



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS

# Transformers

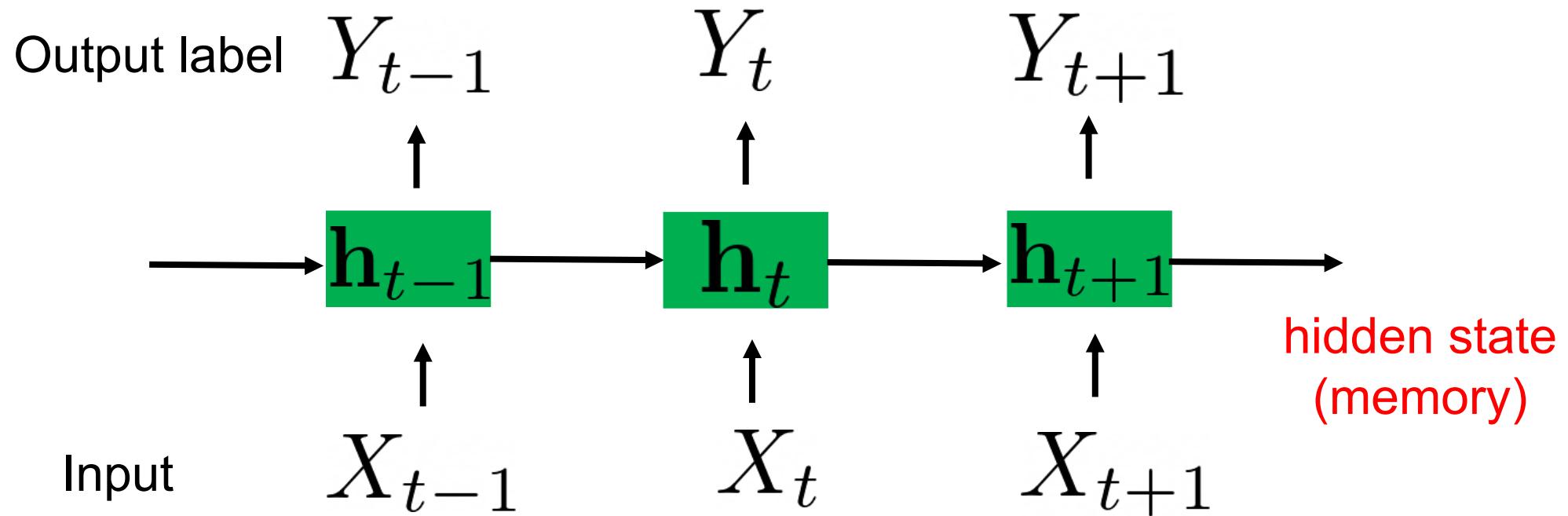
CS 6384 Computer Vision

Professor Yapeng Tian

Department of Computer Science

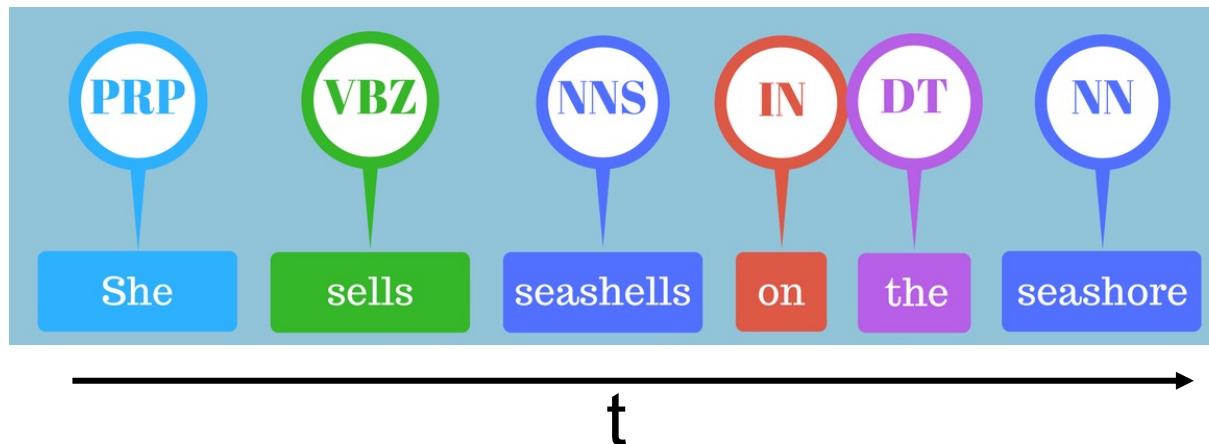
Slides borrowed from Professor Yu Xiang

# Recurrent Neural Networks



# Sequential Data Labeling

# Part-of-speech tagging (grammatical tagging)



Tag	Meaning	English Examples
ADJ	adjective	<i>new, good, high, special, big, local</i>
ADP	adposition	<i>on, of, at, with, by, into, under</i>
ADV	adverb	<i>really, already, still, early, now</i>
CONJ	conjunction	<i>and, or, but, if, while, although</i>
DET	determiner, article	<i>the, a, some, most, every, no, which</i>
NOUN	noun	<i>year, home, costs, time, Africa</i>
NUM	numeral	<i>twenty-four, fourth, 1991, 14:24</i>
PRT	particle	<i>at, on, out, over per, that, up, with</i>
PRON	pronoun	<i>he, their, her, its, my, I, us</i>
VERB	verb	<i>is, say, told, given, playing, would</i>
.	punctuation marks	<i>., ; !</i>
X	other	<i>ersatz, esprit, dunno, gr8, univeristy</i>

# Machine Translation

Translate a phrase from one language to another

- E.g., English phrase to French phrase

Google  
Translation

The screenshot shows the Google Translate interface. At the top, there are two dropdown menus for selecting languages: "English" on the left and "French" on the right. A double-headed arrow icon is positioned between them. Below the language selection, the English input text is: "UT Dallas is a rising public research university in the heart of DFW." To the right of this text is a small "x" icon. The French output text is: "UT Dallas est une université de recherche publique en plein essor au cœur de DFW." The entire interface has a clean, modern design with a white background and light gray borders around the input and output fields.

English

French

UT Dallas is a rising public research university in the heart of DFW.

x

UT Dallas est une université de recherche publique en plein essor au cœur de DFW.

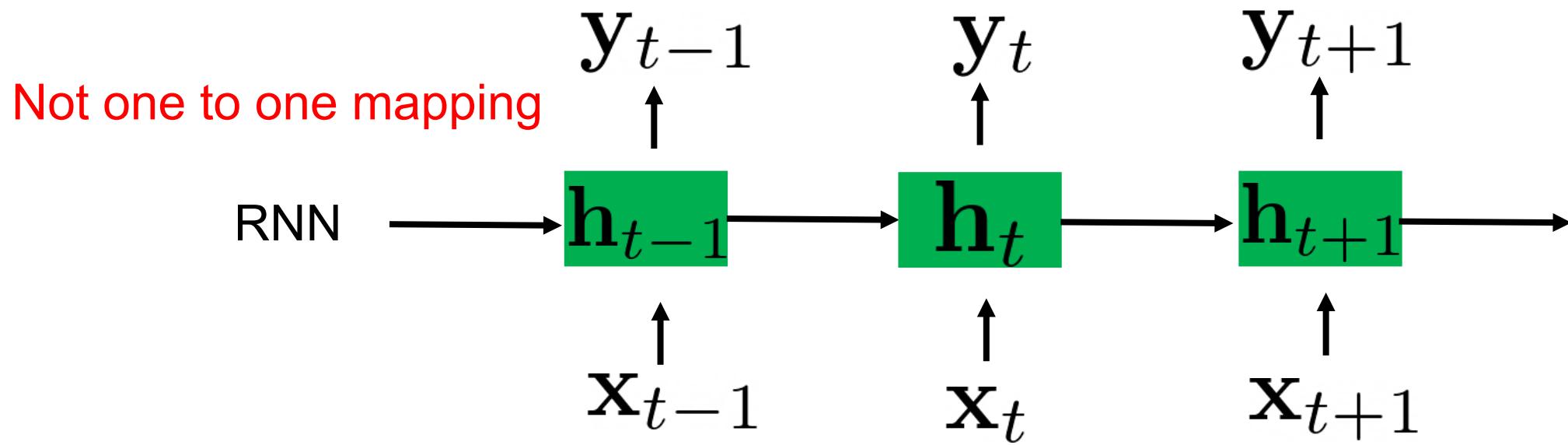
13 words

15 words

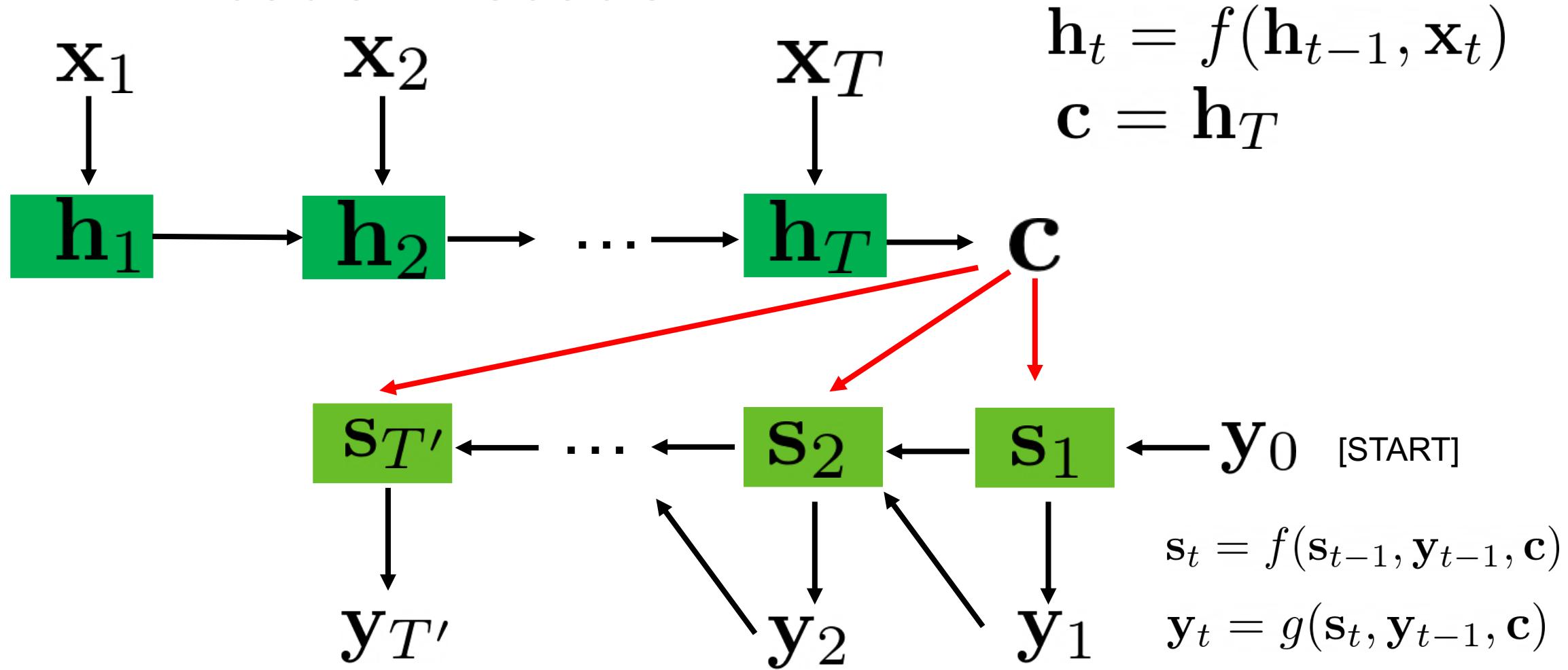
# Machine Translation

Input  $\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_T)$

Output  $\mathbf{y} = (\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{T'}) \quad T \neq T'$



# RNN Encoder-Decoder



Learning Phrase Representations using RNN Encoder–Decoder for Statistical Machine Translation. Cho et al., EMNLP’14

# RNN Encoder-Decoder

Encoder       $\mathbf{h}_t = f(\mathbf{h}_{t-1}, \mathbf{x}_t) \quad \mathbf{c} = \mathbf{h}_T$

Decoder       $\mathbf{s}_t = f(\mathbf{s}_{t-1}, \mathbf{y}_{t-1}, \mathbf{c}) \quad \mathbf{y}_t = g(\mathbf{s}_t, \mathbf{y}_{t-1}, \mathbf{c})$

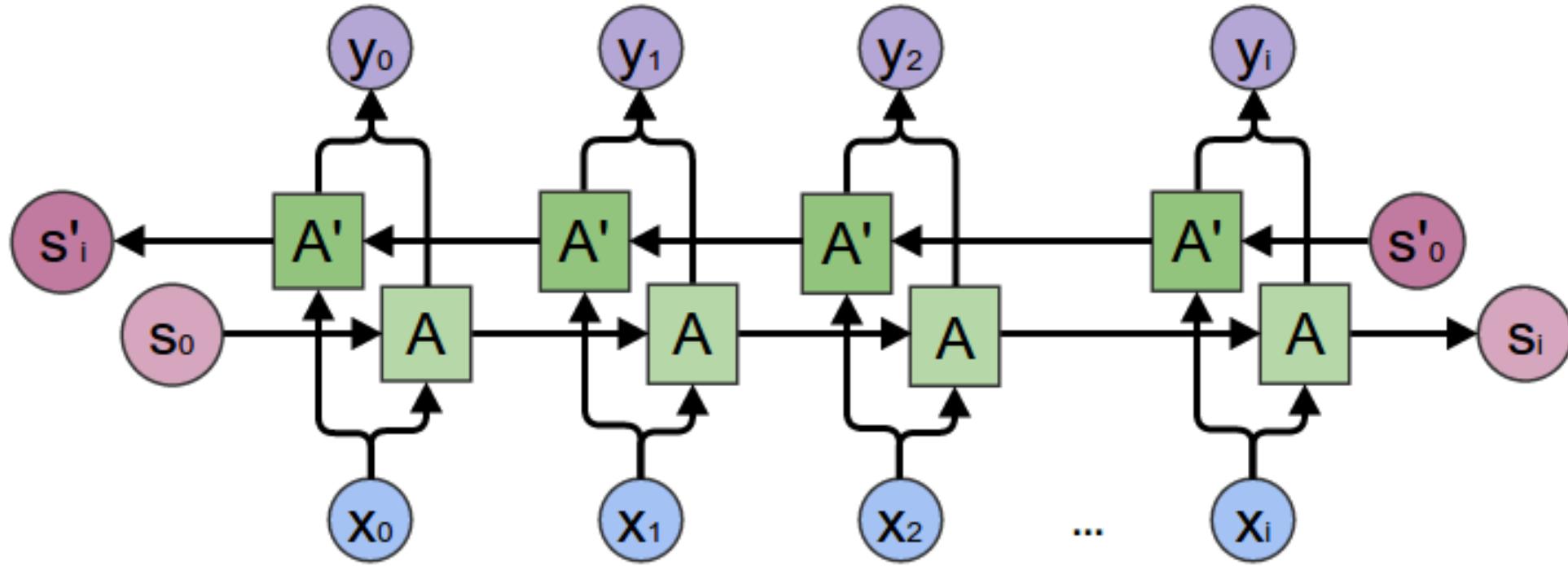
## Pros

- Can deal with different input size and output size

## Cons

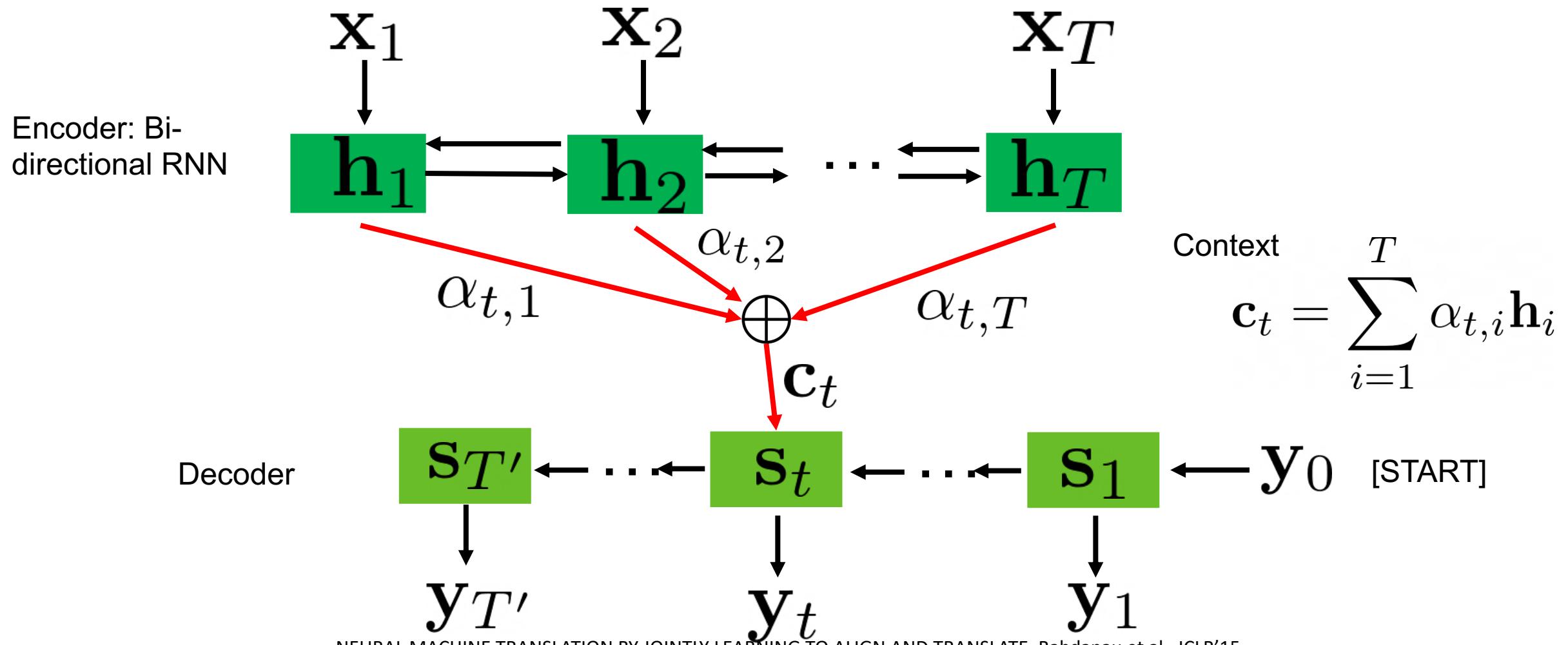
- The fixed length embedding  $\mathbf{C}$  cannot handle long sentence well (long-distance dependencies)

# Bi-directional RNNs



<https://blog.paperspace.com/bidirectional-rnn-keras/>

# RNN Encoder-Decoder with Attentions

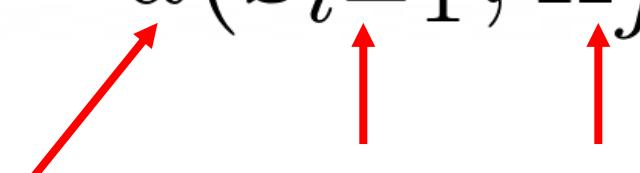


# RNN Encoder-Decoder with Attentions

Alignment model (attention)

$$e_{ij} = a(\mathbf{s}_{i-1}, \mathbf{h}_j)$$

Feedforward network      Hidden state of output      Hidden state of input



$$\text{Softmax } \alpha_{ij} = \frac{\exp(e_{ij})}{\sum_{k=1}^{T_x} \exp(e_{ik})}$$

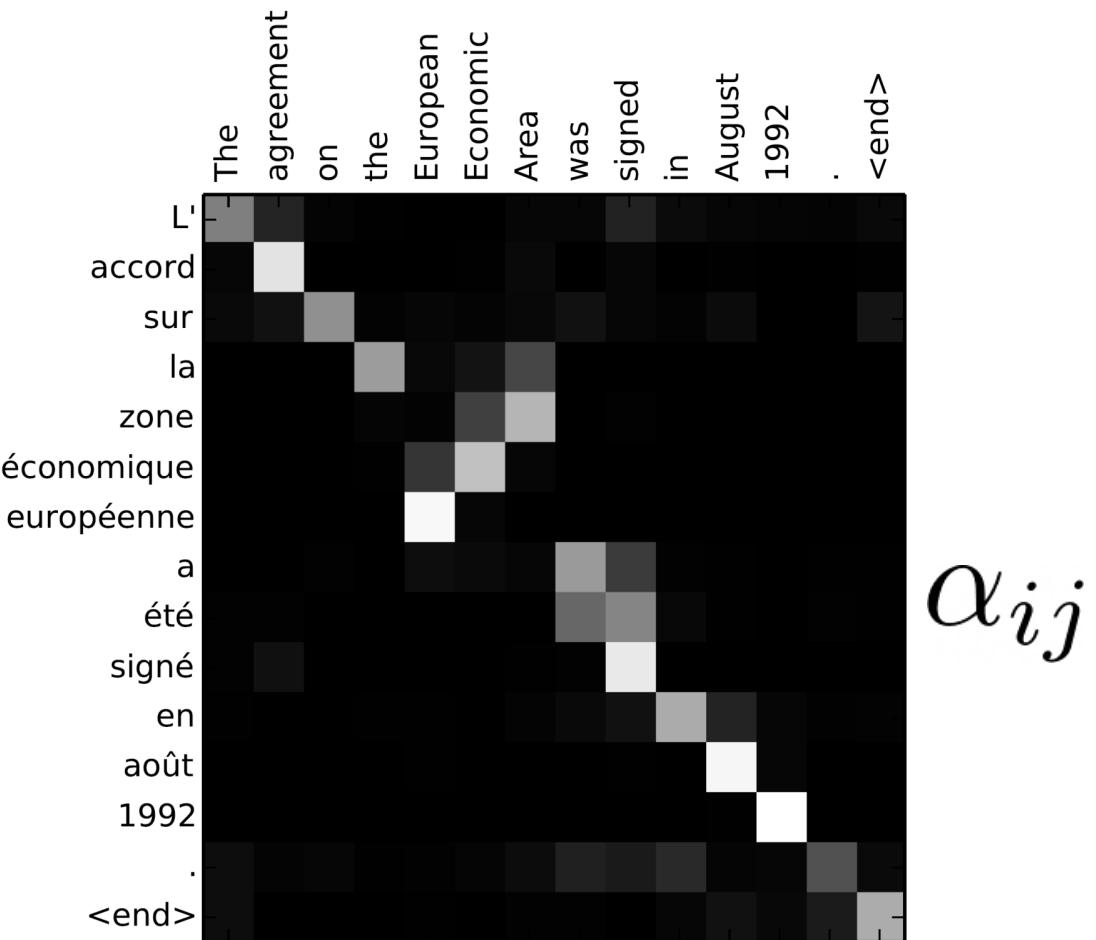
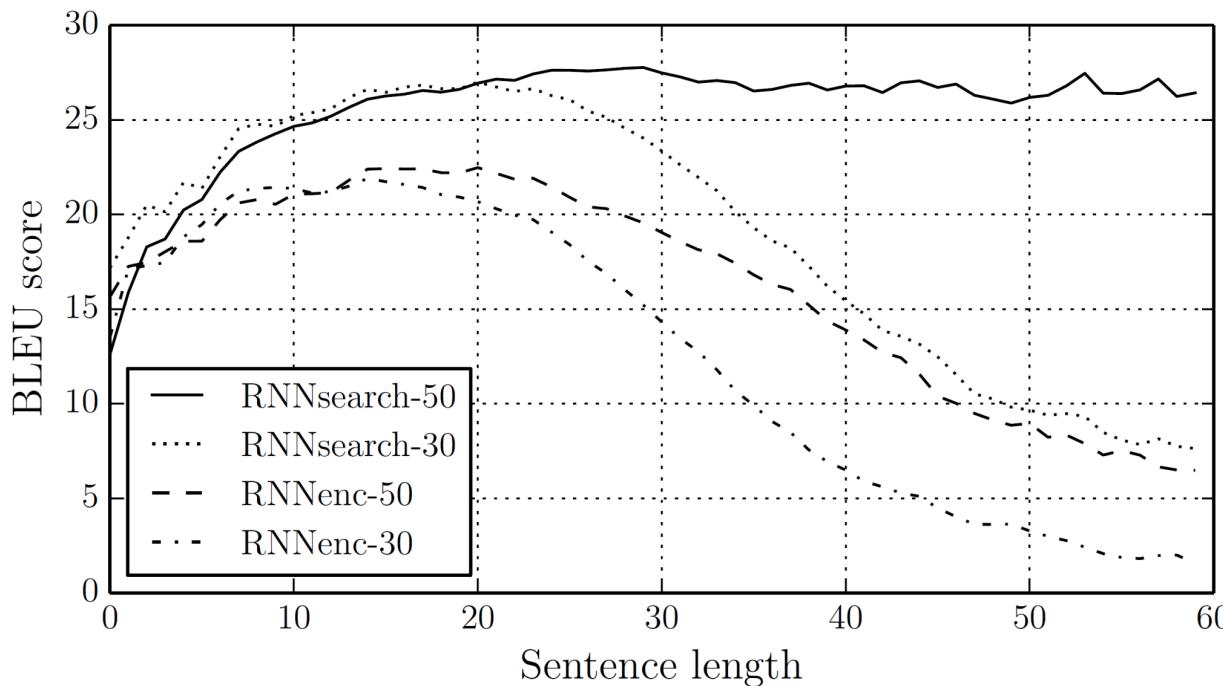
$$\text{Context } \mathbf{c}_i = \sum_{j=1}^T \alpha_{ij} \mathbf{h}_j$$

Attending to different parts of the input

$$\mathbf{s}_i = f(\mathbf{s}_{i-1}, \mathbf{y}_{i-1}, \mathbf{c}_i)$$
$$\text{Output } \mathbf{y}_i = g(\mathbf{s}_i, \mathbf{y}_{i-1}, \mathbf{c}_i)$$

NEURAL MACHINE TRANSLATION BY JOINTLY LEARNING TO ALIGN AND TRANSLATE. Bahdanau et al., ICLR'15

# RNN Encoder-Decoder with Attentions



NEURAL MACHINE TRANSLATION BY JOINTLY LEARNING TO ALIGN AND TRANSLATE. Bahdanau et al., ICLR'15

# Limitations of RNNs

The sequential computation of hidden states precludes parallelization within training examples



Cannot handle long sequences well

- Truncated back-propagation due to memory limits
- Difficult to capture dependencies in long distances

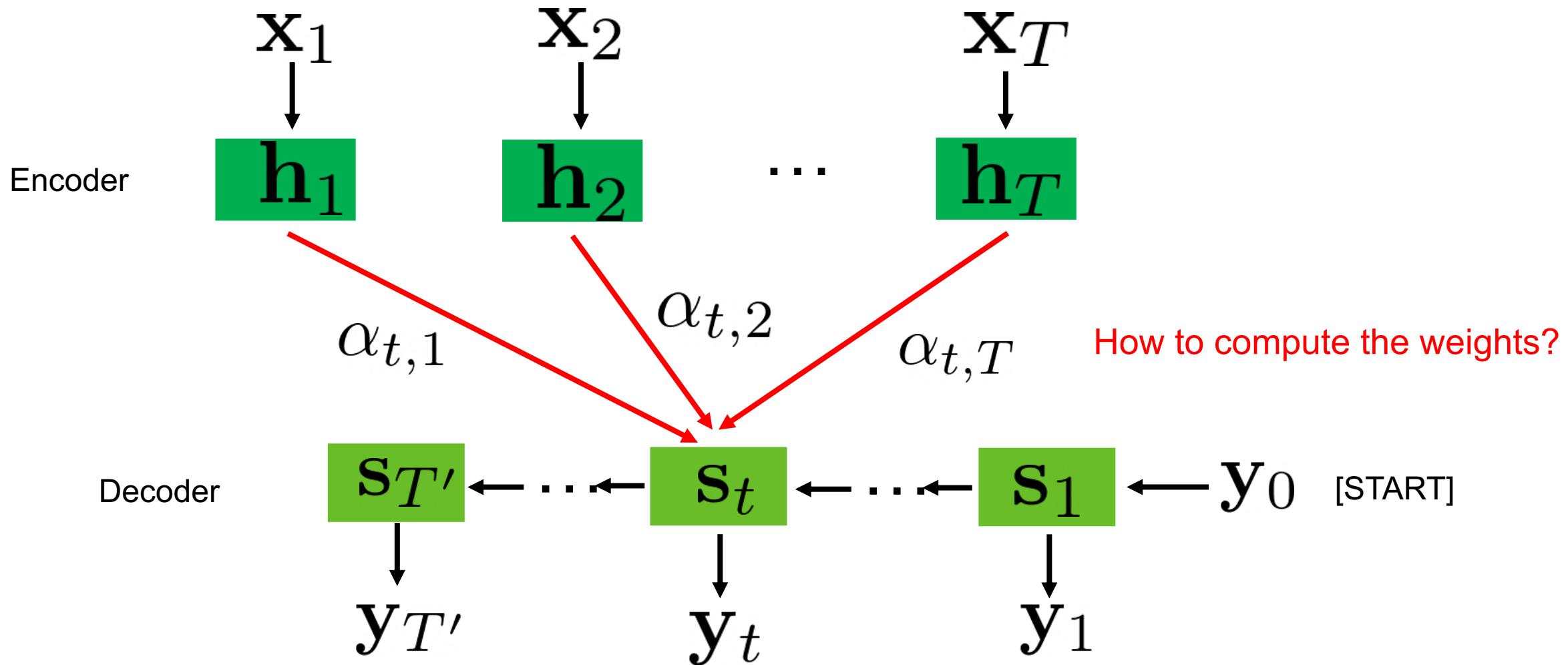
# Transformer

No recurrence

Attention only

- Global dependencies between input and output
- More parallelization compared to RNNs

# Transformer: Encoder-Decoder with Attention



# Transformer: Attention

## Input

- (key, value) pairs (think about python dictionary)
- A query

## Output

- Compare the query to all the keys to compute weights
- Weighted sum of the values

Attention is all you need. Vaswani et al., NeurIPS'17

# Transformer: Attention

Scaled Dot-Product Attention

- Keys  $K : m \times d_k$

- Values  $V : m \times d_v$

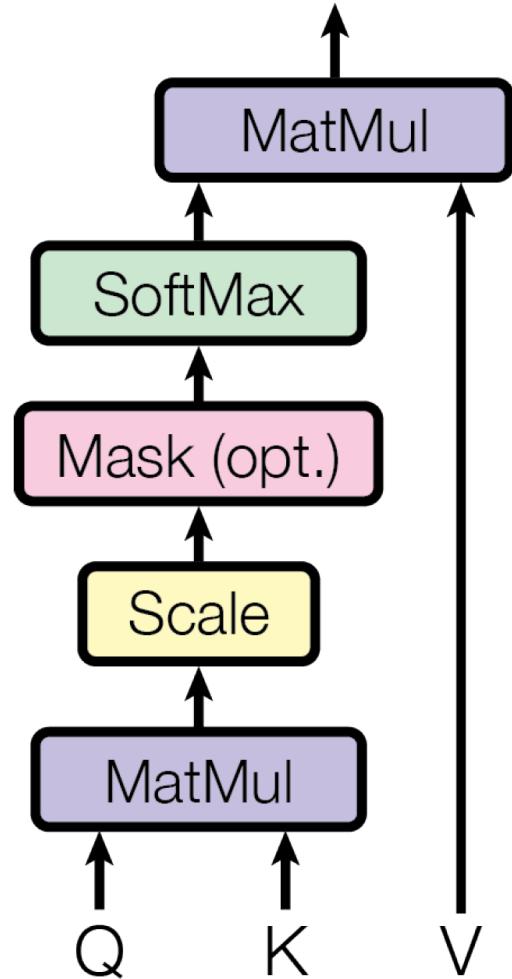
- n queries  $Q : n \times d_k$

$$\text{Attention}(Q, K, V) = \text{softmax}\left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}}\right)V$$

$n \times d_v$

weights

Attention is all you need. Vaswani et al., NeurIPS'17



# Transformer: Attention

## Multi-Head Attention

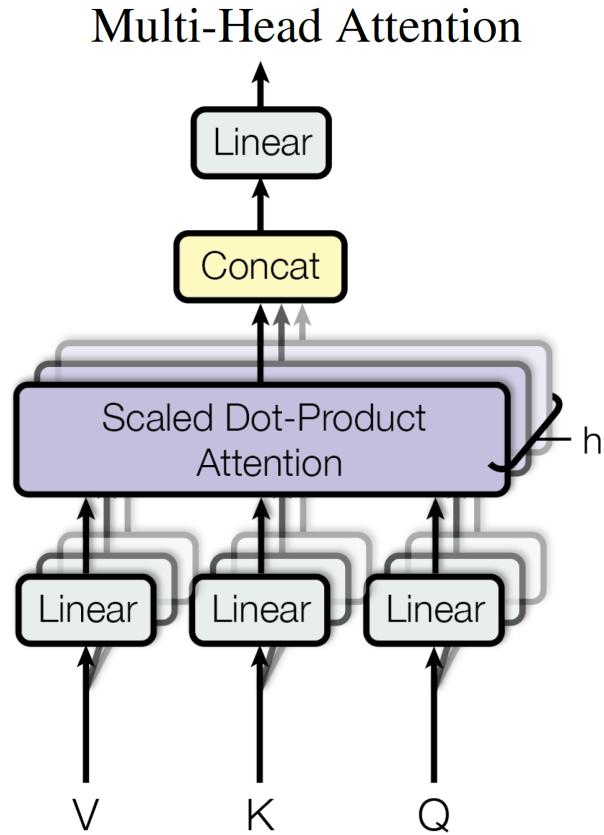
- Suppose the latent vector is with dimension  $d_{\text{model}}$

$$\text{head}_i = \text{Attention}(QW_i^Q, KW_i^K, VW_i^V) \quad \text{Projection}$$

$m \times d_{\text{model}} \quad d_{\text{model}} \times d_k$

$$n \times d_v \quad n \times d_{\text{model}} \quad d_{\text{model}} \times d_k \quad m \times d_{\text{model}} \quad d_{\text{model}} \times d_v$$
$$\text{MultiHead}(Q, K, V) = \text{Concat}(\text{head}_1, \dots, \text{head}_h)W^O$$

$n \times d_{\text{model}} \quad n \times hd_v \quad hd_v \times d_{\text{model}}$



Attention is all you need. Vaswani et al., NeurIPS'17

# Transformer: Encoder

## Self-attention

- Keys, values and queries are all the same
- $n$  input tokens  $n \times d_{\text{model}}$

$$\text{MultiHead}(Q, K, V)$$

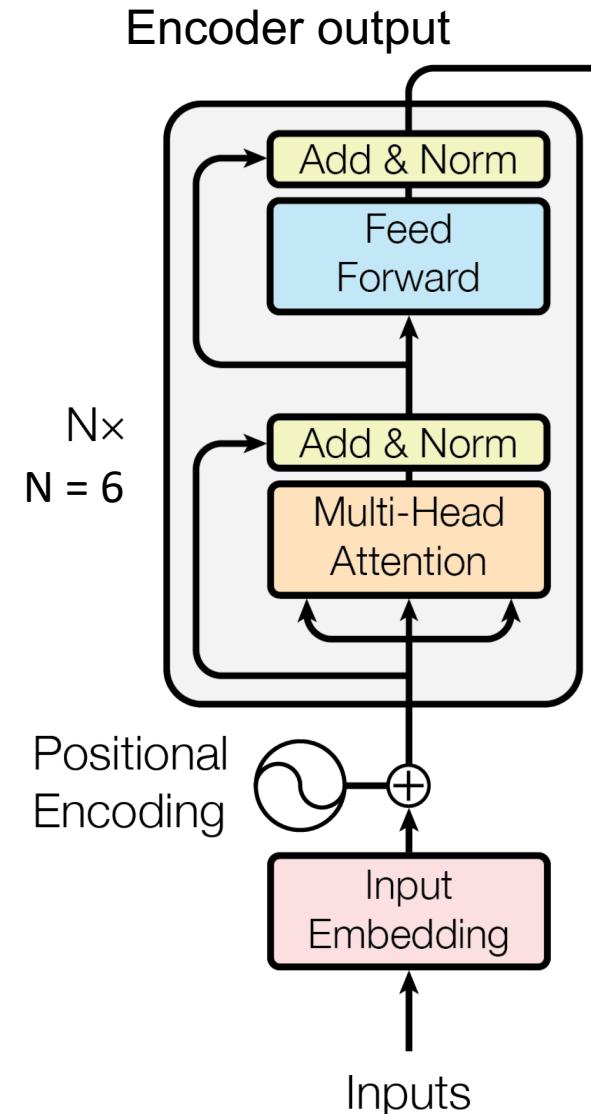
- Residual connection

$$\text{LayerNorm}(x + \text{Sublayer}(x))$$

- Layer normalization  $a^l := \gamma \hat{a}^l + \beta = LN_{\gamma, \beta}(a^l)$

$$\mu^l = \frac{1}{H} \sum_{i=1}^H a_i^l \quad \sigma^l = \sqrt{\frac{1}{H} \sum_{i=1}^H (a_i^l - \mu^l)^2} \quad \hat{a}^l = \frac{a^l - \mu^l}{\sigma^l}$$

Attention is all you need. Vaswani et al., NeurIPS'17



# Transformer: Encoder

## Feed Forward Network

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

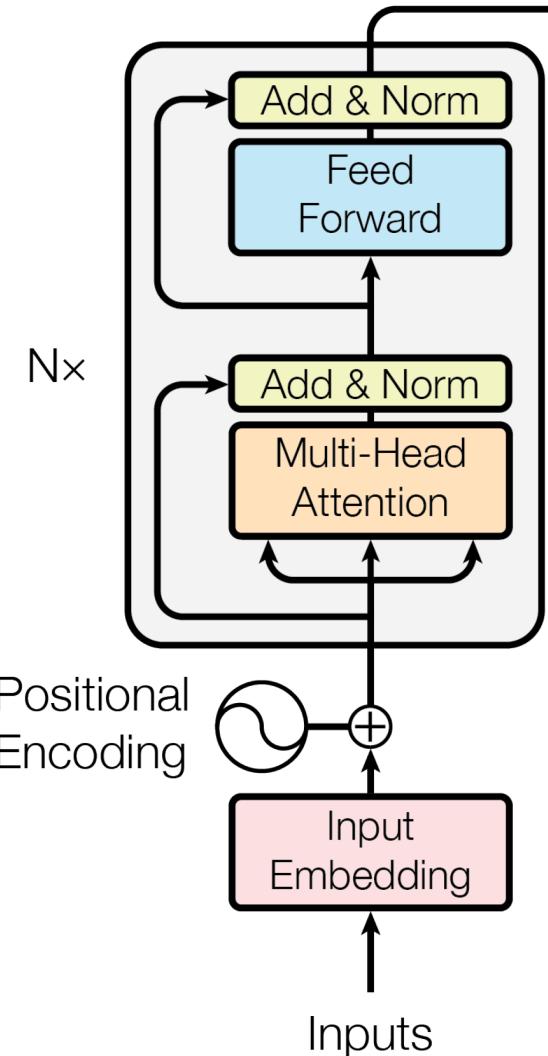
## Positional encoding

- Make use of the order of the sequence
- With dimension  $d_{\text{model}}$  for each input

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

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

Attention is all you need. Vaswani et al., NeurIPS'17

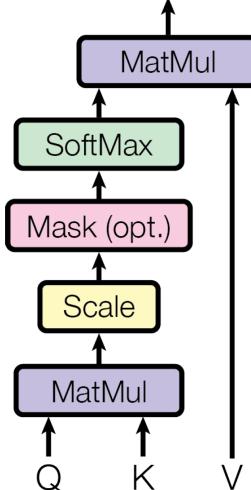


# Transformer: Decoder

Output embedding  
[START]

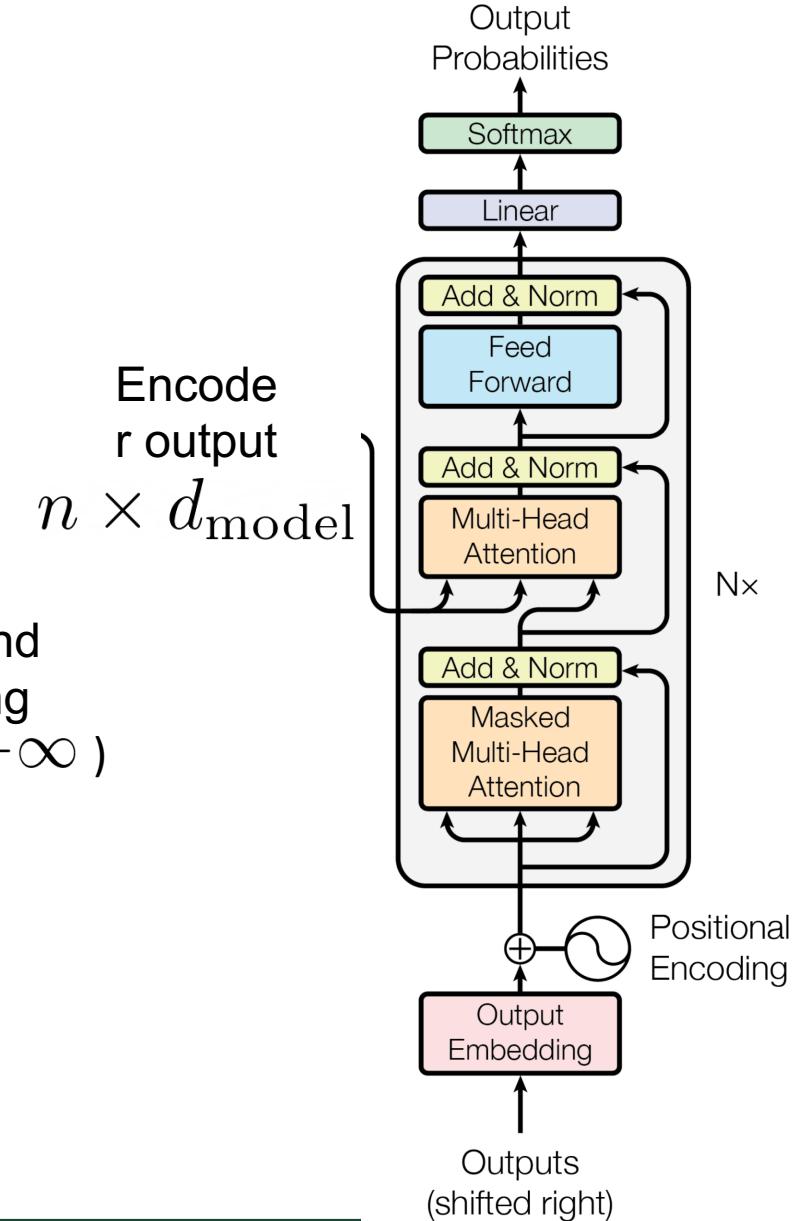
$\mathbf{y}_0 \ \mathbf{y}_1 \dots \mathbf{y}_{t-1} \boxed{\mathbf{y}_t \ \mathbf{y}_{t+1} \dots \mathbf{y}_{T'}}$

Shifted right by one position and insert the start token



Attention is all you need. Vaswani et al., NeurIPS'17

Encoder output  
 $n \times d_{\text{model}}$



# Transformer: Decoder

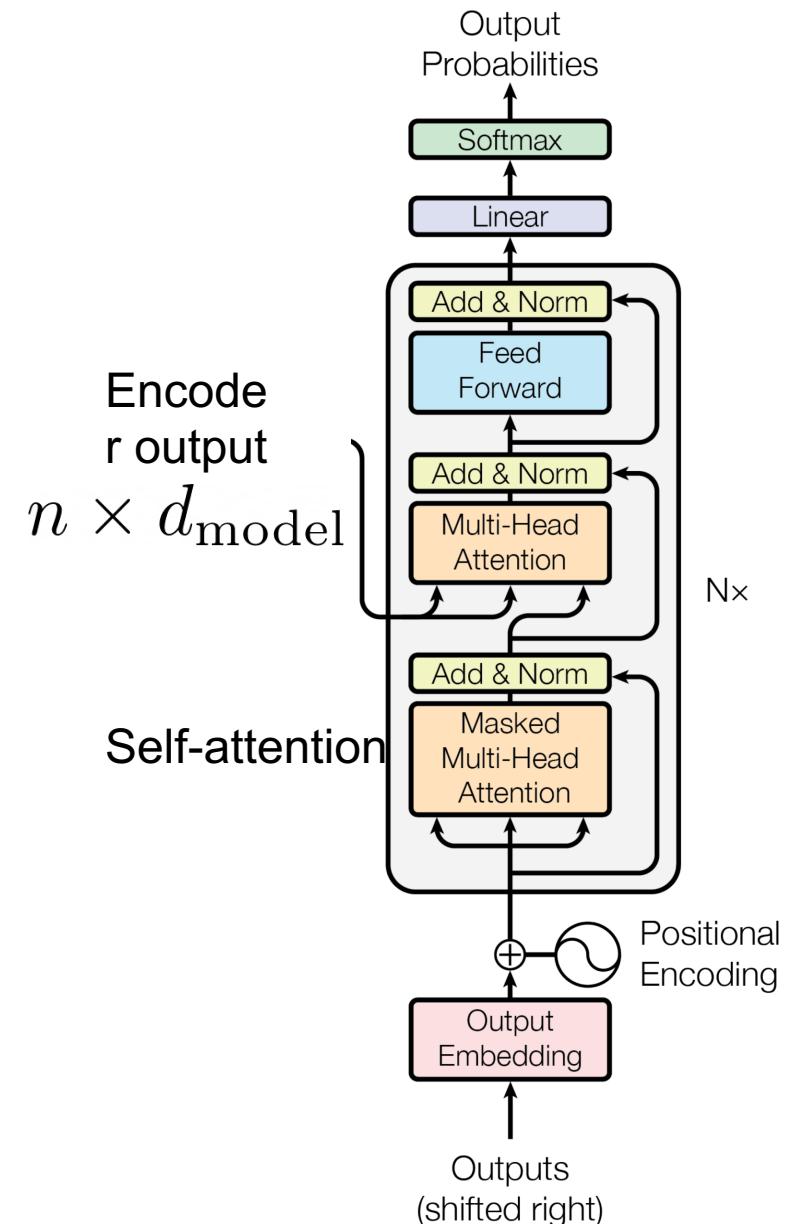
## Encoder-decoder attention

- (Key, value): encoder output
- Queries: decoder output
- Every position in the decoder attends to all positions in the input sequence

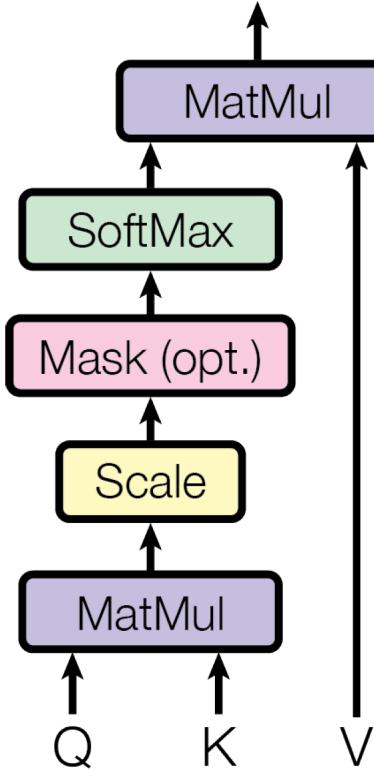
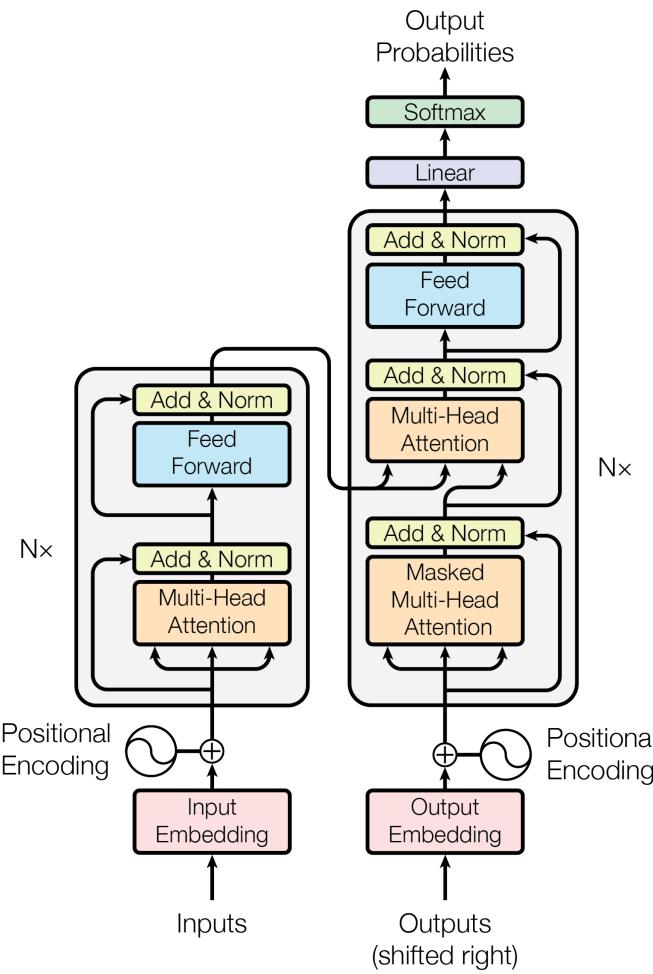
## Softmax

- Predicts next-token probabilities

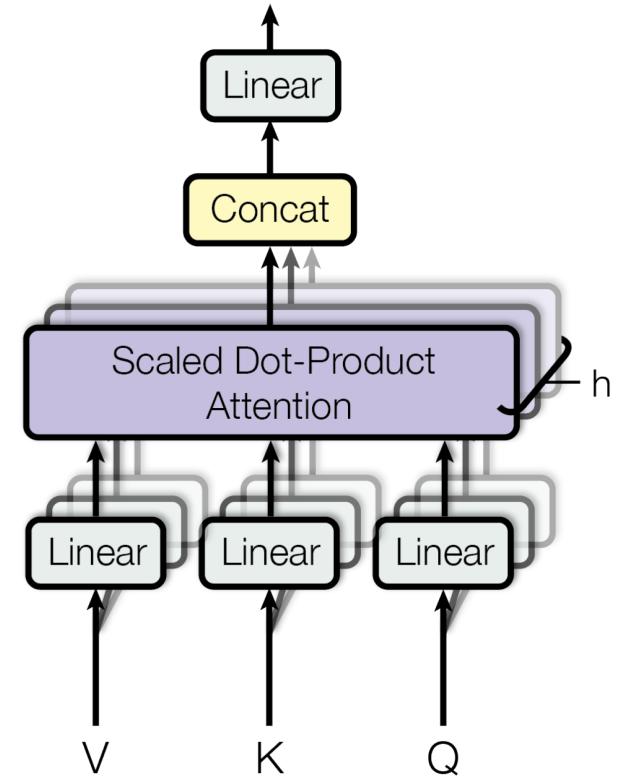
Attention is all you need. Vaswani et al., NeurIPS'17



# Transformer



Multi-Head Attention



Attention is all you need. Vaswani et al., NeurIPS'17

# Transformer: Attention Visualization

Attention is all you need. Vaswani et al., NeurIPS'17

# Vision Transformer

Convert an image into a sequence of “token”



Input embedding by linear projection

$$\mathbf{x}_p^1 \mathbf{E}; \mathbf{x}_p^2 \mathbf{E}; \dots; \mathbf{x}_p^N \mathbf{E}$$

$$\mathbf{E} \in \mathbb{R}^{(P^2 \cdot C) \times D}$$

$d_{\text{model}}$

AN IMAGE IS WORTH 16x16 WORDS: TRANSFORMERS FOR IMAGE RECOGNITION AT SCALE. Dosovitskiy et al., ICLR'21

# Vision Transformer

Adding positional embedding

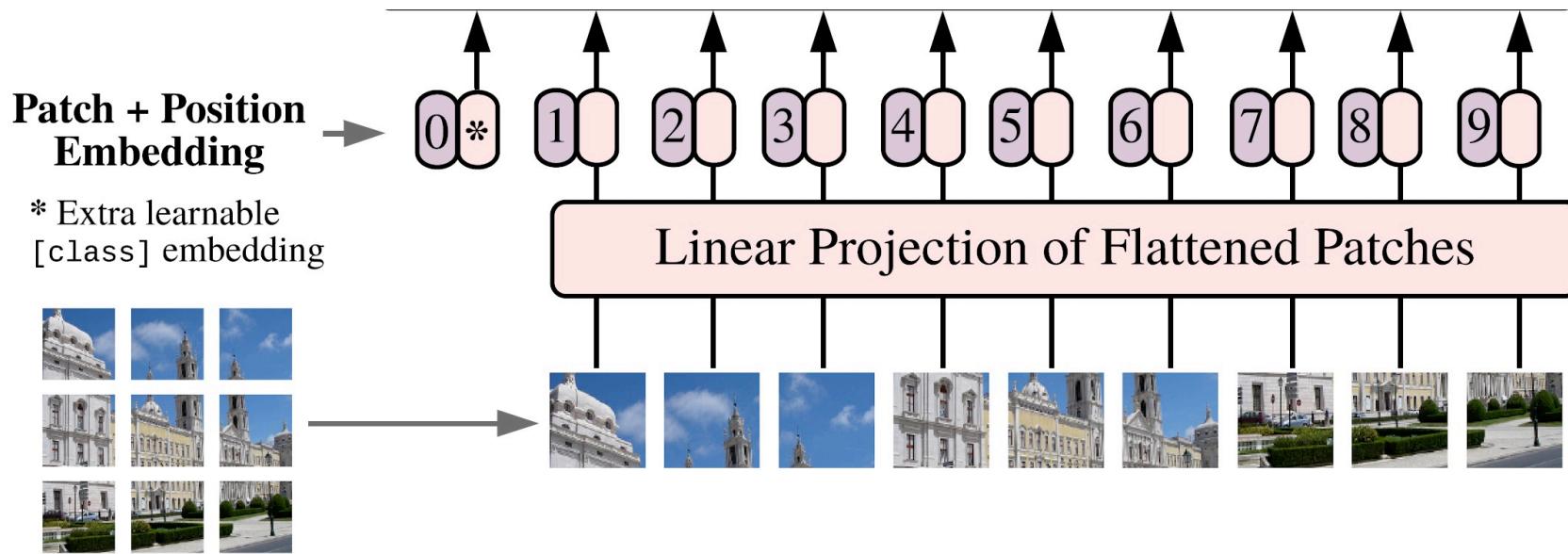
Prepend a learnable embedding

$\mathbf{z}_0^0$

$\mathbf{z}_L^0$

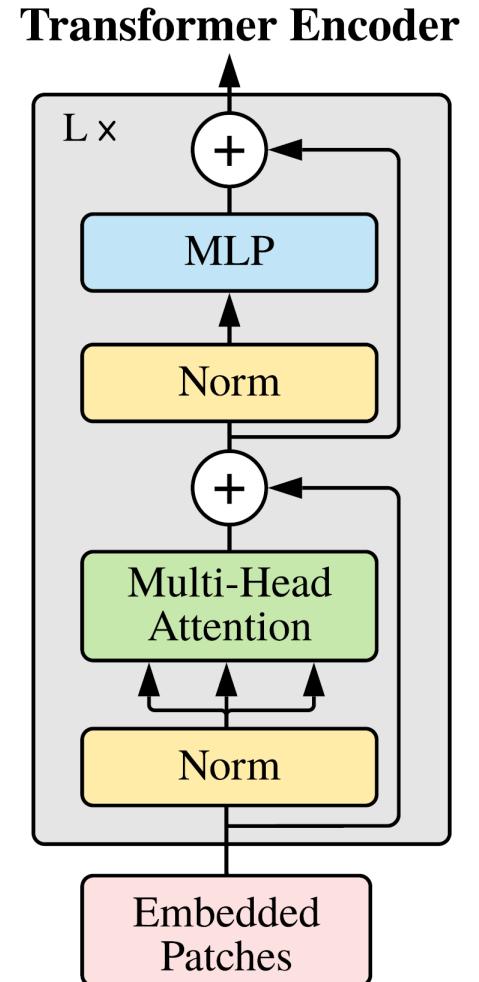
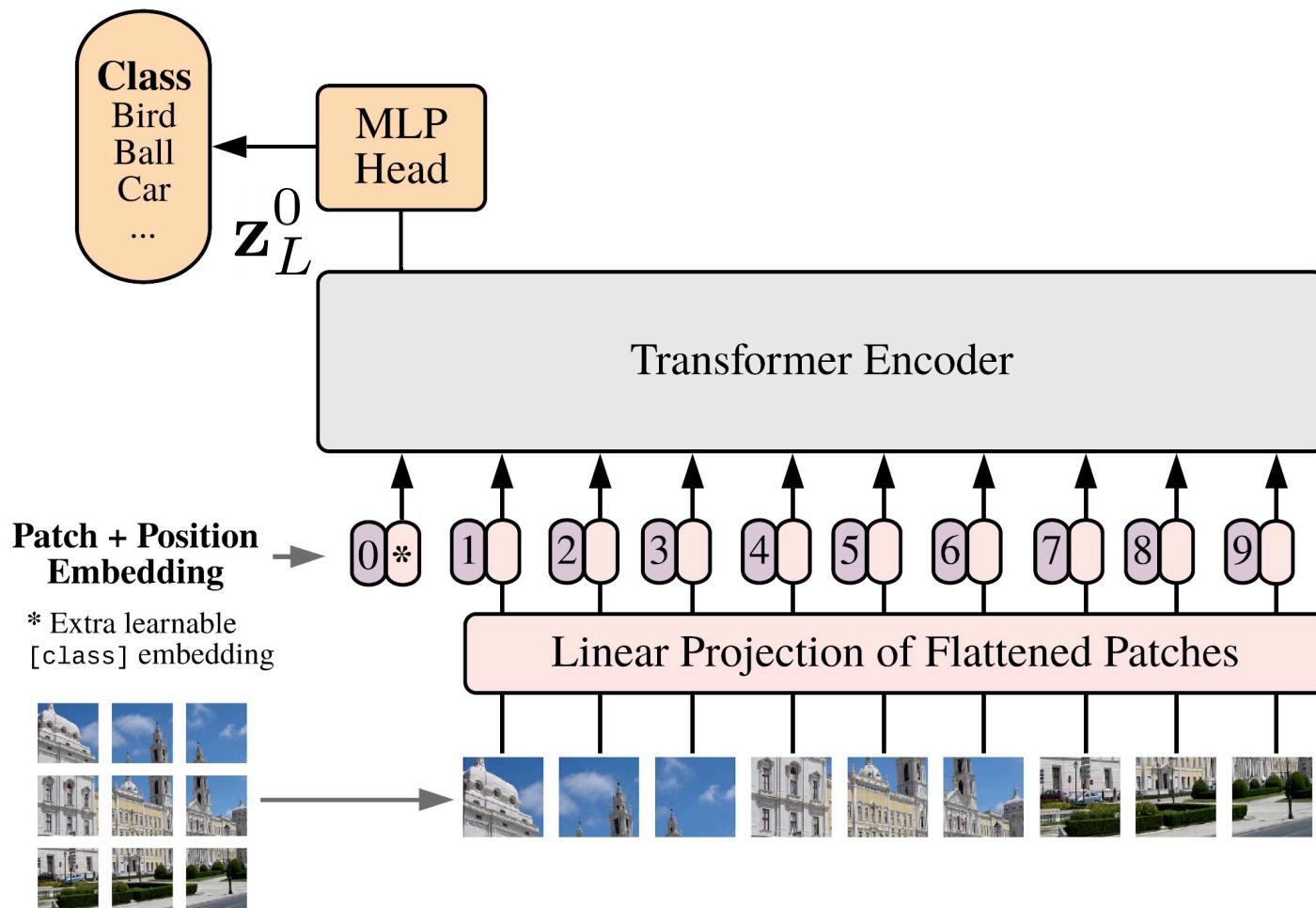
Will be used as the  
image representation

After L attention layers



AN IMAGE IS WORTH 16x16 WORDS: TRANSFORMERS FOR IMAGE RECOGNITION AT SCALE. Dosovitskiy et al., ICLR'21

# Vision Transformer



AN IMAGE IS WORTH 16x16 WORDS: TRANSFORMERS FOR IMAGE RECOGNITION AT SCALE. Dosovitskiy et al., ICLR'21

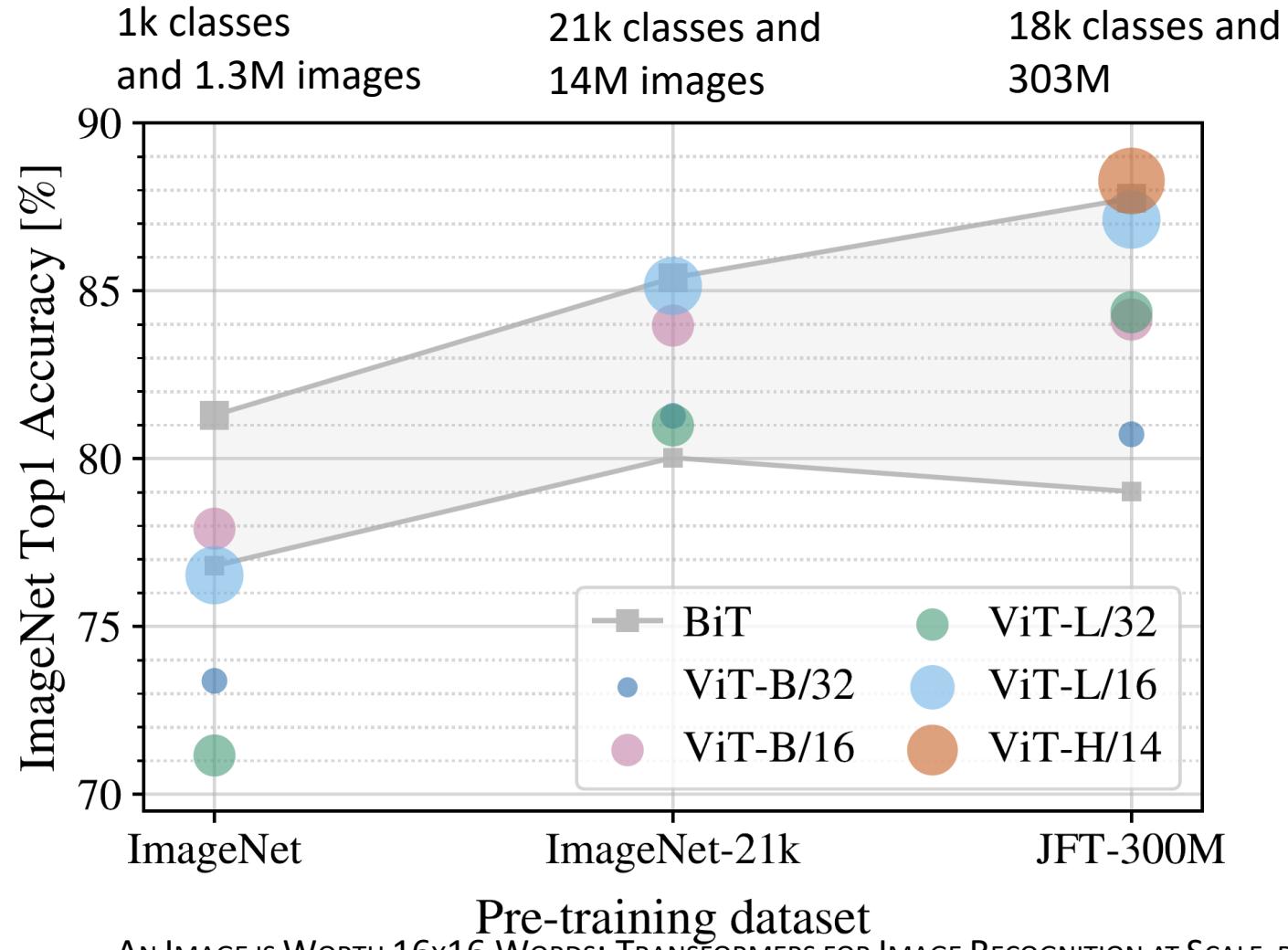
# Vision Transformer

Pretrain on a large-scale dataset  
Fine-tune on different tasks

Model	Layers	Hidden size $D$	MLP size	Heads	Params
ViT-Base	12	768	3072	12	86M
ViT-Large	24	1024	4096	16	307M
ViT-Huge	32	1280	5120	16	632M

AN IMAGE IS WORTH 16x16 WORDS: TRANSFORMERS FOR IMAGE RECOGNITION AT SCALE. Dosovitskiy et al., ICLR'21

# Vision Transformer



## Big Transfer (BiT)

- ResNets-based transfer

Vision transformer works better when pre-trained on large-scale dataset

# Summary

## Transformers

- Can capture long-distance dependencies (global attention)
- Computationally efficient, more parallelizable

## Vision transformers

- Works better when pre-trained on large scale datasets (e.g., 300M images)

# Further Reading

Learning Phrase Representations using RNN Encoder-Decoder for Statistical Machine Translation <https://arxiv.org/abs/1406.1078>

Neural Machine Translation by Jointly Learning to Align and Translate  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1409.0473>

Transformer: Attention is all you need <https://arxiv.org/abs/1706.03762>

Vision transformer: An Image is Worth 16x16 Words: Transformers for Image Recognition at Scale <https://arxiv.org/abs/2010.11929>