

# **The Science of Prediction**

**with**

## **Neural Networks**

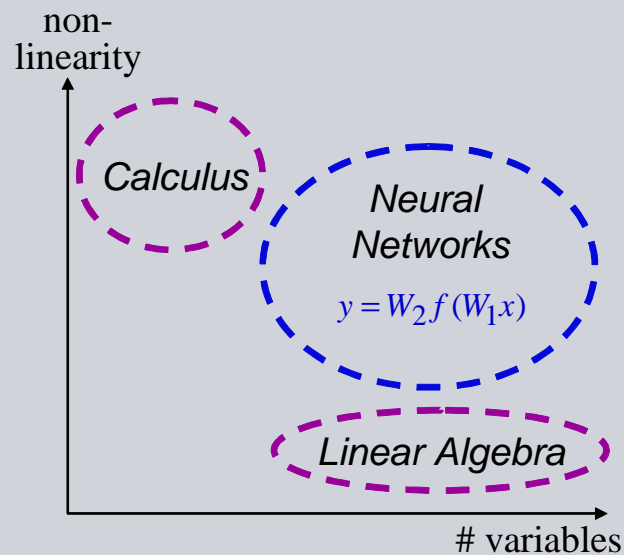
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# Mathematical Neural Networks

## Complex Systems



### Existence Theorem:

(Hornik, Stinchcombe, White 1989)

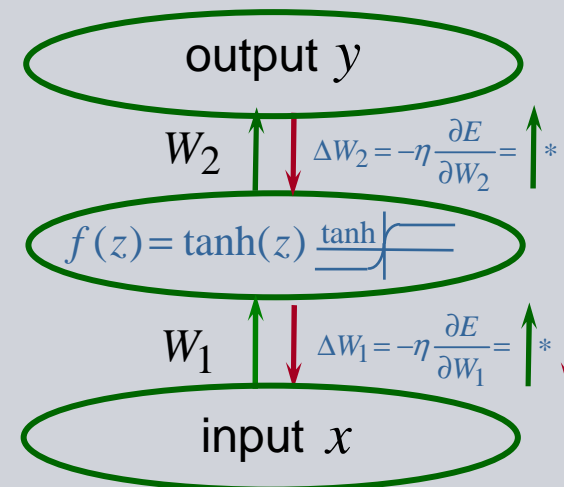
3-layer neural networks can approximate any continuous function on a compact domain.

## Nonlinear Regression

Based on data identify an input-output relation

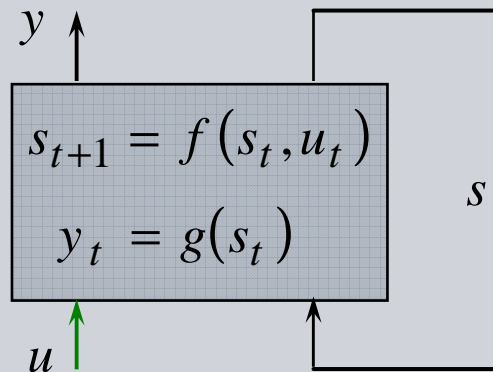
$$y = W_2 f(W_1 x)$$

$$E = \sum_{t=1}^T (y_t - y_t^d)^2 \rightarrow \min_{W_1, W_2}$$



Neural networks imply a **Correspondence** of *Equations, Architectures, Local Algorithms*.

## Modeling of Open Dynamical Systems with Recurrent Neural Networks (RNN)



$$s_{t+1} = \tanh(As_t + Bu_t)$$

state transition

$$y_t = Cs_t$$

output equation

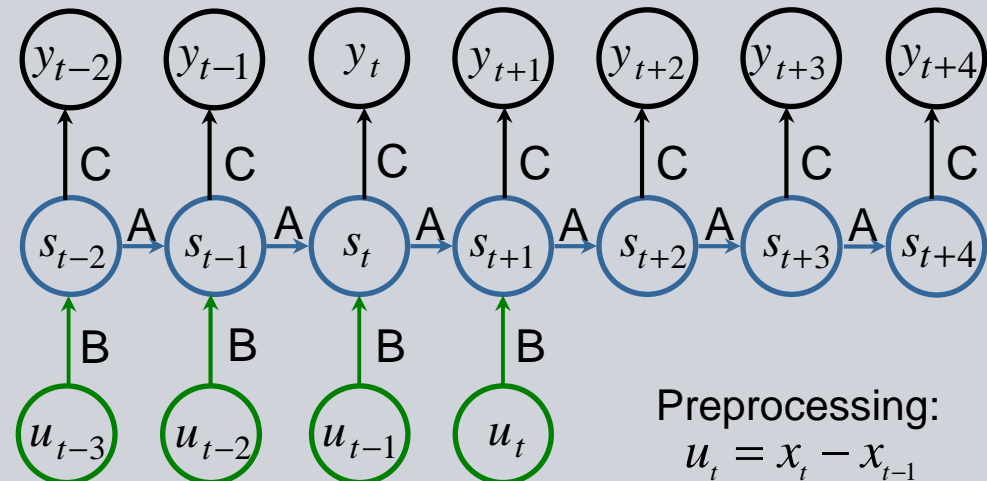
$$\sum_{t=1}^T (y_t - y_t^d)^2 \rightarrow \min_{A, B, C}$$

identification

*Finite unfolding in time* transforms time into a spatial architecture. We assume, that  $x_t = \text{const}$  in the future.

The analysis of open systems by RNNs allows a decomposition of its **autonomous** & **external driven** subsystems.

Long-term predictability depends on a strong autonomous subsystem.



Preprocessing:

$$u_t = x_t - x_{t-1}$$

## Modeling Dynamical Systems with Error Correction Neural Networks (ECNN)

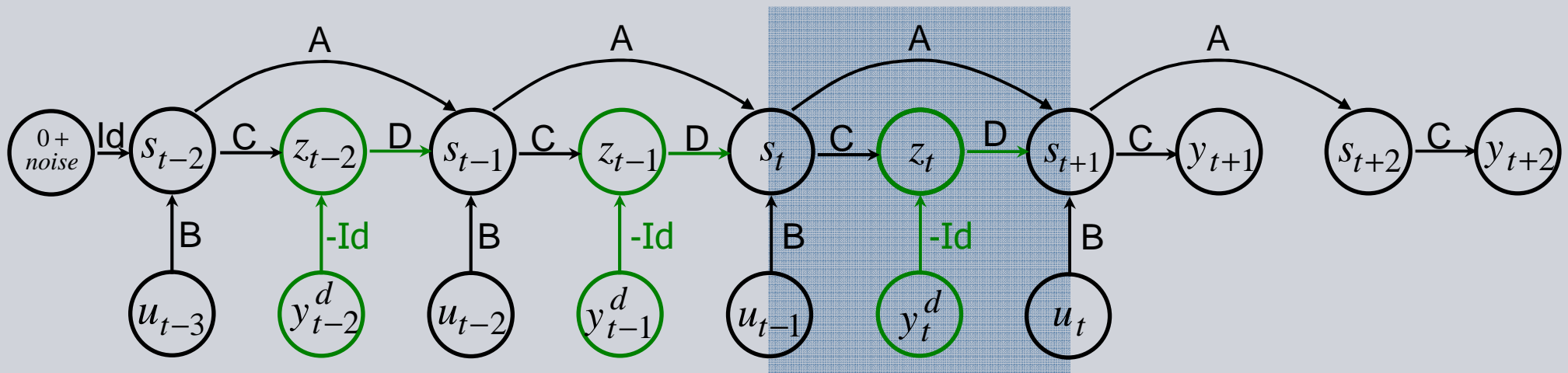
An error correction system considers the forecast error in present time as a reaction on unknown external information.

In order to correct the forecasting this error is used as an additional input, which substitutes the unknown external information.

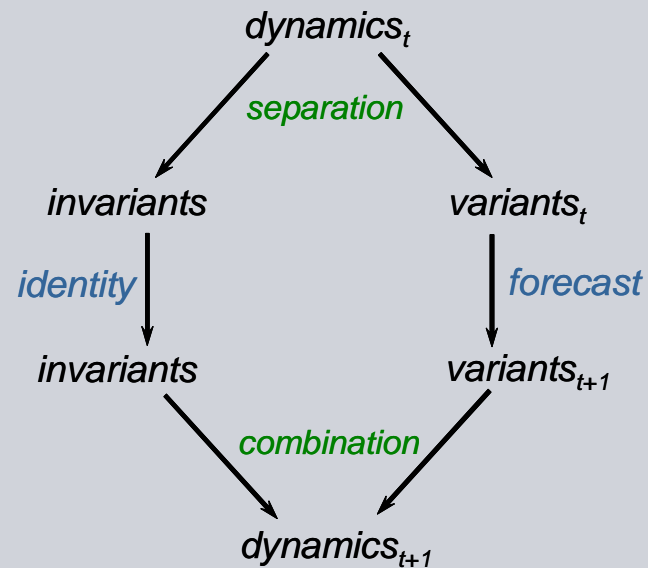
$$s_{t+1} = f(s_t, u_t, (y_t - y_t^d))$$

$$y_t = g(s_t)$$

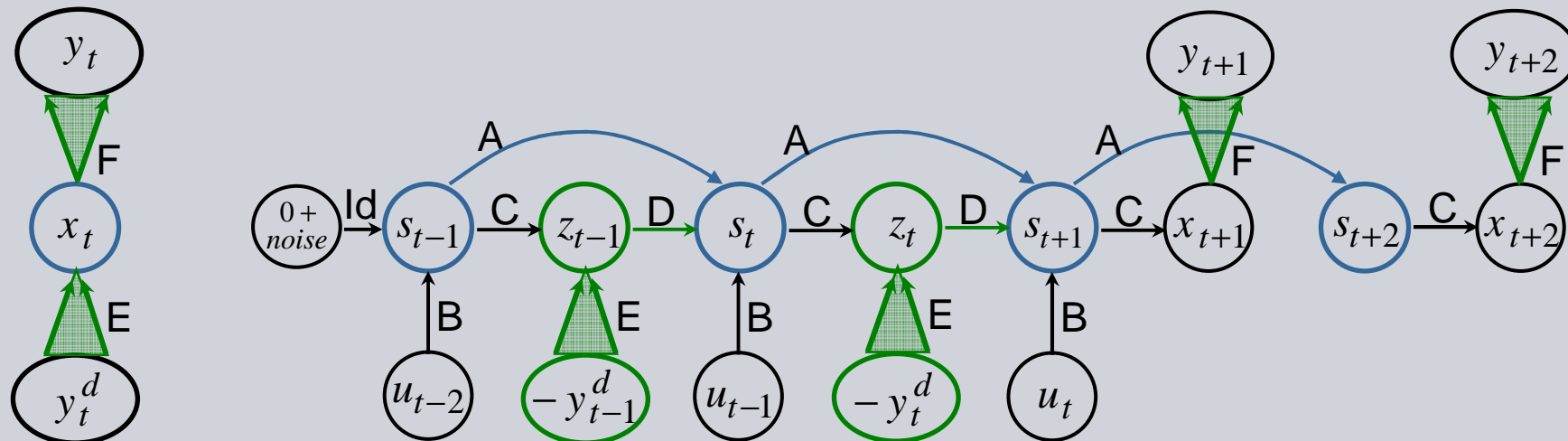
$$\sum_{t=1}^T (y_t - y_t^d)^2 \rightarrow \min_{f,g}$$



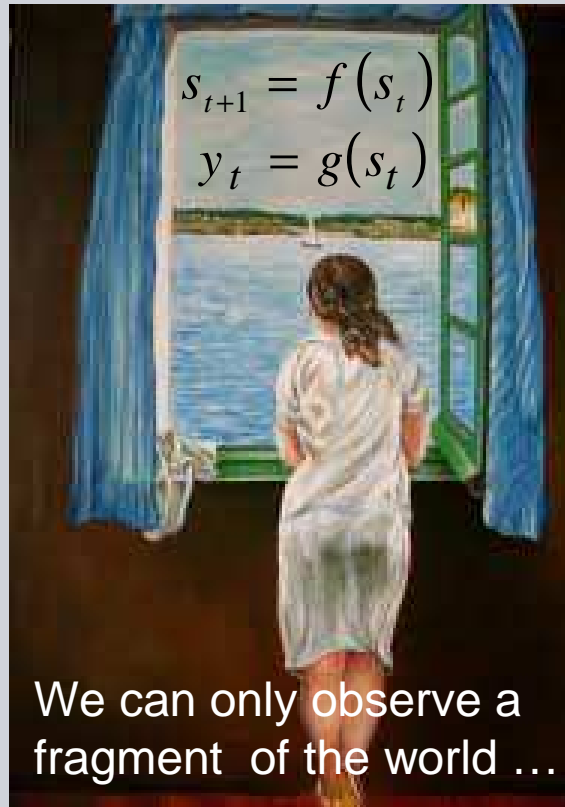
# Combining Variance - Invariance Separation with ECNN



- The **bottleneck autoassociator** solves the variance - invariance decomposition.
- The **Error Correction Neural Network** solves the transformed temporal problem.
- The sub-networks are implicitly coupled by shared weights.



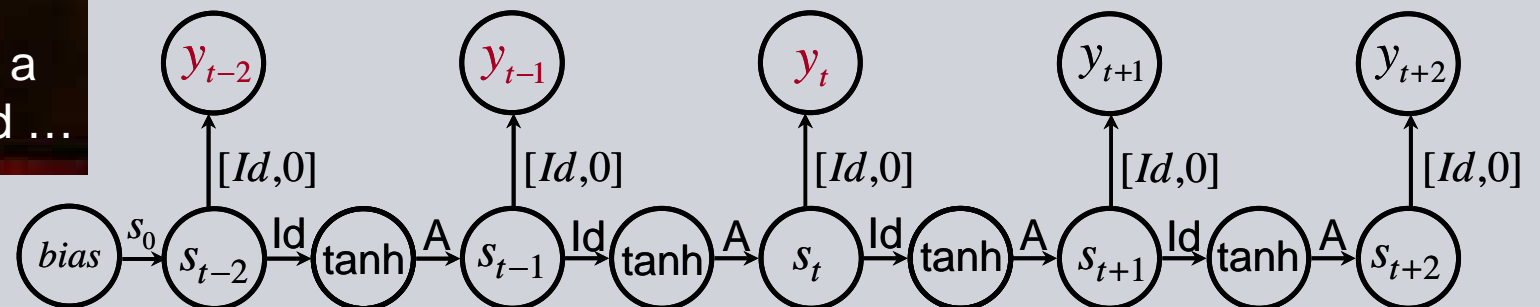
# Modeling Closed Dynamical Systems with Recurrent Neural Networks



$$s_{t+1} = A \tanh(s_t) \quad , s_0 \quad \text{state transition}$$

$$y_t = [Id, 0]s_t \quad \text{output equation}$$

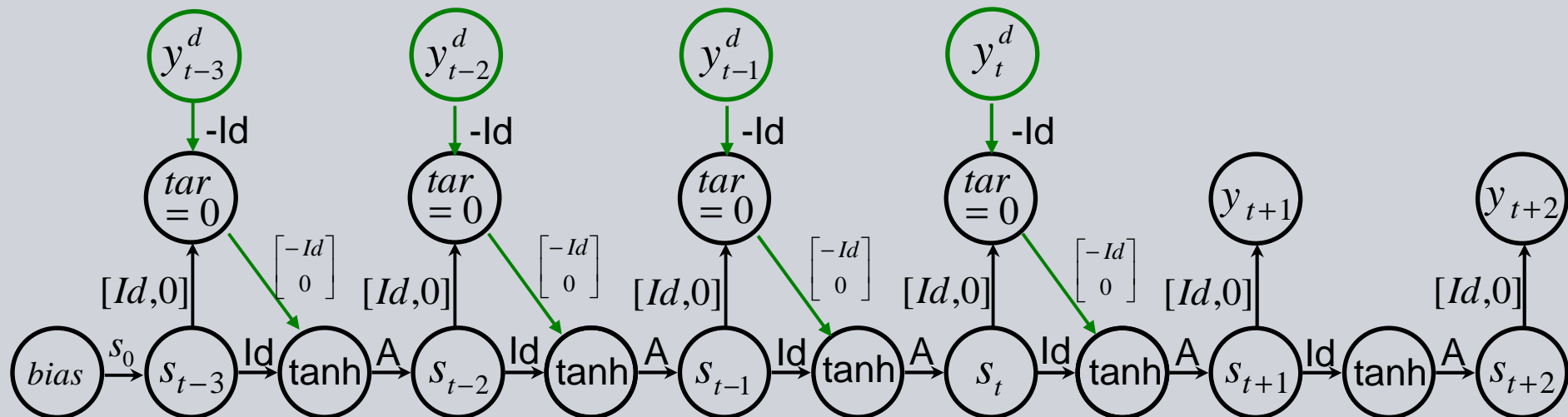
$$\sum_{t=1}^T (y_t - y_t^d)^2 \rightarrow \min_{A, s_0} \quad \text{identification}$$



... but to understand the dynamics of the observables, we have to reconstruct at least a part of the hidden states of the world. Forecasting is based on observables and hidden states.

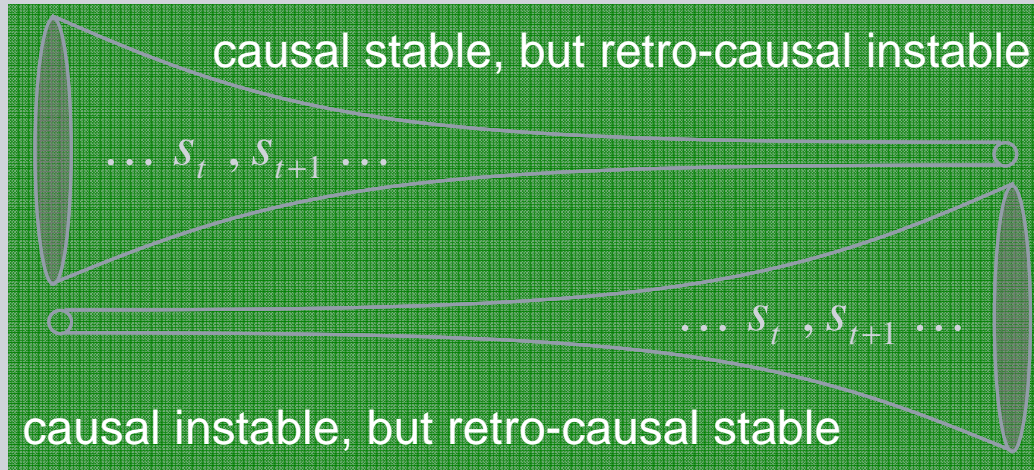
## The Identification of Dynamical Systems in Closed Form

Embed the original architecture into a larger architecture, which is easier to learn. After the training, the extended architecture has to converge to the original model.



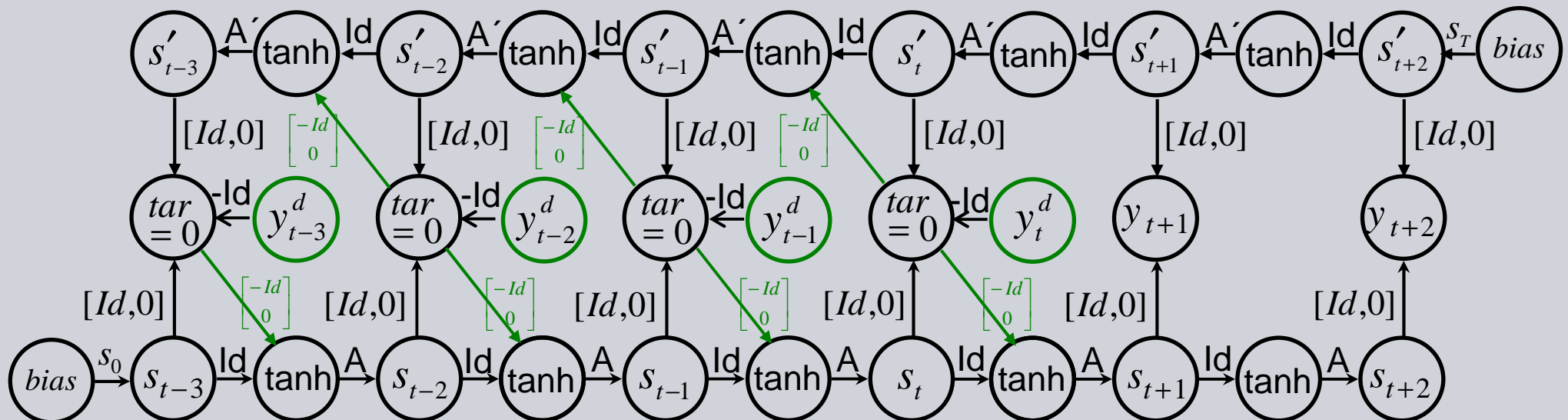
The essential task is NOT to reproduce the past observations, but to identify related hidden variables, which make the dynamics of the observables reasonable.

## Decomposition of the Dynamics in Stable & Instable Parts of CRCNN



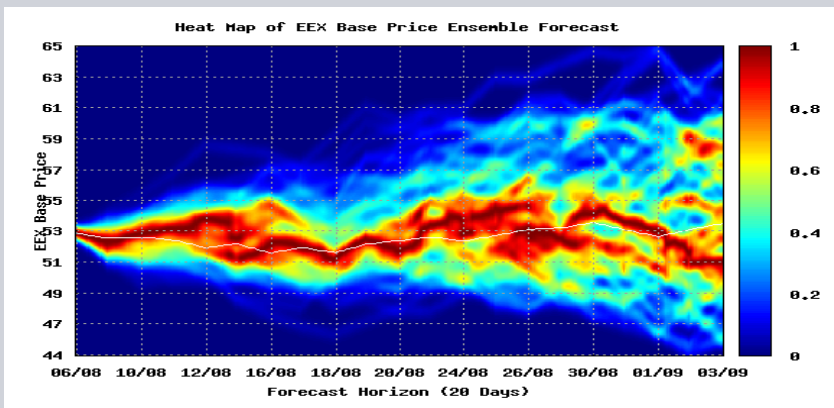
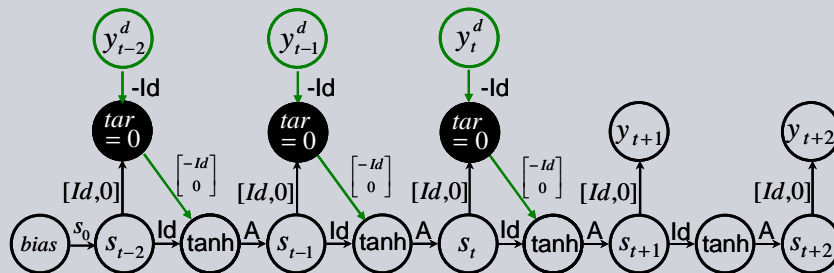
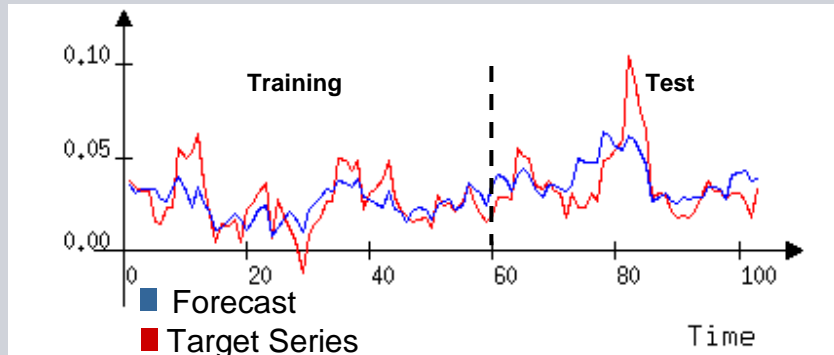
The tubes describe possible ensembles of instable trajectories.

If we have a causal instable (chaotic) sub dynamics, it is retro-causal stable and vice versa. Learning automatically should enforce a decomposition such that the causal and the retro-causal branch are both stable.





## Approaches to Model Uncertainty in Forecasting



1 Measure uncertainty as volatility (variance) of the target series. The underlying forecast model is a constant. Thus  $\sin(\omega t)$  can be highly uncertain!??

2 Build a forecast model. The error is interpreted as uncertainty in form of additive noise. The width of the uncertainty channel is constant over time.

3 Describe uncertainty as a diffusion process (random walk). The diffusion channel widens over time, e.g. scaled by the one-step model error.

For large systems 2 & 3 fail: We have to learn to zero error  $\rightarrow$  the uncertainty channel disappears.

4 One large model doesn't allow to analyze forecast uncertainty, but an ensemble forecast shows the characteristics of an uncertainty channel: Given a finite set of data, there exist many perfect models of the past data, showing different future scenarios caused by different estimations of the hidden states.

## On Model Building ...

Start with a simple = universal framework



Add reasonable a priori structure



Add data



Interpret the a posteriori model causality

e.g.

- neural networks
- others ...

e.g.

- monotonic input-output relations
- diversity / similarity analysis
- dynamical systems
- dynamics on manifolds
- linearity

e.g.

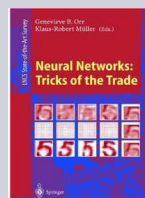
- temporal / cross sectional
- continuous / ordered / nominal

on past data we can detect correlations only, their interpretation as causality is an intellectual insight, supported by prediction

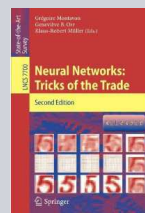
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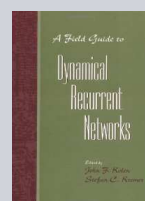
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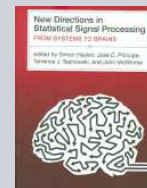
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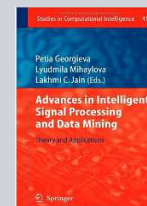
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