# **RNN Architectures**

# EE807: Recent Advances in Deep Learning

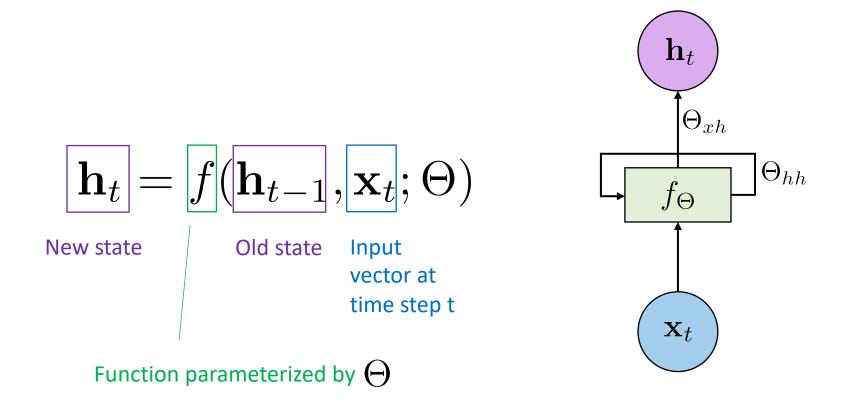
Lecture 4

Slide made by

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**Algorithmic Intelligence Lab** 

 Process a sequence of vectors by applying recurrence formula at every time step :



#### **Recap: Vanilla RNN**

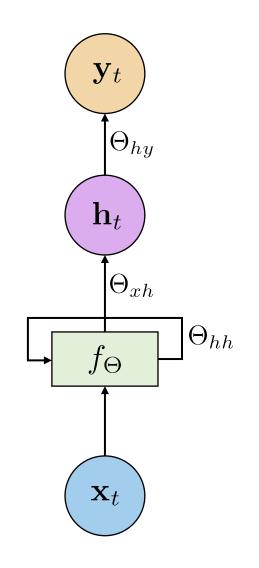
- Simple RNN
  - The state consists of a single "hidden" vector  $\mathbf{h}_t$
  - Vanilla RNN (or sometimes called Elman RNN)

$$\mathbf{h}_{t} = f(\mathbf{h}_{t-1}, \mathbf{x}_{t}; \Theta)$$

$$\downarrow$$

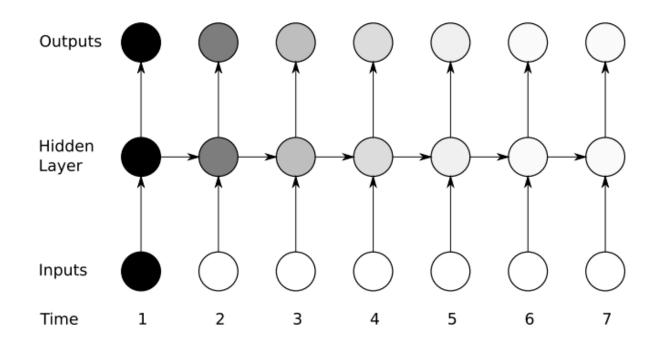
$$\mathbf{h}_{t} = \tanh(\Theta_{hh}\mathbf{h}_{t-1} + \Theta_{xh}\mathbf{x}_{t})$$

$$\mathbf{y}_t = \Theta_{hy} \mathbf{h}_t$$

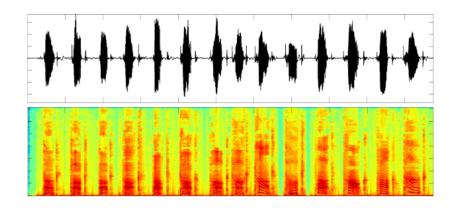


# Why do we develop RNN architectures?

- For vanilla RNN, it is difficult to capture long-term dependency
- Vanishing gradient problem in vanilla RNN
  - The gradient vanishes over time
  - Which relates to optimization difficulties in CNN



- Many real-world temporal data is intrinsically long-term
  - Natural language
  - Speech
  - Video



• In order to solve much complicated **real-world problems** we need a better RNN architecture to capture **long-term dependency** in the data

# 1. RNN Architectures and Comparisons

- LSTM (Long Short-Term Memory) and their variants
  - GRU (Gated Recurrent Unit)
  - Stacked LSTM
  - Grid LSTM
  - Bi-directional LSTM

# 2. Breakthroughs of RNNs in Machine Translation

- Sequence to Sequence Learning with Neural Networks
- Neural Machine Translation with Attention
- Google's Neural Machine Translation (GNMT)
- Transformer (self-attention) and BERT

# 3. Overcoming the heavy computations of RNNs

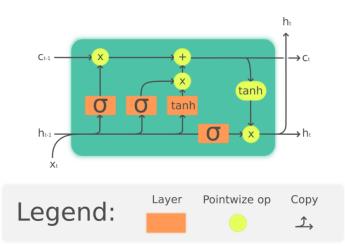
- Convolutional Sequence to Sequence Learning
- Exploring Sparsity in Recurrent Neural Networks

# 1. RNN Architectures and Comparisons

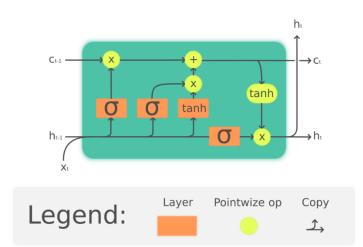
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### Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM)

- A special type of RNN unit
  - i.e., LSTM networks = RNN composed of LSTM units
- Originally proposed by [Hochreiter and Schmidhuber, 1997]
- Explicitly designed RNN to
  - Capture long-term dependency
  - More robust to vanishing gradient problem
- Composed of a cell, an input gate, an output gate, and a forget gate (will be covered in detail soon)



- A very old model, but why so popular?
  - Popularized by series of following works [Graves et al, 2013][Sutskever et al., 2014], ...
  - Work very well in variety of problems
    - Speech recognition
    - Machine translation
    - ...

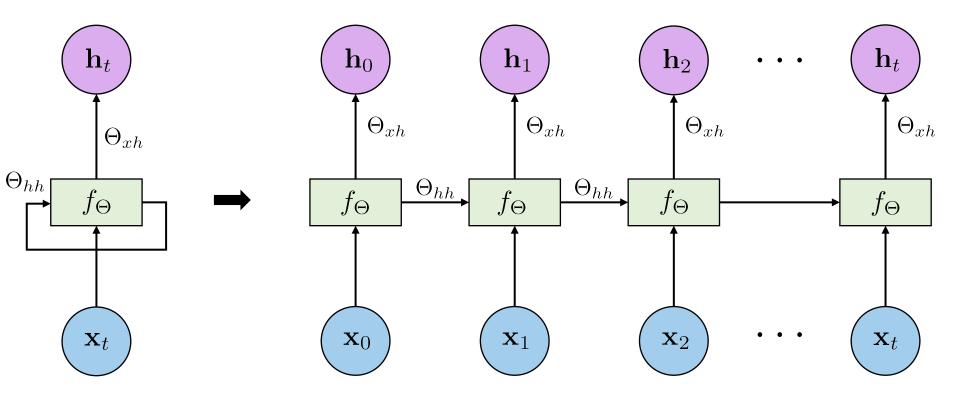


Next, comparison with Vanilla RNN

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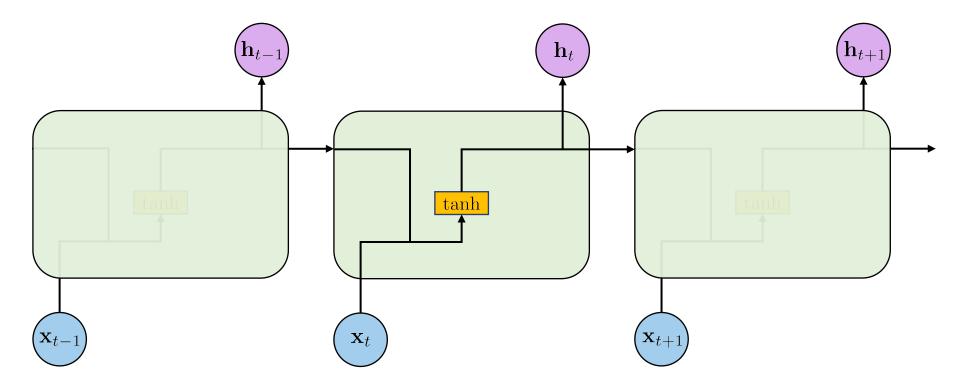
\*source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Long\_short-term\_memory#/media/File:The\_LSTM\_cell.png 9

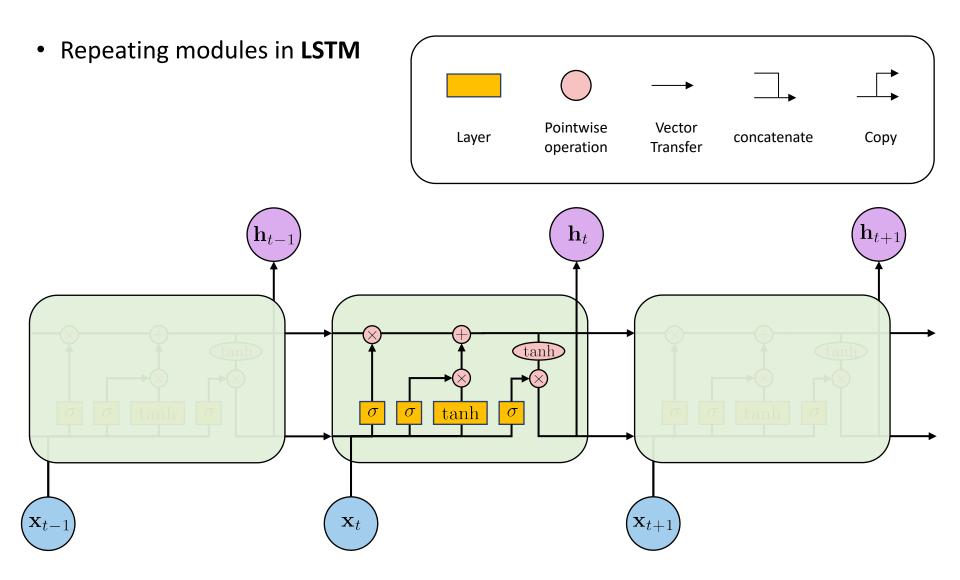
• Vanilla RNN (unrolled)



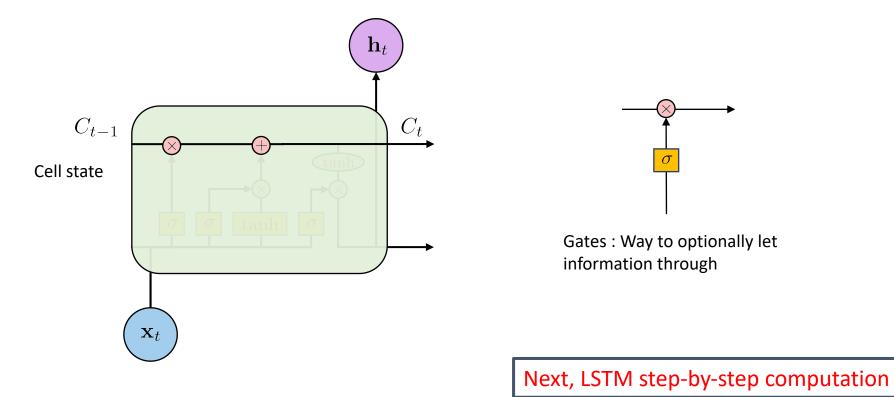
• Repeating modules in Vanilla RNN contains a single layer

$$\mathbf{h}_t = \tanh(\Theta_{hh}\mathbf{h}_{t-1} + \Theta_{xh}\mathbf{x}_t)$$





- The core idea behind LSTM
  - Able to control how much information to preserve from previous state
  - The horizontal line running through the top of the diagram (i.e., the **cell state** or **memory**)
    - Only linear interactions from the output of each "gates" (prevent vanishing gradient)
    - Control how much to remove or add information to the cell state

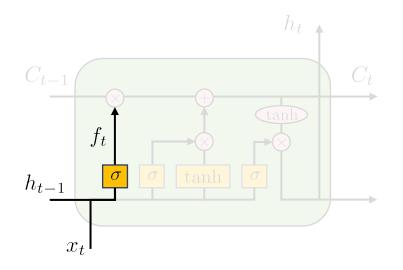


\*reference: http://colah.github.io/posts/2015-08-Understanding-LSTMs/ 13

### **RNN Architectures: LSTM**

Step 1 : Decide what **information** we're going to **throw away** from the **cell state** 

- A sigmoid layer called "Forget gate"  $f_t$
- Looks at  $h_{t-1}, x_t$  and outputs a number between 0 and 1 for each cell state  $C_{t-1}$ 
  - If 1: completely keep, if 0: completely remove
- e.g., language model trying to predict the next word based on all previous ones
  - The cell state might include the gender of the present subject
  - so that the correct pronouns can be used
  - When we see a new subject, we want to forget the gender of the old subject

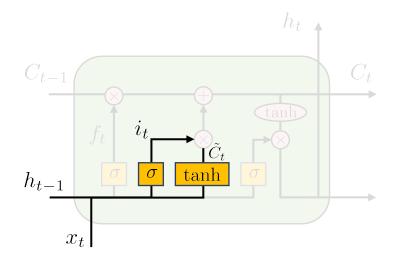


$$f_t = \sigma(W_f \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_f)$$

### **RNN Architectures: LSTM**

Step 2 : Decide what information we're going to store in the cell state and update

- First, a sigmoid layer called the "Input gate"  $i_t$  decides which values to update
- Next, a tanh layer creates a vector of new candidate values  $\hat{C}_t$

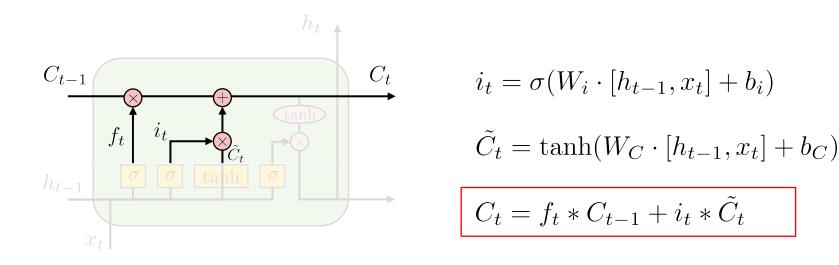


$$i_t = \sigma(W_i \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_i)$$
$$\tilde{C}_t = \tanh(W_C \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_C)$$

#### **RNN Architectures: LSTM**

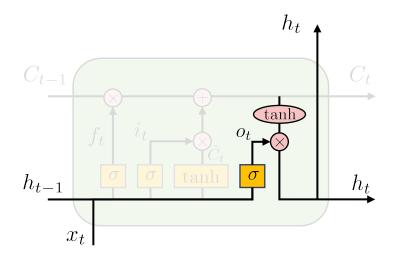
Step 2 : Decide what **information** we're going to **store** in the cell state and **update** 

- First, a sigmoid layer called the "Input gate"  $i_t$  decides which values to update
- Next, a tanh layer creates a vector of new candidate values  $C_t$
- Then, update the old cell state  $C_{t-1}$  into the new cell state  $C_t$ 
  - Multiply the old state by  $f_t$
  - Add  $i_t * \hat{C}_t$  , new candidate values scaled by how much to update



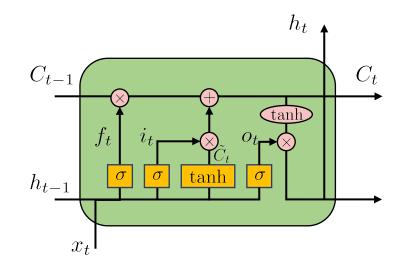
Step 3 : Decide what we're going to **output** 

- A sigmoid layer called "Output gate"  $o_t$
- First go through  $o_t$  which decides what parts of the cell state to output
- Then, put the cell state  $C_t$  through tanh (push the values to be between -1 and 1) and multiply it by  $o_t$



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

• Overall LSTM operations



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

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

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

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

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

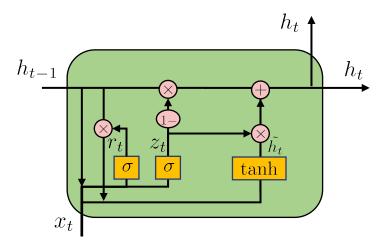
$$h_t = o_t * \tanh(C_t)$$

Standard LSTM



\*reference: http://colah.github.io/posts/2015-08-Understanding-LSTMs/ 18

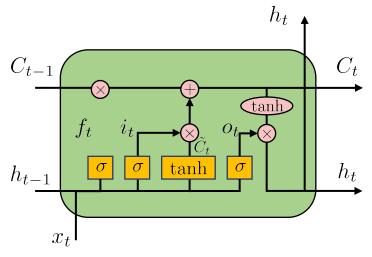
- Gated Recurrent Unit (GRU) [Cho et.al, 2014]
  - Combines the forget and input gates into a single "update gate"  $z_t$ 
    - Controls the ratio of information to keep between previous state and new state
  - **Reset gate**  $r_t$  controls how much information to forget
  - Merges the cell state  $C_t$  and hidden state  $h_t$
  - (+) Resulting in simpler model (less weights) than standard LSTM



$$z_t = \sigma(W_z \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t])$$
$$r_t = \sigma(W_r \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t])$$
$$\tilde{h}_t = \tanh(W \cdot [r_t * h_{t-1}, x_t])$$
$$h_t = (1 - z_t) * h_{t-1} + z_t * \tilde{h}_t$$

#### Gated Recurrent Unit

Standard LSTM



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

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

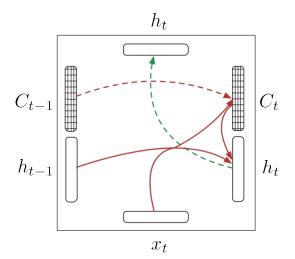
$$\tilde{C}_t = \tanh(W_C \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_C)$$
  

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

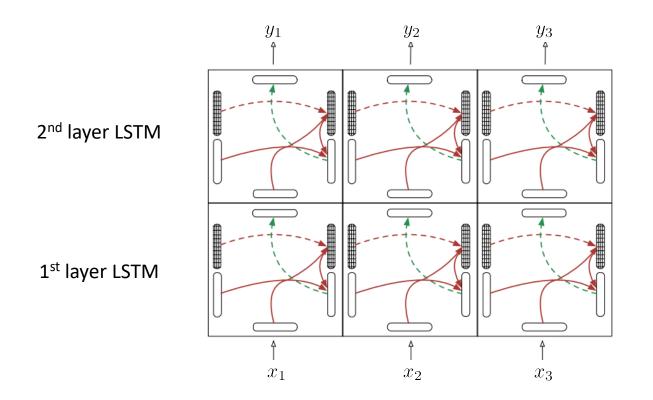
$$o_t = \sigma(W_o \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_o)$$
  

$$h_t = o_t * \tanh(C_t)$$

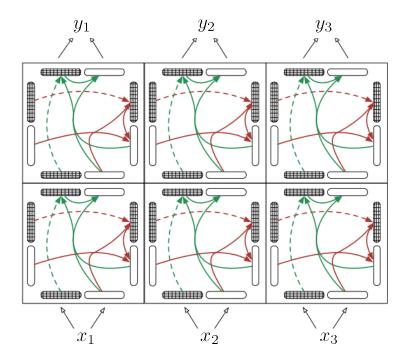
- With simplified diagram
  - C : cell state (or memory)
  - h : hidden state (or output)
  - Dashed line indicates identity transformation

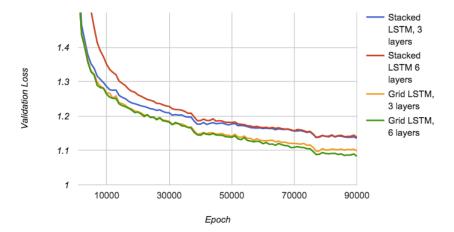


- Stacked LSTM [Graves et al, 2013]
  - Adds capacity by simply stacking LSTM layers on top of each other
  - Output of 1<sup>st</sup> layer LSTM goes into 2<sup>nd</sup> layer LSTM as an input
  - But no vertical interactions



- Grid LSTM [Kalchbrenner et al., 2016]
  - Extended version of stacked LSTM
  - LSTM units have memory connections along depth dimension as well as temporal dimension





	BPC	Parameters	Alphabet Size	Test data
Stacked LSTM (Graves, 2013)	1.67	27M	205	last 4MB
MRNN (Sutskever et al., 2011)	1.60	4.9M	86	last 10MB
GFRNN (Chung et al., 2015)	1.58	20M	205	last 5MB
Tied 2-LSTM	1.47	16.8M	205	last 5MB

Performance on wikipedia dataset (lower the better)

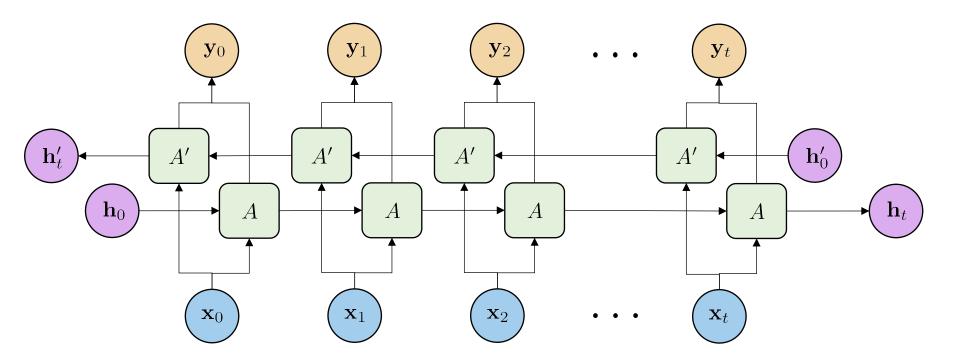
2D Grid LSTM

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- What is the limitation of all previous models?
  - They learn representations only from **previous** time steps
  - Useful to learn **future** time steps in order to
    - Better understand the context
    - Eliminate ambiguity
- Example
  - "He said, Teddy bears are on sale"
  - "He said, Teddy Roosevelt was a great President"
  - In above two sentences, only seeing previous words is not enough to understand the sentence
- Solution
  - Also look ahead → Bidirectional RNNs

# **RNN Architectures: Bidirectional RNNs**

- We can also extend RNNs into bi-directional models
  - The repeating blocks A could be **any types of RNNS** (Vanilla RNN, LSTM, or GRU)
  - The only difference is that there are additional paths from future time steps



Next, Comparison of Variants

- Which architecture is the best?
  - There is no clear winner; it **depends largely on the task**
  - More empirical exploration of RNNs can be found here [Jozefowicz et al., 2015]

Model	Advantages	Disadvantages	
LSTM	<ul> <li>Capable of modeling long-term sequential dependencies better than simple RNN</li> <li>More robust to vanishing gradients than simple RNN</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Increases computational complexity</li> <li>Higher memory requirement than RNN due to multiple memory cells</li> </ul>	
Stacked LSTM	<ul> <li>Models long-term sequential dependencies due to deeper architecture</li> </ul>	- Higher memory requirement and computational complexity than LSTM due to stack of LSTM cells	
Bidirectional LSTM	- Predicts both in the future and past context of the input sequence better than LSTM	- Increases computational complexity than LSTM	
GRU	<ul> <li>Capable of modeling long-term sequential</li> <li>dependencies</li> <li>Less memory requirements than LSTM</li> </ul>	- Higher <b>computational complexity</b> and <b>memory</b> <b>requirements</b> than RNN due to multiple hidden state vectors	
Grid LSTM	- Models multidimensional sequences with increased grid size	- Higher memory requirement and computational complexity than LSTM due to multiple recurrent connections	

# **Table of Contents**

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# 2. Breakthroughs of RNNs in Machine Translation

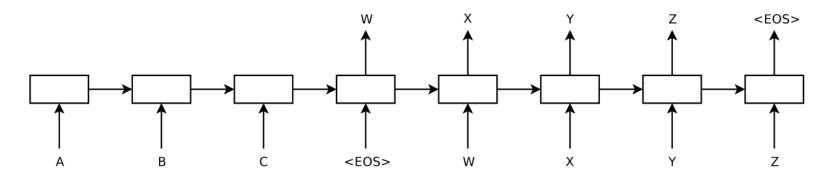
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- What is machine translation?
  - Task of automatically converting source text in one language to another language
  - No single answer due to ambiguity/flexibility of human language (challenging)



- Classical machine translation methods
  - Rule-based machine translation (RBMT)
  - Statistical machine translation (SMT; use of statistical model)
- Neural Machine Translation (NMT)
  - Use of **neural network models to learn a statistical model** for machine translation

- Difficulties in Neural Machine Translation
  - Intrinsic difficulties of MT (ambiguity of language)
  - Variable length of input and output sequence (difficult to learn a single model)
- The core idea of sequence-to-sequence model [Sutskever et al., 2014]
  - Encoder-Decoder architecture (input → vector → output)
  - Use one RNN network (Encoder) to **read input sequence** at a time to obtain large **fixed-length vector representation**
  - Use another RNN (Decoder) to extract the output sequence from that vector



Input sequence "ABC" and output sequence "WXYZ"

- Encoder
  - Reads the input sentence, a sequence of vectors  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_T)$  into a vector c
  - Use RNNs such that  $h_t = f(x_t, h_{t-1})$  and  $c = q(\{h_1, \ldots, h_T\})$ , where f and q are some non-linear functions
  - LSTMs as f and  $q(\{h_1, \ldots, h_T\}) = h_T$  (in the original seq2seq model)
- Decoder
  - Trained to predict the next word  $y_{t'}$  given the context vector c and the previously predicted words  $\{y_1, \ldots, y_{t'-1}\}$
  - Defines a probability over the translation  ${\bf y}$  by decomposing the joint probability into the ordered conditionals:

$$p(\mathbf{y}) = \prod_{t=1}^{T} p(y_t | \{y_1, \dots, y_{t'-1}\}, c),$$

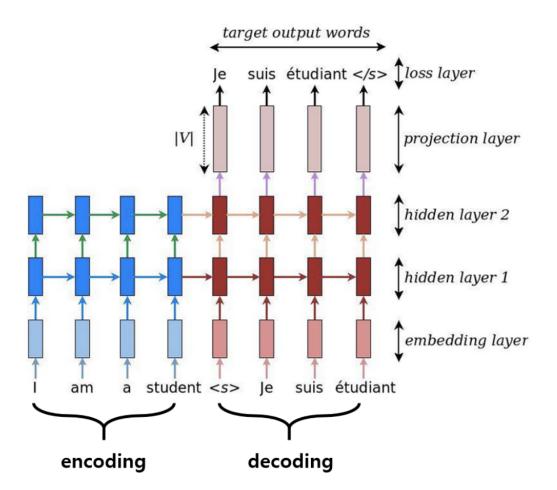
where  $y = (y_1, ..., y_T)$ .

• The conditional probability is modeled as

$$p(y_t|\{y_1,\ldots,y_{t'-1}\},c) = g(y_{t-1},s_t,c),$$

where g is a nonlinear, potentially multi-layered function that outputs the probability of  $y_t$  and  $s_t$  is the hidden state of the RNN

- Example of the seq2seq model
  - For English  $\rightarrow$  French task
  - With 2-layer LSTM for encoder and encoder



- Results on WMT'14 English to French dataset
  - Measure : BLEU(Bilingual Evaluation Understudy) score
    - Widely used quantitative measure for MT task
  - On par with the state-of-the-art SMT system (without any neural network)
  - Achieved better results than the previous baselines

Method	test BLEU score (ntst14)
Baseline System [29]	33.30
Cho et al. [5]	34.54
State of the art [9]	37.0
Rescoring the baseline 1000-best with a single forward LSTM	35.61
Rescoring the baseline 1000-best with a single reversed LSTM	35.85
Rescoring the baseline 1000-best with an ensemble of 5 reversed LSTMs	36.5
Oracle Rescoring of the Baseline 1000-best lists	~45

• Simple but very powerful in MT task



# **Breakthroughs in NMT: Joint Learning to Align and Translate**

- NMT by Joint Learning to Align and Translate [Bahdanau et al., 2015]
- Problem of original encoder-decoder (or seq2seq) model
  - Need to compress all the necessary information of a source sentence into a fixed-length vector
  - Very **difficult to cope with long sentences**, especially when the test sequence is longer than the sentences in the training corpus
- Extension of encoder-decoder model + **attention** mechanism
  - Encode input sentence into a sequence of vectors
  - And chooses a subset of these vectors adaptively while decoding the translation
  - Frees the neural network model from having to squash all the information into a single fixed-length vector

• Define each conditional probability as:

$$p(y_i|\{y_1,\ldots,y_{i-1}\},\mathbf{x}) = g(y_{i-1},s_i,c_i),$$

where  $s_i$  is an RNN hidden state for time *i* computed by  $s_i = f(s_{i-1}, y_{i-1}, c_i)$ .

- Distinct context vector  $c_i$  for each target word  $y_i$
- The context vector  $c_i$  is computed as weighted sum of  $h_i$

$$c_i = \sum_{j=1}^T \alpha_{ij} h_j.$$

• The weight  $\alpha_{ij}$  of each  $h_j$  is computed by

$$\alpha_{ij} = \frac{exp(e_{ij})}{\sum_{k=1}^{T} exp(e_{ik})},$$

where  $e_{ij} = a(s_{i-1}, h_j)$  is an alignment model which scores **how well the inputs** around position j and the **output** position i **match**.

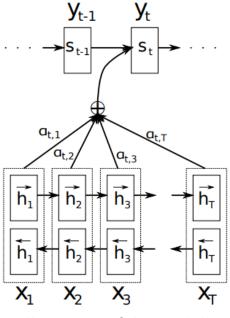
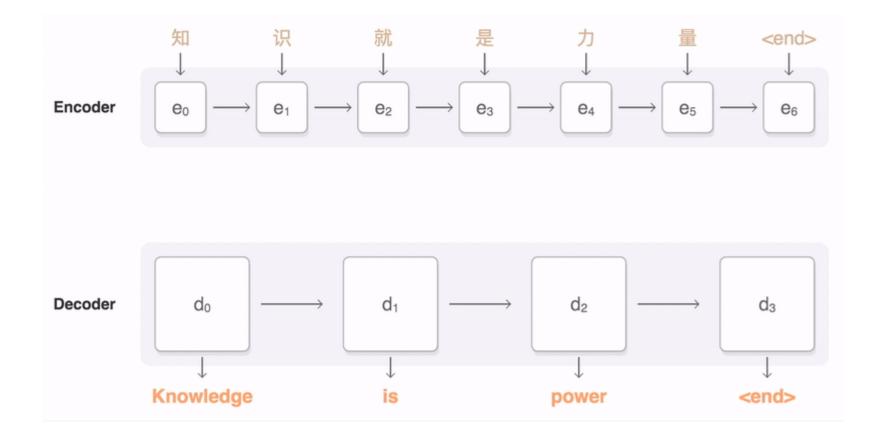


Illustration of the model

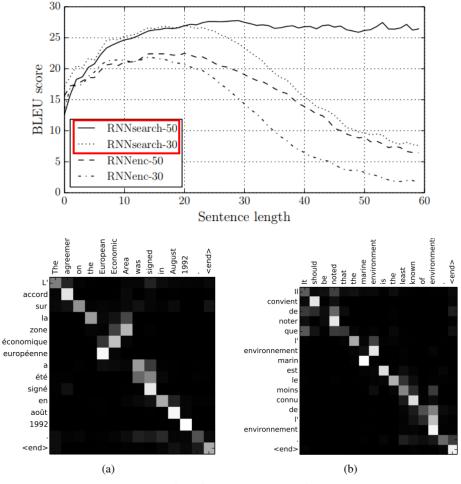
# **Breakthroughs in NMT: Joint Learning to Align and Translate**

- Graphical illustration of seq2seq with attention
  - e.g., Chinese to English



# **Breakthroughs in NMT: Joint Learning to Align and Translate**

- Results
  - RNNsearch (proposed) is better than RNNenc (vanilla seq2seq)
  - RNNsearch-50: model trained with sentences of length up to 50 words

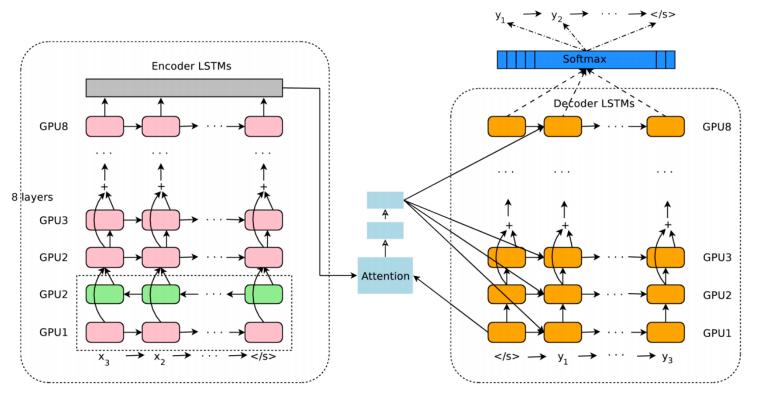


Next, Google's NMT

Sample alignment results

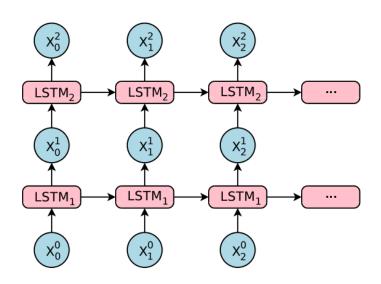
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- Google's NMT [Wu et al., 2016]
  - Improves over previous NMT systems on accuracy and speed
  - 8-layer LSTMS for encoder/decoder with attention
  - Achieve model parallelism by assigning each LSTM layer into different GPUs
  - Add residual connections in standard LSTM
  - ... and lots of domain-specific details to apply it to production model

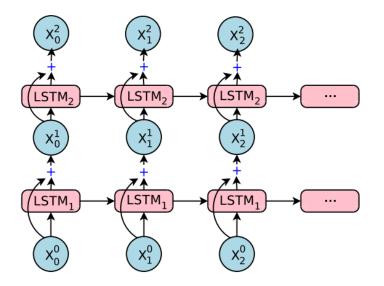


# **Google's Neural Machine Translation (GNMT)**

- Adding residuals connections in stacked LSTM
  - In practice, LSTM has also problem of **vanishing gradient** when stacking more layers
  - Empirically, 4-layer works okay, 6-layer has problem, 8-layer does not work at all
  - Apply residual connections with 8-layer stacked LSTM worked best



Standard stacked LSTM



Stacked LSTM with residual connections

- Results
  - State-of-the-art results on various MT datasets
  - Also comparable with Human expert

		3
Model	BLEU	CPU decoding time
		per sentence (s)
Word	23.12	0.2972
Character $(512 \text{ nodes})$	22.62	0.8011
WPM-8K	23.50	0.2079
WPM-16K	24.36	0.1931
WPM-32K	24.61	0.1882
Mixed Word/Character	24.17	0.3268
PBMT [6]	20.7	
RNNSearch [37]	16.5	
RNNSearch-LV [37]	16.9	
RNNSearch-LV [37]	16.9	
Deep-Att $[45]$	20.6	

#### Table 5: Single model results on WMT En $\rightarrow$ De (newstest2014)

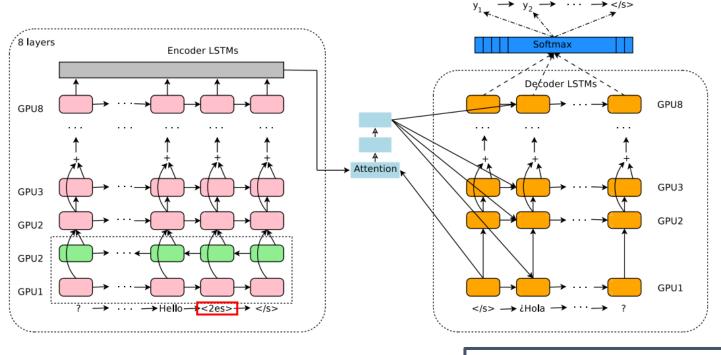
Table 10: Mean of side-by-side scores on production data

	PBMT	GNMT	Human	Relative
				Improvement
$\mathrm{English} \to \mathrm{Spanish}$	4.885	5.428	5.504	87%
$\mathrm{English} \to \mathrm{French}$	4.932	5.295	5.496	64%
English $\rightarrow$ Chinese	4.035	4.594	4.987	58%
$\text{Spanish} \to \text{English}$	4.872	5.187	5.372	63%
French $\rightarrow$ English	5.046	5.343	5.404	83%
$\mathbf{Chinese} \to \mathbf{English}$	3.694	4.263	4.636	60%

GNMT with different configurations

# **Google's Multilingual Neural Machine Translation (Multilingual GNMT)**

- Further improved in [Johnson et al., 2016]
- Extensions to make this model to be Multilingual NMT system by adding artificial token to indicate the required target language
  - e.g., the token "<2es>" indicates that the target sentence is in Spanish
  - Can do **multilingual NMT** using a **single model** w/o increasing the parameters



Next, Transformer (self-attention)

- Motivation:
  - Prior works use RNN/CNN to solve **sequence-to-sequence** problems
  - Attention already handles *arbitrary length* of sequences, *easy to parallelize*, and not suffer from *forgetting* problems... Why should one use RNN/CNN modules?
- Idea:
  - Design architecture **only using** attention modules
  - To extract features, the authors use self-attention, that features attend on itself
    - Self-attention has many advantages over RNN/CNN blocks

Layer Type	Complexity per Layer	Sequential	Maximum Path Length
		Operations	
Self-Attention	$O(n^2 \cdot d)$	O(1)	<i>O</i> (1)
Recurrent	$O(n \cdot d^2)$	O(n)	O(n)
Convolutional	$O(k\cdot n\cdot d^2)$	O(1)	$O(log_k(n))$
Self-Attention (restricted)	$O(r \cdot n \cdot d)$	O(1)	O(n/r)

n: sequence length, d: feature dimension, k: (conv) kernel size, r: window size to consider **Maximum path length:** maximum traversal between any two input/outputs (lower is better)

\*Cf. Now self-attention is widely used in other architectures, e.g., CNN [Wang et al., 2018] or GAN [Zhang et al., 2018] Algorithmic Intelligence Lab

# **Transformer (Self-attention)**

- Multi-head attention: The building block of the Transformer
  - In previous slide, we introduced *additive* attention [Bahdanau et al., 2015]
  - Here, the context vector is a linear combination of
    - weight  $\alpha_{t,i}$ , a function of inputs  $[x_i]$  and output  $y_t$
    - and input hidden states  $[h_i]$
  - In general, attention is a function of key K, value V, and query Q
    - key  $[x_i]$  and query  $y_t$  defines weights  $\alpha_{t,i}$ , which are applied to value  $[h_i]$

 $- - \pi$ 

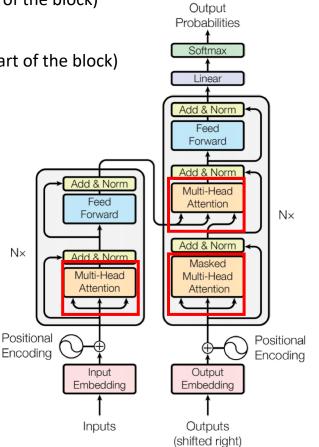
- For sequence length T and feature dimension d, (K, V, Q) are  $T \times d$ ,  $T \times d$ , and  $1 \times d$  matrices
- Transformer use scaled dot-product attention

Attention
$$(Q, K, V) = \operatorname{softmax}\left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d}}\right) V$$

 $c_t = \sum lpha_{t,i} h_i$ 

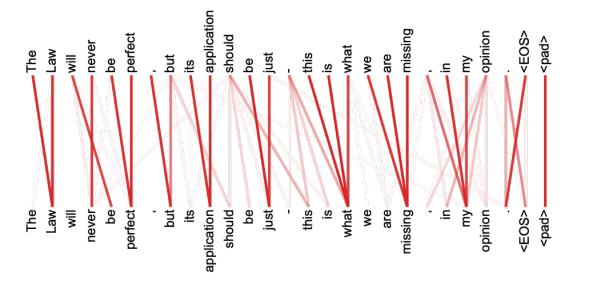
 In addition, transformer use multi-head attention, ensemble of attentions

- Transformer:
  - The final transformer model is built upon the (multi-head) attention blocks
  - First, extract features with self-attention (see lower part of the block)
  - Then decode feature with usual attention (see middle part of the block)
  - Since the model don't have a sequential structure, the authors give **position embedding** (some handcrafted feature that represents the location in sequence)



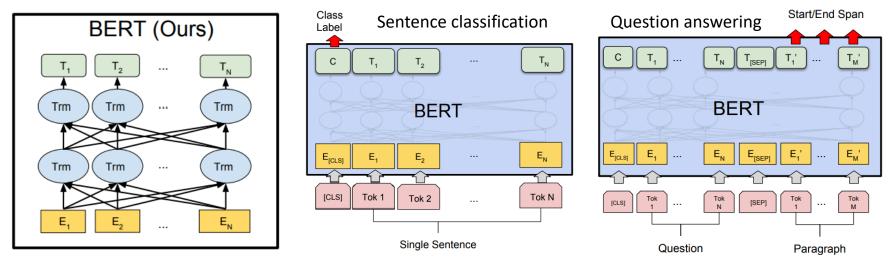
• Results: Transformer architecture shows good performance for languages

Model	BL	EU	Training Cost (FLOPs)		
Wodel	EN-DE	EN-FR	EN-DE	EN-FR	
ByteNet [15]	23.75				
Deep-Att + PosUnk [32]		39.2		$1.0\cdot 10^{20}$	
GNMT + RL [31]	24.6	39.92	$2.3\cdot 10^{19}$	$1.4\cdot 10^{20}$	
ConvS2S [8]	25.16	40.46	$9.6\cdot 10^{18}$	$1.5\cdot 10^{20}$	
MoE [26]	26.03	40.56	$2.0\cdot 10^{19}$	$1.2\cdot 10^{20}$	
Deep-Att + PosUnk Ensemble [32]		40.4		$8.0\cdot10^{20}$	
GNMT + RL Ensemble [31]	26.30	41.16	$1.8\cdot 10^{20}$	$1.1\cdot 10^{21}$	
ConvS2S Ensemble [8]	26.36	41.29	$7.7\cdot 10^{19}$	$1.2\cdot 10^{21}$	
Transformer (base model)	27.3	38.1	3.3 •	10 <sup>18</sup>	
Transformer (big)	28.4	41.0	$2.3 \cdot$	$10^{19}$	



Next, BERT

- Motivation:
  - Many success of CNN comes from ImageNet-pretrained networks
  - Can train a universal encoder for natural languages?
- Method:
  - Pretrain a bidirectional transformer with two self-supervised tasks
    - Tasks: masked language model, next sentence prediction
    - Cf. While BERT is encoder-only, one can also train encoder-decoder (e.g., GPT-2)
  - Use fixed BERT encoder, and fine-tune simple 1-layer decoder for each task



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- Results:
  - Even without task-specific complex architectures, BERT achieves **SOTA** for **11 NLP tasks**, including classification, question answering, tagging, etc.

System	MNLI-(m/mm)	QQP	QNLI	SST-2	CoLA	STS-B	MRPC	RTE	Average
	392k	363k	108k	67k	8.5k	5.7k	3.5k	2.5k	-
Pre-OpenAI SOTA	80.6/80.1	66.1	82.3	93.2	35.0	81.0	86.0	61.7	74.0
BiLSTM+ELMo+Attn	76.4/76.1	64.8	79.9	90.4	36.0	73.3	84.9	56.8	71.0
OpenAI GPT	82.1/81.4	70.3	88.1	91.3	45.4	80.0	82.3	56.0	75.2
BERT <sub>BASE</sub>	84.6/83.4	71.2	90.1	93.5	52.1	85.8	88.9	66.4	79.6
BERTLARGE	86.7/85.9	72.1	91.1	94.9	60.5	86.5	89.3	70.1	81.9

System	Dev F1	Test F1
ELMo+BiLSTM+CRF	95.7	92.2
CVT+Multi (Clark et al., 2018)	-	92.6
BERT <sub>BASE</sub>	96.4	92.4
BERT <sub>LARGE</sub>	<b>96.6</b>	<b>92.8</b>

System	Dev	Test
ESIM+GloVe	51.9	52.7
ESIM+ELMo	59.1	59.2
BERT <sub>BASE</sub>	81.6	-
BERTLARGE	86.6	86.3
Human (expert) <sup>†</sup>	-	85.0
Human (5 annotations) <sup><math>\dagger</math></sup>	-	88.0

## **Table of Contents**

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  - GRU (Gated Recurrent Unit)
  - Stacked LSTM
  - Grid LSTM
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- 2. Breakthroughs of RNNs in Machine Translation
  - Sequence to Sequence Learning with Neural Networks
  - Neural Machine Translation with Attention
  - Google's Neural Machine Translation (GNMT)
  - Transformer (self-attention) and BERT

# 3. Overcoming the heavy computations of RNNs

- Convolutional Sequence to Sequence Learning
- Exploring Sparsity in RNNs

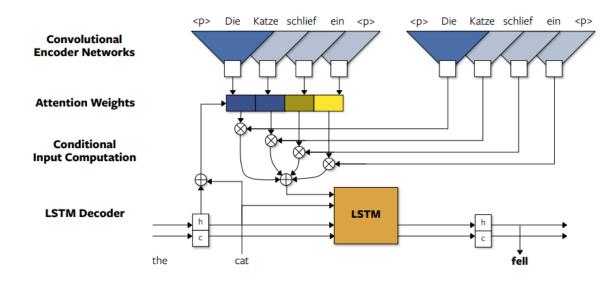
## **Problem in RNNs**

- The most fundamental problem of RNNs
  - Require heavy computations (slow)
  - Especially when we stack multiple layers
  - GNMT solved this by model parallelism

- How to alleviate this issue in terms of architectures?
  - CNN encoder
  - CNN encoder + decoder
  - Optimizing RNNs (pruning approach)

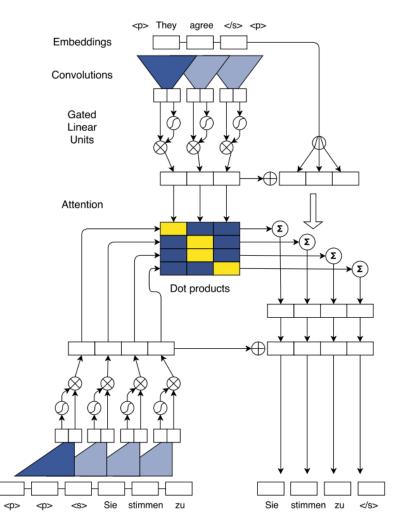
## Solution 1-1. CNN encoder

- A convolutional encoder model for Neural Machine Translation [Gehring et al., 2016]
  - CNN encoder + RNN decoder
  - Replace the RNN encoder with stack of 1-D convolutions with nonlinearities
    - Two different CNNs for attention score computation and conditional input aggregation
    - More parallelizable than using RNN



Encoder	Words/s	BLEU
2-layer BiLSTM	109.9	23.6
Deep Conv. 8/4	231.1	23.7
Deep Conv. 15/5	203.3	24.0

- Convolutional sequence to sequence learning [Gehring et al., 2017]
  - CNNs for both encoder and encoder



WMT'14 English-French	BLEU
Wu et al. (2016) GNMT (Word 80K)	37.90
Wu et al. (2016) GNMT (Word pieces)	38.95
Wu et al. (2016) GNMT (Word pieces) + RL	39.92
ConvS2S (BPE 40K)	40.51

#### Performance

	BLEU	Time (s)
GNMT GPU (K80)	31.20	3,028
GNMT CPU 88 cores	31.20	1,322
GNMT TPU	31.21	384
ConvS2S GPU (K40) $b = 1$	33.45	327
ConvS2S GPU (M40) $b = 1$	33.45	221
ConvS2S GPU (GTX-1080ti) $b = 1$	33.45	142
ConvS2S CPU 48 cores $b = 1$	33.45	142
ConvS2S GPU (K40) $b = 5$	34.10	587
ConvS2S CPU 48 cores $b = 5$	34.10	482
ConvS2S GPU (M40) $b = 5$	34.10	406
ConvS2S GPU (GTX-1080ti) $b = 5$	34.10	256

Generation speed

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- Exploring Sparsity in Recurrent Neural Networks [Narang et al., 2017]
  - **Pruning RNNs** to improve **inference time** with marginal performance drop
    - Simple heuristics to calculate the threshold
    - And apply that threshold to every binary mask corresponds to each weight
  - Reduces the size of the model by 90%
  - Significant inference time speed-up using sparse matrix multiply around 2 imes to 7 imes

MODEL	<b># UNITS</b>	CER	<b># PARAMS</b>	RELATIVE PERF
RNN Dense Baseline	1760	10.67	67 million	0.0%
RNN Dense Small	704	14.50	11.6 million	-35.89%
<b>RNN</b> Dense Medium	2560	9.43	141 million	11.85%
RNN Sparse 1760	1760	12.88	8.3 million	-20.71%
RNN Sparse Medium	2560	10.59	11.1 million	0.75%
RNN Sparse Big	3072	10.25	16.7 million	3.95%
GRU Dense	2560	9.55	115 million	0.0%
GRU Sparse	2560	10.87	13 million	-13.82%
<b>GRU</b> Sparse Medium	3568	9.76	17.8 million	-2.20%

LAYER SIZE	SPARSITY	LAYER TYPE	<b>TIME</b> ( $\mu$ sec)	SPEEDUP
1760	00	DNIN	56	1
1760 1760	0% 95%	RNN RNN	56 20	2.8
2560	95%	RNN	29	1.93
3072	95%	RNN	48	1.16
2560	0%	GRU	313	1
2560	95%	GRU	46	6.80
3568	95%	GRU	89	3.5

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GEMM (General Matrix-Matrix Multiply) times comparison

### **Summary**

- RNN architectures have developed in a way that
  - Can better model long-term dependency
  - **Robust** to vanishing gradient problems
  - While having less memory or computational costs
- Breakthroughs in machine translation
  - Seq2seq model with attention
  - Transformer with self-attention (and BERT)
- Alleviating the problem of RNNs' heavy computations
  - Convolutional sequence to sequence learning
  - Pruning approach
- There are various applications combining RNNs with other networks
  - Image caption generation, visual question answering(VQA), etc.
  - Will be covered in later lectures

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