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NLP

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Transfer learning with neural language models

CS 685, Spring 2020

Advanced Natural Language Processing

Mohit Iyyer

College of Information and Computer Sciences
University of Massachusetts Amherst

many slides from Jacob Devlin & Matt Peters

Stuff from last time...

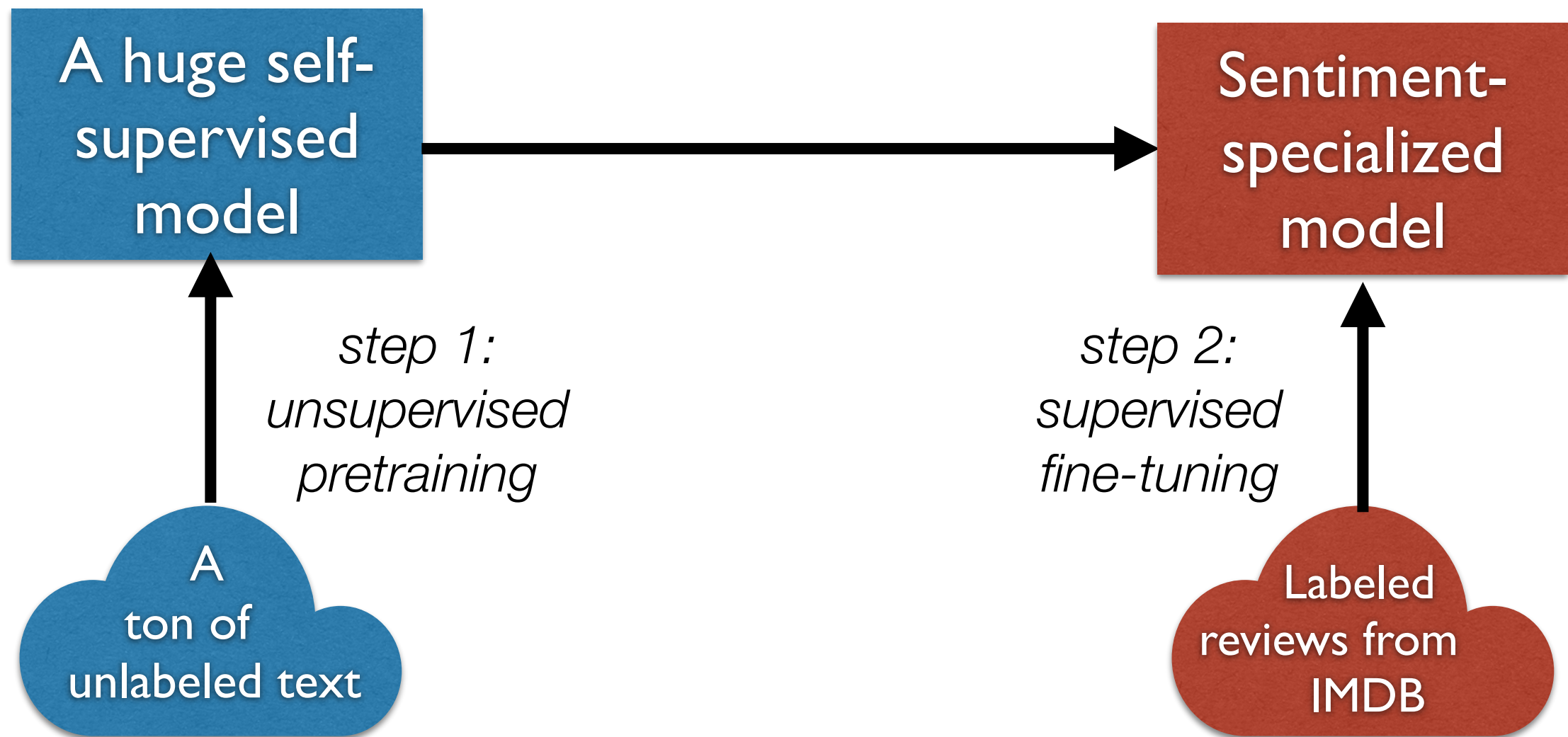
- Project proposals due 9/21, please use Overleaf template
- Still working on making the next homework computationally feasible on Colab, look out for it next week
- Please ask other questions (about logistics / material / etc) in the chatbox!

Do NNs really need millions of labeled examples?

- Can we leverage *unlabeled* data to cut down on the number of labeled examples we need?

What is transfer learning?

- **In our context:** take a network trained on a task for which it is easy to generate labels, and adapt it to a different task for which it is harder.
- **In computer vision:** train a CNN on ImageNet, transfer its representations to every other CV task
- **In NLP:** train a really big language model on billions of words, transfer to every NLP task!



language models for transfer learning

Deep contextualized word representations. Peters et al., NAACL 2018

Previous methods (e.g., word2vec) represent each word type with a **single vector**

play = [0.2, -0.1, 0.5, ...]

bank = [-0.3, 1.4, 0.7, ...]

run = [-0.5, -0.3, -0.1, ...]

NNs are then used to compose those vectors over longer sequences

Single vector per word

The new-look *play* area is due to be completed by early spring 2010 .

Single vector per word

Gerrymandered congressional districts favor representatives who *play* to the party base .

Single vector per word

The freshman then completed the three-point *play* for a 66-63 lead .

Nearest neighbors

play = [0.2, -0.1, 0.5, ...]

Nearest Neighbors

playing
game
games
played
players

plays
player
Play
football
multiplayer

Multiple senses entangled

play = [0.2, -0.1, 0.5, ...]

Nearest Neighbors

playing
game
games
played
players

VERB

plays
player
Play
football
multiplayer

Multiple senses entangled

play = [0.2, -0.1, 0.5, ...]

Nearest Neighbors

playing
game
games
played
players

VERB
NOUN

plays
player
Play
football
multiplayer

Multiple senses entangled

play = [0.2, -0.1, 0.5, ...]

Nearest Neighbors

playing
game
games
played
players

VERB

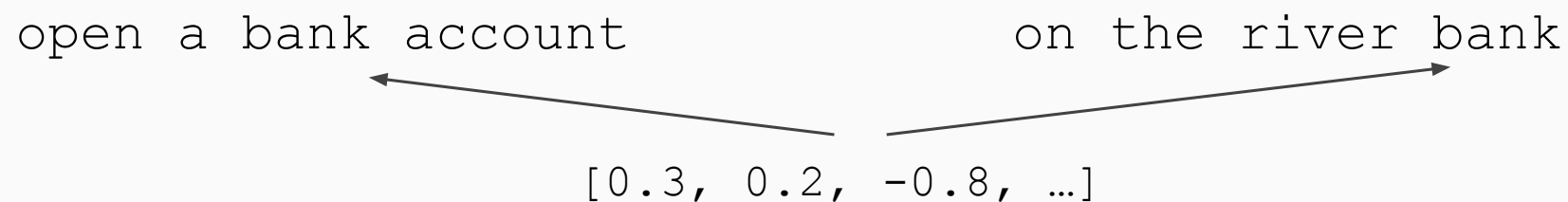
NOUN

ADJ

plays
player
Play
football
multiplayer

Contextual Representations

- **Problem:** Word embeddings are applied in a context free manner



- **Solution:** Train *contextual* representations on text corpus

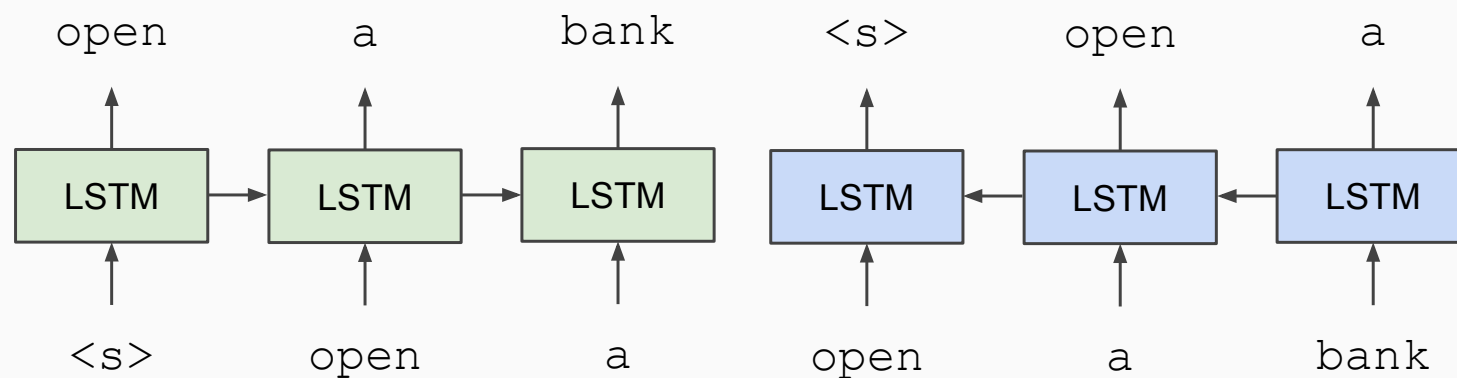


Examples on iPad

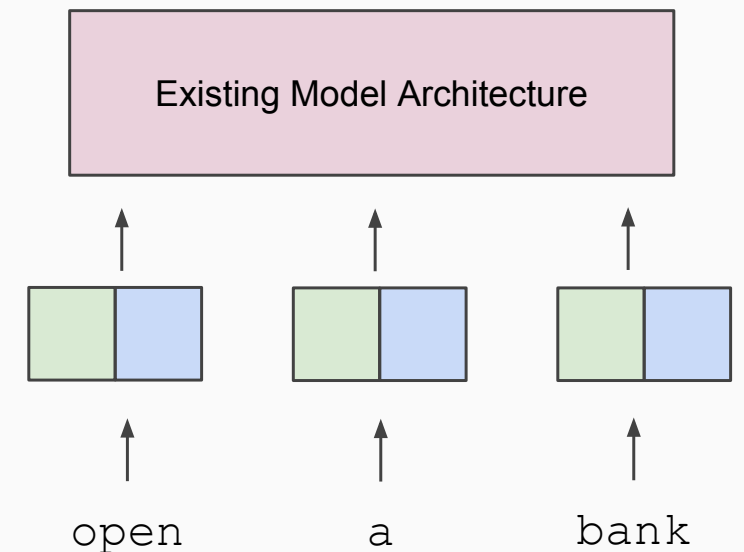
History of Contextual Representations

- *ELMo: Deep Contextual Word Embeddings*, AI2 & University of Washington, 2017

Train Separate Left-to-Right and Right-to-Left LMs



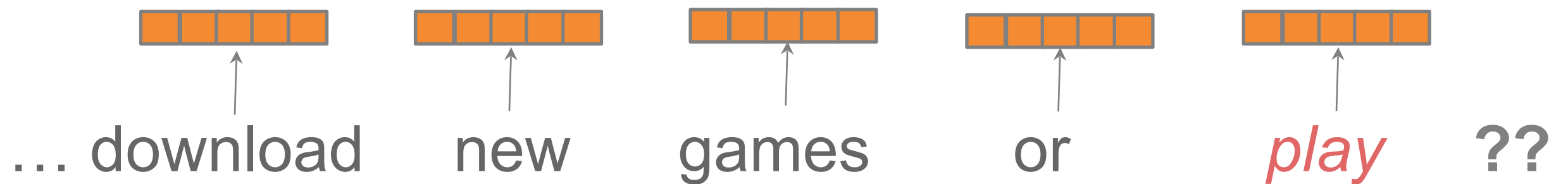
Apply as “Pre-trained Embeddings”



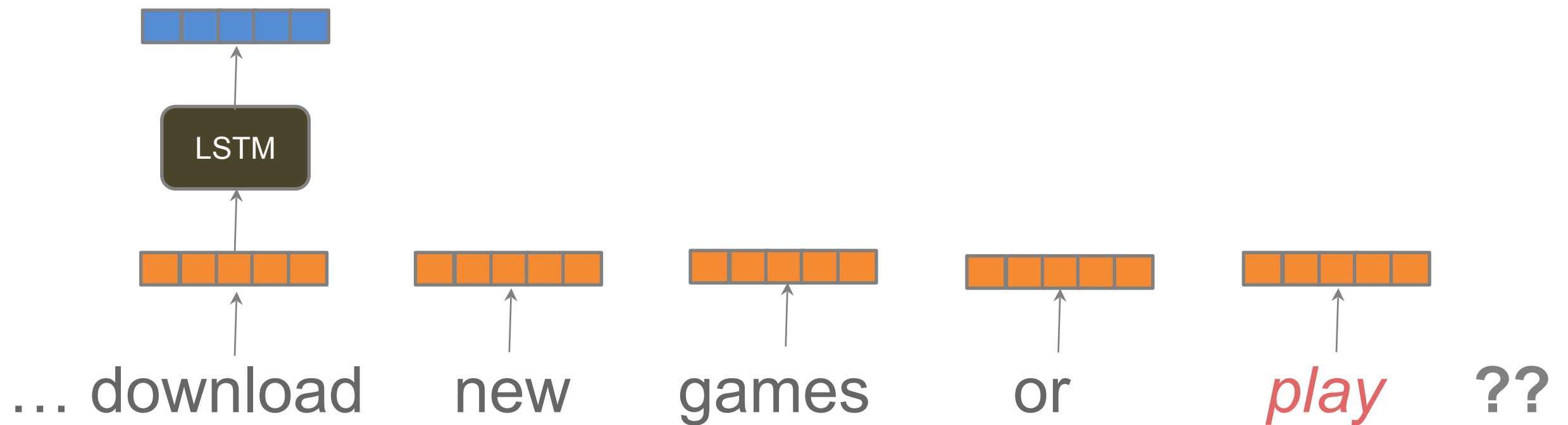
Deep bidirectional language model

... download new games or *play* ??

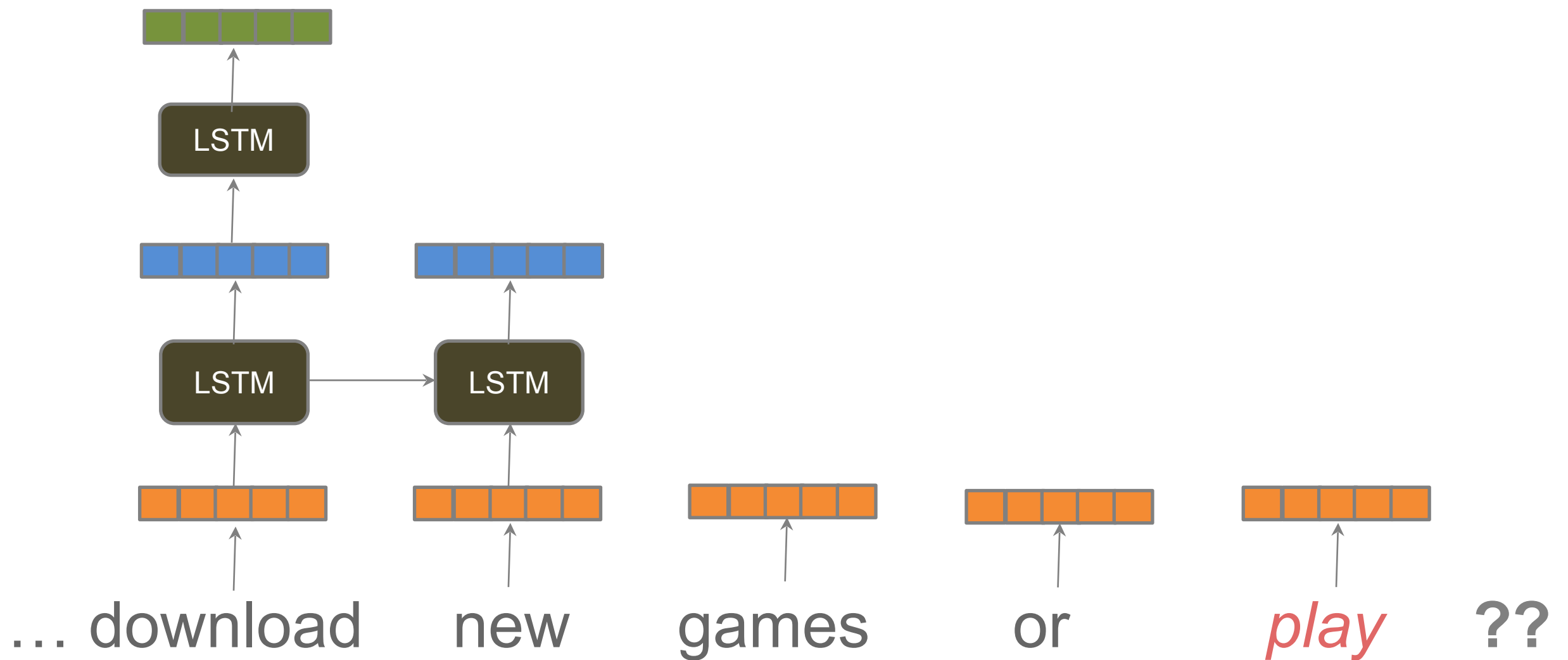
Deep bidirectional language model



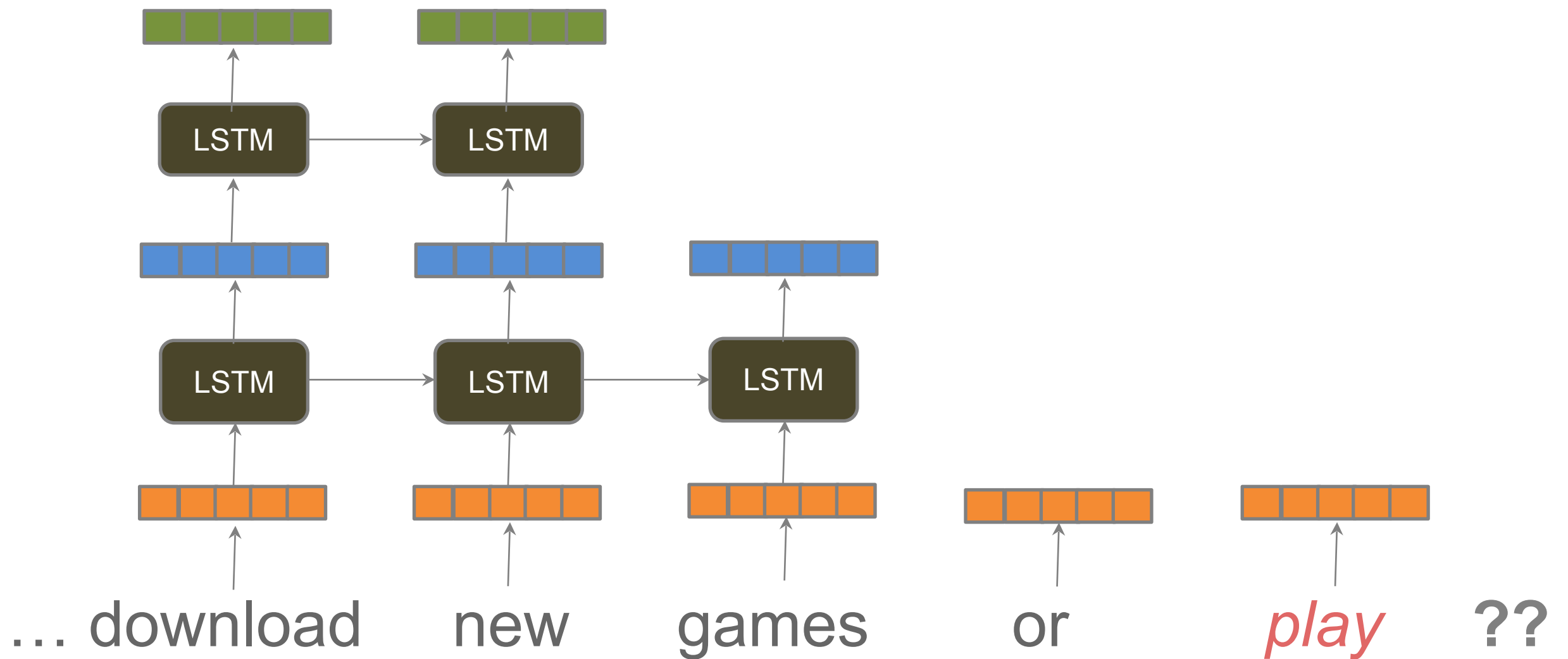
Deep bidirectional language model



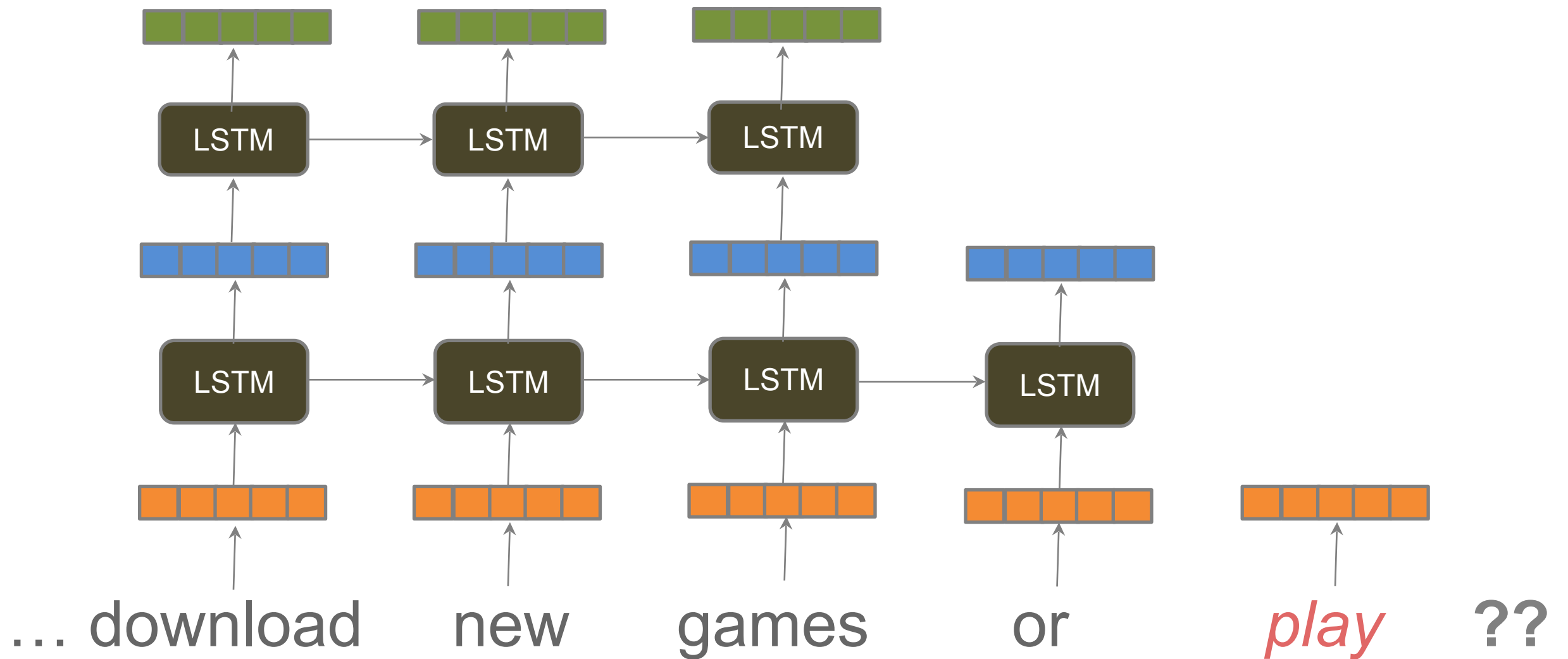
Deep bidirectional language model



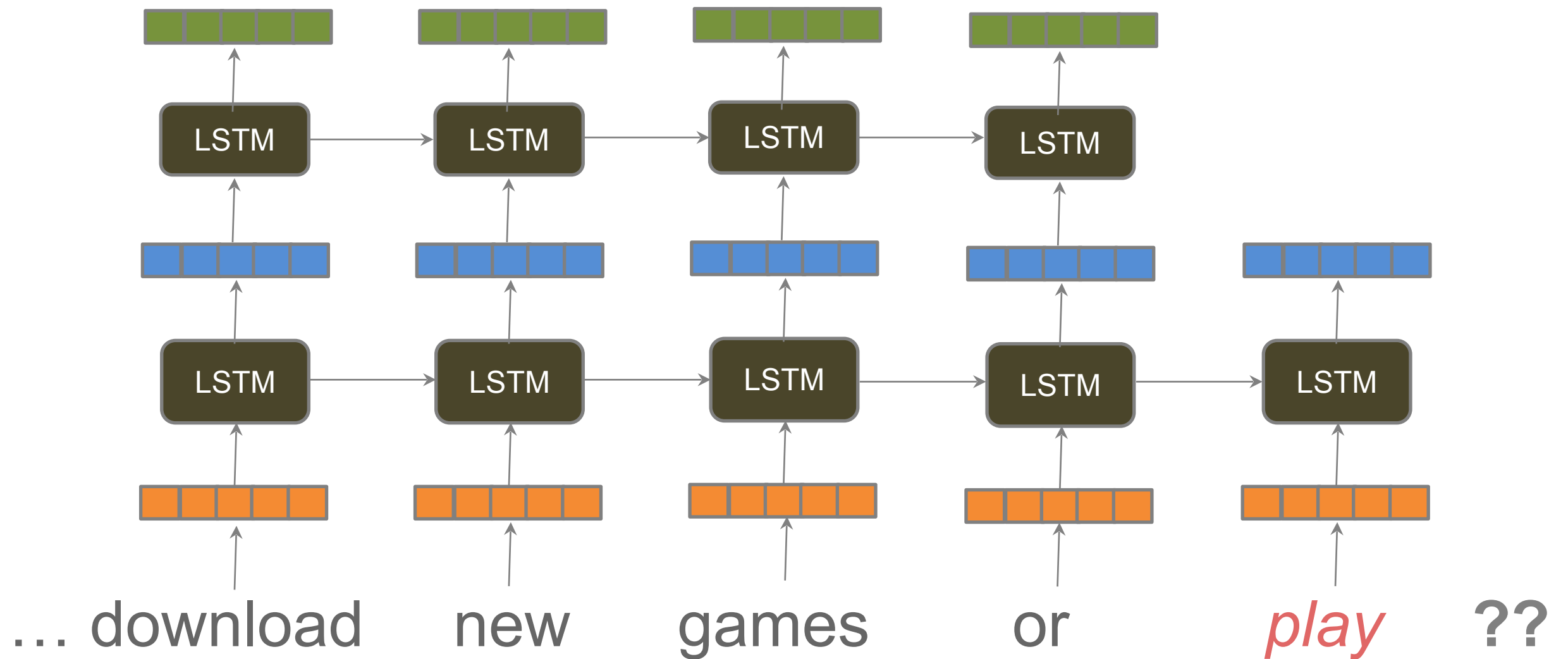
Deep bidirectional language model



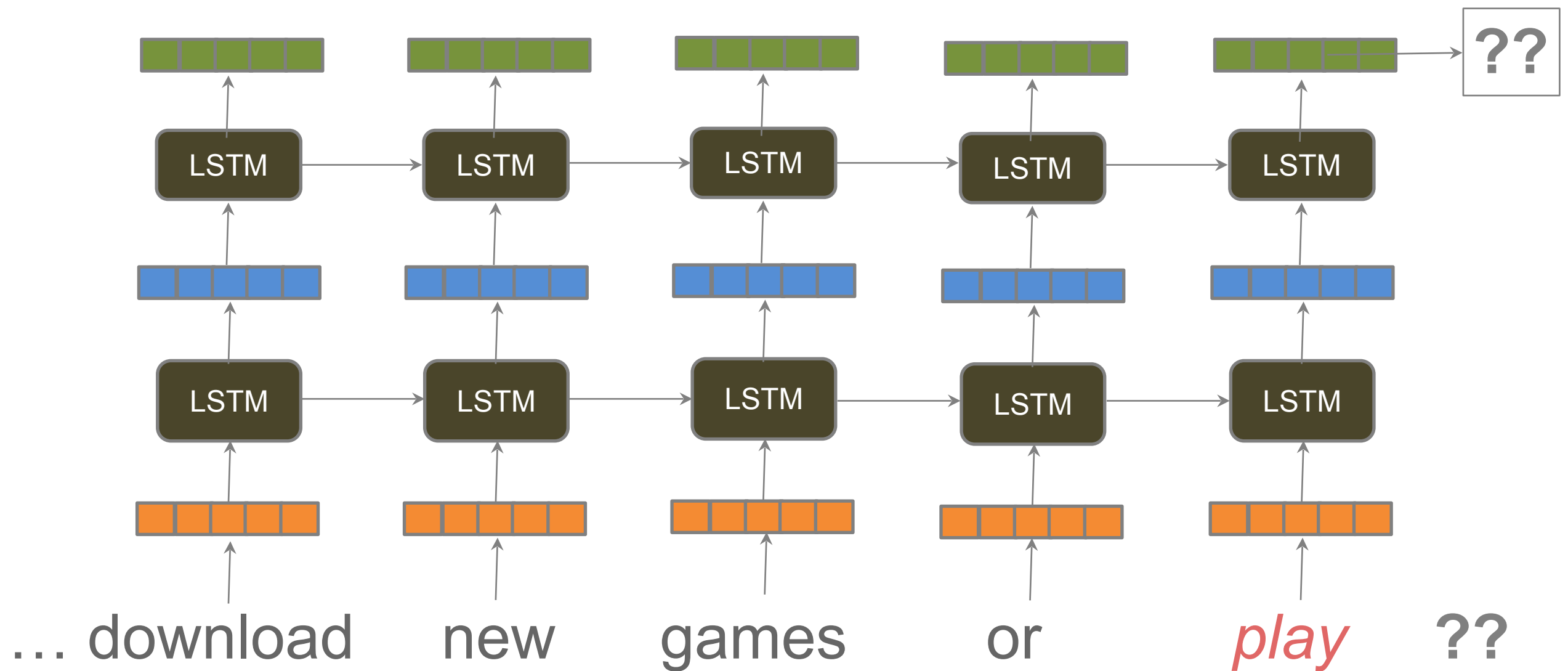
Deep bidirectional language model



Deep bidirectional language model

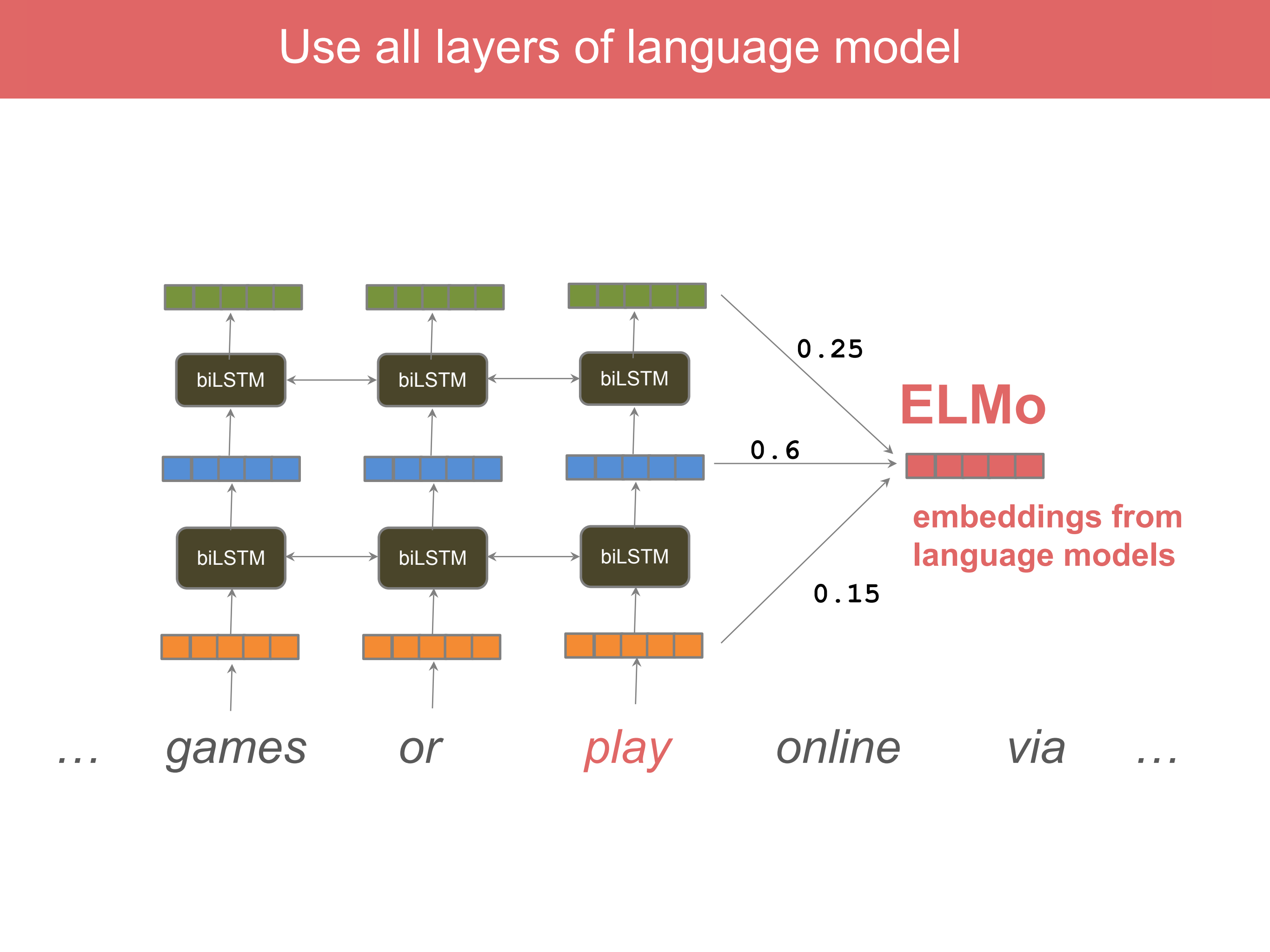


Deep bidirectional language model

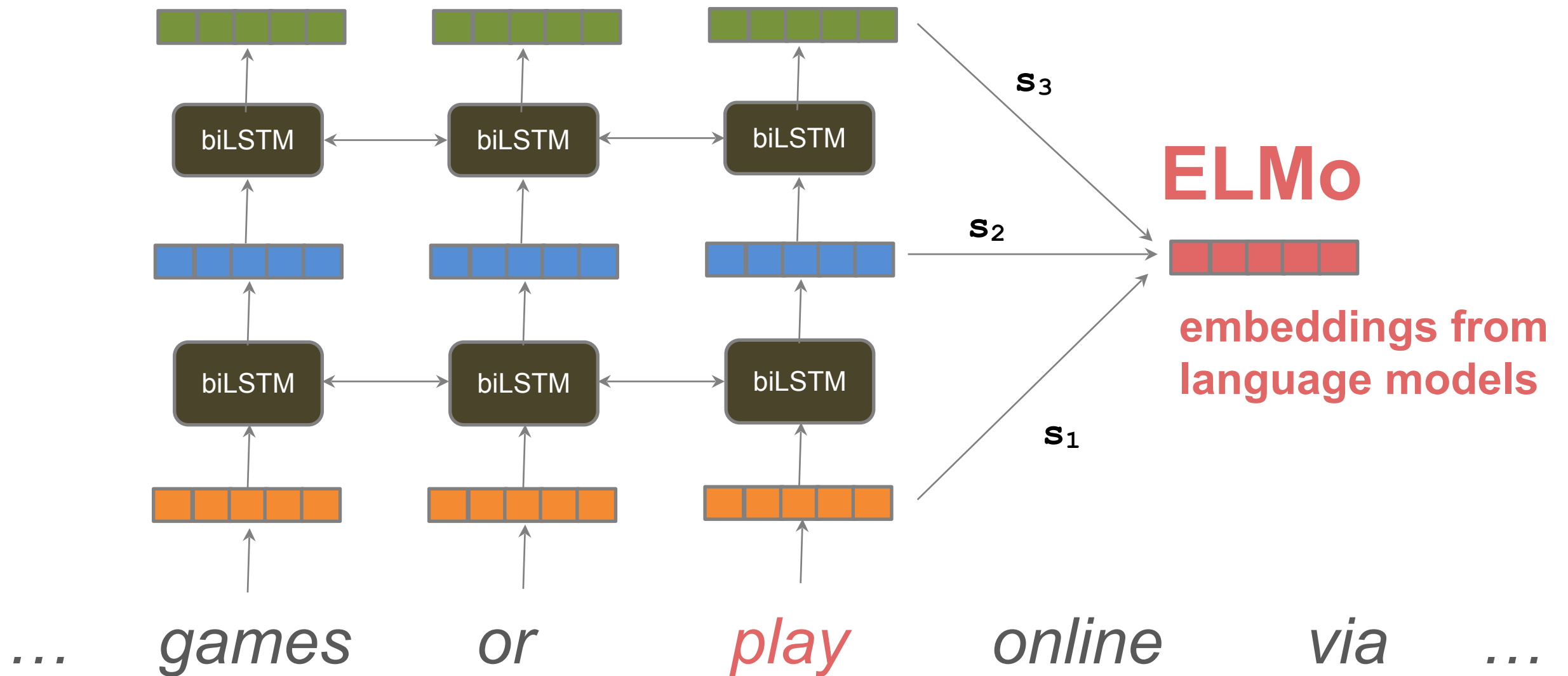


Use all layers of language model

The diagram illustrates the ELMo (Embedding from Language Models) architecture. It shows a sequence of words: "... games or play online via ...". The word "play" is highlighted in red. The input is processed by a biLSTM (bidirectional Long Short-Term Memory) network, which consists of two layers of biLSTM units. The output of the biLSTM is a sequence of embeddings (represented by colored blocks: orange for the bottom layer, blue for the middle layer, and green for the top layer). These embeddings are then weighted and combined to produce the final ELMo embedding (represented by a red block). The weights shown are 0.25 for the top layer, 0.6 for the middle layer, and 0.15 for the bottom layer. The final output is labeled "ELMo embeddings from language models".



Learned task-specific combination of layers



Contextual representations

ELMo representations are **contextual** – they depend on the entire sentence in which a word is used.

how many different embeddings does ELMo compute for a given word?

ELMo improves NLP tasks

TASK	PREVIOUS SOTA		OUR BASELINE	ELMo + BASELINE	INCREASE (ABSOLUTE/ RELATIVE)
SQuAD	Liu et al. (2017)	84.4	81.1	85.8	4.7 / 24.9%
SNLI	Chen et al. (2017)	88.6	88.0	88.7 \pm 0.17	0.7 / 5.8%
SRL	He et al. (2017)	81.7	81.4	84.6	3.2 / 17.2%
Coref	Lee et al. (2017)	67.2	67.2	70.4	3.2 / 9.8%
NER	Peters et al. (2017)	91.93 \pm 0.19	90.15	92.22 \pm 0.10	2.06 / 21%
SST-5	McCann et al. (2017)	53.7	51.4	54.7 \pm 0.5	3.3 / 6.8%

Large-scale recurrent neural language models learn contextual representations that capture basic elements of semantics and syntax

Adding ELMo to existing state-of-the-art models provides significant performance improvement on all NLP tasks.

The TensorFlow logo, consisting of the word "TensorFlow" in white text on an orange rectangular background, with a small trademark symbol (TM) to the right.

```
elmo = hub.Module("https://tfhub.dev/google/elmo/1", trainable=True)
embeddings = elmo(
    ["the cat is on the mat", "dogs are in the fog"],
    signature="default",
    as_dict=True)["elmo"]
```

The AllenNLP logo, featuring the word "Allen" in white and "NLP" in a larger, white, sans-serif font, both set against a dark blue rectangular background.

FROM



TO



Problem with Previous Methods

- **Problem:** Language models only use left context *or* right context, but language understanding is bidirectional.
- Why are LMs unidirectional?

Problem with Previous Methods

- **Problem:** Language models only use left context *or* right context, but language understanding is bidirectional.
- Why are LMs unidirectional?
- Reason 1: Directionality is needed to generate a well-formed probability distribution.
 - We don't care about this.

Why not?

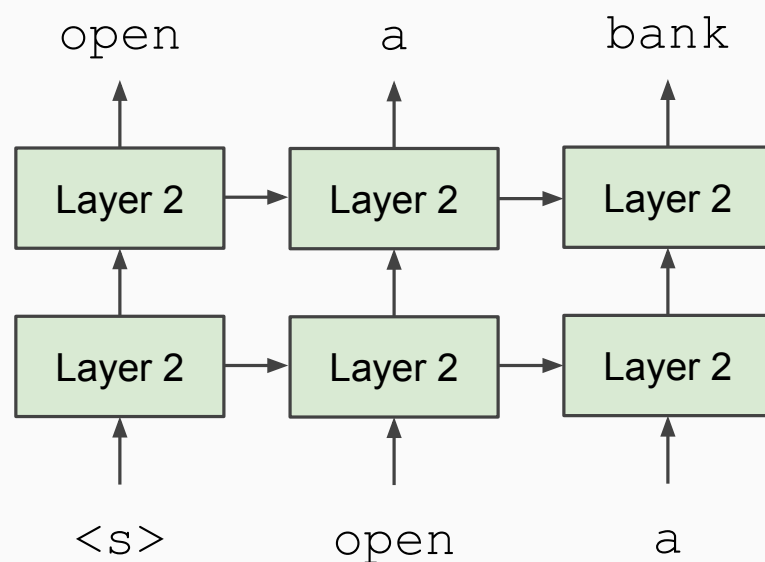
Problem with Previous Methods

- **Problem:** Language models only use left context *or* right context, but language understanding is bidirectional.
- Why are LMs unidirectional?
- Reason 1: Directionality is needed to generate a well-formed probability distribution.
 - We don't care about this.
- Reason 2: Words can “see themselves” in a bidirectional encoder.

Unidirectional vs. Bidirectional Models

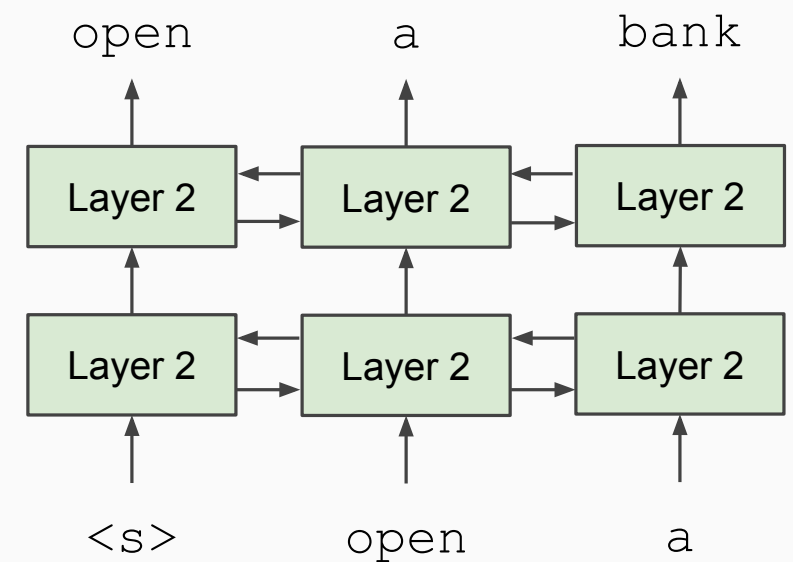
Unidirectional context

Build representation incrementally



Bidirectional context

Words can “see themselves”



Masked LM

- **Solution:** Mask out $k\%$ of the input words, and then predict the masked words
 - We always use $k = 15\%$

the man went to the [MASK] to buy a [MASK] of milk

store gallon

↑ ↑

What are the pros and cons of increasing k ?

Masked LM

- Problem: Mask token never seen at fine-tuning
- Solution: 15% of the words to predict, but don't replace with [MASK] 100% of the time. Instead:
 - 80% of the time, replace with [MASK]
went to the store → went to the [MASK]
 - 10% of the time, replace random word
went to the store → went to the running
 - 10% of the time, keep same
went to the store → went to the store

Next Sentence Prediction

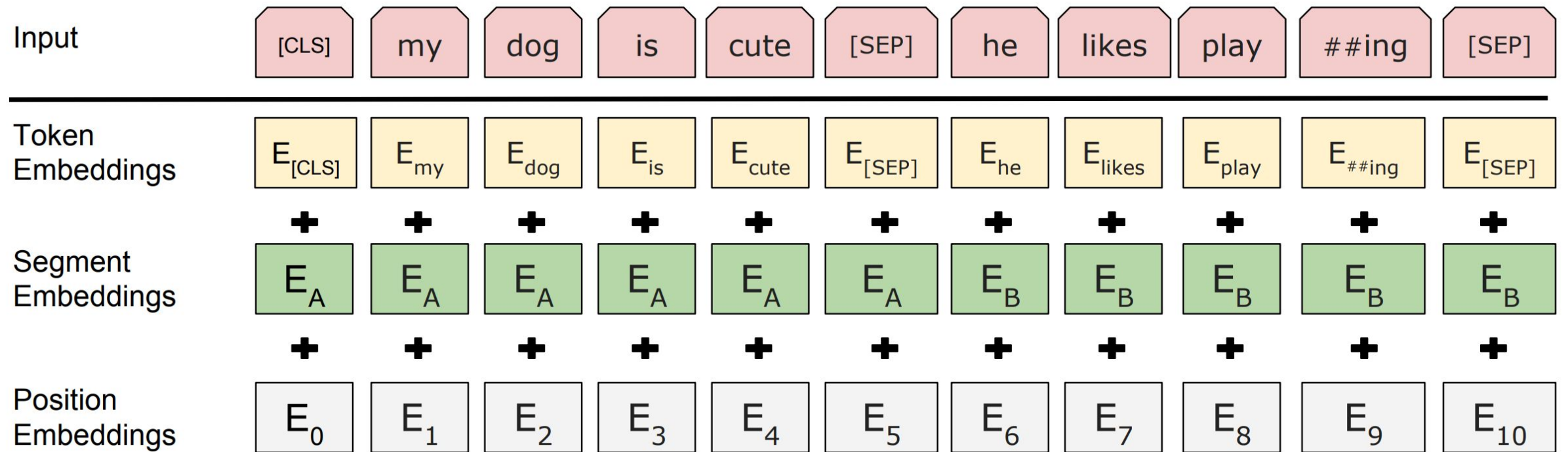
- To learn *relationships* between sentences, predict whether Sentence B is actual sentence that proceeds Sentence A, or a random sentence

Sentence A = The man went to the store.
Sentence B = He bought a gallon of milk.
Label = IsNextSentence

Sentence A = The man went to the store.
Sentence B = Penguins are flightless.
Label = NotNextSentence

This has since been shown to be unimportant (and can be removed e.g., in RoBERTa)

Input Representation

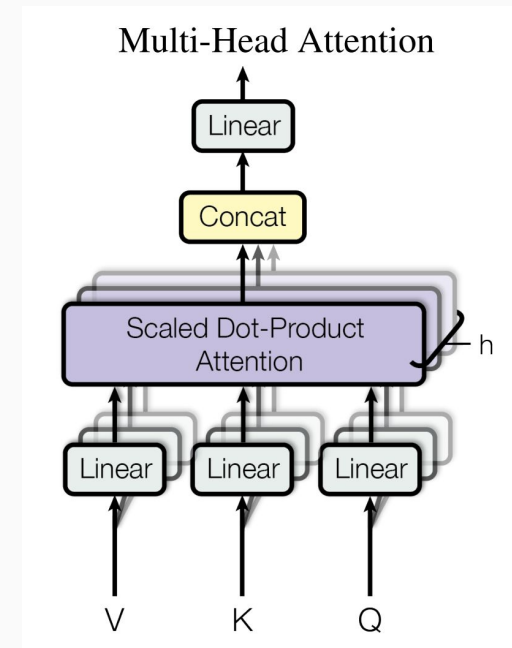
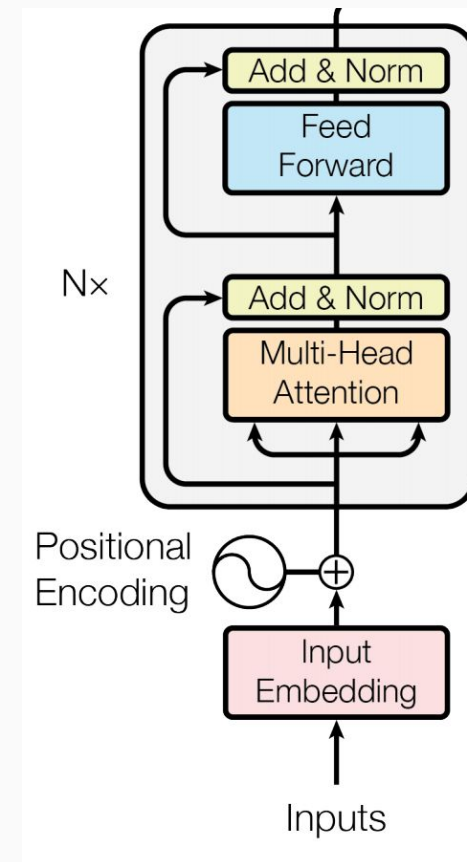


- Use 30,000 WordPiece vocabulary on input.
- Each token is sum of three embeddings
- Single sequence is much more efficient.

Model Architecture

Transformer encoder

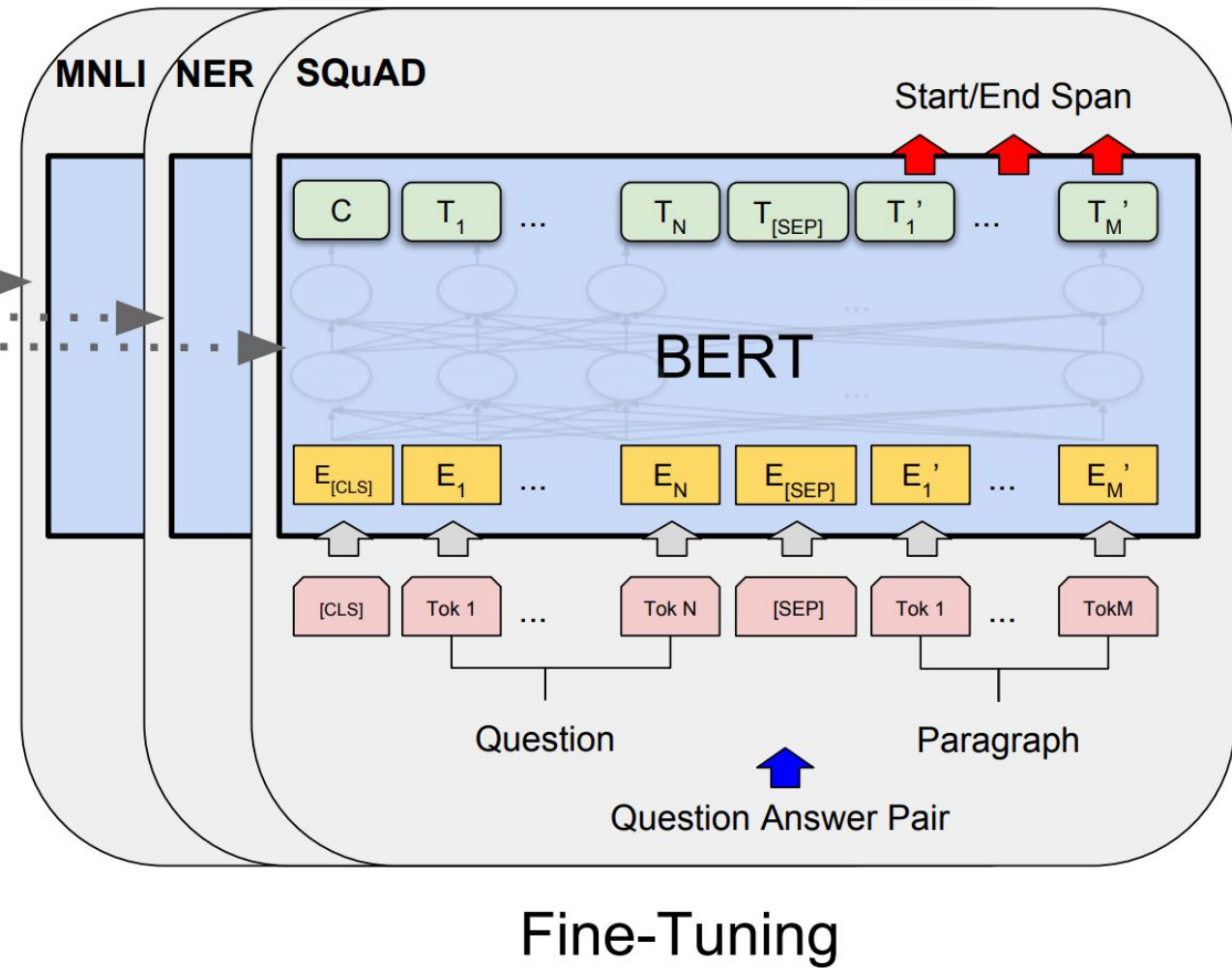
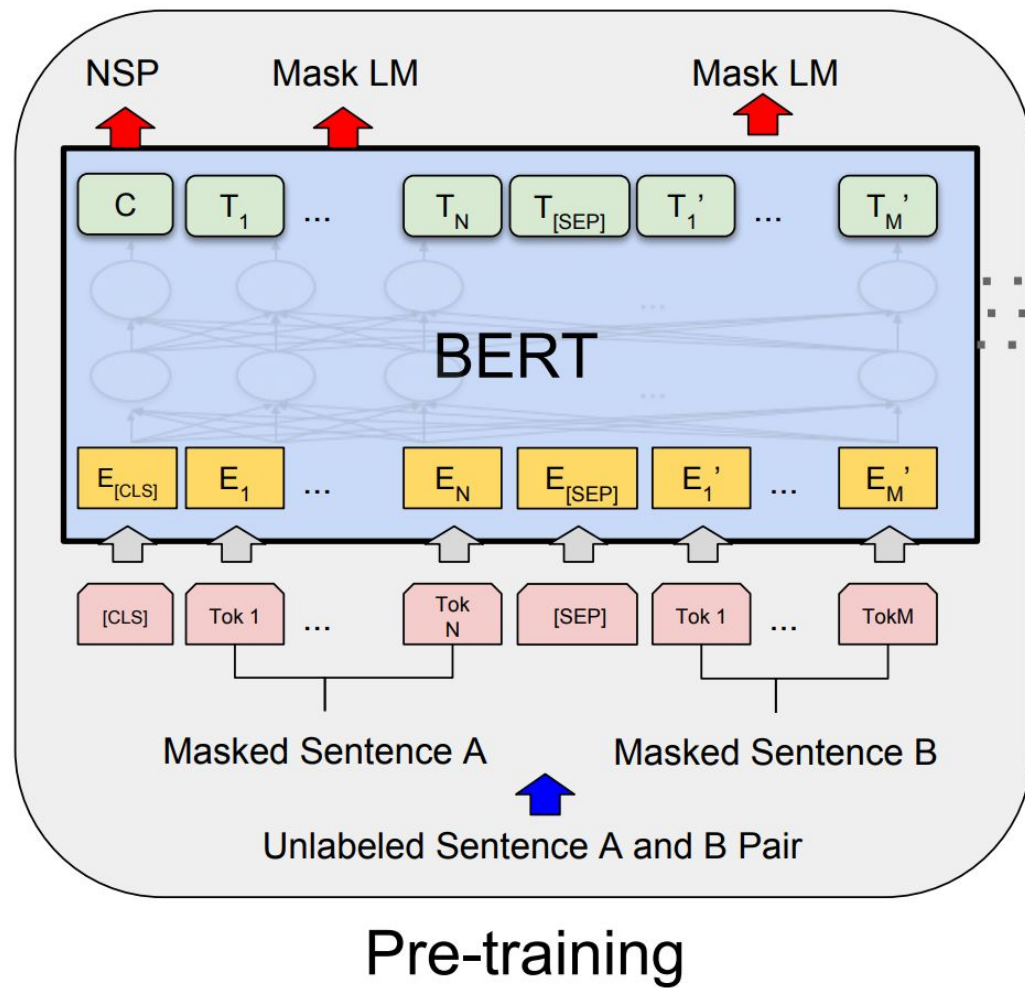
- Multi-headed self attention
 - Models context
- Feed-forward layers
 - Computes non-linear hierarchical features
- Layer norm and residuals
 - Makes training deep networks healthy
- Positional embeddings
 - Allows model to learn relative positioning



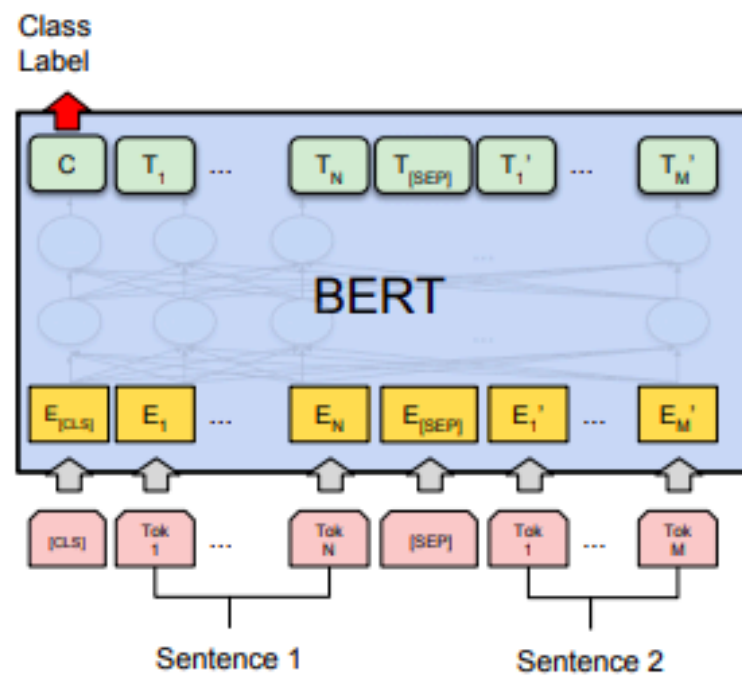
Model Details

- Data: Wikipedia (2.5B words) + BookCorpus (800M words)
- Batch Size: 131,072 words (1024 sequences * 128 length or 256 sequences * 512 length)
- Training Time: 1M steps (~40 epochs)
- Optimizer: AdamW, $1e-4$ learning rate, linear decay
- BERT-Base: 12-layer, 768-hidden, 12-head
- BERT-Large: 24-layer, 1024-hidden, 16-head
- Trained on 4x4 or 8x8 TPU slice for 4 days

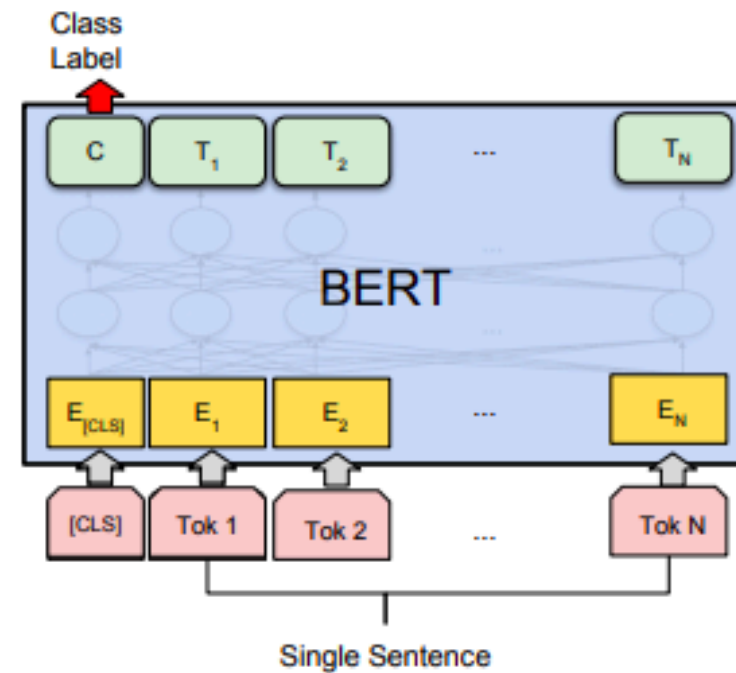
Fine-Tuning Procedure



Fine-Tuning Procedure

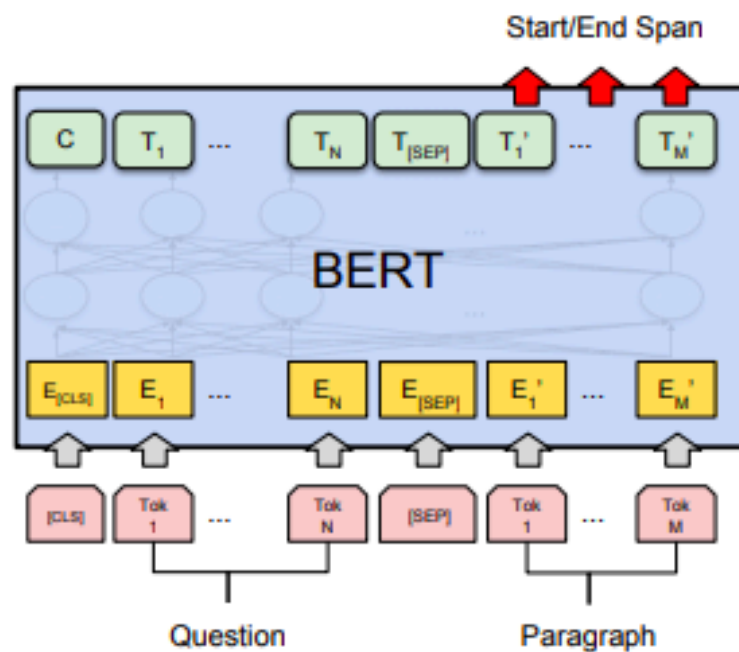


(a) Sentence Pair Classification Tasks:
MNLI, QQP, QNLI, STS-B, MRPC,
RTE, SWAG

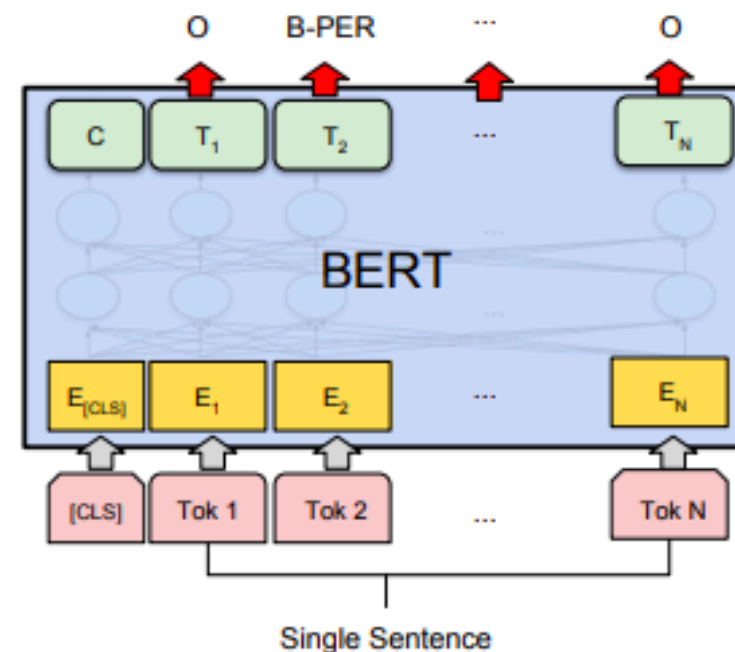


(b) Single Sentence Classification Tasks:
SST-2, CoLA

More details
next week!



(c) Question Answering Tasks:
SQuAD v1.1



(d) Single Sentence Tagging Tasks:
CoNLL-2003 NER

GLUE Results

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

MultiNLI

Premise: Hills and mountains are especially sanctified in Jainism.

Hypothesis: Jainism hates nature.

Label: Contradiction

CoLa

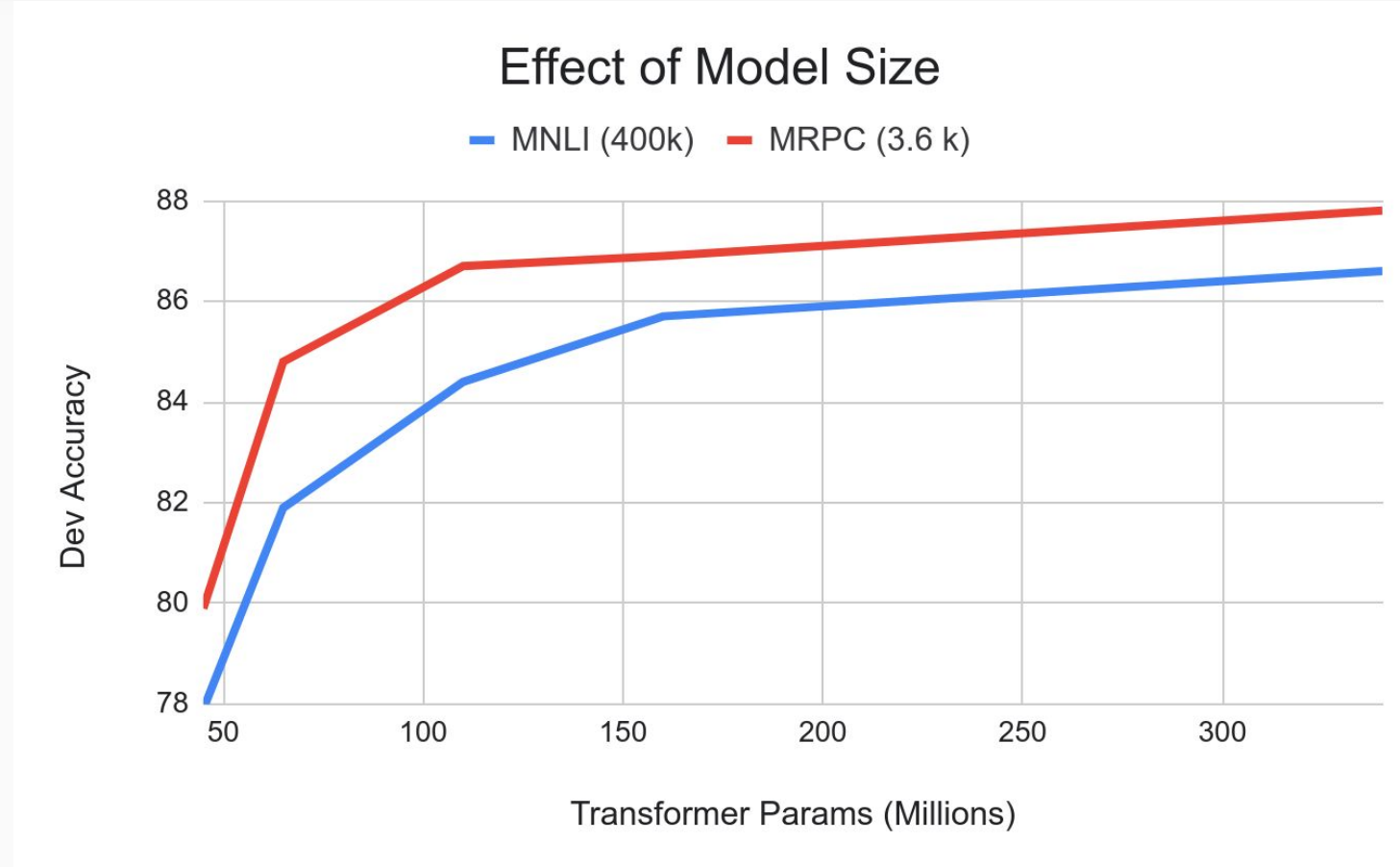
Sentence: The wagon rumbled down the road.

Label: Acceptable

Sentence: The car honked down the road.

Label: Unacceptable

Effect of Model Size



- Big models help *a lot*
- Going from 110M -> 340M params helps even on datasets with 3,600 labeled examples
- Improvements have *not* asymptoted

Multilingual BERT

- Trained single model on 104 languages from Wikipedia. Shared 110k WordPiece vocabulary.

System	English	Chinese	Spanish
XNLI Baseline - Translate Train	73.7	67.0	68.8
XNLI Baseline - Translate Test	73.7	68.4	70.7
BERT - Translate Train	81.9	76.6	77.8
BERT - Translate Test	81.9	70.1	74.9
BERT - Zero Shot	81.9	63.8	74.3

- XNLI is MultiNLI translated into multiple languages.
- Always evaluate on human-translated Test.
- Translate Train: MT English Train into Foreign, then fine-tune.
- Translate Test: MT Foreign Test into English, use English model.
- Zero Shot: Use Foreign test on English model.

Semi-supervised Sequence Learning

context2Vec
Pre-trained seq2seq



ELMo

ULMFiT

Multi-lingual

MultiFiT

Cross-lingual

Multi-task

Transformer

Bidirectional LM

GPT

Larger model
More data

GPT-2

Defense



Grover



BERT

XLM

UDify

MT-DNN

Knowledge distillation

MT-DNN_{KD}

MASS

UniLM

Span prediction
Remove NSP

Longer time
Remove NSP
More data

SpanBERT

RoBERTa

Permutation LM
Transformer-XL
More data

XLNet

+Knowledge Graph



ERNIE
(Tsinghua)

Neural entity linker

KnowBert

Cross-modal

VideoBERT

CBT

ViLBERT

VisualBERT

B2T2

Unicoder-VL

LXMERT

VL-BERT

UNITER

Whole Word Masking



ERNIE (Baidu)
BERT-wwm

By Xiaozhi Wang & Zhengyan Zhang @THUNLP

Common Questions

- Why did no one think of this before?
- Better question: Why wasn't contextual pre-training popular before 2018 with ELMo?
- Good results on pre-training is $>1,000\times$ to 100,000 more expensive than supervised training.
 - E.g., 10x-100x bigger model trained for 100x-1,000x as many steps.
 - Imagine it's 2013: Well-tuned 2-layer, 512-dim LSTM sentiment analysis gets 80% accuracy, training for 8 hours.
 - Pre-train LM on same architecture for a week, get 80.5%.
 - Conference reviewers: "Who would do something so expensive for such a small gain?"

Common Questions

- The model must be learning more than “contextual embeddings”
- Alternate interpretation: Predicting missing words (or next words) requires learning many types of language understanding features.
 - syntax, semantics, pragmatics, coreference, etc.
- Implication: Pre-trained model is much bigger than it needs to be to solve specific task
- Task-specific model distillation works very well

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