selects info from previous hidden state and combines it with the current input

$$\tilde{\mathbf{h}}^{(t)} = \tanh \left(\mathbf{W}_h (\mathbf{r}^{(t)} \circ \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)}) + \mathbf{U}_h \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}_h \right)$$

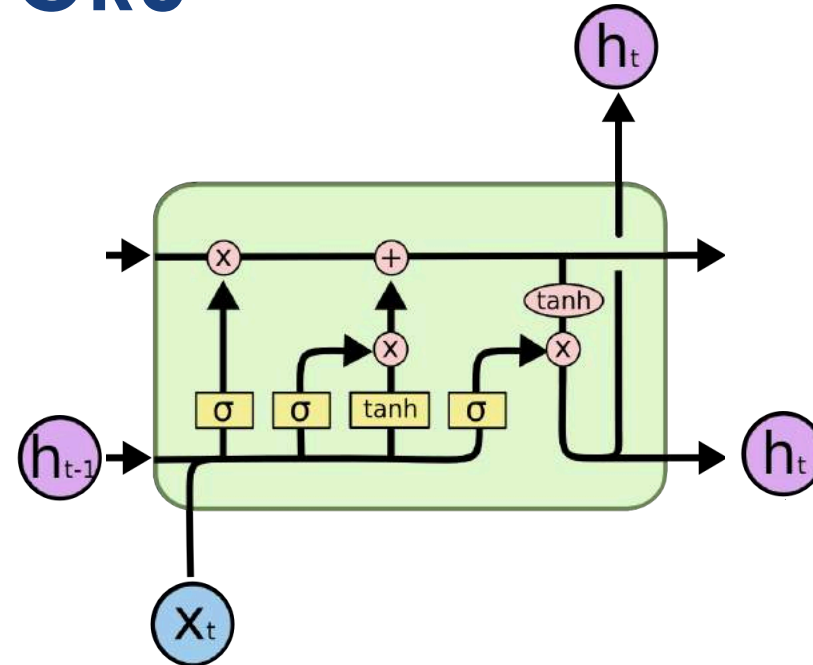
Hidden state: **Update** selects info from previous hidden state and combines it with the current input

$$\mathbf{h}^{(t)} = (1 - \mathbf{u}^{(t)}) \circ \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{u}^{(t)} \circ \tilde{\mathbf{h}}^{(t)}$$

RNN vs LSTM vs GRU



$$h_t = \tanh(Wx_t + Uh_{t-1})$$



$$i_t = \sigma(W^{(i)}x_t + U^{(i)}h_{t-1})$$

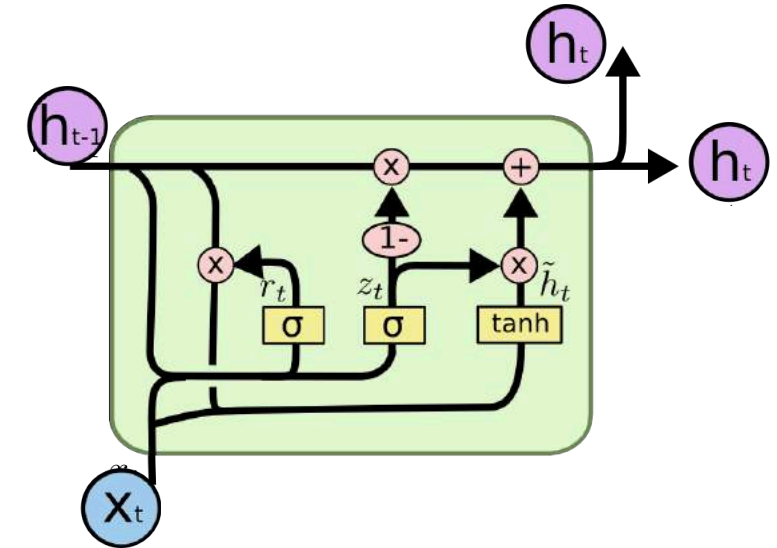
$$f_t = \sigma(W^{(f)}x_t + U^{(f)}h_{t-1})$$

$$o_t = \sigma(W^{(o)}x_t + U^{(o)}h_{t-1})$$

$$\tilde{c}_t = \tanh(W^{(c)}x_t + U^{(c)}h_{t-1})$$

$$c_t = f_t \circ c_{t-1} + i_t \circ \tilde{c}_t$$

$$h_t = o_t \circ \tanh(c_t)$$



$$\mathbf{u}^{(t)} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_u \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{U}_u \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}_u)$$

$$\mathbf{r}^{(t)} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_r \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{U}_r \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}_r)$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{h}}^{(t)} = \tanh(\mathbf{W}_h(\mathbf{r}^{(t)} \circ \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)}) + \mathbf{U}_h \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}_h)$$

$$\mathbf{h}^{(t)} = (1 - \mathbf{u}^{(t)}) \circ \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{u}^{(t)} \circ \tilde{\mathbf{h}}^{(t)}$$

LSTM vs GRU

- No conclusive evidence on which performs better
- *“I am impatient”* -> Use **GRU** (fewer parameters)
- *“I want good results easily”* -> Use **LSTM** (more papers used it)
- In both cases, enjoy the grind of tuning hyperparameters...

Throw away your RNN

- "We fell for RNN, LSTM, and all their variants. **Now it is time to drop them!**" – [Eugenio Culurciello](#)
- RNNs are **not hardware friendly**
- **Attention-base models** (e.g. Transformer) outperforms RNN ([Vaswani et al. 2017](#))
- **Hierarchical Attention** ([Yang et al. 2016](#)) or **Casual Convolution Networks** ([Elbayad et al. 2018](#)) outperforms LSTMs and Transformers

LSTM: A Search Space Odyssey

- [Greff et al. \(2017\)](#) explored 8 variants of LSTMs
- No Peepholes == GRU
- Original LSTM works well
- CIFG and GRU simplifies LSTM but no drop in performance

NIG: No Input Gate: $i^t = 1$

NFG: No Forget Gate: $f^t = 1$

NOG: No Output Gate: $o^t = 1$

NIAF: No Input Activation Function: $g(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}$

NOAF: No Output Activation Function: $h(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}$

CIFG: Coupled Input and Forget Gate: $f^t = 1 - i^t$

NP: No Peepholes:

$$\bar{i}^t = \mathbf{W}_i \mathbf{x}^t + \mathbf{R}_i \mathbf{y}^{t-1} + \mathbf{b}_i$$

$$\bar{f}^t = \mathbf{W}_f \mathbf{x}^t + \mathbf{R}_f \mathbf{y}^{t-1} + \mathbf{b}_f$$

$$\bar{o}^t = \mathbf{W}_o \mathbf{x}^t + \mathbf{R}_o \mathbf{y}^{t-1} + \mathbf{b}_o$$

FGR: Full Gate Recurrence:

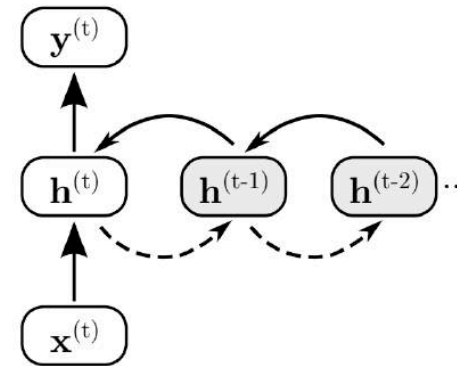
$$\begin{aligned} \bar{i}^t &= \mathbf{W}_i \mathbf{x}^t + \mathbf{R}_i \mathbf{y}^{t-1} + \mathbf{p}_i \odot \mathbf{c}^{t-1} + \mathbf{b}_i \\ &\quad + \mathbf{R}_{ii} \mathbf{i}^{t-1} + \mathbf{R}_{fi} \mathbf{f}^{t-1} + \mathbf{R}_{oi} \mathbf{o}^{t-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{f}^t &= \mathbf{W}_f \mathbf{x}^t + \mathbf{R}_f \mathbf{y}^{t-1} + \mathbf{p}_f \odot \mathbf{c}^{t-1} + \mathbf{b}_f \\ &\quad + \mathbf{R}_{if} \mathbf{i}^{t-1} + \mathbf{R}_{ff} \mathbf{f}^{t-1} + \mathbf{R}_{of} \mathbf{o}^{t-1} \end{aligned}$$

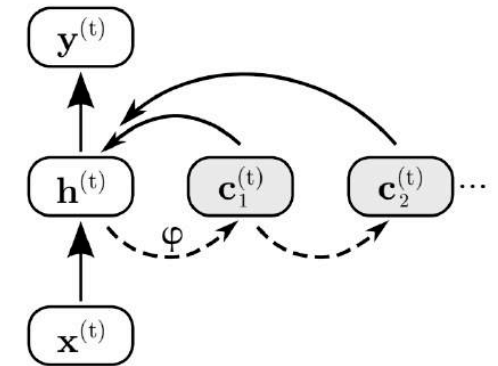
$$\begin{aligned} \bar{o}^t &= \mathbf{W}_o \mathbf{x}^t + \mathbf{R}_o \mathbf{y}^{t-1} + \mathbf{p}_o \odot \mathbf{c}^{t-1} + \mathbf{b}_o \\ &\quad + \mathbf{R}_{io} \mathbf{i}^{t-1} + \mathbf{R}_{fo} \mathbf{f}^{t-1} + \mathbf{R}_{oo} \mathbf{o}^{t-1} \end{aligned}$$

Learning Multiple Timescales in RNNs

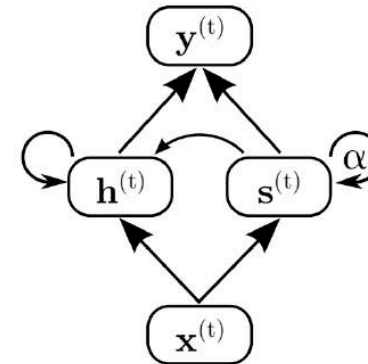
- [Alpay \(2016\)](#) investigated different ways to manipulate the time-steps in RNNs



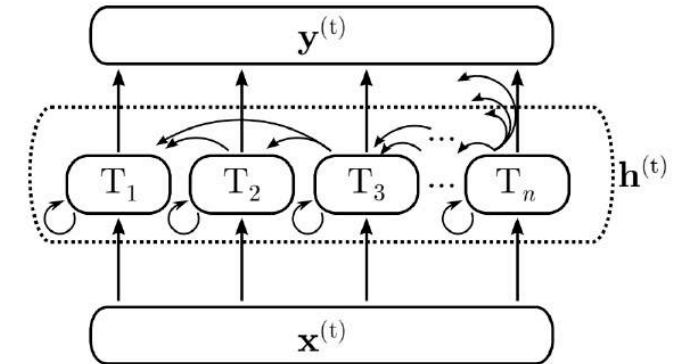
(a) SRN



(b) RPN



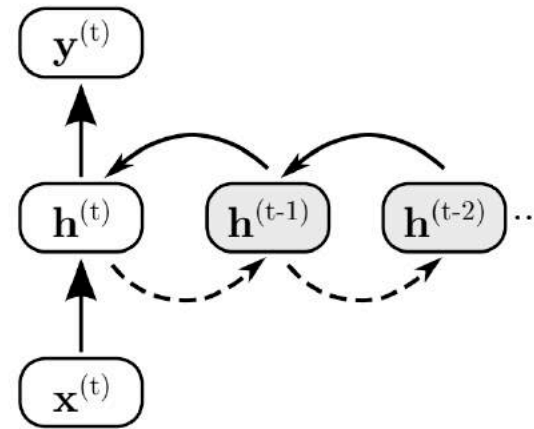
(c) SCRNN



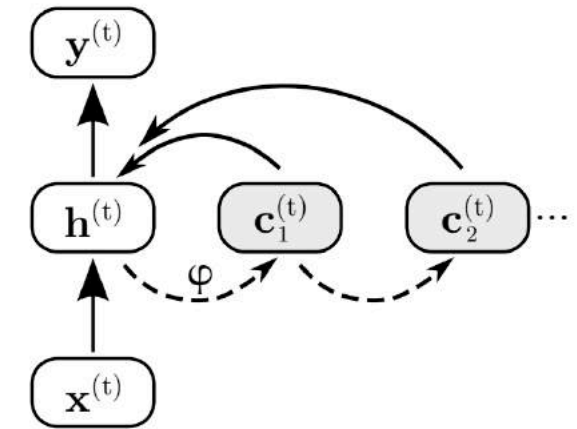
(d) CWRNN

Learning Multiple Timescales in RNNs

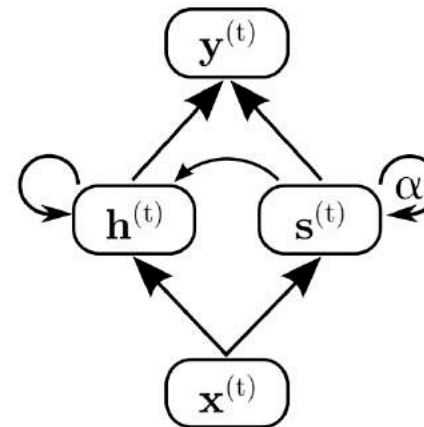
- Simple Recurrent Network (SRN) == Vanilla RNN
- Next prediction conditioned on previous timestep
- Backpropagation through time sequentially



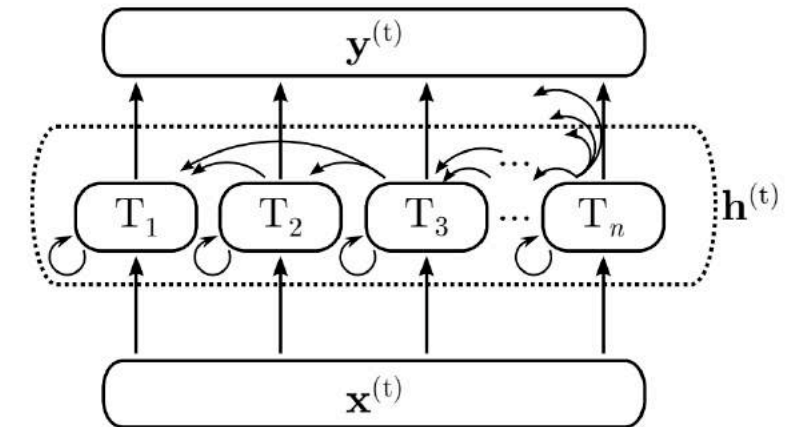
(a) SRN



(b) RPN



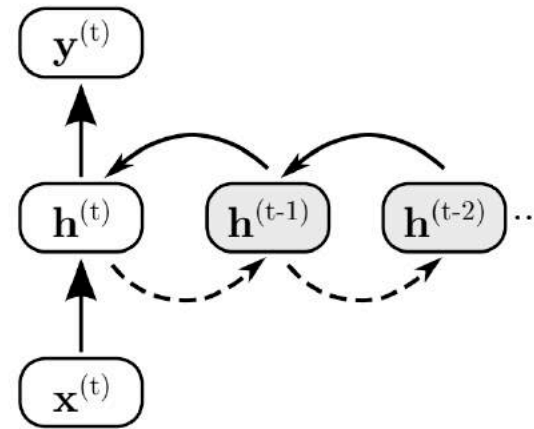
(c) SCRNN



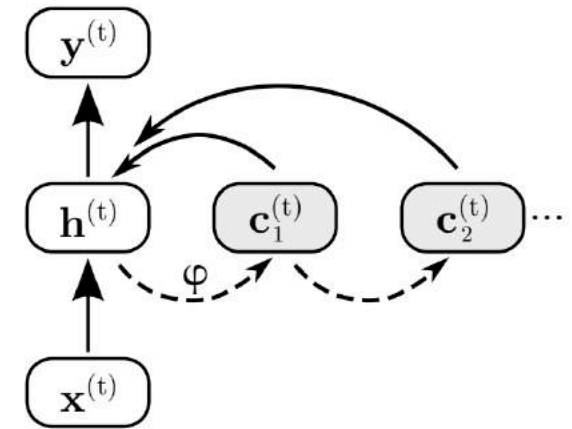
(d) CWRNN

Learning Multiple Timescales in RNNs

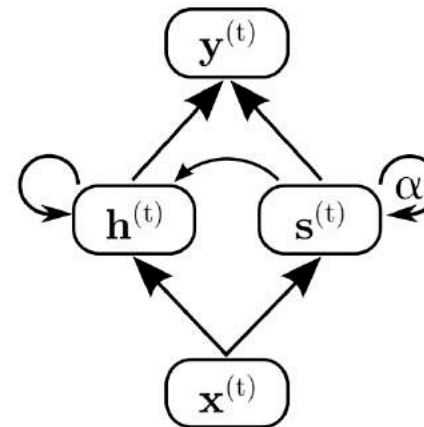
- Recurrent Plausible Network (RPN)
(Wermter et al. 1995)
- Short cutting the connections between timesteps
- Needs to account for a timelag factor φ



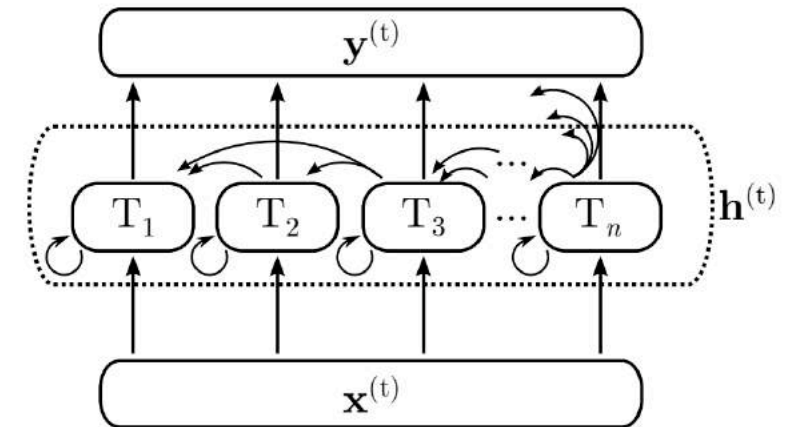
(a) SRN



(b) RPN



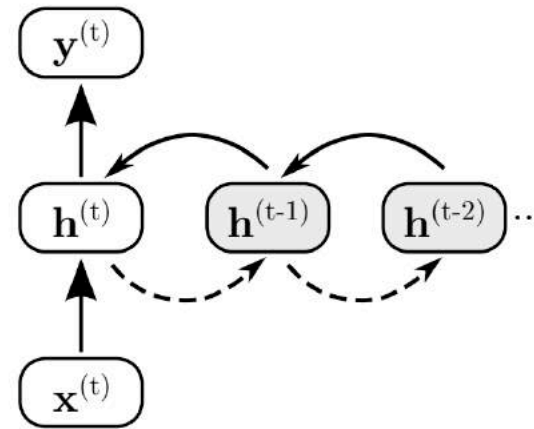
(c) SCRNN



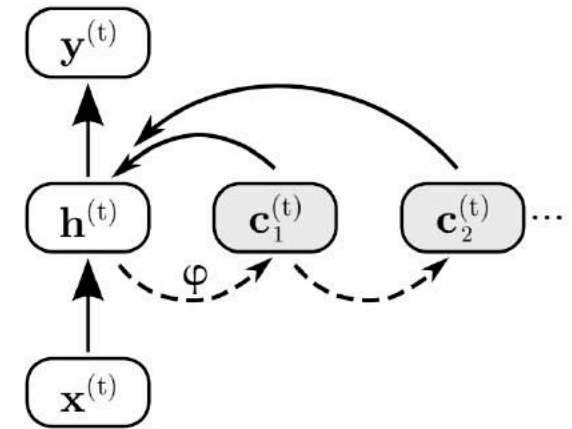
(d) CWRNN

Learning Multiple Timescales in RNNs

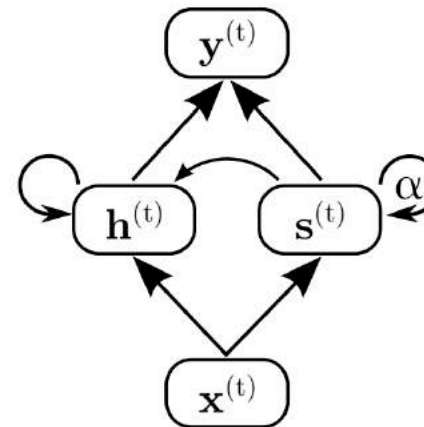
- Recurrent Plausible Network (RPN)
(Wermter et al. 1995)
- Short cutting the connections between timesteps
- Needs to account for a timelag factor φ



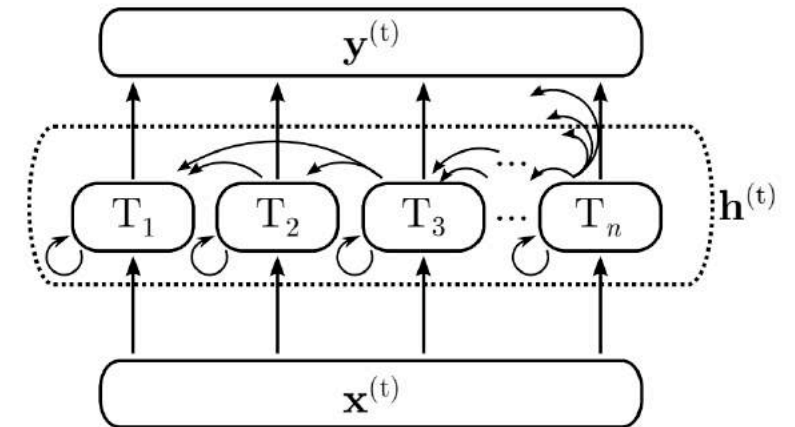
(a) SRN



(b) RPN



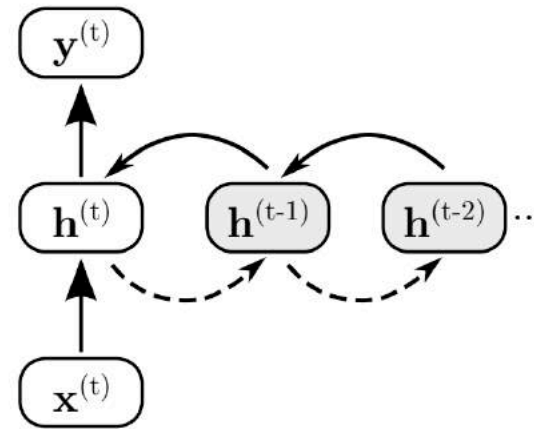
(c) SCRNN



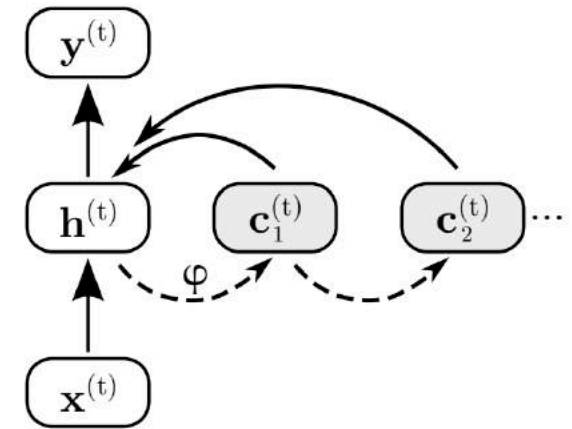
(d) CWRNN

Learning Multiple Timescales in RNNs

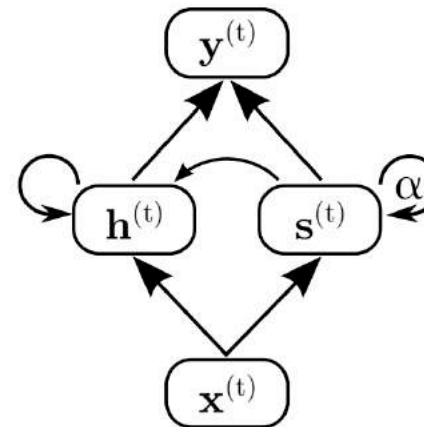
- Clockwork RNN (CWRNN) (Koutnik et al. 2014)
- No time lag parameter
- An external module controls how much temporal information to propagate



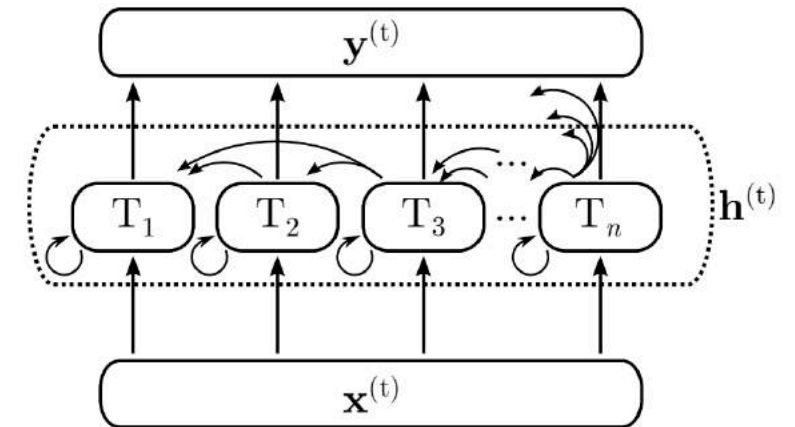
(a) SRN



(b) RPN



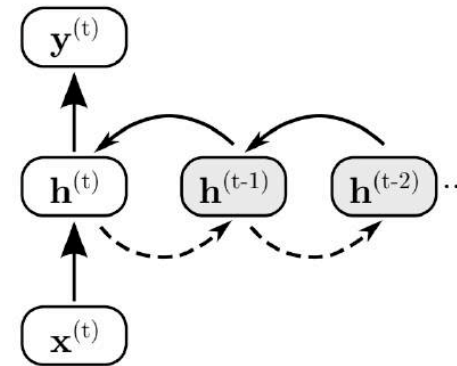
(c) SCRNN



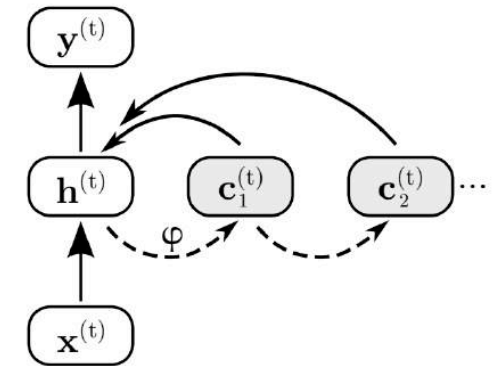
(d) CWRNN

Learning Multiple Timescales in RNNs

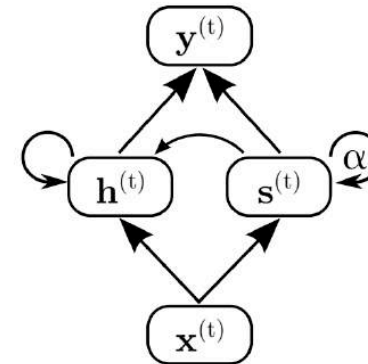
- [Alpay \(2016\)](#) investigated different ways to manipulate the time-steps in RNNs
- Manipulating timesteps connection allows units to self-organize long vs short term contexts
- Not sure which is really the best for NLP =(



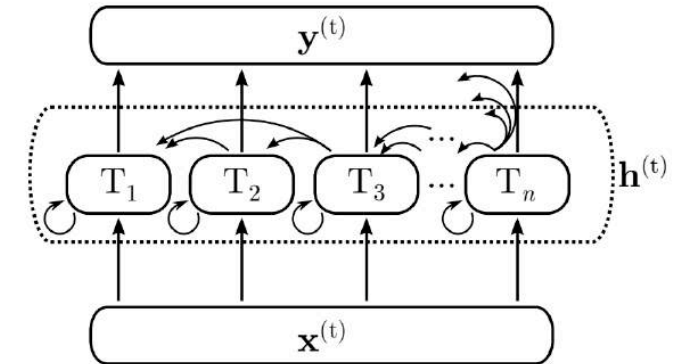
(a) SRN



(b) RPN



(c) SCRNN



(d) CWRNN

LSTM/GRU solves the vanishing gradients?

- The additive memory of the “**forget gate**” prevents small partial gradients from disappearing
- It remembers information over multiple timesteps so the **hidden states** don't disappear across time
- But **LSTM/GRU doesn't guarantee no gradient vanishing/exploding**, it's just better than the vanilla RNN

Is vanishing/exploding gradient just an RNN problem?

- Nope, as long as ***functions keeps getting nested*** in the network and the ***partial derivations needs to be multiplied*** causing unstable gradients
- As long as there are many layers, the functions and gradients gets multiplied in a nested manner
- Without using gates, we can just “***short-circuit***” the ***network and make previous layers interact directly with the current layers***

Non-Gate Connections

- [He et al. \(2015\)](#) proposed Residual Networks, that skip connections for alternate layers

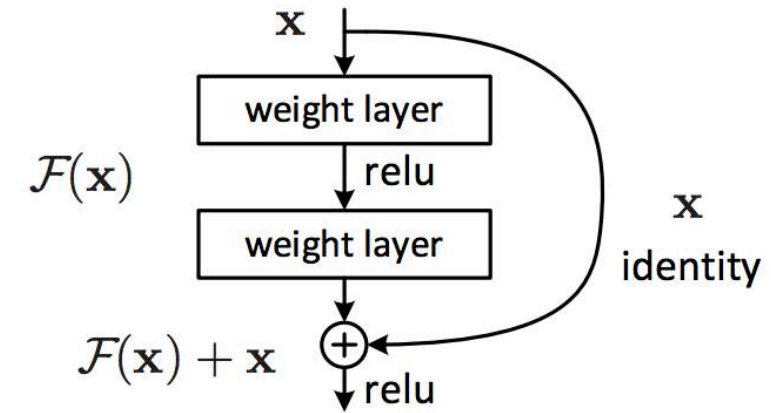


Figure 2. Residual learning: a building block.

Non-Gate Connections

- [He et al. \(2015\)](#) proposed Residual Networks, that skip connections for alternate layers
- [Huang et al. \(2018\)](#) proposed connects every previous layer to every layer down the network

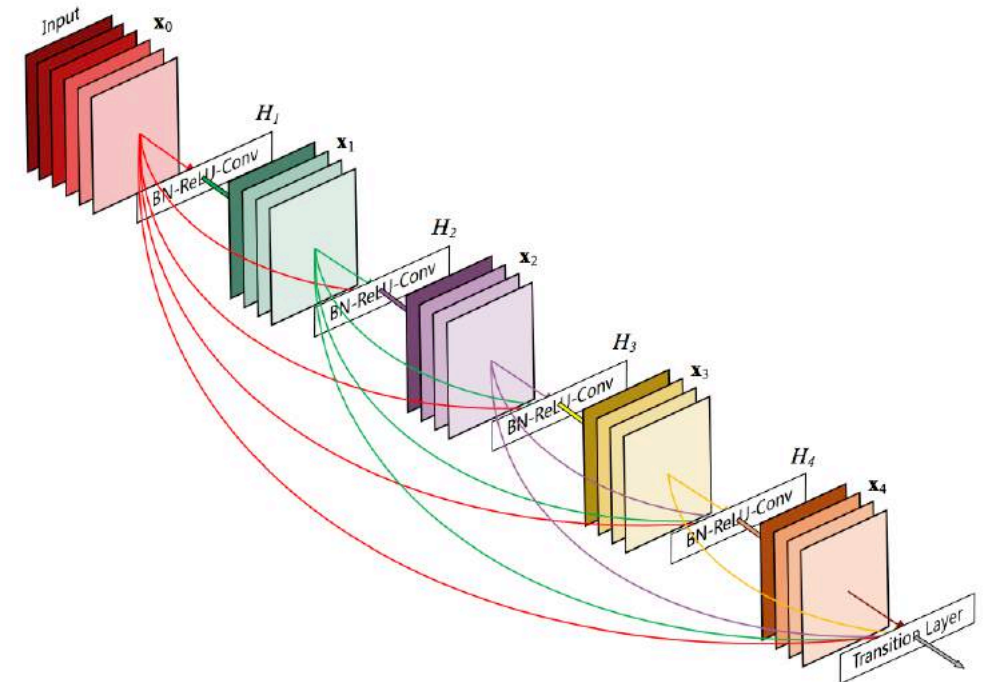


Figure 1: A 5-layer dense block with a growth rate of $k = 4$. Each layer takes all preceding feature-maps as input.

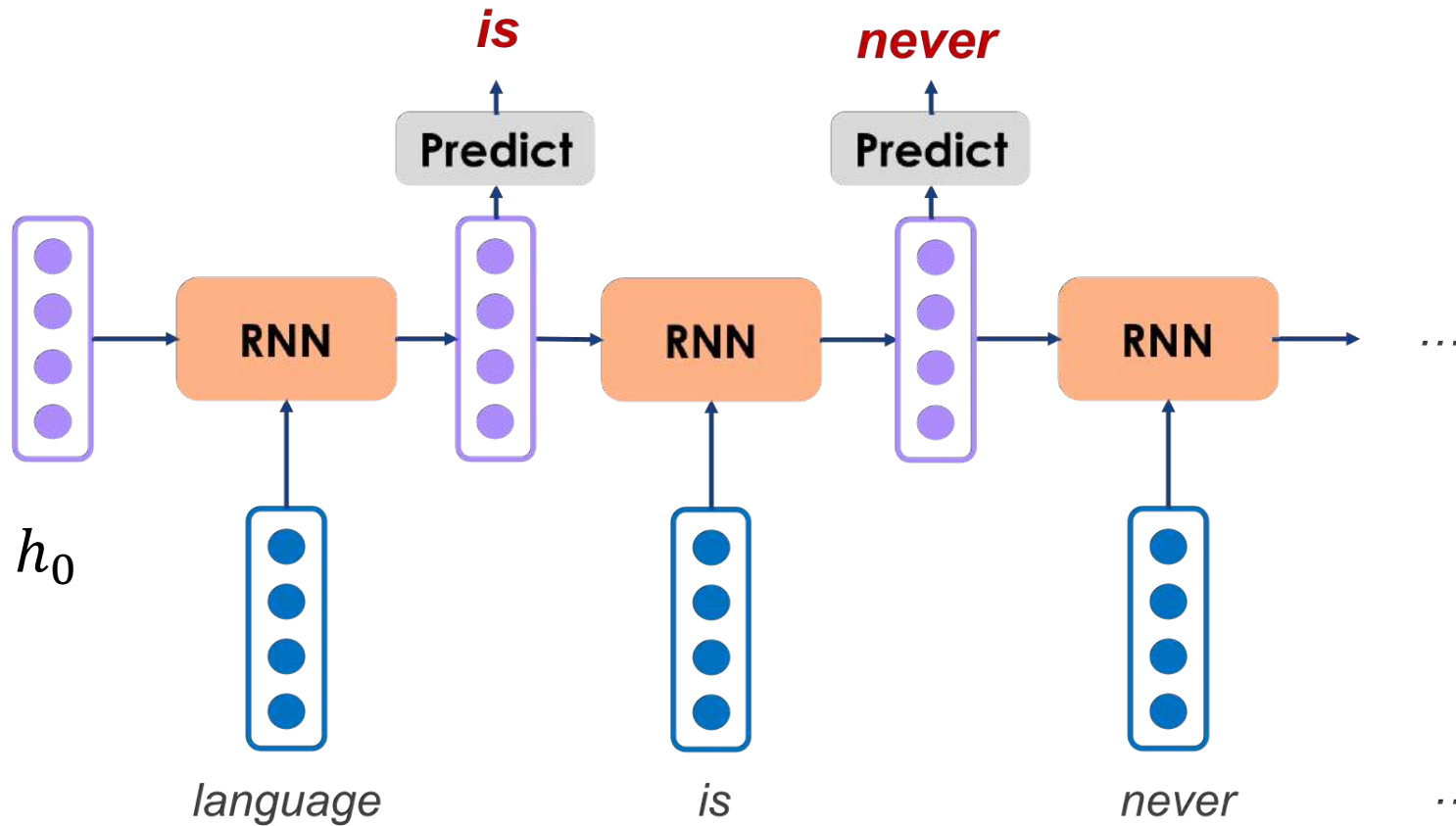
LSTMs: Real-Word Success (Briefly)

- In **2013-2015**, LSTMs started achieving state-of-the-art results
 - Successful tasks include: handwriting recognition, speech recognition, machine translation, parsing, image captioning
 - **LSTM** became the **dominant approach**
- **Now (2019)**, other approaches (e.g. **Transformers**) have become more dominant for certain tasks.
 - For example in WMT (a MT conference + competition):
 - In WMT **2016**, the summary report contains **“RNN” 44 times**
 - In WMT **2018**, the report contains **“RNN” 9 times** and **“Transformer” 63 times**

Conditioned Generation

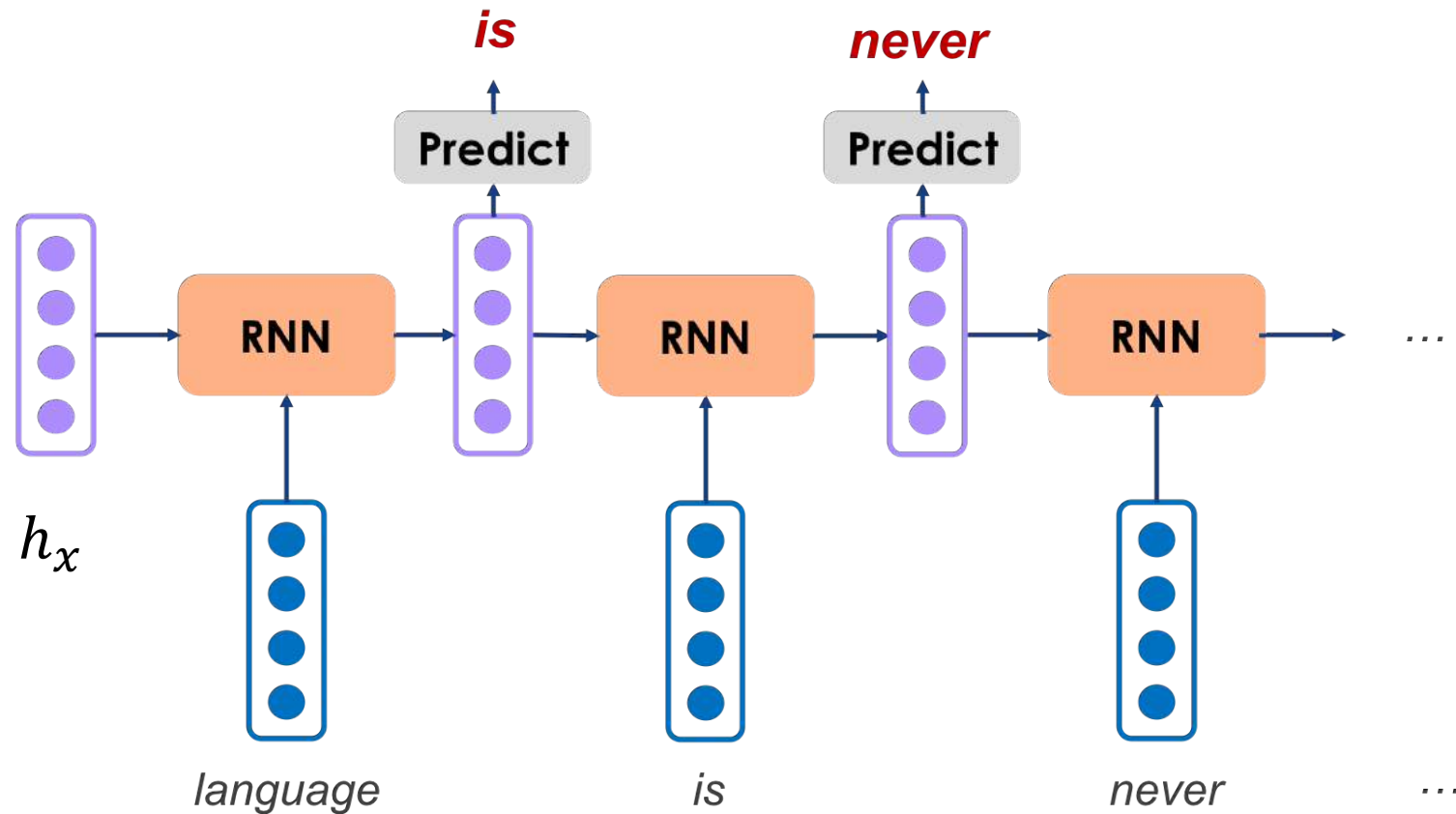
RNN Generation

- RNN generation starts with a random hidden state h_0



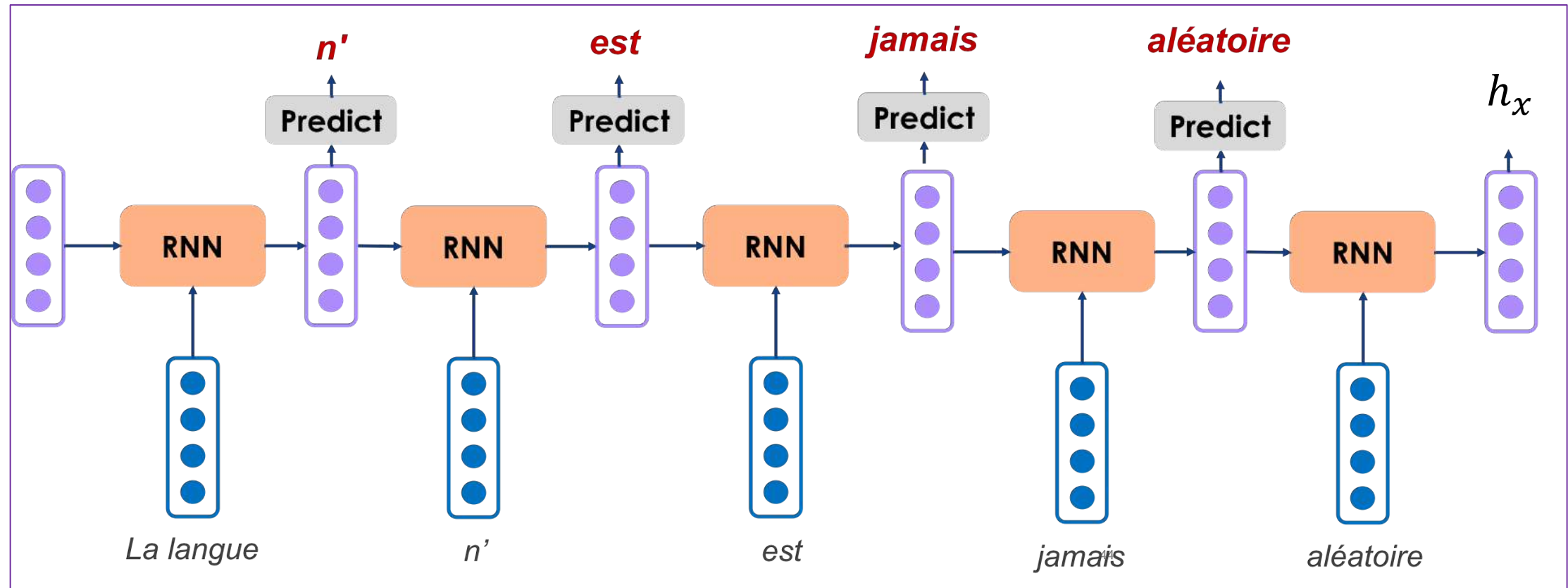
RNN Generation

- What if h_0 is something non-random?



RNN Generation

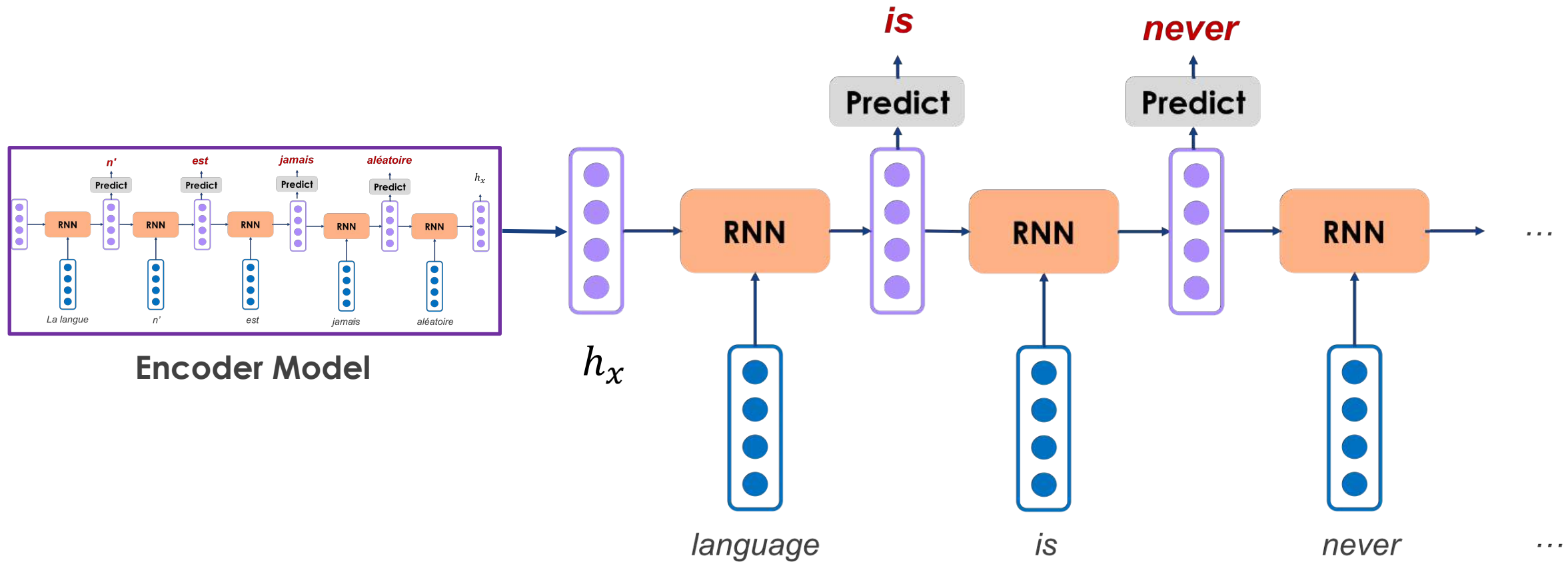
- What if h_0 is something non-random?



Encoder Model

RNN Generation

- What if h_0 is something non-random?

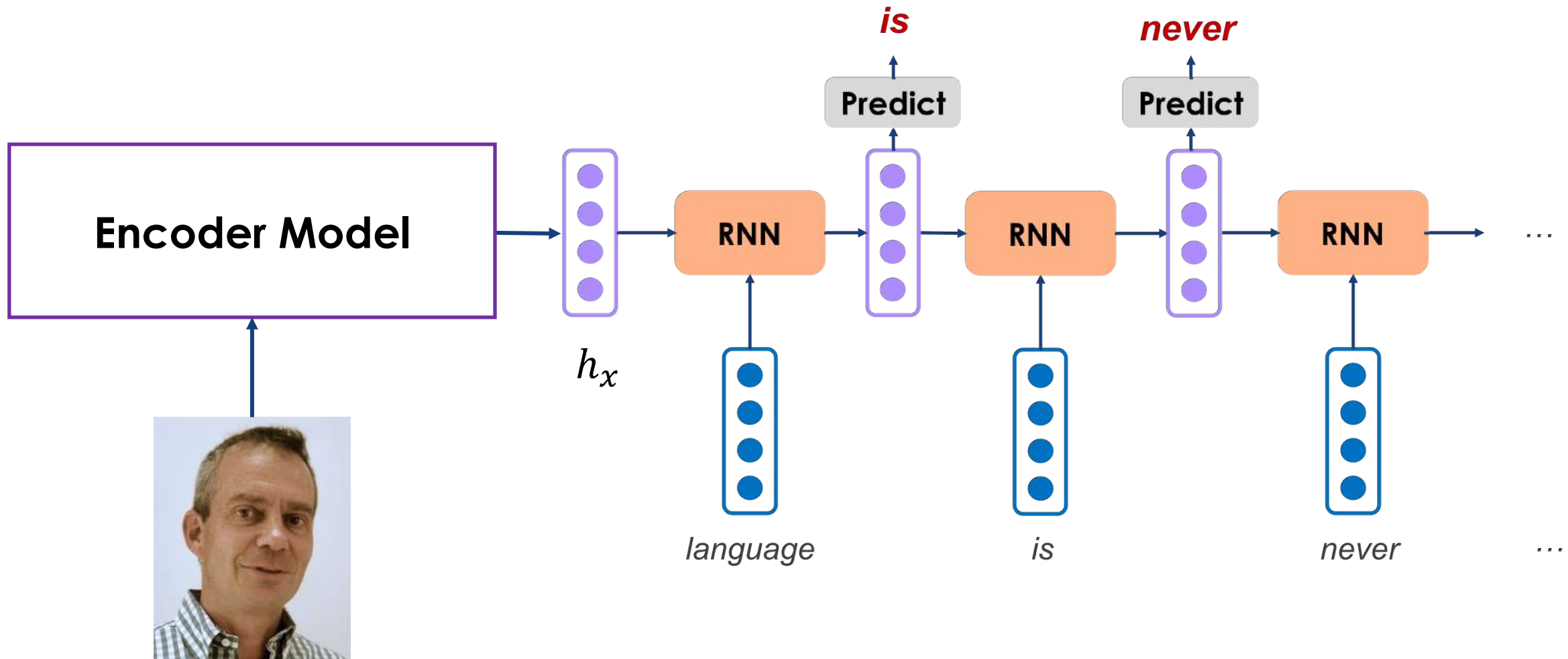


RNN Generation

- RNN generation starts with a random hidden state h_0
- What if h_0 is something non-random?
- **FR->EN Translation:** Initialize English model h_0 inputs with h_x outputs from a French model

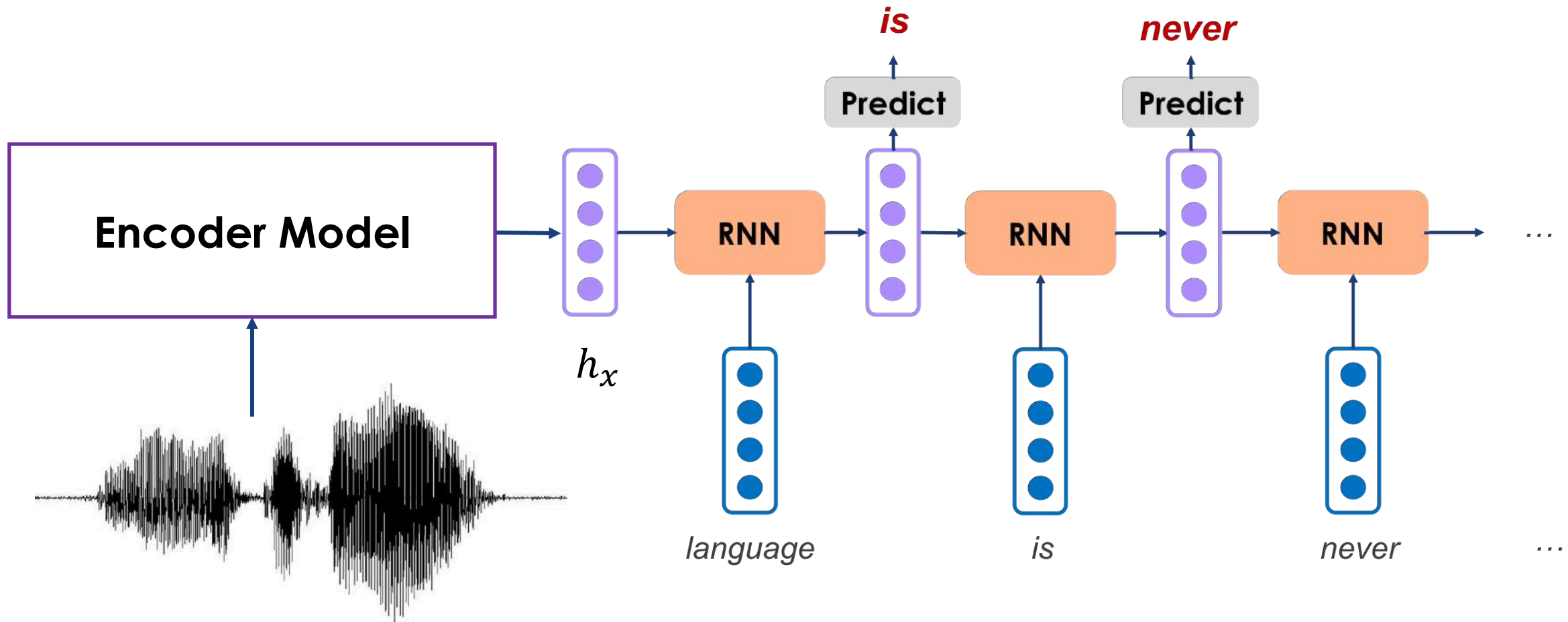
RNN Generation

- What if input of model that produces h_x isn't text?



RNN Generation

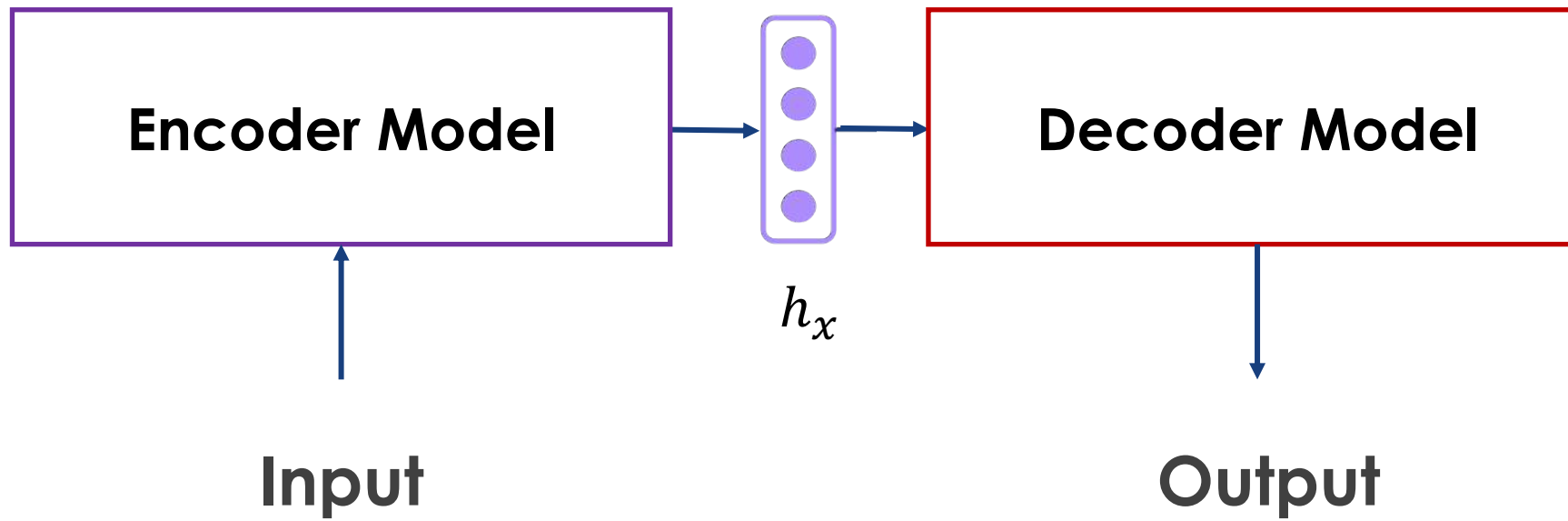
- What if input of model that produces h_x isn't text?



- RNN generation starts with a random hidden state h_0
- What if h_0 is something non-random?
- **Translation:** French \rightarrow English
- **Image Captioning:** Image \rightarrow Text
- **Speech Recognition:** Audio \rightarrow Text

RNN Generation

- Generalized Encode-Decoder Framework



Conditional RNN Generation

- RNN generation starts with a random hidden state h_0
- What if h_0 is something non-random?
- **Translation:** French \rightarrow English
- **Image Captioning:** Image \rightarrow Text
- **Speech Recognition:** Audio \rightarrow Text
- **Summarization:** Document \rightarrow Summary
- **Chatbots:** Utterance \rightarrow Response

Conditioned RNN Generation

- **Endless possibilities** of what to condition on and what to generate
- But training requires the **paired condition and target generation**
- And relatively **large amount of data is needed** for model to train well

Language Model Probability

$$P(X) = \prod_{i=1}^I P(\textcolor{red}{x}_i | \textcolor{blue}{x}_1, \dots, \textcolor{blue}{x}_{i-1})$$

Next word **Context**

Conditioned Language Model Probability

$$P(Y|X) = \prod_{j=1}^J P(\textcolor{red}{y}_j | \textcolor{purple}{X}, \textcolor{blue}{y}_1, \dots, \textcolor{blue}{y}_{i-1})$$

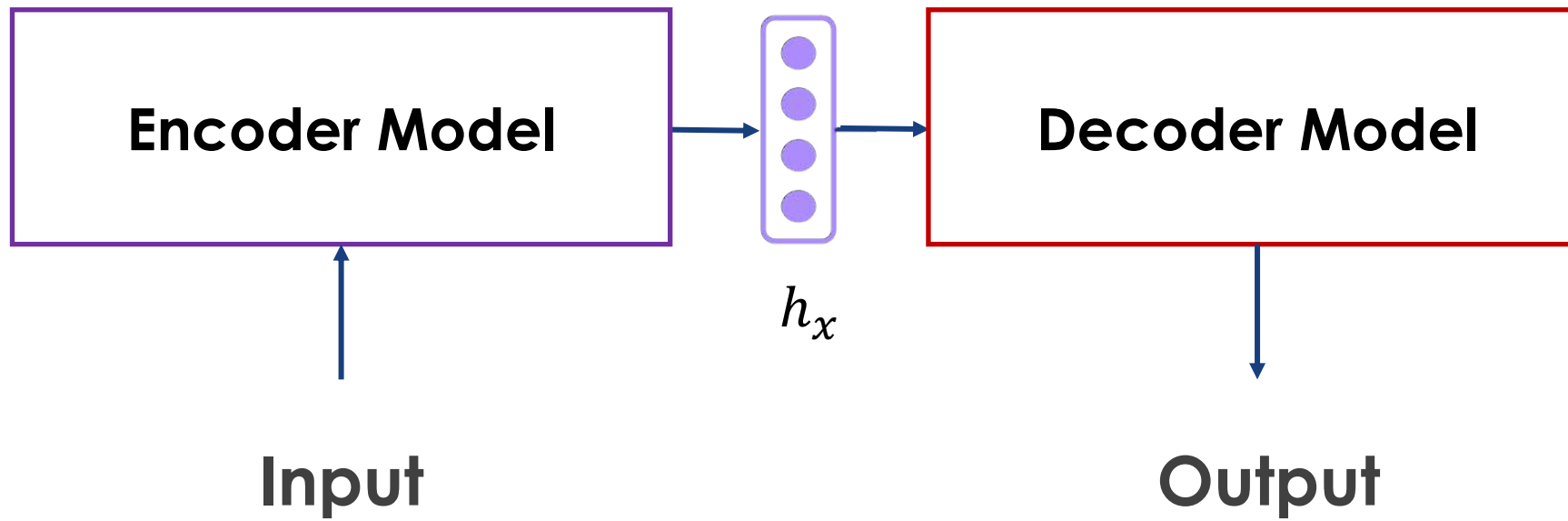
Encoder hidden context

Next decoder word

Previous decoder context

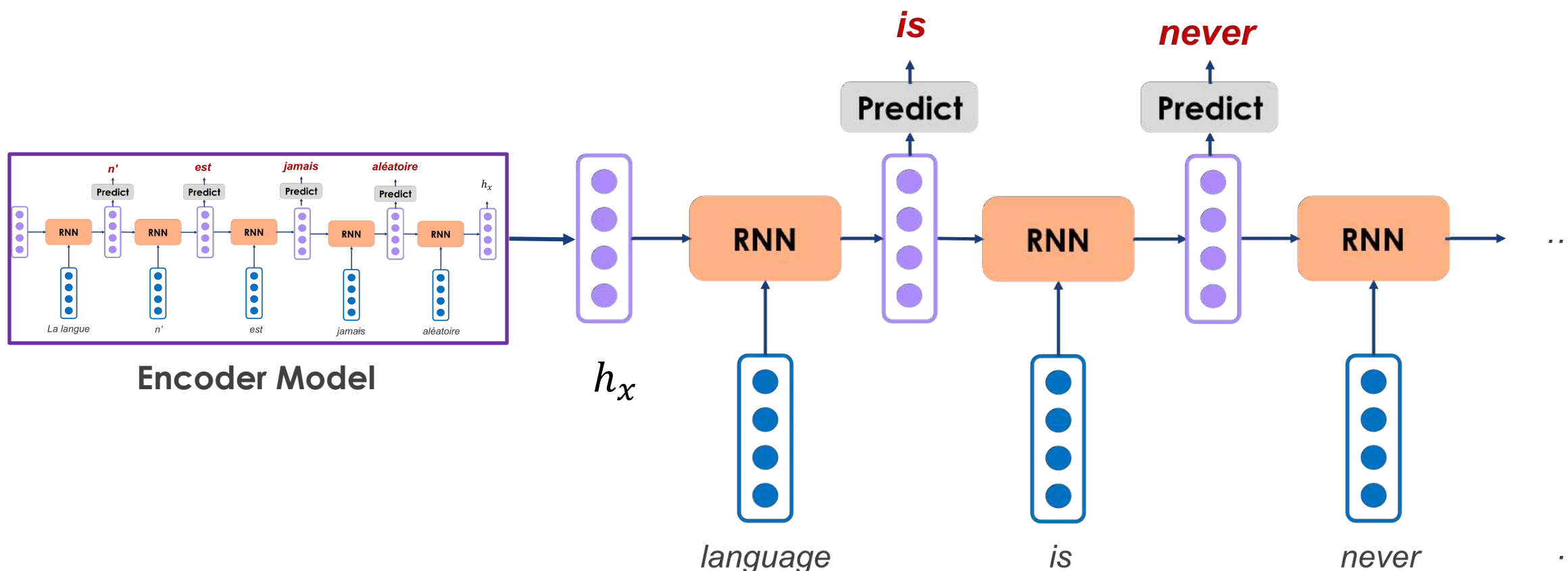
RNN Generation

- Generalized Encode-Decoder Framework



Sequence to Sequence Learning with NN

- Take final hidden state of an encoder model, feed it as the start state of a decoder model ([Sutskever et al. 2014](#))

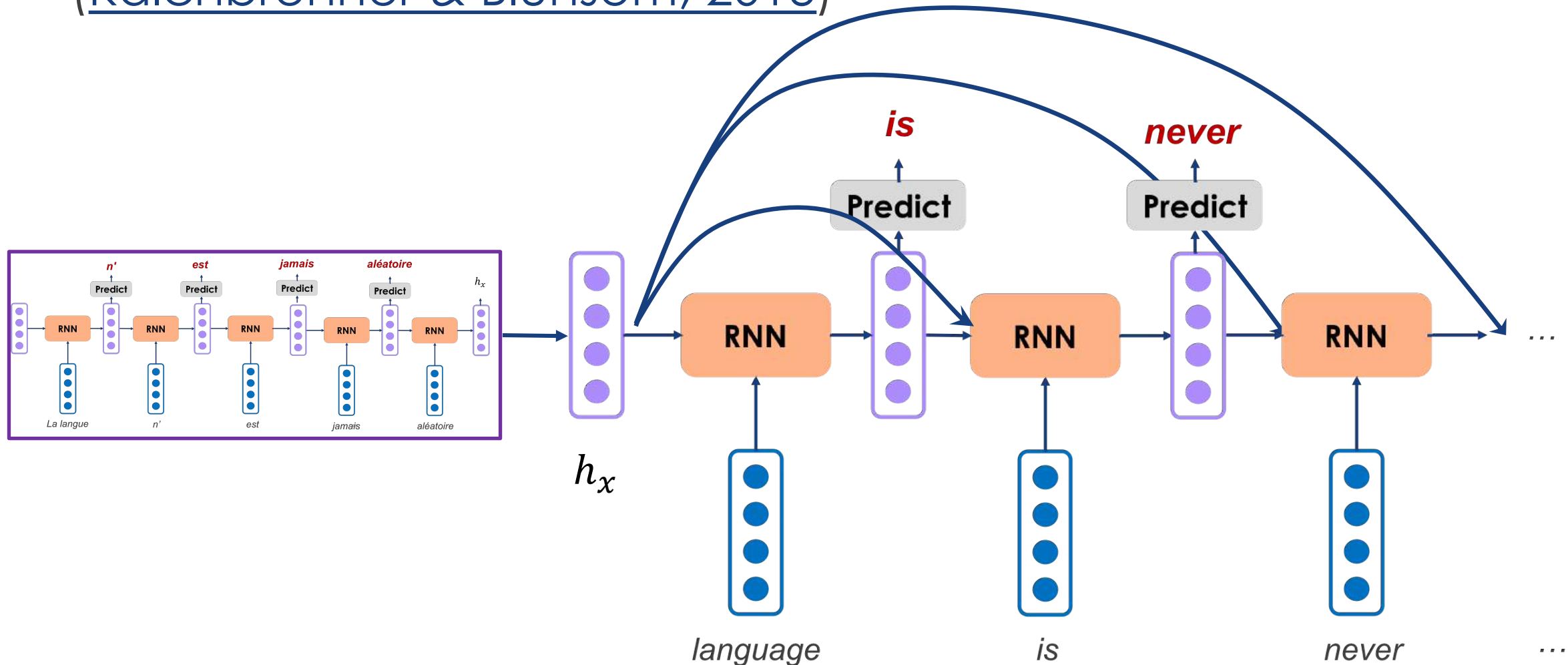


Sequence to Sequence Learning with NN

- Take final hidden state of an encoder model, feed it as the start state of a decoder model ([Sutskever et al. 2014](#))
- RNNs deal naturally with undefined encoding input lengths
- But we're depending on a single hidden state to squeeze information of the inputs to feed to the decoder

Recurrent Continuous Translation Models

- Add the encoded hidden state at every decoder time step ([Kalchbrenner & Blunsom, 2013](#))



Recurrent Continuous Translation Models

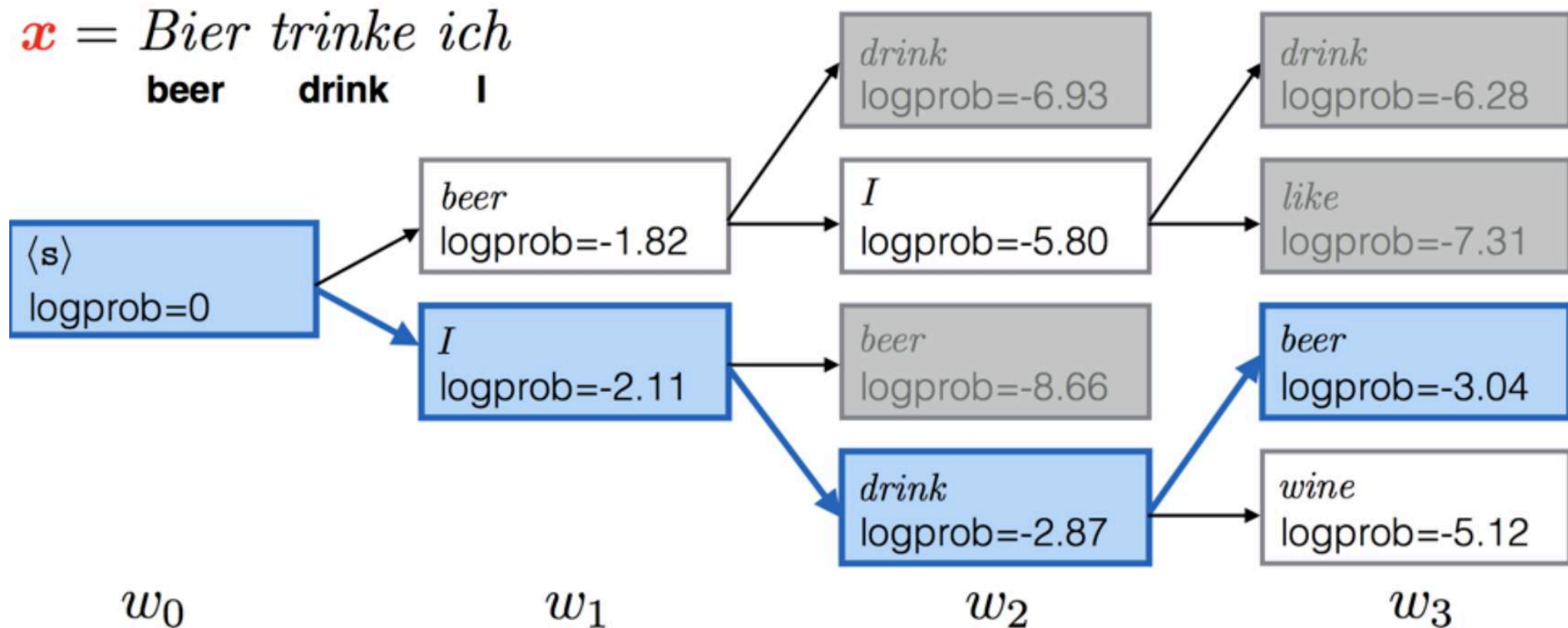
- Add the encoded hidden state at every decoder time step ([Kalchbrenner & Blunsom, 2013](#))
- Having the encoded hidden state force fed to every decoder timestep is too overwhelming
- Still, too much depend on that one hidden encoder state

Greedy Decoding

- Generally, we want to find the most probable output given the input
- Simple approximation is to pick the highest probability word at each time step, `torch.max(predictions, 1)`
- Simple causes problem...
 - Often generate “easy” words first
 - Prefers common phrases to one rare word

Beam Search

- Better approximation is to predict k-best outputs at each time step



Environment Setup

Open Anaconda Navigator.

Go to the PyTorch installation page, copy the command as per configuration:

<https://pytorch.org/get-started/locally/>

Fire up the terminal in Anaconda Navigator.

Start a Jupyter Notebook.

Download <http://bit.ly/ANLP-Session6Gen>

Import the .ipynb to the Jupyter Notebook

Summary

- **Gated Recurrent Neural Net**
 - Always use GRU or LSTM, never vanilla RNN
 - When gradient explodes, clip it, even if it doesn't still clip it
 - Bi-directional GRU/LSTM produces reasonable results
- **Conditioned Generation**
 - Encode inputs into a hidden state vector/matrix, then generating outputs stepwise in an RNN
 - Pairs of conditions and target generations are necessary
 - When possible, always do beam search

Fín