

# Debugging Machine Translations

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## *Visualizing Neural Machine Translation Attention and Confidence*

- Look at specific attention alignments in the terminal
- Browse whole test sets and find *suspicious* translations
  - Sort by length or 3 other confidence metrics
- Generate screenshots of example translations for publications, presentations, etc.

## Later additions

- Directly compare two translations of the same source
- Sort by BLEU or similarity to source
- Tweaked confidence score



# Requirements

- <https://github.com/M4t1ss/SoftAlignments>
  - This presentation, links to models and data, scripts used in this tutorial are all in **assets/MT-Marathon-2019**
- Python 2 or 3
  - NLTK (for BLEU calculation)
- PHP 5.4 or newer (for web visualization)
- Translations and NMT attention alignments
  - + source text
  - + reference (for BLEU calculation)

# Model Specific Details

- RNNs mostly work
- Does anyone actually use CNNs for MT?
- Transformers have too many attention matrices
  - Use guided alignment in Marian
  - Use averaged attention in Sockeye (<https://github.com/aws-labs/sockeye/pull/504/files>)

# Guided Alignment in Marian

- Prepare data up to the part of splitting in subword units
- Run *fast\_align* on the subword training data
  - An example is in `assets/MT-Marathon-2019/scripts/fast_align.sh`
- Pass the resulting *grow-diag-final-and* file to Marian for training via the *--guided-alignment* parameter
  - An example is in `assets/MT-Marathon-2019/scripts/train.sh`
- Translate as usual
  - To get translations with attention alignments, pass the *--alignment soft* parameter to marian-decoder
  - An example is in `assets/MT-Marathon-2019/scripts/translate.sh` – use this to translate the prepared data
  - Marian outputs a slightly different alignment format than Nematus, Amun, OpenNMT. Use the included `format-output.py` to convert it

# NMT Attention Alignment Visualizations

<https://github.com/M4t1ss/SoftAlignments>

- Run examples from the readme using the tiny data sets that are in the repository
- Load the data you just translated using one of the models
  - Find some whacky translation examples
  - Are there any sentences completely untranslated?
- Translate the same data with both models and compare both outputs

# NMT Attention Alignment Visualizations

<https://github.com/M4t1ss/SoftAlignments>

# Guided Alignment in Marian