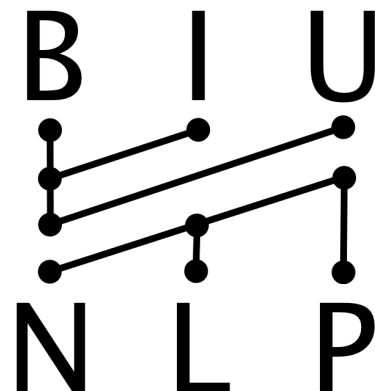
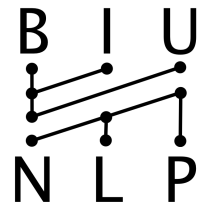


# Neural Language Generation

Yoav Goldberg  
INLG 2018



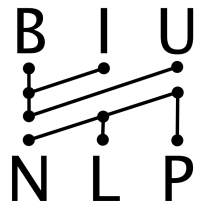


# NLG and me

**My PhD supervisor**



Michael Elhadad



# NLG and me

**His PhD supervisor**

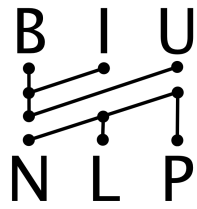


Kathleen McKeown

**My PhD supervisor**



Michael Elhadad



# NLG and me

**His PhD supervisor**



Kathleen McKeown

**My PhD supervisor**



Michael Elhadad

**His other PhD  
students**



Regina Barzilay

- Lexical chains
- Statistical NLG
- Coherence
- ....



# NLG and me

**His PhD supervisor**



Kathleen McKeown

**My PhD supervisor**



Michael Elhadad

**His other PhD students**



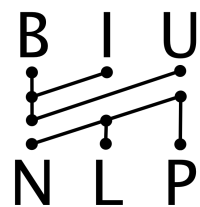
Regina Barzilay



Yael Netzer

- Generation in Hebrew (determiners and quantifiers, noun-compounds)
- Generation for assistive tech
- **Organizer of INLG 2000**

....



# NLG and me

**His PhD supervisor**



Kathleen McKeown

**My PhD supervisor**

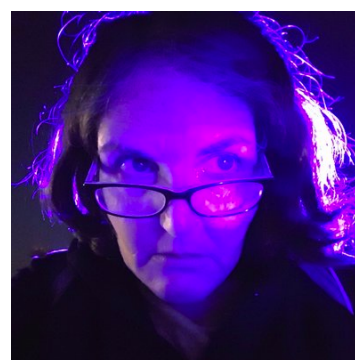


Michael Elhadad

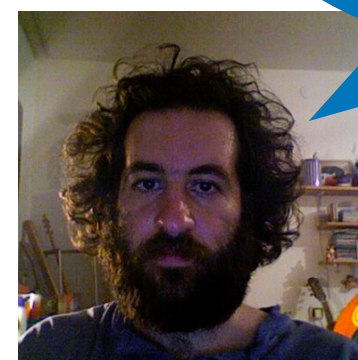
**His other PhD students**



Regina Barzilay



Yael Netzer



Yoav Goldberg

I'll do my PhD on syntactic parsing

# Gaiku : Generating Haiku with Word Associations Norms

**Yael Netzer\*** and **David Gabay** and **Yoav Goldberg<sup>†</sup>** and **Michael Elhadad**

Ben Gurion University of the Negev

Department of Computer Science

POB 653 Be'er Sheva, 84105, Israel

`{yaeln, gabayd, yoavg, elhadad}@cs.bgu.ac.il`



David Gabay



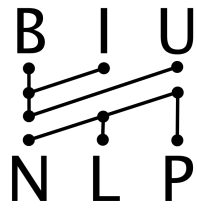
Michael Elhadad



Yael Netzer



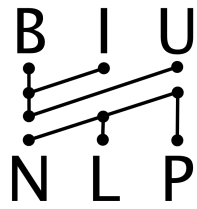
Yoav Goldberg



# NLG and me

- I am **NOT** an expert on NLG
- I **MAY** be considered an expert on "neural" NLP methods
- I **sometimes** say controversial things
- I **know enough** about NLG to identify when it is done wrong
- I think neural NLG methods are doing most things wrong





# Who to invite to give a tutorial next year?

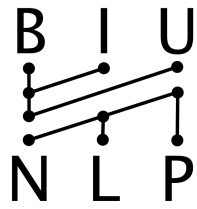


**Mirella Lapata**



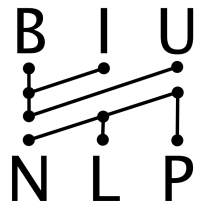
**Alexander Rush**

?



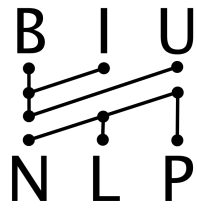
# This tutorial

- How to use neural methods for generating text.
  - ...while somewhat controlling the resulting output.
- What are the common neural techniques in use today?
  - seq2seq+attention
- Some tools.
- May be trivial for many of you, drinking from the firehose to others.



# This tutorial

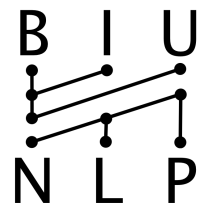
- The components which I think are useful to know.
- Concepts, not details (sorry, no time).
- No "state of the art" (because there isn't any state-of-the-art).
- Some high-level observations.
- We may not get to the end, so feel free to interfere with questions.



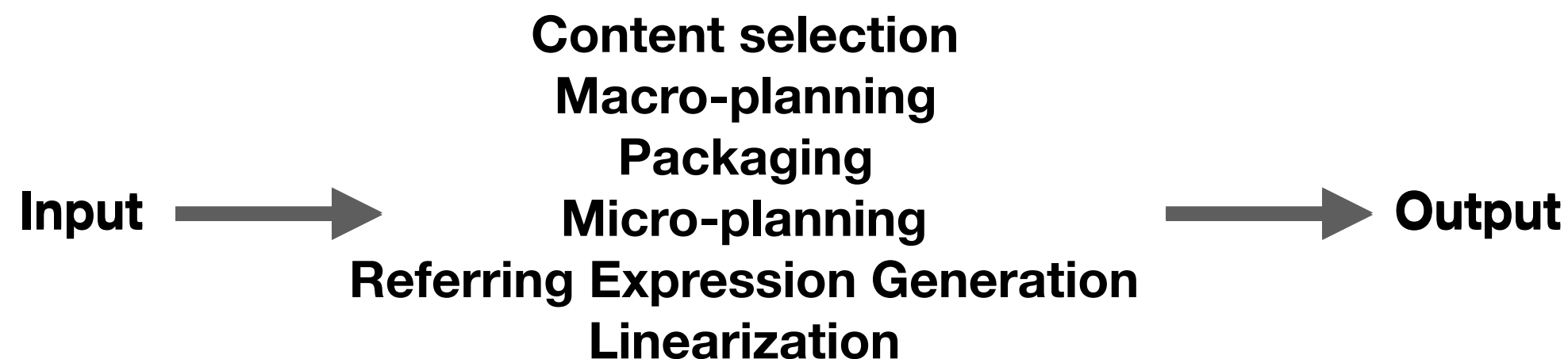
# This tutorial

- Part 1: The mechanics
- Part 2: Use cases / examples
- Part 3: Opinions

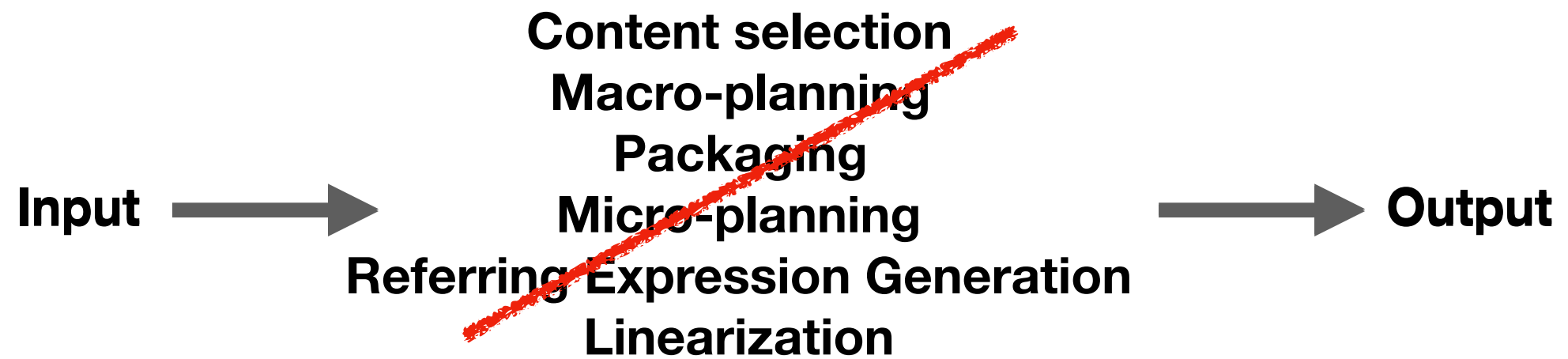


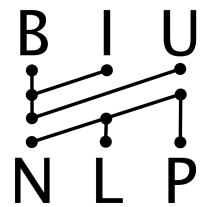


# Classic NLG

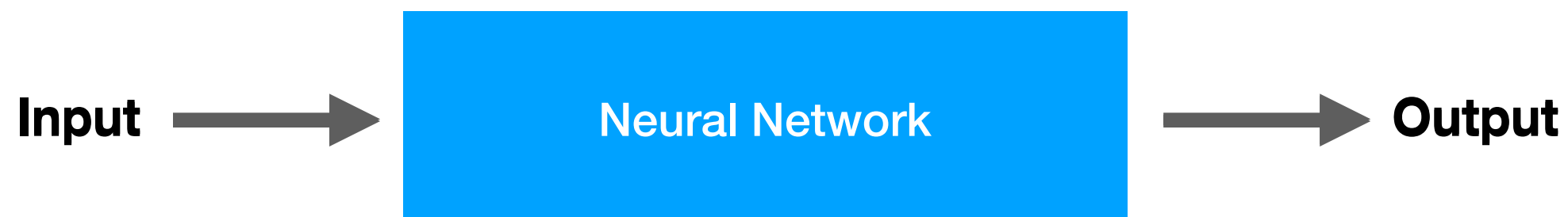


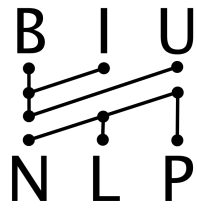
# Neural NLG



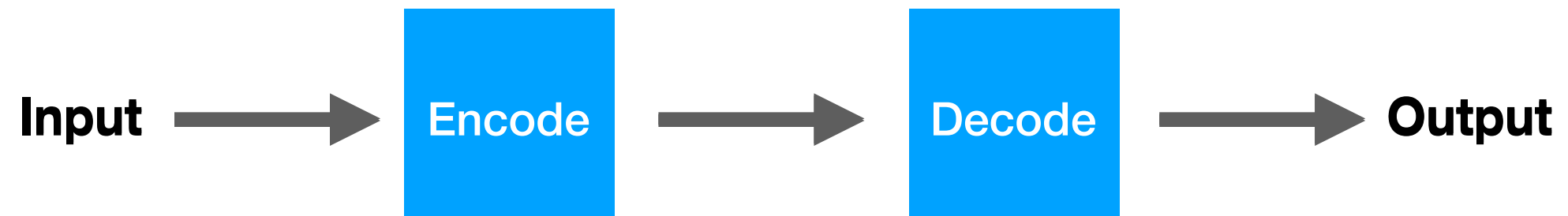


# Neural NLG

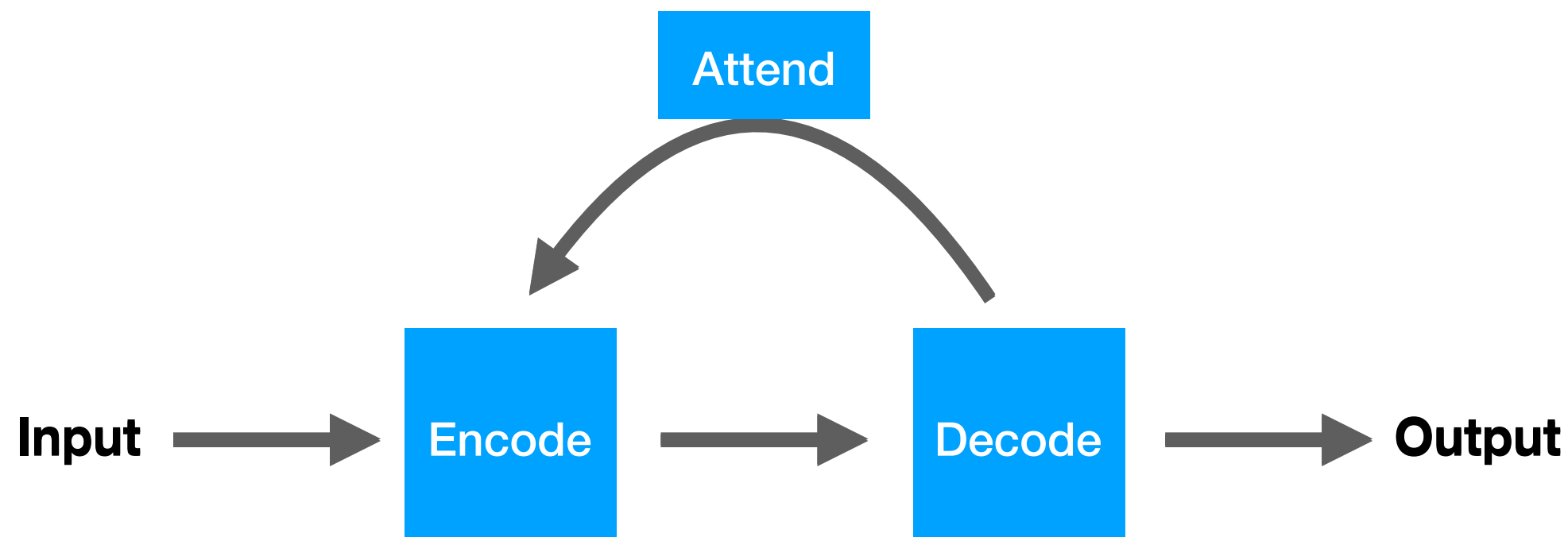




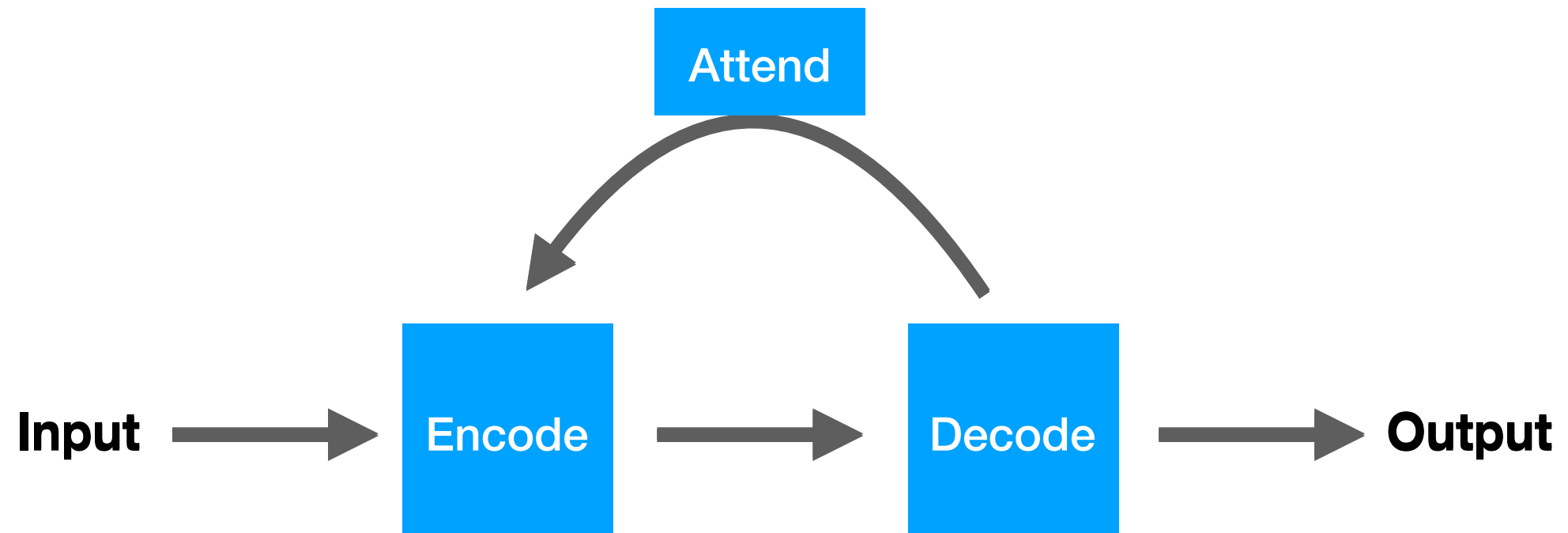
# The basic abstraction



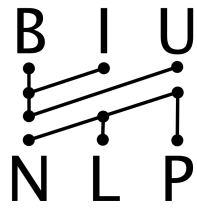
# The basic abstraction



# The basic abstraction



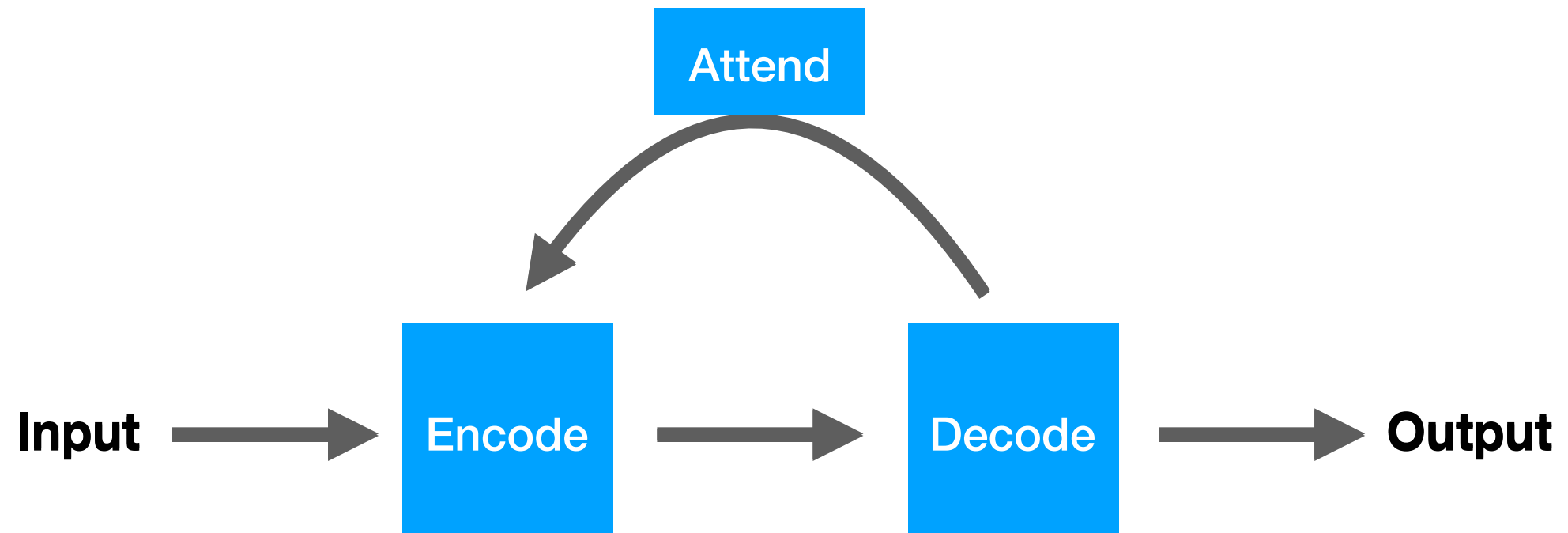
**Neural Machine Translation**



# Neural NLG

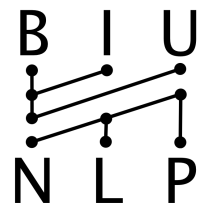
- Neural networks are great at learning to map inputs to outputs based on examples.
- They are surprisingly effective at discovering regularities.
- They need many training examples.
- They are somewhat hard to control.

# The basic abstraction



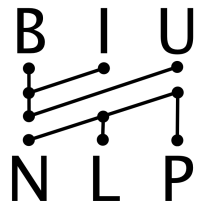
**Neural Machine Translation**





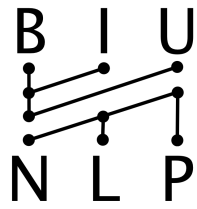
# sequence to sequence text generation

(neural machine translation)



# Language Model

- How to assign a probability to a sentence.
  - $p(\text{I read a book about dogs})$
- another view: distribution over next word:
  - $p(\text{dogs} \mid \text{I read a book about } \underline{\hspace{2cm}})$

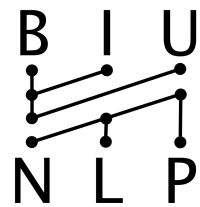


# Language Model

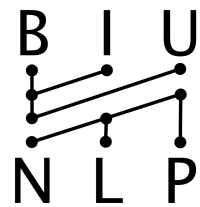
- **Can generate from a trained language model.**
- Probability of first word given empty sentence.
  - Sample the first word.
- Probability of second word given first word.
  - Sample the second word.
- Probability of third word given first two words.
  - Sample the third word.
- ....

# Language Model

- `gen_so_far = ["<s>"]`
- `while True:`
  - `next_word_distribution = p(next | gen_so_far)`
  - **sample** `next_word` **from** `next_word_distribution`
  - `if next_word == "</s>": break`
  - `gen_so_far.append(next_word)`



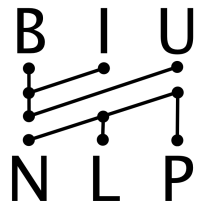
# Let's build a neural LM



# Neural Networks

$$f(\boxed{\text{blue circle blue circle blue circle blue circle}}) = \boxed{\text{purple circle purple circle purple circle purple circle}}$$

**functions from vectors  
to vectors**

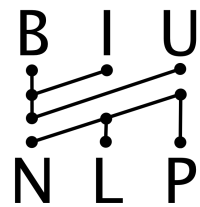


# Neural Networks

$$p(\boxed{\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet}) =$$

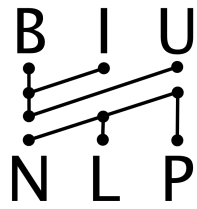

functions from vectors  
to **probabilities**

(these are still functions from vectors to vectors)



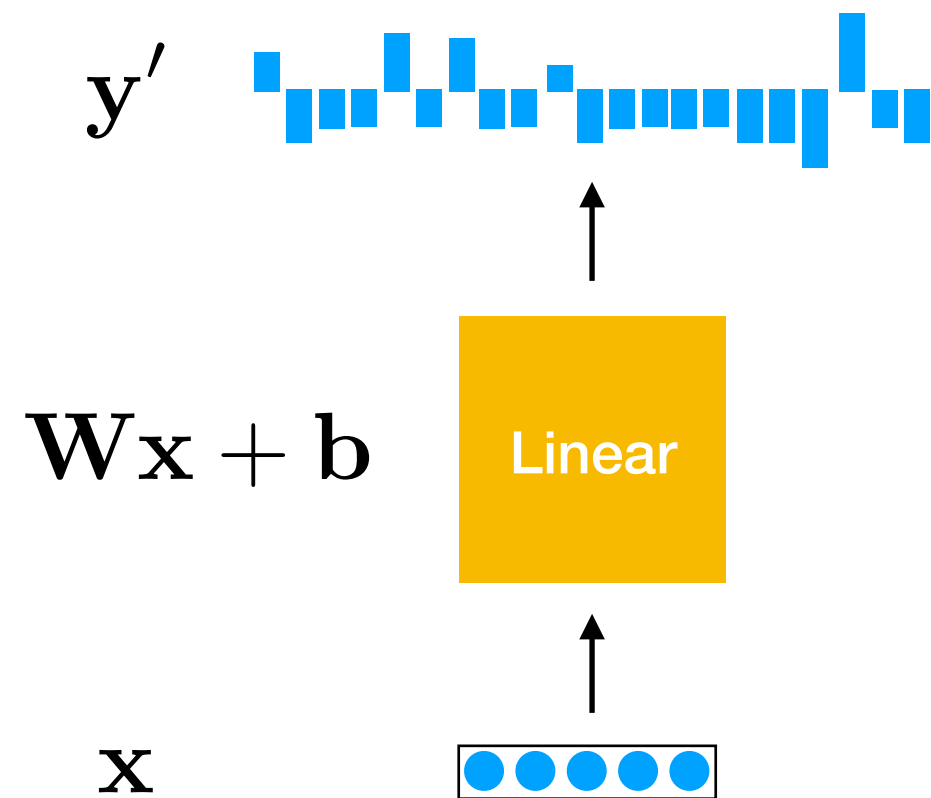
# Predicting from a vector



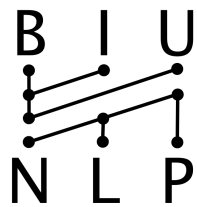


# Predict from a vector (Linear Layer + softmax)

$$p(y = ? | \mathbf{x})$$

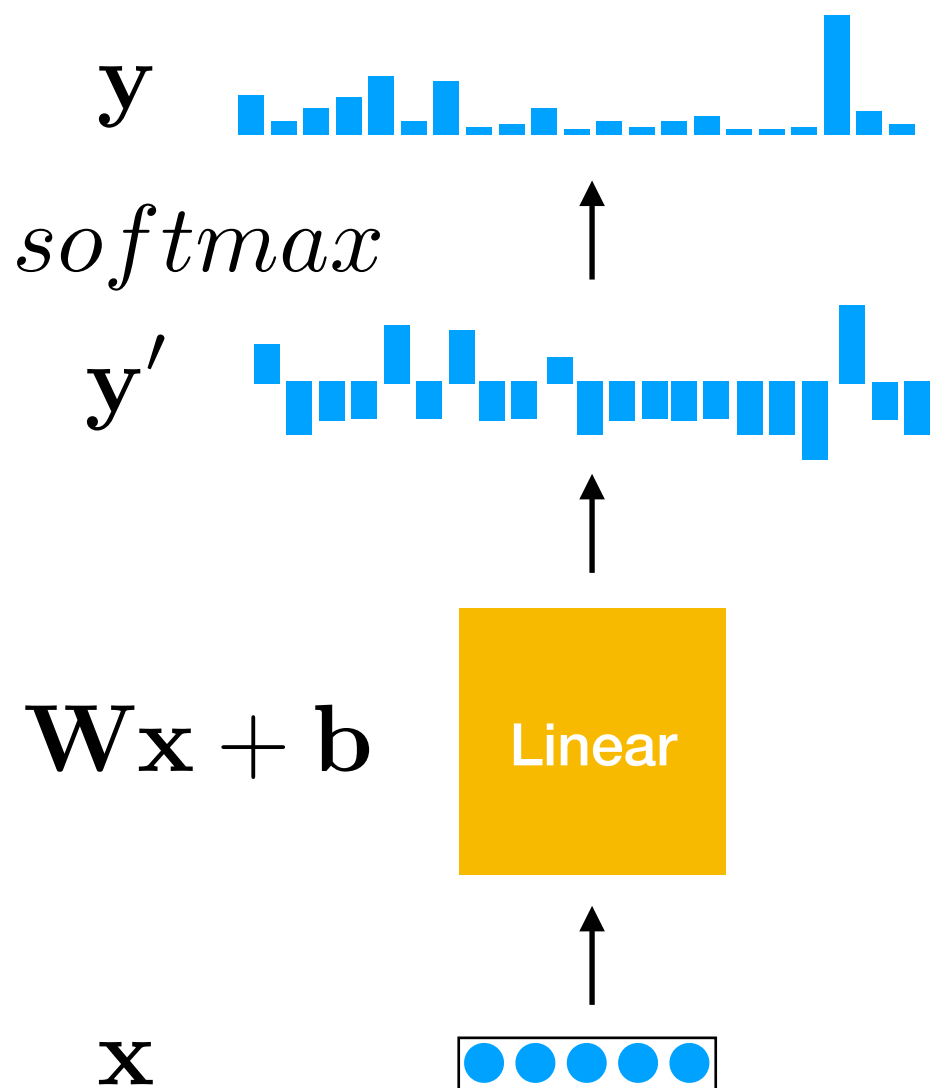


$$\text{predict}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}$$



# Predict from a vector (Linear Layer + softmax)

$$p(y = ? | \mathbf{x})$$

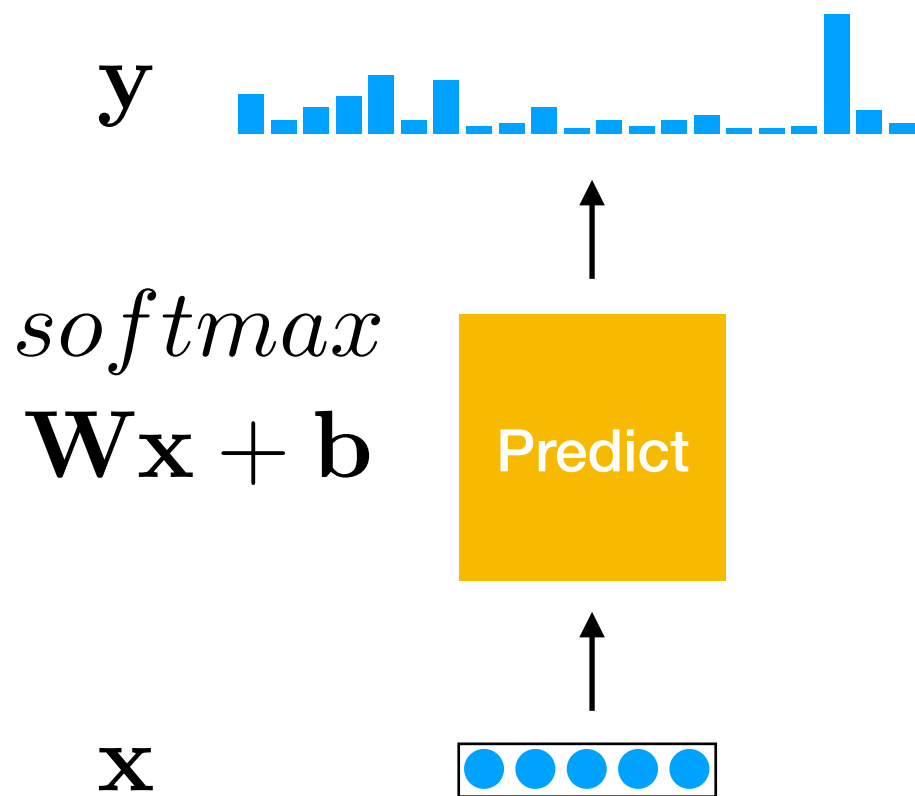


$$\text{predict}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b})$$

$$\text{softmax}(\mathbf{x})_{[i]} = \frac{e^{\mathbf{x}_{[i]}}}{\sum_j e^{\mathbf{x}_{[j]}}}$$

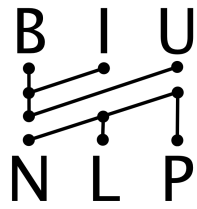
# Predict from a vector (Linear Layer + softmax)

$$p(y = ? | \mathbf{x})$$



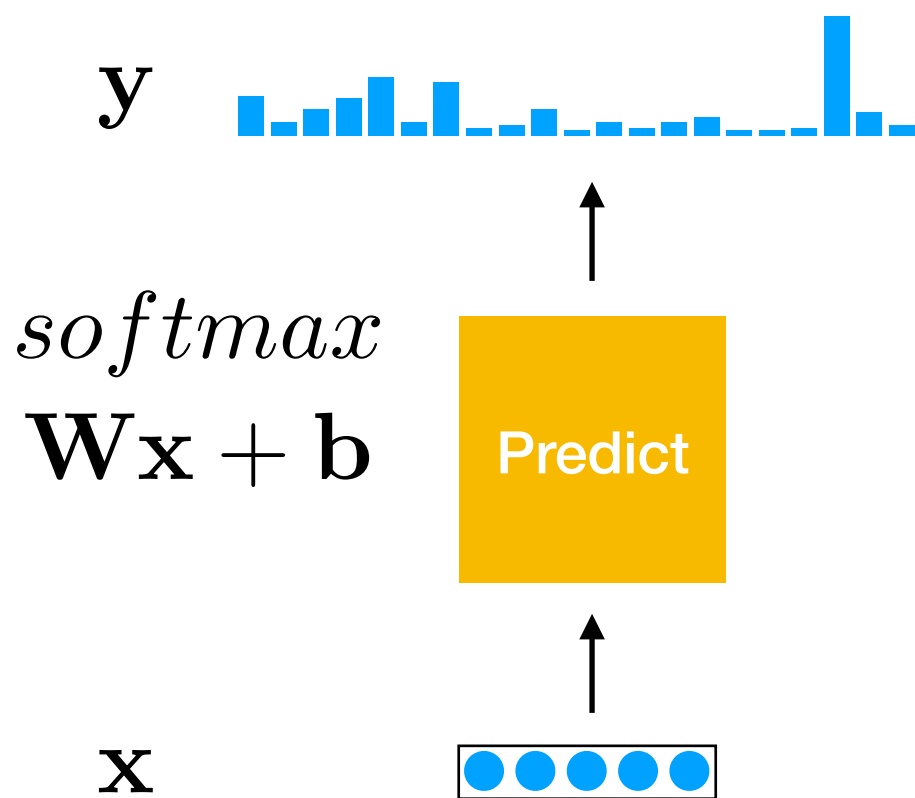
$$\text{predict}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b})$$

$$\text{softmax}(\mathbf{x})_{[i]} = \frac{e^{\mathbf{x}_{[i]}}}{\sum_j e^{\mathbf{x}_{[j]}}}$$



# Predict from a vector (Linear Layer + softmax)

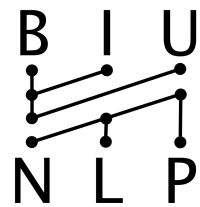
$$p(y = ? | \mathbf{x})$$



$$\text{predict}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b})$$

$$\text{softmax}(\mathbf{x})_{[i]} = \frac{e^{\mathbf{x}_{[i]}}}{\sum_j e^{\mathbf{x}_{[j]}}}$$

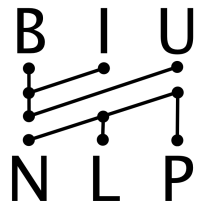
Discuss training



# Predicting from words

# Neural NLP Building Blocks

- Word Embeddings: translate a word to a vector.
- Ways of combining vectors.

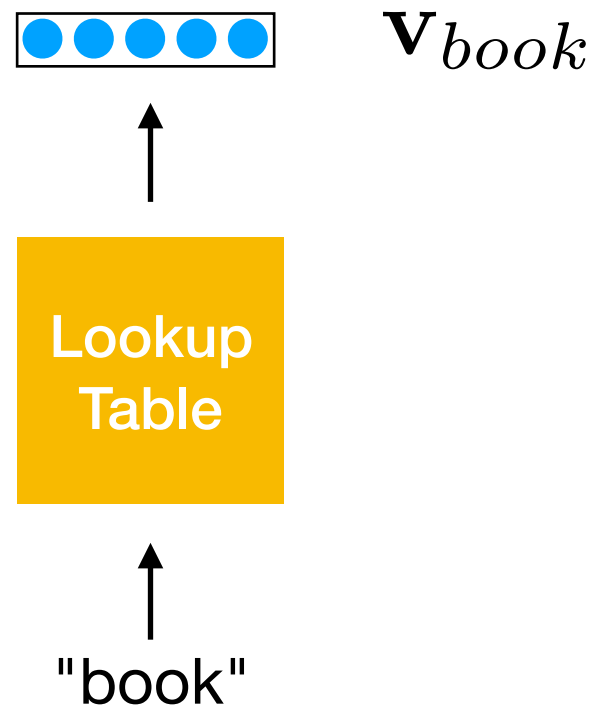


# Word Embeddings

- Translate each word in the (fixed) vocabulary to a vector.
  - Typical dimensions: 100-300
  - Translation is done using a lookup table.
  - Can be "pre-trained" (word2vec, glove)
- Dealing with "infinite" vocabularies:
  - word pieces, bpe

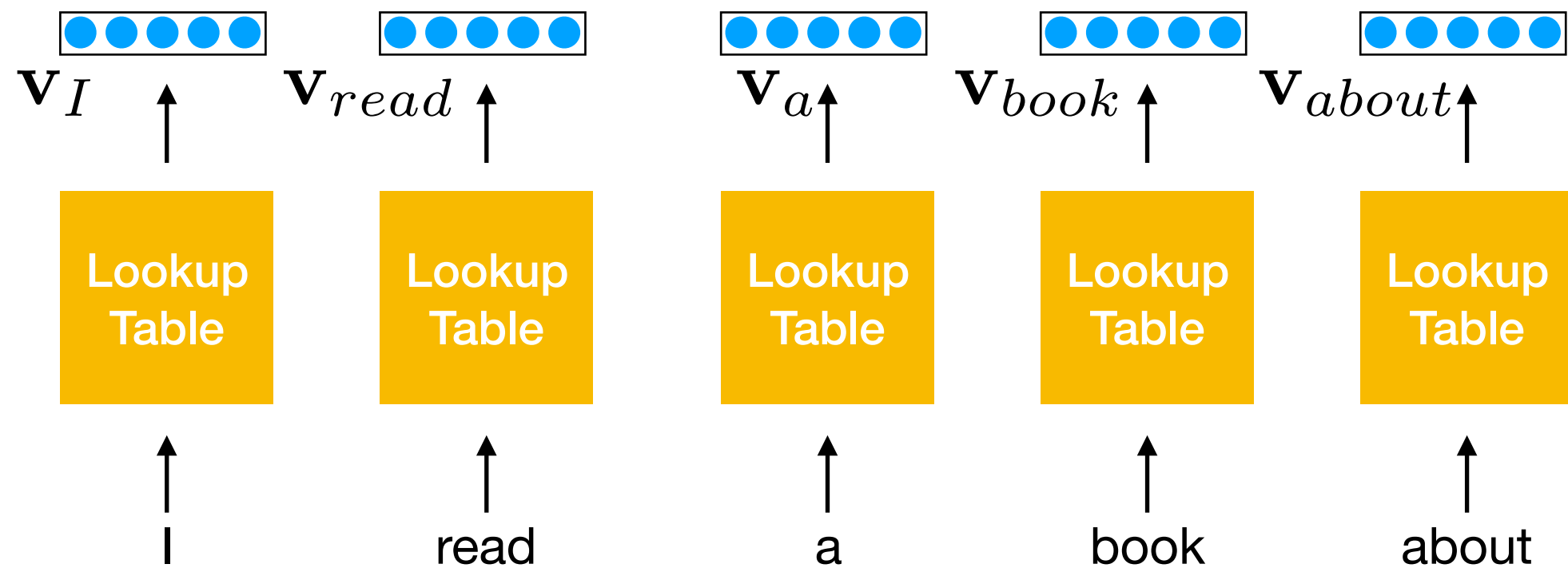
# Word Embeddings

$$\mathbf{v}_{book} = \mathbf{E}[book]$$

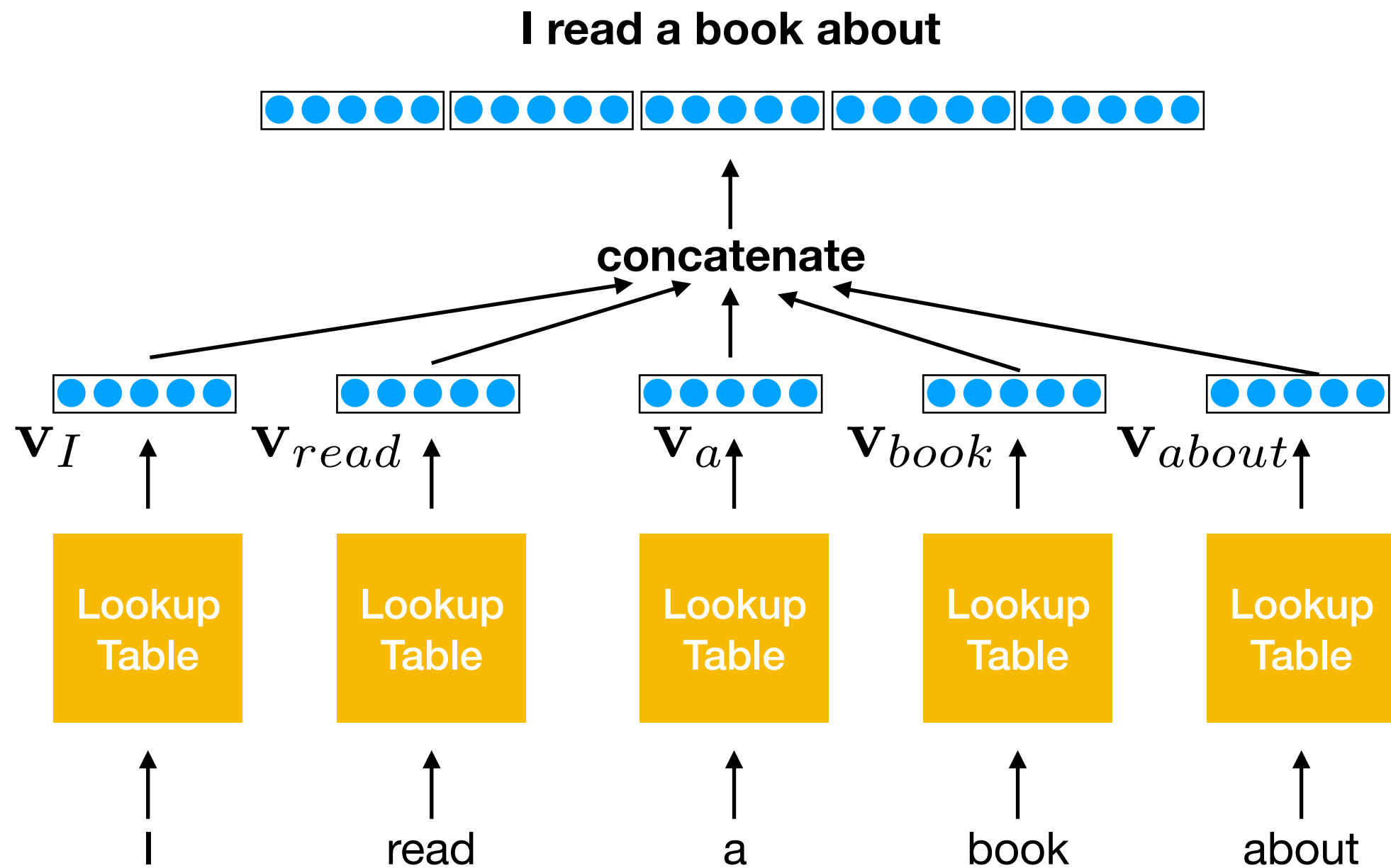




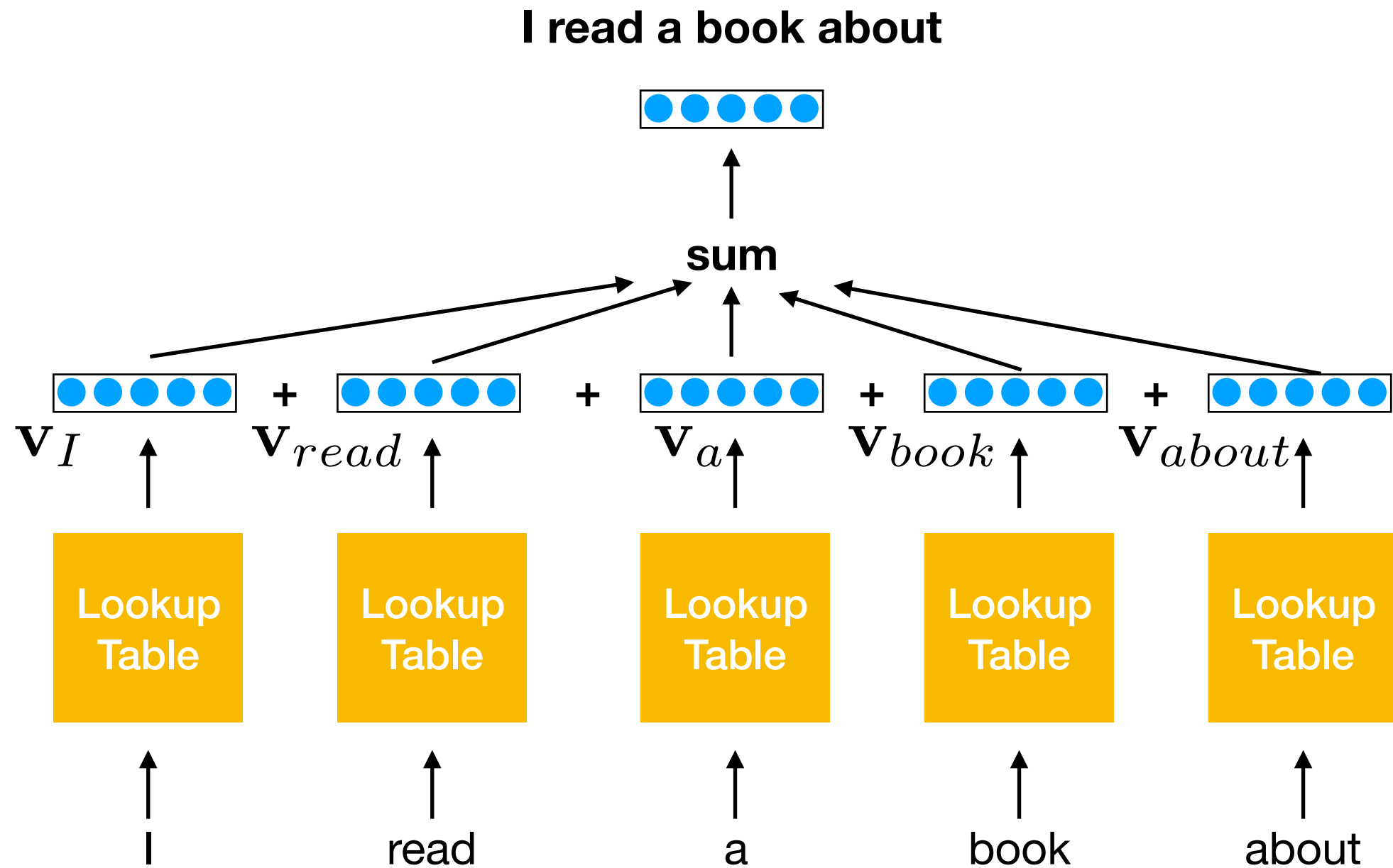
# Combining Vectors



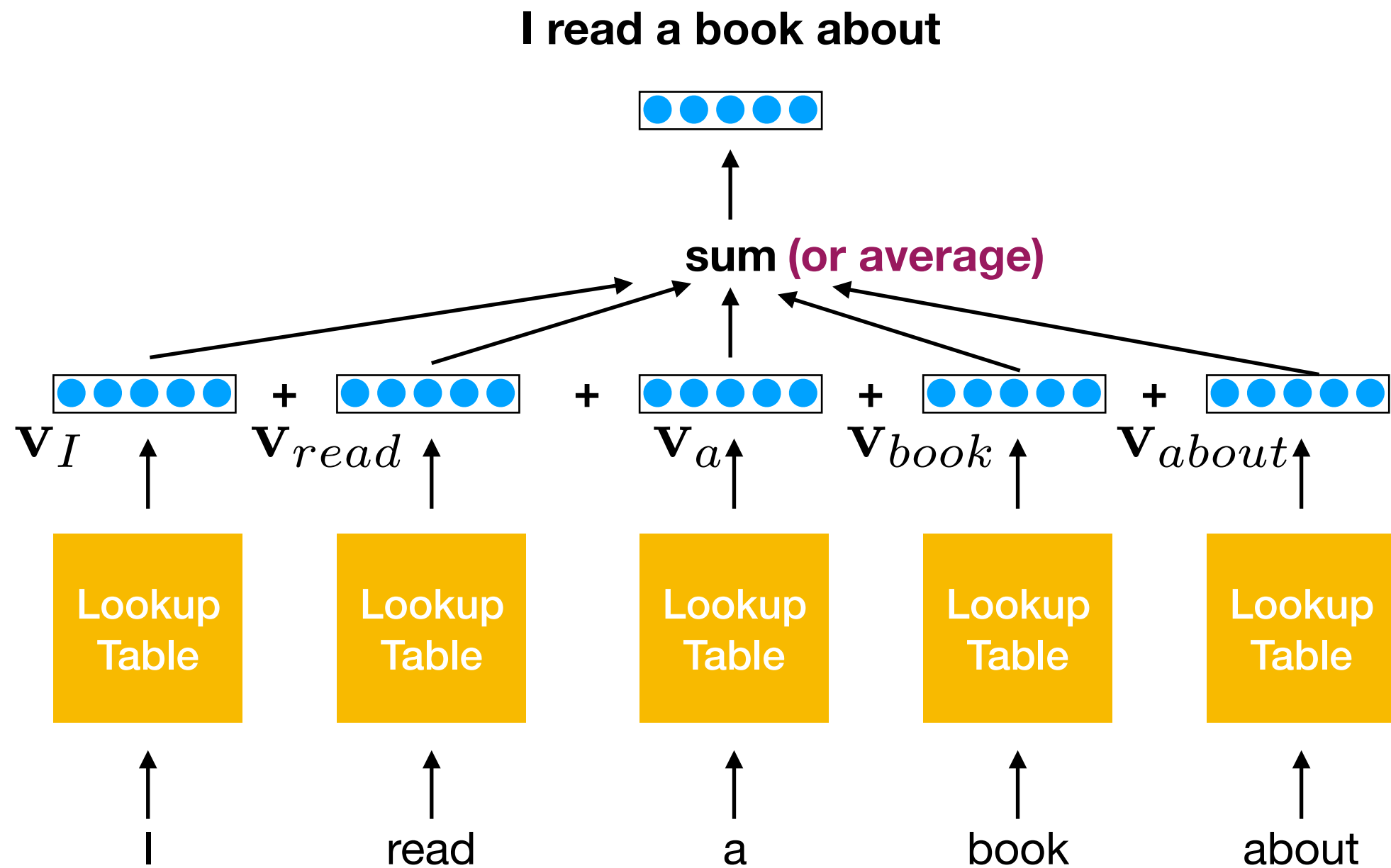
# Combining Vectors



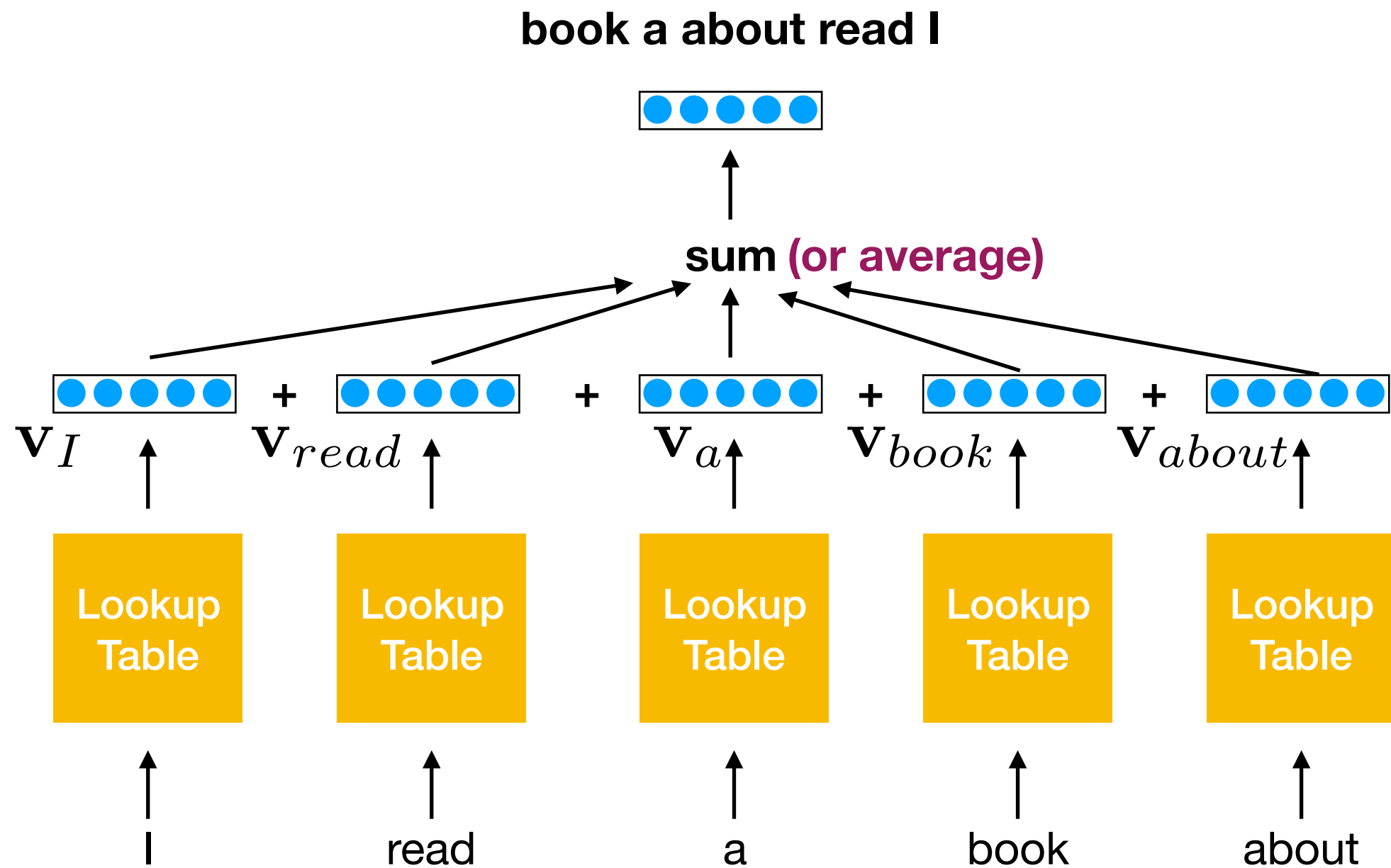
# Combining Vectors

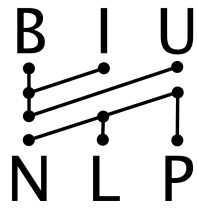


# Combining Vectors



# Combining Vectors





# Combining Vectors

## Concatenate

I read



I read a



I read a book



I read a book about



## Sum (or average)

I read



I read a



I read a book



I read a book about



I book a read about  
book about read I a  
I a about book read  
a read about book I

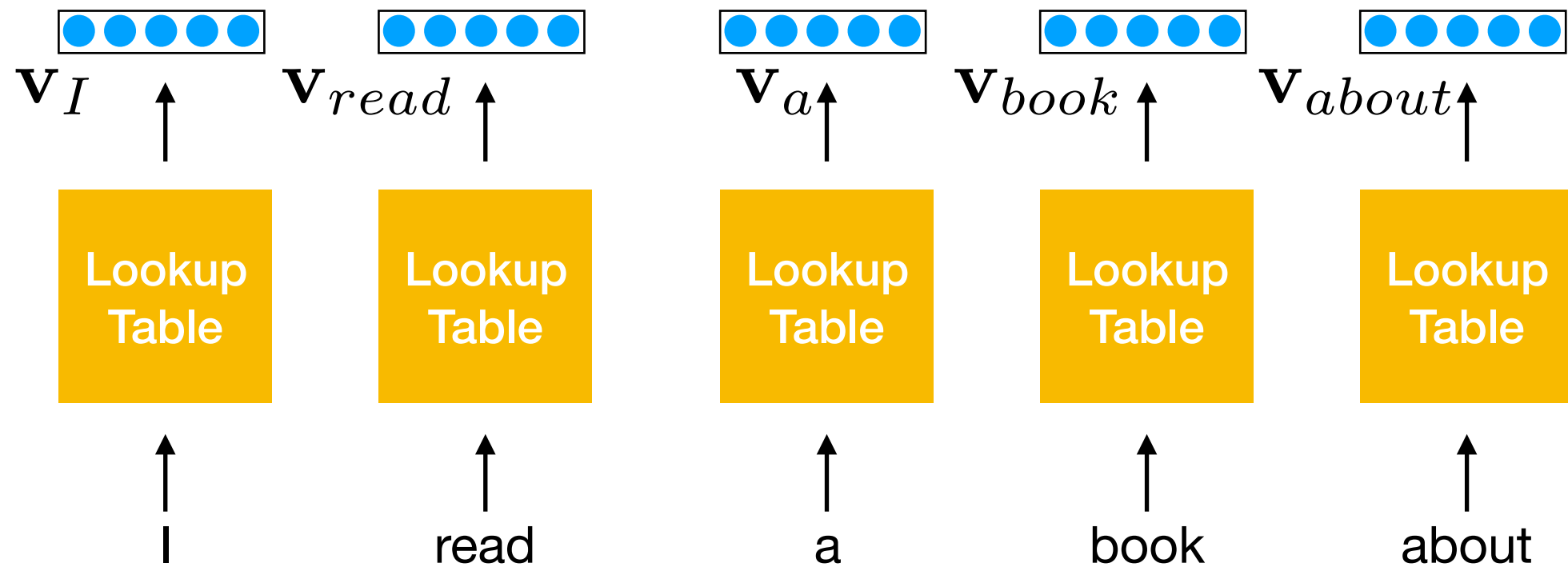
...

more words = longer vectors

order invariant

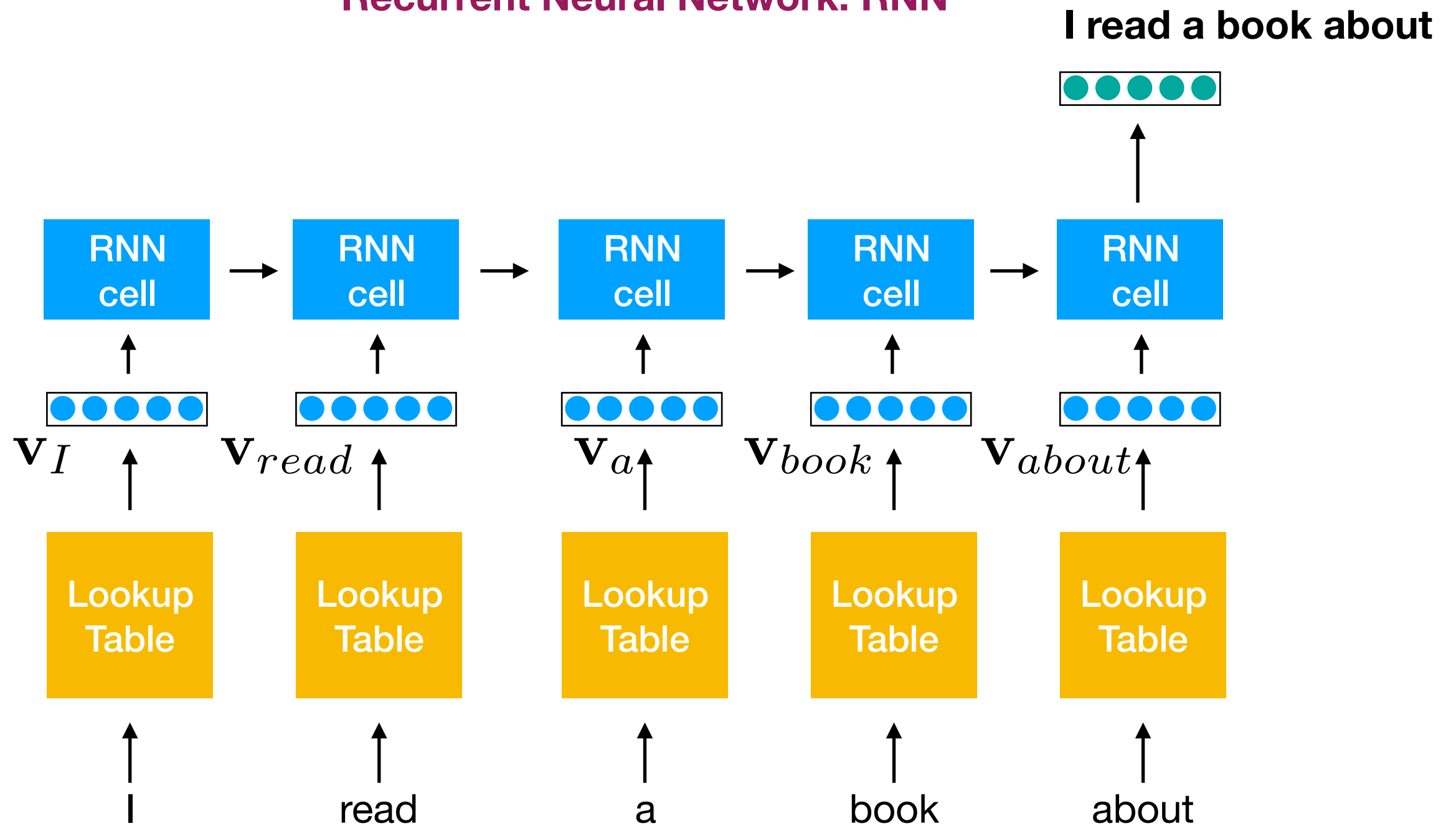
# Combining Vectors

Recurrent Neural Network: RNN



# Combining Vectors

## Recurrent Neural Network: RNN



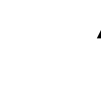
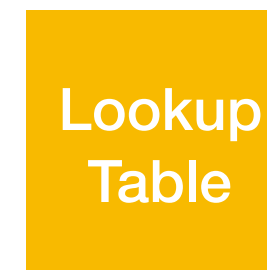


# Combining Vectors

I read a book about



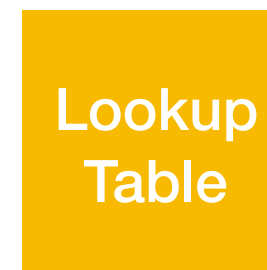
$V_{about}$



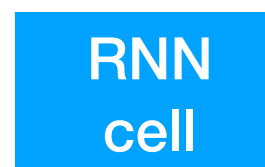
about



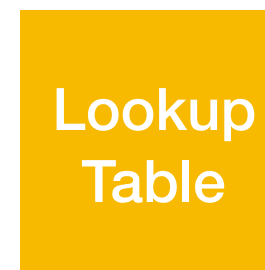
$V_{book}$



book



$V_a$



a



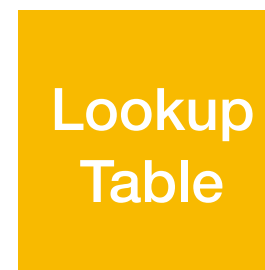
$V_{read}$



read



$V_I$

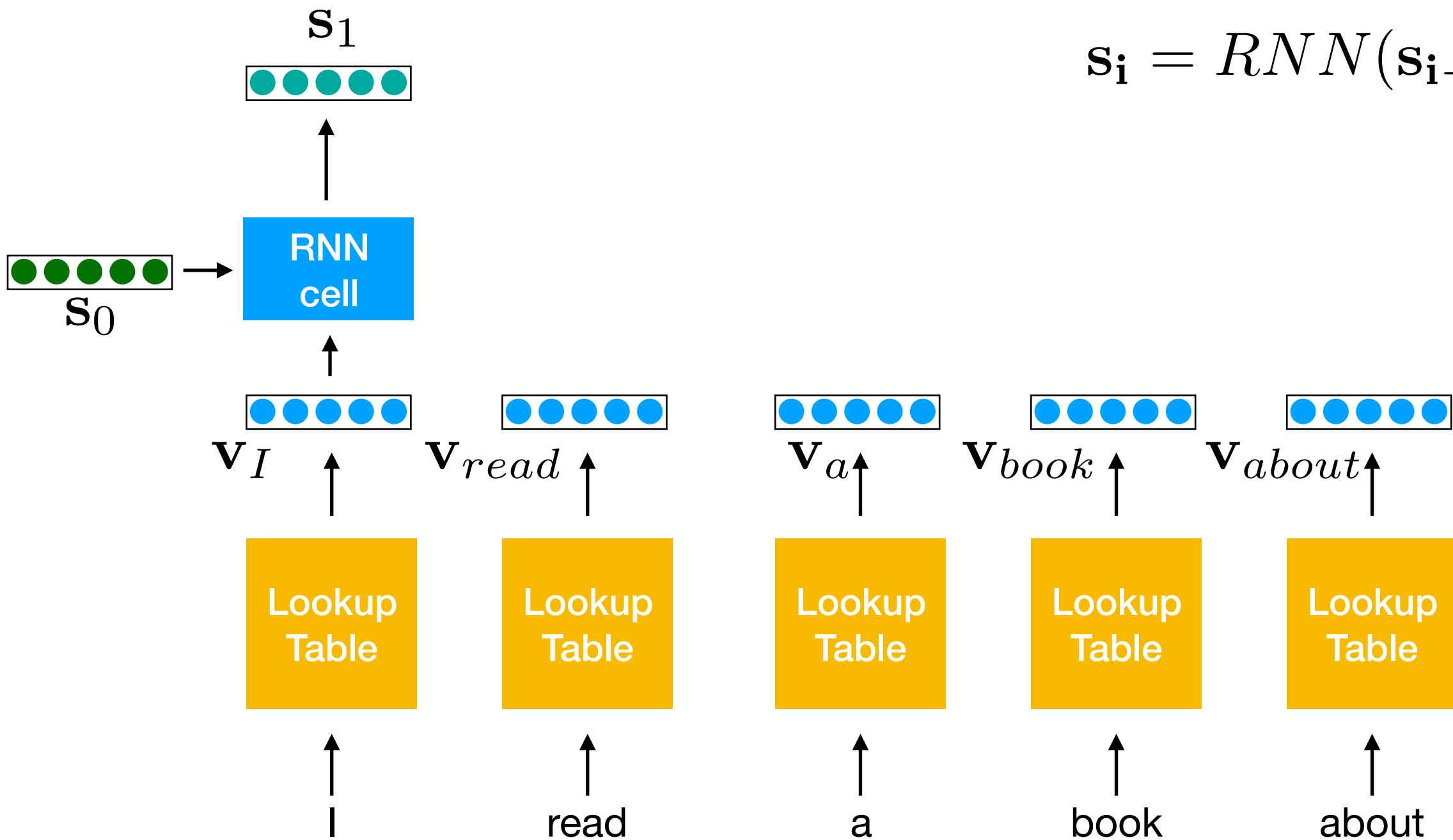


I



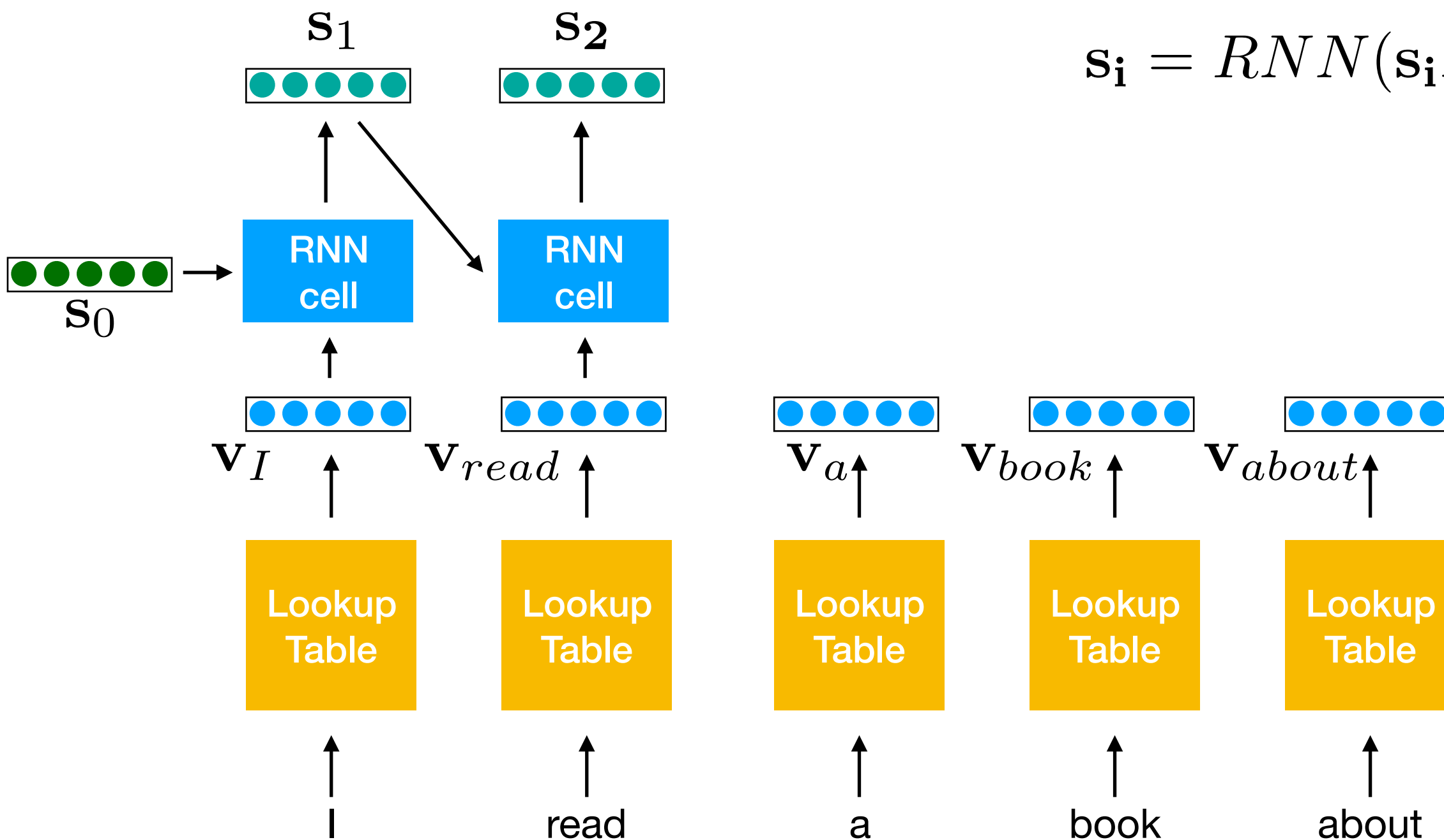
# Combining Vectors

$$s_i = RNN(s_{i-1}, x_i)$$

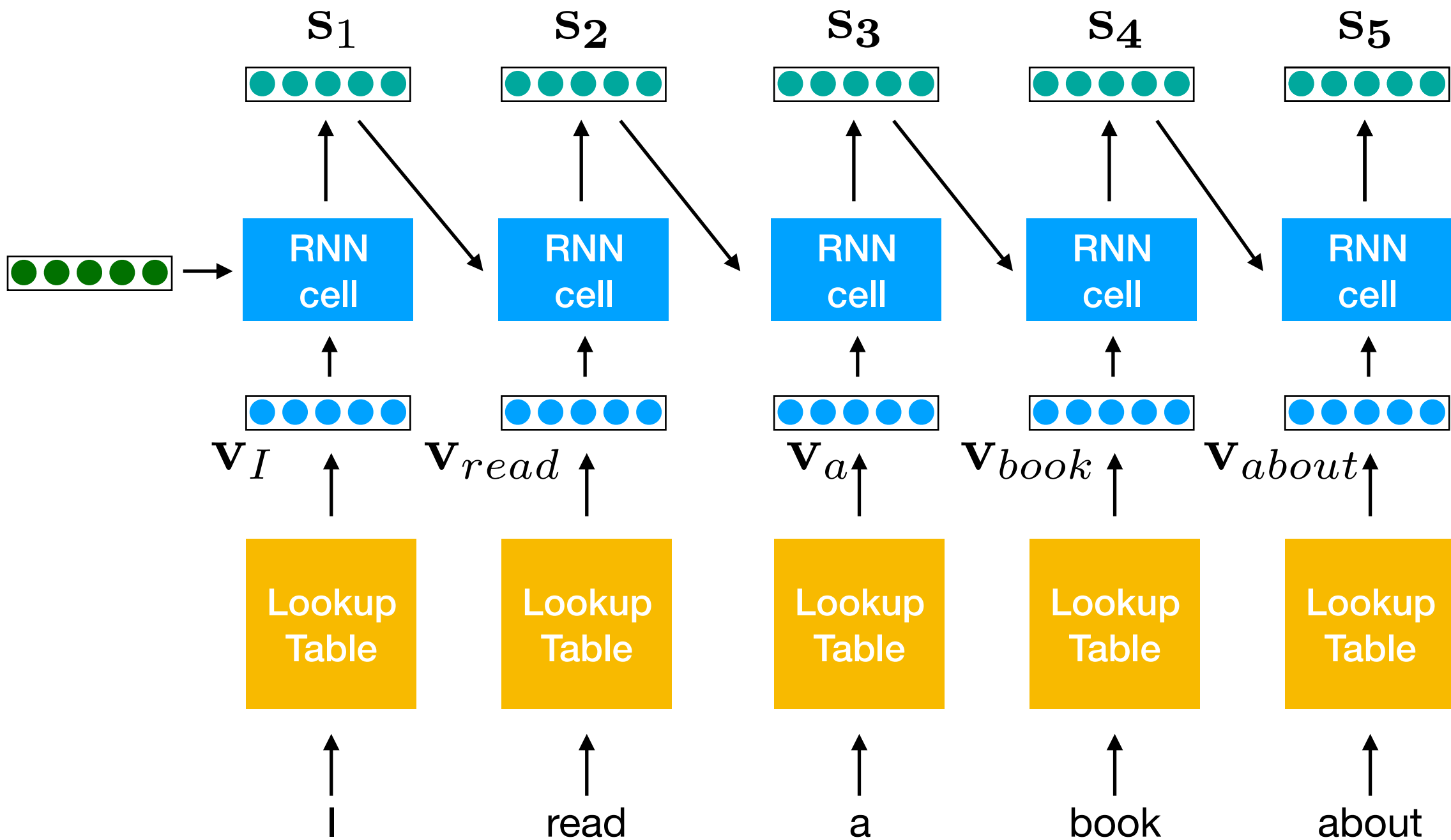


# Combining Vectors

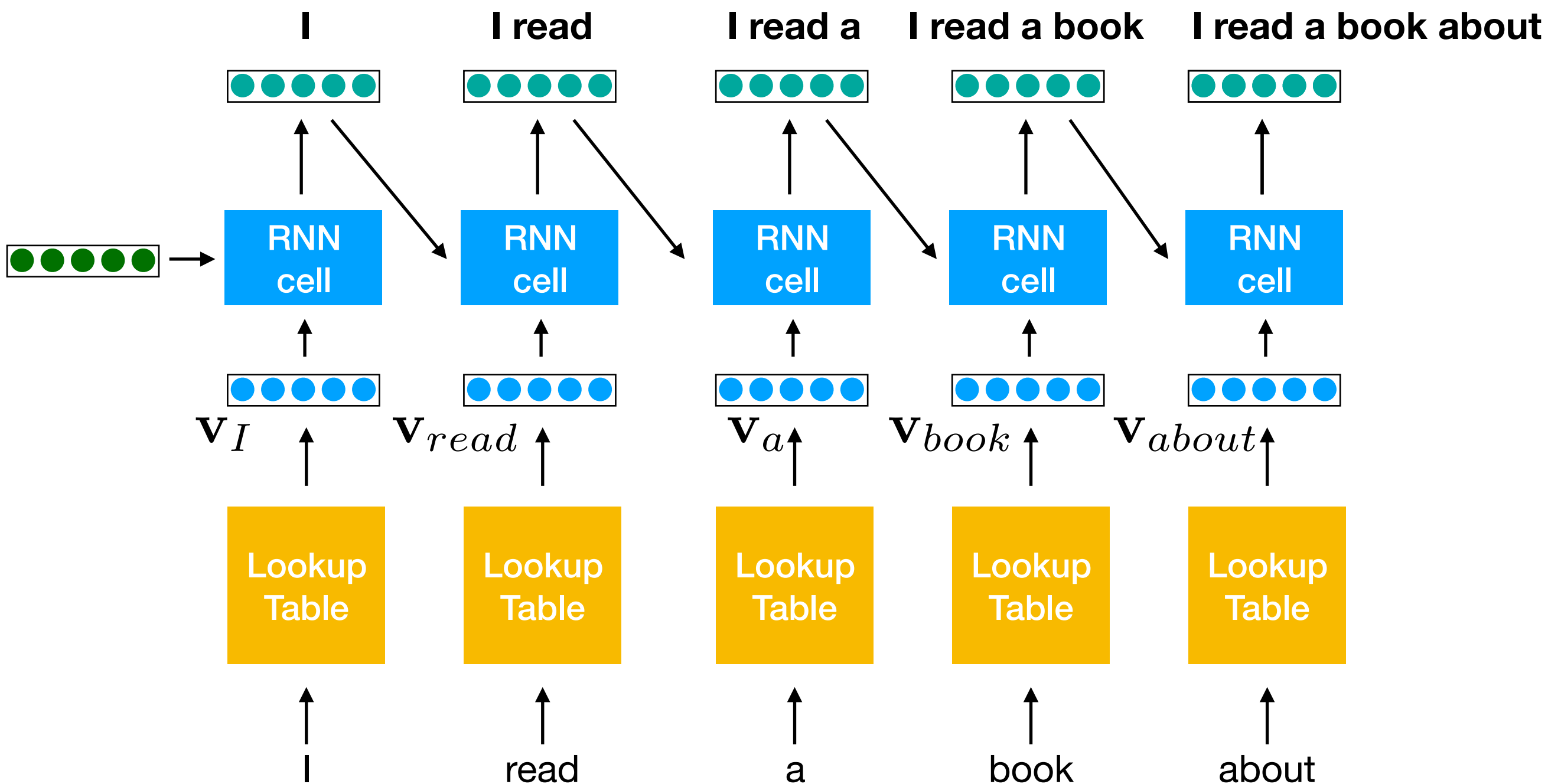
$$s_i = RNN(s_{i-1}, x_i)$$



# Combining Vectors



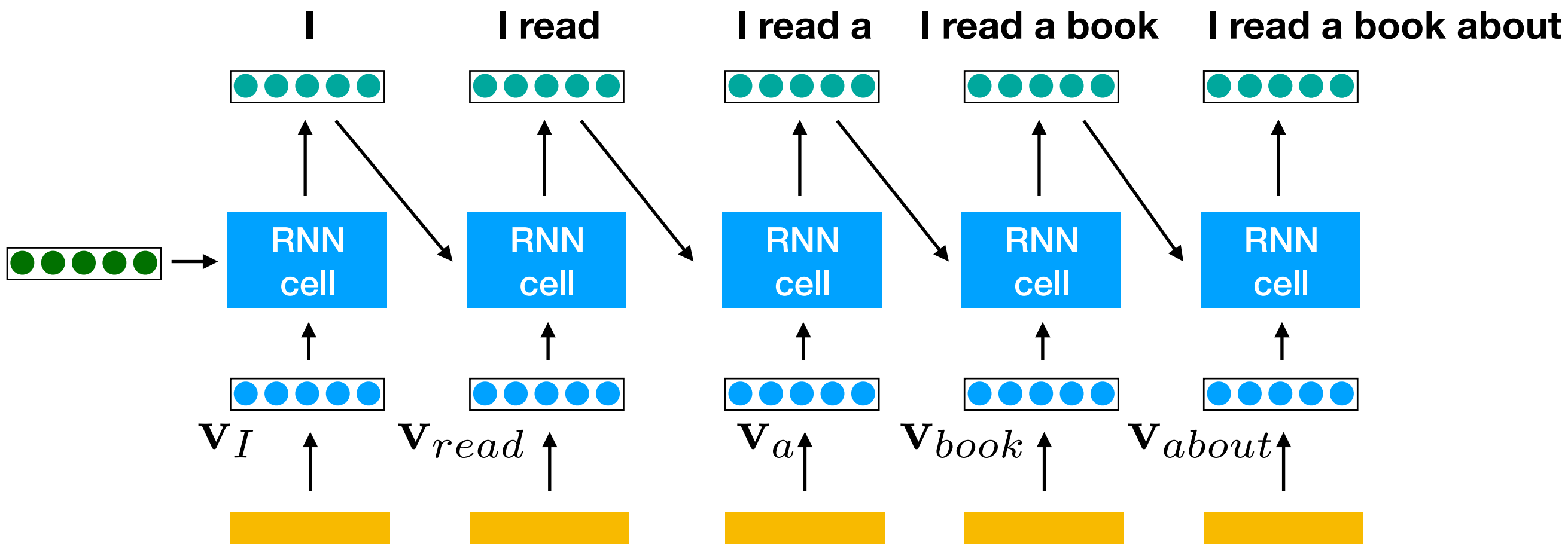
# Combining Vectors



# Combining Vectors

## Recurrent Neural Network: RNN

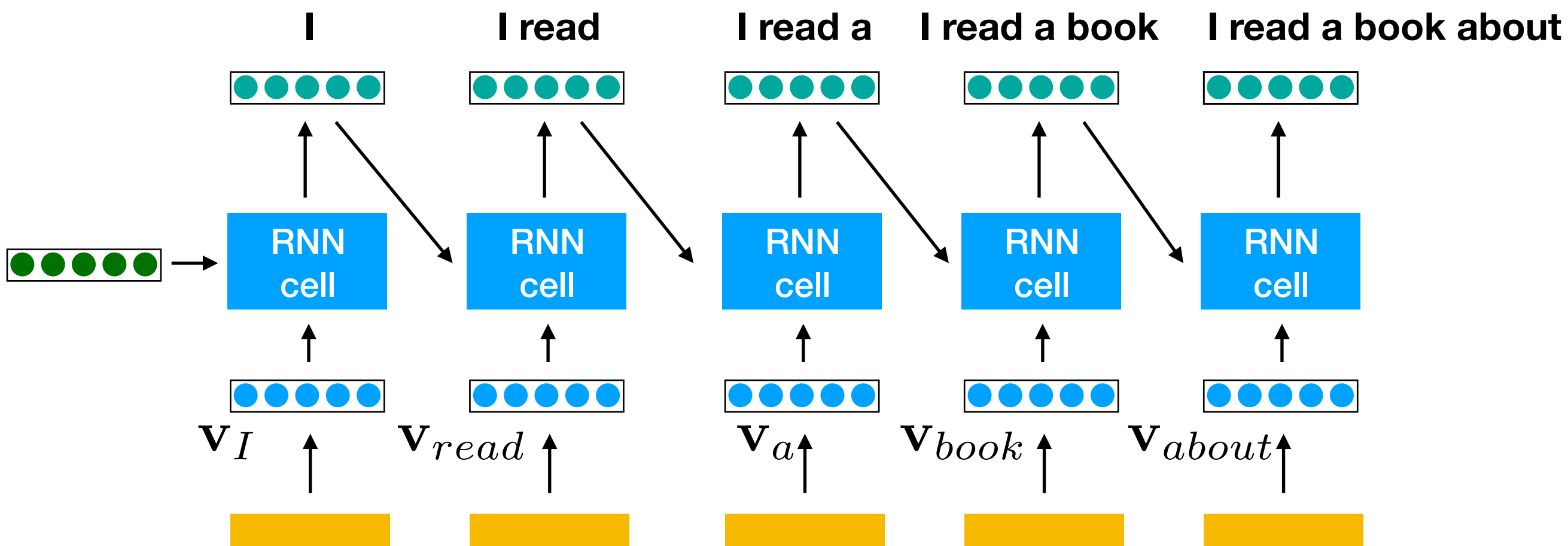
$$\mathbf{s}_i = \text{RNN}(\mathbf{s}_{i-1}, \mathbf{x}_i)$$



# Combining Vectors

## Recurrent Neural Network: RNN

$$R_{SRNN}(s_{i-1}, x_i) = \tanh(\mathbf{W}^s \cdot s_{i-1} + \mathbf{W}^x \cdot x_i)$$



# Combining Vectors

## Recurrent Neural Network: RNN

$$R_{LSTM}(s_{j-1}, x_j) = [c_j; h_j]$$

$$c_j = c_{j-1} \odot f + g \odot i$$

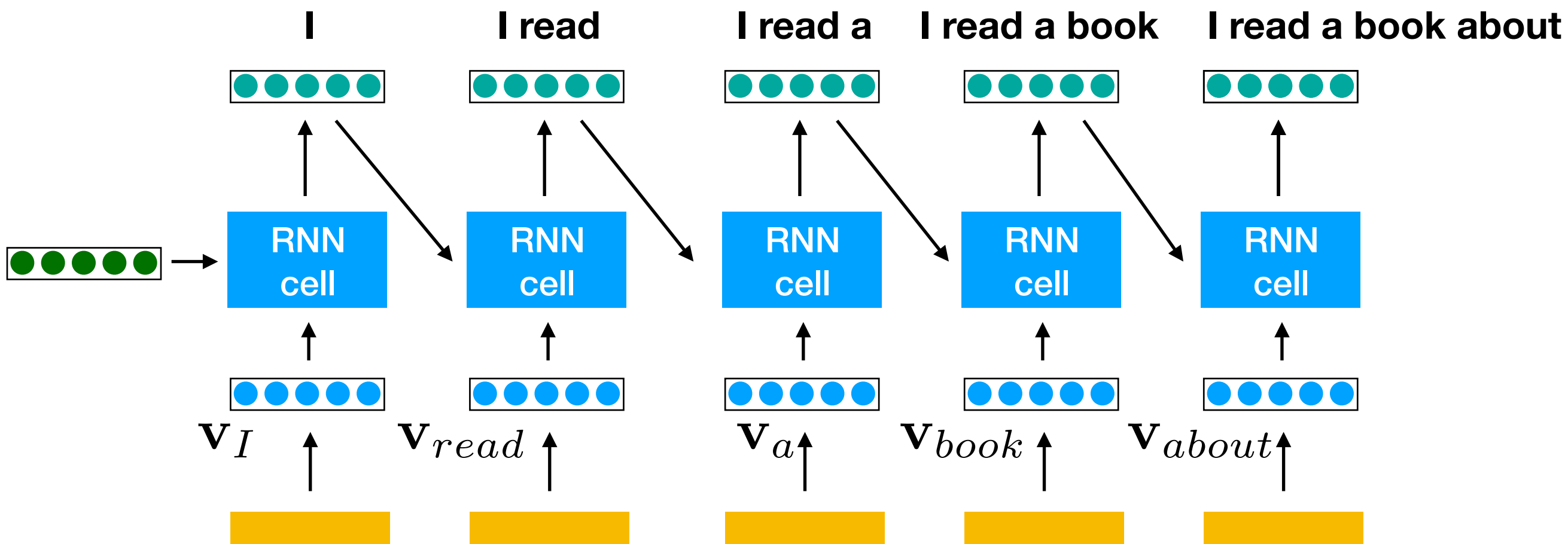
$$h_j = \tanh(c_j) \odot o$$

$$i = \sigma(W^{xi} \cdot x_j + W^{hi} \cdot h_{j-1})$$

$$f = \sigma(W^{xf} \cdot x_j + W^{hf} \cdot h_{j-1})$$

$$o = \sigma(W^{xo} \cdot x_j + W^{ho} \cdot h_{j-1})$$

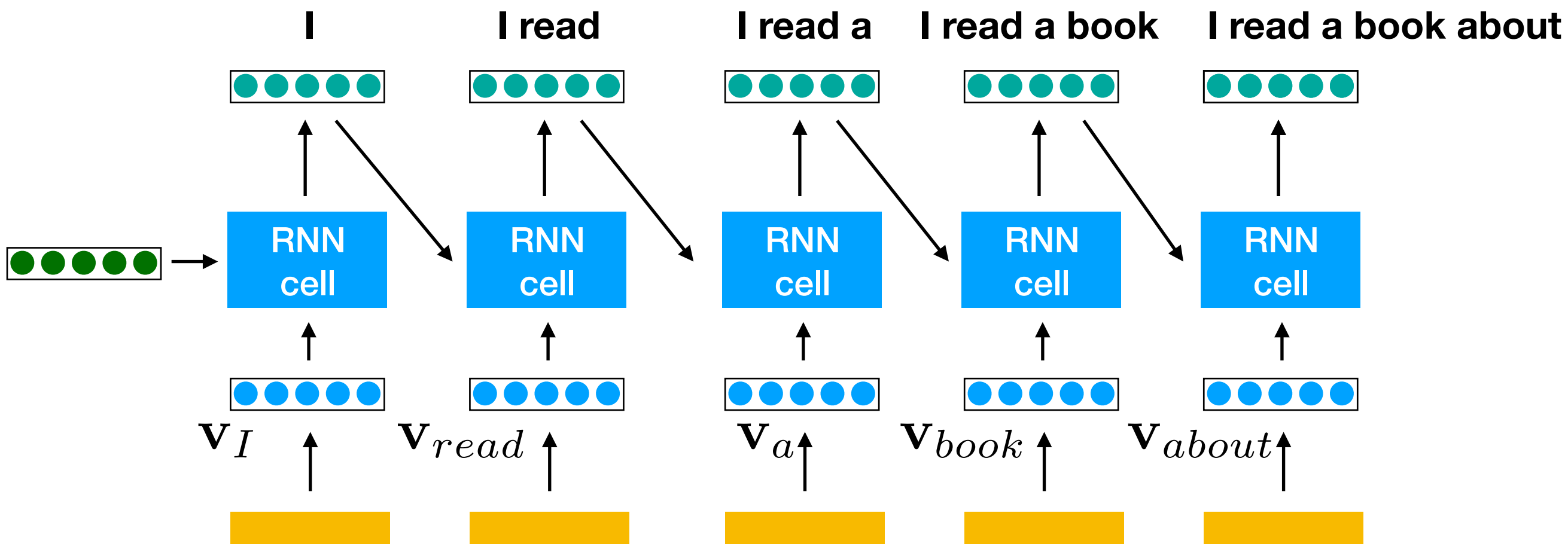
$$g = \tanh(W^{xg} \cdot x_j + W^{hg} \cdot h_{j-1})$$





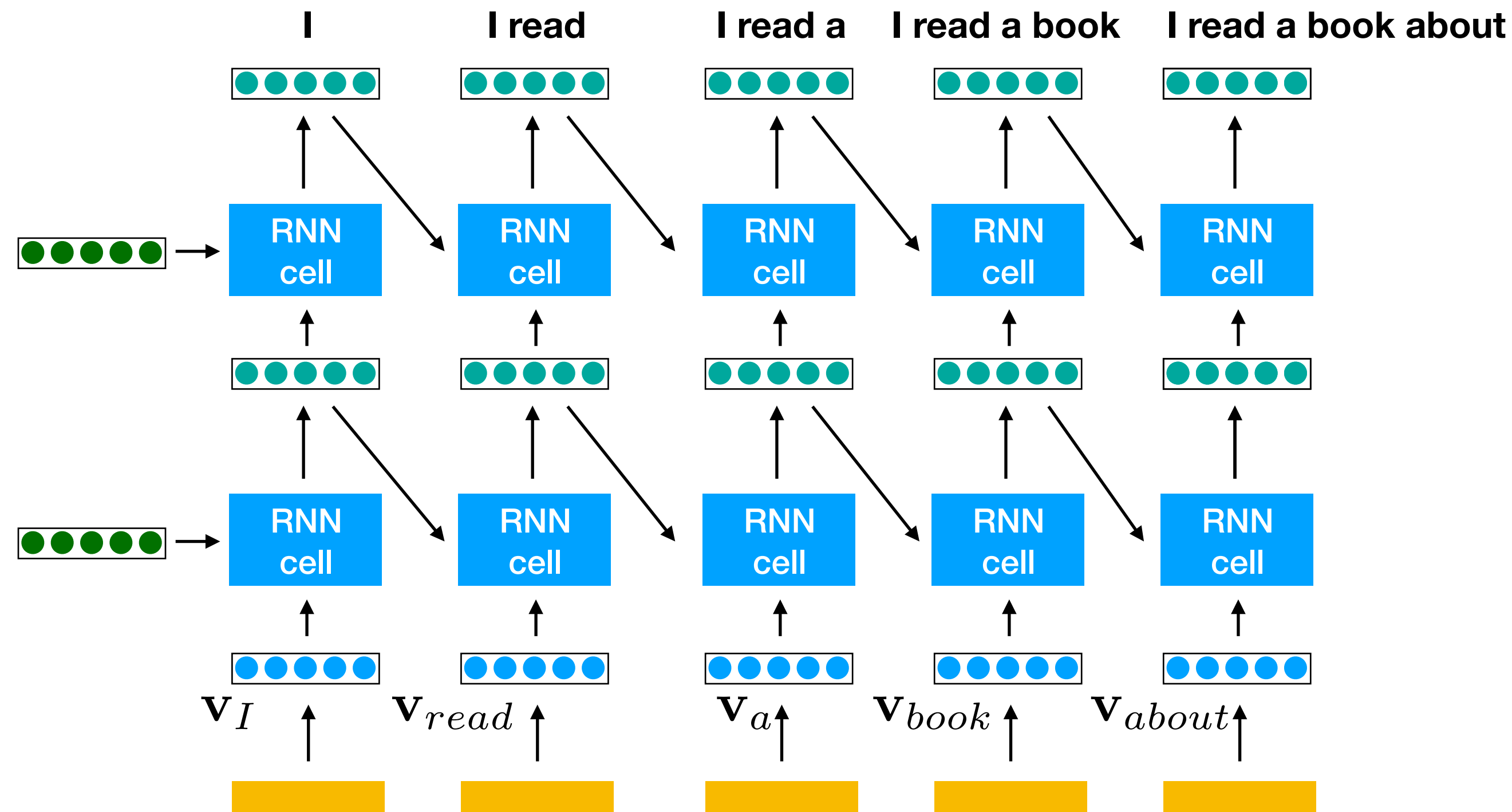
# Combining Vectors

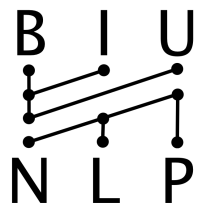
Recurrent Neural Network: RNN



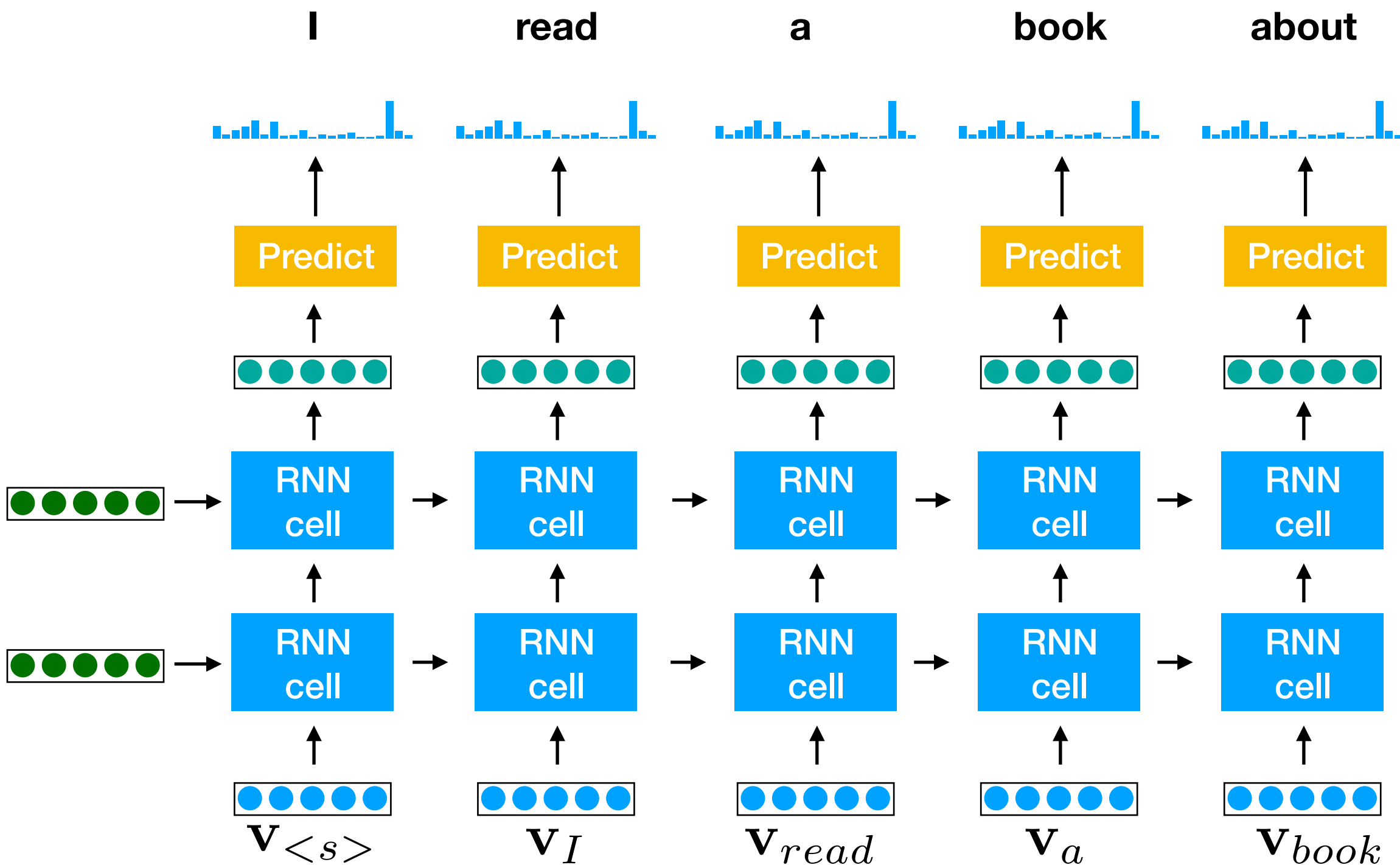
# Combining Vectors

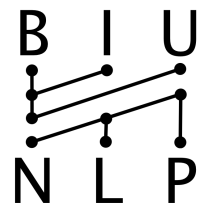
multi-layer RNN





# Training



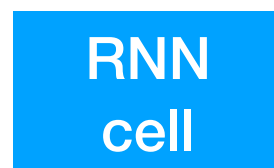


# Generation

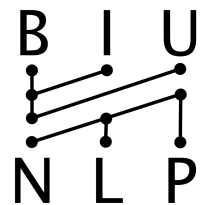
He



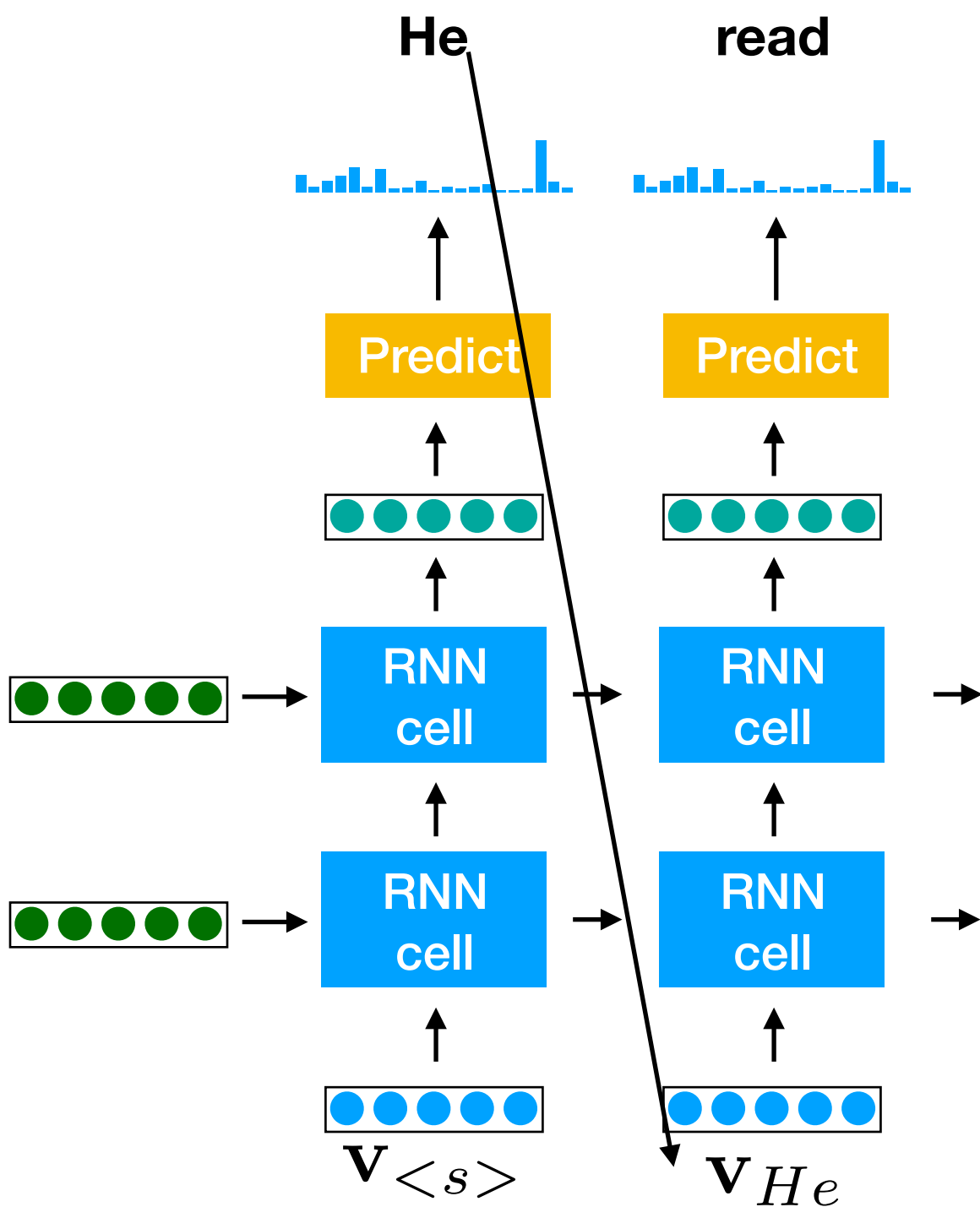
Predict

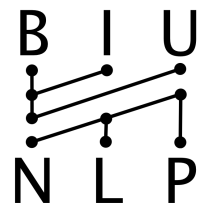


$\mathbf{V} \langle s \rangle$

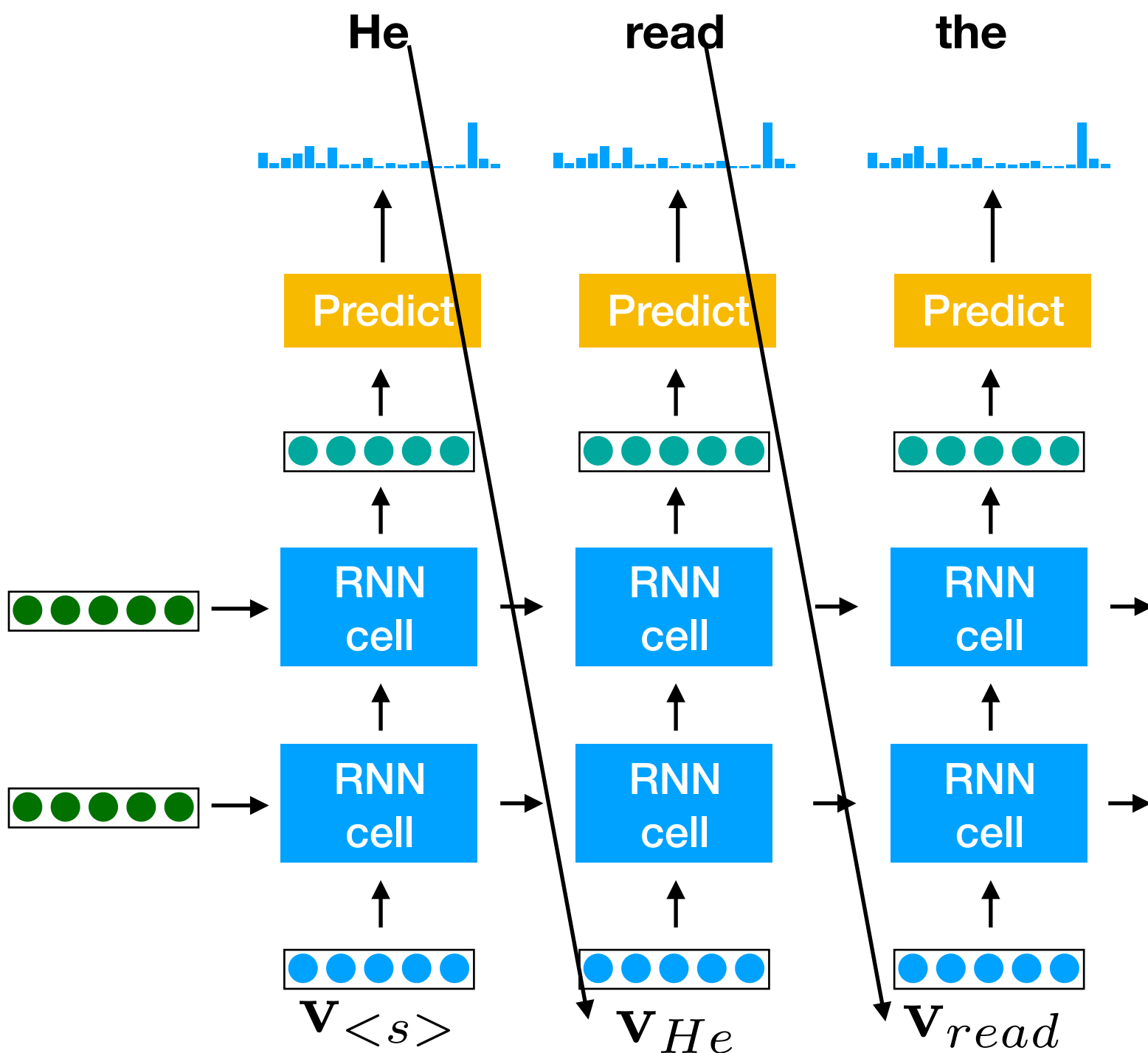


# Generation

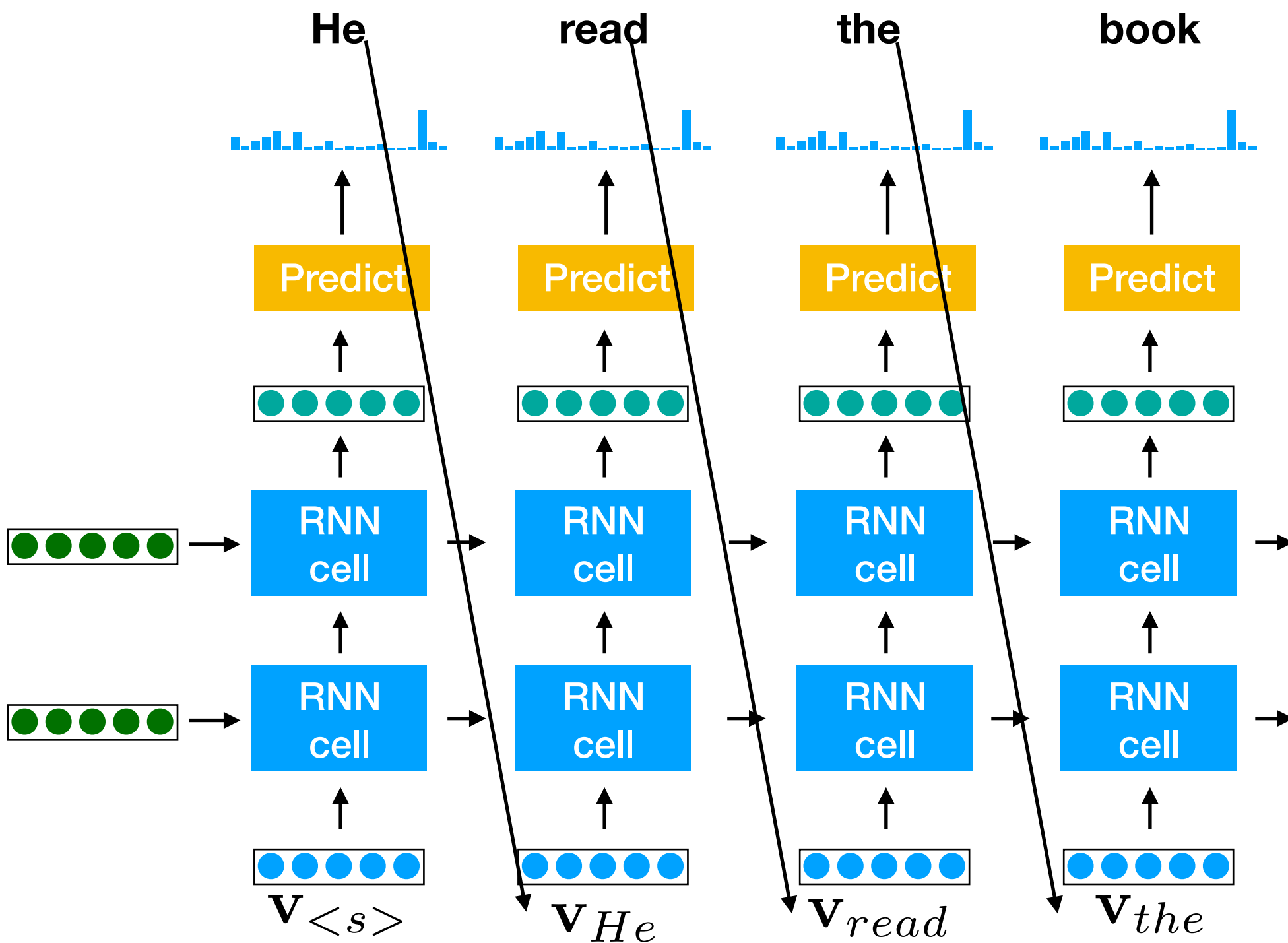




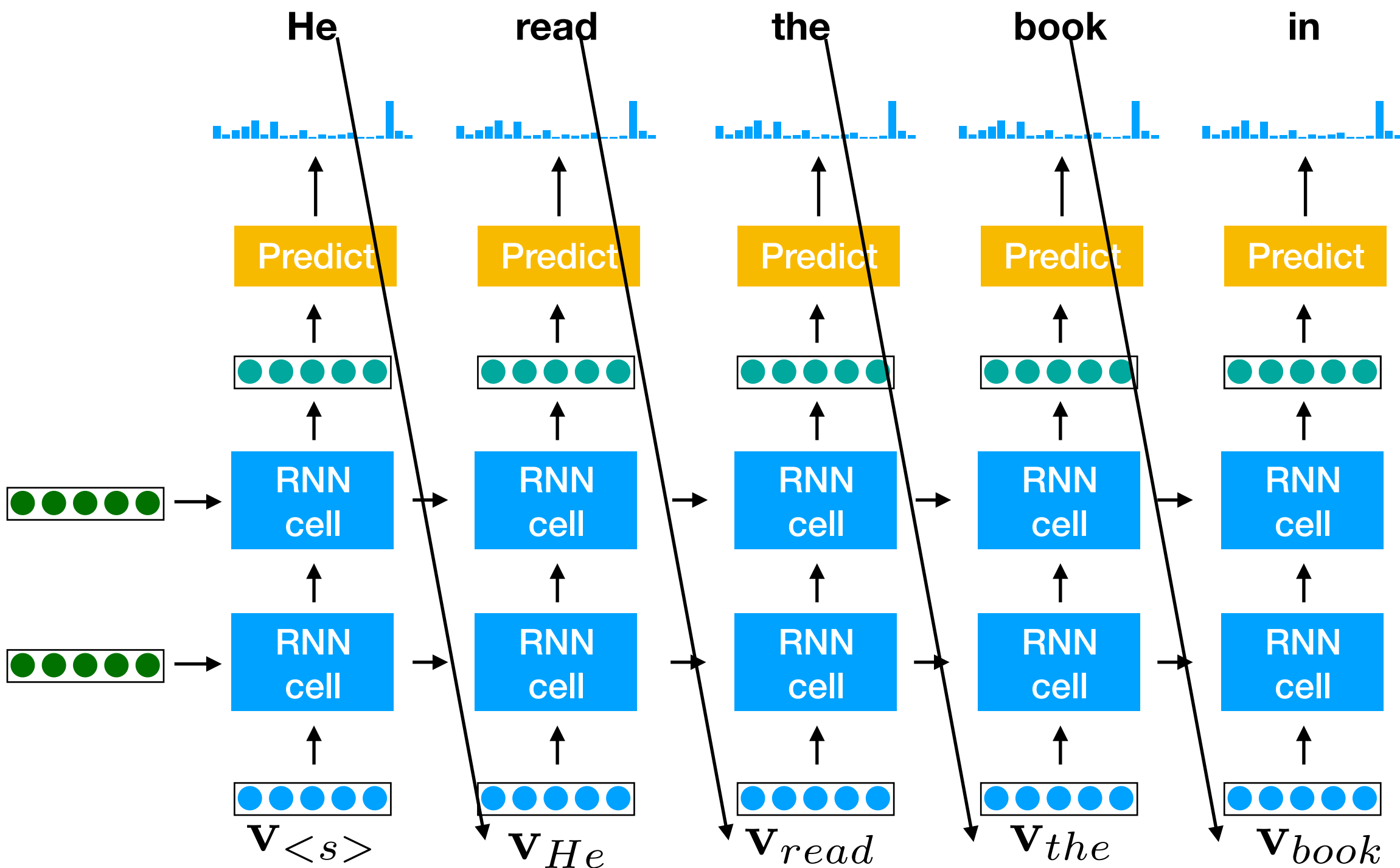
# Generation



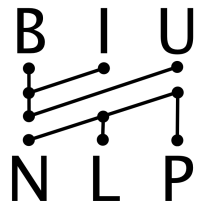
# Generation



# Generation

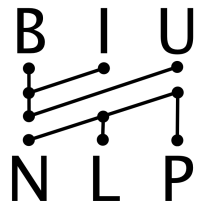






# Generation Algorithm

- Find a corpus.
- Train a language model on a corpus
- Sample from the language model
- "Control" the generation by training on different corpora.



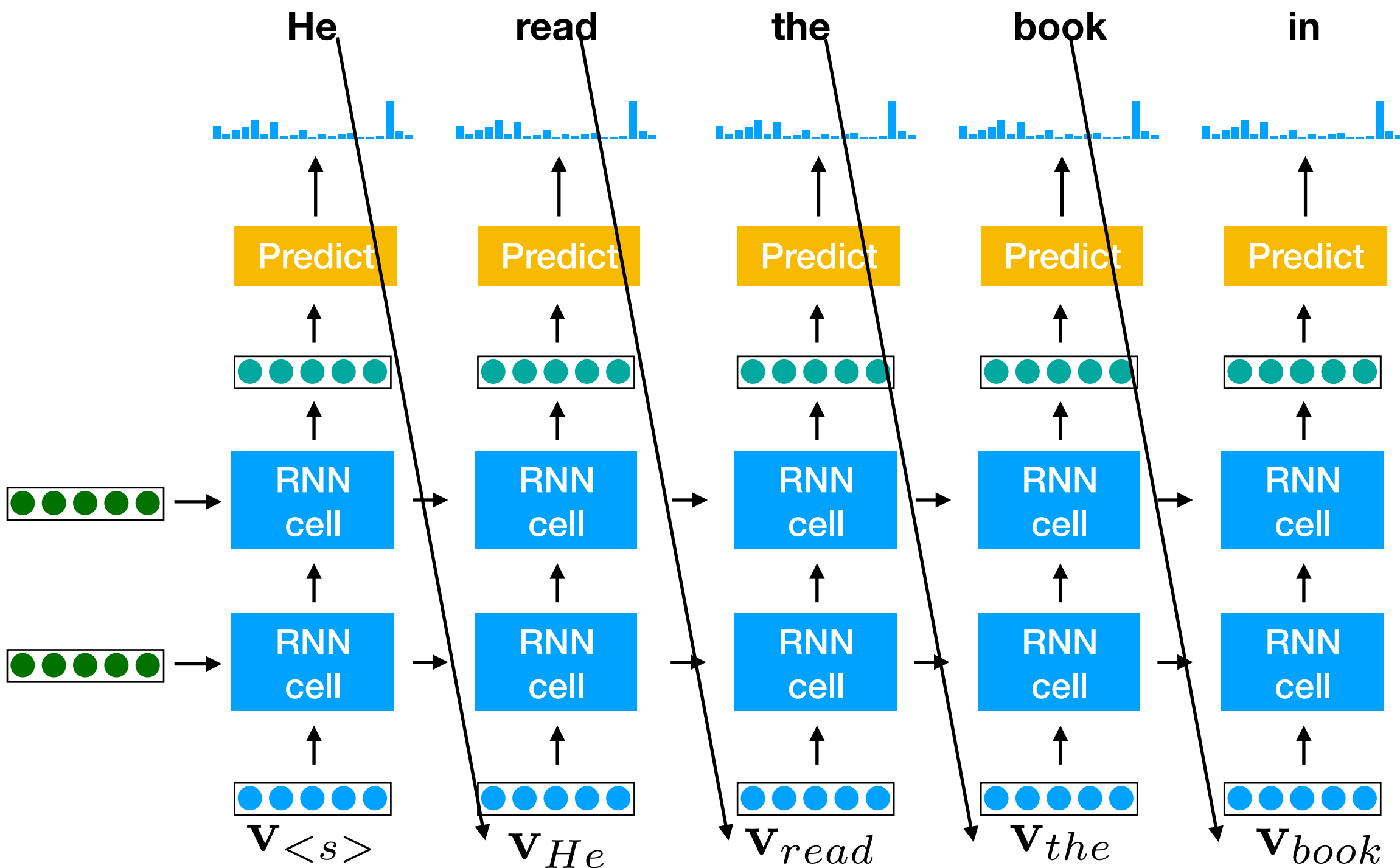
# Generation Algorithm

- Considerations:
  - What is the vocabulary?
    - Words?
    - Characters?
    - In between characters and words?
    - If words/parts, which ones?
  - **Why do we want to do this?**

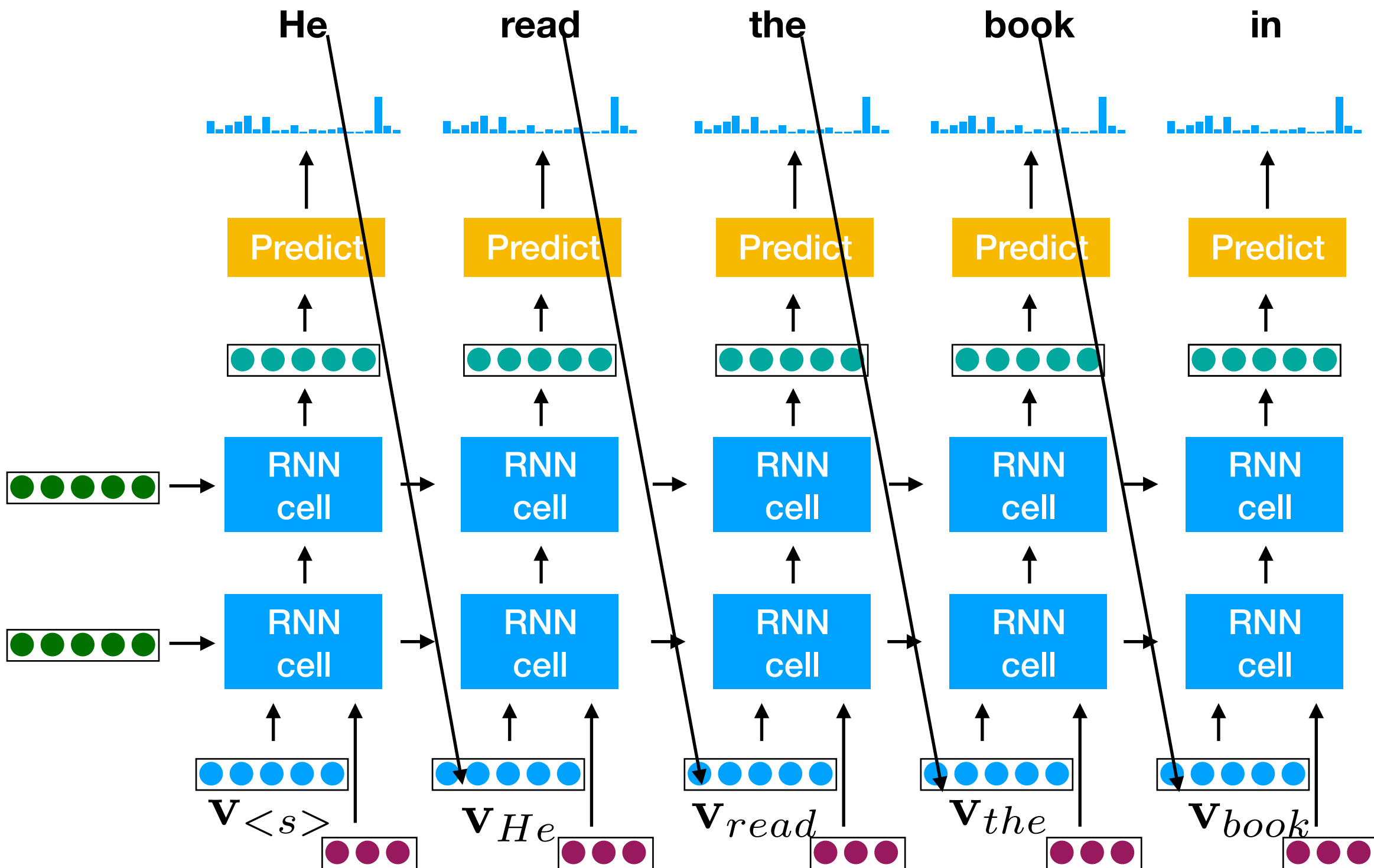
# Conditioned Generation

- `gen_so_far = ["<s>"]`
- **cond**
- `while True:`
  - `next_word_distribution = p(next | gen_so_far, cond)`
  - `sample next_word from next_word_distribution`
  - `if next_word == "</s>": break`
  - `gen_so_far.append(next_word)`

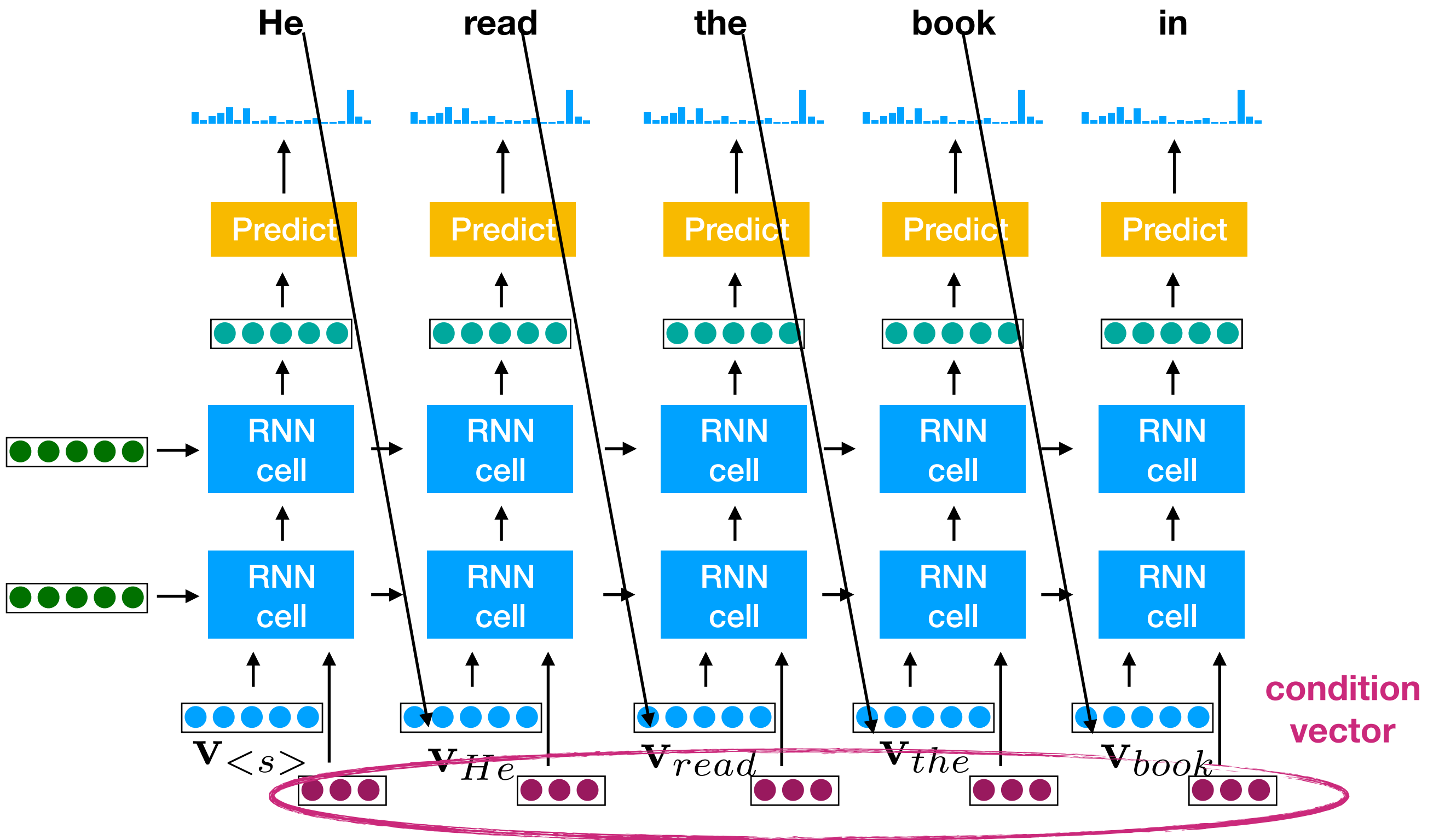
# Generation



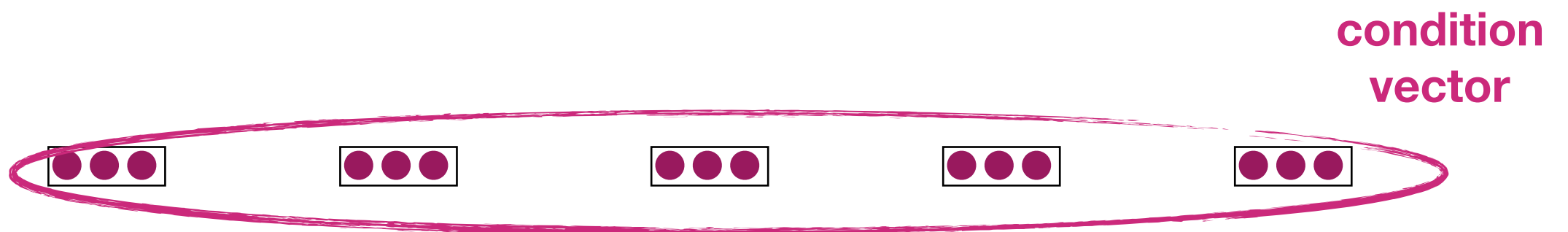
# Conditioned Generation



# Conditioned Generation



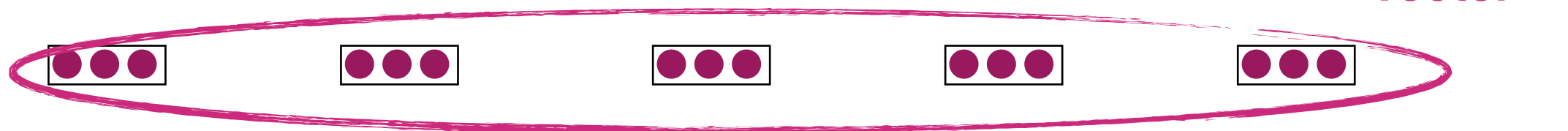
# Conditioned Generation



# Conditioned Generation

Name	Triton 52
EcoRating	A+
Family	L7

**Encode**

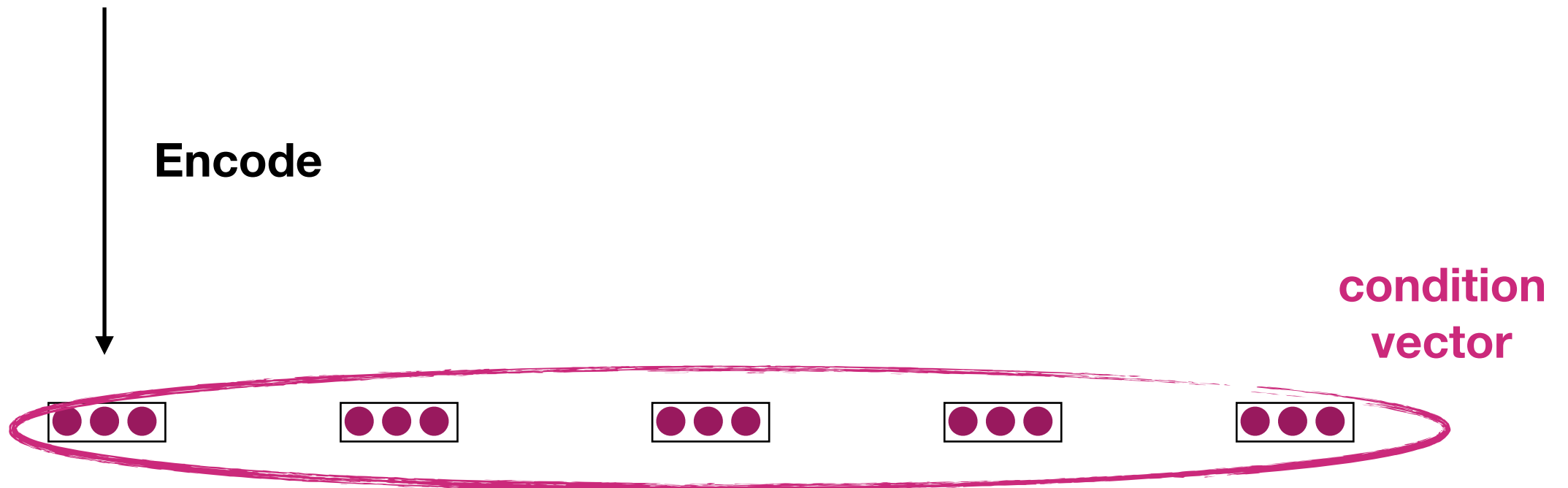


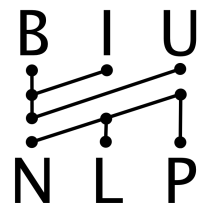


# Conditioned Generation

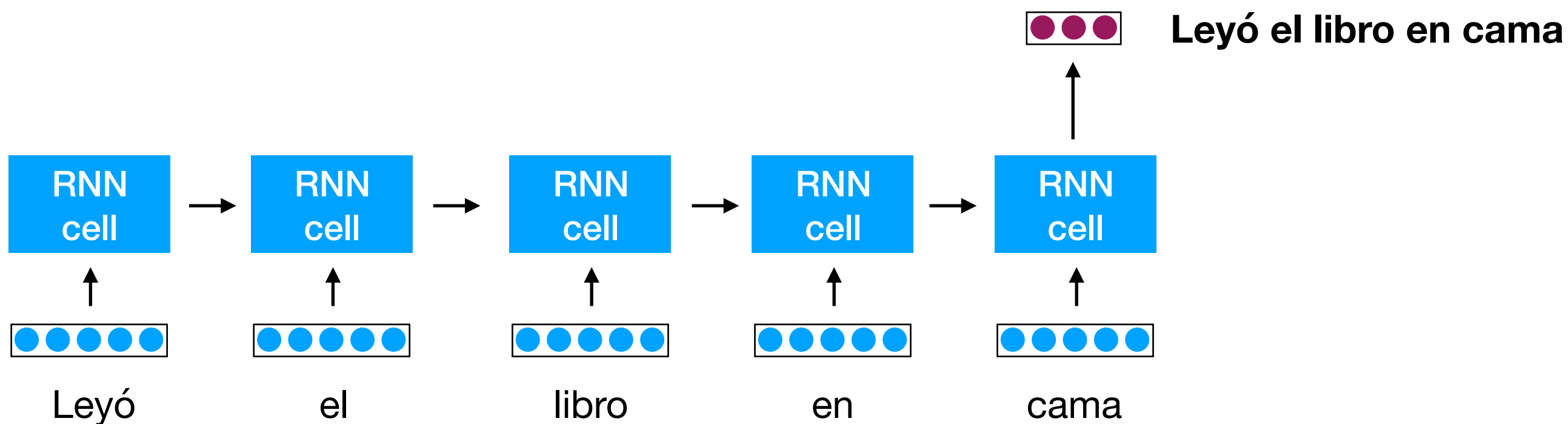
Leyó el libro en cama

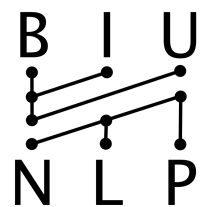
Encode



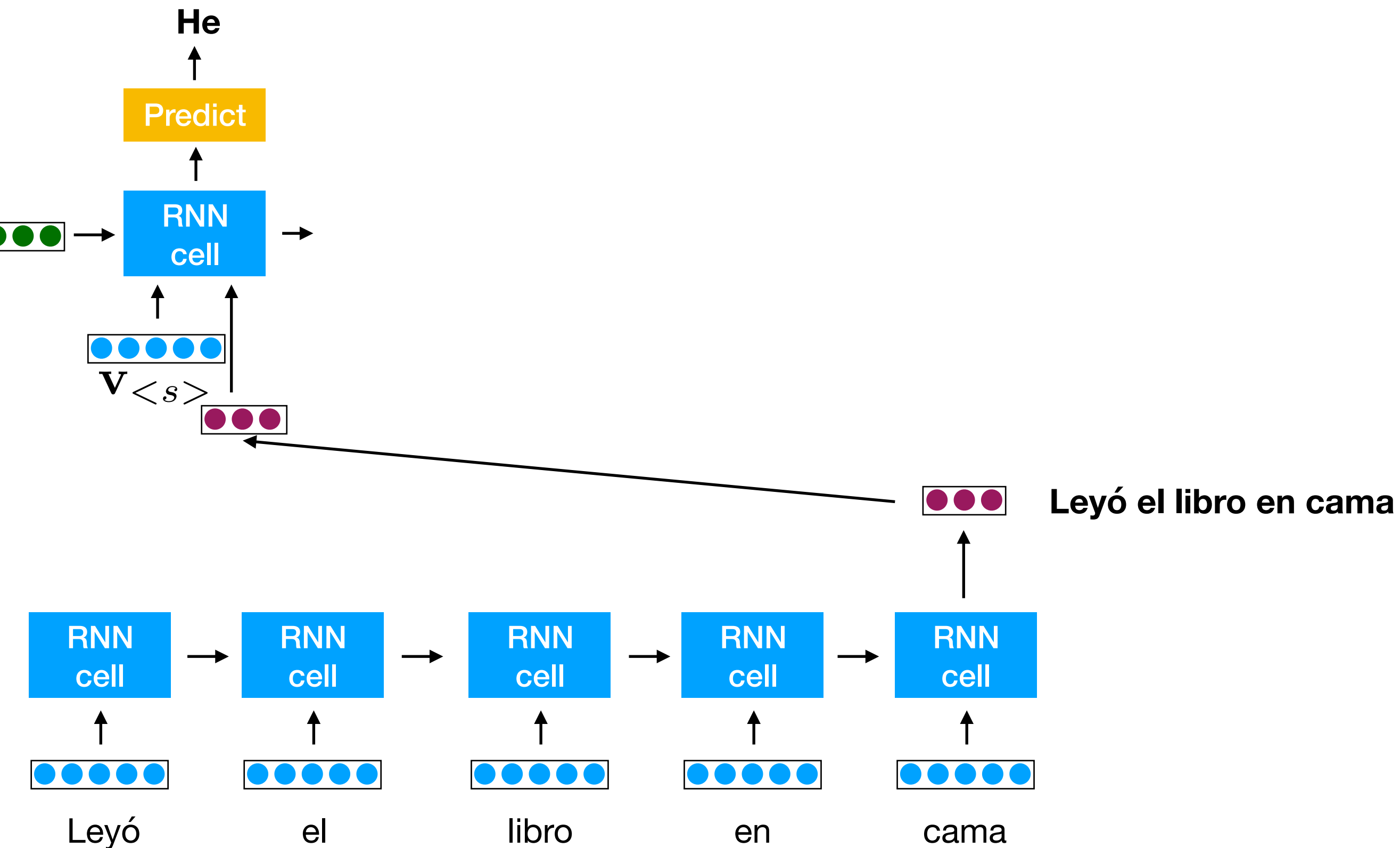


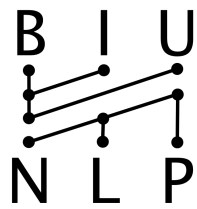
# Seq2Seq



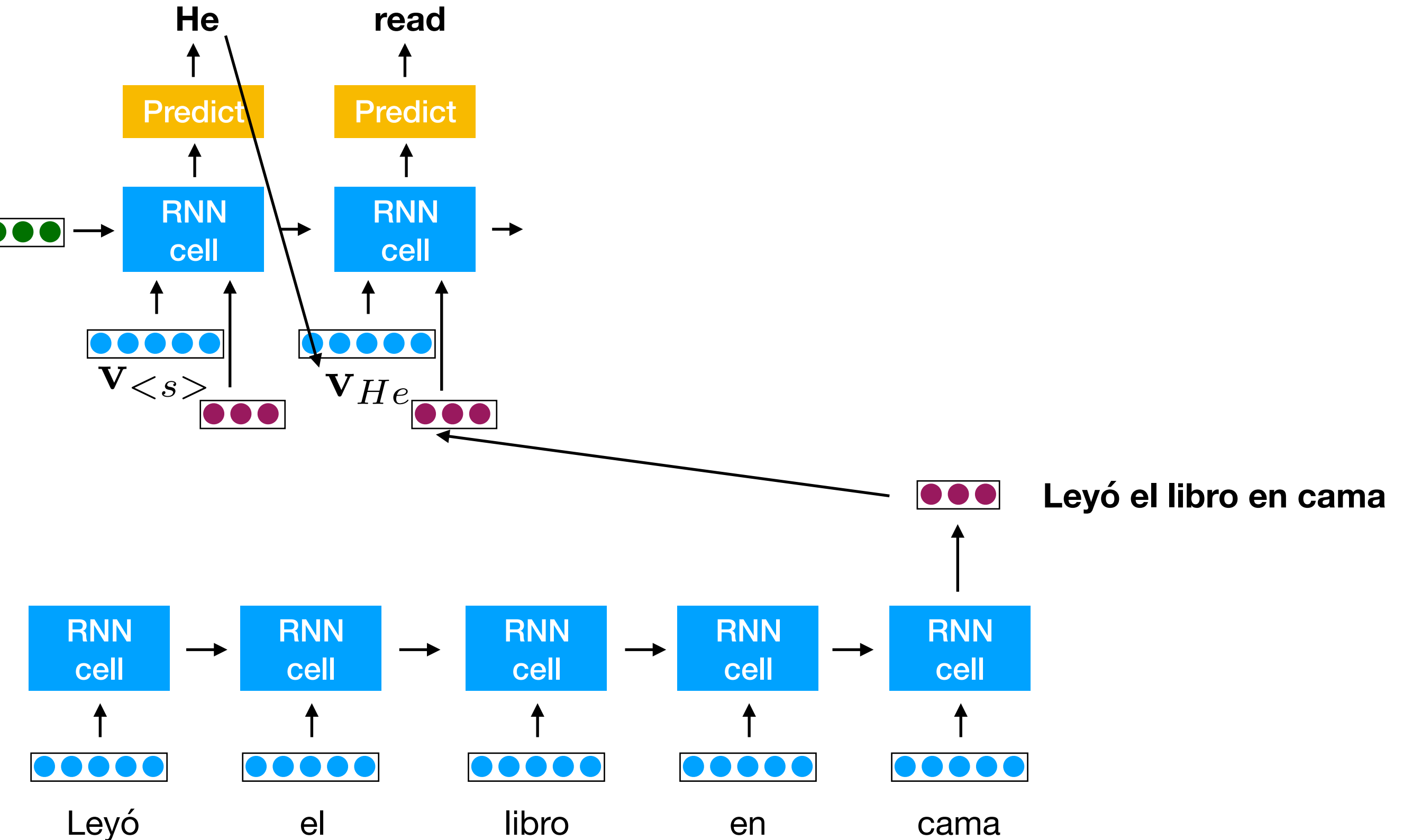


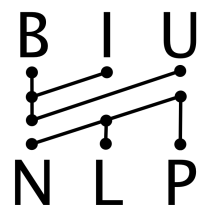
# Seq2Seq



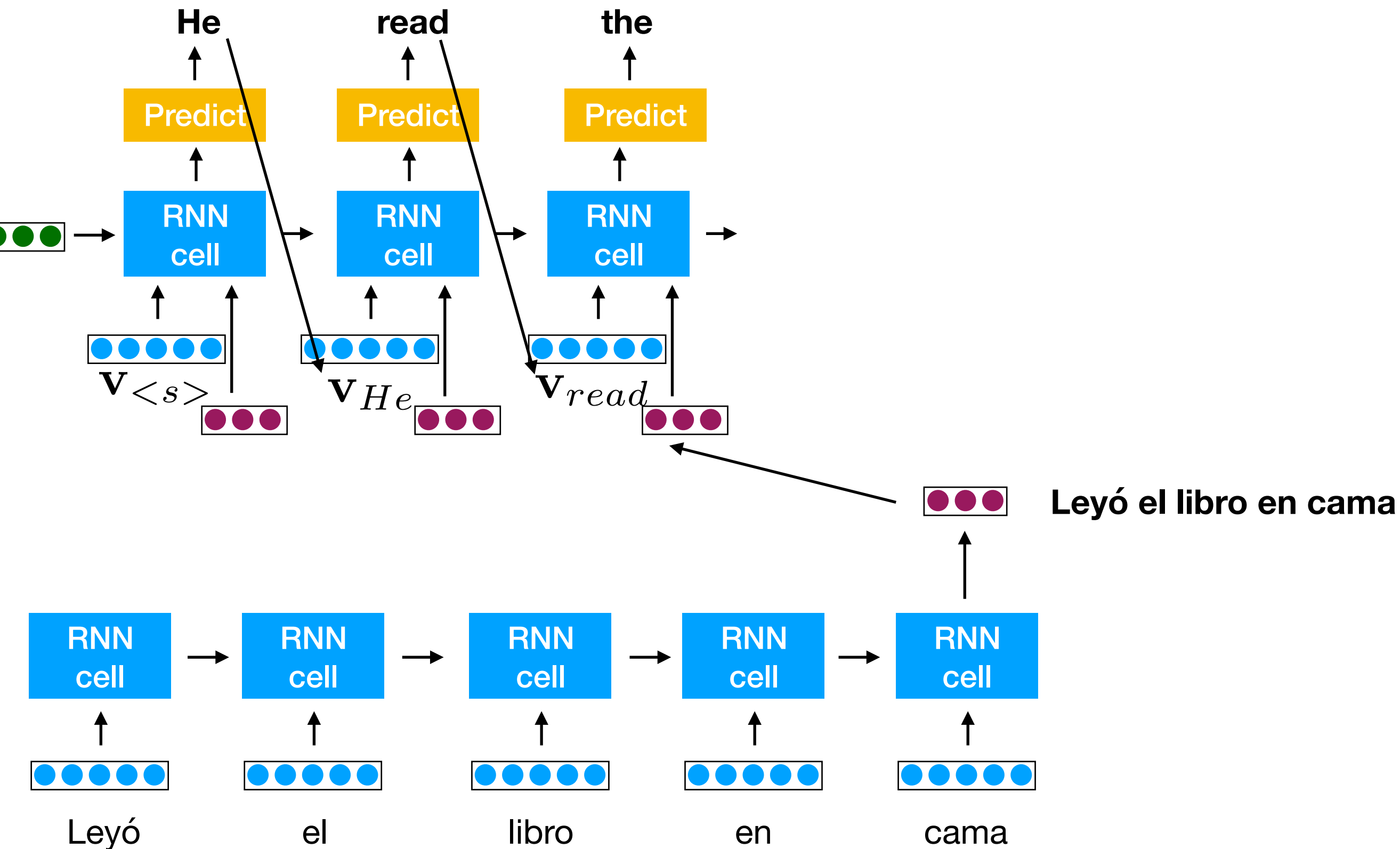


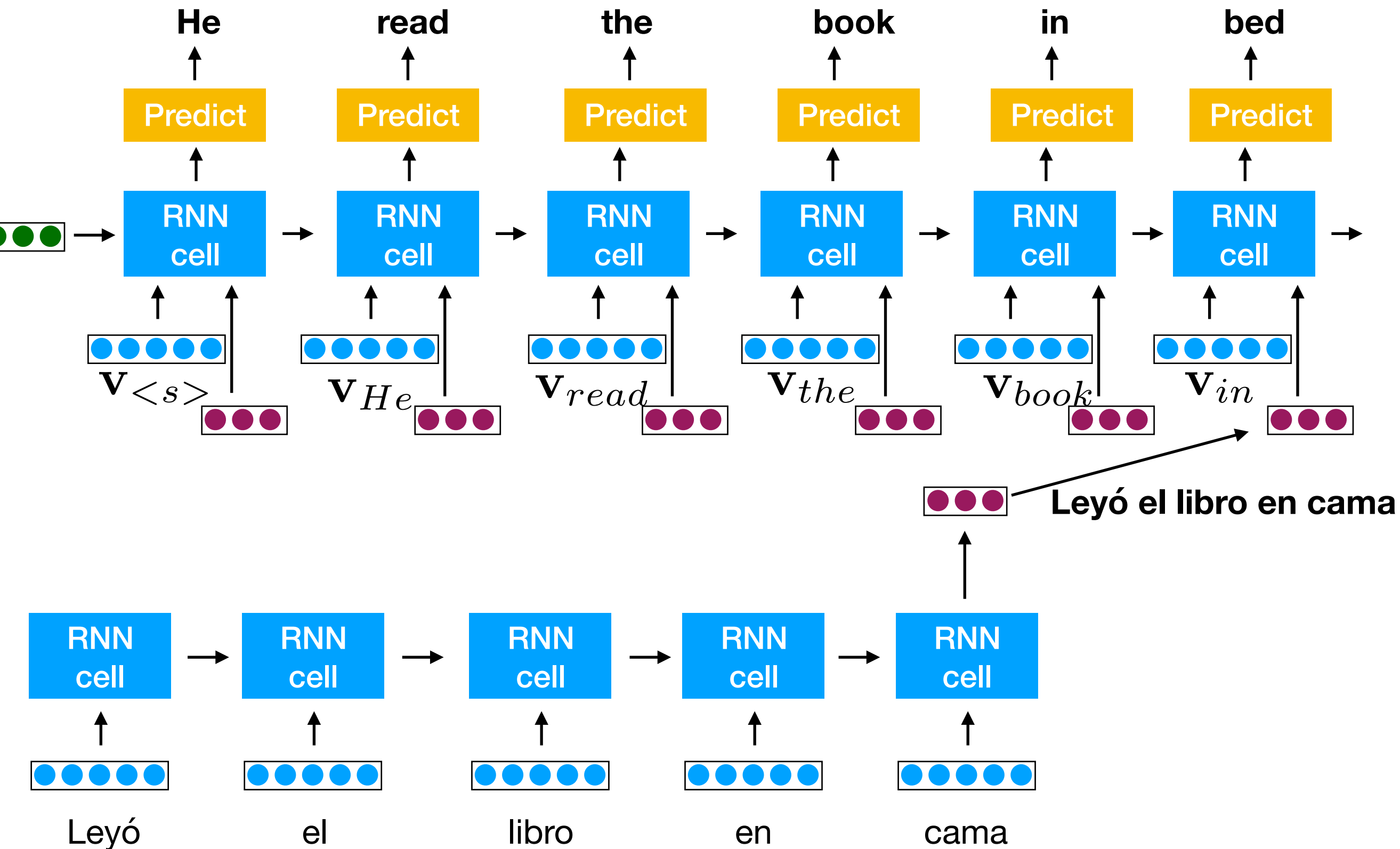
# Seq2Seq

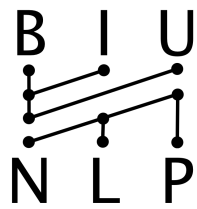




# Seq2Seq

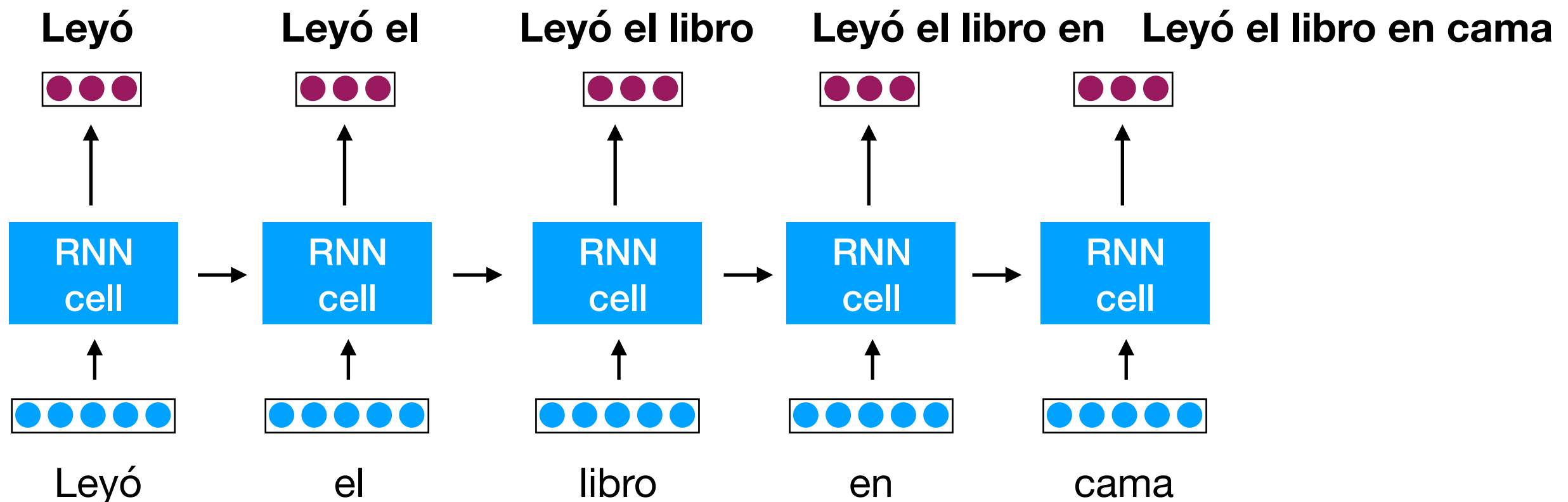


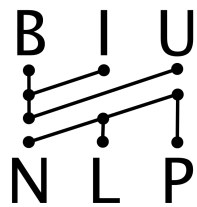




# Seq2Seq + Attention

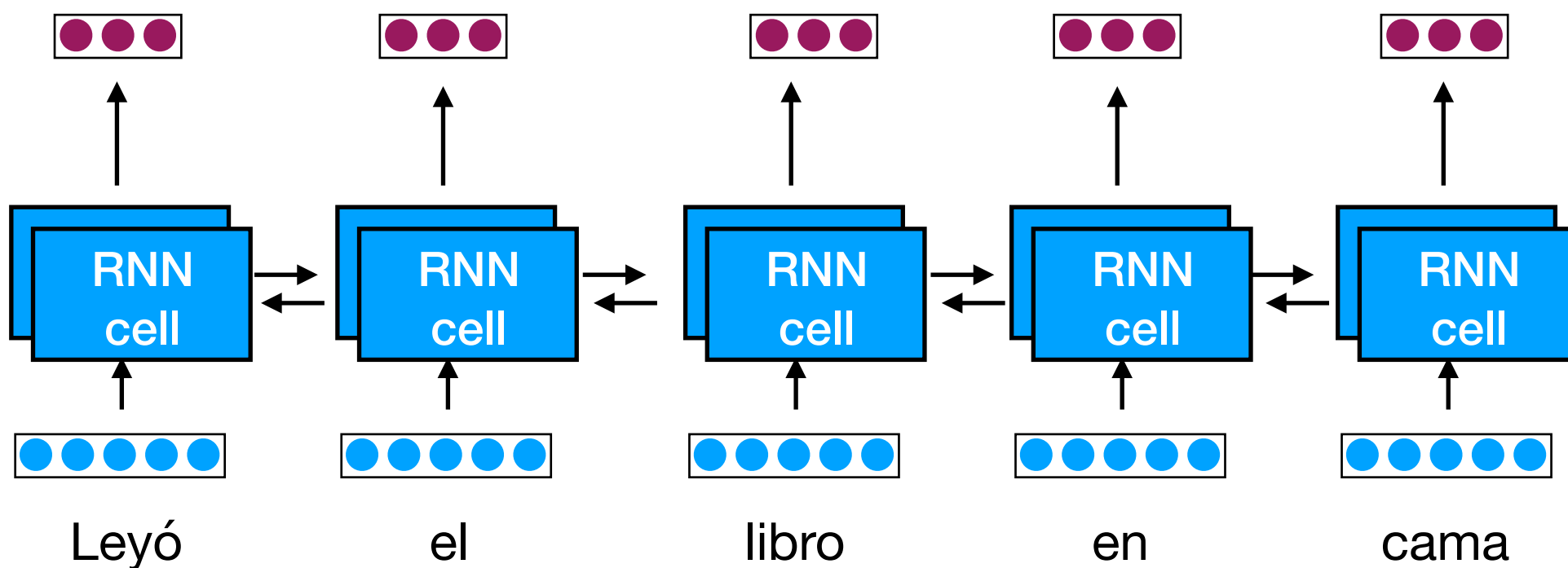
keep intermediate vectors



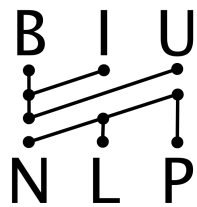


# Seq2Seq + Attention

add right-to-left RNN  
(bi-RNN)

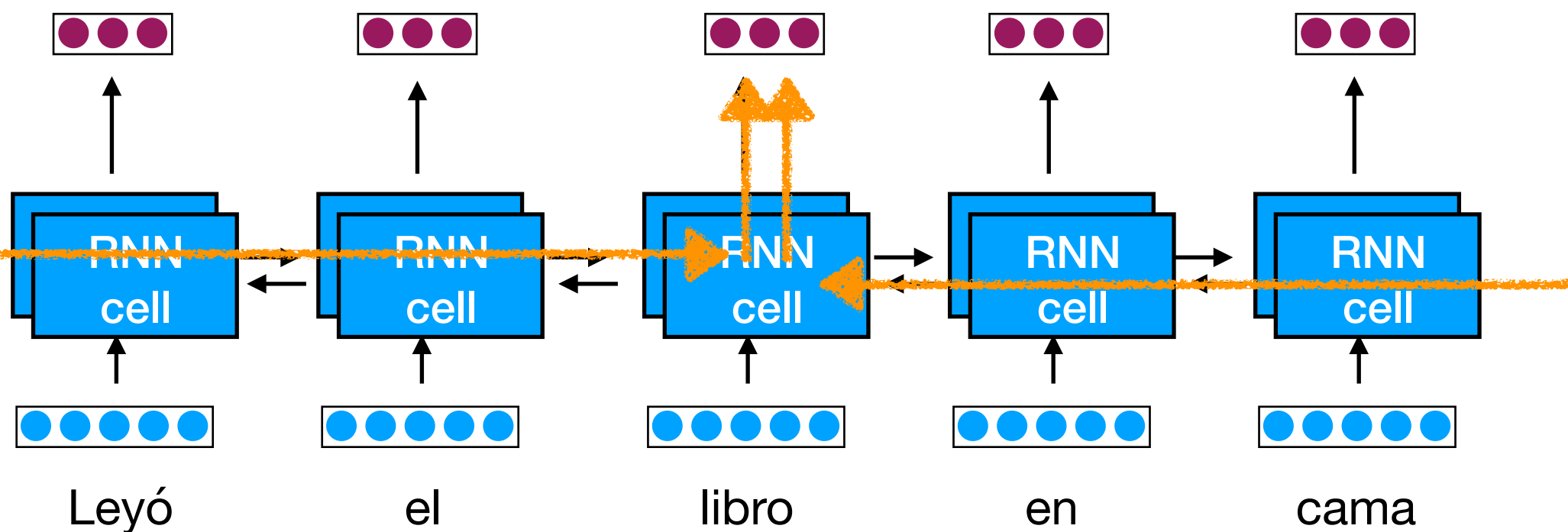


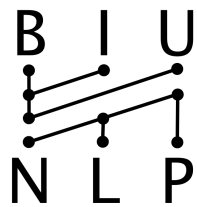




# Seq2Seq + Attention

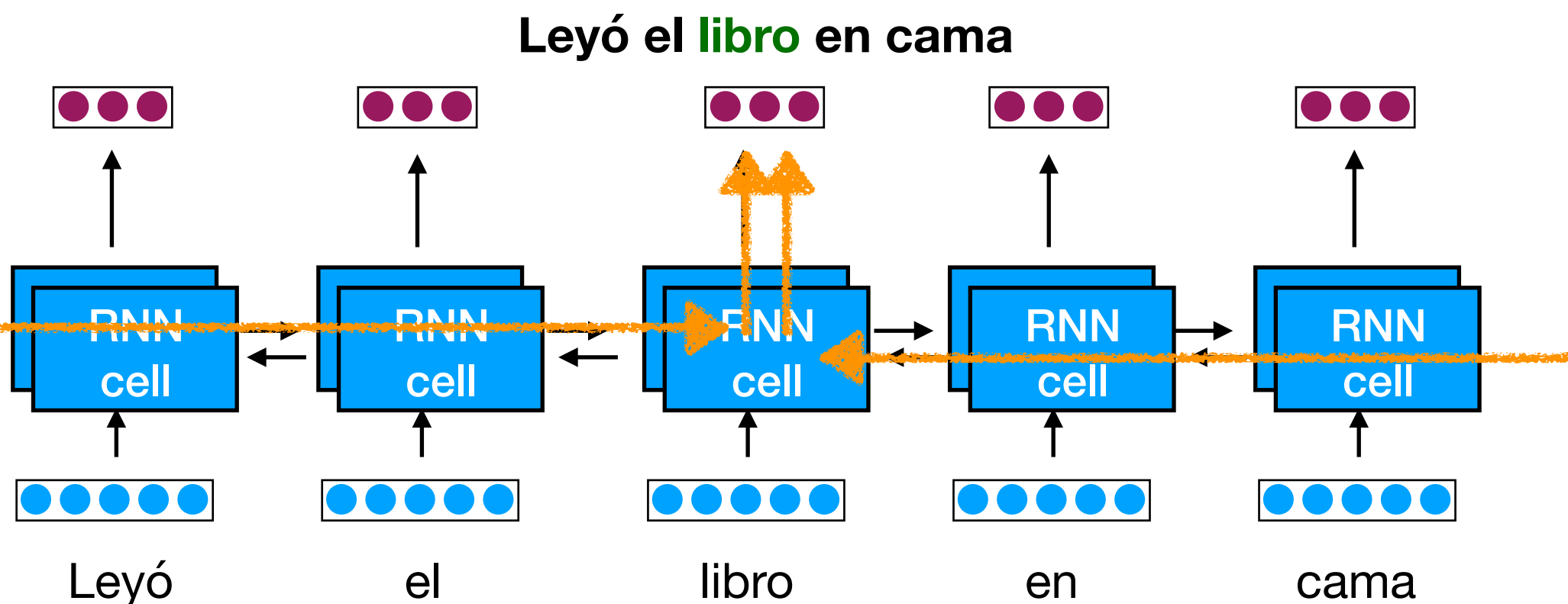
add right-to-left RNN  
(bi-RNN)

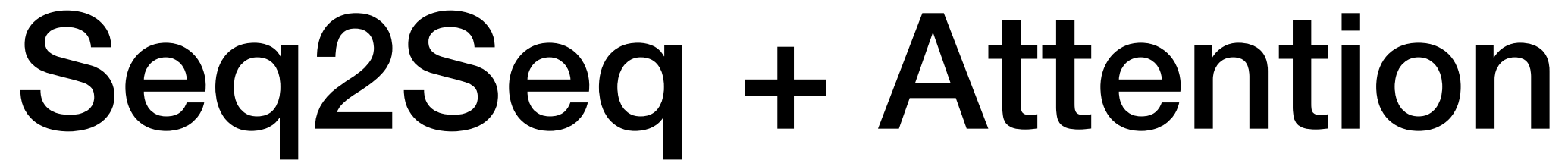




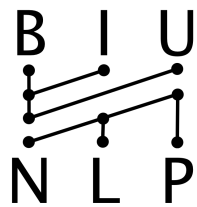
# Seq2Seq + Attention

add right-to-left RNN  
(bi-RNN)

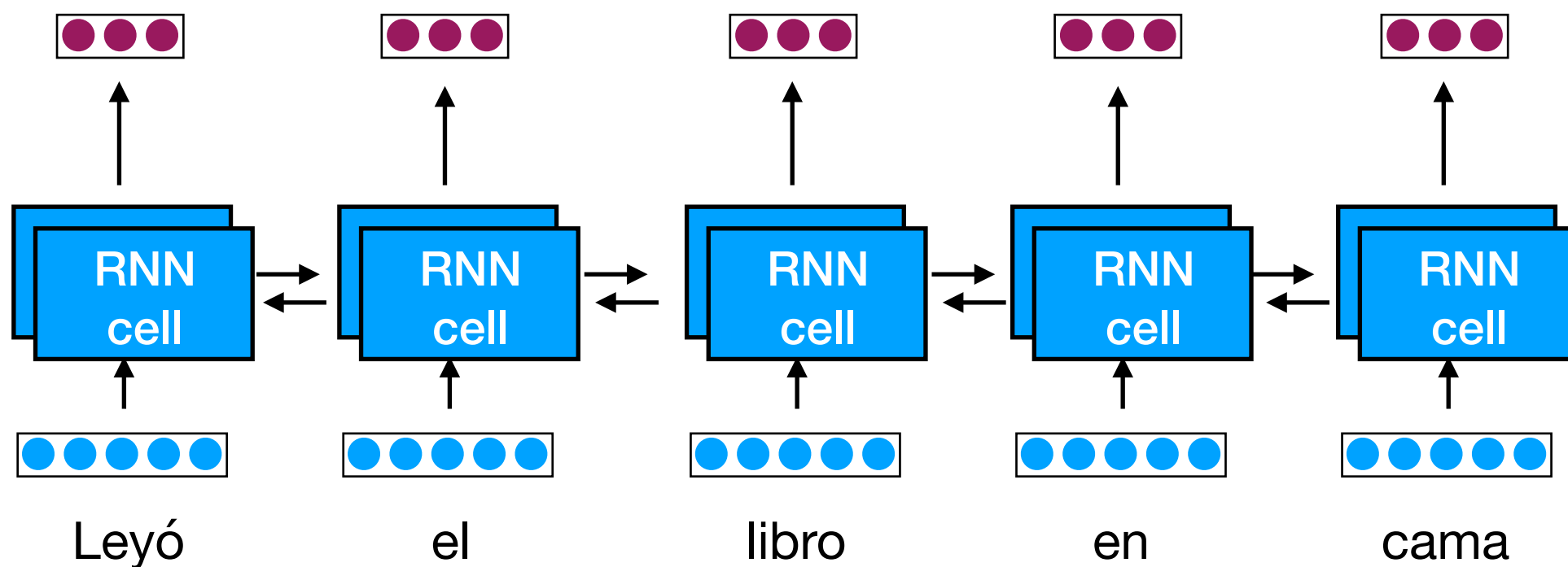


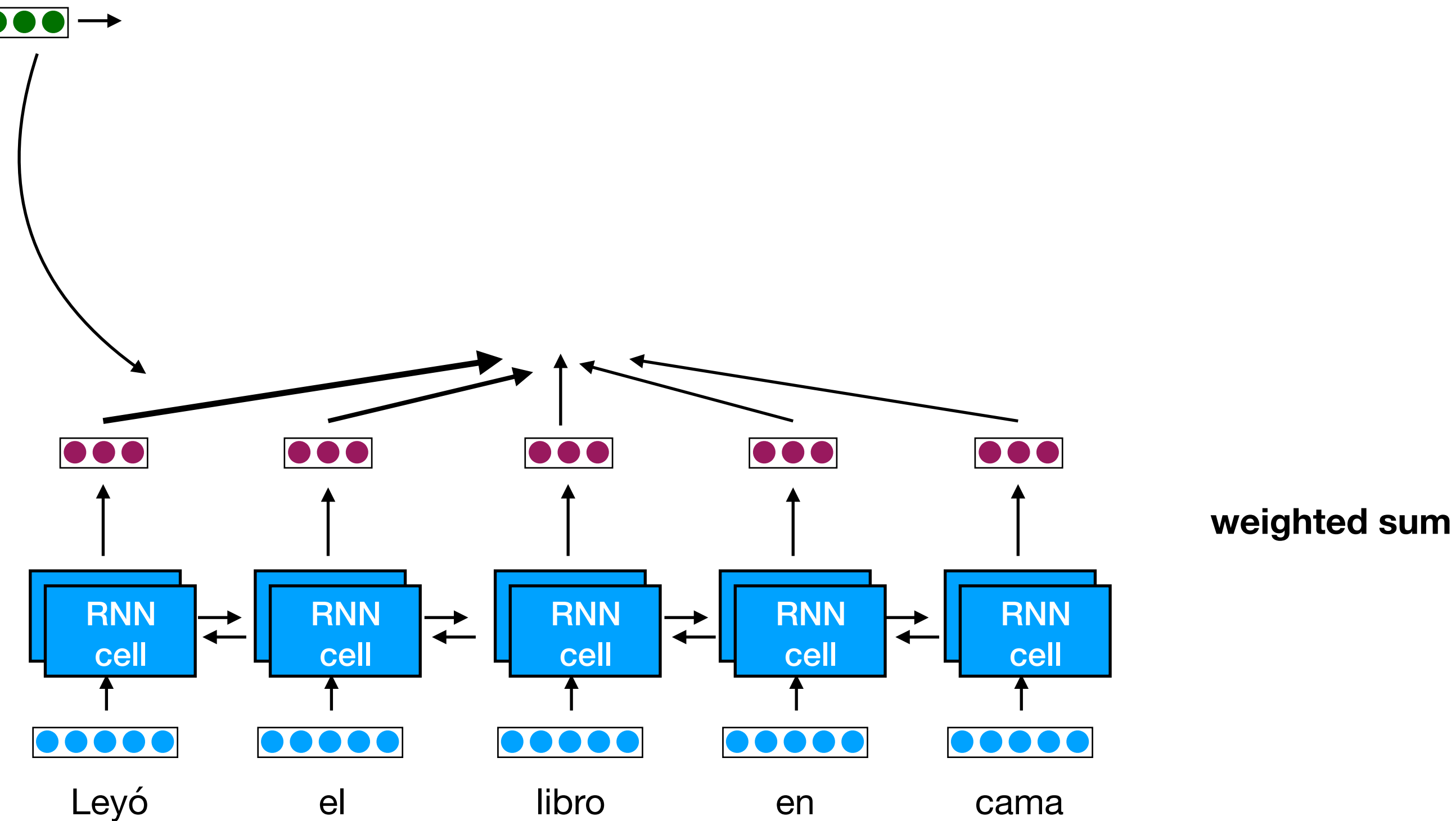
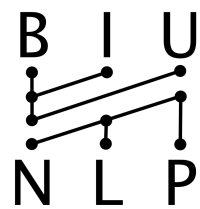


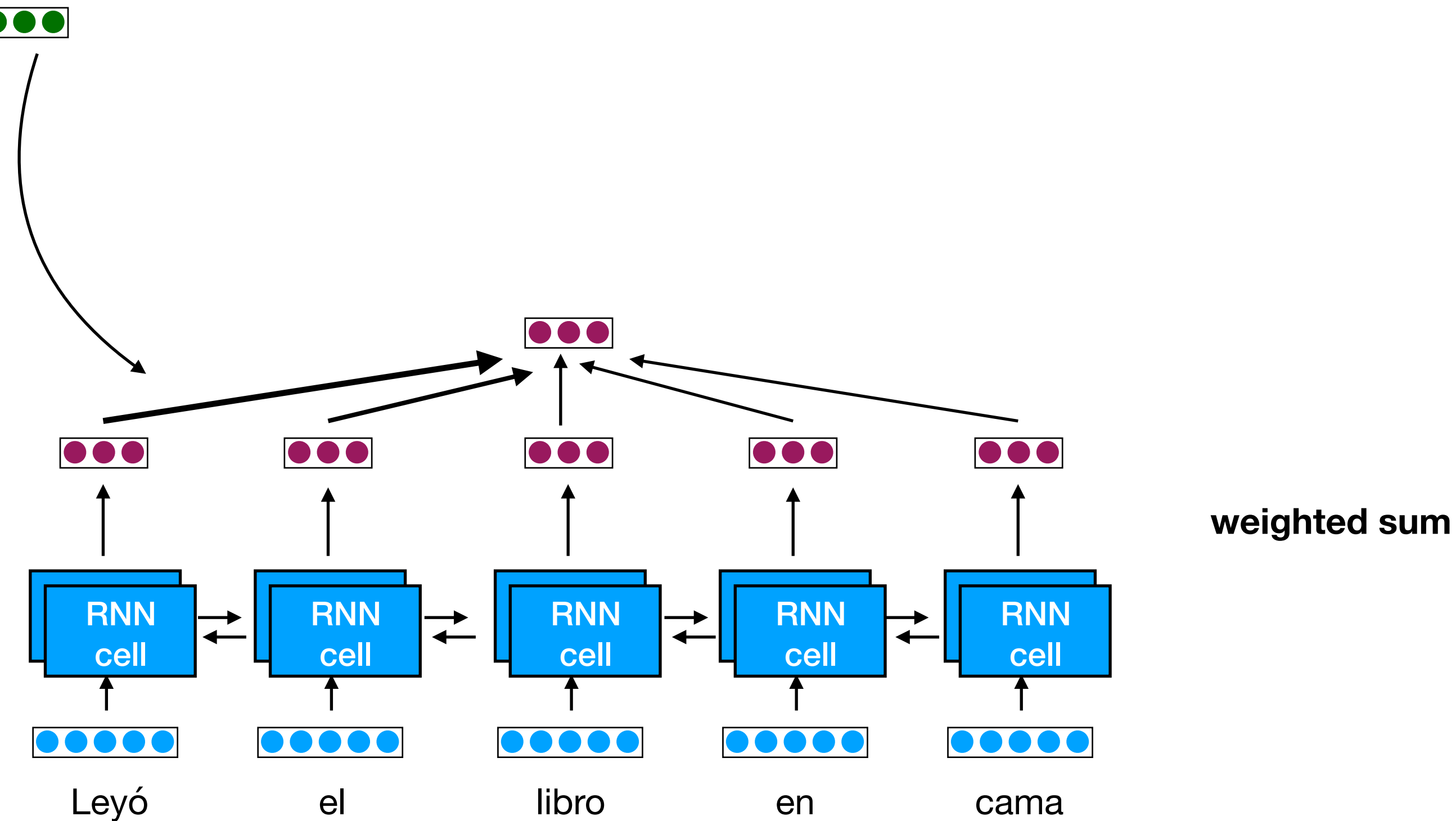
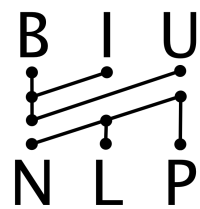
The diagram illustrates an unrolled Recurrent Neural Network (RNN) processing the sentence "Leyó el libro en cama". It consists of five RNN cells connected sequentially. Each cell takes an input word (Leyó, el, libro, en, cama) and produces an output vector (three purple dots). The output of one cell is fed into the next. The final output is "Leyó el libro en cama".

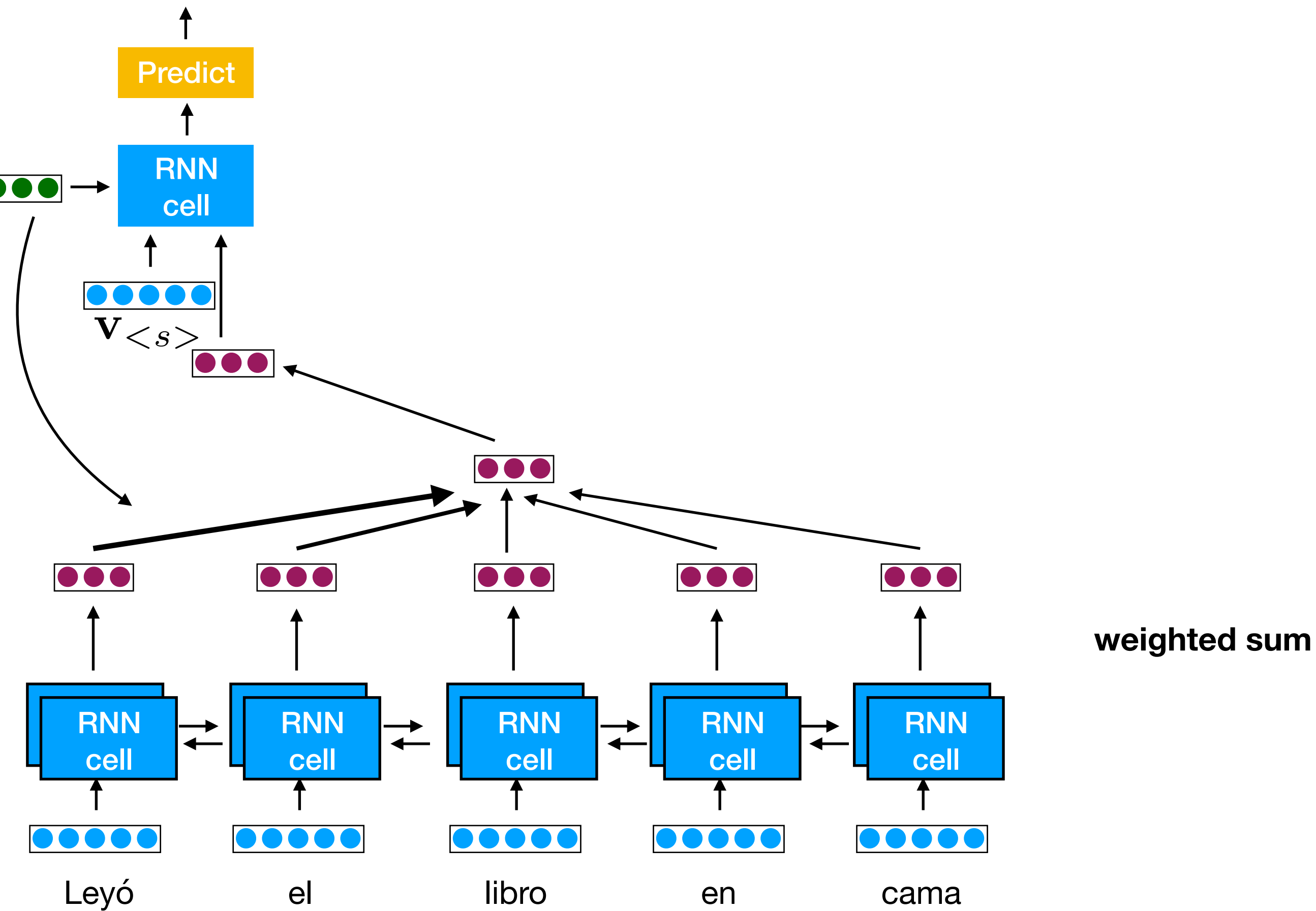


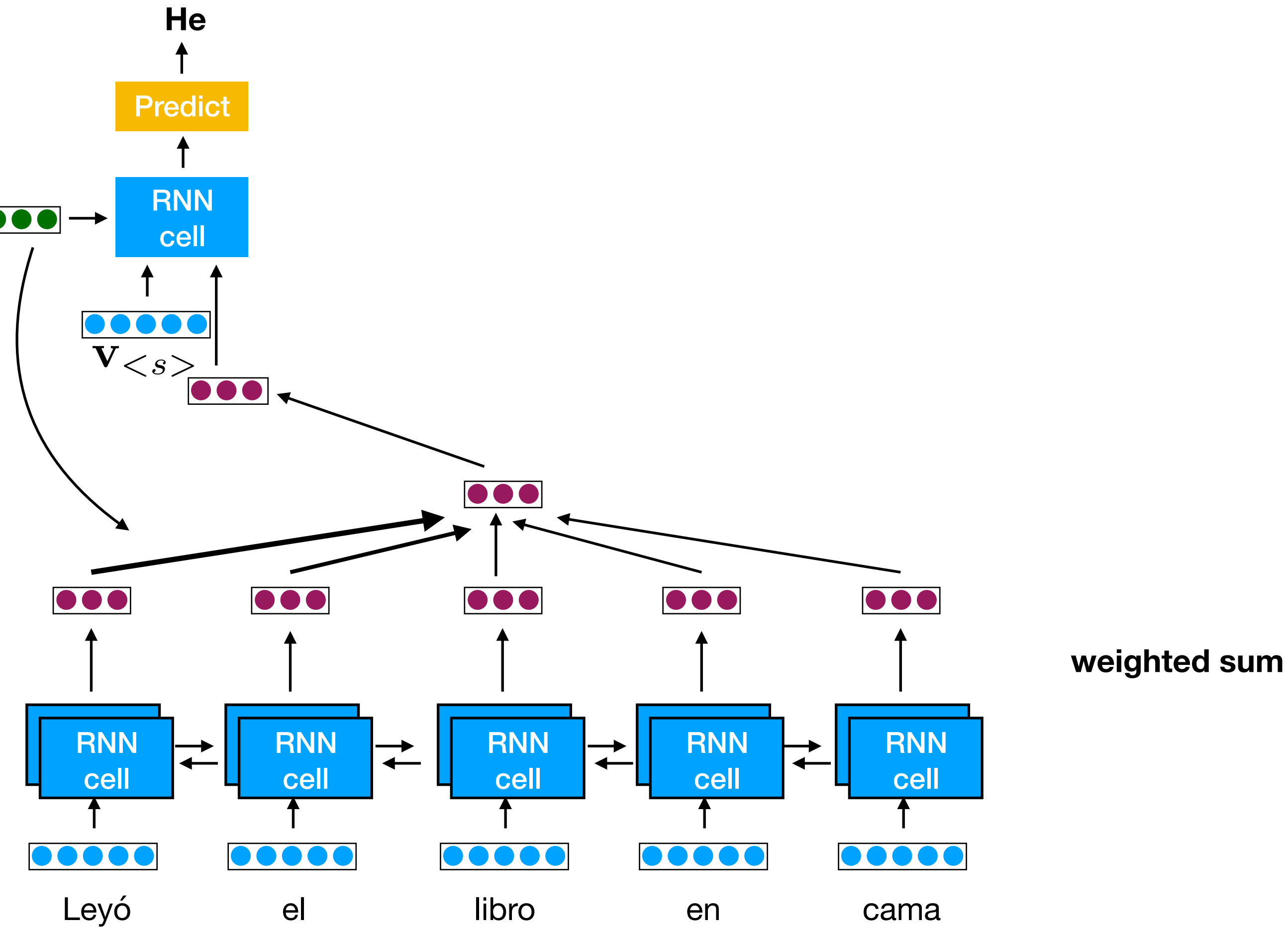
# Seq2Seq + Attention



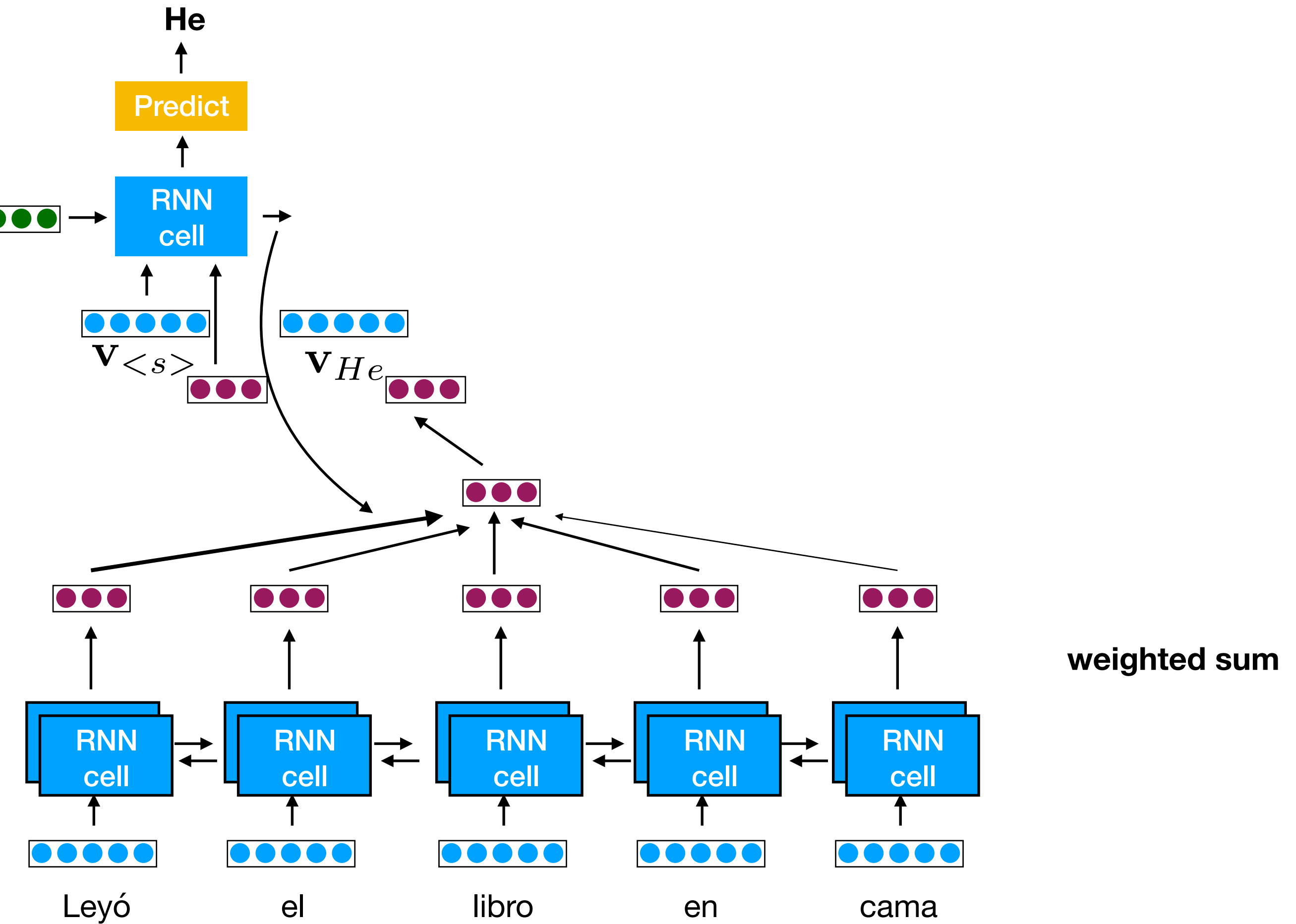


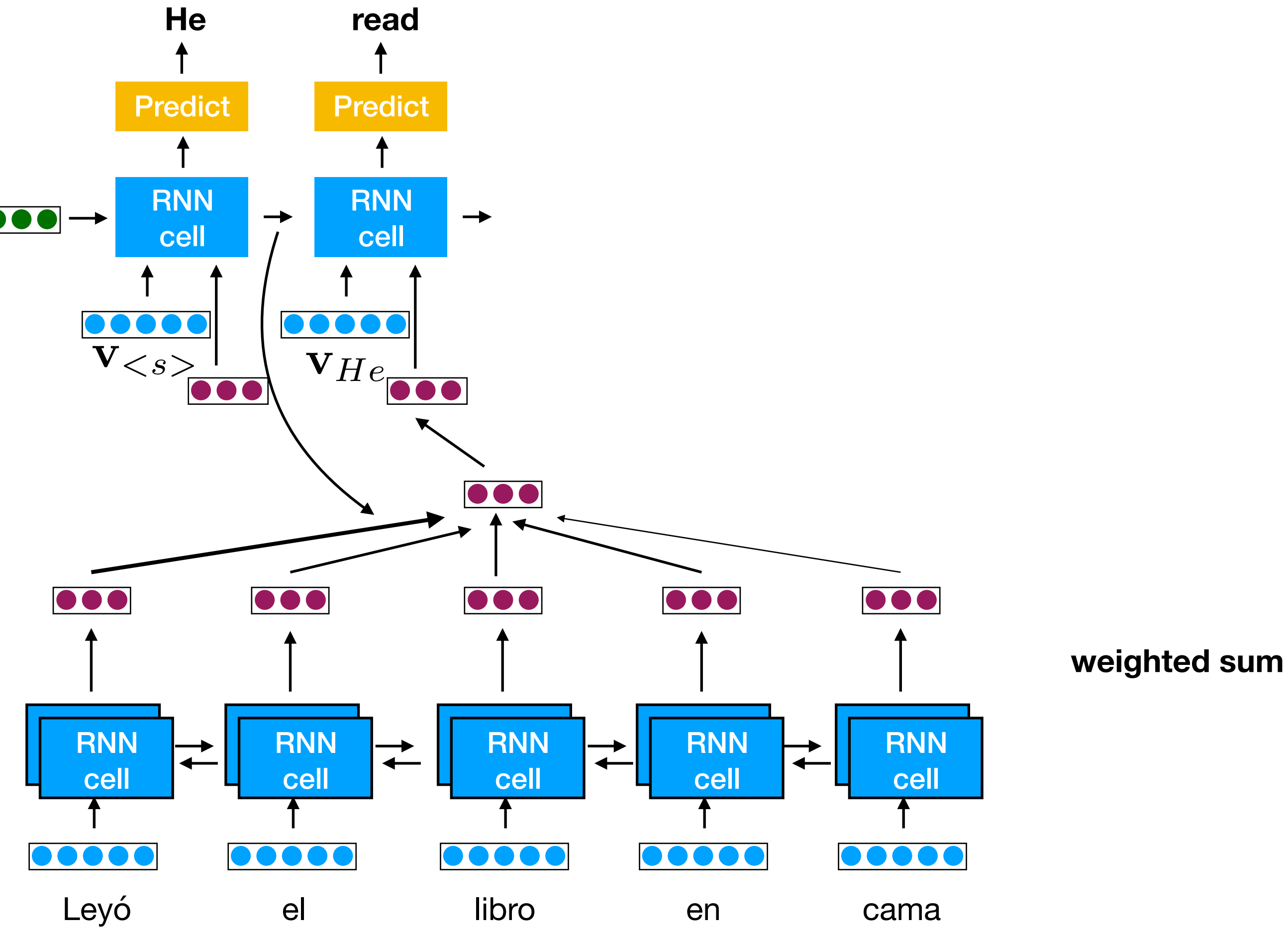


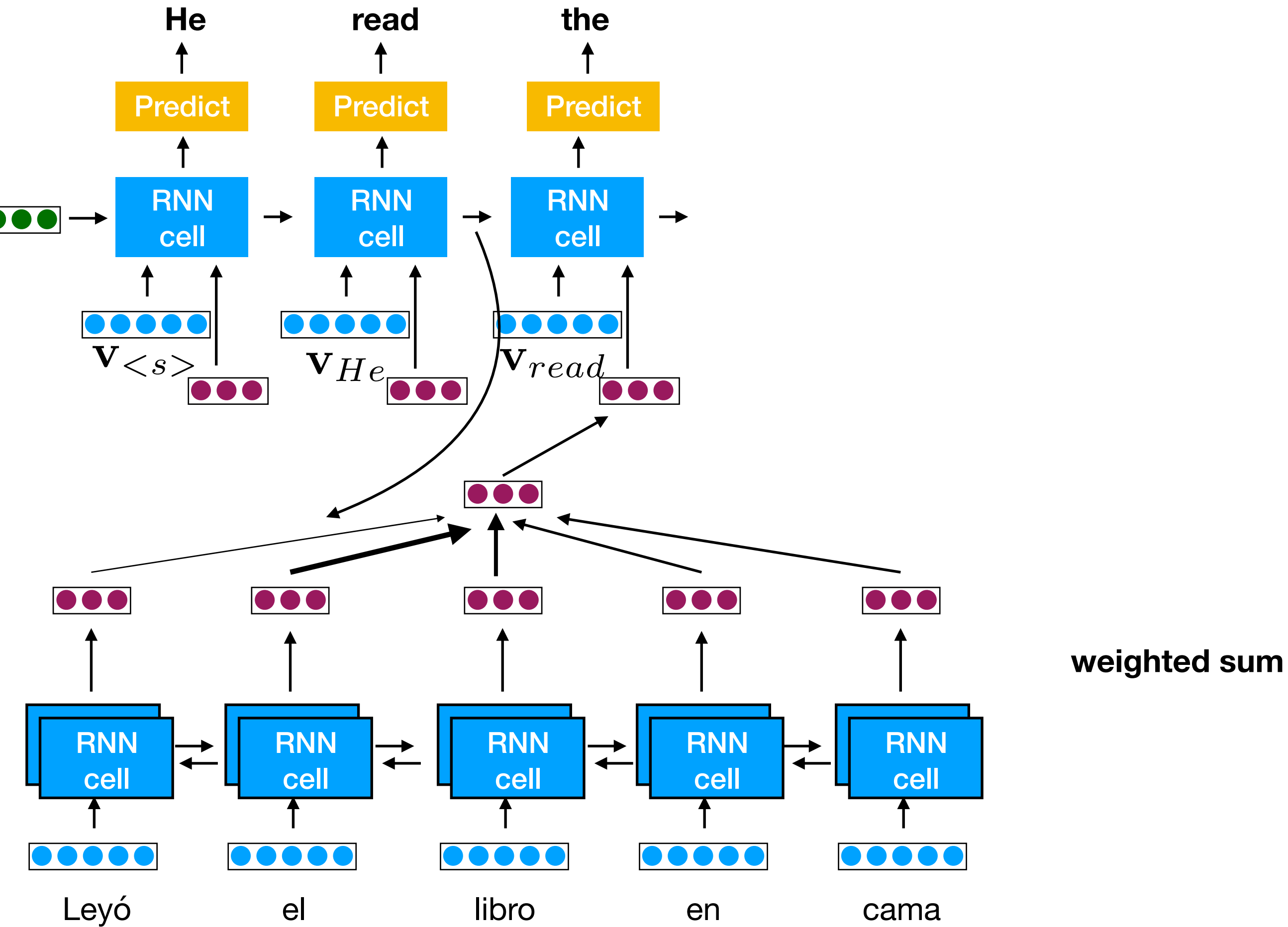


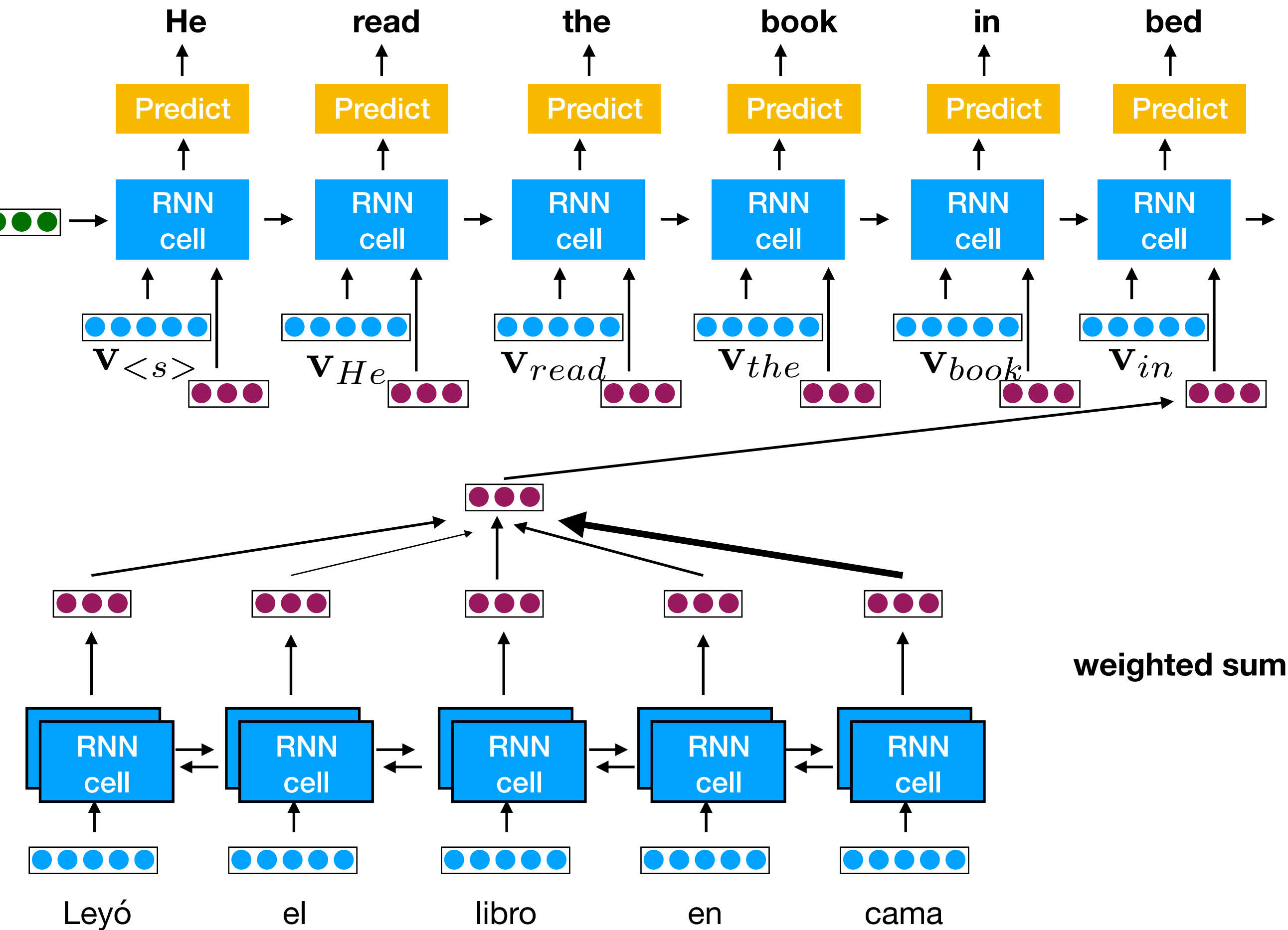


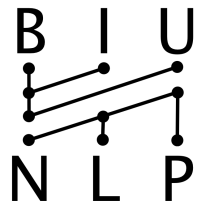






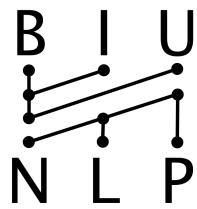






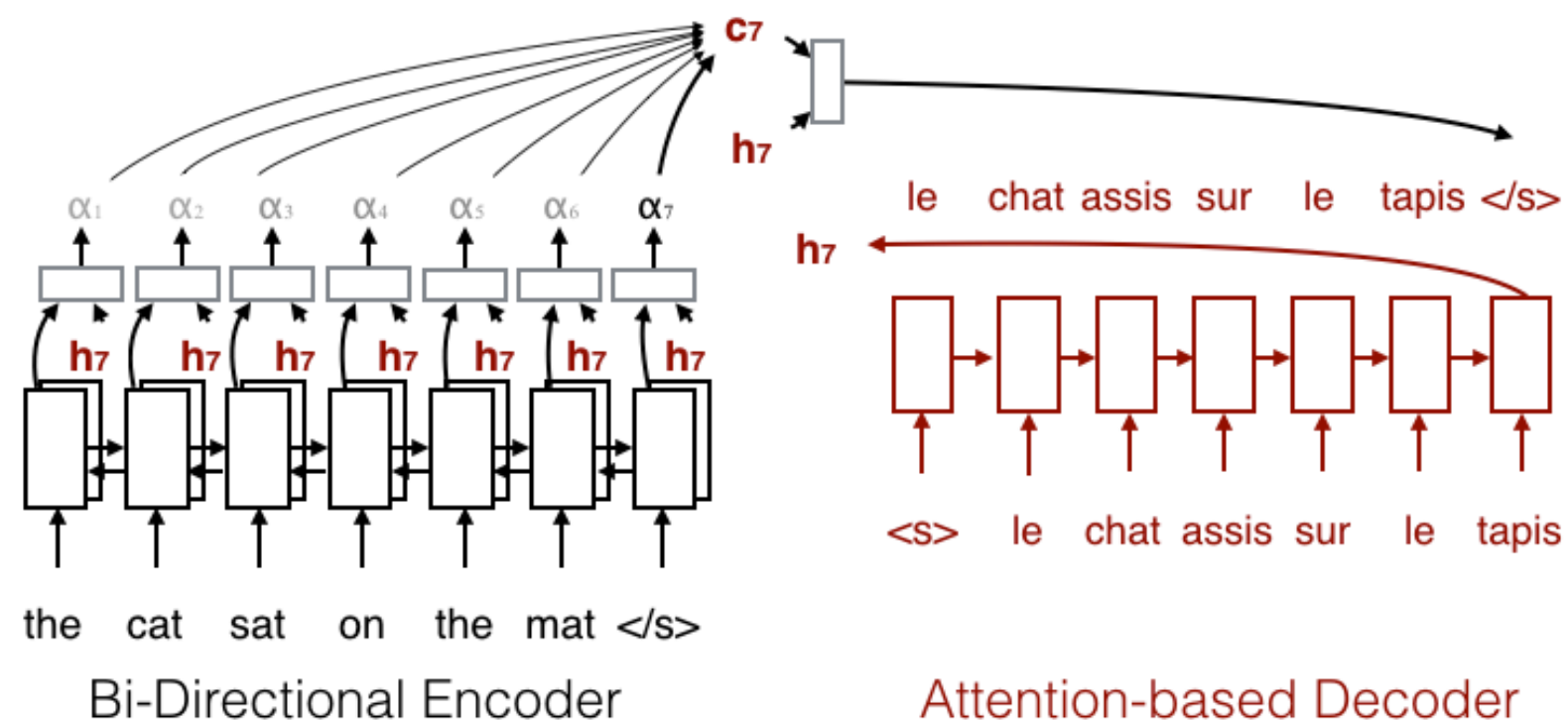
# Seq2Seq + Attention

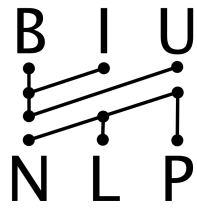
**the conditioning vector is dynamically computed at each stage  
based on the current decoder hidden state.**



# Seq2Seq + Attention

**the conditioning vector is dynamically computed at each stage based on the current decoder hidden state.**





# Findings of the E2E NLG Challenge

**Ondřej Dušek, Jekaterina Novikova and Verena Rieser**

The Interaction Lab, School of Mathematical and Computer Sciences

Heriot-Watt University

Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

`{o.dusek, j.novikova, v.t.rieser}@hw.ac.uk`

System	BLEU	NIST	METEOR	ROUGE-L	CIDEr	norm. avg.
♥ <b>TGEN</b> baseline (Novikova et al., 2017b): seq2seq with MR classifier reranking	0.6593	8.6094	0.4483	0.6850	2.2338	0.5754
♥ <b>SLUG</b> (Juraska et al., 2018): seq2seq-based ensemble (LSTM/CNN encoders, LSTM decoder), heuristic slot aligner reranking, data augmentation	<b>0.6619</b>	<b>8.6130</b>	0.4454	0.6772	<b>2.2615</b>	0.5744
♥ <b>TNT1</b> (Oraby et al., 2018): TGEN with data augmentation	0.6561	8.5105	<b>0.4517</b>	0.6839	2.2183	0.5729
♥ <b>NLE</b> (Agarwal et al., 2018): fully lexicalised character-based seq2seq with MR classification reranking	0.6534	8.5300	0.4435	0.6829	2.1539	0.5696
♥ <b>TNT2</b> (Tandon et al., 2018): TGEN with data augmentation	0.6502	8.5211	0.4396	<b>0.6853</b>	2.1670	0.5688
♥ <b>HARV</b> (Gehrmann et al., 2018): fully lexicalised seq2seq with copy mechanism, coverage penalty reranking, diverse ensembling	0.6496	8.5268	0.4386	<b>0.6872</b>	2.0850	0.5673
♥ <b>ZHANG</b> (Zhang et al., 2018): fully lexicalised seq2seq over subword units, attention memory	0.6545	8.1840	0.4392	<b>0.7083</b>	2.1012	0.5661
♥ <b>GONG</b> (Gong, 2018): TGEN fine-tuned using reinforcement learning	0.6422	8.3453	0.4469	0.6645	<b>2.2721</b>	0.5631
♥ <b>TR1</b> (Schilder et al., 2018): seq2seq with stronger delexicalization (incl. <i>priceRange</i> and <i>customerRating</i> )	0.6336	8.1848	0.4322	0.6828	2.1425	0.5563
♦ <b>SHEFF1</b> (Chen et al., 2018): 2-level linear classifiers deciding on next slot/token, trained using LOLS, training data filtering	0.6015	8.3075	0.4405	0.6778	2.1775	0.5537
♣ <b>DANGNT</b> (Nguyen and Tran, 2018): rule-based two-step approach, selecting phrases for each slot + lexicalising	0.5990	7.9277	0.4346	0.6634	2.0783	0.5395
♥ <b>SLUG-ALT</b> (late submission, Juraska et al., 2018): SLUG trained only using complex sentences from the training data	0.6035	8.3954	0.4369	0.5991	2.1019	0.5378
♦ <b>ZHAW2</b> (Deriu and Cieliebak, 2018): semantically conditioned LSTM RNN language model (Wen et al., 2015b) + controlling the first generated word	0.6004	8.1394	0.4388	0.6119	1.9188	0.5314
♠ <b>TUDA</b> (Puzikov and Gurevych, 2018): handcrafted templates	0.5657	7.4544	<b>0.4529</b>	0.6614	1.8206	0.5215
♦ <b>ZHAW1</b> (Deriu and Cieliebak, 2018): ZHAW2 with MR classification loss + reranking	0.5864	8.0212	0.4322	0.5998	1.8173	0.5205
♥ <b>ADAPT</b> (Elder et al., 2018): seq2seq with preprocessing that enriches the MR with desired target words	0.5092	7.1954	0.4025	0.5872	1.5039	0.4738
♥ <b>CHEN</b> (Chen, 2018): fully lexicalised seq2seq with copy mechanism and attention memory	0.5859	5.4383	0.3836	0.6714	1.5790	0.4685
♠ <b>FORGE3</b> (Mille and Dasiopoulou, 2018): templates mined from training data	0.4599	7.1092	0.3858	0.5611	1.5586	0.4547
♥ <b>SHEFF2</b> (Chen et al., 2018): vanilla seq2seq	0.5436	5.7462	0.3561	0.6152	1.4130	0.4462
♠ <b>TR2</b> (Schilder et al., 2018): templates mined from training data	0.4202	6.7686	0.3968	0.5481	1.4389	0.4372
♣ <b>FORGE1</b> (Mille and Dasiopoulou, 2018): grammar-based	0.4207	6.5139	0.3685	0.5437	1.3106	0.4231



System	BLEU	NIST	METEOR	ROUGE-L	CIDEr	norm. avg.
♥ <b>TGEN</b> baseline (Novikova et al., 2017b): seq2seq with MR classifier reranking	0.6593	8.6094	0.4483	0.6850	2.2338	0.5754
♥ <b>SLUG</b> (Juraska et al., 2018): seq2seq-based ensemble (LSTM/CNN encoders, LSTM decoder), heuristic slot aligner reranking, data augmentation	<b>0.6619</b>	<b>8.6130</b>	0.4454	0.6772	<b>2.2615</b>	0.5744
♥ <b>TNT1</b> (Oraby et al., 2018): TGEN with data augmentation	0.6561	8.5105	<b>0.4517</b>	0.6839	2.2183	0.5729
♥ <b>NLE</b> (Agarwal et al., 2018): fully lexicalised character-based seq2seq with MR classification reranking	0.6534	8.5300	0.4435	0.6829	2.1539	0.5696
♥ <b>TNT2</b> (Tandon et al., 2018): TGEN with data augmentation	0.6502	8.5211	0.4396	<b>0.6853</b>	2.1670	0.5688
♥ <b>HARV</b> (Gehrmann et al., 2018): fully lexicalised seq2seq with copy mechanism, coverage penalty reranking, diverse ensembling	0.6486	8.5268	0.4386	<b>0.6873</b>	2.0850	0.5673
♥ <b>ZHANG</b> (Zhang et al., 2018): fully lexicalised seq2seq over subword units, attention memory						
♥ <b>GONG</b> (Gong, 2018): TGEN fine-tuned using reinforcement learning						
♥ <b>TR1</b> (Schilder et al., 2018): seq2seq with stronger delexicalization (incl. <i>priceRange</i> and <i>customerRating</i> )						
♦ <b>SHEFF1</b> (Chen et al., 2018): 2-level linear classifiers deciding on next slot/token, trained using LOLS, training data filtering						
♣ <b>DANGNT</b> (Nguyen and Tran, 2018): rule-based two-step approach, selecting phrases for each slot + lexicalising						
♥ <b>SLUG-ALT</b> ( <i>late submission</i> , Juraska et al., 2018): SLUG trained only using complex sentences from the training data						
♦ <b>ZHAW2</b> (Deriu and Cieliebak, 2018): semantically conditioned LSTM RNN language model (Wen et al., 2015b) + controlling the first generated word	0.6004	8.1394	0.4388	0.6119	1.9188	0.5314
♠ <b>TUDA</b> (Puzikov and Gurevych, 2018): handcrafted templates	0.5657	7.4544	<b>0.4529</b>	0.6614	1.8206	0.5215
♦ <b>ZHAW1</b> (Deriu and Cieliebak, 2018): ZHAW2 with MR classification loss + reranking	0.5864	8.0212	0.4322	0.5998	1.8173	0.5205
♥ <b>ADAPT</b> (Elder et al., 2018): seq2seq with preprocessing that enriches the MR with desired target words	0.5092	7.1954	0.4025	0.5872	1.5039	0.4738
♥ <b>CHEN</b> (Chen, 2018): fully lexicalised seq2seq with copy mechanism and attention memory	0.5859	5.4383	0.3836	0.6714	1.5790	0.4685
♠ <b>FORGE3</b> (Mille and Dasiopoulou, 2018): templates mined from training data	0.4599	7.1092	0.3858	0.5611	1.5586	0.4547
♥ <b>SHEFF2</b> (Chen et al., 2018): vanilla seq2seq	0.5436	5.7462	0.3561	0.6152	1.4130	0.4462
♠ <b>TR2</b> (Schilder et al., 2018): templates mined from training data	0.4202	6.7686	0.3968	0.5481	1.4389	0.4372
♣ <b>FORGE1</b> (Mille and Dasiopoulou, 2018): grammar-based	0.4207	6.5139	0.3685	0.5437	1.3106	0.4231

- Red: seq2seq+att
- Orange: almost seq2seq+att
- Green/Blue: patterns

### 3. The BiLSTM Hegemony

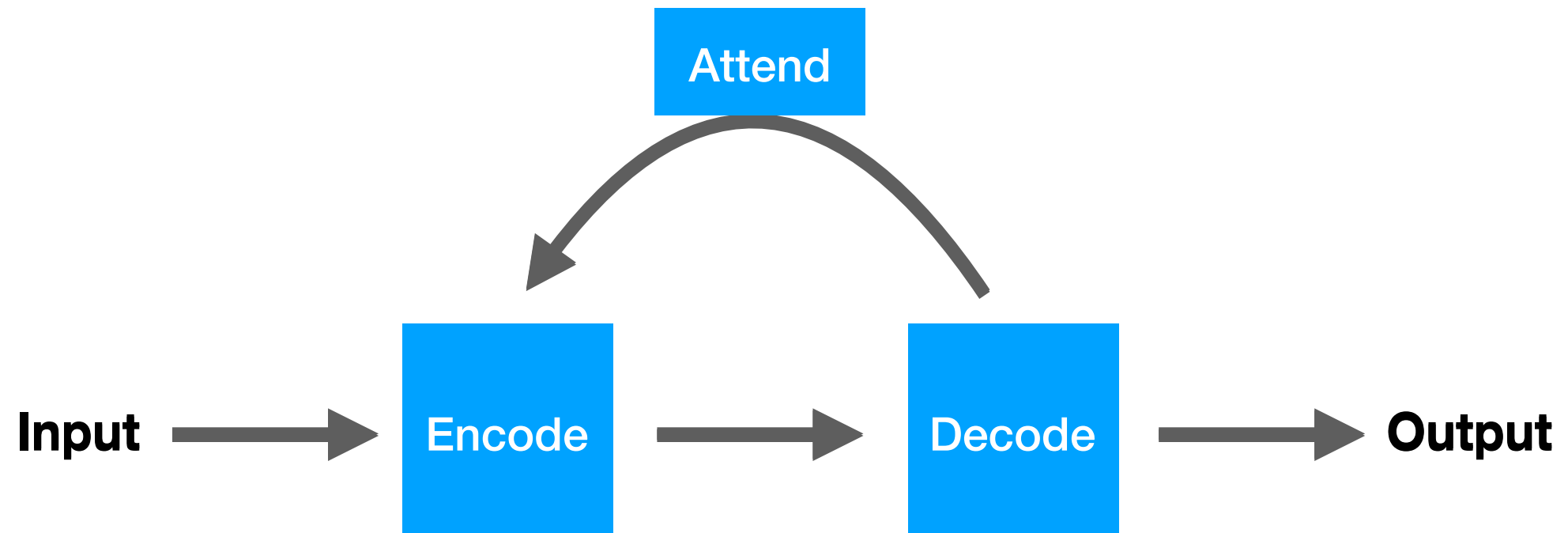
**To a first approximation,  
the de facto consensus in NLP in 2017 is  
that no matter what the task,  
you throw a BiLSTM at it, with  
attention if you need information flow**

28

Chris Manning  
April 2017

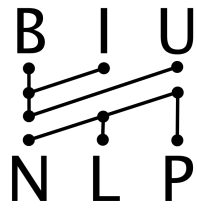


# The basic abstraction

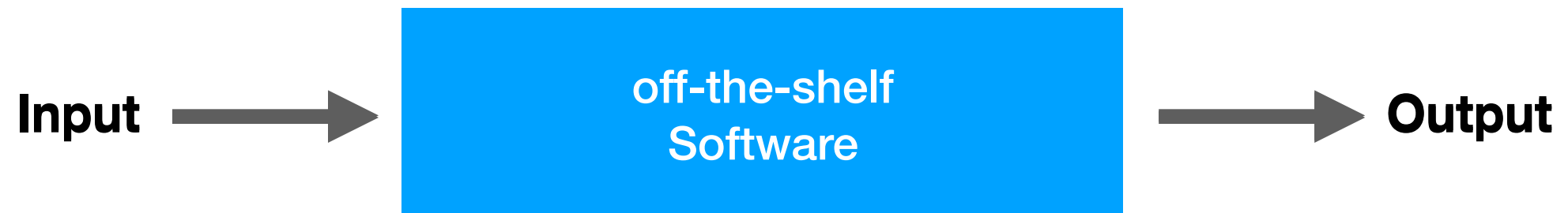


sequence of symbols  
from alphabet A

sequence of symbols  
from alphabet B



# The basic abstraction



sequence of symbols  
from alphabet A

sequence of symbols  
from alphabet B

# Software

**MARIANNMT**

Fast Neural Machine Translation in C++

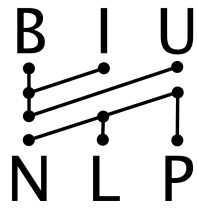


An open source neural  
machine translation system.

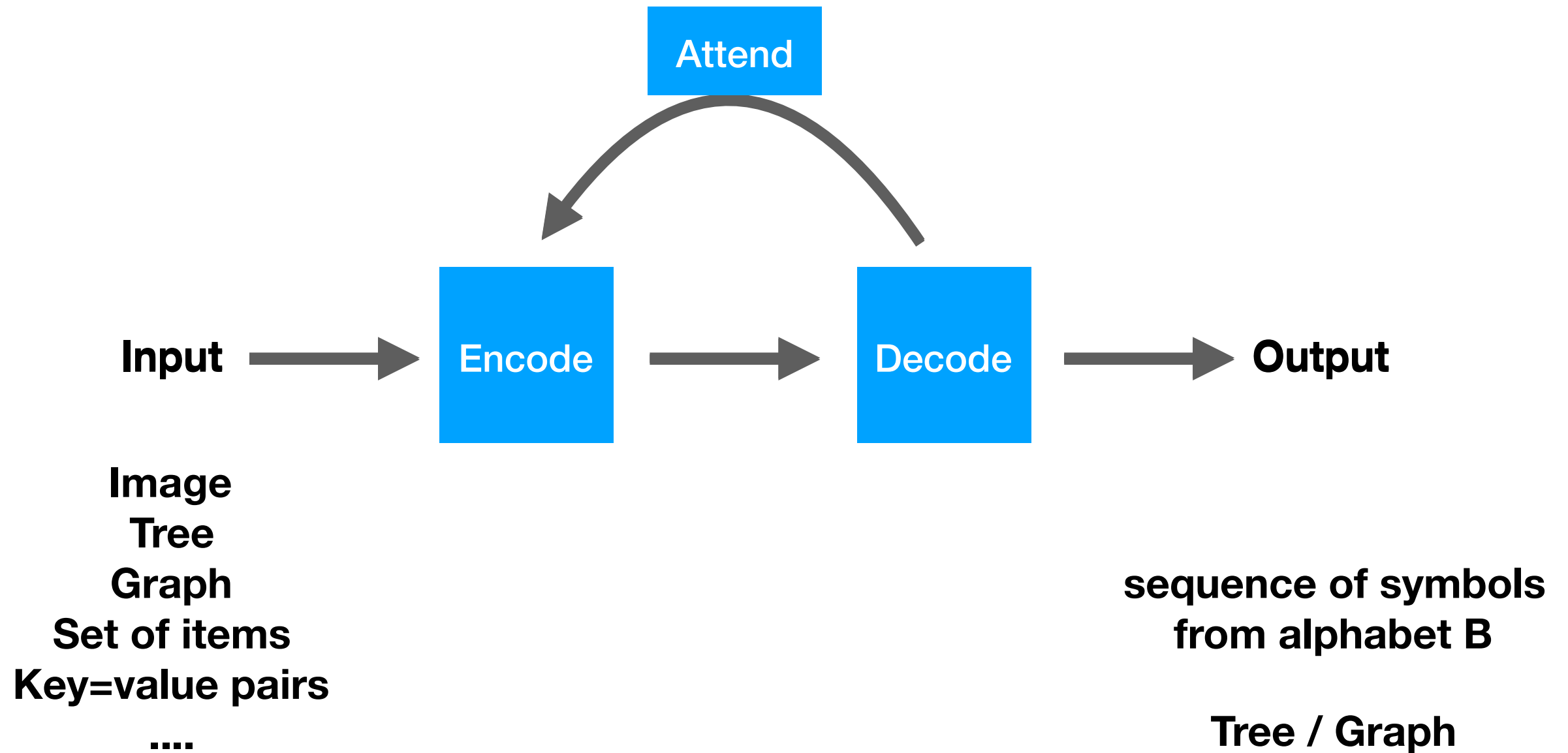
**OpenNMT**



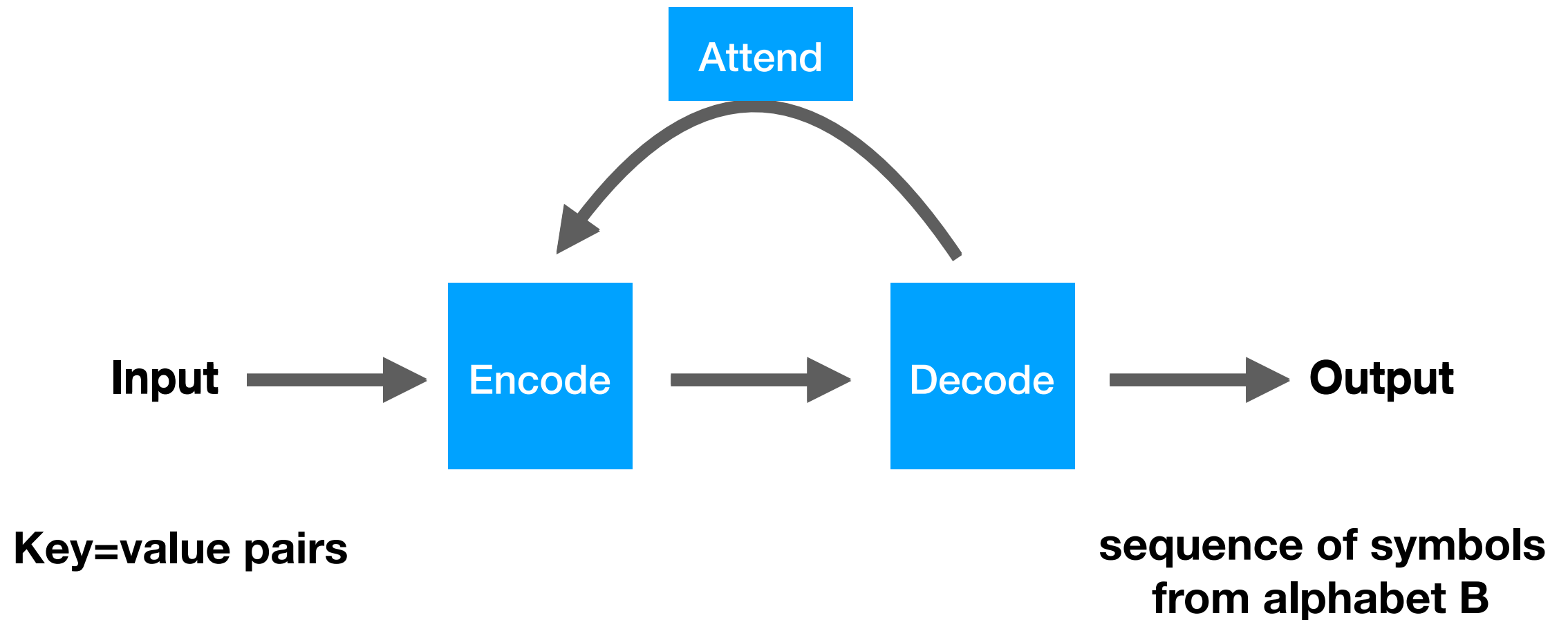
pytorch / fairseq



# What's not supported

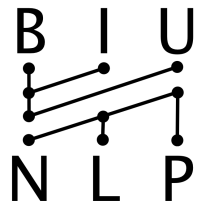


# What's not supported



Name	Triton 52
EcoRating	A+
Family	L7

the Triton 52 has an A+ echo rating and is in the L7 product family



# Roll your own: neural network software toolkits

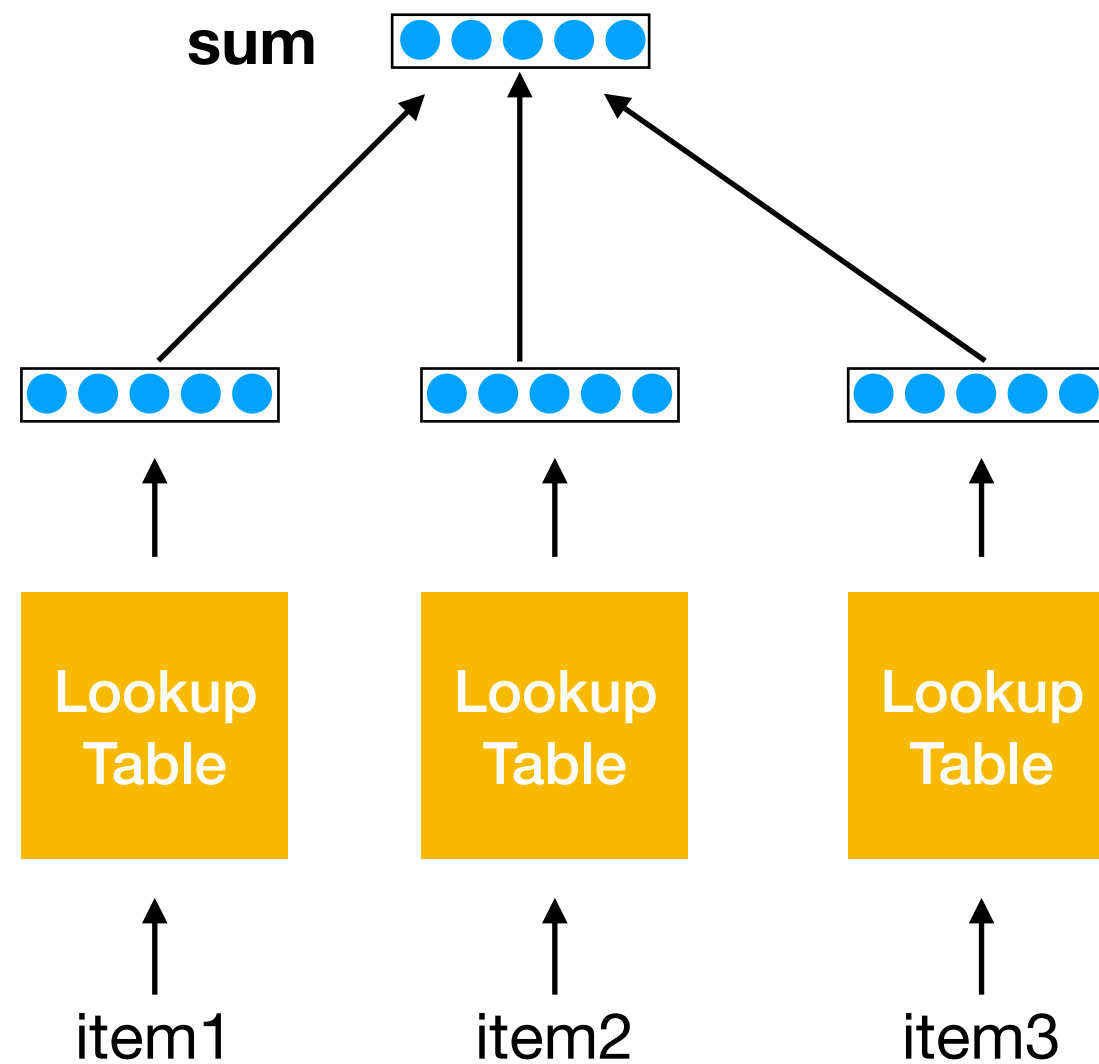
PYTORCH

dy/net

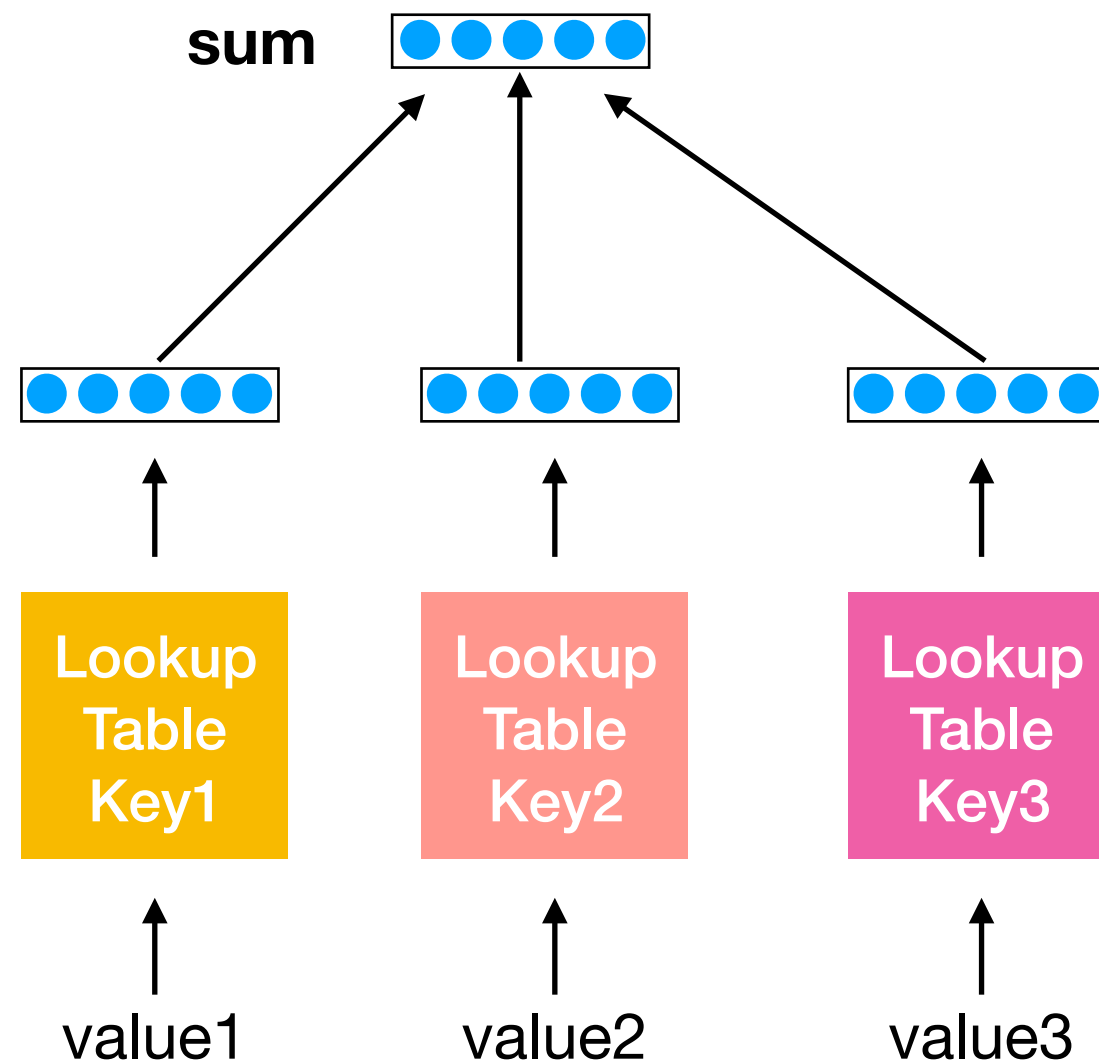
(don't use TensorFlow)

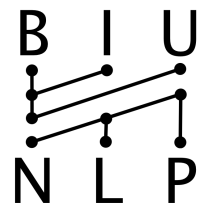


# Encoding sets

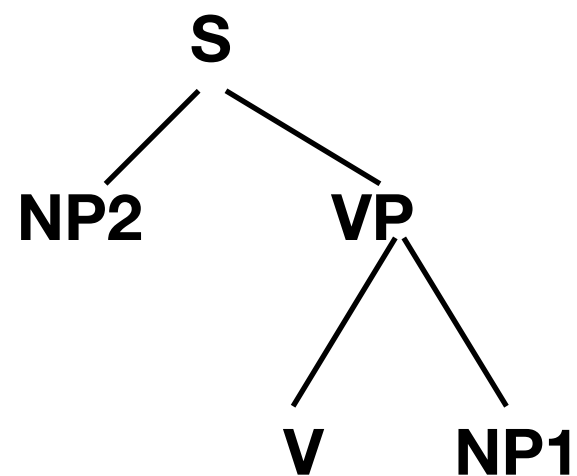


# Encoding key=value pairs

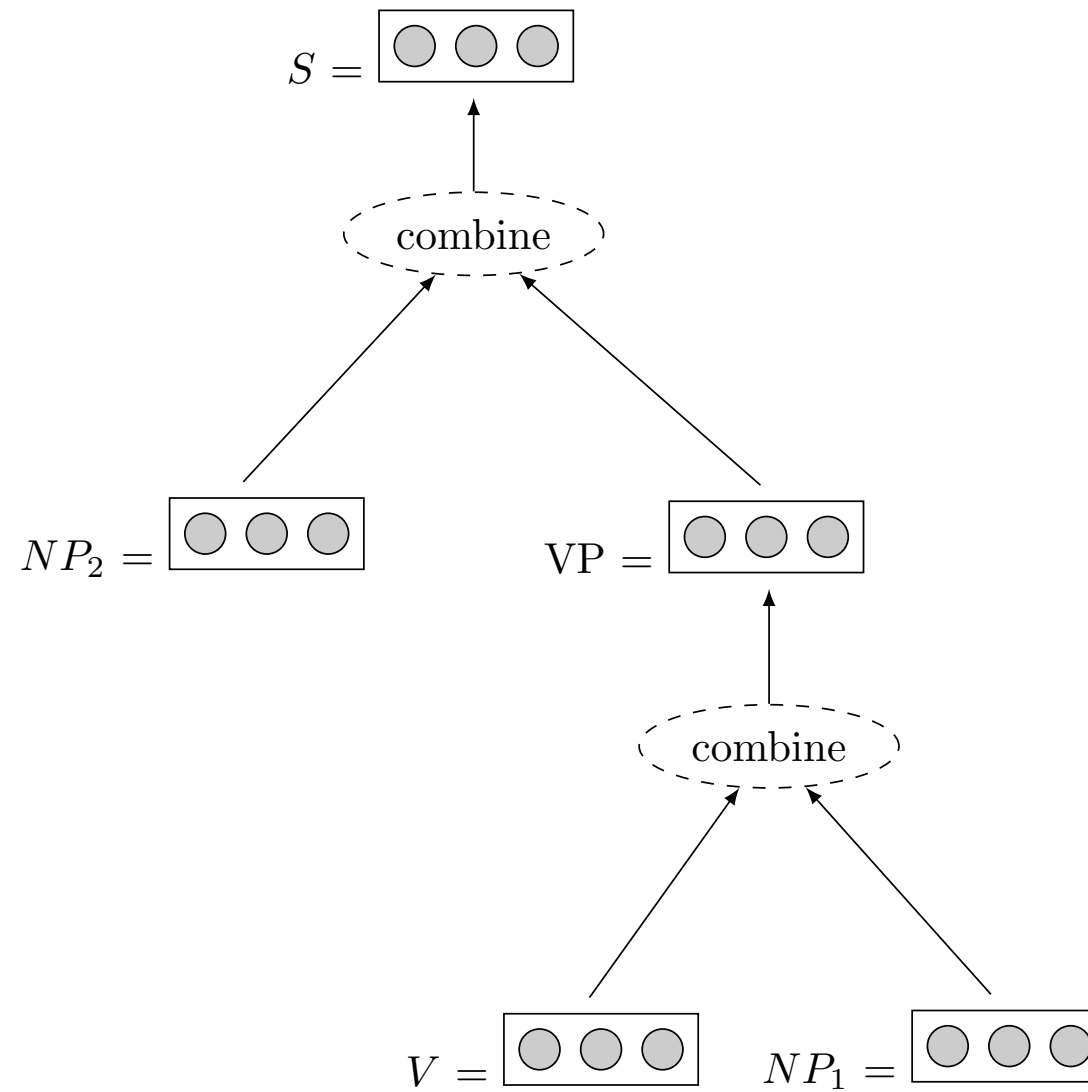
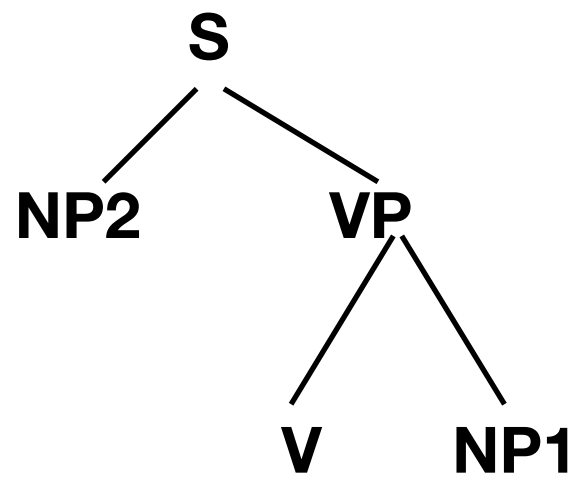




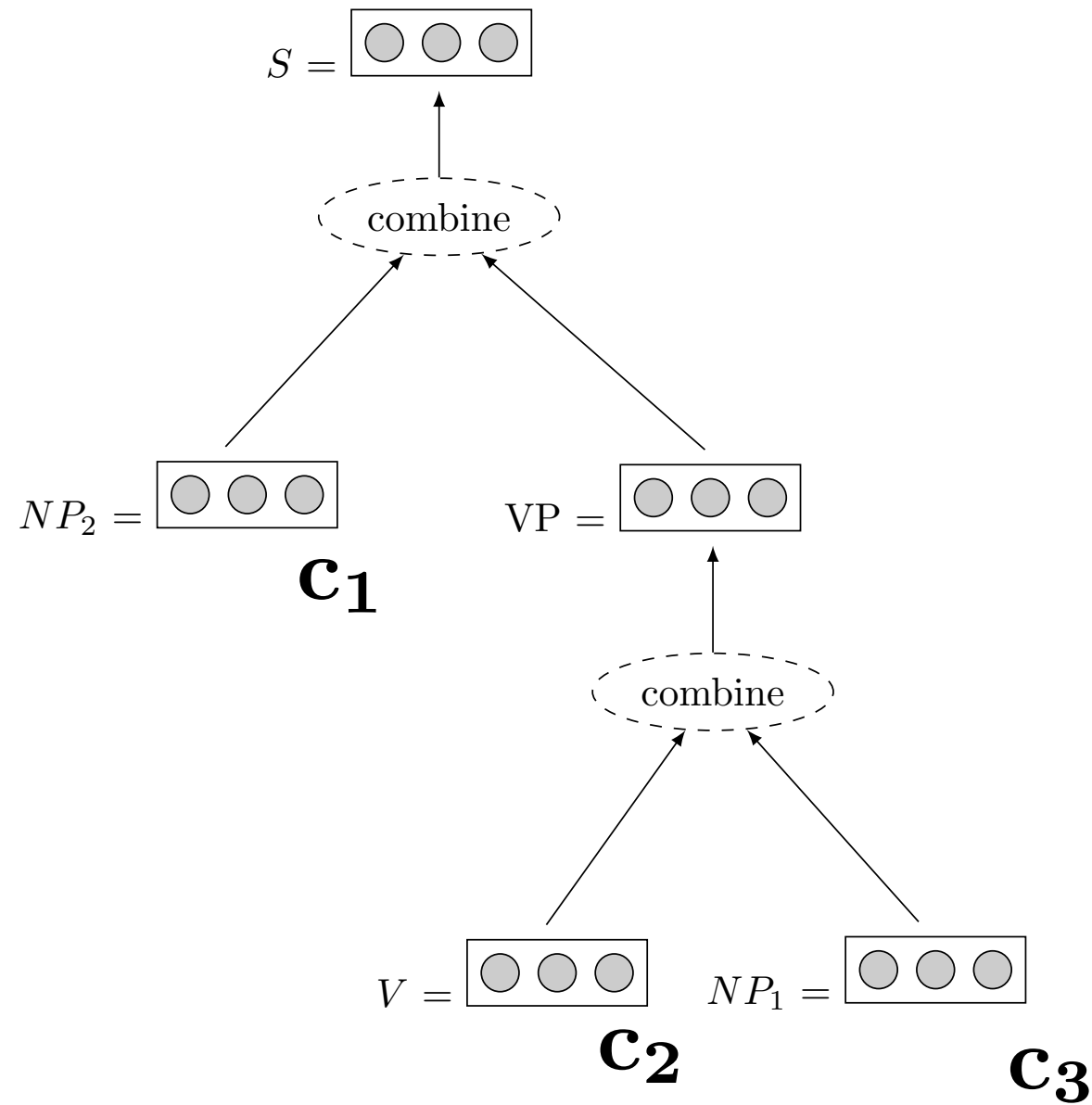
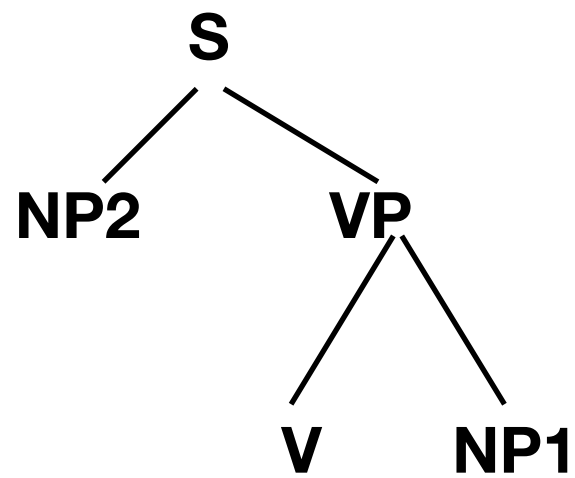
# Encoding trees



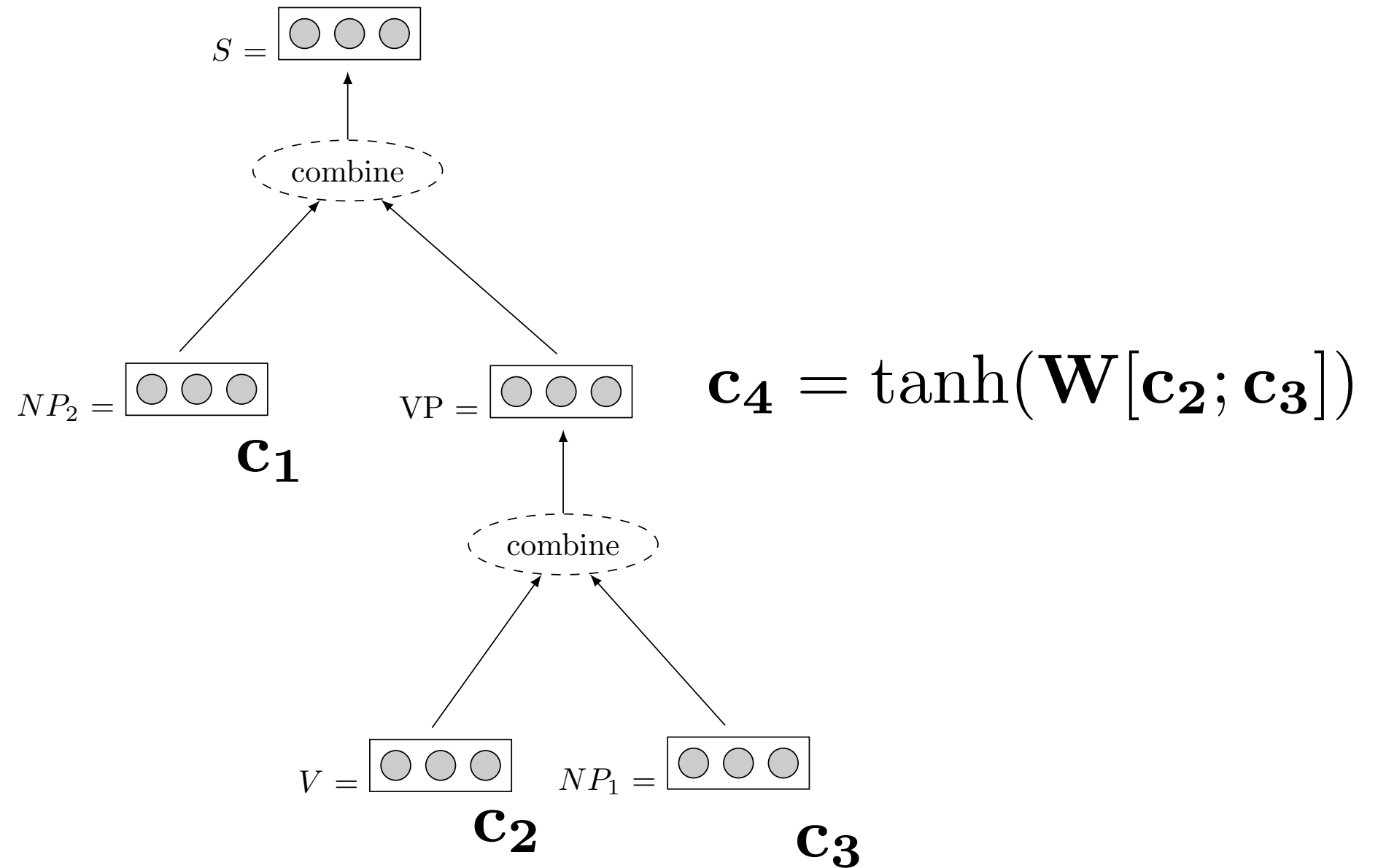
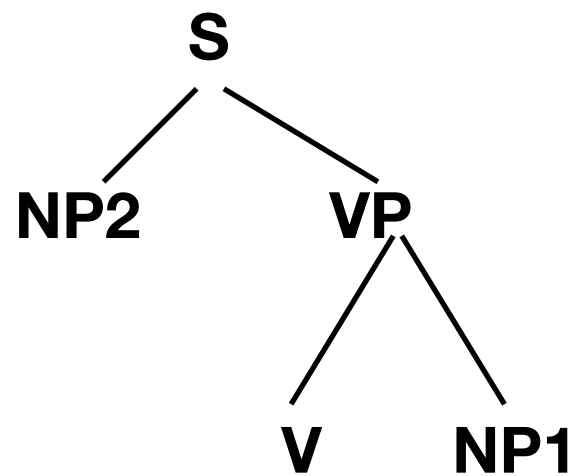
# Encoding trees



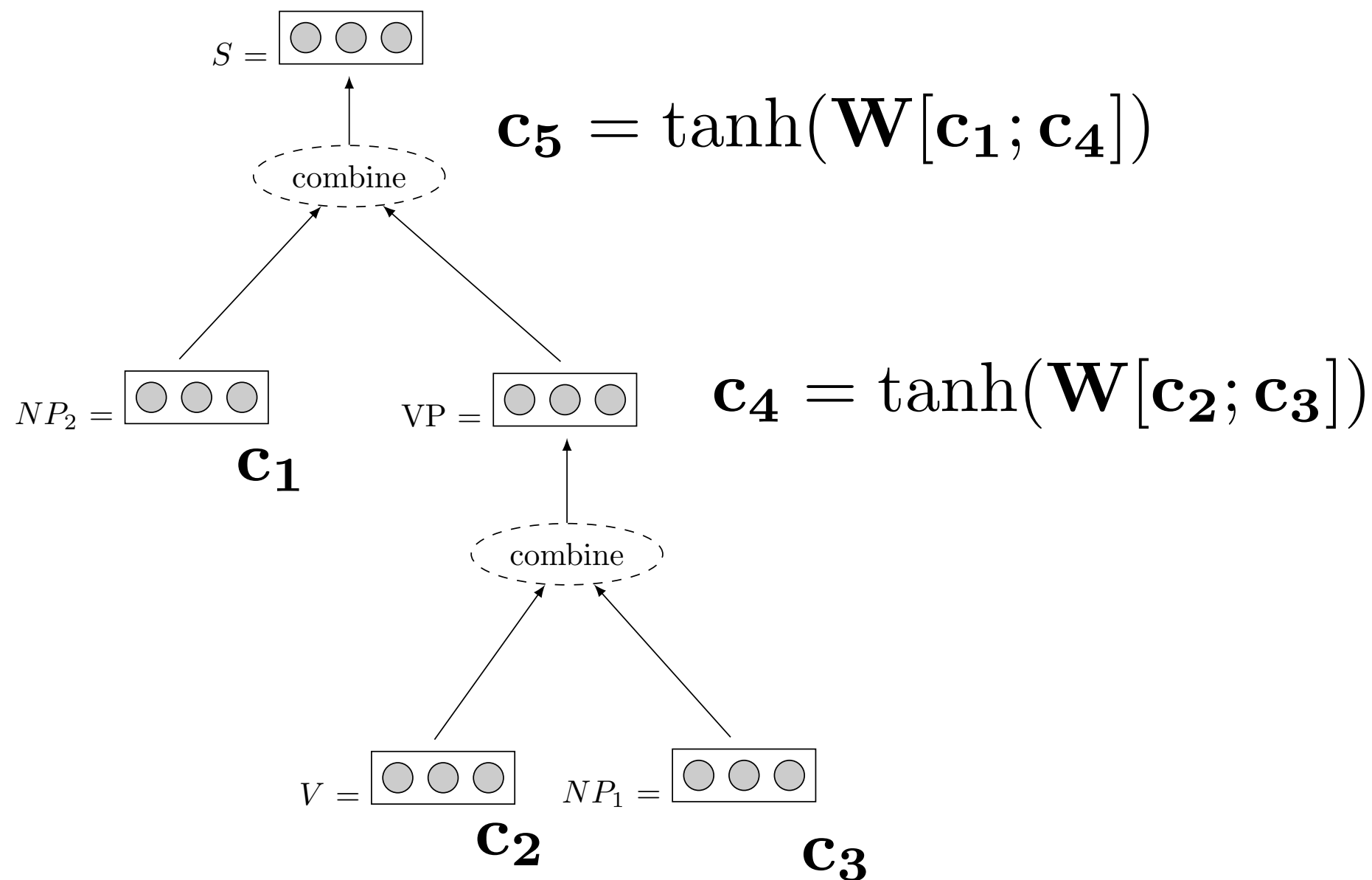
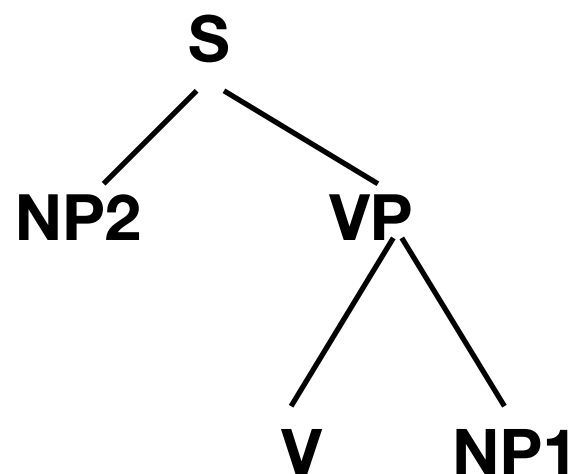
# Encoding trees

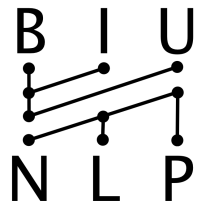


# Encoding trees



# Encoding trees

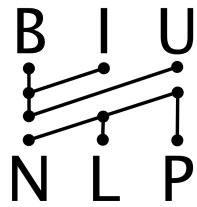




**But you can also do a lot  
with seq2seq**

**Just encode things as strings!**





# Key-value pairs

Name	Triton 52
EcoRating	A+
Family	L7

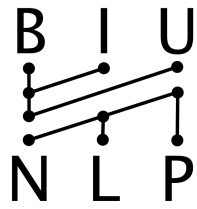


**the Triton 52 has an A+ echo rating  
and is in the L7 product family**

**@ N: Triton 52 @ EC: A+ @ F: L7 @**



**the Triton 52 has an A+ echo rating  
and is in the L7 product family**



# Key-value pairs

**Learning to generate one-sentence biographies from Wikidata**

**Andrew Chisholm**  
University of Sydney  
Sydney, Australia

andy.chisholm.89@gmail.com

**Will Radford**  
Hugo Australia  
Sydney, Australia

wradford@hugo.ai

**Ben Hachey**  
Hugo Australia  
Sydney, Australia

bhachey@hugo.ai

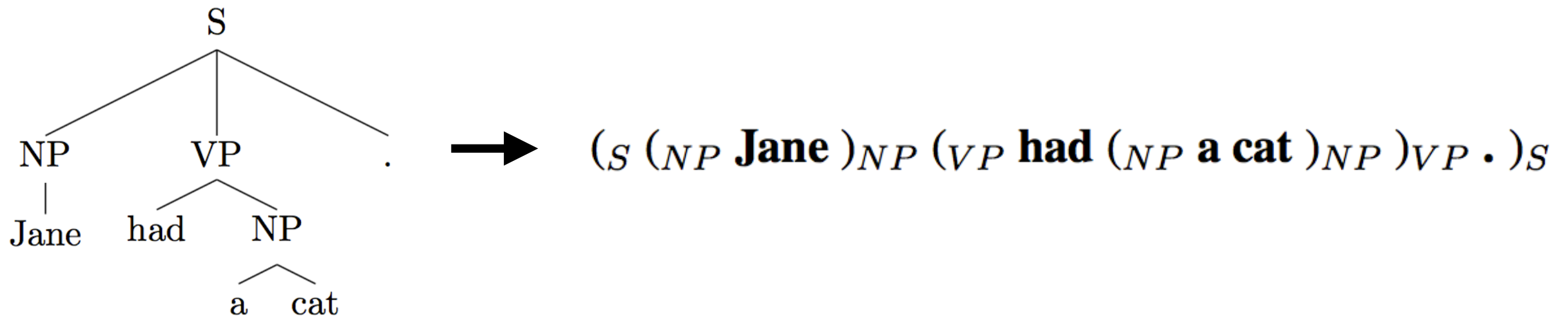
---

```
TITLE mathias tuomi SEX_OR_GENDER  
male DATE_OF_BIRTH 1985-09-03  
OCCUPATION squash player  
CITIZENSHIP finland
```

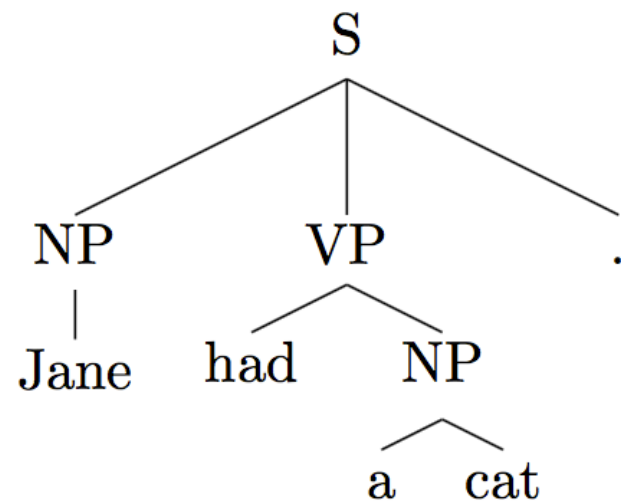
---

**(Task: generate first sentence of wikipedia biography)**

# Linearized Trees

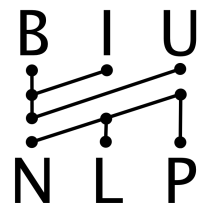


# Linearized Trees

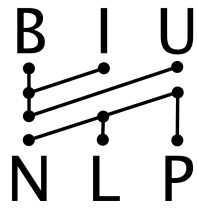


$(S (NP \textbf{Jane})_{NP} (VP \textbf{had} (NP \textbf{a cat})_{NP})_{VP} \cdot )_S$

feed the tree as a bracketed string into your encoder  
or output it as string from the decoder

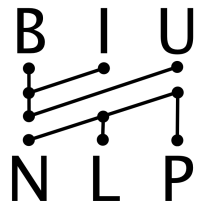


**For many cases, encoding the input and output as linear strings and relying on the attention mechanism and neural-net training work sufficiently well.**



## **NLG (for the rest of this tutorial):**

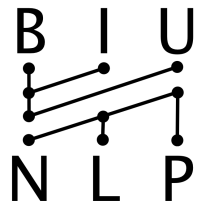
- 1) Define task.**
- 2) Obtain input/output example.**
- 3) Represent input and output as strings.**
- 4) Train a seq2seq+attention model.**



# The big challenge: how to get the training data

**NLG (for the rest of this tutorial):**

- 1) Define task.**
- 2) Obtain input/output example.**
- 3) Represent input and output as strings.**
- 4) Train a seq2seq+attention model.**



# The big challenge: how to get the training data

**NLG (for the rest of this tutorial):**

- 1) Define task.**
- 2) Obtain input/output example.**
- 3) Represent input and output as strings.**
- 4) Train a seq2seq+attention model.**

**Need MANY examples of input and desired output.**



# Translating with Politeness

**Controlling Politeness in Neural Machine Translation via Side Constraints**

**Rico Sennrich and Barry Haddow and Alexandra Birch**

School of Informatics, University of Edinburgh

`{rico.sennrich,a.birch}@ed.ac.uk, bhaddow@inf.ed.ac.uk`

# Translating with Politeness

## 3 NMT with Side Constraints

We are interested in machine translation for language pairs where politeness is not grammatically marked in the source text, but should be predicted in the target text. The basic idea is to provide the neural network with additional input features that mark *side constraints* such as politeness.

# Translating with Politeness

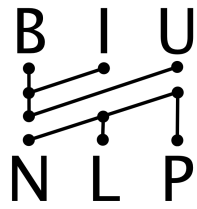
At training time, the correct feature is extracted from the sentence pair as described in the following section. At test time, we assume that the side constraint is provided by a user who selects the desired level of politeness of the translation.

# Translating with Politeness

—  
We add side constraints as special tokens at the end of the source text, for instance  $\langle T \rangle$  or  $\langle V \rangle$ .  
The attentional encoder-decoder framework is then able to learn to pay attention to the side constraints.

# Translating with Politeness

We automatically annotate politeness on a sentence level with rules based on a morphosyntactic annotation by ParZu (Sennrich et al., 2013). Sentences containing imperative verbs are labelled informal. Sentences containing an informal or polite pronoun from Table 1 are labelled with the corresponding class.



# Generating with Style

## Controlling Linguistic Style Aspects in Neural Language Generation

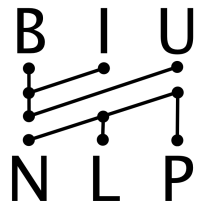
**Jessica Fidler and Yoav Goldberg**

Computer Science Department

Bar-Ilan University

Israel

`{jessica.fidler, yoav.goldberg}@gmail.com`



# Generating with Style

**[Jessica's slides]**

Our goal is to generate text...

...while allowing control of its style.



# Style

The same message (e.g. expressing a positive sentiment towards a movie) can be conveyed in different ways.

# Style Aspects (Example)

“OMG... This movie actually made me cry a little bit because I laughed so hard at some parts.”

# Style Aspects (Example)

“OMG... This movie actually made me cry a little bit because I laughed so hard at some parts.”

Colloquial style

# Style Aspects (Example)

“OMG... This movie actually made  
me cry a little bit because I laughed  
so hard at some parts.”

Colloquial style

Personal voice

# Style Aspects (Example)

“OMG... This movie actually made  
me cry a little bit because I laughed  
so hard at some parts.”

Colloquial style

Personal voice

Few adjectives

# Style Aspects (Example)

“OMG... This movie actually made me cry a little bit because I laughed so hard at some parts.”

Colloquial style

Personal voice

Few adjectives

“A genuinely unique, full-on sensory experience that treads its own path between narrative clarity and pure visual expression.”

# Style Aspects (Example)

“OMG... This movie actually made me cry a little bit because I laughed so hard at some parts.”

Colloquial style

Personal voice

Few adjectives

“A genuinely unique, full-on sensory experience that treads its own path between narrative clarity and pure visual expression.”

Professional critic

# Style Aspects (Example)

“OMG... This movie actually made me cry a little bit because I laughed so hard at some parts.”

Colloquial style

Personal voice

Few adjectives

“A genuinely unique, full-on sensory experience that treads its own path between narrative clarity and pure visual expression.”

Professional critic

Impersonal voice



# Style Aspects (Example)

“OMG... This movie actually made me cry a little bit because I laughed so hard at some parts.”

Colloquial style

Personal voice

Few adjectives

“A genuinely unique, full-on sensory experience that treads its own path between narrative clarity and pure visual expression.”

Professional critic

Impersonal voice

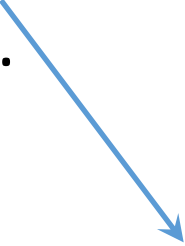
Many adjectives

# The challenge

Generate text that conforms to a set of content-based and stylistic requirements.

# The challenge

Generate **text** that conforms to a set of content-based and stylistic requirements.



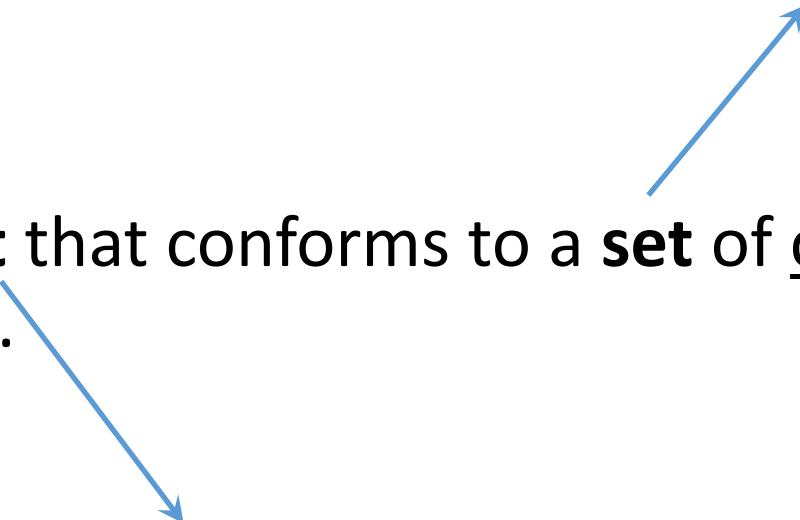
full length, natural  
sentences

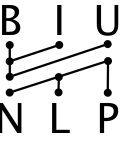
# The challenge

Generate **text** that conforms to a **set** of content-based and stylistic requirements.

more than 2

full length, natural sentences





# Example

Theme: Acting  
Descriptive: True

# Example

Theme: Acting  
Descriptive: True

“A wholly original, well-acted, romantic comedy that's elevated by the modest talents of a lesser known cast.”

# Example

Theme: Acting  
Descriptive: True

“A wholly original, **well-acted**, romantic comedy that's elevated by the modest talents of a lesser known **cast**.”

# Example

Theme: Acting  
Descriptive: True

“A wholly original, **well-acted**, romantic  
comedy that's elevated by the modest talents  
of a lesser known **cast**.”



# Example

Theme: Acting  
Descriptive: True

“A wholly original, **well-acted**, romantic comedy that's elevated by the modest talents of a lesser known **cast**.”

Theme: Plot  
Descriptive: False

“I think the poor **writing** and **script** are what caused this movie to bomb.”

# Formal Definition

- We assume a set of  $k$  parameters  $p_1 \dots p_k$ , each parameter  $p_i$  with a set of possible values  $V^{p_i}$

# Formal Definition

- We assume a set of  $k$  parameters  $p_1 \dots p_k$ , each parameter  $p_i$  with a set of possible values  $V^{p_i}$
- Input: specific assignment to these parameters

e.g.

Parameter	Value
Professional	False
Personal	True
Length	$\leq 10$
Descriptive	False
Theme	Other
Sentiment	Positive

# Formal Definition

- We assume a set of  $k$  parameters  $p_1 \dots p_k$ , each parameter  $p_i$  with a set of possible values  $V^{p_i}$
- Input: specific assignment to these parameters

e.g.

Parameter	Value
Professional	False
Personal	True
Length	$\leq 10$
Descriptive	False
Theme	Other
Sentiment	Positive

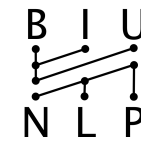
Output: a text that is compatible with the parameters values

e.g. “I don't understand why it is rated so poorly.”

# This work

We consider 6 parameters and values from the movie reviews domain

Style	Content
Professional Personal Descriptive Length	Sentiment Theme



# Content Parameters

# Task Description – Content Parameters

**Sentiment** - The score that the reviewer gave the movie

## Positive

“This movie is so much to keep you on the edge of your seat.”

## Neutral

“While the film doesn't quite reach the level of sugar fluctuations, it's beautifully animated.”

## Negative

“It’s a very low-budget movie that just seems to be a bunch of fluff.”

# Task Description – Content Parameters

**Theme** - Whether the sentence's content is about the Plot, Acting, Production, Effects or none of these (Other)



# Task Description – Content Parameters

**Theme** - Whether the sentence's content is about the Plot, Acting, Production, Effects or none of these (Other)

**Plot** - “The **storyline** had me laughing out loud.”

# Task Description – Content Parameters

**Theme** - Whether the sentence's content is about the Plot, Acting, Production, Effects or none of these (Other)

**Plot** - “The **storyline** had me laughing out loud.”

**Acting** - “The **cast** are all excellent.”

# Task Description – Content Parameters

**Theme** - Whether the sentence's content is about the Plot, Acting, Production, Effects or none of these (Other)

**Plot** - “The **storyline** had me laughing out loud.”

**Acting** - “The **cast** are all excellent.”

**Production** - “The **director's** magical.”

# Task Description – Content Parameters

**Theme** - Whether the sentence's content is about the Plot, Acting, Production, Effects or none of these (Other)

**Plot** - “The **storyline** had me laughing out loud.”

**Acting** - “The **cast** are all excellent.”

**Production** - “The **director's** magical.”

**Effects** - “Only saving grace is the **sound effects.**”

# Task Description – Content Parameters

**Theme** - Whether the sentence's content is about the Plot, Acting, Production, Effects or none of these (Other)

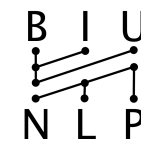
**Plot** - “The **storyline** had me laughing out loud.”

**Acting** - “The **cast** are all excellent.”

**Production** - “The **director's** magical.”

**Effects** - “Only saving grace is the **sound effects**.”

**Other** - “I'm afraid that the movie is aimed at kids and adults weren't sure what to say about it.”



# Style Parameters

# Task Description – Style Parameters

**Length** – Number of words

$\leq 10$  words

11-20 words

21-40 words

$> 40$  words

# Task Description – Style Parameters

**Professional** - Whether the review is written in the style of a professional critic or not



# Task Description – Style Parameters

**Professional** - Whether the review is written in the style of a professional critic or not

True

“This is a breath of fresh air, it's a welcome return to the franchise's brand of satirical humor.”

# Task Description – Style Parameters

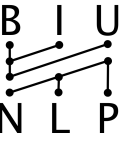
**Professional** - Whether the review is written in the style of a professional critic or not

True

“This is a breath of fresh air, it's a welcome return to the franchise's brand of satirical humor.”

False

“So glad to see this movie !!”



# Task Description – Style Parameters

**Personal** - Whether the review describes subjective experience (written in personal voice) or not

# Task Description – Style Parameters

**Personal** - Whether the review describes subjective experience (written in personal voice) or not

True

“I could see the movie again”

# Task Description – Style Parameters

**Personal** - Whether the review describes subjective experience (written in personal voice) or not

True

“I could see the movie again”

False

“Very similar to the book.”

# Task Description – Style Parameters

**Descriptive** - Whether the review is in descriptive (contains a high ratio of adjectives) style or not

# Task Description – Style Parameters

**Descriptive** - Whether the review is in descriptive (contains a high ratio of adjectives) style or not

True

“Such a **hilarious** and **funny romantic** comedy.”

# Task Description – Style Parameters

**Descriptive** - Whether the review is in descriptive (contains a high ratio of adjectives) style or not

True

“Such a **hilarious** and **funny romantic** comedy.”

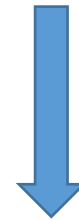
False

“A **definite** must see for fans of anime fans, pop culture references and animation with a **good** laugh too.”

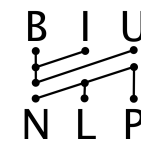


And we would like to control for all these aspects **simultaneously**

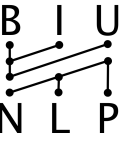
Type	Parameter	Value
Style	Professional	False
Style	Personal	True
Style	Length	$\leq 10$
Style	Descriptive	False
Content	Theme	Other
Content	Sentiment	Positive



“I don't understand why it is rated so poorly.”



Model



# Model

a conditioned language model:

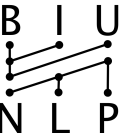
$$P(w_1 \dots w_n | c) = \prod_{t=1}^n P(w_t | w_1, \dots, w_{t-1}, c)$$

# Model

a conditioned language model:

$$P(w_1 \dots w_n | c) = \prod_{t=1}^n P(w_t | w_1, \dots, w_{t-1}, c)$$

Condition each word on the **history**, as well as on a context **c**.



# Model

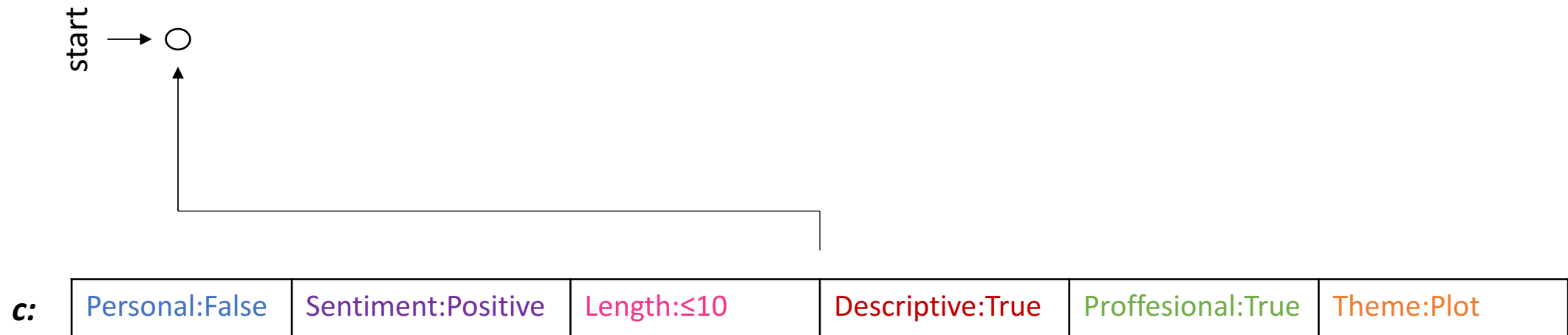
In our case,  $c$  is a concatenation of the parameters values embedding vectors

**$c$ :**

Personal:False	Sentiment:Positive	Length: $\leq 10$	Descriptive:True	Proffesional:True	Theme:Plot
----------------	--------------------	-------------------	------------------	-------------------	------------

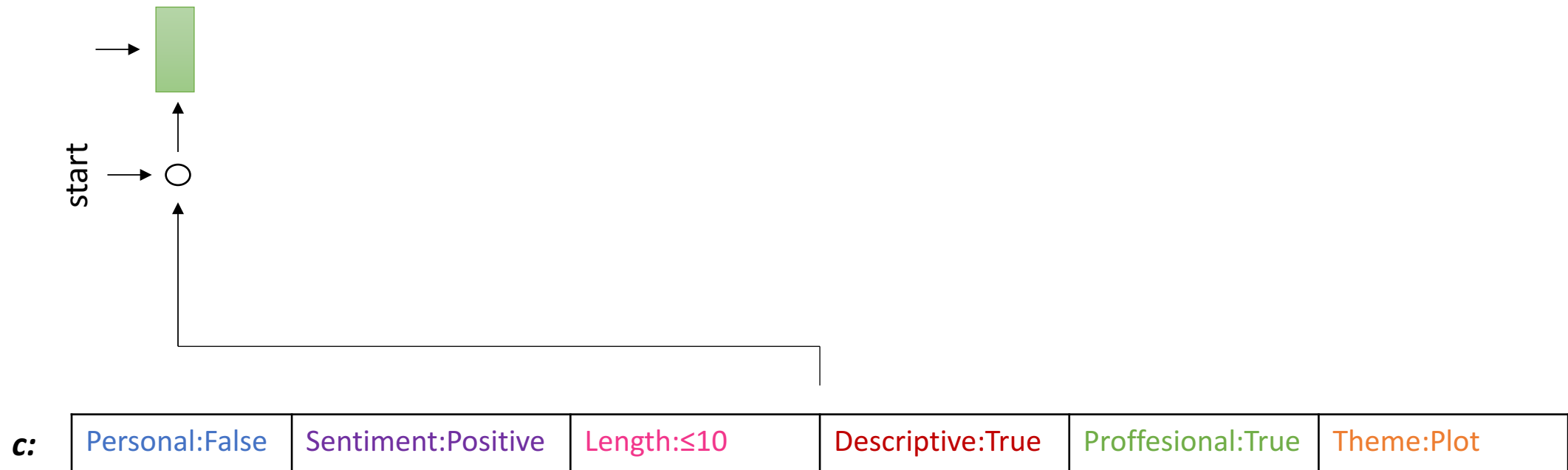
# Model

In our case,  $c$  is a concatenation of the parameters values embedding vectors



# Model

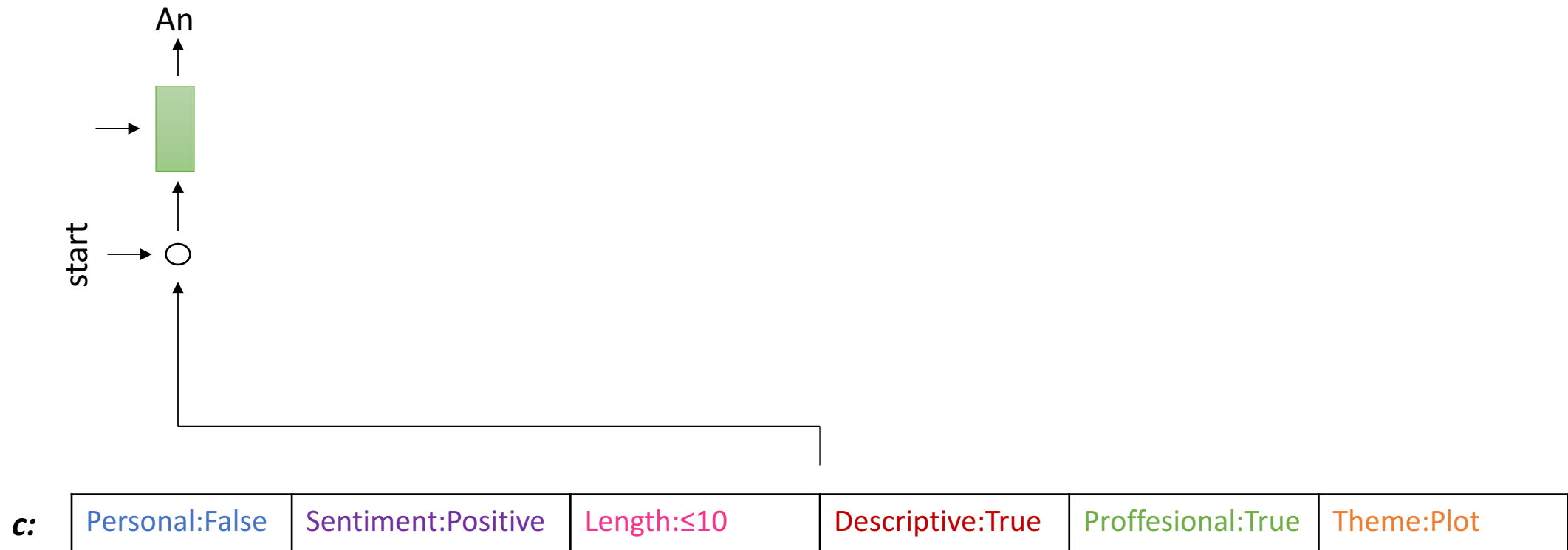
In our case,  $c$  is a concatenation of the parameters values embedding vectors





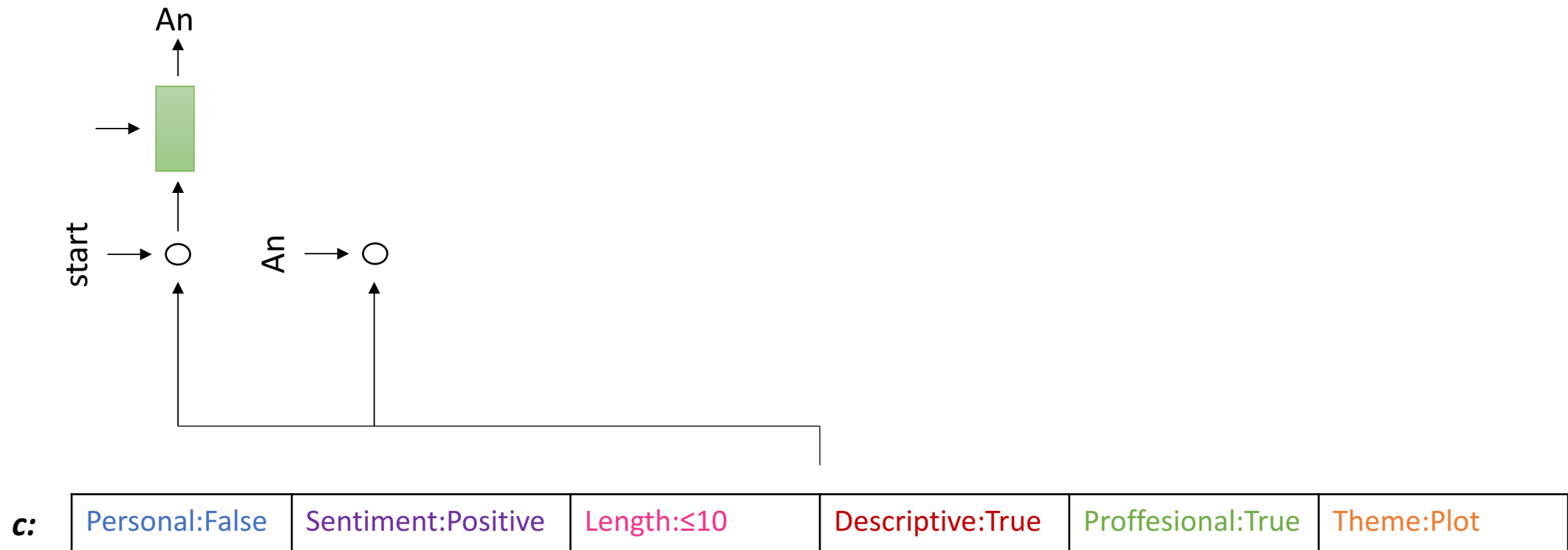
# Model

In our case,  $c$  is a concatenation of the parameters values embedding vectors



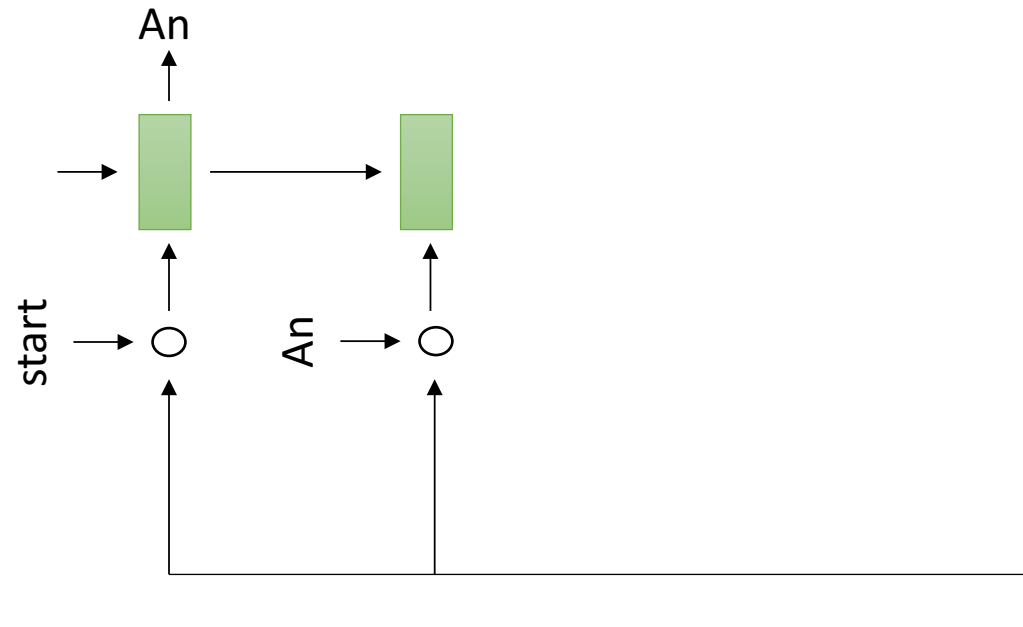
# Model

In our case,  $c$  is a concatenation of the parameters values embedding vectors



# Model

In our case,  $c$  is a concatenation of the parameters values embedding vectors

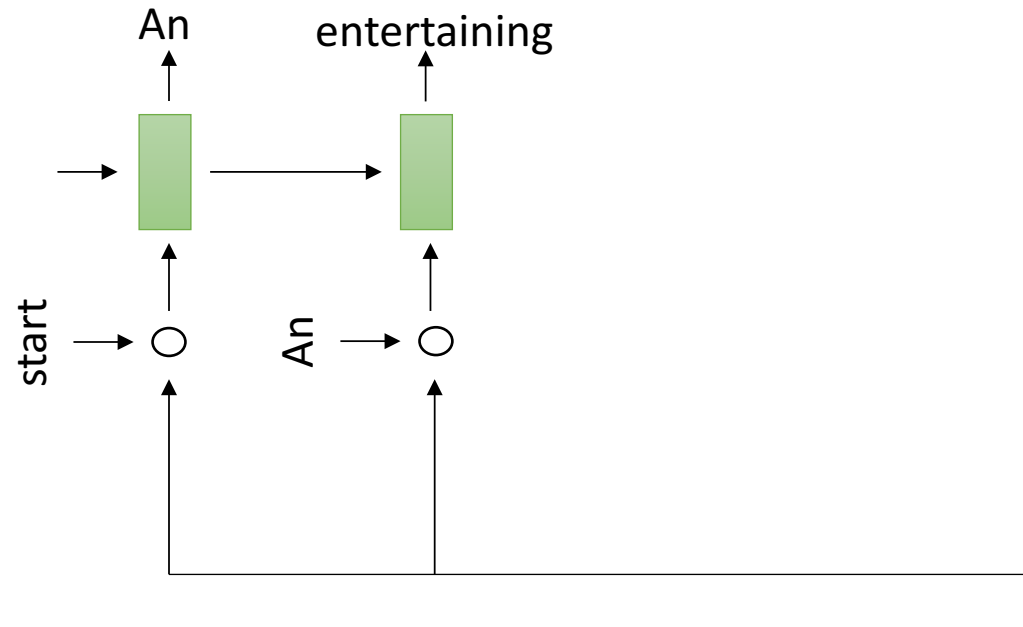


**$c$ :**

Personal:False	Sentiment:Positive	Length: $\leq 10$	Descriptive:True	Proffesional:True	Theme:Plot
----------------	--------------------	-------------------	------------------	-------------------	------------

# Model

In our case,  $c$  is a concatenation of the parameters values embedding vectors

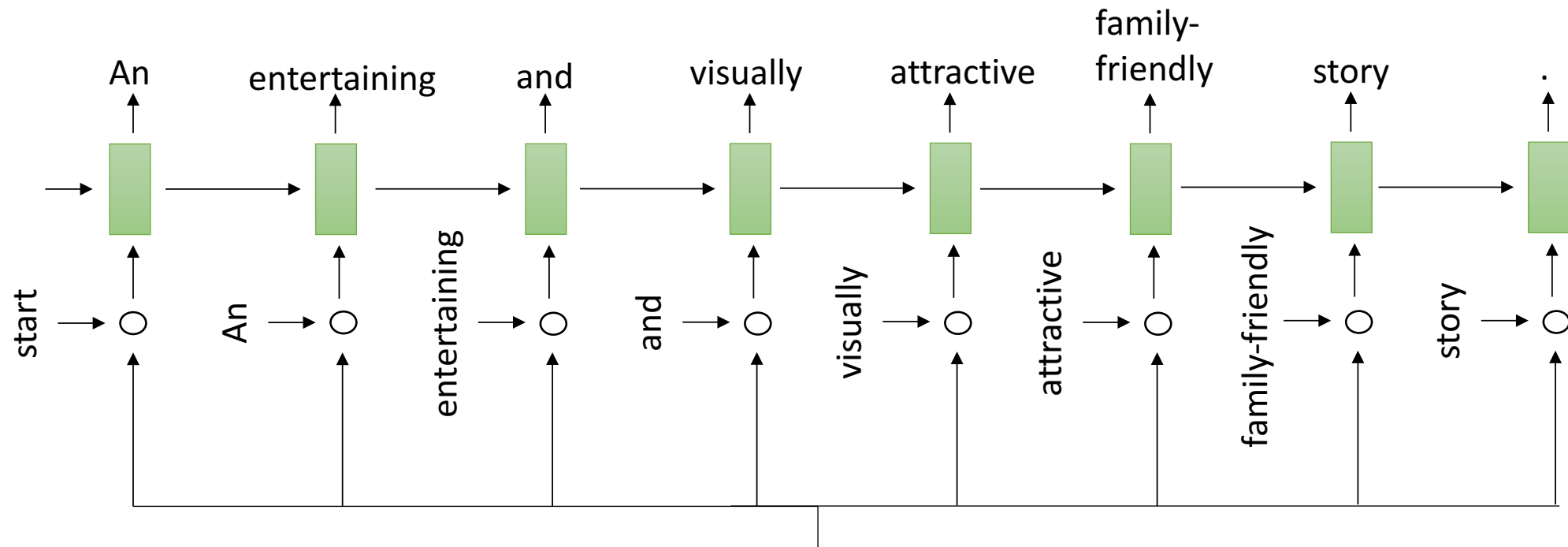


$c$ :

Personal:False	Sentiment:Positive	Length: $\leq 10$	Descriptive:True	Proffesional:True	Theme:Plot
----------------	--------------------	-------------------	------------------	-------------------	------------

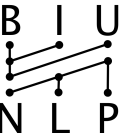
# Model

In our case,  $c$  is a concatenation of the parameters values embedding vectors



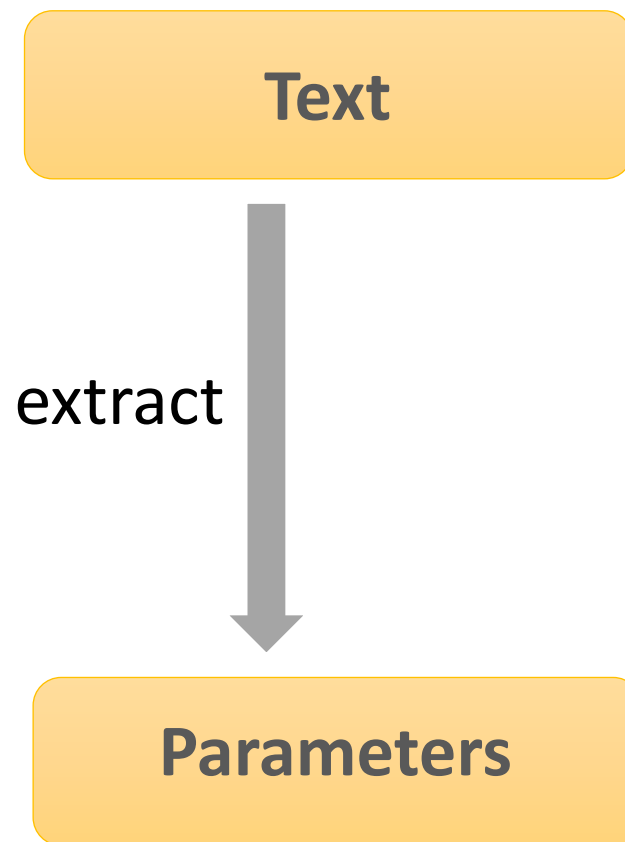
**c:**

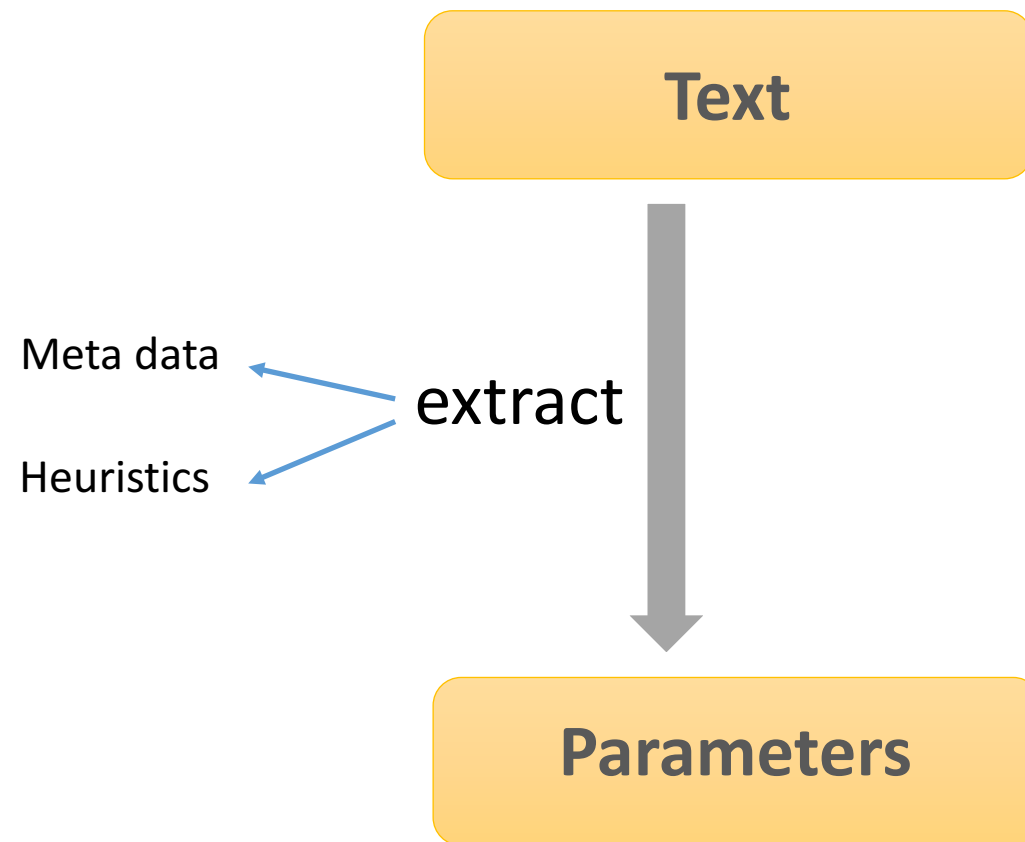
Personal:False	Sentiment:Positive	Length:≤10	Descriptive:True	Proffessional:True	Theme:Plot
----------------	--------------------	------------	------------------	--------------------	------------



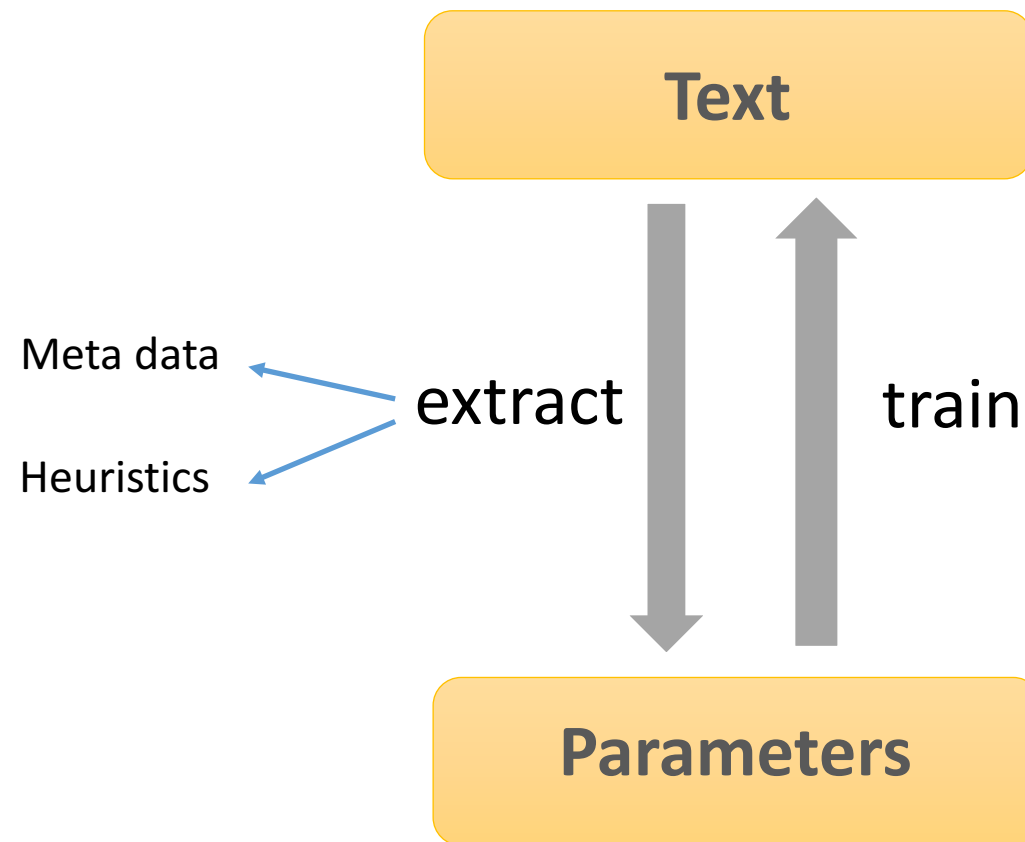
The model is simple, but...

we need **training data** annotated with the appropriate values.

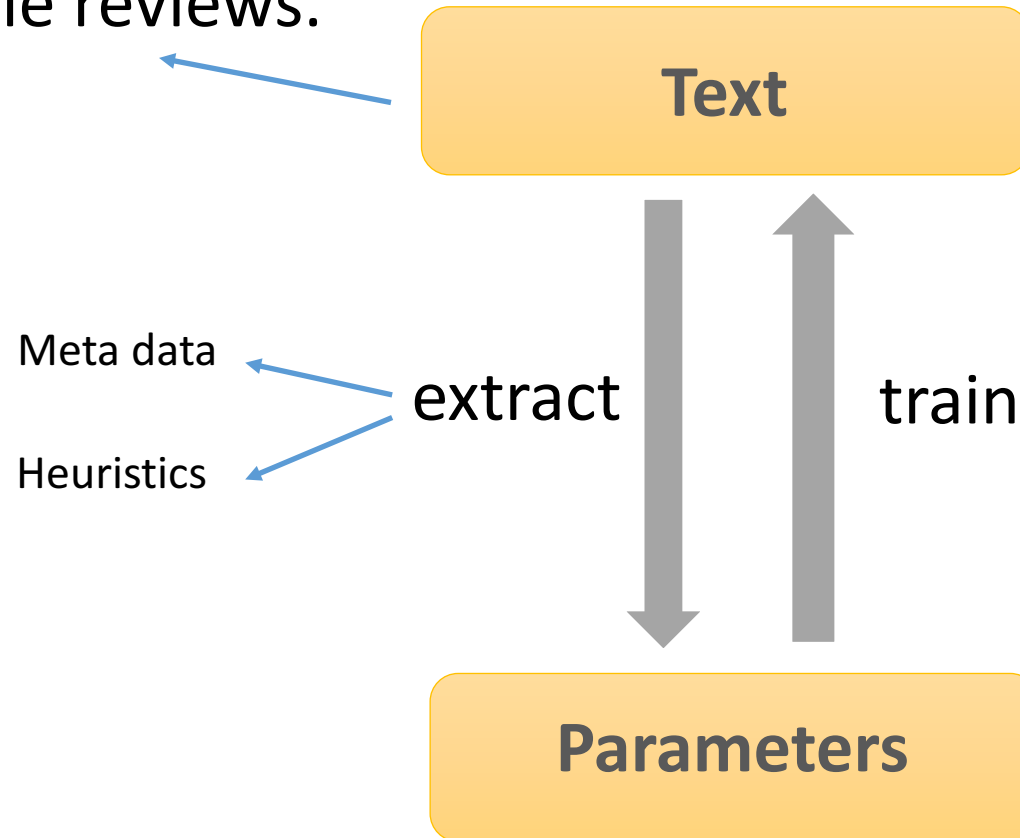
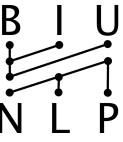




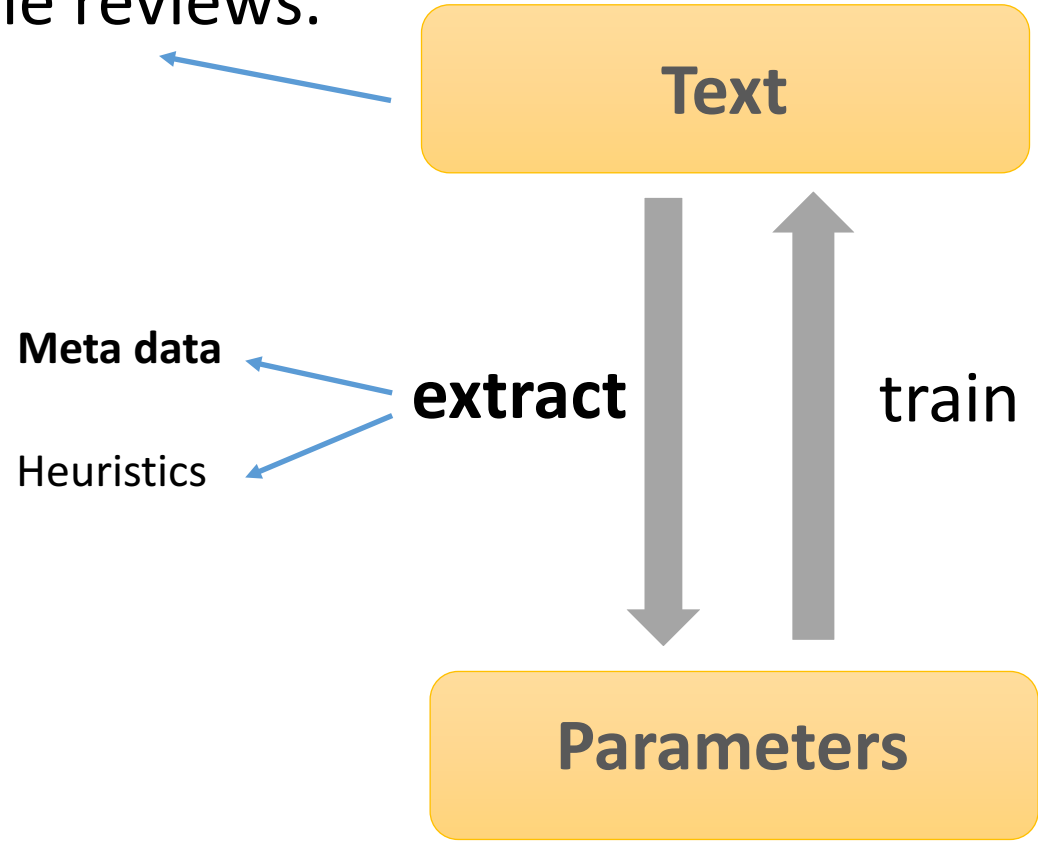
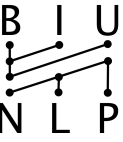




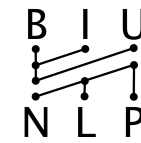
Rotten-Tomatoes website.  
7,500 movies.  
**1,002,625** movie reviews.



Rotten-Tomatoes website.  
7,500 movies.  
**1,002,625** movie reviews.



# Professional




# Professional

In rottentomatoes the critic reviews are separated from the audience review

## CRITIC REVIEWS FOR WONDER WOMAN


All Critics (324) | Top Critics (50) | Fresh (297) | Rotten (27)

 "Wonder Woman" is a superhero movie, and it fulfills the heroic and mythic demands of that genre, but it's also an entry in the genre of wisdom literature that shares hard-won insights and long-pondered paradoxes of the past with a sincere intimacy.

June 12, 2017 | [Full Review...](#)




**Richard Brody**  
New Yorker  
★ Top Critic

 Jenkins tries not only to include men on Wonder Woman's side but also to make male viewers feel better about a woman saving them.

June 8, 2017 | Rating: 3/4 | [Full Review...](#)




**Leah Pickett**  
Chicago Reader  
★ Top Critic

 Beauty, strength, goodness, bravery: These are your values, and here is how your values must look.

June 8, 2017 | [Full Review...](#)



**Josephine Livingstone**  
The New Republic  
★ Top Critic

 The final big action sequence, as now seems always to be the case, is a messy and overwrought CGI extravaganza. But at least the movie that precedes it involves actual characters-likeable ones, even!-exhibiting recognizable human emotions.

June 3, 2017 | [Full Review...](#)



**Christopher Orr**  
The Atlantic

## AUDIENCE REVIEWS FOR WONDER WOMAN

★★★★½

I owe Gal Gadot an overdue apology. When the news first broke that the Israeli model-turned-actor had won the role of Wonder Woman, I was quite dismissive. My heart had been set on Gadot's Fast and Furious 6 costar, Gina Carano, a former MMA fighter who displayed a natura...

[More](#)



**Nate Zoehl**  
★ Super Reviewer

★★★★½

With Wonder Woman, the DC Extended Universe finally shows us that it can be a match to Marvel after a series of forgettable movies. Full review on [filmtrope.com](#)



**Carlos Magalhães**  
★ Super Reviewer

★★★★★

There's a helluva lot happening here, so much so that WW1 seems secondary, if that could ever be, but Jenkins (the director & the real wonder here) reaches in and makes so many disparate elements rational and resonant that it appears to be a superhuman feat. An act...

[More](#)



**Kevin M. Williams**  
★ Super Reviewer

★★★½

A visually stunning piece of action but ultimately flops when it needed to excel!



**Film Crazy**  
★ Super Reviewer

[View All Audience Reviews](#)

# Professional

In rottentomatoes the critic reviews are separated from the audience

## Professional

### CRITIC REVIEWS FOR WONDER WOMAN

All Critics (324) | Top Critics (50) | Fresh (297) | Rotten (27)



"Wonder Woman" is a superhero movie, and it fulfills the heroic and mythic demands of that genre, but it's also an entry in the genre of wisdom literature that shares hard-won insights and long-pondered paradoxes of the past with a sincere intimacy.

June 12, 2017 | [Full Review...](#)



**Richard Brody**  
New Yorker  
★ Top Critic



Jenkins tries not only to include men on Wonder Woman's side but also to make male viewers feel better about a woman saving them.

June 8, 2017 | Rating: 3/4 | [Full Review...](#)



**Leah Pickett**  
Chicago Reader  
★ Top Critic



Beauty, strength, goodness, bravery: These are your values, and here is how your values must look.

June 8, 2017 | [Full Review...](#)



**Josephine Livingstone**  
The New Republic  
★ Top Critic



The final big action sequence, as now seems always to be the case, is a messy and overwrought CGI extravaganza. But at least the movie that precedes it involves actual characters-likeable ones, even!-exhibiting recognizable human emotions.

June 3, 2017 | [Full Review...](#)



**Christopher Orr**  
The Atlantic

### AUDIENCE REVIEWS FOR WONDER WOMAN

★★★★½

I owe Gal Gadot an overdue apology. When the news first broke that the Israeli model-turned-actor had won the role of Wonder Woman, I was quite dismissive. My heart had been set on Gadot's Fast and Furious 6 costar, Gina Carano, a former MMA fighter who displayed a natura...

[More](#)



**Nate Zoehl**  
★ Super Reviewer

★★★★½

With Wonder Woman, the DC Extended Universe finally shows us that it can be a match to Marvel after a series of forgettable movies. Full review on [filmotrope.com](#)



**Carlos Magalhães**  
★ Super Reviewer

★★★★★

There's a helluva lot happening here, so much so that WW1 seems secondary, if that could ever be, but Jenkins (the director & the real wonder here) reaches in and makes so many disparate elements rational and resonant that it appears to be a superhuman feat. An act...

[More](#)



**Kevin M. Williams**  
★ Super Reviewer

★★★½

A visually stunning piece of action but ultimately flops when it needed to excel!



**Film Crazy**  
★ Super Reviewer

## WONDER WOMAN REVIEWS

[All Critics](#)
[Top Critics](#)
[My Critics](#)
[Audience](#)

&lt; Page 3 of 415 &gt;


**Robert W**


Decent film with likable characters.

July 28, 2017


**Sherry M**


A three sleep movie for me.

July 28, 2017


**Mina N**


I recommend this movie to all of u go out anytime and see this movie do this as a service for yourself, thats a real good DCEU Movie, gal gadot is a great choice as wonder woman although went she was announced to play it when the batman vs superman cast was announced i said she is a terrible choice cause she is not a good actors but this role will make her learn from her mistakes and chris pine gave us his 2nd best performance after hell or high water and the sarcasm was made in its time the action sequence was perfect the directress patty Jenkins made it in a perfect way not like my expectations i bet that the film will get 2 oscar nods for costume design and best VFX I Can't wait to see it again and again

My score:9.5/10

July 28, 2017

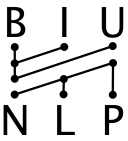

**Antonius B** ★ Super Reviewer

I know this is a little different from the popular view, but I thought 'Wonder Woman' was just ok, though a decent way to spend summer afternoon. I liked a woman superhero, the diversity in the movie, and the character of the God of War, and how he debated the nature of humanity with Wonder Woman towards the end. On the other hand, it

Some of the non-professional reviewers are considered as “super reviewers”

# Also professional














# Sentiment





# Sentiment

## Sentiment scores

	<b>James Kendrick</b> <i>Q Network Film Desk</i>	 an exuberant fantasy with a genuine conscience that stands apart from so many other similar films in its willingness to embrace goodness, decency, and an unironic belief in the power of love	July 19, 2017
		<a href="#">Full Review</a>   Original Score: 3.5/4	
	<b>Brooke Corso</b> <i>The Monitor (McAllen, TX)</i>	 If superheroes are supposed to be heightened versions of ourselves at our brightest and darkest points, then it is no wonder women are appreciating this character on screen... recognizing such duality in their own lives: that of object and agent.	July 18, 2017
		<a href="#">Full Review</a>	
	<b>Marija Djurovic</b> <i>Cairo360</i>	 [Wonder Woman is] hugely entertaining and provides a gripping origin story for the iconic female superhero.	July 12, 2017
		<a href="#">Full Review</a>   Original Score: 4.5/5	
	<b>Michael Sragow</b> <i>Film Comment Magazine</i>	 Until the battering finale, production designer Aline Bonetto and Jenkins focus the action so that even in the ravages of no-man's-land, the sound and fury signify something.	July 11, 2017
		<a href="#">Full Review</a>	
	<b>Iván Belmont</b> <i>Konexión</i>	 A great accomplishment of its director Patty Jenkins, who shows that it has the necessary talent to take care of a blockbuster of this size. [Full review in Spanish]	July 10, 2017
		<a href="#">Full Review</a>   Original Score: 7.5/10	

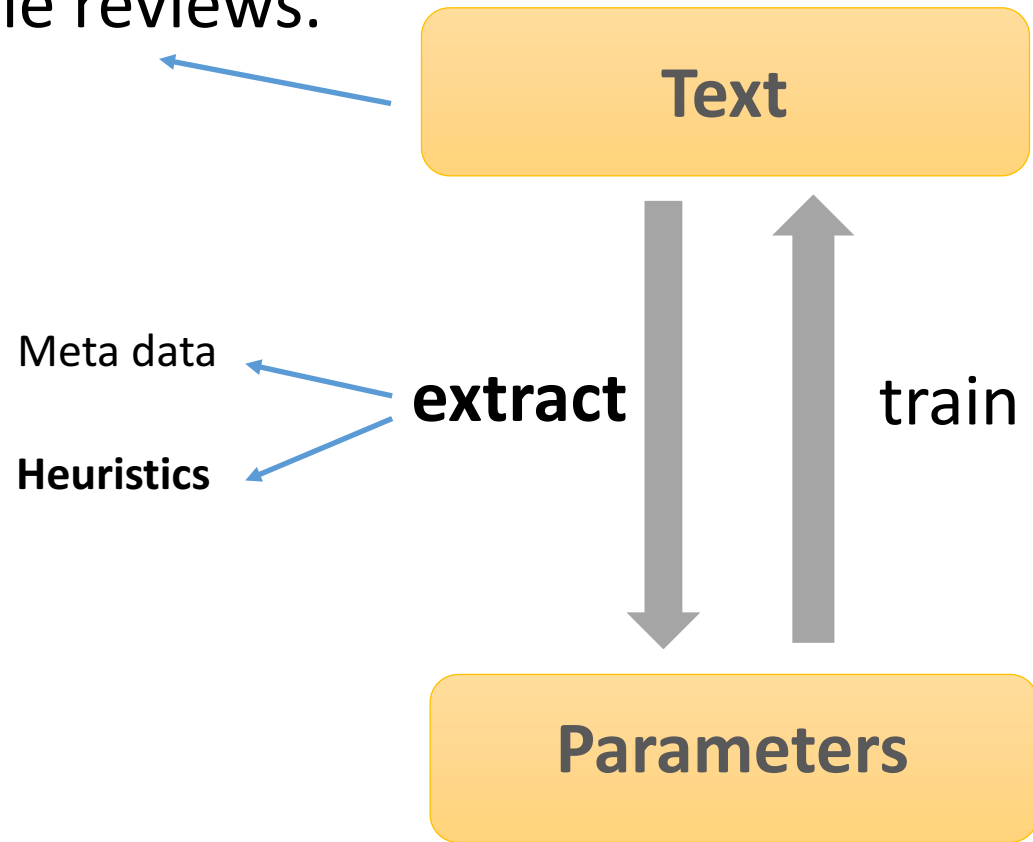
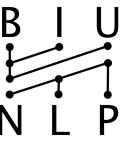
# Sentiment

## Sentiment

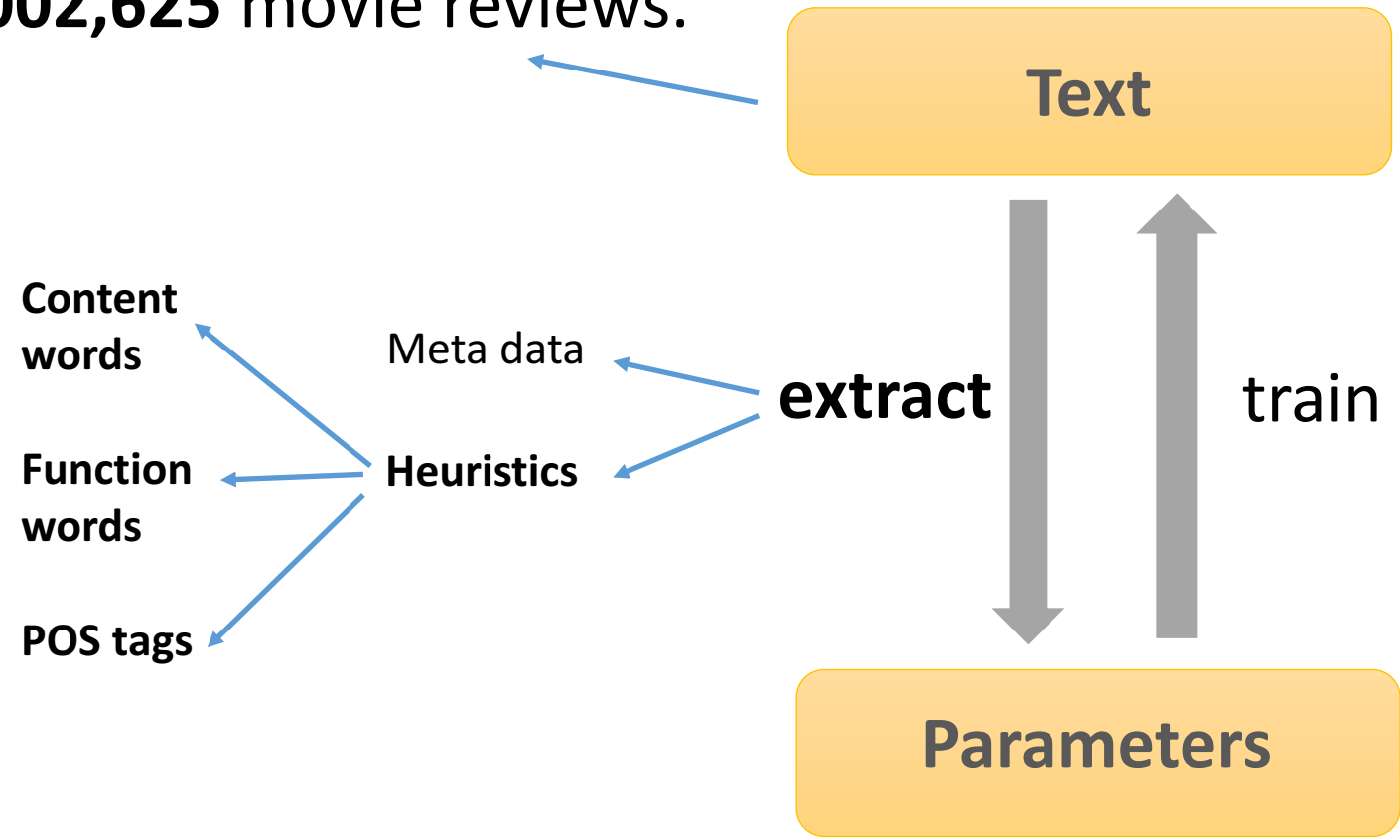
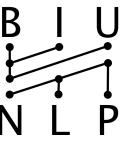
We normalized the critics scores to be on 0-5 scale

Negative	Neutral	Positive
0-2	3	4-5

Rotten-Tomatoes website.  
7,500 movies.  
**1,002,625** movie reviews.



Rotten-Tomatoes website.  
7,500 movies.  
**1,002,625** movie reviews.



# Theme

## Content words

To determine the value for the theme parameter we searched for words that are related to the 4 topics and are common in our data set

### Theme

Plot	Acting	Production	Effects
Story Storytelling Plot Script Manuscript Tale Scene	Acting Cast Performance Play Role Miscasting Actor	Director Directed Production co-production	Effects Song Music Voice Visual Soundtrack Shot

# Theme

## Content words

To determine the value for the theme parameter we searched for words that are related to the 4 topics and are common in our data set

### Theme

Plot	Acting	Production	Effects
Story Storytelling Plot Script Manuscript Tale Scene	Acting Cast Performance Play Role Miscasting Actor	Director Directed Production co-production	Effects Song Music Voice Visual Soundtrack Shot

Each sentence was labeled with the category that has the most words in the sentence. Sentences that do not include any words from our lists are labeled as other

# Personal Voice

## Personal Pronouns

To determine whether a review is written in personal voice we search for words that express subjectivity

### Personal

True
I
My

False
Other cases

# Descriptiveness

## Distribution of part-of-speech tags

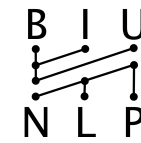
We assume that descriptive texts make heavy use of adjectives

### Descriptive

True
% JJ $\geq$ 35

False
Other cases





# Length

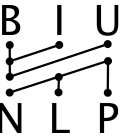
Length

$\leq 10$  words

11-20 words

21-40 words

$> 40$  words

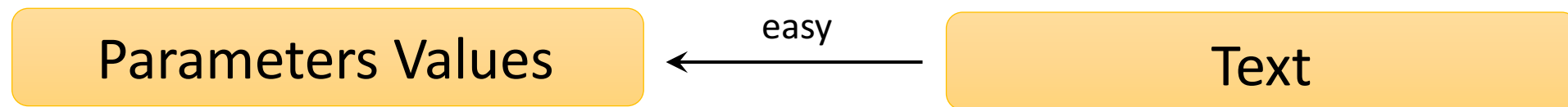


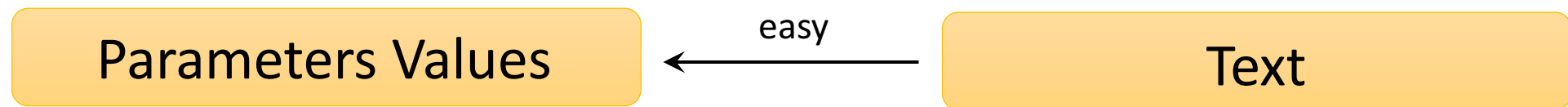
# Dataset Statistics

Our final data-set includes 2,773,435 sentences

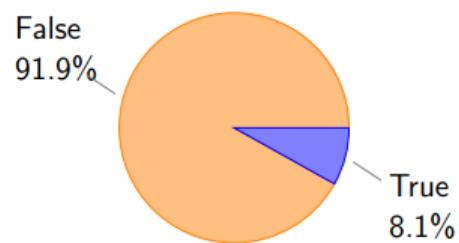
We divided the data set to training (~2.7M), development (~2K) and test (~2K) sets

Each sentence is labeled with the 6 parameters

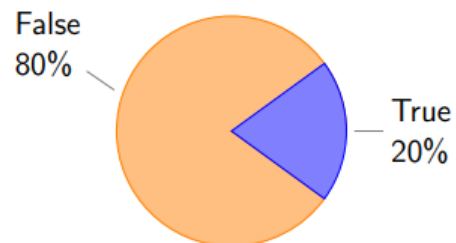




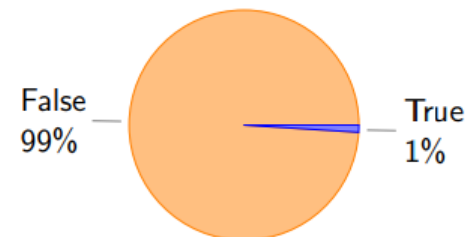
(a) Professional



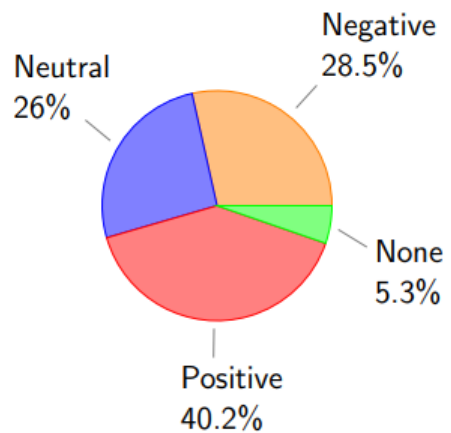
(b) Personal



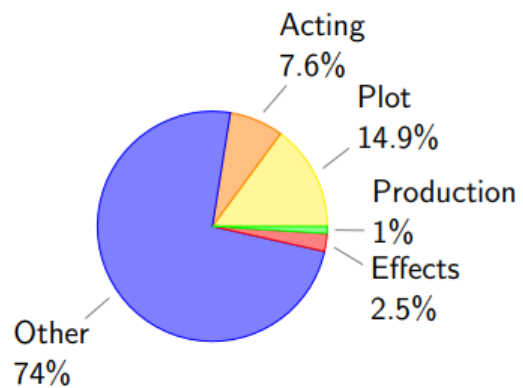
(c) Descriptive



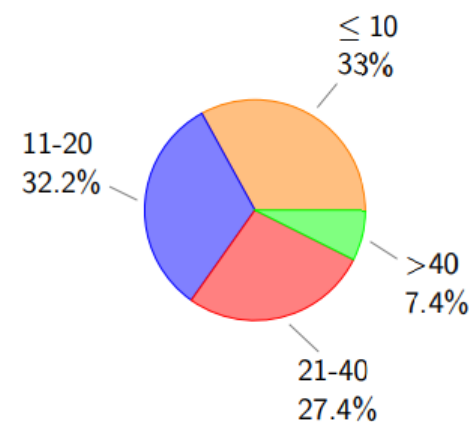
(d) Sentiment

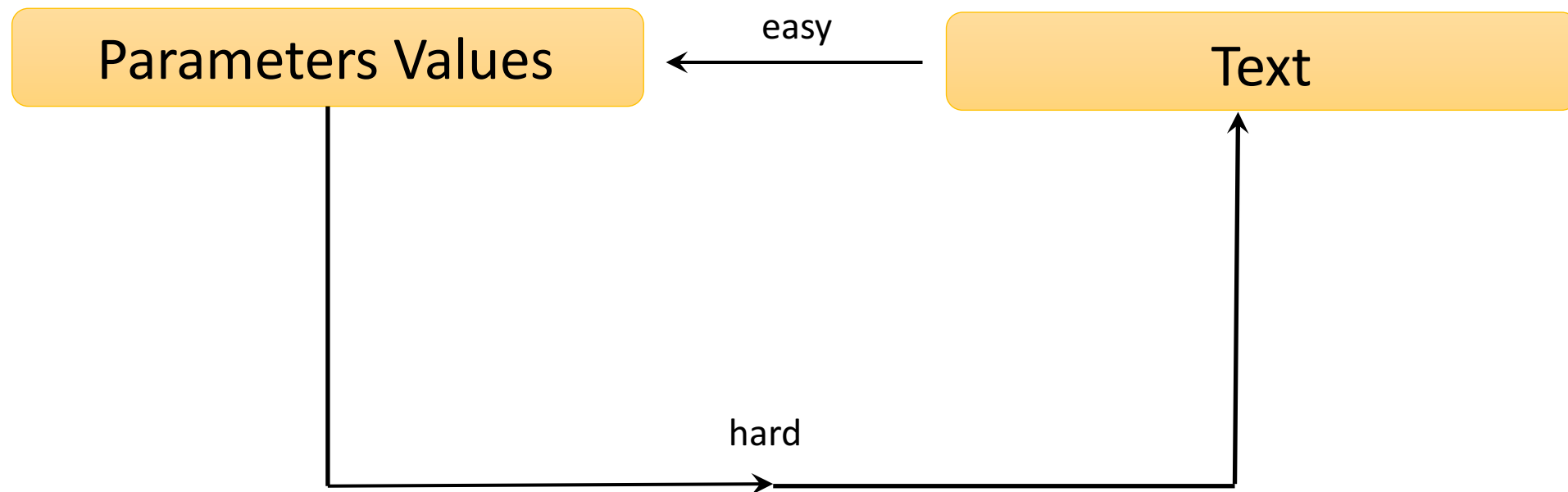


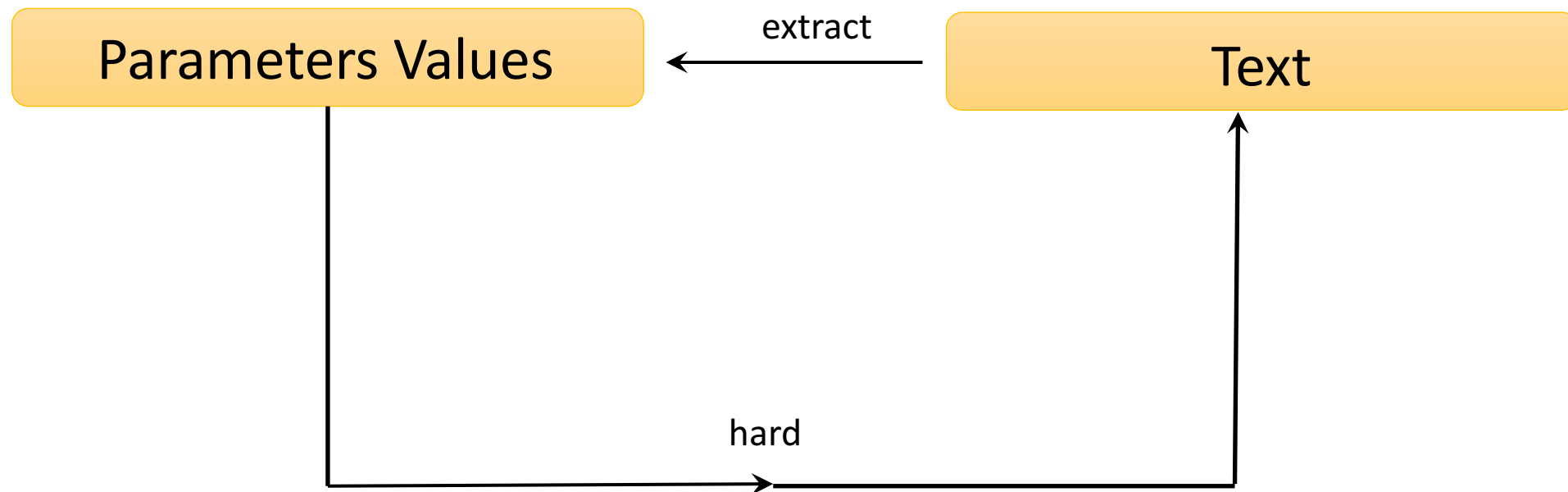
(e) Theme

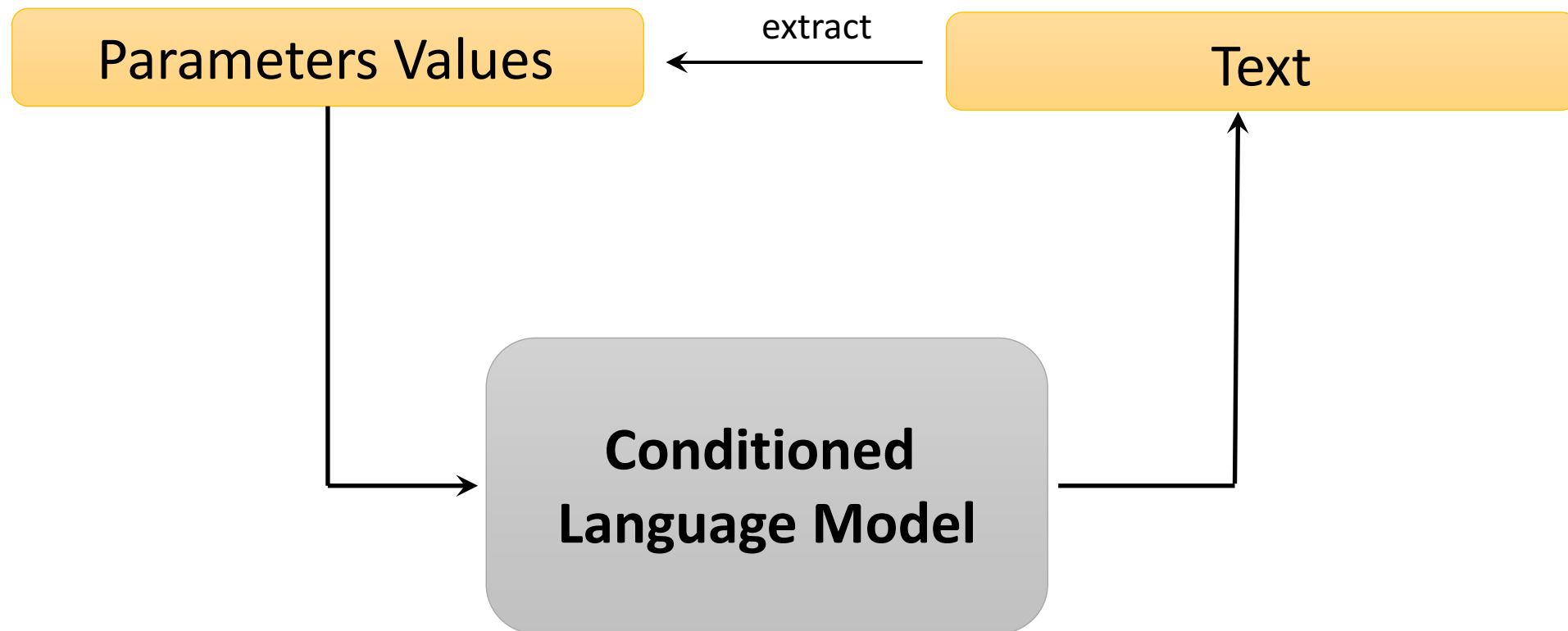


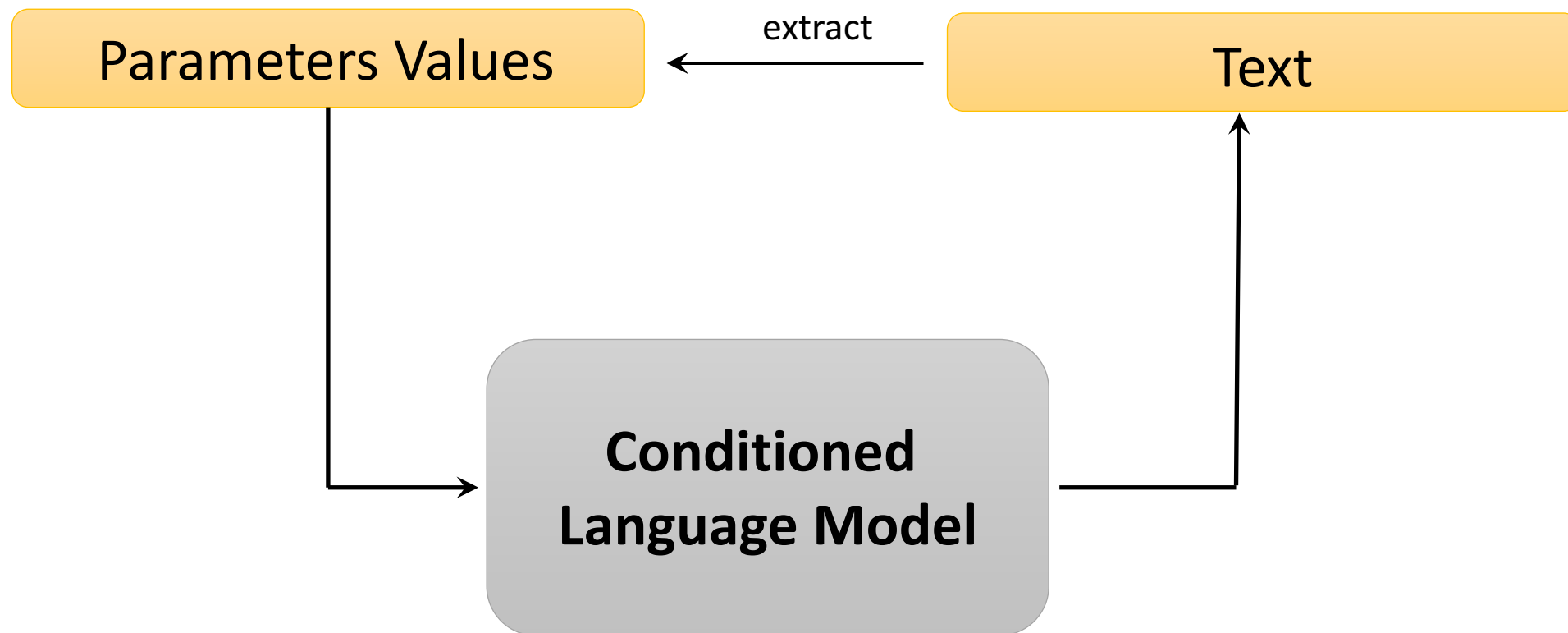
(f) Length











Does this work?



# Examples of Generated Sentences

Parameter	Value
Professional	False
Personal	True
Length	11-20
Descriptive	True
Theme	Other
Sentiment	Negative

# Examples of Generated Sentences

“Ultimately, I can honestly say that this movie is full of stupid stupid and stupid stupid stupid stupid stupid.”

Parameter	Value
Professional	False
Personal	True
Length	11-20
Descriptive	True
Theme	Other
Sentiment	Negative

# Examples of Generated Sentences

“Ultimately, I can honestly say that this movie is full of stupid stupid and stupid stupid stupid stupid stupid.”

Parameter	Value
Professional	False
Personal	True
Length	11-20
Descriptive	True
Theme	Other
Sentiment	Negative



# Examples of Generated Sentences

“Ultimately, I can honestly say that this movie is full of stupid stupid and stupid stupid stupid stupid stupid.”

Parameter	Value
Professional	False
Personal	True
Length	11-20
Descriptive	True
Theme	Other
Sentiment	Negative



# Examples of Generated Sentences

“Ultimately, I can honestly say that this movie is full of stupid stupid and stupid stupid stupid stupid stupid.”

Parameter	Value
Professional	False
Personal	True
Length	11-20
Descriptive	True
Theme	Other
Sentiment	Negative



# Examples of Generated Sentences

“Ultimately, I can honestly say that this movie is full of stupid stupid and stupid stupid stupid stupid stupid.”

Parameter	Value
Professional	False
Personal	True
Length	11-20
Descriptive	True
Theme	Other
Sentiment	Negative



# Examples of Generated Sentences

“Ultimately, I can honestly say that this movie is full of stupid stupid and stupid stupid stupid stupid stupid.”

Parameter	Value
Professional	False
Personal	True
Length	11-20
Descriptive	True
Theme	Other
Sentiment	Negative



# Examples of Generated Sentences

“Ultimately, I can honestly say that this movie is full of stupid stupid and stupid stupid stupid stupid stupid.”

Parameter	Value	
Professional	False	✓
Personal	True	✓
Length	11-20	✓
Descriptive	True	✓
Theme	Other	✓
Sentiment	Negative	✓



# Examples of Generated Sentences

“Ultimately, I can honestly say that this movie is full of stupid stupid and stupid stupid stupid stupid stupid.”

Parameter	Value
Professional	False
Personal	True
Length	11-20
Descriptive	True
Theme	Other
Sentiment	Negative



“The film’s simple, and a refreshing take on the complex family drama of the regions of human intelligence.”

Parameter	Value
Professional	True
Personal	False
Length	11-20
Descriptive	False
Theme	Other
Sentiment	Positive

# Examples of Generated Sentences

“Ultimately, I can honestly say that this movie is full of stupid stupid and stupid stupid stupid stupid stupid.”

Parameter	Value
Professional	False
Personal	True
Length	11-20
Descriptive	True
Theme	Other
Sentiment	Negative



“The film’s simple, and a refreshing take on the complex family drama of the regions of human intelligence.”

Parameter	Value
Professional	True
Personal	False
Length	11-20
Descriptive	False
Theme	Other
Sentiment	Positive

We would like to **quantitatively** measure our model capabilities.

# Common model failures

(via our split-and-rephrase example)

**Split and Rephrase: Better Evaluation and a Stronger Baseline**

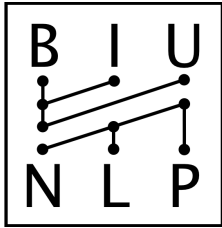
**Roe Aharoni & Yoav Goldberg**

Computer Science Department

Bar-Ilan University

Ramat-Gan, Israel

`{roee.aharoni,yoav.goldberg}@gmail.com`



# The Split and Rephrase Task

- Narayan, Gardent, Cohen & Shimorina, EMNLP 2017
- Dataset, evaluation method, baseline models
- Task definition: complex sentence -> several simple sentences with the same meaning
- Requires (a) **identifying** independent semantic units (b) **rephrasing** those units to single sentences

*Alan Bean joined NASA in 1963 where he became a member of the Apollo 12 mission along with Alfred Worden as back up pilot and David Scott as commander .*

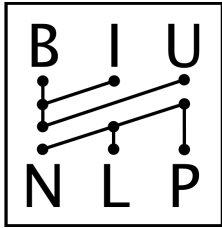


*Alan Bean served as a crew member of Apollo 12 .*

*Alfred Worden was the backup pilot of Apollo 12 .*

*Apollo 12 was commanded by David Scott .*

*Alan Bean was selected by Nasa in 1963 .*



# WebSplit Dataset Construction (Narayan et al. 2017)

Simple RDF Triples  
(facts from DBpedia)

<Alan\_Bean | nationality | United\_States>

<Alan\_Bean | mission | Apollo\_12>

<Alan\_Bean | NASA selection | 1963>

Simple Sentences

Alan Bean is a US national.

Alan Bean was on the crew of Apollo 12.

Alan Bean was hired by NASA in 1963.

Matching via RDFs

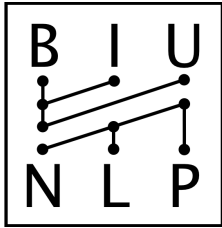
~1M examples

Sets of RDF triples

<Alan\_Bean | nationality | United\_States,  
Alan\_Bean | mission | Apollo\_12,  
Alan\_Bean | NASA selection | 1963>

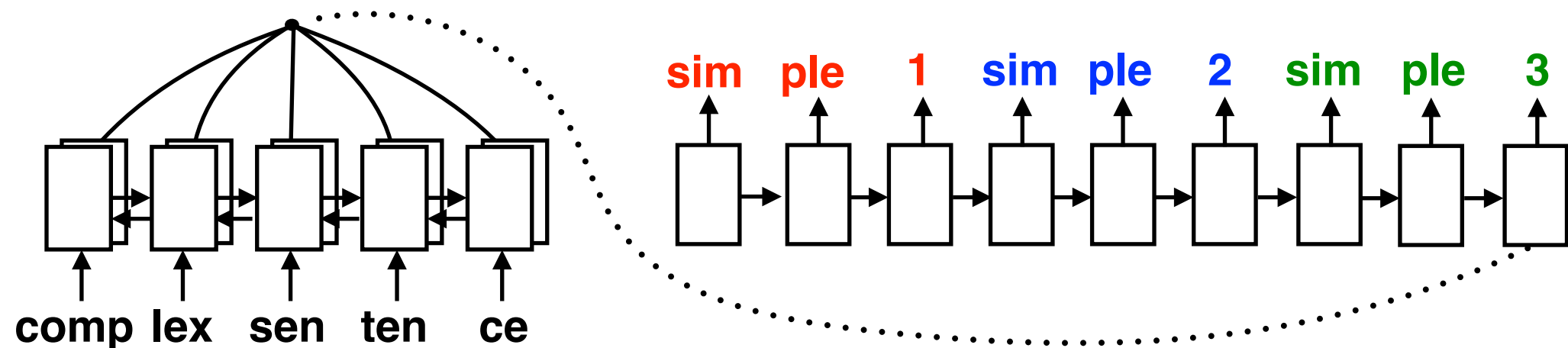
Complex  
Sentences

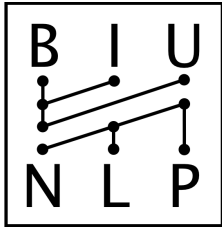
Alan Bean, born in the United States, was selected  
by NASA in 1963 and served as a crew member of  
Apollo 12.



# Preliminary Experiments

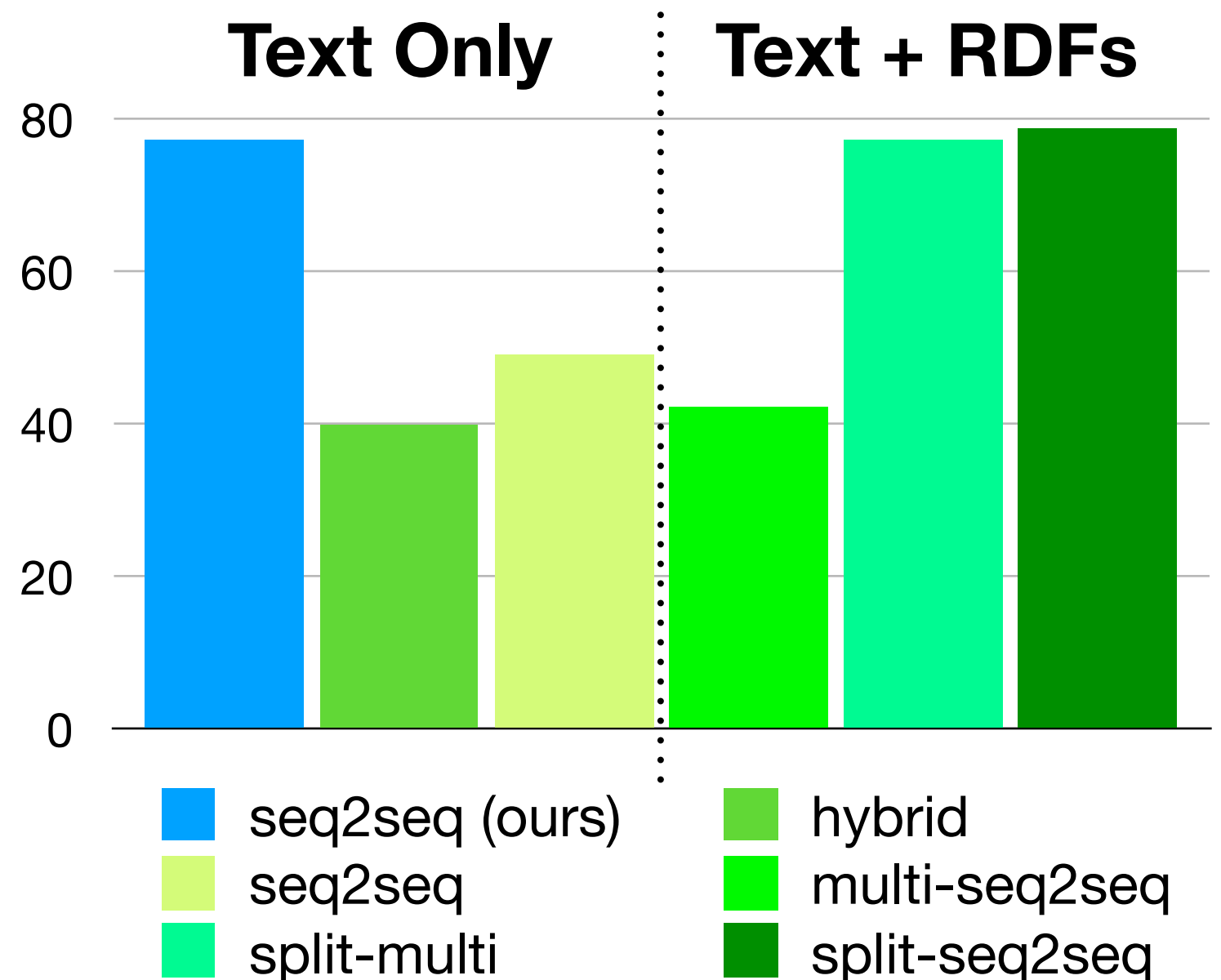
- ~1M training examples
- “Vanilla” LSTM seq2seq with attention
- Shared vocabulary between the encoder and the decoder
- Simple sentences predicted as a single sequence
- Evaluated using single-sentence, multi-reference BLEU as in Narayan et al. 2017

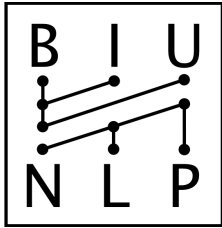




# Preliminary Results

- Our simple seq2seq baseline outperform **all but one** of the baselines from Narayan et al. 2017
- Their best baselines were using the RDF structures as additional information
- **Do the simple seq2seq model really performs so well?**



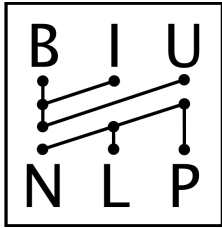


# BLEU can be Misleading

- In spite of the high BLEU scores, our neural models suffer from:
  - **Missing facts** - appeared in the input but not in the output
  - **Unsupported facts** - appeared in the output but not in the input
  - **Repeated facts** - appeared several times in the output

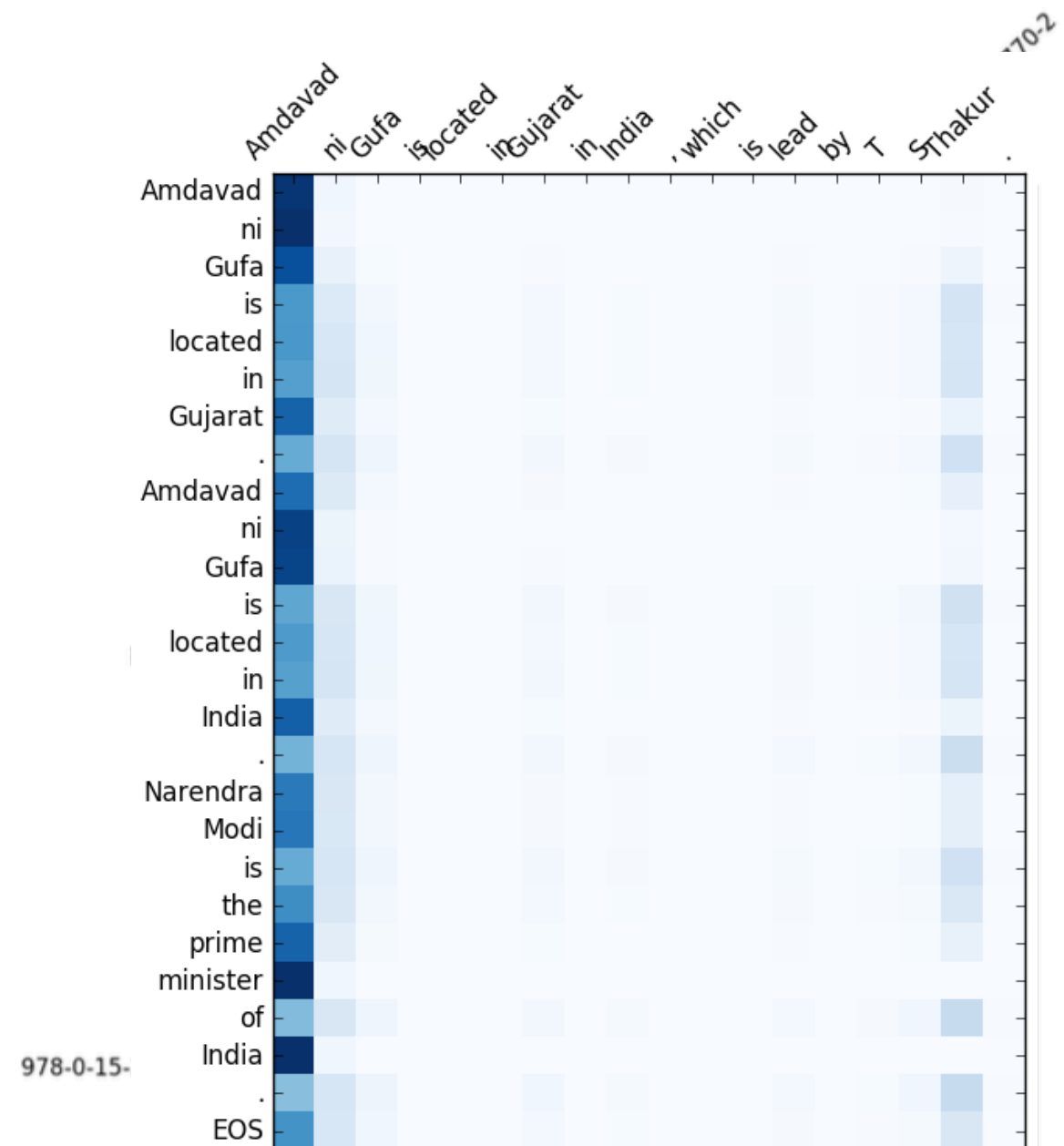
Input	Prediction
A Fortress of Grey Ice <b>with ISBM 0-7653-0633-6</b> has 672 pages .	<b>J.V. Jones authored A Fortress of Grey Ice .</b> A Fortress of Grey Ice has 672 pages .
The address , 11 Diagonal Street is located in South Africa where the leader is Cyril Ramaphosa <b>and some Asian South Africans live .</b>	The address , 11 Diagonal Street is located in South Africa . The leader of South Africa is called Cyril Ramaphosa . <b>The leader of South Africa is called Cyril Ramaphosa .</b> <b>The leader of South Africa is called Cyril Ramaphosa .</b>

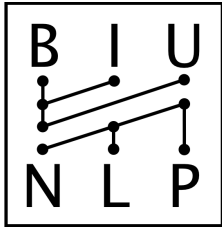




# A Closer Look

- Visualizing the attention weights we find an unexpected pattern
- The network mainly **attends to a single token** instead of spreading the attention
- This token was usually a part of the **first mentioned entity**
- Consistent among different input examples

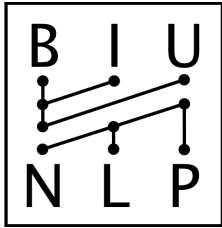




# Testing for Over-Memorization

- In this stage we suspect that the network heavily **memorizes** entity-fact pairs
- We test this by introducing it with inputs consisting of repeated entities alone
- The network indeed generates facts it memorized about those specific entities

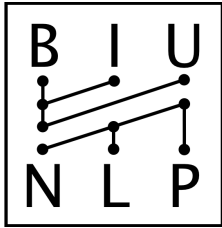
Input	Prediction
Alan Shepard Alan Shepard Alan Shepard	



## Searching for the Cause: Dataset Artifacts

- The original dataset included overlap between the training/development/test sets
- When looking at the complex sentences side, there is no overlap
- On the other hand, **most of the simple sentences** did overlap (~90%)
- Makes memorization very effective - “leakage” from train on the target side

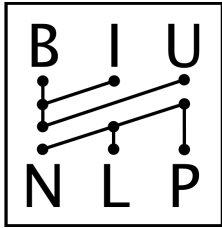




## New Data Split

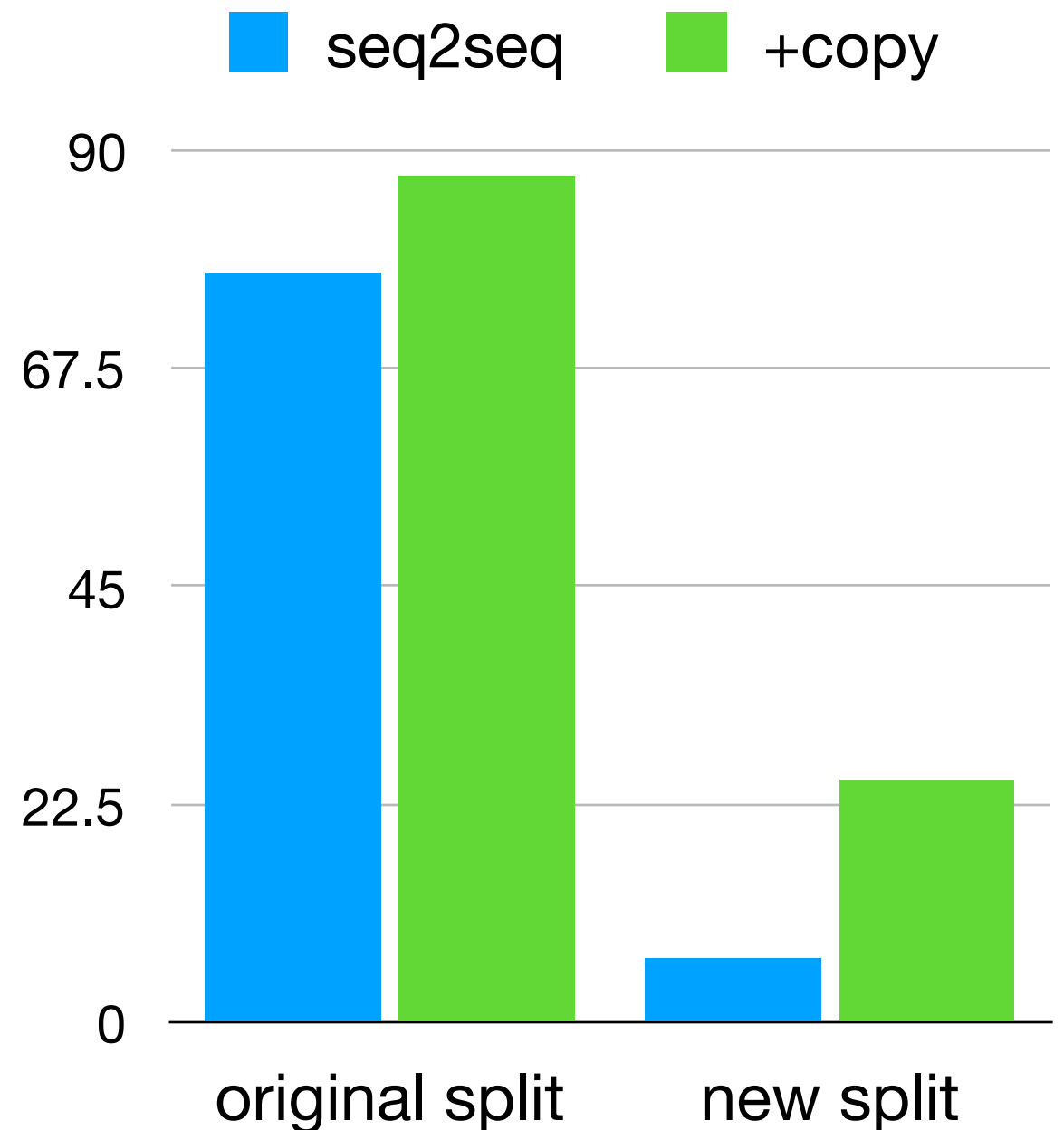
- To remedy this, we construct a new data split by using the RDF information:
  - Ensuring that all RDF **relation types** appear in the training set (enable generalization)
  - Ensuring that no RDF triple (fact) appears in two different sets (reduce memorization)
- The resulting dataset has no overlapping simple sentences
- Has more unknown symbols in dev/test - **need better models!**

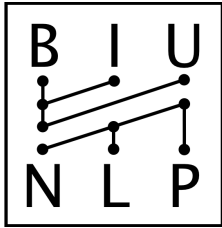
	Original Split	New Split
unique dev simple sentences in train	90.9%	<b>0.09%</b>
unique test simple sentences in train	89.8%	<b>0%</b>



# Results - New Split

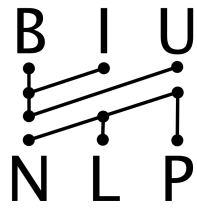
- Baseline seq2seq models completely break (BLEU < 7) on the new split
- Copy mechanism helps to generalize
- Much lower than the original benchmark - memorization was crucial for the high BLEU





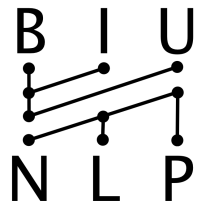
# Takeaway

- **Creating datasets is hard!**
  - Think how models can “cheat”
  - Create a challenging evaluation environment to capture generalization
  - Look for leakage of train to dev/test
- **Numbers can be misleading!**
  - Look at the data
  - Look at the model
  - Error analysis



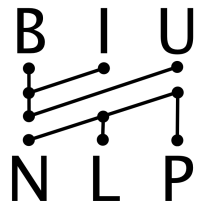
# Evaluation

- Unsolved problem.
- Using BLEU, ROUGE (this is bad)
- Using human-eval (methodology varies)
- Using NLP classifiers on the generated output.



# Two more techniques





# Copy mechanism

## Abstractive Text Summarization using Sequence-to-sequence RNNs and Beyond

**Ramesh Nallapati**

IBM Watson

nallapati@us.ibm.com

**Bowen Zhou**

IBM Watson

zhou@us.ibm.com

**Cicero dos Santos**

IBM Watson

cicerons@us.ibm.com

**Çağlar Gülçehre**

Université de Montréal

gulcehrc@iro.umontreal.ca

**Bing Xiang**

IBM Watson

bingxia@us.ibm.com

## Get To The Point: Summarization with Pointer-Generator Networks

**Abigail See**

Stanford University

abisee@stanford.edu

**Peter J. Liu**

Google Brain

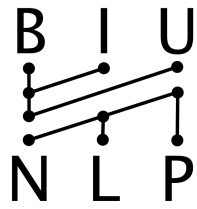
peterjliu@google.com

**Christopher D. Manning**

Stanford University

manning@stanford.edu

- Allow the model to copy words from the source instead of generating them.
- Improves summarization / generation tasks.



# Checklist model

## Globally Coherent Text Generation with Neural Checklist Models

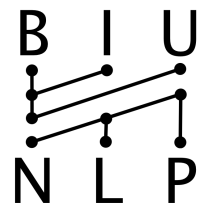
**Chloé Kiddon   Luke Zettlemoyer   Yejin Choi**

Computer Science & Engineering

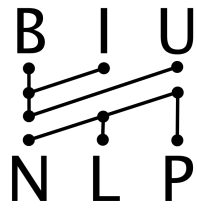
University of Washington

`{chloe, lsz, yejin}@cs.washington.edu`

- Keep a soft-track of what's already covered in the source.
- Don't repeat yourself.



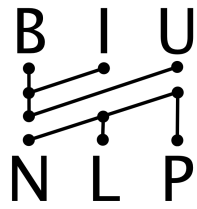
# Recap



# Neural NLG

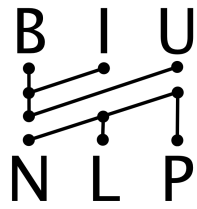
- We have systems that can map inputs to outputs.
- Inputs can be:
  - nothing
  - set
  - table (key=value pairs)
  - graph
  - sentence
  - tree
  - image
  - sequence of images
  - combinations of the above
- Outputs can be:
  - sentences
  - trees
  - paragraphs...

**We cannot fully understand the mapping. Data driven.**



# Neural NLG

- Performs well on generating **fluent sentences**.
- My not be so great at understanding what's going on.

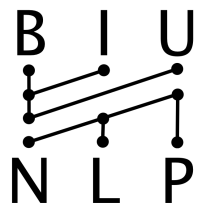


# Classic NLG

- You know what you want to say.
- Focus on the **best way** of saying it in order to achieve a communication goal.

## Today's Neural NLG

- Generate me some text given this input.
- Yay it looks readable!!



# Content selection?

## Neural Text Generation from Structured Data with Application to the Biography Domain

**Rémi Lebret\***

EPFL, Switzerland

**David Grangier**

Facebook AI Research

**Michael Auli**

Facebook AI Research

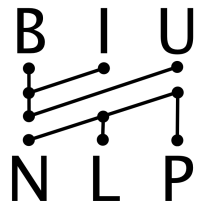
# Content selection?

## Neural Text Generation from Structured Data with Application to the Biography Domain

Model	Generated Sentence
Reference	frederick parker-rhodes (21 march 1914 – 21 november 1987) was an english linguist, plant pathologist, computer scientist, mathematician, mystic, and mycologist.
Baseline (Template KN)	frederick parker-rhodes ( born november 21 , 1914 – march 2 , 1987 ) was an english cricketer .
Table NLM +Local (field, start)	frederick parker-rhodes ( 21 november 1914 – 2 march 1987 ) was an australian rules footballer who played with carlton in the victorian football league ( vfl ) during the XXXXs and XXXXs .
+ Global (field)	frederick parker-rhodes ( 21 november 1914 – 2 march 1987 ) was an english mycology and plant pathology , mathematics at the university of uk .
+ Global (field, word)	frederick parker-rhodes ( 21 november 1914 – 2 march 1987 ) was a british computer scientist , best known for his contributions to computational linguistics .

**Table 4:** First sentence from the current Wikipedia article about Frederick Parker-Rhodes and the sentences generated from the three versions of our table-conditioned neural language model (Table NLM) using the Wikipedia infobox seen in Figure 1.





# Content selection

**What to talk about and how? Selective Generation using  
LSTMs with Coarse-to-Fine Alignment**

**Hongyuan Mei      Mohit Bansal      Matthew R. Walter**

Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago

Chicago, IL 60637

`{hongyuan, mbansal, mwalter}@ttic.edu`

# Content selection

## What to talk about and how? Selective Generation using LSTMs with Coarse-to-Fine Alignment

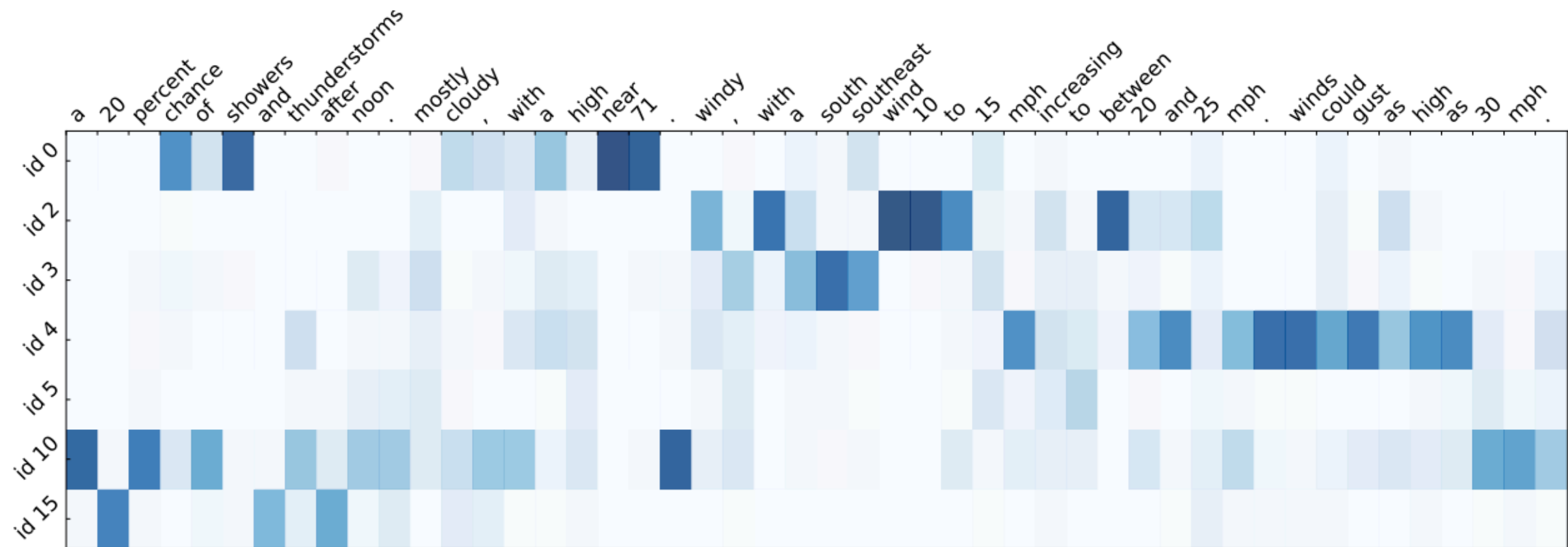
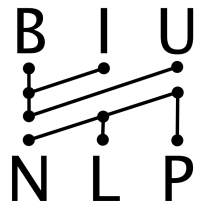
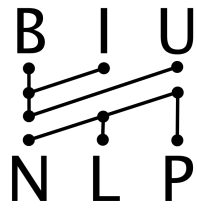


Figure 3: An example generation for a set of records from WEATHERGOV.



# Challenges

- Very many challenges. Here are a few:
  - Generating longer text.
  - Tracking references to entities.
  - Staying cohesive.
- Finer grained control (content selection, ordering, ...)
- Evaluation!



# Challenges in Data-to-Document Generation

**Sam Wiseman and Stuart M. Shieber and Alexander M. Rush**

School of Engineering and Applied Sciences

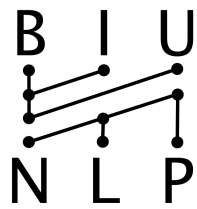
Harvard University

Cambridge, MA, USA

`{swiseman, shieber, srush}@seas.harvard.edu`

The Utah Jazz ( 38 - 26 ) defeated the Houston Rockets ( 38 - 26 ) 117 - 91 on Wednesday at Energy Solutions Arena in Salt Lake City . The Jazz got out to a quick start in this one , out - scoring the Rockets 31 - 15 in the first quarter alone . Along with the quick start , the Rockets were the superior shooters in this game , going 54 percent from the field and 43 percent from the three - point line , while the Jazz went 38 percent from the floor and a meager 19 percent from deep . The Rockets were able to out - rebound the Rockets 49 - 49 , giving them just enough of an advantage to secure the victory in front of their home crowd . The Jazz were led by the duo of Derrick Favors and James Harden . Favors went 2 - for - 6 from the field and 0 - for - 1 from the three - point line to score a game - high of 15 points , while also adding four rebounds and four assists ....

Figure 2: Example document generated by the Conditional Copy system with a beam of size 5. Text that accurately reflects a record in the associated box- or line-score is highlighted in blue, and erroneous text is highlighted in red.



# Data-to-Text Generation with Content Selection and Planning

**Ratish Puduppully and Li Dong and Mirella Lapata**

Institute for Language, Cognition and Computation

School of Informatics, University of Edinburgh

10 Crichton Street, Edinburgh EH8 9AB

`r.puduppully@sms.ed.ac.uk` `li.dong@ed.ac.uk` `mlap@inf.ed.ac.uk`



---

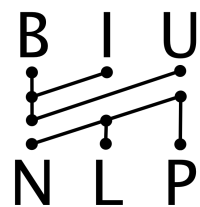
The Golden State Warriors (10–2) defeated the Boston Celtics (6–6) 104–88. Klay Thompson scored 28 points (12–21 FG, 3–6 3PT, 1–1 FT) to go with 4 rebounds. Kevin Durant scored 23 points (10–13 FG, 1–2 3PT, 2–4 FT) to go with 10 rebounds. Isaiah Thomas scored 18 points (4–12 FG, 1–6 3PT, 9–9 FT) to go with 2 rebounds. Avery Bradley scored 17 points (7–15 FG, 2–4 3PT, 1–2 FT) to go with 10 rebounds. Stephen Curry scored 16 points (7–20 FG, 2–10 3PT, 0–0 FT) to go with 3 rebounds. Terry Rozier scored 11 points (3–5 FG, 2–3 3PT, 3–4 FT) to go with 7 rebounds. The Golden State Warriors’ next game will be at home against the Dallas Mavericks, while the Boston Celtics will travel to play the Bulls.

---

The Golden State Warriors defeated the Boston Celtics 104–88 at TD Garden on Friday. The Warriors (10–2) came into this game winners of five of their last six games, but the Warriors (6–6) were able to pull away in the second half. Klay Thompson led the way for the Warriors with 28 points on 12–of–21 shooting, while Kevin Durant added 23 points, 10 rebounds, seven assists and two steals. Stephen Curry added 16 points and eight assists, while Draymond Green rounded out the box score with 11 points, eight rebounds and eight assists. For the Celtics, it was Isaiah Thomas who shot just 4–of–12 from the field and finished with 18 points. Avery Bradley added 17 points and 10 rebounds, while the rest of the Celtics combined to score just seven points. Boston will look to get back on track as they play host to the 76ers on Friday.

---

Table 6: Example output from TEMPL (top) and NPC+CC (bottom). Text that accurately reflects a record in the associated box or line score is in blue, erroneous text is in red.

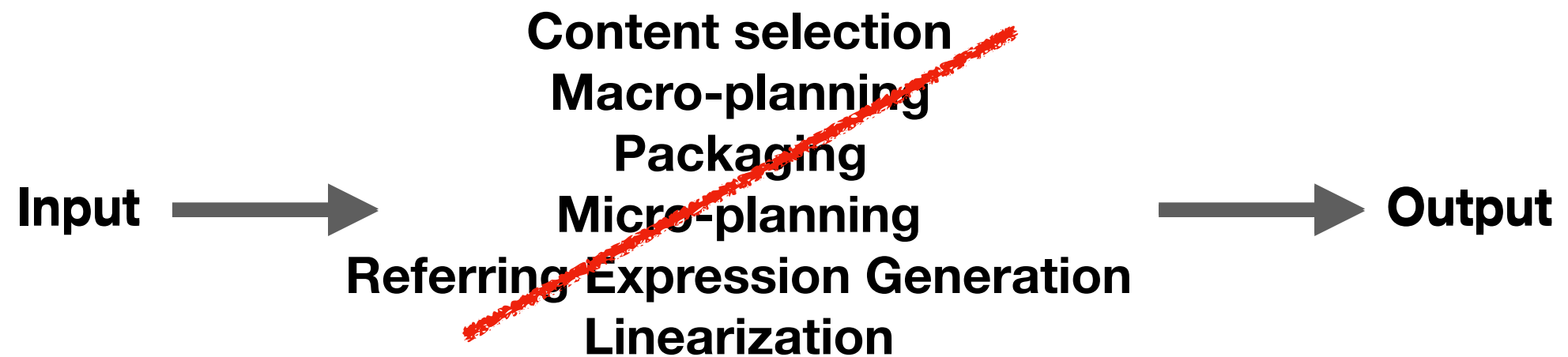


# Neural NLG Research

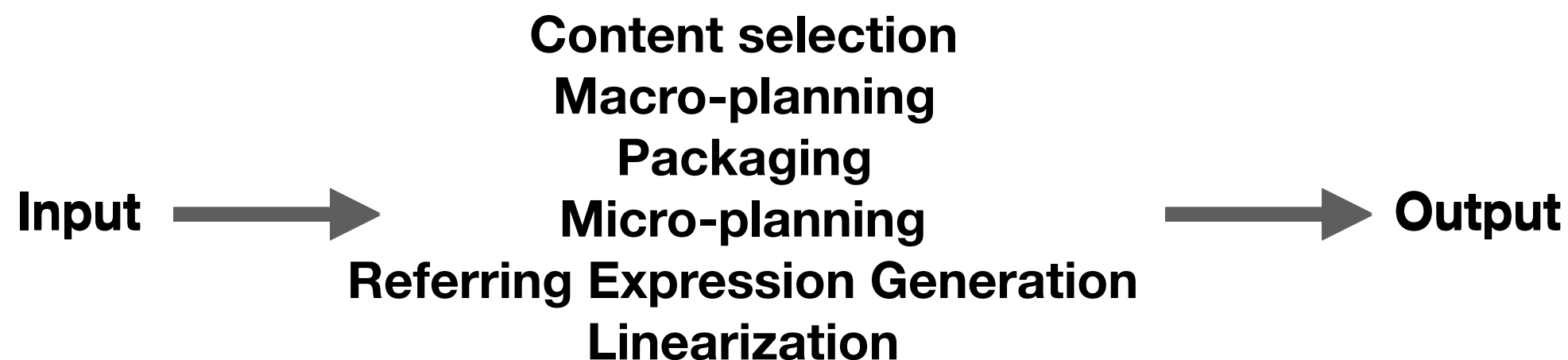
- A lot of neural NLG research today:
  - How to best encode your input?
  - How to model the attention?
- The more important things (in my opinion):
  - How to get finer-grained control on the generated text?
  - How to construct a good dataset?
  - How to evaluate?
  - What is a good input representation (!= good input encoding)
  - Neural nets are great at surface realization. What about the other parts?

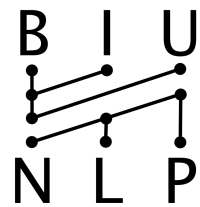


# Neural NLG today



# Neural NLG tomorrow?





# Discussion?