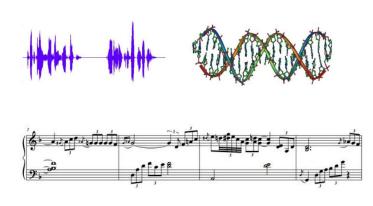
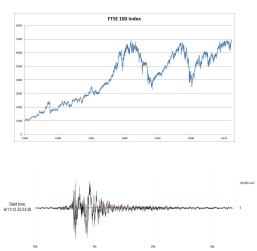
Sequential modeling

### Sequential modeling

Sequential data: Text, Speech, Music, Movies, Stock prices, DNA, Earthquakes, ...







Sequence order is important:

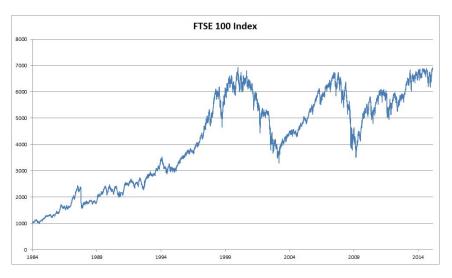
- overall it defines the meaning of the data
- each event in the sequence depends on the previous events

## Sequential modeling: prediction

prices x<sub>t</sub>≥0 at time t

For a trader to do well in the stock market on day t he should want to predict  $x_t$  via  $x_t \sim p(x_t|x_{t-1},...x_1)$ .

Problem: the number of inputs,  $x_{t-1},...x_1$  increases with the amount of data that we encounter



We will need an approximation to make this computationally tractable:

- Autoregressive models: autoregressive models & latent autoregressive models
- Hidden Markov Models

### Sequential modeling: Autoregressive models

#### Two strategies:

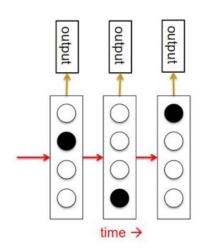
Autoregressive (αυτοπαλινδρόμηση): use only T observations  $x_t p(x_t | x_{t-1}, ... x_{t-T})$ . The number of arguments is always the same. Perform regression on themselves. For discrete objects such as words we use a classifier rather than a regressor.

Latent Autoregressive Models: keep some summary  $h_t$  of the past observations around and update that in addition to the actual prediction. Estimate  $x_t | x_{t-1}, h_{t-1}$  and moreover update  $h_t = g(h_t, x_t)$ . Neural Networks with memoryful hidden layers are LAMs. Moreover the "summary" is the hidden layer status.

### Sequential modeling: Hidden Markov Models

Whenever the approximation  $p(x_t|x_{t-1},...x_{t-T}) = p(x_t|x_{t-1},...x_1)$  is accurate we say that the sequence satisfies a Markov condition. For T=1 we have a first order Markov model.  $p(x_1,...x_T) = \prod_{t=1}^T p(x_t|x_{t-1}).$ 

- Have a discrete one-of-N hidden state.
- Transitions between states are stochastic and controlled by a transition matrix.
- The outputs produced by a state are stochastic.
- Memoryful models, time-cost to infer the hidden state distribution.



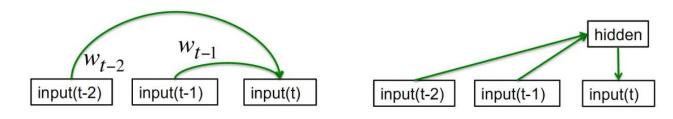
## Sequential modeling: Autoregressive models

Vanilla AR: the output variable depends linearly on its own previous values and on a stochastic term  $X_t = c + \sum_{i=1}^{p} \varphi_i X_{t-i} + \varepsilon_t$ 

where  $\varphi_1, \ldots, \varphi_p$  are the *parameters* of the model, c is a constant, and  $\varepsilon_t$  is white noise.

#### (Deep) Feed-forward NN AR extension

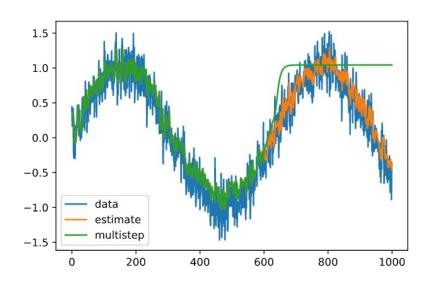
These generalize AR models by using one or more layers of non-linear hidden units. Memoryless models: limited word-memory window; hidden state cannot be used efficiently



### Sequential modeling: Autoregressive FF models

prediction with embedding = 4

$$x_{601} = f(x_{600}, \dots, x_{597}) \ x_{602} = f(x_{601}, \dots, x_{598}) \ x_{603} = f(x_{602}, \dots, x_{599})$$



```
# Vanilla MLP architecture
def get_net():
    net = gluon.nn.Sequential()
    net.add(gluon.nn.Dense(10, activation='relu'))
    net.add(gluon.nn.Dense(10, activation='relu'))
    net.add(gluon.nn.Dense(1))
    net.initialize(init.Xavier())
    return net
```

Poor prediction performance. Deep architecture does not help

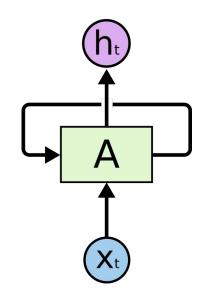
Reason: we use predictions instead of real data and errors build up

Recurrent NN have hidden layers with loops

This loop "summarizes" the past (memoryful)

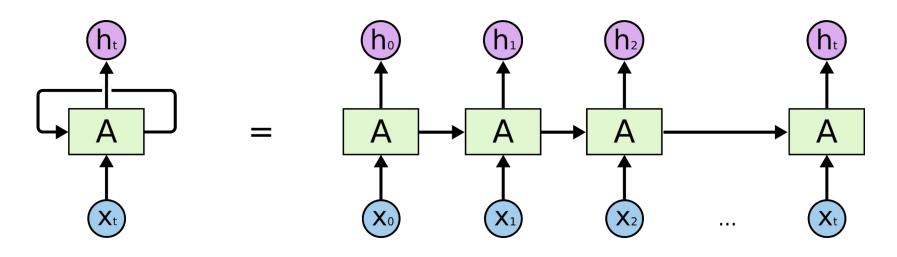
Recurrent -> Ανατροφοδοτούμενα ή Επαναληπτικά

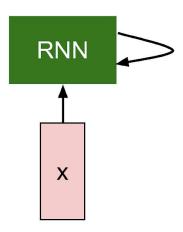
Recurrent NN ≠ Recursive (Αναδρομικά) NN.

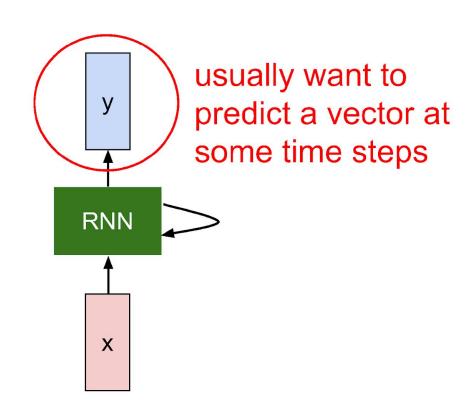


A recursive neural network is more like a hierarchical network where there is really no time aspect to the input sequence but the input has to be processed hierarchically in a tree fashion.

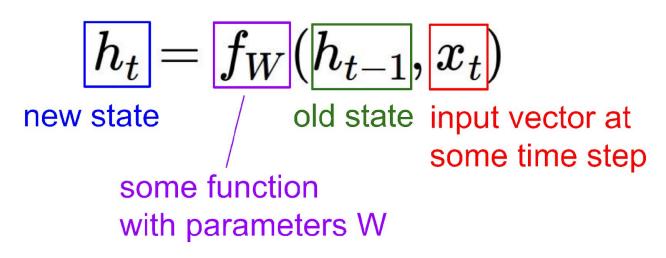
An unrolled Recurrent Neural Network

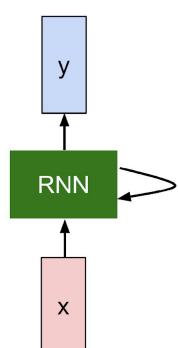






We can process a sequence of vectors **x** by applying a **recurrence formula** at every time step:

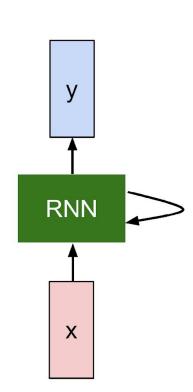




We can process a sequence of vectors **x** by applying a **recurrence formula** at every time step:

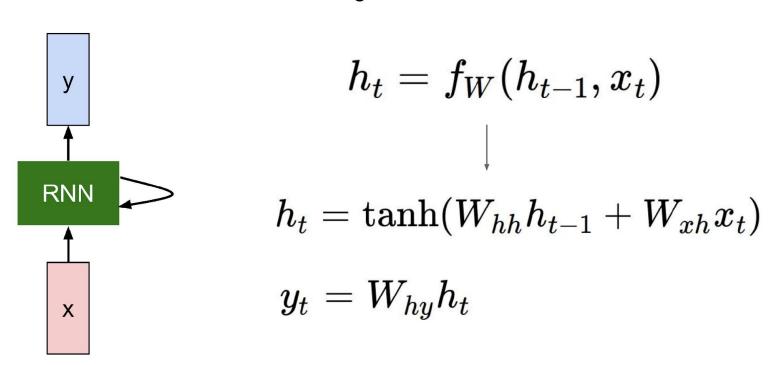
$$h_t = f_W(h_{t-1}, x_t)$$

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 h:

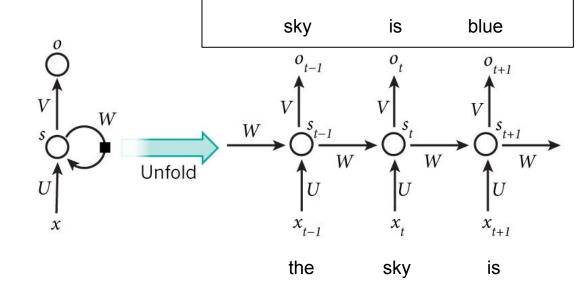


#### A concrete RNN example

Task: learn a language model e.g. predict next word

The diagram shows an unrolled RNN. By unrolling we simply mean that we write out the network for the complete sequence. For example, if the sequence we care about is a sentence of 5 words, the network would be unrolled into a 5-layer neural network, one layer for each word.

Expected output y (supervised training at each time step)



Since the all the weights (U,V,W) are shared for all time steps we can treat sequences (sentences) of different length

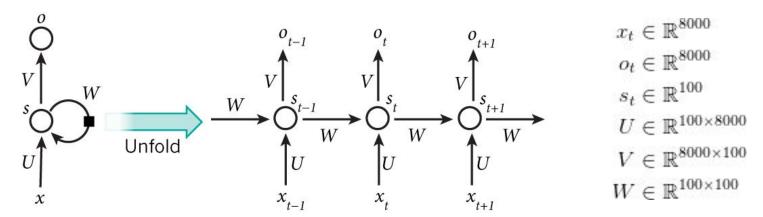
#### A concrete RNN example

- $x_t$  is the input at time step t. For example,  $x_1$  could be a one-hot vector corresponding to the second word of a sentence.
- $s_t$  is the hidden state at time step t. It's the "memory" of the network.  $s_t$  is calculated based on the previous hidden state and the input at the current step:  $s_t = f(Ux_t + Ws_{t-1})$ . The function f usually is a nonlinearity such as tanh or tanh
- $o_t$  is the output at step t. For example, if we wanted to predict the next word in a sentence it would be a vector of probabilities across our vocabulary.  $o_t = \text{softmax}(Vs_t)$ .

#### A concrete RNN example

- Vocabulary size C = 8000
- Hidden layer size H = 100

$$s_t = \tanh(Ux_t + Ws_{t-1})$$
  
$$o_t = \operatorname{softmax}(Vs_t)$$



Total parameters (weights) =  $2HC + H^2$ . In the case of C=8000 and H=100 that's 1,610,000

#### Forward pass

```
s_t = \tanh(Ux_t + Ws_{t-1})
o_t \in \mathbb{R}^{8000}
s_t \in \mathbb{R}^{100}
U \in \mathbb{R}^{100 \times 8000}
V \in \mathbb{R}^{8000 \times 100}
W \in \mathbb{R}^{100 \times 100}
```

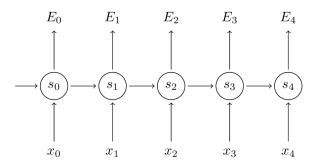
 $x_t \in \mathbb{R}^{8000}$ 

```
def forward_propagation(self, x):
       # The total number of time steps
       T = len(x)
       # During forward propagation we save all hidden states in s because need them later.
       # We add one additional element for the initial hidden, which we set to 0
       s = np.zeros((T + 1, self.hidden_dim))
       s[-1] = np.zeros(self.hidden_dim)
       # The outputs at each time step. Again, we save them for later.
       o = np.zeros((T, self.word_dim))
       # For each time step...
       for t in np.arange(T):
12
           # Note that we are indxing U by x[t]. This is the same as multiplying U with a one-hot vector.
           s[t] = np.tanh(self.U[:,x[t]] + self.W.dot(s[t-1]))
           o[t] = softmax(self.V.dot(s[t]))
       return [o. s]
16
   RNNNumpy.forward_propagation = forward_propagation
```

- We store all states s<sub>t</sub> => longer sentences need more memory.
- At each step we output probabilities for all words in the vocabulary to be the next word => use softmax to get the most probable at each step

$$s_t = \tanh(Ux_t + Ws_{t-1})$$
$$\hat{y}_t = \operatorname{softmax}(Vs_t)$$

We typically treat the full sequence (sentence) as one training example, so the total error is just the sum of the errors at each time step (word).



Error (or loss) e.g. cross-entropy (y: true labels)

$$E_t(y_t, \hat{y}_t) = -y_t \log \hat{y}_t$$

$$E(y, \hat{y}) = \sum_t E_t(y_t, \hat{y}_t)$$

$$= -\sum_t y_t \log \hat{y}_t$$

For SGD we need to calculate the gradients for all the weights V,U,W. Like we sum up the errors, we also sum up the gradients at each time step for one training example:

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial W} = \sum_{t} \frac{\partial E_{t}}{\partial W}$$

$$s_t = \tanh(Ux_t + Ws_{t-1})$$
$$\hat{y}_t = \operatorname{softmax}(Vs_t)$$

To calculate these gradients we use the chain rule of differentiation. We will use  $E_3$  as an example.

For V,  $\frac{\partial E_3}{\partial V}$  only depends on the values at the current time step  $\hat{y}_3, y_3, s_3$  (z<sub>3</sub>=Vs<sub>3</sub>)

$$\frac{\partial E_3}{\partial V} = \frac{\partial E_3}{\partial \hat{y}_3} \frac{\partial \hat{y}_3}{\partial V}$$
$$= \frac{\partial E_3}{\partial \hat{y}_3} \frac{\partial \hat{y}_3}{\partial z_3} \frac{\partial z_3}{\partial V}$$
$$= (\hat{y}_3 - y_3) \otimes s_3$$

For W (and U) the calculation depends on the previous steps  $\frac{\partial E_3}{\partial W} = \frac{\partial E_3}{\partial \hat{y}_3} \frac{\partial \hat{y}_3}{\partial s_3} \frac{\partial s_3}{\partial W}$  but  $s_3 = \tanh(Ux_t + Ws_2)$ 

We need to apply the chain rule again  $\frac{\partial E_3}{\partial W} = \sum_{k=0}^3 \frac{\partial E_3}{\partial \hat{y}_3} \frac{\partial \hat{y}_3}{\partial s_3} \frac{\partial s_3}{\partial s_k} \frac{\partial s_k}{\partial W}$ .  $\frac{\partial s_3}{\partial s_k}$  is a chain rule in itself  $\frac{\partial s_3}{\partial s_1} = \frac{\partial s_3}{\partial s_2} \frac{\partial s_2}{\partial s_1}$  so we can rewrite it as

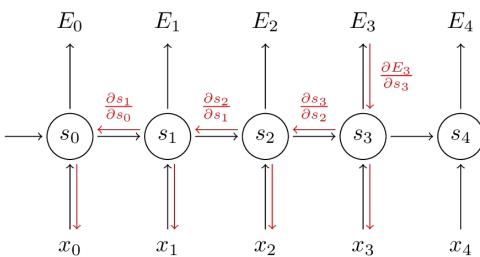
$$\frac{\partial E_3}{\partial W} = \sum_{k=0}^{3} \frac{\partial E_3}{\partial \hat{y}_3} \frac{\partial \hat{y}_3}{\partial s_3} \left( \prod_{j=k+1}^{3} \frac{\partial s_j}{\partial s_{j-1}} \right) \frac{\partial s_k}{\partial W}$$

 $s_t = \tanh(Ux_t + Ws_{t-1})$  $\hat{y}_t = \operatorname{softmax}(Vs_t)$ 

BPTT is just a standard backpropagation on an unrolled RNN with the only difference is that we sum up the gradients for W at each time step.

 $E(y, \hat{y}) = \sum_{t} E_t(y_t, \hat{y}_t)$ 

Because W is used in every step up to the output we care about, we need to backpropagate gradients from t=3 through the network all the way to t=0



[Williams & Zipser 1995]

- We use gradient accumulators for V,W,U
- Bishops delta rule
- In practice many people truncate the backpropagation to a few steps.

```
def bptt(self, x, y):
    T = len(v)
    # Perform forward propagation
   o, s = self.forward_propagation(x)
   # We accumulate the aradients in these variables
   dLdU = np.zeros(self.U.shape)
   dLdV = np.zeros(self.V.shape)
   dLdW = np.zeros(self.W.shape)
    delta_o = o
   delta_o[np.arange(len(y)), y] -= 1.
    # For each output backwards...
   for t in np.arange(T)[::-1]:
        dLdV += np.outer(delta_o[t], s[t],T)
        # Initial delta calculation: dL/dz
        delta_t = self.V.T.dot(delta_o[t]) * (1 - (s[t] ** 2))
        # Backpropagation through time (for at most self.bptt_truncate steps)
        for bptt_step in np.arange(max(0, t-self.bptt_truncate), t+1)[::-1]:
            # print " Backpropagation step t=%d bptt step=%d " % (t, bptt step)
            # Add to gradients at each previous step
            dLdW += np.outer(delta_t, s[bptt_step-1])
            dLdUF: xFbptt step]] += delta t
            # Update delta for next step dL/dz at t-1
            delta_t = self.W.T.dot(delta_t) * (1 - s[bptt_step-1] ** 2)
    return [dLdU, dLdV, dLdW]
```

#### Limitations of RNNs

- In principle, recurrent networks are capable of learning long distance dependencies.
- In practice, standard gradient-based learning algorithms do not perform very well.
  - Bengio et al. (1994) the 'vanishing gradient' problem.
  - Mikolov & Bengio (2013) the 'exploding gradient' problem. "Clipping" solution
  - The gradient is a product of Jacobian matrices, each associated with a step in the forward computation. This can become very small or very large quickly.
- Nevertheless, the repeating cell structure is powerful
- Today, there are several methods available for training recurrent neural networks that avoids these problems.
  - LSTMs, optimisation with small gradients, careful weight initialisations, ...

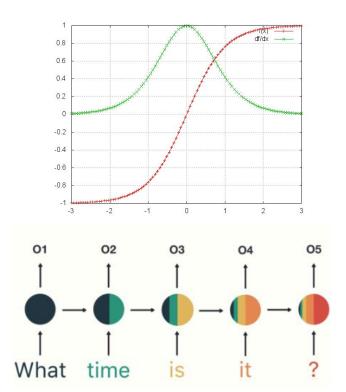
#### The Vanishing Gradient problem

The tanh and sigmoid functions have derivatives of 0 at both ends.

Thus, with small values in the matrix and multiple matrix multiplications the gradient values are shrinking exponentially fast, eventually vanishing completely after a few time steps.

Gradient contributions from "far away" steps become zero, and the state at those steps doesn't contribute to what you are learning: You end up not learning long-range dependencies.

Vanishing gradients aren't exclusive to RNNs. They also happen in deep Feedforward Neural Networks. It's just that RNNs tend to be very deep (as deep as the sentence length in our case), which makes the problem a lot more common.



## Long Short Term Memory networks (LSTM)

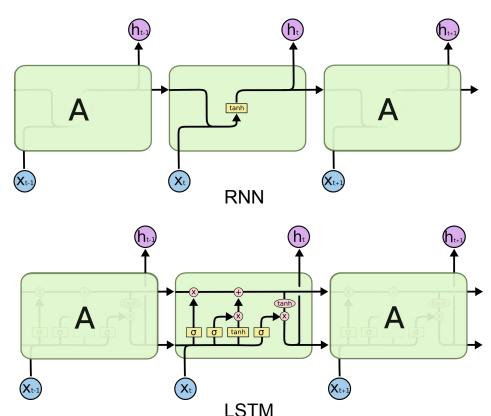
Hochreiter & Schmidhuber (1997)

All recurrent neural networks have the form of a chain of repeating modules of neural network.

In standard RNNs, this repeating module is a single tanh layer.

In LSTMs repeating module has four layers instead of one.





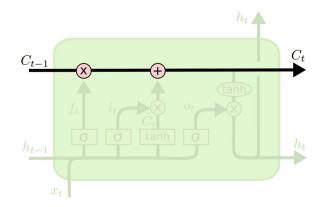
#### The cell state and three gates

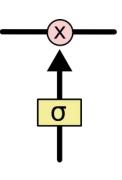
The key to LSTMs is the cell state, the horizontal line running through the top of the diagram. It runs straight down the entire chain, with only some minor linear interactions. It's very easy for information to just flow along it unchanged.

The LSTM does have the ability to remove or add information to the cell state, carefully regulated by structures called gates.

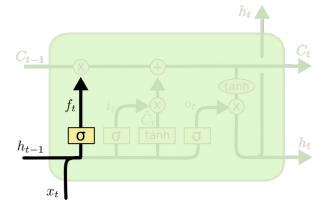
Gates are a way to optionally let information through. They are composed out of a sigmoid neural net layer and a pointwise multiplication operation. The sigmoid layer outputs numbers between zero and one, describing how much of each component should be let through. A value of zero means "let nothing through," while a value of one means "let everything through!"

An LSTM has three of these gates, to protect and control the cell state.





#### Forget gate



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

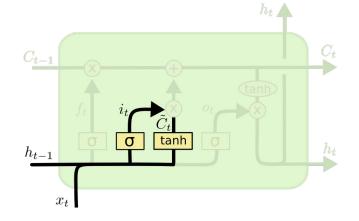
The first step is to decide what information we're going to throw away from the cell state.

This decision is made by a sigmoid layer called the "forget gate layer."

It looks at  $h_{t-1}$  and  $x_t$ , and outputs a number between 0 and 1 for each number in the cell state  $C_{t-1}$ .

A 1 represents "keep this" while a 0 represents "completely get rid of this."

### Input gate



$$i_t = \sigma \left( W_i \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_i \right)$$
  
$$\tilde{C}_t = \tanh(W_C \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_C)$$

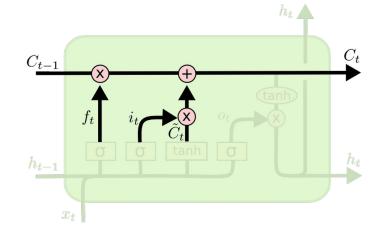
The next step is to decide what new information to store in the cell state. This has two parts:

First, a sigmoid layer called the "input gate layer" decides which values will be updated.

Next, a tanh layer creates a vector of new candidate values,  $C_{t}$ , that could be added to the state.

In the next step, we combine these two to create an update to the state.

# Cell state update



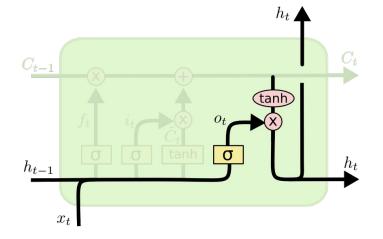
$$C_t = f_t * C_{t-1} + i_t * \tilde{C}_t$$

We now update the old cell state,  $C_{t-1}$ , into the new cell state  $C_t$ .

We multiply the old state by f<sub>t</sub>, forgetting the things we decided to forget earlier.

Then we add  $i_t*C_t$ . This is the new candidate values, scaled by how much we decided to update each state value.

## Output



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

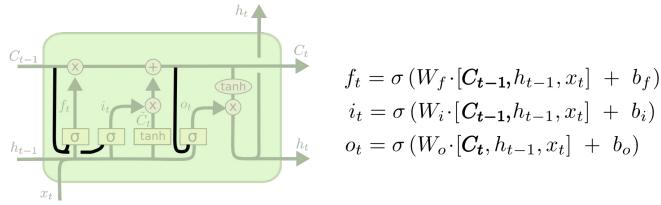
Finally, we decide what we're going to output. This output will be based on our cell state, but will be a filtered version.

First, we run a sigmoid layer over h, which decides what parts of the cell state we're going to output.

Then, we put the cell state through tanh (to push the values to be between −1 and 1) and multiply it by the output of the sigmoid gate, so that we only output the parts we decided to.

Overall weights to learn: W<sub>f</sub>, W<sub>i</sub>, W<sub>c</sub>, W<sub>o</sub>

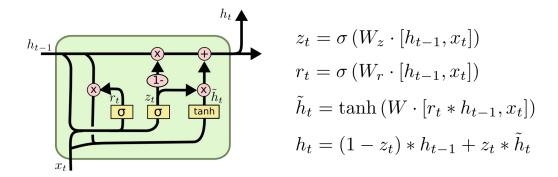
#### Variants: "Peephole" LSTMs



We add "peephole connections." This means that we let the gate layers look at the cell state.

[Gers & Schmidhuber (2000)]

## Variants: Gated Recurrent Unit (GRU)



GRUs combine the forget and input gates into a single "update gate."

It also merges the cell state and hidden state.

The resulting model is simpler than standard LSTM models, and has been growing increasingly popular.

[Cho, et al. (2014)]

• Many more LSTM variants, many hyperparameters, empirical evaluation

#### Deep RNNs and LSTMs

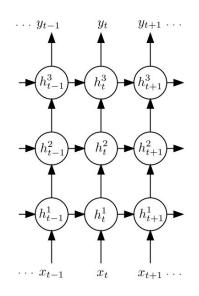
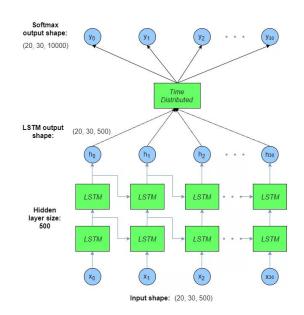


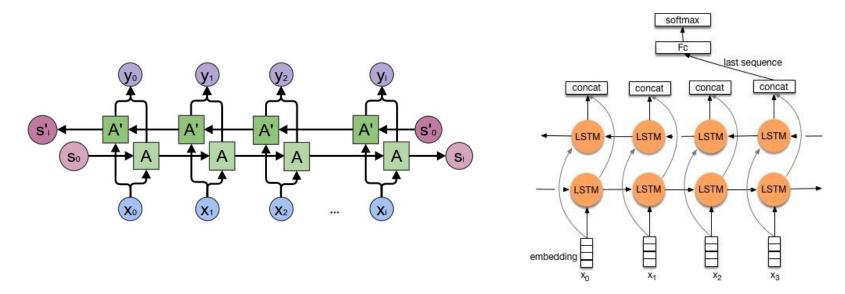
Fig. 3. Deep Recurrent Neural Network



Deep LSTM

- Each layer learns higher level features
- For recurrent architectures the depth is usually low (2-4)

#### Bidirectional RNNs and LSTMs



- We split the input and train two networks in reverse order
- We concatenate the hidden layers outputs at each step to calculate outputs

#### [Graves 2005]

### Applications of sequence modeling: Text Generation

- Input sequence is of same type (words) as output sequence.
- We take a sample of next words and decide with argmax or we take top-k probable words and select one at random or perform random multinomial experiments with the respective probabilities
- Repeat for next word

```
def generate_sentence(model):
    # We start the sentence with the start token
   new_sentence = [word_to_index[sentence_start_token]]
    # Repeat until we get an end token
   while not new_sentence[-1] == word_to_index[sentence_end_token]:
       next_word_probs = model.forward_propagation(new_sentence)
        sampled_word = word_to_index[unknown_token]
        # We don't want to sample unknown words
        while sampled_word == word_to_index[unknown_token]:
            samples = np.random.multinomial(1, next_word_probs[-1])
            sampled_word = np.arqmax(samples)
       new_sentence.append(sampled_word)
   sentence_str = [index_to_word[x] for x in new_sentence[1:-1]]
    return sentence_str
num_sentences = 10
senten_min_length = 7
for i in range(num_sentences):
    sent = []
    # We want long sentences, not sentences with one or two words
   while len(sent) & amp; lt; senten_min_length:
        sent = generate_sentence(model)
   print " " .join(sent)
```

 the RNN hidden layers learn and store the language model

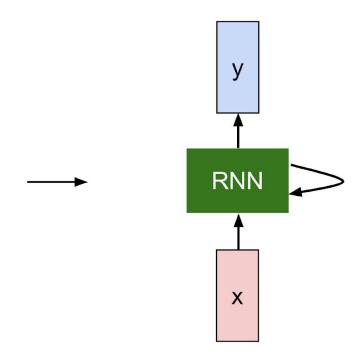
#### THE SONNETS

#### 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 that 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 deserv'd 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. Karpathy: The Unreasonable Effectiveness of Recurrent Neural Networks



character - level generation

at first:

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

"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

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.

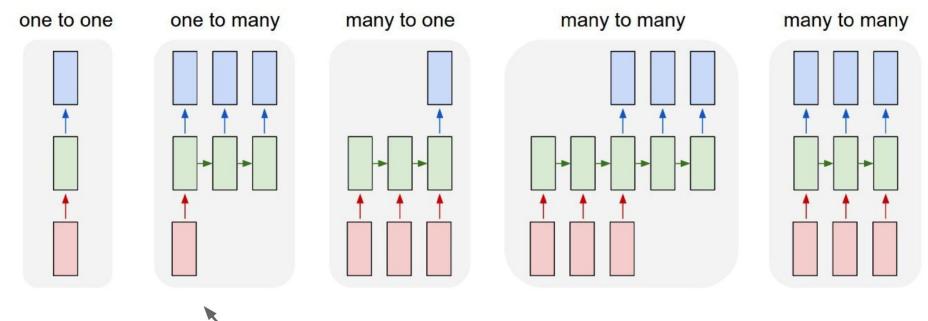
# Applications of sequence modeling

Input can be different modality than the output.

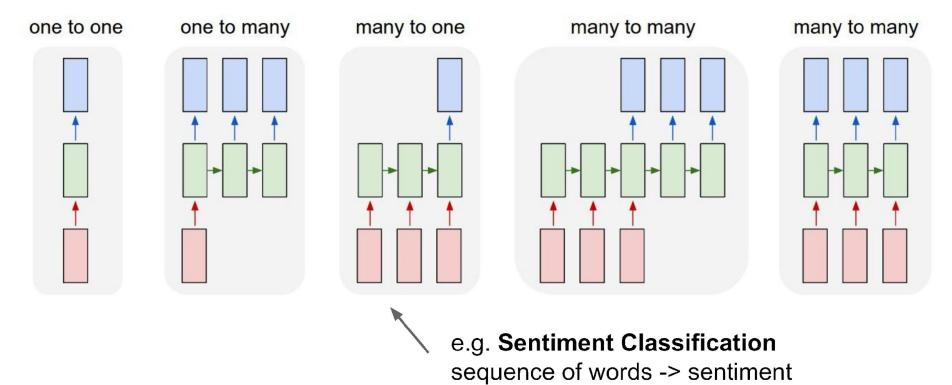
Encode input in hidden state, decode in output

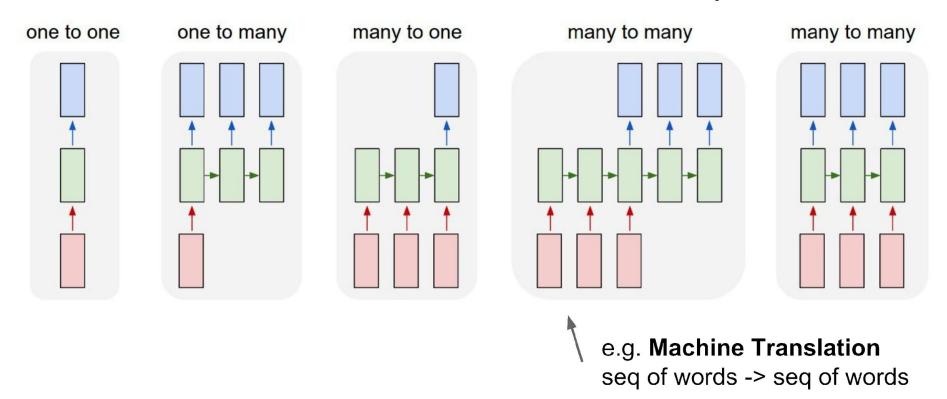
One to many, many to many, many to one schemes

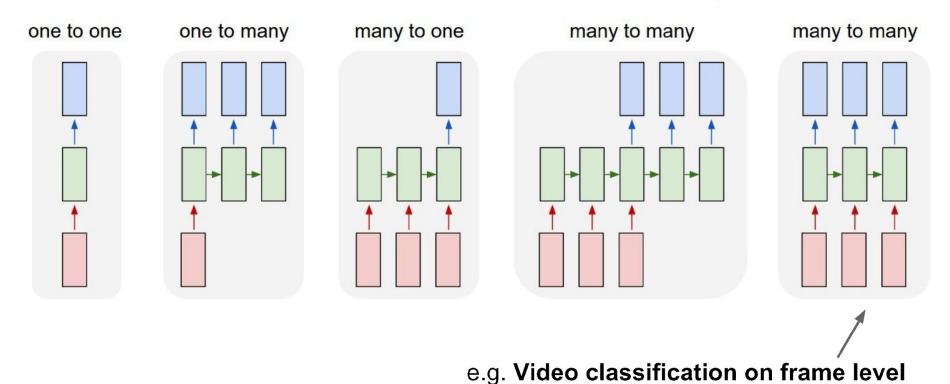
- Image captioning
- Map unsegmented connected handwriting to strings.
- Map sequences of acoustic signals to sequences of phonemes.
- Translate sentences from one language into another one.



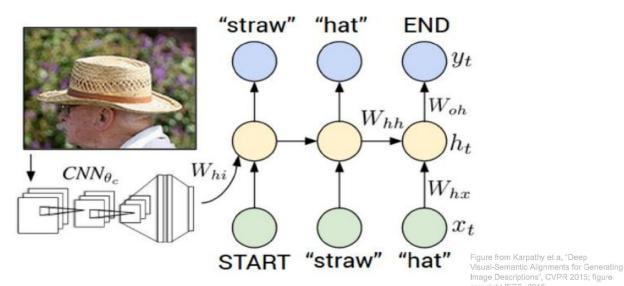
e.g. **Image Captioning** image -> sequence of words







# Image Captioning

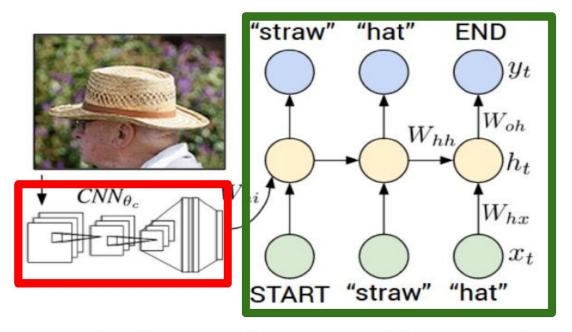


Explain Images with Multimodal Recurrent Neural Networks, Mao et al.

Deep Visual-Semantic Alignments for Generating Image Descriptions, Karpathy and Fei-Fei Show and Tell: A Neural Image Caption Generator, Vinyals et al.

Long-term Recurrent Convolutional Networks for Visual Recognition and Description, Donahue et al. Learning a Recurrent Visual Representation for Image Caption Generation, Chen and Zitnick

## **Recurrent Neural Network**



**Convolutional Neural Network** 



This image is CC0 public domain

## test image

image

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

a pre-trained CNN

image

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

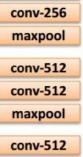


test image



a pre-trained CNN without classification head = a deep features extractor from images

image conv-64 conv-64 maxpool conv-128 conv-128 maxpool conv-256



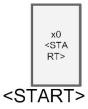
conv-512 maxpool

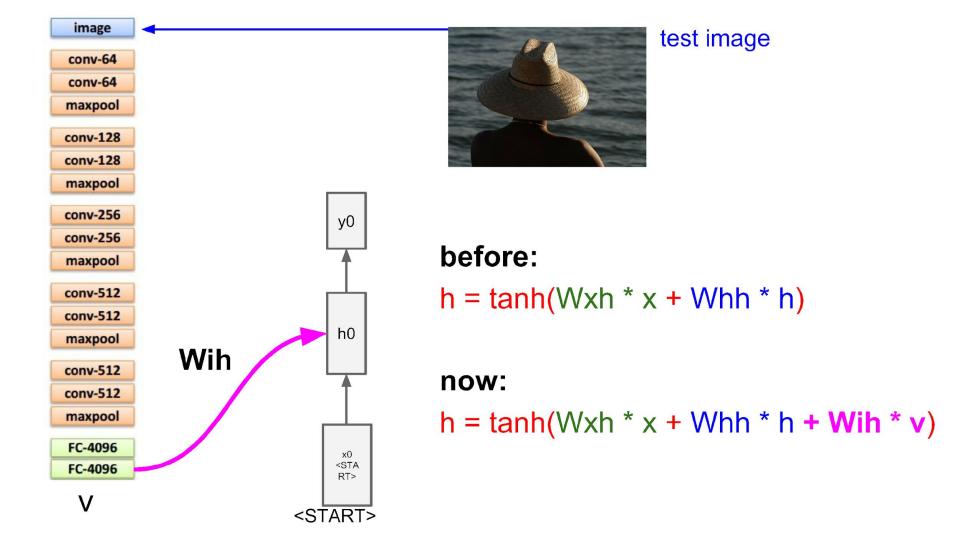
FC-4096

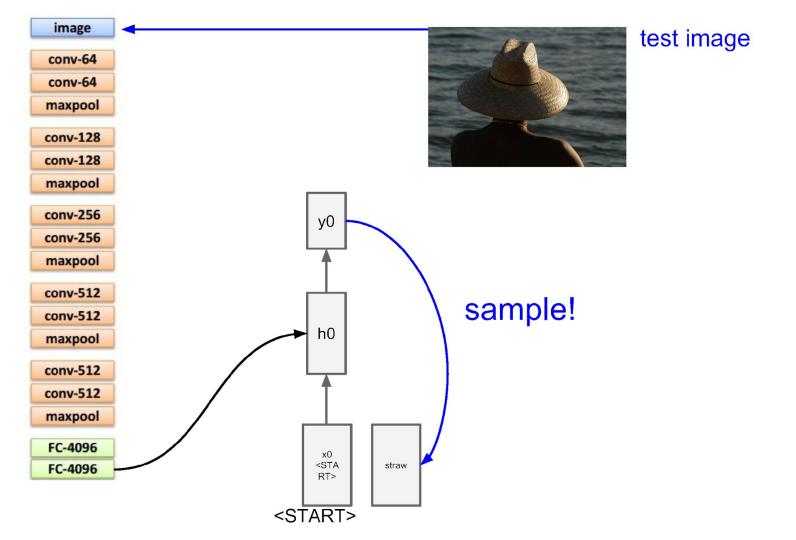
FC-4096

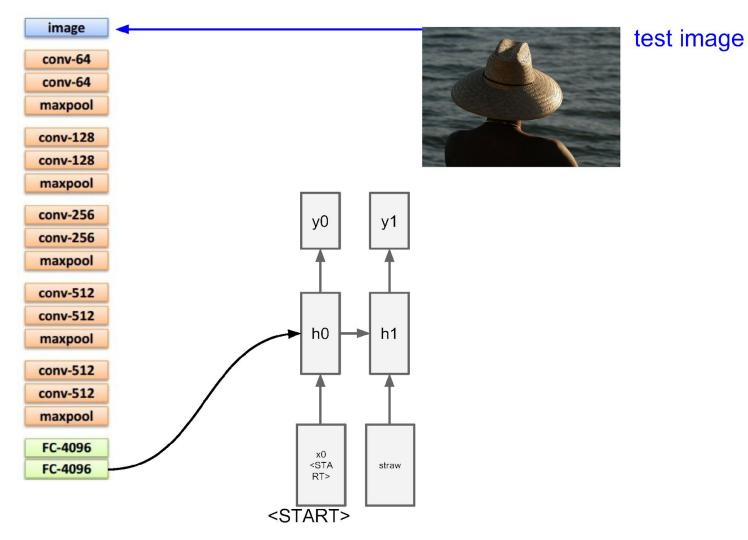


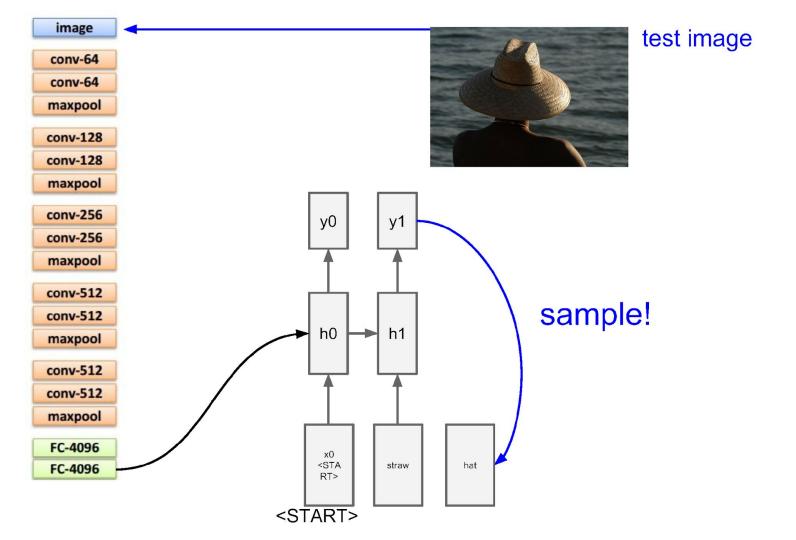
test image

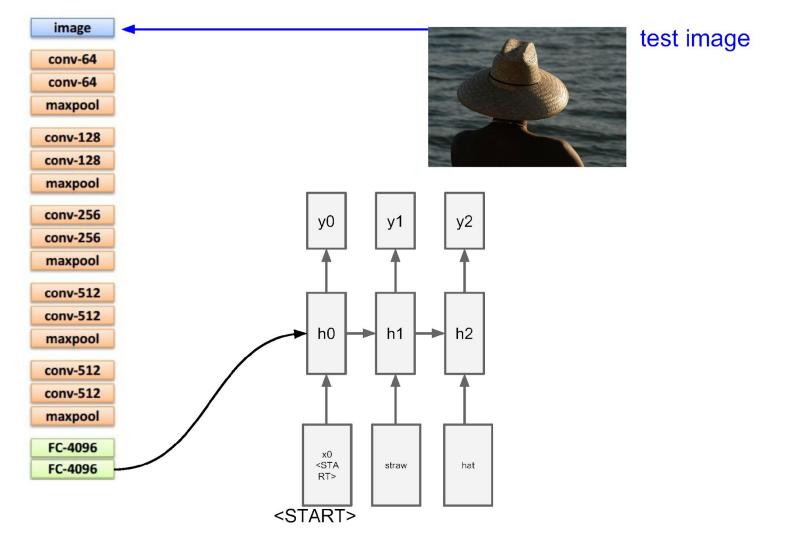


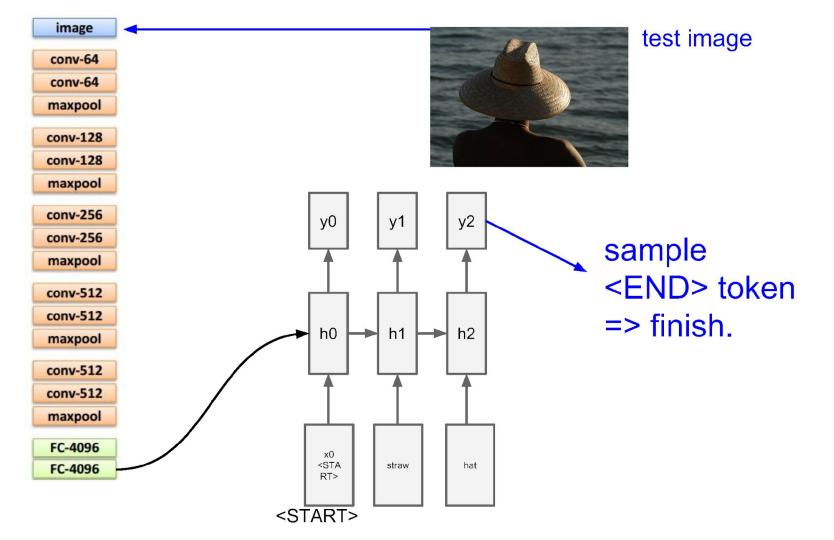












# Image Captioning: Example Results



A cat sitting on a suitcase on the floor



A cat is sitting on a tree branch



A tennis player in action on the court



A dog is running in the grass with a frisbee



Two giraffes standing in a grassy field



A white teddy bear sitting in the grass



A man riding a dirt bike on a dirt track



Two people walking on the beach with surfboards

## Mikolov - Karpathy





Facebook Al Research. Previously Google Brain

Director of AI at Tesla Neural Networks for the Autopilot

## Historical notice

"Simple Recurrent Networks" (SRN) are old

- Elman networks [1990]
- Jordan networks [1997]

#### Elman network

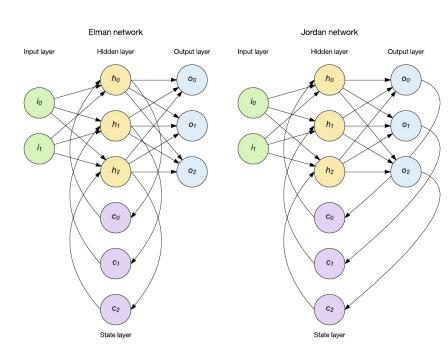
$$egin{aligned} h_t &= \sigma_h(W_h x_t + U_h h_{t-1} + b_h) \ y_t &= \sigma_y(W_y h_t + b_y) \end{aligned}$$

#### Jordan network

$$h_t = \sigma_h(W_h x_t + U_h y_{t-1} + b_h)$$
  
 $y_t = \sigma_y(W_y h_t + b_y)$ 

Variables and functions

- x<sub>t</sub>: input vector
- ht: hidden layer vector
- yt: output vector
- W, U and b: parameter matrices and vector
- $\sigma_h$  and  $\sigma_y$ : Activation function



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