



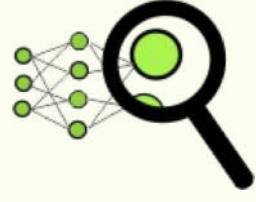
Seq2seq and Attention

Lena Voita

Lecture-blog and lots of additional materials are here:
https://lena-voita.github.io/nlp_course/seq2seq_and_attention.html

NLP Course **For You**

What is going to happen:

- Seq2seq Basics
- Attention
- Transformer →
 - Idea
 - Self-Attention
 - Masked Self-Attention
 - Multi-Head Attention
 - Model Architecture
- Subword Segmentation: BPE
-  Analysis and Interpretability

Idea: Attention is All You Need

	Seq2seq without attention	Seq2seq with attention
processing within encoder	RNN/CNN	RNN/CNN
processing within decoder	RNN/CNN	RNN/CNN
decoder - encoder interaction	static fixed- sized vector	attention

Idea: Attention is All You Need

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decoder - encoder interaction	static fixed- sized vector	attention	attention

Idea: Attention is All You Need

The animation is from the [Google AI blog post](#).

Idea: Attention is All You Need

Encoder

Who is doing:

What they are doing:

The animation is from the [Google AI blog post](#).

Idea: Attention is All You Need

Encoder

Who is doing:

- all source tokens

What they are doing:

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Idea: Attention is All You Need

Encoder

Who is doing:

- all source tokens

What they are doing:

- look at each other
- update representations

repeat
N times

The animation is from the [Google AI blog post](#).

Idea: Attention is All You Need

Decoder

Who is doing:

What they are doing:

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Idea: Attention is All You Need

Decoder

Who is doing:

- target token at the current step

What they are doing:

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Idea: Attention is All You Need

Decoder

Who is doing:

- target token at the current step

What they are doing:

- looks at previous target tokens
- looks at source representations
- update representation

repeat
N times

The animation is from the [Google AI blog post](#).

Why can this be better than RNNs?

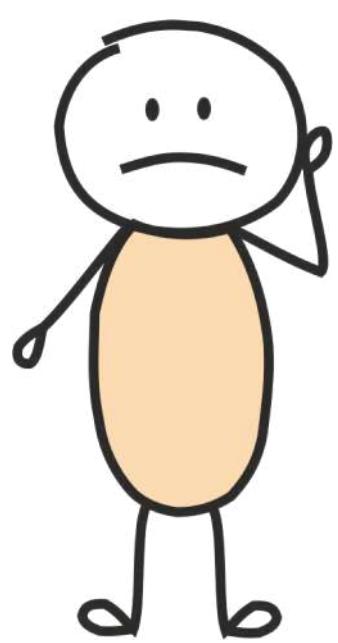
I arrived at the **bank** after crossing thestreet? ...river?

What does **bank** mean in this sentence?

Why can this be better than RNNs?

I arrived at the **bank** after crossing thestreet? ...river?

What does **bank** mean in this sentence?



I've no idea: let's wait
until I read the end

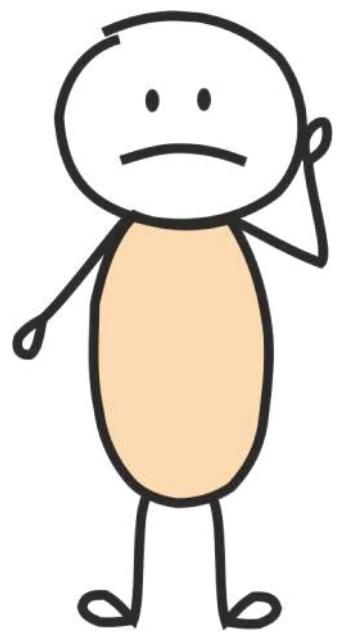
RNNs

$O(N)$ steps to process a
sentence with length N

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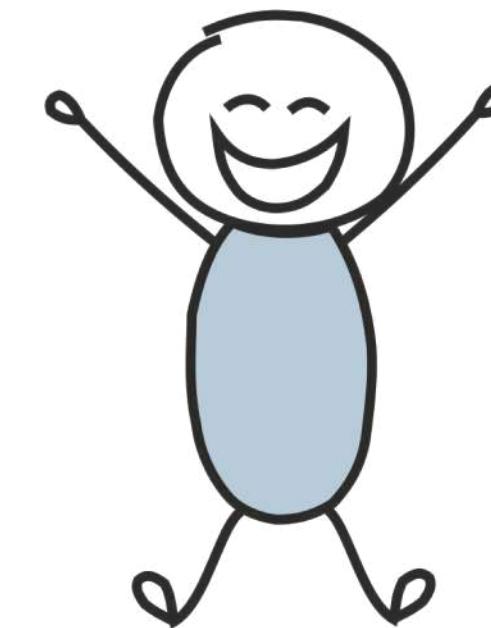
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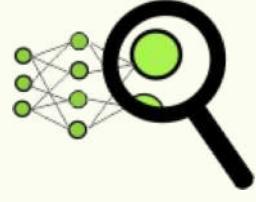


I don't need to wait - I
see all words at once!

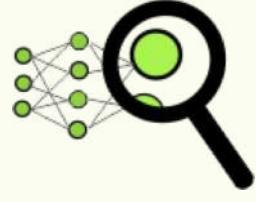
Transformer

Constant number of steps
to process any sentence

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Self-Attention: Why “Self”?

Decoder-encoder attention is looking

- **from:** one current decoder state
- **at:** all encoder states

Self-Attention: Why “Self”?

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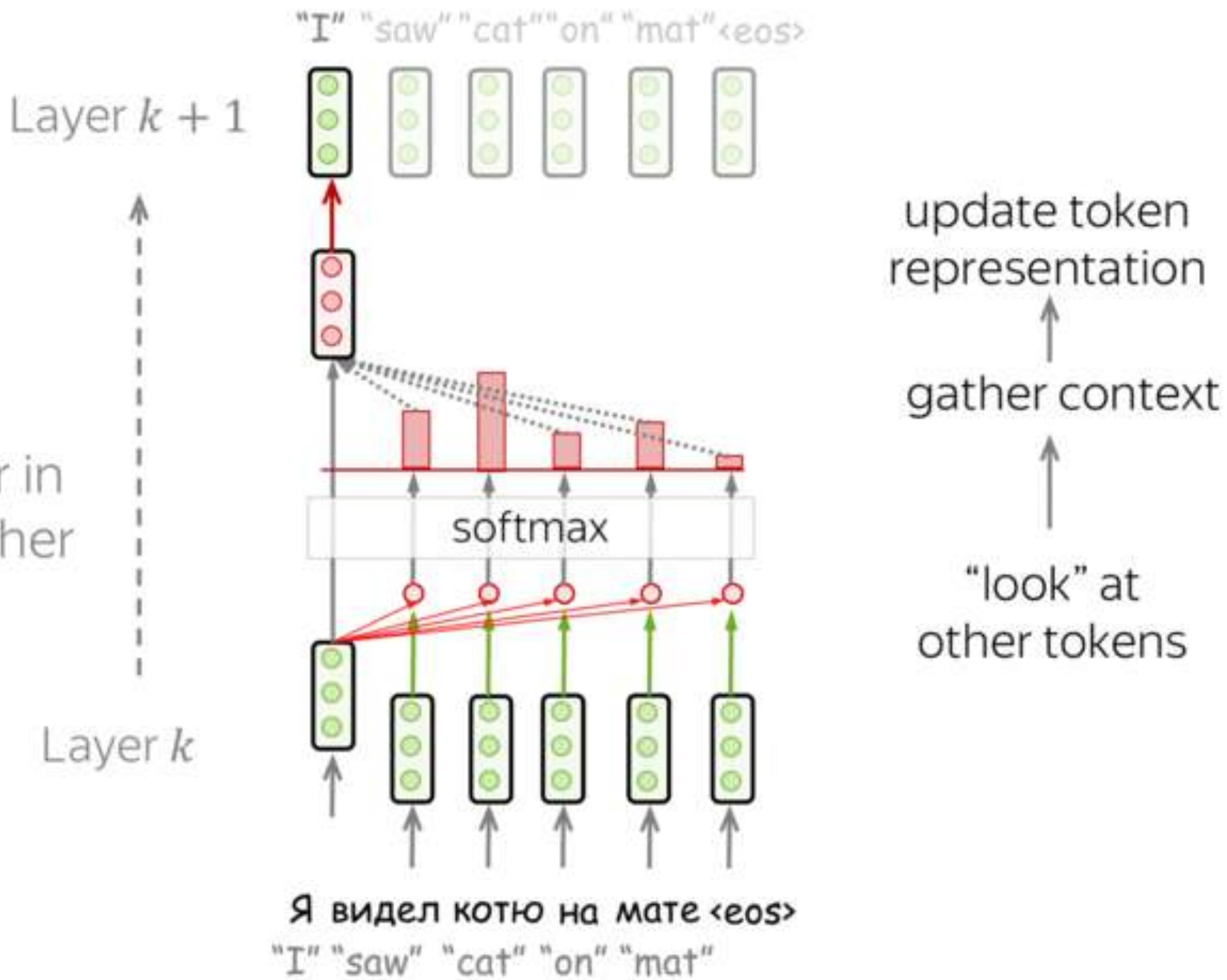
Self-attention is looking

- **from:** each state from a set of states
- **at:** all other states in the same set

Self-Attention: The “Look at Each Other” Part

(in practice, this happens in parallel)

Tokens try to understand themselves better in context of each other



Query, Key, Value

Each vector receives three representations (“roles”)

$$[W_Q] \times \begin{array}{c} \text{green} \\ \text{green} \\ \text{green} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{blue} \\ \text{blue} \\ \text{blue} \end{array}$$

Query: vector from which the attention is looking

“Hey there, do you have this information?”

$$[W_K] \times \begin{array}{c} \text{green} \\ \text{green} \\ \text{green} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{yellow} \\ \text{yellow} \\ \text{yellow} \end{array}$$

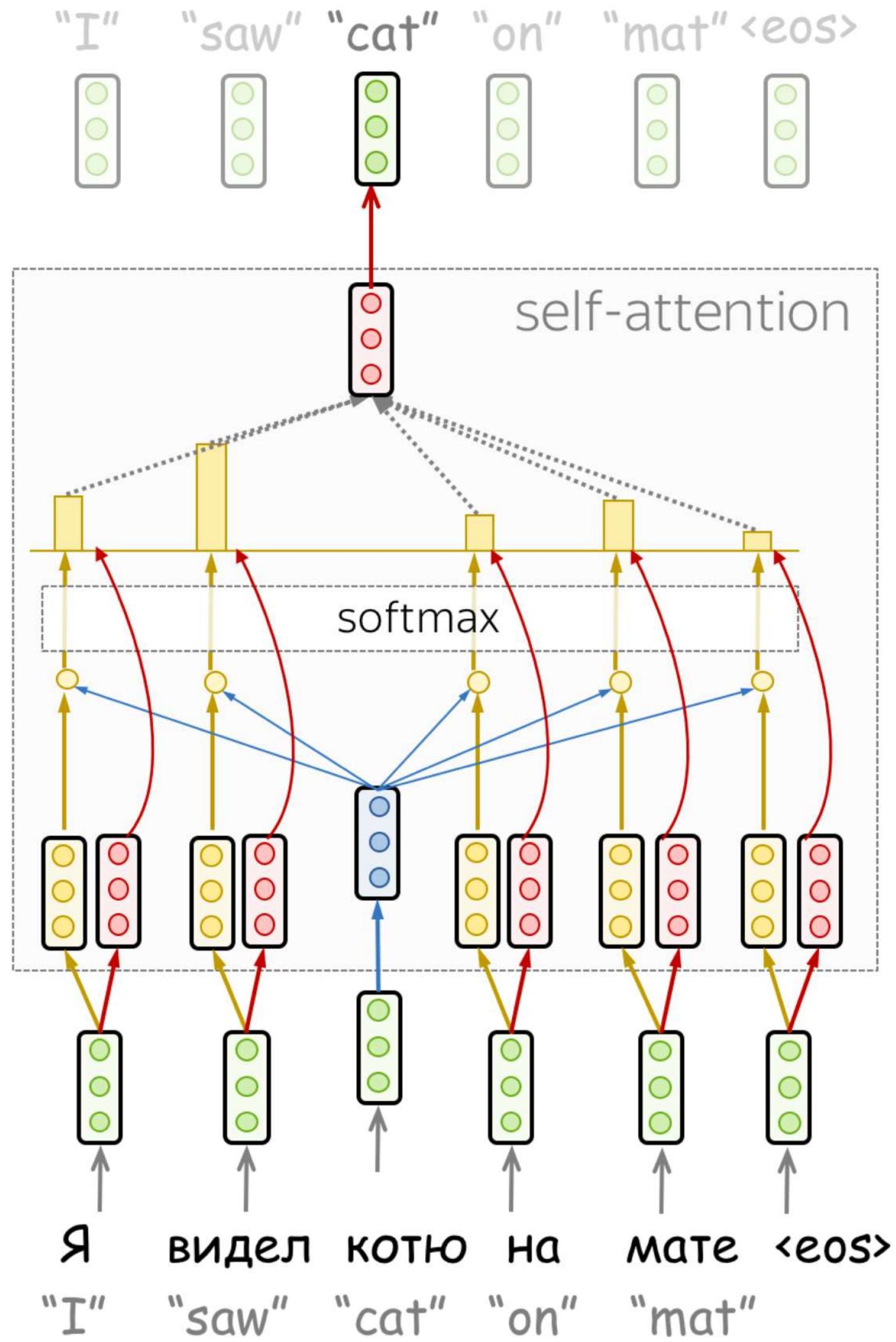
Key: vector at which the query looks to compute weights

“Hi, I have this information – give me a large weight!”

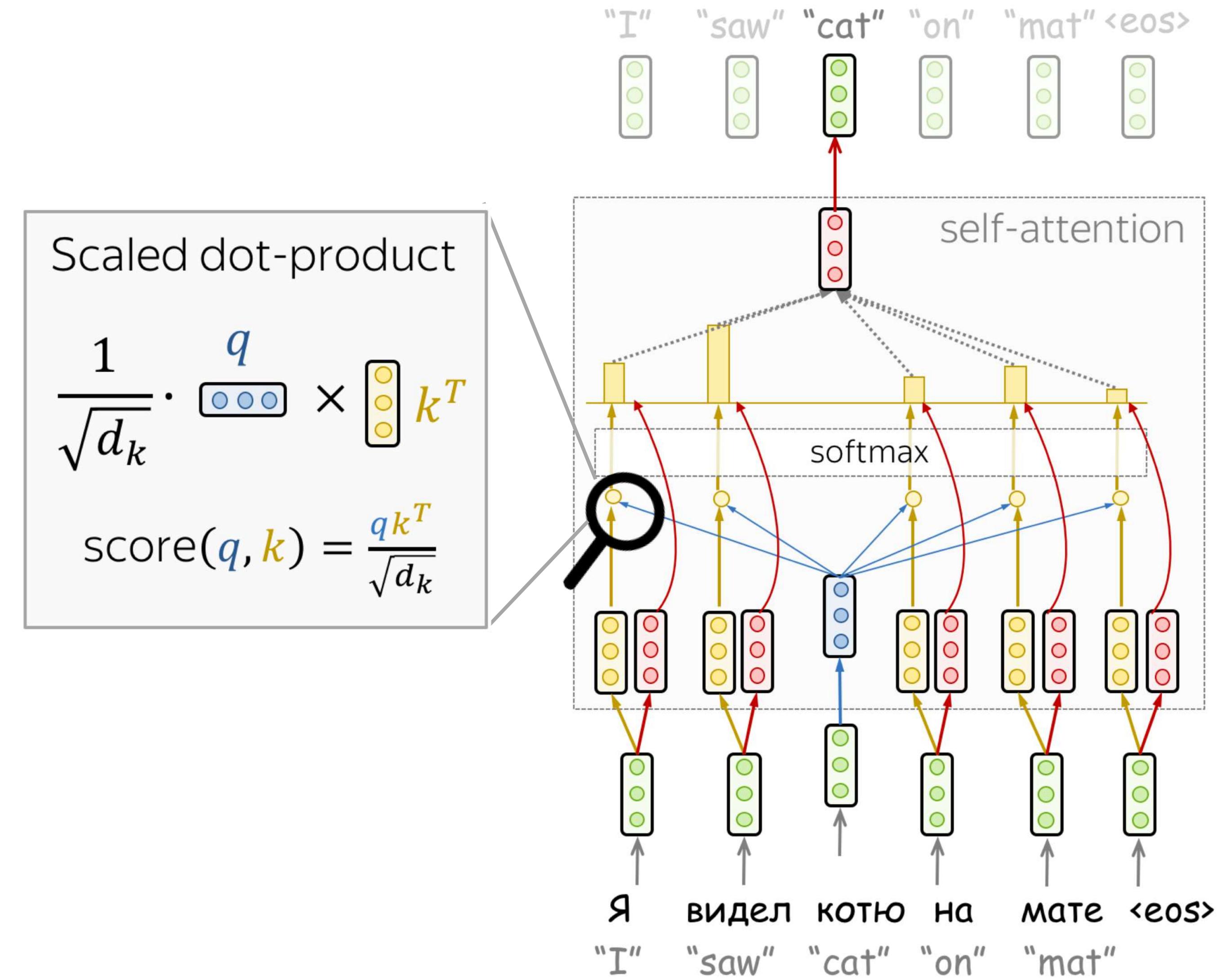
$$[W_V] \times \begin{array}{c} \text{green} \\ \text{green} \\ \text{green} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{red} \\ \text{red} \\ \text{red} \end{array}$$

Value: their weighted sum is attention output

“Here’s the information I have!”



Query, Key, Value



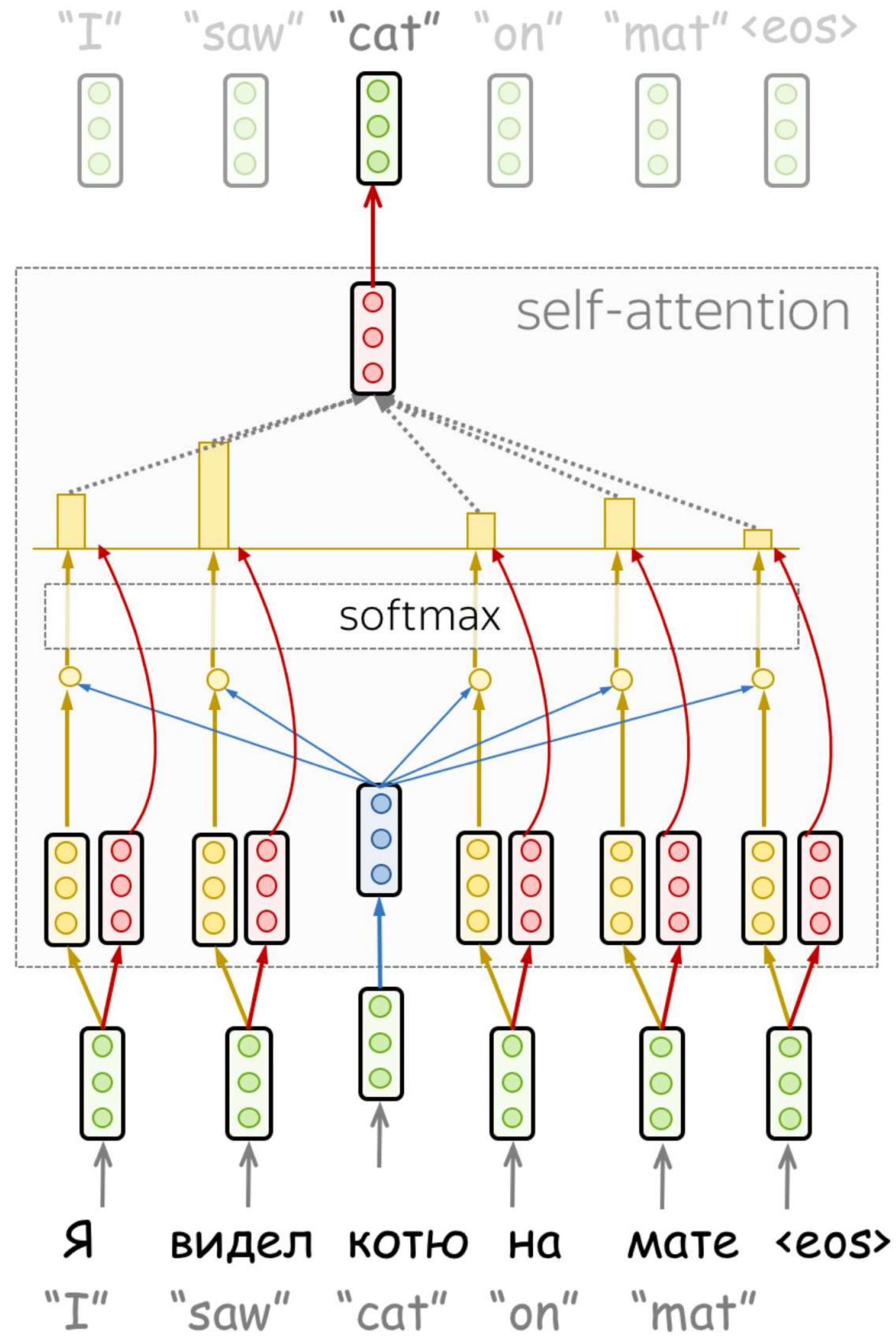
Query, Key, Value

$$\text{Attention}(q, k, v) = \text{softmax} \left(\frac{qk^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right) v$$

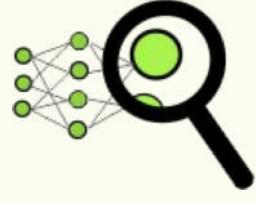
from to

Attention weights

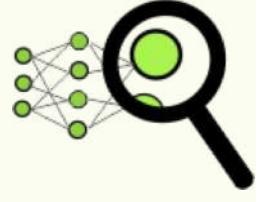
vector dimensionality of K, V



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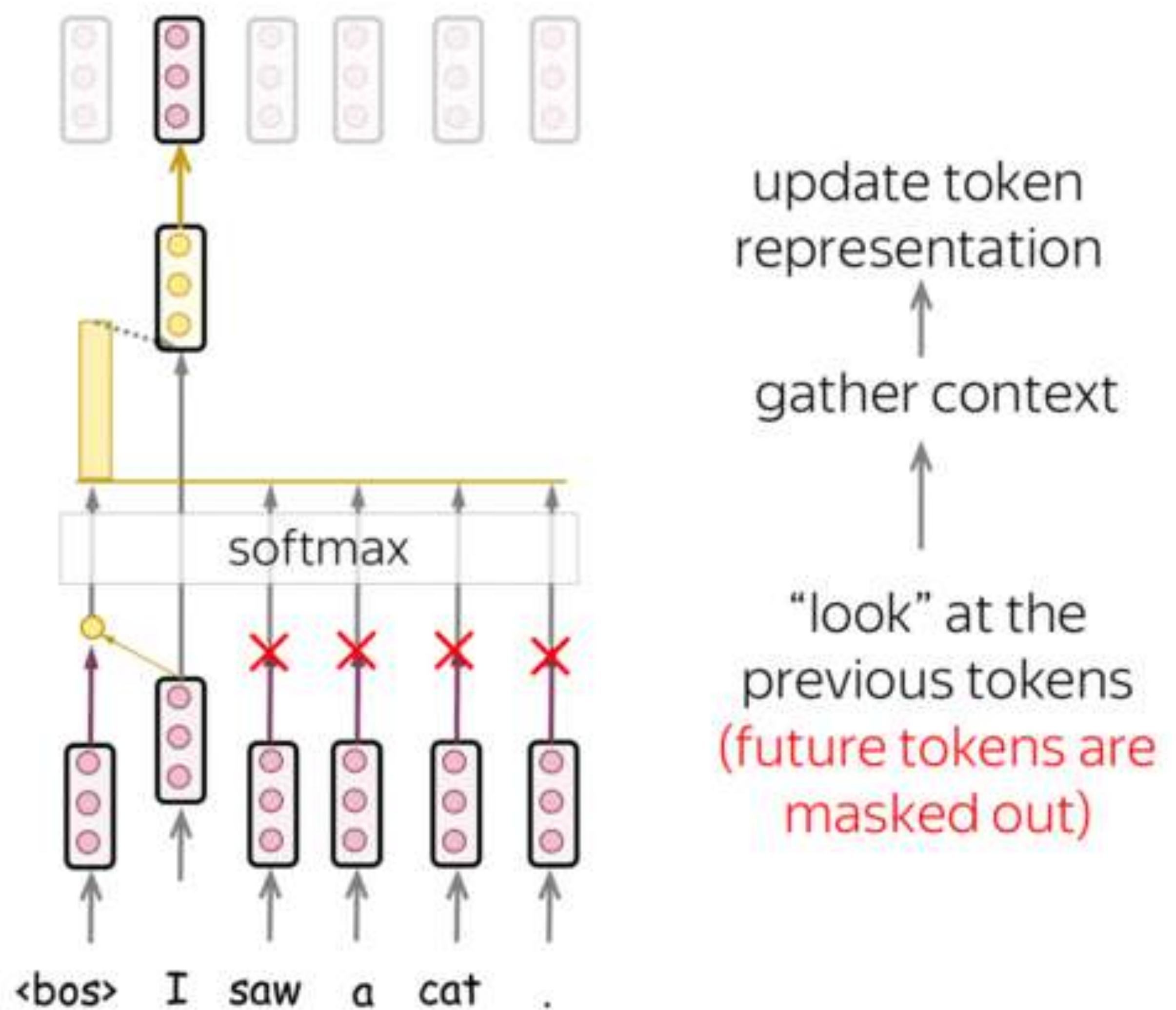
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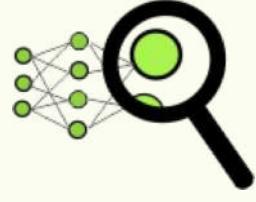
Masked Self-Attention: “Don’t Look Ahead”

In the decoder, we forbid looking at future tokens – we don't know them

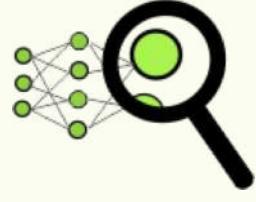
Note: in training, decoder processes all target tokens at once – without masks, it would see future



What is going to happen:

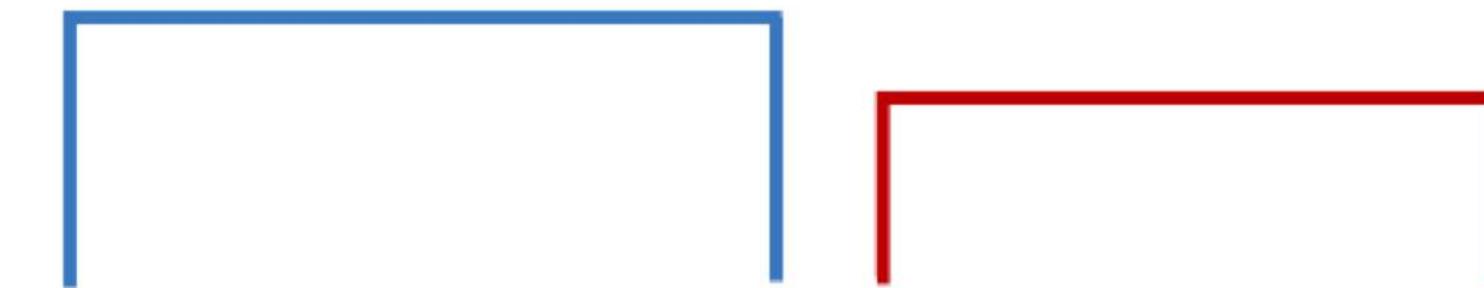
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Multi-Head Attention

We need to track many different things at once!

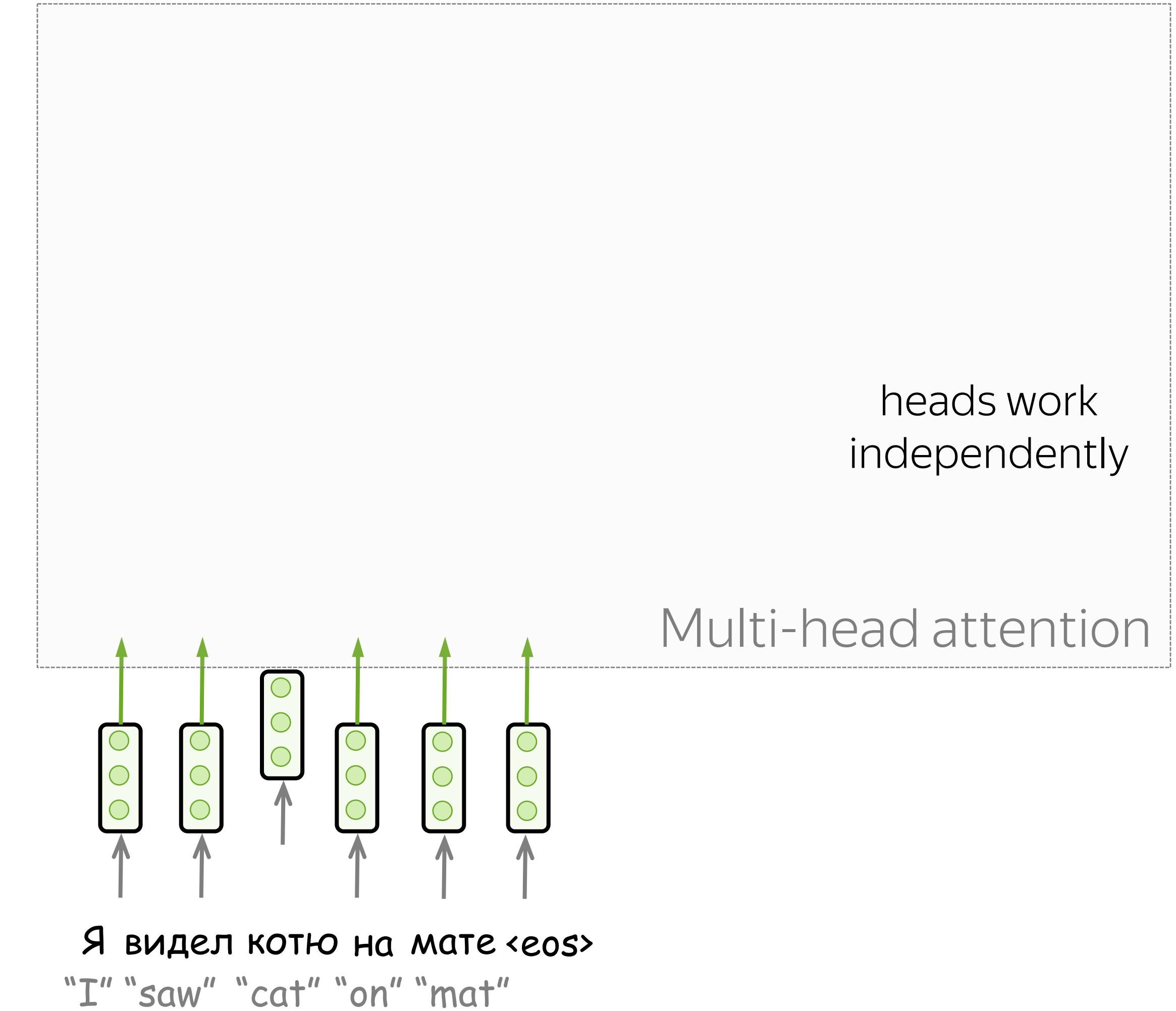
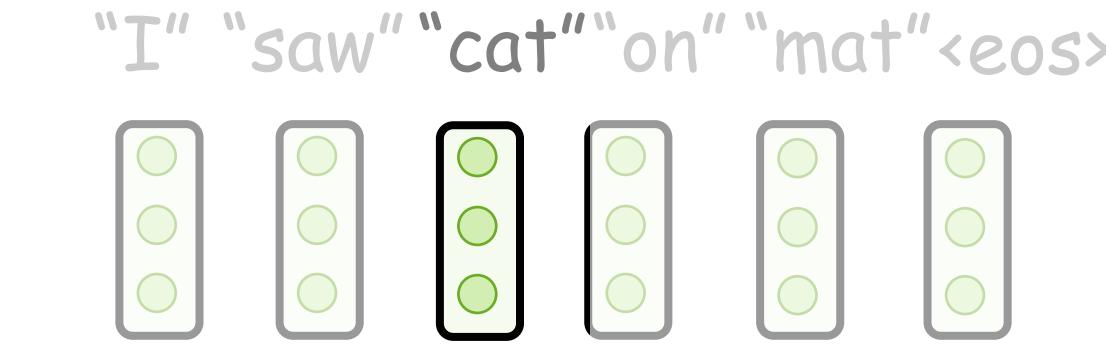


Она руководит **новым** проектом

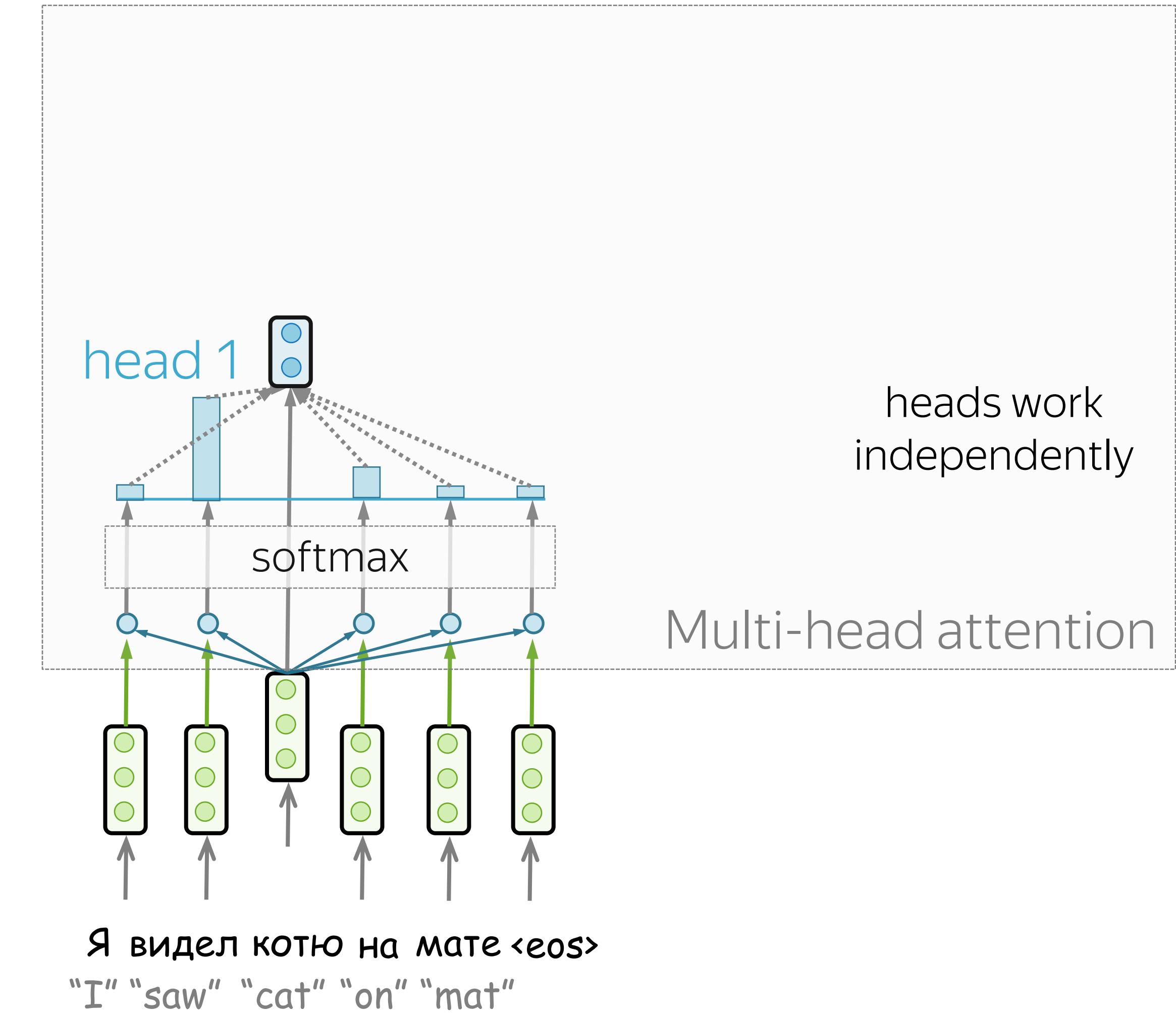
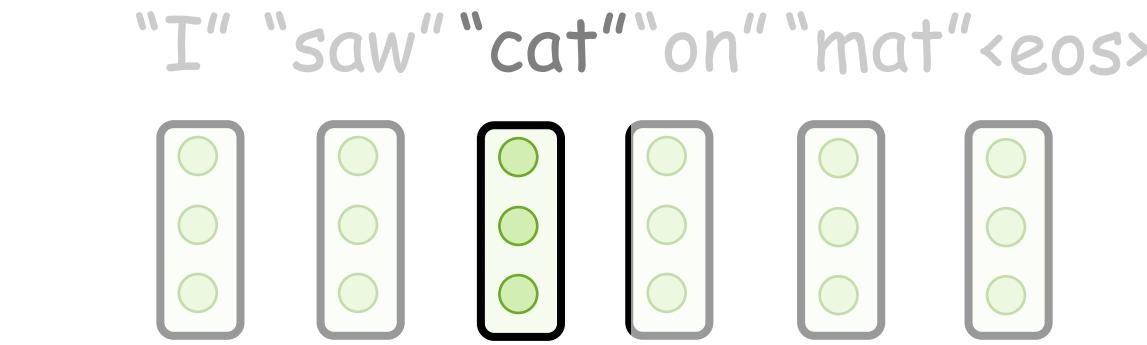
- Gender agreement
- Case government
- Lexical preferences
- ...

The example is from David Talbot

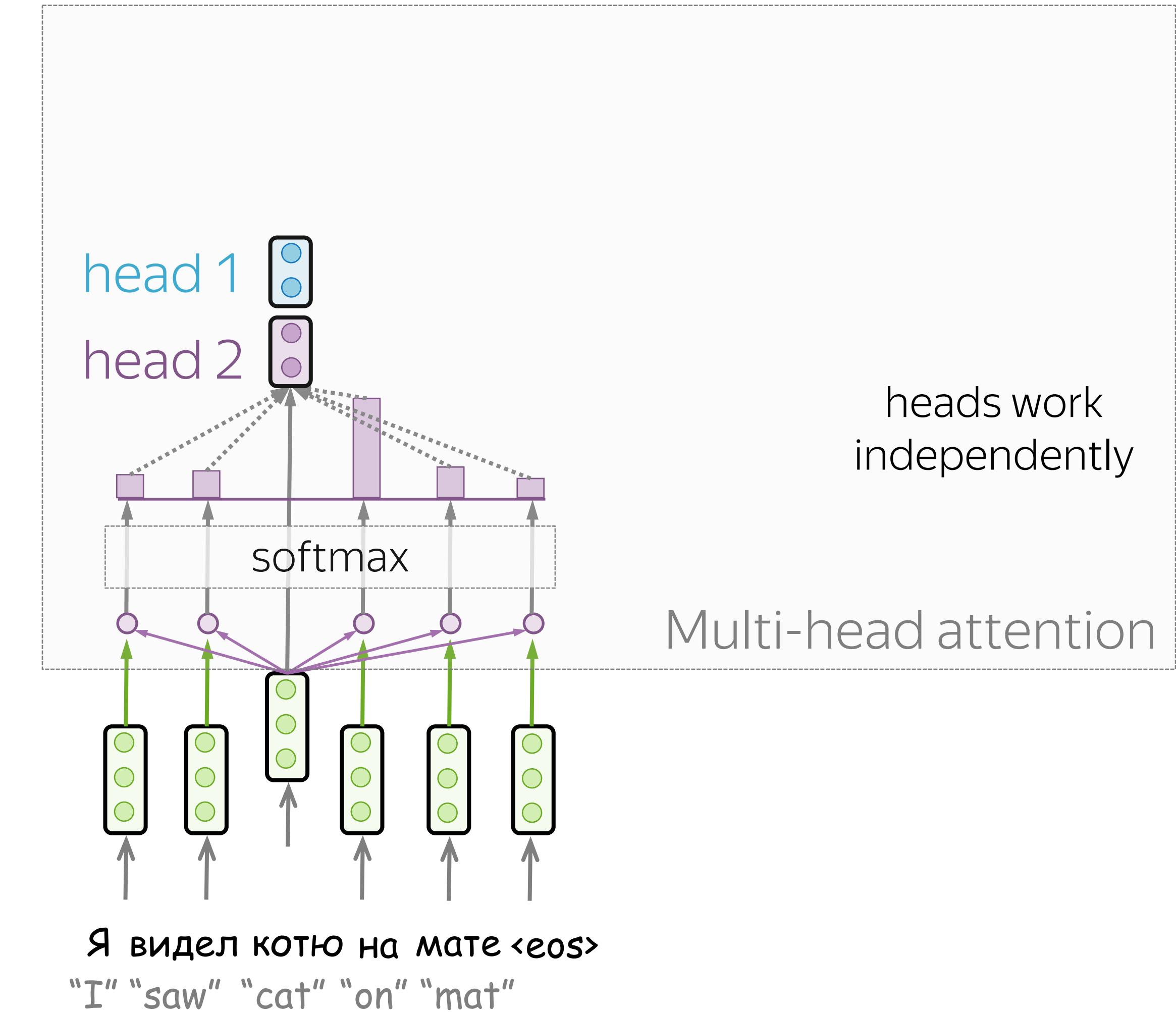
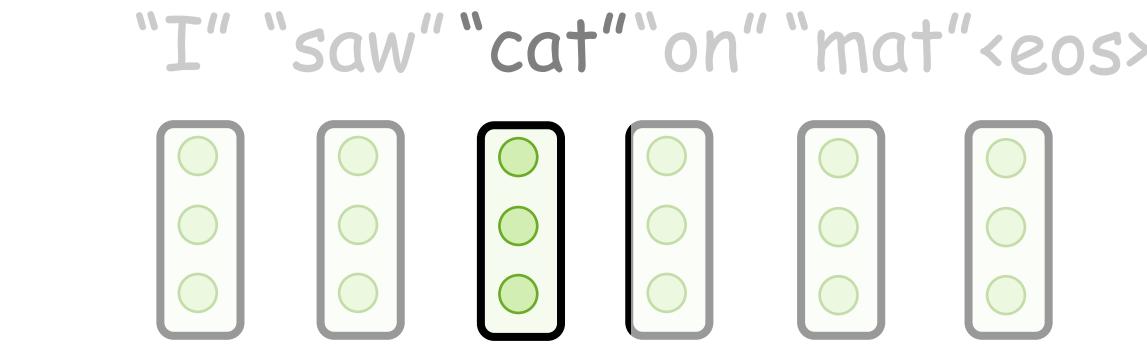
Multi-Head Attention



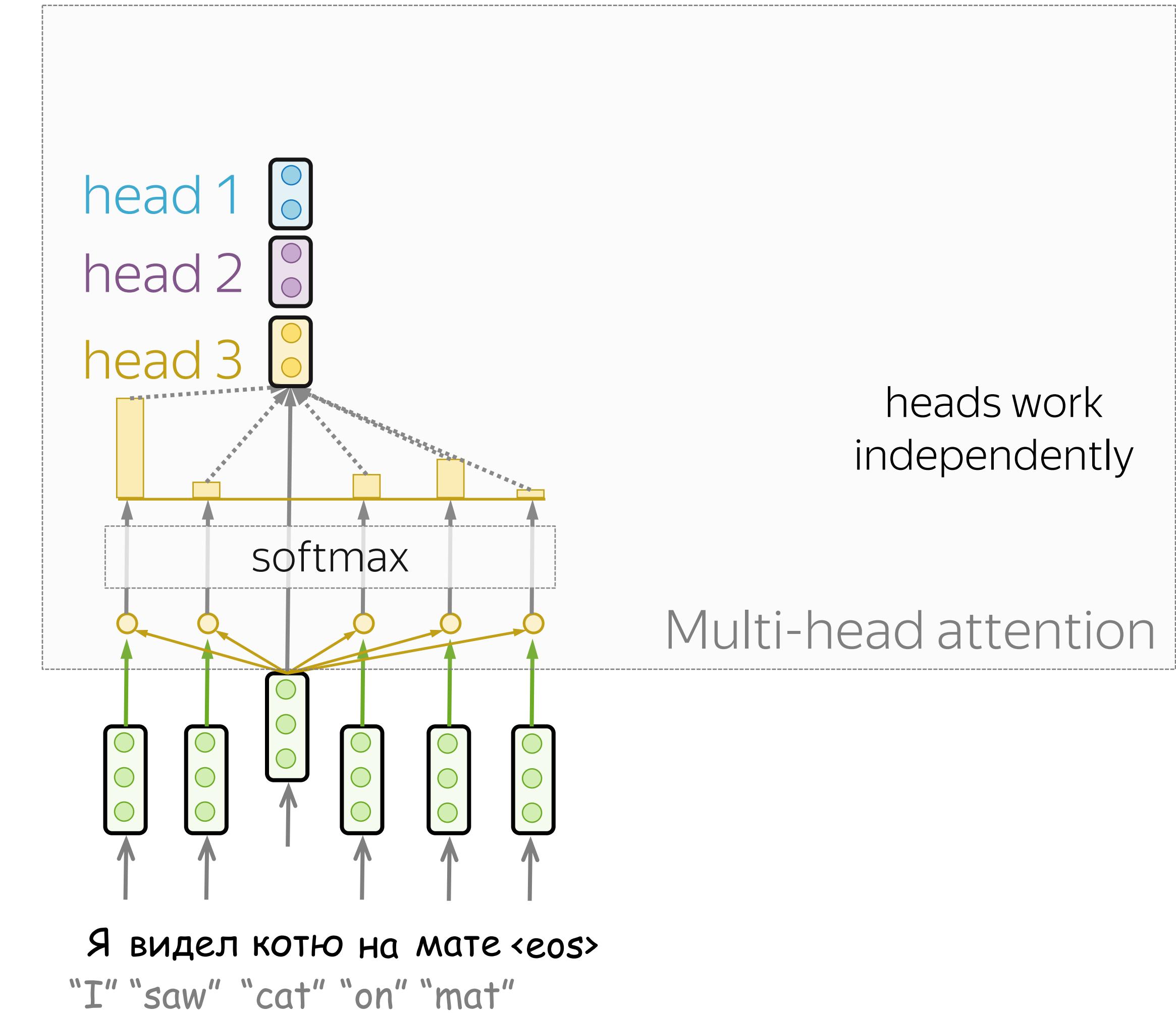
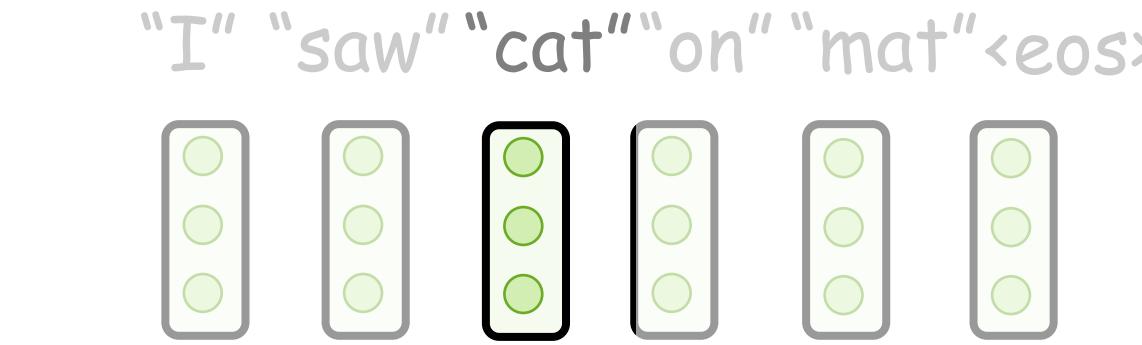
Multi-Head Attention



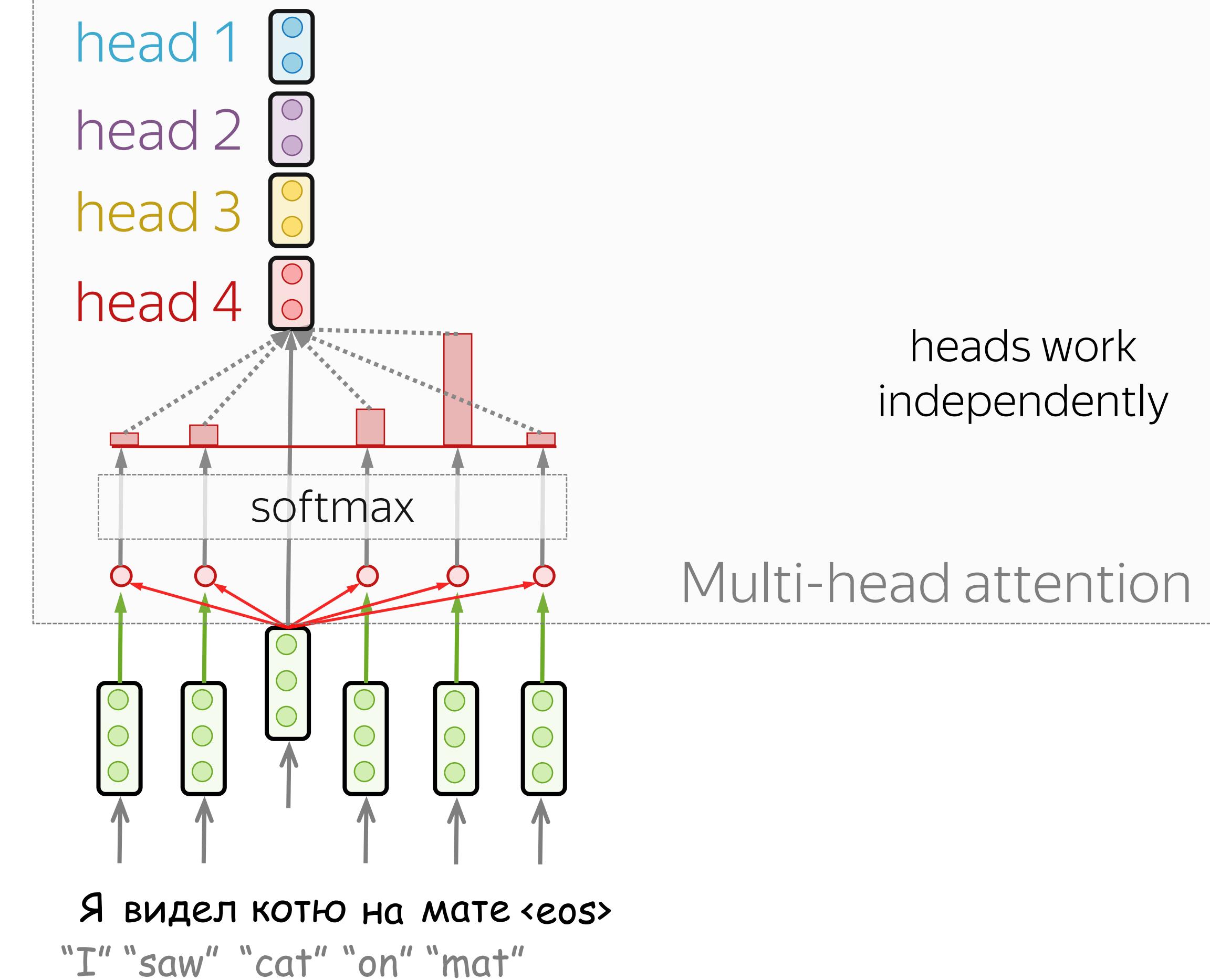
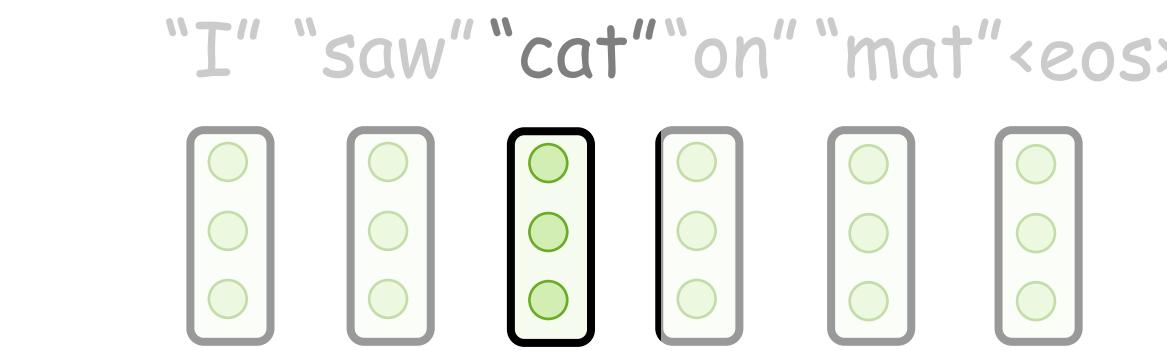
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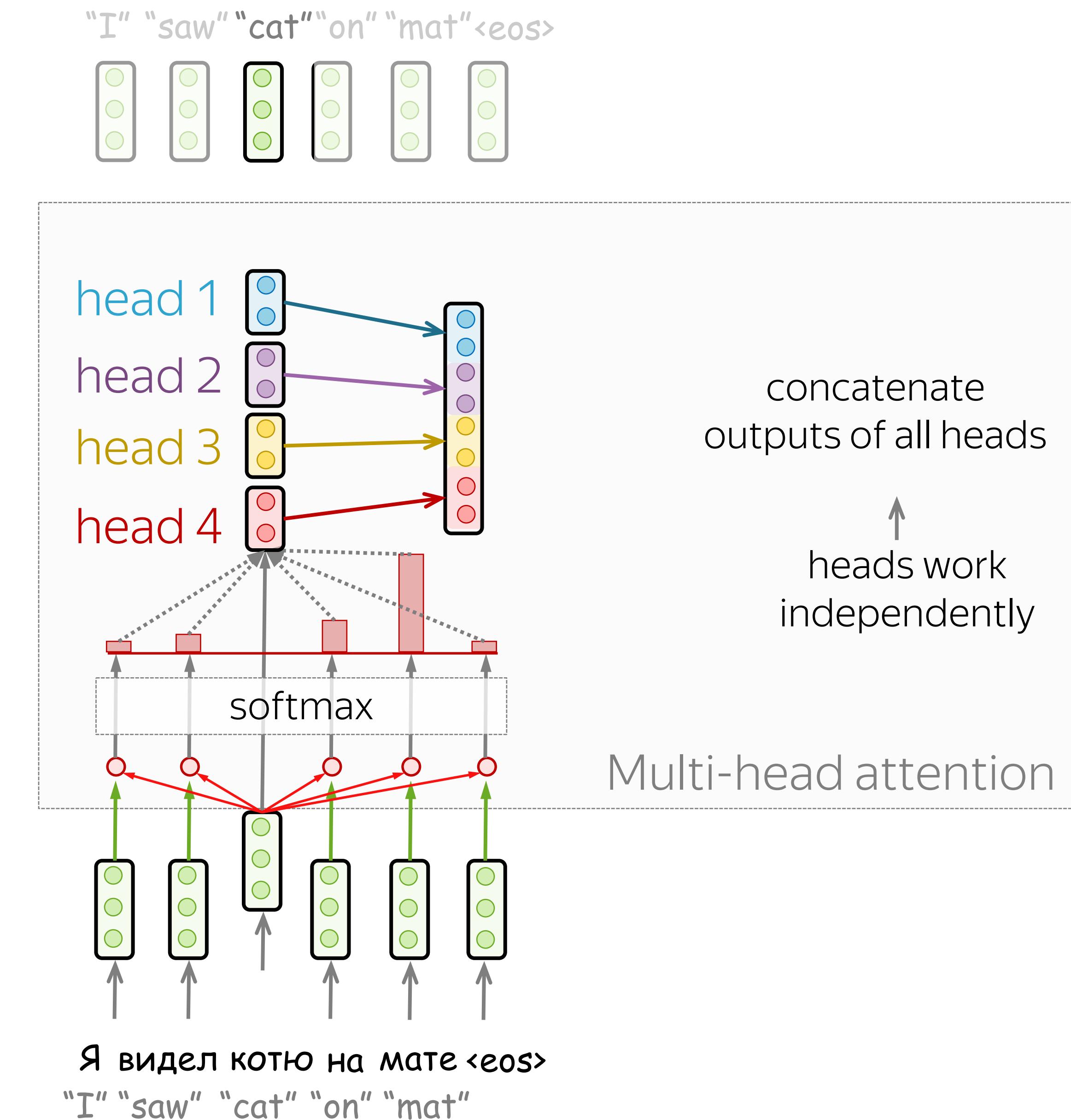
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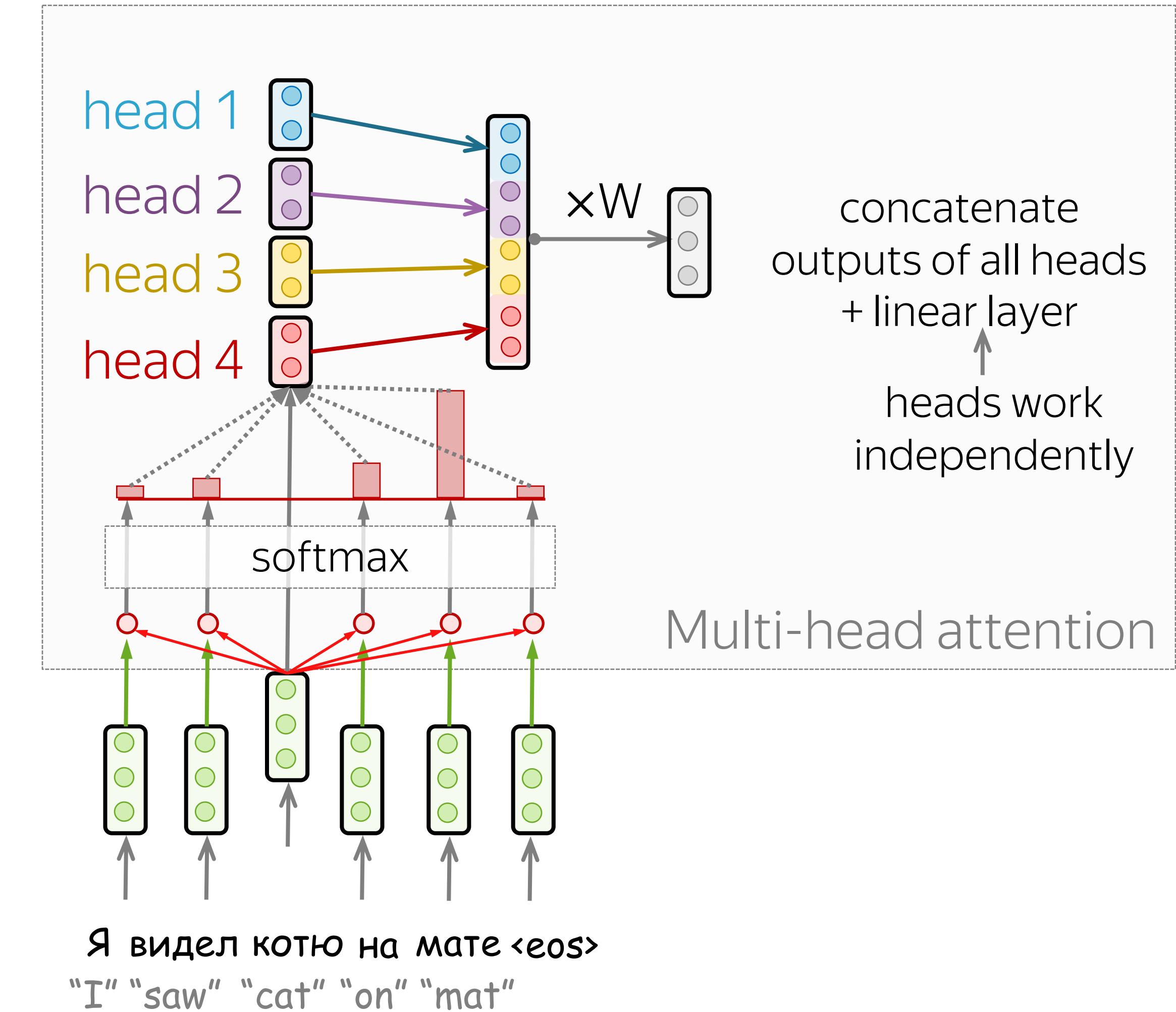
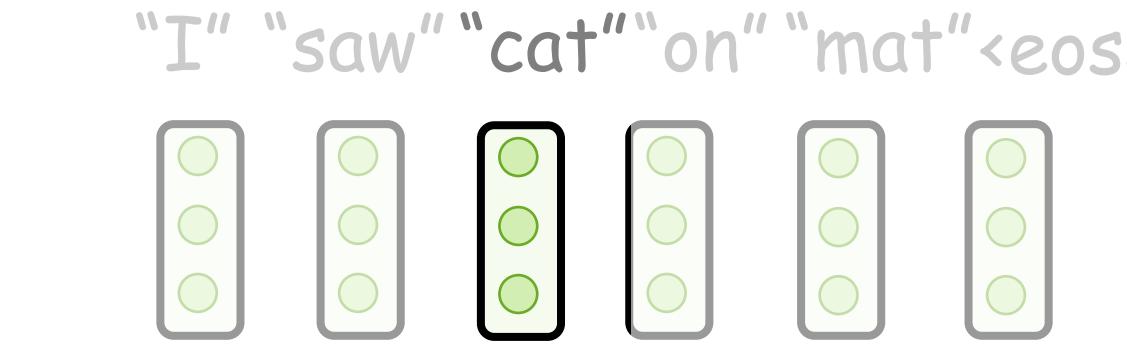
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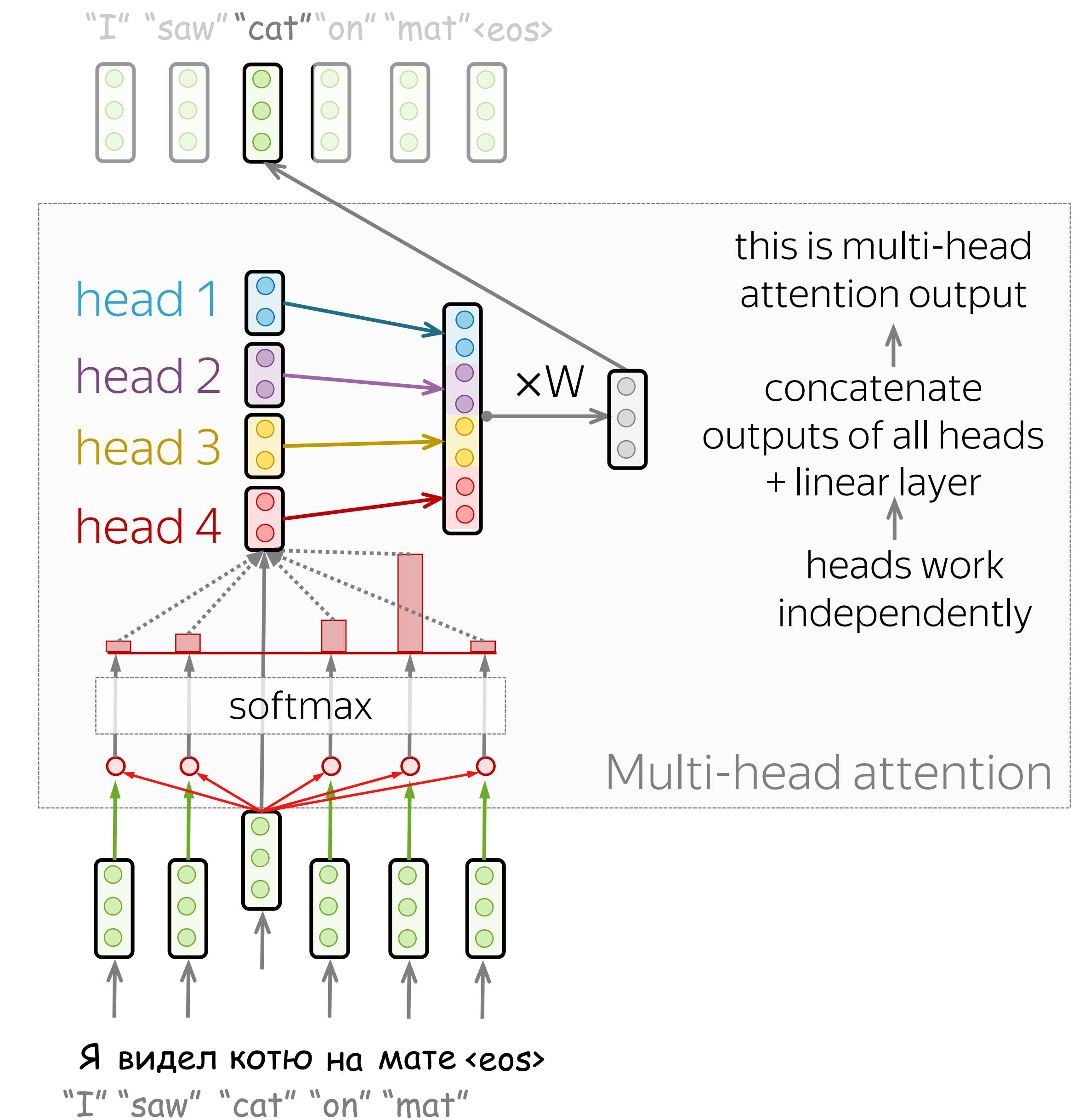
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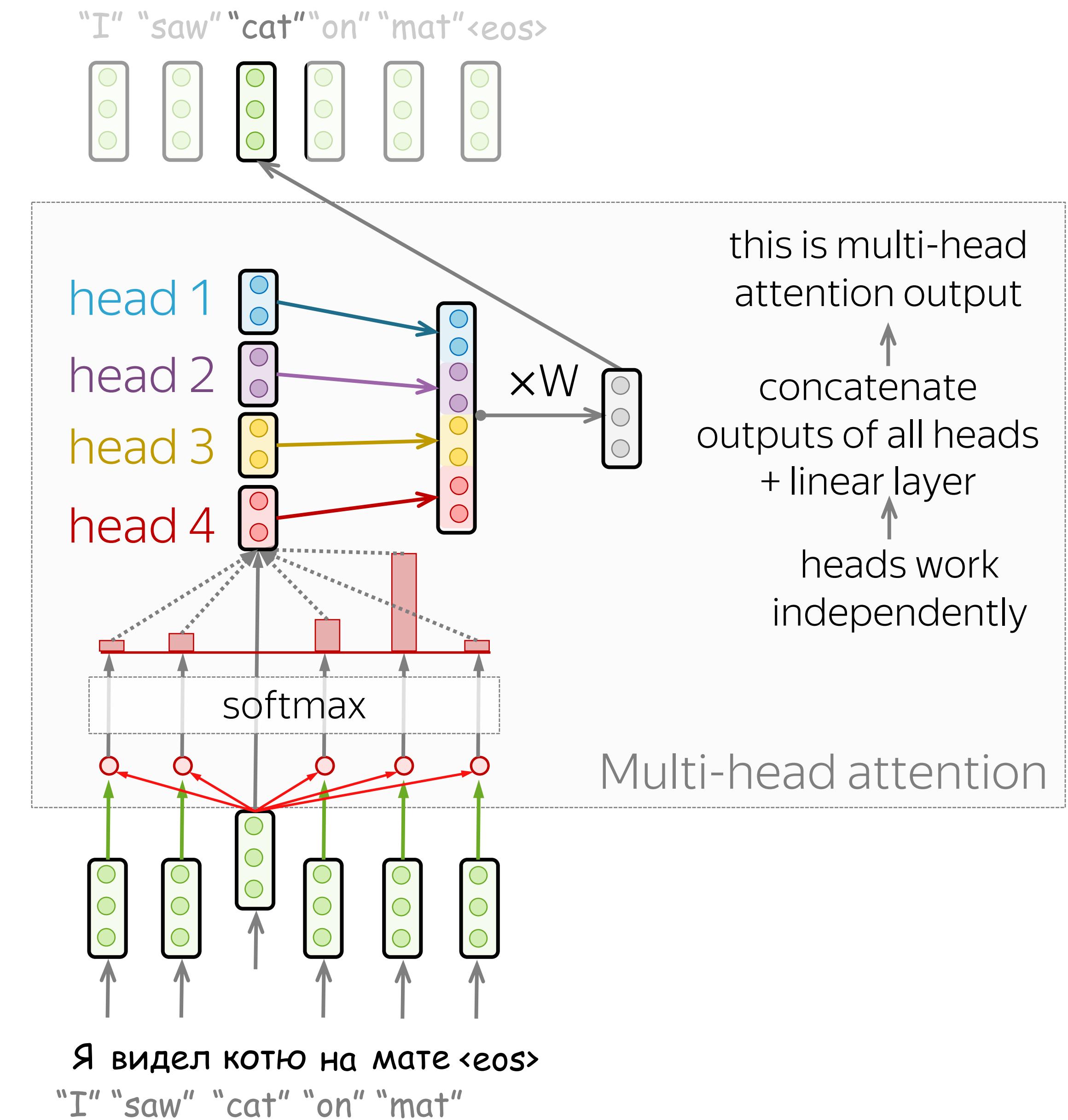
Multi-Head Attention



Multi-Head Attention

$$\text{MultiHead}(Q, K, V) = \text{Concat}(\text{head}_1, \dots, \text{head}_n)W_o,$$

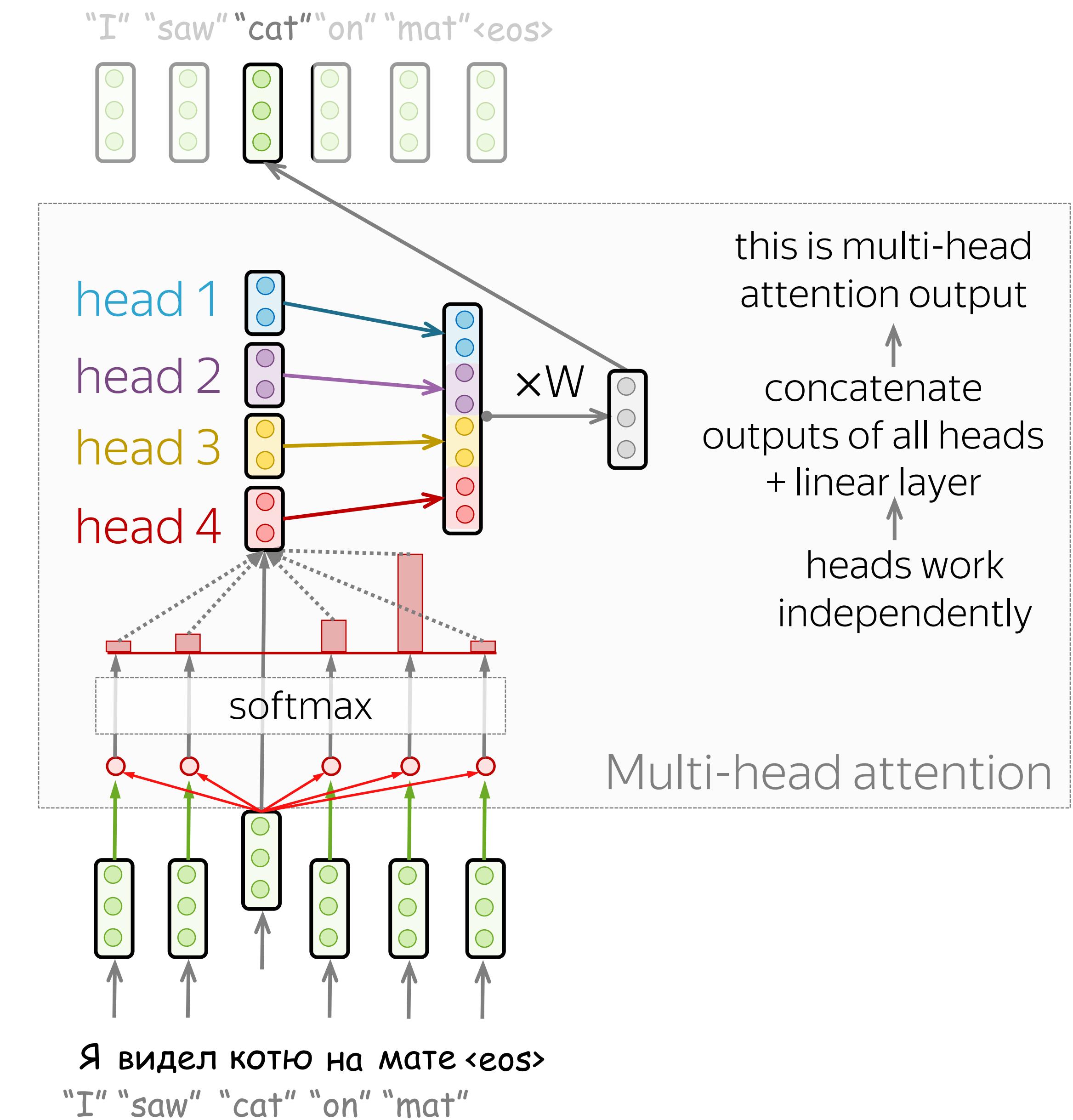
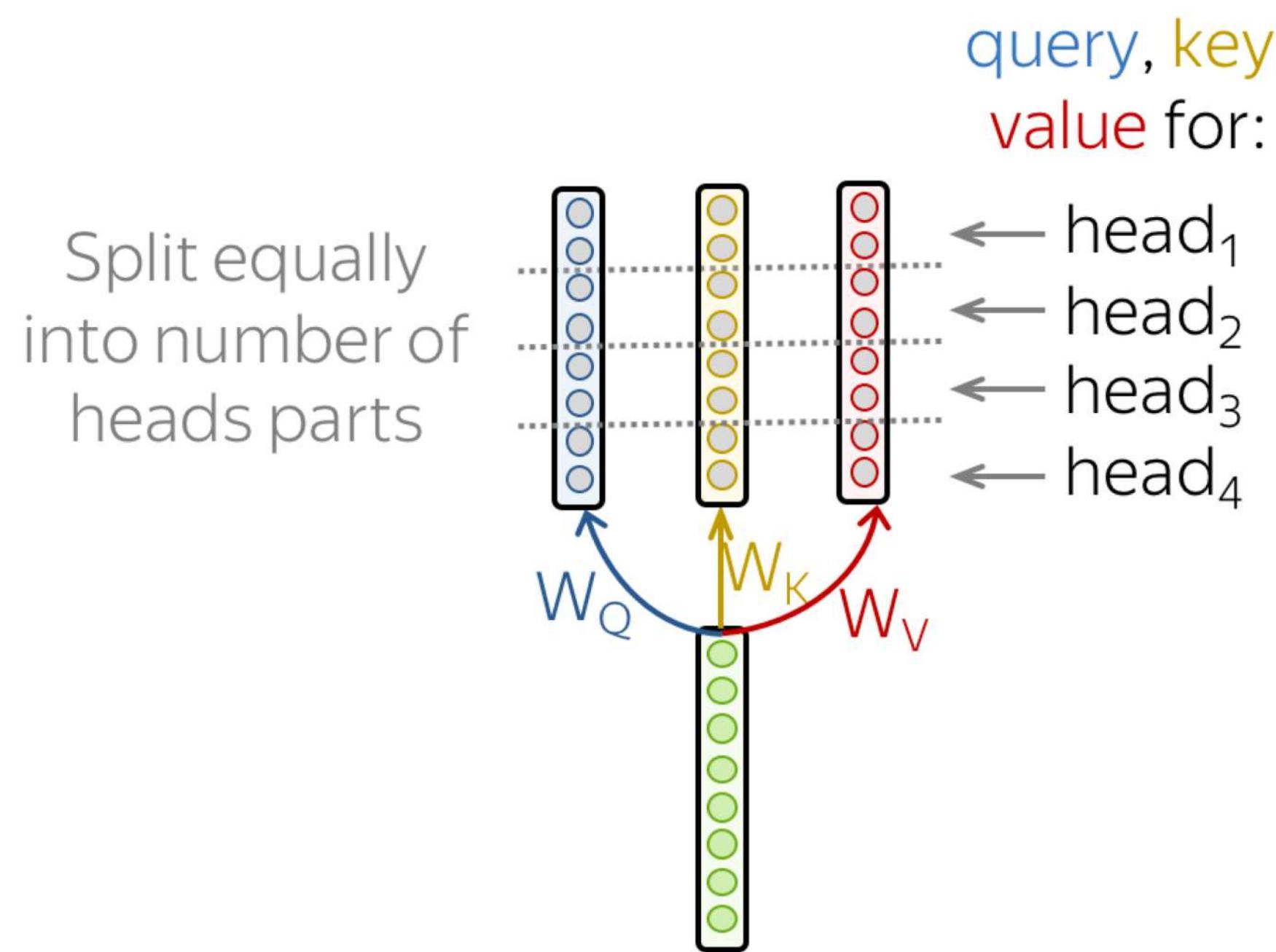
$$\text{head}_i = \text{Attention}(QW_Q^i, KW_K^i, VW_V^i)$$



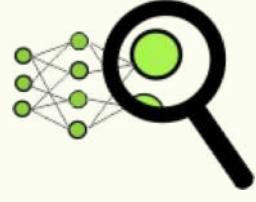
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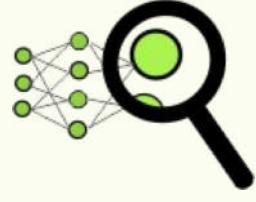
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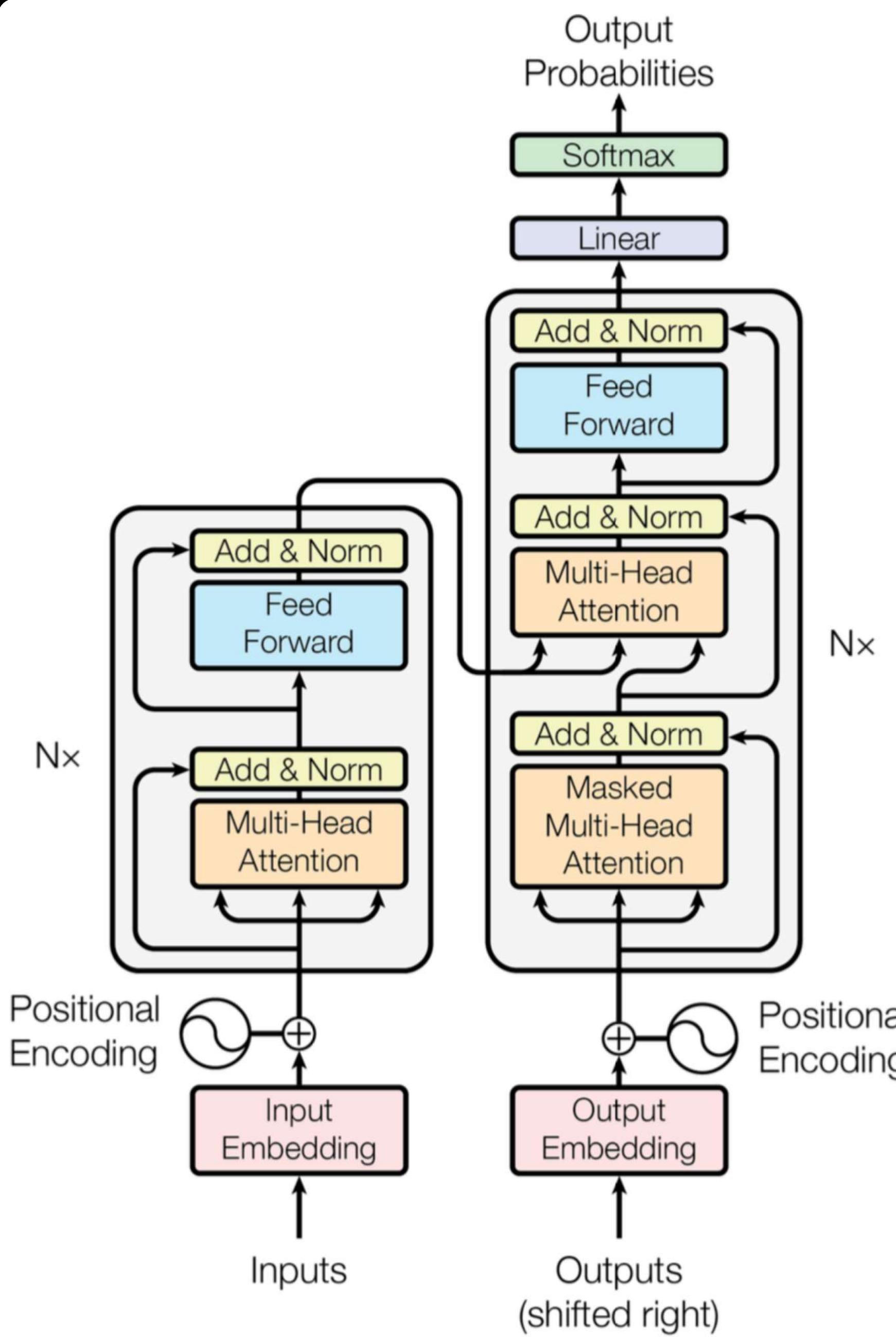
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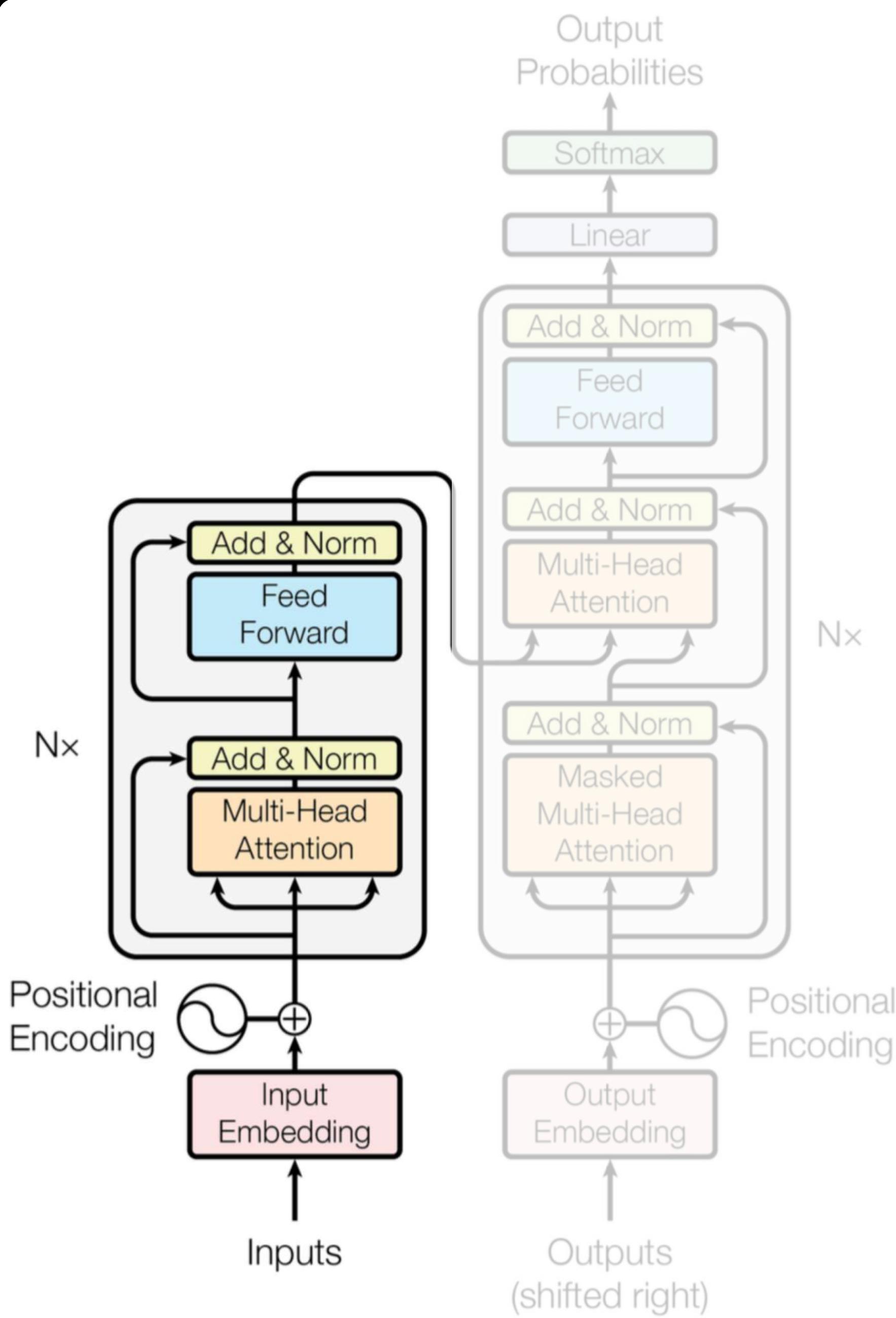
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Transformer

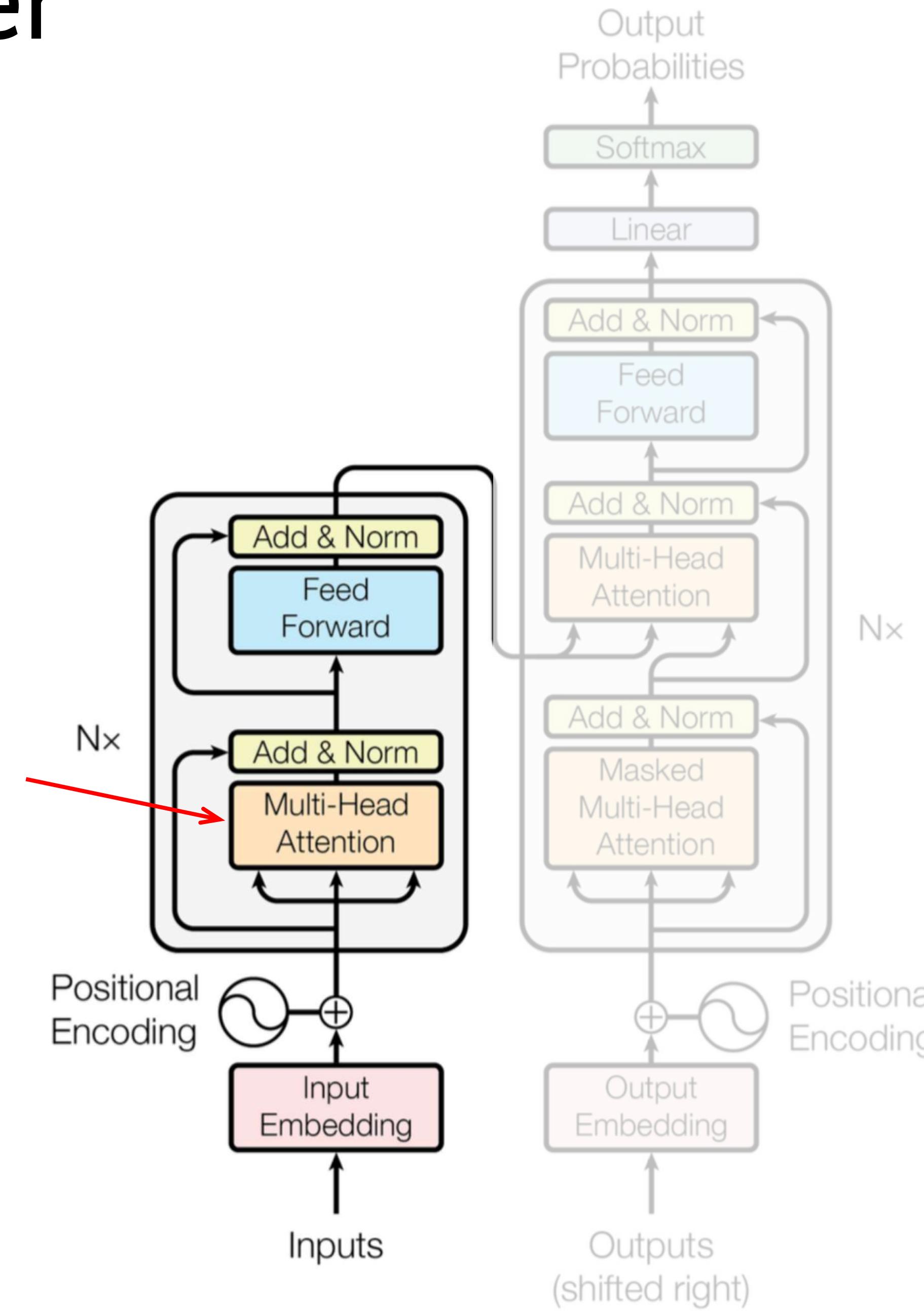


Transformer



Transformer

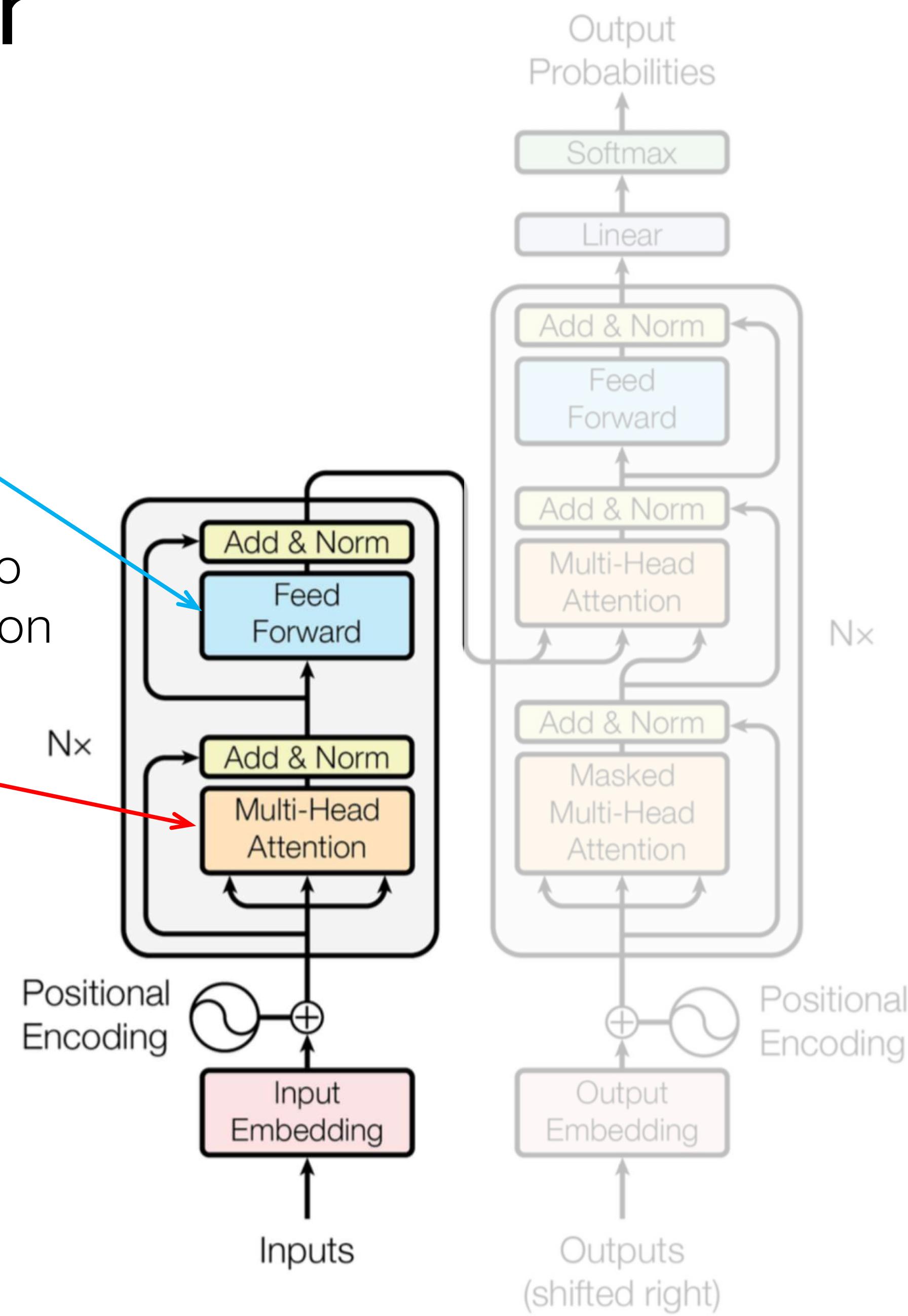
Encoder self-attention:
tokens look at each other
queries, keys, values
are computed from
encoder states



Transformer

Feed-forward network:
after taking information from
other tokens, take a moment to
think and process this information

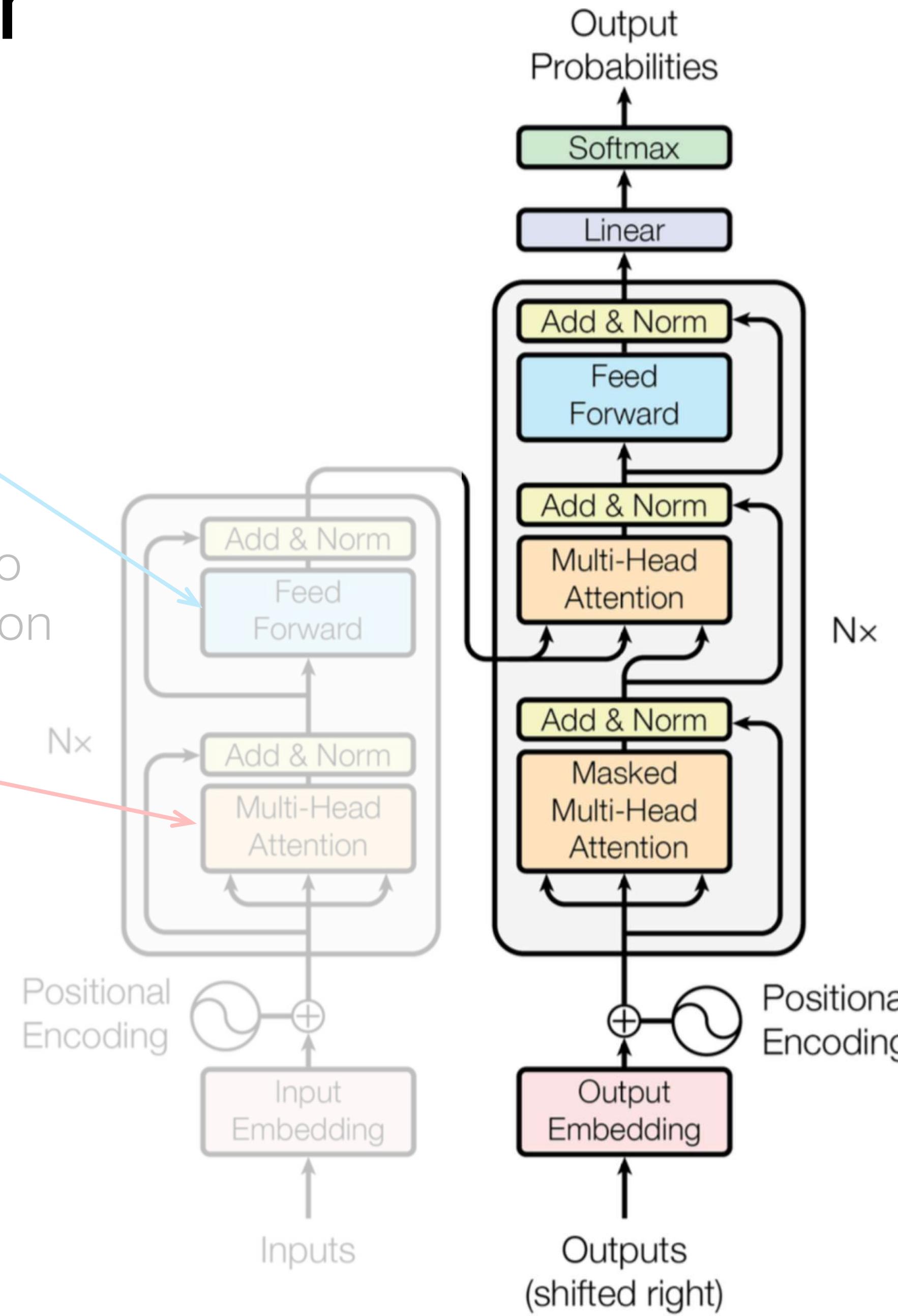
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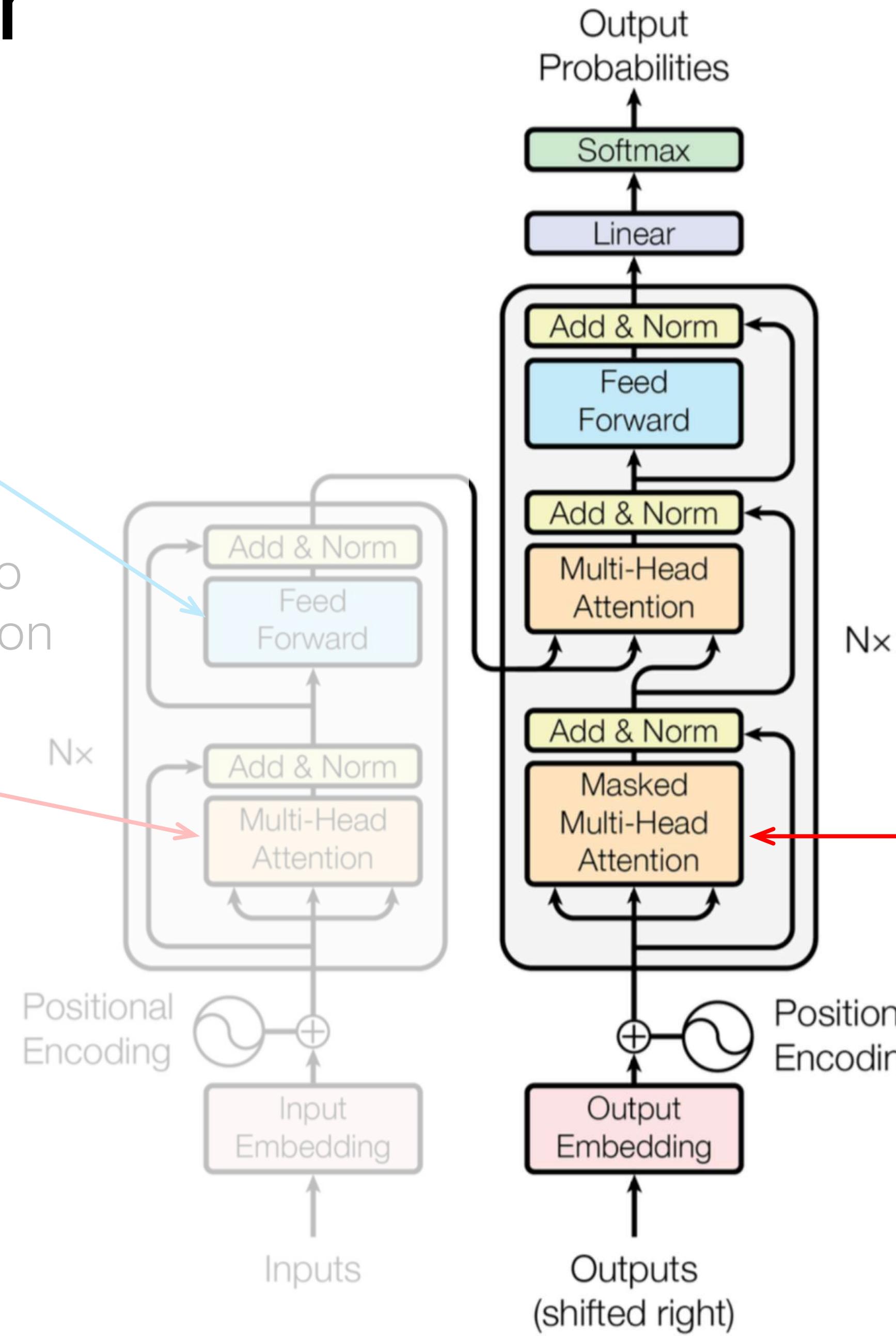
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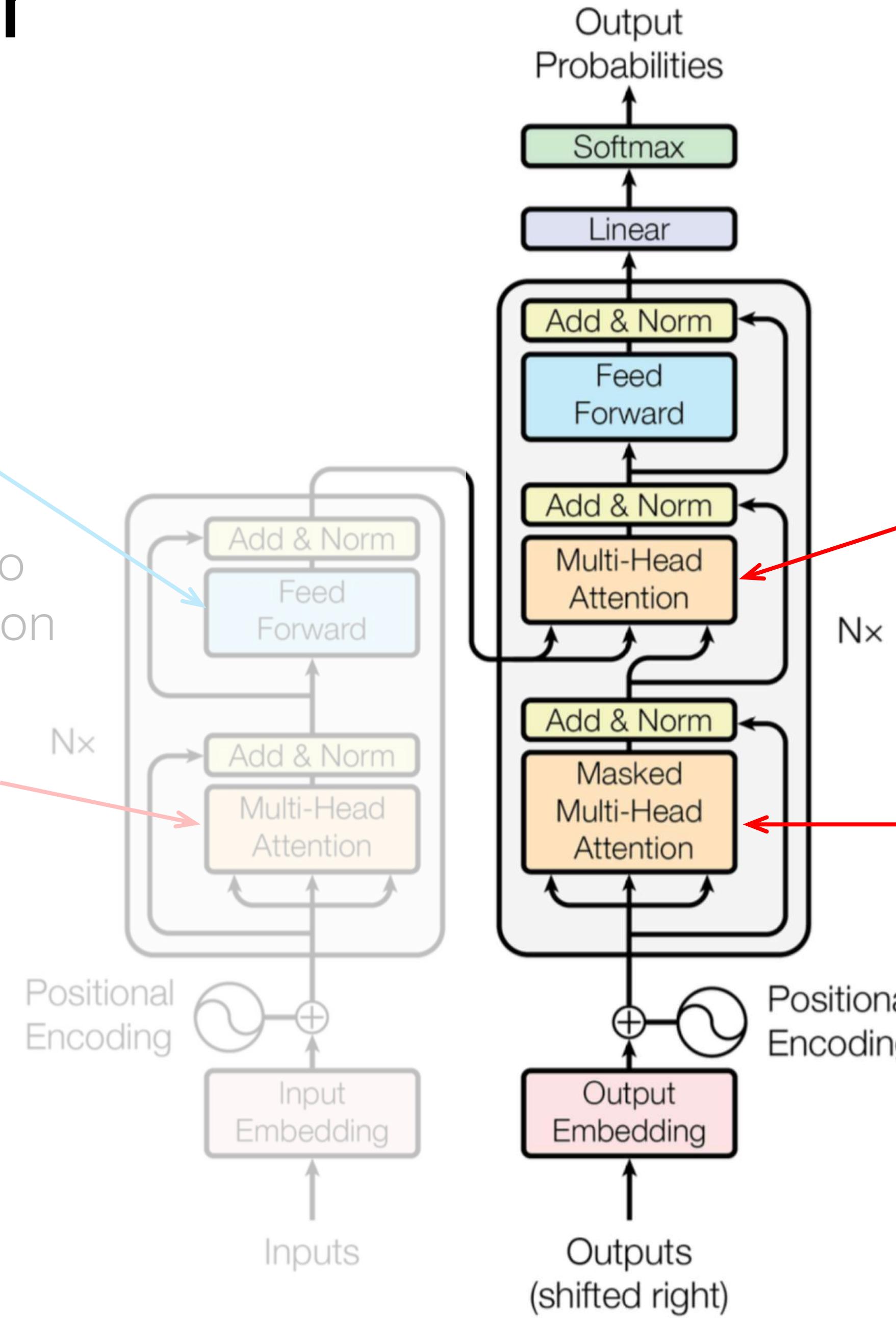


Decoder self-attention (masked):
tokens look at the previous tokens
queries, keys, values are computed
from decoder states

Transformer

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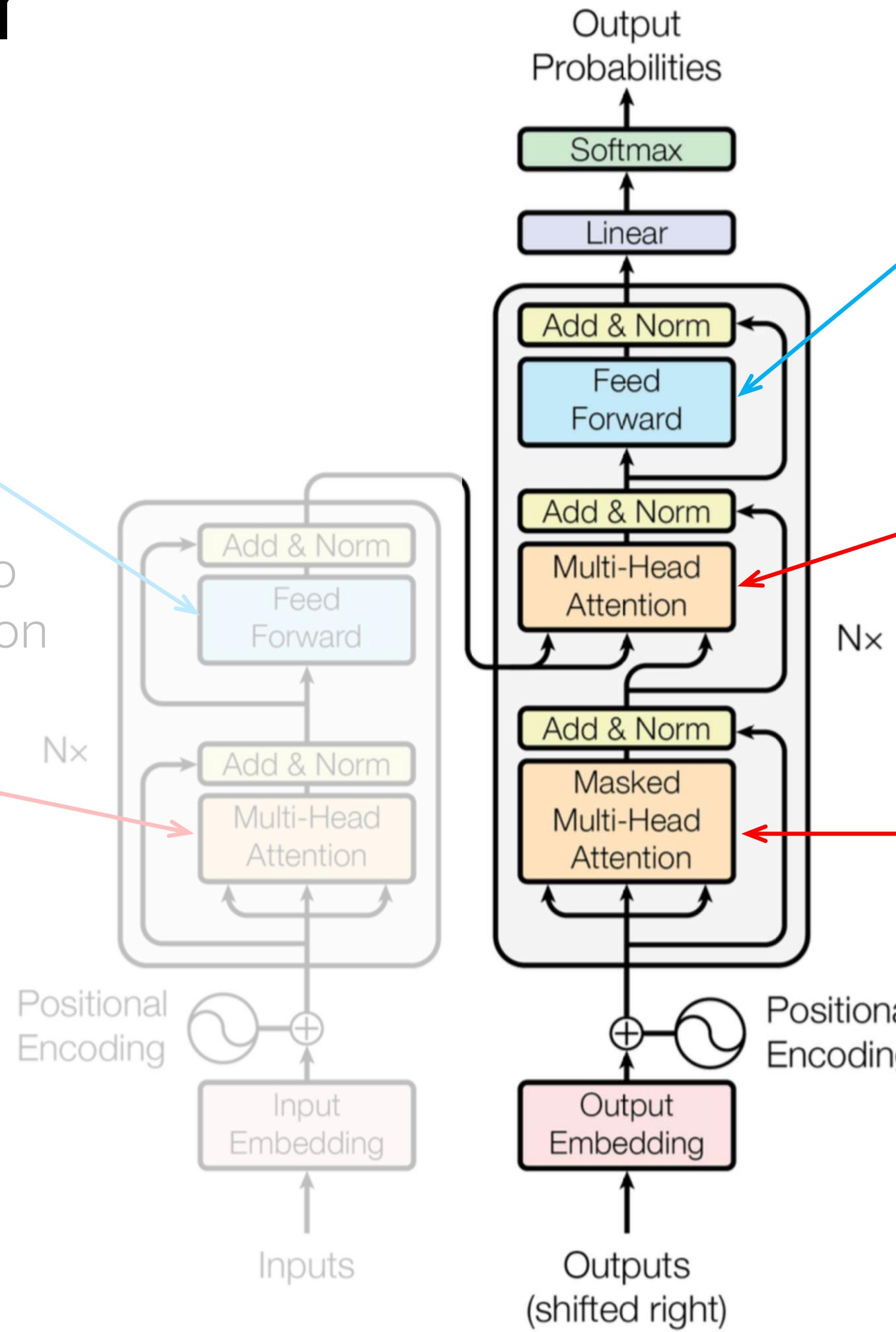
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Decoder-encoder attention:
target token looks at the source
queries – from decoder states; keys
and values from encoder states

Transformer

Feed-forward network:
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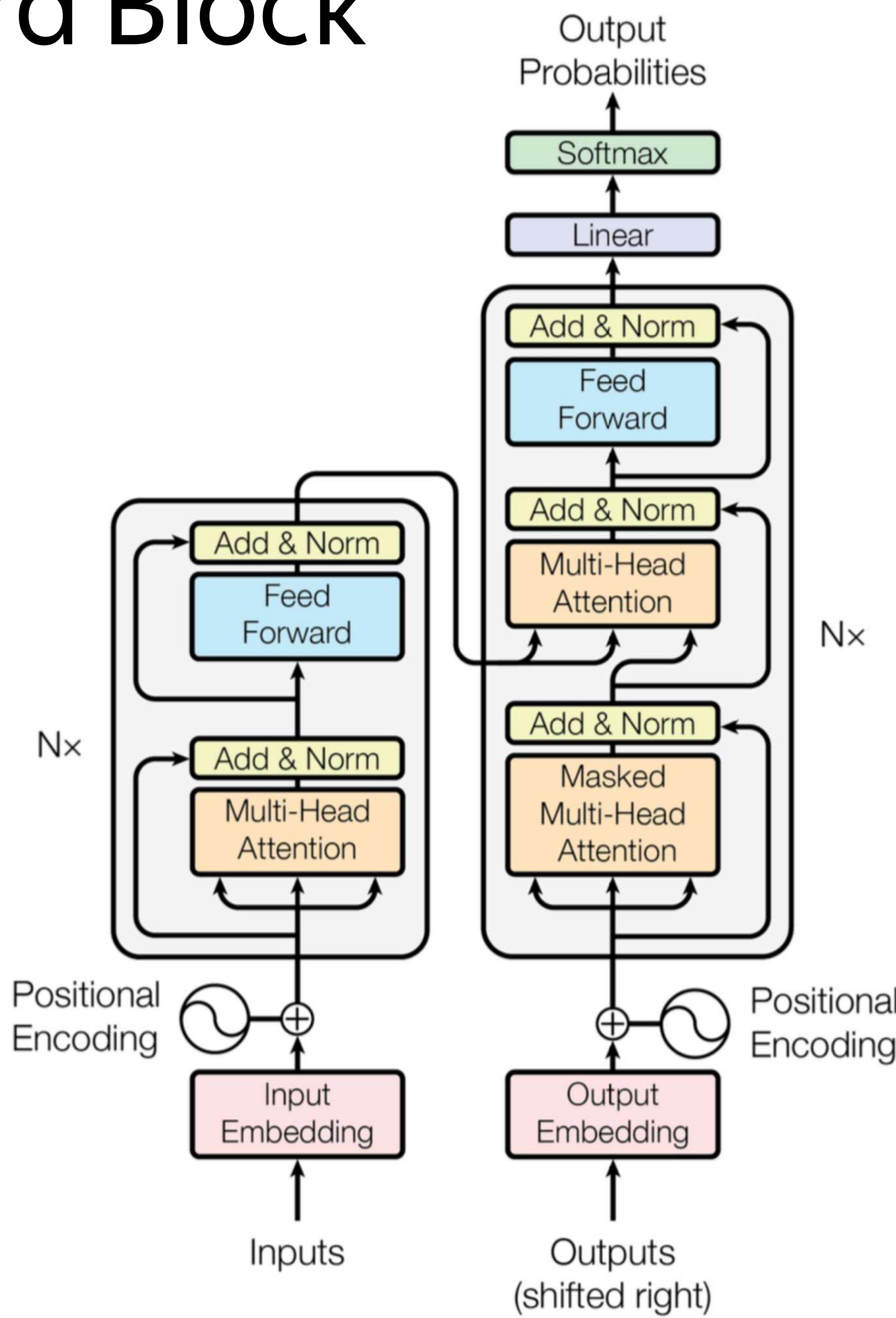


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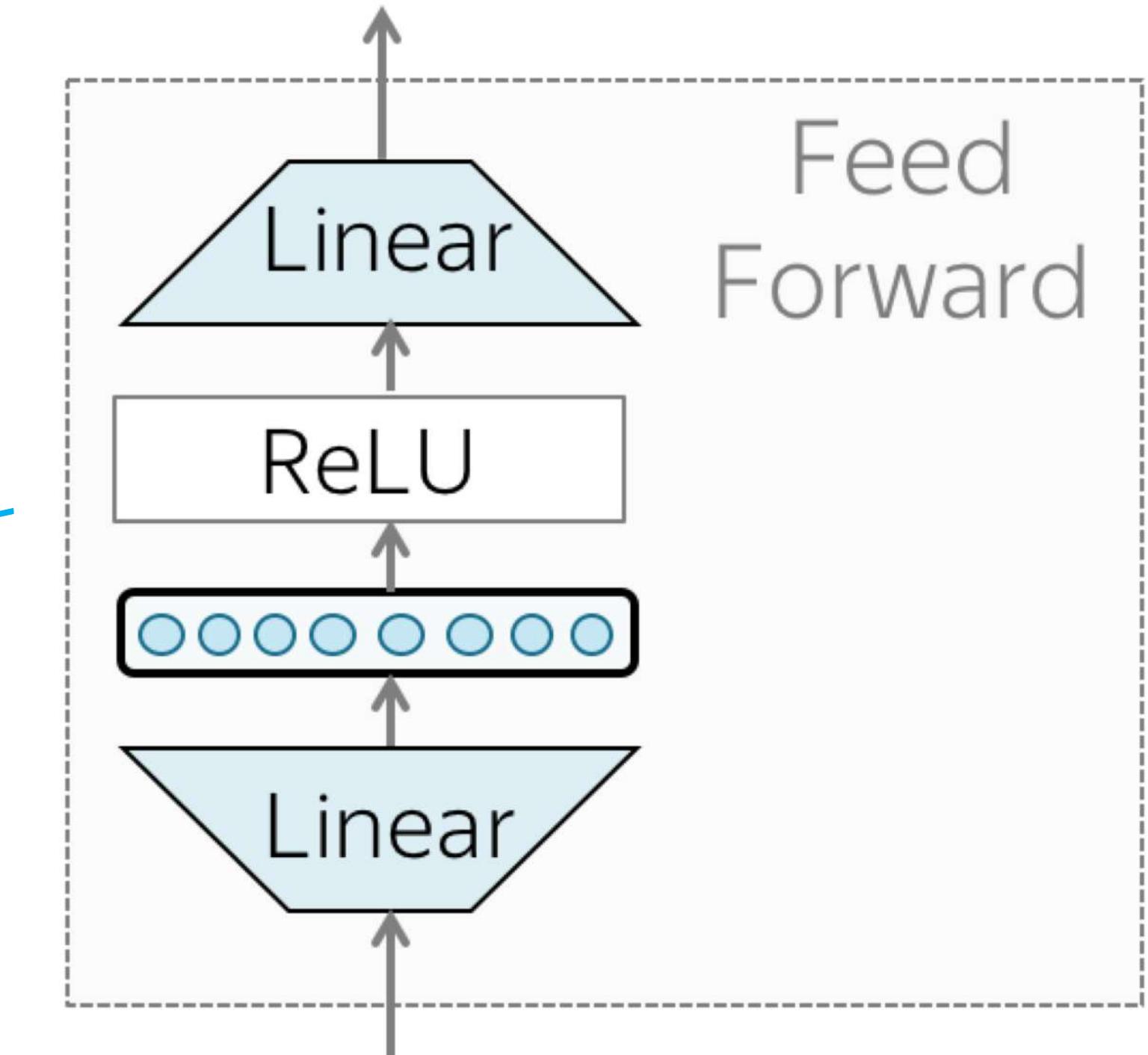
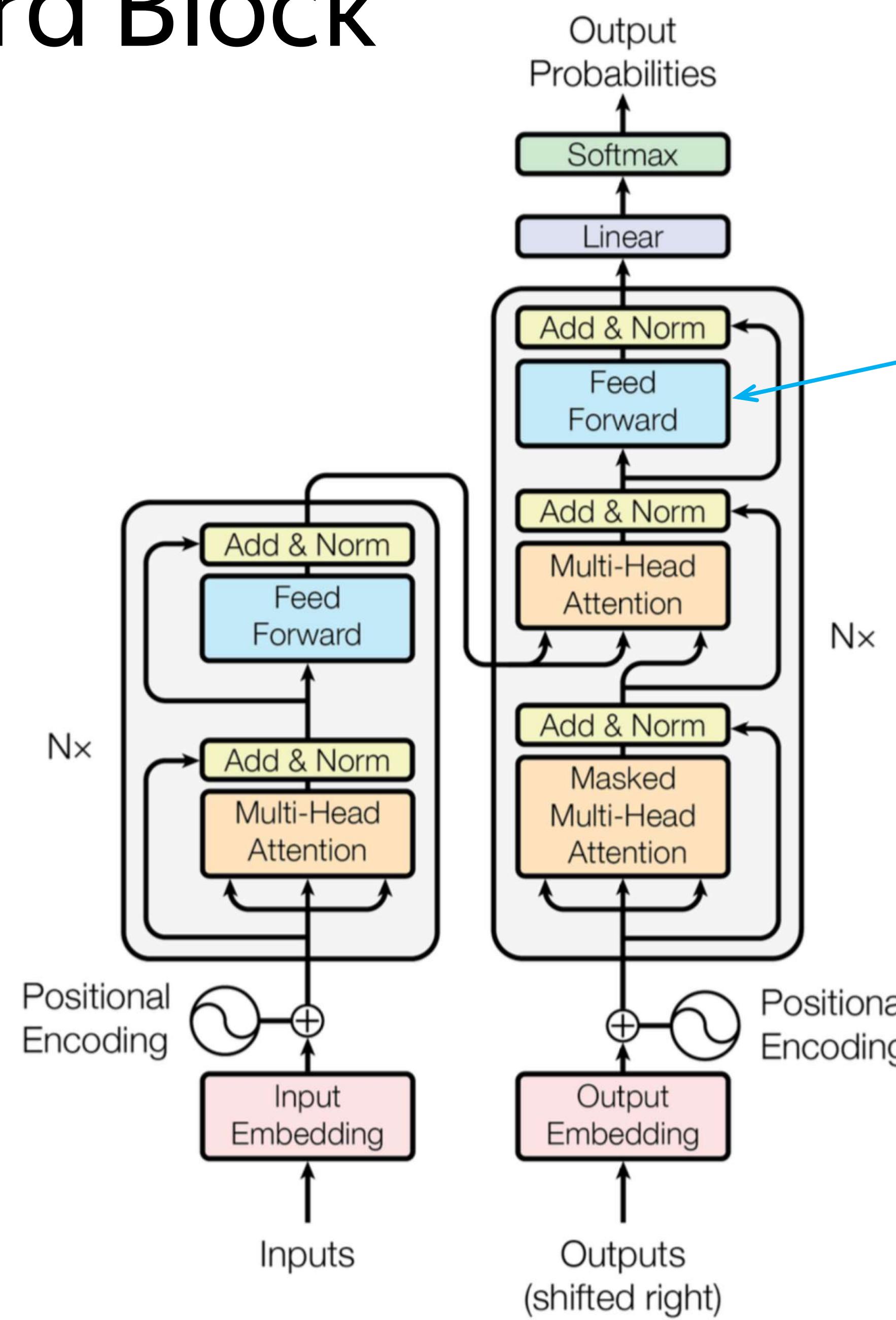
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Feed Forward Block

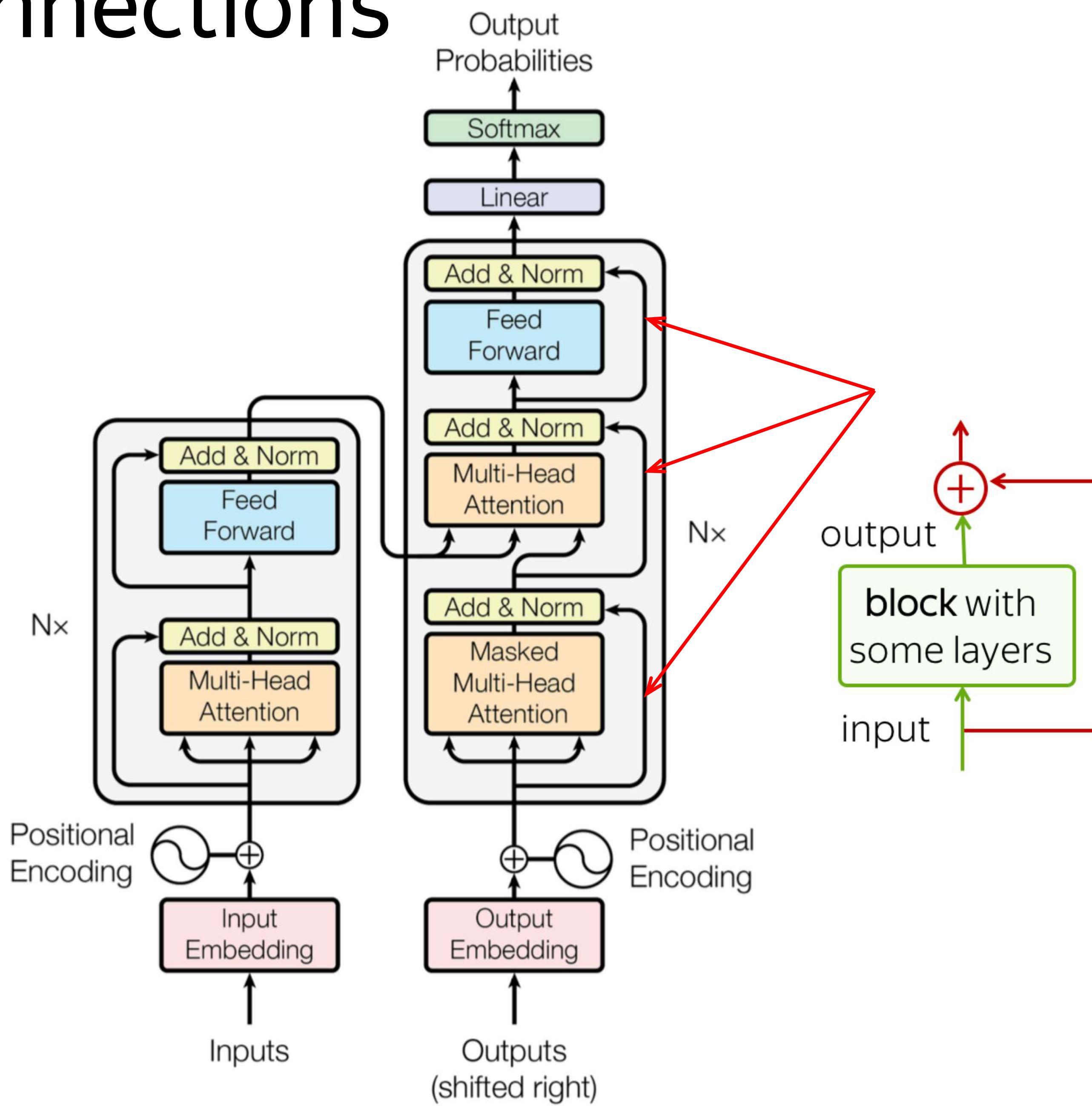


Feed Forward Block



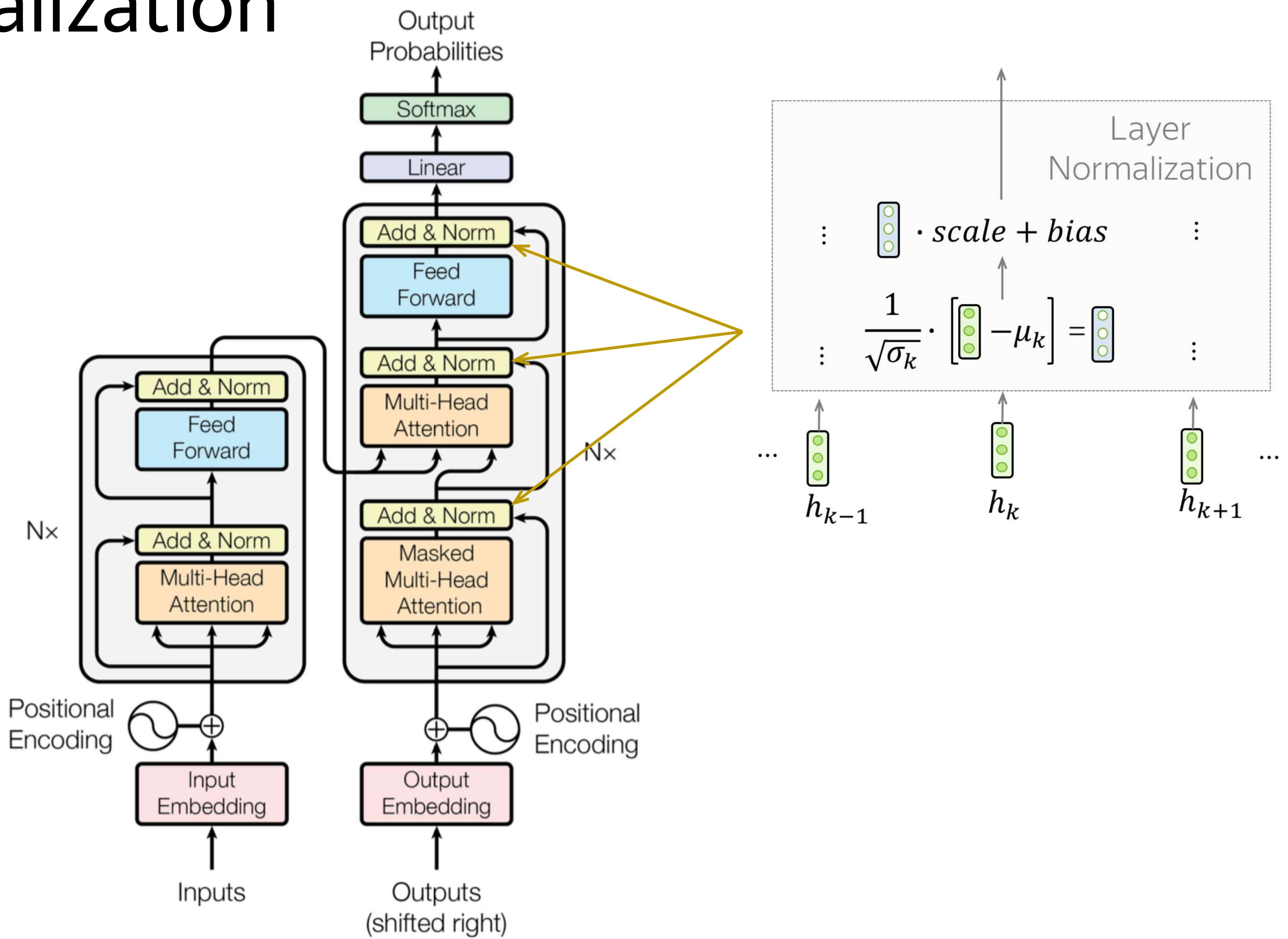
$$FFN(x) = \max(0, xW_1 + b_1)W_2 + b_2$$

Residual Connections

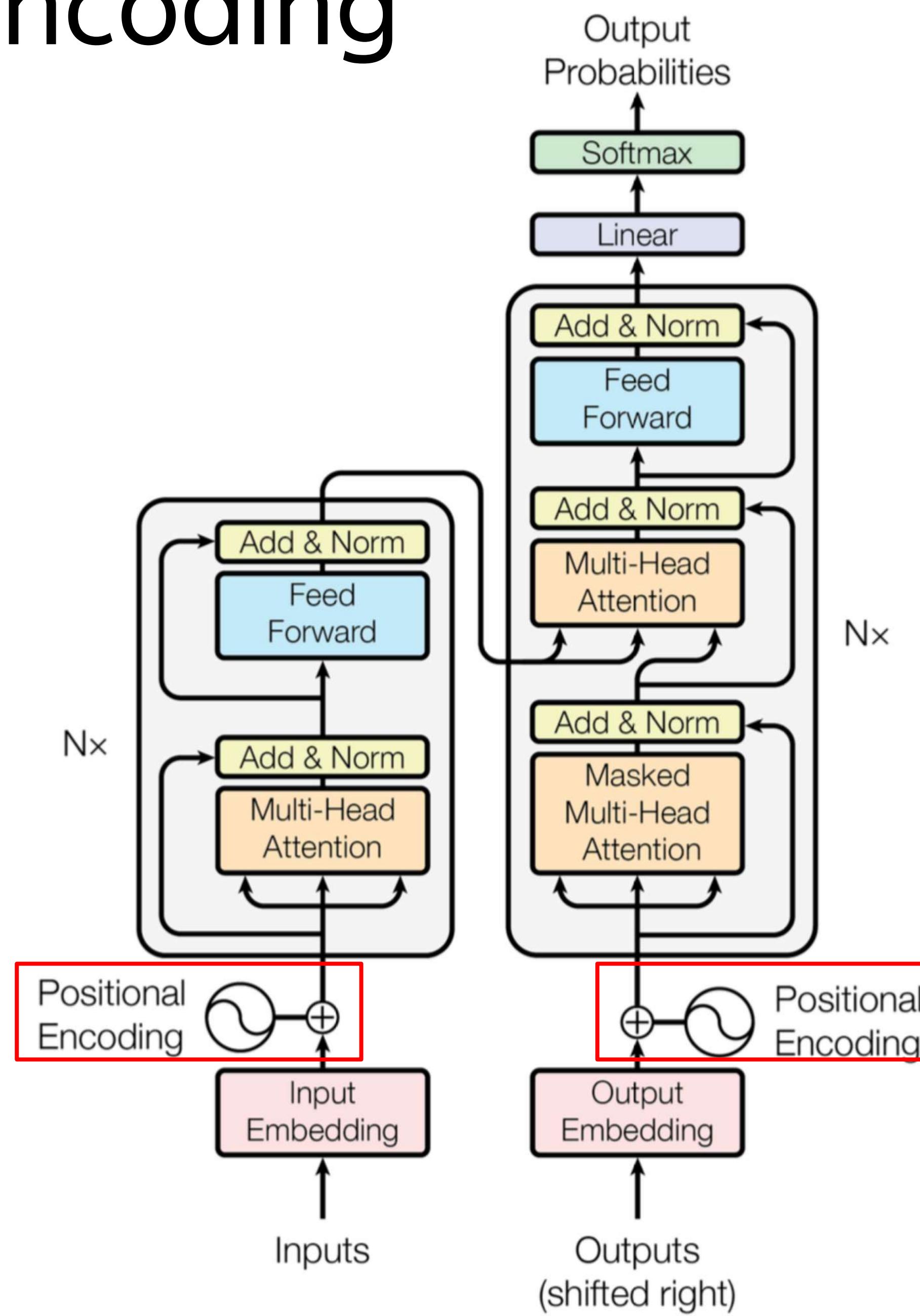


Residual connection:
add a block's input to
its output

Layer Normalization



Positional Encoding



Positional Encoding

Problem:

- without recurrence or convolution, the model knows nothing about position

Solution:

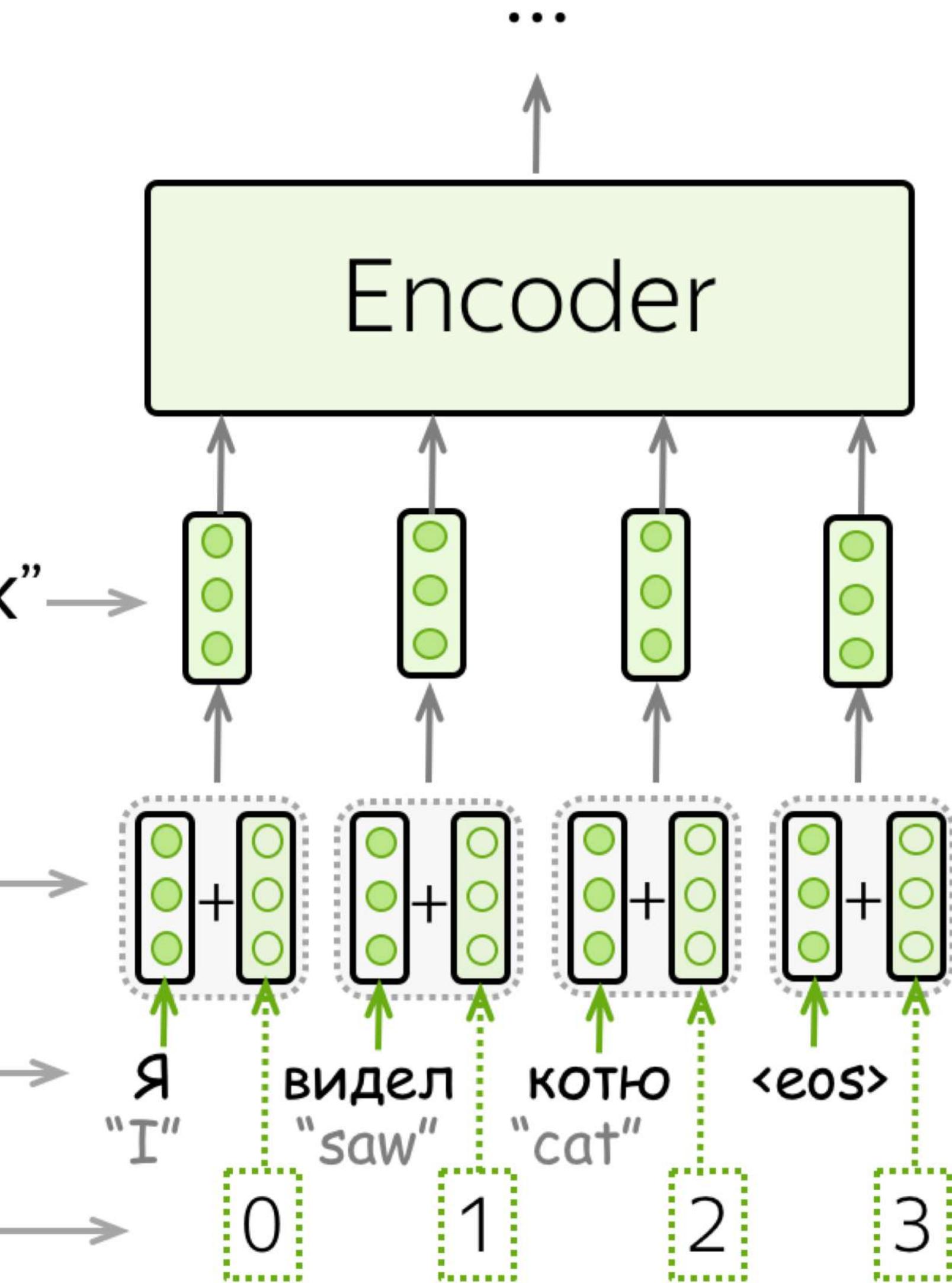
- encode position explicitly and add

“token x on position k ” →

Input is sum of two embeddings: for token and position

tokens →

positions →



Positional Encoding

Fixed encodings:

$$PE_{pos,2i} = \sin(pos/10000^{2i/d_{model}}),$$

$$PE_{pos,2i+1} = \cos(pos/10000^{2i/d_{model}})$$

pos – position, i - dimension

“token x on position k” →

Input is sum of two embeddings: for token and position

tokens →

я

“I”

видел

“saw”

котю

“cat”

<eos>

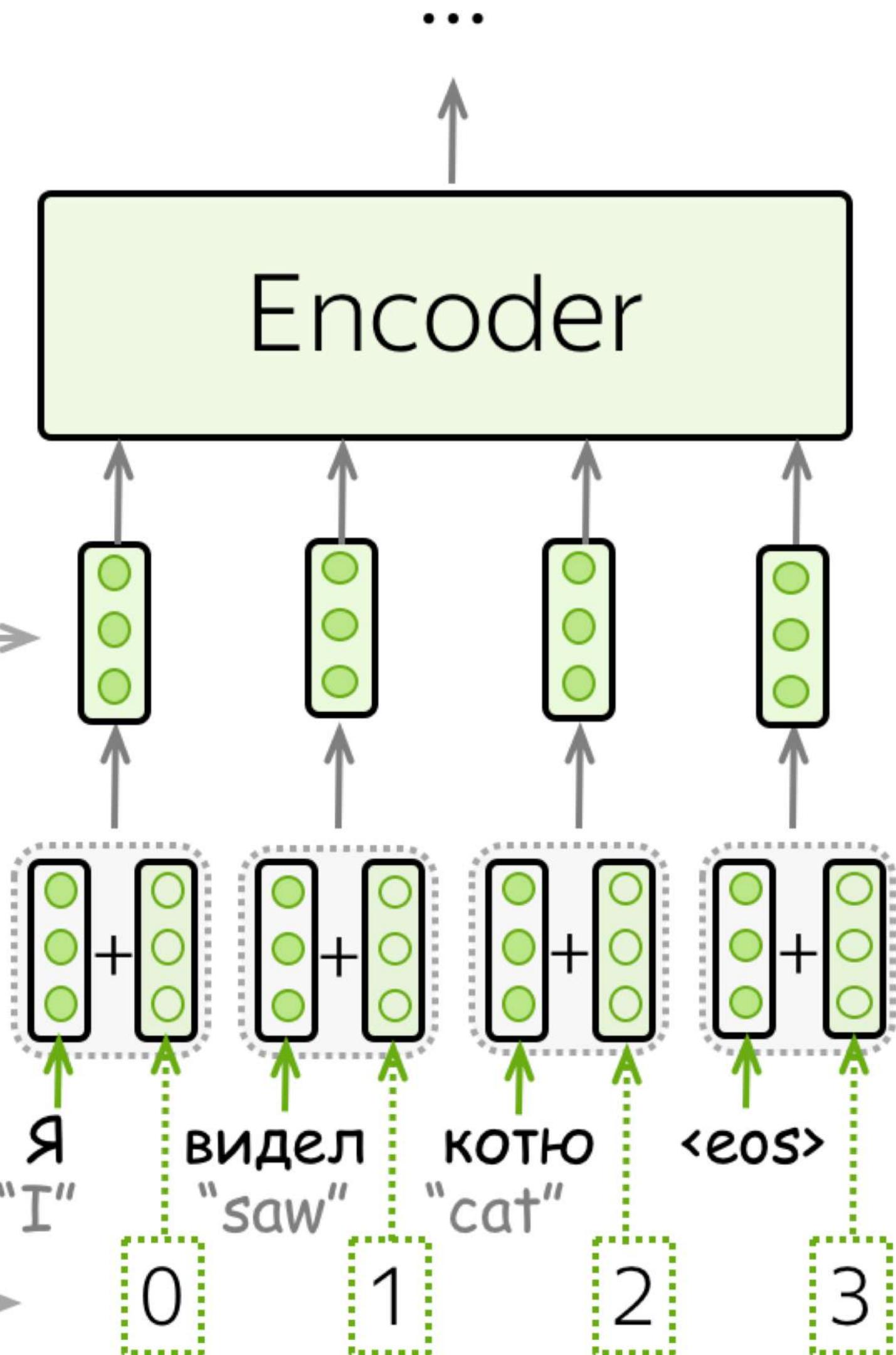
positions →

0

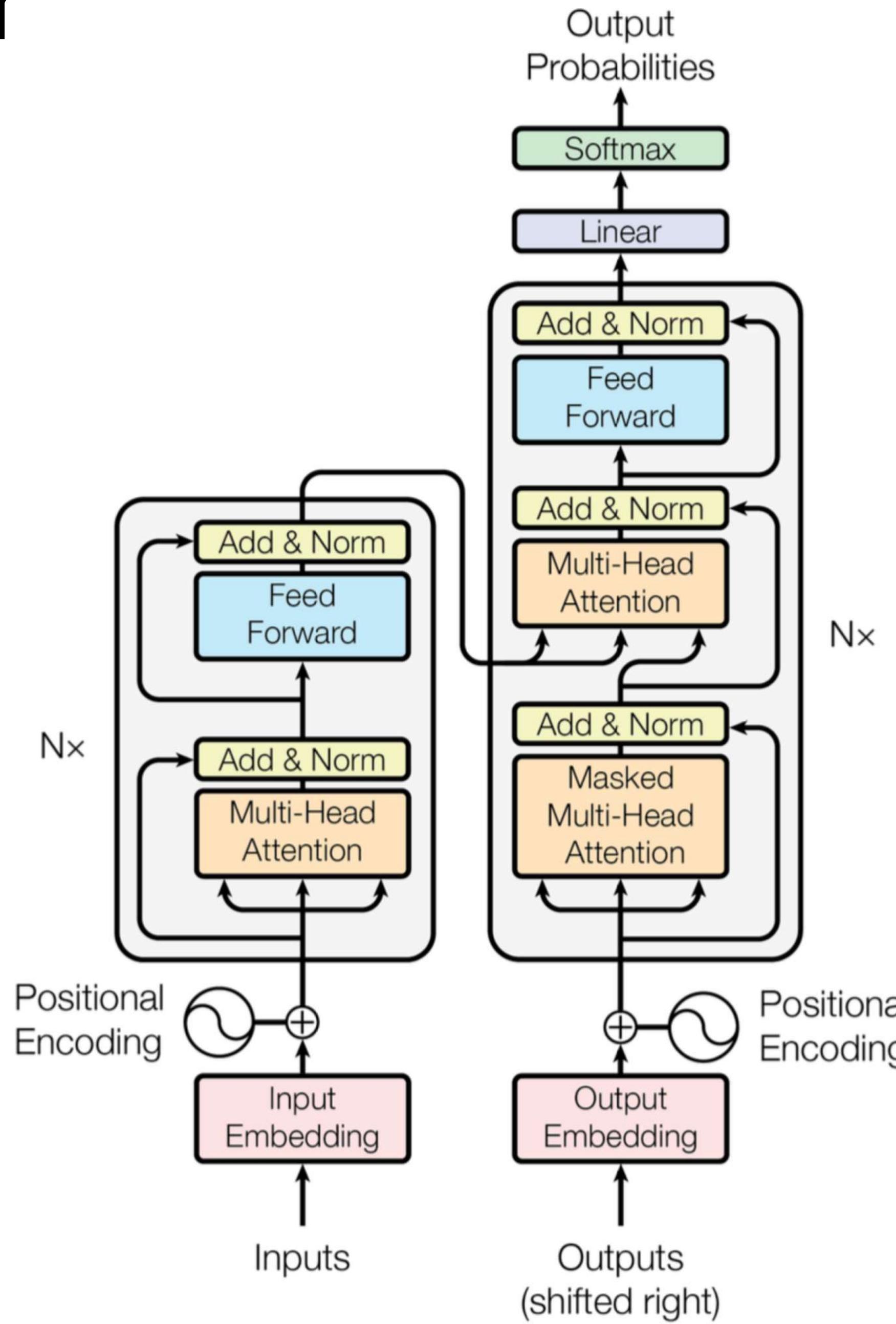
1

2

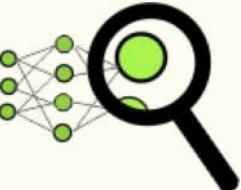
3



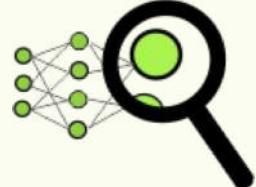
Transformer



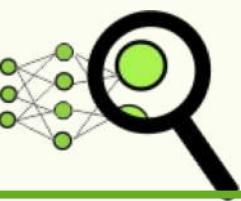
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-  NLP Course For You: read [here](#)

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Analysis Methods

Model-specific:

- Looking at model components
- ...

Model-agnostic:

Analysis Methods

Model-specific:

- Looking at model components
- ...

In the previous lectures:

- Convolutional filters of classifiers
- Neurons in RNN/CNN LMs

Model-agnostic:

Analysis Methods

Model-specific:

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In the previous lectures:

- Convolutional filters of classifiers
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Today:

- Heads in Multi-Head Attention

Model-agnostic:

Analysis Methods

Model-specific:

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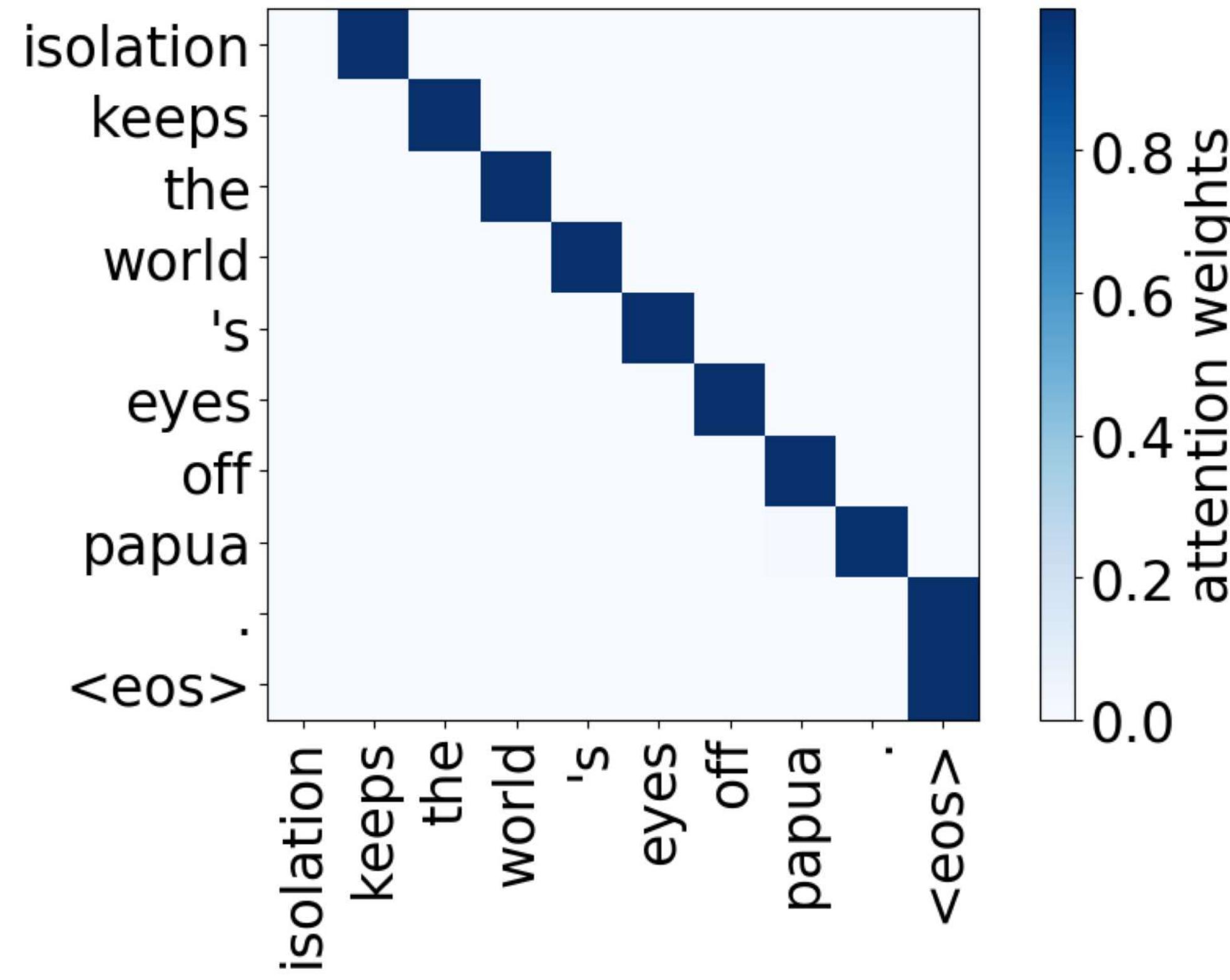
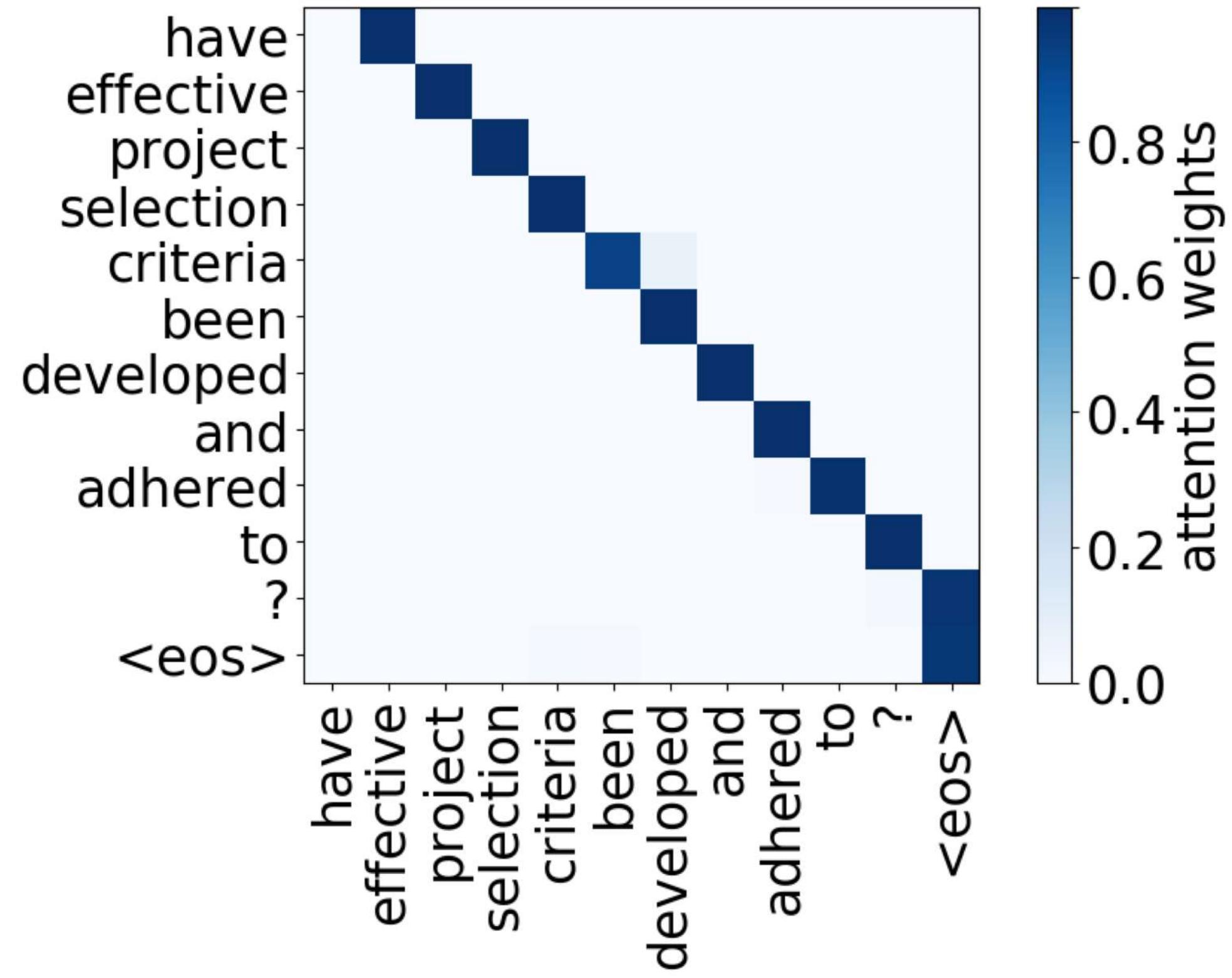
Multi-Head Attention: What are the Heads Doing?

Heads which on average contribute more to generated translations (“important heads”) play interpretable roles:

- Positional
- Syntactic
- Attention to rare tokens

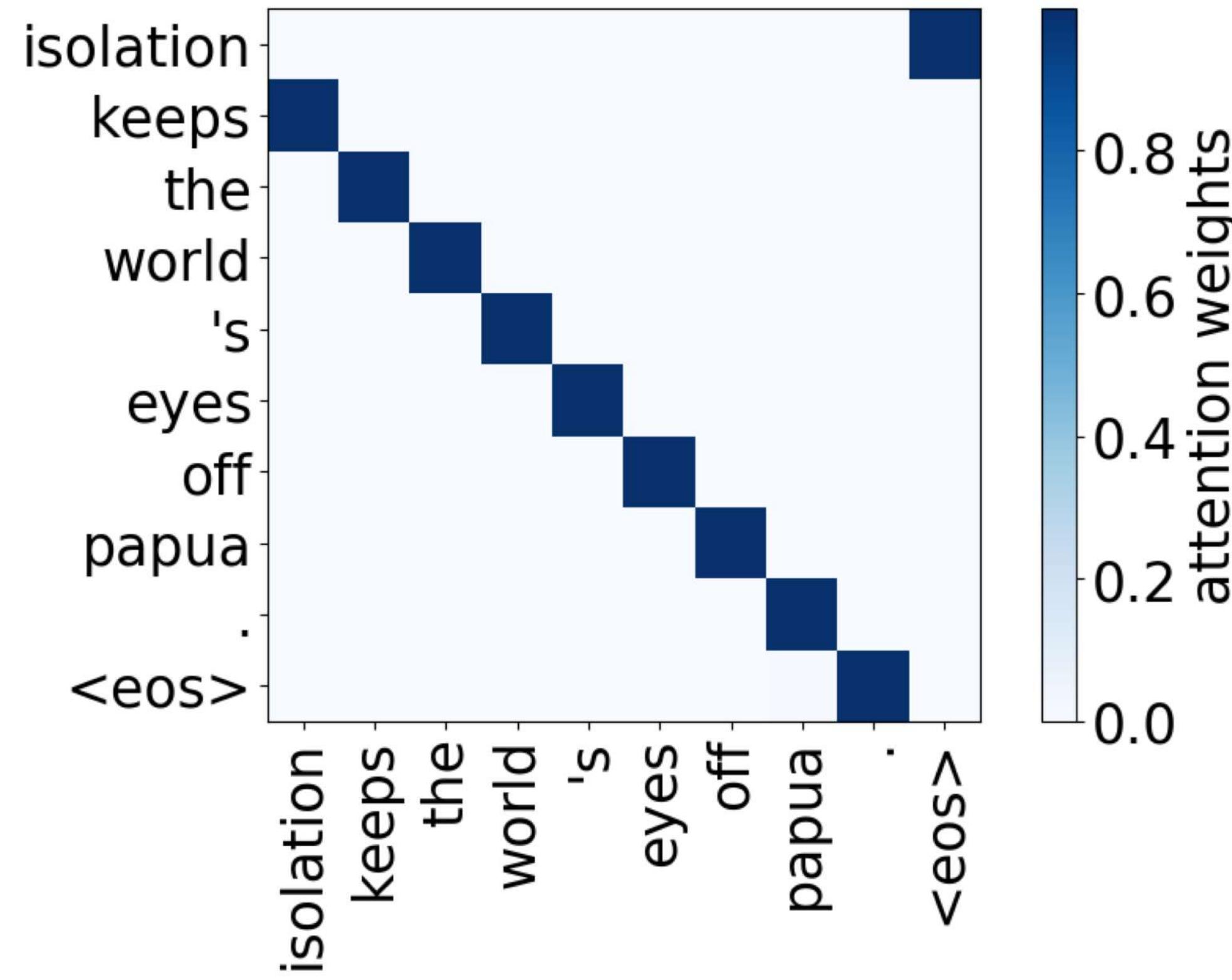
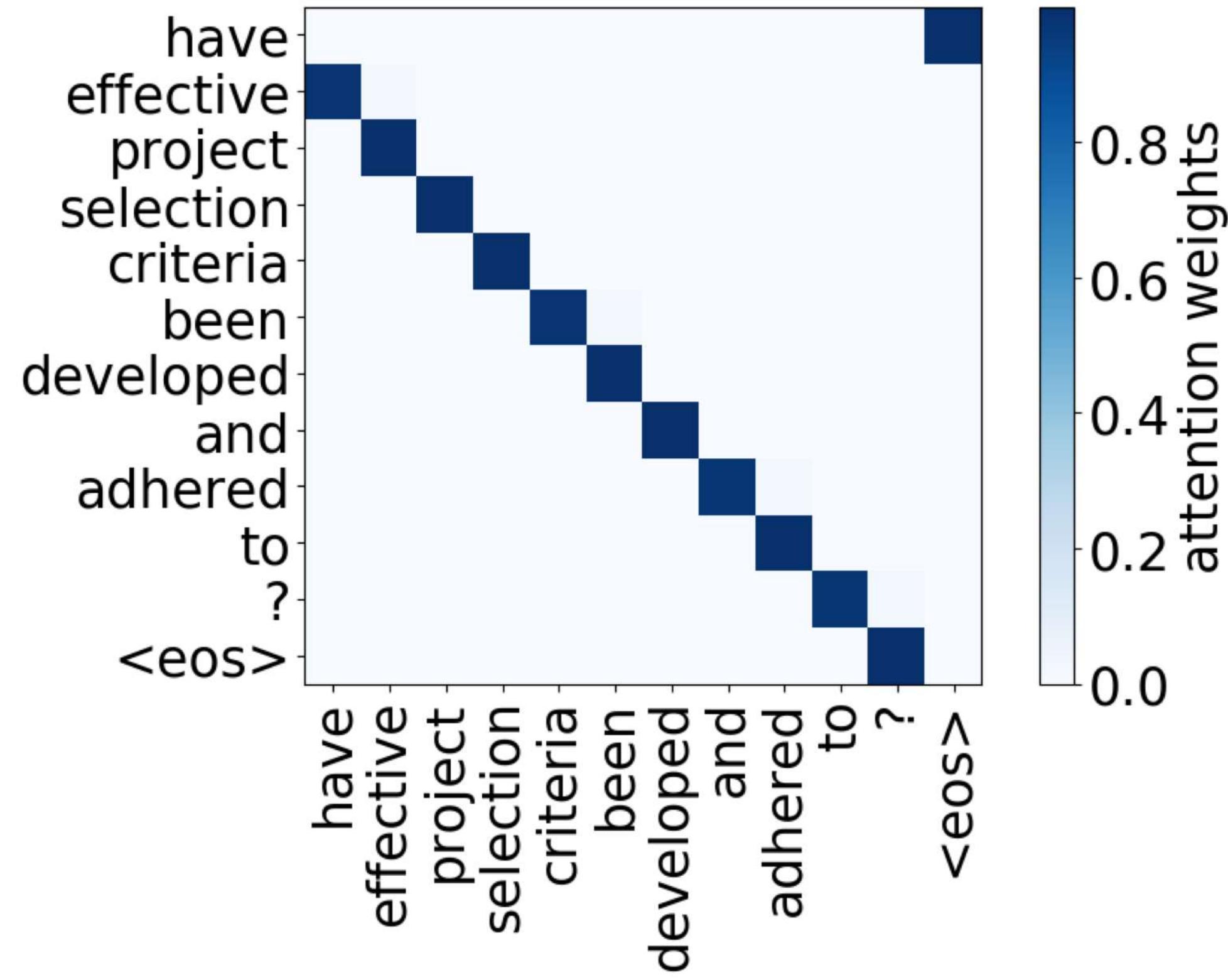
Paper: [Analyzing Multi-Head Self-Attention: Specialized Heads Do the Heavy Lifting, the Rest Can Be Pruned](#)

Positional Heads: Attention to Neighbors



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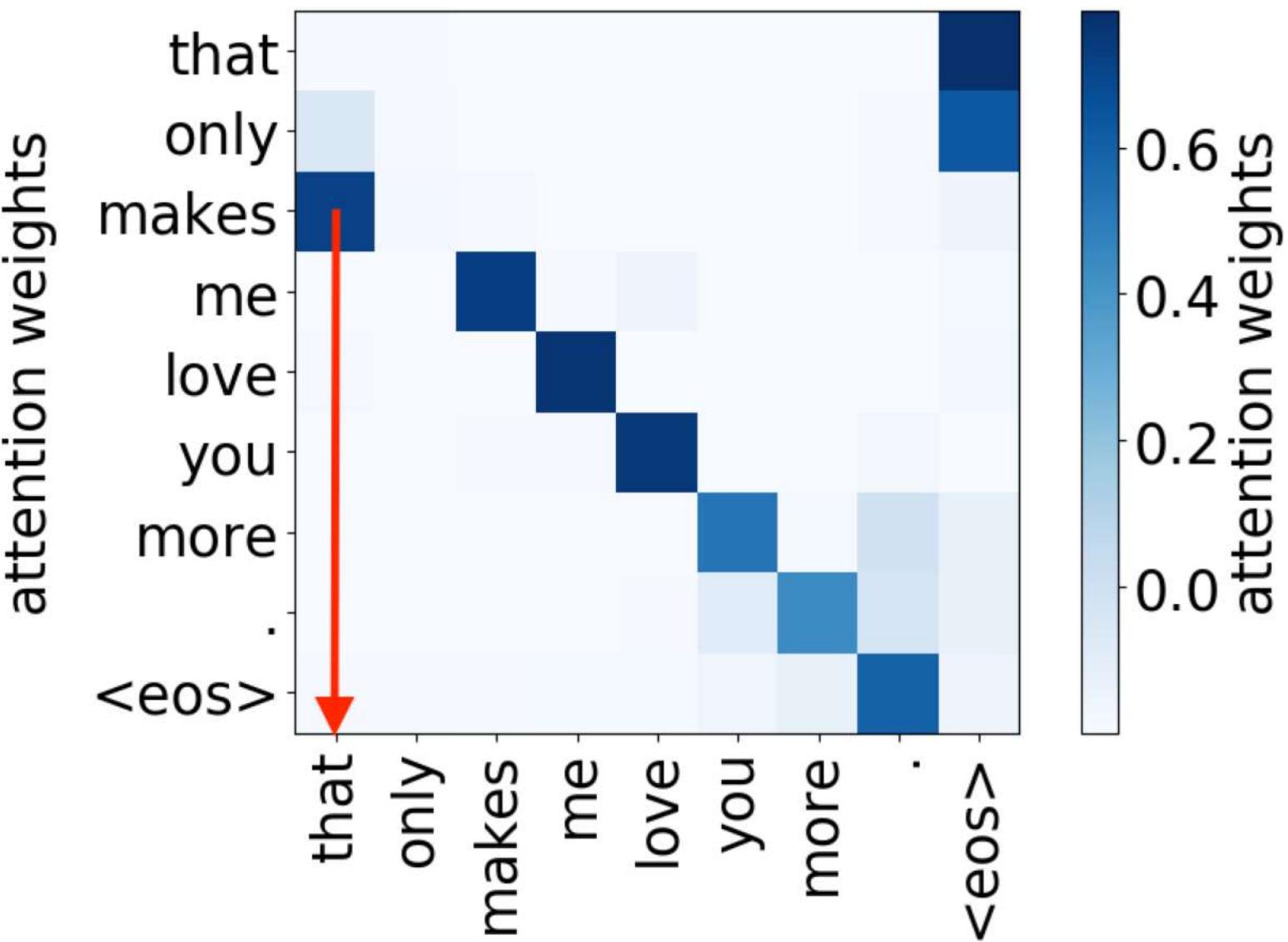
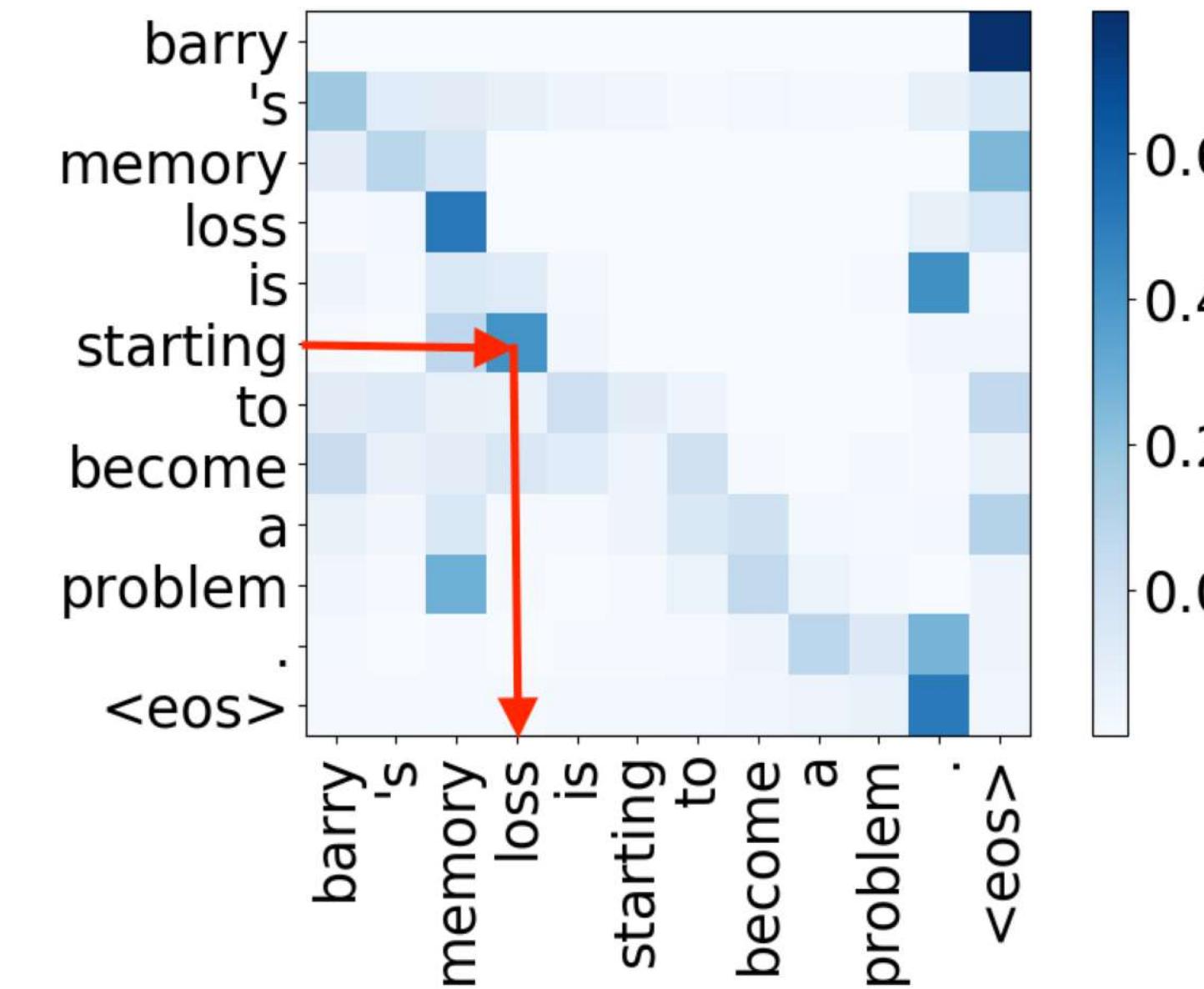
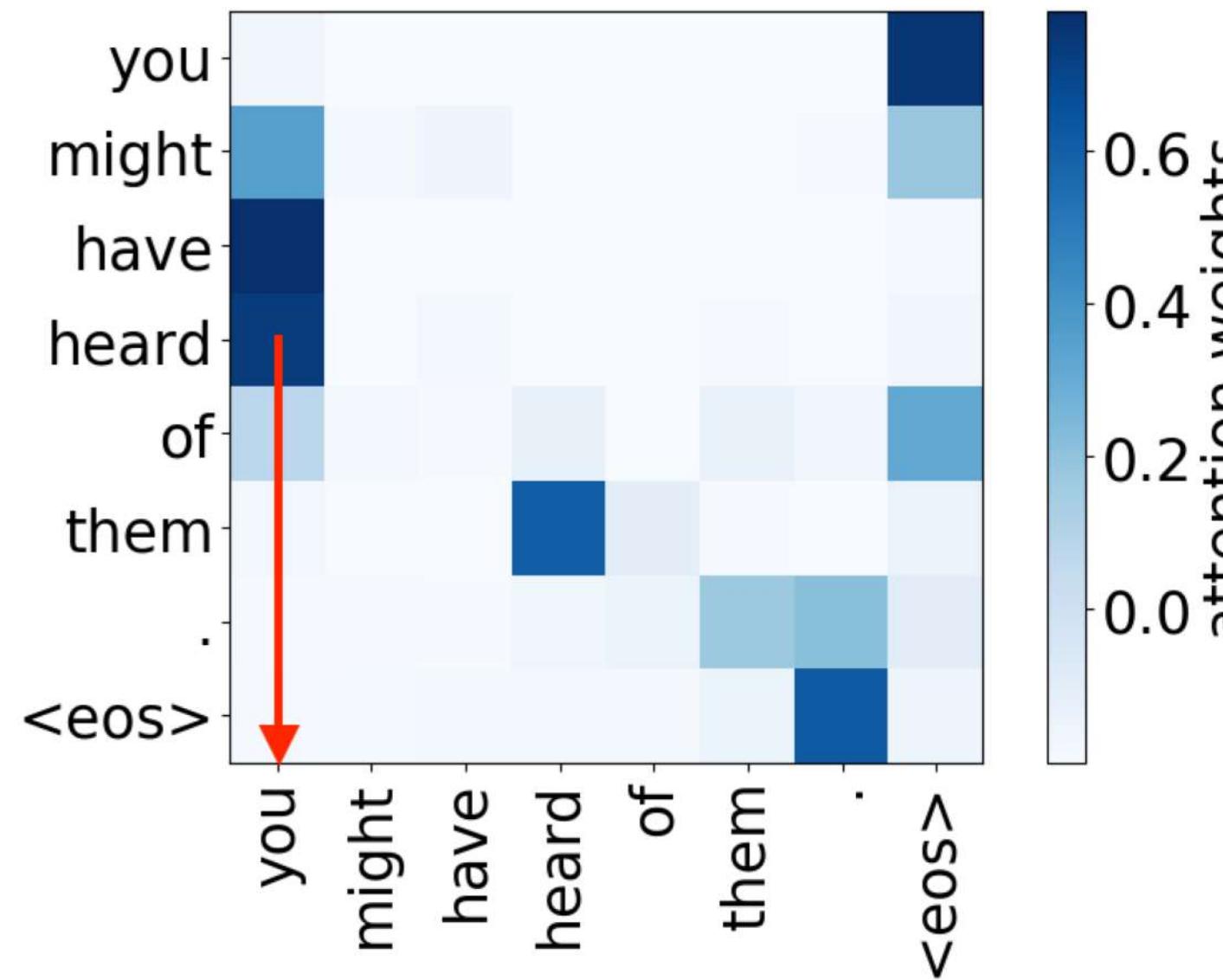
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Syntactic Heads: Track Dependencies

- verb->subject



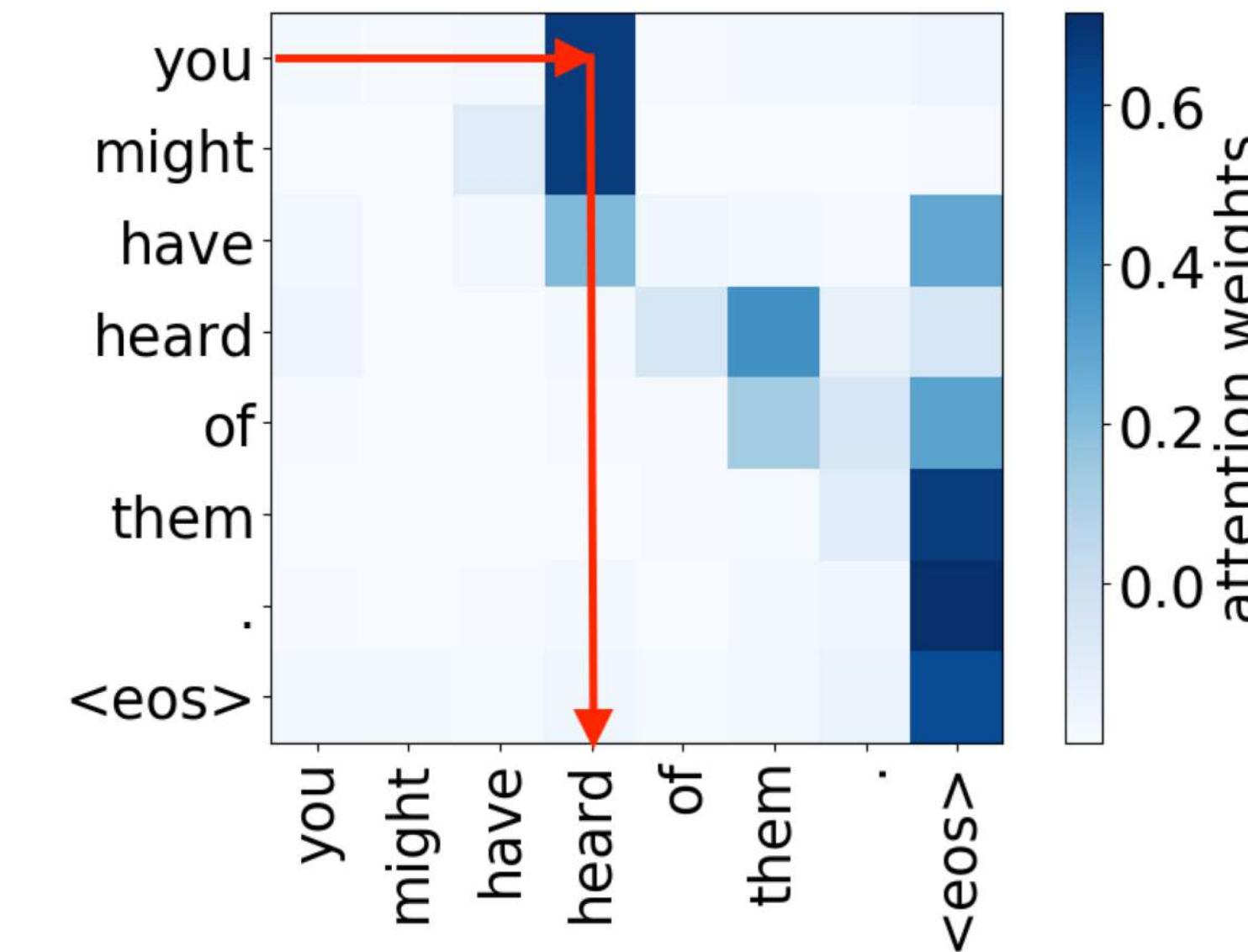
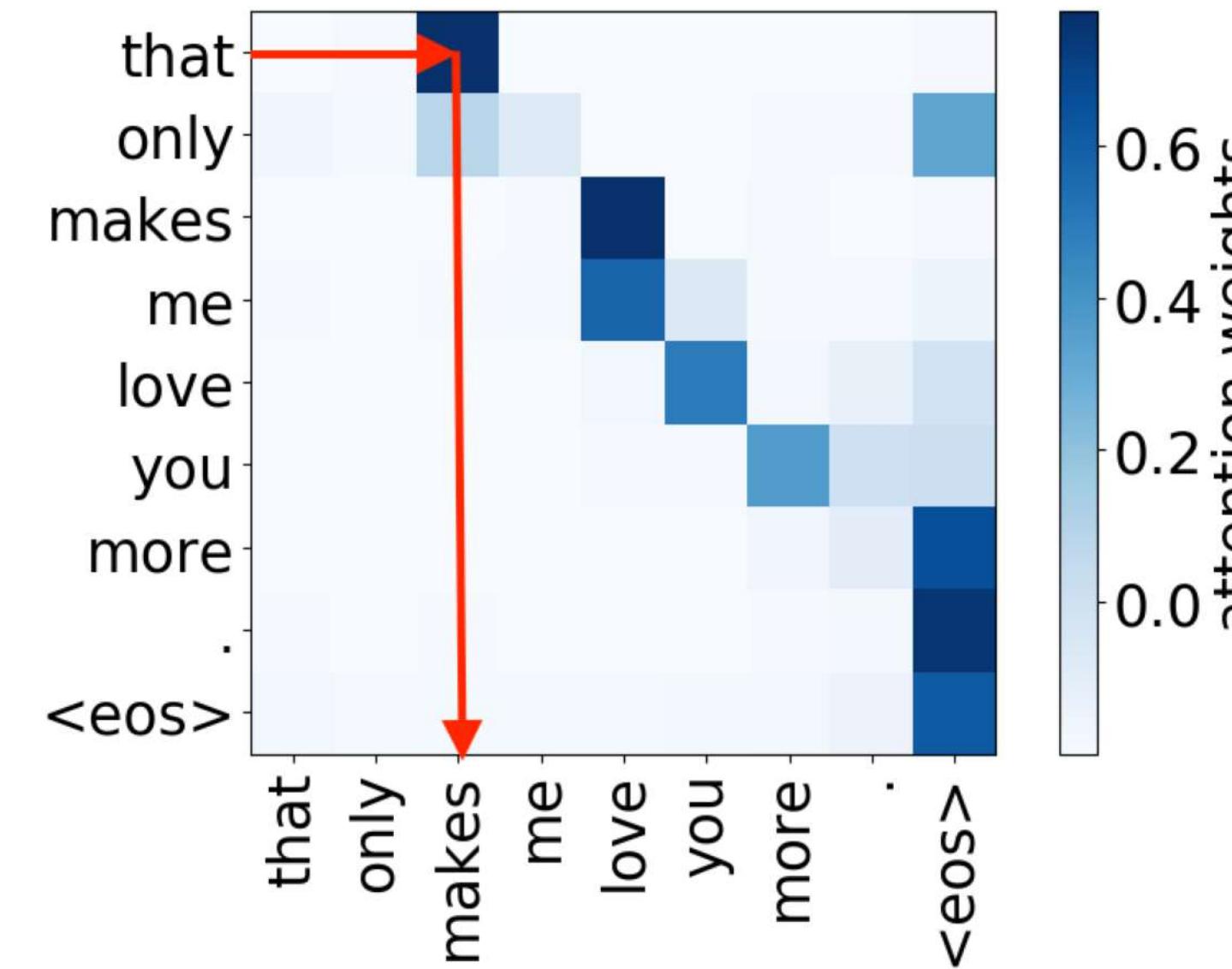
Она руководит новым проектом

- Gender agreement
- Case government
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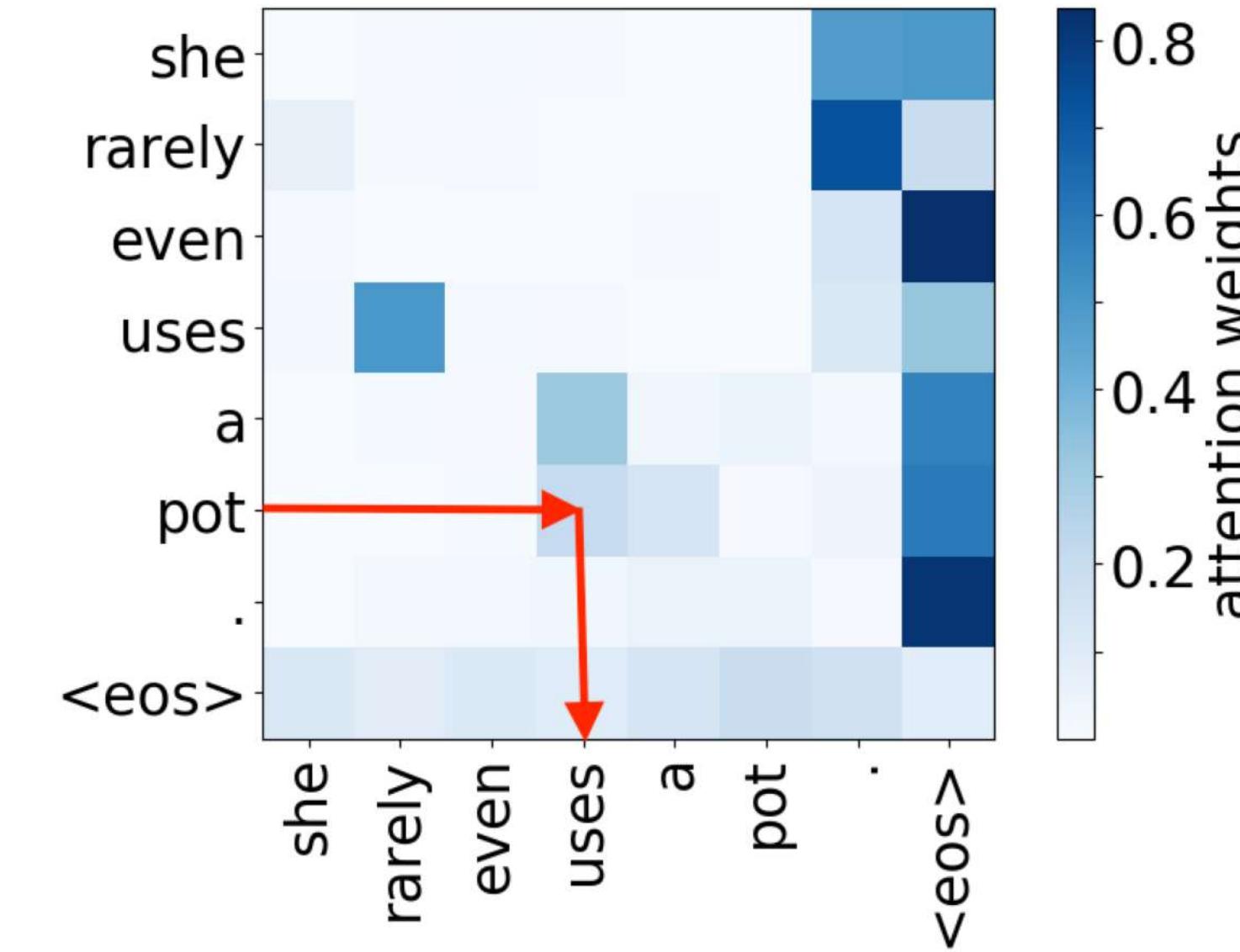
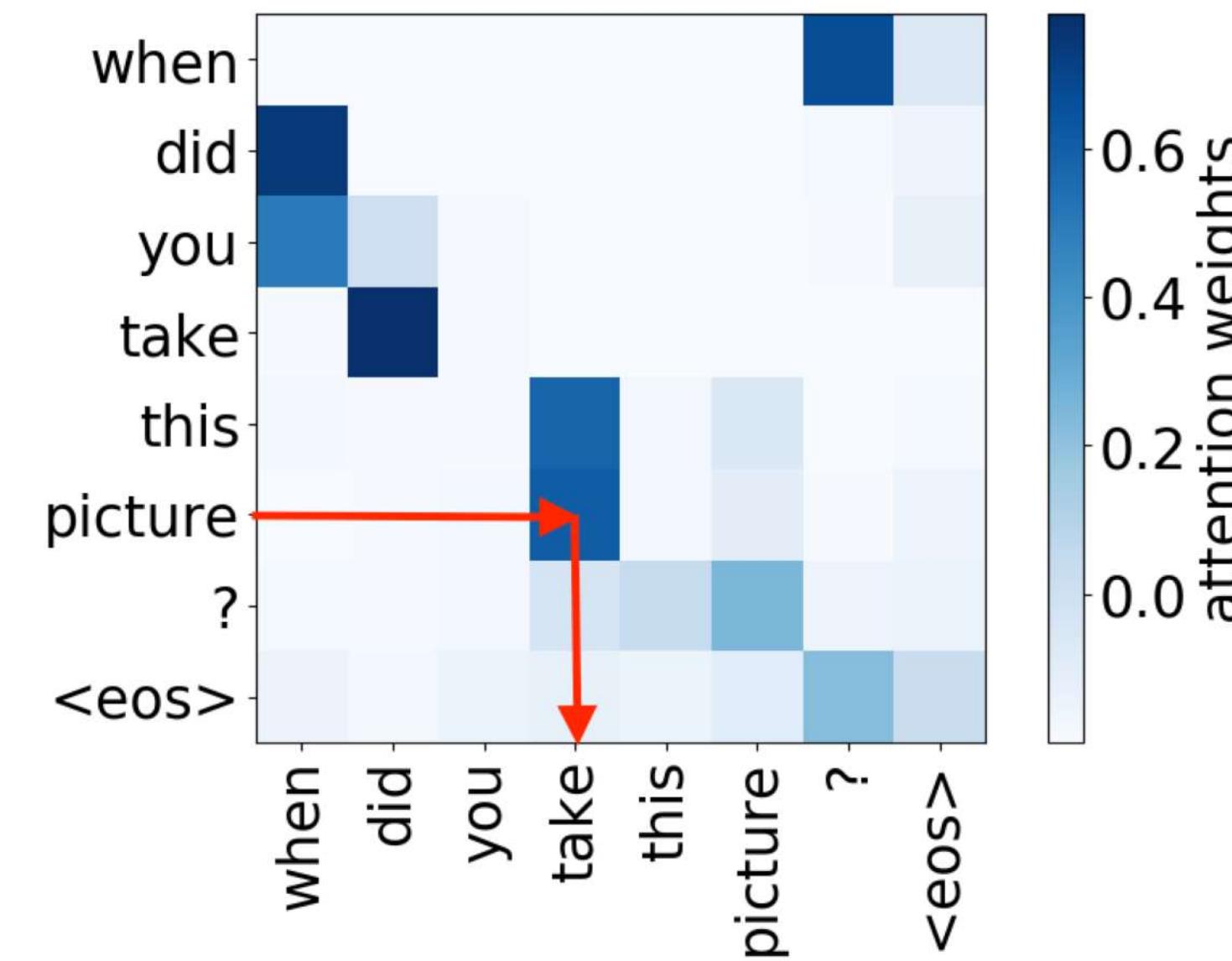
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Syntactic Heads: Track Dependencies

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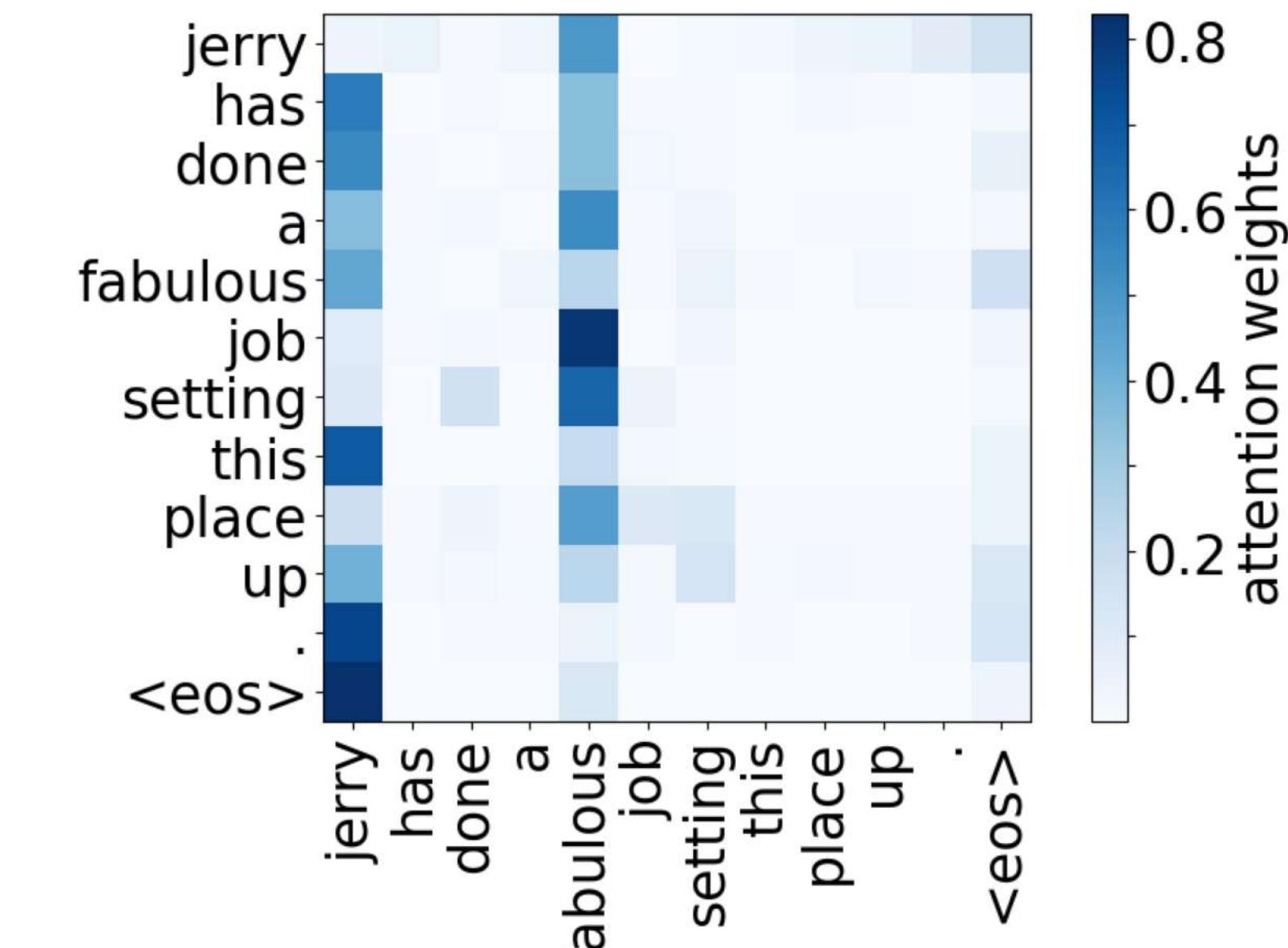
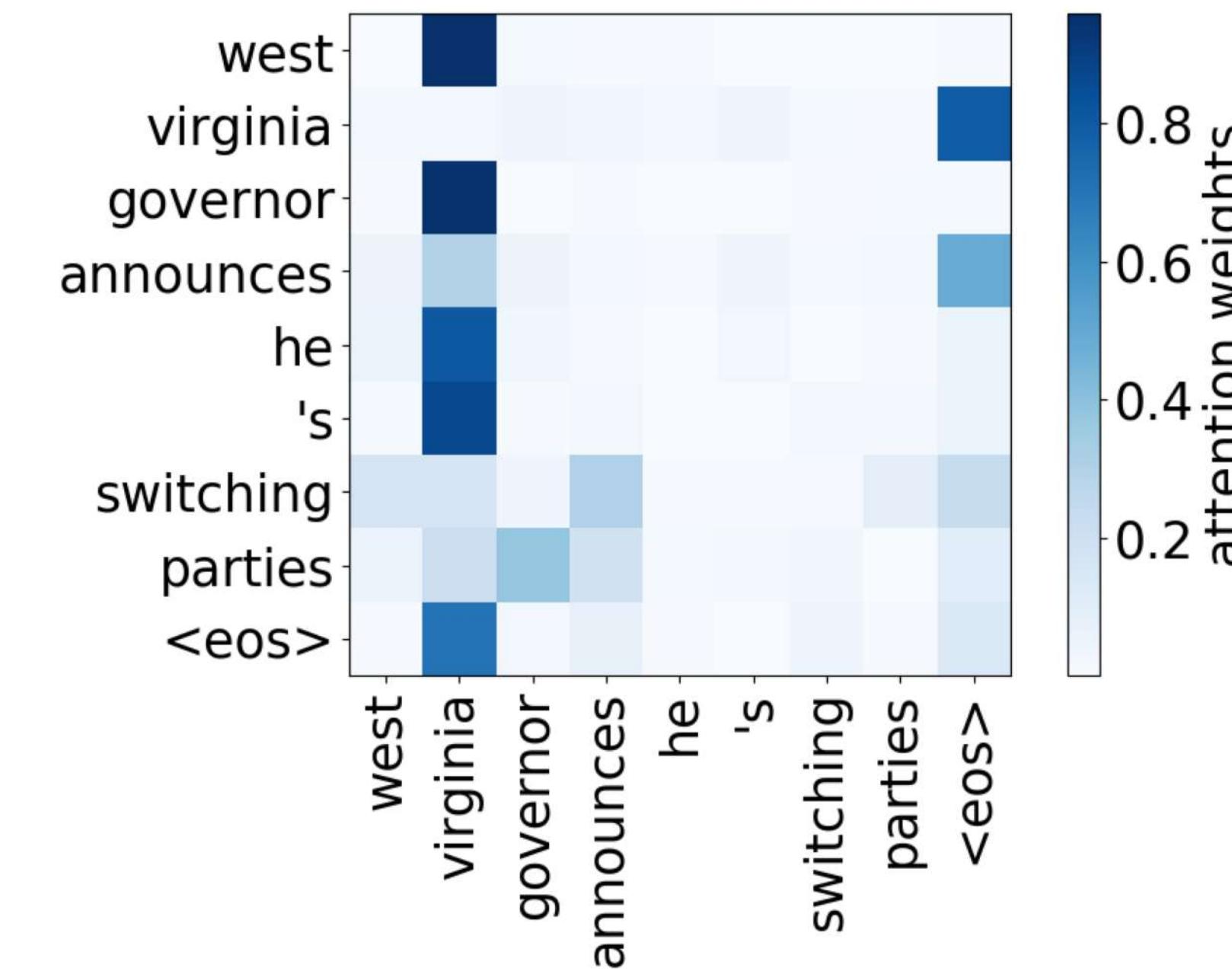
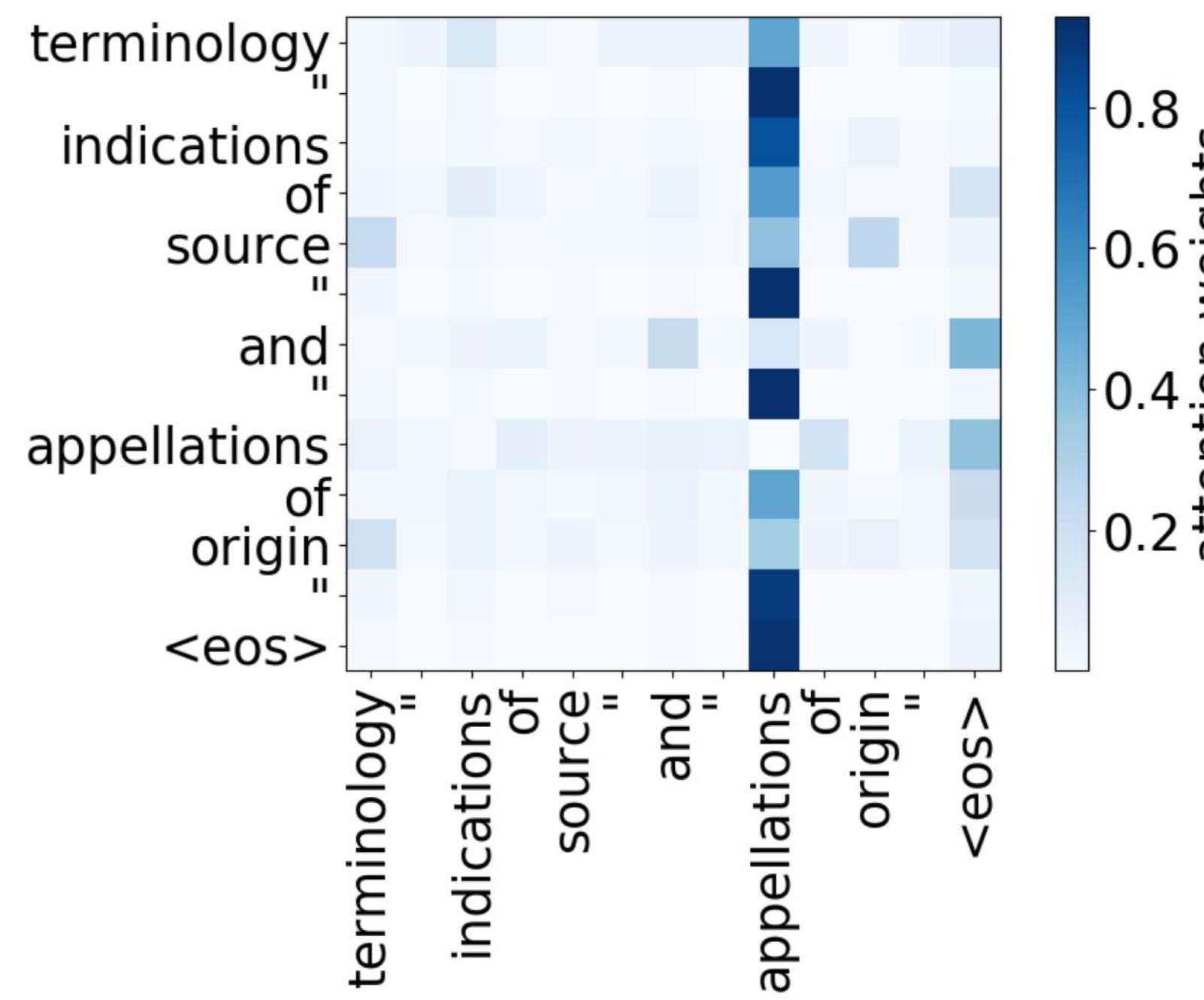


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Attention to Rare Tokens



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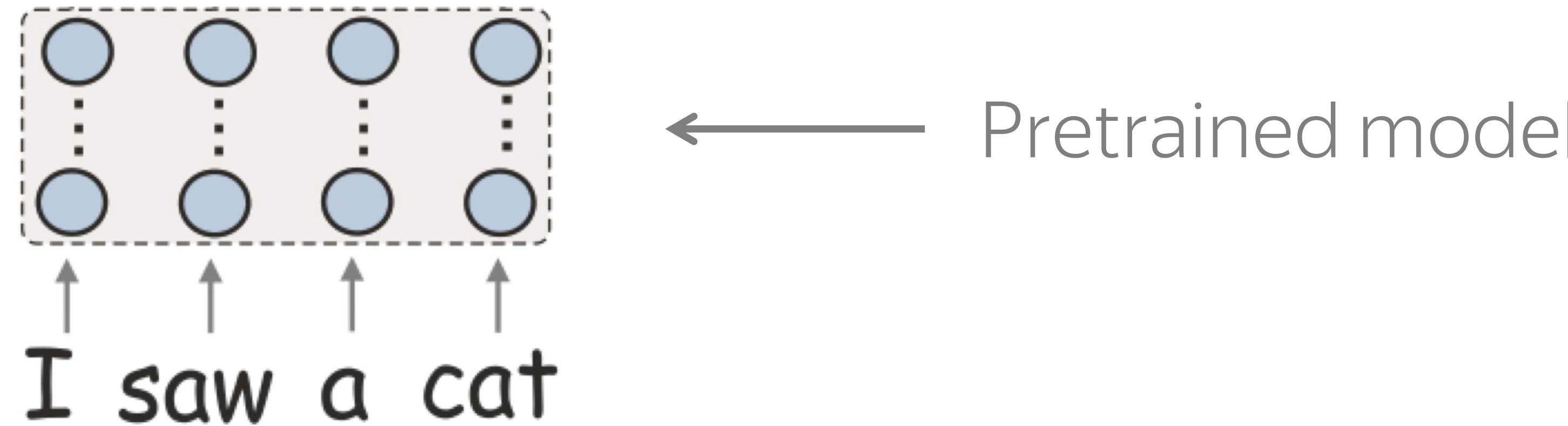
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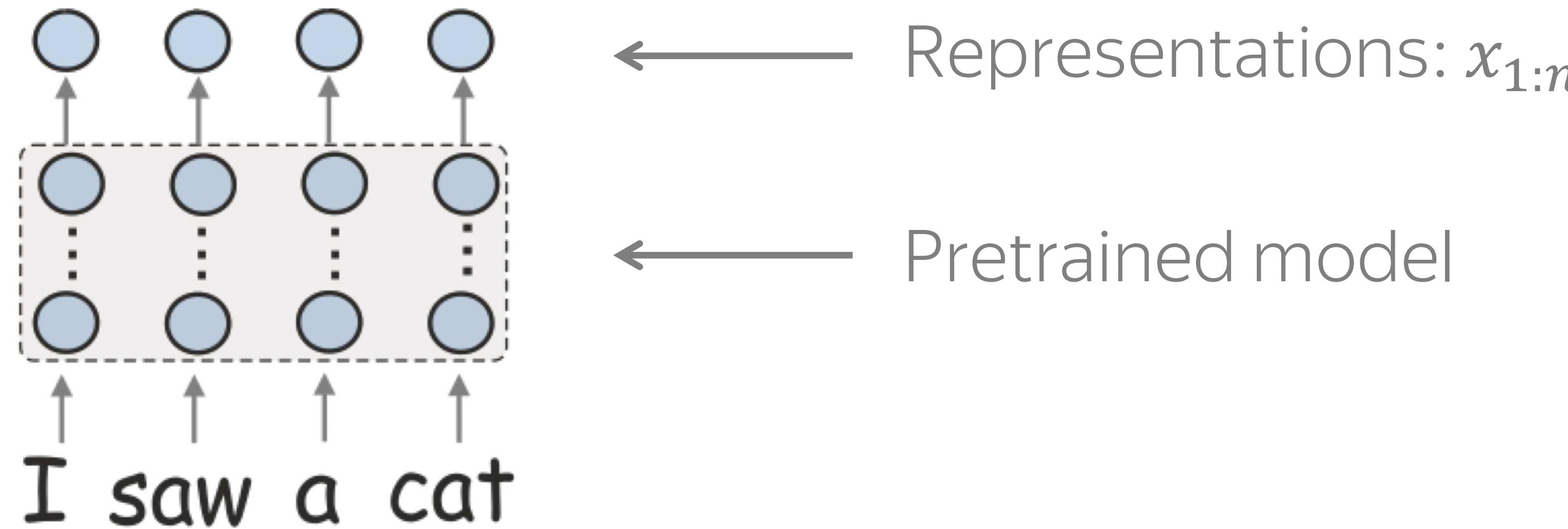
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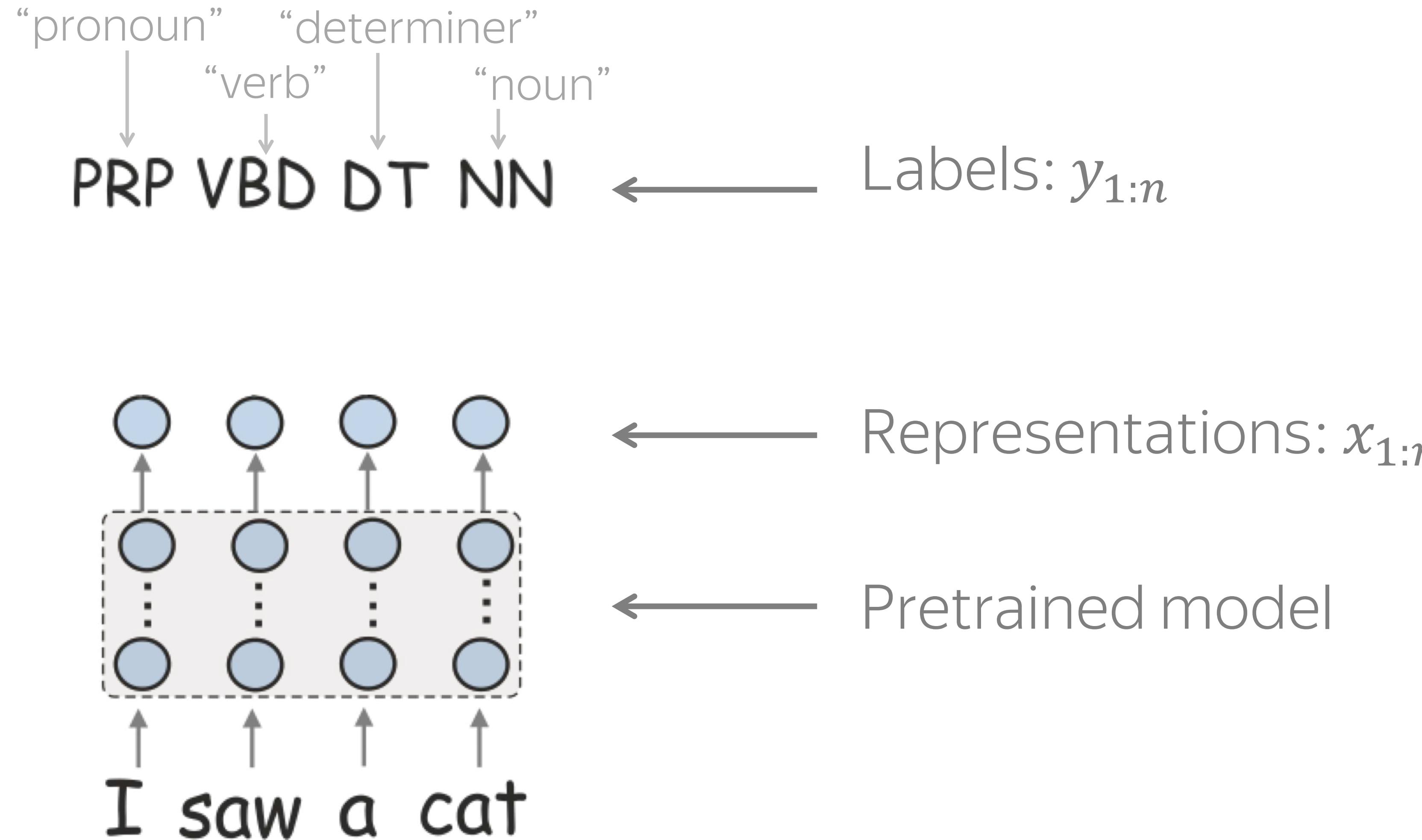
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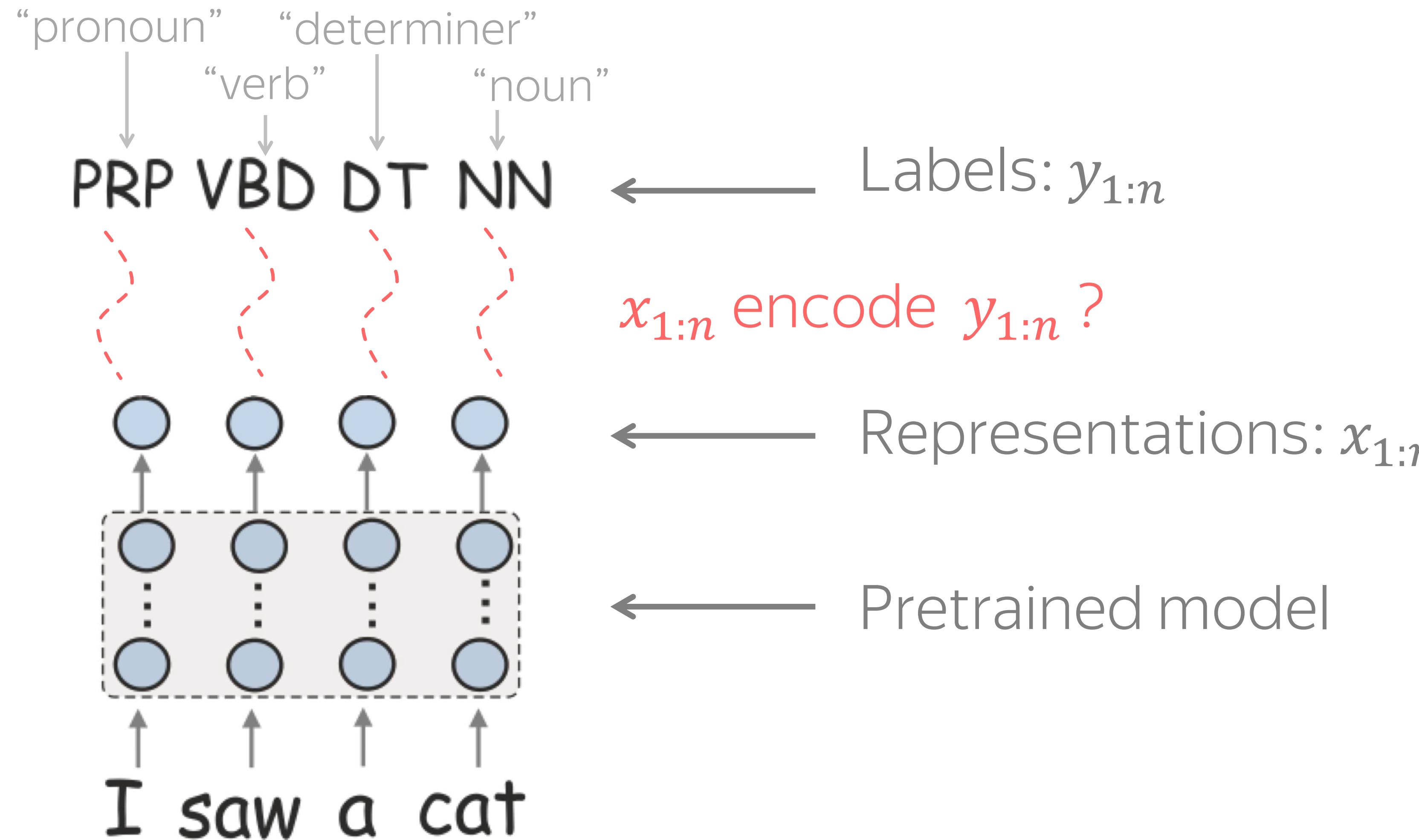
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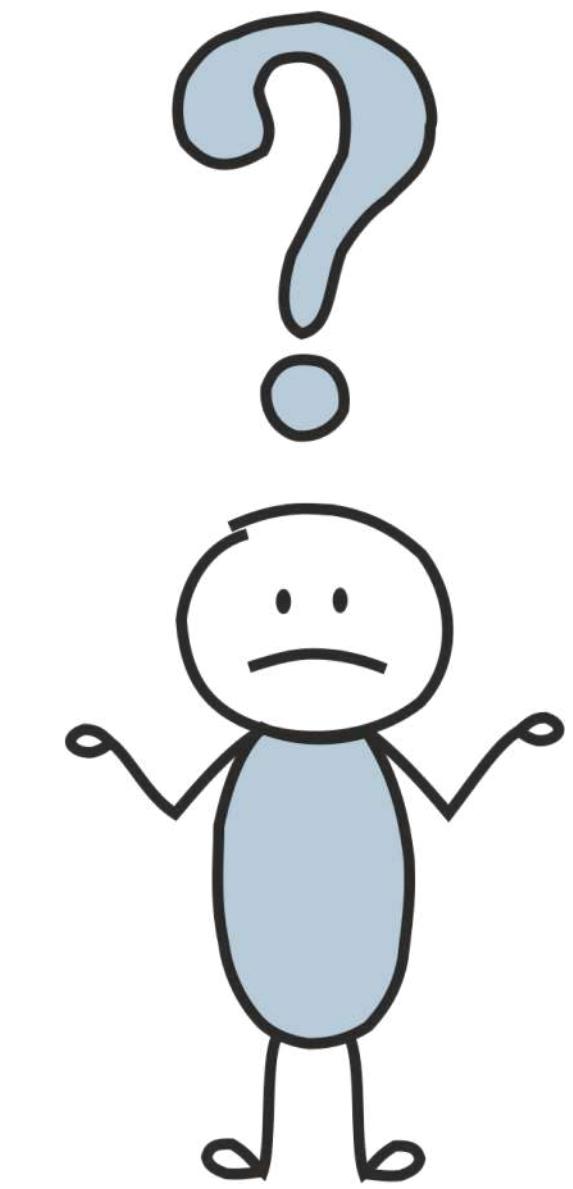
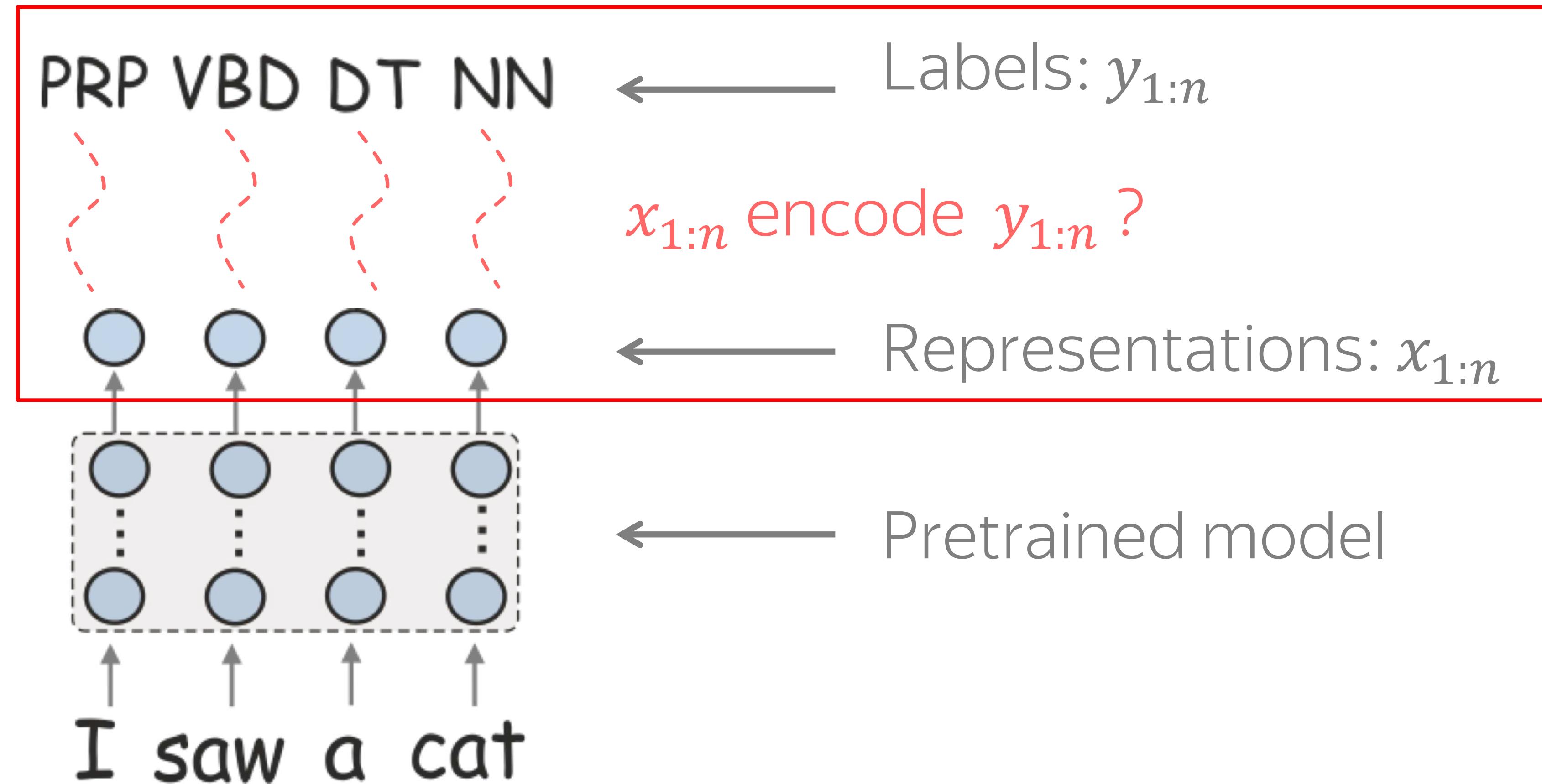
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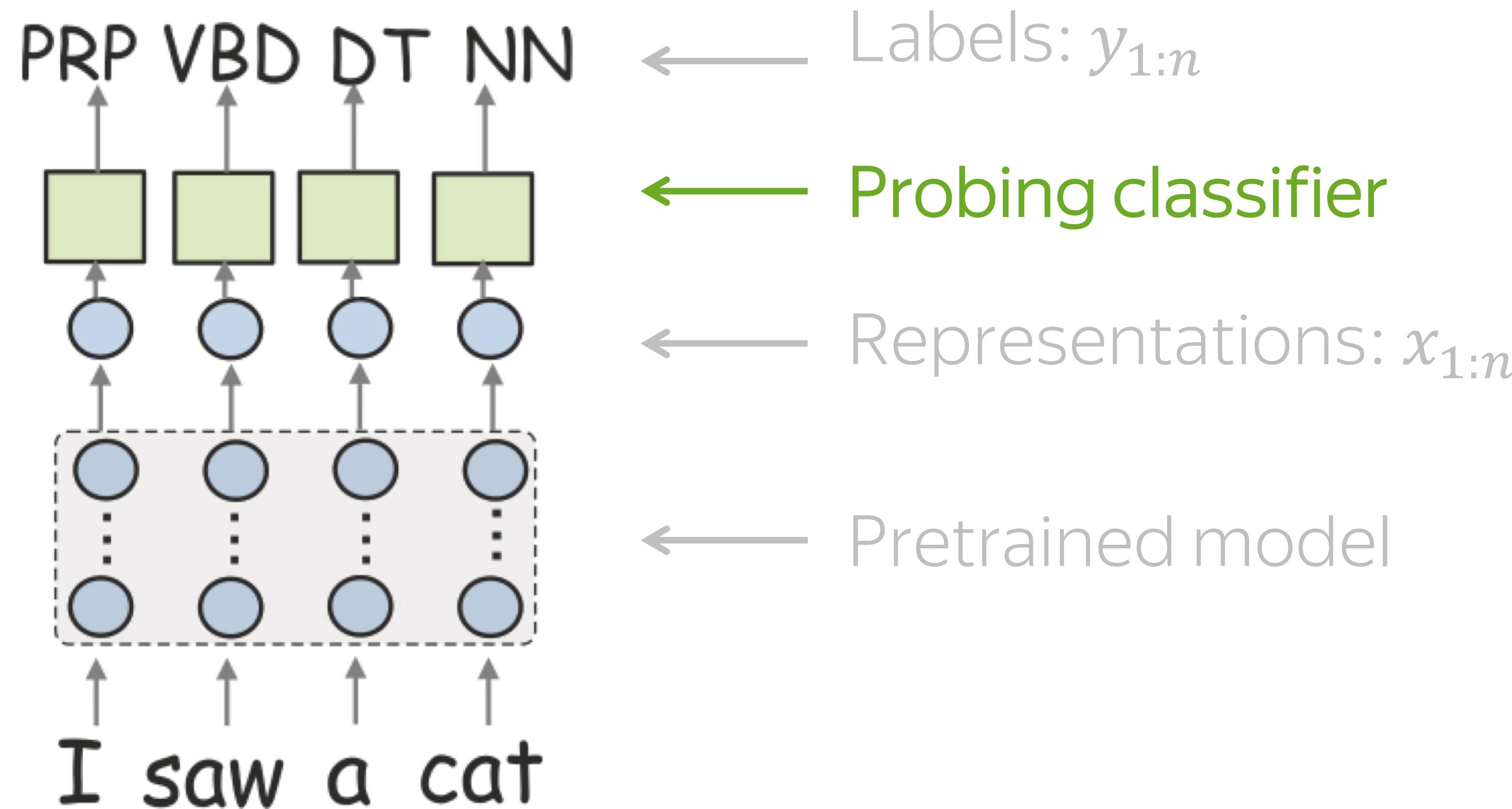
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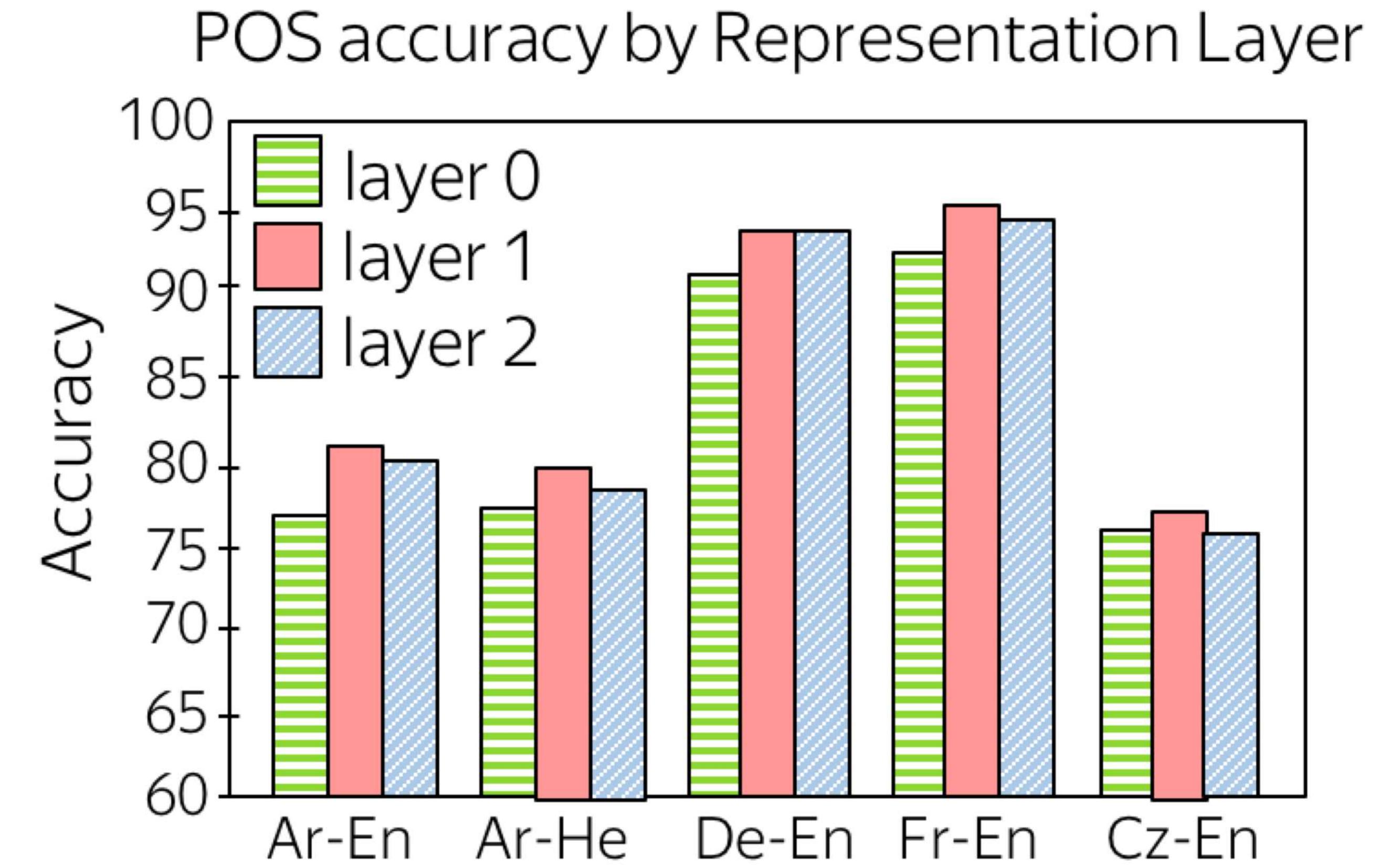


Standard Probing: train a classifier, use its accuracy



What Do NMT Models Learn About Morphology?

- Take NMT models for different language pairs
- Look at the encoder layers



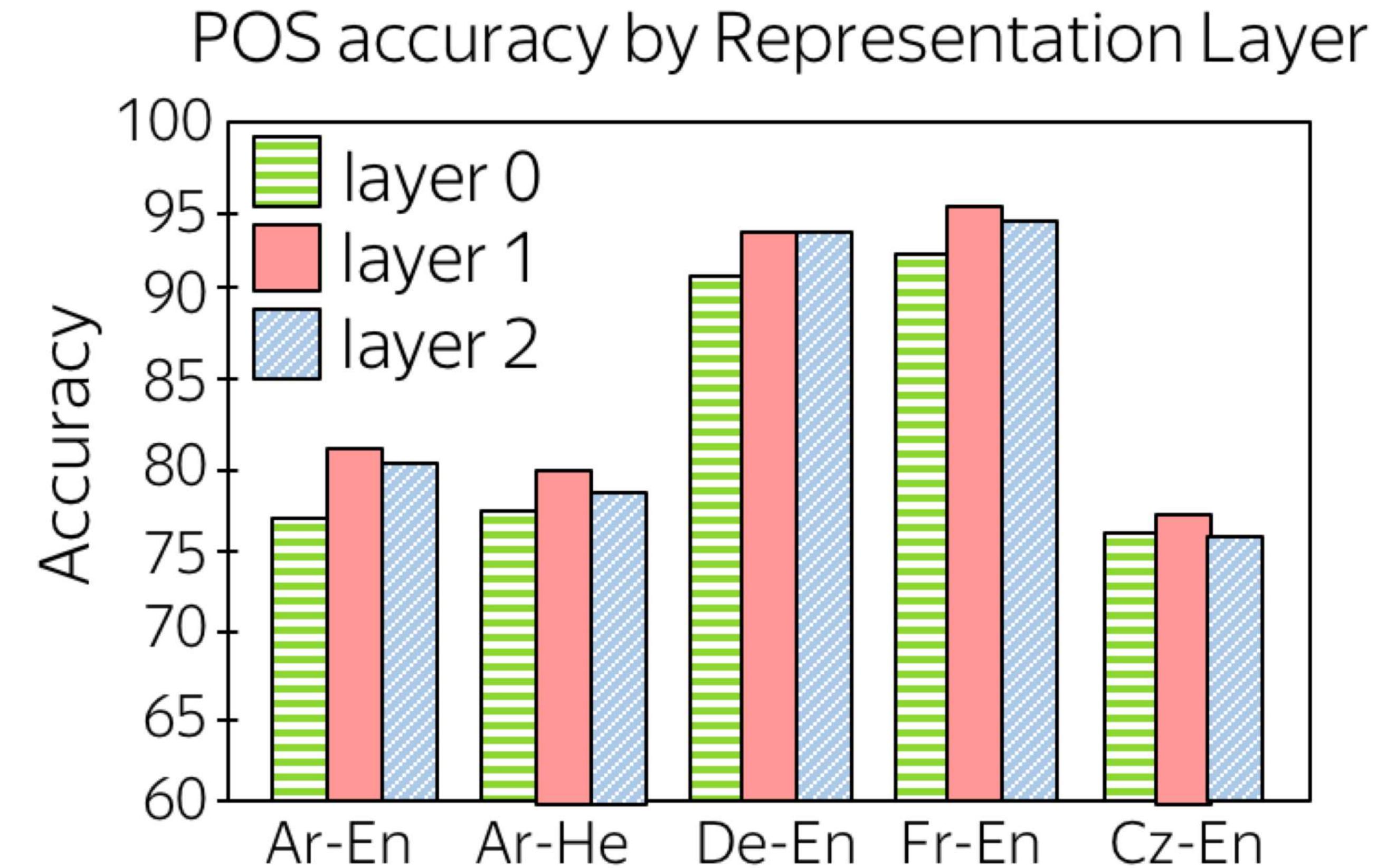
Paper: [What do Neural Machine Translation Models Learn about Morphology?](#)

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Results:

- Encoding helps: layer 0 (word embeddings) is the worst

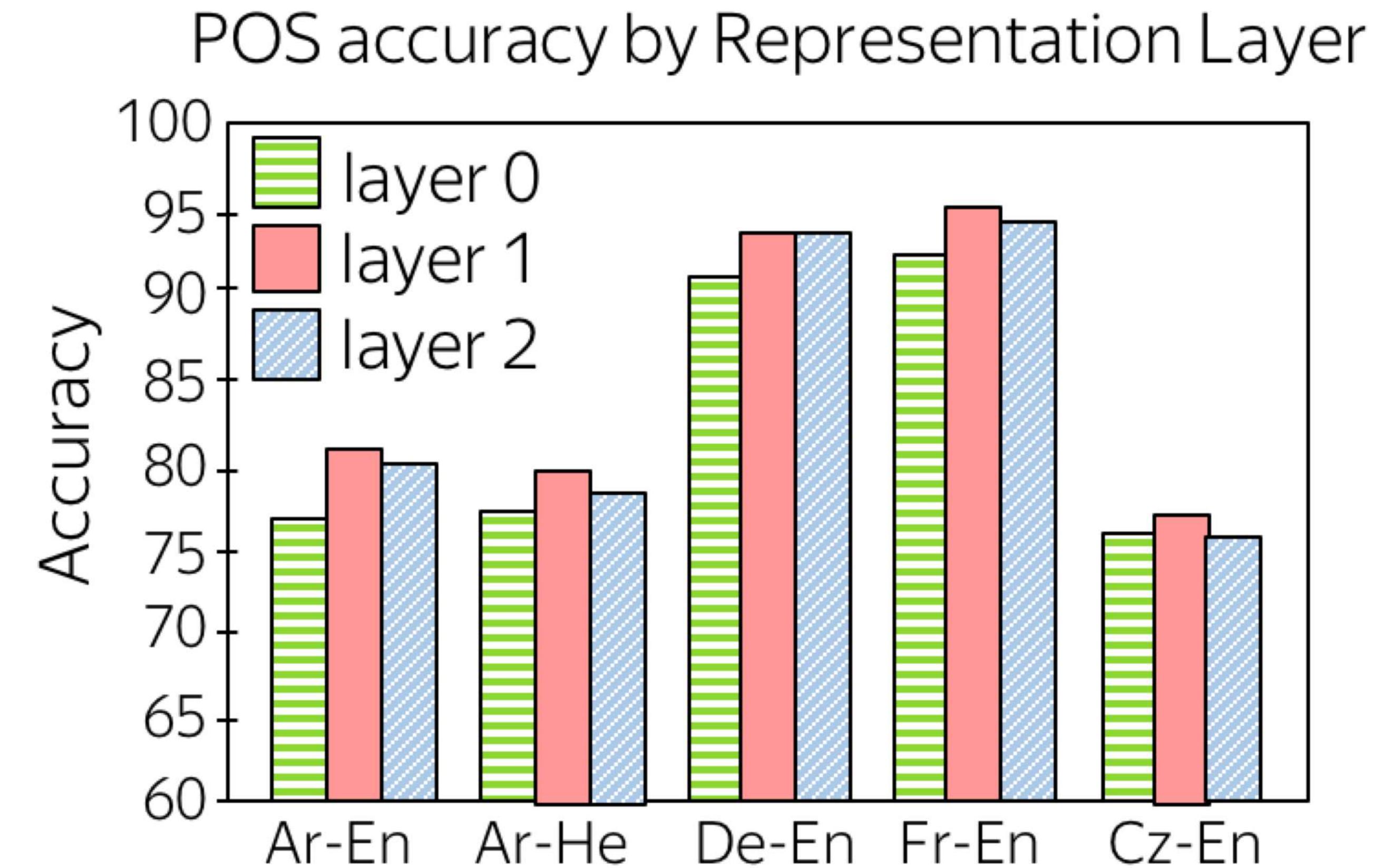


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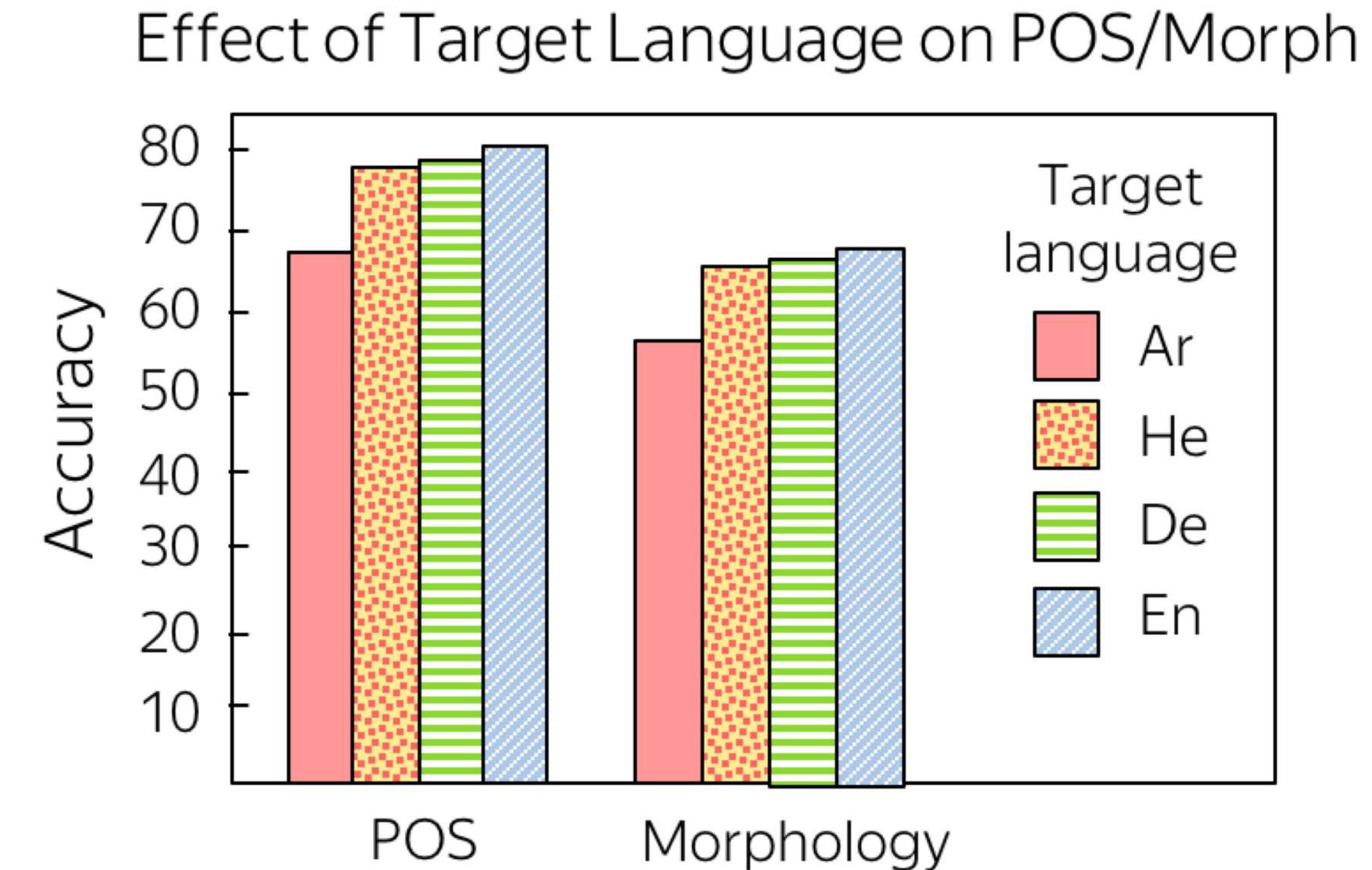
Results:

- Encoding helps: layer 0 (word embeddings) is the worst
- Layer 1 is better than layer 2



What Do NMT Models Learn About Morphology?

- Take NMT models with the same source language and different target languages
- Look at the encoder

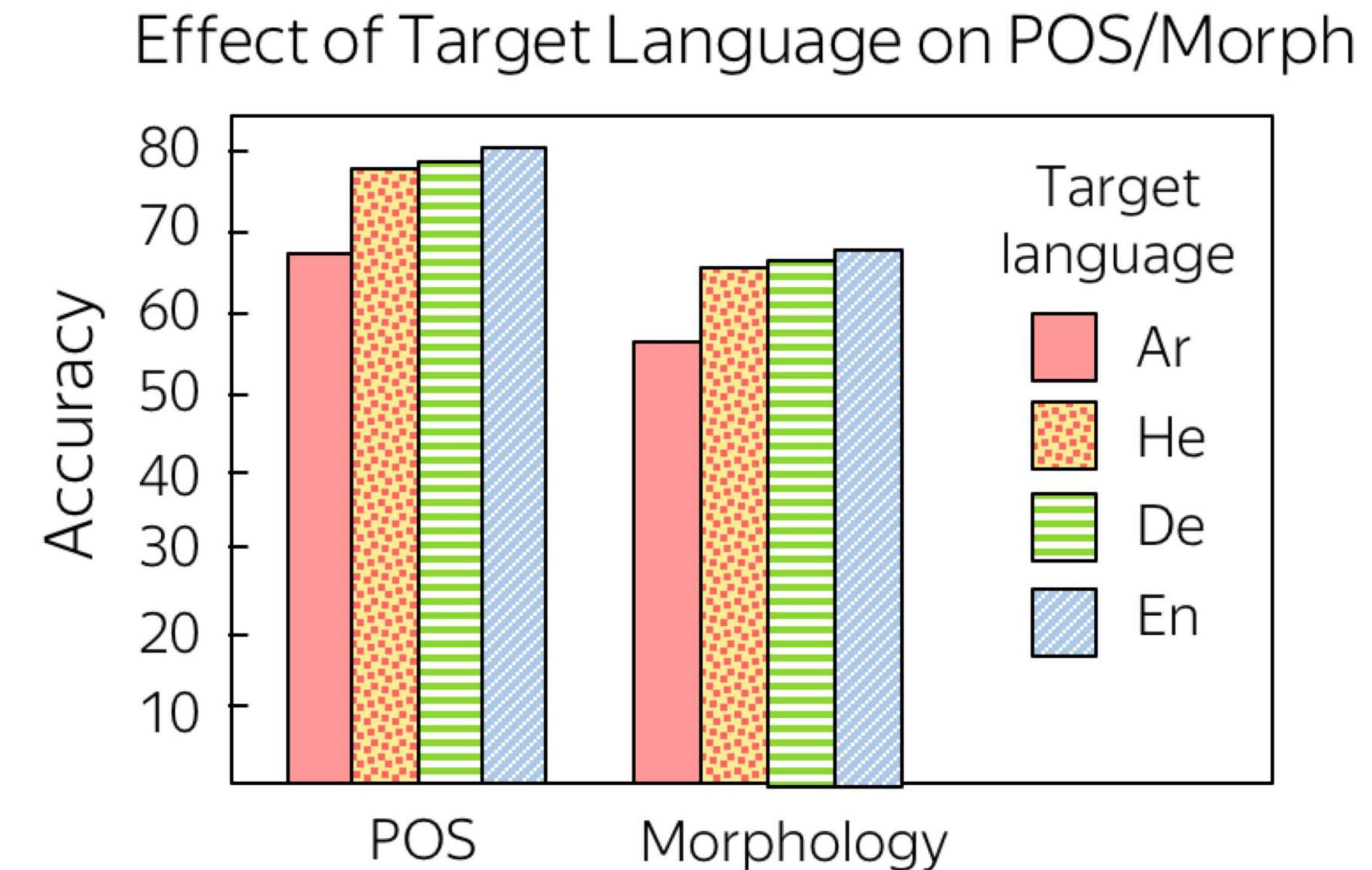


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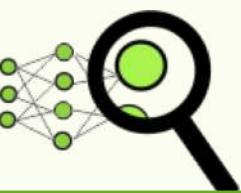
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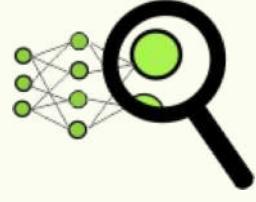
- Surprising: weaker target morphology leads to stronger encoder



What is going to happen:

- Seq2seq Basics
- Attention
- Transformer
- Subword Segmentation: BPE
-  Analysis and Interpretability

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Learn more in the NLP Course **For You**

→ This is up to You!

Thank you!

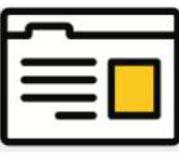
Lena Voita

PhD student, Uni Edinburgh & Uni Amsterdam

Facebook PhD Fellow in NLP



lena-voita@hotmail.com



<https://lena-voita.github.io>



@lena_voita



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