

# Knowing When to Look: Adaptive Attention

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# Introduction

The purpose of this work is to propose a novel adaptive attention model with a visual sentinel

- Inspired by “Knowing When to Look: Adaptive Attention via A Visual Sentinel for Image Captioning”
- Main points in this work:
  - network architecture
  - dataset
  - preprocessing
  - implementation
  - results

# Motivation

- most methods force visual attention to be active for every generated word
- not all words in the caption have corresponding visual signals
- e.g., “sign” after “on top of a red stop”

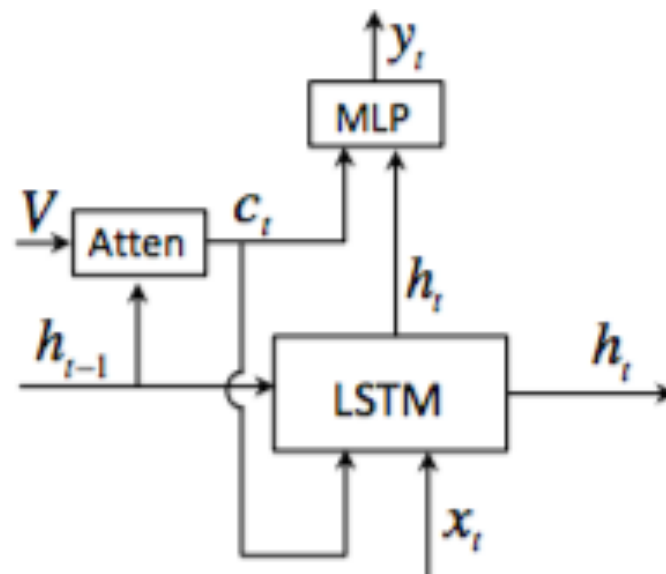


# Motivation

- adaptive encoder-decoder framework that automatically decides when to look at the image and when to rely on the language model to generate the next word
- when relying on visual signals, the model also decides where – which image region – it should attend to

# Network architecture

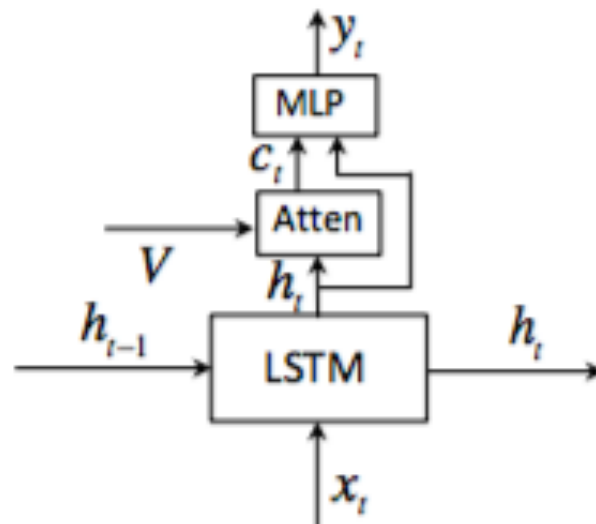
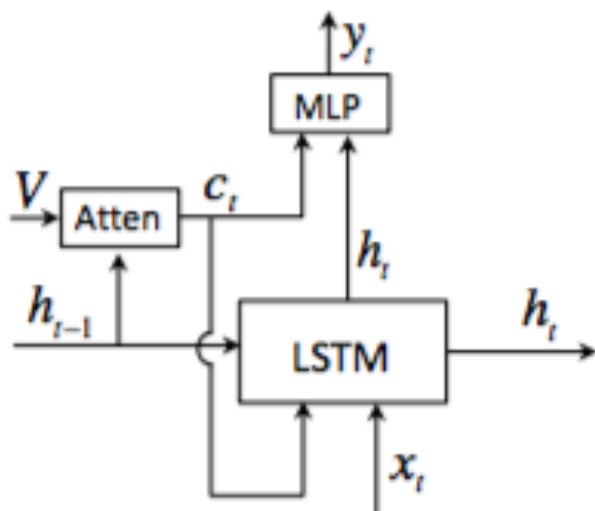
- Encoder-Decoder
  - CNN used as encoder
  - LSTM used as decoder
  - context vector in vanilla framework dependent only on encoder
  - context vector in attention-based framework dependent on both encoder and decoder



# Network architecture

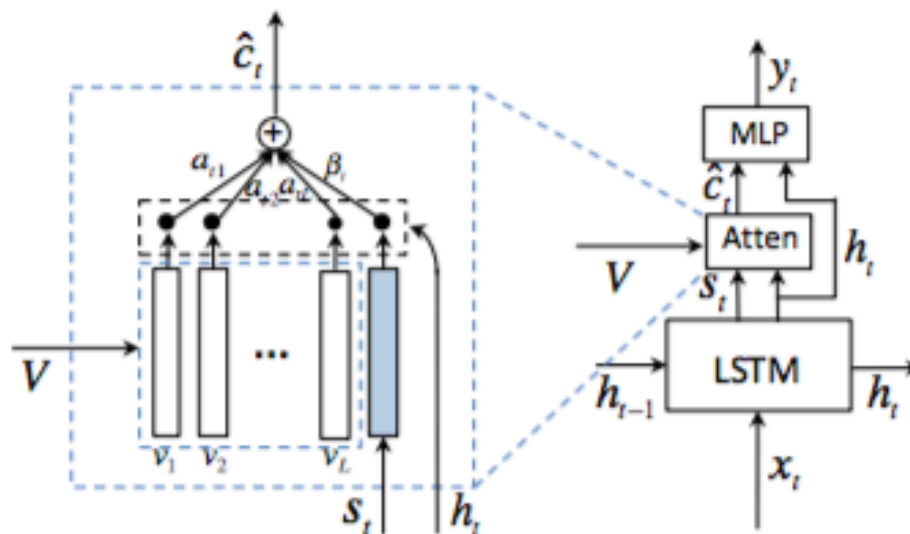
- Spatial Attention

- context vector is generated using the current hidden state and the spatial image features
- context vector considered as the residual visual information of current hidden state
- complements the informativeness of the current hidden state for next word prediction



# Network architecture

- Adaptive Attention
  - improves on the spatial attention model
  - relies on a new concept - “visual sentinel”
  - introduces novel way in generating context vector



# Network architecture

- Visual Sentinel
  - latent representation of what the decoder already knows
  - the model can fall back on it when it chooses not to attend to the image
  - the gate that decides between attending to the image or the visual sentinel is called “sentinel gate”

$$\mathbf{g}_t = \sigma \left( \mathbf{W}_x \mathbf{x}_t + \mathbf{W}_h \mathbf{h}_{t-1} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{s}_t = \mathbf{g}_t \odot \tanh \left( \mathbf{m}_t \right)$$

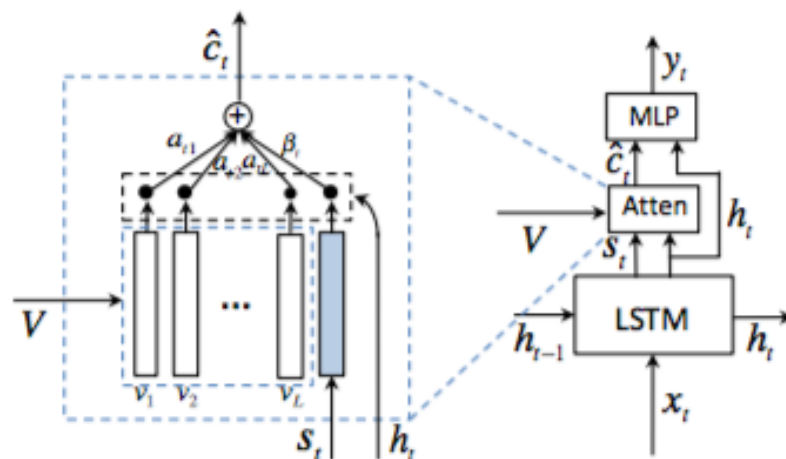


# Network architecture

- Adaptive Attention

- context vector  $c_t$  modeled as mixture of spatially attended image features and visual sentinel
- sentinel gate  $\beta_t$  decides between attending to the image or the visual sentinel
- $\beta_t$  is a scalar in the range  $[0,1]$
- model adaptively attends to image vs. visual sentinel when generating the next word

$$\hat{c}_t = \beta_t s_t + (1 - \beta_t) c_t$$



# Datasets

- Flickr30k
  - contains  $\approx 32$  thousand images collected from Flickr
  - depicts humans performing various activities
  - each image is paired with 5 crowd-sourced captions
- COCO
  - contains  $\approx 83$  thousand images for training
  - contains multiple objects in the context of complex scenes
  - each image has 5 human annotated captions

# Preprocessing

- Images
  - 40 thousand COCO images used
  - 80% for training and 20% for testing
- Captions
  - vocab consists of the 6 thousand most frequent words
  - remove punctuations
  - max length based on longest caption

# Implementation

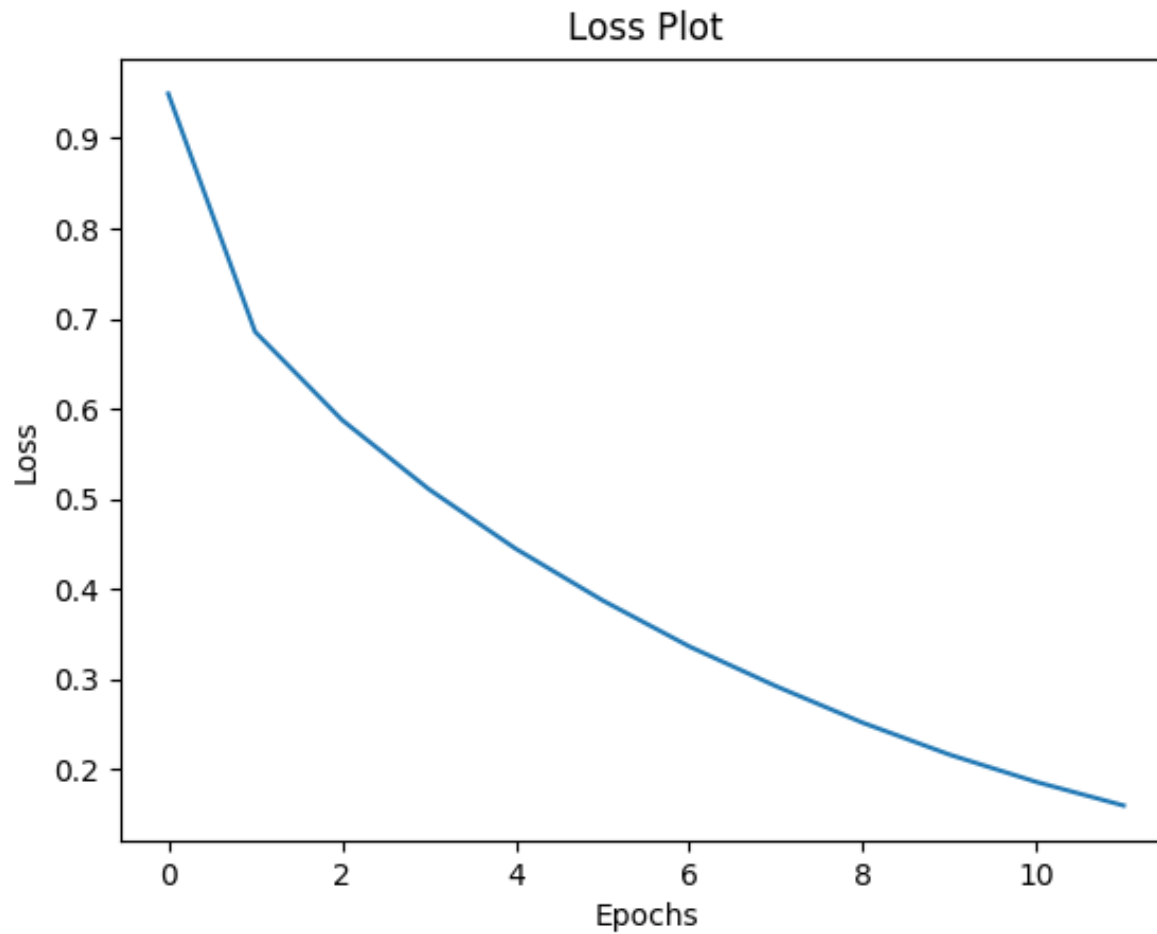
- Encoder-CNN
  - spatial features extracted from last convolutional layer of ResNet-152-V2
  - ResNet was pre-trained on ImageNet
  - spatial features were saved in npy format
- Decoder-LSTM
  - input is concatenation of word embedding and global image feature

Hidden Size	Embedding Size	Features Shape	grid locations
512	512	2048	49

Batch Size	Epochs
64	12

# Results

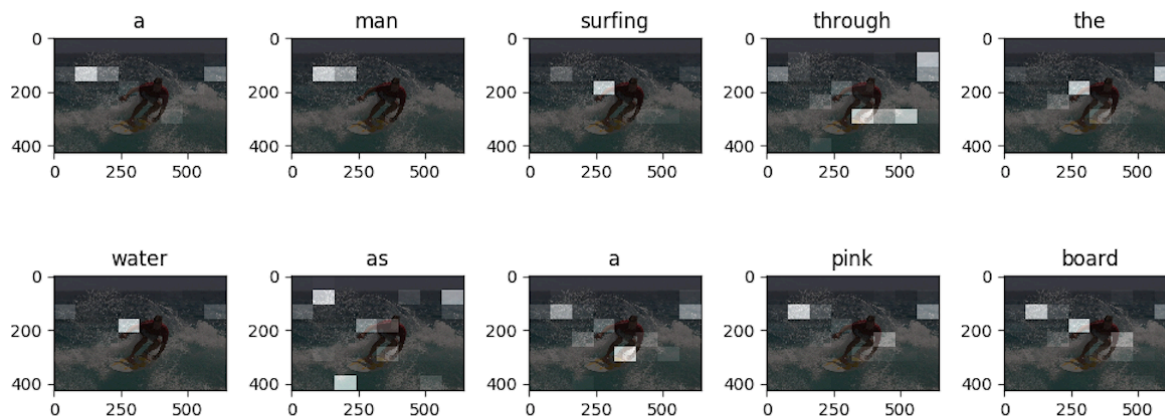
- Spatial Attention



# Results

- Spatial Attention

“a man surfing **through** the water **as a** pink board”



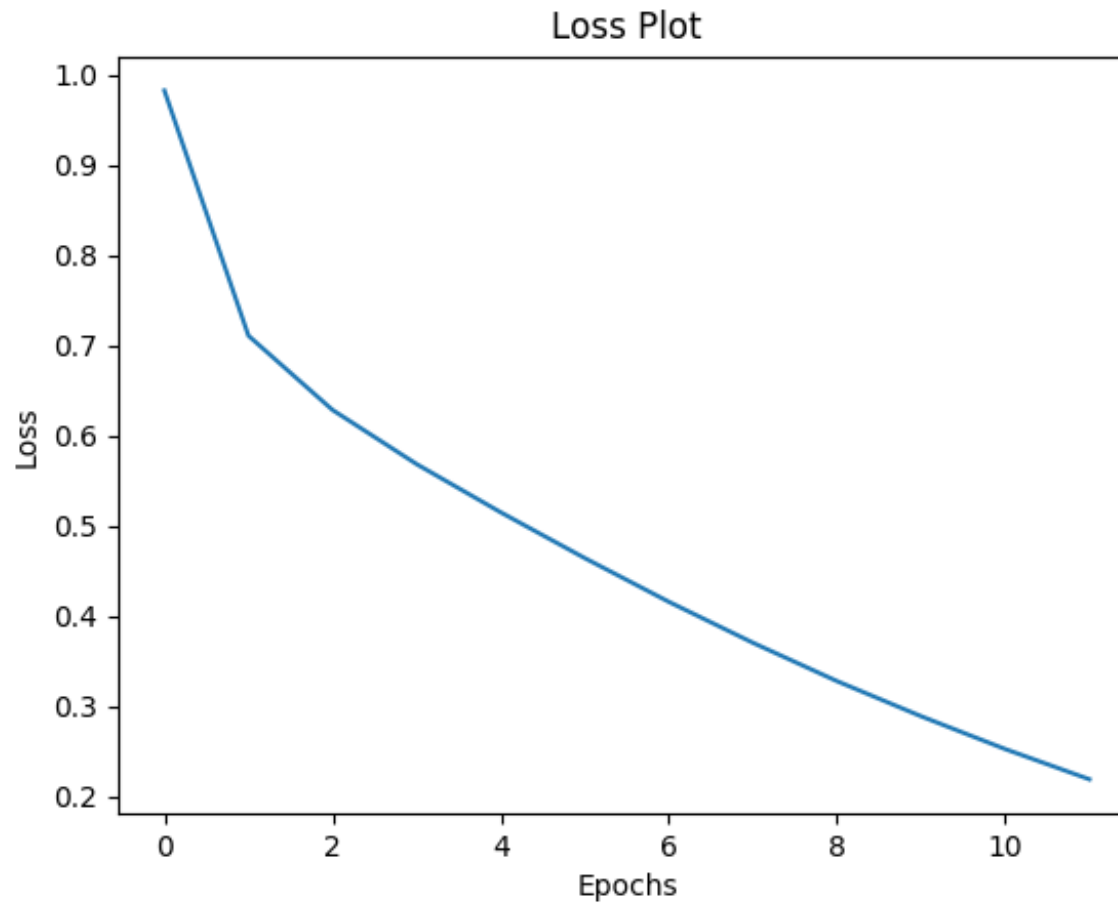
- Spatial Attention

A close-up photograph of a breakfast meal on a white plate. The meal includes a sunny-side-up fried egg with black pepper, several strips of cooked bacon, a slice of tomato, and two pieces of toast with butter. The plate is set on a woven placemat.



# Results

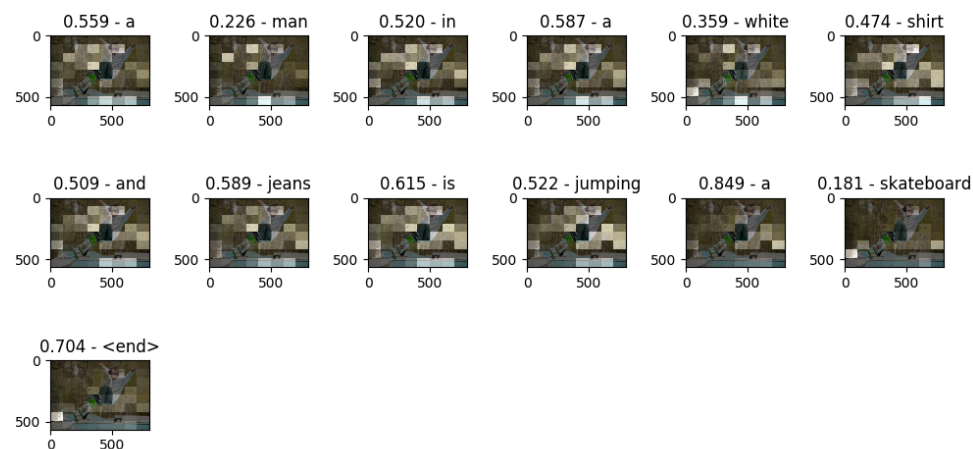
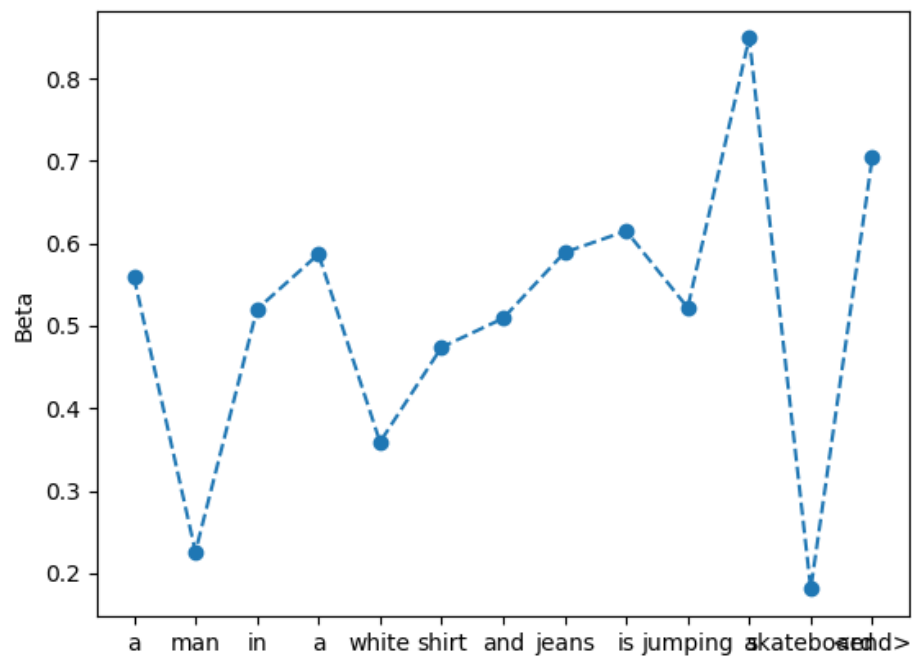
- Adaptive Attention





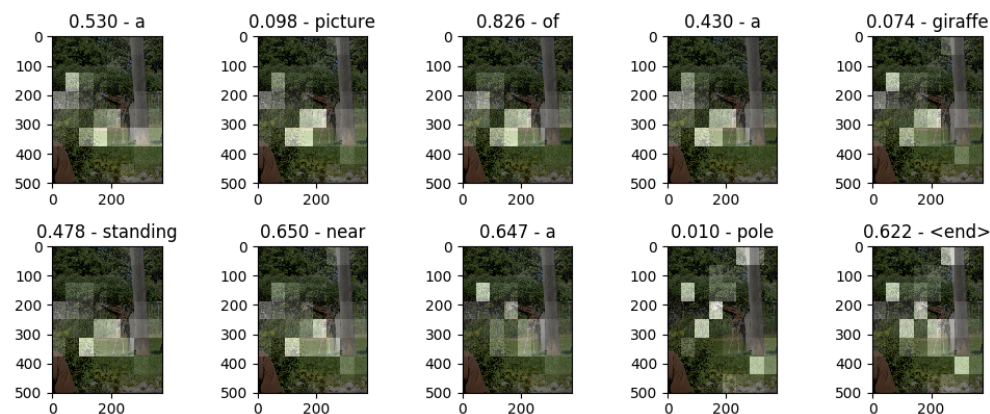
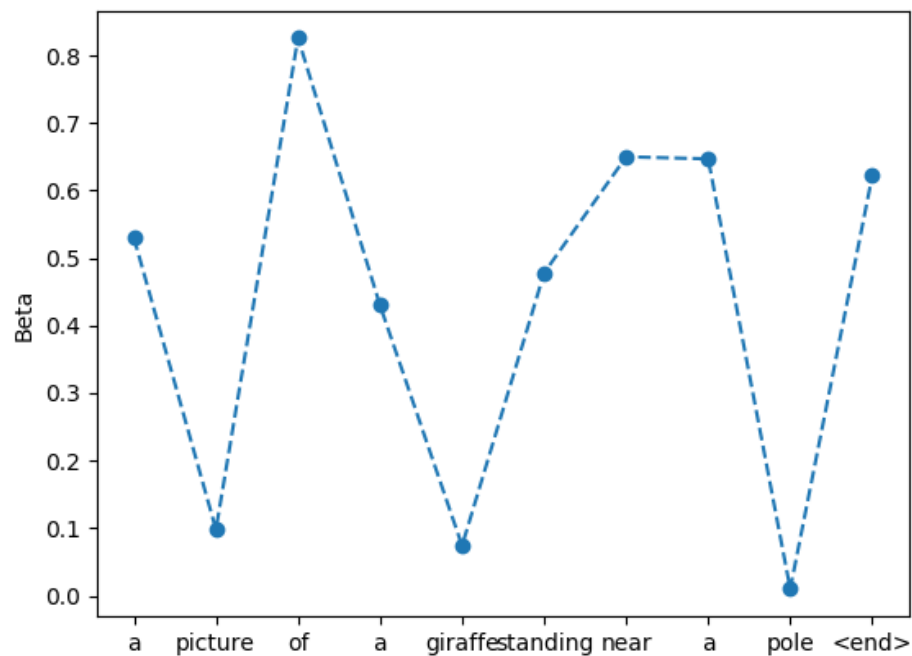
# Results

- Adaptive Attention



# Results

- Adaptive Attention



## Future Work

- use contextualized embeddings (e.g., BERT)
- train on entire COCO dataset

## Conclusion

- Adaptive attention best performer
- model leans to attend less for non-visual words and attend more for the visual words.

# **Thank you for your attention**