

## tf.keras.backend.rnn

```
rnn(
    step_function,
    inputs,
    initial_states,
    go_backwards=False,
    mask=None,
    constants=None,
    unroll=False
)
```

Defined in [tensorflow/python/keras/\\_impl/keras/backend.py](#).

Iterates over the time dimension of a tensor.

## Arguments:

- **step\_function**: RNN step function. Parameters; input; tensor with shape **(samples, ...)** (no time dimension), representing input for the batch of samples at a certain time step. states; list of tensors. Returns; output; tensor with shape **(samples, output\_dim)** (no time dimension). new\_states; list of tensors, same length and shapes as 'states'. The first state in the list must be the output tensor at the previous timestep.
- **inputs**: tensor of temporal data of shape **(samples, time, ...)** (at least 3D).
- **initial\_states**: tensor with shape (samples, output\_dim) (no time dimension), containing the initial values for the states used in the step function.
- **go\_backwards**: boolean. If True, do the iteration over the time dimension in reverse order and return the reversed sequence.
- **mask**: binary tensor with shape **(samples, time, 1)**, with a zero for every element that is masked.
- **constants**: a list of constant values passed at each step.
- **unroll**: whether to unroll the RNN or to use a symbolic loop (**while\_loop** or **scan** depending on backend).

## Returns:

A tuple, **(last\_output, outputs, new\_states)**. last\_output: the latest output of the rnn, of shape **(samples, ...)** outputs: tensor with shape **(samples, time, ...)** where each entry **outputs[s, t]** is the output of the step function at time **t** for sample **s**. new\_states: list of tensors, latest states returned by the step function, of shape **(samples, ...)**.

## Raises:

- **ValueError**: if input dimension is less than 3.
- **ValueError**: if **unroll** is **True** but input timestep is not a fixed number.
- **ValueError**: if **mask** is provided (not **None**) but states is not provided (**len(states) == 0**).

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