

# Intro to Learning in SD -1

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1- Introduction to RecNN

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*DRAFT, please do not circulate!*

[www.di.unipi.it/groups/ciml](http://www.di.unipi.it/groups/ciml)



Dipartimento di Informatica  
Università di Pisa - Italy



**Computational Intelligence &  
Machine Learning Group**

# Learning in Structured Domain

## Plan in 2 lectures

### 1. Recurrent and Recursive Neural Networks

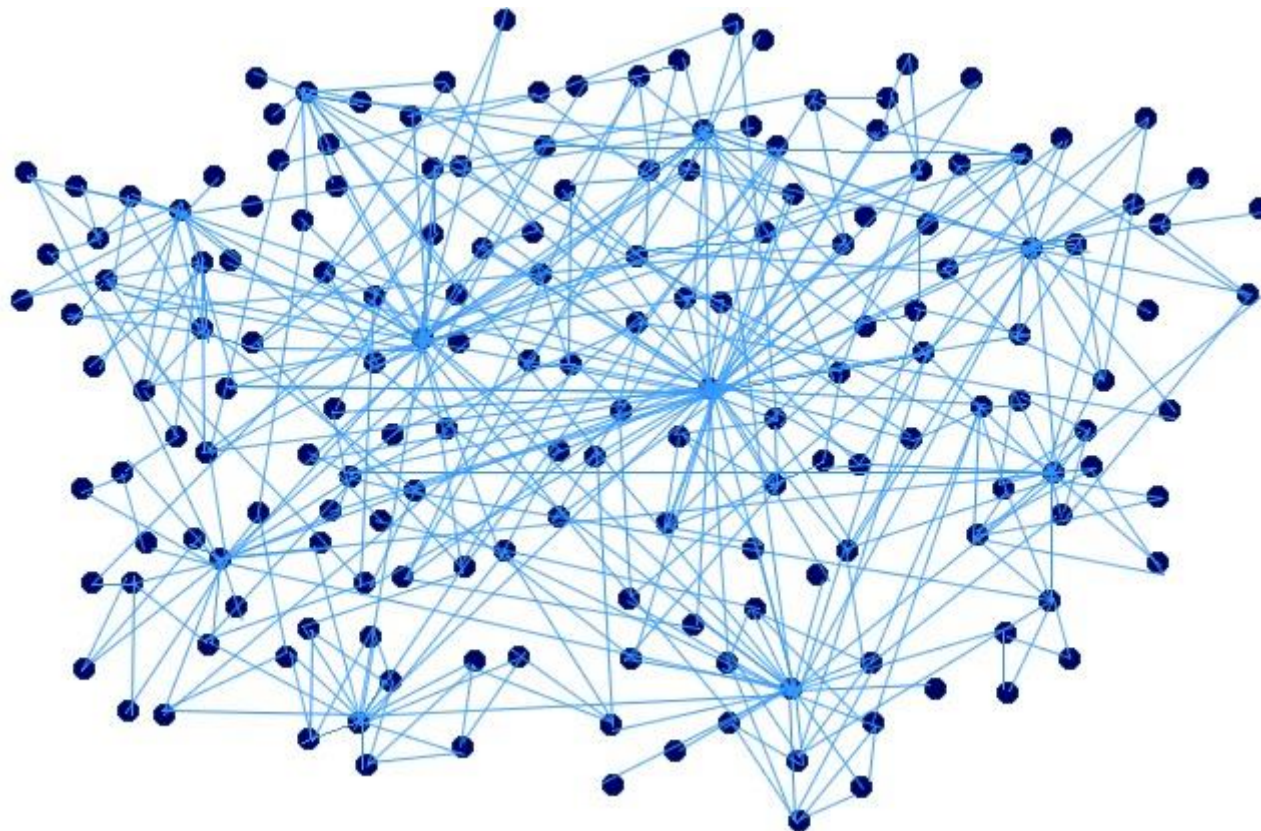
Extensions of models for learning in structured domains

- Motivation and examples (structured data)
- The structured data (recursive)
- Recursive models: RNN and RecNN
- Recursive Cascade Correlation & other recursive approaches

### 2. Moving to DPAG and Graphs: the role of causality [Next Lecture (SD-2)]

*An introductory aim for a research field in ML*

# Why structured data?



Because data have relationships

# Introduction:

## Motivation of ML for SD

- Most of known ML methods are limited to the use of flat and fixed form of the data (vectors or sequences)  
*fixed-length attribute-value vectors*
- Central: *data representation*
- **Graph**: very useful abstraction for real data
- **Labeled graphs** = vector patterns + relationships
  - **natural**: for structured domain
  - **richness**
  - **efficiency**: repetitive nature inherent in the data
- **SD + ML** = adaptive processing of structured information

# Introduction: Research Area

- **SD + ML** = adaptive processing of structured information
- **General Aim:** investigation of ML models for the adaptive processing of structured information: **sequences, trees, graphs:**
  - Structured domain learning/ Learning in Structured Domains
  - Relational Learning
  - Structure/Graph Mining
    - Molecule Mining
  - ***... Deep Learning for Graphs***

# Advancements from ML to SDL

Learning in Structured Domains (SD) in Pisa/CIML: Pioneering since the 90's the development of

- Theoretical analysis
- New approaches
- Applications

Especially on the basis of Recursive approaches.



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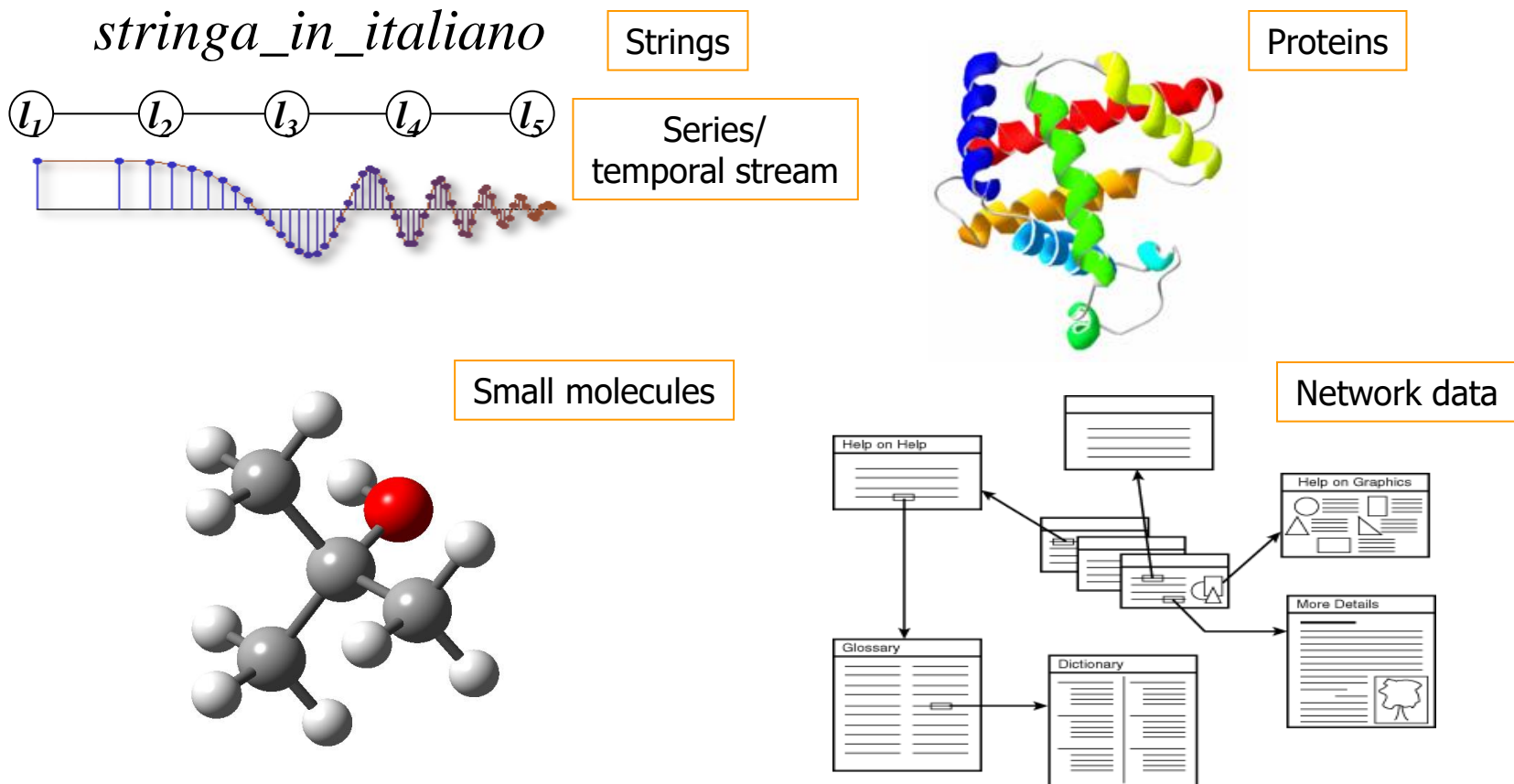
## And for you?

- To build an advanced background for
  - Analysis/development of innovative models
  - Applications in the area of interdisciplinary projects (@ ciml)
- Practical: **thesis are possible for the design of new models/applications for the extension of the input domains toward:**
  - Extension of the applicative domain
  - Adaptivity and accuracy
  - Efficiency

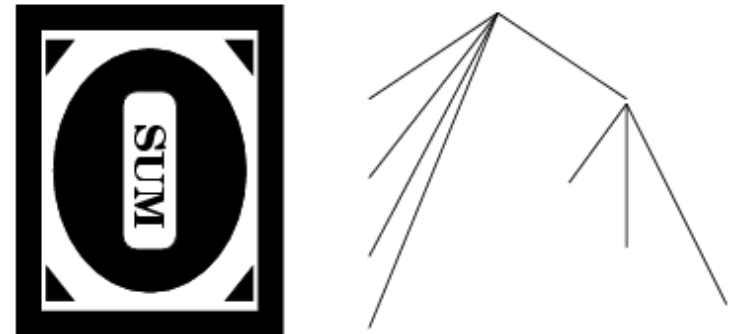
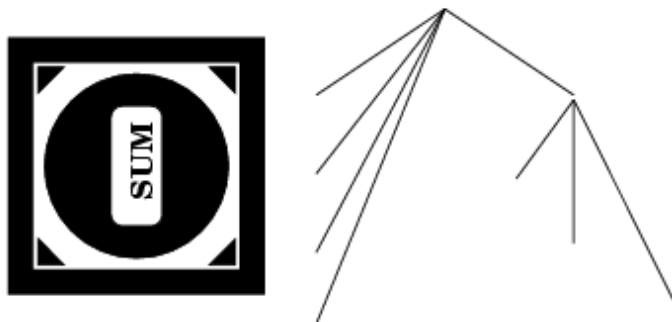
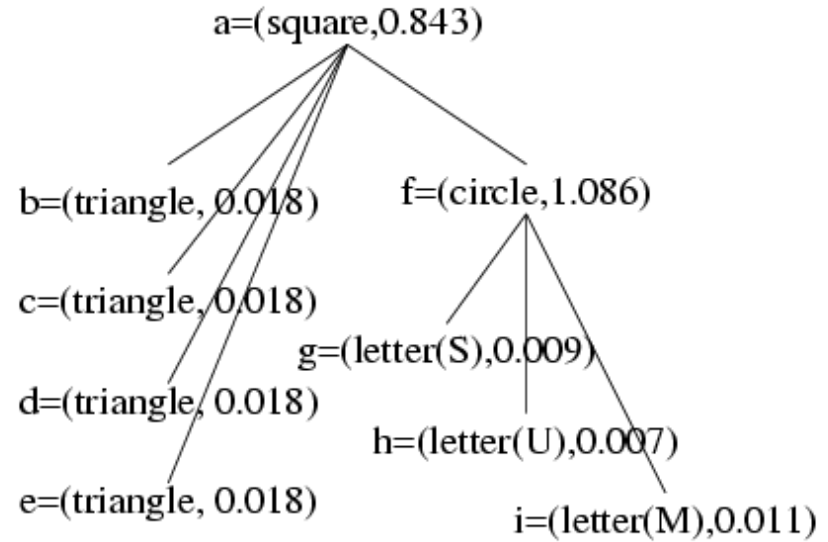
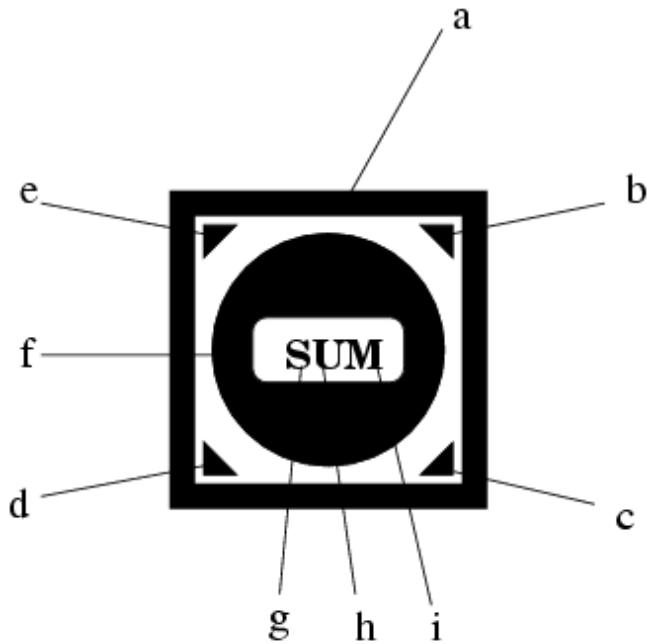


# From flat to structured data

- **Flat: vectors** (as in the rest of AA1)
- **Structured:** Sequences, trees, graphs, multi-relational data

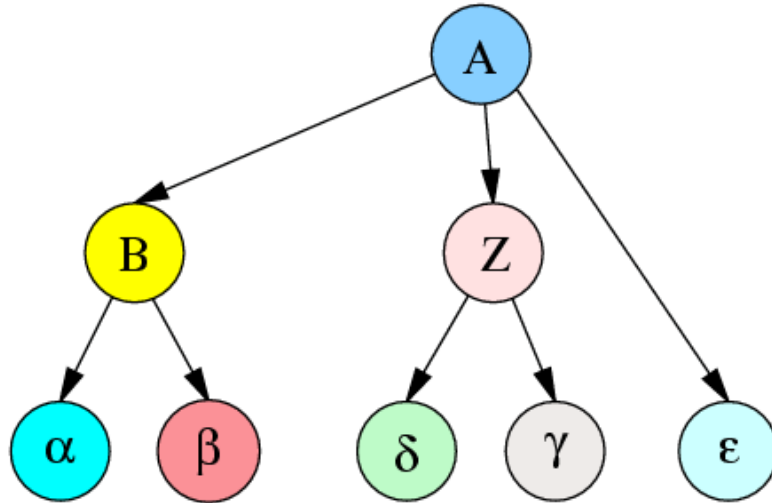


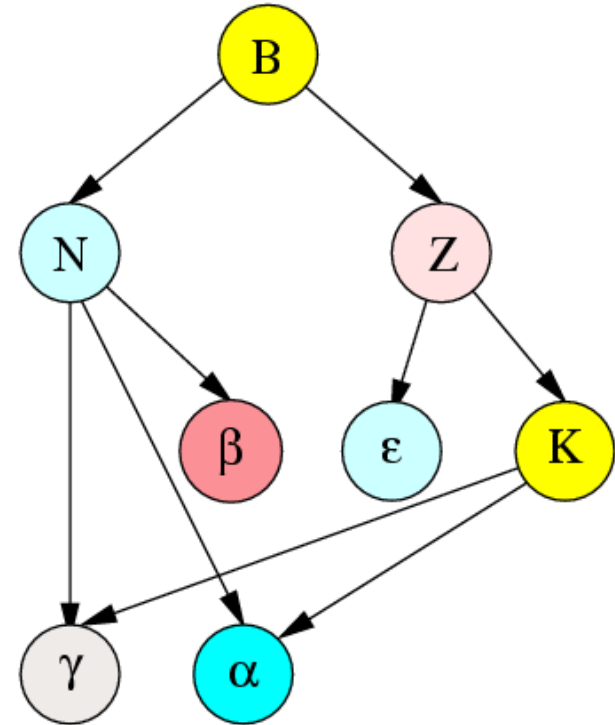
# Example: logo recognition





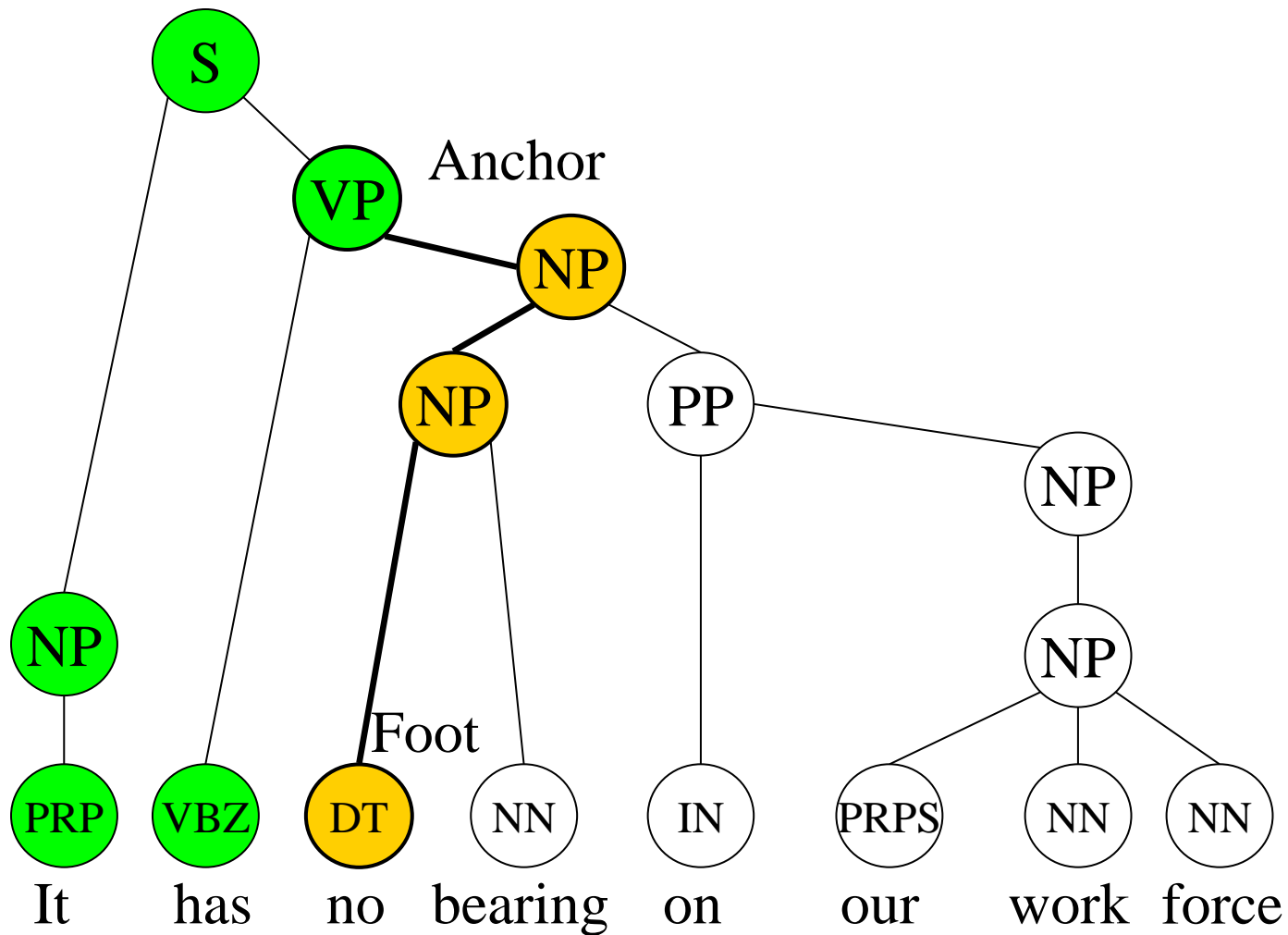
## Example: Terms in 1<sup>st</sup> order logic



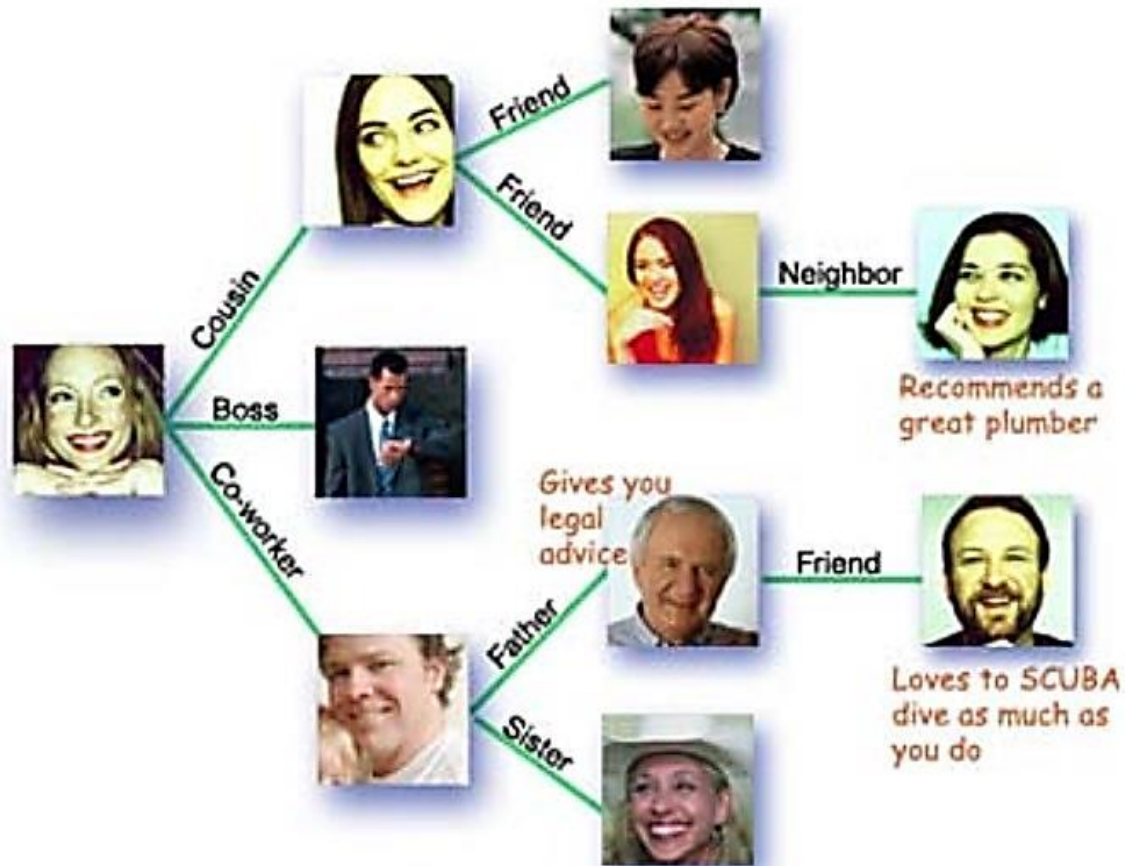
$$A(B(\alpha, \beta), Z(\gamma, \delta), \epsilon)$$


$$B(N(\gamma, \alpha, \beta), Z(\epsilon, K(\gamma, \alpha)))$$

## Example (trees): language parsing

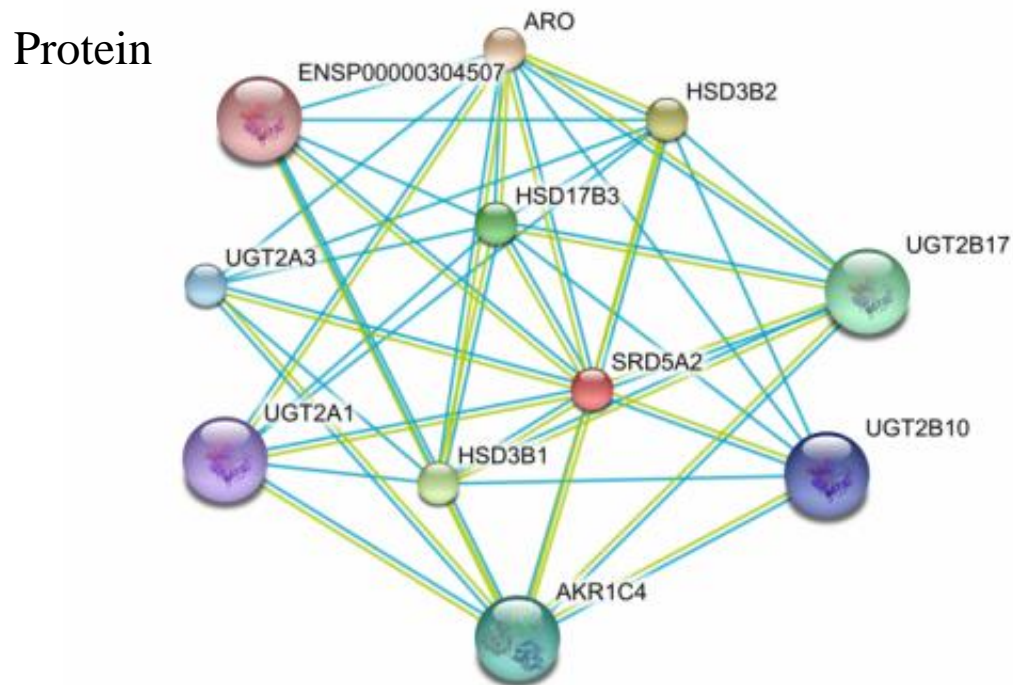


# Example: Social networks



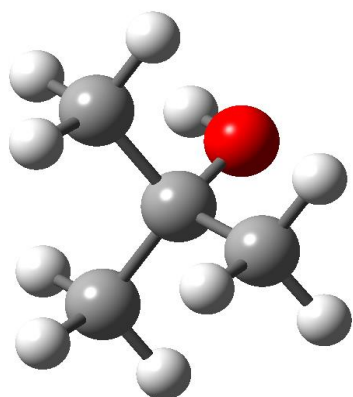
## Example: Biological Networks

- Node for protein
- Link for **interaction** or similarity



## Example (graphs): Molecules

- A fundamental problem in Chemistry: correlate chemical structure of molecules with their properties (e.g. physico-chemical properties, or biological activity of molecules) in order to be able to predict these properties for new molecules
  - Quantitative Structure-Property Relationship (QSPR)
  - Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)



$$\text{Property/Activity} = \underset{T}{T}(\text{Structure})$$



**Property Value** (regression)  
**Toxic (yes/no)** (classification)

QSPR: Correlate chemical structure of molecules with their properties

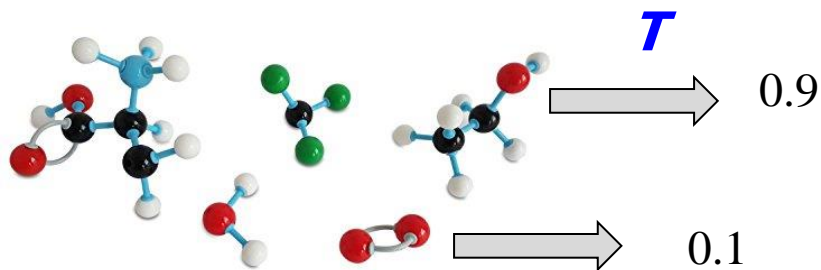
Molecules are not vectors !

***Molecules*** can be more naturally represented  
 by varying size ***structures***

**Can we predict directly from structures ?**

# Learn a transduction

- **Goal:** to learn a mapping between a structured information domain (SD) and a discrete or continuous space (*transduction*  $T$ ).
- Start with this problem: classify variable size graphs
  - For instance, classify different graphs starting from a training set of know couples as in the molecules example
- Given a set of examples  $(graph_i, target_i)$  (in the training set)
- Learn a hypothesis mapping  $T(graph)$



# Introduction: Learning Model for SD



- **The problem:** there has been no systematic way to extract features or metrics relations between examples for SD
  - A representation learning instances (extended to SD)!
- What we mean for *adaptive* processing of SD:  
extraction of the topological information directly from data
  - $\mathcal{H}$  has to be able to represent hierarchic relationships
  - **adaptive** measure of similarity on structures + apt **learning rule**
  - efficient handling of structure variability
  - Classical:
    - efficient learning
    - good generalization performance
    - knowledge extraction capabilities

# Learning in Structured Domain

## Plan in 2 lectures

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Extensions of models for learning in structured domains

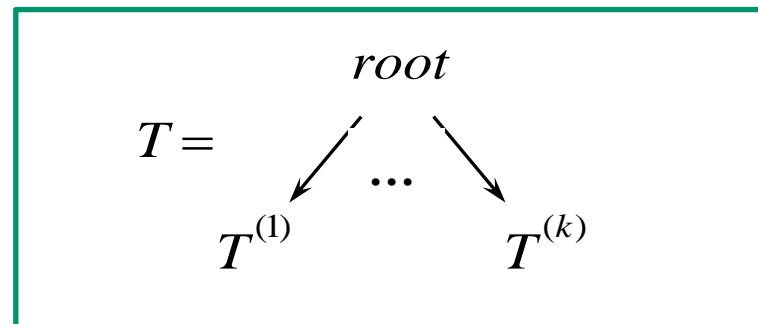
- Motivation and examples (structured data)
- **The structured data (recursive)**
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### 2. Moving to DPAG and Graphs: the role of causality [Next Lecture (SD-2)]



# K-ary Trees

- *k*-ary trees (trees in the following) are rooted positional trees with finite out-degree *k*.
- Given a node  $v$  in the tree  $T \in \mathcal{G}$ :
  - The children of  $v$  are the node successors of  $v$ , each with a position  $j=1, \dots, k$ ;
  - $k$  is the maximum out-degree over  $G$ , i.e. the maximum number of children for each node;
  - $l(v)$  in  $T$  is the input label associated with  $v$ , and  $l_i(v)$  is the  $i$ -th element of the label;
  - The subtree  $T^{(j)}$  is a tree rooted at the  $j$ -th children of  $v$ .





# Structured Domains

- $\mathbf{L}$ : set of attribute vectors  $l(v)$
  - *Structure G*: vertexes labels  $\mathbf{L}$  + topology (skeleton of  $G$ )
  - Sequences, Trees, DOAGs- DPAGs, graphs:
  - $\mathbf{G}$ : labeled direct ordered/positional acyclic graphs with super-source
    - A total order (or the position) on the edges leaving from each vertex
    - *Super-source*: a vertex  $s$  such that every vertex can be reached by a direct path starting from  $s$ .
    - *Bounded out-degree and in-degree* (the number of edges leaving and entering from a vertex  $v$ )
  - **DPAG**: superclass of the **DOAGs**: besides ordering, a distinctive positive integer can be associated to each edge, allowing some position to be absent.
- Trees: labeled rooted order trees, or positional ( $K$ -ary trees).
    - Super-source: the root of the tree.
    - **Binary tree (K=2)**

Mostly used in this lecture

# Data Domains $\mathcal{G}$

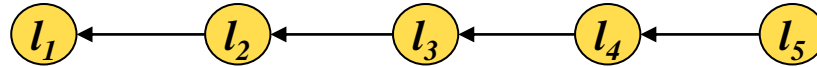
- We consider sets of **DPAGs**: labeled direct positional acyclic graphs with *super-source*, bounded *in-degree* and *out-degree* ( $k$ ).
- Include sub-classes:  
DPAGs  $\supset$  DOAGs  $\supset$  k-ary trees  $\supset$  sequences  $\supset$  vectors.
- Notations:
  - $\text{ch}[v]$  set of successors of  $v$
  - $\text{ch}_j[v]$  is the  $j$ -th child of the node  $v$

# Structured Data: Examples

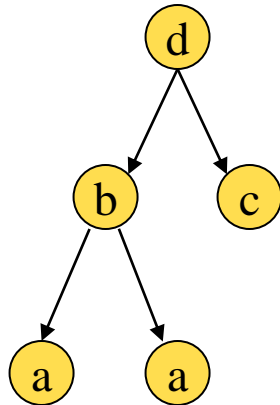
- Labeled Sequences, Trees, DOAGs- DPAGs, graphs



Single labeled vertex

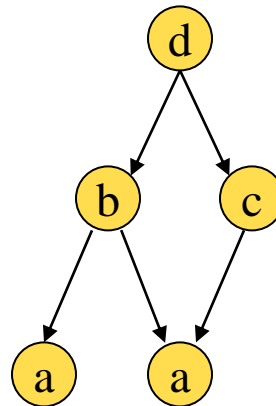


Sequence

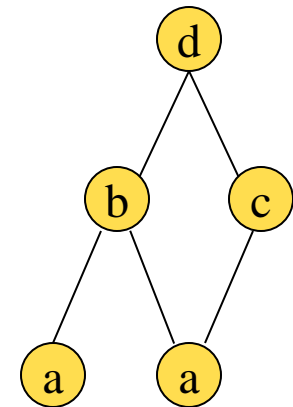


Rooted Tree

Supersource



DPAG

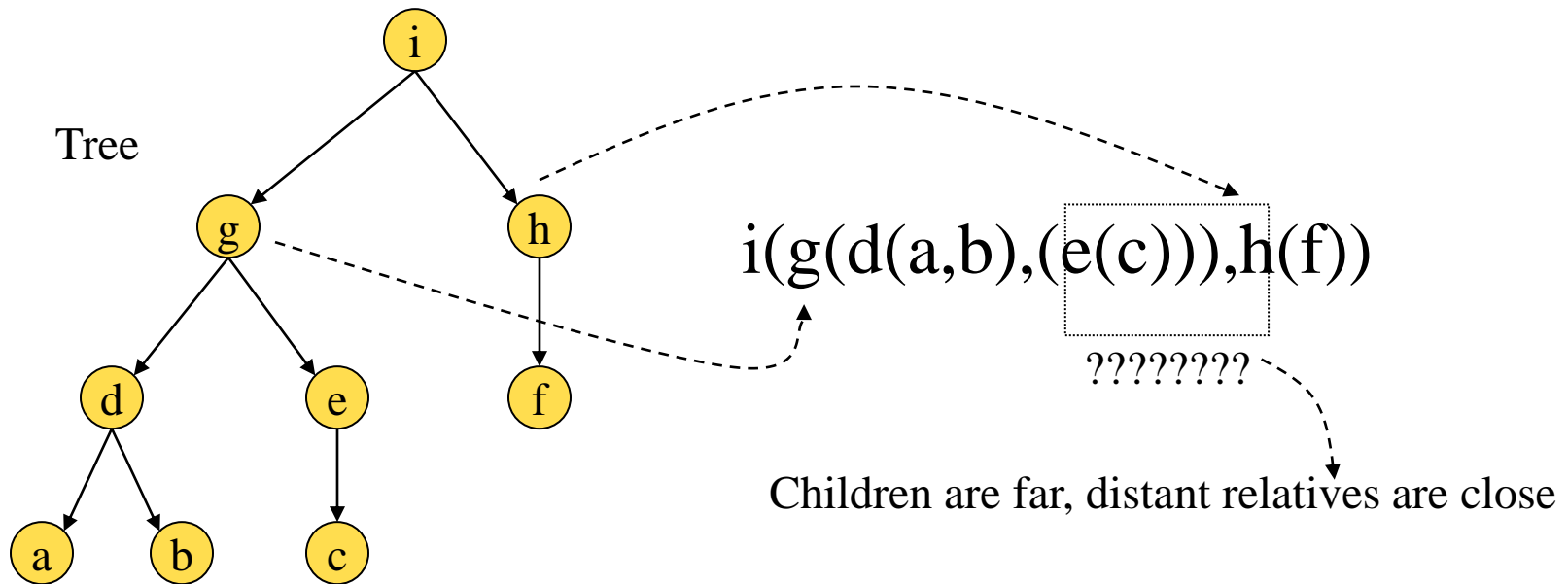


Graph (undirected)

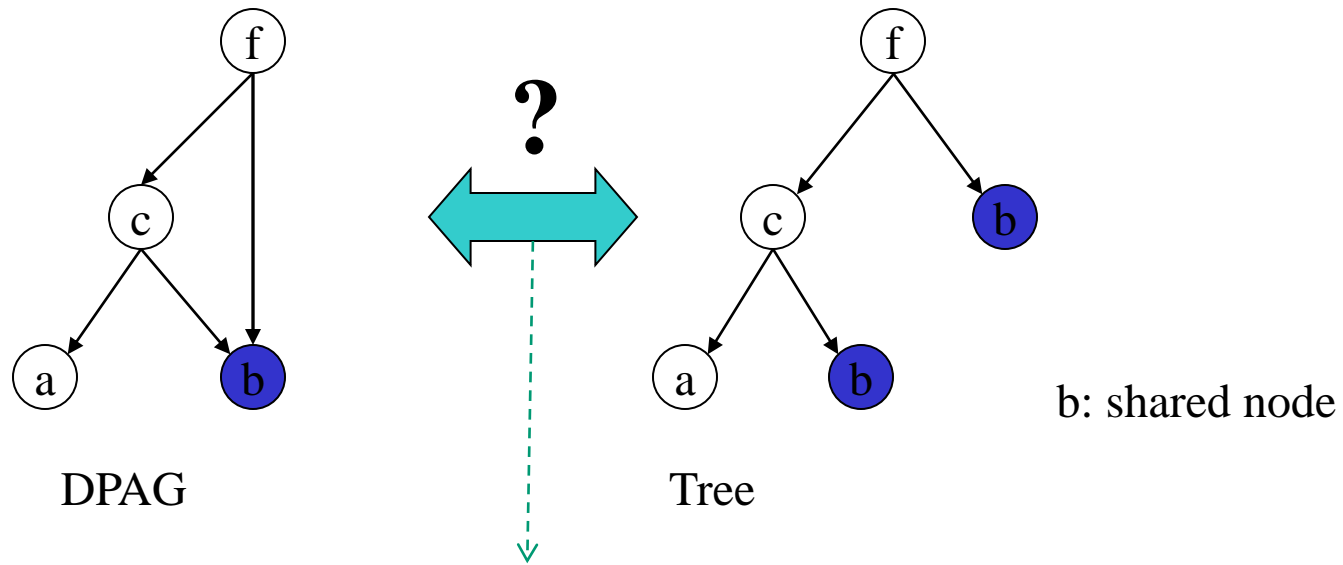
DPAG: labeled direct positional acyclic graphs with *super-source*, bounded *in-degree* and *out-degree* ( $k$ ).

# Structures: just use sequence ?

- Can we process structures like they are sequences?
- E.g. any tree can be converted into a sequence (no information loss) but:
  - Sequences may be long: number of vertices exponential w.r.t. height of tree
    - (aka the paths are *log* of #nodes for the tree, so the dependencies are much shorter)
  - Dependencies are blurred out (arbitrary depending on the visit)



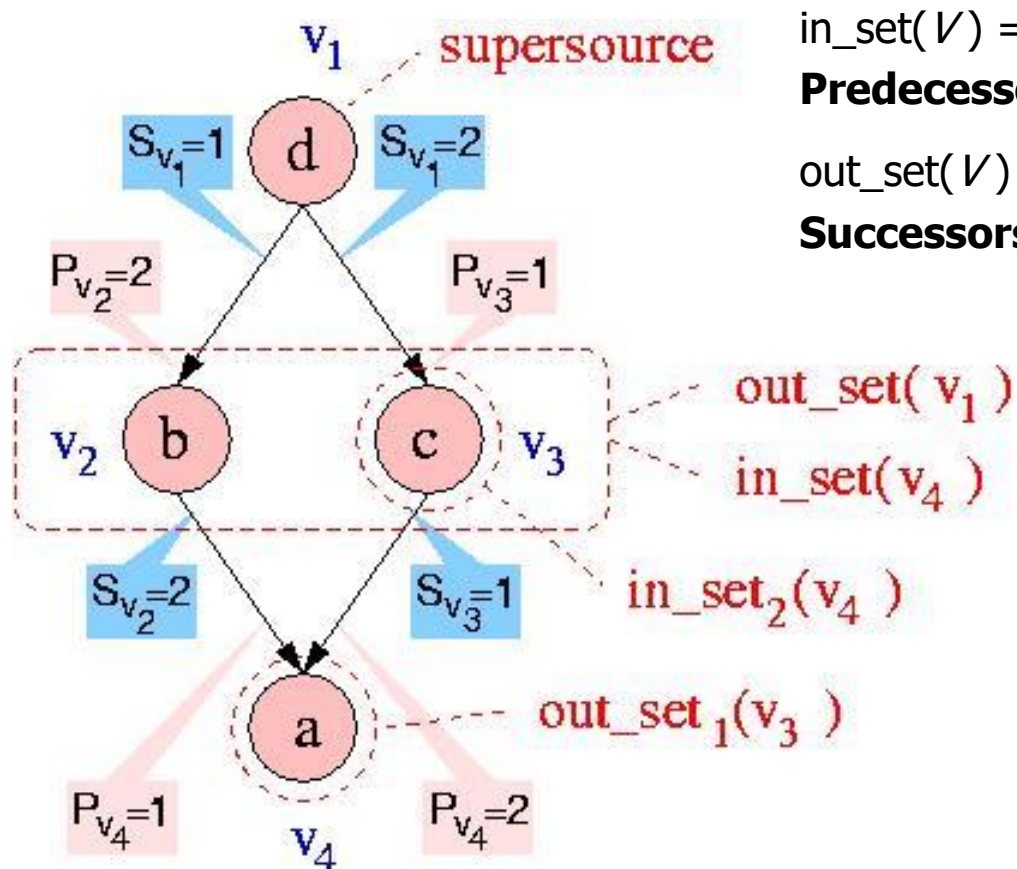
# Trees and DPAGs



Exercise after the lecture SD-2

## Positional versus Ordered

- DPAG: for each vertex  $v$  in  $vert(G)$ , an injective function  $S_v: edg(v) \rightarrow [1, 2, \dots, K]$  is defined on the edges leaving from  $v$



$$in\_set(V) = \{u \mid v \in V \text{ and } u \rightarrow v\}$$

**Predecessors**

$$out\_set(V) = \{u \mid v \in V \text{ and } v \rightarrow u\}$$

**Successors**

# Learning in Structured Domain

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# The models

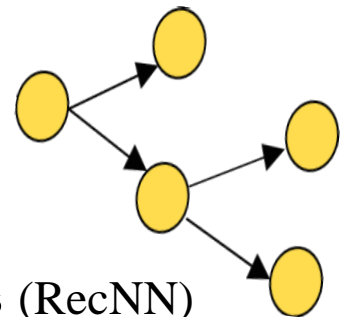
- Instead of moving *data to models* (e.g. Graphs into vectors or trees into sequences, with alignment problems, loose of information, etc.) we move *models to data*



**Vectors** (e.g. F.F.NN)



**Sequences** (RNN)



**Trees** (RecNN)

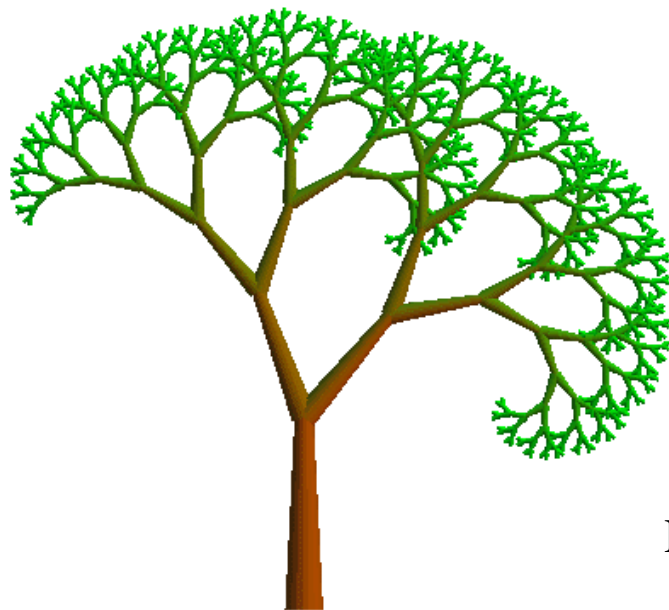
# SD Learning scenario

Model Data Type	Symbolic	Connectionist	Probabilistic
STATIC attribute/value, real vectors	Rule induction, Decision trees	NN, SVM	Mixture models, Naïve Bayes
SEQUENTIAL serially ordered entities	Learning finite state automata	Recurrent NN	Hidden Markov Models
STRUCTURAL relations among domain variables	Inductive logic programming	Recursive NN  (Kernels forSD)	Recursive Markov models

## Preview: The RecNN idea

Recursive NN:

- **Recursive** and parametric realization of the transduction function
  - In other words: Node embedding by a neural state machine
- *Adaptive* by Neural Networks



We will see how RecNNs extend RNNs *matching* the recursive nature of trees

Fractal tree: a recursive structure



# Neural Computing Approach

- NN are universal approximators (Theorem of Cybenko)
- NN can learn from example (automatic inference)
- NN can deal with noise and incomplete data
- NN can handle continuous real and discrete data
- Simple gradient descent technique for training
- Successful model in ML due to the flexibility in applications

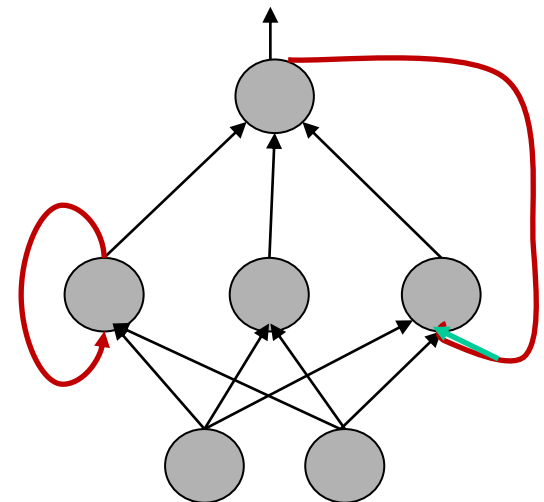
Domain	Neural Network
Static fixed-dim patterns (vectors, records, ...)	Feedforward
Dynamical patterns (temporal sequences, sequences ...)	Recurrent
Structured patterns (DPAGs, trees ...)	<b>Recursive</b>

# Feedforward versus Recurrent (*memento*)

- **Feedforward:** direction: input  $\rightarrow$  output
- **Recurrent neural networks:** A different category of architecture, based on the addition of *feedback loops* connections in the network topology,
  - The presence of **self-loop** connections provides the network with dynamical properties, letting a memory of the past computations in the model.
  - This allows us to extend the representation capability of the model to the processing of sequences (and structured data).

## Recurrent neural networks:

- Introduced in the ML course
- They will be the subject (further developed) ISPR/CNS courses (see later).



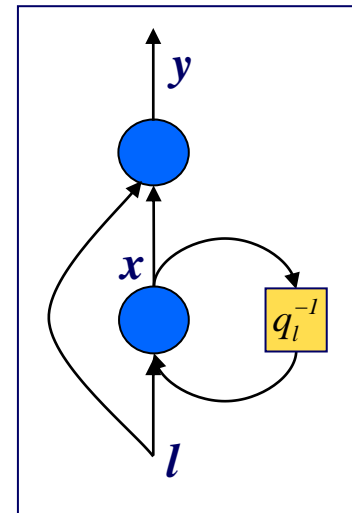
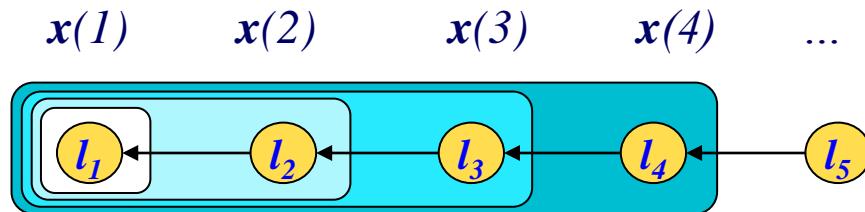
# Recurrent Neural Networks (resume)

- Up to now:

Given  $\mathbf{x}(0) = \mathbf{0}$

internal state

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{x}(t) = \tau(\mathbf{x}(t-1), \mathbf{l}(t)) \\ \mathbf{y}(t) = g(\mathbf{x}(t), \mathbf{l}(t)) \end{cases}$$



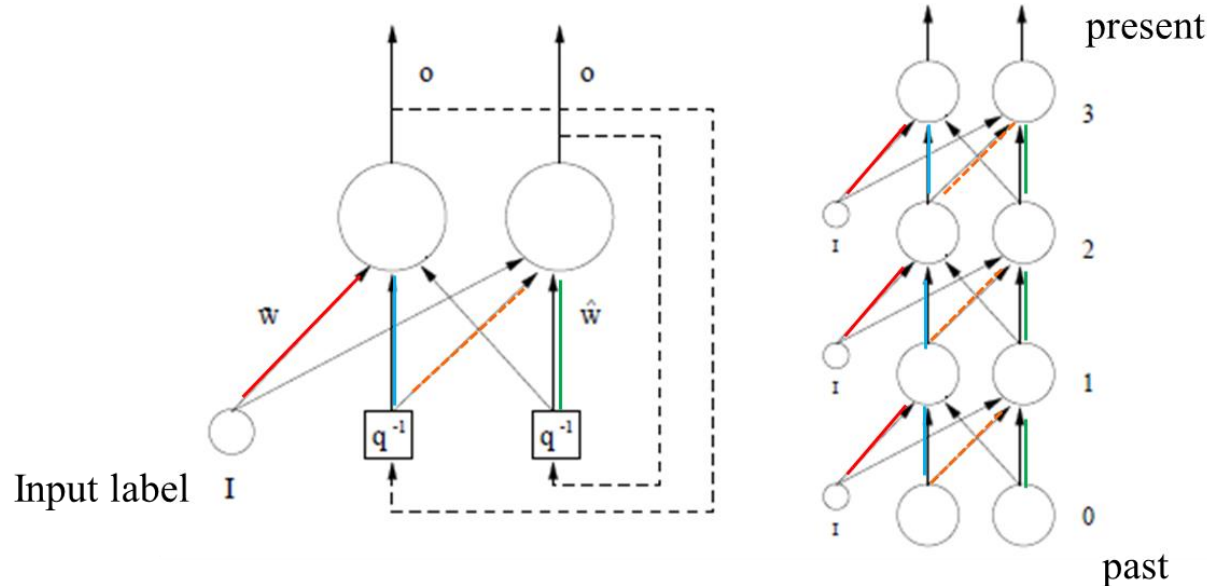
Graphical  
model

E.g.  
also **HMM**

- Tau is the *state transition (next-state)* function realized by a NN (say  $\tau_{NN}$ )

# RNN training and properties (resume)

- BPTT/RTRL [see CNS course]
- Unfolding [see ML lecture RNN]:



Back-Prop Through Time:  
Backprop on this enrolled  
version

- **Causality**: A system is causal if the output at time  $t_0$  (or vertex  $v$ ) only depends on inputs at time  $t < t_0$  (depends only on  $v$  and its descendants)
  - necessary and sufficient for *internal state*
- **Stationarity**: time invariance, state transition function  $\tau$  is independent on node  $v$  (the same in any time)

# Recursive Neural Networks (overview)

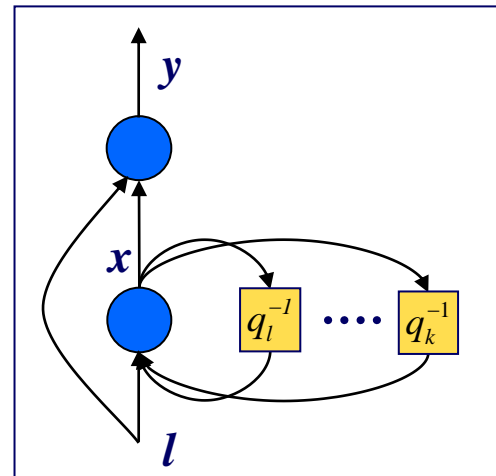
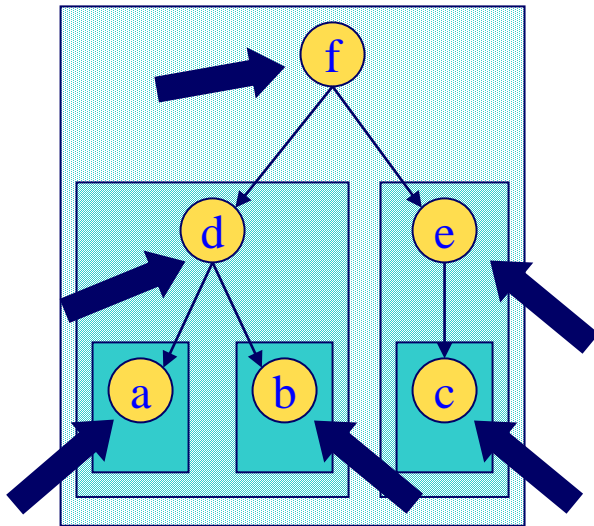


- Now:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{x}(v) = \tau(\mathbf{x}(\text{ch}[v]), \mathbf{l}(v)) \\ \mathbf{y}(v) = g(\mathbf{x}(v), \mathbf{l}(v)) \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{x}(\text{ch}[v]) = \mathbf{x}(\text{ch}_1[v]), \dots, \mathbf{x}(\text{ch}_k[v])$$

State transition system



# feedbacks = # children



# Recursive Neural Networks (overview)

## More precisely (with initial conditions)

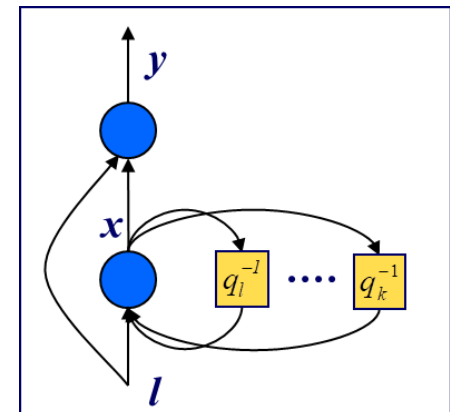
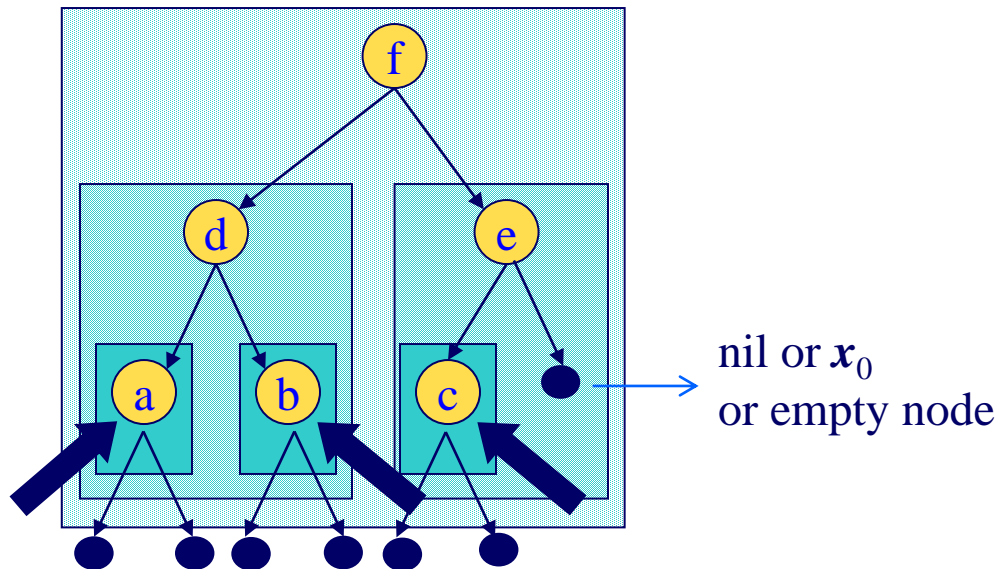
- Now:

Given  $x(\text{nil}) = 0$

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{x}(v) = \tau(\mathbf{x}(\text{ch}[v]), \mathbf{l}(v)) \\ \mathbf{y}(v) = g(\mathbf{x}(v), \mathbf{l}(v)) \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{x}(\text{ch}[v]) = \mathbf{x}(\text{ch}_1[v]), \dots, \mathbf{x}(\text{ch}_k[v])$$

State transition system



# feedbacks = # children



# Generalized Shift Operators

- Standard shift operator (time):

$$q^{-1} S_t = S_{t-1}$$

- Generalized shift operators (structure):

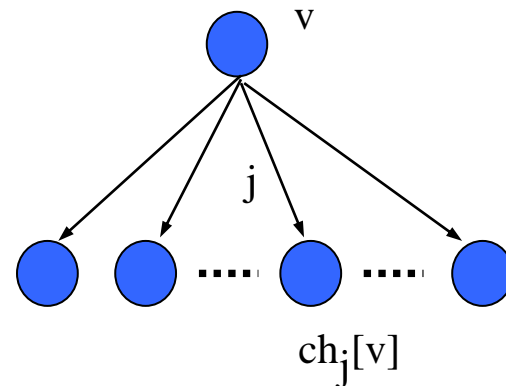
$$q_j^{-1} G_v = G_{\text{ch}_j[v]}$$

where  $\text{ch}_j[v]$  is the  $j$ -th child of  $v$

RecNN with  $q$ :

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{x}(v) = \tau(\mathbf{l}(v), q^{-1} \mathbf{x}(v)) \\ \mathbf{y}(v) = g(\mathbf{x}(v)) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} q_j^{-1} x_i(v) = x_0 & \text{if } \text{ch}_j[v] = \text{nil} \\ q_j^{-1} x_i(v) = x_i(\text{ch}_j[v]) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



Used to extend the states for children of vertexes of the tree

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- **Recursive models: RNN and RecNN**
  - **Properties of the recursive transductions**
  - Unfolding
  - Details on the domain
  - Implementation by NN
- Recursive Cascade Correlation & other recursive approaches

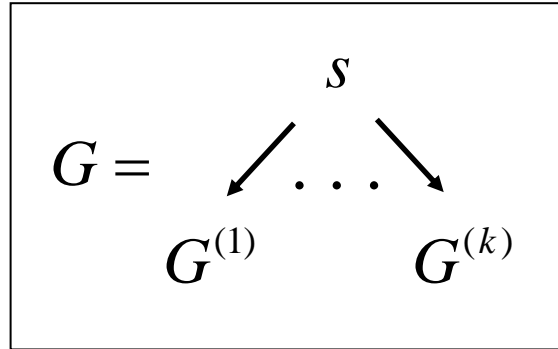
### 2. Moving to DPAG and Graphs: the role of causality [Next Lecture (SD-2)]

# Recursive Processing (*a different point of view*)

Recursive definition of  $\tau_E$  (*encoding function*)

**Node/Graph embedding**

$$\mathbf{x}(\text{root}) = \tau_E(G)$$



$s$  can be either a *root* for a tree or a super-source for a DPAG

$G^{(j)}$  is a subgraph rooted in the children  $j$  of  $s$ .  
 $s$  has a label  $l(s) = L_{\text{root}}$

$$\tau_E(G) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{0} & \text{if } G \text{ is empty} \\ \tau_{NN}(L_{\text{root}}, \tau_E(G^{(1)}), \dots, \tau_E(G^{(k)})) & \end{cases}$$

$\tau_E$  : *systematic visit* of  $G \rightarrow$  it guides the application of  $\tau$  (in the forma of a NN  $\tau_{NN}$ ) to each node of tree (bottom-up).

*Causality* and *stationary* assumption.

# Properties of RecNN (I)

Extension of *causality* and *stationarity* defined for RNN:

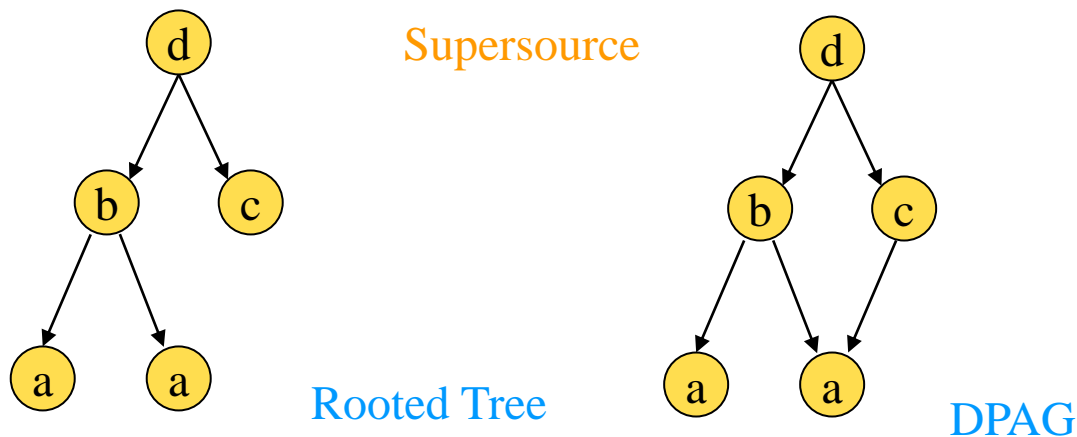
- **Causality**: the output for a vertex  $v$  only depends on  $v$  and its descendants (induced subgraphs)
  - Compositionality!
- **Stationarity**: state transition function  $\tau_{NN}$  is independent on vertex  $v$ 
  - Parsimony: we use the same NN for each vertex

Recurrent/recursive NN transductions admit a recursive state representation with such properties

- **Adaptivity** (NN. learn. Alg.) **+ Universal approximation** over the tree domain [Hammer 2005-2007]

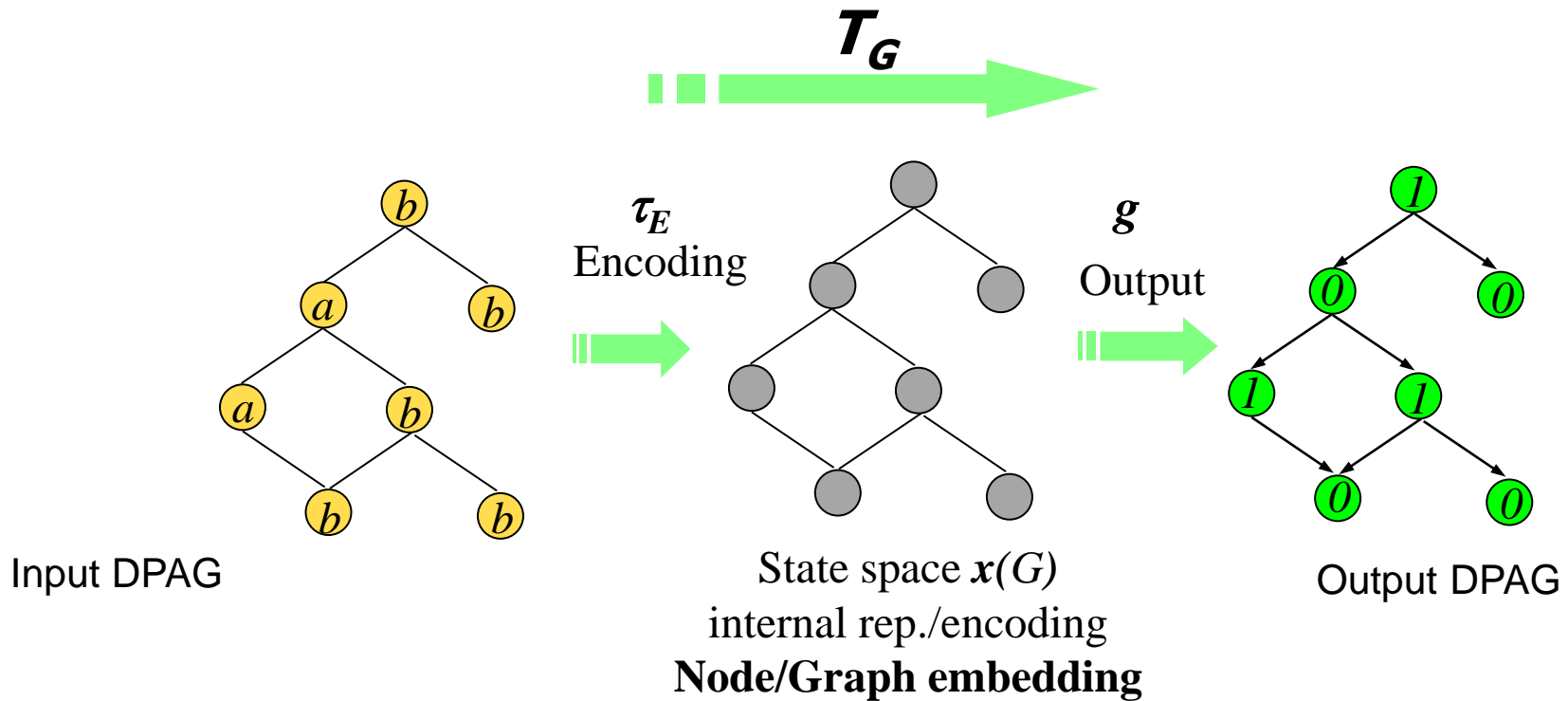
## Kind of graphs for RecNN

- RecNN can in principle treat both Trees and DOAGs/DPAGs
  - Whether it can discriminate completely also the DOAG/DPAGs will be treated later
  - But if there are no cycles the *recursive* model can visit the input DOAG/DPAG without special care



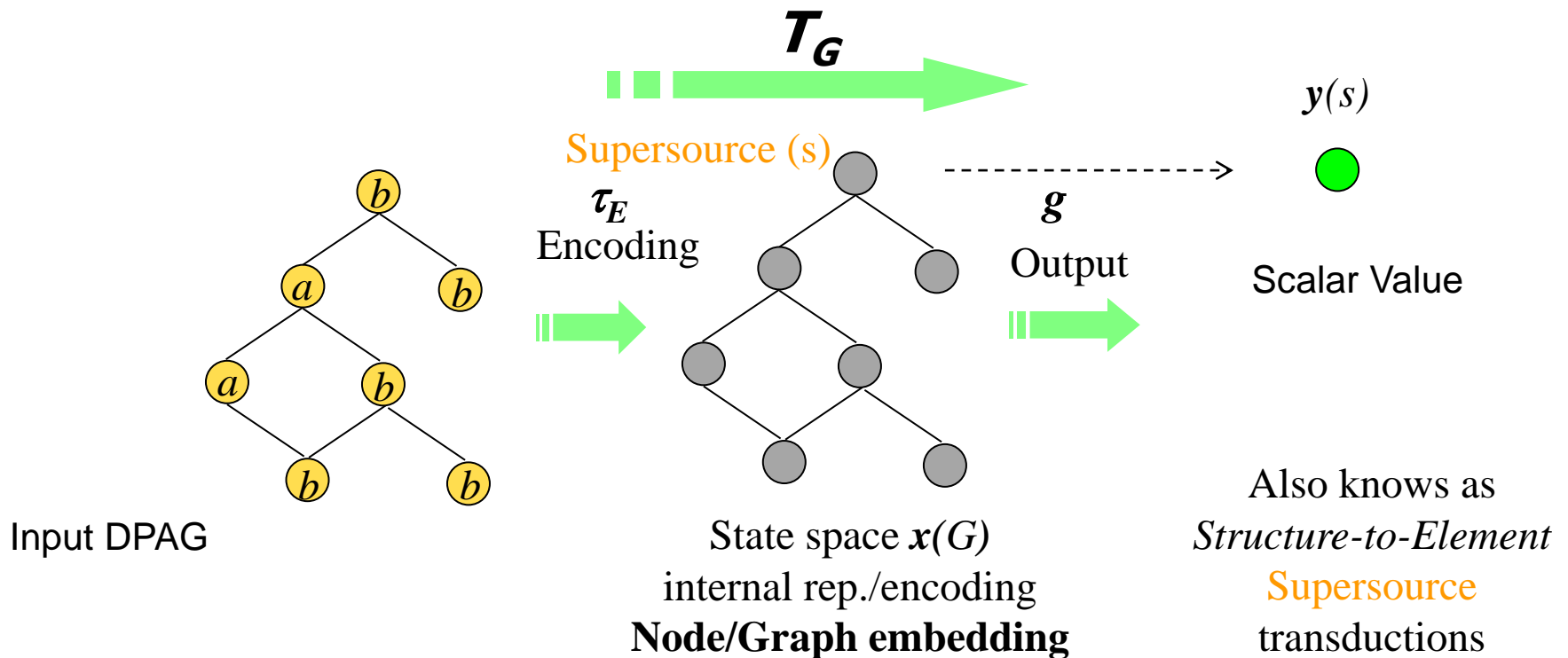
## Properties (II): graphical view

- $T_G$  is IO-isomorph if  $G$  and  $T_G(G)$  have the same skeleton (graph after removing labels)



# Properties (II): graphical view

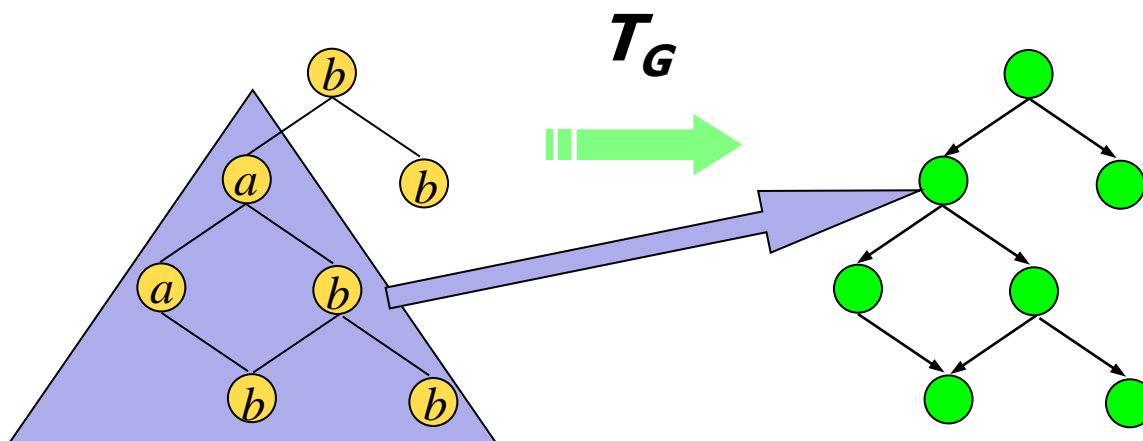
- $T_G$  *Supersource* transductions





# Properties (III)

- IO-isomorph **causal** transduction



Only the sub-structure is considered

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  - Properties of the recursive transduction
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### 2. Moving to DPAG and Graphs: the role of causality [Next Lecture (SD-2)]

# Unfolding and Enc. Network

- We will see (again) the RecNN data flow process with two points of view:
  1. **Unfolding** by “Walking on structures” model (*stationarity*), according to *causal* assumption (inverse topological order\*).
    - The model visits the structures
  2. Building an **Encoding network** isomorph to the input structure (same skeleton, inverse arrows, again with *stationarity*) and *causal* assumption):
    - We build a different encoding network for each input structure

\* see next slide

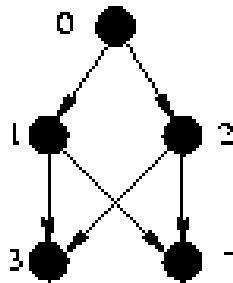
# Topological Order

- A linear ordering of its nodes s.t. each node comes before all nodes to which it has edges. Every DAG has at least one topological sort, and may have many.
- A numbering of the *vertices* of a *directed acyclic graph* such that every *edge* from a vertex numbered  $i$  to a vertex numbered  $j$  satisfies  $i < j$ .

According to a Partial order

For RNN:

**Inverse topological order**

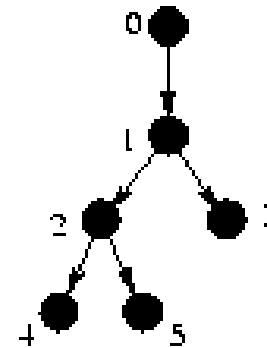


0,1,2,3,4

0,1,2,4,3

0,2,1,3,4

0,2,1,4,3



0,1,3,2,4,5

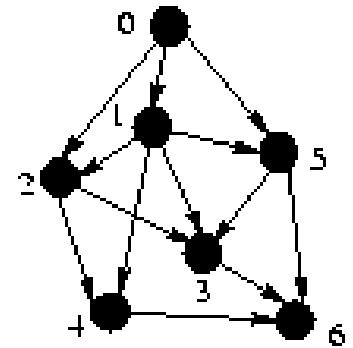
0,1,3,2,5,4

0,1,2,3,4,5

0,1,2,3,5,4

...

0,1,2,5,4,3



0,1,2,4,5,3,6

0,1,2,5,3,4,6

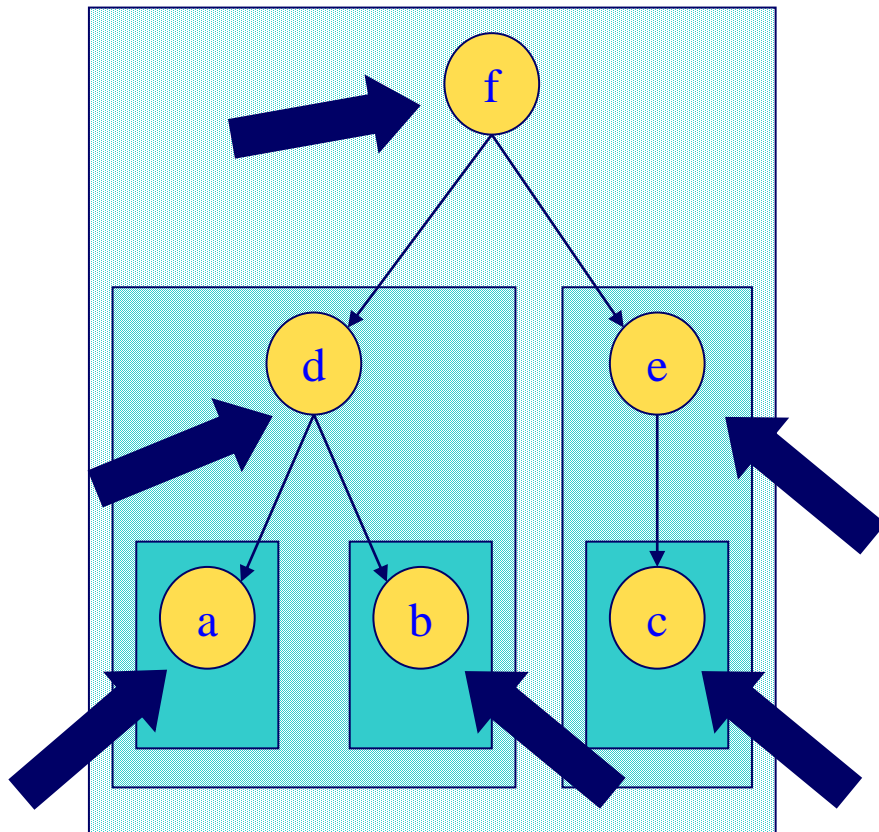
0,1,2,5,4,3,6

0,1,5,2,3,4,6

0,1,5,2,4,3,6

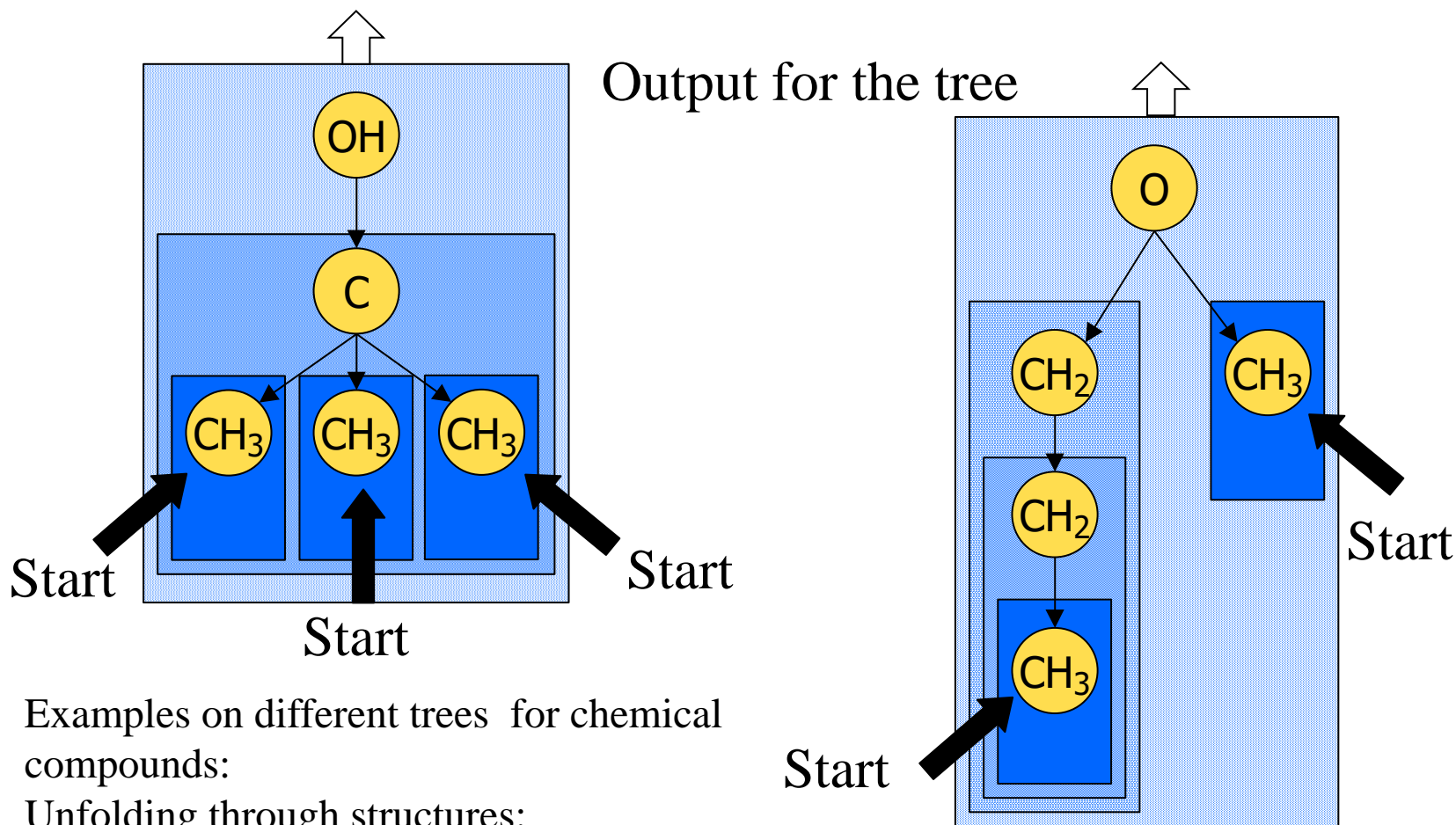


# Unfolding & Encoding Process: Unfolding view (1)



- Unfolding the encoding process through structures
- Bottom-up process for visiting
- We will see later how to make it with  $\tau_{NN}$  (and hence by NN) for each step: to build an *encoding network*

# RecNN over different structures: unfolding 2

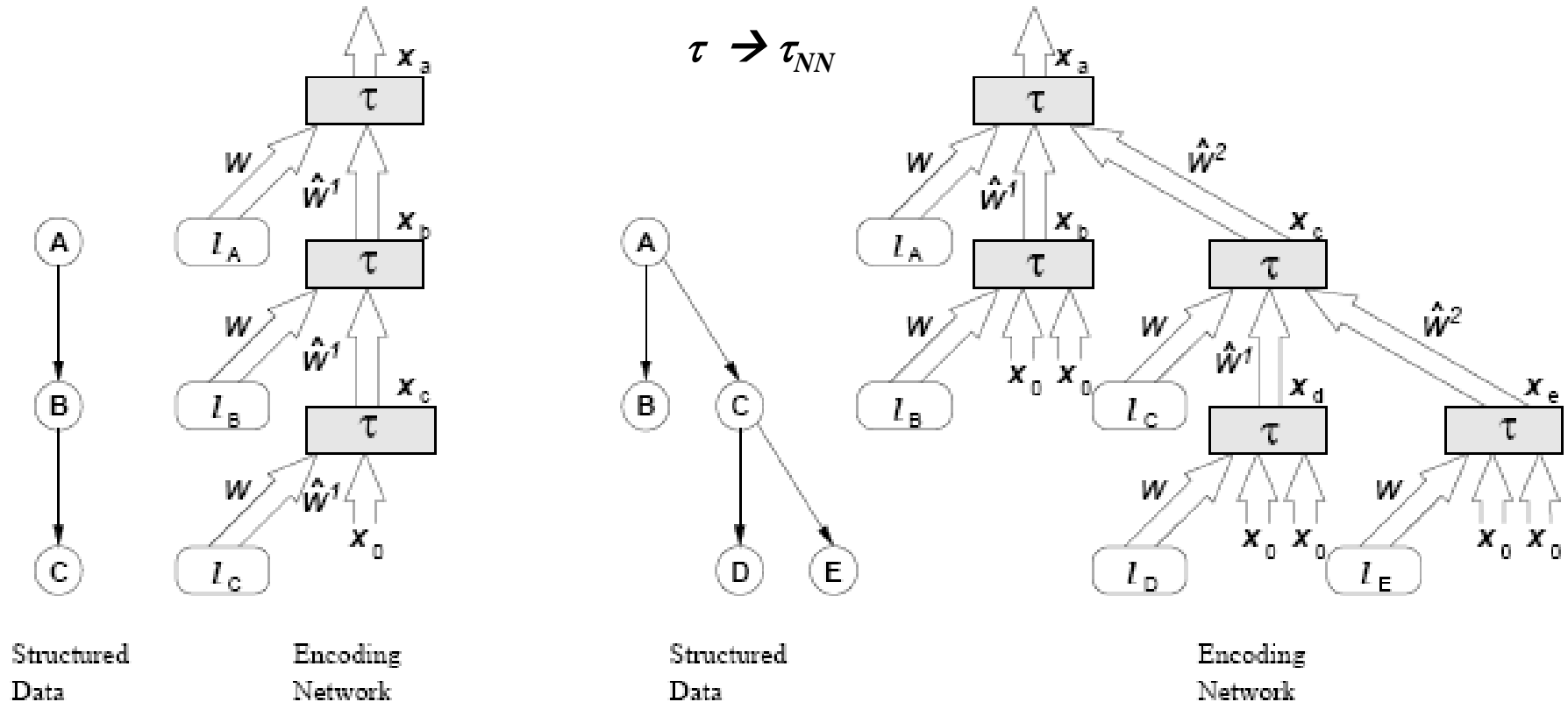


Examples on different trees for chemical compounds:

Unfolding through structures:

**The same process apply to all the vertices of a tree and for all the trees in the data set**

# Unfolding (3) & Enc. Net. For Recurrent and Recursive NN (or Recursive unfold. for two different structures)



Structured  
Data

Encoding  
Network

Structured  
Data

Encoding  
Network

- $\tau$  ( $\tau_{NN}$ ) for each step (with weight sharing):  
*encoding network*
- Adaptive encoding via the free parameters of  $\tau_{NN}$

$\tau_{NN}$  (and weight) sharing : units are the same for the all the vertices of a tree and for all the trees in the data set!!!

# Learning in Structured Domain

## Plan in 2 lectures

### 1. Recurrent and Recursive Neural Networks

Extensions of models for learning in structured domains

- Motivation and examples (structured data)
- The structured data (recursive)
- **Recursive models: RNN and RecNN**
  - Properties of the recursive transduction
  - Unfolding
  - **Details on the domain**
  - Implementation by NN
- Recursive Cascade Correlation & other recursive approaches

### 2. Moving to DPAG and Graphs: the role of causality [Next Lecture (SD-2)]



# RecNN: going to details for the domains

- $\mathbf{X} = \mathbb{R}^m$  continuous (real values) state (code) space (encoded subgraph space)
- $\mathbf{L} = \mathbb{R}^n$  vertex label space
- $\mathbf{O} = \mathbb{R}^z$  or  $\{0,1\}^z$
- $\tau = \tau_{NN} : \mathbb{R}^n \times \underbrace{\mathbb{R}^m \times \dots \times \mathbb{R}^m}_{k \text{ times}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  Subgraph code
- $g$  output function
- $x_0 = \mathbf{0}$

$$T_G: G \rightarrow O$$

$$G \xrightarrow{\tau_E} \mathbb{R}^m \xrightarrow{g} \mathbb{R}^z$$

$T_G$

- $\tau$  and  $g$  realized by NN with free parameters  $\mathbf{W}$

RNN realize  $g \circ \tau_E$

# Learning in Structured Domain

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### 2. Moving to DPAG and Graphs: the role of causality [Next Lecture (SD-2)]

# Realization of $\tau_{NN}$ (RecNN) unit

$$\tau_{NN} : \underbrace{IR^n \times IR^m \times \dots \times IR^m}_{k \text{ times}} \rightarrow IR^m$$

*Dim m*  $\nwarrow$

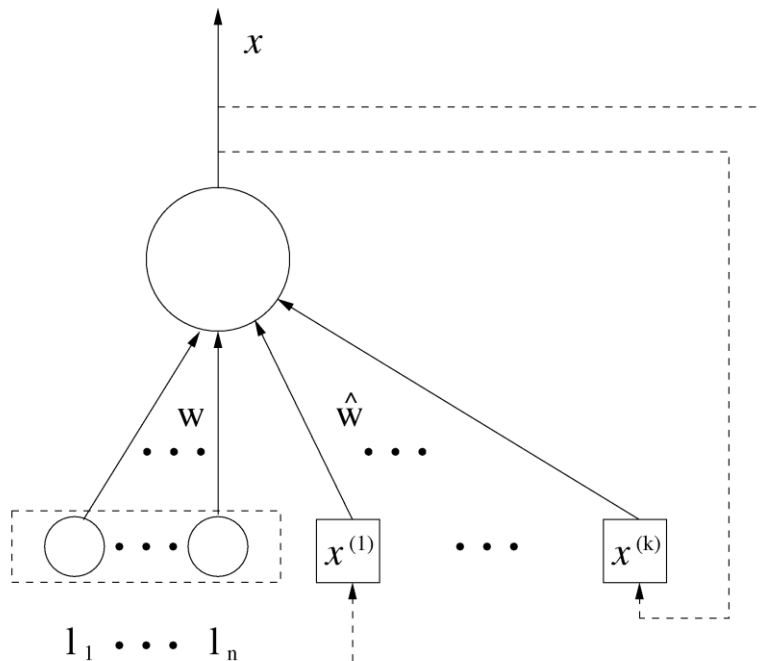
$$\mathbf{x}(v) = \tau_{NN}(\mathbf{l}, \mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(k)}) = \sigma(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{l} + \sum_{j=1}^k \hat{\mathbf{W}}_j \mathbf{x}^{(j)} + \theta)$$

where  $\mathbf{x}^{(j)} = \mathbf{x}(\text{ch}_j[v])$

*# of children*  $\downarrow$  (points to  $k$ )

*Free parameters*  $\downarrow$  (points to  $\mathbf{W}, \hat{\mathbf{W}}_j, \theta$ )

*Subgraph code*  $\nearrow$  (points to  $\hat{\mathbf{W}}_j$ )  $m \times m$

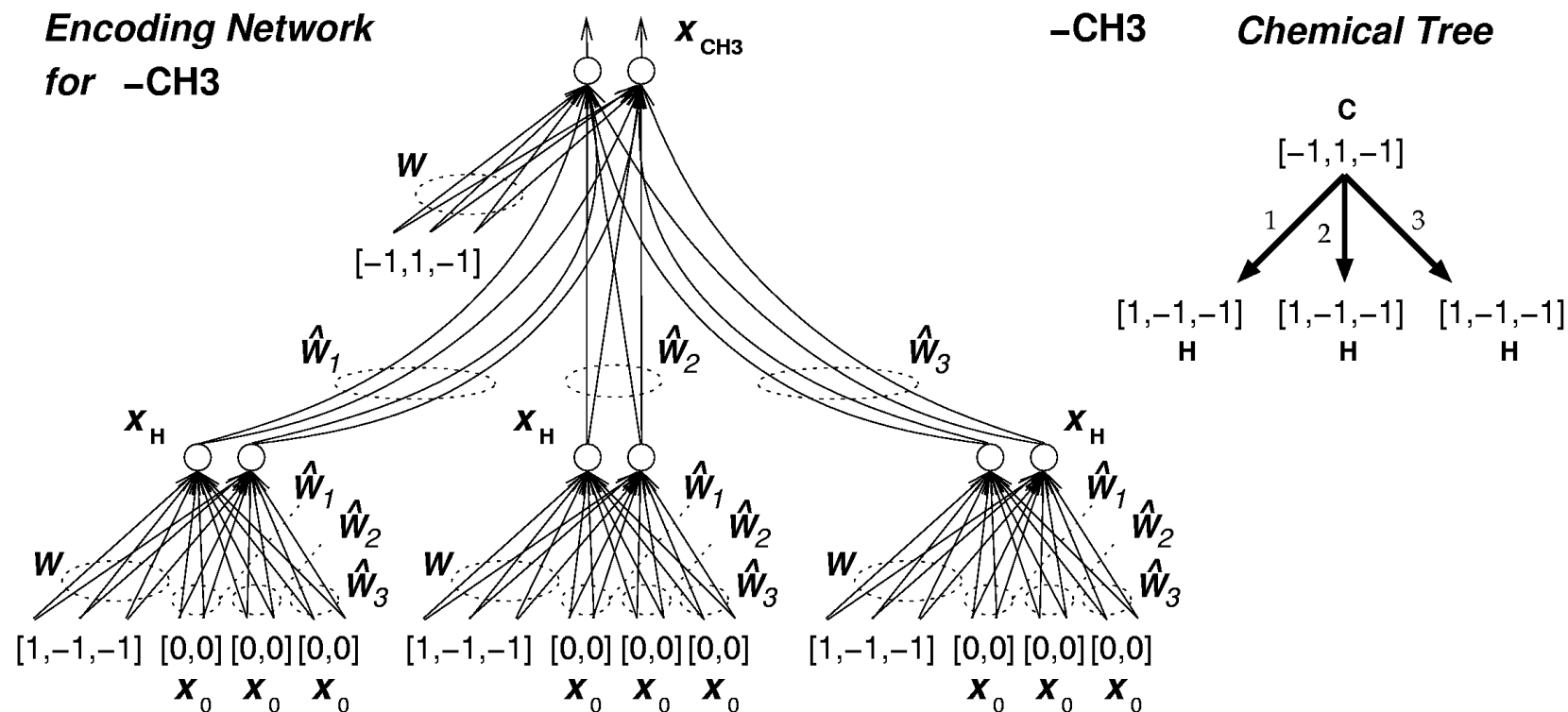


1 recursive neuron  
( $\tau_{NN}$  with  $\underline{m=1}$ )

Process a vertex  
# **feedbacks** = # **children**  
(max  $k$ )



# In details: Encoding Network with NN (I)

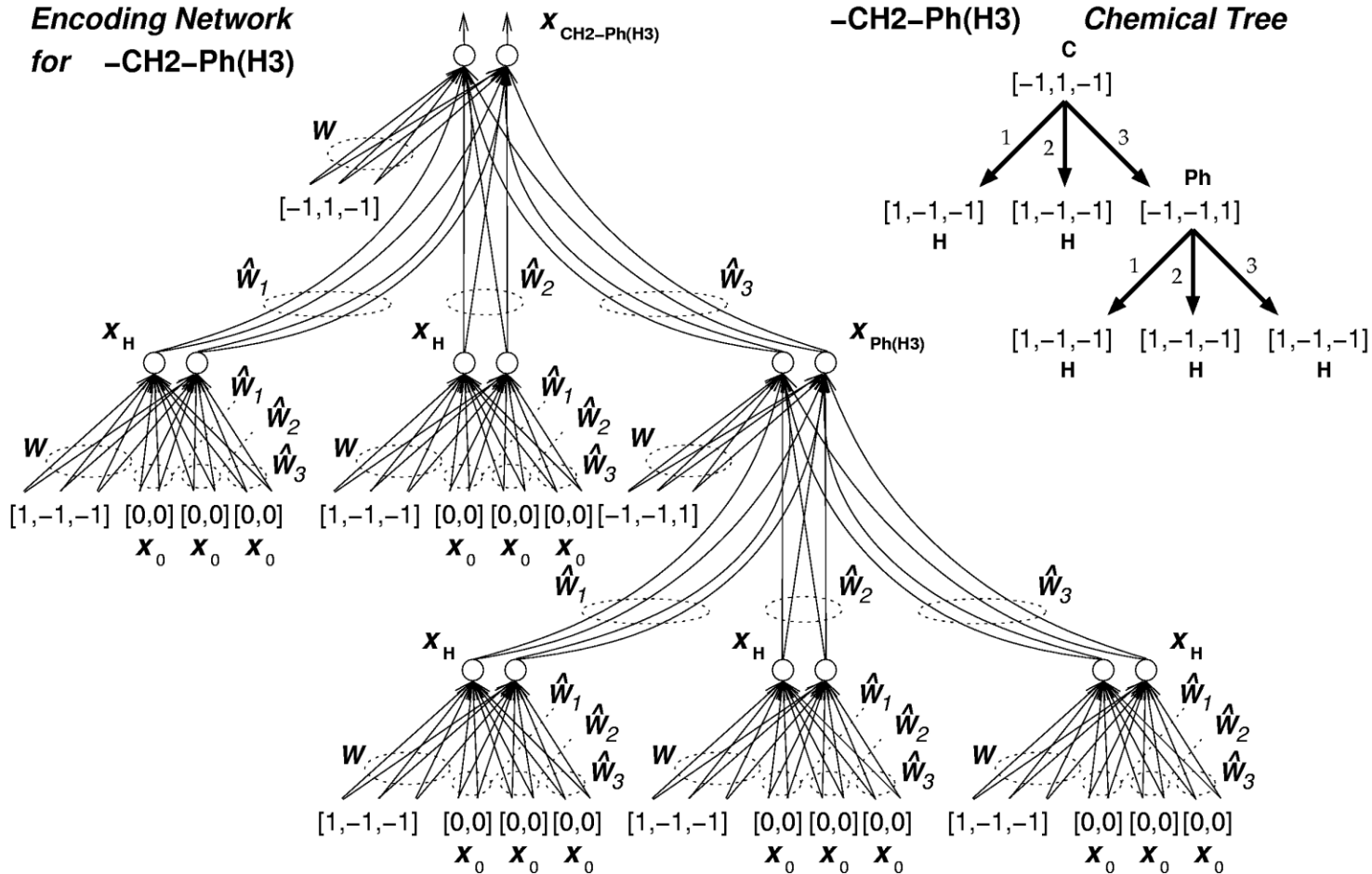


**Start here !**

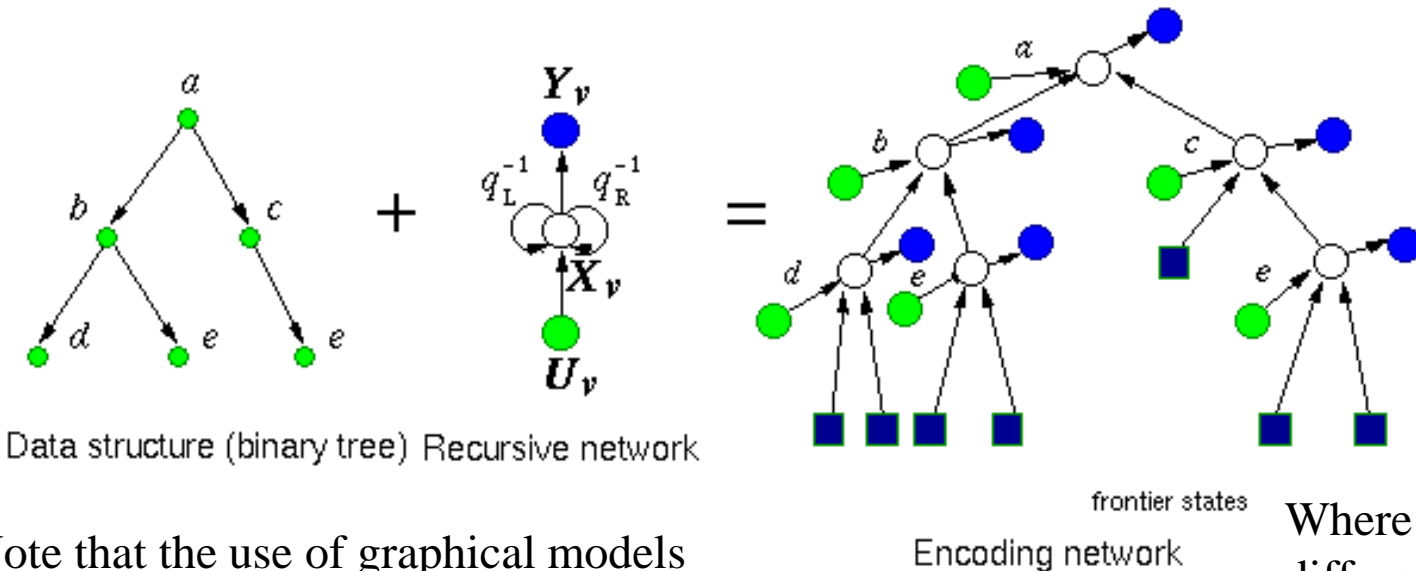
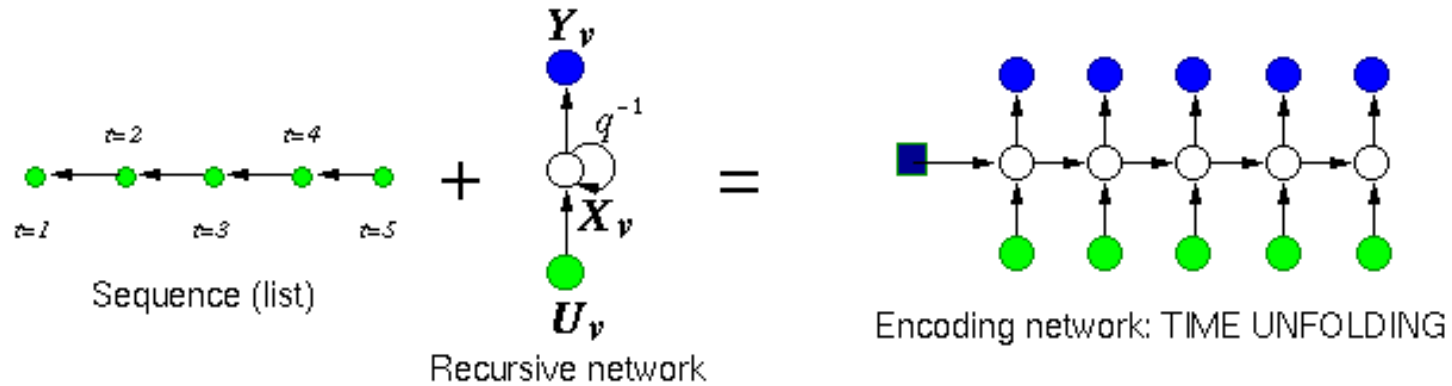
Tau (and **weight**) sharing : units are the same for the all the vertices of a tree and for all the trees in the data set!!!

# In details: Encoding Network with NN (II)

Encoding Network  
for  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-Ph}(\text{H}_3)$



# Recap: Unfolding 4. A different view by graphical models of the Encoding Networks for Seq. and Structures



Note that the use of graphical models make uniform the cases of NN (RNN & RecNN) and generative approaches (**HMM/HTreeMM**)

Where (from a different paper)

$$X_v \leftrightarrow x(v)$$

$$Y_v \leftrightarrow y(v)$$

$$U_v \leftrightarrow l(v)$$

# RecNN applications

- Representing **hierarchical** information in many real-world domains
- Many examples:
  - Molecular Biology
  - Document (**XML**) Processing
  - **Natural Language Processing**
    - E.g. Stanford NLP group shown the effectiveness of RecNN applied to tree representation of language (and images) data and tasks.
    - Sentiment Tree Bank
    - Next slides



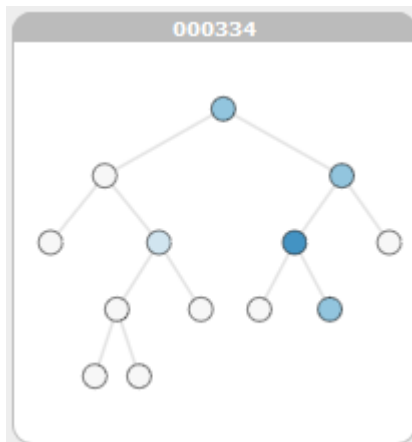
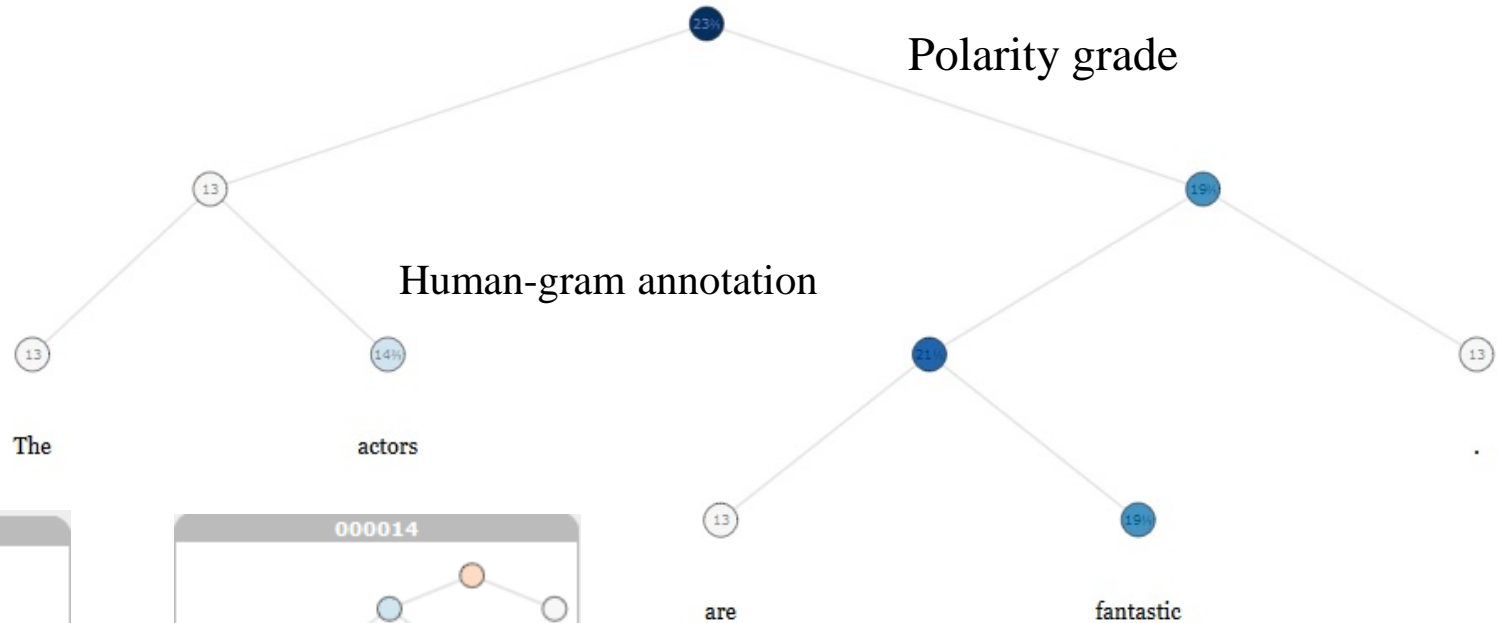
## Recent Applications:

### Repetita (da ML): RecNN for NLP recent exploitation

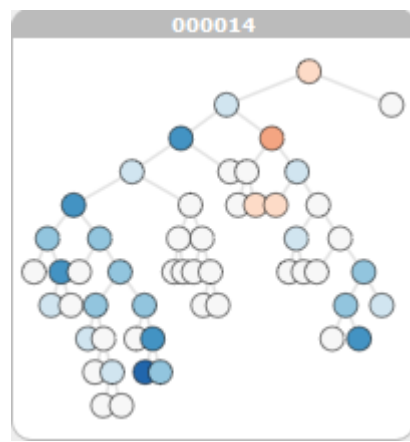
- Currently wide successful application in **NLP** (e.g. by the Stanford NLP group)
- Shown the effectiveness of RecursiveNN applied to tree representation of language (and images) data and tasks. Started in 2011-13
- E.g. Sentiment Treebank (about movies)
  - Sentiment labels (movies reviews) for 215,154 phrases in the **parse trees** of **11,855** sentences
  - Recursive NN pushes the state of the art in single sentence positive/negative classification from 80% up to 85.4%.

# Repetita (da ML): Examples

000027



...



Other instances in the dataset

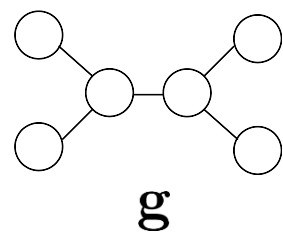


# Learning Aims (transductions)

- **Parametric** :  $T_G$  depends on tunable parameters  $W$ .
- With different possible aims:

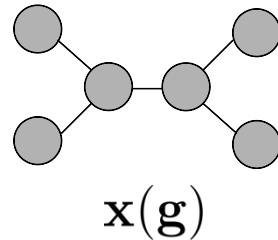
## Structure-to-Structure

(Input-Output isomorph)



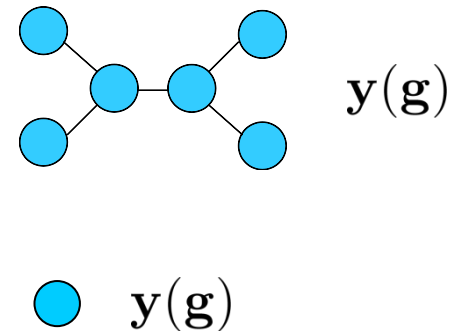
Input graph

$T_{enc}$



Possible internal  
representation/encoding

**Node/Graph embedding**



## Structure-to-Scalar/Element

(regression/classification)



Or (in general) it can also  
be **non-isomorphic**

# RNN Learning Algorithms

- Backpropagation through structure: Extension of BPTT  
Goller & Küchler (1996)
  - Simple to understand using graphical formalism (backprop+weight sharing on the unfolded net) :
  - *The notation is adapted to the case of delta from the fathers*
- RTRL Sperduti & Starita (1997),
- ✓ Equations: See Cap 19 in  
Kolen, Kremer , *A Field Guide to **Dynamical Recurrent Networks***.  
IEEE press 2001
- RCC family based: next slides

# Learning in Structured Domain

## Plan in 2 lectures

### 1. Recurrent and Recursive Neural Networks

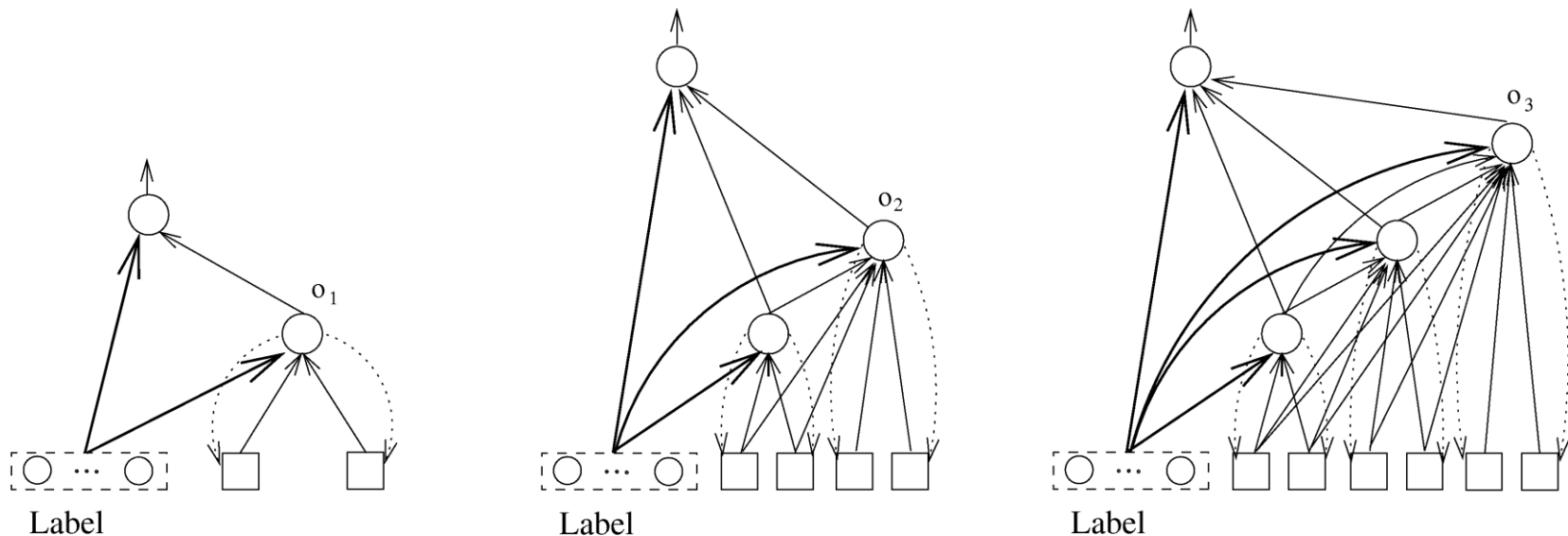
Extensions of models for learning in structured domains

- Motivation and examples (structured data)
- The structured data (recursive)
- Recursive models: RNN and RecNN
- **Recursive Cascade Correlation & other recursive approaches**

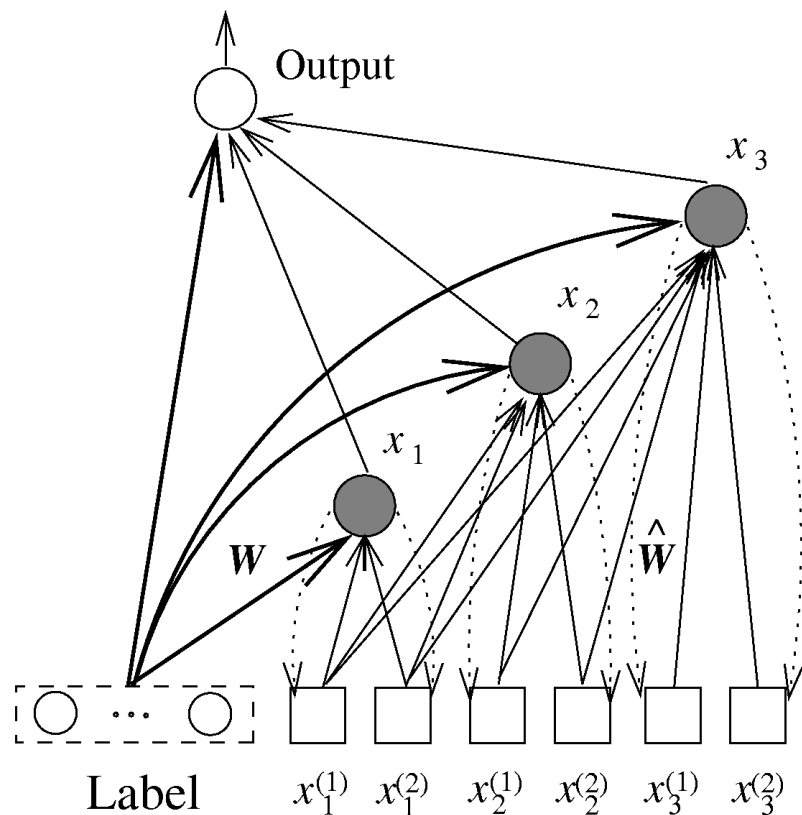
### 2. Moving to DPAG and Graphs: the role of causality [Next Lecture (SD-2)]

# RCC (I)

- Architecture of Cascade Correlation for Structure (Recursive Cascade Correlation - RCC)
- We realize RNN by RCC: **constructive approach**  $\Rightarrow m$  is automatically computed by the training algorithm.
- *A deep neural network!*



# RCC (II)



Architecture of a RCC with 3 hidden units ( $\mathbf{m}=3$ ) and  $\mathbf{k}=2$ . Recursive hidden units (shaded) generate the code of the input graph (function  $\tau_E$ ). The hidden units are added to the network during the training. The box elements are used to store the output of the hidden units, i.e. the code  $x_i^{(j)}$  that represent the context according to the graph topology.

The output unit realize the function  $\mathbf{g}$  and produce the final prediction value.

E.G. A.M. Bianucci, A. Micheli, A. Sperduti, A. Starita.  
*Application of Cascade Correlation Networks for Structures to Chemistry*,  
 Applied Intelligence Journal. 12 (1/2): 117-146, 2000

## RCC (III) Learning

Gradient descent: interleaving LMS (output) and maximization of correlation between new hidden units and residual error. Main difference with CC: calculation of the following derivatives by recurrent equations:

$$\frac{\partial x_h^{(v)}}{\partial w_{hi}^j} = \frac{\partial \tau_h(\mathbf{l}, \mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(k)})}{\partial w_{hi}^j} = f' \left( l_i + \sum_{t=1}^k \hat{w}_{hh}^t \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_h^{(t)}}{\partial w_{hi}^j} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial x_h^{(v)}}{\partial \hat{w}_{hi}^j} = \frac{\partial \tau_h(\mathbf{l}, \mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(k)})}{\partial \hat{w}_{hi}^j} = f' \left( \mathbf{x}_i^{(j)} + \sum_{t=1}^k \hat{w}_{hh}^t \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_h^{(t)}}{\partial \hat{w}_{hi}^j} \right)$$

where  $\mathbf{x}^{(j)} = \mathbf{x}(\text{ch}_j[v])$

**Note:** simplification (of the sum on other units) due to the architecture difference with the RTRL for a fully connected RNN!

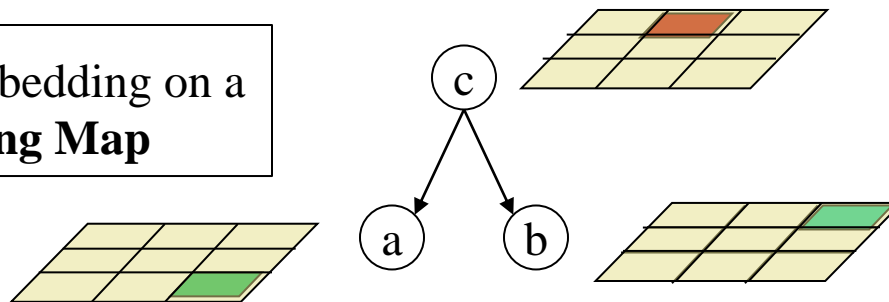
But compared to the recurrent case it *appears the summation on children!*



# Unsupervised recursive models (2003-2005)

- Transfer *recursive* idea to unsupervised learning
- No prior metric/pre-processing (but still bias!)
- Evolution of the similarity measure through *recursive comparison* of sub-structures
- Iteratively compared via bottom-up *encoding* process

Recursive nodes embedding on a  
**Self-Organizing Map**



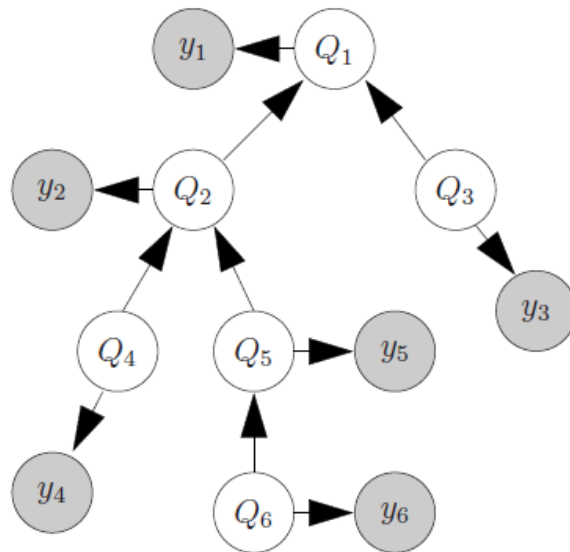
It uses e.g. the SOM coordinates for node embedding

M. Hagenbuchner et al. IEEE TNN, 2003

B. Hammer et al. Neural Networks, 2005

# Generative: HTMM (2012-2018)

- E.g **Bottom-up Hidden Tree Markov Models** extend HMM to trees exploiting the recursive approach

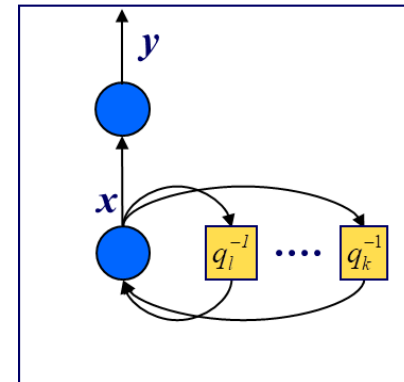


- Generative process from the leaves to the root
- Markov assumption (conditional dependence)  
 $Q_{ch1}(u), \dots, Q_{chK}(u) \rightarrow Q_u$

**Children to parent hidden state transition**  
 $P(Q_u | Q_{ch1}(u), \dots, Q_{chK}(u))$

Where (from a different paper)  
 $Q_v \leftrightarrow x(v)$

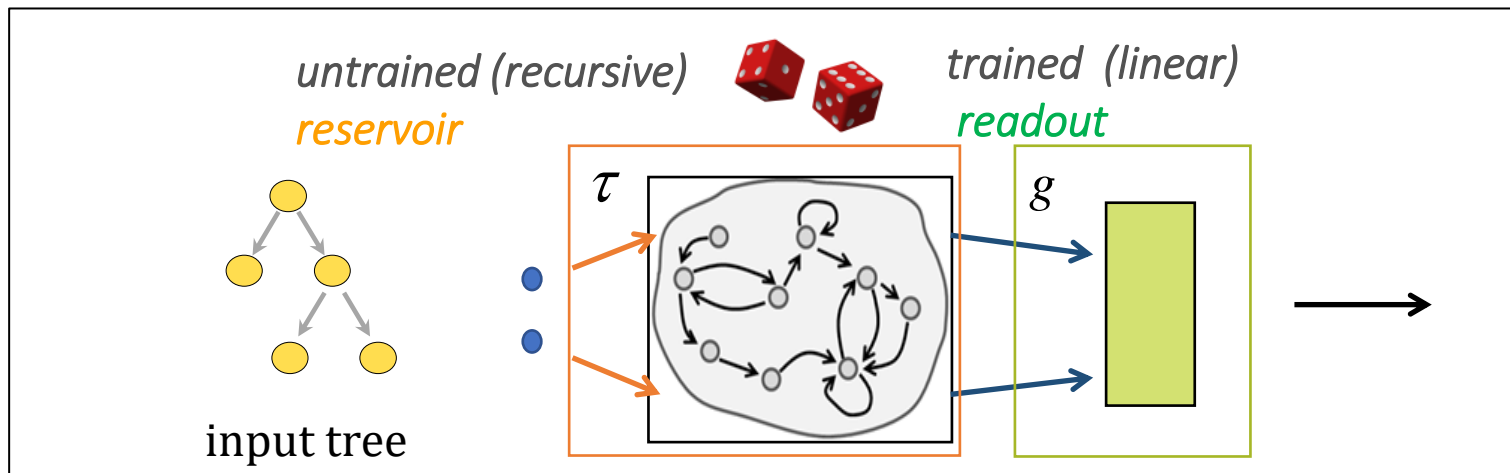
Bayesian network unfolding graphical model over the input trees;  $y$ : observed elements  
 $Q$ : hidden states variables with discrete values



**Issue:** how decompose this joint state transition? (see ref.).

# Efficient: TreeESN (2010-13)

- Combine **Reservoir Computing** (un-trained layer of recurrent units with linear readout) and **recursive modeling**
  - Extend the **applicability** of the **RC/ESN approach** to tree structured data
  - **Extremely efficient** way of modeling RecNNs (randomized approaches)
  - Architectural and experimental performance **baseline** for trained RecNN models with often competitive results.



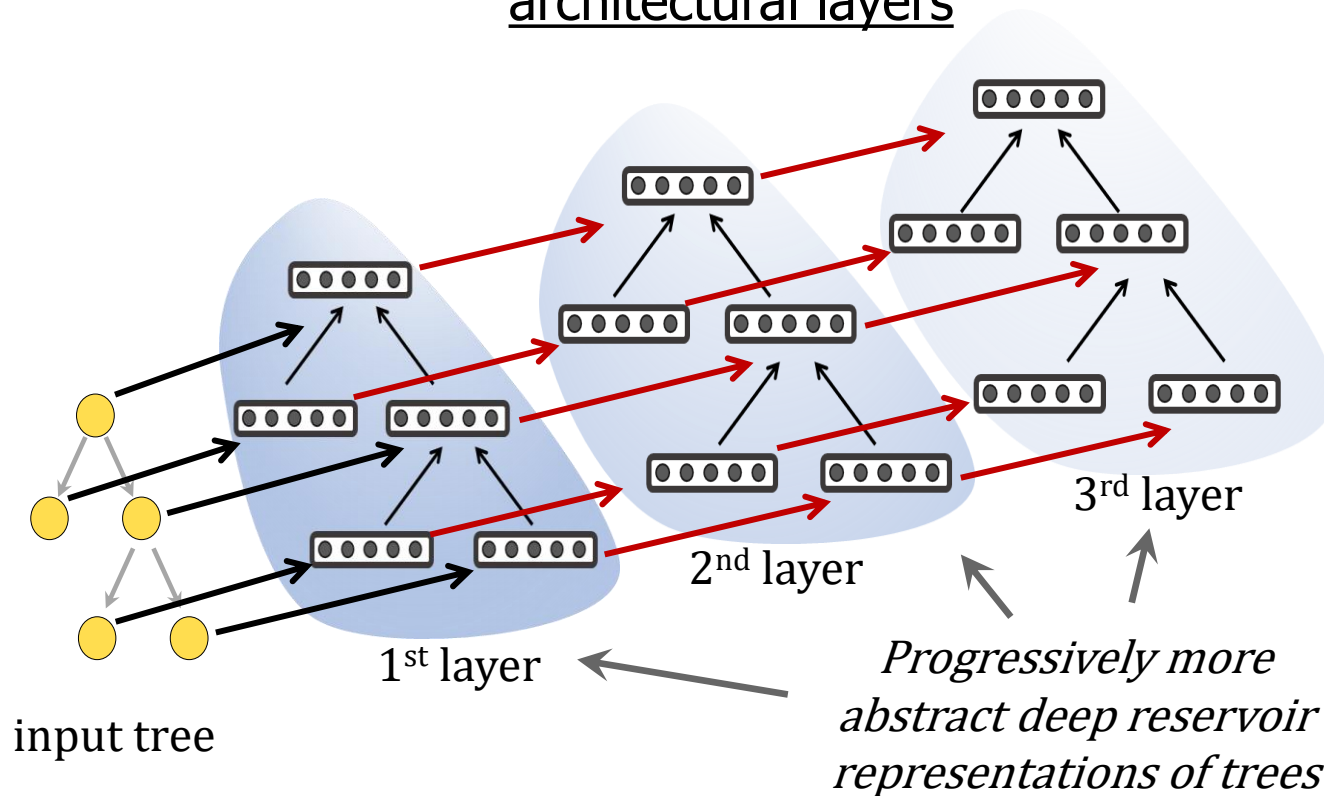
***The recursive process of RecNN made by efficient RC approaches***

C. Gallicchio, A. Micheli. Neurocomputing, 2013.

**More in a NEXT LECTURE**

# Deep: Deep Tree ESN (2018)

Hierarchical abstraction **both** through the input structure and architectural layers



- Pro:
1. Rec NN adv.s
  2. Deep learning abstraction (even before training: arch. bias)
  3. Extremely efficient

- Improve efficiency (giving same #units) by a factor = num. of layers
- Improve results

# Learning in Structured Domain

## Plan in 2 lectures

### 1. Recurrent and Recursive Neural Networks

Extensions of models for learning in structured domains

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- Recursive models: RNN and RecNN
- Recursive Cascade Correlation & other recursive approaches

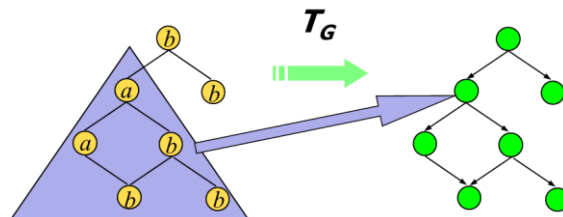
### 2. Moving to DPAG and Graphs: the role of causality [Next Lecture (SD-2)]

**Toward next lecture**

# RecNN Analysis

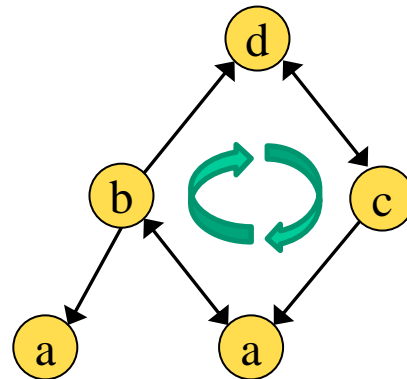
- RecNNs allow adaptive representation of SD
  - handling of variability by causality and stationarity
  - **Adaptive** transduction: BPTS, RTRL, ....
- **Stationarity:**
  - efficacy solution to parsimony (reducing the number of parameters) without reducing expressive power

- **Causality:** affects the computational power !
  - RNN are only able to memorize past information (sub-sequences)
  - RecNN outputs depend only on sub-structures
  - The domain is restricted to sequences and trees due to causality
  - Toward partial relaxation (or **extension**) of the causality assumption



# Graphs by NN?

- For Graphs by NN: see next lecture!
- Following a journey through the causality assumption!

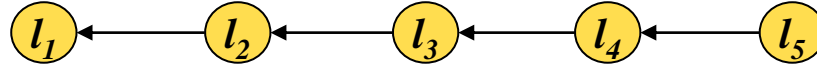


How to deal with cycles  
and causality?

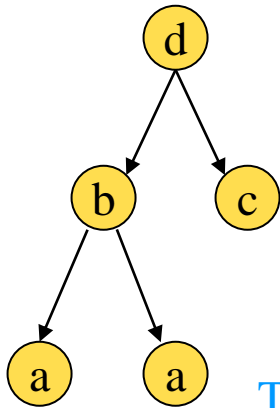
# MODELS panorama for SD (examples)



Standard ML models for  
flat data

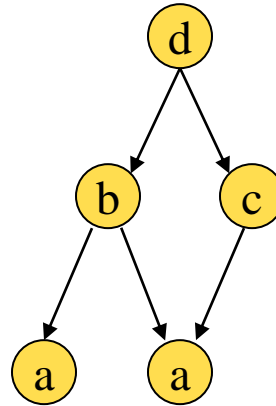


- Recurrent NN/ESN
- HMM
- Kernel for strings ...



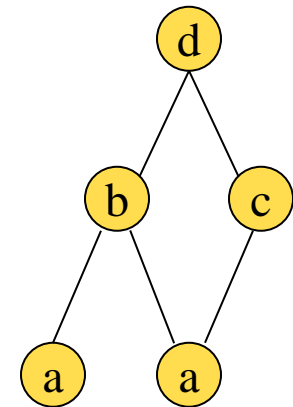
Tree:

- Recursive NN
- Tree ESN
- HTMM
- Tree Kernels
- ...



DPAG:

- CRCC



- GNN/GraphESN
- NN4G
- Graph Kernels
- SRL
- ...

See references for models in the bibliography slides (later)



# Bibliography: aims

Different parts in the following:

- Basic/Fundamentals
- \* Possible topic for seminars
- May be useful also for future studies
  - Many topics can be subject of study and development
  - Many many works in literature (arrive continuously)!
  - Many possible topics for demand and possible thesis
  - **More bibliography on demand:** [micheli@di.unipi.it](mailto:micheli@di.unipi.it)

# Bibliografia (Basic, origins of RecNN)

## RecNN

- A. Sperduti, A. Starita. *Supervised Neural Networks for the Classification of Structures*, IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks. Vol. 8, n. 3, pp. 714-735, 1997.
- P. Frasconi, M. Gori, and A. Sperduti, *A General Framework for Adaptive Processing of Data Structures*, IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks. Vol. 9, No. 5, pp. 768-786, 1998.
- A.M. Bianucci, A. Micheli, A. Sperduti, A. Starita. *Application of Cascade Correlation Networks for Structures to Chemistry*, Applied Intelligence Journal (Kluwer Academic Publishers), Special Issue on "Neural Networks and Structured Knowledge" Vol. 12 (1/2): 117-146, 2000.
- A. Micheli, A. Sperduti, A. Starita, A.M. Bianucci. *A Novel Approach to QSPR/QSAR Based on Neural Networks for Structures*, Chapter in Book : "Soft Computing Approaches in Chemistry", pp. 265-296, H. Cartwright, L. M. Sztandera, Eds., Springer-Verlag, Heidelberg, March 2003.

# Bibliography: NN approaches-2

## \* UNSUPERVISED RecursiveNN

- B. Hammer, A. Micheli, M. Strickert, A. Sperduti.  
*A General Framework for Unsupervised Processing of Structured Data*, Neurocomputing (Elsevier Science) Volume 57, Pages 3-35, March 2004.
- B. Hammer, A. Micheli, A. Sperduti, M. Strickert.  
Recursive Self-organizing Network Models. *Neural Networks*, Elsevier Science. Volume 17, Issues 8-9, Pages 1061-1085, October-November 2004.

## \* TreeESN: efficient RecNN

- C. Gallicchio, A. Micheli.  
*Tree Echo State Networks*, Neurocomputing, volume 101, pag. 319-337, 2013.
- C. Gallicchio, A. Micheli.  
*Deep Reservoir Neural Networks for Trees*. *Information Sciences* 480, 174-193, 2019.

## \* HTMM: further developments (generative)

- D. Bacciu, A. Micheli and A. Sperduti.  
*Compositional Generative Mapping for Tree-Structured Data - Part I: Bottom-Up Probabilistic Modeling of Trees*, *IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems*, vol. 23, no. 12, pp. 1987-2002, 2012

# Bibliography: RecNN applications (example)

\* NLP applications (that you can extend with recent instances, and relate them to the general RecNN framework present in this lecture and the basic RecNN bibliography references )

- R. Socher, C.C. Lin, C. Manning, A.Y. Ng,  
*Parsing natural scenes and natural language with recursive neural networks*,  
Proceedings of the 28th international conference on machine learning (ICML-11)
- R. Socher, A. Perelygin, J.Y. Wu, J. Chuang, C.D. Manning, A.Y. Ng, C.P. Potts,  
*Recursive Deep Models for Semantic Compositionality Over a Sentiment Treebank*  
Proceedings of the 2013 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing, pages 1631–1642, Seattle, Washington, USA, 18-21 October 2013

## Bibliography: for the next lecture

### \* RecNN for DPAGs : how to extend the domain (I)

- A. Micheli, D. Sona, A. Sperduti.  
*Contextual Processing of Structured Data by Recursive Cascade Correlation*. IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks. Vol. 15, n. 6, Pages 1396- 1410, November 2004.
- Hammer, A. Micheli, and A. Sperduti.  
*Universal Approximation Capability of Cascade Correlation for Structures*. Neural Computation. Vol. 17, No. 5, Pages 1109-1159, (C) 2005 MIT press.

### \* NN for GRAPH DATA: how to extend the domain (II)

- \* A. Micheli. *Neural network for graphs: a contextual constructive approach*, IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks, volume 20 (3), pag. 498-511, doi: 10.1109/TNN.2008.2010350, 2009.
- C. Gallicchio, A. Micheli. *Graph Echo State Networks*, Proceedings of the International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN), pages 1–8, 2010.
- F. Scarselli, M. Gori, A.C.Tsoi, M. Hagenbuchner, G. Monfardini. *The graph neural network model*, IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks, 20(1), pag. 61–80, 2009.

***DRAFT, please do not circulate!***

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**Computational Intelligence &  
Machine Learning Group**