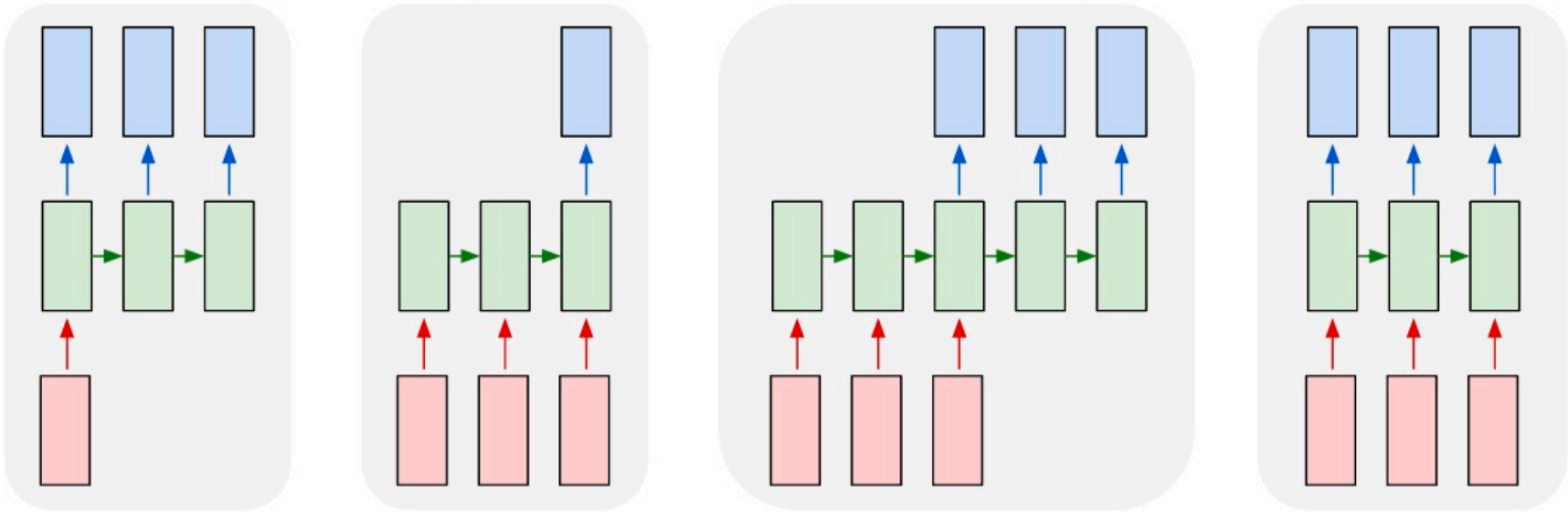
Recurrent neural networks



Many slides adapted from Arun Mallya (Part 1, Part 2) and Justin Johnson (and Stanford CS231n)

Image source

Outline

- Examples of sequential prediction tasks
- Common recurrent units
  - Vanilla RNN unit (and how to train it)
  - Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM)
  - Gated Recurrent Unit (GRU)
- Recurrent network architectures
- Applications in (a bit) more detail
  - Sequence classification
  - Language modeling
  - Image captioning
  - Machine translation

Sequential prediction tasks

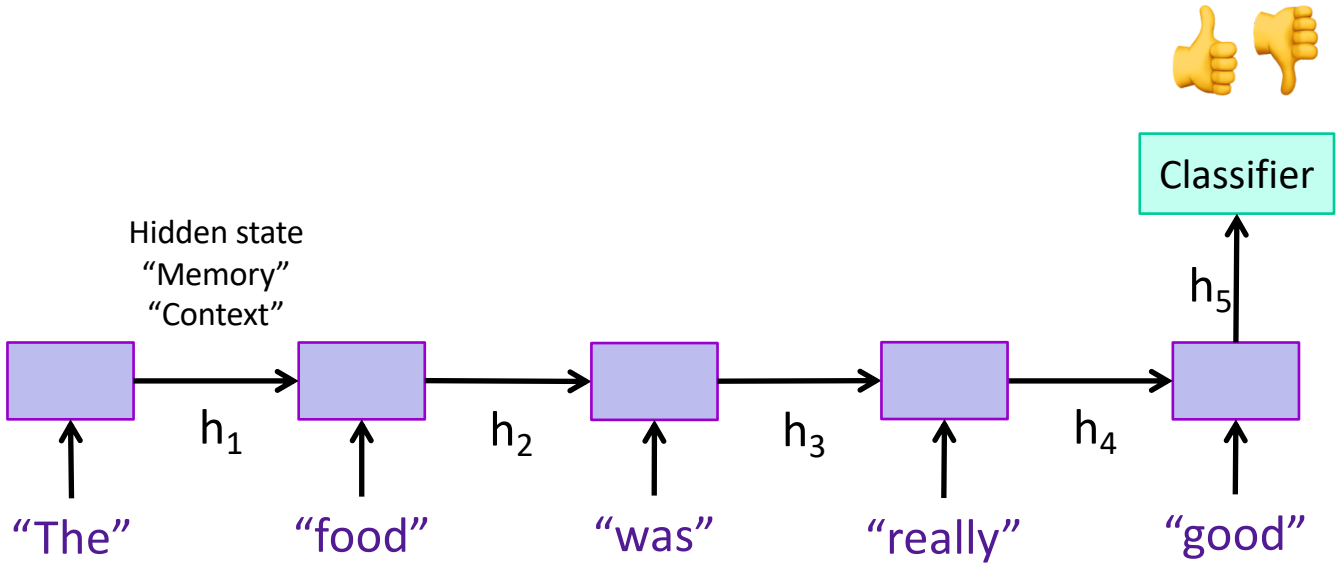
- So far, we focused mainly on prediction problems with fixed-size inputs and outputs
- But what if the input and/or output is a variable-length sequence?

Example 1: Sentiment classification

- Goal: classify a text sequence (e.g., restaurant, movie or product review, Tweet) as having positive or negative sentiment
  - "The food was really good"
  - "The vacuum cleaner broke within two weeks"
  - "The movie had slow parts, but overall was worth watching"
- What makes this problem challenging?
- What feature representation or predictor structure can we use for this problem?

Example 1: Sentiment classification

- Recurrent model:



Example 2: Text generation

- Sample from the distribution of a given text corpus (also known as language modeling)

Example 2: Text generation

- Sample from the distribution of a given text corpus (also known as language modeling)
- Can be done one character or one word at a time:

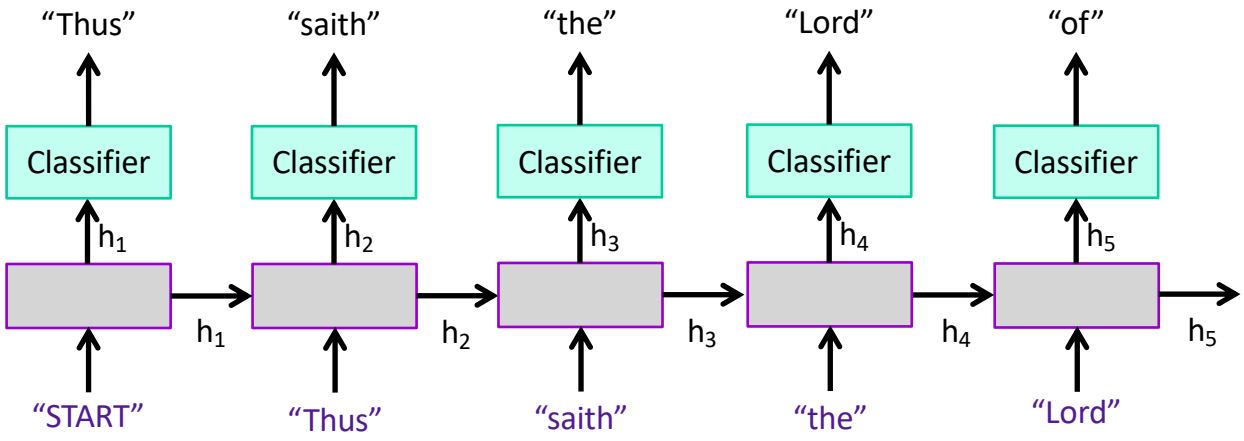


Image source

Example 3: Image caption generation

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

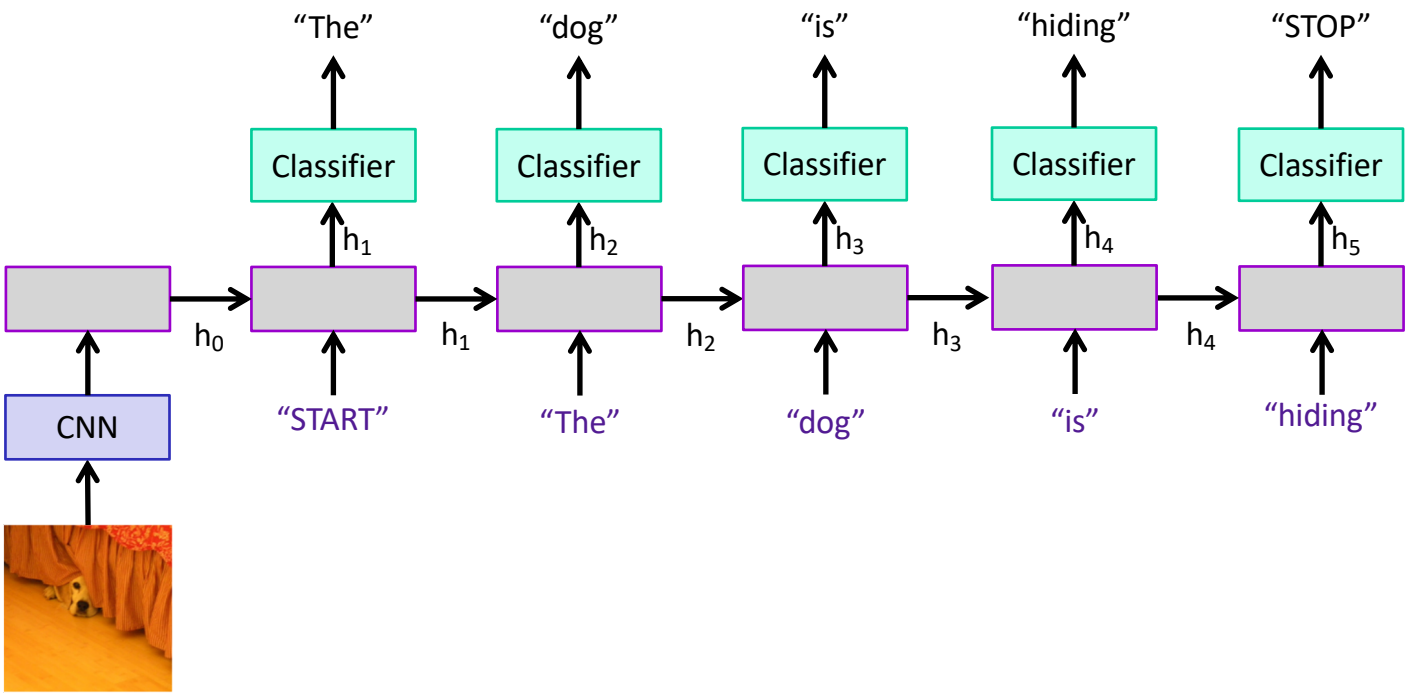
A tennis player in action on the court

Two giraffes standing in a grassy field

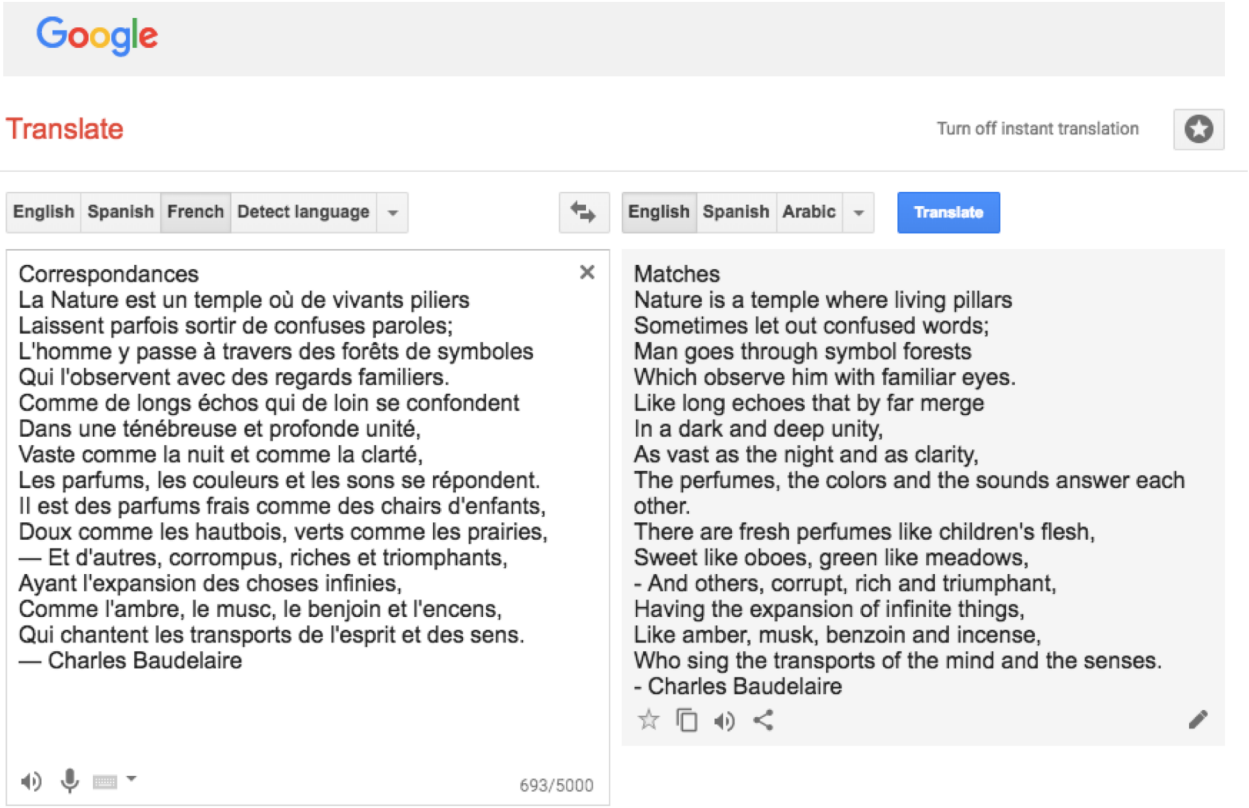
A man riding a dirt bike on a dirt track

Source: J. Johnson
Captions generated using neuraltalk2

Example 3: Image caption generation



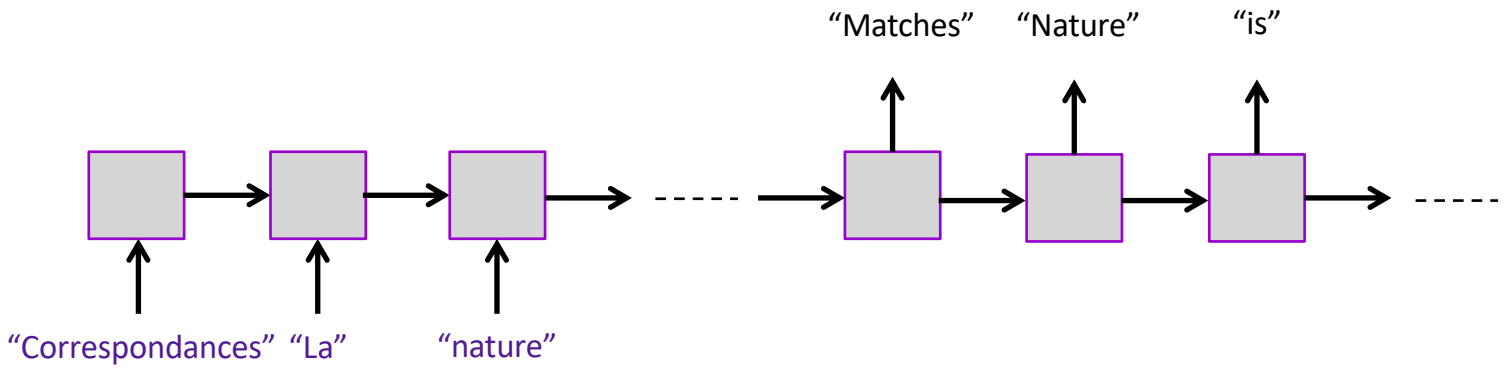
Example 4: Machine translation



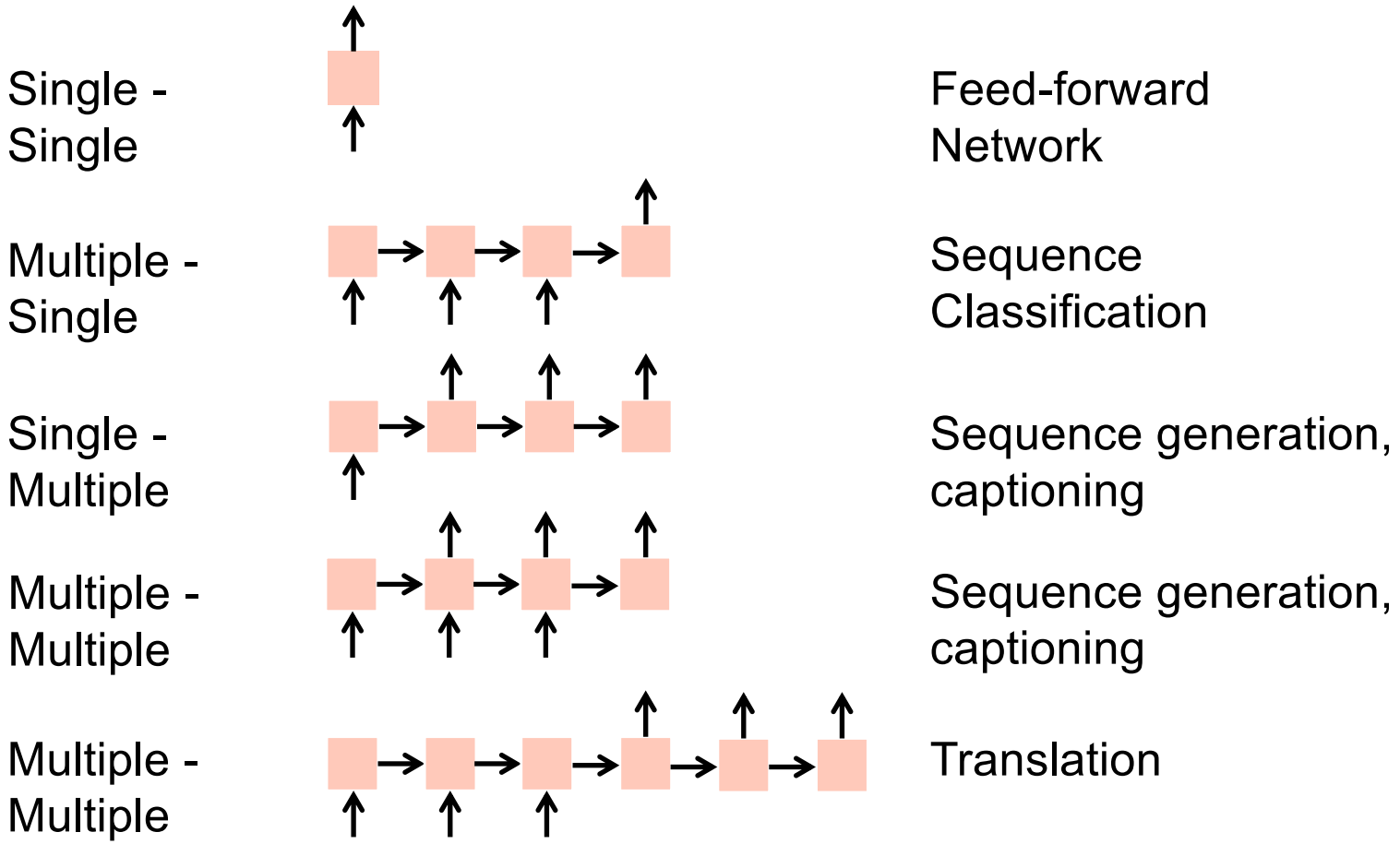
https://translate.google.com/

Example 4: Machine translation

- Multiple input – multiple output (or sequence to sequence) scenario:



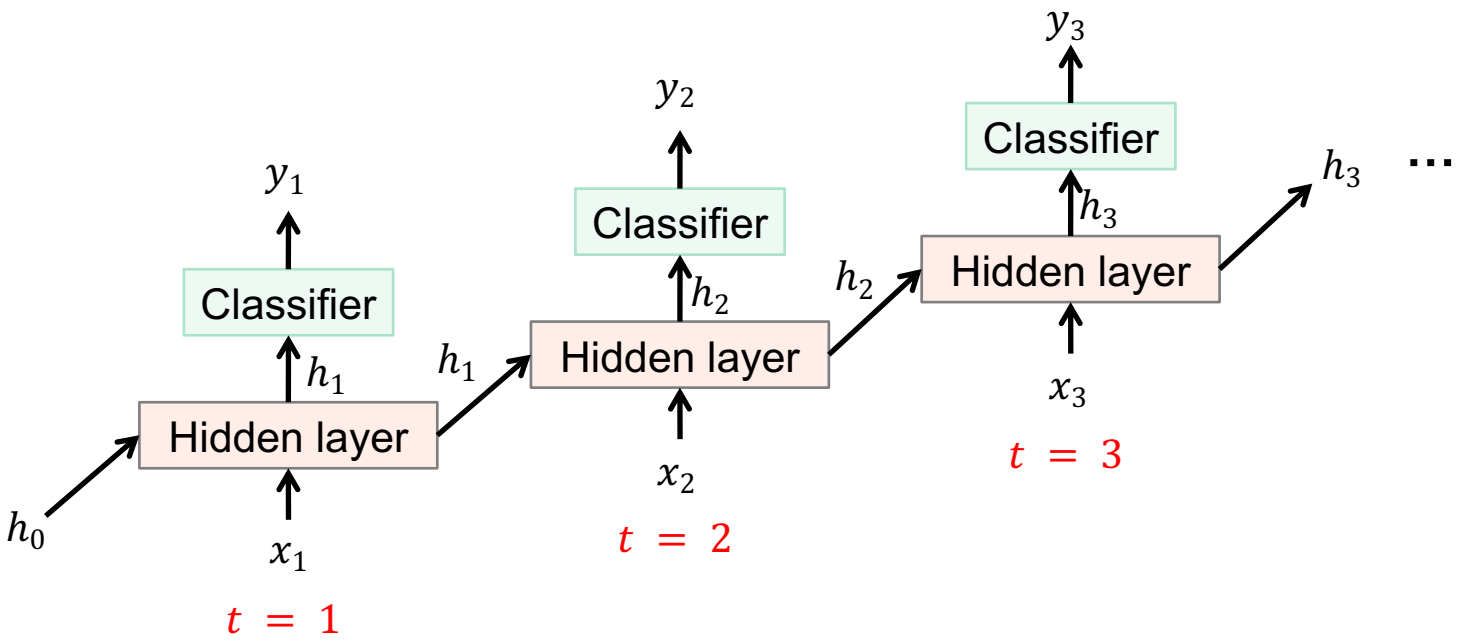
Summary: Input-output scenarios



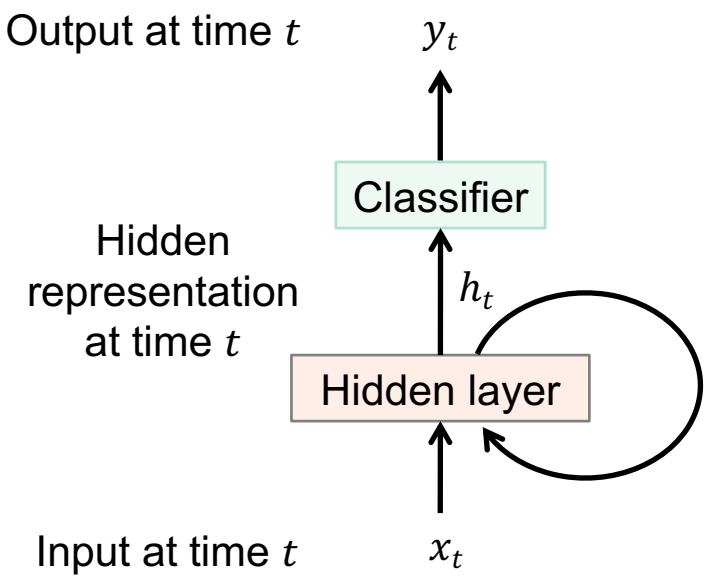
Outline

- Examples of sequential prediction tasks
- Common recurrent units
  - Vanilla RNN unit
  - Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM)
  - Gated Recurrent Unit (GRU)

Recurrent unit



Recurrent unit

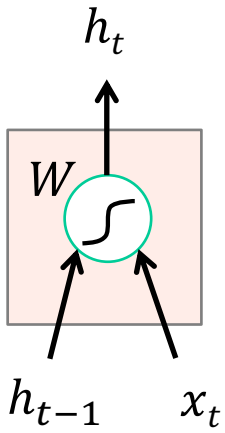


Recurrence:

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

new state | function of W | input at time t | old state

Vanilla RNN cell

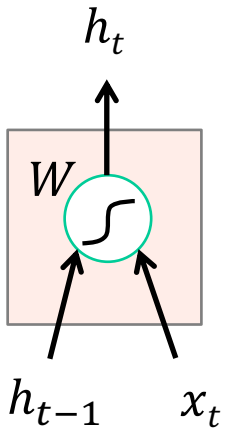


$$h_t = f_W(x_t, h_{t-1})$$

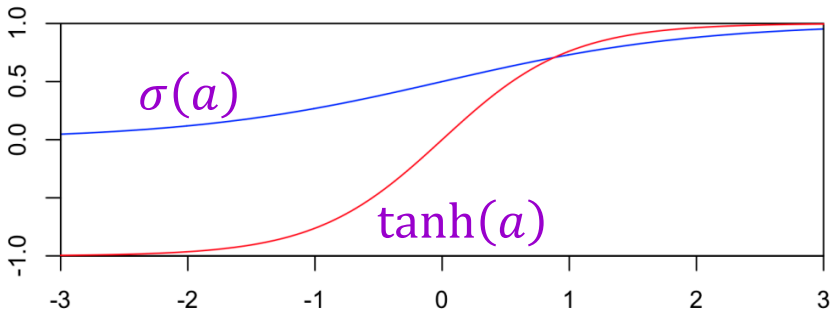
$$= \tanh W \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ h_{t-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

J. Elman, Finding structure in time, Cognitive science 14(2), pp. 179–211, 1990

Vanilla RNN cell



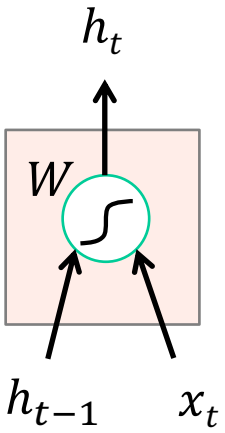
$$h_t = f_W(x_t, h_{t-1})$$
$$= \tanh W \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ h_{t-1} \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\tanh(a) = \frac{e^a - e^{-a}}{e^a + e^{-a}}$$
$$= 2\sigma(2a) - 1$$

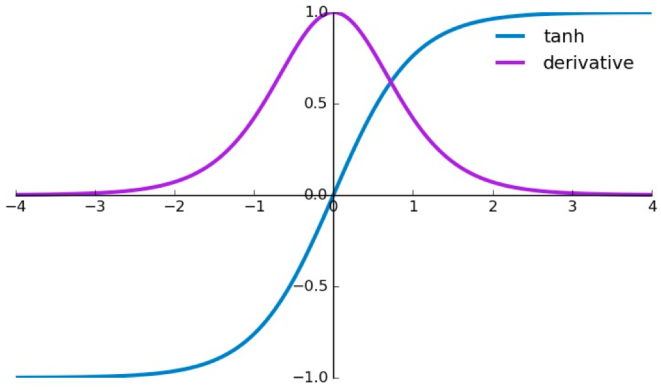
Image source

Vanilla RNN cell



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

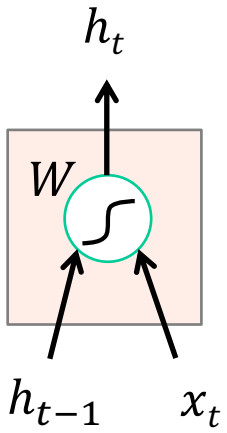
$$= \tanh W \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ h_{t-1} \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\frac{d}{da}\tanh(a) = 1 - \tanh^2(a)$$

Image source

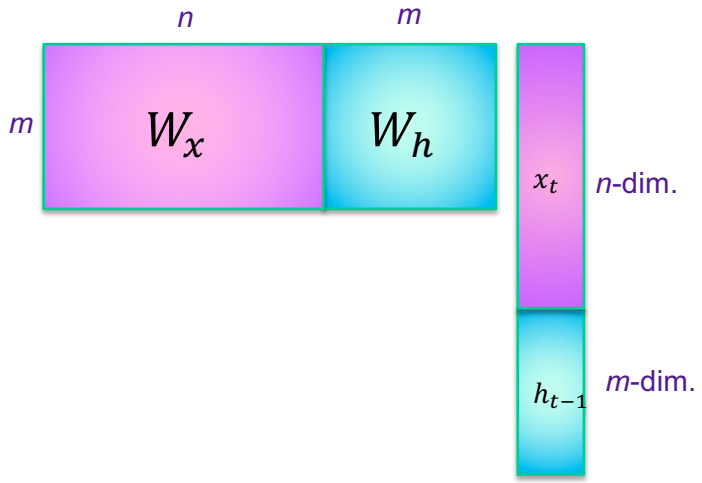
Vanilla RNN cell



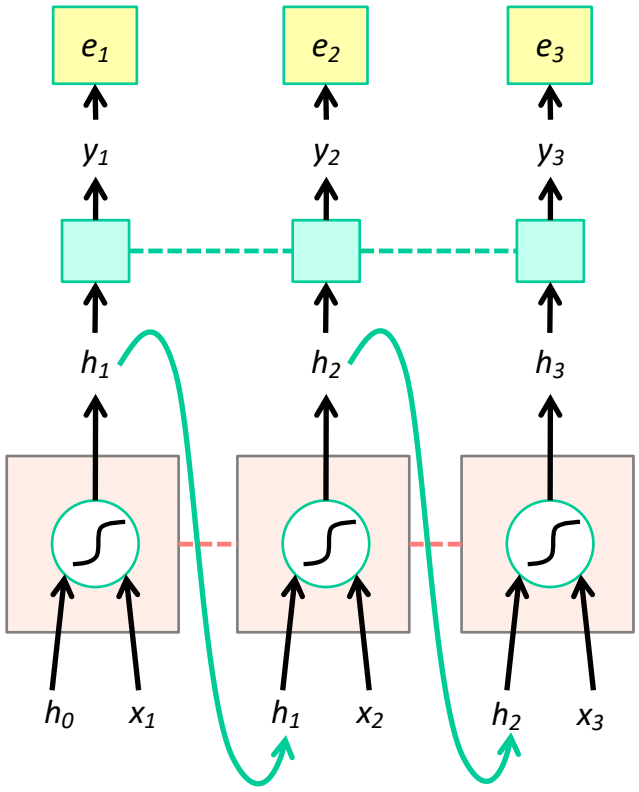
$$h_t = f_W(x_t, h_{t-1})$$

$$= \tanh W \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ h_{t-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \tanh(W_x x_t + W_h h_{t-1})$$



RNN forward pass



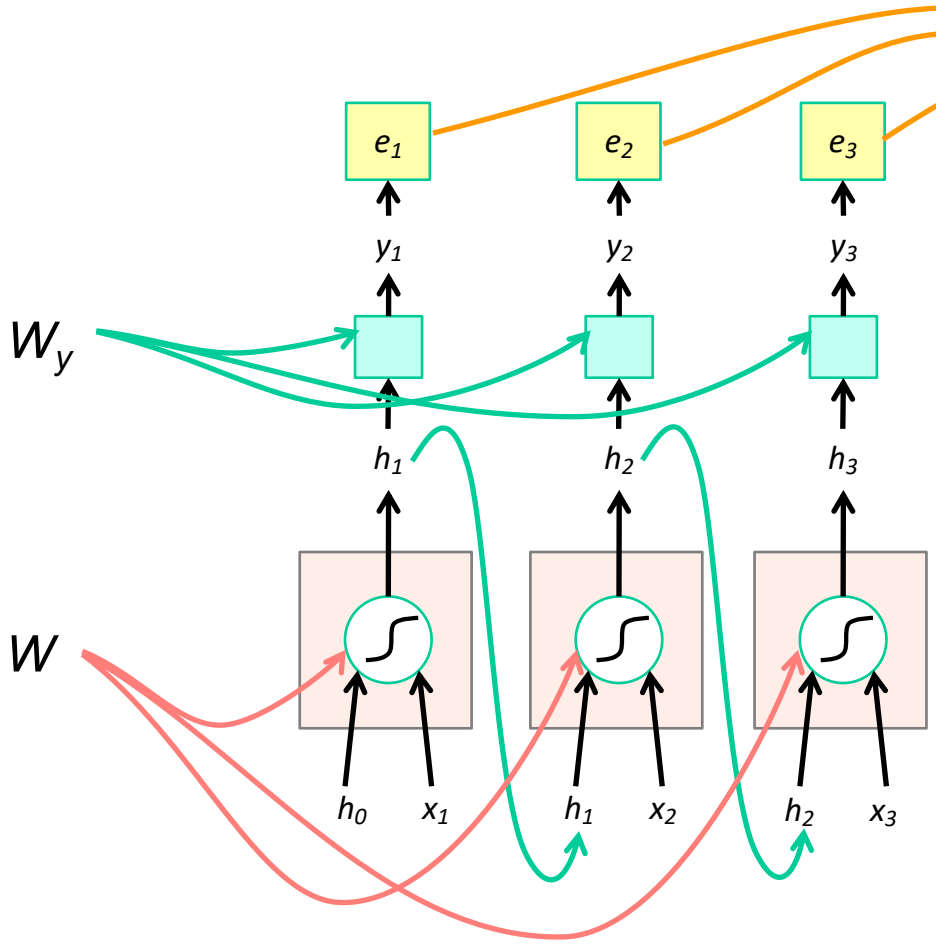
$$e_t = -\log(y_t(GT_t))$$

$$y_t = \text{softmax}(W_y h_t)$$

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

------ shared weights

RNN forward pass: Computation graph



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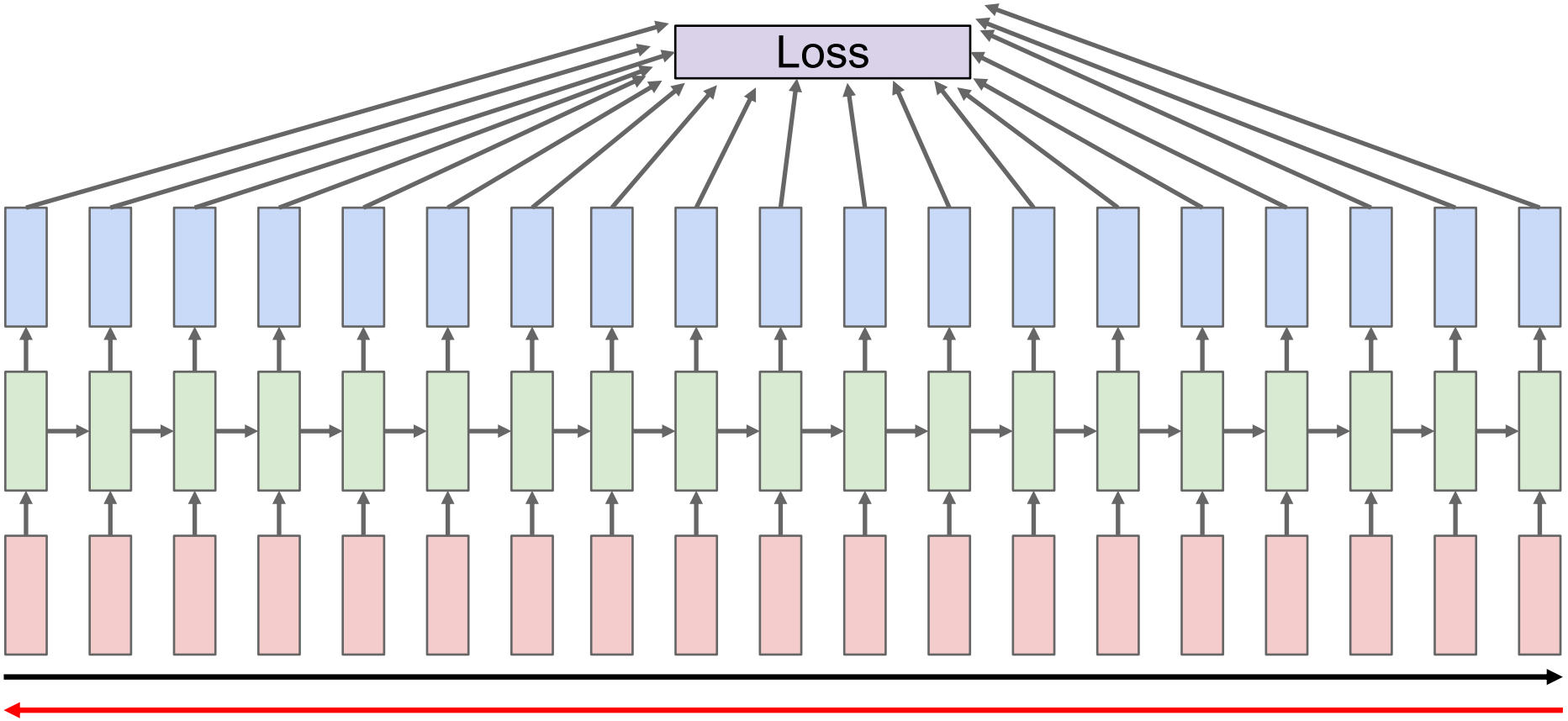
$$h_t = \tanh W \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ h_{t-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

Training: Backpropagation through time (BPTT)

- The unfolded network (used during forward pass) is treated as one big feed-forward network that accepts the whole time series as input
- The weight updates are computed for each copy in the unfolded network, then summed (or averaged) and applied to the RNN weights

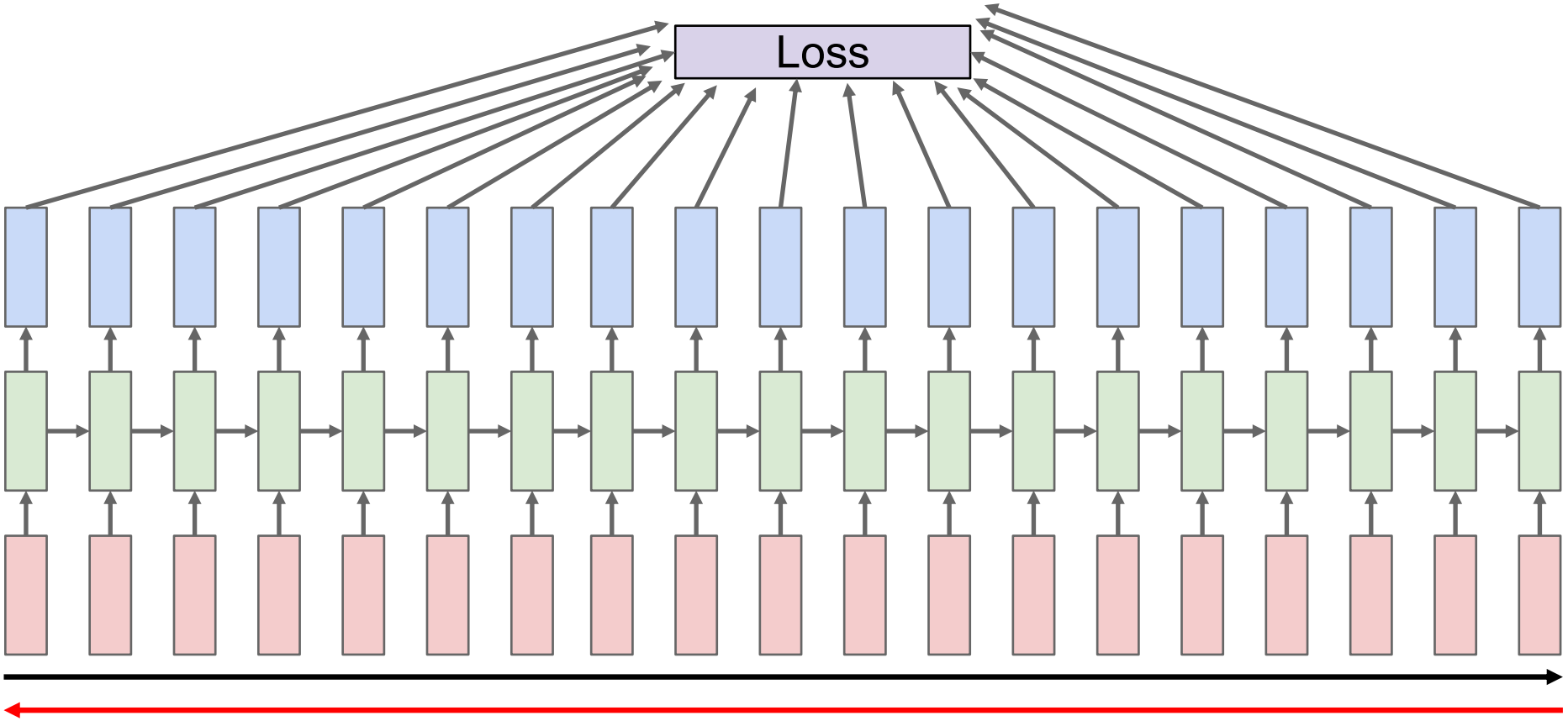
Backpropagation through time



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

Source: J. Johnson

Backpropagation through time



Problem: Takes a lot of memory for long sequences!

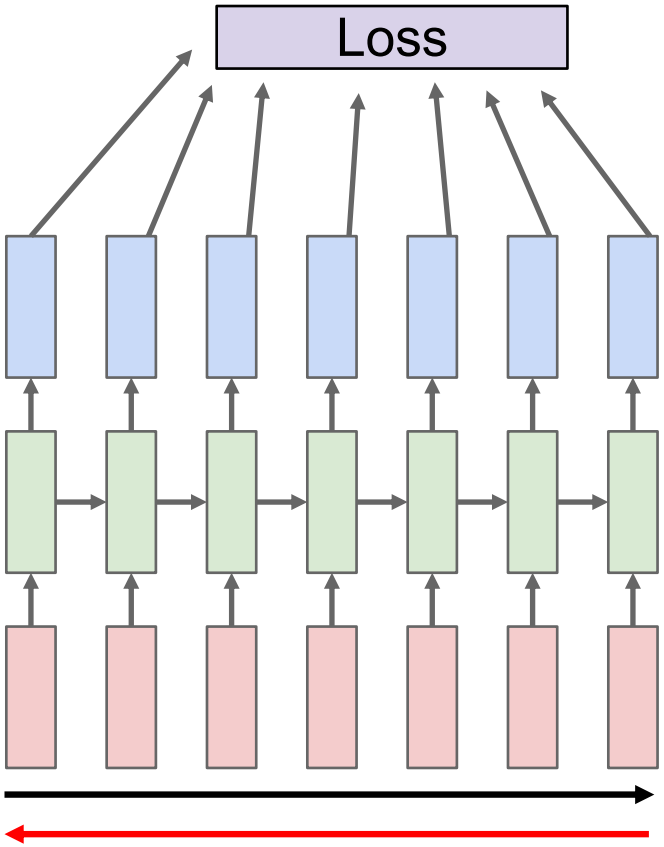
Source: J. Johnson

Training: Backpropagation through time (BPTT)

- The unfolded network (used during forward pass) is treated as one big feed-forward network that accepts the whole time series as input
- The weight updates are computed for each copy in the unfolded network, then summed (or averaged) and applied to the RNN weights
- In practice, *truncated* BPTT is used: run the RNN forward k_1 time steps, propagate backward for k_2 time steps

https://machinelearningmastery.com/gentle-introduction-backpropagation-time/
http://www.cs.utoronto.ca/~ilya/pubs/ilya_sutskever_phd_thesis.pdf

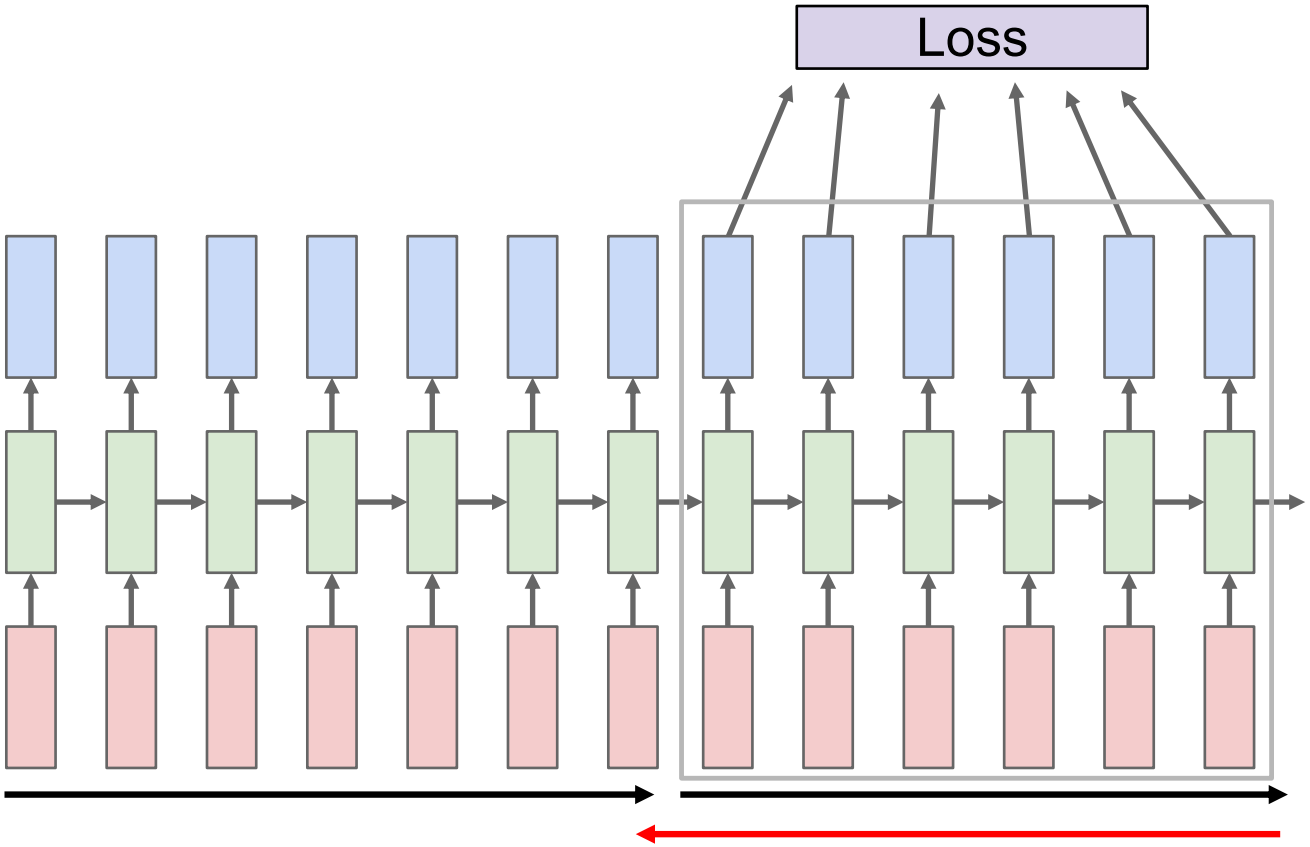
Truncated backpropagation through time



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

Source: J. Johnson

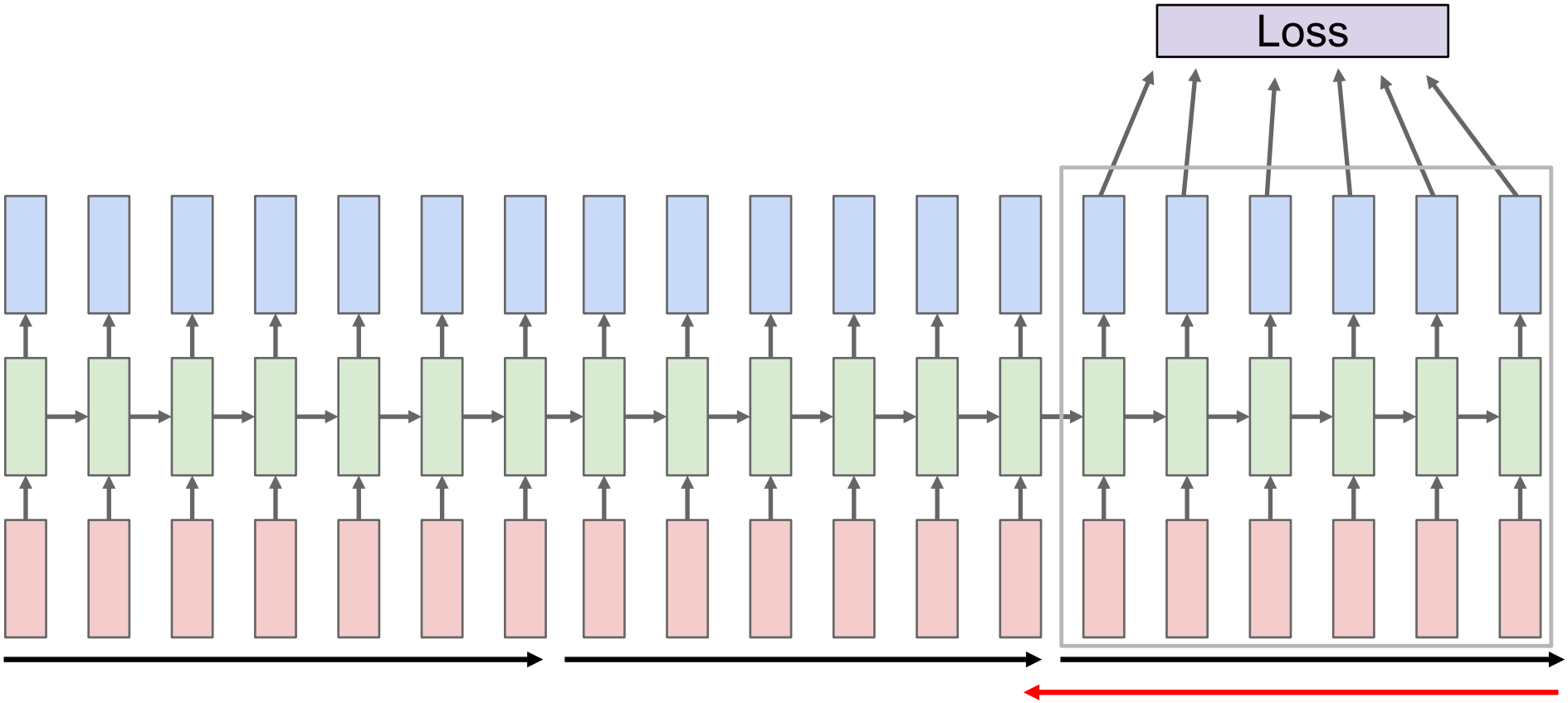
Truncated backpropagation through time



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

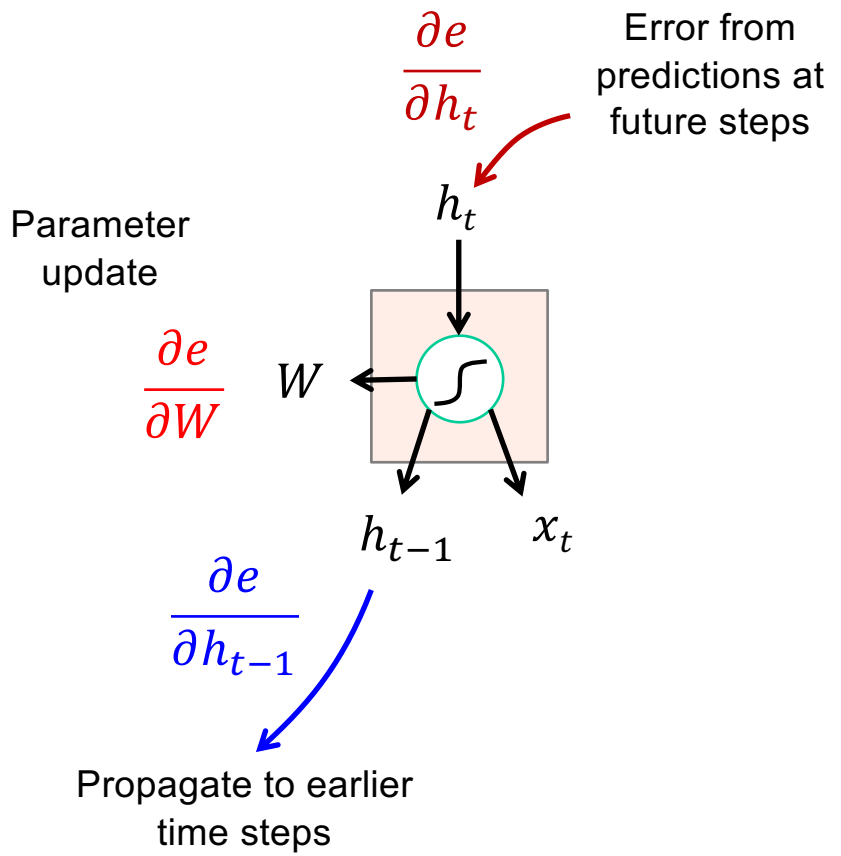
Source: J. Johnson

Truncated backpropagation through time



Source: J. Johnson

RNN backward pass



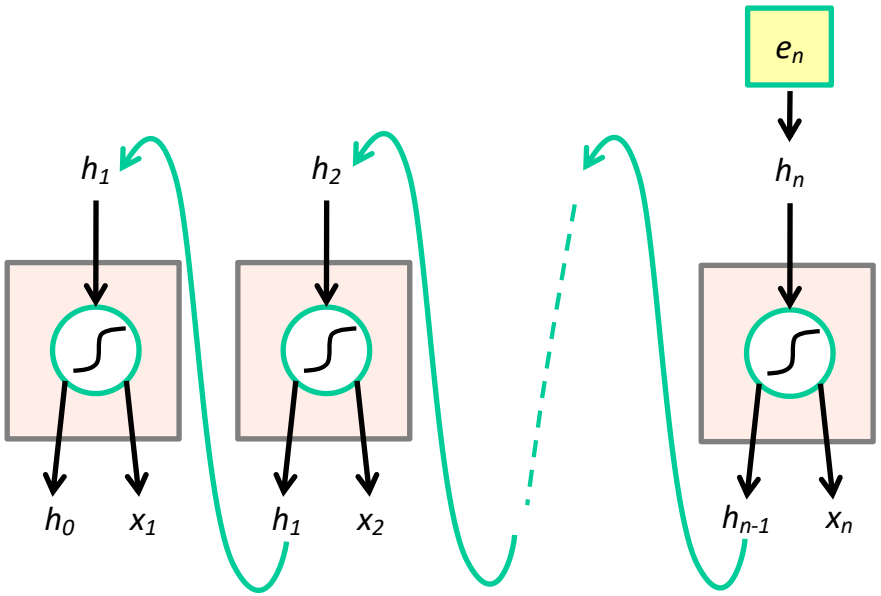
$$h_t = \tanh(W_x x_t + W_h h_{t-1})$$

$$\frac{\partial e}{\partial W_h} = \frac{\partial e}{\partial h_t} \odot \left(1 - \tanh^2(W_x x_t + W_h h_{t-1})\right) h_{t-1}^T$$

$$\frac{\partial e}{\partial W_x} = \frac{\partial e}{\partial h_t} \odot \left(1 - \tanh^2(W_x x_t + W_h h_{t-1})\right) x_t^T$$

$$\frac{\partial e}{\partial h_{t-1}} = W_h^T \left(1 - \tanh^2(W_x x_t + W_h h_{t-1})\right) \odot \frac{\partial e}{\partial h_t}$$

Vanishing and exploding gradients



$$\frac{\partial e}{\partial h_{t-1}} = W_h^T\left(1 - \tanh^2(W_x x_t + W_h h_{t-1})\right) \odot \frac{\partial e}{\partial h_t}$$

Computing gradient for h_0 involves many multiplications by W_h^T (and rescalings between 0 and 1)

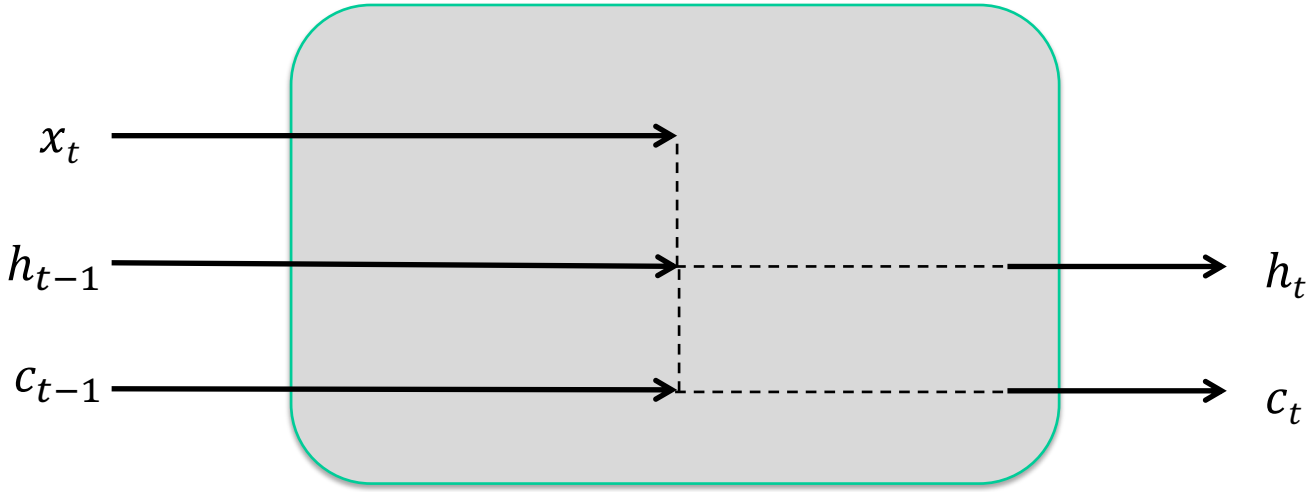
Gradients will *vanish* if largest singular value of W_h is less than 1 and *explode* if it's greater than 1

Outline

- Examples of sequential prediction tasks
- Common recurrent units
  - Vanilla RNN unit (and how to train it)
  - Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM)
  - Gated Recurrent Unit (GRU)

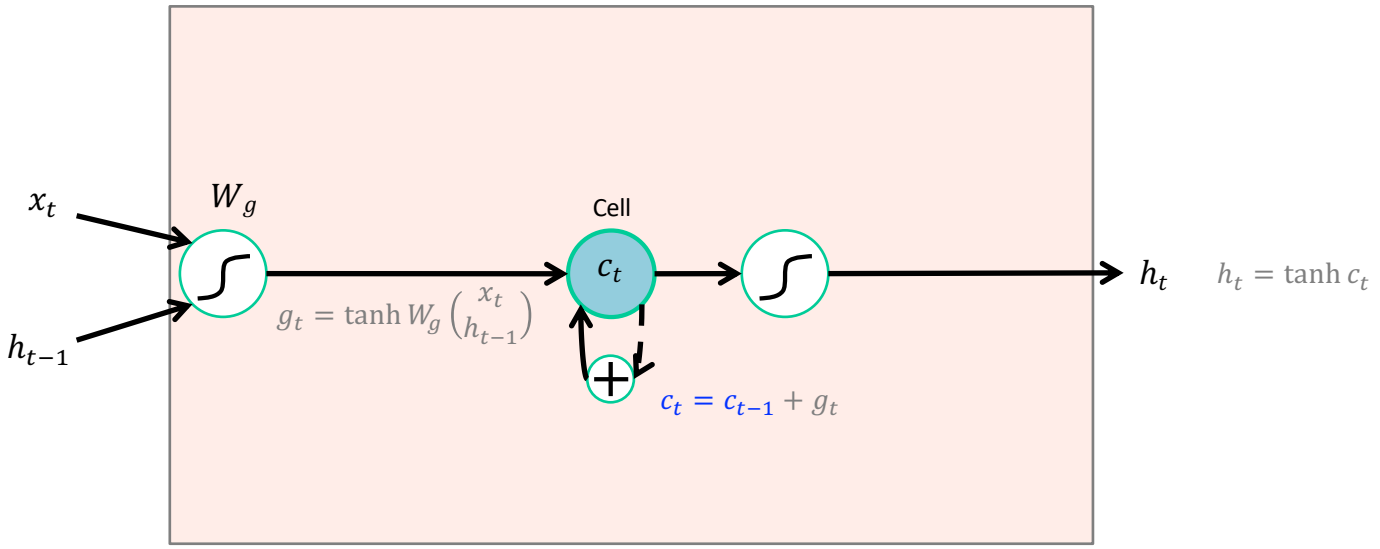
Long short-term memory (LSTM)

- Add a *memory cell* that is not subject to matrix multiplication or squishing, thereby avoiding gradient decay

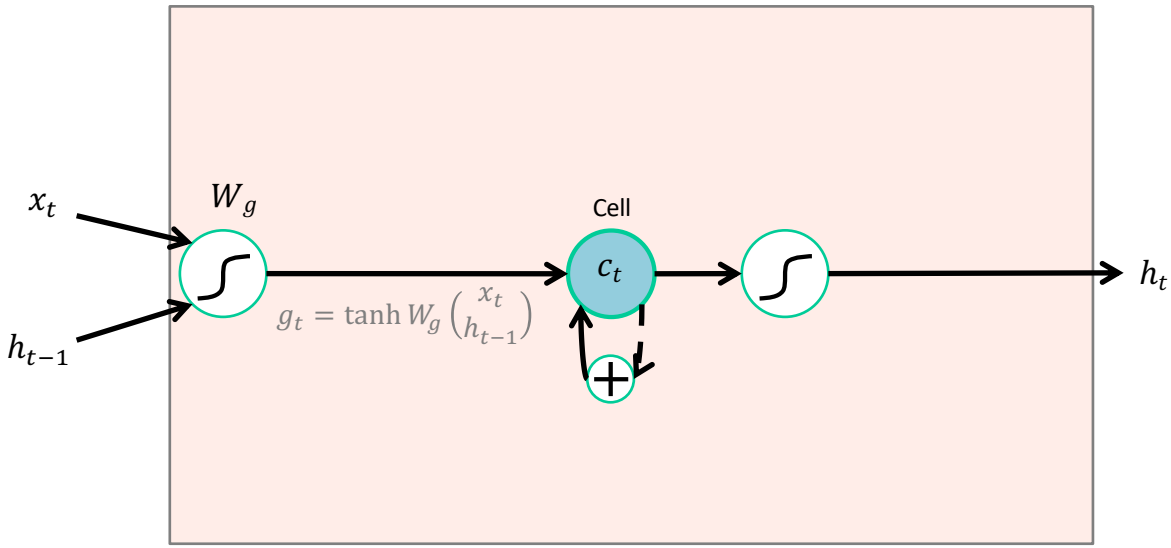


S. Hochreiter and J. Schmidhuber, Long short-term memory, Neural Computation 9 (8), pp. 1735–1780, 1997

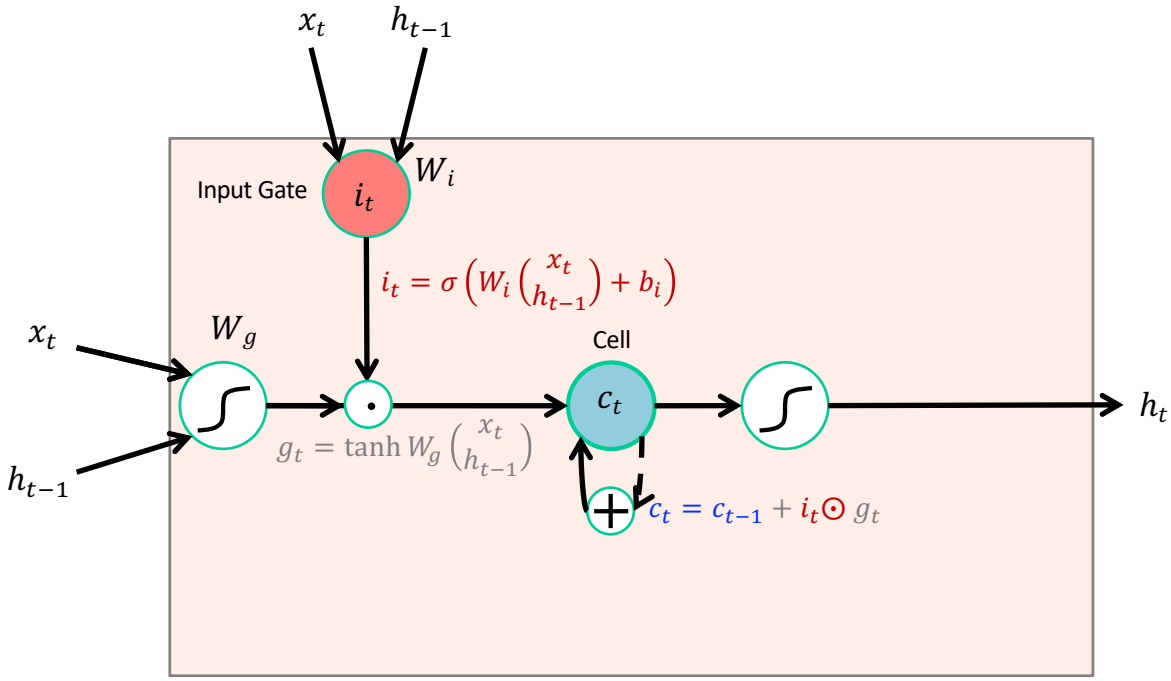
The LSTM cell



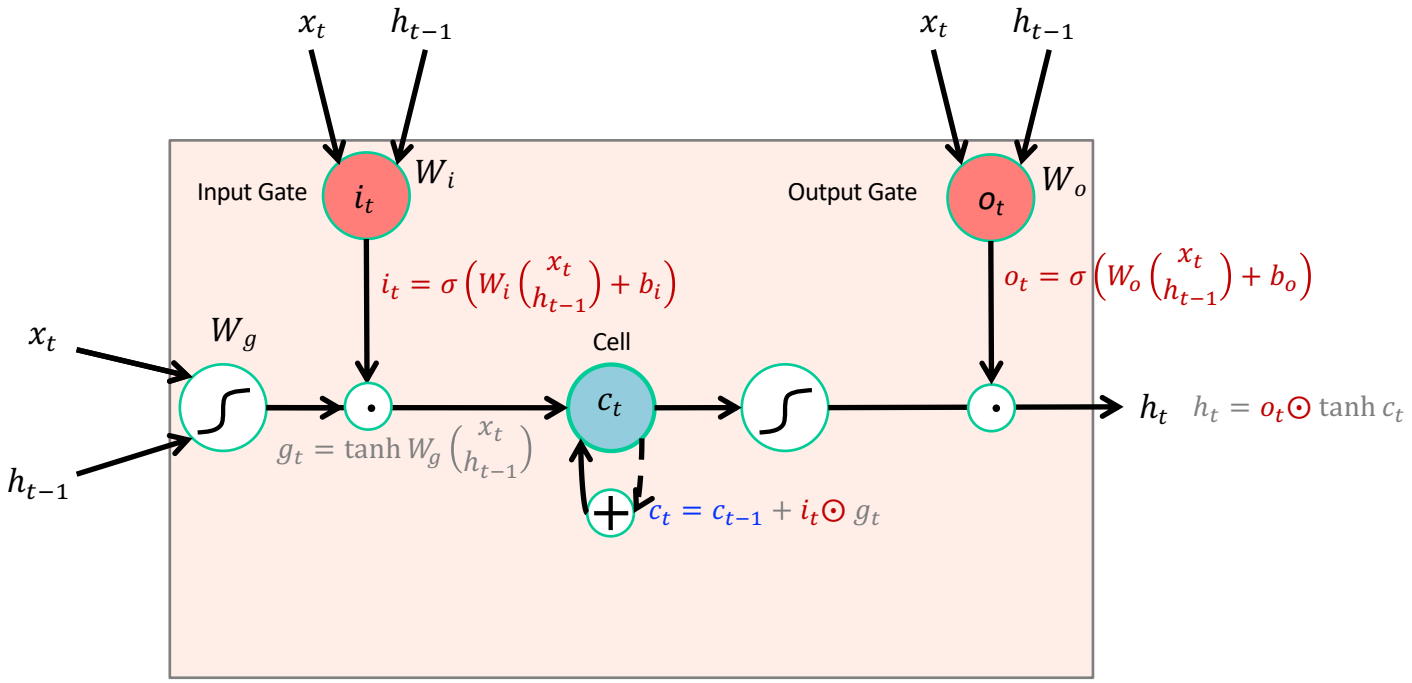
The LSTM cell



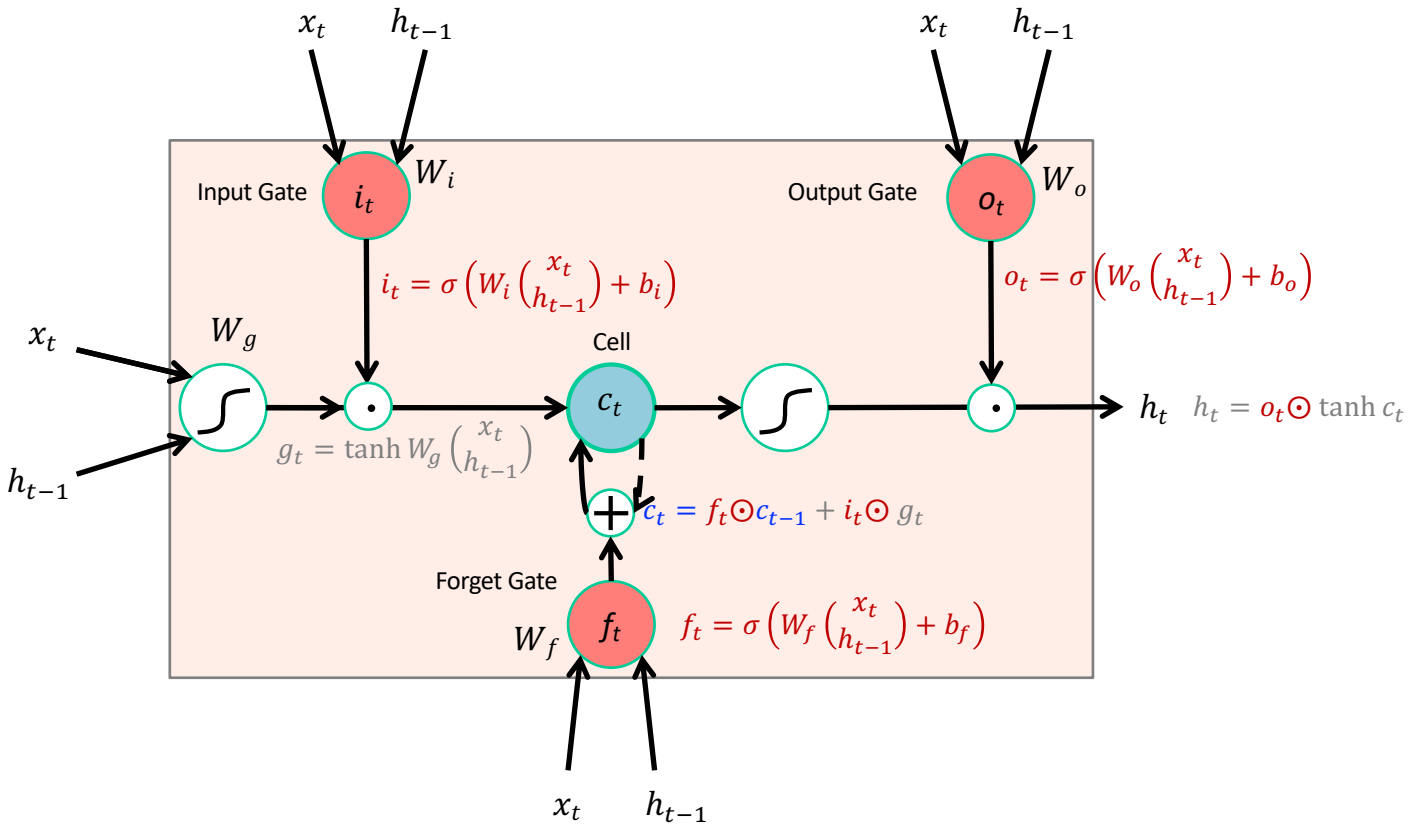
The LSTM cell



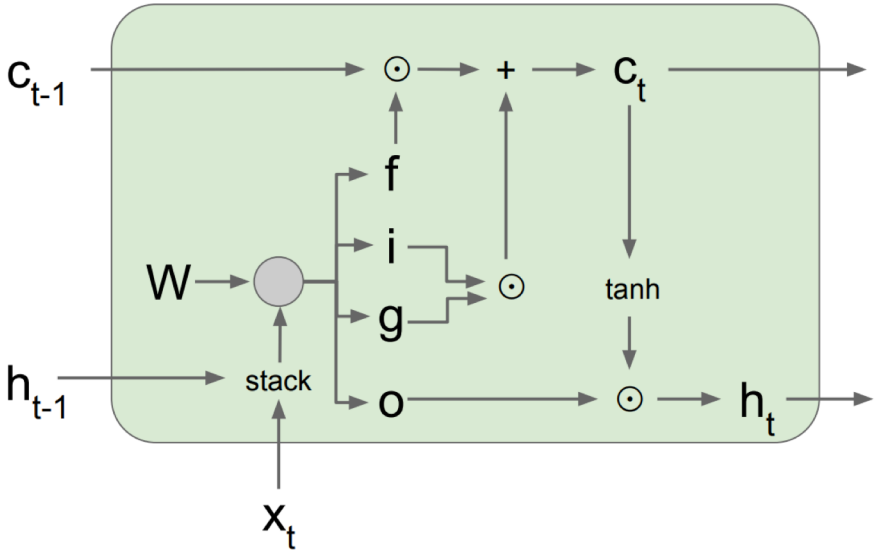
The LSTM cell



The LSTM cell



LSTM forward pass summary



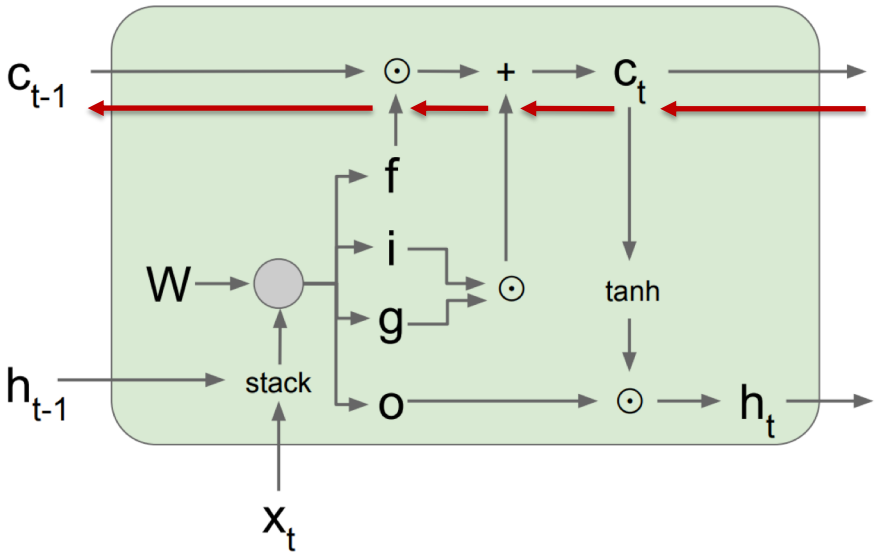
$$\begin{pmatrix} g_t \\ i_t \\ f_t \\ o_t \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \tanh \\ \sigma \\ \sigma \\ \sigma \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} W_g \\ W_i \\ W_f \\ W_o \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ h_{t-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$c_t = f_t \odot c_{t-1} + i_t \odot g_t$$

$$h_t = o_t \odot \tanh c_t$$

Figure source

LSTM backward pass

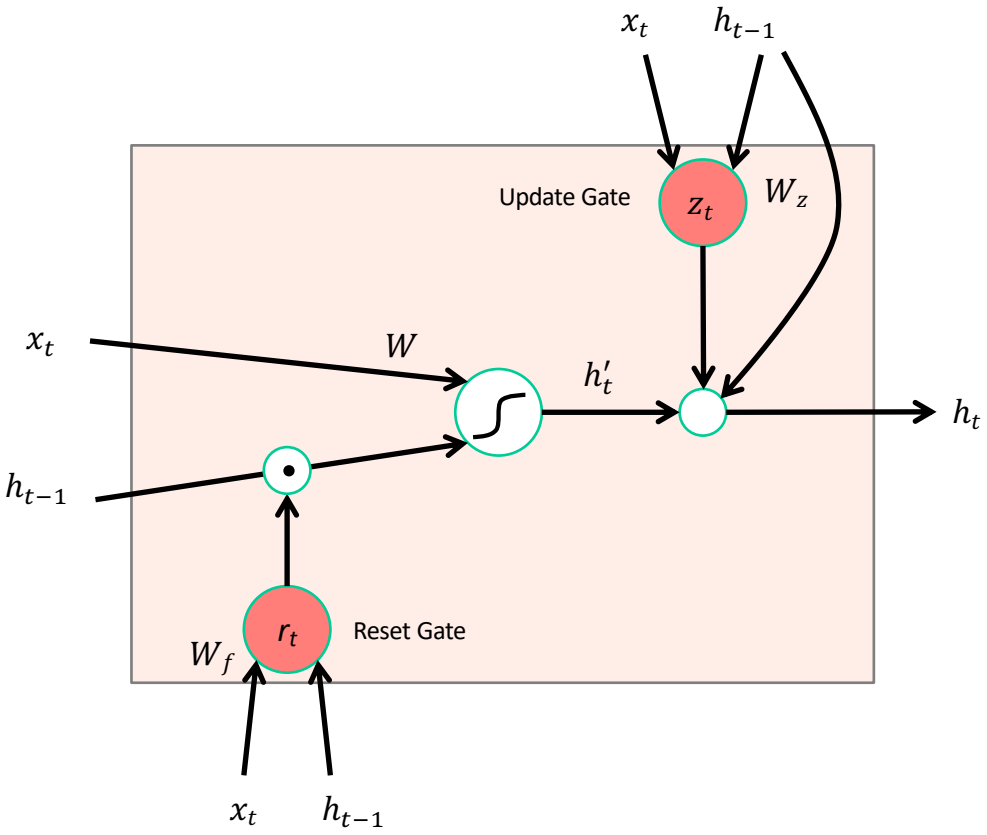


Gradient flow from c_t to c_{t-1} only involves back-propagating through addition and elementwise multiplication, not matrix multiplication or tanh

For complete details: Illustrated LSTM Forward and Backward Pass

Figure source

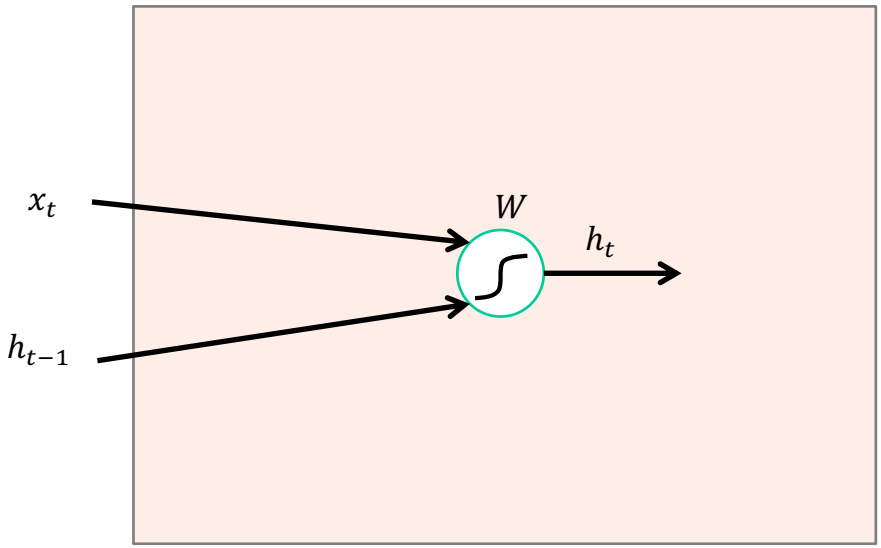
Gated recurrent unit (GRU)



- Get rid of separate cell state
- Merge “forget” and “output” gates into “update” gate

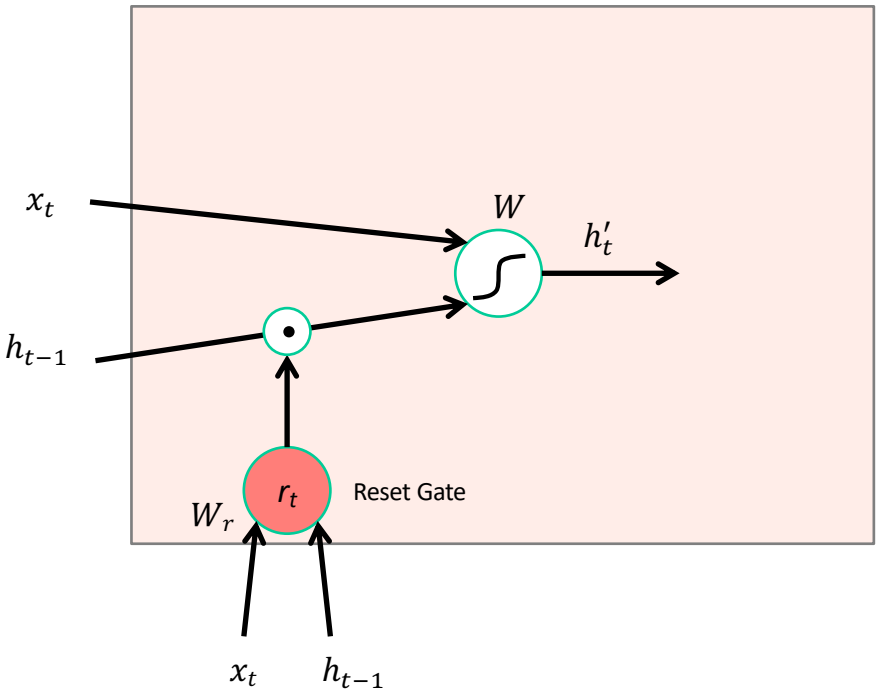
K. Cho et al., Learning phrase representations using RNN encoder-decoder for statistical machine translation, ACL 2014

Gated recurrent unit (GRU)



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

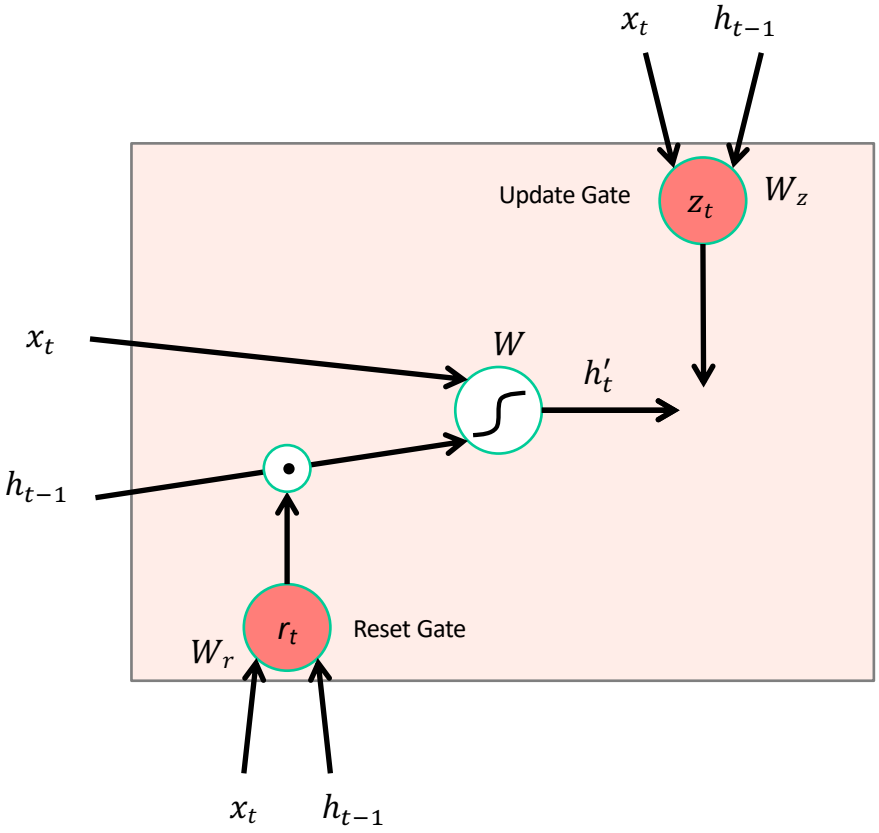
Gated recurrent unit (GRU)



$$r_t = \sigma\left(W_r \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ h_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} + b_t\right)$$

$$h'_t = \tanh W \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ r_t \odot h_{t-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

Gated recurrent unit (GRU)

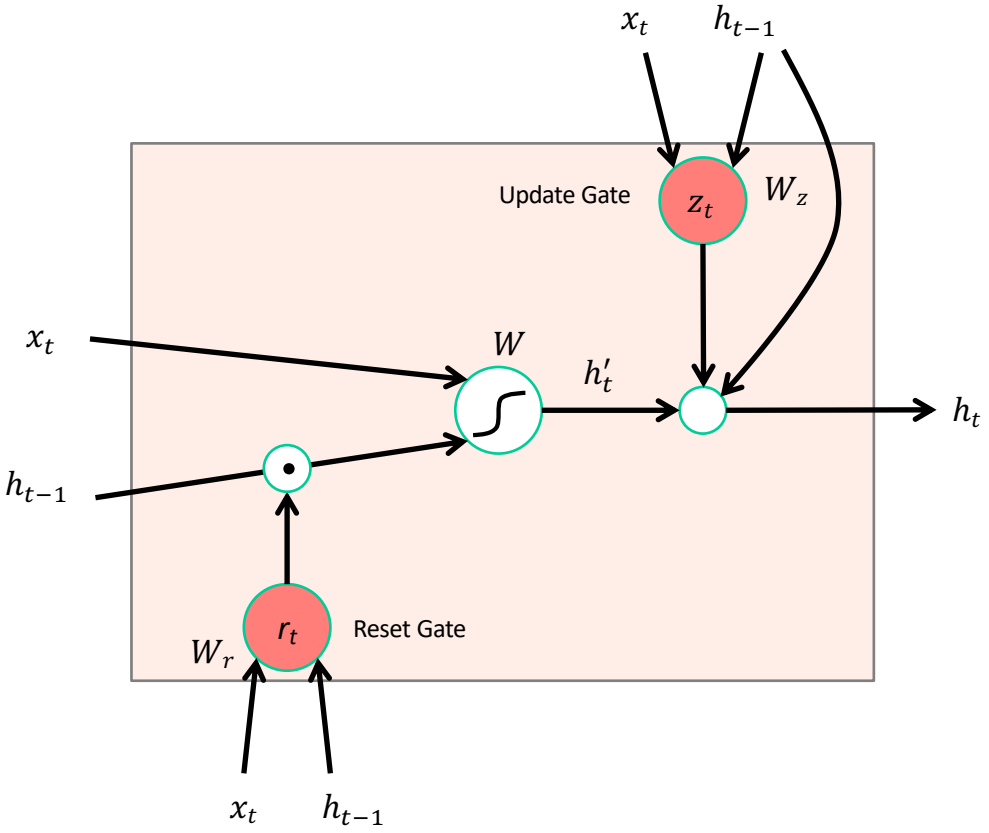


$$r_t = \sigma\left(W_r \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ h_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} + b_t\right)$$

$$h'_t = \tanh W \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ r_t \odot h_{t-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$z_t = \sigma\left(W_z \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ h_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} + b_z\right)$$

Gated recurrent unit (GRU)



$$r_t = \sigma\left(W_r \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ h_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} + b_t\right)$$

$$h'_t = \tanh W \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ r_t \odot h_{t-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

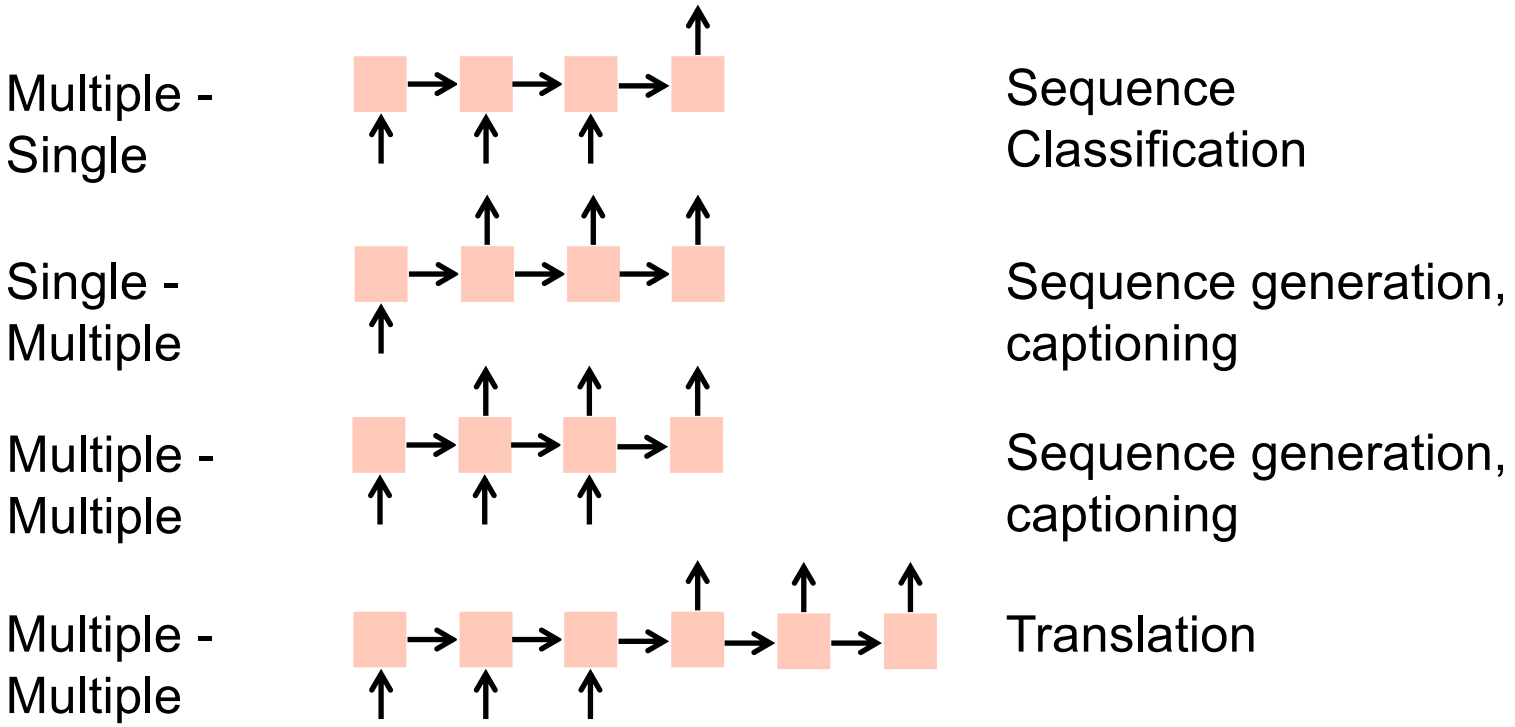
$$z_t = \sigma\left(W_z \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ h_{t-1} \end{pmatrix} + b_z\right)$$

$$h_t = (1 - z_t) \odot h_{t-1} + z_t \odot h'_t$$

Outline

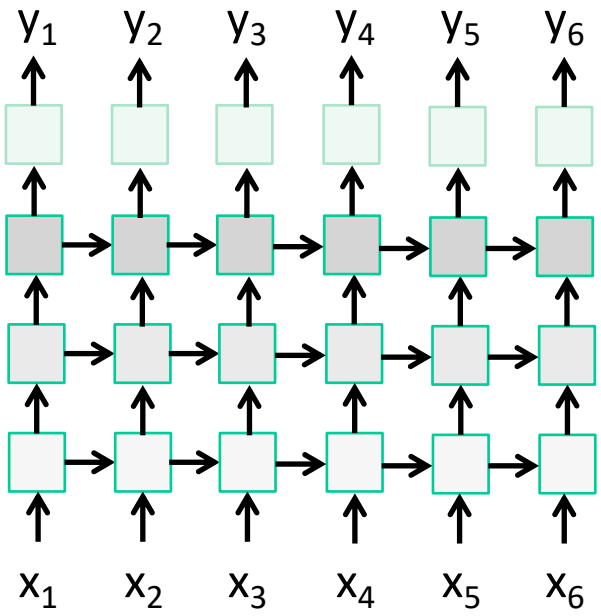
- Examples of sequential prediction tasks
- Common recurrent units
  - Vanilla RNN unit (and how to train it)
  - Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM)
  - Gated Recurrent Unit (GRU)
- Recurrent network architectures

Summary: Input-output scenarios



Multi-layer RNNs

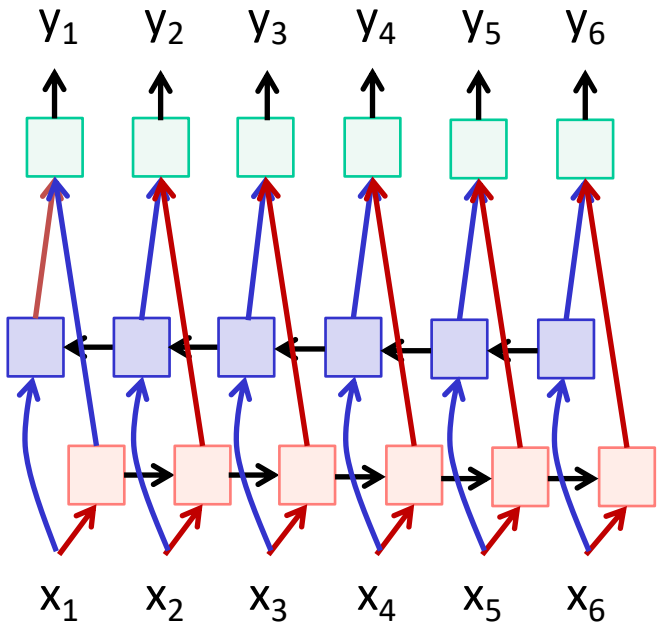
- We can of course design RNNs with multiple hidden layers



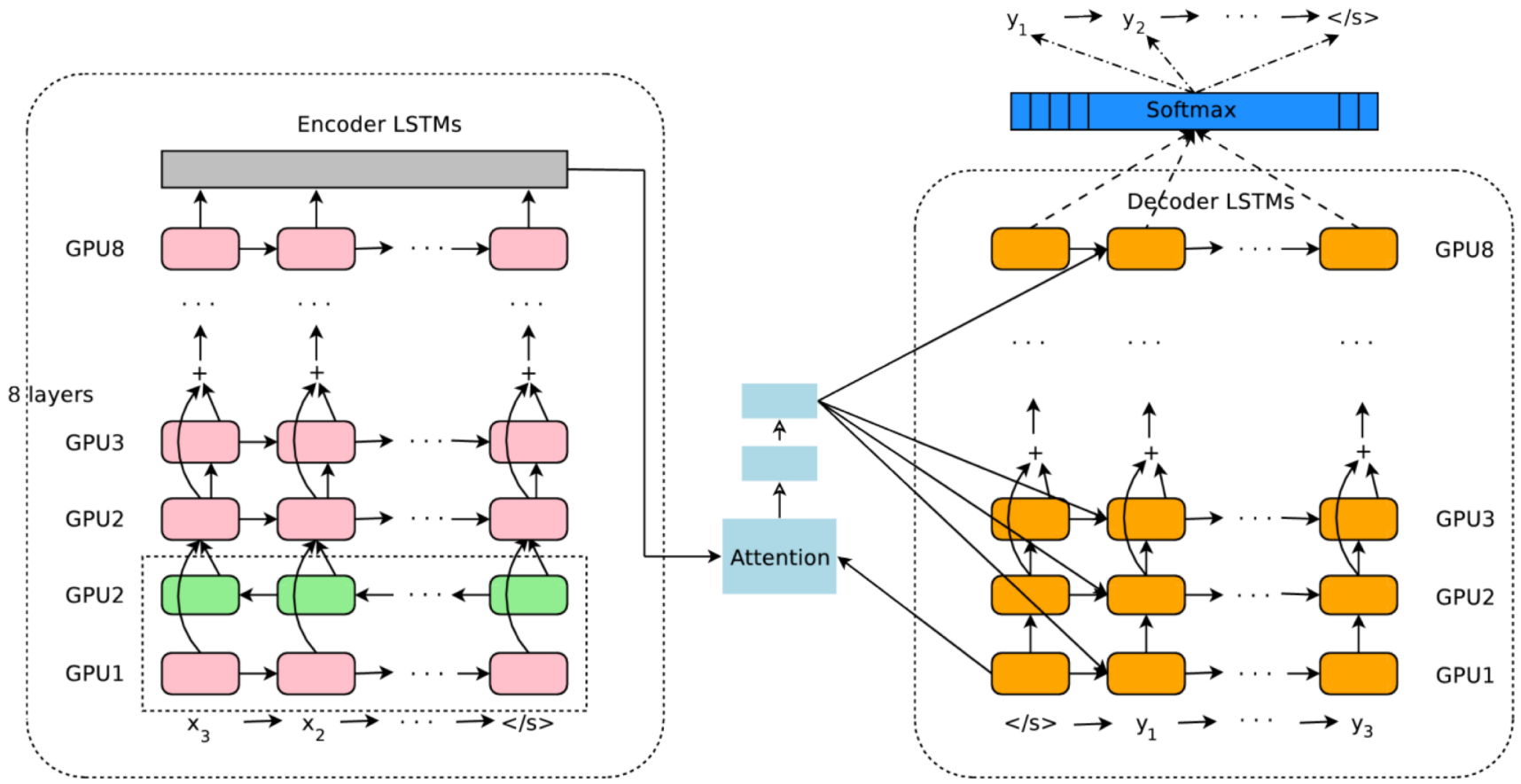
- Anything goes: skip connections across layers, across time, …

Bi-directional RNNs

- RNNs can process the input sequence in forward and in the reverse direction (common in speech recognition)



Google Neural Machine Translation (GNMT)

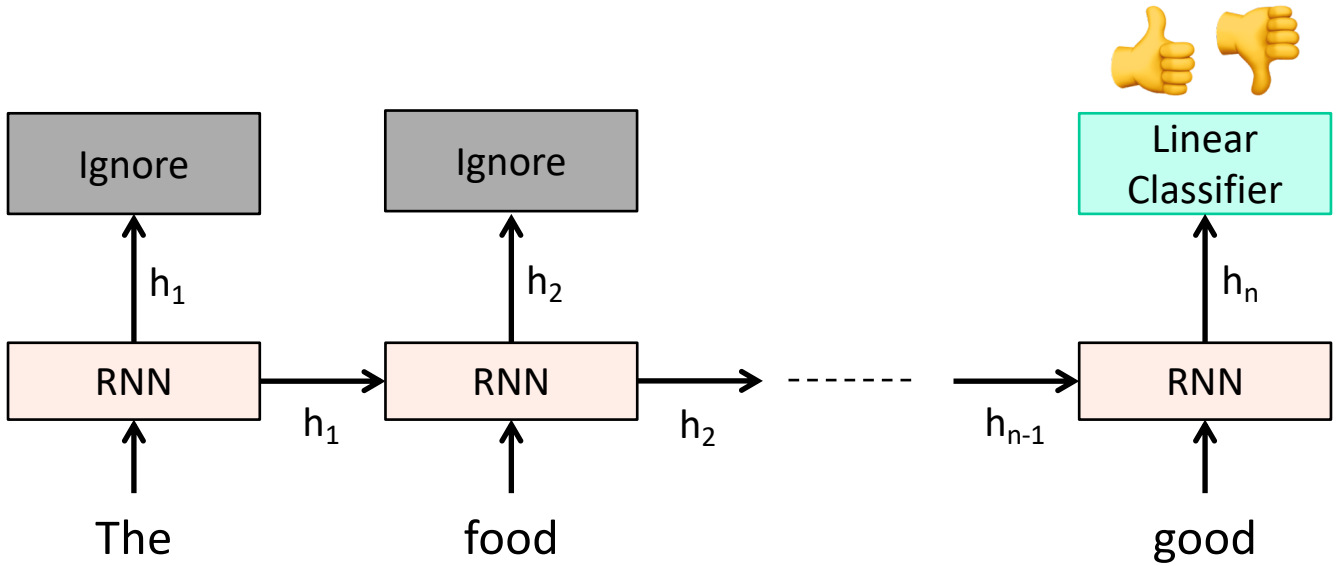


Y. Wu et al., [Google's Neural Machine Translation System: Bridging the Gap between Human and Machine Translation](), arXiv 2016

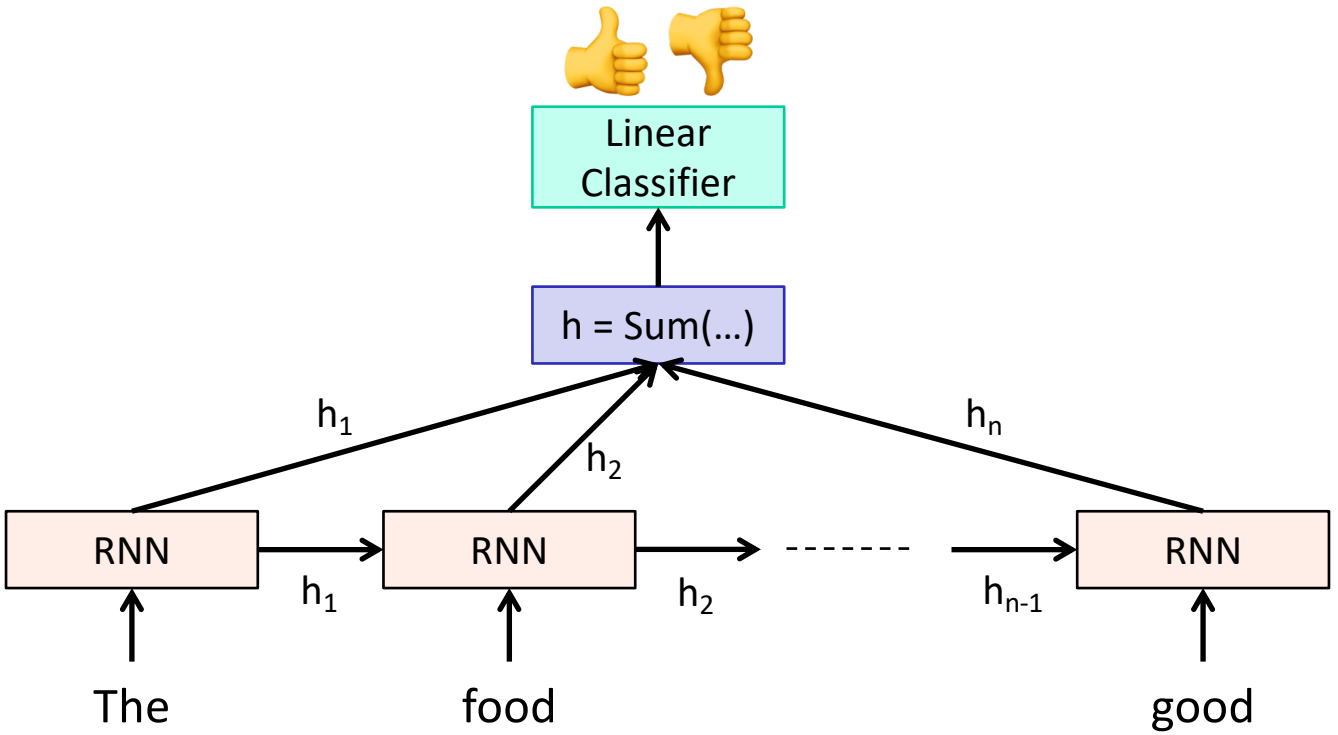
Outline

- Examples of sequential prediction tasks
- Common recurrent units
  - Vanilla RNN unit
  - Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM)
  - Gated Recurrent Unit (GRU)
- Recurrent network architectures
- Applications in (a bit) more detail
  - Sequence classification
  - Language modeling
  - Image captioning
  - Machine translation

Sequence classification

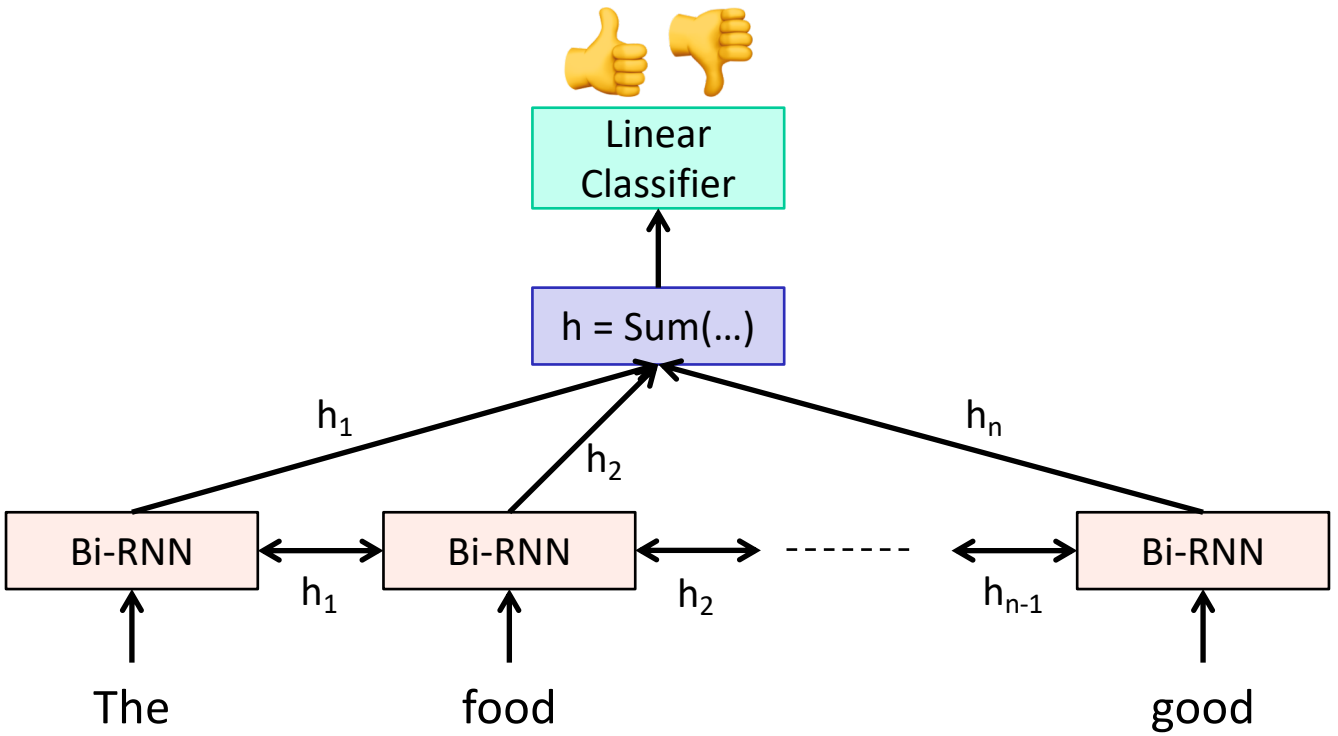


Sequence classification



http://deeplearning.net/tutorial/lstm.html

Sequence classification



Language modeling: Character RNN

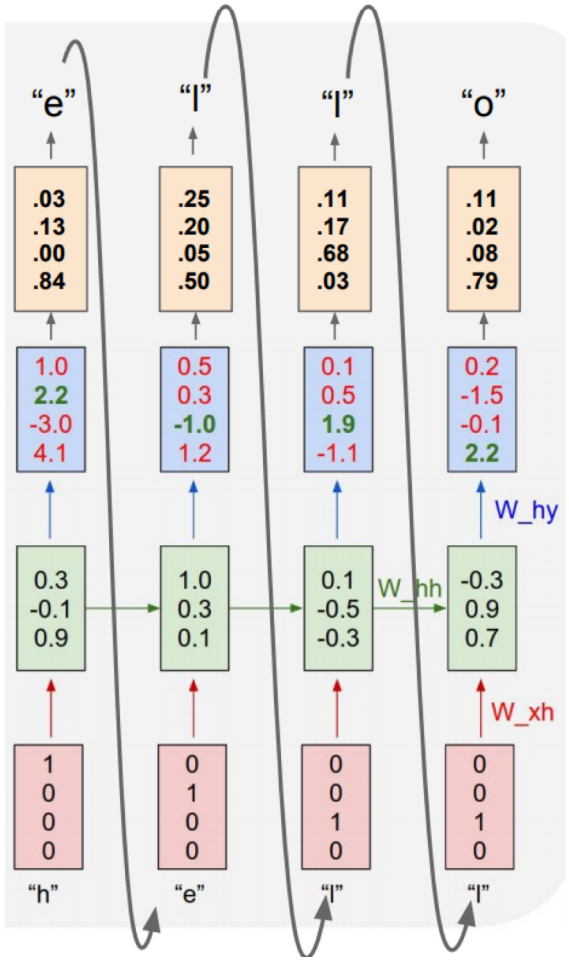
Output symbol y_i

Output layer
(linear + softmax)

Hidden state h_i

One-hot encoding x_i

Input symbol



$$p(y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n)$$
$$= \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(y_i | y_1, \ldots, y_{i-1})$$
$$\approx \prod_{i=1}^{n} P_W(y_i | h_i)$$

http://karpathy.github.io/2015/05/21/rnn-effectiveness/

Language modeling: Character RNN

100th iteration

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

train more

300th iteration

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

train more

700th iteration

```
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.
```

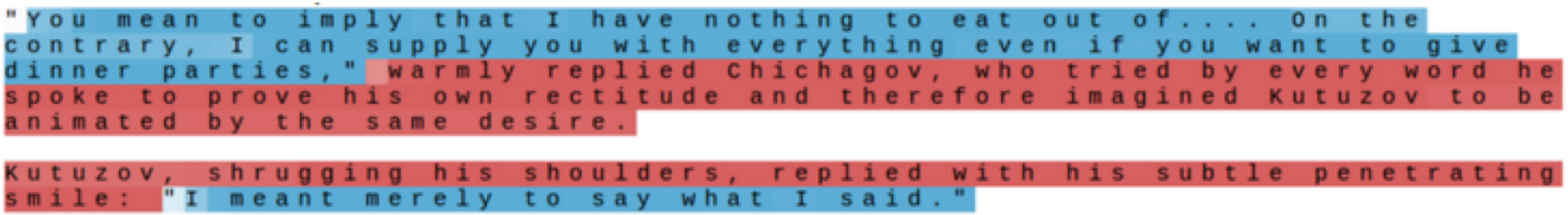
train more

2000th iteration

```
"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.
```

http://karpathy.github.io/2015/05/21/rnn-effectiveness/

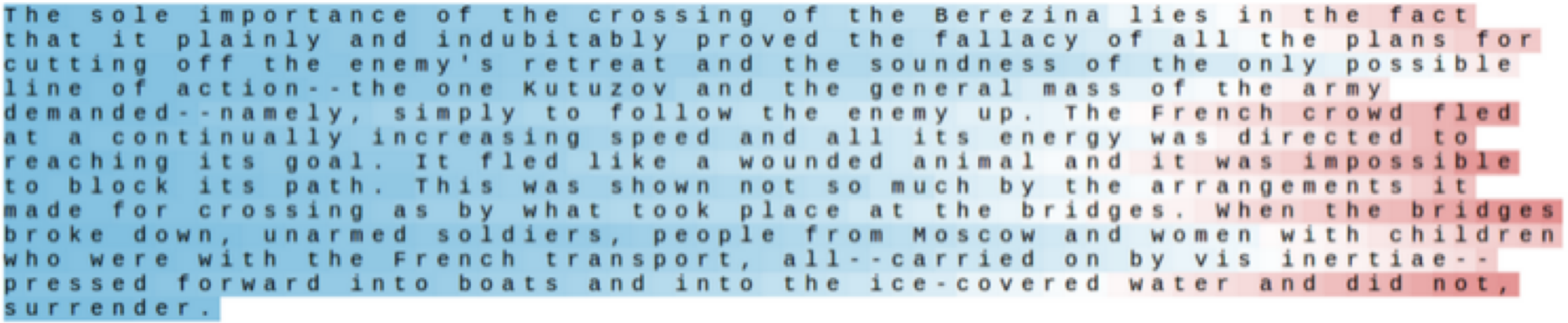
Searching for interpretable hidden units



quote detection cell

A. Karpathy, J. Johnson, and L. Fei-Fei, Visualizing and Understanding Recurrent Networks, ICLR Workshop 2016

Searching for interpretable hidden units



line position tracking cell

A. Karpathy, J. Johnson, and L. Fei-Fei, Visualizing and Understanding Recurrent Networks, ICLR Workshop 2016

Searching for interpretable hidden units

```
static int __dequeue_signal(struct sigpending *pending, sigset_t *mask,
        siginfo_t *info)
{
  int sig = next_signal(pending, mask);
  if (sig) {
    if (current->notifier) {
      if (sigismember(current->notifier_mask, sig)) {
        if (!(current->notifier)(current->notifier_data)) {
          clear_thread_flag(TIF_SIGPENDING);
          return 0;
        }
      }
    }
    collect_signal(sig, pending, info);
  }
  return sig;
}
```

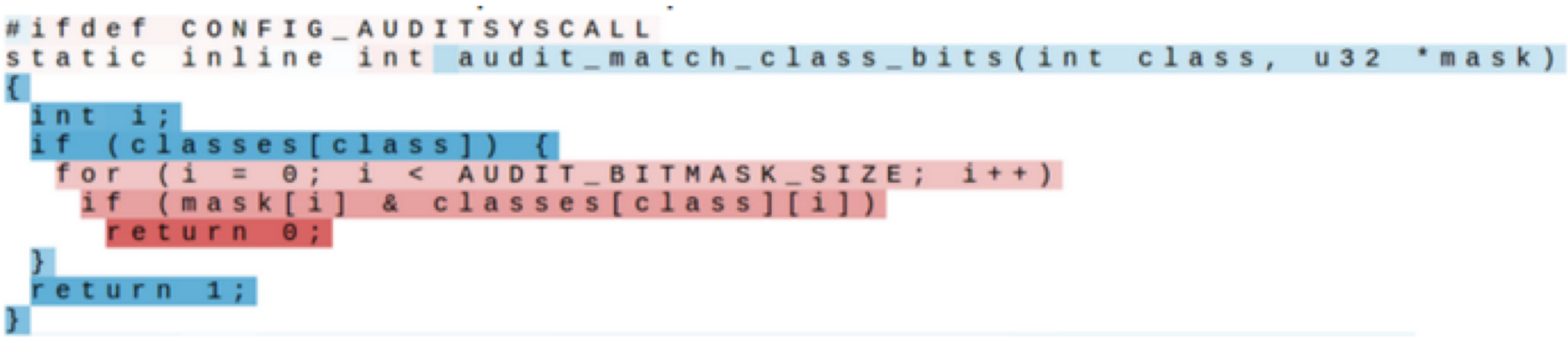
if statement cell

A. Karpathy, J. Johnson, and L. Fei-Fei, Visualizing and Understanding Recurrent Networks, ICLR Workshop 2016

Searching for interpretable hidden units

A. Karpathy, J. Johnson, and L. Fei-Fei, Visualizing and Understanding Recurrent Networks, ICLR Workshop 2016

Searching for interpretable hidden units

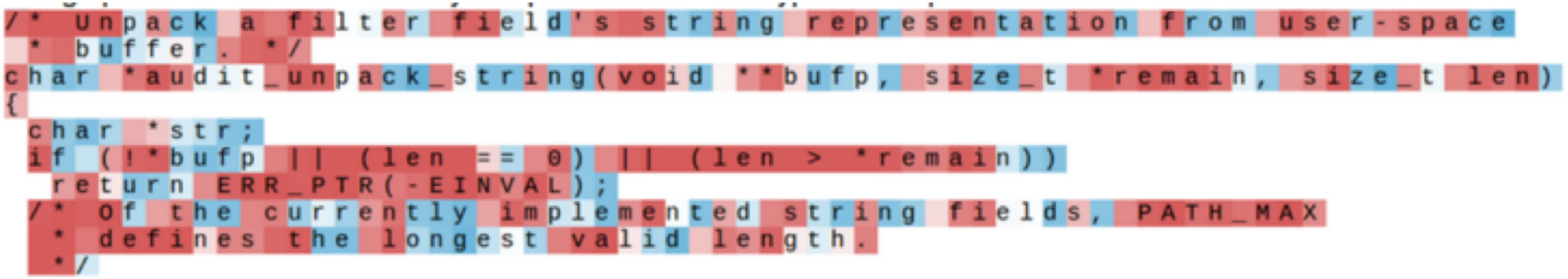


```
#ifdef CONFIG_AUDITSYSCALL
static inline int audit_match_class_bits(int class, u32 *mask)
{
  int i;
  if (classes[class]) {
    for (i = 0; i < AUDIT_BITMASK_SIZE; i++)
      if (mask[i] & classes[class][i])
        return 0;
  }
  return 1;
}
```

code depth cell

A. Karpathy, J. Johnson, and L. Fei-Fei, Visualizing and Understanding Recurrent Networks, ICLR Workshop 2016

Searching for interpretable hidden units



```
/* Unpack a filter field's string representation from user-space
 * buffer. */
char *audit_unpack_string(void **bufp, size_t *remain, size_t len)
{
  char *str;
  if (!*bufp || (len == 0) || (len > *remain))
    return ERR_PTR(-EINVAL);
  /* Of the currently implemented string fields, PATH_MAX
   * defines the longest valid length.
   */
```

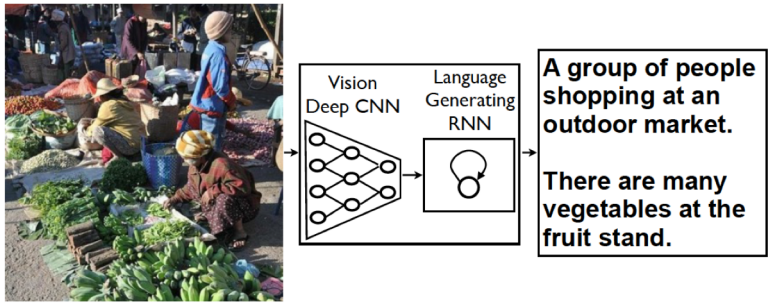
¯_(ツ)_/¯

A. Karpathy, J. Johnson, and L. Fei-Fei, Visualizing and Understanding Recurrent Networks, ICLR Workshop 2016

RNNs: Outline

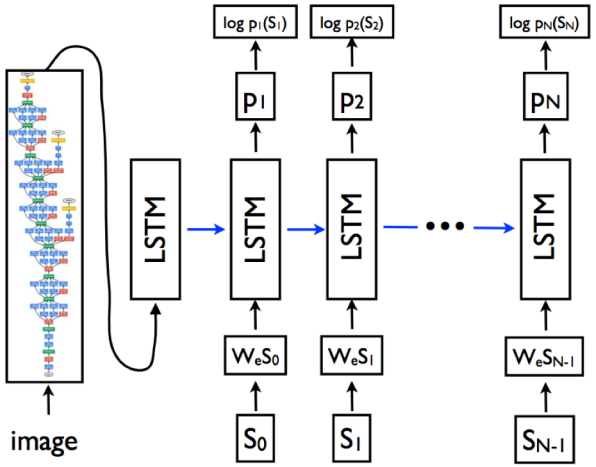
- Examples of sequential prediction tasks
- Common recurrent units
  - Vanilla RNN unit
  - Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM)
  - Gated Recurrent Unit (GRU)
- Recurrent network architectures
  - Multilayer, bidirectional, skip connections
- Applications in (a bit) more detail
  - Sequence classification
  - Language modeling
  - Image captioning
  - Machine translation

Image caption generation



Training time

- Maximize likelihood of reference captions



Log-likelihood of next reference word

Softmax probability over next word

Word embedding

Words of reference caption (one-hot encoding)

O. Vinyals, A. Toshev, S. Bengio, D. Erhan, Show and Tell: A Neural Image Caption Generator, CVPR 2015

Image caption generation: Test time

- Beam search:
  - Maintain k (*beam width*) top-scoring candidate sentences according to sum of per-word log-likelihoods (or some other score)
  - At each step, generate all their successors and keep the best k

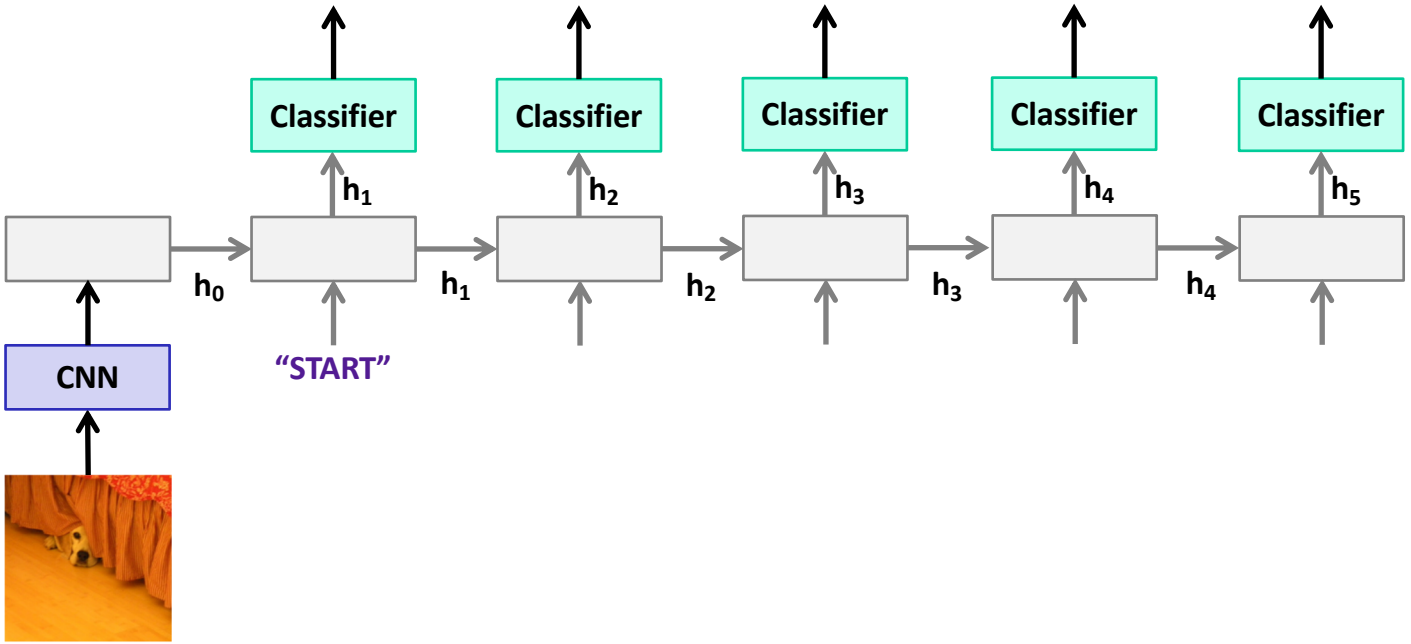


Image caption generation: Beam search

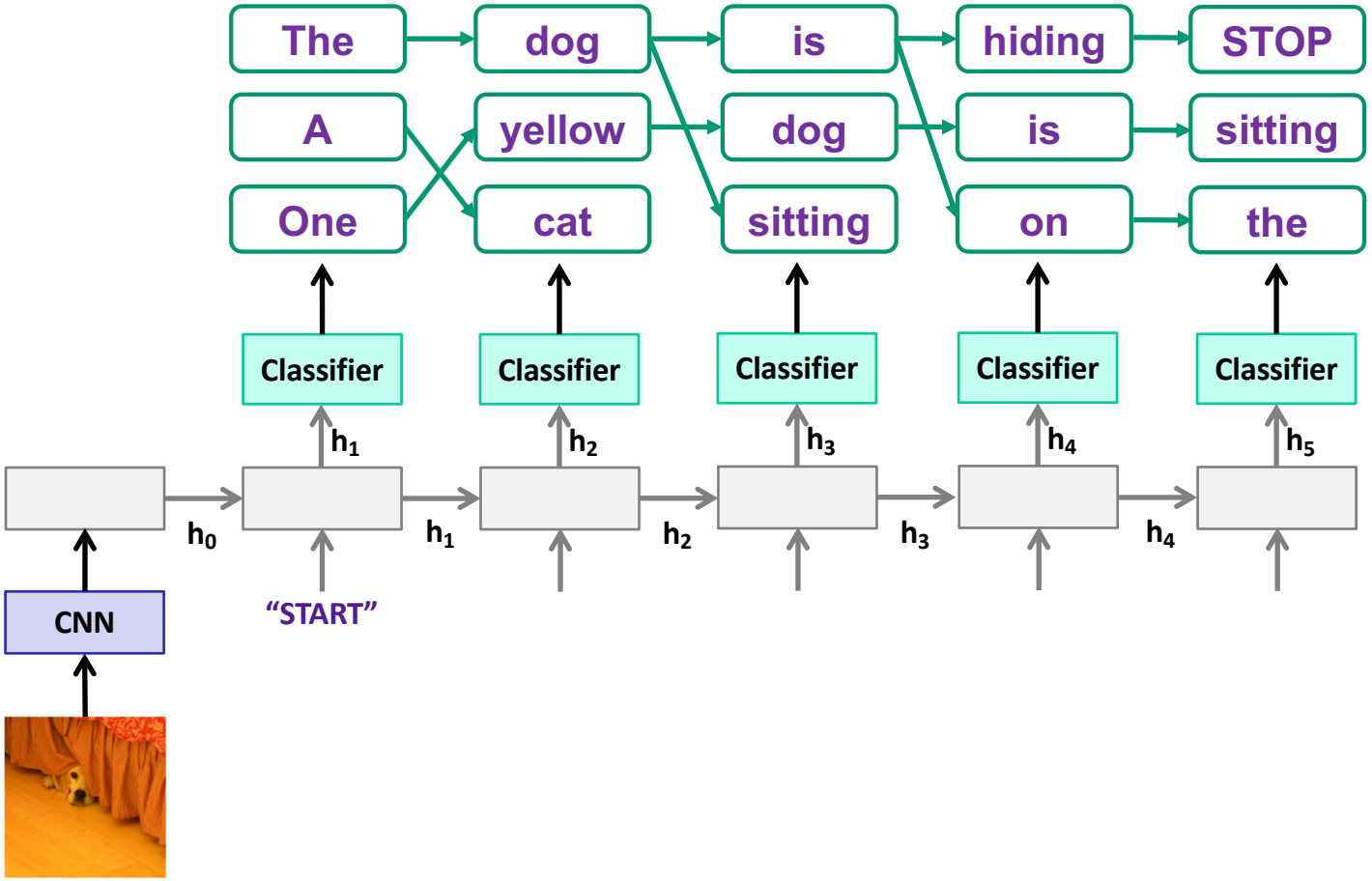


Image caption generation: Example outputs

How to evaluate image captioning?

Reference sentences (written by human annotators):

- “A dog hides underneath a bed with its face peeking out of the bed skirt”
- “The small white dog is peeking out from under the bed”
- “A dog is peeking its head out from underneath a bed skirt”
- “A dog peeking out from under a bed”
- “A dog that is under a bed on the floor”

Generated sentence:

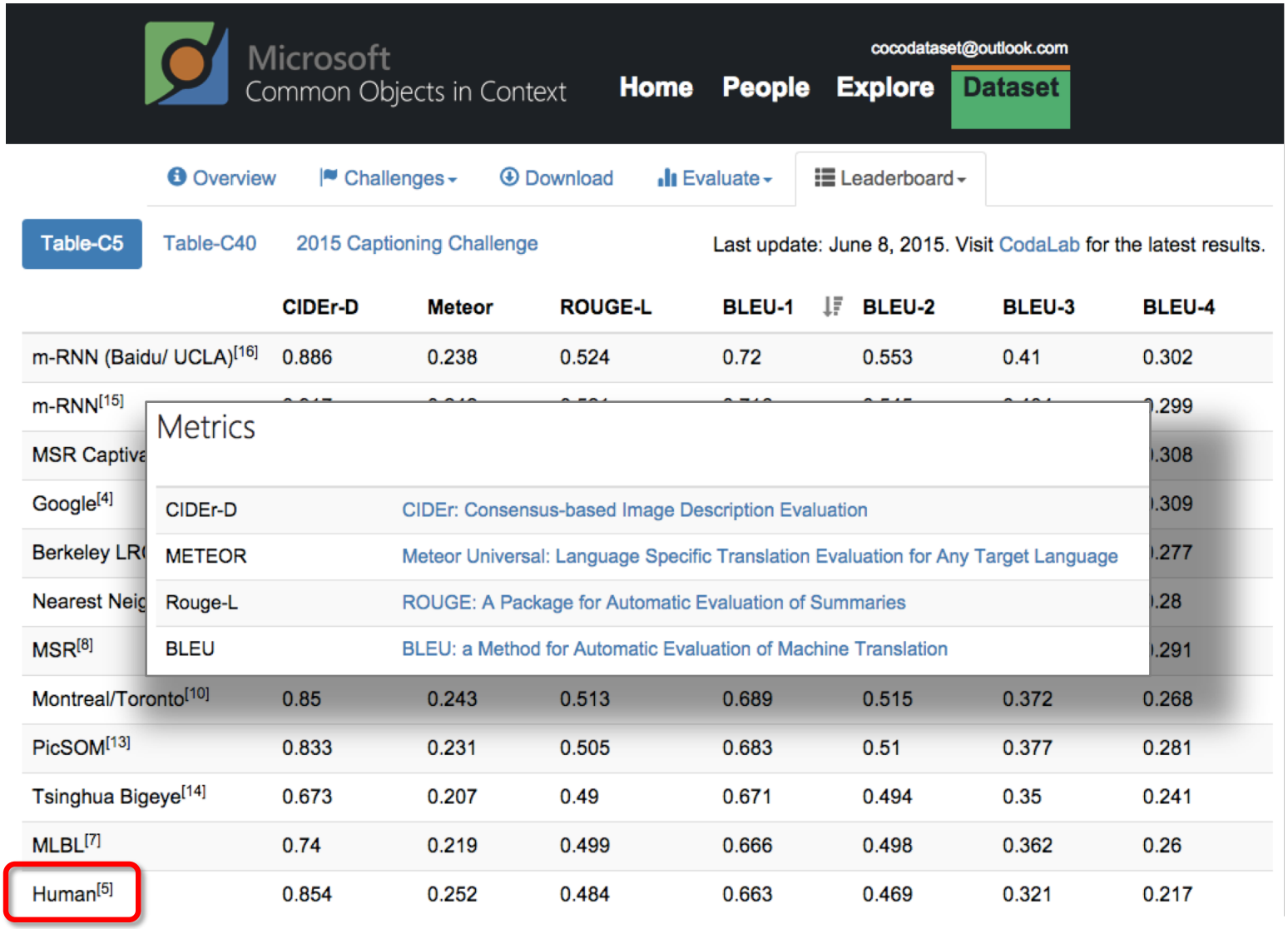
- “A dog is hiding”

BLEU: Bilingual Evaluation Understudy

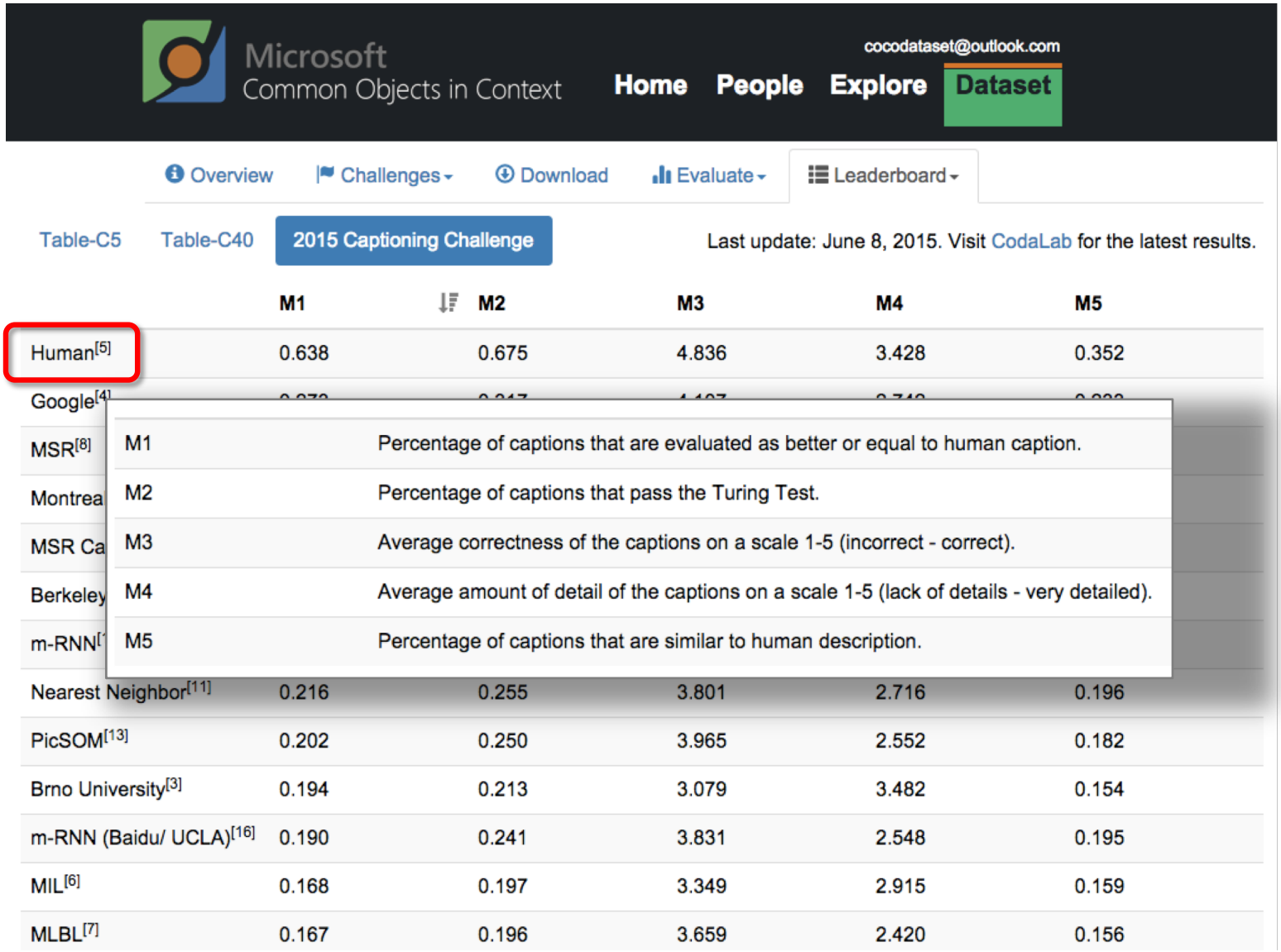
- **N-gram precision**: count the number of n-gram matches between candidate and reference translation, divide by total number of n-grams in candidate translation
  - Clip counts by the maximum number of times an n-gram occurs in any reference translation
  - Multiply by *brevity penalty* to penalize short translations

- Most commonly used measure for image captioning and machine translation despite multiple shortcomings

K. Papineni, S. Roukos, T. Ward, W.-J. Zhu, BLEU: a Method for Automatic Evaluation of Machine Translation, ACL 2002



http://mscoco.org/dataset/#captions-leaderboard


Microsoft
Common Objects in Context
cocodataset@outlook.com
Home
People
Explore
Dataset
Overview
Challenges
Download
Evaluate
Leaderboard
Table-C5
Table-C40
2015 Captioning Challenge
Last update: June 8, 2015. Visit CodaLab for the latest results.
M1
M2
M3
M4
M5
Human[5] 0.638 0.675 4.836 3.428 0.352
Google[4]
MSR[8]
Montrea
MSR Ca
Berkeley
m-RNN[
Nearest Neighbor[11] 0.216 0.255 3.801 2.716 0.196
PicSOM[13] 0.202 0.250 3.965 2.552 0.182
Brno University[3] 0.194 0.213 3.079 3.482 0.154
m-RNN (Baidu/ UCLA)[16] 0.190 0.241 3.831 2.548 0.195
MIL[6] 0.168 0.197 3.349 2.915 0.159
MLBL[7] 0.167 0.196 3.659 2.420 0.156
M1 Percentage of captions that are evaluated as better or equal to human caption.
M2 Percentage of captions that pass the Turing Test.
M3 Average correctness of the captions on a scale 1-5 (incorrect - correct).
M4 Average amount of detail of the captions on a scale 1-5 (lack of details - very detailed).
M5 Percentage of captions that are similar to human description.

Generative model for diverse captioning

- We would like to sample diverse captions given an image to accurately reflect intrinsic open-endedness of the task

LSTM + beam search output lacks diversity

a close up of a plate of food with a sandwich on a table
a close up of a sandwich on a plate
a close up of a plate of food on a table
a close up of a plate of food with a sandwich on it
a close up of a plate of food on a white plate

L. Wang, A. Schwing, and S. Lazebnik, Diverse and Accurate Image Description Using a Variational Auto-Encoder with an Additive Gaussian Encoding Space, NeurIPS 2017

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a close up of a plate of food on a table
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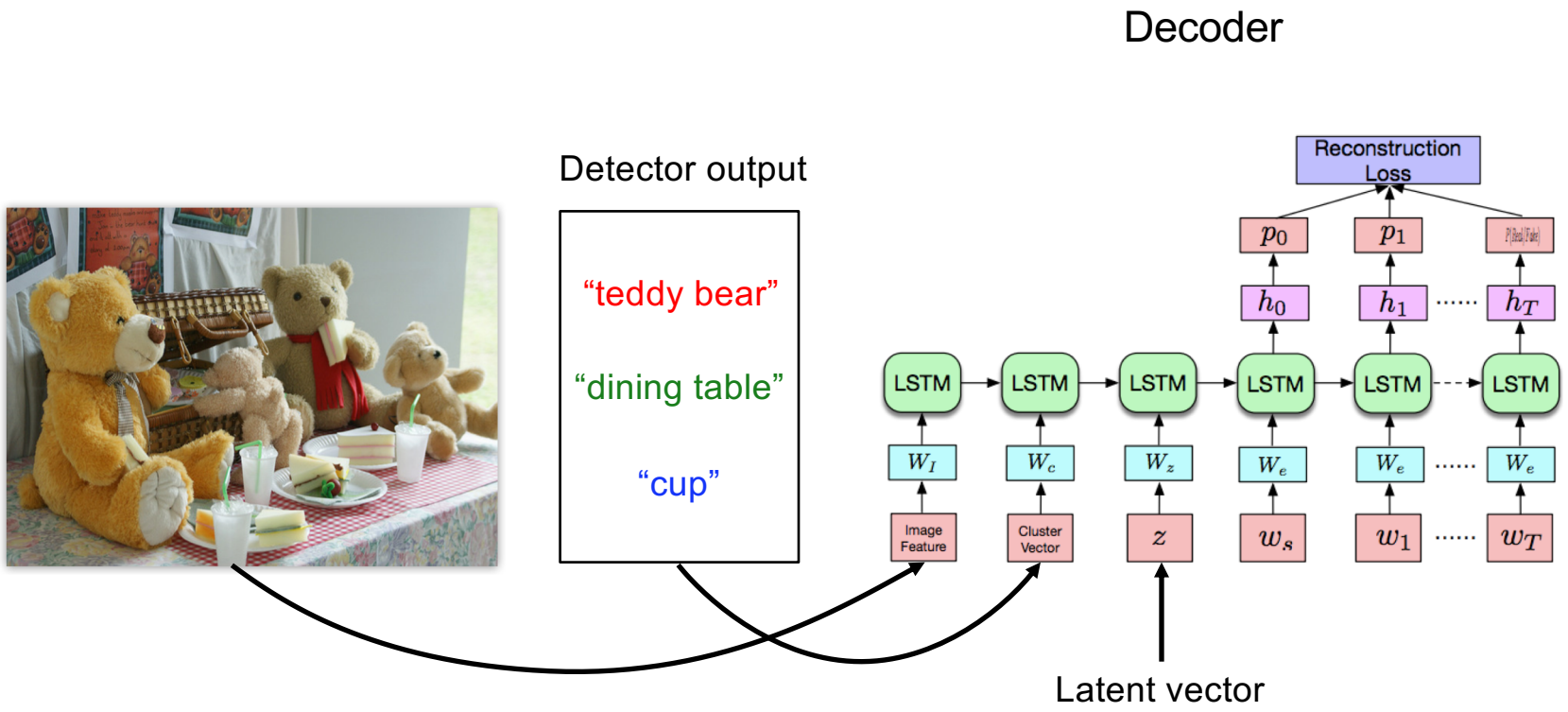
a close up of a plate of food on a white plate

Our method: conditional variational auto-encoder with additive Gaussian space (AG-CVAE)

a close up of a plate of food on a table
a table with a plate of food on it
a plate of food with a sandwich on it
a white plate topped with a plate of food
a plate of food on a table next to a cup of coffee

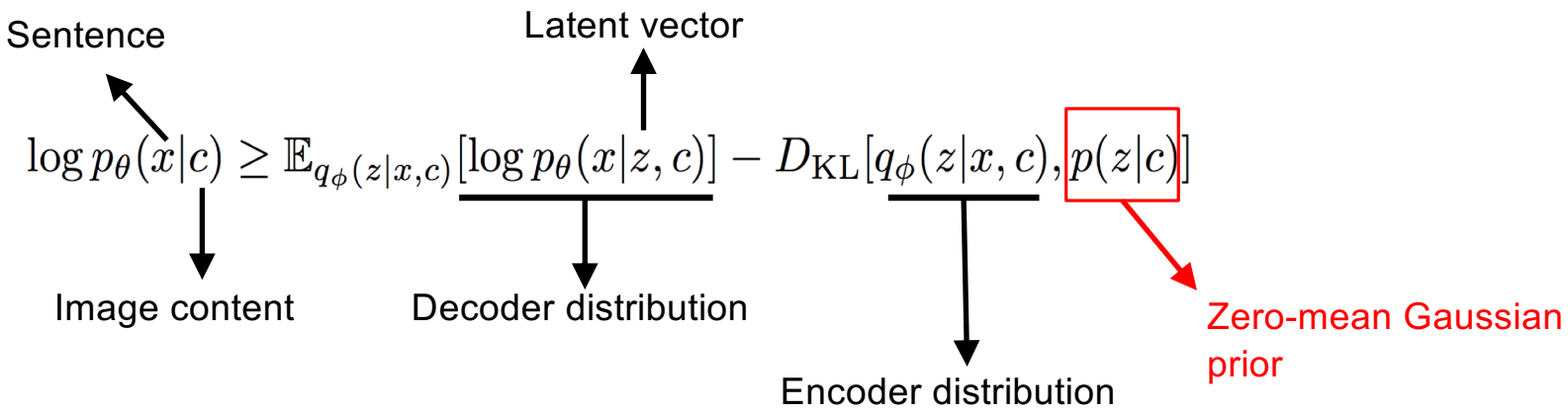
L. Wang, A. Schwing, and S. Lazebnik, Diverse and Accurate Image Description Using a Variational Auto-Encoder with an Additive Gaussian Encoding Space, NeurIPS 2017

CVAE for captioning



CVAE for captioning

Standard CVAE objective:



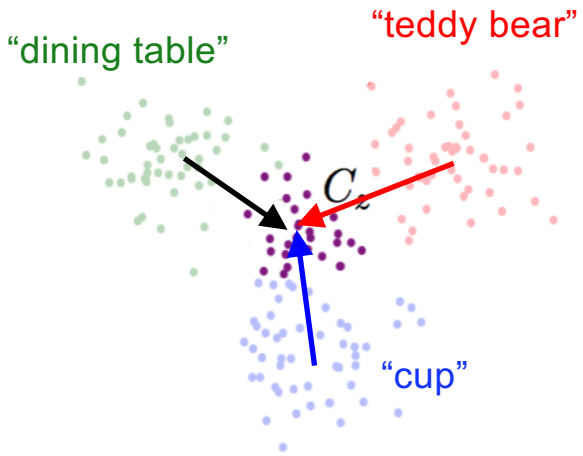
D. Kingma and M. Welling, Auto-encoding variational Bayes, ICLR 2014

CVAE with additive Gaussian prior

Proposed objective: shift prior mean based on image content

$$\max_{\theta,\phi} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \log p_\theta(x^i|z^i,c^i) - D_{\mathrm{KL}}[q_\phi(z|x,c), p(z|c)], \quad \text{s.t. } \forall i \;\; z^i \sim q_\phi(z|x,c).$$

$$p(z|c) = \mathcal{N}\left(z \middle| \sum_{k=1}^{K} c_k \mu_k, \; \sigma^2 \mathrm{I}\right)$$



Results

- More diverse captions that better reflect underlying model uncertainty

Predicted Object Labels:
'person' 'cup' 'donut' 'dining table'

AG-CVAE:
a woman sitting at a table with a cup of coffee
a person sitting at a table with a cup of coffee
a table with two plates of donuts and a cup of coffee
a woman sitting at a table with a plate of coffee
a man sitting at a table with a plate of food

LSTM Baseline:
a close up of a table with two plates of coffee
a close up of a table with a plate of food
a close up of a plate of food on a table
a close up of a table with two plates of food
a close up of a table with plates of food

Results

- More controllable captions: changing the conditioning vector of object labels changes the caption in a reasonable way

Object Labels: 'person'

AG-CVAE sentences:

a man and a woman standing in a room
a man and a woman are playing a game
a man standing next to a woman in a room
a man standing next to a woman in a field
a man standing next to a woman in a suit

Object Labels: 'person', 'remote'

AG-CVAE sentences:

a man and a woman playing a video game
a man and a woman are playing a video game
a man and woman are playing a video game
a man and a woman playing a game with a remote
a woman holding a nintendo wii game controller