

# CS 360: Machine Learning

Sara Mathieson, Sorelle Friedler

Spring 2024



**HVERFORD**  
COLLEGE

# Admin

- **Lab 7** due TODAY!
- Sorelle/Sara office hours **today 4-5pm (H110)**
- **Project proposal** due Monday
  - Email me by *Friday at midnight* for a random partner

# Outline for April 4

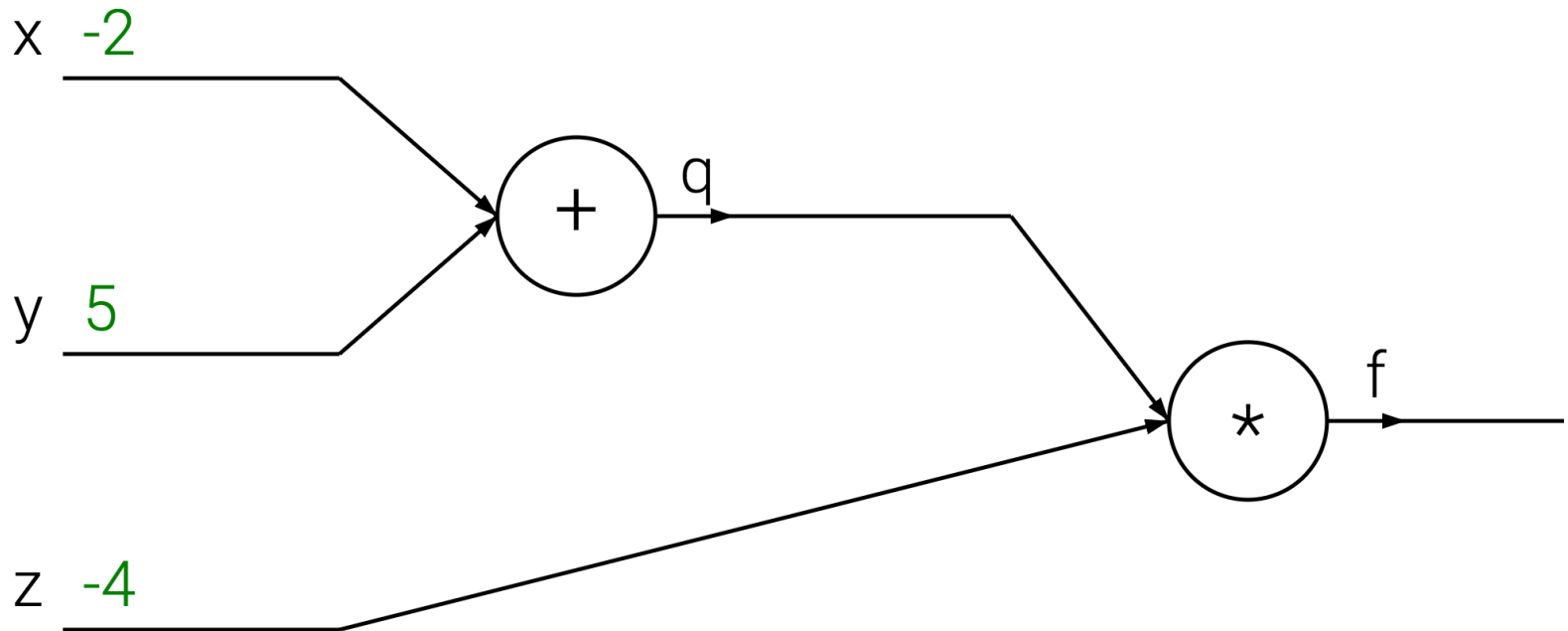
- Finish Backpropagation
- Recurrent neural networks
- Attention mechanisms
- Applications
- Transformers

# Outline for April 4

- **Finish Backpropagation**
- Recurrent neural networks
- Attention mechanisms
- Applications
- Transformers

# Backpropagation: Example

Forward pass: compute values

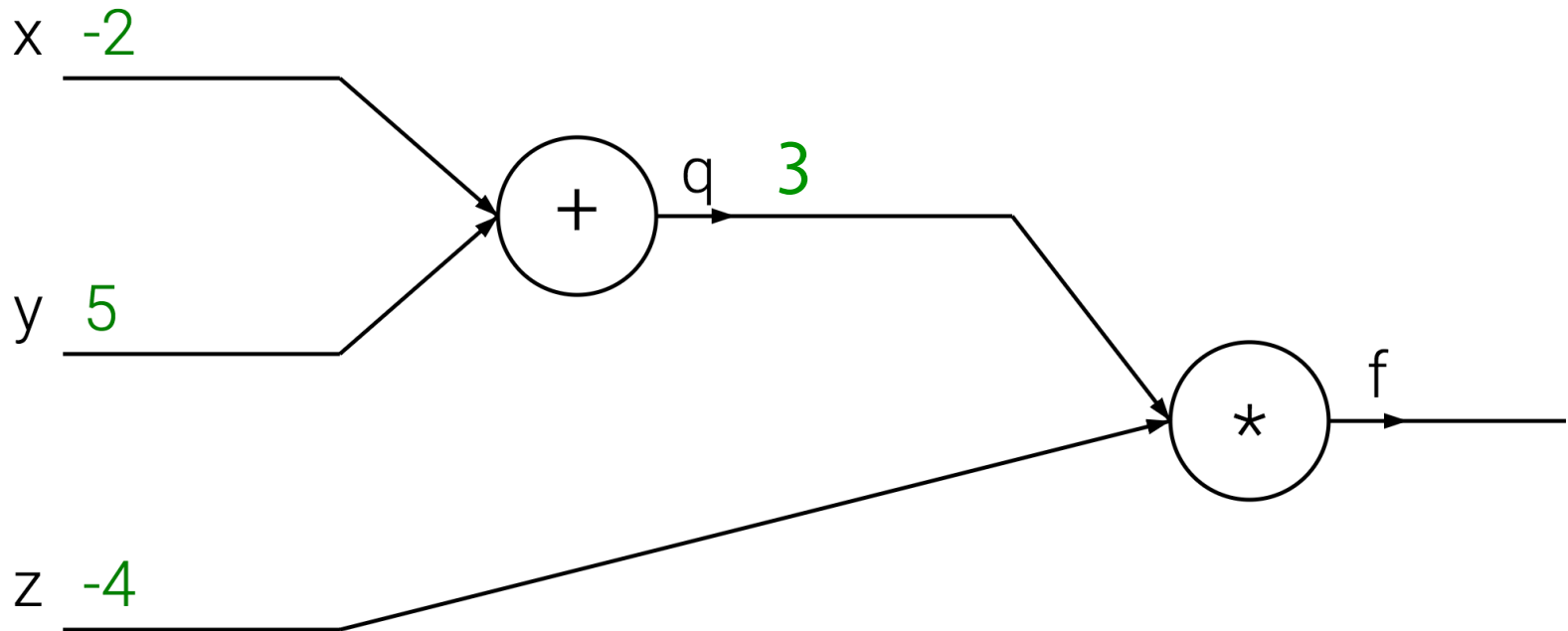


Example from:

<http://cs231n.github.io/optimization-2/>

# Backpropagation: Example

Forward pass: compute values

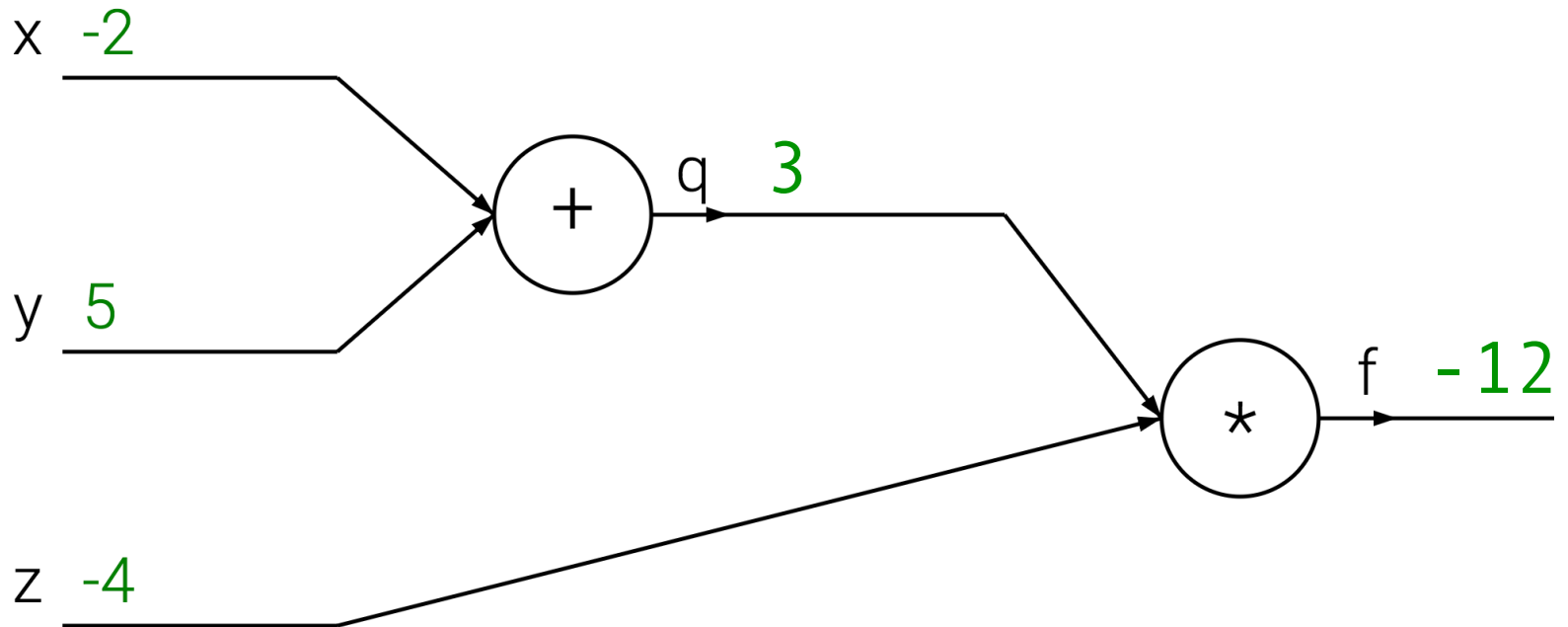


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# Backpropagation: Example

Forward pass: compute values

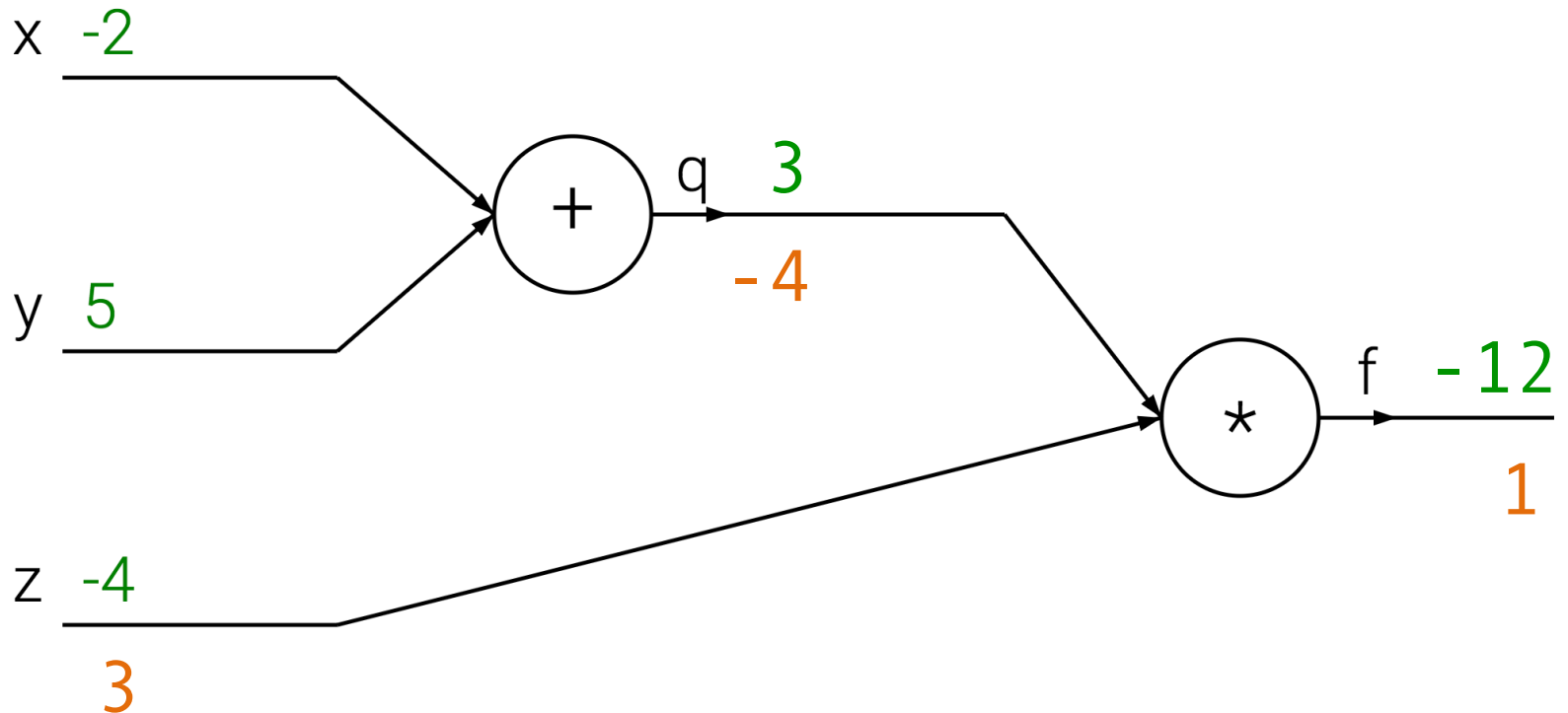


Example from:

<http://cs231n.github.io/optimization-2/>

# Backpropagation: Example

Backward pass: compute local gradients



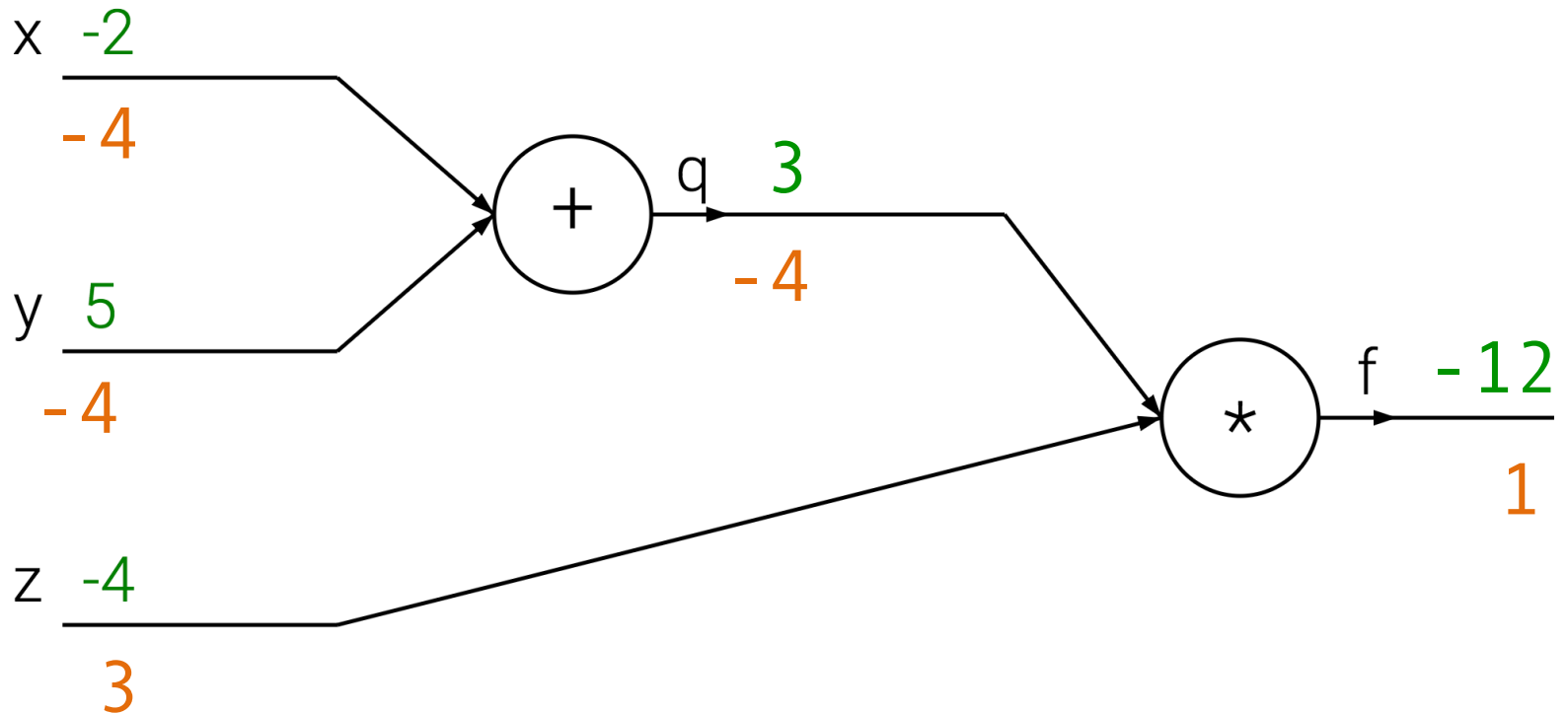
Example from:

<http://cs231n.github.io/optimization-2/>



# Backpropagation: Example

Backward pass: compute local gradients

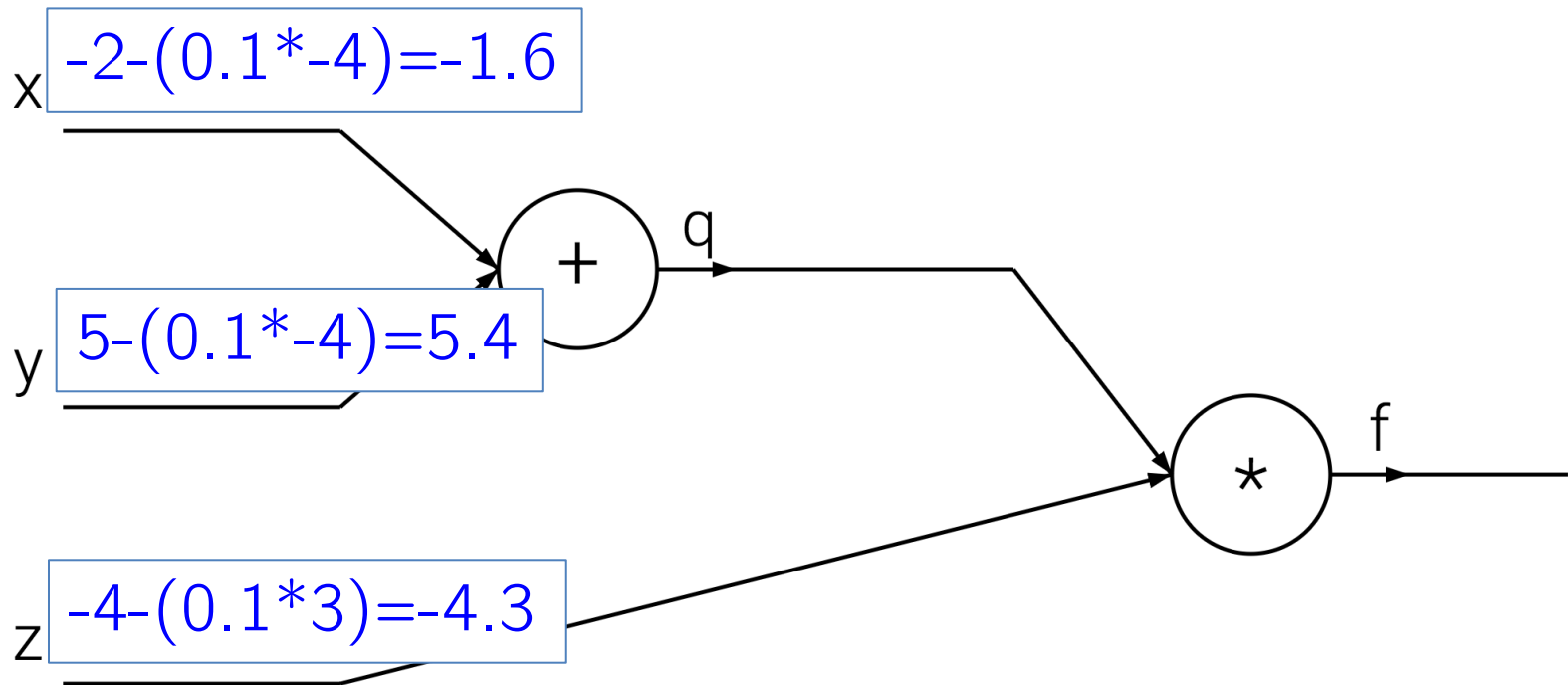


Example from:

<http://cs231n.github.io/optimization-2/>

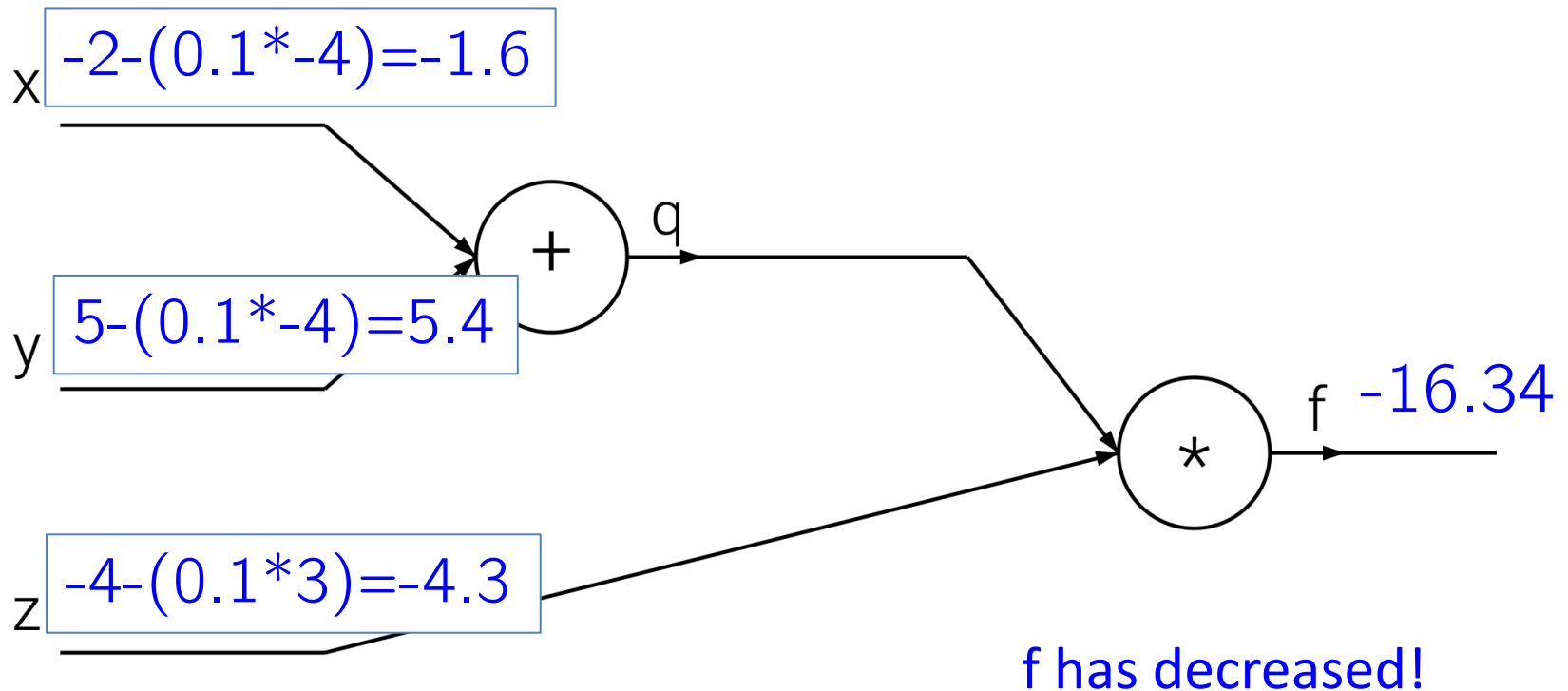
# Backpropagation: Example

Now if we wanted to minimize  $f \Rightarrow$  opposite direction of gradient

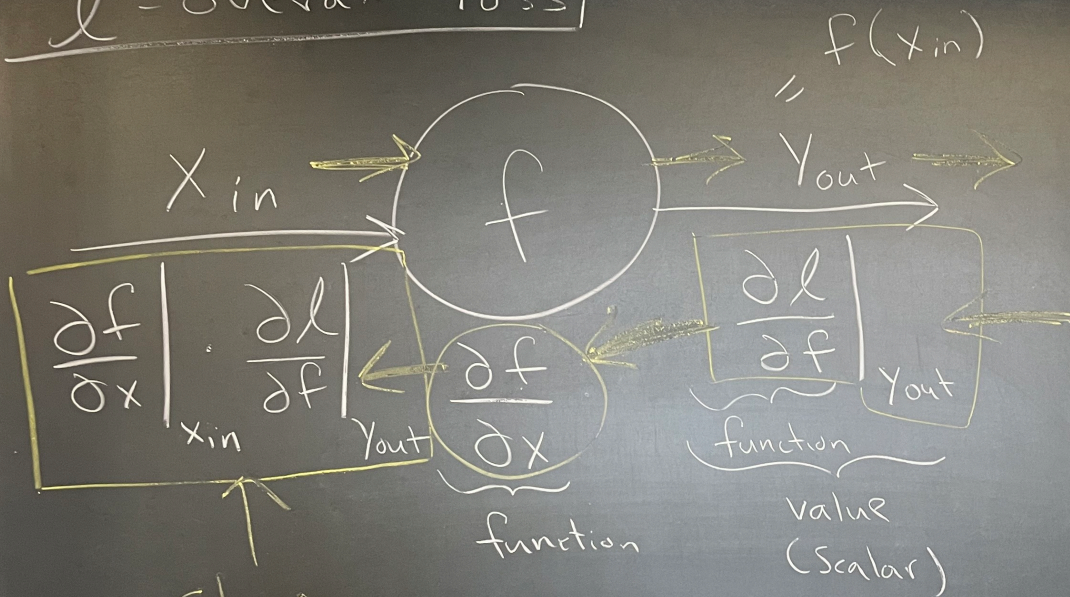


# Backpropagation: Example

Now if we wanted to minimize  $f \Rightarrow$  opposite direction of gradient

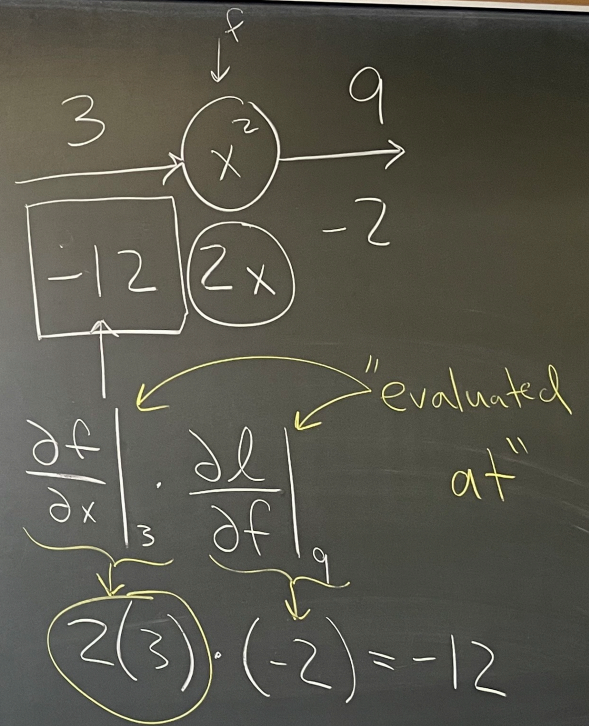


$l = \text{overall loss}$



chain rule

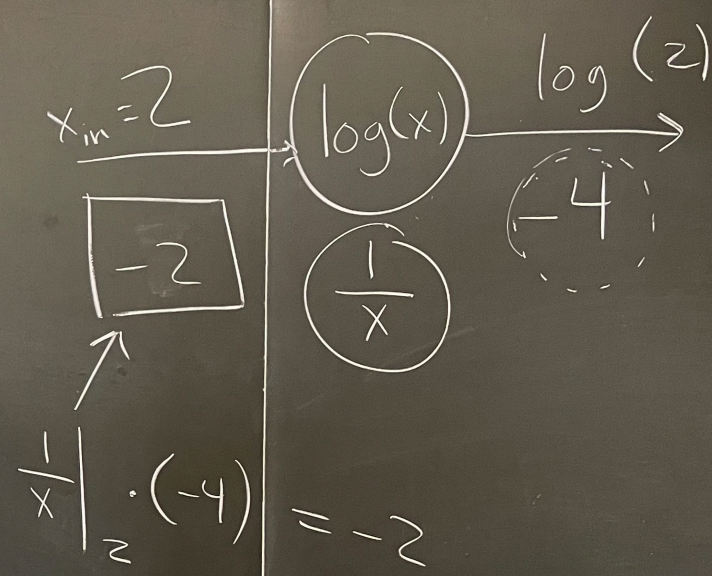
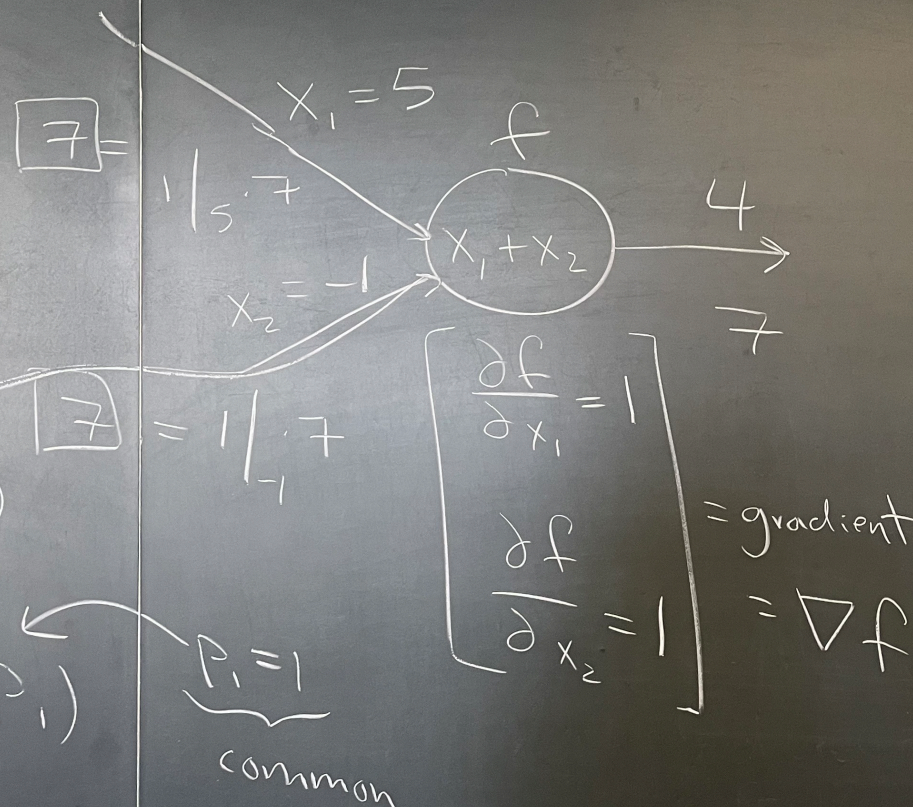
$= f(x_{in})$



"evaluated at"

$$2(3) \cdot (-2) = -12$$

$(n, p)$   
 $(n, p_1)$   
 $(p, p_1)$   
 $(p_1, p_1)$   
 $\vdots$



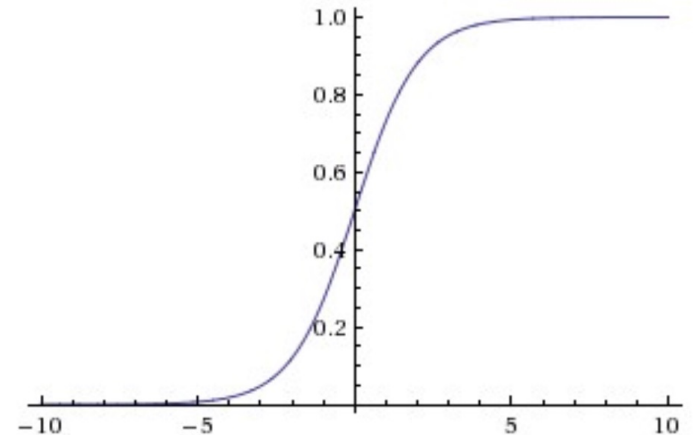
# Option 1: sigmoid function

- Input: all real numbers, output: [0, 1]

$$\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$$

- Derivative is convenient

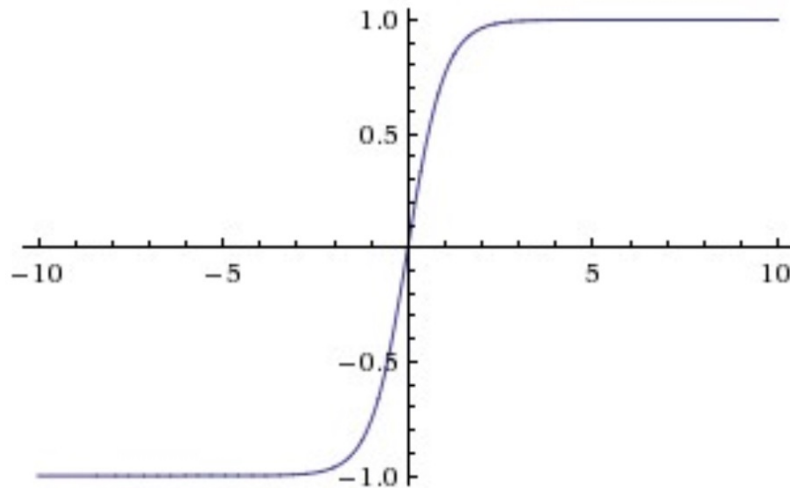
$$\sigma'(x) = \sigma(x)(1 - \sigma(x))$$



# Option 2: hyperbolic tangent

- Input: all real numbers, output: [-1, 1]

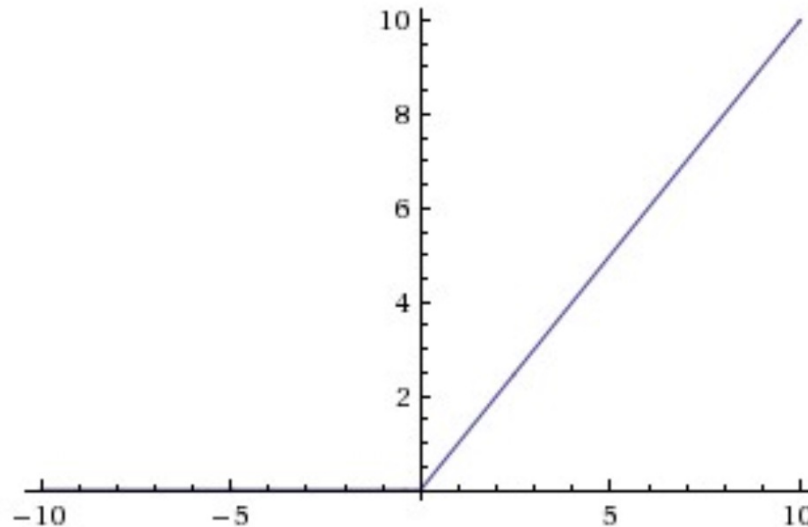
$$\tanh(x) = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}}$$



# Option 3: Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU)

- Return  $x$  if  $x$  is positive (i.e. threshold at 0)

$$f(x) = \max(0, x)$$





# Pros and Cons of Activation Functions

## 1) Sigmoid

- (-) When input becomes very positive or very negative, gradient approaches 0 (saturates and stops gradient descent)
- (-) Not zero-centered, so gradient on weights can end up all positive or all negative (zig-zag in gradient descent)
- (+) Derivative is easy to compute given function value!

## 2) Tanh

- (-) Still has a tendency to prematurely kill the gradient
- (+) Zero-centered so we get a range of gradients
- (+) Rescaling of sigmoid function so derivative is also not too difficult

## 3) ReLU

- (+) Works well in practice (accelerates convergence)
- (+) Function value very easy to compute! (no exponentials)
- (-) Units can “die” (no signal) if input becomes too negative throughout gradient descent

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- Finish Backpropagation
- **Recurrent neural networks**
- Attention mechanisms
- Applications
- Transformers

# Recurrent Neural Networks

(RNNs)

input  $X = [X_{(0)}, X_{(1)} \dots X_{(t)} \dots]$

↑  
time

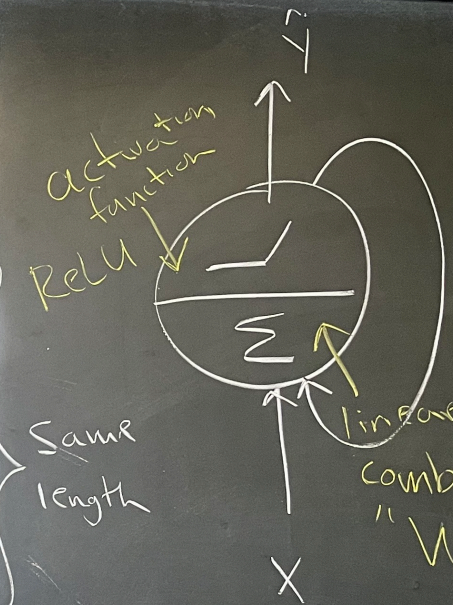
↑  
T

↑  
arbitrary length

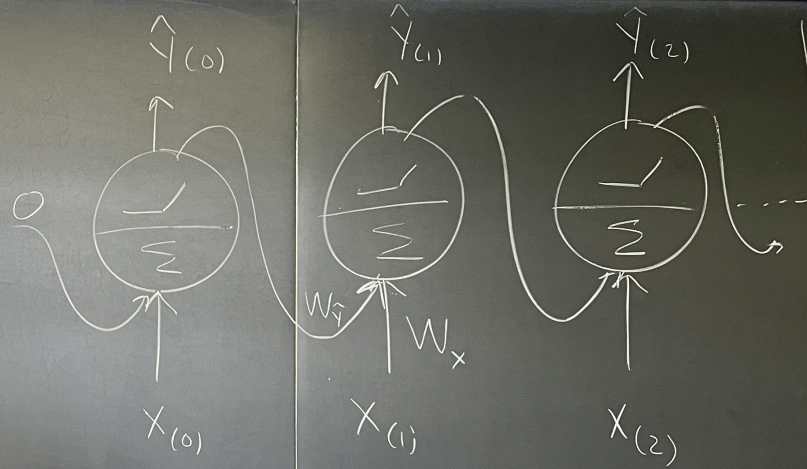
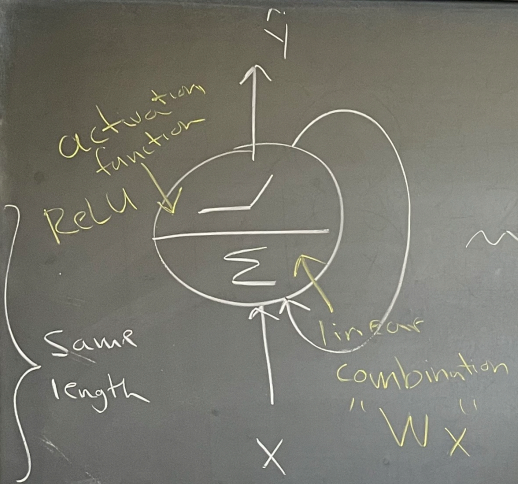
output  $Y = [Y_{(0)}, Y_{(1)} \dots Y_{(t)} \dots]$

↑  
T

↑  
Same length



$k \times s$   
 arbitrary length  
 $(t) \dots$   
 ne  
 $(t) \dots$



(weights are shared across time steps)

time  $t$   
 $\hat{y}(t) =$   
 active  
 R  
 batch  
 $\hat{y}(t)$

time t

$$\hat{y}(t) = a \left( W_x^T X(t) + W_y^T \hat{y}(t-1) + b \right)$$

$\hat{y}(t)$ : output at time t  
 $a$ : activation function (element wise)  
 $W_x^T X(t)$ : input at time t  
 $W_y^T \hat{y}(t-1)$ : output from p. previous time  
 $b$ : bias

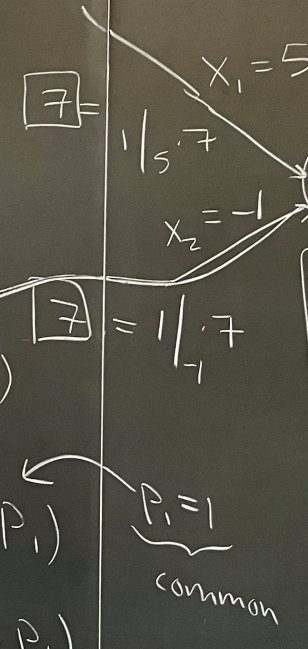
batch

$$\hat{Y} = a \left( X W_x + \hat{Y} W_y + b \right)$$

$X$ : input matrix  
 $W_x$ : weight matrix  
 $\hat{Y}$ : output matrix  
 $W_y$ : weight matrix  
 $b$ : bias vector

inputs to next time step

$$\begin{aligned}
 X(t) &= (n, p) \\
 \hat{y}(t) &= (n, p_1) \\
 W_x &= (p, p_1) \\
 W_y &= (p_1, p_1) \\
 b &= p_1
 \end{aligned}$$



# Recurrent neural networks

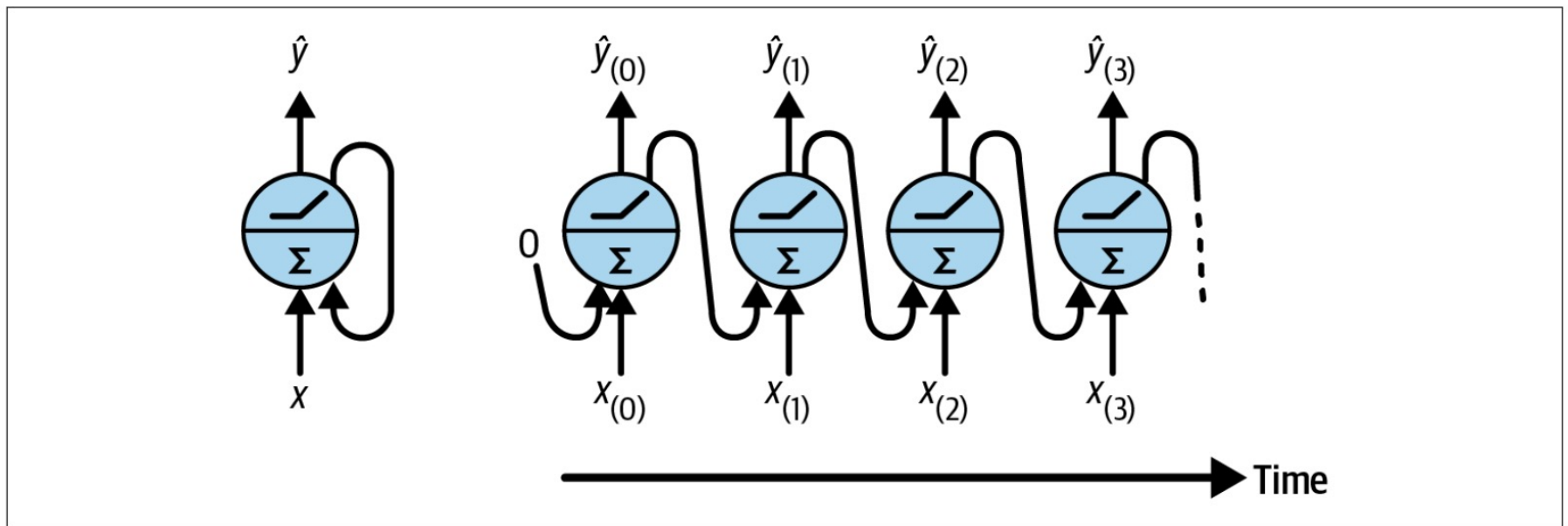


Figure 15-1. A recurrent neuron (left) unrolled through time (right)

# Recurrent neural networks

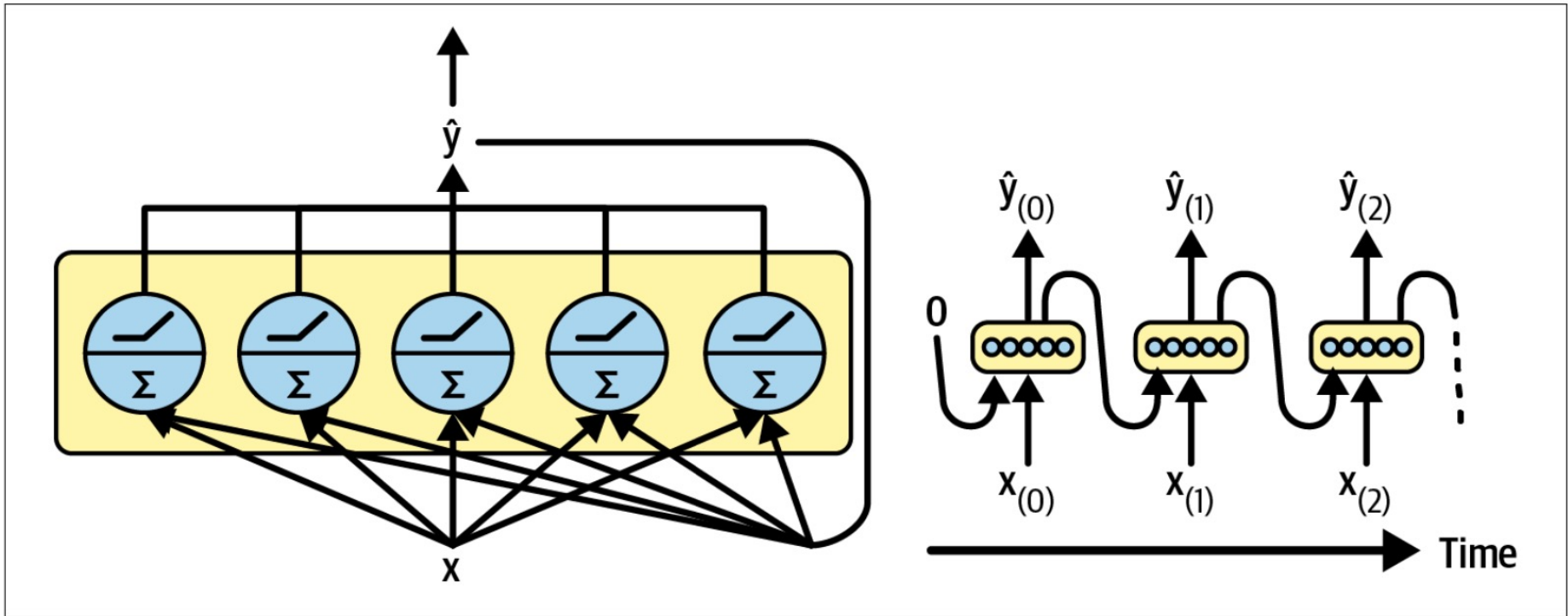


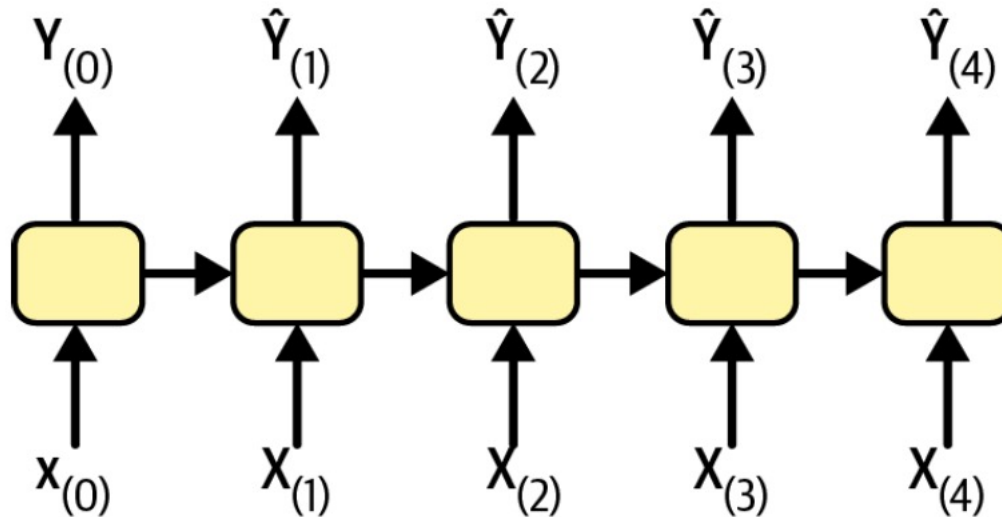
Figure 15-2. A layer of recurrent neurons (left) unrolled through time (right)

# RNNs are flexible

- **Sequence-to-sequence**

- Example: predict power consumption

- Input: power for N days
- Output: power for N days shifted one day into the future



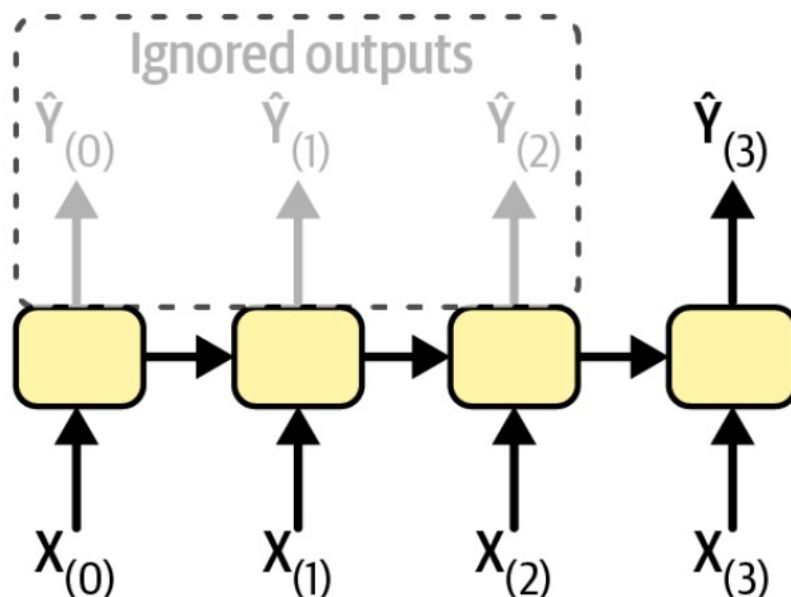


# RNNs are flexible

- **Sequence-to-vector**

- Example: sentiment analysis

- Input: text of review/tweet/post etc
- Output: ignore all outputs but the last one and convert to 0 (negative) or 1 (positive), i.e. binary classification

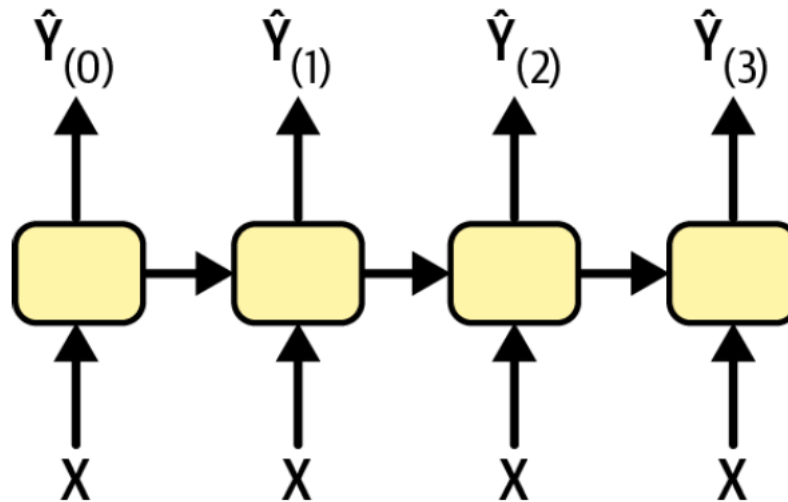


# RNNs are flexible

- **Vector-to-sequence**

- Example: caption generation

- Input: output from an image CNN (same at each “time”)
- Output: text caption for the image

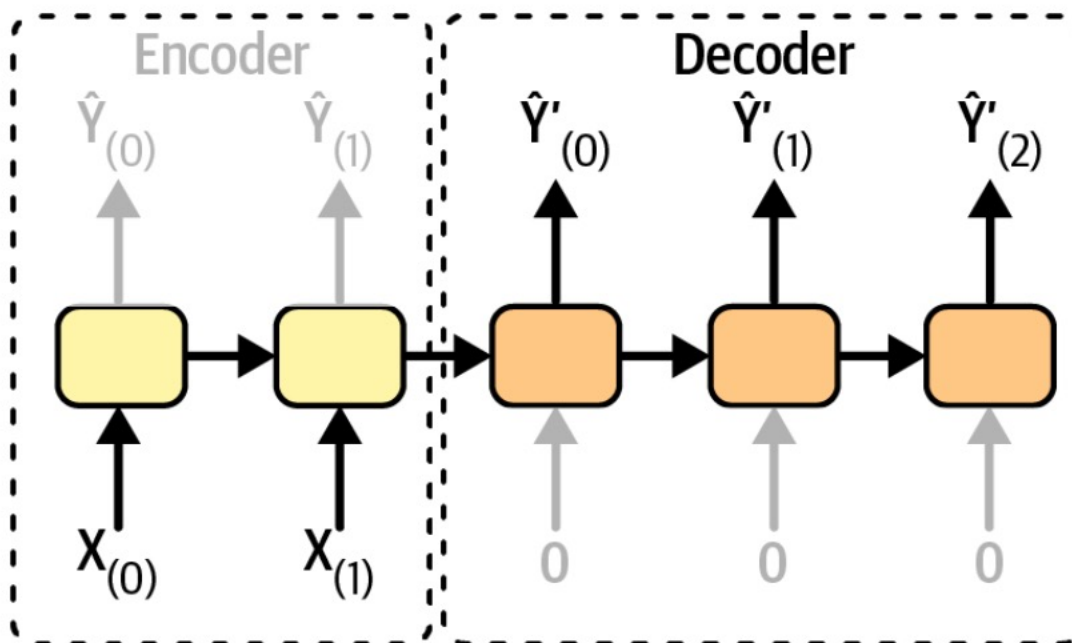


# RNNs are flexible

- **Encoder-decoder**

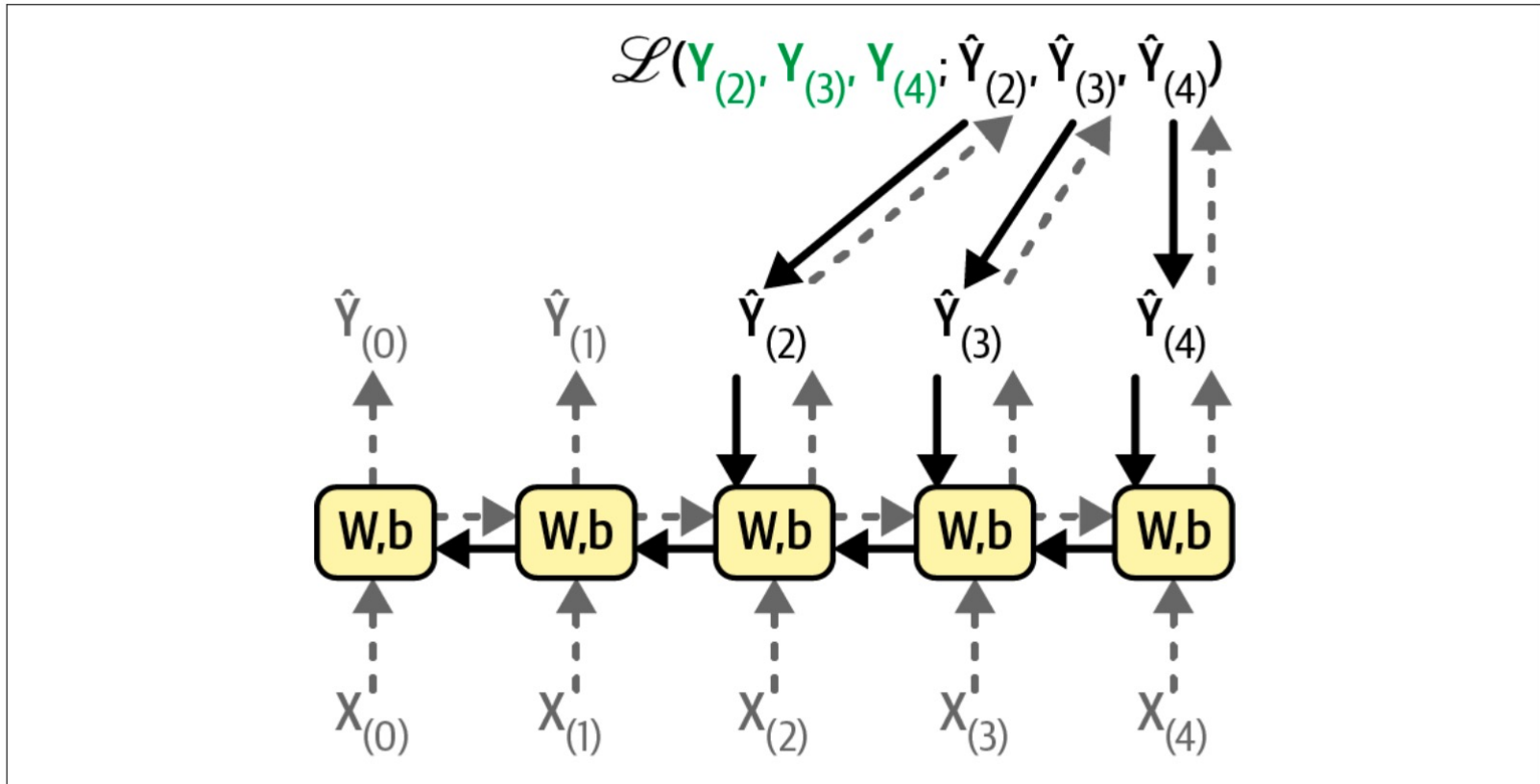
- Example: machine translation (two sequence-to-vector networks)

- Input: sentences in one language
- Output: sentences in another language



# Training RNNs

- Still backpropagation!
- Dashed lines: forward pass to compute outputs
- Solid lines: backward pass to compute gradients
- Note: loss function does not need to depend on all outputs



# Deep RNNs

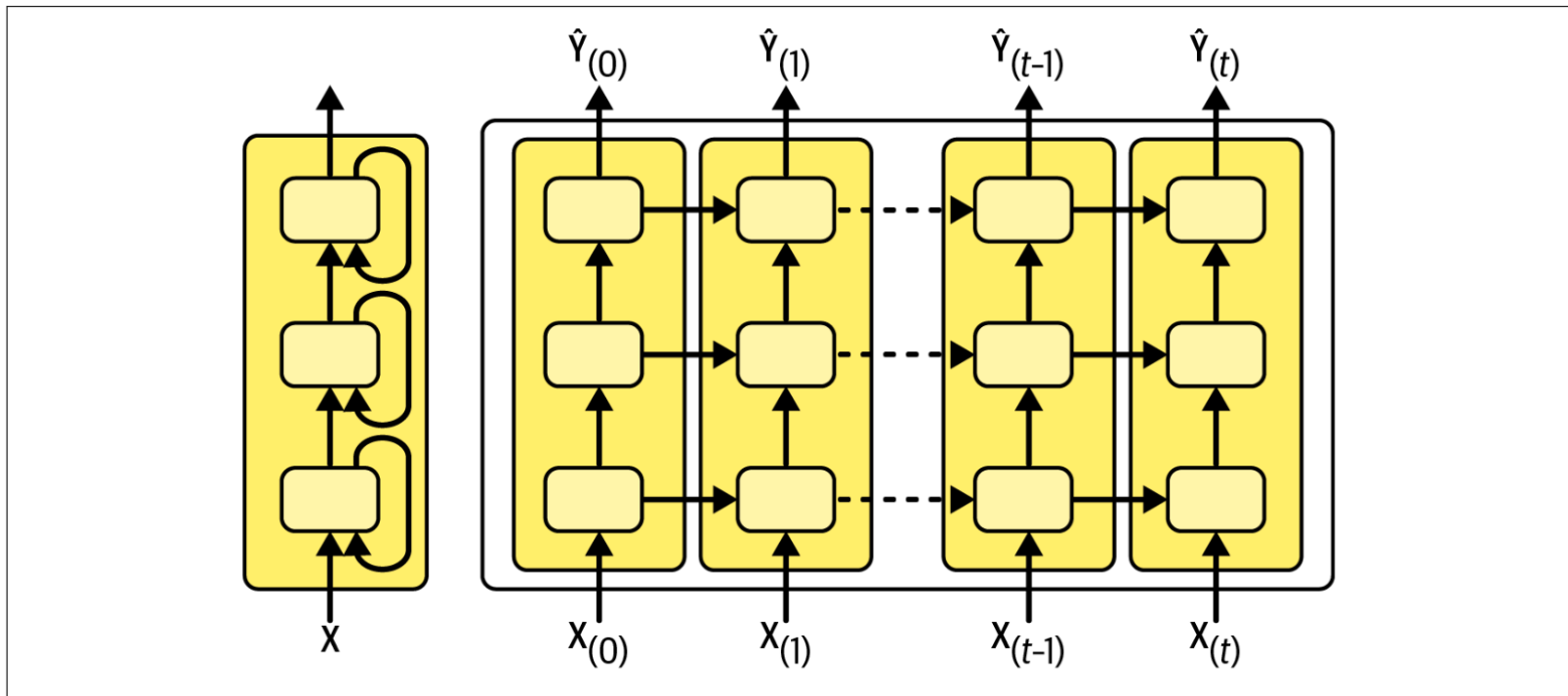


Figure 15-10. A deep RNN (left) unrolled through time (right)

# RNN training problems

- Weights are shared across time steps
- In backpropagation, weights changes might accumulate across the entire sequence!
- ReLU can make this worse (doesn't saturate)
- Additionally, RNNs can lose long-term memory over time
- Set up to focus more on short-term memory

# LSTM: hold on to long-term memory

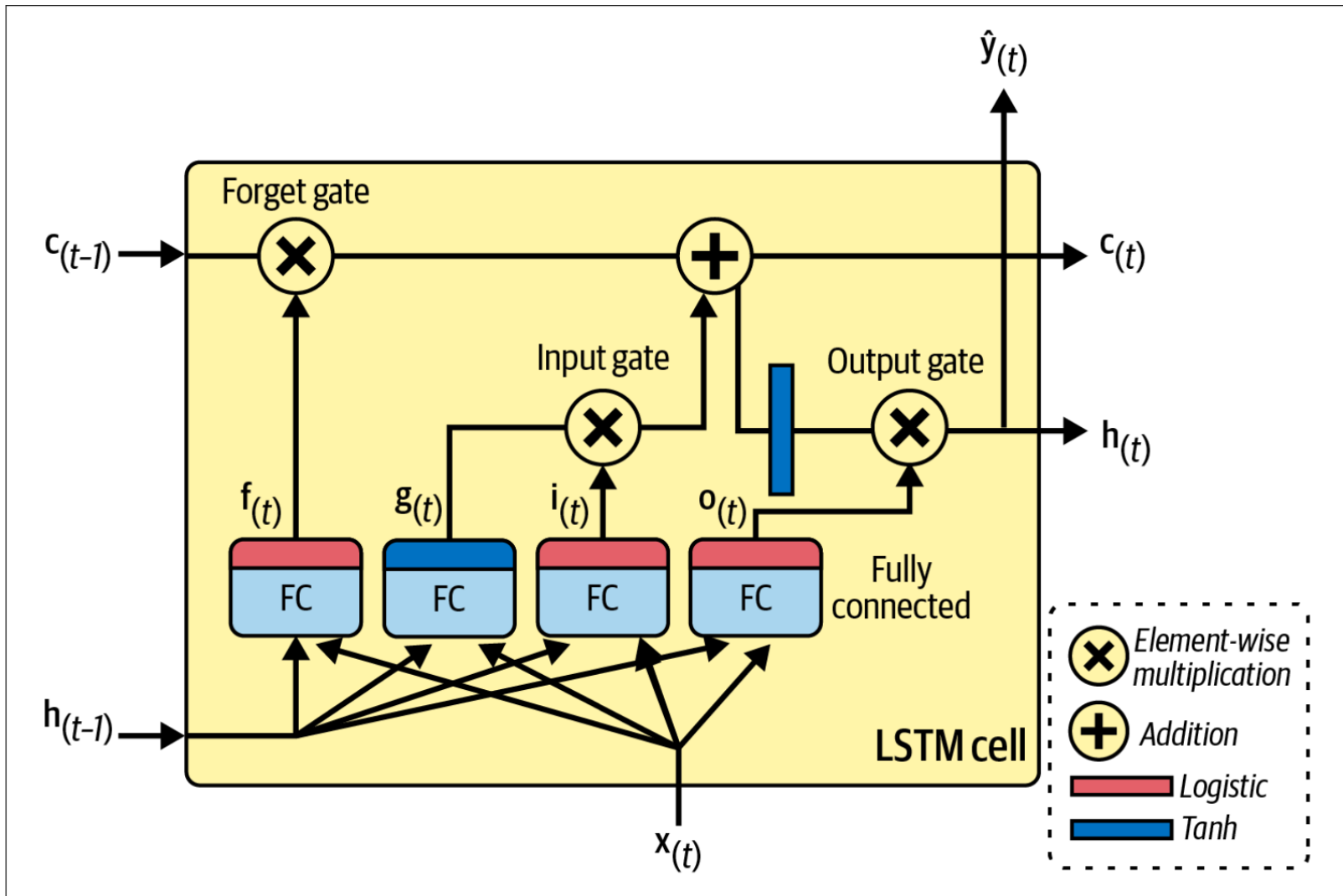
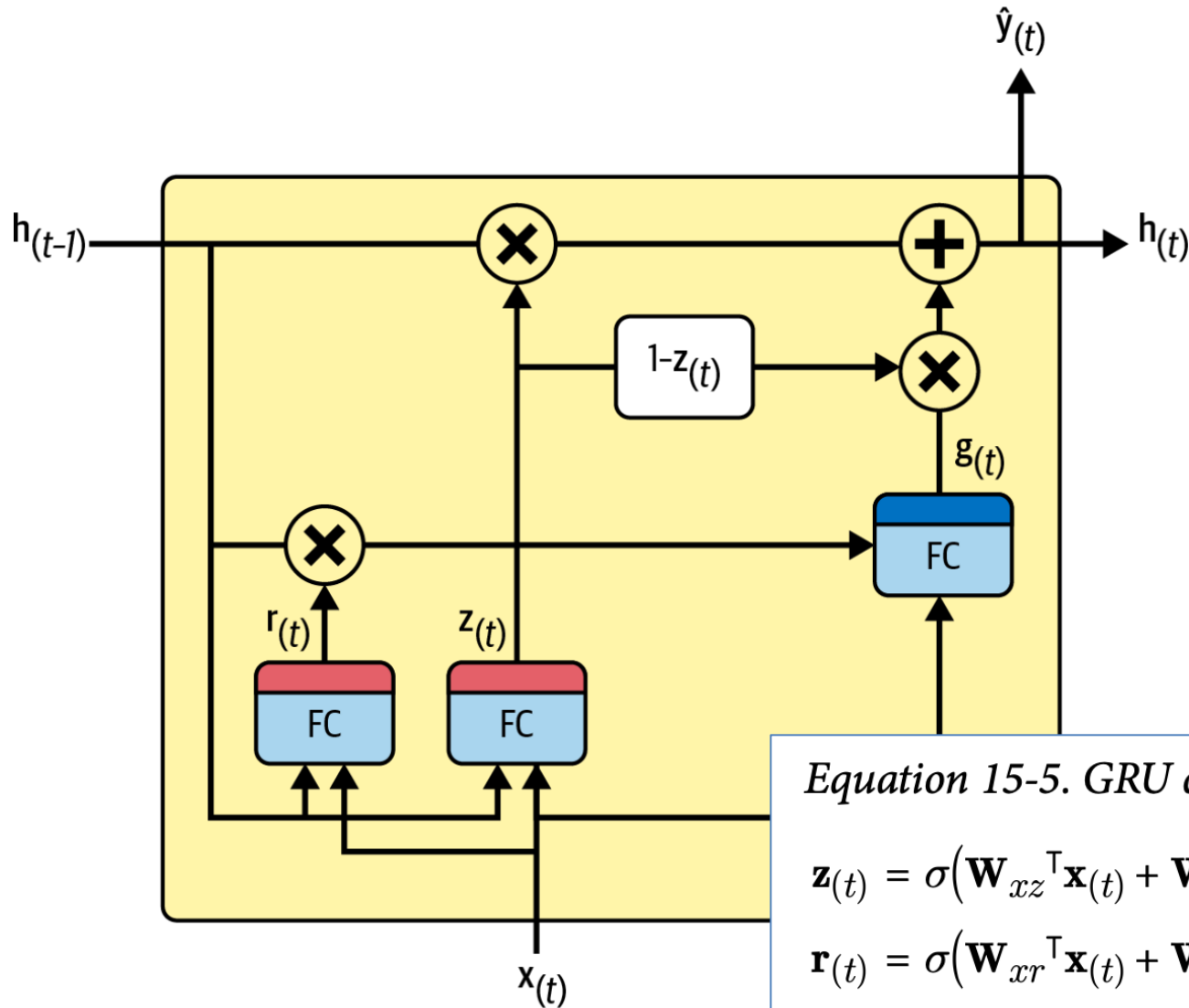


Figure 15-12. An LSTM cell

# Gated Recurrent Unit (GRU)



*Equation 15-5. GRU computations*

$$\mathbf{z}(t) = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_{xz}^\top \mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{W}_{hz}^\top \mathbf{h}(t-1) + \mathbf{b}_z)$$

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

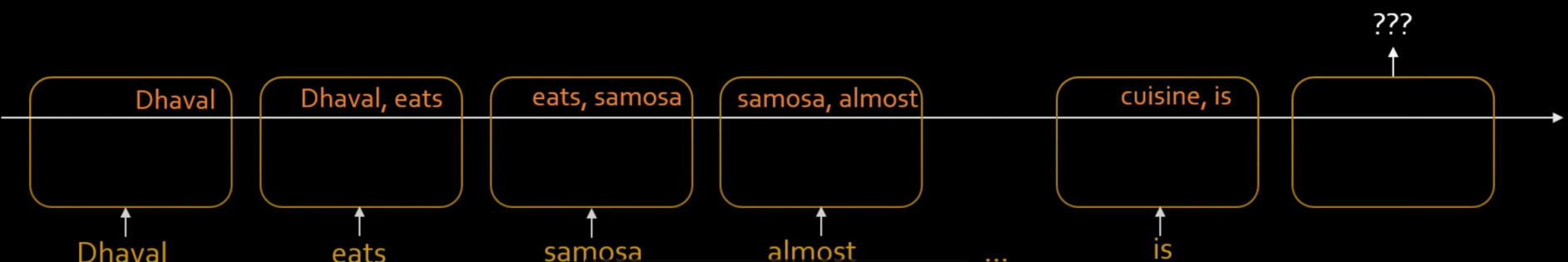
$$\mathbf{g}(t) = \tanh(\mathbf{W}_{xg}^\top \mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{W}_{hg}^\top (\mathbf{r}(t) \otimes \mathbf{h}(t-1)) + \mathbf{b}_g)$$

$$\mathbf{h}(t) = \mathbf{z}(t) \otimes \mathbf{h}(t-1) + (1 - \mathbf{z}(t)) \otimes \mathbf{g}(t)$$



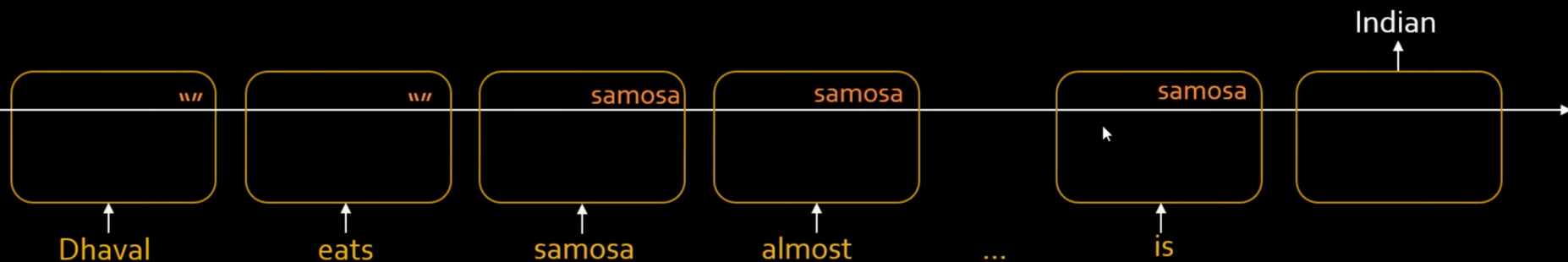
# Traditional RNN example

Dhaval eats samosa almost everyday, it shouldn't be hard to guess that his favorite cuisine is Indian



# GRU example

Dhaval eats samosa almost everyday, it shouldn't be hard to guess that his favorite cuisine is Indian



# RNN-style machine translation

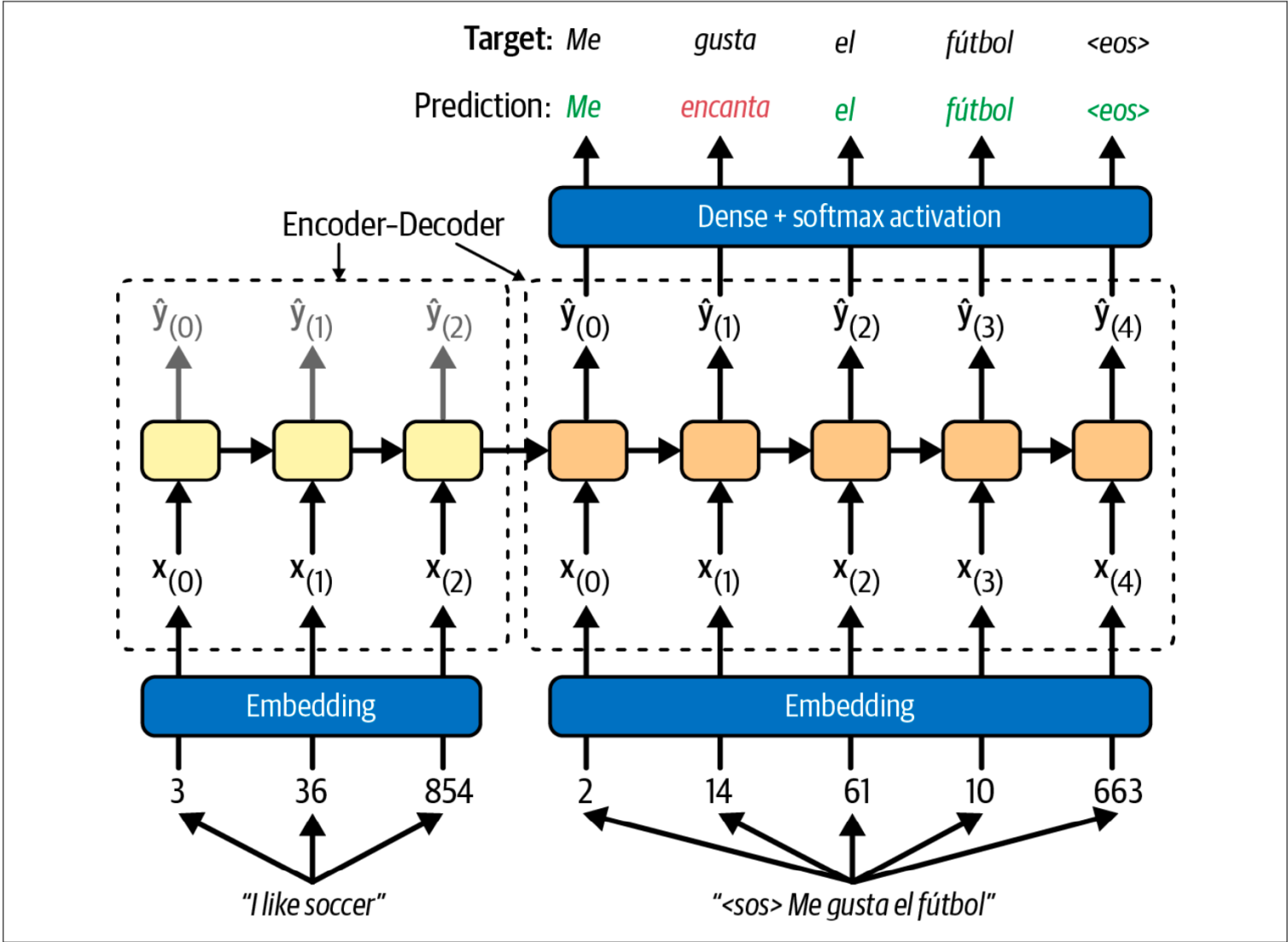


Figure 16-3. A simple machine translation model

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# GitHub Copilot examples

```
def compute_pi(matrix): ← prompt
    from random import random

    inside = 0
    total = 0
    for i in range(len(matrix)):
        for j in range(len(matrix[i])):
            if (i - 0.5) ** 2 + (j - 0.5) ** 2 <= 0.25:
                inside += 1
                total += 1
    return 4 * inside / total
```

**Computing pairwise heterozygosity (biology summary statistic)**

```
# write a function to compute the average number of differences
# between all pairs of rows in a 2D matrix ← prompt
def average_differences(matrix):
    total = 0
    count = 0
    for i in range(len(matrix)):
        for j in range(i + 1, len(matrix)):
            for k in range(len(matrix[i])):
                if matrix[i][k] != matrix[j][k]:
                    total += 1
            count += 1
    return total / count
```

# Risks of language models

- Reliability
- Social bias
- Toxicity
- Disinformation
- Security
- Legal considerations
- Cost and environmental impact
- Access

Discussion question: given these risks, should language models remain public?

# Preprocessing for a language model

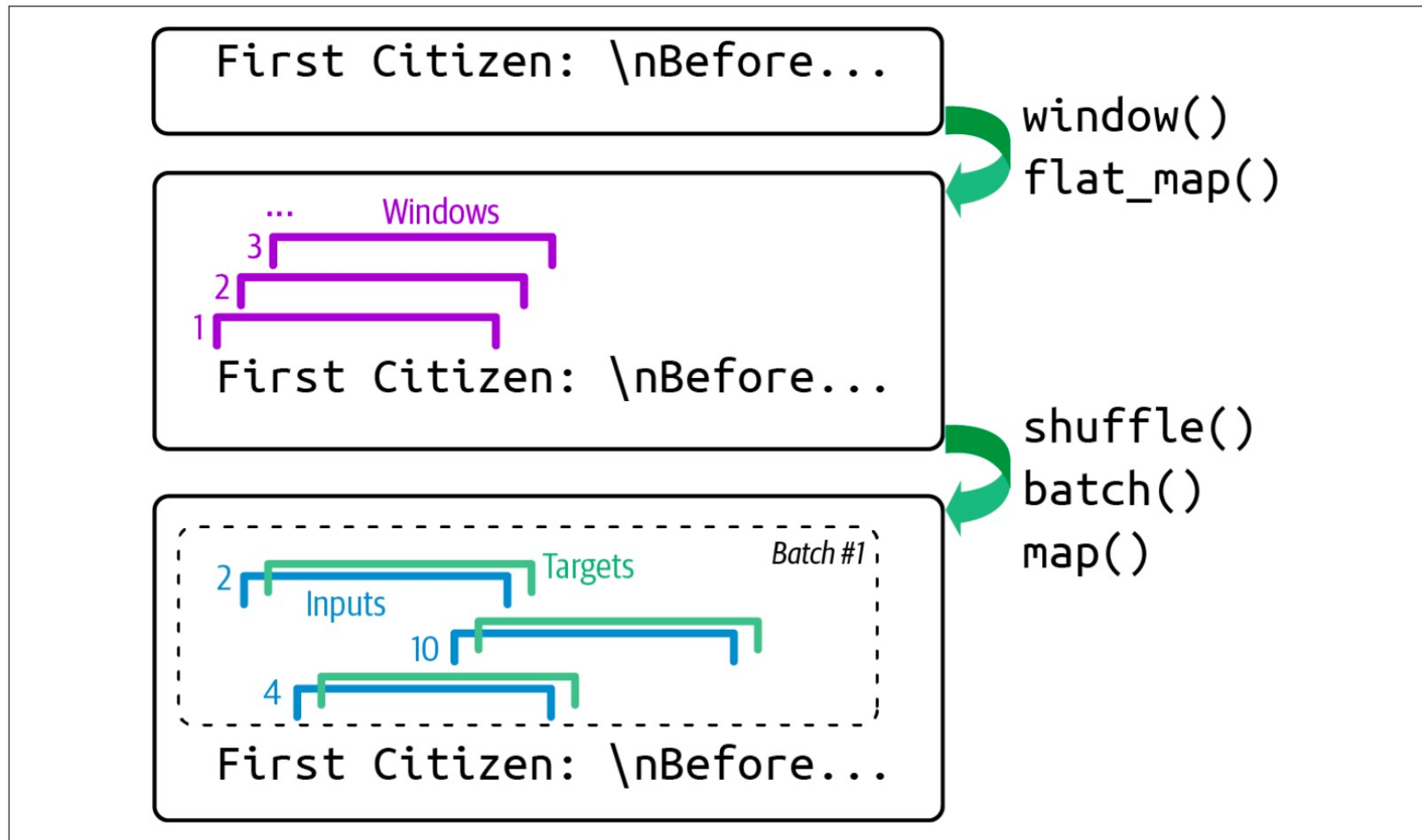
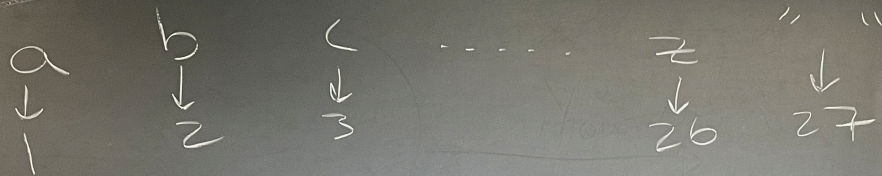
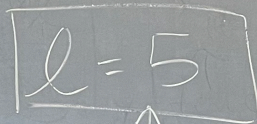


Figure 16-1. Preparing a dataset of shuffled windows

# embedding

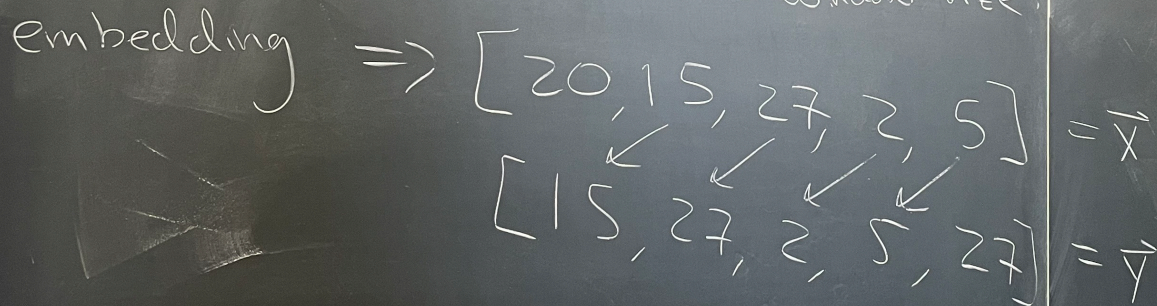


"letter by letter"



↑  
block size  
window size

input ⇒ "to be"



the<sub>l</sub>the<sub>l</sub>



# Word Embeddings

- If we have 50,000 words and one-hot encoding, doesn't scale! (Very sparse matrix)
- Instead: embed in a lower dimension space

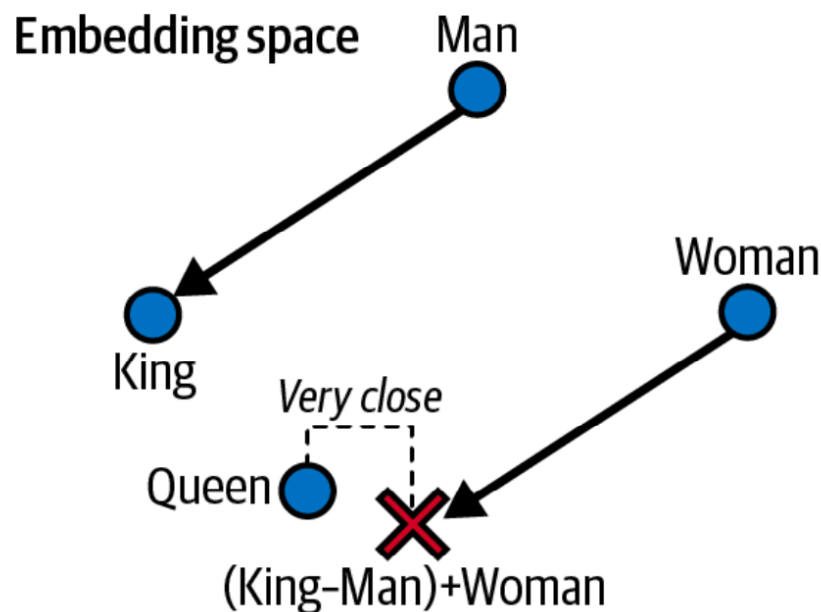


Figure 13-7. Word embeddings of similar words tend to be close, and some axes seem to encode meaningful concepts

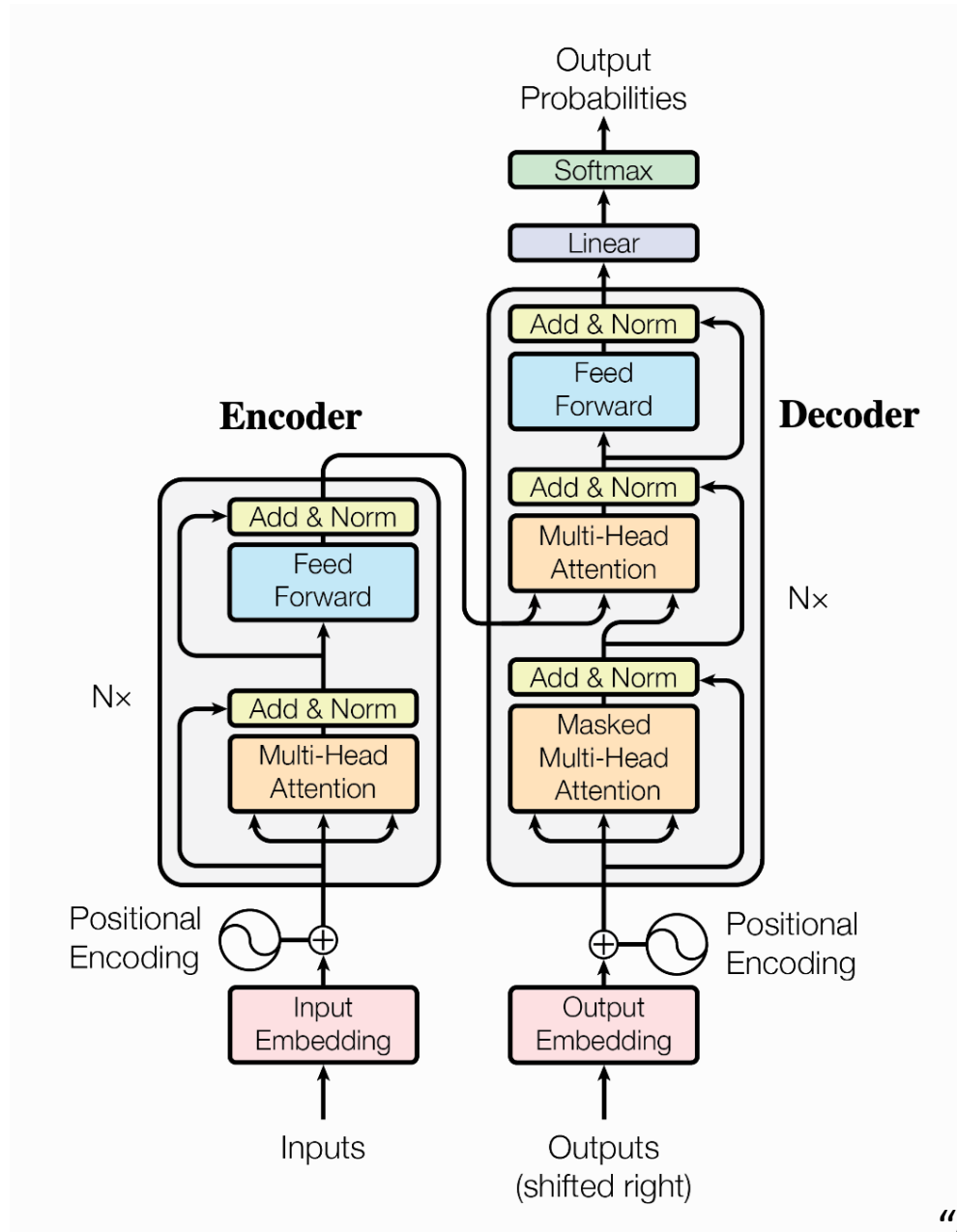
# Temperature: don't always pick the letter with maximum probability

```
>>> print(extend_text("To be or not to be", temperature=0.01))  
To be or not to be the duke  
as it is a proper strange death,  
and the
```

```
>>> print(extend_text("To be or not to be", temperature=1))  
To be or not to behold?  
  
second push:  
gremio, lord all, a sistermen,
```

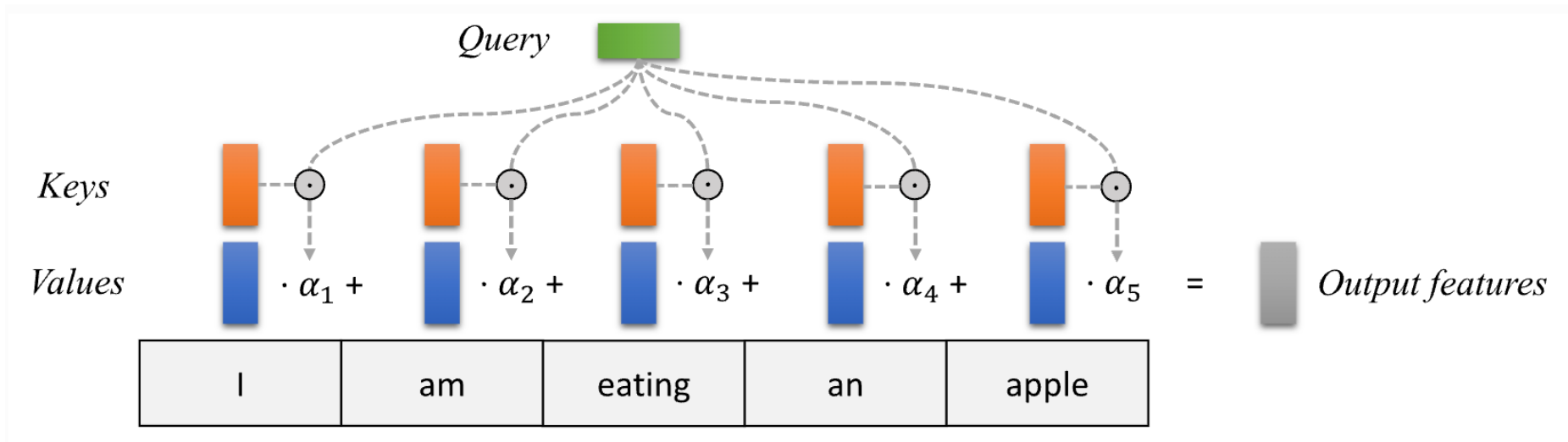
```
>>> print(extend_text("To be or not to be", temperature=100))  
To be or not to bef ,mt'&o3fpadm!$  
wh!nse?bws3est--vgerdjw?c-y-ewznq
```

# Transformer Architecture



“Attention is all you need”

# Attention mechanisms



$$\alpha_i = \frac{\exp(f_{attn}(\text{key}_i, \text{query}))}{\sum_j \exp(f_{attn}(\text{key}_j, \text{query}))}, \quad \text{out} = \sum_i \alpha_i \cdot \text{value}_i$$